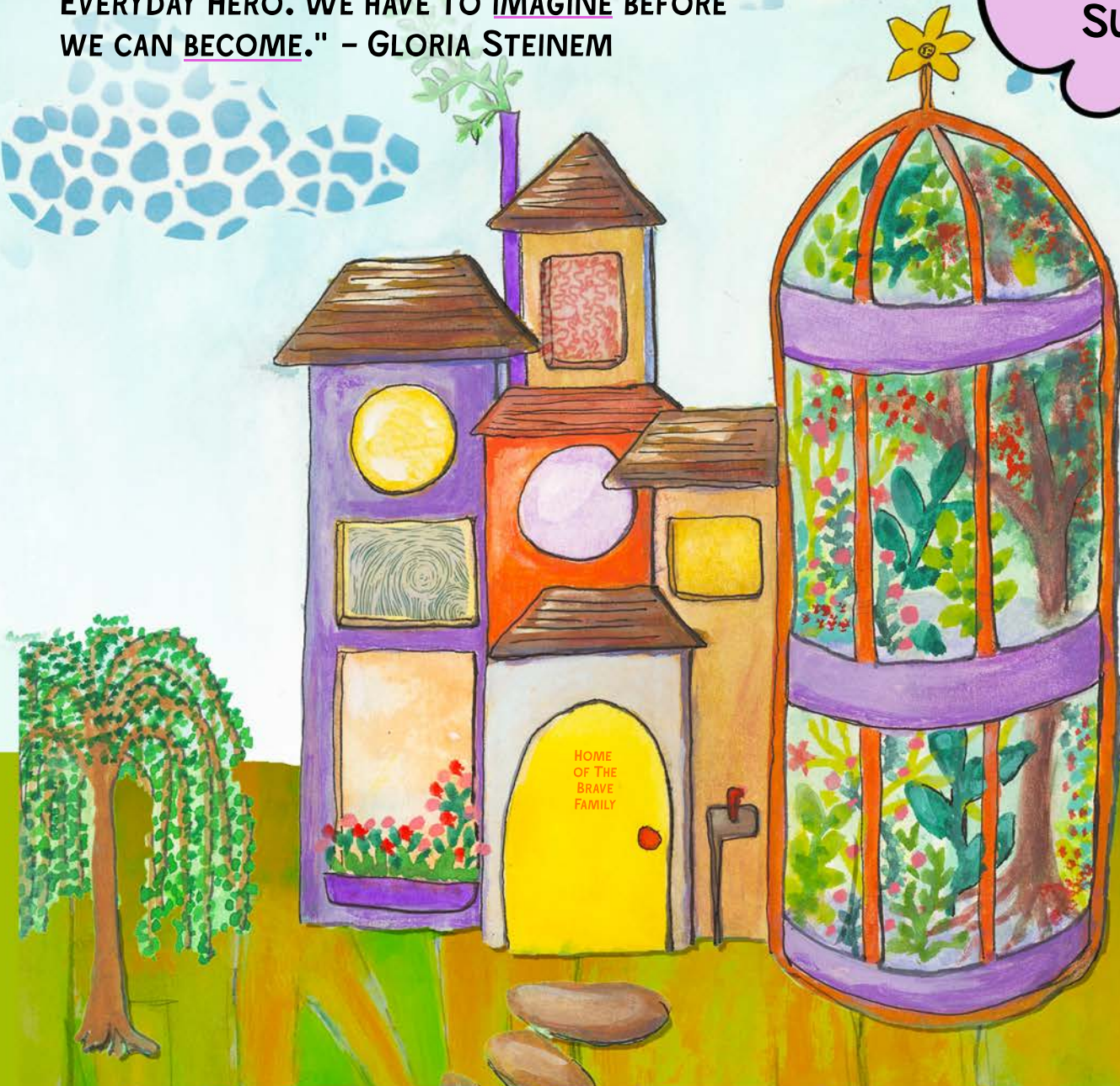


# BEE

## THE BRAVE UPSTANDER

"THIS SERIES INSPIRES EACH CHILD TO BECOME AN EVERYDAY HERO. WE HAVE TO IMAGINE BEFORE WE CAN BECOME." – GLORIA STEINEM

HAWT ISSUE #1  
SUMMER  
2019



A *HAVE ART: WILL TRAVEL!* PRODUCTION

WITH HAWT INTERNS: MARY MCGING AND EMMA WALKER

EDITED BY LINDA STEIN

FOREWORD BY MARCY SYMS

FRONT COVER

# BEE

## THE BRAVE UPSTANDER

HAWT ISSUE # 1  
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# FOREWORD

## THE MARCY SYMS UPSTANDER STORY

I REMEMBER BEING IN 4TH GRADE. I WAS PRETTY POPULAR THEN WITH MY CADRE OF BUDS (FRIENDS). ONE DAY, AFTER THE MIDDLE OF THE SCHOOL TERM, A NEW GIRL, ROSE, WAS PLACED IN OUR CLASS. SHE WAS DIFFERENT--AND CERTAINLY BIGGER--A HEAD TALLER THAN THE REST OF US, EVEN SITTING DOWN. IN THOSE DAYS (1959-60), WITH HER BLUE-BLACK SKIN, WE CALLED HER A NEGRO.

I STARTED PAYING ATTENTION, WATCHING HER (MAYBE LIKE A DETECTIVE), AND SAW THAT SHE WAS ALWAYS ALONE. I NEVER SAW ANY KIDS TALK TO HER. THE TEACHER NEVER CALLED ON HER IN CLASS. SOON I NOTICED THAT ROSE DIDN'T JOIN ANY AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS OR SHOWS. KIDS WOULD LAUGH AT HER, MOSTLY BEHIND HER BACK. I THOUGHT: THAT IS MEAN. I DON'T LIKE THAT. I'M GOING TO TRY TO GET TO KNOW HER.

