



WARRIORS FOR THE AMAZON

AGAINST THE FIRE MONSTERS



GUERRERAS
POR LA
AMAZONÍA



AMNISTÍA
INTERNACIONAL



The Union of People Affected by Texaco's Oil Operations (UDAPT) is a non-profit organization that brings together communities belonging to six indigenous nationalities (Waorani, Siekopai, Siona, A'í Kofan, Shuar, and Kichwa) and nearly 80 rural communities settled in the area contaminated by oil extraction initiated by the Chevron corporation, formerly Texaco, and now continued by Petroecuador and other transnational companies within the provinces of Orellana and Sucumbíos in the Ecuadorian Amazon.

UDAPT brings together the peoples and communities that in 1993 initiated legal proceedings against the oil company Texaco for environmental, social, and cultural damage caused in the Ecuadorian Amazon region. The plaintiffs against Chevron are part of the UDAPT, which is therefore the organization that legally represents them, in addition to carrying out projects to support the affected communities, implementing comprehensive strategies in defense of human rights and nature.

The collective “Eliminen los mecheros, encendan la vida” (Eliminate the flares, Ignite Life) is composed of the Union of People Affected by Texaco's Oil Operations (UDAPT), the Social Pastoral of the Vicariate of Aguarico and Sucumbíos, Caritas, Ecological Action, Environmental Clinic, the UDAPT women's network, the Yasunidos Collective, Radio Sucumbíos, the Shushufindi Human Rights Committee, the Ángel Shingre Leaders Network, the Capuchin Friars, Radio Ecuador, the Guerreras por la Amazonía (Warriors for the Amazon) collective, CDES, the Alliance of Human Rights Organizations of Ecuador, and a dozen other social collectives in Ecuador.



This material focuses on the struggle of the girls and adolescents who are plaintiffs in the Mecheros (gas flares) case, now known as Guerreras por la Amazonía (Warriors for the Amazon), in their participation in the broader struggle for human rights initiated and sustained by the collective “Eliminate the flares, ignite life,” the UDAPT, and thousands of people from affected communities. This material combines elements of fiction and reality in the manhwa format as a way of telling their story.

Learn more about the struggle for human rights and nature by the collective

“Eliminen los mecheros, enciendan la vida”:

(ELIMINATE THE FLARES, IGNITE LIFE):



<https://udapt.org/caso-mecheros/>

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IS A MOVEMENT OF 10 MILLION PEOPLE WHO ACTIVATE THE SENSE OF HUMANITY WITHIN EACH OF THEM, AND WHO CAMPAIGN FOR CHANGES THAT ALLOW EVERYONE TO ENJOY THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS. OUR VISION IS OF A WORLD WHERE THOSE IN POWER KEEP THEIR PROMISES, RESPECT INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND ARE HELD ACCOUNTABLE. WE ARE INDEPENDENT OF ANY GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL IDEOLOGY, ECONOMIC INTEREST, OR RELIGIOUS BELIEF, AND OUR WORK IS FUNDED PRIMARILY BY MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DONATIONS. WE BELIEVE THAT ACTING OUT OF SOLIDARITY AND COMPASSION TOWARDS OUR FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS AROUND THE WORLD CAN IMPROVE OUR SOCIETIES.

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Script Adaptation: Brenda Sokwha Yu P.

SOME TIME AGO, STRANGE FIRE CREATURES BEGAN TO APPEAR IN THE ECUADORIAN AMAZON, BURNING EVERYTHING IN THEIR PATH.



THEIR PRESENCE THREATENED THE RIGHTS OF ALL LIVING BEINGS IN THE FOREST.

THERE IS AN ANCIENT AMAZONIAN LEGEND THAT HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION:

"WHEN EVIL LURKS, AN EVEN MIGHTIER FORCE WILL RISE UP TO PROTECT THE LAND."

AND SO BEGINS THE STORY OF THESE WARRIORS FOR THE AMAZON....



I HAVE A PROJECT FOR OUR NEXT CLASS. I WANT YOU TO RESEARCH SOMETHING IN THE RAINFOREST THAT INSPIRES YOU AND TELL THE WORLD ABOUT IT. OUR AMAZON FOREST IS THE LUNGS OF THE EARTH, A UNIQUE PLACE.





