

A Little Compassion



written and illustrated by Ash Padilla

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PUTTING OURSELF in THEIR SHOES



Written by Saad Ghosn and
Illustrated by LD Nehls

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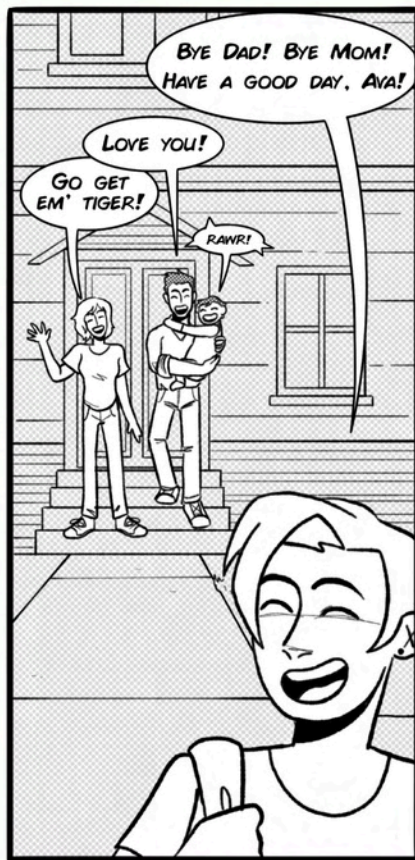


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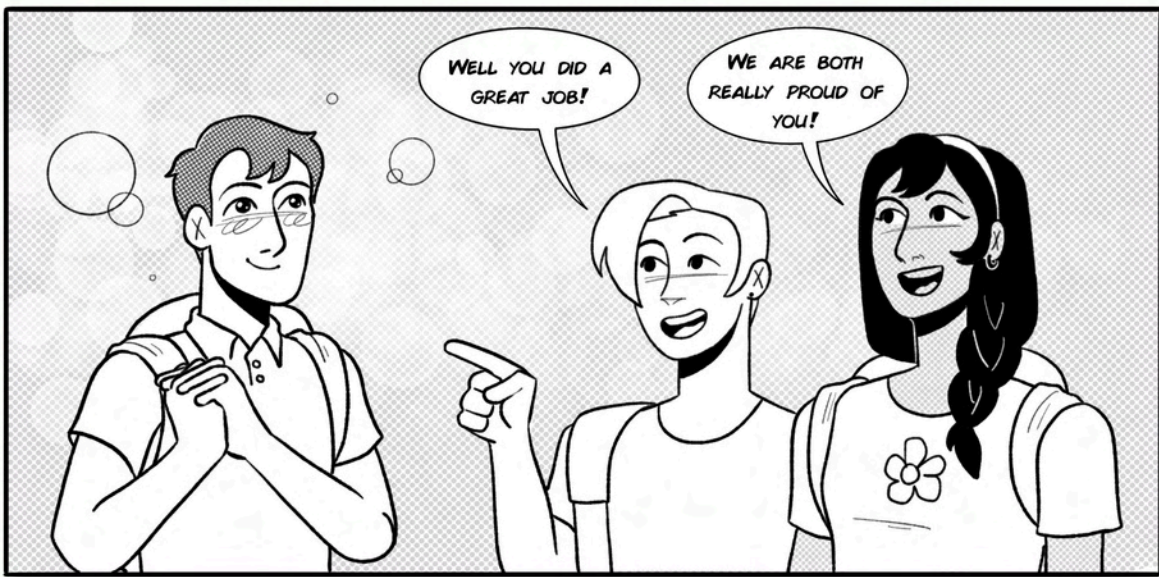
IT WAS REALLY EXCITING
BUT I WAS A LITTLE
NERVOUS!

I GOT TO LEAD THE
SERVICE AND READ FROM
THE TORAH.



AND AFTERWARDS THERE
WAS THE PARTY! IT WAS A
REALLY GOOD TIME.







¡HOLA, MARIA!

¡HOLA, ABUELA!

IT WAS NICE TO SEE HER AGAIN.
IT HAD BEEN A COUPLE OF YEARS.

