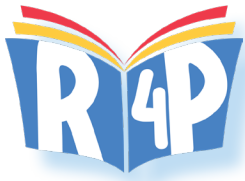


Reads for Paeds

David's
Eyepatch
& the
Super
Devicers



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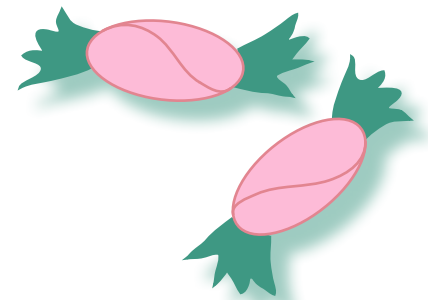
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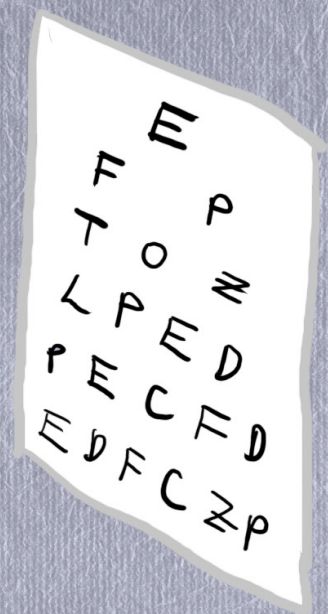
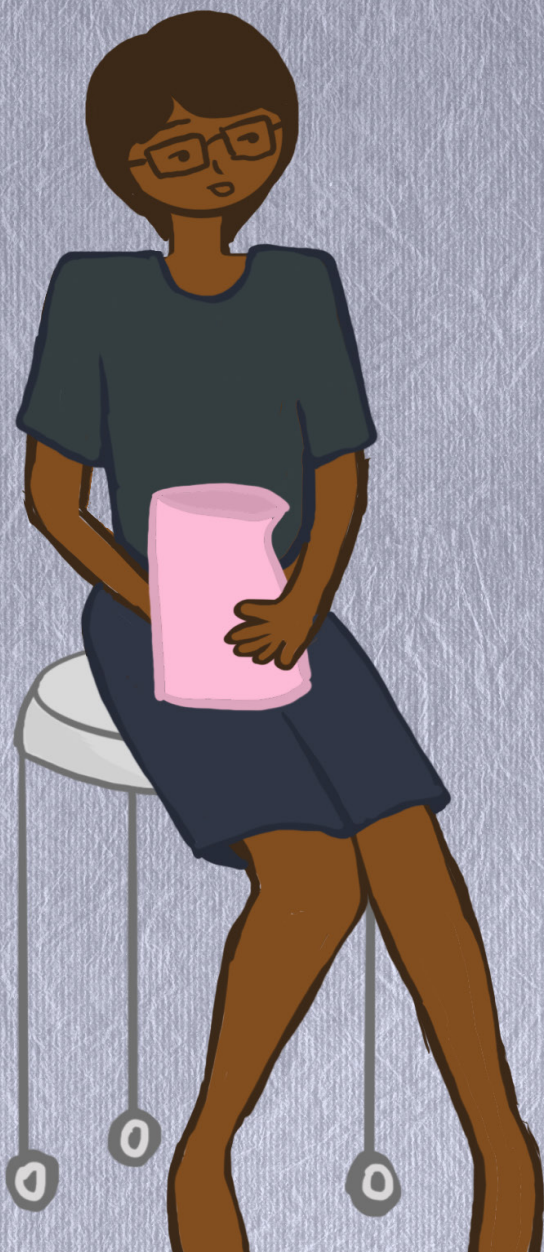
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Reads for Paeds

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Yesterday, I went to see the eye doctor. My Mom told me the doctor would help me see better. My Dad said that we could stop at the candy shop on the way there and I could get whatever I wanted to eat after the visit. I loooove candy. Plus, I wanted to see without squinting my eyes and shriveling up my nose. So, I went to see the eye doctor and sat on a big chair in their office.





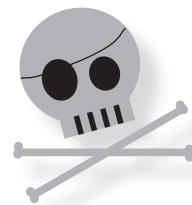
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The doctor used bright lights and fancy equipment
to look at my eyes.

“Most of the time”, they said, “our two eyes can see the same.
But today it seems like your right eye sees better than your left”.

