

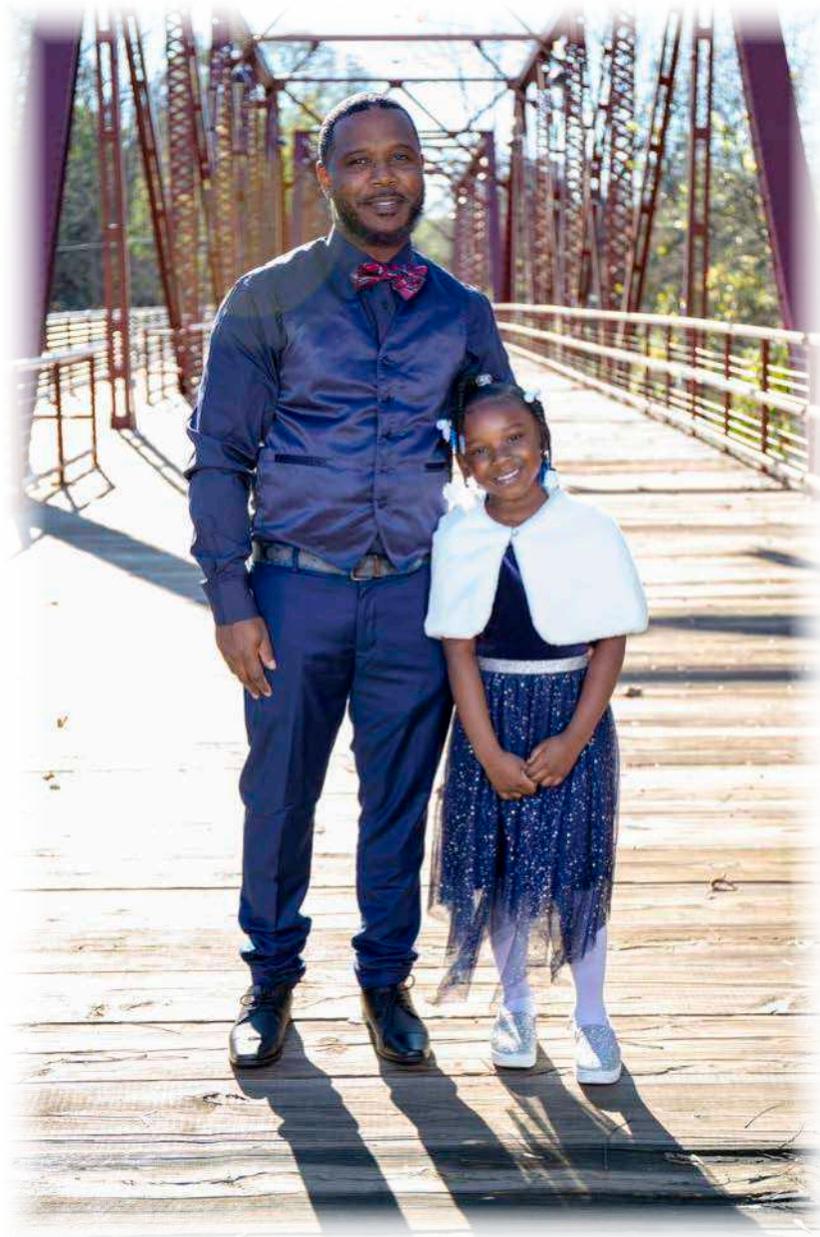
# The Drills

By  
Zarickus Worthy  
and  
Zymeriya Worthy

## Acknowledgements and Dedications

Zarickus: I'd like to thank the Creator first and foremost. I'd like to thank my mother Evelyn, my oldest daughter Zariah and my granddaughter Harlem. Last but not least I'd like to thank my youngest daughter and the co-author of this book Zymeriya. You are the main reason that I was able to get my life on track. I could not bare the thought of doing something foolish and leaving you alone in this world. Thank you baby cause I'll never be able to repay you for that.

Zymeriya: I'd like to thank God, my mom, my grandmother Evelyn, my stepmom Demetrius "Pooh" Littlejohn, my big sister Zariah and my twin sisters Niya and Shiya.



Zarickus and Zymeriya

Zarickus: Initially I was going to dedicate this book to my great nephew Knowledge Geter, who tragically died from gun violence at the young age of 15. After serious consideration, I realized that gun violence had effected my life a lot earlier than the death of my nephew. So I decided to dedicate this book to all my loved ones, family and friends from my neighborhood that we've lost from gun violence.

May you all rest in eternal peace.



Knowledge Geter



Antwan Thompson



Dearrius Bobo



Doc Gentry



Ernest Logan



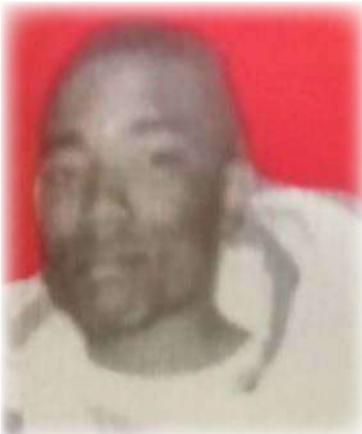
Johnny Morgan III



Kiyounnie Jackson



Treyvon Browning



Marcus Byrd



Reginald Smith



Wilbert Mcham



Fantasia Smith



Zymeria Worthy

Zarickus and Zymeriya Worthy are the father and daughter writing duo that wrote this book. Zarickus has published 4 other books, The Street Betrayal series and Karma's Law under the pseudonym Mileesh. Zymeriya is a second grade student who loves to draw, read and write.

