

STORIES

OF FANTASY

GIRL



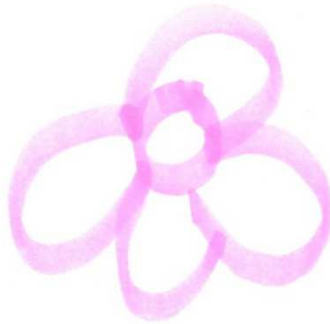
WRITTEN

ILLUSTRATED

By Rupa Adhikari

BY  
ILLUSTRATED

# Stories Of A Nepali Girl



Written and Illustrated  
By:  
Rupa Adhikari



## Table of Contents

About Me.....	2
Baby Picture.....	3
My Family in Nepal.....	4
Coming to the U.S.....	5
Sita the Powerful Goddess.....	8
Rupa's Highlighter.....	10
My Old School in Nepal.....	12
My Aunt's Dog Bite.....	14
Life in Bhutan.....	16
First Time In The Snow.....	18
Inauguration.....	20
Candlelight.....	22
My First Time At The Dentist.....	24
Fourth Grade.....	25



## About Me

My name is Rukma Adhikari, but people call me Rupa because it is easier to pronounce. I was born in Nepal in the city of Timai, at Bhirtmode Hospital on May 7, 1998. I live with my parents, my little sisters Apikshya and Dikshya. I used to have a cow and a goat for pets, but when we moved to Minnesota, we had to sell them. I live in Roseville because my aunt invited my family to come to Minnesota to study, and to have a better future. I am a fourth grader at Brimhall School in Roseville, Minnesota.

Three words to describe me are brave, playful, and curious. I am brave because I started rollerblading for the first time in my life, and I had to learn how to spread my feet out when I rollerbladed. I couldn't be afraid. I had to be brave to leave my country and come to a new country. I am playful with my friends and with my sisters. I am curious because I like to learn new things like rollerblading and bowling. I watch other people do these things so I can learn.

I like to read books. I read Nepali books and library books. I pray with Nepali books. My family likes to celebrate Nepali and Bhutan holidays with other Nepali families. I like to dance. I took dance lessons in Nepal, and now I am taking dance lessons in St. Paul. I learn to dance by watching Nepali dancers, and they're really good dancers! They are teaching me how to use my hands and legs to do Nepali dances. I'm still a beginner dancer. There are fourteen dances that I need to learn, and I know thirteen of them. The fourteenth dance is really hard. It makes me fall every time I dance!

I like to jump rope. I can jump rope in a lot of different ways: crossing the rope in front of me, jumping with one foot, looking up at the sky, looking down at the floor, and crossing my feet, which is really hard. I also enjoy basketball and volleyball. In Nepal, I was in a competition where we carried a glass full of water on our heads. We had to race down the hill with the glass on our heads. My team won third place in the race, so we started dancing with our coach, with the water glass still on our heads. My coach put a bucket of water on his head and danced. We laughed so hard!

## My Family in Nepal

I was born in Nepal and lived there for 10 years. There are lots of very tall mountains in Nepal. We lived in a village with about 1000 people. My mom and dad would sell vegetables to the people in the village. My uncle and my grandparents also lived in the same village. They also sold vegetables. My uncle went to college, and my sister and I went to the same school in the village.

My grandma called me, "Rupa! Come here! It is time to go to the village."

When we got to the village, my grandma bought a lot of vegetables. When we got back from the village, my grandma and I sold the vegetables. When we sold all the vegetables, we got to buy some fruit for my sick grandpa. I told my friend, "I will miss you."

When I came to America my grandpa felt sick. Then my uncle took him to the hospital. Now he feels good.

## Coming to the U.S.

It was the first time I had flown in a plane. I asked my father, "Where are we going?"

My father told me, "We are going to the U.S." I was born in Nepal and had lived there 10 years. We were in Katmandu, Nepal, nine days before we flew to the U.S. I told my friend in Katmandu how beautiful Katmandu is with its mountains and beautiful temples. I wanted to stay there for a year, but my father said it was time to leave. I told my friend Bhima, "I will miss you for forever." My other friend Shirjana cried for half an hour when I called to say I was going to the U.S.

