

Little Tila and the Loy Krathong Festival

Story : Penpitcha Soongbun

Illustrations : Thannawut Thongsin

Translated by Peeriya Pongsarigun & John Viano





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Little Tila lives in the waters of the Kwan Phayao with her friends and family. Little Tila and the rest of her school of fish love looking up at the world. They take time each day to watch over all the exciting things going on above them.



"There! It's here! It's here!
It's the fish we're waiting for."
The children all recognized Little Tila
and Little Tila recognized them too.



Little Tila wanted to show off for the children,
so they could see what she could do.
So, she leapt into the air...well, she tried to.
“Ummmph!” Little Tila tried and tried to jump
but her body simply would not budge.



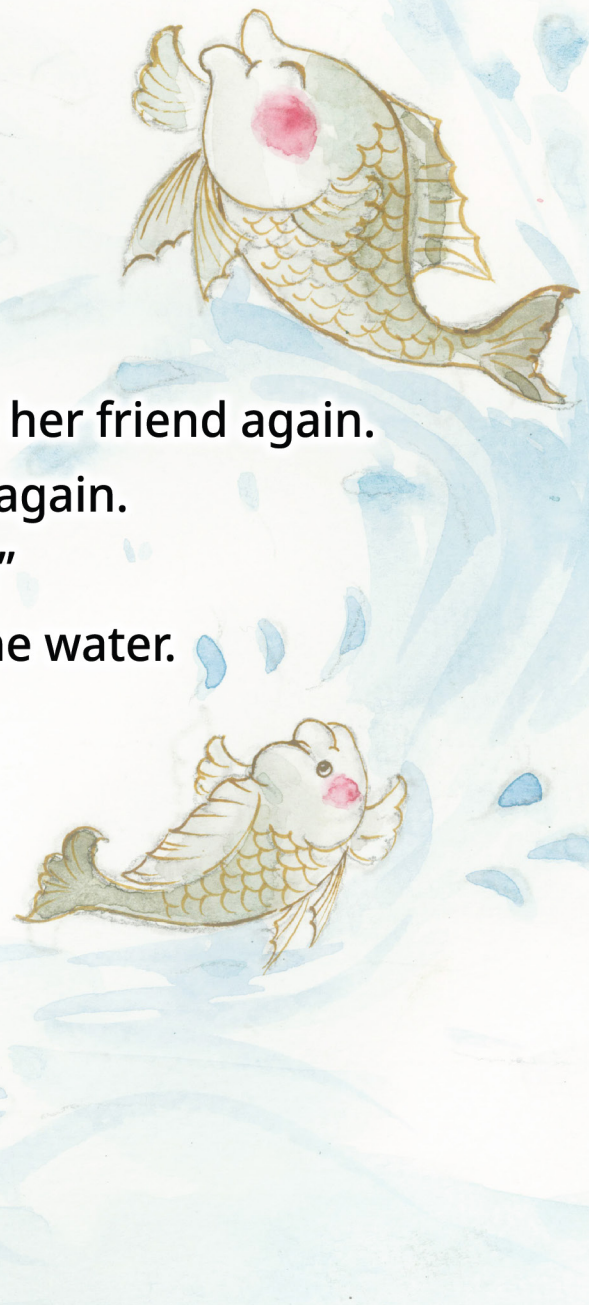


On the eve of the full moon,
a cheerful school of fish swam along playfully.
Above, lots of people set krathongs made of bread
into the water. They celebrated Loy Krathong
along the banks of the Kwan Phayao.



Suddenly, Sompho shouted,
"There! That's the fish!
That's the fish!"

Little Tila had heard that all
before and was excited to see her friend again.
Little Tila wanted to show off again.
"One...two...three...ummmph!"
and Little Tila soared out of the water.



Little Tila was happy to see her friends.
Then, Little Tila came back with a delicious
krathong made of bread.
On that night there were
so many krathongs in the water
that Little Tila and her school
could possibly eat them all.






Not long after . . .

"Oh...", Little Tila said
as she began to feel sick.

"Let's head up to the surface
to get some fresh air."
Little Tila suggested.

At dawn, some workers came to clean
the leftover soggy krathongs out of the water.



A watercolor illustration of a coastal town. In the foreground, a large, detailed fish with a pinkish-red eye and scales is swimming towards the left. The background shows a coastal town with a boat carrying several people, a larger boat with a person, and a city skyline with tall buildings. The sky is a mix of blue and yellow, and the water is a deep blue.

In a flash, Little Tila's home
was cleaned up and back to normal.
Little Tila and her school all
began to feel better
and breathe normally again.



Penpitcha Soongbun

Writer

was born on November 15, 1985, and grew up in Phayao Province.

She graduated from Phayao Pittayakhom School and received a bachelor's degree in early childhood education from the Chulalongkorn University Faculty of Education.

Since graduating, she has been learning and working with kindergarten children and providing experiences to children in various groups, contexts, and formats.

Throughout Penpitcha's time working with children, she has been immersed in stories, her of love reading, and enjoyment of using stories as the main medium for creating experiences : including stories available in the market, folk tales the grandparents told her, and stories she composed herself.

Currently, Penpitcha is a preschool teacher at Anuban Phayao School and lives a simple life with her son and pets in a peaceful and beautiful city. She is diligently working towards her dream and uses her knowledge and skills to continue serving the people.



Thannawut Thongsin

Illustrator

was born on January 16, 2008, in Phayao Province.

He has been passionate about drawing ever since he could remember. Thannawut's family has always supported him no matter what. When he finished primary school, Thannawut was admitted to Phayao Pittayakhom School via a quota for talented art students, which gave him the opportunity to submit drawings to competitions and learn new techniques.

Being selected to illustrate this book, which reflects the uniqueness of Phayao Province, marks Thannawut's first time illustrating a book. It is also a great opportunity for him. Thannawut would like to thank this project and encourage everyone to follow his work.

Little Tila and the Loy Krathong Festival



The Local Knowledge Picture Book is a core activity of the One Book One City project, implemented across ten provinces by the Thailand Knowledge Park (TK Park). The initiative aims to create a platform for exchanging knowledge in order to produce children's picture books inspired by the intellectual and cultural heritage of each locality.

The project is designed to encourage participation from representatives of all provincial network partners, guided by experts in children's picture book production. The process covers every stage - from generating ideas, outlining stories, writing manuscripts, and illustrating, to publishing - ensuring that each book is not only a genuine source of local pride, but also meets professional quality standards. These books convey embedded local wisdom that can be shared with readers both in Thailand and around the world.

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