Fantasia Smith is an up and coming graphic design artist and an avid reader of children books.

Illustrated by Fantasia Smith and Zymeriya Worthy  
Ocir Media/ Hush Harlem publishing

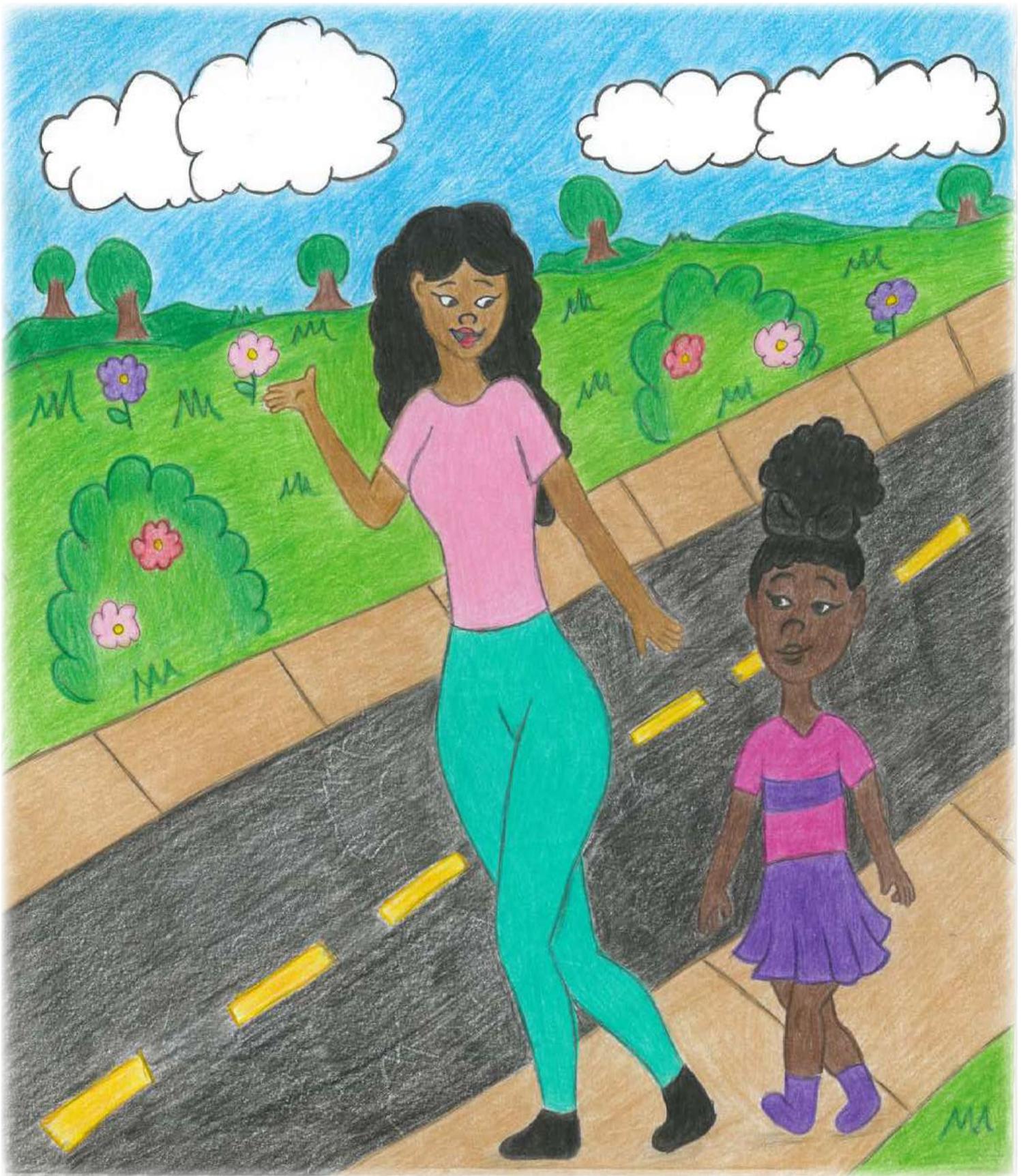
## **Synopsis**

Gun violence is plaguing America and Zaniya's neighborhood is no different. Whether it's at the playground or the corner store, Zaniya and her family are no strangers to the sound of gunfire. Zaniya's father Zamir, a truck driver, is working day and night to get them out of their situation. In the meantime he's taught Zaniya certain drills to keep her as safe as possible if she encounters gun violence. Their only hope is to find a better neighborhood before it's too late.

