

JINA JEONG

Project Park Art



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Chapter 1



BAD PAINT

“Try to kick it to that tree!” Shawn yelled to his cousin Jina.

Jina Jeong looked across the field. A few trees grew at the edge of the field behind where Shawn stood. They looked very far away.

Jina and Shawn were at the park kicking a soccer ball together. Shawn was helping Jina work on her soccer skills.

“You mean that one?” Jina called, pointing to the closest tree.

“No, I mean that really big one!” Shawn yelled back.

Jina took a deep breath. Taking a few steps back, she ran up to the ball and kicked it as hard as she could.

The ball sailed into the air. Then it landed in front of Shawn. “Well, shoot!” Jina said, disappointed.

“You need to bring your foot back a little more,” Shawn called. “Like this!” He ran a few steps and kicked the ball hard toward Jina.

“Whoa!” Jina said. The ball sailed over her head, finally landing at the edge of the park and bouncing off the wall.

“Sorry!” Shawn called. “Maybe that was a little too hard.” He grinned.

Jina rolled her eyes and ran to get the ball. Looking around the trees at the edge of the park, she didn’t see it anywhere.

Jina walked up to a stone wall. Searching for the ball, she suddenly stopped and stared.

The wall was covered with letters and squiggles. Jina couldn’t make sense out of them. Some of the letters were simple lines in black paint. There were a lot of random shapes and lines too.

“What are you doing?”

Jina turned and saw Shawn running over to her.

“Look at this wall,” Jina said. “There’s all these lines and letters and stuff. It’s so ugly!”

Shawn nodded. “It’s graffiti. People use spray paint to write out their names and stuff.”



“They shouldn’t do that!” Jina said.

“It looks terrible!”

“Yeah, it’s a big problem,” Shawn said.

“There’s graffiti everywhere.”

Shawn picked up the soccer ball and started walking back toward the field.

“Come on, we can get in a little more practice before it’s time to go home.”

Jina sighed and followed her cousin. She took one last look at the graffiti and shook her head.

I don’t understand, Jina thought. Why would anyone want to make our parks look so ugly?