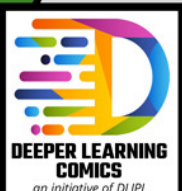


DABUNG GIRL AND GIVING WINGS TO DREAMS



DEEPER LEARNING
COMICS

an initiative of DLPL

ISSUE 06-eEN

KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

SATYARTHI

KAILASH SATYARTHI CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION



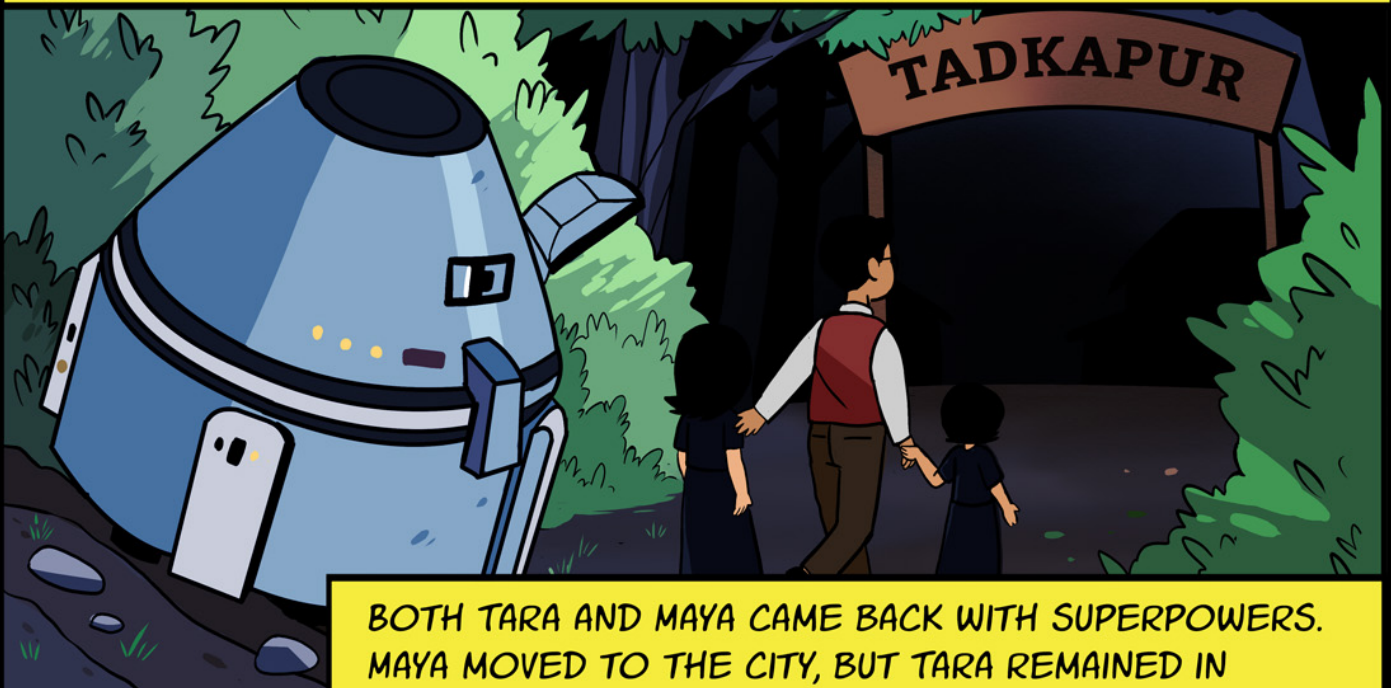
ONE DAY, SOME ALIENS KIDNAPPED ONE OF INDIA'S MOST PROMINENT SCIENTISTS... UNKNOWINGLY, THEY ALSO TOOK BOTH OF HER DAUGHTERS, TARA AND MAYA... NOBODY KNOWS WHY!



THREE YEARS LATER, A BRIGHT SPIRAL SHAPE IS SEEN IN THE NIGHT SKY...



THAT SAME NIGHT, A CAPSULE FROM ANOTHER WORLD LANDS ON EARTH, AND BRINGS BACK THE SCIENTIST'S DAUGHTERS TO THEIR FATHER IN TADKAPUR... BUT THE SCIENTIST'S WHEREABOUTS ARE UNKNOWN EVEN TODAY...



BOTH TARA AND MAYA CAME BACK WITH SUPERPOWERS. MAYA MOVED TO THE CITY, BUT TARA REMAINED IN TADKAPUR AND BECAME DABUNG GIRL...

YOUR AMAZING FRIENDS!

MEET DABUNG GIRL, A SUPERHERO WHO ALWAYS COMES FORWARD TO HELP HER FRIENDS



POWER #1 - NANO ELASTICITY
CAN EXTEND HER BODY TO REACH FAR
AND WIDE IN A JIFFY

POWER #2 - SUPER NEURONS
CAN USE HER MIND AND HEART
AT 100% CAPACITY



TARA - A WISE
GIRL WHO IS ACTUALLY
DABUNG GIRL!



MUSKAAN - A CHEERFUL
GIRL WHO LOVES TO
ASK QUESTIONS



CHINTU - AN EMOTIONAL
BOY WHO LOVES
TO WRITE POETRY



NAINA - AN ALLROUNDER
WHO EXCELS IN
MATHEMATICS AND
SPORTS

DABUNG GIRL AND GIVING WINGS TO DREAMS

CHILDREN ARE READY TO RACE
AT TADKAPUR'S ANNUAL FAIR...

TADKAPUR MELA

DON'T
GIVE UP!

NAINA! I HAVE A
FEELING THAT YOU
WILL WIN THIS YEAR'S
ANNUAL RACE!

YOU
CAN
WIN!

ANY
DOUBTS!

GO
NAINA!

1... 2... 3... AND THE RACE STARTS!



FASTER! RUN
FASTER!

NAINA BREAKS THE
DISTRICT RECORD!



THEY CELEBRATE
NAINA'S VICTORY...




NAINA'S MOTHER ARRIVES...



NEXT DAY IN CLASS...



LET'S PLAY
SINGING ANTAKSHARI
UNTIL TEACHER
COMES!



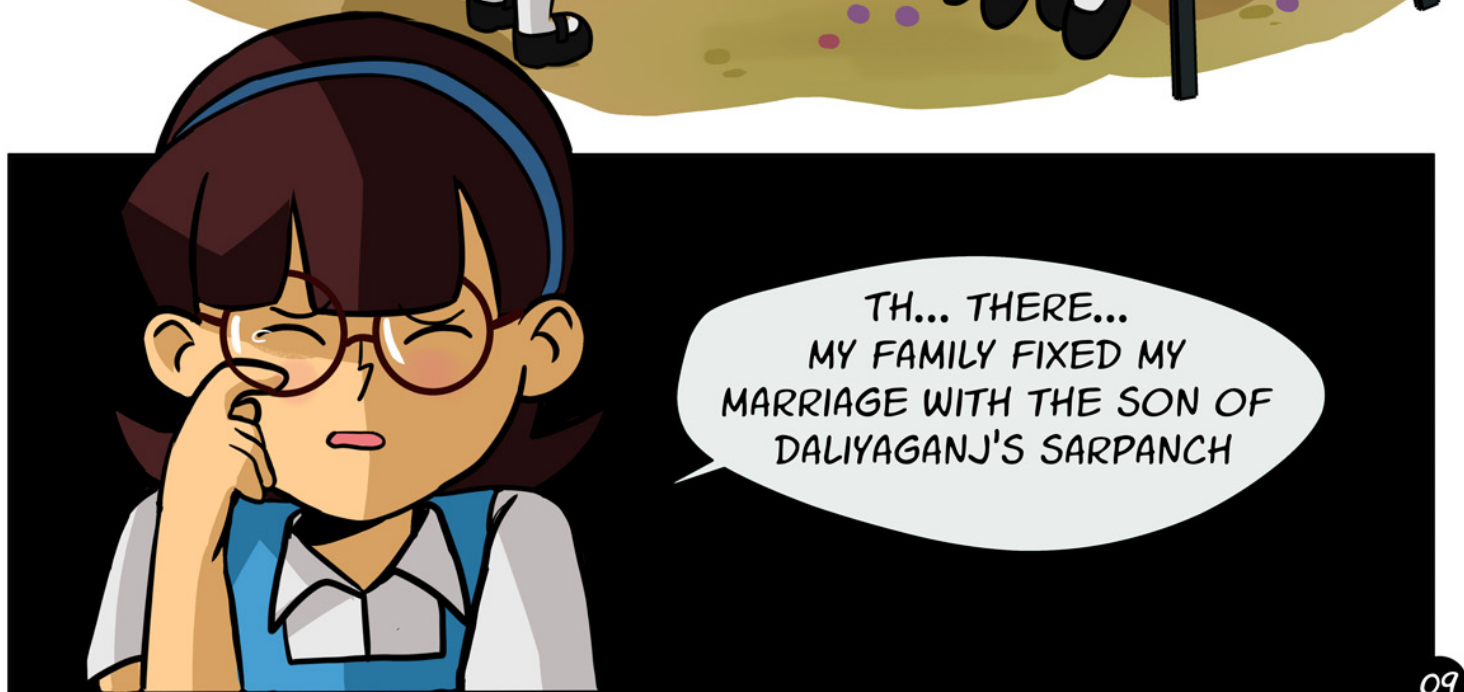
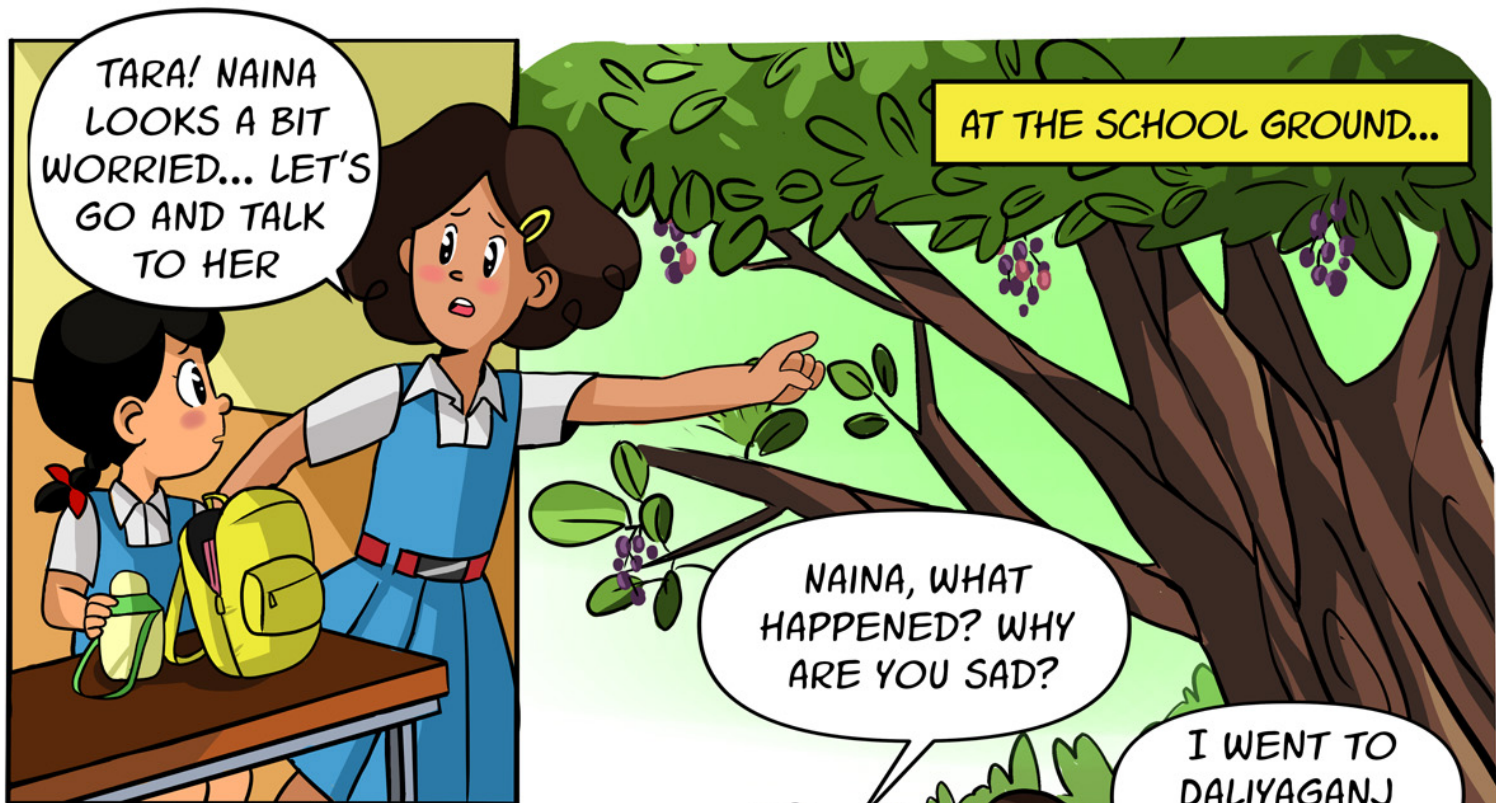
WILL YOU
ALSO PLAY NAINA?
PLEASE DON'T
SAY NO!

