THE GOLDEN PROMISE

THE JOURNEY OF AN OLYMPIC CHAMPION, ON AND OFF THE PLATFORM

BY: AMAN CHAUDHARY

The Golden Promise: The Journey of an Olympic Champion, On and Off the Platform

The real-life story of Matthias Steiner, an Olympic weightlifter

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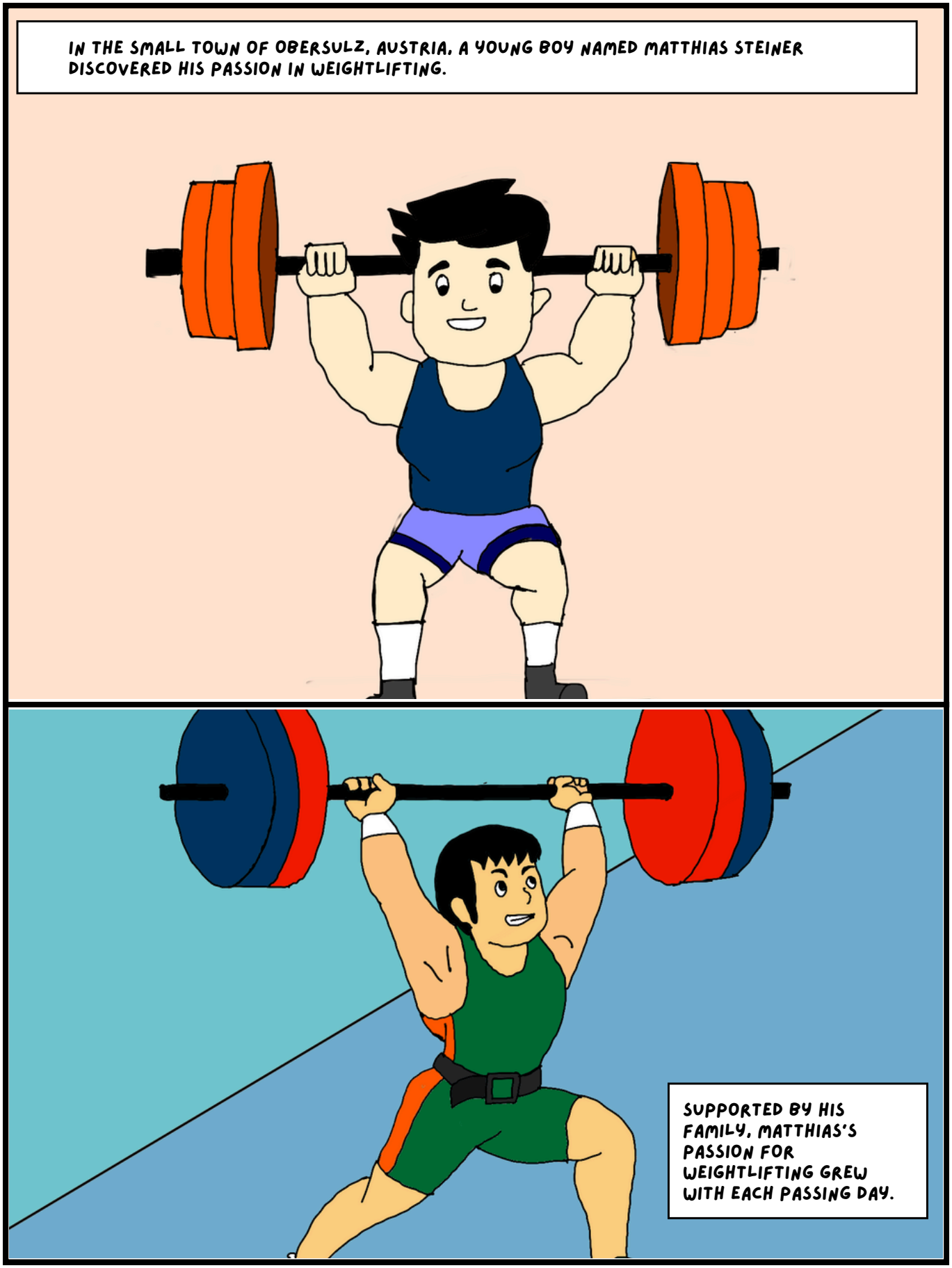
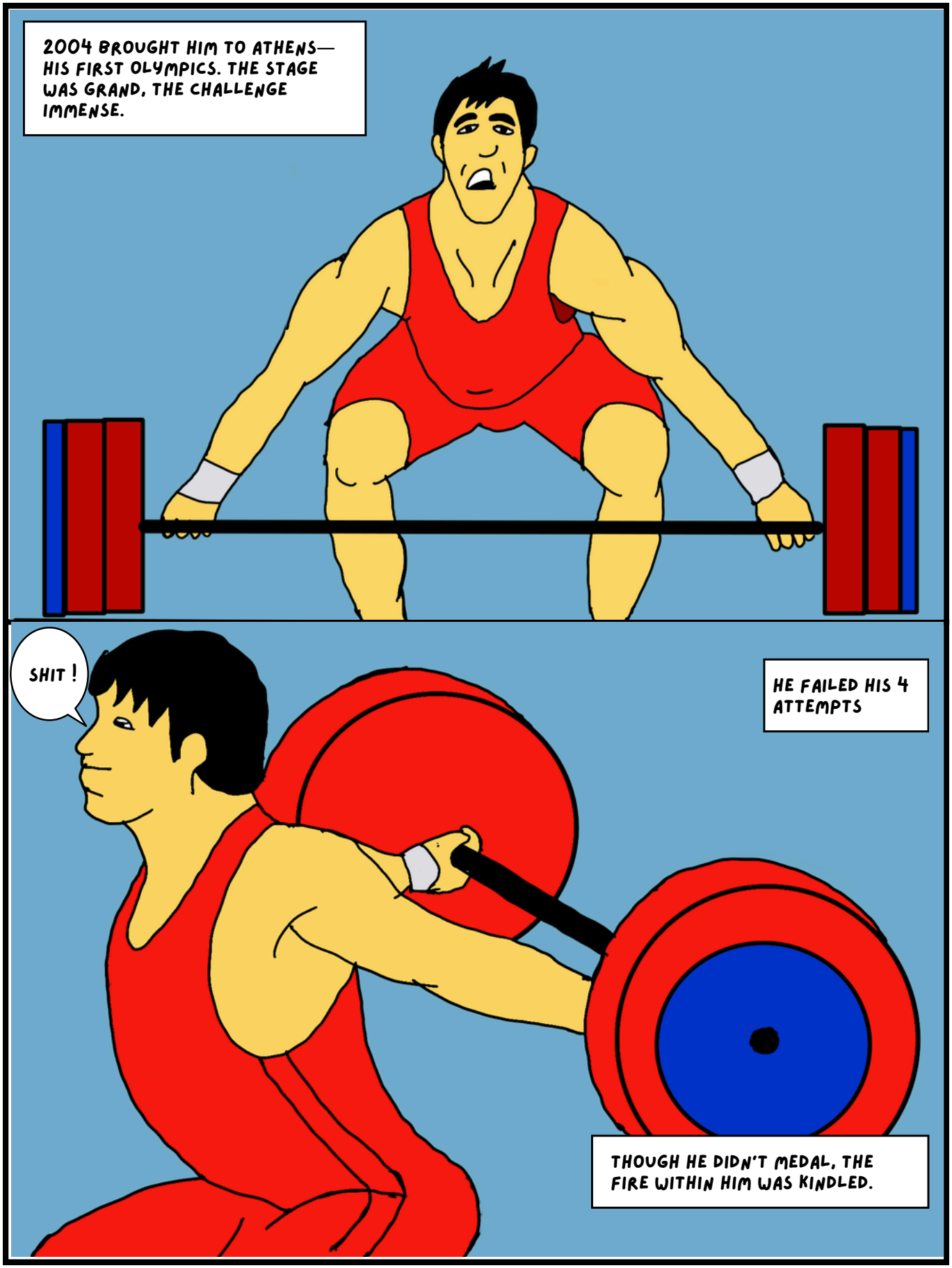
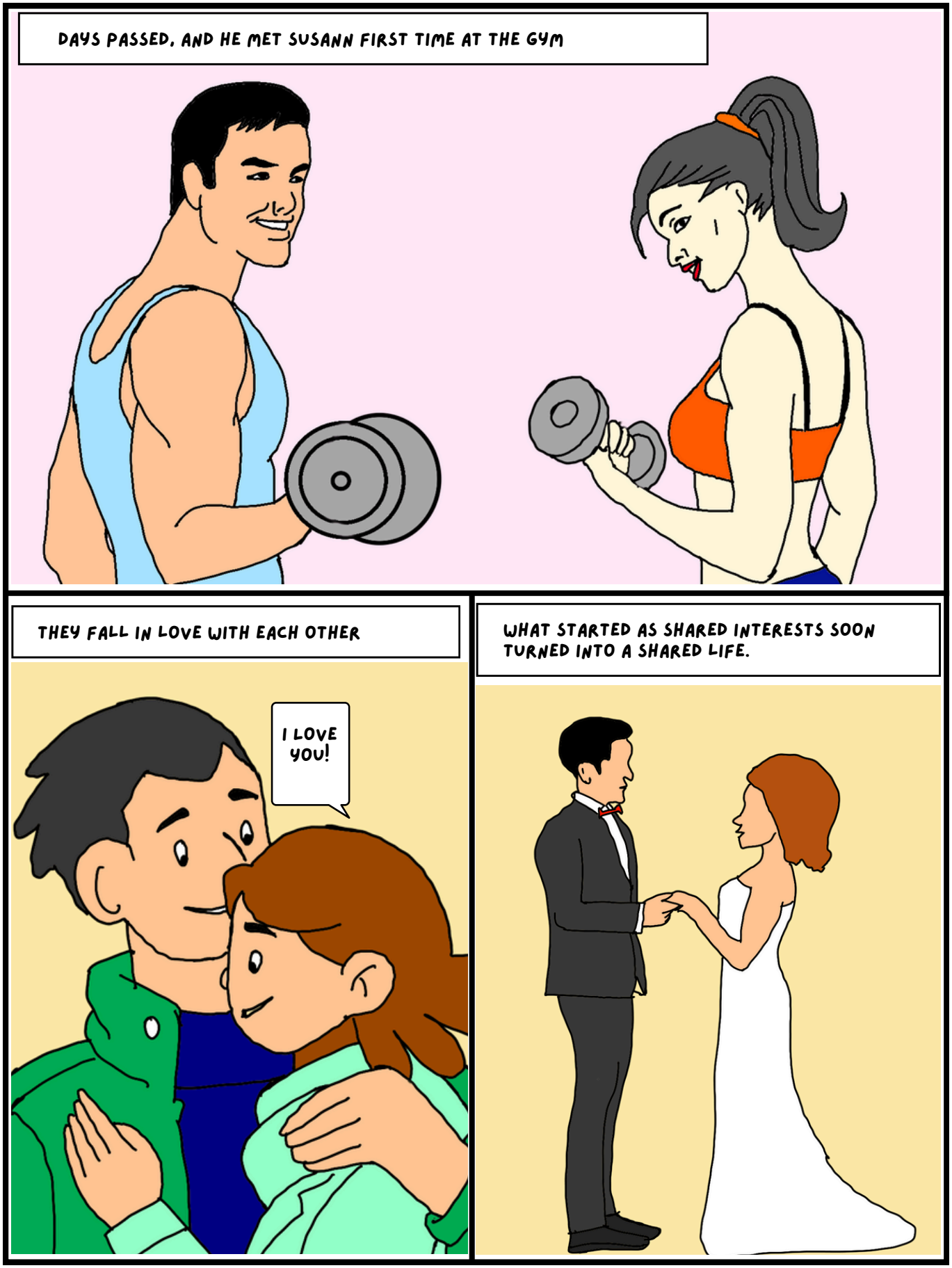
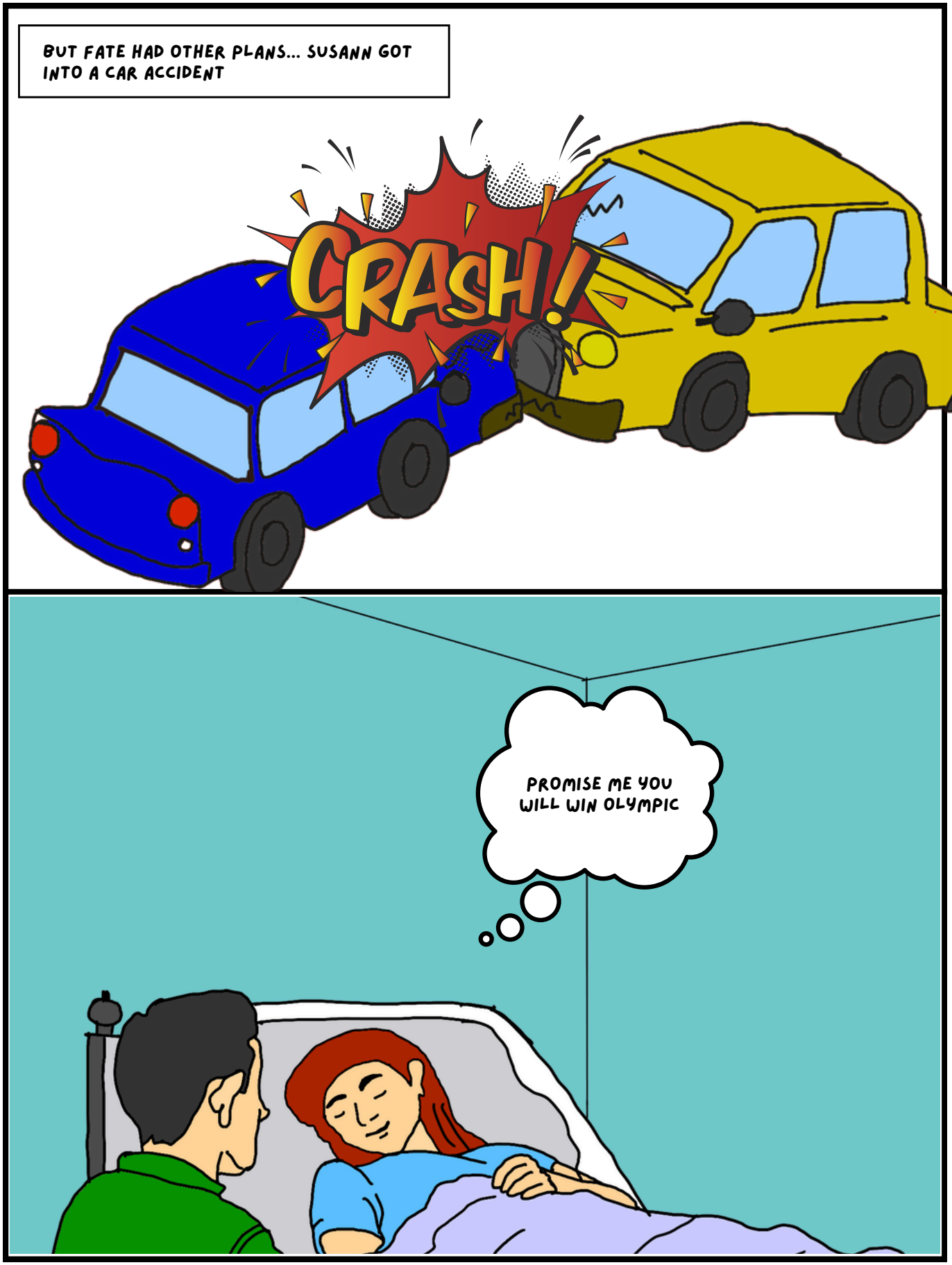

