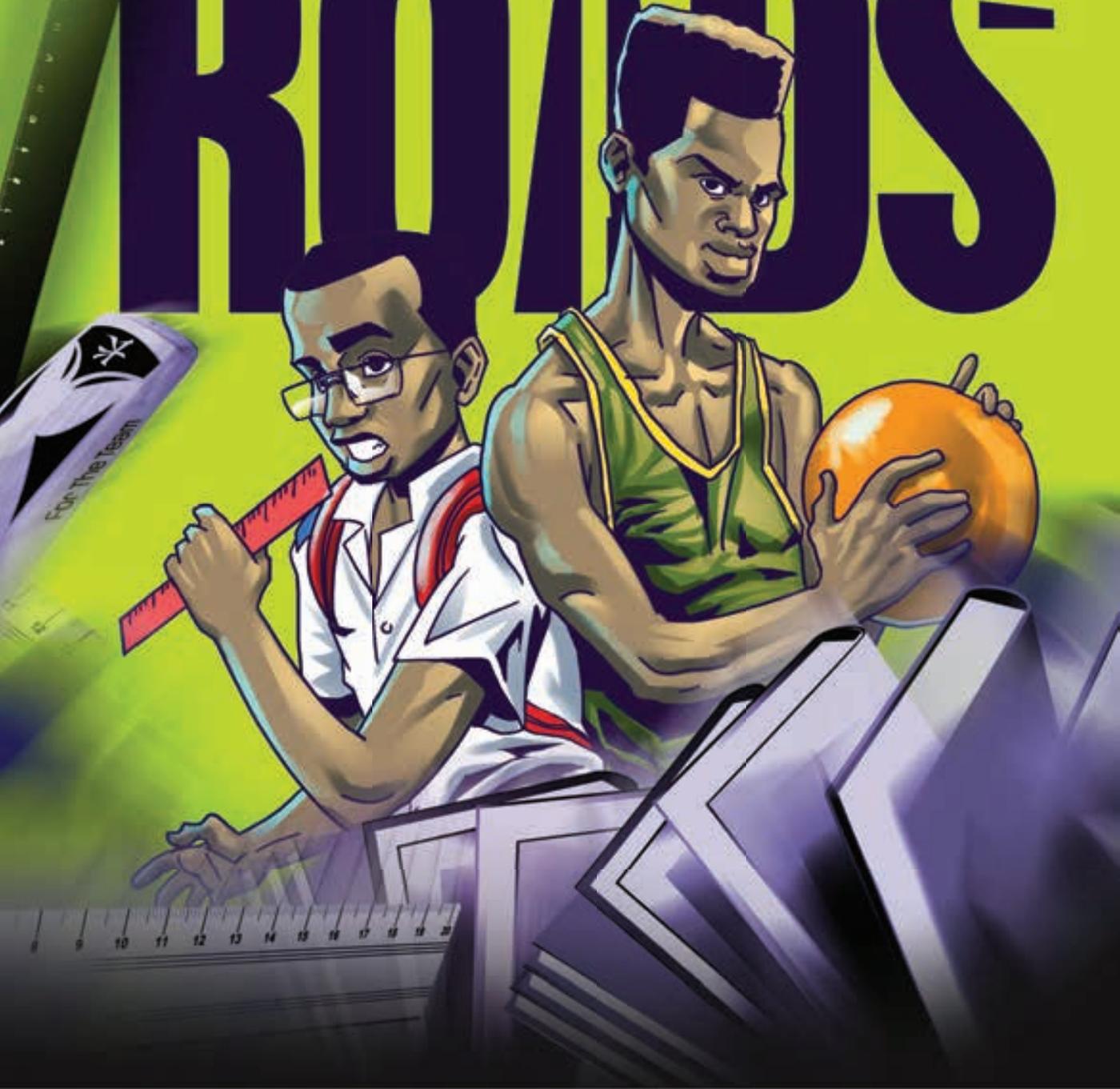
