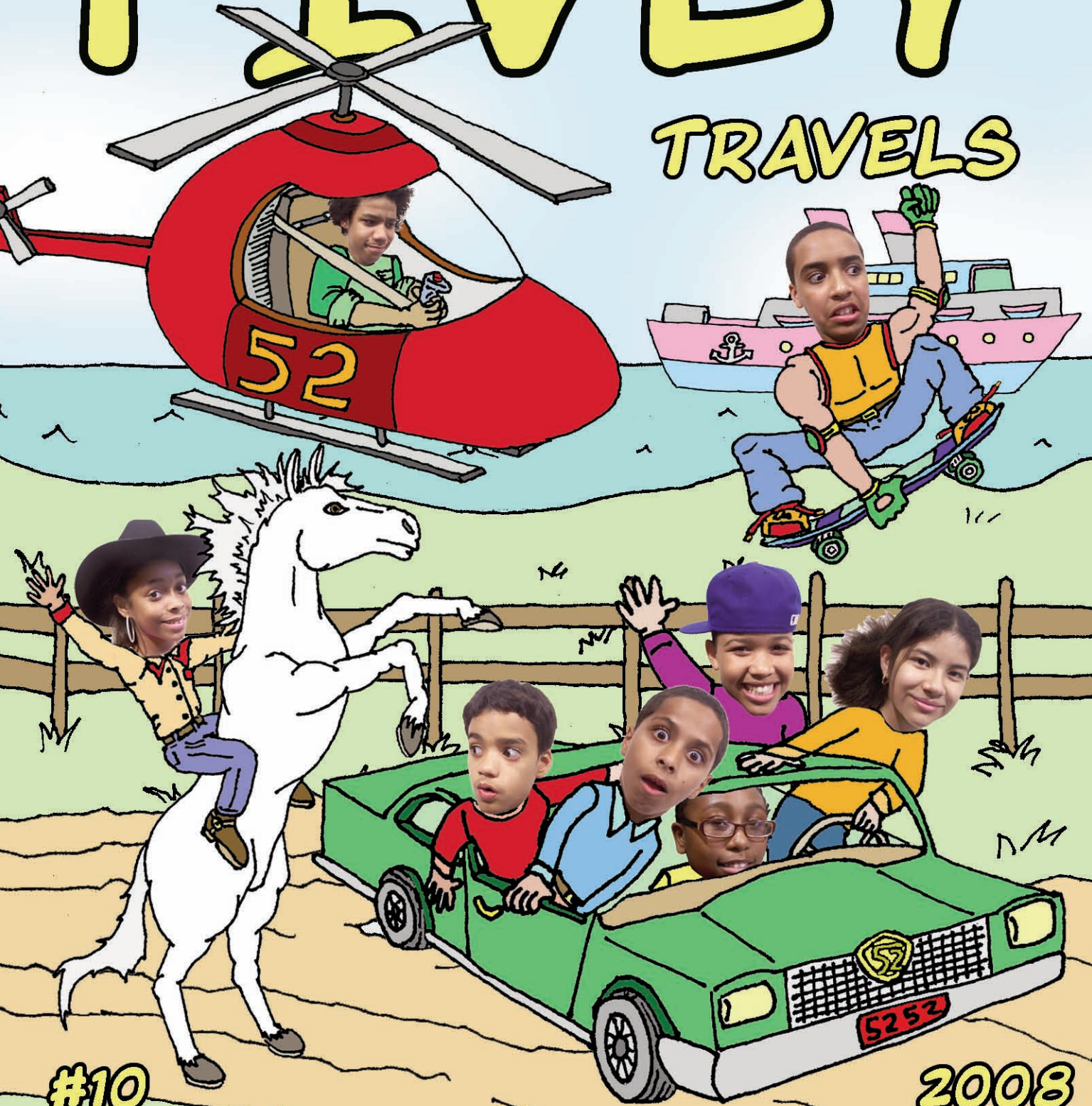


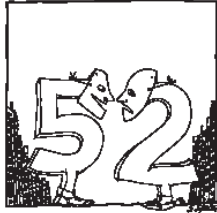
FIVEVEY

TRAVELS



#10

2008



The 52nd Street Project

FIVEY

THE LITERARY MAGAZINE OF THE 52ND STREET PROJECT



Smart Partners is the one-on-one educational tutoring/mentoring program of The 52nd Street Project. Fivey is the program's literary magazine.



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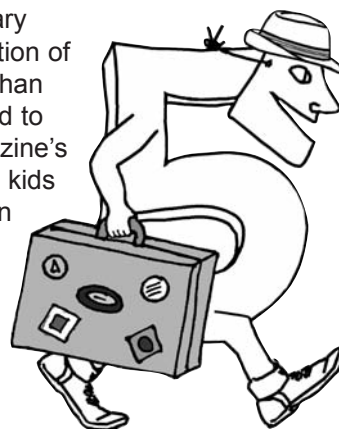
JOSH MOODY

TRAVELS WITH FIVEY

This issue of Fivey brings the Project's literary magazine into the double digits with the celebration of its tenth birthday. What better way to celebrate than with a vacation? Unfortunately, we couldn't afford to take all the kids, volunteers, staff, and the magazine's mascot Fivey to some exotic destination. So the kids decided to write instead. Hence, the 2008 edition of Fivey magazine: "*Fivey Travels*".

Some kids created pieces about places far from this cement jungle: visiting Niagara Falls while in Canada, the Folkets Amusement Park in Sweden, a greatly missed brother in the Dominican Republic, and even the Queen of England! Others were impassioned by things in their own realm, like the Hudson River and Clinton Park. We suggest you tour the "Special Song Section," containing original music by the kids of April's "Break it Up and Compose Yourself," a songwriting workshop led by Kim Sherman, Andrew Sherman, and Megan Cramer.

The editors of Fivey took the theme very seriously. George went to Mexico for a week and I have been all the way to Connecticut twice in the last month. What stories we could tell if we were kids! -Liz



George Babiak, Editor

JOSH MOODY

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HEARTBREAK OVER THE SEAS

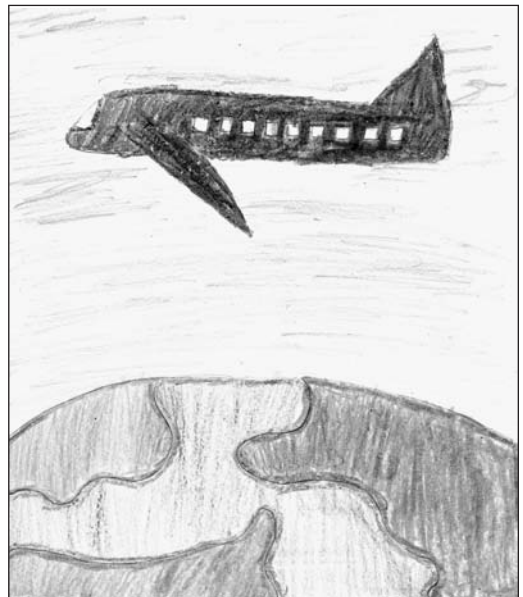
BY DORIS ALCANTARA

In two separate worlds
a visa lies between us
tears when he's not around
but gladness when I see him.
Hoping and wishing for an
older loving sibling watching
over me. Having to leave
him behind brings many
tears to my heart. Knowing
that a surprise
visit will never occur.
4,127 days of my life
only 14 with him. Dying to be
closer but mentally always
with him. Giving my last hug
saying goodbye. At the airport
Immigration stops me squinting
through my tears my head rises up
seeing the same devilish face he asked
me the same questions just
5 years before "Is she Dominican?"
In my head saying "Go get
glasses or a new job, don't you
see I'm American my passport duh."
Then he says "Sorry."
Flying over seas with popping
ear drums. From salty beaches
to concrete floors a visa
lies between us and nothing
more. 🇵🇷

*--This poem is dedicated to my awesome
brother in the Dominican Republic.*




GRB



ART WORK BY DORIS ALCANTARA

QUEEN OF ENGLAND

BY NATALIA CABALLERO

I go to Paris and England!
I want to visit the Queen of England!
I wonder if she has a daughter or a grand-
daughter?
Does she have a palace?
Is she rich?
Does she have a butler?
Is she in her 50's or 60's?
Oh I want to visit the Queen of England! 



GRB




*"Sky," a photograph by
Mordecai Santiago.*



GRB

A POEM BY ANDY REYES

I'm on this plane...
Can't remember the name
Flying through the sky
Couldn't say goodbye

I'm on this plane...
Playing my DS game
Man, I loss
I'll show who's boss 

We interrupt this issue of Fivey magazine to bring you a Public Service Announcement from Maximo Jimenez.



