

# THE LAST PHOENIX

WRITTEN BY MELISSA MAY CURTIS  
ILLUSTRATED BY JUSTINE ALAMEDA

PASADENA CIVIC CENTER,  
DAY 3 OF THE FIRES

THERE WAS ONCE  
A GREAT FIREBIRD, MIS  
NIÑOS, BORN OF FLAME  
AND SMOKE.

SHE CAME WHEN  
THE EARTH CRIED  
OUT TO HER.

SOLENNA,  
THE LAST OF HER KIND,  
ROSE FROM THE ASHES  
AGAIN!

EVERY THOUSAND YEARS,  
SHE RETURNS TO GIVE NATURE  
A NEW BEGINNING.

BUT THIS TIME,  
SHE WOKE UP TO A WORLD  
SHE DIDN'T KNOW.

THE FIRE TOOK  
ON NEW LIFE,  
FUELED BY THE  
CREATIONS OF  
MANKIND.



SHE SAW HOW WE'VE POISONED THE LAND.



HOW EASILY WE FORGET TO CARE.



THE FIRE RAGED BEYOND HER CONTROL, AND FOR THE FIRST TIME, SHE WAS AFRAID.



SHE THINKS WE'VE FORGOTTEN HER MAGIC.



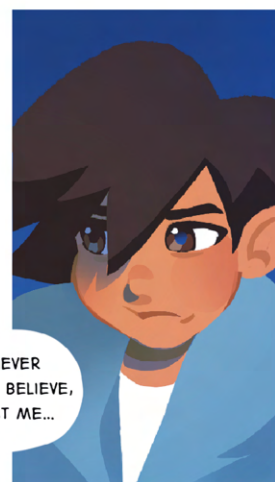
BUT IT'S STILL THERE FOR THOSE WHO LOOK FOR IT.



MAGIC? TIO, AREN'T WE A LITTLE TOO OLD FOR THAT?



I MEAN, C'MON-- WE'RE LIVING OUT OF A CONVENTION CENTER.



YOU'RE NEVER TOO OLD TO BELIEVE, MIJO. TRUST ME...



DO YOU THINK OUR HOUSE WILL BE OKAY, TIO?



EVEN LUCA'S SCARED.

AND HE'S NOT SCARED OF ANYTHING!

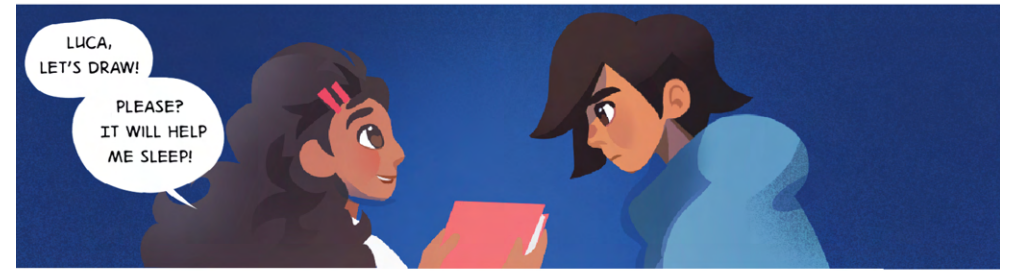


WE'RE NEVER POWERLESS, MIJO.

WHO SAYS I'M SCARED?!



THE WORLD CAN BE SCARY AT TIMES, BUT WE CAN ALWAYS BUILD SOMETHING NEW.



LUCA, LET'S DRAW!

PLEASE? IT WILL HELP ME SLEEP!



FINE, IF YOU THINK IT WILL HELP.



LOOK!

SHE HAS EYES LIKE THE SUN, AND HER FEATHERS CHANGE COLOR!