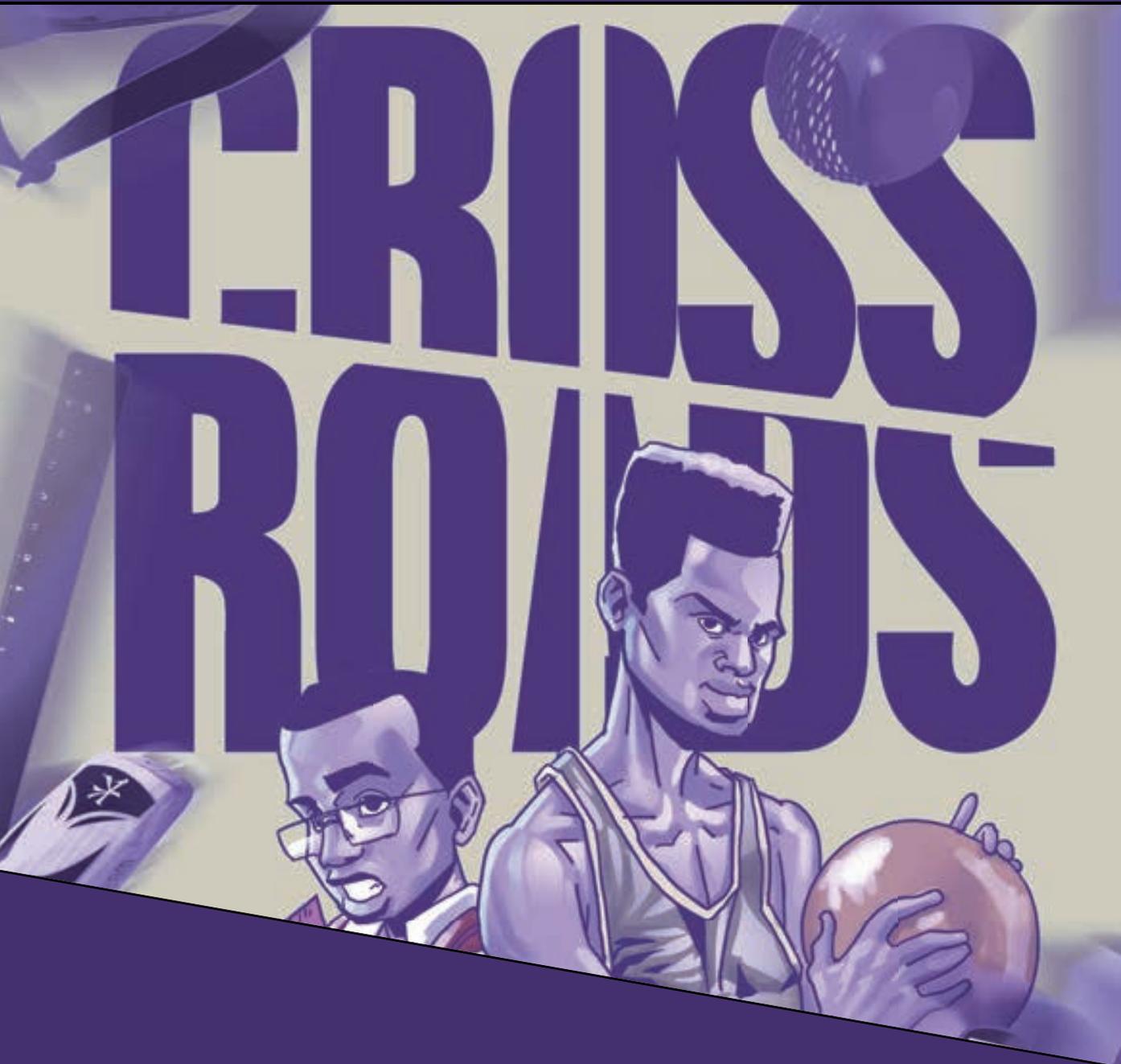


