

Level 6



Graduation Day



By Anita Tabimal

Illustrated by Paulo Azevedo Pazciencia

Graduation Day



By Anita Tabimal
Illustrated by Paulo Azevedo Pazciencia

Library For All Ltd.



“Wake up! Wake up!” Mum called across the room. I was filled with excitement as I woke. That day, 13th December 2023, was my school’s graduation day.

I was a Year 10 student at Santo East in Luganville. It was almost 6am, and the sun was already warming the world with its love. I got out of bed, had my breakfast, and started to get ready for the big day.



Everything was going so well until I tried to put on my graduation dress.

“Oh, my days,” I sighed. The dress was too tight. “Mum! I need help!” I shouted, my voice trembling with fear. Luckily, my mum was a tailor, so she fixed my dress very quickly.





It was nearly 8am, and my siblings and I decided to leave for school. Dad drove us there in our black and white truck, just in time for the beginning of the graduation programme.







As soon as Dad drove off, I went straight to our Year 10 tent and took my seat. The tent was stunning, with everyone wearing green dresses and t-shirts in different styles.

The programme began and the teachers gave their speeches. The air grew hotter and hotter as time passed by. The other children's laughter and cries echoed through my ears as I impatiently waited for the award-giving ceremony.



Eventually, it was time for the best part of the graduation: the award-giving ceremony. The announcer started to read the names, and I peeked into the crowd to find my family.

Further away, I saw my mum, aunt and siblings, all with huge smiles on their faces. I was very pleased and happy. Just then, my name was announced.





“Anita Tabimal, certificate for Year 10 accomplishment and awarded first prize for French.”





I stood up and nervously walked to the stage to receive my certificates. My heart went *boom* as the speaker continued to read out awards I didn't know I'd won.



“A prize for being first in French, first in Social Science, first in Religious Education, first in Agriculture, second in English and third in Basic Science,” the speaker read. My heart filled with gratitude, and I took my awards. They were heavy!

As I looked across the stage, I saw my mum running towards me. Crying with joy, she hugged me and congratulated me. Her smile was wider than I've ever seen!

Mum helped me carry my awards and as I walked back to my seat, my sister came and hugged me. I looked around to try and find my dad, but my sister told me he was still trying to park the car.

Even without Dad here, the clapping and joy made me feel warm inside.



After reading all the names, it was time for another interesting part: the Dux Award. The Dux Award was presented to the highest-ranking academic student for the year, one from the junior years and one from the senior.

At Santo East, the Dux Award was sponsored by the National Bank of Vanuatu and the winners were given money. The school principal gave his speech before presenting the awards.



Finally, after all the waiting, it was time. The principal began: “This person is a Year 10 student...”

My nerves grew and grew. *I was in Year 10.*



“Congratulations, Anita Tabimal!”

When I heard my name, my face went as red as a ripe tomato. I was the junior Dux winner! I stood and walked towards the stage. In the background, I heard my family cheering.



The former Lord Mayor of Luganville presented the Dux Award and congratulated me. My family rushed towards the stage and hugged me tight. It was the best thing I'd ever experienced.

That was when my dad arrived. He and my mum pulled me in and hugged me tight. I was so happy to have made my parents proud. It was a blessing, making them happy.



After all the presentations, we went home, and my parents held a feast to celebrate my achievements. It was the most memorable day of my life, because I had made my parents prouder of me than ever before.



Their smiling faces made me realise that making them happy was the best thing I could ever do in my life.



**You can use these questions
to talk about this book with
your family, friends and
teachers.**



**What was the reason for the excitement
on 13th December 2023?**



**What awards did Anita receive during
the graduation ceremony?**



**Why was Anita's mum so happy when
she hugged them on stage?**



**Have you ever done something special
to make your parents proud?**

**Create your own 'Best Student Award'
certificate to celebrate a personal
achievement (e.g., finishing a book or
doing something kind for someone).**

About the author

Anita Tabimal was born in Pentecost and now lives in Port Vila. She wanted to write a children's book to share some of her personal experiences so that young people can learn from them, as well as encourage them to learn to read. As a child, Anita loved stories about nature and culture. She enjoys spending quality time with friends and family, and making memories.



Did you enjoy this book?

We have hundreds more expertly curated original stories to choose from.

We work in partnership with authors, educators, cultural advisors, governments and NGOs to bring the joy of reading to children everywhere.

Did you know?

We create global impact in these fields by embracing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



libraryforall.org

You're reading **Level 6**

Learner – Beginner readers

Start your reading journey with short words, big ideas and plenty of pictures.

Level 1 – Rising readers

Raise your reading level with more words, simple sentences and exciting images.

Level 2 – Eager readers

Enjoy your reading time with familiar words, but complex sentences.

Level 3 – Progressing readers

Develop your reading skills with creative stories and some challenging vocabulary.

Level 4 – Fluent readers

Step up your reading skills with playful narratives, new words and fun facts.

Level 5 – Curious readers

Discover your world through science and stories.

Level 6 – Adventurous readers

Explore your world through science and stories.



Library For All is an Australian not for profit organisation with a mission to make knowledge accessible to all via an innovative digital library solution. Visit us at libraryforall.org

Graduation Day

First published 2025

Published by Library For All Ltd

Email: info@libraryforall.org

URL: libraryforall.org



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/>.

This book was made possible by the generous support of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and Global Partnership for Education (GPE).



Save the Children



**Transforming
Education**

Original illustrations by Paulo Azevedo Pazciencia

Graduation Day

Tabimal, Anita

ISBN: 978-1-923554-48-1

SKU04790



Graduation Day

It's time for the graduation awards at Anita's school! She's really excited and her parents are incredibly proud of how well she did that year.



libraryforall.org
#lettheworldlearn

ISBN 978-1-923554-48-1



9 781923 554481

