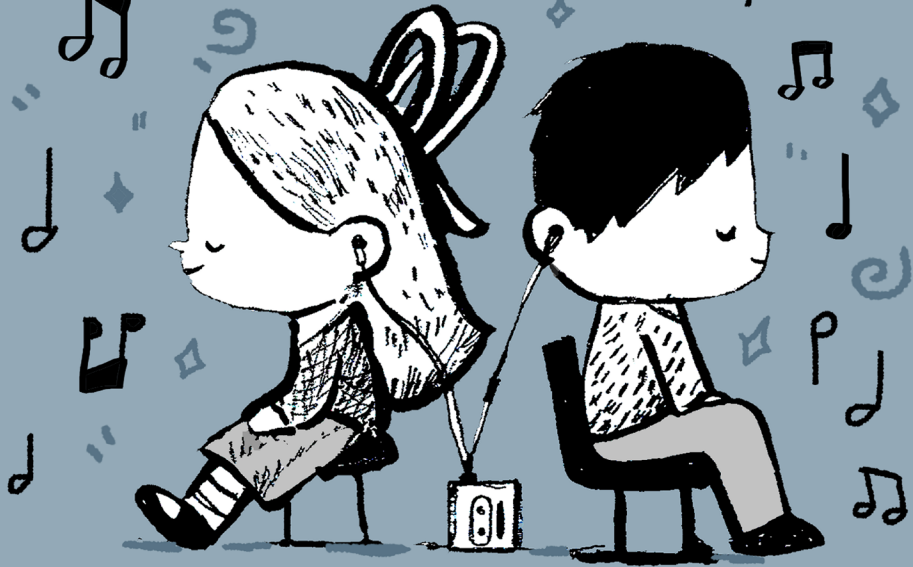


Story by

The Young Storytellers



Village Storytelling Presents

Break a Leg

Illustrated by

Jillian Mendoza

* Foreword *

This story was originated and developed by the Village Young Storytellers, a collective of young people who meet weekly at the the Village Storytelling Centre in Pollok to generate, shape, share and celebrate stories.

Following on from the success of their 2022 festival debut 'Paper Rainbows' The Young Storytellers are excited to adapt this graphic novel for the stage, to be performed live at VSF24!

Village Young Storytellers

Thom Foley
Niamh Logan
Anthony McGinley
Evie Rich
Nina Rich

Creative Team

Colin White: Community
Stories Lead / Young People's
Storyteller
Miriam Doren: Creative Facilitator
Jillian Mendoza: Illustrator
and Designer
Emma Greer: Neurodivergant Artist
and Creative Consultant

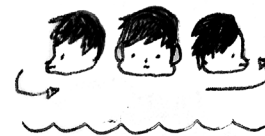
With special thanks to the whole team at VSC and to
Helen Mill (Executive Director)

Sarah Carlin/Trinidad Cabezon Droguett (Storytellers)
for your wonderful creative facilitation in the space!

Dedicated to Debbie Montgomery for always championing diversity and
inclusion and for making Paper Rainbows the visual delight it was.

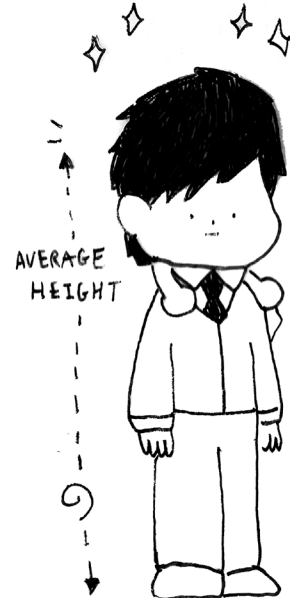
CHARACTER PROFILE

FACE PROFILE.



