

JANE GOODALL

PRIMATOLOGIST

Once, in England, there was a girl called Jane who loved climbing trees and reading books.

Her dream was to go to Africa and spend time with the wild animals there.

So, one day, Jane flew to Tanzania with her notebook and binoculars, determined to study real chimpanzees in their natural environment.

At first, it was hard to get close to them. The chimpanzees would run away the moment she was in sight. But Jane kept visiting the same place every day at the same time. Eventually, the chimps allowed her to get closer.

Getting closer was not enough for Jane: she wanted to become friends with them. So she started a "banana club." Whenever she visited the chimpanzees, she would share bananas with them.

At the time, little was known about chimpanzees. Some scientists used to observe them from far away, using binoculars. Others studied chimps in cages.

Jane, instead, spent hours hanging out with chimpanzees. She tried to speak to them using grunts and cries. She climbed trees and ate the same foods they ate. She discovered that chimpanzees have rituals, that they use tools, and that their language comprises at least twenty different sounds.

She even discovered that chimpanzees are not vegetarians.

Once, Jane rescued an injured chimpanzee and nursed it back to health. When she released it back into the wild, the chimpanzee turned and gave her a long, loving hug as if to say, "thanks and bye!"

BORN APRIL 3, 1934

UNITED KINGDOM

• 82 •

ILLUSTRATION
EMMANUELL

ONLY IF W
WE CARE.
WILL WE H
SHALL ALL
-JANE GO

YOKO ONO

ARTIST

Once upon a time, a little girl called Yoko lived in a beautiful house in Tokyo. When war broke out, her house was bombed. Yoko and her family fled for their lives. Suddenly, she and her brother had no toys, no beds, no snacks, no clothes. They had to beg for food. Other children taunted them because they had once been rich, and now they were the poorest of the poor.

When she grew up, Yoko became a performance artist. You didn't just look at Yoko's art, you were part of it. For example, she asked people to cut up her clothes while she was still wearing them.

One day, a musician called John Lennon went to visit one of Yoko's exhibitions. He found her art beautiful and became a fan.

John and Yoko started writing letters to each other and they eventually fell madly in love. They recorded songs together, created photography projects and even movies.

At the time, America was at war with Vietnam. Yoko knew how bad war could be and she wanted to help the peace movement. Many protesters held "sit-ins" but, being Yoko, she wanted to do something different. Instead of a sit-in, John and Yoko had a "bed-in" where they stayed in bed for a week surrounded by television cameras and journalists.

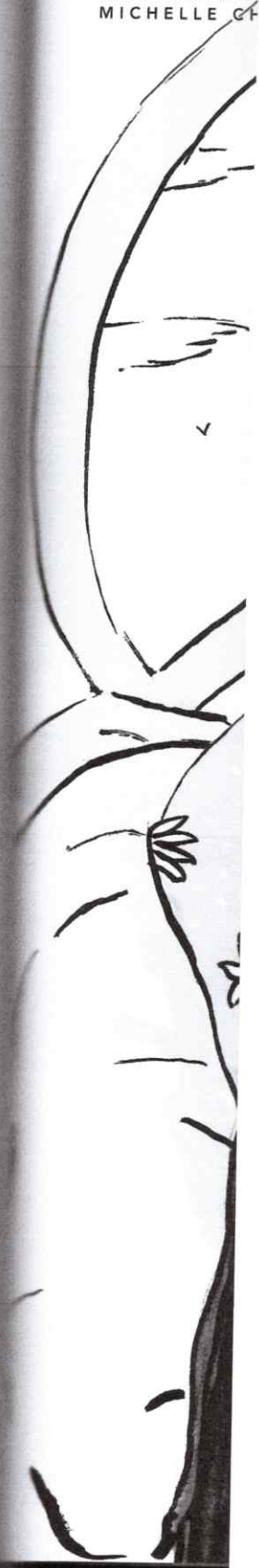
They even recorded a song to sum up their simple, strong message: "Give peace a chance."

