

My Big Brother



Illustrated by Jessica Hartshorn



This story was created by a group of Big Brothers at HMYOI Brinsford with the support of illustrator Jessica Hartshorn – and was written for their little brothers and sisters in the community.

A huge thank you to Albert, Dylan, Jayke, Kyle, Marko, Rio, Shane and Tommy for your time, honesty and creativity.

If you have a brother or loved one in prison and need support or want to ask a question, find out more at:

www.prisonadvice.org.uk

www.childrenheardandseen.co.uk

If you are a parent or carer supporting a child with a loved one in prison, the below resources may be helpful:

The Prisoners Families Helpline: 0808 808 2003

Stories, resources and guides: www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Videos about prison life: www.prisonersfamilies.org

If you are a professional supporting a child with a loved one in prison, the below resources may be helpful:

Professionals Resources and Training: www.prisonadvice.org.uk

Child Impact Assessment: www.prisonreformtrust.org.uk

If you are worried about someone in prison please go to www.prisonersfamilies.org and click “worried about a prisoner” .



Late
one night

Ring Mum. Tell her
what's happened. I'll be
back later, don't worry.



What do
we do
now?

Did Kyle
do
something
bad?



Next day on
the way to school

Police were at Stevie's
house last night,
banged up his brother...

Are you
gangster
now
Stevie?!









Look it's not like it is
on the TV. But ...

I have no
FREEDOM

I literally don't have the keys to my own door.
Being locked in a room by someone else...

All my mates are out
partying, going
on lads holidays
and I'm here.

