

The Hopeful Journey of Patience



Penificent

Believe in
children
Barnardo's



WRITTEN BY
STEVEN OKEYA & ANTHONY AINA

PLEASE
REMEMBER TO
READ FROM LEFT
TO RIGHT, THEN TOP
TO BOTTOM.



THIS BOOK WAS CREATED BY PENIFICENT IN COLLABORATION
WITH BARNARDO'S CARE JOURNEYS



Penificent

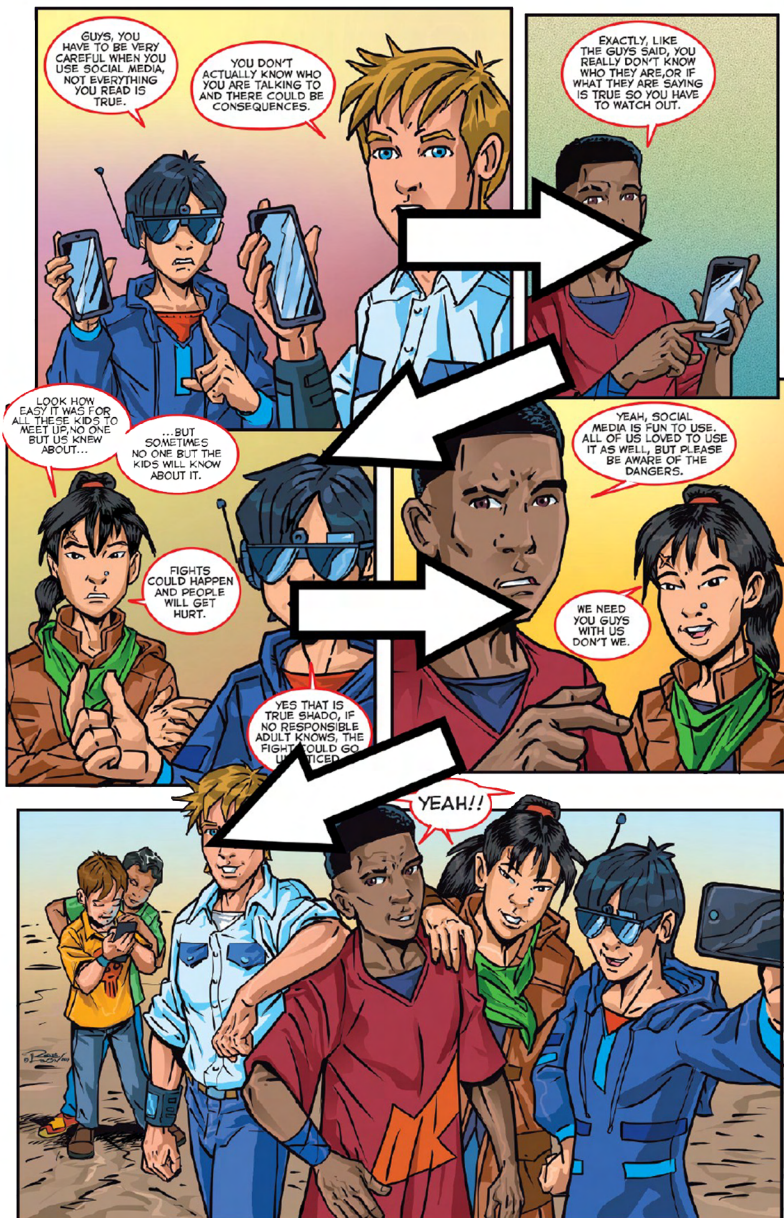


**care
journeys**

 **PENIFICENT.COM**

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QUICK READING GUIDE



THIS COMIC IS BEST READ WITH A
SUPPORT WORKER

THIS BOOK WAS THE IDEA OF A GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE WITH EXPERIENCE OF SEEKING SAFETY IN THE UK AS PART OF A BARNARDO'S PROGRAMME CALLED TRIANGLES. THE YOUNG PEOPLE WANTED TO MAKE SURE THAT YOU KNOW THAT YOU ARE NOT ALONE AND TO HELP YOU IN DIFFICULT TIMES.
A MESSAGE FROM ALNOOR AND ALNOUR WHO DECIDED TO MAKE THIS BOOK TO HELP YOU-

"I KNOW WHEN YOU CAME TO THE UK, YOU HAD A DIFFICULT TIME. I KNOW THIS BECAUSE I DID TOO. SO DON'T WORRY, EVERYTHING IS GOING TO BE OK. WE

MADE THIS BOOK TO HELP YOU.

YOU HAVE BEEN THROUGH A DIFFICULT TIME, BUT YOU ARE SAFE NOW. THIS IS MY STORY; I THINK YOUR STORY IS SIMILAR TO MINE.

I CAME HERE TO FEEL SAFE, MY JOURNEY WAS HARD AND SCARY, BUT I WANTED TO BE HAPPY. I COULD NOT UNDERSTAND OR SPEAK ENGLISH. I FOUND IT

DIFFICULT, I FELT SCARED, SHY AND LONELY.

YOU CAN FORGET THE PAST BECAUSE YOU ARE SAFE, AND YOU CAN LOOK TO THE FUTURE AND START YOUR LIFE HERE. I HOPE YOU HAVE A BETTER LIFE.

THIS IS A BOOK FOR YOU, TO REMIND YOU THAT YOU ARE NOT ALONE AND TO HELP YOU OVER THE NEXT FEW DAYS.

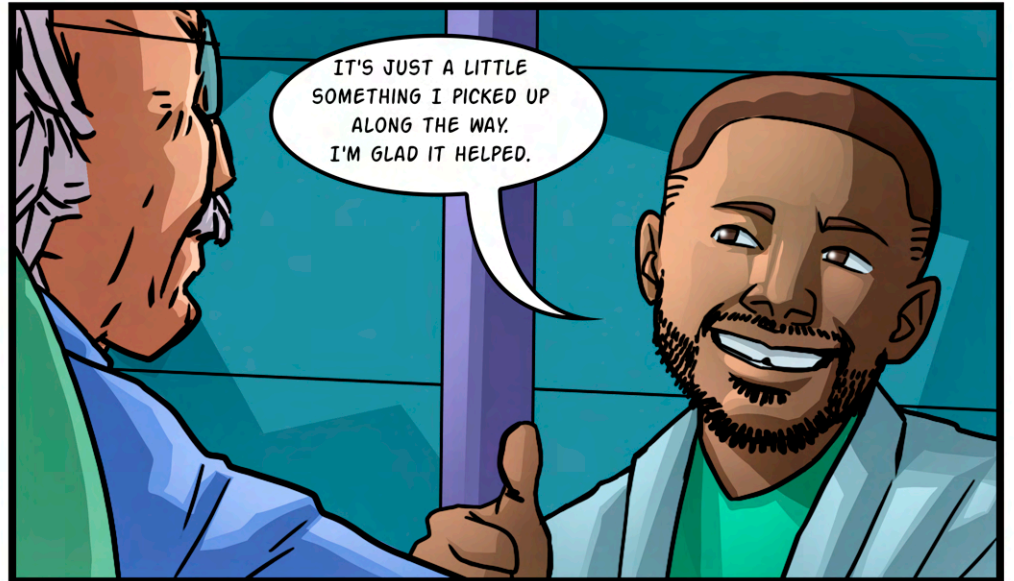
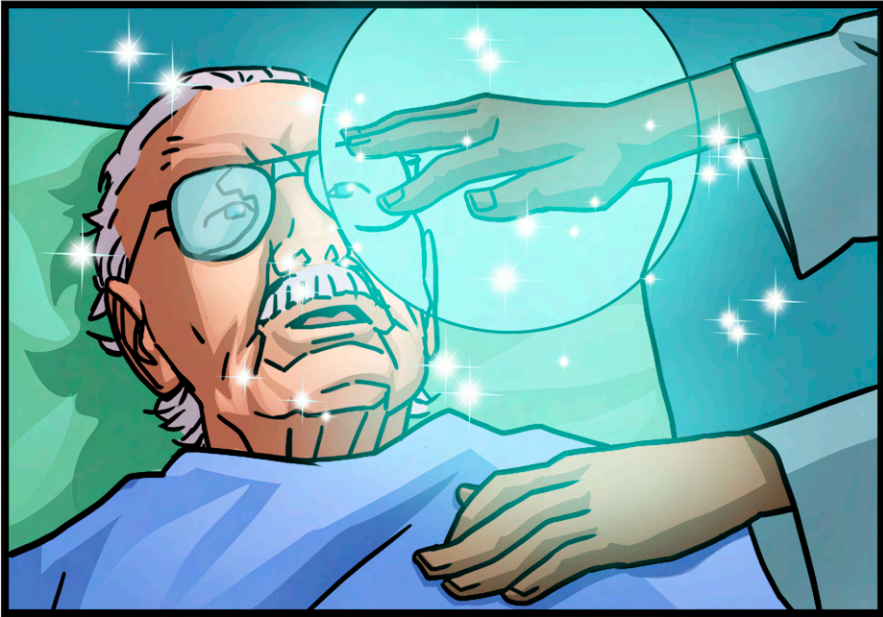
YOU'LL MEET SOME NICE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO HELP.

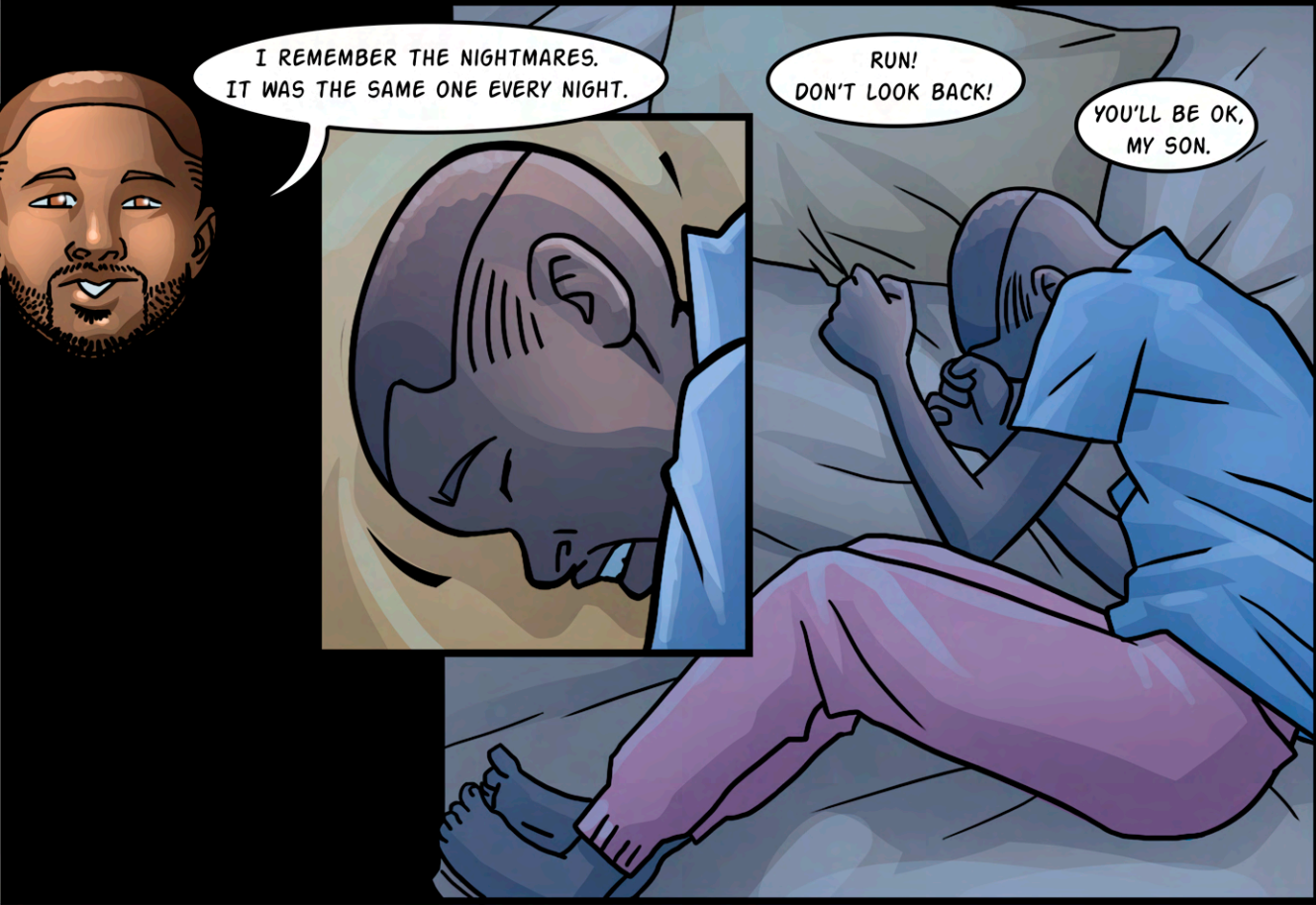
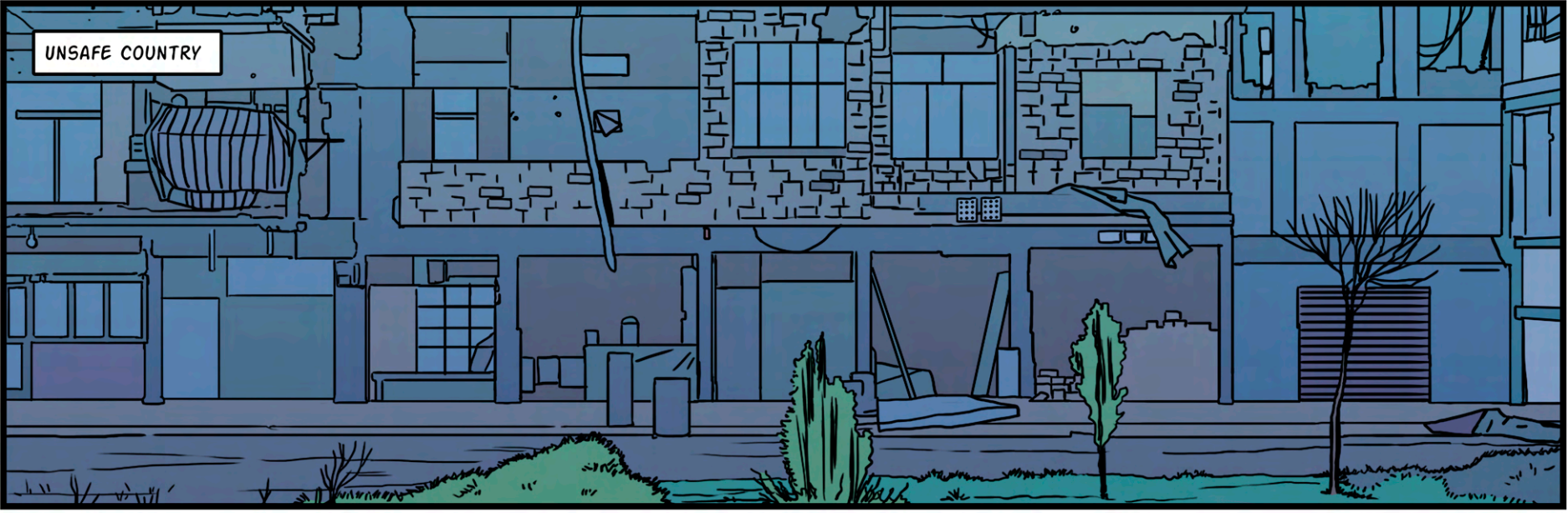
WE WILL GO THROUGH THIS JOURNEY WITH YOU AND TALK ABOUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN NEXT, GIVING YOU ENGLISH PHRASES TO LEARN ALONG THE WAY."

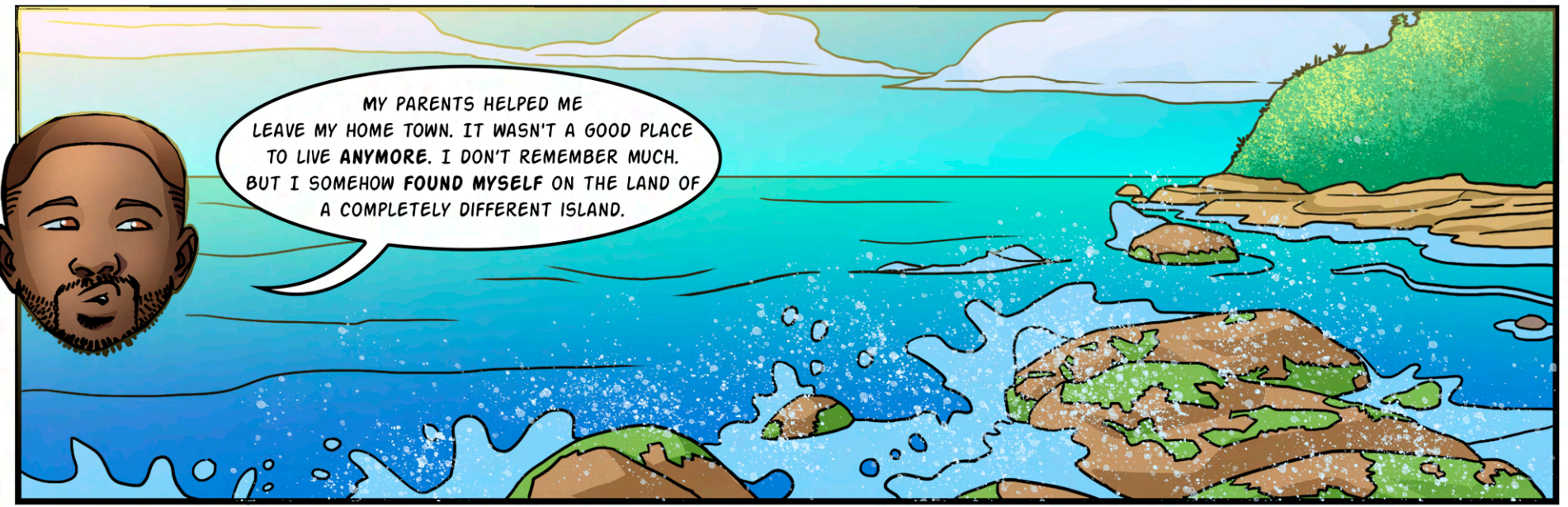
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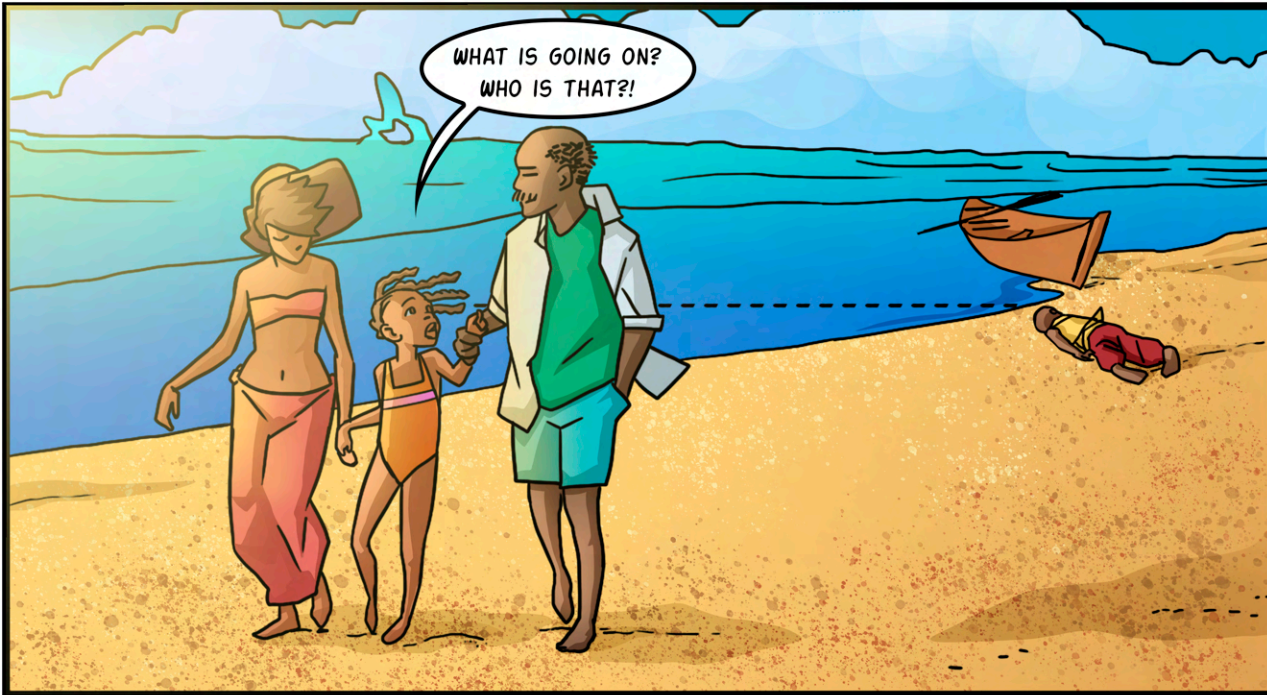
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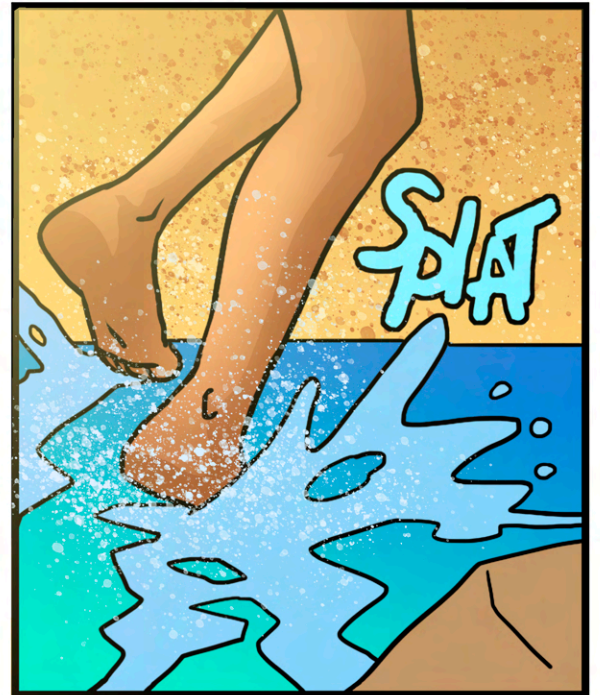




MY PARENTS HELPED ME LEAVE MY HOME TOWN. IT WASN'T A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE ANYMORE. I DON'T REMEMBER MUCH. BUT I SOMEHOW FOUND MYSELF ON THE LAND OF A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT ISLAND.



