

The illustration depicts a scene from a story. On the left, a massive, brown, shaggy creature with a human-like face and a large nose sits in a field of tall green grass. A young boy with dark hair, wearing a dark blue t-shirt, red shorts, and green sneakers, sits on the creature's back. To the right, two other characters stand in the grass. One is a young boy with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a pink and white long-sleeved shirt and green shorts. The other is a smaller, blue-skinned character with spiky yellow hair and a red loincloth. The background shows a sunset sky with warm orange and yellow tones, and a blue body of water in the distance. The overall style is a soft, painterly illustration.

# ERU AND GWAAI

## THE ANCESTRAL SPIRIT RAVEN

KIWA AND ARCANA PRESENT

**MYTHICAL  
CREATURES**

ERU LIVES AND BREATHES VIDEO GAMES. HE IS ALWAYS PLAYING OR THINKING ABOUT PLAYING GAMES. IT'S HIS PASSION.



I'M FED UP! YOU DON'T DO ANYTHING BUT PLAY THOSE GAMES!



GO AND PLAY OUTSIDE!

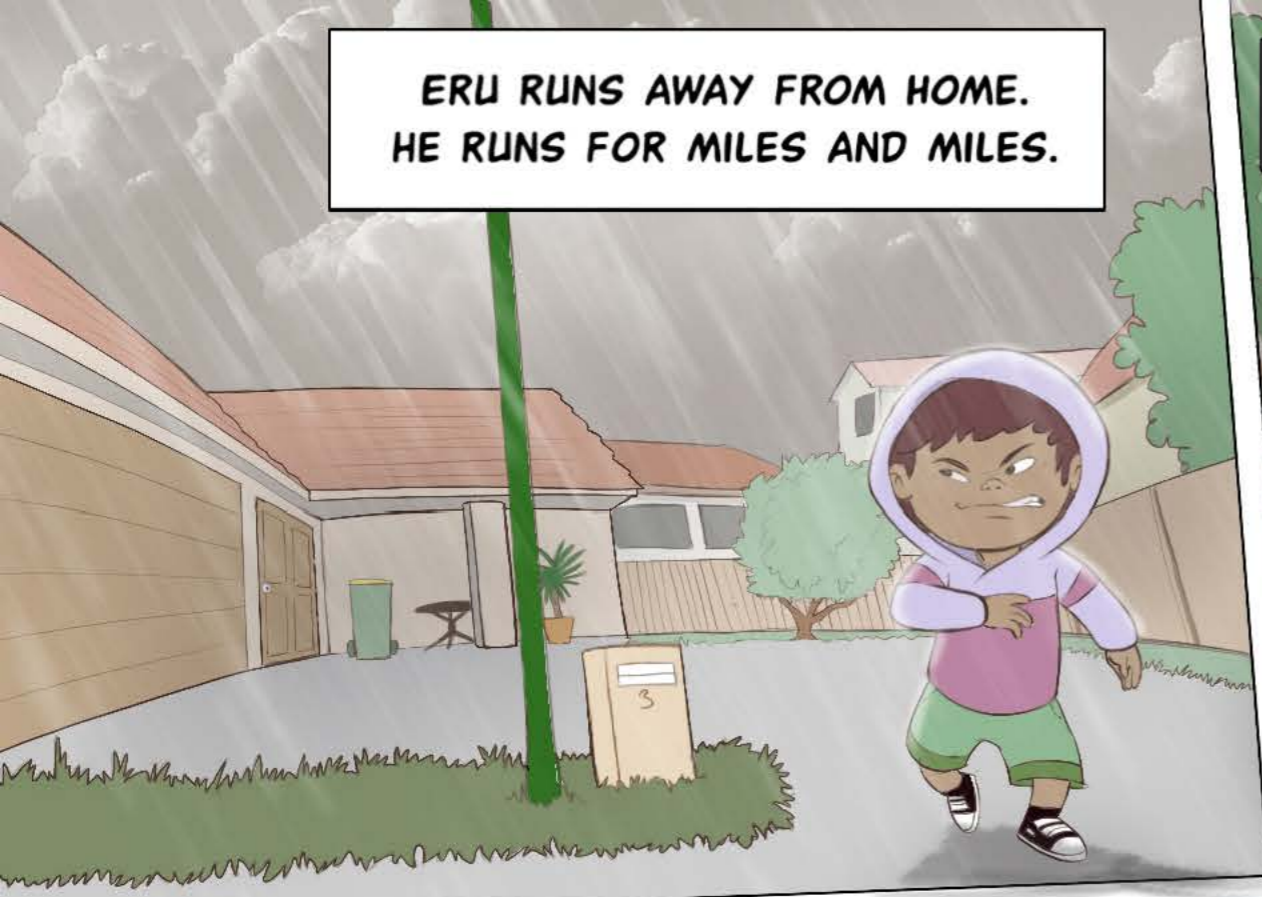


NO!

I HATE YOU!



**ERU RUNS AWAY FROM HOME.  
HE RUNS FOR MILES AND MILES.**



**SUDDENLY, THERE IS A HUGE STORM**



**DANG...**



**FINDING SHELTER IN A SMALL CAVE...**



**...HE FALLS ASLEEP.**



ERU SLEEPS  
FOR A VERY  
LONG TIME...



**WHAT?**



WHERE AM I?

SCARED AND ALONE,  
ERU WANDERS INTO  
THIS NEW FOREST.  
ALL SEEMS LOST...

...UNTIL ERU HEARS MUSIC  
IN THE DISTANCE.

WHERE IS THAT  
MUSIC COMING  
FROM?

ERU WANDERS DEEPER INTO THE BIG MISTY FOREST...

DEEP INTO THE FOREST,  
ERU NOTICES STRANGE  
PEOPLE DANCING.