I GUESS THAT WAS COURAGEOUS OF ME, BECAUSE IT MIGHT CAUSE KIDS TO TEASE ME, BUT I KNEW I HAD A SENSE OF JUSTICE AND FAIRNESS, AND I WAS DETERMINED TO DO THE RIGHT THING. SO, I PURPOSELY SAT NEXT TO HER AND CHATTED WITH HER IN THE SCHOOL HALLWAY.

IT TURNS OUT ROSE WAS VERY SHY, BUT HAD INTERESTING THINGS TO SAY IF I TOOK THE TIME TO LISTEN. I LEARNED THAT HER LIFE WAS VERY DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I KNEW, AND I LIKED HEARING NEW STORIES.

ROSE LIVED WITH A FAMILY THAT HER MOTHER WAS WORKING FOR. NONE OF THE MOTHERS I KNEW WORKED OUTSIDE THE HOME, OTHER THAN HELPING WITH PTA OR TUPPERWARE.

ROSE SAID SHE KNEW THAT KIDS WERE MAKING JOKES ABOUT HER, AND EVEN THOUGH IT REALLY HURT, SHE PRETENDED SHE DIDN'T CARE.

I FELT THAT ROSE WAS SO STRONG. I WAS GLAD I WAS BEING NICE TO HER, AND THOUGHT IT WAS UGLY THAT THE OTHER KIDS WERE MEAN TO HER. AFTER ALL, WHAT'S SO HARD ABOUT MAKING ROSE FEEL WELCOME? IS IT ANY HARDER TO BE KIND THAN TO BE MEAN? SOME SAY I WAS COURAGEOUS.

**I'M ALL FOR COURAGEOUS KINDNESS.**

President of the Sy Syms Foundation and former CEO of Syms Corp, Marcy Syms is an independent director of private and public companies, profit and non-profit. She was one of the youngest women to be named President of a publicly traded NYSE company, was an early adopter of public radio and television, and is an advocate for the ERA. HAWT is proud to have Marcy Syms on its Advisory Council.

NOTE: THE C-TEAM IS AVAILABLE TO HELP TEACHERS INCORPORATE THIS COMIC BOOK INTO THEIR CLASS LEARNING EXPERIENCE. PLEASE CONTACT [HAWT@HAVEARTWILLTRAVEL.ORG](mailto:HAWT@HAVEARTWILLTRAVEL.ORG)



# PREFACE

“BEE, THE BRAVE UPSTANDER”  
AN EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVE  
OF THE NON-PROFIT  
HAVE ART: WILL TRAVEL (HAWT)  
FOR COURAGEOUS KINDNESS  
INVITES SUBMISSIONS OF COMIC  
OR GRAPHIC NARRATIVES FOR PUBLICATION  
AS PART OF HAWT’S SERIES ADDRESSING  
BECOMING A COURAGEOUS UPSTANDER.

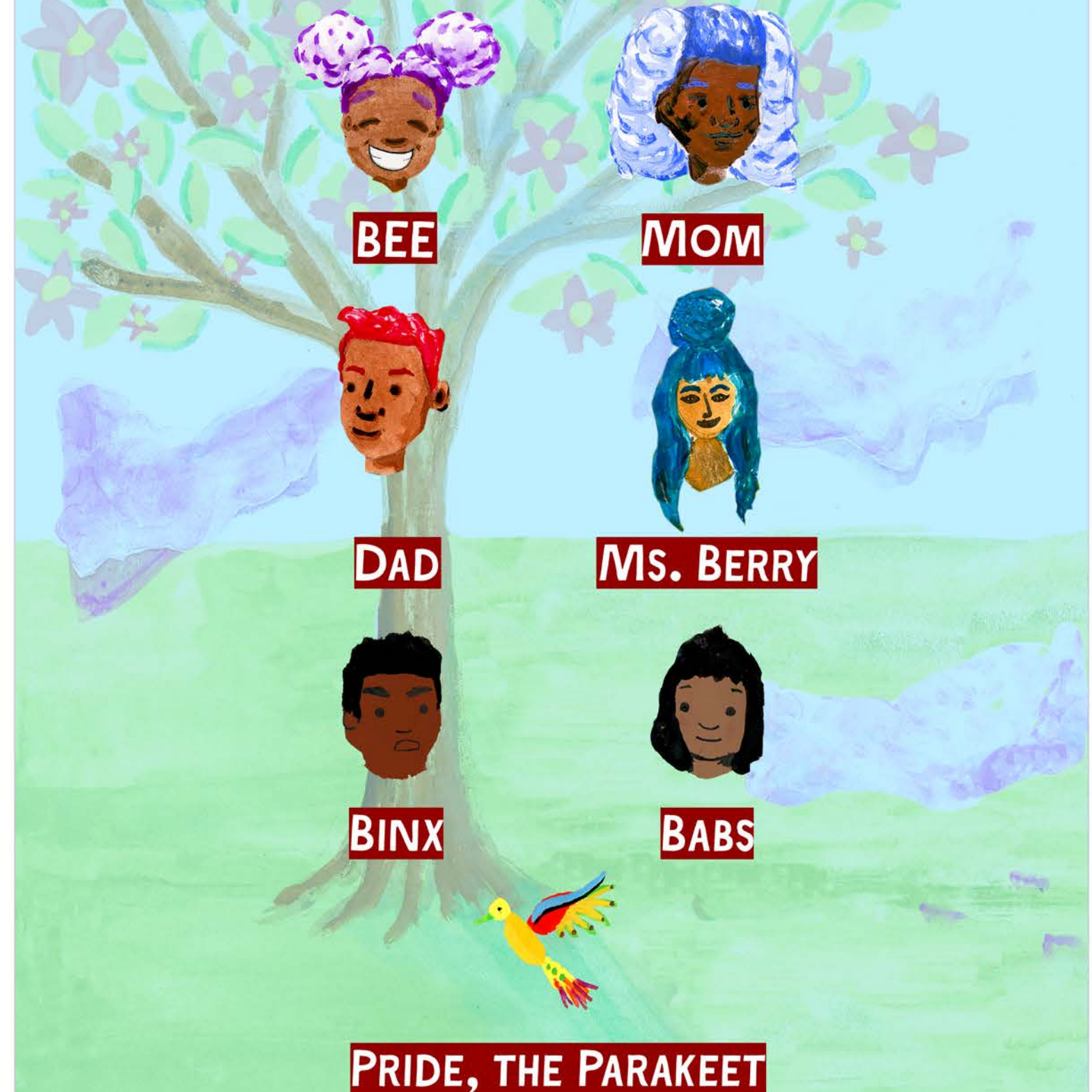
THIS PROJECT STARTED WHEN HAWT/SEIN’S  
COLLEGE INTERNS (WORKING AT EITHER THE TRIBECA NY STUDIO  
OR REMOTELY DURING COVID) SUGGESTED  
THEY WRITE AND ILLUSTRATE  
A STORY BASED ON THE ARTIST’S  
ART AND THE UPSTANDER MISSIONS  
OF THE NON-PROFIT.

