

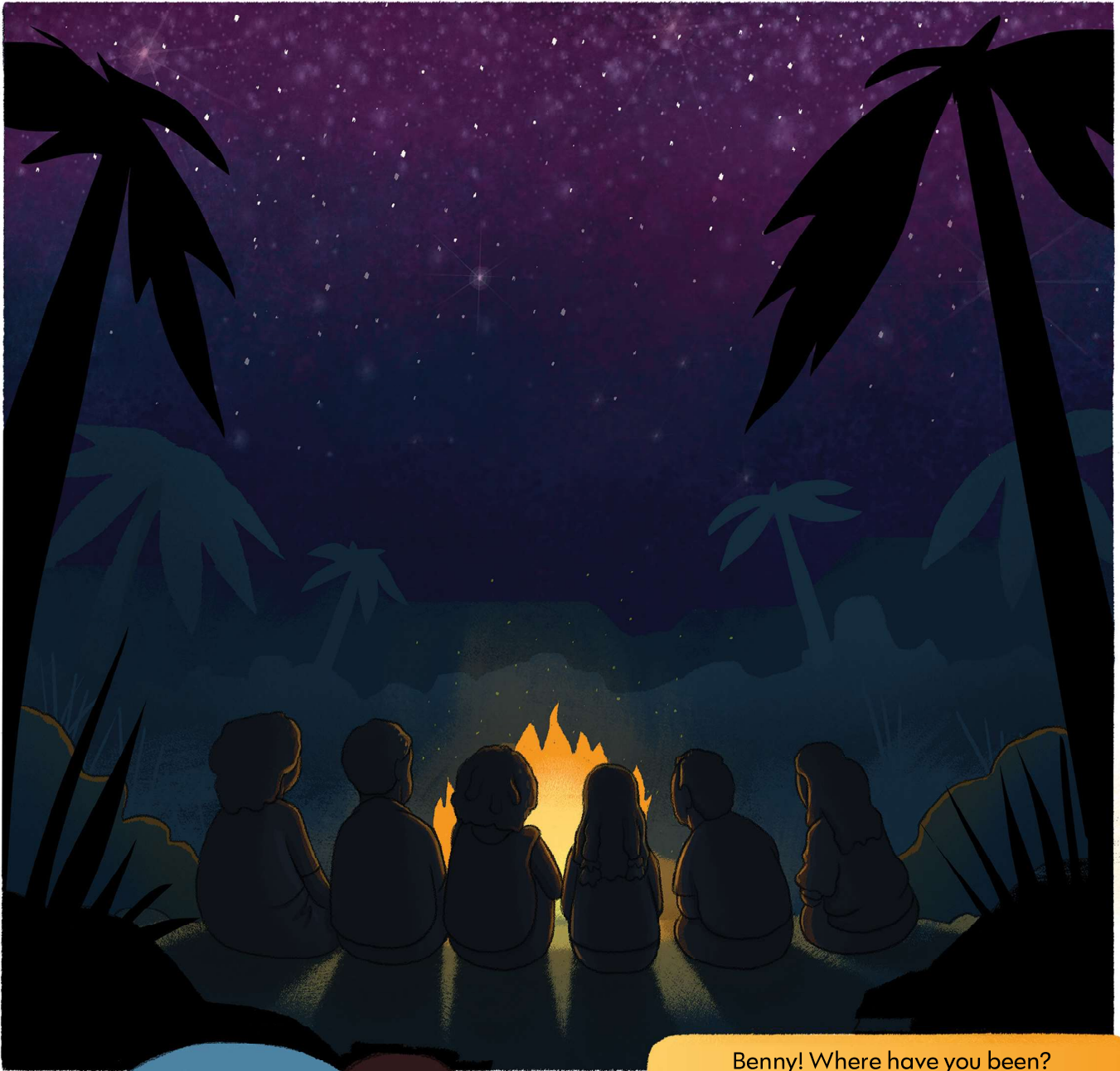


**NOTHIN'
DEADLY**

ABOUT A SORE THROAT

**STRONG
HEART**

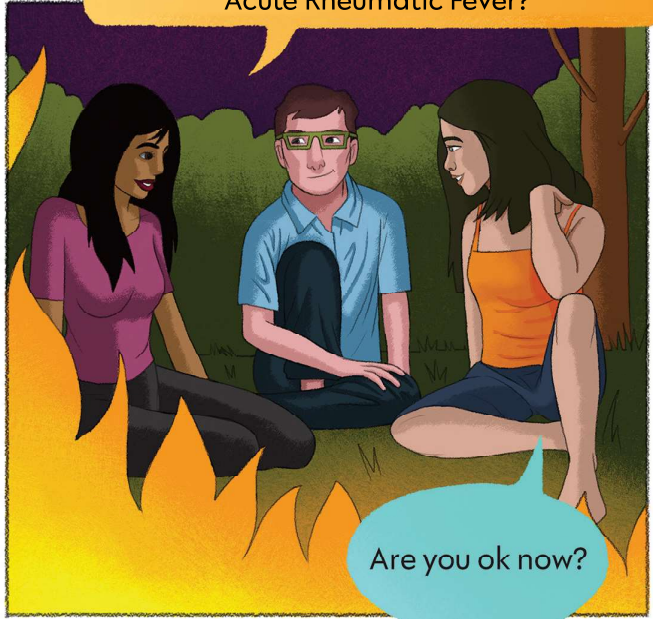




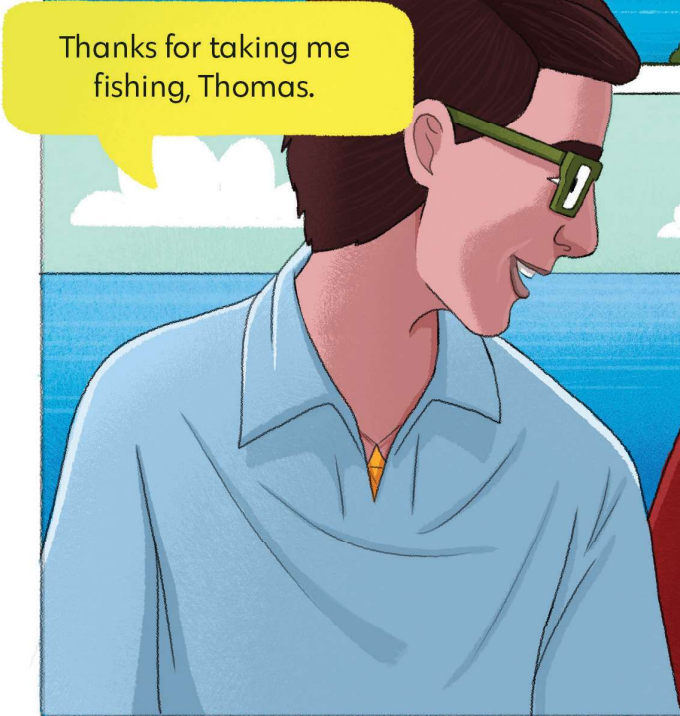
Benny! Where have you been?
I heard you have been crook with
Acute Rheumatic Fever?



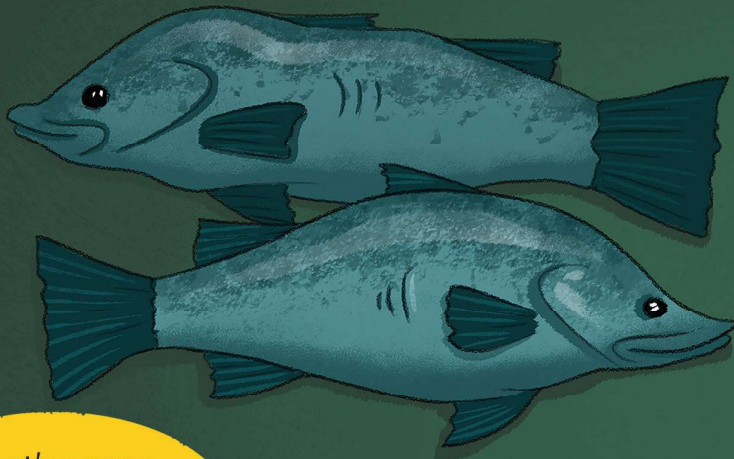
Benny joins his friends by the campfire.



