

Anti-Racist Community Engagement
Digital Companion

<https://compact.org/anti-racist-ce>

Sticky Family and the Transformative Power of Making Together

Katie Price and Yaroub Al-Obaidi

Comic Book: Sticky Family
josh graupera

[Comic book commences on the next page.]



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STICKY

FAMILY



1

**FRIENDS
PEACE
SANCTUARY**

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Sticky Family is a story that emerged from a series of creative workshops that took place at Swarthmore College in Fall 2018 and were co-facilitated by me and Yaroub Al-Obaidi. A group of 20 participants—Swarthmore faculty and staff; students in a related Peace and Conflict Studies course taught by Katie Price and Peggy Seiden; and collaborators on the *Friends, Peace, and Sanctuary (FPS)* project—told personal stories, created dynamic characters and stitched together a small mythos that resulted in the *Sticky Family* narrative.

Working on *Sticky Family* with *FPS* has been one of the best projects I have ever been a part of. I've spent months reflecting on our workshops and experiences together and feel so fortunate that folks trusted Yaroub and me to guide them through some pretty funny exercises to talk about real, honest, and difficult topics. So much of this trust is due to the relationship *FPS* built with its collaborators—members of the Philadelphia community who resettled from Syria or Iraq—over 2 years.

Thanks to the *FPS* staff for your support on this project and trusting me to co-craft workshops, the comic's script, and layout for this book. Thanks to Yaroub Al-Obaidi for bringing the concept of the “sticky family” to the table and your excitement to co-draft and facilitate our workshops. Thanks to Eric Battle for brilliantly illustrating this story and bringing these characters to life. And a huuuge thanks to our incredible participants, who are the foundation of this project and who've strengthened my resolve in the power of creative storytelling.

josh graupera

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The Alhaw'a Family



BANG!







HEY! SHOW YOURSELF, NOW!!



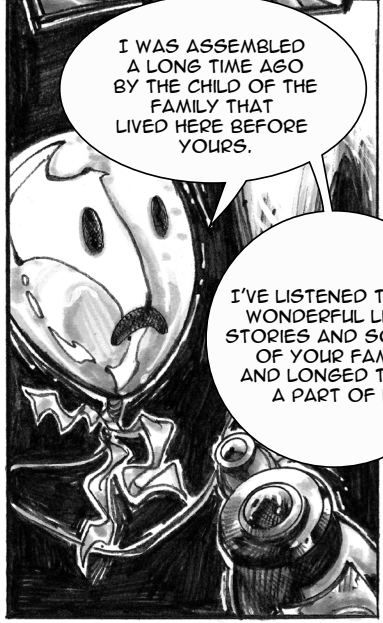
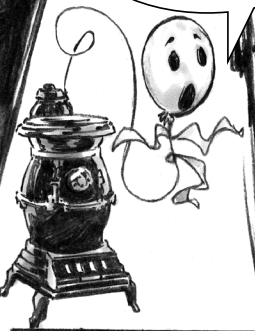
AHHHHH!

LIHHH, HI!
I KNOW I'M A TALKING
BALLOON BUT I
CAN EXPLAIN
EVERYTHING!

AH! WHO ARE YOU?!



WHAT THE--



I WAS ASSEMBLED
A LONG TIME AGO
BY THE CHILD OF
THE FAMILY THAT
LIVED HERE BEFORE
YOURS.

I'VE LISTENED TO THE
WONDERFUL LIVES,
STORIES AND SOUNDS
OF YOUR FAMILY
AND LONGED TO BE
A PART OF IT.

