This book belongs to:

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LOOKING FOR JUAN

A CANVAS ACTIVITY BOOK FOR CHILDREN
JOHN PAUL ANTIDO, or Japs for short, hails from Antipolo and studied painting at the University of the Philippines’ College of Fine Arts in Diliman.

Impressionistic and Van Gogh-esque, Japs' works are lively in color and movement. By mixing traditional and modern symbols – fiestas and “natives” wearing Rolling Stones t-shirts – he is able to succinctly capture the vibrancy of Filipino culture, its hybridity and ever-changing nature.

Japs has received praise and awards for his work – grand prize in the 2005 Art Petron 5th National Student Art Competition, shortlisted in the 2011 Philip Morris Philippine Art Awards, the 2008 Metrobank Art and Design Excellence National Competition, the 2nd GSIS Annual Painting Competition in 2005, just to name a few. He has also exhibited in Laos, Singapore, Malaysia, and Denmark.

(All the images used for this book are from the artist’s paintings done in oil on canvas and are part of his 12th solo exhibition.)
TEXT BY:
ANNETTE A. FERRER and GIGO A. ALAMPAY
Juan’s parents are both Filipinos, but they all live in England. Juan’s Mama works as a software engineer while his Papa is a nurse. They both work in London.

His parents have always told him about the Philippines, its culture, history, stories, and traditions. But Juan has never been to the Philippines.

Until now.

For the first time, Juan is visiting the Philippines.

While he’s here, he wants to learn as much about the Philippines as he can. He wants to understand what it means to be Filipino.

How many words can you form from the letters of BALIKBAYAN?

BALIKBAYAN (noun), person returning to one’s country, compound word of balik (return) + bayan (country)
Juan’s first stop is his Lola’s dress shop.

It is a modest business, and with the help of Tita Nita, Lola has been able to keep it running for more than 55 years now.

Cut out the dresses along the dotted lines on the next page.

Mix and match the skirts and blouses!
On the weekend, Juan visits his Tito Bert.

Tito Bert says there is a carnival or perya that Juan ought to see. There are many flashing lights, rickety rides, shooting and dart games, prizes, and snacks.

Scattered in the fair grounds are seven cats.

Can you find all of them?
The Philippines has a lot of fantastic beaches.

Juan went to as many beaches as he could. He is hoping to see the beautiful marine animals that the Philippines has up close, and maybe even swim side-by-side with a whale shark.
If it rains on a sunny day, a tikbalang is being wed, goes a folk saying.
Several mythological creatures—duwendes, diwatas, a kapre, manananggals, and even an aswang in the form of a wolf—are at this tikbalang wedding. Do you see them?
Ancient Filipinos believed that Bathala created seven moons to light up the sky.

The *bakunawa*, a serpent-like dragon, was attracted by the moons. It rose up from the ocean and swallowed the moons one by one, until there was only one moon left.

Bathala found out just as the *bakunawa* was about to eat the last moon. He was so angry that he banished the *bakunawa* from its home in the sea.

It is now said that eclipses happen because the *bakunawa* keeps trying to return and eat the last moon. Fortunately, Bathala is always there to stop the *bakunawa*.

Juan imagines the Bakunawa taking a beautiful girl, and he comes to rescue her.

Help Juan find his way to the girl so that he can take her back to her home and family.
Juan’s cousins arrive and invite him to a game of basketball.

Juan later finds out that basketball is really popular in the Philippines. There are basketball courts in all towns, on the streets, in backyards, and even in cemeteries!

They’re everywhere!
Unjumble the letters below and...

see what other games Filipinos like to play.

PTNAETRIO
AWAAGN BSAE
TBUMNAG-PSREO
LNOKUSG TNIIK
HLUABAN
TGUAAN
SPIA
LKNOSUG BKAA
TAAYIKD
SGNKUA
PLAO-SBEO
PTIIK BLAUG

FILIPINO GAMES: PATINTERO, AGAWAN BSAE, TUMBANG-PSREO, LUKSONG TNIIK, HABULAN, TAGAAN, LUKSONG BAKA, TIYAKAD, SUNGKA, PALO-SEBO, PITIK BULAG
These are the historical flags of the Philippine revolution.

The flag is the country’s most important symbol. It is the symbol of independence and of love for country.
In the picture on the left, you can see different versions that served as the flag, at one time or another, in our history.

**Match the written descriptions with the correct flag.**

1. Gregoria de Jesús, wife of Andres Bonifacio designed the first flag of the Katipunan. She made it a simple red flag with three white Ks in the center.

2. Other Katipunan members modified the flag like the one that had the three white Ks arranged to form a triangle.

3. Still others tried to make it simpler – just a red flag with only one K in the center.

4. The flag of General Mariano Llanera in Nueva Ecija was interesting. It was a black flag with a white letter K and a white skull with crossed bones on the right.

