



# RABBIT CHASE

ELIZABETH LAPENSÉE    KC OSTER  
ANISHINAABEMOWIN TRANSLATION BY AARIN DOKUM

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© 2022 KC Oster (illustrations)  
© 2022 Aarin Dokum (Anishinaabemowin translation)

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*Rabbit Chase* was written with gratitude to Shannon Martin for her part in restoring gatherings at the Sanilac Petroglyphs. For my grandparents, who have seen the damage done to the petroglyphs and hold onto memories of when they felt comfort walking there together. For my mama, who filled me up with love. For my children, who carry on hope in their very being, expressing themselves as they are.

—E. L.

All of the author's earnings are donated to the Sanilac Petroglyphs for their protection and recognition.

To my friends and family who believed in me and my passions. And to the youth reading this today; know that I believe in you too.

—K.C. O.

# TRANSLATIONS

**aambe** – come on, come here

**Aaniish go naa aapji?! – Jeez! / What in the world?! / What on earth?!**

**baashknjibgwaan** – trillium

**Baamaapii ka waamin** – See you later

**Boozhoo** – Greetings!

**deminan** – strawberries

**ehn** – yes

**Jiibayaabooz (Jee-bye-ah-bows)** – one of the Trickster brothers. He guides those who have passed on home along the Path of Spirits, the Milky Way.

**makade-aaboo** – coffee (black water)

**miigwech** – thanks, thank you

**miinan** – blueberries

**minwaa** – and/also

**mnoomin** – wild rice

**mshkwaabik** – copper (red metal)

**Nanaboozhoo (Na-na-bow-zhoo)** – the best known of the Trickster brothers. He often gets into trouble of his own making.

