

BY michelle
huang.



Kid

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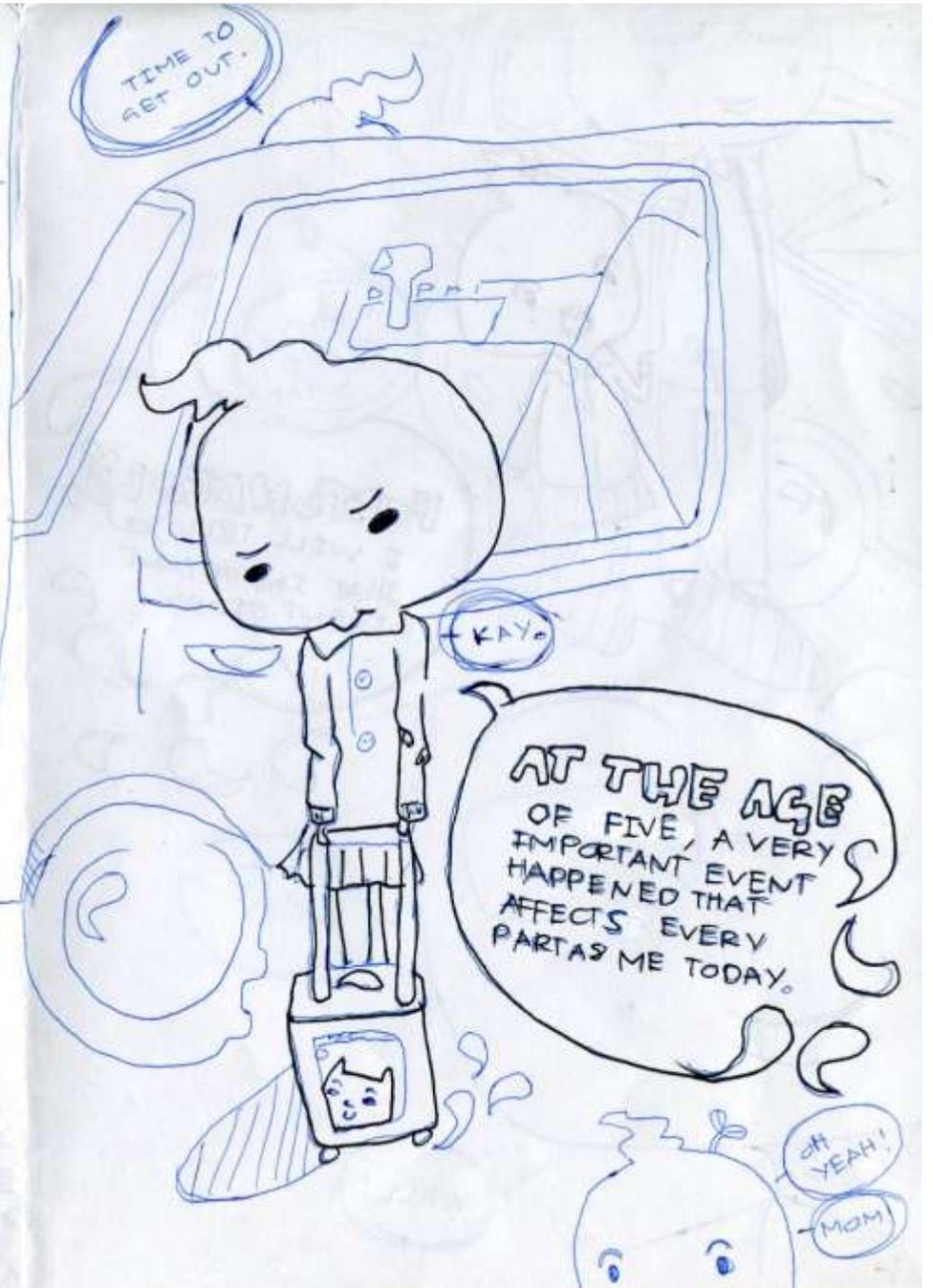
Created during the summer of 2010 at the San Leandro Public Library's "My Town, My Life, My Story: A Graphic Novel Program about Growing Up in San Leandro"



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HELLO
I'M MICHELLE,
THIS WAS ME WHEN
I WAS FIVE.



TIME TO
GET OUT.

AT THE AGE
OF FIVE, A VERY
IMPORTANT EVENT
HAPPENED THAT
AFFECTS EVERY
PART OF ME TODAY.