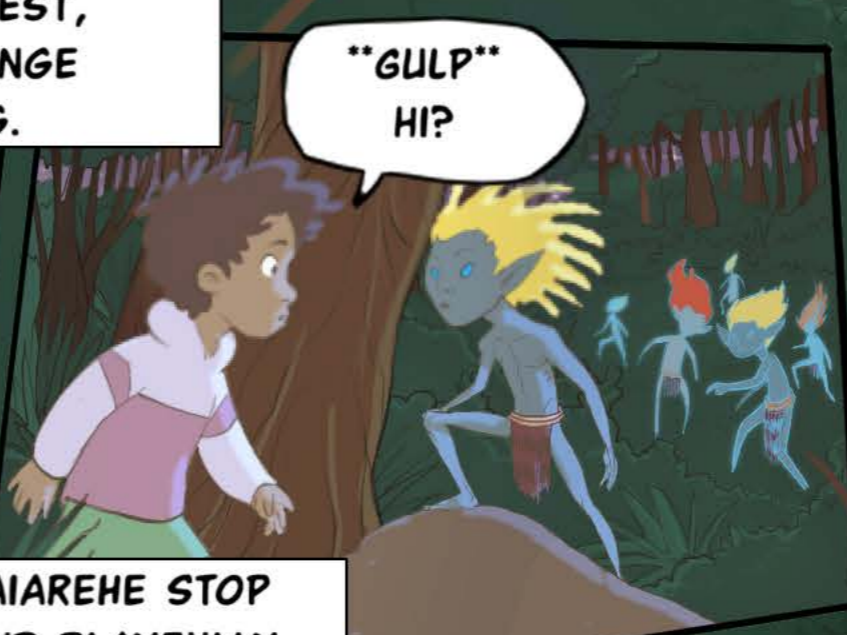
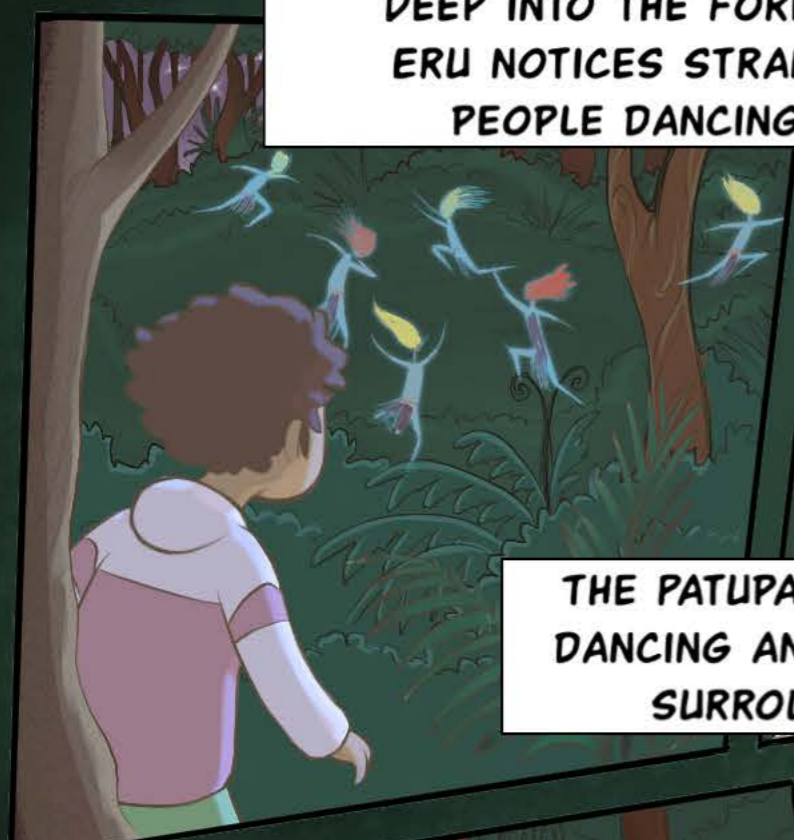
\*\*GULP\*\*  
HI?


THE PATUPAIAREHE STOP  
DANCING AND PLAYFULLY  
SURROUND ERU.

HE HEARS THE FLAPPING  
OF GREAT WINGS...

DON'T BE  
SCARED  
CHILD!

MY NAME IS  
HINE-RURU.





AT GREAT SPEED, HINE-RURU TAKES ERU OUT OVER THE OCEAN.

WHAT ARE WE DOING OUT HERE?

I KNOW SOMEONE WHO WILL BE ABLE TO HELP US.



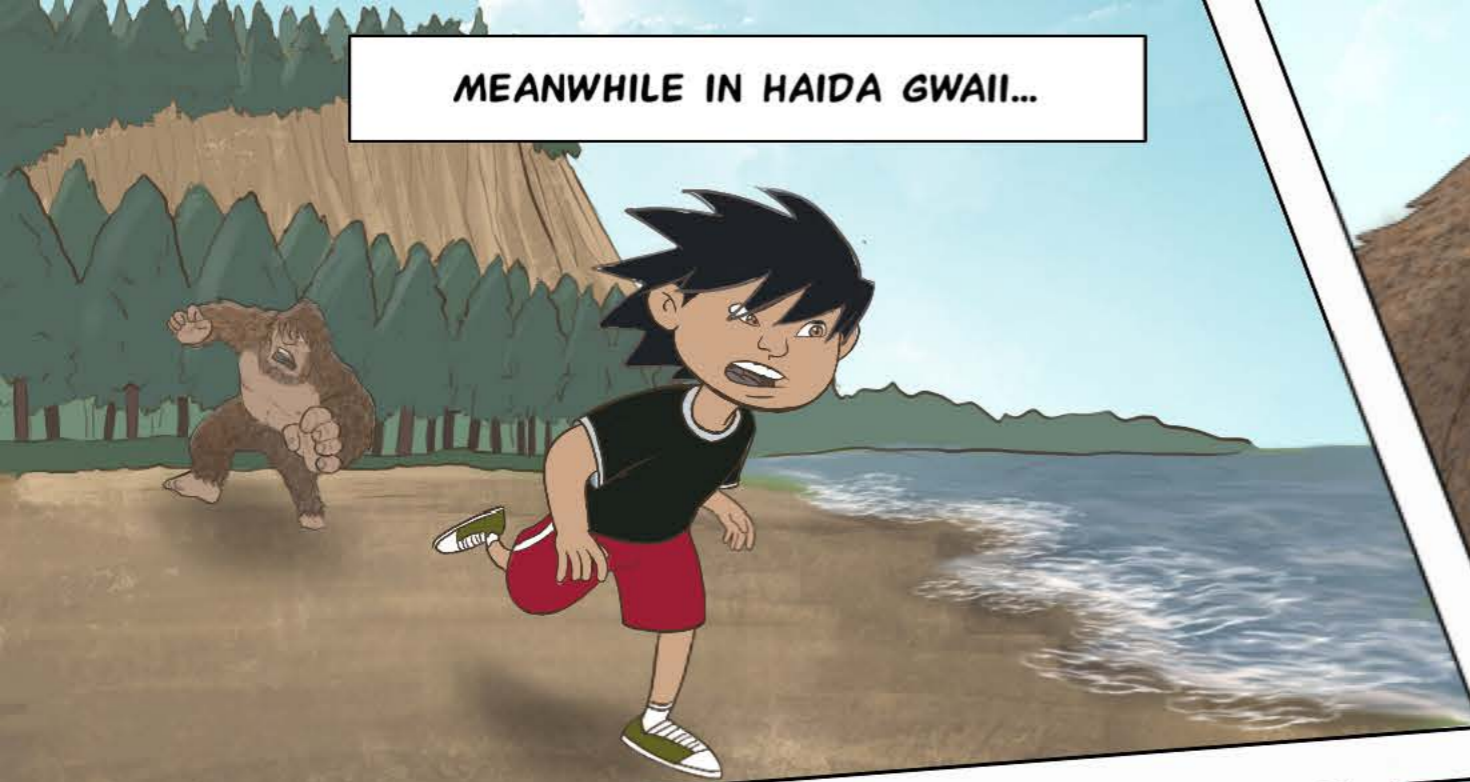
JUST THEN AN EXPLOSION OF WATER DRENCHES THEM!!



