

SAFETY SECTION**SAVE OTHERS FROM A FALL**

By QUIRICO A. CRUZ *

"Momoy, please put the banana peelings in the garbage can. There are many persons passing on the sidewalk, and . . ."

"Oh! Stop that nonsense, Jose. I'm fed up with such foolish things. Save others from a fall! Pooh!" Momoy interrupted Jose as the latter began preaching. "Why? They can take good care of themselves. If they fell it would teach them a lesson," and he continued eating his bananas, throwing the peelings carelessly here and there.

"You don't mind what you learn in school? Why go to school? Better stay at home and help your parents."

"Aw! shut up. Mind your own business."

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What do I care anyhow?" bowed Momoy. "I know what I am doing."

"If that's the way you feel about it, I cannot do anything. Go ahead with your fine ideas," replied Jose sarcastically. Momoy went home. When Momoy had gone, Jose picked up the banana peelings and put them in a garbage can near by.

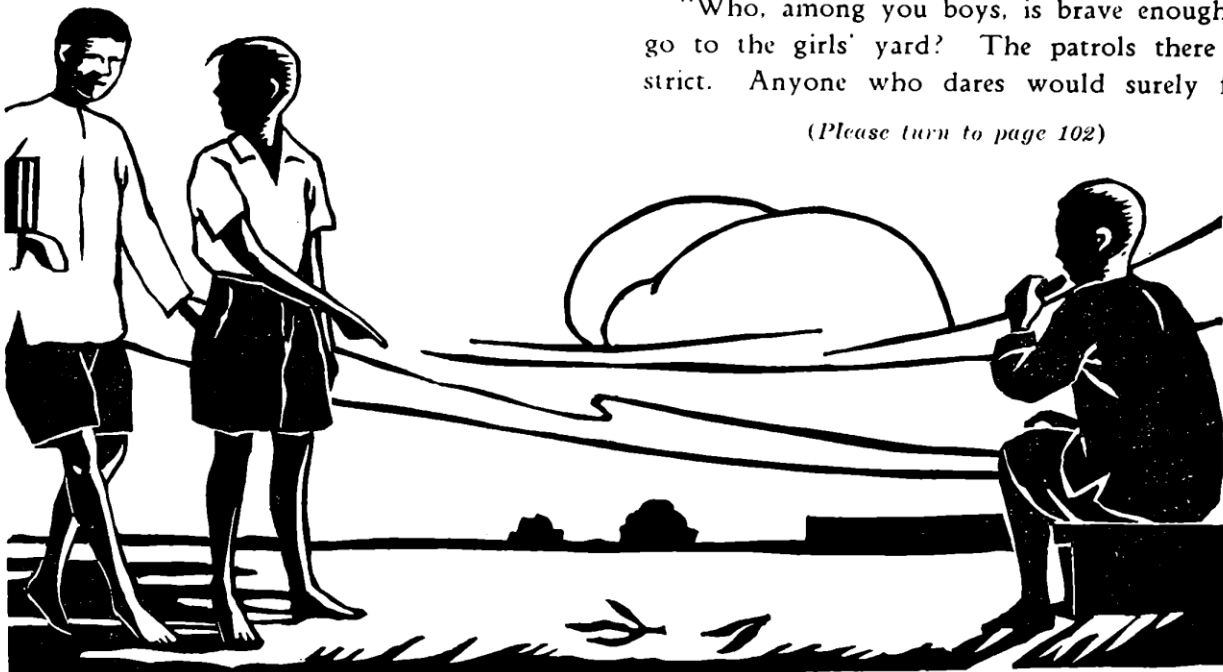
The next morning brought Jose and Momoy together again, but this time they were with other boys playing in the school yard.

"Come with me Nonong," Jose whispered to a smart little boy. When they were together out of sight of the other boys, Jose again whispered something to Nonong. Nonong laughed loud and said,

"Well, what a swell idea. That would be fun and service. All right come on." The two boys joined the group.

"Who, among you boys, is brave enough to go to the girls' yard? The patrols there are strict. Anyone who dares would surely find

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himself in the office of the principal. Would you, Danny?"

"I won't. That's against the school regulation," replied Danny.

"What school regulation do you mean?" asked Momoy very proudly. "Why should I be afraid of those patrols. Just see me do it," and he elbowed his way out of the group.

The girls' yard was several yards off the place where the boys were gathered, so Momoy went half-running and looking every now and then at his friends who were watching his daring act.

"Hey, fellows!" he shouted looking back at his friends. Just in front of him were some banana peelings. He did not see them because he was proudly grinning at his comrades. "Here I go!" and down he really went. He fell and it was a pretty bad fall. The boys saw him and ran to his aid.

"What happened?" they asked.

"Ouch! If I only knew the careless fellow who threw these banana peelings here, I would . . ." Momoy said threateningly.

"Tsk . . . tsk . . . tsk . . . That fellow didn't know he ought to save others from a fall," said Jose, shaking his head and looking at Momoy with seeming sympathy.

"So it was you . . . you," cried Momoy angrily. He tried to go after Jose but he was hurt and couldn't stand steadily.

"I'm sorry. But that was the only way I could make you realize the danger of what you did yesterday. You can box me to even up if you want to. Come on. I won't get angry," replied Jose.

"Oh, forget it," Momoy replied after a moment's thought. "What a pal you are! You taught me a lesson, all right. Thanks a lot to you, CRUEL TEACHER," and he laughed. Jose laughed too and everybody present laughed.