

THE DREAMER'S SONG

"Between Dreams and
Survival"

Touching story about the
importance of empathy,
compassion and belief in the
power of dreams

BY - CALF

1983

ENGLISH EDITION

The Dreamer's Song
"Between Dreams and Survival"

Synopsis

"The Dreamer's Song: Between Dreams and Survival" is an inspired journey of a young man called the Sonhador, who faces a series of challenges throughout his childhood in the quiet town of Itatiba, in the interior of São Paulo. Born into a humble family, the Sonhador is a boy with a vivid imagination and a heart full of dreams. The book tells a captivating story of how he copes with life's difficulties, from his family's financial struggles to the emotional obstacles he faces at school. With an engaging narrative rich in detail, the reader is transported into the Sonhador's world, where he discovers the value of friendship, the power of resilience and the importance of never giving up, even in the face of the toughest adversity.

As the Sonhador faces bullying and prejudice, he discovers the inner strength that drives him to overcome situations and move forward with hope and determination. The book portrays not only the Sonhador's battles, but also the moments of joy and tenderness that light up his path. From his unbreakable friendship with his dog Kiko to the discovery of his musical talent, each chapter reveals a new layer of the Sonhador's complex and resilient personality. As he faces difficulties with courage and perseverance, he becomes an inspiring example of how it is possible to find the light even in the darkest moments.

"The Dreamer's Song: Between Dreams and Survival" is a touching story about the importance of empathy, compassion and belief in the power of dreams. With themes such as resilience, friendship and overcoming, the book offers a powerful message of hope and perseverance, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of those who venture into its pages.

Chapter 1

"Roots of Hope in Itatiba"

In 1983, in a quiet town called Itatiba, in the interior of São Paulo, the Sonhador was born. From an early age, this boy overflowed with dreams and fantasies that paired like distant stars in his life. Itatiba was the perfect setting for a childhood full of promise. The Sonhador's father, known in town as "Moisés, o Pipoqueiro", was a figure who stood out for his tireless work selling popcorn.

As well as the popcorn carts, the family had a precious secret: the art of making cocadas, a priceless talent that delighted the palates of the town. The cocadas became famous and were sold throughout the region, contributing to the family's survival. Moisés also dedicated himself to bringing his delicious cocadas to his friend at Radio CRN, a local station that was a beacon of entertainment for the town. The Sonhador's family, made up of his parents, Moisés and Dona Maria, faced enormous challenges raising their ten children.

Dona Maria, even in her advanced stage of pregnancy, continued to work tirelessly. She pushed her sweet cart all the way to the Jardim Galeto school, where, one fateful day, her bag ruptured, triggering a frantic rush to the hospital. This is how the Dreamer came into the world, in the midst of a race against time, in a city that would continue to shape his life.

Chapter 2

"The Songs of a Young Singer on the Farm"

Seven years later, Dona Maria swapped the sweet cart for work, and the Sonhador a boy full of life and passion, accompanied her. His love for people and his talent for music made him stand out. He loved to sing 90s country songs, the melodies of which echoed through the fields where they worked. Farm workers found comfort in the melodies that illuminated their hard days at work. The Sonhador sang from the heart and sometimes his sisters accompanied him, turning the fields into an improvised stage

Despite all the difficulties that surrounded the family, these moments made life lighter, and Dona Maria watched in amazement at her son's gift. At just seven years old, he already knew how to shake coffee through a sieve, a feat that made his mother proud. For the Sonhador, farming was much more than a place of hard work; it was his own private amusement park, where tractors turned into carts on an imaginary rollercoaster, sacks of coffee took the form of an indomitable mechanical bull, and the sieve became an elegant Mexican hat in his most colorful dreams. Each task, each challenge, was an invitation to adventure and discovery.

Chapter 3

"The inseparable friend"

His best friend during his childhood journey of discovery and play was his faithful dog Kiko. The two were inseparable and shared a connection so deep that it transcended words. They lived high adventures together, sharing an indomitable friendship, living adventures that could only be dreamt of by two free souls. Running through the endless fields, exploring every corner, the laughter echoed as the Sonhador swung on the branches of the trees or ran after Kiko, who was always up for a new game. In their moments of rest, when the sun set over the horizon, the Sonhador and Kiko sat on the sidewalk in front of their house. They watched the people passing by, casting curious glances and greeting their neighbors. The Sonhador used to throw his stick and Kiko would take off, agile as lightning, searching for the object with a determination that only a dog could have.

