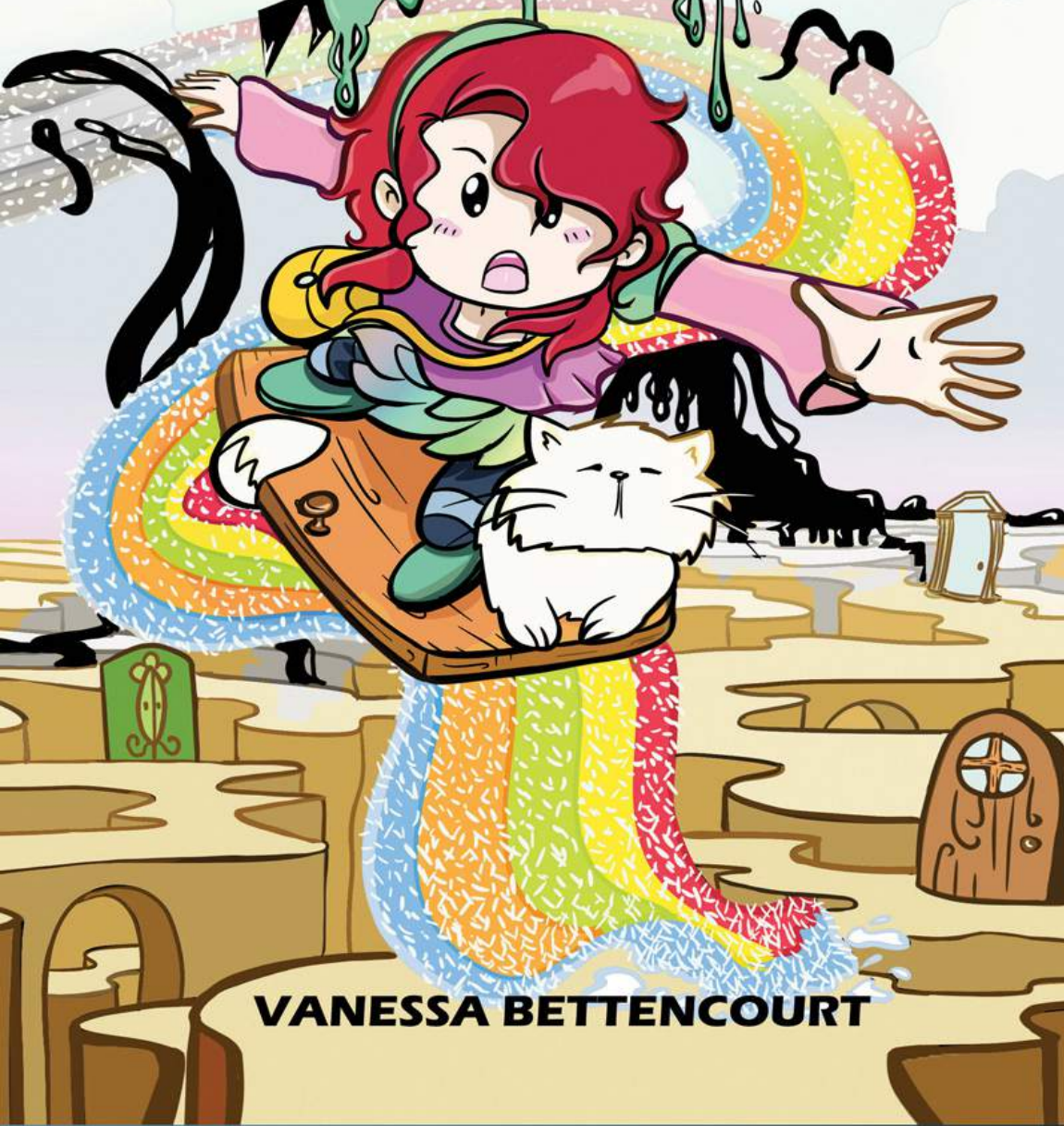


Polly AND THE BLACK INK

Book 1



VANESSA BETTENCOURT



POLLY AND THE BLACK INK

WRITTEN & ILLUSTRATED BY
VANESSA BETTENCOURT

TO MY BELOVED:



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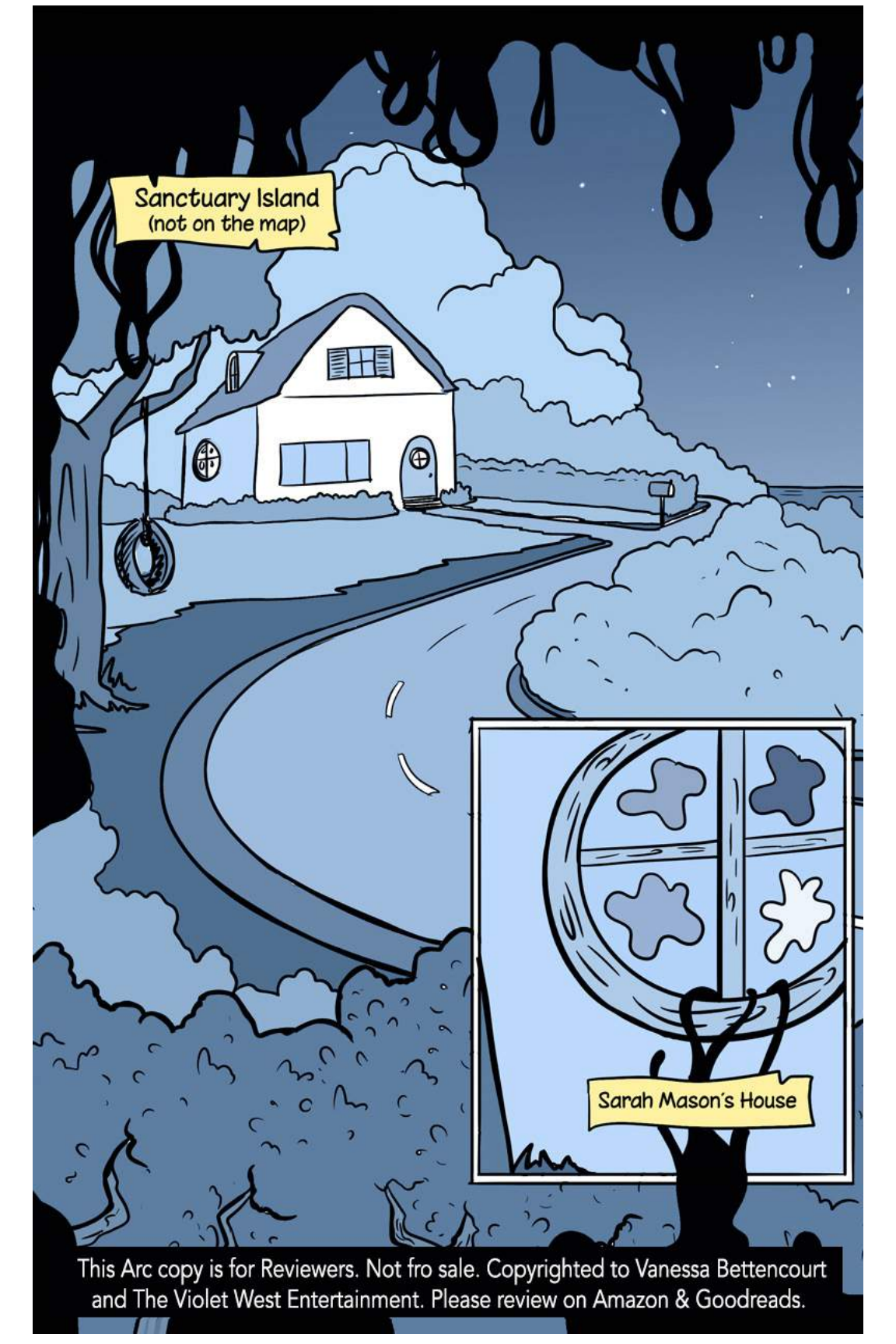
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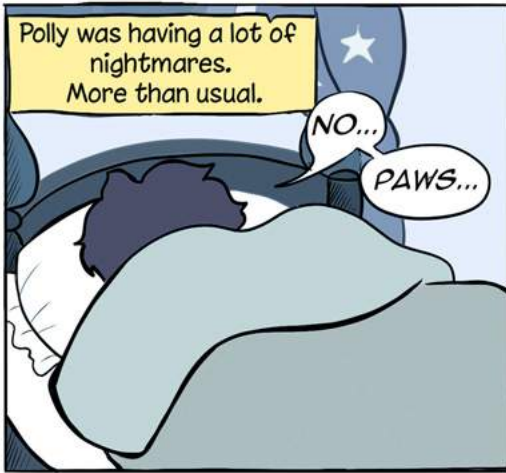
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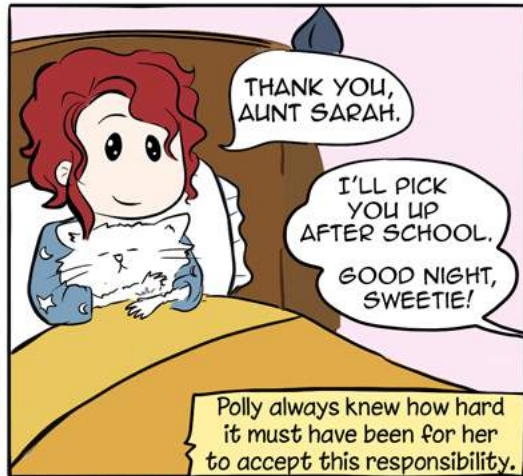
Sanctuary Island
(not on the map)



Sarah Mason's House









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MOM WAS CRYING.

THE POLICE OFFICER
SAID...

...THE THIEF
MESSED
WITH THE ALARM
SYSTEM.

THE SHORT CIRCUIT STARTED
THE FIRE AND SCARED
HIM AWAY, BEFORE HE
TOOK ANYTHING.

...DESTROYED THE
PLACE, SEARCHING
FOR SOMETHING.

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MOM HAD
BEEN BEHIND
WITH THE
INSURANCE...

I'M SO
SORRY...

MOM LOST HER
SHOP AND
THE HOUSE.

WE LOST
EVERYTHING.

MOM HAD TO ACCEPT
A NEW JOB...

...FAR AWAY.



Weeks later she found the stone inside of me when she put me away in the closet. That's when we spoke for the first time.