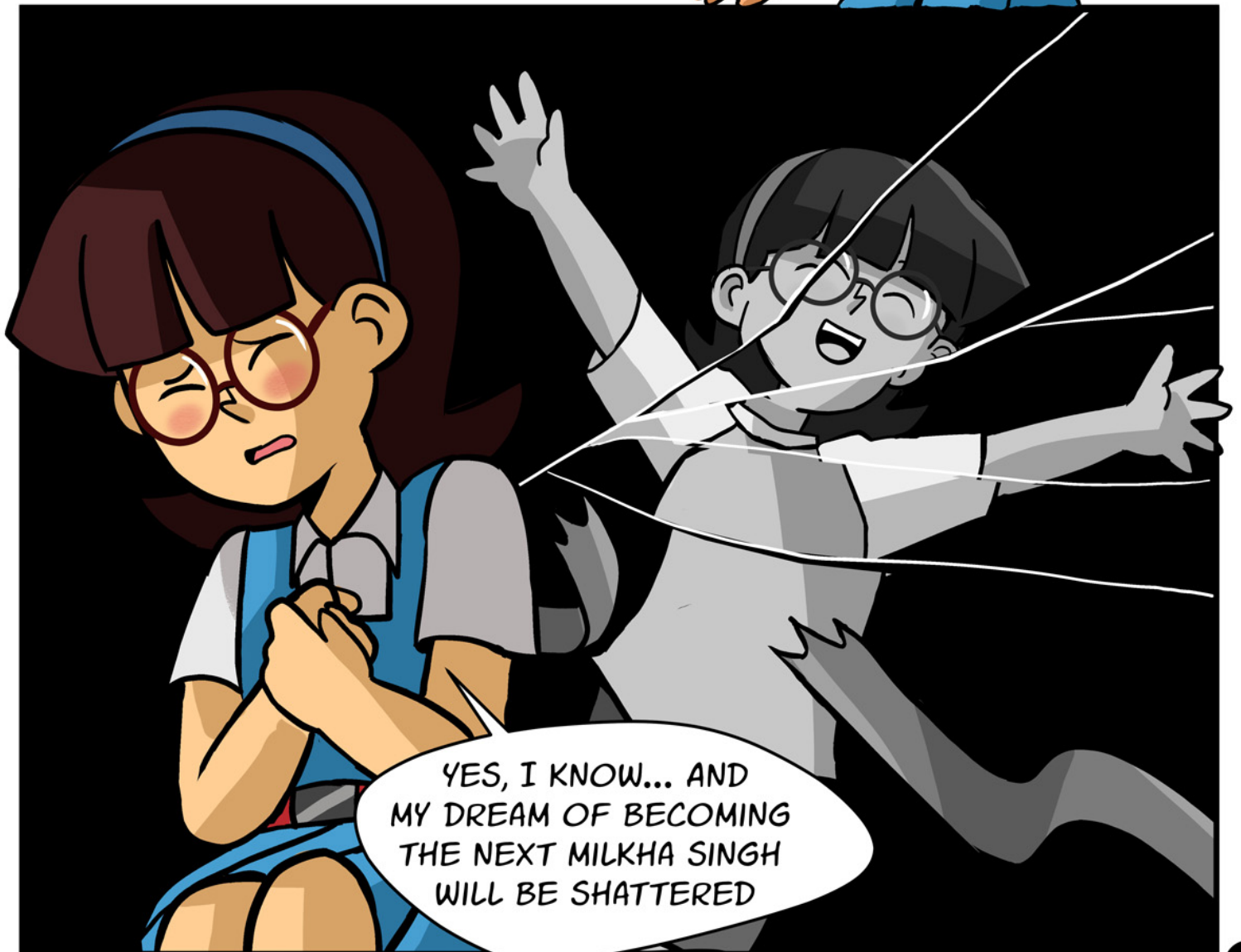
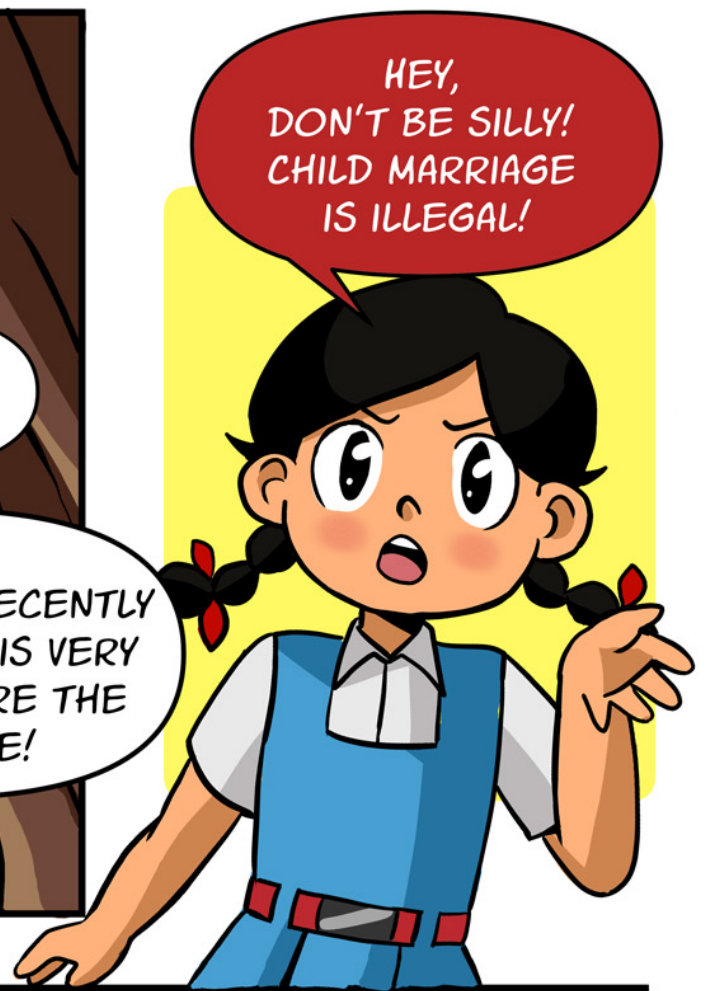


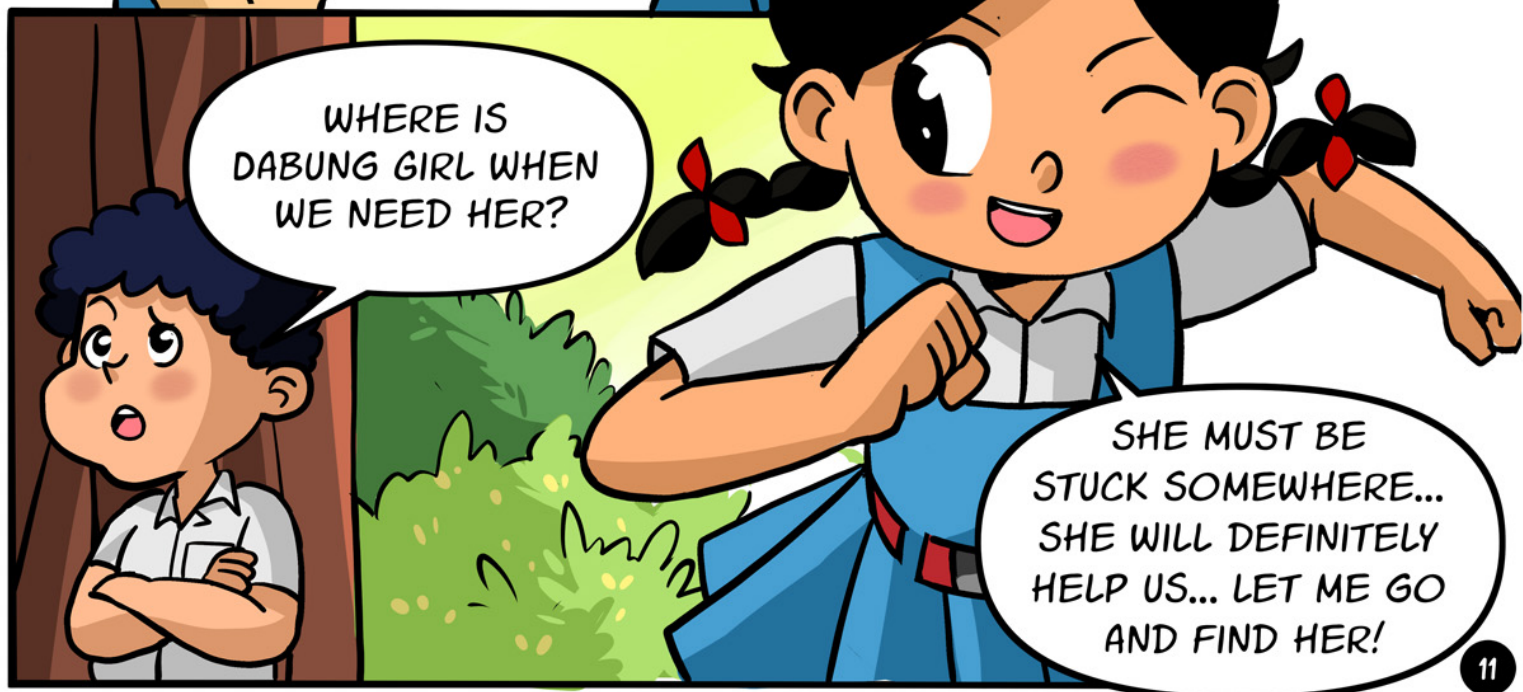
HEY NAINA,
YOU LOOK UPSET...
IS EVERYTHING
OKAY?

WITHOUT UTTERING A WORD,
NAINA RUNS OUT...









WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH,
DABUNG GIRL ALWAYS SHOWS UP!

KAVOOOM!

AAYI RE, AAYI RE,
DABUNG GIRL AAYI RE!



AFTER A WHILE, AT NAINA'S HOUSE...

I MUST
SPEAK TO NAINA'S
PARENTS...

HI DABUNG
GIRL, WHAT
BRINGS YOU
HERE?

HELLO AUNTY,
I WANTED TO
TALK ABOUT
NAINA

NAINA'S MOTHER SLAMS
THE DOOR...

I KNOW
WHY YOU HAVE COME...
STAY AWAY FROM OUR
PERSONAL MATTER!

DHAD!!!

LOOKS LIKE
IT WILL NOT BE
THAT SIMPLE...

AT SATYA UNCLE'S OFFICE...

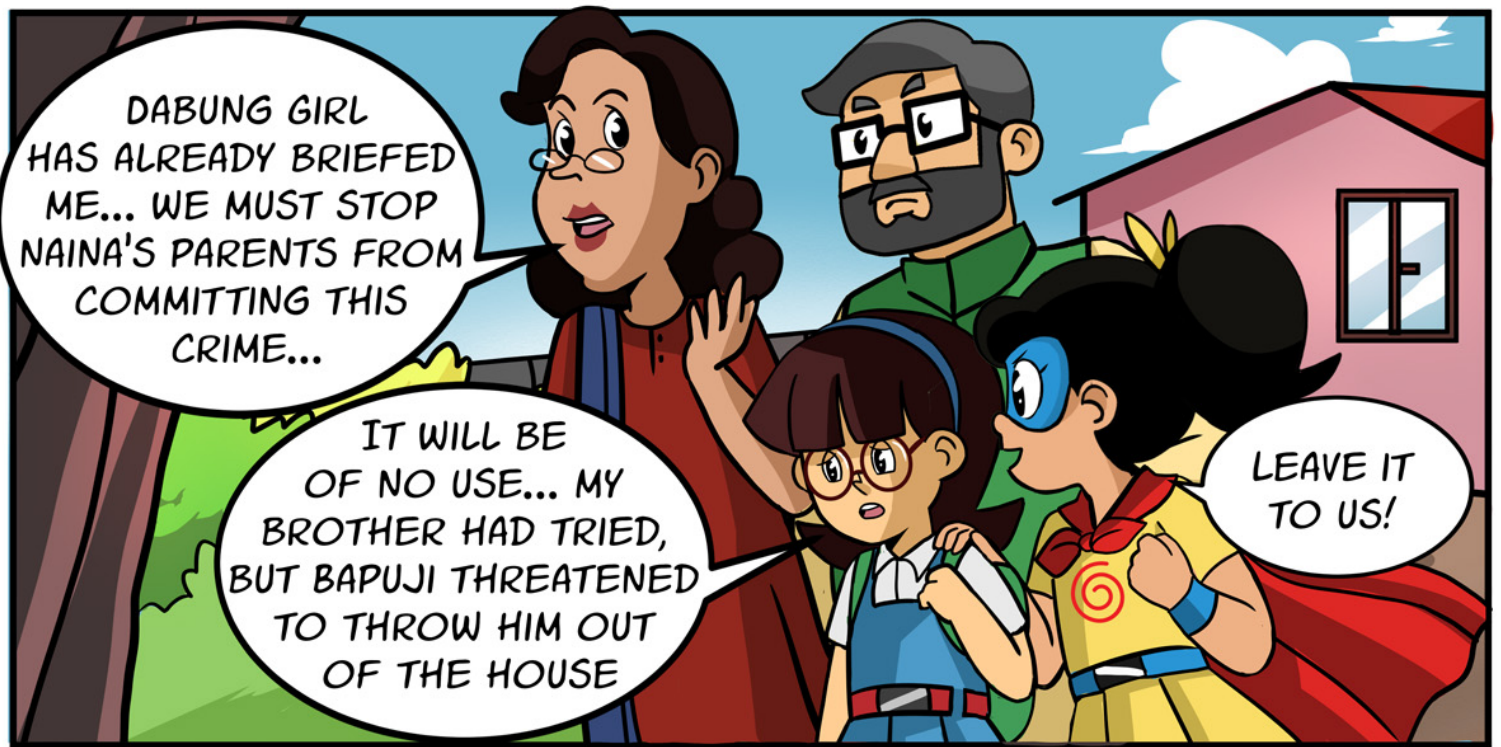
UNCLE, MY MARRIAGE HAS BEEN FIXED... BAPUJI SAYS, IF I GET MARRIED, THEN THEIR BURDEN WILL BE REDUCED

WHATTT? THIS IS YOUR AGE TO STUDY... HOW CAN THEY DO THIS?

