

# Mrs. Joyce Gives the Best High-Fives

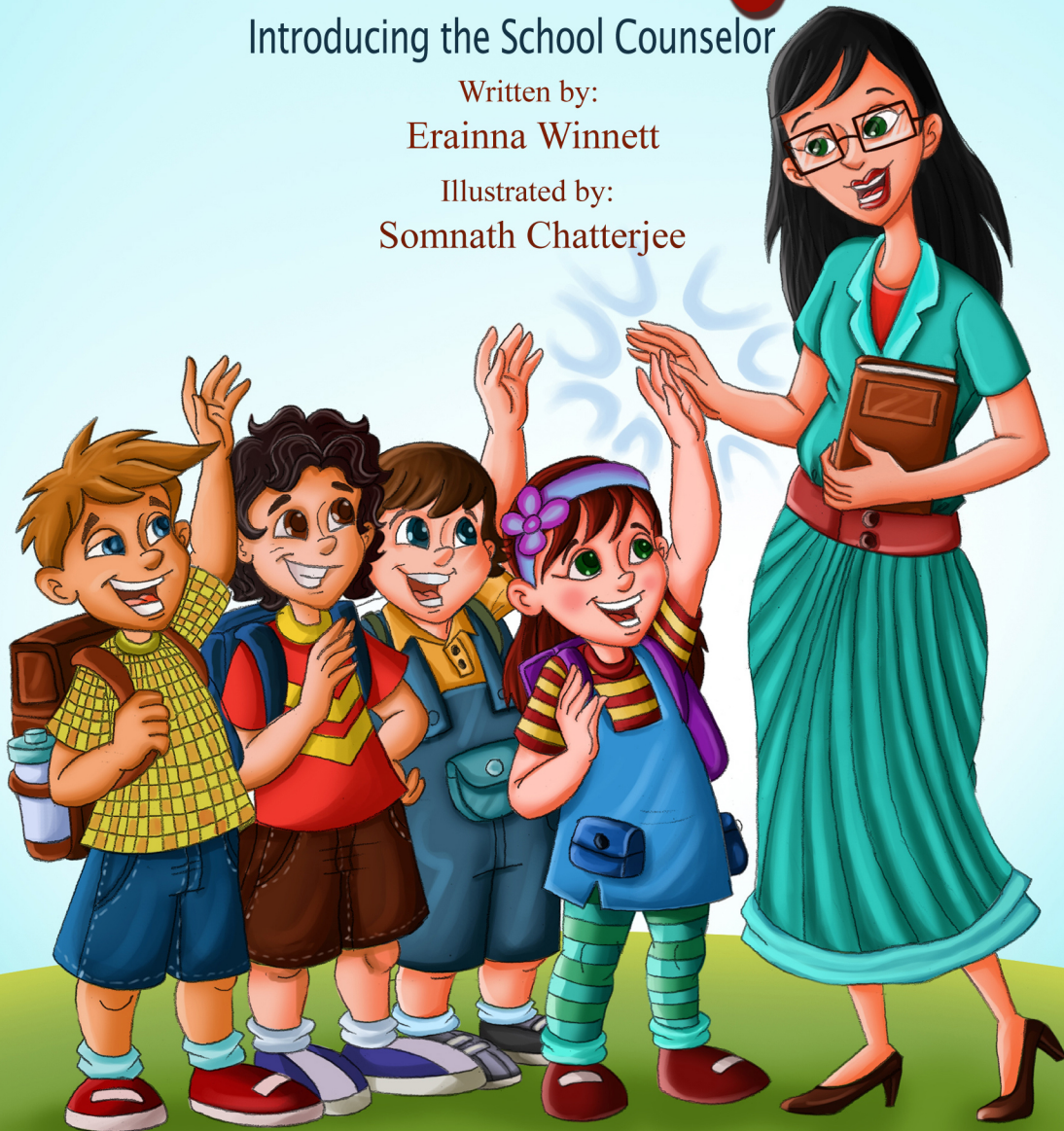
Introducing the School Counselor

Written by:

Erainna Winnett

Illustrated by:

Somnath Chatterjee



Mrs. Joyce Gives the Best High-Fives  
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Author: Erainna Winnett  
Illustrator: Somnath Chatterjee

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Summary: This book explains the role of the elementary school counselor.