The doctor told me that if I wanted both of my eyes to see equally
when I grew up, I'd have to wear an eye patch every day until my
weaker eye saw better.



“AN EYE PATCH!”, I thought, “aren’t those meant for pirates?!”

I was embarrassed and sad that one of my eyes was weaker than the other. I didn’t want to wear something like that to school, and felt myself getting angry that I had no other option.

The next morning, I thought “what will everyone think of me as I went to school with my new eyepatch on?”





At school my classmates stared at me and some of them giggled. When the teacher said we were having an indoor recess because of a storm outside, we were given markers to draw. I decided I really didn't like how my eye patches looked and I wanted to see what I could do to make them look nicer. I picked up the markers and started to draw on an extra eye patch from my backpack. I no longer thought about the stares.

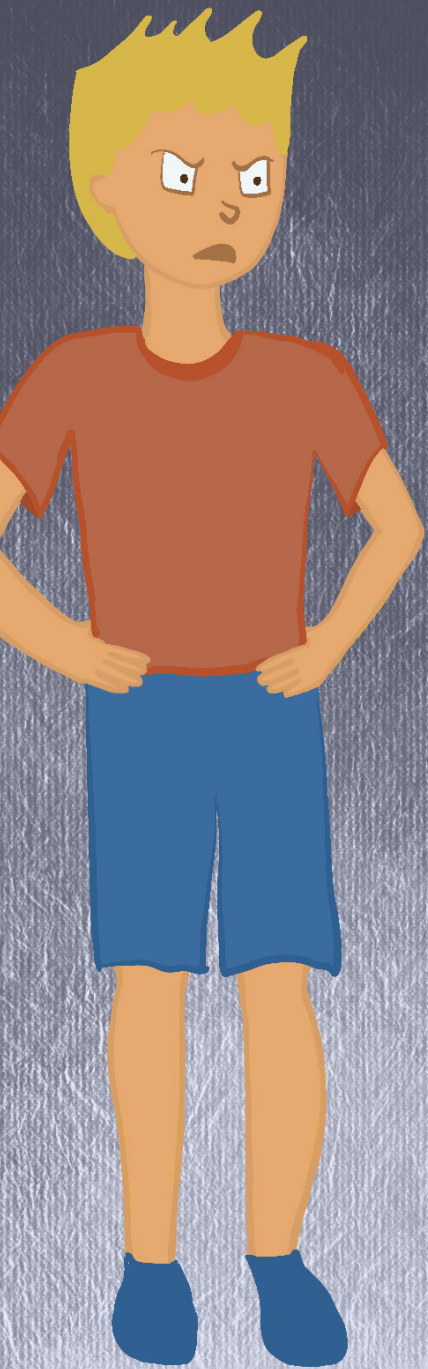
Drawing made me feel calm.

