

LUCID

\$5.00



If you actually need to be told, please understand that this booklet is a work of fiction. All of the names, characters, places, and incidents contained herein are the product of the author's limited imagination and are used only to serve the purposes of the story. Any perceived similarity to actual events, places, or persons (living or dead) is simply coincidental.

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A LUCID DREAM IS A DREAM WHERE YOU KNOW YOU ARE
DREAMING. YOU CAN DO THINGS IN A LUCID DREAM THAT
YOU CAN'T DO IN REAL LIFE.

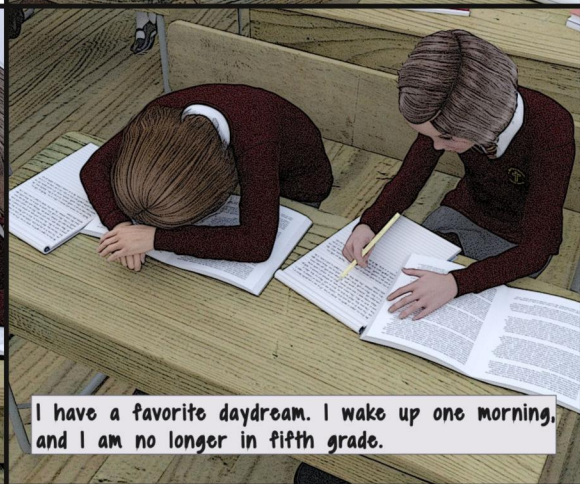
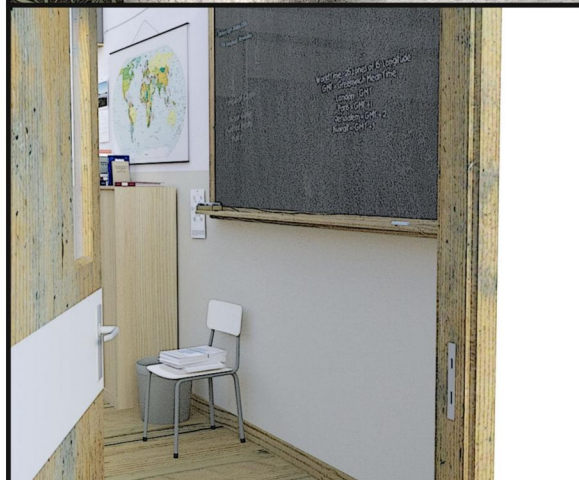


SOUND LIKE FUN TO YOU?

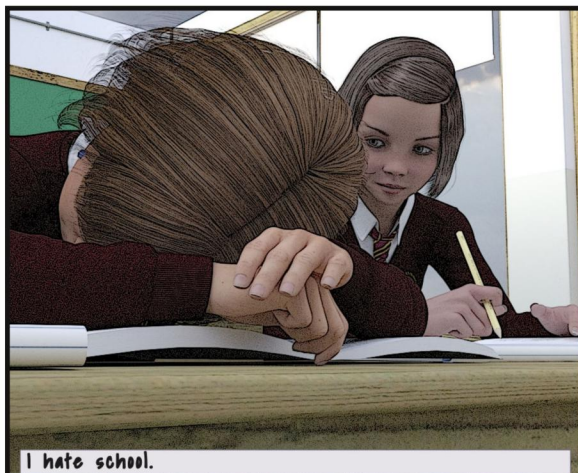


DO WE LOOK LIKE WE'RE HAVING FUN?

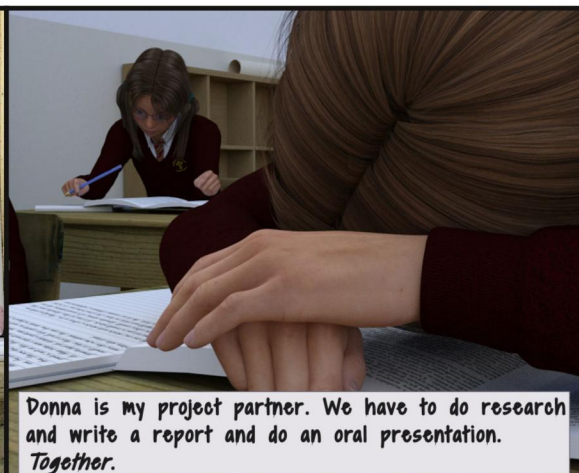




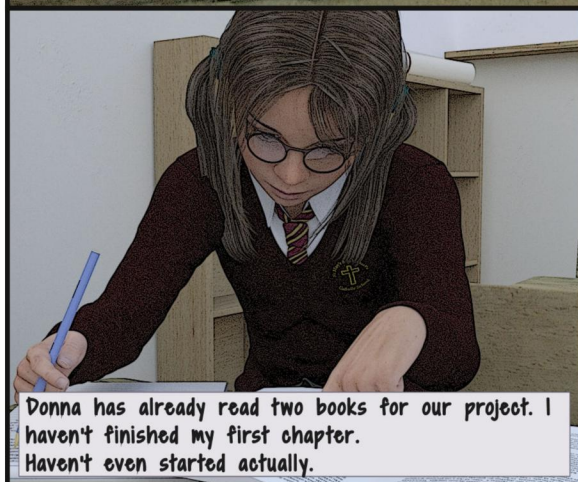
I have a favorite daydream. I wake up one morning,
and I am no longer in fifth grade.



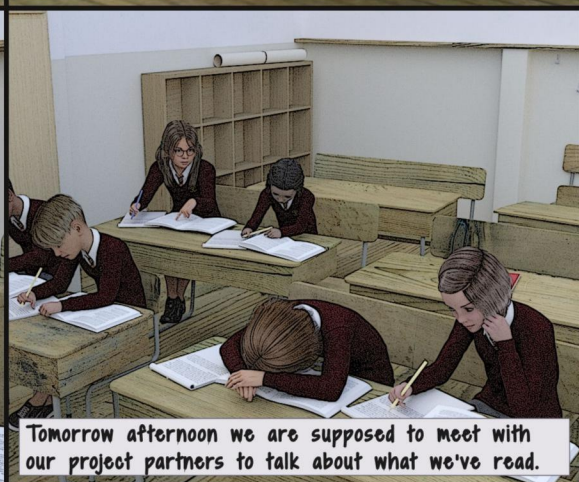
I hate school.



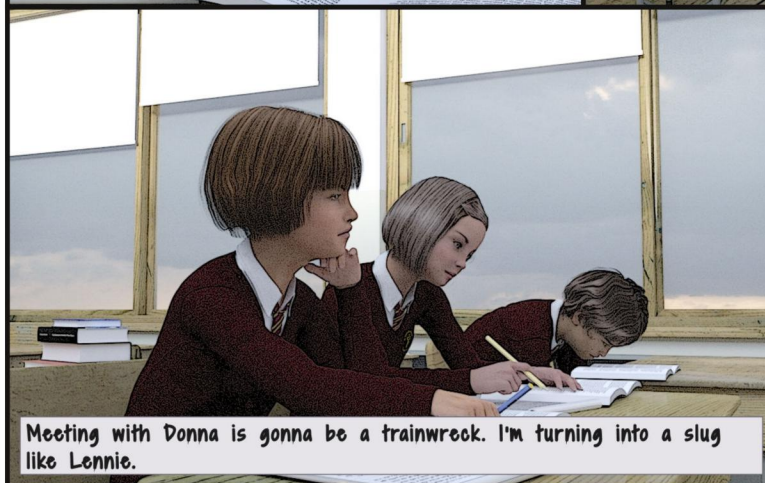
Donna is my project partner. We have to do research and write a report and do an oral presentation. *Together.*



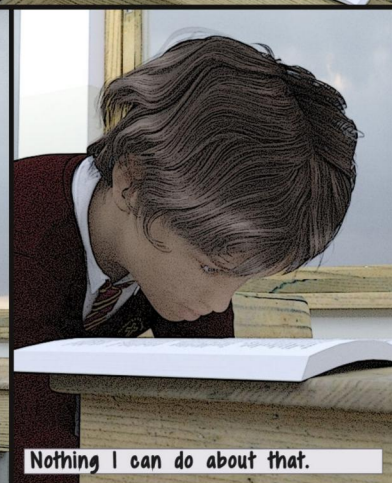
Donna has already read two books for our project. I haven't finished my first chapter. Haven't even started actually.