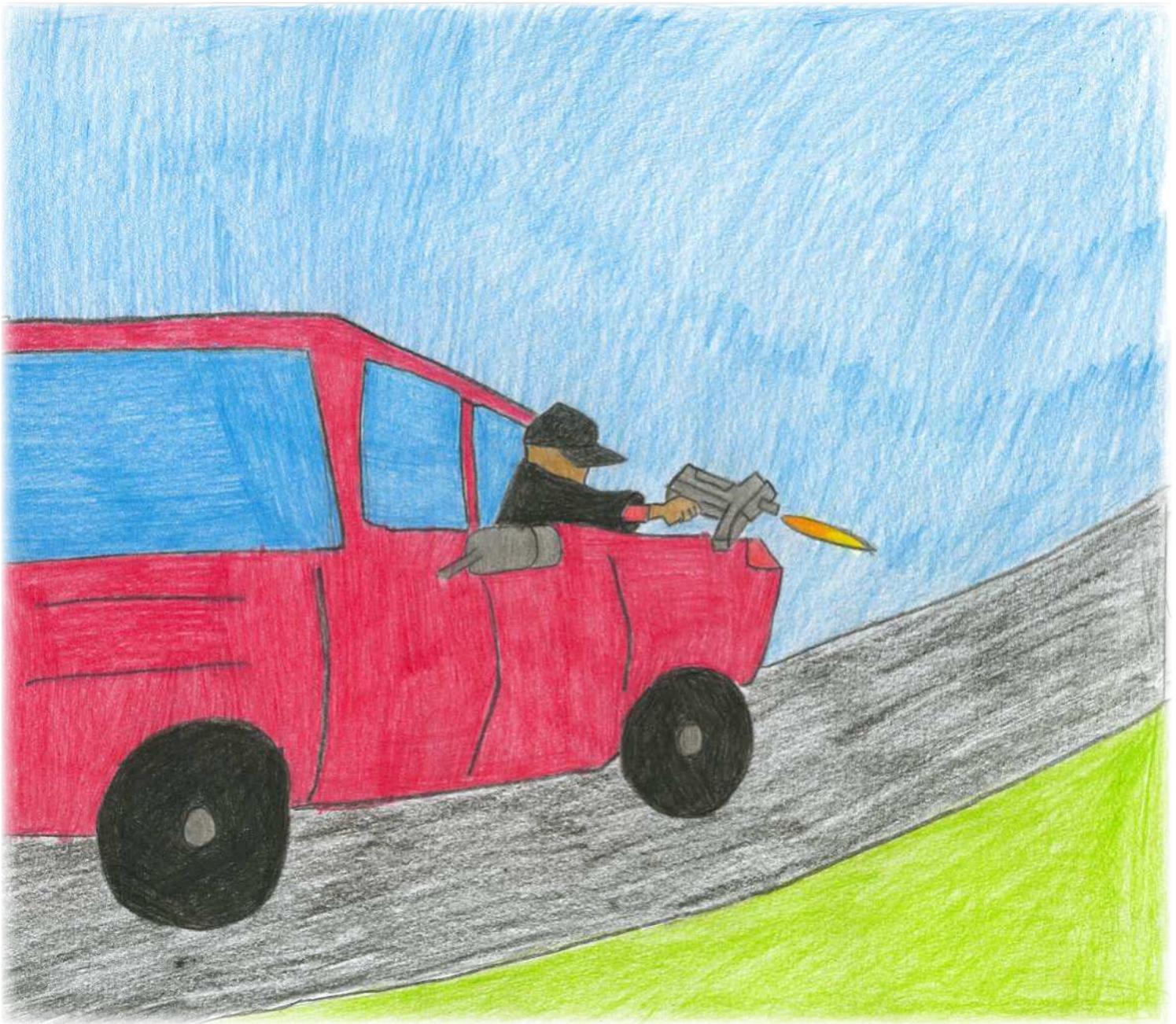
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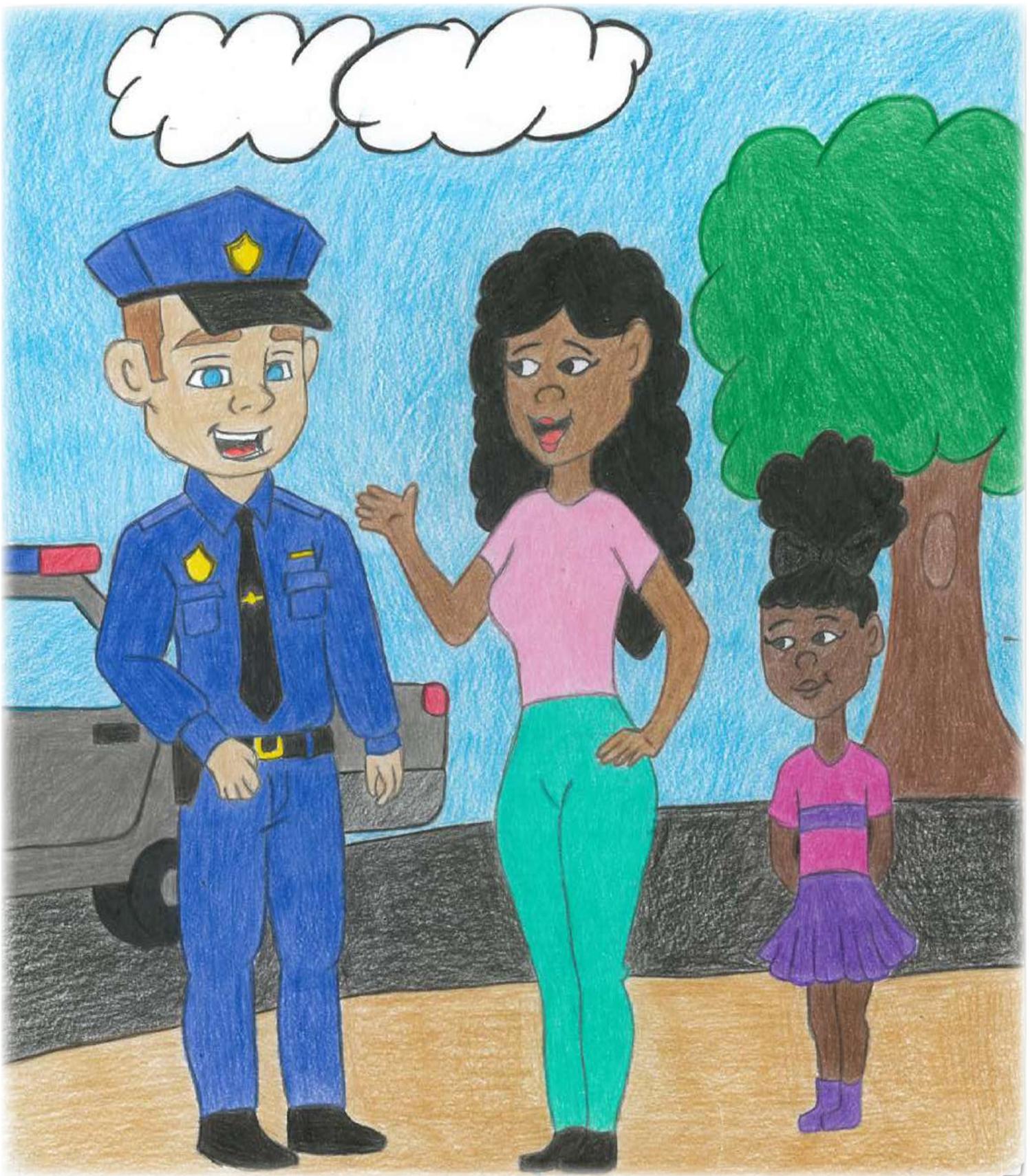
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Zaniya loved going to the corner store after she came home from school. She and her stepmom Zema would take their daily walk to get Zaniya a snack of her choice. The only part she didn't like was that it could be dangerous because of the neighborhood Zaniya and her family lived in.