THE STORIES IN THIS SERIES FOLLOW THE ADVENTURES  
OF A YOUNGSTER NAMED BEE  
WHO PERSONALLY EXPERIENCES OR WITNESSES VICTIMIZATION.

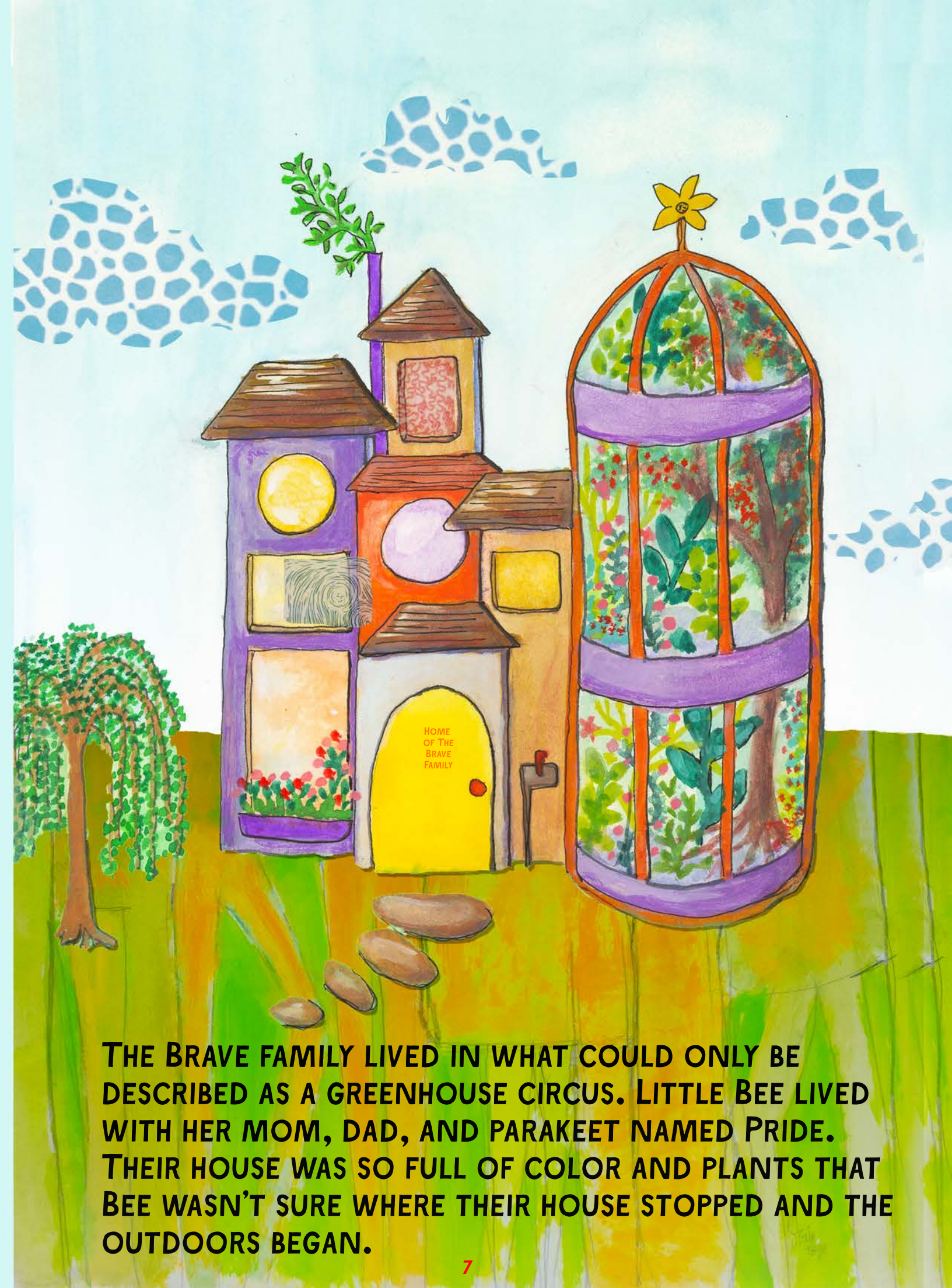
BEE FINDS THE POWER OF ART HELPS TO INSPIRE  
THE BULLIED, BULLY, BYSTANDER, AND BRAVE UPSTANDER  
TO DISPLAY COURAGEOUS KINDNESS  
TO BECOME AN EVERYDAY HERO.

