

# *The 5 Mossys*



by AJ M<sup>c</sup>Guire and Laurice Hwang



For Molly  
(duh)

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On Mars there is a forest  
This forest is full of bees  
That forest was put there by Molly  
A Molly with metal knees



This Molly is Engine Molly  
And she lives in Myrtle Beach  
She lives inside a seashell  
With Mollys Two, Four, and Three

*greetings from*

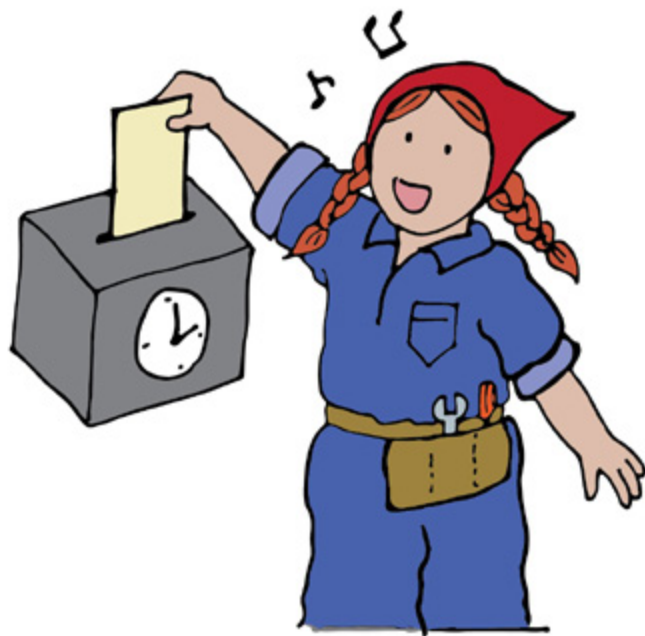
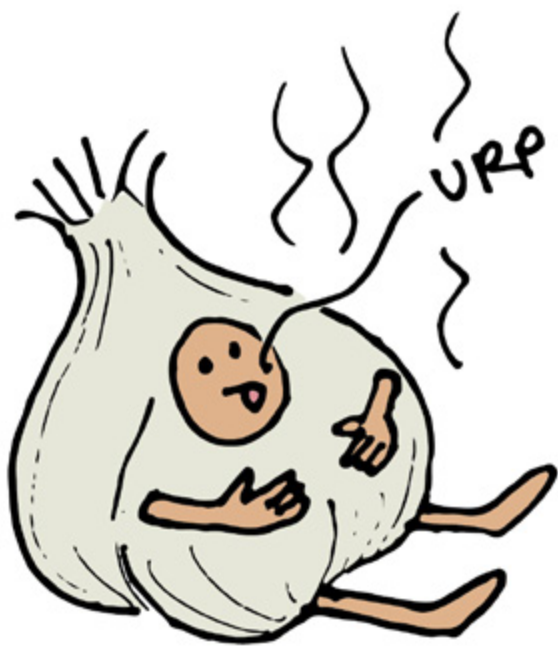
**MYRTLE BEACH!**





Molly Three smells like garlic  
And the finer things in life  
Molly Four punches a punchclock  
And sings away her strife





Molly Two wears silly hats  
But she tries so very hard  
Molly One is a grizzly bear  
So she sleeps out in the yard



Now one day the Molly HQ radio  
Started sputterin' and spittin' noise  
It sounded like a monkey's chatter  
Instead of Nashville Good Ol' Boys

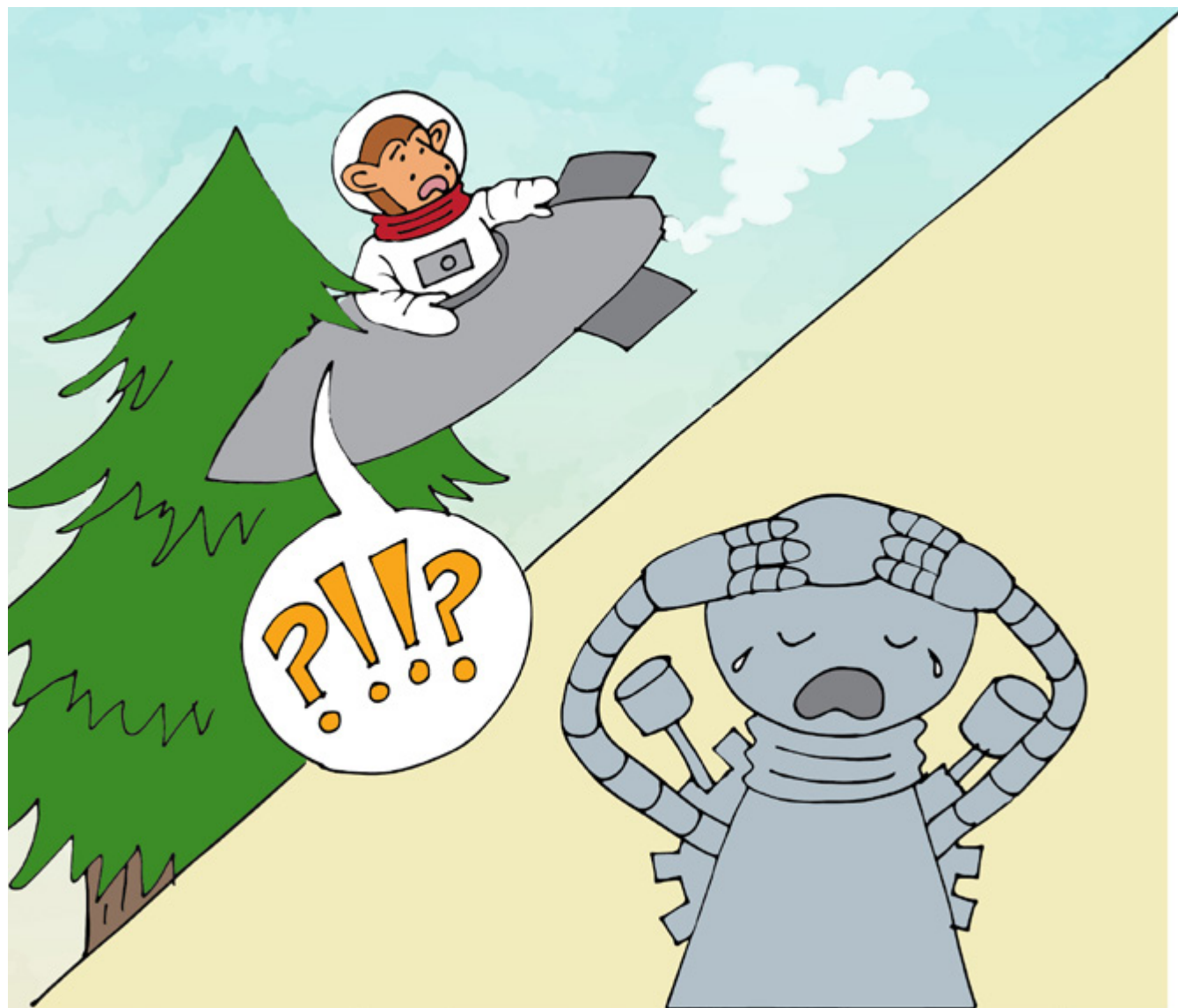


But Bear Molly, she spoke monkey  
So she wrote down what it said  
That monkey was calling from  
Martian soil  
With a mic strapped to his head

