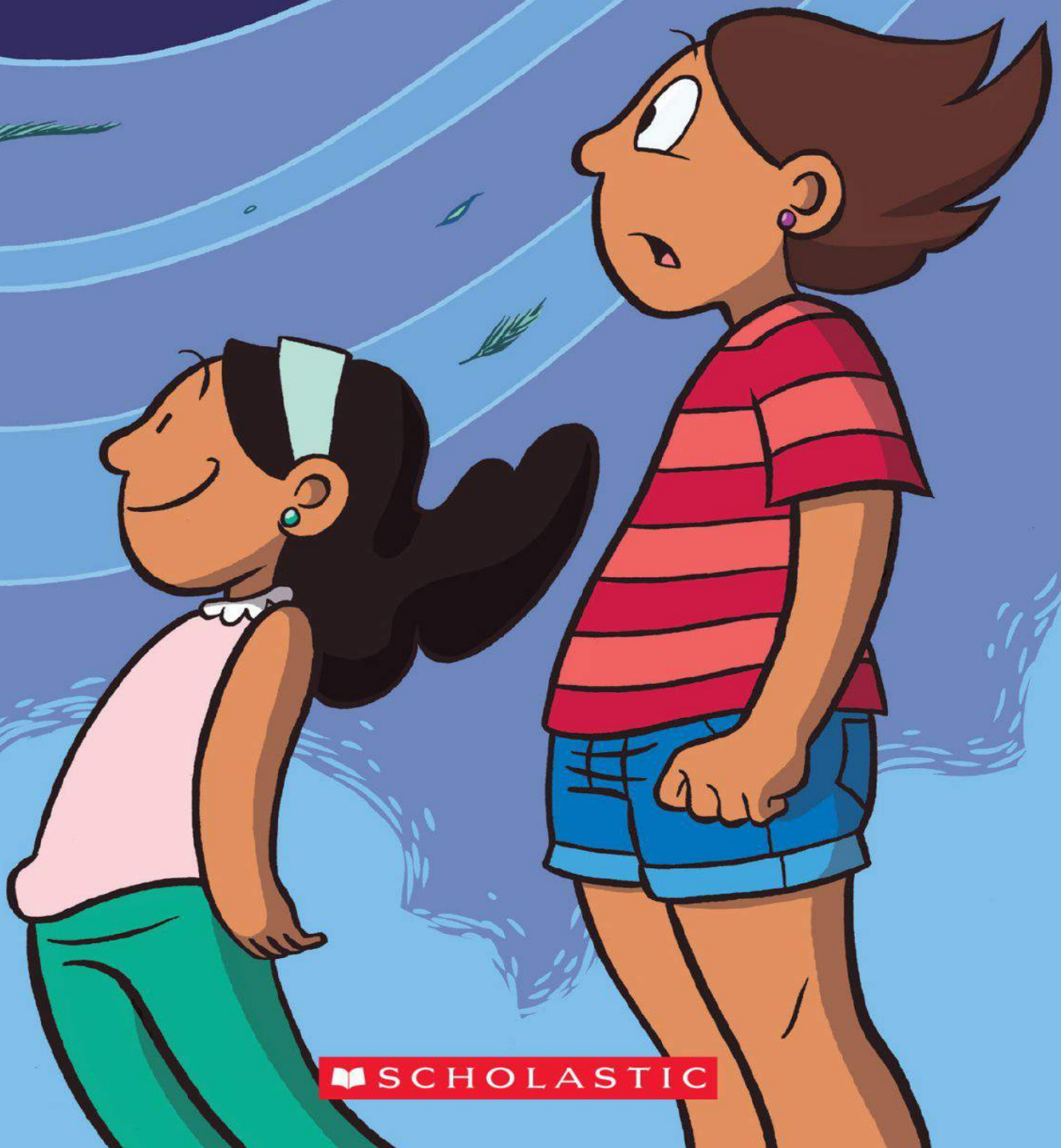


FROM THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
RAINA TELGEMEIER

GHOSTS

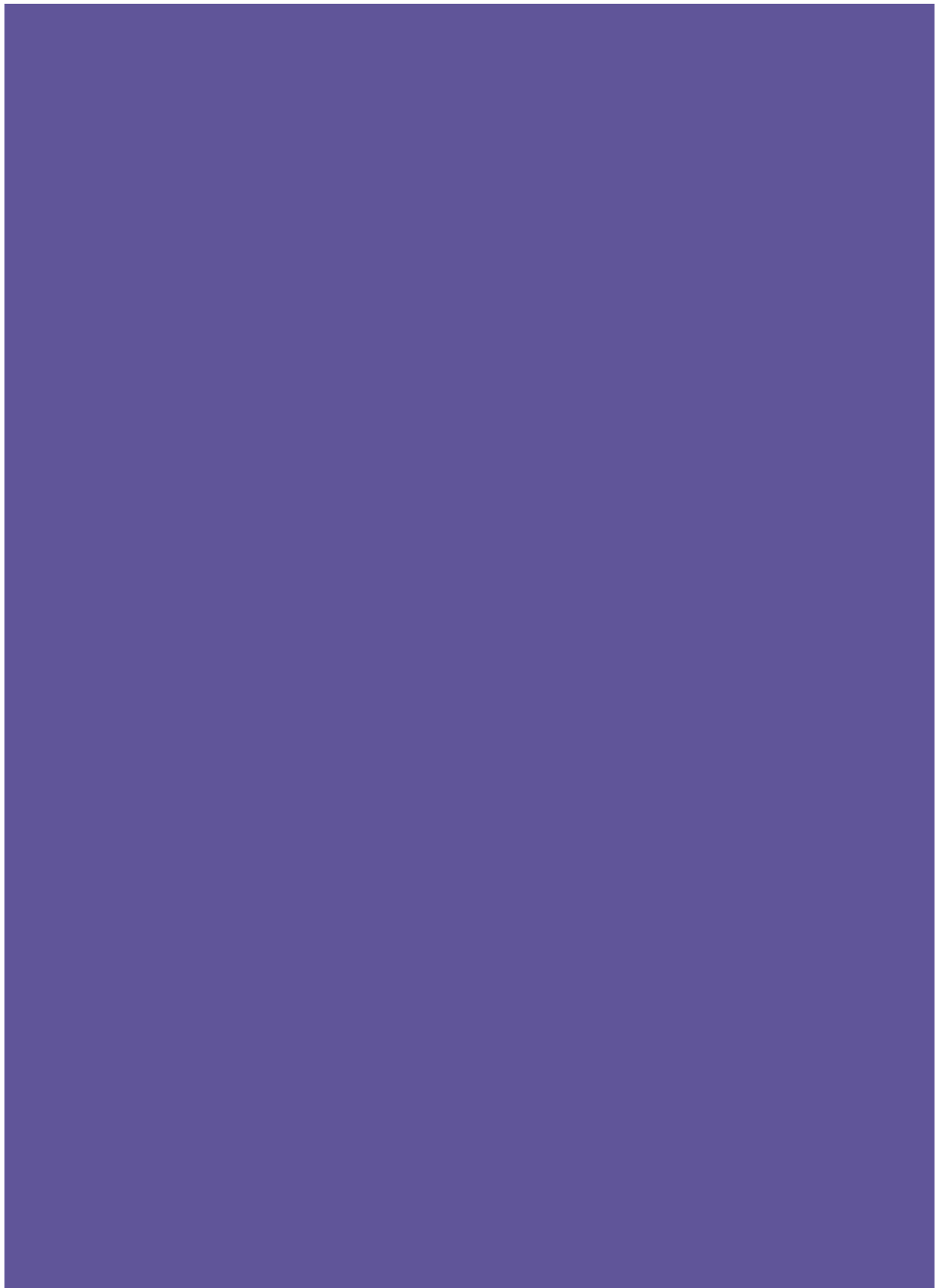


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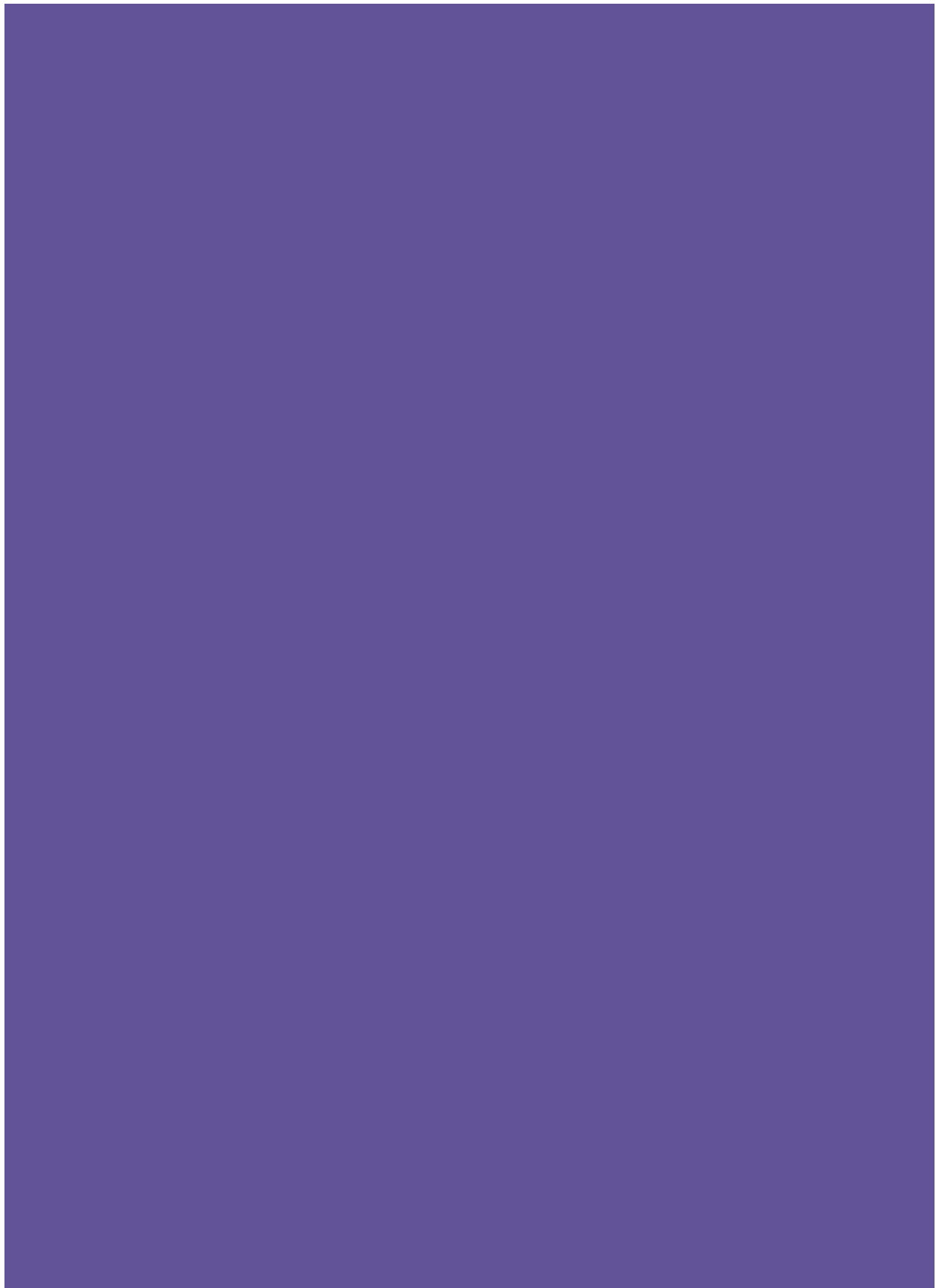
FROM THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
RAINA TELGEMEIER

GHOSTS





GHOSTS



RAINA TELGEMEIER

GHOSTS

WITH COLOR BY BRADEN LAMB



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Summary: Catrina and her family have moved to the coast of Northern California for the sake
of her little sister, Maya, who has cystic fibrosis—and Cat is even less happy about the move when
she is told that her new town is inhabited by ghosts, and Maya sets her heart on meeting one.

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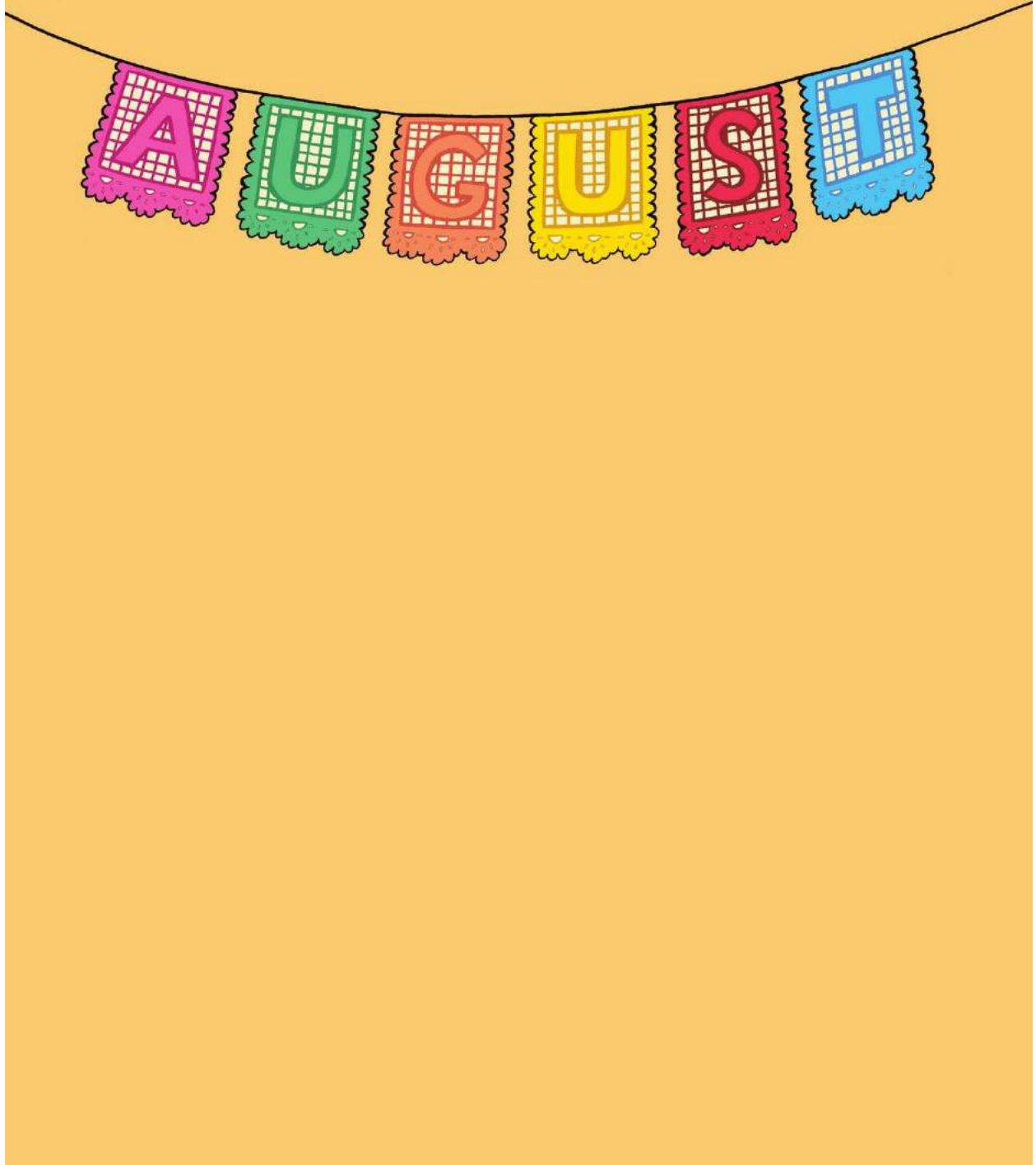
Lettering by Jenny Staley

Book design by Phil Falco

Creative Director: David Saylor



FOR SABINA

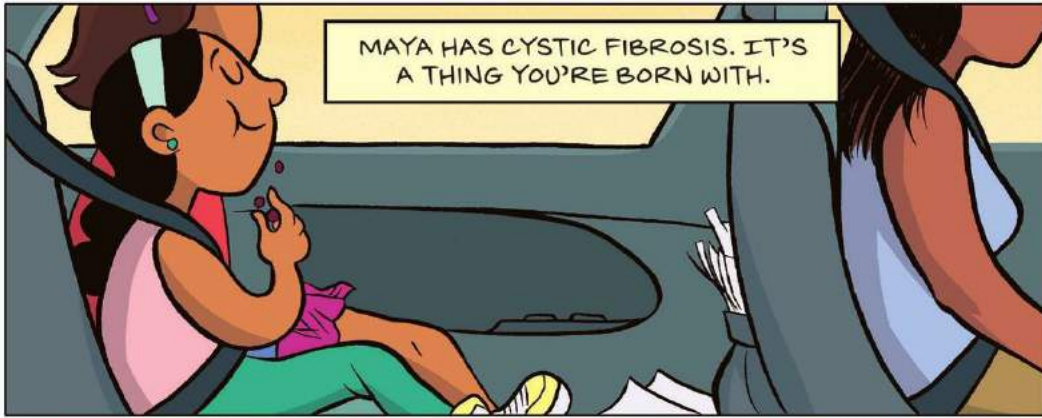












MOM AND DAD ARE DRAGGING US TO **THIS** GLOOMY PLACE, BAHÍA DE LA LUNA, CALIFORNIA.