Tomorrow afternoon we are supposed to meet with our project partners to talk about what we've read.



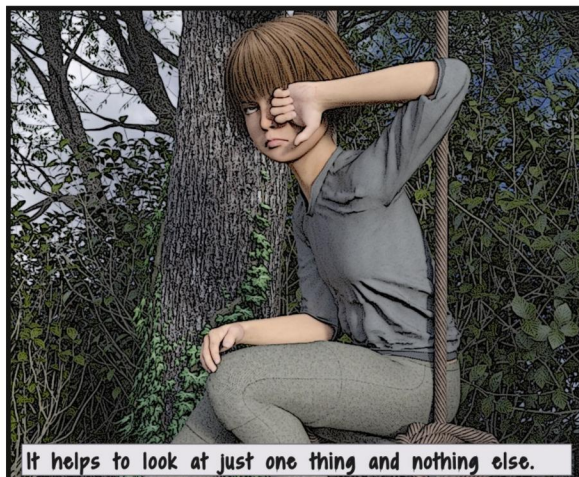
Meeting with Donna is gonna be a trainwreck. I'm turning into a slug like Lennie.



Nothing I can do about that.



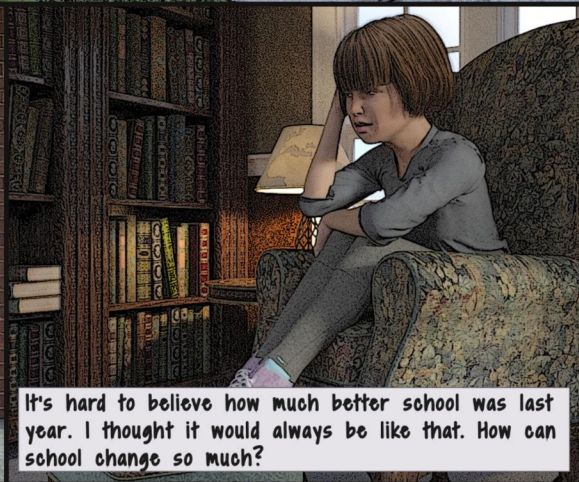
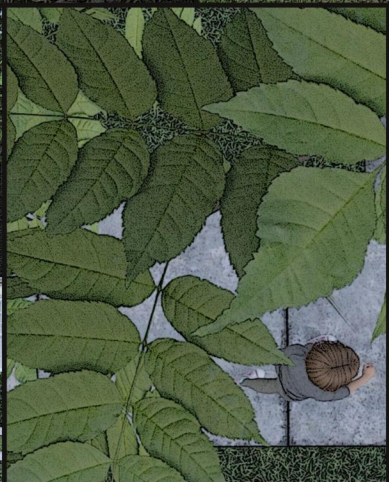
After school, I come here to sit and not think about anything. It is actually a lot harder than it sounds.



It helps to look at just one thing and nothing else.



On a good day, I can think about nothing for almost three minutes. I don't often have a good day.

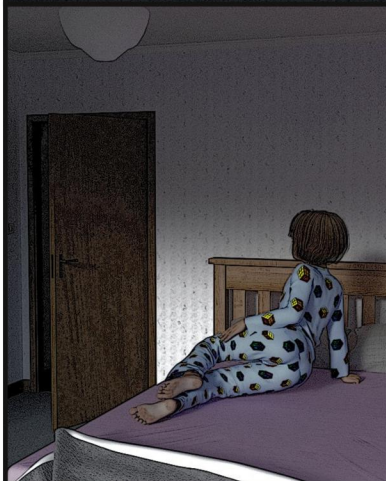


It's hard to believe how much better school was last year. I thought it would always be like that. How can school change so much?

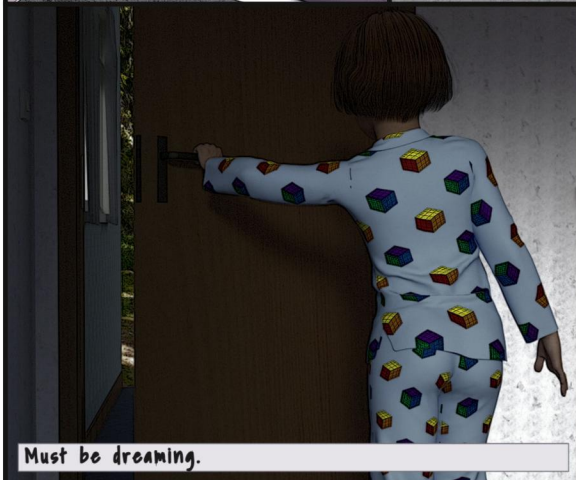
Later that evening...



I'm having a restless night. Lucky me, I hate when that happens.



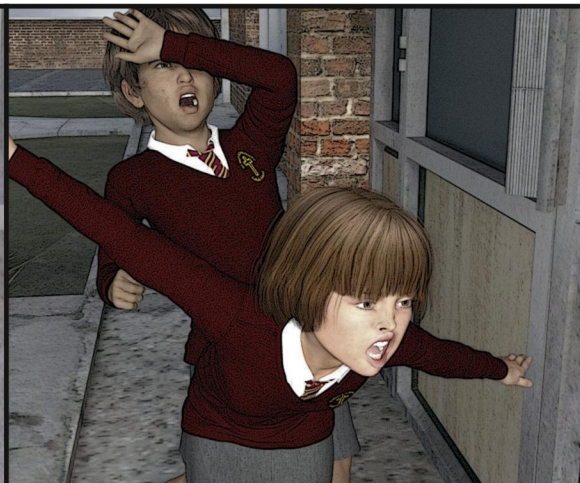
Great. I do not need this.



Must be dreaming.



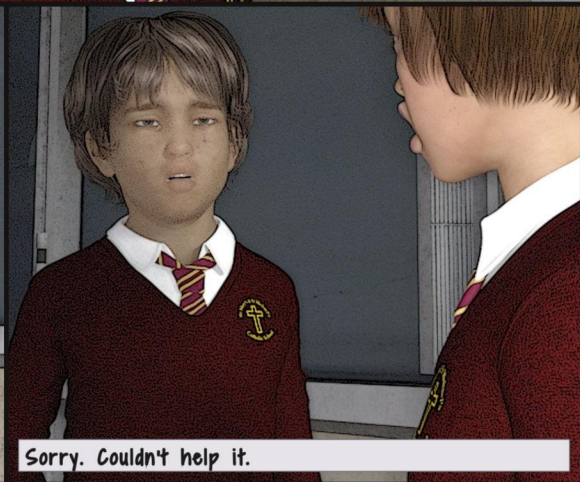
The next morning..



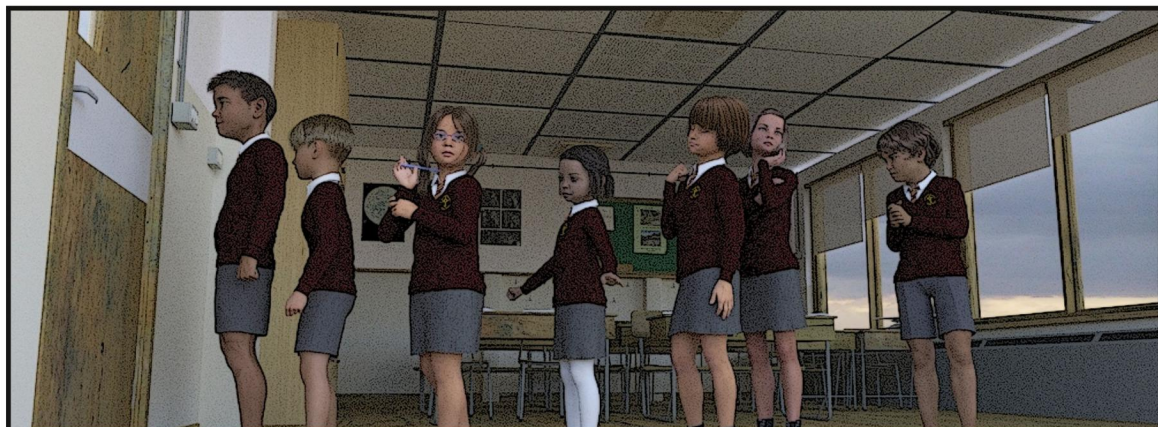
Didn't you even see me?



