



# THE HEROES

COMIC STRIP  
MADE BY THE  
ITALIAN PRIMARY  
SCHOOL  
STUDENTS OF THE  
"I.C. MELANZIO-  
PARINI" IN ITALY

WE LIVE IN A MODERN WORLD, OVERRUN WITH TECHNOLOGY, WHERE EVERYTHING IS EASIER, FASTER AND MORE INTERACTIVE THAN IN THE PAST, BUT NOT EVERYTHING IS POSITIVE. THERE IS SOMETHING THAT WE ARE LOSING... OUR RELATIONSHIPS ARE SERIOUSLY COMPROMISED BY TECHNOLOGY. NO ONE WANTS TO PLAY OUTDOORS ANYMORE OR TALK TO EACH OTHER. WE USE SHORT MESSAGES , WHERE A LOT OF WORDS ARE REPLACED BY EMOJIS, TO COMMUNICATE. EVERYONE LIVES IN HIS OWN VIRTUAL WORLD, THUS LOSING HUMAN CONTACT WITH OTHERS.WE HAVE LOST EMPATHY.



HI, I'M DANTE, AN ITALIAN BOY, LIVING IN 2023. I HAVE AN AMAZING STORY TO TELL YOU, FOLLOW ME!

ONE DAY WALKING ALONG THE STREET OF MY TOWN...

IT'S NOT POSSIBLE!  
EVERYONE IS  
CONCENTRATED ON HIS  
OWN SMARTPHONE, NOT  
LOOKING AROUND AT ALL,  
NOT INTERESTED IN  
ANYTHING ELSE!

THERE SHOULD BE  
SOMETHING TO DO!

**POW!**



I'M GOING TO THE PARK, MAYBE I'LL FIND SOMEONE THERE TO PLAY WITH OR TO TALK TO.



NO... THERE IS NOBODY HERE!



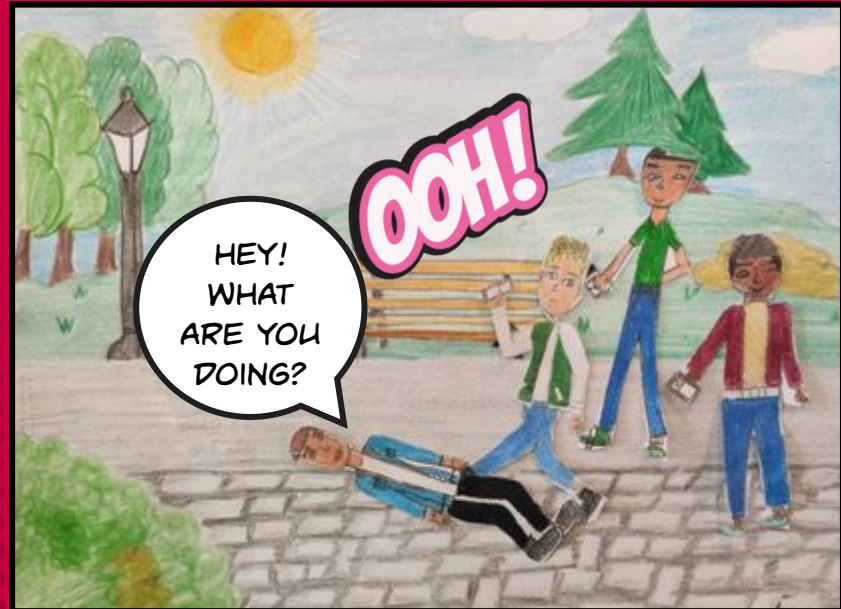
SOMEONE IS ARRIVING...

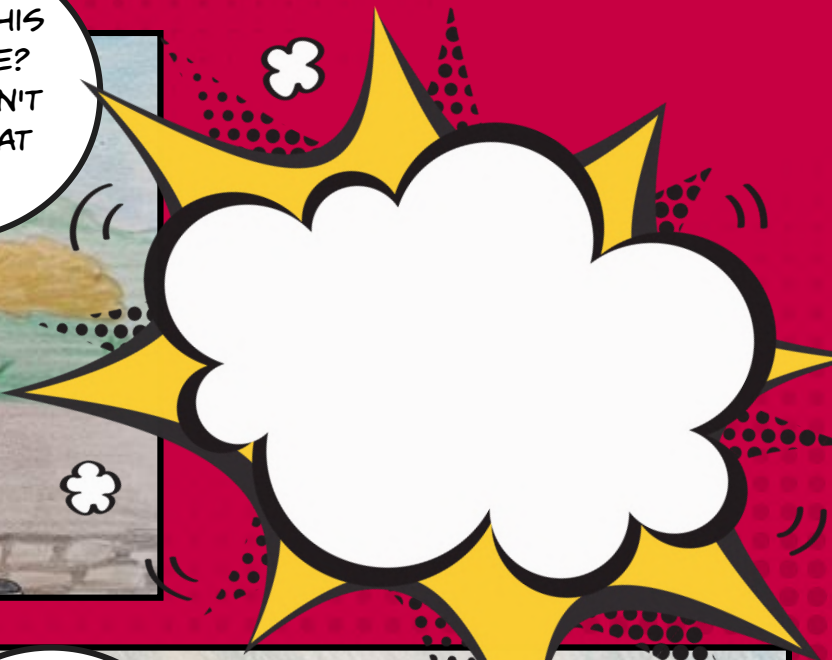
HEY GUYS, LET'S PLAY TOGETHER!



