

Lucille

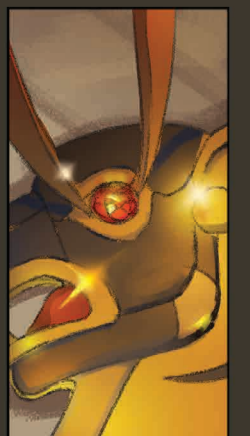
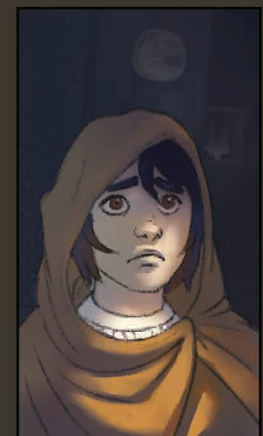
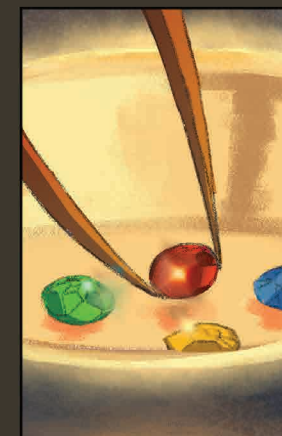
& The Day
Of Changes

AS
TRO
NEWT

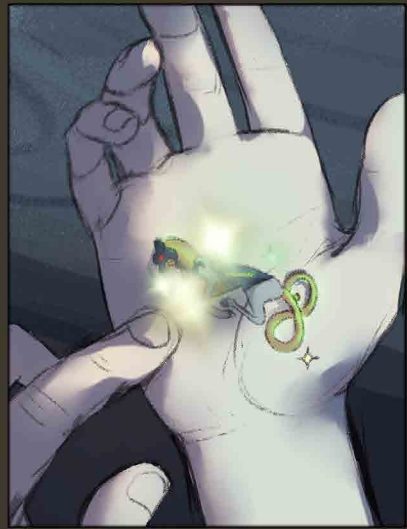
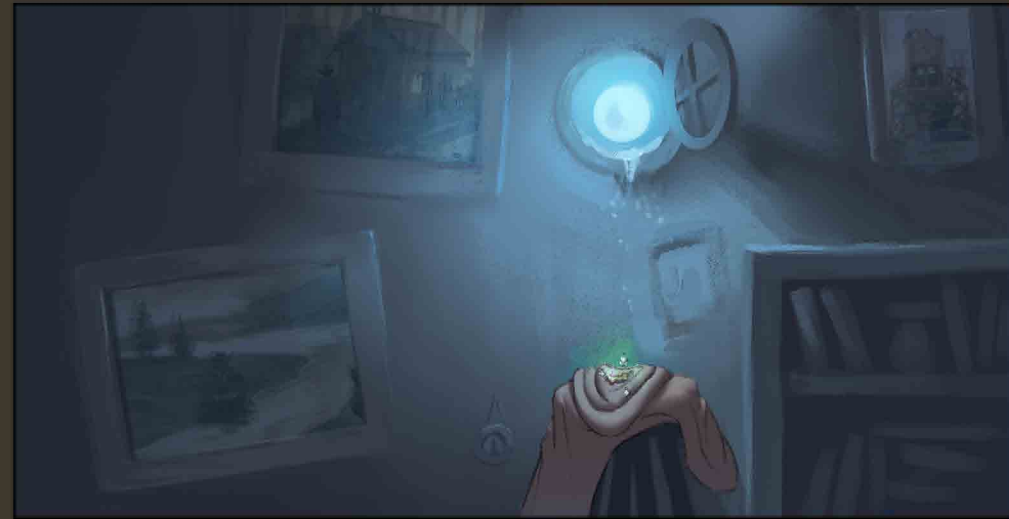
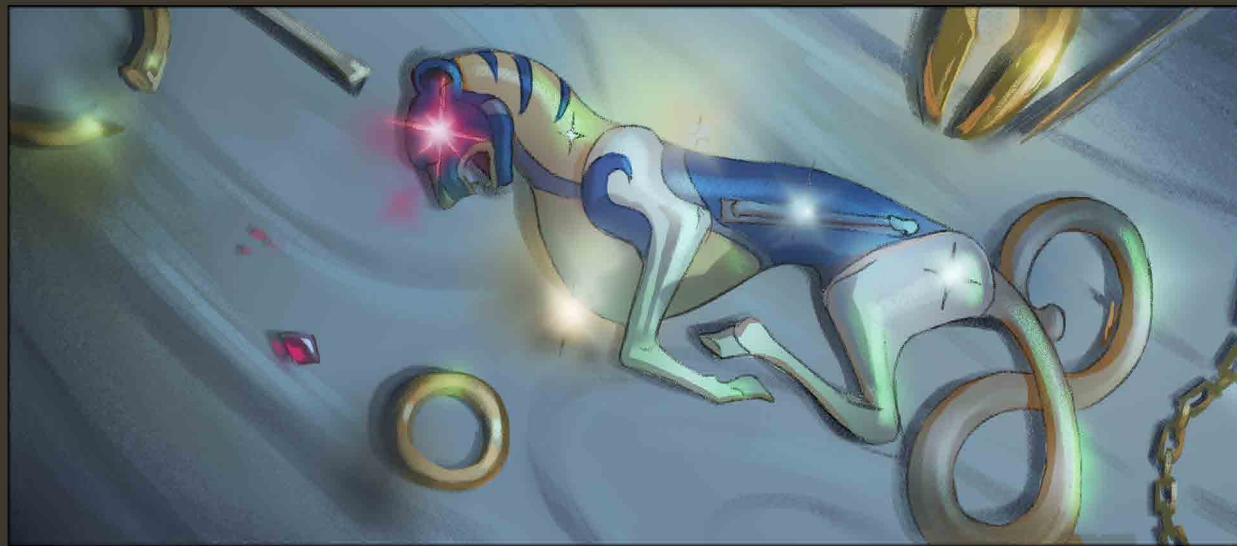
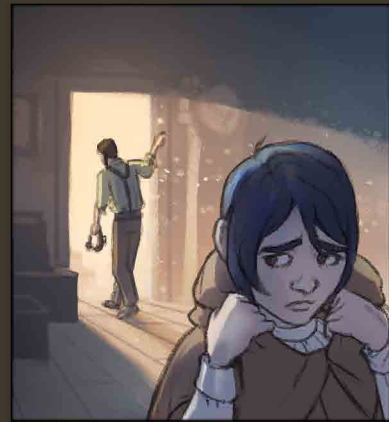
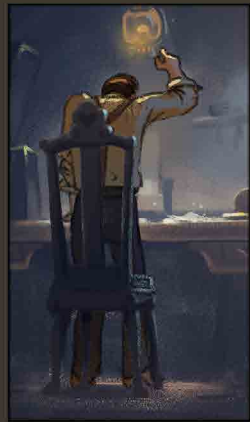
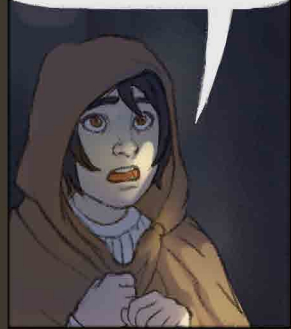


ASO
TRO
NEWT





Are you making my birthday present?

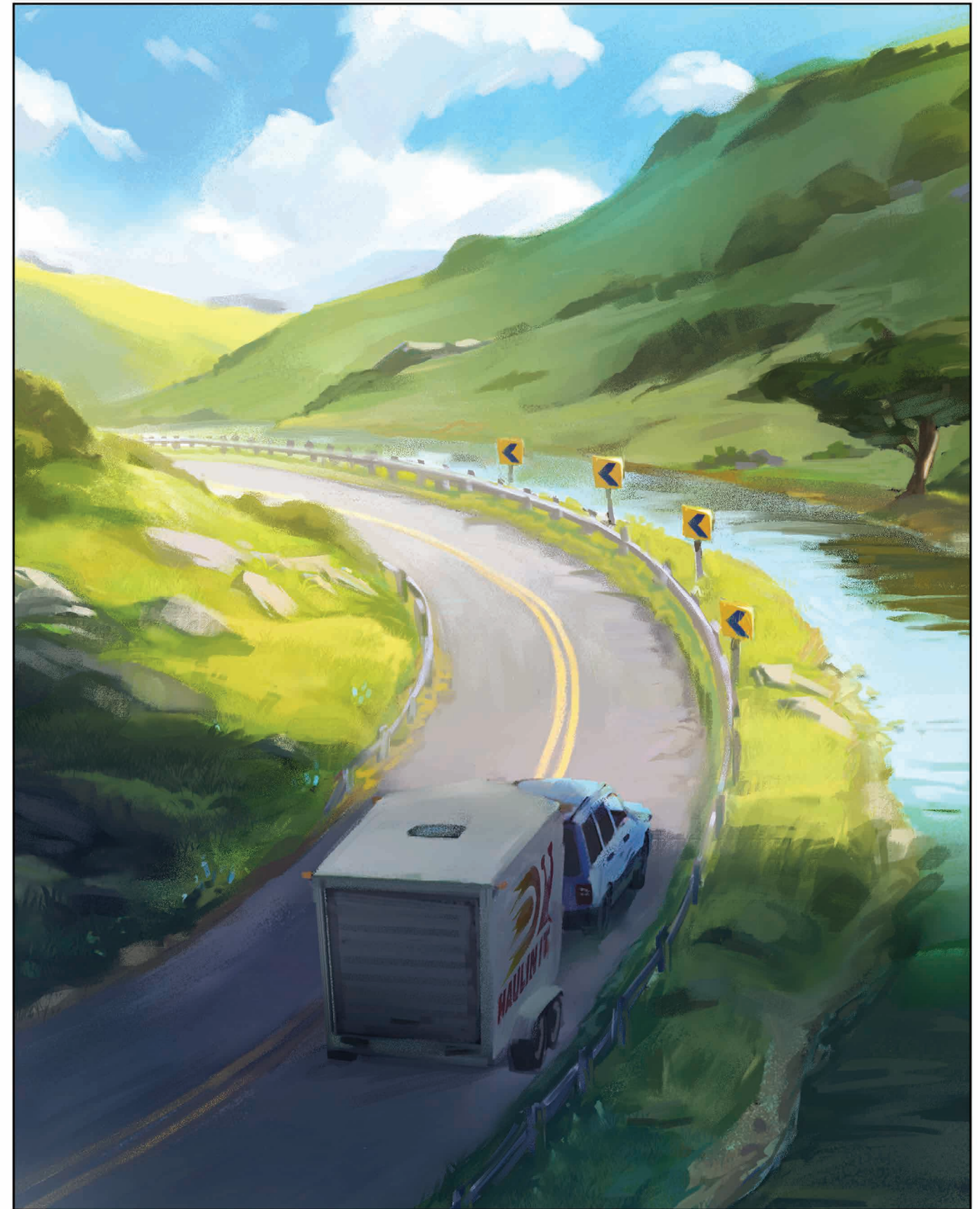


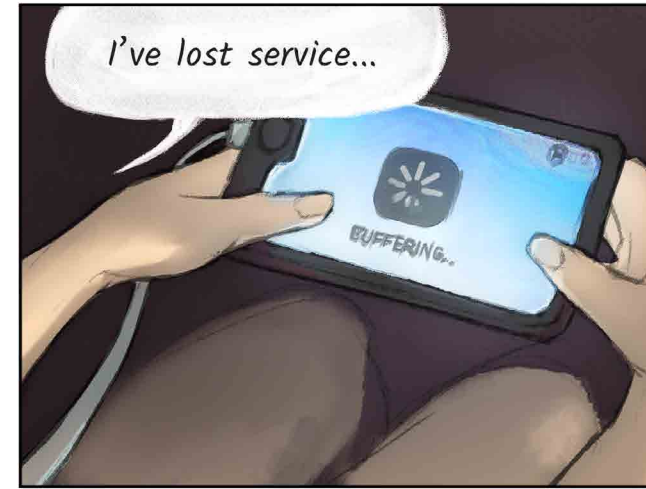
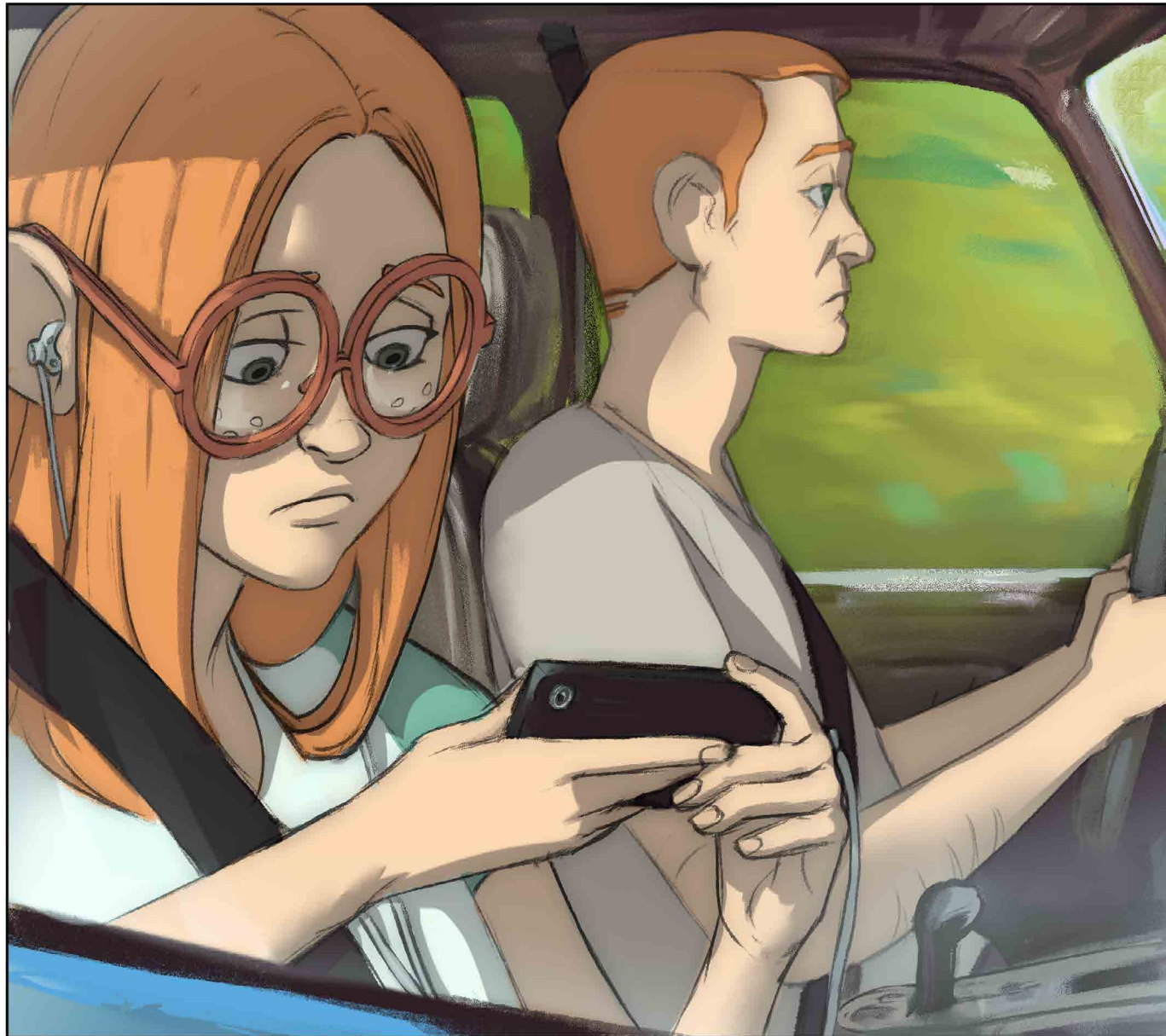
MEOW