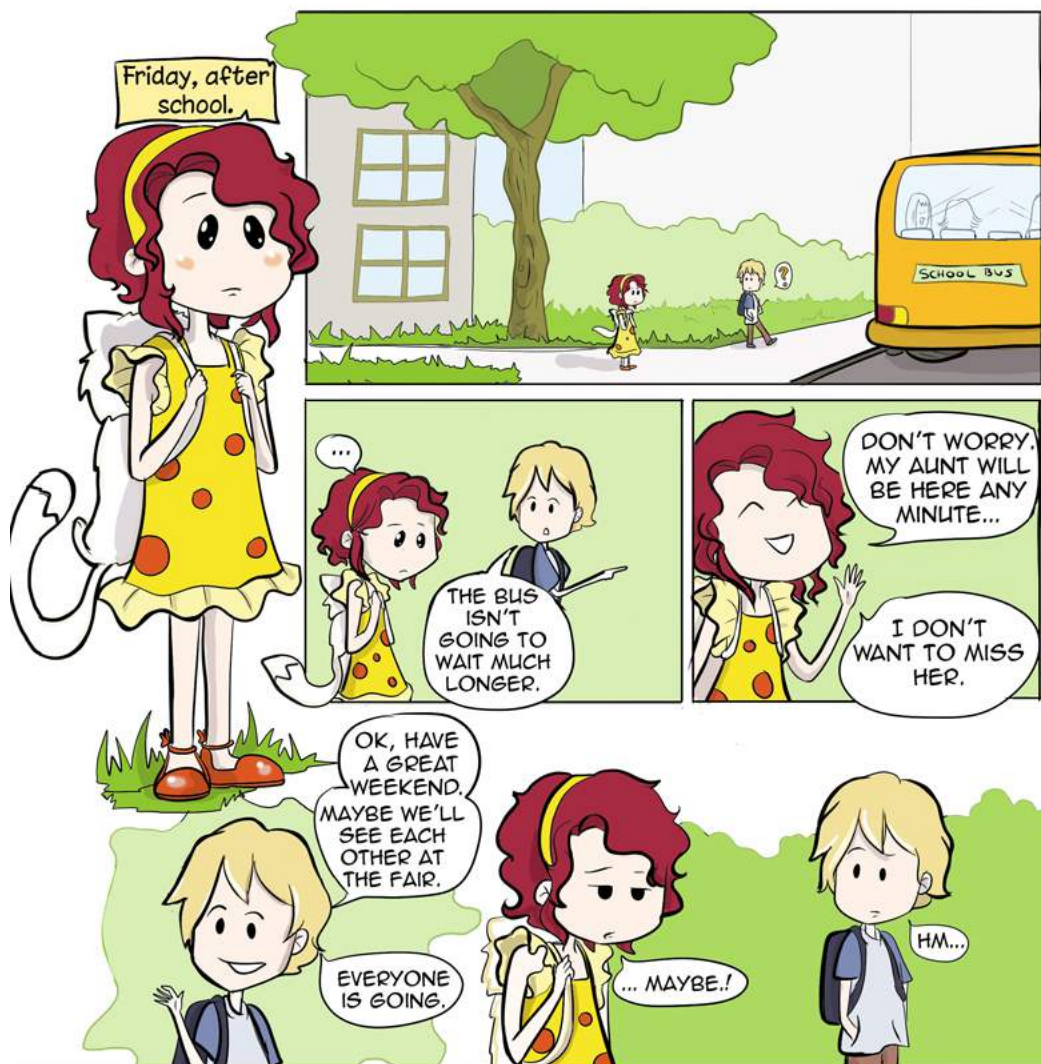


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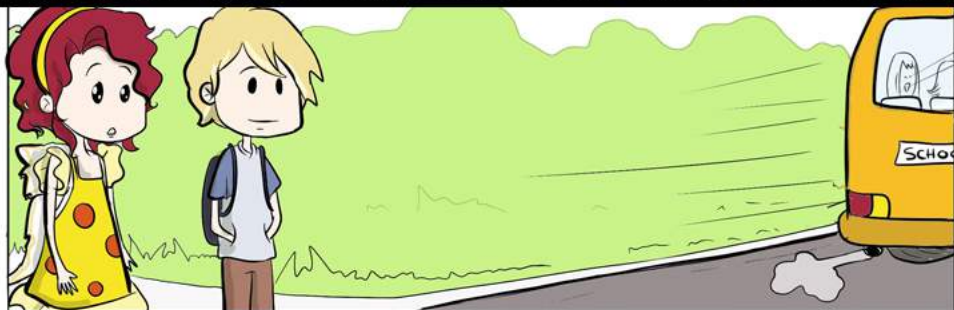


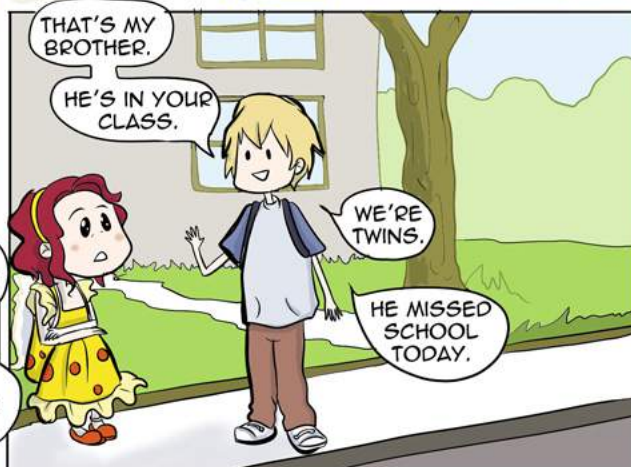
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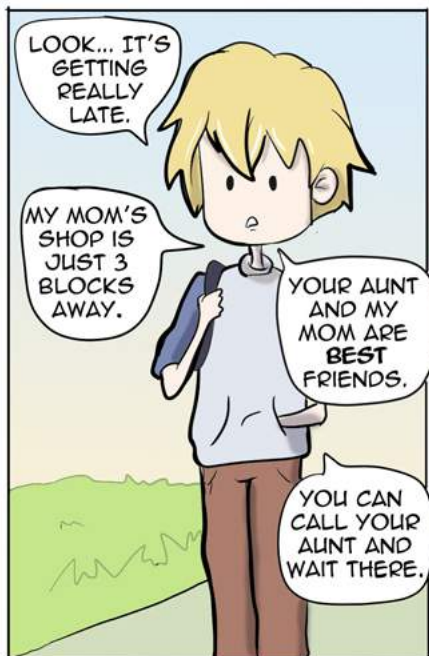




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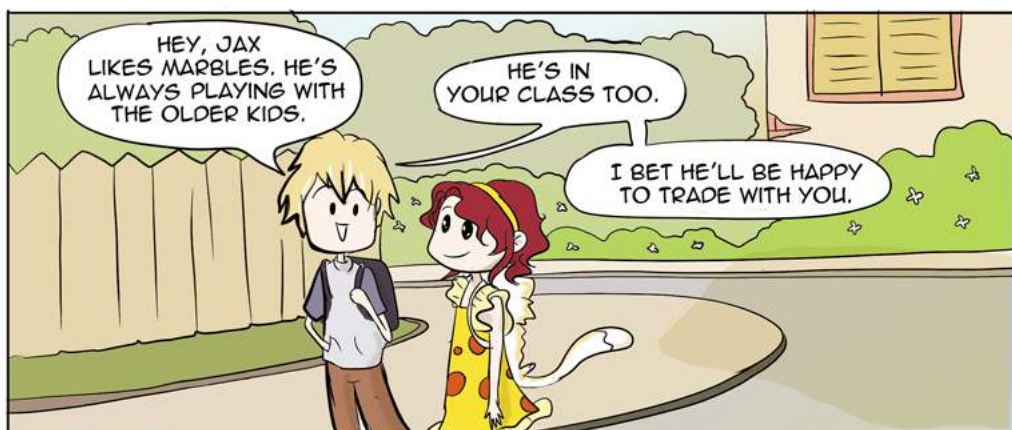






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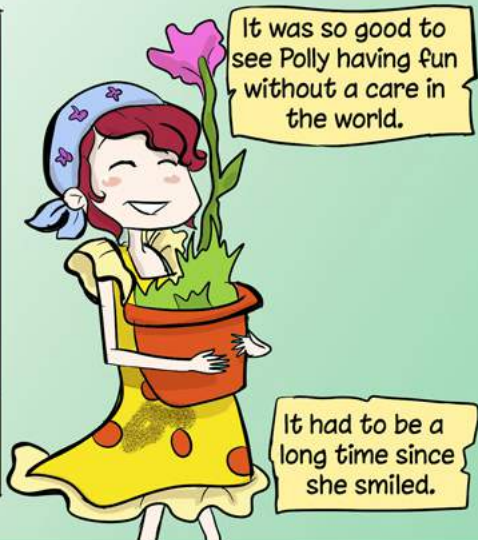
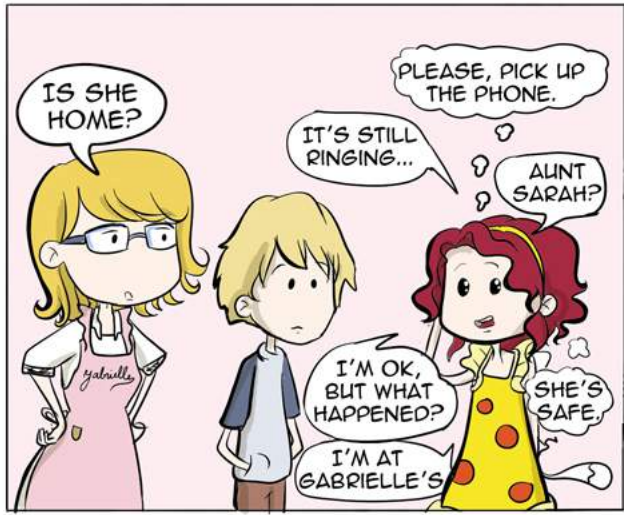
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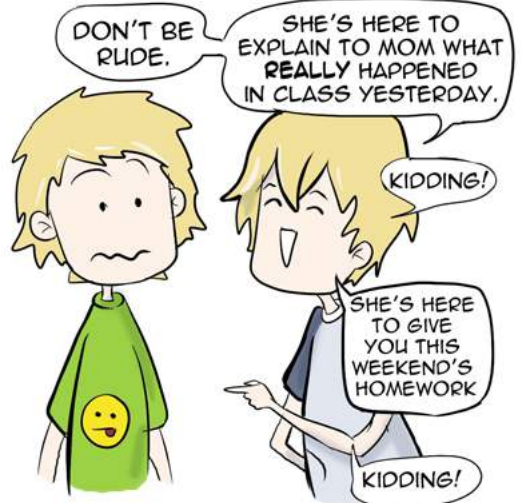


