

THE SURIKAO MYTHS AND LEGENDS:
AN INDIGENOUS EXPLANATION OF THE UNIVERSE
AND NATURAL PHENOMENA

A Thesis

Presented to

the Faculty of the Graduate School
University of San Carlos

In Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts in Literature

by

Rosario R. Teves

April 1970

119720 c.1
UNIVERSITY OF SAN CARLOS
LIBRARY

PROPERTY OF USC LIBRARY SYSTEM

SEP 16 1971

The Thesis attached hereto, entitled
THE SURIGAO MYTHS AND LEGENDS:
AN INDIGENOUS EXPLANATION OF THE UNIVERSE
AND NATURAL PHENOMENA

Prepared and submitted by Rosario R. Teves
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree
Master of Arts in Literature
is hereby accepted.

Adviser

Censor

Dean

APPROVAL SHEET

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Literature, this thesis entitled "THE SURIGAO MYTHS AND LEGENDS: AN INDIGENOUS EXPLANATION OF THE UNIVERSE AND NATURAL PHENOMENA," has been prepared and submitted by Rosario R. Teves who is hereby recommended for Oral Examination.

Adviser

ACCEPTED as partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Arts in Literature.

Dean, Graduate School

APPROVED by the Tribunal at the Oral Examination with the grade of _____.

Chairman

Member

Member

Member

Member

Member

Oral Examination conducted in the presence of

Representative, Bureau of Private Schools

PROPERTY OF USC LIBRARY SYSTEM

To My Parents

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The writer wishes to express grateful appreciation to the following for their help and guidance:

Rev. Fr. Herman van der Sman, M.S.C.
Rector, San Nicolas College

Rev. Fr. John Vogelgesang, S.V.D.
Rector, University of San Carlos

Dr. Marcelino Maceda
Head, Department of Economics
University of San Carlos

Mrs. Esperanza V. Manuel
Chairman, English Department
University of San Carlos

Rev. Fr. Rudolf Rahmann, S.V.D.
Dean, Graduate School
University of San Carlos

She is most especially indebted to her parents for their help, encouragement, and inspiration. The writer thanks Charlie Iparraquirre for furnishing her the scientific names of plants and fish used in the footnotes of this thesis; all her students in English and theology for helping compile the folklore of their localities; and all the resource persons, who, in one way or another, made this study possible.

Rosario Reyes

April 1970

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. THE PROBLEM AND DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED . . .	1
Introduction	1
The Problem	5
Statement of the problem	5
Importance of the study	5
Definitions of Terms Used	7
Folklore	7
Myth	8
Legend	9
Folktale	9
Scope and Limitations of the Study	10
Methods and Sources	10
Organization of the Thesis	13
II. MYTHOLOGICAL MOTIFS	15
The Birth of Lake Mainit, Basul Island, and Mt. Hibok-Hibok	15
The Legend of Lake Mainit	17
The Legends of Lake Mahukdam	19
The Daughter Lake of Mainit	22
The Origin of San Jose	23
The Tale of Mt. Binaliw	25
The Legend of Tagbaliwan	27
How Binaliw Got Its Name	28

PROPERTY OF USC LIBRARY SYSTEM

CHAPTER	PAGE
Buhisan Island	30
How the Sea Became Salty	32
The Black Mountain	33
The Legend of the Black Rice	34
The Tudlo sa Datu	36
The Origin of the Makopa	37
The Legend of Kadoeyan	39
The Origin of the Balibayon	41
III. ANIMALS	43
Some Mythical Animals	43
The tirong	43
The sigbin	44
The kataw	44
The Origin of Panateo	45
The Fisherman and the Nymph	47
The Bell of Busay	49
IV. THE DEAD	51
Spirits of the Dead	51
The mantaring	51
The santilmo	52
The kondenado	53
The Mantaring of Km. 11	53
Panang-atan	55
The Legend of Anao-aon	57

CHAPTER	PAGE
V. MARVELS	59
Persons with Extraordinary Powers	61
The manambah	61
The butas	64
Ang taong may kinaadnan	64
Invulnerable persons	64
The Tama of Pagkawasan	65
A Legend of Km. 10	67
A Myth of Tiangban	69
Why the Enkanto is Beautiful	72
The Legend of Kanbilid	73
The Enchanted Cave	75
The Purple Flower	76
Dangaw-Dangaw	78
Longsud Daan	81
The Enchanted City of Coguiton	82
A Baybay Myth	85
The Enchanted Bell of General Luna	87
VI. WITCHES AND OGRES	90
The Appearance of Ogres	91
The kapre	91
The buyakaw	91
Wakwak	91
A Myth on a Witch of Numancia	93

	vii
CHAPTER	PAGE
How Bacuag Got Its Name	94
The Legend of Kinan-an	95
The Legend of Kinabutan	99
The Legend of Kinabutan and Hingatigan . . .	100
VII. REWARDS AND PUNISHMENTS	102
The Legend of Loreto	103
The Wilderness of Mani-ayaw	104
The Magic Spring of Tubod	106
Why the Valley is Uninhabited	108
VIII. RELIGION	111
The Legend of Barrio Balite	111
The Short-Lived Volcano at Km. 3	112
The Legend of San Vicente in Lakandula . . .	114
The Miraculous Saint of General Luna	117
The Libuac Landslide	118
The Lady of Dinagat	120
IX. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	125
Conclusions	125
Belief in the Enkanto	125
Water formations	126
Origin of plants	126
Wealth and prosperity	126
Belief in Sorcery and Evil Spirits	127
Diseases and Sickness	127

Chapter	PAGE
Drowning	128
Rewards and Punishments	128
Folk justice	128
The origin of big rocks	129
The wilderness	129
The Role of Animals	130
Mythical animals	131
The Dead and Reincarnation	131
Dreams	131
Reincarnation	132
Belief in Giants	132
Belief in Witches	133
Religion	133
Recommendations	135
BIBLIOGRAPHY	139
INDEX	148