

I'm
Speaking!

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THE KOREAN COMMUNITY
SERVICES OF METROPOLITAN
NEW YORK, INC.
뉴욕한인봉사센터

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***To our community organizations and allies against hate,
this is for you.***

**Written by
Yuna Youn, Korean Community Services of Metropolitan New York, Inc**

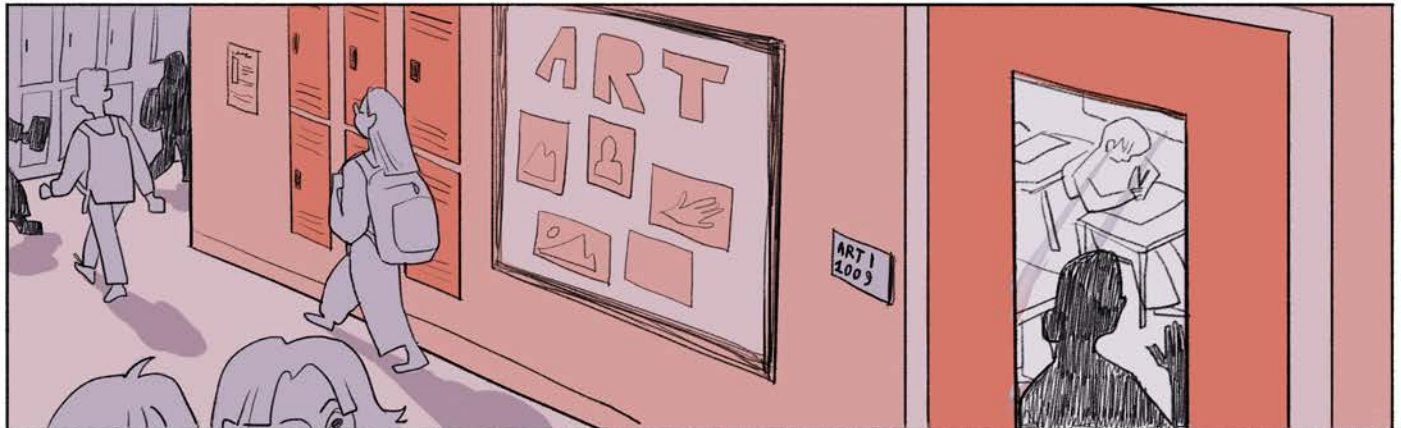
**Illustrated
by Anusha Morshed**