**Nbagminaandam** – I am becoming hungry.

**Ngiisaadendam** – I am sorry. / I feel regret. / I am sad.

**niikaane** – my older brother

**Paayehnsag** – Little People, water spirits, rock spirits

**shtaahaa** – wow!

**zgime'ig** – mosquitoes

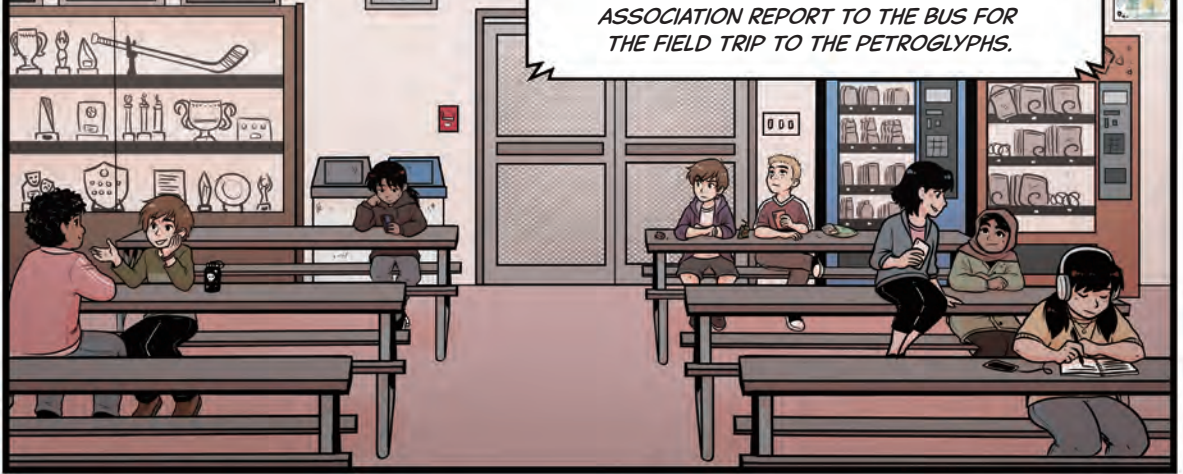
**zhaagnaashag** – white people

**ziiwaagmide** – maple syrup

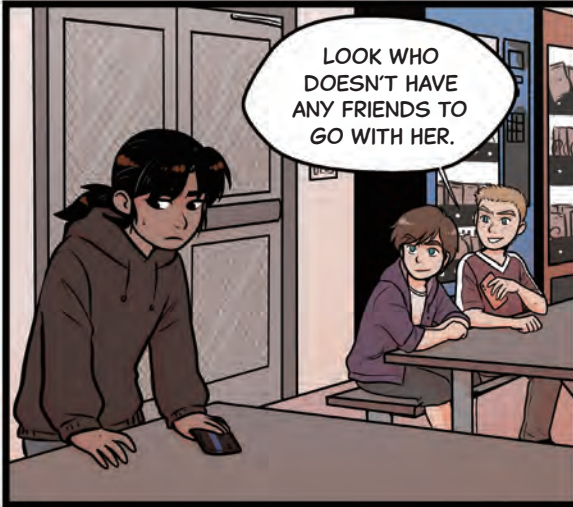
**zinaakobiiganan** – petroglyphs

# CHAPTER I THE FIELD TRIP

ALL STAFF, STUDENTS, AND TEACHERS  
OF THE INDIGENOUS STUDENTS  
ASSOCIATION REPORT TO THE BUS FOR  
THE FIELD TRIP TO THE PETROGLYPHS.

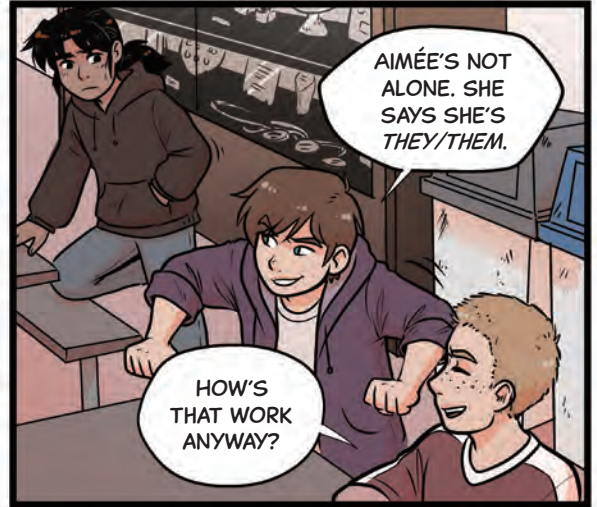


LOOK WHO  
DOESN'T HAVE  
ANY FRIENDS TO  
GO WITH HER.



AIMÉE'S NOT  
ALONE. SHE  
SAYS SHE'S  
THEY/THEM.

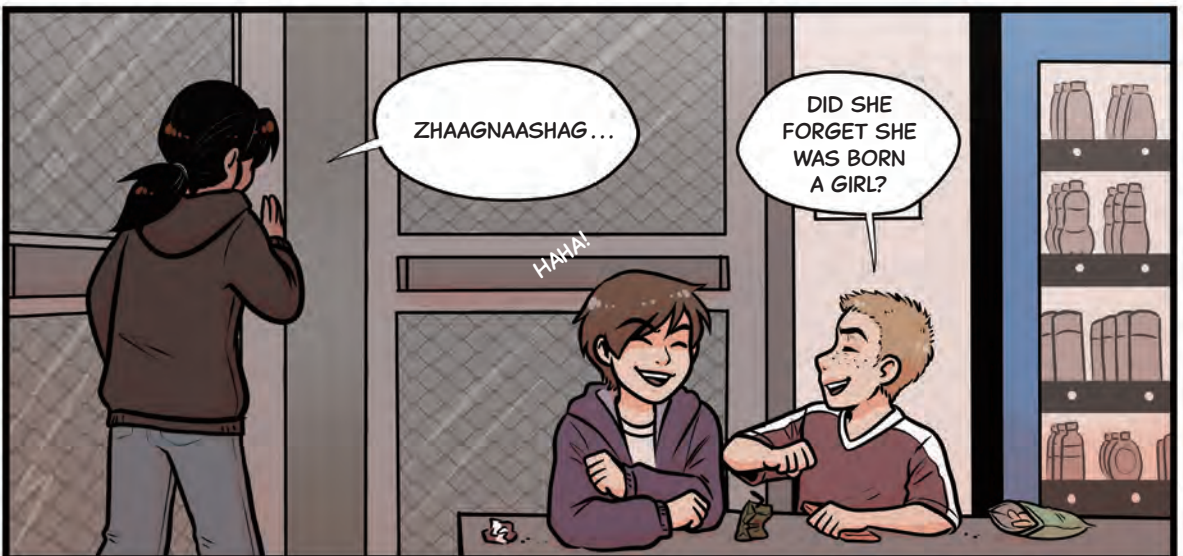
HOW'S  
THAT WORK  
ANYWAY?