ERU, MEET THE TANIWHA!



MEANWHILE IN HAIDA GWAII...

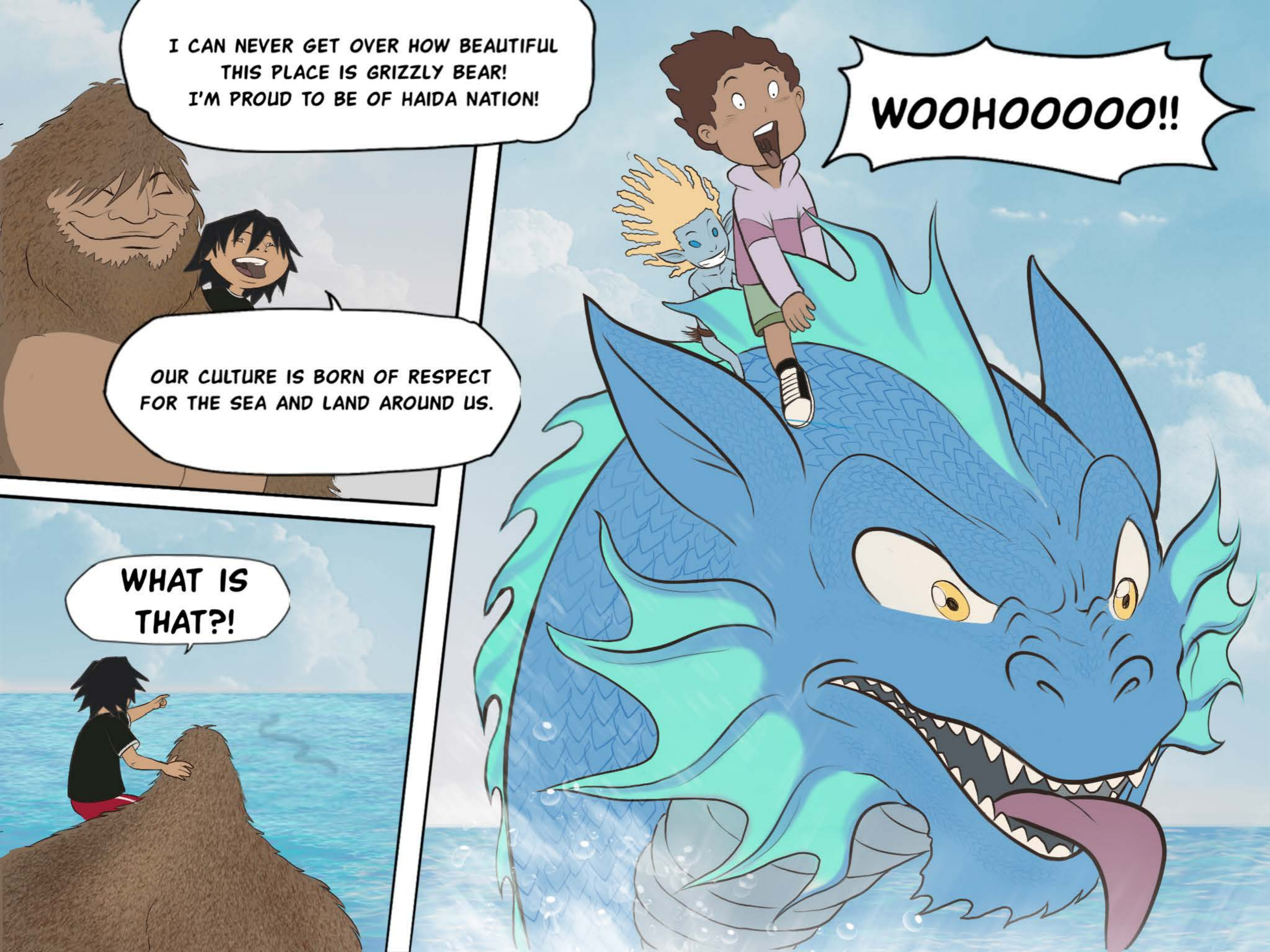


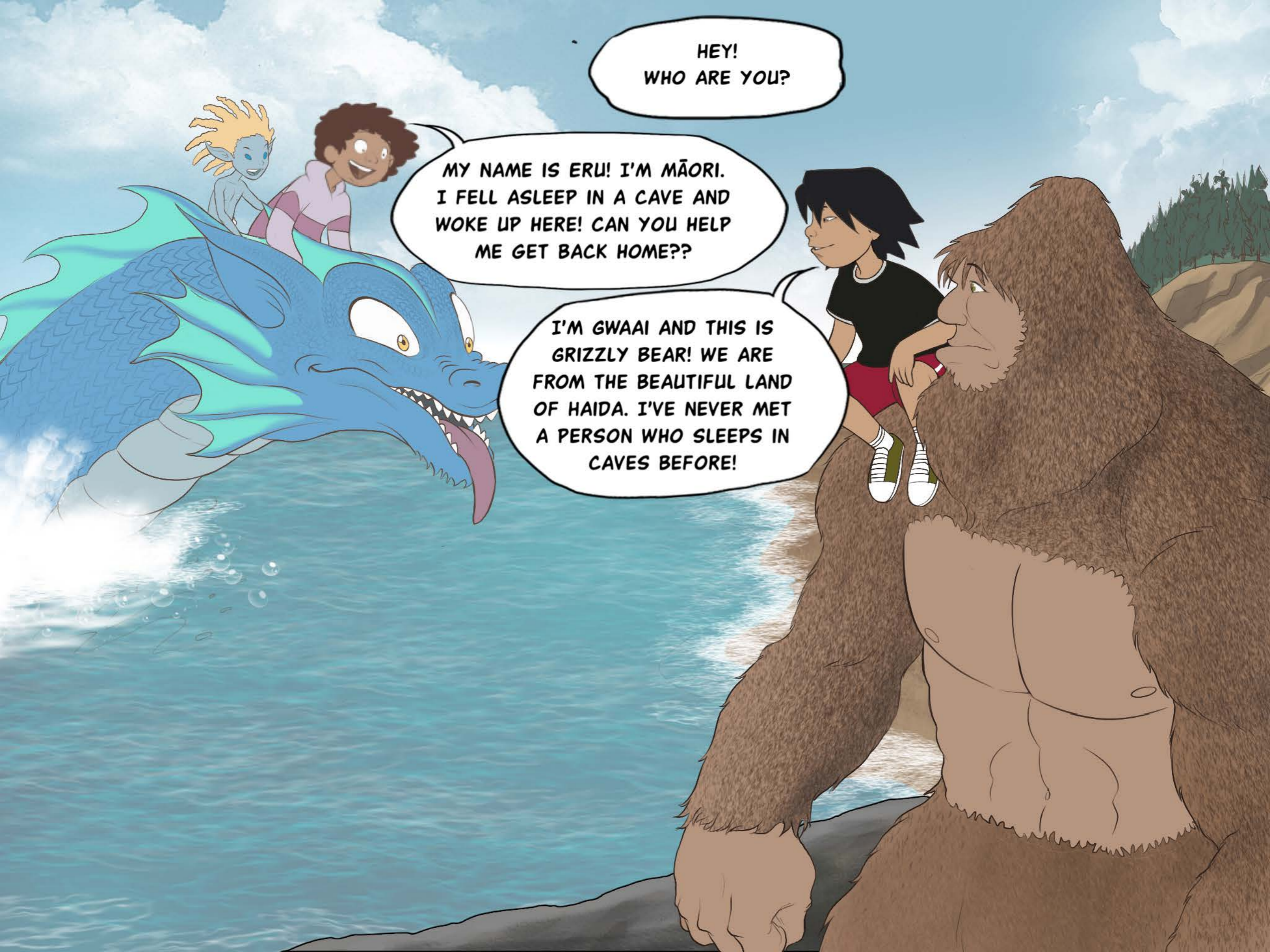
I CAN NEVER GET OVER HOW BEAUTIFUL  
THIS PLACE IS GRIZZLY BEAR!  
