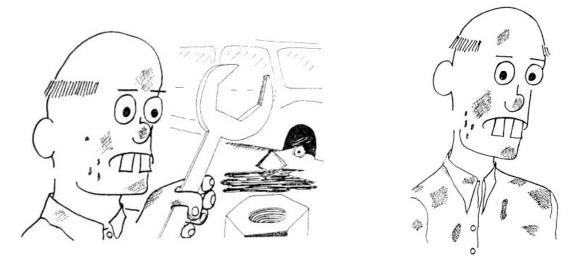


by Terry Bell



This is Athong. He lives in Samut Prakhan, not far from Bangkok. Athong lives with his mother in an old wooden house. He works in a workshop. He is a mechanic. He repairs cars and trucks. He starts work at seven o'clock every morning.



It's a very dirty job and he always gets dirt on his hands and face. His clothes get very dirty, too. His shirt and trousers are always full of oil and grease.

When work finishes at half past five in the evening, Athong climbs on his bicycle and cycles home. It isn't very far. It takes only twenty minutes by bicycle.

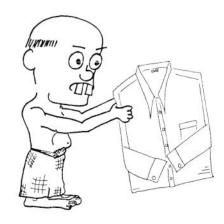


When he arrives home, he goes to the bathroom and washes his face and hands with soap and hot water. The towel is usually very dirty when he dries himself!

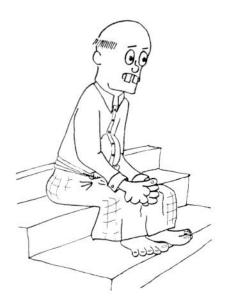
After that he has a shower to clean the rest of his body and he also washes his hair. That's much better!

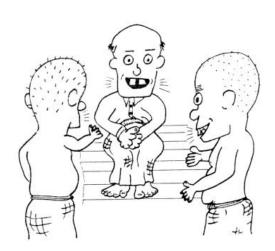






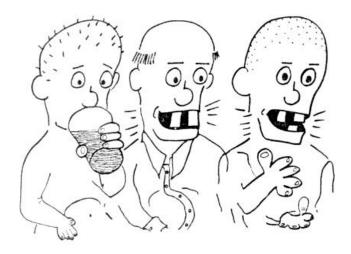
When he is ready, he sits outside on the stairs in front of his house and waits for his friends, Biffo and Dumbo, to arrive.



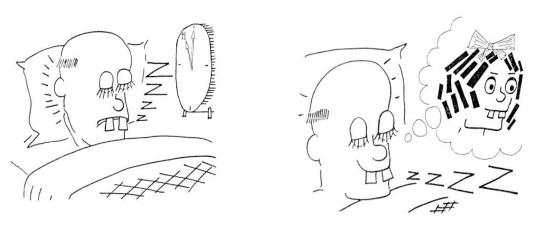


After half an hour talking on the stairs, the three friends usually go for a drink in their favourite café. Athong and Biffo usually do all the talking in the café. Dumbo is too busy drinking!





At half past ten, Athong always goes home. He always goes to bed before eleven o'clock because he has to get up very early in the morning. Every night he has nice dreams. He always dreams about his girlfriend, Anchalee.



THE END