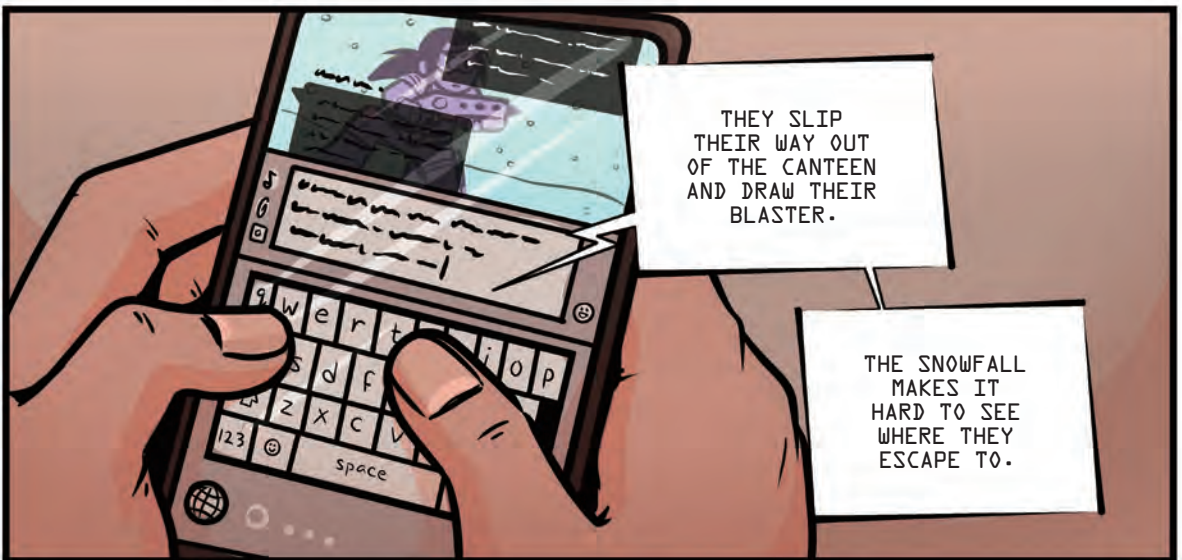
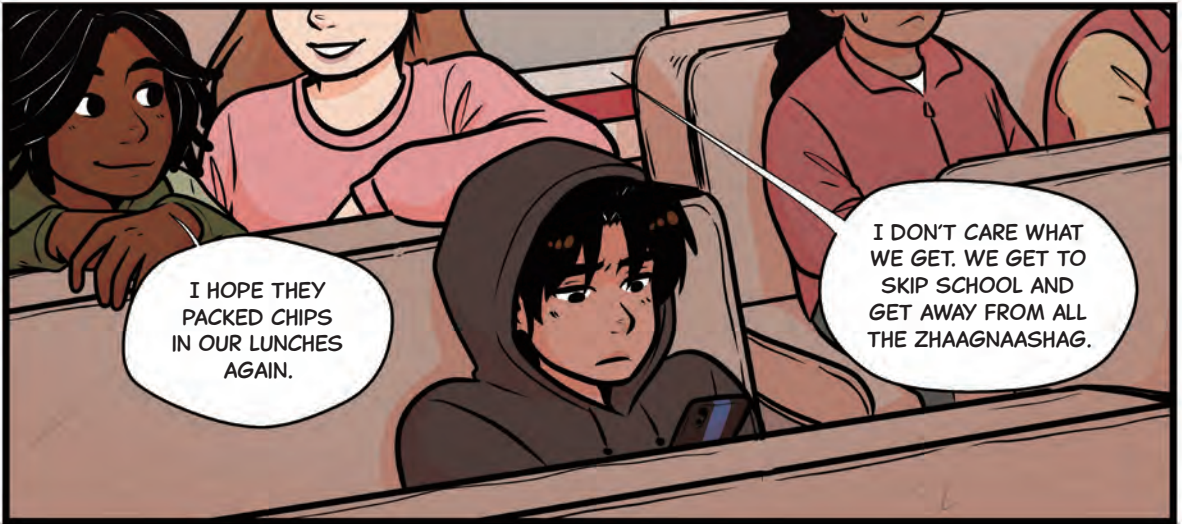
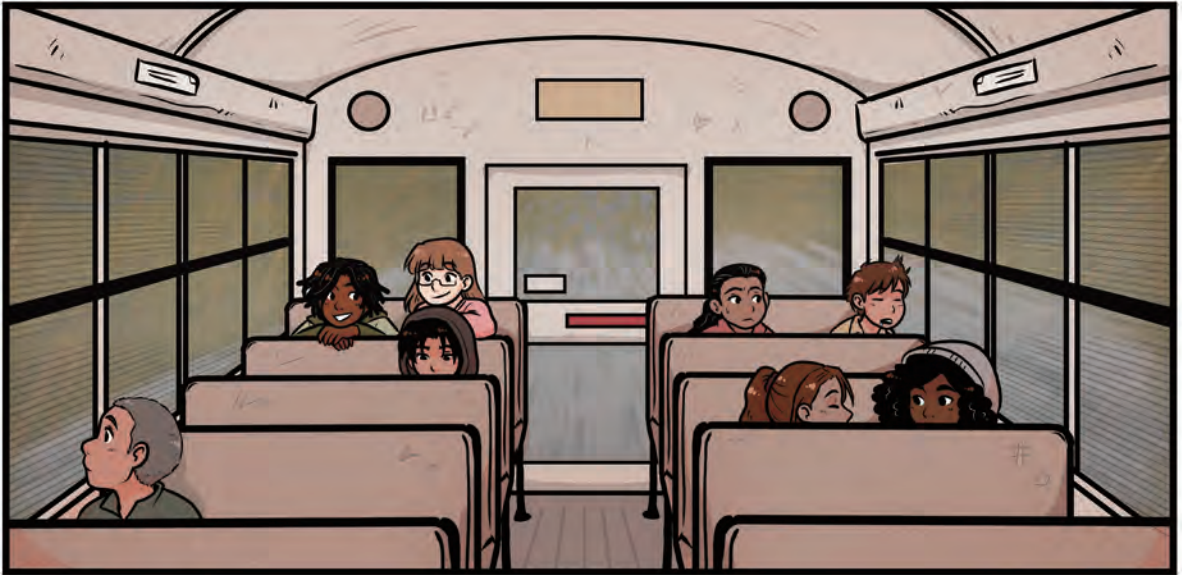