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HEART



*In memory of my mother, who made the world's  
most delicious garlic pinto beans and biscuits.*

# EMERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

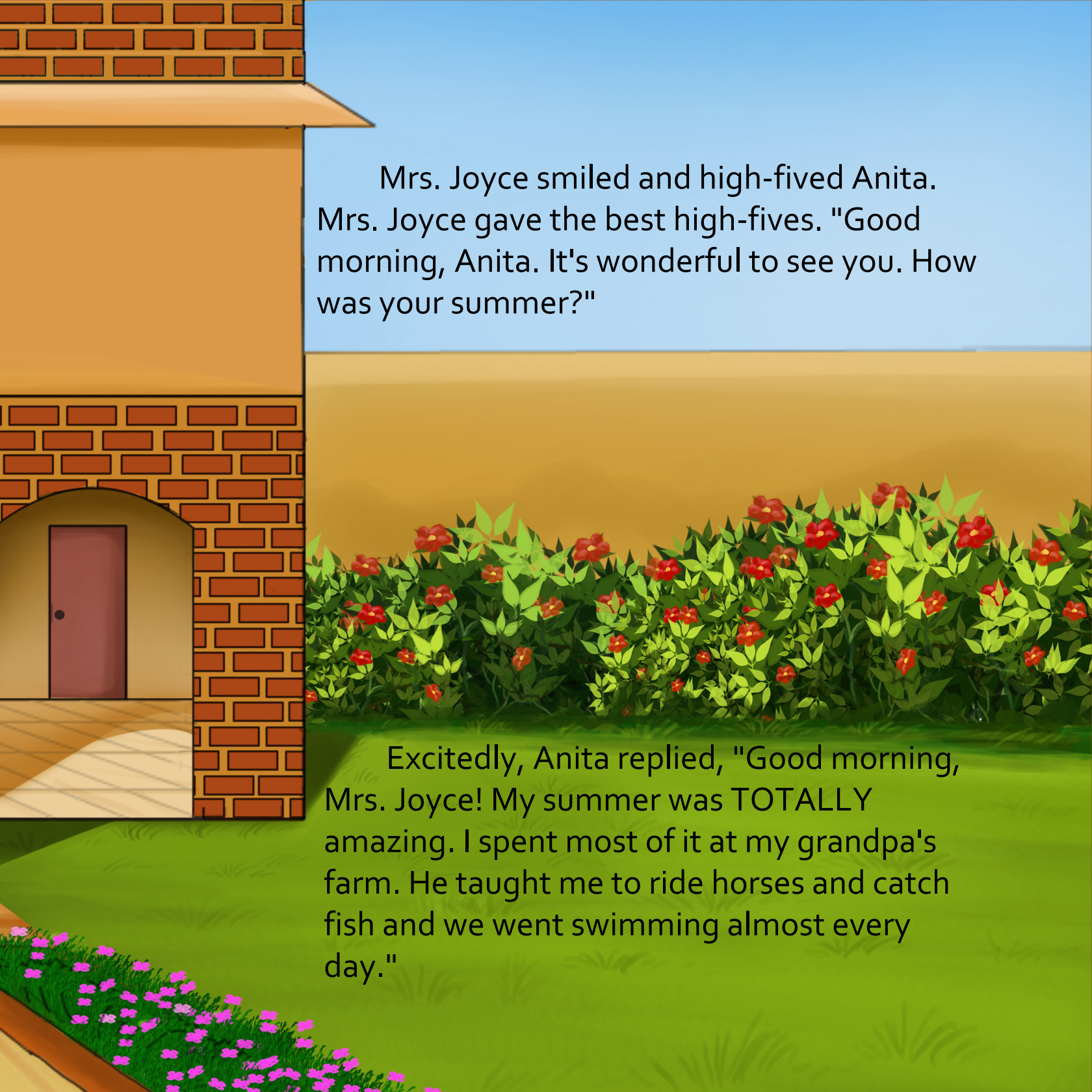




It was finally the first day of school and Anita couldn't wait! All her friends would be there and she had a new teacher to meet. The front doors of Emerson Elementary opened, revealing her favorite person at school, the counselor.

# EMERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



The illustration shows a portion of a brick house on the left. The house has a red brick pattern and a purple door set within an arched opening. A path leads to the door. To the right of the house is a large, dense bush of green leaves with many bright red flowers. The background is a clear blue sky above a light brown ground area. In the bottom left corner, there is a small garden bed with pink flowers.

