

EMERGE [1] Sports

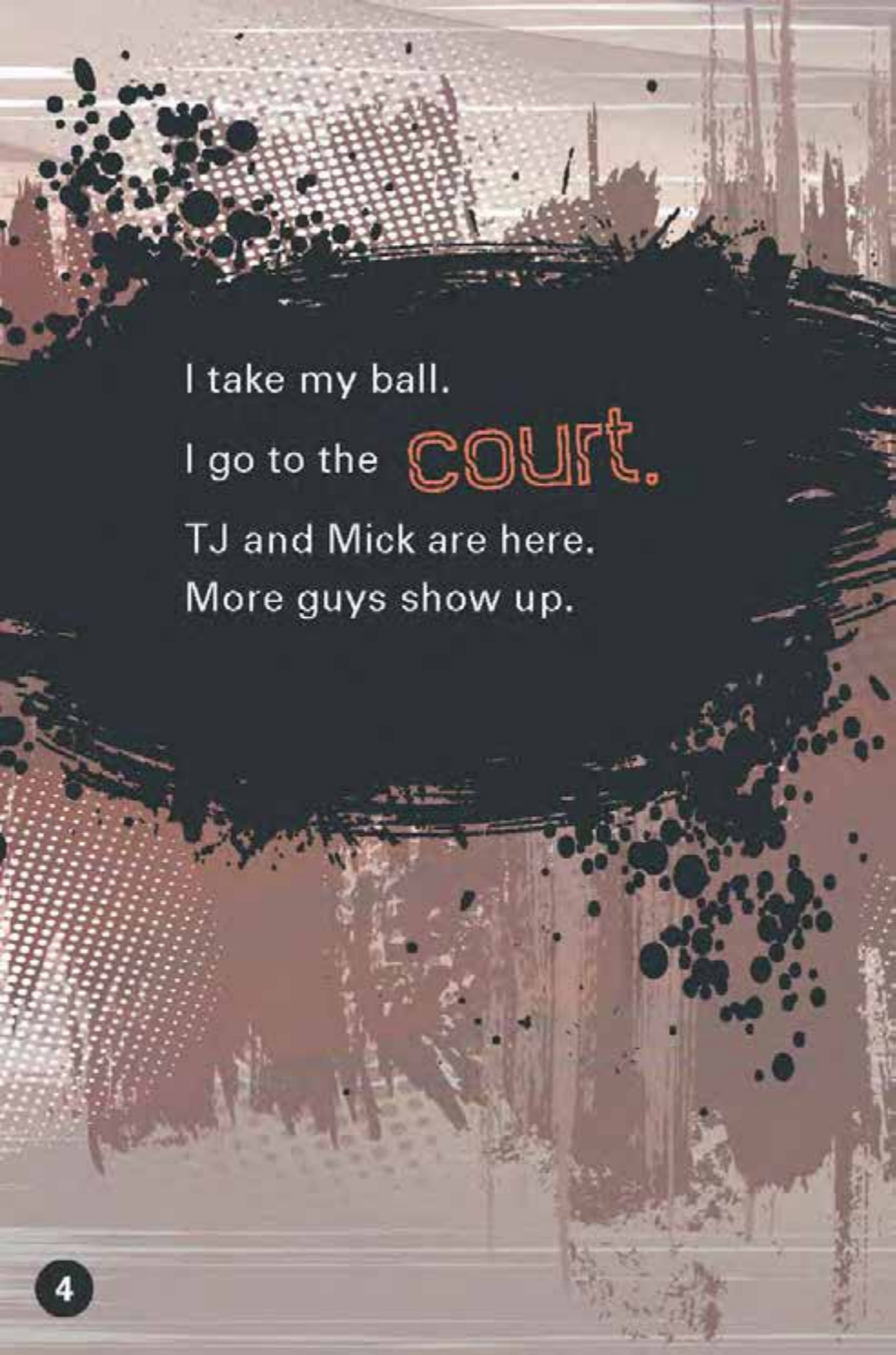
A basketball hoop with a white net is shown from a low angle, looking up. The hoop is orange. The background is a mix of blue and orange, with a bright light source on the right. There are black splatters and silhouettes of people jumping in the foreground, suggesting a game in progress.

