

Balangay Books 2024 CATALOGUE

Isang Balangay Media Productions
(Balangay Books) envisions itself as a
catalyst for empowering local and
grassroots literature, fostering a
readership that centers on the Filipino
writers' immediate communities and
localities. Its mission is to encourage
communities to appreciate the literary
works of their own writers, who have
often remained unnoticed or unknown.
By organizing workshops, Balangay also
promotes the production of books within
these communities, building confidence
in publishing as a collective endeavor.

Balangay is dedicated to preserving and enriching the literary heritage of local communities. It believes that supporting grassroots literature strengthens a community's sense of identity and selfworth, giving individuals a renewed sense of purpose.

Balangay aims to reach many local shores. Like the ancient boat it is named after, it seeks to create pathways across seas that are often seen as barriers between local literary landscapes.



Pasasaan Jesus Aman Calvario



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2022

Language: Filipino

Extent: 332

Size (mm): **139.7** x **203.2**

Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219678117**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

Pasasaan—a word that evokes the unfolding of one's fate—captures Jesus Aman Calvario's search for solace in his battle with schizophrenia. Bearing a name that burdens him with expectations he struggles to fulfill, Jesus grapples with distinguishing reality, oscillating between the island of Patnanungan and the town of Real in Quezon province, much like a biblical crossing of waters. This journey blurs the line between his internal battles and the external world; and as he searches for a woman named Anna, he heads toward an uncertain destination. The autofiction is interwoven with Calvario's music, which plays a pivotal role in the storytelling. Pasasaan is uniquely paired with its own original soundtrack, making it a literary and a musical experience unlike any other.









Maqueda Nap I. Arcilla III



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: **2020**

Language: Filipino

Extent: 182

Size (mm): **152.4 x 228.6**

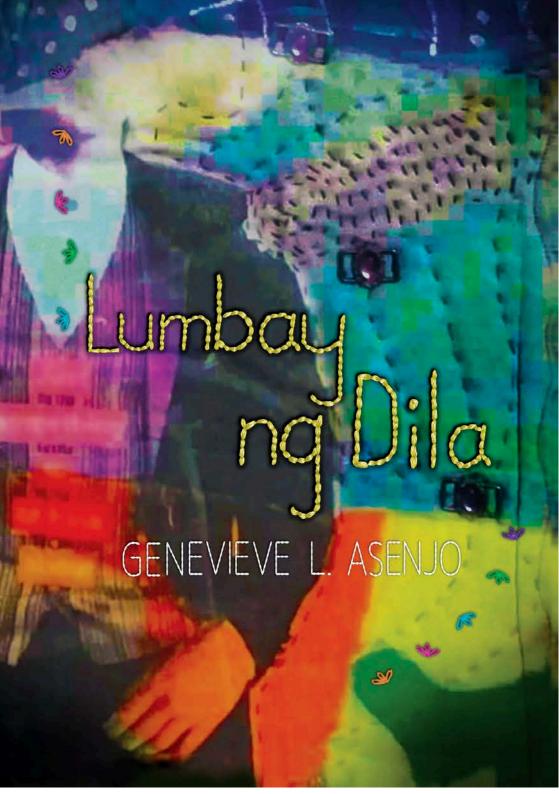
Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9789719699231**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

To many, Maqueda is the sea that both connects and separates them from the island of Catanduanes to the main island of Luzon. But this Maqueda tells about the people who are caught in the middle of its clashing waves, between forces that make them silent, the powerful voices that turn their their screams into a whimper. This story is about the fisherfolks' collective sighs and gasps that, in time, may potentially form into menacing stormclouds.

Each story is titled after a specific kind of fish, and each fish serves as the central image of each narrative. There are stories about barracuda, grey mullet, pufferfish, and so on, and these stories take on literal and metaphorical forms. You may read this collection for the sheer narrative power of stories, but you may also read it as a manual for writing stories.