TO SUBMIT A COMIC/GRAPHIC NARRATIVE,  
GO TO [HTTPS://WWW.HAVEARTWILLTRAVEL.ORG/](https://www.haveartwilltravel.org/)

# CAST OF CHARACTERS

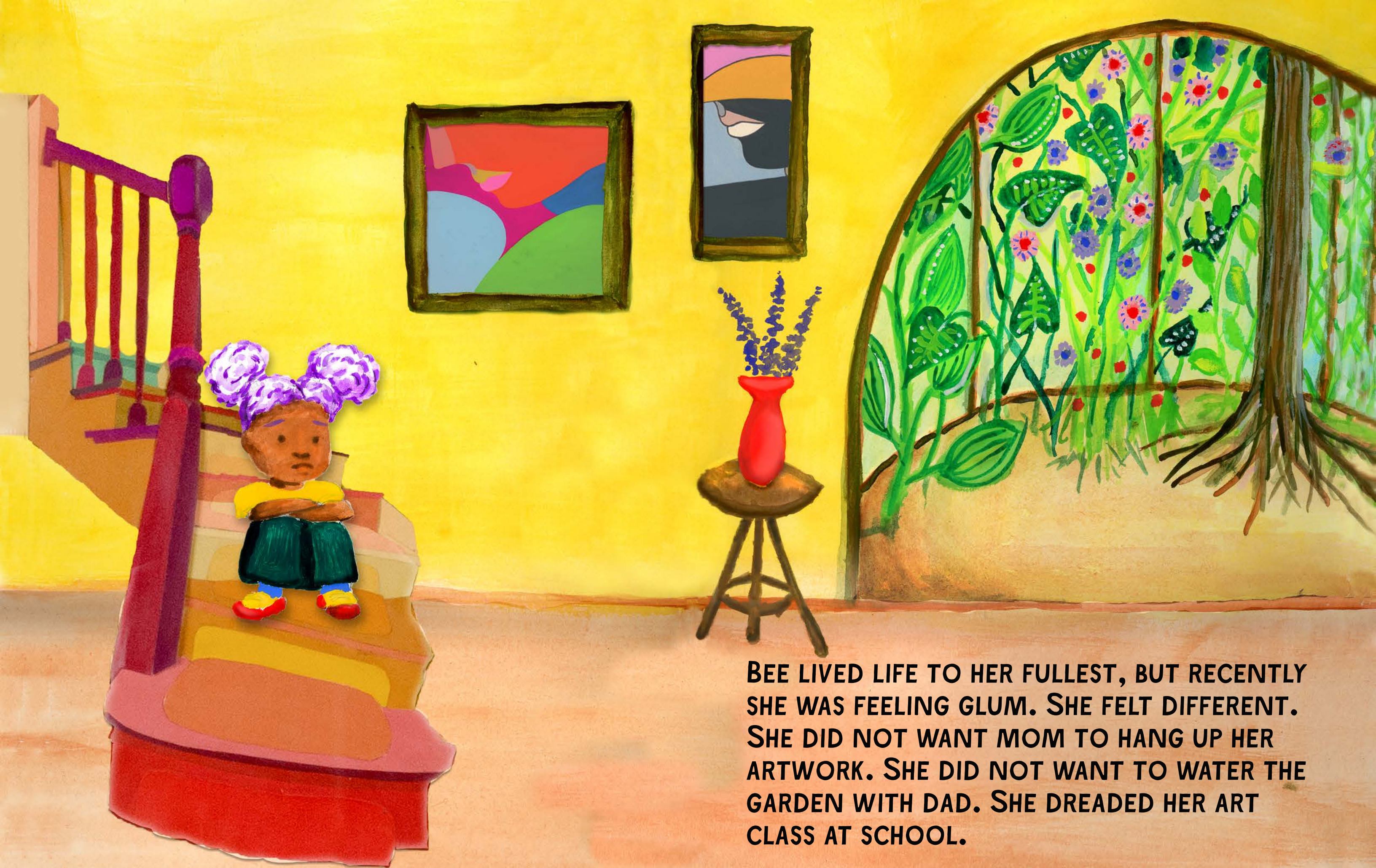






**THE BRAVE FAMILY LIVED IN WHAT COULD ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS A GREENHOUSE CIRCUS. LITTLE BEE LIVED WITH HER MOM, DAD, AND PARAKEET NAMED PRIDE. THEIR HOUSE WAS SO FULL OF COLOR AND PLANTS THAT BEE WASN'T SURE WHERE THEIR HOUSE STOPPED AND THE OUTDOORS BEGAN.**





**BEE LIVED LIFE TO HER FULLEST, BUT RECENTLY SHE WAS FEELING GLUM. SHE FELT DIFFERENT. SHE DID NOT WANT MOM TO HANG UP HER ARTWORK. SHE DID NOT WANT TO WATER THE GARDEN WITH DAD. SHE DREADED HER ART CLASS AT SCHOOL.**






BEE'S DAD CHIMED IN, "YOU DON'T SEEM YOURSELF LATELY! THE BRAVE FAMILY STICKS UP FOR EACH OTHER IF ANYTHING IS THE MATTER."