STAND

by M.G. Higgins

The house is **hot**.
Dad is mad at Mom.
Mom is mad at Dad.
I have to get out.



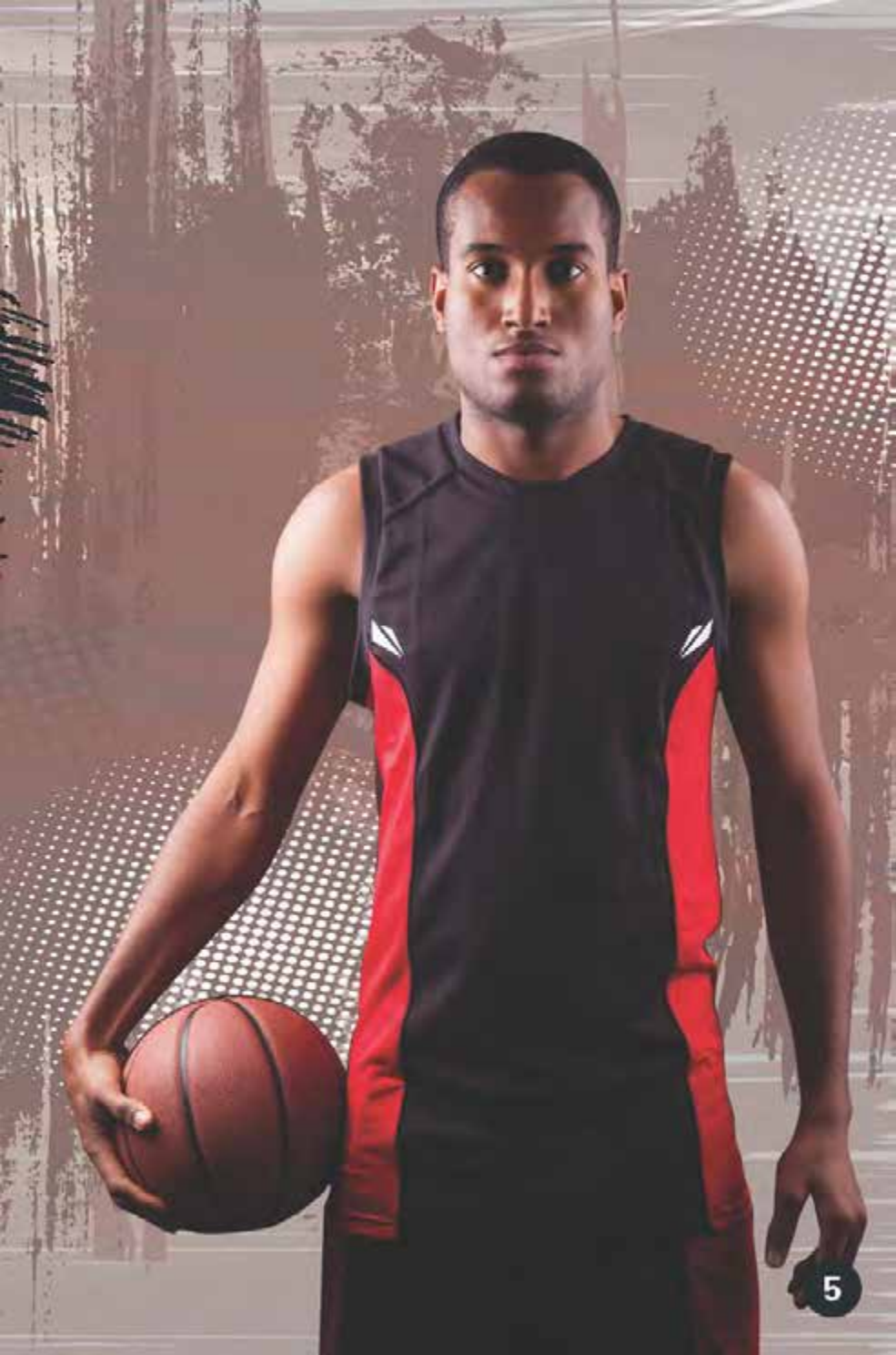
The background is a complex, abstract composition. It features a central, dark, irregular shape that resembles a large ink splatter or a shadow. This shape is set against a light, textured background. The background includes a grid of small, light-colored dots in the upper left and lower left areas, and vertical, brush-like strokes in the lower right. The overall color palette is muted, consisting of various shades of brown, tan, and black.