Lumbay ng Dila Genevieve L. Asenjo



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2020

Language: Filipino

Extent: 386

Size (mm): 139.7 x 215.9

Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9789719699248**

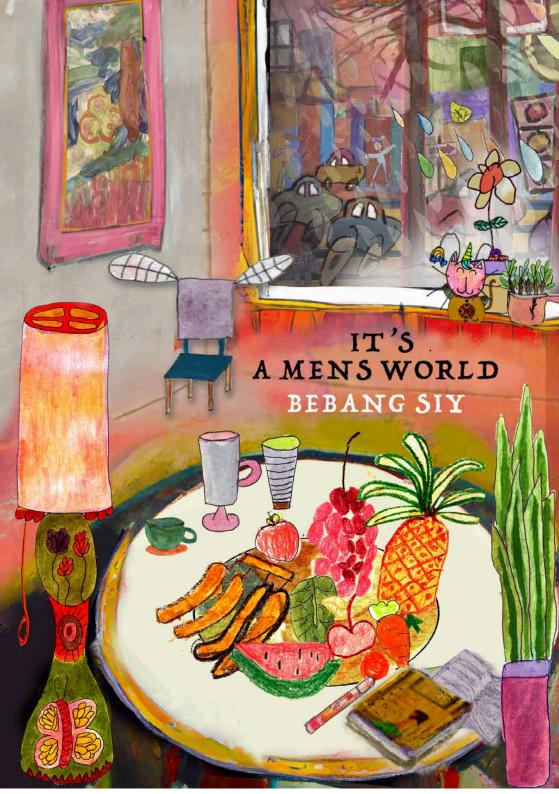
Rights Available: All rights are available.

Lumbay ng Dila (Tongue's Melancholy) tells the trauma and wisdom of Sadyah Zapanta Lopez, abandoned daughter of revolutionary leaders in the island of Panay in the Western Visayas region of the Philippines. It is about her search for truth in the murder case against her politician grandfather during the Marcos period. All throughout, she navigates a series of romantic relationships with a Chinese-Filipino law student, a Muslim-Filipino skilled Dworker, and a Manila-based Indian businessman.

This is the novel of our time. We are—like Sadyah, we are children of the EDSA revolution, kept away from harm and distanced to be protected. That's why now we're searching, looking for a connection to a past chaos we can't fully understand. Those before us thought they had already changed the situation and that the next generation would lead better lives. But now, we are struggling, seeking completeness in our relationships. Because as we grow older, certain things keep pulling us away from understanding what really happened—our very surroundings, schools, churches, and other institutions. Maybe it's the fruits of fear. So now, like Sadyah, we are stitching things together to trace and uncover the design behind it all, before wrapping it around our trembling bodies.



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It's A Mens World Bebang Siy



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: **2023**

Language: Filipino

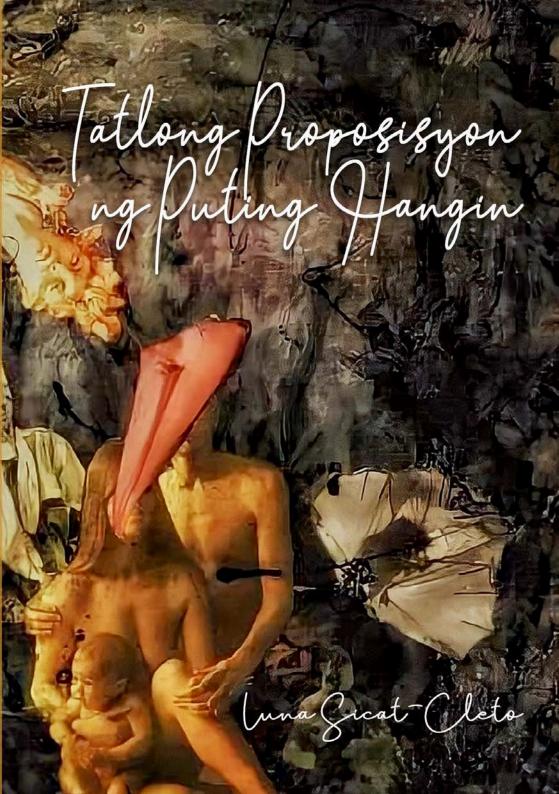
Extent: **188**

Size (mm): **127 x 203.2** Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219678148**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

Blending humor with heartbreak, this heartwarming book of personal essays captures the often bsurd realities of growing up as a Filipina. It introduces us to a young Bebang Siy romping around like any other kid on the streets of Manila, in the very heart of the red-light district, as she finds young love amidst the danger, chaos, and despair. Siy, then, navigates a restricted Chinese family life and her limited privileges as half-Filipina; away from the uncertainty of a broken family (whose parents kidnap their own children from each other), and out of the world that favors men, revealing a woman with a refreshing perspective of life as a modern Filipina