Are you ok now?



Back home after a day of fishing.

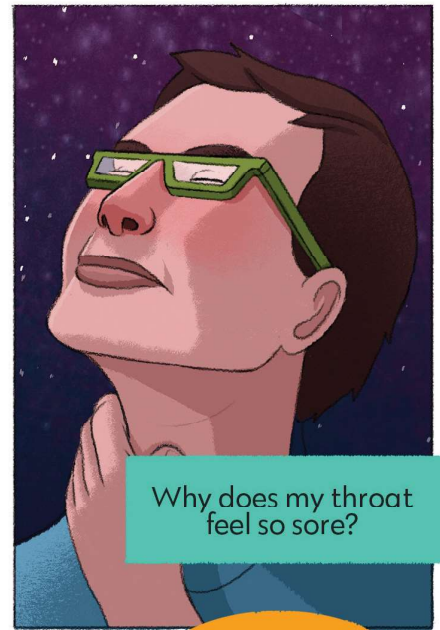


What's wrong Benny? Do you have a sore throat?

Yes, Aunty May, I have a really sore throat.



Why does my throat feel so sore?



Go to the doctors Benny and get it looked at.



Yeah, I will.

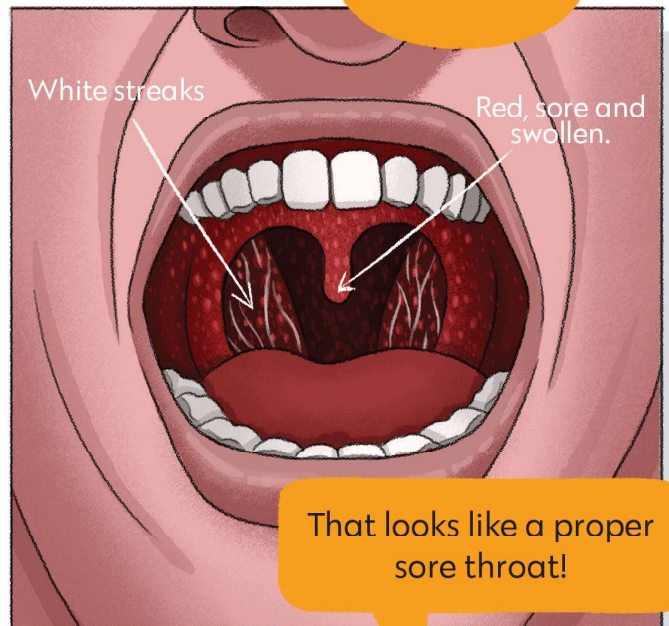
The Next day at the doctors.



I went to the doctors. They checked my throat and gave me tablets.

White streaks

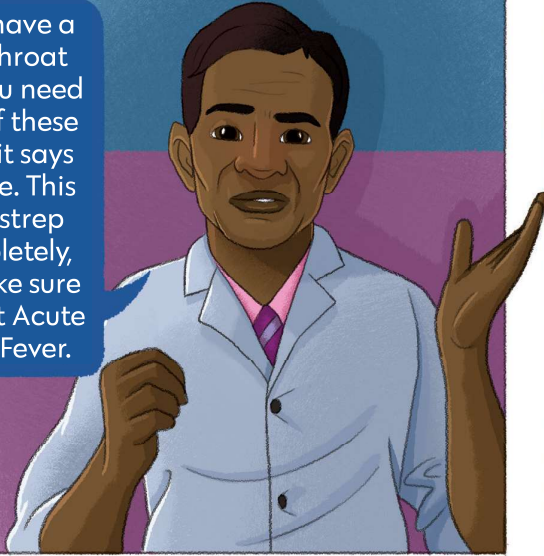
Red, sore and swollen.



