

Chapter 8

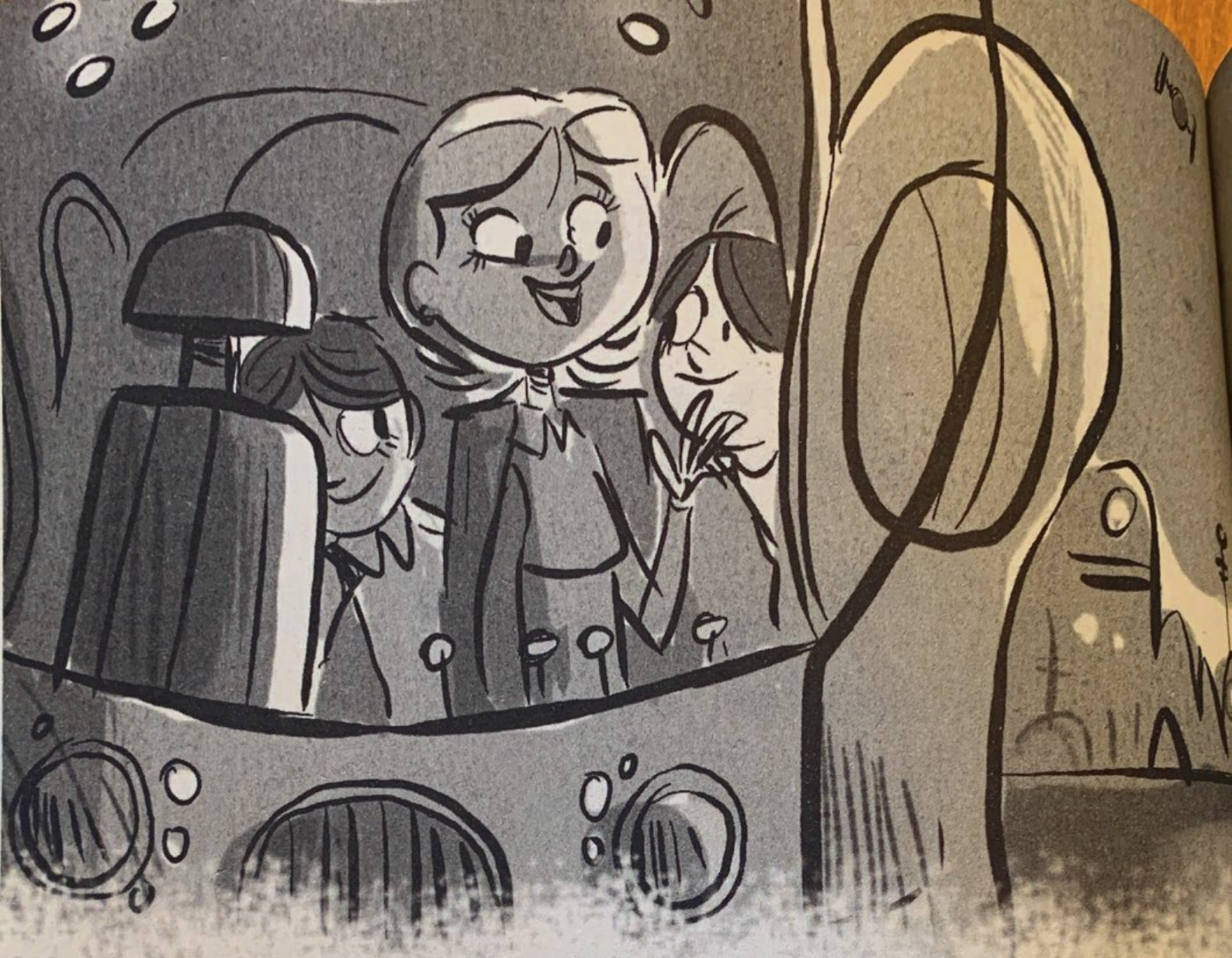
Zoom!

Zoom!



The rest of Zack's school day flew right by. He really liked planetology. He learned about planets and stars he had never even heard of on Earth.

When school was over, Zack's mom arrived to pick him up. Zack walked over to the car with Drake. Charlotte



and Cathy were already inside.

