



# The Guardians of the Amazonian Nursery

Jesus Collazos

UNA HISTORIA DE AMISTAD,  
NATURALEZA Y PROPÓSITO



Deep in the vibrant Amazonian region of Caquetá, five inseparable friends named Sara, Tomás, Valeria, Samuel, and Emilio walked along a lush jungle path toward their school. Known by everyone as The Guardians, they wore matching green scarves and carried notebooks, always eager to protect the environment and discover the hidden secrets of the rainforest.



The morning sun filtered through the dense canopy, illuminating a hidden clearing bursting with spectacular, brightly colored flowers they had never noticed before. Sara stopped in her tracks, pointing in awe at the sea of crimson, gold, and violet petals, while Tomás leaned in close with a magnifying glass to inspect the unique shapes.



A kind, smiling woman named Doña Elvira stepped out from a charming wooden greenhouse, welcoming the children to her beautiful botanical nursery. She explained that these magnificent ornamental plants were not just beautiful to look at, but also provided vital food and shelter for iridescent hummingbirds, bright butterflies, and busy honeybees.



The Guardians wandered through the nursery pathways, marvelling at elegant heliconias that looked like lobster claws, delicate orchids clinging to mossy bark, and giant, colorful caladium leaves. Valeria sat on a small wooden bench, her colored pencils flying across her sketchbook as she captured the artistic patterns of the exotic bromelias.



As they explored deeper, Samuel noticed that some plants needed heavy watering while others thrived in drier soil, prompting Emilio to measure the rustic clay pots with a wooden ruler. Doña Elvira watched them proudly, explaining how cultivating these local plants with love helped support many traditional families in Caquetá while respecting mother earth.



Back at their school, the five friends stood eagerly before their teacher, gesturing toward a blank, gray concrete wall in the courtyard. They excitedly shared their grand vision to transform this empty space into a living, breathing green wall filled with the native ornamental plants they had just discovered.



For several busy weeks, the school courtyard transformed into a bustling workshop of creativity and teamwork. The Guardians and their classmates worked under the afternoon sun, painting wooden crates, recycling plastic bottles into unique hanging pots, and carefully organizing detailed information cards about each plant species.



The entire community soon joined the effort, with smiling parents and elders arriving at the school carrying shovels, bags of rich soil, and rare seedlings from their own gardens. Grandmothers shared ancestral gardening secrets with the children, passing down a deep love for the rich natural heritage of the Caquetá region.



The big day of the Amazonian Garden Expo finally arrived, revealing a breathtaking wall completely covered in cascading green leaves, vibrant red anthuriums, and blossoming orchids. Proud students pointed to colorful, handwritten signs explaining the ecological importance of each plant to a crowd of amazed parents and neighbors.



As the golden sunset bathed the new garden in warmth, Doña Elvira smiled gently at the happy children, reminding them that planting a seed is like planting hope for the future. The Guardians stood hand-in-hand before their beautiful green wall, knowing they had cultivated something far greater than flowers: a permanent bond of love and respect for the Amazon.