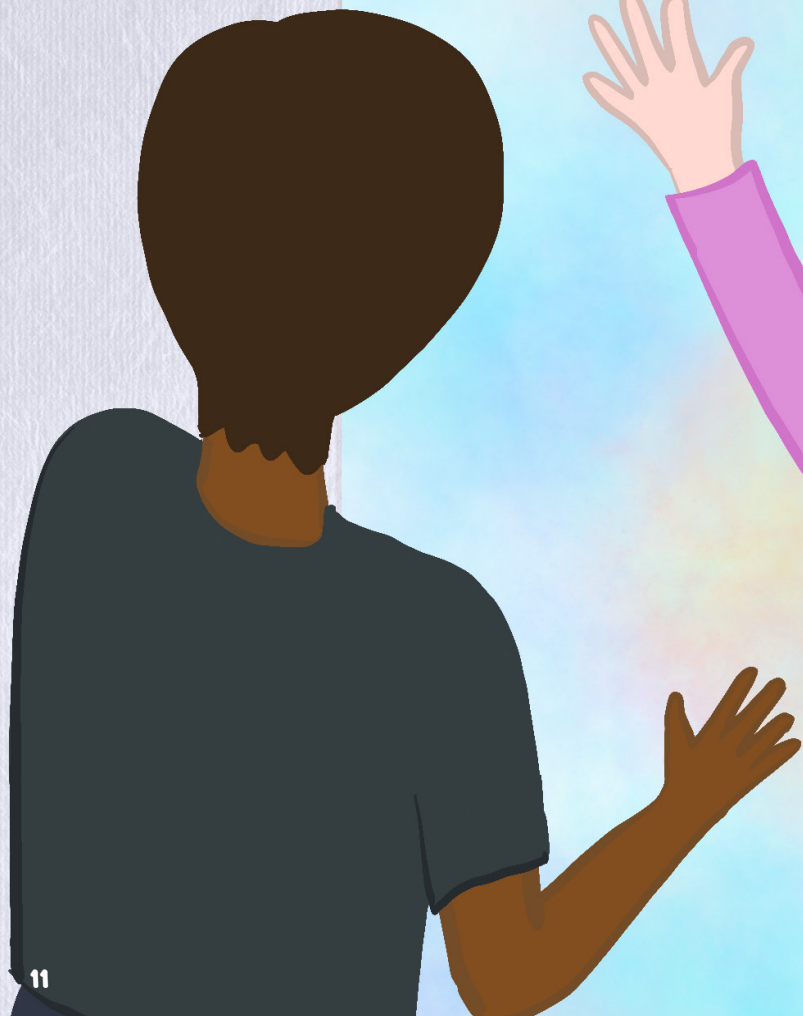


While I was drawing, my classmate Amby came up to my desk and started laughing at me.

He said, “you can’t be good at art if you’re only using one eye!” and pointed at me.

I could feel the rest of my class stare. I felt tears collecting in the bottom of my eyepatch as I got up and ran for the door. I realized I loved drawing and Amby ruined this for me.





I was walking down the hall, upset and embarrassed,
when the door at the end of the corridor opened.

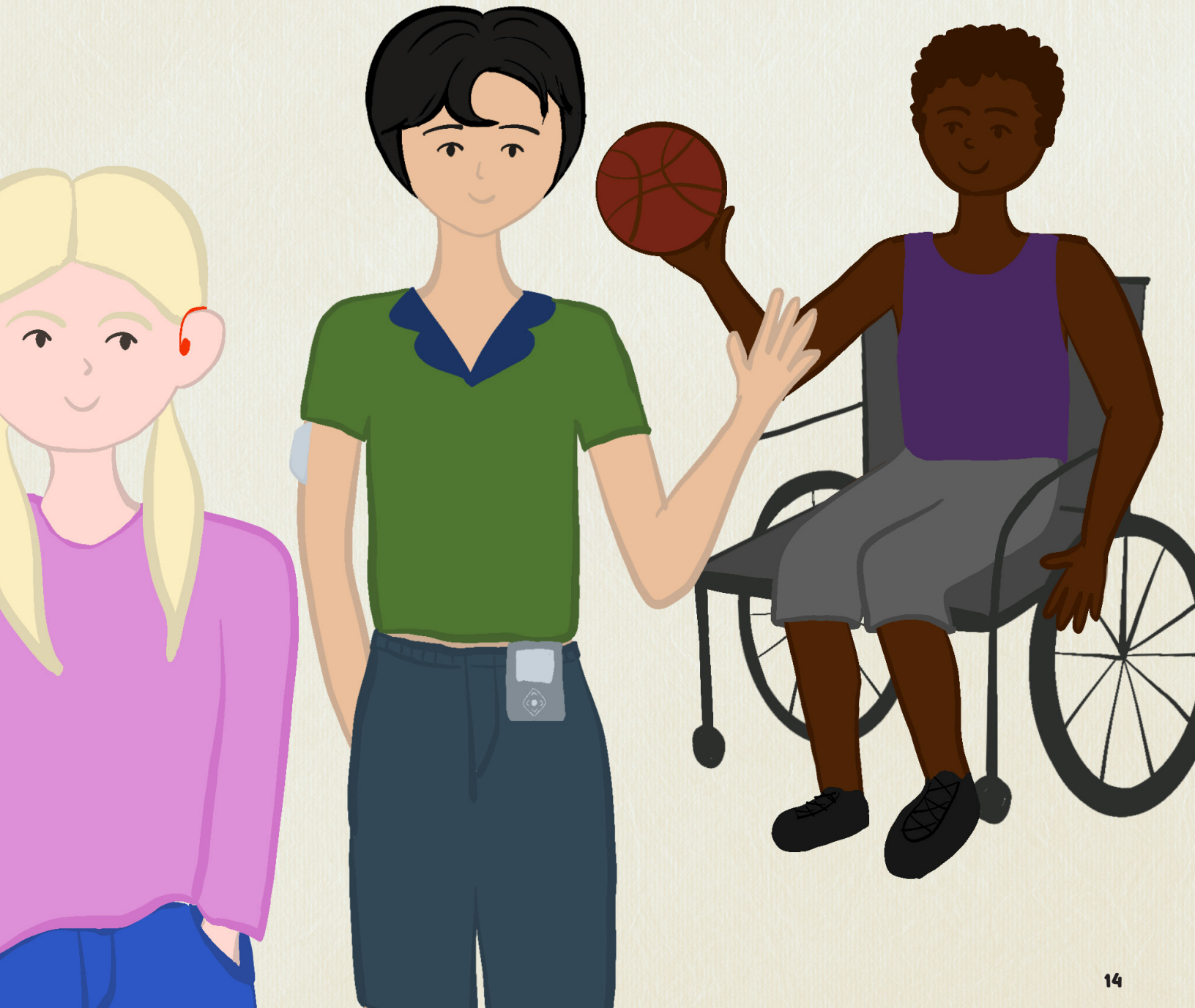
On the other side was Jenna, who I recognized from another class.