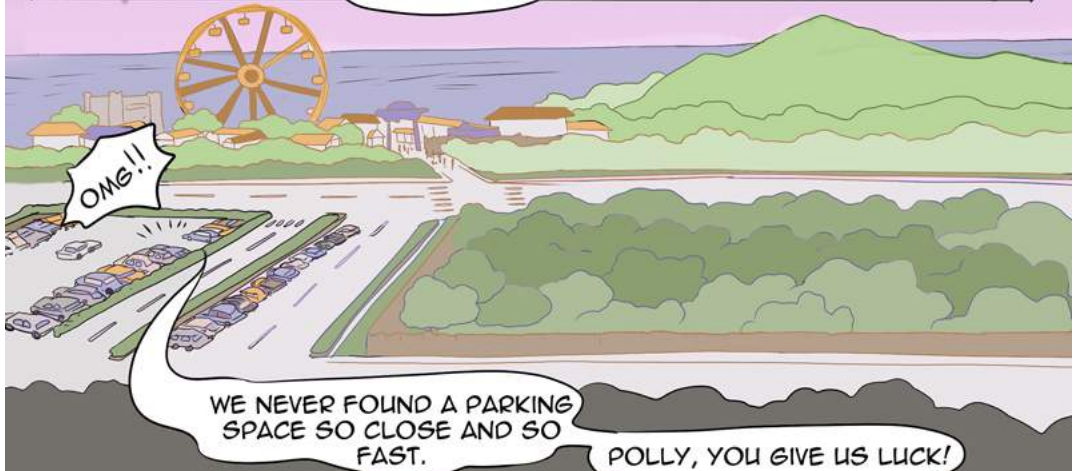






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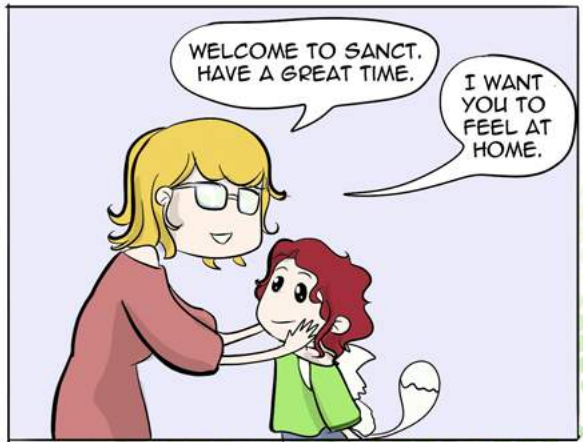




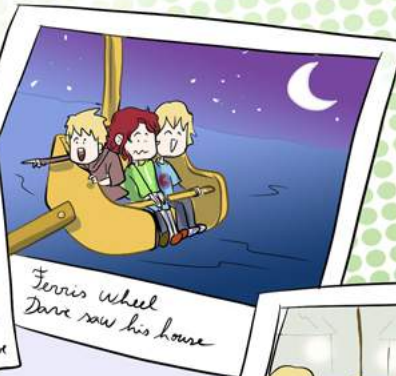
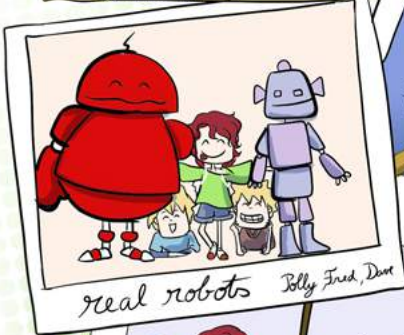


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And she did have a great time.



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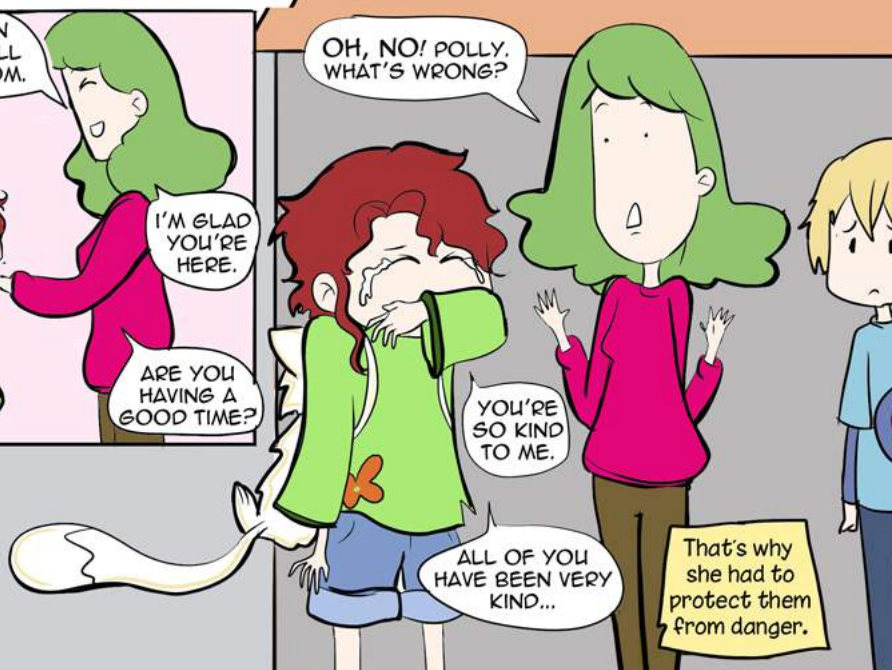


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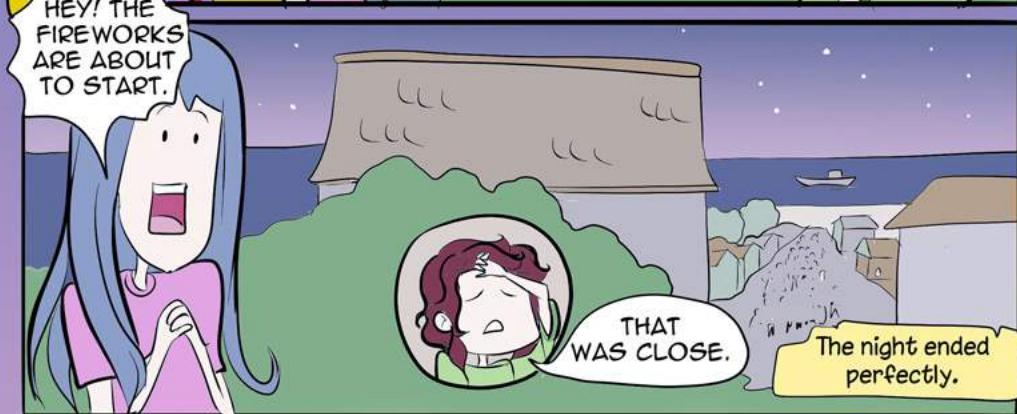




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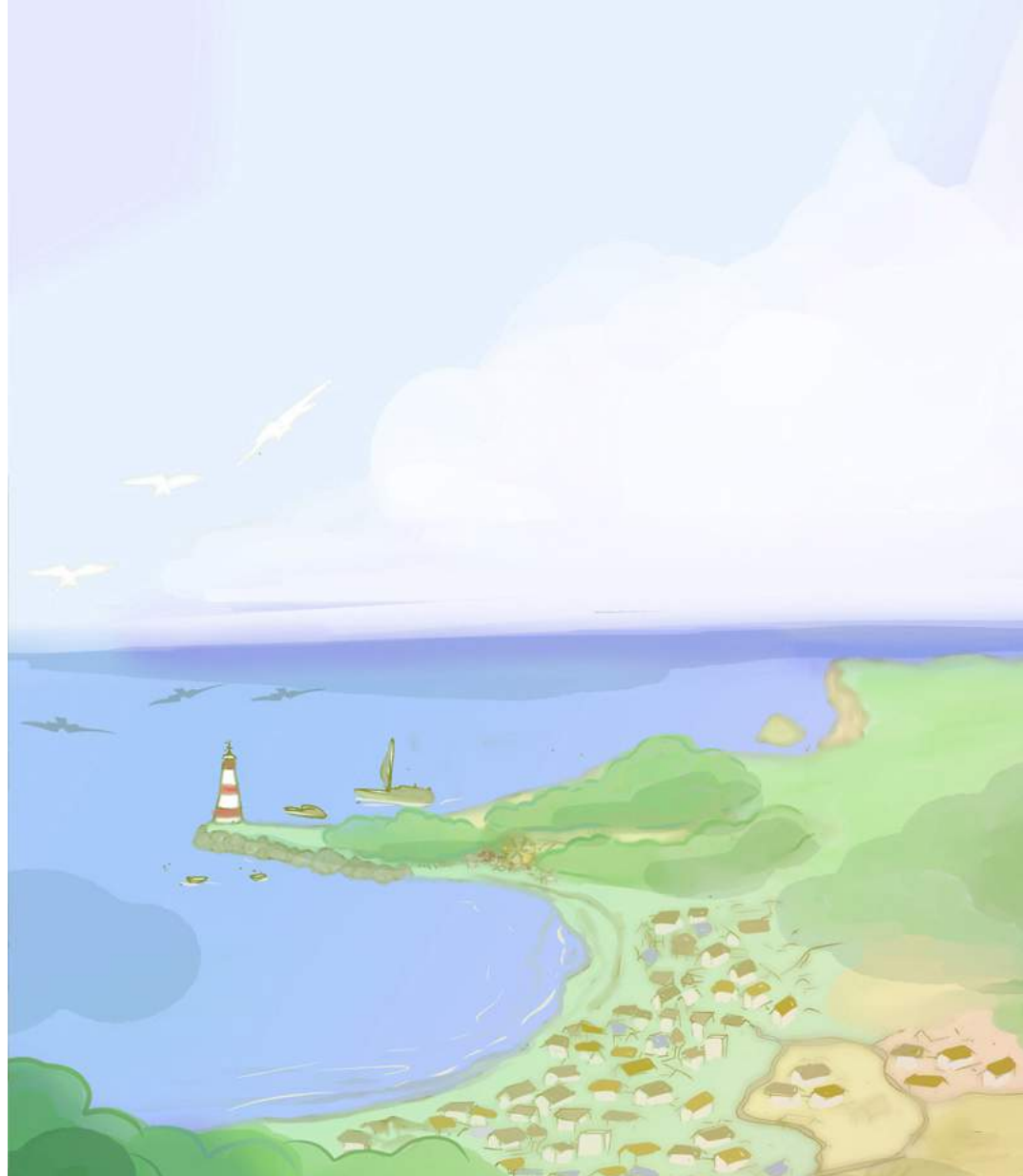
It was beautiful...