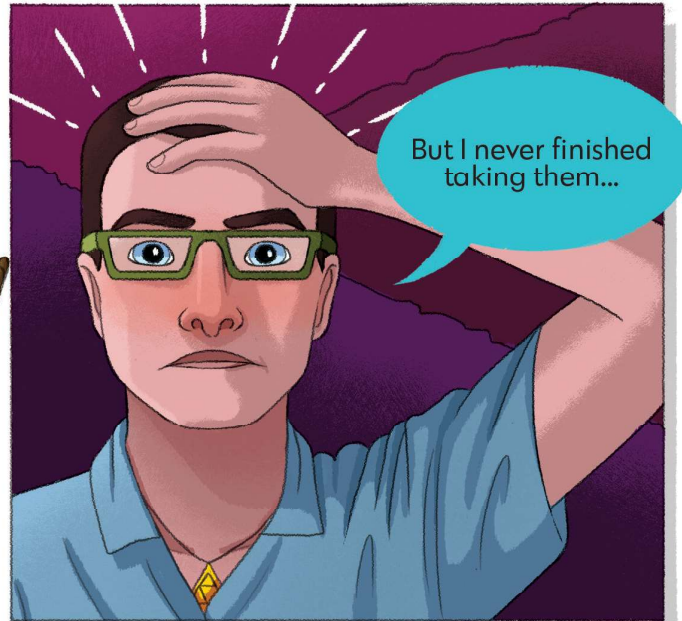
That looks like a proper sore throat!

A sore throat can cause Acute Rheumatic Fever!

Benny, you have a bad strep throat infection. You need to take all of these tablets like it says on the bottle. This will kill the strep germ completely, and will make sure you don't get Acute Rheumatic Fever.



But I never finished taking them...



Why Benny?



Because I felt better, but I didn't know the germs were not all out of my body yet.

A few weeks later I got sick. My joints were very sore, and I was very hot. I couldn't do anything.



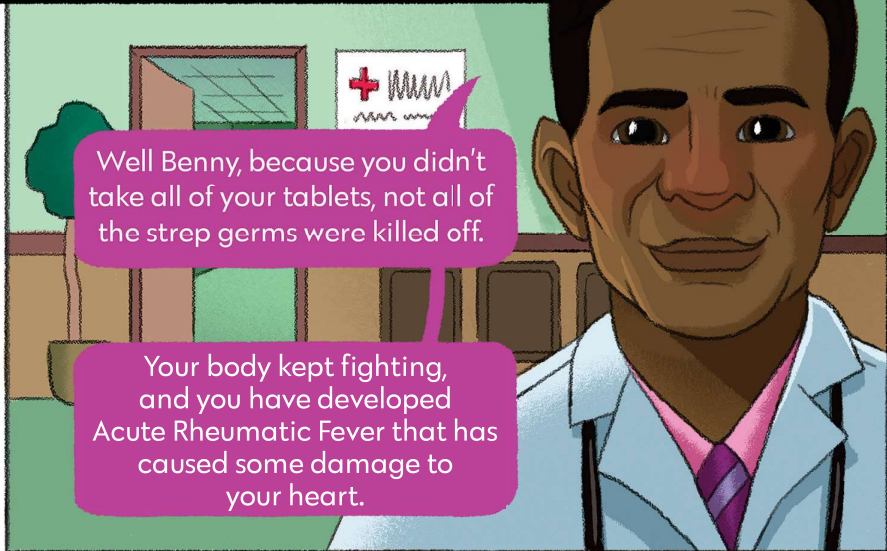


I called my Aunt May who took me to the clinic



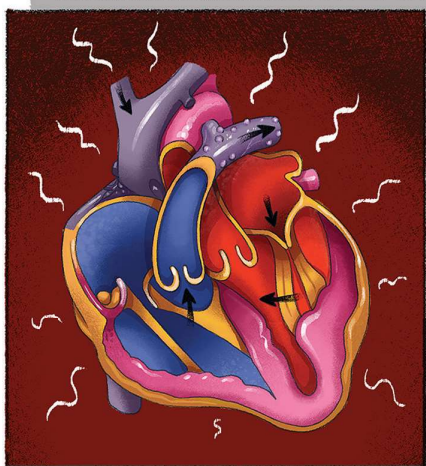
When I got there, the doctor did some tests and did not have good news.