As soon as Zaniya and Zema walked in the store there was a drive by shooting.



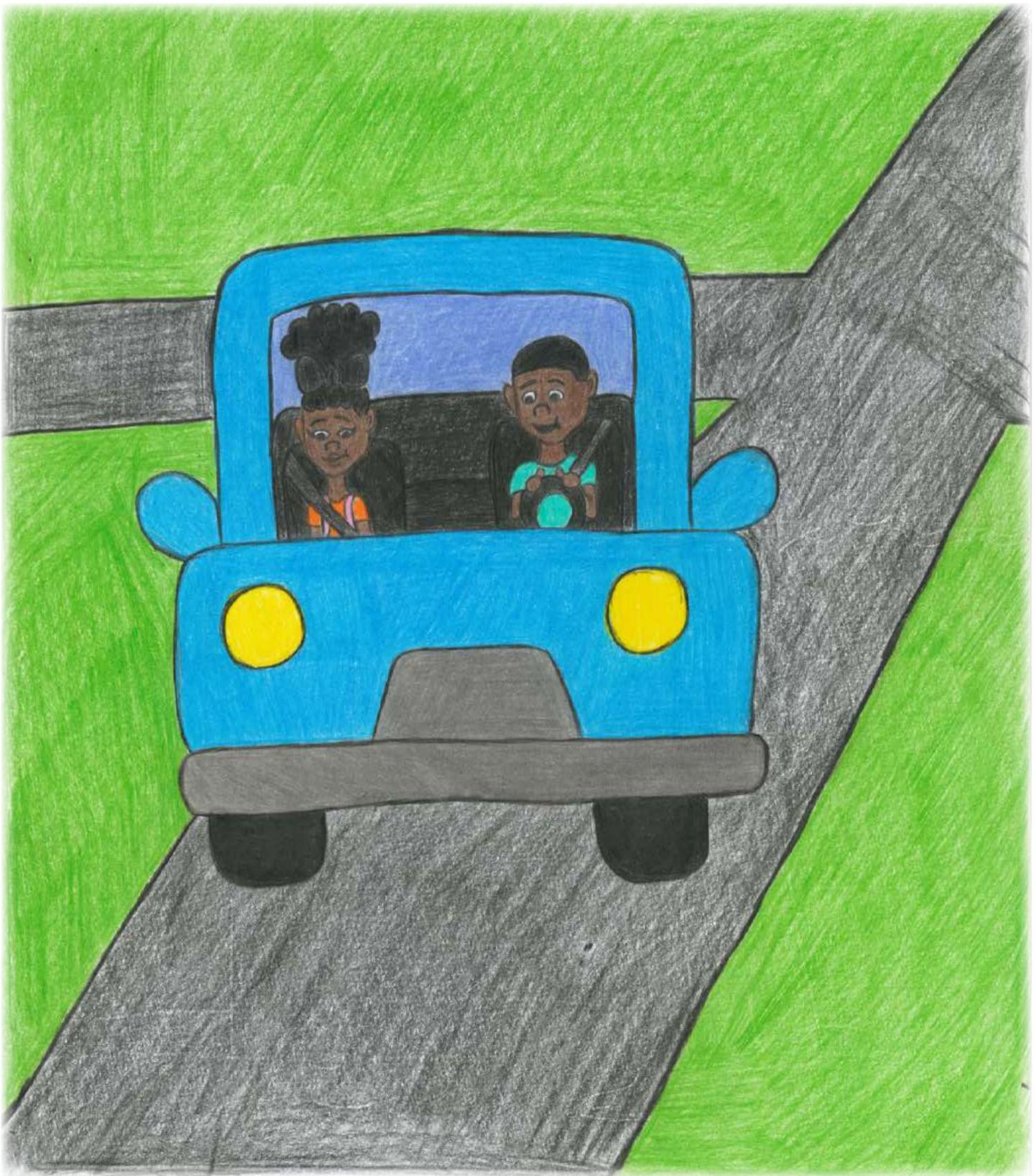
Once the police arrived an officer questioned Zema and Zaniya. The police officer asked "Ma'am did you or your daughter see anything?" Zema answered "No officer, we were inside the store when we heard the gunshots."