Tatlong Proposisyon ng Puting Hangin Luna Sicat Cleto



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2024

Language: Filipino

Extent: 294

Size (mm): 139.7 x 203.2

Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219678186**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

What is it like, living and writing as a woman in the late 1980s, beholden to contradictions of intellectual labor and its feminization? In this collection of thirteen stories, Luna Sicat Cleto offers us fragments of that remaindered life: in a fable about a scorpion, a story about an old woman's death throes intertwined with a granddaughter's musings about clutter, a reunion of old lovers, a vision of a post-apocalyptic world where consciousness and clarity is catatonic, and a composite novel about an art school and its inhabitants.

SA **IKA-ILANG SIRKULO NG**

IMPIYERNO



Sa Ika-ilang Sirkulo ng Impiyerno Miguel Paolo Celestial



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2022

Language: Filipino

Extent: 62

Size (mm): 152.4 x 228.6

Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219678100**

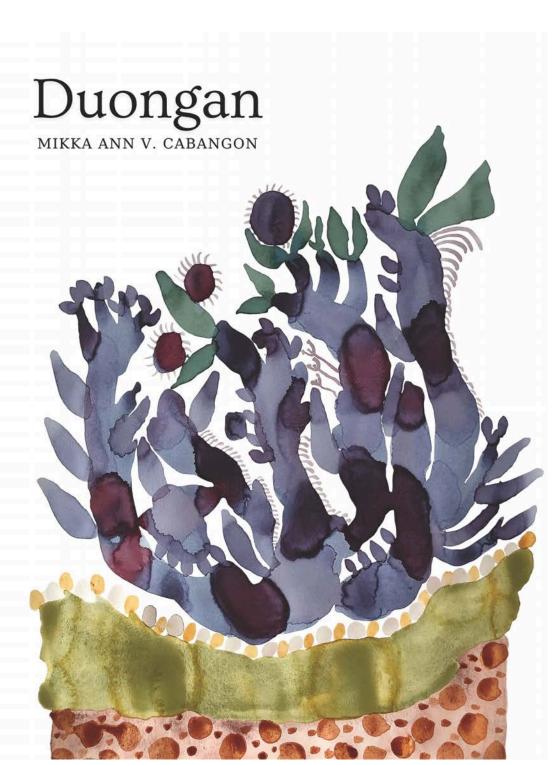
Rights Available: All rights are available.

This first book of poems by Miguel Paolo Celestial revisits the years the author wishes to forget but continue to haunt him —when he was gradually consumed by desire and fully swallowed by drug addiction.

The author began writing this while in rehab and continued after he left. Writing these poems saved him in his pursuit of healing.

This book will take you on a journey to discuss social issues related to mental health, leading to a deeper understanding and personal transformation.





Duongan Mikka Anne Cabangon



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2024

Language: Filipino

Extent: 76

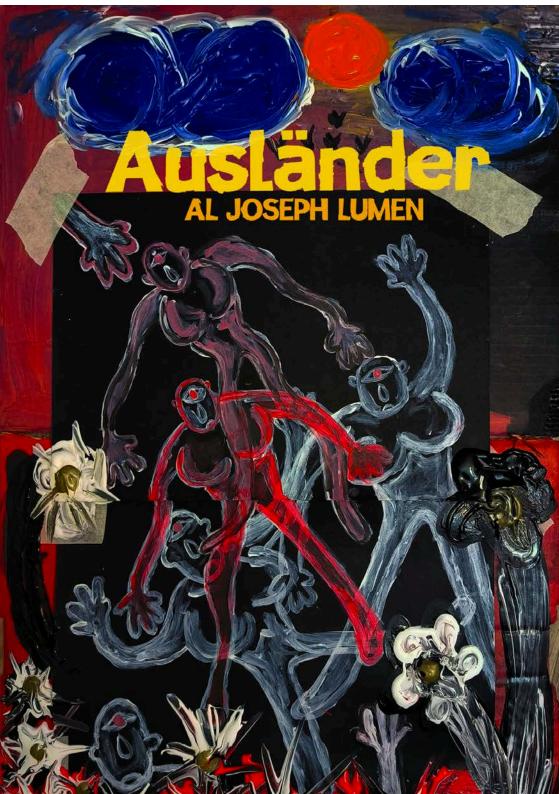
Size (mm): **177.8** x **228.6**

Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786218417007**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

The poet leads us to the slumbering river, where we hear the chirping of birds or follow the traces of vanished monitor lizards. We are introduced to the creaking of the bamboo trees, found by the fireflies as night falls. Every tree —kalumpit, lukban, atis, nara, antipolo, sampalok—becomes part of our aging.

