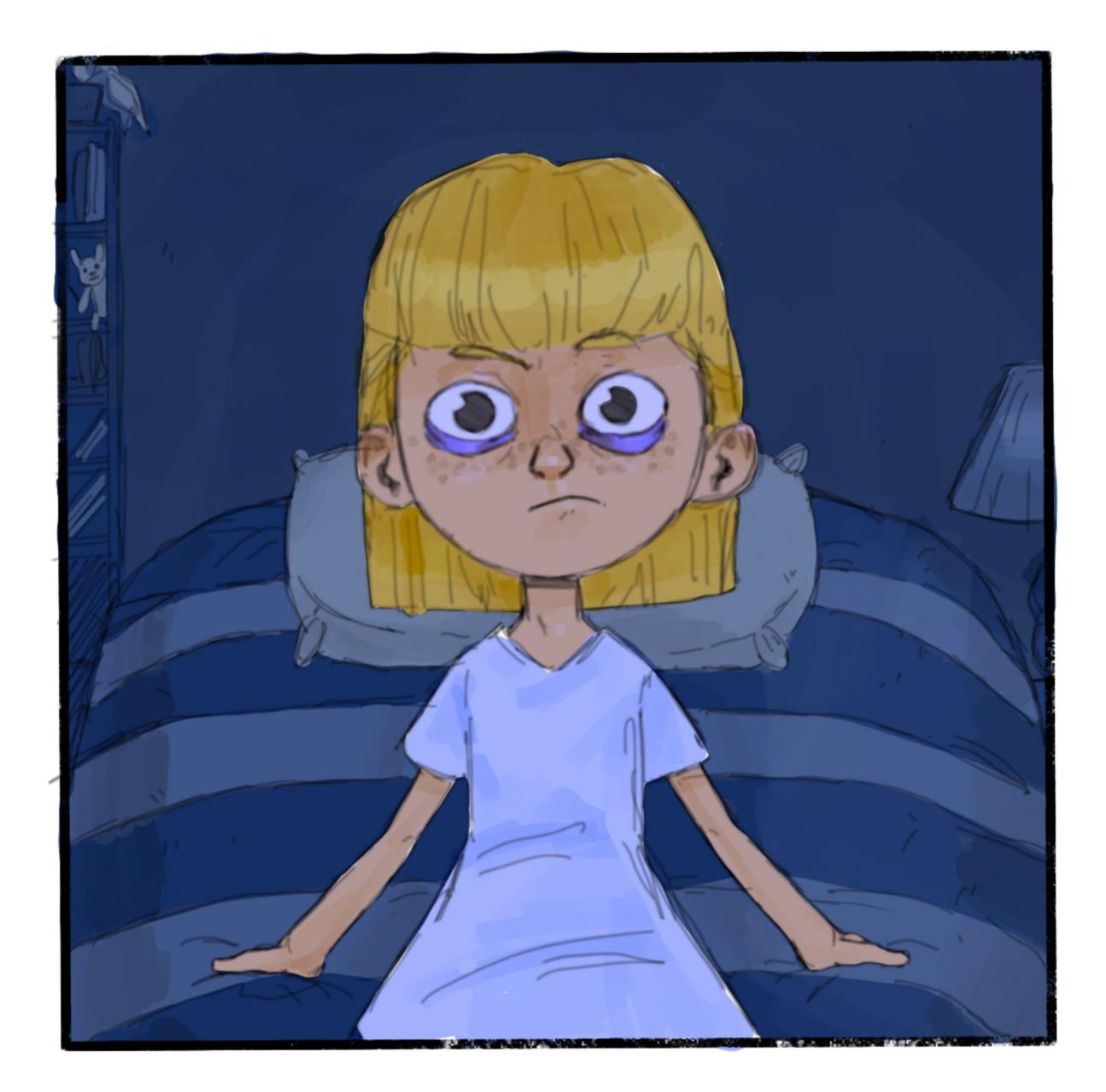
Sleep Juice



Ripple Effect Children's Services

Sleep Juice