5. General Pio del Pilar’s flag was different. It was a red flag that had a white triangle on one side. In each corner of the triangle was a red K and in the center was a sun rising behind a mountain.

6. The flag used for the first time during the Cry of Pugadlawin was a red flag with a white sun and the three Ks underneath.

7. The Magdalo faction of the Katipunan, led by General Emilio Aguinaldo, had a red flag. In the center was a white sun, and in the center of the sun was the letter K written in alibata, the ancient Filipino alphabet.

8. The flag of the Republic of Biak-na-Bato was again a red flag, but this time with a white sun with a face. It is also known as the Sun of Liberty Flag.

9. General Gregorio del Pilar’s flag was the first one with three colors – red, blue and black. It was last used in the Battle of Tirad Pass.

10. The national flag today has two equal bands of blue and red, and a white triangle on the side. There is a yellow star in each corner of the triangle, and at its center sits a yellow sun with eight rays.
Juan begins to understand that he is not alone. There are many Filipinos like him who live, work, or grew up in other countries.
In fact, more than ten million Filipinos live or work abroad. They send tens of billions of dollars back to the Philippines, to help loved ones with household expenses and their education.
Cut out the images above along the white line.

Fit the cut images to their corresponding white shapes in the picture on the right.
Finally, it is time for Juan to go back to England. As he leaves the Philippines, Juan asks himself, “What makes a someone a Filipino?”

Is one a Filipino simply because his or her parents are Filipino? Is one a Filipino because he or she likes to play basketball and other Philippine games? Are Filipinos defined by tightly knit families, and how family members help each other to succeed no matter where they are?
It could also be the stories, legends, and dreams we tell each other. Maybe it’s the pride we feel when we see our flag, or when we swim in our beautiful beaches. Or maybe it’s all these and more...

One thing is sure. Juan is a little more Filipino now than when he first arrived.
EARTH TALES: 3 ECO-FABLES FOR CHILDREN
The King and the Royal Trees
Story by Paul And
Art by I.N.K.
The Hummingbird
Story by I.N.K.
The Star Thrower
Art by Liza Flores

THE BOY WHO TOUCHED HEAVEN
Story by Iris Cem Li
Art by Sergio Bumatay III

MESSAGE IN THE SAND
Story by Charmaine Aserappa
Artworks by Reel Obemio

TAHAN NA, TAHANAN
Story by Maria Isabel Altadilla-Arellano
Art by Don M. Salubayba

DOLL EYES
Story by Eline Santos
Artworks by Joy Mallari

RIZALPABETO
Poems by Vim Nadera
Art by Elmer Borlongan

THE CAT & THE BAT AND OTHER FABLES
Adapted by Rhandee Garlitos
Art by Elmer Borlongan

NADIA AND THE BLUE STARS
Story by Francisca Nicole Chan Torres
Art by Liv Rimasualdez Virtuan

A FISH TALE
Story by Becky Bravo
Art by Daniel dela Cruz

THE TRIANGLE MAN AND THE FLIGHTLESS DIWATA
Story by Kate Osias
Artworks by Dex Fernandez

HERE BE DRAGONS
Story by Vicor Fernando R. Ocampo
Artworks by Jon Jaylo

THE WEIGHT OF WORDS: AN ALPHABET OF HUMAN RIGHTS
Edited by CANVAS
Featured artists: Electrolychee, Dan Maturina, Gerliya, John Ed De Vera, Jon Masiolabe, June Digan, Keith Dador, Kevin Roque, Lala Gallardo, Meneer Marcelo, Palma Tayona, Wesley Valenzuela

ANG AKLATANG PUSA
Story by Eugene Y. Evasco
Art by Jared C. Yokte

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Story by Eugene Y. Evasco
Art by Jared C. Yokte

IPAPASYAL NANNI SI LOLO
Written by Renato Goyo Cruz
Art by Arvi Fetalvero

RENATO BARJA’S CHILDREN’S STORIES
Written by Daniel Palma and Gigo Alampay
Art by Renato Barja

MAMITA’S GARDEN: AN ACTIVITY BOOK
Text by Nicolas Gabriel Garcia
Art by Pam Yansantos
CANVAS’ 1 Million Books for One Million Filipino Children Campaign aims to inspire in children a love for reading by donating its award-winning books to public schools, hospitals, and disadvantaged communities throughout the country.

A child that reads is a creative, empowered, and imaginative child who will learn independently, envision a brighter future, and ultimately lead a productive and meaningful life.

You can help us!
For more information, visit www.canvas.ph, email info@canvas.ph, or find us on Facebook: Center for Art, New Ventures and Sustainable Development.

CANVAS, a non-profit organization, works with the creative community to promote children’s literacy, explore national identity, and broaden public awareness of Philippine art, culture, and the environment.
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