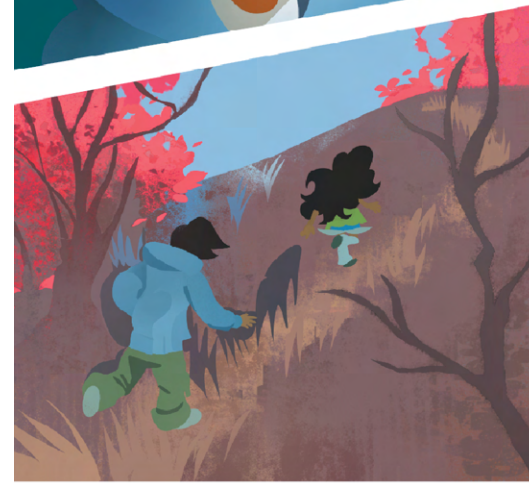


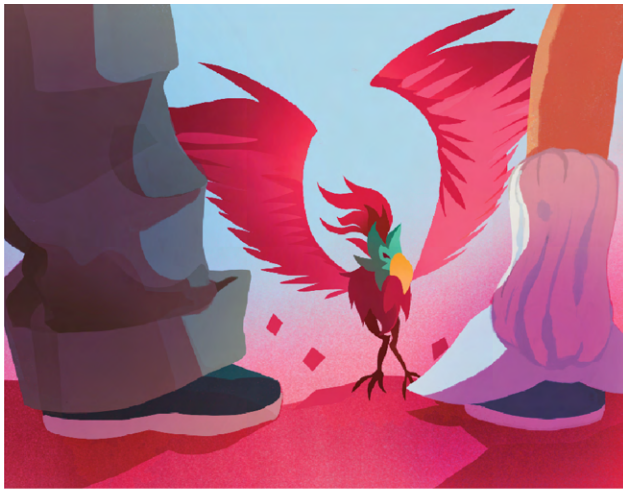
WHY DO YOU SAY THAT?



BECAUSE...

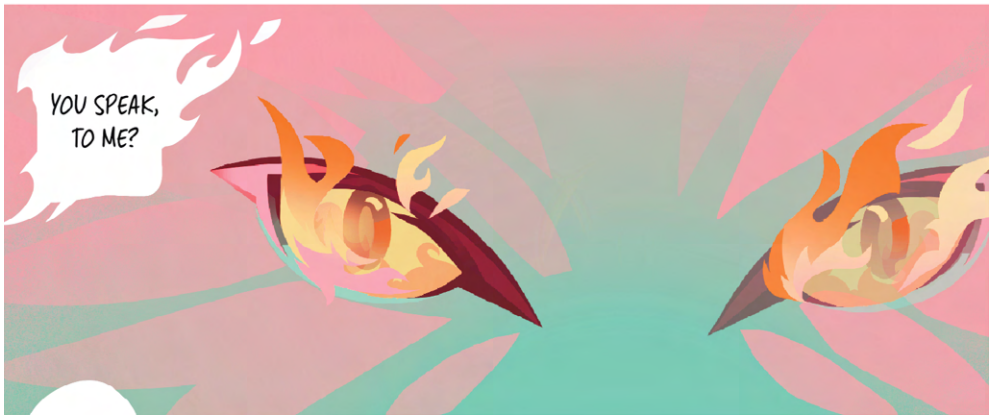
I JUST KNOW.





I KNOW YOU'RE ANGRY AND SCARED, BUT WE WANT TO HELP.





YOU SPEAK,  
TO ME?



SOME  
OF US WANT  
TO HELP.

SEE?



KRRIPK



THEN  
LET THERE  
BE...