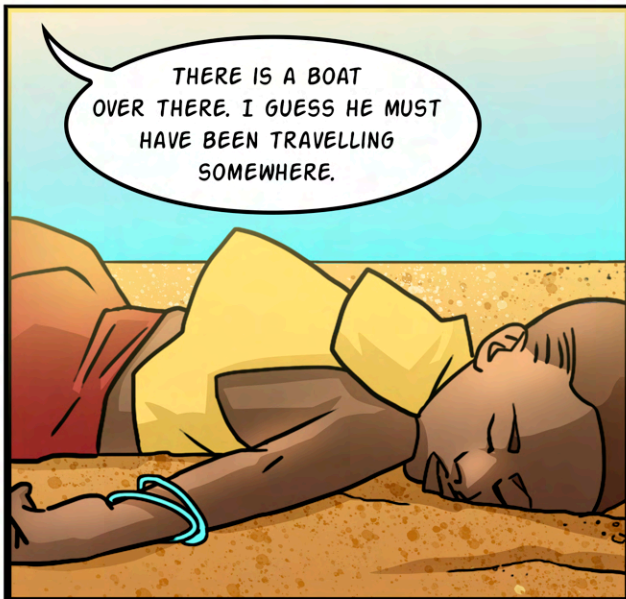
WHAT IS GOING ON? WHO IS THAT?!



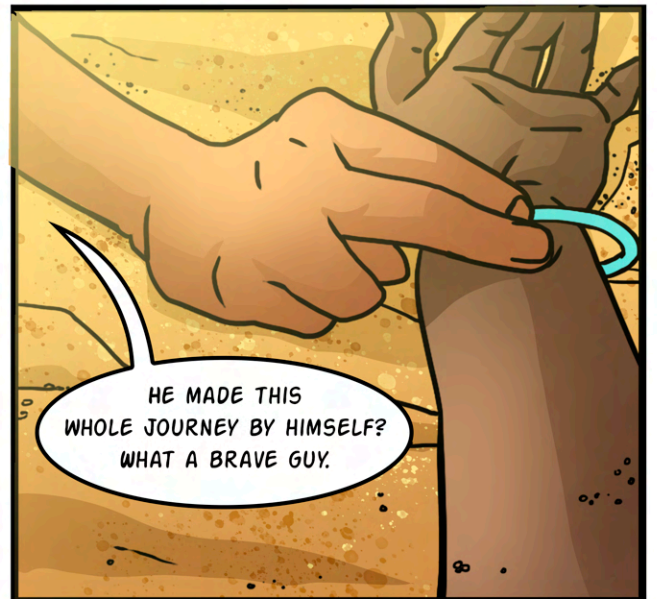
SPLASH



IT'S A YOUNG BOY?



THERE IS A BOAT OVER THERE. I GUESS HE MUST HAVE BEEN TRAVELLING SOMEWHERE.



HE MADE THIS WHOLE JOURNEY BY HIMSELF? WHAT A BRAVE GUY.



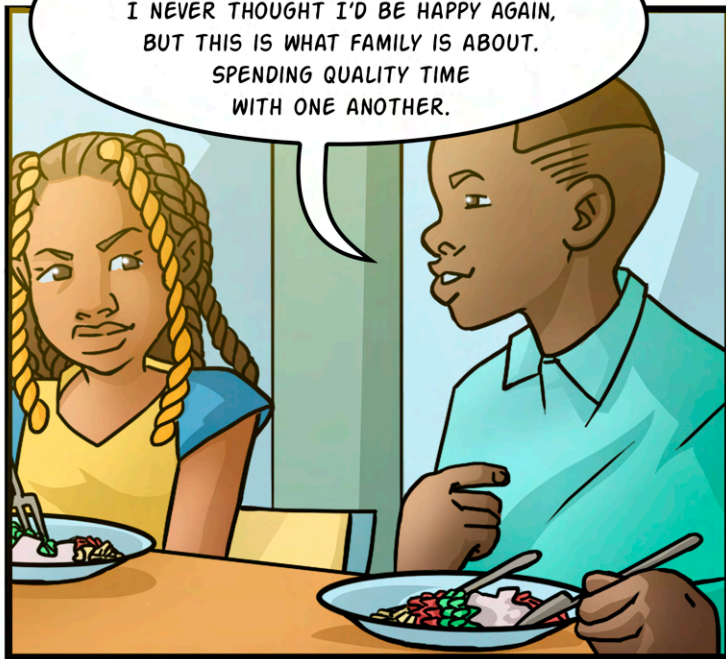
I NEVER KNEW AT THE TIME, BUT THAT DAY WOULD CHANGE THE COURSE OF OUR LIVES.

MUM, DAD, COME QUICK. HE IS STILL ALIVE!!!

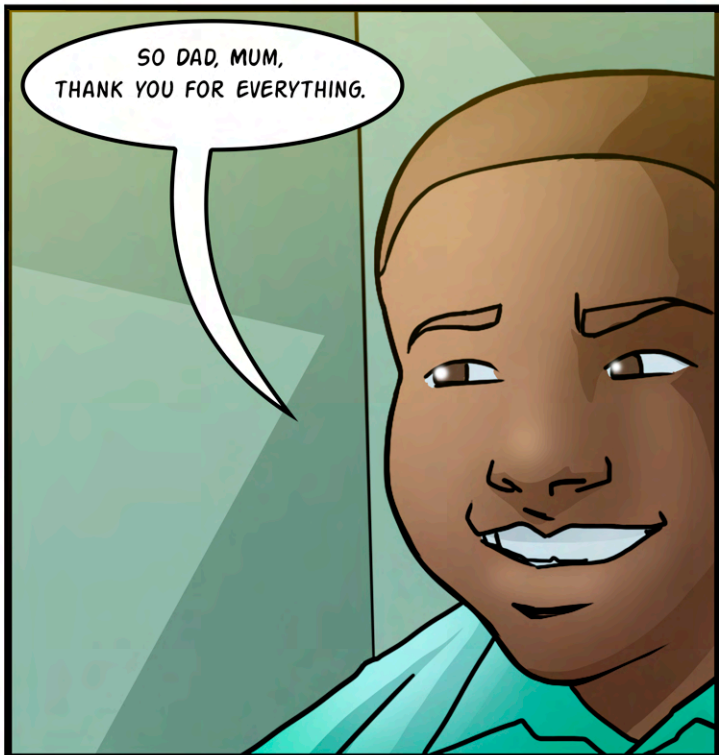


REMEMBER SABOOR...
THERE IS A REASON WE CALL YOU PATIENCE.
THIS PLACE WE LIVE IN
HASN'T BEEN EASY FOR ANY OF US.
BUT YOU NEVER ONCE COMPLAINED.
YOU ARE FAMILY TO US.

YEAH, I HEAR YOU SAIDA.
I WAS ORIGINALLY HOPING
I'D SEE MY PARENTS AGAIN,
MAYBE THAT'S WHY I WAS QUITE DISTANT
FROM YOUR FAMILY. BUT I FEEL AT HOME NOW.
YOU GUYS ARE MY FAMILY NOW.



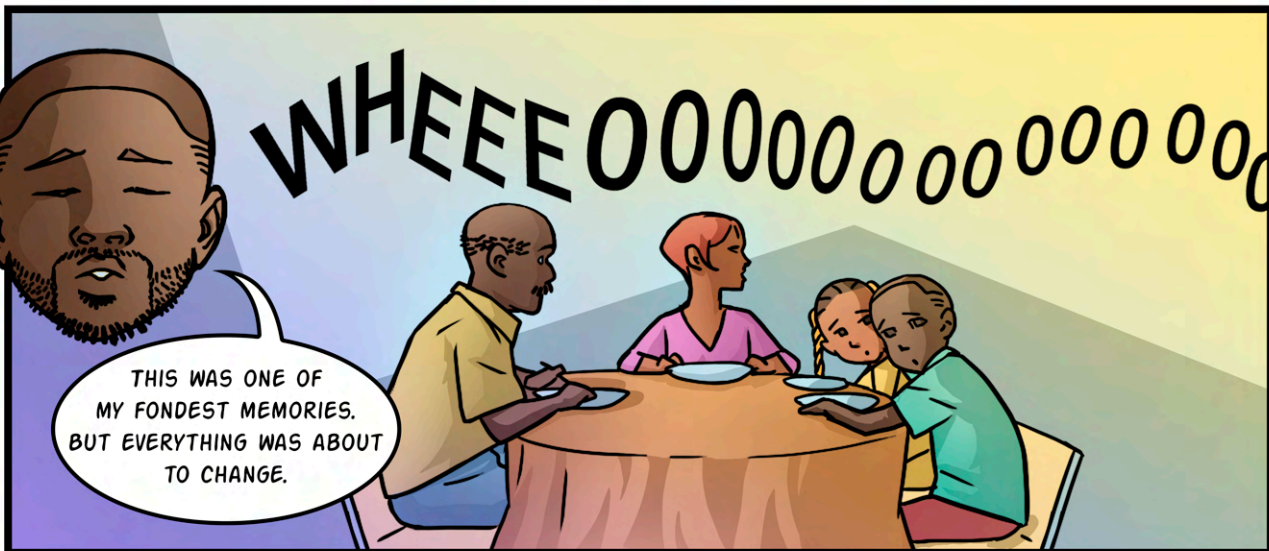
I JUST WANT TO SAY,
IT'S BEEN A YEAR SINCE YOU GUYS TOOK ME IN.
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D BE HAPPY AGAIN,
BUT THIS IS WHAT FAMILY IS ABOUT.
SPENDING QUALITY TIME
WITH ONE ANOTHER.



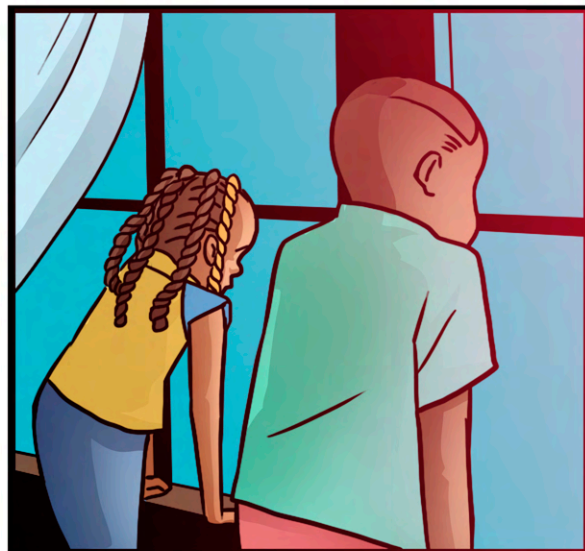
SO DAD, MUM,
THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING.



AW, PATIENCE,
YOU CALLED ME MUM!



THIS WAS ONE OF
MY FONDEST MEMORIES.
BUT EVERYTHING WAS ABOUT
TO CHANGE.

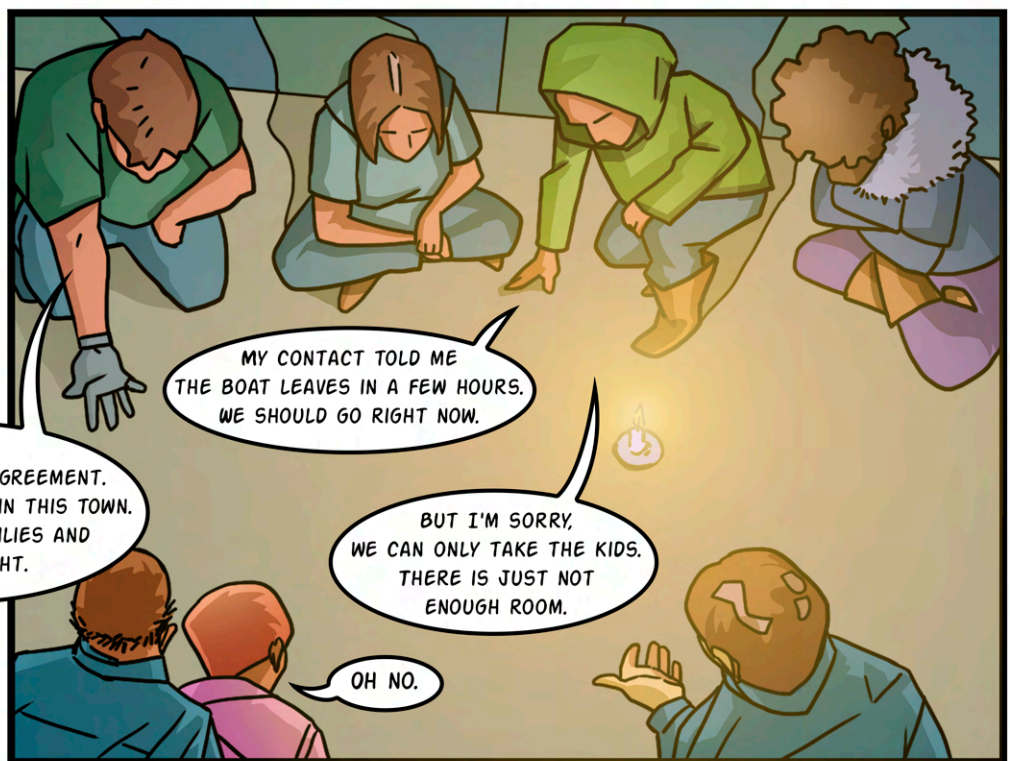


DON'T WORRY!
EVERYTHING IS FINE,
STAY IN YOUR HOMES.
WE WILL LOOK AFTER YOU.



LATER THAT NIGHT, WE GATHERED WITH A FEW TOWNS PEOPLE. WE NEEDED A WAY TO LEAVE TOWN. AS WE KNEW, THE CONFLICT WILL ONLY GET WORSE.

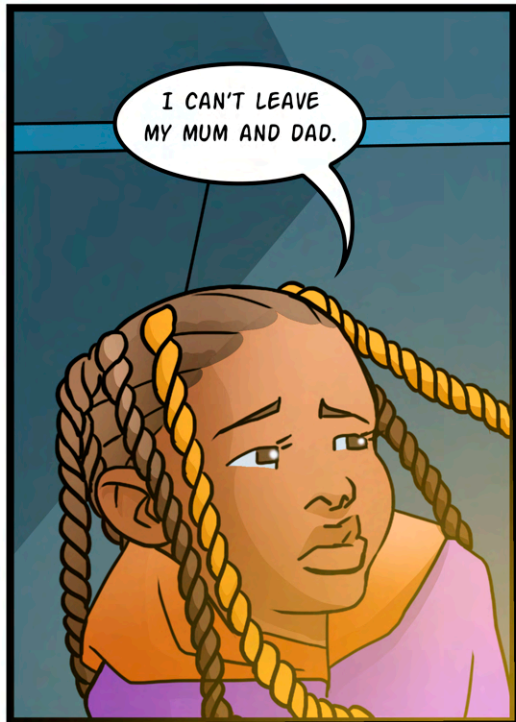
SO WE ARE ALL IN AGREEMENT. IT'S NO LONGER SAFE IN THIS TOWN. WE TAKE OUR FAMILIES AND LEAVE TONIGHT.



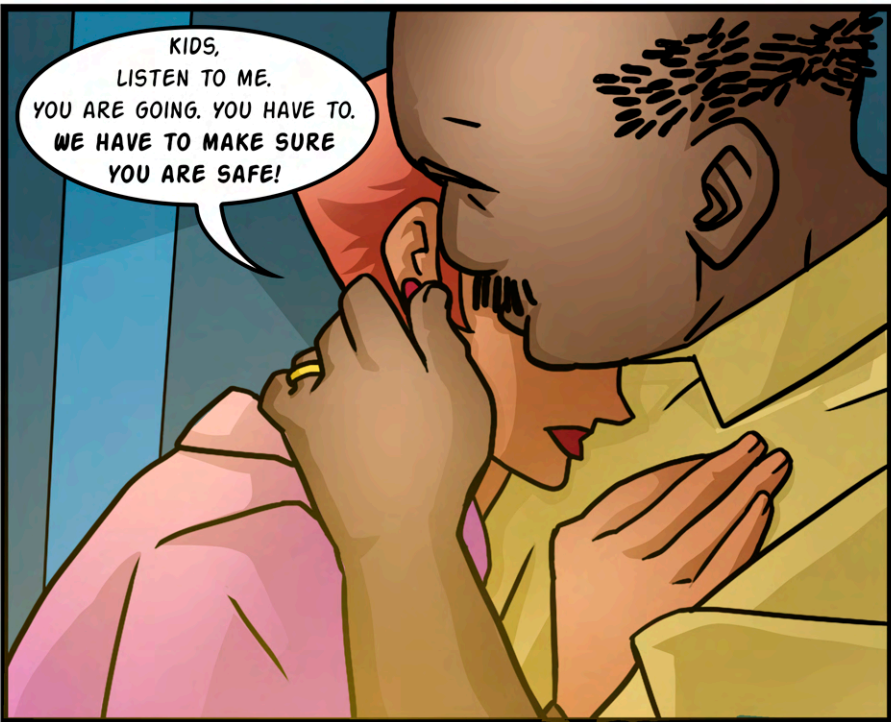
MY CONTACT TOLD ME THE BOAT LEAVES IN A FEW HOURS. WE SHOULD GO RIGHT NOW.

BUT I'M SORRY, WE CAN ONLY TAKE THE KIDS. THERE IS JUST NOT ENOUGH ROOM.

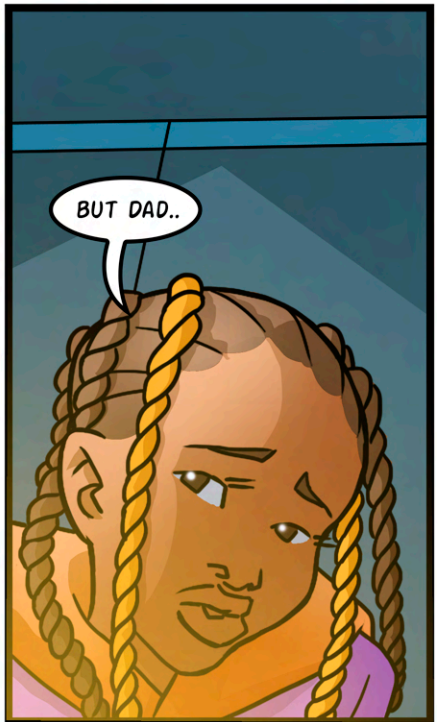
OH NO.



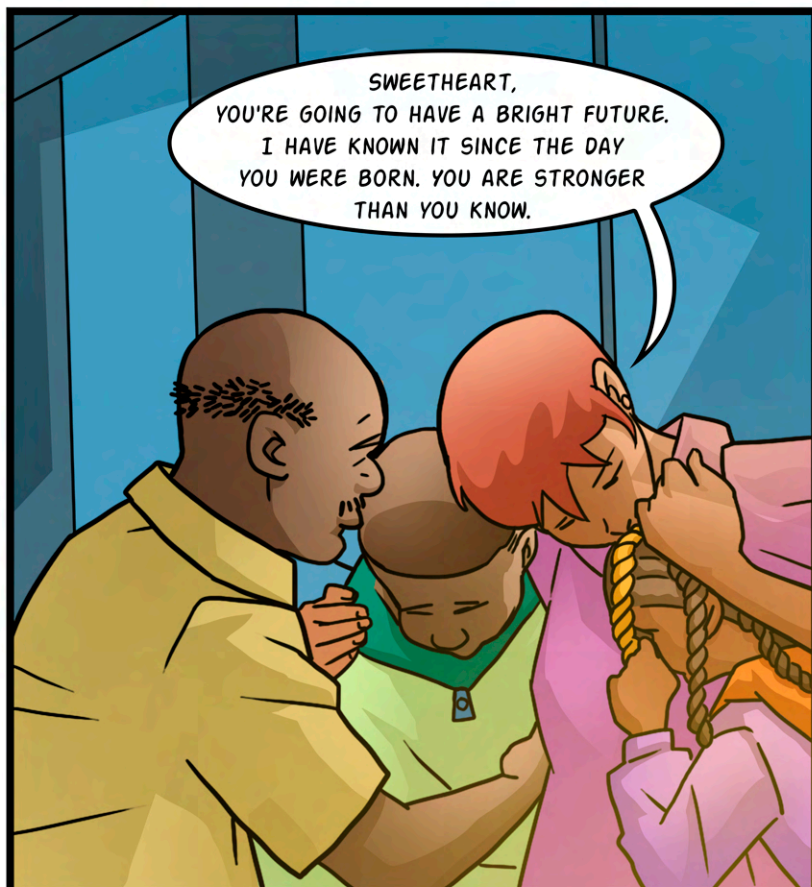
I CAN'T LEAVE MY MUM AND DAD.