KERLY



← A walk through the forest
Kerly, Daniela and 7 more

K KERLY: HEY GIRLS, LET'S INVESTIGATE. SOMETHING SPECIAL! MY GRANDMOTHER HAS TOLD ME ABOUT A SACRED TREE THAT GRANTS WISHES TO THOSE WHO TOUCH IT!

D DANIELA: MY GRANDFATHER SAYS THAT THAT'S HOW HE MANAGED TO MARRY MY GRANDMOTHER 😊

S SKARLETT: I LIKE THE IDEA. LET'S GO AFTER SCHOOL



DANIELA

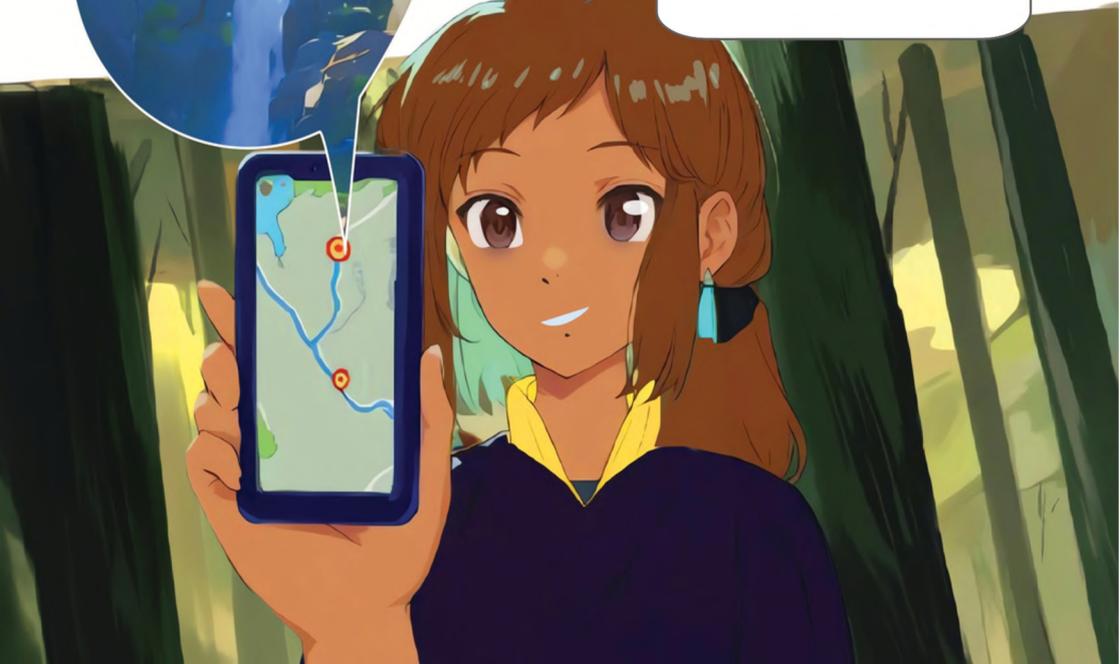
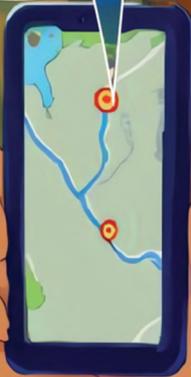