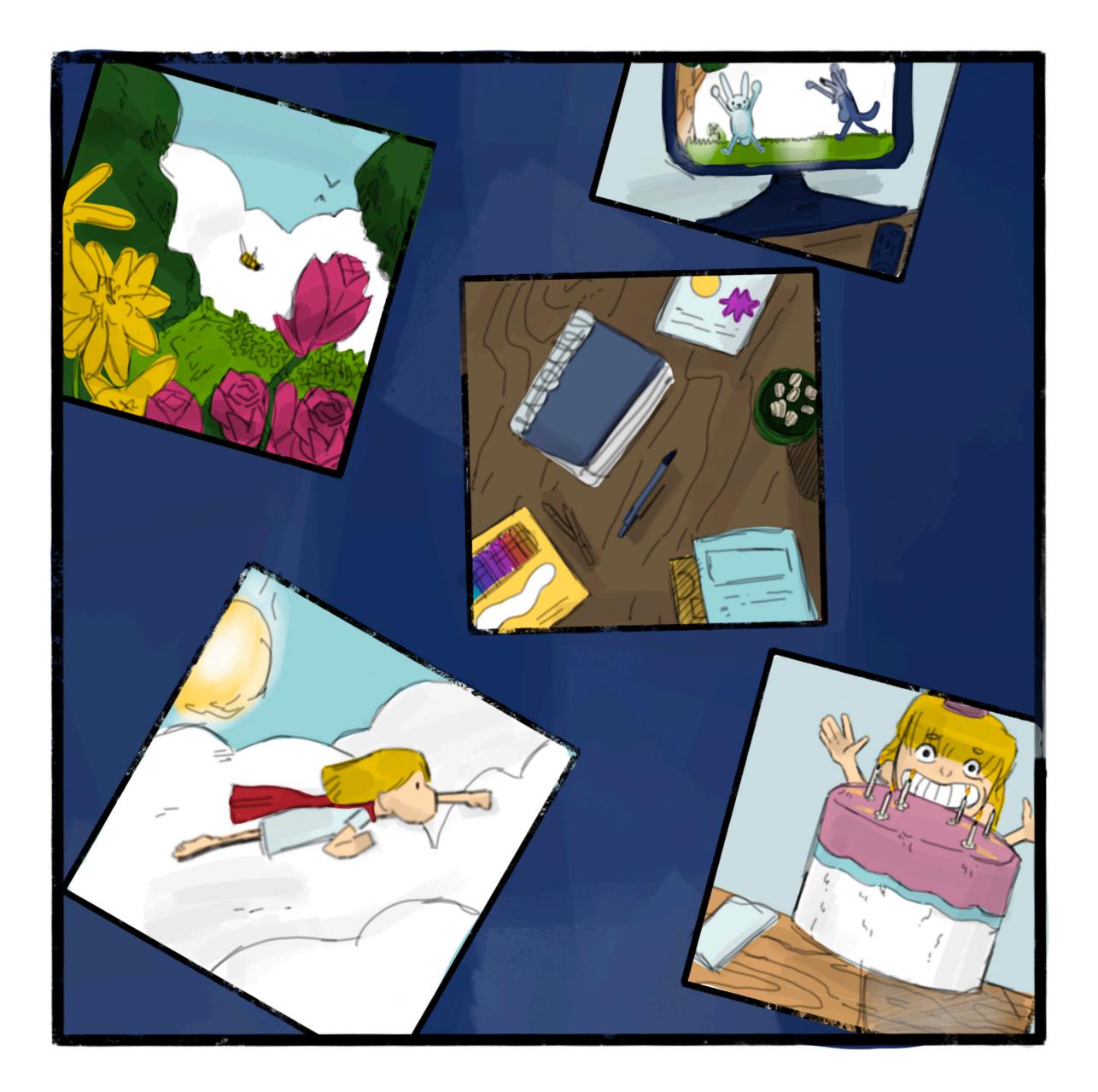
Written by Lisa Marucci Illustrated by Sonny Cooke-Baskier Edited by Sadie Old



I can't sleep.