PUERTO RICO

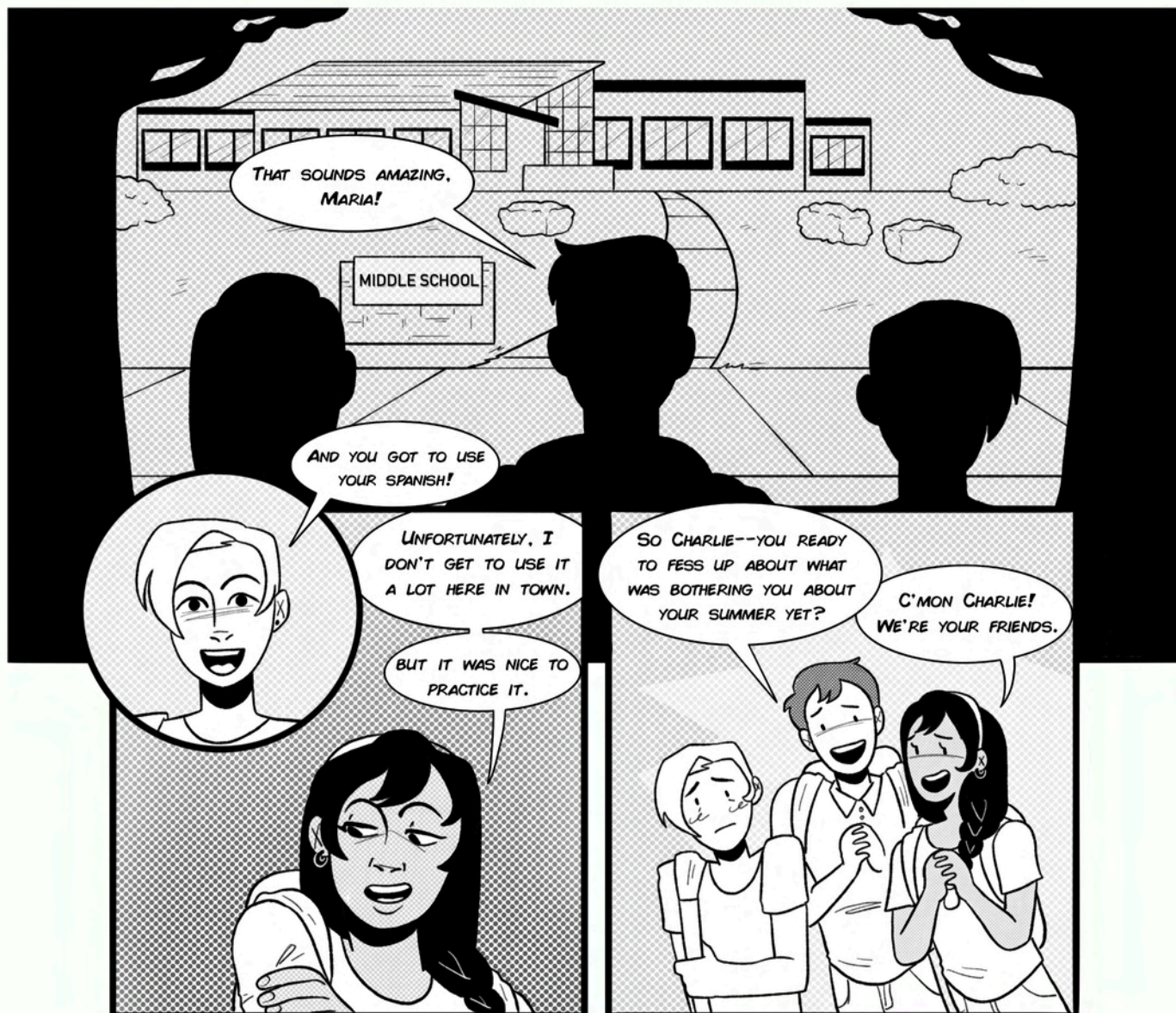
WE DECIDED TO HELP HER AND HER
NEIGHBORS CLEAN UP AND REBUILD.






IT WAS REALLY HARD TO SAY
GOODBYE.

BUT IT WAS A REALLY FUN TIME
AND FELT REALLY GOOD TO HELP
PEOPLE.





I STARTED QUESTIONING IF I FELT
LIKE A BOY OR A GIRL...

I CAME OUT TO MY FAMILY.

I WASN'T SURE IF THEY WERE
GOING TO BE SUPPORTIVE...

I'M SO LUCKY THEY WERE.

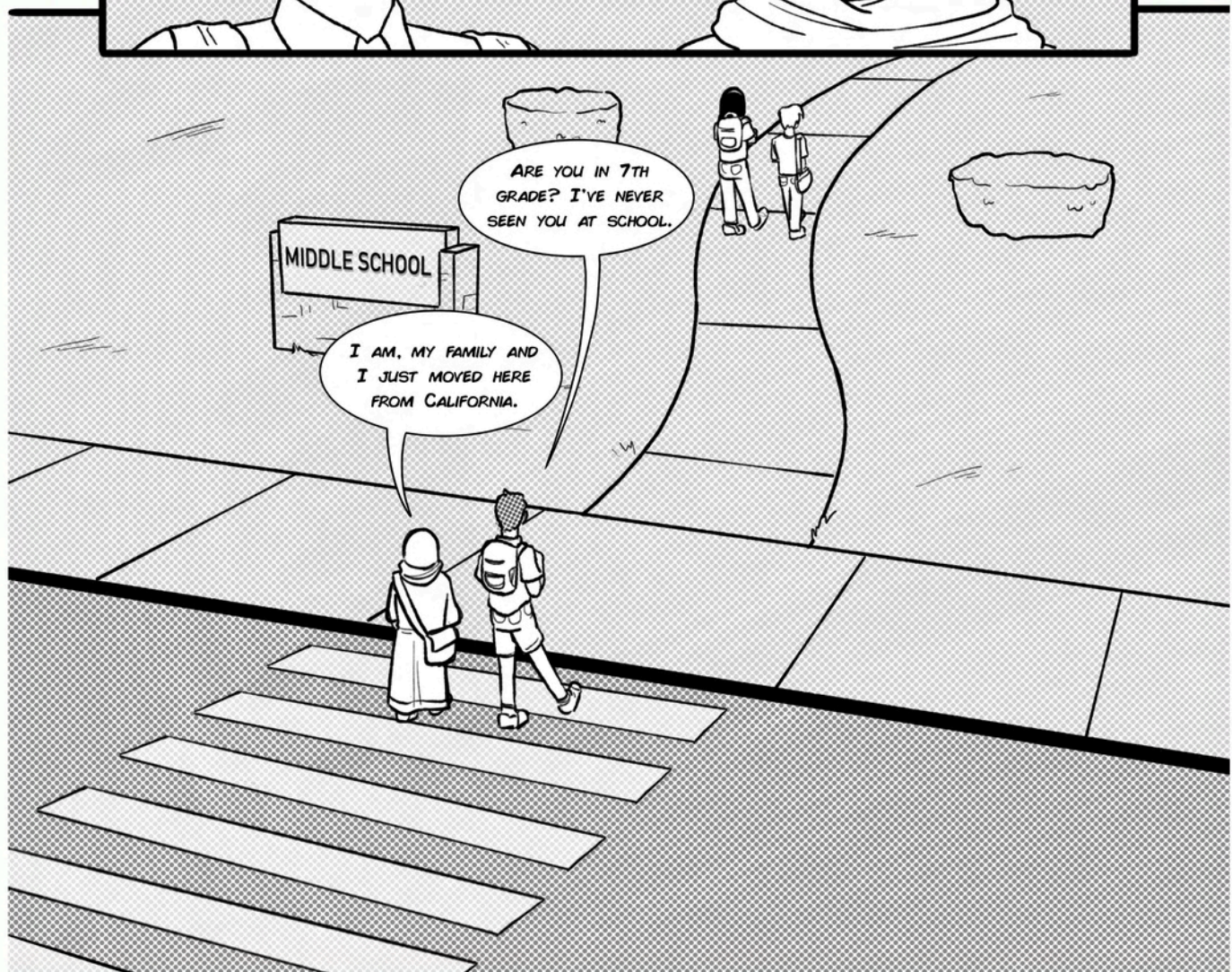
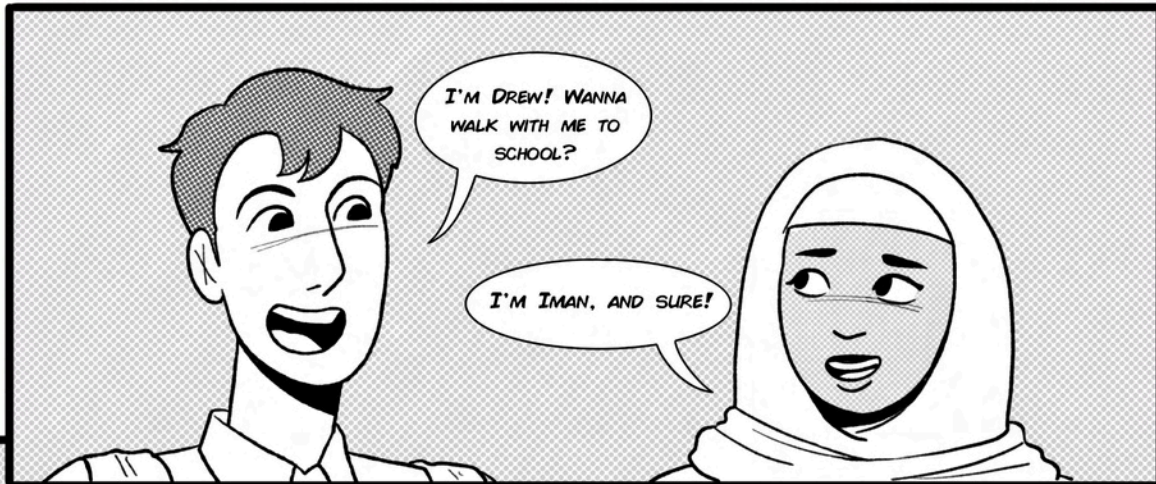
AND I WAS JUST NERVOUS
TO TELL YOU GUYS
THAT I USE THEY/THEM
PRONOUNS NOW.