NAME: ALEX
AGE: 14

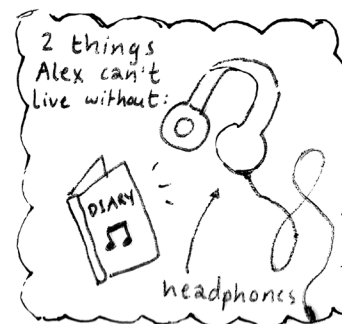
HAIR COLOUR
- DARK BLACK
♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥



PRONOUNS: THEY/HE
IS ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM

LIKES: MUSIC 🎵
THE SMITHS ✨
WRITING ✍️
PLAYING THE GUITAR 🎸
MAKING ART 🎨
CATS 🐱

DISLIKES: - NEW PLACES
- DIFFICULTY UNDERSTANDING
- NOT HAVING HIS
HEADPHONES
- PEOPLE WHO ARE
INTIMIDATING

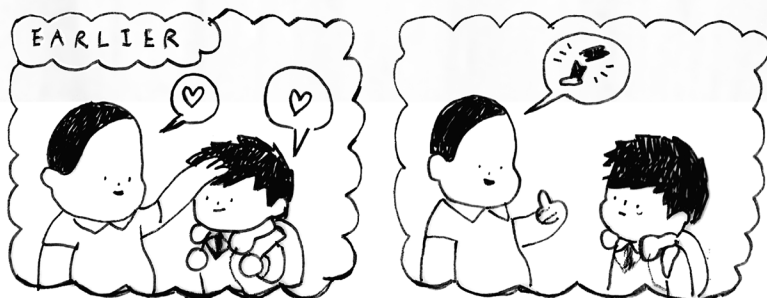




On August 13th, I started high school.



My name is Alex and I HATE it here.



Things didn't get to a great start either.
Dad said to 'break a leg'... what?

Idioms really confuse me



Spill the beans

A Wee Birdie told me...

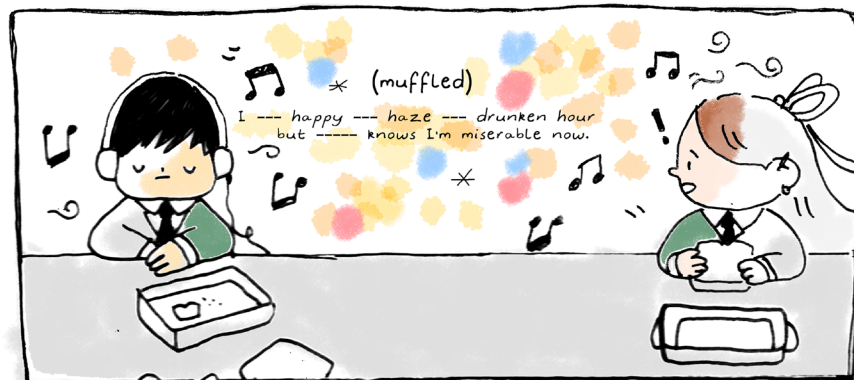
Feeling under the weather!

Have you lost your marbles?

Pull your socks up

I just don't understand.

~LUNCH ((🎧)) TIME~



Nonetheless, I met
a girl called Natasha
and I got along
with her well.
So I think we
are friends.

Natasha has great

music taste and
likes the Smiths.
She is very cool
and interesting.
I hope she'll be
in one of my
classes soon.

ALEX

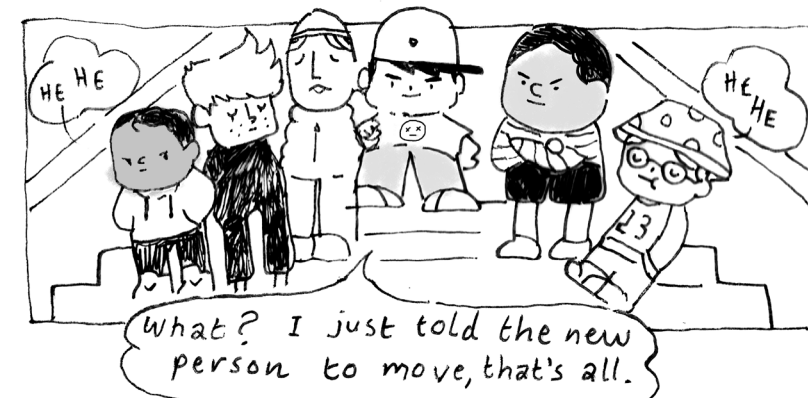
Dear Diary ♡♡♡
Today was really
fun! I met someone
new and O.M.G guess
what?!

