



**Thank You Atoekthlok**

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A water drop called Atoekthlok, who was living in a puddle in Phnom Penh started his journey to meet Uncle Vase. On his journey, what adventure would happen to Atoekthlok? Let's follow him!



Thank You Atoekthlok  
Miss Mustard

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# Let's Read



**The Asia Foundation**



Once, there was a water drop called Atoekthlok living in a puddle in Phnom Penh and one day, raindrops fell from the sky to his village. "Who do we have here? We've met new friends!" Baby Raindroppie, the smallest raindrop of them, all shared the story of his journey. Atoekthlok who was listening amongst them enjoyed hearing this from Baby Raindroppie and thought to himself that one day he could travel like Baby Raindroppie.



As the weather became hotter, the puddle started to smell. There were many more mosquitoes. "What is this horrible smell?" Atoekthlok asked. It was the worst smell he has ever smelt. He was very unhappy being in his puddle but Atoekthlok needed to have a BIG courage to leave. One day, Atoekthlok overheard Panya speaking in the puddle, which she visits often now and then. "My mummy said lots of people who drank the water from this puddle became very sick so we must not drink from it!" When Atoekthlok heard this, he was very surprised. "I can't believe I have made these people sick ..."



Atoekthlok felt really sad. So, he decided visited Mr.Birdy who was very bright from reading many books. "Excuse me, I have become very dirty water and I made my friends really sick. I don't want to hurt anyone, I want to make their lives better. What should I do? Mr. Birdy replied, "Don't worry. I heard if you go and meet Uncle Vase, who lives in Boeng pea, you can become cleaner!" So, Atoekthlok went on his way to find Uncle Vase.



"Let's go to see Uncle Vase!" Atoekthlok made up his mind. Before Atoekthlok left, he asked his friends Brown Drop and Black Drop to go with him but they refused to go. Brown Drop said to Atoekthlok. "For us to find Uncle Vase, I know it will be a long and a difficult journey. I will stay here." "I'm a bit scared. What do I do if something happens?" said Black Drop. But Atoekthlok really wanted to find Uncle Vase. "I need to find Uncle Vase and become cleaner!" and so, he set off.





"Hi there, I haven't see you before, who are you?" asked Flower. "I'm Atoekthlok from Phnom Penh. I heard that Uncle Vase lives in Boeng paeae, and I'm on my way to find him. Why do you look so weak? Are you ill?" asked Atoekthlok. The flower replied "Yes, I haven't been drinking water for 3 days, because it didn't rain. I am very thirsty. I really want to drink some water." Atoekthlok thought and said, "If you don't mind, could I give you some water to drink? Here, drink this." As Flower drank the water, her body started to straighten. "I feel much better! Thank you Atoekthlok. I hope you find Uncle Vase. I'll be praying."



The next day, Atoekthlok met Cow who had a patchy body. "Who are you? I haven't seen you before" asked the cow. "I'm Atoekthlok from Phnom Penh. I heard that Uncle Vase lives in Boeng paeae and I'm on my way to find him. You look different to cows from where I live." "My body is really itchy! I haven't washed for three days because it didn't rain! That's why I look different, because I am dirty." exclaimed the cow hitting his bottom with his tail. Atoekthlok replied, "I will give you some of my water drops. Use this to wash your body" Atoekthlok took some of his water out of his body and gave it to the cow and so the cow washed himself. "I feel much better now that I've washed my body. Thank you Atoekthlok! I do hope you find Uncle Vase," said the cow. As Atoekthlok continued to help others, he felt fresher and fresher.



While Atoekthlok was having a rest for a long journey, he fell asleep by a puddle when Cow Pat appeared next to him. "Who are you? I haven't seen you before" asked Cow Pat. "I'm Atoekthlok from Phnom Penh. I heard that Uncle Vase lives in Boeng paeae, and I'm on my way to find him to make my body clean." Atoekthlok told his journey to Cow Pat and as he did so, the cholera came closer and closer. This started to make Atoekthlok feel sick and dirty. "Oh, no" said Atoekthlok. Sadly, Atoekthlok had to leave Cow Pat and said, "Maybe we will meet each other next time."



After Atoekthlok had left Cow Pat, he decided to take a rest by a tree nearby. Soon after, he saw a lady with a clean yellow vase. "Could I take a rest here?" asked Atoekthlok. "Who are you? I haven't seen you before." Asked the Lady Yellow Bucket with the clean yellow vase. "I'm Atoekthlok from Phnom Penh. I heard that Uncle Vase lives in Boeng paeae, and I'm on my way to find him to make my body clean." explained Atoekthlok. "You have been traveling a lot. You can take a rest here. I will shut the lid so that the children don't disturb you," said the Lady Yellow Bucket.



