

in thine embrace).

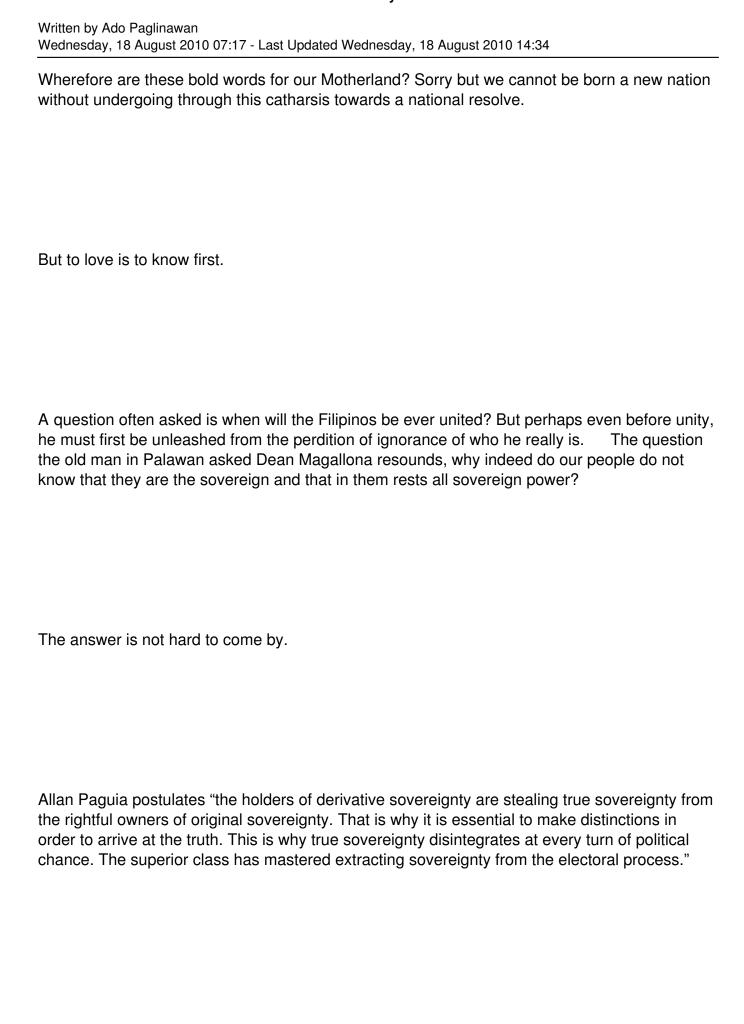
Written by Ado Paglinawan
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Jake learns the ways of the Na'vi hunters from Neytiri, the daughter of Na'vi clan leaders Mo'at and Eytukan. They met as she saved Jake life when he was being attacked by a pack of viperwolves. Soon after he and Neytiri fell in love and eventually Jake joins the Na'vi to help Neytiri and the others save their tribe.

This is what is direly lacking in the Philippine romance. Every Filipino must love his country even to the extent of dying for her.

"Alab ng Puso, sa dibdib mo'y buhay" (In your heart burns a living fervor). "Lupa ng araw ng luwalhati't pagsinta, buhay ay langit sa piling mo" (Land of the sun, glory and love, life is heaven

"Sa manlulupig, di ka pasisiil" (To invasions, you will not submit). "Aming ligaya na pag may mang-aapi, ang mamatay ng dahil sa iyo" ('Tis our bliss, in the presence of oppression, to lay down our lives for you).



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Dean Magallona narrates that during his short stint as undersecretary of foreign affairs, he asked for direct consultations with overseas contract workers in Kuwait after being shown a safehouse for runaway maids. During the dialogue, a woman gathered enough air to come forward to share her experience.

"Alam po ba ninyo kung gaano kahirap and buhay namin dito?" (Sir, do you have an idea how life is so hard for us here?) Then she narrated various sins both of her own and her home country, ending with "Pero tinitiis namin ito dahil wala na pong halaga ang buhay naming mga maliliit na Pilipino sa sarili nating bayan. (But all this we have to endure because our lives have no more value for us small people in our own country.)

"There are 37,000 Filipinos in Kuwait, 35,000 of them are domestic helpers. I do not have to enumerate the dangers of mostly women serving domestic helpers in Arab households. Our leaders have all been desensitized to that," he said.

"What further shocked me, however, was that our domestic helpers were not placed under the jurisdiction of their foreign relations office or labor but under the Chief of Intelligence and National Security. My God, what I was carrying all along was the foreign policy for domestic helpers!" shared Mr. Magallona.

"The statement of Noynoy Aquino in his inaugural address when he said 'My government...' exposes the height of political greed that is revising constitutionalism in this country," Allan