The week passed happily.
Polly decided she would
help her aunt at the candy stand
until the fair was over.



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Another ferry arrived with more visitors. The fair was an exciting annual event for outsiders too.



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But Polly's nightmares soon returned.



HE WILL FIND YOU
SOONER OR LATER..

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NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT-
STOP IT, XED!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?

The phone calls
started to upset
Aunt Sarah every day.



WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?
DON'T EVER CALL ME AGAIN!



SIGH

Whoever it was made
her sad and scared.



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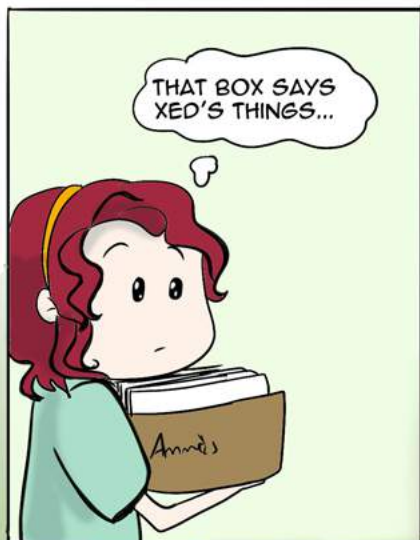
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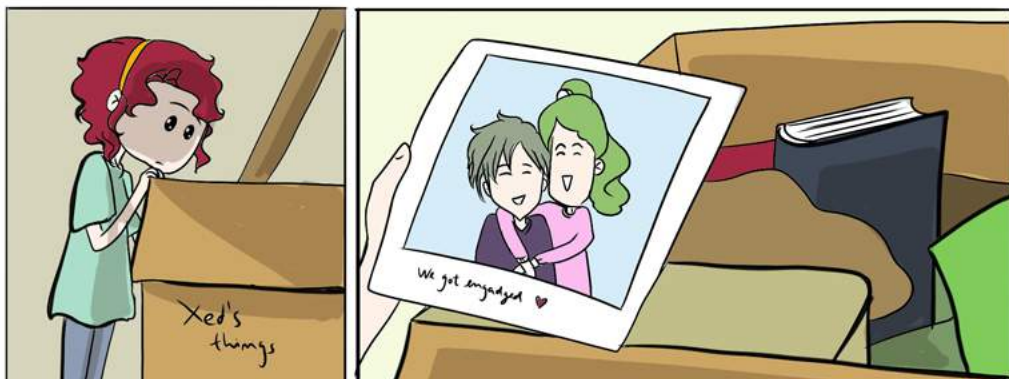


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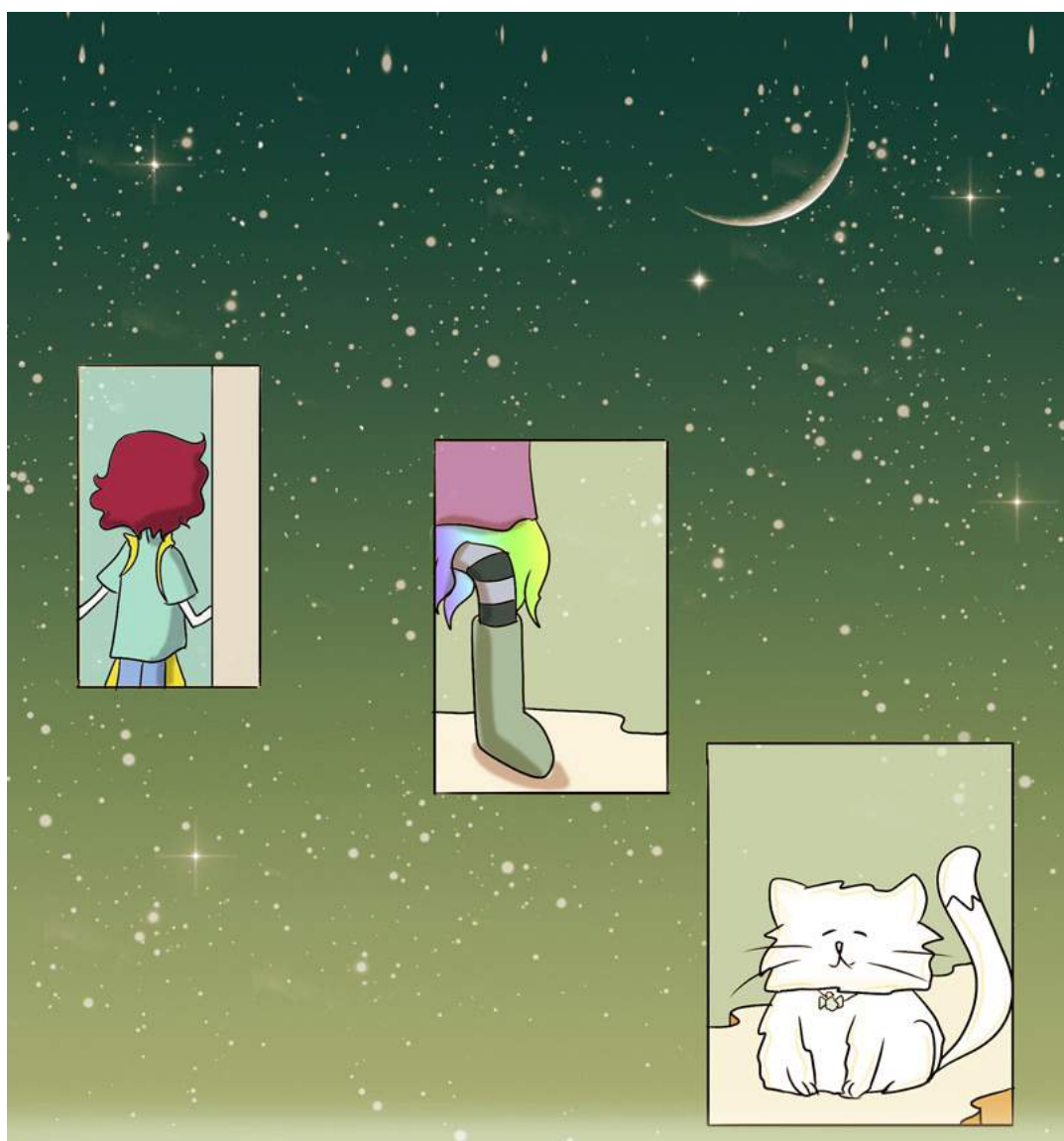
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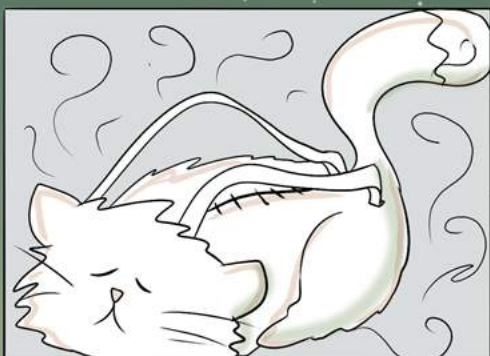
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Polly had lots of fun...

...helping her aunt...



...and with her new friends.



But her nightmares got worse...

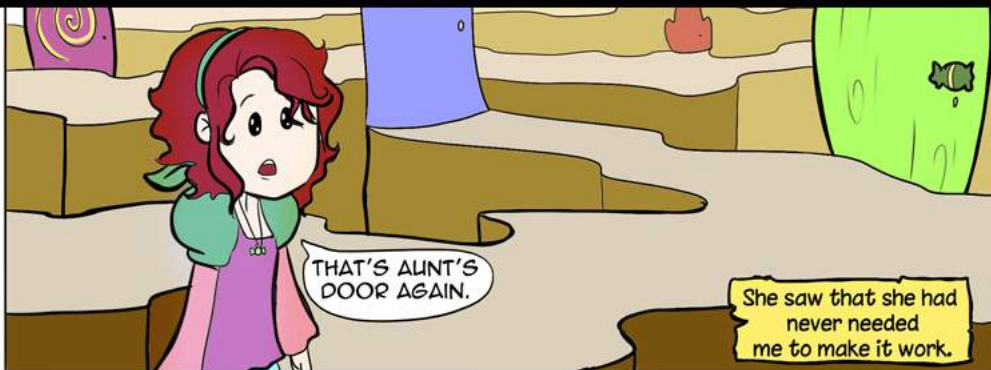
...and this time
she didn't open a
door to talk
about them.



Then she had an idea.

She wore the stone
and opened a door.

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THAT'S AUNT'S
DOOR AGAIN.

She saw that she had
never needed
me to make it work.