WE SUPPORT YOU
CHARLIE!

OF COURSE WE DO!
YOU'RE OUR BEST
FRIEND.





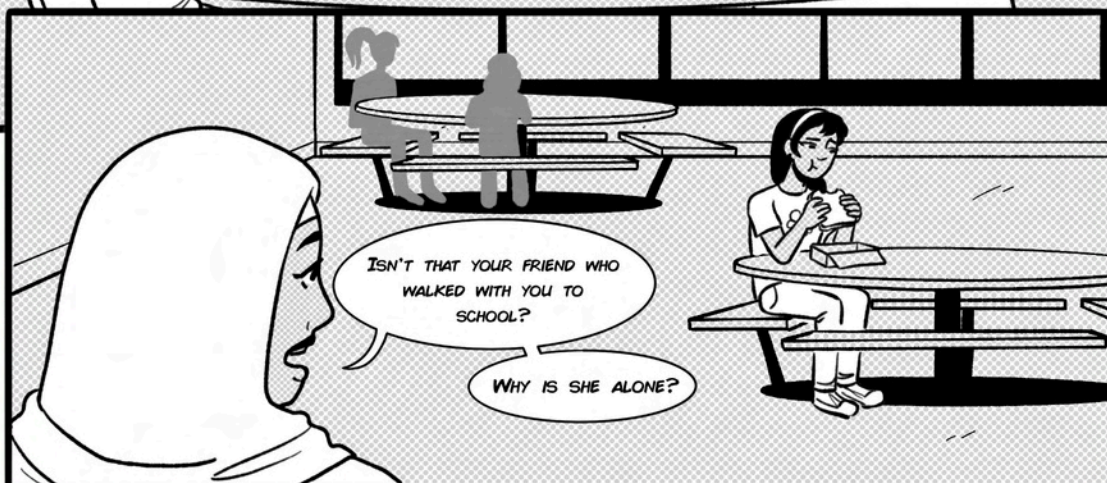






THANK YOU FOR LETTING ME
JOIN YOU GUYS.

NO PROBLEM!



ISN'T THAT YOUR FRIEND WHO
WALKED WITH YOU TO
SCHOOL?

WHY IS SHE ALONE?



SHE UM--WELL...

MARIA DIDN'T TRUST YOU.
SHE WAS WORRIED YOU
WOULD BE MEAN.



I'M GOING TO GO TALK WITH HER.
MAYBE SHE HAS JUST NEVER MET
ANYONE LIKE ME.