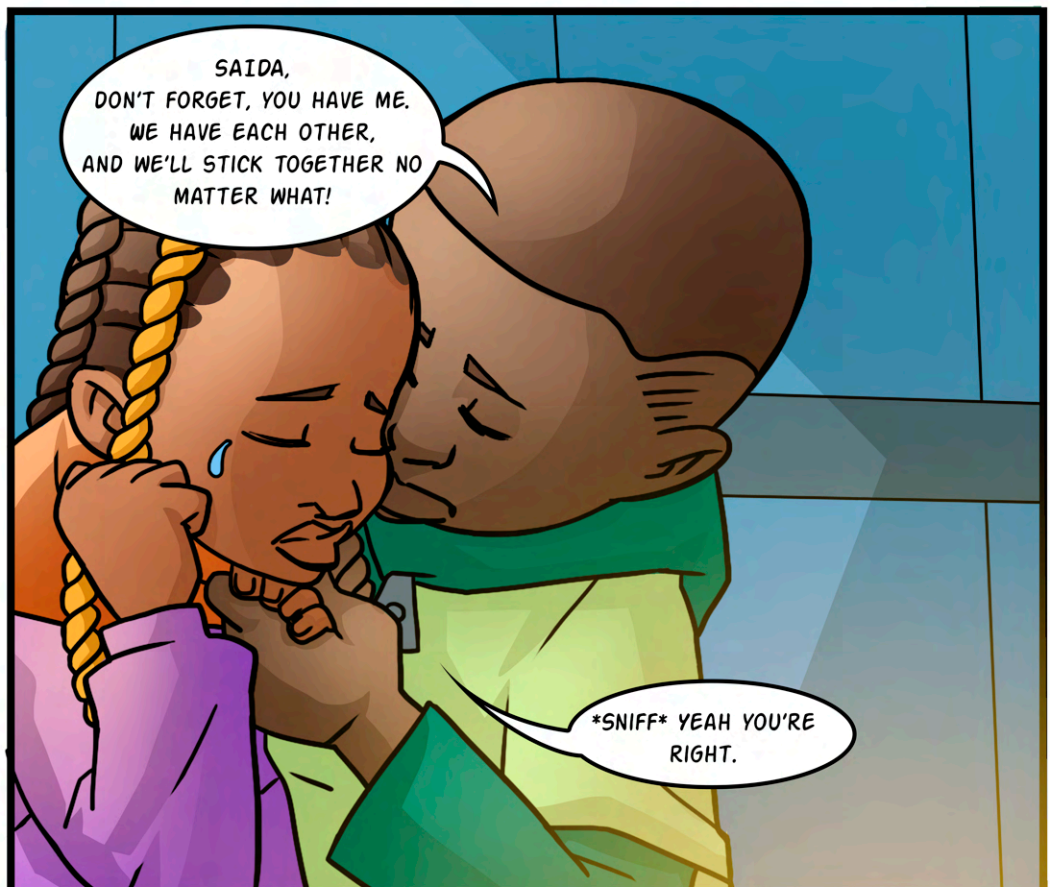
KIDS, LISTEN TO ME. YOU ARE GOING. YOU HAVE TO. WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE SAFE!



BUT DAD..



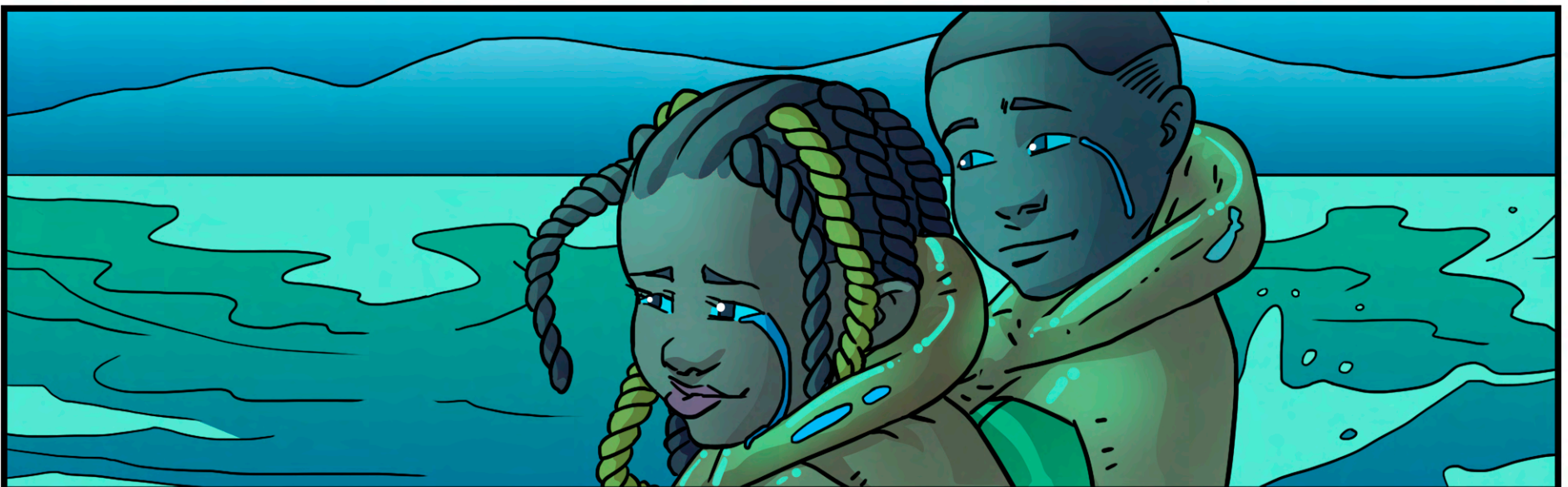
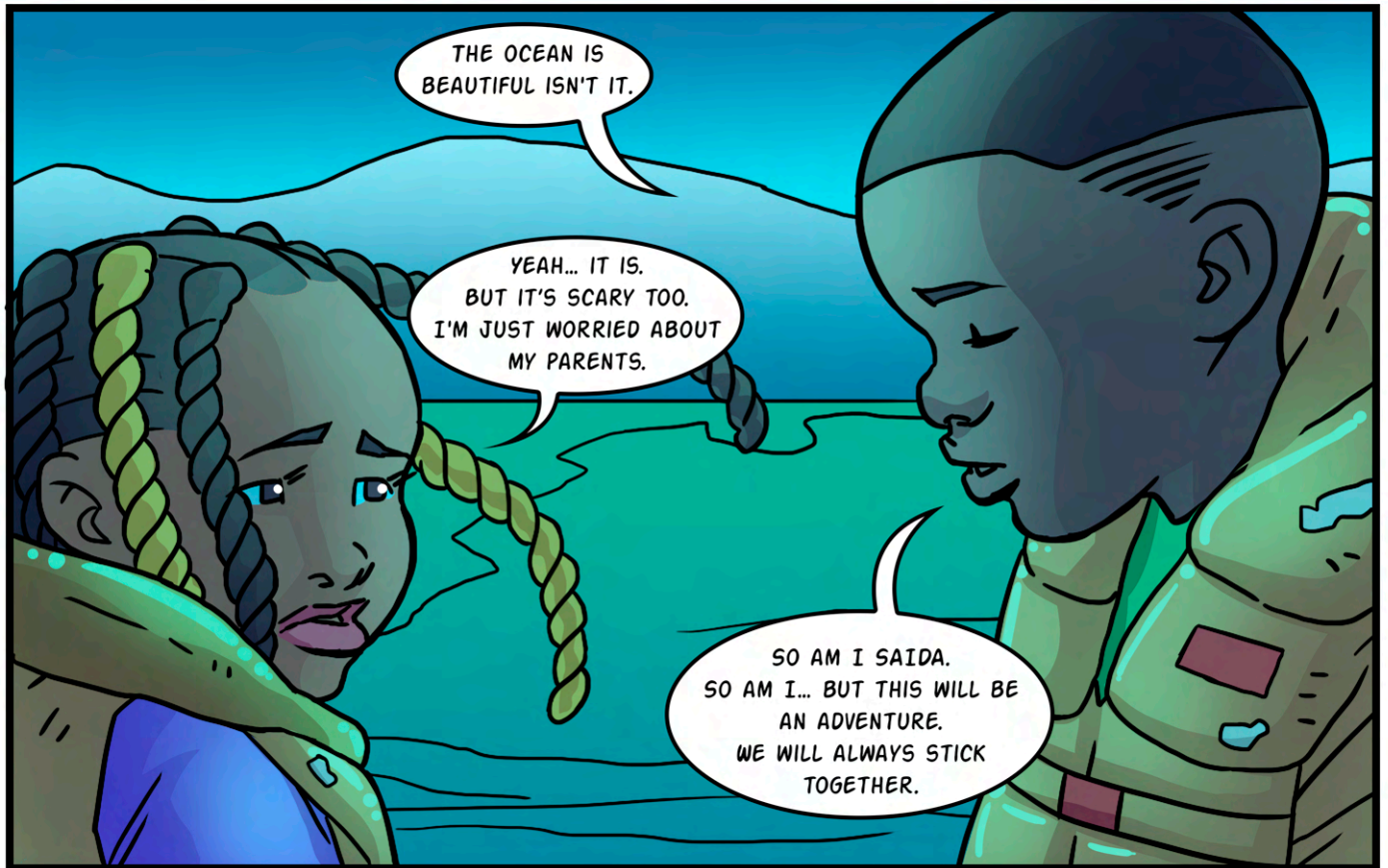
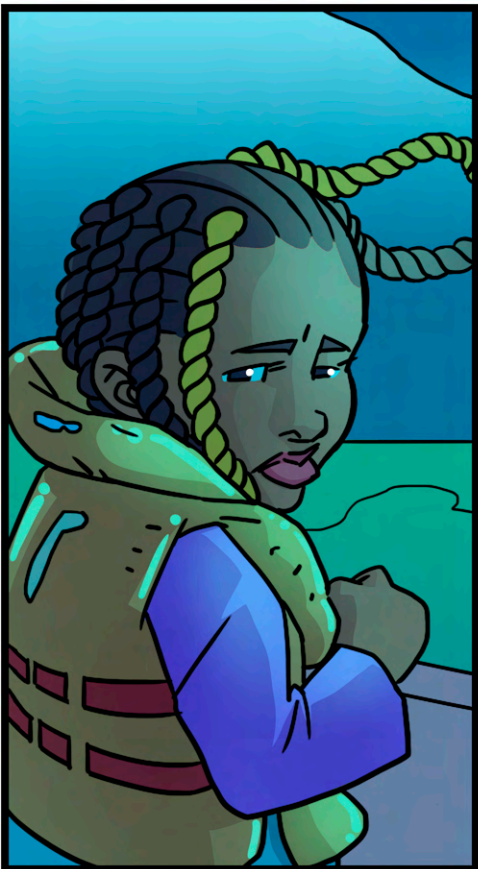
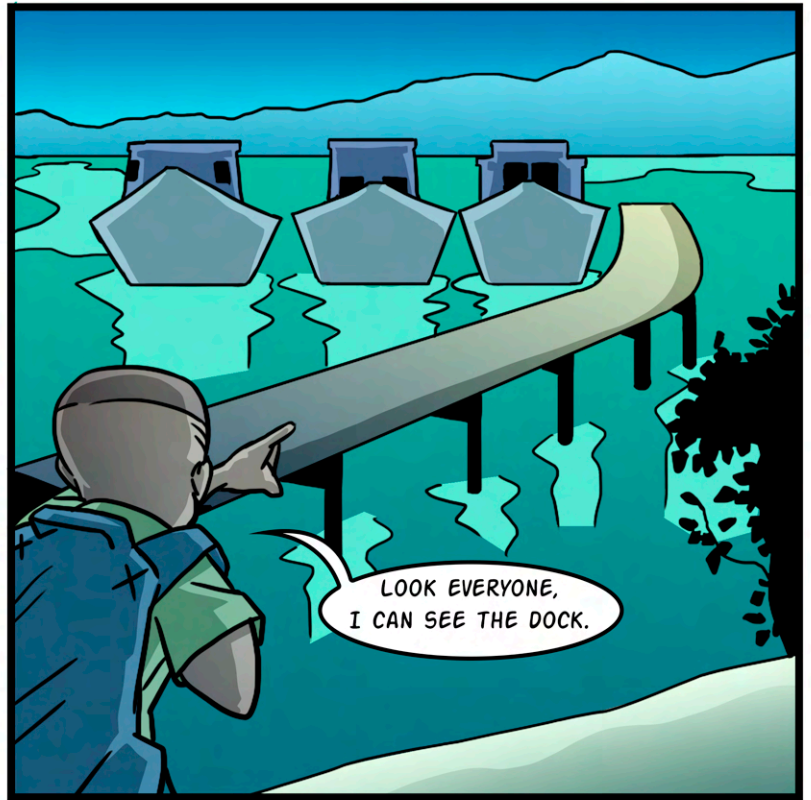
SWEETHEART, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A BRIGHT FUTURE. I HAVE KNOWN IT SINCE THE DAY YOU WERE BORN. YOU ARE STRONGER THAN YOU KNOW.

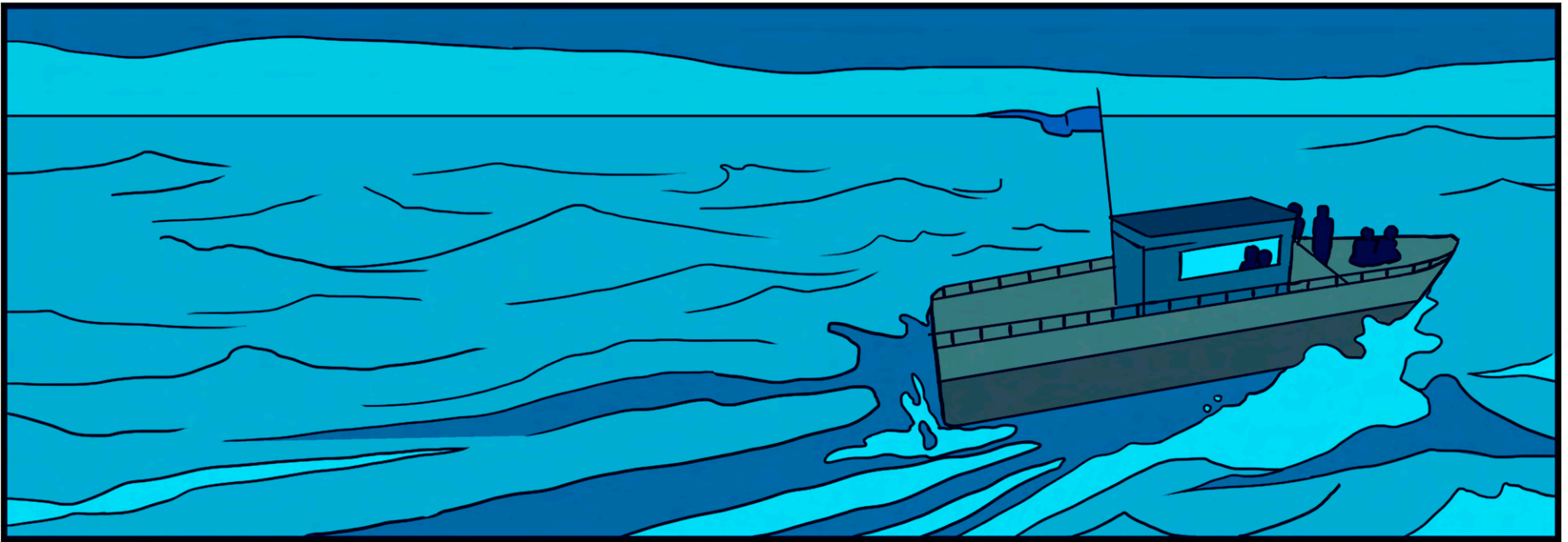


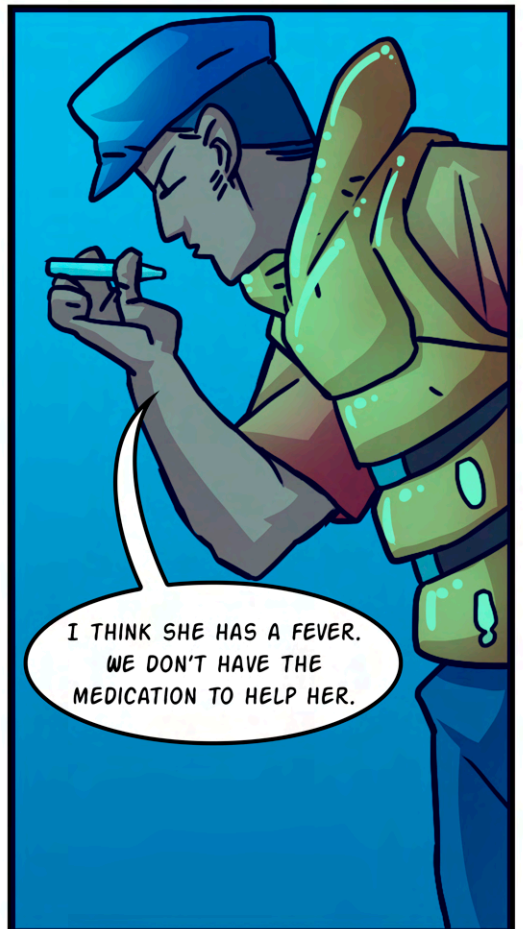
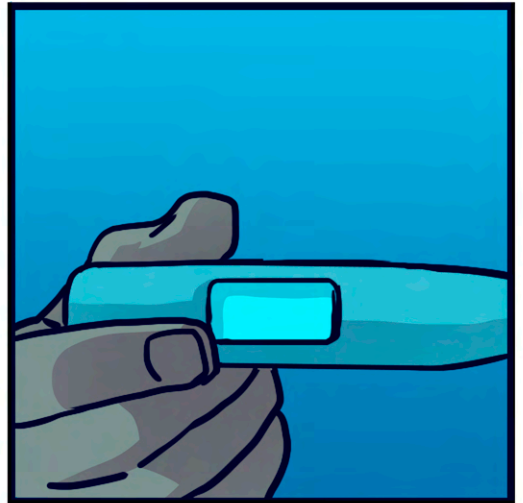
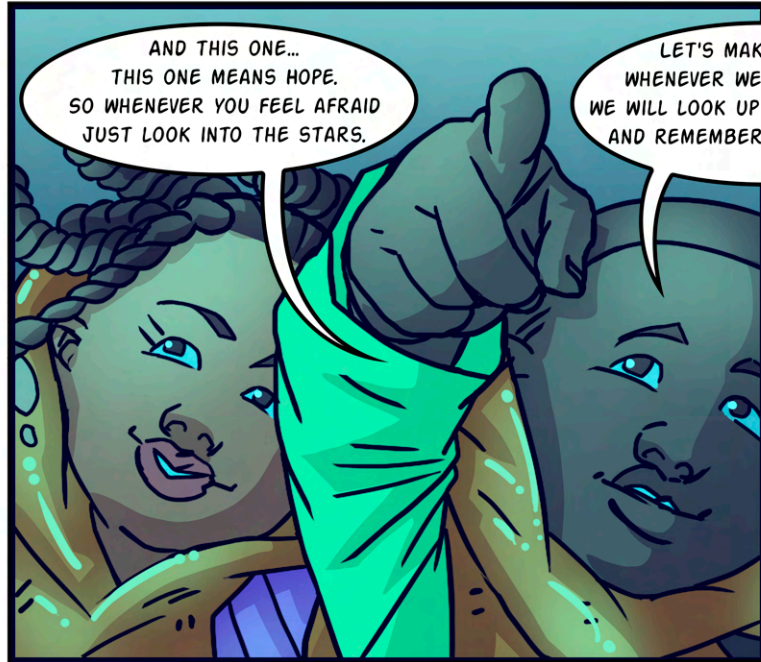
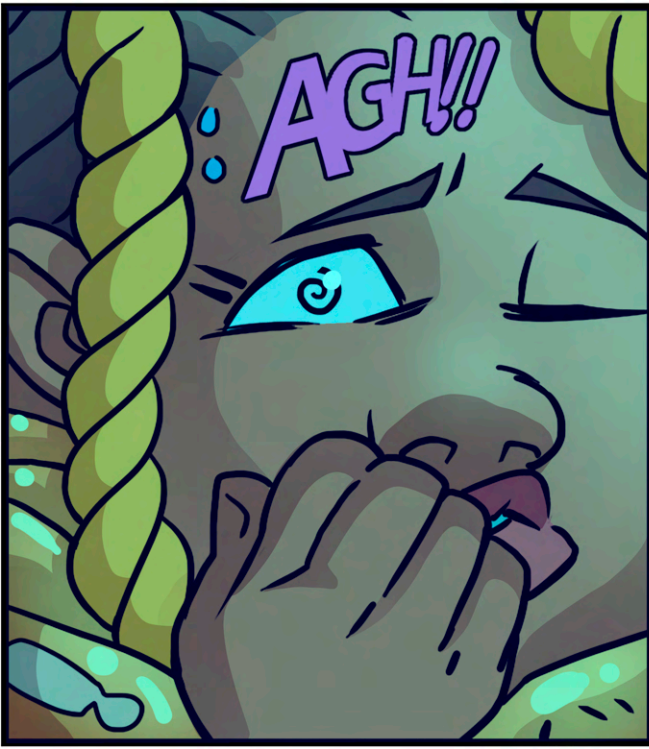
SAIDA, DON'T FORGET, YOU HAVE ME. WE HAVE EACH OTHER, AND WE'LL STICK TOGETHER NO MATTER WHAT!

