

AMANDA'S TRIP



TEXT: MOISÉS MATO
ILUSTRATION: ANA MONESCILLO

Colectivo
Noviolencia





AMANDA'S TRIP TRANSPORTS US TO ONE OF THE MOST FASCINATING ADVENTURES WE HAVE EVER LIVED AS HUMAN BEINGS IN THE LAST CENTURY. THOUSANDS OF EVENTS LIKE THE ONES IN THIS COMIC HAVE TAKEN PLACE AND STILL DO TO THIS DAY. THESE ARE LOVE AND NON-VIOLENCE STORIES. THE STORIES IN THIS BOOK ARE ABOUT LOVE AND NON-VIOLENCE. HUMAN BEINGS THAT HAVE DISCOVERED THAT IT IS ALWAYS, ALWAYS, ALWAYS BETTER TO EXPLORE PATHS THAT LEAD TO PEACE.

BOOKS AND MOVIES TELL US MANY STORIES OF WAR AND VIOLENCE. IT IS TRUE THAT THIS HAPPENS IN THE WORLD, BUT IT IS NOT LESS TRUE THAT OTHER HAPPIER, LUMINOUS, INSPIRING AND TENDER STORIES HAPPEN TOO. MANY OF THEM HAVE CHANGED THE WORLD. WE CAN ALL, DESPITE OUR AGE, MAKE MANY OF THESE STORIES COME TRUE. WE HOPE THAT IN THIS BRIEF COMIC YOU WILL FIND SOME CLUES TO TAKE THIS JOURNEY.

AS YOU WILL SEE LATER ON, THERE ARE OTHER CHILDREN YOUR AGE THAT HAVE ALREADY LIVED THIS ADVENTURE. WE BELIEVE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO DO IT TOO.

HAVE A GOOD JOURNEY ALONGSIDE AMANDA.



HELLO, MY NAME IS AMANDA
AND I AM 9 YEARS OLD.



WHAT I LIKE THE MOST ABOUT SCHOOL
IS MEETING MY FRIENDS.



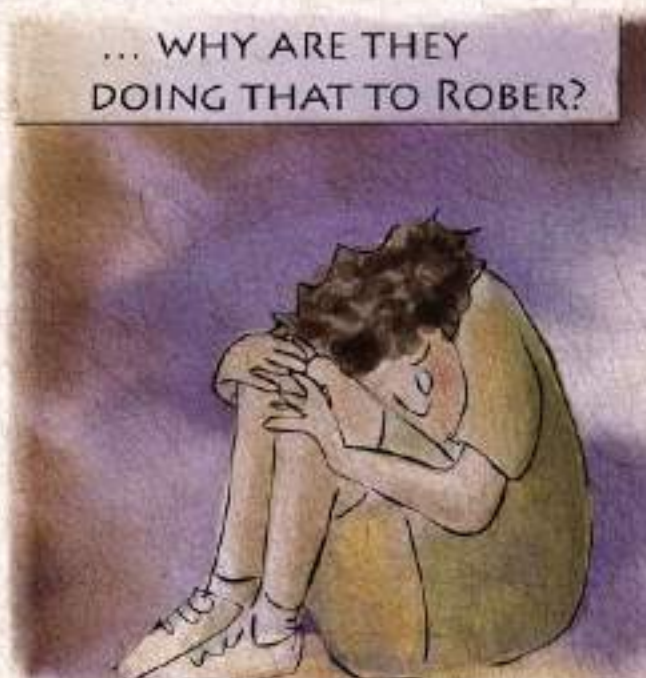
WHAT'S GOING
ON THERE?



BUT...



... WHY ARE THEY
DOING THAT TO ROBER?



HAVE YOU SEEN WHAT THEY
HAVE DONE TO ROBER?



YES, WE HAVE ALL SEEN THEM



THESE THINGS
MAKE ME SAD.



I AM NOT
ROBER'S
FRIEND

ME NEITHER



WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT IT?