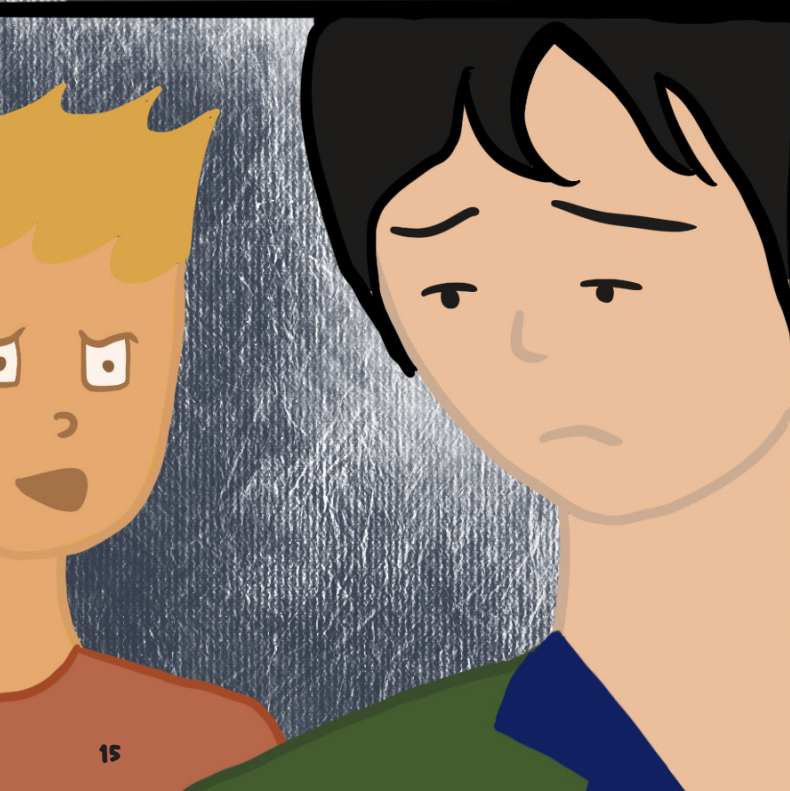
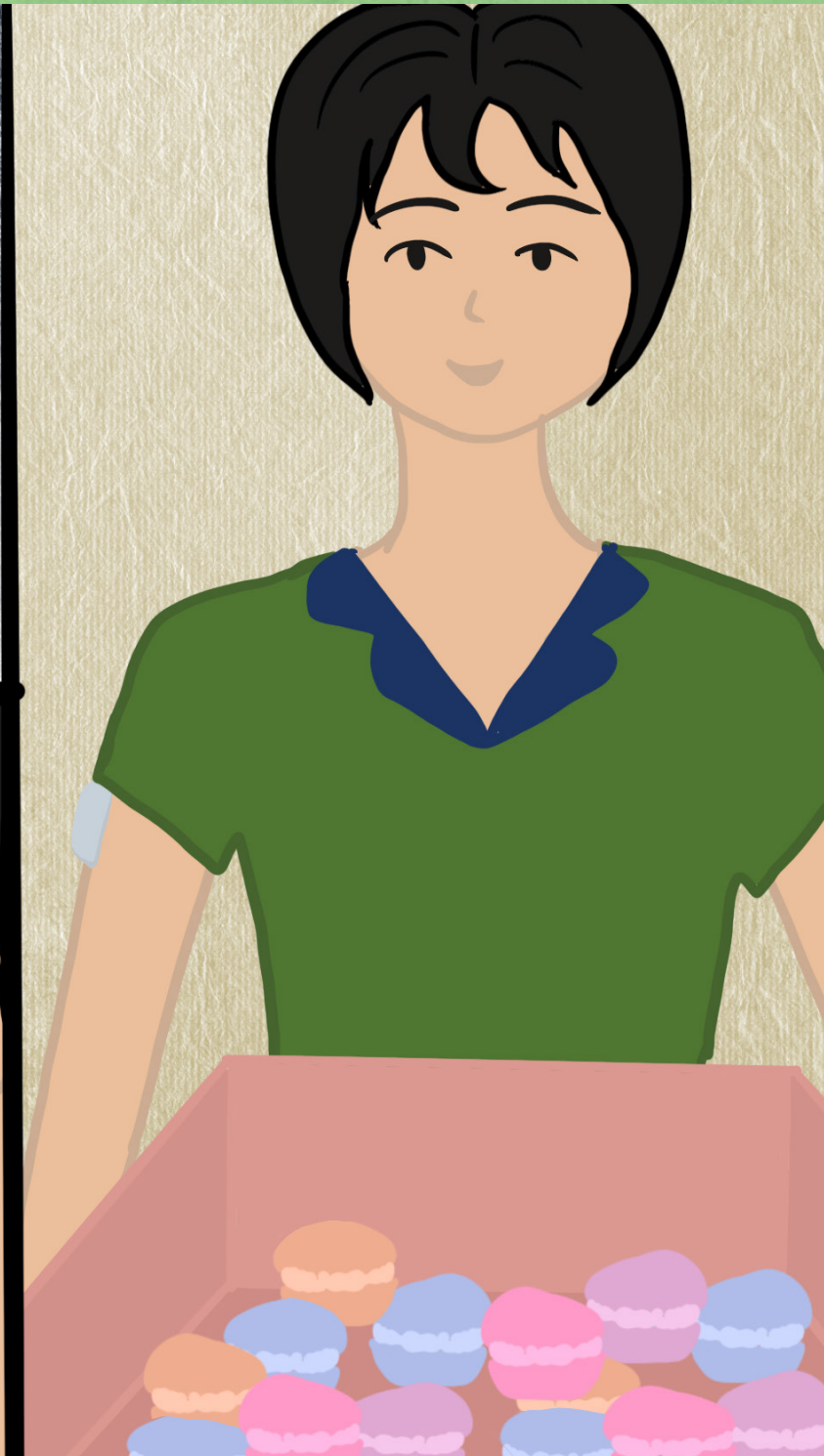
“Psst”, Jenna said, “get in here”, and she waved me into the gym.

