

## ***Steve goes to Carnival***

By Joshua Button and Robyn Wells

Notes by Robyn Wells, March 2018

### **5. DANCING GIRLS AND DRUMMERS**

Manila folder containing 7 piece of original artwork

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The style of the dancing girls and drummers were from the Time-Life book, *Great Cities of the world/Rio de Janeiro* (Chapter 6). We loved the seventies style of the carnival dancers: they were colourful and forthright, without having the sexual overtones that is seen in later years of Carnival.

The carnival dancer in the yellow costume was based on research we did about a young girl from the favela, Janaina. Her boots and feathers were inspired by her home-made costume. The muse for the dancer in the orange sequins was Joshua's mother, Dolores Button, who is fond of dressing up!

The drummers and dancers are vigorous in their movements and open-hearted, encouraging Steve to join them in the festivities. We wanted the people in these scenes to be ordinary, everyday people.

Joshua made a special illustration using his older brother, John, as an inspiration. John is a drummer, so it seemed fitting to have him in the samba band scene. John also makes an appearance in the jazz club in the final dance scene.