I take my ball.

I go to the **COURT.**

TJ and Mick are here.

More guys show up.



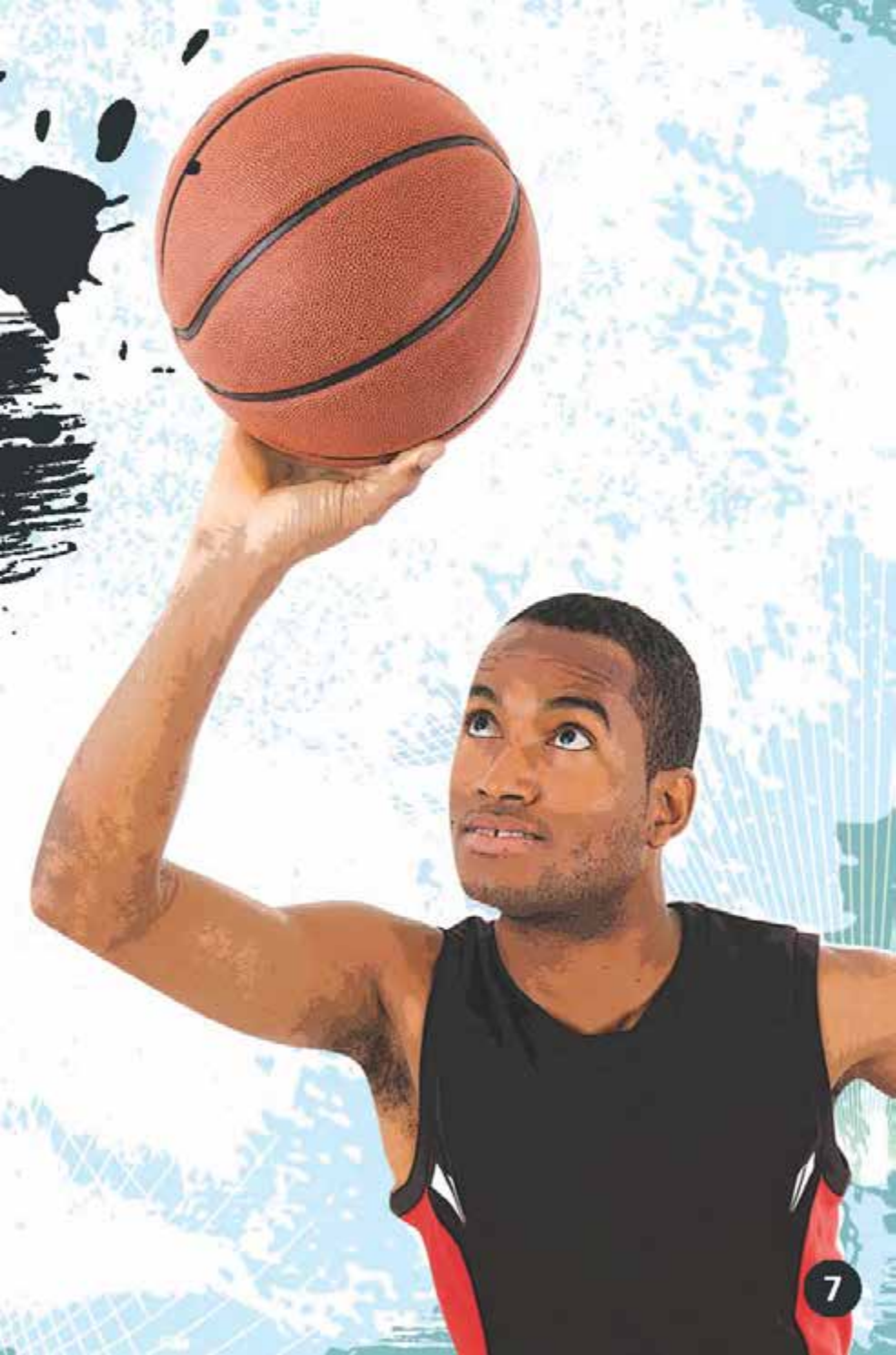
A man with short, curly hair is shown in profile from the chest up, wearing a black t-shirt. He has both hands raised in the air, palms facing forward, with fingers slightly spread. The background is a light blue color with large, expressive black ink splatters and blotches. The overall mood is one of creative energy and playfulness.

