

“A revelation! You’ll root for *Swim Team*—the water is just right.”  
—**JOHN JENNINGS**, *New York Times* bestselling and Eisner Award-winning creator

“A beautiful story by a fantastic storyteller and artist.”  
—**KAZU KIBUISHI**, author of *Amulet*

“Full of charm, heart, and pulse-pounding races. A winner!”  
—**GENE LUEN YANG**, author of *American Born Chinese* and *Dragon Hoops*

**B**ree can’t wait for her first day at her new middle school, Enith Brigitha, home to the Mighty Manatees—until she’s stuck with the only elective that fits her schedule, the dreaded Swim 101.

The thought of swimming makes Bree more than a little queasy, yet she’s forced to dive headfirst into one of her greatest fears. Lucky for her, Etta, an elderly occupant of her apartment building and former swim team captain, is willing to help.

With Etta’s training and a lot of hard work, Bree suddenly finds her swim-crazed community counting on her to turn the school’s failing team around.

But that’s easier said than done, especially when their rival, the prestigious Holyoke Prep, has everything they need to leave the Mighty Manatees in their wake.

Can Bree defy the odds and guide her team to a state championship, or have the Manatees swum their last lap—for good?



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Ages 8–12

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SWIM TEAM

JOHNNIE CHRISTMAS



“Combines wonderful characters and history to create a story that will make you want to dive right in!”

—**JERRY CRAFT**, author of the Newbery Award-winning *New Kid*

SWIM TEAM

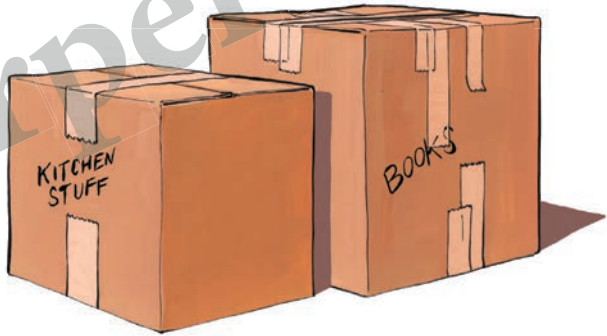
SMALL WAVES,  
BIG CHANGES.

JOHNNIE CHRISTMAS



# SWIM TEAM

HarperCollins





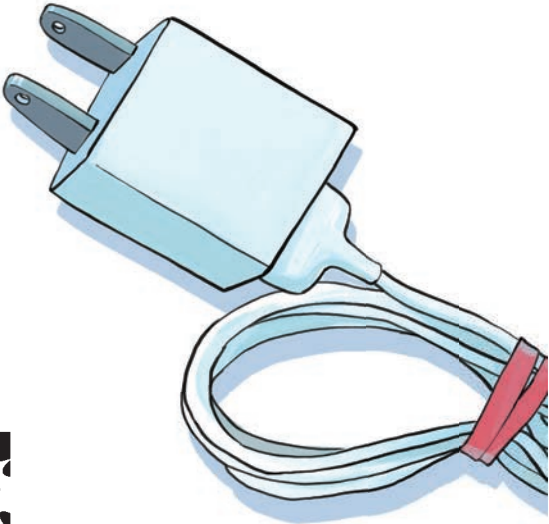


MATH  
PUZZLES



JOHNNIE CHRISTMAS

# SWIM TEAM



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*For future swimmers,  
wherever they may be*

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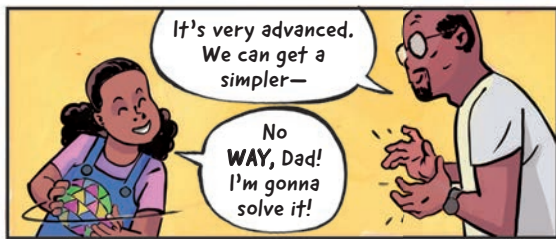
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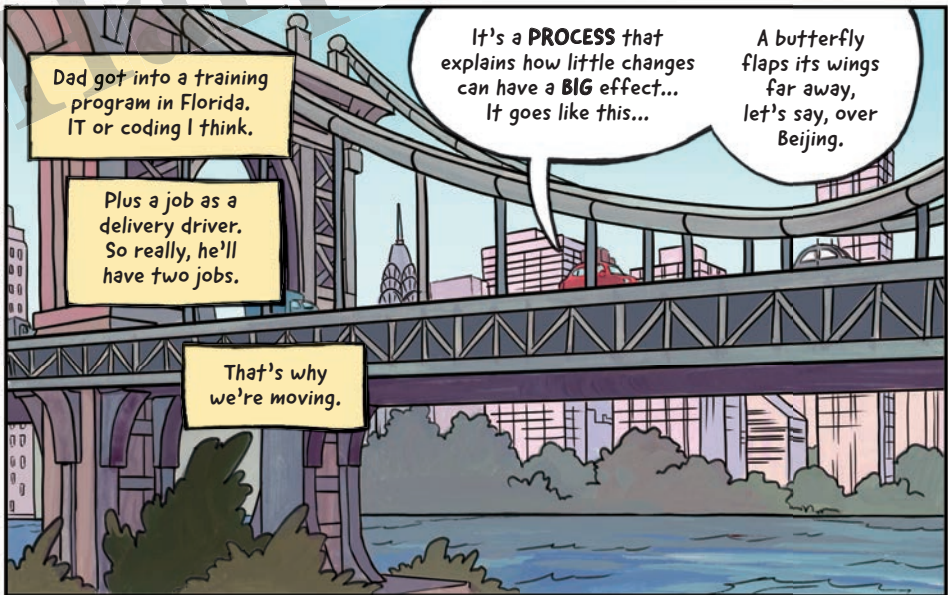
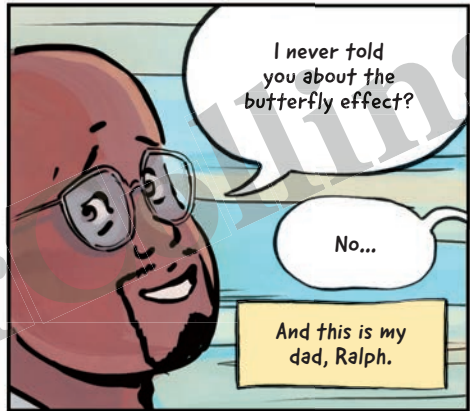
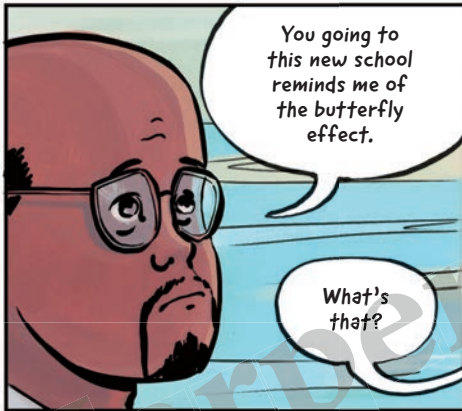
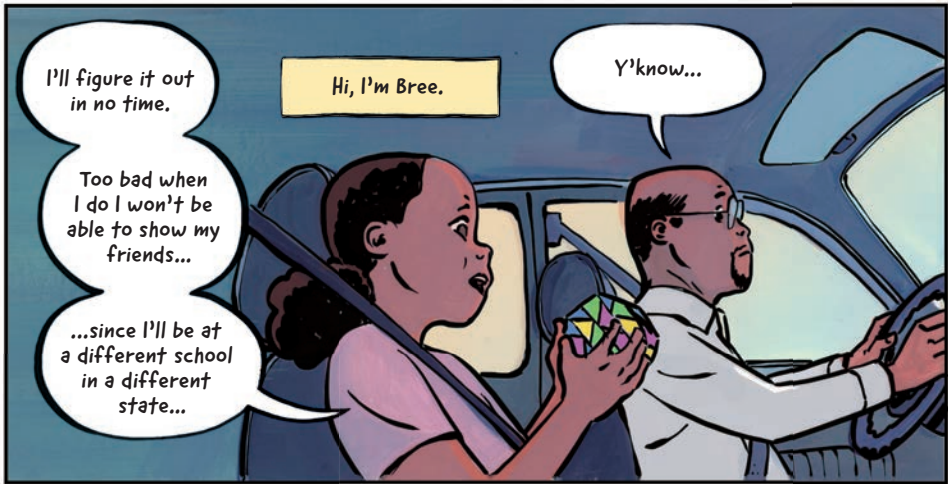
Butterflies



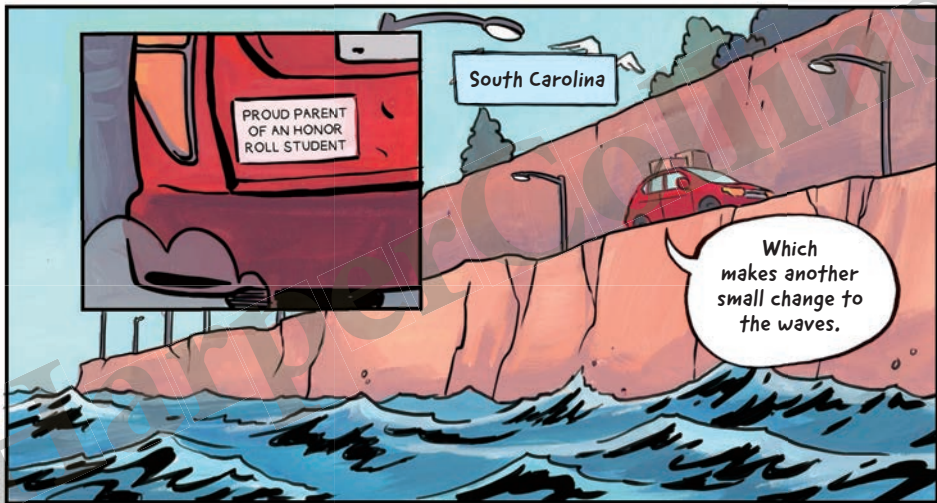
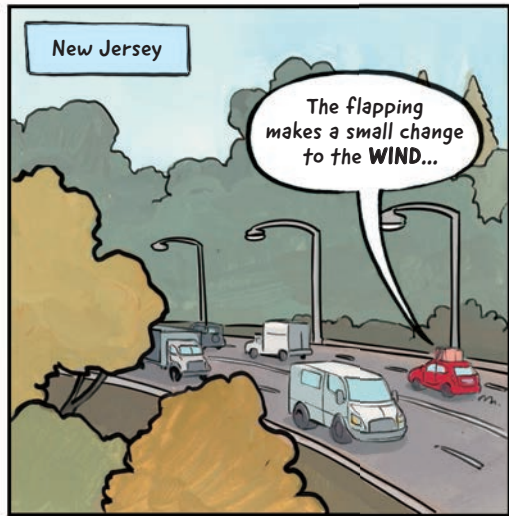


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Florida

...and by  
the time those  
changes appear  
far, far away...

