2. Every person has a creative side, and it can be expressed in many ways: problem solving, original and innovative thinking, and artistically, to name a few. Describe how you express your creative side.

*Things to consider:*What does creativity mean to you? Do you have a creative skill that is important to you? What have you been able to do with that skill? If you used creativity to solve a problem, what was your solution? What are the steps you took to solve the problem?

How does your creativity influence your decisions inside or outside the classroom? Does your creativity relate to your major or a future career?

“As a tiger, it wasn’t my job to worry about those things. There was always going to be a tomorrow where I had to take care of my cubs, hunt, kill and repeat.”

It's a fine afternoon when I finished writing the final draft for the Ministry of Education And Culture. The Indonesian office had explained beforehand that the novella would be used to educate Indonesian high schooler and would be distributed to a number of national schools.

I based my writing on this big idea: A zoologist and some high school students trying to trace back the Javan tiger that went extinct in 1970s. I decided to use multiple narrators who were telling the story from different angles to keep the readers engaged. While I wanted my readers to relate with the curious high-school student, Kenaya, I also wanted a figure that would be trusted. It was through Rosey, the zoologist, a figure that the readers would learn from. Finally, the third perspective came from the Javan tiger who was trying to survive in a world with humans and no prey. It would garner pathos from the readers and give a fresh perspective into the mix. The Javan tiger was telling us what life in the forest was like, and meet the other creatures that shared the forest with her.

I wanted the high-school students to be able to see biology in a different light. The Javan tigers were extinct now, and that's because of human. I didn’t hold back from gruesome details, like the scene where the Javan tiger cub lost her mother to human, and her brother to starvation. It wasn’t to scare my readers, I wanted to inspire the high-school student to protecting the remaining Indonesian national animals.

By the time I submitted my final draft to the Ministry, I was proud of my work. My passion to make a change had grown.  Sure enough, the email back confirmed this.

“Hello Elysa, thank you for your draft. We loved it. I’m sure the other Indonesian children would too.”

I smiled.