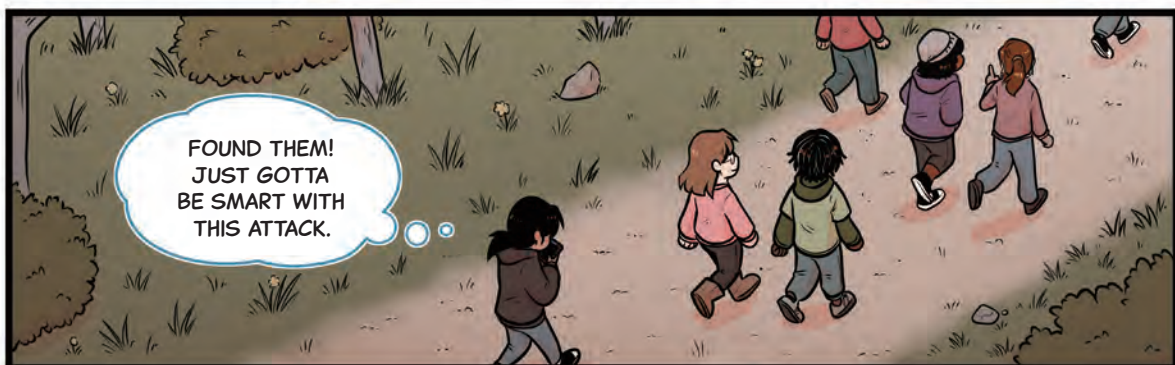
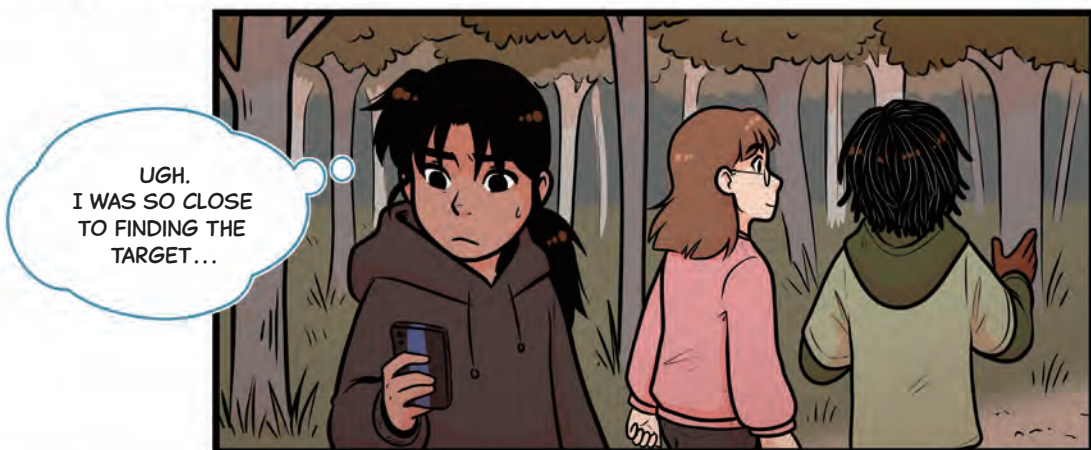
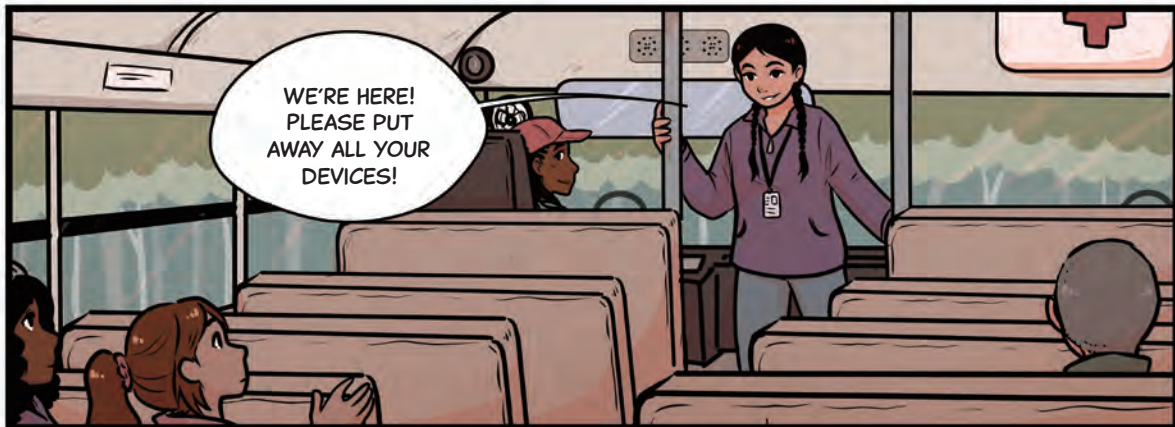
ZHAAGNAASHAG...