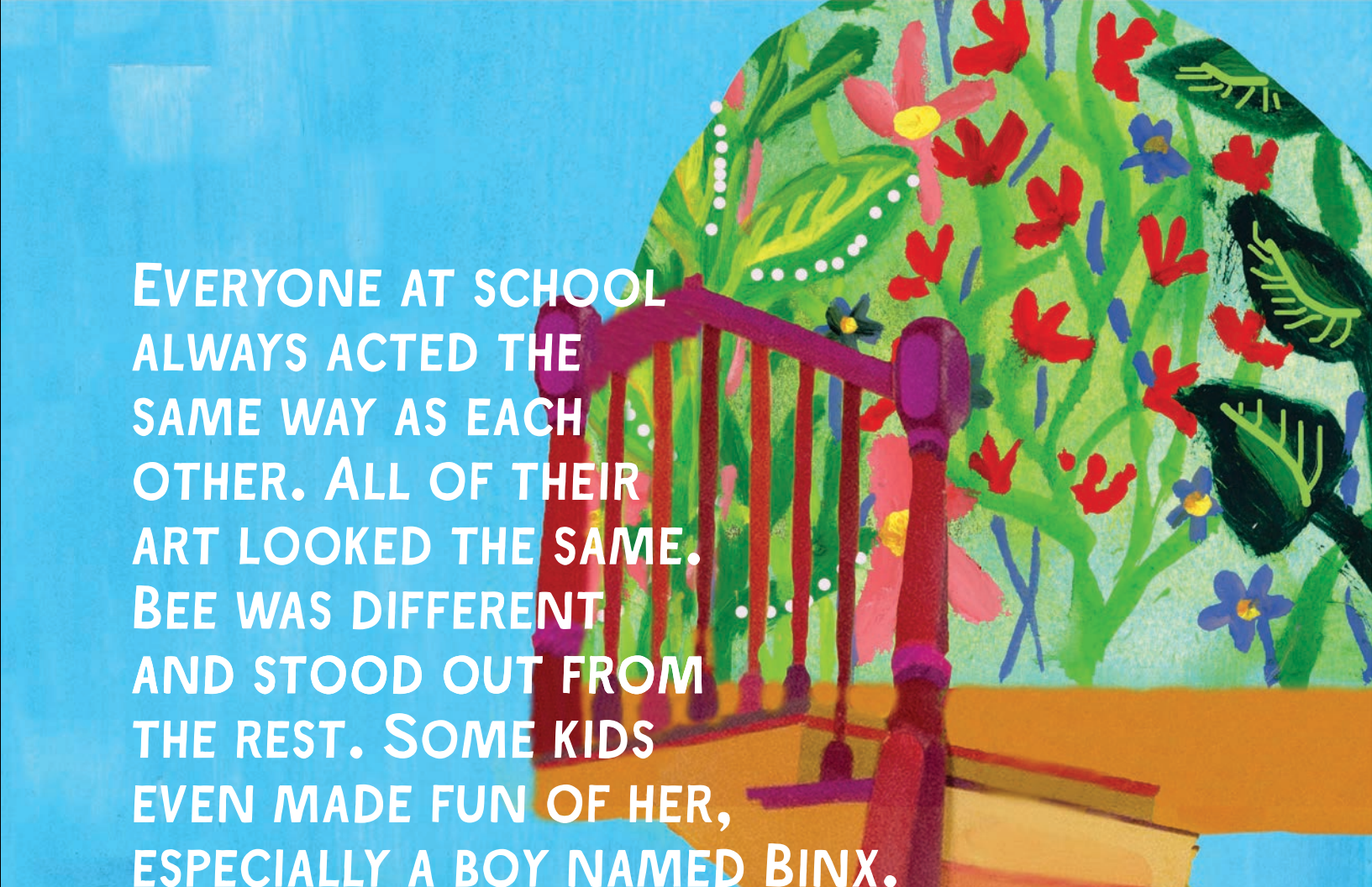
"PLEASE, LET ME PUT UP YOUR DRAWINGS!" SAID MOM. "THEY ARE INCREDIBLE AND COLORFUL, JUST LIKE YOU! YOU USED TO LOVE YOUR ART, BEE. IS ANYTHING WRONG?"

"NO, I'M OKAY," SAID BEE QUIETLY.





**BUT BEE WAS UNHAPPY. EVER SINCE SHE STARTED THE FIRST GRADE, SHE FELT LIKE SHE DIDN'T BELONG.**



**EVERYONE AT SCHOOL ALWAYS ACTED THE SAME WAY AS EACH OTHER. ALL OF THEIR ART LOOKED THE SAME. BEE WAS DIFFERENT AND STOOD OUT FROM THE REST. SOME KIDS EVEN MADE FUN OF HER, ESPECIALLY A BOY NAMED BINX.**



**BEE USED TO THINK HER HAIR WAS CREATIVE AND FUN, NOW IT FELT MESSY. SHE USED TO PAINT ALL DAY LONG. NOW SHE WAS ASHAMED OF HER ARTWORK.**



EACH DAY BEE WOULD SIT QUIETLY, TRYING NOT TO STAND OUT. BUT STILL, THE OTHER KIDS STARED AT HER.

WHEN THE TEACHER WASN'T LISTENING, BINX THE BIGGEST BULLY, WOULD SAY "LOOK AT BEE'S GROSS ART! IT LOOKS LIKE PURPLE SLUDGE!" BINX WOULD WHISPER TO OTHER STUDENTS "BEE IS SO WEIRD, WHY DOES SHE LOOK THAT WAY?"

SOME KIDS WOULD LAUGH ALONG, OTHERS JUST WATCHED. BEE WONDERED WHY NO ONE WOULD STAND UP TO BINX.





