



Ana and the Time in Mount Abong

Charito Rendon



High on Mount Abong, Ana wakes with a giggle as the first rooster crows, its cheerful call echoing across the valley. Golden rays of sun peek over the horizon, painting the sky in soft oranges and pinks, signaling the start of a brand new day in her small Buhid community.



With the sun now climbing higher, Ana and her family cheerfully make their way to the Kaingin, their traditional farm. They work together, gathering delicious fruits and vegetables, their movements light and purposeful under the morning sky.



As the sun reaches its highest point, casting warm light directly down, Ana knows it's time for a well-deserved break. She happily munches on her lunch beneath the wide, cool shade of a towering tree, feeling the gentle breeze on her face.



Later in the afternoon, long, playful shadows stretch across the fields, signaling the end of their work. Ana and her family gather their tools, ready to head home and prepare a delicious dinner, their day's tasks nearly complete.



One gloomy morning, heavy rain clouds blanket Mount Abong, making the sky dark and grey. Ana looks out, her brow furrowed in confusion, wondering if it's morning, noon, or evening without the sun to guide her.



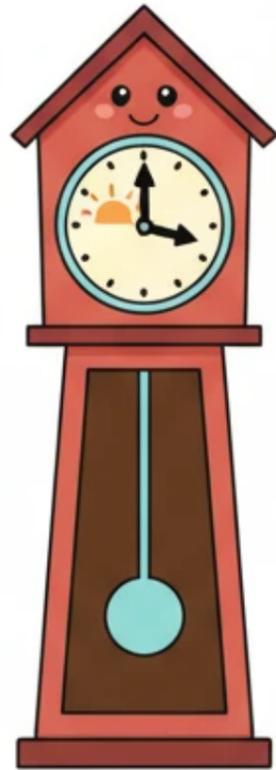
Feeling utterly lost about the time, Ana turns to her kind mother, her eyes full of questions. Her mother smiles gently, explaining that even when the sky is dim, they still know it's time for their morning tasks.



A wonderful surprise! Ana's mother presents her with a small, shiny clock, its hands ticking softly. Ana's eyes widen with delight and curiosity, eager to understand this magical new device.



Now, even when the rain pours and the sky is dark, Ana sits in her cozy room, a triumphant smile on her face. She glances at her little clock, its numbers clear, knowing exactly what time it is.



With her new clock, Ana finds her day much easier and more organized. She finishes her chores with confidence, always knowing when it's time to help, play, or rest, her tasks flowing smoothly from morning to night.



Ana understands that while the rooster's crow, the sun, and the shadows are precious reminders of the past, her little clock brings order and a happy rhythm to everyday life in Mount Abong, making every day bright and clear.