THEY SAY THE SUN ONLY SHINES HERE SIXTY-TWO DAYS OF THE YEAR.



WHEN I HEARD THAT, I'D SAID:

EW, I'D RATHER DIE!



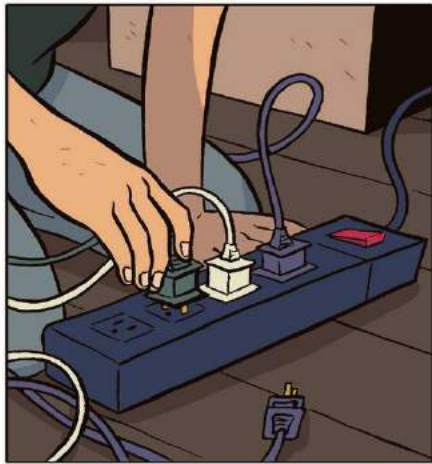
WHICH DIDN'T GO OVER VERY WELL.









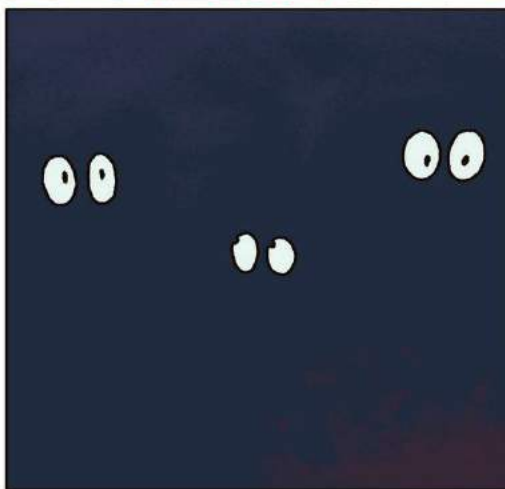














MAYA'S VEST
JUST BLEW A FUSE,
SWEETIE... YOU OKAY
UP THERE?



YEAH,
I JUST...
BUMP

I JUST
DON'T KNOW
THIS HOUSE
VERY WELL
YET.



CRREEEAK...



WHY DON'T YOU TAKE YOUR
SISTER TO EXPLORE THE TOWN
WHILE WE WORK ON GETTING
THE POWER BACK?













WHOA.





















OH.

WE'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF HERE, IT ISN'T SAFE...

BUT, CAT!

SEE?

COUGH COUGH

THE DUST IS BAD FOR YOUR LUNGS.

COUGH COUGH

SKRITCH

WHAT WAS THAT?

THERE'S SOMETHING HERE!





















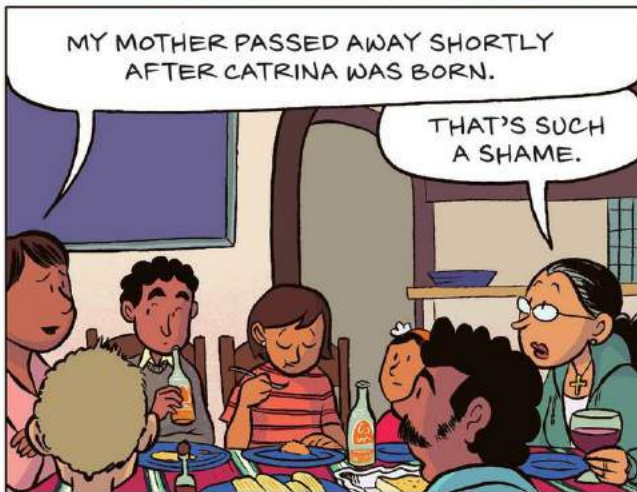


IS THIS A FAMILY RECIPE, JUANA?

YES, MY MOTHER'S.



GIRLS, I WISH YOU COULD HAVE TASTED YOUR GRANDMA'S TAMALES. YOU WOULD HAVE LOVED THEM.



MY MOTHER PASSED AWAY SHORTLY AFTER CATRINA WAS BORN.

THAT'S SUCH A SHAME.



MAYBE YOU'LL SEE HER ON **DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS!**



IS **EVERYTHING** ABOUT GHOSTS WITH YOU?!

JEEZ!

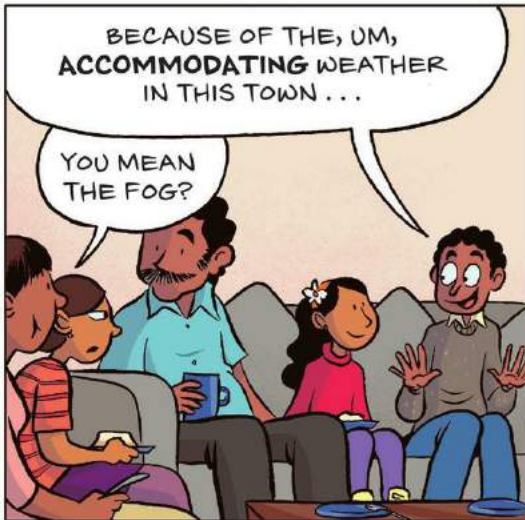


DIA DAY ... WHAT?

DAY OF THE DEAD. YOU KNOW, LIKE HALLOWEEN.

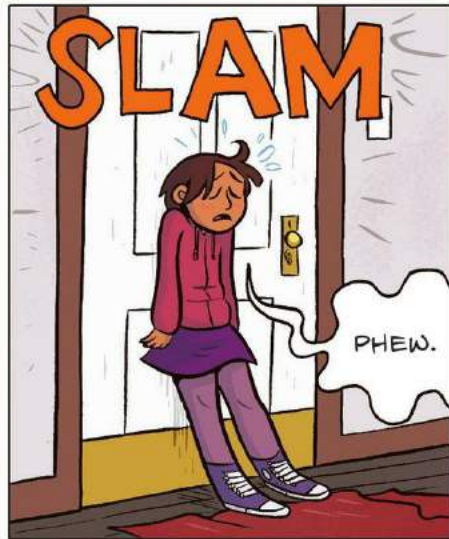










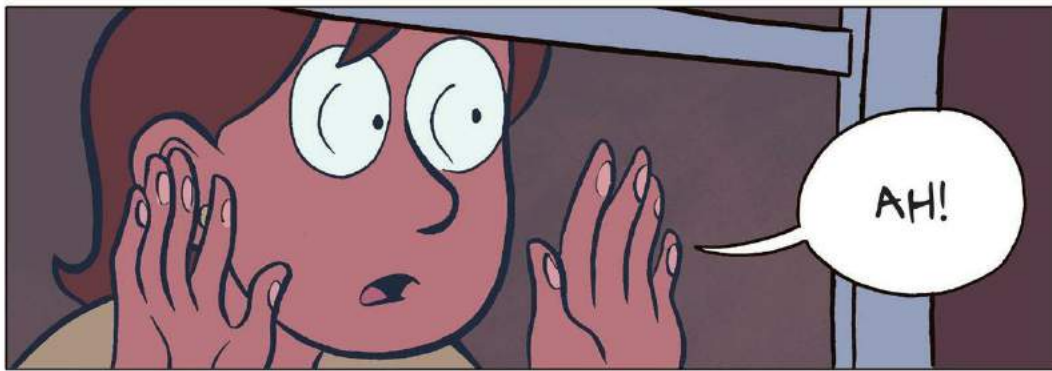


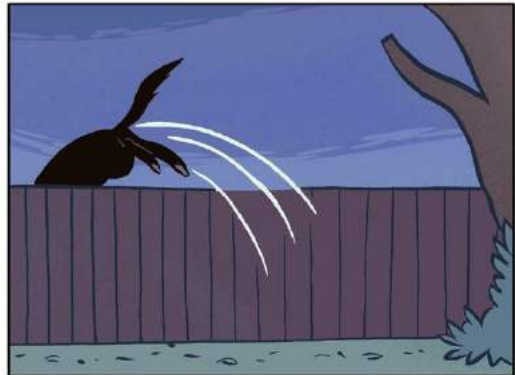




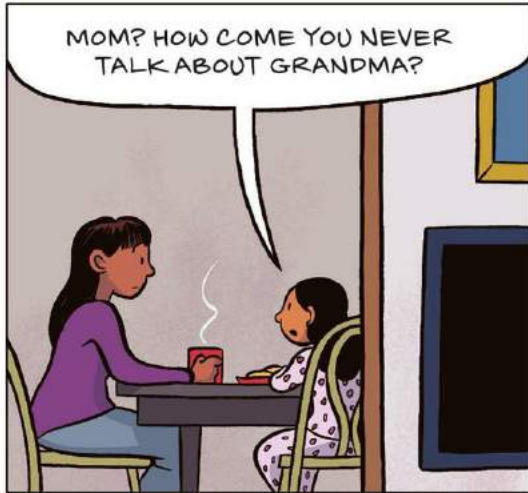














... I CHOSE TO MICROWAVE FROZEN DINNERS. SHE TRIED TO TEACH ME TO HONOR MY ANCESTORS DURING DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS...

BUT I WANTED TO TRICK-OR-TREAT WITH MY FRIENDS FOR HALLOWEEN INSTEAD.



BUT TRICK-OR-TREATING IS AWESOME! COULDN'T YOU DO BOTH?



NOT IN HER MIND.



I FEEL BAD ABOUT IT NOW, BUT I NEVER EVEN LEARNED TO SPEAK FLUENT SPANISH.



SO I GUESS AFTER YOUR ABUELA DIED... A LOT OF OLD TRADITIONS DIED WITH HER.

CONCHA, CAT?

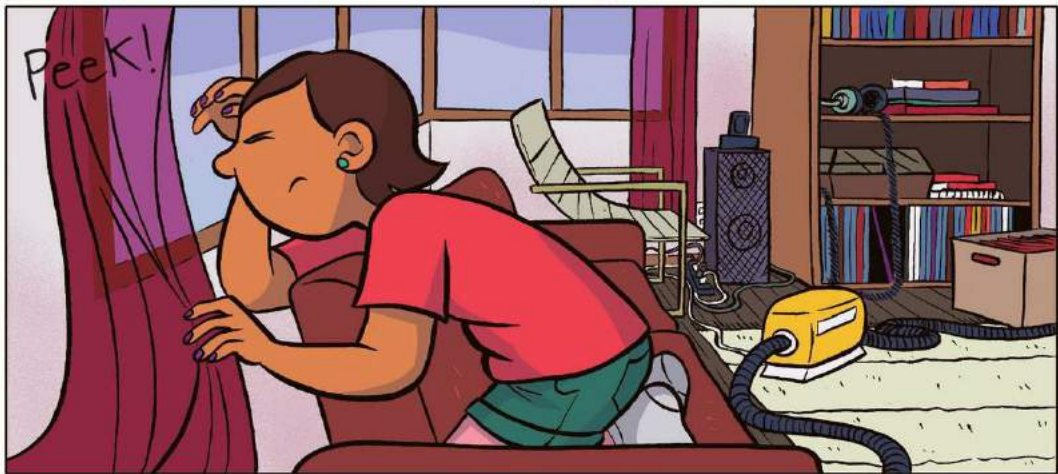
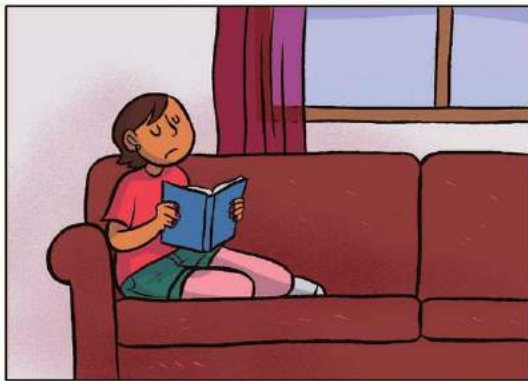


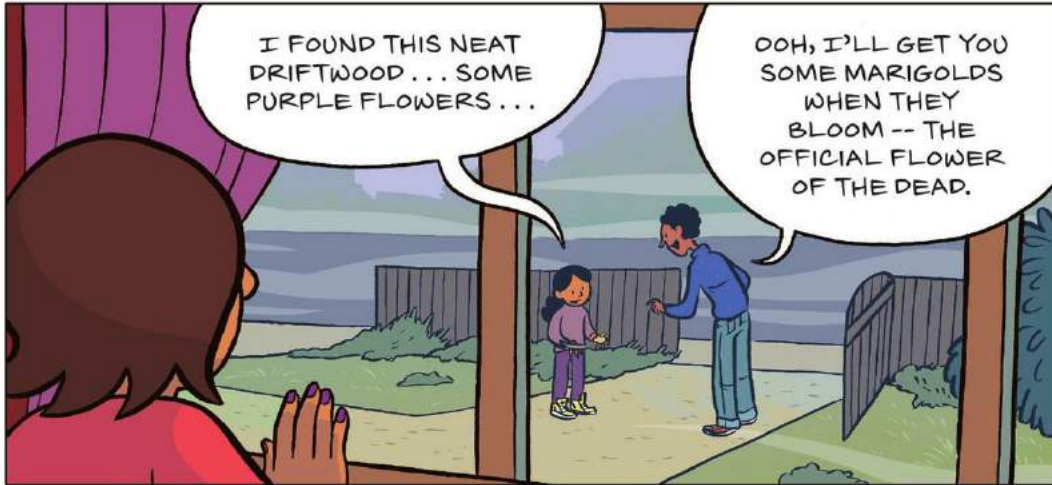
WHAT'S A CONCHA?

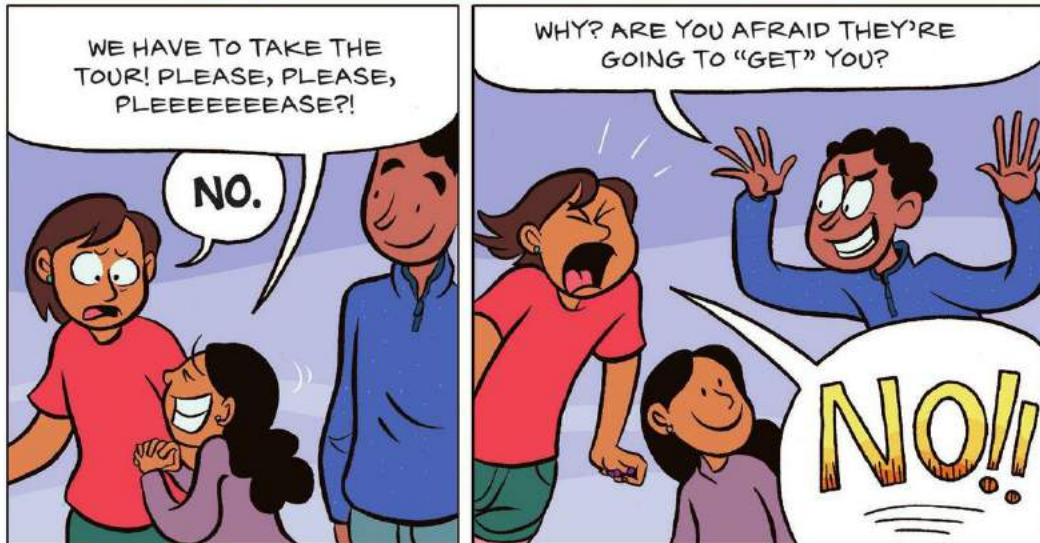
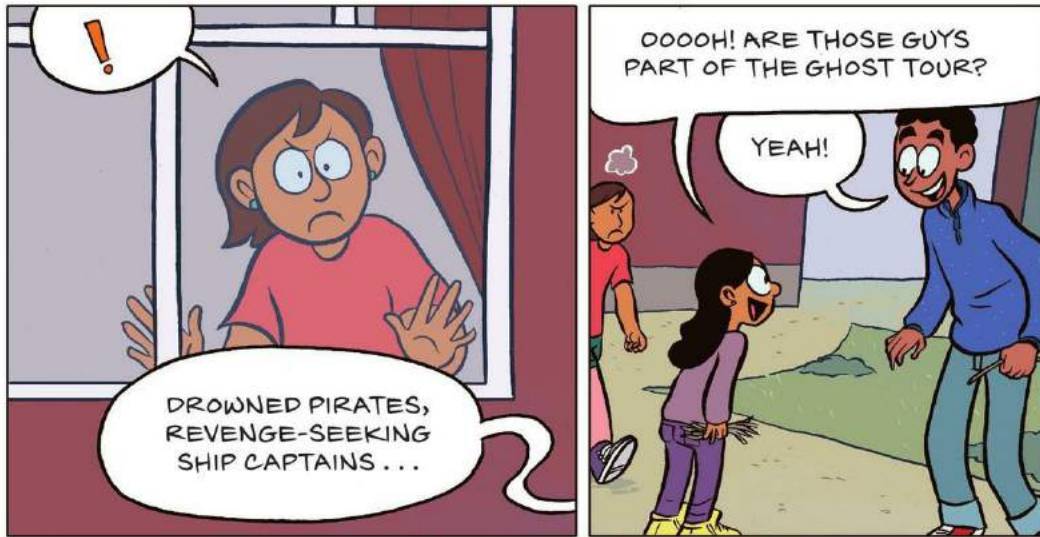