BEE LOOKED AT HER NAME SIGNED IN HER SKETCHBOOK, TRYING TO HOLD BACK HER TEARS, THINKING “EVEN THOUGH MY WHOLE NAME IS BEE BRAVE, HOW CAN I BE BRAVE WHEN I DON’T FEEL BRAVE?”

SHE THOUGHT ABOUT HER MOM AND DAD WHO GAVE HER A HUG, WITH A GENTLE “BE BRAVE, BEE” EVERY MORNING BEFORE GOING TO SCHOOL.



“OH, I HAVE AN IDEA!” BEE THOUGHT. SHE THEN RUSHED OUTSIDE.

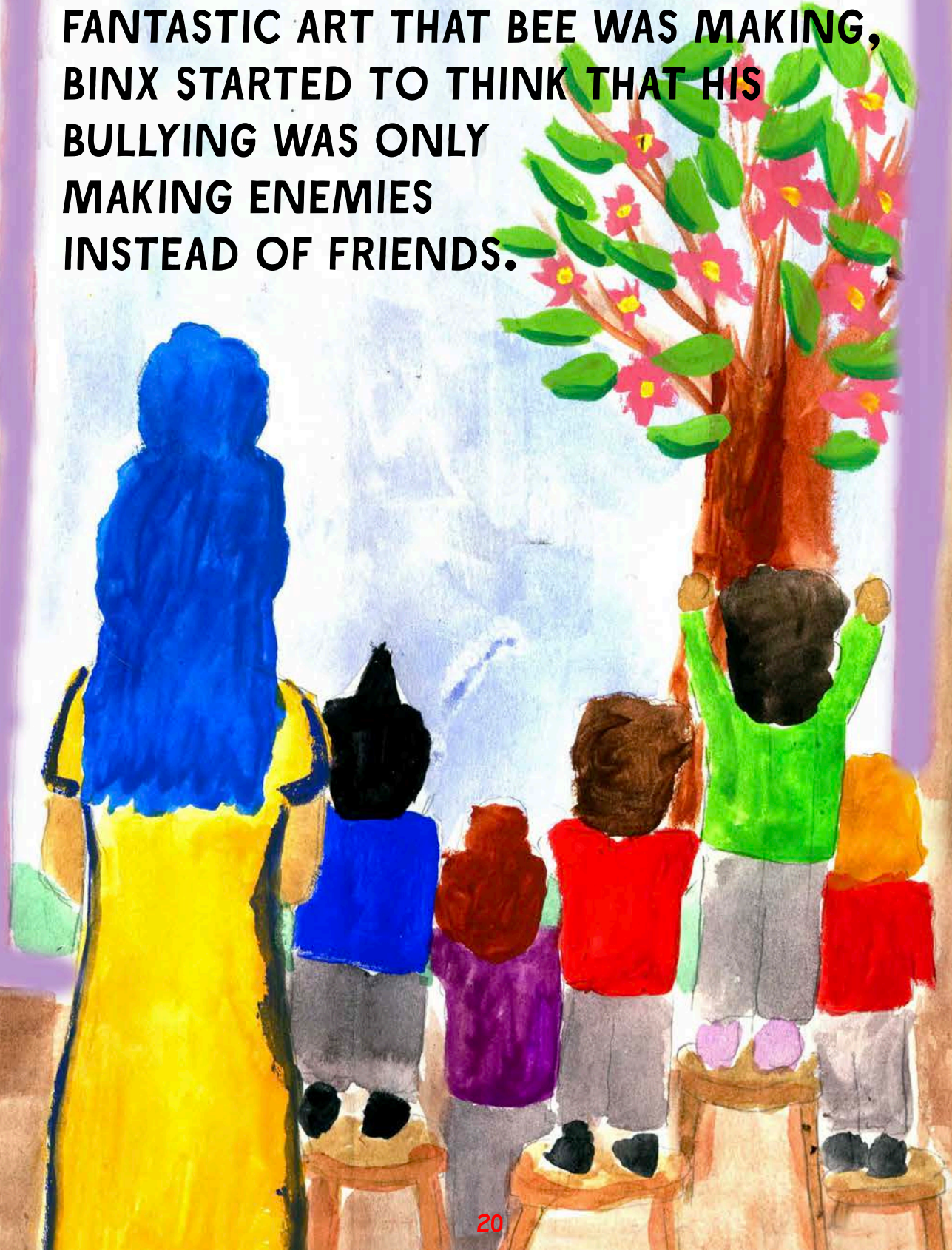


**EVERYONE RUSHED OVER TO THE WINDOW TO SEE WHAT BEE WAS DOING. IT WAS AMAZING. BEE'S DRAWINGS WERE BLOWING IN THE WIND, AND LOOKED ALIVE. EVEN BINX WAS IMPRESSED, BUT HE STILL CONTINUED TO MAKE FUN OF BEE IN A LOUD VOICE.**





**BUT NOW, MS. BERRY AND THE CLASS, ESPECIALLY BABS, TOLD BINX TO STOP BEING JEALOUS AND MEAN TO BEE. AS BINX CONTINUED TO WATCH THE FANTASTIC ART THAT BEE WAS MAKING, BINX STARTED TO THINK THAT HIS BULLYING WAS ONLY MAKING ENEMIES INSTEAD OF FRIENDS.**