THEY WERE LISTENING
TO THE SMITHS
☹️ ← (surprised face)

I don't know anyone

else who like them.
Alex seems really
nice - I can see
us becoming very
good friends ♡♡

Love, Nat
♡ ✨ 🌸 🌸



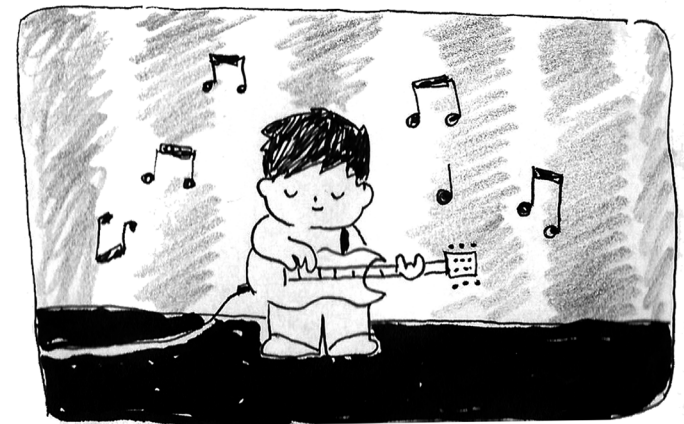
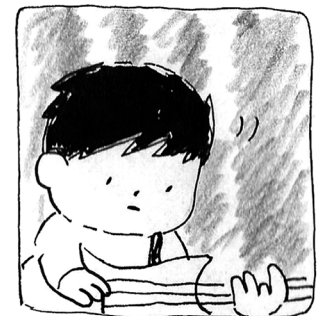
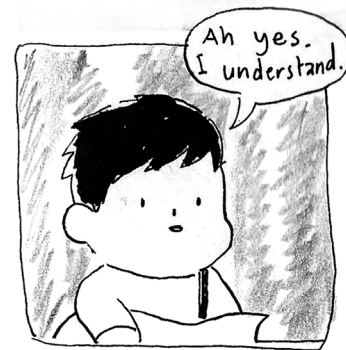
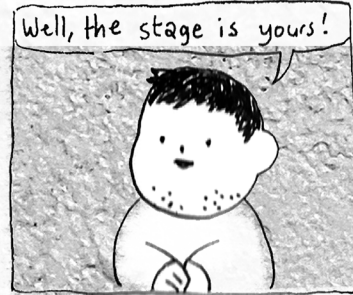
DEAR DIARY, TIME: 5:35pm
I'm really not prepared
and I am nervous
that I feel sick.
I don't think I've ever
performed in front of
anyone on stage.

Natasha seems really
excited about it
though. I invited
her to my house
and I played guitar
for her. She said
I was very good.

I should probably calm
down. Natasha said that
I got this and then
made me hot cocoa.

ALEX

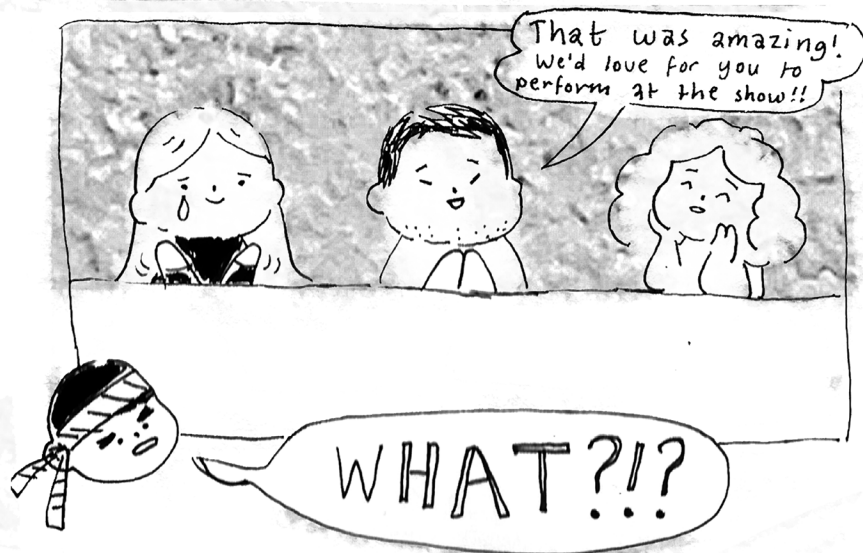
DAY OF THE AUDITION!