HEY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

OOH!





DANTE SEES A SKATEBOARDER



OOH!

HEY BRO,  
WHAT'S UP?

FINALLY SOMEONE  
HAVING FUN  
WITHOUT  
TECHNOLOGICAL  
DEVICES!





**AMAZING!**

OH MY GOD,  
MY LITTLE  
BABY!



YES, PLEASE!  
YOU ARE VERY  
KIND!



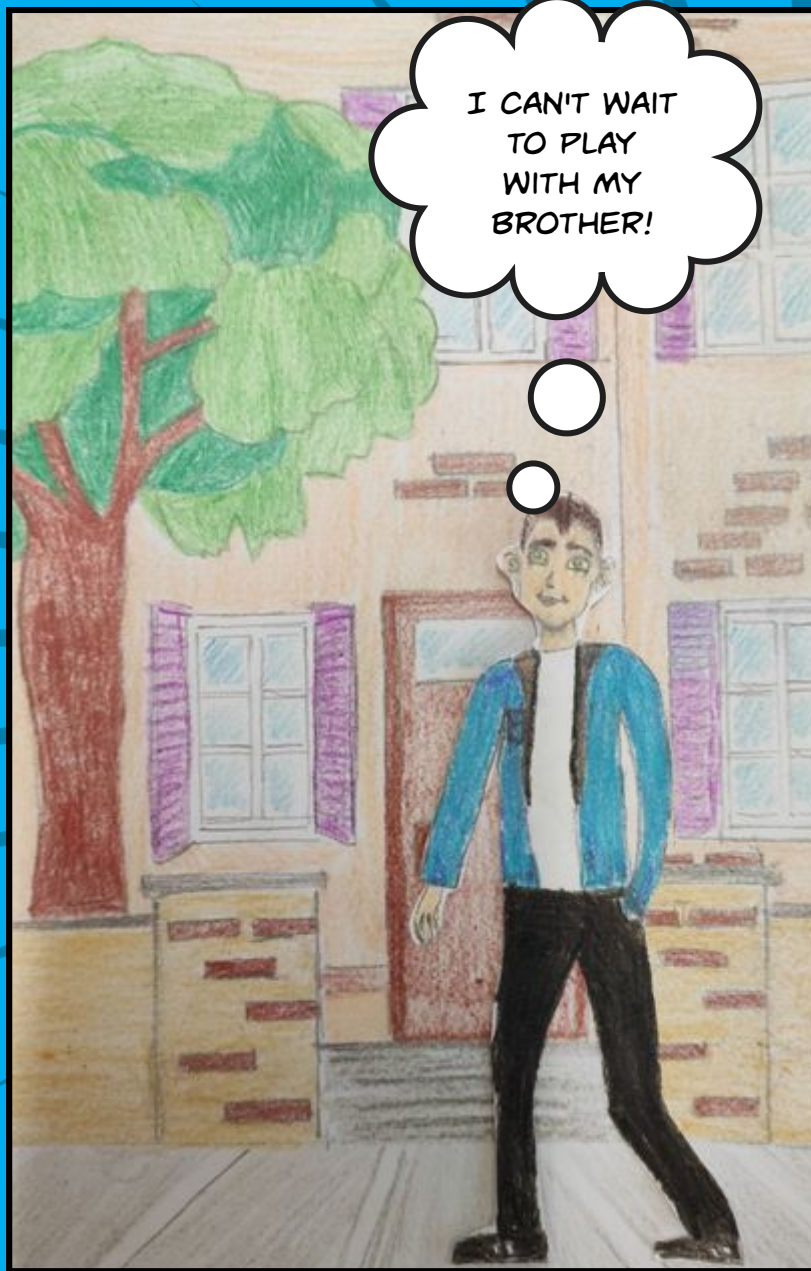
PLEASE  
MADAM, CAN I  
HELP YOU?  
ARE YOU OK?