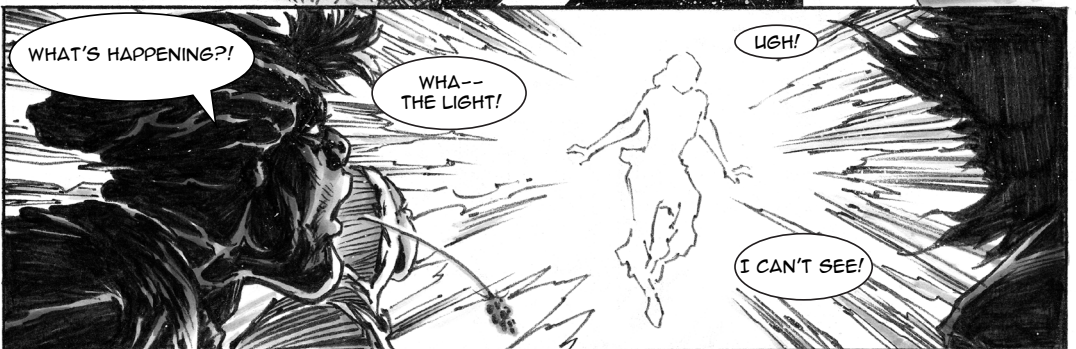
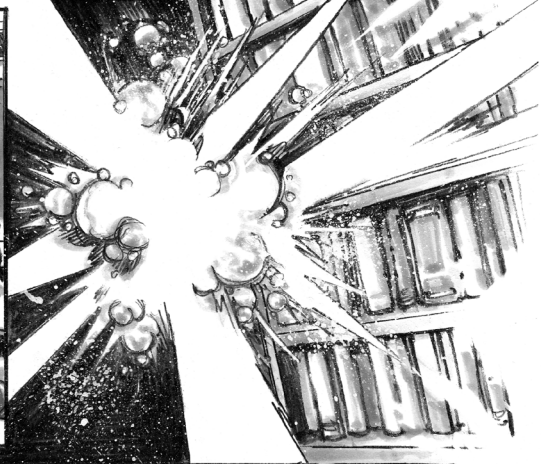
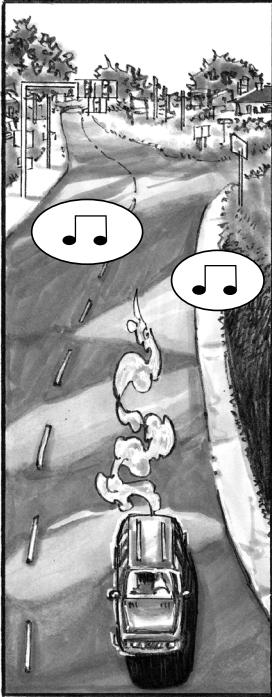
THAT'S WHY I'VE
BEEN MAKING
NOISES--HOPING
YOU COULD
HELP ME.



OF COURSE,
WE'LL HELP YOU.

*RUSTED FOOT

The Alzamakan Family





FORGIVE ME FOR MY INTRUSION BUT I'VE COME WITH A WARNING.

A POWERFUL BEING IS MAKING ITS WAY HERE!



WHAT KIND OF BEING?!

WHY ARE THEY COMING HERE?!



ALL I KNOW IS THAT MY RADAR'S PICKED UP A STRONG ENERGY MAKING IT'S WAY TO THESE COORDINATES AT LIGHT SPEED.

I FELT IT WAS MY DUTY TO INTERRUPT OUR HASTY VISITOR.

!