♪ I'm just a kid,
living in your
WORLD ♪

I'd love
for me to
be someone
who is of
worth ~ La
Da Di Da, Such
a complicated
WORLD



OH MY DAYS!

I can't BELIEVE Alex got into the final show, what an ABSOLUTE clown! 
[Alex as a clown]

Thankfully I got in too - the judges were skeptical of my comedy routine but I threatened them to get me in 😊!

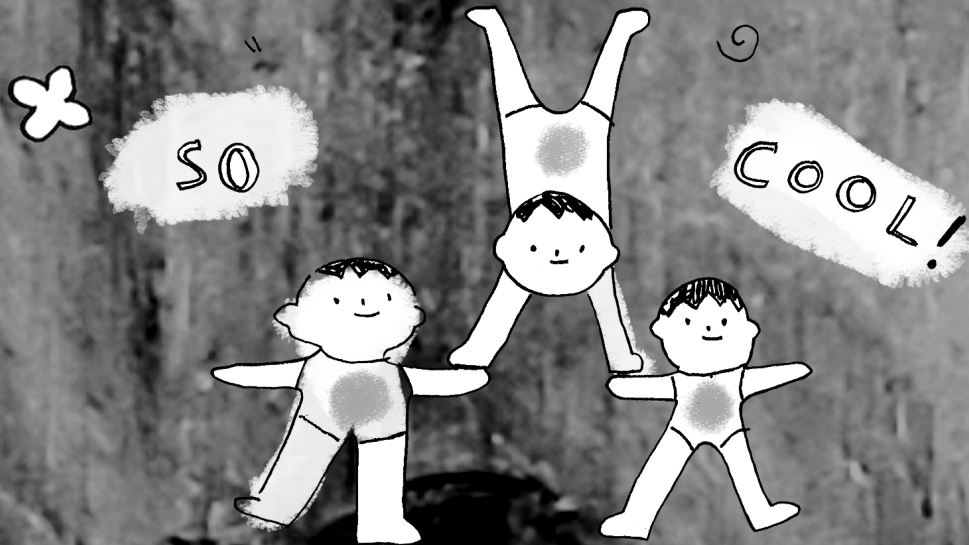
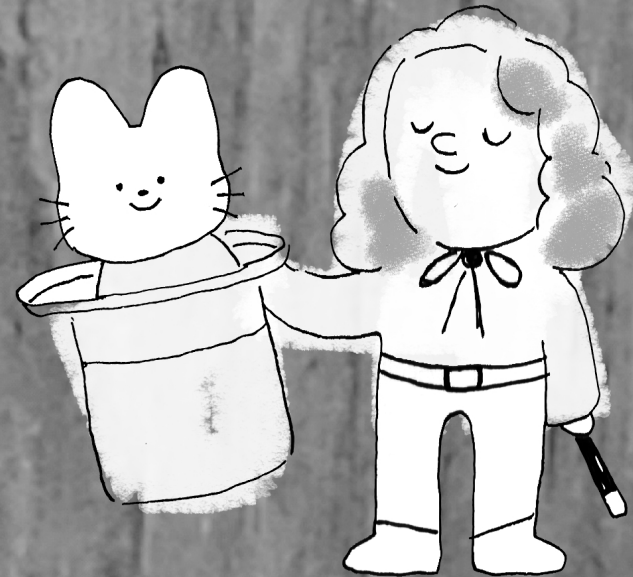
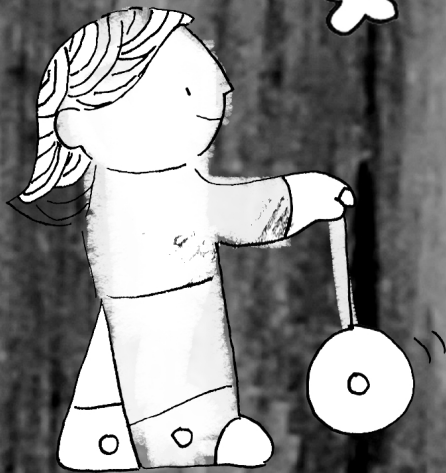
I have a plan to sabotage Alex's bit on the show with the help of my gang.

