Piper
Finds Her Line

Mary Deuhs



PIPER FINDS HER LINE

Mary Deuhs



For every young curler finding the courage to take the next shot—and every teammate who makes room.

A HouseCall story

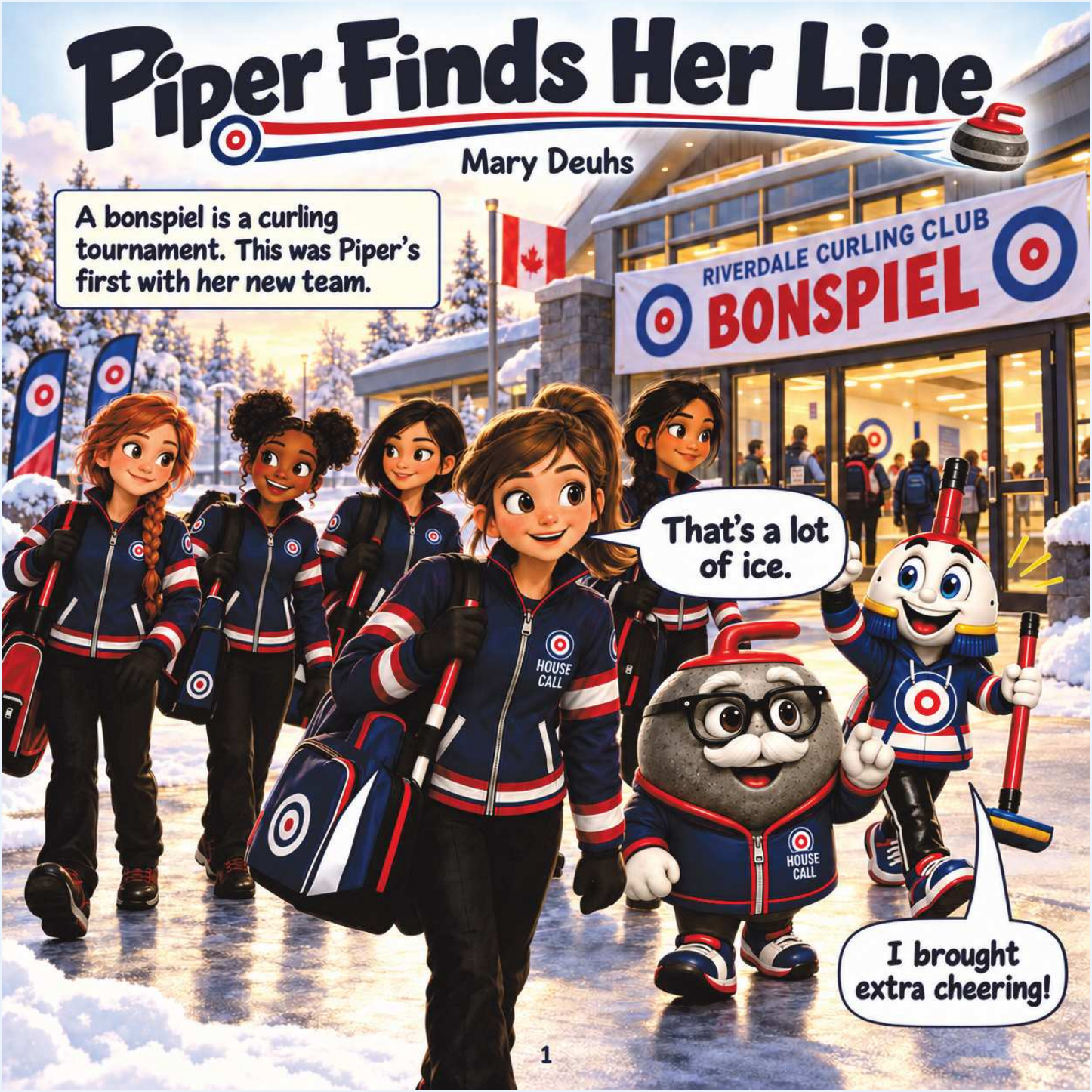
Piper Finds Her Line

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First edition

A HouseCall story

thehousecall.org


Piper Finds Her Line
Mary Deuhs
A bonspiel is a curling tournament. This was Piper's first with her new team.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
BONSPIEL
That's a lot of ice.
HOUSE CALL
HOUSE CALL
I brought extra cheering!
1