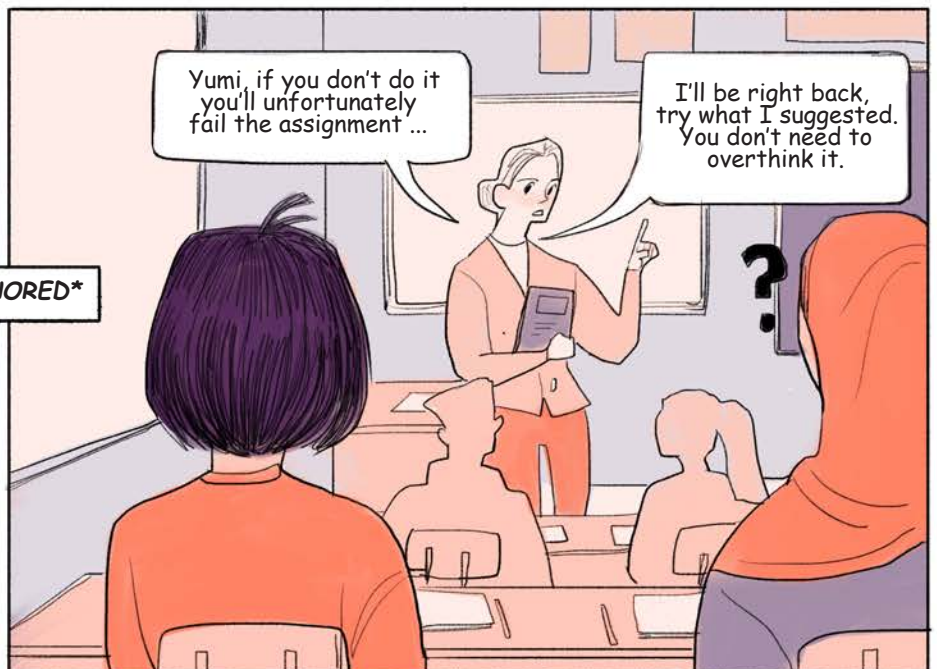
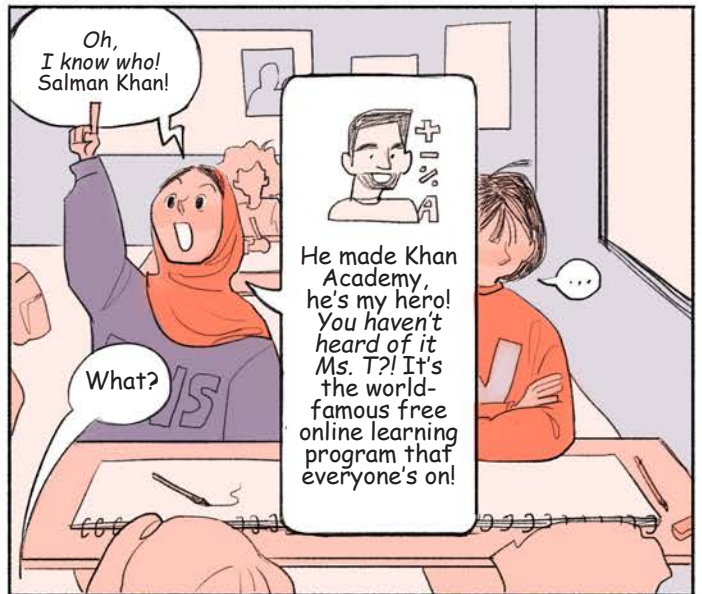
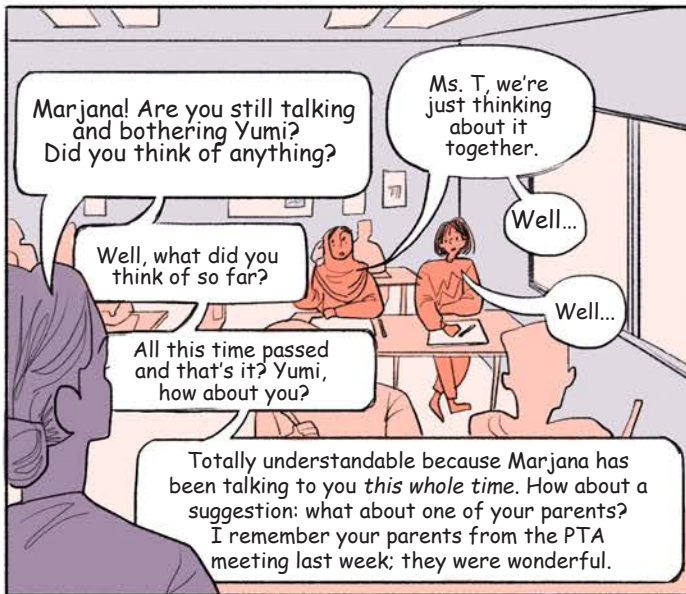
**Produced by
Nora Melendez, The New York Immigration Coalition**

**Funded by the New York City Council and
the Department of Youth and Community Development**

I'm Speaking

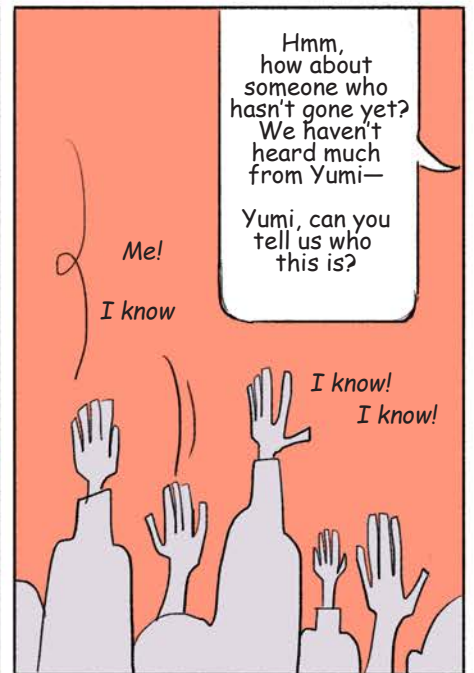
9TH GRADE ART CLASS, JHS







CLASS CONTINUES ...