As I walked in, I noticed a metal piece above her ear that I had
never seen before. “Don’t worry about what Amby said, he said
mean things to us too”.

Jenna leads me to a table where a few other kids are sitting. One of them had a patch like mine, but on their arm. I noticed another was sitting in a wheelchair. The whole group looked really excited to see me.

“Cool eye-patch!” one kid said.







They seemed so friendly! I took a seat and told them about the bully who told me I couldn't paint.

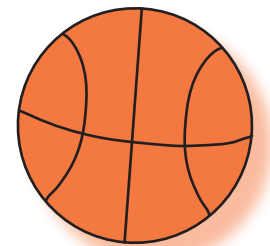
“My name is Fil! When I was a baby, I got really sick and now I have diabetes. The patch on my arm is to check the sugar in my blood and the insulin pump makes sure that it's normal.

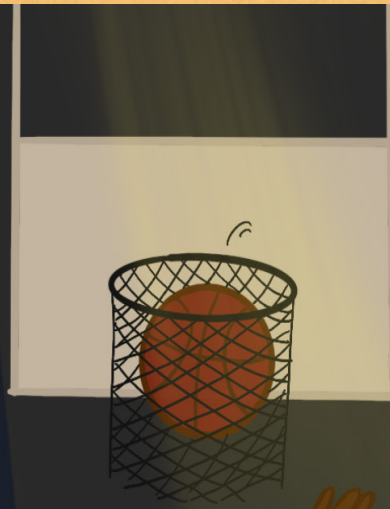
Amby once asked me ‘what kid with diabetes could be a good cook?’ I was sad, but I tried anyway. My cookies ended up being the best-selling item at the last bake sale!”

