So I assume you know about my comics the size of a pack of matches or you wouldn't have discovered this project. Anyway, I have been trying to figure out for a few years what I can do as charitable work that really draws on my talents & skills rather than just giving money to something that may or may not have a positive impact on anyone. So that's where I'm coming from on this, I want to be able to help kids have something self-empowering & uniquely their own & help them feel less alone in the world because that is what art has done for me & I have no doubt that I couldn't have survived without it.

I grew up loving comics, but I didn't really have anyone that knew how to encourage me as a sequential artist. So I want to be available to kids to be that encouraging voice to make comics or whatever it is that they are passionate about (though the comics is the thing I can help with). I mean, I know that the average parent isn't going to know what to do with a comic their child draws besides putting it up on the fridge until it gets so raggedy that it needs to be thrown away. So that's where I can help. I can help them be made into booklets that they can give out to friends & family. I can make them available to the public alongside comics by other kids of their ages in the same format. I can show their work to other kids at comic conventions. & I can teach you how to help them to make their comics as a relationship building activity. This is meant for children ages 3 - 16.

So here come some of the technological aspects of things, which is where you will need to help the kids. It's not as antimidating as it seems.

- 1. Because of the way these comic books are designed, stories need to be a number of pages & the best amounts are 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, or 40 pages. Which means there needs to be a little pre-planning as far as making a script & plot instead of just diving into the drawing.
- 2. Please number each panel underneathe the drawing. If a panel gets messed up they can redraw it on another page & I'll put it in order as long as it is numbered.
- 3. If you want to do something where you type in the words & then paste them into the panels, the font size I used as an example of a size is an Arial at 22. But I am totally fine with the kids handwriting appearing, though it is probably worth it in the scripting stage to get the spelling close to correct.
- 4. There also needs to be a cover picture & if possible an age appropriate short bio & self-portrait to go on the back (so a smiley face with "Jeremy is 8 years old & lives in Austin with his parents, little sister, & dog Rex" under it might be appropriate).
- 5. Right now I don't have a color printer that I am happy to work with by ink expenses & such, so this means black & white stories only.
- 6. Unfortunately pencil often doesn't scan well, so they may need to ink their art. I'm not suggesting going in with a crowquill or anything; a ballpoint pen is fine as is a fine point Sharpie (rollerball & gel inks are prone to smearing, so I can't endorse these for young ages). Or of course they can just draw with a pen in the first place.
- 7. The boxes laid out are roughly twice the size of what it will be when printed.
- 8. You can scan in the art (please go with 600 dpi grayscale & save as a high quality jpeg) & email it to me or if you don't have access to a scanner you can mail me the artwork & I'll scan it here & return it with the books. Please mail the artwork unfolded!
- 9. One of my goals is to not be too pickyl & do a ton of touch up to the art. As much as possible I want to leave the images as true to the child as possible.
- 10. There's a \$5 fee to cover expenses & you get 12 comics mailed to you with additional copies of the comics for \$0.50 a piece. I will be offering the comics for sale with a 50-50 split of profits & pay out whenever a book has earned \$20.
- 11. I know kids love to make derivative work. & it's way better for them to make some things than no things. However, as someone who has great respect for intellectual property, any books with copyrighted characters will only be available to the artist & must be ordered in blocks of 12.
- 12. The child retains all copyright to their content & reserves the right to demand a book goes out of print at any point.
- 13. Silber is not responsible for any craziness that comes out of this mess, we're just trying to help make stronger family relationships & comics

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