



# TEOTFW

CHARLES FORSMAN



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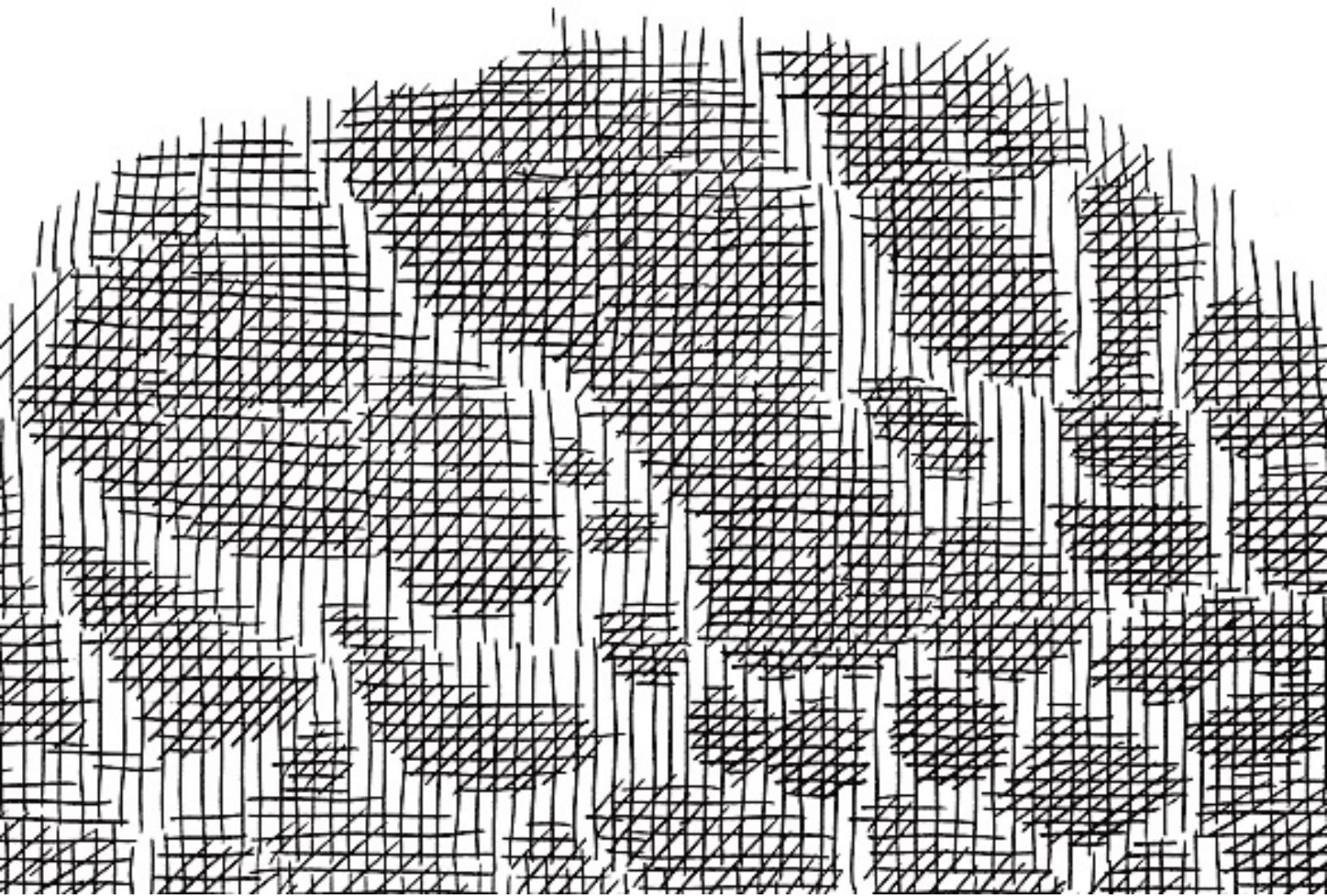
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FOR MELISSA





THE

END

OF



THE

FUCKING

WORLD



HARD TO BE AROUND



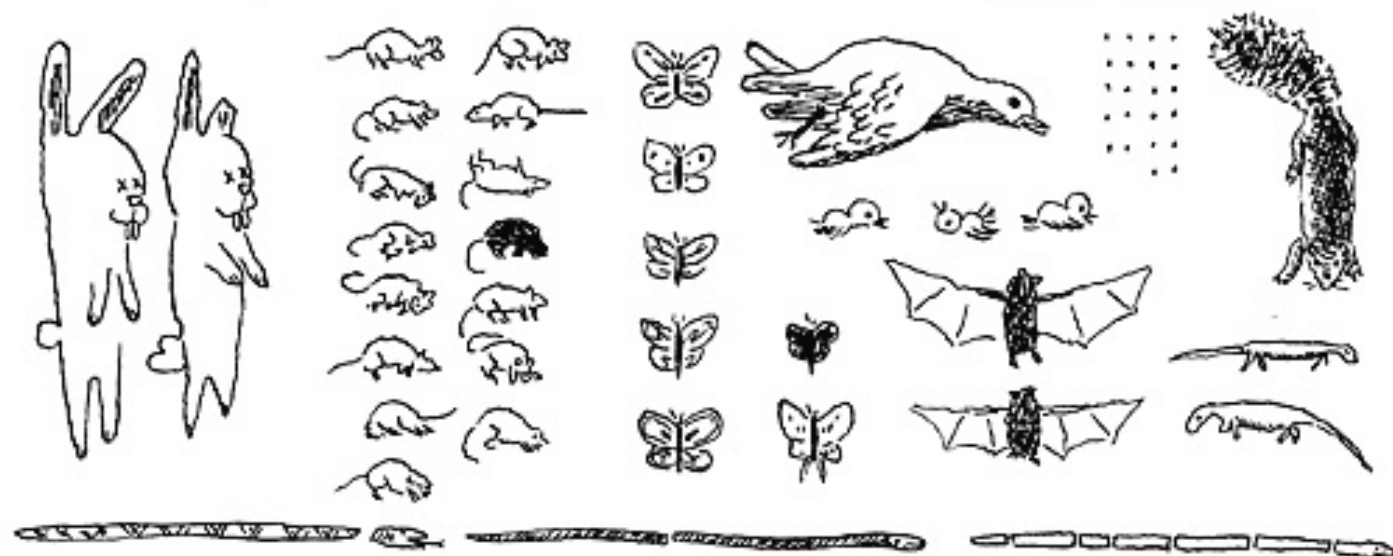
WHEN I WAS 9,  
I REALIZED I HAD  
NO SENSE OF HUMOR.



WHEN I WAS 13 AND A HALF, I FOUND A CAT IN THE WOODS.  
I SMASHED ITS BODY WITH A STONE.

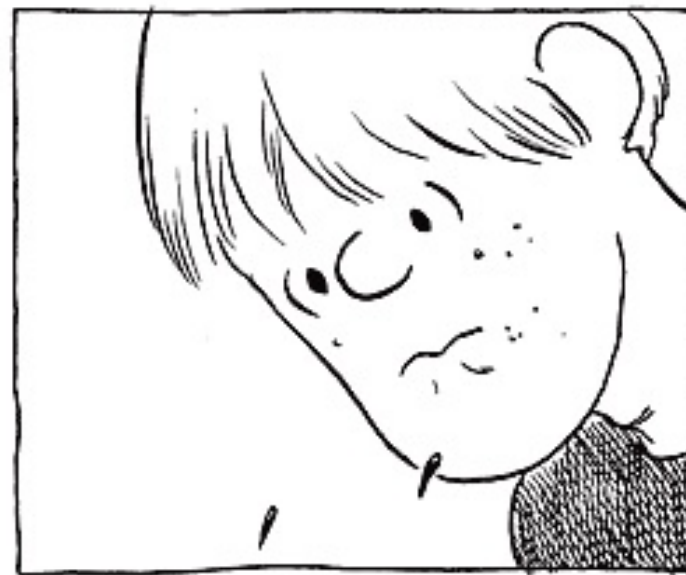
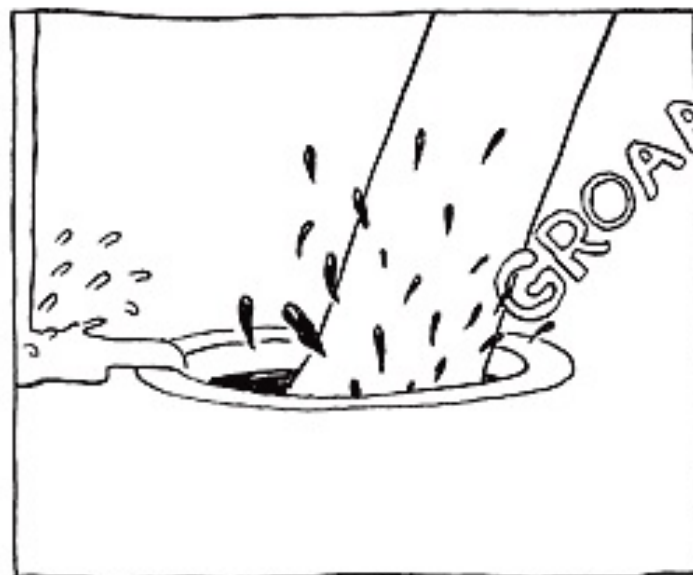
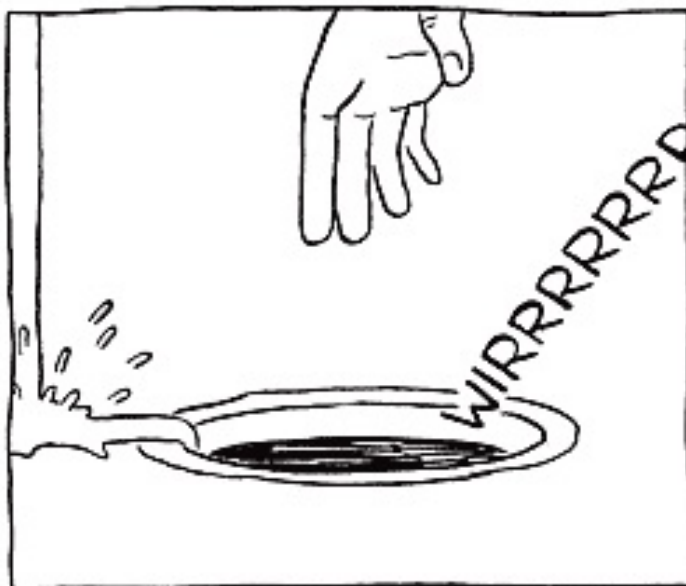
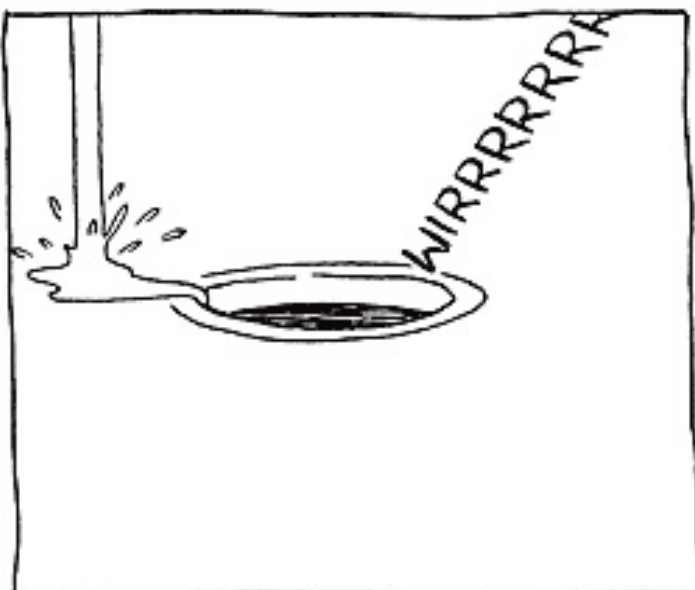


AFTER THAT, I KILLED MORE ANIMALS. I REMEMBER THEM ALL.

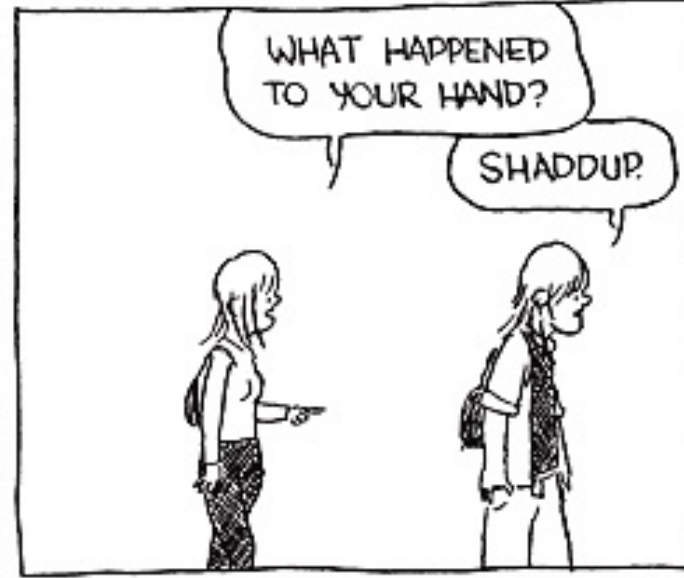
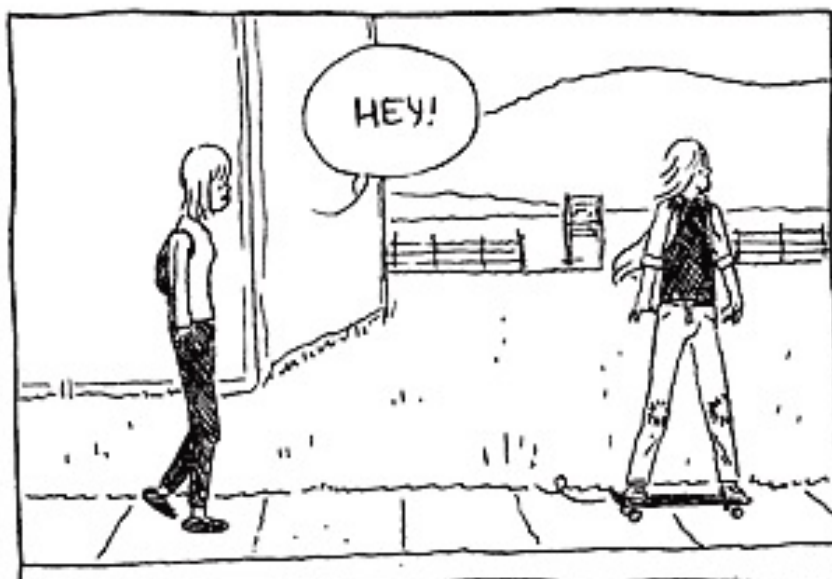




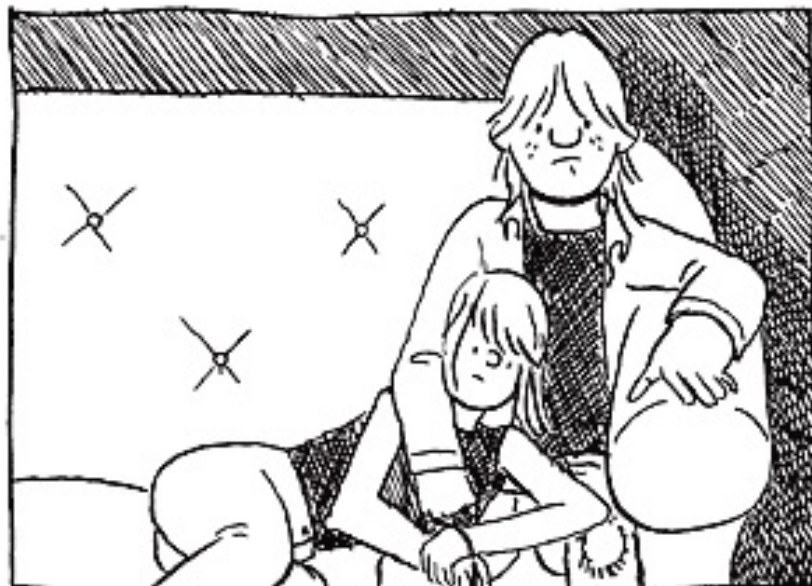
AT 15, I STUCK MY  
HAND INTO THE  
GARBAGE DISPOSAL.



AT 16,  
I PRETENDED  
TO FALL IN LOVE  
WITH ALYSSA.





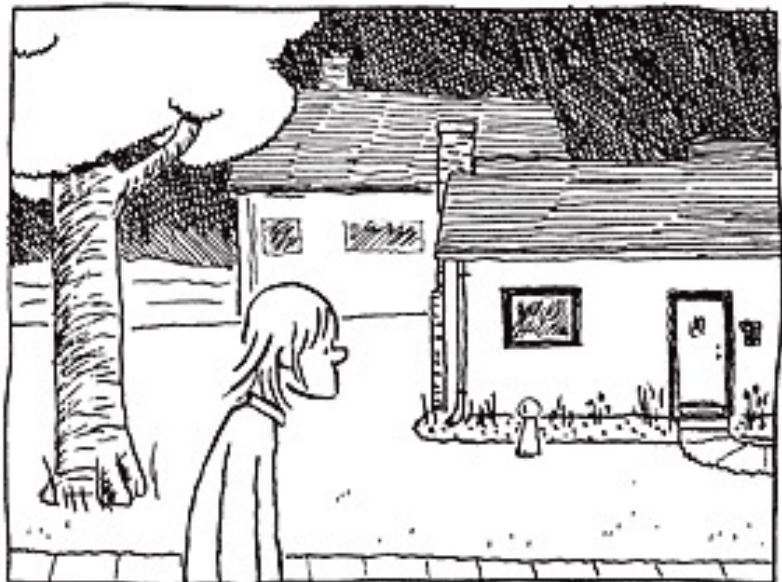


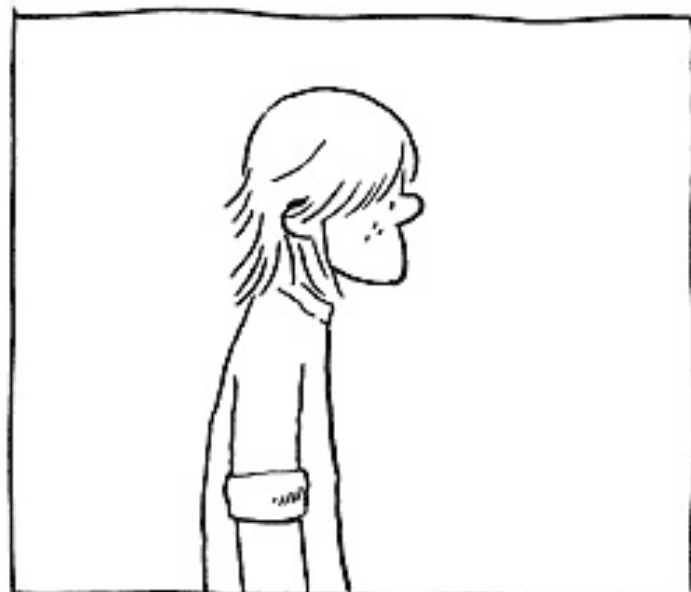
SHE TRIED HARD  
TO MAKE ME  
FEEL ANYTHING.



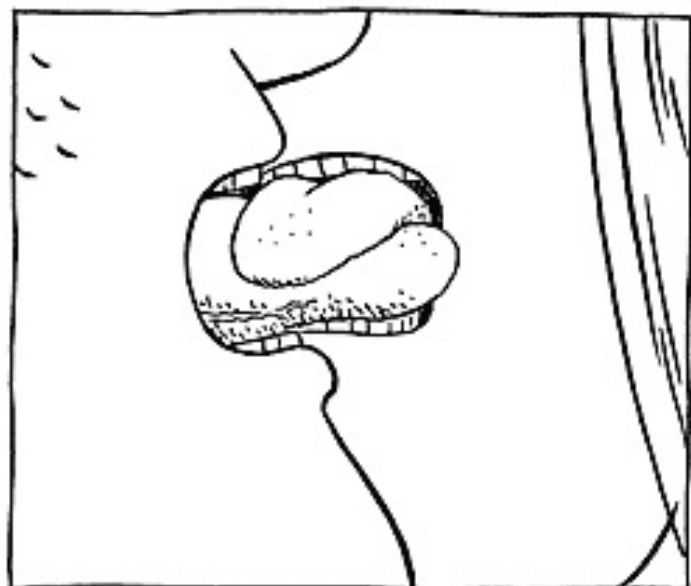
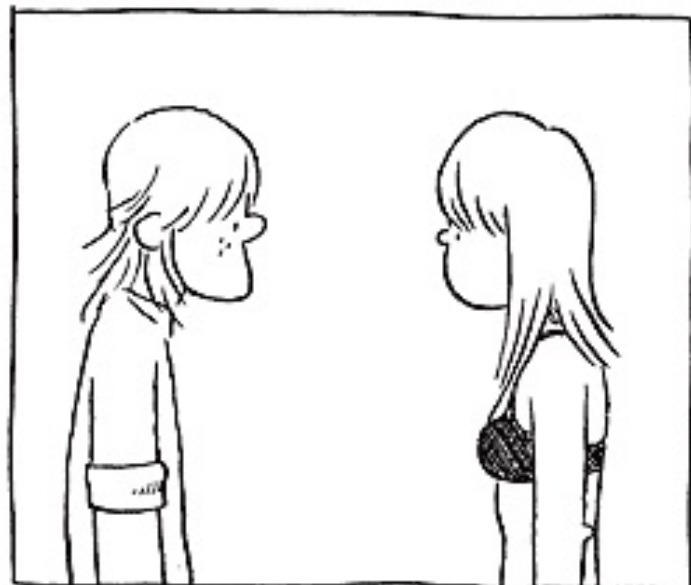


A FEW WEEKS LATER  
I BEGAN TO THINK  
ABOUT STRANGLING  
ALYSSA.  
ONE NIGHT, I WAS  
READY TO  
DO IT.





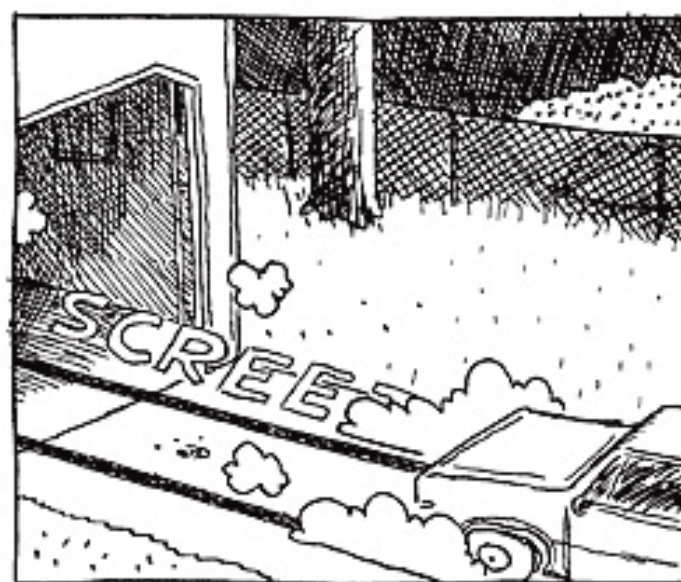
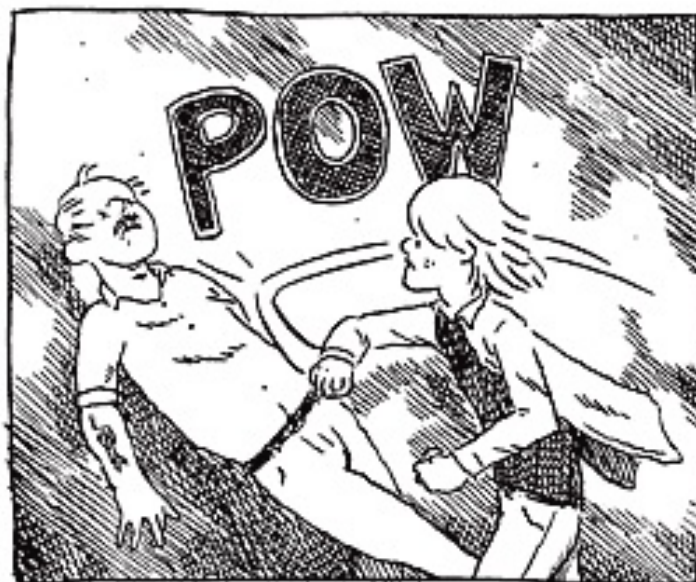
INSTEAD, I TOOK  
A BREATH AND TRIED  
ONCE MORE TO  
LET HER IN.







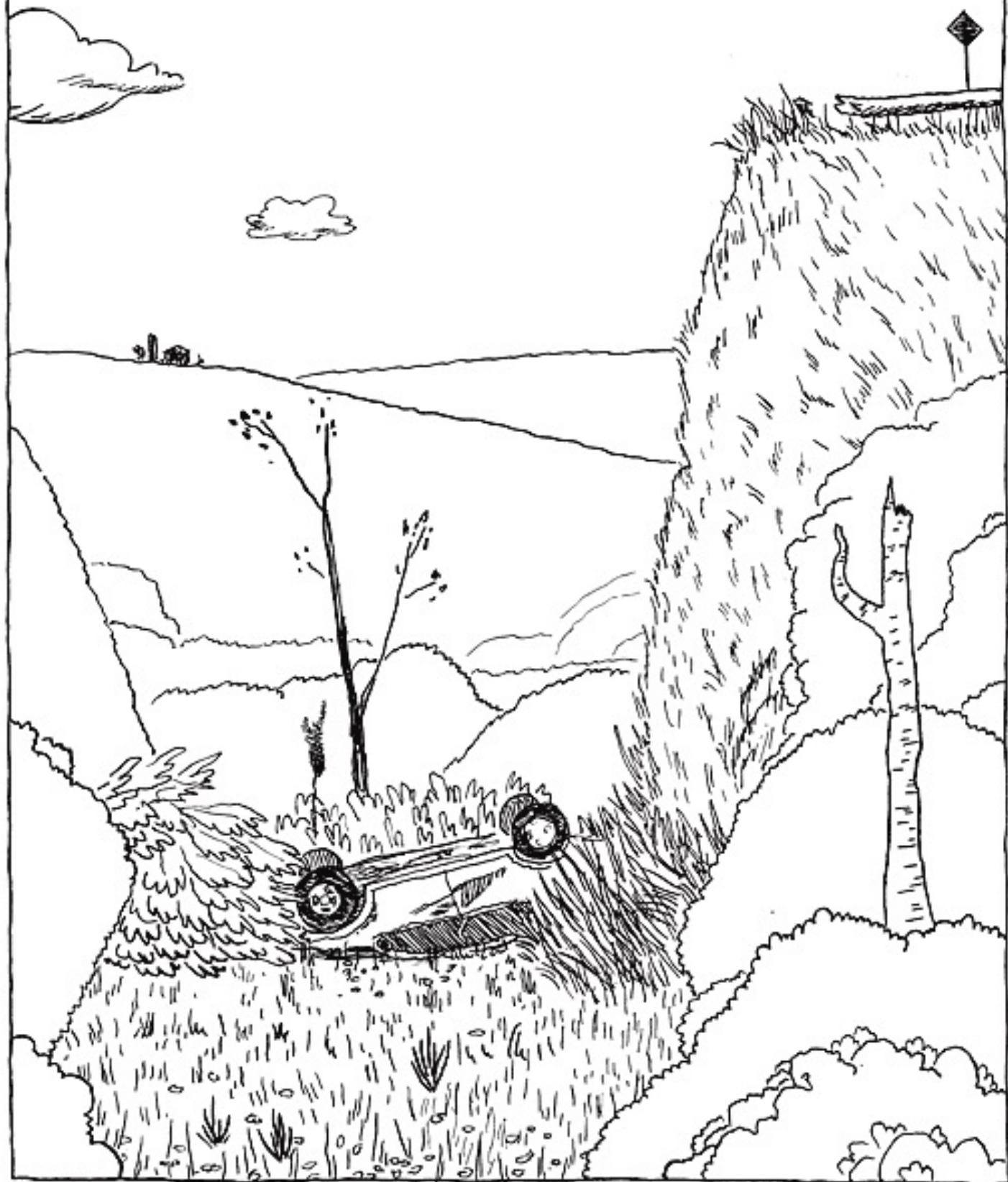
AT 17, I HIT DAD  
IN THE FACE  
AND STOLE  
HIS CAR.



# FIRE ON THE OUTSIDE



I CAN LOOK IN THE SKY SOMETIMES AND LOSE MYSELF.





I'LL STARE AT  
THE CLOUDS  
AND THE BLUE.



I'LL GET THE  
FEELING THAT  
EVERYTHING  
IS DIFFERENT.



THAT I'M NOT  
EVEN HUMAN  
OR SOMETHING.



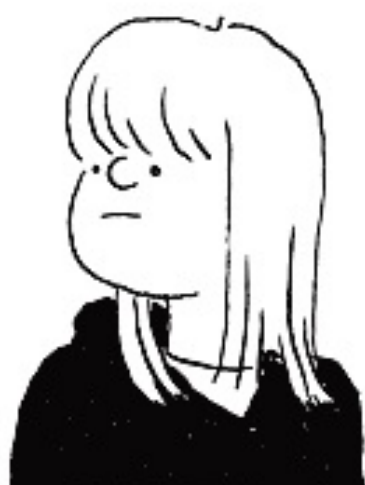
LIKE I'M A DOG.  
OR A SQUIRREL.  
OR AN ALIEN.

AN ALIEN WITH  
NO BODY.  
ONLY FEELINGS.

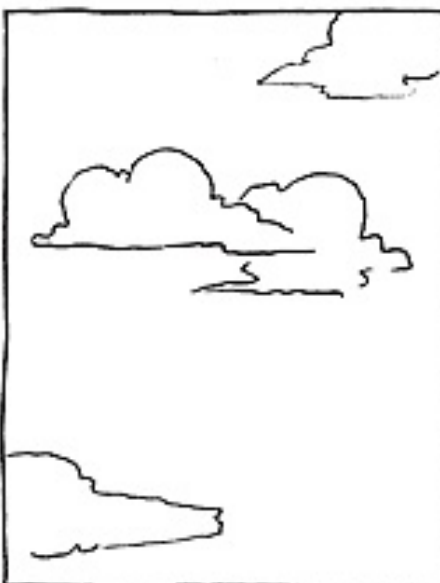
FEELINGS OF  
THE PAST...



...WHEN I WASN'T  
SO CONSCIOUS.



I THINK THAT'S  
WHERE JAMES  
AND I ARE GOING.



A PLACE WHERE  
WE CAN BREATHE.



OH, MAN. I THINK WE PICKED  
THE MOST BORING TOWN.



WHAT A BUNCH OF SQUARES.



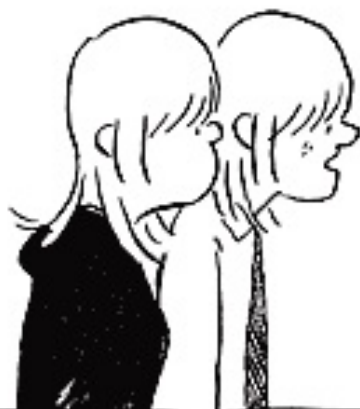
YEAH, BUT THEY GOT MONEY.  
THEY FEEL SAFE.



SO WHAT. IT'S FUCKING BORING!  
NOTHIN' BUT OLD PEOPLE.



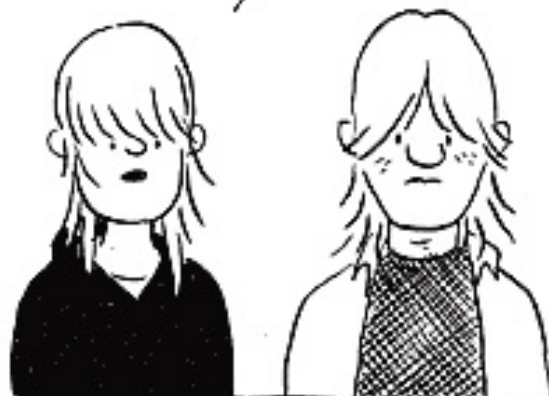
BUT I BET THEY ALL LEAVE THEIR  
KEY IN THE IGNITION.



UGH. NOW YOU'RE BORING ME.



LOOK. IT'S THE ONLY COOL DUDE IN THIS TOWN.



WHO? THE DRIFTER?



YEAH. LOOKS LIKE HE'S SEEN SOME HEAVY SHIT. I BET HE WAS IN 'NAM. PROBABLY KILLED LADIES AND BABIES.

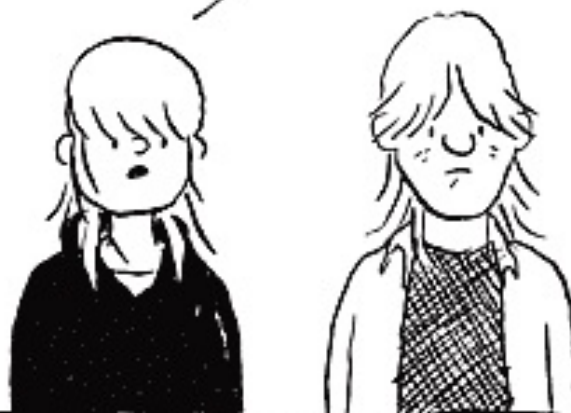


I DON'T KNOW.

LOOKS LIKE A PIECE OF SHIT TO ME.



WHATEVER.

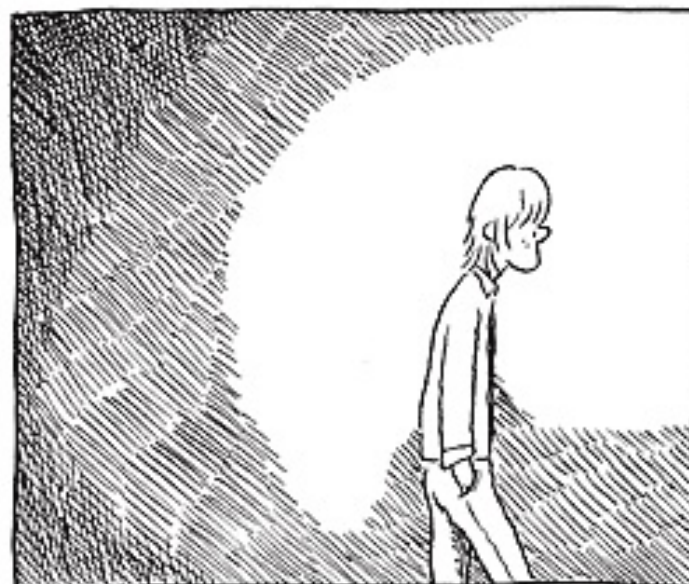
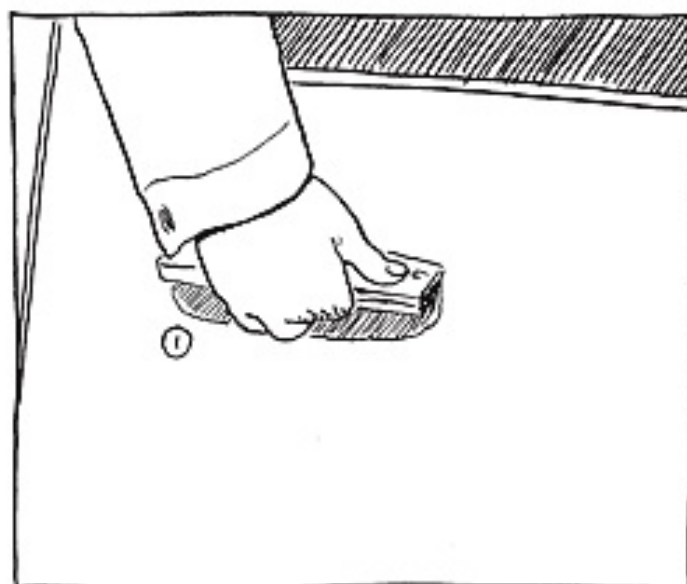
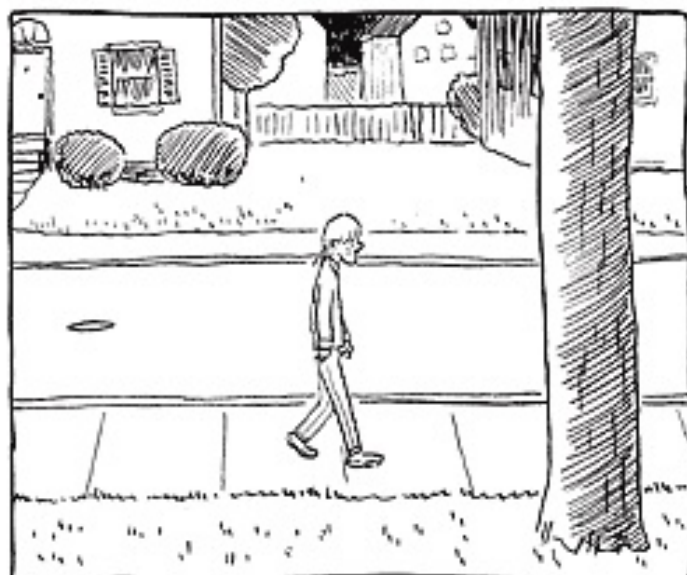




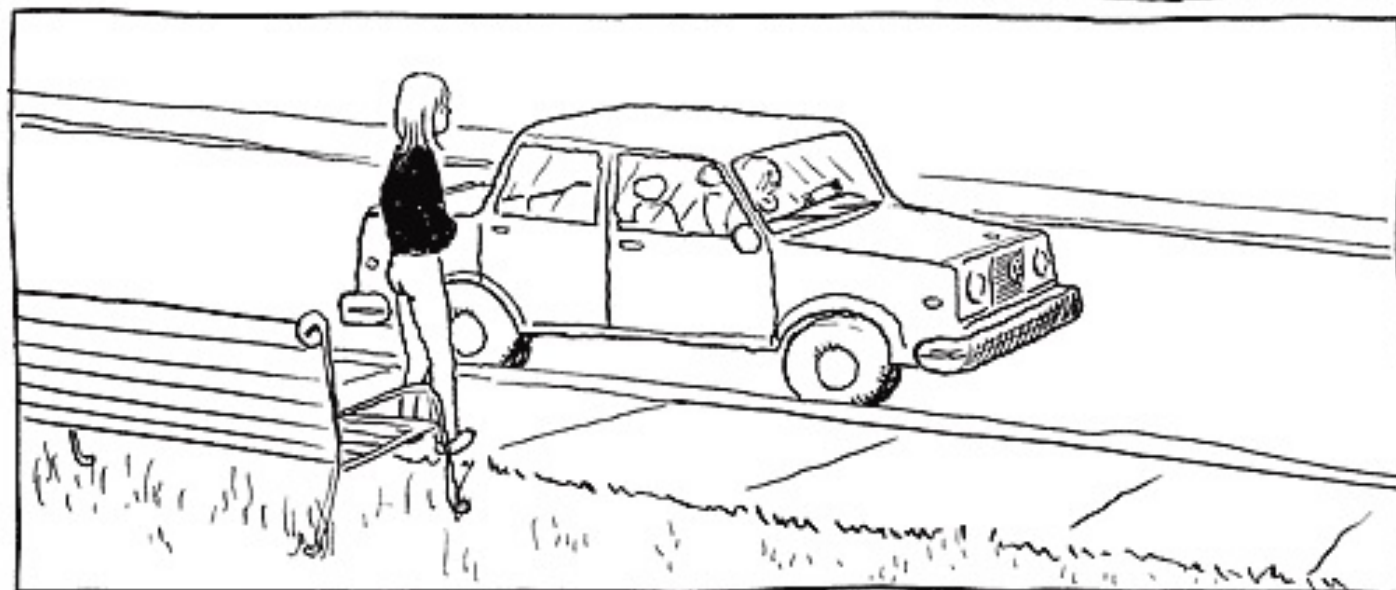
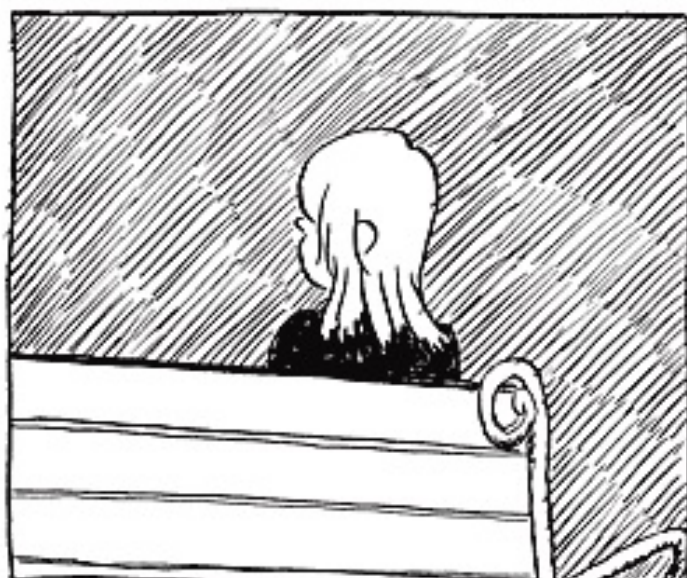


I DON'T REALLY KNOW  
WHAT WE ARE DOING.

JAMES' DAD IS A DICK.  
HE HAD IT COMING.



I THINK I LOVE HIM.  
THE BOY NEEDS SOMEONE.