After Atoekthlok slept for a day, he felt lighter and cleaner. The Lady Yellow Bucket asked Atoekthlok, "My next door neighbor, Red Vase, has invited me over. Do you want to come along?" "Yes, please," said Atoekthlok. When he visited at Red Vase's house, he felt his body becoming cleaner. "Come and visit our house too! Our house is even cleaner." said Mr Blue Bucket. So Atoekthlok went to Mr. Blue Bucket's house and spent a day there. After spending three days at Bucketshire, his body had become cleaner, but still he had not found Uncle Vase. "I can feel my body becoming cleaner! Thank you for letting me stay!" and he went off to find Uncle Vase.



"Where am I? This road is so narrow!" said Atoekthlok to himself, standing by the Sandy Village. Sand showed interest to Atoekthlok. "Who are you? I haven't seen you before." asked Big Sandy. "I'm Atoekthlok from Phnom Penh. I heard that Uncle Vase lives in Boeng paeae, and I'm on my way to find him," explained Atoekthlok. "Oh! I know how to get there. Please follow me!" said Big Sandy. Atoekthlok followed Big Sandy down different streets and as he did so, again he could feel his body becoming cleaner. "There, if you walk along this river, you will be able to find Uncle Vase."



As Atoekthlok followed the river, it got darker and colder. But he did not stop. He wanted to find Uncle Vase. So Atoekthlok walked and he walked and he walked and as the sun started to rise, Atoekthlok started to feel the warmth. During Atoekthlok's mission to find Uncle Vase, Miss Sunshine was following him and asked Atoekthlok, "Who are you? I haven't seen you before." "I'm Atoekthlok from Phnom Penh. I heard that Uncle Vase lives in Boeng paeae, and I'm on my way to find him. But I'm really cold after walking all night," he explained. At that moment Miss Sunshine shone her light to Atoekthlok, making Atoekthlok feel lighter.