OH
YEAH!
MOM!





YOU KNOW, LIYI SAID WE COULD GO TO EACH OTHERS HOUSE AND STUFF, CAN I?

LIYI DOES IT ALL THE TIME!

WELL.

ACTUALLY I LOVED CCS SO MUCH BECAUSE I HAD FINALLY MADE A FRIEND THERE; AND NOT JUST A FRIEND, A POPULAR FRIEND, LIYI!



SO, CAN I?...

AND!

AT THE TIME, A POPULAR FRIEND WAS EXTREMELY MEANINGFUL BECAUSE I WAS THOSE SCARED SHY LITTLE KIDS BACK THEN... WHO RELATIVELY HAD NO FRIENDS --- SO LIYI WAS **BIG**!!

Vn'gee,
MY LIFE BEFORE LIVE,
IT SEEMED, AT THE TIME
TO BE MEANINGLESS.
LIFE WAS JUST 1
DAY AFTER
ANOTHER.

EVERYTHING
SUCKED

LET'S
REWI

WHABBOU,
MICHELLE?

HE.

RECESS
SUCKED.

I WANT
LIVE!

MY
LIVE!

TAG TIMES
INFINITY!



LUNCH
SUCKED.

LIVE!
LIVE!

MRHF.

LIVE!

BUT LEARNING
DIDN'T SUCK.



IT DIDN'T
 SUCK BECAUSE WHEN YOU LEARN YOU DON'T REALLY TALK TO PEOPLE SO EVERYONE IS KINDA LONELY WHEN LEARNING IN THE CLASSROOM.

SO...
 IT WASN'T EVERYTHING THAT SUCKED!
 IT WAS BEING LOVELY THAT SUCKED.

BUT!

AND,
 THAT WAS KINDA COOL BECAUSE I WAS LONELY, BUT IN THE CLASSROOM EVERYONE WAS LONELY SO THAT MADE ME PARTA' SOMETHING IN THE CLASSROOM-- A GROUP OF LOVELY PEOPLE.



THEN,
 I MET LIYI.

WANNA PLAY?

HF.
 I HATE CCS.

HF?







BUT I GOT TIRED.
TANTRUMS DO THAT TO YOU.



NOW THAT YOU'RE CALMED DOWN,
THE NEW SCHOOL YOU'RE GOING TO
IS A PUBLIC SCHOOL CALLED CORVALLIS.