SNIFF YEAH YOU'RE RIGHT.

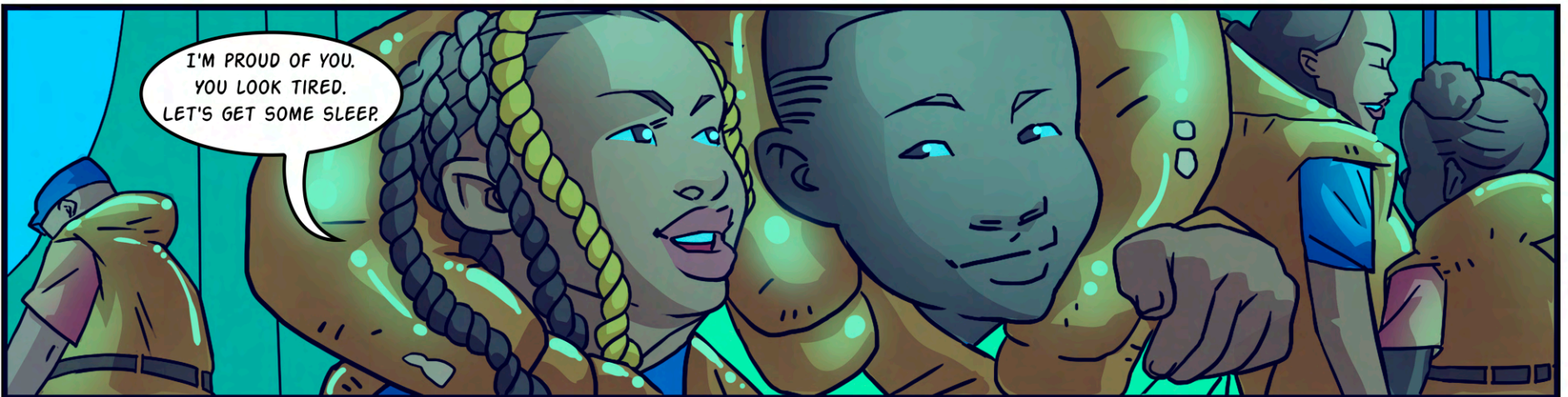
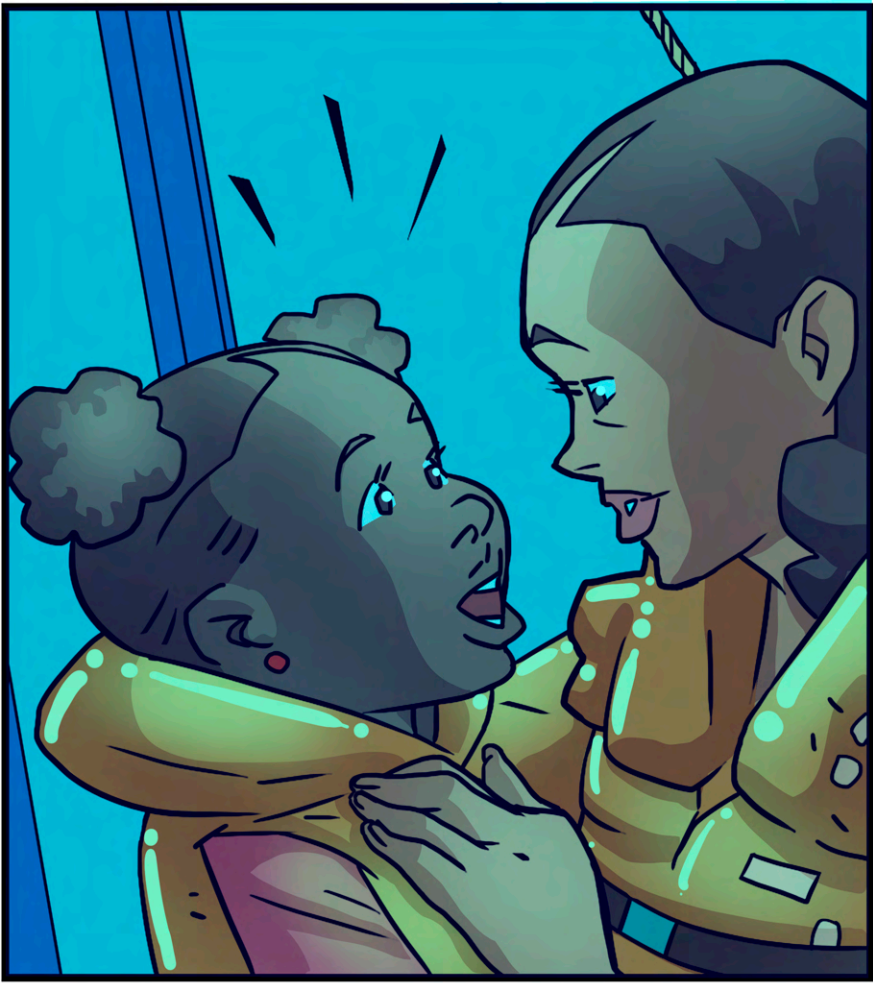


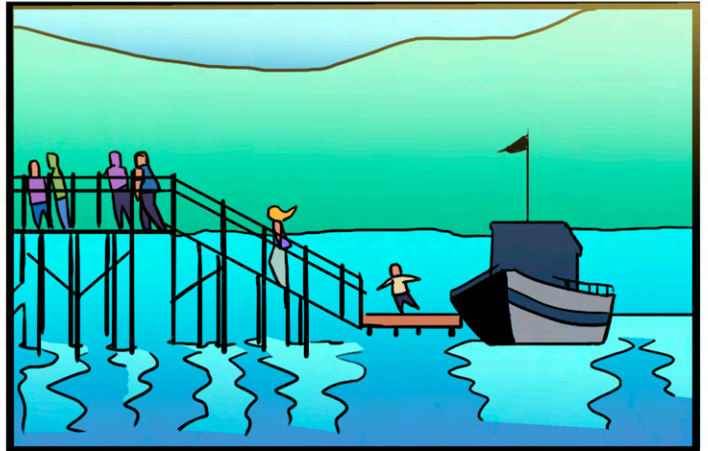
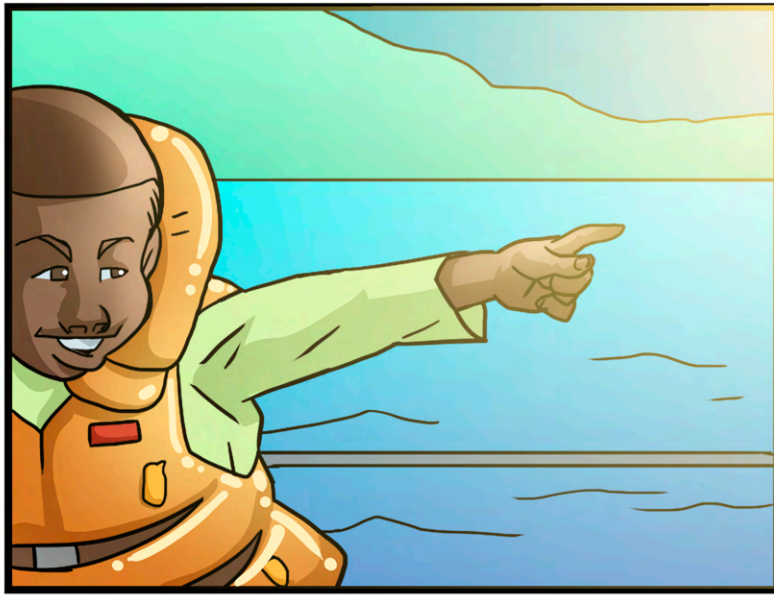


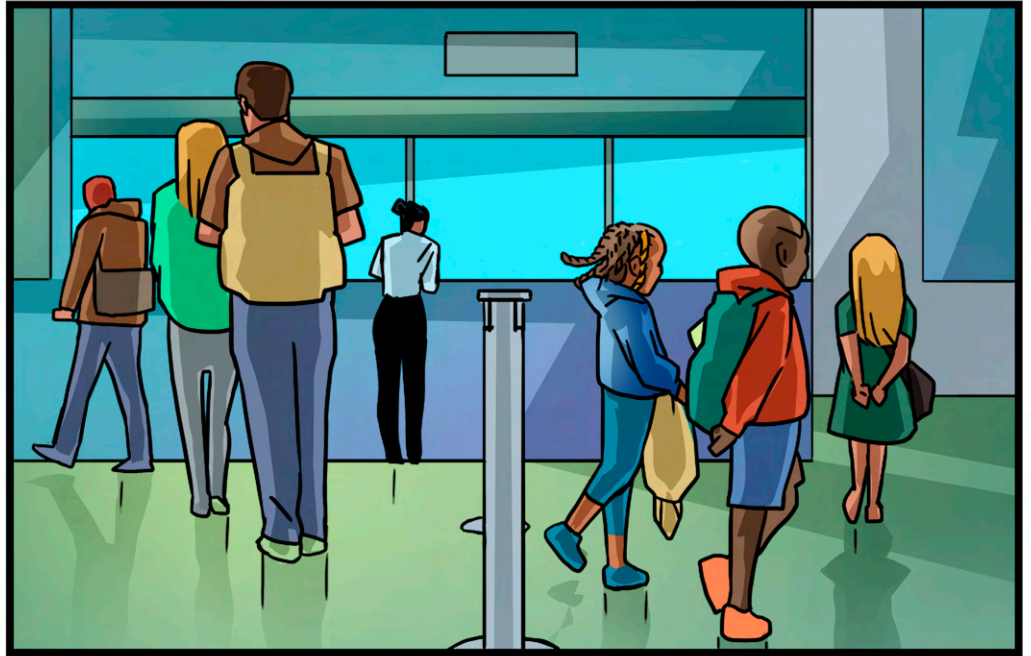
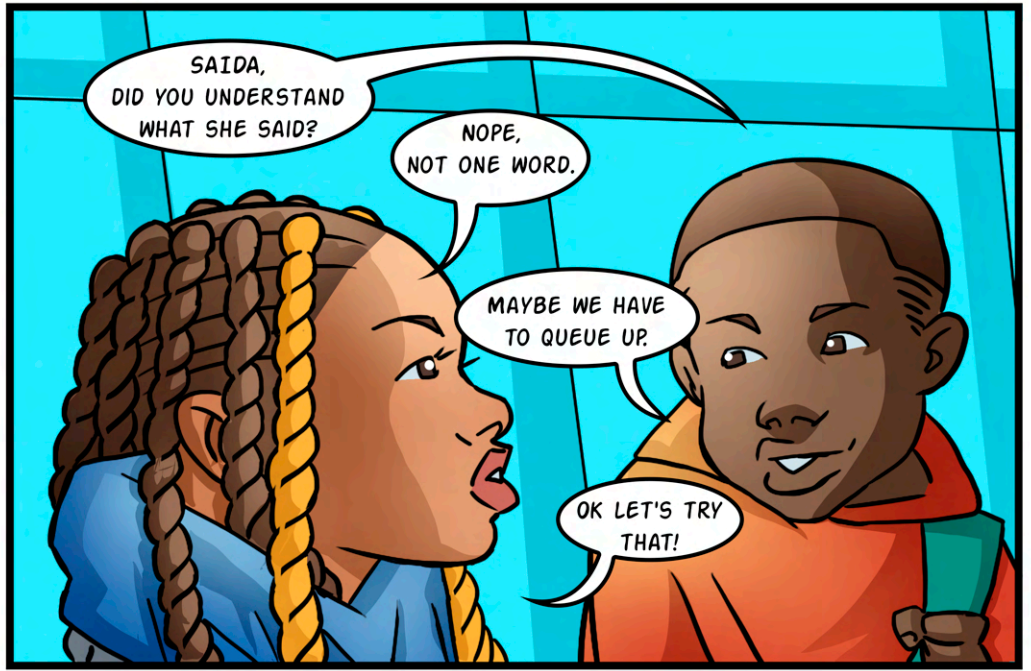














INCOMPREHENSIBLE LANGUAGE (HOLD ON, HOW OLD ARE YOU?)

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHY CAN'T I GO???



INCOMPREHENSIBLE LANGUAGE (EXCUSE ME, YOU'RE IN THE WRONG QUEUE, PLEASE HEAD TO THE BACK OF THE ADULT QUEUE).



NO PLEASE I WANT TO STAY WITH PATIENCE!!



SAIDA, STAY SAFE. I WILL FIND YOU NO MATTER WHAT!! REMEMBER THE STARS!!

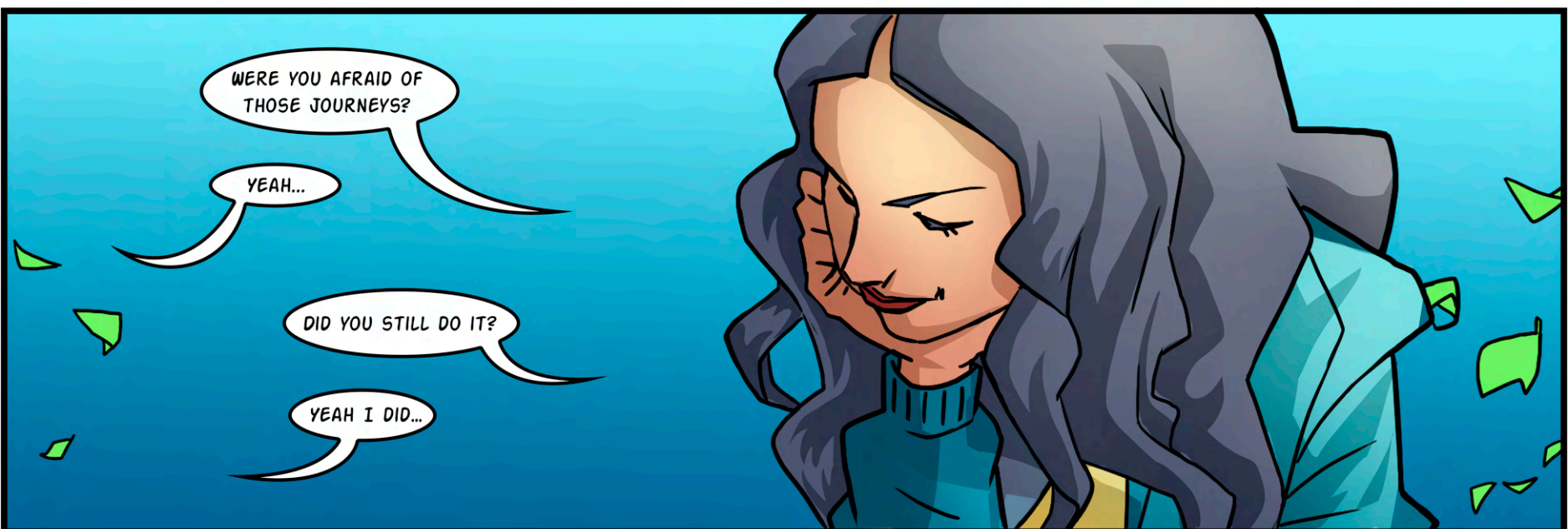
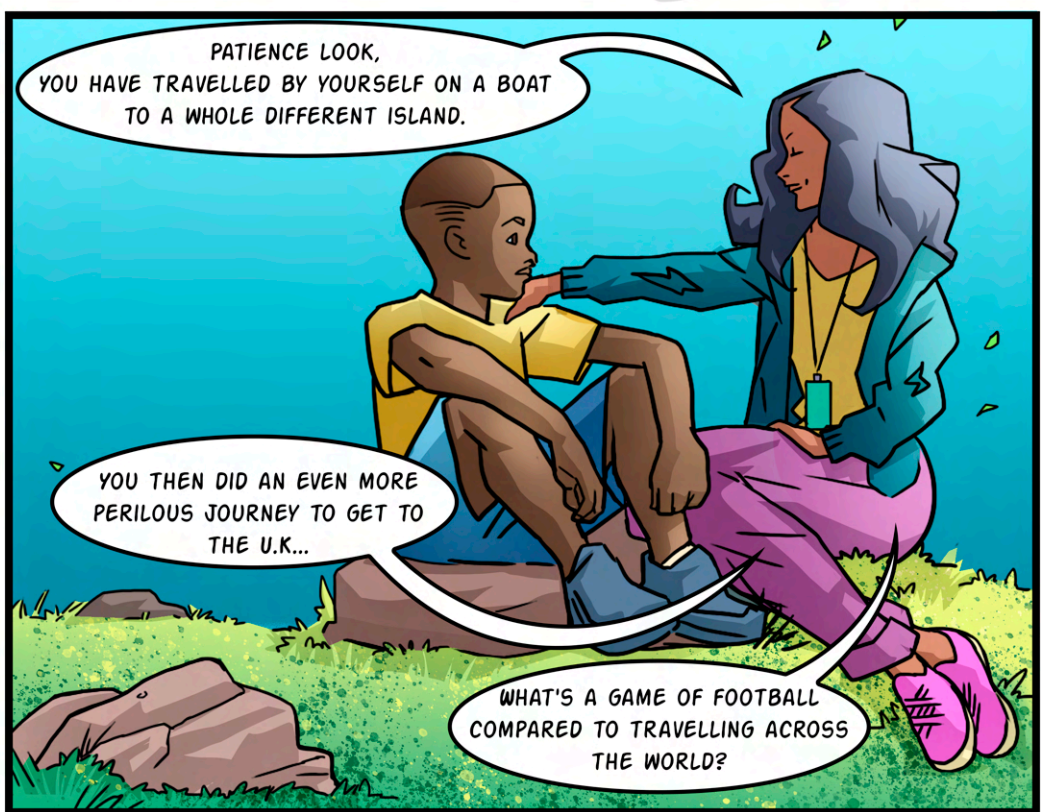
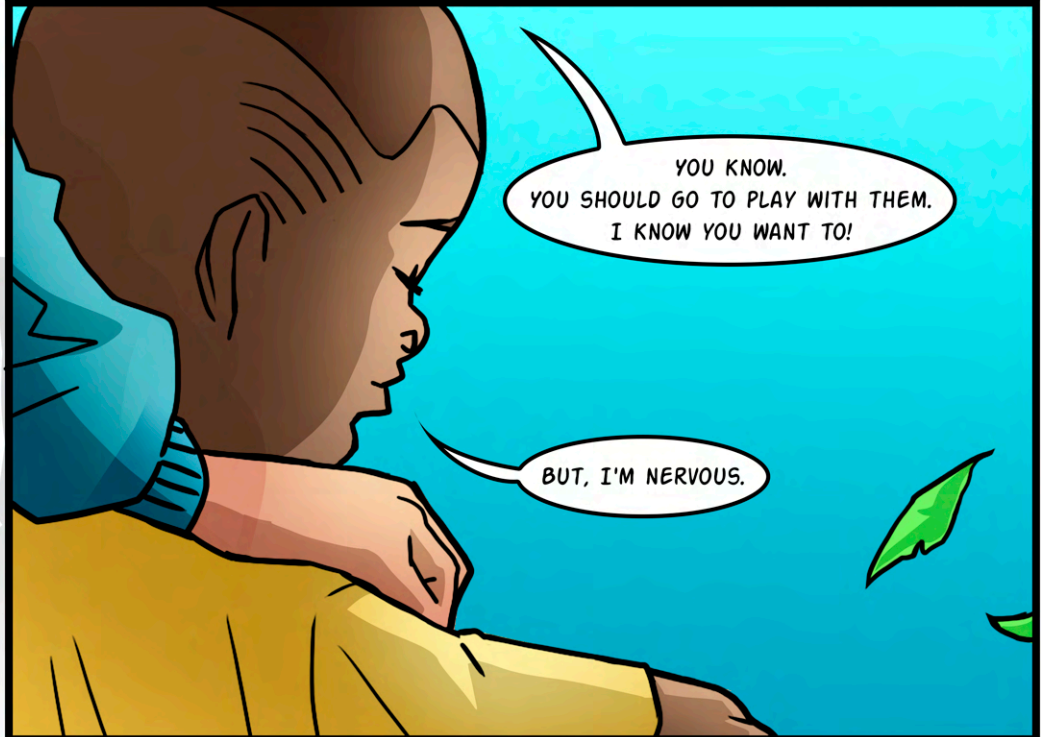
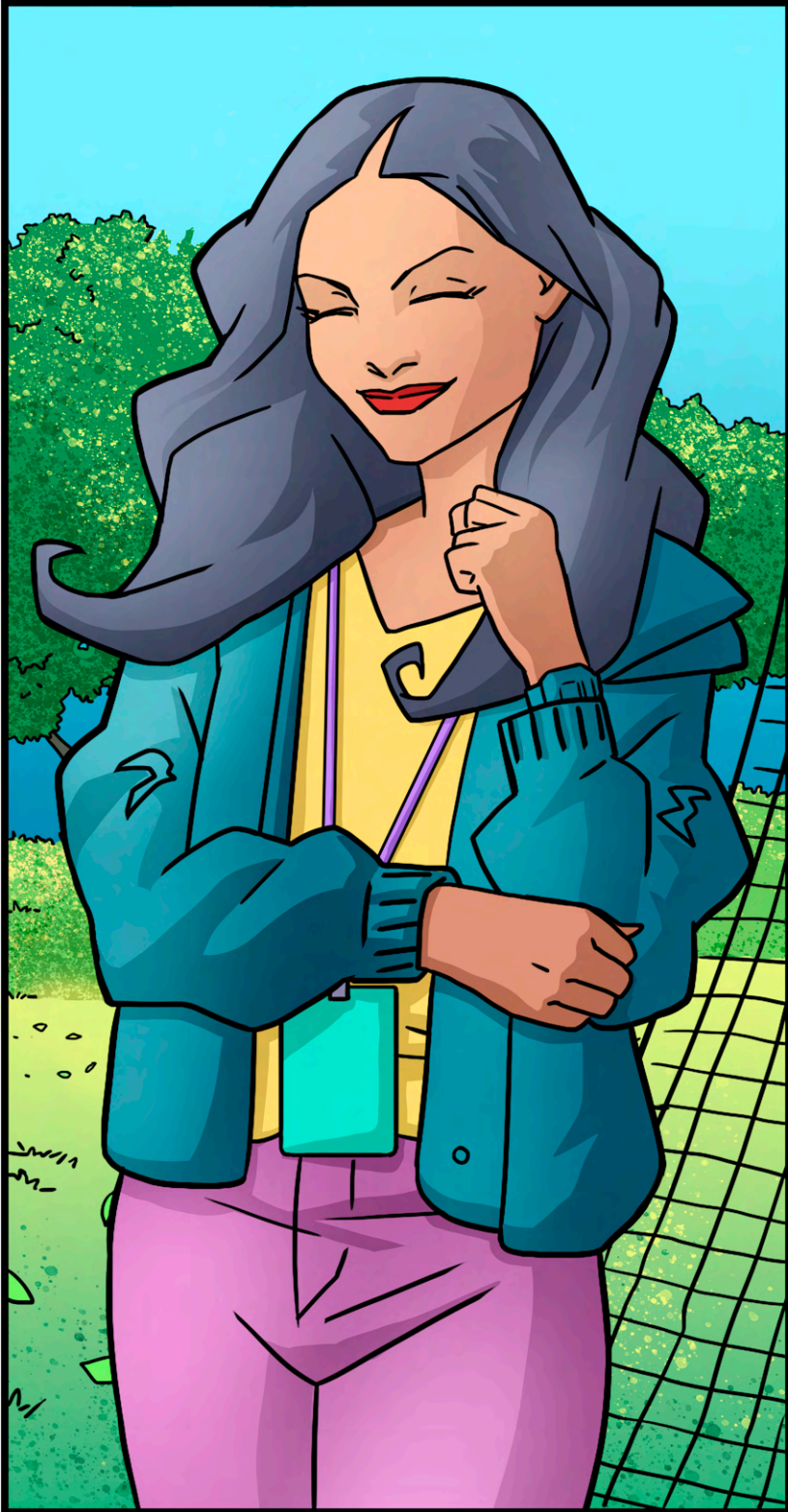