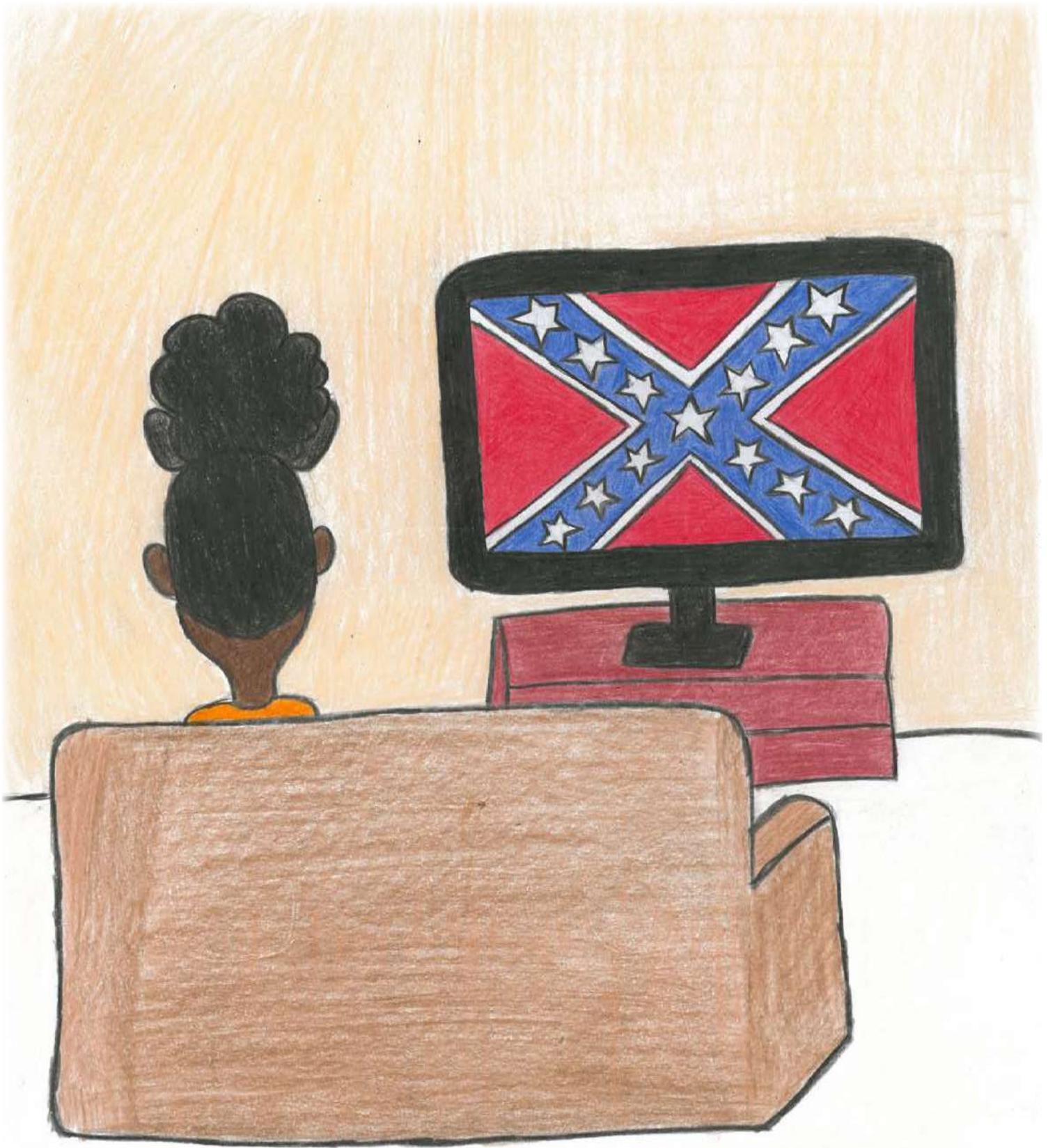
Zaniya always slept better when her dad Zamir made it home from work.