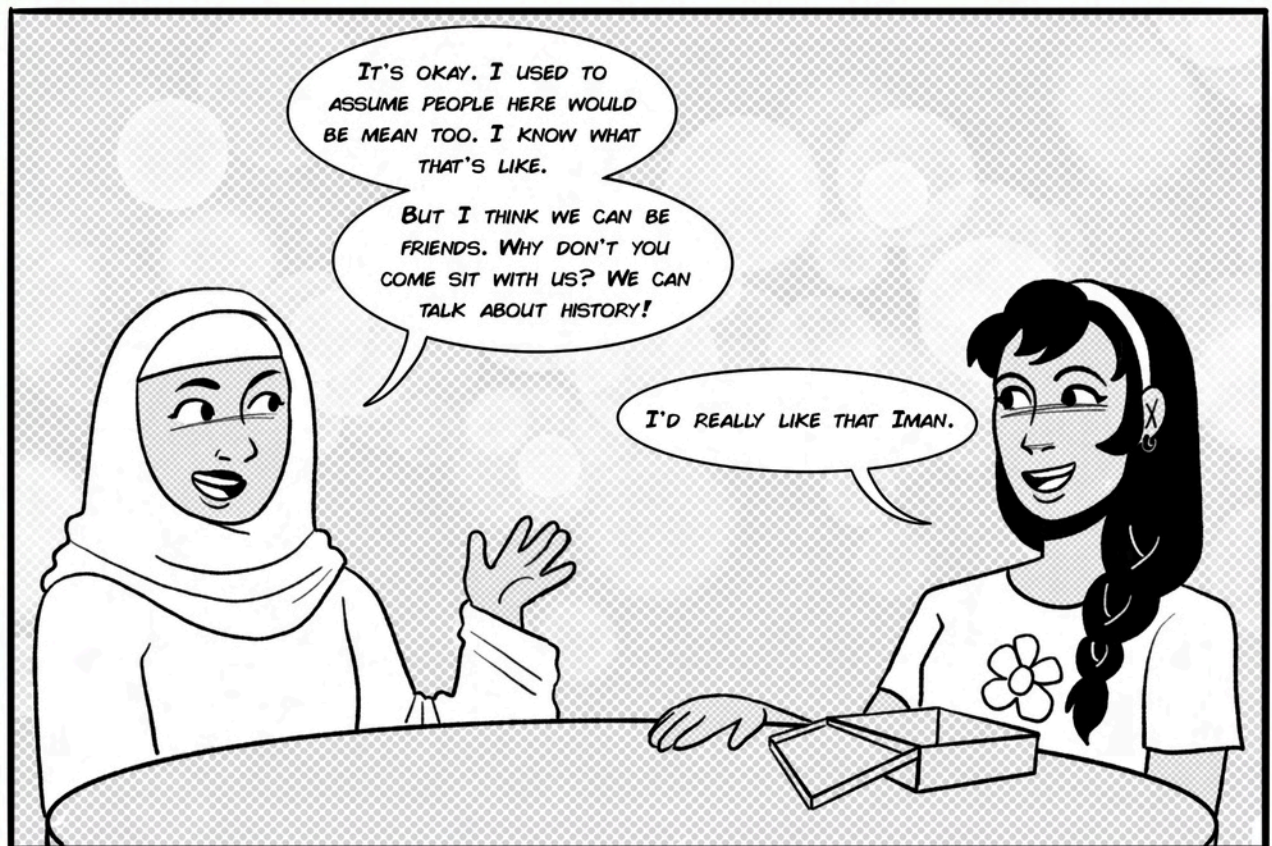
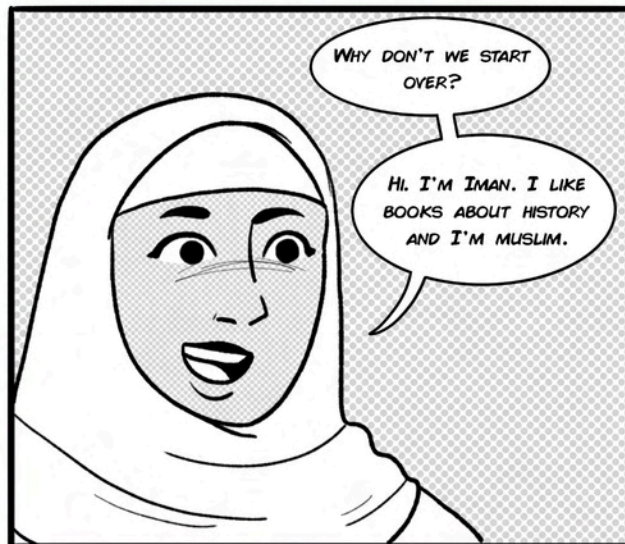
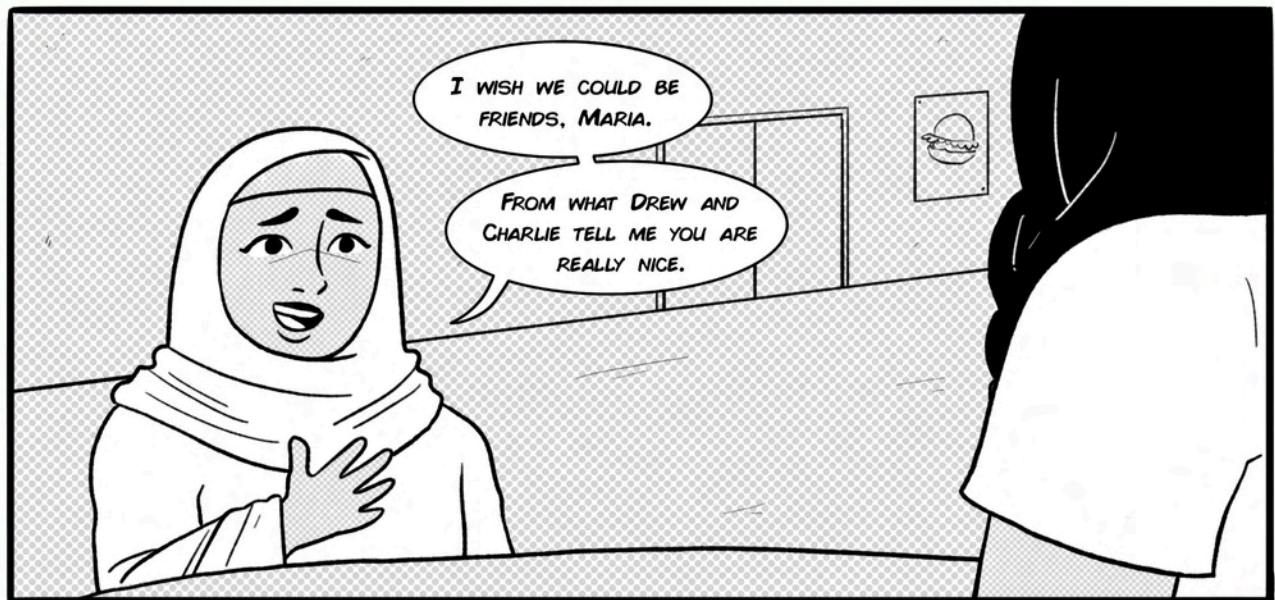
I'M SURE I WOULD BE NERVOUS
ABOUT STRANGERS TOO.