I WAITED FOR HOURS, BUT I NEVER SAW HER AGAIN THAT DAY. BUT I VOWED TO FIND HER.

A FEW WEEKS LATER

IT WAS TOUGH SETTLING INTO A NEW COUNTRY. I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE LANGUAGE AND I MISSED SAIDA.

BUT EVERY WEEK, I WOULD COME AND WATCH THE KIDS MY AGE PLAY FOOTBALL. I HAD NEVER SEEN A FOOTBALL PITCH LOOK SO NICE, IT WAS AMAZING!



WERE YOU AFRAID OF THOSE JOURNEYS?

YEAH...

DID YOU STILL DO IT?

YEAH I DID...



GO ON KID. BELIEVE IN YOURSELF.



REMEMBER THE STARS!!!

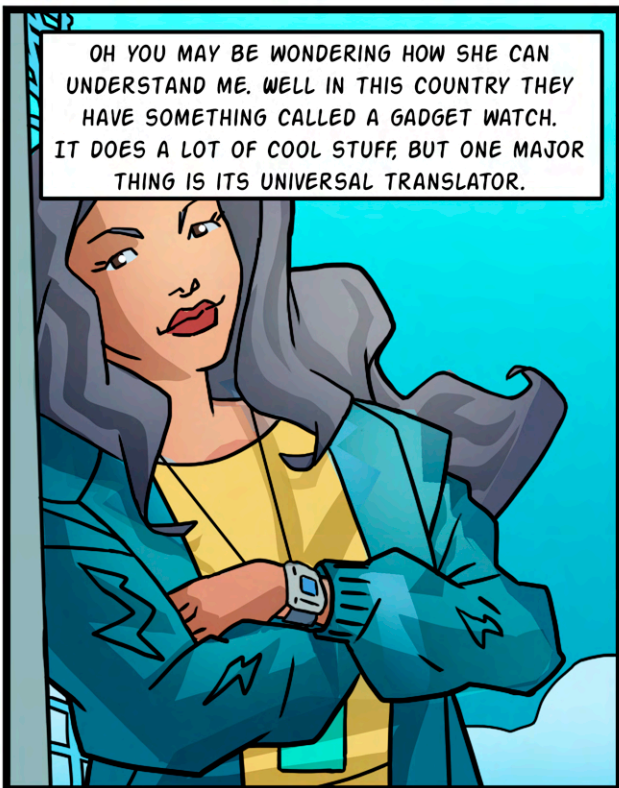
YEAH!!



THIS IS ANGELI, SHE IS A SOCIAL WORKER WHO WORKS WITH CHILDREN COMING INTO THIS COUNTRY TO SEEK SAFETY.



BUT THAT'S NOT ALL, SHE HAS A GIFT, JUST LIKE ME! WELL NOT EXACTLY LIKE MINE BUT STILL REALLY COOL.

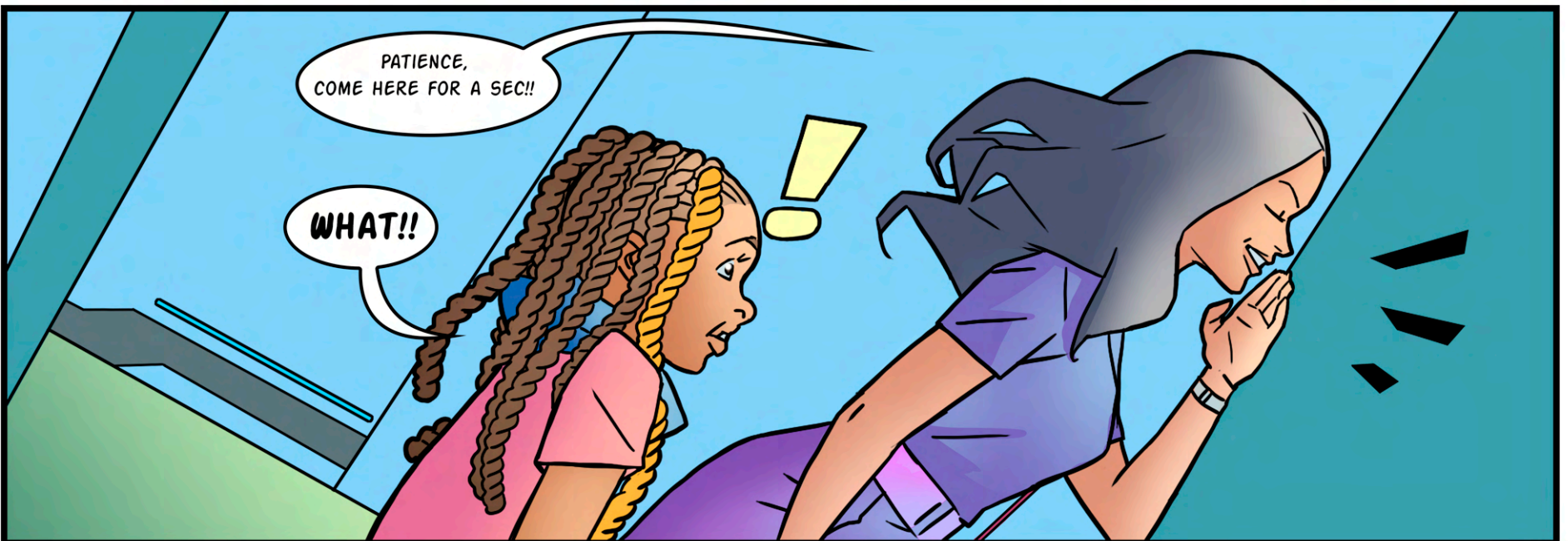
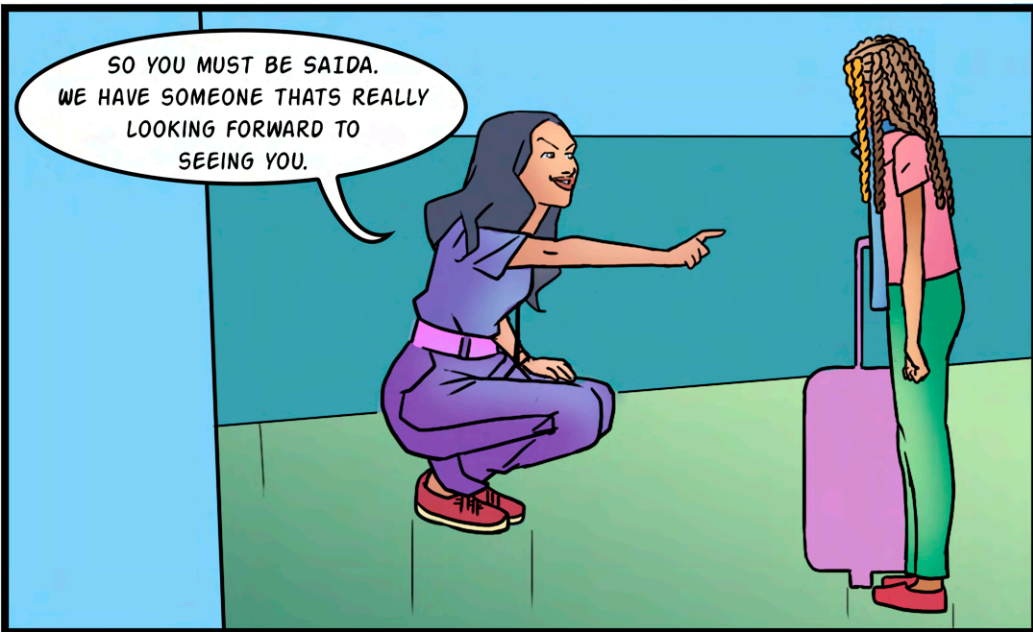
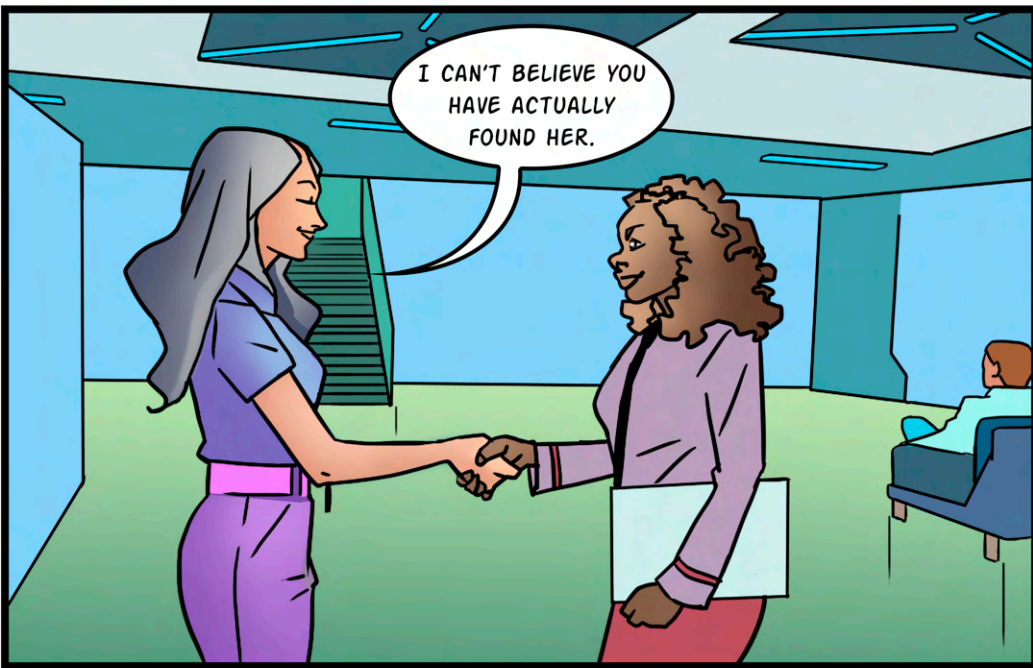
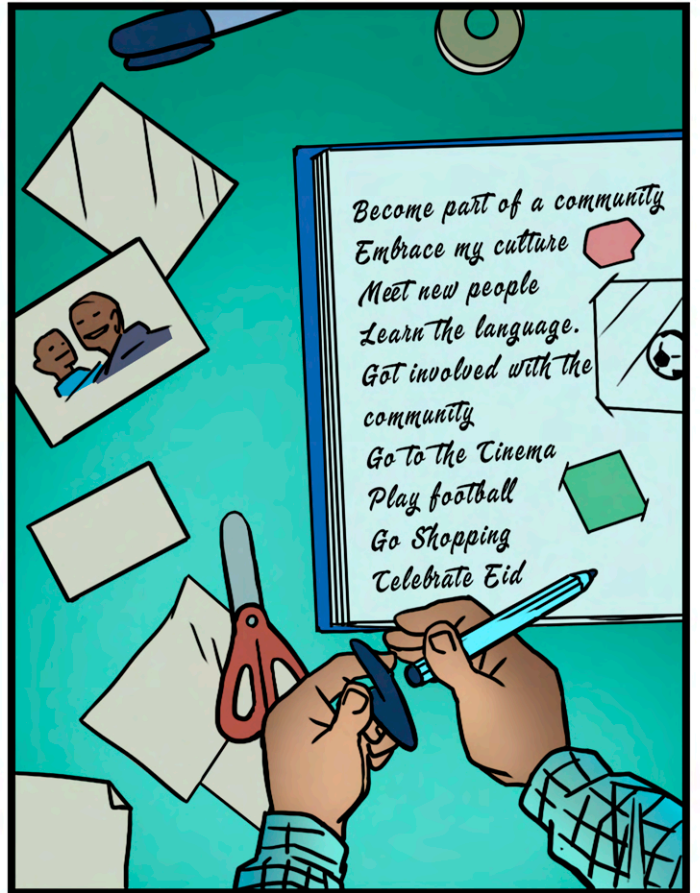
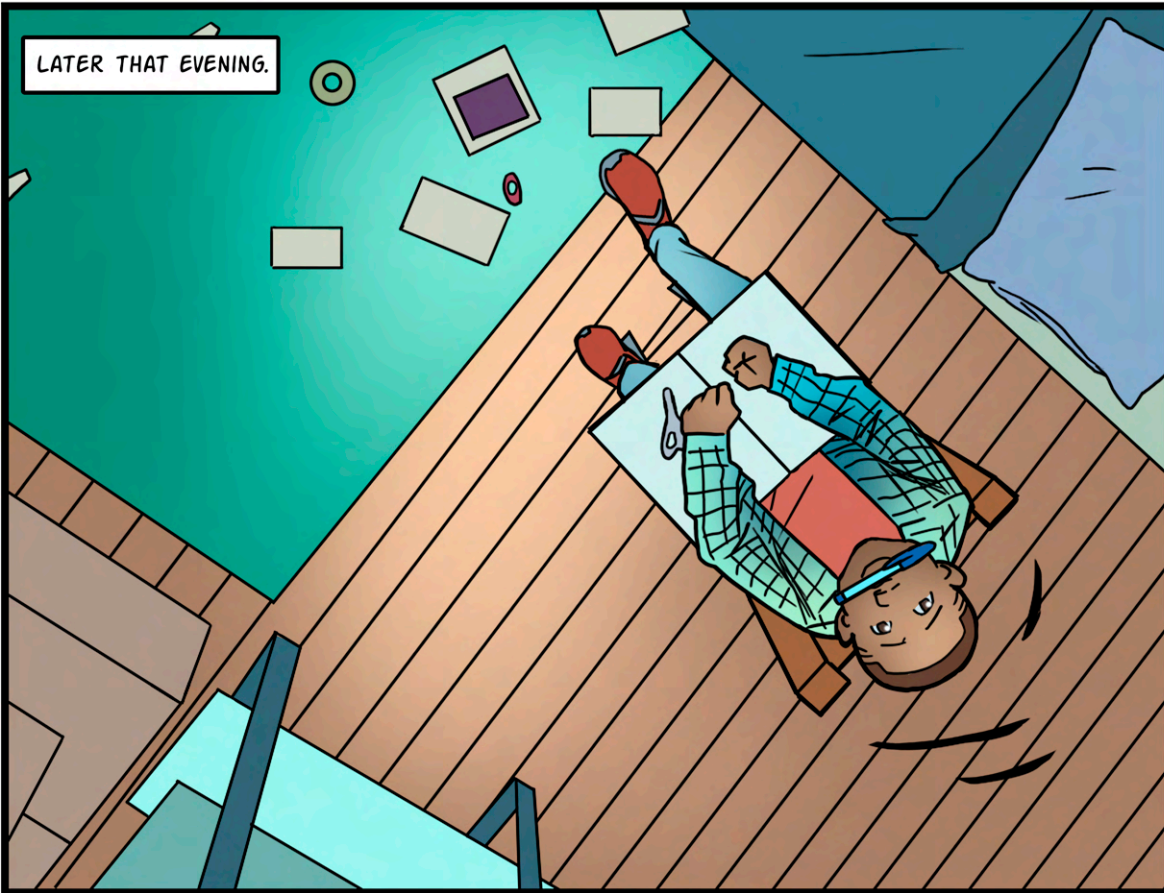