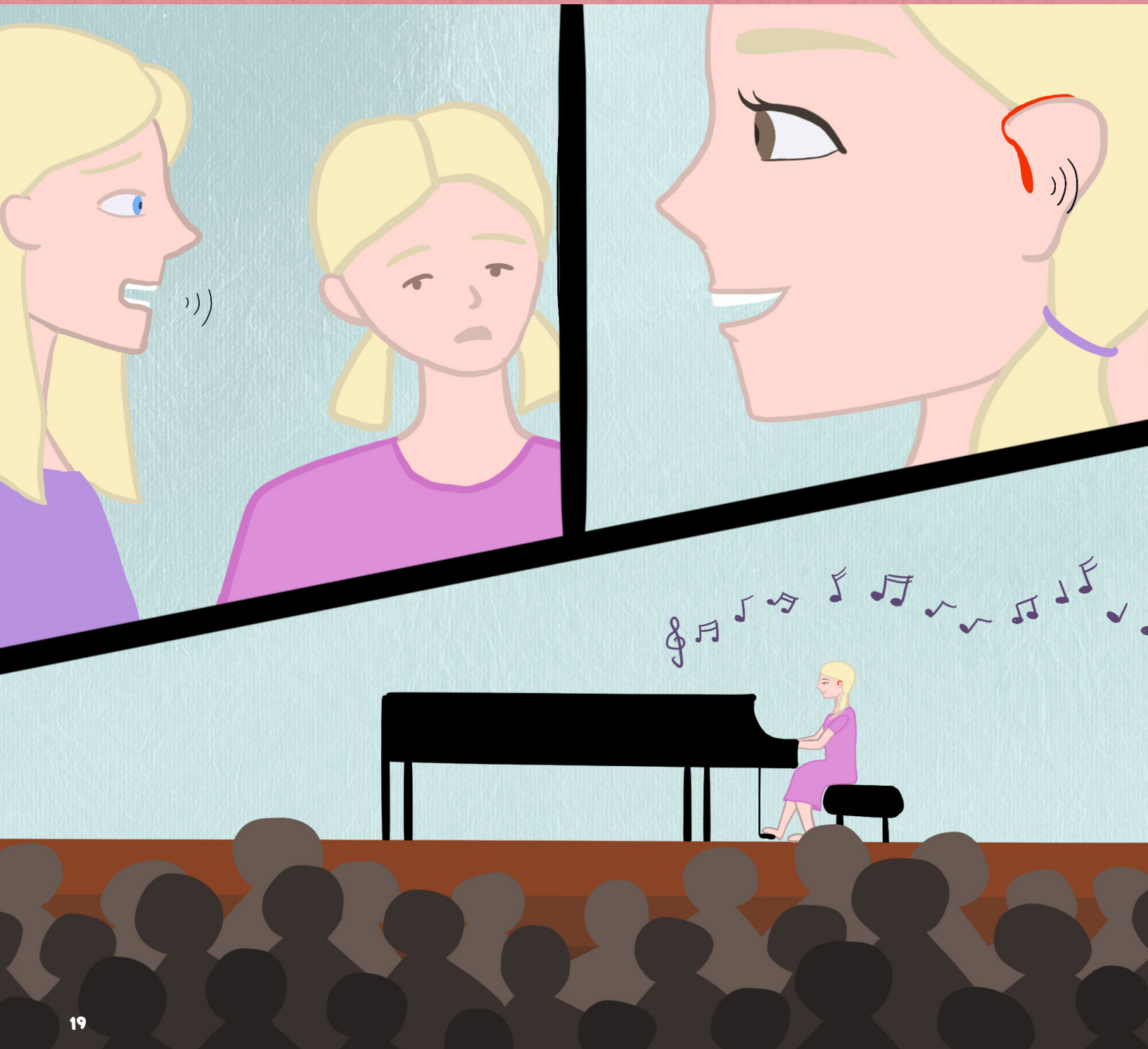


“I’m Hisham! I have a muscle disease, which makes it hard for me to walk. I’ve used braces and crutches and a wheelchair to help me get around.”