We flew in the plane for 10 hours to New Delhi, India. I was scared when the plane took off, but I felt better when it was just flying. I got hungry in New Delhi. My father bought food for all of us.

Next we flew to New York, where a young lady called my father's name. She helped us carry our backpacks to the gate, and we flew to Chicago.

We had little time in the Chicago airport. In half an hour, we got on the plane to go to Minneapolis. Our aunt met us there at the airport. She cried when she saw us walking off the plane.

Three people came to take us to our new home. They were my aunt Mangla, Burn who is my neighbor from Nepal, and Christina from Helping Partners. They danced together in the airport because they were so happy to see us! When we got to our new home, two ladies were waiting for us. They had made a lot of Nepali food to welcome us. We were surprised and happy.

We rested for a little while then we ate the food. It was sweet and delicious. My older aunt sat near the wall, and she said she would never forget this day when my family arrived to the United States.

After we ate, everybody left us at our new apartment. I was thinking about Nepal, about my friends, my teacher, and my school. I was thinking about the books that I had bought for school, and my old house where I had lived for 10 years. Three days after I arrived, I called my friends in Nepal, and my great



grandma, who is 84 years old. My grandma cried when I talked to her. She missed me, and my family. She is willing to come here to be with us.

I pray for Nepal every night. I pray for my teacher and my friends, and for the tree that I planted behind my house. I pray that my friends will be able to come here, or maybe to Chicago or Florida. I pray for my principal when I'm reading about Nepal. I found a history of Nepal. It's very interesting.

In January, my friends Shirjana and Bhima called me to say, "We are in Canada." They will call me again next month. When I left Nepal, I brought a big picture with me of my friends and me. It helps me remember.

## Sita the Powerful Goddess

Every Tuesday, my mom fasts. She sings songs, and she prays to our God. I pray, too. I always need a book to pray. My father bought a prayer book for my mom, my little sister, my aunt, and me. The prayers are for the Goddess named Sita, and other gods.

One day we were watching a video about Sita. There was a monster who was trying to kill her, but he couldn't kill Sita because her friend protected her. There was an old lady monster who tried to kill Sita's husband, but Sita used her power to help him. She put her hand up and prayed for half an hour for her husband, that he would not die. He lived.

When I pray, I use Sita's power to help me to pray. One day, I prayed for my hockey team, that they would get a chance to win. We won that game!

In the video, another monster had a really big head, and he was trying to take Sita to make soup out of her body. Sita's husband killed him with a huge piece of sod from the hill. When he threw the sod at the monster, Sita raised her hand up and gave her husband power. Her husband gave Sita a big ring to put on her finger. Sita touched the dead monster's head with the ring, and the monster's head became smaller and smaller. Pretty soon he didn't have a head, only eyebrows and hair. At all



## Rupa's Highlighter

It was the first day of school at Brimhall in Minnesota and the students were arriving. One little girl with dark hair, gold earrings, and dressed in clothes from Nepal was walking toward me. She picked me up and placed me in her pencil box that was in her desk. Rupa takes me out of the pencil box when she needs to point out important things. My bright, green ink shows Rupa what she wants to remember. I get excited and feel great when Rupa uses me.

My home in the pencil case is not lonely. I live with pencils, pens, sharpeners, and markers, colored pencils, crayons and erasers. It's safe inside the pencil case because Rupa's pencil case has a loud zipper. But sometimes Rupa forgets to zipper it. One day, Rupa's sister, Apikashya, found our home and dumped us all over the place. She threw us in the garbage. It was the worst time of my life. It was stinky, messy and full of weird stuff. Thankfully, Rupa came home. She noticed us in the garbage and rescued us. She used a paper towel to clean us off and put us safely in her pencil case.

One of the most exciting times in my life was when Rupa forgot to zipper her pencil case again. This time I found myself in a backpack. In this backpack I discovered notebooks, an ELL book, a journal, library books and a reference book. It was so much fun meeting books and journals. We bounced around together as Rupa walked. I became friends with these giants. It was a great adventure.