BESIDES, WE CAN'T DO
ANYTHING ABOUT IT

THEY ARE STRONGER THAN US



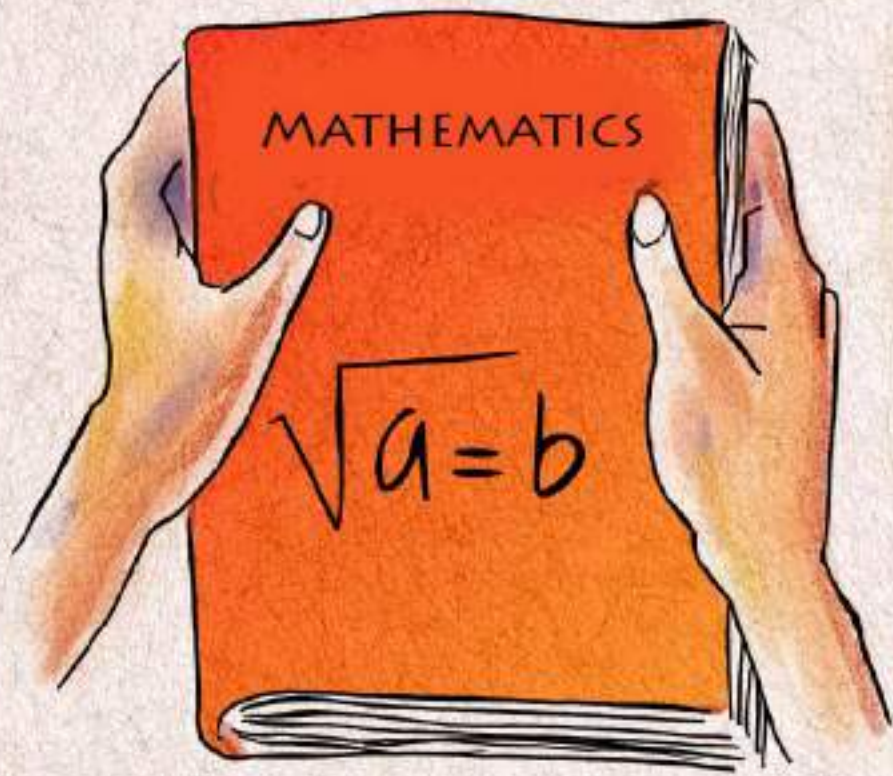
THEY'RE JUMPING AGAIN!