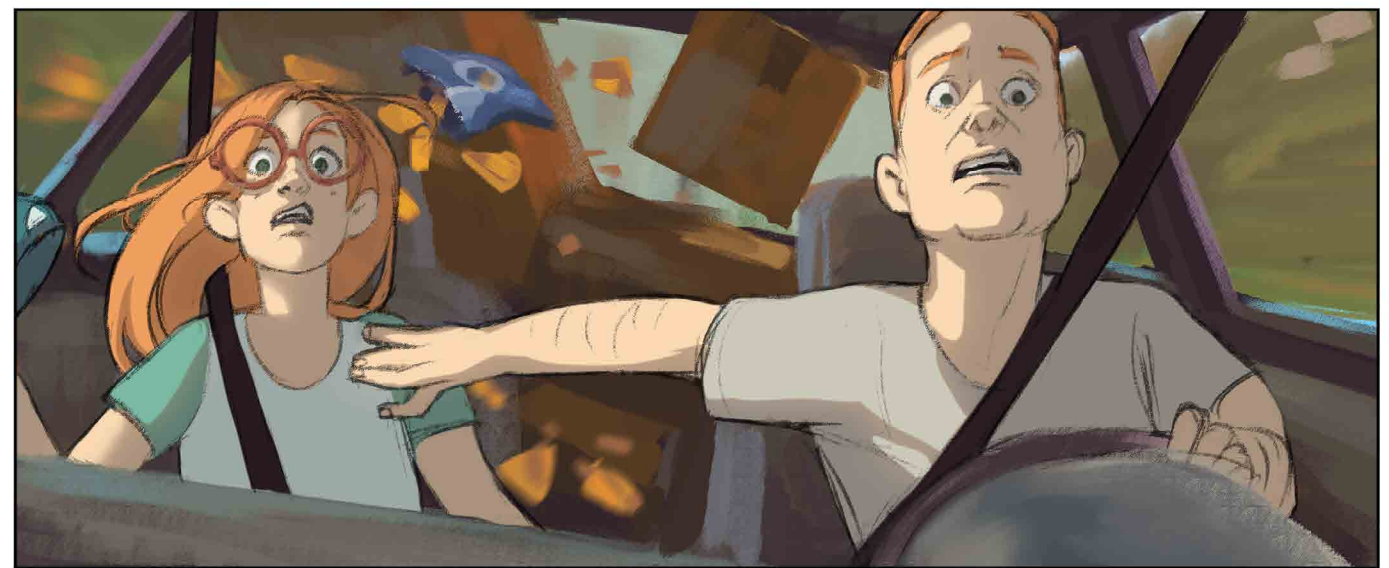
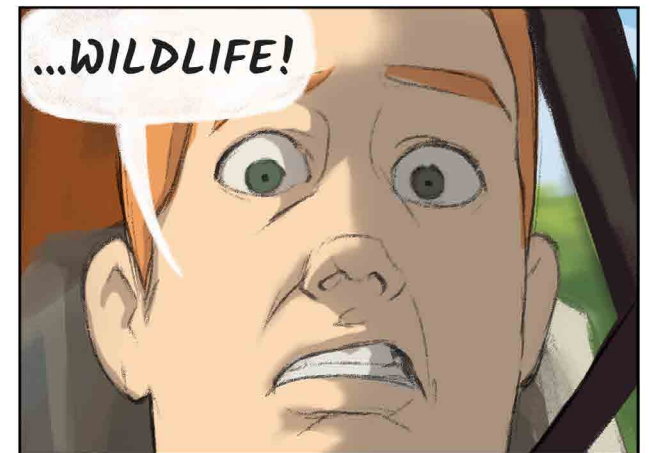
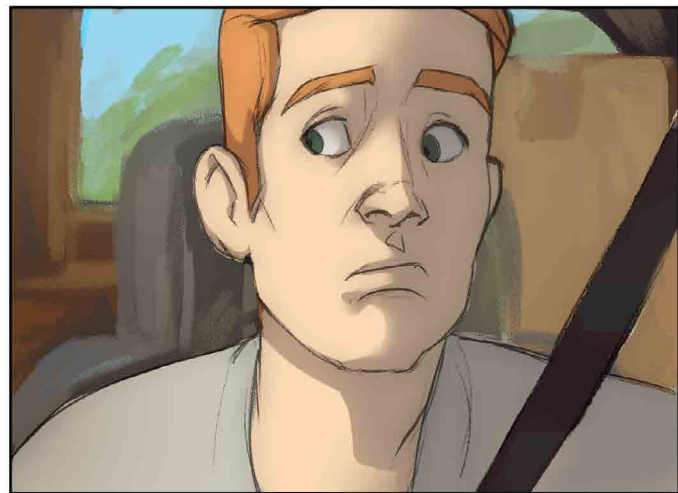


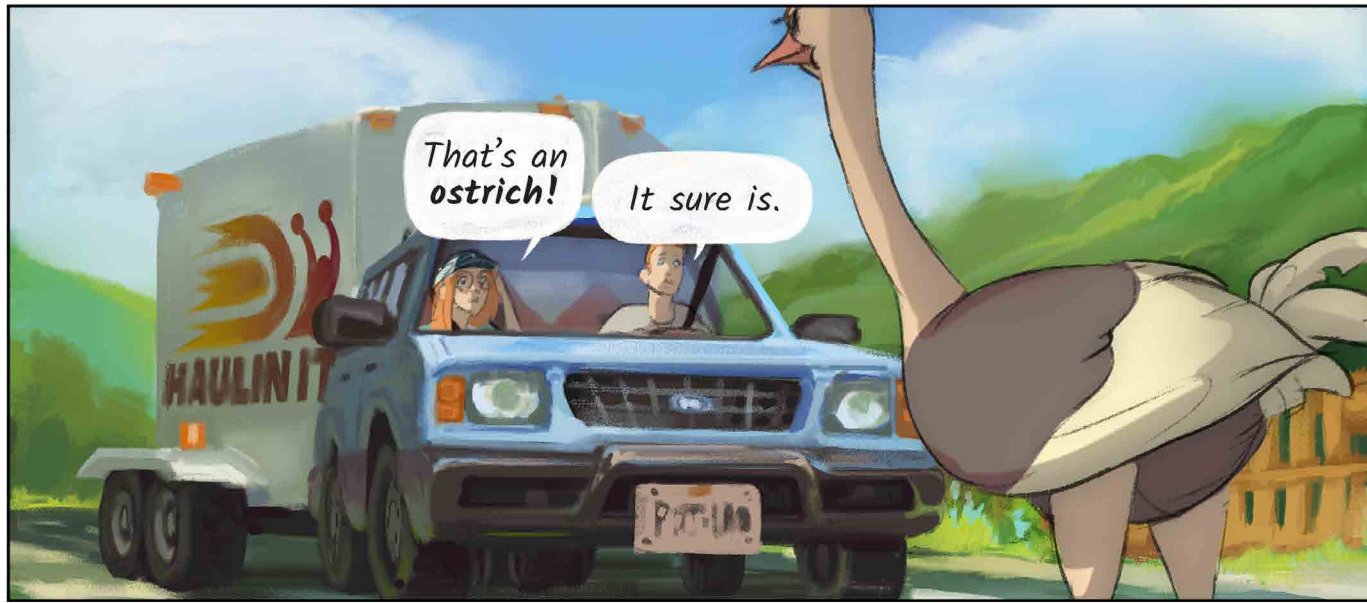
Lucille

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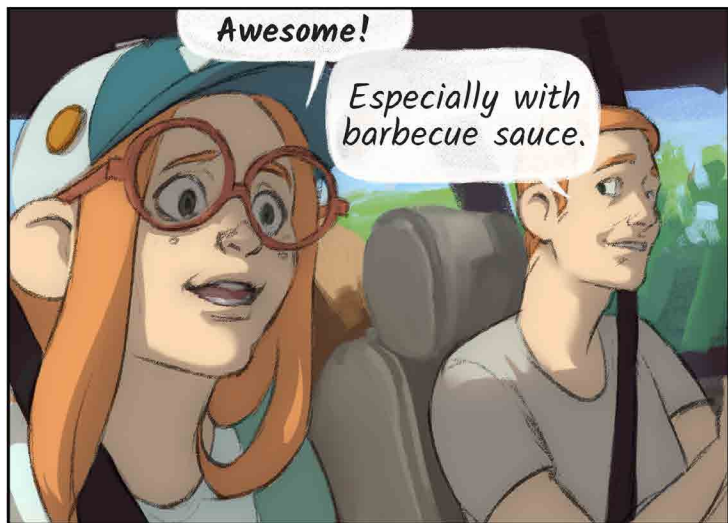






That's an ostrich!

It sure is.



Awesome!

Especially with barbecue sauce.



That's terrible, I'm never eating ostrich!

I'm sorry, Honey, but they do raise them for meat.



Lucille!
Wait!

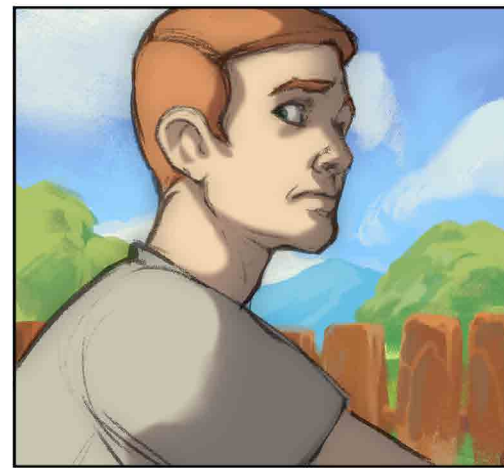
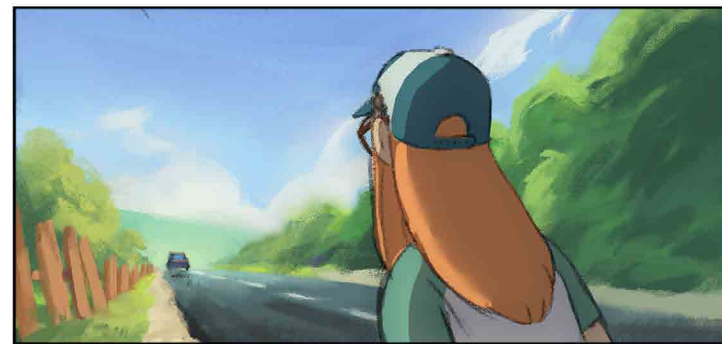
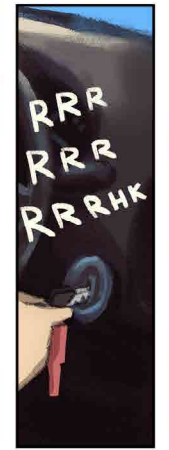
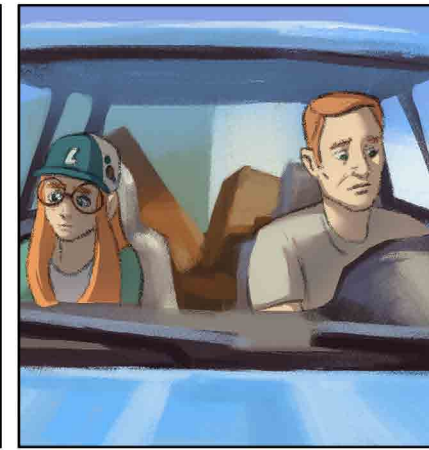
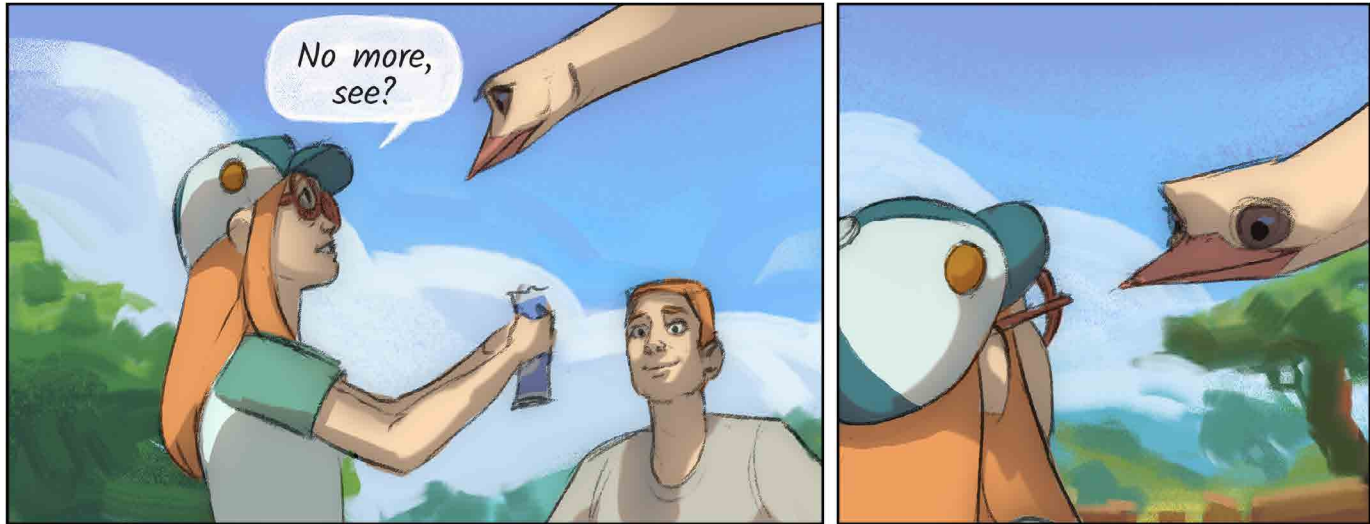


Well I'll be!