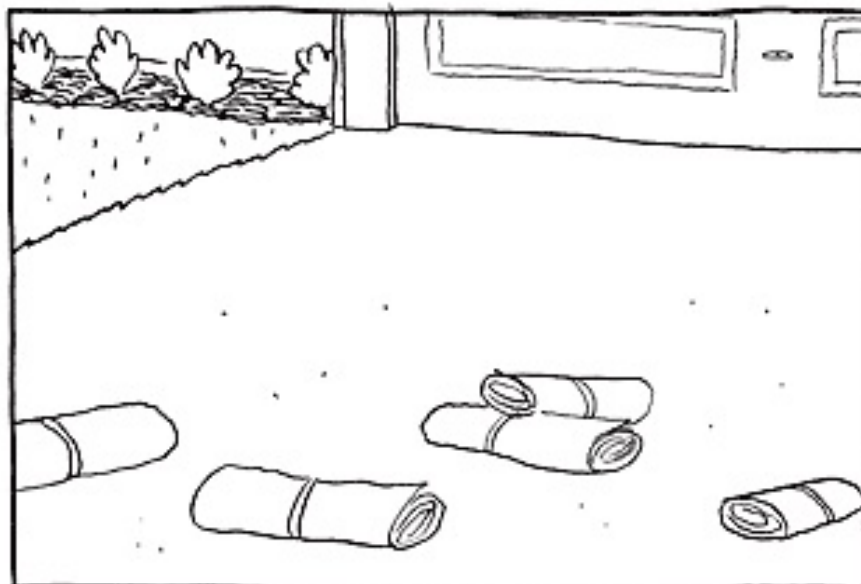
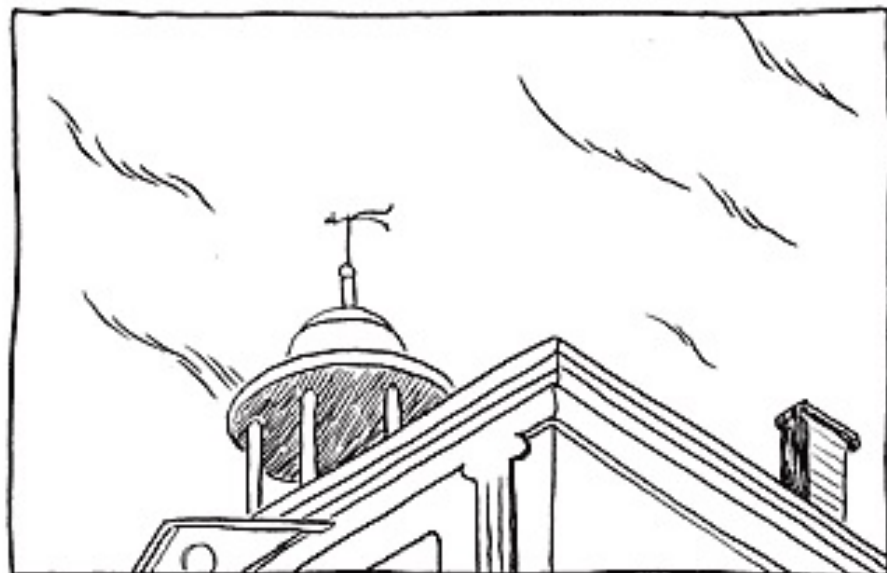
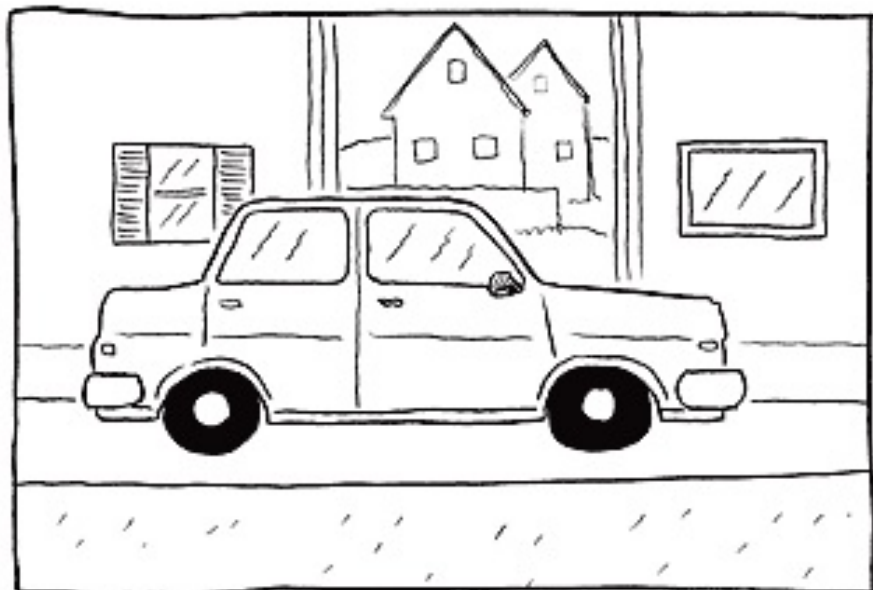
HOME



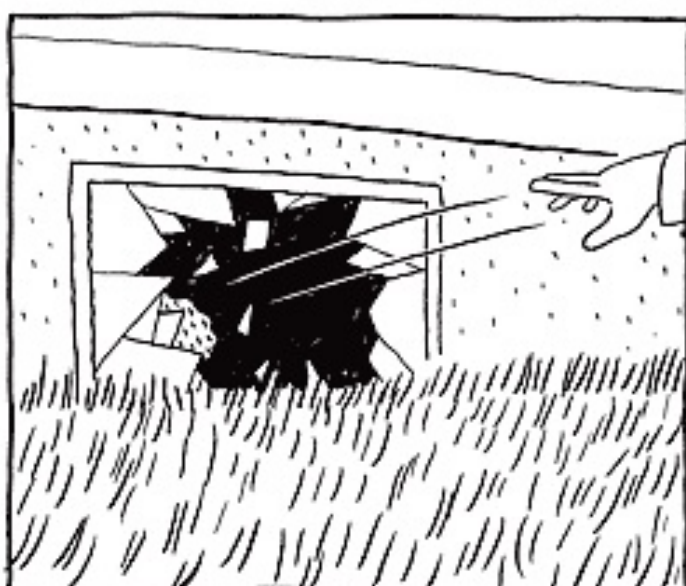
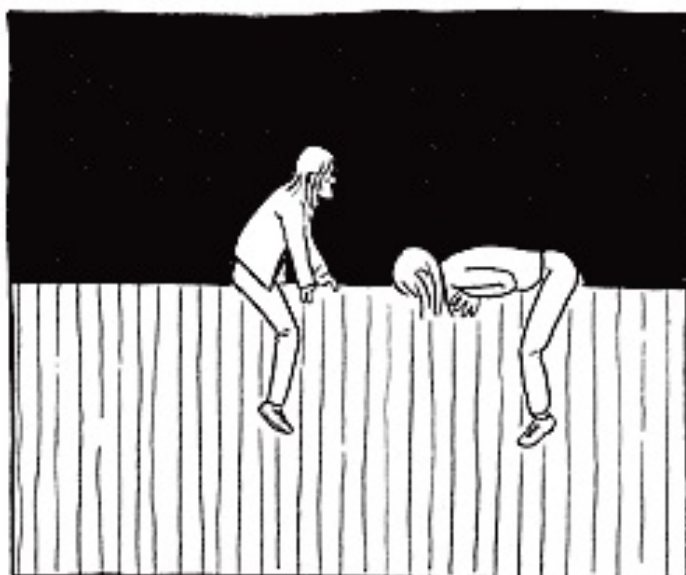
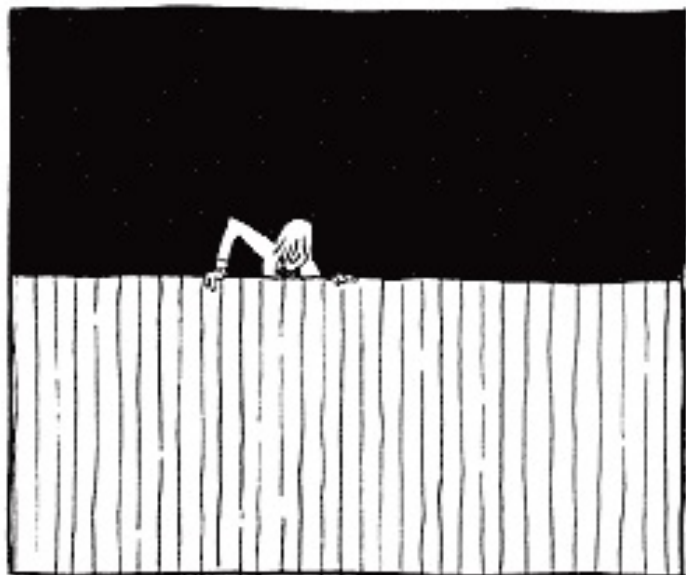
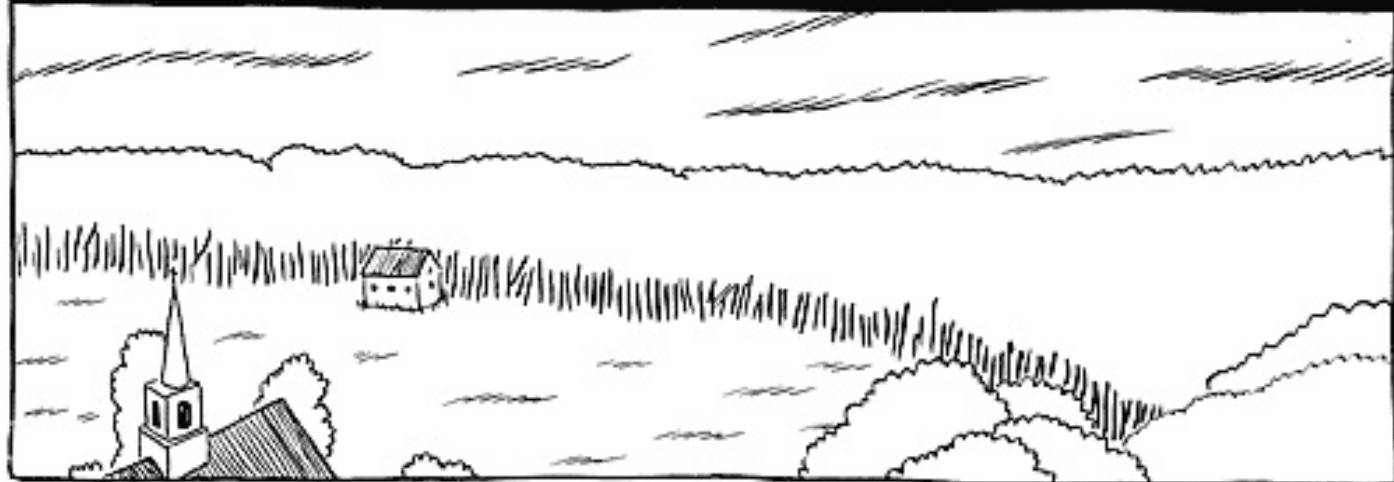
ALYSSA GOT HOMESICK THE FIRST FEW MONTHS.  
I NEVER FELT THAT.



MY HOME NEVER  
FELT LIKE HOW  
OTHER PEOPLE  
TALKED ABOUT  
THEIR'S.



MY HOME FELT MORE LIKE A JOKE.





THE CLOSEST  
I EVER GOT  
TO A HOME  
WAS IN THIS  
COLLEGE TOWN  
60 MILES  
OVER THE  
STATE BORDER.

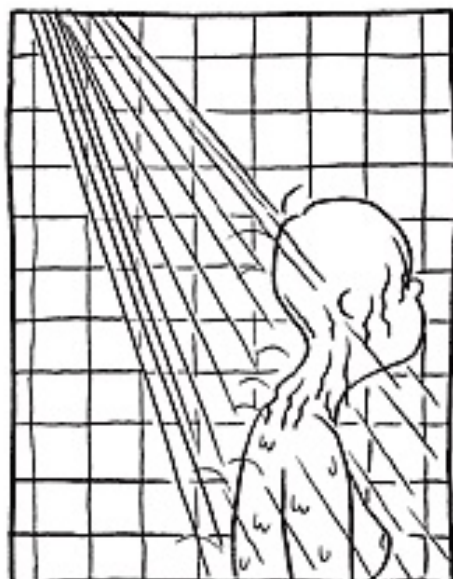


IT WAS THE  
BIGGEST HOME  
I'D EVER  
BEEN INSIDE.



EVERYTHING  
IN ITS  
RIGHT PLACE.





IT WAS SOME  
PROFESSOR'S  
HOUSE.

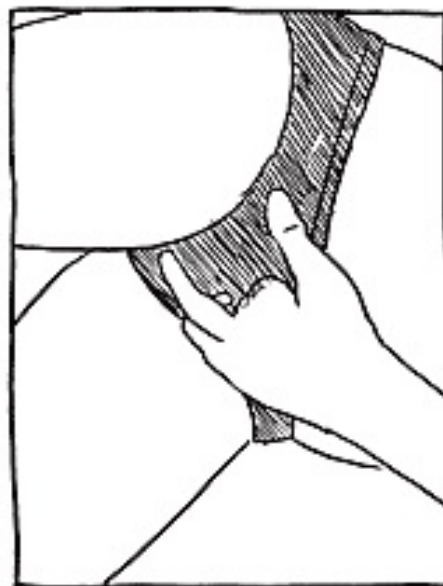
THEY WERE  
ON VACATION.

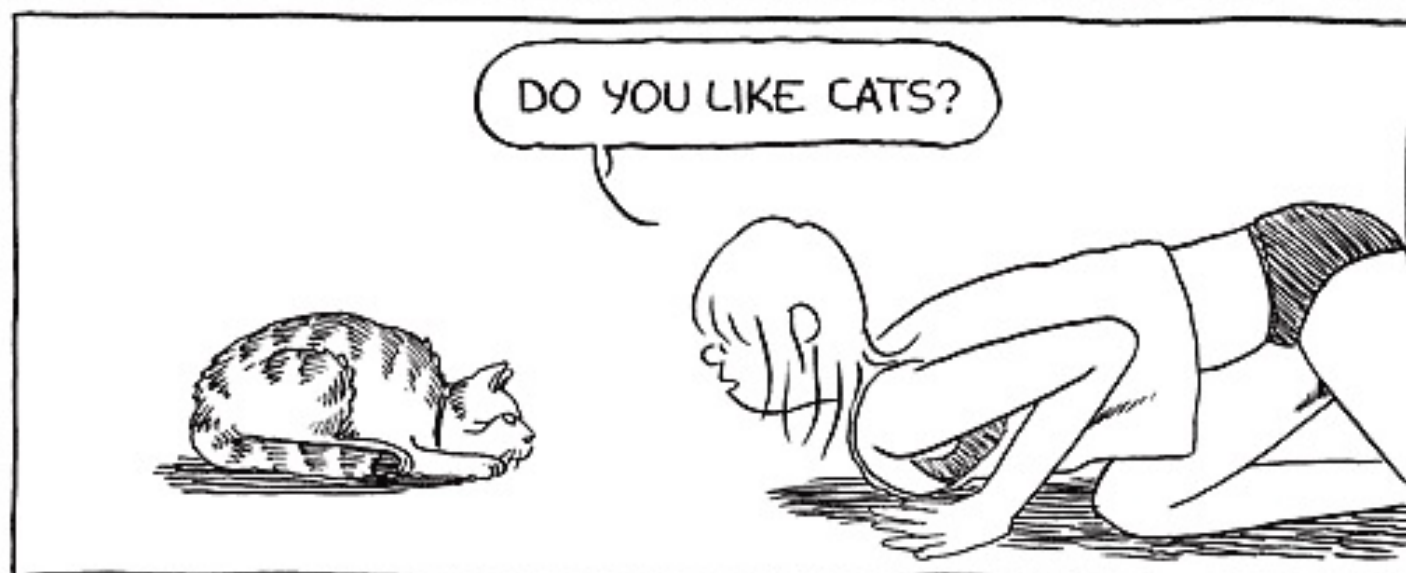
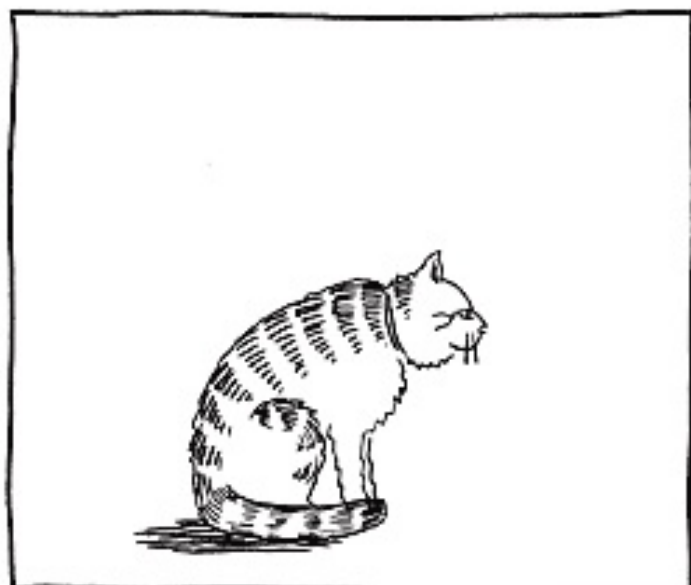


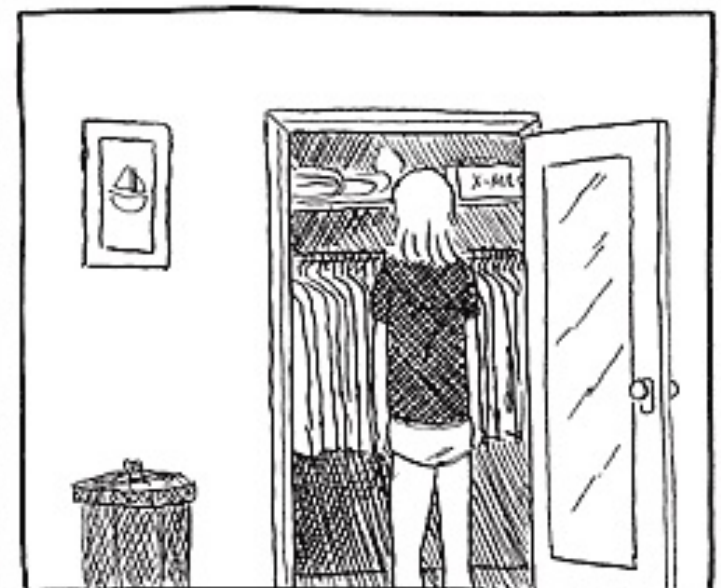
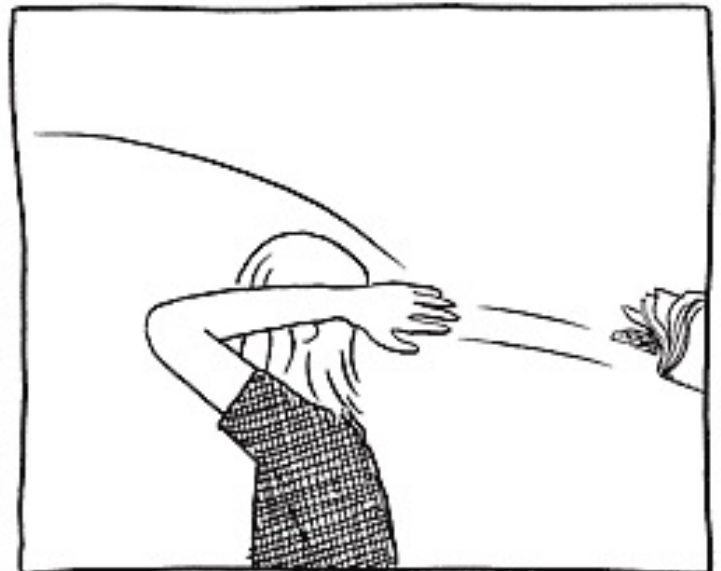
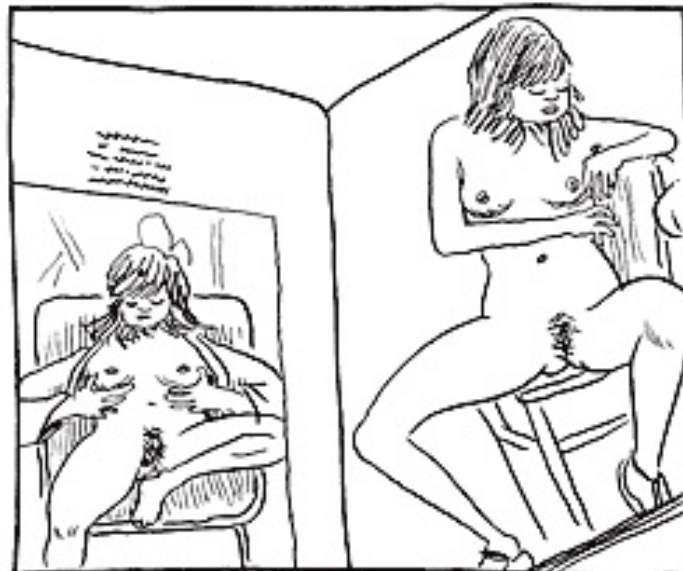
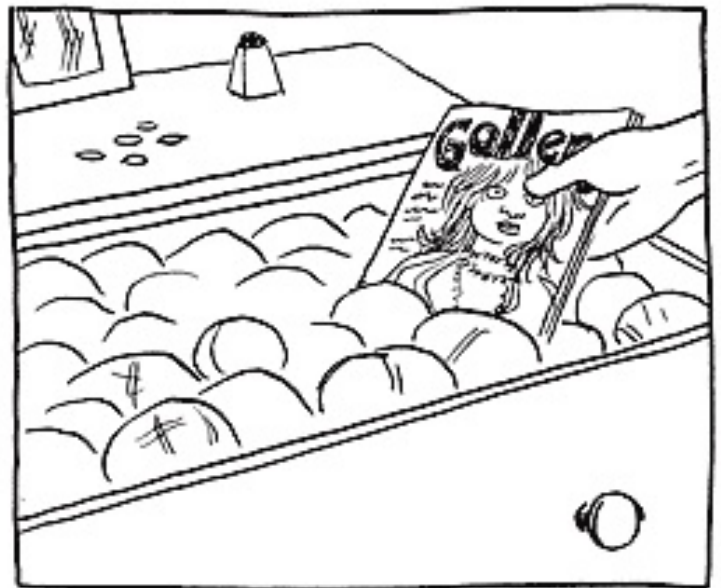
WE MADE  
IT OUR OWN  
FOR ABOUT  
A WEEK.



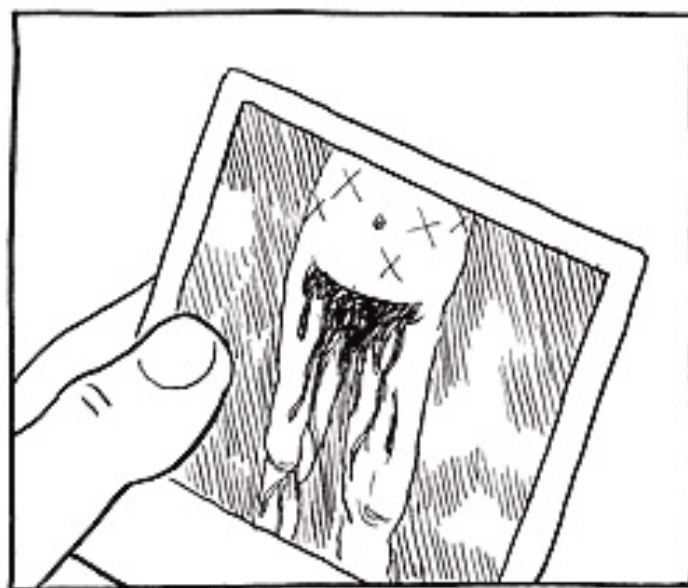
IT WAS THE  
FIRST TIME  
I FELT IN  
CONTROL.







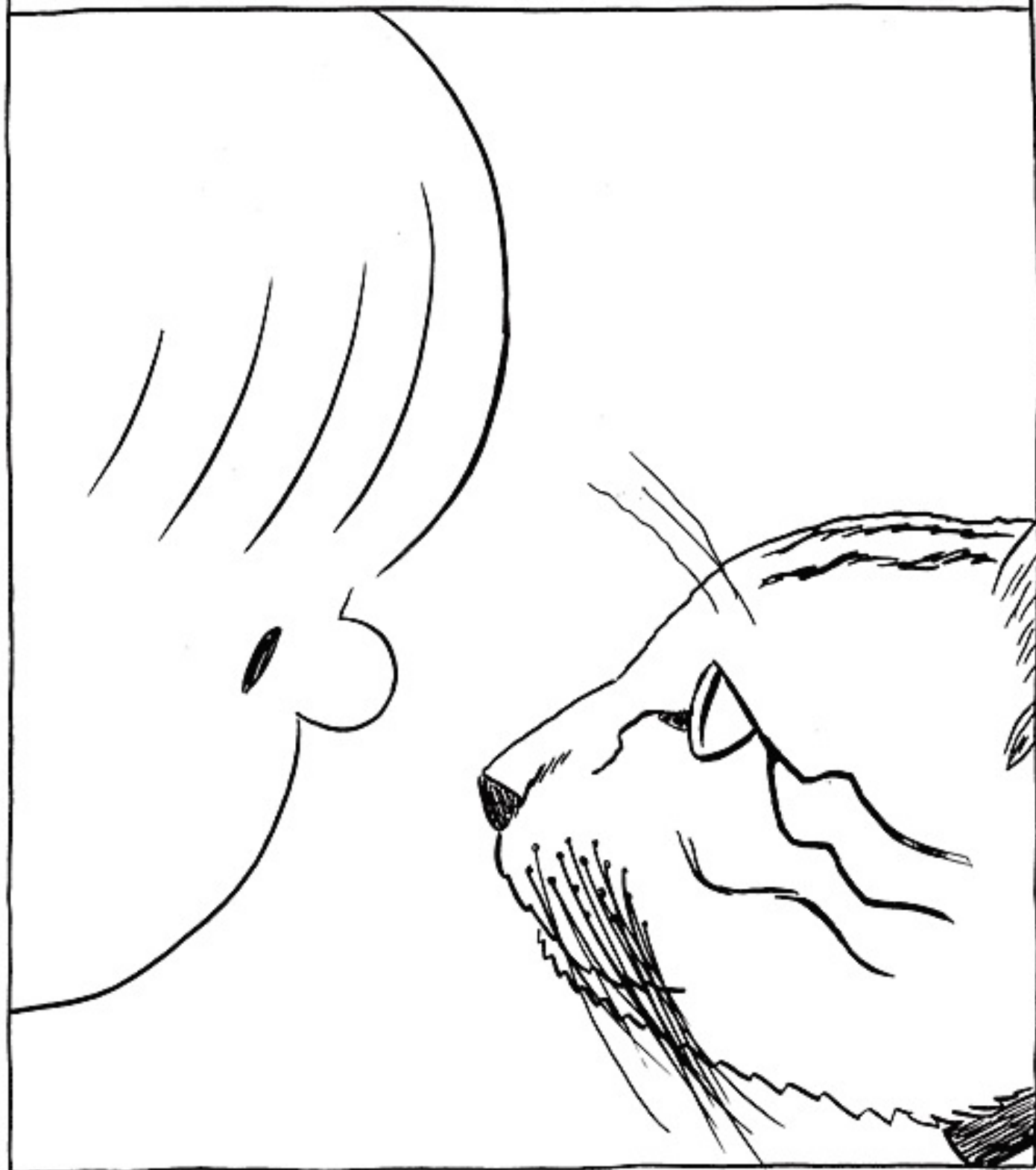




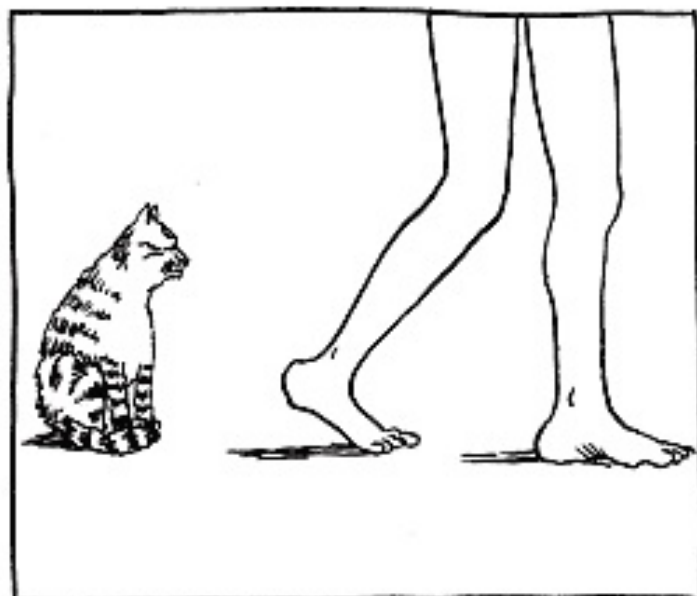
SAFE AND SOUND



JAMES AND I STILL HAVEN'T DONE IT ALL THE WAY.  
I WANT TO BUT IT'S...COMPLICATED.  
HE SEEMS SO FAR AWAY.

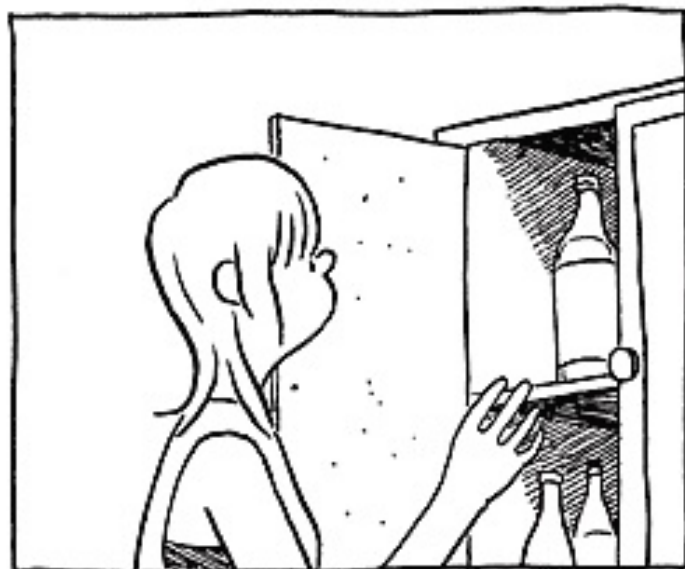




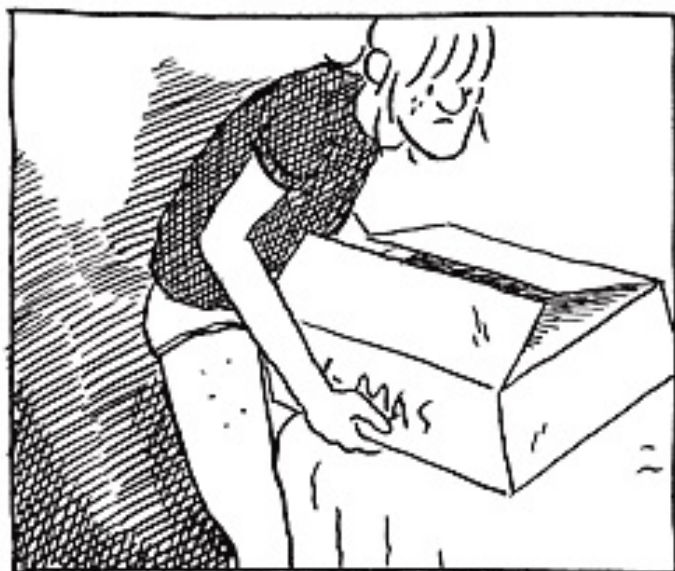


I'M HAVING FUN THOUGH.  
I COULDN'T TAKE ANOTHER  
FUCKING MINUTE WITH  
MOM AND HER  
PERVERT BOYFRIEND.

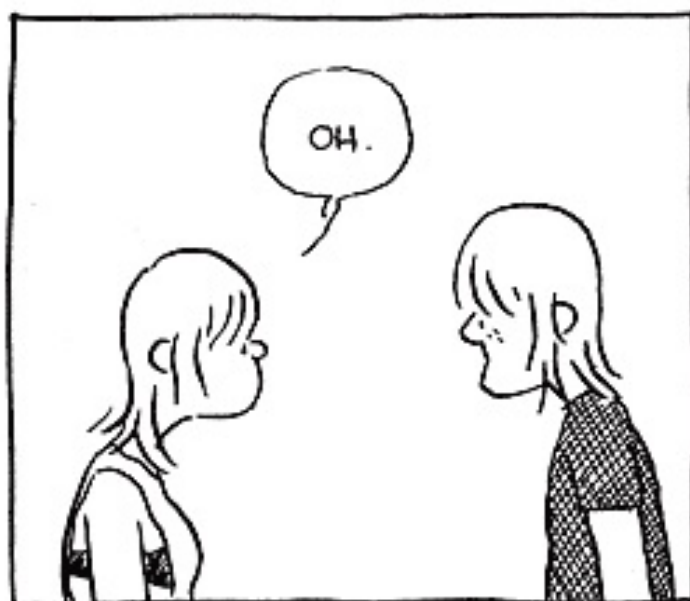
I WISH MY DAD WAS THERE.  
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM  
IN LIKE 10 YEARS  
SINCE MOM KICKED  
HIM OUT OF THE HOUSE.



JAMES SAID THAT WE  
SHOULD GO SEE HIM.  
IF WE CAN FIND HIM.  
  
I HOPE  
HE REMEMBERS ME.

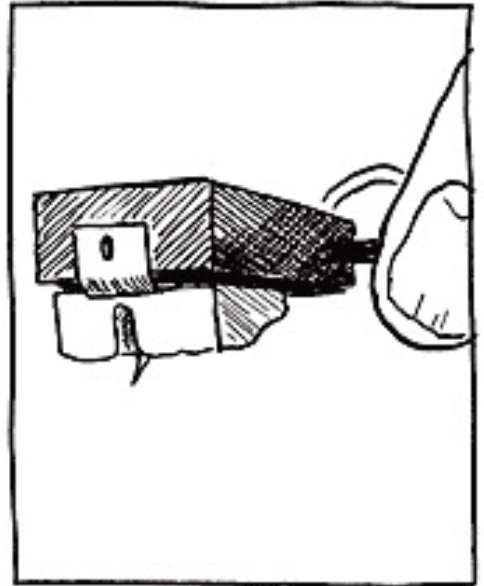




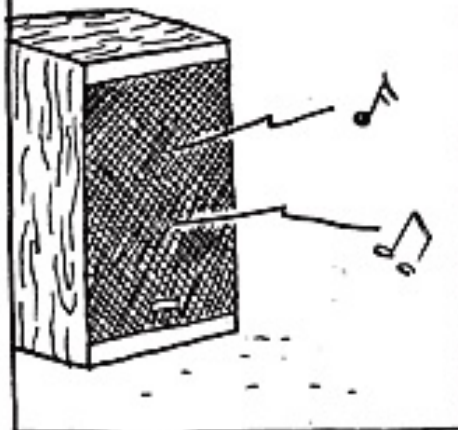








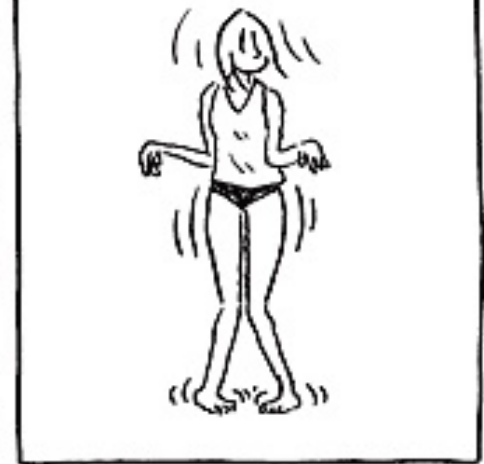
♪ FRANKIE AND JOHNNY ♪  
WERE LOVERS



♪ O LORDY, HOW THEY ♪  
COULD LOVE



♪ THEY SWORE TO BE TRUE ♪  
TO EACH OTHER



♪ JUST AS TRUE AS ♪  
THE STARS ABOVE

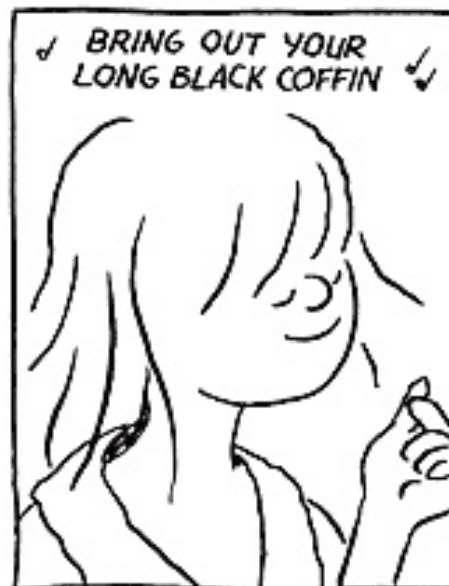
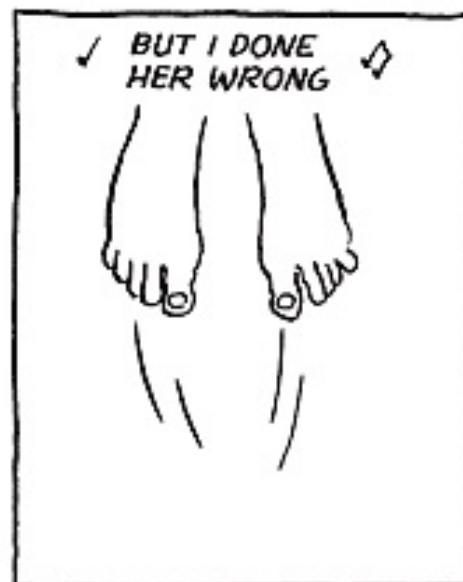
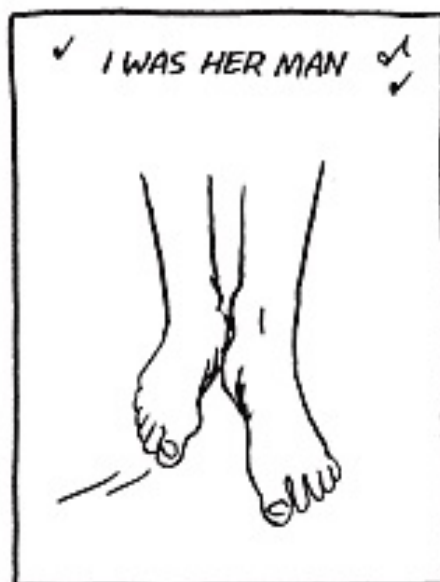
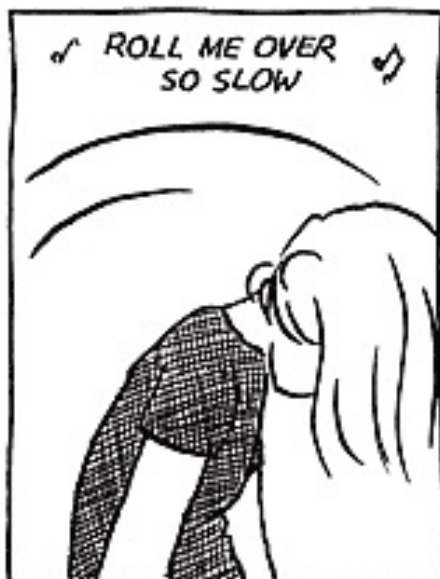


♪ HE WAS HER MAN ♪



♪ BUT HE DONE ♪  
HER WRONG



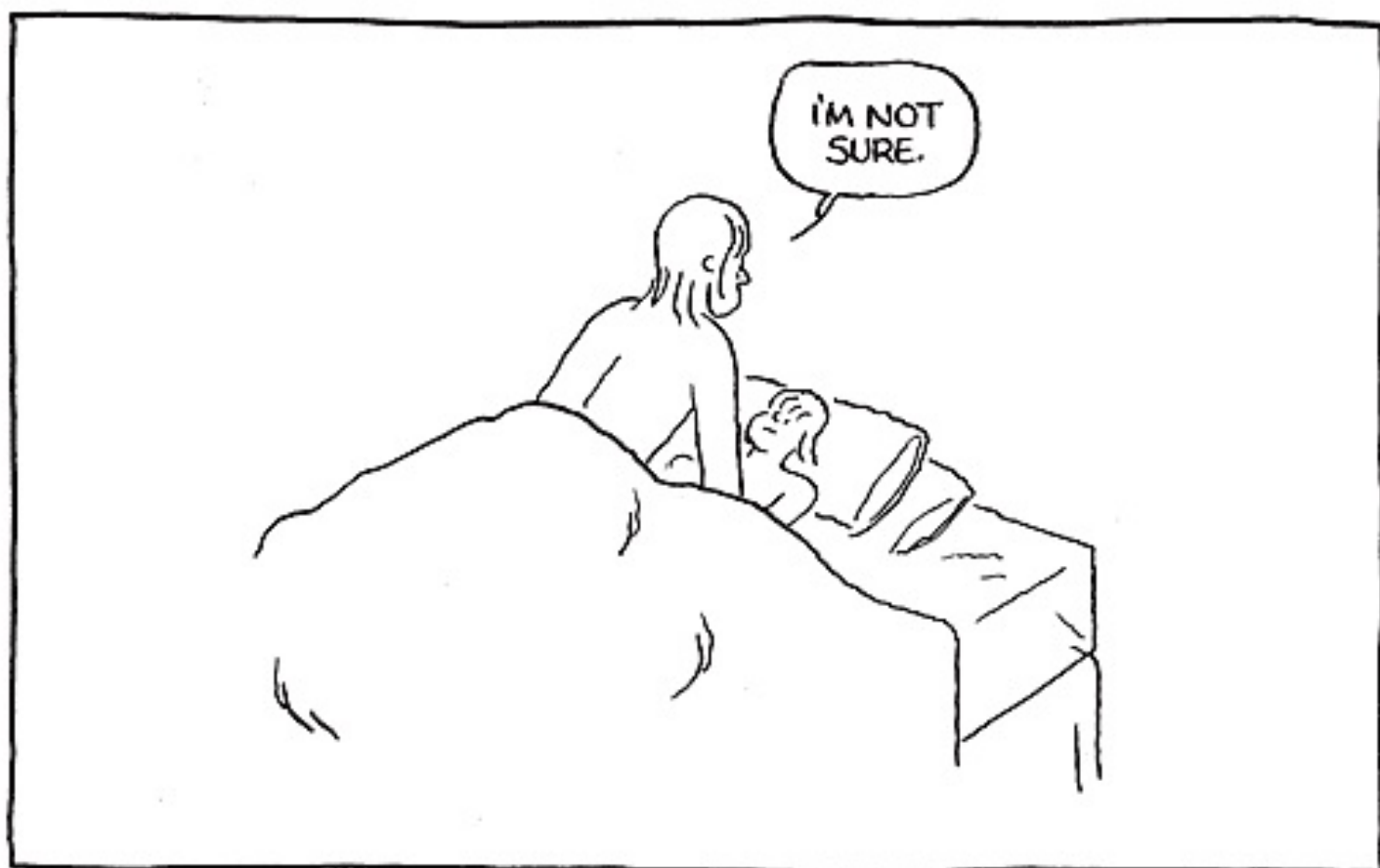






# FAST FRIENDS







ALYSSA?



IT WAS A  
SIMPLE ITCH.

YEAH?



JUST A SIMPLE  
ITCH THAT I  
WANTED TO  
SCRATCH.

DO YOU TRUST ME?



THE ONLY  
THING...

