

Far

by Alison Earls

His mother named him Far because she had high hopes for him. She said that she had never meant for him to leave her behind, but she suspected that he might.

“Great things are never done in small places,” she would say.

But Far didn't travel, except daily by bus — first to learn and then to teach in the local school. And it was there that he and his classes journeyed to ancient Egypt and the plains of Africa, through poetry and fantasy, in clouds and volcanoes and across mysterious planets.

And Far said to his mother, “The *greatest* things can happen in books and in imaginations.”

