Directions: Cut out each page along the dotted lines. Pile pages in order. Staple together to make a book.

Characters:

Martin: Martin Luther King, Jr. as a boy
Narrator
Viola and Lorraine: Older women in Martin's church
Mrs. King: Martin's mother
Daddy King: Martin's father
Clark and Wallace: The sons of the local grocer
Mrs. Conner: The grocer's wife
Adult Martin: Martin Luther King, Jr. as an adult

Scene 1

The Sandlot

Narrator: Martin Luther King, Jr. grew up in Georgia back in the days when Babe Ruth was still hitting home runs and movies were always filmed in black and white.

Clark: Pitch it, Wallace.
Wallace: So? I called it.
Narrator: The boys would argue about who got to push me around. Wallace:

Clark: Get him. He played on your team last.
Wallace: Martin is on my team.
Narrator: Martin loved to play baseball with the two white boys in the neighborhood.

Martin: Khan, can I play too?
Clark: Pitch it, Wallace.
Narrator: Martin is a peacemaker, even as a young boy.

Narrator: Martin Luther King, Jr. as an adult
Scene 1

THE EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

Martin:
No sirs! My daddy says you shouldn't
fight like that! I was on your team last time, Wallace. I'll play for Clark today. That's fair.

Scene 2

THE EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

Narrator:
Martin's father was pastor of the
church. They called him Daddy King.

Daddy King:
Just as the Good Book says, we
must love our neighbors as ourselves—whether
black or white, whether young or old.

Viola:
Look Lorraine, there's young Martin.

Lorraine:
Martin, doesn't it make you proud
to see your father standing so tall before the
congregation?

Viola:
Someday you're going to follow in his footsteps, Martin.

Martin:
No, ma'am. I'm proud of my daddy, but
my dream is to be a shortstop.

Narrator:
Martin didn't know, but Lorraine
and Viola were right about him. Someday he'd be
known as the Reverend Martin Luther King, just
like his father. But there would be some hard les-
s along the way.

Scene 3

THE NEIGHBORHOOD GROCERY STORE

Narrator:
Clark and Wallace's parents owned a
market across from Martin's house.

Mrs. Conner:
Now, what is it you want?

Mrs. King:
Two quarts milk.

Mrs. Conner:
You'll have to pay before I get it.

Mrs. King:
Very well.

They didn't always treat them as well
when they did get served, and they went
where they were served. Even when
there were other customers in front of you.

Narrator:
You're going to have to wait.

Mrs. Conner:
I'd like two quarts milk.

Mrs. King:
Excuse me, Mrs. Conner. I'd like
though the back door.

Mrs. Conner:
Now, what is it you want?

Mrs. King:
Two quarts milk.

Mrs. Conner:
You'll have to pay before I get it.

Mrs. King:
Come now, Mrs. Conner. Have I
ever not had my money?

Mrs. Conner:
It's just that I can never trust
black or white, whether young or old.

Narrator:
You're going to have to follow in his
footsteps, Martin.

Viola:
Someday you're going to follow in his
footsteps, Martin.

Narrator:
I'd just as the Good Book says, we
church. They called him Daddy King.

Martin's father was pastor of the

THE EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

Wallerce:
I'll play for Clark today. That's fair.

Narrator:
Right like that! I was on your team last time,
Martin: No sir! My daddy says you shouldn't
Scene 4

THE CONNER HOUSE

Narrator: The next time Martin went to the sandlot to play, no one was there. He ran to the grocer’s house and knocked on the door.

Martin: Where are your boys, Mrs. Conner?

Mrs. Conner: They’re sick in bed.

Narrator: The boys may not feel that way, but their parents do. That’s why they give us sour milk. That’s why they give us the back door. That’s why they give us the back door.

Mrs. Conner: Our Kind? They’re not our Kind.

Narrator: “Colored” was a word used to describe people whose skin wasn’t white.

Mrs. Conner: The boys may not feel that way, but their parents do. That’s why they give us sour milk. That’s why they give us the back door.

Mrs. Conner: They’re sick in bed.

Narrator: The boys may not feel that way, but their parents do. That’s why they give us sour milk. That’s why they give us the back door.

Mrs. Conner: Our Kind?

Martin: Why are you crying, Martin?

Mrs. King: I’m sorry. It was bound to happen sooner or later. I’m colored. I’m sorry.

Scene 5

THE KING HOUSE

Mrs. King: Why are you crying, Martin?

Martin: Mrs. Conner says that her boys can’t play ball with me anymore. She says it’s because I’m colored.

Mrs. King: I’m sorry. It was bound to happen sooner or later. I’m colored. I’m sorry.

Martin: Why are you crying, Martin?

Mrs. King: Some folks don’t like people who are different. They say it’s because they’re different. They say it’s because they’re different. They say it’s because they’re different. They say it’s because they’re different. They say it’s because they’re different.

Martin: Why are you crying, Martin?

Mrs. King: Our Kind?

Martin: Why are you crying, Martin?

Mrs. Conner: They’re sick in bed.

Narrator: “Colored” was a word used to describe people whose skin wasn’t white.

Mrs. Conner: They’re not our Kind.

Narrator: The boys may not feel that way, but their parents do. That’s why they give us sour milk. That’s why they give us the back door.

Mrs. Conner: Our Kind?

Martin: Why are you crying, Martin?
Mrs. King:
There are laws that allow them to discriminate against us.

Narrator:
Mrs. King was talking about Jim Crow laws. These laws made it legal for white people to treat black people unfairly.

Martin:
Well, somebody needs to do something about it.

Mrs. King:
Yes, Martin. Somebody does.

Scene 6
THE SANDBLOT

Narrator:
Someday Martin would do something about Jim Crow laws. But back when he was a boy, he just wanted to play ball.

Clark:
Hey look, it's Martin!

Wallace:
Don't talk to him. Remember what Pa said.

Clark:
Sorry, Martin. We could use a shortstop. We just do what we're told.

Wallace:
Don't talk to him. Remember what Pa said.

Clark:
Sorry, Martin. We could use a shortstop. We just do what we're told.

Wallace:
Don't talk to him. Remember what Pa said.

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Wallace:
Don't talk to him. Remember what Pa said.

Clark:
Sorry, Martin. We could use a shortstop. We just do what we're told.

Scene 7
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Narrator:
Years after Martin was told he couldn't play ball, he would preach to more than 200,000 people of every race and color in Washington, D.C.

Adult Martin:
I have a dream that this nation will one day... live out the true meaning of its creed: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.”

Narrator:
Over the years Martin would be arrested many times for standing up for peace and his beliefs. He would be beaten, stabbed, and spat upon.

Adult Martin:
This will be a day when all God’s children will be able to sing with new meaning, “Let freedom ring.”

Narrator:
Yet through it all, Martin would follow his father’s advice to strive for peace and harmony among all people. That’s why we celebrate his birthday each January.

Adult Martin:
When we allow freedom to ring... we will be able to speed up that day when all God’s children... will be able to join hands and sing... “Free at last, Free at last, Great God Almighty, we’re free at last!”

The End