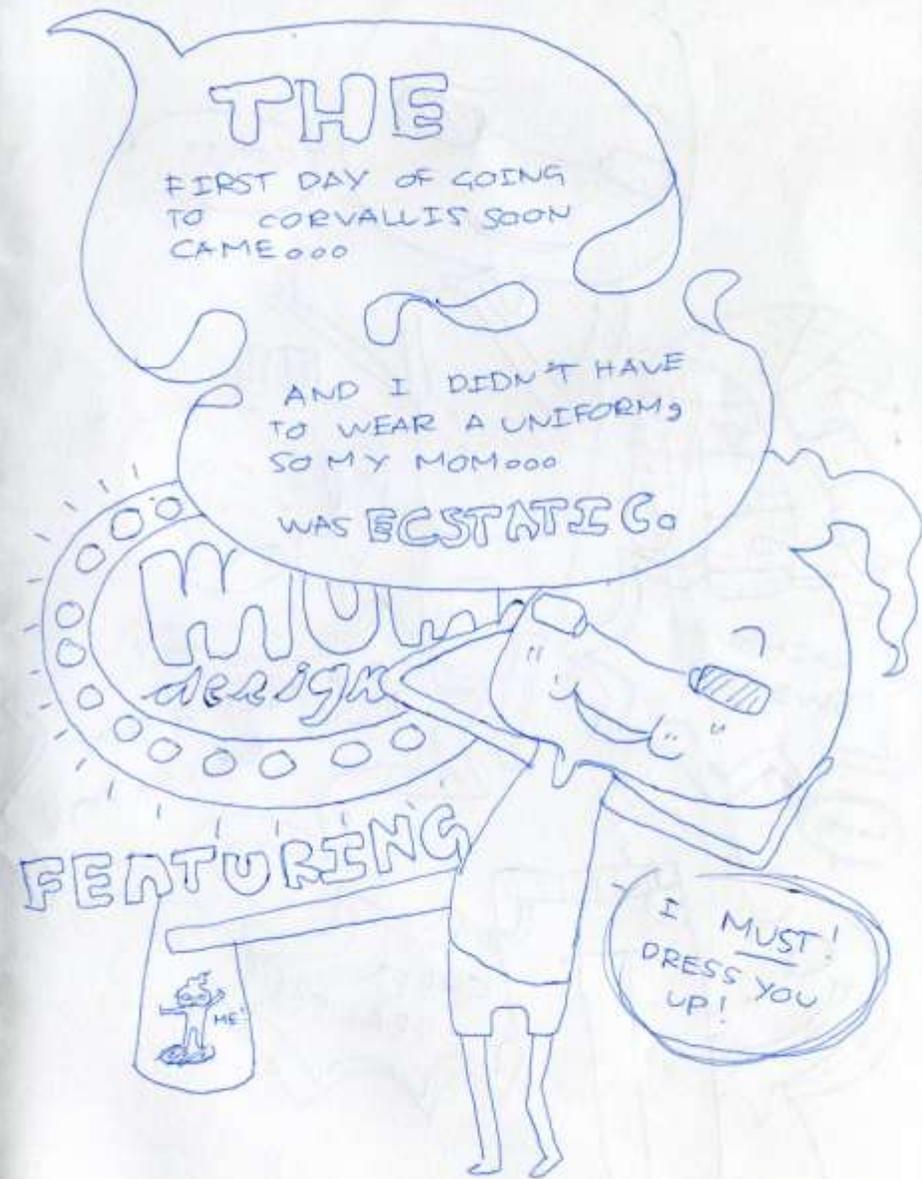


Naturally,
I THOUGHT IN MY SNOBBISH
RICH KIDS WAY OF THINKING,
AND THE MOST OBNOXIOUS
THING CAME OUT OF MY
MOUTH.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ARE FOR POOR
KIDS.







It's not

THAT BIG OF A DEAL
BUT IT DID MAKE
ME FEEL KINDA
SELF CONSCIOUS AND
THAT AFFECTED MY
DAY.

I think

MOM,
I CAN'T
GO TO
SCHOOL LIKE
THIS...

YOU
SEE,

THEY'LL THINK
I'M NOT
COOL

AND MY ROLLER
BACKPACK MAKES
ME NOT COOL AS
IT IS...

AND
YOU KNOW, AT THE
TIME, BEING COOL
WAS THE BEST...

COS* YOU
KNOW...

COOL PEOPLE
GET LOTS OF
FRIENDS...





ACTUALLY...
MY MOM SENT ME INTO
THE CLASSROOM HERSELF...
BUT.



ONCE
I ENTERED, I
FELT ALONE
THE WHOLE WAY
THROUGH.





Which?

UPON SEEING
THOSE GLAMOROUS
KIDS I
THOUGHT

THESE KIDS ARE
COOL.

THESE KIDS
ARE NOT
LAME.

I'M LAME
...

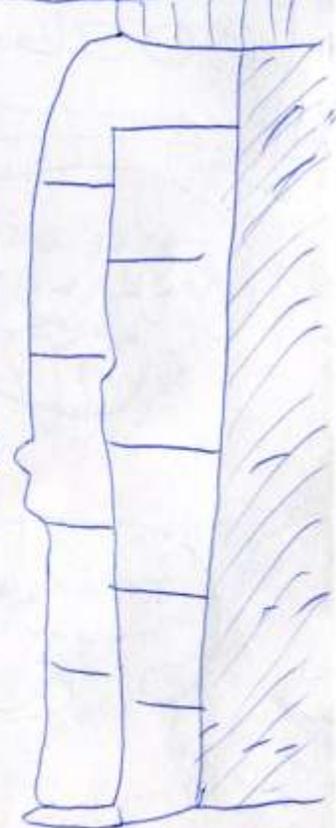
MEETING THE
POPULAR KIDS.

(WELL NOT MEETING...
SIGHTING BUT YOU
GET THE POINT)



IF I WAS
IN THE ...
POPULAR KIDS
GROUP...
I WOULD BE
NOT LAME.

AND THAT,
DID NOT MAKE ME
FEEL LAME. IT
MADE ME FEEL
GOOD.



SO I
MADE IT MY 2ND
GRADE GOAL TO
BE IN THE POPULAR
KIDS' GROUP.



AND SO,
THE NEXT DAY
I BEGAN TO FUFILL
MY GOALS!

OHEY!
H-H-HEY!
GUYS!

HMP.
WHO IS
THAT.