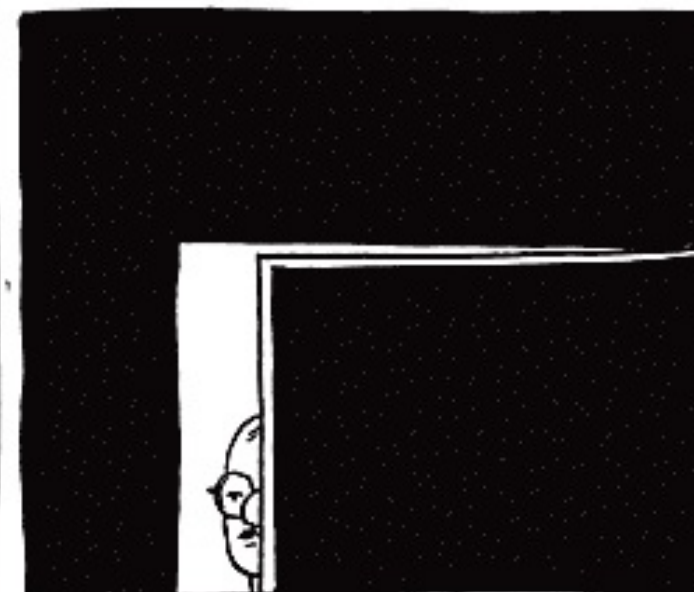
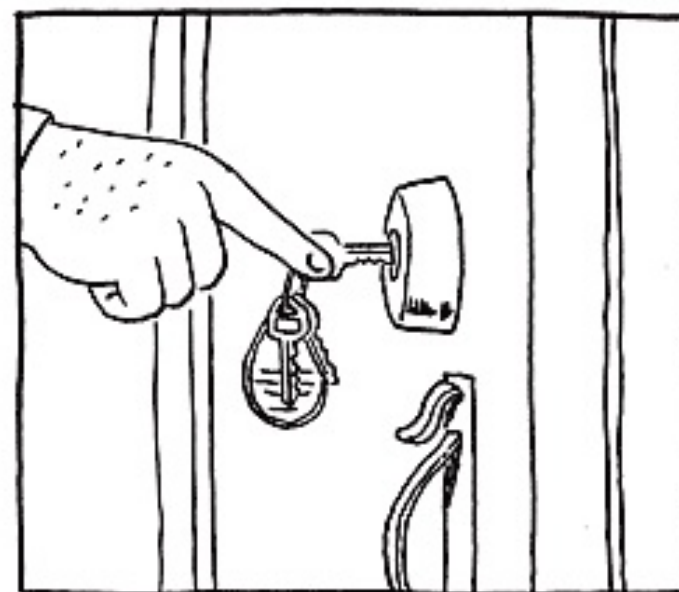
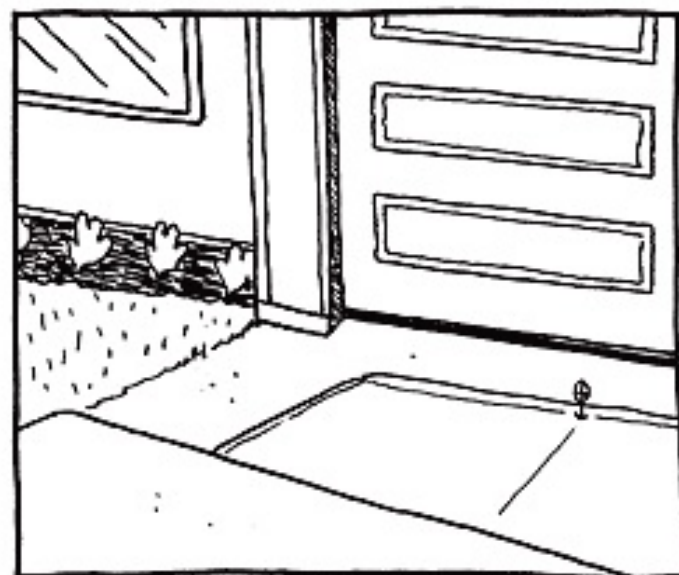
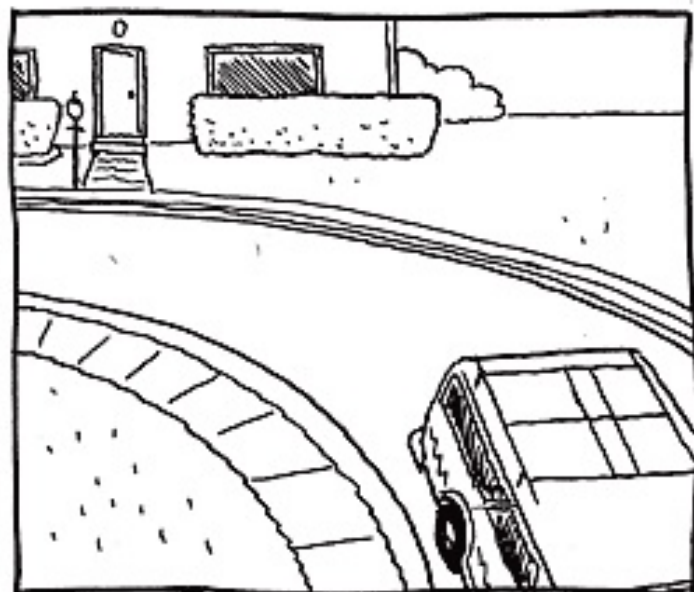
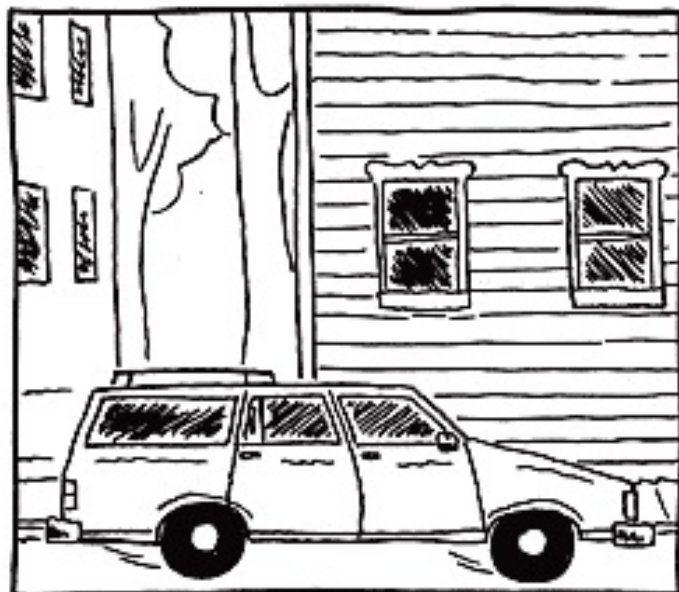
YEAH. I THINK SO.



I WASN'T SURE  
I COULD STOP

GOOD.





FILM

WHAT WAS THAT?

OH MY GOD!  
THEY'RE HOME!

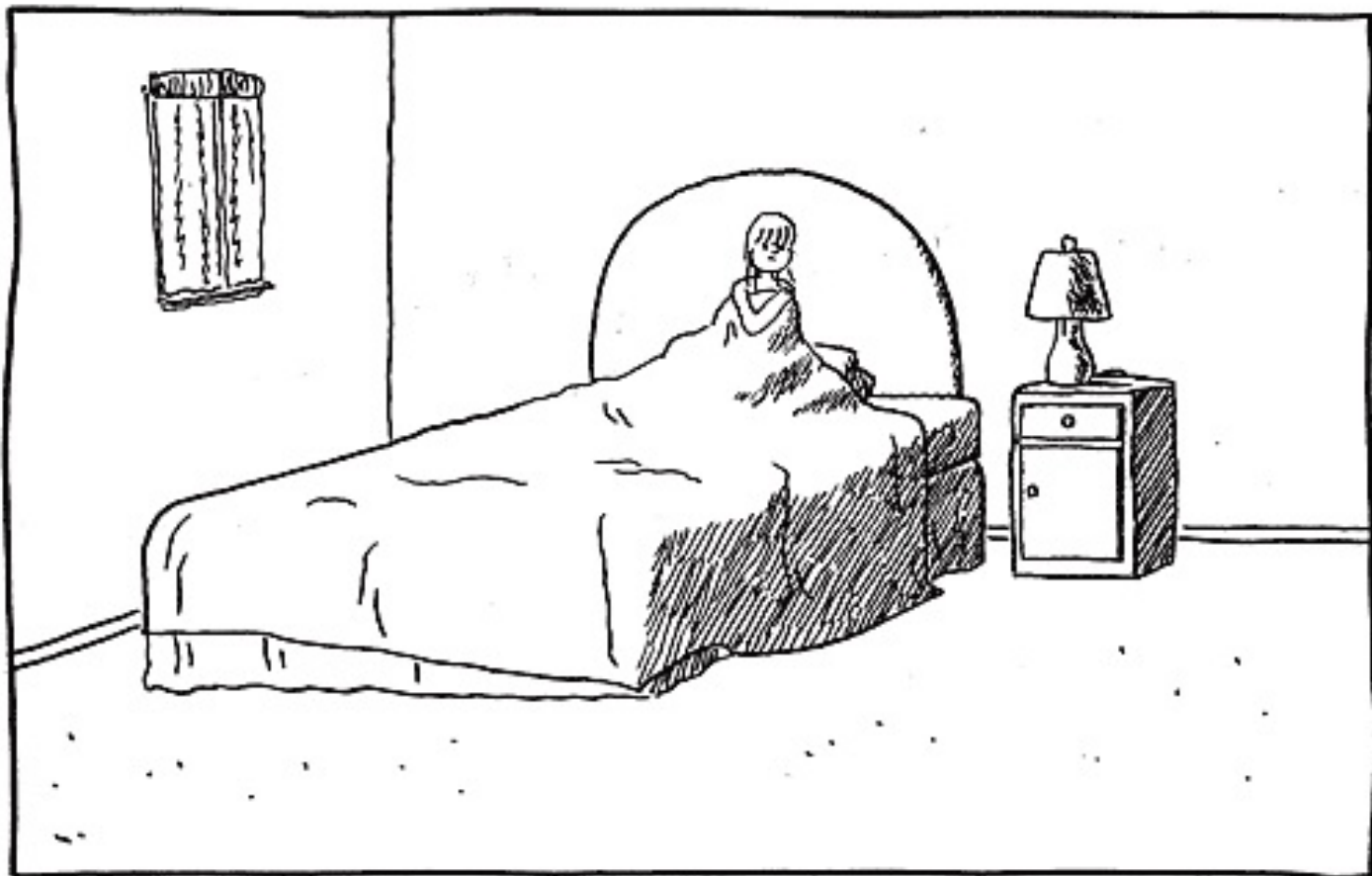
WE GOT  
GET  
OF H

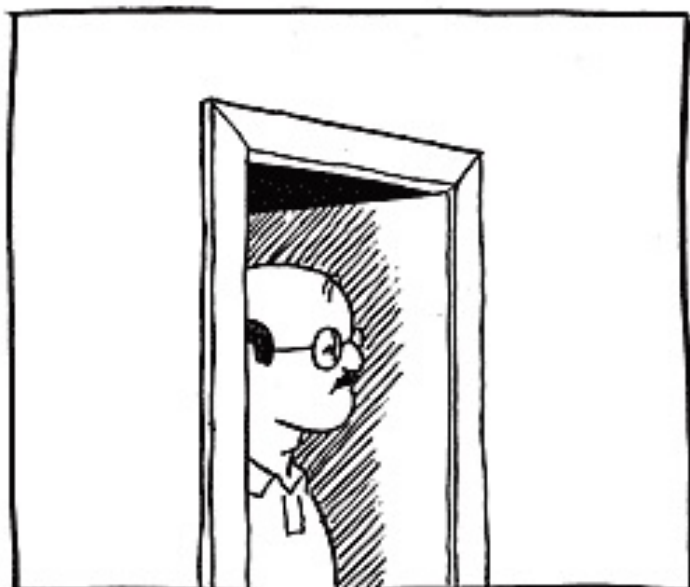
NO.  
WAIT.

DO YOU  
TRUST ME?

WHAT?







WELL YOU'VE CERTAINLY  
MADE YOURSELF  
COMFORTABLE.



TELL ME,

DID YOU  
RUN AWAY?



YESSS



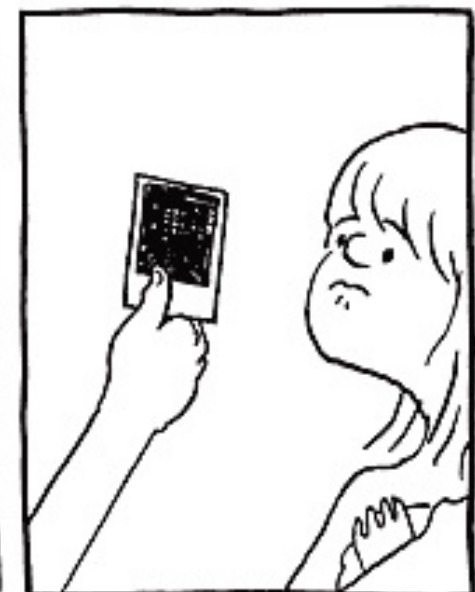
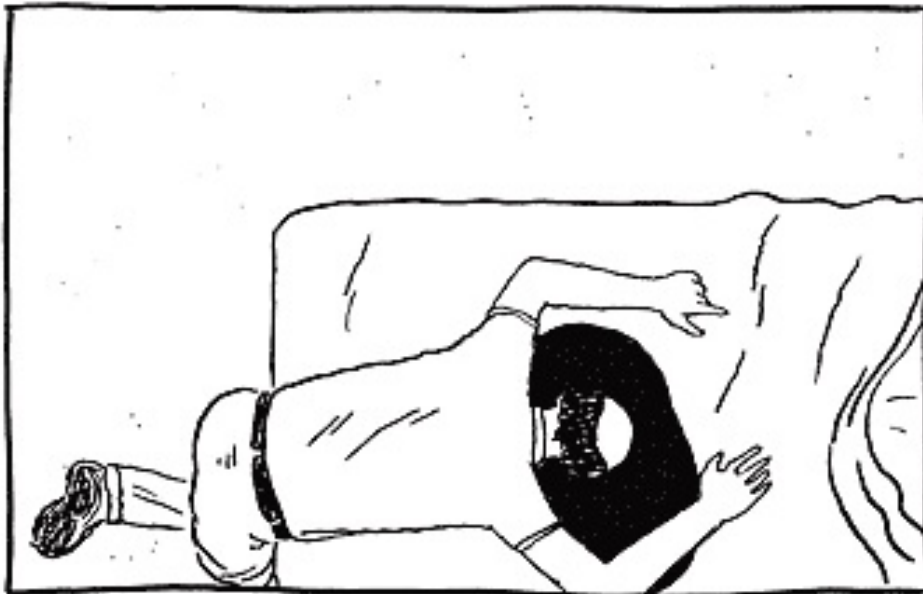
OH, HOW  
WONDERFUL.



I THINK WE'LL BECOME  
FAST FRIENDS, ALYSSA.

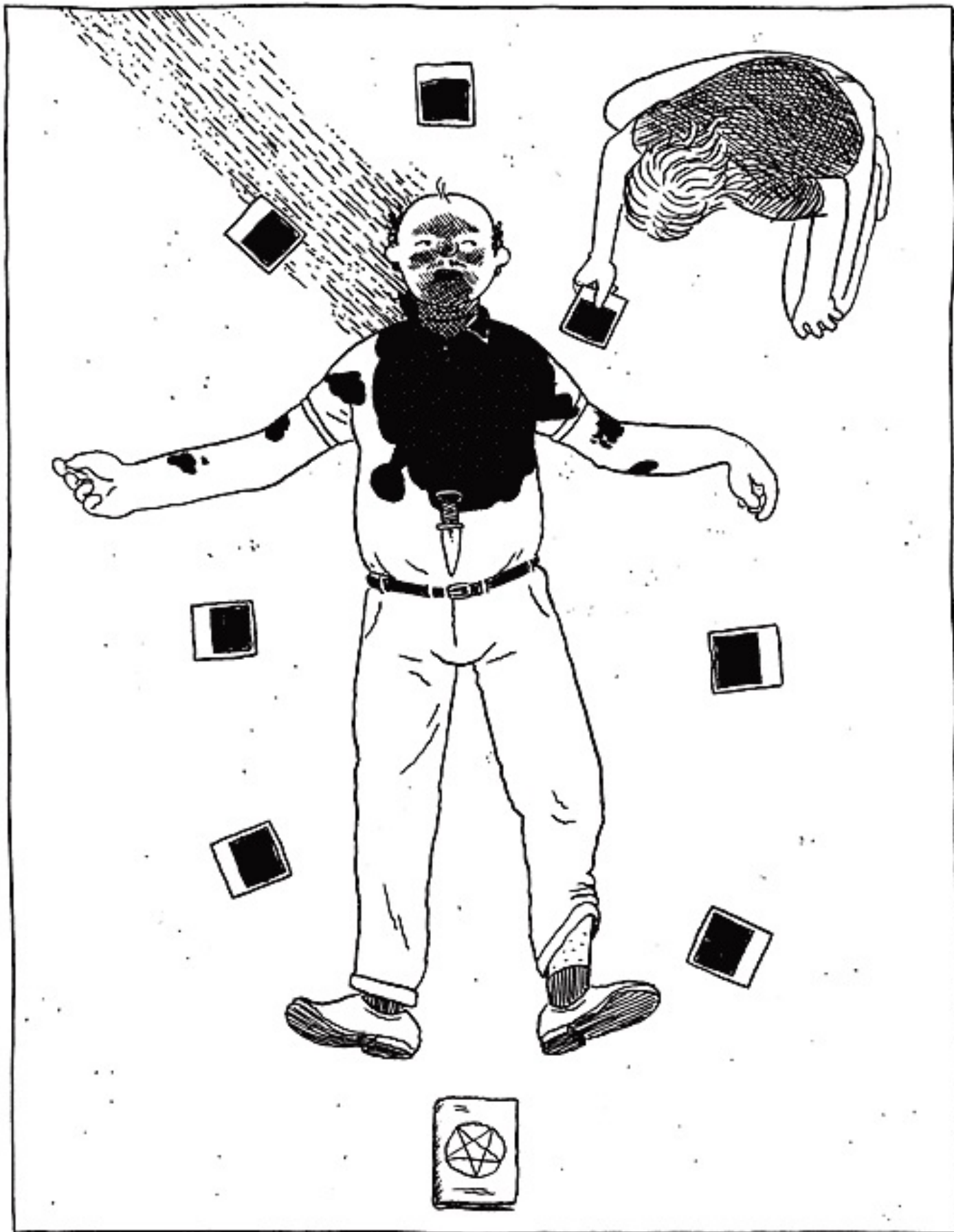




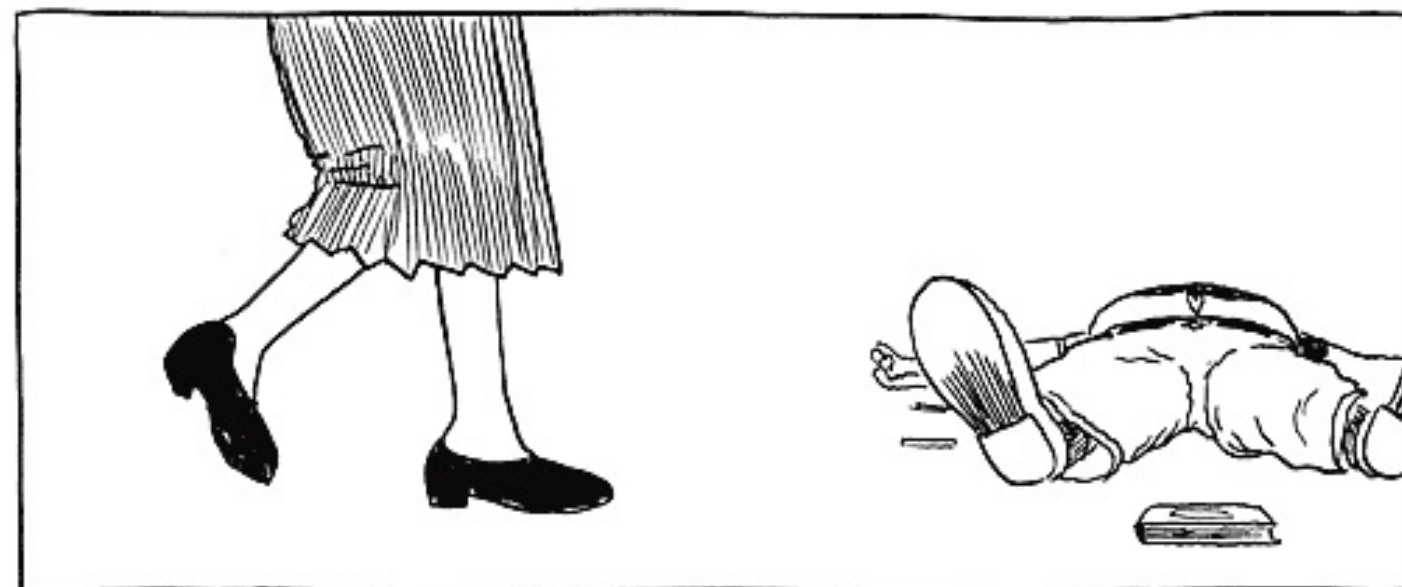
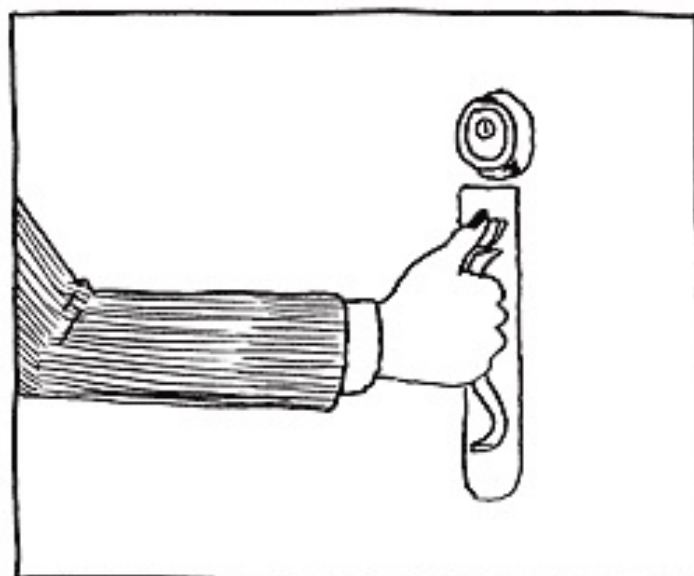
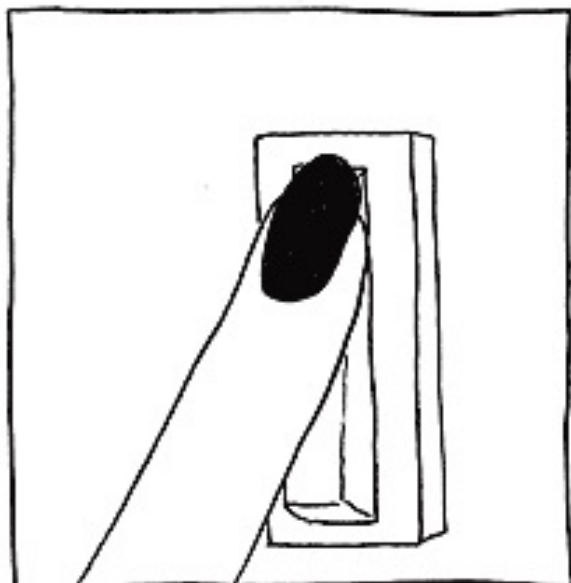


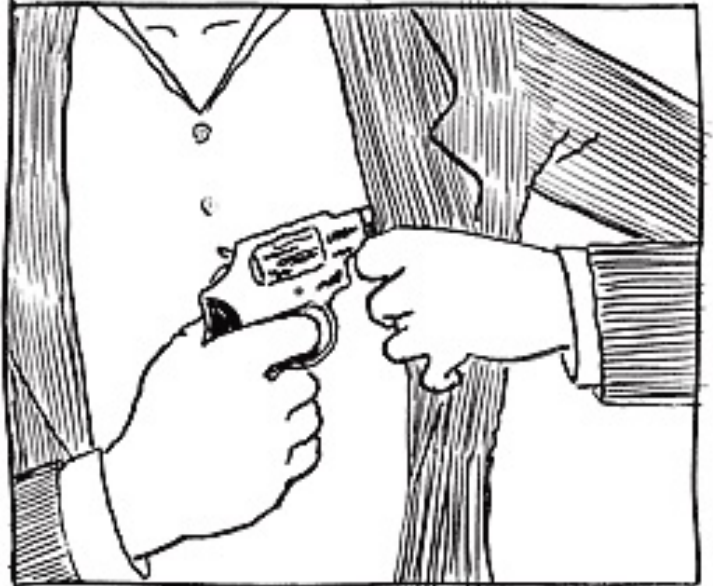
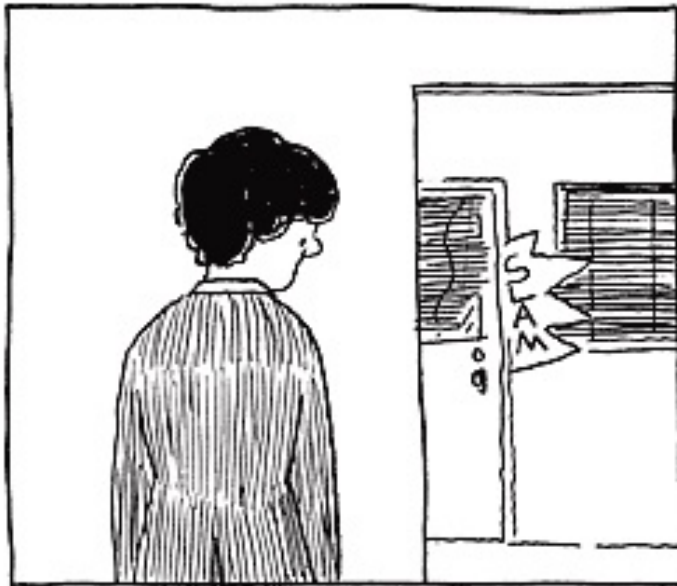
WORSE PROBABLY

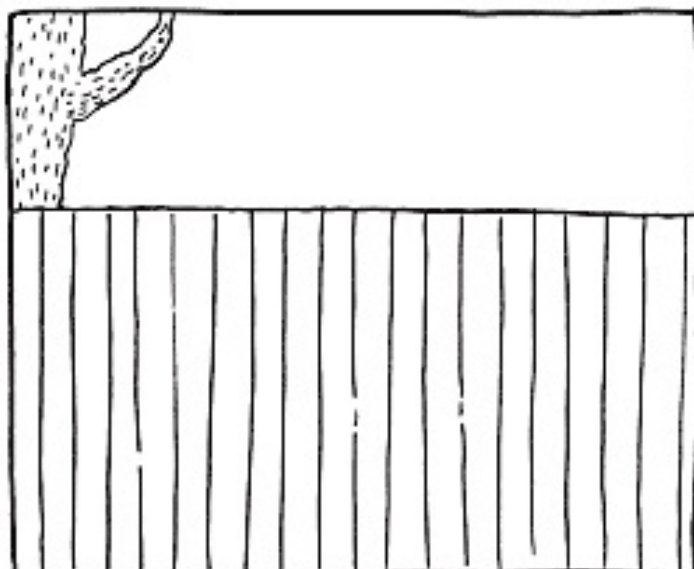
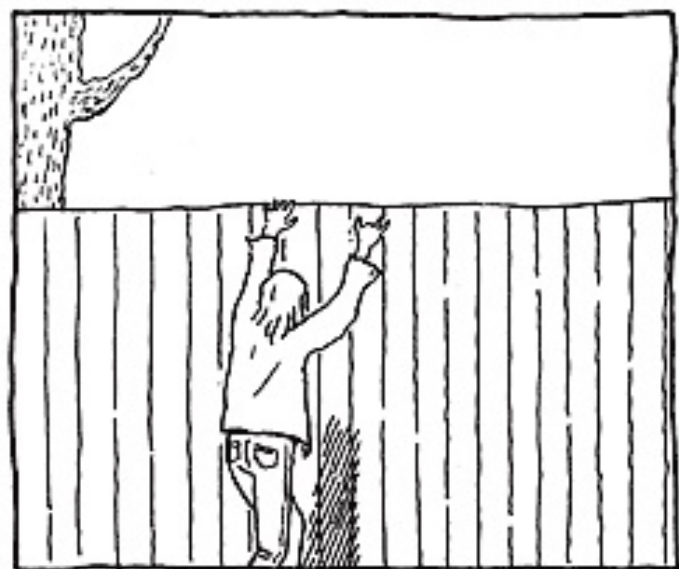








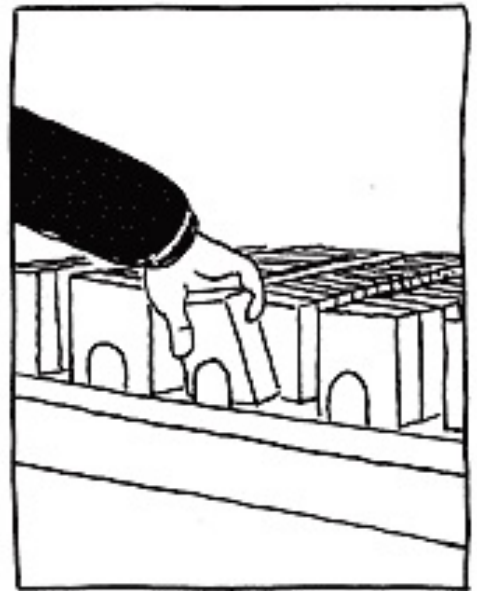








GOD!  
WHAT AN  
ASSHOLE.



BUT IT DOES  
SEEM LIKE THAT  
GUY DESERVED IT.

WORSE  
PROBABLY.

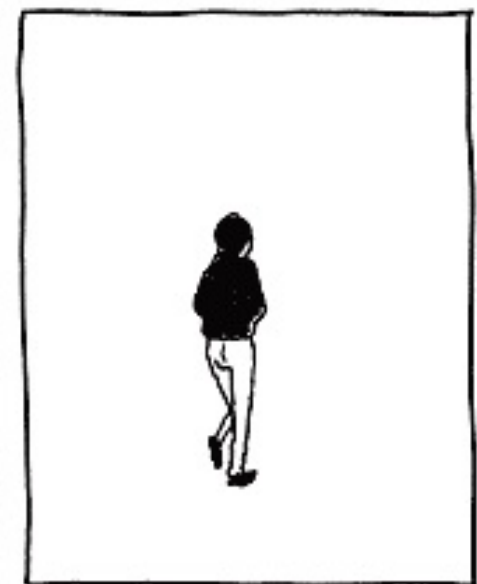


JAMES JUST LOOKED  
UNMOVED.

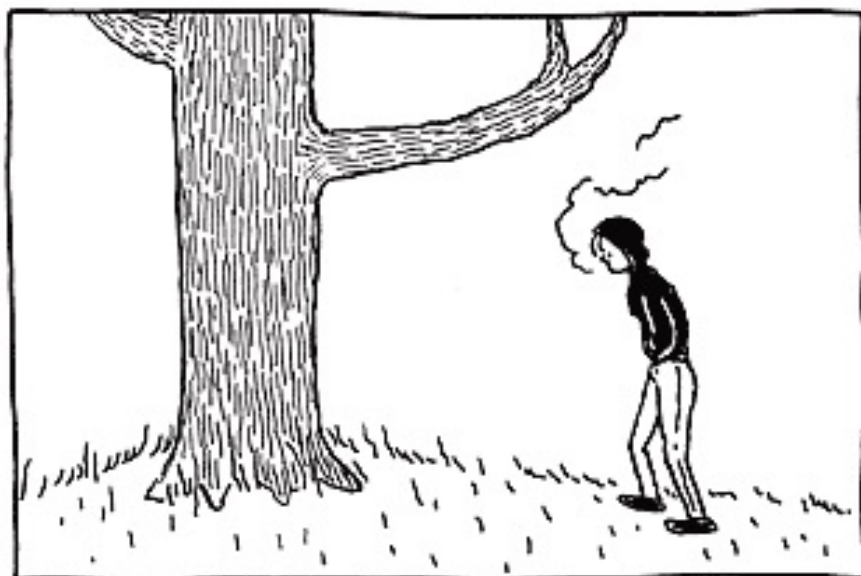
LIKE HE JUST  
OPENED A CAN  
OF SODA.



AND NOT SOME  
FUCKER'S NECK.



I SHOULD JUST  
GET OUT OF HERE.



AND GO HOME.

I DIDN'T KILL  
NO ONE.

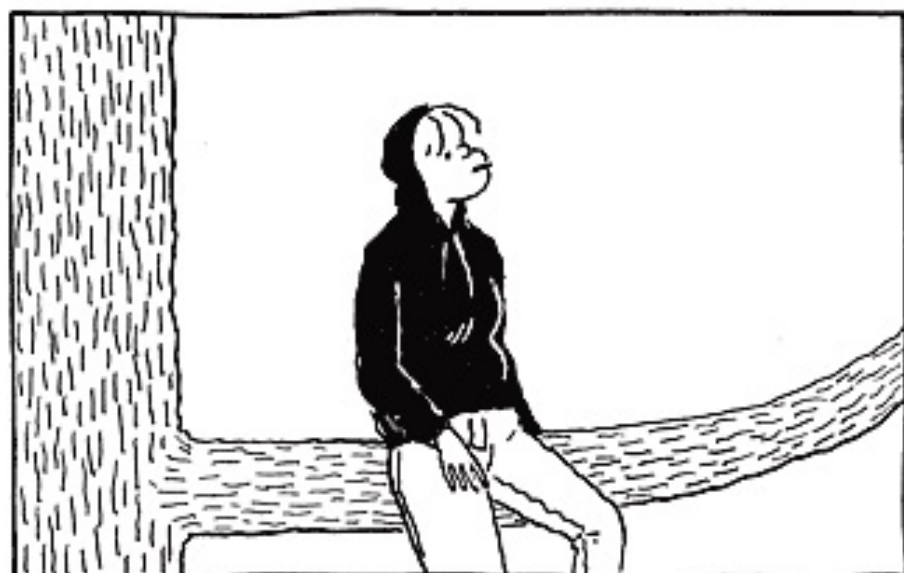
THINGS ARE  
WEIRD NOW.



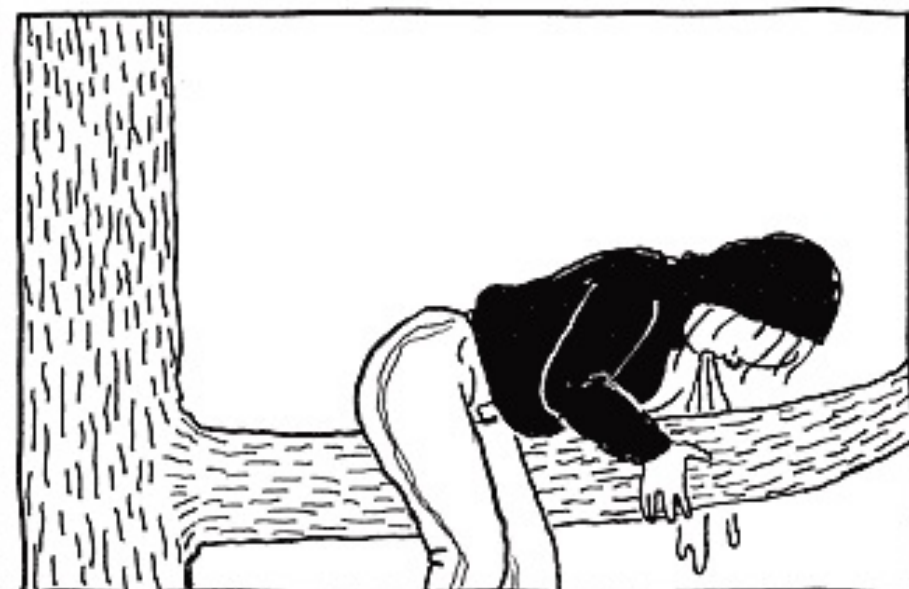
BUT I DON'T  
THINK WE CAN  
GO BACK.



I FEEL SICK.



FUCK HIM.  
HE OWES ME.





ALYSSA?  
YOU  
COMING?



I WANNA GO  
SEE MY DAD.



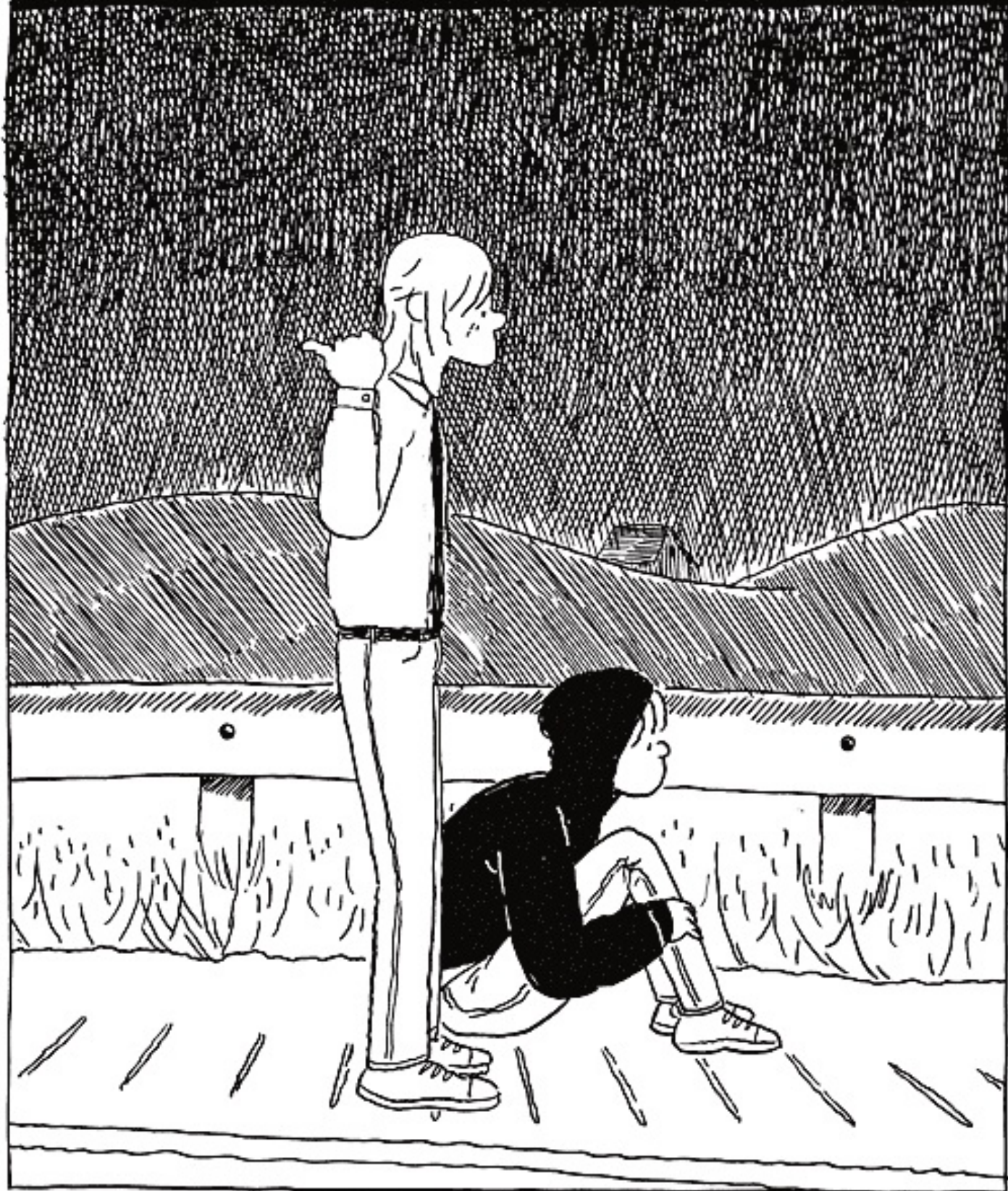
OKAY. BUT  
WE GOTTA GO.



MOTHER



I KNEW I WAS DIFFERENT FROM MOST PEOPLE. BUT I  
LEARNED HOW TO BLEND IN FOR THE MOST PART.



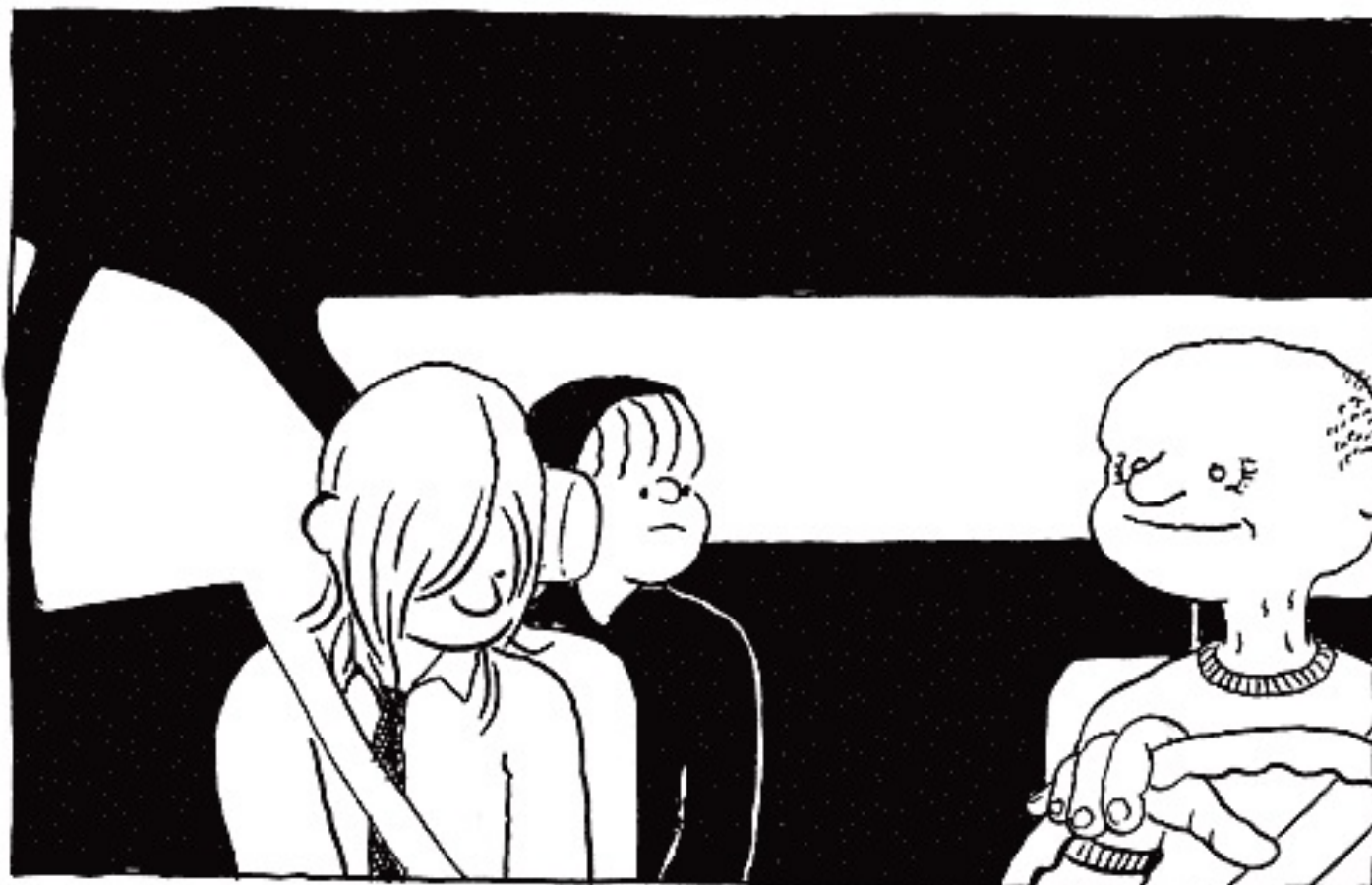


THERE WERE TIMES  
WHEN I DIDN'T KNOW  
HOW TO ACT.

SOMETIMES I WOULD LET  
THINGS HAPPEN THAT I  
DIDN'T UNDERSTAND.



SIT UP FRONT, BOY.  
KEEP ME COMPANY.

