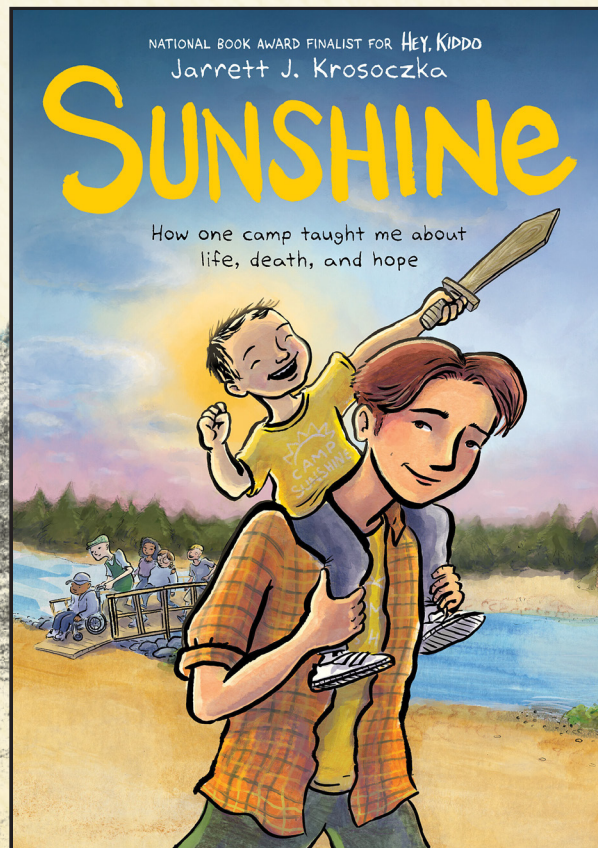


TEACH **graphix** WEEK

READER'S THEATER ACTIVITY

Use this reader's theater script in your classroom to read out loud with your students' featuring pages 62-69 from Jarrett J. Krosoczka's

SUNSHINE



Ages 12 and up

GARY

Teen Group! Welcome to Camp Sunshine! YEAH!

BLAINE

Woo hoo!

SOUND EFFECT: Just a few counselors clapping enthusiastically.

GARY, BLAINE, JOY

Woohoo! Aw, ya! YESSS!!!

NARRATOR

The teen group was small. And it seemed like Diego had more in common with his campmates than just cancer...

GARY

Ain't no party like a camp party, am I right? Raise the roof!

NARRATOR

A tall, lanky, and bald kid named Ross stood with his arms crossed.

ROSS

So frickin' corny.

NARRATOR

Though Jarrett wasn't sure if he could blame them—this was corny.

JOY

Woo hoo! Awe, yeah! Rockin'!

NARRATOR

But Jarrett supposed he needed to lead by example.

SOUND EFFECT: Jarrett joins in on the clapping.

JARRETT

Yeah! Let's hear it for camp! Alright! Okay.

NARRATOR

Jarrett caught a glimpse of Diego looking at him sideways.

GARY

Let's all make a circle and we'll say our name and our favorite movie. I'll start!
My name is Gary and my favorite movie is *Star Wars*!

SOUND EFFECT: Smattering of clapping.

BLAINE, JOY, JARRETT

Hi, Gary!

BLAINE

I'm Blaine and my favorite movie is *Jurassic Park*.

SOUND EFFECT: Smattering of clapping.

GARY, JOY, JARRETT

Hi, Blaine!

JOY

I'm Joy! And my favorite movie is *Steel Magnolias*!

SOUND EFFECT: Smattering of clapping.

GARY, BLAINE, JARRETT

Hi, Joy!

There's a beat of silence.

GARY

Let's just go clockwise from Joy.

NARRATOR

Gary gestured towards Derek. Derek was a kid who stood with an air of confidence and wore his wavy blonde hair in a side shave. Derek was a self-assured kid with a great sense of humor. He had acute myelogenous leukemia, which was actually a side effect of Fanconi anemia, a rare genetic disorder.

DEREK

Okay, I'll go. My name is Derek and my favorite movie is *Ace Ventura*.

SOUND EFFECT: Smattering of clapping.

JARRETT

Alrighty, then!

GARY, JOY, BLAINE

Welcome, Derek!

NARRATOR

Next to Derek stood a girl with greasy hair that was parted in the middle. Margaret. She was in remission from a brain tumor. Her treatments had taken her away from kids her age for years on end. This made her awkward around her peers.

MARGARET (SLOW AND STEADY CADENCE)

My name is Margaret and my favorite movie is *The Lion King*.

SOUND EFFECT: Smattering of clapping.

GARY, BLAINE, JARRETT, JOY

Welcome, Margaret!

NARRATOR

Next was Inez, a sibling camper, fiercely protective of her little brother, Jorge, who was ill. She seemed to go to great lengths to project an air of maturity—it looked like she must have used quite a bit of hairspray to ensure her hairdo was perfectly in place.

INEZ (CHEWING GUM)

My name is Inez and I really don't care about any of this, so. But my favorite movie is *Interview with the Vampire*. Brad Pitt was so hot in that, right?

SOUND EFFECT: Smattering of clapping.

GARY, BLAINE, JARRETT, JOY

Welcome, Inez!

NARRATOR

Ross was up next.

ROSS

Fine I'll go. Yo. I'm Ross. My favorite movie is *Nightmare on Elm Street*.

INEZ

Ew.

ROSS

You're ew.

SOUND EFFECT: Smattering of clapping.

GARY, BLAINE, JARRETT, JOY

Welcome, Ross.