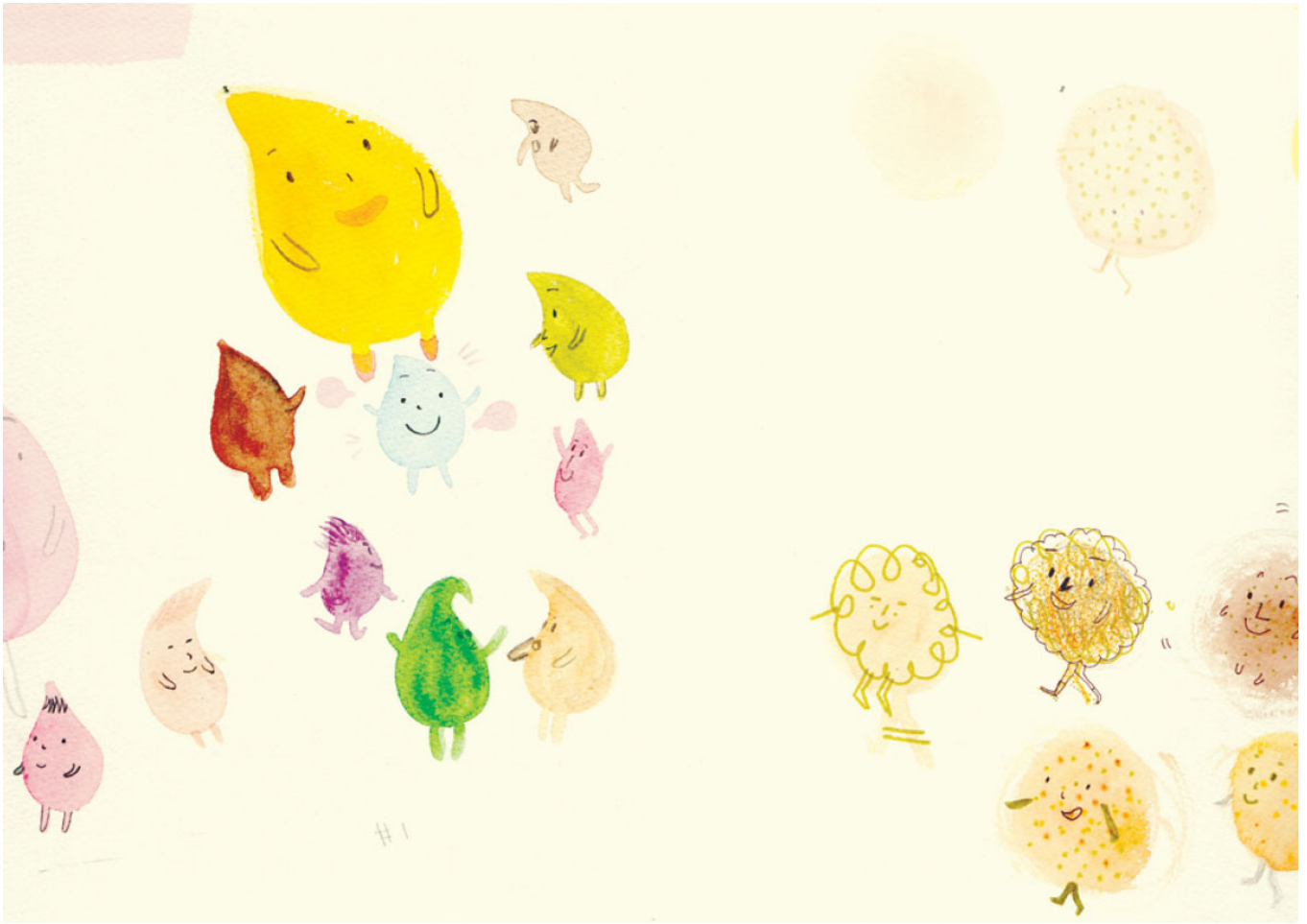


After he left Miss Sunshine, he carried on following the river when suddenly he tripped on something and fell from a bridge. "Whoops." When Atoekthlok opened his eyes, he realized that Uncle Vase saved him. "I have finally found you! Thank you for saving me. How did you know that I was coming to find you?" asked Atoekthlok. "I know all the water drops who help others, and I have heard a lot about you," said Uncle Vase as he gave Atoekthlok a big hug. Miss Sunshine, who was secretly following Atoekthlok, saw this and decided to make him into a clean water vapor.





Now that he was a water vapor, he wouldn't make people dirty and sick anymore. From then on, Atoekthlok wanted to continue to help others. What adventure would happen to him?



Let's think about... 1. What happens to Atoekthlok, now that he is a water vapour? Draw next part of his journey. 2. How did Atoekthlok become clean? Think about ways that you could drink clean water. 3. Talk about the help you have been given from people and the help that you have given to people around you.



**BOOKS INTERNATIONAL**

Books International, established in 2011, is an NGO focused on doing our part to reach the United Nations Millennium Development Goal #2: Achieve Universal Primary Education.

We provide bilingual educational material to children in developing countries all over the world. We work with local publishers, authors and partner organizations to deliver culturally relevant, bilingual books to children in developing countries.

Through the use of these books, children gain insight into most pressing social issues that negatively impact their life. We want to give children wings of hope. We believe storybooks are the wings of hope that can help children dream of a better future. When possible, we further tackle the social issues by providing materials needed to prevent or combat the threats that the social issues in each community bring. Books International, a UNESCO ESD official Project, is currently working in Nepal, Rwanda, Malawi, Syria and Cambodia. Books International has the goal of 4815, which is to launch national chapters in each of the 48 least developed countries by 2015. This will allow us to help local children build a better future for themselves that results from access to educational material in their native language.

**SCRIPTURE UNION KOREA**  
**성서유니온선교회**

주의 말씀은 내 발에 등이요 내 길에 빛이이다(사 119:105)

Founded in England in 1867 as a children's and Bible reading ministry, Scripture Union is now working in over 120 countries throughout the world as an international mission movement. Scripture Union Korea, founded in 1972, introduced QT(Quite Time) to the Korean Church, and is now leading several Christian ministries throughout the nation with 13 national branches. Our ministries involve Bible reading ministry, holding evangelical meetings for children and young people, camp ministries, group Bible studies, Church leadership training, and publishing Christian materials.

Our aim is to make God's good news known to children, young people, and their family; and to encourage people of all ages towards regular and systematic reading of the Bible, so that they might grow in faith and Christian maturity.



**MISS. MUSTARD**

Miss Mustard pronounced in Korean is 'Mustard Si' which is similar to a mustard seed. The concept behind of the mustard seed is from the bible.

"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." Matthew 17:20 NIV

"The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." Matthew 13:31-32 ESV

A mustard seed is small but it stores huge potential to grow bigger with faith. We strongly believe this book will become a mustard seed to the children in Cambodia that grows hopes in them.



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អាទឹកថ្លុក  
ជា តំណក់ទឹកក៏ពងរស់នៅ  
ក្នុងថ្លុកទឹកមួយនៅទីក្រុងភ្នំពេញ  
បានចាប់ផ្តើមដំណើរផ្សងរំព្រេងទៅរក  
លោកពូក្រឡា តើមានអ្វីបានកើតឡើងក្នុង  
ដំណើរផ្សងរបស់ អាទឹកថ្លុក? តោះតាមដាន  
អាទឹកថ្លុកទាំងអស់គ្នា!

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