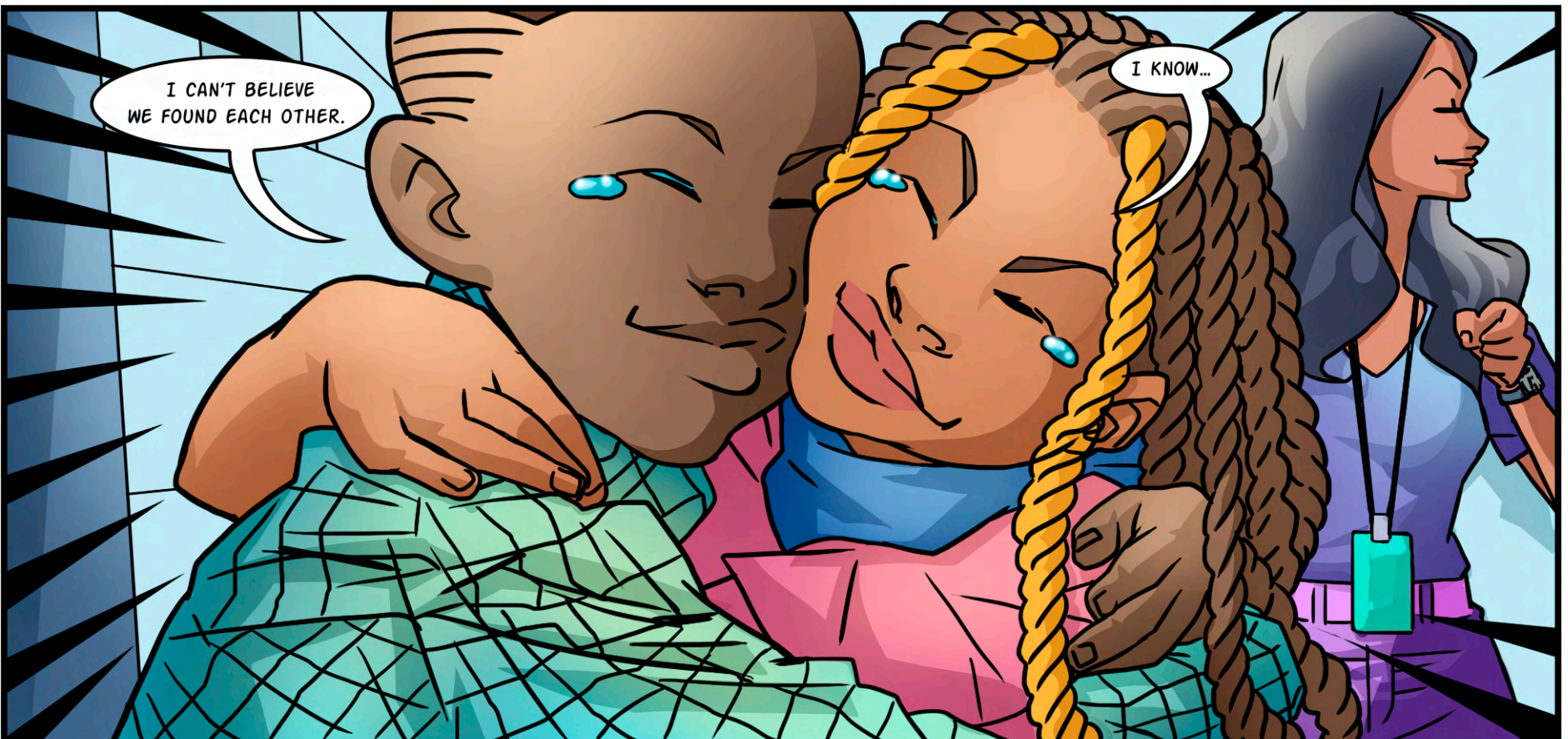
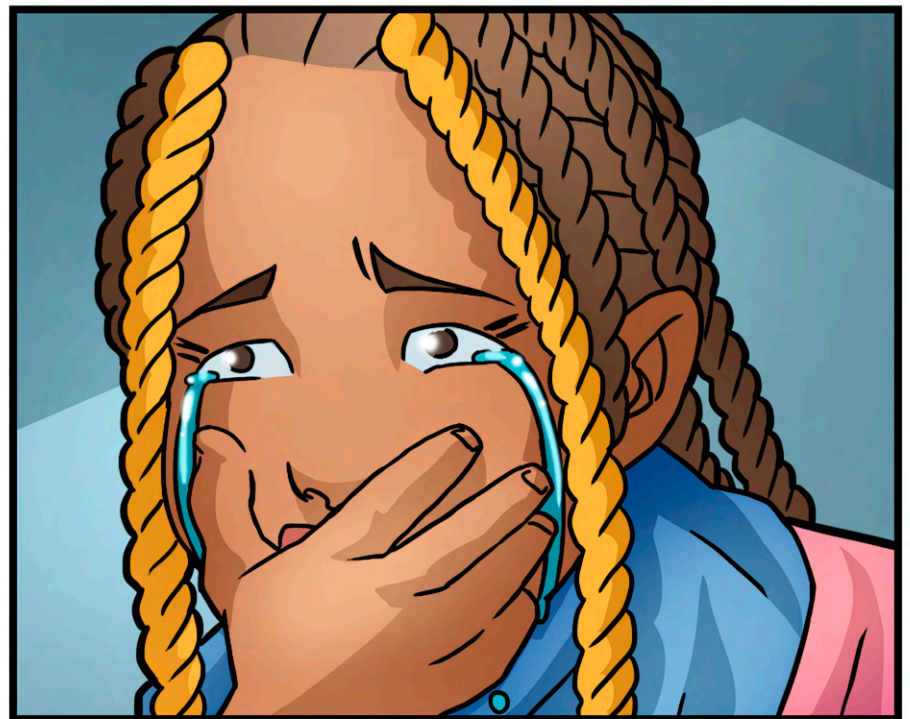
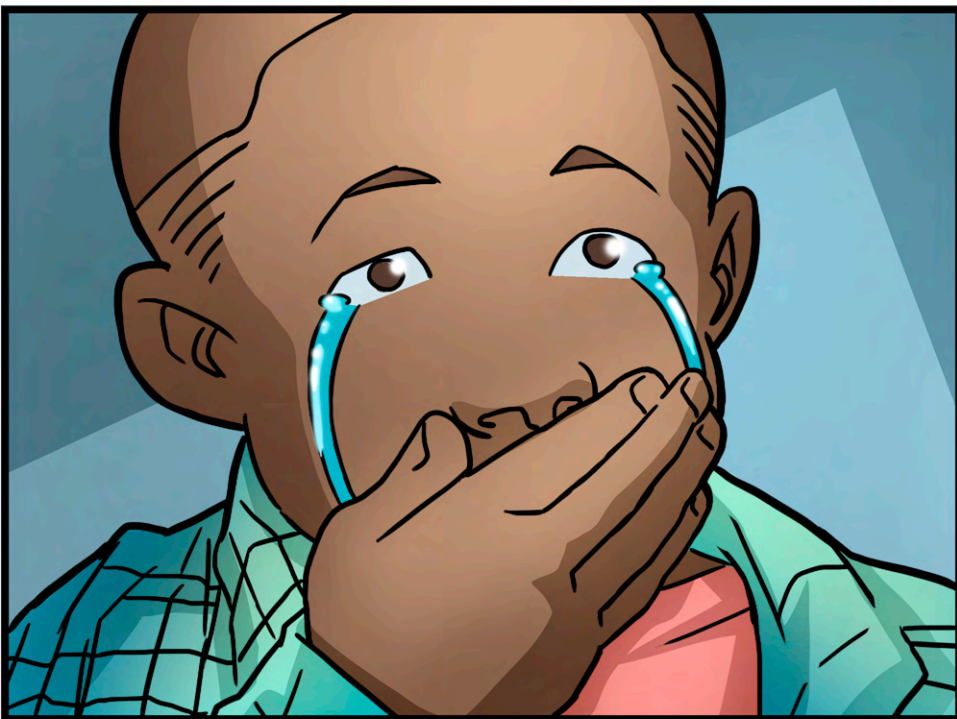
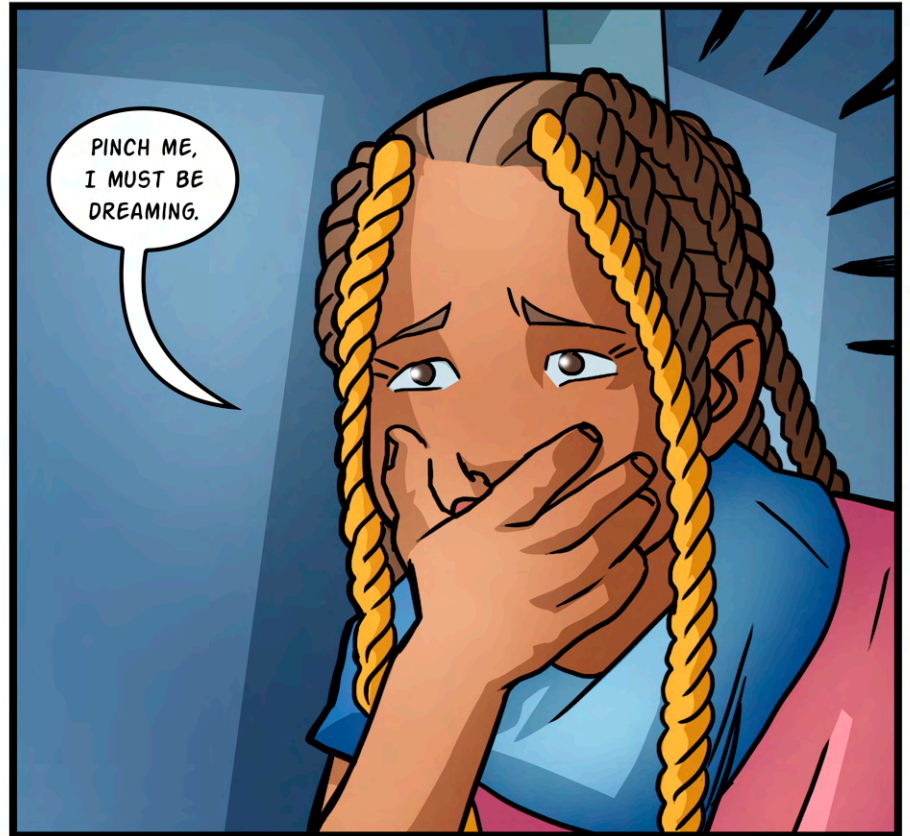
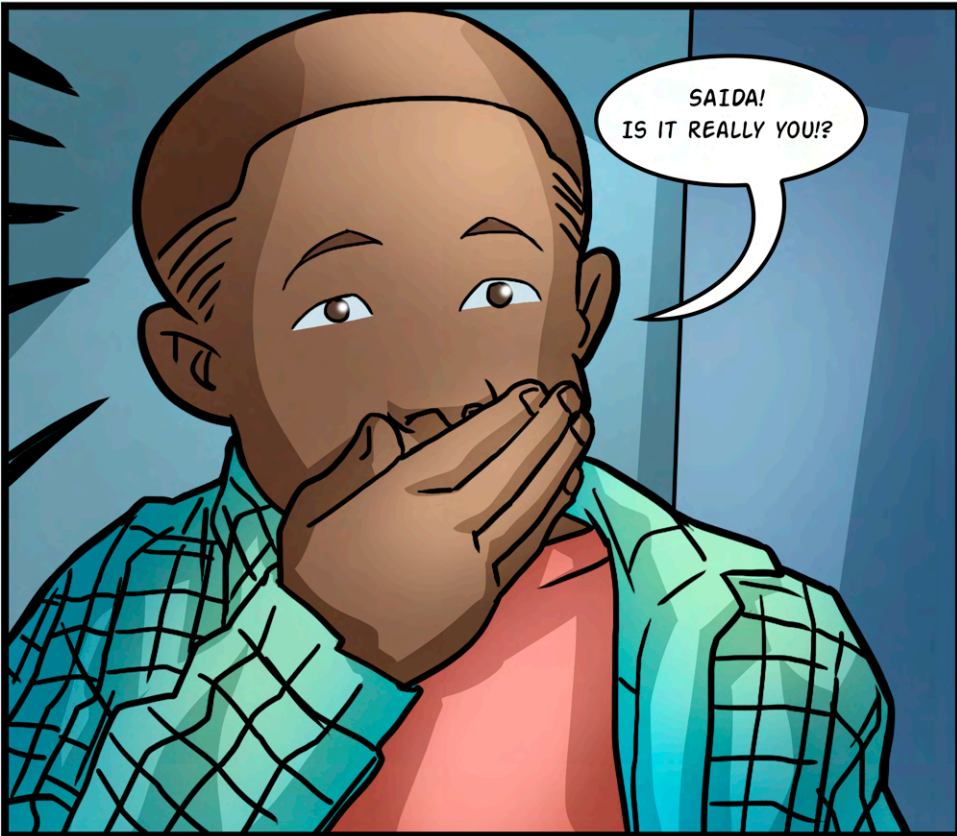
OH YOU MAY BE WONDERING HOW SHE CAN UNDERSTAND ME. WELL IN THIS COUNTRY THEY HAVE SOMETHING CALLED A GADGET WATCH. IT DOES A LOT OF COOL STUFF, BUT ONE MAJOR THING IS ITS UNIVERSAL TRANSLATOR.



IT CAN CONVERT ANY KNOWN LANGUAGE TO ANY OTHER LANGUAGE OF YOUR CHOICE. PRETTY AWESOME I'D SAY!!









SNIFFS
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D SEE YOU AGAIN.

ME TOO.



BUT... ANGELI,
HOW DID YOU FIND HER?

YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN MY GIFT HAVE YOU.
I CAN FEEL OTHER PEOPLE'S FEELINGS.

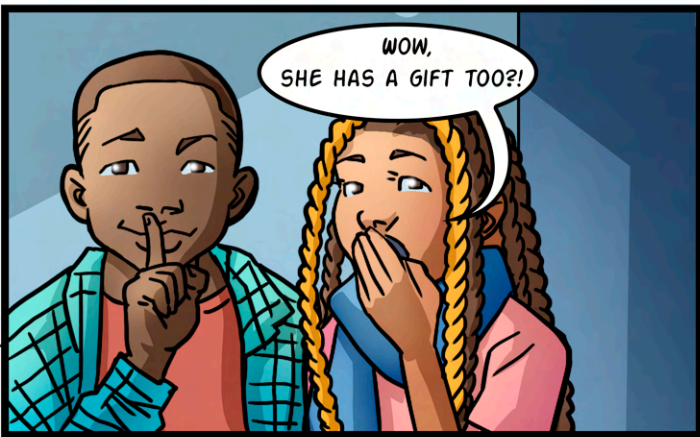
I JUST SEARCHED FOR FEELINGS THAT WERE NATURALLY CONNECTED TO YOURS.



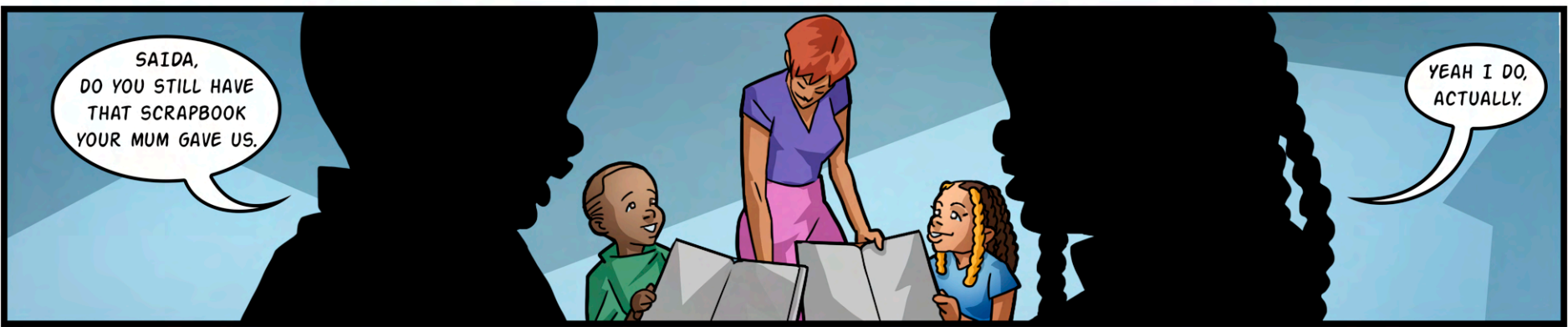
BY THE WAY, SAIDA,
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF YOU AND SABOOR HAVING THE SAME SOCIAL WORKER?

THAT WOULD BE AWESOME.

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR EVERYTHING ANGELI!

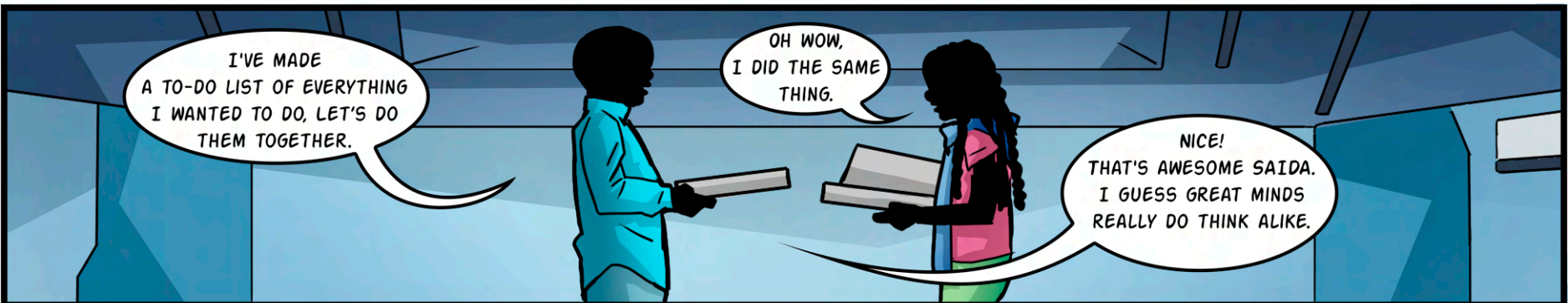


WOW,
SHE HAS A GIFT TOO?!



SAIDA,
DO YOU STILL HAVE THAT SCRAPBOOK YOUR MUM GAVE US.

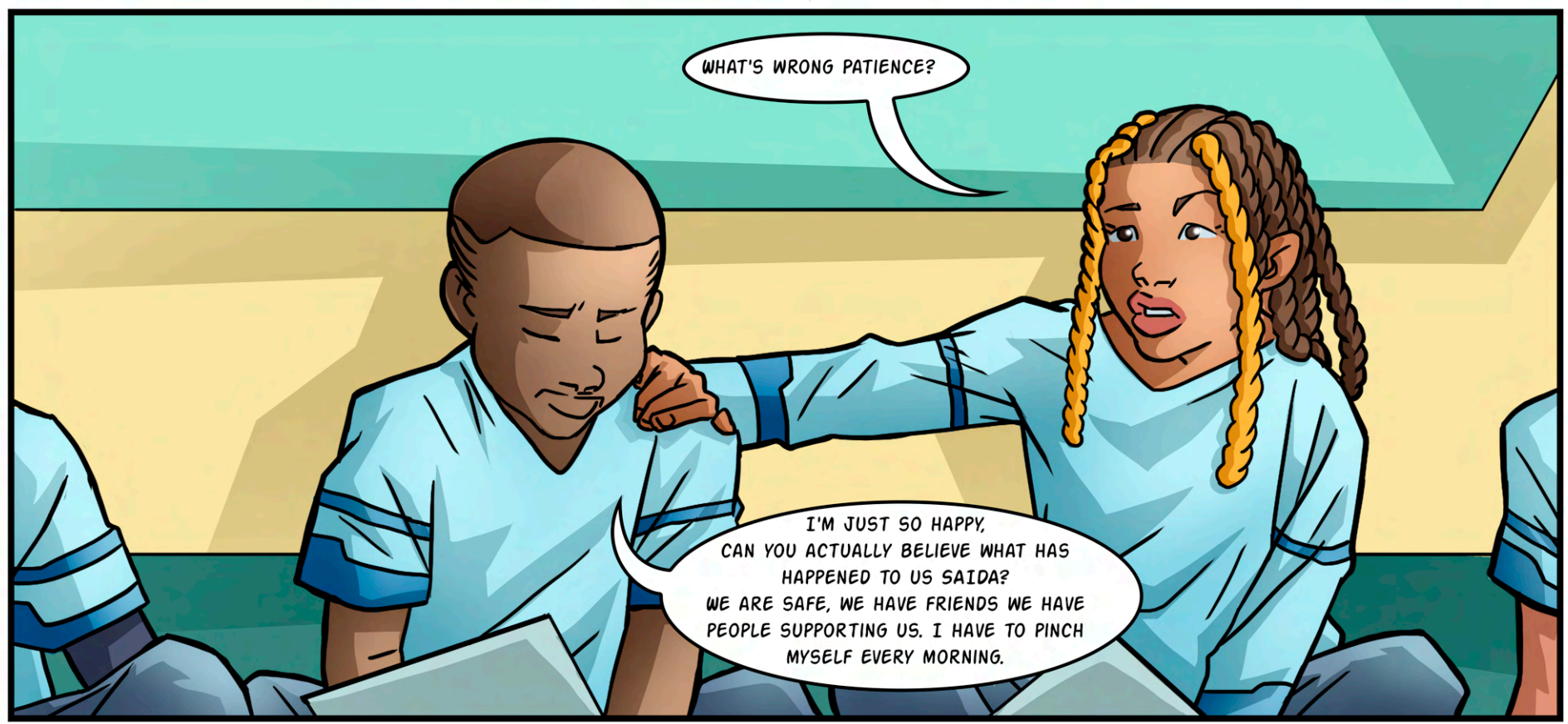
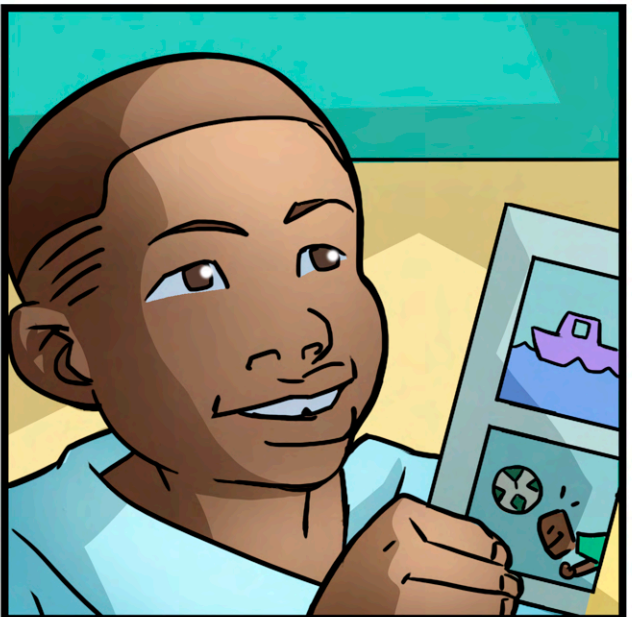
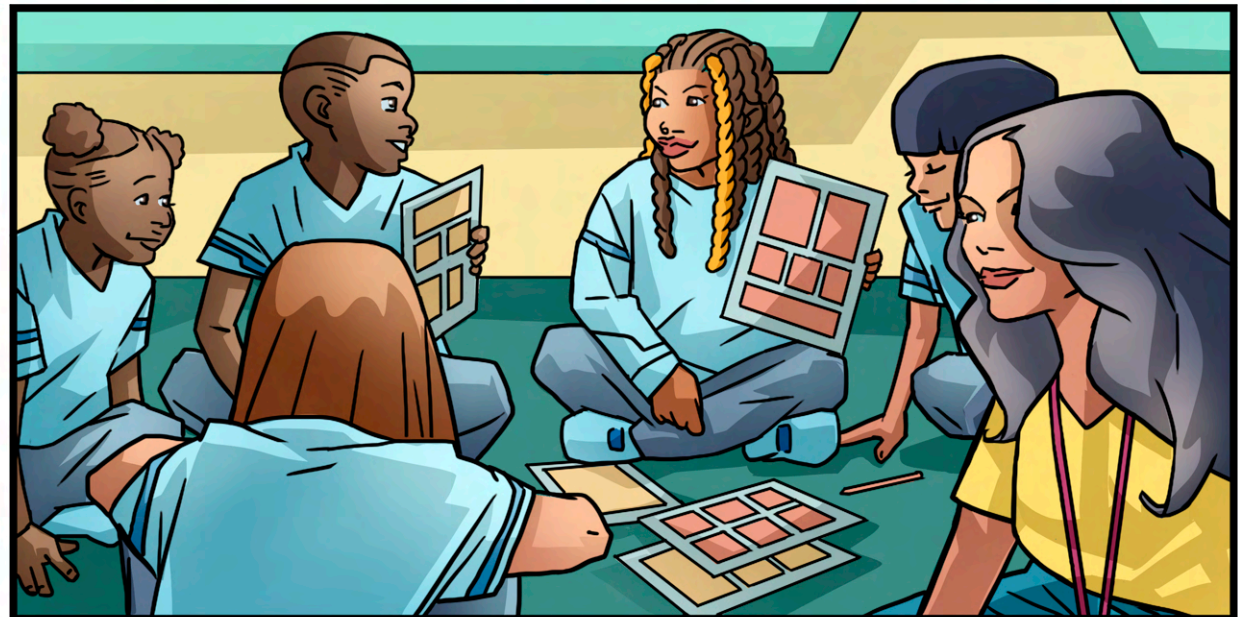
YEAH I DO, ACTUALLY.