Amby told me that I could never be good at sports because of my wheelchair!” **said Hisham.** “But guess what? I scored the most points at the county basketball tournament!”







“A new friend! Nice to meet you. I’m Jenna. I often have a tough time hearing others on my own. I have a cochlear implant that lets me hear a lot better!

Amby told me that ‘no kid with a hearing aid could be good at music... You know what’s loud and clear - the cheers from the crowd after my piano solo at the recital last month.’”



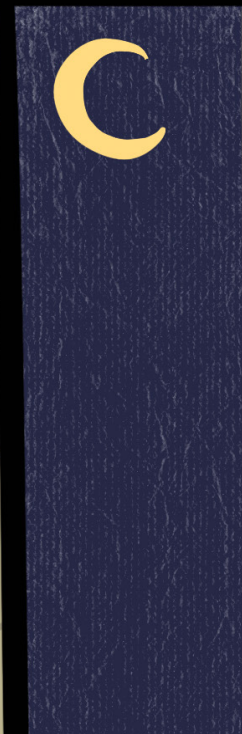
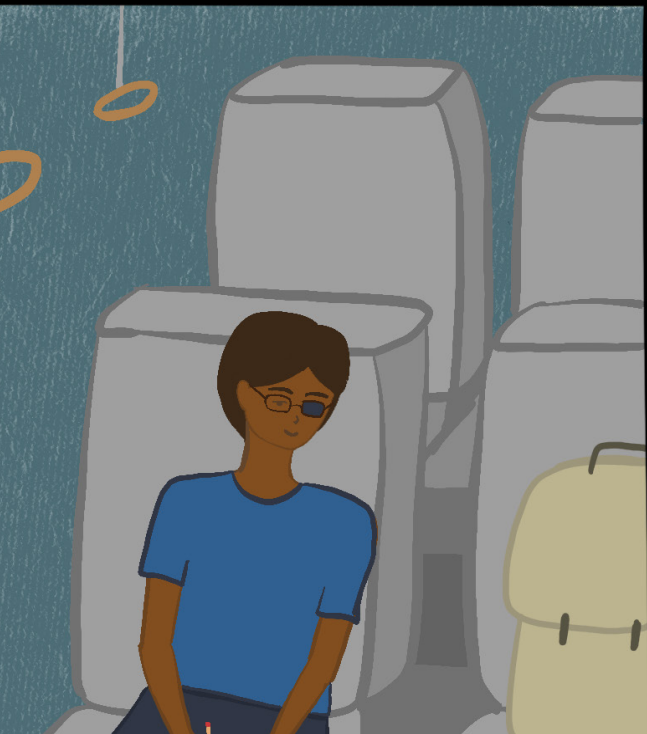
Fil said to me: “You know David, your eye patch is so cool. Looks like you started a really crazy drawing on it. You should finish it, I’d love to see how it turns out!”

Hisham chimed in: “Yeah, I’ve been noticing it too. There’s also that art contest coming up. You should enter your eye patch! I bet you’d have the most unique art!”

I thought about what Jenna, Fil and Hisham told me. It seems they all had found their secret weapons from their devices.

I looked at my half-drawn eye patch. Maybe they were right, could my eye patch be my secret power? I did really love drawing on it... Maybe I’ll try drawing different kinds and if I like them I could try for that contest?







I listened as the Principal said my name. I couldn't believe it. My collection of eye patches "Eyes of Justice" won the FIRST prize.

He placed a medal around my neck and then I could see everyone in our class running up to get a closer look at my eye patches. Everyone looked so impressed.

Then I saw Amby awkwardly moving towards me. I could feel my stomach get tight. I REALLY didn't want him to ruin this moment. Amby said: "You know, these are pretty cool. I wish I could draw like that."

I was so surprised, it took me a moment to reply, "You can, or maybe you have some other secret talent that you don't know about yet."

My friends all ran up to congratulate me!

“You did it!” shouted Hisham.

“The eye patches are so cool!” said Jenna.

“I wish I could be as artistic as you, what’s your secret?” Fil laughed.

I think of each of their special talents and I wonder how they are so good at all of them.

I guess my eye patch is my secret power.



The QMed Reads for Paeds project was started by the Queen's Medicine Class of 2017. Our mission is to produce engaging storybooks for children that demystify topics in pediatric health. The books are gifts from us to patients, with the hope of empowering them and their families.

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