"Mom, this is my new friend, Drake," Zack said.

"Hello, Drake," Mom said. "Very nice to meet you."

"And these are my sisters, Charlotte and Cathy," Zack said.



"Hello," Drake said.

"Hi . . ."

". . . Drake. . ."

"Nice to . . ."

". . . meet you," the twins said.

"Do they talk like that all the time?"

Drake whispered.



"All the time," Zack whispered back.

Zack got into the car. "Drake's coming over later to go bike riding," he said.

"That sounds like fun," Mom said.
"We'll see you later, Drake."

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"We're home!" Mom announced as the car pulled into the garage.



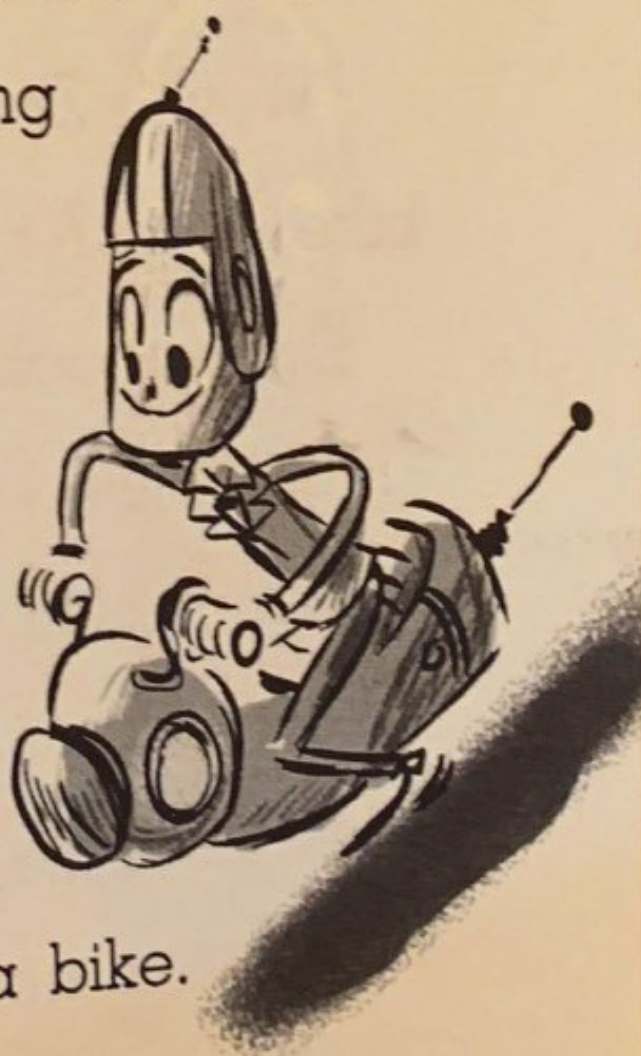
Zack was so excited about going bike riding. He jumped out of the car and pulled his

bike out from a corner of the garage.

As he got onto his bike, Zack saw something speeding toward the house.

"That looks like Drake, but what's he riding?" Zack wondered aloud.

Drake rode up to Zack. He was riding a bike.





But Zack had never seen a bike like this one. Drake's bike flew just above the ground, and it went faster than any bike Zack had ever ridden.

"Wow!" Zack cried. "What kind of bike is that?"

Drake looked puzzled.

"It is just a regular Nebulon bike," he said.

"Wow, you have a really old bike, Zack."

"No, it's not old,"




Zack said. "I got it for my birthday last year."

Drake just shrugged. "Come on. Time to ride."

Drake sped off on his bike. Zack pedaled hard. He tried to keep up, but his bike was not fast enough. Drake saw how far behind Zack was and hurried back.





"Would you like to try my bike?"
Drake asked.