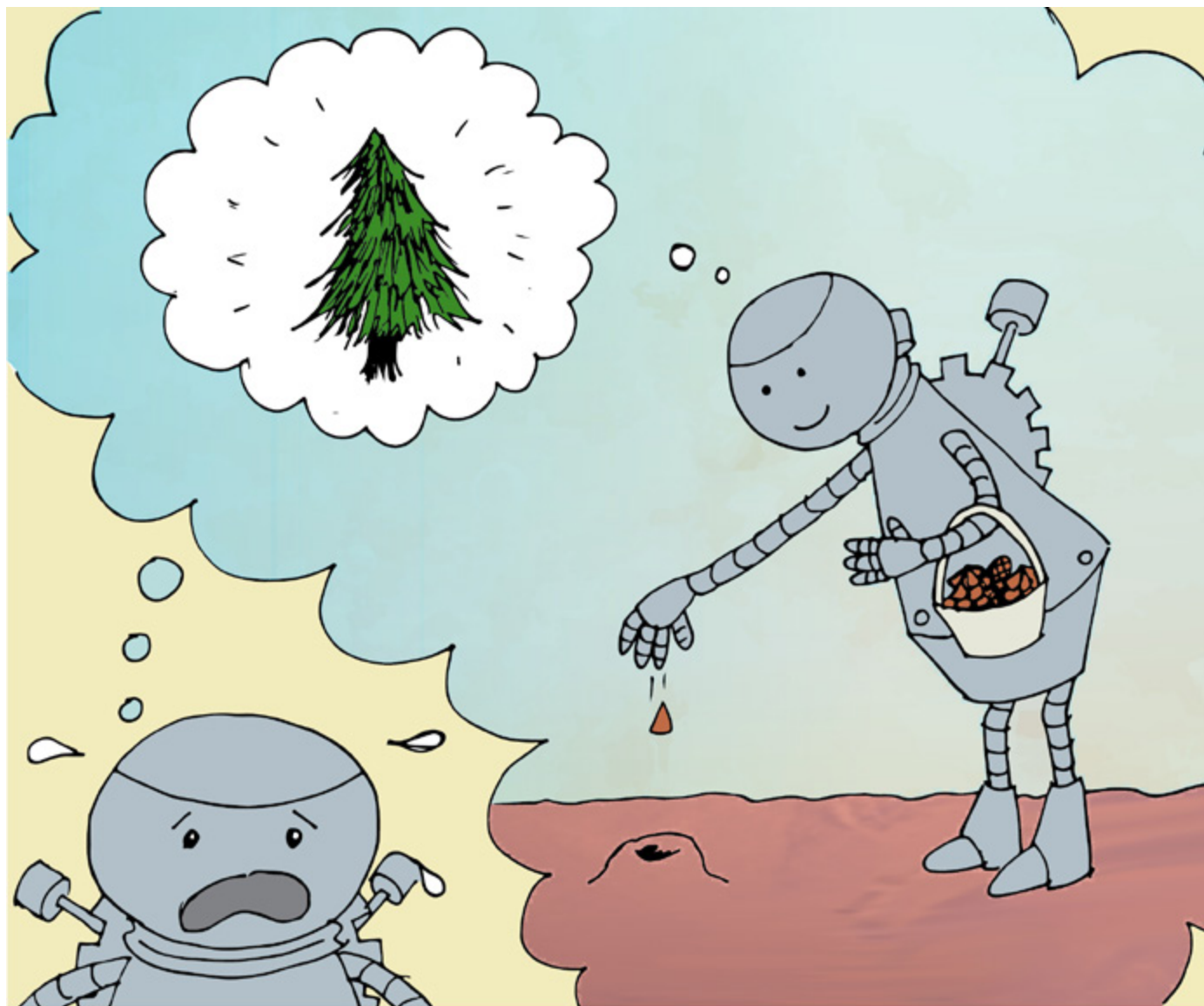




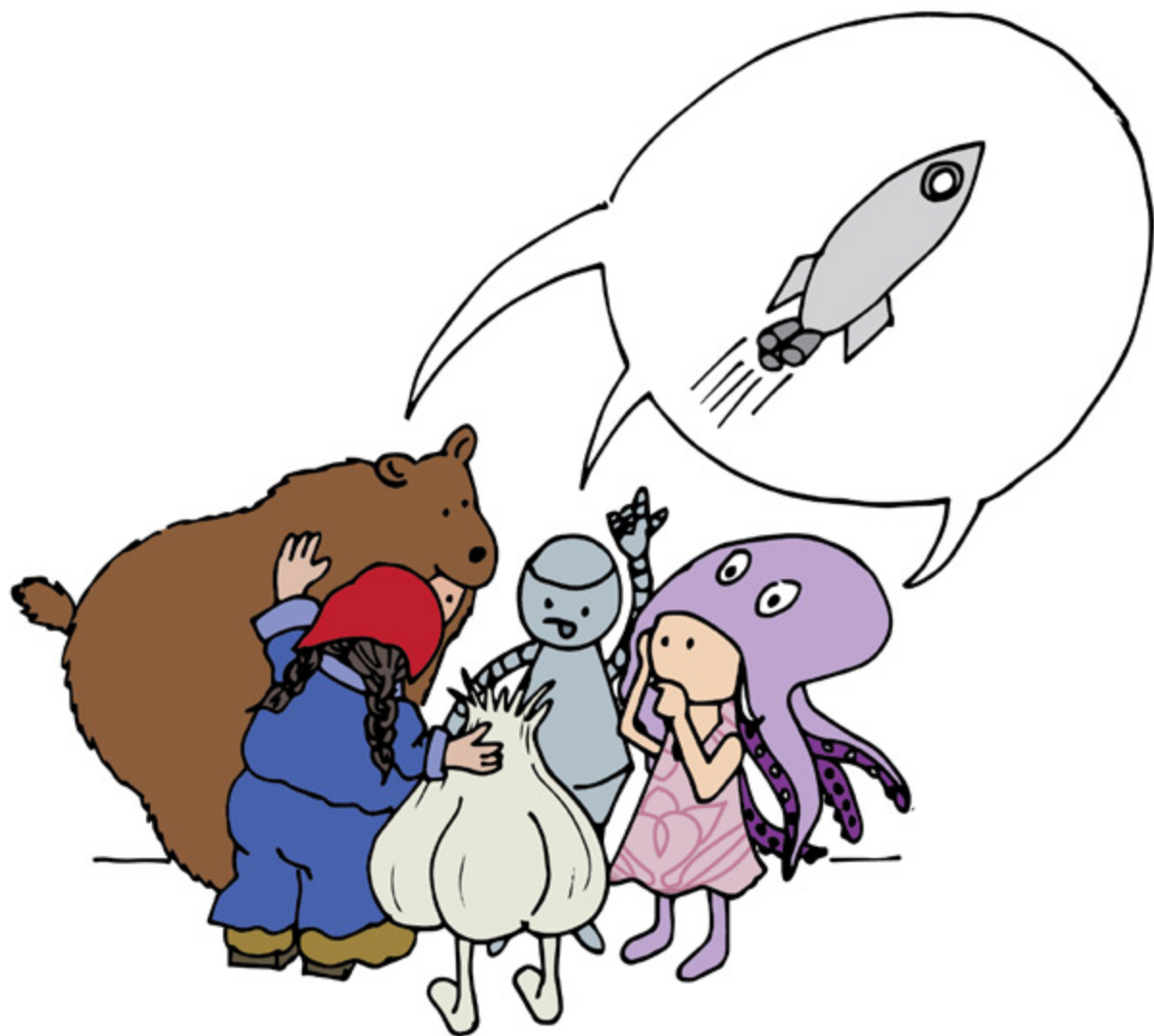
That monkey had crashed his  
spaceship  
Into a tall and mighty pine  
“Who planted trees on Mars?!?” he  
yelled  
Engine Molly said, “That’s one of  
mine!”



