

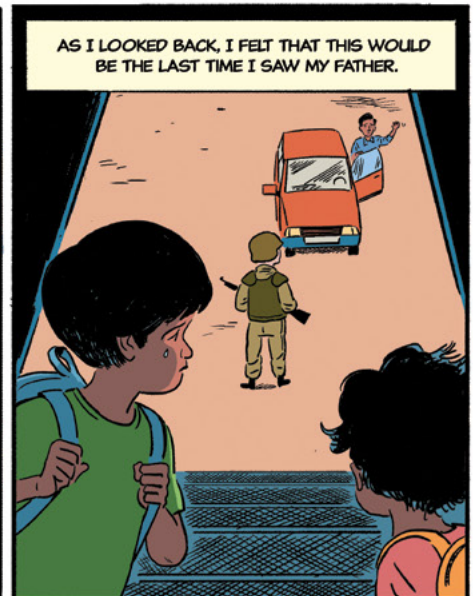
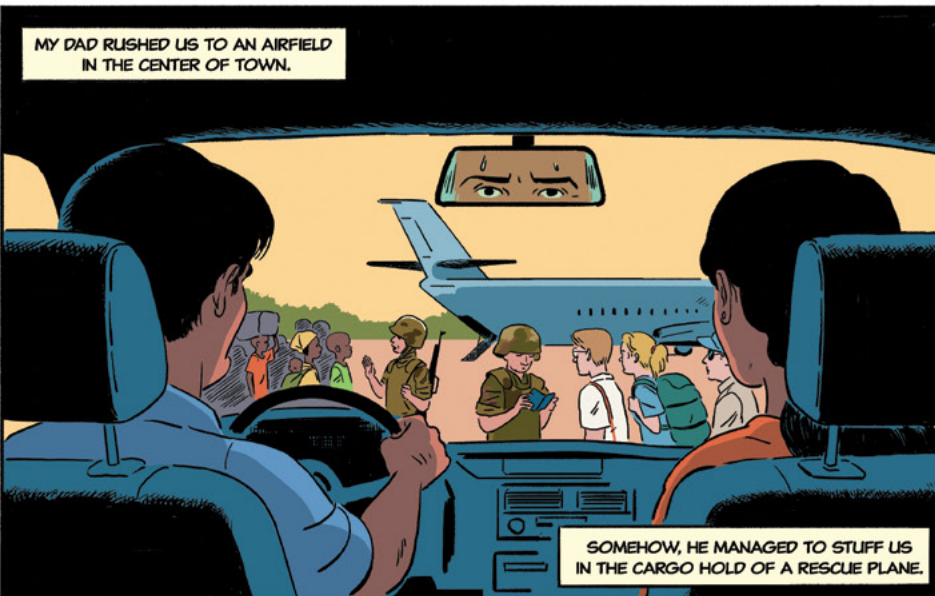
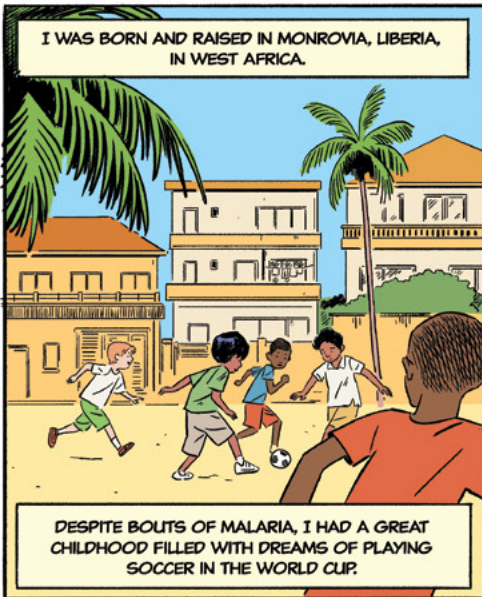
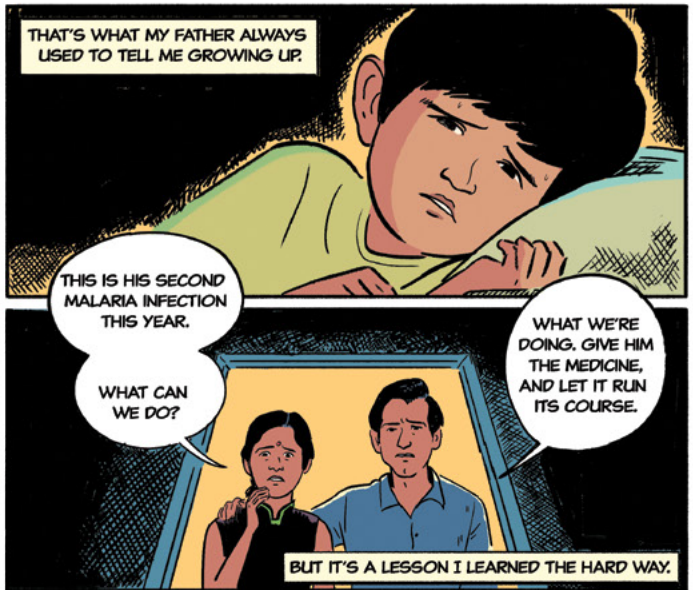
# GREAT IMMIGRANTS

