



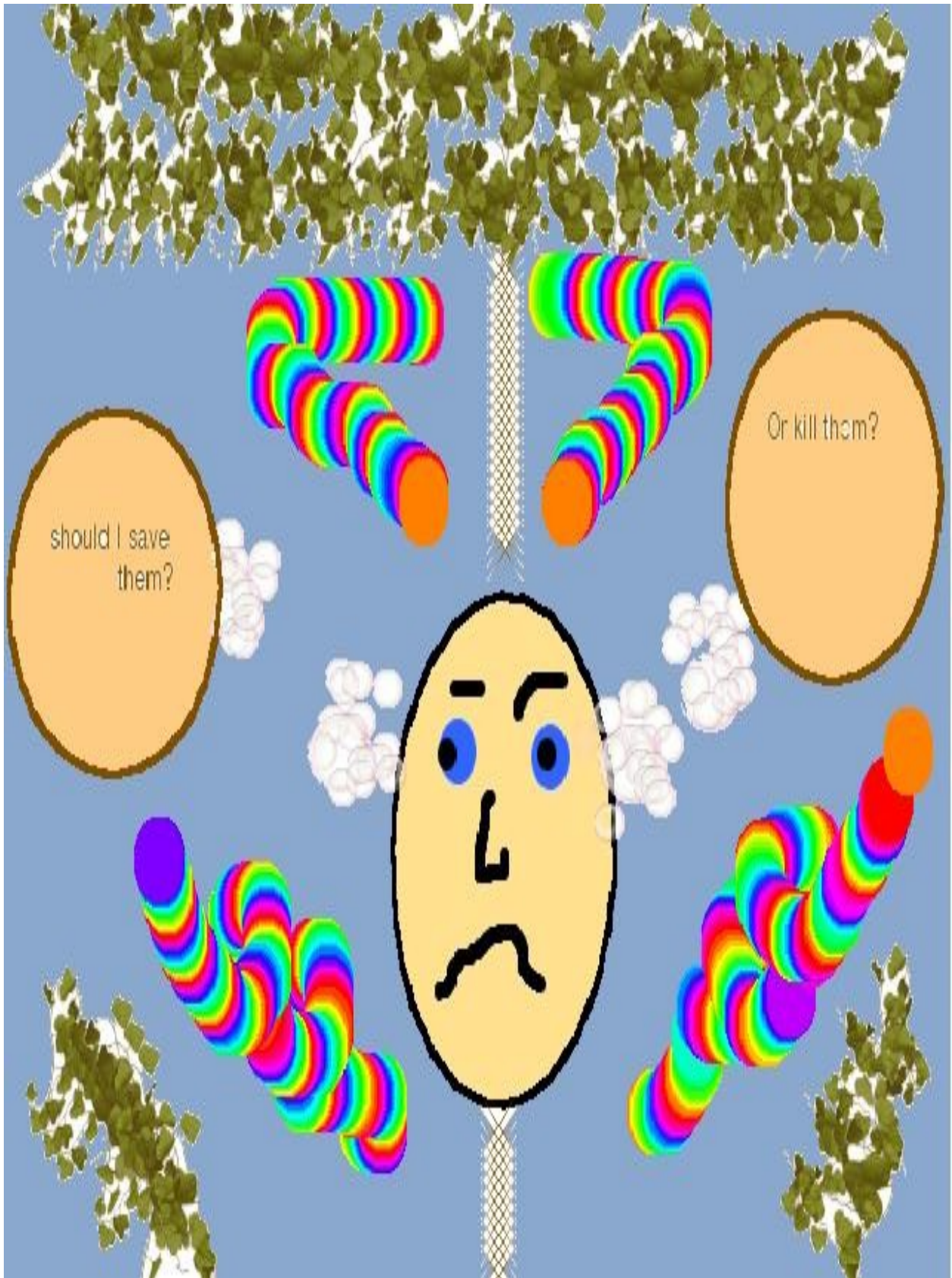
PAUL'S CHOICE

By Caileb Carmichael

Dedicated to
My Family



There once was a man named Paul Jones, he was a courageous, skillful and dangerous warrior. He was a huge man; he was as tall as a tree and weighed more than a modern bus. Paul was battle scared and he could burn through rocks with his eyes. Not only was he a warrior, but he was a leader for the Tradijal civilization in the Caribbean Islands. He believed in the Mount Olympus gods and they were very loyal to him.