Open your eyes for a change.



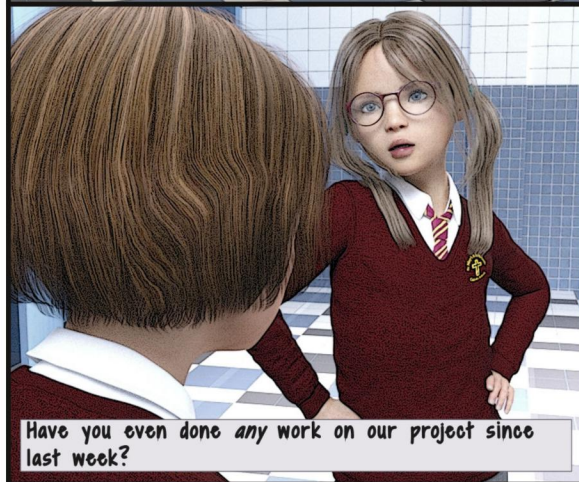
Sorry. Couldn't help it.



After lunch today, we are supposed to meet with our project partners. I can hardly wait.



I really have to know something, OK?



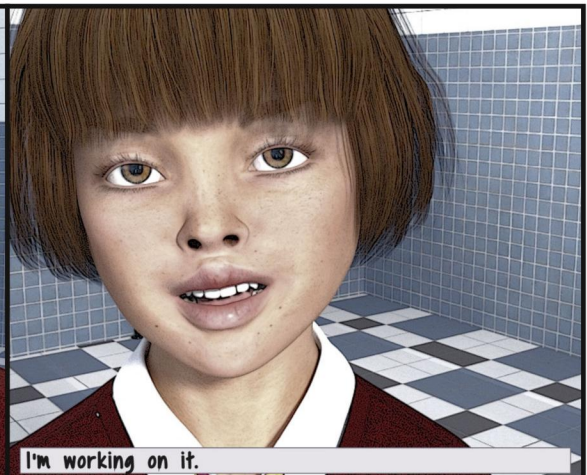
Have you even done any work on our project since last week?



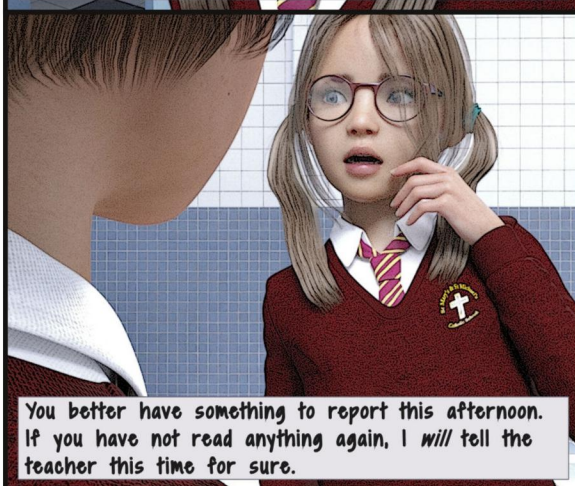
I'm working on it.



It is really not that hard. You just have to do a little bit each day.



I'm working on it.



You better have something to report this afternoon. If you have not read anything again, I will tell the teacher this time for sure.



Good thing it's easy to get sent home sick. Probably have to go back tomorrow. Oh well.



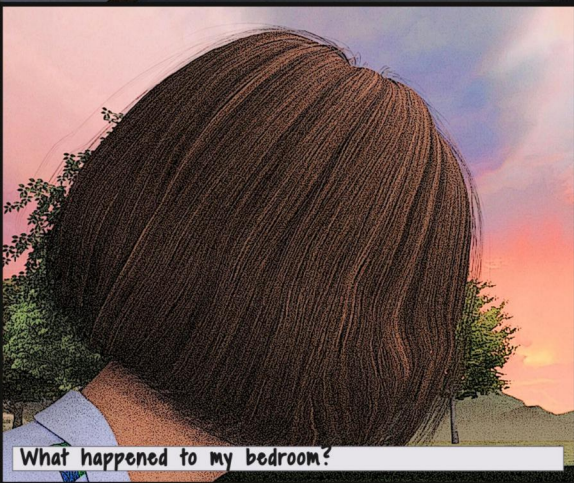
I want to go to the park, but I'm supposed to be sick. Might as well take a nap. Can try to think about nothing in bed.



Not working.

Later that night..



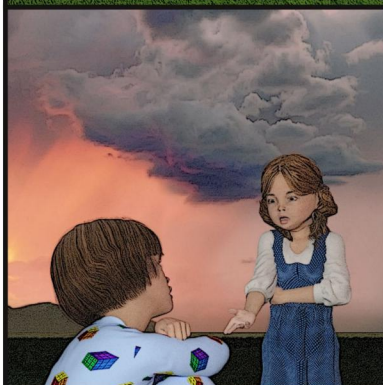




I do not know.



How can I get back home?
Why do you want to go home?



I hafta go to school in
the morning.
Then why are you here?



I dunno.



Perhaps you are supposed to be
here instead. Wise One would know.



(If they don't have any school here,
I'd rather stay.)



Where can I find Wise One?
I do not know. Ask Sky.



Who's Sky?

My brother.



(This is quite a hike, but it is better than sitting in class.)

A while later..



She needs your help, Sky.



I need to find Wise One.

You do not find Wise One. She finds you.



Come along. If Wise One is looking for you, we might meet her half way. Maybe we will even have an adventure.



How can you tell when it's an adventure?



When you have an adventure, if you manage to come out alive, you will never be the same.



Hold on. I'm not ready for an adventure. I'm in my pajamas. Besides, this is just a dream. I'd rather hang out here until I wake up.



Seems like more fun to take a look around while you are here.



It will be fun. And maybe it will make your dream last longer.



Do you like school?

Not much....not at all, actually.



Hold up. I'm not used to doing so much walking.



Then let us fly instead.
How do ya do that?



Just reach out and jump up. You can use your hand to point to where you want to go.



Later..



Does Wise One ever come here?

I do not know. Perhaps.



Is school important?



Yes.



Sky returns with Donna..



Are you in my dream, Donna? Or am I in your dream?

I think we are dreaming the same dream. It has happened to me before.



We need to wake up, Missy. School is starting soon.

I don't wanna wake up yet. I need to talk to someone first.



But we have to get back for school.

I'll meet you there.

Yeah, just like you met with me yesterday after lunch.



That's not fair!







I see Missy!



How did we get here?

The two big rocks you walked between were a gate.
We followed you.



Missy, I am sorry. That was not fair.

I'm over it. I just want to get out of here. This place
is freezing.



The only way out is to find a gate to another place.

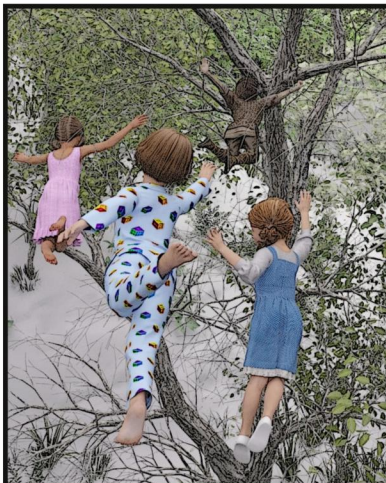


Why don't we just go back through the gate we used to get here?

Gates only go one way. We cannot go back using the same gate.



So let's find another gate then.
We're all freezing here.



Over here!



Sky, how are you and your sister going to get back home?

I do not know.

I'm sorry. This is all my fault.

But Missy, you did not know that you were going through a gate.



What now?

Keep going. Looks like we are on an adventure for sure.



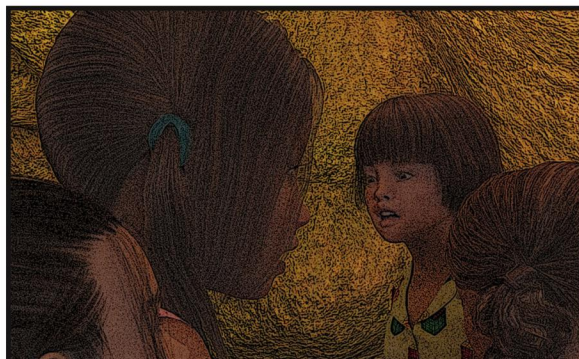
Over there!



What now?