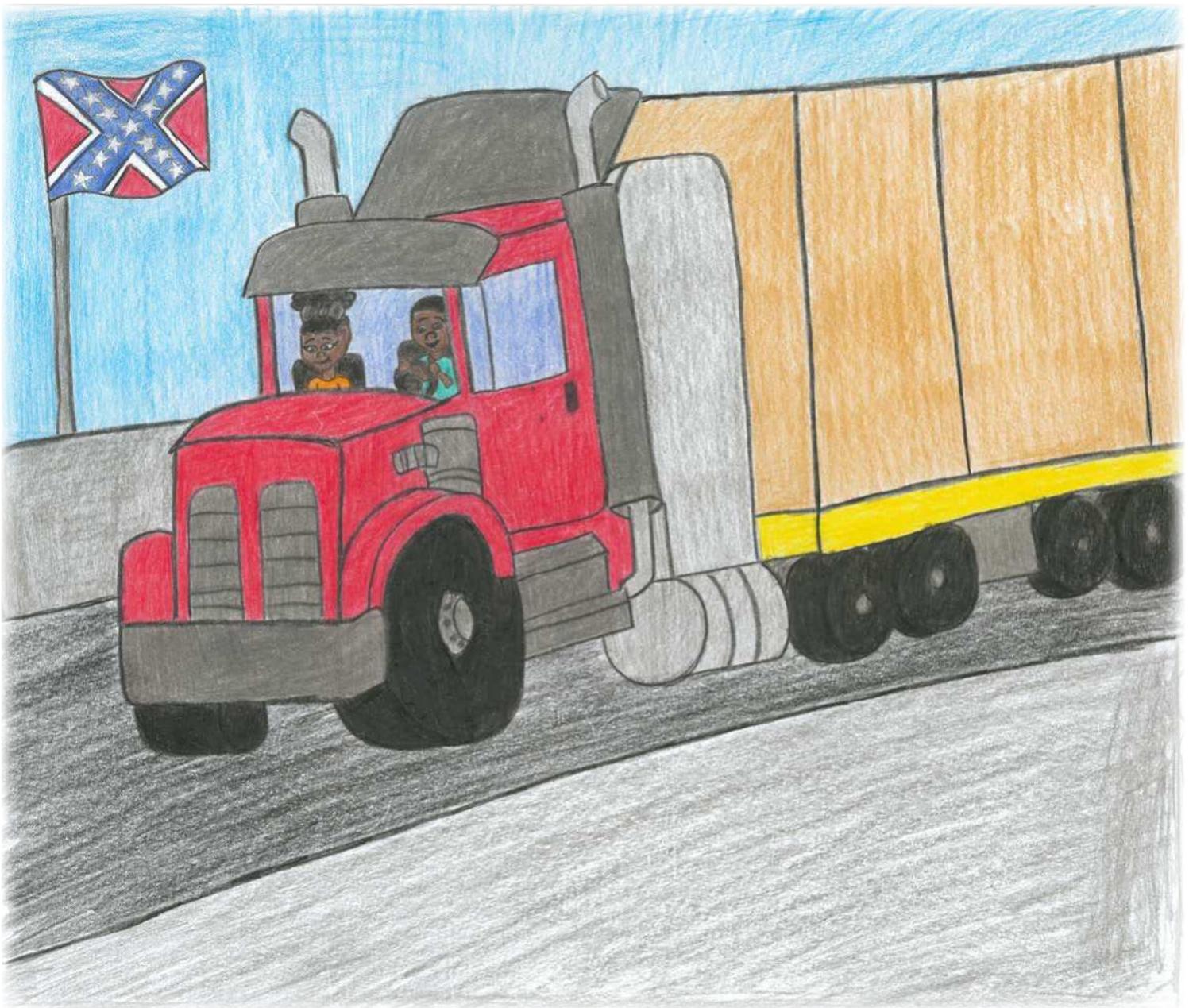
While Zaniya was asleep, Zema and Zamir were having a serious conversation. Zamir asked "Did she do like I taught her?" Zema said "Yes Zamir. She knows the drill. She dropped to the ground and didn't move until the shooting stopped, but she's just a little girl. This ain't healthy for either of us." Zamir said "I know and I'm trying. I promise as soon as a better house is available we're moving out of this neighborhood."



The next morning Zamir decided to take Zaniya to school. While Zamir was driving, Zaniya asked "why do people want to have guns?" Zamir answered "Well baby, in this country everybody has the right to own a gun and most people keep them for protection. The only people who can't own a gun are people who have went to prison." Zaniya asked "So Daddy, you've been to prison so you can't have a gun?" Zamir answered "That's right baby." Zaniya said, "Well you're my jail bird." Zamir smiled and said "Zaniya that's not even funny."