“I didn’t mean to catch a monkey!”  
she said  
“Honest, I didn’t foresee.  
Causin’ any kind of trouble  
By playing Martian Johnny  
Appleseed.”

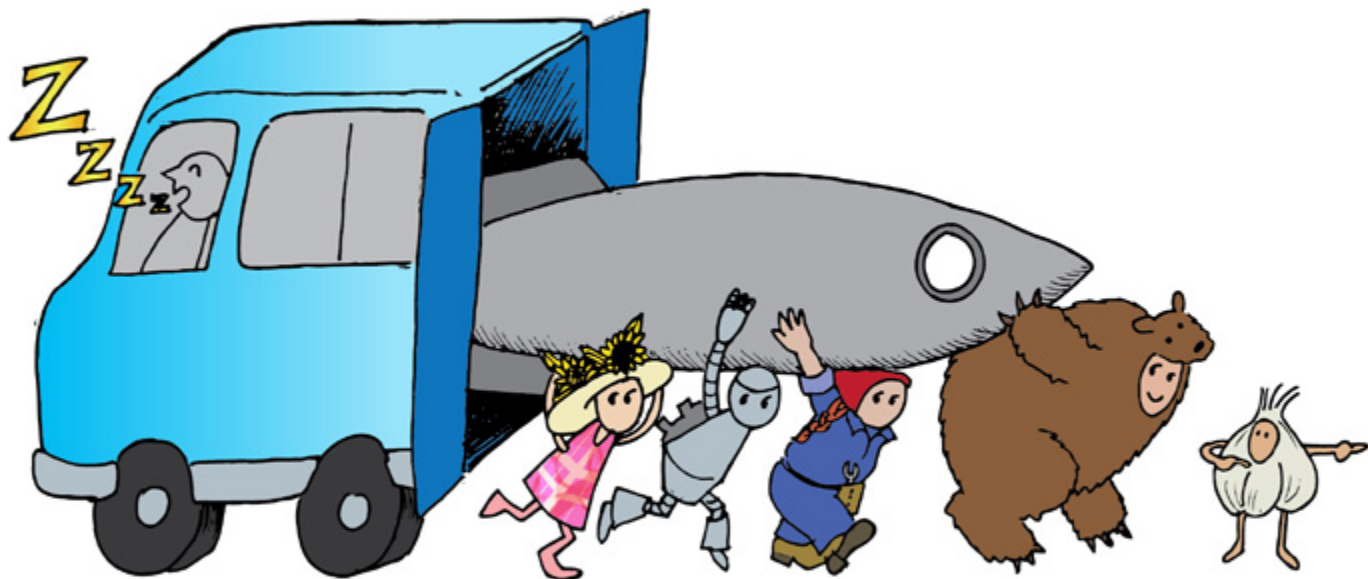


So the Mollys got together  
And the Mollys hatched a plan.  
They'd zoom on up to Mars in a  
rocket  
Swiped from Uncle Beans's van

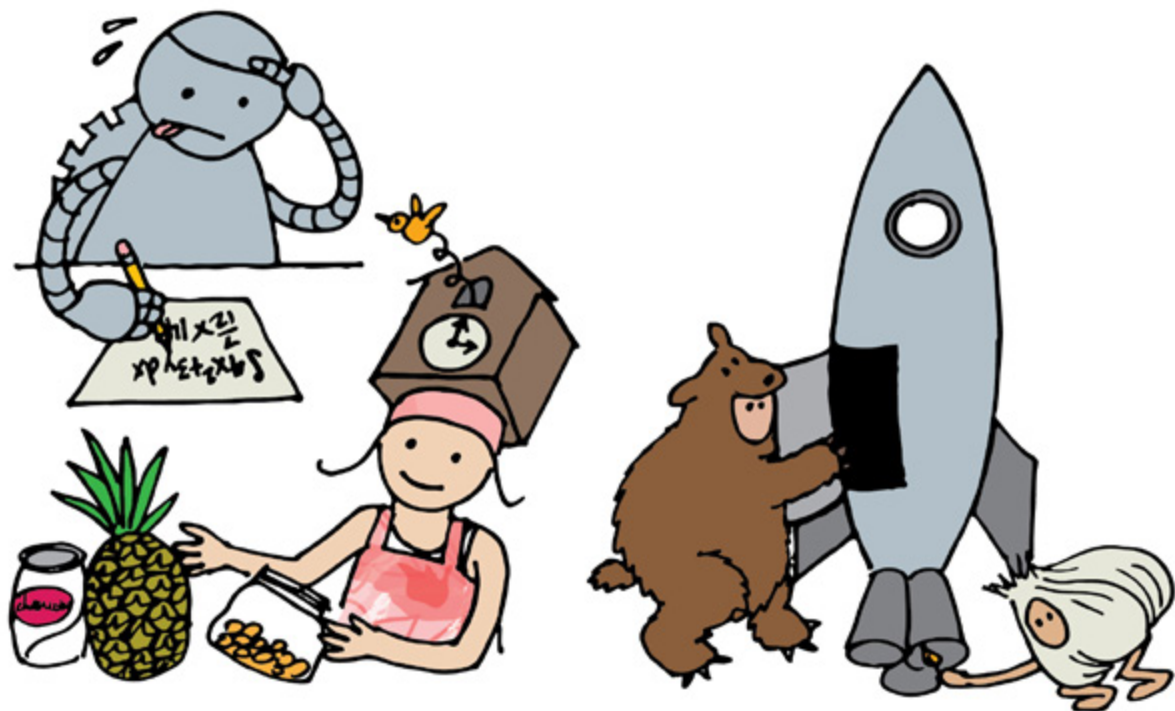


So they creeped...  
And they sneaked...  
And they... borrowed that rocket  
While Uncle Beanzo dozed

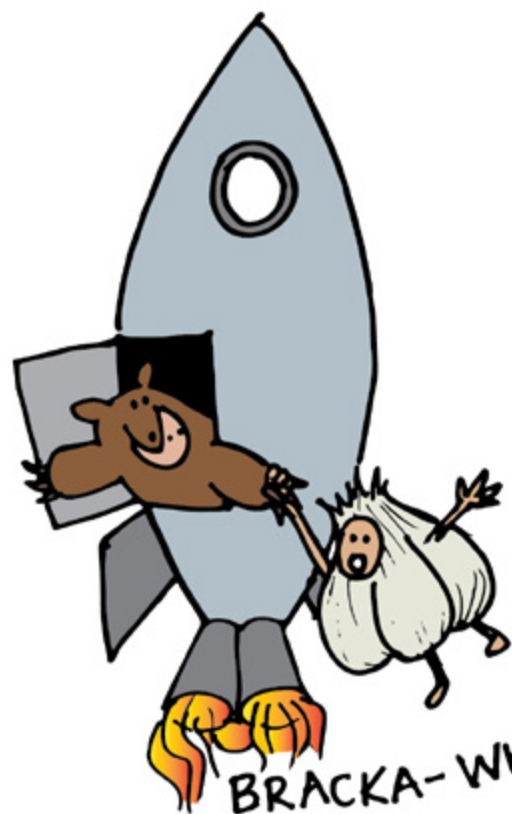




Engine Molly did the math  
And Hat Molly packed the snacks  
Bear Molly got it all in place  
And Garlic Molly lit the...



