



The Dragon was once mighty and could fly. But no thanks to the Blur Sotong, he has been turned into a concrete slide in a playground. Join Ang Ku Kueh Girl and her friends as they set out to free the Dragon!

“Beautifully illustrated... *The Blur Sotong* touches on important values and local terms that the younger generation should acquaint themselves with.”

—DIANA SER, media personality

“A heartwarming story about friendship and adventure, but the best part is its all-Singaporean flavour.”

—HWEI GOH, former journalist and author of the *Timmy & Tammy Discover* children’s book series

“I love how *The Blur Sotong* subtly teaches us that one should always work hard to achieve one’s goals, instead of looking for an easy way out.”

—ADELINE TAN, ex-teacher and parenting blogger

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THE BLUR SOTONG



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ANG KU KUEH GIRL & FRIENDS

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ILLUSTRATED BY
Han Qingping

EPIGRAM BOOKS



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ANG KU KUEH GIRL & FRIENDS

THE BLUR SOTONG



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“Stop pulling our legs!

How silly do you think we are?”

Curry Puff Boy asked.

“That’s right, how can a playground talk?”

said Kueh Lapis Girl, while Roti Prata Boy

kicked at the sand, feeling bored.

Ang Ku Kueh Girl, Ang Ku Kueh Boy and Red Egg
felt the heat of their friends’ glares.

All six of them had been standing under the
hot sun at the Dragon Playground for the past
half hour. The Dragon had stayed silent and still,
though they had touched it and talked to it.




What's happening? Stop shouting into my ears!" roared the Dragon. They had given him such a fright. He had been having a nice little dream about soaring in the sky when he was rudely awakened.



"Sorry to bother you, Dragon. We have brought our good friends to meet you. You promised to tell us your story, so here we are," said Ang Ku Kueh Girl, secretly pleased at the shock on her friends' faces.

Curry Puff Boy, Kueh Lapis Girl and Roti Prata Boy stared in amazement and smiled nervously.






“All right, come closer and I will tell you my story,”
said the Dragon. The six friends gathered around
the Dragon’s mouth and sat down.

A long time ago, I could fly. I was training to be a warrior. However, I was lazy and didn't like training much. I preferred to eat, sleep and play the whole day.



My friends, the Dove and the Pelican, told me about a Squid Sorcerer who could mix a magic blue potion to make any warrior stronger instantly. He was the Blur Sotong, but we didn't know why he was called that.




My friends had skipped training to go and look for the Blur Sotong. They wanted to become stronger without working so hard. Training was just too tiring, and not fun at all!

I did not hear from them for a few weeks, and figured that they must have become so powerful from the Blur Sotong's magic potion that they could stop training. I was envious of them.

But i was not worried. I was too excited by the thought of finding the magic blue potion.

I made my way across the dirty beach and arrived at a little cave where the Blur Sotong was said to be living.



*I smelt something musty,
and followed the curious smell.
I thought that it must be the
scent of the magic blue potion.*

*In the cave, I saw the back of a
hunched figure stirring a big pot.
This must be the Blur Sotong! He
tasted the magic potion now and
again, and kept stirring the pot.*

*“Ahem, excuse me,
Squid Sorcerer, I am the
Dragon. I would like to get
some magic potion from
you. Can I please have
some?” I asked politely.*



*“**W**ere, have some.” The Blur Sotong scooped out a huge bowl of potion and offered it to me. His arms shook; he spilt drops of potion onto the floor as he held out the bowl.*

In my excitement, I drank the whole big bowl. I thought that the more I drank, the stronger I would become. I didn’t notice that the potion I was drinking was black, not blue.

ANG KU KUEH GIRL & FRIENDS