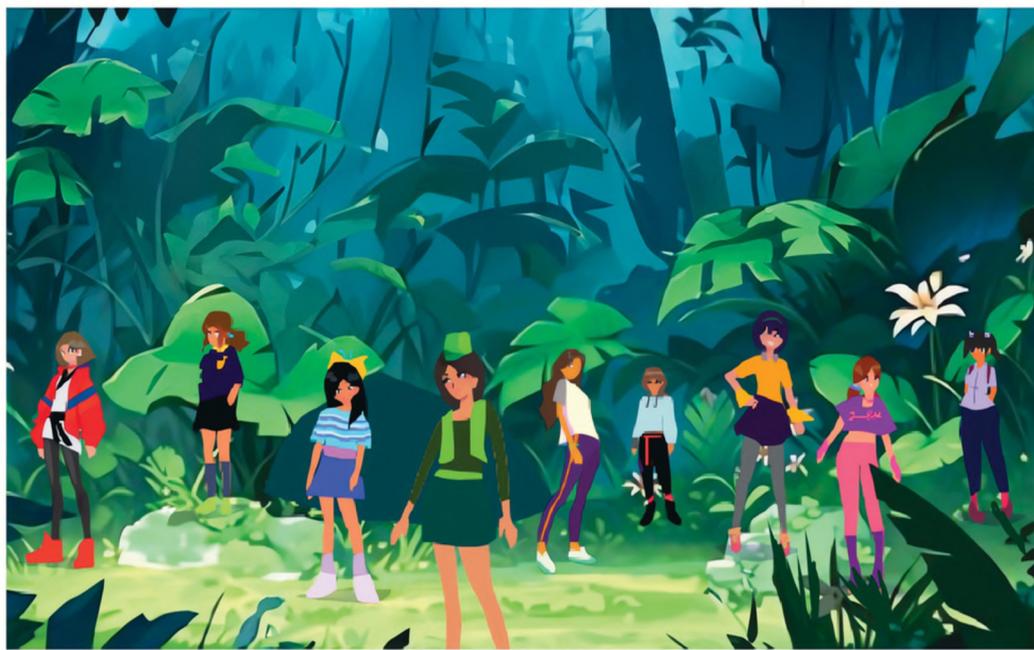
SKARLETT

HOW EXCITING! LET'S GO EXPLORING!



**MY GRANDMOTHER
SAID IT'S CLOSE TO
THE SAN ROBERTO
WATERFALL.**





DEEP INSIDE THE FOREST...



JAMILETH



DENISSE



EVELYN



KERLY

WHAT ON EARTH IS THAT????!!!



LEONELA



JEY



DANNYA



SKARLETT



DANIELA



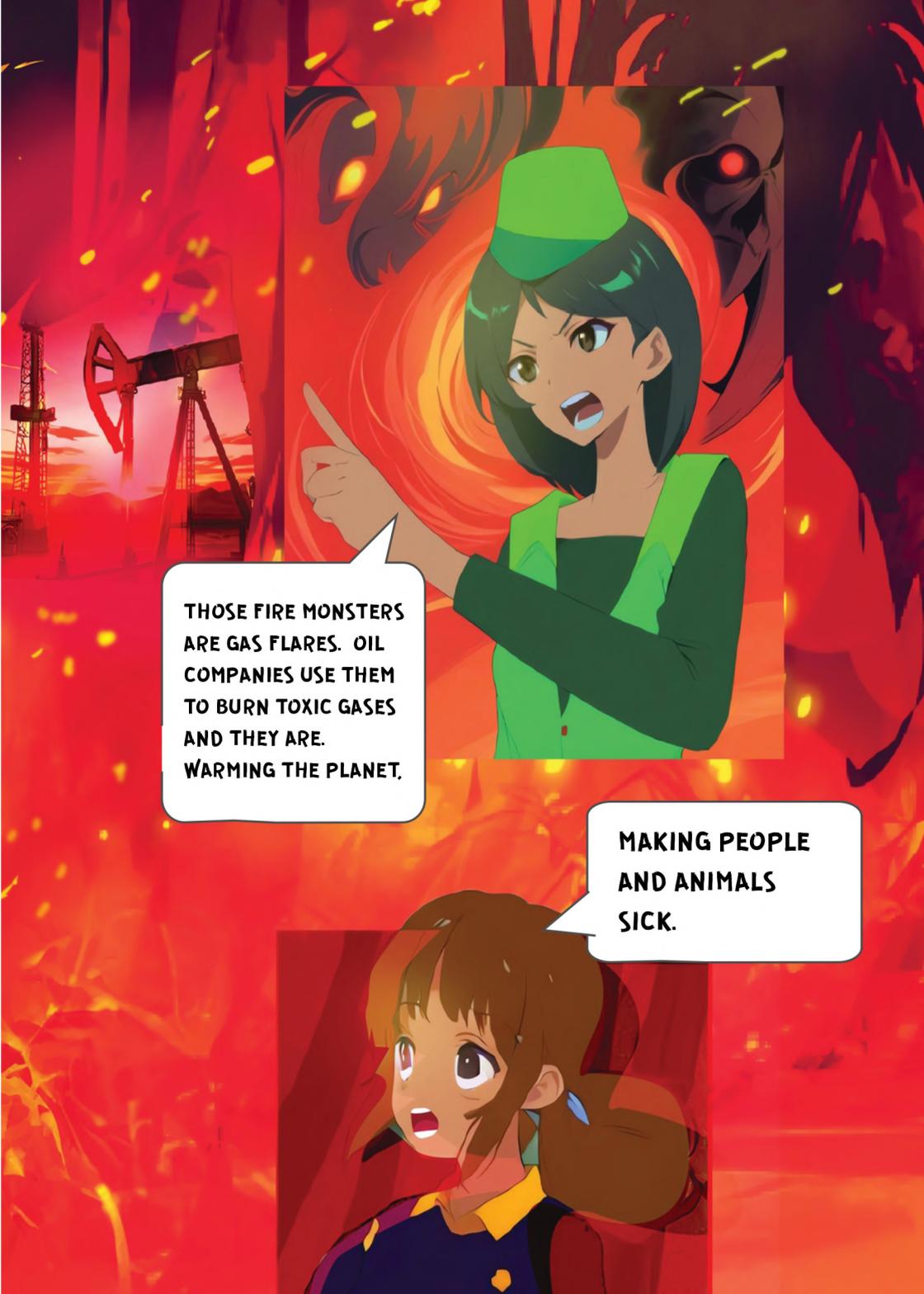
OH NO! THE WATERFALL HAS DRIED UP AND. THERE'S AN OIL SPILL!