I'VE MADE A TO-DO LIST OF EVERYTHING I WANTED TO DO, LET'S DO THEM TOGETHER.

OH WOW,
I DID THE SAME THING.

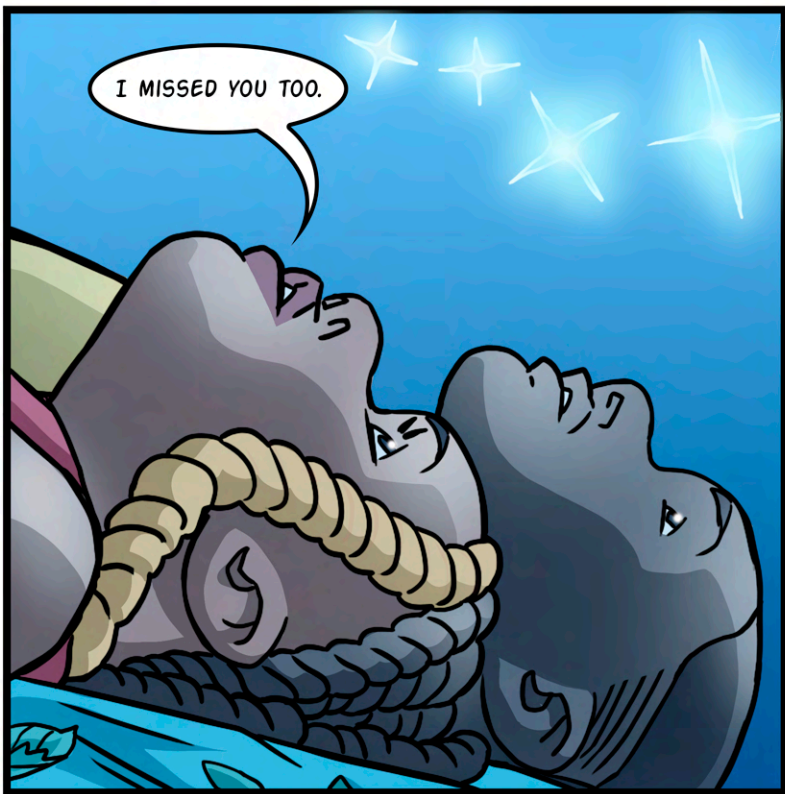
NICE!
THAT'S AWESOME SAIDA.
I GUESS GREAT MINDS REALLY DO THINK ALIKE.





WHEN I WAS ALONE AT NIGHT,
KNOWING THAT YOU'RE UNDER THE
SAME STARS GAVE ME
COMFORT.

ME TOO,
I REALLY MISSED YOU.



I MISSED YOU TOO.



PATIENCE!



EARTH TO PATIENCE.

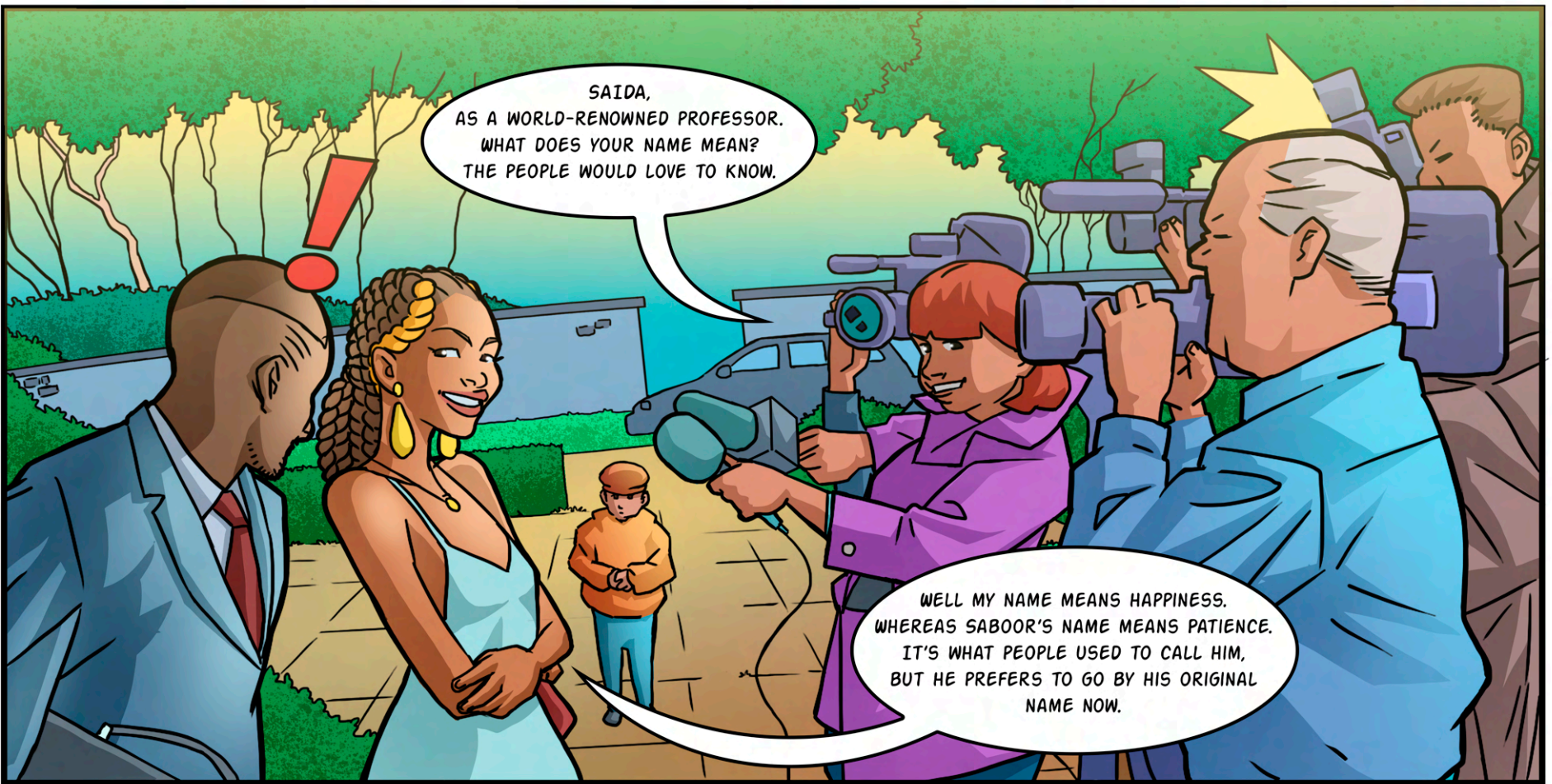
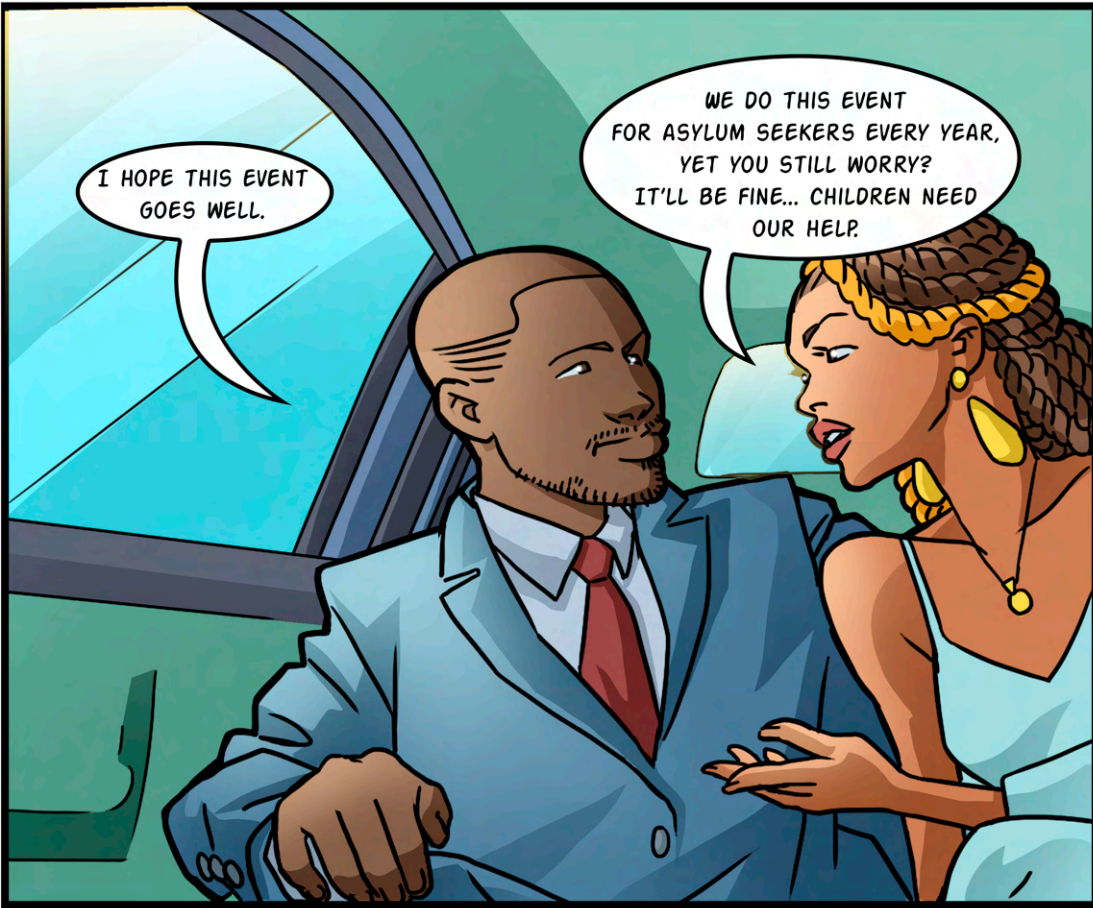


WERE YOU DAYDREAMING AGAIN?
WE ARE GOING TO BE LATE
SILLY!

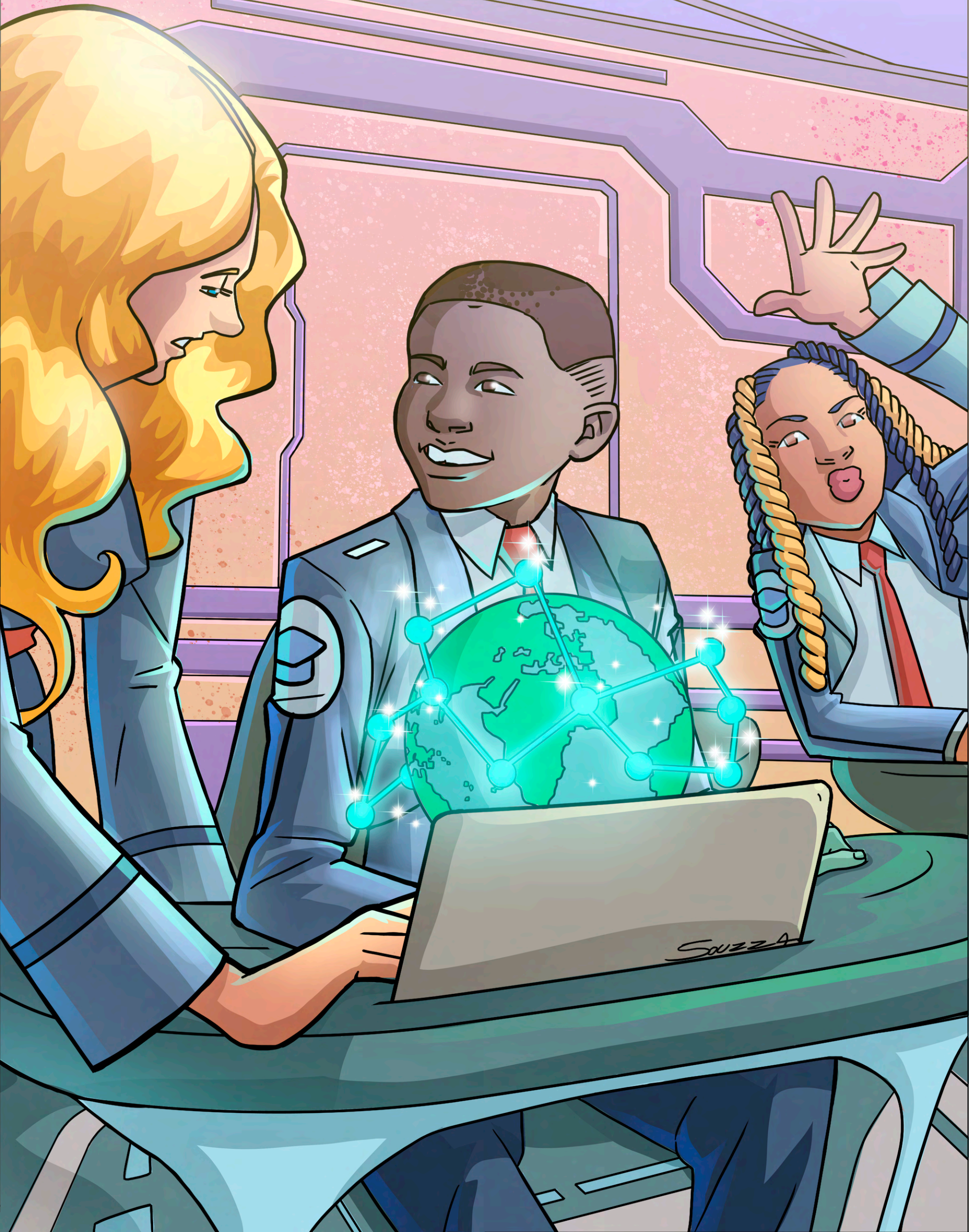
OH SORRY,
I GOT LOST IN
THOUGHT.



GREETINGS
DOCTOR SABOOR AND
PROFESSOR SAIDA.



The Hopeful Journey of Patience



TASK 1

BELOW IS THE LETTER FROM AL, HAVE A GO AT WRITING YOUR OWN LETTER, TALKING ABOUT THINGS YOU WANT TO DO IN THE FUTURE

Letter from us to you



"Dear reader

I am writing this as 18 year old living Al, we are finally here and happy whilst following our heart and being supported by our family and the good people influencing us.

Telling myself I should always be listening

Follow your heart no matter what

Stay away from bad influences

Do the right thing even when you don't have support

Try to prepare and plan for everything

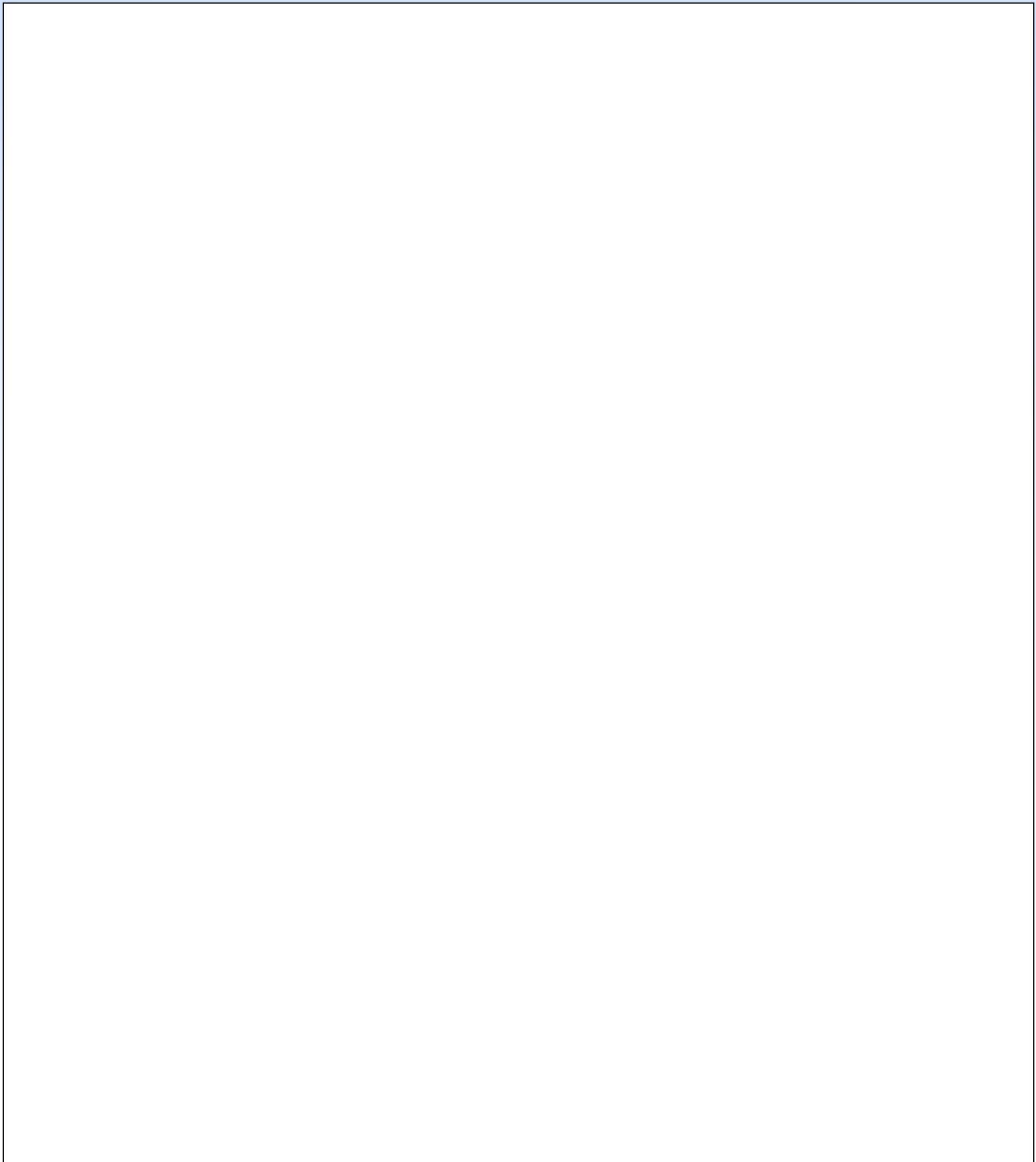
Keep your family in your heart always

Follow the rules

Keep what your parents and families say and do in your heart forever "

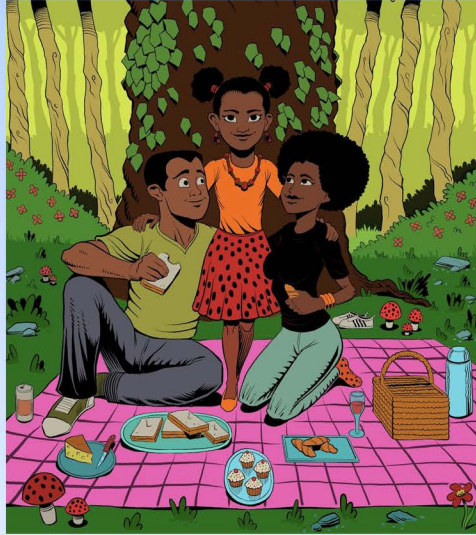
TASK 2

DRAW SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU FEEL HAPPY



TASK 3

WRITE ABOUT OR DRAW YOUR FAVOURITE FOOD FROM HOME



A large, empty rectangular box intended for the student to write about or draw their favourite food from home.