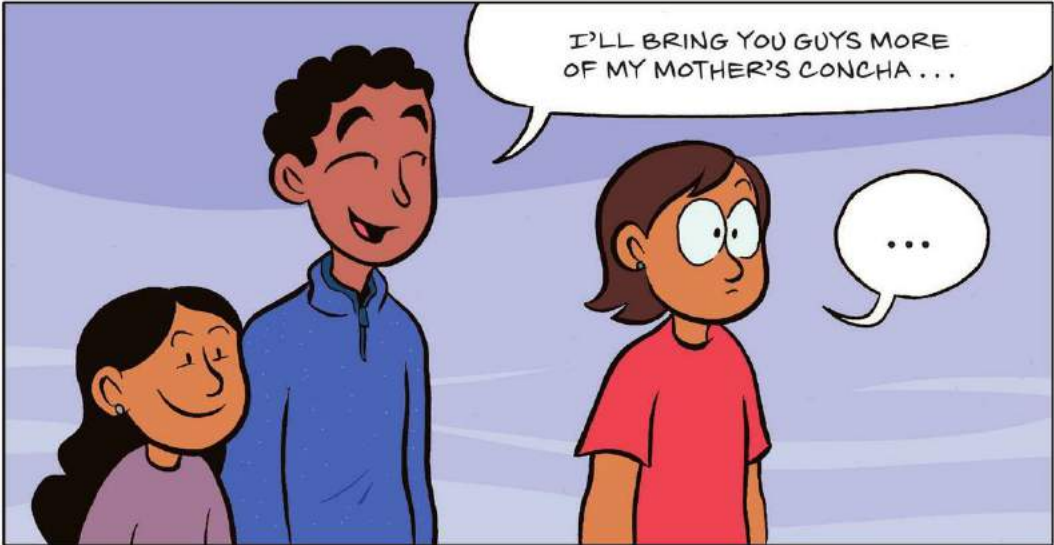


*AN ALTAR FOR A DECEASED RELATIVE











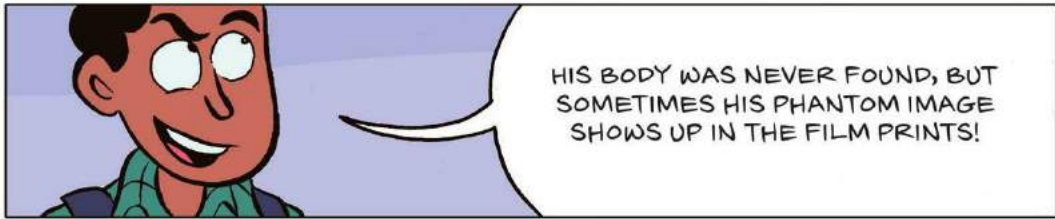








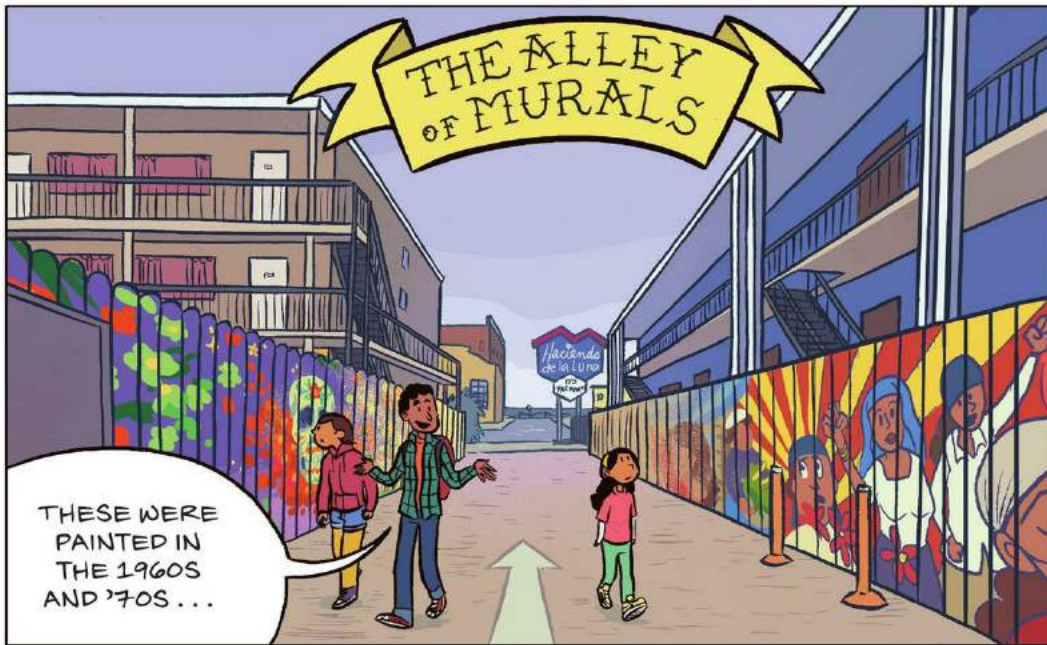
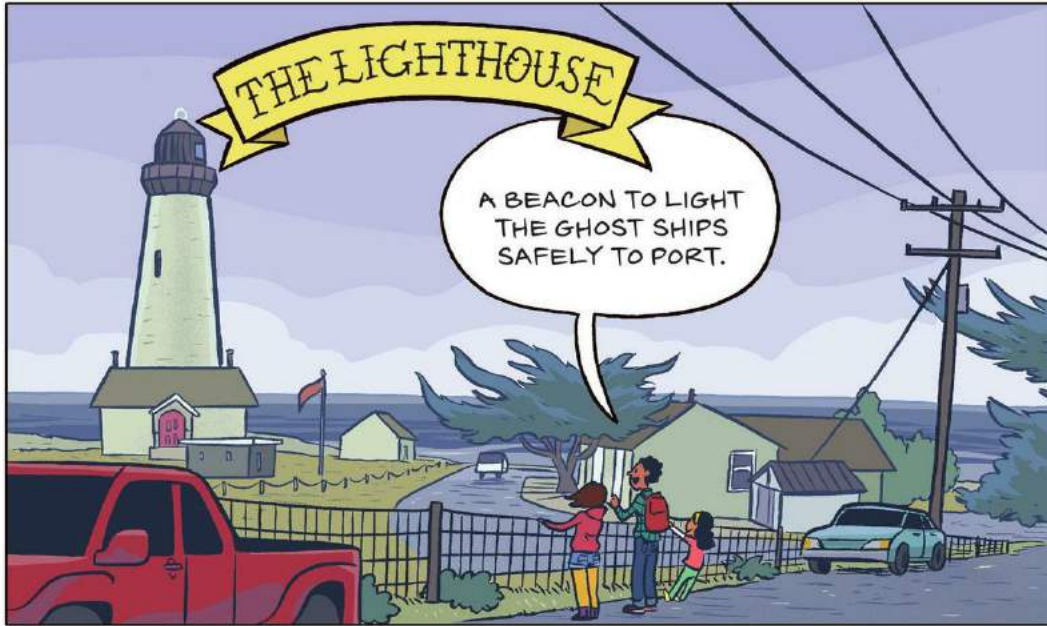
OLD MOVIES **ONLY!**
THIS PLACE BURNED
DOWN IN 1937
BUT WAS REBUILT
TWO YEARS LATER.
THEY SAY THE
PROJECTIONIST
DIED IN THE FIRE...



HIS BODY WAS NEVER FOUND, BUT
SOMETIMES HIS PHANTOM IMAGE
SHOWS UP IN THE FILM PRINTS!



GHOST CRUISE SHIPS (AND
GHOST **PIRATE** SHIPS!)
TETHER HERE ON
DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS.





MOSTLY, THE PAINTINGS DEPICT REVOLUTIONARY LEADERS FROM MEXICO, BUT THEY --

CARLOS, ARE WE GONNA MEET ANY GHOSTS TODAY?



OH! WELL... THEY USUALLY CAN'T BE SEEN THIS EARLY IN THE YEAR, BUT AS WE GET CLOSER TO AUTUMN, YOU'LL NOTICE THEM MORE.

TOLD YOU HE WAS LYING...



I'M NOT LYING. GHOSTS REALLY DO HANG OUT HERE.

I CAN PROVE IT.



NO, THAT'S --

OKAY. PROVE IT.



MAYAAAA!

I HAVE TO TALK TO A GHOST, CATRINA.



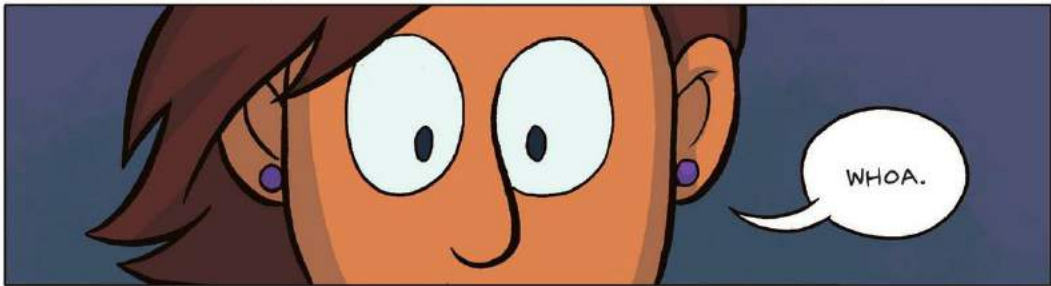








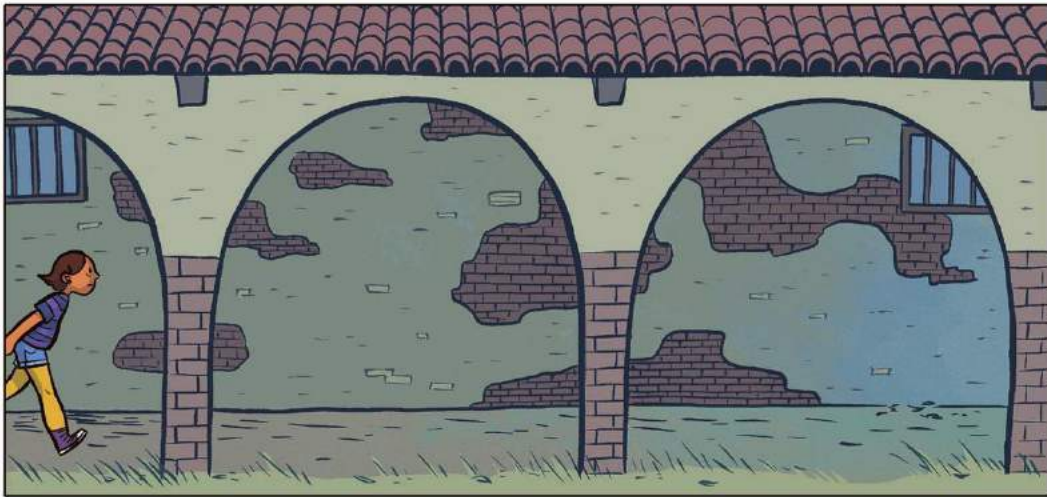
















OH MY
GOSH!



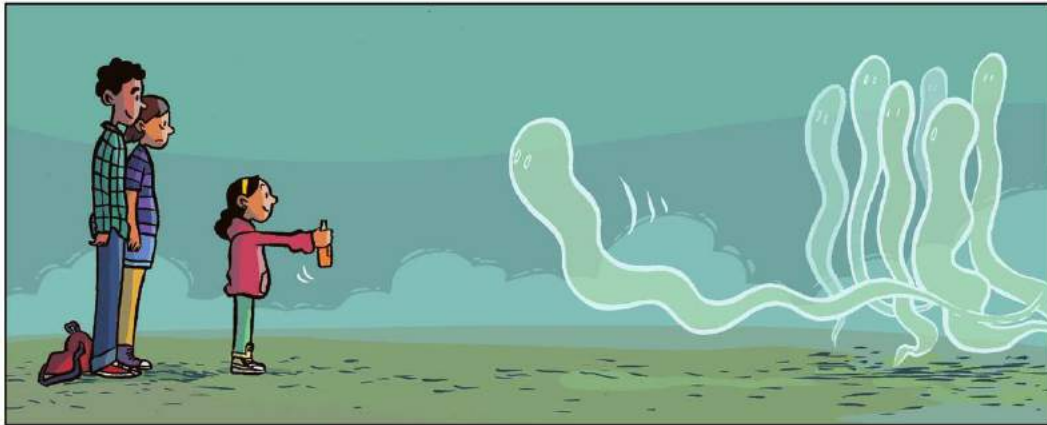
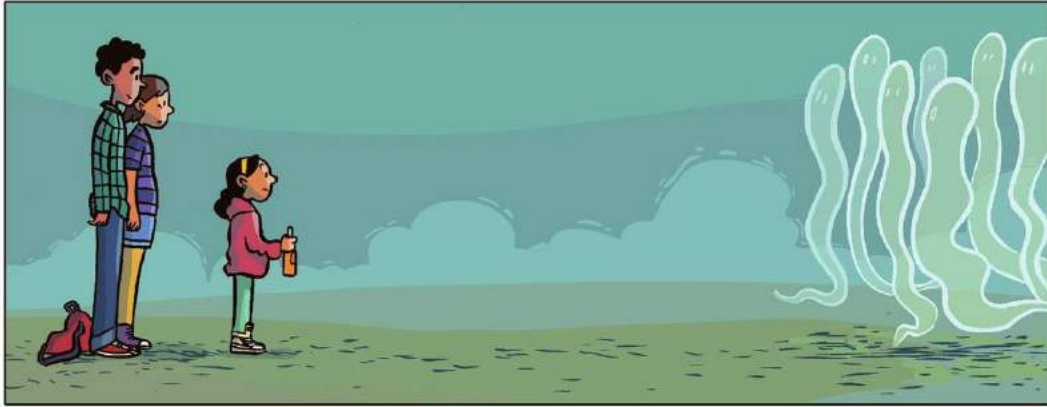