OH DEAR. THE TREES ARE BURNING.



WHAT A DISASTER! THE FOREST HAS BEEN DESTROYED!





**THOSE FIRE MONSTERS
ARE GAS FLARES. OIL
COMPANIES USE THEM
TO BURN TOXIC GASES
AND THEY ARE.
WARMING THE PLANET.**

**MAKING PEOPLE
AND ANIMALS
SICK.**





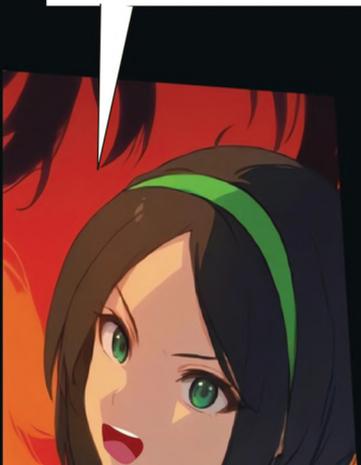
THE FOREST AND THOSE WHO LIVE IN IT ARE IN DANGER! WE HAVE TO SAVE THEM!

WATCH OUT!



THIS IS UNFAIR! THE MONSTERS ARE DESTROYING THE AMAZON!

THIS CANNOT BE HAPPENING! THE MONSTERS ARE DESTROYING EVERYTHING! WE MUST ORGANIZE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.





LOOK! I CAN SEE A GREEN LIGHT OVER THERE.



LET'S FOLLOW IT, IT'S PROBABLY LOOKING FOR A WAY OUT OF THIS INFERNO.



WHAT'S THAT?





I'M AN ANCIENT GUARDIAN OF THE AMAZON AND I NEED YOUR HELP. OIL EXTRACTION HAS CAUSED GREAT HARM TO OUR LAND AND ITS PEOPLE. YOU ARE OUR ONLY HOPE!



FOR OVER A CENTURY, OIL EXTRACTION AND BURNING HAS FILLED THE AIR WITH GASES THAT TRAP THE HEAT AND WARM THE PLANET. THIS IS KILLING ANIMALS, PLANTS... AND PEOPLE! WE ARE NOW EXPERIENCING HURRICANES, DROUGHTS, FLOODS AND RISING SEA LEVELS THAT THREATEN LIFE. GAS FLARES AND POLLUTION ARE NOT ONLY DESTROYING THE AMAZON, THEY ARE ALSO DESTROYING OUR PLANET!



TAKE THESE CHARMS. THEY WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR LOVE FOR NATURE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND GIVE YOU THE VISION AND POWER TO PROTECT THE FOREST. THEY WILL ALLOW YOU TO ROAM THE FOREST WITHOUT BEING DISCOVERED.



IT'S TIME TO FIGHT!