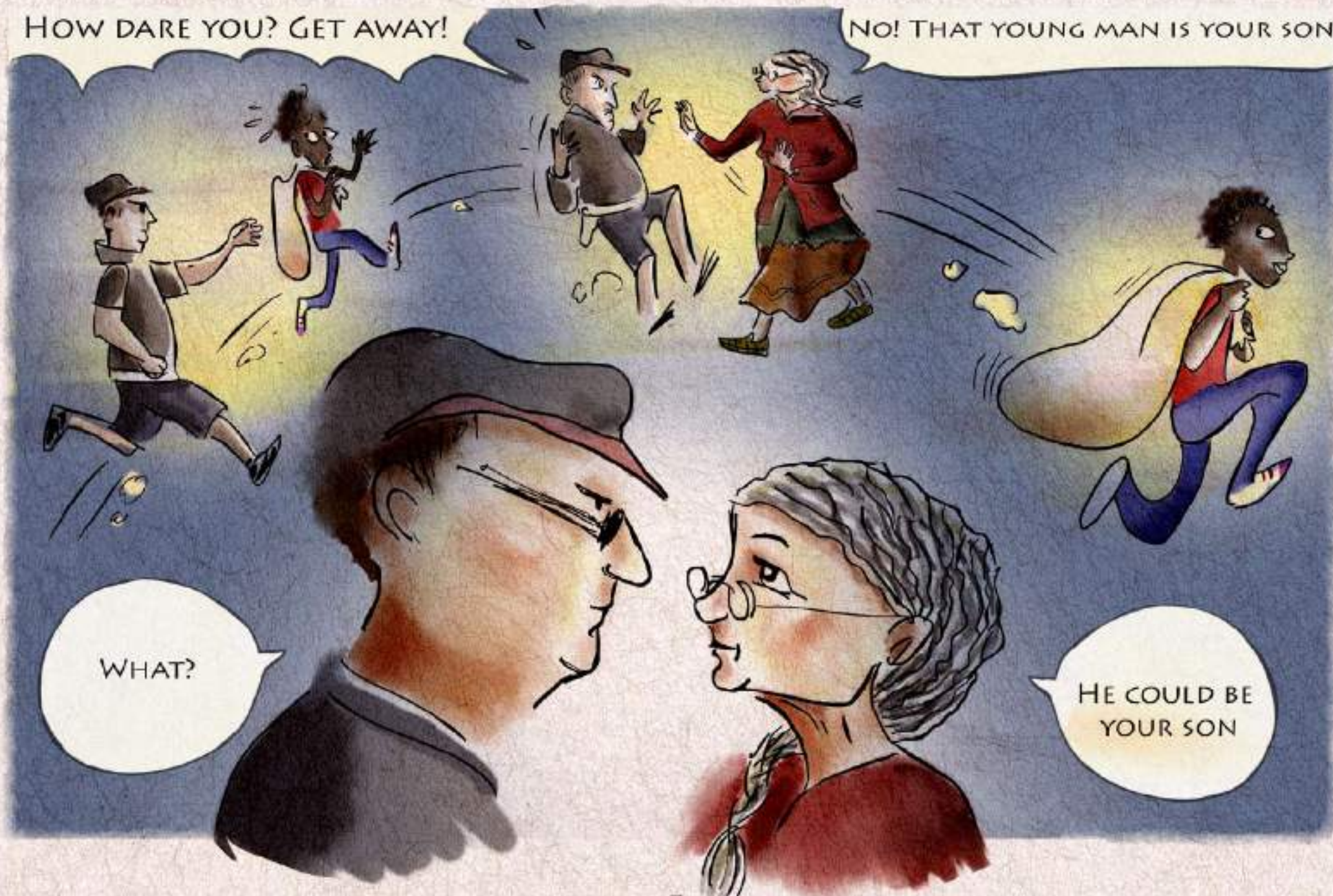


LET'S
PLAY











OH! HELLO, GIRL.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?



I WOULD LIKE TO LEARN HOW
TO BEHAVE THE WAY YOU HAVE



LET'S GO.
DON'T
BE AFRAID





DO YOU LIVE HERE?



OF COURSE NOT. THIS IS A CROSSING POINT. IT IS A SORT OF TIME WARP



I THOUGHT THESE THINGS ONLY HAPPENED IN MOVIES. IF I HAD A CELL PHONE I WOULD TAKE A PHOTO. MY FRIENDS WOULD FREAK OUT



I SEE THAT YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED IN LEARNING NOW

WHAT? OH! YES, I AM. THE THING IS...

IF YOU WANT TO LEARN HOW TO SOLVE THAT PROBLEM THAT YOU'RE SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU SHOULD NOT GET DISTRACTED

OK, I WON'T

I WILL TAKE YOU TO DIFFERENT MOMENTS IN HISTORY. MOMENTS WHEN OTHER CHILDREN HAD PROBLEMS AND LEARNED HOW TO SOLVE THEM IN A NON-VIOLENT WAY

NON-VIOLENCE? WHAT IS NON-VIOLENCE?

NON-VIOLENCE IS A WAY TO SOLVE PROBLEMS USING SURPRISING STRENGTH...

THE POWER OF LOVE. DO YOU REALLY WANT TO DISCOVER IT?

OF COURSE I DO

WELL, PAY A LOT OF ATTENTION THEN.





WE ARE IN 1955. IN MONTGOMERY, THE UNITED STATES

THE UNITED STATES!?



THERE ARE RACIAL LAWS HERE THAT IMPEDE BLACK PEOPLE FROM ACCESSING THE SAME PRIVILDRGES AS WHITE PEOPLE.

BUT THAT'S NOT FAIR



RIGHT. THE SAME AS WHAT HAPPENED TO ROBER

AND WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

NOTHING. CLAUDETTE IS GOING TO DO IT

WHO?



BE QUIET AND OBSERVE. SHE HAS JUST GOT ON THE BUS.



CLAUDETTE COLVIN



HEY, GIRL, YOU CAN'T SIT HERE. THIS SEAT IS RESERVED FOR WHITE PEOPLE

I WON'T MOVE, SIR.



REALLY?



I WILL CALL THE POLICE

WHY ARE YOU CRYING, DEAR?

BECAUSE THEY'RE GOING TO HURT HER



THEY CAUGHT HER AND JUDGED HER. FINALLY, SHE IS LIBERATED

BUT WHAT SHE DID WAS USELESS



LISTEN, AMANDA. WHEN WE DO WHAT WE HAVE TO, IT IS ALWAYS USEFUL. DO NOT FORGET THAT. ALWAYS!



WHEN CLAUDETTE DID THAT, SHE WAS ONLY 15 YEARS OLD AND ALMOST NOBODY HAD HEARD ABOUT IT. BUT A FEW MONTHS LATER, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE COUNTRY, SOMEONE REPEATED HER ACTION

YES?

HER NAME WAS ROSA PARKS



LATER MORE PEOPLE STARTED TO DISOBEY...

...AND NEW FRIENDS JOINED THE MOVEMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS IN THE USA



AND IN THE END, DID THINGS CHANGE?

YES. BLACK PEOPLE STARTED TO CONQUER THEIR RIGHTS



ON AUGUST 28TH 1963 MARTIN LUTHER KING GAVE A FAMOUS SPEECH IN WASHINGTON IN FRONT OF 300,000 PEOPLE.



THE FOLLOWING YEAR HE RECEIVED THE NOBEL PEACE PRIZE.

ON APRIL 4TH 1968 HE WAS ASSASSINATED BUT AT THAT TIME MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD ALREADY BELIEVED IN HIS IDEALS.