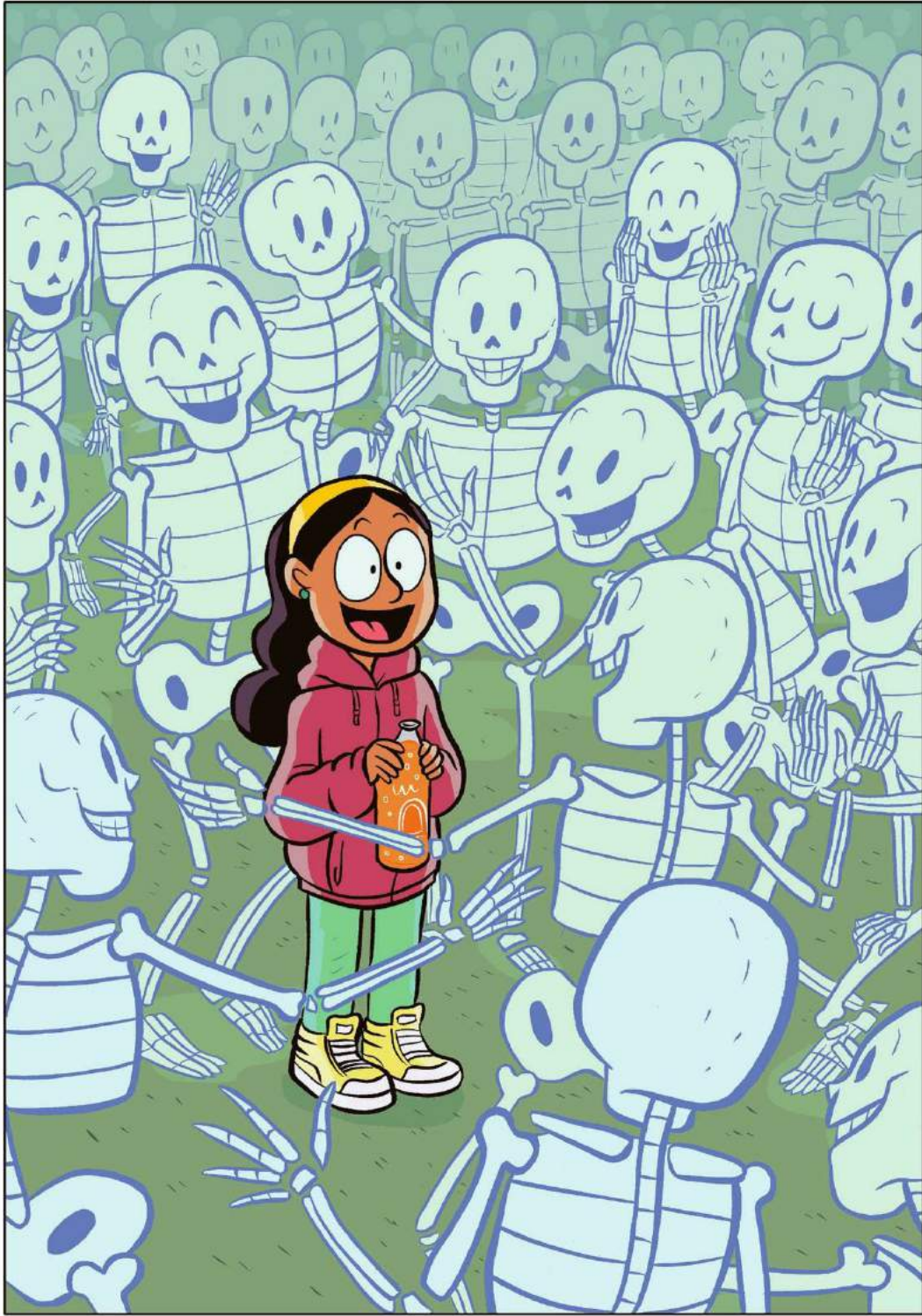


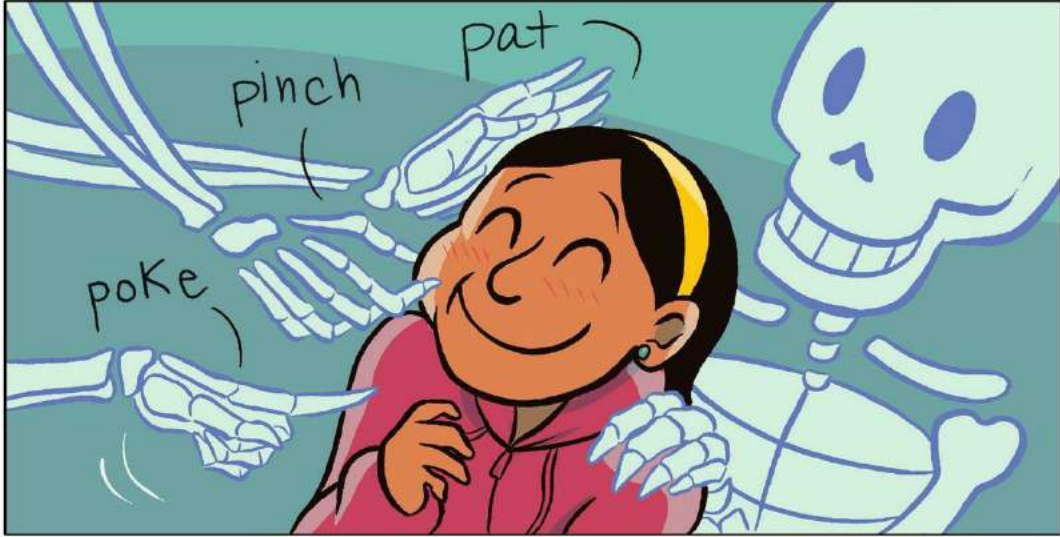










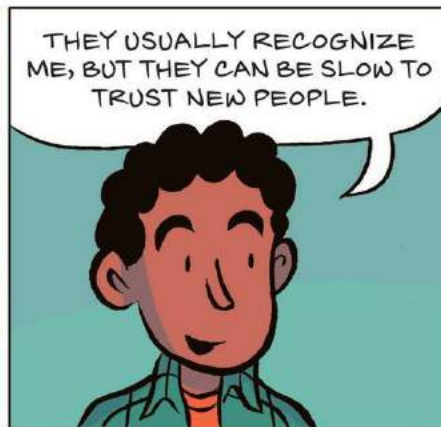






SO ARE THESE, UM, FRIENDS OF YOURS?

THESE ARE ALL ANCIENT GHOSTS. DEAD FOR CENTURIES.



THEY USUALLY RECOGNIZE ME, BUT THEY CAN BE SLOW TO TRUST NEW PEOPLE.



THEY SEEM TO BE HITTING IT OFF WITH MAYA RIGHT AWAY, THOUGH!

SHE DOES HAVE THAT ABILITY...

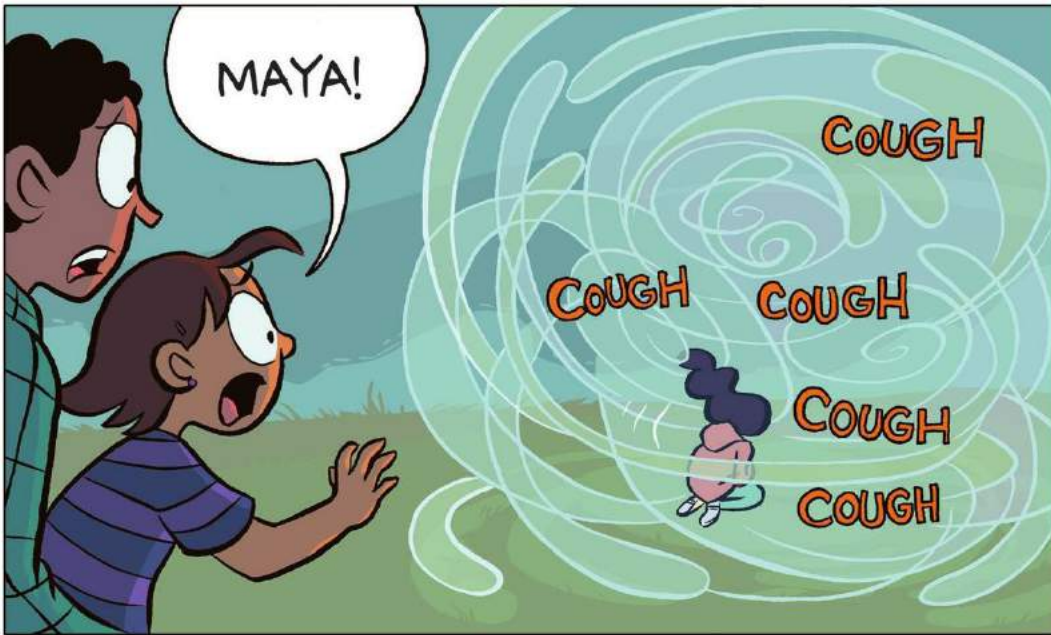


YEAHHH! CAT, THIS IS AWESOME!!

HA HA!

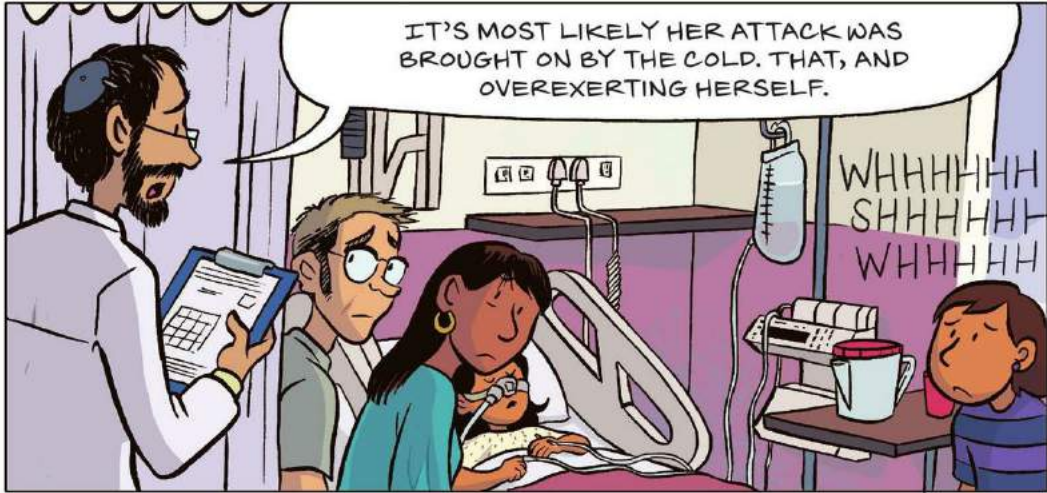
MAYA! BE CARE--













SO I'LL DROP YOU OFF, AND THEN I'M GOING BACK TO THE HOSPITAL TO SPEND THE NIGHT WITH YOUR SISTER.



DADDY WILL BRING THE CAR HOME IN AN HOUR OR SO -- WILL YOU BE OKAY HERE ALONE FOR A LITTLE WHILE?

YEAH.

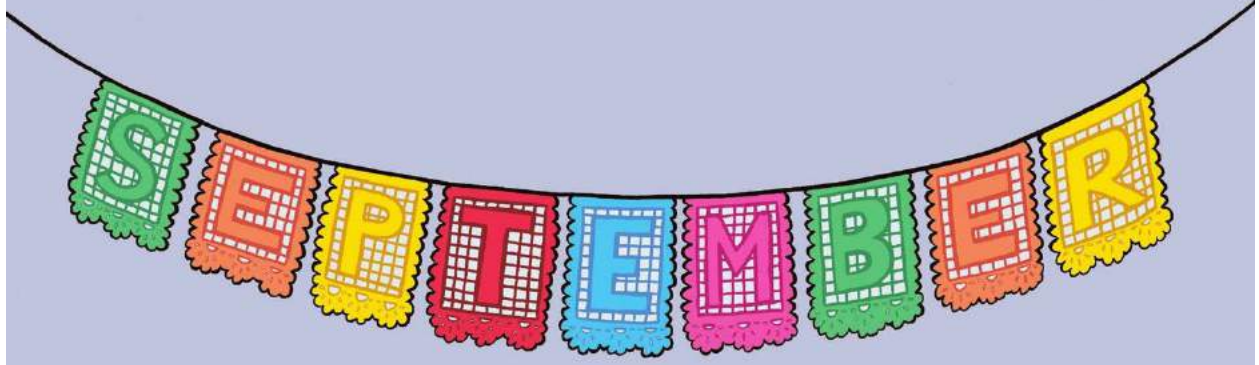


HELLO, CATRINA. WE BROUGHT DINNER.











Name: Alende-Delmas, Catrina
Grade: 6
Student ID: 637792

Per.	Room	Course	Instructor
0	119	Hm'm	Yasquez, J.
1	312	21E2 Eng	Mitchell, M.
2	111	21H1 H15	Nakazawa, K.
3	30	21M5 Ma2	Theodis, T.
4	R	Lunch	--
305	21SP	Span.	Diaz
205	66	Gym	Lee, J.
121	21SC	Sci	Garcia, V.

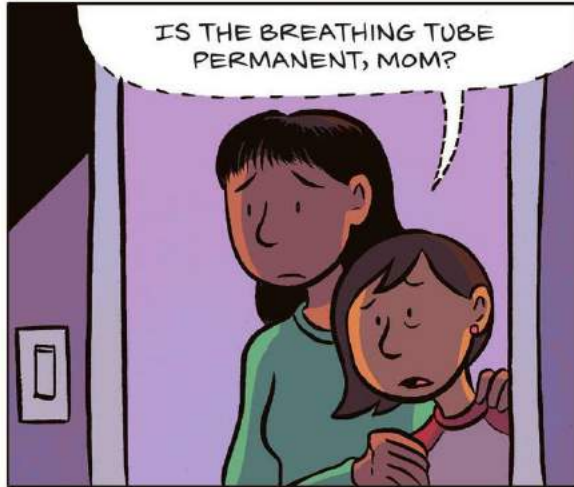








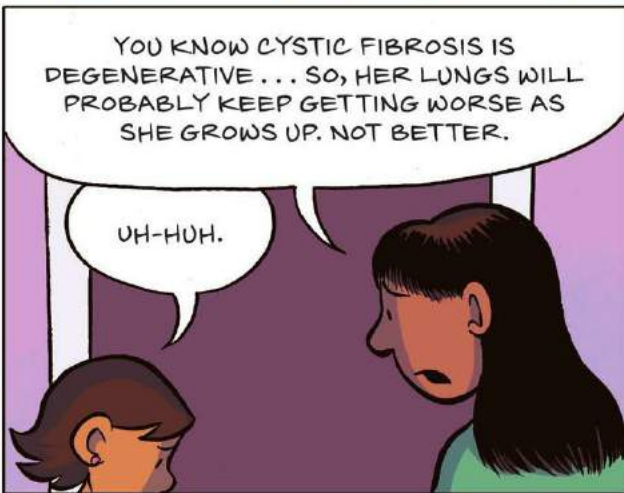




IS THE BREATHING TUBE PERMANENT, MOM?



WE'RE NOT SURE YET, SWEETIE.

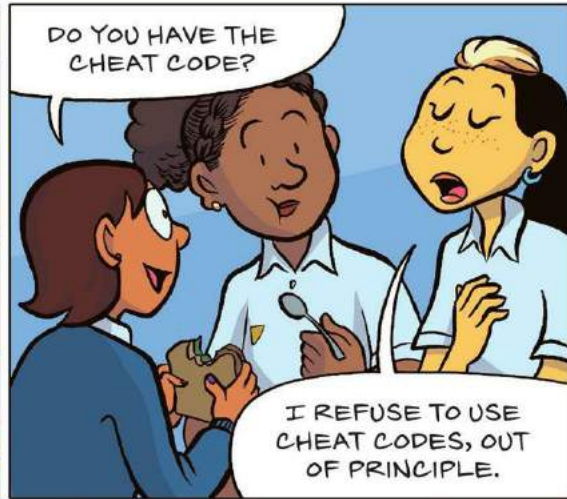


YOU KNOW CYSTIC FIBROSIS IS DEGENERATIVE . . . SO, HER LUNGS WILL PROBABLY KEEP GETTING WORSE AS SHE GROWS UP. NOT BETTER.

UH-HUH.