NARRATOR

Ross put up a tough front. He was in the midst of treatments for neuroblastoma and he walked with a limp, which he turned into a swagger.

Beat of silence.

NARRATOR

All eyes went to Diego. He slowly lifted his head and surveyed the group.

DIEGO (SOFTLY, NEARY A WHISPER)

I'm Diego... And my favorite movie is... *Batman*.

ROSS

Yo, speak up, kid. We can't hear you.

NARRATOR

Diego pointed his thumb back towards Jarrett.

JARRETT

This is Diego. And his favorite movie is...

NARRATOR

Jarrett knelt down closer to Diego so he could hear him.

DIEGO (*WHISPER*)

Batman.

NARRATOR

Diego whispers faintly to Jarrett.

Jarrett offered Diego a smile and a nod and then turned towards the group.

JARRETT

Batman. Mine too.

GARY

Excellent-O! Well, we are going to start our day over at the Rec Center!

BLAINE

Let's make it happen! YEAH!

SOUND EFFECT: Teen group walking.

NARRATOR

We walked past the Tot Lot on our way to the Rec Center.

GARY

Everyone say hi to our friends in the Tot Lot!

NARRATOR

Inez's little brother ran right towards the fence. She leaned over and gave Jorge a hug.

INEZ

Hey, lil bro!

NARRATOR

Jarrett spotted Christine from his high school group. Eric was crouched behind her legs, giggling.

ERIC

****giggles****

CHRISTINE

Hey, Jarrett! Have you seen Eric?

JARRETT

Nah. But if you see him, will you tell him I said hi?

CHRISTINE

Yeah, if he ever turns up. Where did that kid go?

ERIC

****more giggles****

*SOUND EFFECT: Inside the Rec Center. Door opens.
Teen group walks in.*

NARRATOR

The Rec Center, which was adjacent to Arts and Crafts, had air hockey, foosball, a pool table, pingpong tables, and a shelf stacked with just about every board game you could name.

DEREK

Foosball! It's on!

ROSS

I'm gonna whip your butt.

DEREK

You wish!

SOUND EFFECT: Foosball being played.

INEZ

Amateurs.

JARRETT

Diego, wanna play pool?

DIEGO

No.

JARRETT

Ping pong?

DIEGO

No.

JARRETT

Foosball?

DIEGO

No.

JARRETT

Checkers?

DIEGO

No.

NARRATOR

Diego motioned towards the wall, so Jarrett did as he asked and wheeled him over. Jarrett sat in an empty chair next to him.

JARRETT

Want to see what project the art-and-crafts team is putting together?

DIEGO

No.

NARRATOR

Diego pivoted his body away from Jarrett.

JARRETT

So... you like Batman, huh?

NARRATOR

Diego just rolled his eyes as if to say "duh."

JARRETT

I like Batman too. He's my favorite superhero.

NARRATOR

Jarrett unzipped his backpack and pulled out his sketchbook and a pencil.

SOUND EFFECT: Zipper, book coming out, pencil drawing.

NARRATOR

If there was one superhero Jarrett was training his whole life to draw for this moment, it was Batman. Pointy ears... muscles... cape and cowl... He kept drawing until Diego took notice.

DIEGO

You did that just now?

JARRETT

Yup. Who else do you like?

SOUND EFFECT: Page of sketchbook turning.

DIEGO

Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.

SOUND EFFECT: Sketching.

NARRATOR

Diego didn't say a word, but as Jarrett drew that Ninja Turtle he caught a smile spreading across his face.

DIEGO

Now draw Spider-Man.

NARRATOR

Soon, a small crowd gathered as the nine-to-twelve-year-old group left Arts and Crafts.

CAMPER MATT

Oh, cool!

JASON

Wicked good!

SOUND EFFECT: General enamoring asides from kids.

NINE-TWELVE COUNSELOR

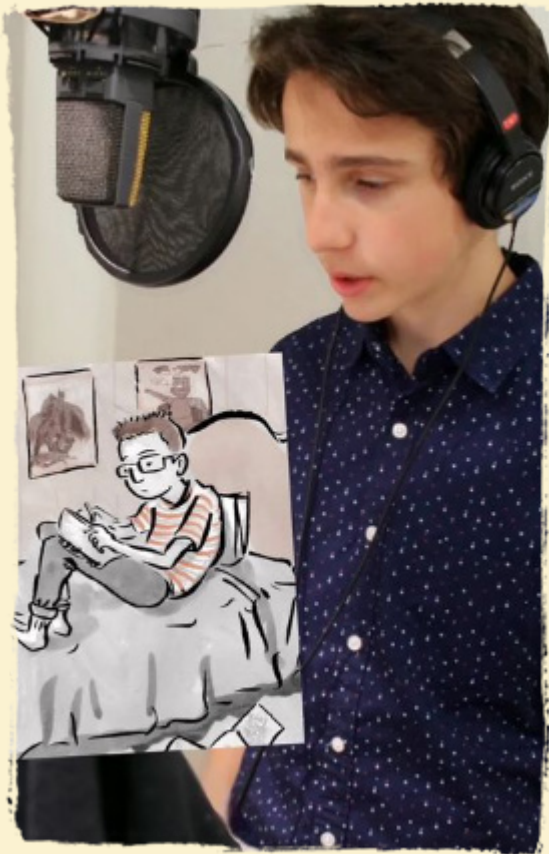
Nine-twelve group! Take turns on foosball!

JASON

OKAY okay were comin

GARY

Okay, teen group! Let's pack it up! Our time at Rec is over.



**Watch this behind
the scenes video of
the making of the
audio book**

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