

THE SECRET OF NILGIRI PEAK



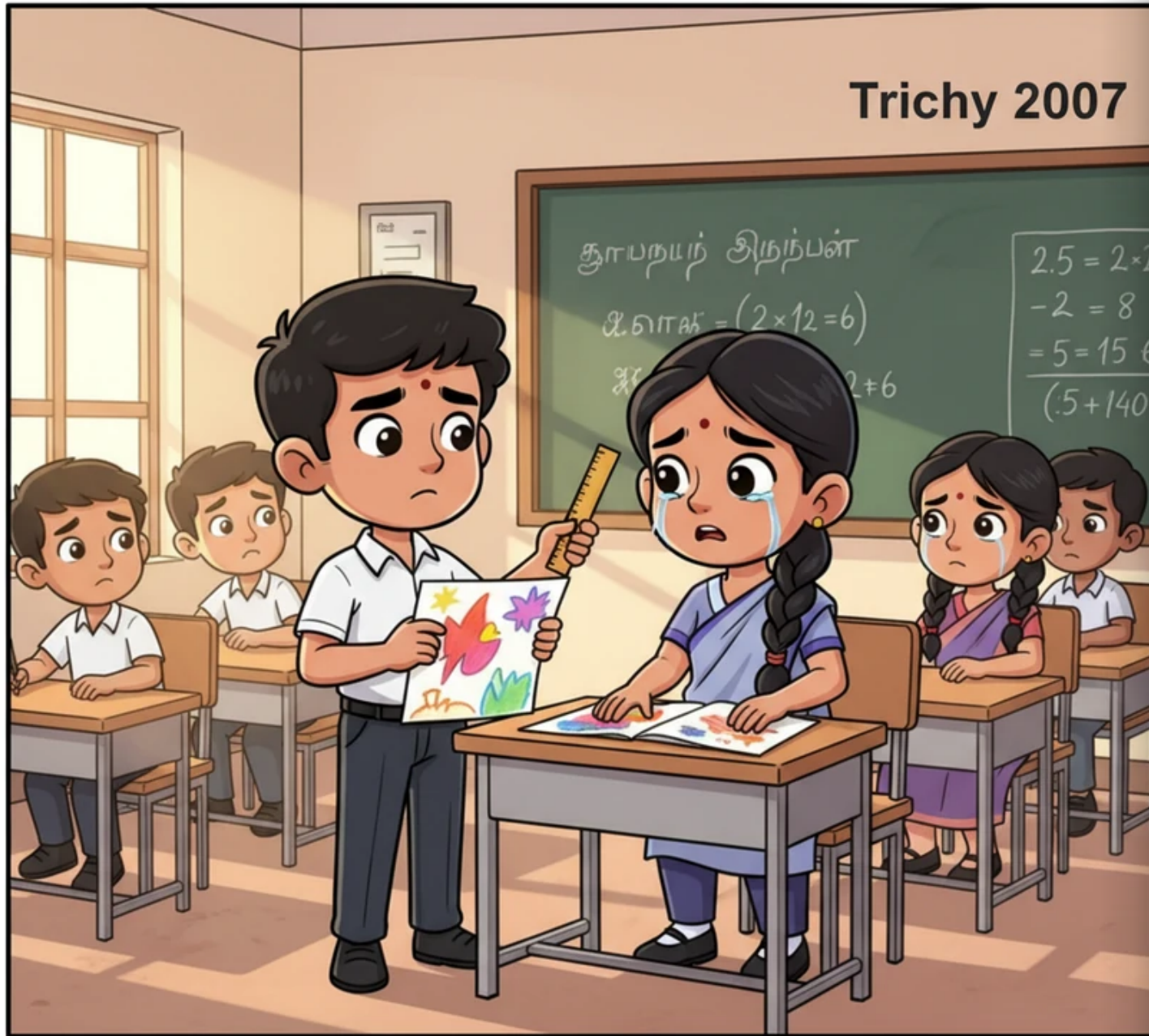
The Sketchbook: Parallel Paths

Riyas Rocky

A Village Adventure



In 1995 Sri Lanka, the peaceful life of young Thamilselvi is shattered as the dark clouds of war descend upon her home. She watches with wide, fearful eyes as soldiers surround her house, while her mother whispers urgent warnings to stay hidden and stay silent.



The Art Competition Dilemma

By 2007 in a classroom in Trichy, a young boy named Ilyas struggles against a rigid education system that stifles his natural curiosity. When his teacher snaps at him for asking why the Earth rotates, Ilyas realizes he must become his own guide in the search for truth.