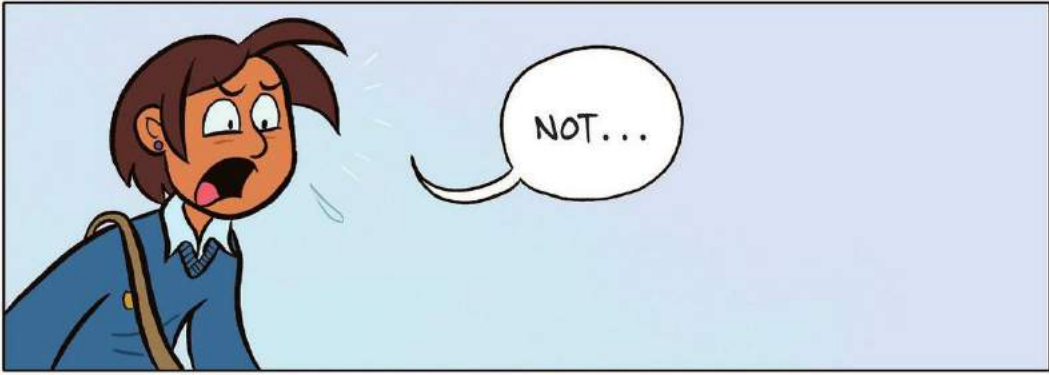




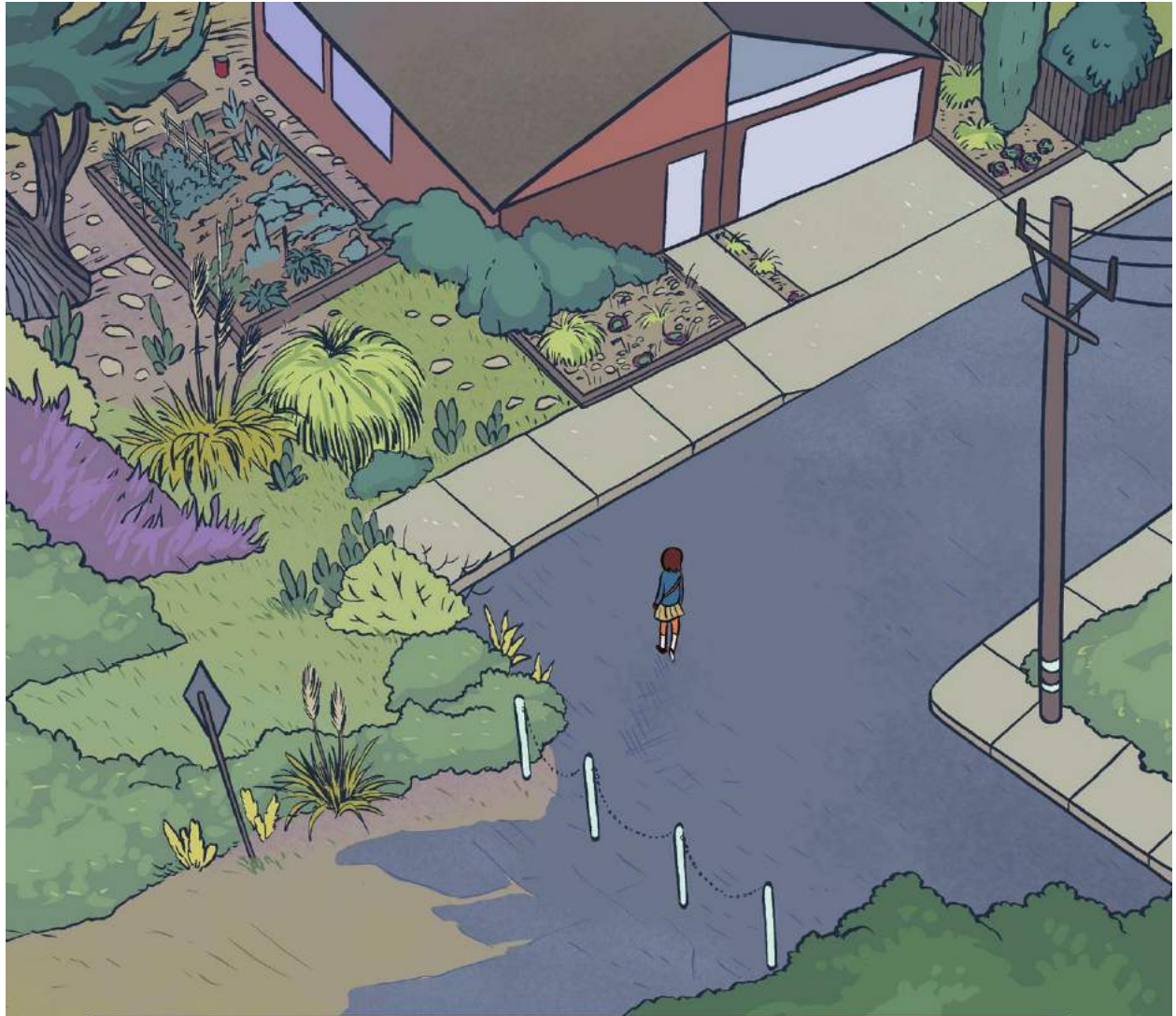










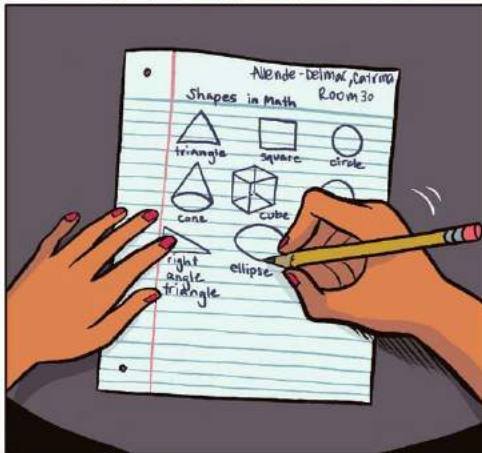










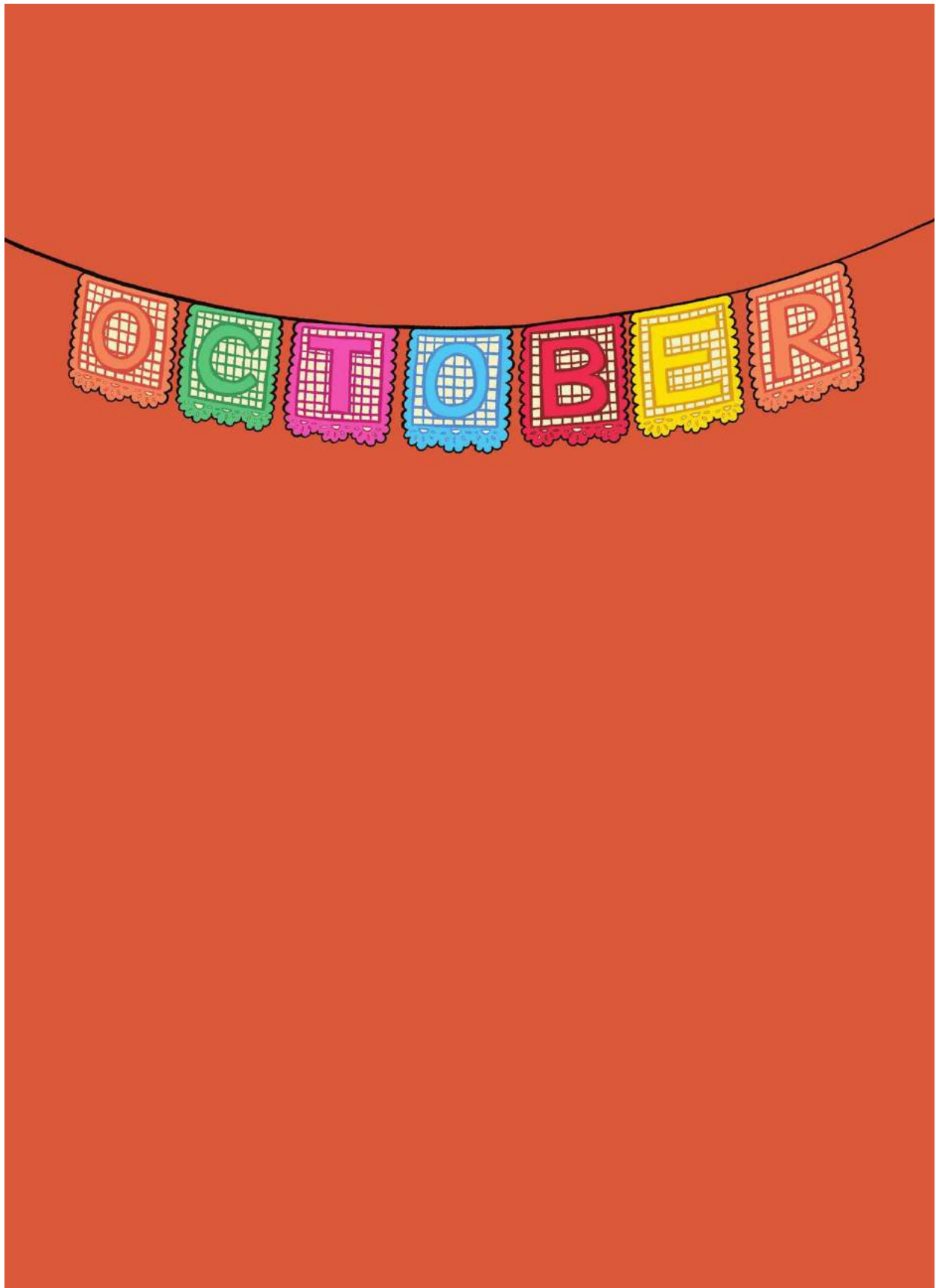






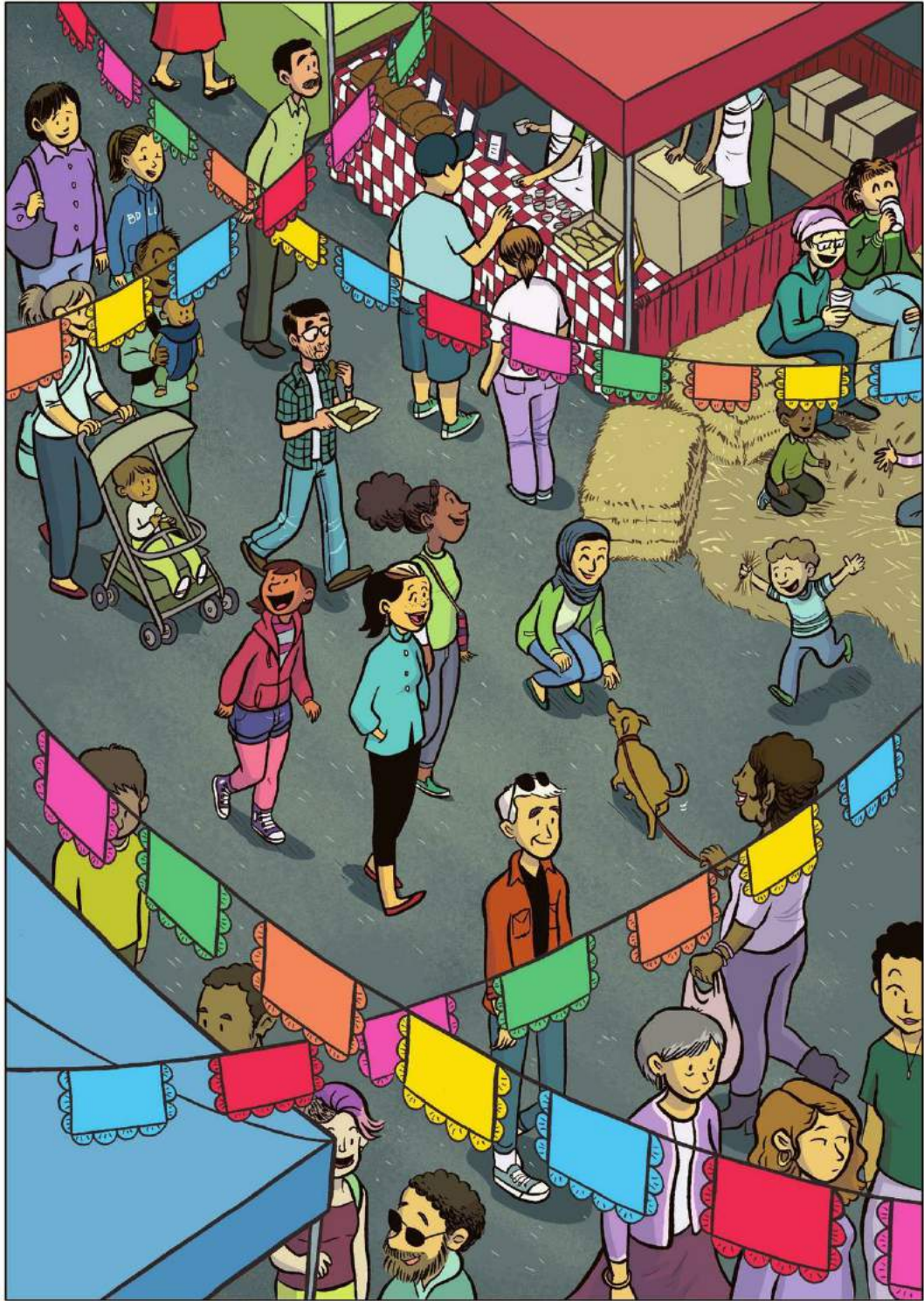








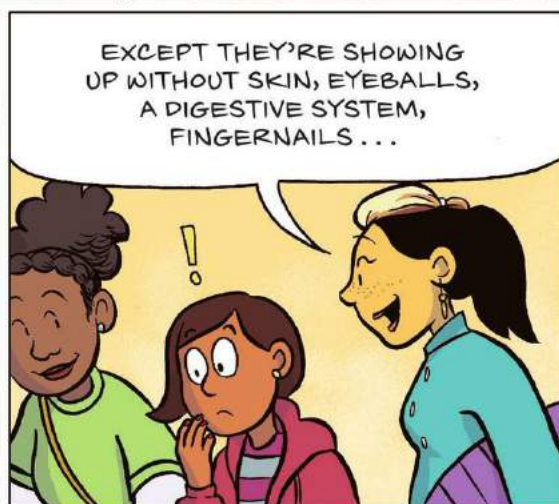


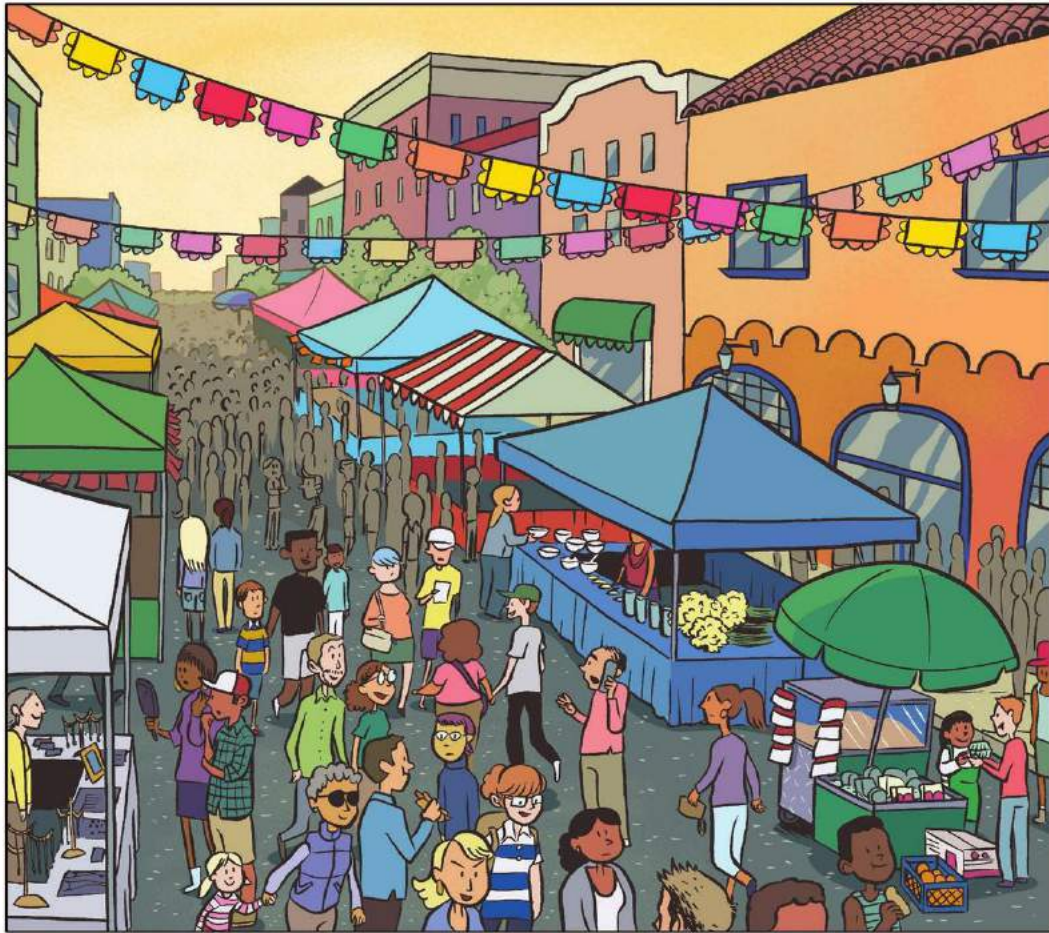








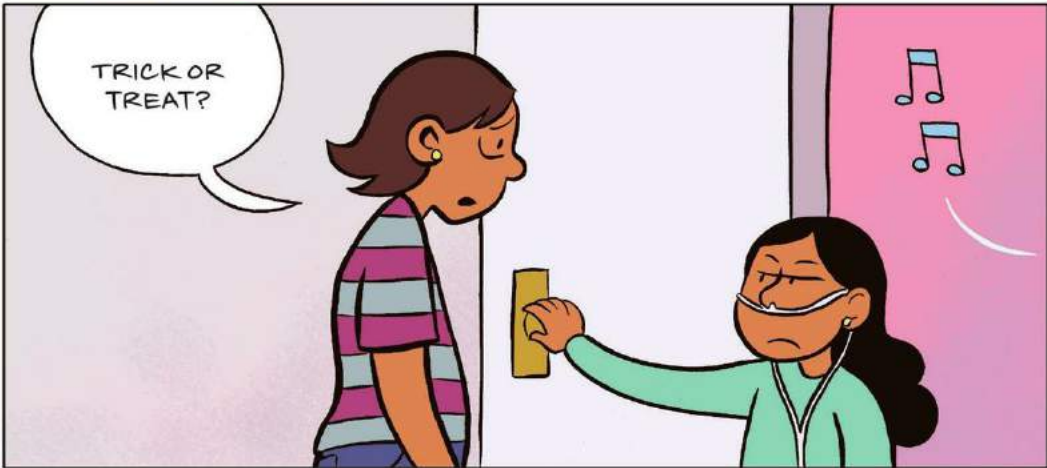
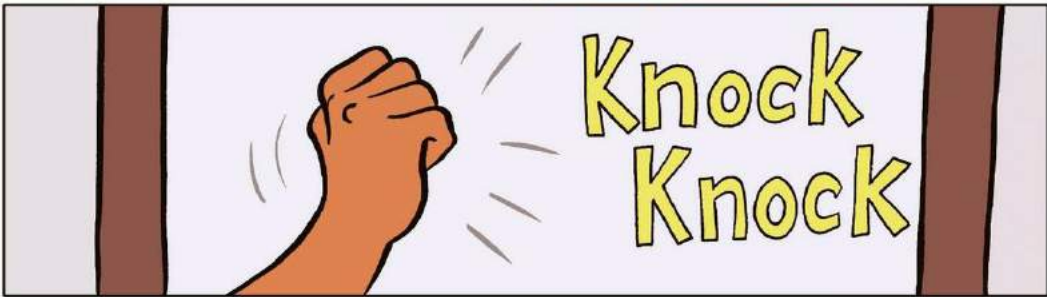




