

HUDI AND CHUNKY FACE THEIR  
GREATEST TRIAL . . . SUMMER CAMP.



**H**udi finally embraced his love of art and comedy, but his class clown antics keep getting him in trouble. After Hudi's artwork lands him in detention *again*, his parents decide to sentence him to four weeks at summer camp.

Hudi is hesitant about Camp Green—a Jewish sleepaway camp in the blazing Texas desert. At least he still has Chunky. Then Hudi meets Pepe, a fellow camper who's also Latinx, Jewish, and a comedian like Hudi, and who—get this—*can also see Chunky!* What?!

This new friendship with Pepe leads Hudi and Chunky into all kinds of high jinks, including a prank war with a few rival campers: the rich, preppy gang of Joshes. Hudi soon realizes that Pepe is driven by more than just making people laugh, and he's not telling Hudi the truth. As the pranks escalate further than Hudi wants, he's at risk of getting labeled a troublemaker again. Can Chunky help Hudi save this new friendship? Or will it flame out?



KATHERINE TEGEN BOOKS  
Imprints of HarperCollins Publishers



Ages 8-12

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CHUNKY

GOES TO CAMP

MERCADO



YEHUDI MERCADO

CHUNKY

GOES TO CAMP



YEHUDI MERCADO

# CHUNKY

GOES TO CAMP



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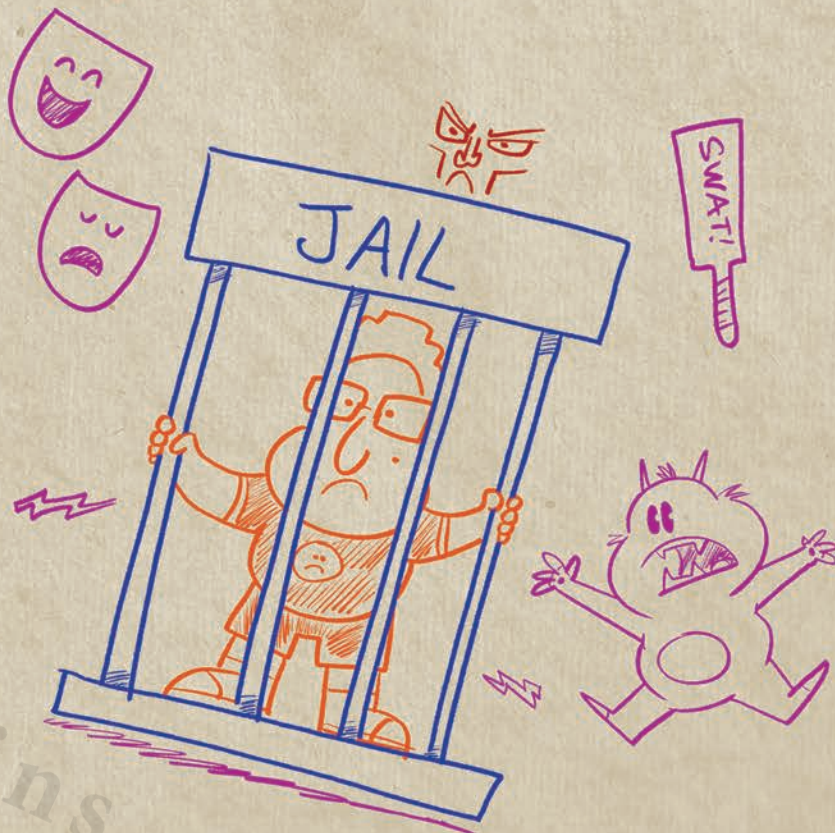




# CHAPTER ONE

## DETECTION

Dedicated to Pepe and Lonnie



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Chunky Goes to Camp

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First Edition





**BEHIND EVERY PUNISHMENT, THERE IS A CRIME.**

**BEHIND EVERY CRIME, THERE IS A CRIMINAL.**



**BEHIND EVERY CRIMINAL, THERE IS A STORY.**

**BUT SOMETIMES THAT STORY REVEALS THAT NOT EVERY PUNISHMENT STARTS WITH A CRIME.**





LET'S START FROM THE BEGINNING . . . STATE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD.



MY NAME IS HUDI, AND I'D LIKE A WEIRD AL RECORD.



NO. YOU ARE ON TRIAL HERE, HUDI. YOU NEED TO TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY.



I ALWAYS TAKE THINGS SERIOUSLY. BUT I LEAVE THEM SILLY.



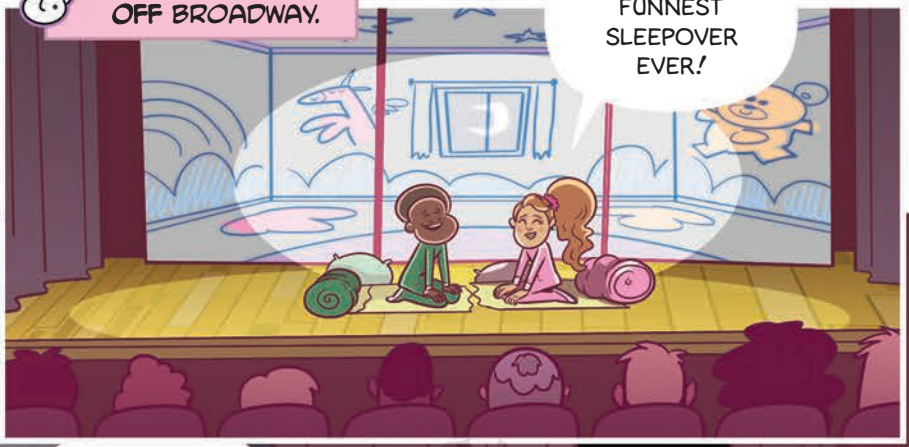


ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS, YOUR JOURNEY FROM CLASS CLOWN TO BAD BOY BEGAN ON THE BROADWAY STAGE.



WELL . . . MORE LIKE OFF BROADWAY.

THIS IS THE FUNNEST SLEEPOVER EVER!



I WANT MORE SODA!



OKAY. TIME TO HIT THE HAY.



HIT THE HAY? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

I HAD TO ASK. IT MEANS GO TO SLEEP.



IT SOUNDS SO VIOLENT.

BUT I'M NOT TIRED!





I ONLY HAVE ONE LINE, CHUNKY.

HUDI, YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE THAT **ONE LINE** THE FUNNIEST, BEST, MOST MEMORABLE LINE IN CAMPBELL JUNIOR HIGH WINTER PLAY HISTORY!

YOU'RE MY IMAGINARY MASCOT, YOU HAVE TO SAY THAT.

I DON'T HAVE TO . . . I GET TO!

I SHOULD WRITE MY OWN PLAY SOMEDAY. I HAVE MORE TO SAY THAN JUST ONE LINE.

YOU SHOULD!

WE COULD SEE THE SUNRISE!

THAT'S YOUR CUE!

OKAY, KIDS . . .

TIME TO HIT THE HAY!