Like  
Florida?

Sure.  
Like Florida.

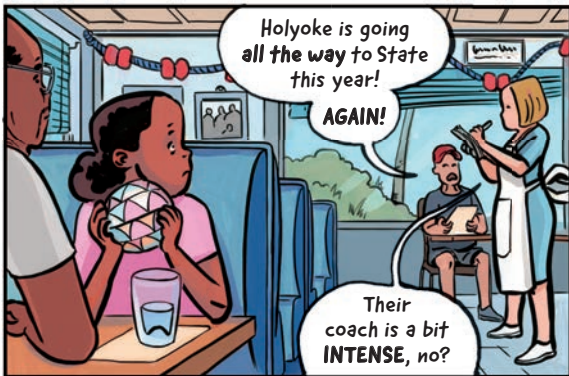
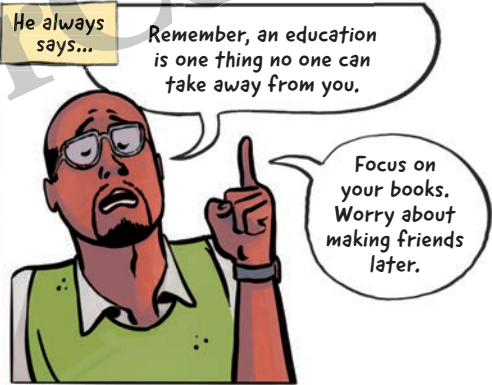
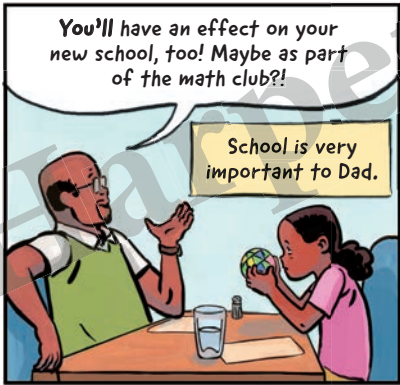
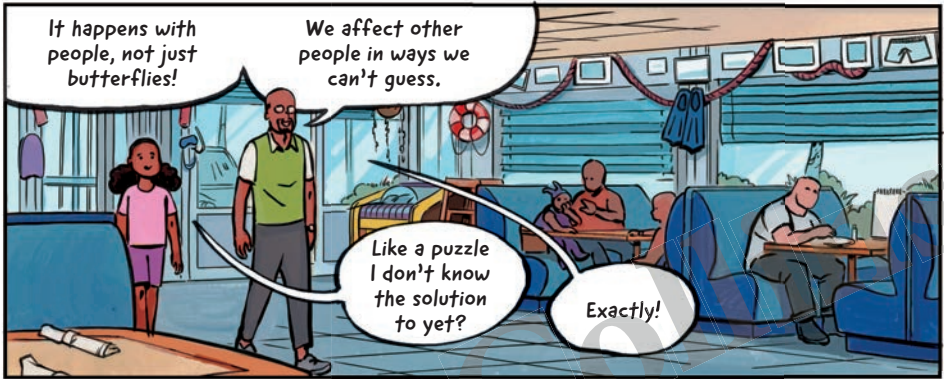
Those tiny  
wings can lead to  
whipping winds, churning  
seas, and a mighty  
**STORM...**

HOLYOKE PREP  
SWIM TEAM!

5-TIME CHAMPIONS!

welcome to  
PALMETTO  
SHORES











To feel better about the move, I've been thinking about stuff that makes me happy!

# BREE'S FAVORITE THINGS



Doing homework with Dad!



Cooking!



The library!



WELL, WHAT ABOUT THE STUFF YOU DON'T LIKE, BREE?!

Who asked you?!



LOSE YOUR KEYS?  
But sometimes **NEGATIVE THOUGHTS** take over. And I think about the things that make me nervous or scared.

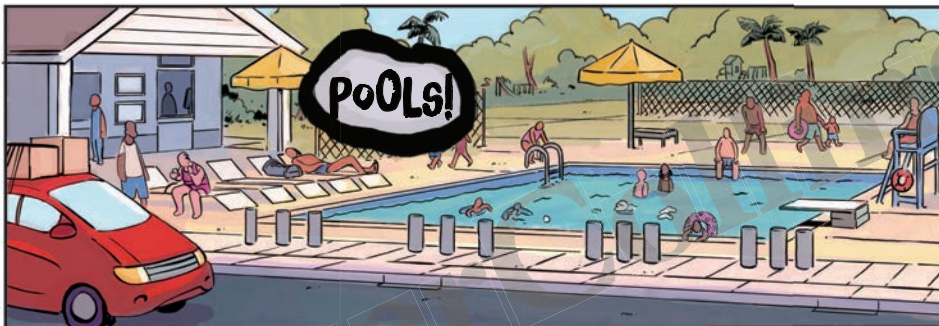
THERE'S SO MUCH THAT WORRIES YOU!

IS THAT A MOUSE?

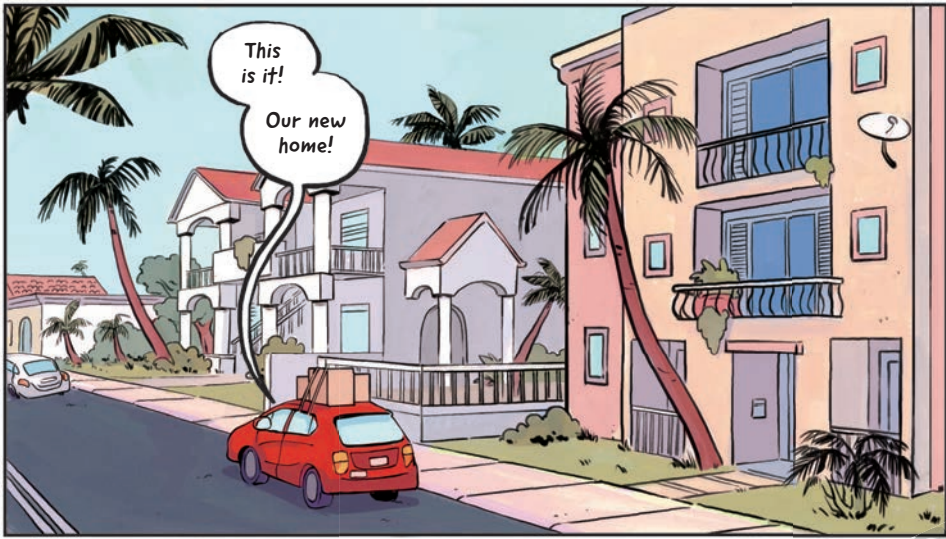
I second-guess and doubt myself, even when I don't want to.

D'RECKED OUT THE HOUSE.

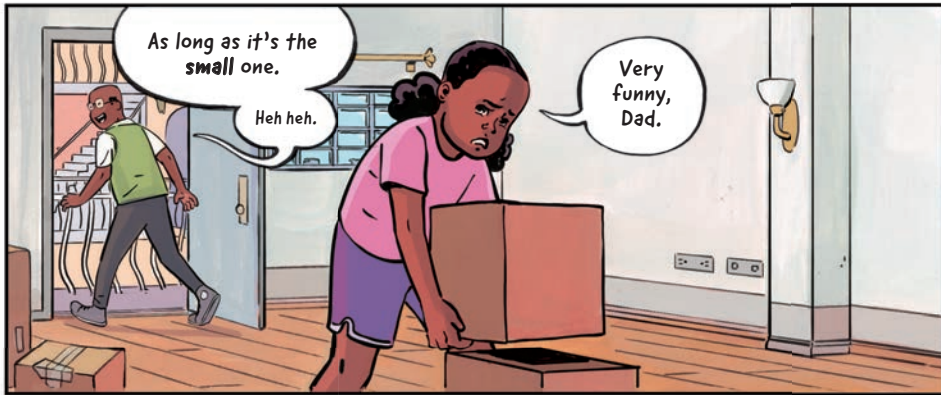
# STUFF BREE DOESN'T LIKE!