BEYOND
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ACROSS ROADS





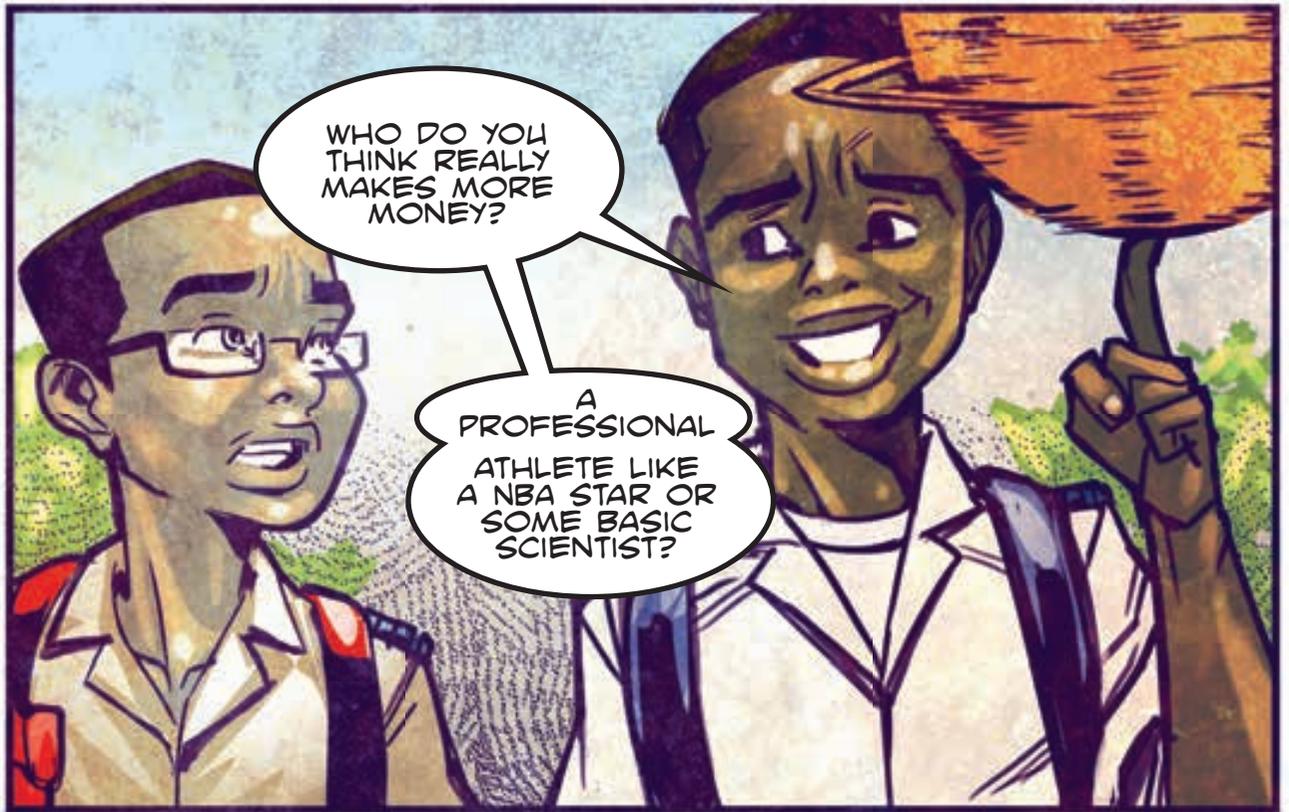
STORY: NIGEL LYNCH
ART & COLOURS: TRISTAN ROACH
COVER ART & COLOURS: MATTHEW CLARKE
COLOUR ASSIST: ALEXANDRE HAYNES, LUDWIG

Beyond Publishing Caribbean and the US Embassy Barbados have teamed up to bring you "CrossRoads". A FREE comic series chronicling the lives of two brothers growing up in the Caribbean at the crossroads of being just or falling to the temptations of the criminal underworld. Issues facing our young Caribbean men today are explored in this graphic novel written by Alan Lynch and Illustrated by Tristan Roach and Matthew Clarke, Alexandre Haynes.

TO GET YOUR DIGITAL COPY VIST:
<https://bb.usembassy.gov/cross-roads-vol1/>



RELAX
LIL BRO,
WE GONE
CLEAR.



WHO DO YOU THINK REALLY MAKES MORE MONEY?

A PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE LIKE A NBA STAR OR SOME BASIC SCIENTIST?



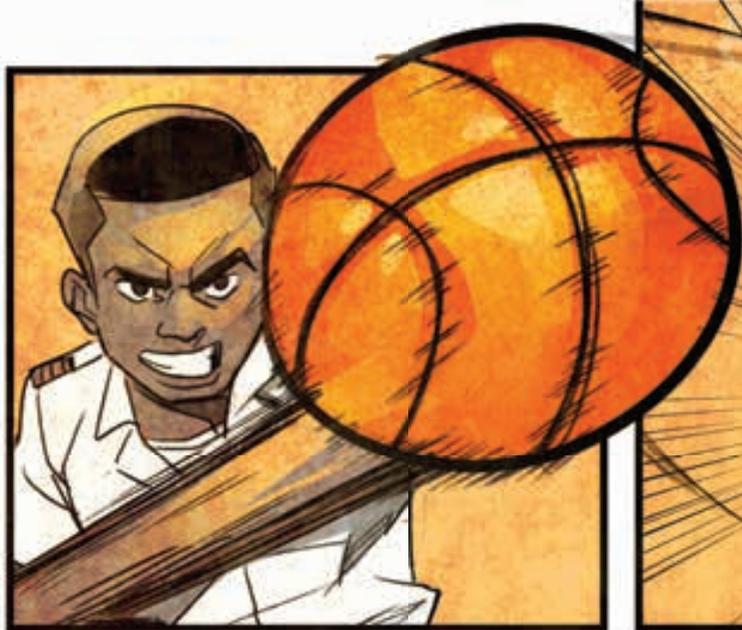
KEMANI THERE IS MORE TO LIFE THAN MONEY YOU KNOW,

PLUS YOU'RE NOT JUST A SCIENTIST THERE ARE SO MANY SCIENTIFIC FIELDS, ALL EQUALLY USEFUL.