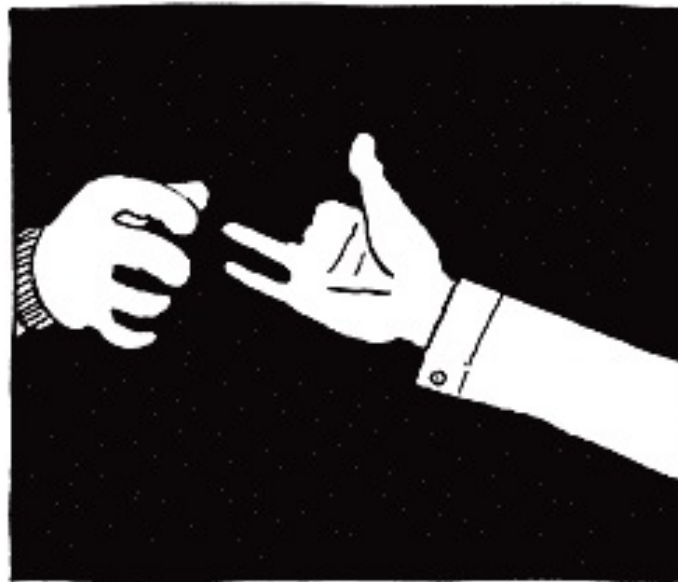


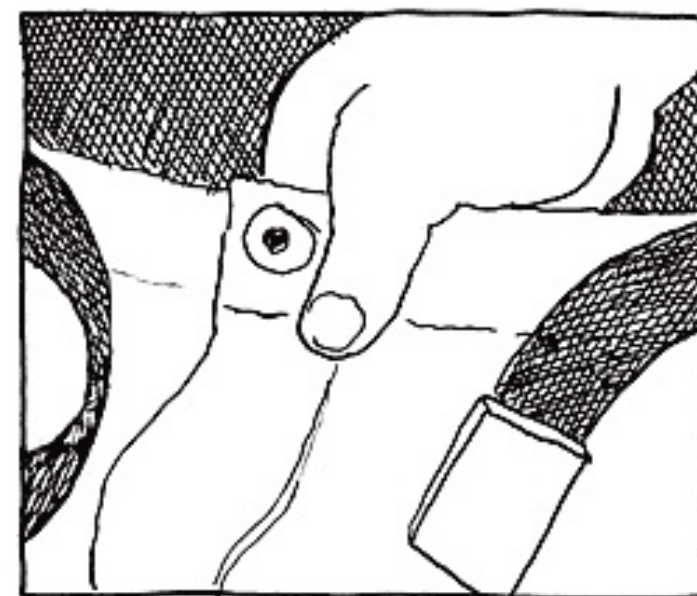
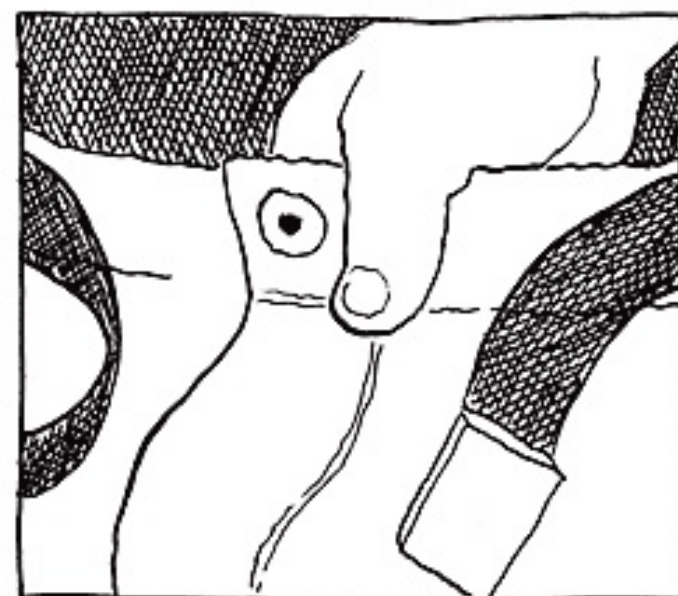
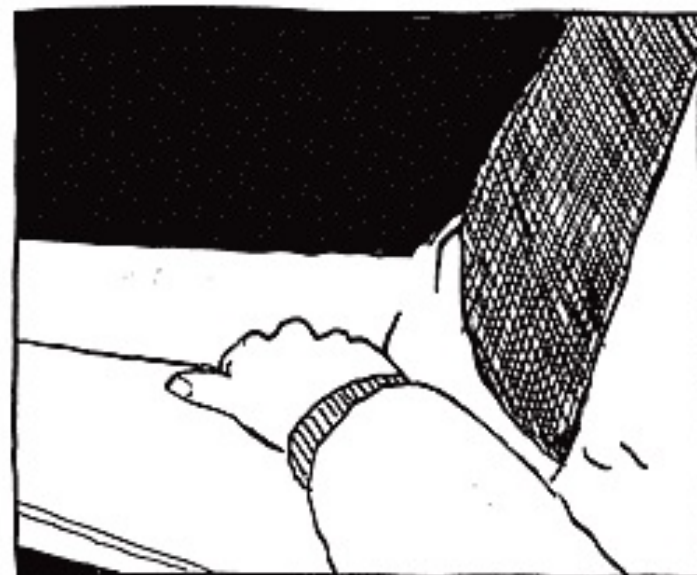


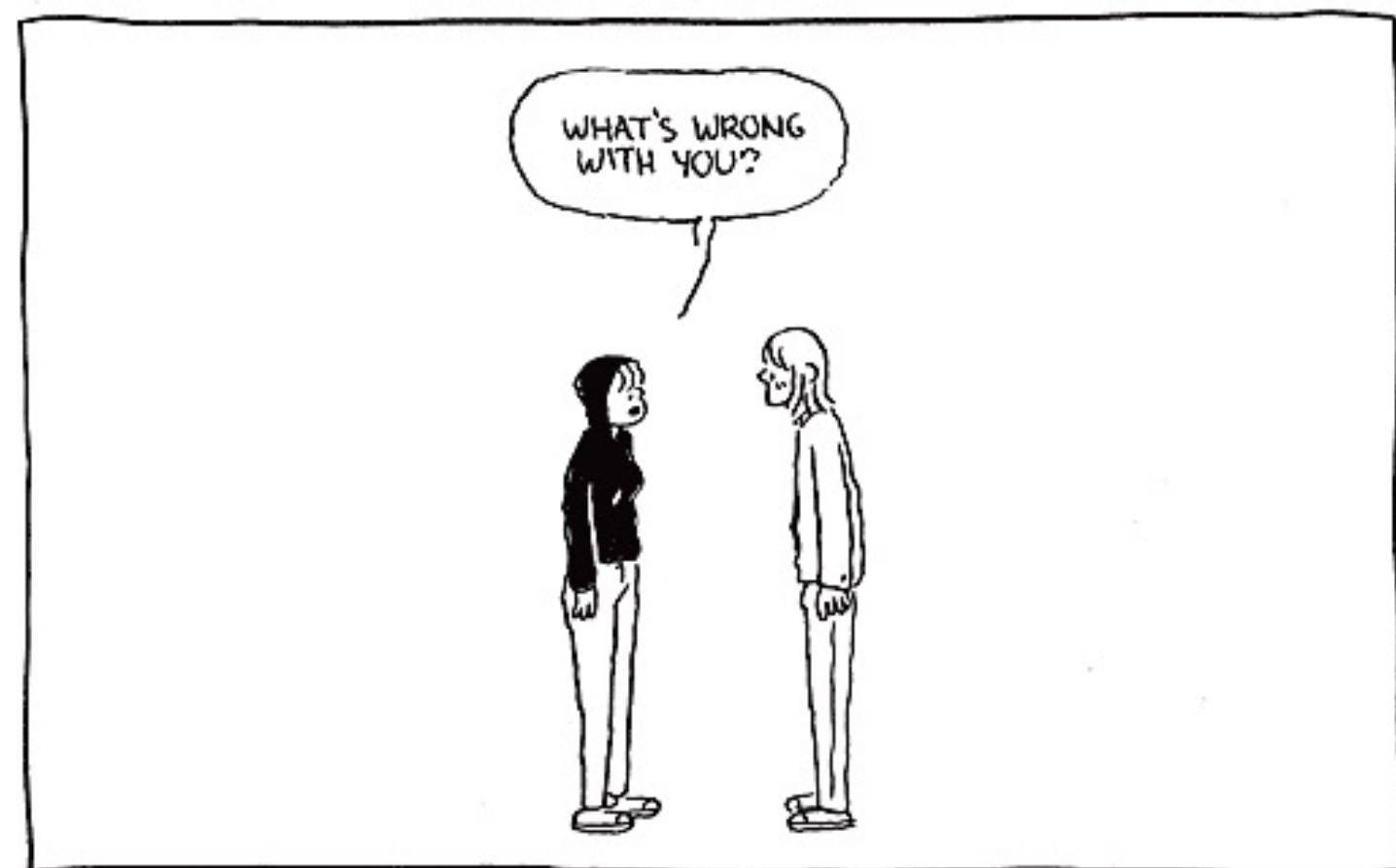






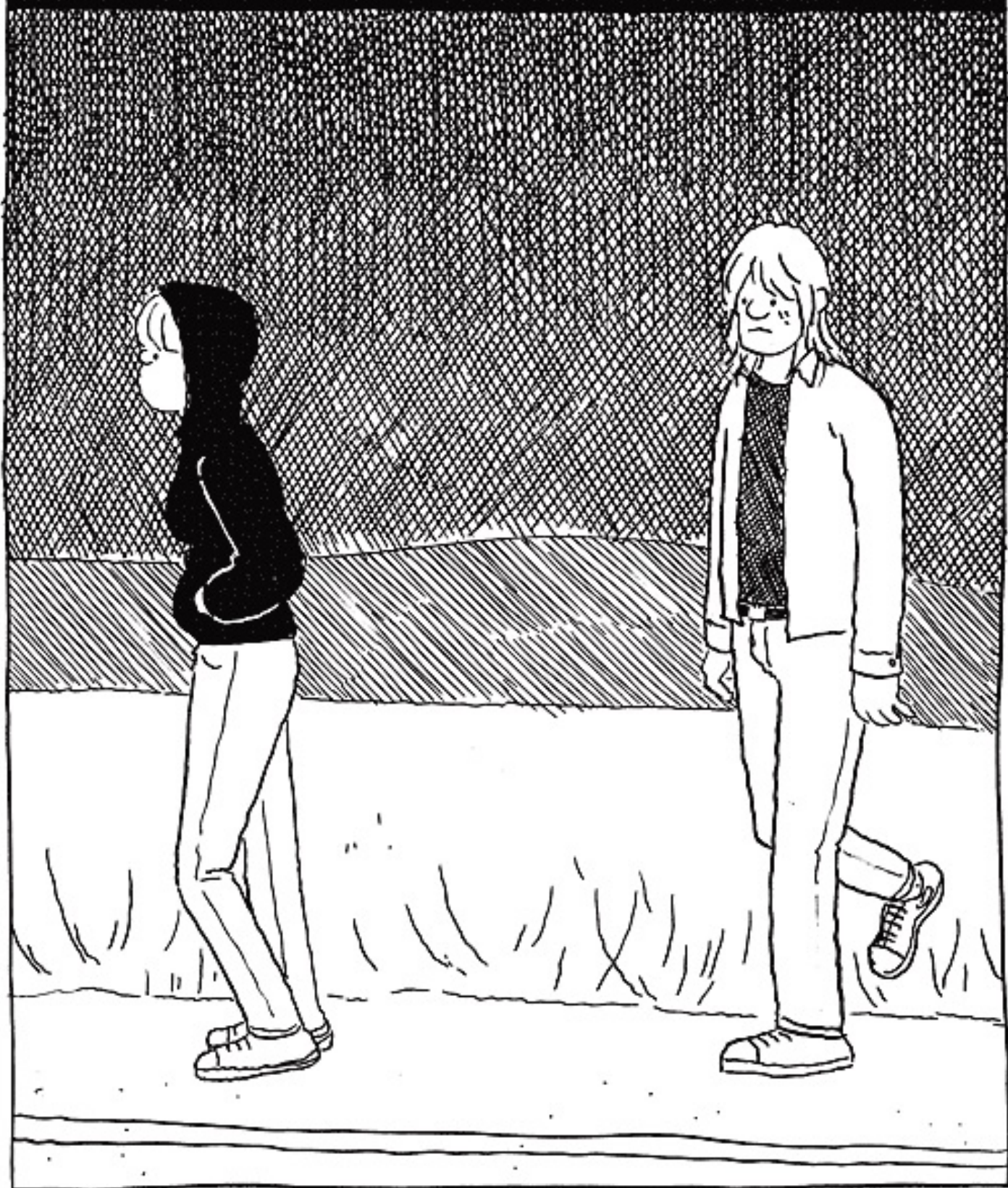




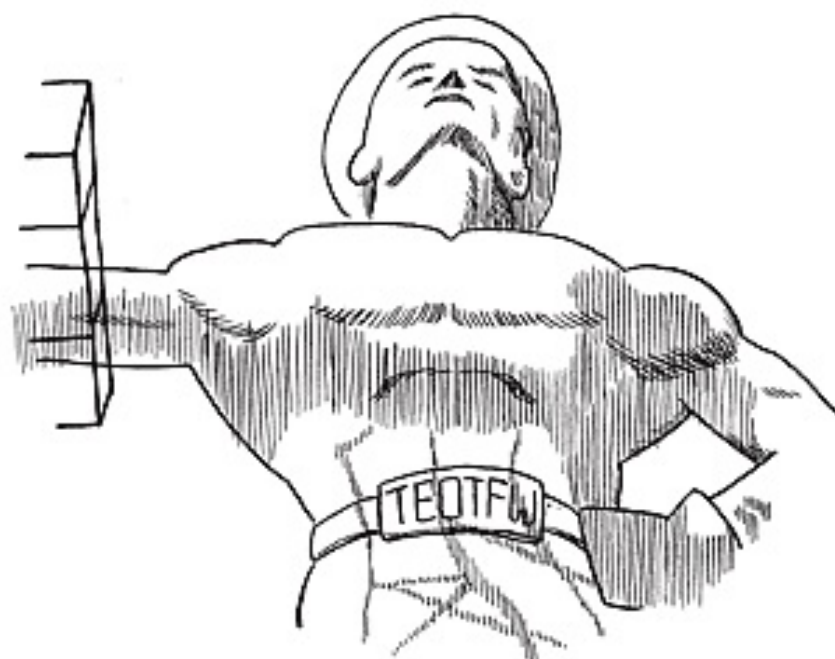




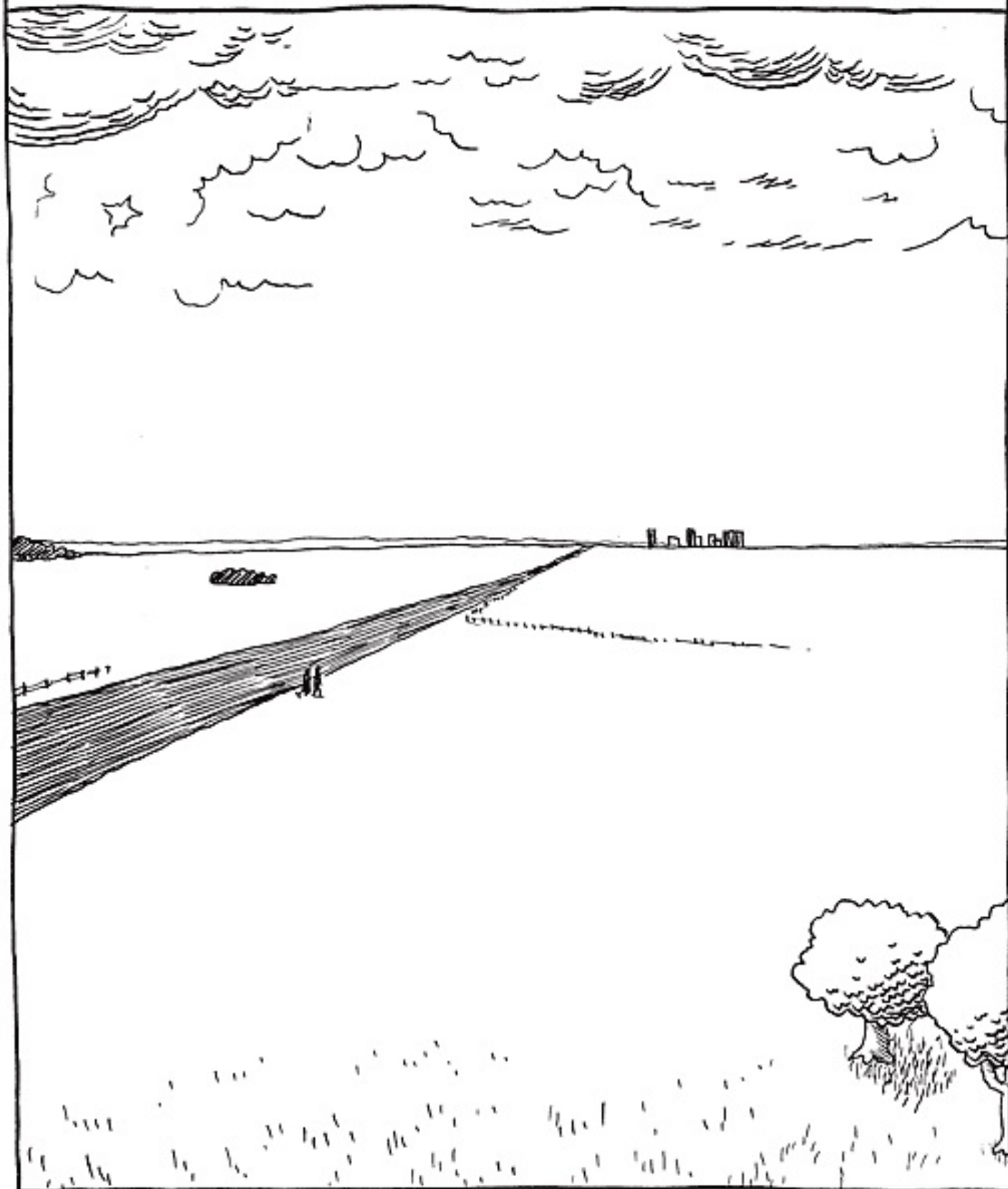
I GUESS I THOUGHT I MIGHT FEEL SOMETHING. SOMETHING  
OTHER THAN NOTHING.



# TULSA GOODBYE



JESUS CHRIST. JESUS CHRIST, IT'S REALLY FUCKING FLAT  
HERE. YOU CAN LOOK IN ANY DIRECTION AND SEE FOR MILES.

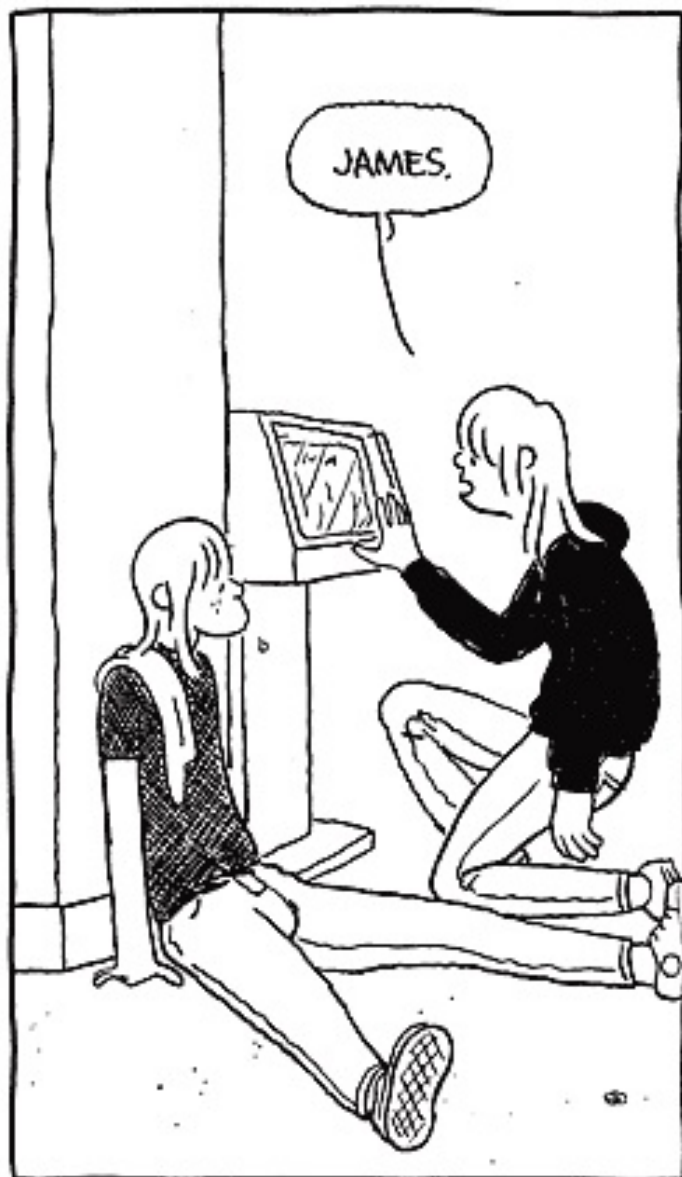




THERE'S JUST  
NOTHING TO  
LOOK AT.



JAMES.

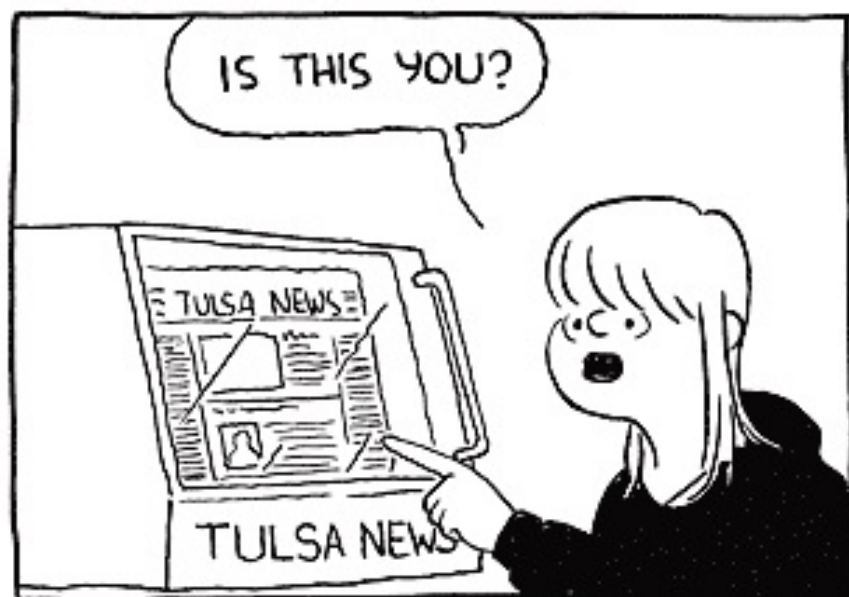


**Suspect on 1**

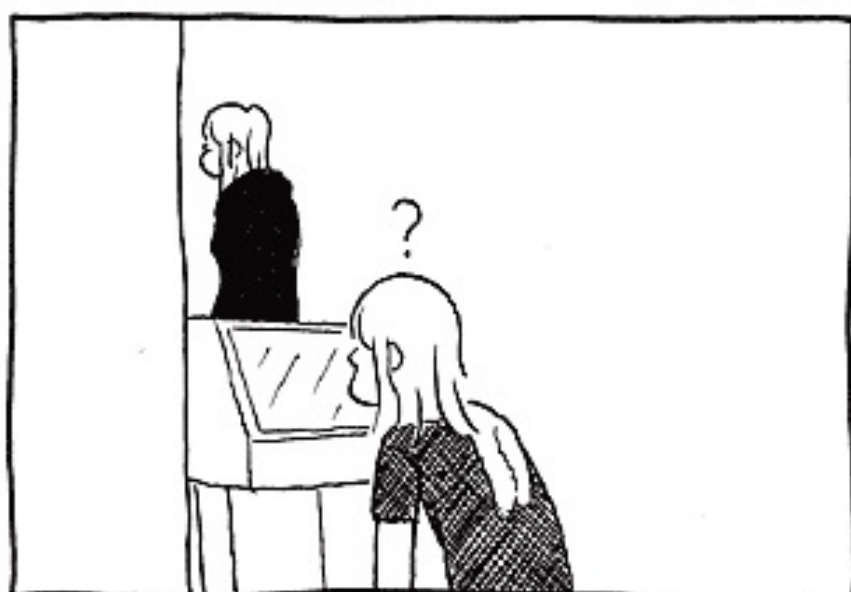


*sketch released by police of  
suspect wanted for murder*

**THE FLOW**



NOTHING TO  
DISTRACT ME FROM  
THIS CREEPING  
PANIC.

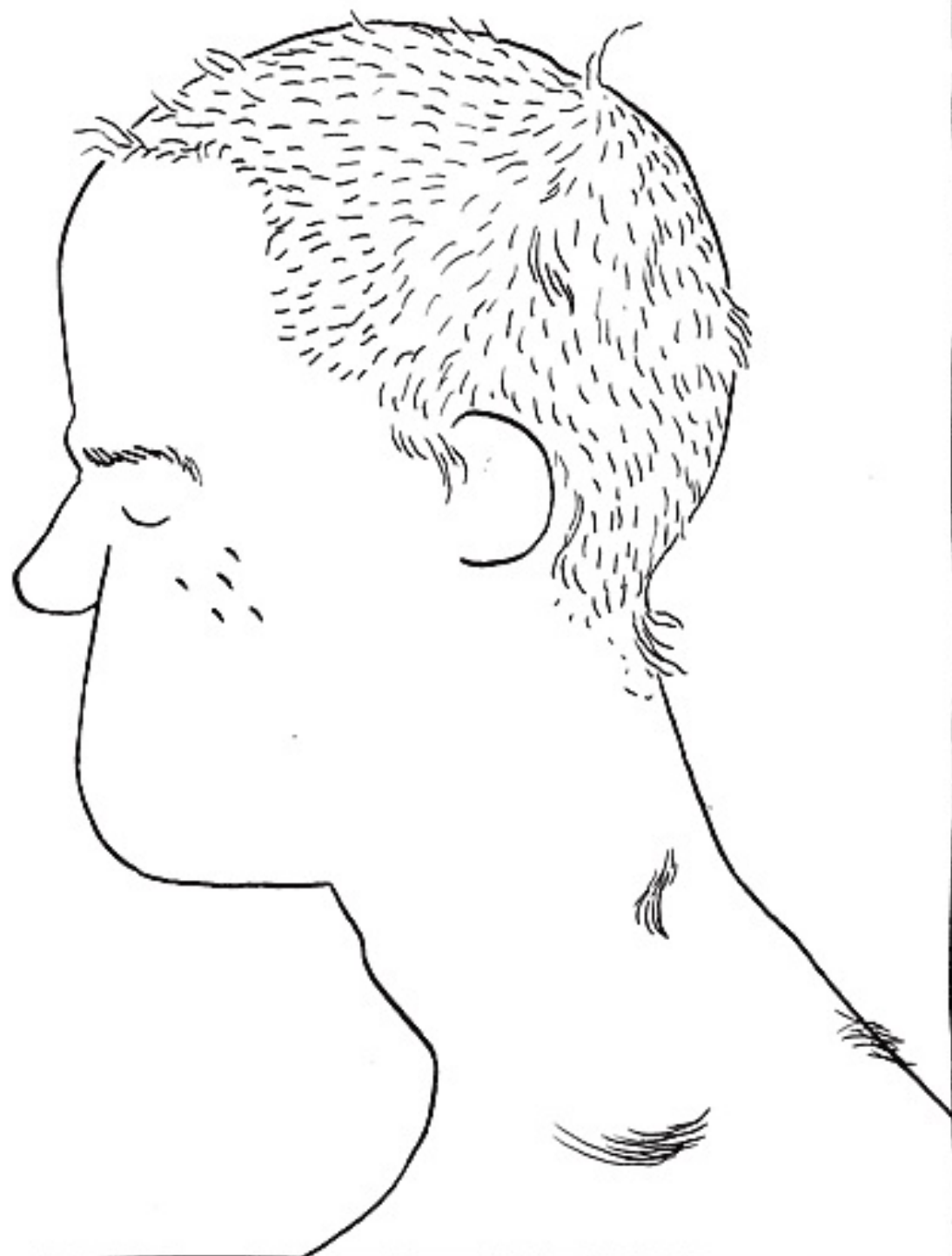


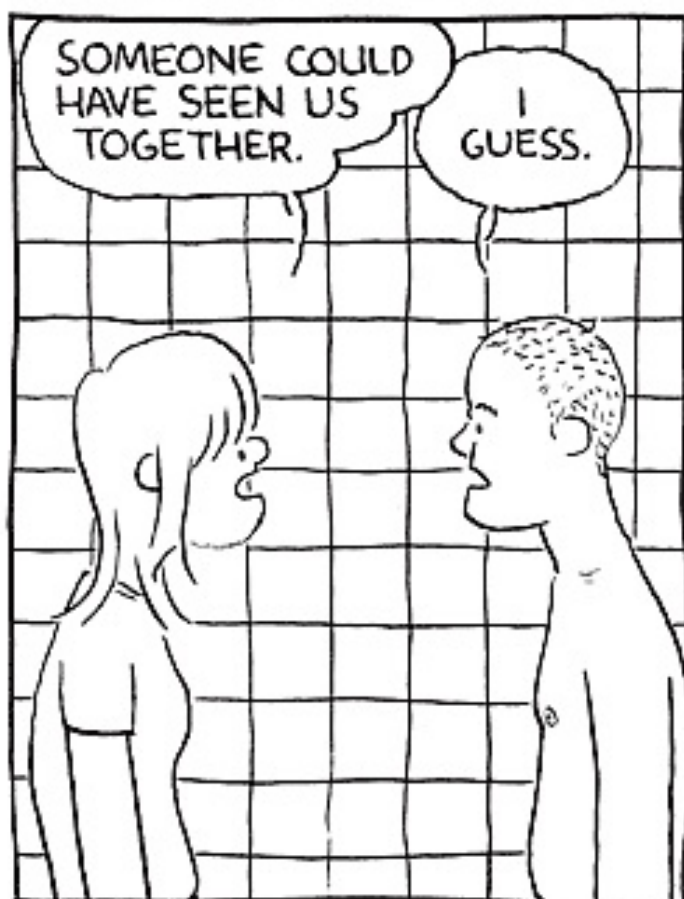
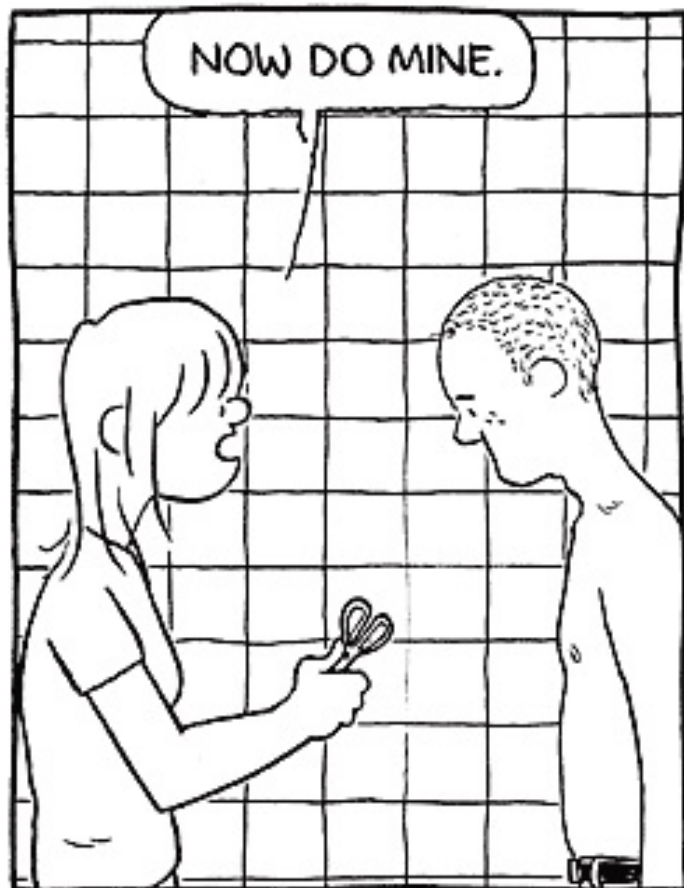
THINGS ARE GETTING REALLY OUT THERE.  
I DON'T THINK I CAN KEEP THIS GOING.





EVERY TIME I LOOK AT HIM, I SEE A BOY I LOVE  
AND A FUCKING STRANGER.

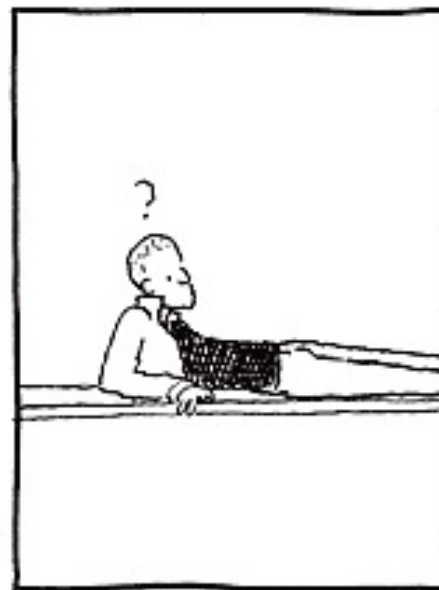
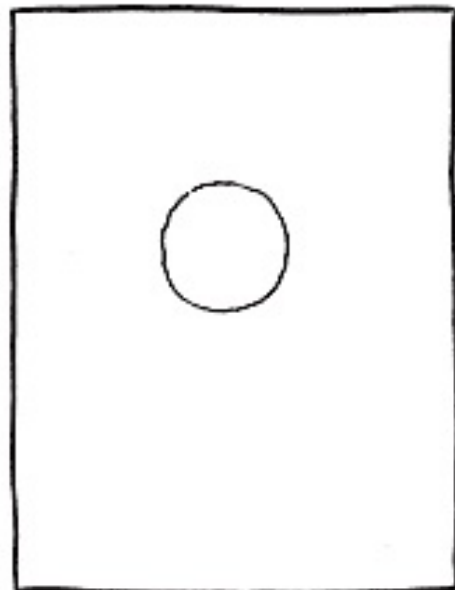
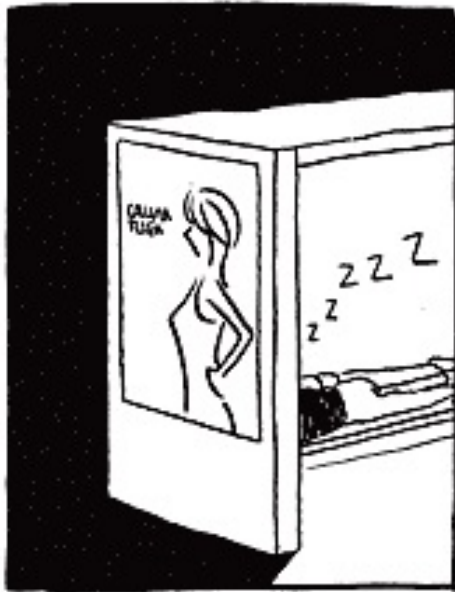




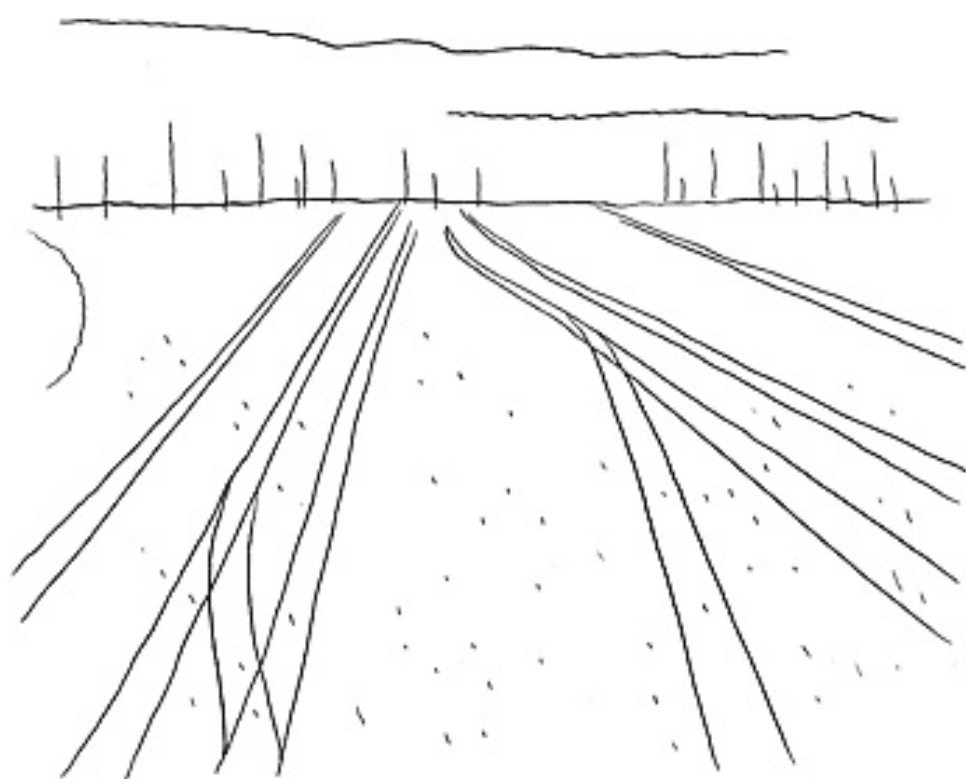
MY HEART CAN'T TAKE IT.

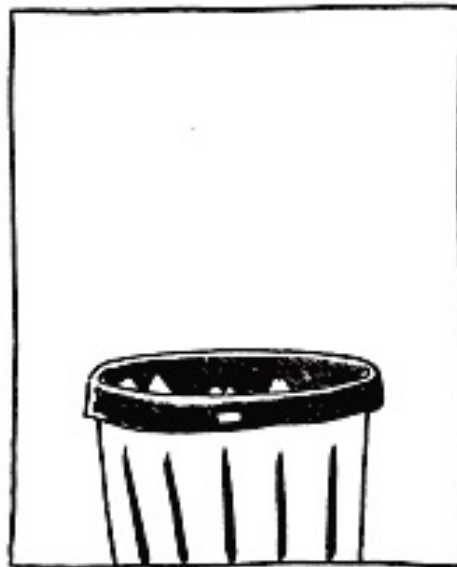
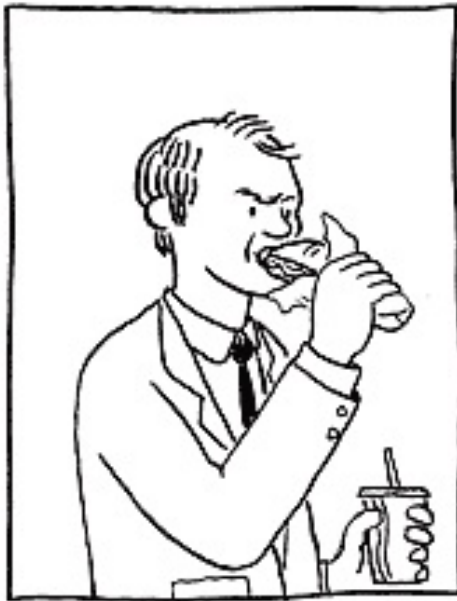




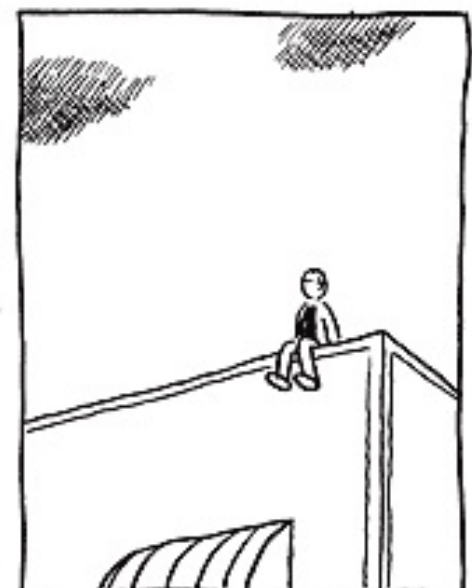
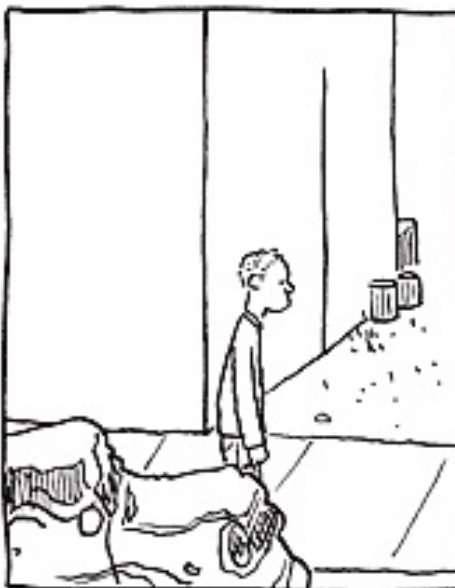
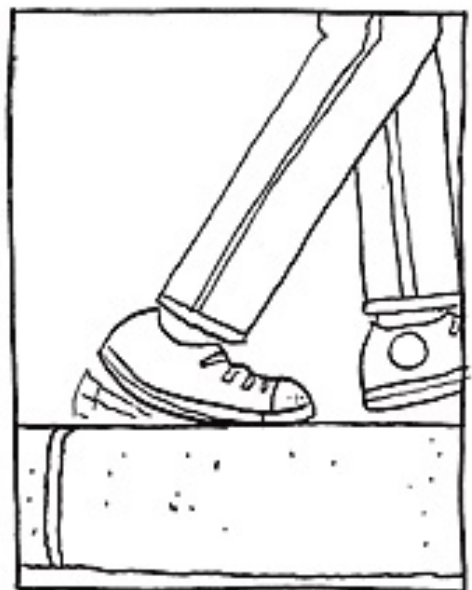
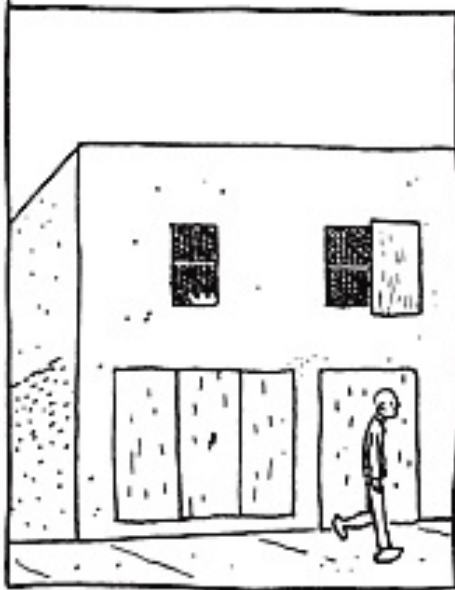


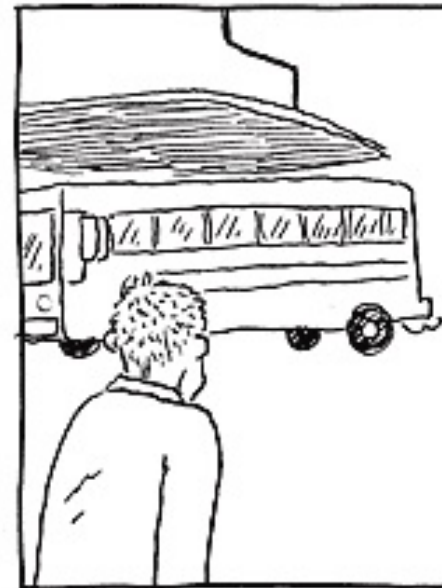
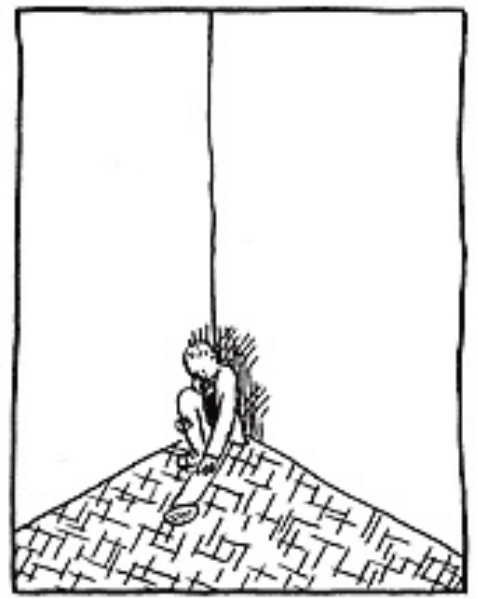
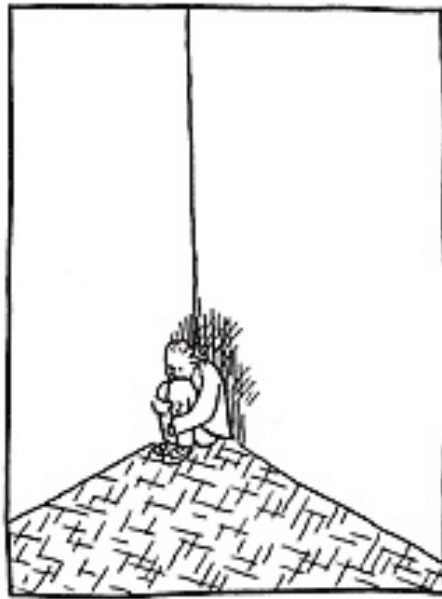
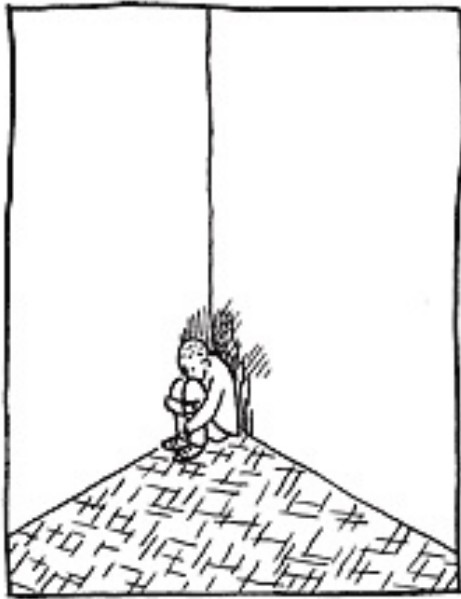
# PROTECTOR