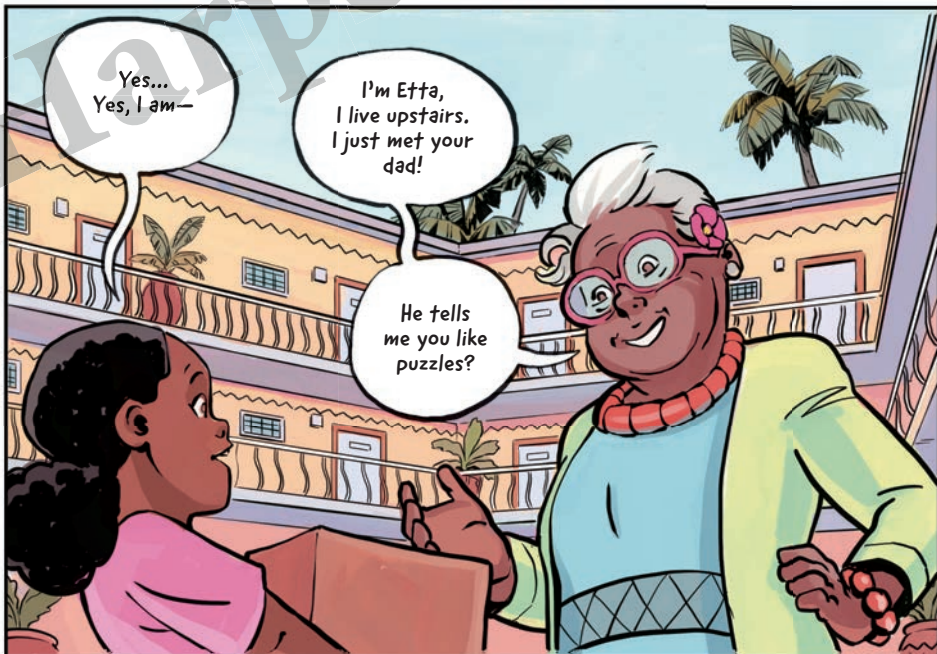




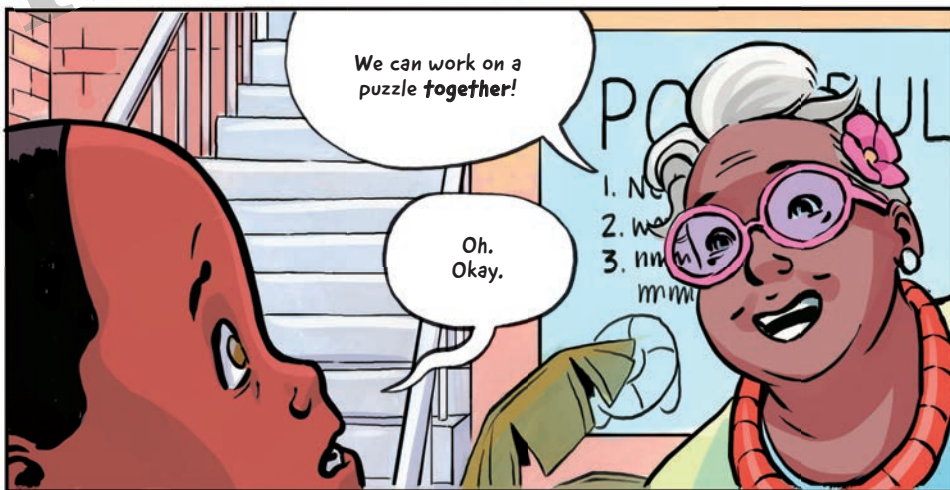
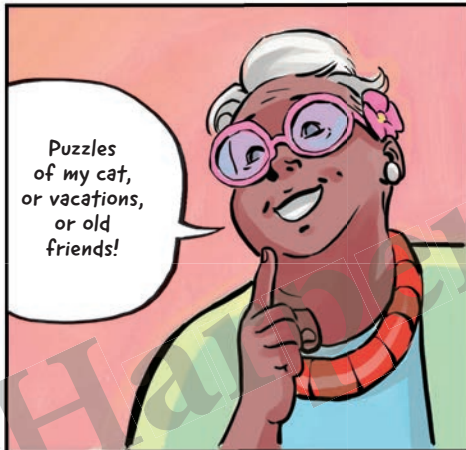










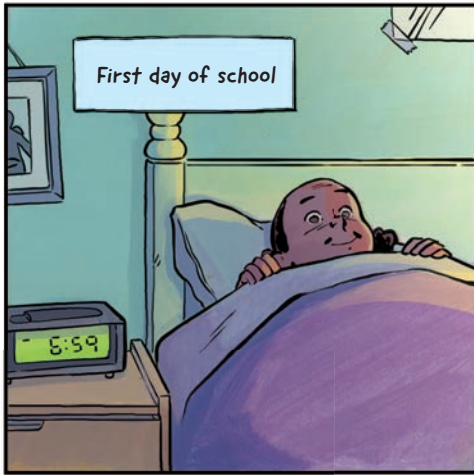


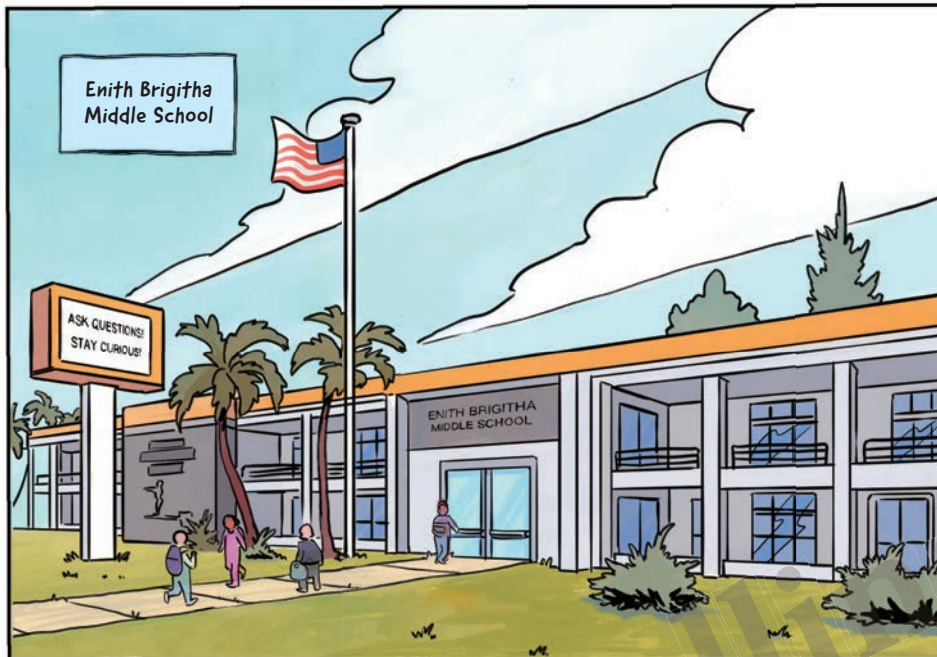




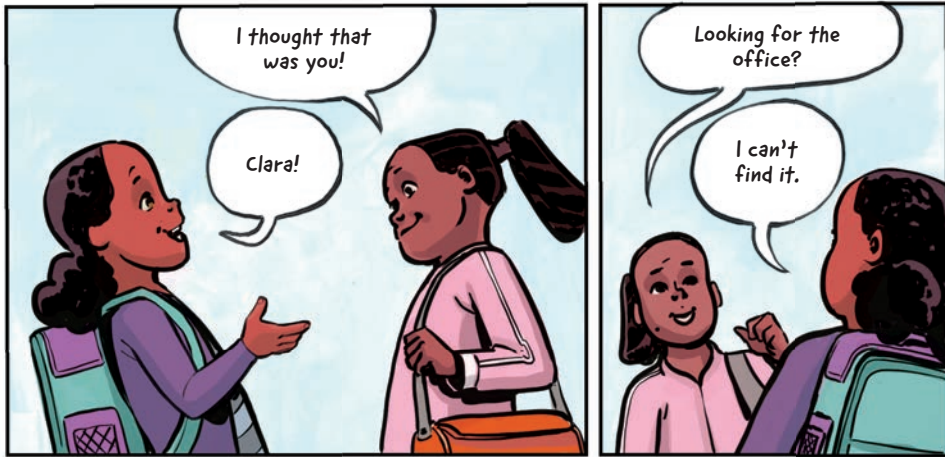


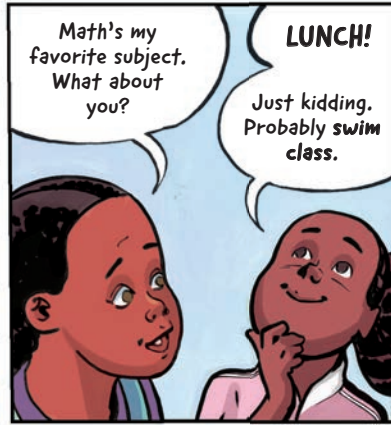
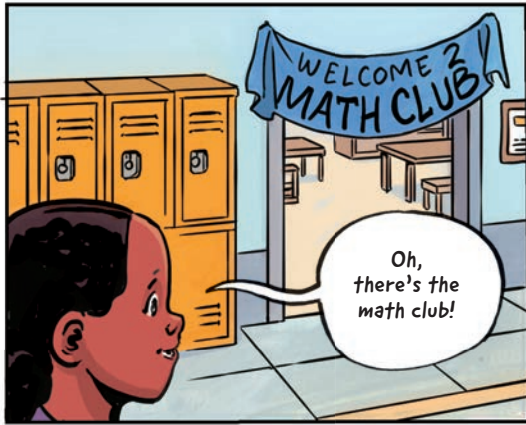




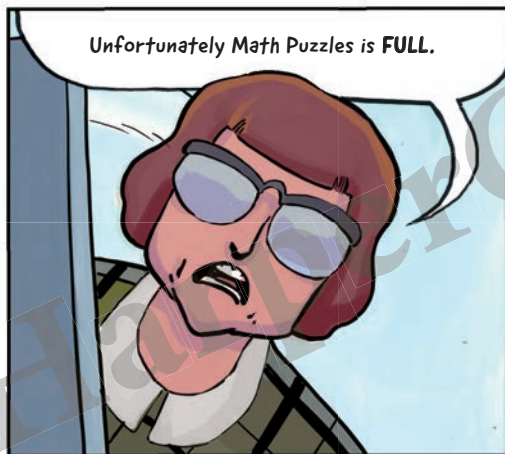






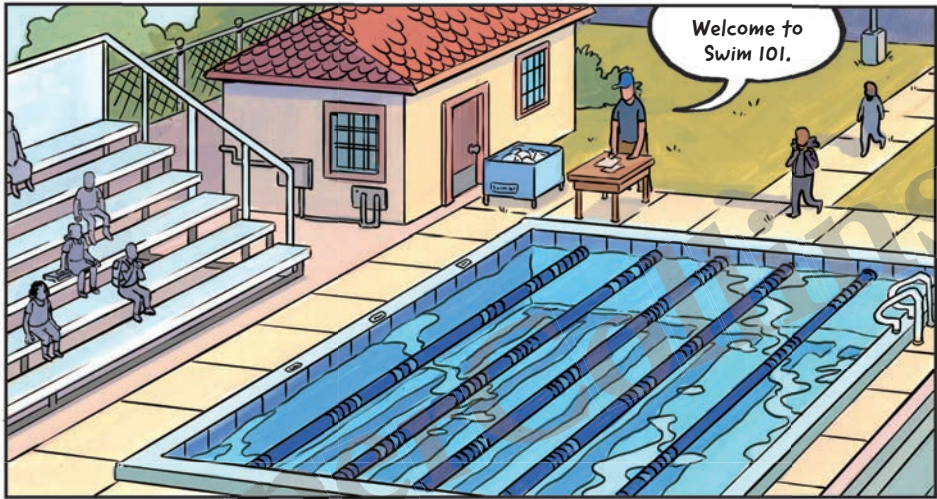
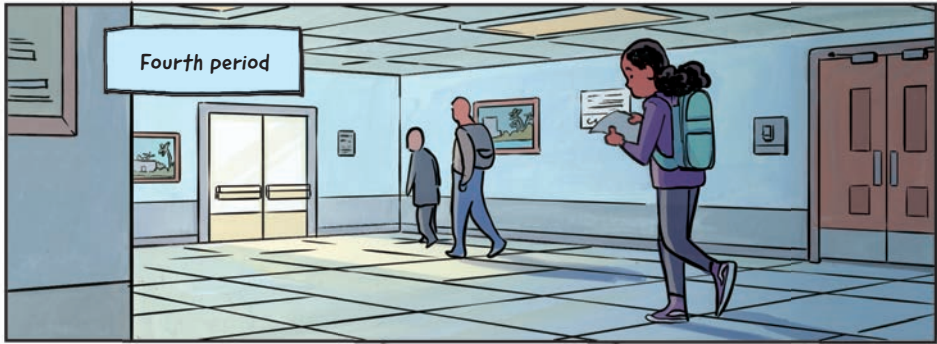