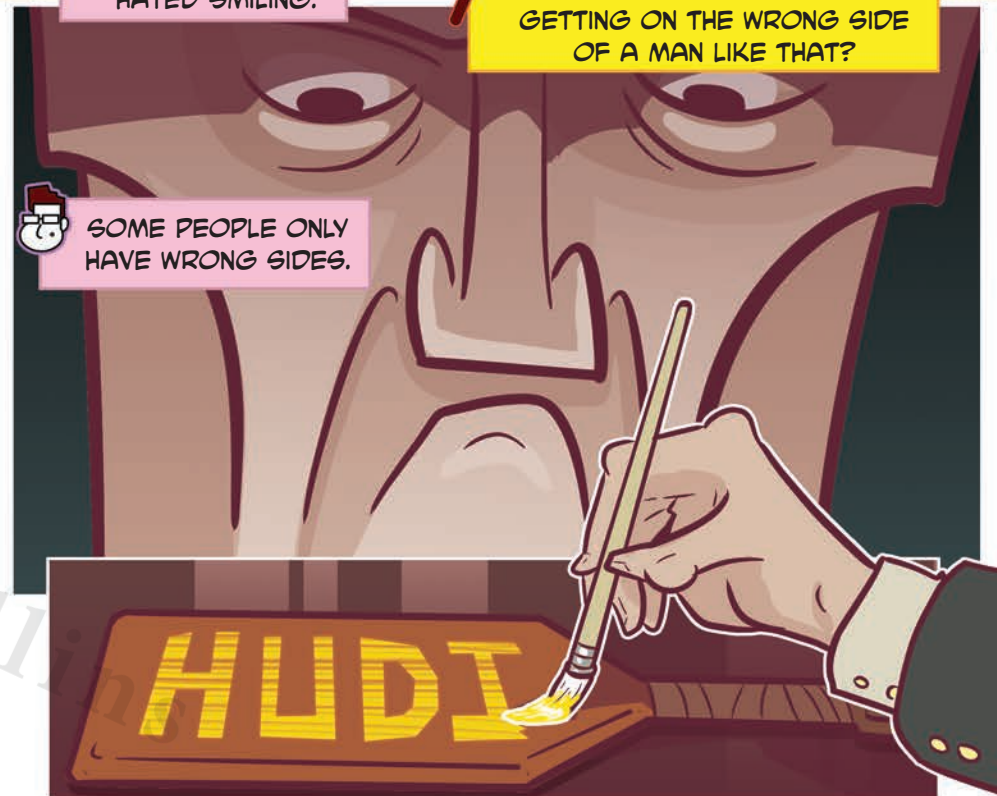
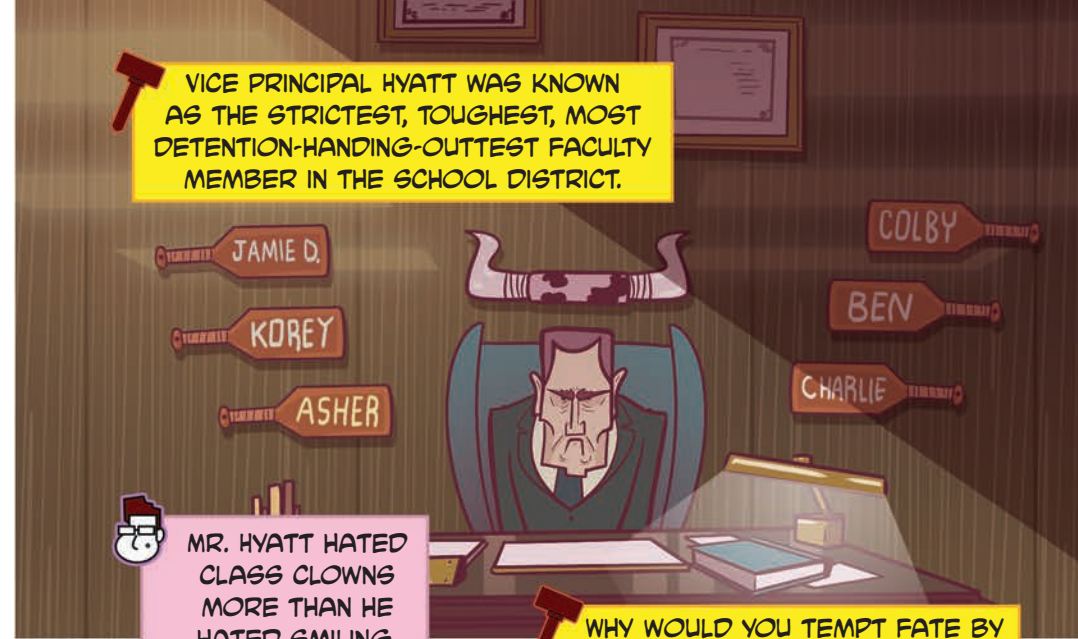
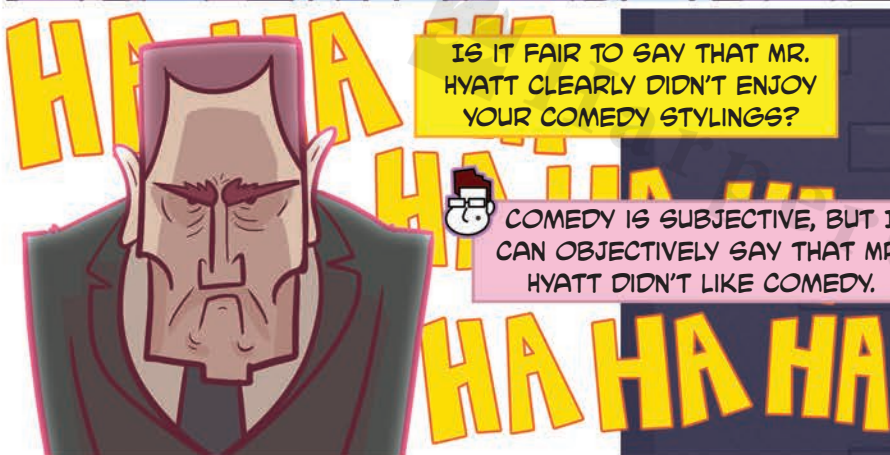
I ONCE HIT THE HAY SO HARD IT HIT ME BACK!

DON'T GET ME STARTED ON HAY HITTING. AND WHY IS IT CALLED HITTING THE HAY? CAN YOU THINK OF A **LESS** COMFORTABLE THING TO SLEEP ON?

HEE HEE  
HEE HEE  
HEE HEE

HEE HEE  
HEE HEE  
HEE HEE







LET'S GO TO THE NEXT DAY—THE DAY OF THE RATAS CARTOON INCIDENT. WHAT HAPPENED?

GO GATORS

IT WAS A TYPICAL LUNCHTIME, AND I WAS SEARCHING FOR A GROUP TO SIT WITH.



THAT WAS HILARIOUS, HUDI!

THANKS! THERE'S PLENTY MORE WHERE THAT CAME FROM—



YOU'RE REALLY FUNNY, HUDI.

THANKS! IT'S THE TRAINING, REALLY. LIKE MUSCLE MEMORY—



PLENTY OF ROOM HERE!

AH! THE VIP TABLE!







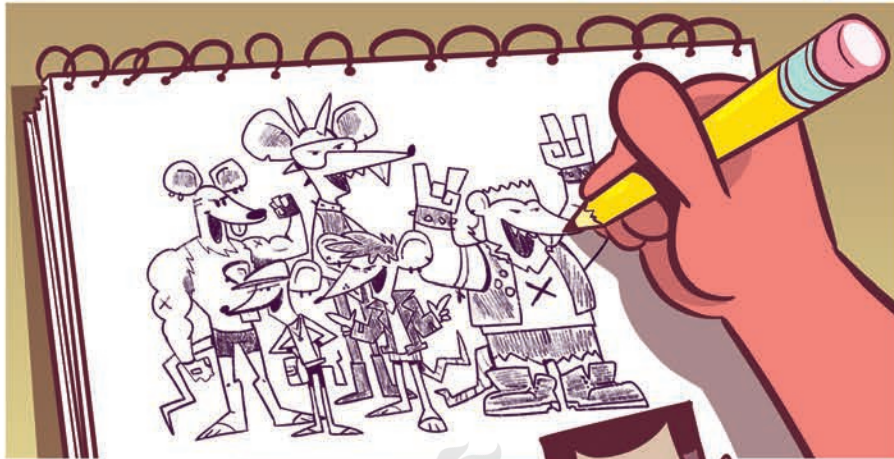
SO CHUNKY AND I DECIDED TO BRAINSTORM IDEAS FOR NEW CHARACTERS.

YOU SHOULD GIVE HIM MORE SPIKES.

YEAH!



OH, UH . . . WELL, IT'S A NEW COMIC I'M WORKING ON . . .