DANTE IS GOING BACK HOME



IT'S  
ENOUGH!  
I'M GOING  
HOME!

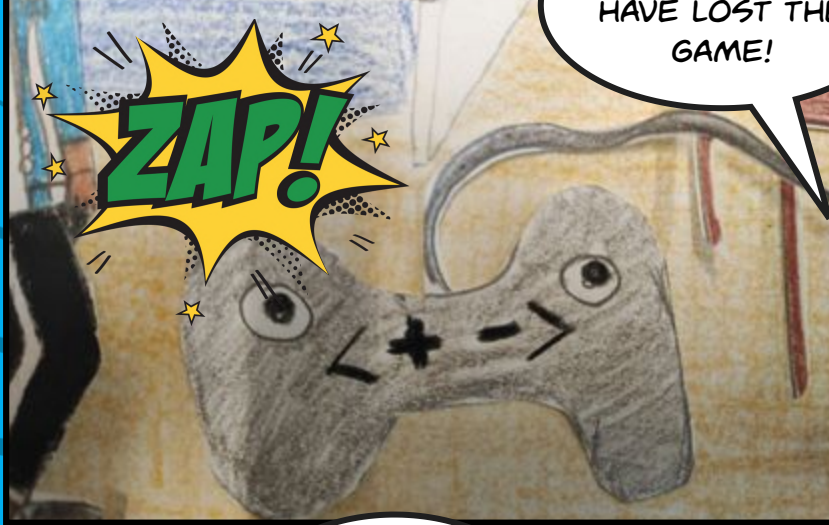




MARIO, DANTE'S BROTHER, IS PLAYING VIDEO GAMES



MARIO THROWS HIS JOYSTICK ON THE FLOOR



GLAAAAHH... I HAVE LOST THE GAME!



IT'S YOUR FAULT BECAUSE YOU DISTRACTED ME!



MY BROTHER DOESN'T WANT TO PLAY WITH ME EITHER!

DANTE, DISCOURAGED, GOES TO HIS MOTHER

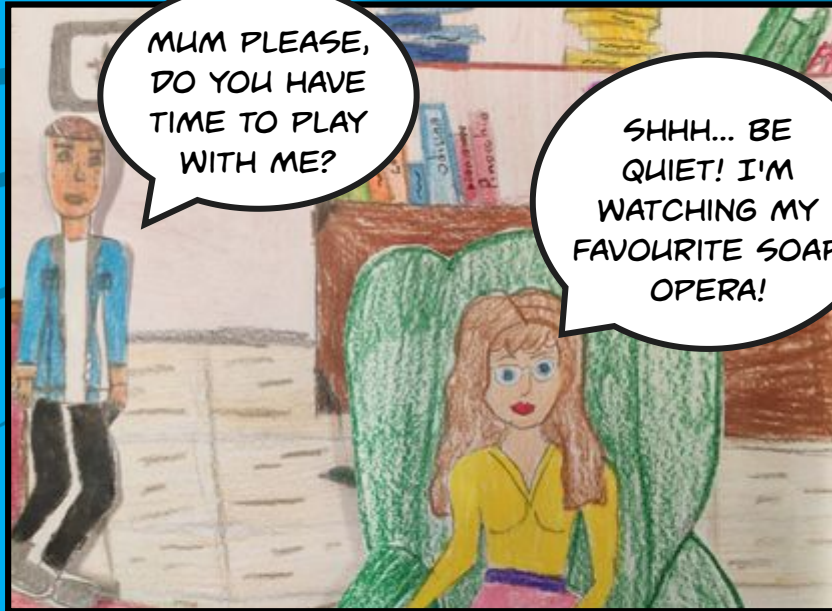


WHAT CAN I DO?