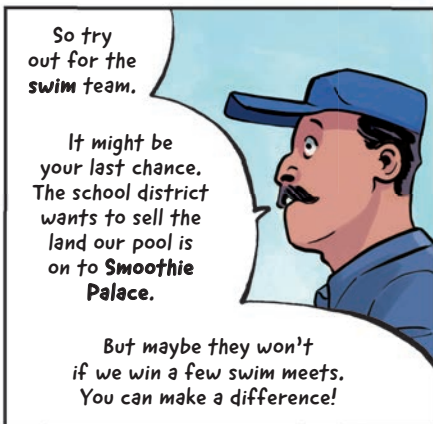






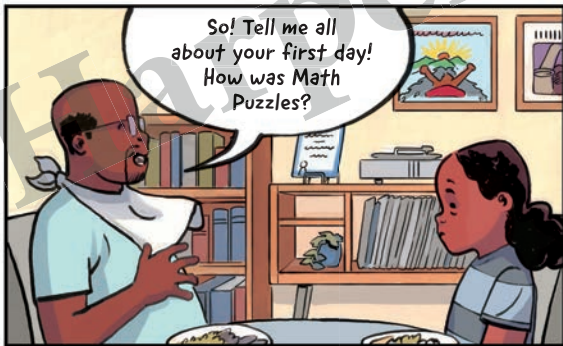
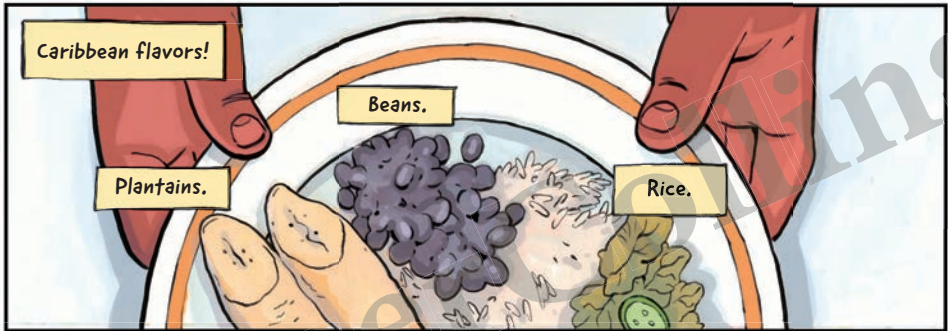




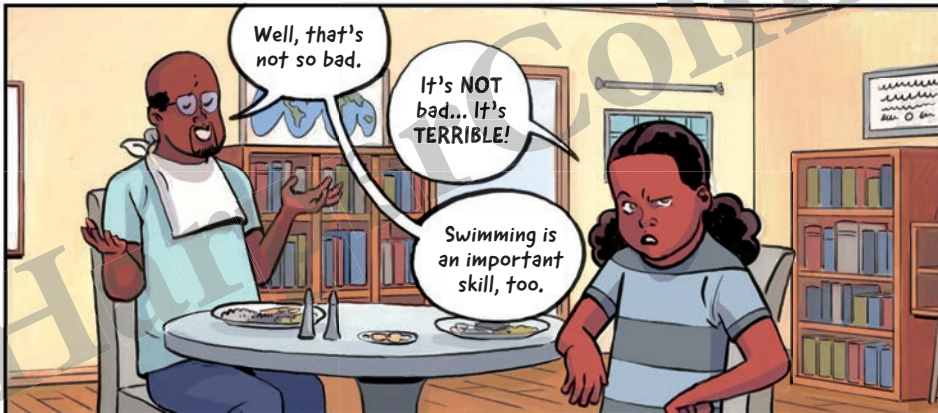


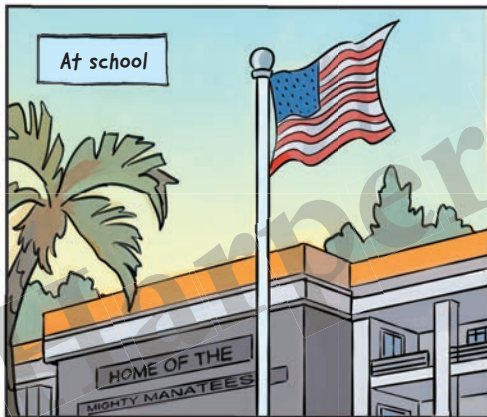


























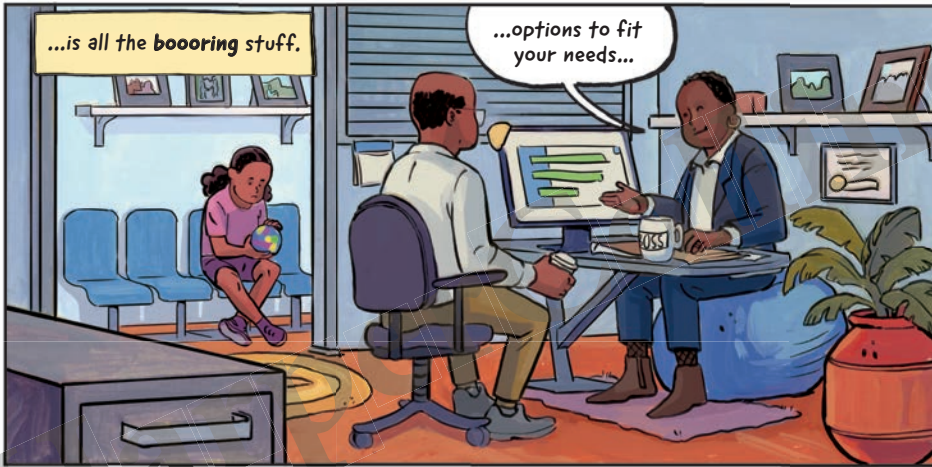
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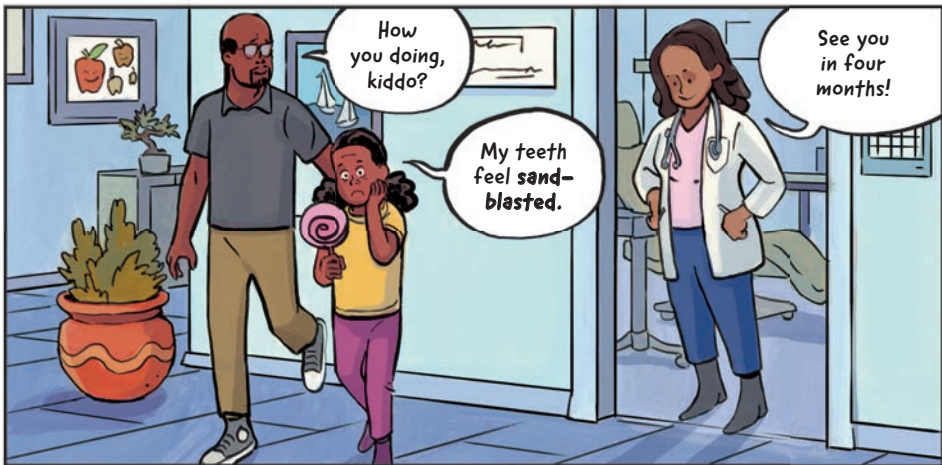
## Making Waves

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AFTER your homework, you can have park time with your friends.



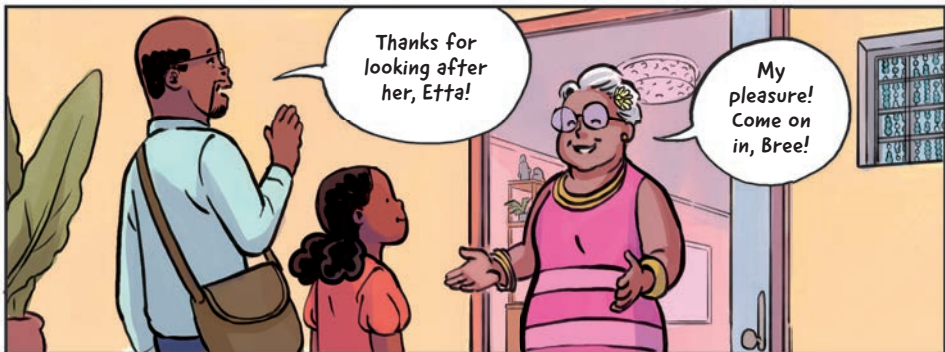
Smells like Ms. Etta's making dinner!

Mmmmm!



Ms. Etta's cat is named Cornelius!

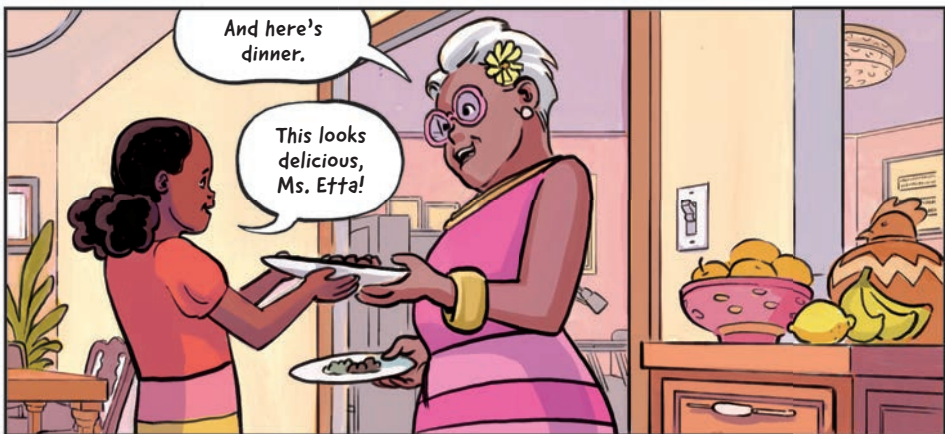
Hi, Cornelius!