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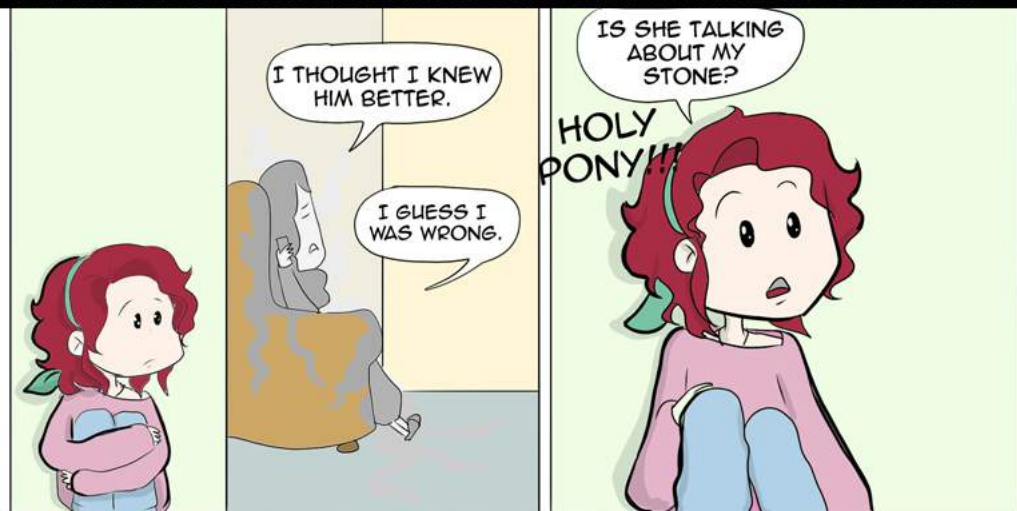


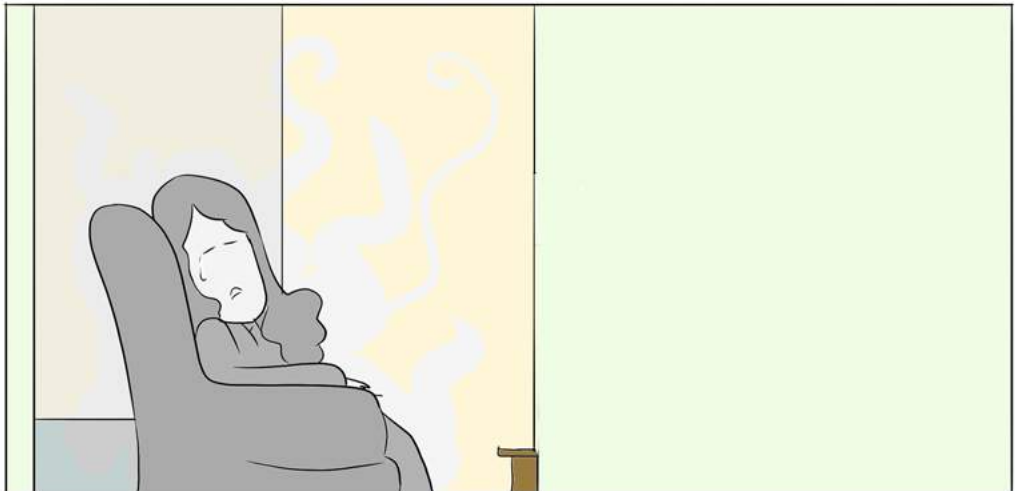
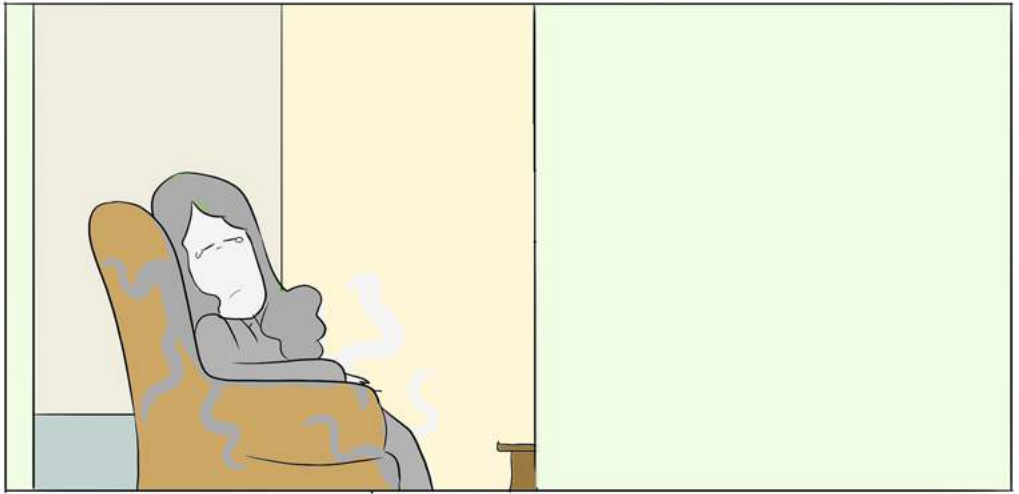
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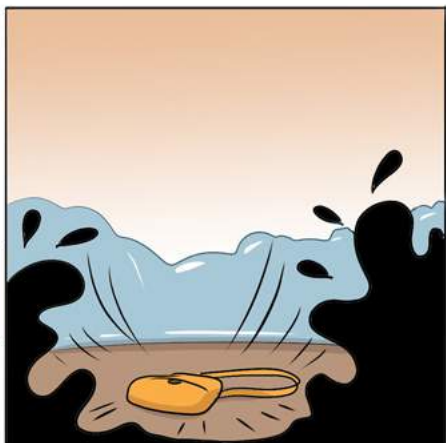
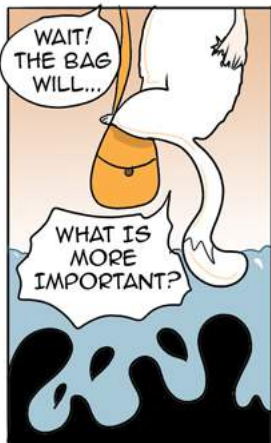


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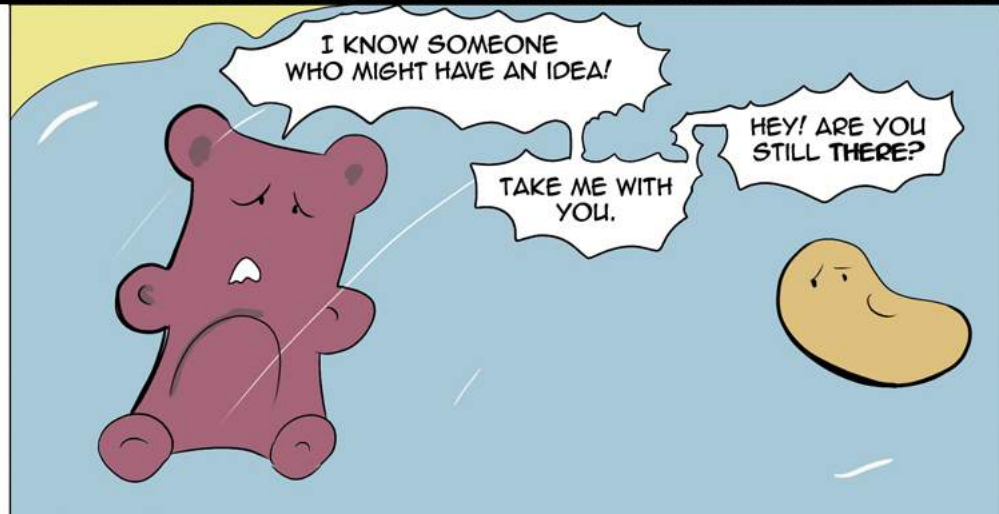


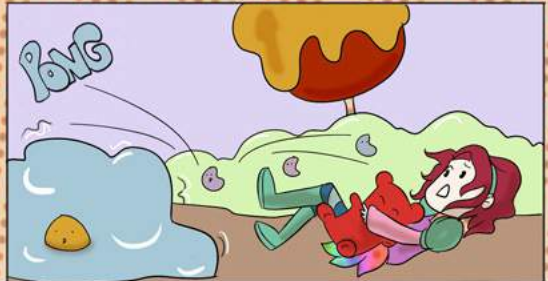
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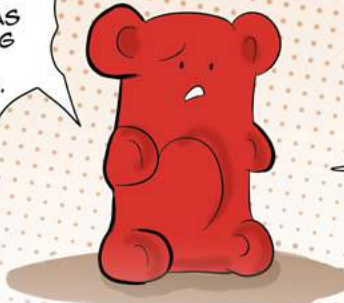
STUPID STICKY
JELLY!



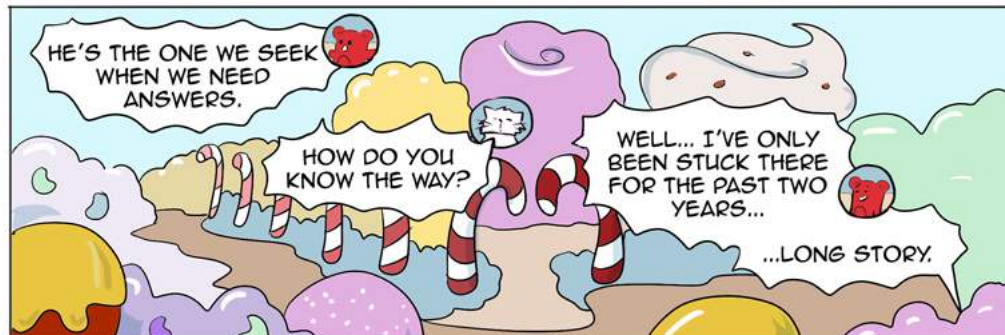
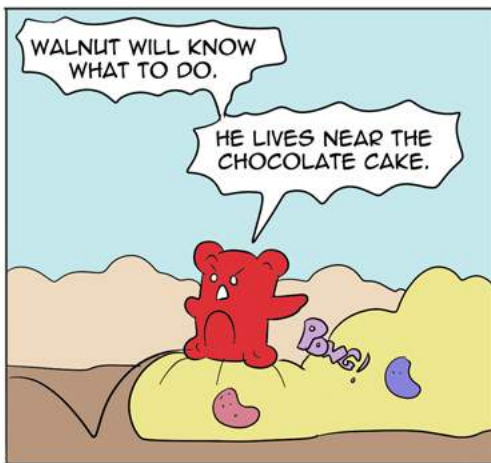
TELL US WHAT
YOU KNOW!



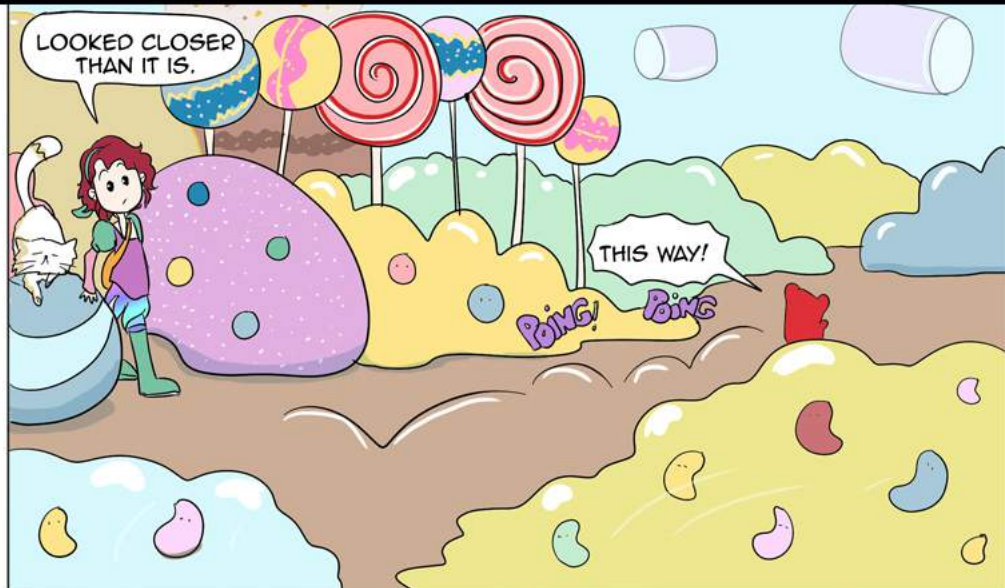
I DIDN'T SEE WHEN
IT STARTED,
BUT THE INK HAS
BEEN INVADING
SLOWLY
FOR A WHILE.