08:00 pm



MARJANA 43M AGO
ARE YOU OK YUMI?

3h ago
HEY ARE U ALRIGHT

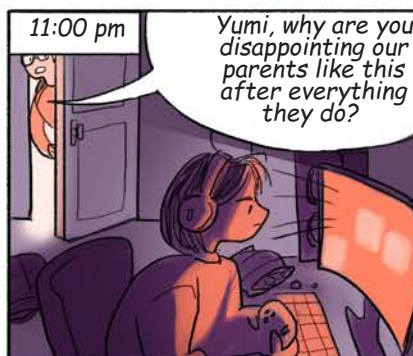


09:00 pm



10:00 pm

Is this how you greet your parents after we have been working all day long?

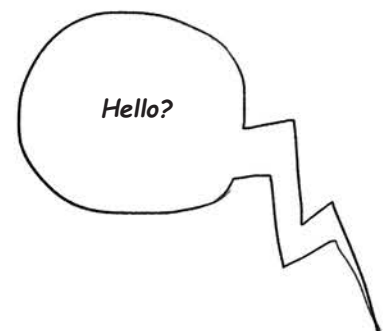


11:00 pm

Yumi, why are you disappointing our parents like this after everything they do?



12:00 am





Yumi ... I'm worried about you.

I'm worried like last time ...

even if it's late, text me.

Thanks Marjana

Even though I am still such a failure and disappointing everyone.



No you're not! Ms.T is just awful.

Have a good night!

Good night Yumi ... Love you!