Go inside, of course. Every adventure has at least one cave.

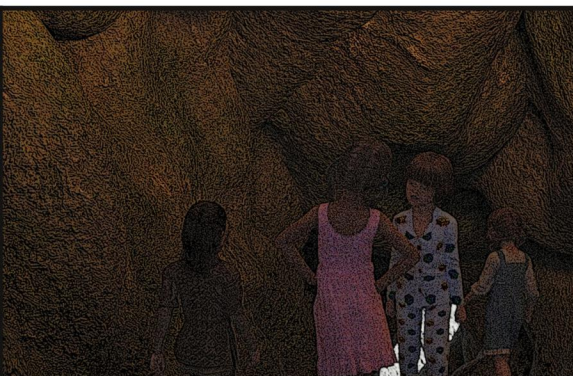




This is a waste of time, Missy.

Could be, but won't know for sure 'til we get to the end.

If there is one.



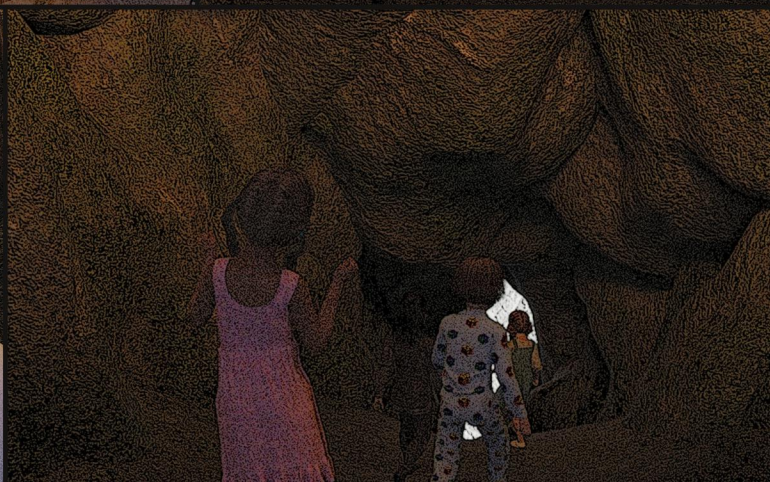
This is dumb. Let's just go back.

Go ahead. I'm gonna do this my way.

Like the way you do your homework?



Shut UP, Donna.



Over here!





Where are we going now?



My way. Remember?



Then we are all on a trip to nowhere.

Later..



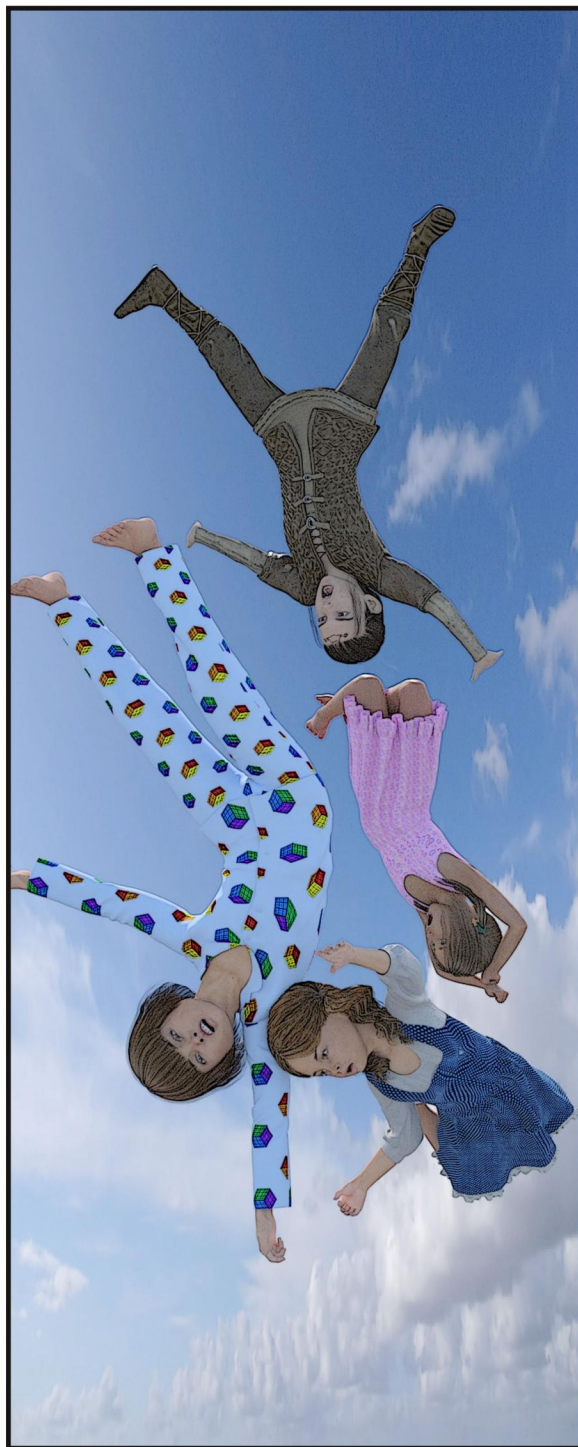
Sky, where are we?



I do not know.

Suddenly..





What's happening?



We are falling!



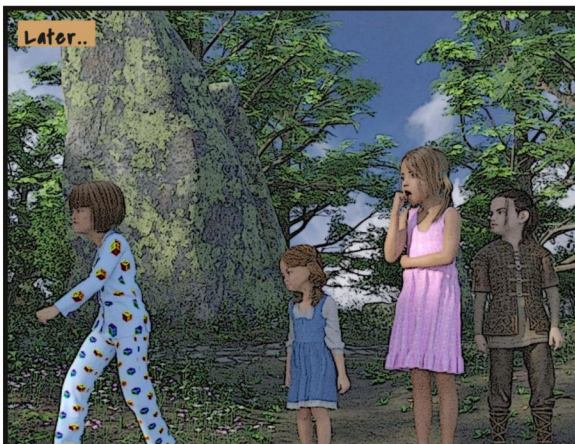
Why are we falling?

I do not know.



REM LEVEL 3

Later..



Missy, where are you going?



I need to keep looking.



What are you looking for?



Let you know when I find it.



Look, Donna, you know that this is just a dream. If you are tired of being here, just lie down and tell yourself to wake up.



Yes, this is just a dream. You need to stop looking for what you won't find and wake up for school.



I'd rather keep looking.



Good luck with that. Your mom is going to be waking you up any second now.





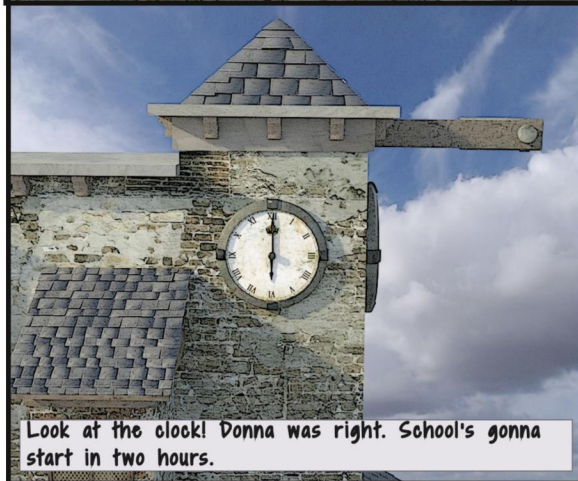
What is this?

I do not know.



There is nobody here.

Nobody we can see anyway.



Look at the clock! Donna was right. School's gonna start in two hours.



Hello?



Can you tell us where we are?



This is the shortcut. It is the quickest way to get where you want to go.



Where are you going?

School, of course. We need to keep moving or we'll be late.



Do you know where I can find Wise One?

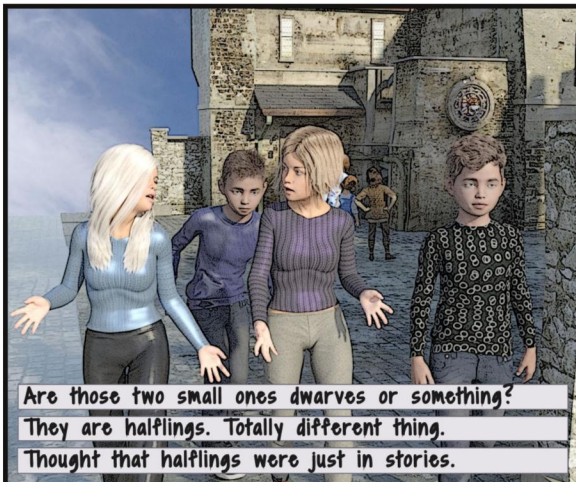
Anyone know who she's talking about?



