

Product Sample

True
FIKTION

PRESENTS

RACE
DISCRIMINATION
BREEDS
FASCISM

WE DRIVE
TANKS
WHY NOT
TROLLEYS?

GMTN

LOGAN

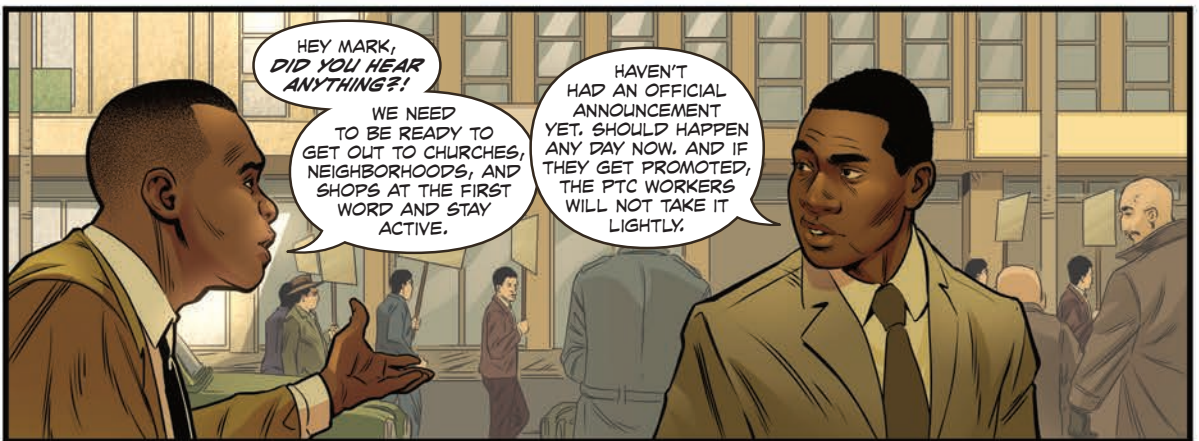
FOX
CHASE

OLNEY

MARK'S WAY
Product Sample



Product Sample



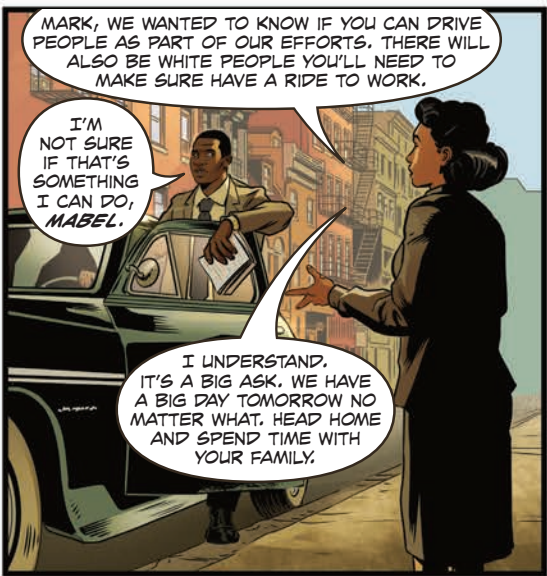


AUGUST 1ST

ICE CREAM

DID YOU KNOW FORTY-FIVE HUNDRED PTC WORKERS ARE ON STRIKE? AND THAT ALL THE TRANSIT VEHICLES IN THE CITY WILL STOP RUNNING BY NOON TODAY?

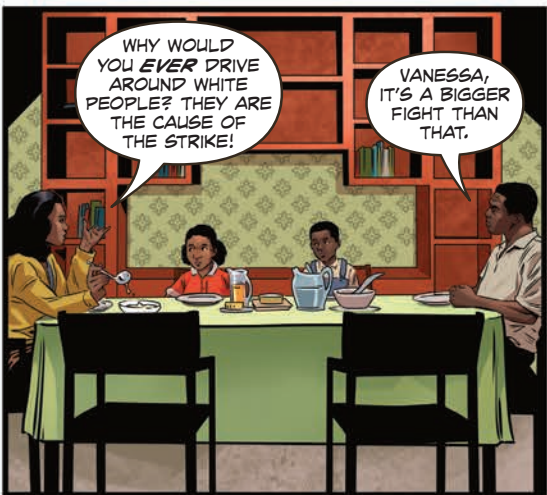
TRANSIT STRIKERS ARE WILLING TO SHUT DOWN OUR WAR EFFORTS OVER A FEW COLORED FOLK BEING ABLE TO DRIVE.



MARK, WE WANTED TO KNOW IF YOU CAN DRIVE PEOPLE AS PART OF OUR EFFORTS. THERE WILL ALSO BE WHITE PEOPLE YOU'LL NEED TO MAKE SURE HAVE A RIDE TO WORK.

I'M NOT SURE IF THAT'S SOMETHING I CAN DO, MABEL.

I UNDERSTAND. IT'S A BIG ASK. WE HAVE A BIG DAY TOMORROW NO MATTER WHAT. HEAD HOME AND SPEND TIME WITH YOUR FAMILY.