Four players started on the ice.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
HOME
FALCONS
0
0
BEA · LEAD
NIA · SECOND
SOFIA · THIRD
MAYA · SKIP
Fifth means... sitting?
For now. Watching is work, too.
PIPER
HOUSE CALL


It curls more as it slows.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
BONSPIEL
HOUSE CALL
I'm watching this crumb. Suspicious.
Good eyes. Watch the speed, too.
HOUSE CALL


Game by game, the girls found their rhythm.
We're in the final!
HOUSE
I've worn out my cheering voice.
FINAL
Borrow mine!
FALCONS
FALCONS

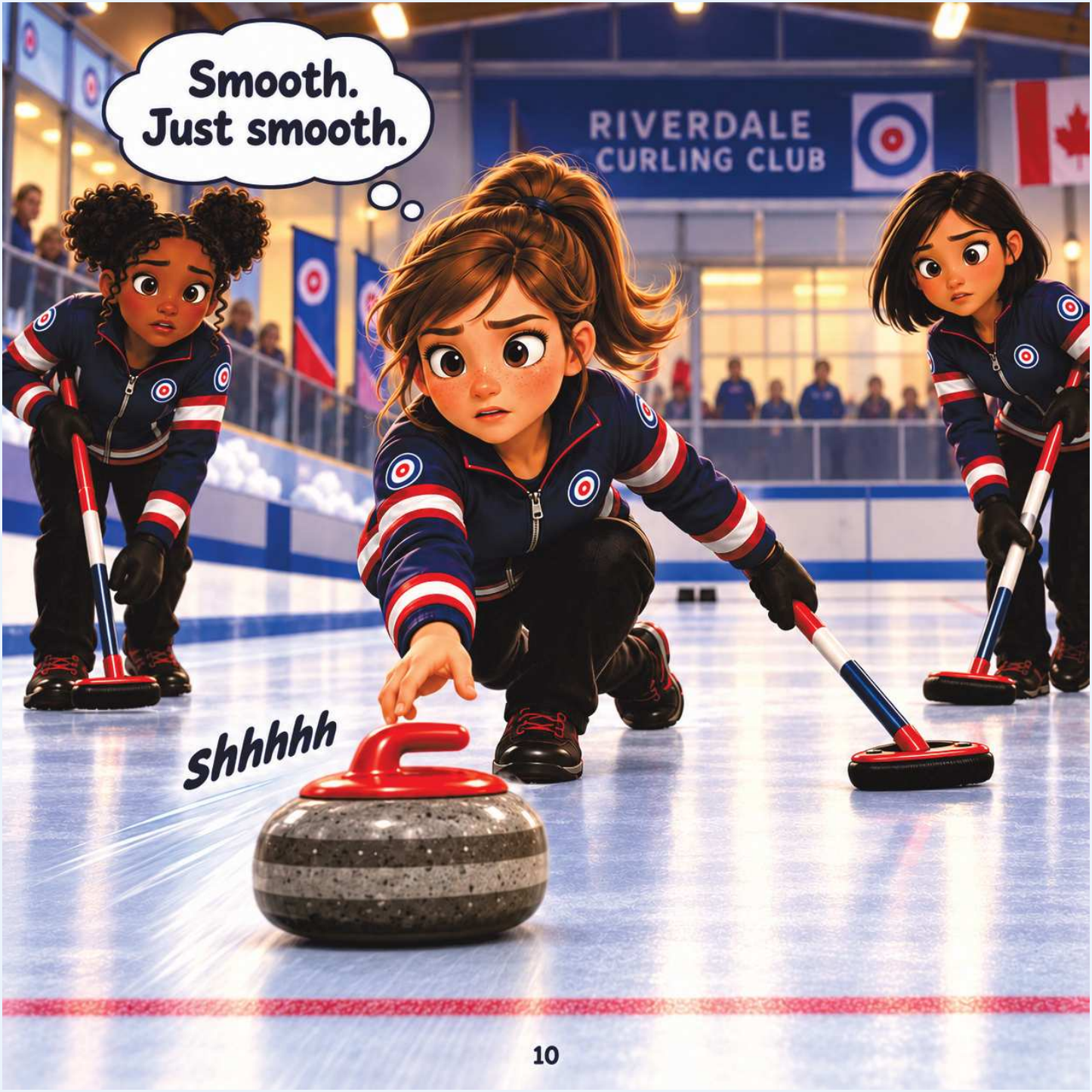

The Falcons scored one in the seventh end.
AFTER 7
HOUSECALL 4
FALCONS 4
FALCONS
Tied. One end left.
And our team throws last. That's the hammer.
HOUSE CALL


Ow.
My ankle.
Let's get you some help.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
FALCONS
FALCONS
Play paused. A first aider came over.
Bea, are you okay?
HOUSE CALL


Bea stayed off the ice. The official approved the substitution.
Piper, you're our lead. You throw our first two.
HOUSE CALL
Now?
Go on, Pipes. I'll be right here.
HOUSE CALL


What if I mess up?
Then we play the next stone.
You've been watching. Take that with you.
HOUSECALL
HOUSE CALL
Piper took one shaky breath. Then one step.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB


The eighth and final end began.
We've got you.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
A draw into the rings. Nice and smooth.
Piper's heart was anything but smooth.


Smooth.
Just smooth.
RIVERDALE
CURLING CLUB
shhhhh

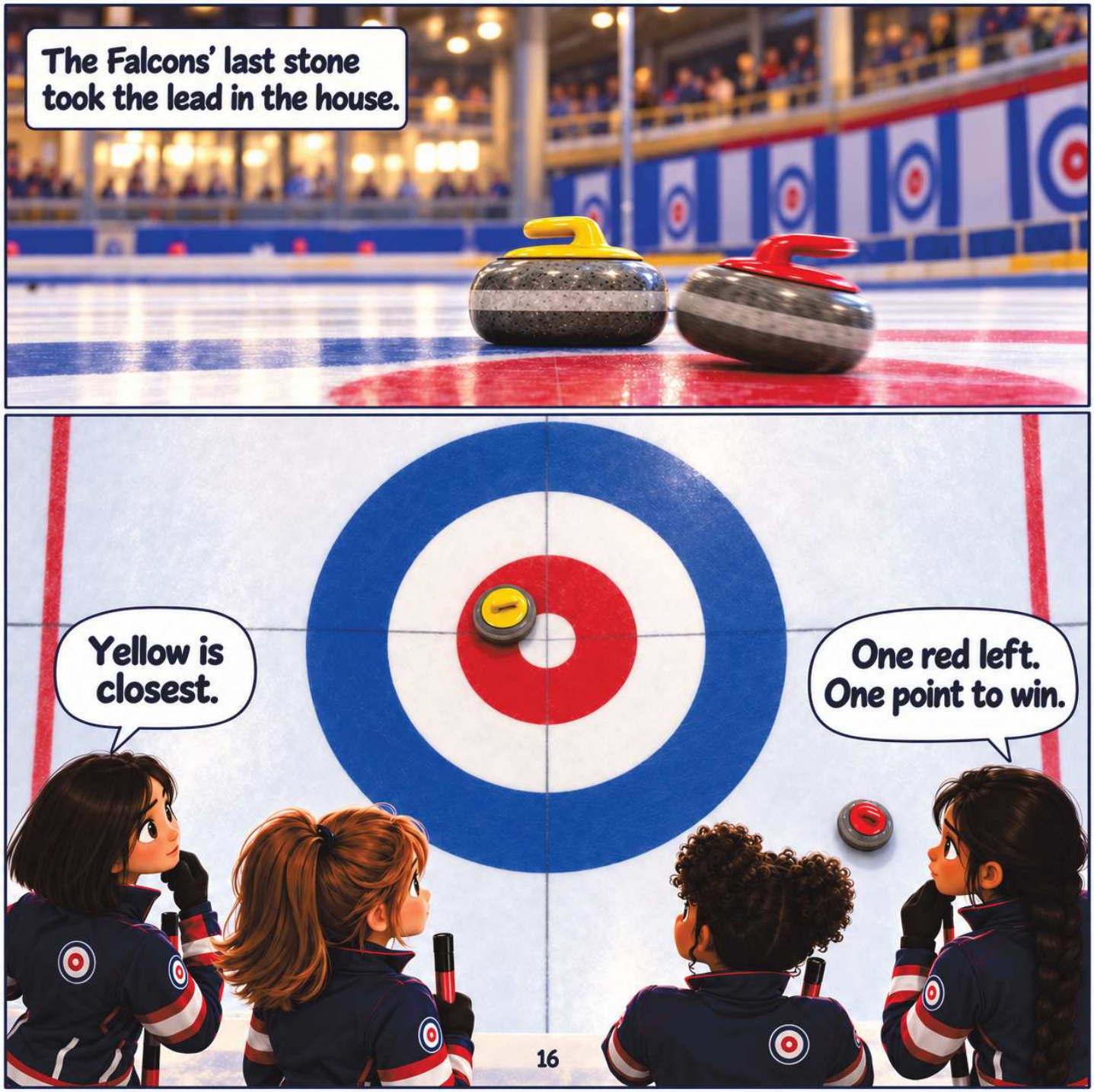

Heavy!
No sweeping!
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
Past the rings. Past the back line. Out.
Oh, no.

