Note: A full synopsis is included in my bio graphic above.

HAPPILY EVER IAN AND QWAK

by Johnell DeWitt

CHAPTER ONE: THE MEETING

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PANEL 1
Scene with fourth graders on a field trip at a farm. Some are still getting off the bus. Ms. Maple is in front barking orders. The kids are paired off except Ian, who's standing by his mom. Bruno, who has perfect hair, matching socks, tied shoes, etc., sneakily puts a sign on Ian's back.

CAPTION: This is Ms. Maple's class of twenty-one students.

MS. MAPLE: Stay with your field-trip buddy.

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PANEL 1
Close up: Bruno and his field trip buddy snicker at the sign on Ian's back.

CAPTION: But this story isn't about all of them…

PANEL 2
Clearer view of the sign, which says"Momsy is my only friend, as Bruno and buddy walk away laughing. Ian notices the sign on his back.

CAPTION: It's only about one of them.

PANEL 3
Diagram of Ian with corresponding labels: Ian: Effortless hairdo [hair is wild]; Out-of-this-world style [has a Captain AwesomeNaut t-shirt]; Unique from head to toe [socks are mismatched/ slouchy]; Too much awesome for the other kids to handle [along the bottom].

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PANEL 1

New scene: Pond with water fowl. Around the perimeter are mocking signs that read: “I Am Qwak; Qwak is a doofus,” etc. A swan and his duck minions laugh. There’s one little duck out of the water who has gumboots on, a dictionary under one wing, a stack of signs he’s taken down. He’s removing another mocking sign from the fence.

CAPTION: It’s also about a duck.

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PANEL 1
Diagram of Qwak: Not your average bird brain [pointing at head]; Loves to read--seriously, even dictionaries, [pointing at dictionary]; Hates getting wet [pointing at gum boots]; A duck out of water [along the bottom].

PANEL 2
Ian and Qwak head to the same trash can to throw away their signs.

CAPTION: And this is how they meet.

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PANEL 1
Ian is at the trash can throwing away his sign. Qwak is at the same trash can trying to dump the signs he’s taken down, but he can’t quite reach.

PANEL 2
Ian notices Qwak trying to reach.

IAN: Need help?

PANEL 3
Ian reads the mocking signs. Qwak watches him.

IAN: You must be Qwak.

PANEL 4
Ian tosses Qwak’s signs in trash.

IAN: That’s a good name for a duck.

IAN CONT: I’m Ian.

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PANEL 1

Ian, a bit grumpy, sits down by fence. Qwak joins him.

IAN: My teacher thought a trip to a farm would be educational, but I don't feel very educated.

PANEL 2
Ian, not happy about his mom being there, addresses Qwak who watches Ian intently.

IAN: Besides, Mom came. She's a...um...champ of Rome or something.

PANEL 3
Qwak looks confused and opens his dictionary

QWAK: QuaAACK?

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PANEL 1
Qwak show's Ian the entry that reads: chaperone: someone who accompanies and looks after another person or group...

PANEL 2
Ian's face progresses from normal to shocked as he realizes Qwak understands him.

IAN: Yeah, that's it.

IAN CONT: Wait a minute...you can understand me?

QWAK: Quack. QuAAquack.:

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PANEL 1
Ian is pleasantly surprised.

IAN: You're right! I can understand you.

PANEL 2
Ian is excited. It's Qwak's turn to be pleasantly surprised.

IAN: This is cosmic!

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PANEL 1

Bruno appears in the scene with Ian and Qwak. Ian is upset. Qwak is curious.

BRUNO: Hey, loser-breath. Did Momsy ditch you too?

IAN: Can it, Bruno, or I'll tell Ms. Maple.

PANEL 2
Bruno has a smug look on his face. Ms. Maple approaches behind Ian who doesn't see her.

BRUNO: She won't believe you. You know I'm her favorite.

IAN (SHOUTING): Some day she'll see what a jerk-face...

PANEL 3
Ms. Maple is in the frame behind Ian. Ian is startled.

MS. MAPLE: Ian! I'm sure you weren't calling Bruno names, or I'd have to tell your mother.

IAN: But ...

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PANEL 1
Ms. Maple speaks to Bruno, Ian, disgusted, and Qwak, curious, are in the frame.

MS. MAPLE: Bruno, I need my star student to give a thank you card to our hosts.

BRUNO: Be right there, Ms. Maple.

PANEL 2
Bruno, with a cocky look, addresses Ian. Qwak curiously watches the exchange.

BRUNO (WHISPER): Smell ya later, loser.

PANEL 3
Bruno walks away. Qwak points to the sign in the trash can that Bruno had put on Ian's back.

QWAK: QuaACK?

IAN: Yep, that's him. I wish Ms. Maple knew what he's really like.

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