NOW
FOR SOME
REASON
IT'S SPREADING
FASTER SINCE
LAST MONTH.



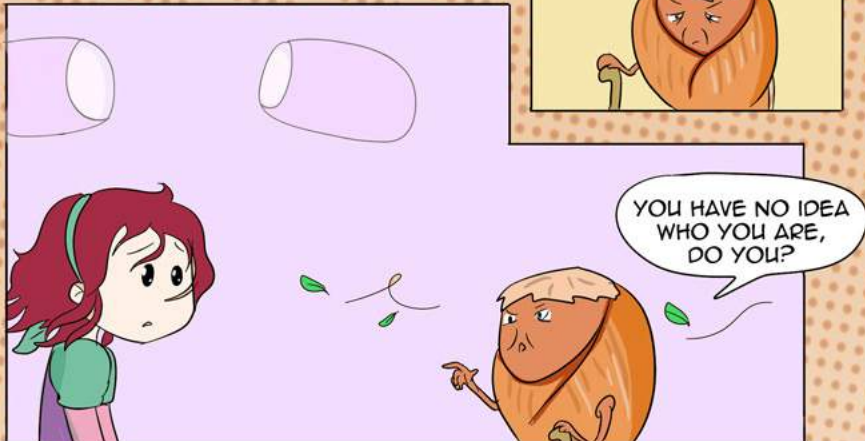
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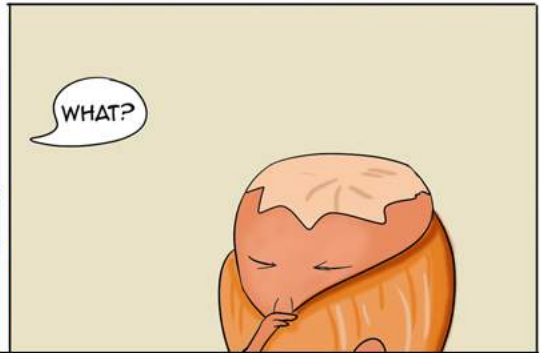
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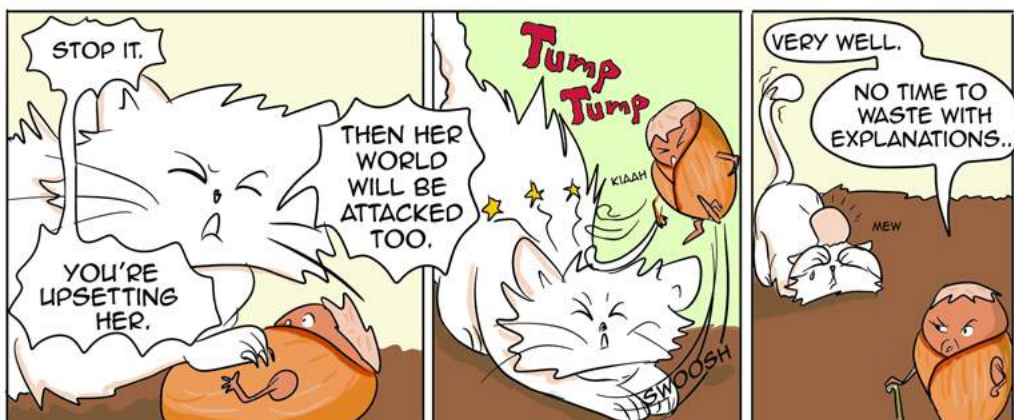


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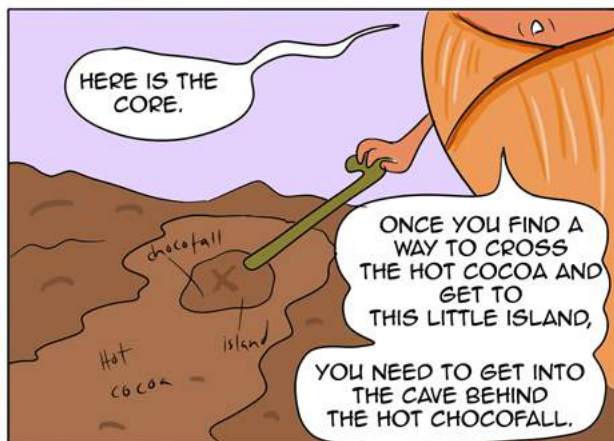
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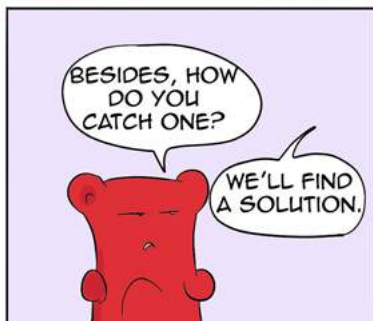
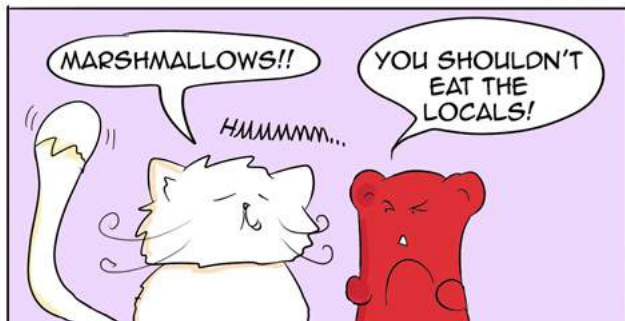
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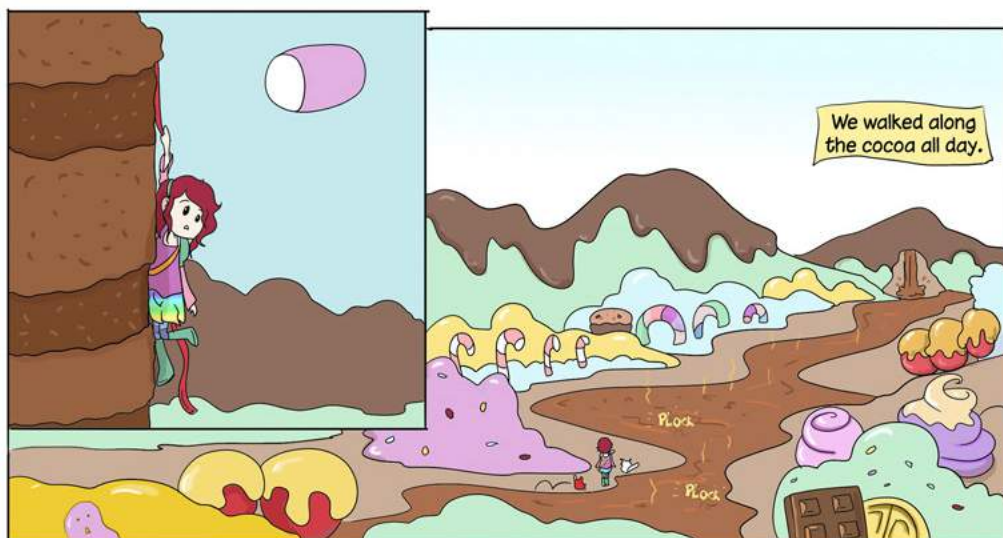