DID SHE  
FORGET SHE  
WAS BORN  
A GIRL?

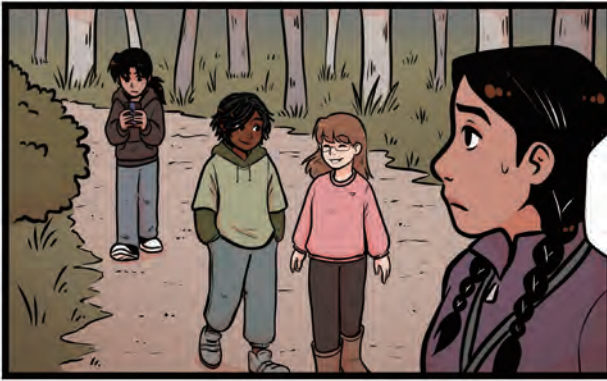
HAHA!











AAMBE!  
COME ON,  
AIMÉE!

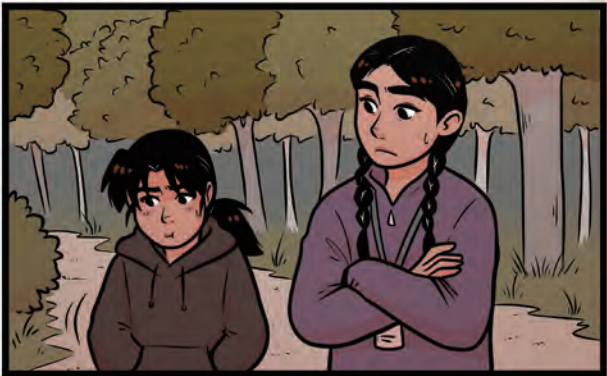
PUT  
YOUR  
PHONE  
AWAY!