Before you know it, I'll finally be winner of the talent show!

The Coolest, JACOB

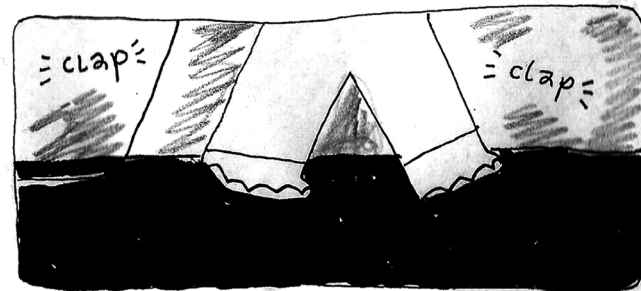
THE TALENT

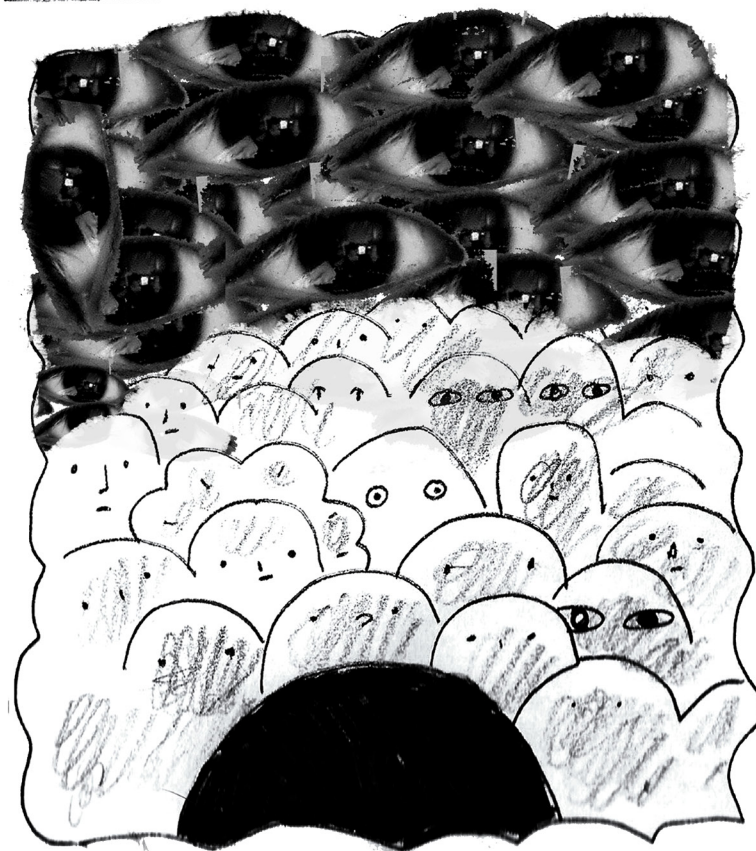
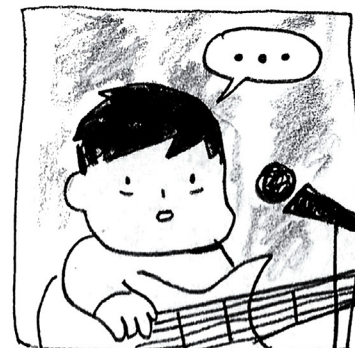
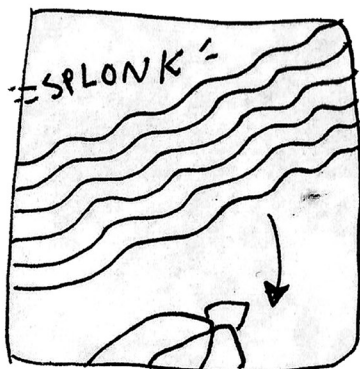
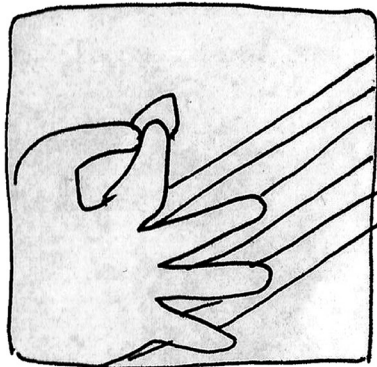
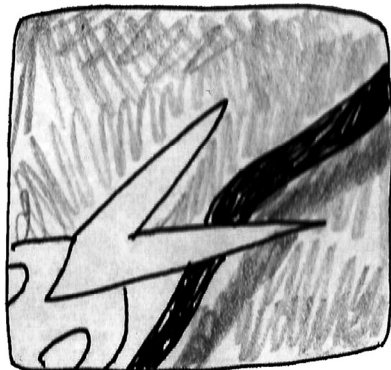
SHOW!