YEAH YEAH, BUT WHO MAKES THE MOST DOUGH IN THE LONG RUN?









YOU AIN'T DO TOO BAD SHAMAR. BUT YOUR MOTHER GOT YOU TOO SOFT, AT HOME IN THE HOUSE ALL THE TIME.



CAN'T WE JUST GO AND PLAY SOME SPIRIT BEAR VS. OFFSET!

WELL ONCE SHADAY DOESN'T HAVE ONE HER BOYFRIENDS IN THE HOUSE...

PREPARE TO GET YOUR BUTT KICK AGAIN!



WHAT UP LIL MEN?

LOOK LIKE WANNAH GET ROUGH UP, LET ME SHOW YOU GLYYS A THING OR TWO...





PREPARE TO GET YOUR BLTT KICKED!

YOU NEVER BEAT ME BEFORE SO I DON'T SEE YOU WINNING NOW!



SHAMAR YOU MUDDA JUST CALL, SHE OUTSIDE.

HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU COME STRAIGHT HOME!

BOY! WHAT HAPPEN TO YOUR CLOTHES!?

BUT MLM I WAS JUST HANGING WID MY BROTHER!

THREE YEARS LATER...

YOU STILL CAN'T BEAT ME AT THIS GAME.

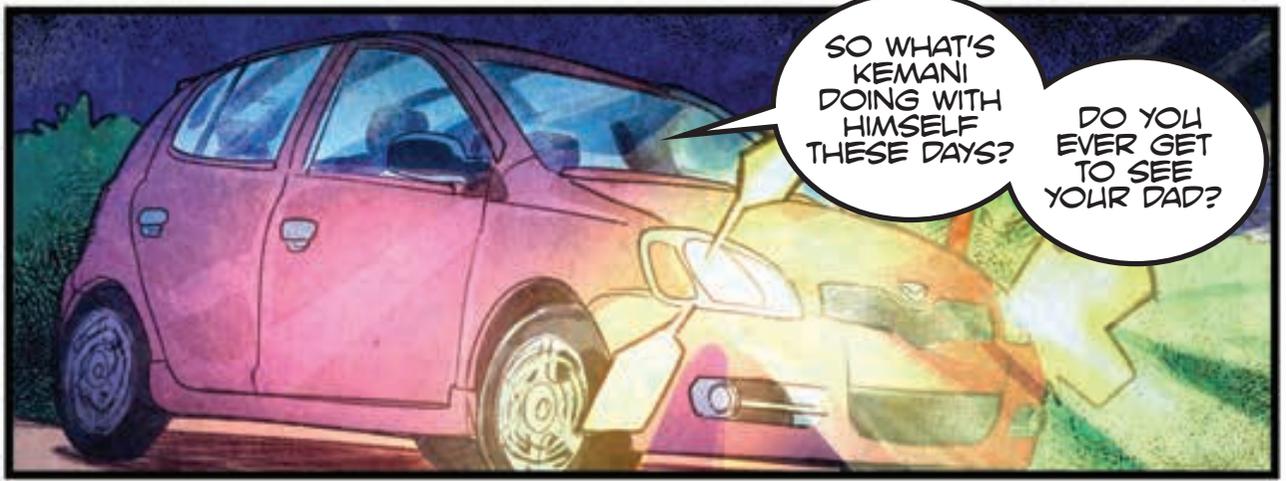
WHAT YOU MEAN STILL, AS KIDS I USED TO KICK YOUR TAIL. GOING AND COMING!

YOU WANT ANOTHER HIT OF THIS LIL BRO?

NAH YOU KNOW WHEN I DONE HERE, I GOT TO HITCH A RIDE WITH MY MUM TO THE LIBRARY.

YEAH SHAMAR YOUR MOTHER JUST CALLED. SHE'S ON HER WAY, SHE SAID YOU BETTER BE OUTSIDE.

SHAMAR HURRY UP I'M LATE ALREADY. PLEASE MOVE IT!