Moored at Duongan are boats shaped by piercing voices, the flapping of arms and legs, and the tears of children who can no longer go home. We are companions in accepting the scarcity of breath and words. Earnestly, we tend to the wounds caused by violence, death, and departure. In the end, the raft will once again be set adrift into the world of swelling and surging dreams.



Auslander Al Joseph Lumen



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2023

Language: Filipino

Extent: 188

Size (mm): **127 x 203.2** Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219678148**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

In 1873, Fedor Jagor's book "Reisen in den Philippinen" was first published. It contains data about his observations and analysis regarding the situation in the Philippines from a German perspective. Thirteen years later, young Rizal arrived in Germany and was invited by the ethnographic society in Berlin to give an interview about Filipino poetry. Here, Rizal wrote "Tagalische Verskunst", and in following year, "Noli Me Tangere" was published in Berlin.

In post-pandemic, Al Joseph Lumen wrote "Ausländer" collection of essays. Perhaps, an attempt to respond to Jagor's book and to revisit it from the perspective of Filipinos similar to Rizal's novel.

From Rizal to healthcare workers who arrived in Germany in the 1960s, the struggles and challenges of Filipinos living and working in Germany have been intermittently discussed, despite the long history between two countries. The collective essays from Ausländer are an important contribution to paint the narrative of the Filipino diaspora in Germany. It takes us on a tour while deepening our understanding of his own history and homeland. Similar to Hermogenes E. Bacareza's "I Saw The Rise and Fall of the Berlin Wall." However, unlike Bacareza's book, which only uses the first person in the introduction and conclusion, Lumen uses the first person throughout his essays. That allows the reader to taste the firsthand information and experiences related to his life and the relationship between the Philippines and Germany.



El Árbol de la Alegría

SOUTHERN QUARTET 1

RM Topacio-Aplaon

El Árbol dela Alegria (SOUTHERN QUARTET 2) RM Topacio-Aplaon



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: **2022**

Language: Filipino

Extent: 222

Size (mm): 139.7 x 203.2

Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219612692**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

So here's Santiago "Thiago" Javier, a local logistics firm driver and former botany student entangled in the secrets buried and crimes committed in El Árbol de la Alegría, the arboretum strategically erected at the centre of a controversial logging company. But beyond the novel's many whodunnit and noir elements, El Árbol is simply a story of a man who is trying to understand the world around him—the politics of his hometown, its language, his own family's enigmas, even the complexity and simplicity of a love that is within reach and yet seeming unfeasible, and the most incomprehensible of all: the meaning of ambition and desire, or, perhaps, the absence thereof.