MARTIN LUTHER KING WAS A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON BUT HE COULD NOT HAVE DONE ANYTHING WITHOUT THE PEOPLE WHO SAID NO BEFORE HIM, LIKE CLAUDETTE OR ROSA PARKS, OR THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO WORKED WITH HIM THROUGH NON-VIOLENCE.



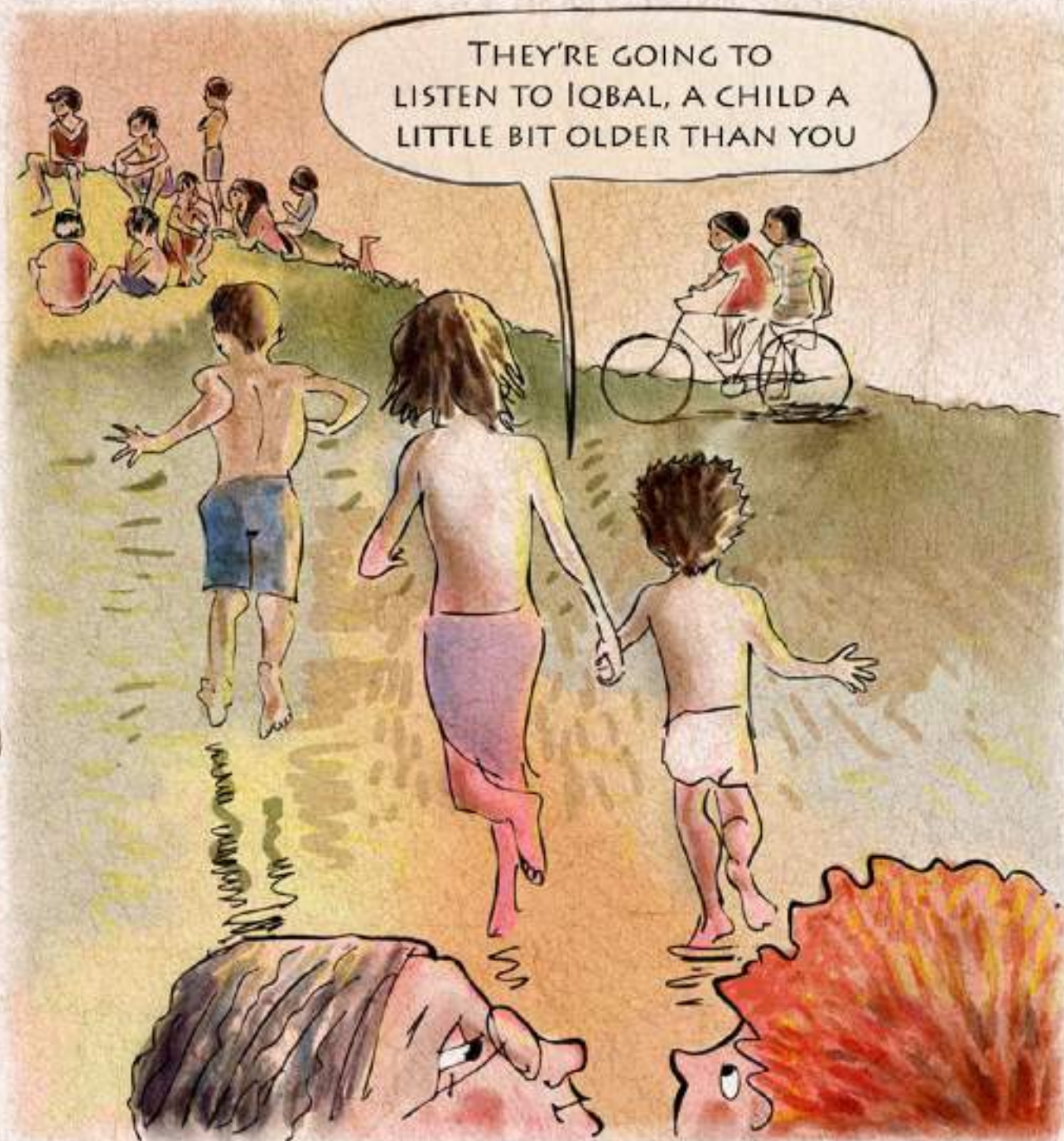
I WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT NON-VIOLENCE



WELL, THEN. LET'S CONTINUE WITH OUR JOURNEY



THERE ARE SO MANY CHILDREN! WHERE ARE THEY GOING?



WE, CHILDREN, CAN'T BE SLAVES!



WE SHOULD ALL BE ABLE TO GO TO SCHOOL



WE WERE BORN FREE!



I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY HE SAYS THAT. WHAT IS HAPPENING?



