



Shadow of Injustice

SHADOW OF INJUSTICE

Fernandez, Ma Andreia S.

Paragas, Edzel Rein S.

Bustarde, Beyonce Kensia M.

Vargas, Jillian James A.

In the barangay of Punta Engaño, Lapu-Lapu City, there lived a fisherman named Mang Pedro, who wakes up at dawn when everyone is asleep and the breeze of the sea is all that can be heard to make a living for his wife and three children.

Mang Pedro lives a simple and humble life near the sea with his family, despite their poverty, they lived contentedly, and happily, finding solace in the simplicity of their lives.

However, the tranquility of their lives was shattered when a new mayor was elected named Don Rafael, a man whose smile hides an ocean of greediness. For years, Don Rafael has the people of the town dancing in his hands believing every word he say.

Under Don Rafael's rule, the fishermen of Punta Engaño are burdened with increasing taxes and unreasonable demands, while the mayor himself lives a luxurious life with ill-gotten riches.

One afternoon when Mang Pedro was about to go home, he witnessed something that he should not be witnessing, he saw the son of a wealthy landowner use and sell marijuana, he took a picture for a piece of evidence, but as he was about to go, his phone was swiftly taken and broken into pieces by the son of the wealthy landowner.

Mang Pedro was accused of theft by the wealthy landowner the very next day as a form of threat. The wealthy landowner also bribed the mayor of the town, Don Rafael, to further sink Mang Pedro into the bottom of the hole and for the continued operation of their mining company.

Don Rafael seized upon the opportunity to further his agenda and sided with the wealthy landowner for a lavish life.

In the cramped confines of the barangay hall, Mang Pedro pleaded his innocence with trembling hands and a voice choked with emotion, his heart heavy with despair yet his spirit resolute to fight the injustice he was facing.

Despite his impassioned defence, the battle for his freedom and dignity seems to be dragging on draining their savings because of legal fees and court expenses. Yet, amidst the despair, they clung to the hope that justice would prevail, that truth would

triumph, and that the bonds of the community would be stronger than the shackles of injustice.

In the middle of the turmoil, there was one who refused to believe the accusations against Mang Pedro – Officer Francine, a dedicated member of the mayor's office who had grown increasingly suspicious of Don Rafael's actions.

With her strong sense of duty, justice, and determination to uncover the truth, Officer Francine investigated the mayor, Don Rafael, and unearthed several pieces of evidence against him.

Armed with her findings, Officer Francine revealed his corruption to the entire town along with the wealthy landowner's bribery against Mang Pedro. As Officer Francine revealed the truth, the eyes of the locals were opened to the truth and saw Don Rafael for what he truly was, a manipulative and greedy politician.

The enraged people of Punta Engaño rallied behind Mang Pedro to raise their voices against Don Rafael's trickery, and the wealthy landowner's bribery. With their voices, Mang Pedro's name was cleared, and Don Rafael was swiftly ousted from power alongside the wealthy landowner who was removed from their operation permit, and the son facing charges against using and selling marijuana.

The enraged people of Punta Engaño rallied behind Mang Pedro to raise their voices against Don Rafael's trickery, and the wealthy landowner's bribery. With their voices, Mang Pedro's name was cleared. Don Rafael was swiftly ousted from power alongside the wealthy landowner who was removed from their operation permit, and the son facing charges against using and selling marijuana.