

Interesting Places**Alligator Lake**

FORTUNATO ASUNCION *



Can there be a contrast that is more beautiful, and a scene that is more appealing?

Nestled among the trees of a little barrio "by the shore of Laguna de Bai," lies Alligator Lake. It slumbers in all its solitude. It is so quiet and so attractive. The plants all around are so green and so fresh, the water so clear and so cool, and the air so still and mysterious.

How this beautiful spot can be so tranquil, when only several meters away incessantly roars the waters of Laguna de Bai, nobody can explain. How it can be so green, when yonder lies the sun-scorched shores of another body of water, none dares to reveal. How the air can preserve its

stillness, when you can feel it cause the waves of the bay to rise higher and higher, is indeed a mystery.

Descend to the shore of the lake and more of its beauty will lay revealed. Mirrored on the water is a piece of the azure sky which seems to be torn from the heavens. Beyond is the inverted silhouette of the majestic Maquiling mountains. Green trees in all their freshness stand motionless all around.

How this place got its name, we ventured to discover. "Are there alligators in this lake?" we asked a stray mischievous child who was staring at us. The answer was never given as the child darted away and disappeared in one of the nipa shacks.

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JOKES

(Bayani was describing a flood.) The tide was rising very fast. The current was very swift. Our house was carried by the rushing water. The tree where my father was clinging was uprooted and was carried away. What do you

think happened to my father?

Alberto—He was drowned.

Bayani—No.

Alberto—What happened to him?

Bayani—He got wet.

The class was discussing about a snow storm. Teacher—Have you ever seen snow? Of course not in the movies.

Florinio—Yes, sir.

Teacher—Where?

Florinio—In the ice box, sir.