IN THE SMALL TOWN OF OBERSULZ, AUSTRIA, A YOUNG BOY NAMED MATTHIAS STEINER DISCOVERED HIS PASSION IN WEIGHTLIFTING.
SUPPORTED BY HIS FAMILY, MATTHIAS'S PASSION FOR WEIGHTLIFTING GREW WITH EACH PASSING DAY.

GROWING STRONGER AND MORE FOCUSED, HE SOON OUTGREW THE LOCAL GYM'S CHALLENGES, PUSHING HIMSELF TOWARDS NATIONAL FAME.


2004 BROUGHT HIM TO ATHENS— HIS FIRST OLYMPICS. THE STAGE WAS GRAND, THE CHALLENGE IMMENSE.
SHIT !
HE FAILED HIS 4 ATTEMPTS
THOUGH HE DIDN'T MEDAL, THE FIRE WITHIN HIM WAS KINDLED.

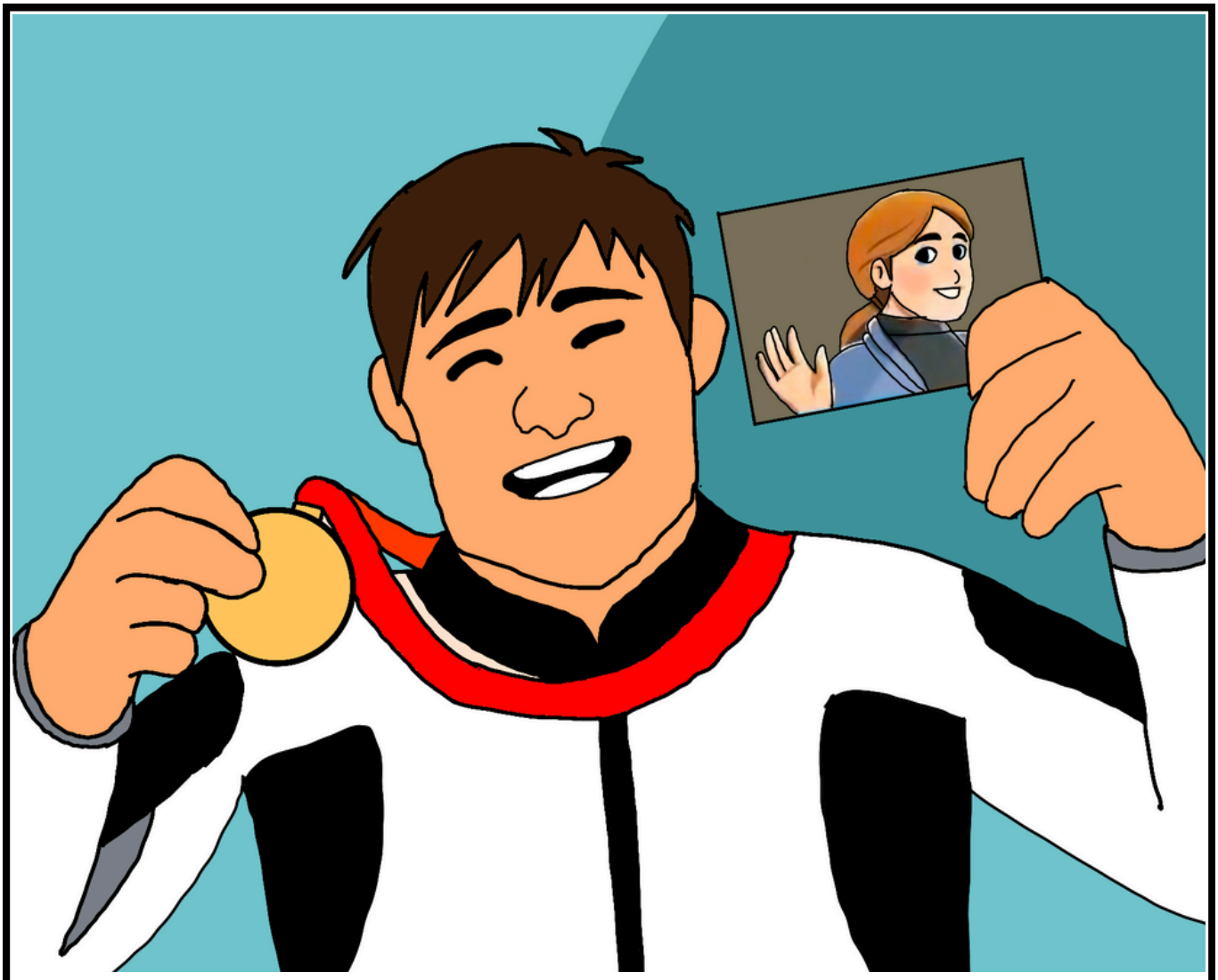

DAYS PASSED, AND HE MET SUSANN FIRST TIME AT THE GYM
THEY FALL IN LOVE WITH EACH OTHER
I LOVE YOU!
WHAT STARTED AS SHARED INTERESTS SOON TURNED INTO A SHARED LIFE.


BUT FATE HAD OTHER PLANS... SUSANN GOT INTO A CAR ACCIDENT
CRASH!
PROMISE ME YOU WILL WIN OLYMPIC

AND SHE DIED..
STEINER WAS HEARTBROKEN BY HIS WIFE'S DEMISE AND THOUGHT ABOUT QUITTING WEIGHTLIFTING COMPLETELY.