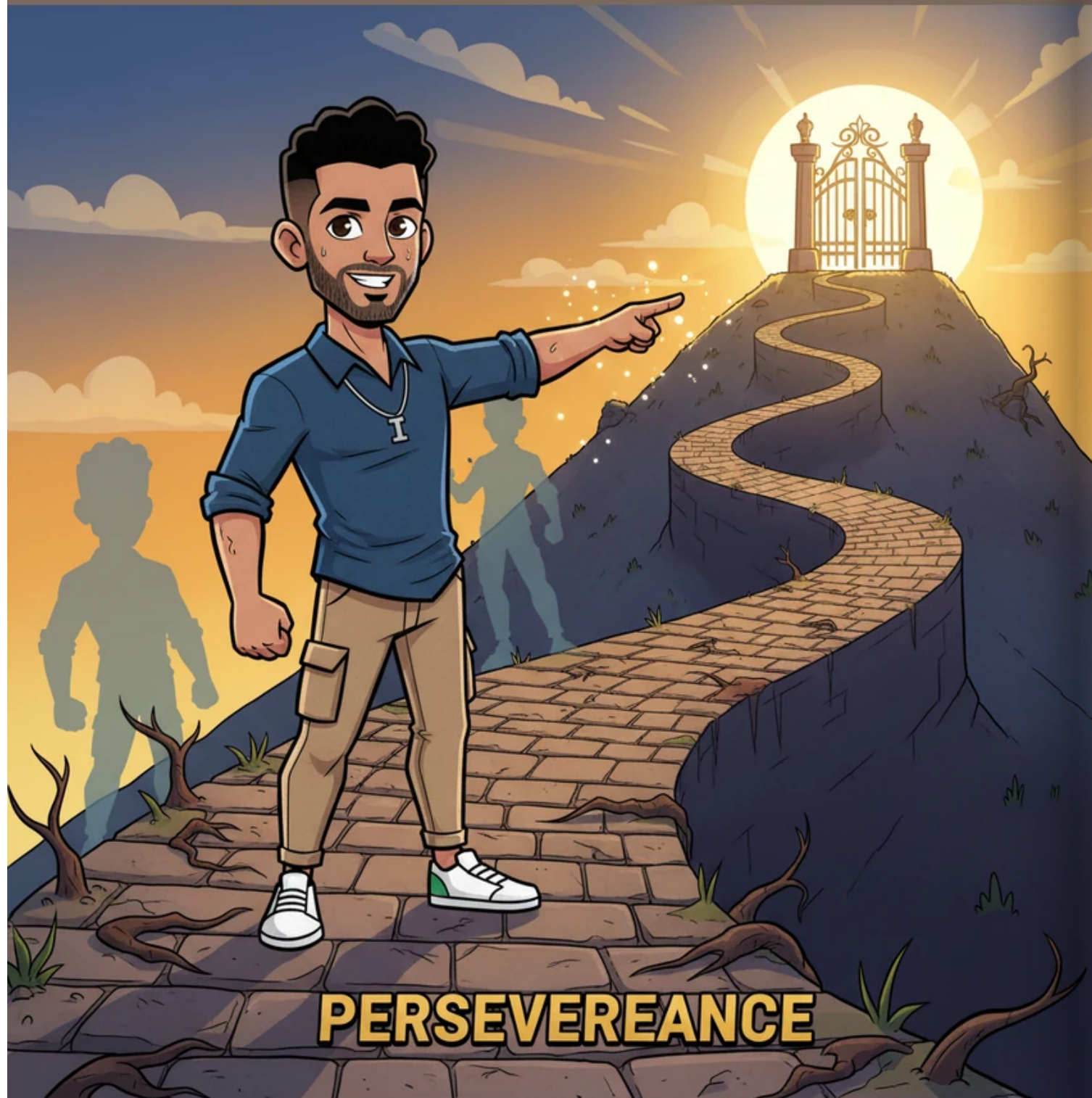
Under the cover of a pitch-black night, Thamilselvi's family embarks on a terrifying boat journey across the roaring sea to seek refuge in India. Clinging to her mother amidst the crashing waves, she prays for safety and a chance at a life without the sound of gunfire.



Ilyas experiences the sting of failure for the first time when he sees a failing grade on his exam paper, making him question his own potential. His friends suggest he asks too many questions, but Ilyas begins to wonder if the world simply isn't ready to listen to what he has to say.



The hope of a new beginning turns into a nightmare when Thamilselvi and her family are unjustly detained in a cold prison cell upon reaching India. Despite the bars and the accusations, Thamilselvi remains a pillar of strength for her younger brothers, promising them that their father will eventually lead them to freedom.



To support himself, Ilyas takes on a series of grueling jobs, from pharmacy work to cold-calling for finance companies. Each day is a cycle of exhaustion and rejection, but every click of a hung-up phone only strengthens his resolve to find a place where he truly belongs.



Life in the refugee camp is difficult, but Thamilselvi finds solace in her studies, reading by the flickering light of a small lamp. She knows that education is her most powerful weapon against injustice and the only path toward a future where her family can live with dignity.



While working at a large retail warehouse, Ilyas faces exploitation and long hours without fair pay, realizing that talent alone isn't enough in a world that demands degrees. He stands his ground against an unfair manager, deciding then and there to fight for the respect and education he deserves.



THAMILSELVI: INNOVATOR OF THE YEAR

Years of perseverance pay off when Thamilselvi is promoted to Team Leader at a Westside store, her new name tag serving as a badge of honor. She looks back at her journey from the war-torn streets to this moment of professional success, knowing she has finally secured a future for her loved ones.



In the autumn of 2022, Thamilselvi and Ilyas finally meet when he joins her store as a part-time worker during the festive rush. When a chaotic confrontation with a customer tests them both, they discover a shared language of resilience and strength, realizing they are no longer alone in their struggle.