THE MONSTERS ARE REALLY STRONG



I DON'T THINK WE CAN DEFEAT THEM ON OUR OWN.



WE NEED TO REGROUP



AND GET HELP FROM OUR COMMUNITIES AND THE WORLD

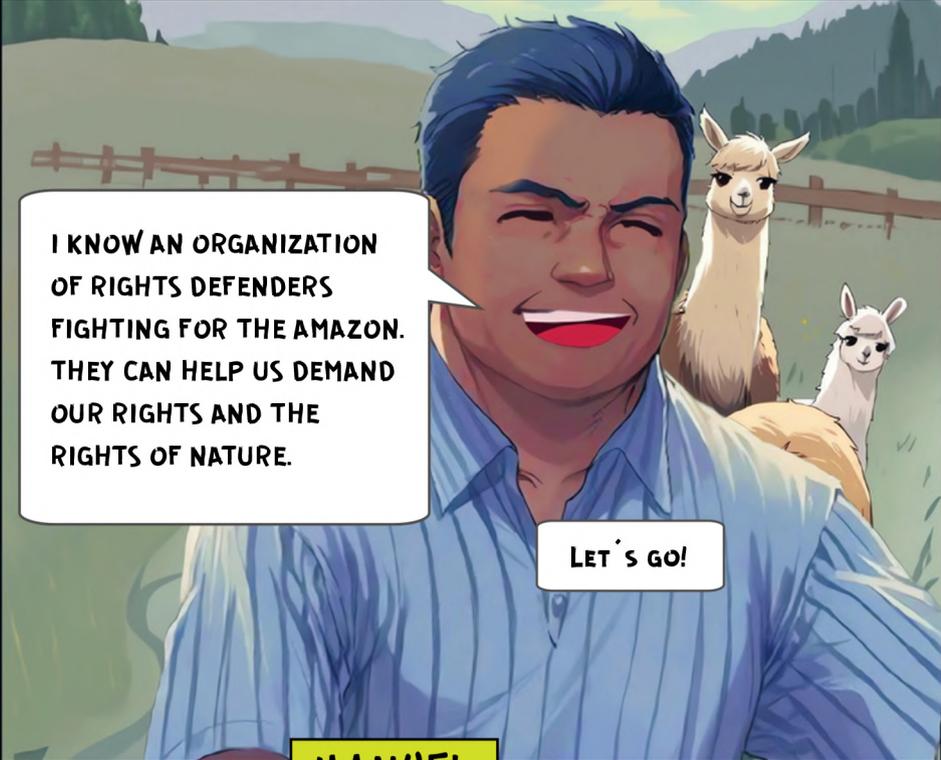




THEY ARE VERY BRAVE. BUT MAYBE STRENGTH IS NOT ENOUGH. WE NEED TO DEMAND THAT THE FIRE MONSTERS BE ELIMINATED.

NATY
DANNYA'S MUM

EDGAR
DANNYA'S DAD



I KNOW AN ORGANIZATION OF RIGHTS DEFENDERS FIGHTING FOR THE AMAZON. THEY CAN HELP US DEMAND OUR RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS OF NATURE.

LET'S GO!

MANUEL
EVELYN'S UNCLE

UNION OF PERSONS AFFECTED BY TEXACO'S OIL OPERATIONS (UDAPT)



WE KNOW ABOUT THE GAS FLARES IN THE FOREST.

GOOD MORNING. HOW CAN I HELP YOU?

WE WANT TO HELP GET RID OF THEM. WE CANNOT LET THEM CONTINUE TO DESTROY OUR BELOVED FOREST.

