

Stella Tack

kiss  
me  
once

Illustrated by  
Olga Andriyenko

**Ravensburger**



1 3 5 4 2

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Stella Tack

For Libby & Pat Redmond

Thanks for saving me

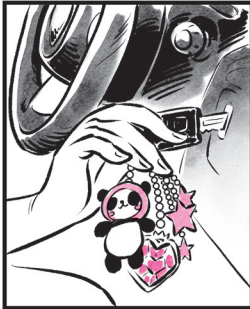
Olga Andriyenko

For Markus  
and our little fluffy family

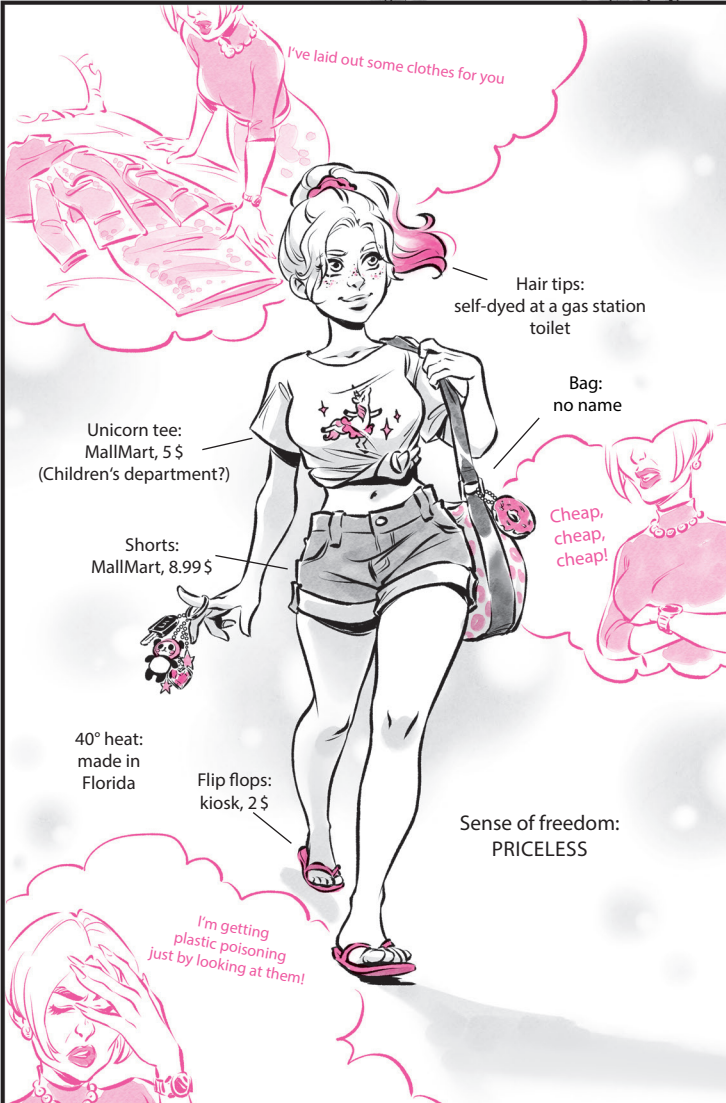


The background of the page is a soft, ethereal pink. It features several large, semi-transparent pink petals, some of which are in sharp focus while others are blurred. Scattered throughout the scene are numerous small, bright white and pink sparkles, giving the overall appearance a delicate and shimmering quality. The lighting is gentle, creating a dreamy atmosphere.

# CHAPTER 1



I wonder what Mom would say about my new look ...



I've laid out some clothes for you

Hair tips:  
self-dyed at a gas station toilet

Bag:  
no name

Unicorn tee:  
MallMart, 5 \$  
(Children's department?)