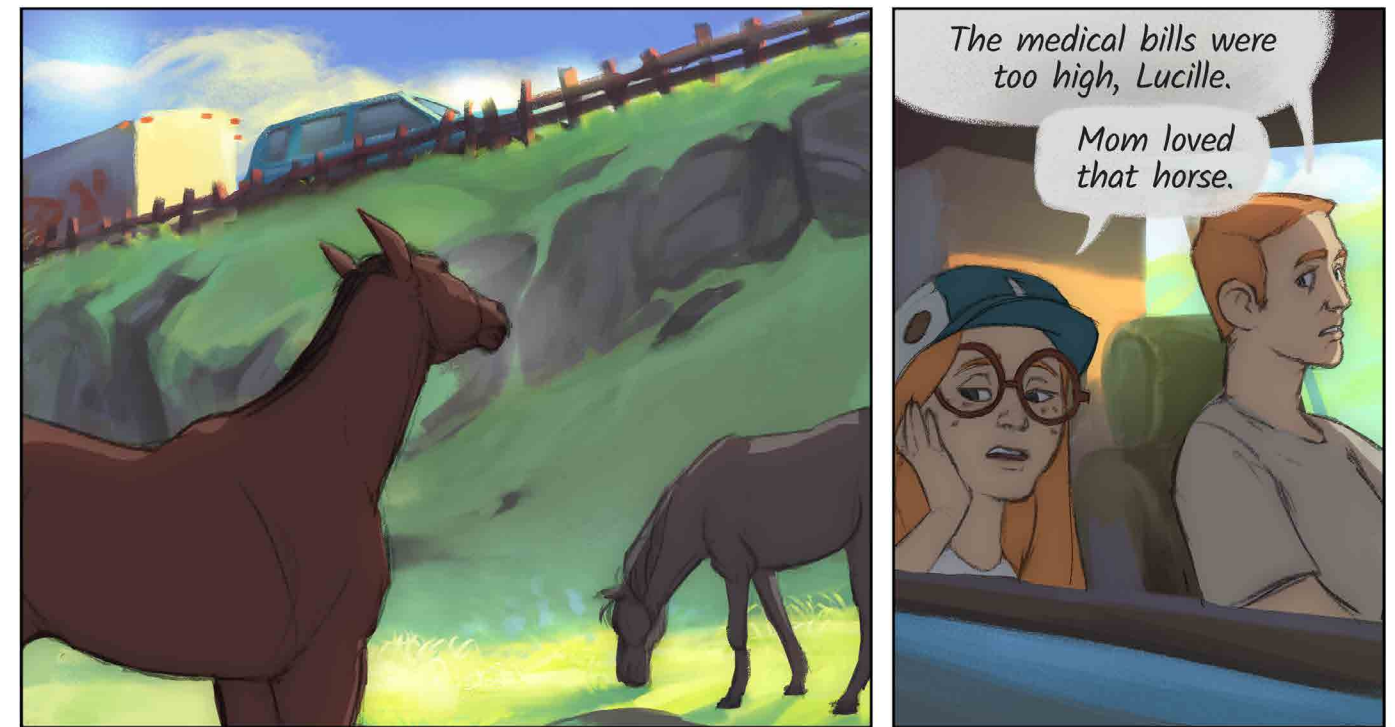
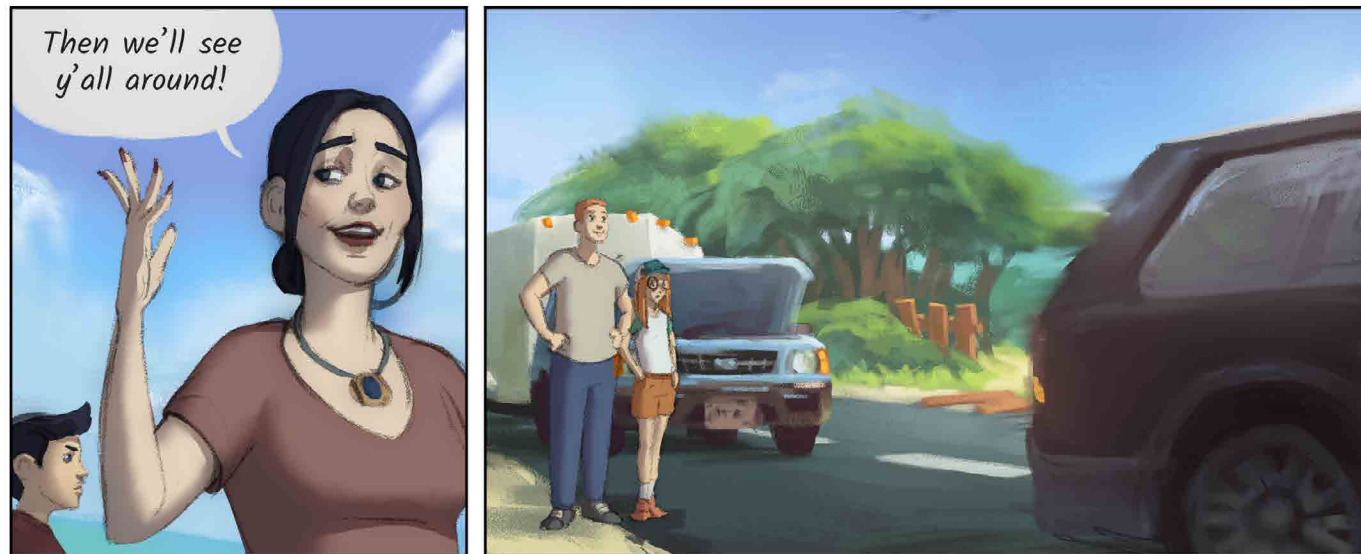
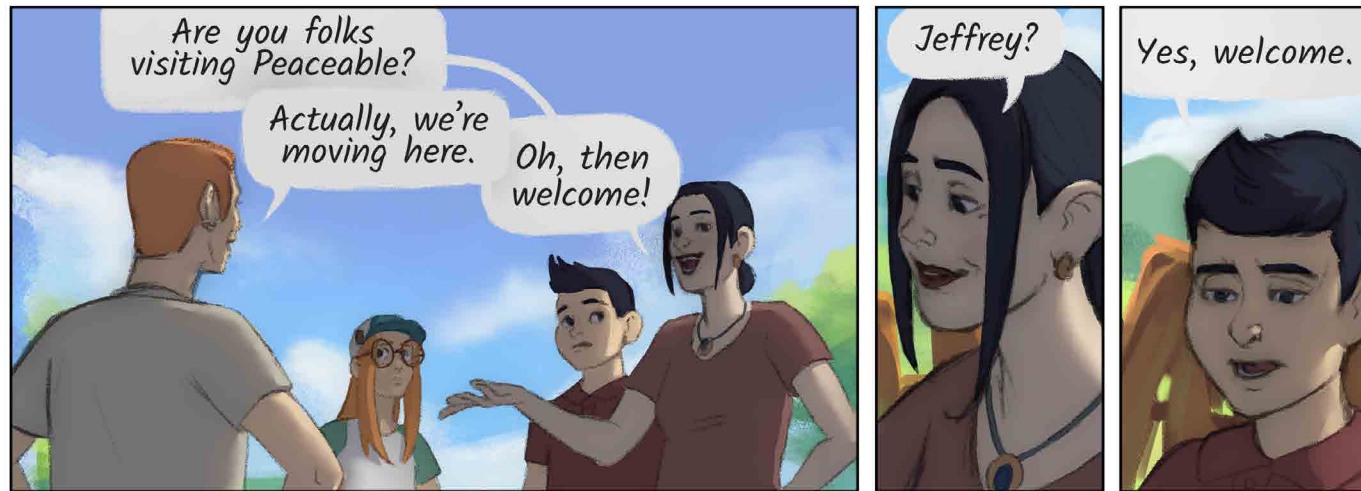


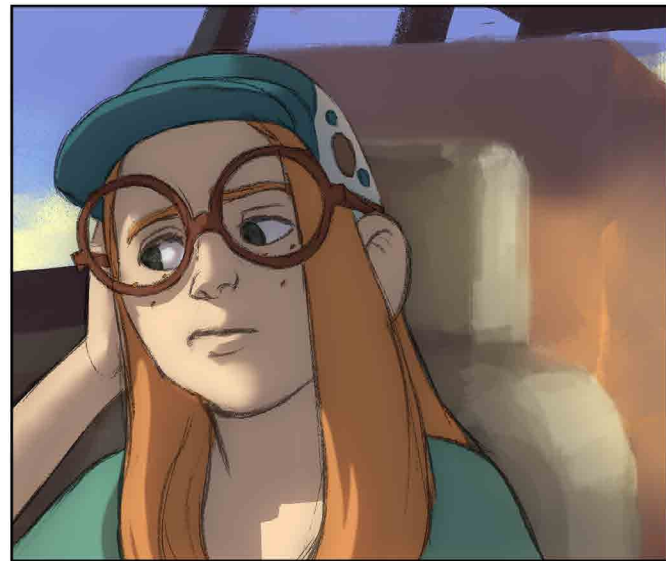
There! I made a friend!