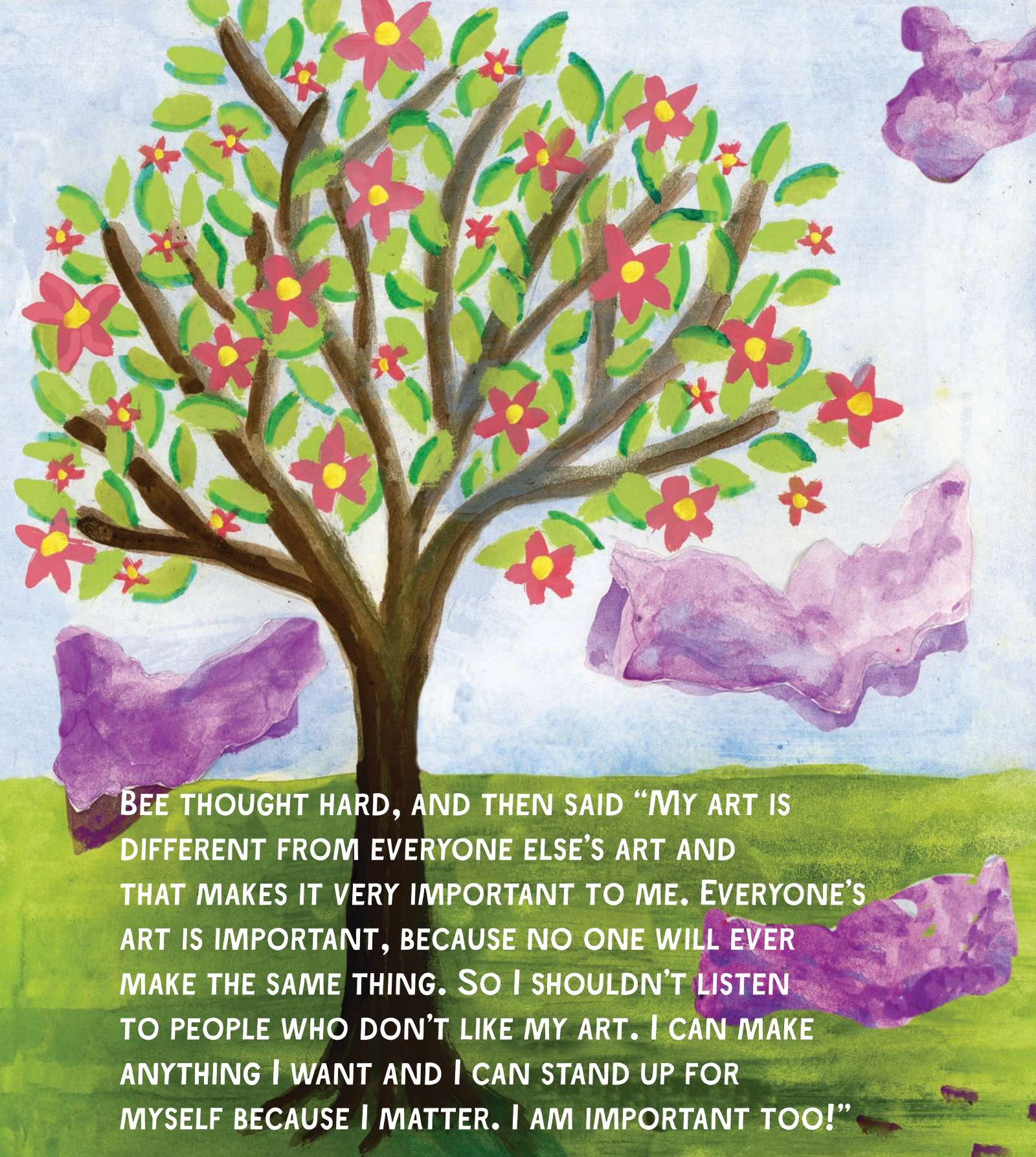
**BEE REALIZED THAT HER THOUGHTS AND ACTIONS (TO MAKE THE DRAWINGS BLOW IN THE WIND) HAD GIVEN HER NEW STRENGTH AND COURAGE, BECAUSE SHE WASN'T WORRYING IF THE OTHER KIDS LIKED HER OR NOT. SHE HAD TO BE HERSELF! SHE HAD TO STAND UP FOR HERSELF!**



EVERYONE CAME OUTSIDE AND SAT AROUND BEE. "YOUR ART IS SO BEAUTIFUL! WE LOVE IT!" THE CHILDREN EXCLAIMED.

BEE LOOKED STRAIGHT AT BINX AND SAID, "I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU OR ANYONE ELSE BULLY ME ANYMORE. THERE IS NO REASON FOR YOU TO BE SO MEAN TO ME." BINX LISTENED CLOSELY, AND THEN HE DID SOMETHING HE HARDLY EVER DID BEFORE—HE APOLOGIZED. BEE WAS SILENT AT FIRST, BUT THEN SHE SAID "I FORGIVE YOU, BUT I'LL KNOW YOU MEAN IT BY HOW YOU TREAT ME AND OTHERS IN THE FUTURE." SHE THEN KINDLY GAVE BINX A HUG.

MS. BERRY ASKED "HOW DID YOU LEARN TO BE SO BRAVE AND CONFIDENT WITH YOUR ART, BEE?"



BEE THOUGHT HARD, AND THEN SAID "MY ART IS DIFFERENT FROM EVERYONE ELSE'S ART AND THAT MAKES IT VERY IMPORTANT TO ME. EVERYONE'S ART IS IMPORTANT, BECAUSE NO ONE WILL EVER MAKE THE SAME THING. SO I SHOULDN'T LISTEN TO PEOPLE WHO DON'T LIKE MY ART. I CAN MAKE ANYTHING I WANT AND I CAN STAND UP FOR MYSELF BECAUSE I MATTER. I AM IMPORTANT TOO!"