Shorts:  
MallMart, 8.99 \$

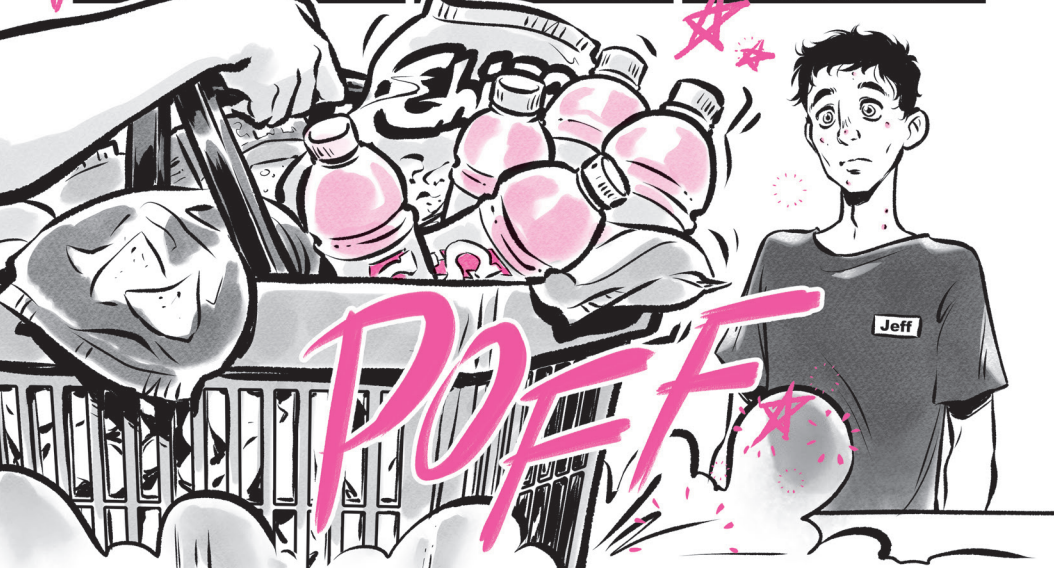
Cheap,  
cheap,  
cheap!

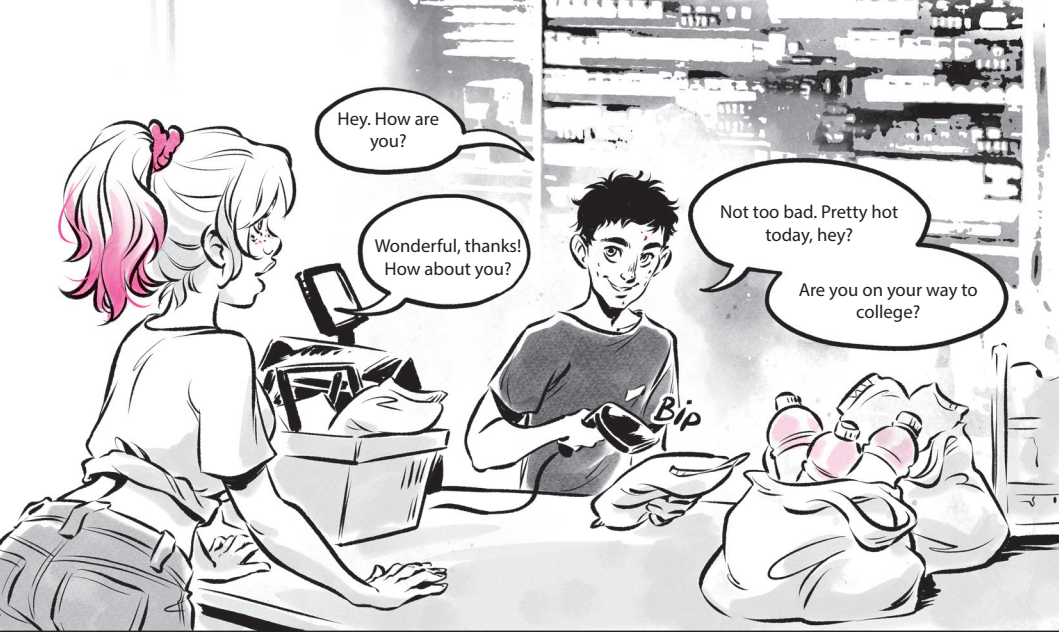
40° heat:  
made in  
Florida

Flip flops:  
kiosk, 2 \$

Sense of freedom:  
PRICELESS

I'm getting  
plastic poisoning  
just by looking at them!





