Institut Pendidikan Guru Kampus Dato' Razali Isail

Disappearing Baby

A Story for Malaysian Kids (simplified)

By Ruth Wickham, **Brighton Education Training Fellow at IPGKDRI**



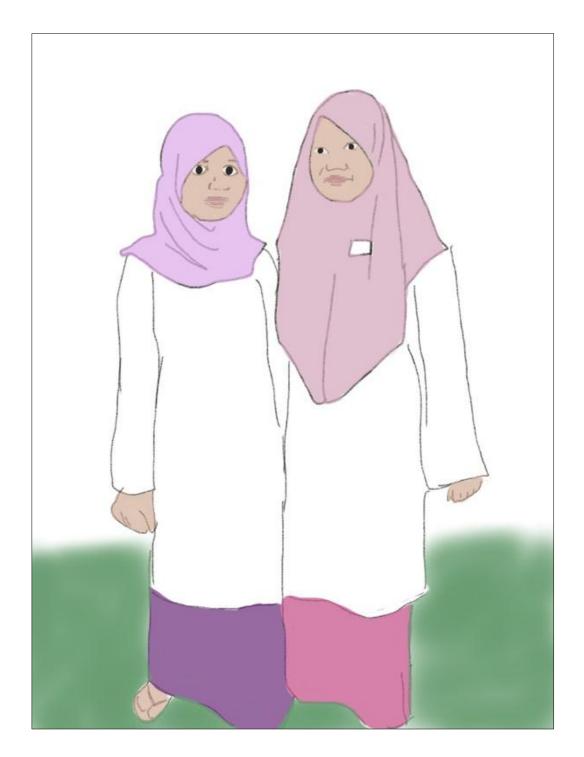
Disappearing Baby

Alya and Nazmi climbed off the motorbike.

"Thanks Mum. See you later, Alya," said Nazmi. He ran to meet his friends.

"Bye, Mum," said Alya.





"Hi, Alya," said her friend Syakira.

"Do you like riding on the back of the motorbike?" asked Syakira.

[&]quot;Hello, Alya," said Azlinda.

"No. Nazmi squishes me," said Alya.

"How is your baby brother?" asked Azlinda.

Alya smiled. "He is very cute!"

"Can you play with him?" asked Azlinda.

"He can smile. He can laugh. I can play with him."

"But can he do anything?" asked Syakira.

"Yes. He can hold things," said Alya.



On the weekend Mum was in the kitchen cooking. Alya was holding Alif.

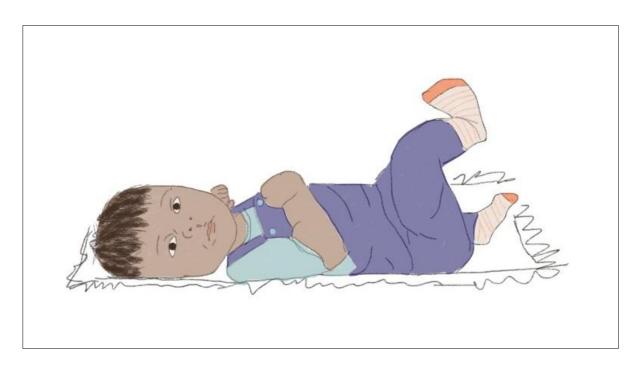


Alif was wriggling a lot. He was a strong baby.

Dad and Nazmi went out to do some work.

Syakira and Azlinda came to see Alya. Alya got Alif's rug. Mum put Alif on his rug on the floor.

Disappearing Baby, (simplified) by Ruth Wickham

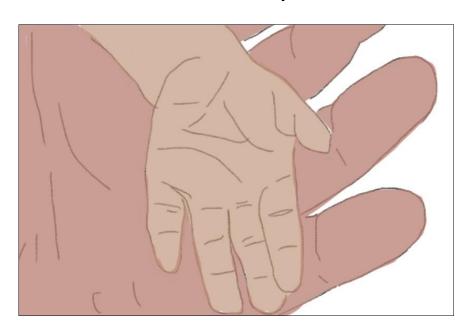


"What can he play?" asked Syakira.

"Babies like songs, don't they?" asked Azlinda.

"He likes 'Like a Teddy Bear'. Do you know it?" said Alya.

The girls didn't know it, so Alya showed them.



The girls sang "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" together. Alif like that too.

Then the phone rang. Mum answered.

Grandma fell down at her house. Mum had to go and see her. The three girls had to look after Alif.



Alya was worried about Grandma. "Is she ok?"

"Grandma is ok. I will be back soon. Dad will be home soon too," said Mum.

The girls sat down and sang a song to Alif. They sang "Incy Wincy Spider" and did the actions.

Syakira saw a spider on the floor.



"I hate spiders," said Azlinda. "Let's catch it."

They caught the spider in a box. "Put it outside," said Alya.

The girls put the spider outside the door. They came back to play with Alif.

Alif had turned over to watch them.



"Alif, how did you do that?" said Alya.

"He can turn over!" said Azlinda.

"I didn't know," said Alya.

The phone rang. Alya answered. Mum told her that Grandma was ok. Mum said she was coming home now.

Alif rolled over and over and disappeared behind the sofa.

The three girls went back to play with Alif.

He had disappeared.



"Azlinda, where's Alif?" asked Alya.

"I don't know," said Azlinda

"Where is he?" asked Syakira.

Alya was thinking. "He can't walk. He can't crawl."

"So where is he?" asked Azlinda.

"Alif! Alif!" called Alya. "I can hear him ..."

Then Mum came in the door. She was helping Grandma. Grandma had a bandage on her arm.

"Mum! Grandma!" cried Alya. She hugged them both.

Alif rolled back onto his rug. Alya saw him. "Alif! Where did you go?"

"We were worried!" said Azlinda.

"Did Alif go somewhere?" asked Mum.

Just then Dad and Nazmi came in the door.

"Dad!" said Alya.

"Hello, Alya. Are you OK?" said Dad.



"Hi, everyone. Where is Alif?" asked Nazmi.

The girls looked surprised.

"He has gone again!" said Syakira"

"Again?" said Mum and Grandma together.

"Where is my baby brother?" asked Nazmi again.

Alya went and looked behind the sofa. "Alif can roll over now," she said.

"Your mum liked to roll away when she was a baby," said Grandma.



"Let's eat these cakes I brought home," said Dad.