GFRB

SMOKING

BY MAXIMO JIMENEZ

Teenagers need to stop smoking because over 1,000 kids get asthma from inhaling from second hand smoke.

Teenagers need to stop smoking because in eight seconds nicotine is in the brain changing the way your brain works.

You could die from smoking!

Teenagers need to stop smoking because smoking could and will damage your lungs. There's so much bad things in cigarettes like tar, rocket fuel, and pee! Let me tell you a long, boring story about a guy who used to smoke.

There was this guy who used to smoke. I sat down next to him and told him to quit. There was a moment of silence, just me and him alone in the stairwell. He dropped the cigarette. I stood up, smiled and walked away. That person made the right choice, but there's one question. Can you make the right choice? To quit, please call 311 and make the right choice!

Thank you :)

To: Michael E. Szymanczyk

Chairman and CEO


Philip Morris USA, Inc. 

Now... back to this issue of Fivey magazine.



GANG

BY ALVIN GARCIA

People are talking about these gang related rhymes when they're supposed to be worrying about gang related crimes. I don't understand how the north and south and the east and the west roll when most gang members are on parole. They always talking trash of how the north is better than the south and the east is better than the west, at this rate it doesn't matter who's the best. Let's stop this destruction and start making a better function to our society. Let's stop with the guns and let's just open the sun to a better day. Why do we have to choose this way. Like Martin Luther King said, "I have a dream." And one of the things in that dream was to stop violence and the schemes. We have to make our streets clean 'cause if we don't you are going to get a fee. Now you see that we got to stop gang violence. 




GRB

THIS PLACE

BY ALVIN GARCIA

This place is my imagination
This place is my kingdom
This place is my cocoon
This place is my love
This place is my vitamin A, B, and C
This place is my study hall
This place is my life
This place is my battlefield
This is my ambition
This is my home

This place is a great imagination
It's also a comfortable sensation
It has 2 beds 3 T.V.s and 1 couch
Did I also mention it is my house?
It's my house, it's my house, it's my house!


TONY AND CHRIS: BOY WONDERS

BY CHAMEL RODNEY



"My life is pretty easy."

Tony shrieks in fear at the thought of this. He and Chris sit on the front porch of his house as the neighborhood kids run by to play hopscotch and jump-rope. Tony and Chris just hate little kids because if the popular kids found them hanging with the neighborhood's little kids they would laugh.

"We should do something about this," Chris says bravely.

The next day Tony and Chris go to the jazz club. The jazz club is painted red and near the run-down donut shop. It has a sign out front that reads "Don't beware of dogs. Beware of Manager with a gun!"



Don't beware of dogs. Beware of Manager with a gun!

"My life is pretty easy. I work at a Jazz club," Tony says.

"Pretty cool," Chris says.

"But my manager is really mean," Tony mumbles in a sad kind of way.

"What do you mean?" Chris asks.

"Well he owns a gun, and if I quit he'll shoot me in the head because he'll lose all of his customers."



"We should do something about this."

"Are you sure you want to do this," Chris asks.

"Yes," Tony answers. They go straight to the manager's office. The manager's name was Carl. He was muscular and tall like a football player. His eyes blaze like fire while his arm pounds like a punch on the desk while he waits for his drink.

"Tony, what can I do for you?" Carl asks.

"I quit!!!" Tony yells as they dash out. The chase was like two lions and one hungry cheetah. In the end Carl shot his gun but the bullet missed. The boys ran

into the donut shop. They yell, "POLICE! POLICE!" Two cops get up from a booth in the corner. "There's a man in a jazz club and he's trying to kill us!" they both scream.

The cops go inside to arrest Carl. The kids run inside with the cops. The cops slam Carl's head on the floor and handcuff him.

"Are you OK?" a cop asks as Tony and Chris approach him.

"Yes," they both answer as they gasp for air.


The cops bring Tony and Chris into the police station. "All right, what's happened?" a cop asks.

"Well, officer, I told Carl I quit and he tried to kill me!" Tony says as fast as he can.

"All right, your parents are here," another cop replies.

They dash to their moms and dads who wait at the door. They all ride home in a silver Dodge mini-van. As they pull out of the parking lot, they see Carl running towards the car. Tony was so stunned he couldn't speak. The car is stopped at the entrance to the parking lot. Carl taps on Tony's window, and Tony's hand slips in a fit of fear triggering the window to roll down. As the window rolls down Carl

"Tony, what can I do for you?"

mumbles something in Tony's ear. Tony yells, by instinct, "FLOOR IT!" and they squeal right out of the parking lot. Tony looks back and Carl's not there. 

In these cinematic photos taken by Barnett Cohen, Tony was played by Chamel, Chris was played by Maximo Jimenez, and Carl was played by Conor Fetting-Smith.



His eyes blaze like fire while his arm pounds like a punch on the desk while he waits for his drink.




"I quit!"

HUDSON RIVER POEMS

BY KEVIN KULEGO


POEM 1

Who is that across?
The Hudson
Who is that Girl across from me?
too bad
I can't see her
And she can't see me
I stare at her
She stares at me 



GRB

POEM 2

Who is that across
The Hudson
Who is that girl across
From me
I wish I would float or take a boat ride
To see who
That is
I don't know and I will never know
Well maybe I can
I jump
Into the Hudson
Oh my god
I'm so wet
Well at least I get sweat away
Oh no she got away 

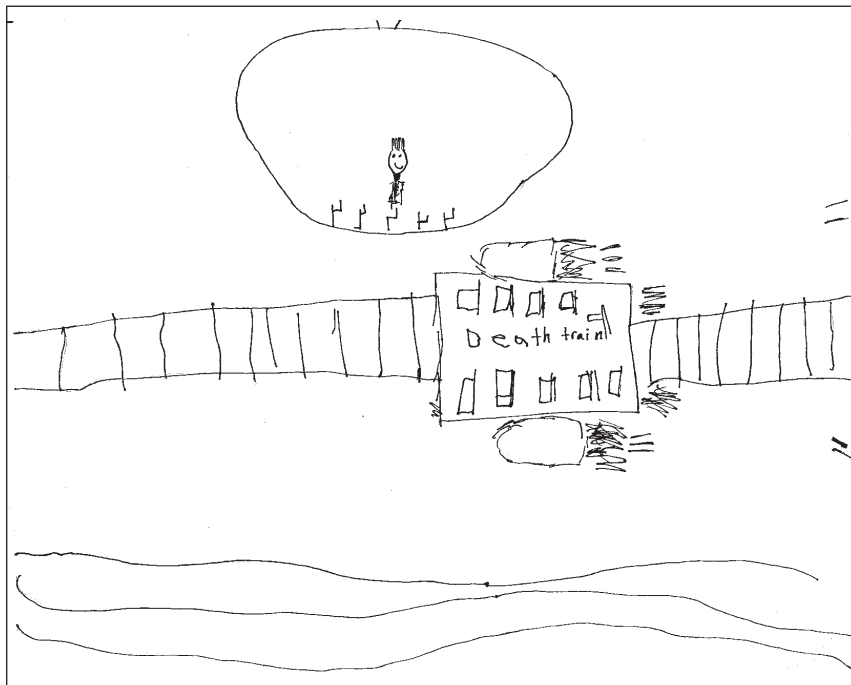


Hudson River photographs by Mordecai Santiago.

THE DEATH TRAIN

BY MICHAEL BANNISTER

The Death Train is a train ride that will make you throw up in one second when the ride starts. It is a ride I made up in my dream. It is a very fast ride. You feel the danger when you get on the train. You jump in your seat. You have to hold on to something or you will fall because you do not have a seatbelt! It is a huge ride and breezy. You feel like you are falling in any minute. It will take you ten minutes to stop dizziness. It is a very scary ride. You could fall off the roller coaster. It is not very safe. Children under eleven should not ride. 🤢



Michael's conception of the Death Train as seen from overhead.



MY THOUGHTS BY JENISSE BOURET

Those evil people,
took me away from my family.
I felt alone.

Wondering in my new so-called home how my family was doing.
While, I was being turned into someone I was not.

Where is my pride?
Where is the pride of my beautiful culture?
I did not know.

I looked at myself in the mirror one day, and no longer
recognized the man I was, only the man I had become.
I always remembered who I was but slowly the memory
began to fade.

They made us believe our religion was nothing;
That it meant nothing.

I was depressed. For me, the depression grew and grew
until one day I tried to commit suicide.
My heart could no longer take the pain.

I was no longer an Indian, but a white man. 

