

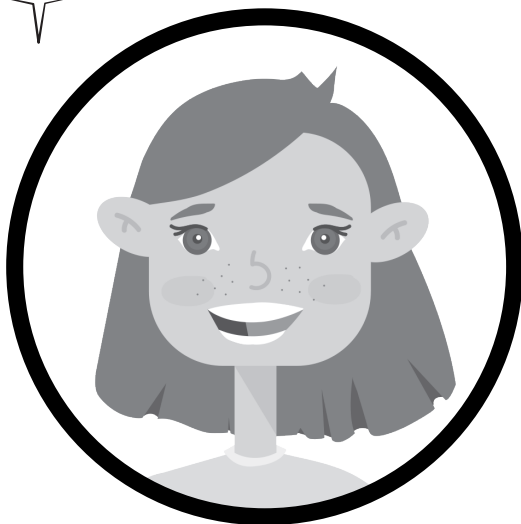
The book cover features a stylized illustration of a young boy's face at the bottom, with large green eyes and dark hair. The background is a dark blue space filled with various celestial bodies: a grey planet with craters, a red planet with spots, a blue planet with wavy lines, a yellow planet with horizontal stripes, and a large purple planet with a white ring. Small white stars are scattered throughout the space.

THE NEW KID

Anne Schraff



MEET THE



Paige

Age: 12

Favorite Insect: morpho peleides (blue morpho butterfly)

Hobby: collects My Little Pony figures

Favorite Food: mochi ice cream

Best Quality: supportive

CHARACTERS



Orion

Age: 12 (maybe)

Hometown: “far away”

Hidden Talent: solving unsolvable math problems

Favorite Planet: Kepler 438b

Best Quality: kindness

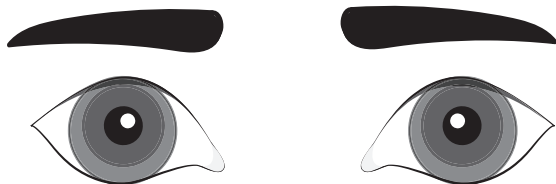
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NEW KID

“Coco!” Paige ran up to her friend at school. “I just saw a new kid. He’ll be in sixth grade too. He’s coming to our classroom.”

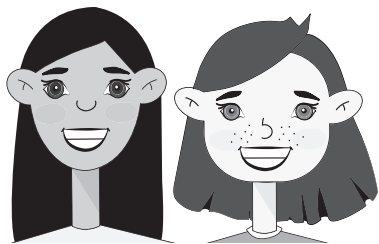
“Did he seem nice?” Coco asked.

“He was with his mom. I did say hi,” Paige said. “You know what? He has green eyes. The color is amazing. I’ve never seen anything like it. His name is Orion Wells. Funky, huh?”



“I hope he’s friendly,” Coco said. “That’s all I care about. Some kids are mean here.”

Paige Morgan just turned 12. Coco Lamar had been 12 for a few weeks. The girls had been friends since preschool. Coco was like a sister to Paige. Paige was an only child. Her parents were older than most. They were college professors.



♥ Best ♥
Friends
Forever

“Here he comes,” Paige whispered. She gripped Coco’s arm.

“Ouch!” Coco said. “You’re hurting me, girl.”

“I’m sorry,” Paige said. “I’m nervous.”

“He’s just a boy,” Coco said, laughing.



“But he’s strange,” Paige said.

“All boys are strange,” Coco said. “My baby brother is strange.”

The new boy drew near. “Hi,” Coco said. “Welcome to our school! I guess you’ll be in our class. I’m Coco. This is Paige.”



Orion didn’t smile, but he looked nice. His black hair was thick and curly. His skin was tan. “Hello,” he said.

“Our teacher is Ms. Nesbit,” Coco said. “You’ll like her. She’s tough but fair.” Coco was a much better talker than Paige. She could talk to anyone. Paige was a little shy with strangers.



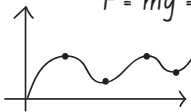
“Where are you from?” Coco asked. “I heard your name was Orion. Is that right?”

“Yes,” the boy said. “I’m from far away.”

Coco and Paige looked at each other.

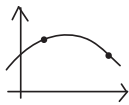
The three kids walked together toward class. Ms. Nesbit hadn’t arrived yet. The students sat down.

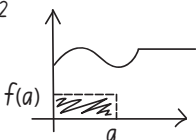
Orion sat close to Paige. He was on his cell phone. It looked like he was doing math. Coco noticed it too. The girls exchanged another look.

$$F = mg = ma = m \frac{d^2 h}{dt^2}$$


$$x^2 = A$$

$$x^2 - 3x - 4 = 0$$

$$4x^2 - 3x - 1 = 0$$


$$f(x) = x^2$$


$$\int f(x) dx$$



Coco tapped Orion's shoulder. "What are you doing?" she asked.