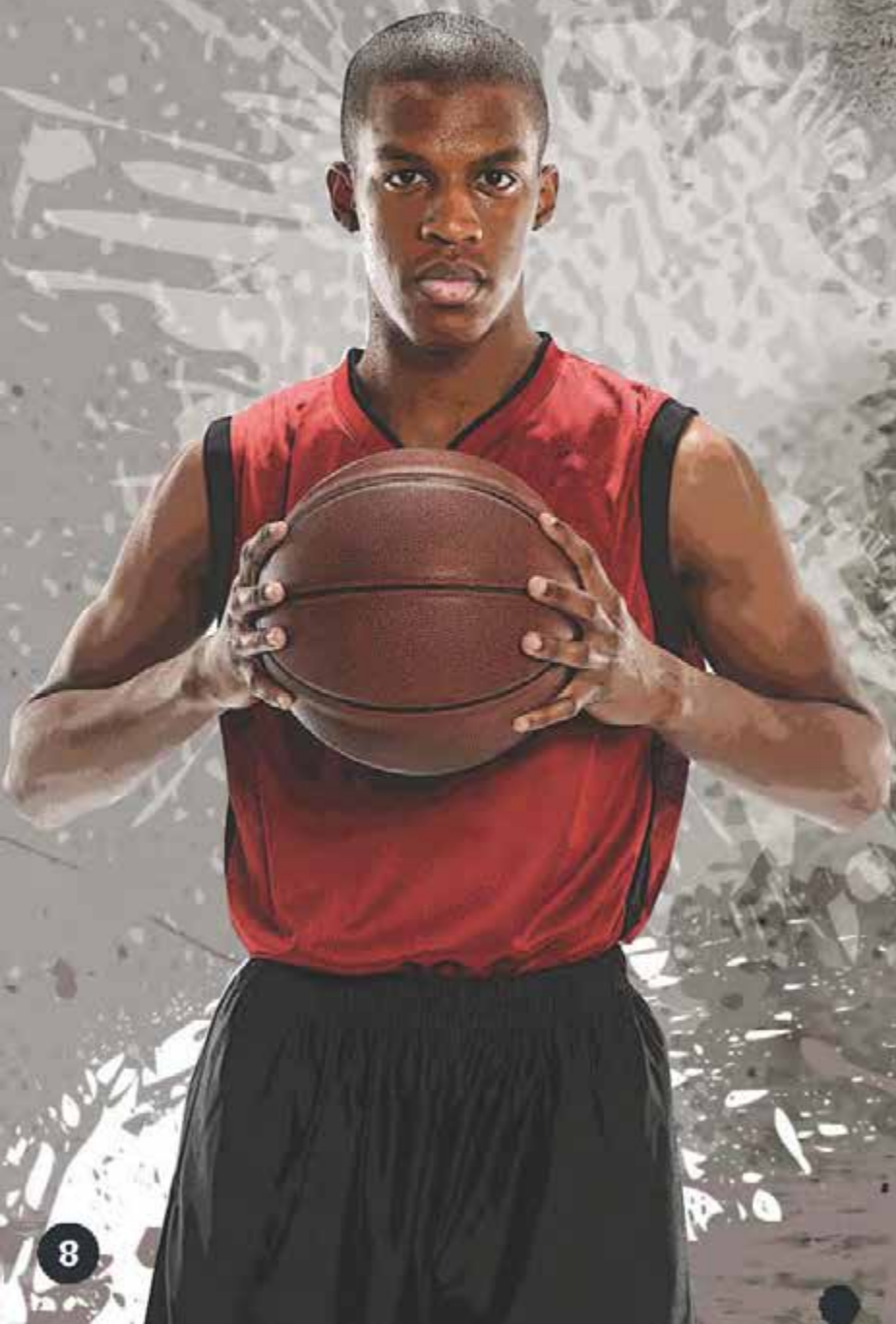
We start a pick up game.

It feels good to **play.**

There are tunes on.

It gets my mind off stuff.







Then Rod shows up.
His crew is with him.

Rod is a **bully**.

He always wants his way.

"Your time is up," Rod says.

"The court is ours."