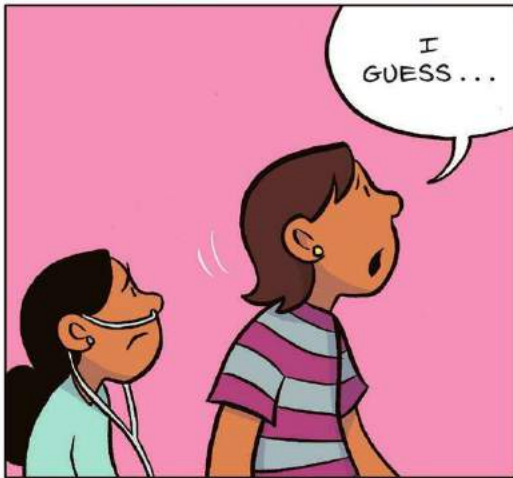












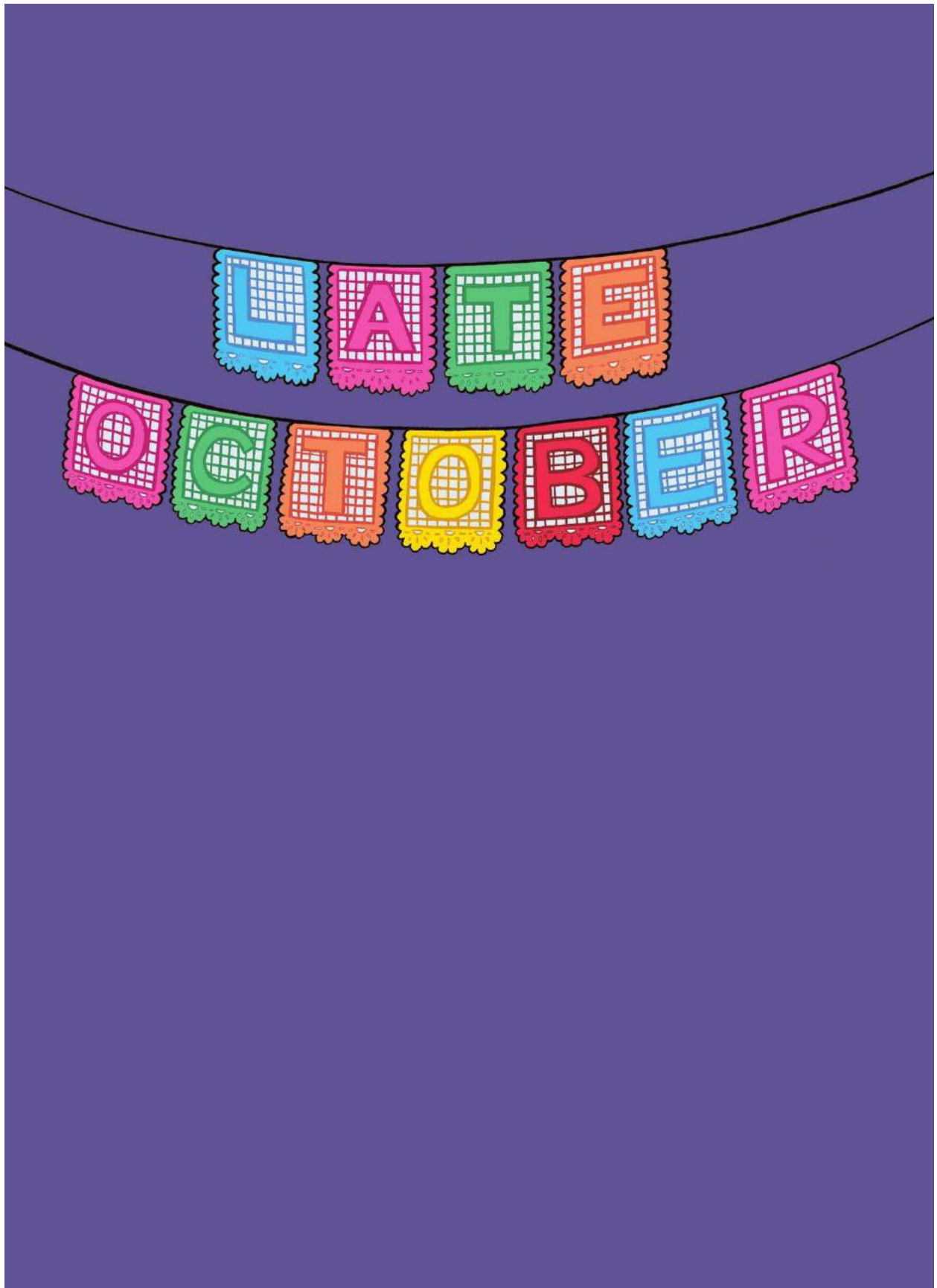








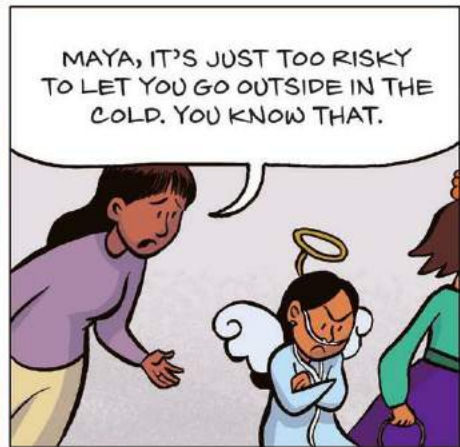






















HEY, EVERYONE. YOU ALL COMING TO THE PARTY TONIGHT?

OF COURSE!

WOULDN'T MISS IT!



CAT?

IT'S CATRINA.

AND NO.



HE TOOTALLY LIKES YOU!!







































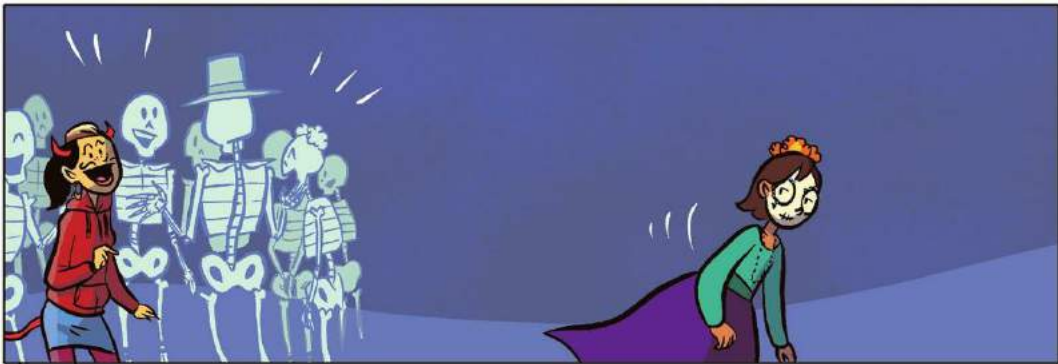
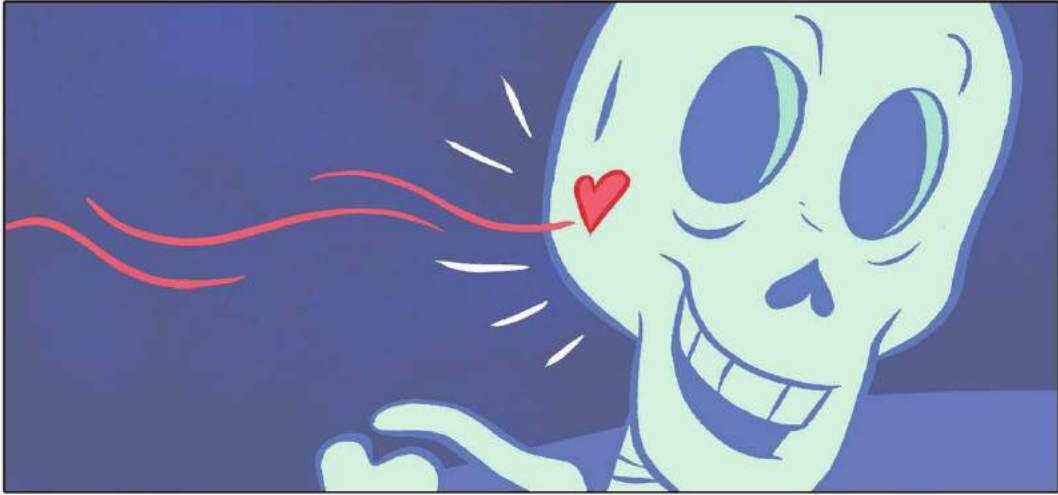


THIS IS INCREDIBLE!

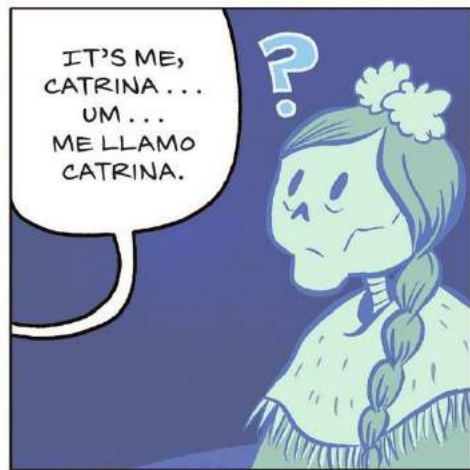
















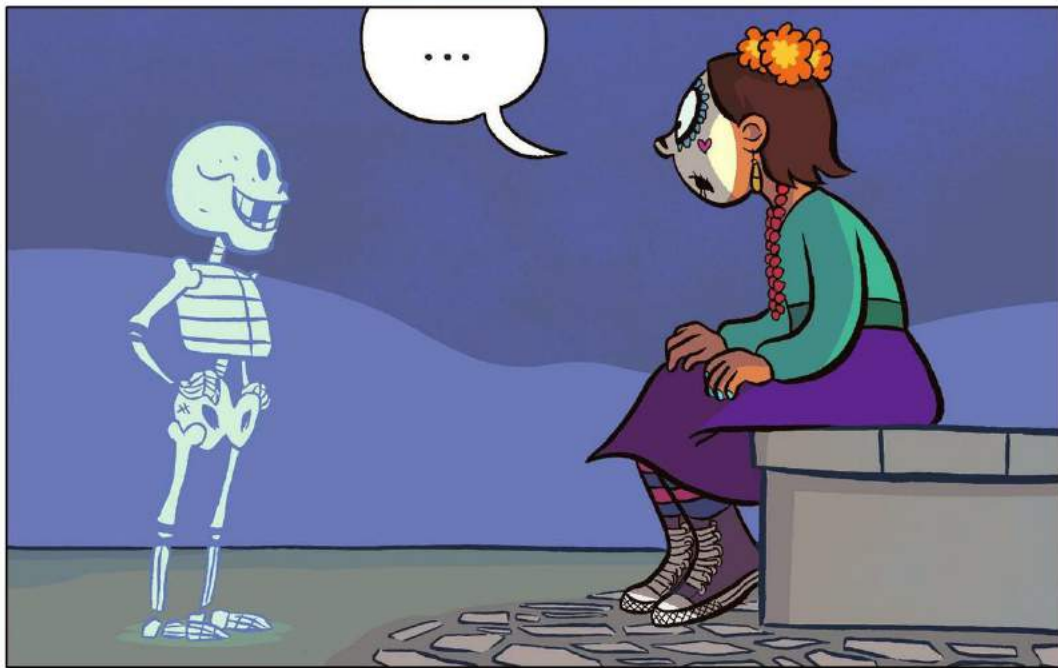
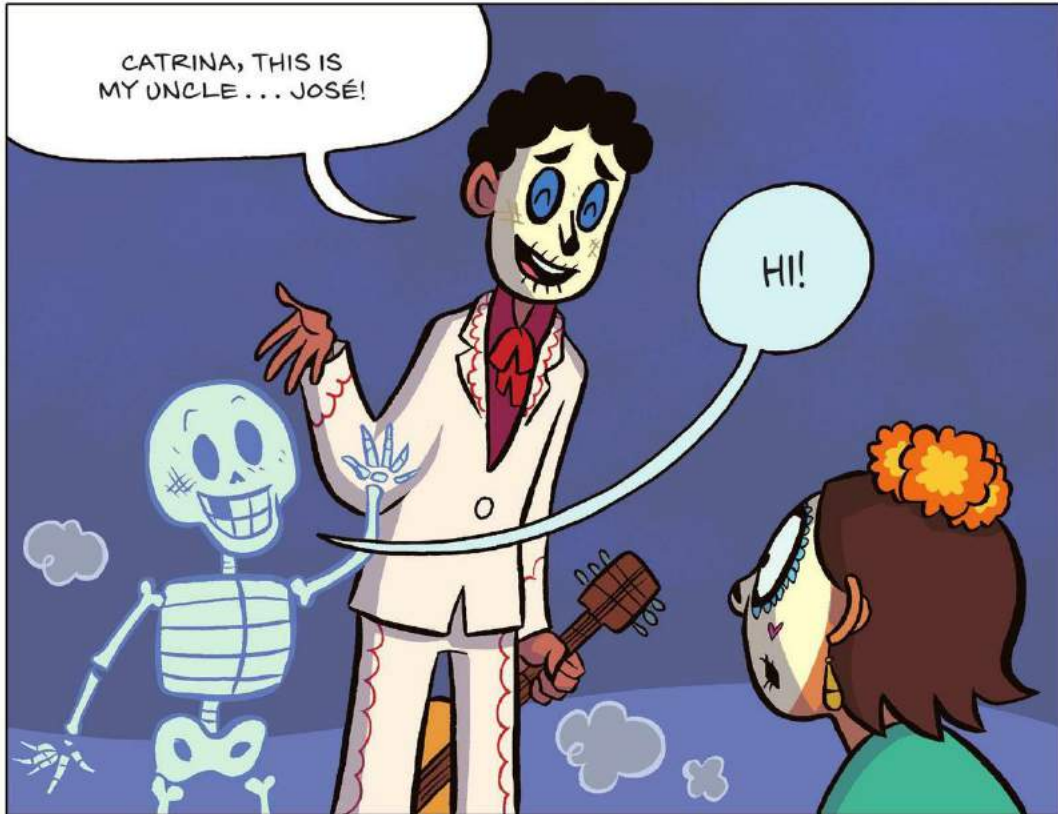