JUST  
A  
SEC!


YOU'LL ALWAYS  
HAVE YOUR PHONE.  
YOU WON'T ALWAYS  
BE YOUNG ENOUGH FOR  
THIS CEREMONY.

BUT I WON'T  
EVER BE ON THIS  
MISSION AGAIN!



BOOZHOO.





WE KNOW PAAYEHNSAG—  
WHICH ARE ALSO CALLED WATER  
SPIRITS, ROCK SPIRITS, OR LITTLE  
PEOPLE—LIKE OFFERINGS OF  
COPPER AND MNOOMIN BY  
ZINAAKOBIIGANAN.



THAT COPPER IS SO JAGGED. WHAT CAN THEY USE THAT FOR?

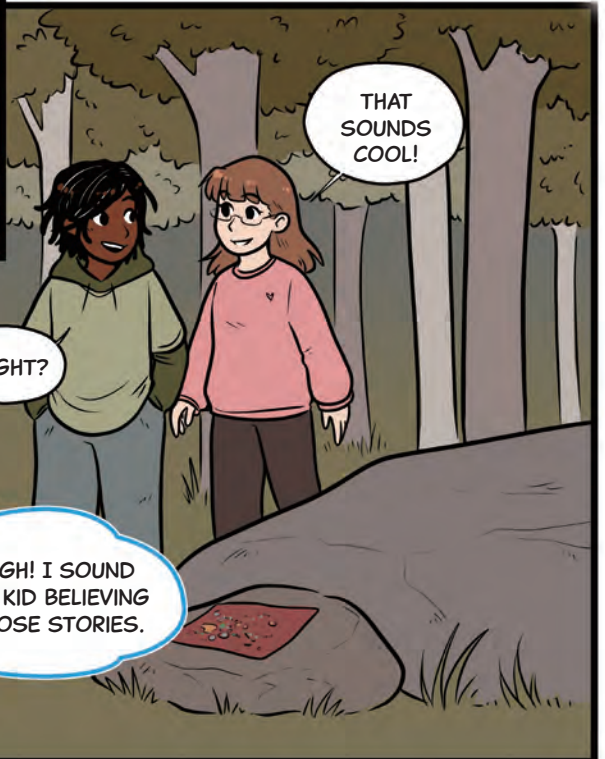
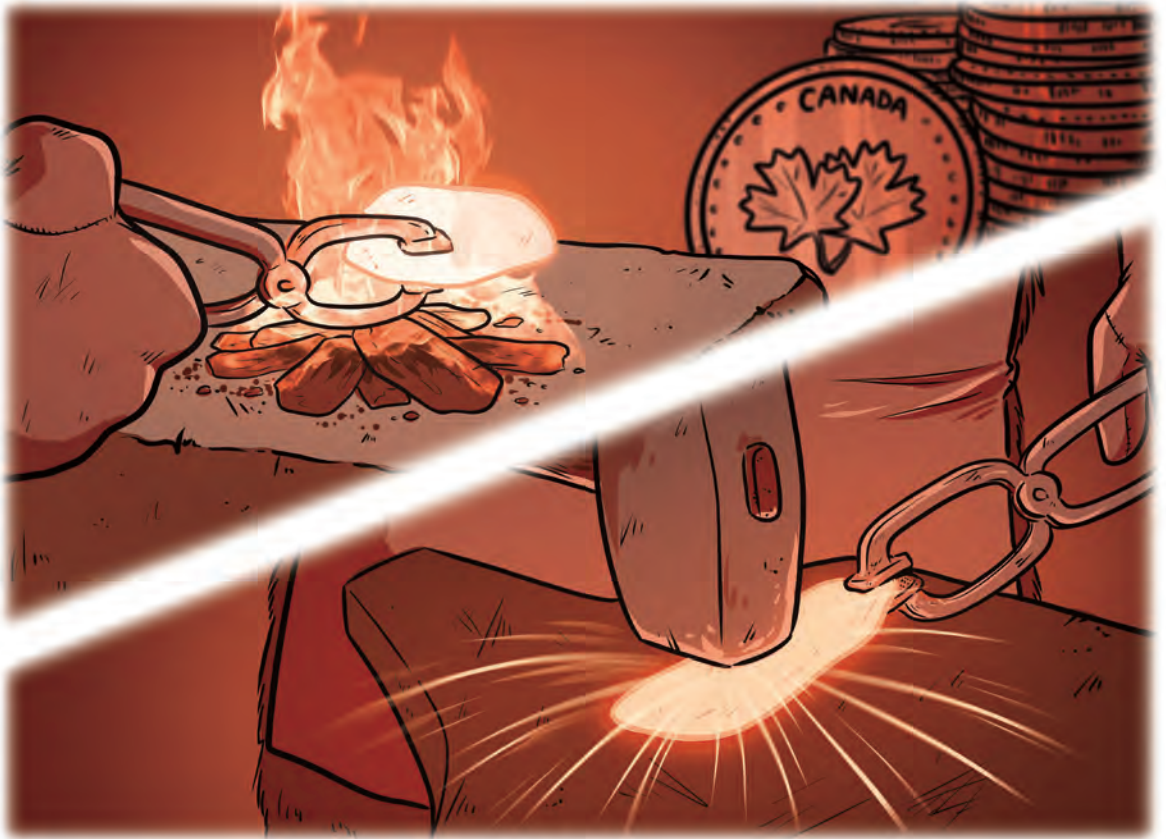