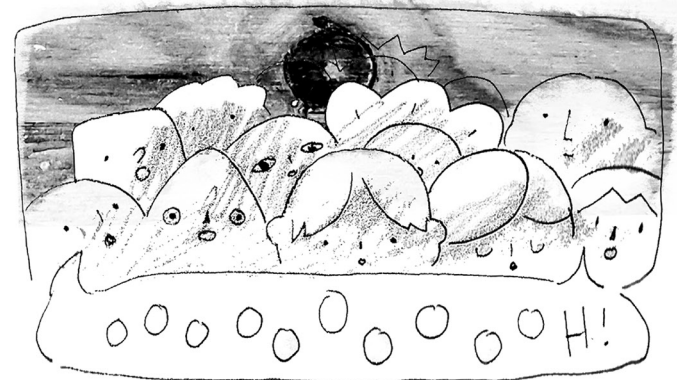
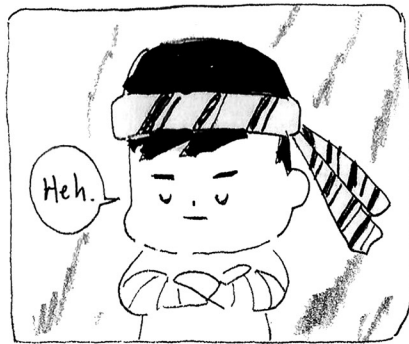



break a leg: good luck





GULP...

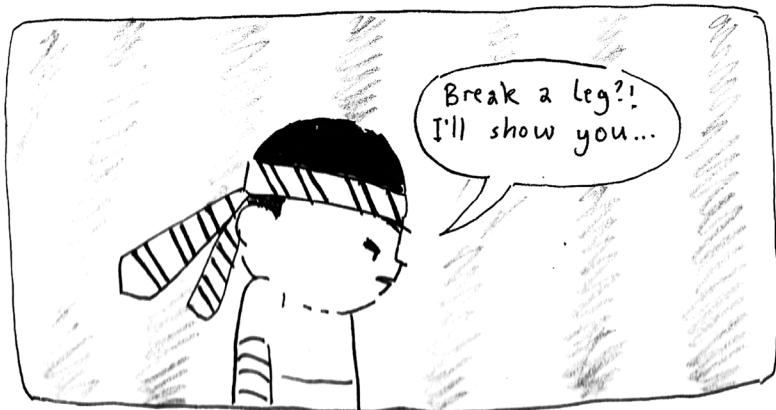
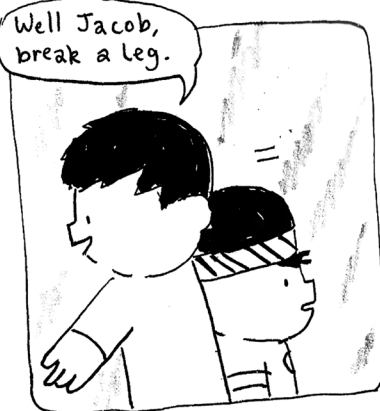




I'm just a kid
living in your world~

I'd love for me
to be someone who
is of worth

La Da Di
Da ~ what
a complicated
WORLD



(Orange Who?)