I won't sleep.



It's not going to happen. Zillions, trillions, gabillions of ideas are in my head.



I'm flip flopping like a fish out of water.



If I close my eyes, they POP right back open.



I need to pee. Can you rub my back? Can I have a drink of water? When's my birthday? Where's my stuffy? Why is the sky blue? Leave the light on please! Is it a school day tomorrow?



Jeesch! So mean! What's the big deal??? They don't get it.

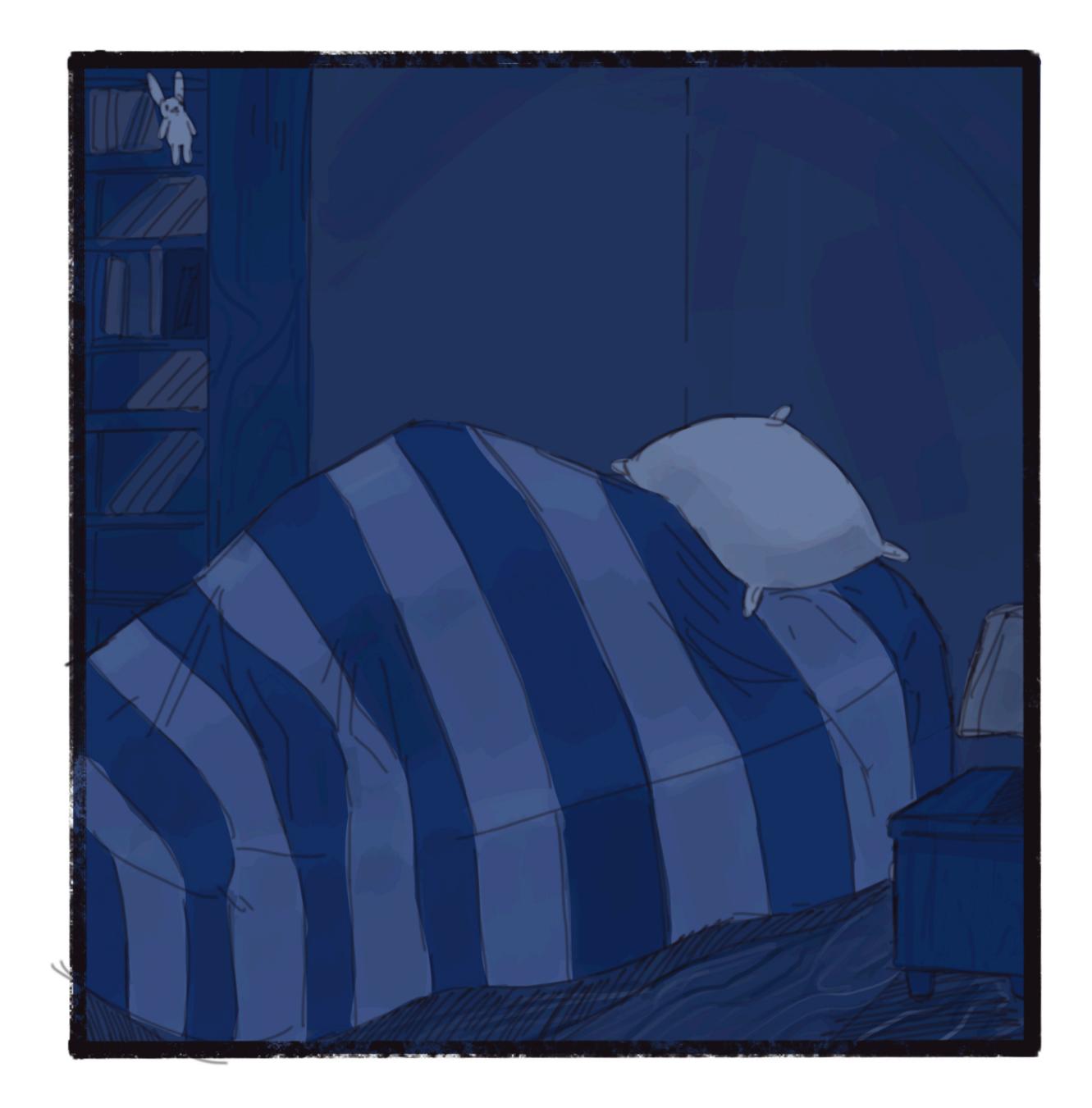


I am trying! Really super duper hard!!!