IT IS NORMAL THAT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND. I'LL EXPLAIN IT TO YOU





WE ARE IN LAHORE, PAKISTAN, IN 1993. AS IN MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, BIG COMPANIES USE CHILDREN TO WORK IN ORDER TO EARN MORE MONEY

ACTUALLY, THEY ARE SLAVES

SLAVES!!! AND HAS THAT HAPPENED RECENTLY?

THAT IS STILL HAPPENING TODAY. MILLIONS OF CHILDREN AROUND THE WORLD WORK TODAY. THEY PRODUCE MANY OF THE PRODUCTS WE CONSUME

GOSH! I AM GETTING VERY UPSET ABOUT IT

MY DREAM IS TO END UP WITH CHILD SLAVERY ALL AROUND THE WORLD

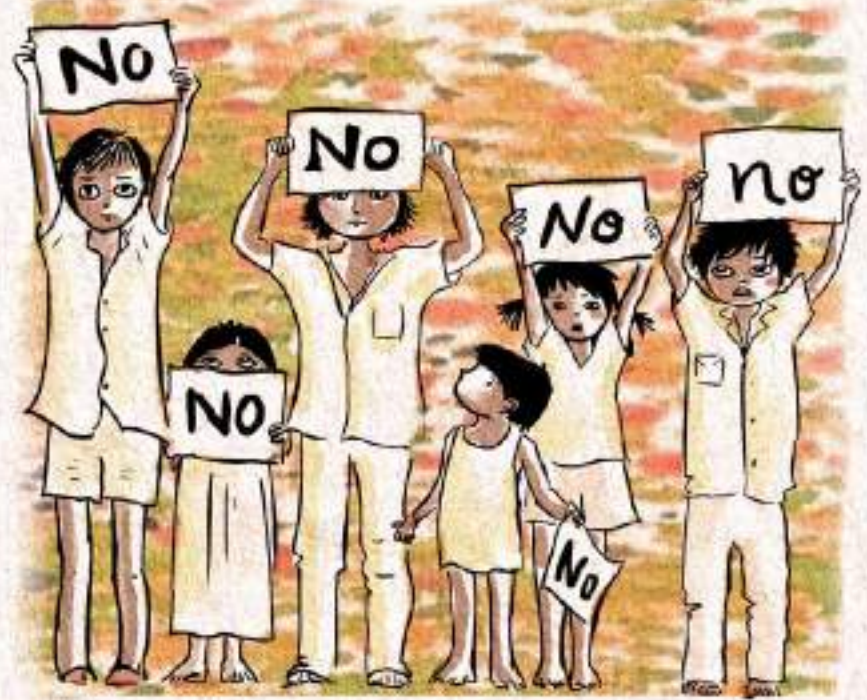


THAT'S OK, DEAR. NOW YOU HAVE TO LEARN HOW TO TRANSFORM THAT ANGER INTO LOVE

WOW! HE ALSO HAS A DREAM

YES. THE SAME DREAM OF FREEDOM. AND HE ALSO DIED FOR THAT DREAM. ON APRIL 16TH 1995 HE WAS ASSASSINATED

BUT STILL TODAY IQBAL'S DREAM IS CHERISHED BY THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO TRY TO KEEP IT ALIVE



OH! IT IS TIME. WE HAVE TO GO OR WE WILL BE LATE



HURRY UP

BUT WHERE ARE WE GOING?