WHAT?

WELLUH,

FORGIVE!

HOL

COULD I PLAY
WITH YOU GUYS?









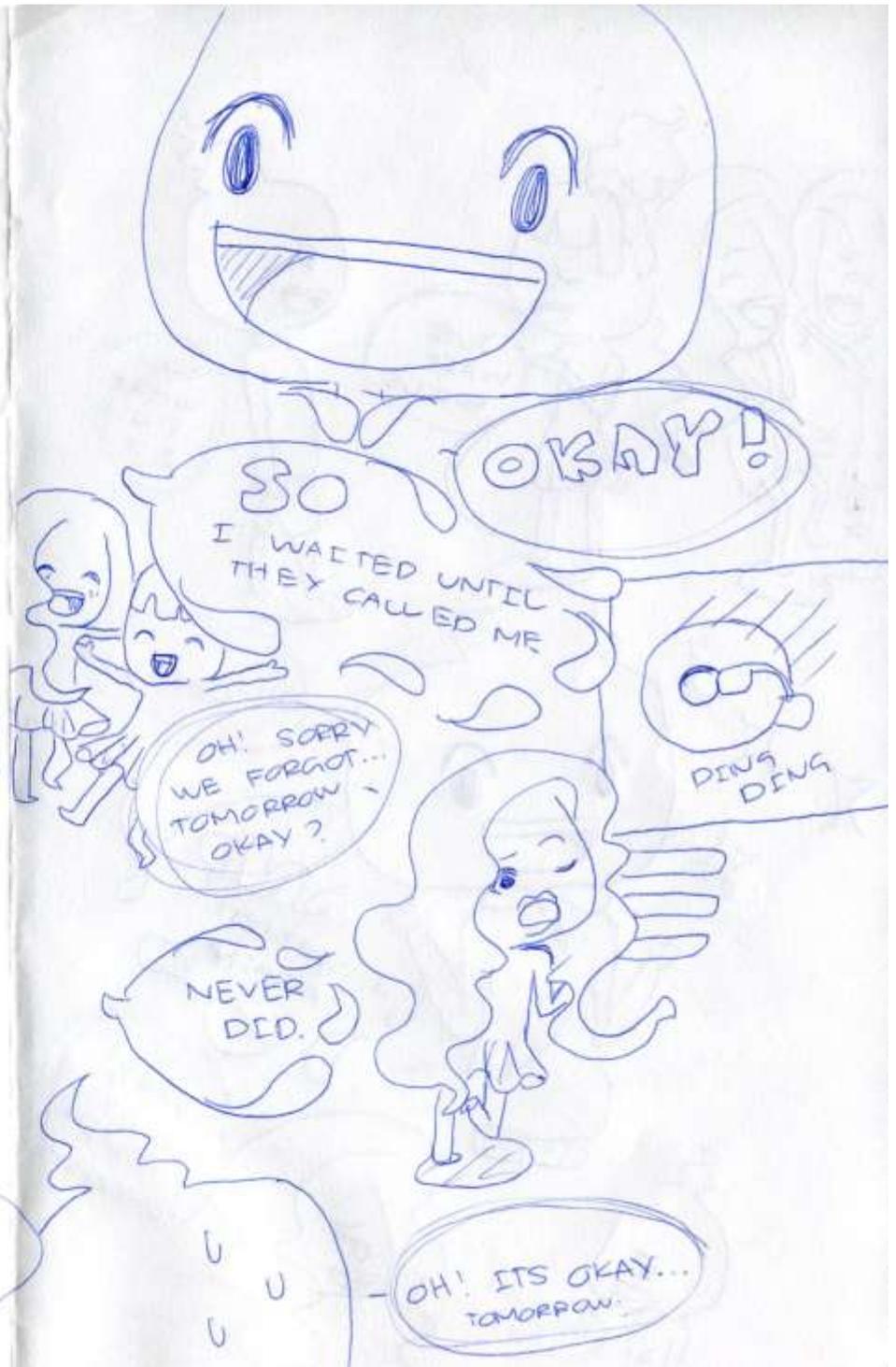
NEXT DAY



I MET THEM

UP THE NEXT DAY TO
START THE INITIATION
OF MICHELLE'S ARRIVAL.









WANTED.









AW, SO
IS THAT WHAT
HAPPENED...
MY POOR
BABY...

YEAH,
AND THEN
THEY...