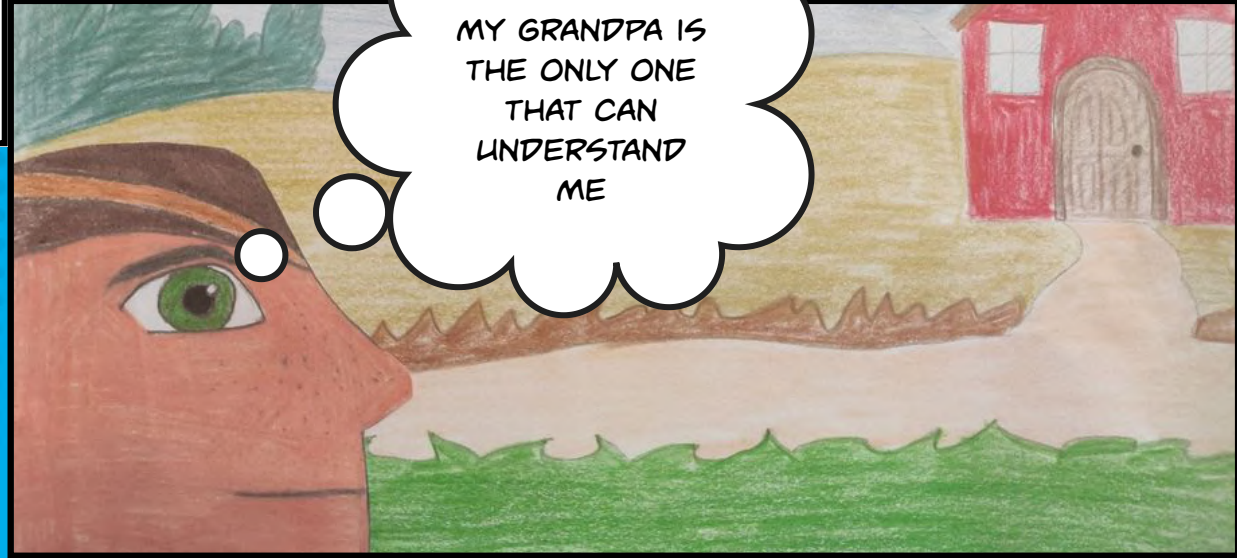


MUM PLEASE, DO YOU HAVE TIME TO PLAY WITH ME?

SHHH... BE QUIET! I'M WATCHING MY FAVOURITE SOAP OPERA!

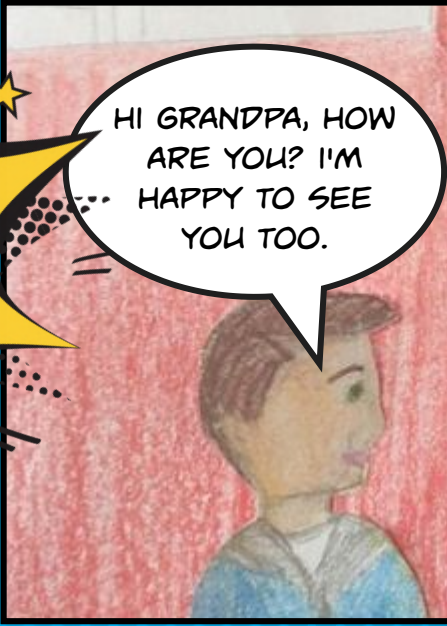


DANTE RUNS TO HIS GRANDFATHER, HIS SAFE HAVEN. HE LIVES IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.



MY GRANDPA IS THE ONLY ONE THAT CAN UNDERSTAND ME

"I'm not happy, I don't feel part of this world".



HI GRANDPA, HOW ARE YOU? I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU TOO.



HI MY DEAR, IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU!



DANTE RECOUNTS THE STORY OF HIS DAY TO HIS GRANDPA; HE TELLS HIM THAT HE MISSES THE WONDERFUL WORLD WHERE EVERYONE FELT GOOD TOGETHER AND LIVED PEACEFULLY. NOW ALL THIS IS GONE! ROBOTIC EXTRATERRESTRIALS HAS STARTED TO DOMINATE THE WORLD; TAKING CONTROL OF EVERY HUMAN ABILITY.



IT HAPPENED THAT ONE DAY THE SKY TURNED GREY AND GLOOMY...

SUDDENLY A DAZZLING LIGHT HIT EVERYONE'S EYES SLOWLY IMPRISONING PEOPLE'S MINDS!



GRANDPA, I'M DESPERATE!  
I'M SURE THAT EVERYONE AROUND ME  
IS A VICTIM OF THIS EXTRATERRESTRIAL  
SPELL!





WE CAN DO NOTHING ALONE, BUT I ASSURE YOU THAT VICTORY WILL BE ON OUR SIDE!