DO YOU KNOW IF YOU MARRY AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE, HOW BADLY IT CAN AFFECT YOUR MENTAL AND PHYSICAL HEALTH?

DABUNG GIRL REACHES THERE WITH THE CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE OFFICER, GHAZAL JI

THANK YOU, DABUNG GIRL, FOR BRINGING ALONG GHAZAL JI... WE SHOULD GO TO NAINA'S HOUSE IMMEDIATELY...

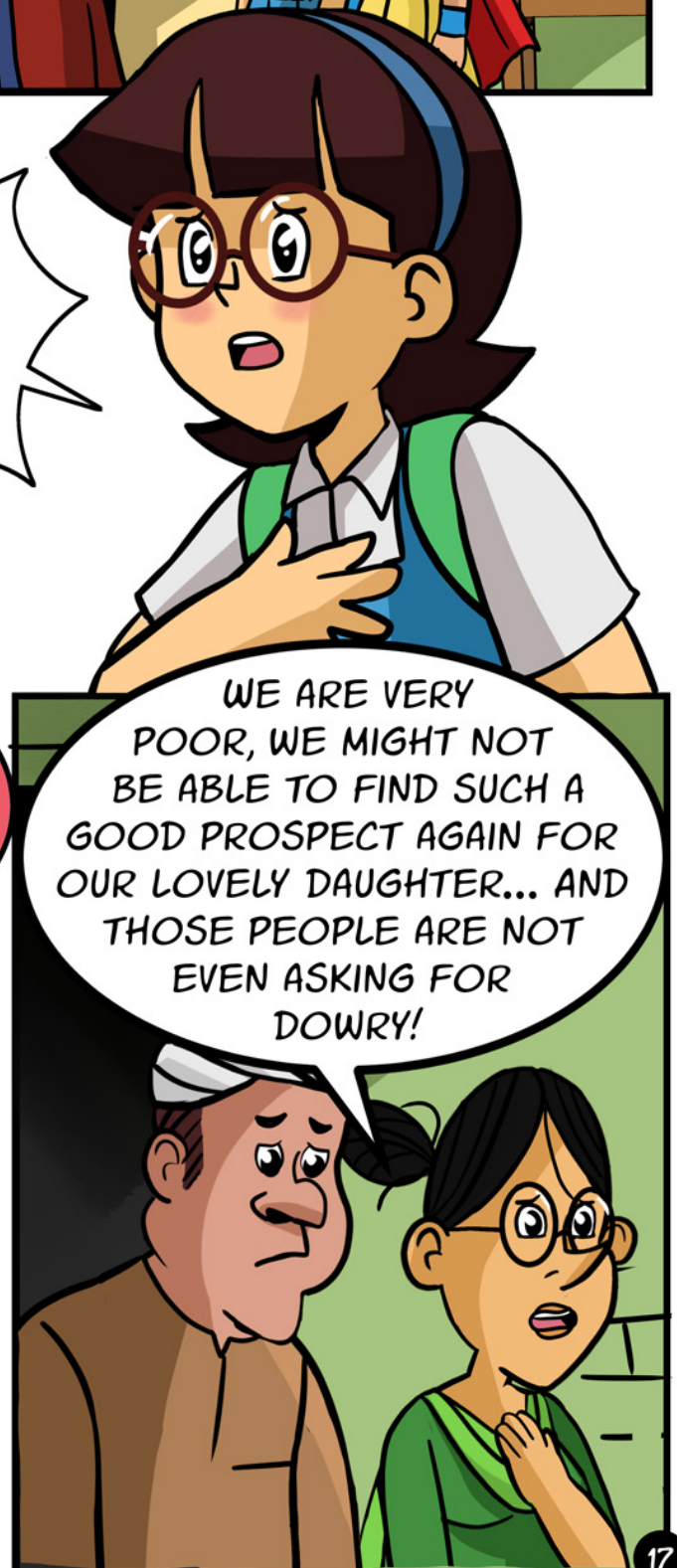
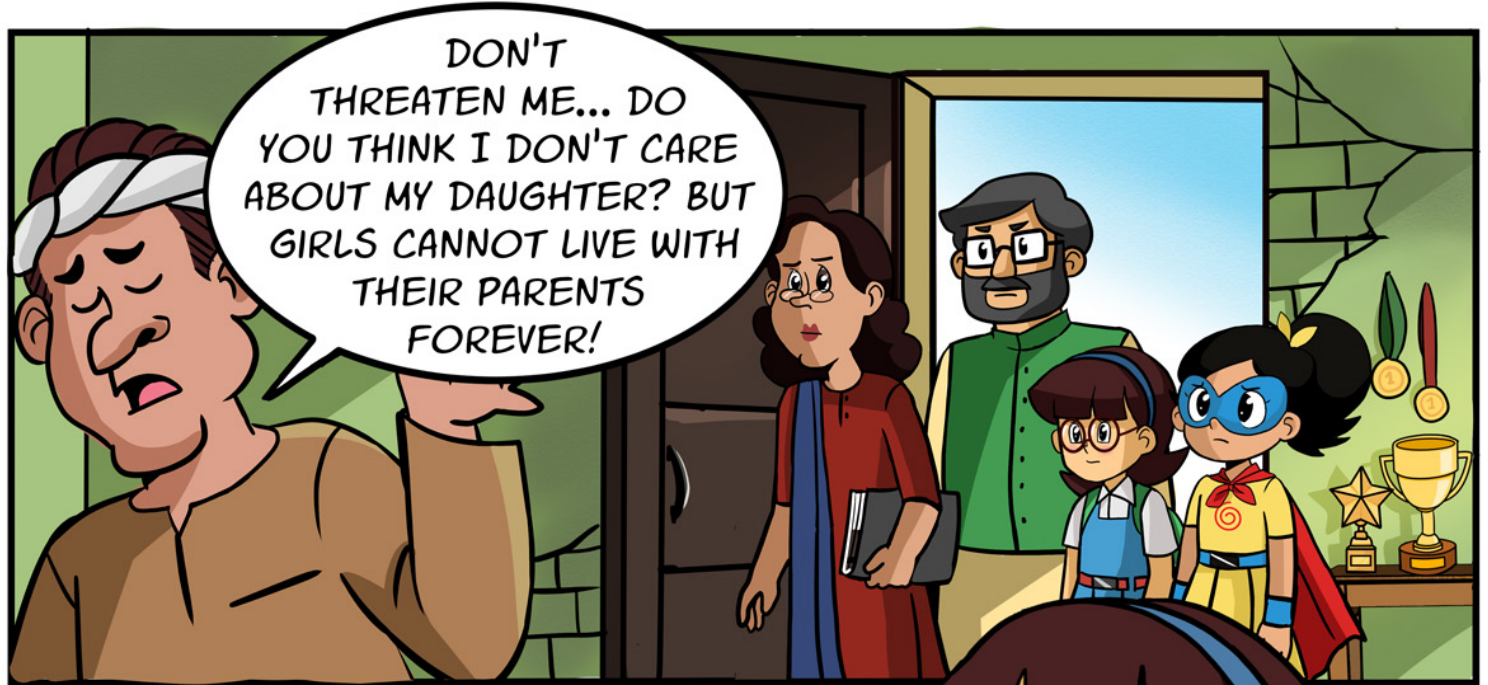


AT NAINA'S HOUSE... NAINA'S BAPUJI OPENS THE DOOR...



YOU CAN GO TO JAIL AND ALSO BE FINED FOR MARRYING AWAY YOUR DAUGHTER, WHO IS YOUNGER THAN 18 YEARS





DABUNG GIRL FETCHES NAINA'S MEDALS FROM THE WALL...

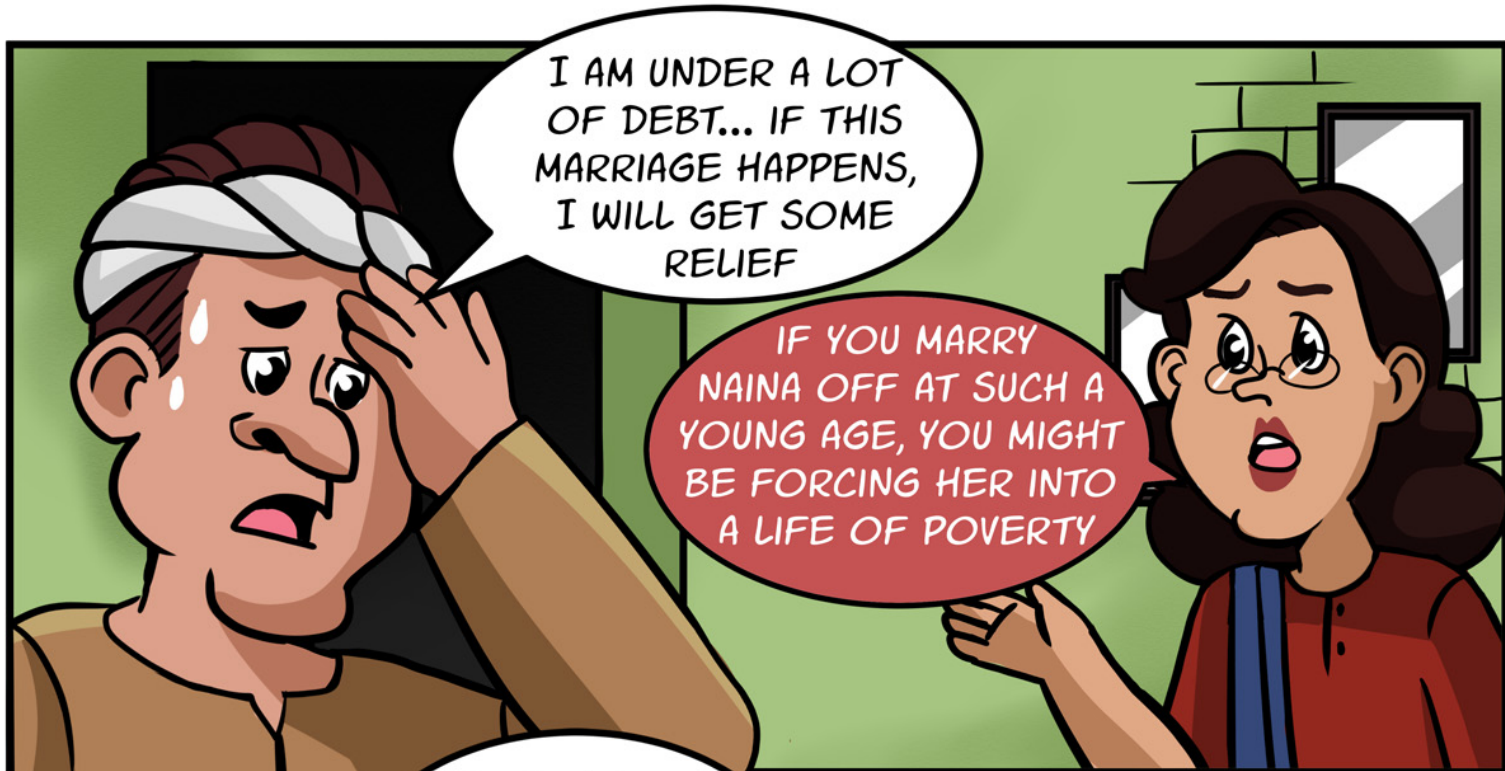
DABUNG GIRL TAKES OUT NAINA'S NOTEBOOK...