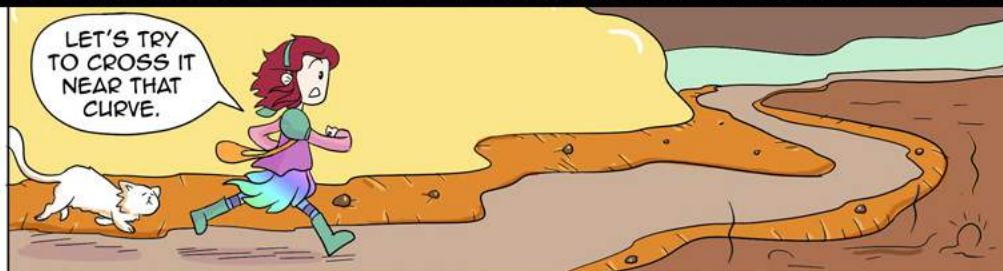


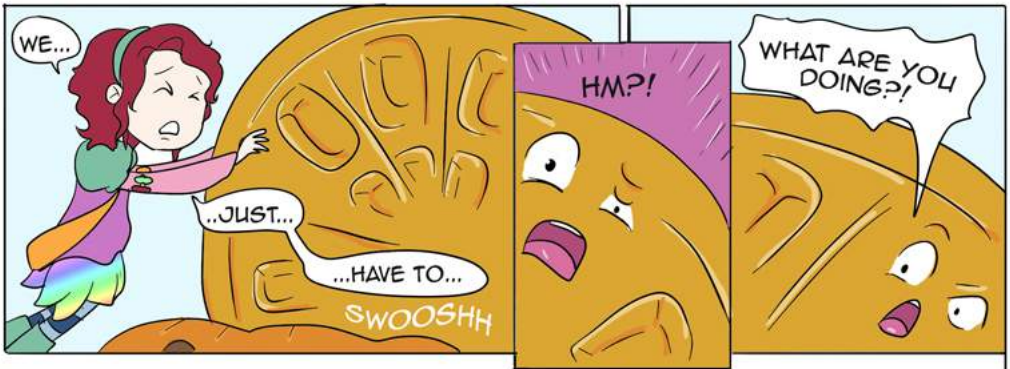
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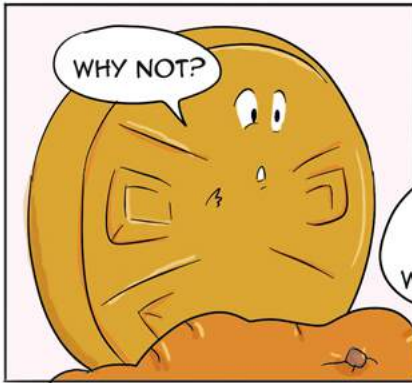
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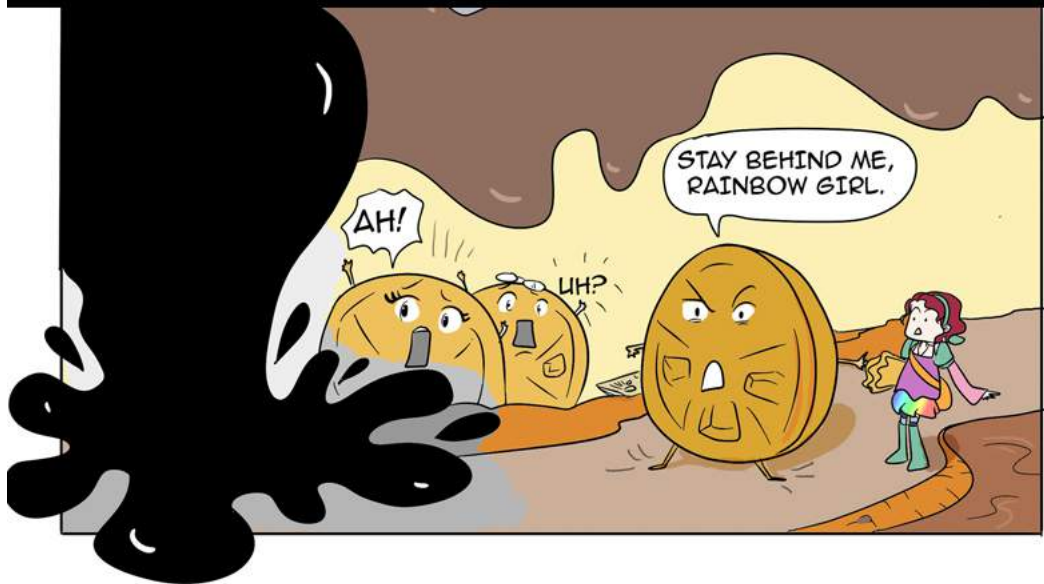
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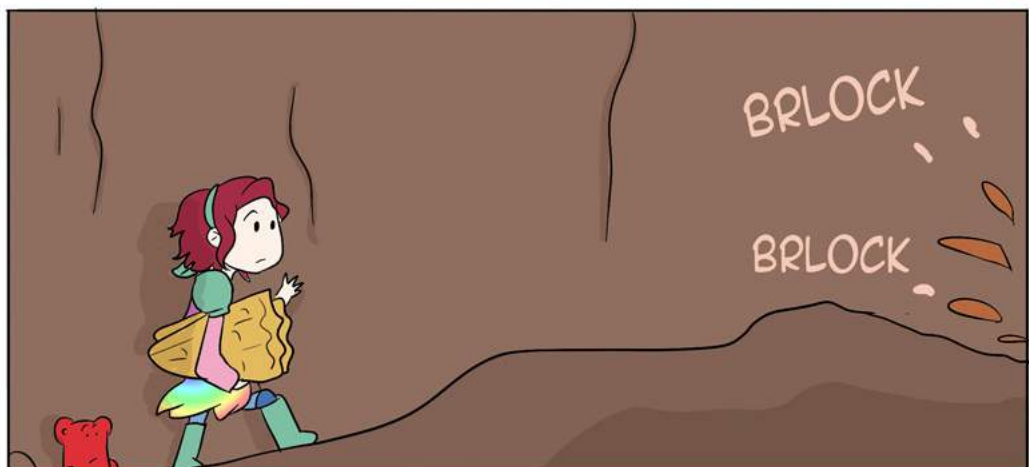
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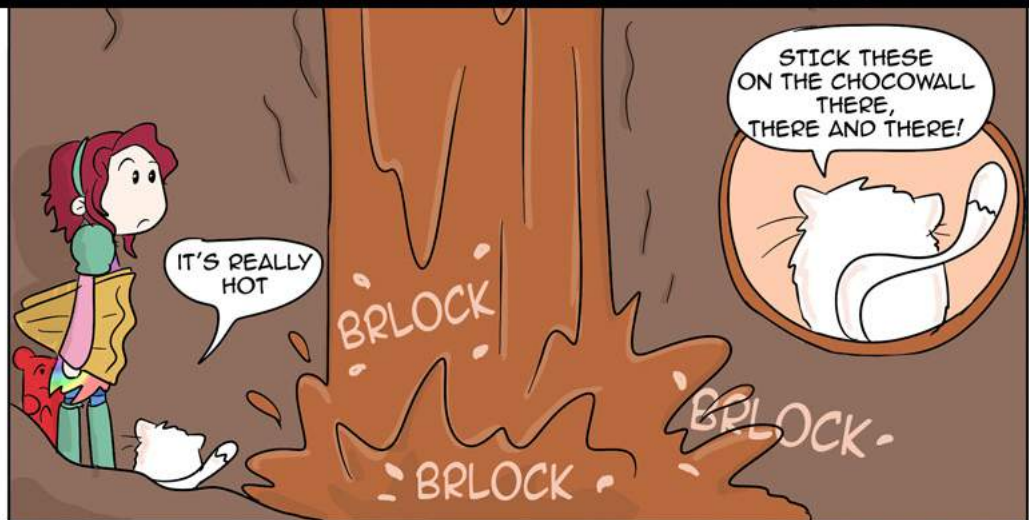


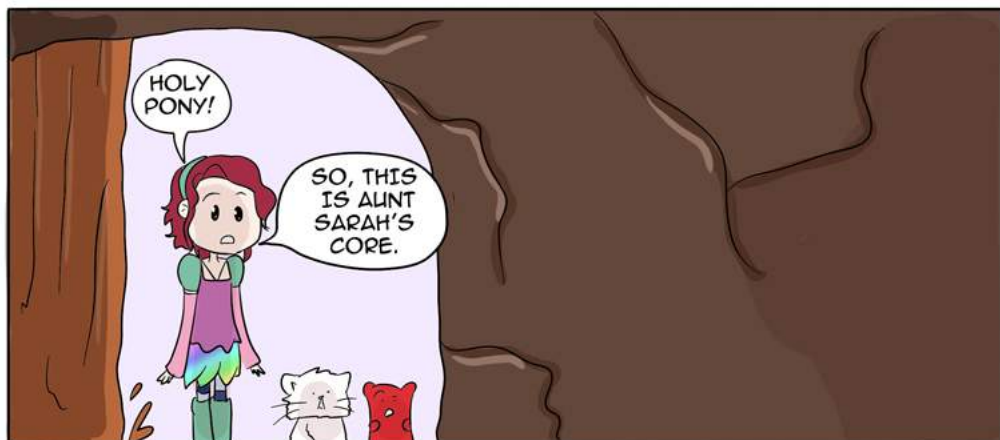
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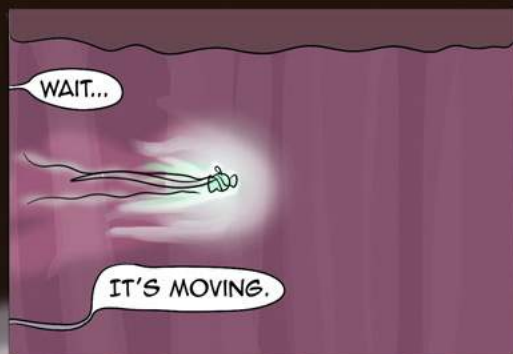
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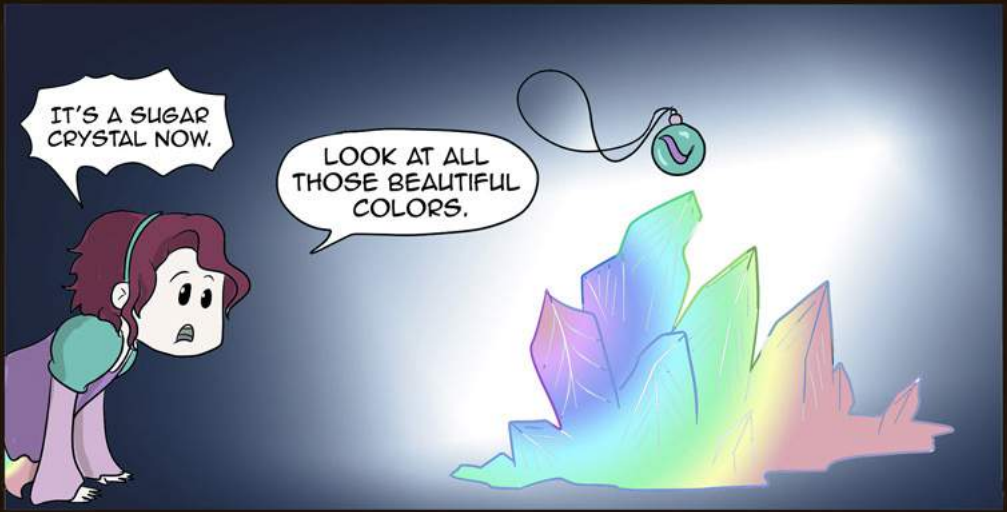
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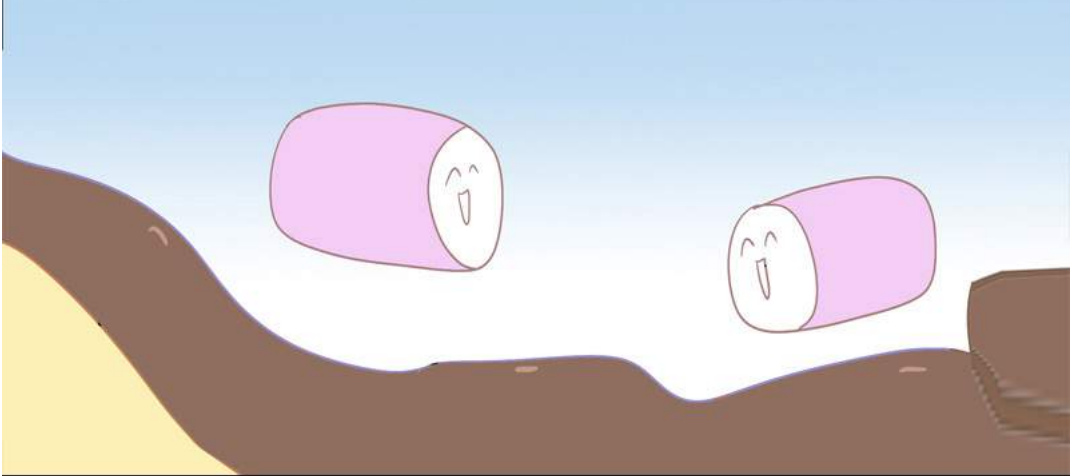
THE CUPCAKE IS MELTING.