How do you fall asleep when you are not tired?



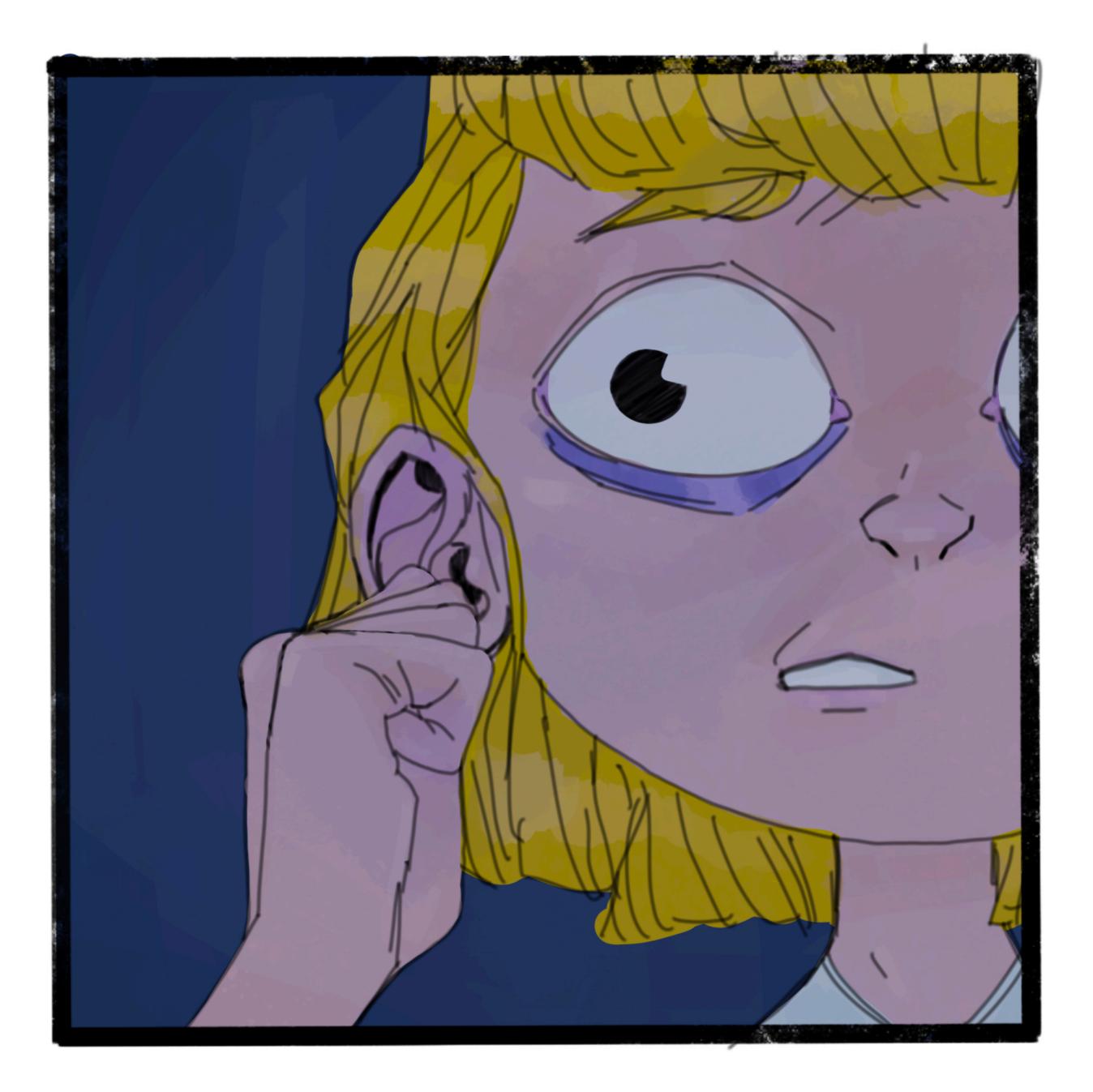
Sometimes my foot falls asleep. Maybe my foot's asleep? Nope it's wiggly.