SO WHAT'S KEMANI DOING WITH HIMSELF THESE DAYS?

DO YOU EVER GET TO SEE YOUR DAD?



NAH, NOT REALLY, HARDLY EVER. BUT KEMANI HE SAFE, I THINK HE'S ON A TEAM THAT IS SUPPOSED TO GET THEM SCHOLARSHIPS TO U-S SCHOOLS.



THAT'S ALL WELL AND GOOD BUT HE STILL HAS TO PUT IN THE WORK. HE CAN'T JUST PLAY BALL, HE'S GOT TO BE ABLE TO HANDLE THE ACADEMIC SIDE.



BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU, WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS?

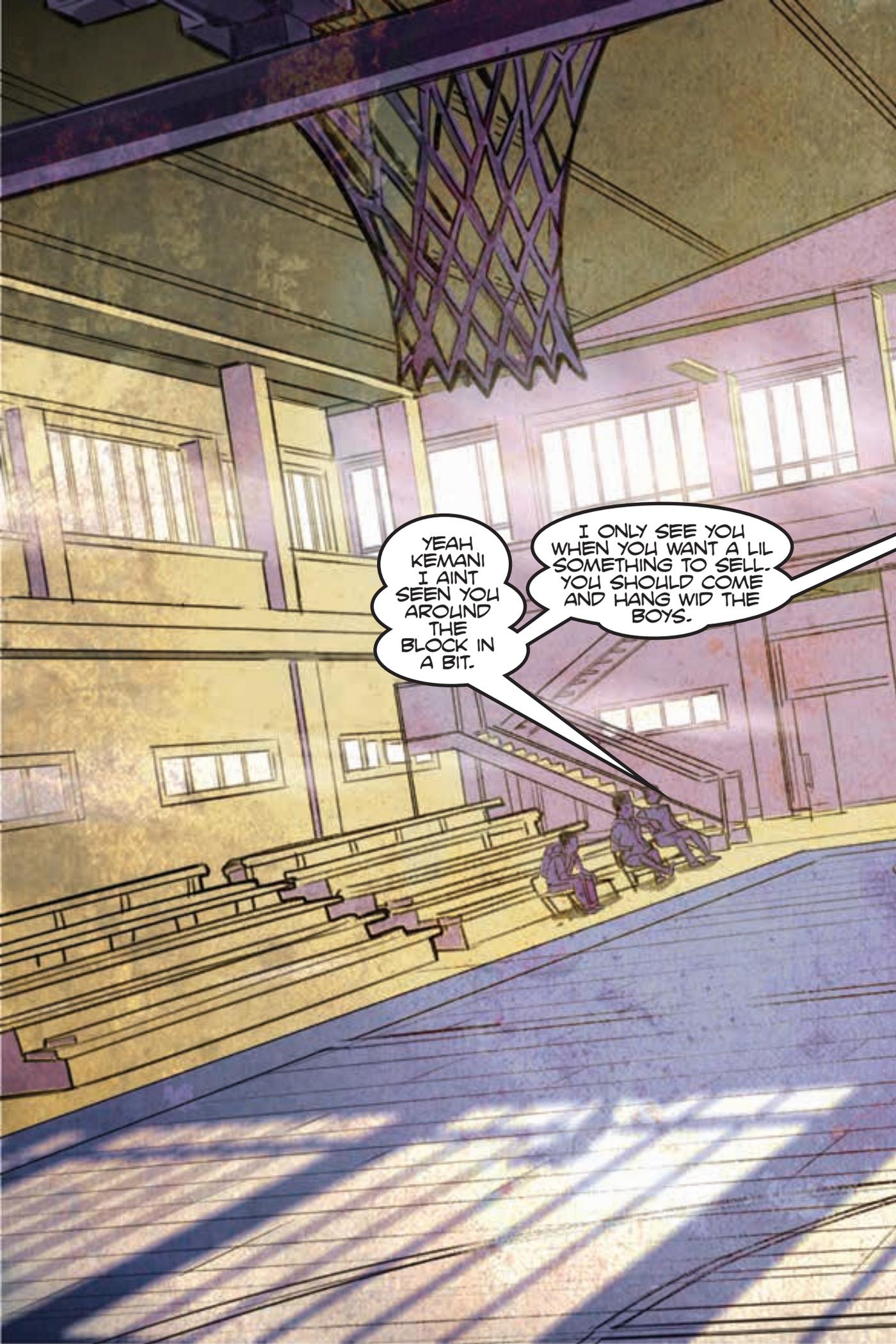
I WANT YOU TO DO SOMETHING WITH YOUR LIFE.