IS THIS A GANG THING? ARE YOU IN ONE OF THOSE MEXICAN GANGS?



Y'KNOW, I THOUGHT MY STAR-MAKING TURN AS SLEEPOVER DAD WOULD HAVE GAINED ME MORE FRIENDS.



WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING???

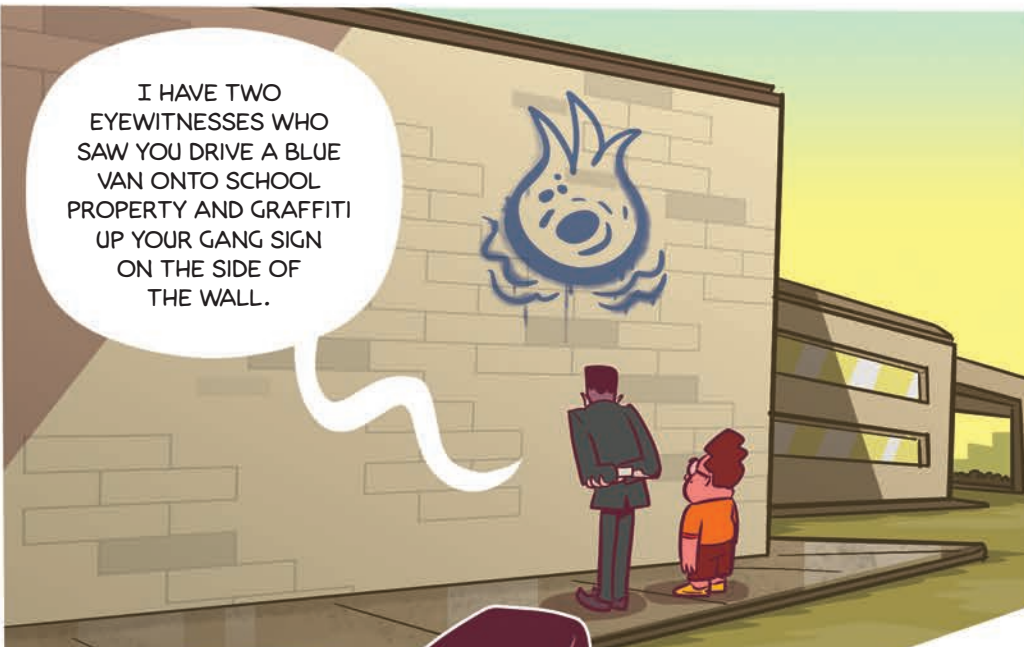


I WISH. I WOULDN'T BE EATING LUNCH ALONE IF I WERE IN A GANG.

COME WITH ME.



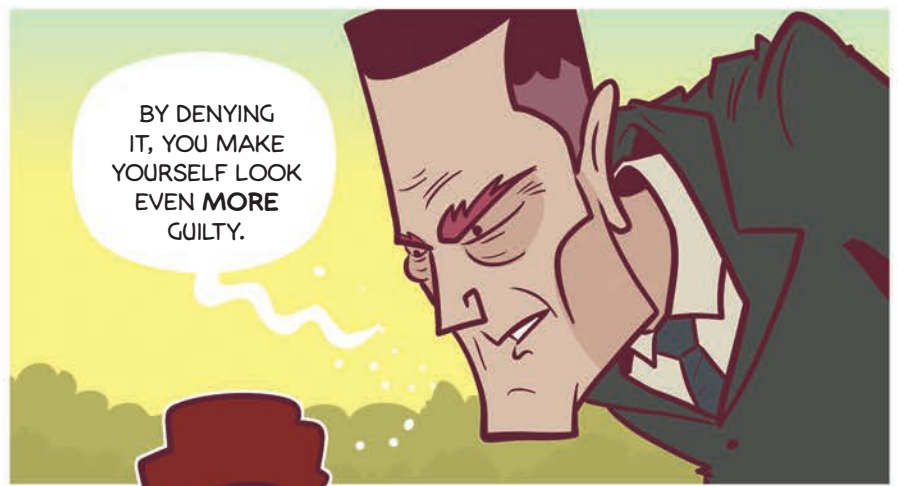




I HAVE TWO EYEWITNESSES WHO SAW YOU DRIVE A BLUE VAN ONTO SCHOOL PROPERTY AND GRAFFITI UP YOUR GANG SIGN ON THE SIDE OF THE WALL.



FIRST OF ALL . . . I DON'T HAVE ACCESS TO A BLUE VAN, AND SECOND OF ALL . . . I WOULD HAVE DRAWN SOMETHING WAY BETTER THAN THAT.



BY DENYING IT, YOU MAKE YOURSELF LOOK EVEN MORE GUILTY.



MORE THAN IF I ADMITTED TO IT?



MERCADO, I'LL BE WATCHING YOU LIKE A HAWK. YOU'RE ON MY RADAR NOW.



IT SEEMS AS THOUGH OLD MAN HYATT WAS KEEN ON PUNISHING YOU NO MATTER WHAT. HE HAD FINALLY FOUND HIS DISCIPLINARY WHITE WHALE.

# DETENTION



WHILE I REGRET THE INSINUATION, I APPRECIATE THE LITERARY REFERENCE.

SO THEN I POINTED OUT THAT RADAR WAS MORE FOR LISTENING AND HE WAS MIXING HIS METAPHORS WITH THE WHOLE "WATCHING ME LIKE A HAWK" ANALOGY.

AND HE GAVE YOU DETENTION FOR THAT?

TECHNICALLY HE SAID IT WAS FOR THE RATAS CARTOON.



THIS IS GOING TO MAKE A HILARIOUS TALK SHOW STORY SOMEDAY.



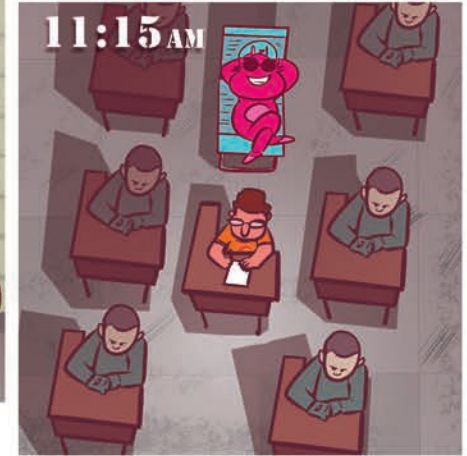
AT LEAST I'M NOT EATING LUNCH ALONE ANYMORE!



8:30 AM



11:15 AM



1:20 PM



2:30 PM



3:00 PM



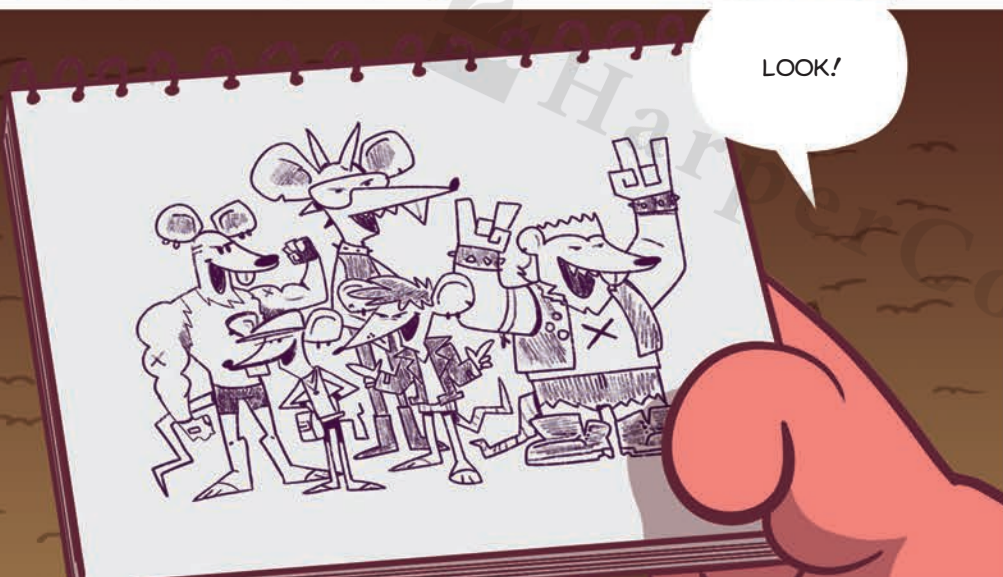




WHY AM I GETTING CALLS AT WORK FROM THE SCHOOL TELLING ME YOU'RE BECOMING A DISCIPLINARY PROBLEM?