"This poem is inspired by a historical event in which some of the Native Americans were turned into white men. These people were taken from their families and could not do anything related to their Native American culture. They were taken overseas, far, far away and were taught to be like the American white man."

\$20 AND A PLANE BY WENDELL JOSEPH

Jim and Ben decided to go to Disney World. Also Ben stole his mother's money. "Where's my 20 dollars?" Ben's mom yelled. By the time that happened Ben and Jim were already on the plane. "Told you she won't find out," Ben laughed.

"So," Jim cried. A woman blushed. "Sorry, Mom. I'm so sorry," Ben cried. Ben thought it was his mother but it was really the flight attendant.

"What are you talking about? I am going to take your order," the flight attendant said.

The plane landed. Ben saw something shocking. "Oh my God."

"Hi Ben!" Ben's mom yelled.

"Um. Look. It's Indiana Jones!" Ben buzzed. Ben pointed. His mother wrapped his arm around his back like she was a police officer.

"Nice try, Buster," Ben's mom cried.

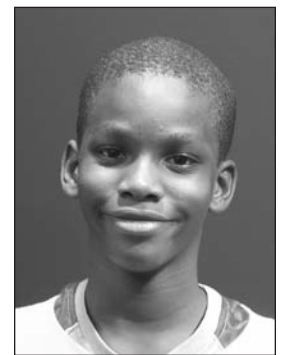
"Aw, man!" Ben yelled, "Stop! People are looking."

Ben's mom shouted, "You're under arrest," Ben's mom yelled, "You're coming home, Mister."

"Can I please get new video games?" Ben cried.

"Nooo. Read my lips!" Ben's mom shouted.

After a few months, Ben got grounded. Then he went to boot camp. When he was 20 he still stole money from his mom. 




JOURNAL ENTRY

BY JORGE ZAPATA, ABOUT HIS SMART PARTNER MEETING WITH JOSH MOODY

12/17/07

Dear Josh and Jorge Journal Entry,

Today was really fun. Me and my partner Josh became better friends. Me and Josh did stuff today we never done before. We played soccer on top of ice. I fell and Josh almost did about 100 times. We also played ice hockey with 2 big branches and a soccer ball. We slid so much and Josh's stick broke into three pieces. We kicked all the sticks off the ice to make it safer, but anything we do is dangerous, even by walking on the sidewalk. Josh showed me to get a lot of distance on ice and last but not least, we played football... well, slide football. We tried to slide on our backs down the hill. When Josh played slide football he almost fell the most and I tried to catch him. Josh caught a cool pass sliding backwards. Then we ended by talking about personal stuff. Then we came back here and wrote this. 



GRB



ARTWORK BY JOSH MOODY AND JORGE ZAPATA

During an early Smart Partner meeting, Josh Moody and Jorge Zapata created a composite portrait of themselves fused into one person. His name is Georsh Zapoody. Don't be afraid of him.

THE HAUNTED HOUSE MUSEUM

BY GABRIELLA DEJESUS



GRB

SCENE 1

It was a sunny, shiny beautiful day of June weather in the spring. All the flowers bloomed and all the birds chirped, but the horrible event of the day was Gaby's school trip. The Dallen Middle School was going on a trip to the Haunted House Museum for the last school trip right before graduation. School had started and all the kids were in the hallway at their lockers waiting for the trip to begin.

"Hey, are you ready for this fabulous trip Gab?" Lauren asked Gaby as Lauren walked into the school swinging her black hair.

"Totally not. My mom's been there and she said it was a nightmare. I'm so worried," Gaby said as she was brushing her goldish brownish hair looking at a mirror in her green locker.

"Wow! That's so creepy," Lauren replied.

"I know."

"What's up!" Zoe said as she

entered the school and met up with Gaby and Lauren.

"We were just talking about the trip today," Lauren said.

"Oh."

"Can we talk about something other than this nightmare trip," Gaby said organizing her locker then shutting it and turning to face Zoe.

"Well I have the greatest news ever!"

"What is it?" Lauren yelled excited.

"Remember the shoes we saw at the mall yesterday? Well I ordered three pairs in different colors. Isn't that amazing?" Zoe said smiling waiting for an answer.

"For us, right?" asked Lauren.

"Yeah," Zoe said.

There came a long pause and "Ahhhhh!" All of them screamed at the same time, so loud that the whole school turned around to watch the fuss.

"Excuse me," yelled Mr. Dean to the girls as he came out of his office. "This is education, not a fashion show! Stop playing around and get ready for the trip!" He ended his speech, "Before you don't go at all."

"Sorry Mr. Dean," Gaby, Zoe, and Lauren all apologized at the same time.

Why, why, Gaby thought. Why!

SCENE 2

After being on the bus, Gaby

stepped in the Haunted House Museum. It wasn't cold, but Gaby was shivering and she got goose bumps right away.

"Oh my gosh! It's so creepy in here, right Zoe?" Gaby said terrified.

"Of course it's creepy. Actually it's not creepy, it's much worse!" Zoe screamed loudly.

"It's so cold in here," shivered Gaby and Zoe at the same time.

"I think this place is haunted," Zoe said looking around.

"How do you know if this place is haunted? We just got here and I don't see a ghost!" Lauren said dramatically to Zoe.

"I have two things to say, guys. One, there's no such thing as ghosts and two, this place is not haunted!" Gaby said like a teacher.

"Then why is it called the Haunted House Museum?" Zoe pointed out. Lauren nodded.

SCENE 3

As Gaby, Zoe, and Lauren were talking and enjoying themselves in the entrance room, everyone else was talking and settling down.

"We are going to have our tour guide Susan come in and introduce herself any minute so settle down!" Mr. Dean said, trying to quiet everyone. Of course, no one listened.

Everyone just kept talking louder, even Gaby, Zoe, and Lauren.

"Do you now believe me that this place is haunted, Gab?" Zoe asked Gaby, trying to persuade her that the museum was haunted.

"Not really, but I want to search and wander around without Mr. Dean," Gaby said turning around to face Mr. Dean and then looking back at her friends.

"How are we going to do that without Mr. Dean watching us?" wondered Lauren.

"We should somehow distract Mr. Dean and sneak away right before he sees us?" Gaby requested.

"But won't we have to do it before the tour guide comes and sees us?" Zoe said right away.

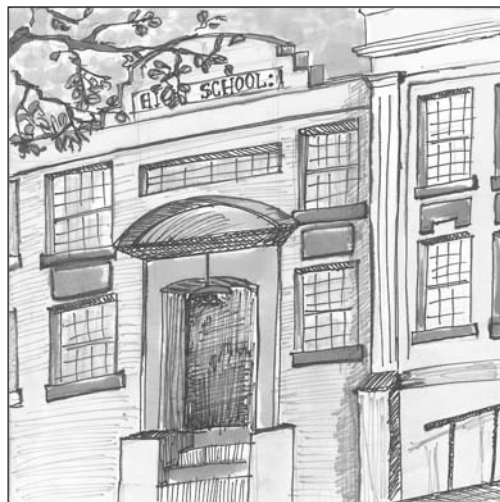
"Correct Zo, so, we have to do it right now," Gaby said.

"I have a great idea, Gaby. Zoe, go to the bathroom

and meet me there while I ask Mr. Dean to go to the bathroom. Then, we wander around," Lauren ended her speech.

"But why would you ask Mr. Dean to use the bathroom? So what, he sees us?" Zoe asked.

"So he knows that nothing's going wrong. Just split."





SCENE 4

Gabby and Zoe opened the door to the girls' bathroom and entered. It wasn't the biggest bathroom, but it was a small restroom with only two stalls inside. There was one sink and one trash bin. There was a small window that was open but was stuck and air blew in once in a while. Blue surrounded the room with black tiles on the floor.

"Wow," murmured Gabby out loud.

"It's amazing," Zoe spoke in shock.

The bathroom opened and, "Hey, what's up guys!" yelled Lauren as she entered the bathroom running.

"Ahhh!" screamed Gabby and Zoe so loud that Lauren jumped.

"Why are you guys screaming so loud? I just came from talking to Mr. Dean," Lauren replied, trying to calm Gabby and Zoe down.

"You just scared the death out of us. Actually me!" pointed out Gabby.

"Sorry. Not my fault," Lauren apologized.

"Oh well. I have to use the bathroom, so excuse me," Zoe spoke, jumping up and down and running in a stall.

"Me too," Lauren ran in the second stall and shut the door.

Gabby walked and stopped in front of the mirror.

"Oh, I look so amazing," Gabby said to herself. She walked out of the bathroom quietly. She looked through the small opening between the door and the wall waiting to surprise her friends.