I'M PROUD TO BE OF HAIDA NATION!

OUR CULTURE IS BORN OF RESPECT  
FOR THE SEA AND LAND AROUND US.

WHAT IS  
THAT?!

WOOHOOOOO!!





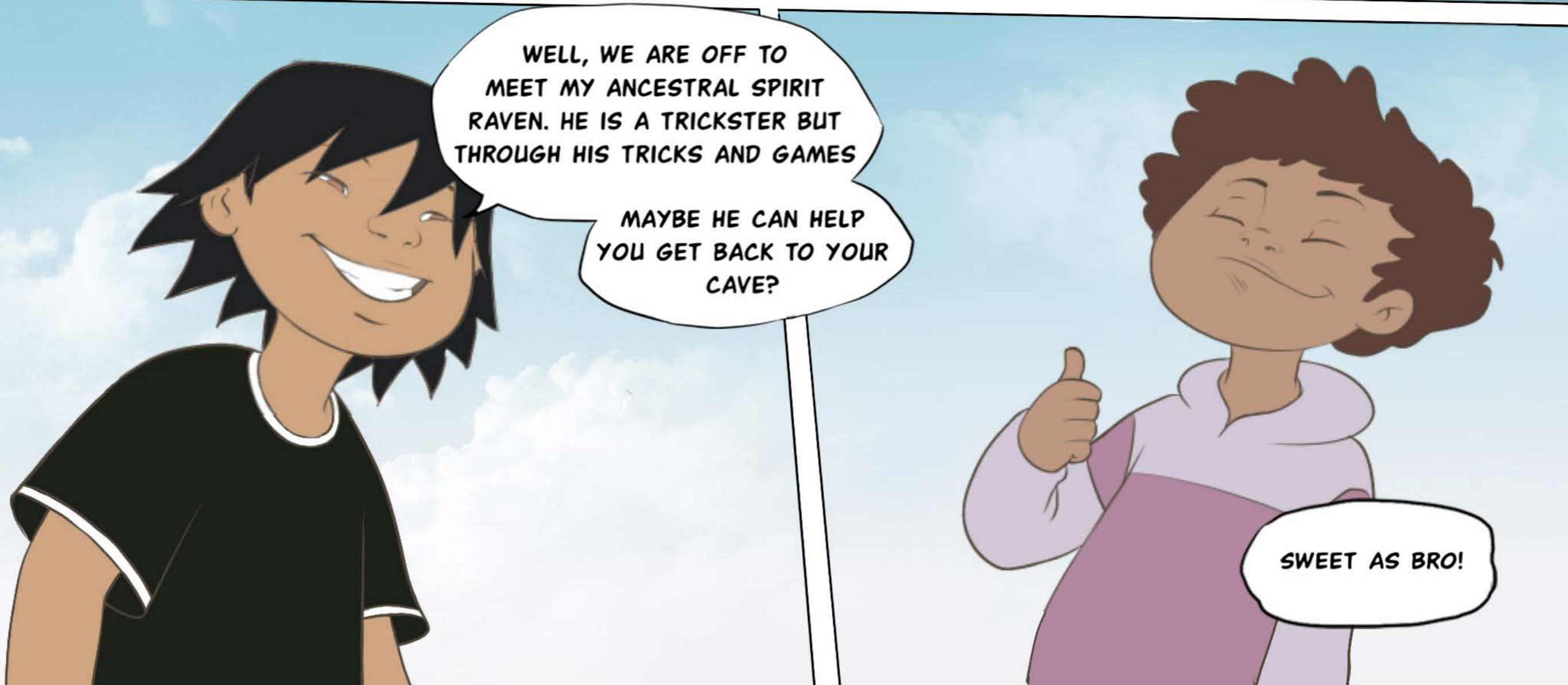
HEY!  
WHO ARE YOU?