Wagging his tail happily, he would hand the stick back to his best friend. Kiko's loyalty and the bond between them were unshakeable. However, not all of Sonhador's childhood moments were so joyful. He had to deal with cruel nicknames such as "Saci", "cabeça dura", "salafração" or "criolinho analfabeto"... These nicknames sometimes hurt him, but Kiko was always there to cheer him up. When other children made fun of him, the puppy would growl protectively, as if to say: "He's my friend, and I love him just the way he is." The friendship between Sonhador and Kiko was a constant source of love and joy. Together they faced the world, and the Sonhador discovered that, even in difficult times, he had a loyal friend by his side. With Kiko, life on the farm became an extraordinary adventure, full of discoveries and affection, where the music of laughter and the beating of hearts united the Sonhador and his faithful companion.

For the Sonhador, every day at work continued to be an adventure, but as he grew, the responsibilities and challenges multiplied. However, one constant remained unchanged: his unbreakable friendship with Kiko, his faithful four-legged companion. Over time, Kiko grew older alongside Sonhador, his paws were no longer as agile and his eyes expressed the wisdom of years of loyalty. Their friendship, however, is permanent and unshakeable. Kiko became a silent guardian of shared memories, a confidant who understood the secrets of the Sonhador's heart better than any human being. It was a silent, hot summer afternoon when the shadow of sadness fell over the Sonhador. He arrived home, bringing with him the dust of the fields and the fatigue of a long day's work in the labora. At 11 years old, he was still just a child, but life had already placed the responsibilities of an adult on his shoulders.

As he entered, he called out to Kiko, eager to share his day's achievements, as they usually did. However, an anguished silence echoed through the house. Where once Kiko had spoken to him with pulses of joy, now a painful emptiness reigned. The Sonhador appeared everywhere, called his friend by name and scoured the corners of the yard, but Kiko was somewhere beyond his reach. Finally, the Sonhador found Kiko, lying in the quietest corner of the garden. His eyes, once full of vivacity, were soft and serene, as if telling stories of all the adventures they had shared. The dog no longer wagged his tail with the same intensity, but his gaze still conveyed love and loyalty. The Sonhador knelt beside his four-legged friend, gently stroking his aged caramel fur. Silent tears slid down his face as he whispered words of gratitude and farewell to his lifelong companion. Kiko looked deeply into Sonhador's eyes, as if to make sure that he would be okay, that the memories of their friendship would last. The dog let out one last sigh, and the Sonhador felt his heart clench with pain.

The friendship that had survived countless adversities had come to a natural end. Kiko was gone, leaving behind a lesson in loyalty, unconditional love and true friendship. The Sonhador understood at that moment that life brings as many joys as it does sorrows, and that Kiko's friendship would always be part of his journey. With his gaze fixed on the horizon, he whispered a final thank you to his friend, promising never to forget the years of happiness they had shared. And so, with Kiko in his heart, the Sonhador moved on, ready to face whatever the future had in store, but carrying with him the memory of a friend who would never abandon him, no matter how far their journey would take them.

Chapter 4

"A Decade of toil in the Fields"

Kiko's absence left a void in the Sonhador's life, but time was relentless, and the routine at the labora continued unabated. His youth had turned into a decade of hard work and responsibility. Now, without his four-legged friend by his side, he had to move on, learning to face life's challenges with courage. Every season, a new task awaited him. The coffee harvest became an annual ritual, where the Sonhador worked side by side with his family, watching the coffee trees fill up with ripe beans. The noise of the machines and the aroma of fresh coffee filled the air, reminding him of the happy days of his childhood. The work of mowing the pasture became a constant physical challenge, testing his stamina and strength. The Sonhador learned to cope with the long hours under the scorching sun, while the shadows of the trees were a momentary refuge. Harvesting beans and tomatoes brought new challenges, with the need for care and precision to pick the vegetables properly.