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING TO ME

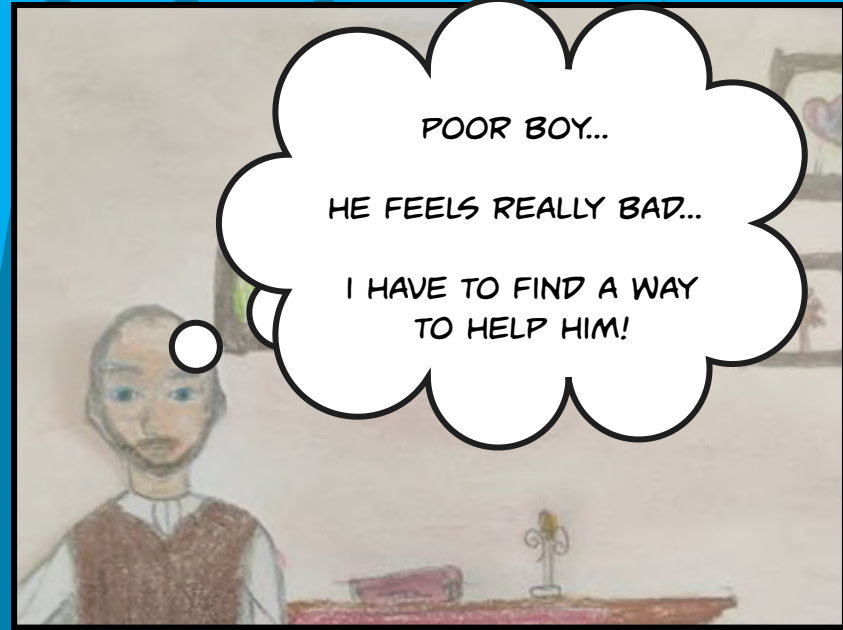
BYE MY DEAR GRANDSON



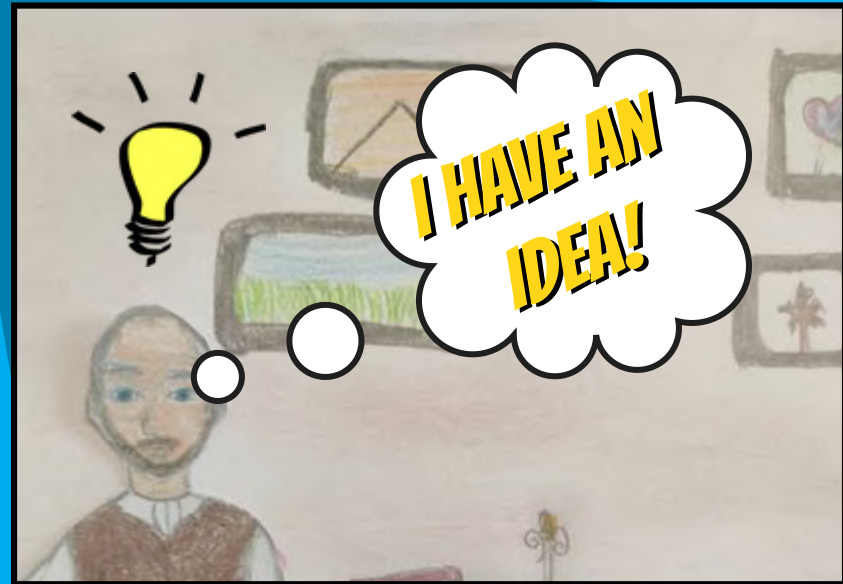
DANTE IS GOING AWAY FROM HIS GRANDFATHER'S HOUSE



MY DEAR GRANDSON,  
IT WAS NICE TO SEE  
YOU AGAIN, TAKE  
CARE!



POOR BOY...  
HE FEELS REALLY BAD...  
I HAVE TO FIND A WAY  
TO HELP HIM!



**I HAVE AN  
IDEA!**

DANTE'S GRANDFATHER DECIDES TO CONTACT HIS TRUSTED FRIENDS FROM YESTERYEAR, SO HE SENDS 5 CARRIER PIGEONS TO 5 DIFFERENT COUNTRIES: GREECE, CYPRUS, BULGARIA, ROMANIA AND POLAND.

GO, GO, MY DEAR PIGEONS, FLY AND TRACK MY FRIENDS, I REALLY NEED THEM HERE!



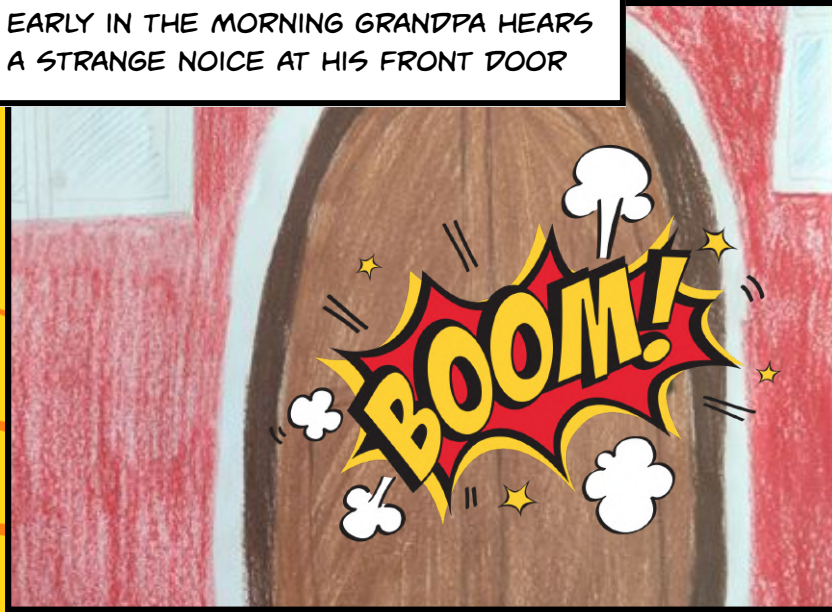
I'M SURE THAT MY FRIENDS WILL HELP ME!