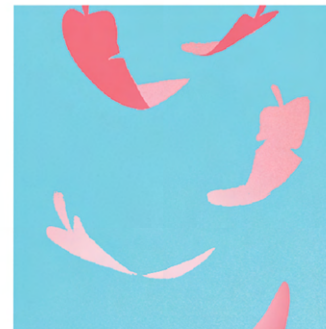
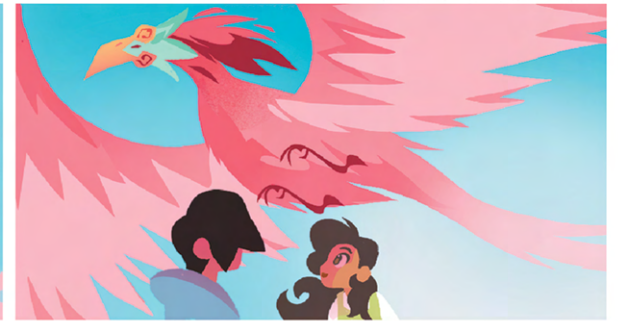
LIFE.



TIO SAYS EVERY  
GARDEN STARTS  
WITH DIRT  
AND LIGHT.



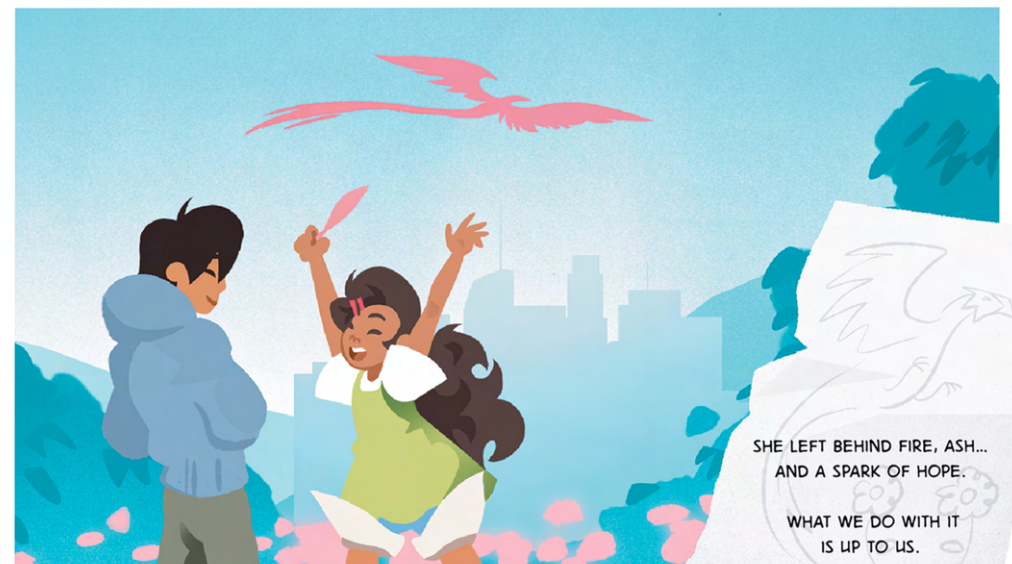
SHE'S MAKING  
NATURE  
BEGIN AGAIN!



IS IT  
MAGIC?



I  
BELIEVE  
IT IS.



SHE LEFT BEHIND FIRE, ASH...  
AND A SPARK OF HOPE.

WHAT WE DO WITH IT  
IS UP TO US.

# NONPROFIT SPOTLIGHT

For each of our free eBooks, the storytellers select a local Los Angeles nonprofit to highlight. The creators of "The Last Phoenix" chose LA Conservation Corps.



## FROM THE CREATORS

"Their mission of creating equitable opportunities for young people to build resilience in themselves, their communities, and the environment through a program of work, education and support aligns with the values of our story."

--Melissa May Curtis, Writer of "The Last Phoenix"

"The Last Phoenix reflects the core message of LA Conservation Corps. I believe that educating and uplifting youth to care for our planet is how we make a sustainable future."

--Justine Alameda, Illustrator of "The Last Phoenix"

You can read about and donate to  
[LA Conservation Corps here.](https://www.laconservationcorps.org/)

DEBUTING JANUARY 2027!

Preorder the physical book:

[OAKTREECOMICS.COM](https://www.oaktreecomics.com)