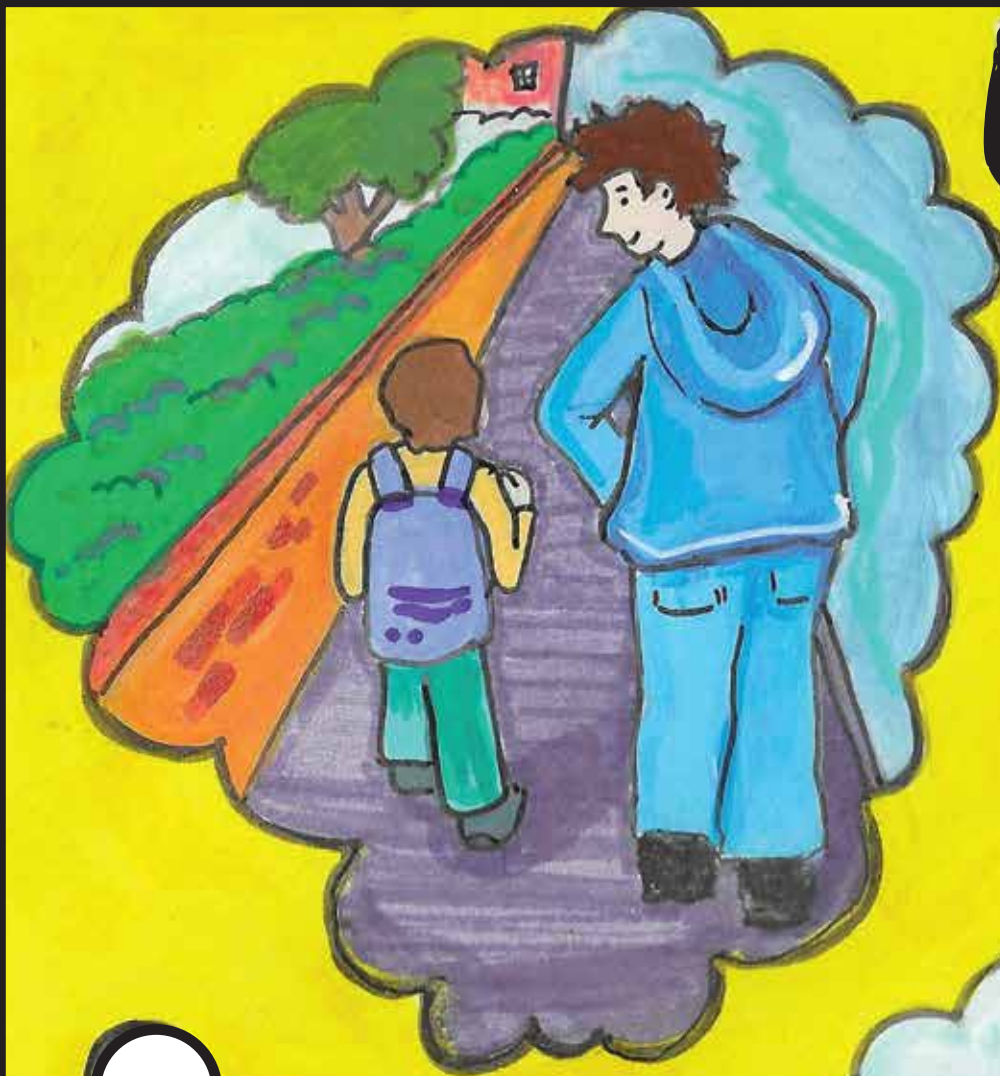
I can't
CHOOSE

what I do with my time.



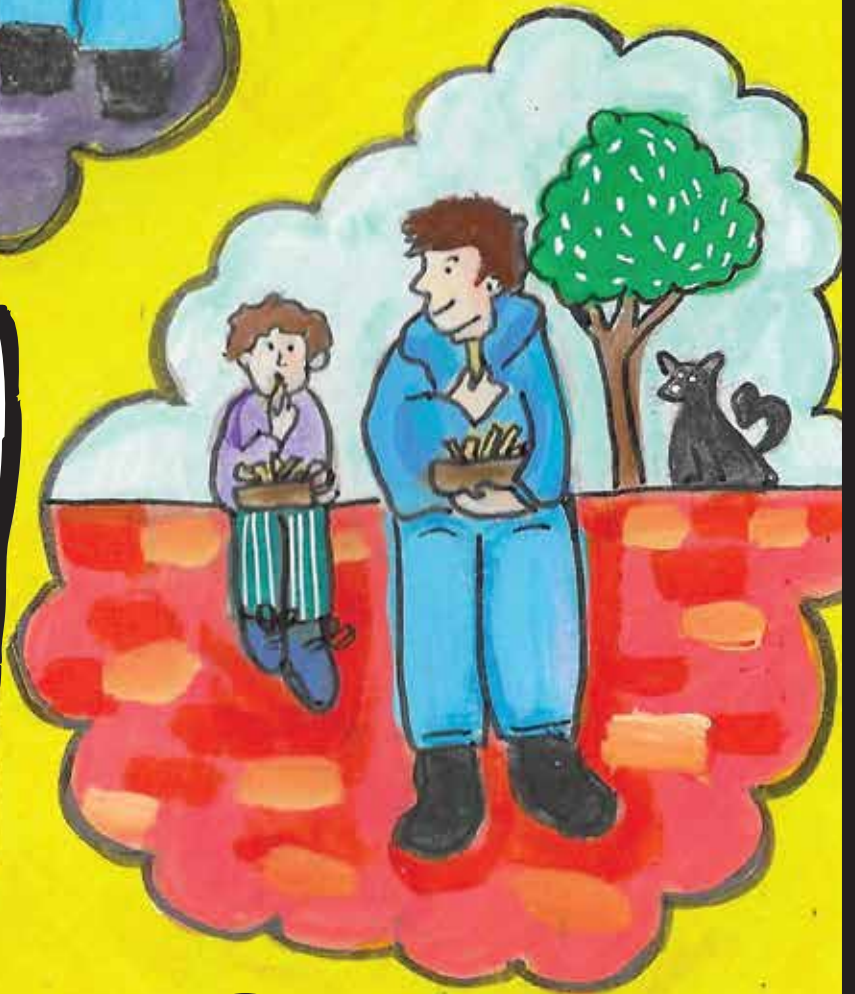
And I can't be around
for you and Lyla.






You picking me
up from school.

Taking me to the
chippy on Fridays.



A boy with brown hair, wearing a blue sweater, is holding a grey video game controller. He is looking towards the right. A speech bubble is next to him.

Yeah, you miss me beating you in
FIFA marathons.

Two boys are sitting on red armchairs, facing a television. They are both wearing headphones and holding video game controllers. The television screen shows a soccer game. The background is a green cloud-like shape.

I miss talking to
you when
Mum isn't well
again...



We can still talk through the phone, visits, letters if you want?

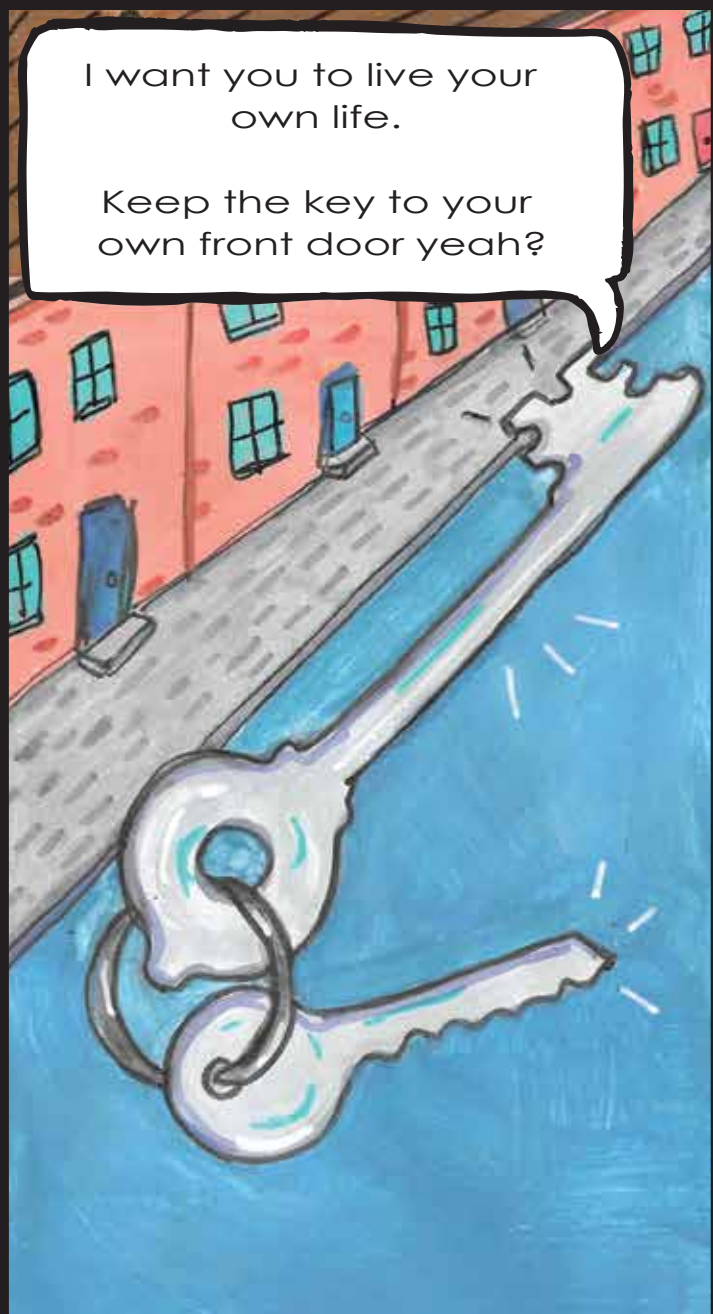


I don't ever want you in here Stevie.



I want you to live your own life.

Keep the key to your own front door yeah?



Speak to you soon.

Bye Kyle.



TO BE
CONTINUED...

Create a Comic Book

What is your story?

Comic art is a good way to share your story in an exciting visual way. Use this resource to create a comic book of your own.



What you need

- This booklet
 - Paper
 - Pencil
- Black pen or fine liner
- Something to add colour



Get Started

How a comic book works



Comics are read left to right.

The pictures are in boxes and are called panels.

The narrator text is in rectangles at the top or bottom of the panel.



Speech is in bubbles, thought bubbles and sound effect shapes.



Top Tip

When you sketch your designs, leave space for the text.

Ideas

What is your story about?

Your story could be about your sibling's experience in prison or something else.

It could be a true story or you could change your ending.
You could be yourself, a superhero or even a robot!
It is up to you.



Think about:

Who are your main characters?

.....

What is your story about?

.....

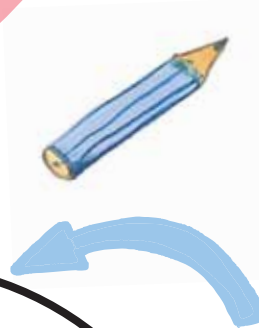
Where is the story taking place?

.....

Create Your Character

Character profiles

What are your characters like?
Fill in the information for the two main characters. Can you draw them too?



Name :.....
Age
What do they look like?.....
What are their favourite foods?
.....
What do they dislike?
.....
What is their favourite outfit?
.....

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.....

Top Tip

Characters need to look the same through out the comic book.

Your Story

Think about the 5 key things that happen in your story and write them down.

1.....

.....

2.....