THE GRANDFATHER GOES TO SLEEP HOPING THAT HIS MESSAGES WILL REACH THEIR DESTINATION.



EARLY IN THE MORNING GRANDPA HEARS  
A STRANGE NOISE AT HIS FRONT DOOR



HIS DEAR FRIENDS ARE BACK!



THE 6 FRIENDS GET TOGETHER IN A CIRCLE AND A  
LIGHTING RING APPEARS IN FRONT OF THEM.



SIX SYMBOLS APPEAR FROM THE RING: A HEART, SYMBOL OF LOVE; AN EAR OF WHEAT, SYMBOL OF THE FERTILITY OF THE EARTH; A WHITE HORSE, SYMBOL OF BRAVERY; A MIRROR, SYMBOL OF BEAUTY; A SWORD, SYMBOL OF STRENGTH AND THE FLAMES OF A FIRE, SYMBOL OF POWER.

**UNION IS STRENGTH!**

DANTE'S GRANDFATHER BECOMES ROMULLUS!



**TRANSFORMATION!**

ALL THE OTHERS BECAME DEMETRA, KRALI MARCO, PRINCE CHARMING, APHRODITE AND THE DRAGON



TOGETHER WE  
HAVE A CHANCE TO  
SAVE THE WORLD!



MY GRANDSON IS DESPERATE  
BECAUSE IN THIS WORLD PEOPLE  
ARE PRISONERS OF TECHNOLOGY

THE 6 HEROES DECIDE TO GO DOWN TOWN TO SEE THIS  
MODERN WORLD.



WE MUST BRING HUMANITY BACK TO  
PURSUE THE TRUE VALUES OF LIFE,  
HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS AND  
FREEDOM.

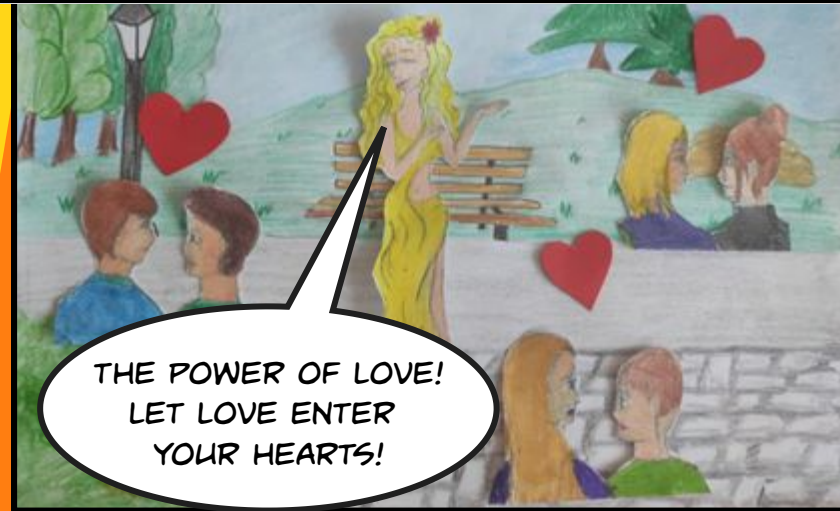


OH MY GOD, THE  
SITUATION IS OUT  
OF CONTROL!

SUDDENLY, THANKS TO THEIR MAGICAL POWERS, THEY GO BACK IN TIME AND SEE THE EVENTS EXPERIENCED BY DANTE, ROMULLUS' GRANDSON.

THEY FIND THEMSELVES AT THE PARK AND SEE HOW THE GRANDSON WAS OVERWHELMED BY THE BOYS WHO WERE FOCUSED ON WATCHING THEIR SMARTPHONES AND IMMEDIATELY THE HEROES TRY TO STOP THE BOY'S FALL.