HI...YOU'RE MARIA RIGHT?

I'M IMAN.

YEAH.



A Little Compassion



The End



Hi! I'm Ash, a comic book creator from Miami University who enjoys storytelling and watching movies. Often I can be found dreaming of far off lands or publishing my own comics! I am so happy I was able to participate in this zine and hope my slice of life story brought a little more joy into the world!

This story written and illustrated by Ash Padilla



This **Cartoon for Peace and Justice** book on the theme of **Compassion** is part of a project of **SOS (Save Our Souls) ART**.

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Today in our class on morals
we learned about **empathy**
and **Compassion**. These
are virtues and qualities that
connect us together as Humanity.

They are important for our survival
and for our building of a better world



So, before we leave, tell me: who can we show empathy and compassion to?

OUR PLANET!
Plants and trees.

ANIMALS!
Even insects...

OTHER HUMANS!

OURSELF!

That's great! You are right, we can show empathy and compassion to anything in our life.

3

These are virtues and qualities which, once we acquire, become part of who we are, and dictate our feelings and reactions. So do not forget them, and use them always in your life. Good bye, and see you tomorrow!



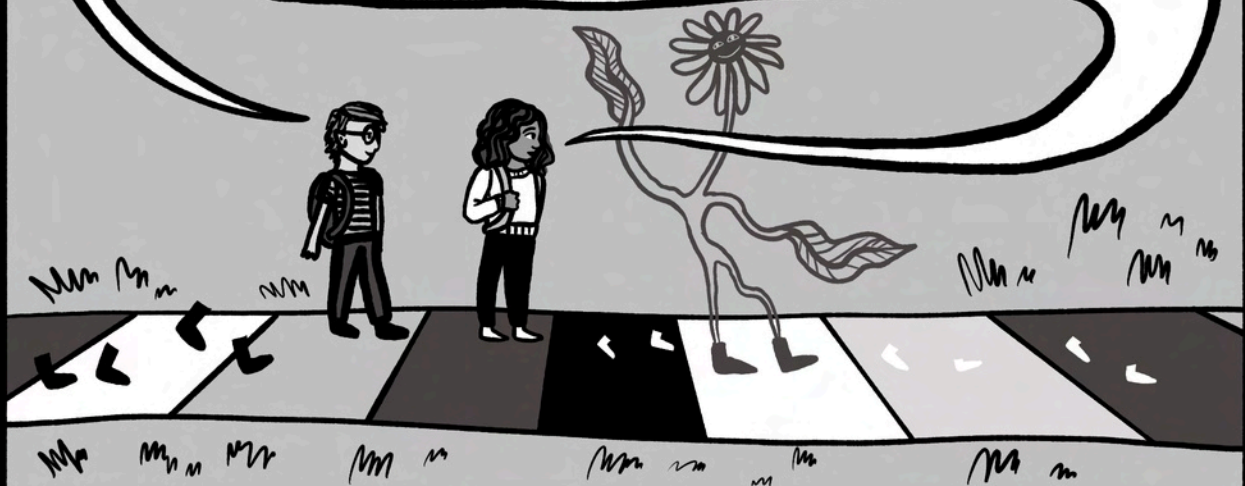
That was a good class but I'm still a little confused. Empathy and compassion sound so similar, so what's the difference?

From what I understood from Mr. Shaw's class, **Empathy** is feeling with others, sharing their feelings and emotions, suffering with them when they suffer, putting ourself in their place.

Mr. Shaw also said "put yourself in their shoes." What did he mean?

You must have been daydreaming? Mr. Shaw explained that it means trying to imagine how you would feel or act if you were in the same situation.

But he also said that we can show empathy toward a plant. So how can I put myself in the shoes of a plant!?



For example, if you see a plant that's wilted because it needs water, and you feel for it, imagining yourself as a thirsty plant, and suffer with it; then you are showing **EMPATHY**.

Hey, come on Billy. If I saw a wilted plant, I would just go and water it!

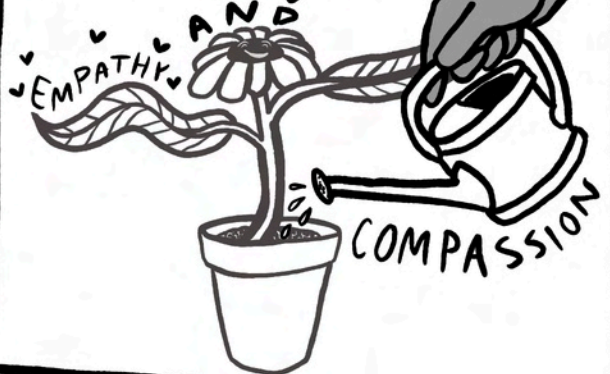


Then you would be showing both

♥ **EMPATHY** ♥

AND

COMPASSION



Acknowledging that the plant is suffering, and needs water, and sharing its distress is

EMPATHY

Acting to alleviate its distress by watering it is

COMPASSION



It is possible to show only **EMPATHY** and not **COMPASSION**, like if you saw the wilted plant and felt for it, but didn't water it or try to help it.



