

The Miss and Kids: Chapter 14

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14 years ago, I walked into a classroom with too many markers and not enough answers. Today, I still carry a marker to the class and a heart that has been coloured in by thousands of students. In these stories, you'll meet my kids – not of blood, but of bond. You'll see my sarcasm in action, my wit at war with sleepy students, and the quiet warmth that blooms in the spaces between “Miss, I don't get it” and “Miss, I'll never forget you.”

14 years in the classroom. That's approximately 140 learning modules, 1,400 presentation slides, 14,000 cups of coffee, and 1.4 million times I told myself, “Sabar Miss, sabar....”.

This little compilation is not a research paper. There's no APA citation, no tables or tests of significance. Just a collection of real classroom moments – funny, fragile, and fiercely full of feelings.

#Chapter14 is not just a milestone. It's a montage. A tribute to the laughter I tried to hide behind my expressionless face. A soft hug to myself for surviving, thriving, and still loving this job with all my heart.

So, here's to educators – of all styles and spices. Here's to students who remind us why we do what we do. And here's to the ones who made me The Miss I am today.

With love and stories, Miss WNB.



#1 The AC Contract

M: Before we begin, let me lay down one house rule: my classroom operates strictly at 16 degrees.

K: Why 16, Miss?

M: Because anything warmer awakens my inner dragon. You all pilih kelas yang sejuk or Miss yang mengamuk?

K: We'll take the icy queen, Miss...

#2 Do You Wanna Build a Thermostat?

M: Why do I feel warm today? Did someone change the AC settings?

K: We adjusted it to 20, Miss...

M: No wonder I'm melting. Drop it to 16. Now.

K(grinning): But Miss... someone is worth melting for.

M (deadpan): Tell Olaf I said thanks, but next time, bring me ice.

#3 The Answered Prayer

K: Miss, why are you so obsessed with the AC? We're freezing!

M: Because once upon a summer in Brisbane, I used to walk 25 minutes to uni. Under the sun. Everyday. Broke, sweaty, physically and spiritually dehydrated.

K: And?

M: I prayed, "Ya Allah, one day... please give me a job in an air-conditioned room.

K: So this cold classroom is your doa come true?

M: Exactly. This AC isn't just cold air. It's my answered doa, blowing in your faces. Be grateful kiddos!

#4 Sumpahan Selasa

Our campus had maintenance blackouts. Guess when? Every. Single. Tuesday. Sumpahan Selasa strikes again! When it happened during my class:

M: Oh, so sweet of you guys. Surprise birthday blackout? But my birthday isn't even near...

K: Miss, it's not us.

M: Oh really? Sabotaging the AC so class gets cancelled sounds like your kind of plan.

K: Well Miss... not just your prayers yang Tuhan makbulkan. This blackout? Our kind of answered prayers too.

#5 Queen Elsa & The Frog Prince

One fine morning, just as I was prepping for class, I received a text from a student:

K: Miss, we'll be late. There's a frog in front of our door.

M: Want me to come kiss it? Mana tahu dia bertukar jadi prince charming and boleh hantar you ke kelas dengan kuda putih.

That wasn't even the weirdest excuse. First it was the tenggiling making them late. Now frogs? What's next kiddos, unicorn tersangkut kat tangga pulak ke?

Clearly, my students don't just study Accounting - they're living in a Disney multiverse.

#6 No He, Just She & Coffee

K: Miss, bila nak belanja kami dekat He & She?

Me: Alaa... he takde. No he, no coffee! Simple.

K: Miss, please...

Me: Nanti bila i dah jumpa he, we go He & She, okay?

K: I am he, let's go!

I smiled. Paused. And clicked.
M: Ok class, next slide please...

#6 Forever Young, Forever Misunderstood

There I was, standing tall (ok not that tall), rocking my exhibitor lanyard at an education fair, ready to sell the magic of Accounting!

After a passionate pitch to a group of parents and potential students, one makcik looked at me with the kindest eyes and said:

"Adik ni diploma ke? Tahun berapa dah?"

I blinked.

M (internally): Should I cry, or launch a skincare line?

M (externally): 14 tahun mengajar, Puan.

They gasped. I smiled. We moved on.

Later that day, my students caught wind of it.

K: Miss... kalau Miss jual produk awet muda, confirm lagi ramai beli daripada yang nak masuk course Accounting!