LOOK AT THESE, NAINA HAS WON SO MANY MEDALS...



I will
make my
Bapu
proud...

READ THIS ESSAY...
SHE WROTE "I WILL
MAKE MY BAPU
PROUD"



A FEW MOMENTS LATER...



AFTER THEY LEAVE...


YOU DARE NOT
SAY ANYTHING ABOUT
YOUR MARRIAGE TO
ANYONE!

DO YOU
WANT US TO BE
SENT TO JAIL?

WHATTT!
BUT YOU...

DO YOU THINK
THESE PEOPLE WILL BE
ABLE TO STOP YOUR
MARRIAGE?

WHAT WE
ARE DOING IS FOR YOUR
OWN GOOD... YOU WILL BE
VERY COMFORTABLE IF
YOU GET MARRIED



A JOKER WITH TWO FACES
MOVES TOWARDS NAINA...

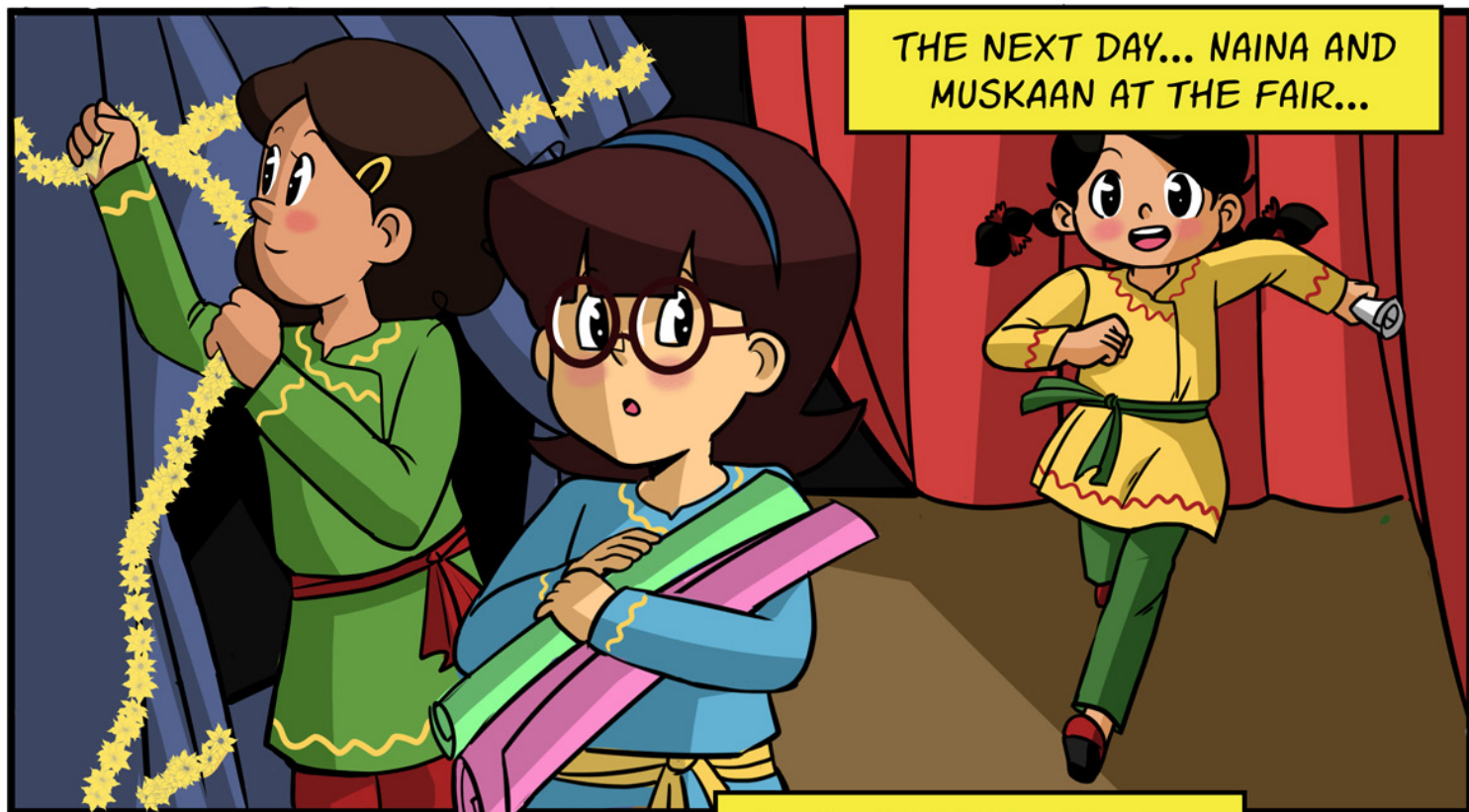
I HAVE TWO FACES,
DON'T BELIEVE ME,

I MIGHT DECEIVE YOU,
DON'T PIN YOUR HOPES
ON ME!

SUDDENLY, TARA WAKES UP...

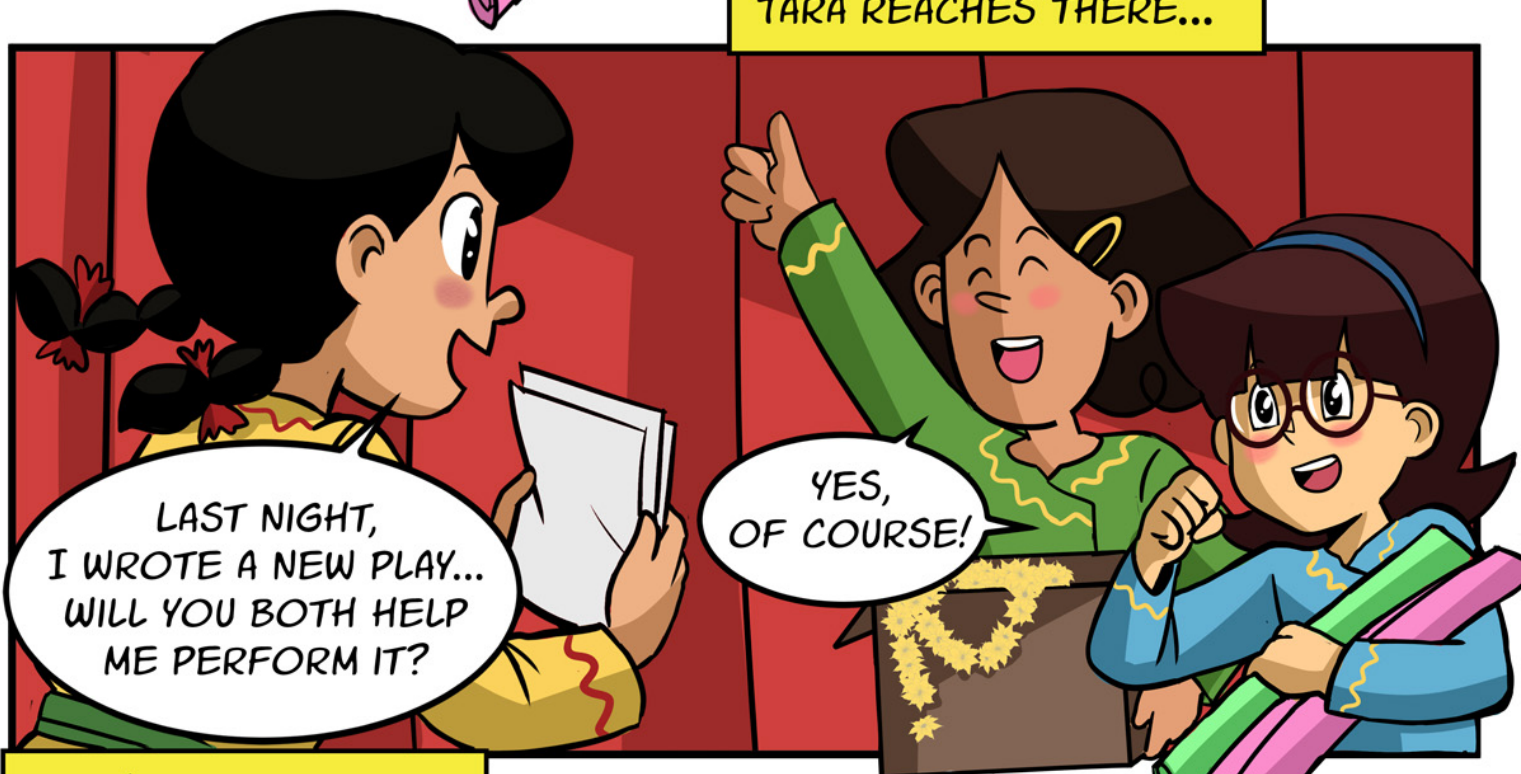
WHAT A
NIGHTMARE...

I FEEL
THAT NAINA MIGHT
STILL BE IN TROUBLE...
I NEED TO DO
SOMETHING!



THE NEXT DAY... NAINA AND MUSKAAN AT THE FAIR...

TARA REACHES THERE...



LAST NIGHT,
I WROTE A NEW PLAY...
WILL YOU BOTH HELP
ME PERFORM IT?

YES,
OF COURSE!

NAINA'S PARENTS ARE
ALSO IN THE CROWD...



NAINA AND MUSKAAN START
THE PUPPET PLAY...

THIS IS A STORY
ABOUT TEENA AND
MEENA, WHO WERE
TWIN SISTERS...

THEY LOVED EACH
OTHER DEEPLY, BE IT
SUMMERS OR
WINTERS...

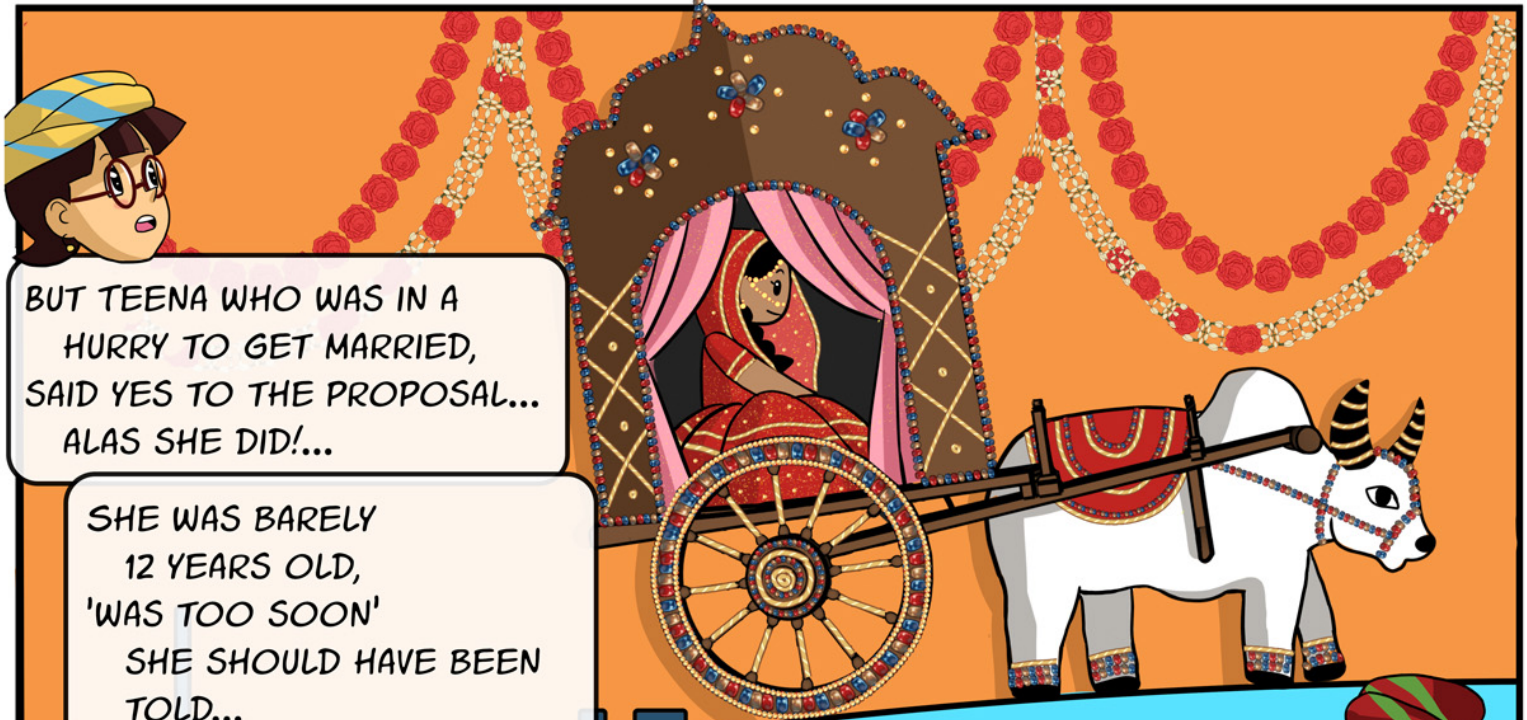




MOMMY'S ANGELS
AND PAPA'S PRIDE,
LIFE WAS MEANT
TO BE A SMOOTH RIDE...