"It's a math app. Calculus," he said. "Oh, it's so fun."

Coco texted Paige. "What? Is he from outer space? Get real!"

≡MILITARY DOGS≡



EMILY SCHLESINGER

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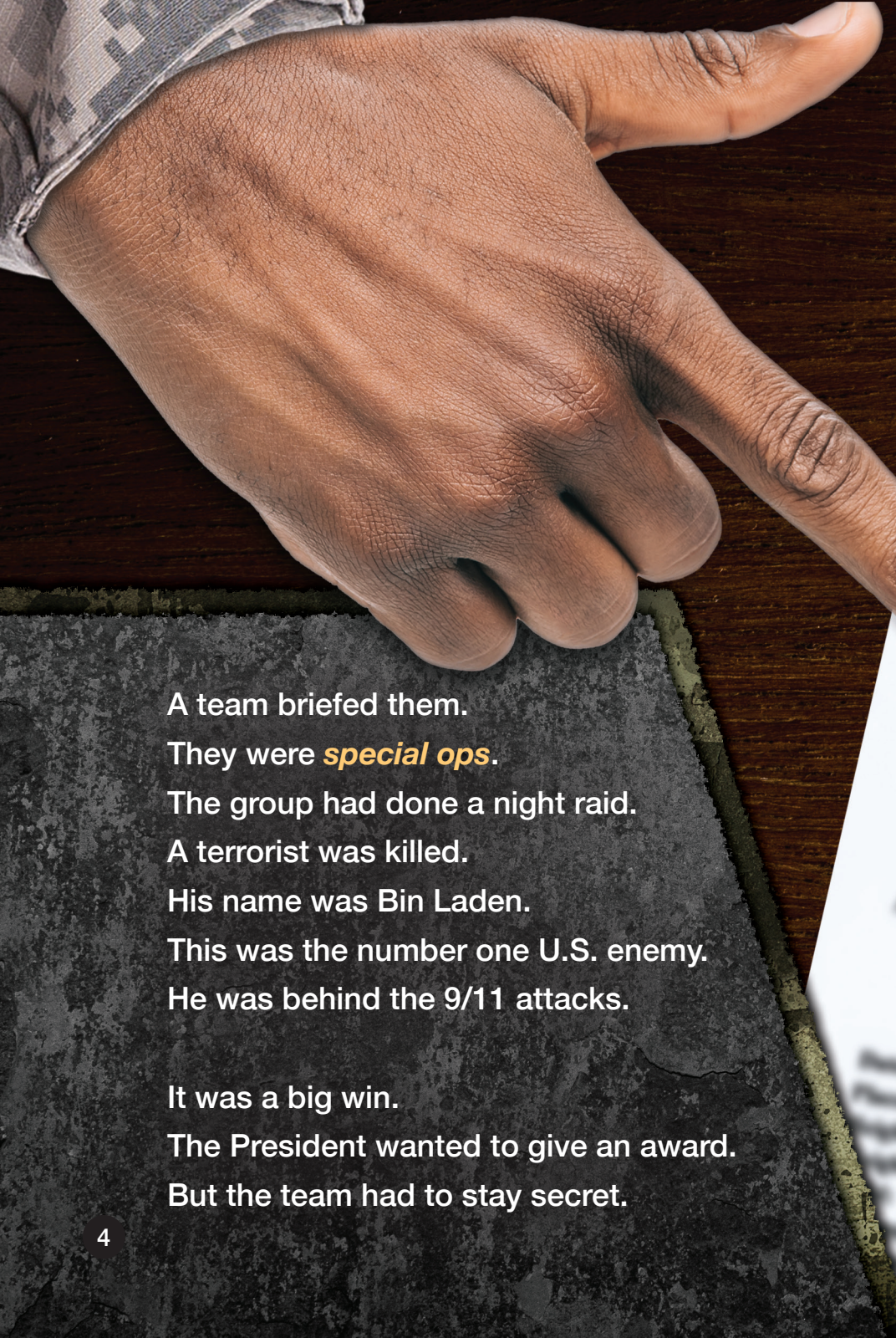


Chapter 1

THE SOLDIER

It happened behind closed doors.
A secret group met.
They were at a military base.
Fort Campbell was the name.
No press could come in.

The President was there.
It was Barack Obama.
Joe Biden was there too.
He was the VP.



A team briefed them.
They were *special ops*.
The group had done a night raid.
A terrorist was killed.
His name was Bin Laden.
This was the number one U.S. enemy.
He was behind the 9/11 attacks.

It was a big win.
The President wanted to give an award.
But the team had to stay secret.

K9 TRIVIA

SEALs take part in secret missions. The Bin Laden mission was code-named “Operation Neptune Spear.”