One day, Rupa's sister found me again. This time she used me to color everywhere. Rupa found my ink all over her face and her arms. My ink was even on Rupa's aunt's face. Rupa discovered that I was out of ink and was no longer useful. She said goodbye and threw me in the garbage.

## My Old School in Nepal

In my old school, we had to pay money for our books and pencils. One time, we needed a broom for our school. We didn't have a cleaning person at our school. The students had to clean all around the school.

Everyday, someone rang the bell for the school. The first bell was for cleaning up the classroom. All the students had to pick up the papers, plastic and leaves. When the second bell rang, it says to pray. We prayed for the school, for the teacher, and ourselves to remember everything that we had to do in school. The third bell was for the teacher to come into the classroom. The fourth bell was for science class. We studied things like pollution, and what happens if you drink polluted water. Polluted water can kill people.

One of the bells was for when students get in trouble and need the nurse. In my old school, there was a nurse for only half an hour to take care of the students.

When the last bell rang, it was time to go home. There was no clock in the school. Everybody had to fold their carpet and put them away. This was the last day for me to go to school in Nepal.

## LIFE IN BHUTAN

My grandpa's and grandma's life was very mysterious life in Bhutan. Bhutan is a monarchy country. That is why the government of Bhutan discriminates against the people. In 1990 the government of Bhutan used weapons on the people because Bhutanese people went against the rules of Bhutan. My grandpa and mother were compelled to leave the country because they felt lots of difficulties in our country.





## **First Time In The Snow**

**I was wondering if the snow looked like salt.**

**But the snow did not look like salt.**

**It was the water. I was in Minnesota.**

**My family had never seen snow before.**

**In Nepal we have snow in the mountains but not in  
the valley.**

**It was the winter of 2008 in December we saw snow  
in Minnesota!**

**I picked up a hunk in my bare hand and threw it to  
my aunt.**

**There was deep snow, and I clomped through it in  
my boots.**

**My cheeks felt cold because it was cold, -9° F.**

**I slid down the little hill on my red sled.**

**I felt excited to be going fast.**

**My sister and I fell off the sled onto the slippery hill!**

**I'm glad I saw the snow in Minnesota!**

By

Rupa Adhikari



## Inauguration

On January 20, 2009, about 10:30 a.m., our fourth grade class went to our gym and on large screen watched Barack Obama take the oath of office while placing his hand on the same Bible used by Abraham Lincoln.

Millions of the people from all over the U.S gathered in Washington D.C. and crowded the mall by the monuments to witness this historic event and to hear Obama speak to our nation.

From the helicopter's camera, it looked like an ocean of people cheering and supporting President Obama.

People from all over the nation were glued to TV's or watched computers streaming live. I watched the speech of Obama. I heard lots of people clapping. I felt happy.

President Obama spoke about the many challenges we have ahead. He also spoke about the need to work hard together, to help each other, and to focus on solutions to our country's problems.

I hope that nothing happens to Obama.

## *Candlelight*

Glowing , yellow, shining

Makes me feel sleepy.

Makes me feel calm.

Makes me feel warm.

The flame is dancing like a ballerina,

Jumping,

Lighting the room,

Swaying

Candlelight

By

Rupa



## My First Time At the Dentist

I went with my parent two months ago in February. I was a little scared when they called my name. They took me in a room. They told me to lie down, I did. The dentist put an oxygen mask on my nose, I became sleepy. They started to fill the cavity. The interpreter started a joke about a princess.

They gave me a little time to rest. They started to put silver stuff on my tooth. They also took out my other tooth that had a hole cavity. They gave the tooth to my mom and put something where the tooth used to be in my mouth. I thought that was for the bleeding.

They pulled out two drawers, one had an assortment toothbrushes and one had lots of crazy junk that I didn't want. I took a toothbrush that was blue and green and they also gave me floss. I didn't take anything from the junk-drawer.

After the dentist, we walked home and as soon as we got there I headed to the bathroom. I looked in the mirror to see what happened. My lip was huge! I looked as weird as a clown.

That was the scariest dentist appointment yet and I hope it never happens again.