#8 Diamond or Arang, Miss Tetap Sayang

Mid-lecture, I noticed the class looking painfully tense, dahi semua berkerut. Me (trying to lighten the mood):

M: Korang janganlah tertekan sangat, nanti jadi gemuk dan pendek.
"Tertekan" = pressed. Get it? Pressed?

They laughed, tension cracked. But only for a moment, then back to the deep frowns and calculator battles. I took another shot.

M: Come on guys, diamonds are made under hard pressure. Rise and shine, my diamonds!

K: Miss, if this is what it takes to be a diamond, we're fine being arang.

#9 Rain Rain Go Away

It was a rainy, gloomy Sunday - the kind that tempts everyone to skip class and curl up with a cup of hot chocolate. But not on my watch. I walked in and set the tone like a true drama queen.

M: U all, hari ni hujan. Cuaca di luar mendung. Cuaca di hati Miss pun gloomy.

K: Kenapa, Miss?

M: Today I got rejected. So please, give me your full attention. Jangan dipatahkan lagi hati Miss hari ini.

And miraculously... they did. No phones, no whispers, just full-on eye contact and thoughtful questions. The class went as smooth as soft serve. Then, as we neared the end...

K: Miss... cuaca di luar dah cerah, hujan dah berhenti. Kalau hati Miss pun dah kembali sunny, boleh kami balik?

#10 Beauty and the (Not So) Hearing Beast

Every time I asked the students to read out their answers, I'd squint and go,

M: Sorry lah you all, lecturer you ni ada masalah pendengaran sikit...

They'd still mumbled the numbers. I'd still squint. And one day, a girl piped up:

K: Miss, saya baca kat X, memang orang cantik dia pekak sikit.

I paused... smiled... and replied,

M: Sorry, apa you cakap tadi? I tak dengar, boleh ulang sekali lagi?

And in true Gen-Z form, the whole class erupted:

K: Ye la Miss, you la yang TERPALING CANTIK!

#11 Drawings VS Writings

I was explaining the effect of drawings on the accounting equation.

M: Class, if the owner takes out cash or goods for personal use, we call that Drawings and it reduces the owner's equity.

Then I added,

M: But if the owner adds personal assets into the business, it has the opposite effect – it increases equity. So class, what's the opposite of Drawings?

And then, with full confidence and zero hesitation, a boy raised his hand and declared:

K: Writings!

I had to pause. Blink. Reboot my brain.

M: Thank you, Shakespeare of Accounting. But... errr, are we studying Accountancy or Literature?

The class? Laughing.

Me? Filing this under Things You Can't Unhear in ACC407.

#12 (Mis)carriage?

We were doing a classification activity – students had to group accounting items into the correct categories.

Then came the item: Carriage Inwards. One girl raised her hand:

K: Miss, carriage tu apa?

Before I could open my mouth to say "freight cost to bring goods in," a boy confidently chimed in:

K: Miscarriage tu keguguran la, yang orang pregnant tu!

I froze. In my 14 years of teaching, I've heard a lot of wrong answers – but never that one.

The class? On the floor. Screaming.

#13 UiTM di Hatiku, Siapa di Hatimu?

It was just another day of poster designing for an upcoming student event. I was halfway through perfecting the layout when the student reported:

K: Miss, Unit Korporat suruh letak logo 'UiTM Dihatiku' in the poster.

M: Err... the design's already tight, and the vibe doesn't match. Colour theme pon lari ni.

K: But they insist.

M: Sorry, tak nak letak boleh? Sebab... di hatiku ada orang lain.

*The silence in the room?
Iconic. Branded. Just like that logo.*

#14 Bidadari Atas Pentas, Naga Dalam Kelas

It was Hari Anugerah, and I won three teaching awards. My class rep happened to be the official photographer that day. Later, he sent me some shots with a casual remark:

K: Miss, ni gambar-gambar tadi. Sorry Miss, saya tak sempat edit.

I replied,

M: Takpe... orang cantik tak perlu edit.

And he came back with full throttle flattery:

K: Betul Miss, cantik macam bidadari. Ulang-alik naik stage pun still glowing. Btw... kelas petang ni cancel kan?

Oh, I saw that move. Smooth.

M: Dream on. Miss you menang Anugerah Ahli Akademik Harapan, kot. Kelas mestilah ON.

*Stage may be done. Spotlight off.
But your taxation nightmares? Still scheduled.*