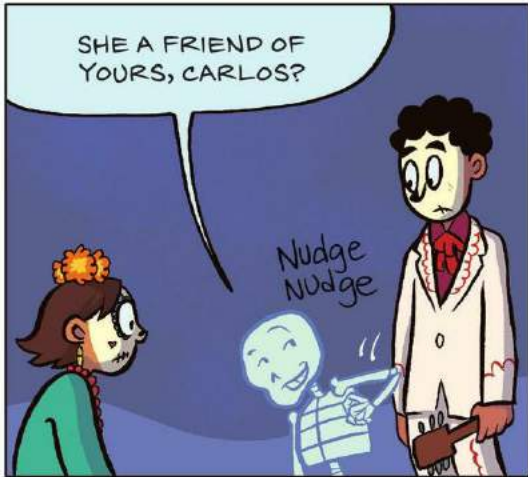




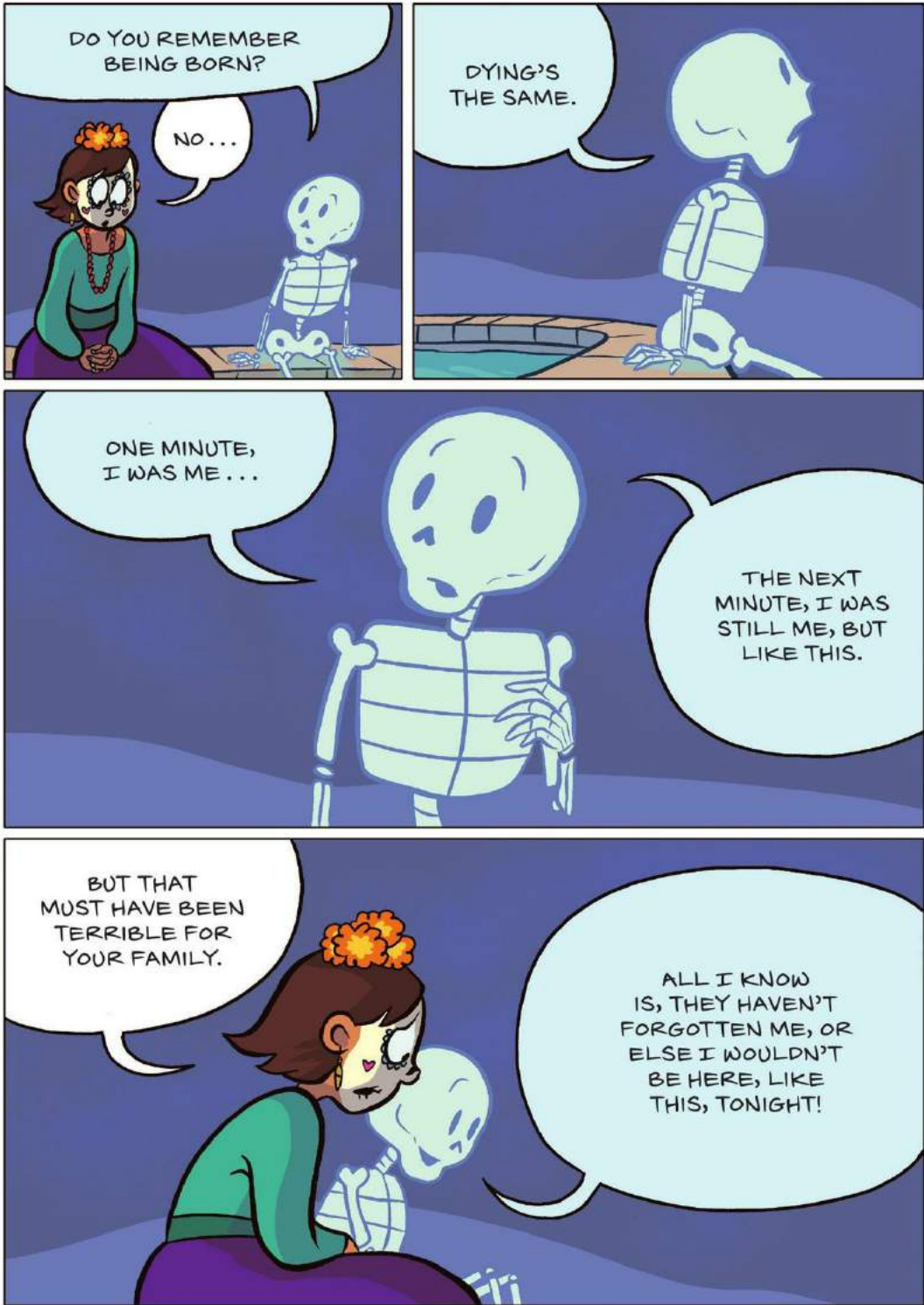


















SHOOKA
SHOOKA
SHOOKA

SHOOKA

SHOOKA SHOOKA











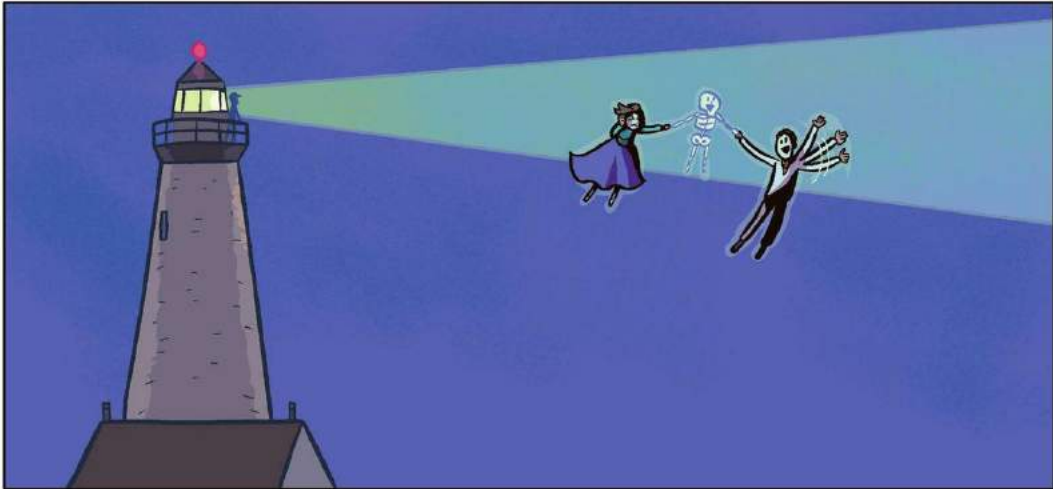
AWAY
WE GOOOO!

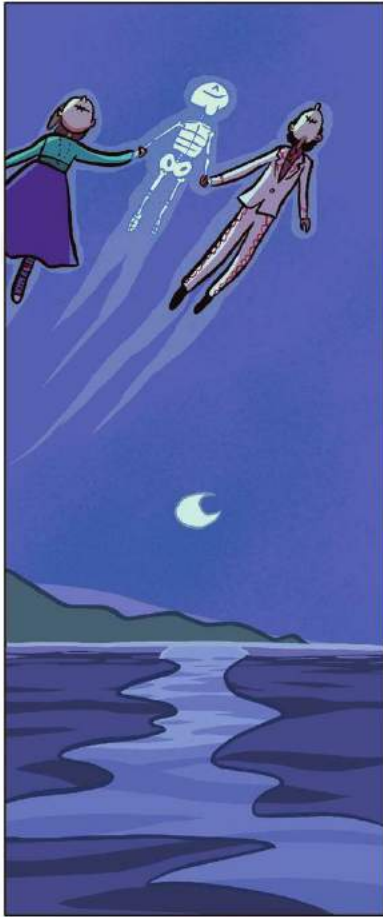














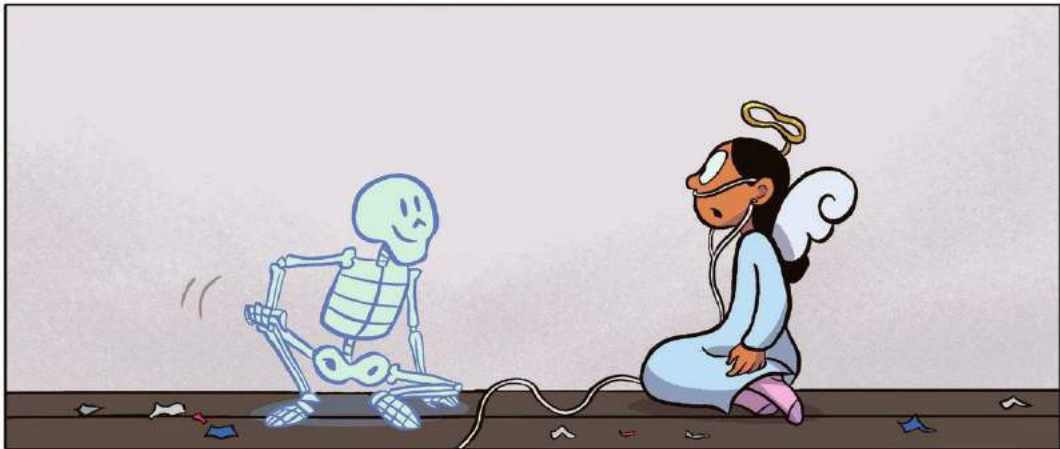
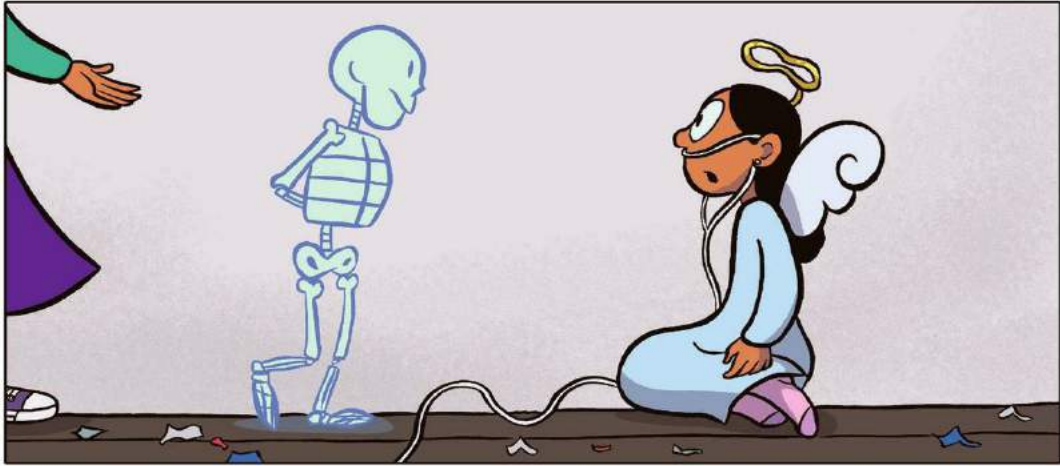




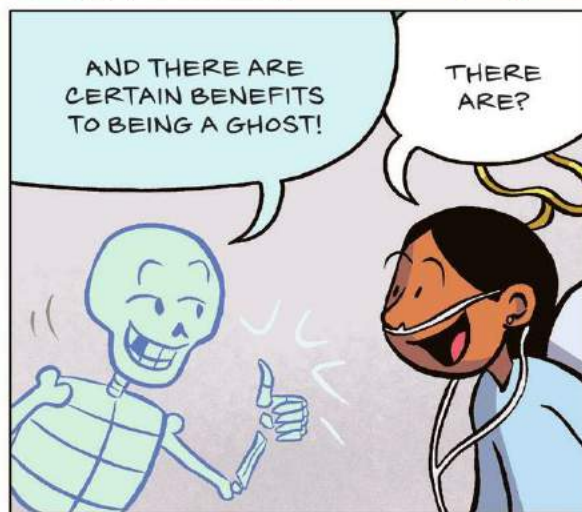
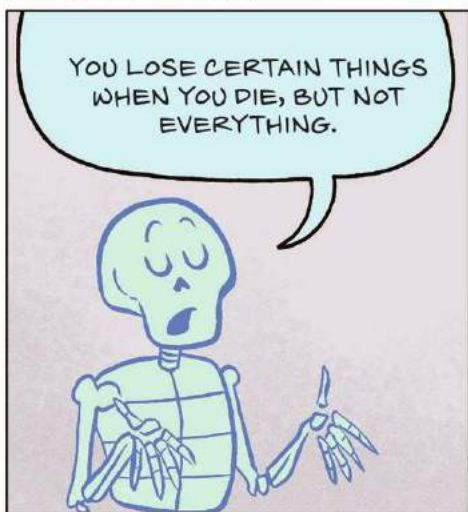


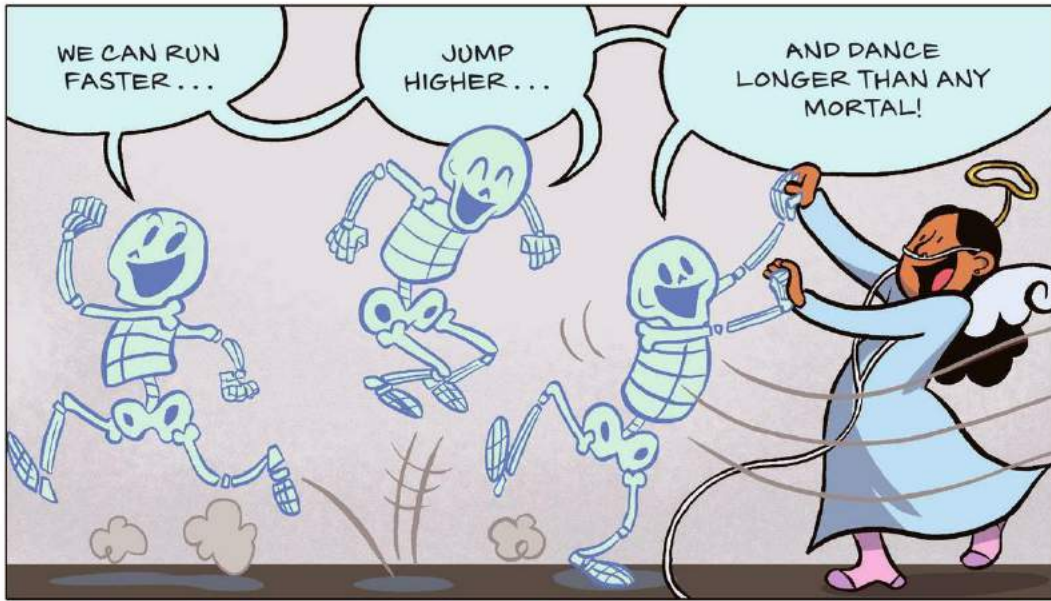




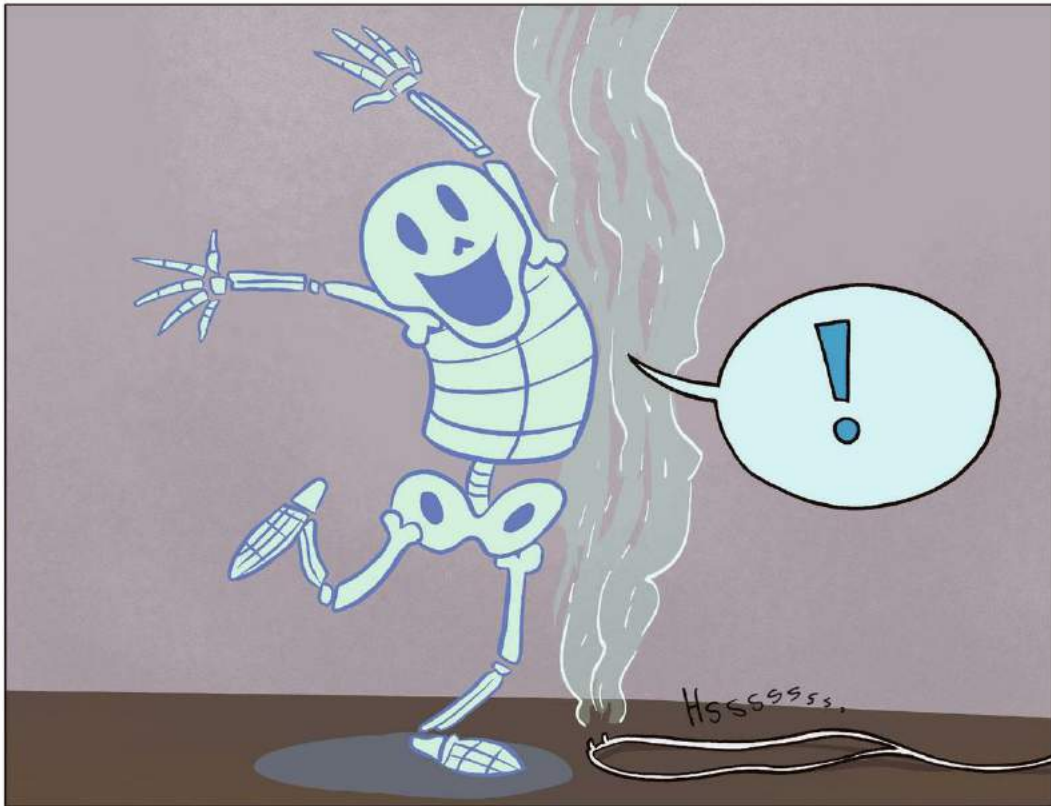
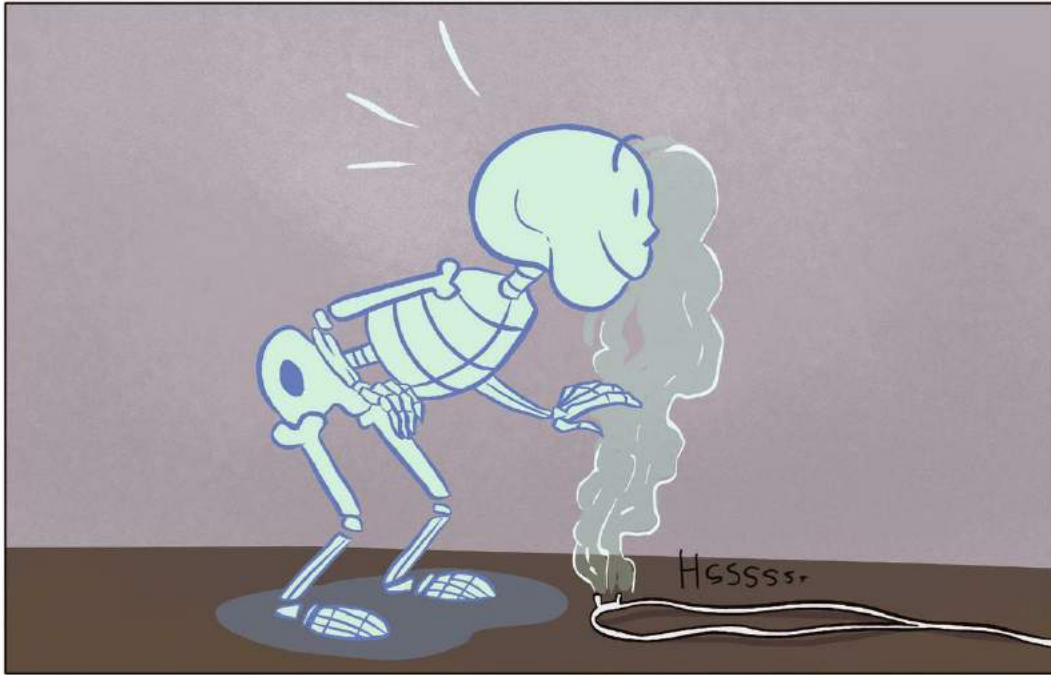






