# GREAT AMERICANS

FEATURING RAJ PANJABI



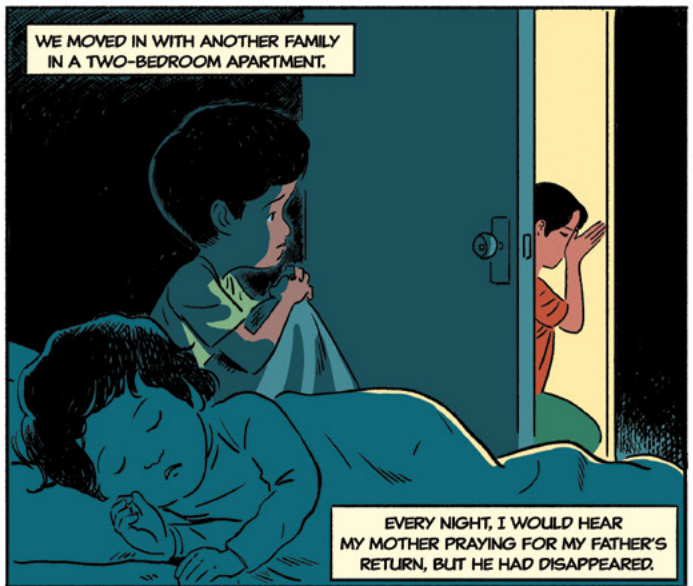
CONCEPT AND SCRIPT BY JONGSMA + O'NEILL  
ILLUSTRATED BY CHUAN MING ONG



\*SINCE 1975, 3.5 MILLION REFUGEES HAVE FLED TO AMERICA TO AVOID PERSECUTION IN THEIR HOME COUNTRIES. EACH YEAR, THEY PAY TENS OF BILLIONS OF DOLLARS IN TAXES. SOURCE: STARTING ANEW: THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF REFUGEES IN AMERICA, AMERICAN IMMIGRATION COUNCIL, JUNE 2023

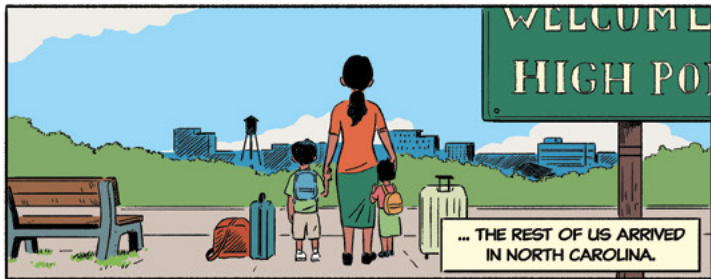


WHILE MY FATHER STAYED BEHIND TO HELP OTHERS ESCAPE THE WAR ...



WE MOVED IN WITH ANOTHER FAMILY IN A TWO-BEDROOM APARTMENT.

EVERY NIGHT, I WOULD HEAR MY MOTHER PRAYING FOR MY FATHER'S RETURN, BUT HE HAD DISAPPEARED.



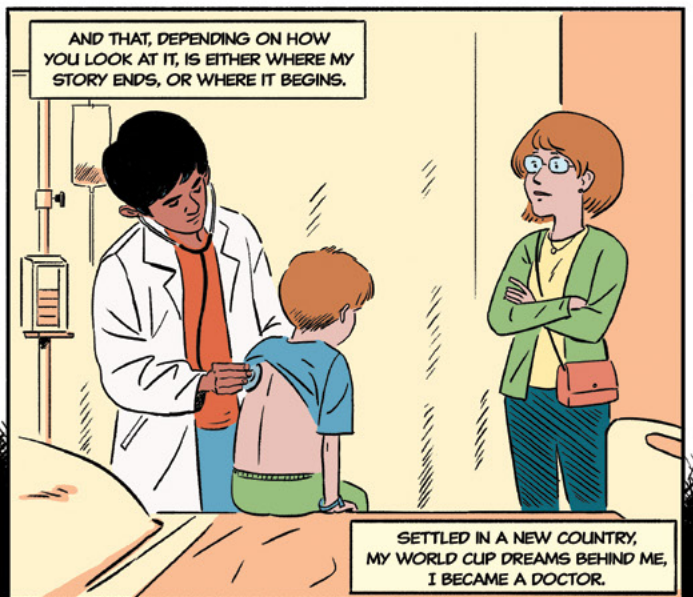
WELCOME HIGH POINT

... THE REST OF US ARRIVED IN NORTH CAROLINA.



THEN, JUST AS MY MOTHER HAD LOST ALMOST ALL HOPE ...

HELLO, MY LOVE. I'M ON MY WAY.



AND THAT, DEPENDING ON HOW YOU LOOK AT IT, IS EITHER WHERE MY STORY ENDS, OR WHERE IT BEGINS.

SETTLED IN A NEW COUNTRY, MY WORLD CUP DREAMS BEHIND ME, I BECAME A DOCTOR.

I NEVER FORGOT WEST AFRICA, AND RETURNED THERE WHENEVER I COULD.

THERE, AND IN AMERICA, I'VE HAD THE HONOR TO WORK ALONGSIDE LOCAL PEOPLE WHO MEET THE GREATEST HEALTH CHALLENGES OF OUR TIME HEAD-ON — FROM EBOLA TO MALARIA TO COVID-19.



THEY ARE MY INSPIRATION, AND THEIR SERVICE IS A REMINDER OF MY FATHER'S WORDS: "NO CONDITION IS PERMANENT."

RAJ PANJABI SERVED AS THE TOP PANDEMIC AND HEALTH OFFICIAL AT THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL FROM 2022-2023, PLAYING A KEY ROLE IN THE LARGEST VACCINATION CAMPAIGN IN HISTORY AGAINST COVID-19. HE IS ONE OF TIME MAGAZINE'S 100 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE AND COFOUNDER OF LAST MILE HEALTH, WHICH BUILDS COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEMS IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES. READ MORE GREAT IMMIGRANT STORIES AT CARNEGIE.ORG/IMMIGRANTSTORIES.