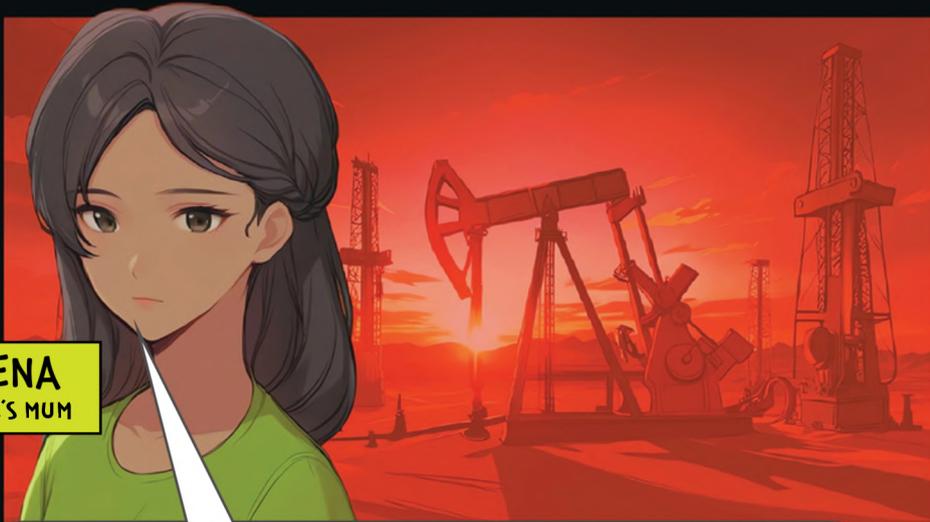
ALICIA
KERLY'S MUM

PABLO

FANNY
JAMILETH'S MUM

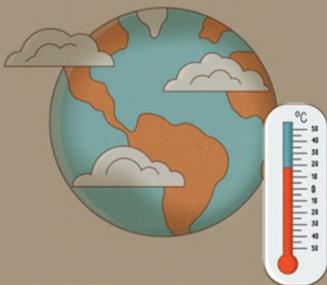
I CAN SEE THAT YOU ARE REALLY COMMITTED, AND THAT MAKES ME VERY HAPPY. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS IS A VERY OLD PROBLEM CAUSED BY THE OIL INDUSTRY.





LORENA
LEONELA'S MUM

GAS FLARES ARE A HUGE PROBLEM FOR US AND FOR ALL COUNTRIES WITH OIL EXTRACTION ACTIVITIES THAT HAVE BECOME SACRIFICE ZONES.



BURNING GAS IN FLARES AT OIL WELLS INCREASES GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND MAKES THE PLANET EVER WARMER. WHICH CAUSES BIG CHANGES IN THE CLIMATE: MORE HEATWAVES, MORE DROUGHT, MORE RAIN, MORE HURRICANES, MORE WILDFIRES...



DONALD
LEONELA'S DAD

**YO,
TU,
ELLA,
ÉL
NOSOTROS**



TO STOP THE FLARES, WE NEED SOLID EVIDENCE. PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOS SHOWING THE DAMAGE THEY ARE CAUSING. TO BRING TO JUSTICE WHAT FLARES ARE DOING TO PEOPLE AND NATURE, WE NEED YOUR HELP, YOUNG LADIES!

ANTONIO



I THINK WE KNOW WHAT TO DO...



GIRLS...?



**WE CAN DO IT!
TOGETHER, NO ONE
CAN STOP US!**

**LET'S TURN INTO OUR POWER
ANIMALS TO REACH EVERY CORNER
OF THE AMAZON AND GATHER ALL
THE EVIDENCE WE NEED!**





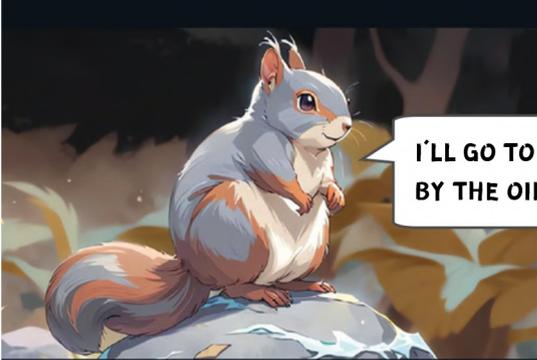
WE CAN COVER A LARGER AREA THAT WAY. BUT WE MUST BE CAREFUL. THE OIL INDUSTRY AND OIL INTERESTS WILL TRY TO STOP US FROM ELIMINATING THE FLARES.

WAIT! LET'S MAKE A PLAN. EACH OF US MUST GO TO A DIFFERENT AREA.



AND COME BACK HERE BEFORE NIGHT FALLS AND THE FLARES BECOME STRONGER.



A squirrel with grey, white, and brown fur is sitting on a grey rock. The background is a dark, forest-like setting with some foliage.

I'LL GO TO THE RIVER AFFECTED BY THE OIL SPILL.

