Summary: Claudette just wants to kill giants! No one in her dull, stuffy village wants to venture outside the walls or have adventures. So Claudette convinces her brother (a future chef) and best friend (wannabe princess) that they’ll each be able to find their own dream if they come adventuring with her. Running away from home: step #1 on the road to greatness!

Discussion Questions:

1. Which is a better job: giant-slaying, princessing, or cooking? Why?
2. The village seems to have a secret history with giants. Tell your own version of what that story might be.
3. “We’re not Brave,” say Gaston and Marie at the beginning of the book. Do you think that’s true? Do you think their opinions of themselves changed by the end of the book?
4. Gaston wants to be a pastry chef and make swords. Do you think the two are incompatible dreams? Does Gaston’s father?
5. What would you rather face: man-eating trees, an Apple Hag or the Mad River King? What would be your strategy to defeat your foe?
6. Claudette says at the end of the story that friends matter more than fame or fortune. Do you think that’s true? What matters most to you?

Further Resources:

Learn more about graphic novels from First Second Books: https://dar.to/2qhdVJn

Activities:

1. Make your own graphic novel online: https://dar.to/37losDR
2. Make a paper sword so that you can slay giants like Claudette: https://dar.to/2DahG6h
3. Make a paper tiara: https://dar.to/2QJuN6r
4. Make a kid friendly recipe like future chef Gaston: https://dar.to/2CYL3rZ