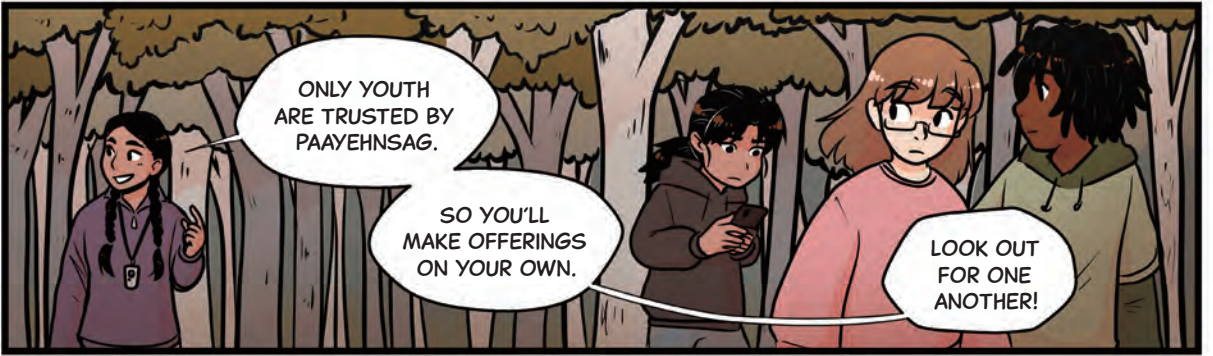
PAAYEHNSAG HAVE ALL THE TOOLS AND KNOWLEDGE THEY NEED TO MELT AND SHAPE MSKWAABIK.

HAHA! HAHA!

