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Critical Reading and Literacy - C

Sangkuriang

A long time ago in West Java, lived a beautiful girl named Dayang Sumbi. Her beauty and intelligence made a prince from the heavenly kingdom of Kahyangan desire her as his wife. The prince asked permission from his father to marry Dayang Sumbi. People from Kahyangan could never live side by side with humans, but his father approved on one condition when they had a child, the prince would transform into a dog. The prince accepted the condition.

They got married and lived happily in the woods until Dayang Sumbi gave birth to a baby boy. Their son is named Sangkuriang and the prince changed into a dog named Tumang. Dayang Sumbi never told Sangkuriang about his father which is Tumang transformed into a dog.

Time passed, Dayang Sumbi, Sangkuriang, and Tumang lived in a village. Sangkuriang grew up to be a handsome and brave young man.

One day, Dayang Sumbi and Tumang remembered one thing. They remembered that there is one way they can do to restore the form of her husband to be a human. The way is to give the heart of a human to his father. Then they decided that their son would be made a sacrifice.

Dayang Sumbi and Tumang set a strategy to kill Sangkuriang. They will make Sangkuriang a sacrifice so that Tumang will return to being a human. The strategy is, Dayang Sumbi will ask Sangkuriang to seek the heart of a deer, then Tumang will do his strategy to kill Sangkuriang by biting or injuring Sangkuriang.

In the morning, Sangkuriang was asked by her mother to seek the heart of a deer. He was very excited and went hunting while accompanied by Tumang. While passing through the forest, he saw a deer who was looking for food. At that time, he ordered Tumang to chase after the deer,

but Tumang just stayed and acted to kill Sangkuriang. Sangkuriang fought Tumang and hit him to death with an arrow.

After Sangkuriang shot Tumang and without any guilt he carried Tumang's heart to the house and gave it to Dayang Sumbi. When Sangkuriang arrived at home, he gave Tumang's heart to his mother. After he gave it to Dayang Sumbi, Sangkuriang told her that the heart was actually Tumang's heart, and Sangkuriang told her that Tumang was biting him. Hearing that story, Dayang Sumbi was shocked and could not control her anger.

Dayang Sumbi was angry because she realized that Sangkuriang had foiled her and Tumang's plan. She hit Sangkuriang until his head bled and left a scar. Afterward, he was cast away by his mother and left the house.

Ever since Sangkuriang was cast away by his mother, he has grown into a strong and handsome young man. After that, he continued his new journey and he was able to defeat all kinds of beasts and supernatural beings. Thus, all the supernatural beings who were defeated by him became his subordinates.

Time passed, after Dayang Sumbi chased away Sangkuriang, she meditate and asked a request to the ghosts to give her eternal beauty. The ghosts heard Dayang Sumbi's request, then granted it. Suddenly, she looks younger and more beautiful. It makes everyone not recognize herself anymore.

One day, Sangkuriang met a very beautiful girl. Sangkuriang does not recognize that girl. Then, the girl was interested in Sangkuriang, who was strong and handsome, besides that he was very nice and polite. The girl fell in love with Sangkuriang, and after a long time, Sangkuriang finally proposed to her. However, The girl was shocked when she saw the scar on Sangkuriang's head. Their feeling was violating the norms because the beautiful girl was actually Dayang Sumbi, Sangkuriang's own mother.

After Dayang Sumbi realized that Sangkuriang was her son who was cast away from home, Dayang Sumbi finally told him the truth. However, Sangkuriang did not believe what Dayang Sumbi said and insisted to marry her. Seeing Sangkuriang's strong determination, Dayang Sumbi tried to find a way to foil the marriage plan. She gave him two requirements that he had to do in one day and one night or before the sunrise. The requirements were that he had to make a lake and a large boat for her.

Hearing Dayang Sumbi's requests, Sangkuriang agreed to fulfill the requirements. With his power, he asked for help from a mystical being. All mystical beings looked very busy working on a job that was given by Sangkuriang. Seeing the requirements almost completed, Dayang Sumbi tried to find a way to foil it again. Finally, Dayang Sumbi asked for help from all roosters to immediately crow and her request was granted.

The color of the sky suddenly turned orange. A sign of dawn. The roosters started to the crowd and all the Jinn were scared and ran away leaving Sangkuriang alone.

Sangkuriang was very upset, the failure of his work made him fail to propose to Dayang Sumbi, the woman that he loved so much. In the end, he crushed the dam that was near completion and caused a flood to the whole village. With his great power, he kicked the large boat which was already finished. The large boat was thrown off so far and upside down.

Over time, the large boat turned into a mountain and the people named it "Tangkuban Perahu".