NOW I get it!



Thanks Billy! You explain things so well! You're so much smarter than me!



No way, Jo! You are always so much better than me at math, I can never understand it, ugh! I'm so bad at math.



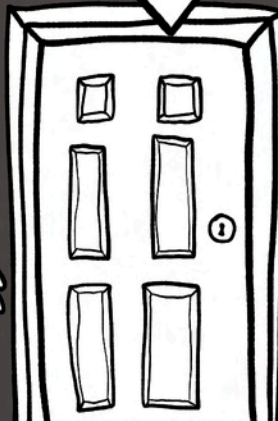
Don't belittle yourself Billy! Remember, Mr. Shaw said we should also show **Compassion** towards ourselves.



You're right... I'll work on it. Goodnight Jo!



Billy's Home



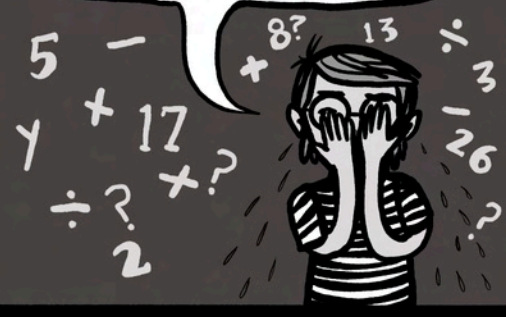
Mr. Shaw said that we should show **COMPASSION** towards ourselves. Was he thinking of me when he said that?



LAST WEEK.....

I'm just not smart enough. I always fail in math. All the other students in the class are better than me.

Billy, you may not be doing as well in math as the others right now - **BUT!** -



— on the other hand, you have many other talents! For example, you're such a good artist! And, you are a good friend and you are always kind to the other students—you just need to be kind to yourself!



Mr. Shaw said I needed to be kind to myself, to accept both my weaknesses and strengths. I need to show compassion to myself, realize that math is hard for me, but not let this get me down. I am good at other things like art and writing, and I should use them to feel good about myself. I have to change my attitude too, and find ways to get better at math...





Jo, you're so good at math, and I know I am not. But I also know I have the tendency to put myself down and that is holding me back. Can you help me with math? You're a great teacher!



Finally, you're more accepting and less depreciative of yourself! Wow- what's causing this sudden change? Of course I'll be happy to help you study math, just like you helped me understand Mr. Shaw's lesson!

Yes, I need to thank Mr. Shaw for explaining compassion, and for stressing that this also applies to oneself. It has opened my eyes to my own situation!

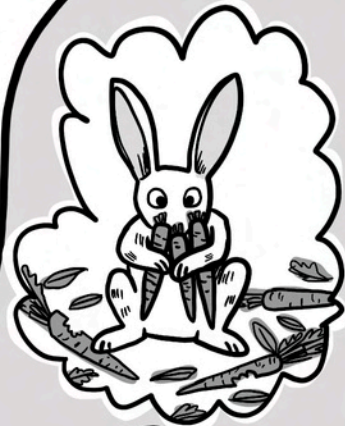


That reminds me, I want to tell you what happened yesterday at home ...

Look at these beautiful plants I JUST planted! I am so upset. They have been half eaten. And look at this one! Almost entirely gone.

I know who the culprit is— I am sure it is this rabbit I see now and then. If only I could catch him and get rid of him so he could never eat my plants again!

I spend so much time caring for this garden so to see it destroyed by this heartless rabbit makes me so angry I could cry!



Mom, what if we put out food scraps for him so he won't be hungry? Maybe he'll stop eating your plants.

Hmmm... you think that could really work?

Whenever I see the rabbit and he gets scared he runs and hides back by the shed. It must be his home. So what if we put a basket with lettuce or carrots near where he goes? Then he will be well fed and stop eating your plants.



And what if he ignores the food we put out and goes back to eating my plants?

Well, let's not be defeated from the start! Let's try it this evening and we'll see what happens tomorrow.





then, in the morning

Mom, it worked! It worked!
The rabbit ate the food
in the basket and left
the garden alone.



I'm so glad it worked! You were right Jo, the
rabbit has to eat and your solution provides
him food while also protecting my plants.
Jo, I love you. You
taught me a lesson in
Empathy and Compassion.
I was only feeling angry
but you felt for the
rabbit and you acted on
helping him!