The Sonhador learned to select the best fruit, guaranteeing the quality of the harvest and contributing to his family's livelihood. Planting eucalyptus represented a vision of the future, an attempt to build a legacy for future generations. Frequent changes in the city were part of his reality, as the family sought opportunities that often left their hands. The Sonhador grew and matured, facing life's challenges with a determination that has always characterized him. Every day at work shaped him, teaching him lessons in persistence and resilience. Even without his loyal friend Kiko by his side, he continued to tackle the job with the same passion and determination, keeping alive the flame of hope that drove him forward, even in the most difficult times.

Chapter 5

"The Home"

The Sonhador's family always had a deep connection with the place they called home. The house, built with the tireless effort and dedication of his parents, witnessed the most precious moments of their lives. Every wall contained the children's laughter, the warm hugs and the dreams that permeated each room. It was a sanctuary of love and perseverance, a safe haven in a world full of challenges. However, his father, already tired of the routine and looking for new perspectives, made the decision to exchange the house for a new one in Jardim Virgínia, in Itatiba - SP. The Sonhador sadly watched the move unfold before his eyes, knowing that he would be leaving behind not just a piece of concrete and bricks, but memories that were intertwined with every inch of his old home. Saying goodbye to the house represented the loss of a family sanctuary, a chapter closed amid tears and longing.

However, the new house, although full of promise, brought with it an unexpected ordeal. Just a month after it was installed, the water tank broke, pouring water into every corner of the house. The bare walls and unprotected roof were no match for the force of the flood, and the house became a tangle of ruined furniture and soaked personal belongings. The anguish of the Sonhador's mother was palpable, a mixture of despair and helplessness at the loss of everything they had built. In that moment of chaos, she begged her husband to undo the exchange and for them to return to their old home in Jardim Galeto. The pain of loss, the uncertainty of the future and the feeling of displacement invaded the heart of the Sonhador, who felt the foundations of his family being shaken by the fury of fate. The home that promised a fresh start now became a bitter memory of loss and disappointment.

Chapter 6

Back home

The feeling of helplessness and uncertainty about the future weighed heavily on a family, and the prospect of returning to the place they knew so well brought with it a mixture of hope and excitement. The Sonhador felt his heart fill with joy and gratitude at the knowledge that he was returning to his old home. Every corner of the house represented precious memories and a sense of belonging that could not be replaced. The reunion with the old home was a moment of great emotion, with tears and tight hugs. The house, which had witnessed the growth of the family, now welcomed them once again, as if waiting for their return. The move and the subsequent one brought me a valuable lesson about the importance of family and what it really took to have a home.

With the return to his old home, the Sonhador now has new challenges - studying at the neighborhood school, In this part of the school write the beginning of his classes in the third grade, how he liked it in the first few months, then he began to be persecuted by the children because he didn't have a backpack, his backpack was a little bag of rice tied with string, often in worn-out Hawaiian flip-flops, where the humiliation happened because of the way he dressed and spoke. ... of course, he had his friends who defended him, but the persecution was greater. He often avoided going to the bathroom because he was mocked and beaten quietly.

Chapter 7

Back home

"Difficulties at School"

Faced with the financial difficulties that plagued the family, the Dreamer and his younger sister, driven by the need to help, would go out at the end of the city fair in search of leftovers to take home. Hunger was a constant companion, a threat that haunted their days and nights. However, the idea of revealing this struggle to their parents was unthinkable, as they knew it would only increase their worry. It was an act of desperation and, at the same time, a demonstration of love and courage. Even at such a young age, the children understood that solidarity and unity were the only weapons they had against adversity. . However, their actions did not go unnoticed by the cruel schoolchildren, who soon nicknamed them "catadores de restos or scavengers".

The bullying, far from diminishing, grew in intensity, turning the school into a daily hell. In the city, there was a slaughterhouse in the Ponte neighborhood, where the Sonhador and his family ventured in search of the offal of animals that were discarded, since they had no commercial value. They carried bags of animal entrails home to help supplement their diet. The journey home, crossing the pasture with sacks containing animal organs, was marked by a mixture of shame, determination and despair. When they got home, the kids were cleaned, the pigs' guts were prepared and fried, the blood boiled to make chorizo. These ingredients were also added to her mother's lunchbox, which she took to the fields the next day. Each meal, although unlikely, was a demonstration of love and survival in the midst of the phase they were going through. The Sonhador, however, carried the weight of humiliation and the stigma of school home every day, wondering what the future held and how he could escape the relentless cycle of hardship that surrounded him.