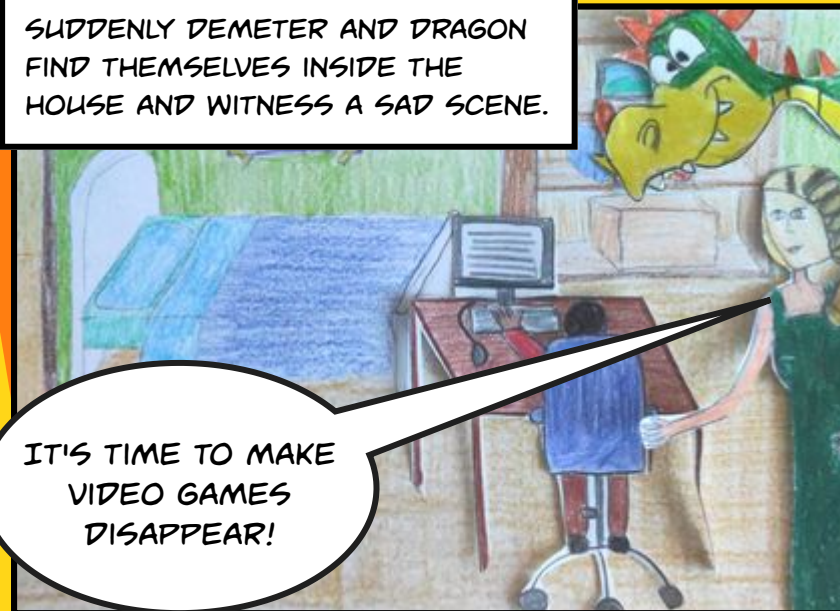
APHRODITE CASTS A SPELL ON THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP, MAKING THEM FALL IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER.



MEANWHILE KRALI MARCO REALISES THAT A STROLLER WITH A SITTING CHILD INSIDE IS OVERTURNING DUE TO THE IMPACT WITH A SKATEBOARD; TOGETHER WITH PRINCE CHARMING, ADVISED BY THE LATTER'S WHITE HORSE, HE GRABS THE CHILD ON THE FLY AND PLACES HIM IN HIS MOTHER'S ARMS.



SUDDENLY DEMETER AND DRAGON FIND THEMSELVES INSIDE THE HOUSE AND WITNESS A SAD SCENE.

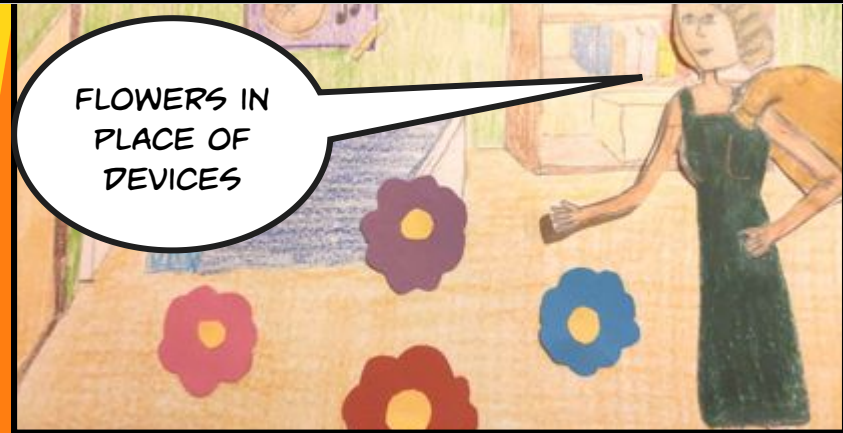


DRAGON SPITS FIRE AND ELIMINATES THE DEVICES.



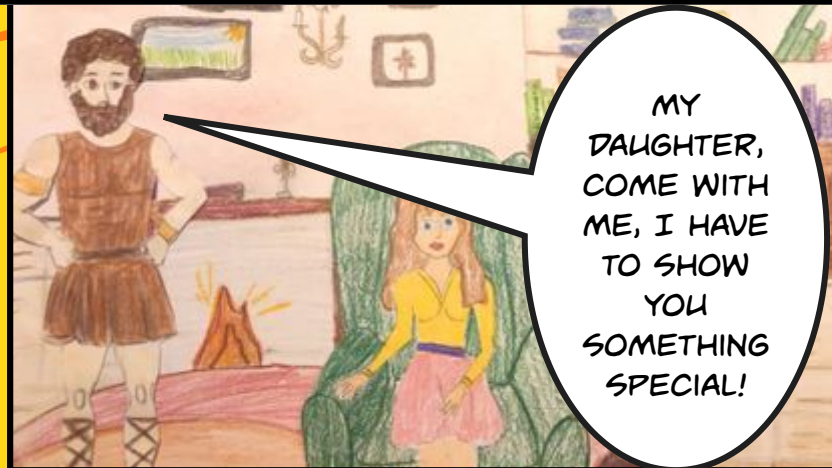
FIRE ON THE DEVICES!

IN THE MEANWHILE, DEMETER GROWS A LUSH GARDEN IMMERSSED IN FRESH AIR AND TRANQUILLITY IN THE ROOM. THIS BECOMES A PRIVILEGED PLACE TO PLAY WITH FRIENDS AND SIBLINGS.