Thanks for looking after her, Etta!

My pleasure! Come on in, Bree!













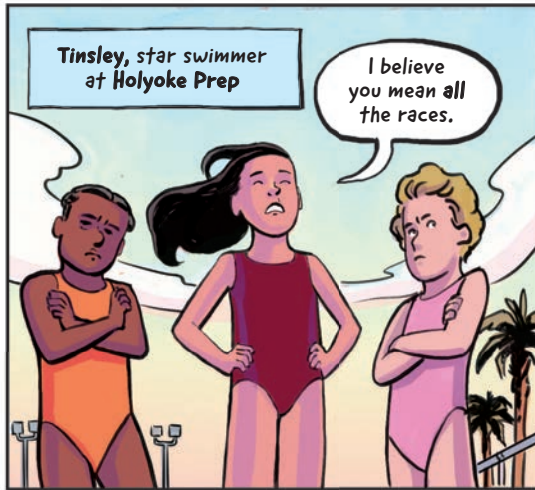












\*Not-name-brand shoes





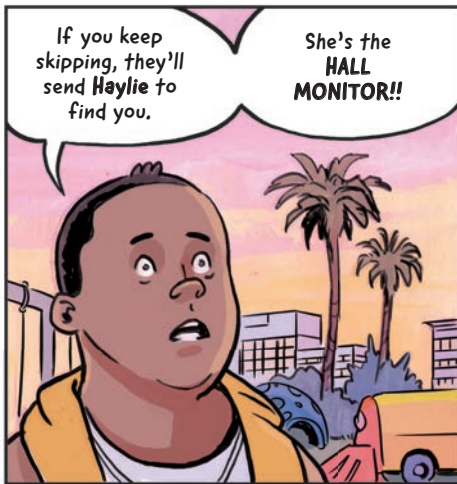














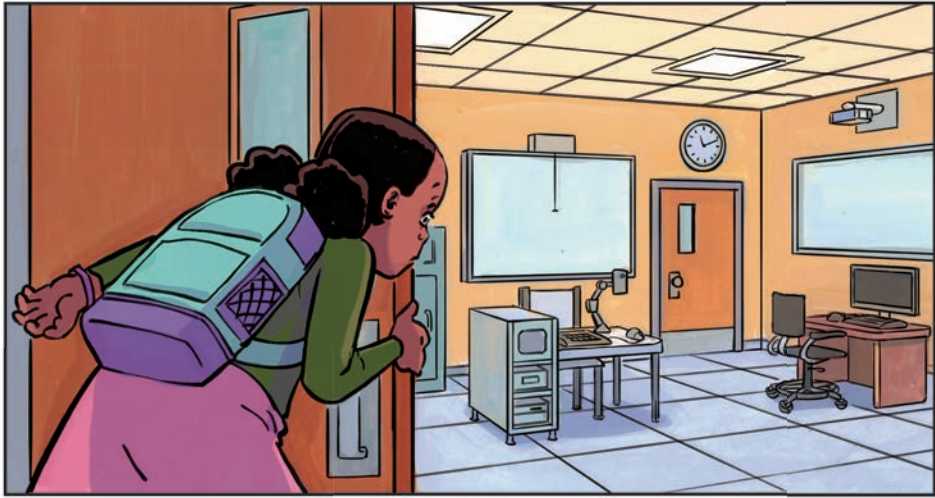






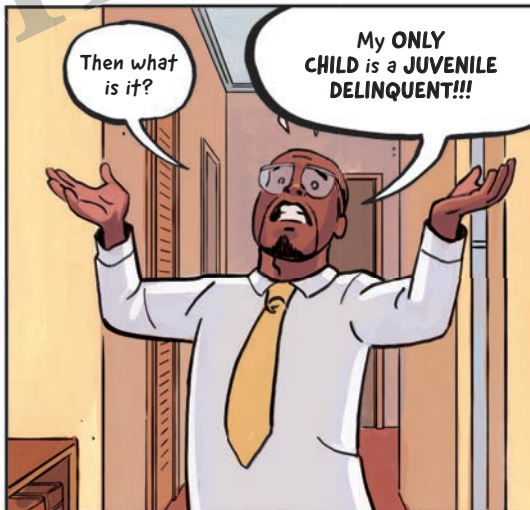
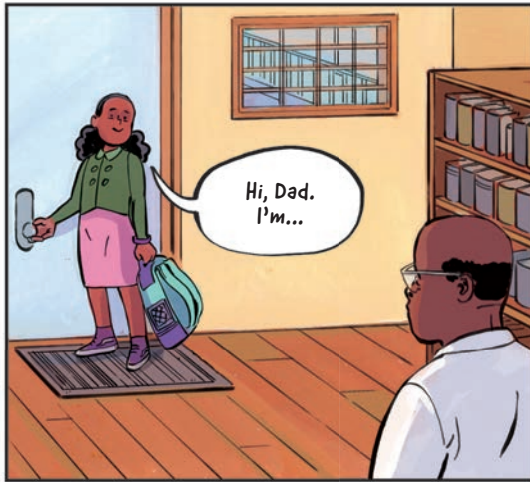




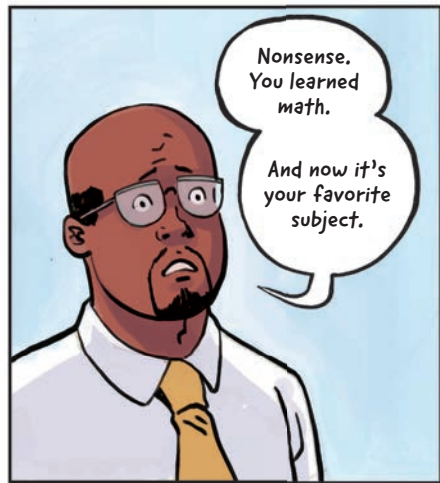






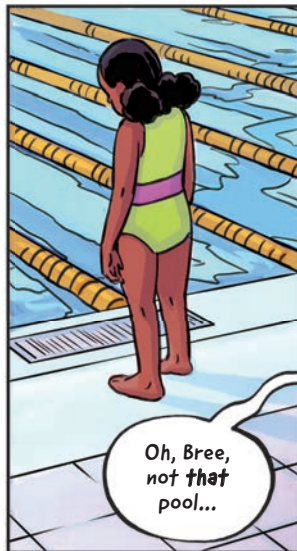
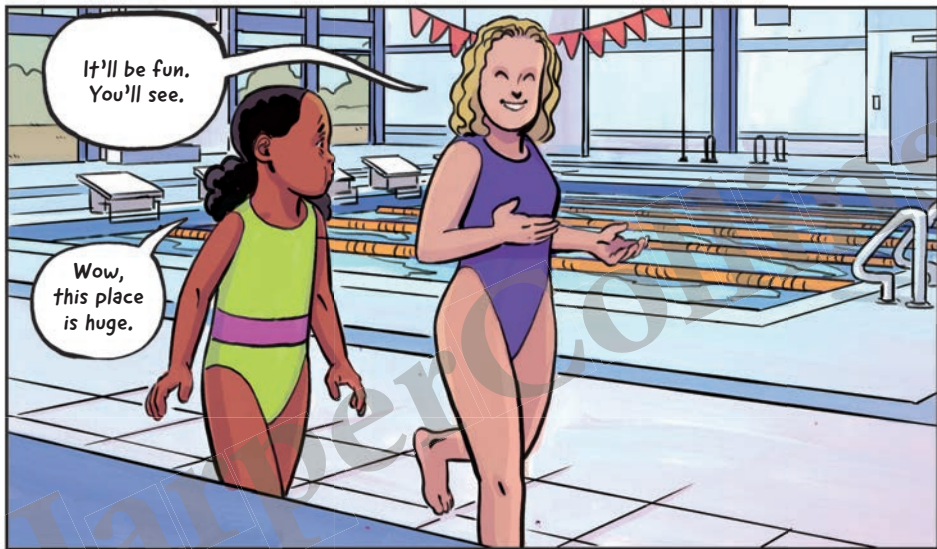