WE ARE IN OSLO. THIS IS MALALA. SHE HAS JUST RECEIVED THE 2014 NOBEL PEACE PRIZE AT THE YOUNG AGE OF 17



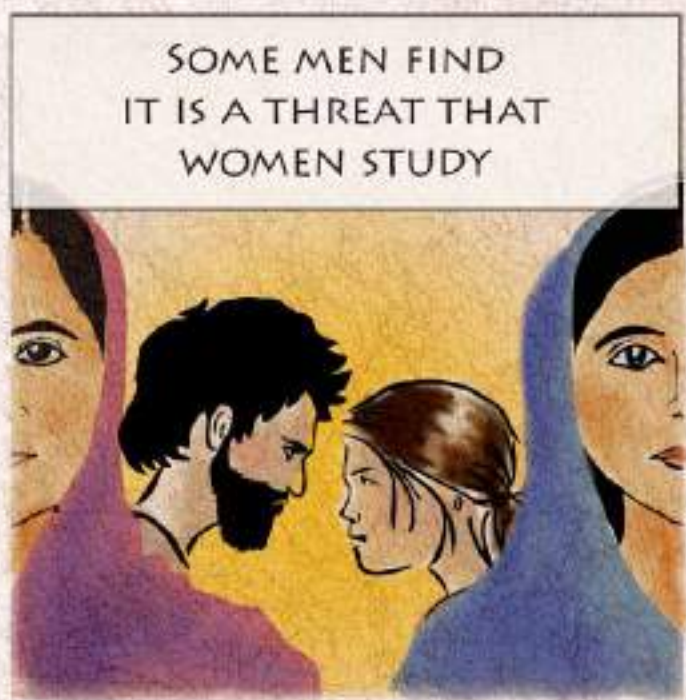
SHE HAS JUST STARTED TO SPEAK

A CHILD, A TEACHER, A PENCIL AND A BOOK CAN CHANGE THE WORLD

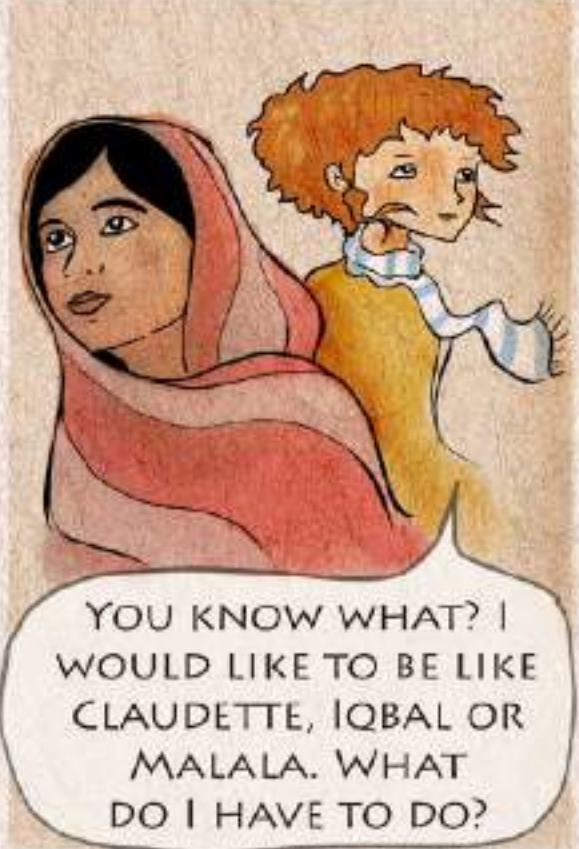


ACHOOOOOOO!!!!

THEY ARE GOING TO DISCOVER US



AND NOW SHE IS FIGHTING FOR THAT ALL OVER THE WORLD



THE FIRST STEP IS TO REALLY WANT IT. THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT EVERY SINGLE ONE OF THEM TRIED TO FIGHT THE INJUSTICES THEY SAW USING NON-VIOLENCE. THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE WHO DO THAT EVERY DAY. MOST OF THEM ARE NOT KNOWN.



LET'S GO TO INDIA. WE ARE IN 2010.
I WANT YOU TO MEET BARTHI
KUMARI. SHE IS A 12-YEAR-OLD GIRL.
SHE LIVES IN A VERY POOR VILLAGE
IN INDIA CALLED KUSUMBHARA