YOU CAN'T JUST DO NOTHING AND EXPECT TO GET SOMETHING OUT OF LIFE, YOU'RE A SCIENCE MAN. ISN'T ONE THE LAWS, YOU CAN'T GET SOMETHING FROM NOTHING.

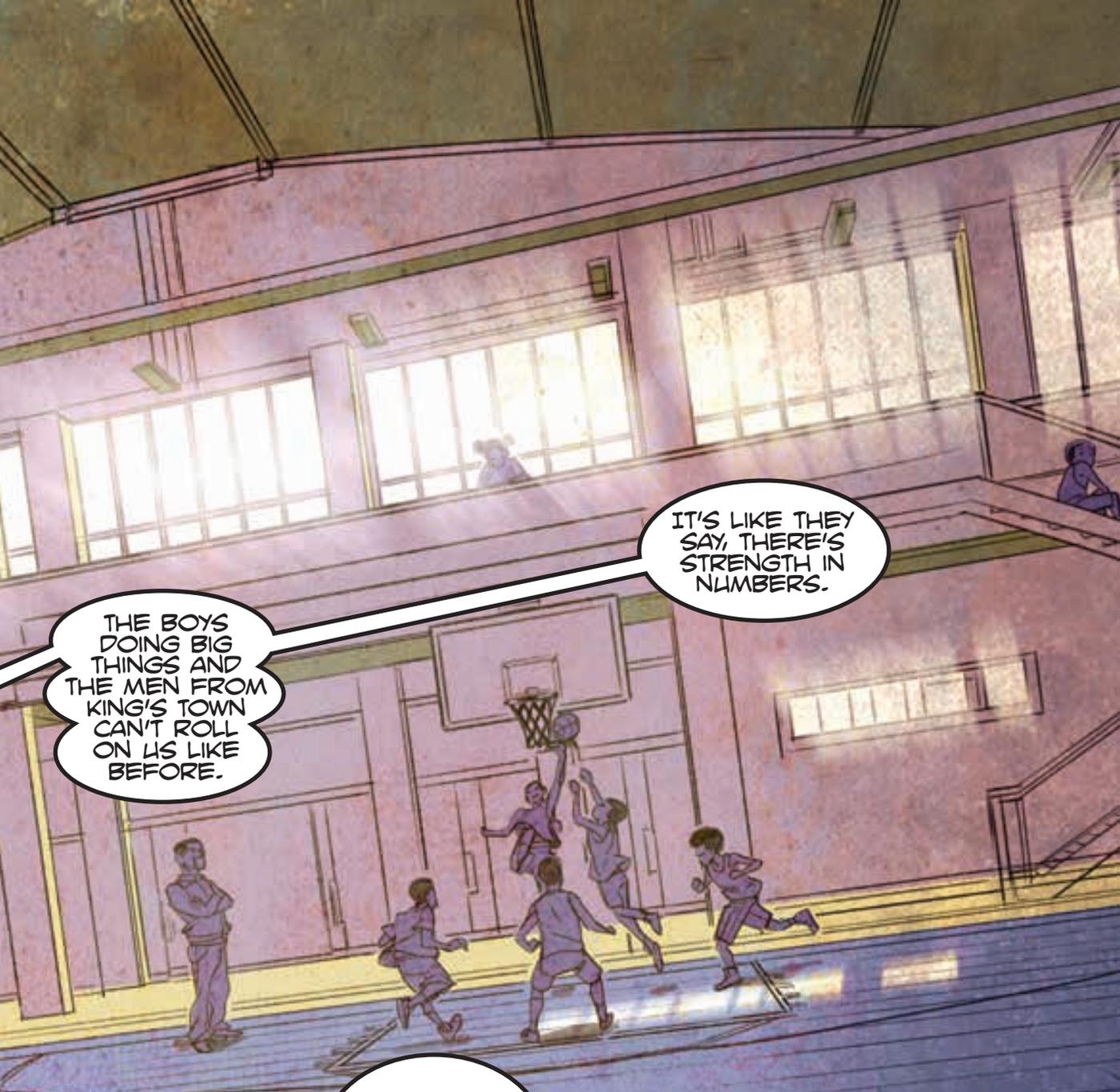
IT'S A LAW OF ENERGY. ENERGY CAN NEITHER BE CREATED NOR DESTROYED. THIS MEANS THAT YOU CAN'T MAKE ENERGY OUT OF NOTHING.

RIGHT RIGHT, WHAT I SAID HAHA.