Fear often prevented him from entering the school, leading him to hide among the buildings and woods of the neighborhood until it was time to go home. In this way, the Sonhador dealt with his difficulties at school, carrying a heavy burden that, in the future, would have a profound impact on his academic performance.

Every day at school was a battle, a test of endurance against bullying and prejudice. The constant fear and humiliation he faced left deep scars on his soul. Despite everything, the Sonhador clung to his small joys, such as the times his mother managed to prepare a hot meal with the ingredients they found at the slaughterhouse, or the rare moments of laughter and play with his younger sister. However, the weight of the daily difficulties was overwhelming. The future seemed uncertain, and the Sonhador wondered how he could escape this relentless cycle of adversity that surrounded him. The next chapter of his life would be crucial, and he was determined to overcome the difficulties and take a different path in search of a better future.

Chapter 8

"An Unexpected Challenge"

Every Saturday afternoon in the neighborhood, a group from the hostel mobilized to distribute bread and soup to the residents of Vila Querosene. Sonhador's family regularly came along, bringing bags to pick up the bread and pots for the soup. For the children, it was a moment of relief and even relaxation, as they arrived early to ensure they had access to the food donated by true angels who did good for others. The weeks went by, one after the other. On a Saturday morning like any other, the children were helping to clean up the area where the meals were distributed. The Sonhador and his friend were playing with concrete blocks, throwing them at each other. However, in a moment of inattention while picking up the next block, the Sonhador got distracted. The block his friend had thrown went straight into his face, brutally hitting his mouth.

The impact was so intense that the boy fainted. His mother despaired and, with the help of others present, rushed him to hospital. The sight of his teeth knocked out and the deep wound in his mouth was shocking.

He spent months being treated at home, unable to attend school. But for the Sonhador, this was a relief, as it meant he wouldn't have to face the torment of the other children at school. Back at school after months of treatment, the Sonhador carried the visible marks and scars of his painful accident on his face. The children in the classroom greeted him with shock and bewilderment when they saw his disfigured face. His smile wasn't the same and his front teeth were missing.

For the first few days, compassion prevailed and his classmates tried to understand what had happened. However, empathy soon gave way to cruelty, and the nicknames began to appear again, this time focused on his face and mouth.

The mean words were like sharp knives, cutting into her self-esteem and filling her heart with sadness. "Boca de sapo preto", "urubu sem bico" and "boca de orangotango" were cruel nicknames that echoed through the school corridors. Each debauched laugh and taunt struck him like an arrow, wounding his already scarred soul. The Sonhador faced a daily battle, trying to keep his head up and his dignity intact, despite the pain he felt inside. Sadness was his constant companion, and he wondered if he would ever be able to overcome the stigma that haunted him. His disfigured face was a constant reminder of his struggle and the emotional wounds he carried with him. The future looked bleak, but the Sonhador was determined to find a way to turn the tables and prove that his true beauty lay beyond appearances. What would happen next remained shrouded in suspense...

Chapter 9

"Discovering the Power of Resilience"

Fate had challenged the Sonhador with an unexpected blow, leaving him with visible marks on his face and deep emotional scars. However, he refused to let himself be defeated by this challenge. Instead, he decided to turn adversity into an opportunity to grow and show everyone, including himself, the true meaning of resilience. As the months passed, the Sonhador continued to attend school, where the scars on his face became a symbol of strength and overcoming. As the days progressed, the impact of the accident began to fade.

His classmates, once so cruel, began to see the Sonhador's true character, his musical talent, his unbreakable determination and his caring spirit. Finally, he found the love and acceptance he craved at that time in his life. However, the next volume of his life would still bring unexpected surprises.

When the Sonhador managed to be loved by his little friends and overcome the stigma of his appearance, his father expressed his desire to sell the house that meant so much to the family. This news cast a shadow of uncertainty over the Sonhador's future, as he realized that the road ahead was full of unpredictable challenges. So, with a heart full of hope and determination, the Sonhador closed this chapter of his life, preparing for the next volume, where he would face exciting challenges and adventures. His journey was far from over, and he knew he was destined to achieve great things, no matter what adversities came his way. The next book of his life was waiting anxiously to be written, and the Sonhador was ready to embrace all its blank pages and the story was far from coming to an end.

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English Edition - 1 (2023)

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