

Children's Picture book Created from Thai Folktale Khun Chang Khunphaen

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— *Review of* —
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ABSTRACT

This Children's picture book created from and imagination drawn from a character in Khunchang Khunphaen Thai Folk tale is the new idea of designing. The picture book through the researcher's experience and imagination focusing on Kumanthong, a children spirit. The picture book presents the view of changing fear to love, tenderness, warmth and friendship of children from the spirit world. Children will consume pictures which are adjusted to further their imagination on the folk tale accompanying with Buddhist define. They will also cultivate reading habit and love in art.

Keywords: Children's picture book, Kumanthong, Created, Character

1. INTRODUCTION

The objectives of this art work are:

1. To create a children's book inspired from the rise of the Golden Child episode of Khun-chang-Khun-Phen literature.
2. To develop innovative arts work using acrylic painting on paper technique

Scope of the work

This work focused on creating a picture book for children, ages 5-8 years old. The size of the book is 8x10 inches.

Terms of Definitions

1. Children's book refers to a picture book created from imagination and inspiration characters of Khun-chang-Khun-Phen
2. Golden child refers to the main character imagined from one character from the rise of the Golden Child episode of Khun-chang-Khun-Phen literature.

2. PROCEDURES

The researcher divided the process of art work into 6 steps. The procedures were as follows:

1] The Plot Invention

The art work was created as the expansion of “The Rise of the Golden Child” episode from Khun-Chang-Khun-Phan literature. The story covered the 3 main plots including 1] Adventure, 2] Friendship, and 3] Sacrifice, and was divided into 15 scenes. Mind mapping was applied as a strategy of the plot invention, further, the researcher aimed to create a children book which derived from local Thai literature with dharma teaching.

2] The Characters Creation

Two characters the golden child [Ku-marn-thong] and the female ghost [Hong-prai] from the original episode that mentioned earlier were chosen and presented as the main characters of the story. However, the researcher adapted the 2 characters [in this art work] for the sake of children and entertainment. Additionally, two new characters [the sorcerer and the sorcerer’s son [Klae] were invented to lighten up the story.

3] The Characters Design

According to Klerk Yunphan [2000], to create a children book, he suggested the artist should draw the lined pattern freely and the appearance of the drawing should be similar with the children drawing. As a result, the free lined pattern technique was applied to create all cartoon characters of this art work.

4] The Script Planning

After the characters were created, 3 plots about adventure friendship, and sacrifice were brought to create the scripts of the story. The details of story were divided into 15 scenes as follows:

- 1] In the Middle of Cemetery 2] The Female Ghost [Hong-Prai] 3] The Journey
- 4] The Sorcerer 5] The Frighten night 6] The Capture 7] The Sorcerer’s House
- 8] The New Friend 9] The Adventurous Pla 10] Hope 11] The Replacement
- 12] The Wander of the Mind 13] The Love of Father 14] The Last Fright
- 15] Home Sweet Home

The first six scenes above belonged in the adventure plot, whereas the scenes number seven to number ten described the plot of friendship, and the scenes number eleven to fifteen elaborated the story movement of sacrifice.

5] The Story Board Creation

At this stage, the researcher created the components related to the 15 scenes above from personal imagination. Later, the components in each scene were arranged to create the layout [and were painted] on a paper box. The researcher used acrylic color to paint the original manuscript.

6] The Dummy Production

The 15 scenes in the original manuscript were photocopied in colors and were combined with the front and back cover pages to produce the dummy.

3. MATERIALS

This children book was created using two main materials below:

1] Khun-Chang-Khun-Phan literature [written by Ms.Premsayree] the inspiration of this book derived from the literature above. The inspiration occurred while the researcher read “The Rise of the Golden Child” episode of the mentioned literature.

2] To create the dummy, recycle papers, pens, paper boxes, acrylic colors, pencils, erasers, brushes were used.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The findings of the art work were divided in to 4 parts of follows.

1. Scripts

The adaptation of the story involved the friendship between the child (Klae) and the ghosts (Hong-Prai and The Golden Child.) They met each other by destiny. The two ghosts truly hungered for freedom and Klae was the brave child who was willing to sacrifice everything including his life to bring back freedom for this friends. Moreover, Klae helped his father (the sorcerer) to be a better man and free from greedy. His father later realized the true happiness in life and lives happily.

2. Characters

Four Characters were invented, The illustration and the description of features of the four characters were presented below.

Klae, the child with red body color who seemed to be aggressive from the outside. However, his mind was really delicate and he was sensitive to the world and his surroundings.



Hong-Prai, a little female ghost who was weak, She was so fragile that she couldn't protect herself from black magic.



The Golden child, a little ghost with golden body color who was a generous and full of good moral.



The Sorcerer, a vicious man who was skillful in using black magic. He was full of greed and evil thoughts.



3. Storyboard

The story was divided into 15 scenes under the three main plots. The brief explanations and the illustration of the scenes were presented below.

The scenes of adventure convened the fight with monsters, the sorcerer, and the other ghosts from hell



1] In the Middle of Cemetery



2] The Female Ghost [Hong-Prai]



4] The Sorcerer



5] The Frighten night



6] The Capture



14] The Last Fright

The plot about friendship represented the love among Friends and the bravery to fight with whatever obstacles that came a crass.



3] The Journey



7] The Sorcerer's House



8] The New Friend



9] The Adventurous Play



10] Hope

15] Home Sweet Home

The theme of sacrifice was created to promote dharma lessons and thought children to deal with difficulties in life morally



11] The Replacement

12] The Wander of the Mind



13] The Love of Father

4. Dummy

The picture below showed the finished manuscript that was combined in from of dummy



Brief Story

The story involved the friendship between the child (Klae) and the ghosts (Hong-Prai and The Golden Child.) They met each other by destiny. The two ghosts truly hungered for freedom and Klae was the brave child who was willing to sacrifice everything including his life to bring back freedom for his friends. Moreover, Klae helped his father (the sorcerer) to be a better man. His father later realized the true happiness and lived his happily forever.

APPENDIX



Handmade children's books "Kumanthong"



Children's books for elementary school

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