Nope. Gotta go.



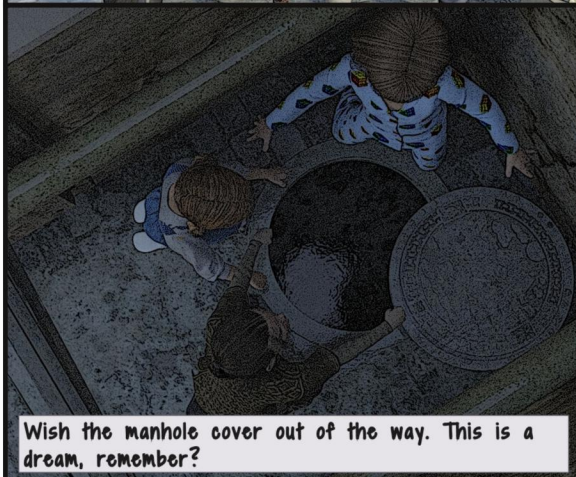
Try the manhole cover.



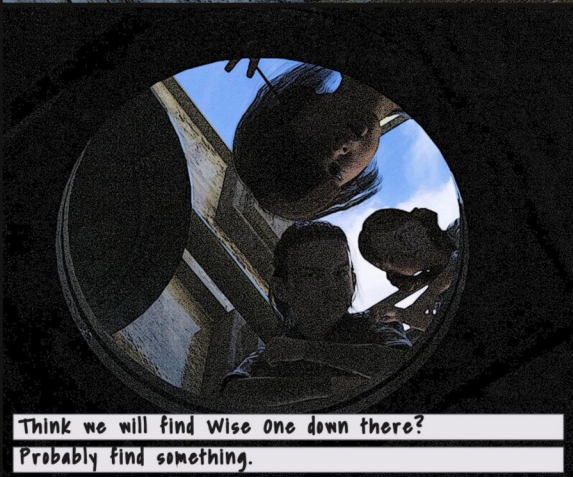
Are those two small ones dwarves or something?
They are halflings. Totally different thing.
Thought that halflings were just in stories.



So what do we do now?



Wish the manhole cover out of the way. This is a
dream, remember?



Think we will find Wise One down there?
Probably find something.



Didn't expect this.



How do we even go anywhere from here?



This is your dream. Just put your mind to it.

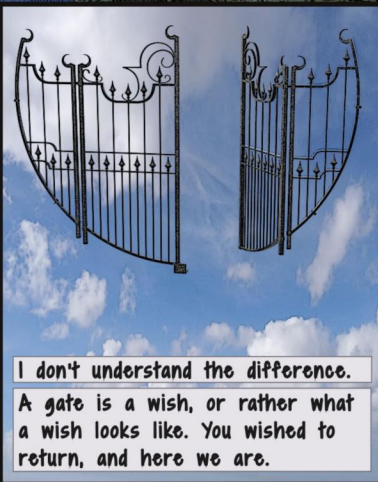
Then I wish we could go back to where we started.
At least that's somewhere.

And then..



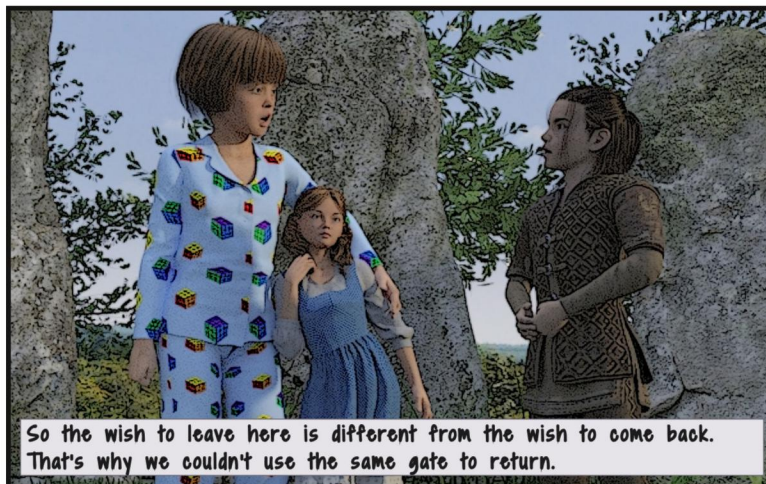
Sky, didn't you say that we couldn't
get back here?

No Missy. I said that we could not
return by going back through the
same gate.

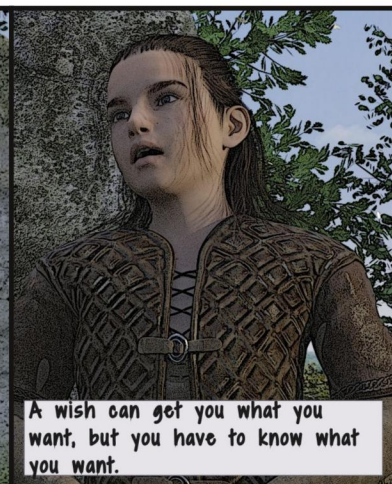


I don't understand the difference.

A gate is a wish, or rather what
a wish looks like. You wished to
return, and here we are.



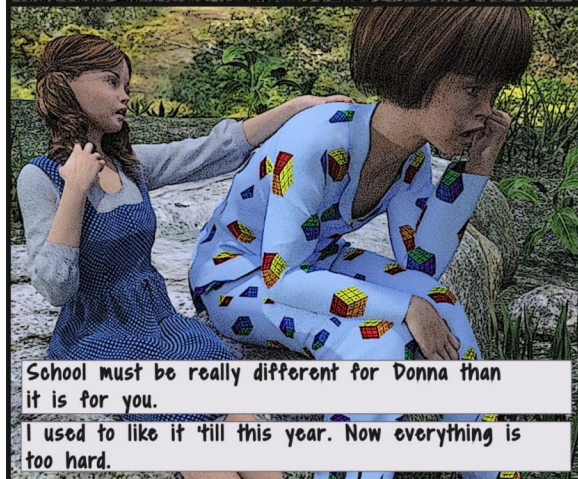
So the wish to leave here is different from the wish to come back.
That's why we couldn't use the same gate to return.



A wish can get you what you want, but you have to know what you want.

Meanwhile..





School must be really different for Donna than it is for you.

I used to like it 'till this year. Now everything is too hard.



Why is everything too hard?

I don't know.



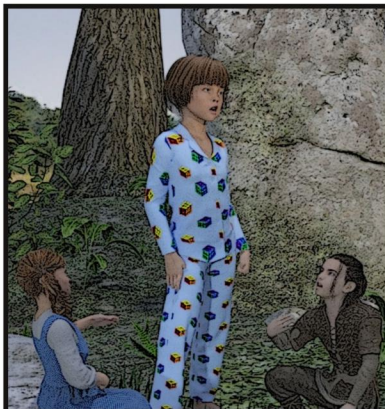
Missy, what do you want?

To talk to Wise One.



What do you want to ask her?

Why school is too hard.



Time to go!

Why?



Because I know what I want.



Meanwhile..



So are we going in?

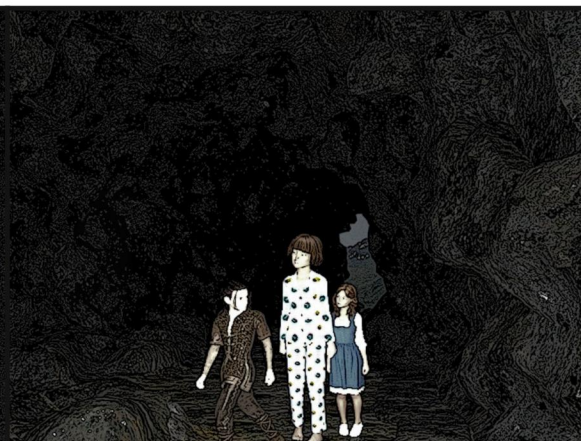
In a minute. I'm feeling really tired all of a sudden.