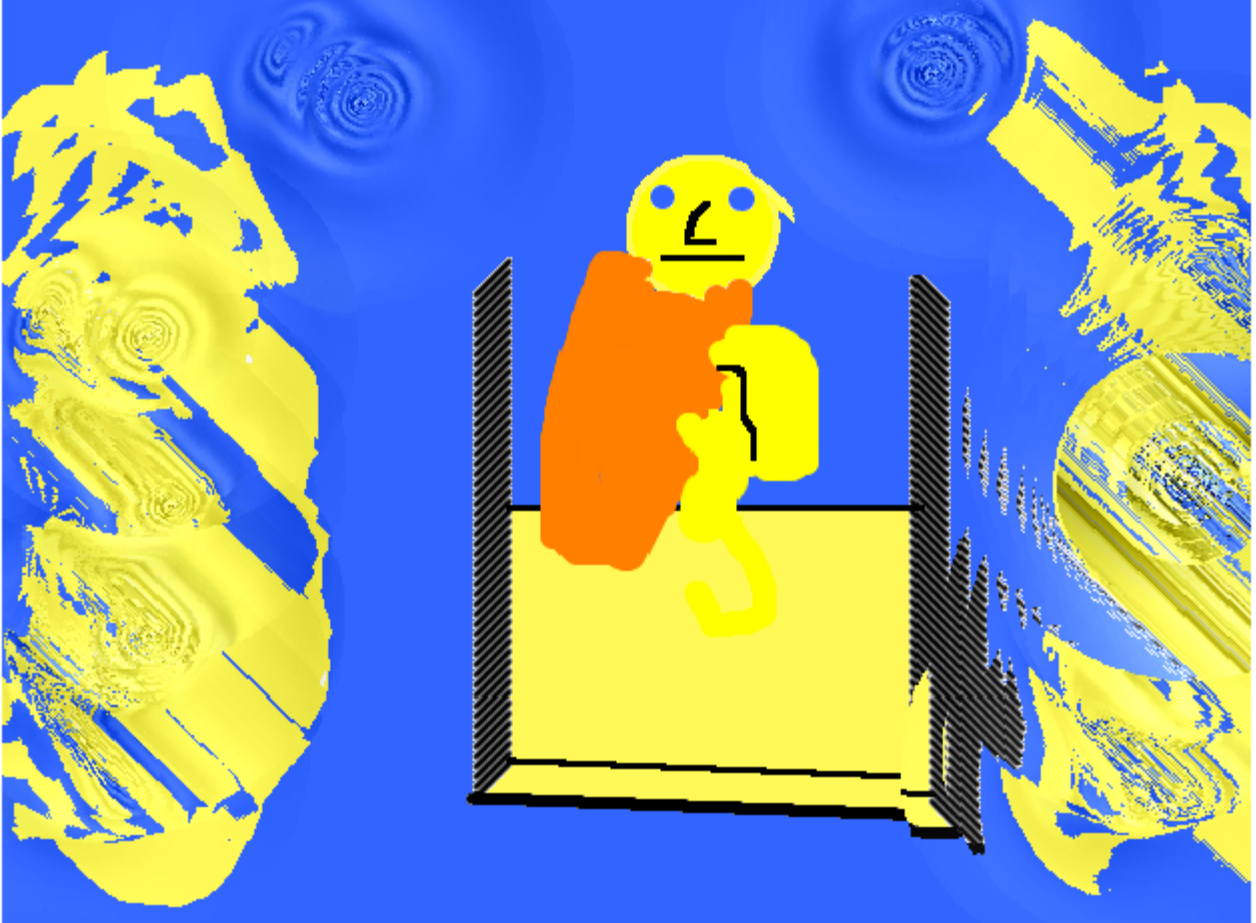


When the harvest had ended, war erupted between Tradijal society and the Wirezan tribe, over land and crops. It was almost impossible for the Wirezans to win the war because Paul Jones' army was almost ten times the size of the Wirezan population. In only a matter of days, Jones' army captured many of their forts and surrounded their enemy. Then he was forced to make an extremely difficult decision; to either execute the Wirezanian people, or to take them prisoner which would save the Wirezan tribe. Paul knew that condemning the enemy would be a crime that he could get away with. But he also knew it would be wrong, and the Mount Olympus gods would punish him; so he took them prisoner.



Days passed. As the hot Caribbean sun hit the Tradijal and Wirezan, they hiked back to the north of the island, but soon the fresh water from the Griker River, a river that flowed nowhere, would soon become scarce. Fights regularly broke out about water, some soldiers from the Tradijal saying “you don’t deserve the water; we saved you, so now you owe it to us!”