MY NAME IS ERU! I'M MĀORI.  
I FELL ASLEEP IN A CAVE AND  
WOKE UP HERE! CAN YOU HELP  
ME GET BACK HOME??

I'M GWAAI AND THIS IS  
GRIZZLY BEAR! WE ARE  
FROM THE BEAUTIFUL LAND  
OF HAIDA. I'VE NEVER MET  
A PERSON WHO SLEEPS IN  
CAVES BEFORE!



CAN YOU HELP  
ME GET HOME?



WELL, WE ARE OFF TO  
MEET MY ANCESTRAL SPIRIT  
RAVEN. HE IS A TRICKSTER BUT  
THROUGH HIS TRICKS AND GAMES  
MAYBE HE CAN HELP  
YOU GET BACK TO YOUR  
CAVE?

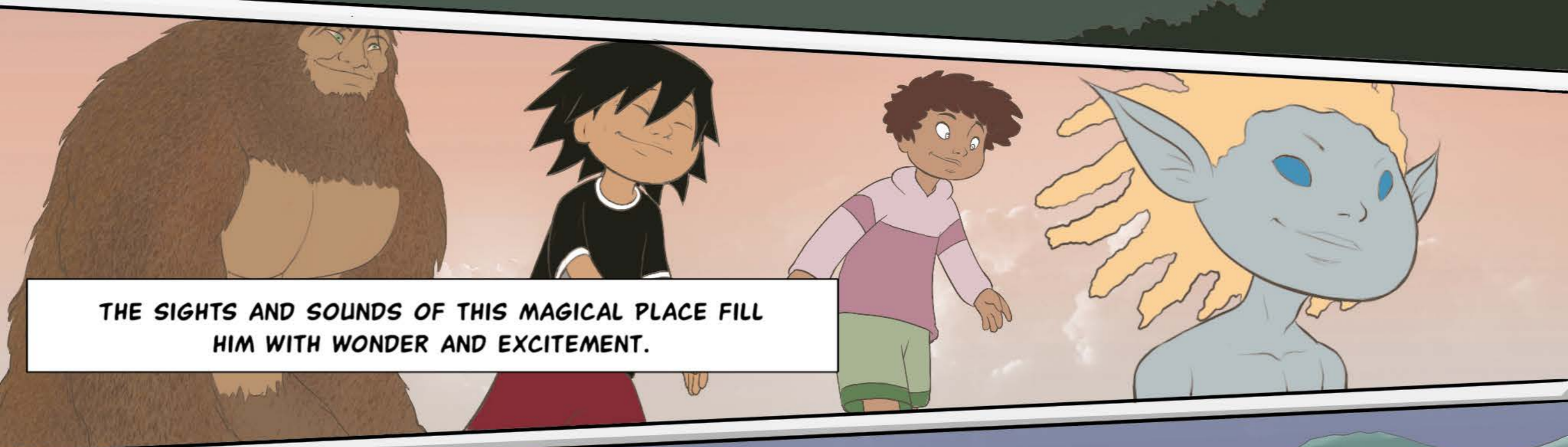
SWEET AS BRO!

THE TWO BOYS SET OFF ON THEIR UNEXPECTED ADVENTURE THROUGH THE GREAT LANDS OF THE HAIDA NATION.



BUT THEY DON'T GO ALONE...

ERU HAS NEVER BEEN ON AN ADVENTURE BEFORE.



THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF THIS MAGICAL PLACE FILL HIM WITH WONDER AND EXCITEMENT.