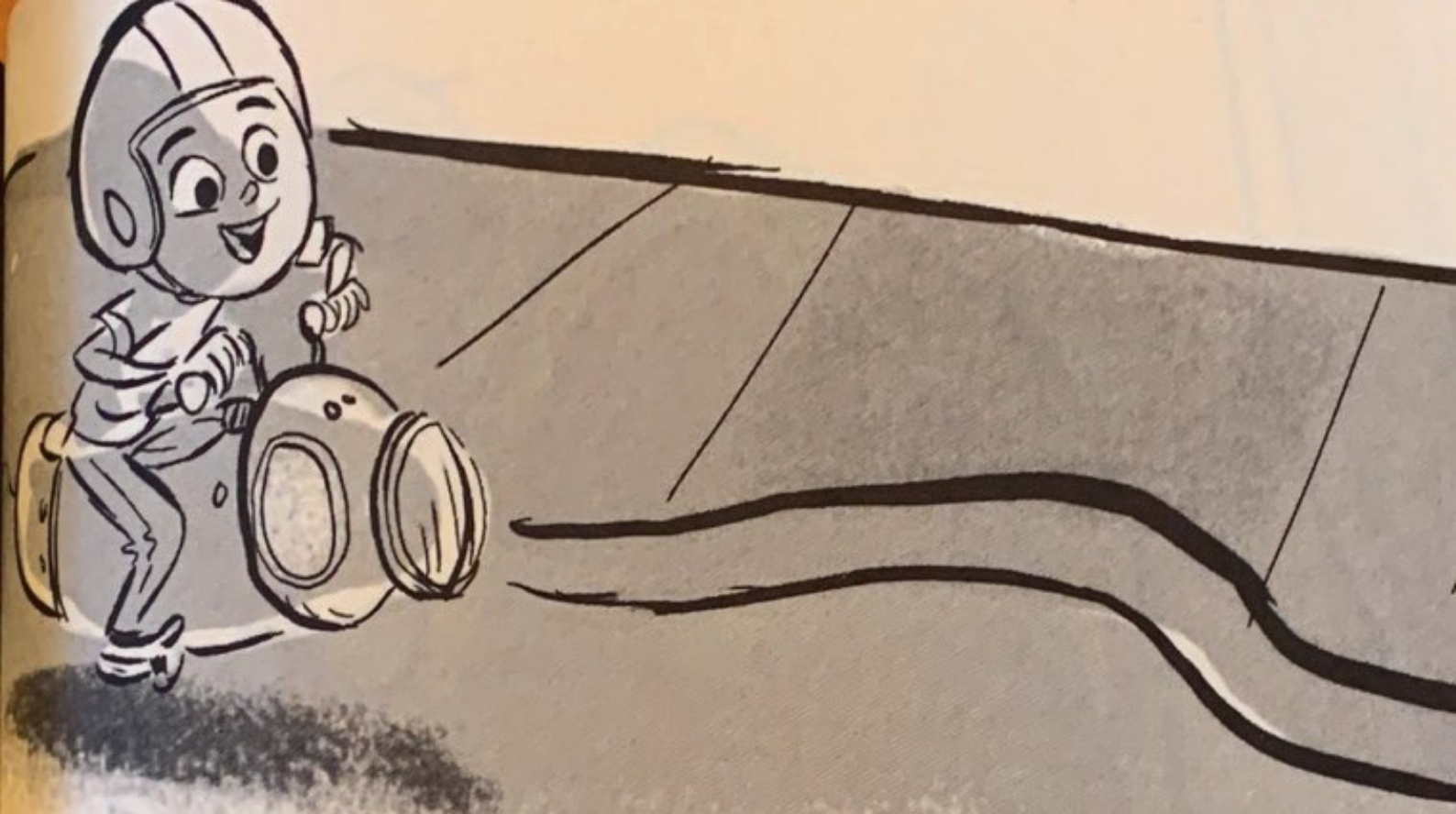
"Sure!" Zack said.

Zack climbed onto Drake's bike. It
felt just like a regular bike.

"Just hold on tight and press that
button on the handlebars," explained
Drake. "I will ride your bike."

Zack pressed the button. He sped
along just above the ground.





"This is so cool!" Zack shouted. "I have to get one of these!"

Zack looked back and saw Drake. He was pedaling Zack's bike and smiling. Drake was far away, so Zack turned around and rode back to his friend. As they rode back to the house, Zack daydreamed about zooming around on his own Nebulon bike.