The Great Teacher
Finally Sarah is here, in Reta’s house! This is Sarah’s first visit to Reta, her cousin. Sarah came all the way from Ottawa, Canada.
‘Wow, this is a souvenir from Riedau Canal! This is where tourists can do boat-riding, fishing, and skiing,’ Reta shouts excitedly. Sarah does not expect that reaction. How does Reta know?
Yum! This food looks delicious. Where should Sarah start? That fruit salad looks interesting. Reta said it’s rujak.
That rujak is very spicy.
Water! Sarah needs water.
Reta said that salt, warm water or milk is good for soothing a burnt tongue. Her teacher told her that. Hm ... she’s right. The burning sensation is instantly gone. Reta’s teacher is smart!
Sarah follows Reta to the food stall. Reta brings along a shopping bag with her. Her teacher told her to reduce the use of plastic. Sarah wants to get to know Reta’s teacher.
How much does Reta have to pay? Reta counts with her fingers. Wow, the number that Reta’s mention matches the one shown in the calculator. Reta said it is her teacher who taught her the quick count.
How can Sarah meet Reta’s teacher? ‘Be patient,’ Reta said. Reta can also speak English! Her teacher must have taught her!
Yay! Sarah gets to go with Reta to study in her teacher’s house. No registration and no cost. That is easy! But, what is that broom for?
These children are all going to study with Reta’s teacher. They also bring cleaning tools. Reta said her teacher cannot clean her house by herself.
Sarah walks in a hurry. If they run they could get there sooner.
'Don’t worry. The teacher has a remedy for your wound,' Reta said. Sarah cannot wait to meet the teacher.
They have arrived!
So, she is Reta’s teacher.
Wow! Some children are studying math; some others are studying English and science. They get to learn all of the subjects. Sarah gets it now. Reta’s teacher is GREAT indeed.
The teacher is Een Sukaesih, commonly known as Bu Een. Bu Een graduated from Indonesian University of Education in Bandung. She suffered from a disease called Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), which made her immobile for 27 years. Being persistent, Bu Een kept teaching while laying down, from 8 am to 8 pm. She taught English, History, Computer, and Math.
Anyone, from elementary to high school students, were welcomed. Her students loved her very much so they all helped her with chores such as cleaning the house.
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