WHY WOULD YOU EVER DRIVE AROUND WHITE PEOPLE? THEY ARE THE CAUSE OF THE STRIKE!

VANESSA, IT'S A BIGGER FIGHT THAN THAT.



WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE THE ONE TO DO IT? I THOUGHT YOU WERE HERE TO DO FIELD WORK AND STRATEGY.

IF WE DON'T MOVE OUR CIVIL RIGHTS FORWARD, WHO WILL?

IT HELPS TO MOVE THINGS FORWARD. THAT'S WHAT'S RIGHT FOR US, THE CITY, AND THE COUNTRY.



PRODUCTION OF WAR MATERIALS IN PHILADELPHIA IS DOWN BY HALF, AND NAVY PRODUCTION IS DOWN BY SEVENTY PERCENT.

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COMIC BREAKDOWN

Splash Page – We see the moments right before a brawl happens between members of the Black community protesting about labor rights and PTC strikers trying to prevent Black trolley members from being promoted. We can tell the tension is high. The scene is placed inside an outline of the Liberty Bell with two insert panels showing the destruction of public property.

In designing this page, we wanted readers to see and feel the intensity of what was happening in Philadelphia during the transit strike. On one side was the NAACP, who had spent years strategizing to help expand labor rights for people of color. This was their moment to force the government to recognize Black people as equal. The NAACP also knows that a race riot could negatively impact their efforts. On the other side were the white transit strikers, who wanted to maintain their socioeconomic standing. They were concerned that Black people getting promoted would threaten their place in society. This is all happening in a major war production hub while the U.S. was fighting World War II. Just like the Liberty Bell, freedom in Philadelphia was starting to crack under pressure. If this conflict hadn't been resolved, there could have been negative impacts on the liberties of Black workers in the U.S.

THUMBNAIL



INK



Product Sample

INTERVIEW SPOTLIGHT: ABIGAIL HENRY

“I only knew some of the details about the Philadelphia Transit Strike, so being able to dive deeply into it was an intellectual high. That’s one of the things I love about being an educator: the learning never stops.”

BIOGRAPHY:

Abigail Henry teaches African-American history at Mastery Charter School Shoemaker Campus and is the content lead for the Mastery Charter School Network. In this position, Abigail has helped write the school’s African-American history curriculum and frequently leads professional development sessions for other teachers. In addition, Abigail became a regular consultant for the Pulitzer Center. She is also a collaborating network educator for the Center for Black Educator Development and a frequent contributor to Philly’s 7th Ward. She has also served as an adjunct professor for St. Michael’s College, where she taught “African-American History for Teachers.”

How did you become interested in TrueFiktion?

I’ve always had my own interest in comic books. I read them a little while growing up and took a comic book class in college. I learned about TrueFiktion through an assistant principal who reached out to me because I was the [school’s] African-American history content lead at the time. As a history teacher, I was very interested in seeing what [TrueFiktion] had to offer.

What was your first experience working with the company’s resources?

Jude’s War was a great addition to my typical five-day mini-unit on African Americans in the U.S. military. It means a lot to me that African Americans would risk their lives for a country that treats them as half-American. Although the subject isn’t part of our curriculum, I teach a lesson on it every year. We started the unit looking at the Buffalo Soldiers, the Harlem Hellfighters, and the Tuskegee Airmen. Then we looked at the way soldiers were treated when they came home. We ended the unit with *Jude’s War*, and students responded by saying that it did an excellent job reflecting the complexity of the black experience when soldiers returned home.

In early 2022, TrueFiktion began partnering with schools to co-create locally relevant, culturally responsive comics. You and your students were part of one of our first pilots. How was the experience creating a comic?

My absolute favorite part was working with the writer and the artists and getting the opportunity to sketch out the plot in sequence. I pulled up all the notes I had taken from lessons I did with students and from my own planning. To be able to pull details from that and suggest them for the comic book was just so rewarding. My second favorite part was the opportunity to bring out my inner nerd. I only knew some of the details about the Philadelphia Transit Strike, so being able to dive deeply into it was an intellectual high. That’s one of the things I love about being an educator: the learning never stops. I felt like I learned a critical part of Philadelphia’s Black history. I’m more knowledgeable on that. And as long as I’m an African-American history teacher, I’ll pass on that knowledge to my students every year.

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WORKBOOK

EXECUTIVE ORDER ACTIVITY

<https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/executive-order-8802>

1. Head to the National Archives website and read about Executive Order 8802.
2. Take notes on relevant details that provide context about the 1944 Philadelphia Transit Strike.
3. Now write a five-sentence story about the signing of Executive Order 8802.

GUIDING QUESTIONS ABOUT EXECUTIVE ORDER 8802

Why was it signed?

What impacts did it have on U.S. domestic Policy?

Who were the key players in getting the order signed?

Based on your reading of Mark's Way, was the order successful?

FIVE-SENTENCE SUMMARY:

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