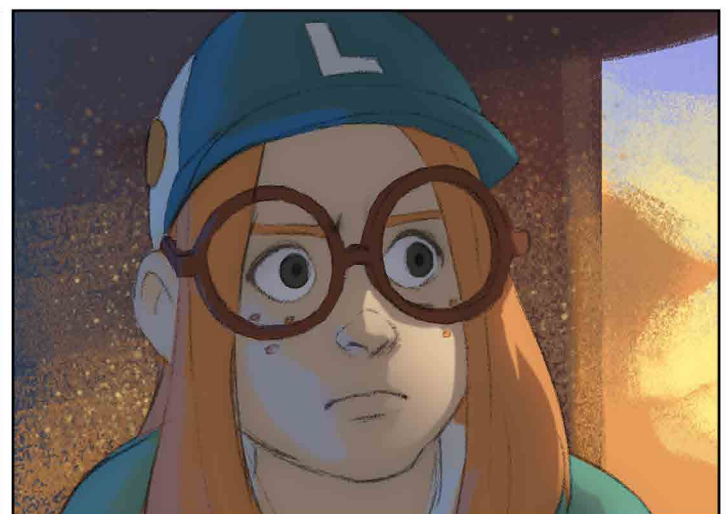
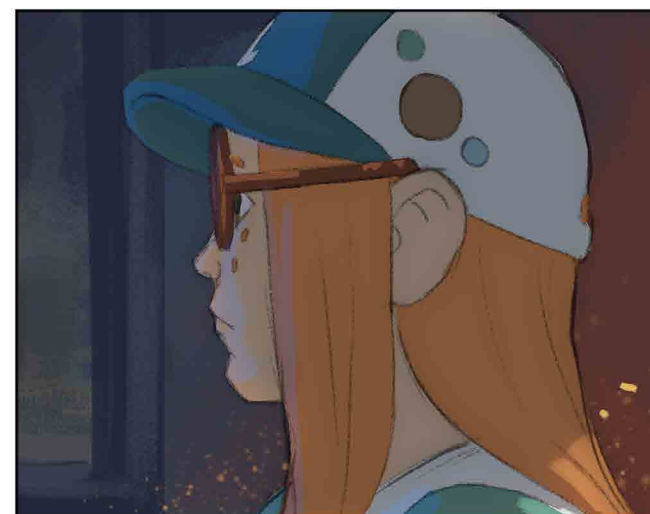
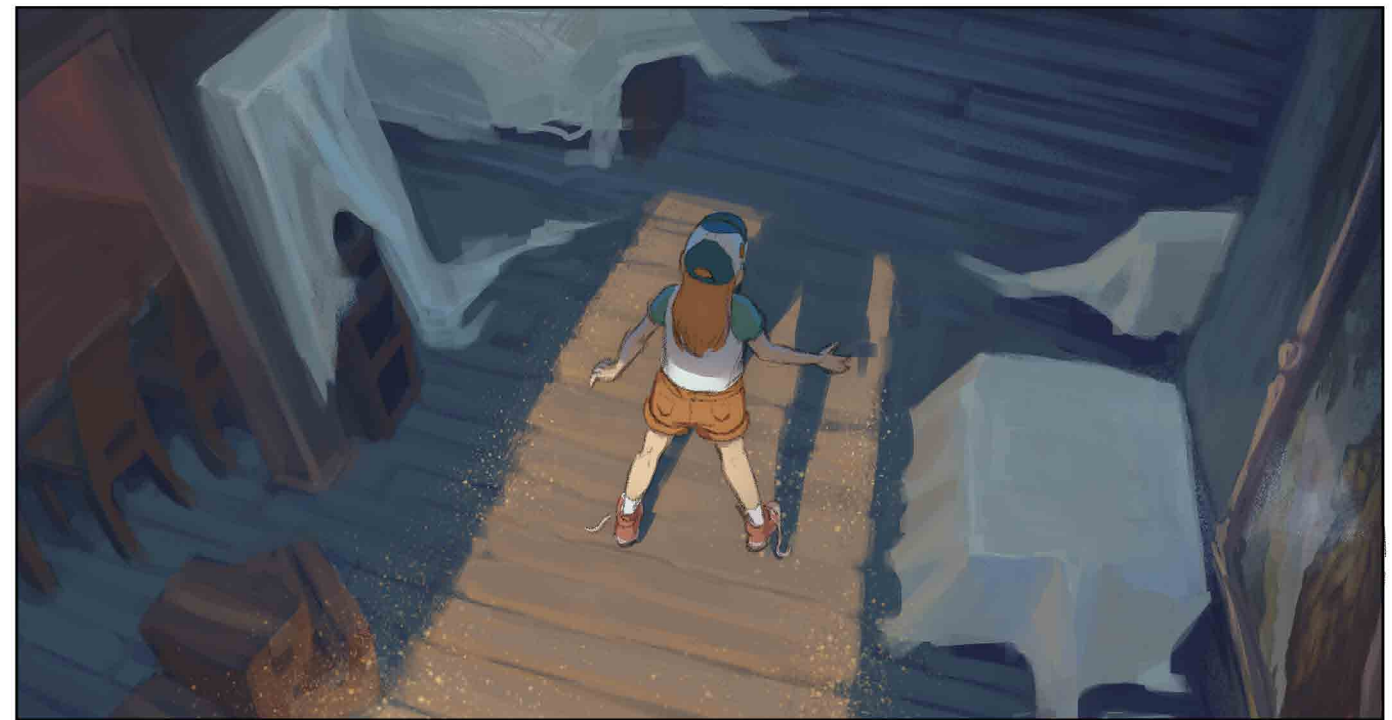
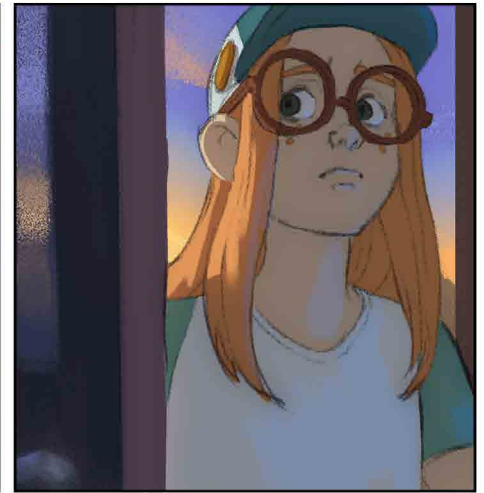
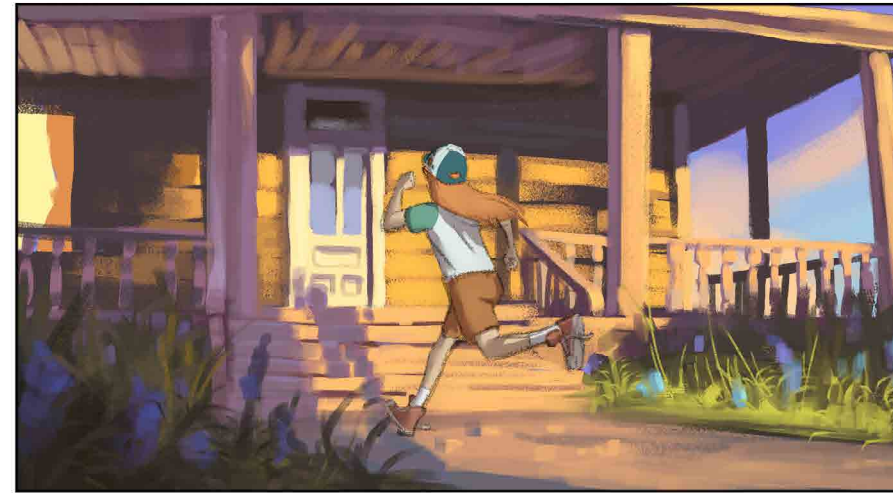
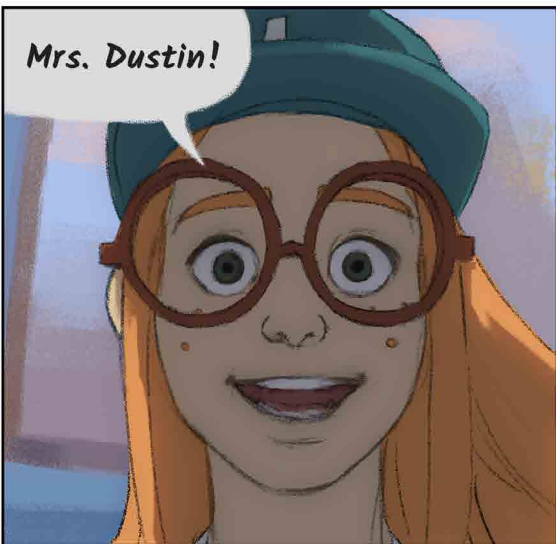
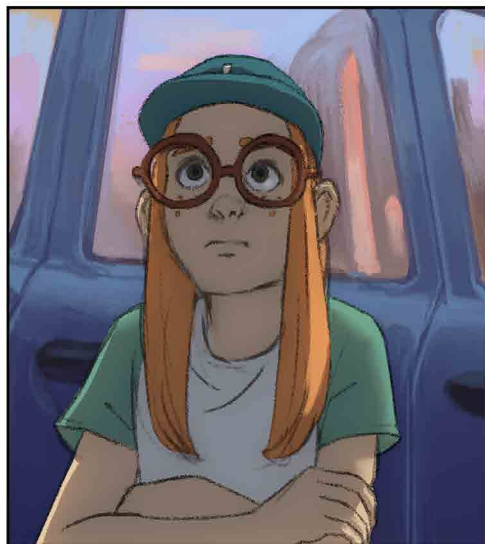
You're just like your mother.

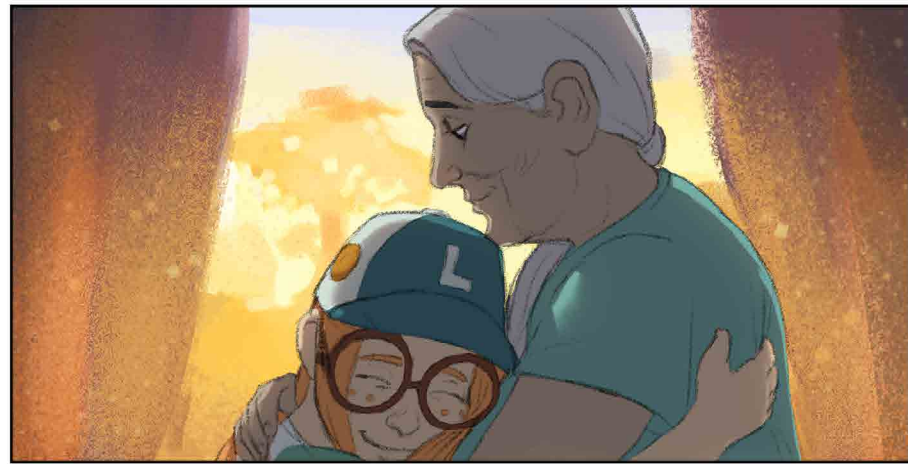


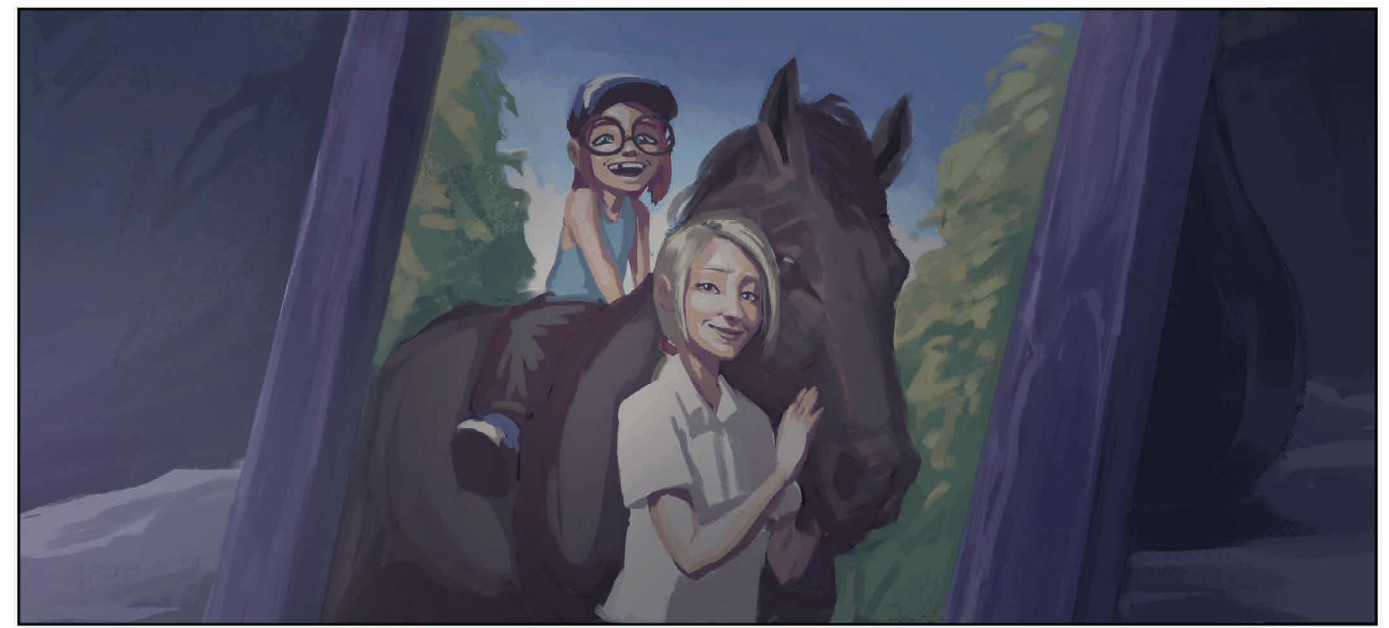


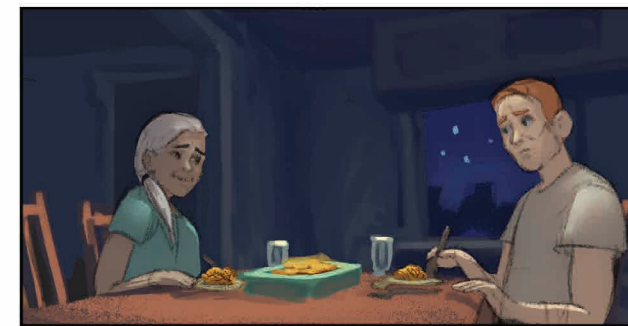
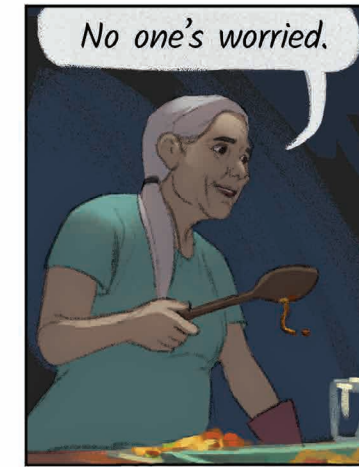
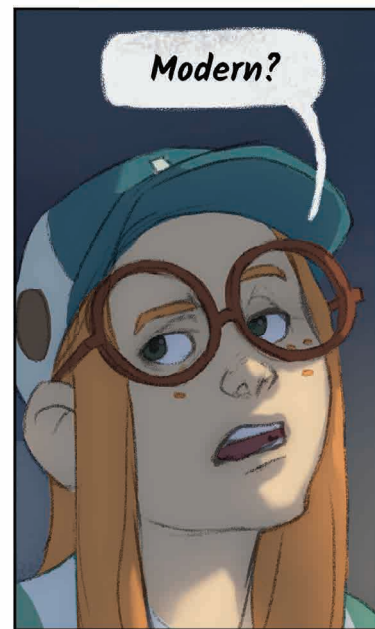
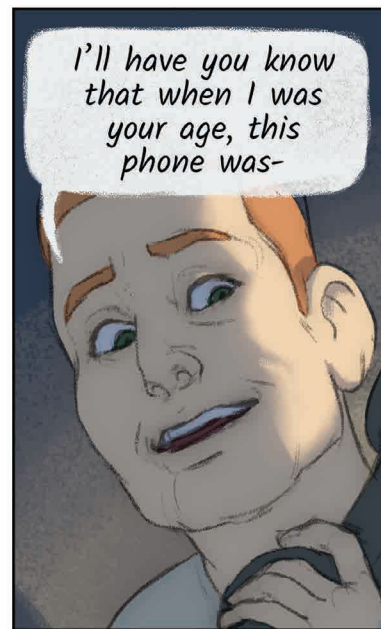
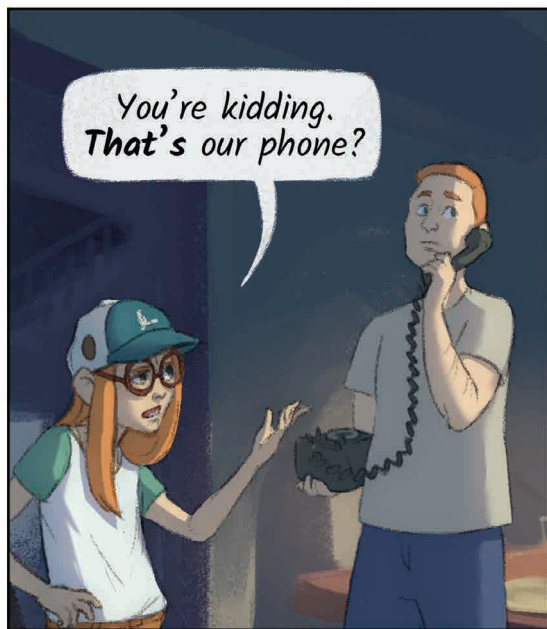
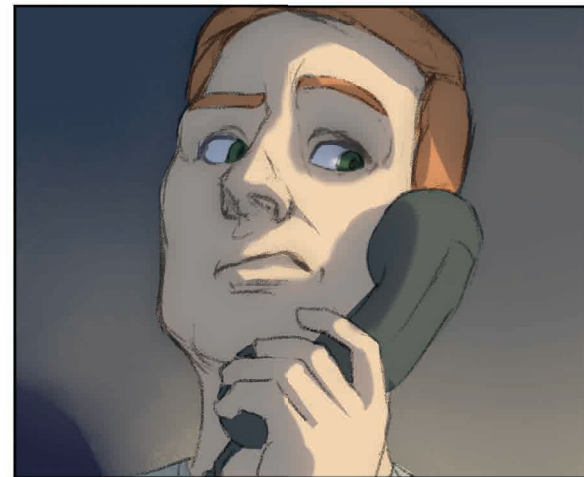


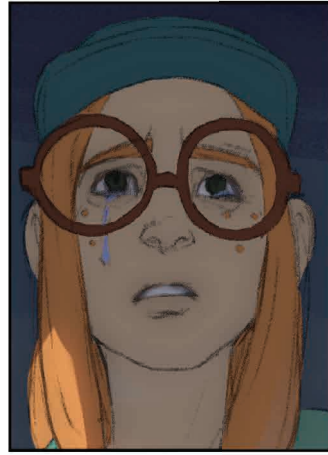










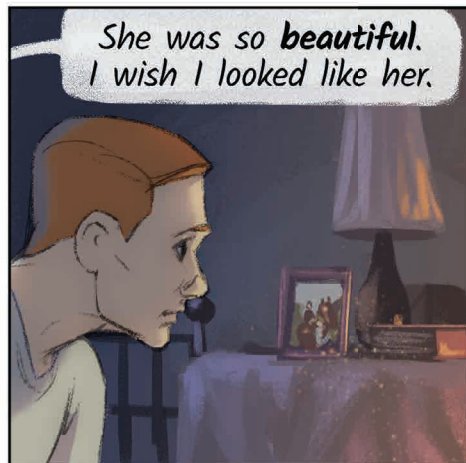




I can't sleep.