Flushhhh! The toilets flushed and out came Lauren and Zoe.

"Where's Gabby?" asked Zoe walking to the sink with Lauren.

"I don't—," Lauren got interrupted.

"—Boo!" yelled Gabby running into the room.

"Ahhh!" screamed Zoe and Lauren scared.

"How dare you scare us like that, Gabby," whined Lauren inhaling and exhaling slowly.

"You should have seen your faces. They were amazing," Gabby said opening her mouth to show the faces of the girls.

"That was so cruel of you," Zoe spoke loudly.

"Sorry, friends. Let's go!" Gabby jumped up to head to the door and out of the room.

SCENE 5

"Stop touching me Lauren!" Gabby turned to face Lauren who was behind her.

"Who's touching you? Well it's not me. Stop touching her, Zoe!" Lauren smirked facing Zoe.

"Wow! When did I come in Lauren? I saw you do it," Zoe kept walking with the crew behind her.

"Whatever," Gaby said and followed Zoe. Zoe suddenly was walking fast and Lauren wanted to be with her.

"Wait up!" Lauren skipped to Zoe and walked together. Gaby was fine with them walking together ahead because they were a few feet away and Gaby could see them. But a slight hand fell on Gaby's shoulder and she fell to the floor.

"What was that Zoe?" Lauren asked Zoe as they walked.

"Where is Gaby?" Zoe turned around, then she started walking back to Gaby. Gaby got up and looked around, there was nothing around.

"Oh my gosh, where is Zoe and Lauren," she said to herself. She closed her eyes and opened them. She pulled herself up and started walking in the wrong direction confused. She turned left then right. She went up a pair of steps that laid in front of her. The hand landed on her again and she fell on the steps.

"Ouch!"

SCENE 6

As the hand kept landing on Gaby's shoulder, she kept falling. She started thinking, "What is touching me?" She turned around but never saw anything.

"Gaby where are you?" Zoe and Lauren yelled from far down the stairs. Gaby ran faster thinking that it was a ghost. Then she walked along a hallway and read the signs that were on the doors.

Donnie's Game Room, one said.

Kathy's Dance Hall, another said on a very big door.

The last one said, Belldin's Bedroom.

Gaby saw a flight of stairs that led to the first floor and went downstairs.

"Everyone over here. We are about to leave," the deep voice of the teacher announced.

"Was that Mr. Dean?" Gaby asked herself.

As she hit the last step she saw Mr. Dean, and Mr. Dean saw her.

"Hi Gaby, did you just come down from those stairs?" he said confused.

No, of course not," she lied. "I just came from looking at the wall of families behind me, and you guys came from the other wall," she said with a smile.

"Okay then. We are about to leave. Oh wait, have you seen Zoe and Lauren?" He stared at Gaby.

"No," Gaby answered nervously.

"Let's go!" Mr. Dean yelled at the class who was running out the door. They walked out the front door and Mr. Dean put his hand on Gaby's shoulder.

"Ahhhhh!" 



CANADA

BY AZALEA ROSARIO

The cold smell of the air was fresh, and irresistible NOT to breathe in. As I slammed the door with a loud “BOOM!” I can almost see the mixture of the air from outside and the hot sticky air from inside the car. As I walked into the hotel, I knew this vacation was going to be the only vacation I will NEVER forget. Just the thought of seeing Niagara Falls, going shopping, and eating at the “finest restaurants” excited me. I just knew... Canada was the most thrilling place to be, in my summer vacation.

The next morning I went shopping with my sister Christina. We bought clothes from BCBG, Roxy, AEO, and Urban Outfitters. After we were done with our own time we went to eat with my uncle. We had already planned the weekend ahead of us. While we were eating at the “Swiss Chalet” my uncle couldn’t stop talking about Niagara Falls. So we decided to go tomorrow.

It was a sunny Sunday. And we were waiting on line to go on the ship that would take us to view Niagara Falls closer. The waterfalls were so strong that the whole boat was slippery because of the water drops. I tried to keep my balance and not slip. We went back and forth and finally got off. I was so tired that we went to the hotel too take a nap. When I awoke from my nap, it was 5:30 p.m. So I decided to go to the pool with my sister. We got the whole pool to ourselves and I relaxed in the shallow side. When we left the pool we both were hungry, so we took a shower then left to grab something to eat.

For a few days we kept going to Niagara Falls just to see the nice, flowy view of the crazy water. When it was time to go home, I didn’t want to leave. I was going to miss Toronto, the malls, and the beautiful view of the waterfalls. When we got into the car to go back home, I fell fast asleep. I wanted to dream about staying in Toronto for at least one more week. 🇨🇦

LETTER TO THE SECRETARY

BY KYLE FARGARDO

June 2, 2008

Dear Secretary of Defense Gates,

The war in Iraq should be stopped. Hundreds of thousands of people are dying due to the war in Iraq. I don't get why there's a war. It's just for territory and to see what country is better. There are only two countries in war instead of the whole world. According to digg.com, "1,189,173 Iraqis have died since the start of the war."

According to usatoday.com, "3,390 Americans have died since the start of the war in Iraq." In total 1,192,563 people. Millions of dollars are being wasted on guns and bullets just to kill people and destroy other's houses. The money should be used for cures for diseases and education like Oprah Winfrey did.

Why do you think 9/11 happened? Al-Qaeda was unhappy with Americans getting involved with the Middle East by being nosey. If Americans weren't so nosey the war in Iraq would have never started. I know someone who doesn't have legs from 9/11. That was of the worst things that happened to a lot of people and ruined some people's lives. Over 2,979 American people died and all of them were innocent.

We learned not to fight in kindergarten so why are grownups fighting? Why are we fighting for land if we have enough land? All they're doing is making a bad example for young kids. Why do we get taught things in school if people don't listen to them? I think that if people had more knowledge they'd be able to know not to fight. Please take this into hand.

Sincerely,

Kyle Fargardo

Student, P.S. 111 



GRB

CLINTON PARK PHOTO ESSAY

MAXIMO JIMENEZ

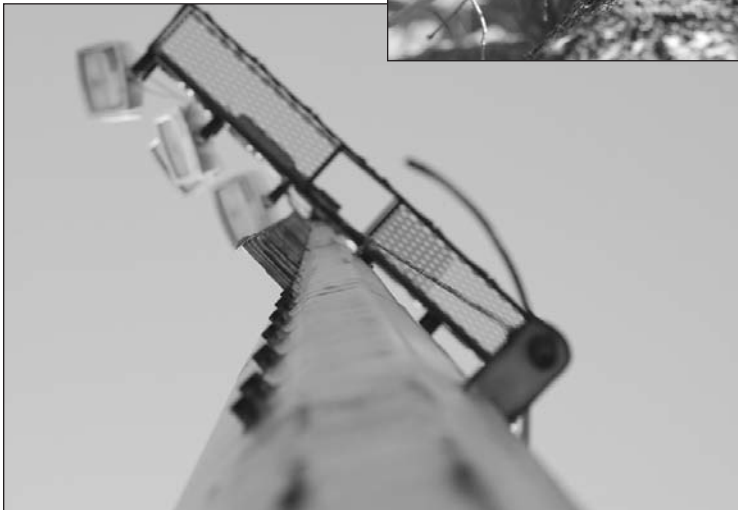


Maximo Jimenez, captured by his Smart Partner Barnett Cohen.

UP THE TREE



LIGHTS



WEED



BASEBALL 1

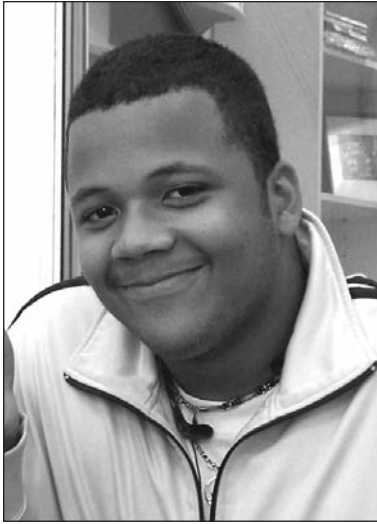


BASEBALL 2



BARNETT





GRB

COVENTRY AND THE PAST

BY CRISTOPHER RAMIREZ

She ran up the stairs crying, blasted her way into her room. "You have to go, my love, Father is coming."

He furiously answered, "I don't care, I'll stay with you and nothing will stop me."

The king busted through the door. "Get away from her, I order you."

"I will not leave her side."

"Then prepare to die." He took a shiny bladed dagger and swung it.

