



The Legend of Pineapple

Submitted by [eligio](#) on Mon, 09/03/2007 - 15:26

A long time ago, in a far away village, lived a little girl name Filipina but most people call her Pina. Pina was still young when her parents died so her Aunt Marta adopted so she can have a place to live in.

Pina is a kind, hard-working and enduring while her Aunt Martha is lazy, mean and easygoing. When Pina was still young, she got sick but her Aunt Martha did not let her see a doctor and be treated. It became a reason for her eyes to be hazy. She was forced to quit school because she can't seem to read the lectures anymore. She simply satisfied herself by doing house chores and playing with other children.

Months has passed, Pina's eyes became even more blurry. She was almost blind. Most of the time, while they were playing hide and seek, the naughty kids do not find places to hide at all. Instead, they just stand near Pina. Because she can't clearly see them anymore, the naughty kids were pinching her body while calling her names. Pina was just enduring all the nasty treatment everyone is giving her.

One day while Pina was playing outside her Aunt Martha called angrily. "Pina, wash the dishes in the kitchen! You are such a lazy kid!" cried Aunt Martha. "After you clean the dishes make sure to wash the clothes!"

Quickly, Pina left the things she was playing with and went to the kitchen to wash the dishes. Because of her sight, she accidentally tipped the other glasses and dishes over causing it to break. When Aunt Martha saw the mess she became furious. She took the broom and bashed it on Pina's legs.

"You are so stupid! Your head should be surrounded by eyes so you can see everything near you!" yelled Aunt Martha while she still kept on bashing Pina with a broom.

"Aunt Martha, please forgive me. I'm sorry, I didn't mean to do that" cried Pina. But Aunt Martha doesn't seem to hear. She even bashed Pina with greater intense than before.

When Pina could not tolerate the pain anymore, she ran outside while crying and went to the near woods. It was already dawn yet Pina hasn't returned. "I bet she'll come back if she's hungry" said Aunt Martha to herself.

The next day came and Pina was not yet home. Aunt Martha suddenly became worried so she asked the help of the other children to come and look for Pina. But she was nowhere to be found. Some thought that she was kept by the fairy in the woods that pitied her.

Few more days had passed but Pina never returned. One morning, every body was surprised to see a plant grew at the front of Aunt Martha's house. It has a head-shaped fruit and surrounded by something that resembles to the appearance of the eyes. Aunt Martha remembered what she said to Pina before she scolded her: "! Your head should be surrounded by eyes so you can see everything near you!"

"It is Pina!" one neighbor mumbled.

One of the naughty kids curiously went near the plant. But when he tried to touch it, he was pricked by the thorns at the end of the leaves. They recalled the nasty treatment they gave Pina. "It really is Pina," said the naughty kid.

"She doesn't want anyone to get near her. We used to pinch Pina, now she's getting back at us!" said by the other children.

"It is her Pina! It is her Pina!" everybody shouted loudly while they were all pointing at Aunt Martha.

Since then, when neighbors pass by the plant and the fruit that shapes like a head with lots of eyes in it, they can't help but say Pina's name. Eventually, the name evolved into the word Pinya - Philippine's local word for pineapple.

Ref.: <http://www.wowparadisephilippines.com/legend-pineapple.html>

Philippine Myth on the Origin of the Pineapple

An unpeeled pineapple has lots of medium-size dots that resemble a human eye. How did it get such skin covering? A Philippine myth tells us why.

Pina, a rustic girl, lived with her mom as tenants in a fruit plantation. Her mom was the hard-working type—working almost all the time, and Pina was also hard-working—but not with household chores. She loved playing all the time.

When her mom told her to do a household chore, she always procrastinated—she started the work but later laid it aside for tomorrow—a tomorrow which often never came. The myth adds that she

often stopped in the middle of her household chore to play. She usually reasoned she couldn't find what it was her mom wanted her to do. But actually, the truth was she didn't pay attention to any of her mom's instructions in favor of playing. She felt confident in the thought of surely finishing a task later or tomorrow. And this to the chagrin of her mom.

The myth goes on to say that the mother, used to being too vocal with her careless ill wishes or curses on people who didn't delight her, was liberal on such habit on her only daughter. She reasoned that vehement scolding did some hidden wonders to juvenile stubbornness.

But one day, the myth says, Pina's procrastinations went too far for her mom to tolerate them anymore. Her mother had told her to get her wooden shoes from the under their hut. She went down their hut and looked under it. But on seeing her old rug doll, her imagination started working. She was soon playing with it. Her usual dialogue, saying "I can't see it," when actually she wasn't searching but playing, did it this time. Her mom shouted invectives plus a curse that, "May you grow dozens of eyes" so Maria would stop ever mentioning her favorite dialogue. Then suddenly, Maria just disappeared.

A search party looked all over the plantation for Maria, to no avail. And then Maria's mom saw a curious new plant species at their backyard. It was covered with eyes. She remembered her latest curse on Maria and knew the plant was her. From then on, she called the plant, a pineapple, or "Pinya" in Filipino.

The myth on the origin of pineapples aims at fostering obedience to parents as a priority, and that parents ought to watch how they deal with their kids.

Ref.: <http://www.philippinesinsider.com/myths-folklore-superstition/philippine-myth-on-the-origin-of-the-pineapple/>