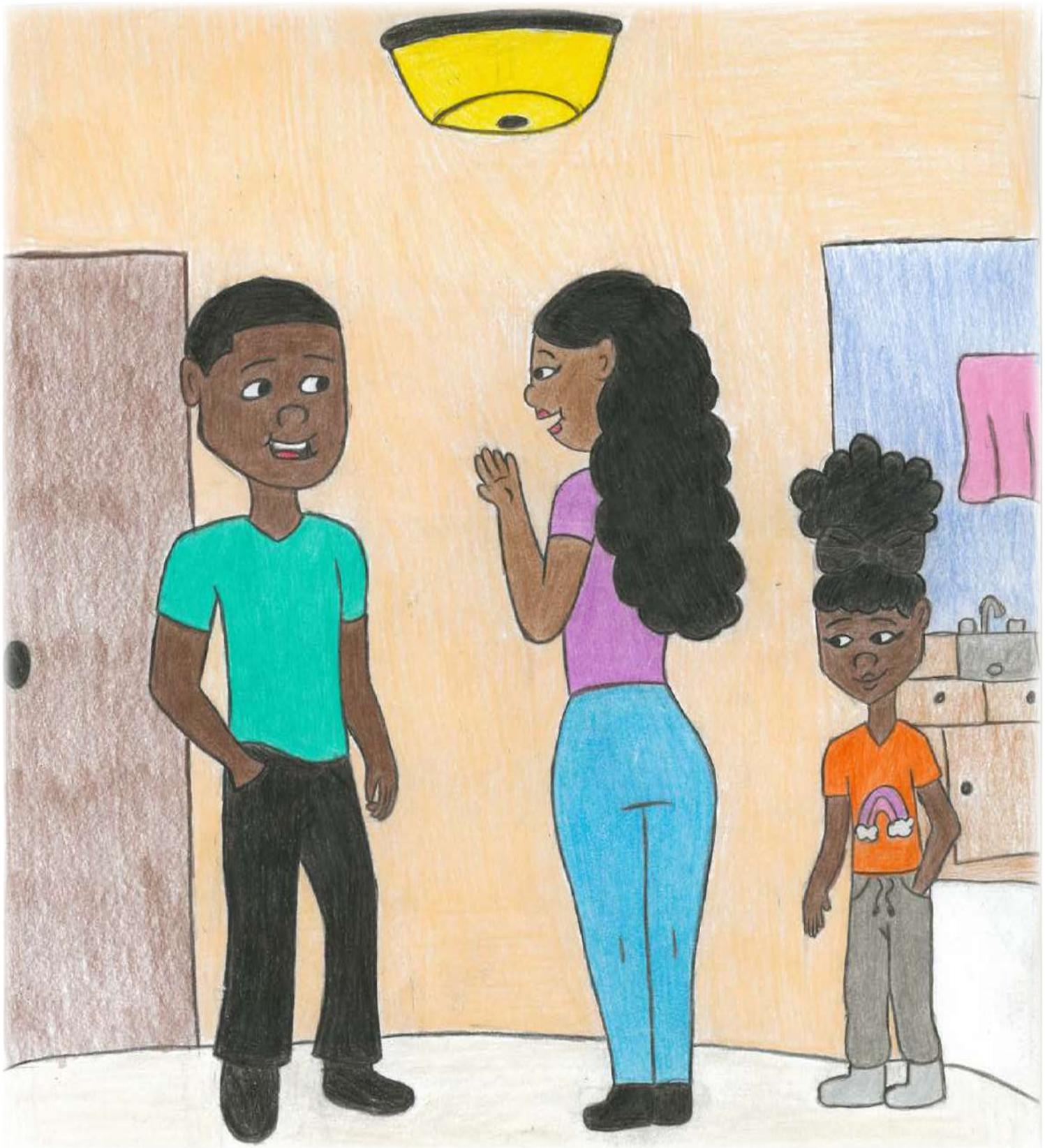
Zaniya was watching her favorite show and it was interrupted by a news bulletin. (News announcer) the suspect killed 5 people and was caught with a confederate flag.



Zaniya loved when she was able to ride in her Daddy's tractor trailer. They were riding down Interstate 85 South when Zaniya spotted a giant Confederate flag flapping in the wind. Zaniya asked, "Daddy what kind of flag is that?" Zamir answered "It's called a Confederate flag. You remember during the Civil War one group of people were fighting to make their own choices about their state." Zaniya answered, "You talking about state rights?" Zamir said, "Right, but the people who flew that flag wanted the right to keep black people as slaves. Stay away from people who fly that flag." Zaniya said, "Ok Daddy."