Makes sense. You have been up all night.

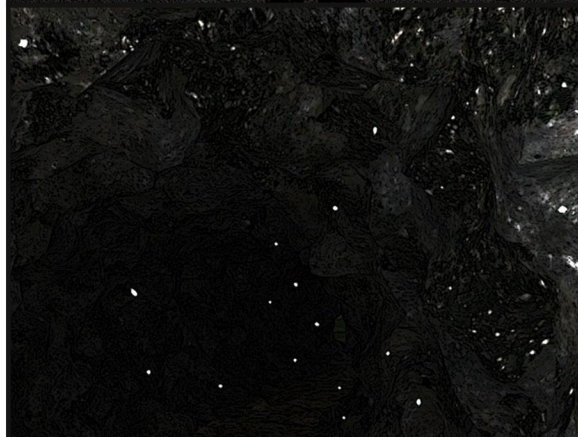


Dark in here. We really need a lantern.

Can't be helped. Let's go.



Can't see a thing.



Look, fireflies.



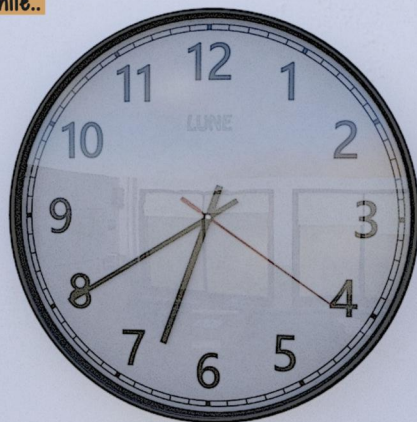
I don't see anything.



Brook and I will walk on each side of you. Stay between us.

I still don't see anything.

Meanwhile..





Wait. Sky?



Brook?



They'll come back once they see I'm not with them.



Or not.



Doesn't matter.

Elsewhere..



Looks like we are getting close to the entrance, Missy.



Missy?



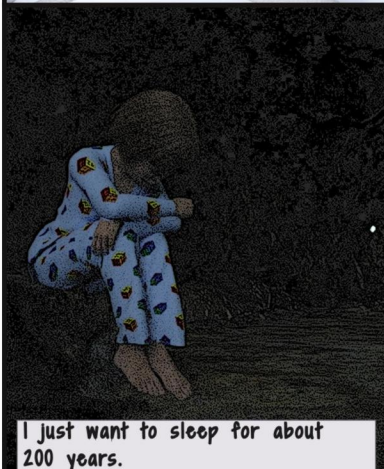
Meanwhile, in Missy's room..



Oh, no. Not yet.



REM LEVEL 4



I just want to sleep for about
200 years.



Huh?

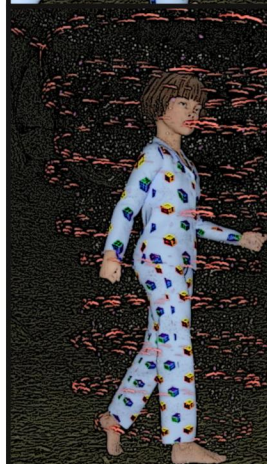




Guess I better see what that is.



At least this firefly is big enough to see.





I got it. Follow the firefly.





Then..



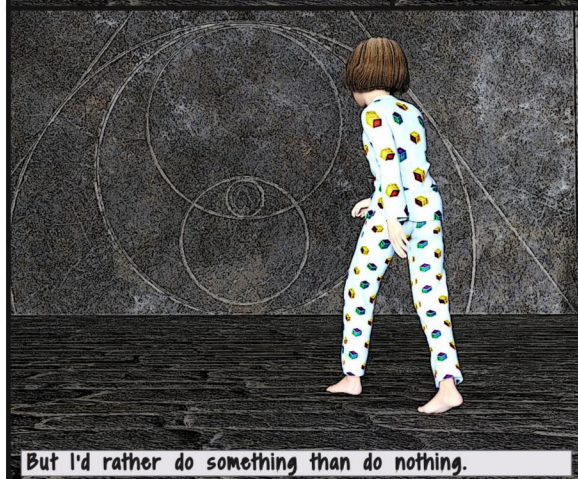
Looks like something from a cheesy science fiction movie.



Once again we are at that part of

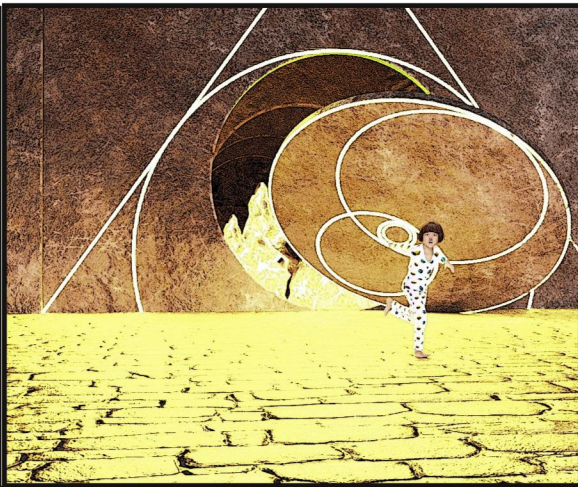
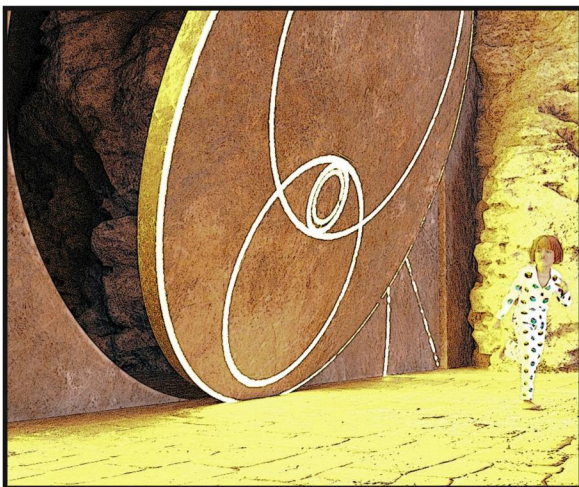
the story where I don't know what

in the world to do.

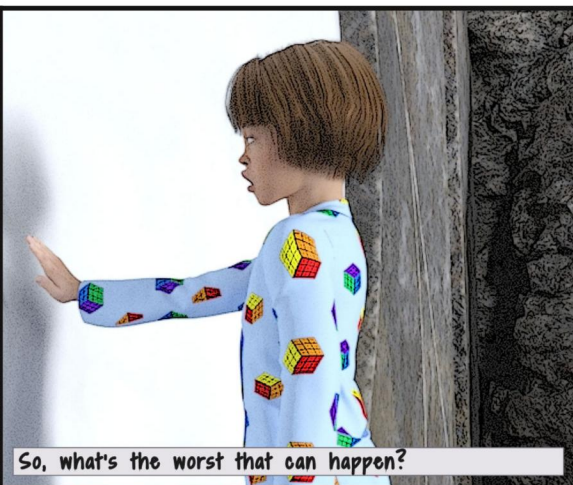


But I'd rather do something than do nothing.





Through the big round hole in the wall. Got it.



So, what's the worst that can happen?

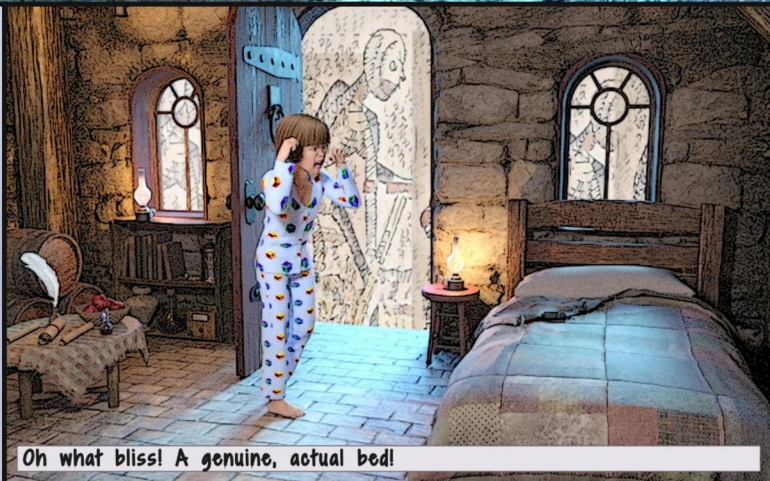


What now? Time to fly.