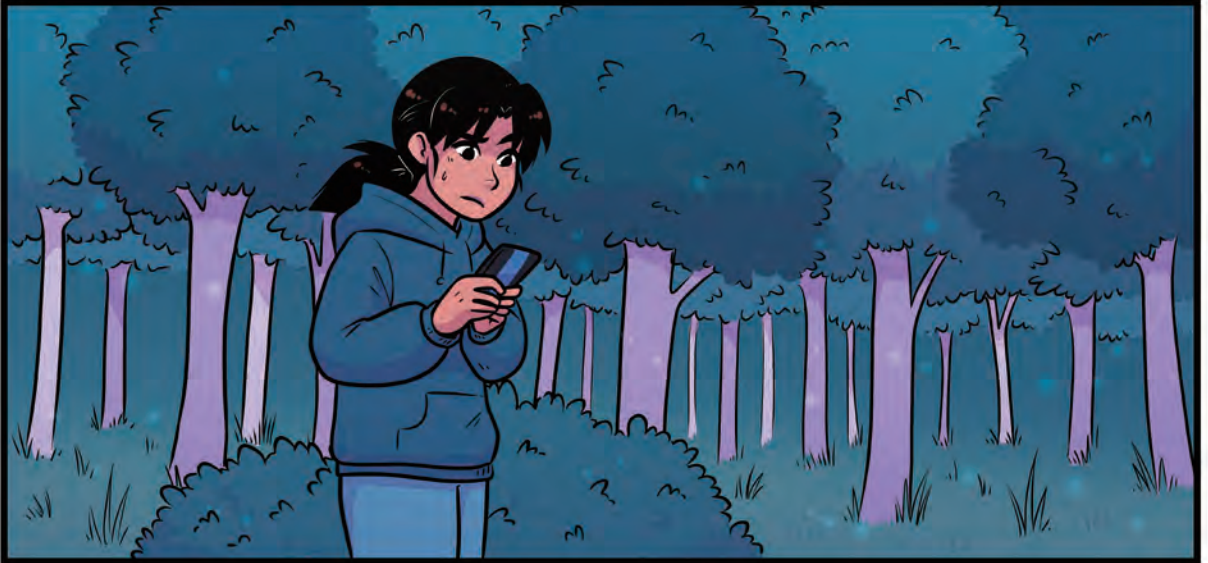


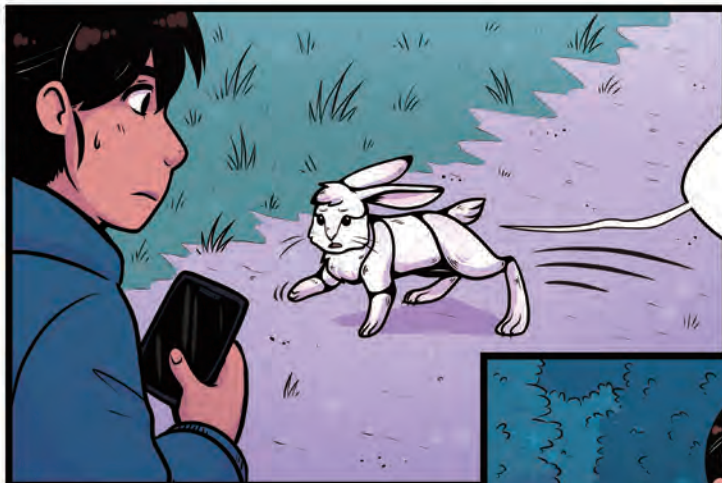
THEY EVEN HAVE ENGINEERS WITH MECHANICAL SKILLS.





CHAPTER 2  
DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE





HAVE YOU PERHAPS DIED?

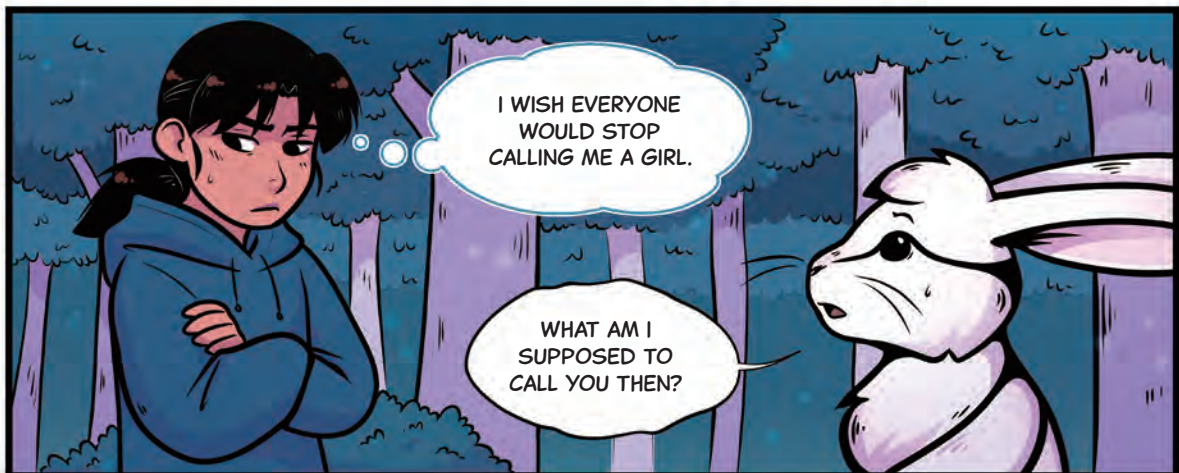


UHHH...

AM I DEAD?  
MY CONNECTION IS...



NOT DEAD?  
THEN YOU'RE NOT  
MY PROBLEM, GIRL.



I WISH EVERYONE  
WOULD STOP  
CALLING ME A GIRL.

WHAT AM I  
SUPPOSED TO  
CALL YOU THEN?