BRACKA-WHACKA-  
SMACKA-RACKA-BOOM  
BOOM BOOM BOOM  
ZOOOOOOOOOOOM! Zoom!



BRACKA-WHACKA-

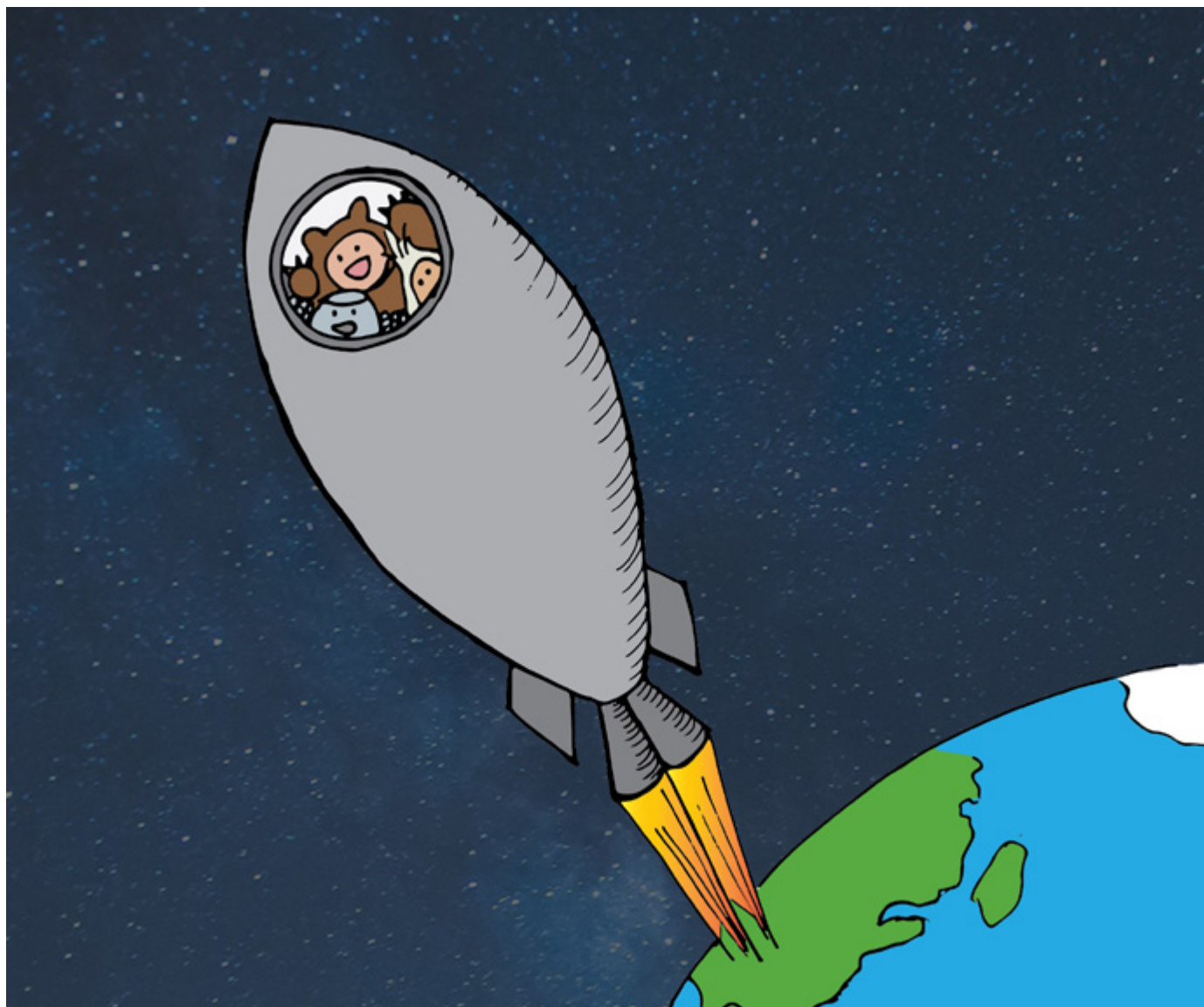
SMACKA-RACKA  
BOOM  
BOOM  
BOOM!

Zoom!

Zoom!

Zooma zoom zoom

Zoommaganraggadawa-whoohoo!





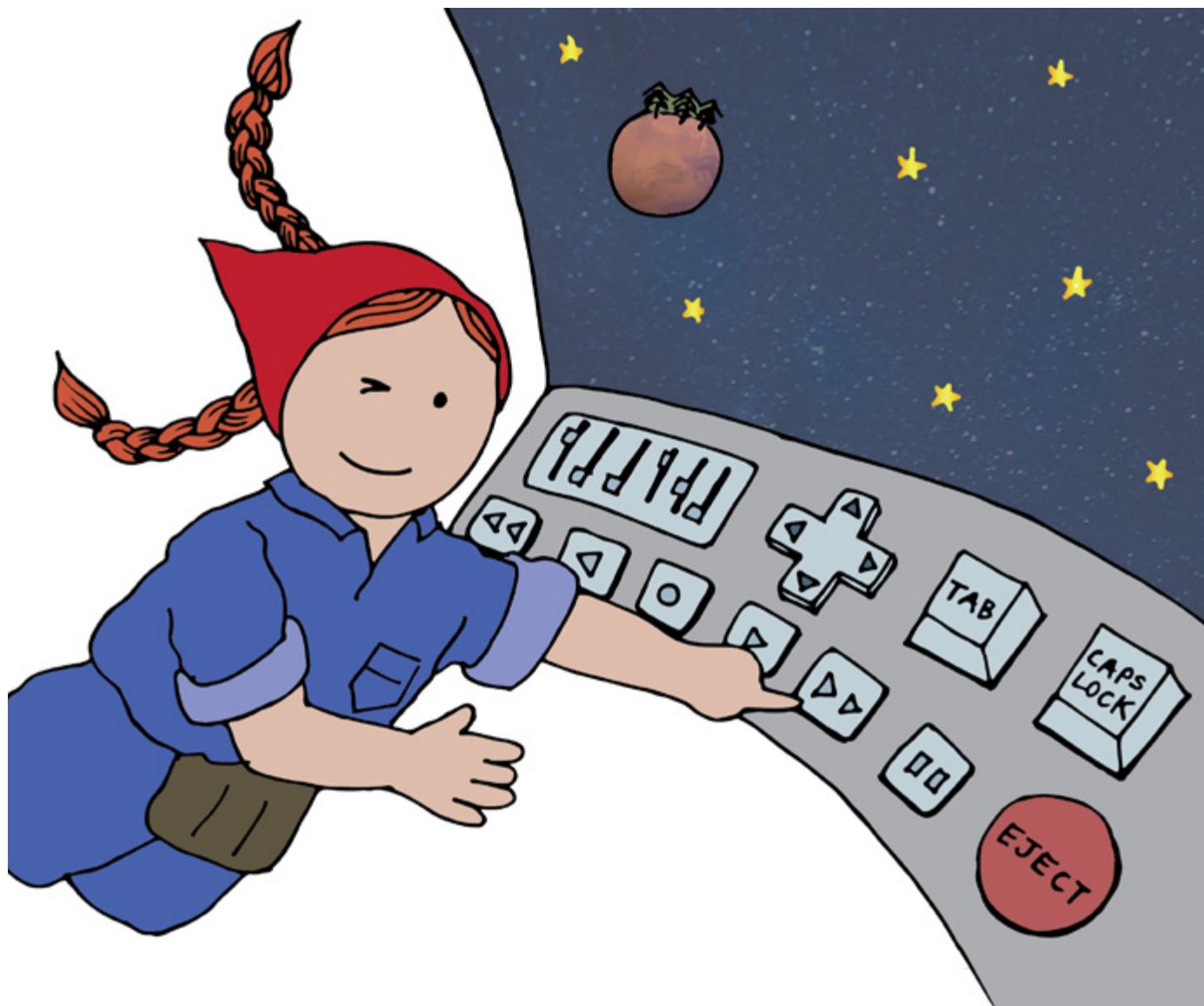
So that rocket roared up and out  
Chewing electricity  
All 5 Mollys sang out the math  
To hit escape velocity