Cerco Un Centro di Gravità Permanente

SOUTHERN QUARTET 2

RM Topacio-Aplaon



Cerco un Centro di Gravità Permanente



(SOUTHERN QUARTET 2) RM Topacio-Aplaon

Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2024

Language: Filipino

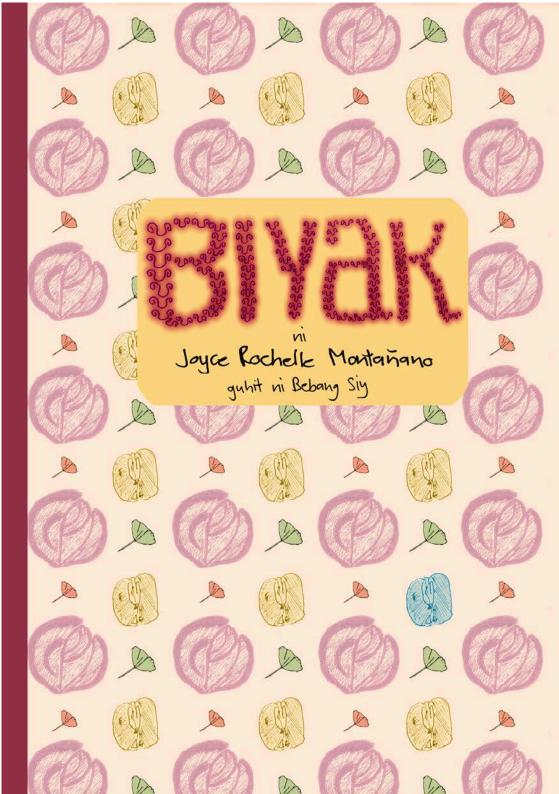
Size (mm): **139.7 x 203.2**

Format: Paperback

Rights Available: All rights are available.

On a clear morning on the first day of the year 2000, whilst most of the world celebrates the foiled havor the new year might have brought about, high-rise window cleaner Cosmos Gingoog goes about his day. Everything stops when he sees a familiar series of toy models through the glass and ends up face-to-face with a naked, one-breasted woman. Hanging over 130 feet from the ground, a flood of memory comes to him, eventually making him question his version of his own present and past, his view of his ever-revered father and estranged mother, and the crime perhaps omitted from his memory by trauma, a fall, or inculcation.

Gingoog will then be forced to meet this woman later to be known as Astrid Marriaga, the lover of Thiago Javier in El Árbol de la Alegría (Southern Quartet 1). Armed with the story and details behind the toy figures, he goes back to his hometown to confront his past. Here we will encounter a yachtsman, a policewoman, and a motley crew of a few more delinquents that would stall his search for the important people from his youth, including his enigmatic mother.



Biyak Joyce Rochelle Montañano



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: **2024**

Language: Filipino

Extent: 56

Size (mm): **133.35 x 190.5**

Format: Paperback

ISBN: **9789719699200**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

Before entering Senior High School, Rhea had a moment of reflection about an accident she experienced when she was younger, where her vagina was caught by a protruding iron roof. Because of that accident, she developed a strong desire to become a doctor, specializing in vaginas.

This queer book is uniquely so in both its form and content a short story told through illustrations, specifically aimed at young adult lesbian readers.





26: Dagli Diagrams Jayson Visperas Fajardo



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: **2023**

Language: Filipino

Extent: 90

Size (mm): 101.6 x 177.8

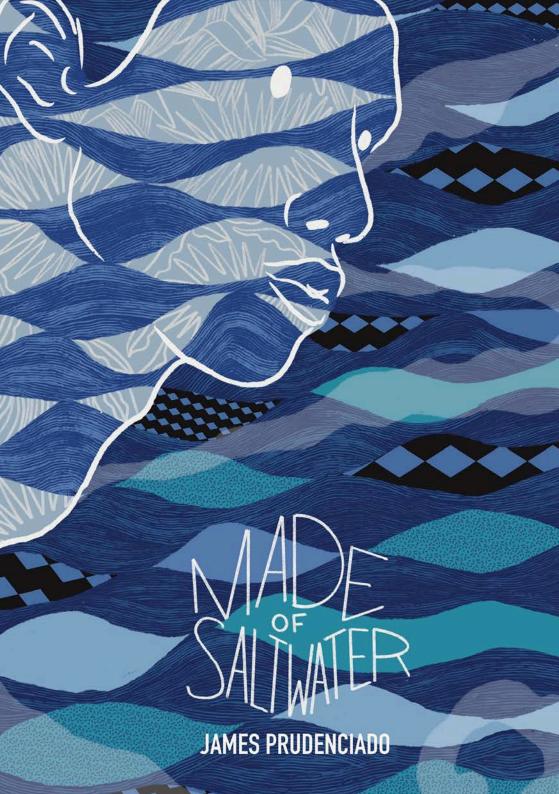
Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219678193**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

Joaquin Polo Morales was a graduate student in Quezon City in 2016, working on his thesis about the process of turning his dagli (flash fictions) into a protonovel for his Creative Writing degree. His writing process also delves into the city's landscape and the intriguing zeitgeist of that period.

This experimental and queer book stands out for its distinctive form and content—interconnected stories that come together to form a novella, conveyed through visual diagrams.