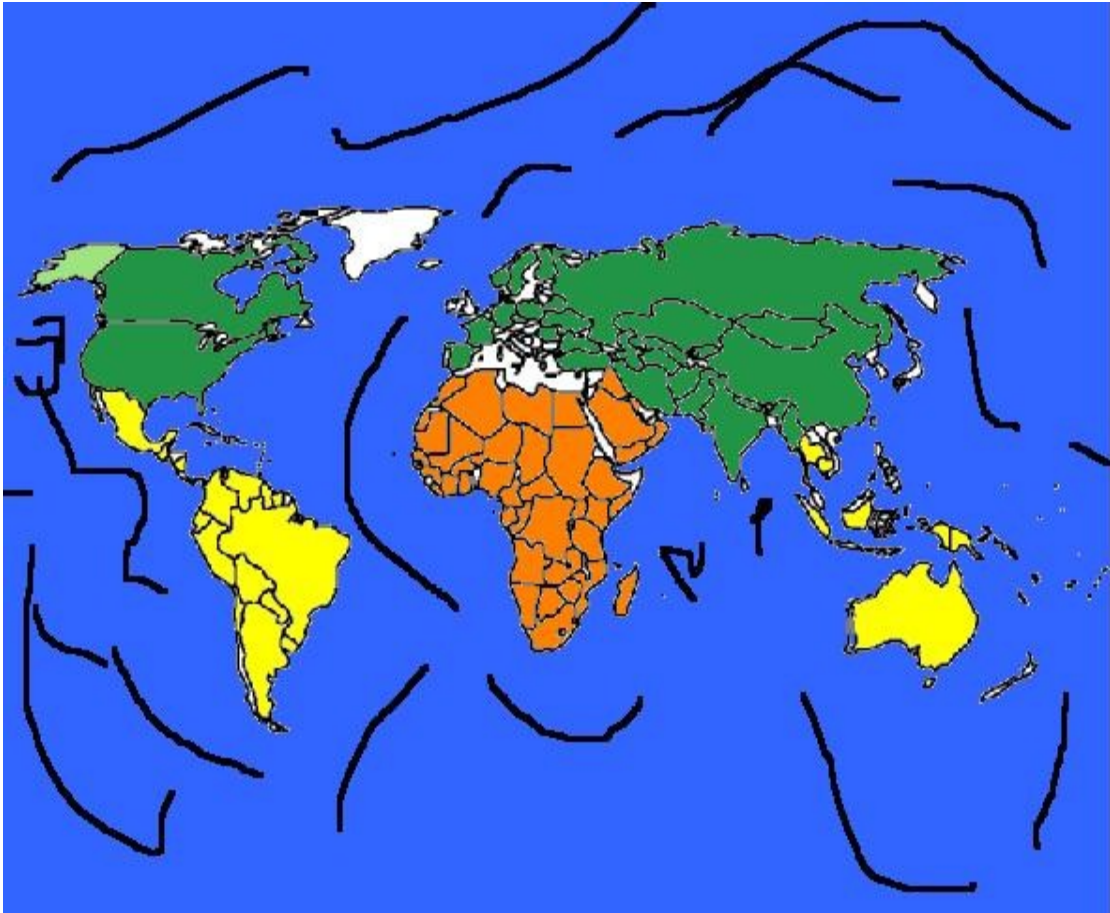
Jones never expected this situation, but yet, there he was. He tried to make peace by sharing the water equally but it only made things worse and some Tradijal warriors deserted and lived on their own luck.



In the scorching Caribbean heat, the two tribes finally ran out of water and could only live up to three days without water before they would die from dehydration. The clock was ticking for Paul Jones. He had to somehow find a way to get water before the worst would come. Jones' only hope was to call upon Poseidon, the god of the sea, he had hoped that the gods would be pleased with him because he had saved the lives of the Wirezan people. He called upon Poseidon, saying "please, god of the sea, please send us fresh water so that my soldiers, and the Wirezan people can drink, and survive". Poseidon heard Paul's cry for help, and since he had saved many lives by taking them prisoner, and not executing them, Poseidon only thought it was fair and said "Paul, you have done good, and saved many lives, and I shall return the favor".



There was only one problem, how was the god of the sea going to transport thousands of gallons of water to a land extremely far away? It was up to the clever god of the sea, to move the water to the distant land.



So Poseidon created ocean currents. Their purpose was to circulate water around the world, so water would be available anywhere, and anytime. And that's exactly what it did; a rush of water moved into the Griker River and all lakes, oceans and rivers around the world. Thanks to Poseidon, the Tradijal and Wirezan people survived and resolved their issues with each other.