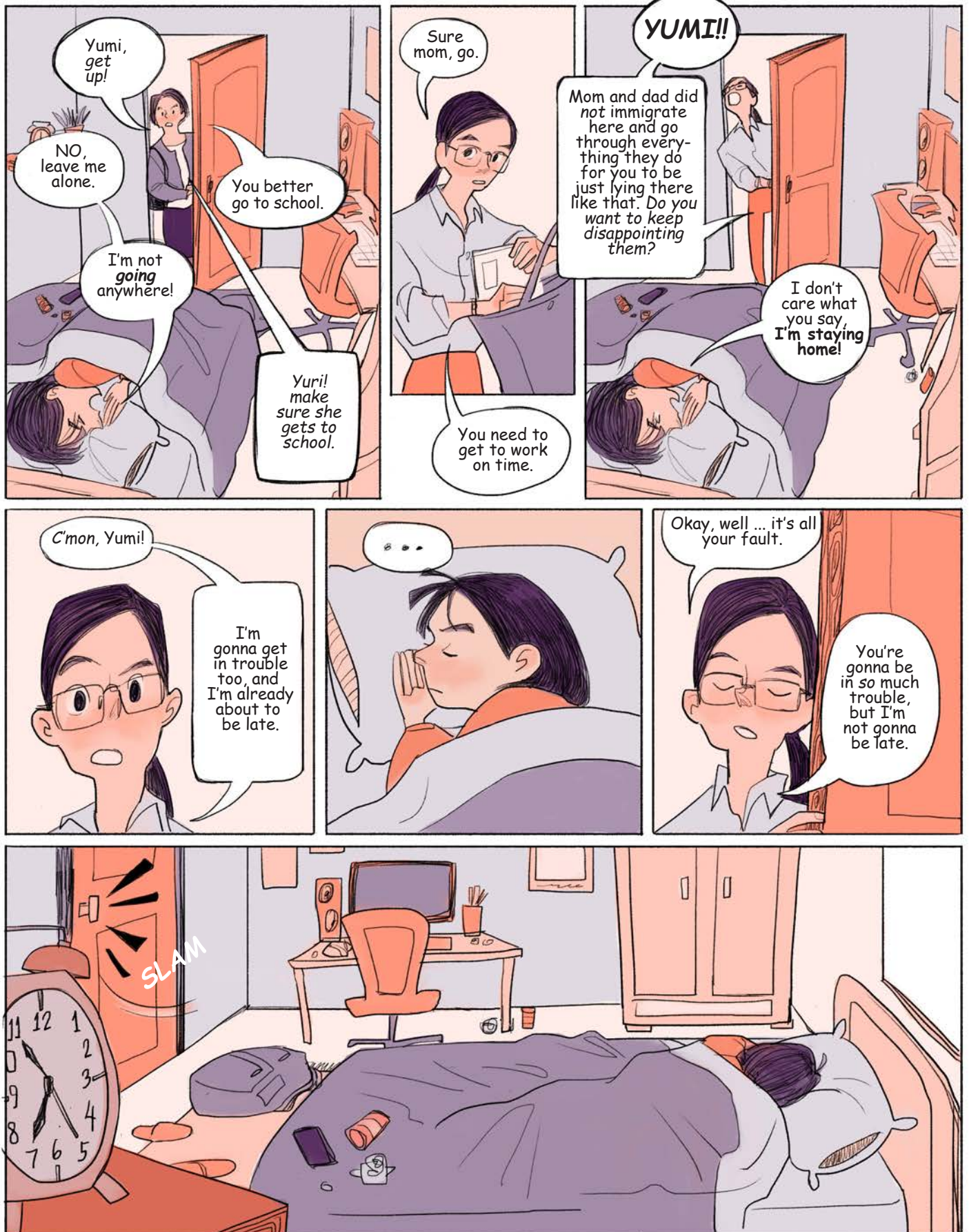


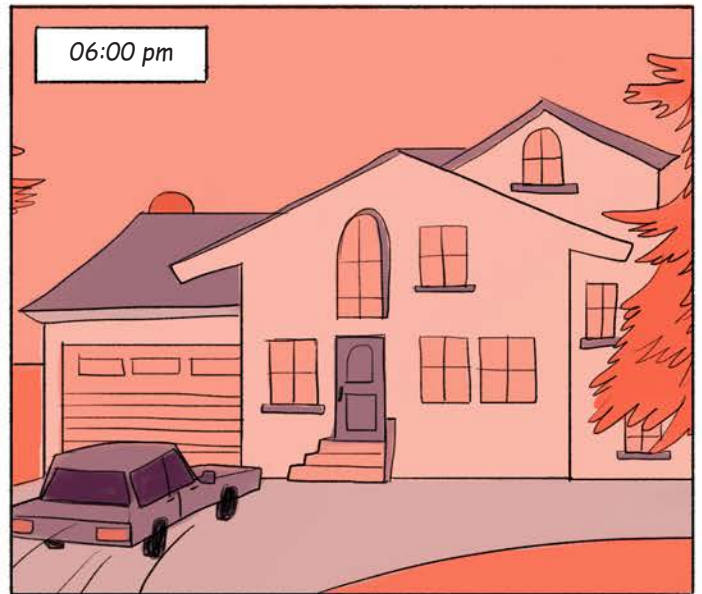
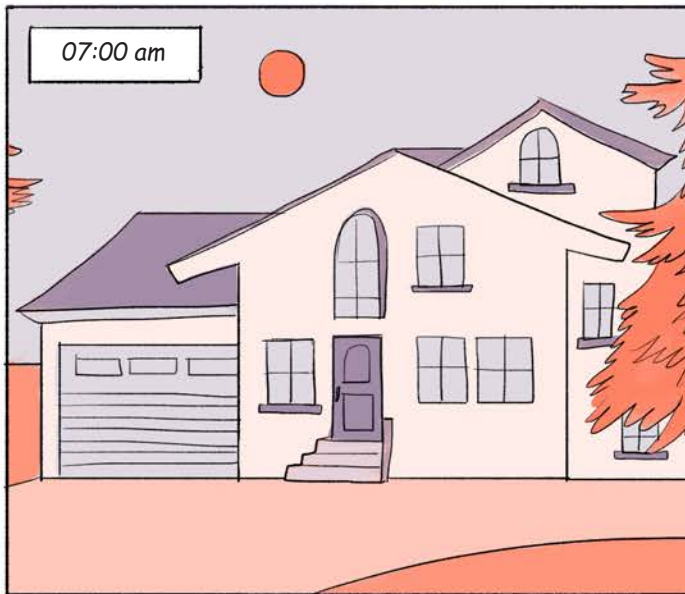
It's not that... I just can't talk about it. I don't know.

I'll be fine.

I'm Speaking

NEXT MORNING ...







The school counselor called us!
How could my daughter end up
like this, how can you do this to us??!
Again?!!

Do you know what they
said? They wanted to
know if everything was
okay at home. **What must
they be thinking?**

...