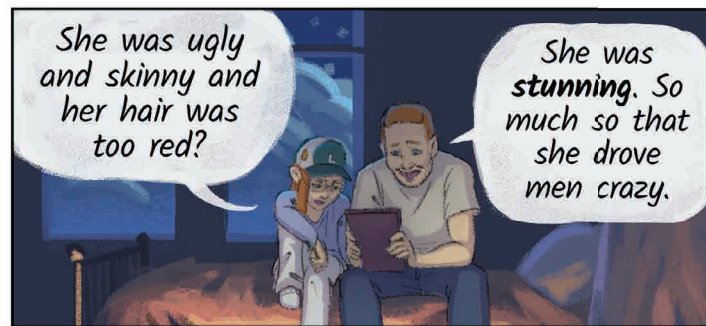
No, I want to wear it to bed.



She was so beautiful. I wish I looked like her.



You look like the best of both of us. And you look like your grandma when she was a girl.



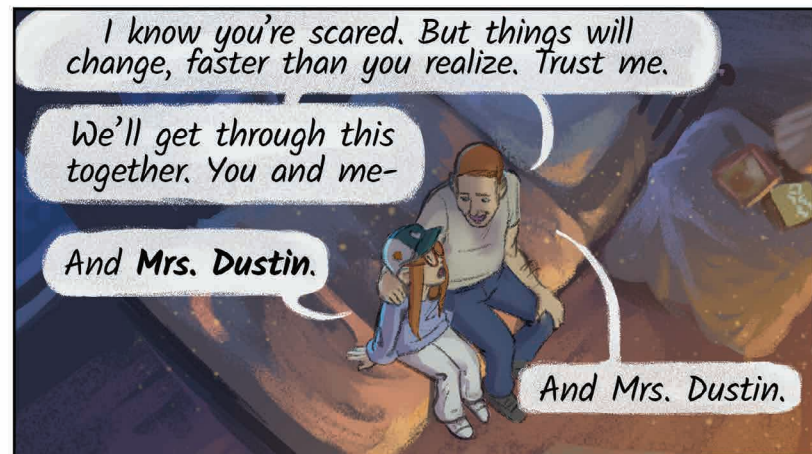
She was ugly and skinny and her hair was too red?

She was stunning. So much so that she drove men crazy.



I don't want to make anyone crazy.

Ha ha! Someday you might not mind so much.



I know you're scared. But things will change, faster than you realize. Trust me.

We'll get through this together. You and me-

And Mrs. Dustin.

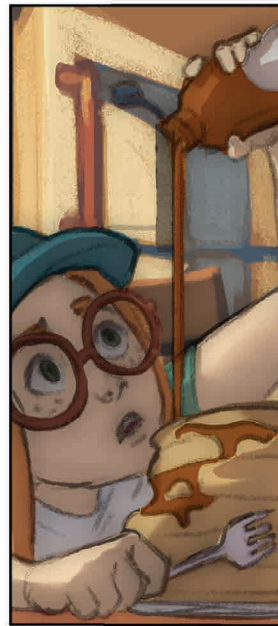
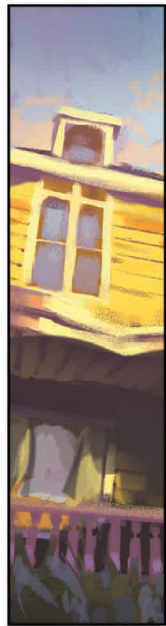
And Mrs. Dustin.



Only one chapter tonight. Your dad's got an interview in the city tomorrow!



"It was late next morning when Oliver awoke, from a sound, long sleep..."



When's dad coming home?

It's gonna be late, Sweetie. His interview got pushed, and with that storm coming in... well, he might even have to stay over.

But we just got here!

Don't worry, I'll make popcorn tonight, and we can watch one of your meerkat shows!



What about today?

Go outside! It won't start raining for hours yet. How about doing some exploring? Try to make a new friend.



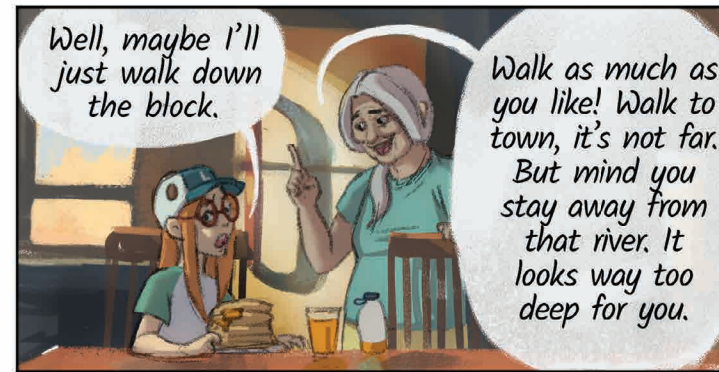
I did make a new friend.

A human one?



Dad and I met a boy named Jeffrey. He was nice! So was his mom.

There, you see? People here are plenty friendly.



Well, maybe I'll just walk down the block.

Walk as much as you like! Walk to town, it's not far. But mind you stay away from that river. It looks way too deep for you.



What are you supposed to be? A pony or somethin'?



A-A mare.

More like a nightmare!



HA HA HA HA HA



Aren't you Jeffrey Riley?

You know her?

We met yesterday. Remember?

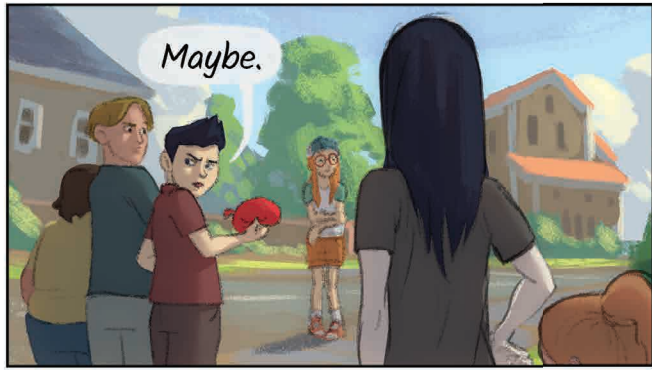
No...



Be nice, Jeffrey.



Of course you remember her.



Maybe? This is the girl you and Mom helped. The one with the broken down car.
So?

She and her dad moved into the abandoned Baxter home.
Are we going to keep playing?

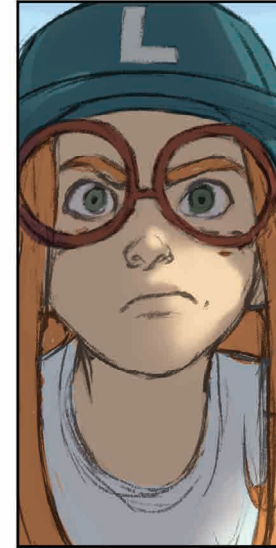
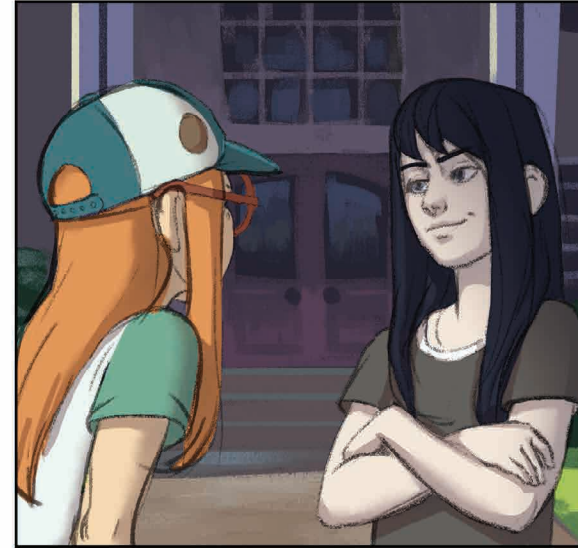
Oh, sorry, I don't think we can now...



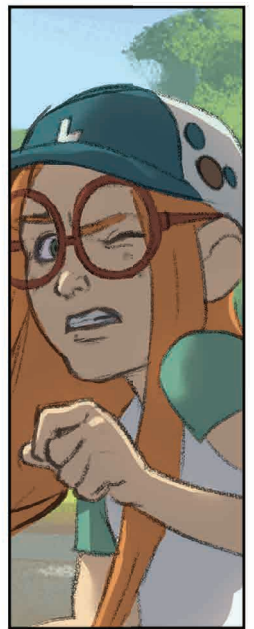
...you're all wet.

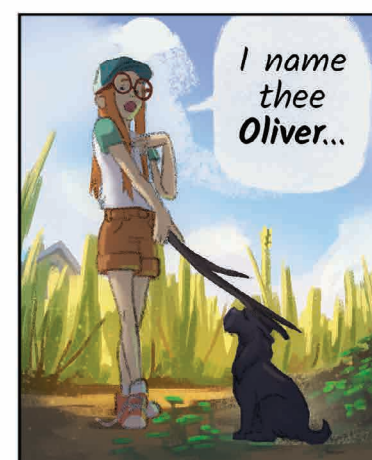
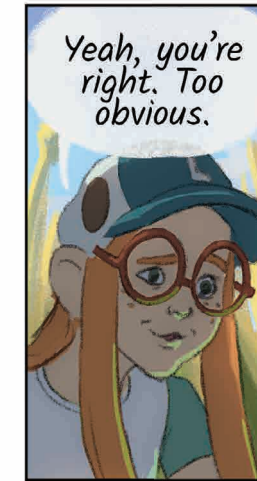
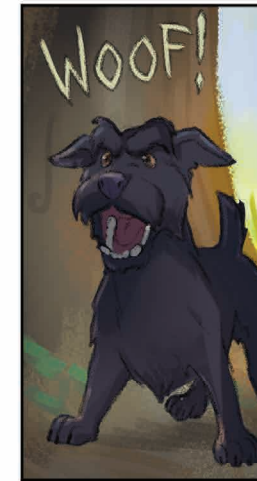
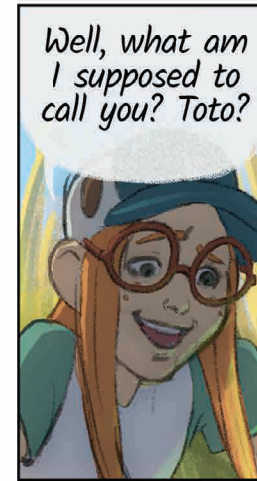
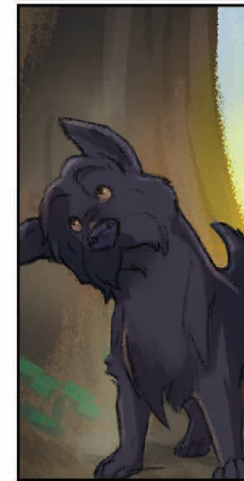
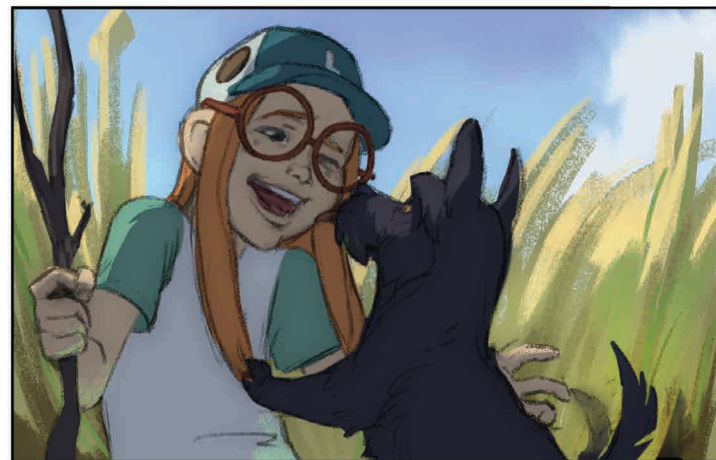
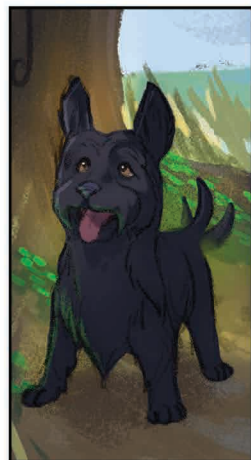
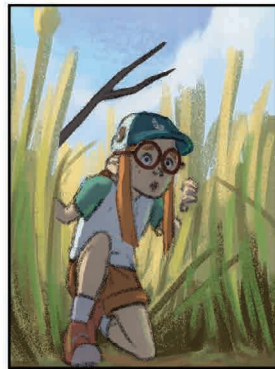


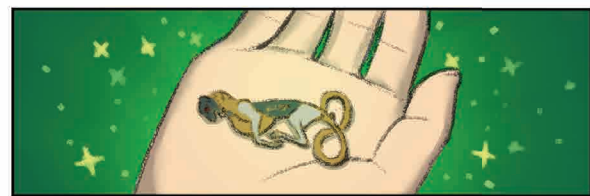
Why did you do that? You made her cry!



Let's go inside...





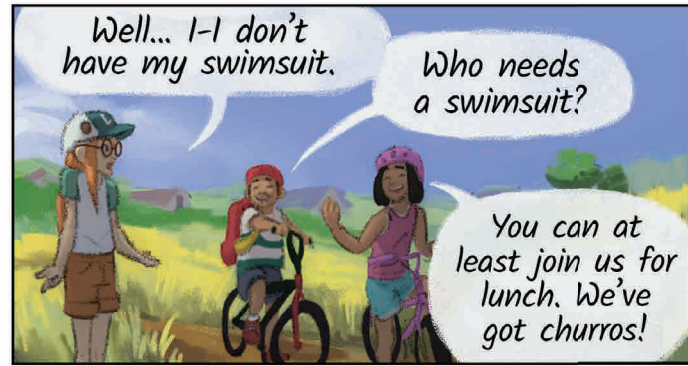




We don't get many new kids in Peaceable.



