Starfall Academy

Issue #1: First Light - Preview

An original comic by Pagelyra Studio

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Synopsis

A hundred years ago a star fell, and they built a school inside it. This term, the light at its heart has begun waking up - and four students are the first to notice. Juno Park (14, the new girl, ember-orange), Tam Okafor (14, cartographer, teal), Priya Anand (15, prefect, violet) and Wex Halloran (14, comedian, grey - deliberately) star in a complete 32-page first issue, plotted backwards from its final page.

Characters

Juno Park

Asks first, thinks fast. Telescope case on her back, forty questions ready.

Tam Okafor

Maps the school obsessively - including corridors that only exist on certain days.

Priya Anand

Knows the rulebook by heart, and is starting to suspect it is lying. Keeps two notebooks.

Wex Halloran

Jokes arrive half a beat too fast. Wex is lying about something. Issue #1 hides exactly one clue.

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Panel Script - Opening Sequence

PANEL 1 - Exterior, night, 100 years ago (wide, silent)

VISUAL: A point of light streaks toward dark hills. No dialogue. NARRATION: 'One hundred years ago, a star got tired of the sky.'

PANEL 2 - The crater, dawn

VISUAL: Steam over a glowing crater; a school bell sits impossibly upright. NARRATION: 'It landed the way secrets land. Quietly, and changing everything.'

PANEL 3 - Starfall Academy, present day, first bell

VISUAL: Crater become courtyards and towers; students stream in; the bell rings itself. NARRATION: 'They built a school inside it. Of course they did.'

PANEL 4 - Courtyard: Juno arrives

JUNO: 'Okay. New school. Normal day. Please be a normal day.' TAM (off-panel): 'It won't be.' VISUAL: One tower window glows in daylight.

PANEL 5 - The window (close)

TAM: 'That window was dark yesterday. I map this place. I know.' JUNO: '...Why is it glowing like it knows my name?' VISUAL: In the glass, for one frame - a handprint, from the inside.

PANEL 6 - Button

VISUAL: WEX in the shadows, grey, smiling half a beat too fast. No dialogue. This is the clue. Most readers miss it. You won't, now.

Full Issue #1: 32 pages, page + vertical-scroll PDF editions. Read the free vertical-scroll reader preview at pagelyra.vercel.app/comic-reader.html

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