"Father, no!" She jumped in front of her love. The world seemed to stop.

"Darling, no!"

Her knees gave out as blood gushed out of her mouth like a water faucet.

* * * * *

The Kingdom of Ofrez, ruled by King Falulu, is a beautiful secluded island near Cuba. Its population is comprised of African and Spanish descendants. King Falulu has a gorgeous daughter, the well loved Princess Andreas. When people are in her presence they become ecstatic.

"Granny Lurse, how do you know about this Kingdom?" asked Calvin, my sagacious grandson.

"Darling, I once lived there, long, long ago. You see, Princess Andreas had a beautiful mother named Queen Lana who died an unexpected terrible death. After her death we all saw the

change in our land. King Falulu became a very austere ruler. Overnight our daily expenses doubled. Princess Andreas did her best to bring some conscience to her beloved father, but soon became very depressed and withdrew from the entire kingdom. For days her father did his best to make her happy with gifts and goodies.

* * * * *

"Darling, you need to come out your room," King Falulu pleaded outside her bedroom.

"Father! I will not!" Princess Andreas answered furiously.

"Darling, I'll have one of my villagers entertain you! Yes, you name it."

"Father, I want to see magic from a very young wizard."

For days King Falulu looked for a young wizard with impressive magic. He came to a small village, where his guard found a young and handsome wizard named Tiki.

"I got him, Sweetheart; your wizard is here. I'm sorry I've been so harsh."

"Father, it's alright, things have been convoluted since Mother died."

* * * * *

"It's getting dark, let's finish the story tomorrow in the garden."

"Grandma no, I want to know more! How did you know Princess Andreas?"

"I was Princess Andreas' personal maid. We were extremely close. Sometimes we would sit on her wonderful white bed. She would tell me her concerns and I would tell her mine."

* * * * *

One cold and rainy night, Princess Andreas had Tiki over, entertaining her with his magic. I had an uncomfortable feeling about Tiki. I felt that he had an eye on the Princess. After the show the Princess and I had a talk, she shouted "Oh Lurse I don't know what to do. It's horrible!"

"Now what is it?" I asked her. She blushed and the smirk on her face enlarged as she looked in my eyes.

"Now come on, dear, what is it?"

"I have a crush on this wondrous man!"

"I guess your father told you about Prince Jane," I told her. Something was astonishingly wrong. Mentioning the name of Prince Jane did indeed snatch her smirk off her face.

"Jane, who on earth is he? And why hasn't my father told me that he was arranging marriage for me? He will know that my love is not for anyone but Tiki," she furiously replied.

* * * * *

"Grandma Lurse, why was King Falulu doing this to Princess Andreas?" Kelvin asked and I replied to him, "King Falulu liked messing with fire, and those who do eventually get burned. He only thought of himself. After Queen Lana died, his vindictive

heart grew darker and emptier. He cared for no one in his kingdom. That night, I had told her I could sense evil coming amongst the castle. I did not know what it would be."

* * * * *

"Oh lord, what have I've done? This man is going to slice my throat. Jesus, send me a sign."

As I prayed, I heard shouting coming from down-

stairs. "Who ever told you I needed a husband, Father?"

"Sweetheart, it is for the best of our kingdom."

"Our kingdom, Father? Or is it yours, you make the decisions around here. I guess I was wrong, Father. I guess you've been tricking me. Now I understand why Mother told me to take care of this kingdom when she



passed away."

"Don't you dare mention her name in that way! Lord rests her soul. I've always done the best for you and this kingdom and only that. This would be what your mother Lana would have always wanted."

"You disgust me, Father! You would dare to put her innocent name in your dirty work. I will not marry Jane; my love will always be with Tiki."

"Tiki is a dirty, poor bastard that has no trench to rest his languorous body

in. Don't you dare bring the hopes of this family down, young lady."

For days Princess Andreas kept herself locked away in her room. But the King did not know that the Princess was seeing Tiki behind his back. One day the King ordered for her door to be torn down, and realized what Princess Andreas was up to. The King sent his guard to find her and bring her back. Later that night, the King's guard forced her back to the castle.

* * * * *

"When will this nightmare end? Oh, twinkle star, what have I've done to get punished in this way?" Princess Andreas talked to the stars from her balcony. Her father then came up to her room with a fuming face. "I command you to stop seeing Tiki or I will have him killed."

"Father, you wouldn't! I will never forgive and abhor you."

"It's not an option, it's a command and this conversation will not go any further! If you really like him, for his sake marry Jane. You pick."

The king didn't know that Tiki was shrouded in the room, cowered while listening to this conversation. As the king walked down the stairs, Princess Andreas ran down and yelled "I hope you rot to death, you're no father to me." She blasted her way into her room. The king stormed after her. That night ended terribly. Her knees gave out as blood came out of her mouth like a water faucet.

"What have you done King Falulu, look where your hate has taken you! You evil dirt!" Tiki raised his wand and performed the killing curse.

"Avada Kedavra!"

He looked at his dead body and said with an evil look, "I do have a trench to lay my body in." Tiki went crazy and started flailing his arms. Love is madness.

"Jesus! She done nothing, why would you punish thou? My Love, there is no point of living, I'm coming with you."

He took the bloody dagger from her body, and with her clammy cold hands he stabbed himself. It was a tragic night for our Kingdom.

* * * * *

"So who ruled the kingdom, Grandma?" My grandson asked me.

"After that night there was no more Ofrez. The citizens didn't believe that there was hope."

"Was there hope, Granny?"

"Of course, Darling, there is always hope in life."

"So who brought hope to Ofrez after that night, Grandma?"

"Well, after that night it was no longer called Ofrez, the new queen wanted the horrible past forgotten so she named it Coventry."

"Grandma, who is the queen of Coventry?"

Her name is Queen Lurse Elizabeth III. 

BEEWARE!!

BY CHAMEL RODNEY

One day a happy bee named Stinger decided to travel to Baltimore in his little motorbike. He packed his bags and he was off. He passed the city, and malls, even truck stops. As he entered Baltimore he saw wasps! They chased Stinger around, and tried to sting him. Stinger stopped and yelled, "I came for a vacation!"

"Sorry, we thought you were from the army!" they yelled back.

It was too late. Stinger was off. So he went right back to New York City! 🐝



GRB



"Stinger on His Hog" by Chamel Rodney.



WHAT WOULD I BE?

HASHEM AHMED

I wonder would I be a basketball player?

I wonder would I be a actor?

I wonder would I be a homeless person?

I wonder if I could have a good career?

I wonder if I am going to drop out of school?

I wonder if I will go to college?

I wonder if my teacher did something for me in life?

I wonder. 🐝

GRB

JOHNNY

BY ALVIN GARCIA



GRB

"Johnny please say something," Johnny's mom said.

"You listen to your mother," Johnny's new stepfather said.

"What, Mom, I thought you said don't talk to strangers," Johnny replied.

"That's it you little rat. We will see you after our honeymoon next year," said Johnny's mom.

"There they go, wasting their lives with each other," Johnny thought.

"So, you must be the new kid. I'm Headmaster Williams, the Dean of the school."

Johnny didn't know if he was a man or a girl... It was kind of scary.

"Welcome to Academy of the Academies III Academy.... Come with me to the office," the Dean said. When Johnny walked to the office he saw nerds, jocks, preppies, and greasers. It was creepy. While he walked around the school there was a nerd inside the lockers, telling him, "Get me out of the locker!" Once he told him that, Johnny knew this was his type of school. For the first time, he had to thank Mom for putting him here.

When Johnny walked to the Dean's office he saw a lot of pictures of cheerleaders, so he saw that she's a girl. Or maybe he/she is a pervert that loves to see them do the pyramid. He/she said that Johnny can't do violence truancy, vandalism, and no violating curfew.


"That stinks. Aw well at least I break all the rules," Johnny thought.

When Johnny was walking he saw a nerd. He said, "Hey you must be the new kid. Hi, my name is Algea."

"Hey, isn't that a plant's name?" Johnny replied.

"Yes it is," Algea said, "I need your help. The jocks have a game today and they all gang up on me and beat me up. Can you take the lights and put them in the coordinates of the scoreboard like this?"

"I guess since I got nothin' to do, I can do it," Johnny said. In his head he said, "The jocks think they're all that just because they can play a sport."

Johnny can't believe he's doing bad things to do good things. Johnny had to put on the mascot uniform and run up to the football field. Unfortunately he had to dance in front of the cheerleaders and then he put the coordinates in the screen machine and it said: JOCKS ARE IDIOTS. Mission complete. 



MY TRIP TO SWEDEN

BY KEVIN KULEGO

A few years ago, I went to Sweden
Over Christmas
To meet my mom
And my family.
It was fun to go back

Home

To the cold again.
At the airport
In Copenhagen, Denmark, my mom and grandmother were there to
meet me.
After I got my suitcase, we took the train over the bridge to Sweden.
When we finally got home I wanted something to

eat.

I didn't eat so much
When we were on the airplane.
And it takes
Eight

Hours

To get from
New York to Sweden.
I would go outside to hang out with all of my
friends
That I hadn't seen in two years.
We went to
Folkets Park
Which is like Six Flags in America. 🇺🇸

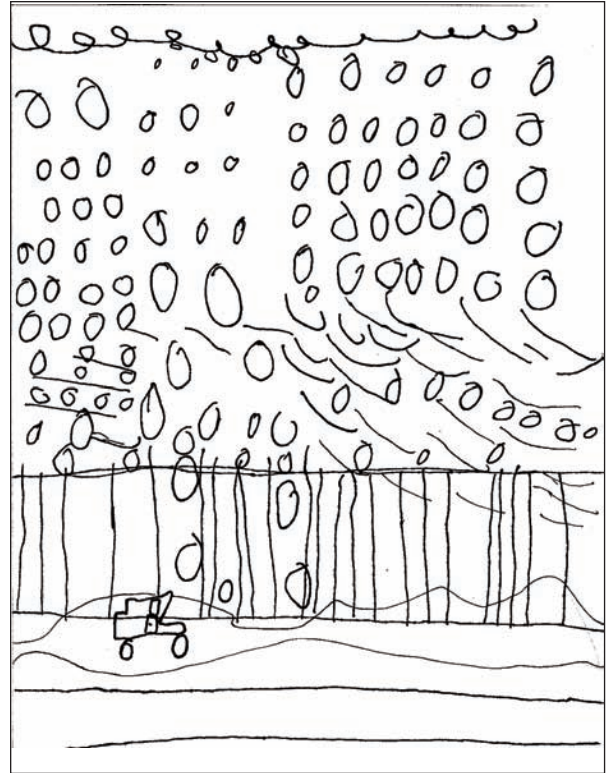


GRB



ARTWORK BY LUISA SANTIAGO

GRB




ARTWORK BY MICHAEL BANNISTER

WINTER

BY MICHAEL BANNISTER

Winter winter so cold and so icy.
Winter Winter so snowy and cold.

You can

see your breath in the wind. I can smell
the fresh winter air. Kids think snow is fun but
parents do not. Winter winter is so
fun and snow and snow is so fun. Hitting my cousin with
snowballs is fun. One of the best things about winter is Christmas.
Christmas Christmas is so fun the gifts you get are exciting
and fun. You don't know what you will get till you open your
present. I feel so curious till I open it one by one.
Winter winter is so fun laughing singing
is so fun. I go inside to get hot cocoa to keep me
warm I find out there's no more I go outside in the
windy air I fall in the cold snow I get wet then my leg start to shiver
I'm cold so cold so sad. I get out
of it. I go to the store I get the cocoa then go
home and drink it then fall into a dip of a big
long dark sleep. 

WHAT ABOUT TWOEY!!!!!!


BY ZOE NORRIS

Why did they leave Twoey? That's the question. I know for a fact that Twoey would never leave anybody behind. Just look at her. She's so sad. Now you wouldn't want to be left behind. Now turn back around and go get Twoey. This is why Twoey was behind. Here's the story.

Once there was a girl named Twoey who was so tired she could barely stand up. So Twoey decided to take a nap. Now before we get any further in the story you should know that Fivey and Twoey are supposed to go on a trip with their friends and some family. (Back to the story). When Twoey got up she went to the kitchen, got something to drink, and then discovered no one was there. Fivey left her behind. She cried and wepted for a little while, then she stopped, got up and said, "I don't need them I will go on my own trip."

She's thinking about going camping. She went camping at Montauk Rain Forest. There were snakes and pecking birds, bears and so many other scary crea-

tures. So she decided to walk on the beach for a little while and even there were scary animals. Jumping fish, creepy, hooo. She feels so sad and lonely till this peculiar pink bird landed on her shoulders.

Sooner or later they became close friends, so close that Twoey forgot about Fivey. When it was time for Twoey to come home she brung the pink bird with her. When Twoey and the pink bird got to Twoey's house there was a surprise party for Twoey from Fivey and his friends. Twoey told Fivey everything. Fivey understood and the pink bird, Twoey, and Fivey became friends. 



REG FLOWERS



ARTWORK BY ZOE NORRIS AND NATHAN WRIGHT



BREAK IT UP AND COMPOSE YOURSELF!

BY MEGAN CRAMER, PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Our Break-it-Up programs create opportunities for arts-intensive workshops during kids' school breaks. 6 kids spent most of their Spring Break with us for the COMPOSE YOURSELF! Songwriting Workshop. Here's how it all went down:

Monday morning, these 6 kids sat down with musical composers **Andrew Sherman** and **Kim Sherman** to learn about Songwriting. After a quick study of the basics, they interviewed their adult singers, who shared with them an important object of their own. These objects ranged from an Eagles jersey and a grandfather's clock, to a piece of coral. By Tuesday afternoon (after a stunning morning recital by singer/songwriter Tracy Bonham), the kids had written lyrics to an original song. Wednesday morning they met with their musical collaborators, who worked with them to create music around the lyrics. By Wednesday afternoon, 6 original songs were completed. Thursday we added the singers back into the mix to prepare for a Friday afternoon performance of the 6 original songs.



Andrew Sherman



Kim Sherman. Incidentally, the Shermans are NOT related.

So to recap: the show featured kid-written lyrics, kid/adult musical collaborations, and adult singers. And just to make it even more interesting, the kids wrote and delivered introductions to their songs that revealed the inspirations for their creations.

On the following pages, you will get to see they lyrics, the music, the introductions, and some pictures of all the artists. With all the impressive creations, we hope you can COMPOSE YOURSELF! 🎵

All photos in this special song section are by George R. Babiak.

"HELLO AND GOODBYE"
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY MARI ULLOA
ARRANGED BY LENA MOY BORGEN
PERFORMED BY ROBIN SKYE

"My name is Mari. This song is about how my friends always call me and just love talking on the phone for hours. Sometimes I would enjoy talking and other times I would be really annoyed. I took all my emotions about talking on the phone with my friends and wrote about it as a song. This is Robin Skye, a great singer."

I hear your voice everywhere I go
 I need to get it out of my head
 Please just say goodbye not hello please
 Not anymore
 I want to call I want to say hello
 But when I hear your voice I'll want
 To say goodbye, just watch the clock and
 Look at the time!
 I go and you come I want to go
 I want to stay, I want to talk I
 Want to walk

I say Hello I say goodbye
 Get out of my head get out of my way
 I got the rest of the day and I don't want to
 spend talking with you!

I'll say hello and I'll say goodbye
 just let me fly away.
 By the time you say goodbye it will
 Certainly be May

I say Hello I say goodbye
 Get out of my head get out of my way
 I got the rest of the day and I don't want to
 spend talking with you!

I don't need to know 'cause you tell me
 The same thing everyday. When I wake I wish
 It could be fake.

You talk about problems I don't care
 Why should you care, it's not about you.

I hear it everyday I want to say
 Hello and I want to say goodbye
 Please listen to me

I say Hello I say goodbye
 Get out of my head get out of my way
 I got the rest of the day and I don't want to
 spend talking with you!

Hello and goodbye
 Hello and goodbye
 Hello and goodbye



Robin Skye performs "Hello and Goodbye."



Mari and Lena hammer out the melody.

"This is Drew and he's gonna sing a song about his girlfriend. Although I did change his point of view of his girl that you might find amusing."

"SHE STINKS"
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY JASON GIL
ARRANGED BY DOUG NERVIK
PERFORMED BY DREW CORTESE



She stinks

She's beautiful
 Head to toe
 But she stinks
 Her eyes are
 A beautiful hazel
 But she stinks
 Like a rotten basil
 She stinks

I love her
 Especially when she winks
 But she stinks, but she stinks

You need to take a shower
 With extra powder
 'Cause you stink, 'cause you stink

Her hair is brunette
 But when I smell it I fret
 Because of the sweat

I love her
 Especially when she winks
 But she stinks, but she stinks

You have beautiful lips
 But when words come out
 I smell armpits

I love her
 Especially when she winks
 But she stinks, but she stinks



Doug Nervik and Jason Gil figure out the bridge.

Drew Cortese, ever the good sport, sings of his girlfriend's aroma.



"THE SUPERBOWL"
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY CJ MUINTES
ARRANGED BY ANDREW SHERMAN
PERFORMED BY TIM CAIN

"This is a song that I wrote. It's about the Superbowl. I wrote this song because this is the day the Giants won the Superbowl. And I wrote this song because my singer is an Eagles fan, and I am a Giants fan."

One's was a day that I was scared
 It was on a Sunday cold and gray
 Family and friends were there
 Can't believe everyone was there

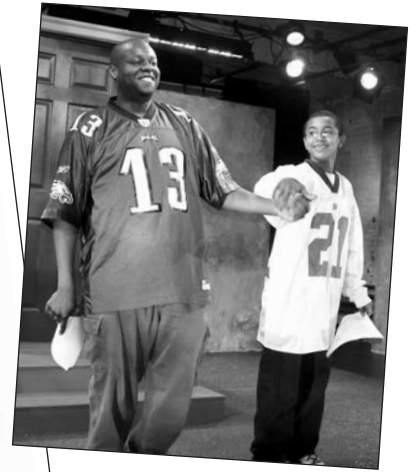
That day when the Giants was going
 for the Superbowl
 That day was when the Giants was
 going for the Superbowl

Fourteen people in a room
 Eating nachos guacamole and cheese
 So many people there
 Some on the floor sitting on their knees

That day when the Giants was going for
 the Superbowl
 That day was when the Giants was going
 for the Superbowl

When they were winning I was happy
 When they were losing I was sad
 We were all having a good time
 My cousins myself and my mom and dad
 When they scored the winning touchdown I
 was in pain
 I got elbowed in the face
 But that day I loved

That day when the Giants was going for the Superbowl
 That day was when the Giants was going for the
 Superbowl. 🎵



Tim and C.J. take a bow after "The Superbowl."



Andrew Sherman helps C.J. with his song.



"My name is Kimberly. Hi and Welcome. I got inspired by my partner's painting of a monkey man and I started to think about how the song could go. The story of the song is that the monkey man has come to town and has taken my partner Dave's wife, named Maryanne. And in this song Dave talks about the monkey man, how rude and mean he is. So I talked to Dave and he told me he got the painting from E-Bay for 3 whole bucks and I was like "Wow!" So the song is also because my baby brother Ethan loves monkeys and bananas. Dave says that all he does is sing Broadway songs and in my song I said I would put a little Hip Hop and Broadway together. Writing this song wasn't easy but I got it and I really like the rhythm. So O, O, ah, ah enjoy!"

"O, O, AH, AH, BANANA"
MUSIC & LYRICS BY KIMBERLY ZENTENO
ARRANGED BY PATRICK BARNES
PERFORMED BY DAVID COSTABILE

Dave, spoken: Oh Oh

Oh that stupid monkey man.
 Thinks that he is the best

Dave, spoken: Why crazy unthinkable

Now let me tell you why!

To my family
 They told me I am super man

All he ever does and say is
 O, O, ah, ah Banana

Now let me tell you something
 'bout that st-st-stupid Monkey Man
 No hush and wait and see if he's around
 Be-cause that

Naked, retarded, st-st-stupid Monkey Man is really really really just
 Blah.

He swing from vine to vine
 Asking for some beetle juice
 And eye balling my wife! *Spoken: Pshaw!*

(Train Whistle)

Monkey Man, spoken: O, O, Train here.

(Slide whistle sound of her pants dropping.)

Maryanne, spoken: Uh, oh! I dropped my trousers!

(Monkey Man makes a wolf whistle)

(Train Whistle)

Monkey Man, spoken: All Aboard!

Dave, spoken: Maryanne, buckle up!

Did I mentioned that he says

O, O, O, ah, ah Banana
 O, O, O, ah, ah Banana
 O, O, O, ah, ah Banana
 O, O, O, O, ah, ah, ah, ah

Now I hate this

Stupid Monkey Man
 St-st-Stupid Monkey Man
 Stupid Monkey Man
 St-st-stupid Monkey Man

Take my wife "The nerve"

O, O, O, ah, ah Banana
 O, O, O, ah, ah Banana
 O, O, O, ah, ah Banana
 O, O, O, O, ah, ah, ah, ah

Now I hate this
 Stupid Monkey Man

O, O, AH, AH, BANANA

(Slide whistle) 🗣️



Above: David Costabile sings of his loathing of the Monkey Man.

Below: Patrick Barnes, Megan Cramer, and Doug Nervik back David up.



O O Ah Ah Banana
 Kimberly Zentano

Over

Large Oh, Oh, Oh, that stu-pid mon-key man. Thinks that he is

Alto

He... hee! Why stu-ty? Un-think-a-ble! Now let me tell you why.

Alto

To my fam-ly They told me that I am an - per - man. All for a - rap

does and say to "Oo Oo Ah Ah Ba-na-na!" Now let me tell you something "best that

C2008

O O Ah Ah Banana

Stoner

at-it-stu-pid mon-key man. Now hah and wait and see if he's a real... Because that

Stoner

stupid, stu-pid, at-it-stu-pid mon-key man is real-ly real-ly real-ly just that! He

asking them what to visit. Ask-ing for some help - to jave and eye-bull-ing my

Train whistle: "Oo! Oo! Train's here!" Slide whistle: "Oo! I dropped my trousers!" Blip whistle: Train whistle: "All aboard!"

DAVE: "Maryanne! Buckle up!"

Kimberly introduces her song and the \$3.00 painting that inspired it.



O O Ah Ah Banana

Bellocate

Did I men-tion that he stu-ty

Funky Monkey

Oo oo oo Ah Ah Ba-na-na

Oo oo oo Ah Ah Ba-na-na Oo oo oo Ah Ah Ba-na-na Oo oo oo Ah Ah

Ah Ah! Now I hate that stu-pid mon-key man. He-it - stu-pid mon-key man!

Take my wife! The same! Oo oo oo Ah Ah

O O Ah Ah Banana

Ba-na-na! Oo oo oo Ah Ah Ba-na-na! Oo oo oo Ah Ah Ba-na-na!

Oo oo oo Ah Ah Ah! Ah! Now I hate that stu-pid mon-key

Man??

Oo oo oo Ah Ah Ba-na-na?

"I wrote this song because I like my family and I hope nothing bad happens to them. I really care about them, they are fun to hang around with. You know what I mean, yo?! It was easy because I know how to write poems from school. Putting music into it was really hard for me. Especially with a guitar because it was my first time writing a song."

**"A MILLION RAINDROPS"
MUSIC & LYRICS BY MAXIMO JIMENEZ
ARRANGED BY SEAN KENEALY
PERFORMED BY KATIE FLAHIVE**

A million raindrops upon your face
Tears disappear without a trace
A million raindrops upon your face
Tears disappear without a trace

I don't know what to say
She loved life
And enjoyed it every day
She works hard and doesn't even get paid

You must move on tomorrow is another day (4x)

A million raindrops upon your face
Tears disappear without a trace
A million raindrops upon your face
Tears disappear without a trace

I don't know what to say
She was great,
A person you appreciate
She never screamed she never yelled

You must move on tomorrow is another day (4x)

A million raindrops upon your face
Tears disappear without a trace
A million raindrops upon your face
Tears disappear without a trace



"A MILLION RAINDROPS: THE CHORDS"

F Am Dm
A million raindrops over your face
F Am Dm
Tears disappear without a trace
F Am Dm
A million raindrops over your face
F Am Dm
Tears disappear without a trace
G Bm
I don't know what to say
A
She loved life
G Bm A
And enjoyed it every day
G Bm A
She works hard and doesn't even get paid
G Bm
A
You must move on tomorrow is another day
G Bm
A
You must move on tomorrow is another day
G Bm
A
You must move on tomorrow is another day
G Bm
A
You must move on tomorrow is another day
F Am Dm
A million raindrops over your face
F Am Dm
Tears disappear without a trace
F Am Dm
A million raindrops over your face
F Am Dm
Tears disappear without a trace
G Bm
I don't know what to say
A
She was great,
G Bm A
A person you appreciate
G Bm A
She never screamed she never yelled
G Bm
A
You must move on tomorrow is another day
G Bm
A
You must move on tomorrow is another day
G Bm
A
You must move on tomorrow is another day
G Bm
A
You must move on tomorrow is another day
F Am Dm
A million raindrops over your face
F Am Dm
Tears disappear without a trace
F Am Dm
A million raindrops over your face
F Am Dm
Tears disappear without a trace



*Top: Maximo introduces his song.
Center: Katie delivers a heartfelt rendition.
Left: Maximo and Sean figure out the chord progression.*

"Hi my name is Lily and welcome. I was inspired to write my song for many reasons. First of all I found out that my singer, Julia, recently went through some hardships, but got through them because she didn't give up. Then I realized that I could relate to that a lot. So I decided to give my song the theme of not giving up somehow. Finding the music to this was a bit difficult but I just kept playing with my ideas for it and eventually the music just hit me. Then after working with Greg, we added even more beat and rhythm and music to it and it sounded even better. I hope you enjoy."