Through the void of lonely space  
The Mollys passed the time  
With baths and crafts and tasty  
snacks  
Washed down with cold Cheerwine



But that rocket seemed to take too  
long  
To think up enough rhymes  
So Punchclock Molly punched fast  
forward  
Eight or eighteen times



Down through Martian atmosphere  
Flew the Mollys and their ship  
They'd deployed their finest heat  
shielding  
Made of marshmallows and  
microchips







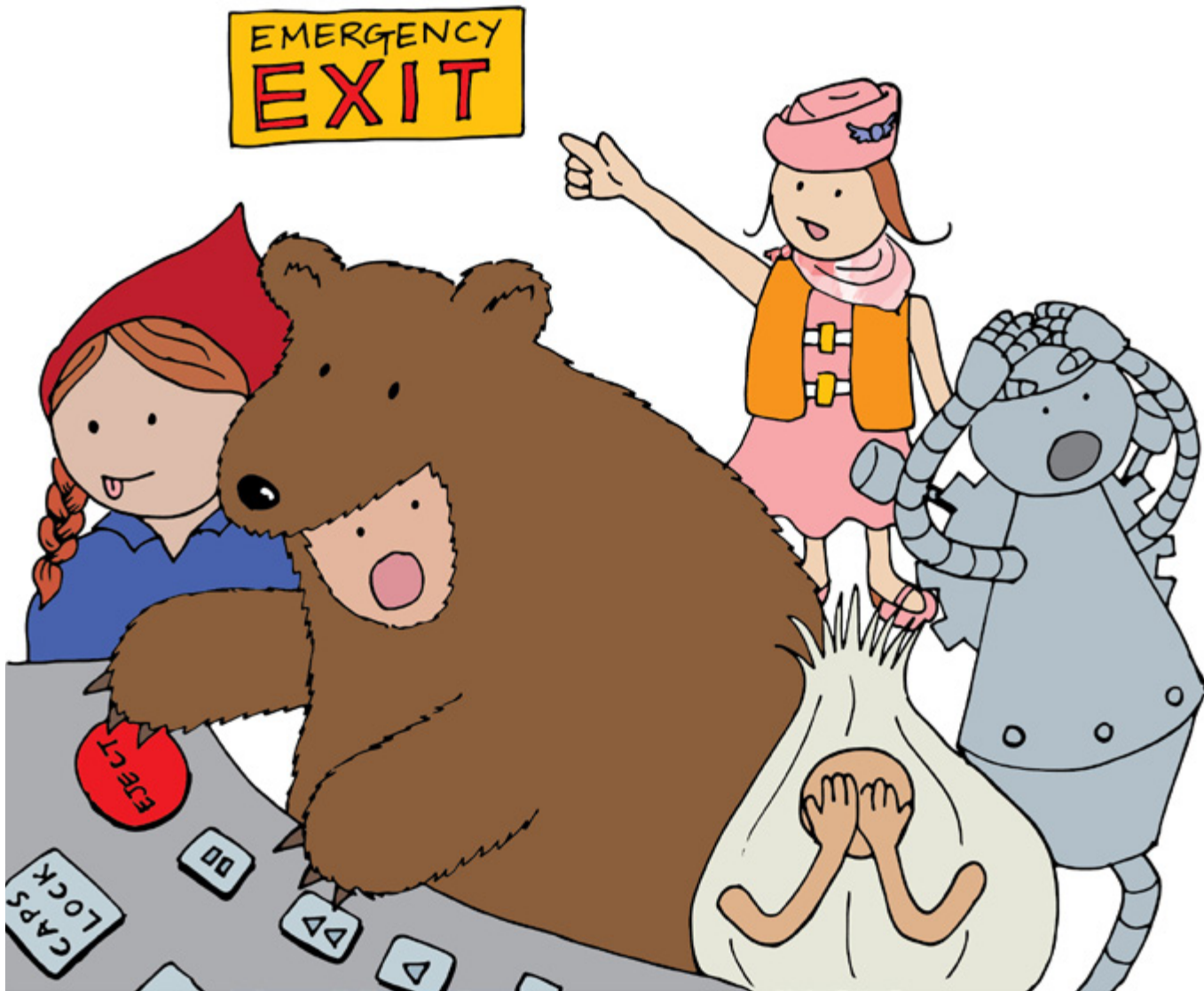
1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8