FLOWERS IN PLACE OF DEVICES

AT THIS POINT, ROMULLUS GOES TO HIS DAUGHTER, DANTE'S MOTHER, GRABS HER WITH LOVING FORCE AND LEADS HER TO THAT GARDEN.



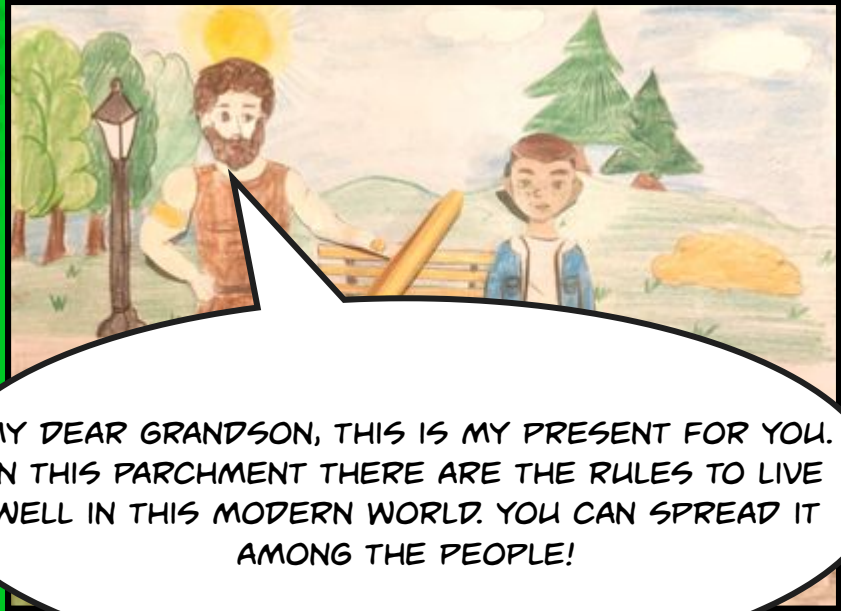
MY DAUGHTER, COME WITH ME, I HAVE TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING SPECIAL!



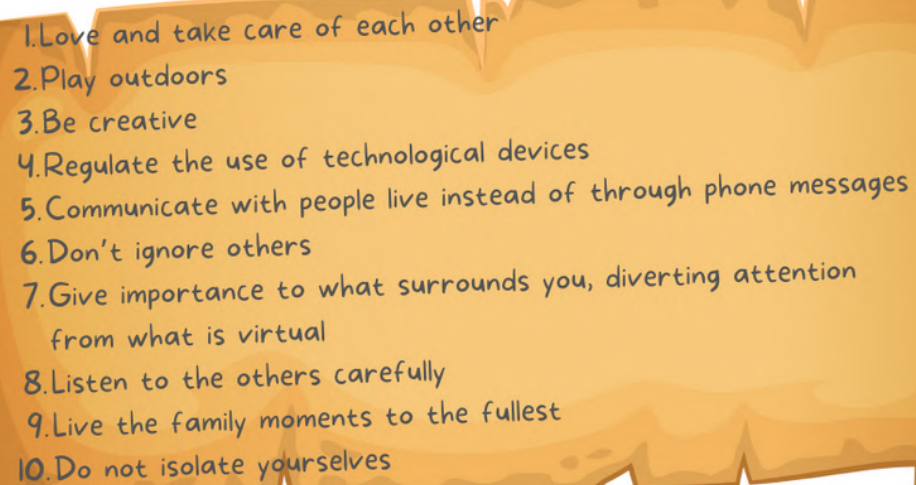
OH... MY CHILDREN ARE PLAYING TOGETHER HAPPILY!



SPENDING TIME TOGETHER OUTDOORS  
AND SHARING MOMENTS IS THE ESSENCE  
OF LIFE!



MY DEAR GRANDSON, THIS IS MY PRESENT FOR YOU.  
IN THIS PARCHMENT THERE ARE THE RULES TO LIVE  
WELL IN THIS MODERN WORLD. YOU CAN SPREAD IT  
AMONG THE PEOPLE!

- 
1. Love and take care of each other
  2. Play outdoors
  3. Be creative
  4. Regulate the use of technological devices
  5. Communicate with people live instead of through phone messages
  6. Don't ignore others
  7. Give importance to what surrounds you, diverting attention from what is virtual
  8. Listen to the others carefully
  9. Live the family moments to the fullest
  10. Do not isolate yourselves



THE HEROES HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THEIR TASK.



THE WORLD REALLY NEEDS HEROES LIKE YOU! THANK YOU VERY MUCH, YOU HAVE LEFT AN INDELIBLE MARK!

**THE END**