A pink dolphin is leaping out of blue water, creating a splash. The dolphin is shown in profile, moving from left to right.

I'LL GO TO THE SOURCE OF THE AMAZON RIVER TO COLLECT EVIDENCE ON THE IMPACT OF THE GAS FLARES ON THE WATER.

A brown monkey with a white chest patch is sitting on a dark log. The background is a soft, green, out-of-focus forest.

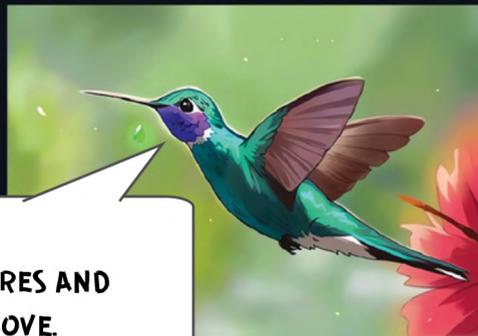
AND I'LL GO TO THE PLACES WHERE THE MONKEYS USED TO ROAM. DEFORESTATION HAS CAUSED CHAOS THERE, DESTROYING THEIR HOMES AND THEIR FOOD SOURCES.

A large, brown capybara is standing in a forest. In the background, there are trees and two smaller capybaras on the ground.

I'LL GO TO THE MANGROVES, WHICH ARE NOW DRY, POLLUTED AND BASICALLY DESTROYED.



I WILL FIND EVIDENCE OF IMPACTS ON THE SMALLEST CREATURES, BECAUSE INSECTS ARE ALSO IMPORTANT.



WE WILL TAKE PICTURES AND VIDEOS FROM ABOVE.



AND WE WILL DISTRACT THE FLARES IN YOUR PATH. THEY WILL BE SO BUSY TRYING TO CATCH US THAT THEY WON'T EVEN SEE YOU. OUR ABILITIES WILL ALLOW US TO GET AWAY EASILY.





WE DID IT!



WAIT! WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

CARMEN
DENISSE'S MUM



GIRLS, SHOW HER!



EXCELLENT! WE CAN GO TO COURT WITH THIS AND SEEK JUSTICE FOR THE FOREST.



PROVINCIAL COURT OF JUSTICE OF SUCUMBIÓS...



Ruling in favour of the flares



THIS IS UNFAIR.



IT'S NOT FAIR THAT THE COURT AND THE GOVERNMENT TURN THEIR BACKS ON THE DAMAGE CAUSED BY OIL FLARES. THE AMAZON ALSO HAS THE RIGHT TO LIVE! IF NO ONE IS LISTENING, WE WILL BE THE VOICE OF THE FOREST!



GIRLS, WE CAN'T STOP NOW.



THE STRUGGLE HAS ONLY JUST BEGUN, MY DEAR WARRIORS. THE POWER TO HIGHLIGHT THE IMPACT OF GAS FLARES IS IN YOUR HANDS AND IN THE HANDS OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE THE WORLD OVER.



**WE WON'T GIVE UP!
NO MORE FLARES!**



PROVINCIAL COURT OF JUSTICE OF SUCUMBÍOS...



The Court rules in favour of the Warriors



REMOVE THE FLARES
IGNITE LIFE



WE, INDIGENOUS GIRLS AND YOUTH, ARE RAISING OUR VOICE AND JOINING THE STRUGGLE TO END THE DESTRUCTION CAUSED BY GAS FLARES AND THE GROWTH OF THE OIL INDUSTRY... WE SUPPORT YOU!

Despite the ruling in favour of the Warriors, the government of Ecuador has not removed the gas flares...

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL NOTES WITH CONCERN THE CONTRIBUTION OF GAS FLARES TO GLOBAL WARMING AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE CURRENT AND FUTURE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS.



THE WORLD MUST KNOW THAT GAS FLARES ARE DESTROYING THE FOREST AND **THE GOVERNMENT HAS FAILED TO COMPLY WITH THE RULING.** CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE OF THE WORLD, RAISE YOUR VOICES WITH US. **THE AMAZON NEEDS YOU!**





AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



彼らはとても勇敢な女の子たちです。

GIRLS, HAVE A LOOK AT THIS! WE ARE RECEIVING MESSAGES OF SUPPORT FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD.