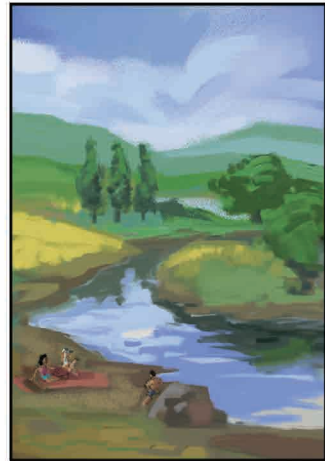
We're going swimming in the river. Do you want to come?



Well... I-I don't have my swimsuit.

Who needs a swimsuit?

You can at least join us for lunch. We've got churros!



These are way better than the ones we used to get at the fair.

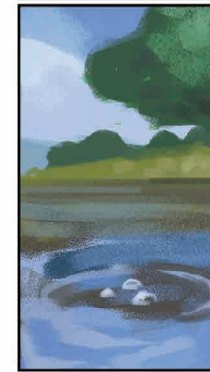
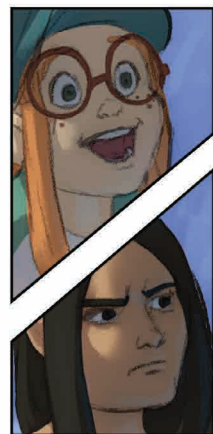
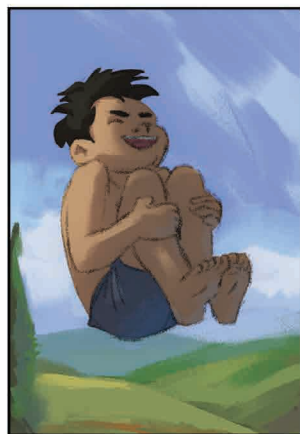
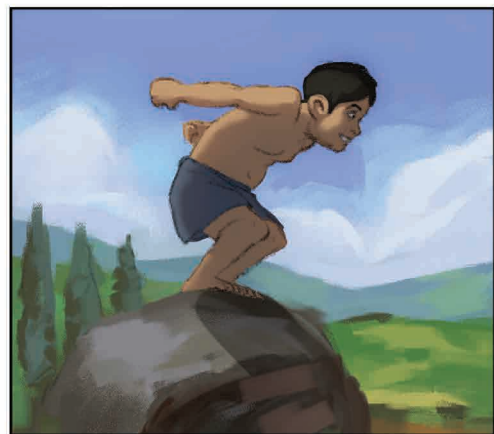


Mom and I make them from scratch. I could teach you how!

Really?



Time to cool off!



He's a little uncivilized. But Mom asked me to let him out of his cage so he could get some exercise.



Shut up!

You shut up!

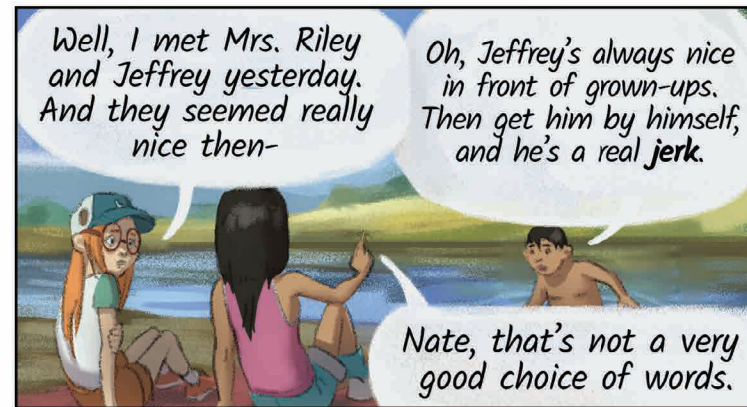


How do you like Peaceable so far?

Better than I liked it a couple hours ago. Some of the kids I met aren't as nice as you guys.



Let me guess... you met the Rileys.



Well, I met Mrs. Riley and Jeffrey yesterday. And they seemed really nice then-

Oh, Jeffrey's always nice in front of grown-ups. Then get him by himself, and he's a real jerk.

Nate, that's not a very good choice of words.



Except he is. But he's not as bad as his twin sister.

Twin?

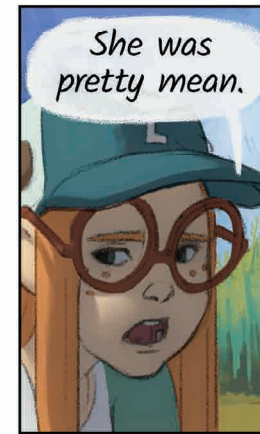
Isobel Olivia Riley.



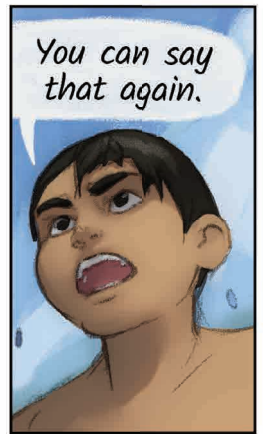
There was a girl with him. She had long black hair, and really light blue eyes-

Yep. That's Isobel.

Creepy looking, isn't she? We call her **The Creature!**



She was pretty mean.



You can say that again.



But the Rileys are important.

They **think** they're important, that is!

Because they're rich?



That, **and** they're descended from the man who founded the town. He was from Europe.

You mean Clarence Oliver? The bell tower guy?



They're his great-great-wait a minute...



...great grandchildren. I think.

But their last name is Riley.



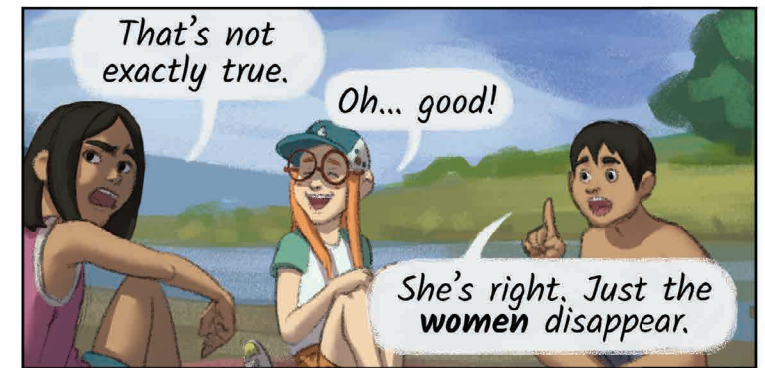
It's their mom's side of the family, **that's** the Olivers.

And their mom's a-



They disappear.

Here one day, gone the next!



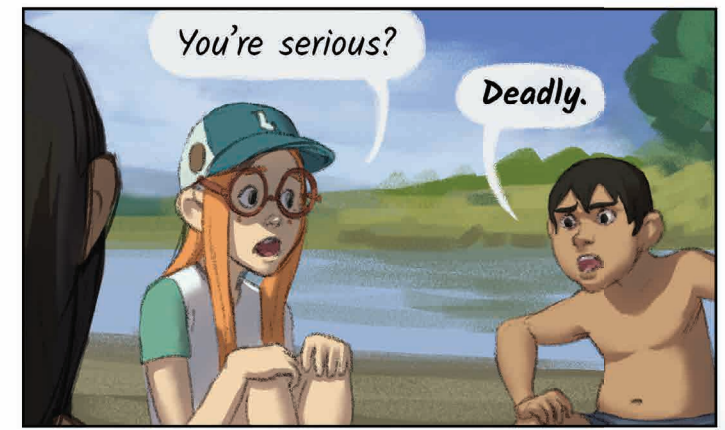
That's not exactly true.

Oh... good!

She's right. Just the **women** disappear.



HA HA HA HA



You're serious?

Deadly.



Demon vampire witch!



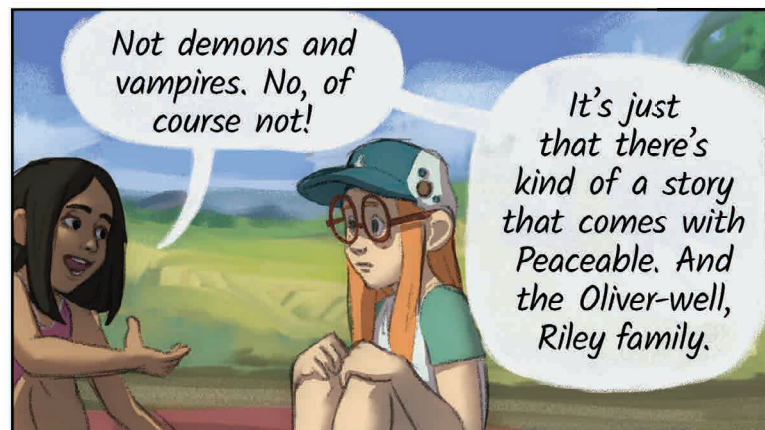
Nate, '**witch**' isn't a very good choice of words.

Okay. Demon vampire.

You don't really believe in that stuff, do you?



Do you?

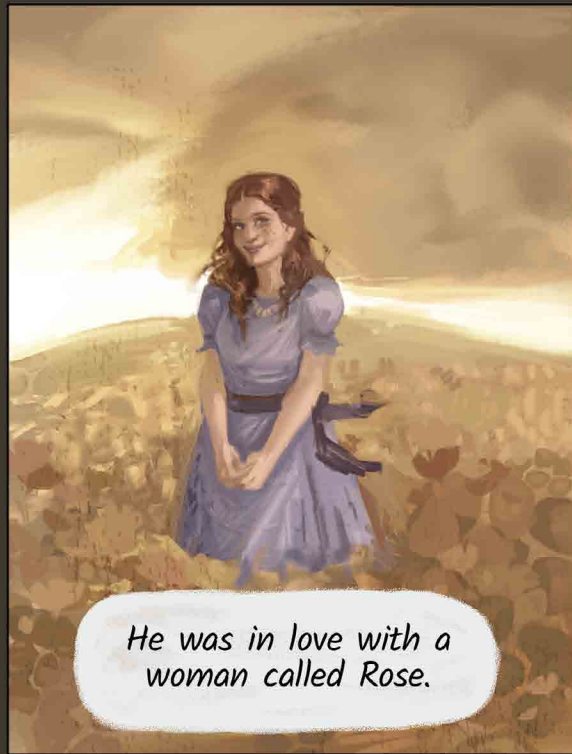


Not demons and vampires. No, of course not!

It's just that there's kind of a story that comes with Peaceable. And the Oliver-well, Riley family.



It all goes back to **Clarence**...



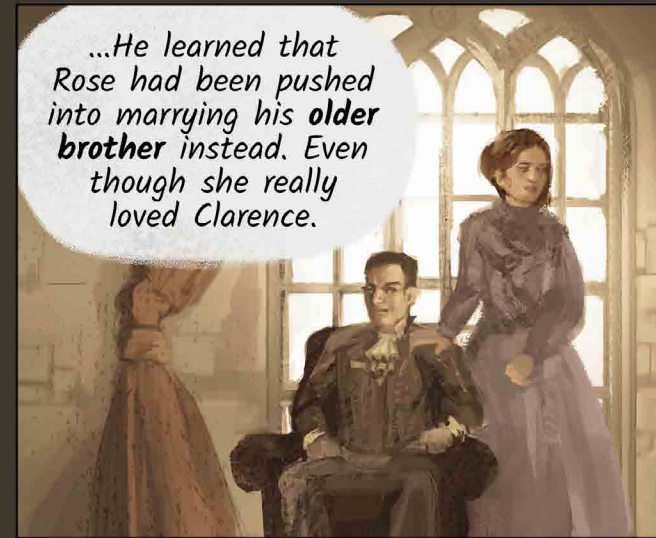
He was in love with a woman called Rose.



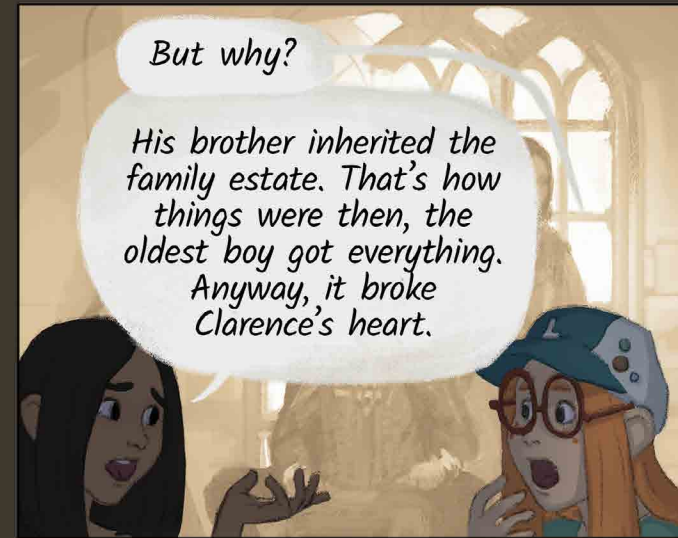
Skip this part. It's boring!

You can't skip it! It's what makes the story so sad... and **romantic**.

Exactly! **Boring!**



...He learned that Rose had been pushed into marrying his **older brother** instead. Even though she really loved Clarence.

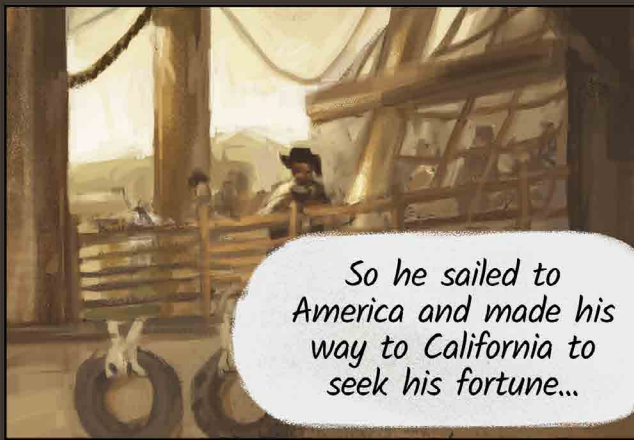


But why?