BORN FEBRUARY 18, 1933

JAPAN

• 196 •

ILLUSTRATION
MICHELLE CH



SERENA AND VENUS WILLIAMS •

TENNIS PLAYERS

Once upon a time, there was a man named Raul. He ran a taco stand that stood on a street corner in the city of Compton.

Every day, Raul saw a man and his two daughters walk past his stand and head to the tennis court nearby. The man's name was Richard Williams and his daughters were Venus and Serena. Every day, Richard took a basket of tennis balls to the court and showed his two daughters how to play.

Serena was just four years old at the time. She was so small that when she sat on the bench, her feet didn't touch the ground. She was often the youngest player in the tournaments her father entered her in—but that didn't stop her from winning.

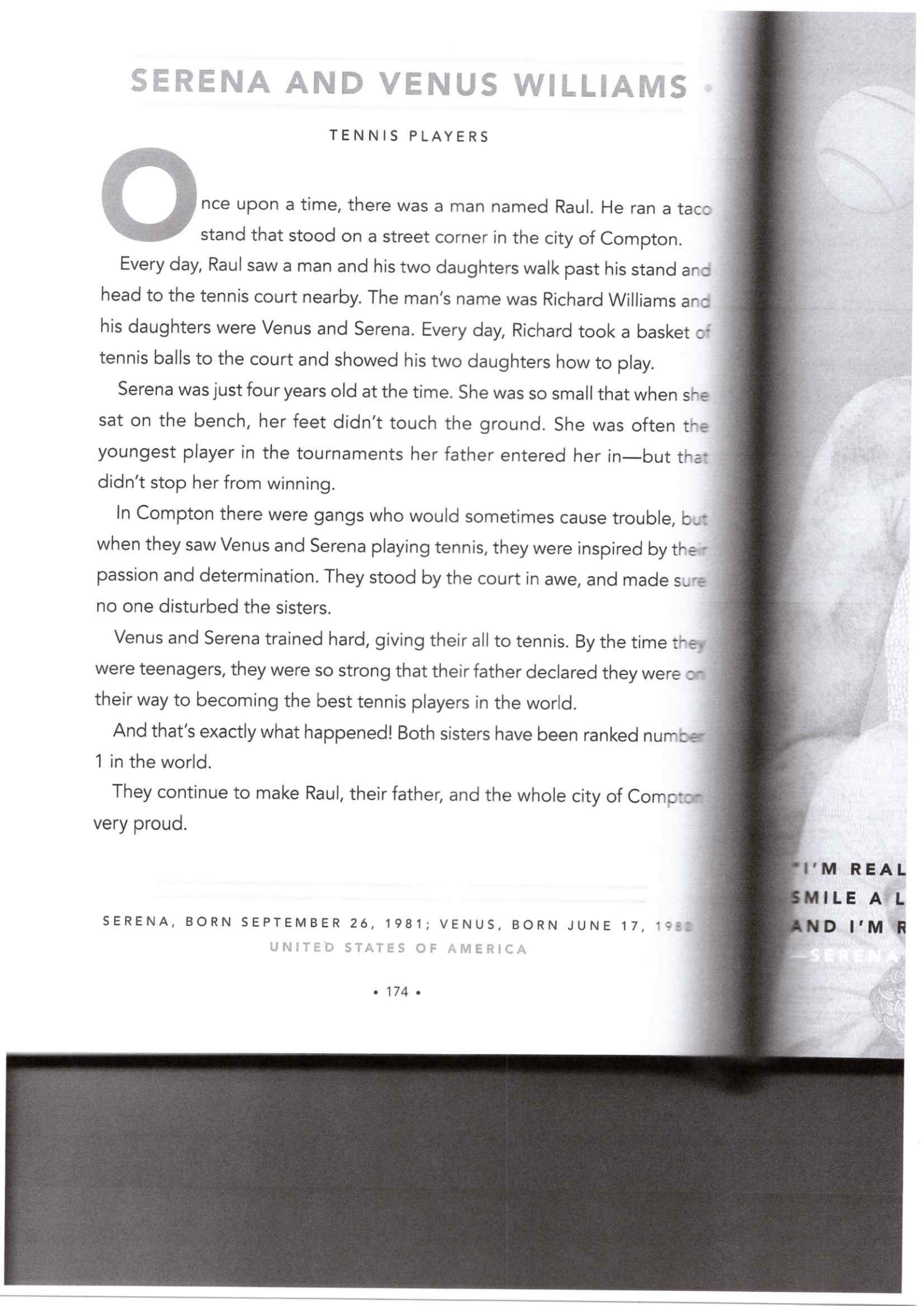
In Compton there were gangs who would sometimes cause trouble, but when they saw Venus and Serena playing tennis, they were inspired by their passion and determination. They stood by the court in awe, and made sure no one disturbed the sisters.