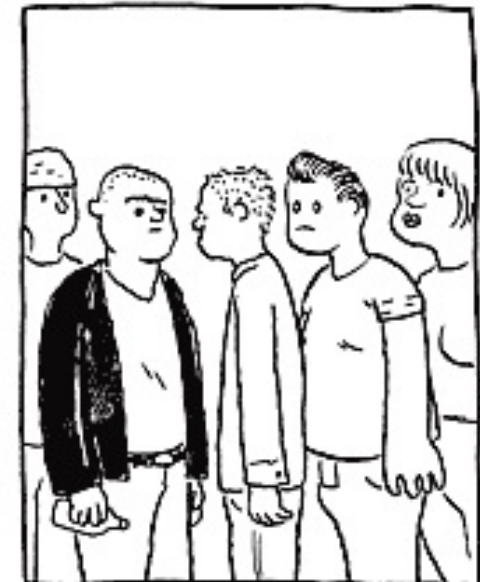
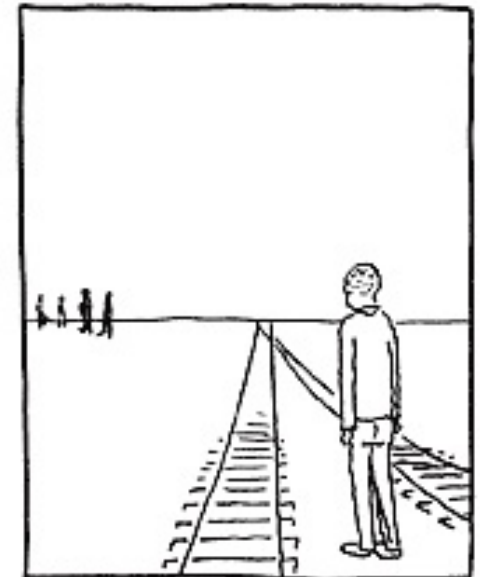
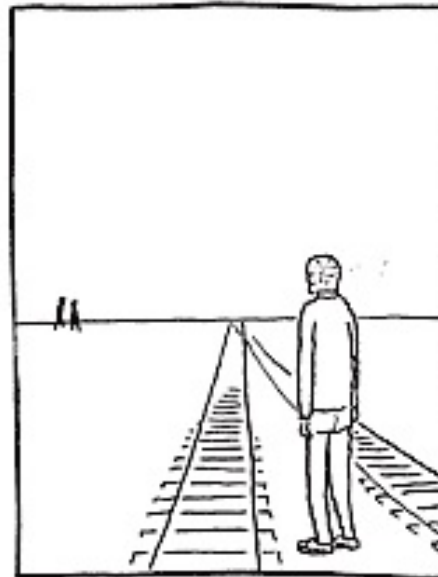
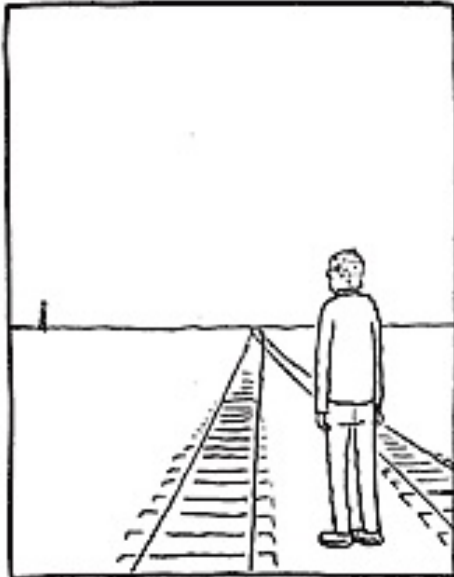
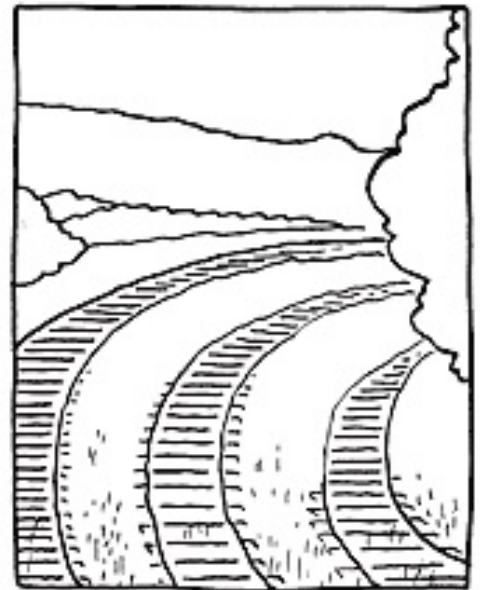
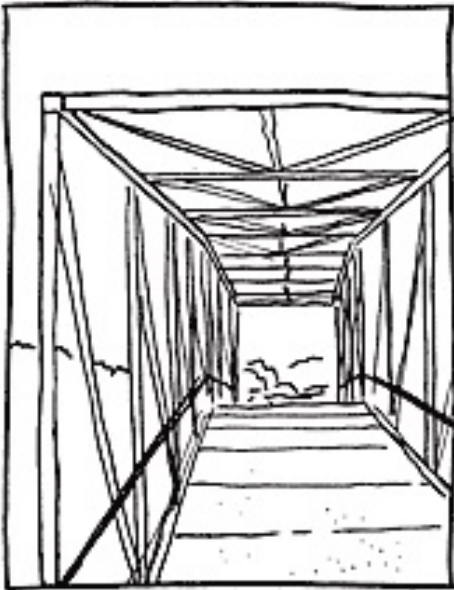






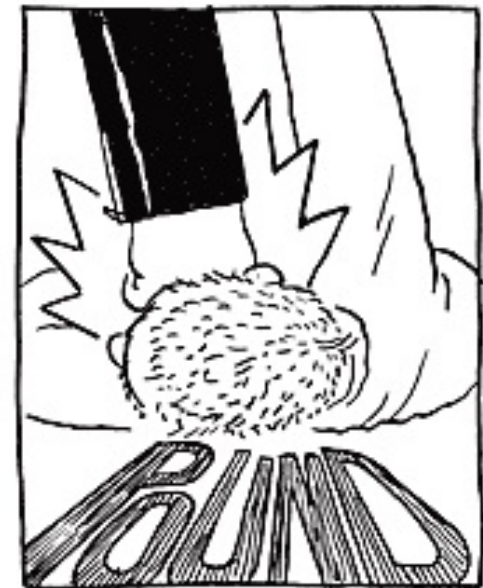
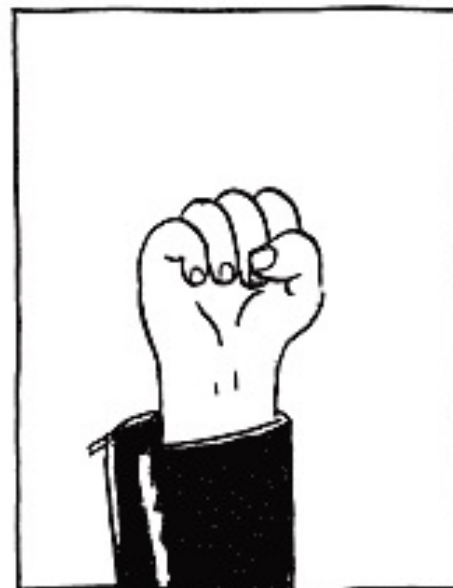
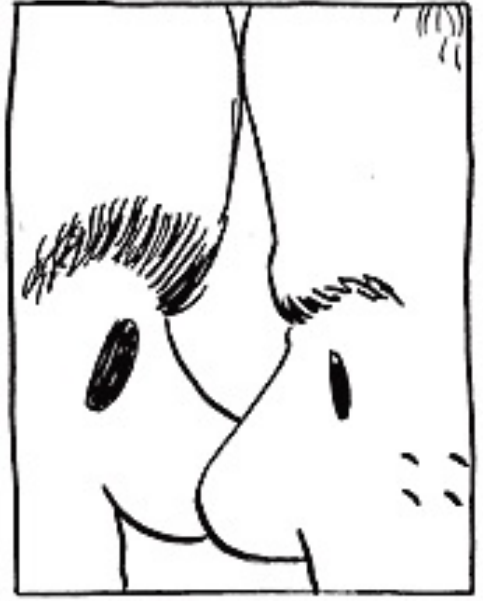












I KILLED MY  
NEIGHBOR'S DOG.

I SAW HIM  
CURL UP ON  
HIS LAWN

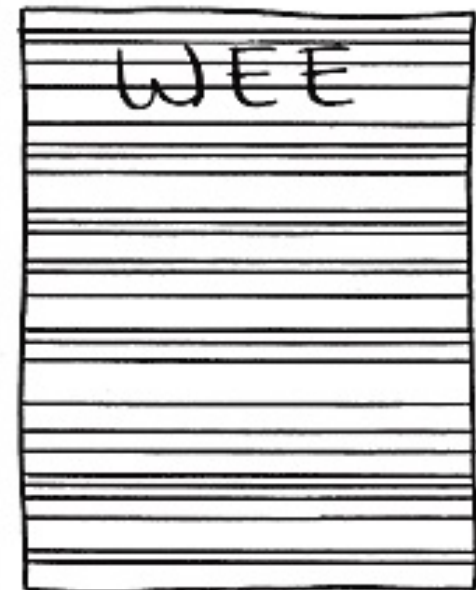
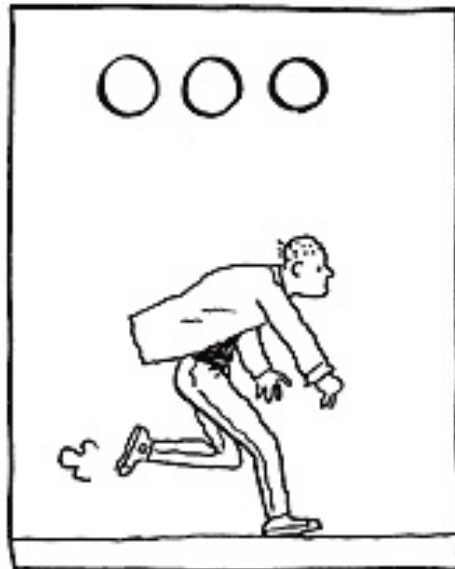
CRYING.



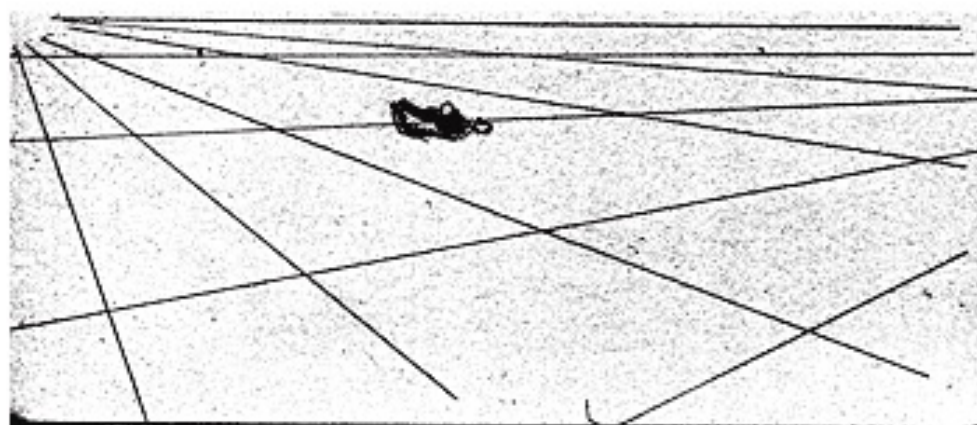
I WAS NOT HER  
PROTECTOR.

SHE WAS MINE.

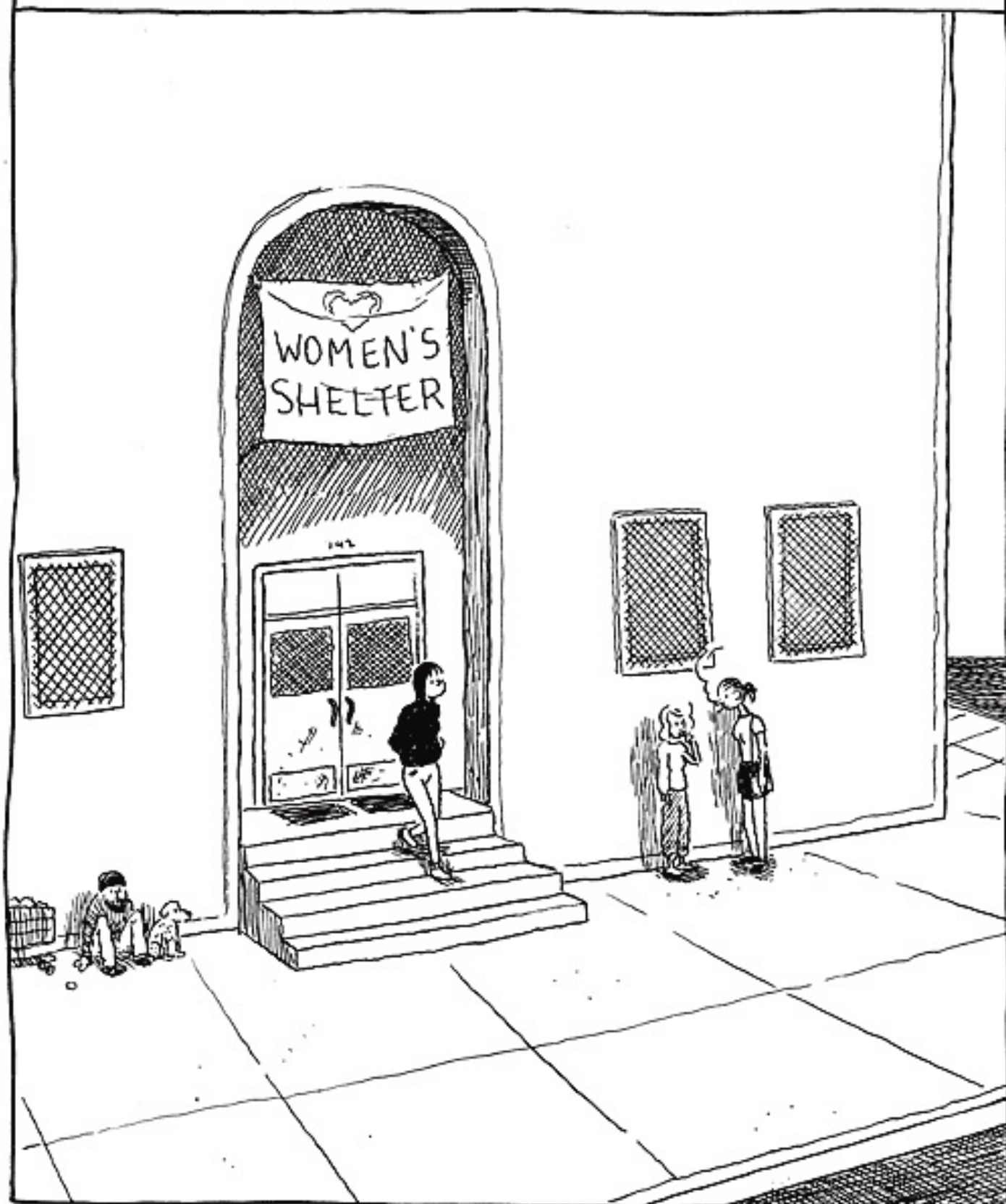




FOREVER

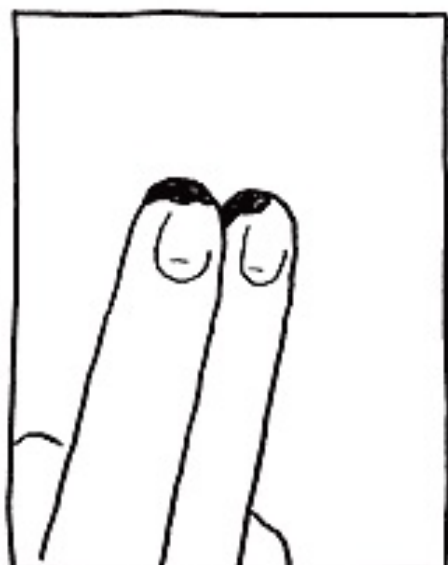
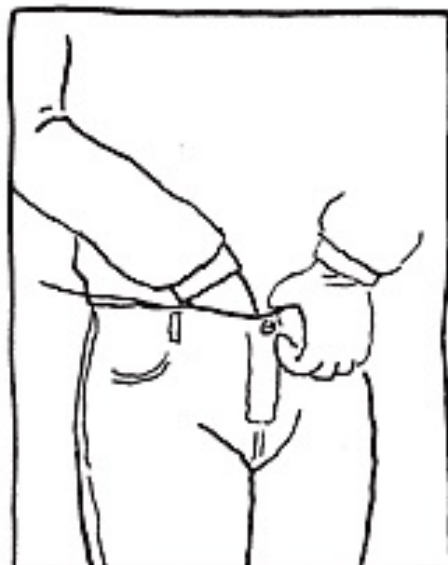


I FEEL SO GROSS. WHERE THE HELL AM I ?  
JUST WANT TO CURL UP IN A CORNER AND ROT.

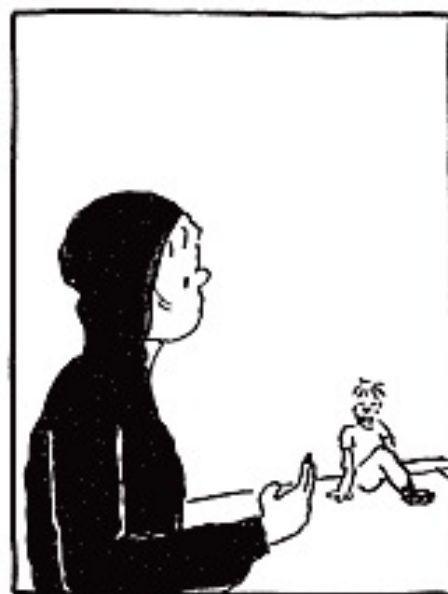




WAIT.



SHIT.

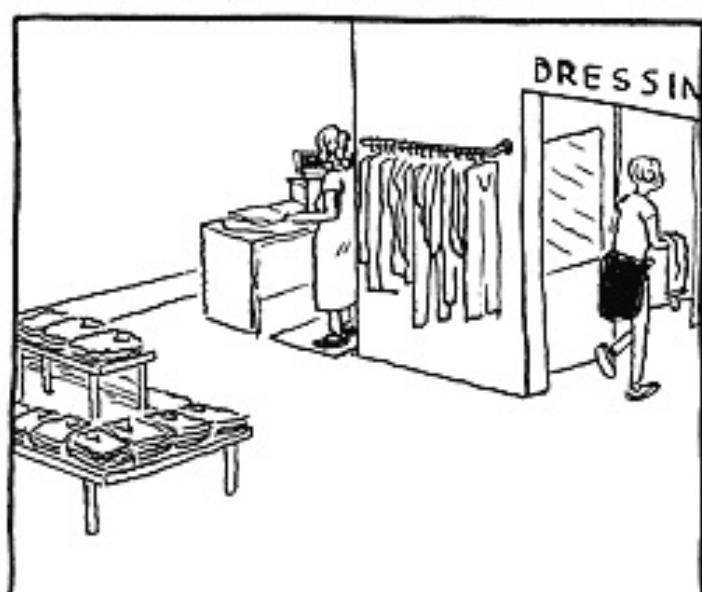
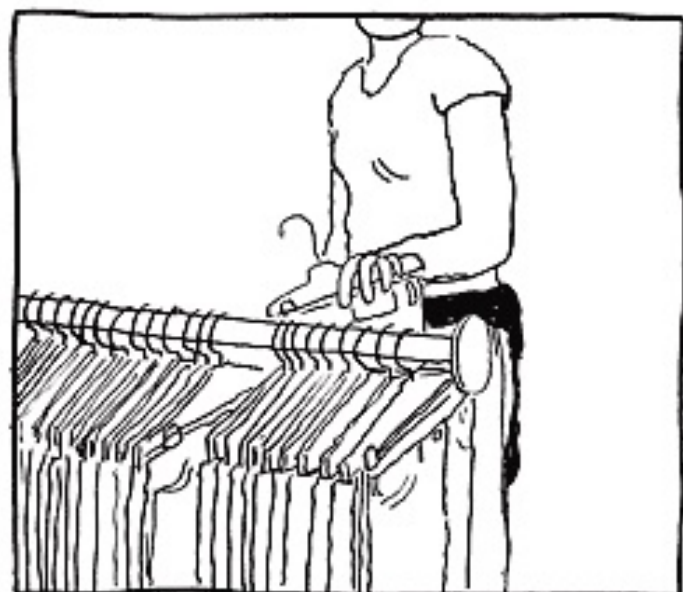
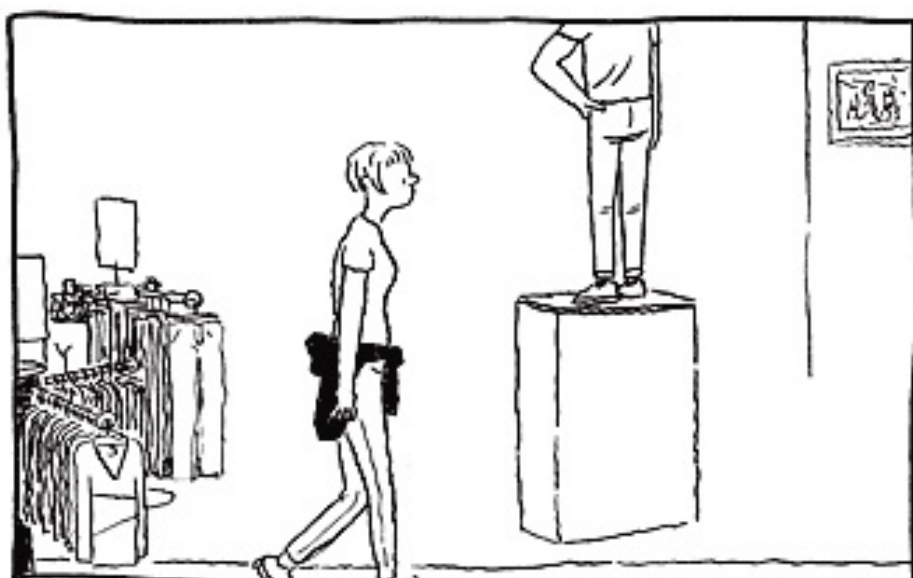


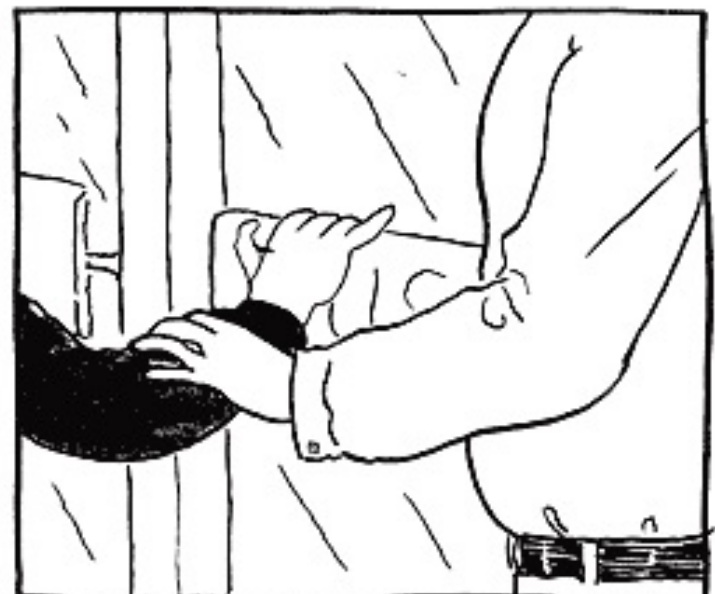
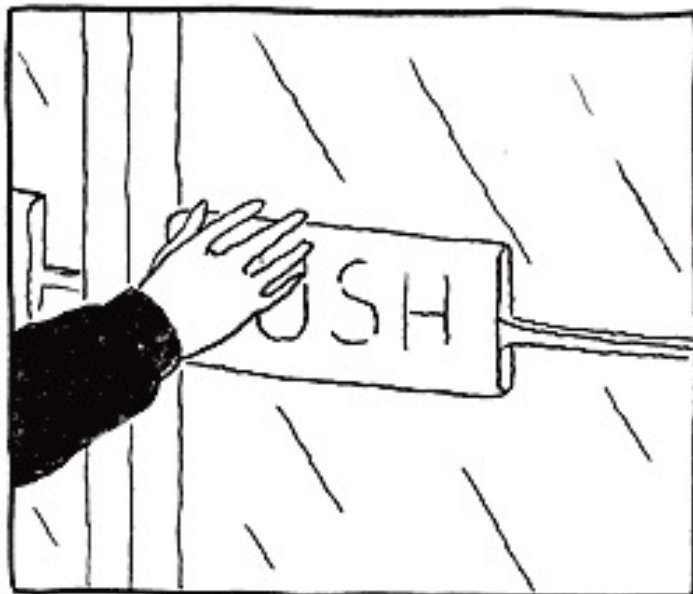
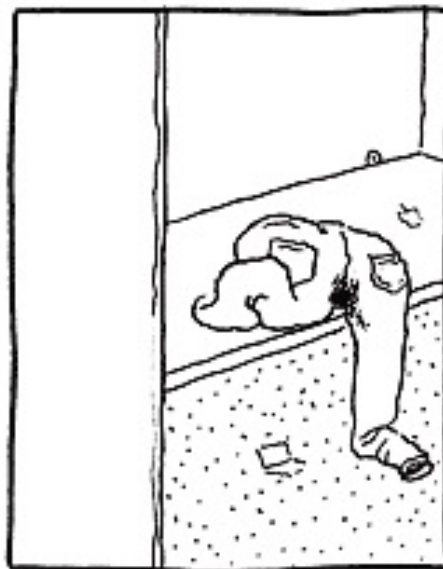
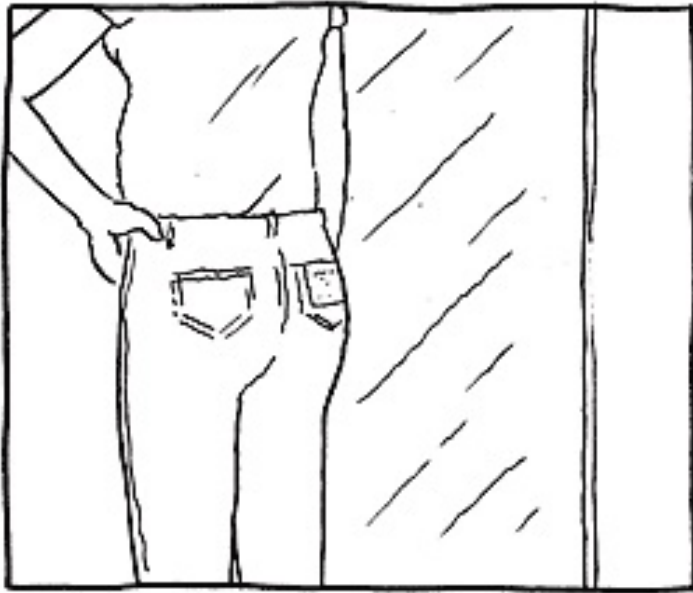
TAKE A FUCKING  
PICTURE, DICK.



# Stern's

DEPARTMENT  
STORE









OH, I'M SORRY—LOOK, I'M NOT GOING TO GET THE POLICE INVOLVED. I'VE BEEN THROUGH THAT. IT'S NOT GOOD FOR ANYBODY.



I JUST WANT...JULIE, I KNOW WHERE YOU'RE AT. I WAS THERE, TOO.



AND NOBODY CAN HELP YOU UNLESS YOU REALLY WANT IT.



I KNOW NONE OF THIS IS STICKING. YOU'RE TOO YOUNG. YOU GOT IT ALL FIGURED.

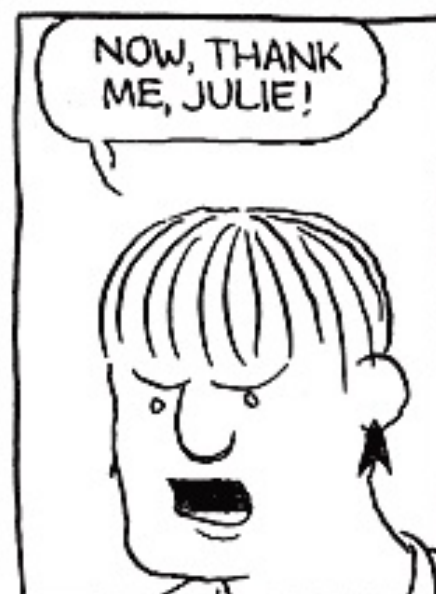


YOU GOT SOMEONE YOU CAN CALL FAMILY? SOMEBODY THAT TREATS YOU GOOD?

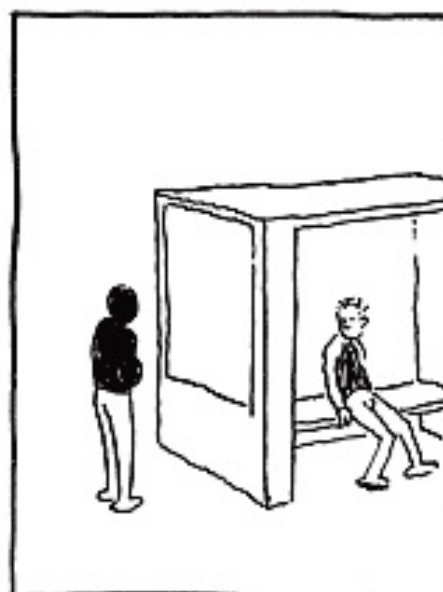
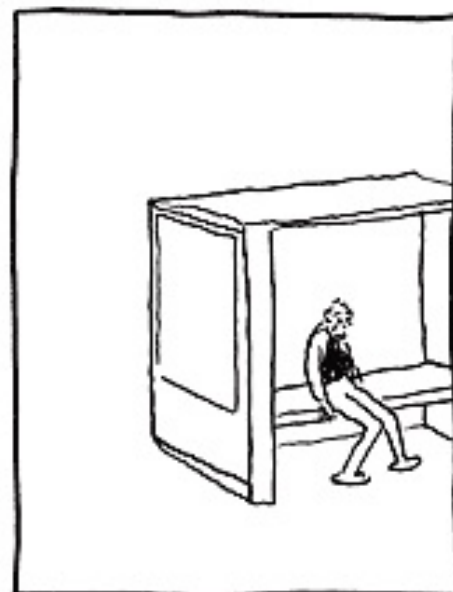
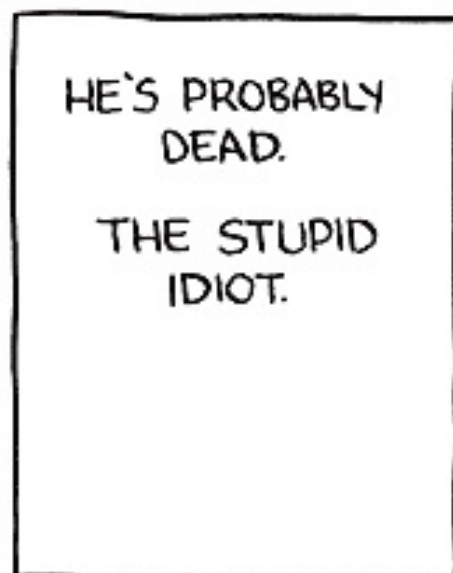


YEAH.  
MY  
BOYFRIEND.

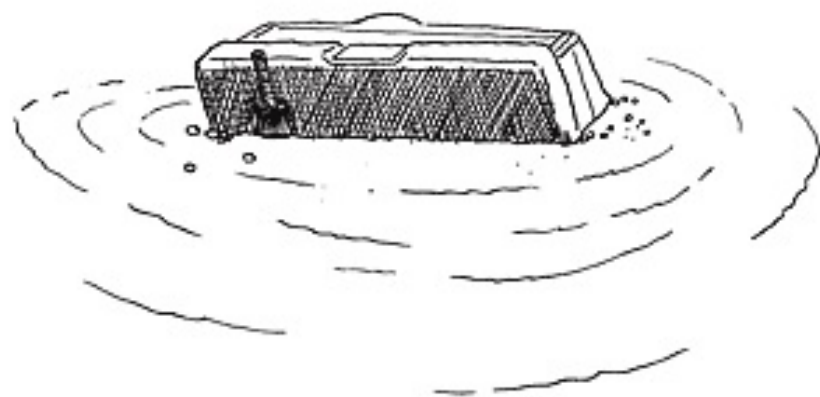


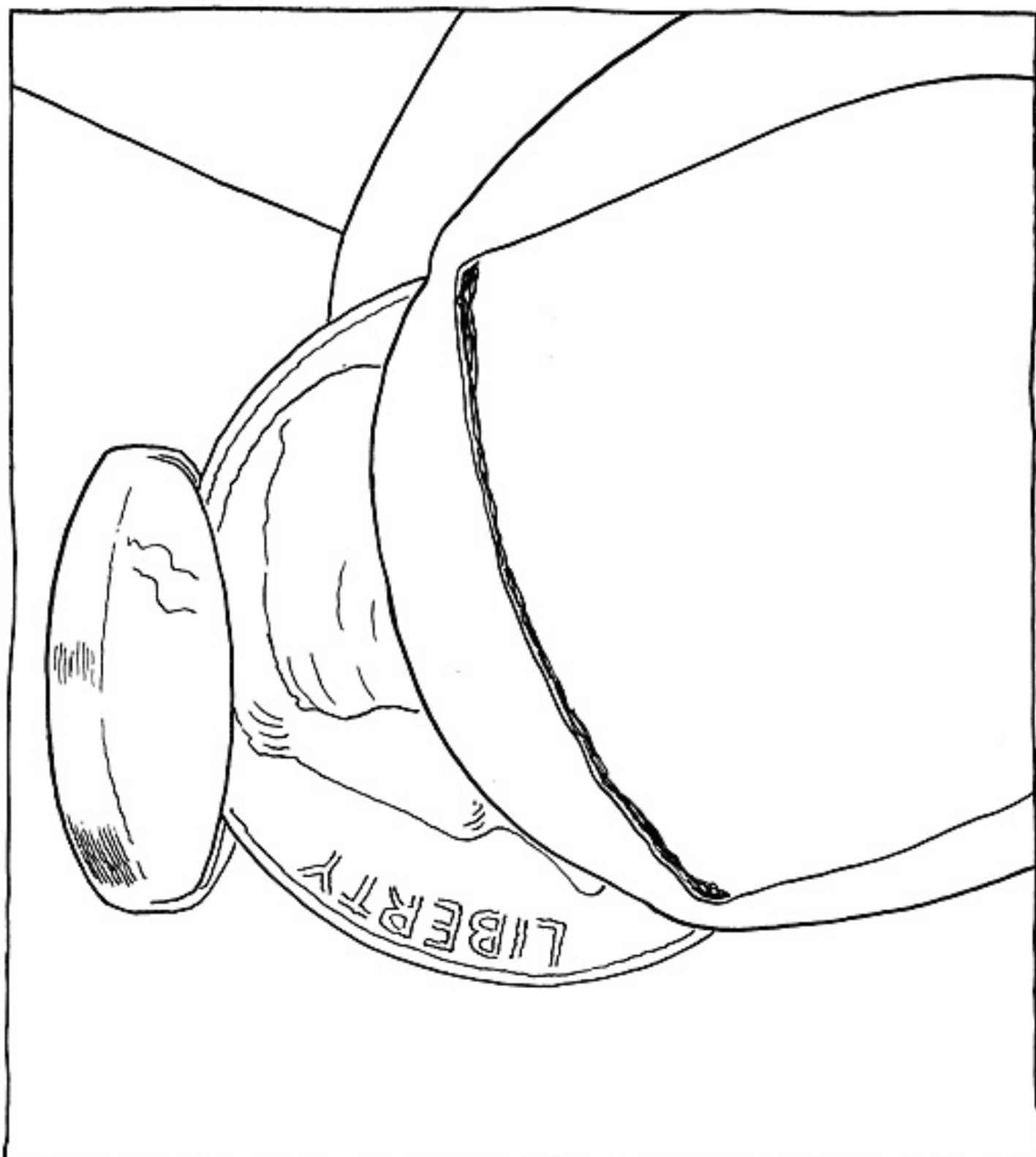






# DROWNED DEEPER

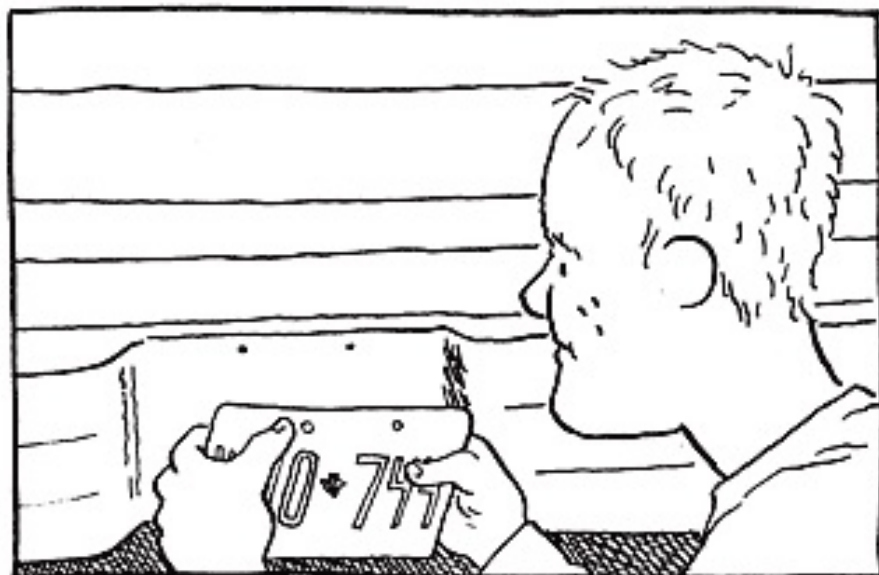




WHEN I WAS 4, MY MOM DROVE ME TO THE LAKE TO FEED THE GEESE WITH THE BUMPY NOSES.



I REMEMBER  
HER SMILE.

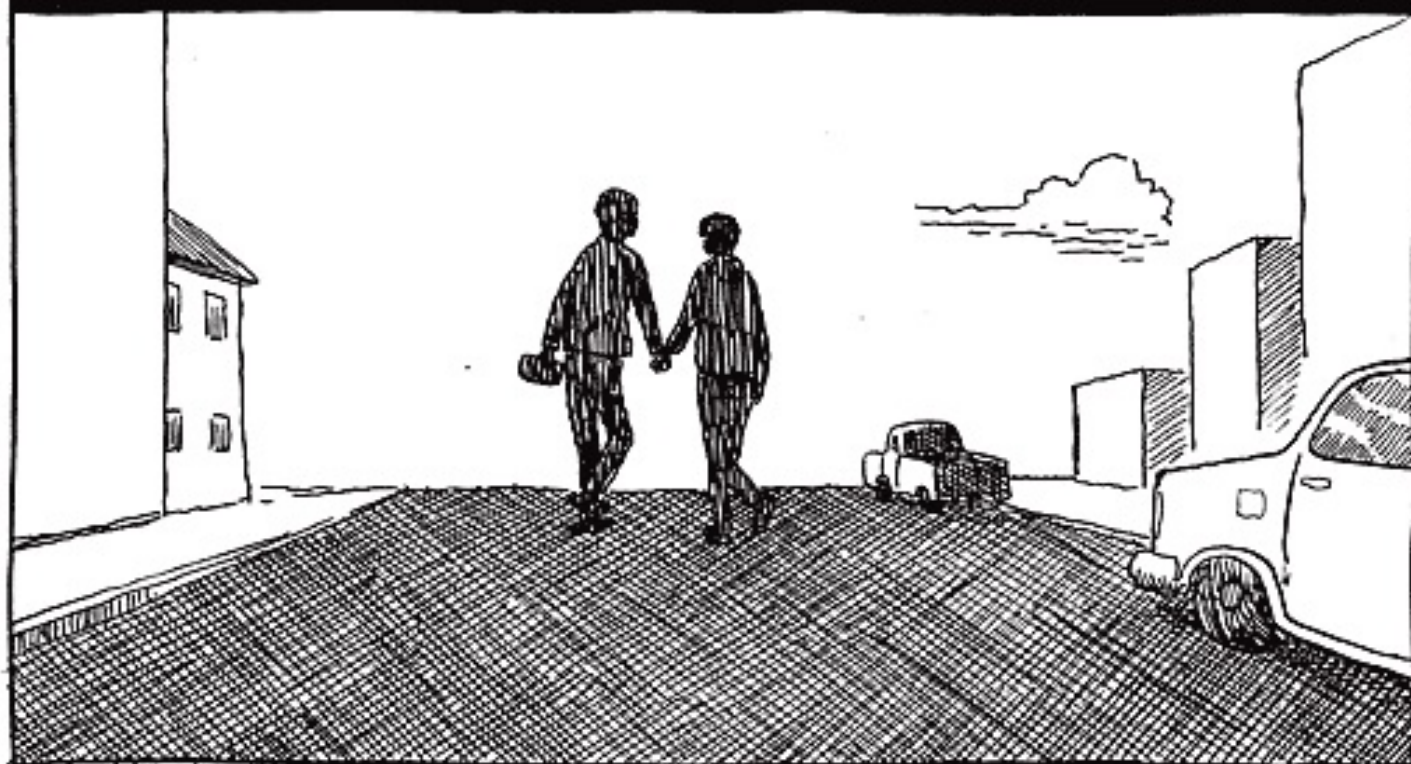


SHE LOOKED  
RELAXED.  
HAPPY.  
I'D NEVER SEEN  
THAT LOOK.

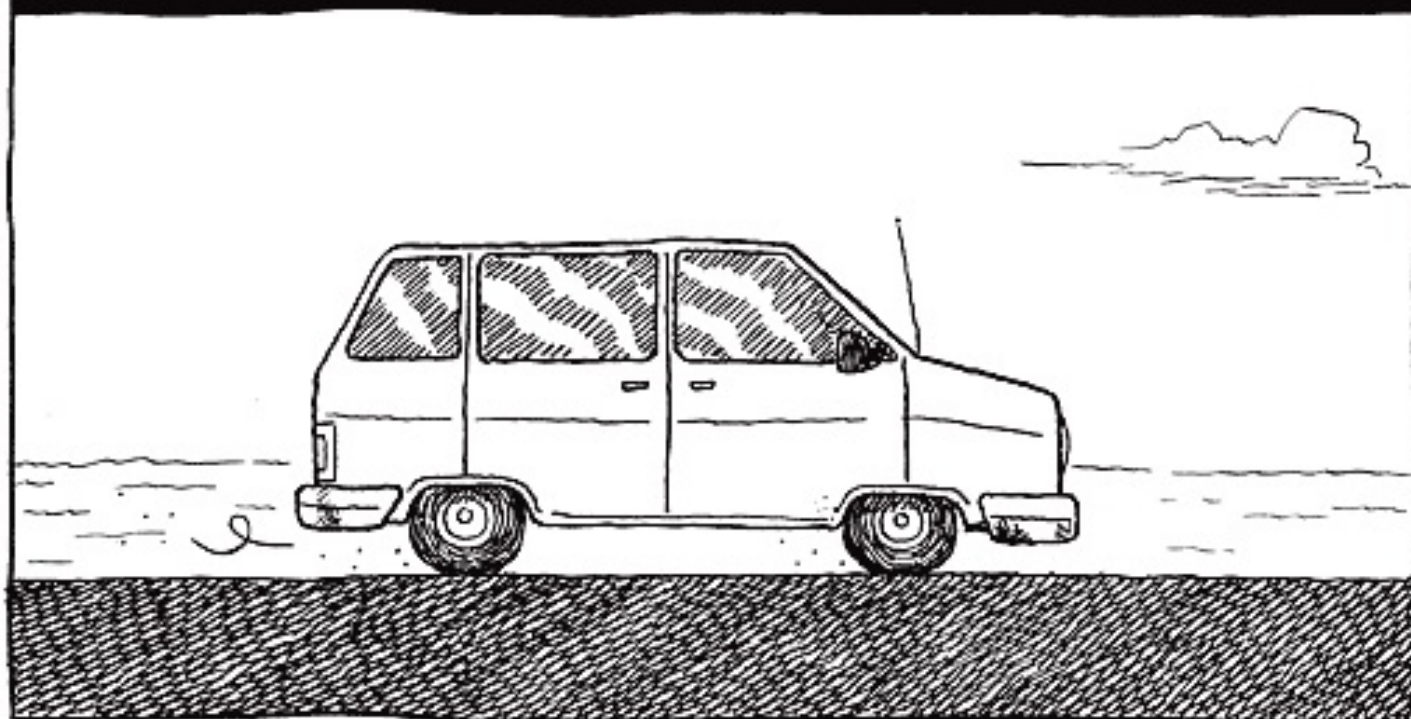
SHE KISSED  
THE TOP OF  
MY HEAD.



