

# THE *Hotte Senya* COMPETITION SONGBOOK

## “The Language Lesson” from *On this Side of the World*

*Music and lyrics by Paulo K Tiról*

An E.S.L. classroom. JENNY stares longingly at her unseen teacher.

JENNY:

YOU KNOW THAT FEELING  
WHEN SOMEONE YOU LIKE IS NEARBY,  
AND THAT TICKLISH TINGLING TREMBLING  
BEGINS WHEN THEY LOOK YOU IN THE EYE?  
AND THE BUTTERFLIES IN YOUR  
STOMACH START TO LIFT YOU OFF THE  
GROUND. DEEP INSIDE YOU CAN'T STOP  
SCREAMING,  
STILL, THERE'S NOT THE SLIGHTEST SOUND.  
AND THE SMILE IN YOUR HEART IS A THOUSAND TIMES  
BIGGER THAN A SMILE COULD EVER BE.  
THAT'S *KILÍG*,  
AS WE SAY IN FILIPINO.

YOU KNOW HOW MUSIC  
STARTS TO PLAY WHEN SHE BRUSHES YOUR HAND?  
HOW YOU START TO STUTTER, AND SPUTTER, AND SHUDDER,  
AND SAY STUPID THINGS YOU HADN'T PLANNED?  
IT'S THE ROOM INSANELY SPINNING,  
IT'S THE SHIVERS DOWN YOUR SPINE,  
IT'S THE JUMBLE OF SENSATIONS  
YOU CAN'T EVEN HOPE TO DEFINE.  
AND YOUR BRAIN IS EXPLODING, IT'S DRIVING YOU CRAZY,  
YOU WISH THAT IT WOULD END,  
YET YOU NEVER WANT TO LOSE IT.  
LIKE THE SWEETEST, STICKEST GLUE,  
*KILÍG* IS THE STUFF THAT'S GOT ME STUCK ON—

Shift. An internal moment.

JENNY (cont'd):

KEEP IT COMING, KEEP IT COMING;  
LET THE FEELING STAY.  
AND LET IT KEEP ON HUMMING, KEEP ON  
HUMMING; LET THE MUSIC PLAY.  
AND CRASH AROUND ME, THRASH  
AROUND ME, DROWN ME TOO.  
I'M INTOXICATED, INEBRIATED,  
I'M ALL FIXATED ON—

Shift. Back to the E.S.L. classroom.

JENNY (cont'd):

YOU KNOW WHAT'S FUNNY?  
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D FIND IT HERE.  
NEVER THOUGHT, IN THIS LAND, OF THE STRANGEST OF STRANGERS,  
*KILIG* WOULD APPEAR.  
BUT HERE IT IS, STRONGER THAN IT'S EVER BEEN,

SO STRONG THAT THOUGH  
MY COUNTRY'S HALFWAY ROUND THE PLANET FROM HERE,  
I'M FEELING RIGHT AT HOME.  
AND FOR SOMEONE WHO'S ONLY JUST LEARNING ITS MEANING,  
YOU'RE AWESOME AT CAUSING *KILIG*.

YES, *YOU*.

WELL, *THAT* TOOK SOME EXPLAINING.  
SO TAKE THIS NOT-SO-SUBTLE CUE;  
TELL ME: DO I MAKE YOU FEEL *KILIG* TOO?

SO STRONG THAT THOUGH  
MY COUNTRY'S HALFWAY ROUND THE PLANET FROM  
HERE, I'M FEELING RIGHT AT HOME.  
AND FOR SOMEONE WHO'S ONLY JUST LEARNING ITS  
MEANING, YOU'RE AWESOME AT CAUSING *KILÍG*.

YES, *YOU*.

WELL, *THAT* TOOK SOME  
EXPLAINING. SO TAKE THIS NOT-SO-  
SUBTLE CUE:  
TELL ME: DO I MAKE YOU FEEL *KILÍG* TOO?

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*On This Side of the World* is developed with and directed by Noam Shapiro