A comic book panel showing a gymnasium. In the foreground, a basketball hoop with a purple net hangs from the ceiling. Below it, wooden bleachers are partially filled with three people sitting on the stairs. The gym floor is wooden and has shadows cast across it. The walls are light-colored with several windows. Two speech bubbles are positioned in the center of the panel.

YEAH
KEMANI
I AINT
SEEN YOU
AROUND
THE
BLOCK IN
A BIT.

I ONLY SEE YOU
WHEN YOU WANT A LIL
SOMETHING TO SELL.
YOU SHOULD COME
AND HANG WID THE
BOYS.



THE BOYS DOING BIG THINGS AND THE MEN FROM KING'S TOWN CAN'T ROLL ON US LIKE BEFORE.

IT'S LIKE THEY SAY, THERE'S STRENGTH IN NUMBERS.

YEAH I AIN'T GOT A PROBLEM WID THAT. YOU KNOW ME I'VE JUST BEEN BALLING AND HANGING OUT.

IF YOU SELL A LIL SOMETHING ON THE SIDE FOR ME...IT'S ON THE HOUSE

HOW MUCH MONEY I GOT FOR YOU?



LATER THAT WEEKEND...



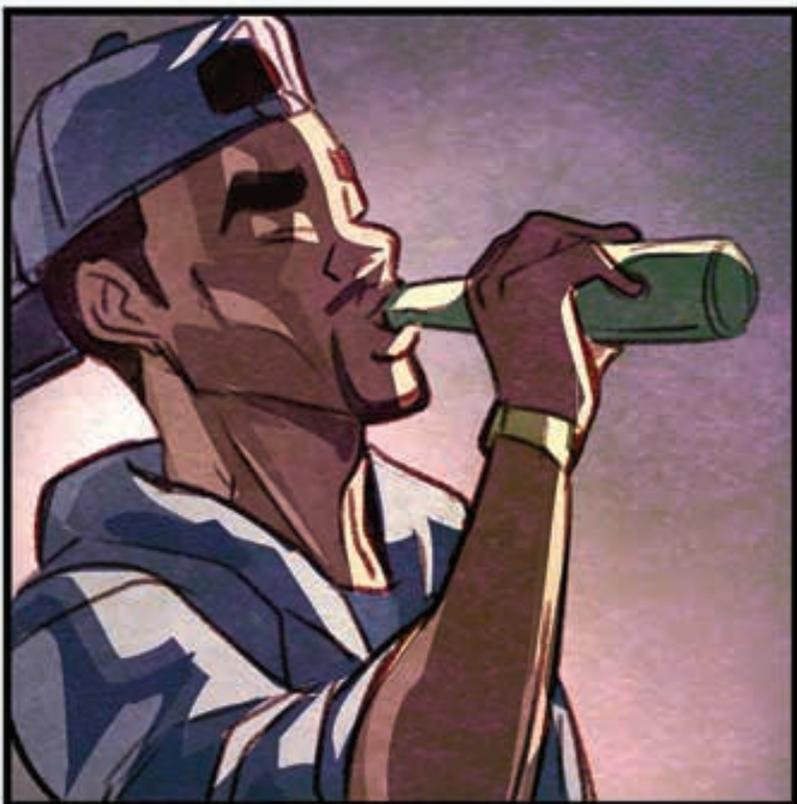
CHA BOY!
KEMANI
DOES REALLY
MOVE SOME
PRODUCT.

A REAL
MONEY
MAN.