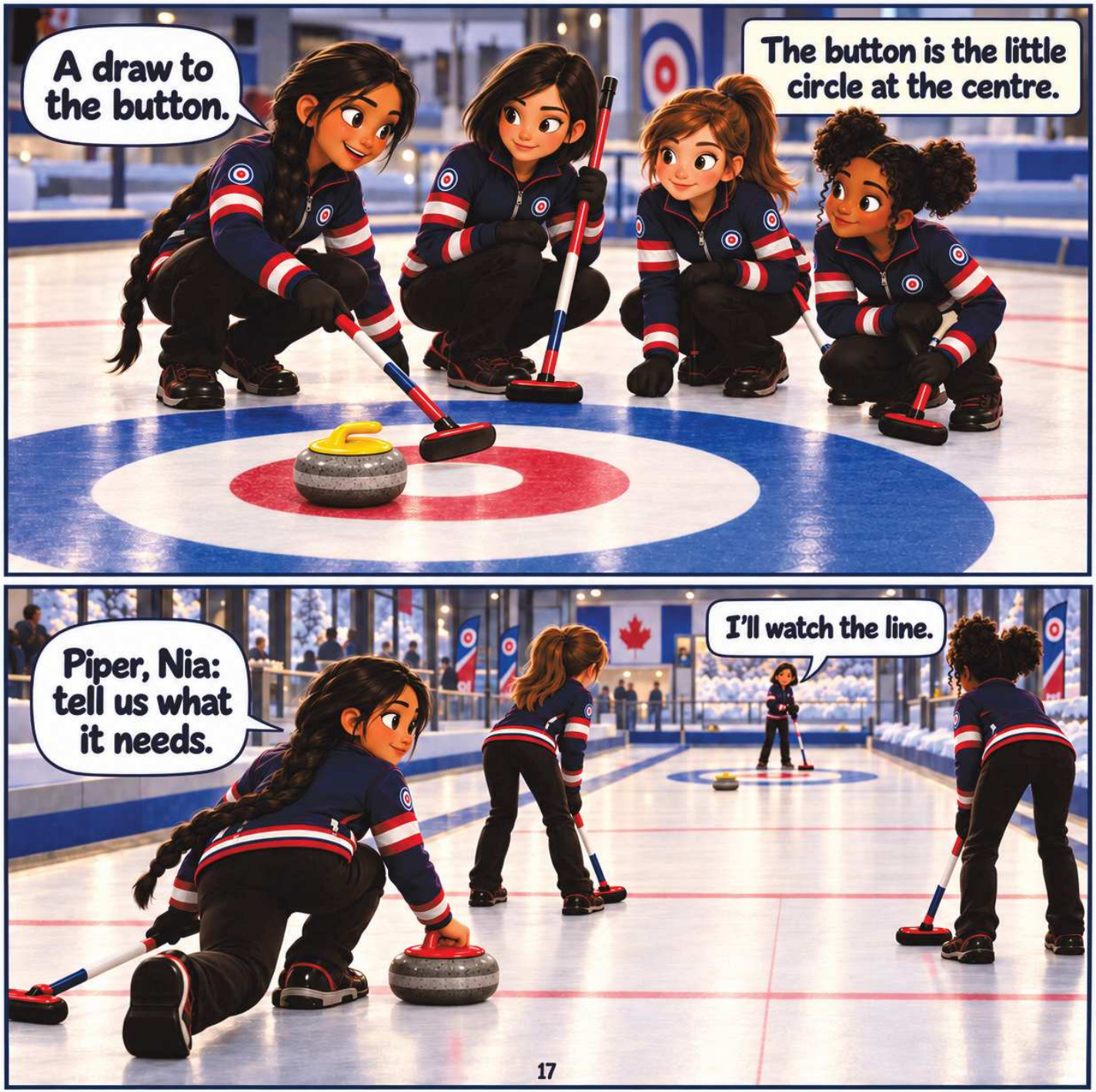

Everyone saw.
I let them down.


What if I miss again?
Then we keep playing. Together.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
Come stand with us.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 TOTAL
HouseCall 0 1 0 2 0 1 0
Falcons 1 0 1 0 1 0 1


Her next stone wasn't perfect. It was useful.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
CURLING BUILDS FRIENDS FOR LIFE
Okay.
That works. Good guard.


The girls traded shots with the Falcons.
RIVERDALE
CURLING CLUB
A little light!
I'm with you!
Piper kept watching. And helping.


The Falcons' last stone took the lead in the house.
Yellow is closest.
One red left. One point to win.


A draw to the button.
The button is the little circle at the centre.
Piper, Nia: tell us what it needs.
I'll watch the line.


Maya let it go.

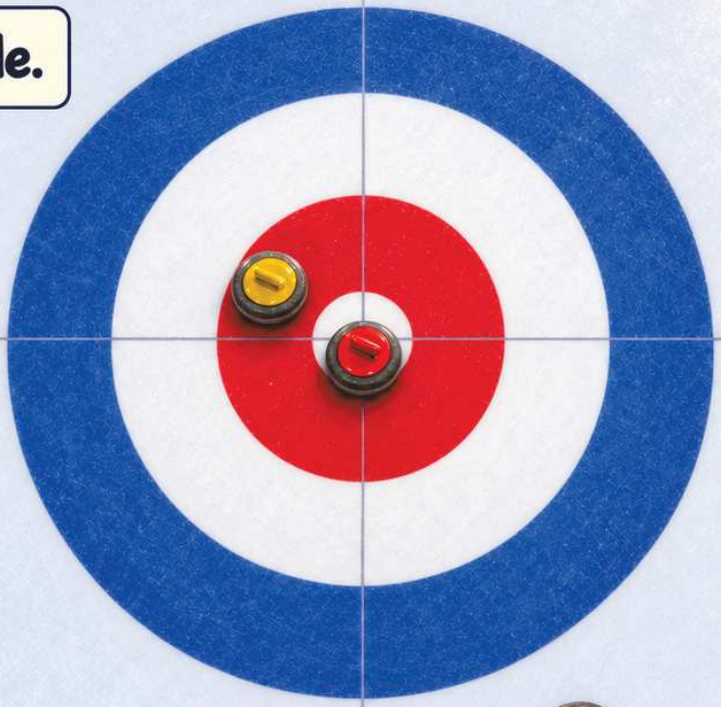

What if I'm wrong again?
What do you see?
It's slowing. It needs us.


It's light! Hard, Nia!
Hard!
Line's good! Keep it going!


Sweeping helped the stone travel farther. Together, they kept it moving.
Nearly there!
swish
swish
HOUSE CALL
21



One last glide.



Right onto the button.


Great read, Piper! Great sweep, both of you!
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
FINAL
HOUSECALL 5
FALCONS 4
HOUSECALL GO GIRLS!
Great throw!
Good game!
Good game!


Still nervous?
A little. Save me a spot?
Always.
RIVERDALE CURLING CLUB
HOUSE CALL
Five girls. One team.
Crumb emergency. I'm going in.



HouseCall

Learn the game.
Love the game.

thehousecall.org



Five girls. One team.

When Piper is called onto the ice during a bonspiel final, one missed shot makes her wonder if she belongs.

Her teammates help her keep going—and Piper discovers that finding her line is about more than where a stone goes.

A warm curling story about courage, friendship, and making room on the team.

HouseCall

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