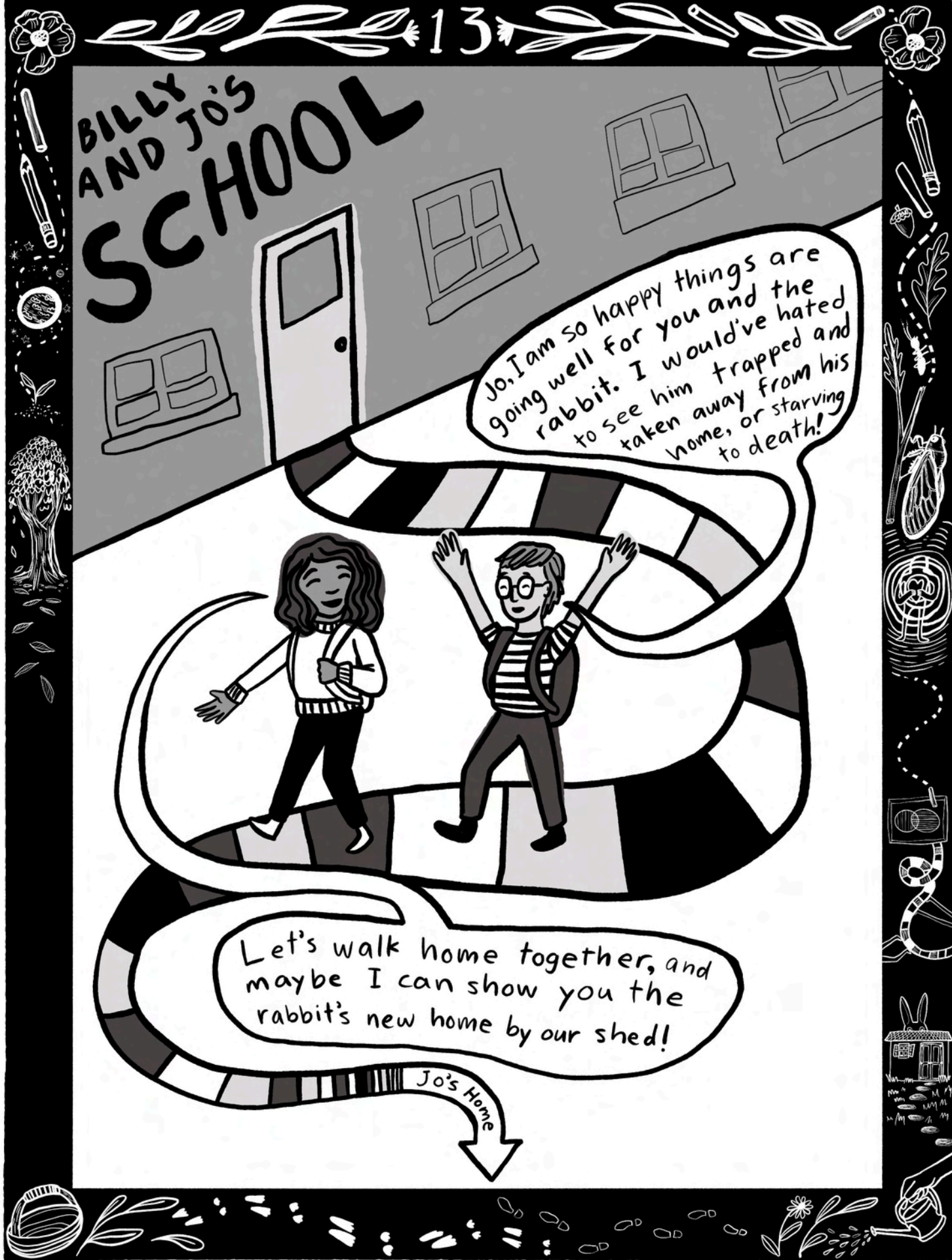


BILLY AND JO'S SCHOOL

Jo, I am so happy things are going well for you and the rabbit. I would've hated to see him trapped and taken away from his home, or starving to death!

Let's walk home together, and maybe I can show you the rabbit's new home by our shed!

Jo's Home



SCHOOL

Billy, have you seen
this woman here before?
Her sign makes me
think maybe she has no
place to go, and maybe
she doesn't have anything
to eat?

I've seen her sitting
there before and I
really feel for her.
Let's try to help
her. I'll ask my dad
tonight what he
thinks we should do.

Jo's Home

LOOKING FOR
WORK-ANYTHING
WILL HELP

That evening at dinnertime

I really feel for this person, and I want so badly to help her. Dad, can you spare some money to give her, or can you think of another way we can help her?

Thank you for telling me about her. Tomorrow I'll walk you to school and we'll bring some money to give her. We'll also ask if she would like to help out at my work, we have some jobs she could help me with. That way she could get a steady income, and possibly a stable place to stay.