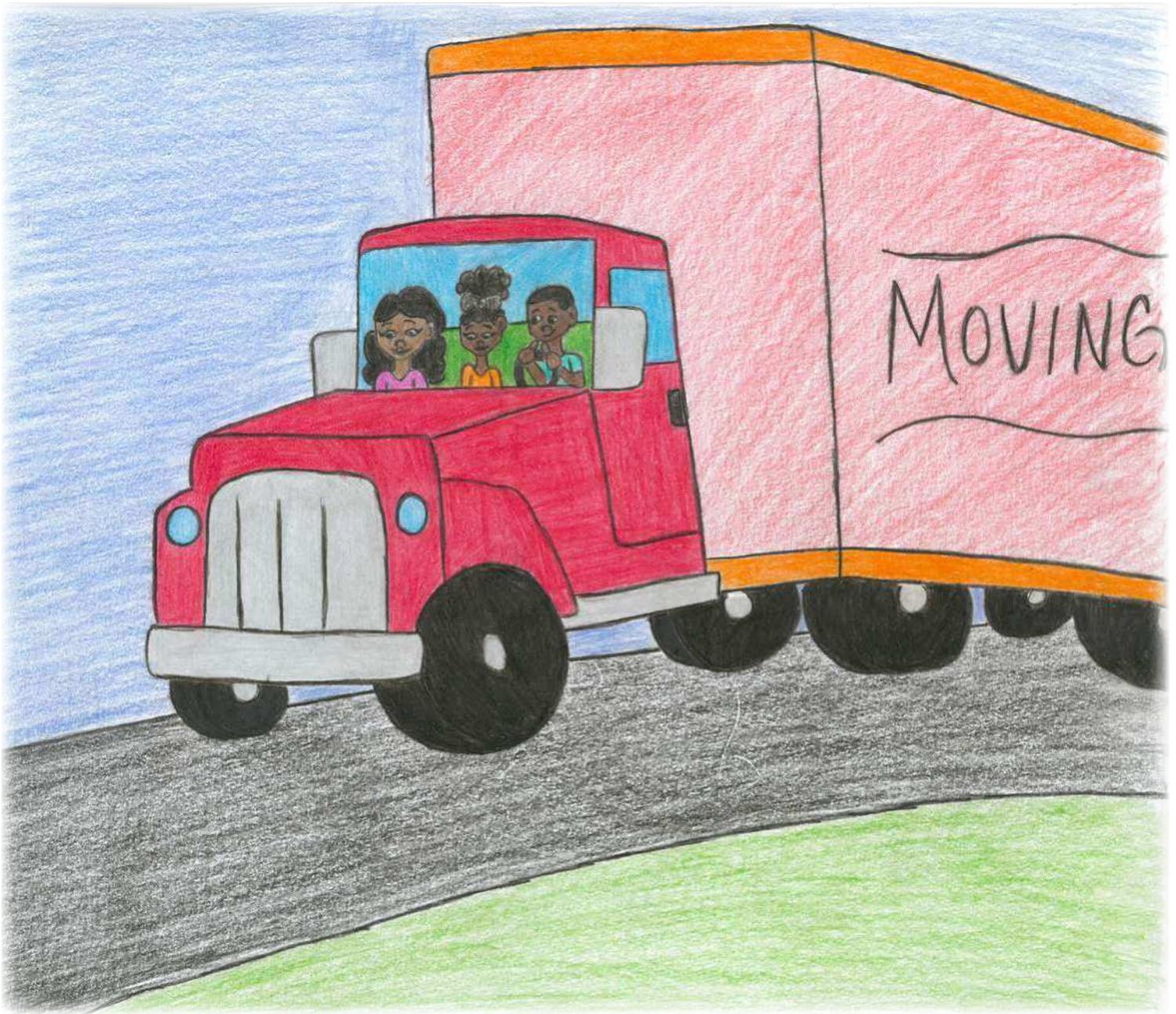
Zamir was really happy. He'd got the call that their new house was ready, but then a news alert came on the radio. Radio Person "It's been another school shooting leaving 8 students dead."



Zamir gathered Zaniya and Zema into the living room and said "I got some good news. We're moving. We'll be out of this neighborhood by the end of the week. Zaniya you'll be going to a new school and just like it was a drill if you heard gunshots in the old neighborhood, I want you to follow this drill if somebody starts shooting at your new school. First you need to run away from the gunfire. Second, if you can't run, you need to hide. Third if you can't run or hide you going to have to fight. Zaniya looked at Zamir with a puzzled look. Zamir said "I know that sounds crazy, but if that's the only thing you can do, then you have to do it."



The new house was beautiful and Zaniya was very happy.



All of them were happy about their new home.



Zaniya really liked her new school and the playground was her favorite place. While she was swinging on the swings, Zaniya noticed a guy with the flag on his hat that her dad told her about. The guy scared her a little.



Zaniya was in class and realized that she had to use the bathroom. She raised her hand to ask the teacher for permission to go to the restroom.



Leaving out of the classroom, Zaniya spotted the guy with the confederate flag on his hat and he had a gun.



Remembering what her dad told her, Zaniya ran in the opposite direction towards the office and decided to use her cell phone to call the police.



Zaniya said "Principal Miller there's a guy going down the hall with a big gun. I called the cops."



All of a sudden everyone in the office heard gunfire, BOOM! BOOM! BOOM!



But before the gunman could hurt anyone, the police were there. FREEZE SCUM BAG!



When Zamir heard what happened he ran to the school and met Zaniya in the office. Zaniya said proudly, "I'm ok Daddy. I saved the whole school!"



The entire city threw Zaniya a parade for saving the school.



While on stage at her school, a reporter asked Zaniya "What has being a hero taught you?" Zaniya thought about it and said "No matter where you live, gun violence is everywhere."

THE END