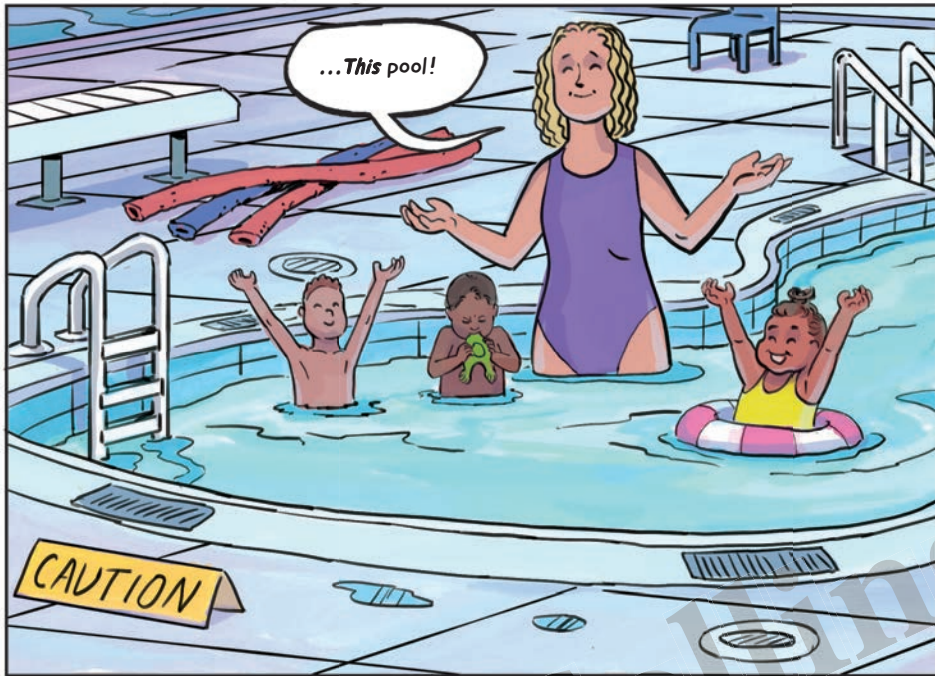


















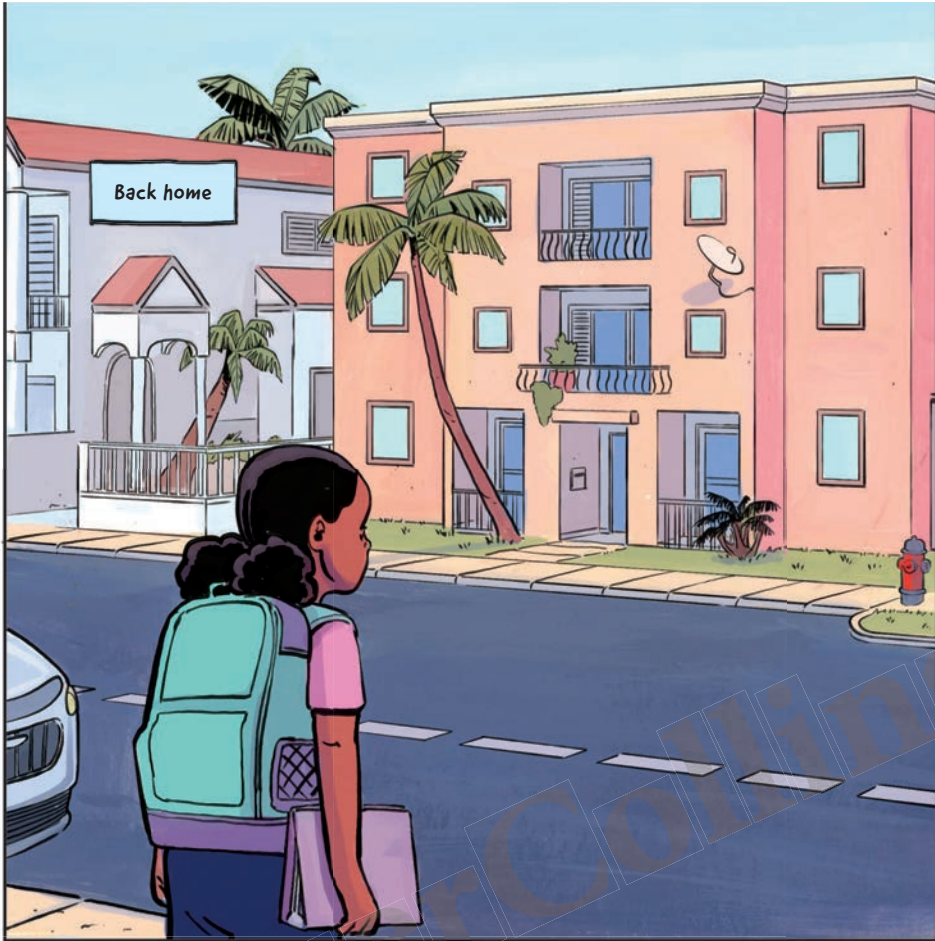




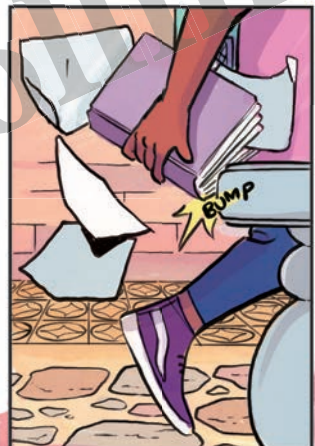
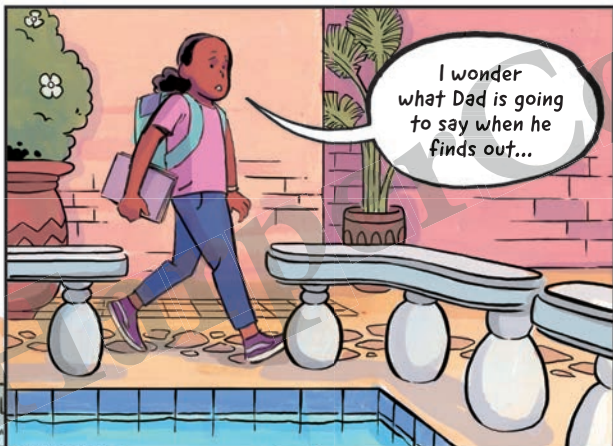
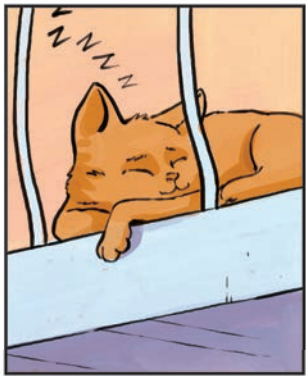










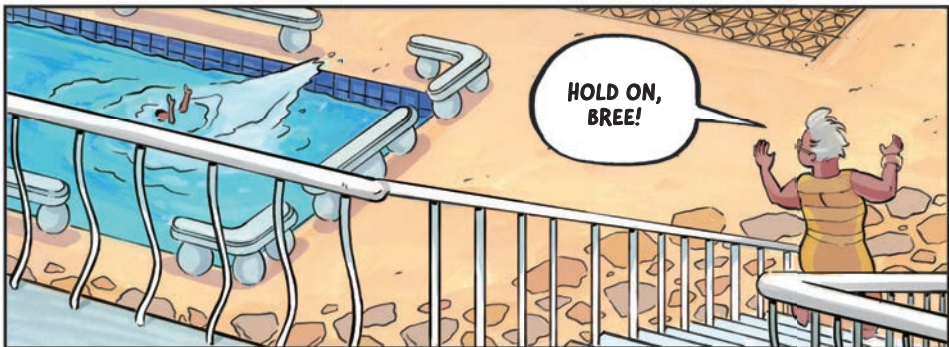




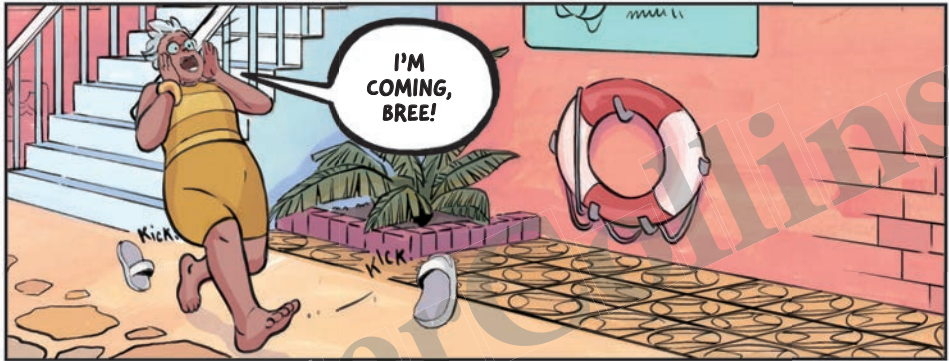


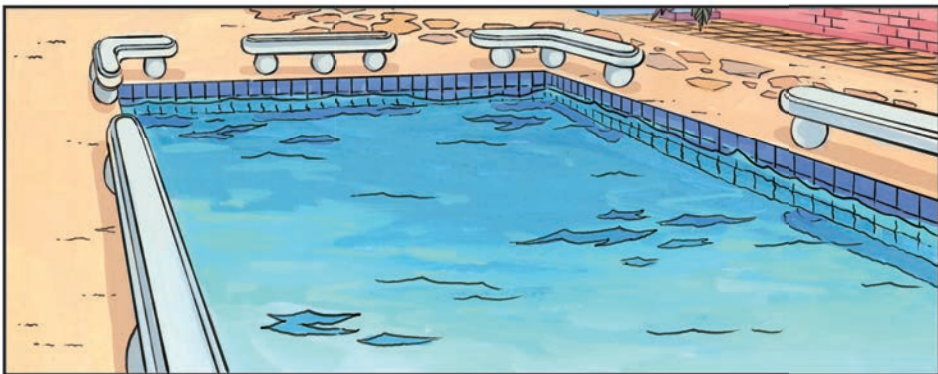
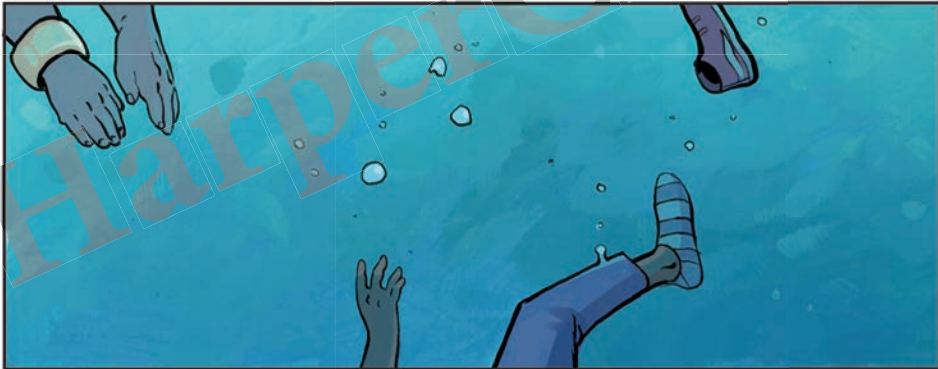
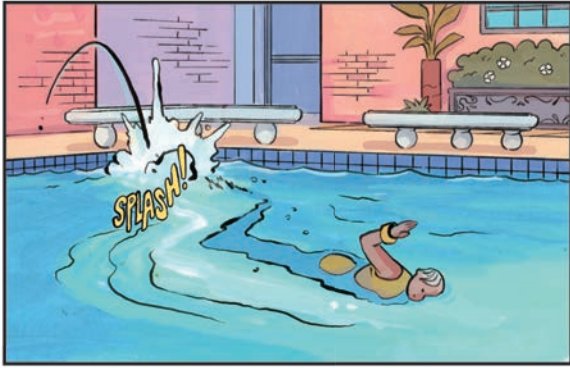






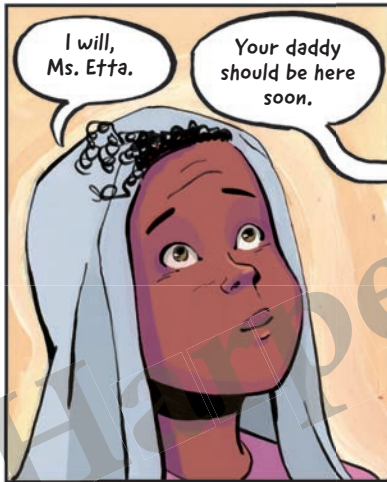
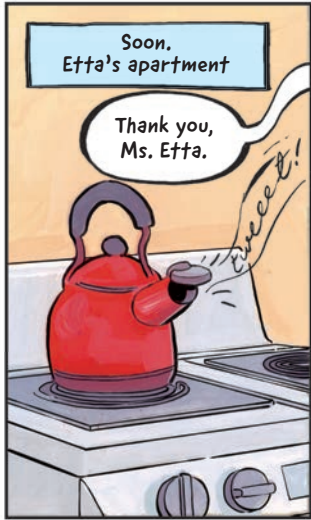