Your counselor is 'Ms. Li' but she
doesn't speak Korean ... she asked about
your history. She knew about last year
when you went to the mental hospital!
She even asked if **we** would like to
consider therapy!!

I can't believe this.
Ms. Li is cool, she won't tell anyone.
She's actually half Korean and half
Taiwanese. And mom, it's not a
mental hospital!! it's a psychiatric
facili—

does that even
matter???



Uh, well
I think we don't need
to worry about Ms. Li
and she might be able
to help—

**She might be
able to help
WHAT?!!**

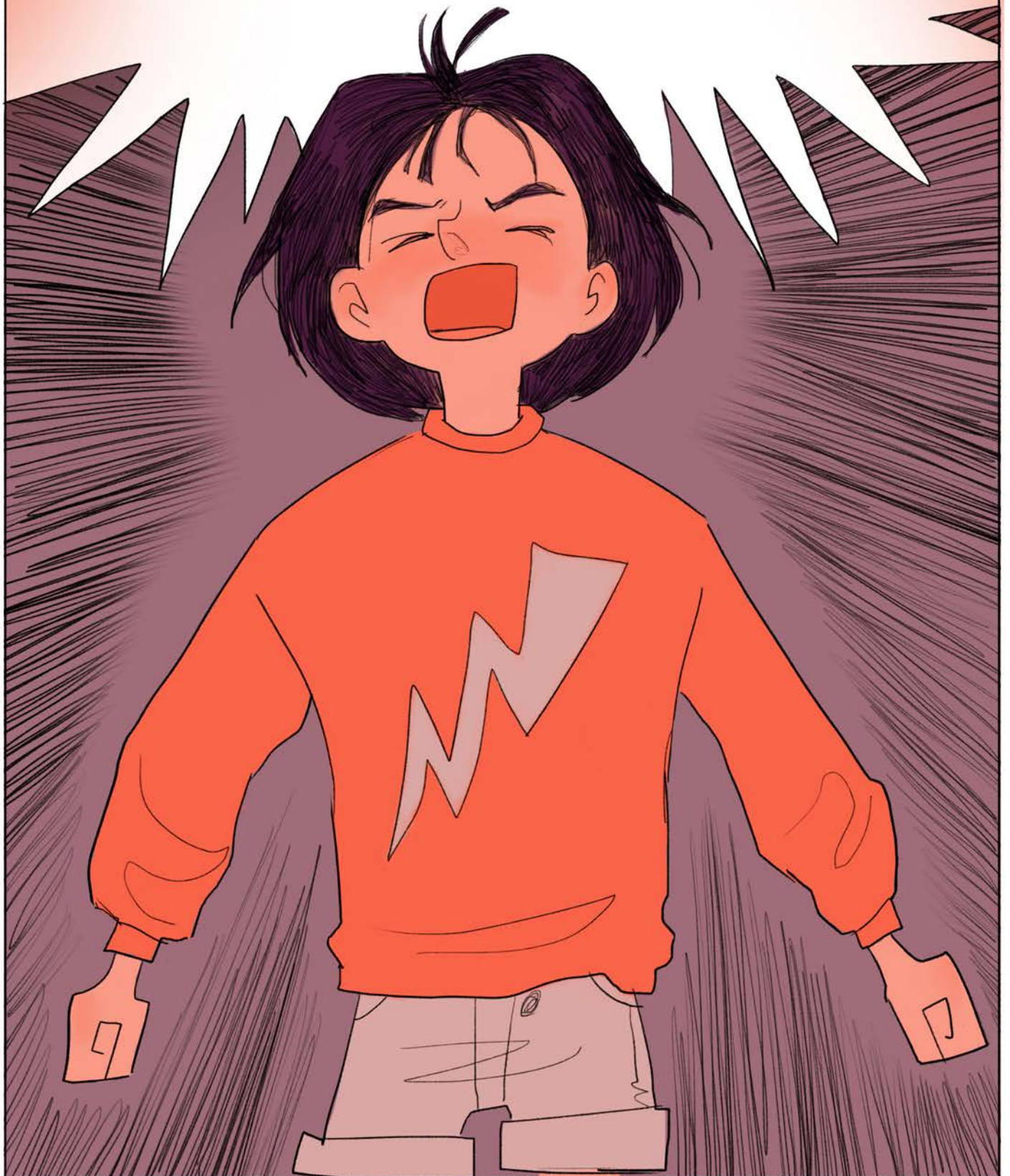
Well sadly
lots of kids hurt
themselves or say
they want to die
more than once.
I noticed Ms. Li
works with a lot of
the Asian kids and
they don't always go
back to the
hospital—

**are you saying that
is the goal? that
yumi doesn't go to
the hospital? after
everything she put
everyone through—**

...