Made of Saltwater James Prudenciado



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: **2021**

Language: Filipino

Extent: **118**

Size (mm): **152.4 x 228.6**

Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219612678**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

Made of Saltwater is a confrontation, an attempt of a queer poet to face up to her bittersweet upbringing, and in the poet's attempt, she inevitably explores the colonial and imperial trauma which have largely contributed to the intergenerational, gender-based violence experienced by women, and queer people (mostly those of who hail from Eastern Visayas) — and in the process, it celebrates the smallest of victories by the oppressed, notably, finding love, finding self-redemption, and finding one's self amidst the injustice, the chaos, and the ache.

Solo Flight unga knwento

Pita dela Cruz

Solo Flight: stories Rita dela Cruz



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2021

Language: Filipino

Extent: 260

Size (mm): 139.7 x 203.2

Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9789719699279**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

This is an anthology of 15 short stories on women's singlehood and the multifaceted issues that Philippine society stereotypically attached to them. It is an attempt on rewriting the misconception of a "sad, lonely single life" among women particularly those who decided to live alone. The stories, which mostly featured empowered, careeroriented women, seek to contribute to the feminism discourse in the Philippines.





Salamin AT IBA PANG PANGLAW

ALMAYRAH A. TIBURON

Mirrors and Other Deep Sorrows Almayrah Tiburon



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2018

Language: Filipino

Extent: 200

Size (mm): 139.7 x 190.5

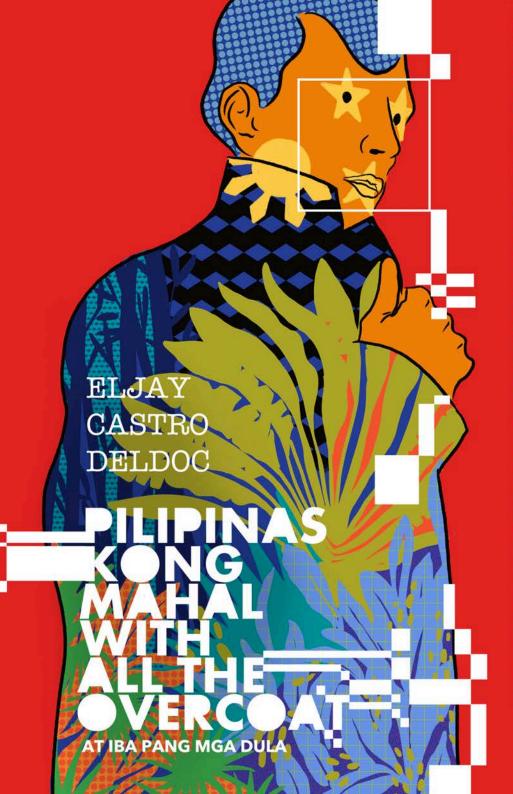
Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9789719699194**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

The book Salamin at ibang Panglaw (Mirrors and Other Deep Sorrows) is a collection of short fiction based on Meranaw folklore, horror stories mainly, which reflects her daily struggles in a male-dominated society. The horror extends beyond her community, when she continues to write about her experiences living in Manila. Only to realize what considers her to be a minority extends beyond her home.

Almayrah Tiburon is a Meranaw, an indigenous people, and a Moslem woman. She tells stories from the island of Mindanao, in war-torn Marawi. It's seldom that we hear a woman speak from this indigenous community. It is important to hear her voice.





PILIPINAS KONG MAHAL WITH ALL THE OVERCOAT_ ANG HIGANTENG HALIGI SA HILAGA_OWEL_ANG GOLDFISH NI PROF. DIMAANDAL_KASARAY DUMA: MGA SUPLING NG SIGWA

Pilipinas kong Mahal with all the Overcoat and other plays Eljay Castro Deldoc



Publisher: Isang Balangay Media Productions

Year: 2022

Language: Filipino

Extent: 314

Size (mm): **177.8 x 254** Format: **Paperback** ISBN: **9786219612685**

Rights Available: All rights are available.

This is an anthology of five one-act plays that attempt to strip the Philippines of all its multi-faceted trickery and deception. The themes of these scripts include digital misinformation and historical revisionism, environmental and cultural degradation, queer narratives, and farcical criticisms on health and education.

Three of these plays were first mounted in The Virgin Labfest, an acclaimed laboratory festival of untried and untested plays by the Cultural Center of the Philippines.