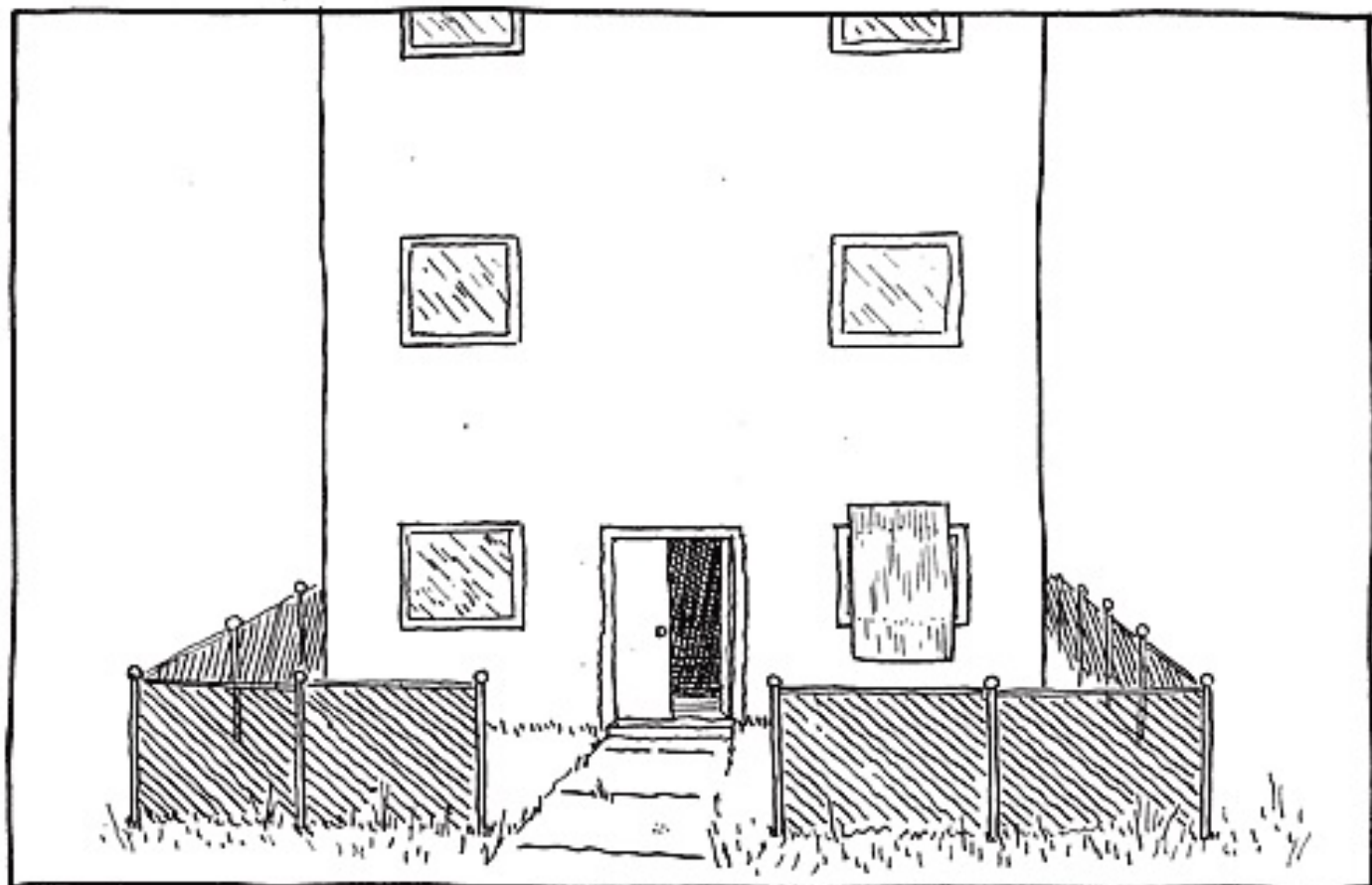
AND DROVE THE PONTIAC INTO THE LAKE.



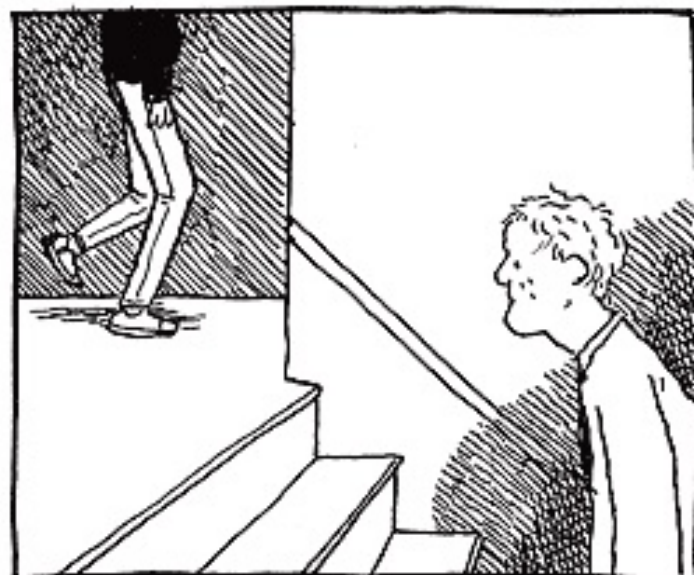
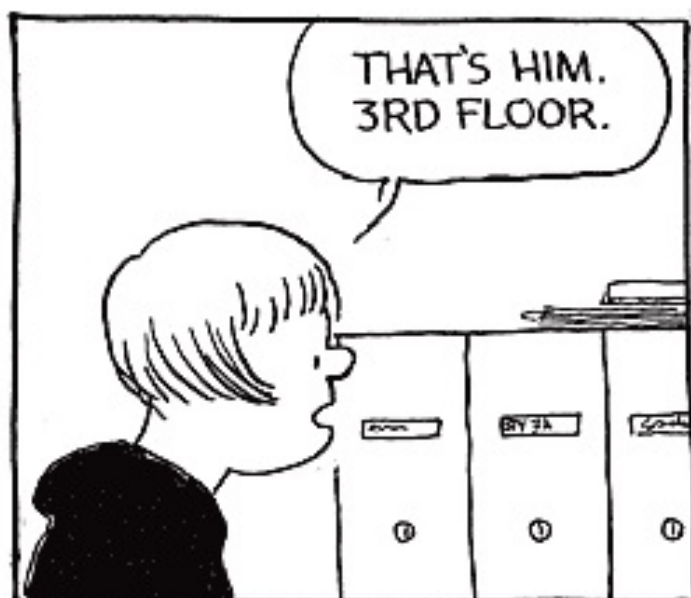
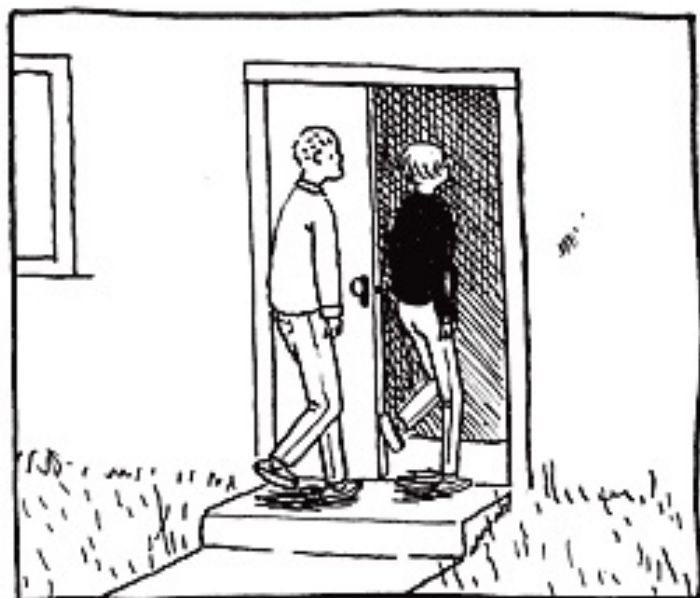
I WATCHED IT BUBBLE AND I WAITED FOR MOM TO COME BACK.











KNOCK  
KNOCK  
KNOCK



I'M LOOKING FOR  
CARL EBY.



WHAT'R YOU, HIS  
NEW WHORE? I'M  
HIS OLD WHORE...



I'M NOT HIS WHORE!  
WHERE IS HE?



WELL, CARL DON'T  
LIVE HERE NO MORE.



WELL...DO YOU  
KNOW WHERE  
HE WENT?



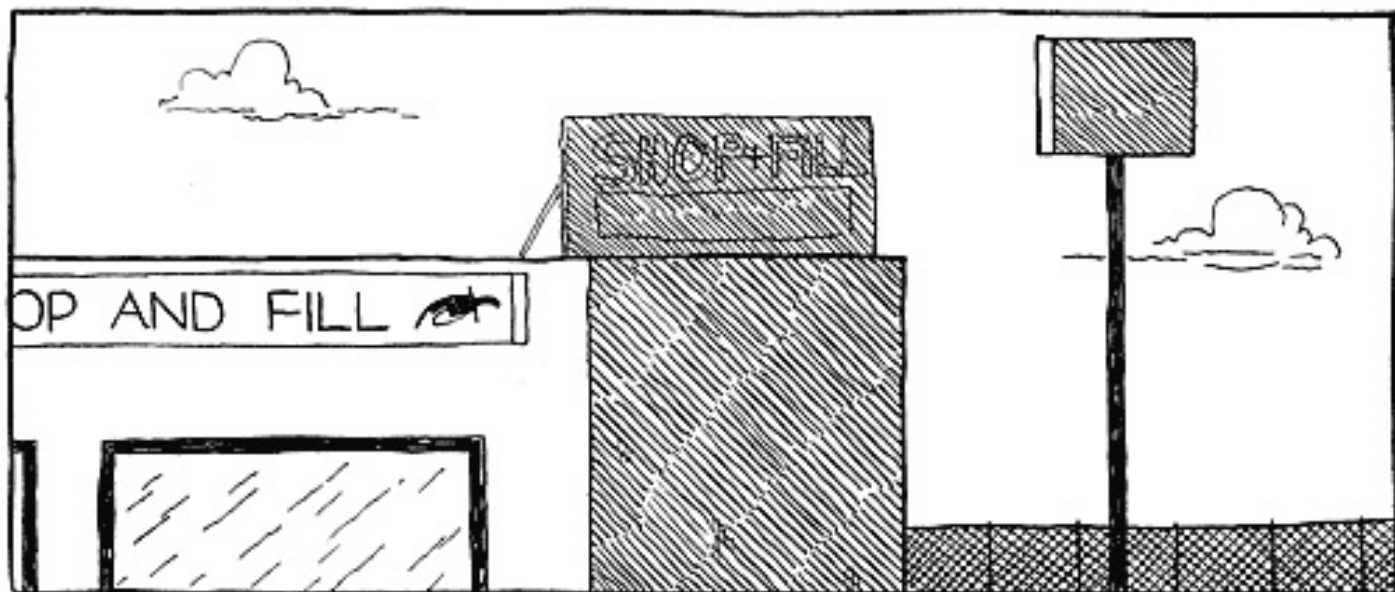
SIGH



TRY THE STAG INN  
ON 7. IF YOU FIND  
HIM, TELL HIM HIS  
SON IS HUNGRY.

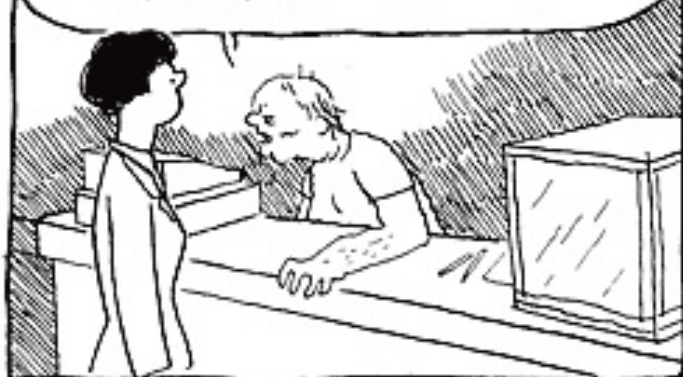








WHY DON'T YOU COME A BIT CLOSER. DON'T BE SHY. I'LL TELL YOU ALL YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THEM KIDS.



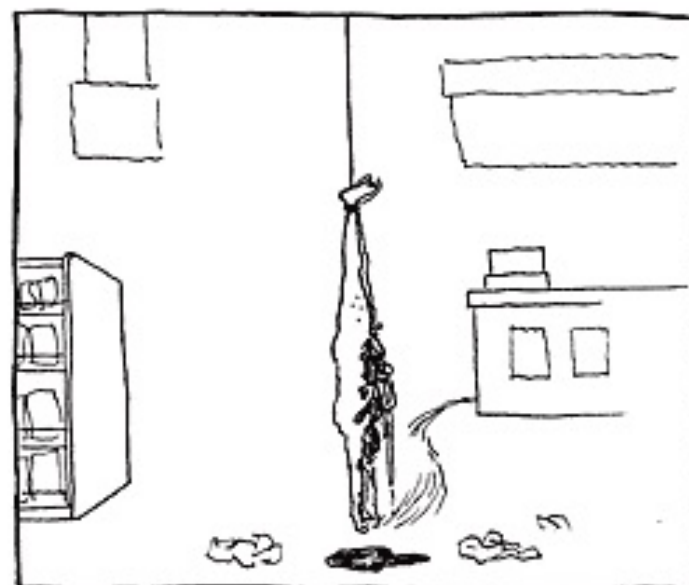
I THOUGHT YOU WAS A COP?



NOT TODAY. NOW TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW.



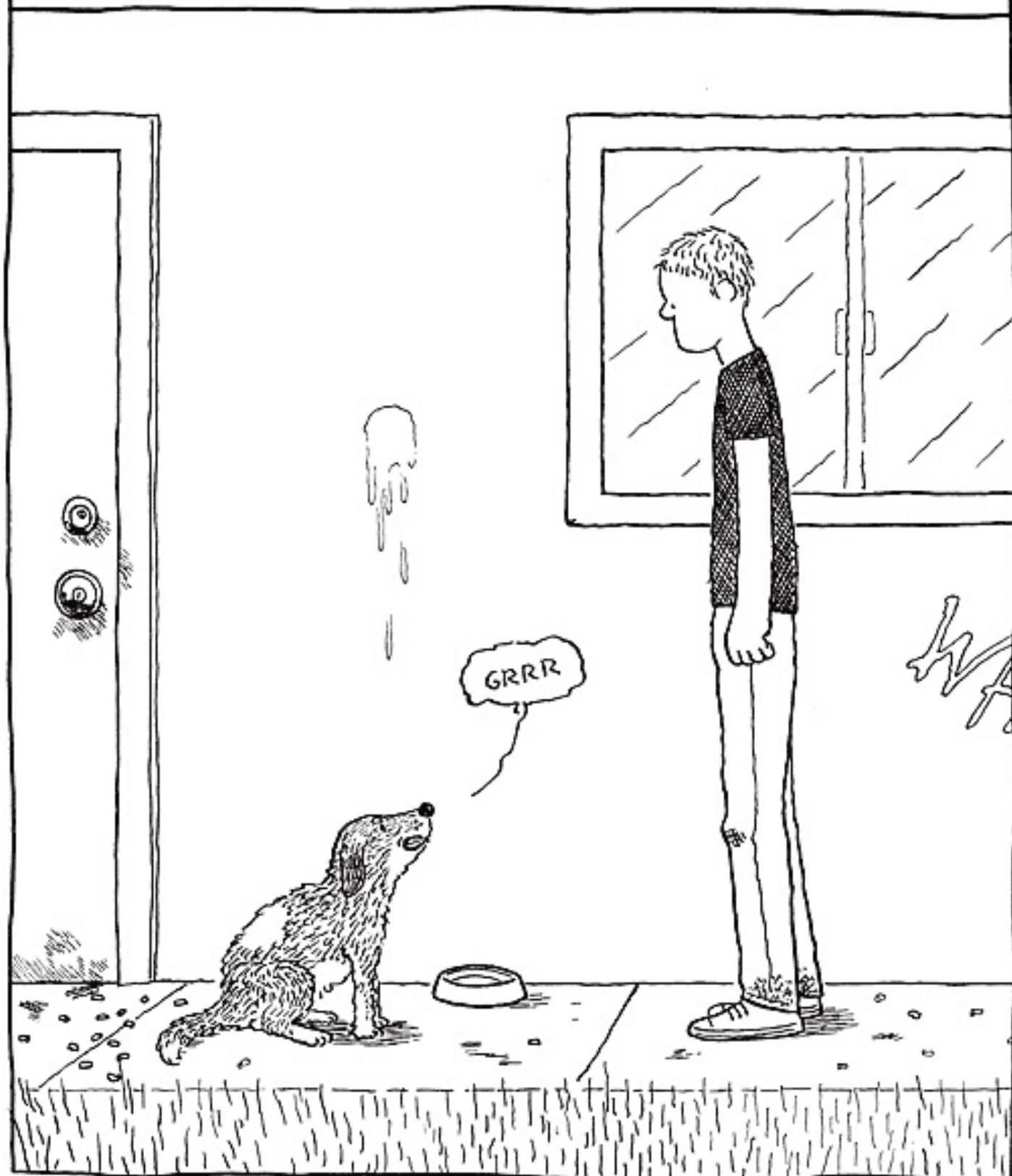
BEFORE I TAKE YOUR TONGUE.



DAD, FATHER



I HAVE A LOT OF CRAPPY MEMORIES OF MY DAD.  
SCREAMING MOSTLY.





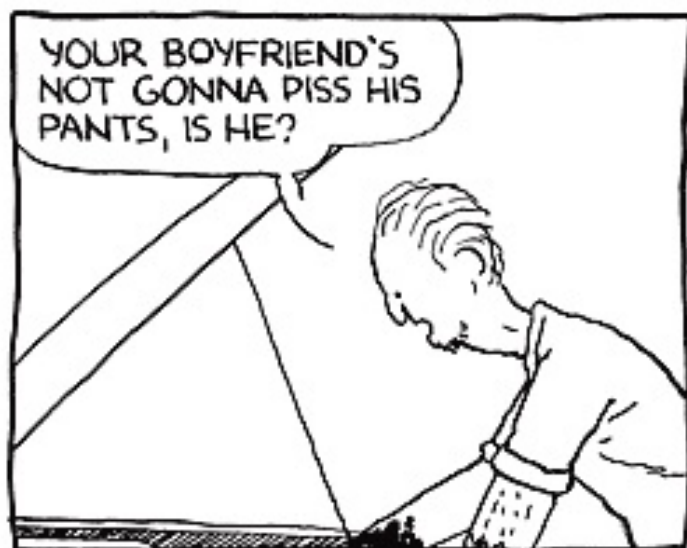
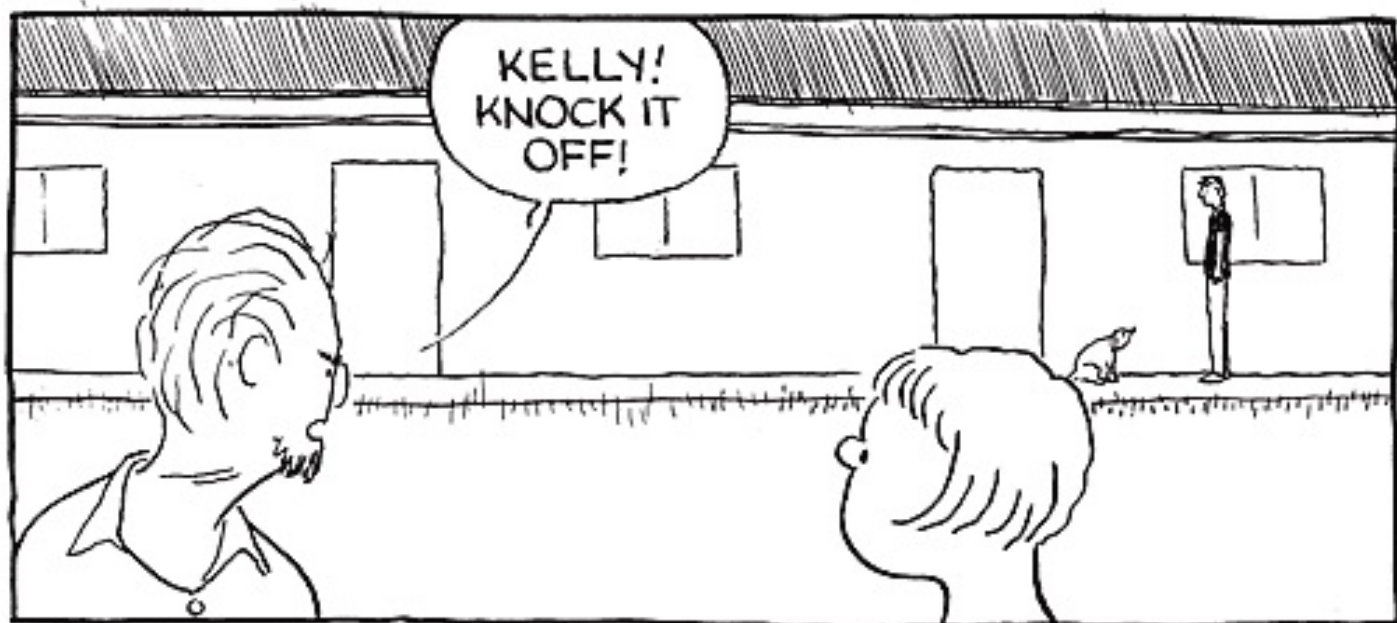
THINGS WERE  
BETTER AFTER  
HE LEFT.



CALM.

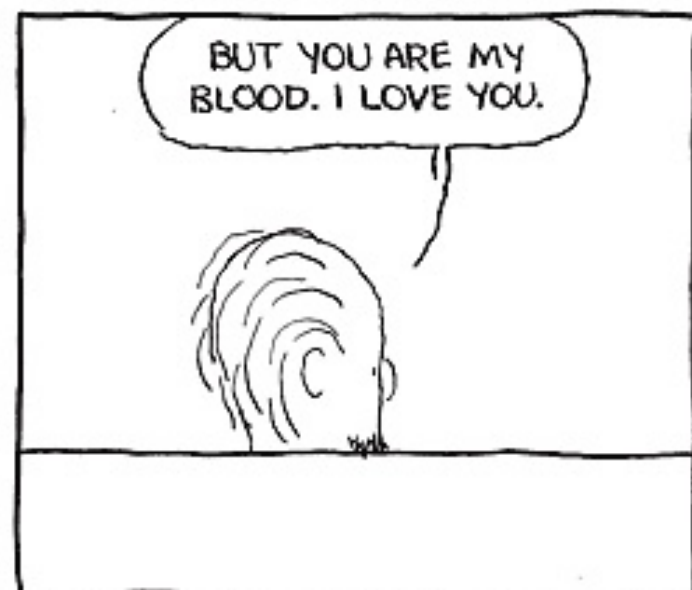
BUT I GUESS I  
ALWAYS  
MISSED HIM.

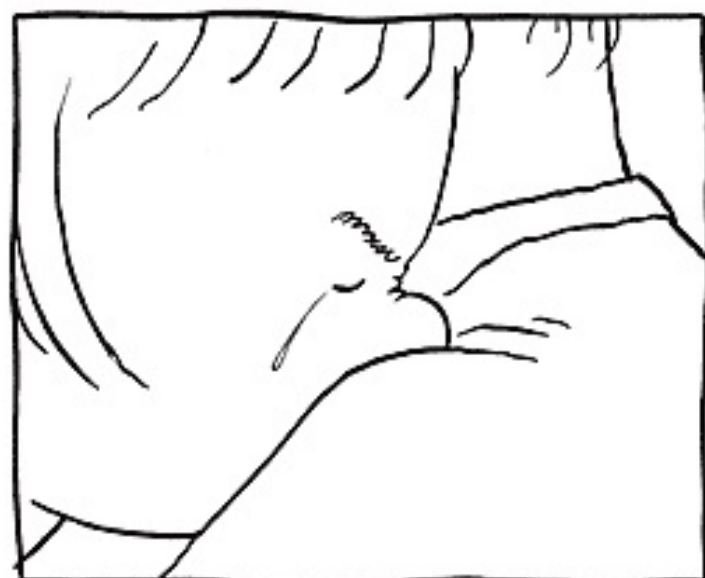
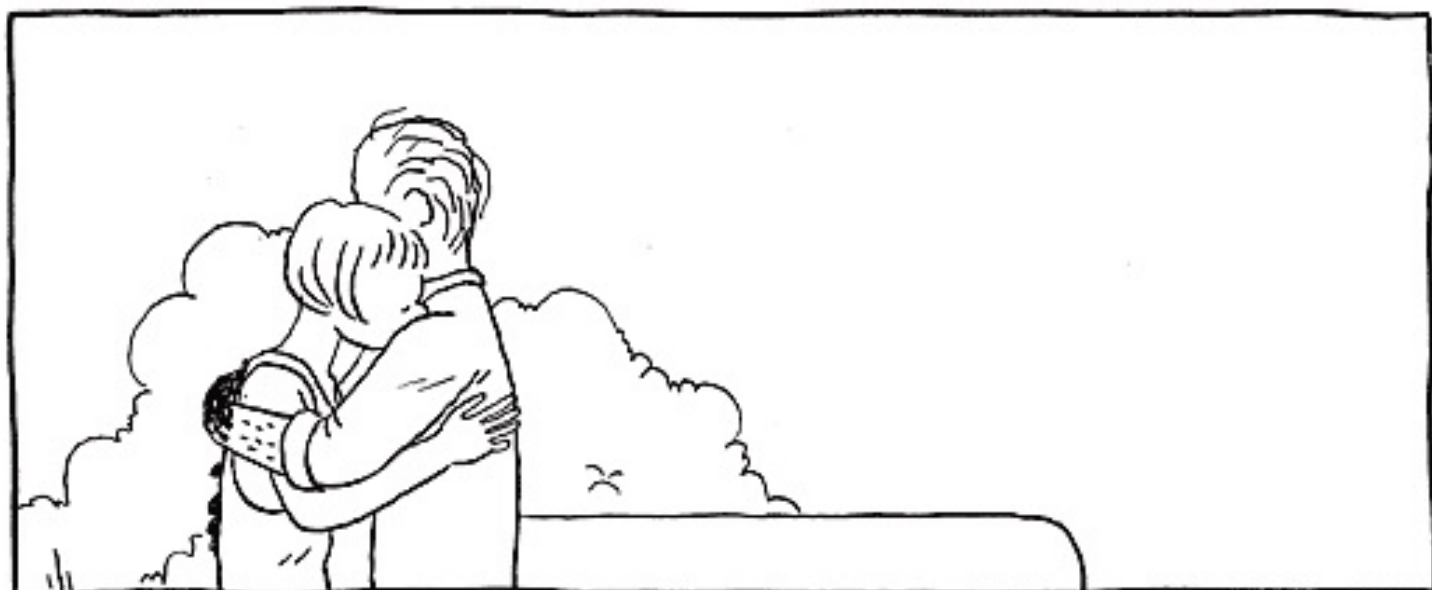










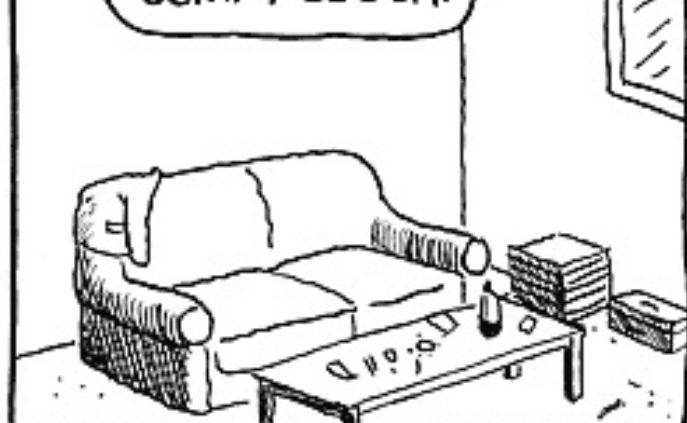




OKAY, HERE'S  
THE PALACE.



LIVING AREA.  
COLOR TV.  
COMFY COUCH.



KITCHENETTE.  
MICROWAVE AND  
BEER FRIDGE.



BATHROOM. WE'LL HAVE  
TO GET SOME TOWELS  
FROM THE OFFICE.



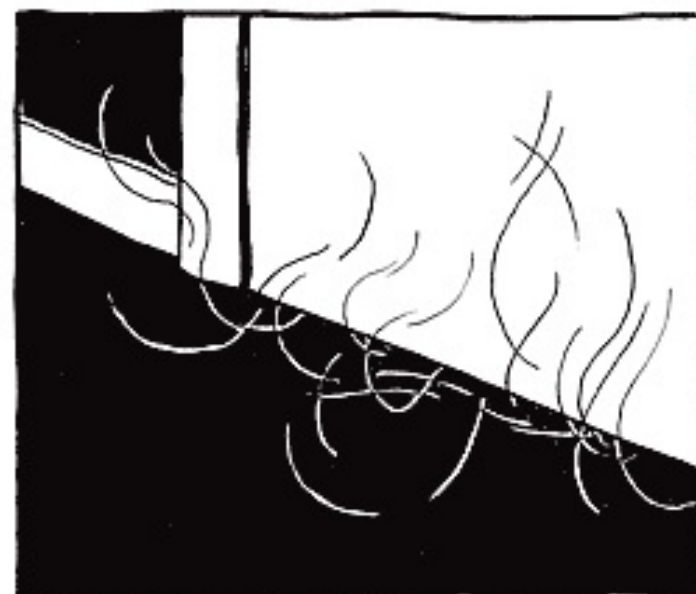
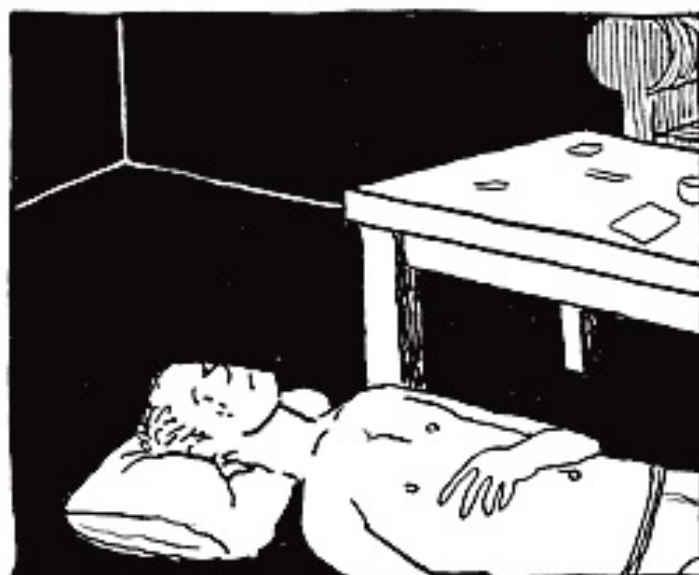
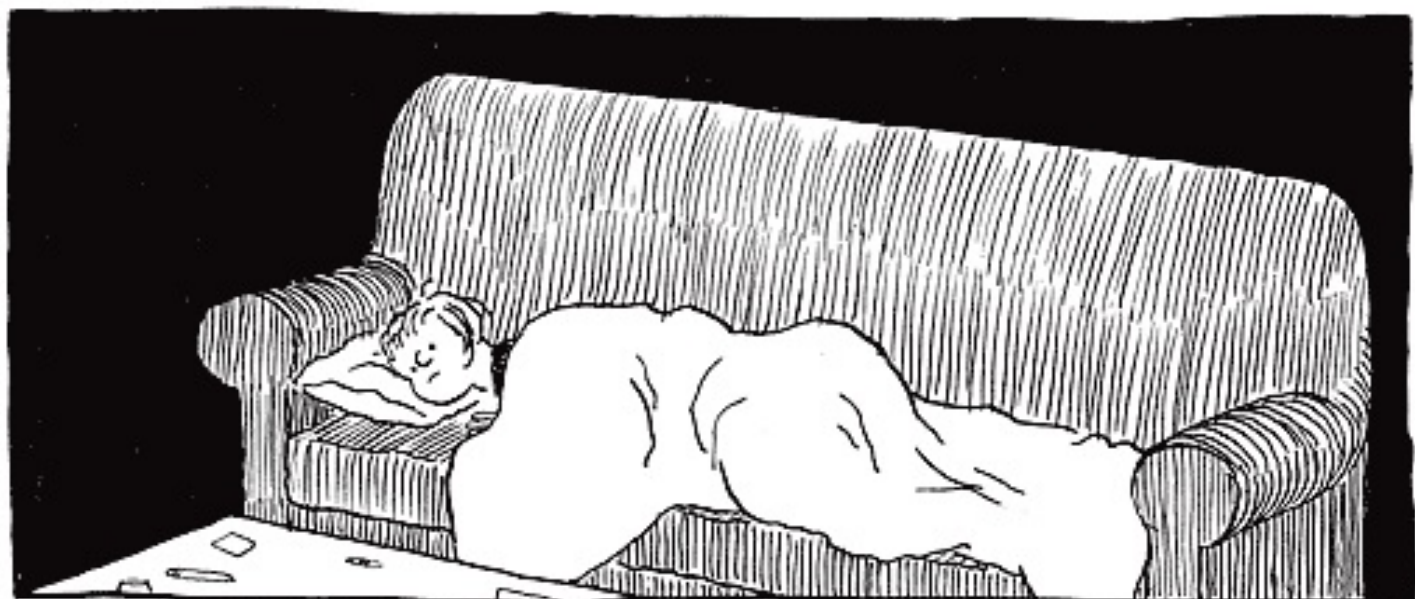
AND MY ROOM.



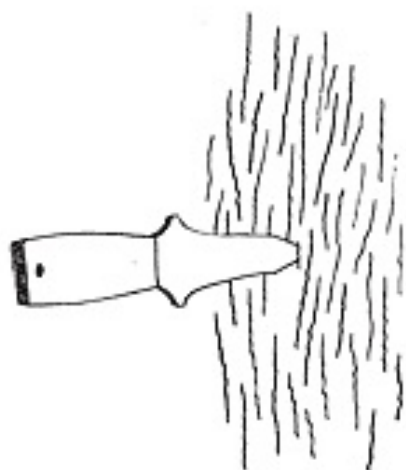
SORRY 'BOUT  
THE MESS.



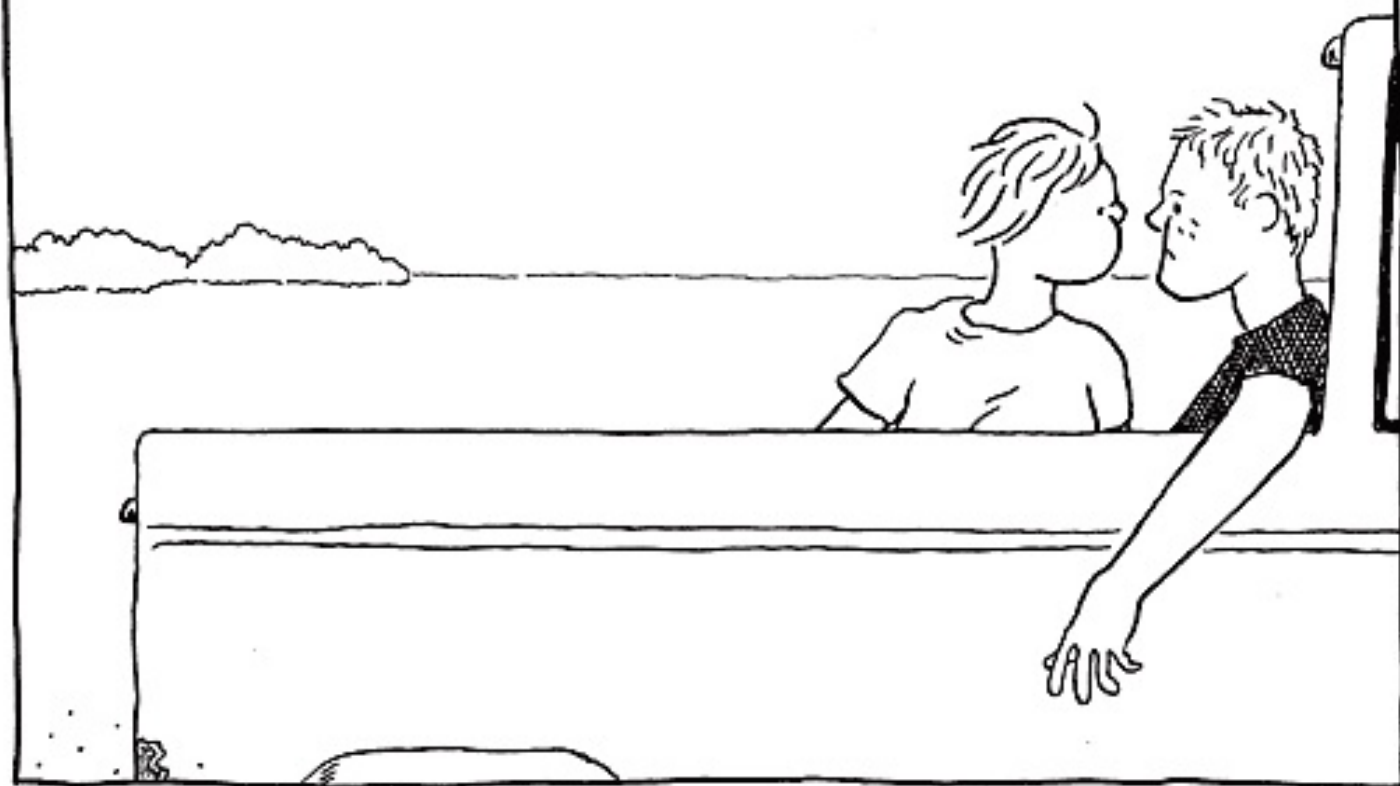




# LIVING WITH DAD



I HAD NEVER MET A MAN LIKE ALYSSA'S DAD.  
A SMART MAN, MISSING PARTS.

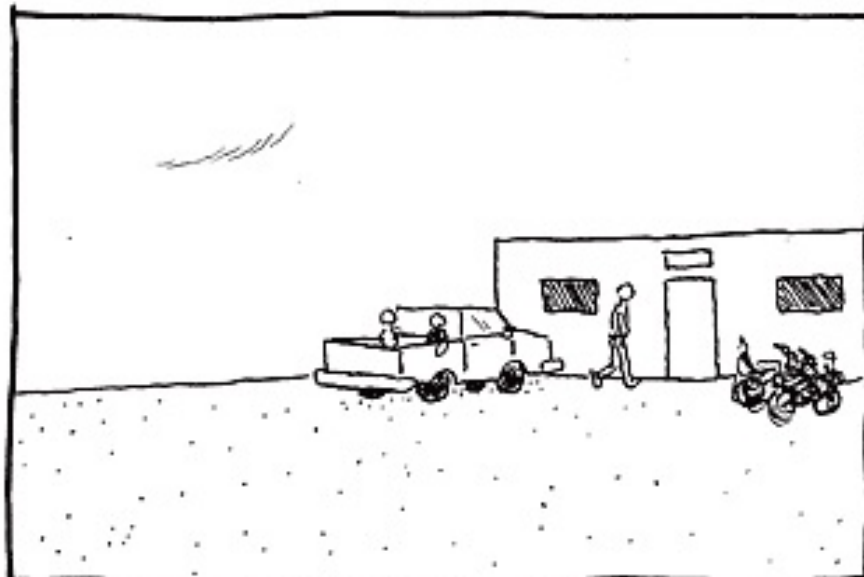




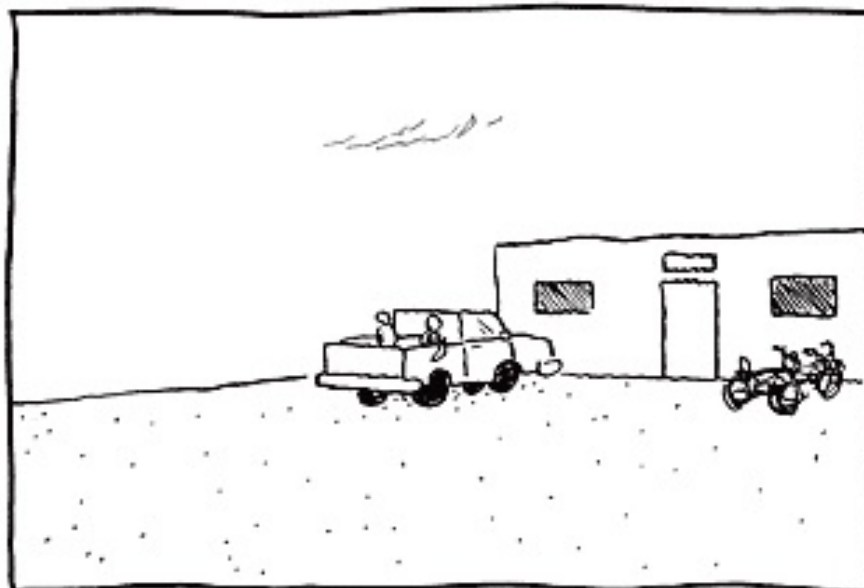
HE WAS WARY  
OF ME  
AT FIRST.

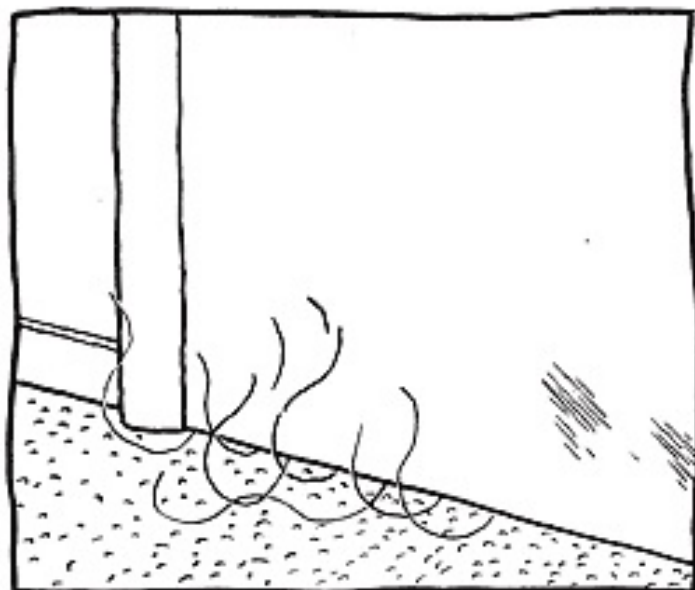
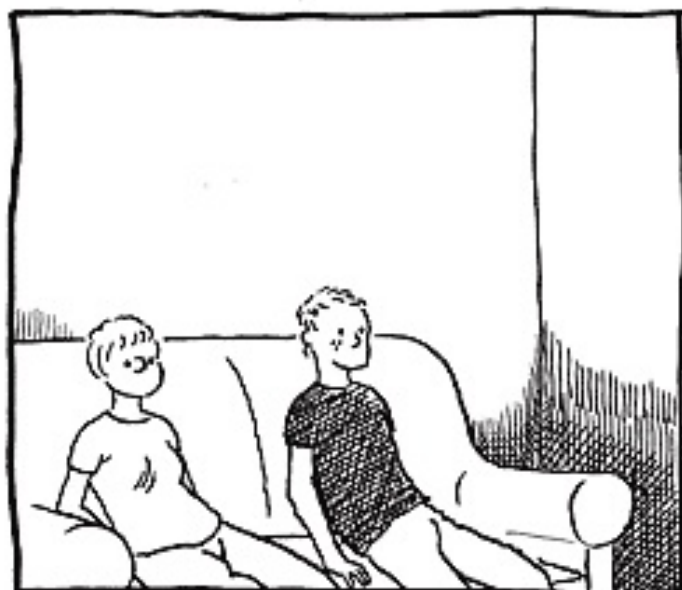


BUT WE SOON  
GOT ON.