EVERYONE STOP!!!!





do you think
about what you
put me through?



do you want to
tell yuri what
happened while she
was at her study
sleepover? yuri,
did you notice
dad's head?

Oh really?
Fell on top of a
metal pipe that
some nice man was
holding and somehow
only the other Asian
people in the subway
car fell on?

What!?
I heard he fell
on his way to
work!

what??



Mom,
what is she
talking about?

That's the biggest
problem—
TALKING.

They want to know **everything** when
I'm not going to class or when I
don't get a good grade but they're so
scared I'll say anything about what
actually happened!

While I'm at it might as well
say this—everyone cares about
me not going to school but no
one—no one except Marjana
and maybe Ms. Li—wanted to
know if I was **okay!** No one
bothers to ask me how I feel
or if anything happened.



Later that day

Yumi?

Can you hear me?

Do you wanna talk?

Seriously? That's what you're here to say??

Did you even hear what I was saying?

I know you don't wanna talk to us ... and honestly I didn't know all that about Dad. But I'm asking if you want to talk to Marjana.

No, she called me. She was worried.

I'm not saying you need to listen to me, but I think it'd help to talk to her and Ms. Li.

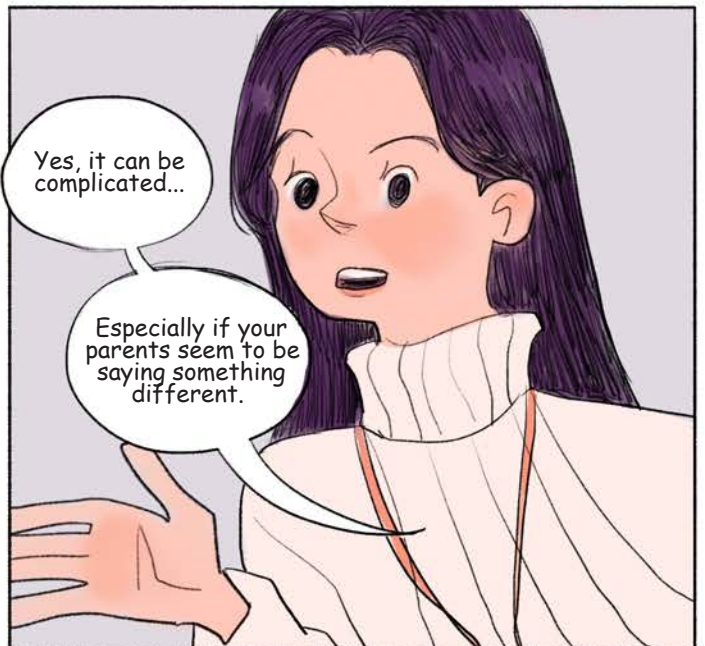
Oh my god, did you actually call her?!!