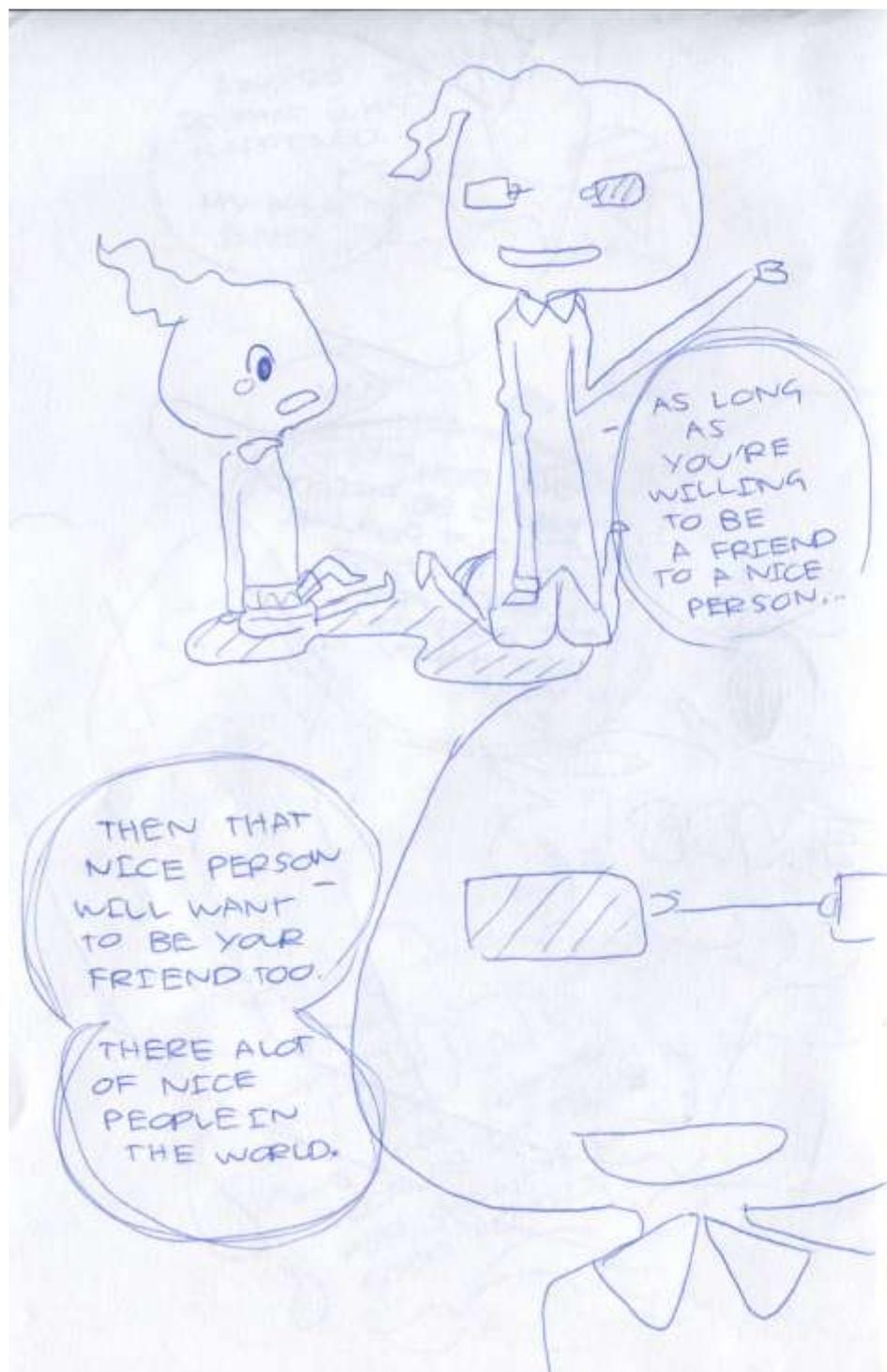
I JUST WANT

FRIENDS!

THAT
WAS GOOD FOR ME
BECAUSE IN TELLING
HER, SHE GAVE SOME
GOOD ADVICE.

YOU DON'T
HAVE TO BE FRIENDS
WITH JUST POPULAR
KIDS. THE BEST
FRIENDS ARE
THE ONES YOU
ARE HAPPY
WITH.

-HR.







30. i had decided...

I GUESS

ITS ALRIGHT
IF I'M NOT
POPULAR. :(

and...
I COULD GET
USED TO THIS.