Venus and Serena trained hard, giving their all to tennis. By the time they were teenagers, they were so strong that their father declared they were on their way to becoming the best tennis players in the world.

And that's exactly what happened! Both sisters have been ranked number 1 in the world.

They continue to make Raul, their father, and the whole city of Compton very proud.

SERENA, BORN SEPTEMBER 26, 1981; VENUS, BORN JUNE 17, 1980
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



I'M REAL
SMILE A L
AND I'M R
—SERENA

MARGHERITA HACK

ASTROPHYSICIST

Once upon a time, in the *Via delle Cento Stelle* (Street of a Hundred Stars) in Florence, a little girl was born. Her name was Margherita and she would grow up to become an incredible astrophysicist (a scientist who studies the properties of stars and planets).

While she was studying physics, she became increasingly interested in stars: "We are part of the evolution of the universe," she said. "From the calcium in our bones to the iron in our blood, we're entirely made of elements created in the heart of stars. We really are 'children of the stars'."

Margherita's favorite place was the Arcetri Observatory. High on a hill above Florence, she would scan the skies through a huge telescope, her mind full of questions: How do galaxies evolve? How far are the stars from each other? What can we learn from starlight?

Margherita traveled the world, giving lectures and inspiring others to study the stars. Back in Florence, she became Italy's first woman director of an astronomical observatory.

Margherita said that some of her best friends were stars. Their names were Eta Boo, Tauri, Zeta Her, Omega Tau and 55 Cygni. She even had an asteroid named after her!

For Margherita, being a scientist meant basing your knowledge of the natural world on facts, observations, and experiments, and being passionately curious about the mystery of life.

JUNE 12, 1922–JUNE 29, 2013

ITALY

• 112 •

"THE STARS
DIFFERENT
ARE BORN
OLD, THE
—MARGHERITA

• GRACE O'MALLEY •

PIRATE

Once upon a time, on a wild green island, lived a girl with long ginger hair. Her name was Grace.

When wind howled and waves crashed against the rocks, Grace would stand on the clifftop and dream of sailing out across the stormy seas. "Girls cannot be sailors," her father told her. "And anyway, your long hair would get tangled in the rigging."

Grace didn't like this one bit. She cut her hair short and dressed in boy's clothes to prove to her family that she too could live the life of the sea.

Finally one day, her father agreed to take her sailing, on one condition: "If we meet a pirate ship, hide below deck," he said. But when they were attacked, Grace leaped off the rigging and landed on one of the pirates' backs! Her surprise attack worked—and they beat the pirates off.

Grace was a fine sailor, and wanted to do something more exciting than catching fish. When the English attacked her castle, she became a pirate herself rather than submit to English rule. Grace was so successful that soon she had her own fleet of ships as well as several islands and castles along the west coast of Ireland.