AS EVERYONE LISTENED TO BEE, THEY THOUGHT ABOUT THEIR OWN WAYS OF BECOMING AN UPSTANDER FOR THEMSELVES.





**WHEN BEE GOT HOME  
SHE FELT  
PROUD OF HERSELF.**

**“MOM! DAD!  
I WAS BRAVE TODAY!  
MY ART HELPED ME TO BE BRAVE!”**

**THE END**



# CREDITS

COMPLETED UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF  
LINDA STEIN AND HAVE ART: WILL TRAVEL INC.  
DURING A SUMMER 2019 INTERNSHIP

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NOTE: THE C-TEAM IS AVAILABLE TO HELP TEACHERS  
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THANKS TO DRAFTS BY  
**THYARA ANGUS AND KEARA PHILLIPS-VABRE**

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**HAVE ART: WILL TRAVEL! INC.**

THE MISSION OF  
HAVE ART: WILL TRAVEL! (HAWT)  
IS TO:

## TOUCH AND BE TOUCHED

ART CAN BE A CATALYST  
FOR DIALOGUE, EMPATHY,  
AND UPSTANDER ACTION.

USING ART AS A STARTING POINT  
HAWT ENVISIONS JUSTICE  
BY ADDRESSING ISSUES OF  
POWER/VULNERABILITY,  
MASCULINITY/FEMININITY,  
WARMAKER/PEACEMAKER  
THROUGH THE LENS OF POWER AND OPPRESSION,  
INCLUDING RACISM, SEXISM, ABLEISM,  
CLASSISM AND TRANS/HOMOPHOBIA.

WITH EXHIBITS, LECTURES, WORKSHOPS,  
PERFORMANCES, BOOKS, ESSAYS,  
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND WEBSITES,  
HAWT INSPIRES THE **BULLIED, BULLY AND BYSTANDER**  
TO BECOME THE **BRAVE UPSTANDER**  
AND EVERYDAY HERO.



FOR THIS ISSUE, MCGING AND WALKER  
CHOSE FROM THE ARTIST'S WORK OF  
DECADES AGO, INCLUDING:



STUDENT WORK, 1960s



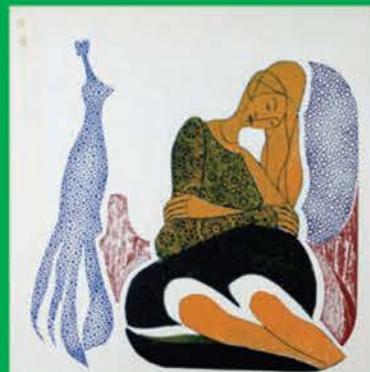
FROM *SOLID PROFILES* SERIES, 1970s



STUDENT WORK, 1960s



FROM *SOLID PROFILES* SERIES, 1970s



STUDENT WORK, 1960s



STUDENT WORK, 1960s

**HAVE ART: WILL TRAVEL!**

**BE AN UPSTANDER!  
BE CONFIDENT!  
BE KIND!  
BE YOURSELF!  
BE BRAVE!  
BEE BRAVE!**

**P.S. GRADUALLY, BEING AN UPSTANDER  
WILL BECOME A HABIT,  
AND YOU WON'T EVEN NEED  
EXTRA ARMOR.  
YOUR OWN BODY AND MIND  
ARE ENOUGH  
TO PRACTICE KINDNESS.**



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FOR COURAGEOUS KINDNESS

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CREATED BY PASSIONATE YOUNG ADULTS FOR AGES 7-10 (PLUS COMPASSIONATE ELDERS)  
PRODUCED BY THE NON-PROFIT HAVE ART: WILL TRAVEL! INC FOR COURAGEOUS KINDNESS

**“GIVING OUR YOUNG PEOPLE A MODEL LIKE BEE  
WILL NO DOUBT INSPIRE KINDNESS AND EMPATHY,  
AND ENCOURAGE COURAGEOUS UPSTANDER BEHAVIOR.”**

**TED BUNCH**

**AUTHOR, EDUCATOR, ACTIVIST TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN;  
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER OF A CALL TO MEN**

**"BEE THE BRAVE UPSTANDER SERIES EMBOLDENS YOUNG PEOPLE  
TO PRACTICE FAIRNESS, JUSTICE AND INCLUSION  
WRAPPED IN ACTS OF COURAGEOUS KINDNESS."**

**ACHEBE (BETTY) POWELL**

**SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVIST, EDUCATOR, FOUNDING DIRECTOR OF BETTY POWELL ASSOCIATES,  
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**“IN AN ERA WITH SO MANY BULLIES IN THE NEWS,  
BRAVE UPSTANDERS ARE JUST WHAT WE NEED.  
THIS SERIES INSPIRES YOUNGSTERS TO STAND UP AND SPEAK OUT.”**

**ROB OKUN**

**EDITOR & PUBLISHER, VOICE MALE, THE MAGAZINE FOR CHANGING MEN**

**“I WISH I HAD A BEE THE UPSTANDER WHEN I WAS YOUNG.  
BUT NOW, THANKS TO HAWT AND LINDA STEIN’S 4BS  
(BULLY, BULLIED, BYSTANDER AND BRAVE UPSTANDER),  
MY GRANDCHILDREN AND CHILDREN EVERYWHERE CAN BECOME  
EMPATHETIC, KIND, COURAGEOUS, LOVING AND ARTISTIC.”**

**BARBARA WINSLOW**

**AUTHOR, EDUCATOR; BROOKLYN COLLEGE/CUNY WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES;  
FOUNDING DIRECTOR EMERITA OF THE SHIRLEY CHISHOLM PROJECT ON BROOKLYN WOMEN'S ACTIVISM**