

VERSES FOR CHILDREN

By *Francisco G. Tonogbanua*

ROSES

I've watered them and watered them,
I've also watched them grow,
They are the prettiest little things
All in a row.

First I spied a pink one,
Then a red one peeked;
Today I went to the garden
In hopes of more roses to seek.

AN OLD DOLL

Here I sit in the corner all day;
How I wish some one would come to play!
My dress is torn, and my shoes are worn,—
I am not beautiful any more;
So here I sit day after day.
O please, someone, come here and play!

A ROSE AND A PICTURE

Beautiful rose in a blue vase,
Standing near a picture of a sweet, kind face,
When I look at you I sigh,
Thinking of the times gone by.
I have seen roses in other places,
In gardens and in costly vases,
But you are the loveliest one of all,
For you beautify a face that is on the wall,
The face of my mother.

THE VASE

Vase, did you come from bright Japan,
From the land of flowers and pearls?
Did you travel around the big world,
To give us your beauty and grace?
Did some old and feeble Jap
Point you slowly and with care,
O vase, standing there?

A PIECE OF SILK

Beautiful silk, where did you get your blue?
Did some gnome or fairy
Steal it from the heavens up above?
Or did you get it from the lovely Iris?
Please tell me where you got it,
So I may get some, too.

THAT FAT MANILA COP

That fat Manila cop
Makes the traffic stop
With a graceful wave of his hand.
Every man, woman, or child
Knows he wants justice in the land.
With his khaki uniform
And badge shining bright,
He majestically stands
All day and all night.