Maybe my elbow? Nope my arms are jumpy.



What about my ear lobe? It's doing nothing. Maybe it's asleep.



It's asleep. That's where my sleep is!

Maybe I can sleep?? I just need to let all of the sleep juice out of my ear lobe. It will fill up my whole body. Then I can sleep!

Super powers ENGAGE! ENGAGE!!!



This **iS** me going to sleep.



Super powers engage! ENGAGE!!!



I can feel it - it's working - the sleep juice is moving out of my earlobe...it's coming down my neck...into my shoulders...down my arms...into my chest...it's thick...slow...as slow as waiting for my birthday...it's getting quieter...thoughts are leaving...I am sleepy... I have superpowers!!!

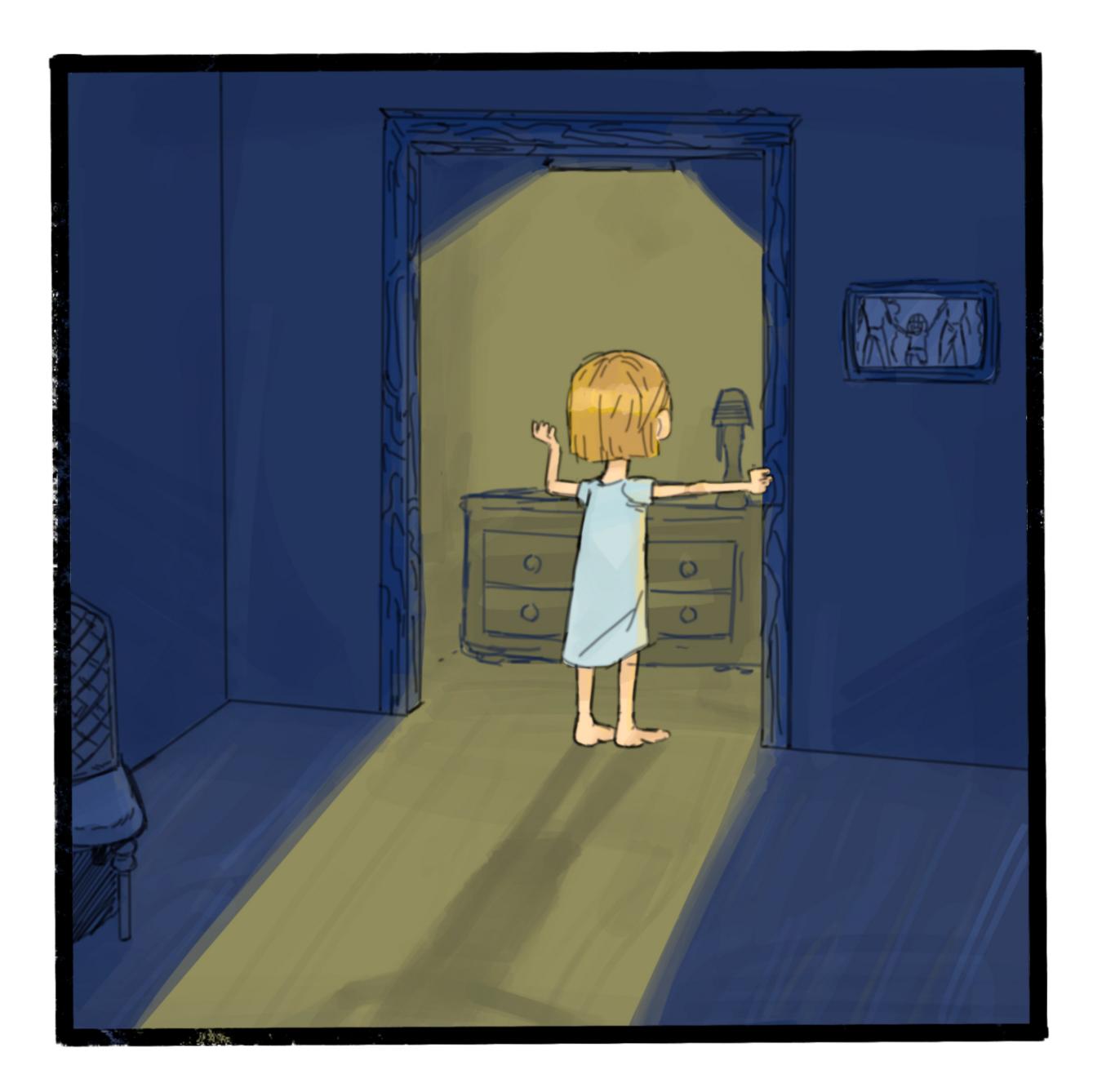


This is working! It's working!! I'm so amazing! I can do anything!! Oh no...

NOO0...

the sleep juice?

Where is it going??



"Can I have another drink of water?"

• • •

FINE!!

Super powers engage!

Sleep juice do your MAGIC!

Quieter... thoughts going...breathing slows...heart slows down...getting sleepy...here it comes...

I don't feel so jumpy. My arms are relaxing. My feet aren't so wiggly. I'm sinking deeper and deeper into my bed. I think I am...



Sleep Hygiene

You read that right - sleep hygiene.

Just like dental hygiene. Good oral health comes from regular routines and maintenance.

Good sleep health needs routine and maintenance as well. Our bodies need to be cued that sleep is coming. Training our bodies on how to shift from being busy, excited, and looking for fun to moving slow, quieting down, and looking for dreams comes from good routines.

Sleep is another part of your day where you get to experience really cool things. You can go anywhere, be anything, and do anything in your dreams! It also gives your brain time to organize thoughts, store memories, and make you smarter. Sleep helps your body grow, repair injuries, and protect you from getting sick.

A good night's sleep benefits you during the day. You are able to focus better, be more creative, feel calmer, and have lots of energy to do all the things that make you YOU! A good routine and sleep maintenance includes:

Going to bed at the same time every night and waking up at the same time.

Creating a routine for 1 hour before bed - putting on pajamas, brushing teeth, taking a bath, reading a book, moving slowly, being quiet, cuddling with someone you love or your pet or your stuffie!

No screens during that hour and no screens where you are sleeping.

Good thoughts = good sleep. Think about what makes you happy and grateful. What makes you proud? What are the best moments of the day?

Hard parts of the day are challenges that make you stronger. You did the best you could, now let it drift away.

Worried about something? Tell yourself "it's time to sleep now, a good night's sleep will help." Problem solving happens in your sleep.

Sleep in a dark, cool, and QUIET room.

Fresh air, sunlight and even some moonlight helps your body sleep better. Add some vigorous exercise for more benefits. Even if you do all these things, sometimes it can be tricky to find your sleep juice. When that happens think of a favourite memory and tell yourself the story of that memory including what your eyes saw, your ears heard, your skin felt, your nose smelled and maybe what your mouth tasted. By the end of the story you may be sleepier. If you need a little help here are some things to experiment with:

Try breathing in through your nose for a count of 4 - hold your breath for a count of 7 - breathe out through your mouth slowly and with a deep sigh for a count of 8 - do this a whole lot of times.

If you have a pet or someone sleeping near you, try to match your breathing with theirs. Pretend you are asleep. Fake it until you make it!

Body scans can relax you - start with your toes - breathe into your toes - scrunch up your toes tight and then relax them then move to your calf muscles - breathe into your calf muscles and tighten those muscles and relax them - go through all your muscles throughout your body - toes to head - head to toes.

Nighty night...