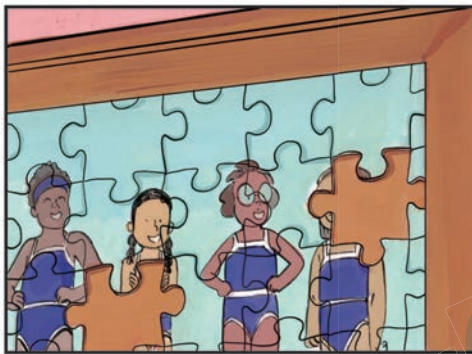
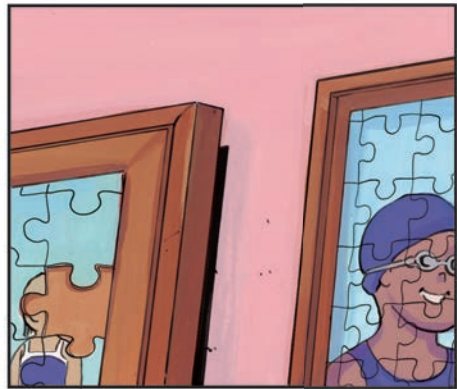






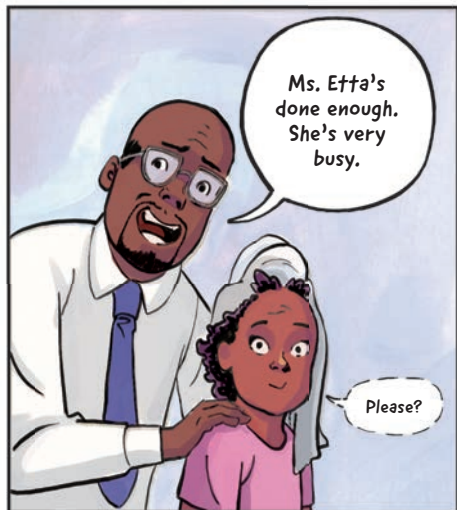
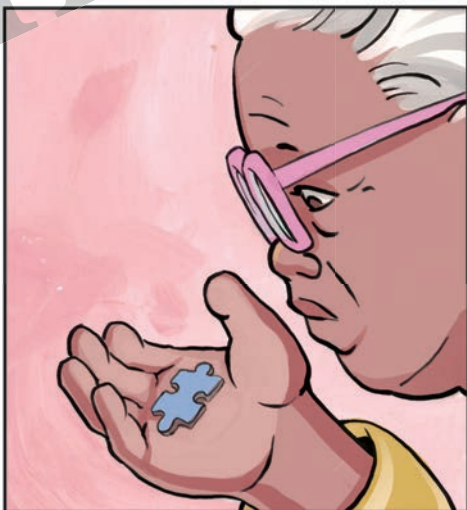


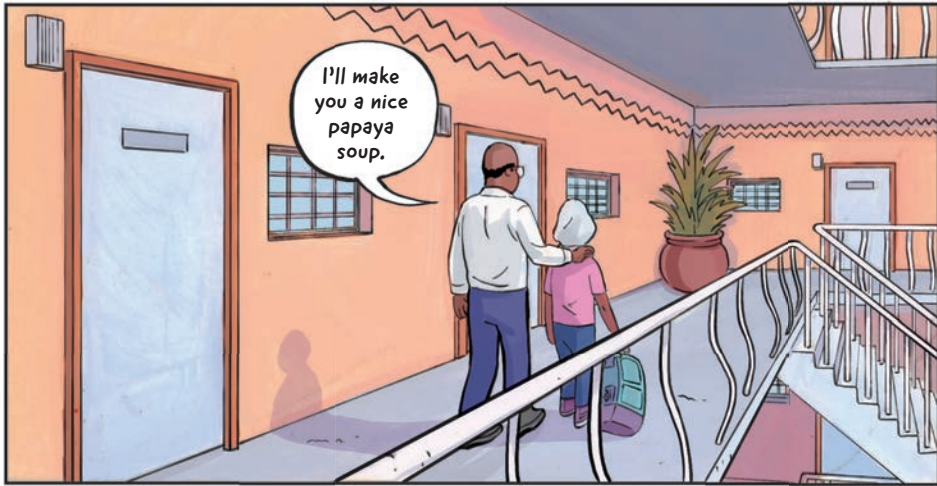














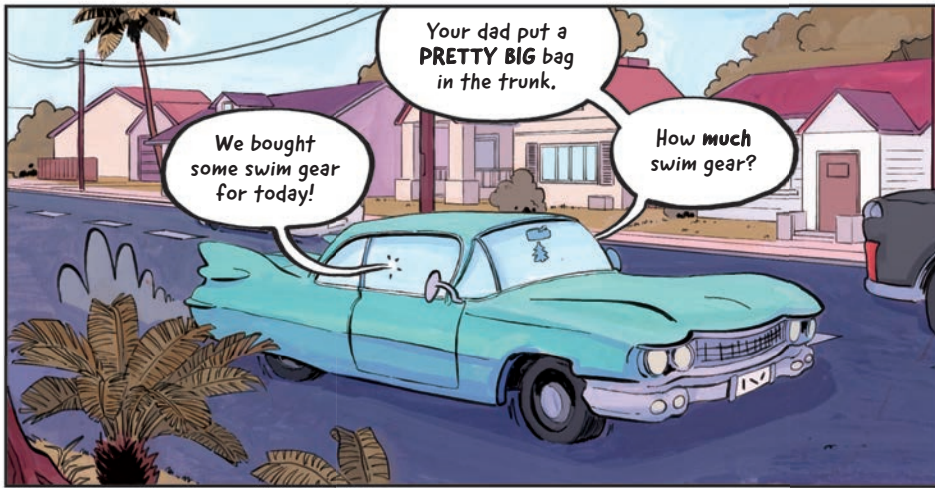
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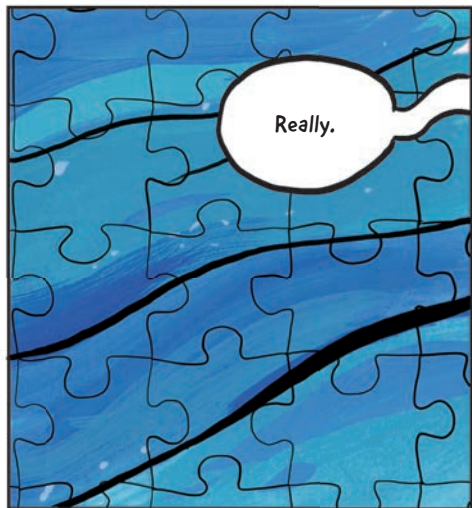
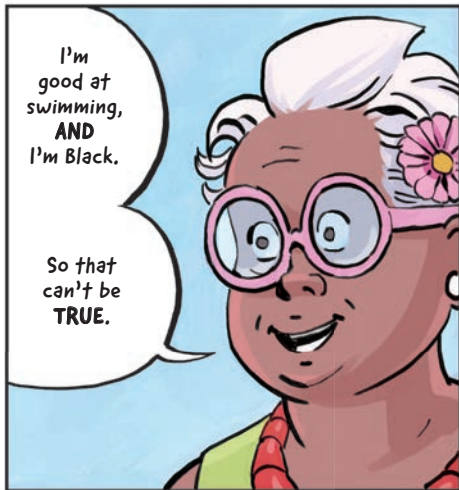
The Deep End

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From ancient Africa  
to modern Africa...

from Chicago  
to Peru...

in seas, rivers,  
lakes, and pools...





Black people have always swum and always will.

The art of swimming is handed down, generation after generation.

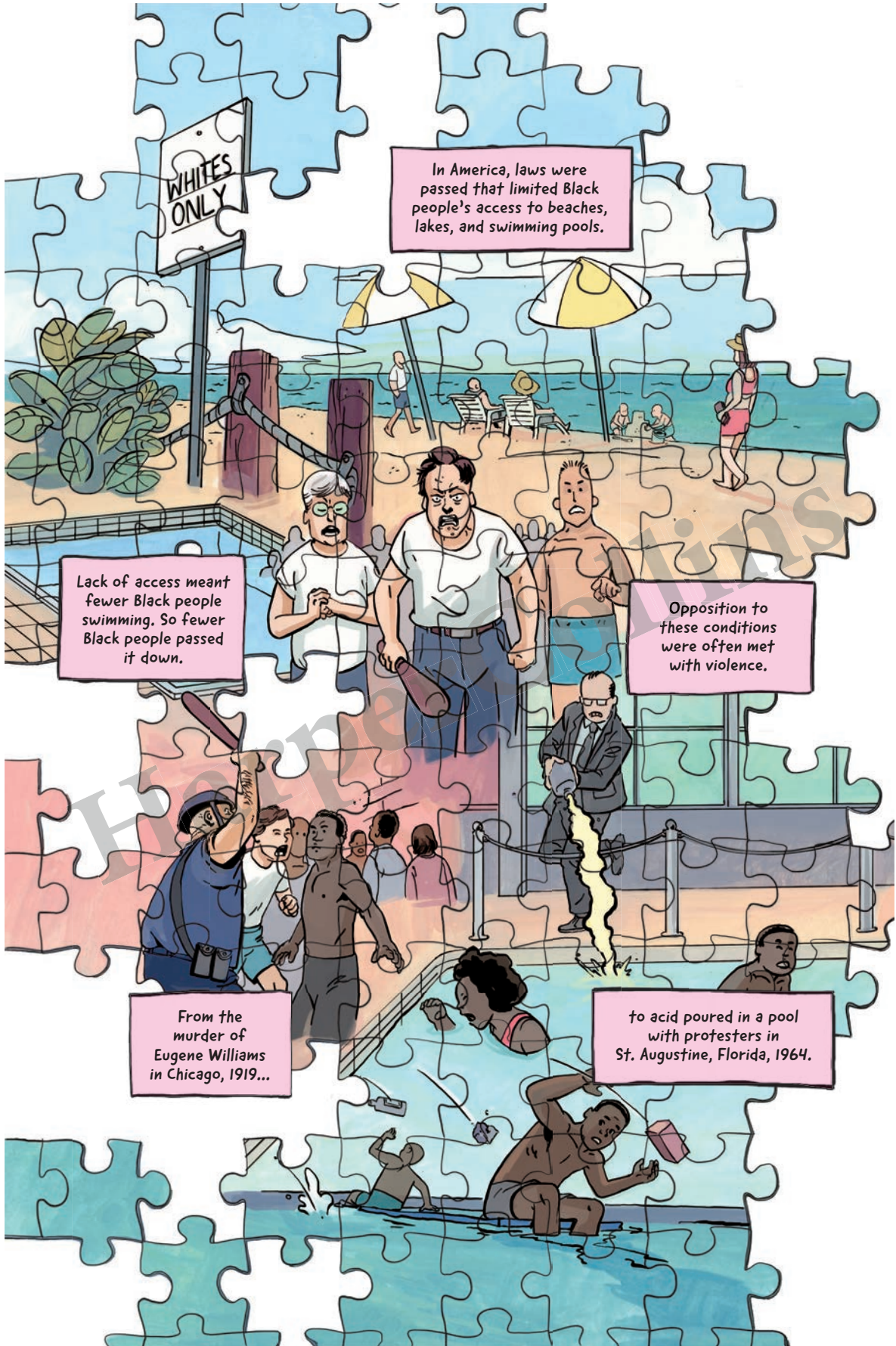


Then why can't so many of my friends swim?