The

next

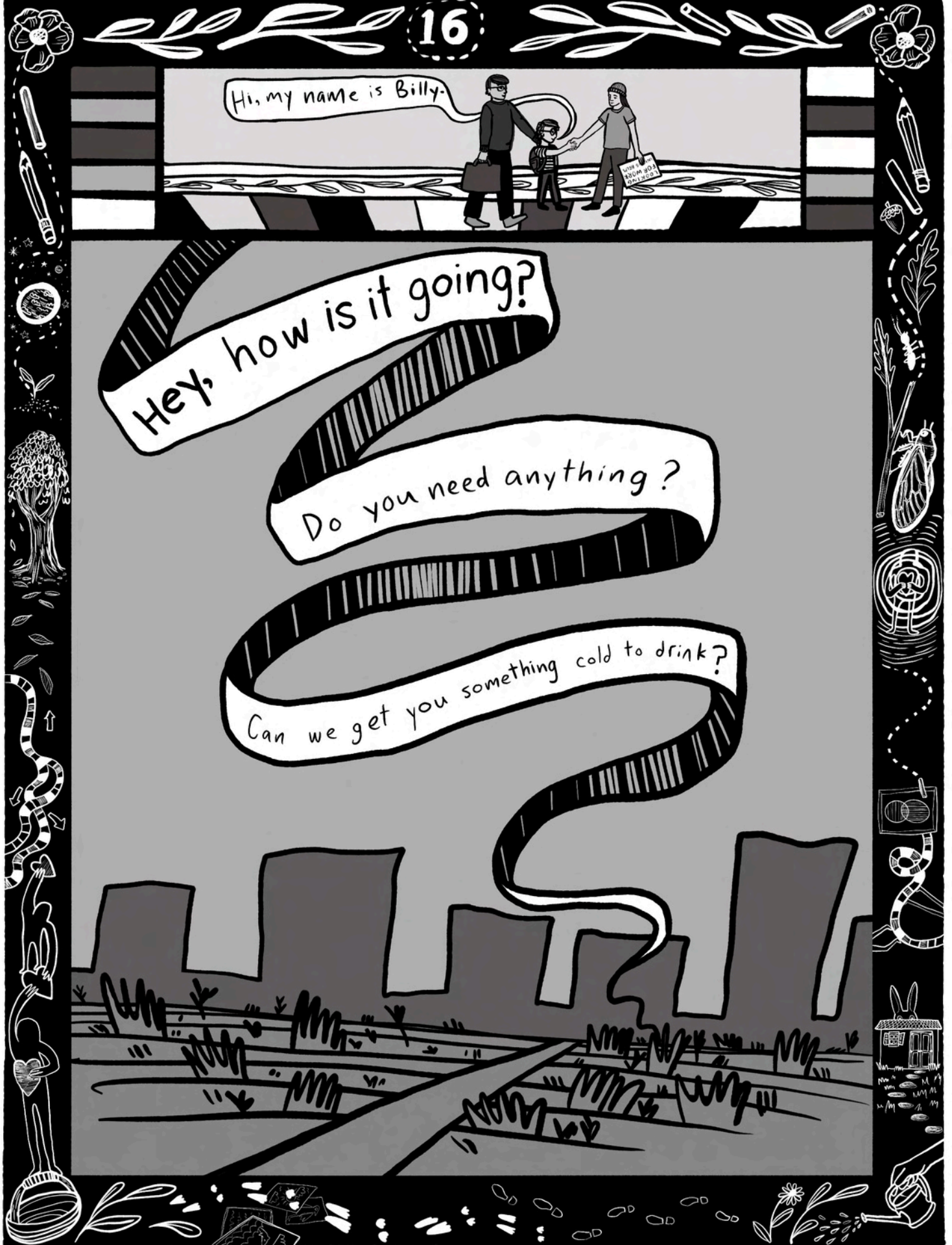
morning

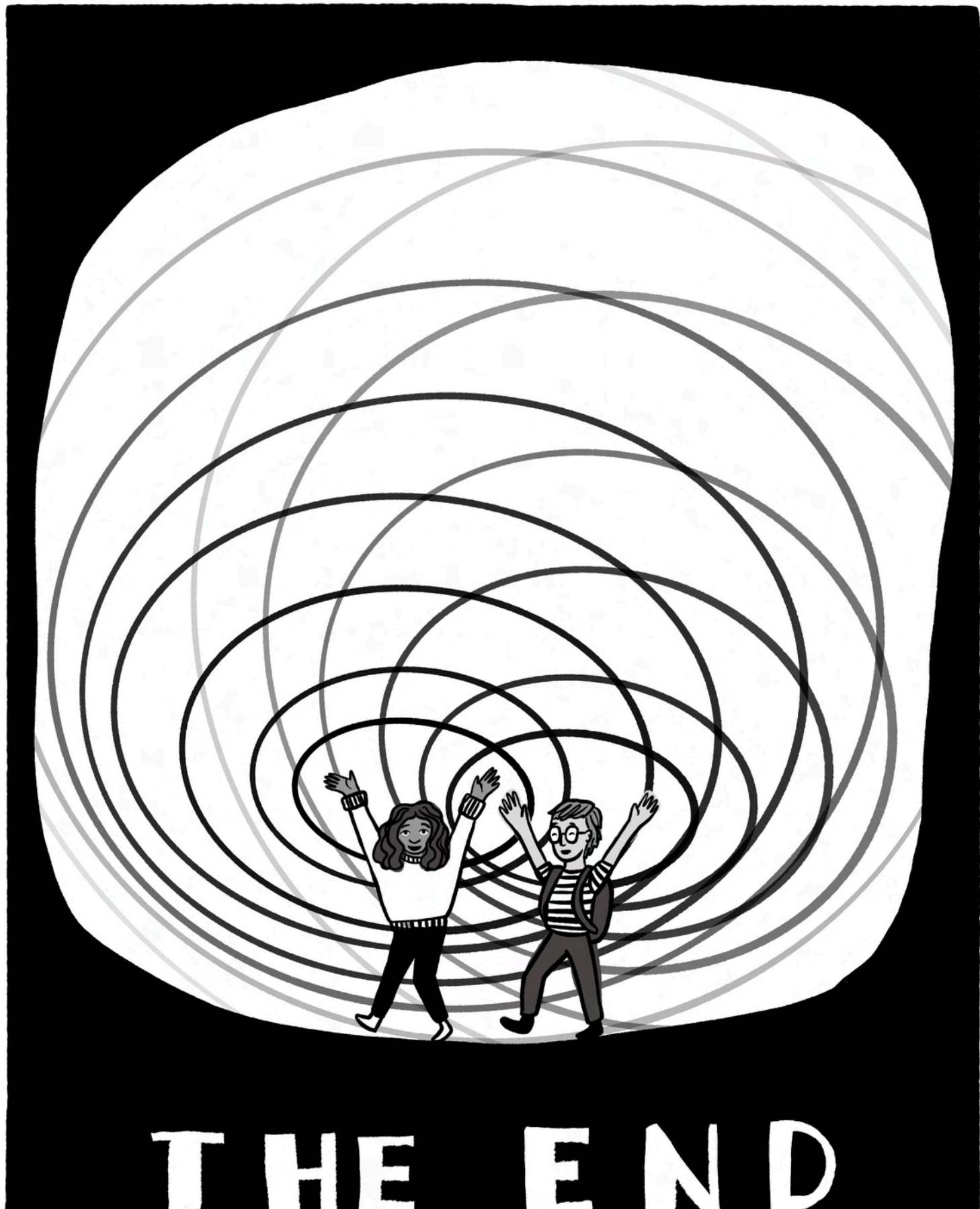
Hi, my name is Billy.

Hey, how is it going?

Do you need anything?

Can we get you something cold to drink?





THE END



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