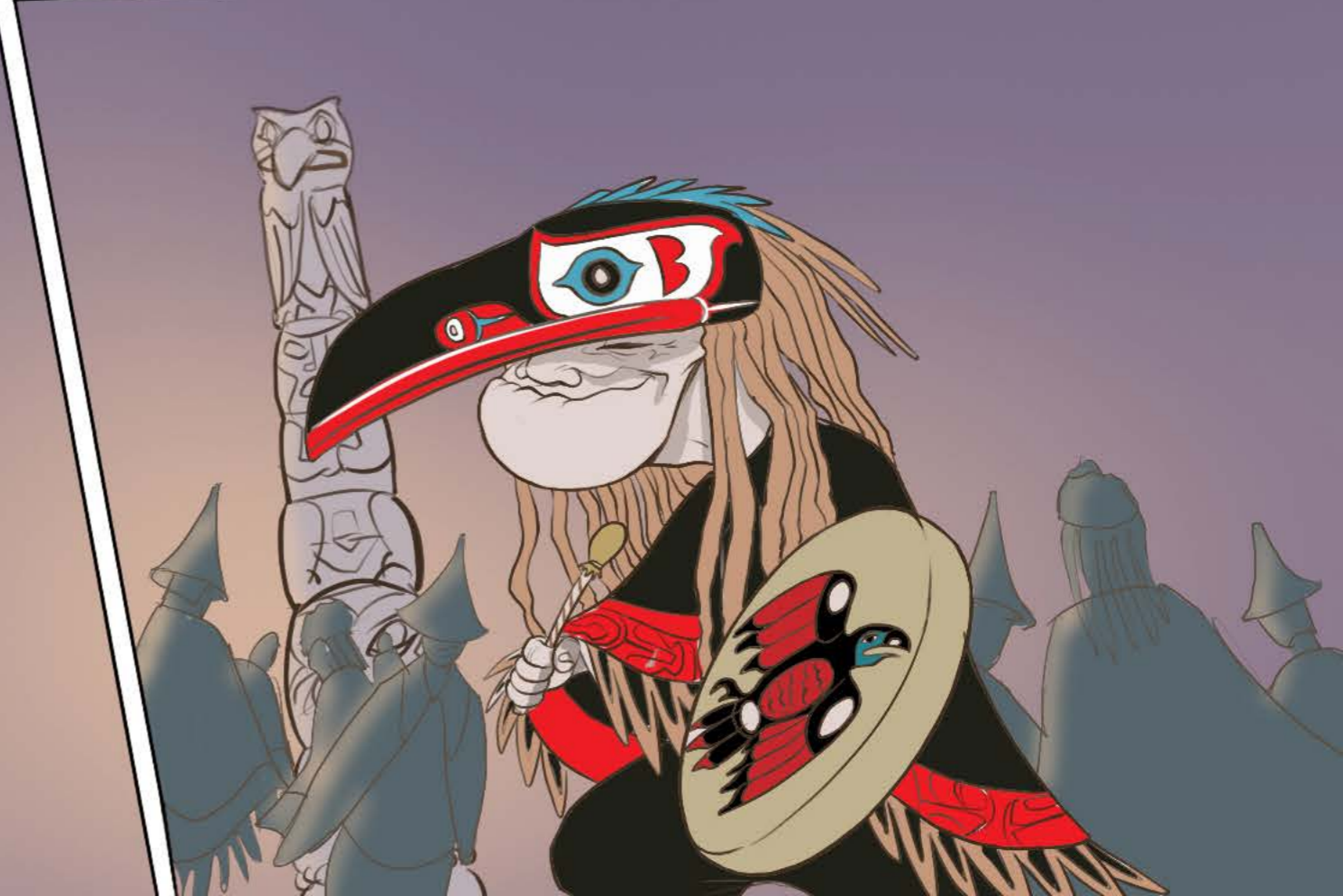
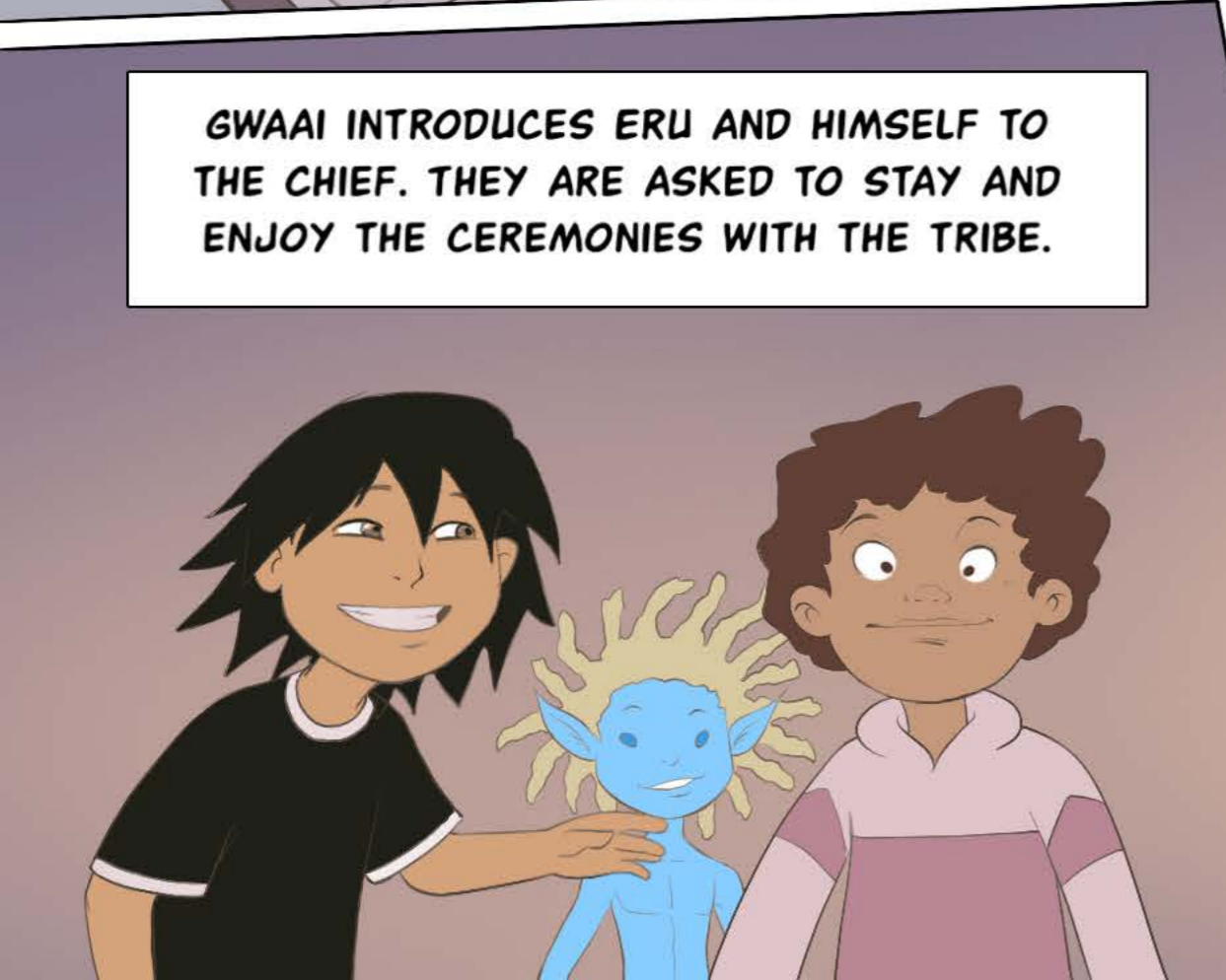
AS THE SUN IS ABOUT TO SET, THEY COME ACROSS A VILLAGE.



WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

THEY ARE OF NATIVE HAIDA NATION. THIS IS A GREAT HONOR FOR US!

GWAAI INTRODUCES ERU AND HIMSELF TO THE CHIEF. THEY ARE ASKED TO STAY AND ENJOY THE CEREMONIES WITH THE TRIBE.