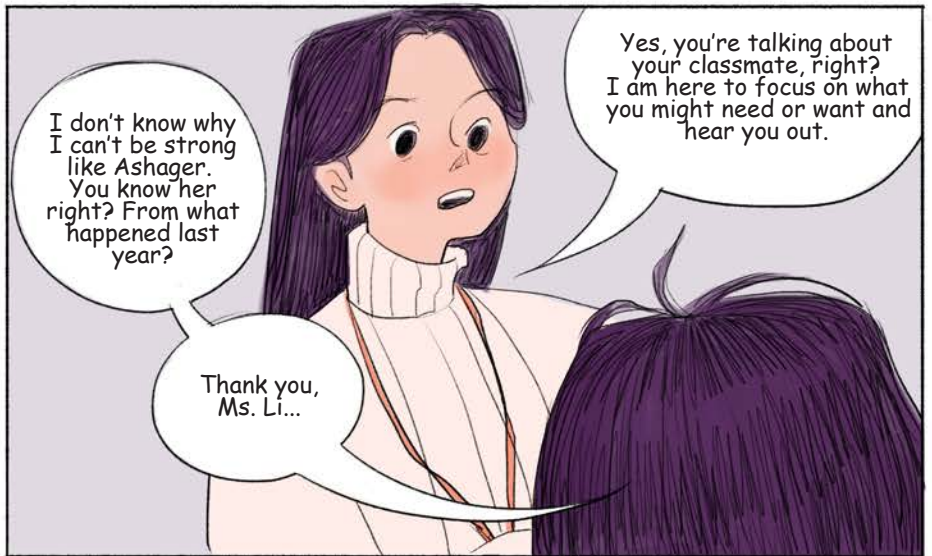
What is—

Just give it a chance.

I'm Speaking

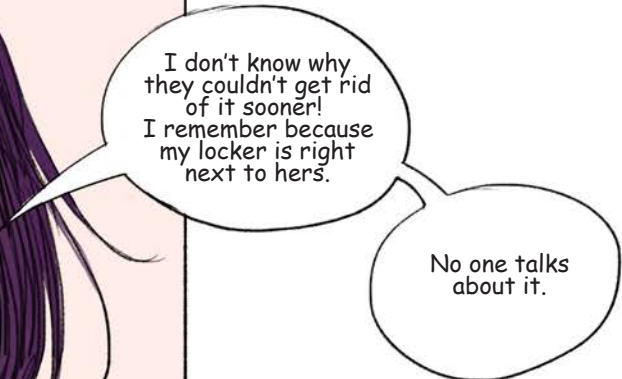
ONE WEEK LATER ...





Well, we all heard about the thing someone drew on Ashager's locker because she reported it ...

We were all shocked because we just finished reading about World War II and were reading US History ... Ashager explained how it affected her as an Ethiopian Jew.



Then last week before art class ...



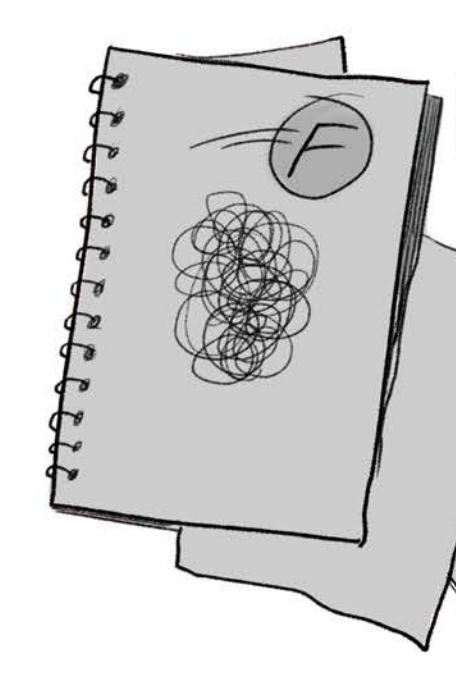
Someone drew something on my locker.



No one saw it either.



I wiped it off ... and went to class.

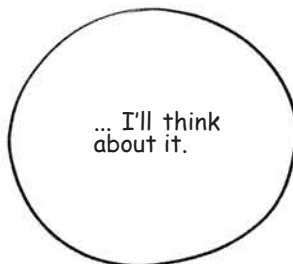
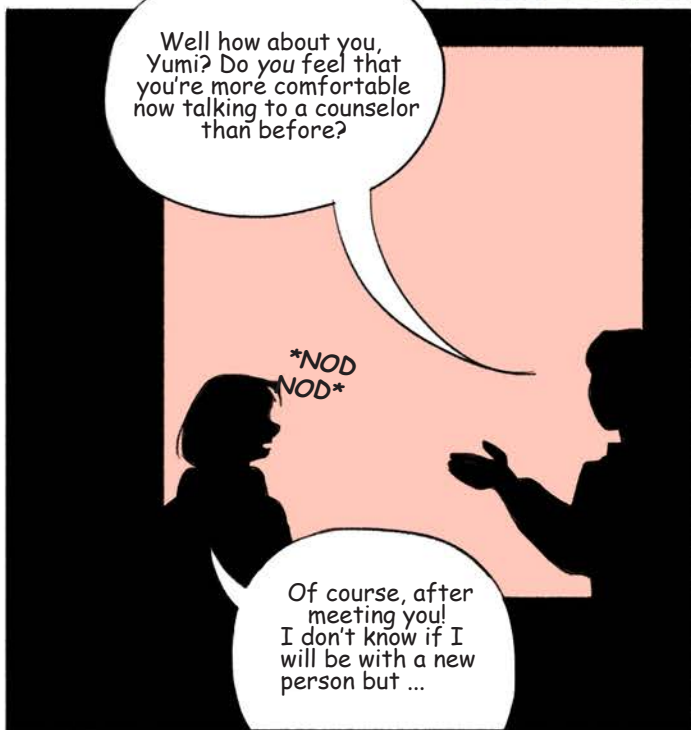
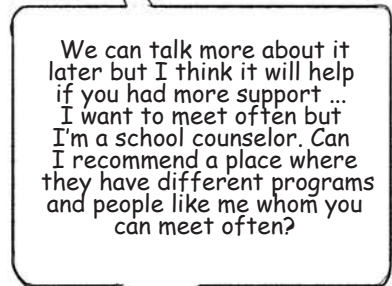




