

# THE BIGGEST CATCH


THE BAJAU HAVE ALWAYS LIVED OFF THE SEA.

EVEN FROM THE EARLIEST DAYS OF THEIR CREATION, SHAPED BY THE WAVE-HANDS OF THE BRINY GOD TUHAN.

THE BAJAU ARE AS ENDLESS AS THE TIDES.

LONG AFTER THE GREAT FIGHTING CEASED, AFTER THE AMERICANS WENT HOME AND THE NIPPONS WERE DEFEATED.

THE BAJAU STILL LIVE OFF THE SEA.



KABEI IS BAJAU.

TAUGHT TO SWIM BEFORE HE COULD WALK.





THE GREAT WAR  
WAS HARD ON  
HIS PEOPLE.



THESE REEFS,  
ONCE TEEMING  
WITH ABUNDANCE...  
ARE NOW LITTERED  
WITH HULKS OF  
RUSTING METAL.



HE ONCE KNEW ALL THE  
BEST DIVING SITES.

NOWADAYS...  
THE PRIZE CATCHES  
ARE HARDER AND  
HARDER TO FIND.



AZEDA WILL NOT  
BE PLEASED.

THEIR STANDING IN THE VILLAGE IS MEAGER.

BUT HE REFUSES TO BEG FOR CHARITY FROM HIS NEIGHBORS.



THIS IS ALL YOU BRING ME?  
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO FEED FOUR MOUTHS WITH SUCH SMALL FRY?!

HUSH, AZEDA. I WILL DO BETTER TOMORROW.



BEHOLD! A BLUEFIN FIT FOR A KING!

WE WILL ALL FEAST FOR DAYS ON SUCH A CATCH!



OH, MAKUT... SURELY, YOU ARE THE STRONGEST FISHERMAN IN THE WHOLE WORLD!

SAYANG IS SUCH A LUCKY WIFE!

LET AZEDA AND THE CHILDREN SHARE IN THIS BOUNTY.

HE WILL NOT BEG.





THE MORNING BREEZE IS FROM THE SOUTH.

PERHAPS TODAY, HE WILL CATCH LARGE.



SO...

THE MIGHTY FISHERMAN SETS OUT AGAIN?

YOU'D BETTER BRING HOME A LARGER HAUL, KABEI... OR DON'T BOTHER COMING HOME AT ALL!



**HUSH, AZEDA!**

YOU BRING DISHONOR ON US WITH YOUR GREEDY HEART AND NEEDLE TONGUE!



I BRING DISHONOR...?! SAYS THE MAN WHO CAN'T FEED HIS OWN FAMILY!

PERHAPS YOU SHOULD FOLLOW MAKUT AROUND... LIKE A SUCKERFISH! HE HAS NO TROUBLE FILLING THE POT!



PERHAPS TODAY...HE WILL CATCH LARGE.



IN HIS FATHER'S DAY, THESE WATERS SWARMED WITH THREADFIN, GIANT GROUPEY AND RAINBOW SNAPPER.



IT HAS BEEN MONTHS SINCE HE'S SEEN ANYTHING LARGER THAN A PARROTFISH.

FOR YEARS, THIS HAD BEEN HIS FAVORITE REEF TO FISH.



BUT LATELY...