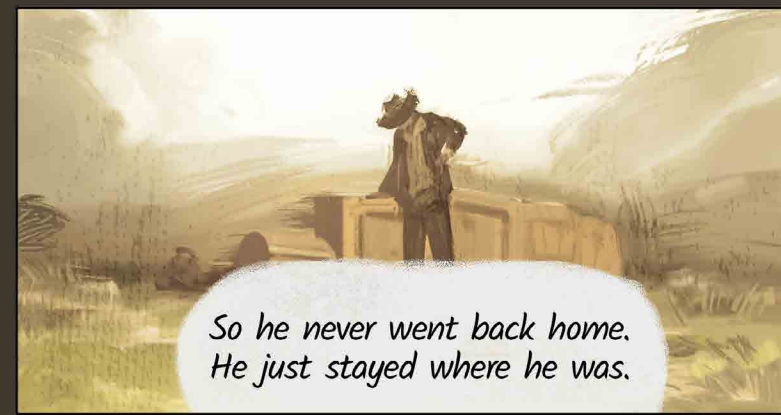
His brother inherited the family estate. That's how things were then, the oldest boy got everything. Anyway, it broke Clarence's heart.



Anyway... back then Clarence was just a poor artist, **too** poor to marry Rose.



So he sailed to America and made his way to California to seek his fortune...



So he never went back home. He just stayed where he was.



You mean **here**?

Right! He had more money than anyone else...



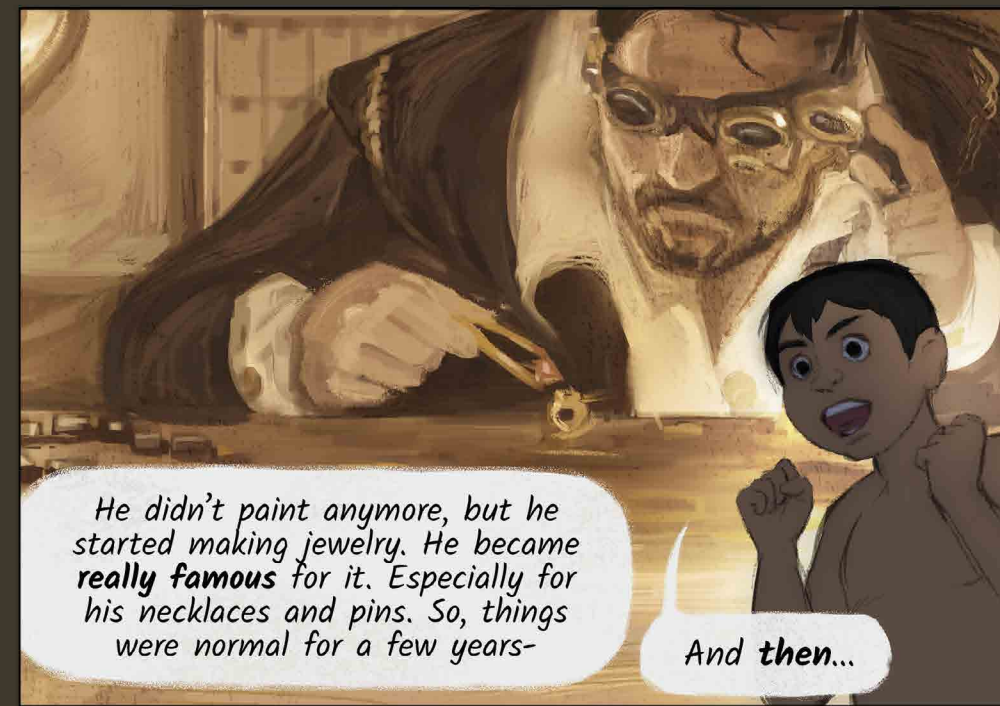
During the gold rush! My dad told me about it. He made lots of money, right?



Yes. But after he started back across the country...



...so, over time he built this town.



He didn't paint anymore, but he started making jewelry. He became **really famous** for it. Especially for his necklaces and pins. So, things were normal for a few years-

And then...

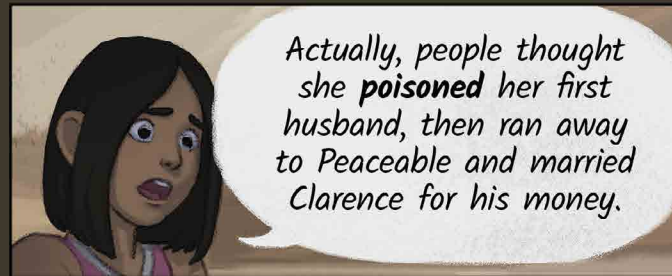


...he met **Mad Matilda**.

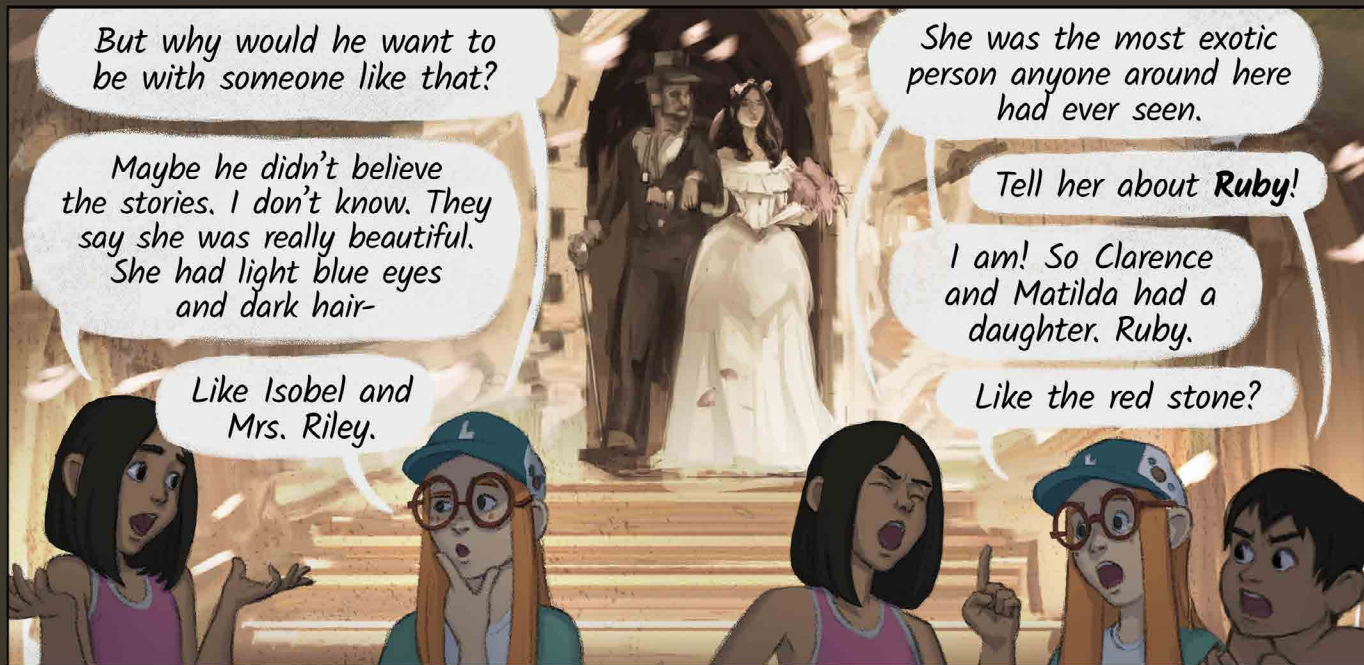
What was she mad about?



She wasn't angry mad, she was **craaaazy** mad! She killed her first husband. Or was it her first two...?



Actually, people thought she **poisoned** her first husband, then ran away to Peaceable and married Clarence for his money.



But why would he want to be with someone like that?

She was the most exotic person anyone around here had ever seen.

Maybe he didn't believe the stories. I don't know. They say she was really beautiful. She had light blue eyes and dark hair-

Tell her about **Ruby**!

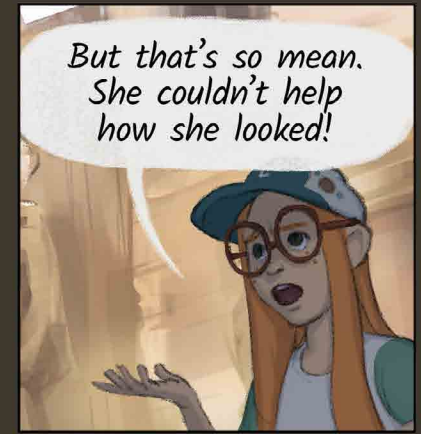
Like Isobel and Mrs. Riley.

I am! So Clarence and Matilda had a daughter. Ruby.

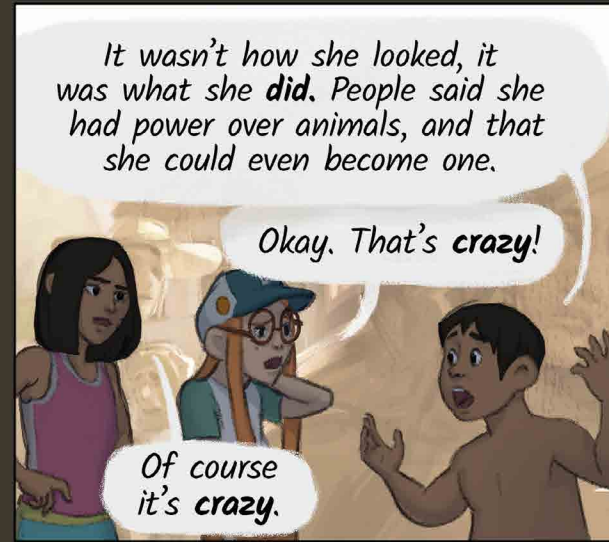
Like the red stone?



Exactly. But Ruby wasn't beautiful like her mother, and people were actually afraid of her.



But that's so mean. She couldn't help how she looked!



It wasn't how she looked, it was what she **did**. People said she had power over animals, and that she could even become one.

Okay. That's **crazy**!

Of course it's **crazy**.



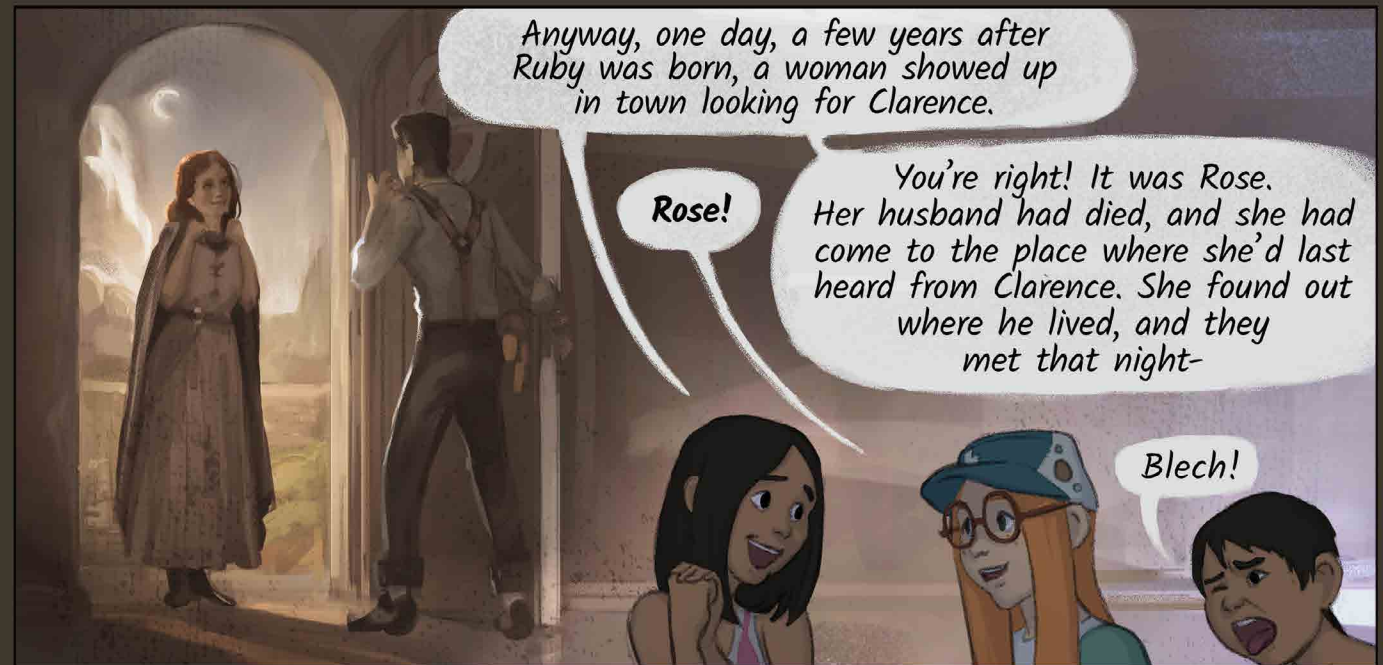
But Ruby really **could**-

Nathan! Let's stick to the facts okay?

You don't know all the facts. You weren't alive then!

Neither were **you**.

But Old Mrs. Shelley said- And neither was **Old Mrs. Shelley!**



Anyway, one day, a few years after Ruby was born, a woman showed up in town looking for Clarence.

Rose!

You're right! It was Rose. Her husband had died, and she had come to the place where she'd last heard from Clarence. She found out where he lived, and they met that night-

Blech!



Well, anyway, when **Matilda** heard that Clarence had seen Rose, she lost it. Like totally wacko. Supposedly, she even burned down their house!

Wow. That's mad.

Exactly.

What happened to Rose?

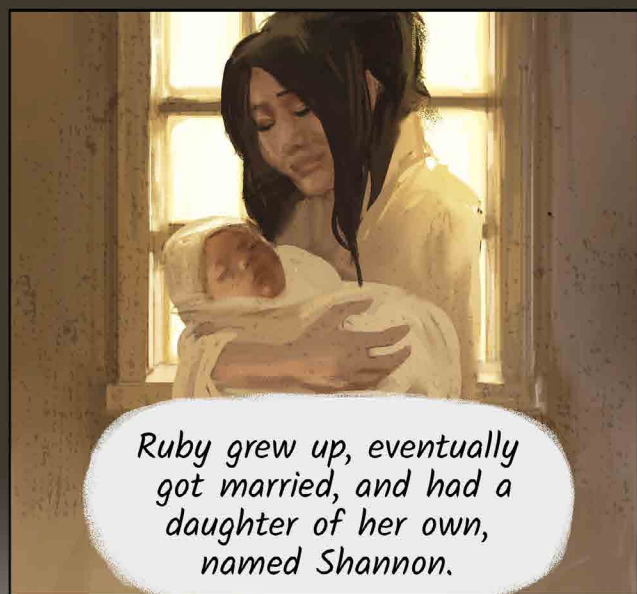
She disappeared.