It's confusing because it's complicated.

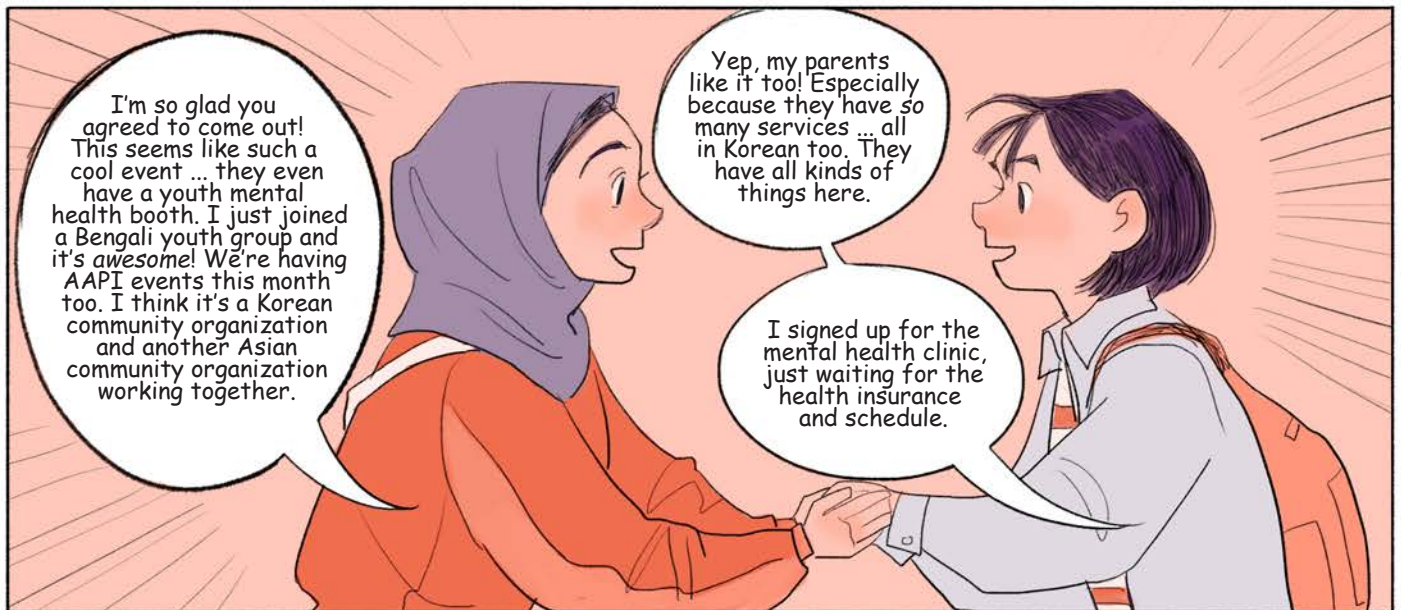
My parents might want what's best for me. So, if they think it's the best thing ... they might tell you not to play video games.






I'm Speaking

ONE WEEK LATER ...





 **KCS HATE-CRIME SURVEY FORM**

name gender ☐

address

email

phone

Q1 Have you experienced any kind of hate-crime?

Q2 did you seek help from law enforcements?

Q3 what service would you like to recieve?

OMG ...
What do you want
to do Yumi?