Hope we find the monkey before it  
gets late

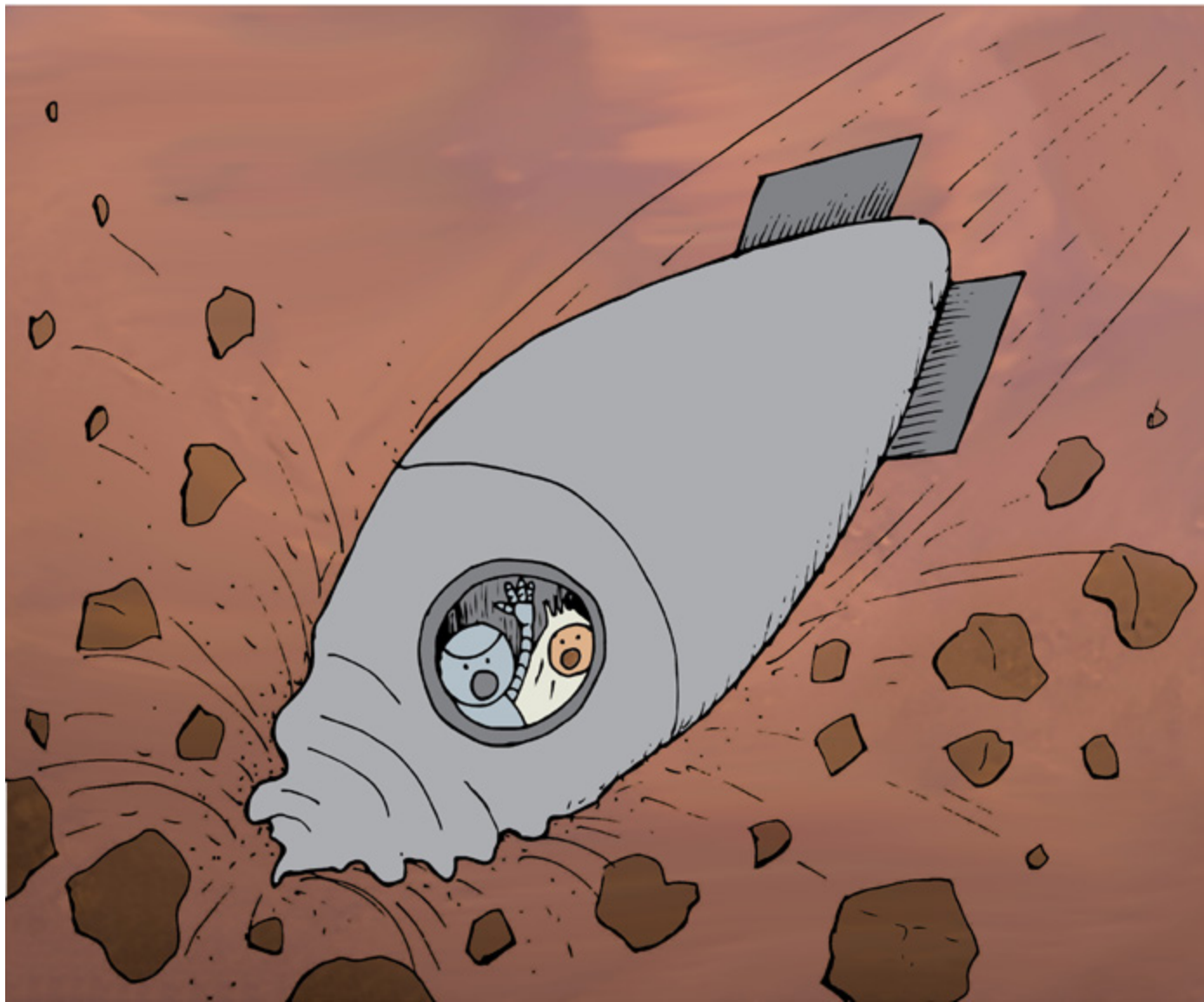
8-7-6-5-4-3-2

Never learned to land a rocket..

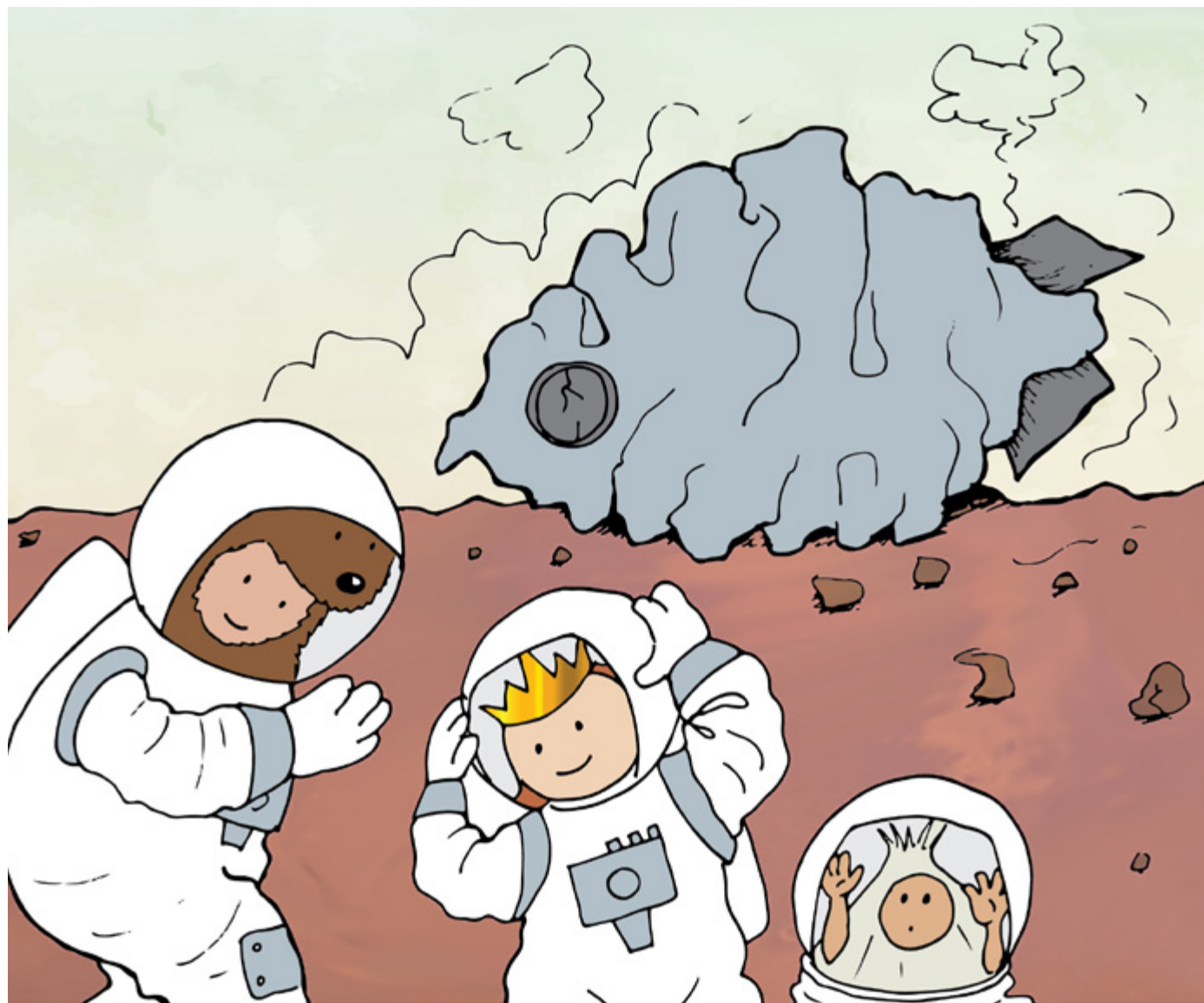
Ummm... how 'bout you?



