

Steve goes to Carnival

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Notes by Robyn Wells, March 2018

6. EXTRA STREET CHARACTERS

Manila folder containing 9 pieces of original artwork

Brazil has a very rich history, and the illustrations of supporting characters reflect the many different types of people who live in Rio de Janeiro. The inhabitants of the favelas, the hat seller, the tram driver, the street vendors, the characters of the jazz club are all treated in a thoughtful manner: each illustration portrays an individual, with a part to play in the story and particular character traits that gives these supporting characters a great deal of depth.: we can see the absorption of the girl eating the ice-cream at the zoo, the enthusiasm of the boy from the favela running with a hoop, the smile of the kind doorman.

Steve meets with many acts of kindness from these characters: they give him a lift on the tram, salute him at Carnival; offer him their wares, and even dance with him! One important message of the story is that of kindness shown by strangers.