AMNISTÍA
INTERNACIONAL



그들은 매우 용감한 소녀들이다.

그들은 매우 용감한 소녀들이다.

They are very brave girls.

They are very brave girls.



AMNISTÍA
INTERNACIONAL



Act for the Climate! Join the girls and young people in the gas flares case who are igniting hope.

彼らはとても勇敢な女の子たちです。

그들은 매우 용감한 소녀들이다.

They are very brave girls.



"They are a group of really brave girls."



AMNISTIE
INTERNATIONALE



You are real warriors.
Don't stop fighting for the Amazon!
We will always stand with you!

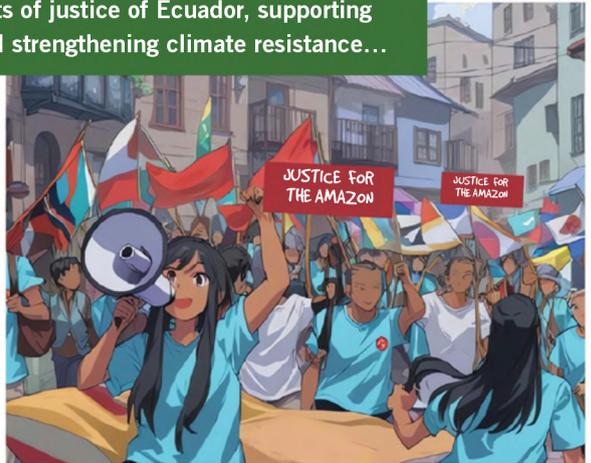
JOIN THE WARRIORS FOR THE AMAZON IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST THE GAS FLARES IN ECUADOR. CALL ON THE STATE OF ECUADOR TO ELIMINATE THE FLARES AND IGNITE LIFE. #REMOVETHEFLARES #ELIMINALAMECHA

Thousands of people, organizations, social movements, universities and journalists from all over the world have sent messages of support in solidarity with the Warriors for the Amazon.

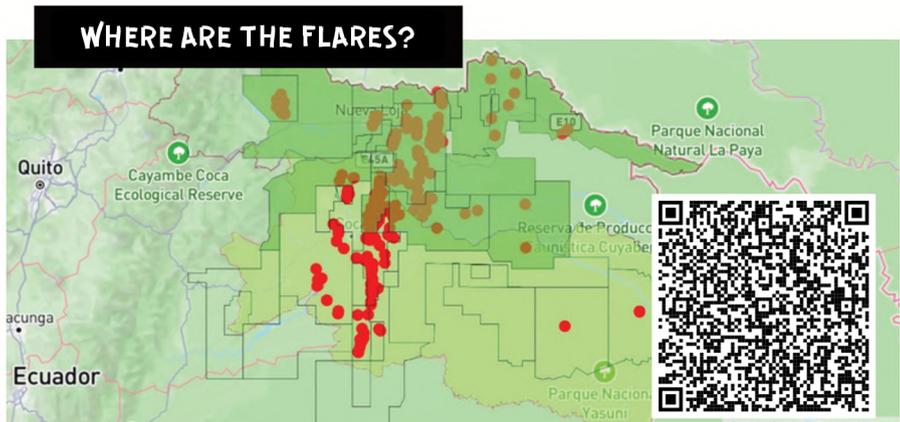
THE FUTURE OF THE AMAZON AND OF THE PLANET IS AT RISK, BUT YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

SKARLETT'S MUM

UADPT, together with the Warriors for the Amazon, continued fighting before the courts of justice of Ecuador, supporting popular mobilizations and strengthening climate resistance...



The future of the Amazon and of the planet is in our hands. Each one of us can be a Guardian for the planet, a Warrior for the Amazon. For every human right you defend, for every one of nature's creatures you protect, with every voice that speaks out, we are together building a future where nature and humans can flourish. Join the climate resistance and fight for our shared home: planet Earth!



JOIN THE WARRIORS FOR THE AMAZON IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST THE FLARES IN ECUADOR. CALL ON THE STATE OF ECUADOR TO ELIMINATE THE GAS FLARES AND IGNITE LIFE. #IGNITELIFE #ELIMINATE THE FLARES #ELIMINALAMECHA



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**GUERRERAS
POR LA
AMAZONÍA**



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