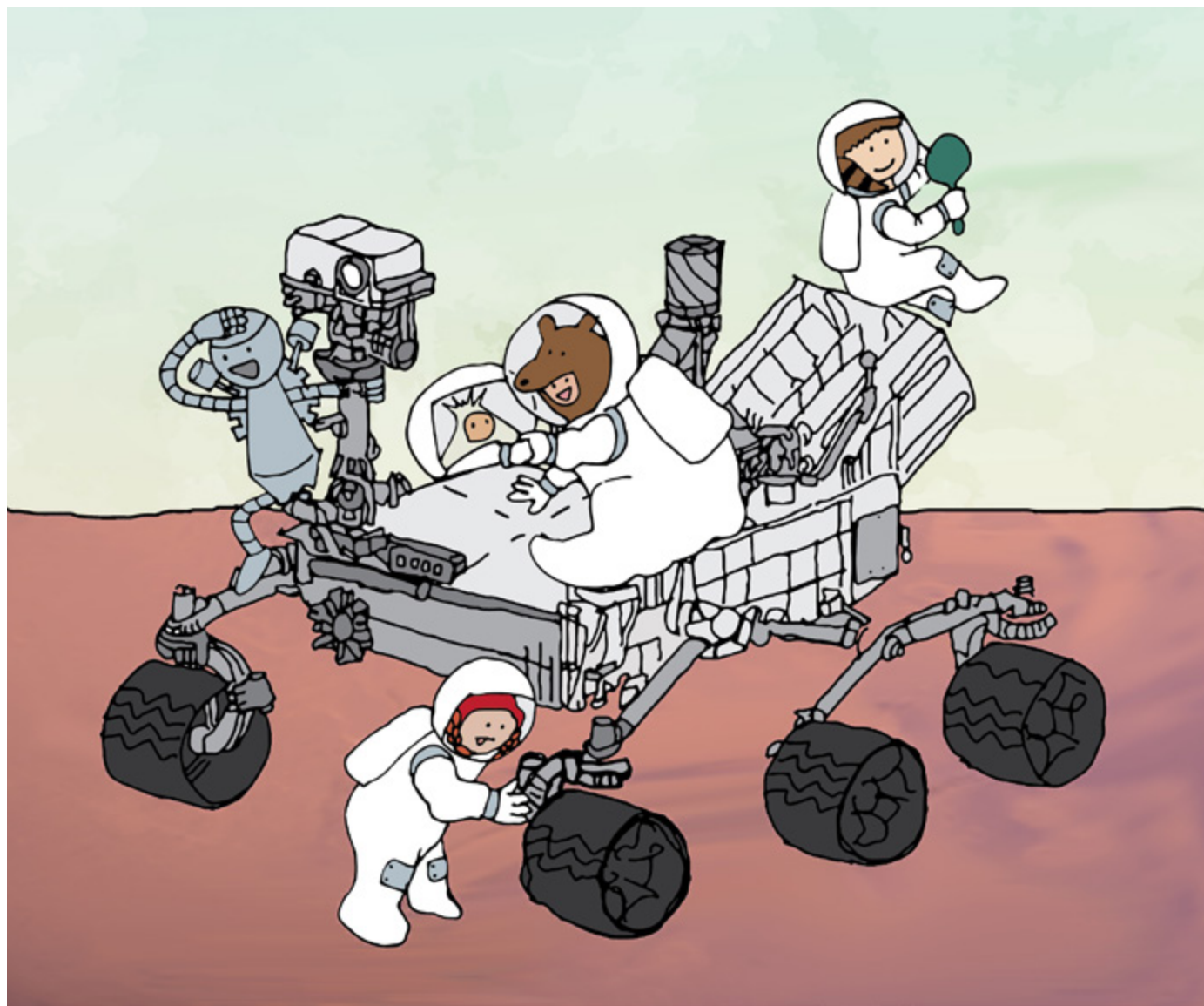
CRASH!!!



The rocket was in shambles  
Schmunched and crunched all up  
But there was a monkey out there  
somewhere  
So the Mollys got dressed up



Luck smiled on the Mollys  
Who had somewhere to be  
They'd landed near a handy ride  
Called Curiosity





Bear Molly caught the monkey's  
scent  
And the girls soon sped along  
Garlic Molly kept the time  
With a monkey rescue song

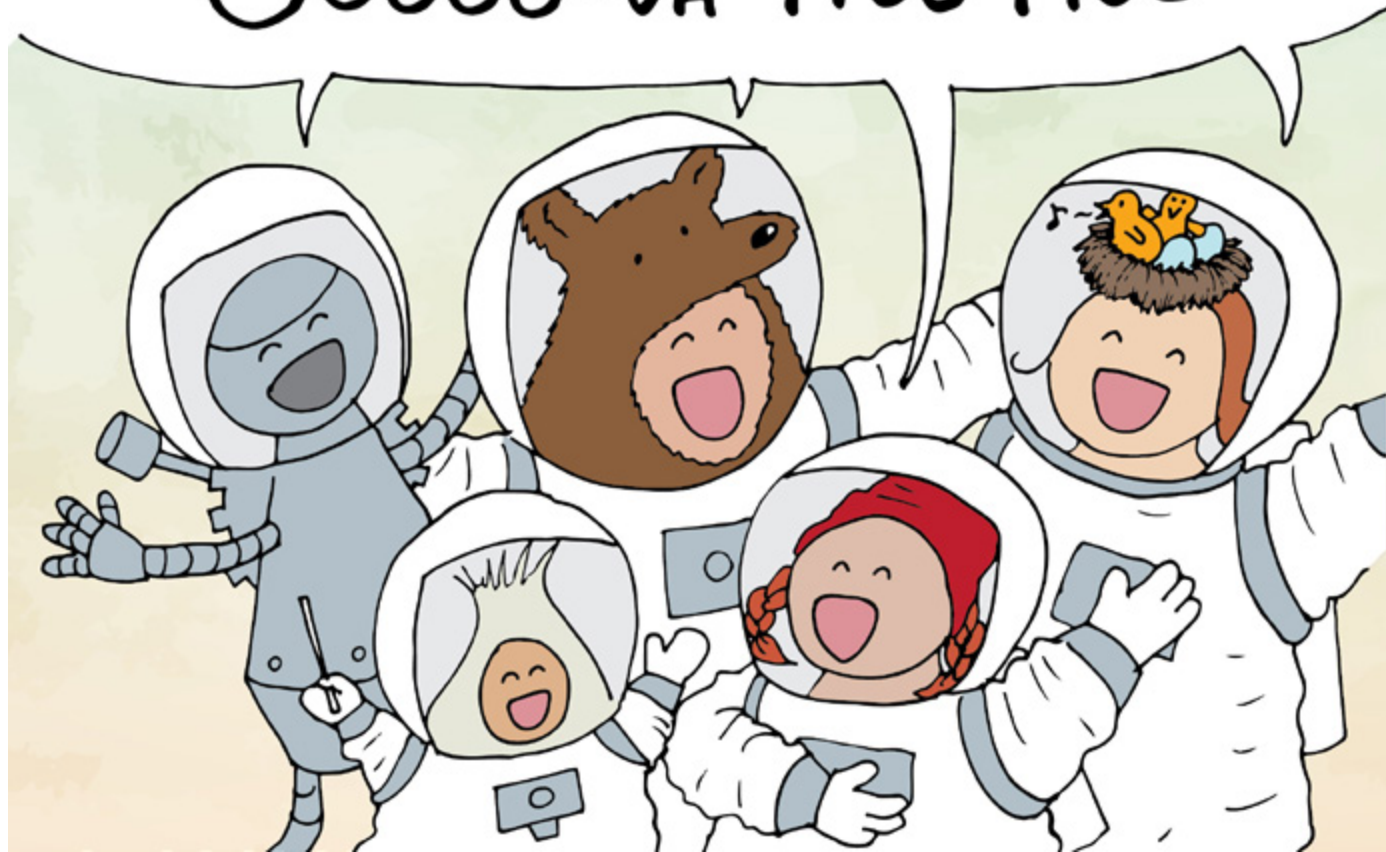


Oooh ooh eee eee  
Ooooo-uh hoo hoo  
Eee eee ooh ooh  
Oooga oooga oooh!

Sing it again now!

Oooh ooh eee eee  
Ooooo-uh hoo hoo  
Eee eee ooh ooh  
Oooga oooga oooh!