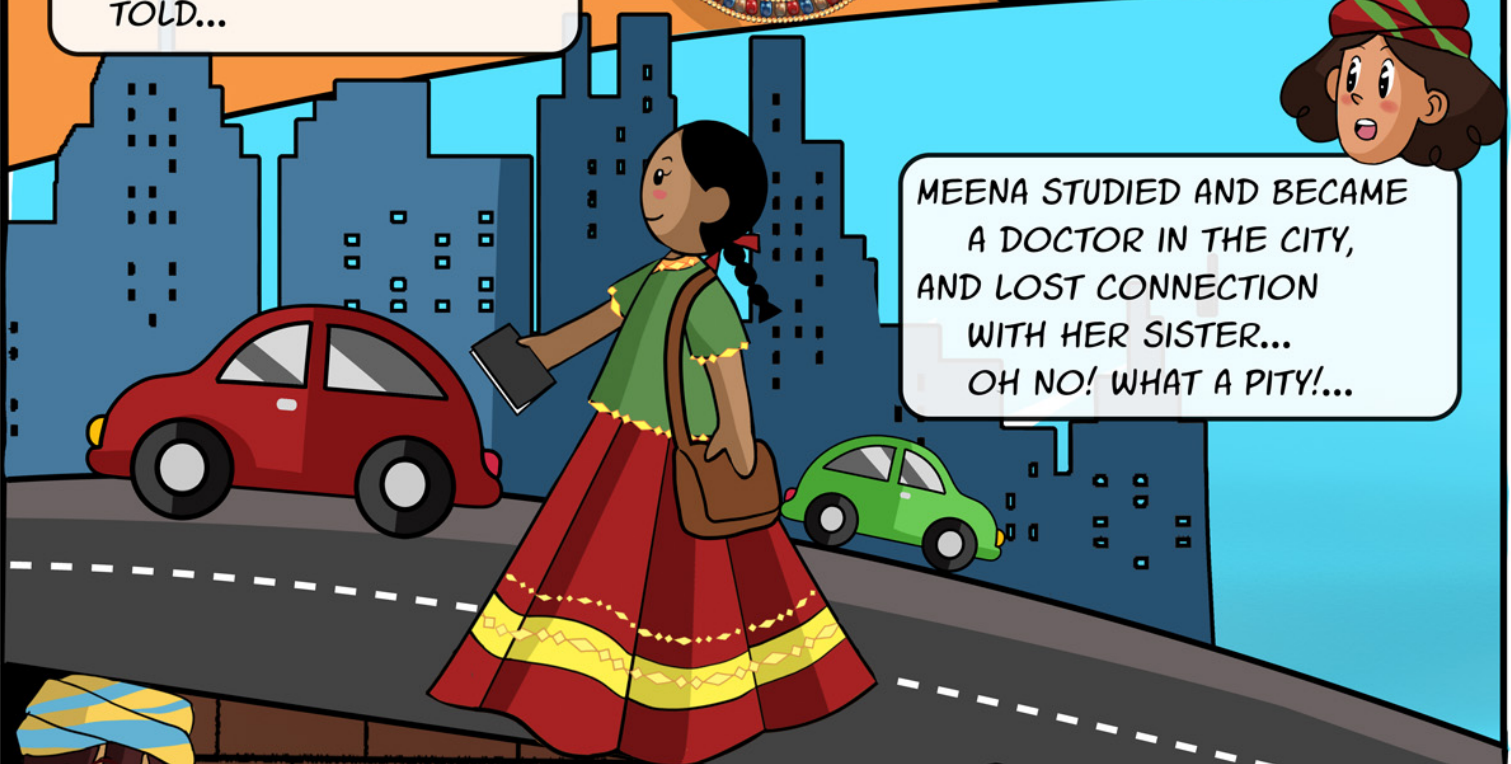
KEPT ACHIEVING SUCCESS
WHEREVER THEY WENT,
THEIR HARD WORK & DEDICATION
WERE WELL SPENT...

BOTH EXCELED
AT STUDIES,
SPORTS TOO WERE
THEIR CLOSE BUDDIES...



BUT TEENA WHO WAS IN A HURRY TO GET MARRIED, SAID YES TO THE PROPOSAL... ALAS SHE DID!...

SHE WAS BARELY 12 YEARS OLD, 'WAS TOO SOON' SHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN TOLD...



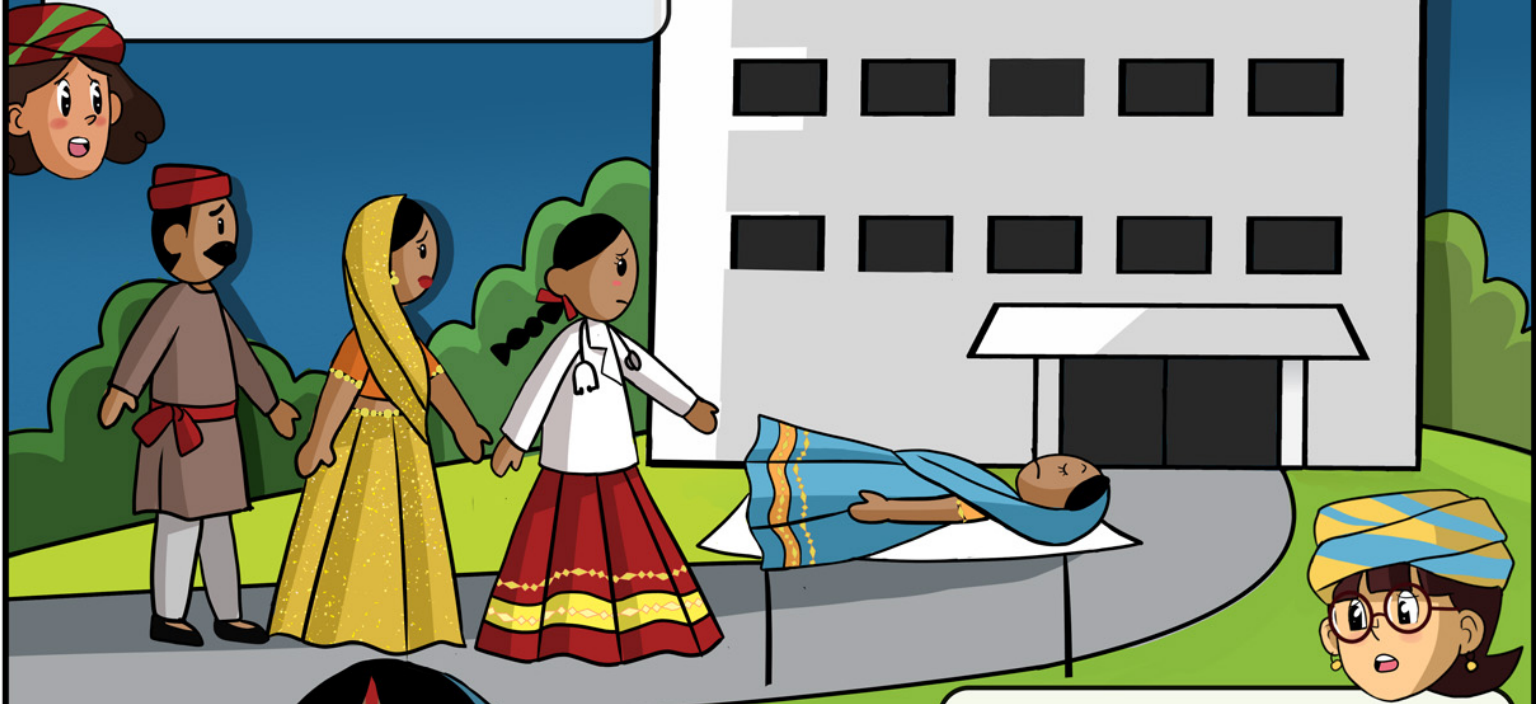
MEENA STUDIED AND BECAME A DOCTOR IN THE CITY, AND LOST CONNECTION WITH HER SISTER... OH NO! WHAT A PITY!...



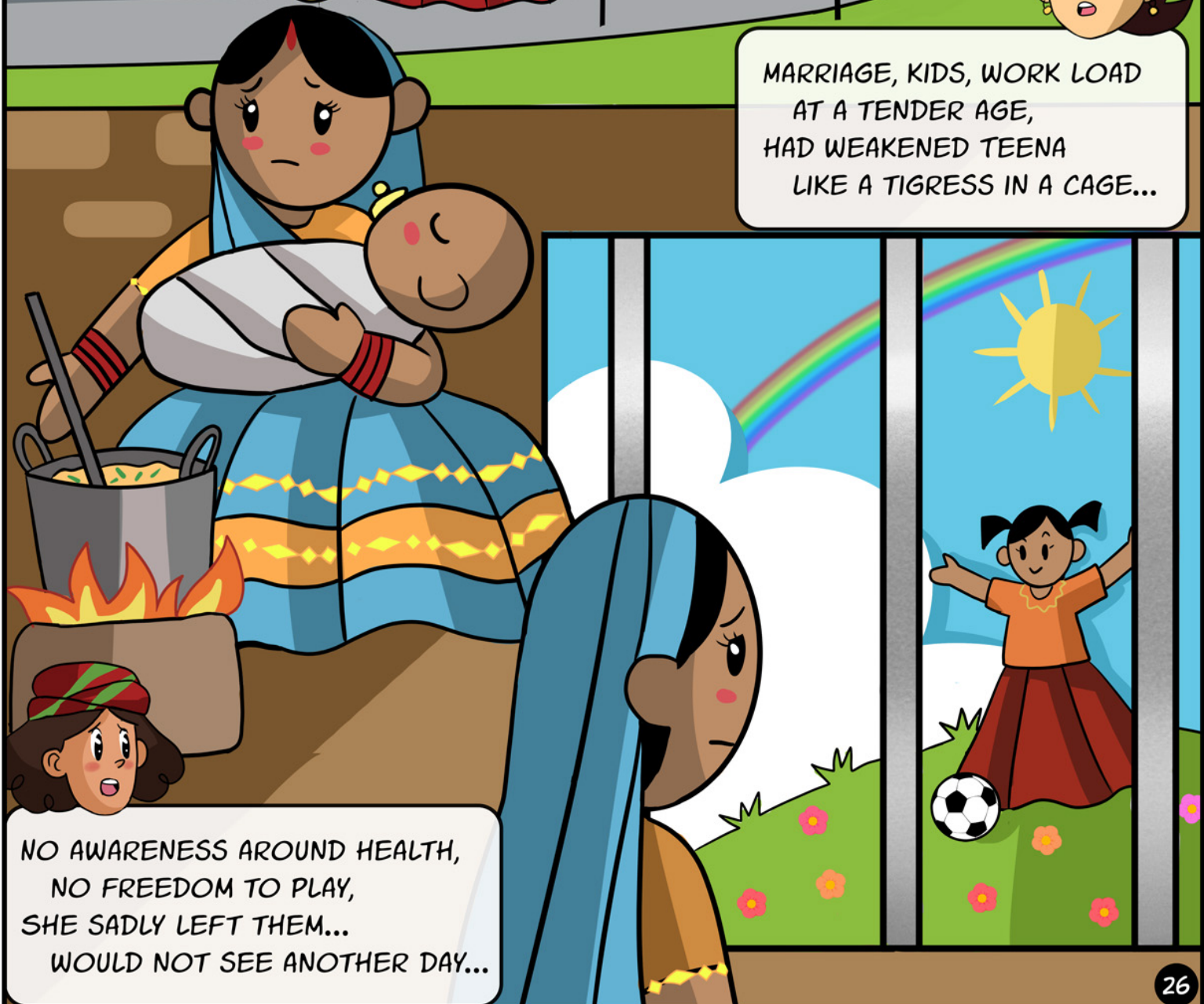
THERE WAS NO NEWS OF TEENA FOR YEARS, THEN CAME A LETTER WHICH BROUGHT A LOT OF TEARS...

SAVE ME...

MEENA BROUGHT TEENA
TO THE CITY HOSPITAL,
BUT I'M AFRAID THE DAMAGE
HAD ALREADY TURNED FATAL...