I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING! I DREW THIS AND THEY THOUGHT I WAS IN A GANG.



LOOK!



WELL, I DON'T LIKE HOW DIRTY THESE CHARACTERS LOOK, BUT THEY CAN'T PUNISH YOU FOR THIS.



MY THOUGHTS EXACTLY.



LISTEN, THERE ARE LOTS OF DUMB PEOPLE OUT THERE WHO ARE GOING TO TREAT YOU DIFFERENTLY BECAUSE OF WHERE YOU COME FROM. BUT YOU HAVE TO PLAY THEIR GAME.



I THOUGHT WE ESTABLISHED I'M NOT VERY GOOD AT GAMES.



# DRAMA CLUB

WHAT IF I WRITE A PLAY ABOUT A KID WHO KEEPS GETTING SENT TO DETENTION AND THEN HE SKIPS SCHOOL ONE DAY AND GOES ON A CRAZY ADVENTURE AND THEN A MEAN OLD VICE PRINCIPAL—

LIKE MR. HYATT?

YEAH, EXACTLY LIKE MR. HYATT. HE CHASES AFTER HIM.

SOUNDS HILARIOUS!



## CAST LIST

- John Cole - Froggy
- Jessica Hayes - Angie
- Jeff Ullum - Sgt. Hound
- Jeannine Dooner - Mrs. Beasley
- Pete Davis - Ralph
- Susan Stubbs - Housekeeper
- Biz Cobb - Woman

*HUDI see me in MY OFFICE*





FAILED ENGLISH?  
HOW DID I FAIL ENGLISH?  
I'M **SPEAKING** ENGLISH  
RIGHT NOW. RIGHT?

YOU MISSED  
THE TEST AND  
GOT A ZERO.



I WAS IN  
DETENTION.

ALL AFTER-  
SCHOOL ACTIVITIES  
FALL UNDER THE  
"NO PASS, NO  
PLAY" RULE.

BUT  
THAT'S FOR  
FOOTBALL,  
RIGHT?



IT'S FOR  
EVERYTHING. NO  
PLAY MEANS NO  
PLAY.

BUT THAT'S NOT  
FAIR! HOW DO I FAIL  
A TEST THAT I DON'T  
EVEN KNOW EXISTS?



I WOULDN'T  
PUSH MRS. CARTER  
TOO MUCH ON THIS  
BECAUSE . . .

. . . WITH ALL  
THIS TIME IN DETENTION,  
WORD IS GETTING AROUND  
THAT YOU'RE A . . .  
BAD KID.



HA HA HA

BUT I'M  
TERRIFIC AT BEING  
A KID! I STILL HAVE  
AN IMAGINARY  
FRIEND!



LISTEN, HUDI,  
ONCE A STUDENT IS  
LABELED A **BAD KID**, IT  
LEADS DOWN A WORSE  
ROAD. A CLASS CLOWN  
IS TOLERATED, BUT A  
TROUBLEMAKER  
IS PUNISHED.



AND THAT'S WHEN THE SERIES OF EVENTS THAT YOU CALL THE "DETENTION MONTAGE" HAPPENED.



THAT'S RIGHT. IMAGINE LISTENING TO "BAD TO THE BONE" BY GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTROYERS.







JIVING?

I AM BEING SENT TO DETENTION FOR JIVING?

WHAT DOES THAT EVEN MEAN?

DON'T KNOW, BUT IT SOUNDS BAD.

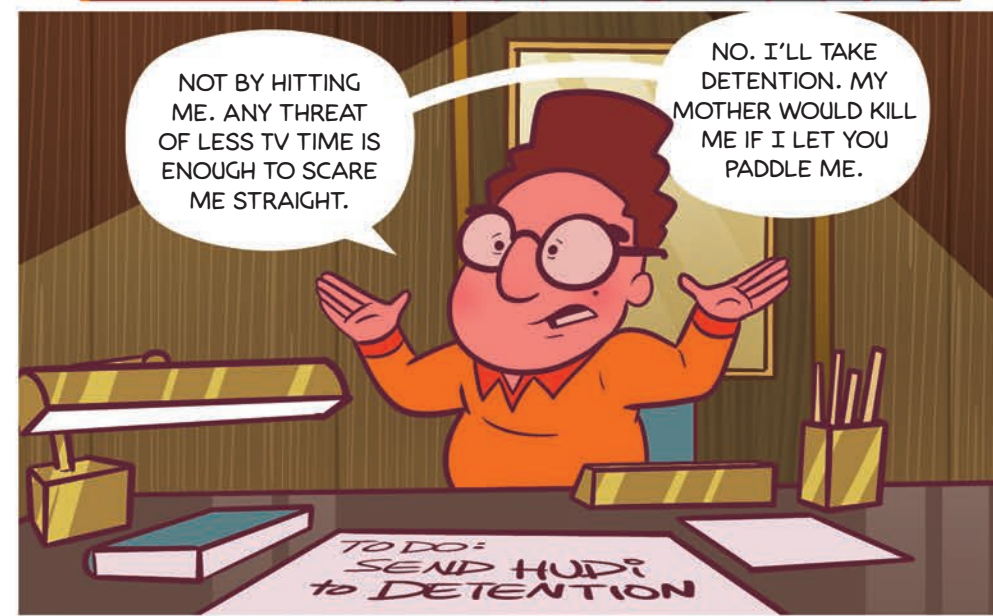


YOU HAVE A CHOICE. YOU CAN DO TIME OR GET SWATS.



THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE A CHOICE.

DON'T YOUR PARENTS DISCIPLINE YOU?



NOT BY HITTING ME. ANY THREAT OF LESS TV TIME IS ENOUGH TO SCARE ME STRAIGHT.

NO. I'LL TAKE DETENTION. MY MOTHER WOULD KILL ME IF I LET YOU PADDLE ME.

**ONE WEEK DETENTION**



# HUDI on TRIAL

**T** I OBJECT! MR. MERCADO, DO YOU EXPECT THE COURT TO BELIEVE THAT PUBLIC SCHOOL FACULTY MEMBERS WERE GIVEN PERMISSION TO STRIKE STUDENTS?

I'D LIKE TO REMIND THE COURT THAT THIS IS TEXAS.



UPON ADVICE FROM COUNSEL, I'D LIKE TO SAY THAT TEACHERS ARE HEROES, THEY SHOULD BE PAID MORE, MY MOTHER IS A TEACHER, AND 97% OF TEACHERS ARE GREAT . . . I JUST HAPPENED TO GET ASSIGNED TO THAT OTHER 5%.



**T** OBJECTION WITHDRAWN. CHAPTER ONE REALLY PAINTS THE TEACHERS IN YOUR LIFE IN A PRETTY UNFAVORABLE LIGHT, AND YET YOU DEDICATED THE FIRST BOOK TO YOUR DRAMA TEACHER. NOW WHICH IS IT?

WHISPER  
WHISPER



I MEAN 3%. I'M NOT GREAT AT MATH.