OOOH OOH EEE EEE  
OOOOO-VH Hoo Hoo



Soon they found that crazy forest  
That Molly planted and watered  
And they found that cranky monkey  
By listening to him holler



“Get me down! Down down down!”  
The marooned monkey cried  
Bear Molly climbed up to him  
And fed him apple pie







Once down on the Martian ground  
There were handshakes and much  
mirth  
Punchclock Molly got to plotting  
How'd they'd get back to Earth



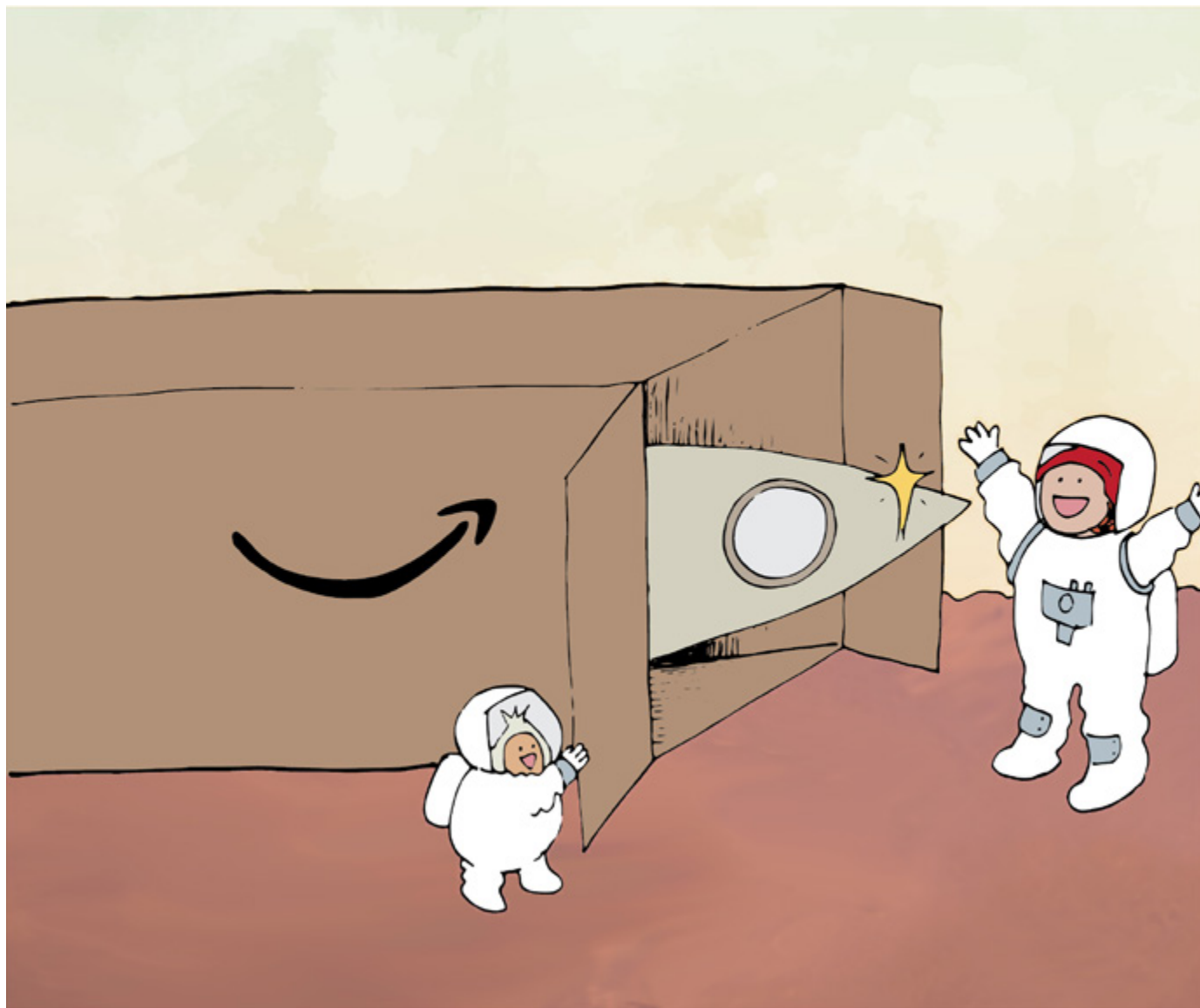
She radioed some friends of hers  
From back when she used to sing  
They put her in touch with David  
Bowie  
Because he can do anything



“I’m in a jam!” said Molly Four  
But David said, “Don’t fret.”  
“I happen to know some Spiders  
there  
And they haven’t failed me yet.”



David made some phonecalls  
And flexed his credit cards  
And the Mollys got a brand new ship  
Delivered to their part of Mars





As their ship sails the void of space  
And I struggle to make it rhyme  
You might want to know how they  
got back...

Or what they said to Uncle Beans  
about the rocket...

And what the monkey was doing on  
Mars in the first place...

Well...

That's a tale for another time!



## AJ's Appendix

(An appendix is either a weird little detour in your intestine or a place in the back of the book where you put extra info and notes.)

**Page 3:** Trees not to scale. Also, in real life, trees don't grow on Mars because of the lack of water, high solar radiation, and lack of ancestor species.

**Page 10:** The implication is that the 5 Mollys are dedicated listeners of the Both Kinds Radio show.

**Page 12:** Could a broadcast from Mars interfere with radio stations on Earth? This is more likely with short wave radio but it's not out of the realm of possibility. Send me your theories.

**Page 20:** Beans is a real person but to my knowledge, he doesn't have a van or a rocket.

**Page 22:** A quick guide to Molly numbering: #1 is Bear Molly, #2 is Hat Molly, #3 is Garlic Molly, #4 is Punch-clock Molly, #5 is Engine Molly. These numbers are somewhat arbitrary.

**Page 26:** I don't think that's any actual continent in the drawing there. You can ask Laurice.

**Page 28-29:** In this equation,  $G$  is the universal gravitational constant,  $M$  is the mass of the planet to be escaped, and  $r$  the distance from the center of mass of the planet to the rocket. Also, electric engines are not currently a viable way to power a rocket but maybe someday.

**Page 30:** Cheerwine is a type of soda popular in the Southern United States. It tastes like... I don't know... sugar?

**Page 34:** Learn more about heat shielding if you want to travel between planets. (Hint: don't use marshmallows in any capacity)

**Page 38:** Landing is hard. Look up "Curiosity Sky Crane" and watch some videos. Watching that (sorta) live was one of the most exciting moments of my life and I was so excited for the future then.

**Page 43:** The Curiosity rover wasn't actually designed as a passenger vehicle but we can pretend. Let's say that Punchclock Molly is down there upgrading the wheels and motors.

**Page 44:** I am very curious about whether things smell different on Mars than they do on Earth. Different air pressure, the air is made of different stuff, all kinds of variables...

**Page 46:** I don't care how you sing the words to this. People who make a big deal out of pronunciation are usually just insecure about their own intelligence. You ever hear Einstein talk?

**Page 54:** This was a running joke in our family. You could answer any "name that tune" or trivia question with "David Bowie" and we'd all agree that you were at least partially right because "David Bowie can do anything."

**Page 60:** I think YOU should write a book about those tales. Send me a copy, I'd love to read it!

Any other questions? Let me know.