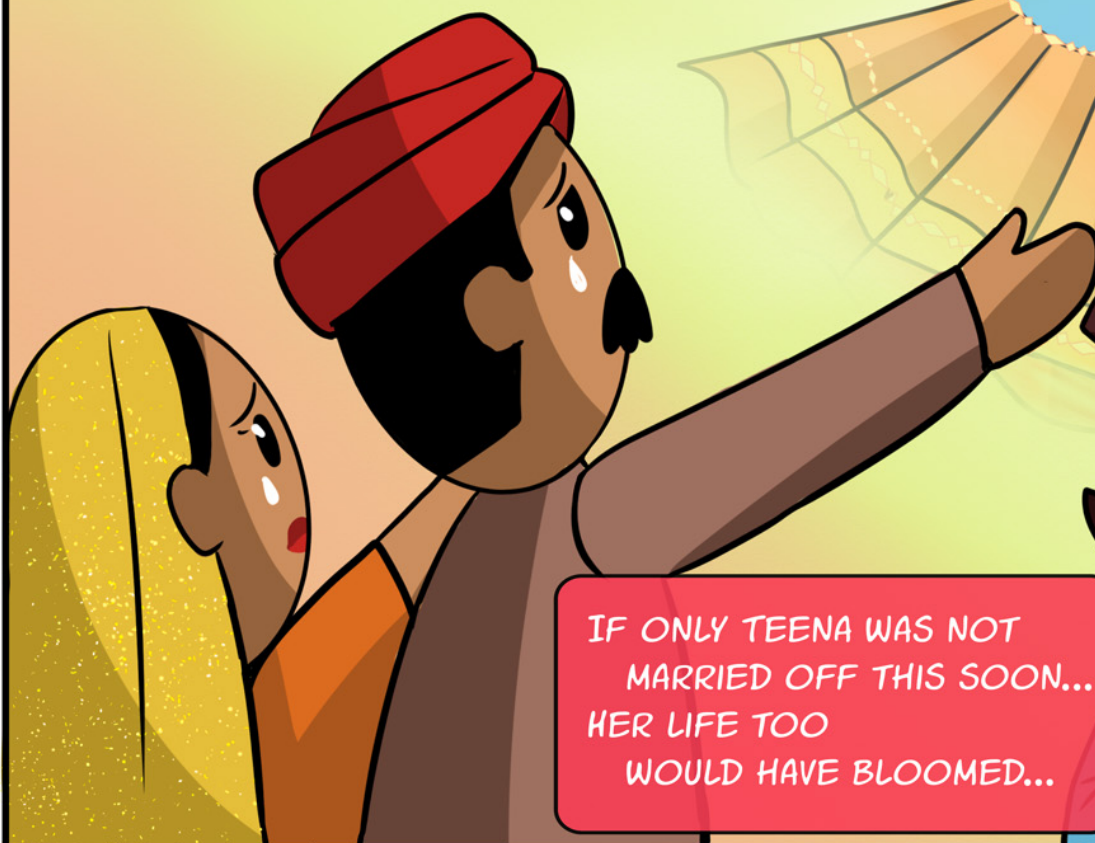


MARRIAGE, KIDS, WORK LOAD
AT A TENDER AGE,
HAD WEAKENED TEENA
LIKE A TIGRESS IN A CAGE...




NO AWARENESS AROUND HEALTH,
NO FREEDOM TO PLAY,
SHE SADLY LEFT THEM...
WOULD NOT SEE ANOTHER DAY...

HER SPORTS MEDALS
AND HER UNFINISHED DREAMS
LAY GATHERING DUST...
THIS WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE
TEENA'S STORY, PROTECTING
HER WAS A MUST!...



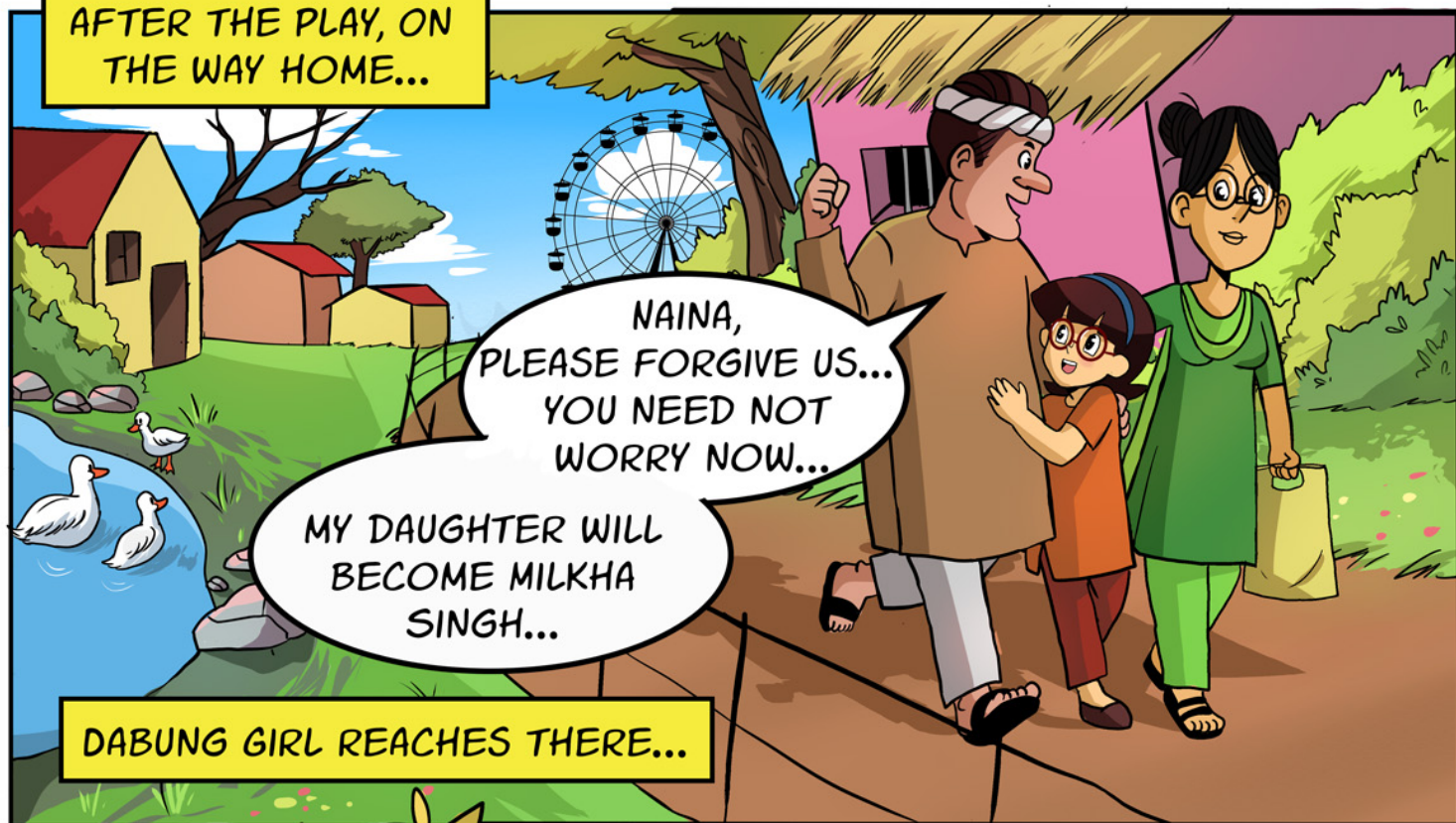
IF ONLY TEENA WAS NOT
MARRIED OFF THIS SOON...
HER LIFE TOO
WOULD HAVE BLOOMED...





AS SOON AS THE
PLAY ENDS, NAINA'S
PARENTS COME UP
ON THE STAGE...

AFTER THE PLAY, ON
THE WAY HOME...



NAINA,
PLEASE FORGIVE US...
YOU NEED NOT
WORRY NOW...

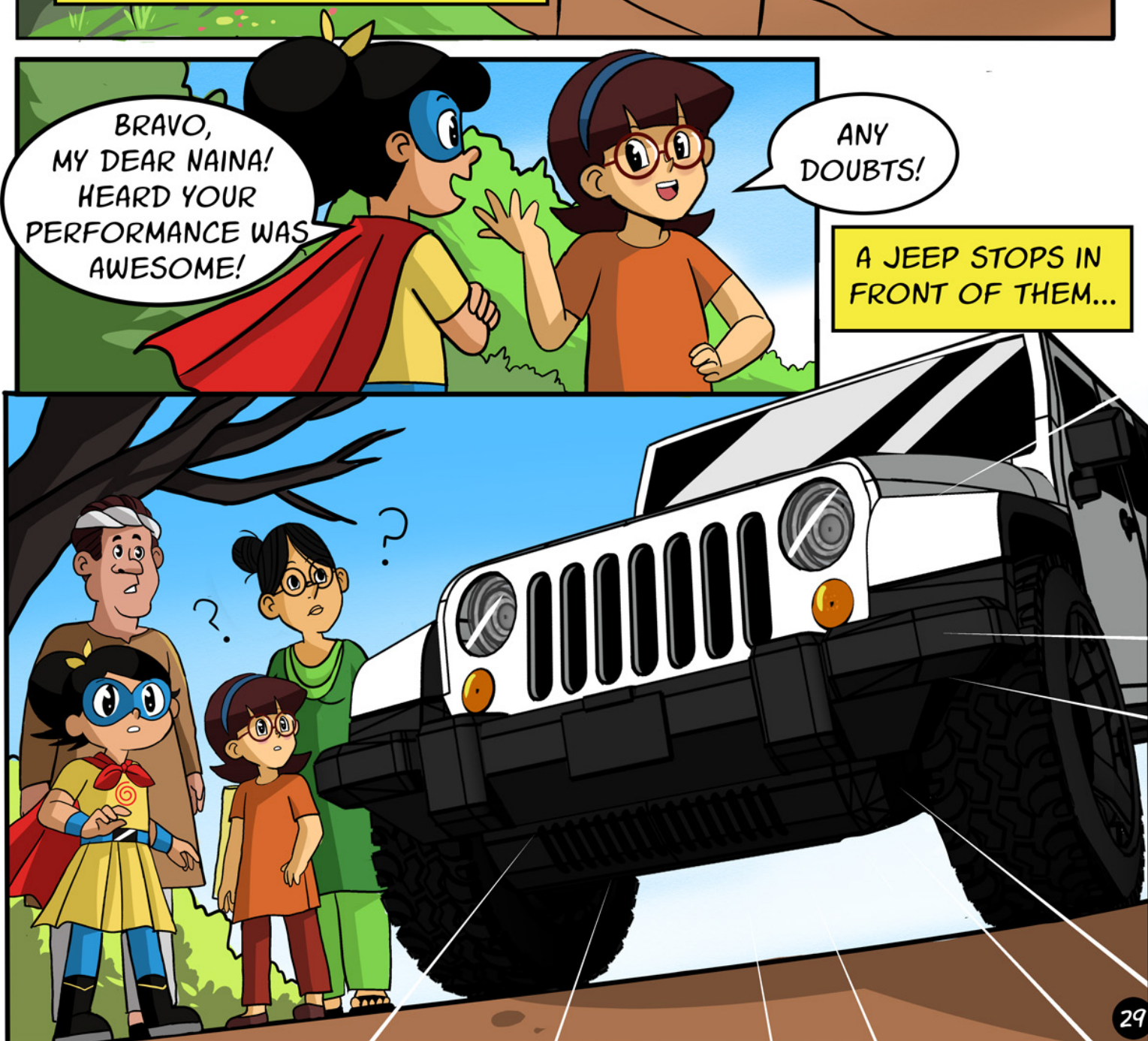
MY DAUGHTER WILL
BECOME MILKHA
SINGH...