**T** SHALL WE CONTINUE?





# CHAPTER TWO

# Goin' to Camp



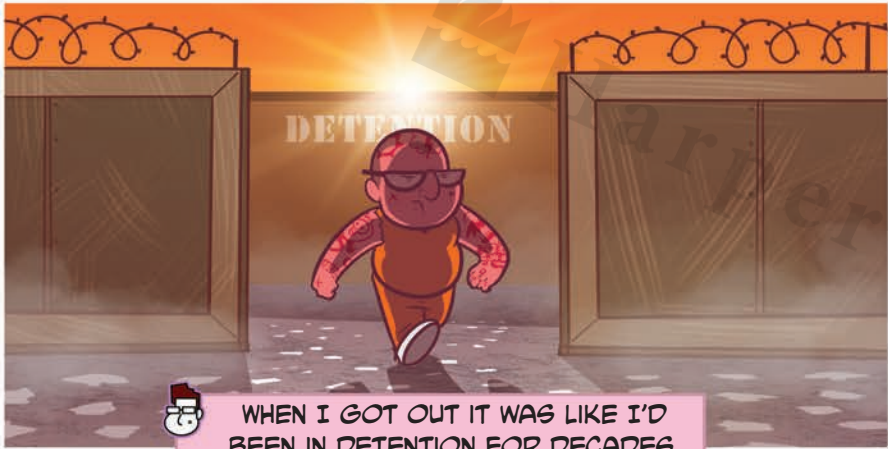


# DETENTION AGAIN

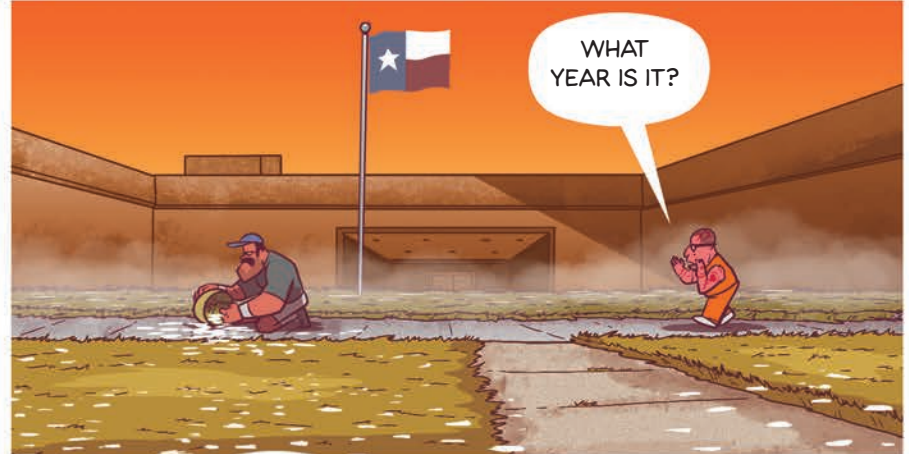


ALL THAT TIME BEHIND BARS, TREATED AS A CRIMINAL, MUST HAVE CHANGED YOU.

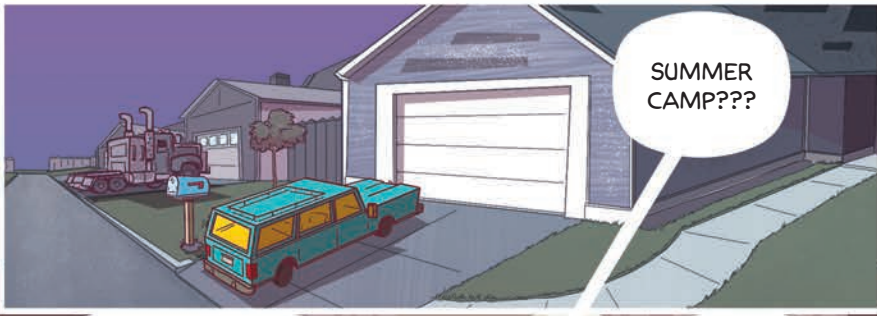
HOW COULD IT NOT?



WHEN I GOT OUT IT WAS LIKE I'D BEEN IN DETENTION FOR DECADES.







SUMMER CAMP???



DADDY AND I BOTH WORK AND WE DON'T WANT YOU SITTING AROUND ALL SUMMER . . . GETTING INTO TROUBLE.

TROUBLE?

HOW MANY TIMES DID YOU GET DETENTION THIS YEAR?



YEAH, BUT THAT WASN'T MY FAULT.



I TOLD YOU THAT YOU NEEDED TO PLAY THEIR GAME AND YOU DIDN'T.



BUT-

YOU HAVE A CHOICE. SOCCER CAMP OR CAMP GREEN.  
I THINK WE ALL KNOW THAT I'M NOT GOING TO SOCCER CAMP . . . SO WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THIS CAMP GREEN?  
IT'S A JEWISH CAMP. THE ONE THAT WYNNIE'S AND YONI'S FRIENDS FROM SUNDAY SCHOOL GO TO.



AND WYNNIE AND YONI HAVE TO GO, TOO.



THEY WANT TO GO.

THIS IS ALL OUTDOORS STUFF. YOU KNOW THAT I'M PROBABLY GOING TO WIND UP IN THE EMERGENCY ROOM, RIGHT?



# CAMP DAY!

AND SO YOU SAW BEING SENT AWAY TO SUMMER CAMP AS A PUNISHMENT?



YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND, THE THOUGHT OF MISSING A MOVIE IN THEATERS WAS LIKE MISSING OUT ON A RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE.

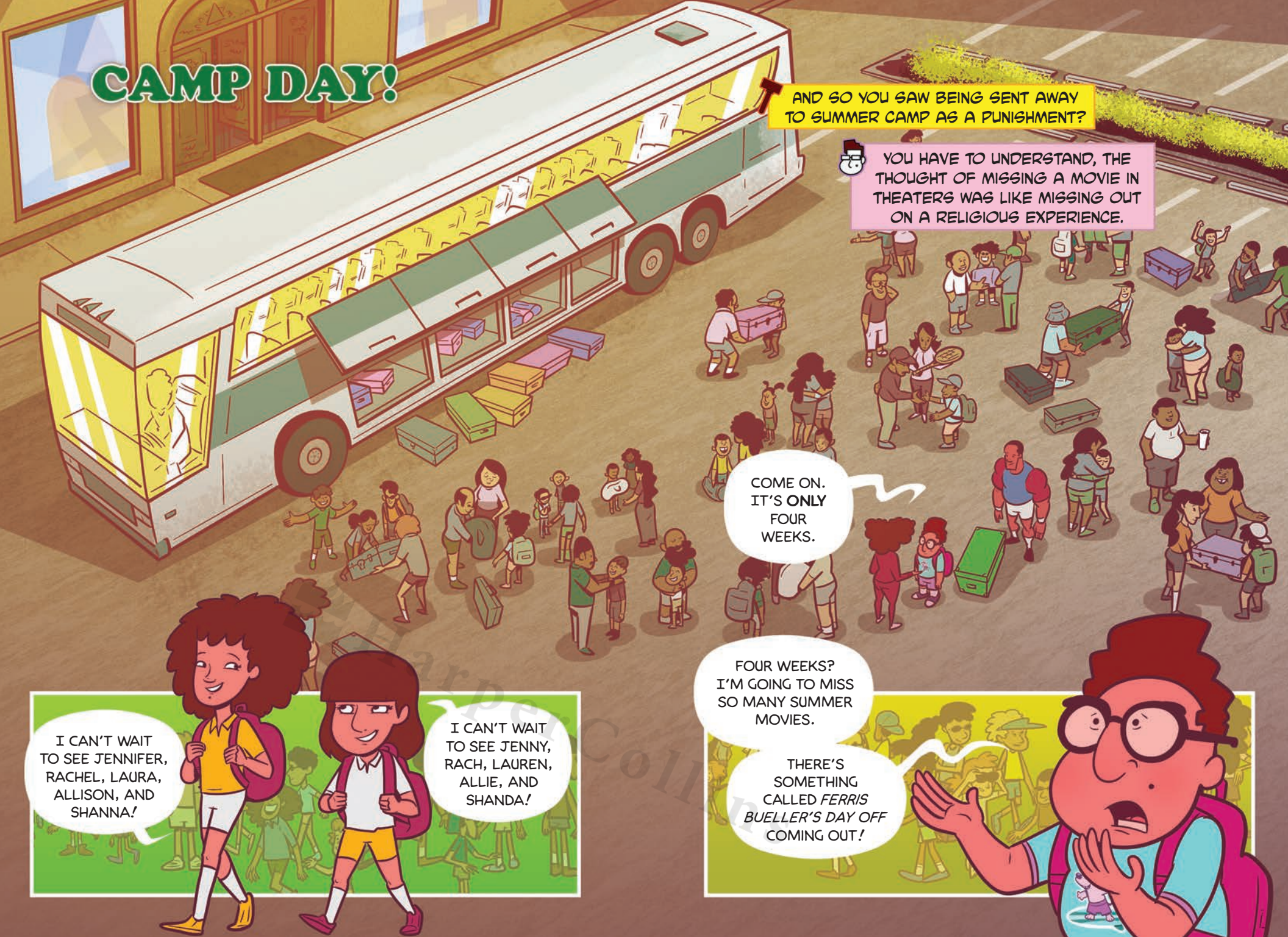
COME ON. IT'S ONLY FOUR WEEKS.