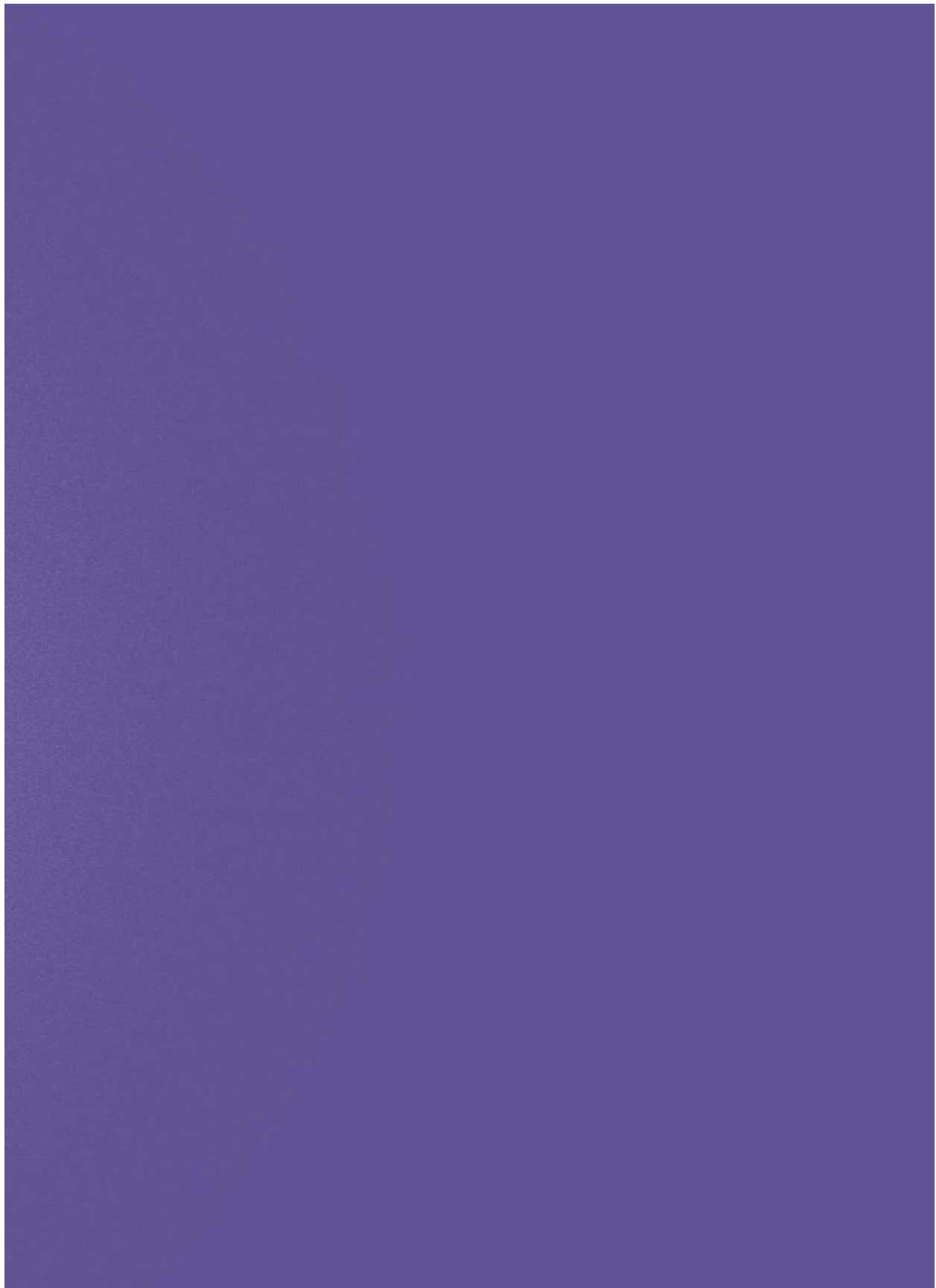




AND SO WE DID.



FIN



A FEW NOTES ABOUT **GHOSTS**

BAHÍA DE LA LUNA

Bahía de la Luna was inspired by foggy coastal Northern California, where I grew up. I've always had an appreciation for the windswept coastline, the gnarly cypress trees, and especially the seaside town of Half Moon Bay, which is famous for its artichoke fields, pumpkin farms, and cheerful, laid-back Halloween vibe. I wanted Bahía de la Luna to feel like that, and the characters who live there to reflect the laid-back, gnarly, slightly haunted atmosphere.

DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

Día de los Muertos, or Day of the Dead, is an ancient tradition that is now largely celebrated in Mexico and throughout the world. Instead of mourning the loss of loved ones, Mexican culture chooses to celebrate and honor the dead each year at the beginning of November, building altars (ofrendas) in homes, parks, and cemeteries, and decorating them with flowers, food, photographs, and other personal items. Although Day of the Dead represents the afterlife, there is something undeniably joyous about it!

I was very fortunate to attend San Francisco's annual Day of the Dead celebration during the course of creating this book. Thousands of people came together to dress up, build altars, light candles, and remember their loved ones. It was one of the most beautiful, respectful, and moving experiences I've ever had. Many of the visuals from the celebration scene in *Ghosts* came directly from that night, as I sat, sketched, and observed everything and everyone around me. The process of creating a book is not unlike letting go of the things that haunt your past. Making peace with your ghosts is as profound as the idea of life itself. And at the end of the day, love transcends life and death.



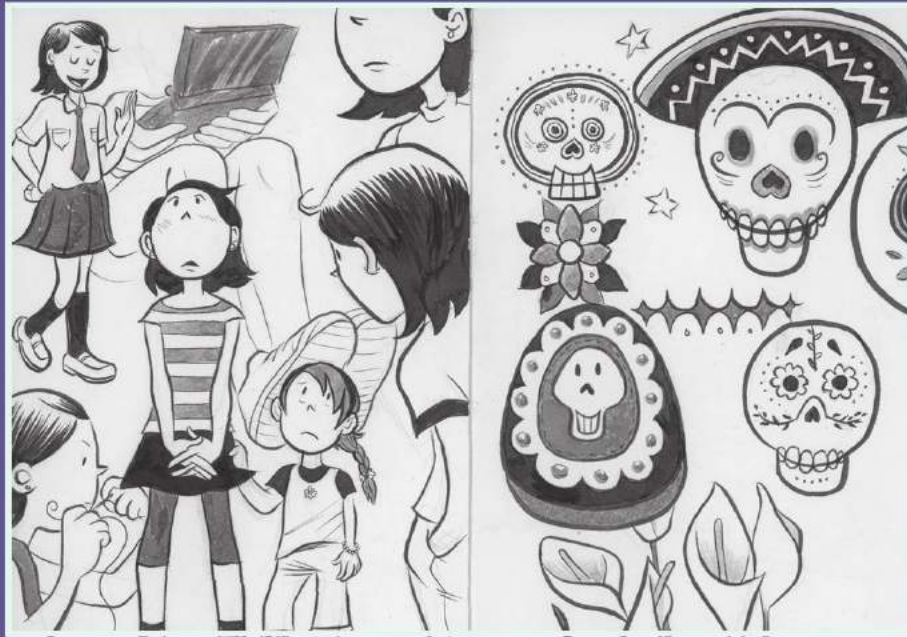
Me in Day of the Dead makeup

CYSTIC FIBROSIS

Cystic fibrosis is a genetic disease that causes thick, sticky mucus to build up in the lungs, making breathing difficult and leading to frequent infections. Some of the treatments Maya endures in this story are the vibrating vest designed to break up the mucus in her lungs (making it easier to cough out); extra nutrition delivered through a port in her belly while she sleeps; and, eventually, a breathing tube to administer more oxygen. Scar tissue can build up in the lungs following infections, reducing the space available for air to pass through. In some cases, CF patients need to undergo lung transplants. While there is no cure, improved treatments for CF have greatly extended the life expectancy of patients. I chose to write about cystic fibrosis because breathing is a huge theme in this story. Ghosts can't breathe, and Maya can't breathe very well herself. Cat has normal lungs, but she is often anxious and sometimes needs to be reminded to stop and breathe deeply. You can learn more about cystic fibrosis at www.cff.org.

SKETCHBOOK

These sketches were done in 2008, eight years before the publication of *Ghosts!* The characters, their story, and this environment have existed in my head for a very long time.





THANK

This book drew a lot of inspiration from my cousin Sabina Castillo Collado, whom we lost to cancer when she was thirteen. Sabina was one of the most inspiring kids I ever met: spirited, joyful, and not interested in letting her illness define her or slow her down. She is greatly missed and will never be forgotten.

Sabina's parents, Suzanne and Dioni, and her siblings, Sophia and Adonis, also blew me away with the depth of their love for their daughter and sister. They are incredible people and I wish to thank them for everything they are and everything they do. Special thanks to Sophia for being one of the coolest big sisters I've ever known.

Thanks to Dave Roman and the Cuevas, Roman, Rigores, and Fernandez families for their support. Special thanks to Tammy Diaz Cuevas for talking tamales with me.

The cystic fibrosis community, especially the brave families who posted their stories online, was a constant source of inspiration as well as a great resource for understanding.

My editors, Cassandra Pelham and David Saylor, nurtured this project from the ground up and helped me down the winding path that leads from one ocean to another. I can't think of two better people with whom to wander the windy hillside that is creating graphic novels.

Thanks to Phil Falco, Sheila Marie Everett, Lizette Serrano, Tracy van Straaten, Lori Benton, Ellie Berger, Bess Braswell, Antonio Gonzalez, Caitlin Friedman, Michelle Campbell, Emily Heddleson,



and the rest of the incredible team at Scholastic. I love working with all of you.

Braden Lamb deserves an extra-special round of bone-rattling applause for the coloring of my art for this book, translating my notes and reference for the atmosphere of Bahía de la Luna into stunning Technicolor. And muchas gracias to Braden's team of assistants, Shelli Paroline and Rachel Maguire!

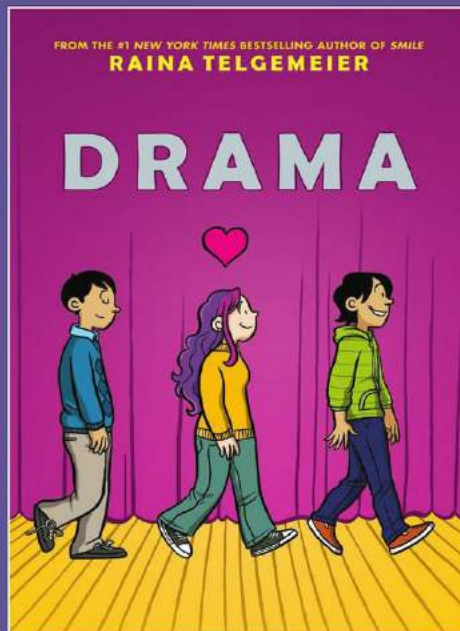
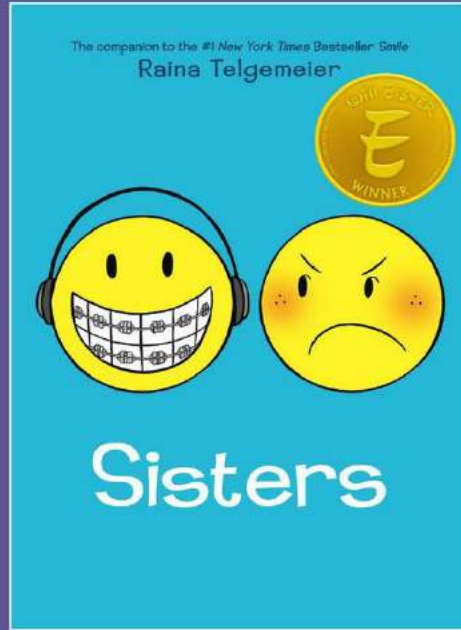
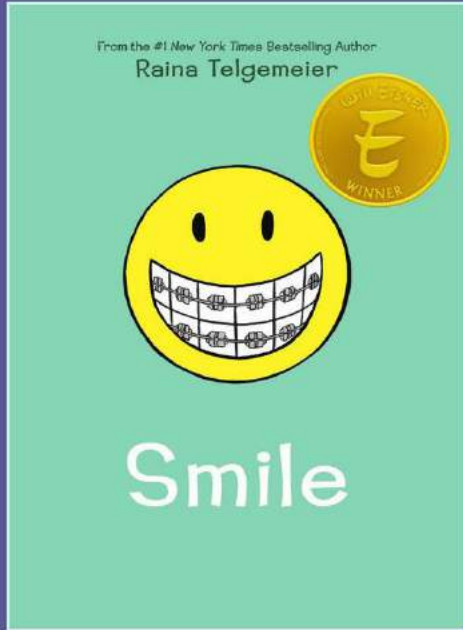
Additional thanks to my studio assistants, Alexandra Graudins and Kristen Adam, for providing so much help, never-ending good cheer, and cookies; my wonder agent, Judy Hansen; ace letterer Jenny Staley; Sofia Vasquez-Duran, for talking health and medicine; Jewels Green, for her thoughtful insights on cystic fibrosis; and my friend in all things art, introspection, and skeletons, Ashley Despain.

Thanks to the authors, artists, filmmakers, and photographers who inspired me to think about spirits and magical realism and history and delicious food. Thanks to the librarians, booksellers, teachers, comics community, and everyone who has supported my work so wholeheartedly. Thanks to the state of California, my lifelong muse. Thanks to my family, who don't seem to mind living in the fog; I'll bear it if I have to, as long as you guys are here. Thanks to my friends, who are a continual source of love, support, and ideas. I'd be lost in the dark without them.

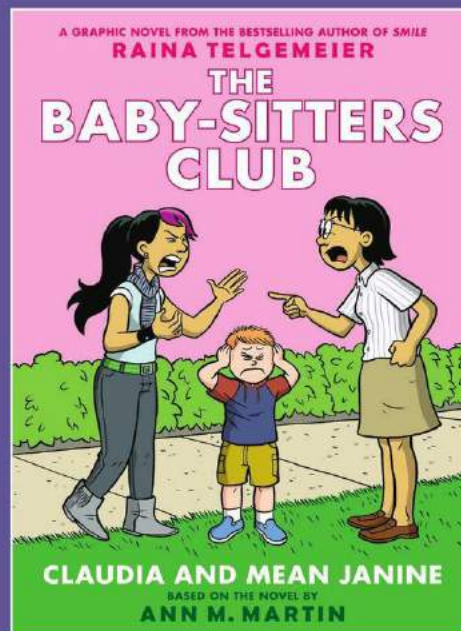
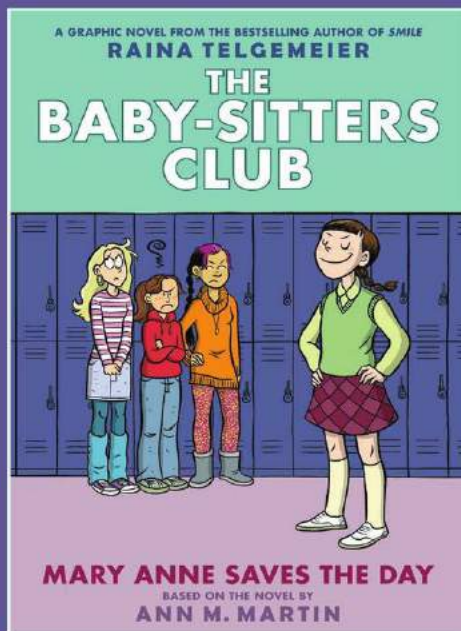
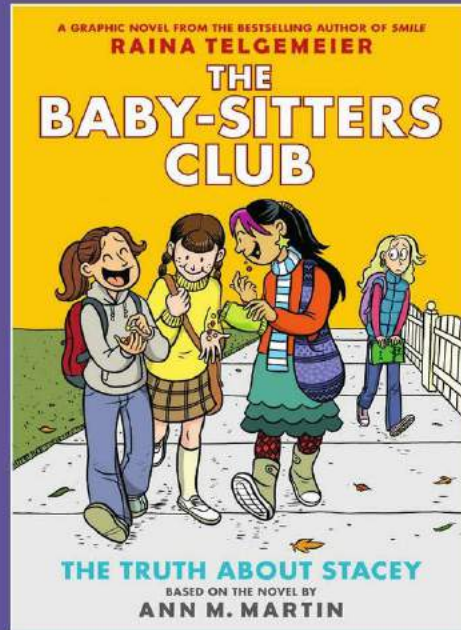
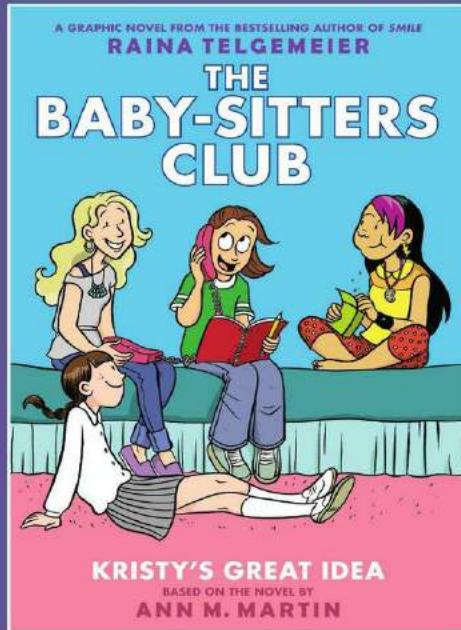
Finally, an orange soda toast to my readers, young and old, who are endlessly amazing.

-Raina

ALSO BY
RAINA TELGEMEIER



BY **ANN M. MARTIN**
AND **RAINA TELGEMEIER**





RAINA TELGEMEIER is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling, multiple Eisner Award–winning creator of *Smile* and *Sisters*, which are both graphic memoirs based on her childhood. She is also the creator of *Drama*, which was named a Stonewall Honor Book and was selected for YALSA’s Top Ten Great Graphic Novels for Teens. Raina lives in the San Francisco Bay Area. To learn more, visit her online at www.goRaina.com.