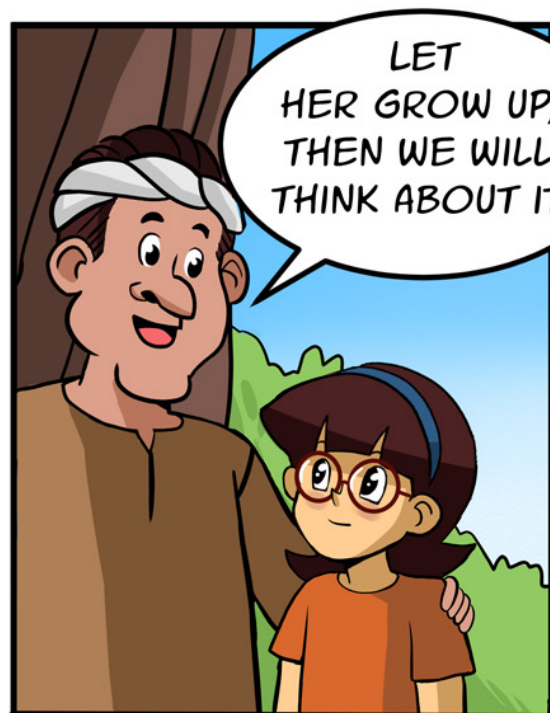
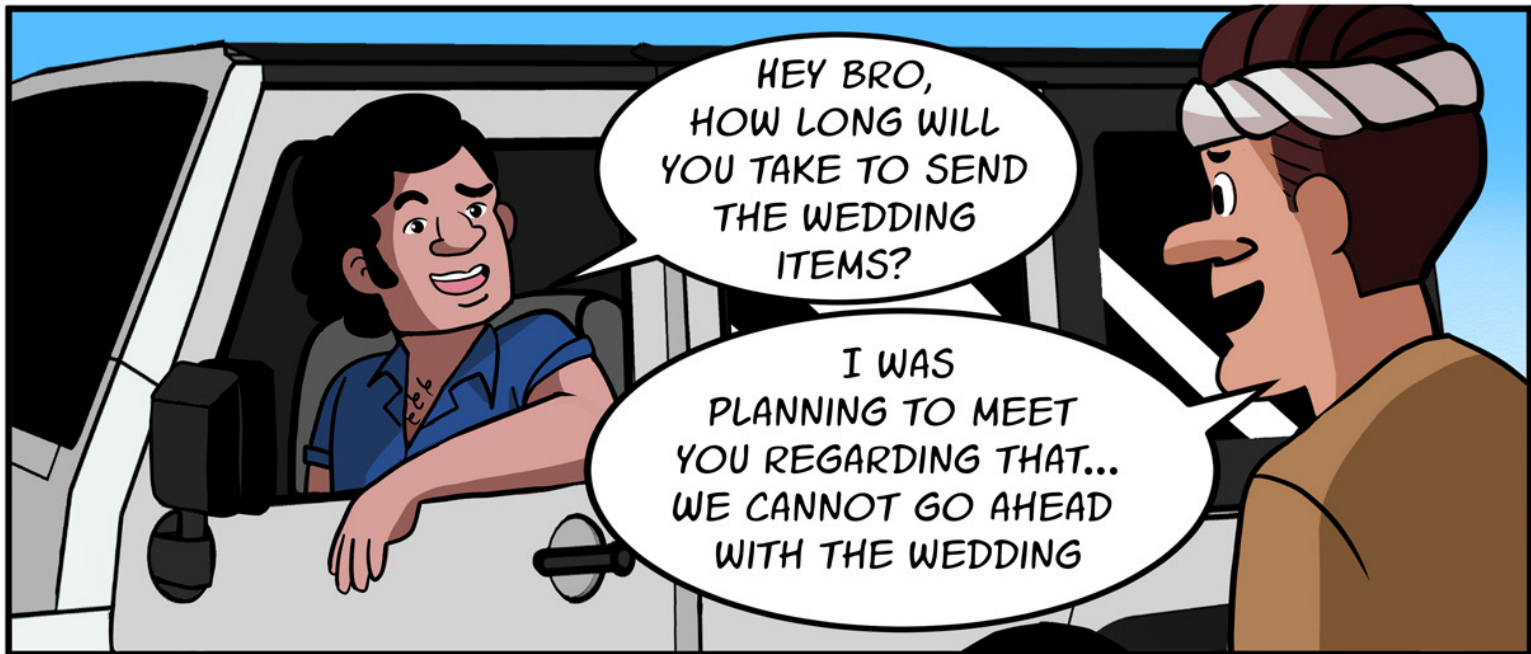
DABUNG GIRL REACHES THERE...

BRAVO,
MY DEAR NAINA!
HEARD YOUR
PERFORMANCE WAS
AWESOME!

ANY
DOUBTS!

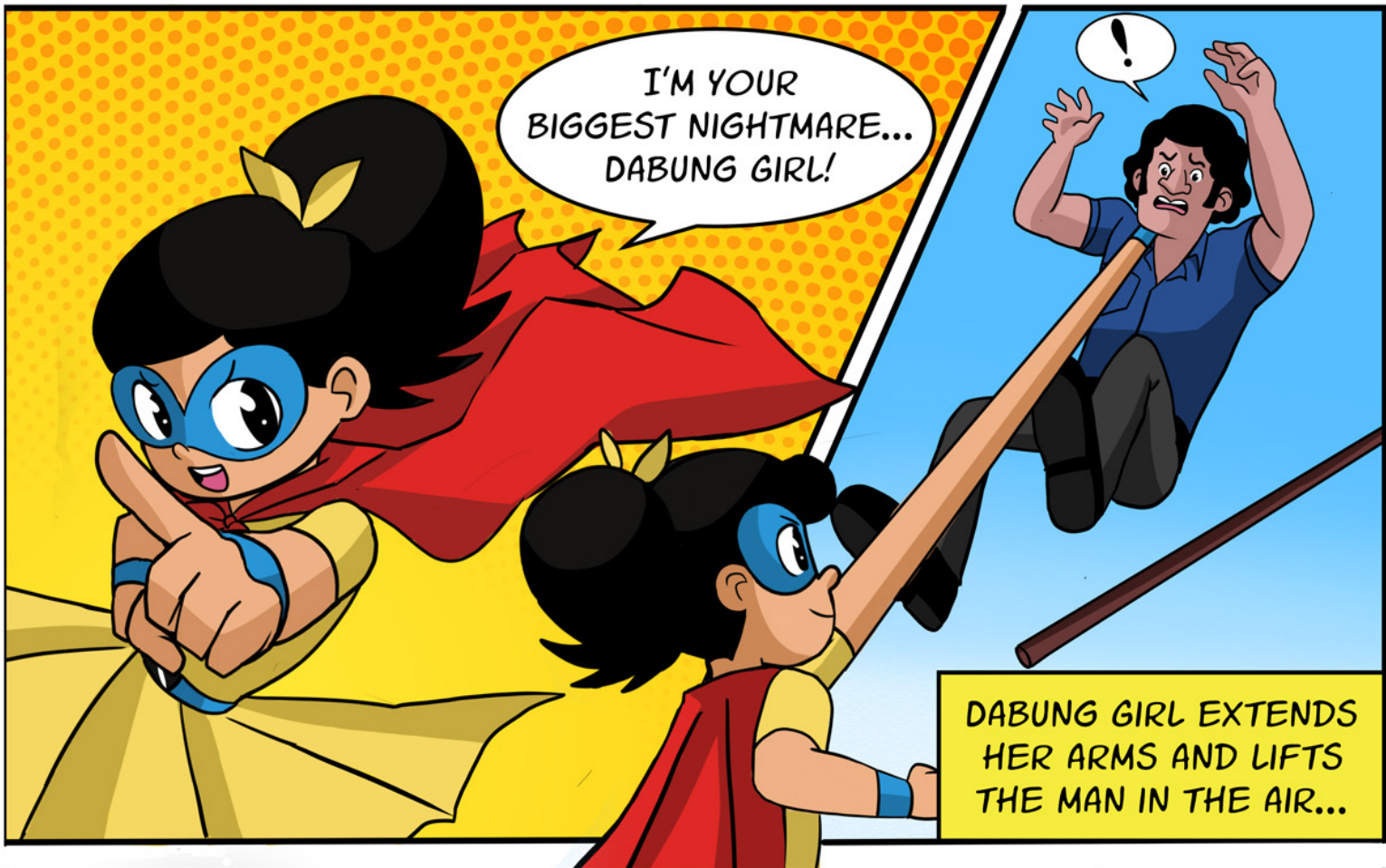
A JEEP STOPS IN
FRONT OF THEM...

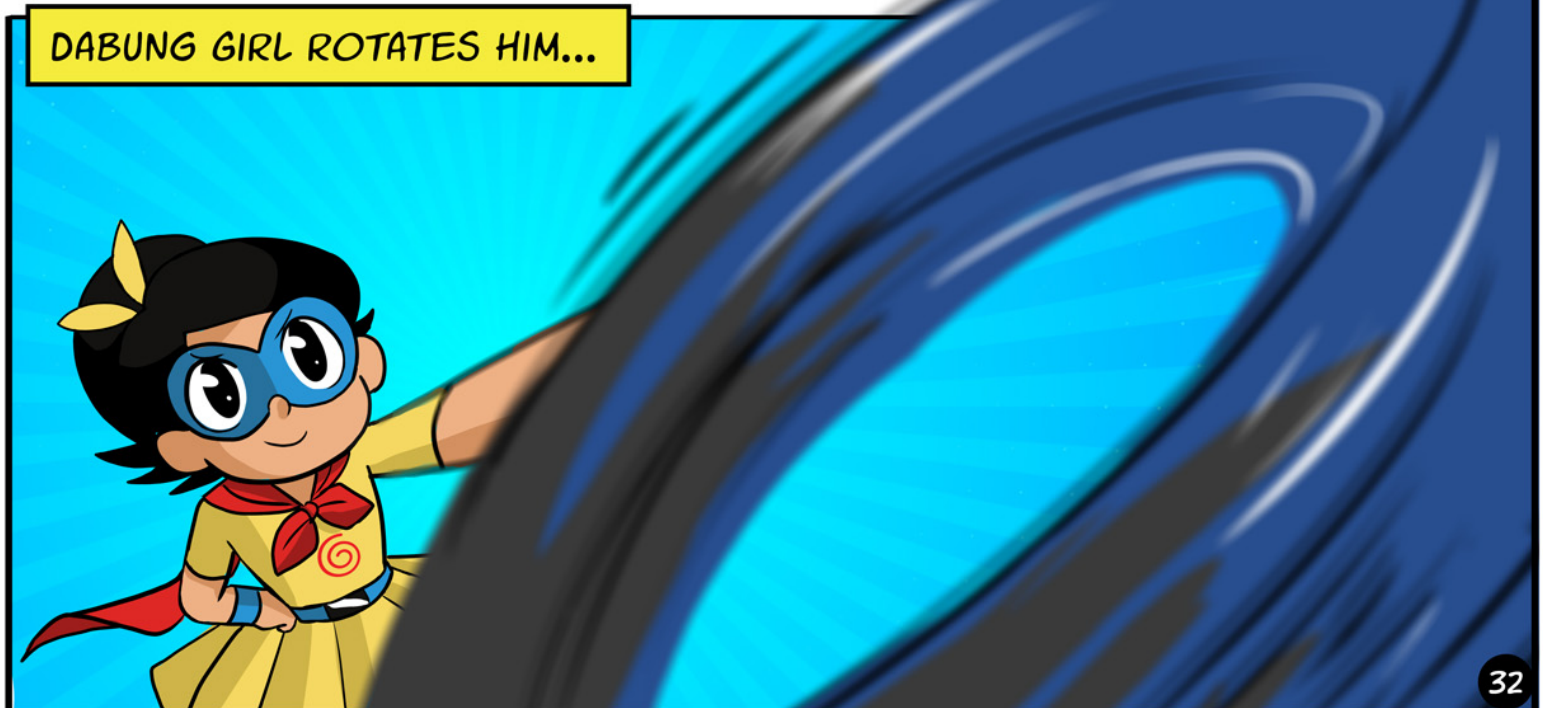




DABUNG GIRL
COMES FORWARD...







AND THROWS HIM AWAY!



DALER SABOO LANDS IN DALIYAGANJ!

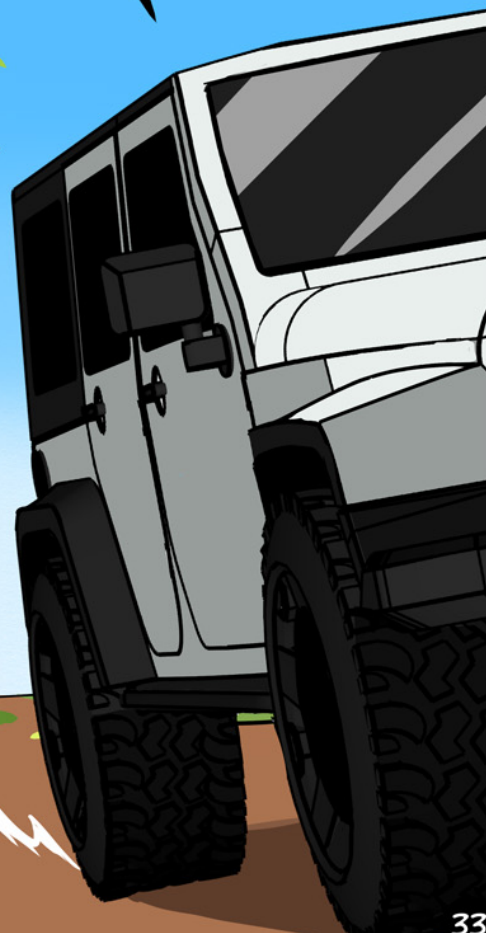


SOMEBODY
HELP ME...

THIS GIRL IS JUST
LIKE HER NAME!
DABUNG!



HIS ACCOMPLICES
RUN AWAY...



NEXT DAY, UNDER THE BANYAN TREE...

FRIENDS,
DID YOU LEARN
SOMETHING NEW
THIS WEEK?

YES, THAT GOING
OUTSIDE TADKAPUR
ALWAYS BRINGS IN
TROUBLE...
HA! HA! HA!