You mean she left?



No one knows. But after she did, Clarence started acting really strange. He didn't care about **anyone** anymore, not even Ruby. He just worked on his jewelry. He had a fortune in precious stones, and gold and silver...

But the pieces he made got weirder and weirder! And then suddenly, he **vanished!** And it was after that the women started disappearing, too! Starting with **Matilda.**



Ruby grew up, eventually got married, and had a daughter of her own, named Shannon.



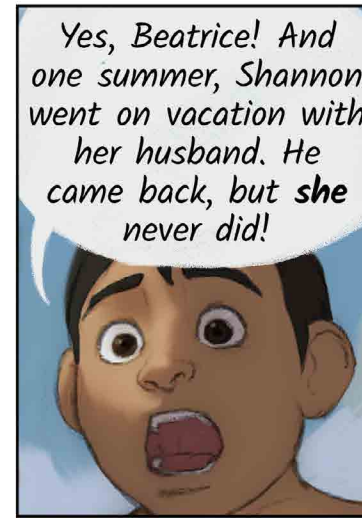
And when Shannon was a teenager, Ruby went out for a walk one night, and **never** came back.

What about **Shannon?**



Same thing. She grew up, married, had a daughter-

Beatrice.



Yes, Beatrice! And one summer, Shannon went on vacation with her husband. He came back, but **she** never did!



And Beatrice?

Disappeared just a few years ago. Near here, in fact.



Beatrice's daughter-

No way!

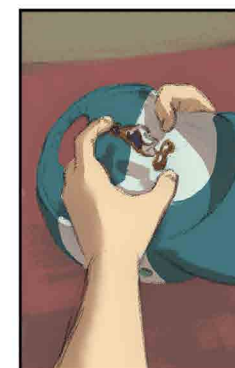
Not **yet.** But that's what we're trying to tell you. Beatrice's daughter is Mrs. Riley.

So any day now, **poof!**



No one ever found Clarence's gold and jewels. He hid them somewhere.

If they could find all that missing treasure, the Rileys would be a lot richer than they already are. Like, **billionaires** or something.



It's so weird, all this talk about jewelry. I just found this in the field over there.

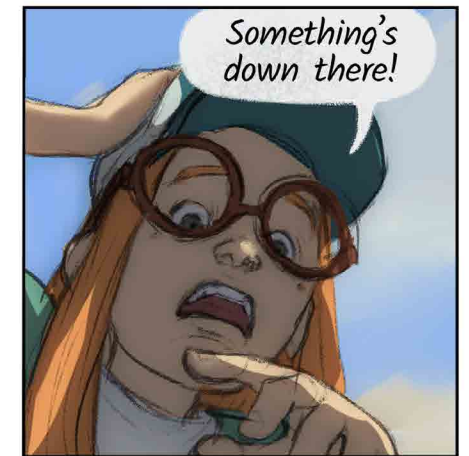
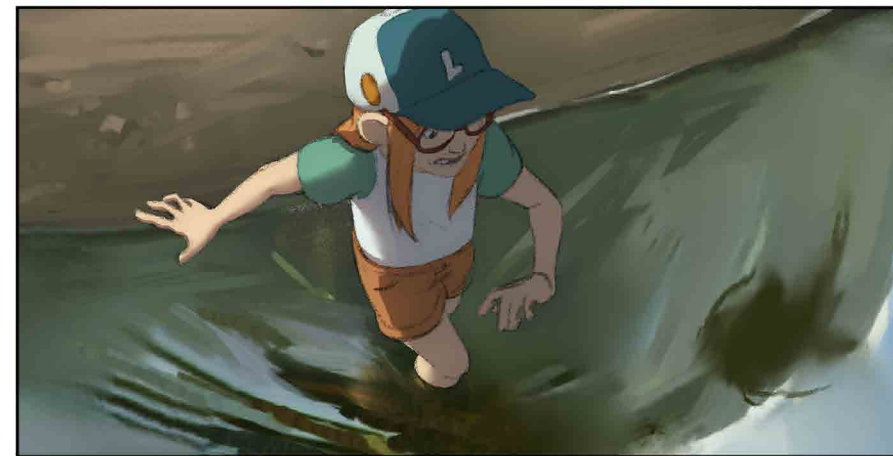
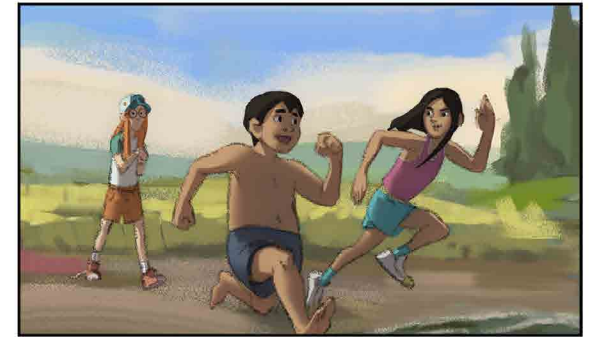
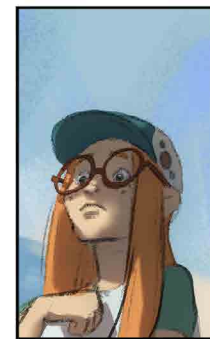
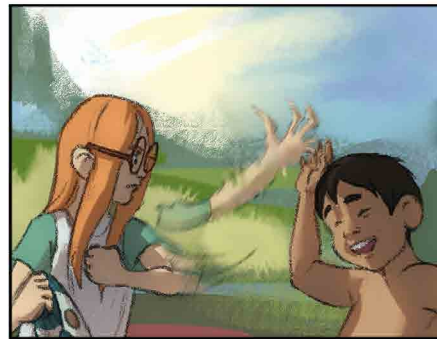
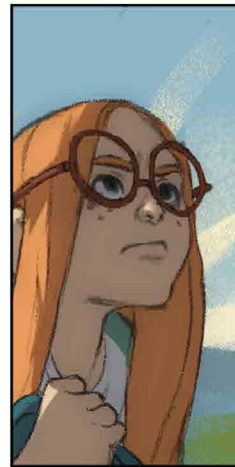
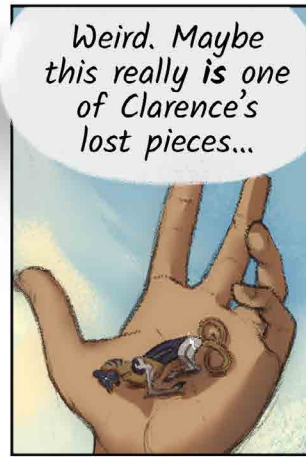


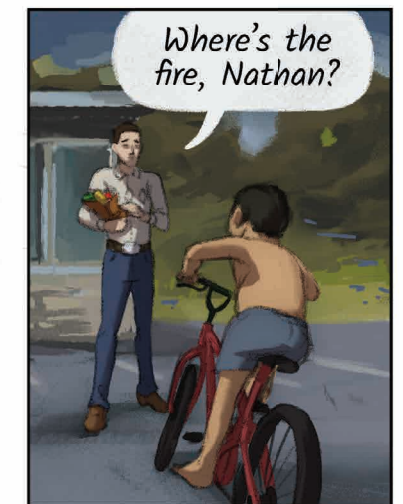
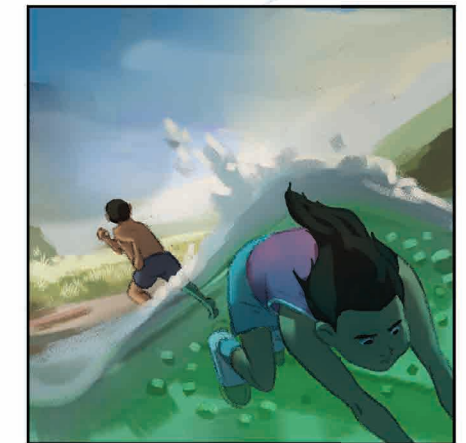
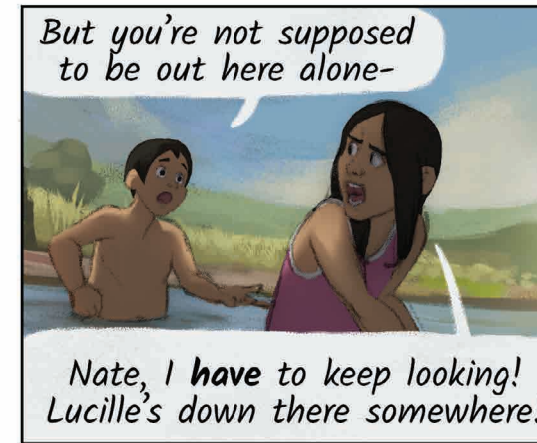
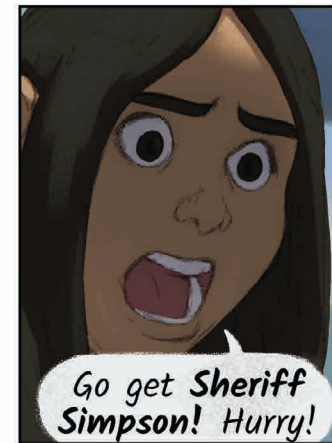
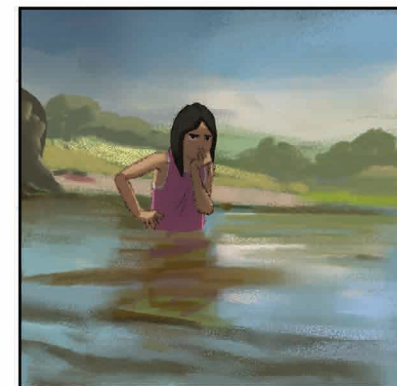
It's probably fake.



I've heard that real gold is heavy!

Oh. Well, then it's **definitely** fake.

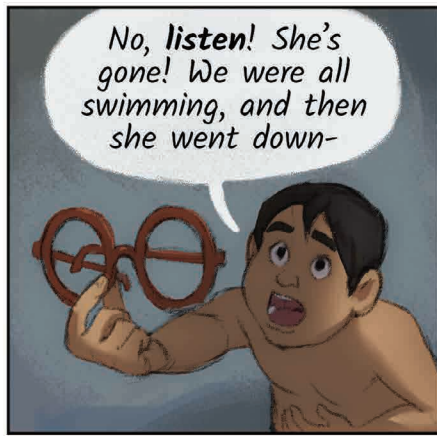






New girl...Lucille... disappeared...in the river!

Easy there, Nate. Catch your breath!



No, listen! She's gone! We were all swimming, and then she went down-



Lucille!



Get to the tower! Ring the bell!

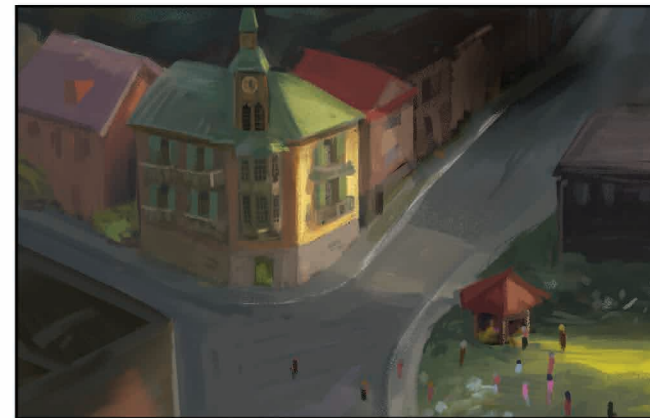
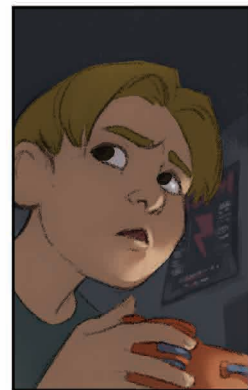
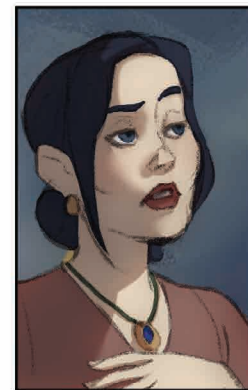
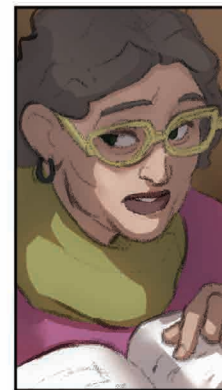
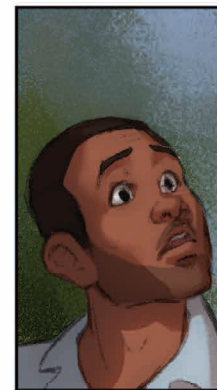
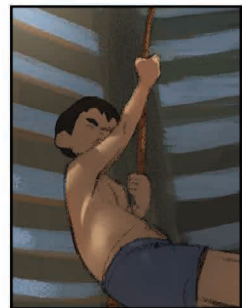
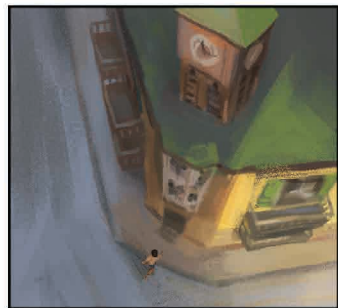


Are you her mom?

I'm as close as she's got to one.



I'm sorry. I have to go.



Calm down and listen up! The new little girl in town is lost by the river.



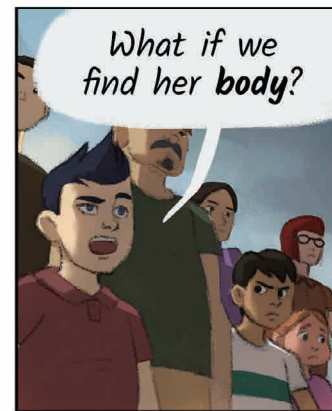
Yes, Mrs. Garrison?

By the river or in it?



We don't know yet. Sheriff Simpson and Percy are down there right now. Hank and Isidro are already in the water.

Now the rest of us? We're the land team. So find a partner! We don't want any more missing people.



What if we find her body?



Let's stay positive, Folks! She doesn't know her way around, and probably just got lost.



Just keep an eye on the weather, all right? Let's go!



Lucille

& The Day
Of Changes