Hey. How are you?

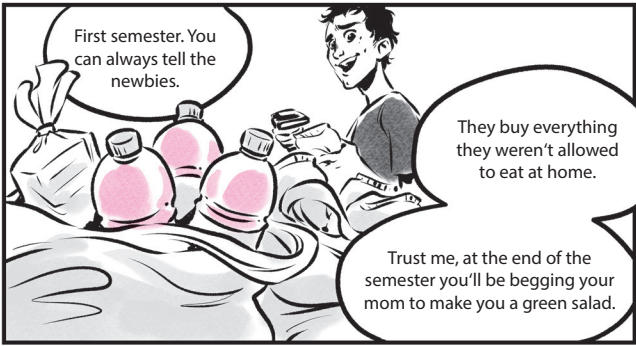
Wonderful, thanks!  
How about you?

Not too bad. Pretty hot today, hey?

Are you on your way to college?



Yeah. To UCF. How did you guess?



First semester. You can always tell the newbies.

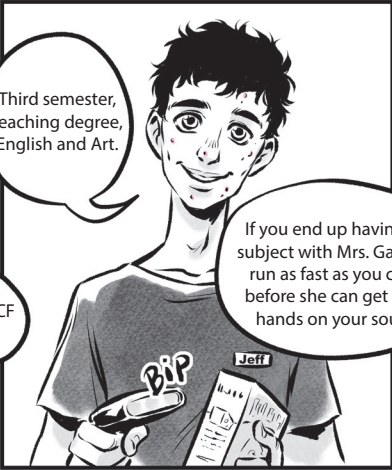
They buy everything they weren't allowed to eat at home.

Trust me, at the end of the semester you'll be begging your mom to make you a green salad.



Never!

Are you at UCF as well?



Third semester, teaching degree, English and Art.

If you end up having a subject with Mrs. Garcia, run as fast as you can before she can get her hands on your soul.



Thanks for the encouragement. Should I bring a stake as well?



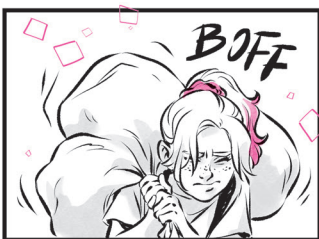
Holy water should do the trick for now.

At least to buy you some time.

That's 90 dollars and 58 cents.



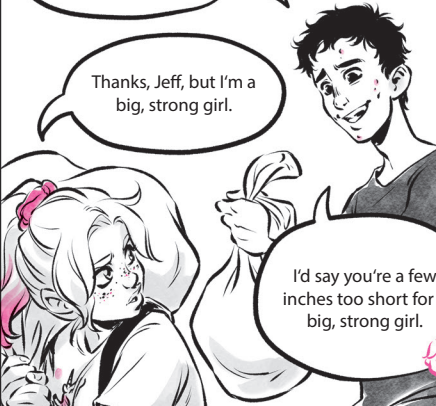
Keep the change, and thanks for the advice.



Hang on. I'll help you carry those.

Thanks, Jeff, but I'm a big, strong girl.

I'd say you're a few inches too short for a big, strong girl.



Thanks for your help, Jeff.

No problem.

I'd ask for your number, but I'm guessing my chances of seeing you again are higher if I offer you tutoring instead ... in case you need any in the coming semester.

I'm not sure I'll need any, but if I do, I'd be happy to take you up on your offer.

Happy to. You'll find me in the Delta Phi fraternity.

Like I'm going to need tutoring.