TASK 4
LOOKING UP AT THE STARS MADE PATIENCE
AND SAIDA FEEL SAFE AND HOPEFUL. CAN YOU
THINK OF SOMETHING THAT MAKES YOU FEEL
THE SAME? WRITE ABOUT IT BELOW!



A thank you message

A big thank you to Alnour, Alnoor, Mo and Kareem for co-designing this book and sharing their stories, hopes and passion with us. Thank you to Barnardo's Care Journeys and Independent Child Trafficking Guardianship Service (ICTG).

Lastly, a special thank you to Rachel, Tiffany, Natalie, Omar, Charlene and Gemma for their support in giving the young people the opportunity to help other children and young people.



HELPLINES

Please see below

We hope that you are reading this comic with a support worker, but if you are in need of help or support you can contact the below helplines:

www.refugeecouncil.org.uk/get-support/services/childrens-advice/

If you are an unaccompanied child please call our freephone advice number on 0808 175 3499, message us via WhatsApp on 07 8888 666 15 or email us at children@refugeecouncil.org.uk

Migrant Help's national phone line number is 0808 8010 503
The Refugee Council has an 'Infoline' which aims to connect refugees and people seeking asylum with services which can help them (England only): 0808 196 7272

Barnardo's has a BOLOH helpline for asylum seekers with advice, signposting, and emotional support. Calls are confidential and we will not share personal information with the Home Office.

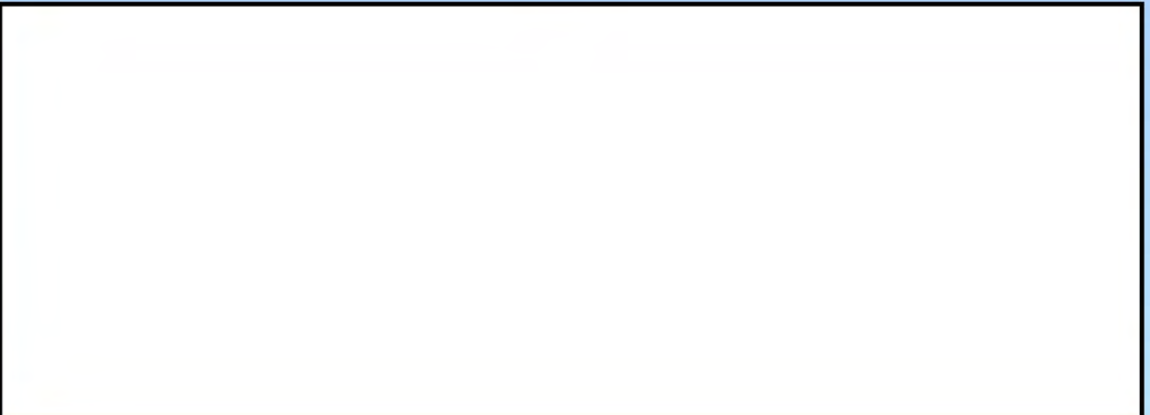
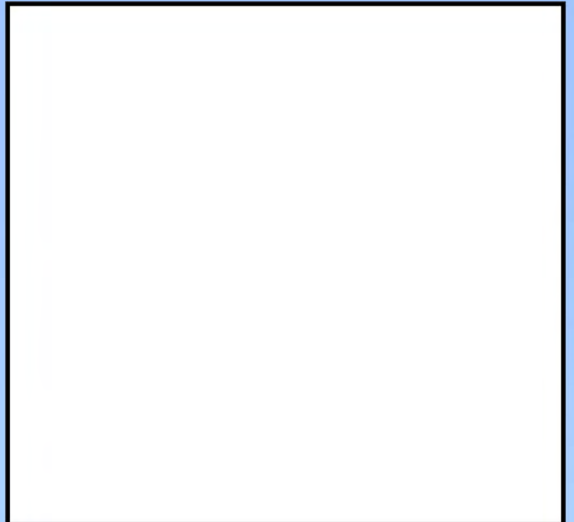
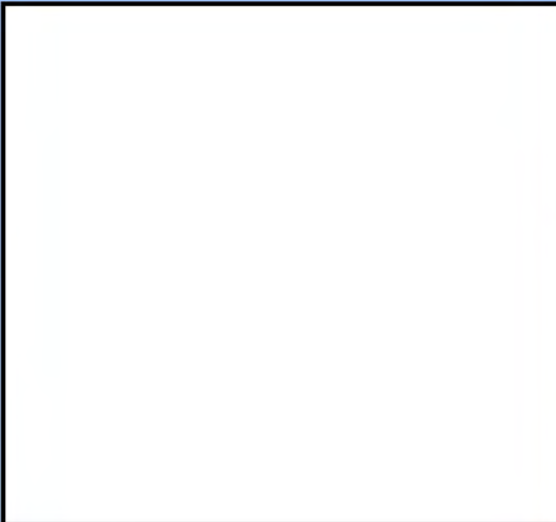
The Helpline is open Monday – Friday (10am-8pm) and Saturday (10-3pm) via phone 0800 151 2605, webchat and email Boloh.helpline@barnardos.org.uk

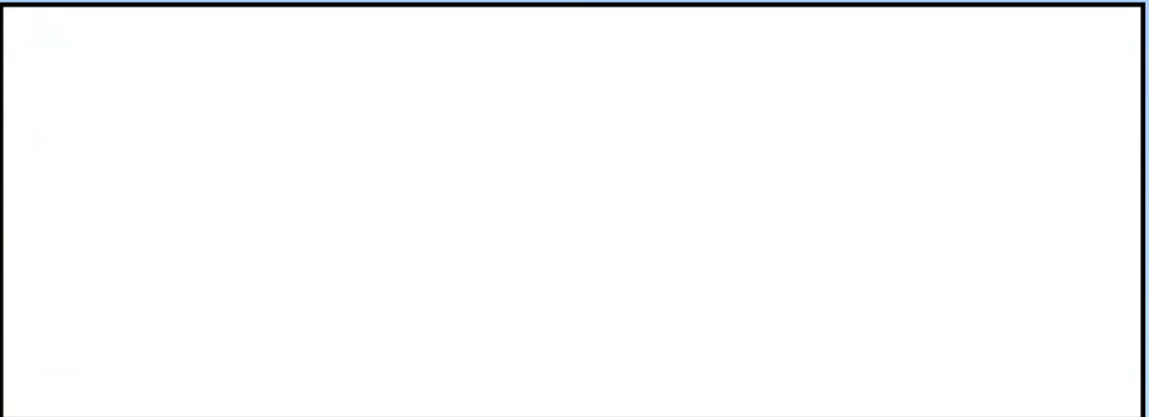


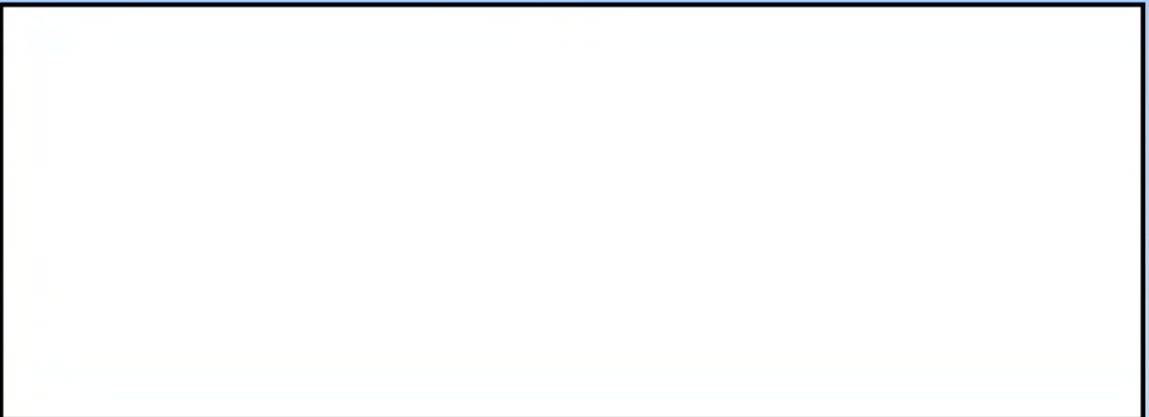
**care
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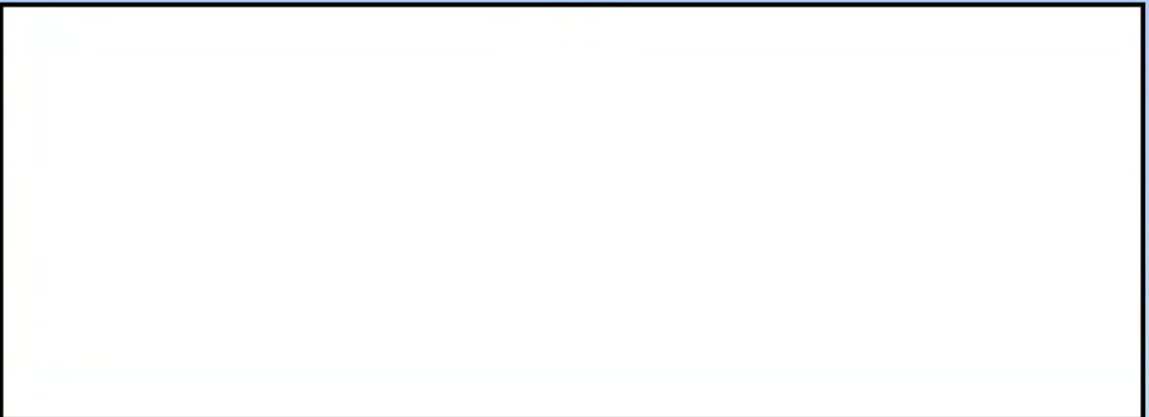
HAVE A GO AT CREATING YOUR OWN COMIC

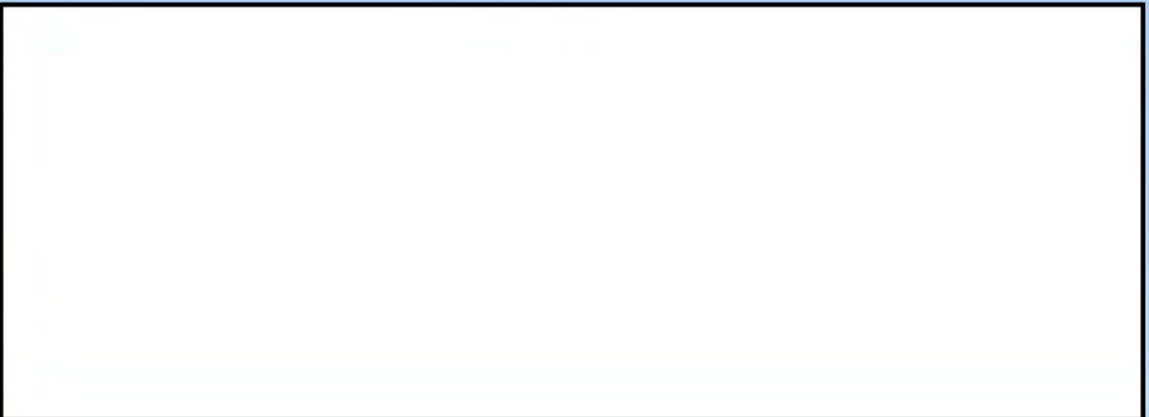
YOU CAN DRAW ANYTHING YOU WANT!

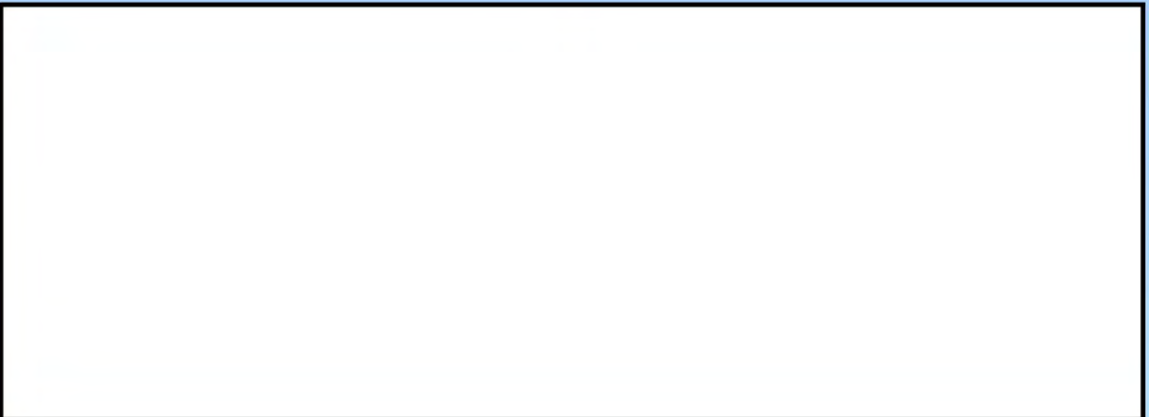


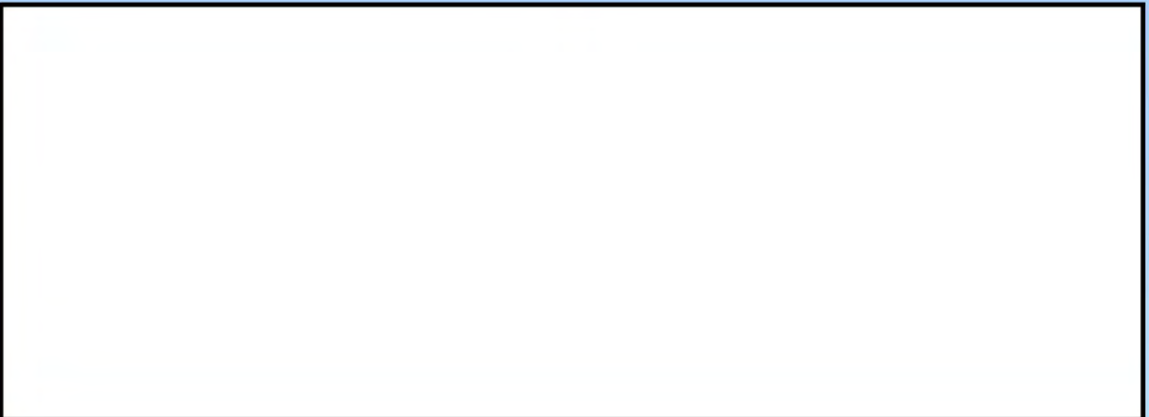


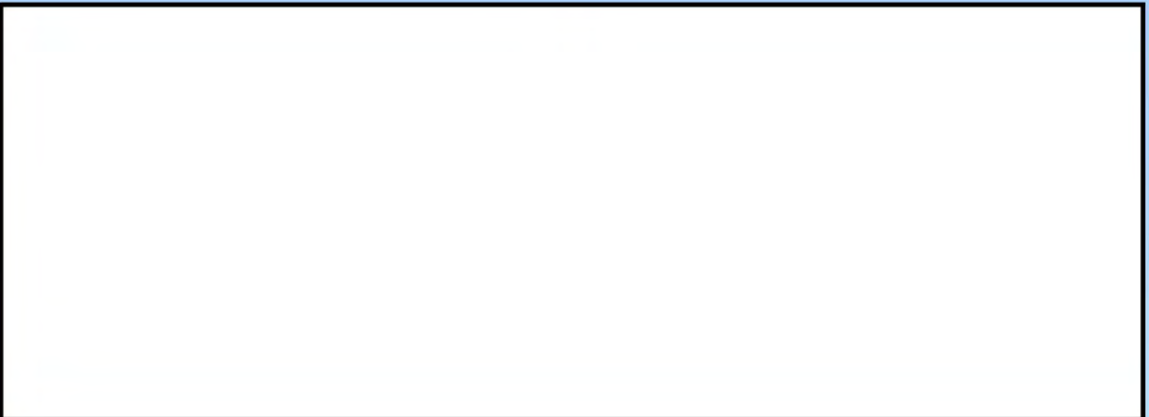


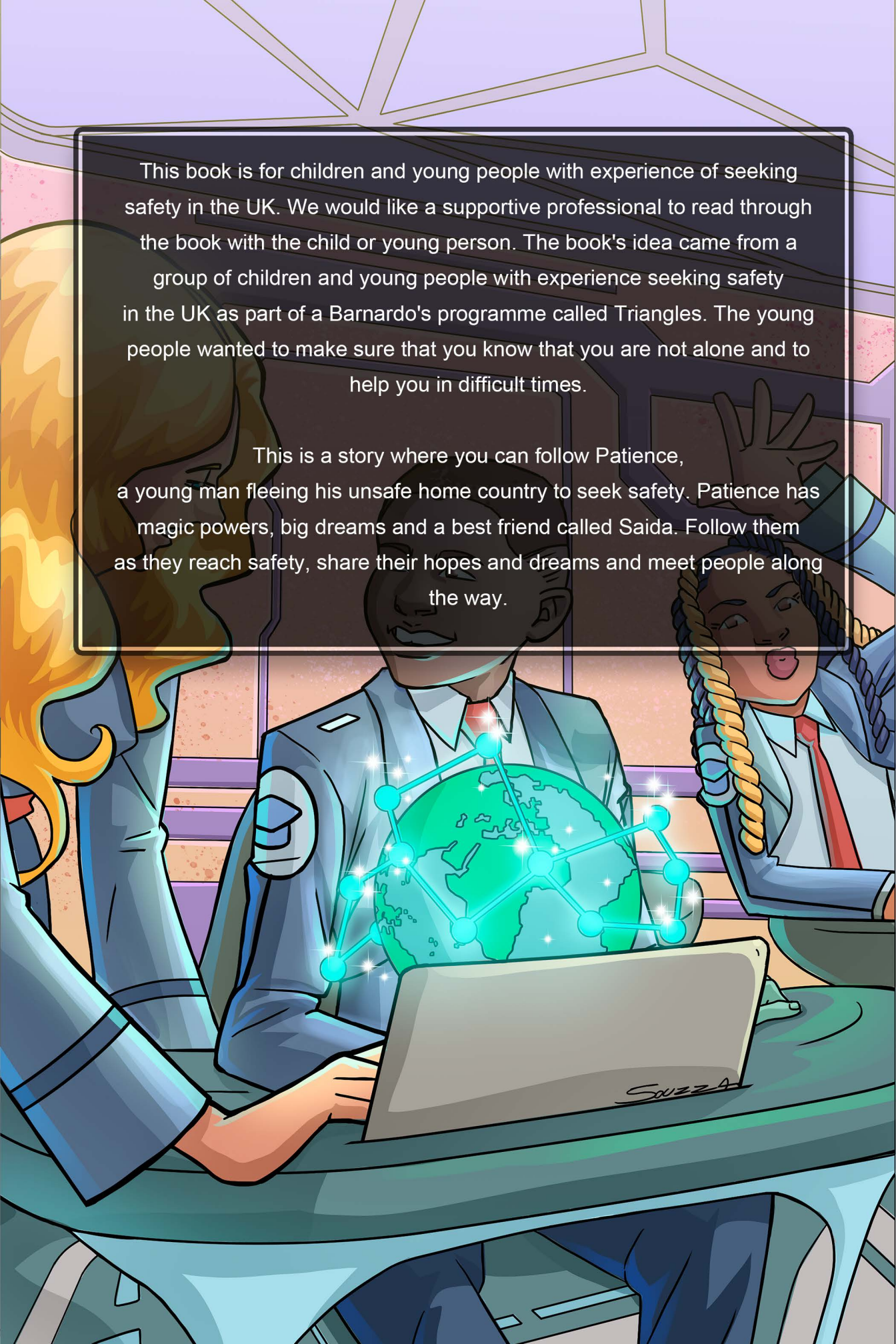












This book is for children and young people with experience of seeking safety in the UK. We would like a supportive professional to read through the book with the child or young person. The book's idea came from a group of children and young people with experience seeking safety in the UK as part of a Barnardo's programme called Triangles. The young people wanted to make sure that you know that you are not alone and to help you in difficult times.

This is a story where you can follow Patience, a young man fleeing his unsafe home country to seek safety. Patience has magic powers, big dreams and a best friend called Saida. Follow them as they reach safety, share their hopes and dreams and meet people along the way.