FOUR WEEKS? I'M GOING TO MISS SO MANY SUMMER MOVIES.

THERE'S SOMETHING CALLED *FERRIS BUELLER'S DAY OFF* COMING OUT!

I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE JENNIFER, RACHEL, LAURA, ALLISON, AND SHANNA!

I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE JENNY, RACH, LAUREN, ALLIE, AND SHANDA!





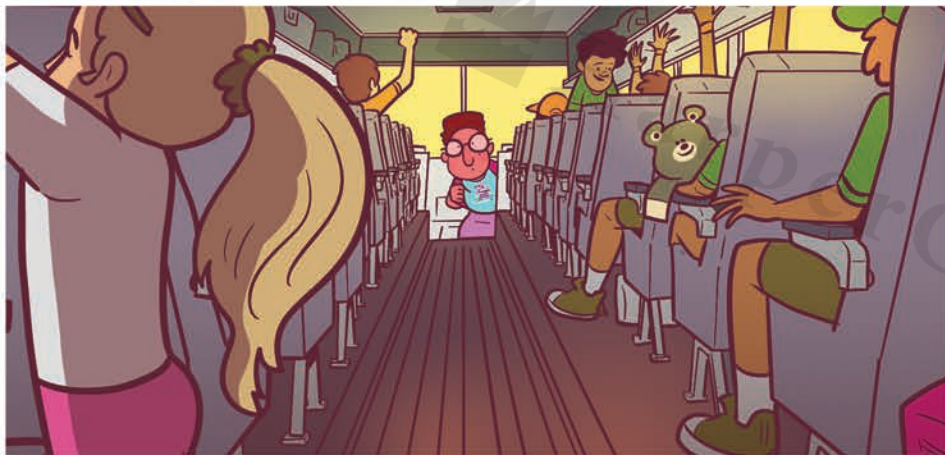


WHAT'S IN THIS?

UM . . . CREATURE COMFORTS.



HURRY UP NOW! IF THE BUS LEAVES WITHOUT YOU, THEN YOU'RE WALKING TO CAMP.



WELL . . . LIFE MOVES AT YOU PRETTY FAST, SO MAYBE THIS WON'T FEEL LIKE A FOUR-WEEK PRISON SENTENCE.



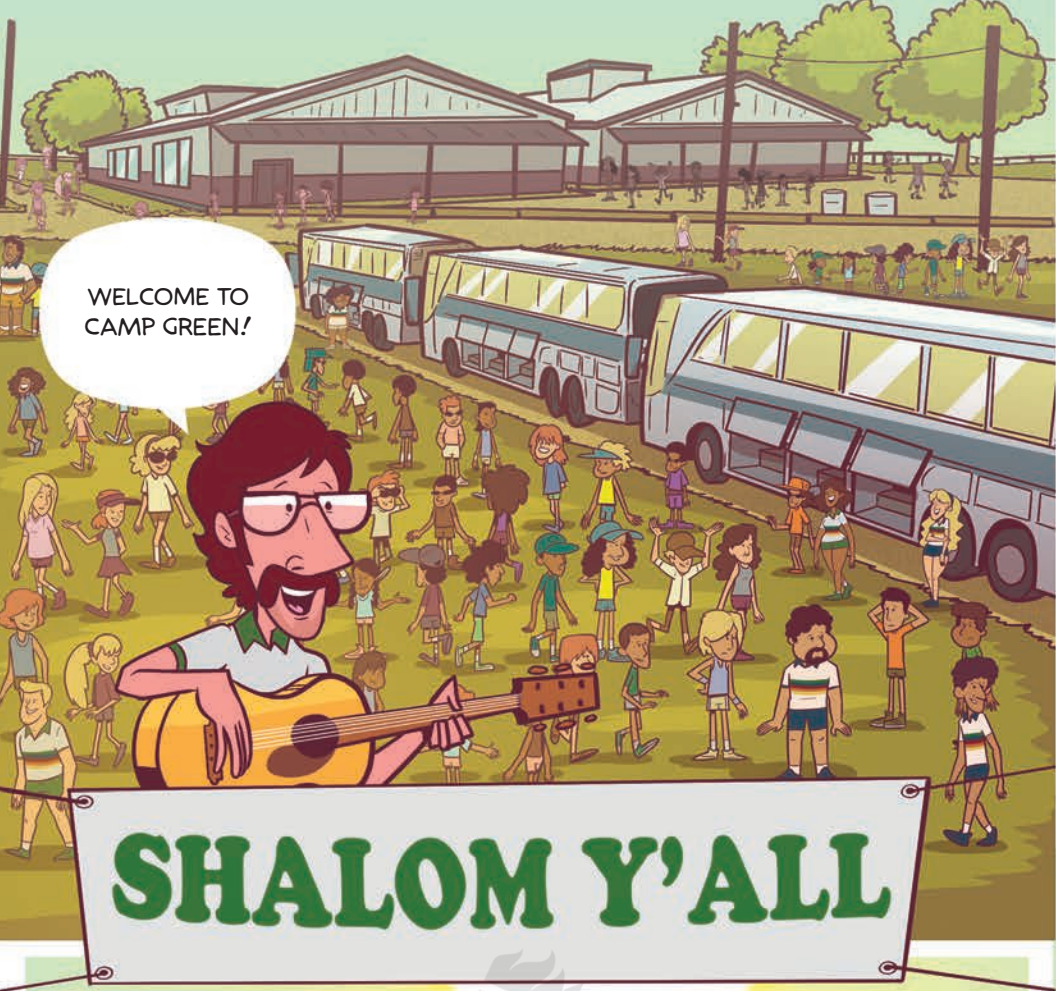
WHO ARE YOU TALKING TO?

THE CAMERA.









WELCOME TO CAMP GREEN!

SHALOM Y'ALL



JUST LEAVE YOUR FOOTLOCKERS AND HEAD TO THE MOADON.

THE MOADON IS THAT WAY!