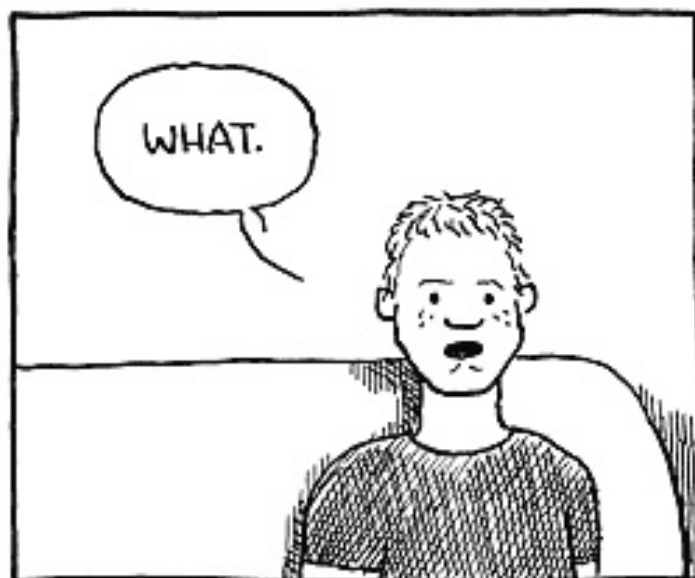
HE SAW  
HIMSELF  
IN ME.



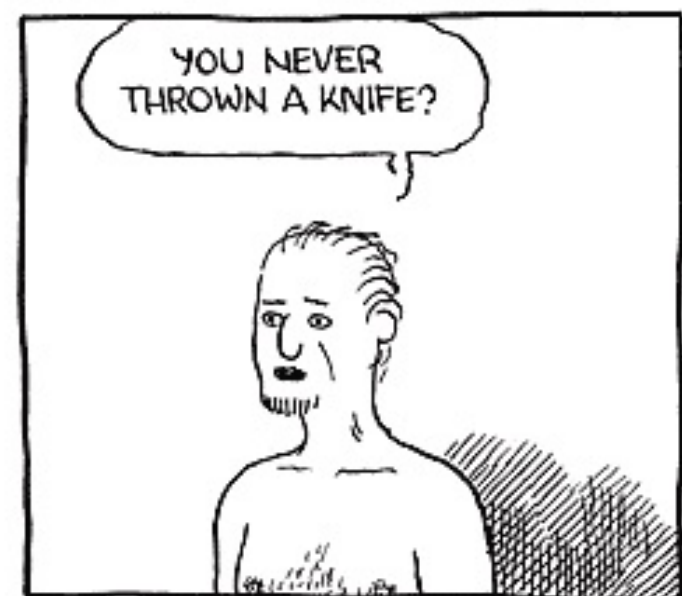


JAMES?

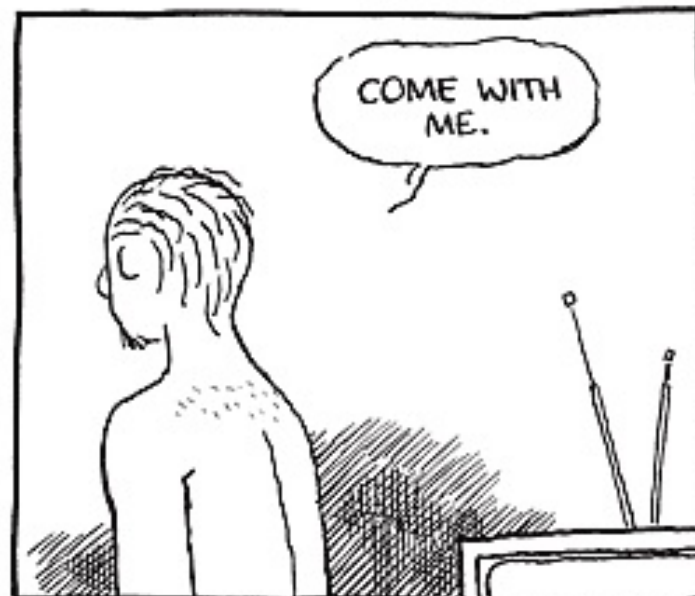
YOU WANNA THROW  
KNIVES WITH ME?



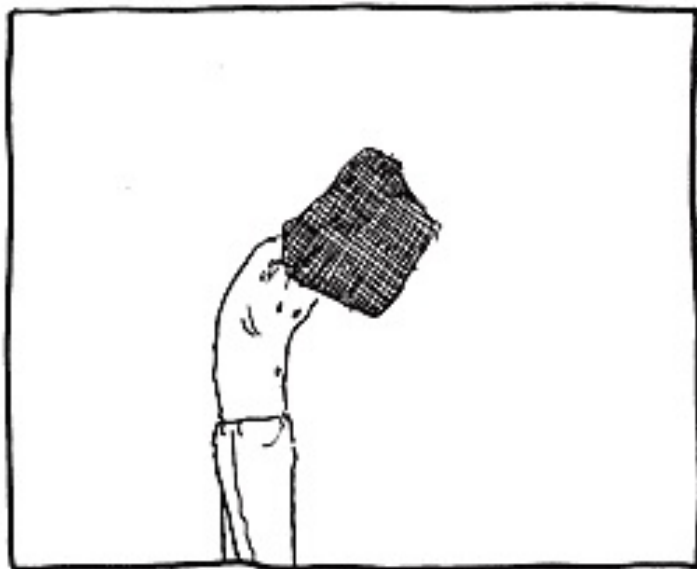
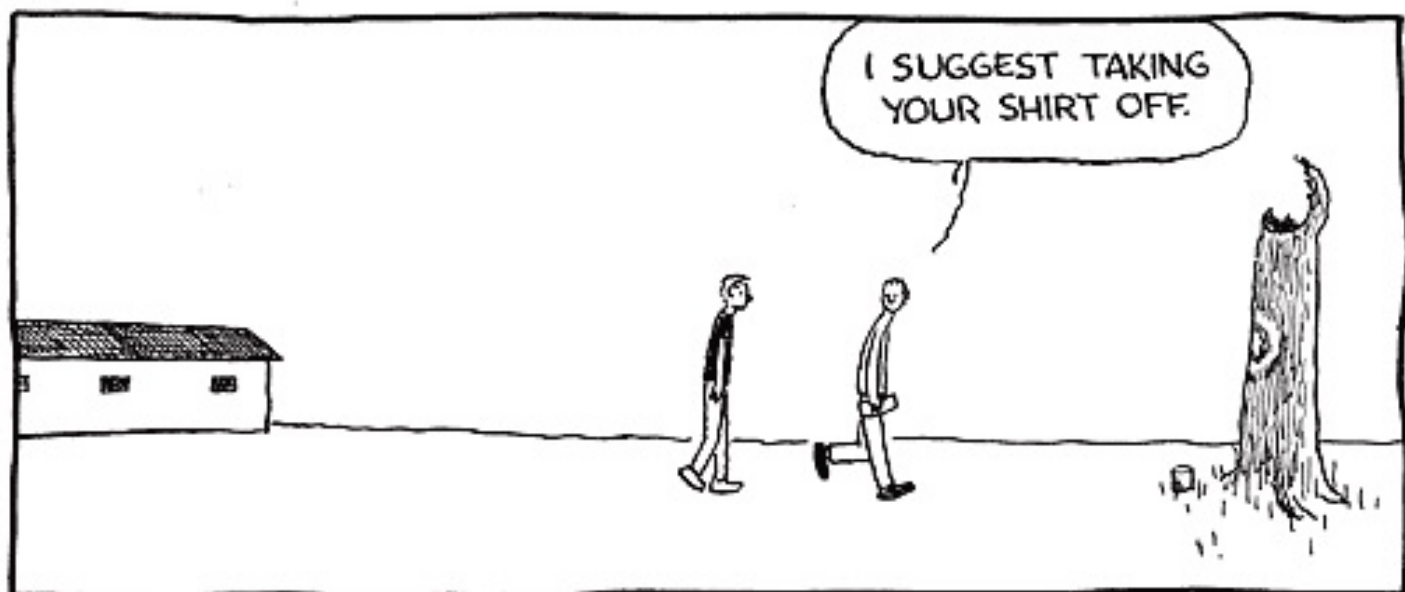
WHAT.



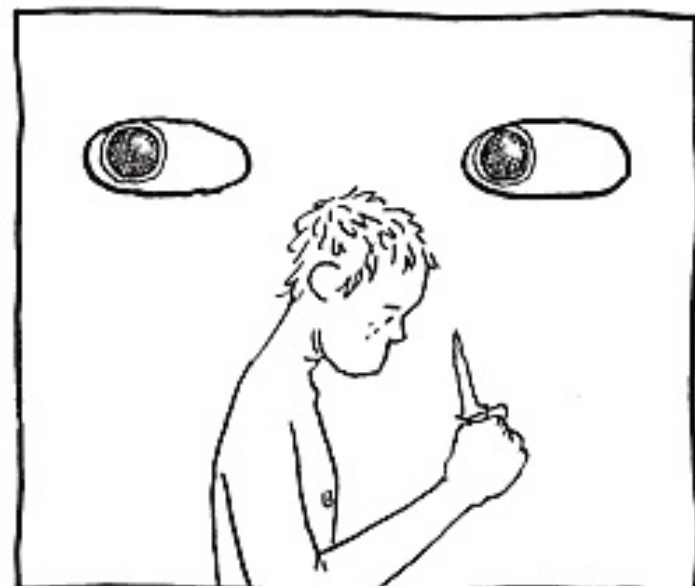
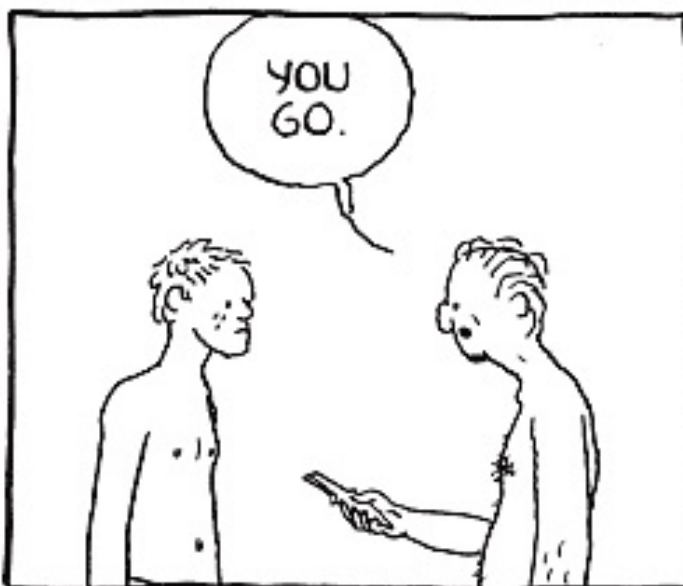
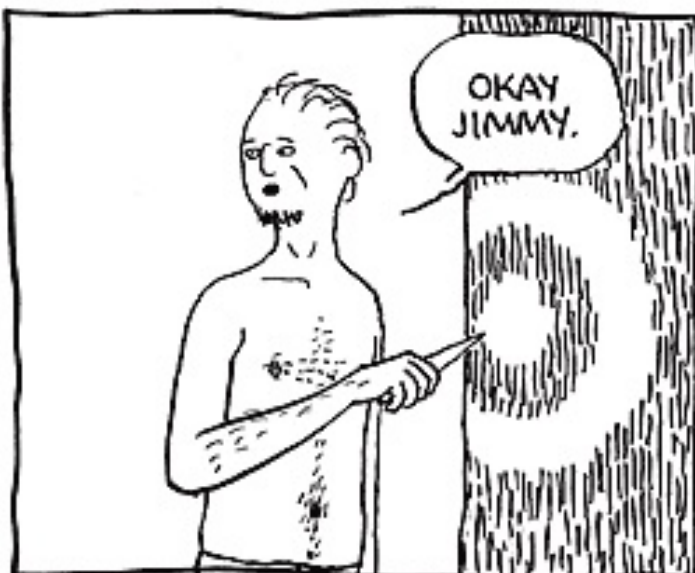
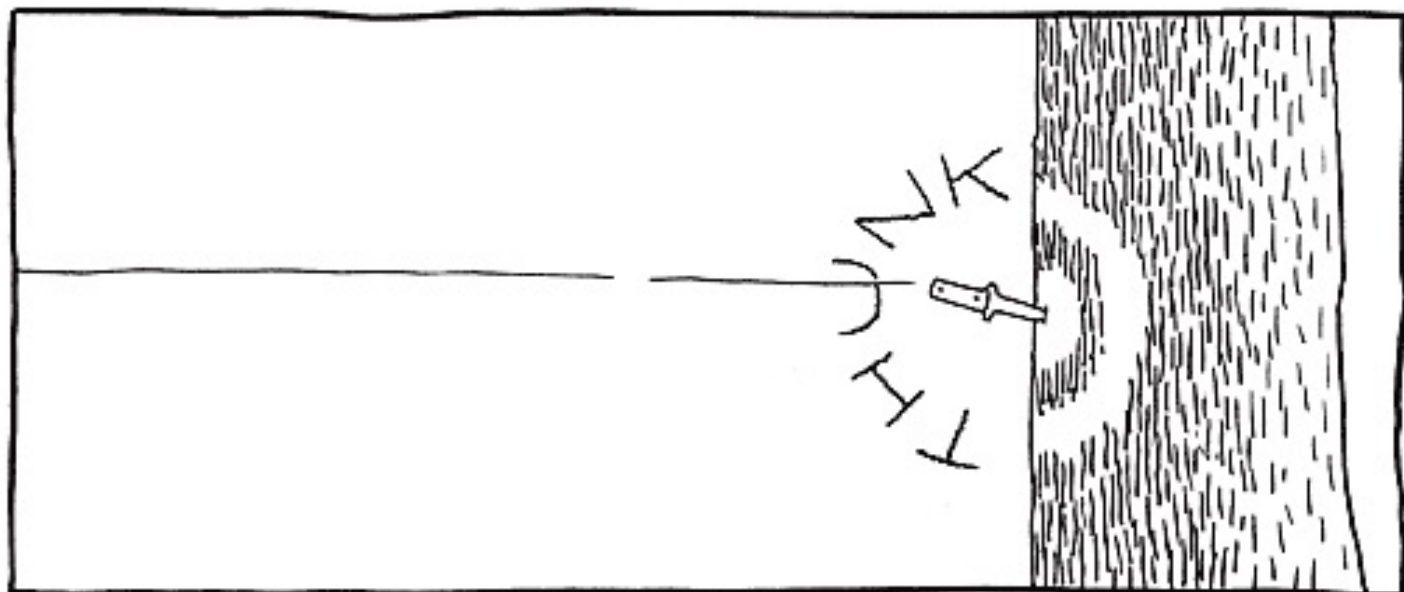
YOU NEVER  
THROWN A KNIFE?

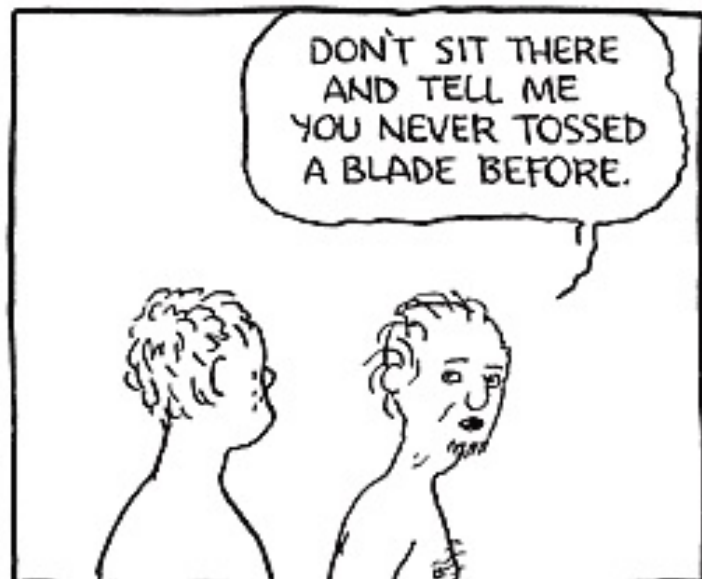
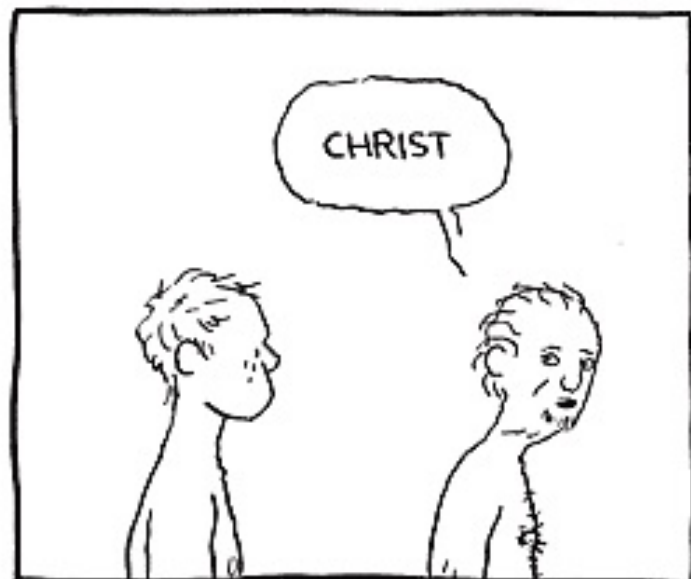
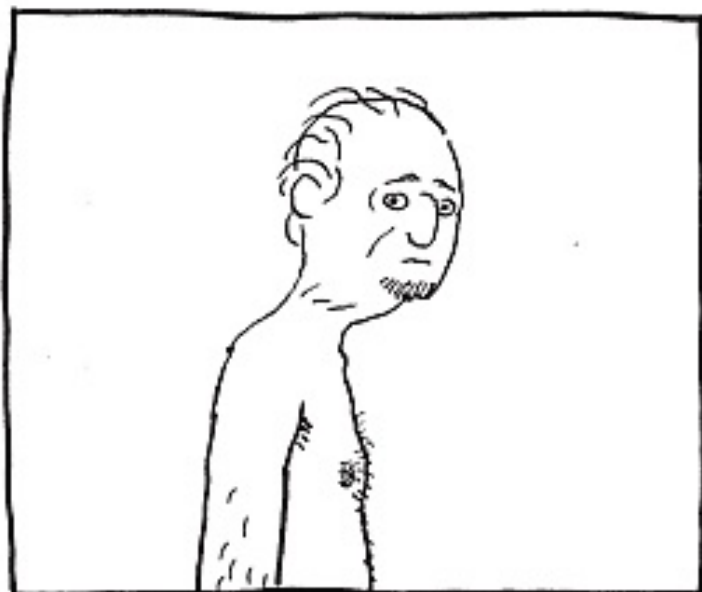
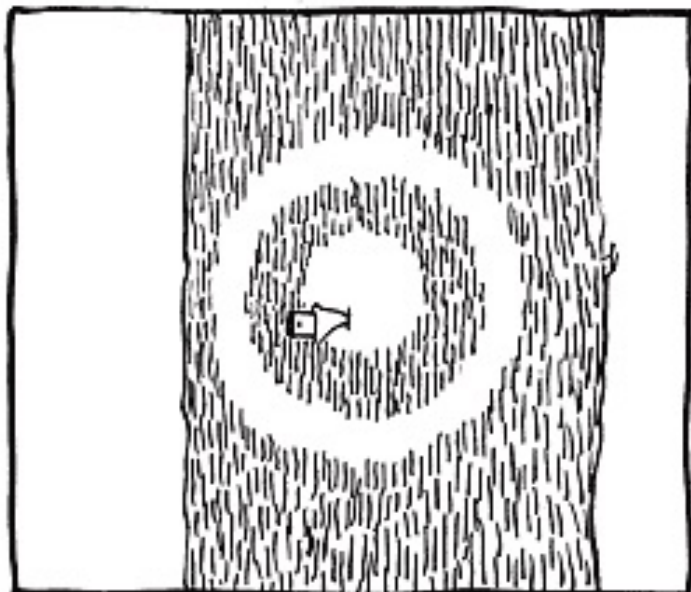


COME WITH  
ME.









**FITZY**



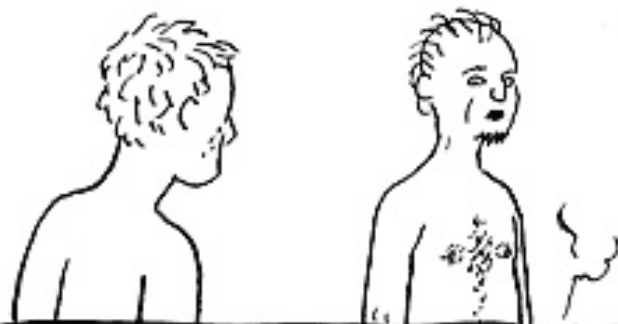
WELL THAT'S JUST FINE, SON. REAL FINE.



CAN I BE CANDID?



YOU MADE ME UNEASY WHEN WE MET AND I WASN'T KEEN ON MY DAUGHTER AND YOU RUNNIN' AROUND.



BUT I THINK I UNDERSTAND. I SEE YOU REALLY CARE FOR HER, AND SHE YOU.



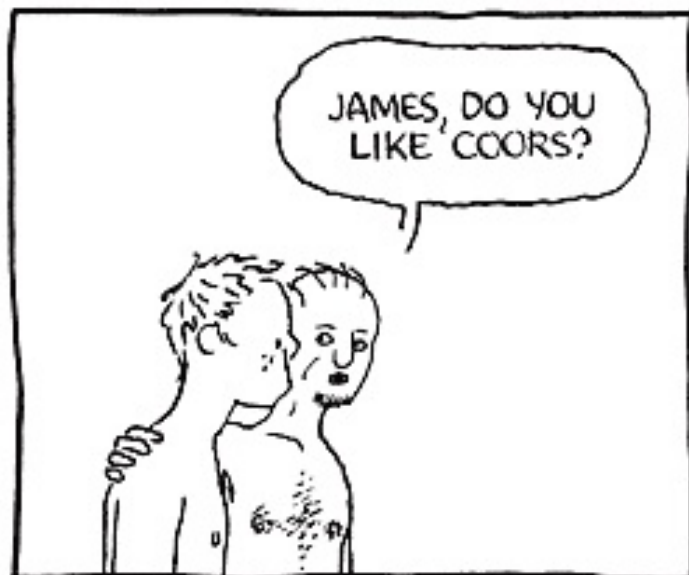
NOW CAN I ASK, MAN TO MAN, HOW IS MY GIRL? DOES SHE..?



SHE LOVES YOU.







FATHER FUCKER

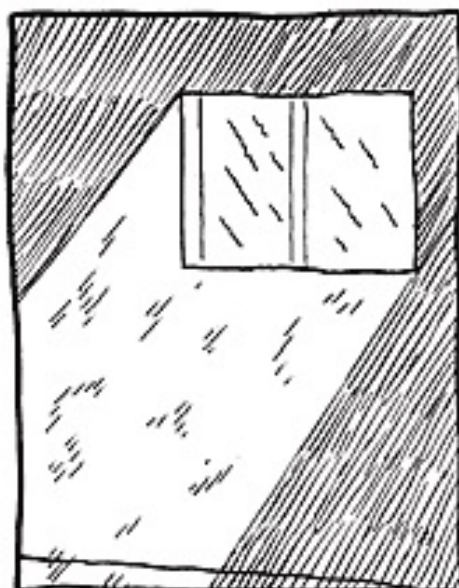


SOMETIMES I GET THIS FEELING.  
A FEELING OF NOTHINGNESS.

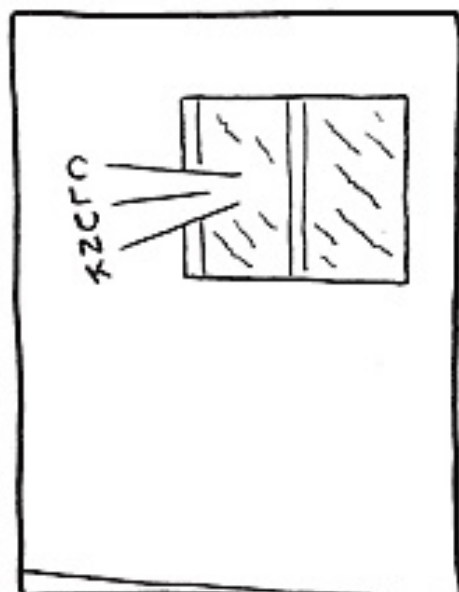
YEAH.  
THAT'S THE  
ADDRESS.







IT'S NOT A  
BAD FEELING.



IT'S A CALM  
FEELING.



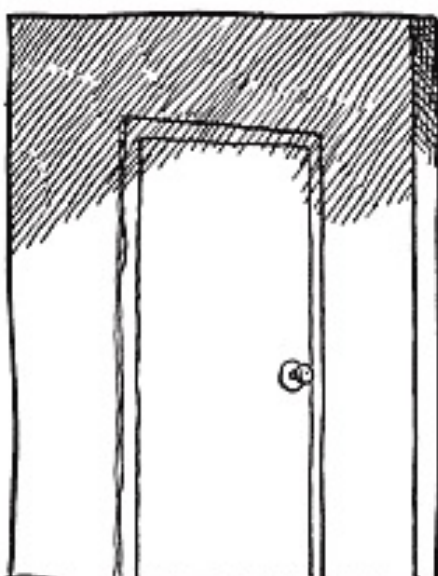
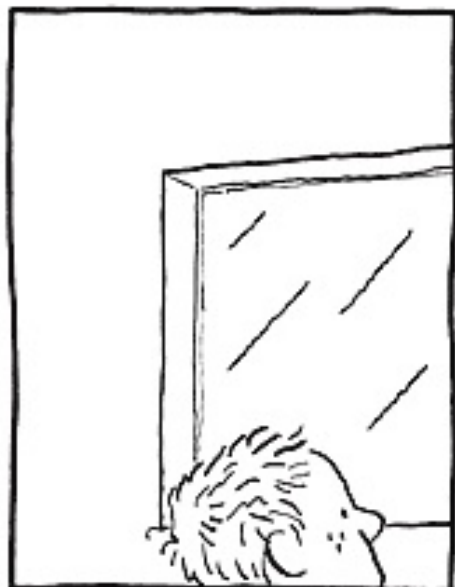
WHEN  
EVERYTHING  
IS QUIET.

NO  
EXPECTATIONS.



IT DOESN'T  
HAPPEN VERY  
OFTEN.

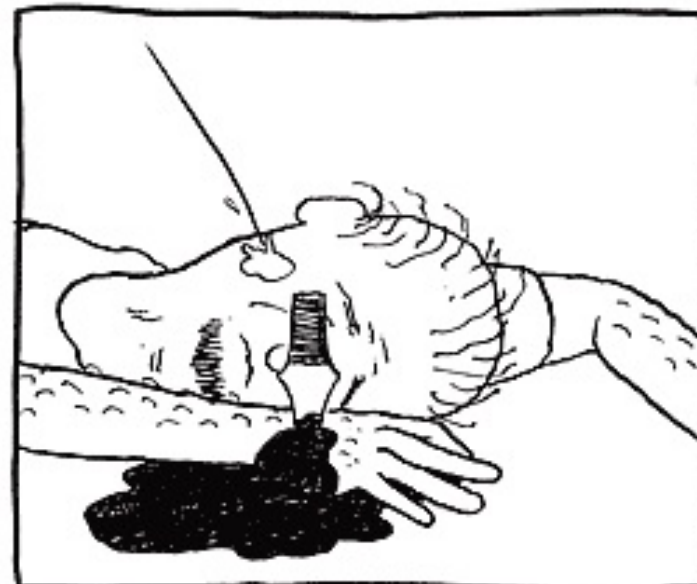
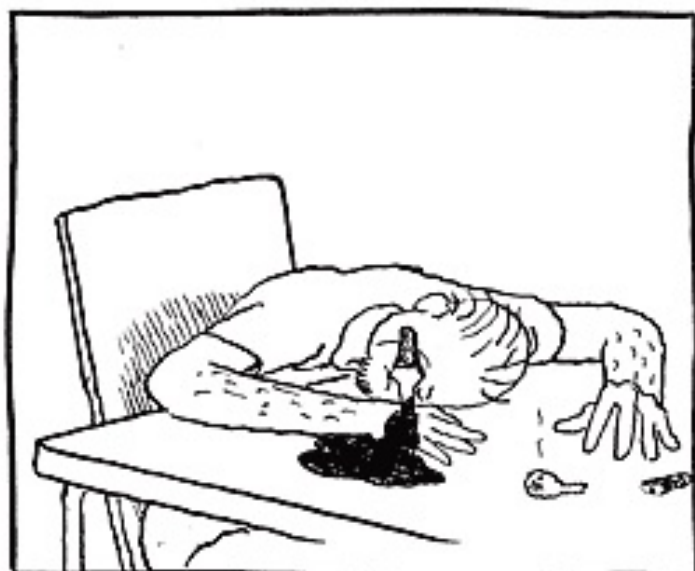
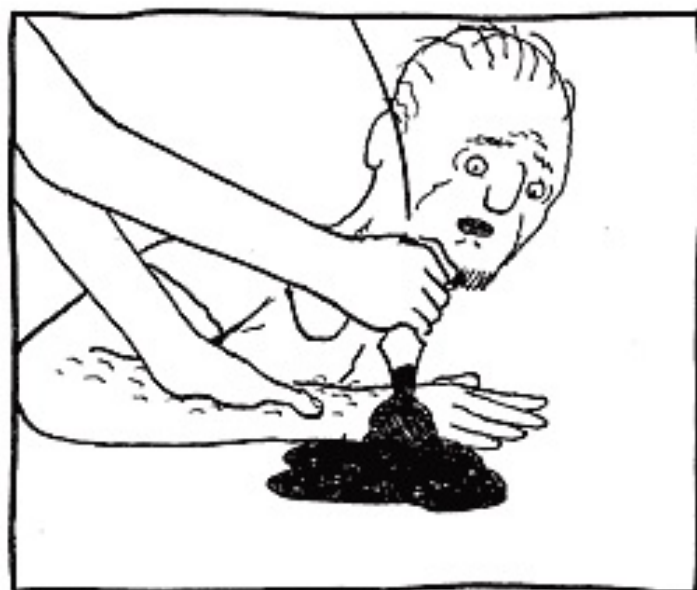


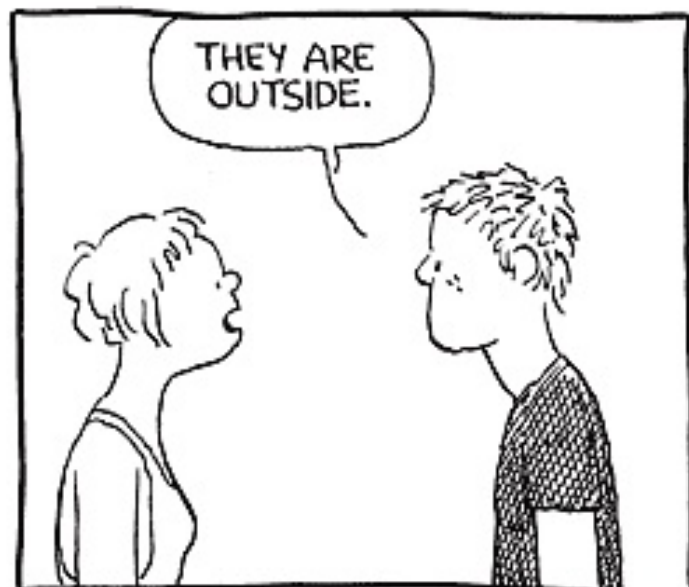


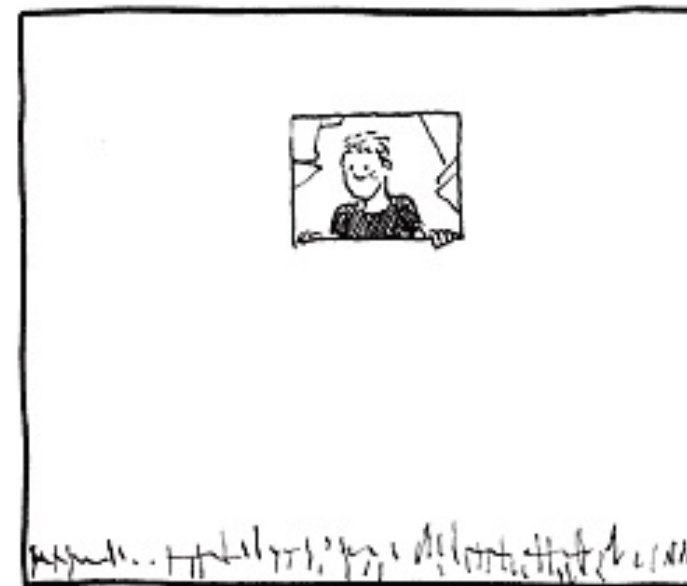
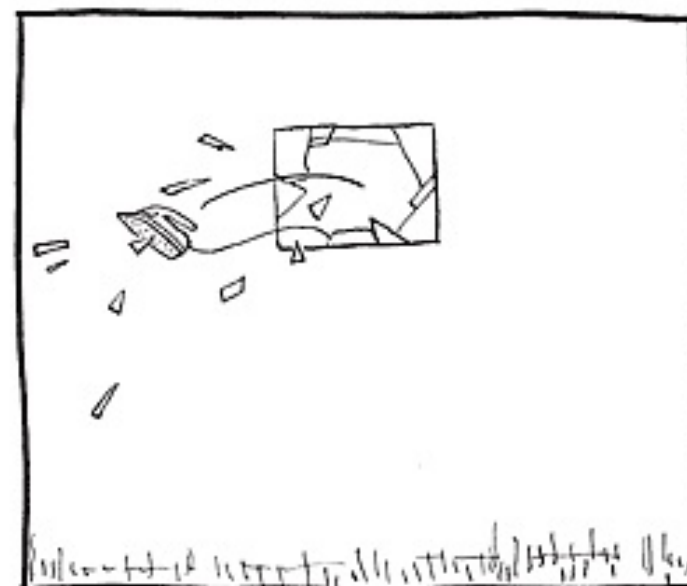




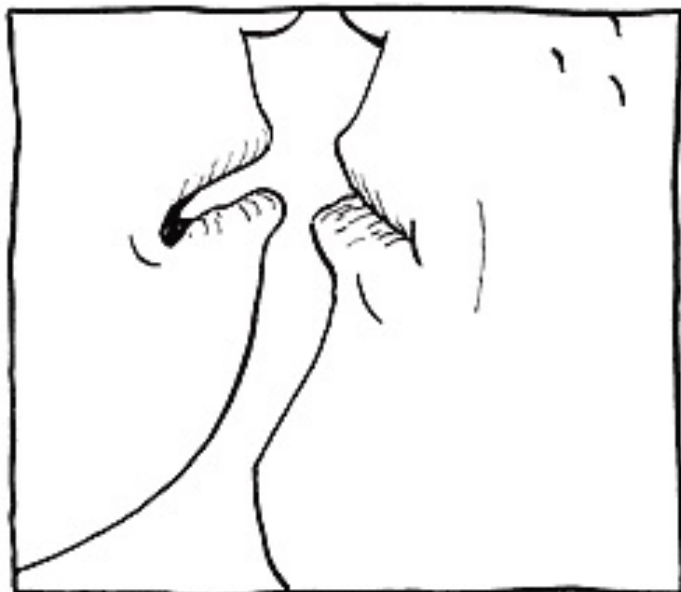








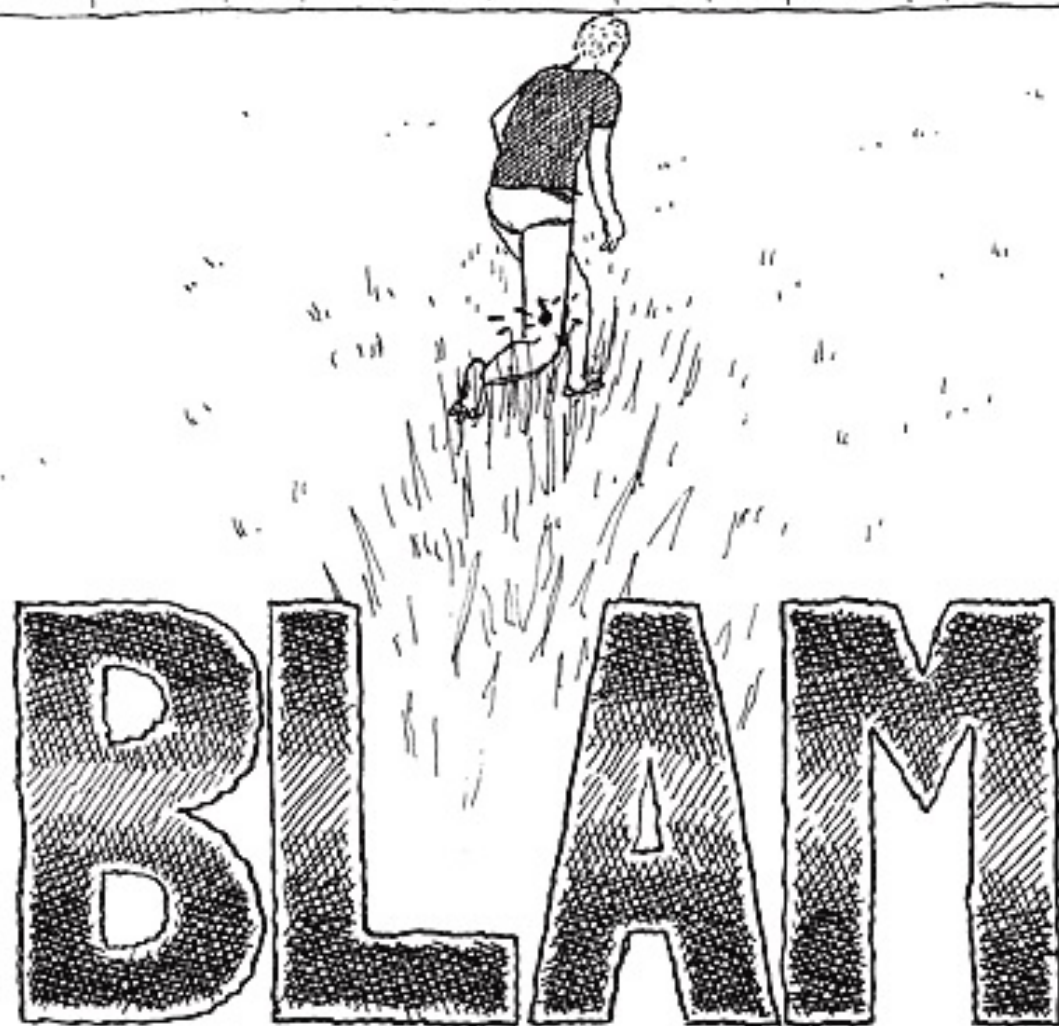




## FORCED FEELINGS

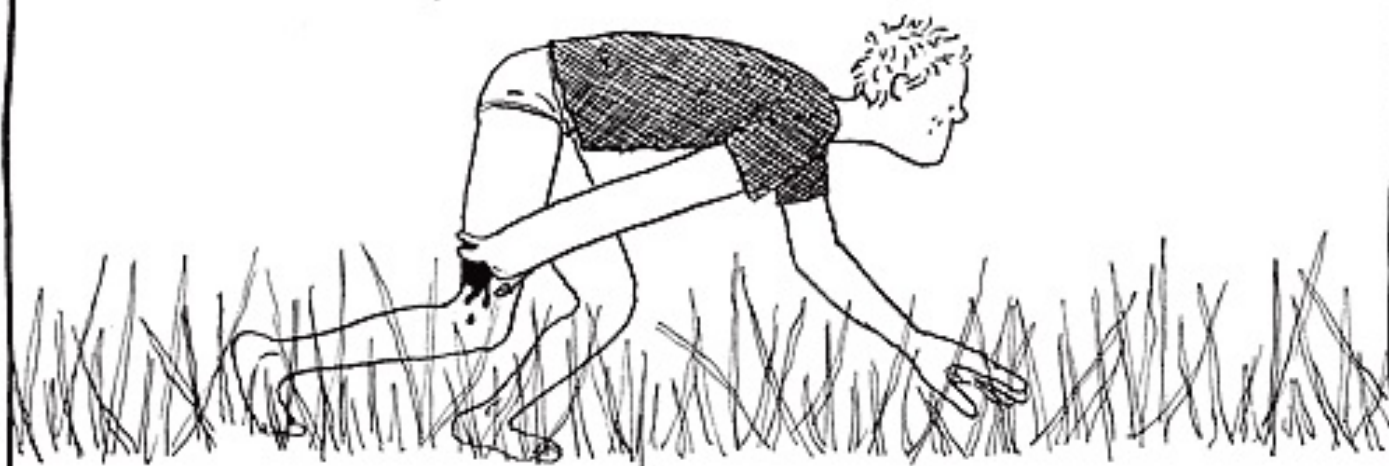


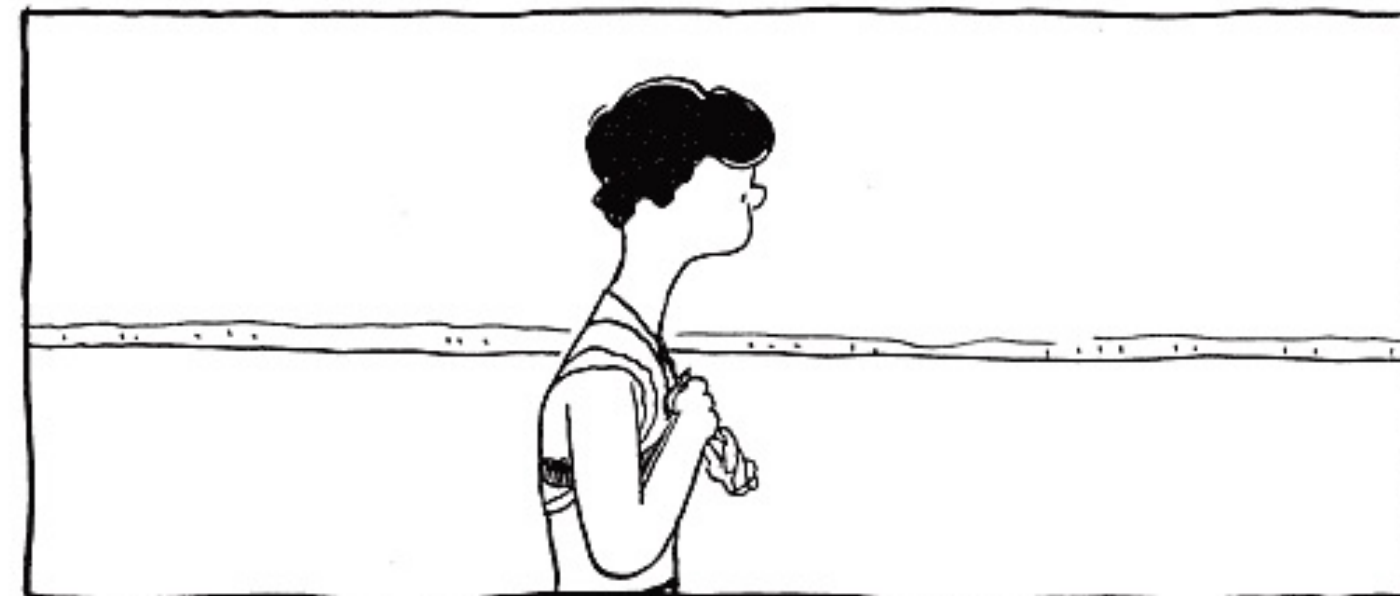
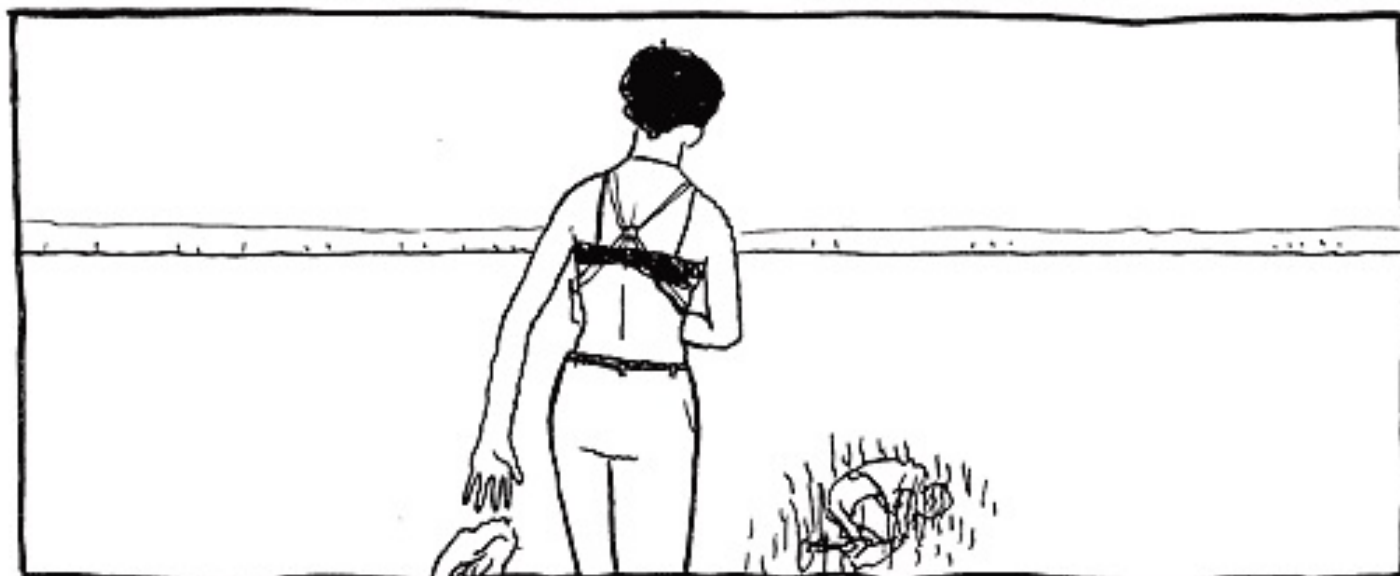
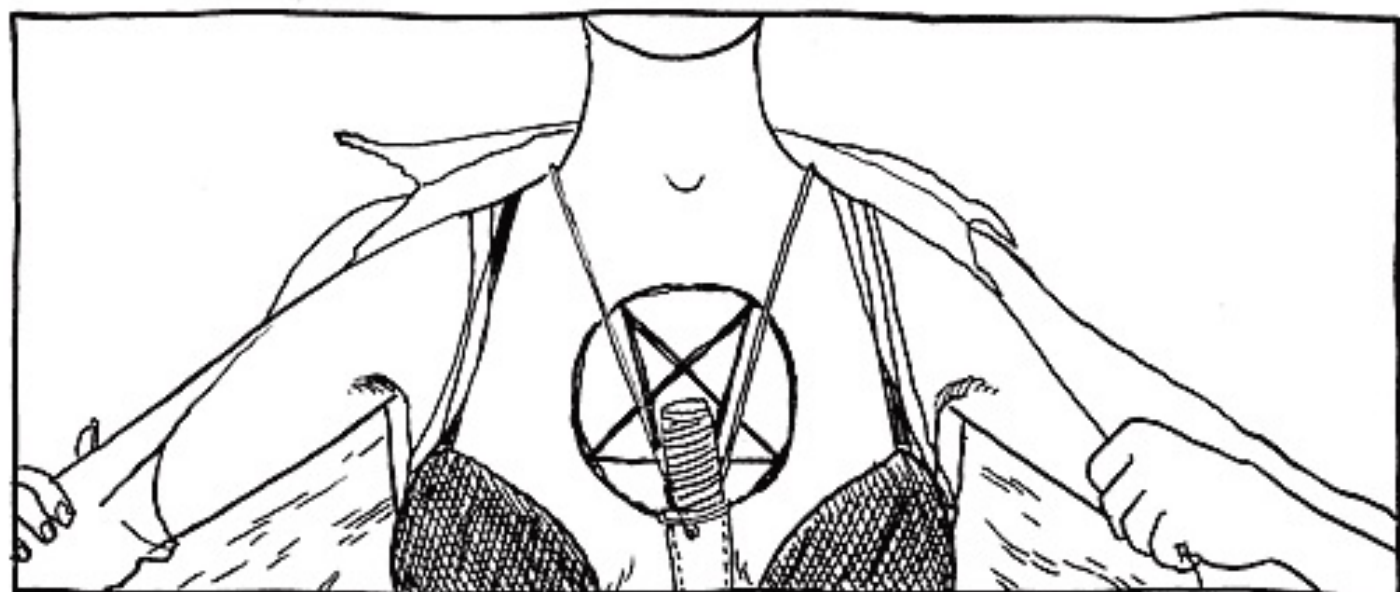
I'M ALMOST 18. AND I THINK I UNDERSTAND.