**THE CHIEF SITS THE TWO BOYS DOWN AND EXPLAINS WHY THEY SHOULD SEEK OUT THE ANCESTRAL SPIRIT RAVEN.**



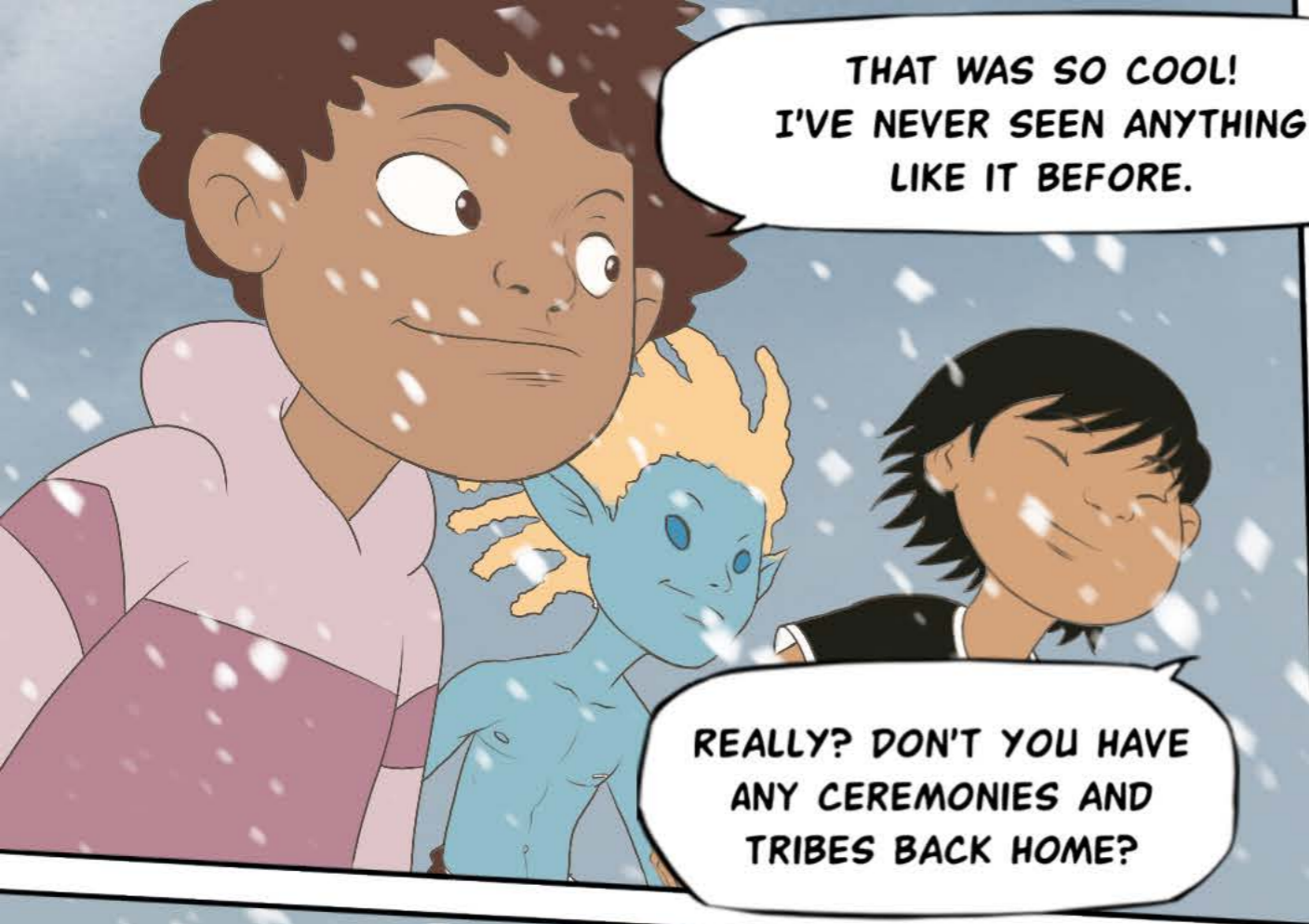
**HE TELLS ERU THE RAVEN IS AN AGENT OF TRANSFORMATION. IF ERU CAN FIND THE RAVEN, THE RAVEN CAN HELP HIM GET HOME.**





THE NEXT MORNING, GWAAI AND ERU THANKED THE CHIEF FOR THEIR HOSPITALITY AND WENT ON THEIR WAY.





THAT WAS SO COOL!  
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING  
LIKE IT BEFORE.

REALLY? DON'T YOU HAVE  
ANY CEREMONIES AND  
TRIBES BACK HOME?



OF COURSE WE DO!  
BUT NOT LIKE YOURS.

WHAT DO YOU HAVE?

WELL, WE HAVE VIDEO GAMES!  
I LOVE VIDEO GAMES! BUT VIDEO GAMES  
AREN'T AS FUN AS THIS. MEETING YOU  
GWAI, MEETING THE GRIZZLY BEAR,  
LOOKING FOR THE RAVEN!  
I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO MY MUM.

DON'T WORRY ERU, WE'LL GET YOU TO  
YOUR HOME AND YOUR MOM, BUT FIRST  
WE MUST SET UP CAMP! THIS PLACE CAN  
GET DANGEROUS AT NIGHT.



AS NIGHTFALL SETS,  
THE BOYS SET UP CAMP.  
A SUDDEN CHILL CREEPS  
UP GWAAI'S SPINE...

SOMETHING DOESN'T  
FEEL RIGHT?

THE TREES THRASH  
VIOLENTLY IN THE WIND  
AS THE FIGURE GETS  
CLOSER TO THE BOYS...

**RRAAAARRGGHH!!**

WHAT IS THAT!?!

...A FOG BEGINS TO RISE  
FROM WITHIN THE FOREST.  
AS A SHADOWY FIGURE  
APPEARS AMONGST  
THE TREES.





**AAAARRHH!!**

**IT'S THE WITIKO!!  
WE HAVE TO RUN!!**



**THE WITIKO CHARGES AT THE BOYS!!**



**THE WITIKO APPEARS FROM BEHIND THE MIST!**



WHEN SUDDENLY...



HUH?




A FIGURE STOPS THE WITIKO  
IN HIS TRACKS.




**IT'S  
RAVEN!**




**THE WITIKO IS FROZEN IN FEAR!**




**IT RUNS BACK  
INTO THE FOREST**



WOW! YOU SAVED US!  
THANK YOU!



RAVEN! THIS IS MY FRIEND ERU!  
HE IS FROM NEW ZEALAND! WE HAVE BEEN  
LOOKING FOR YOU IN HOPES THAT YOU CAN  
SEND HIM BACK HOME?



