Rohana
Rohana’s mother is leaving for a traditional ceremony and Rohana has to take care of her brother and sister. Rohana wants to finish reading her book.
Rohana’s brother and sister are busy playing now. Maybe now is a good time for Rohana to read the book her father gave to her yesterday. It is a Dutch storybook called De Circus.
Now is not a good time to read. She has to help her sister first.
Her brother needs help too. When will she ever be able to finish her book?
Oh no, what should she do now? She has to chase Ratna again?
What if she reads out loud?
“Ruskan! Come join us.”
Rohana reads aloud
It works! Ratna and Ruskan love the Dutch story about the circus.
Rohana retells the story in Indonesian. This helps Ratna and Ruskan understand.
They can all enjoy the story together
Now, Rohana can read while she takes care of her brother and sister.
All of their friends come to listen to the stories too!
“The End”
Wow, so many people love listening to stories. Rohana loves to read stories aloud. She wants to do it everyday.
Rohana’s stories make her friends want to learn to read and write. Rohana can teach them!
Maybe the people in this park would like to listen to the articles in this newspaper.
Yes! They like it! Rohana likes to read aloud to anyone who love stories.
This story is inspired by a female scholar from Minangkabau, West Sumatra, Rohana Kudus. Rohana was born in December 20th, 1884, in Koto Gadang, West Sumatera. Her father, Mohammad Rasjad Maharadja Soetan worked as an officer in the Dutch government office. Rohana’s father liked to read books to Rohana, and
to teach her to read, write, count, and speak in Arabic, Dutch, and Malay language. This made her different from other girls at that time who could not read and write because they did not go to school. Rohana then also taught her friends to read and write. She kept teaching until she grew up to be a woman activist. She founded Amai Setia, a school for women, and also
established Sunting Melayu, a local newspaper dedicated to women readers, among other newspapers she also founded. Rohana Kudus was the first Indonesian female journalist.
Rahmy Madina is currently working as a writer. She writes commercial contents, short stories and stories for her personal blog: rahmy-madina.blogspot.com. She has loved writing and listening to stories, especially those told by her Dad when she was a child. Her works are frequently published on weekly newspapers and magazines. In order to pursue her passion in writing,
she completed her bachelor’s degree in Semarang State University, majoring in Indonesian Language and Literature. She can be contacted through Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter. Eva Y. Nukman Graduated from Pharmacy, Bandung Institute of Technology, Eva worked as pharmacist. But her love of the world of words made her pursue a career in translation, writing
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©2019, The Asia Foundation. The book creation project features mighty girls and women as the main character(s) of the story and involve female writers, illustrators, editors, and designers. This book was created through a book creation workshop conducted in collaboration between Litara Foundation and The Asia Foundation with the support of Estée
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Let's Read! is an initiative of The Asia Foundation’s Books for Asia program that fosters young readers in Asia. booksforasia.org

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Original Story

Rohana,