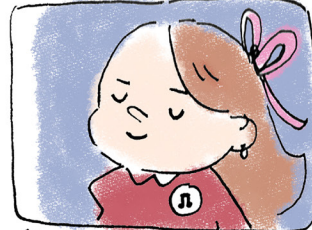


(... cough)

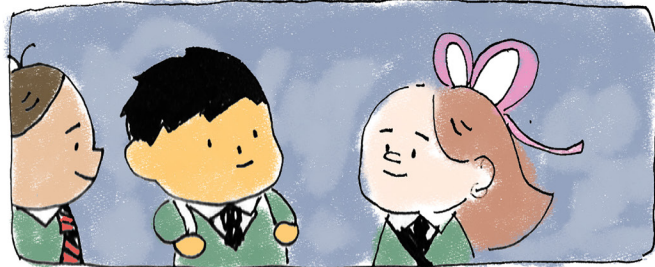




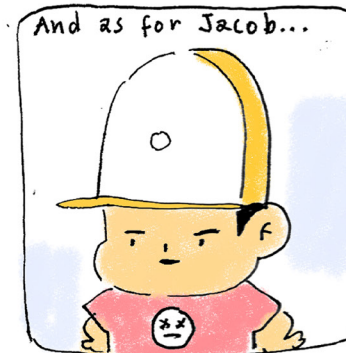
I now sing at the choir, and Nat helps conduct.



she's a great leader

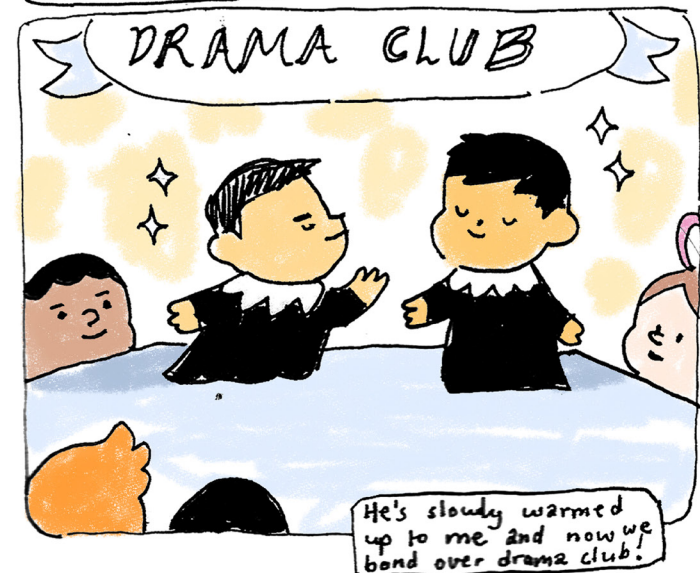


It's busy right now but I'm taking it one day at a time.



Yo Alex!

It's going pretty well!

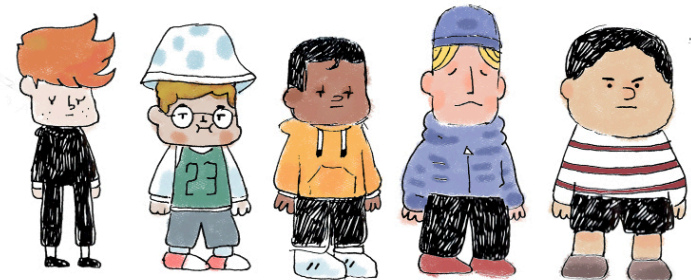


I've realised that I want
to pursue music seriously
and make people feel seen
and happy. Since the talent
show, I've gotten more
confident, & its also thanks
to Nat & our love for music.
I think I'm finding my place.
♥ Alex

Concept
Sketches.



MUSIC ★



"My dad said to break a
leg...what?"

This is Alex. He loves listening
to the smiths and eating crisp
sandwiches! He does not love
when people speak at him in
idioms... 'Break a Leg',
'Pull your Socks Up', 'A Wee
Birdie Told Me'... What does
that even mean?!

Join Alex, along with his
friends and frenemies as he
navigates Neurodiversity,
high school and his identity,
whilst discovering that being
different is actually really cool!



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SCOTTISH

CHILDREN'S
LOTTERY