THE RAVEN NODS HIS HEAD.  
THEN HE WHISTLES...



...AND THE SEA WOLF  
APPEARS FROM OUT  
OF THE FOREST!



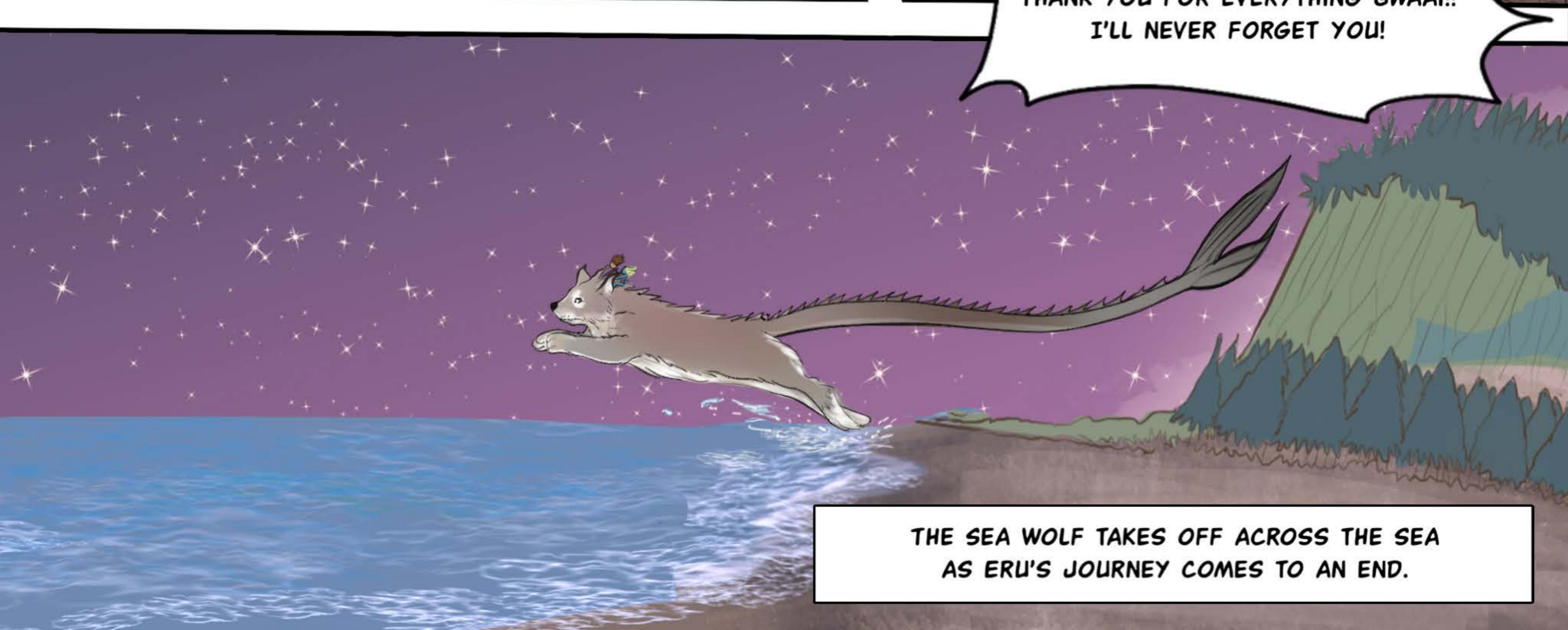
WOAH!!  
COOL!!



ERU JUMPS ONTO THE SEA WOLF AND WAVES A MASSIVE GOODBYE!

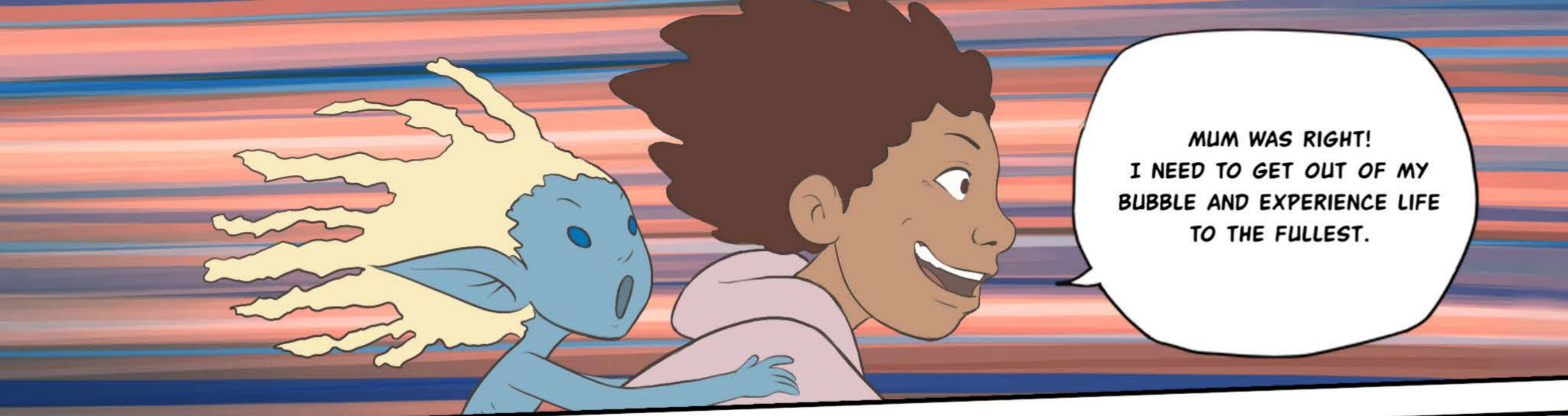


THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING GWAAI!!  
I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU!



THE SEA WOLF TAKES OFF ACROSS THE SEA  
AS ERU'S JOURNEY COMES TO AN END.





MUM WAS RIGHT!  
I NEED TO GET OUT OF MY  
BUBBLE AND EXPERIENCE LIFE  
TO THE FULLEST.



EXHAUSTED FROM HIS ADVENTURE,  
ERU FALLS ASLEEP.





ERU SPRINTS OFF OUT OF THE CAVE  
AND TOWARDS HIS HOUSE.





**THE END!**