"DON'T GIVE UP"
MUSIC AND LYRICS BY LILY CAPSTICK
ARRANGED BY GREG TANNEN, PERFORMED BY JULIA MURNEY

When there are tears in your eyes
 When a smile just can't be found
 Don't you dare give up
 Turn your negative thoughts around

Escape to the places
 Where love has traveled
 Dream of those days
 The days you were not scolded

Don't give up
 Don't stop and cry
 No no
 Don't sit down
 And wish to die
 No no
 Think of the past
 The happy days
 Think of the past
 All the happy ways you felt

If a person says they don't like you
 If they say something's wrong
 That you're mean or rude
 Or your hair's too long

Don't give up
 Don't stop and cry
 No no

Don't sit down
 And wish to die
 No no
 Think of the past
 The happy days
 Think of the past
 The happy ways you felt

Look look
 Look around
 And do you see
 Those who succeed
 Do you see them
 Give up?
 On anything?
 Give up?
 On their dreams!
 Nooo so

Don't give up
 Don't stop and cry
 No no
 Don't sit down
 And wish to die
 No no
 Think of the past
 The happy days
 Think of the past
 The happy ways you felt
 Doo-o-on'tttt give uuuppp!



Julia Murney (L) sings the song that Lily wrote with Greg Tannen's help (R).



THE RUNAWAY

A SONG-STORY BY RENE PAUL SANTIAGO

I'm always grounded in my room because I always say to Mom "I want to run away!!"

So then I went to bed because I was tired of screaming "I want to run away."

So then I went to bed with my cut-up t-shirt saying Old Navy.

So then I woke in London streets.

"Where am I?" I said to myself.

People driving on the left side of the streets with their cars.

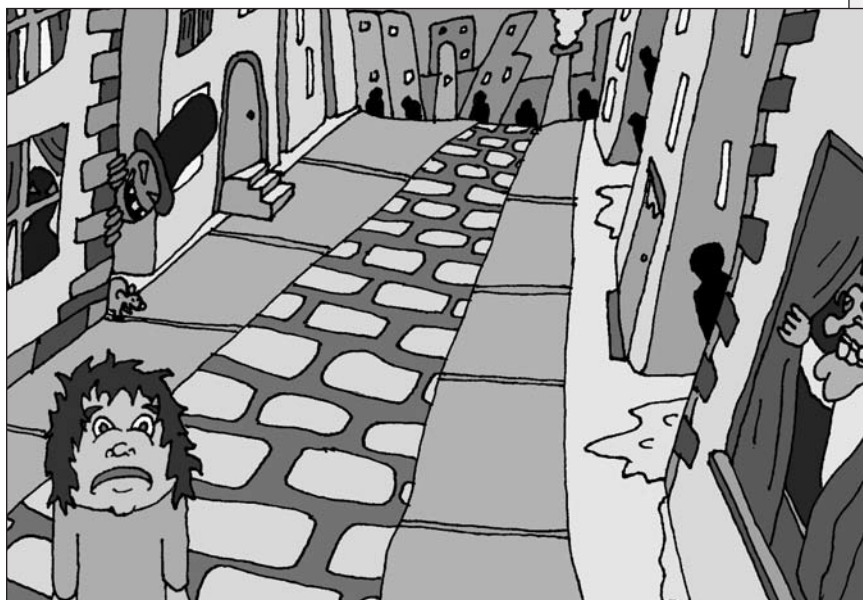
Lots of people on the sidewalk.

"Hi, mate." People talking other accents.

"Ah! I want to go home!!"

I woke up on my bed.

"It... It was all a dream! Ya! I'm back home!!!" 🇺🇸



ARTWORK BY JOSH MOODY

ON THE BACK COVER:

Rocket Pilot: RenePaul Santiago

Balloonist: Zoe Norris

Tractor Driver: Michael Bannister

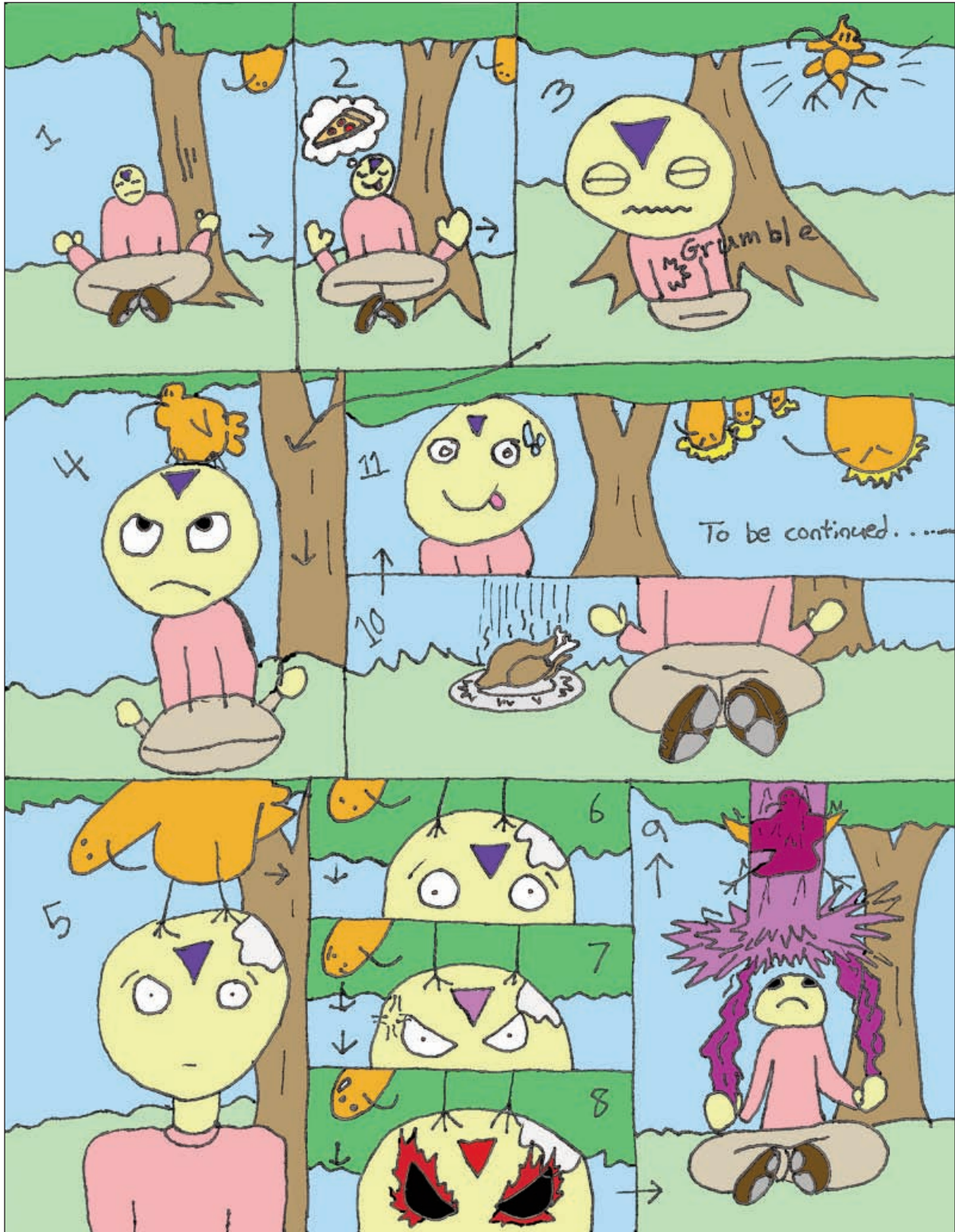
Hang Glider: Maximo Jimenez

Hiker: Doris Alcantara

Penny-Farthing Rider: Chamel Rodney

Design and drawings by Josh Moody. Layout and Photography by George Babiak.

COMIC PAGE BY GEORSH ZAPOODY





FIVEY

THE LITERARY MAGAZINE OF
THE 52ND STREET PROJECT
500 WEST 52ND ST.
NEW YORK, NY 10019
WWW.52PROJECT.ORG
(212) 333-5252