FZZZZZ





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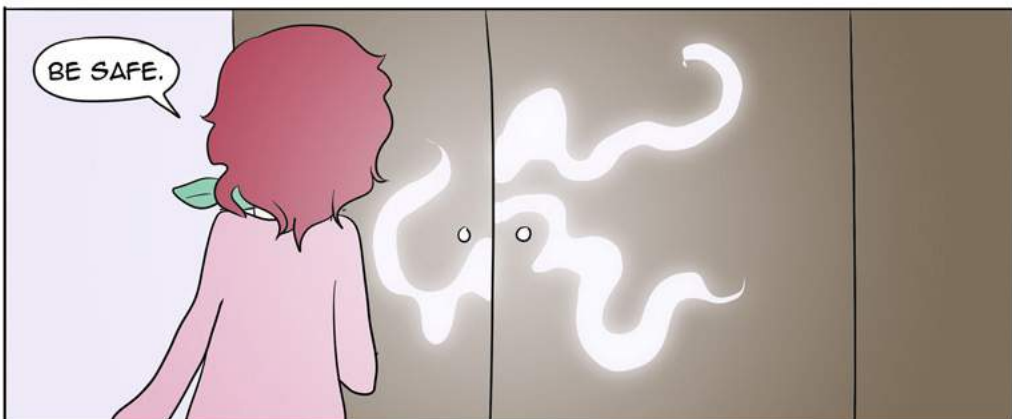
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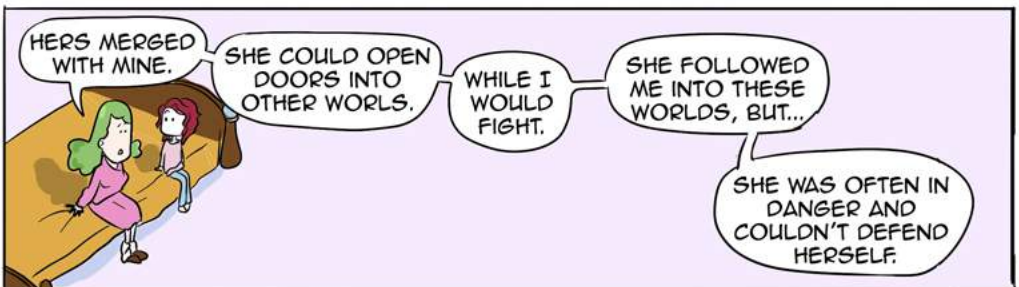


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TRYING TO GET RID
OF THE STONE WAS
SELFISH OF ME.

I WAS REFUSING TO
HELP PEOPLE. I WAS
SURE THAT I
DISAPPOINTED HIM.

I WOULDN'T BE ABLE
TO HELP PEOPLE AGAIN.

DON'T YOU SEE?
XED MUST HAVE
SENT ME THE
STONE, BECAUSE
HE CAN'T USE IT.

THE BLACK INK
GOT TO HIM.
I BELIEVE IT
CHANGED HIM.

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SO THIS WAS ALL MY
FAULT. I TRIED TO GET
RID OF THE ONLY WAY
I HAD TO HELP HIM.

IT'S NOT
TOO LATE.

THE STONE
IS MINE NOW.
I CAN HELP.

I WILL NEVER USE
MY GIFT TO LET
THE INK GET IN.

WHAT I DON'T
UNDERSTAND IS...

NO MATTER WHAT
XED HAS PLANNED,

WHY XED SENT
ME THE STONE,
AND THEN
DESTROYED THE
STORE SEARCHING
FOR IT?

DO YOU THINK
HE...? NO... HE
WOULDN'T...

UNLESS...

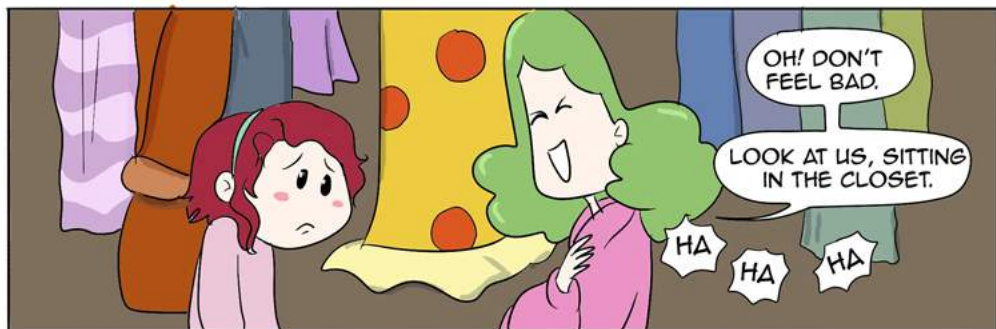
...SOMEONE ELSE
KNEW HE SENT ME
THE STONE.

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WE MUST CHANGE
XED BACK TO
HIMSELF...

...IF WE WANT TO
PROTECT OUR
WORLDS.





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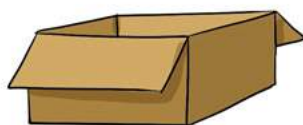




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IT'S EMPTY.



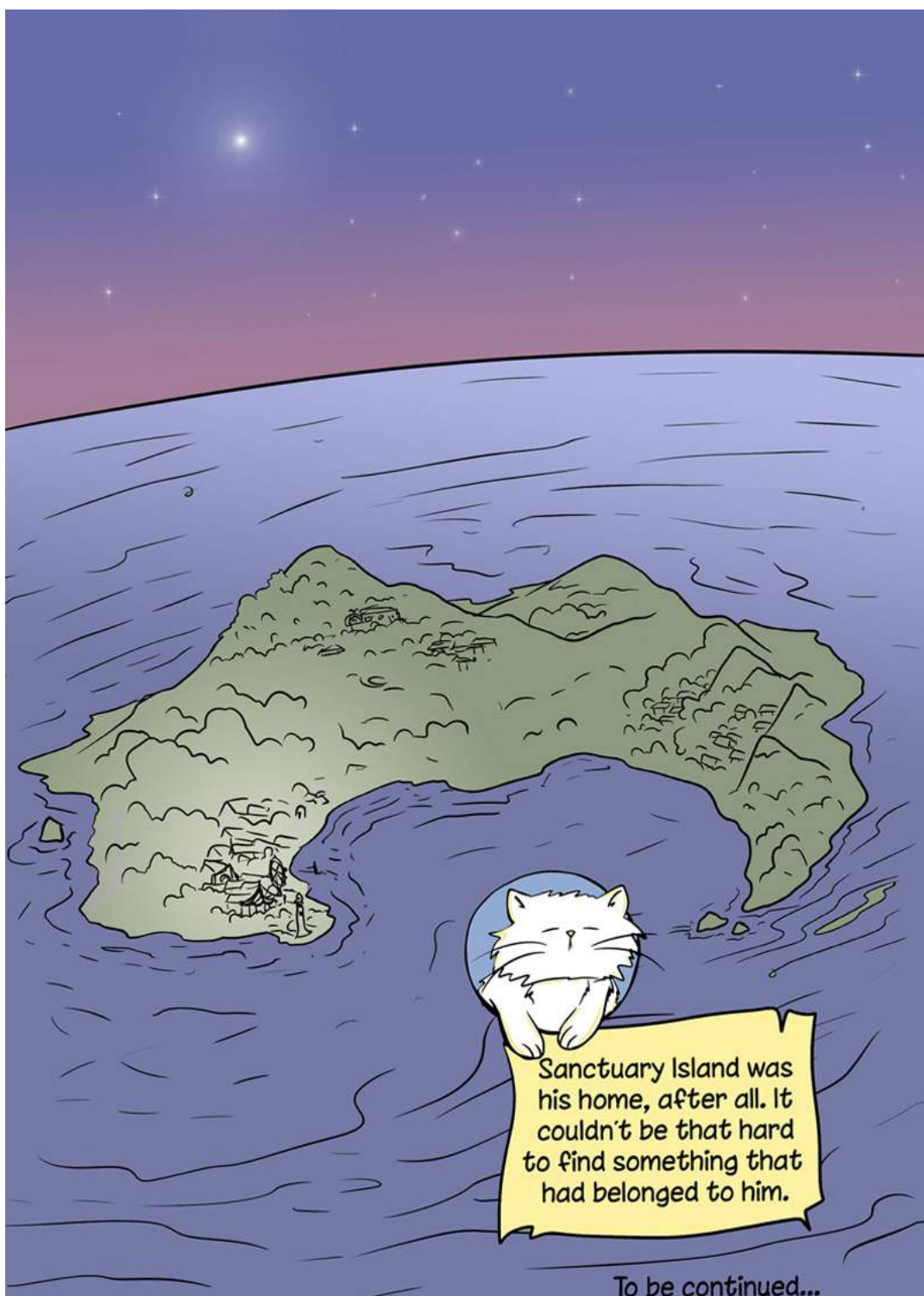


An empty box
was not enough
to make Polly quit.

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She immediately
started planning a new
way to get into Xed's
world.



Sanctuary Island was his home, after all. It couldn't be that hard to find something that had belonged to him.

To be continued...

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OTHER TITLES BY:
Author and Illustrator
VANESSA BETTENCOURT

Graphic Novels (Biographical/Humor):



Not from Brazil Vol. 1

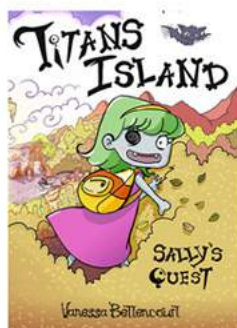


Not from Brazil Vol. 2



Not from Brazil Last Summer Vacation Before Quarantine

Graphic Novels (Fantasy/Adventure):



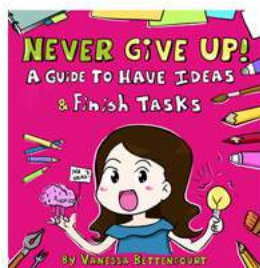
Titans Island: Sally's Quest
(Ages: 5+)



Polly and the Black Ink
Volumes 1 to 5
(Ages: 5+)



Beyond the Cliff and Courage
Fantasy Novel
(Ages: 8+)



Never Give Up! A Guide to Have Ideas & Finish Tasks
(Motivational Workbook)