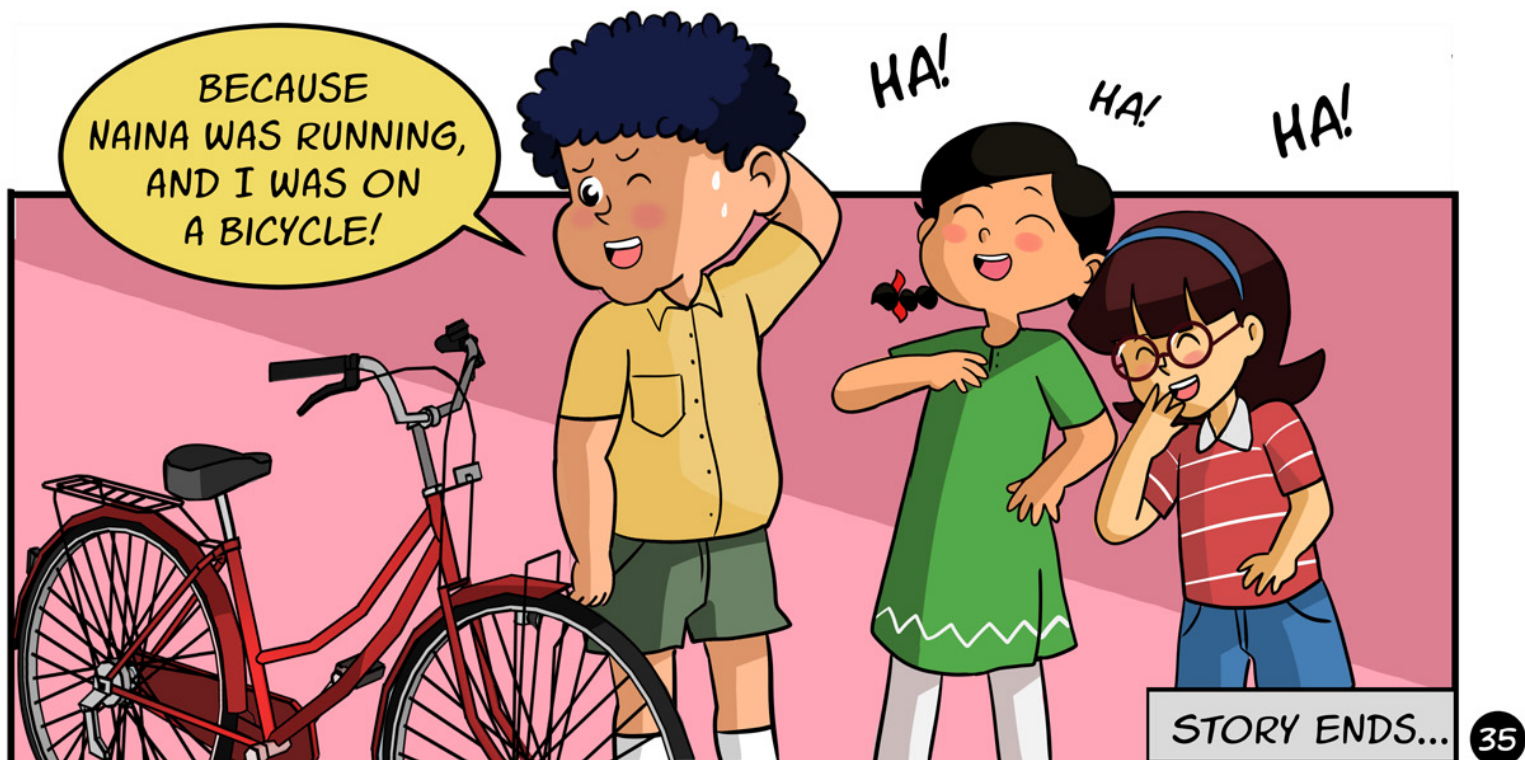
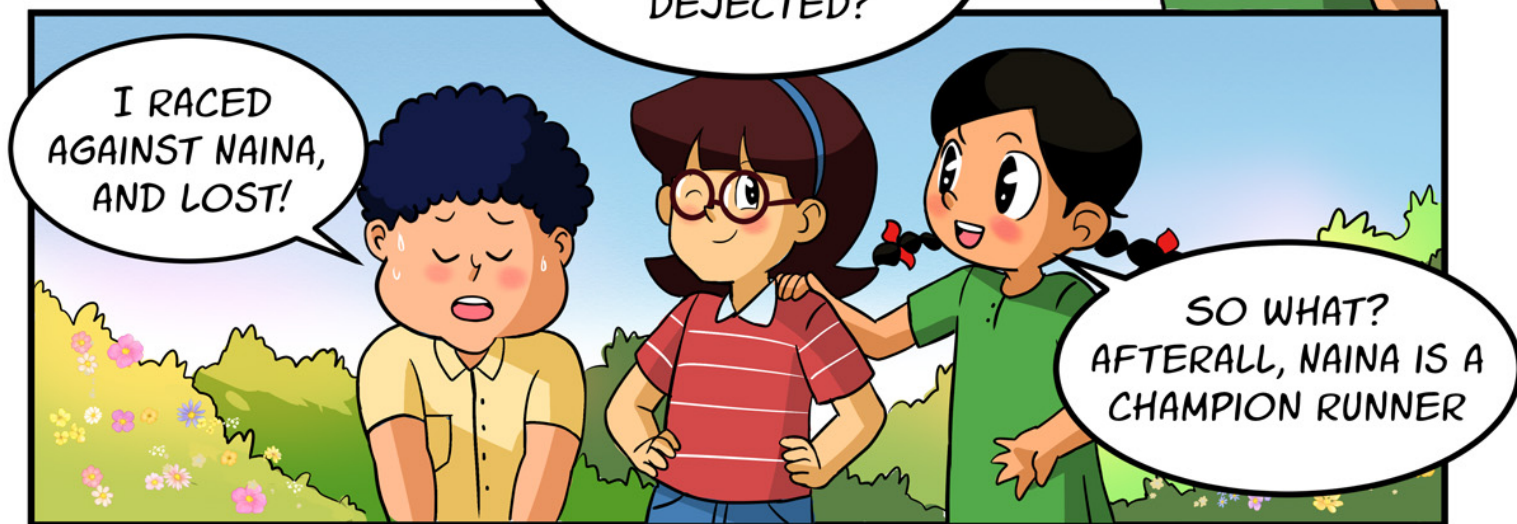
HA! HA!
CHINTU!

AND, AS YOU SAID
EARLIER, WE NEED
TO UNITE AND FORM
A CHILDREN'S
PANCHAYAT*

EXACTLY!
CHILDREN WILL ELECT
THE PANCHAYAT'S HEADS AND
MEMBERS FROM AMONGST
THEMSELVES... AND YOU WILL
IDENTIFY THE PROBLEMS
TO SOLVE YOURSELF!

MY WORK
HERE IS DONE...
SAYONARA!

AFTER A WHILE, IN TADKAPUR PARK...





WHAT IS CHILD MARRIAGE?

CHILD MARRIAGE IS A MARRIAGE OF A GIRL WHO HAS NOT COMPLETED 18 YEARS OF AGE, OR OF A BOY WHO HAS NOT COMPLETED 21 YEARS OF AGE. THIS PRACTICE IS PREVALANT ACROSS DIFFERENT CULTURES AND RELIGIONS. IT IS A GROSS VIOLATION OF RIGHTS OF CHILDREN, ESPECIALLY YOUNG GIRLS.

THE MAJOR REASONS BEHIND CHILD MARRIAGES IN INDIA ARE LACK OF EDUCATION, AGE-OLD CULTURAL PRACTICES, POVERTY, INSECURITY, AND DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GIRLS.



WHERE TO FILE A COMPLAINT REGARDING CHILD MARRIAGE?

YOU CAN COMPLAIN AGAINST A CHILD MARRIAGE THAT HAS ALREADY TAKEN PLACE OR IS ARRANGED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE FUTURE AT:

- POLICE STATION (CALL AT 100)
- CHILD LINE (CALL AT 1098)
- CHILD MARRIAGE PROHIBITION OFFICER (CMPO) IN YOUR AREA
- BACHPAN BACHAO ANDOLAN'S COMPLAINT CELL (CALL AT 1800-102-7222)



WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF CHILD MARRIAGE?

CHILD MARRIAGE IMPACTS BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS. HOWEVER, IT IMPACTS GIRLS DISPROPORTIONATELY AS IT DEPRIVES THEM OF THEIR RIGHT TO EDUCATION, HEALTH, PROTECTION, AND FREEDOM.

LET'S SEE HOW:

- **POOR HEALTH:** IT ADVERSELY AFFECTS A GIRL CHILD'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING AND INCREASES CHANCES OF SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STDs), CERVICAL CANCER AND CAN EVEN LEAD TO DEATH DURING CHILDBIRTH
- **DENIAL OF EDUCATION:** GIRLS WHO ARE MARRIED EARLY HAVE TO COMPROMISE WITH THEIR EDUCATION. THEY ARE DEPRIVED OF THEIR RIGHT TO ATTEND SCHOOL AND FUTURE INDEPENDENCE
- **INCREASED INSTANCES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** CHILD BRIDES ARE MORE LIKELY TO FACE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN THEIR MARRIAGES
- **VIOLATION OF CHILD RIGHTS:** GIRLS AND BOYS ARE DENIED OPPORTUNITIES TO GROW AND DEVELOP TO THEIR FULL POTENTIAL IN A DIGNIFIED MANNER



WHICH LAWS DEAL WITH CHILD MARRIAGE IN INDIA?

- PROHIBITION OF CHILD MARRIAGE ACT, 2006
- JUVENILE JUSTICE (CARE AND PROTECTION) ACT, 2015

LETTER FROM DABUNG GIRL

HELLO FRIENDS... KAVOOOM!!!

I ENJOYED WATCHING THE PUPPET PLAY AT THE FAIR. IN THIS EDITION, EVERYONE WORKED TOGETHER SO THAT NAINA COULD AVOID GETTING TRAPPED IN A CHILD MARRIAGE AND CONTINUE PURSUING HER DREAMS. THE PRACTICE OF CHILD MARRIAGE RESULTS IN NUMEROUS CHILDREN FALLING INTO THE VICIOUS CYCLE OF ILLITERACY AND POVERTY. SO, LET'S DO OUR BIT IN PREVENTING THIS FROM HAPPENING WITH US OR OUR FRIENDS.

MOVING ON TO SOME OTHER STUFF, I HOPE YOU ARE TAKING ALL THE RECOMMENDED PRECAUTIONS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS! REMEMBER, WE HAVE TO BE CAREFUL. OK, I MUST LEAVE NOW... I'M HUNGRY! I'M THINKING I'LL HAVE GOL GAPPE TODAY. YUMMMM!

SEE YOU SOON... UNTIL THEN, SAYONARA!

LOVE + HUGS,
DABUNG GIRL



COLOUR ME

I LOVE COLOURFUL CLOTHES.
CAN YOU SUGGEST NEW
COLOURS FOR MY
CLOTHES?



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This book is not intended to substitute any expert guidelines/advice on handling child marriage incidents, or dealing with their aftereffects. The reader should consult relevant law authorities and health and safety providers in matters relating to child marriage.

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Mail your questions & comments to:
reach@DabungGirl.com



Mr. Kailash Satyarthi is an internationally acclaimed child rights activist who has been a tireless advocate of children's rights for four decades now. His interventions are spread across over 140 countries in the world in an endeavor to protect children from slavery, trafficking, forced labour, sexual abuse and all forms of violence. He has been instrumental in bringing the issues of children in the global and national development agendas besides leading worldwide movements against child exploitation and upholding the rights of children for peace, safety, health, wellbeing and education. His unrelenting efforts for restoring the rights of the most marginalized and exploited children in the world won him the Nobel Peace Prize in the year 2014.

KAILASH SATYARTHI CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION

Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation (KSCF), founded by Nobel Peace Laureate Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, pictures a world where all children are free, safe, healthy, in school, and with the opportunity to succeed. Our mission is to end all violence against children worldwide by continuing Mr. Satyarthi's work on a local, national and international level. We actively engage children/ youth as part of the solution, building greater collaboration between governments, business and communities to produce effective national and international laws.

YOUNG PEOPLE MAKING CHANGE/ THE 100 MILLION CAMPAIGN

The 100 Million campaign is a call to action for a world where all young people are free, safe and educated.

KSCF supports young people to end violence against children, eradicate child labour, and ensures education, breaking a series of bonded cycles. Inspired by the strength of former child slaves, who have now become successful activists themselves, 100 Million empowers youth mobilisation, and aims to increase global understanding. KSCF believes this will create a world where all young people are safe, and learning in school, with an opportunity to succeed.

CHANGE IS POSSIBLE - IT'S TIME TO WORK TOGETHER AND DEMAND IT. ACT NOW BY TAKING THE PLEDGE.
JOIN US - [HTTP://WWW.100MILLION.ORG/ACT-NOW](http://www.100million.org/act-now)