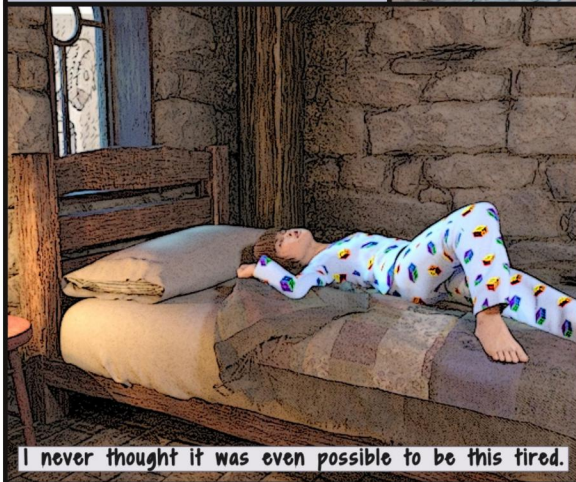




Meanwhile..



Oh what bliss! A genuine, actual bed!



I never thought it was even possible to be this tired.





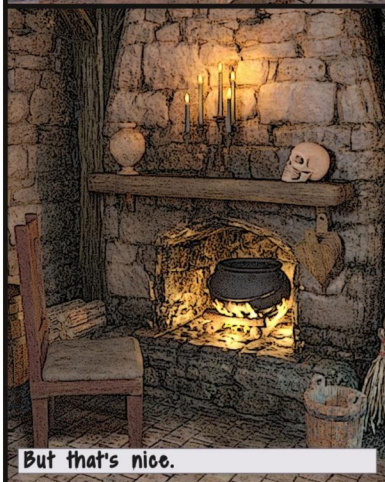
No, not yet!



REM LEVEL 5



lok.



But that's nice.



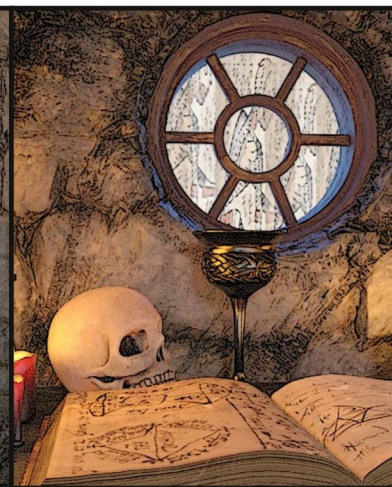
I'm just wasting my time here. Maybe I should go back to bed and wake up and go to school.



Huh?



What's that?



I can't read a word of this.



I wish I could find somebody who can tell me what this means.



But I'm not going to find anyone if I just stay here.





Missy?



Yes?



Come along.





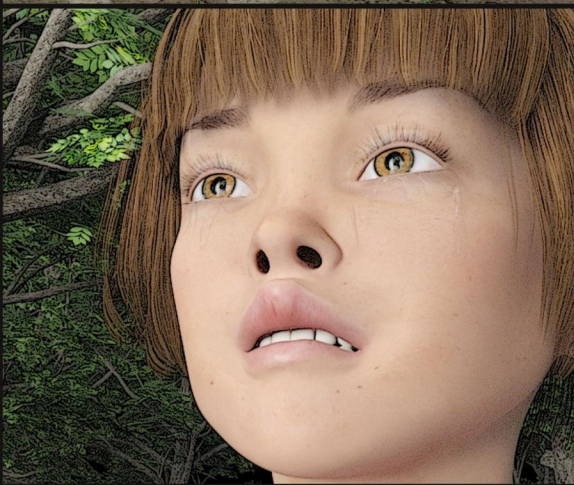
Hello, Missy.



I have been looking for you all night.



How is it with you?





OK. I am going to change into something comfortable.



Come sit with me, Missy.



So, what is your sorrow?



I'm stupid.



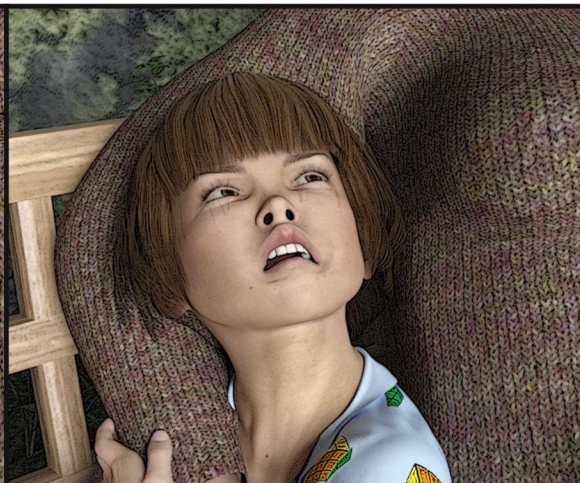
I don't understand stuff at school.



Well, first of all you are *not* stupid. You are Missy.



And Missy has a problem to solve.



When do you not understand stuff?



When I hafta read.



Was reading always hard?



Not until now.



I hafta go.



Nothing has changed, you know.



Not yet, but now I know what I gotta do.

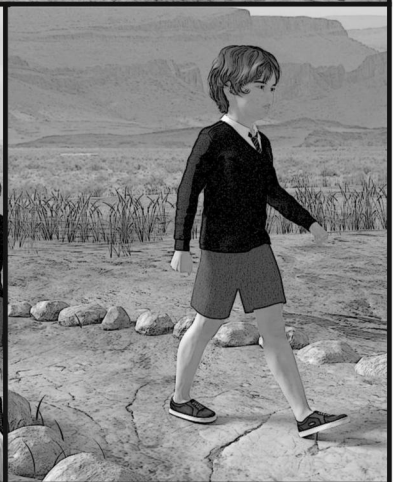
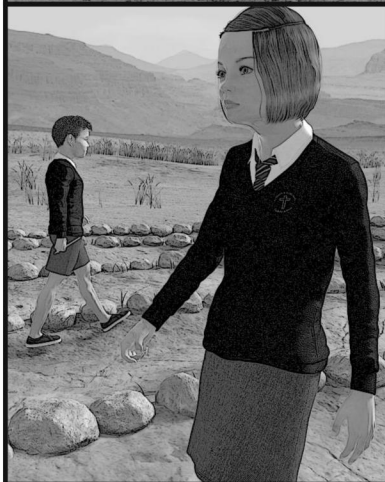


Thank you.

Meanwhile..



One final task remains. Everything depends on the choice you make.





I don't have the time to walk all around the place just to get to the tree.



Missy?



Brook, I really needed to see you again.

Missy, you know what you need to do.



And I will be here the next time you are here.



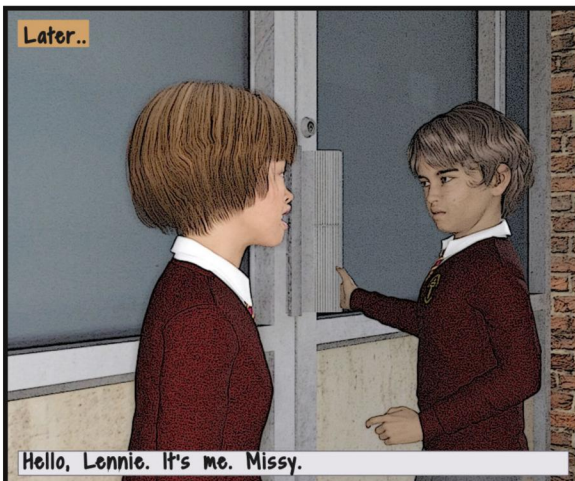


"Missy! Time to get up for school!"



Some night.

Later..



Hello, Lennie. It's me. Missy.



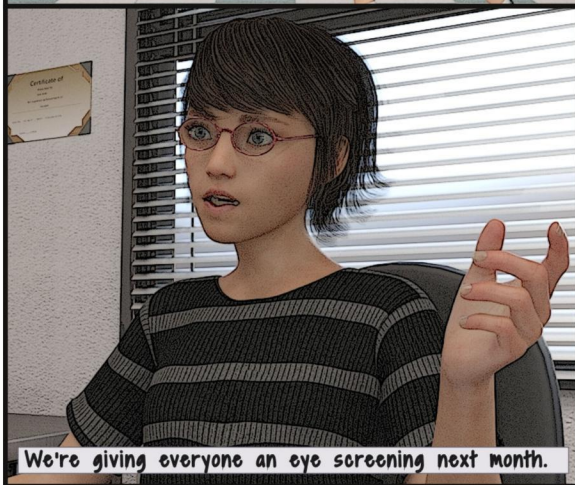
Hey! Where you going?



