PAZ AND PABLO: A STORY OF TWO LITTLE FILIPINOS

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Paz and Pablo: A Story of Two Little Filipinos by Addie F. Mitchell

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ADDIE F. MITCHELL

PAZ AND PABLO: A STORY OF TWO LITTLE FILIPINOS



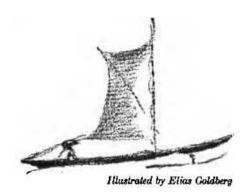
PAZ AND PABLO

CHILDREN OF THE WORLD

PAZ AND PABLO

A STORY OF TWO LITTLE FILIPINOS

ADDIE F. MITCHELL
FORMERLY OF THE PELLIPPINES



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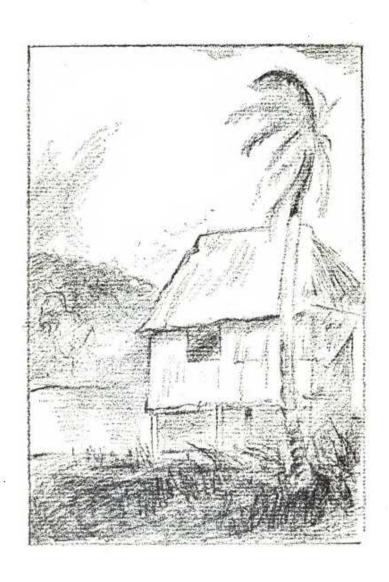
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CONTENTS

CHAPTI	SR .						-	PAGE
	PABLO AND THE MONE							
II.	THE STORY OF QUICOY	AND	TE	IE (Coc	onu	T	24
	IN THE EVENING							
IV.	AT SCHOOL AGAIN		•		÷	÷		58
v.	THE BALETE TREE	(i) 16	•	•				59
VI.	A GIFT FOR THE MAE	STRA	•	٠	•	٠		69
VII.	THE MAESTRA'S VISIT.		*8			*	•	81
	THE LAST DAY OF SCI							





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PAZ AND PABLO

CHAPTER I

PABLO AND THE MONEY BOX

PAZ and Pablo 1 were left all alone to take care of Little Sister while their parents went out in their banca,2 or little boat, to catch fish.

"You must be good children," their mother said when she went away, "and don't let Little Sister get hurt." And the children promised to be very good, indeed.

Paz and Pablo are two little children who live on one of the Philippine Islands, far away across the sea. It may seem that the children have queer names, but the people of their land do not speak the English language; if they did, Paz and Pablo would be Peace and Paul.

The children have dark skins, for they belong to the Malay, or Brown, race. Their eyes are dark and bright, and their hair is black and glossy as a raven's wing. There is no winter in

¹ The children's names are pronounced Pahss and Pah'blo.

² Bahn'ka.

their island home, and it is warm all the year; so Paz and Pablo do not need to wear many clothes. Pablo's short trousers are of cotton, and his shirt is of abacá cloth, which is woven from the fiber taken out of the long abacá leaves. The dress that Paz wears is made of gay-colored cotton, bought at the Chinese store.

The house in which the children live is built of bamboo sticks, covered with the long, thick leaves of the nipa palm. The nipa leaves are folded over the sticks, one overlapping another; and they are kept in place by sewing them with strips of rattan. It is done as if one were to take sumach leaves and sew them over twigs with stems of grass for thread. But the nipa leaves are much longer than sumach leaves, and the rattan used is much thicker than grass stems.

When enough of these strips are made, they are tied to large bamboo poles, which make the framework of the house. Strips of rattan are used to tie them, for rattan strings are good and stout. The nipa strips are put on the tops and on the sides of the houses, as shingles are put on our roofs. This nipa thatch makes