SEALs take part in secret missions. The Bin Laden mission was code-named “Operation Neptune Spear.”

A black and white portrait of Osama bin Laden. He is wearing a white turban and has a full, dark beard and mustache. He is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. The image is tilted slightly to the right.

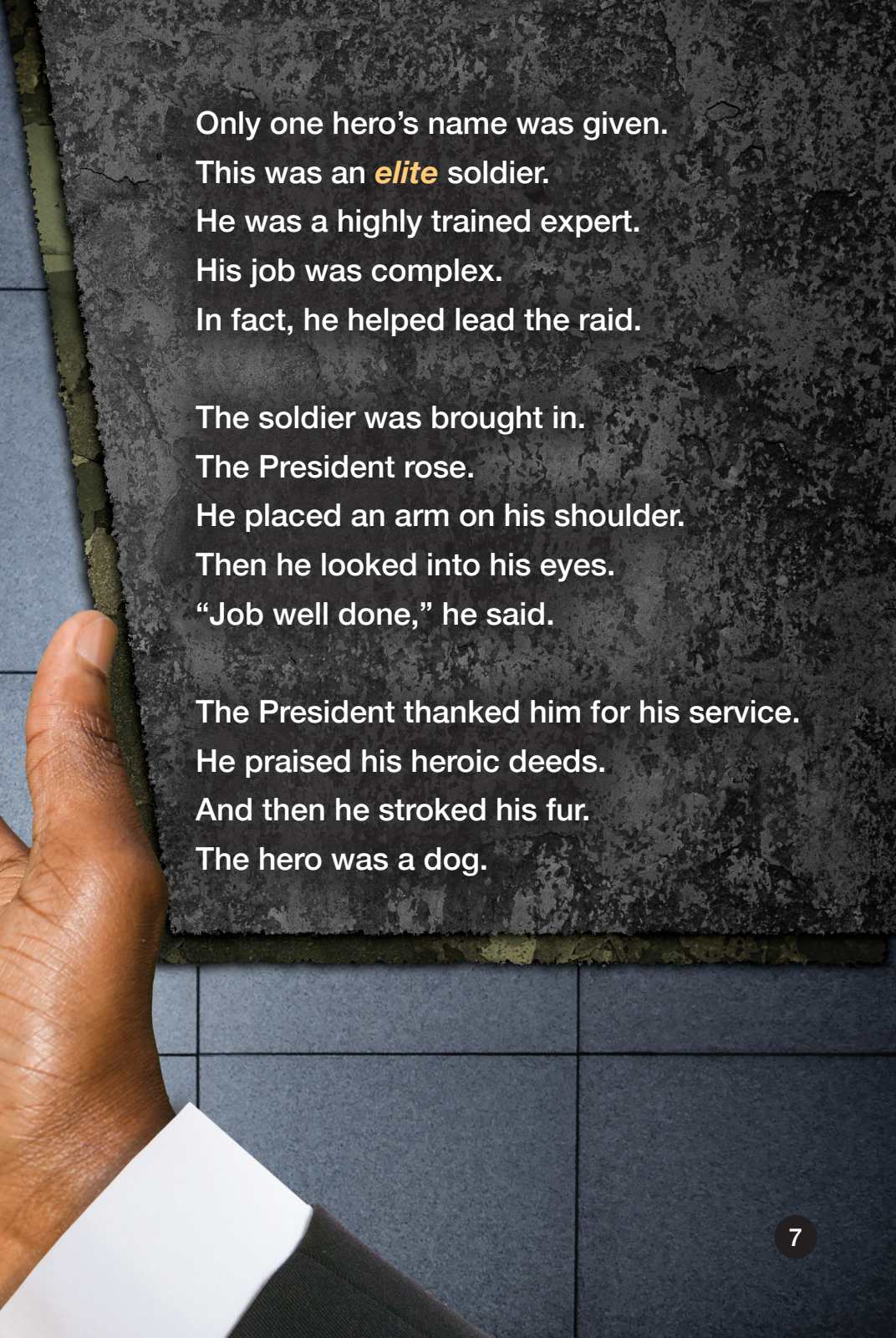


From the *Mohammed Ali Club*, *World's Greatest Club*, *The Prince*, *The*
East, *the Arabian*, *Magical Mystery*, *the* *the*

DESCRIPTION

5



A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding the left edge of a book. The book's cover is dark and heavily textured, resembling stone or aged leather. The background shows a tiled floor. The text is printed in white on the cover.

Only one hero's name was given.
This was an *elite* soldier.
He was a highly trained expert.
His job was complex.
In fact, he helped lead the raid.

The soldier was brought in.
The President rose.
He placed an arm on his shoulder.
Then he looked into his eyes.
“Job well done,” he said.

The President thanked him for his service.
He praised his heroic deeds.
And then he stroked his fur.
The hero was a dog.