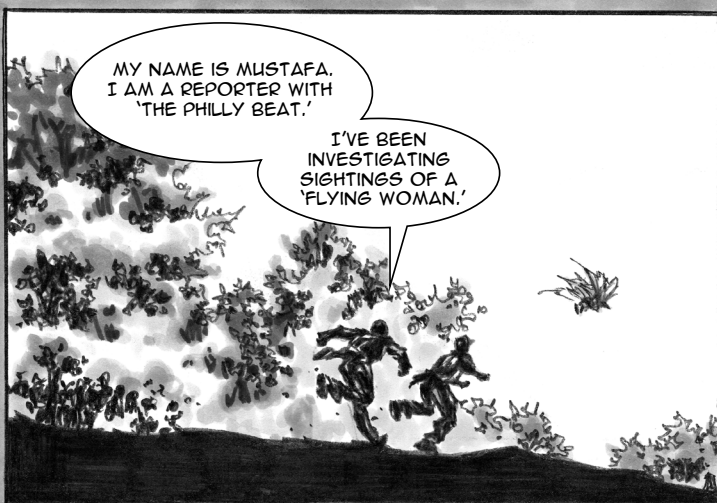
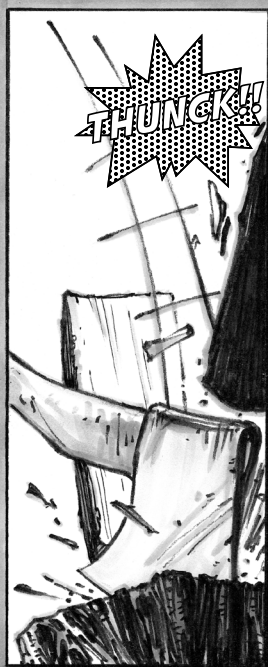


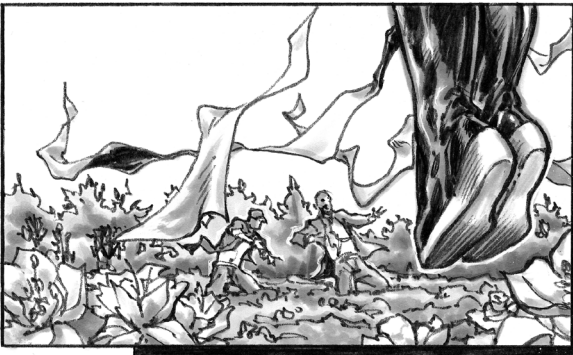
HELLOOOOOO!!

HELLO,
MY NAME IS ELI.
I'VE COME FROM
A DISTANT WORLD
ON A DESPARATE
MISSION.

I MUST FIND JULIE
THE PERFORMER!!

The Alhadiqa Family





PARDON THE COMMOTION. I WAS TELEPORTING MY FAMILY FROM THEIR HOME IN SYRIA.

I BROUGHT THEM TO SEE MY NEIGHBOR JULIE'S PERFORMANCE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME?

OUTSIDE THE LANG CENTER
FOR PERFORMING ARTS,
SWARTHMORE COLLEGE



HI SUPERMIMI, SO
GLAD YOU AND YOUR
FAMILY COULD COME!

OF COURSE! I
CAN'T WAIT TO SEE
YOUR SHOW!



I HOPE YOU
DON'T MIND I
BROUGHT A FEW
FRIENDS.



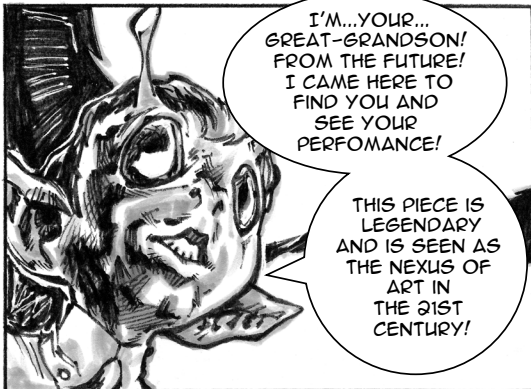
YOU'RE JULIE?!

Y-YES?
AND YOU ARE?



I'M...YOUR...
GREAT-GRANDSON!
FROM THE FUTURE!
I CAME HERE TO
FIND YOU AND
SEE YOUR
PERFORMANCE!

THIS PIECE IS
LEGENDARY
AND IS SEEN AS
THE NEXUS OF
ART IN
THE 21ST
CENTURY!



WHA--...WHO...
UHHH...

**LET'S PUT
ON A
SHOW!!!**





The End.

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FRIENDS, PEACE AND SANCTUARY
2019