I hafta go to the office.



I need you to give me the eye test like you did last year,



We're giving everyone an eye screening next month.



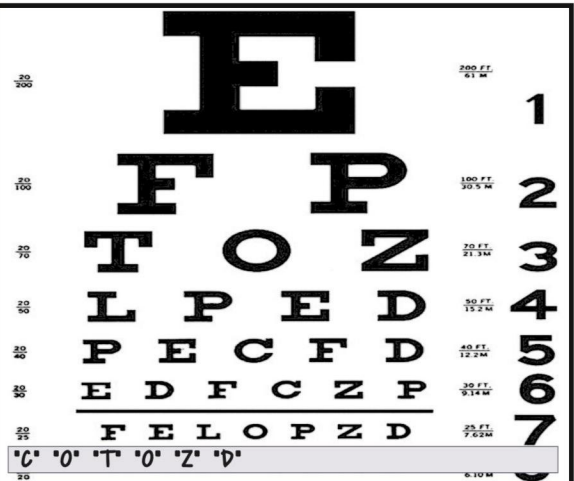
I can't wait. I hava problem now.



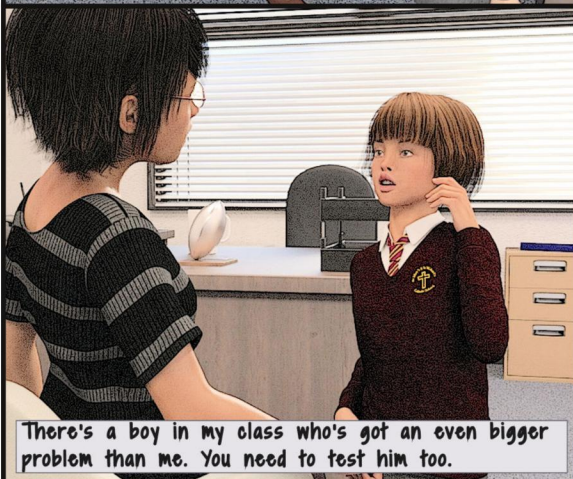
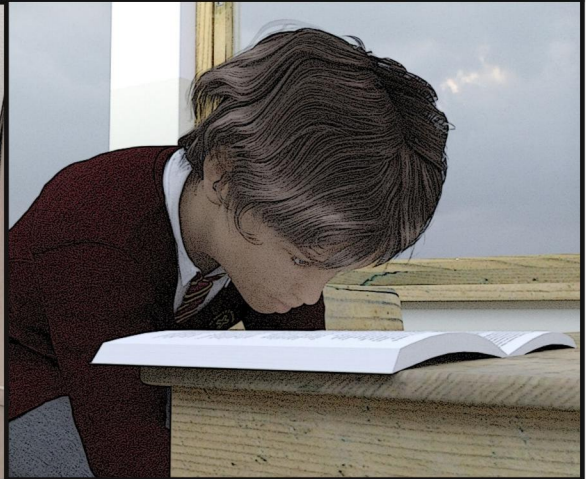
I need you to pick out the lowest line you can read.

6.

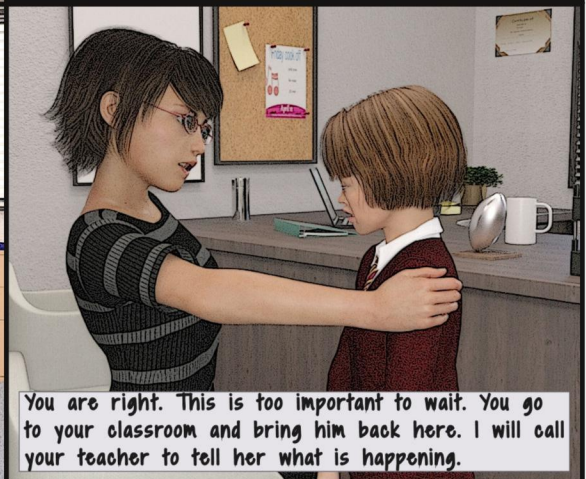
Now read out loud each letter in line 6.



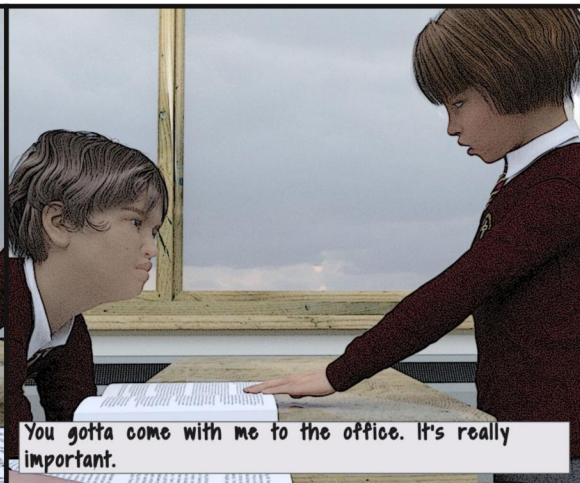
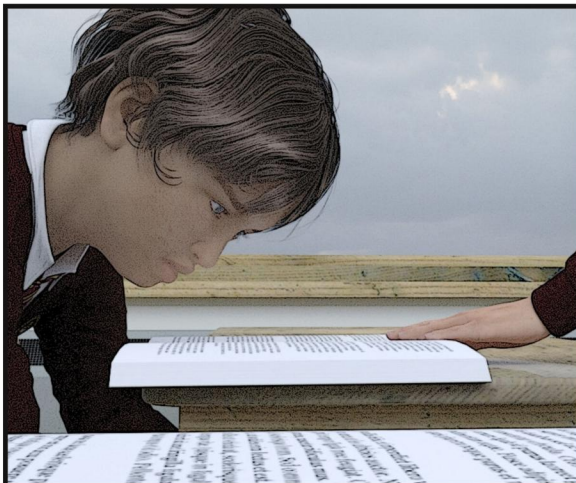
You were right, Missy. You do have a problem. I will call your parents about your getting an appointment with an optometrist.



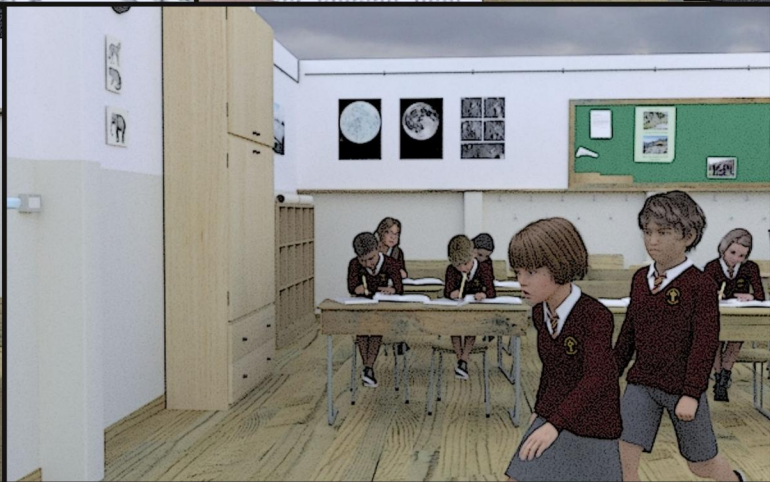
There's a boy in my class who's got an even bigger problem than me. You need to test him too.



You are right. This is too important to wait. You go to your classroom and bring him back here. I will call your teacher to tell her what is happening.



You gotta come with me to the office. It's really important.



Several weeks later..



So the school called my parents, and my father took me to see his optometrist the next day. I had to get glasses, which are really hard to keep clean, but at least I can read again. When I brought Lennie to the office, he couldn't even see the eye chart. He had to have eye surgery and was out of school for four weeks. Even with the operation, his eyes still don't work very well, and he has to wear these really thick glasses all the time. I don't know why this had to happen, but it did. Next time I have a problem, I am not going to wait to do something about it because doing nothin' doesn't do anything.