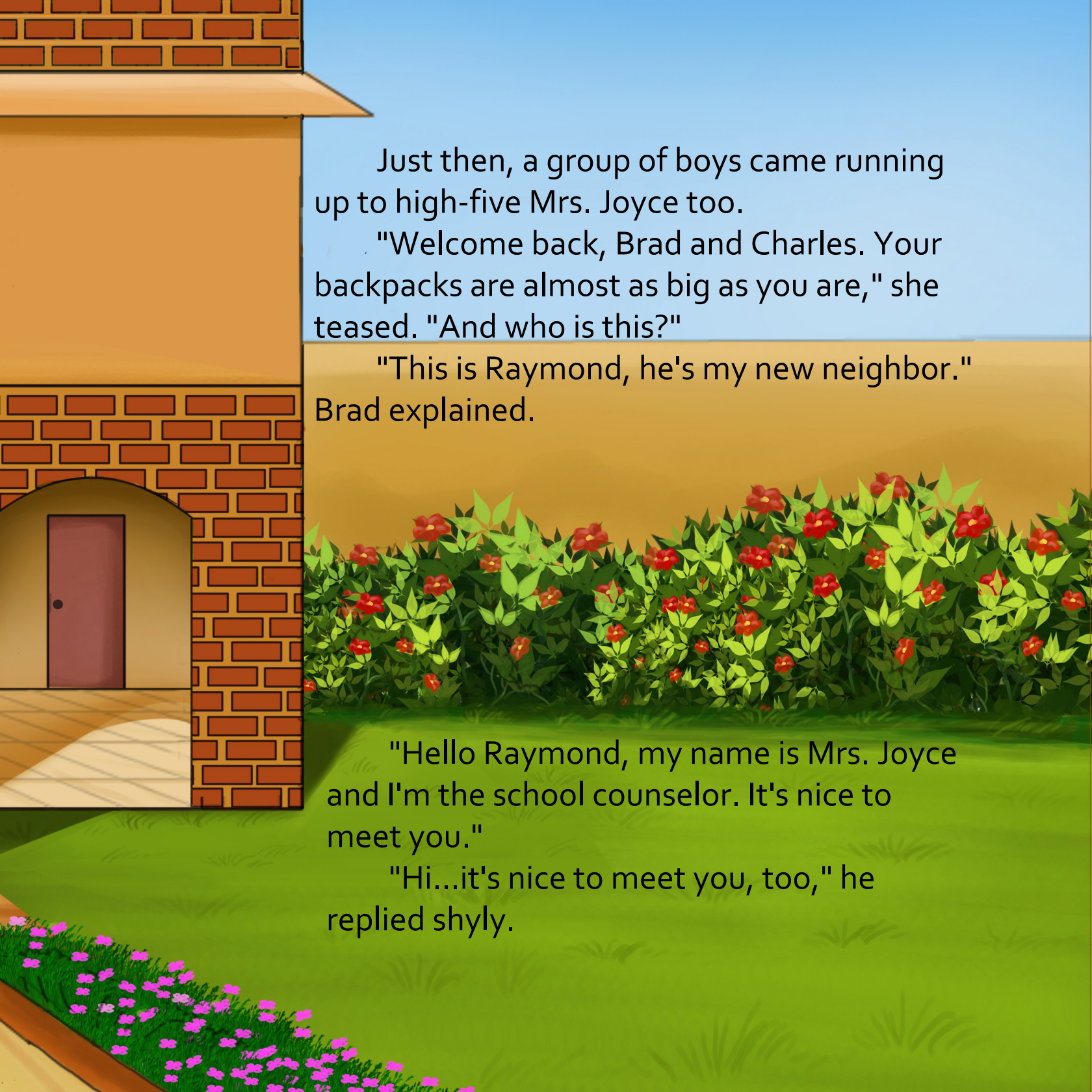
Mrs. Joyce smiled and high-fived Anita.  
Mrs. Joyce gave the best high-fives. "Good  
morning, Anita. It's wonderful to see you. How  
was your summer?"

Excitedly, Anita replied, "Good morning,  
Mrs. Joyce! My summer was **TOTALLY**  
amazing. I spent most of it at my grandpa's  
farm. He taught me to ride horses and catch  
fish and we went swimming almost every  
day."

# EMERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL





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Just then, a group of boys came running up to high-five Mrs. Joyce too.

"Welcome back, Brad and Charles. Your backpacks are almost as big as you are," she teased. "And who is this?"

"This is Raymond, he's my new neighbor." Brad explained.

"Hello Raymond, my name is Mrs. Joyce and I'm the school counselor. It's nice to meet you."

"Hi...it's nice to meet you, too," he replied shyly.

As the boys walked into the building, Raymond asked, "What exactly does a school counselor do?"





Brad began, "Well, school counselors help you with lots of things. I visited with her last year when my parents separated. It was really hard on me, but Mrs. Joyce talked with me and helped me better understand why some people get divorced."

"Did your parents find out what you talked about?"

"No, Mrs. Joyce didn't tell anyone. She's a school counselor so she doesn't tell anybody what you talk about -- it's called conf- confidentiality -- unless you're being hurt or you're trying to hurt someone else. THEN she tells someone. Someone who can help you."

"Mrs. Joyce helped me, too," Charles added. "I used to get so anxious before tests that I couldn't think straight. Mrs. Joyce taught me ways to relax and get prepared for tests, and now they're way easier."