BUT-

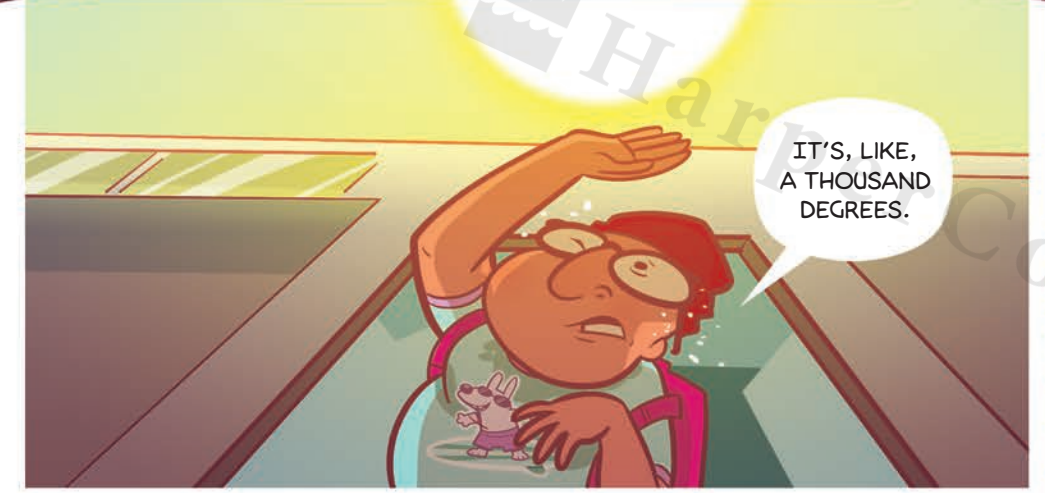


THERE'S NO SODA.

WHAT?

THERE'S NO SODA HERE. HOW AM I GOING TO SURVIVE A WHOLE SUMMER WITHOUT SODA?

MY MOM DOESN'T REALLY LET US HAVE SODA.



IT'S, LIKE, A THOUSAND DEGREES.



WHAT A WEIRDO.





HEY, JOSH!

HEY, JOSH!!

HEY, JOSH!!!

HEY, JOSH!!!!



HEY, JENNIFER!

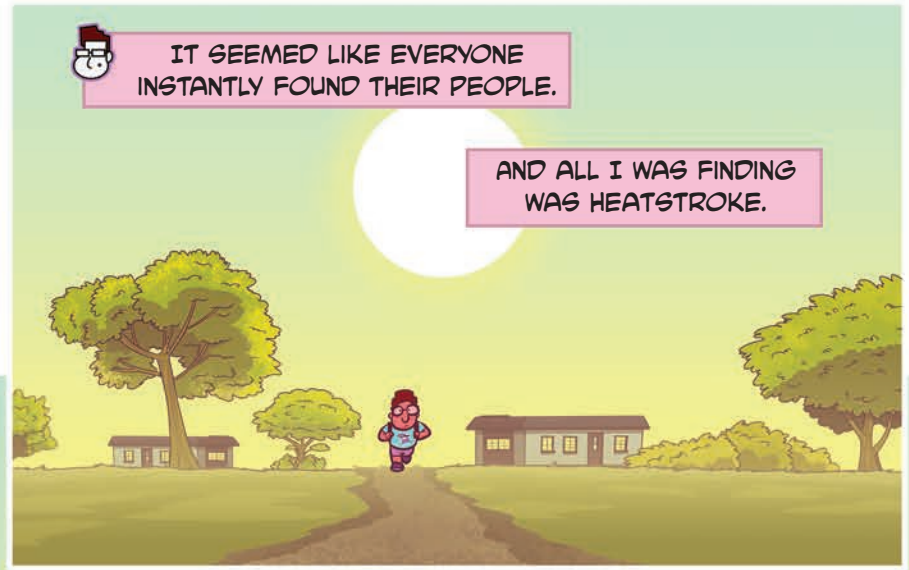
HEY, WYNNIE!

HEY, RACHEL!

HEY, YONI!



THIS IS GONNA BE A LOOOOOONG SUMMER.



IT SEEMED LIKE EVERYONE INSTANTLY FOUND THEIR PEOPLE.

AND ALL I WAS FINDING WAS HEATSTROKE.



OH MAN, IT'S SO HOT. THERE'S NO SHADE ANYWHERE.









EILAT?

ALL THE BUNKS ARE NAMED AFTER CITIES IN ISRAEL.



IS EILAT CLOSE TO THE INFIRMARY? BECAUSE I GUARANTEE YOU THAT I'LL BE SPENDING HALF MY TIME IN THERE.

FUNNY GUY. I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO BE RIGHT AT HOME IN EILAT.

AND SO THE ANXIETY OVER THE POSSIBILITY OF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY COMBINED WITH THE SEARING HEAT TURNED YOU INTO A CRIMINAL?



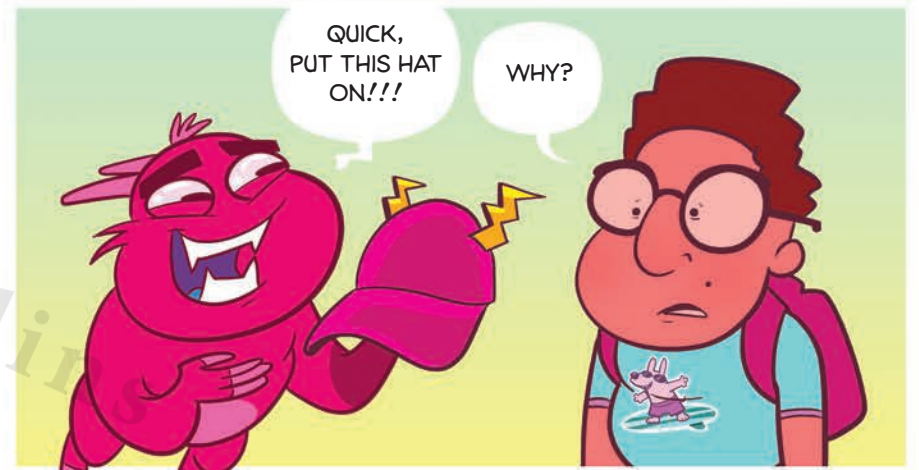
I OBJECT! I MEAN, IT WAS VERY HOT AND THE THOUGHT OF CONSTANTLY HAVING TO GO TO THE NURSE WASN'T PLEASANT ... BUT I WASN'T A CRIMINAL ...

... YET.



HUDI! I FOUND YOU!

I'M FREAKING OUT, CHUNKY. I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE IT A WHOLE SUMMER!



QUICK, PUT THIS HAT ON!!!

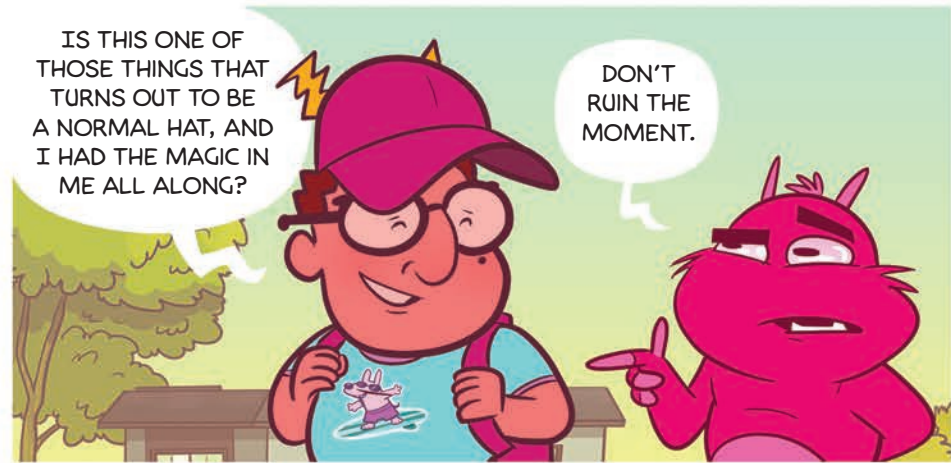
WHY?



IT'S A MAGIC HAT THAT WILL PROTECT YOU ALL SUMMER. YOU WON'T GET SICK OR GET INJURED. AS LONG AS YOU KEEP IT ON!



IS THIS ONE OF THOSE THINGS THAT TURNS OUT TO BE A NORMAL HAT, AND I HAD THE MAGIC IN ME ALL ALONG?



DON'T RUIN THE MOMENT.



NICE HAT.

IT IS MAGIC!



I FEEL IT.





I AM TOTALLY GOING TO FACE-PLANT GOING DOWN THIS AT LEAST THREE TIMES THIS SUMMER.