Acute Rheumatic Fever can damage your heart!

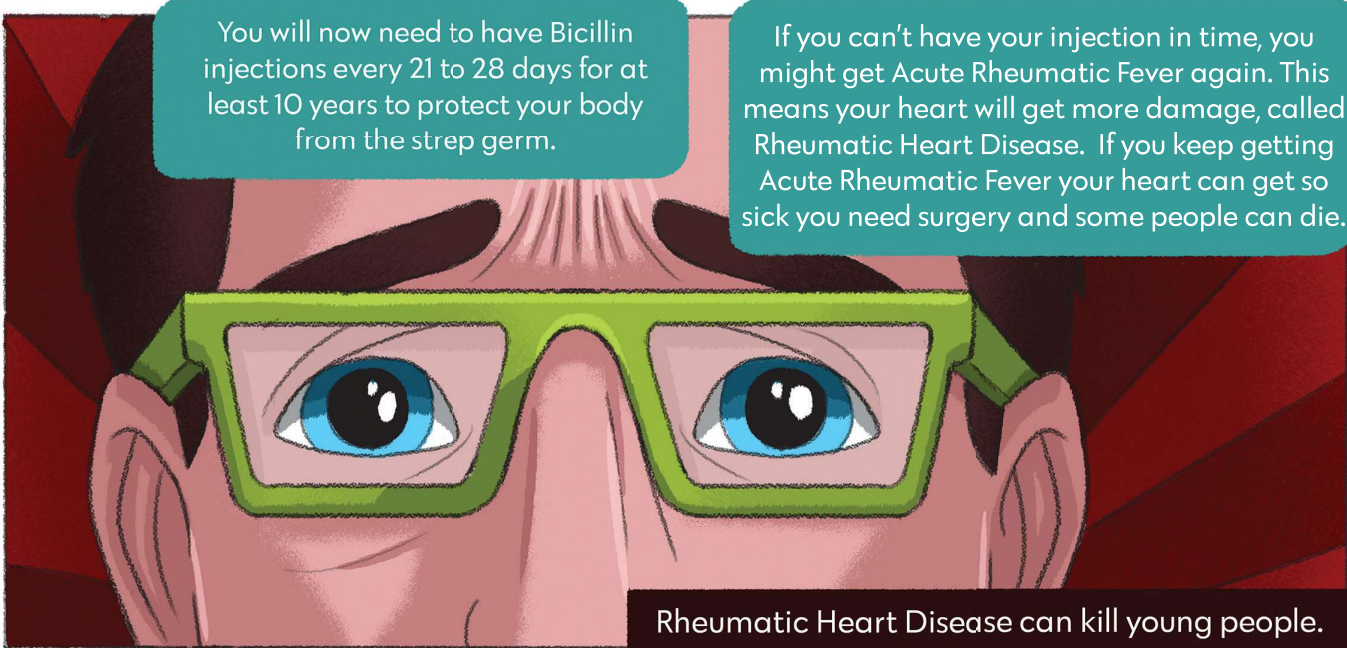


Well Benny, because you didn't take all of your tablets, not all of the strep germs were killed off.

Your body kept fighting, and you have developed Acute Rheumatic Fever that has caused some damage to your heart.



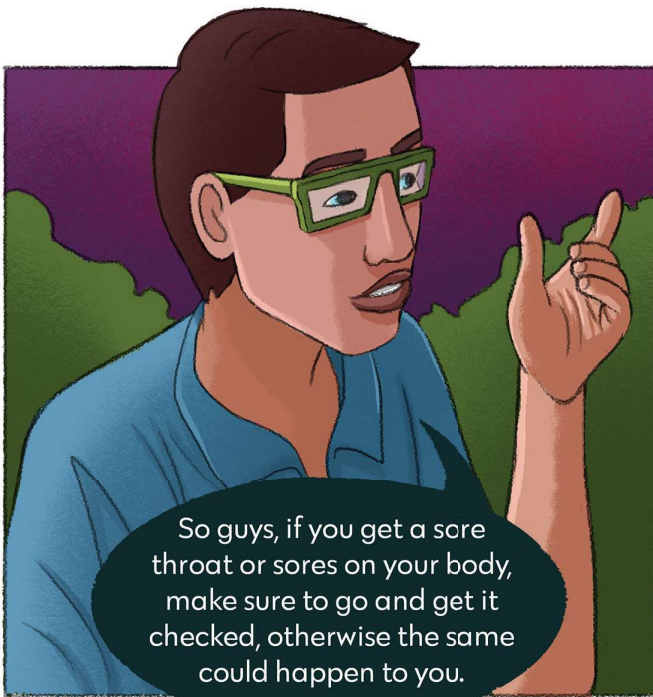
The valves of Benny's heart are now swollen and scarred making it a little harder for the blood to flow.