12 YEARS OLD? SO DOES SHE
ALSO GO TO SCHOOL?

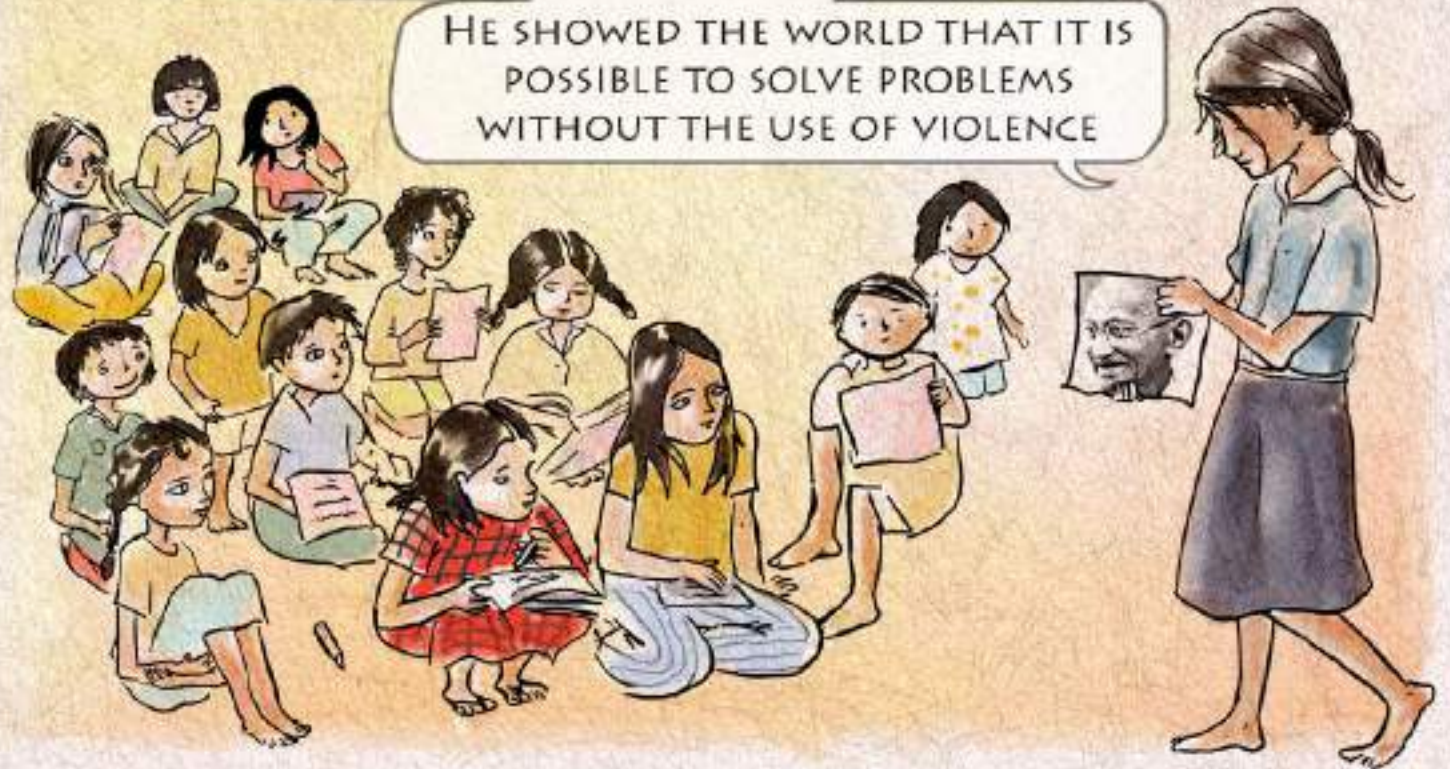
YES, OF COURSE.
SHE IS THE
TEACHER



NOW EVERYBODY IS HERE
WE CAN START

TODAY WE ARE GOING TO TALK ABOUT GANDHI. HE FOUGHT FOR
THE INDEPENDENCE OF OUR COUNTRY THROUGH NON-VIOLENCE

HE SHOWED THE WORLD THAT IT IS
POSSIBLE TO SOLVE PROBLEMS
WITHOUT THE USE OF VIOLENCE



BUT IN THIS SCHOOL
THERE ARE NO ADULTS!

BARTHY IS AN ORPHANED GIRL WHO WALKS TO SCHOOL
IN THE MORNINGS WALKING TO A NEARBY VILLAGE AND ONE
DAY SHE BECOMES AWARE OF SOMETHING IMPORTANT.



THERE ARE MANY THINGS
MISSING. BUT THEY HAVE THE
MOST IMPORTANT THING.
CHILDREN THAT NEED TO LEARN
AND A TEACHER THAT TRULY
LOVES THEM



I AM THE ONLY ONE IN
THE VILLAGE WHO GOES
TO SCHOOL. I HAVE
TO DO SOMETHING



AND FROM THAT DAY ON SHE MEETS ALL
CHILDREN IN TOWN IN THE AFTERNOON
AND TEACHES THEM WHAT SHE
LEARNED IN THE MORNING



CAN A 12-YEAR-OLD GIRL
START A SCHOOL?

WE CAN ALL DO
MANY THINGS IF WE HAVE
THE REASONS TO DO THEM

GHANDI USED TO SAY
THAT LOVE IS THE MOST
POWERFUL STRENGTH
THAT WE HAVE.

LOVE!

YES, DEAR.
LOVE IS WHAT MOVES BARTHI.
SHE COULD BE THE MOST INTELLIGENT
GIRL IN TOWN BUT SHE PREFERRED TO
WORK SO THAT EVERYBODY COULD
HAVE THE SAME OPPORTUNITIES
SHE HAD

I COULD ALSO
SHARE WHAT I KNOW

ARE YOU COMING
OR STAYING?

I COULD LOVE ROBER

HEY! WAIT.
I'M COMING



WHERE ARE WE GOING NOW?