HOW IS THIS A SHORTCUT? IT'S GOING TO TAKE ME TWICE AS LONG GOING UP AS IT DID GOING DOWN.

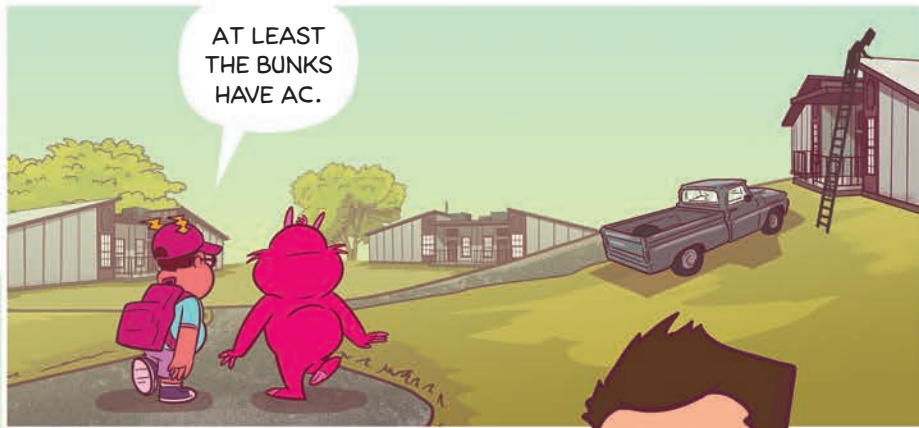


YOU CAN DO IT, HUDI!



WHAT? I'M IMAGINARY. IT'S NOT LIKE I WEIGH ANYTHING.





AT LEAST THE BUNKS HAVE AC.

ON THE WAY TO YOUR CABIN, YOU HAD YOUR FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH THE CAMP'S MAINTENANCE MAN, FREDDY FOG. IS THAT RIGHT?



YUP. BUT MORE ON HIM LATER.



WHOA . . . HE LOOKS LIKE THAT GUY FROM *PSYCHO*.

I'VE NEVER SEEN *PSYCHO*, SO HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE GUY FROM *PSYCHO* LOOKS LIKE?



I HAVE INTERESTS OUTSIDE THIS FRIENDSHIP.



YOU THINK THERE'S GONNA BE A MACCABIAH THIS YEAR?

I HEARD A CAMPER GOT HURT IN FIRST SESSION SO THEY WON'T LET US HAVE IT THIS YEAR.

THEY SAY THAT EVERY SUMMER.



WHAT'S MACCABIAH?

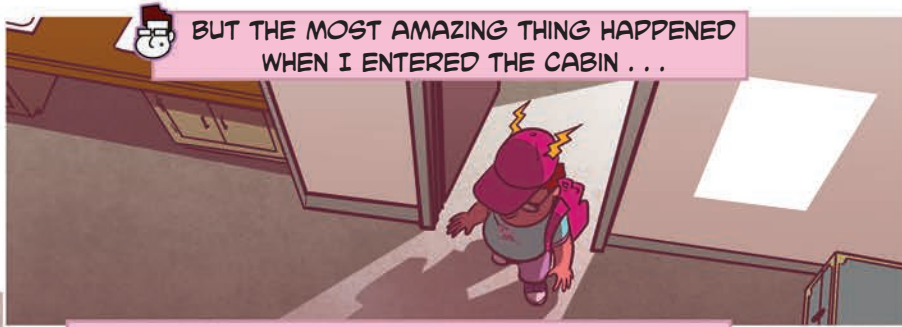


DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.

YOU'RE FUNNY, JOSH!

RUDE!





**BUT THE MOST AMAZING THING HAPPENED WHEN I ENTERED THE CABIN . . .**

**THEY LOOKED EXACTLY LIKE THE CHARACTERS I WAS DRAWING . . . ONLY THEY WEREN'T RATS.**

**IT WAS LIKE I FINALLY FOUND MY PEOPLE.**



THIS IS INCREDIBLE . . .

ARE THEY IMAGINARY, TOO? I CAN'T TELL.

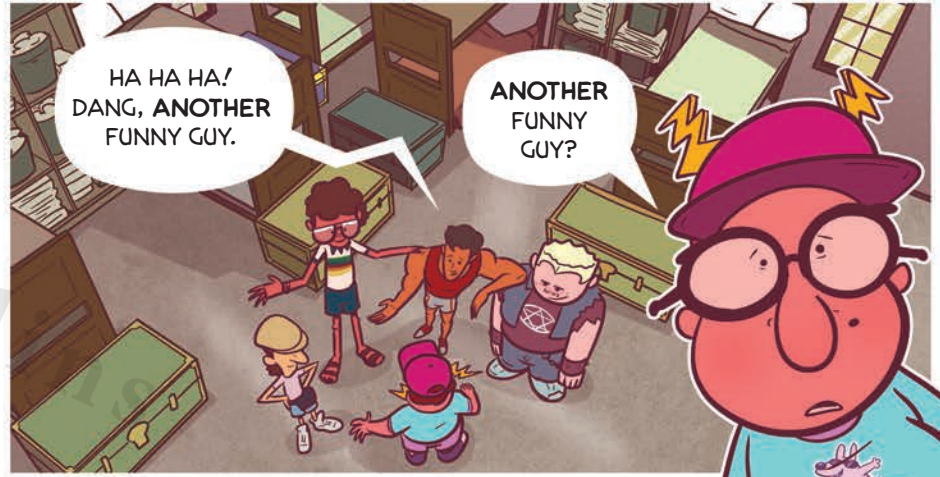


I'M LONNIE.

I'M WARREN. NICE HAT. YOU MUST BE HUDI.

HOWDY!

NO, IT'S HUDI.



HA HA HA! DANG, ANOTHER FUNNY GUY.

ANOTHER FUNNY GUY?







I GOT AN IDEA:  
LET'S BUILD A SUMMER  
CAMP FOR JEWISH KIDS  
IN THE **MIDDLE** OF THE  
TEXAS DESERT.

AND WHAT ARE THE  
HIKES GOING TO BE LIKE?  
IT TOOK FORTY YEARS OF  
WANDERING IN THE DESERT,  
AND THAT WAS **WITH**  
MOSES GUIDING THEM.

MOSES COULD  
TALK TO GOD BUT  
COULDN'T ASK FOR  
DIRECTIONS?



OKAY! THAT'S  
MY TIME. MY NAME  
IS PEPE GUZMAN  
AND YOU'VE BEEN  
A GREAT CROWD!



I HEARD A BUNCH  
OF LAUGHTER! ARE  
YOU ALREADY MAKING  
EVERYONE LAUGH?

IT WASN'T  
ME . . .

WHO YA  
TALKIN'  
TO-



WHOA!  
IS THAT A  
MASCOT?





# HUDI on TRIAL

**T** AND HOW DID IT FEEL TO SEE ANOTHER FUNNY JEWISH LATINO KID WHO NOT ONLY SEEMED FUNNIER THAN YOU BUT DIDN'T CARRY AROUND ALL THE EXTRA BAGGAGE THAT YOU DID?



LET THE RECORD SHOW THAT THE LAWYER JUST MIMED A CHUBBY TUMMY WITH HIS HAND.



**T** JUST ANSWER THE QUESTION.



WHILE I DO ADMIT THAT MY FIRST INSTINCT WAS TO FEEL JEALOUSY, YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT I DIDN'T HAVE MUCH, BUT WHAT I DID HAVE I THOUGHT MADE ME SPECIAL. AND HERE WAS THIS KID WHO SEEMED TO HAVE MORE OF THE "IT" I THOUGHT I HAD.



**T** AND THAT'S WHEN HE BECAME YOUR MORTAL ENEMY, AND YOU BECAME A CRIMINAL?



NO. THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED AT ALL.



**T** THEN TELL US WHAT HAPPENED NEXT.

JUST TURN THE PAGE.