WHY HER... WHY NOW?
BUT THEN, WHAT WOULD BECOME OF THE PROMISE HE MADE TO HIS WIFE?
DRIVEN BY HIS VOW, MATTHIAS RETURNED TO THE GYM. EACH LIFT WAS A TRIBUTE TO THEIR LOVE AND HIS PROMISE.

AT THE 2008 BEIJING OLYMPICS, STEINER COMPETED AGAINST SOME OF THE TOP WEIGHTLIFTERS IN THE WORLD..
10
AAARGH!
THIS IS FOR US.
HOLD STRONG
YOU CAN DO THIS MATTHIAS.!

HE FELT THAT HE IS NOT STANDING THERE ALONE
LIFT WITH YOUR HEART, MATTHIAS.
I CAN DO THIS.
HE DID IT AND LIFTED TOTAL 461 KG
GOOD LIFT.



WHILE TAKING HIS MEDAL ON THE OLYMPIC PODIUM, MATTHIAS STEINER KISSED A PICTURE OF HIS WIFE WHO DIED IN THE TRAGIC CAR ACCIDENT JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO.

THE PROMISE HE MADE TO HER WAS THE CATALYST THAT PUSHED MATTHIAS TO GIVE HIS ALL AND BECOME A OLYMPIC CHAMPION.

HE BECAME AN INSPIRATION FOR NEW GENERATIONS ALL OVER THE GLOBE AND IS CONSIDERED AN OLYMPIC LEGEND.