StoriesWithArt:

Remix A Fairy Tale

Kalam Patua is an artist who takes inspiration from traditional art to tell new stories. Sometimes his paintings look very similar to what his ancestors were making generations ago, but if you look close enough you will see how he changes narratives and contexts through minor changes.

Collection: LACMA, Los Angeles

Collection: Victoria and Albert Museum, London

For example, on the left is a miniature painting of an *Abhisarika Nayika* – a type of heroine commonly seen in medieval Indian paintings – who goes out in the night, braving snakes and other nocturnal creatures, to meet her beloved. On the other side, you can see Patua's interpretation of this theme where the heroine now uses the flashlight on her cellphone as her beloved waits in a car. Also notice how the nocturnal creatures have turned into nosy neighbours that look on!

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Putting your own spin on a popular tale!

How about taking inspiration from this work by Patua and re-writing a fairy tale that you know? Here is our example of rewriting Rapunzel's story.

What would Rapunzel do if she was trapped in a tower today? Would she wait for a prince to come and rescue her or would she devise her own escape? In our story, she ties all her gowns to make a strong rope and climbs out of the tower herself. Then, she gets the police to arrest the evil witch for kidnapping!

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You can pick any story that you like. Write a brief plot for this new fairy tale and think about which moment of the new story you would like to draw. Do you enjoy a challenge? Take an existing poster or illustration of your chosen story and then think about how you would change it to reflect your new twist! Is Cinderella's godmother now a robot, while the pumpkin turns into a car? Draw it using any medium or material that you have. Use this space for your remixed fairy tale drawing:

Don't forget to take photographs of your creations and DM it to us on Instagram @mapbangalore. You can also email them to us at education@map-india.org

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