When the English captured her sons, Grace sailed to meet the Queen of England, Elizabeth I, to try and save them. To everyone's surprise, the queen and Grace became friends. The queen returned her sons and possessions, and Grace helped her fight against England's enemies, the Spanish.

CA. 1530-1603
IRELAND

ELIZABETH I

QUEEN

Once upon a time, there was a king who wanted to leave his kingdom to a son.

When his wife gave birth to a daughter, King Henry VIII was so mad that he left her, sent the child away, and married another woman. He believed that only a man would be able to rule the country after he died, and was delighted when his new wife gave birth to a boy: Edward.

Henry's daughter, Elizabeth, grew up a bright and brilliant girl, with striking red hair and a fiery temper.

Edward was only nine when his father died and he became King. A few years later, he also became ill and died, and his sister Mary became queen. Mary thought that Elizabeth was plotting against her, so she locked Elizabeth up in the Tower of London.

One day, the Tower guards burst into her cell. "The Queen is dead," they announced. And then they fell to their knees in front of her. Elizabeth instantly went from being a prisoner in the Tower to the country's new queen.

Elizabeth's court was home to musicians, poets, painters, and playwrights. The most famous was William Shakespeare, whose plays Elizabeth adored. She wore sumptuous gowns decorated with pearls and lace. She never married: She valued her own independence as highly as that of her country.

Her people loved her dearly and, when she died, Londoners took the streets to mourn the greatest queen they had ever had.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1533–MARCH 24, 1603

UNITED KINGDOM

CLEOPATRA

PHARAOH

Once upon a time, in ancient Egypt, a pharaoh died and left his kingdom to his ten-year-old son, Ptolemy XIII and to his eighteen-year-old daughter Cleopatra.

The two had such different ideas on how to run the country that soon Cleopatra was kicked out of the palace and a civil war broke out.

Julius Caesar, the emperor of Rome, traveled to Egypt to help Cleopatra and Ptolemy find an agreement. "If only I could meet Caesar before my brother does," Cleopatra thought "I could convince him that I'm the better pharaoh." But she had been banished from the Palace. The guards would have blocked her at the entrance.

Cleopatra asked her servants to roll her up inside a carpet and to smuggle her into Caesar's rooms. Impressed by her daring, Caesar restored Cleopatra to the throne. They became a couple and had a son. Cleopatra moved to Rome but then Caesar was killed, so she went back to Egypt.

The new Roman leader, Marc Antony, had heard a lot about this strong Egyptian queen and wanted to meet her. This time, she arrived on a golden barge, surrounded by precious jewels and silk.

It was love at first sight.

Cleopatra and Marc Antony were inseparable. They had three children and loved each other to the end of their lives.

When Cleopatra died, the empire ended with her. She was the last pharaoh to rule Ancient Egypt.

69 B.C. - AUGUST 12, 30 B.C.

EGYPT

• AMELIA EARHART

AVIATOR

Once upon a time, a girl called Amelia saved enough money to buy a yellow airplane.

She called it The Canary.

A few years later, she became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean. It was a dangerous flight. Her tiny plane was tossed around by strong winds and icy storms. She kept herself going with a can of tomato juice, sucked through a straw. After almost fifteen hours she touched down in a field in Northern Ireland, much to the surprise of the cows. "Have you come far?" the farmer asked her. "All the way from America!" she laughed.

Amelia loved to fly and she loved to do things no one had ever done before.

Her biggest challenge was to be the first woman to fly around the world.

She could only take a small bag, as all the space in the plane had to be used for fuel. Her long flight was going well. She was supposed to land on the tiny Howland Island, but never got there. In her last transmission, Amelia said she was flying through clouds and was running low on fuel. Her plane disappeared somewhere over the Pacific Ocean and was never found.

Before leaving, she wrote, "I am quite aware of the hazards. I want to do it, because I want to do it. Women must try to do the same things that men have tried. If they fail, their failure must be a challenge to others."

JULY 24, 1897–CA. JULY 1937

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA