

SEL | SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING

SOCIAL AWARENESS



BY JILL L. HANEY

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CHAPTER 1

NOTICING HOW OTHERS FEEL

Rick goes to a party. He joins a group of students talking about school. Before long, he makes a joke about a girl. She tripped and fell in math class. Some laugh. A few more students walk up. Others glance at him. No one is laughing now. Rick does not notice. He just keeps talking about the girl. Tara is **irritated**. She and her friend glare at him. Then they walk away. It turns out Rick's jokes were about her.



irritated:

bothered by something
or someone; annoyed

A person with voluminous, curly brown hair is seen from behind, looking at a whiteboard. The whiteboard has handwritten text in blue marker.

club
meet
#1

Jess walks into the club meeting. Two students sit with their arms crossed. One looks down. The other bites her lip. Both seem **nervous**. Jess walks up to them. She asks if this is their first club meeting. They nod. Jess smiles and says, "Welcome!" The two students relax. Soon they are talking with others. The meeting goes well.



nervous:

worried; unsure of how things will turn out



Rick and Jess were in social situations. They both interacted with people. One made things worse. The other made things better. How? It's all about social awareness.



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A photograph of two young women standing in front of a blurred city skyline at night. Both women are wearing bright yellow aprons over white t-shirts. The woman on the left has dark, wavy hair and is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The woman on the right has long, light brown hair and is looking slightly upwards and to the right with a gentle smile. The background is a soft-focus view of city buildings with lights.

FINDING COMMON GROUND

BY DONNA SHELTON



It was June. School had just ended. Tonya knew this was going to be a great summer. She had been hired at Best Burgers. This was her first job ever. Most importantly, the money would help pay for braces.

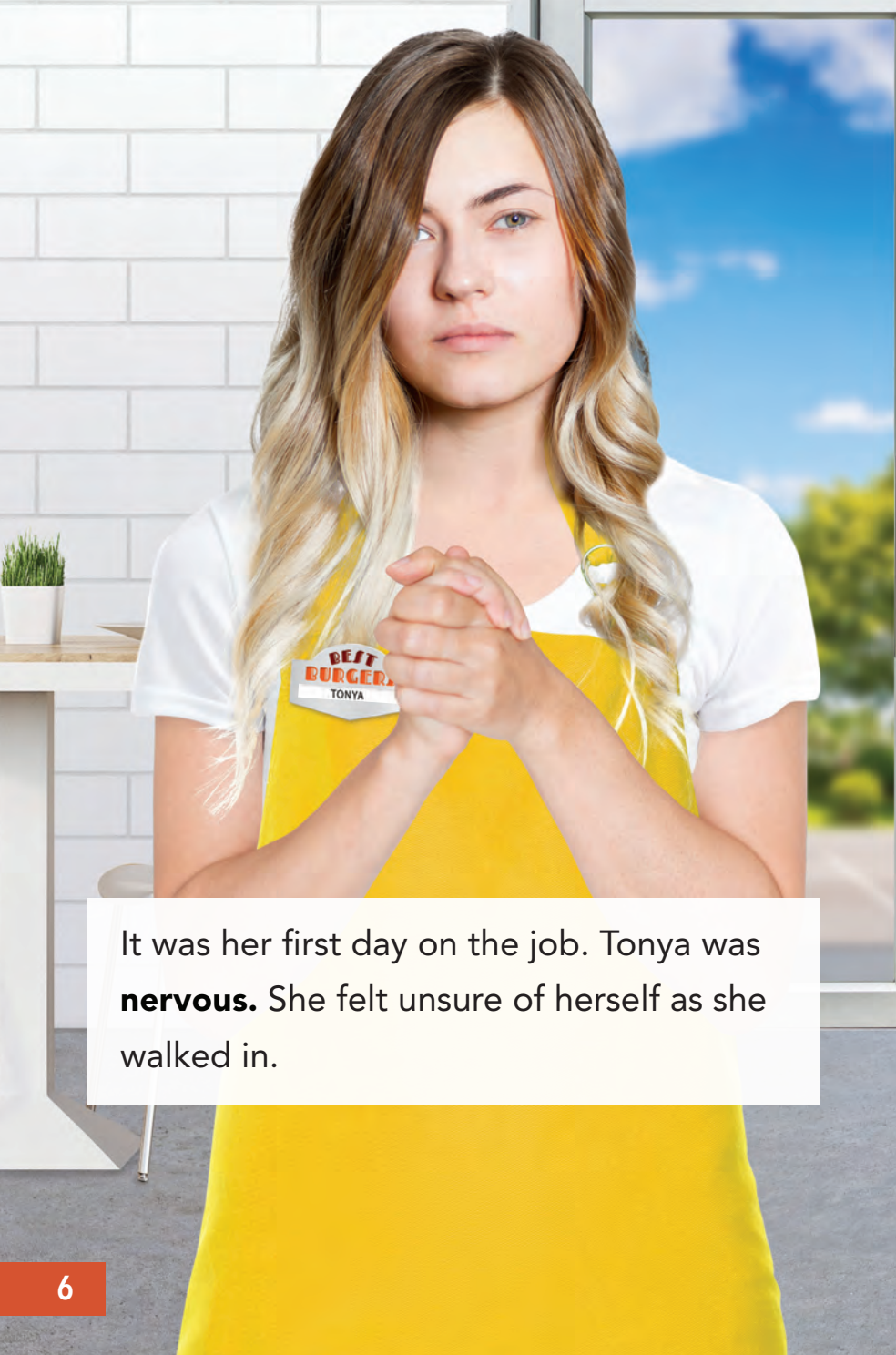
Tonya had needed braces for a long time.
But her mom could not afford the expense.
The two of them had made a deal.





"Get a summer job," her mom had said.
"You pay for half with the money earned.
I will cover the rest."

Tonya grinned. "Deal! Straight teeth,
here I come."



It was her first day on the job. Tonya was **nervous**. She felt unsure of herself as she walked in.



Tonya recognized a few of the employees. They went to her school. All the rest were strangers. She clasped her hands together to keep them from shaking.





The manager walked over. Her name was Sara. "Welcome! We are so **happy** to have you on our team!"

Tonya smiled.

"Felicia is one of our best workers," Sara said. "She will be training you."