You will now need to have Bicillin injections every 21 to 28 days for at least 10 years to protect your body from the strep germ.

If you can't have your injection in time, you might get Acute Rheumatic Fever again. This means your heart will get more damage, called Rheumatic Heart Disease. If you keep getting Acute Rheumatic Fever your heart can get so sick you need surgery and some people can die.

Rheumatic Heart Disease can kill young people.



So guys, if you get a sore throat or sores on your body, make sure to go and get it checked, otherwise the same could happen to you.



So, are you still sick Benny?

Nah, I'm all good now.

How can we make sure we don't get Acute Rheumatic Fever?

A clean body is a strong body.



The Doctor said to keep ourselves and our houses clean to reduce the Strep Germ.

Shower every day, wash your clothes regularly and brush your teeth twice a day. The strep germ in skin sores and sore throats can cause Acute Rheumatic Fever.

Look after yourself, look after your family.

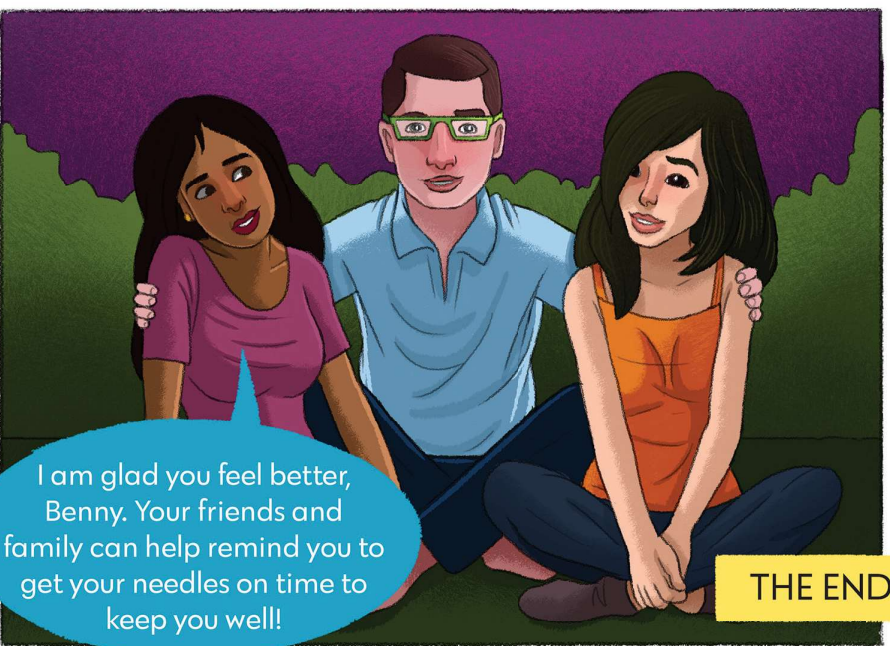
Medication can kill the strep germs in your body.

There is medication that can help kill the strep germ. Acute Rheumatic Fever can be avoided. Now I get my injections every 21-28 days so I won't get Acute Rheumatic Fever back. If one of your family or friends gets a sore throat or skin sores tell them to go to the health clinic for a check-up. Better to get it checked out than get Acute Rheumatic Fever!



Food's ready. Come eat!

And it's good to eat healthy food.



I am glad you feel better, Benny. Your friends and family can help remind you to get your needles on time to keep you well!

THE END

For more information **ask your**
doctor, nurse or health worker TODAY!