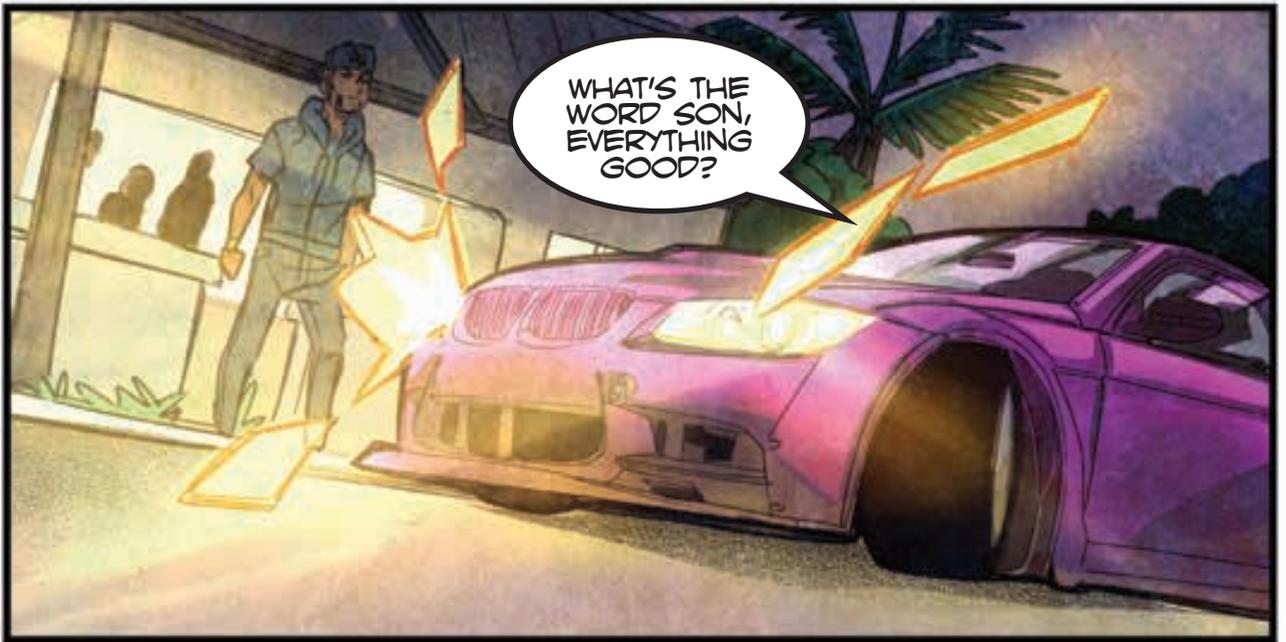
YOU LOOKING
FOR KEMANI?
HE SHOULD
PASS
THROUGH
SOME TIME
TONIGHT.











WHAT'S THE WORD SON, EVERYTHING GOOD?



YOU BOYS BEEN DOING A GOOD JOB.

I THINK WE NEED TO GET STRAPPED TO KEEP THE FOOLS AT BAY.

THE POWERS THAT BE THINK IT'S TIME YOU FELLAS STEP UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL...

WELL YA SEE WE HAD A LITTLE SET BACK...

MY BOY GOT JUMPED THE OTHER DAY AND LOST A GOOD CHUNK OF MONEY.



TELL YOU WHAT, YOU AND YOUR BOY GO SEE RANDY IN THE BLACKBLUSH HOLDING AREA.

RANDY WILL SORT YOU OUT WITH A FIREARM.



LOOK THIS IS THE PLACE MAN... LET'S GO IN AND SPEAK TO RANDY.



WHAT'S UP YOUNGSTER... LIFE BOWL YOU A BOUNCER.

I'VE BEEN THROUGH SOME ROUGH TIMES MYSELF...

BUT ENOUGH ABOUT ME...



WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I HAVE AK47S, AR15S, GLOCKS, BERETTAS

AND ALL TYPES OF REVOLVERS, YOU NAME IT, I CAN GET IT.



HHMM YOU LIKE THAT ONE?...



I WANT SOMETHING SMALL, I'M NOT LOOKING TO KILL NOBODY...

WELL, EVERY TOOL HAS A PURPOSE. A SAW IS FOR SAWING, A DRILL IS FOR DRILLING AND MY FRIEND A GUN IS FOR KILLING.

TWO WEEKS LATER...



AALIYAH AND TAMARIA! HEY! OVER HERE.



LATE AS EVER I SEE.

RELAX LADIES... LOOKING THIS GOOD TAKES TIME.





AALIYAH AND TAMARIA YOU WANT ANYTHING TO DRINK?



WHAT'S THE PROBLEM SHAMAR?

YOU ON EDGE?

I JUST FEEL A LIL UNCOMFORTABLE MAN.



I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT TONIGHT... I JUST SAW SOME OF THE GLYS FROM SCHOOL DAYS.



RELAX, LIL BROTHER, AND TRY TO ENJOY YOURSELF.



JUST PROMISE ME YOU WON'T DO ANYTHING STUPID TONIGHT.







3 WEEKES LATER



WHAT'S GOT YOU SO DOWN, YOUR BROTHER APPEARING IN COURT TODAY?



YEAH. YOU THINK HE WILL GET A LONG SENTENCE.



WELL I'M NOT HIS LAWYER, BUT I'M SURE HE'S IN CAPABLE HANDS.



I WISH YOU WERE, HONESTLY

WELL HE MADE HIS BED SO I GUESS HE WILL HAVE TO LIE IN IT.



FIN.



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