Well... that's where it gets complicated...





WHITES ONLY

In America, laws were passed that limited Black people's access to beaches, lakes, and swimming pools.

Lack of access meant fewer Black people swimming. So fewer Black people passed it down.

Opposition to these conditions were often met with violence.

From the murder of Eugene Williams in Chicago, 1919...

to acid poured in a pool with protesters in St. Augustine, Florida, 1964.

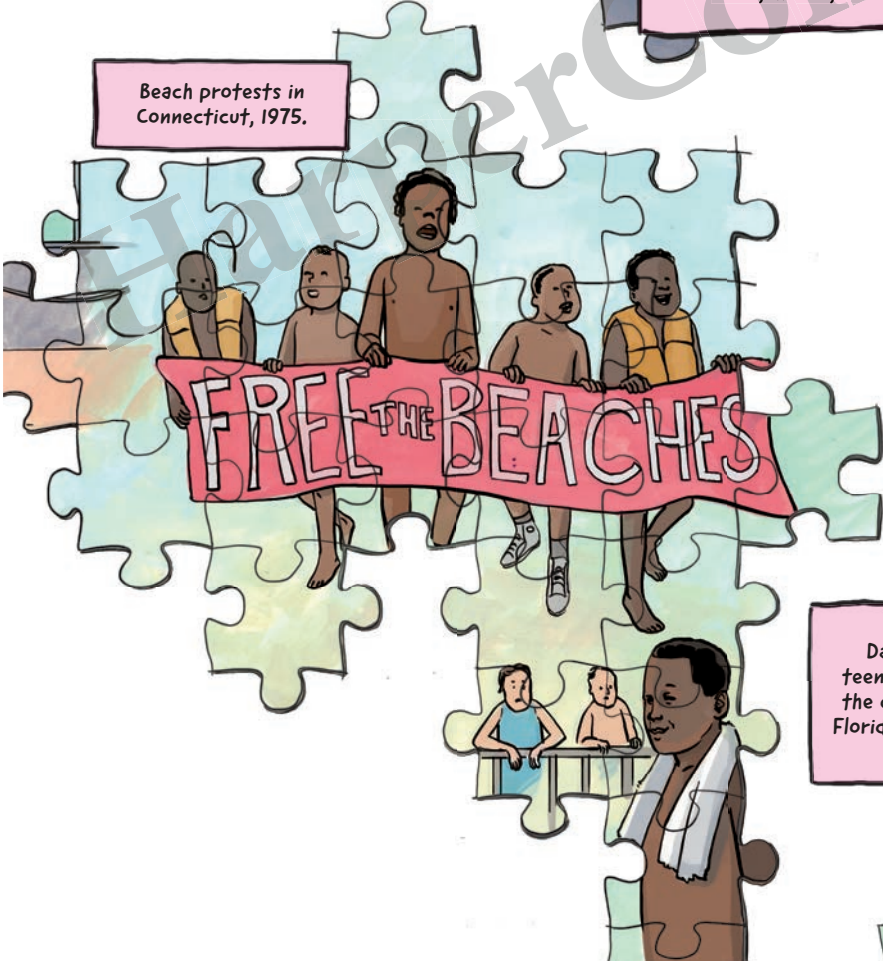




So the knowledge was scattered. Like a jigsaw puzzle with missing pieces.

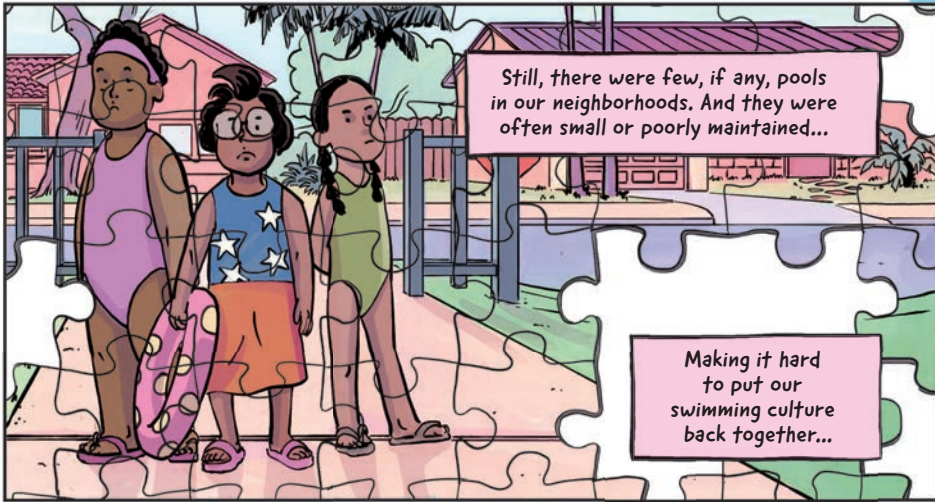
But, regardless, we kept fighting and, eventually, the laws were changed.

John Lewis, protesting a segregated pool in Cairo, Illinois, 1962.

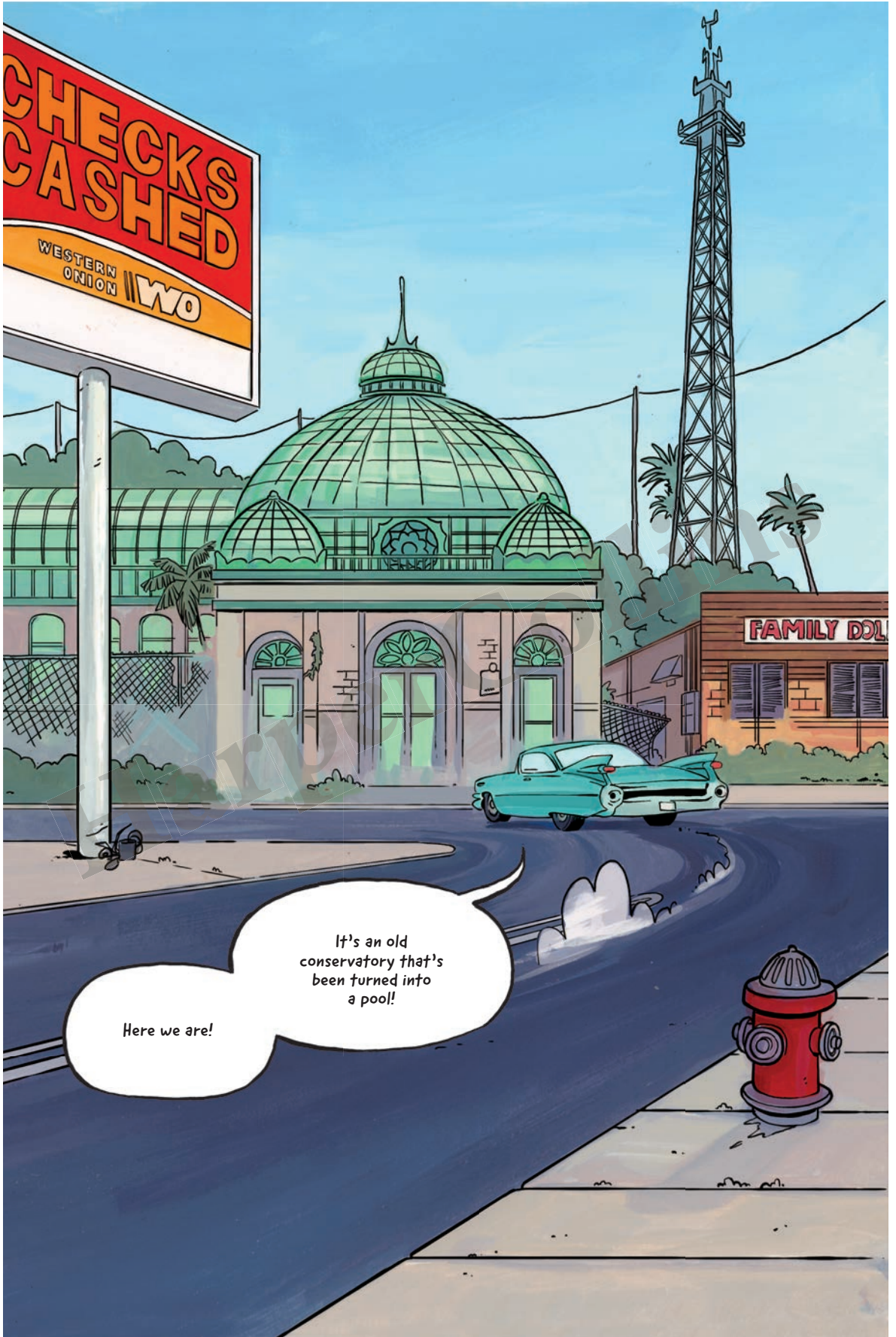


Beach protests in Connecticut, 1975.

David Isom, a teenager breaking the color line at a Florida pool in 1958.







Here we are!

It's an old conservatory that's been turned into a pool!