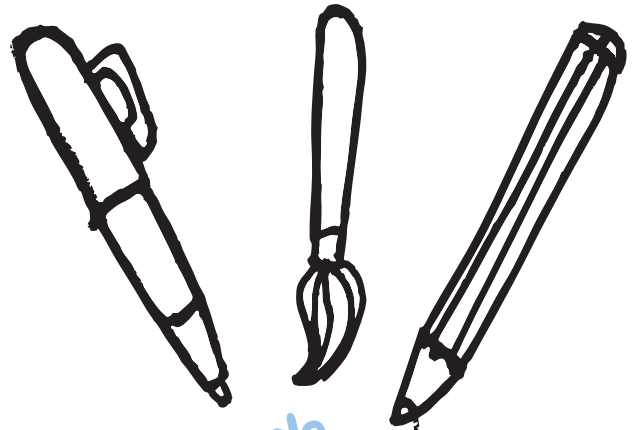
.....

3.....

.....



What happens?



Example

1. Police take Kyle.
2. Stevie is worried.
3. Stevie calls his brother.
4. Kyle reassures Stevie.
5. They talk about staying in touch.

4.....

.....

5.....

.....

Panels

Planning stage

Plan out what is happening in each panel. These can be simple stickmen to give you a idea of what is in each panel. Think about how you lay out your pictures.

Include different sizes, zooming in or seeing your character from different angles.

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Design your front cover

What is your title of your story?

The drawing should give people a taste of what is inside the comic.

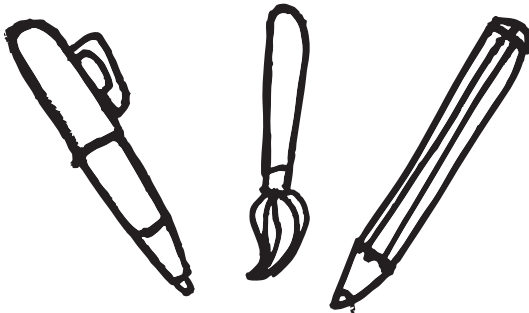
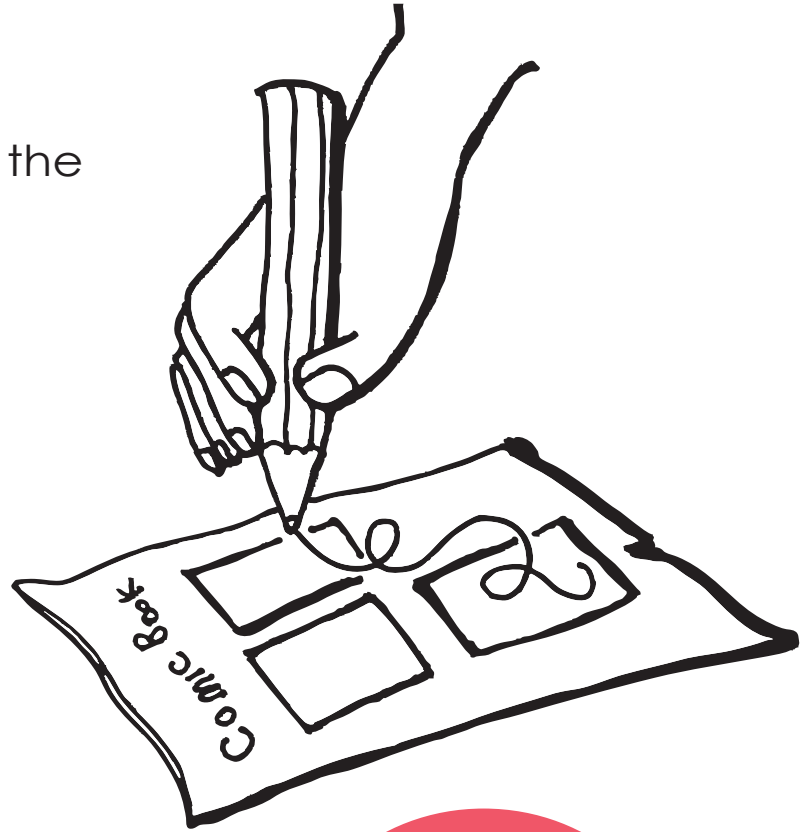


Start Drawing

Sketch your story

1 Start **sketching** your story in the panels provided on the opposite page.

2 Lightly sketch each panel and remember to add **speech bubbles**.



3

Add colour

4

Outline your artwork in black pen to make it stand out.