TO AMSTERDAM, HOLLAND. YEAR 1944. RIGHT IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

IT IS DANGEROUS TO GO OUT THEN

TRUE. BUT IN THIS CASE IT IS NOT NECESSARY THAT WE GET OUT. WE ARE GOING TO MEET

SHE'S BEEN HIDING FOR A LONG TIME FROM THE NAZIS. AS SHE SPENDS MANY HOURS CONFINED, SHE HAS DECIDED TO WRITE A DIARY



POOR THING. SHE MUST BE HAVING A REALLY HARD TIME NOT BEING ABLE TO GO OUT AND SEE HER FRIENDS



I WOULD LOVE TO KNOW WHAT SHE IS WRITING



<<IT'S DIFFICULT IN TIMES LIKE THESE: IDEALS, DREAMS AND CHERISHED HOPES RISE WITHIN US, ONLY TO BE CRUSHED BY GRIM REALITY. IT'S A WONDER I HAVEN'T ABANDONED ALL MY IDEALS, THEY SEEM SO ABSURD AND IMPRACTICAL. YET I CLING TO THEM BECAUSE I STILL BELIEVE, IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING, THAT PEOPLE ARE TRULY GOOD AT HEART. >>



WILL YOU BE GOOD AT HEART?



WHO ARE YOU?



I FOCUS ON ALL THE BEAUTY WHICH IS AROUND ME



BUT YOU LIVE HERE CONFINED FOR YEARS BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE KILLING THEMSELVES AT WAR



BEFORE YOU SAID YOU WERE AFRAID. WHO COULD AN ANGEL LIKE YOU BE AFRAID OF?



OF SOME CHILDREN AT SCHOOL



FEAR MEANS BEING CONFINED. BUT IF YOU LOVE, YOU ARE FREE. DON'T WAIT A MOMENT TO START CHANGING THINGS



I WAITED FOR ANNE TO FALL ASLEEP SO I COULD LEAVE

SHE WAS WRONG ABOUT



SHE WAS THE ANGEL





MY NAME'S AMANDA BUT... DON'T YOU KNOW ME?

AMANDA! HOW BEAUTIFUL! YOU CARRY LOVE IN YOUR NAME. NOW YOU HAVE TO LET IT GROW IN YOUR HEART SO THAT IT GETS TO YOUR HANDS POWERFULLY



LOVE...!



YES, DARLING, LOVE IS THE MOST POWERFUL STRENGTH IT EXISTS. TAKE IT FROM ME, A HOMELESS PERSON LIKE ME WHO HAS GONE THROUGH SEWERS ALL OVER THE WORLD AND HAS LEARNED MANY IMPORTANT THINGS



YES, I KNOW, I KNOW YOU

DO YOU KNOW ME? ARE YOU SURE?

YES, I AM SURE.



IN THAT CASE I KNOW WHY I'M HERE

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

BUT, WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?

TODAY I CAME OUT OF THAT SEWER AND I FOUND YOU. THAT MEANS I AM GOING TO WITNESS A LOVE STORY AND THIS TIME YOU WILL BE THE PROTAGONIST

FOLLOW YOUR NEW FRIENDS' EXAMPLE



ARE YOU LEAVING? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?



DON'T WORRY, I WILL ALWAYS, ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE SHOWING OTHERS WHAT YOU DO FOR LOVE



TO MOTHERS, FATHERS, TEACHERS.

DIALOGUE IS ONE OF THE MOST HUMANIZING EXPERIENCES. WE SUGGEST YOU USE THIS COMIC AS AN INSTRUMENT TO DISCUSS, LISTEN AND CONNECT WITH YOUR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS. SOMEHOW THEY ARE ALL AMANDA (FROM LAT. "WORTHY OF LOVE") AS WELL AS THOSE WHO THEY MEET ALONG THEIR LIFE.

WE BELIEVE THIS IS AN ESSENTIAL EDUCATIONAL TASK TO HELP DISCOVER THE NEW GENERATIONS THE BEST OF HUMAN BEINGS. FORTUNATELY, THERE IS A HUGE TREND OF NON-VIOLENCE THAT HAS CONSOLIDATED IN THE WORLD THE EVIDENCE THAT IT IS POSSIBLE TO SOLVE CONFLICTS IN A MORE HUMAN WAY. IT IS URGENT TO COUNTERACT THE CULTURE OF INDIVIDUALISM AND COMPETITIVENESS ALL AROUND US. TO DO SO, WE NEED EXAMPLES, BUT WE ALSO NEED TO GENERATE EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES IT WHICH TURN THIS POSSIBILITY INTO REALITY.

IN THE 2018 NON-VIOLENCE CAMPAIGN, WE OFFER NUMEROUS MATERIALS TO MAKE THIS FASCINATING TASK EASIER. IN OUR WEBSITE YOU WILL BE ABLE TO FIND LINKS DIRECTLY RELATED TO THIS COMIC AND ALSO TO MORE GENERAL MATERIALS FOR YOUR TRAINING.



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