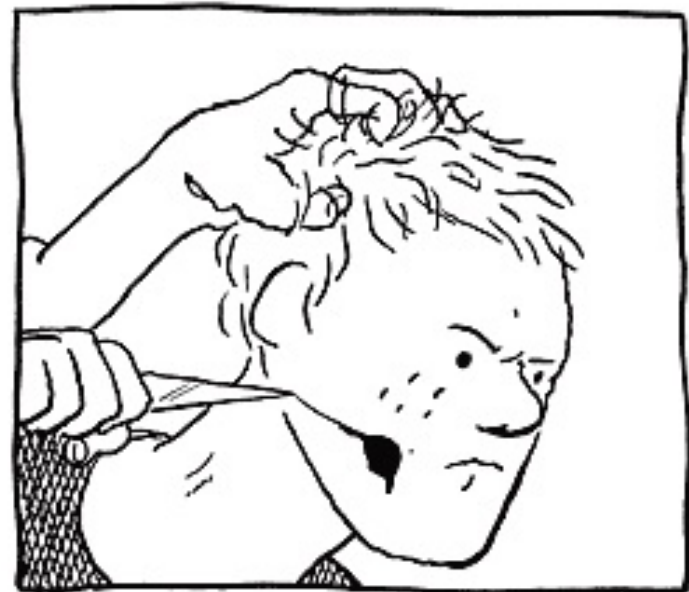
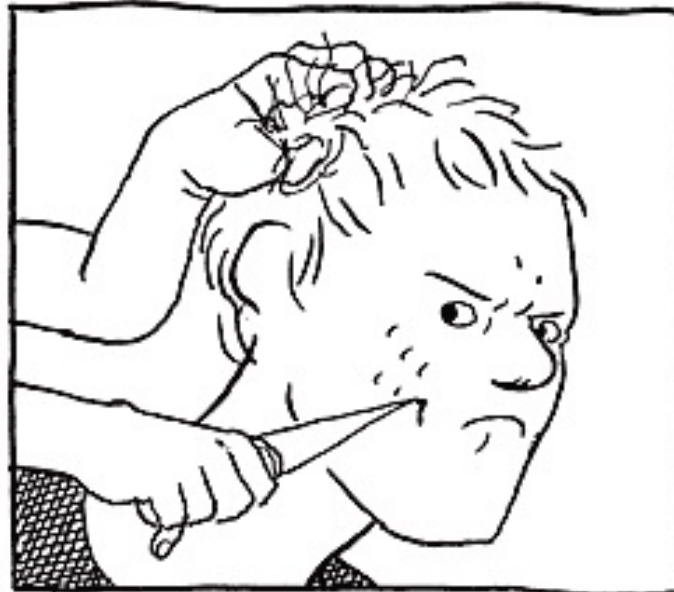
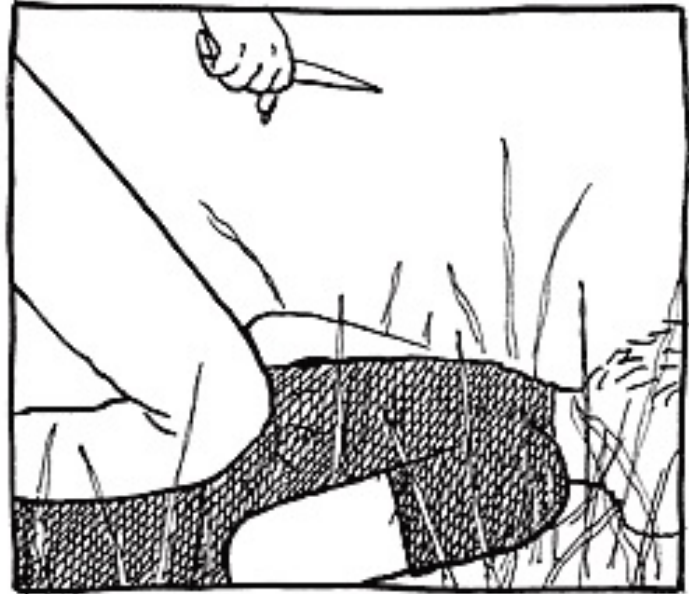




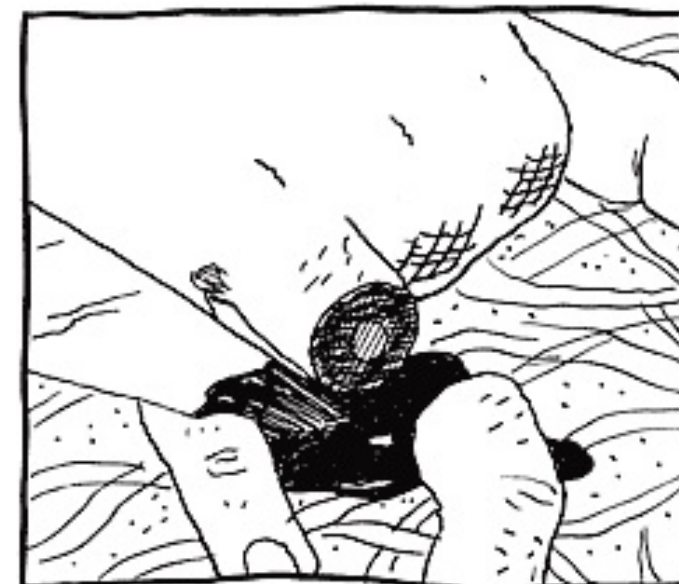
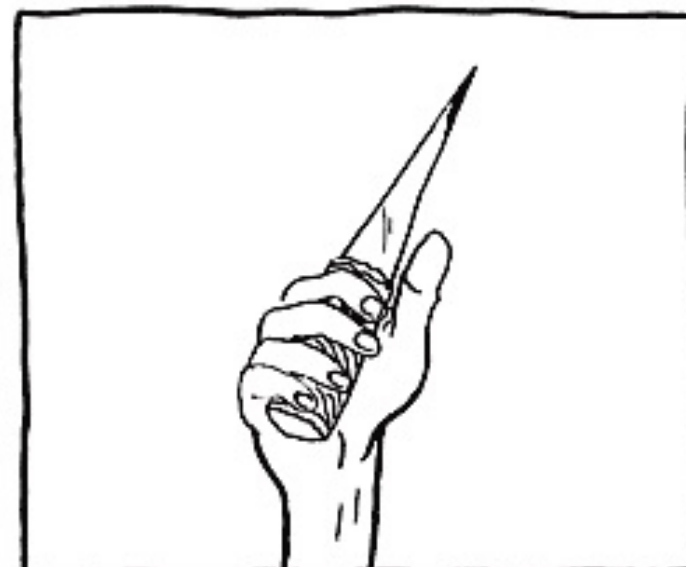
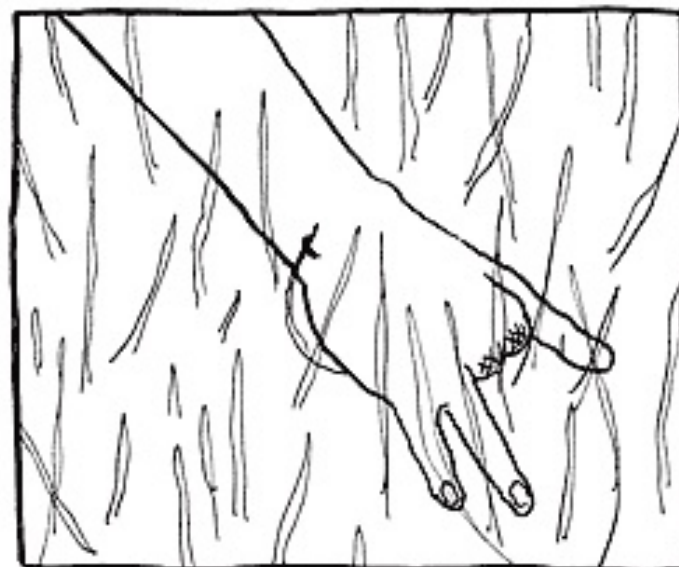
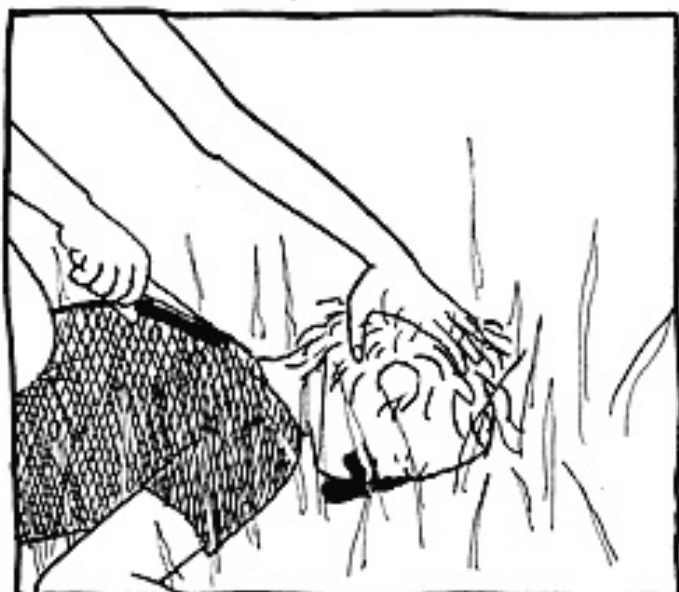
WHAT PEOPLE MEAN TO EACH OTHER.



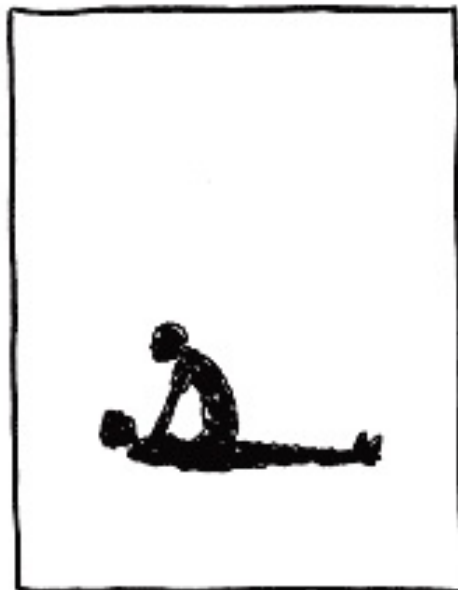












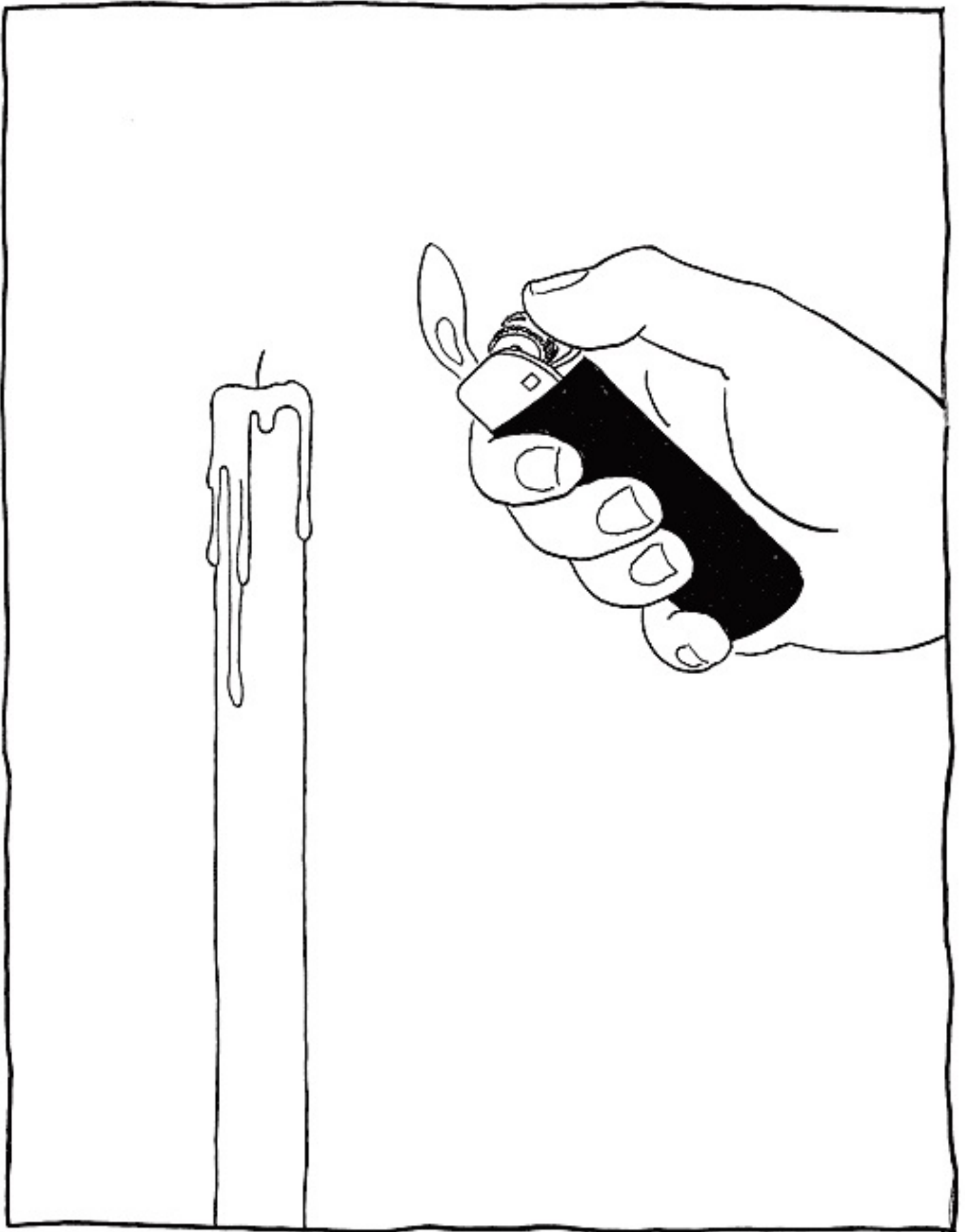


I LOVE YOU.

BEAN





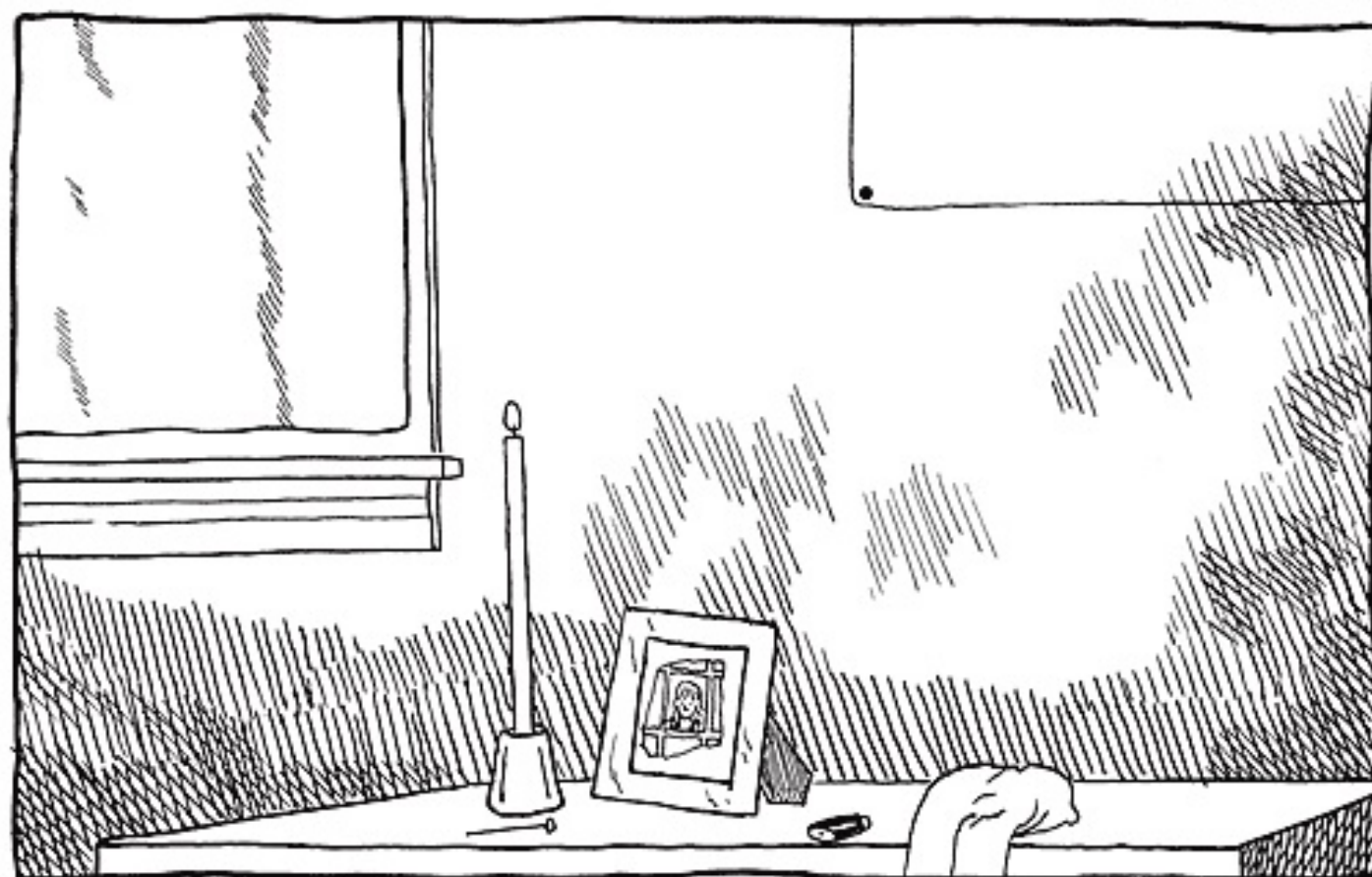
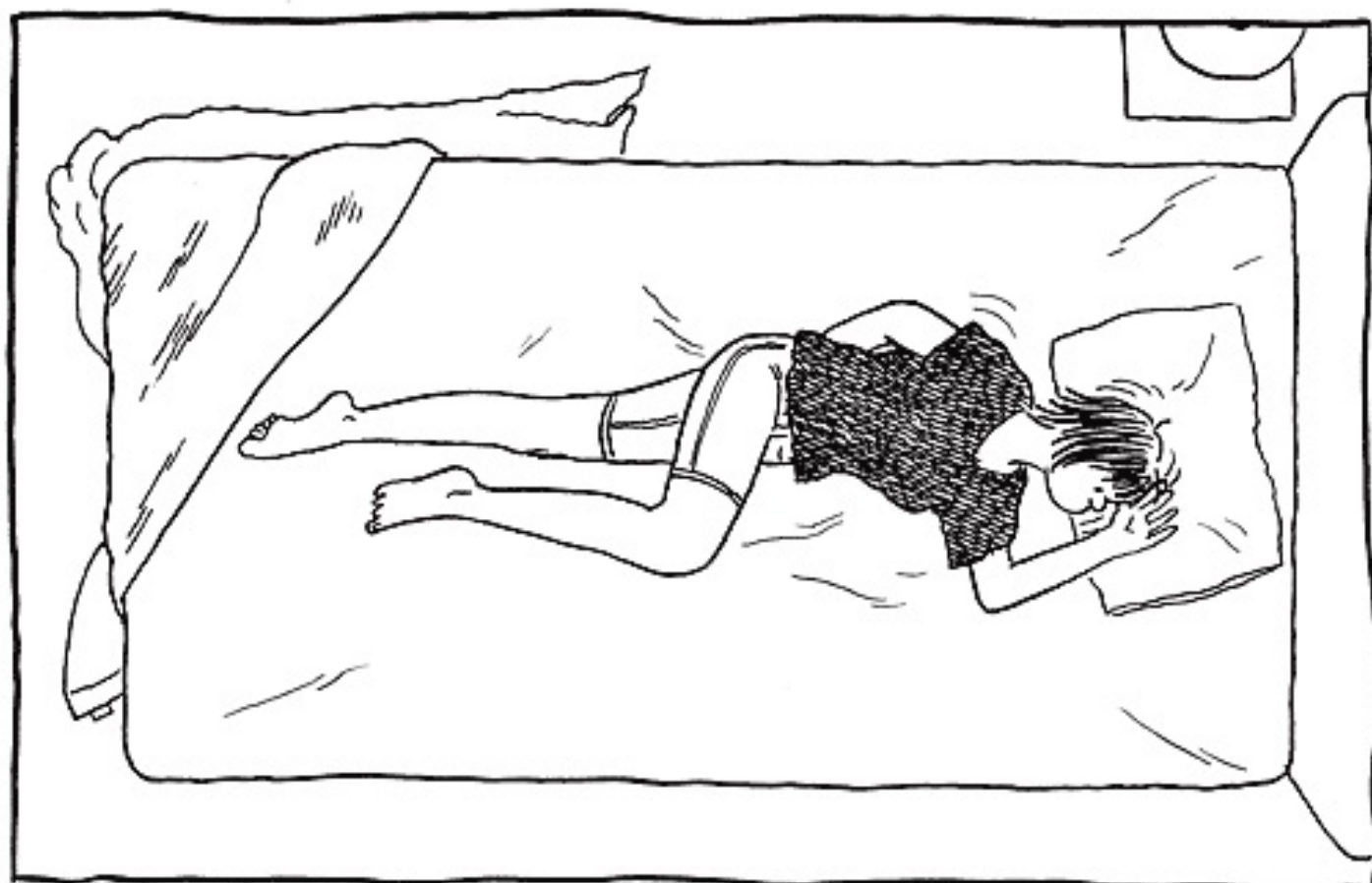




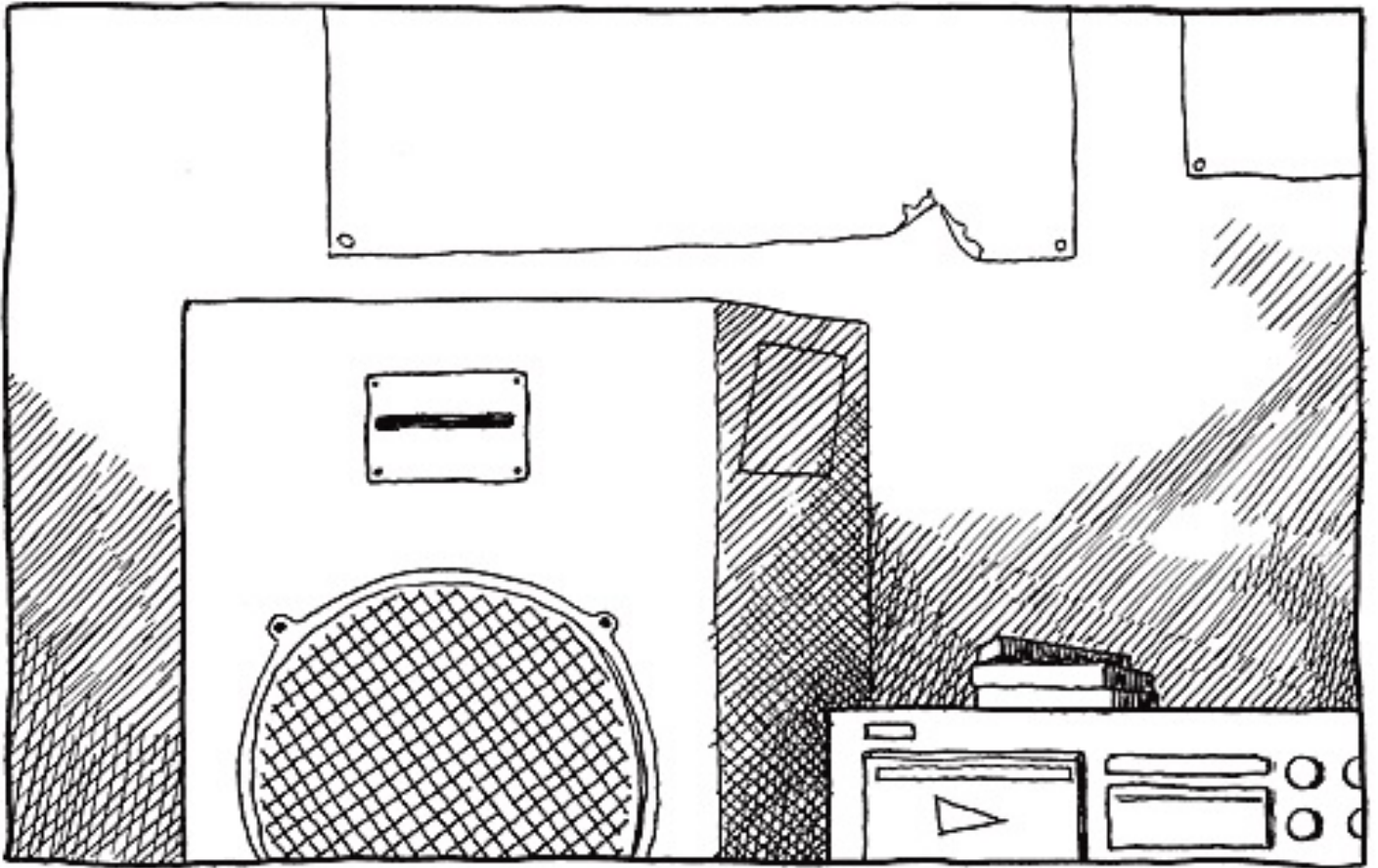


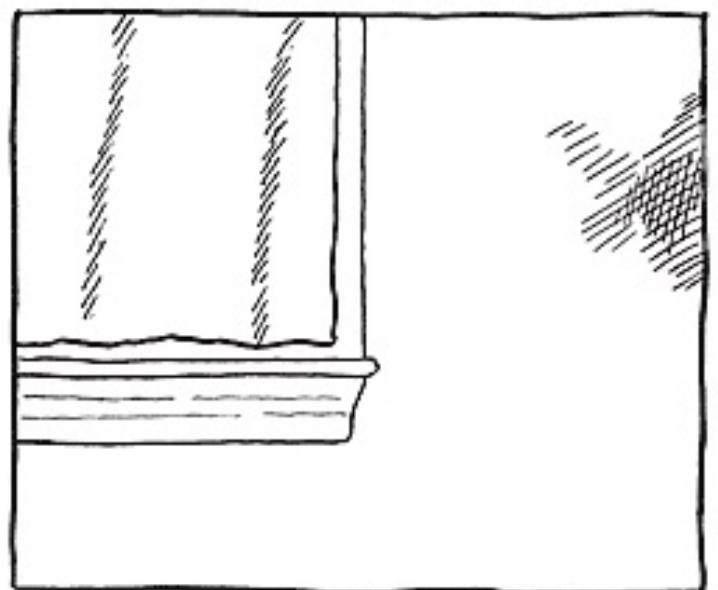
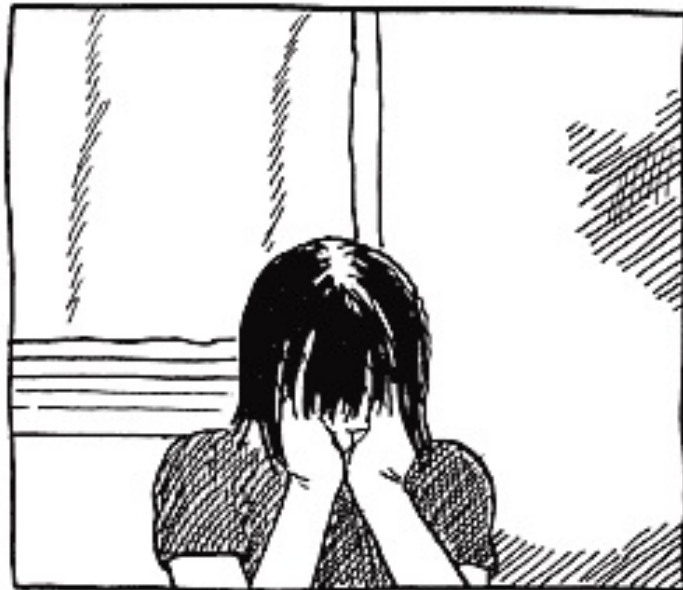
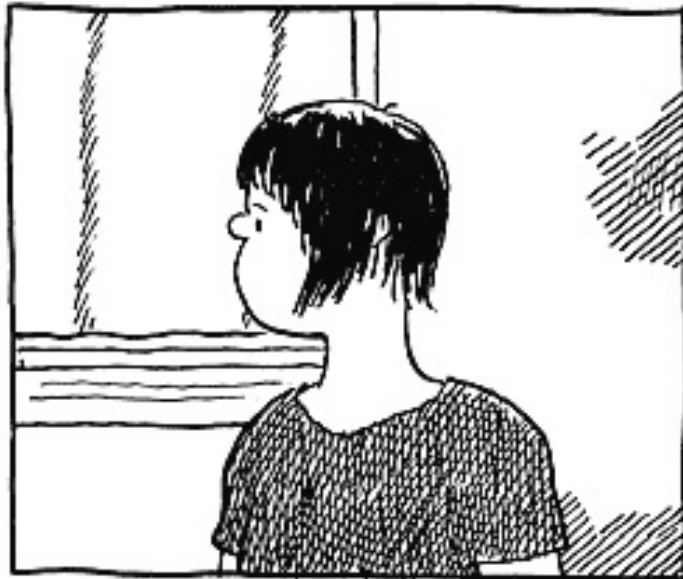
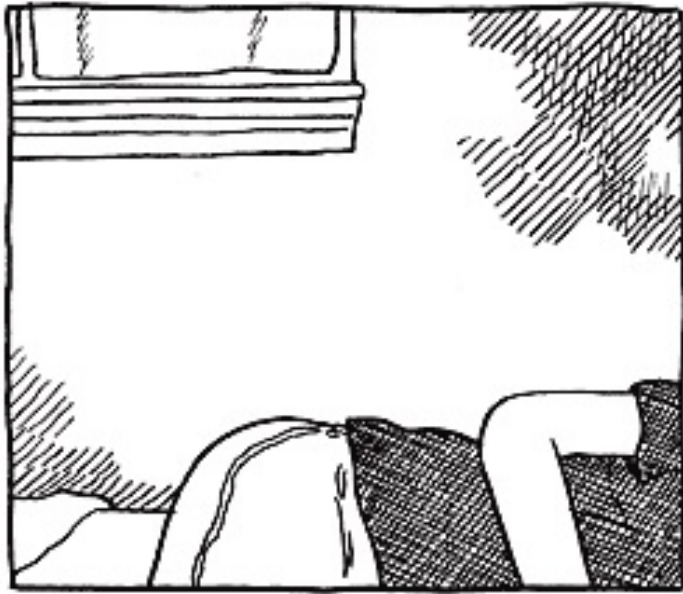




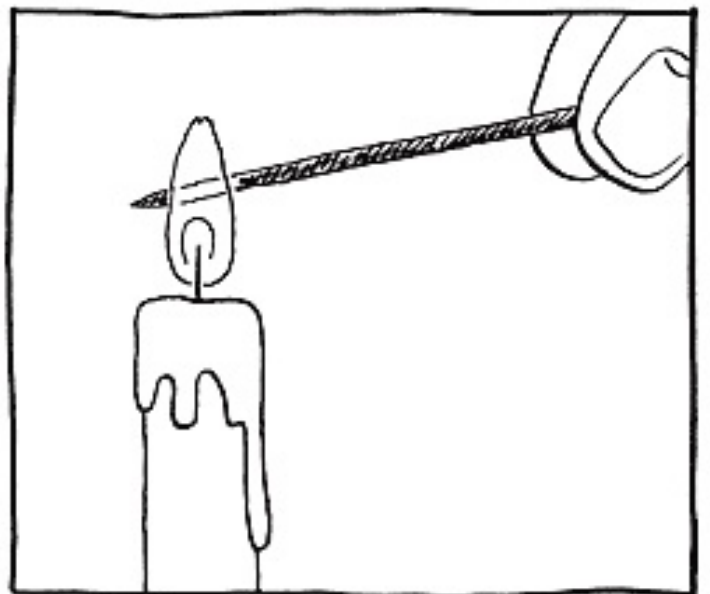
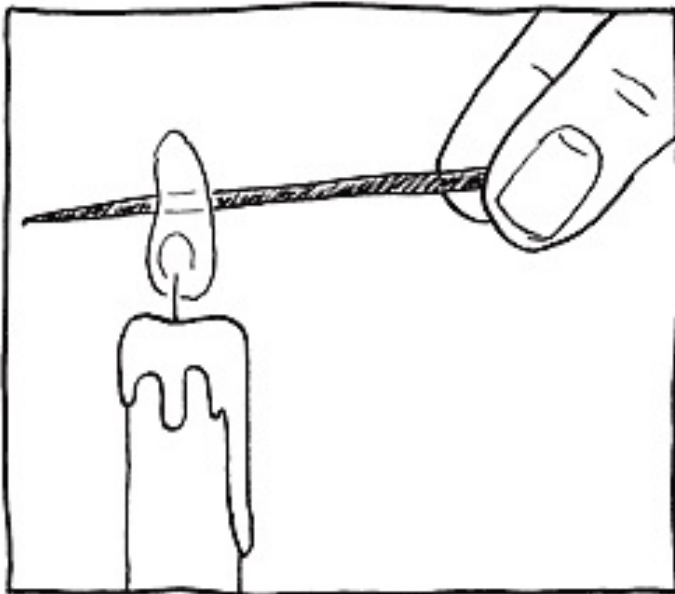
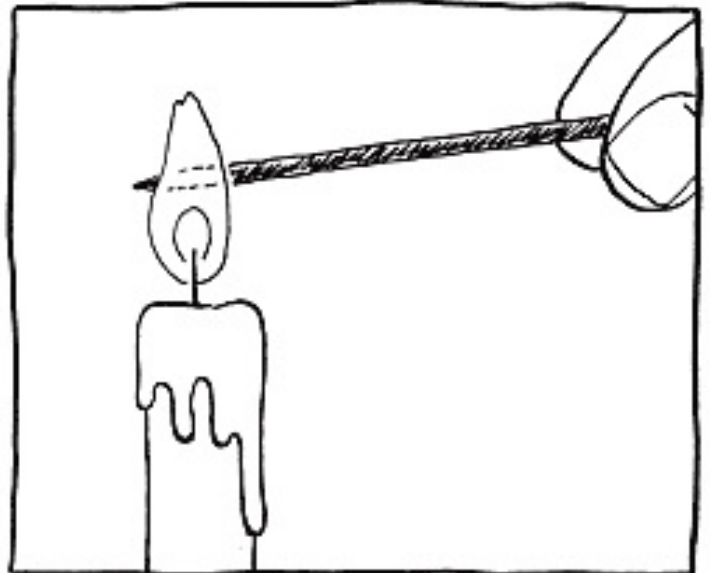
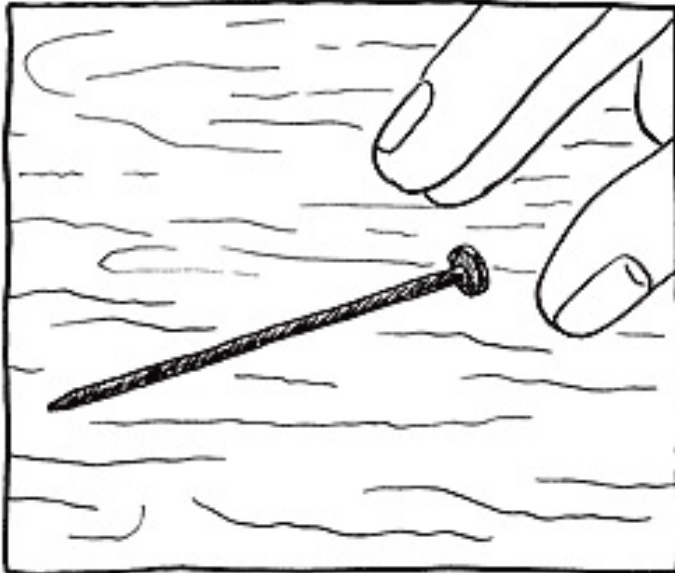
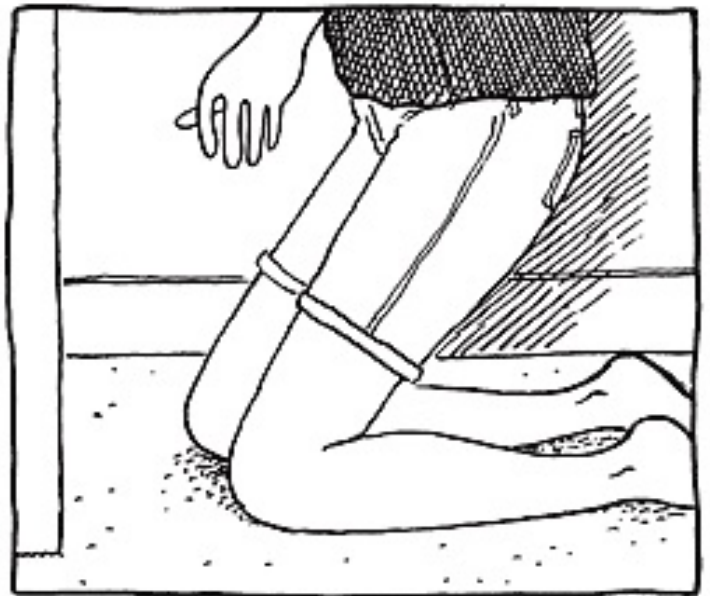
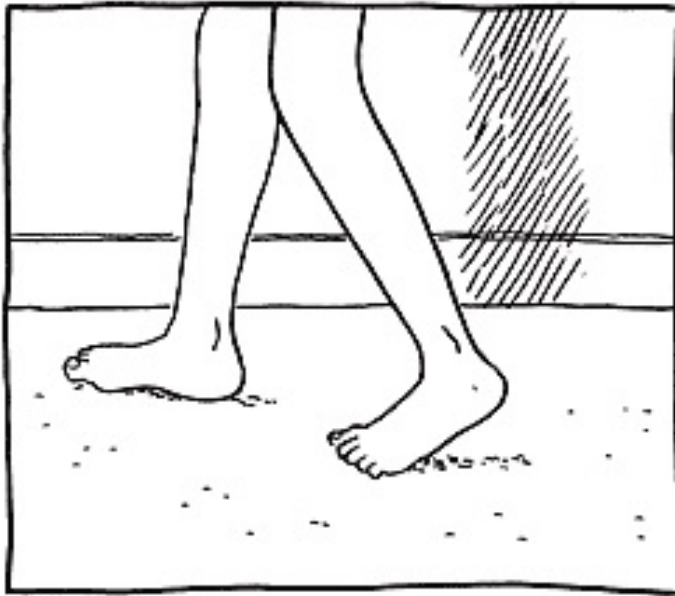




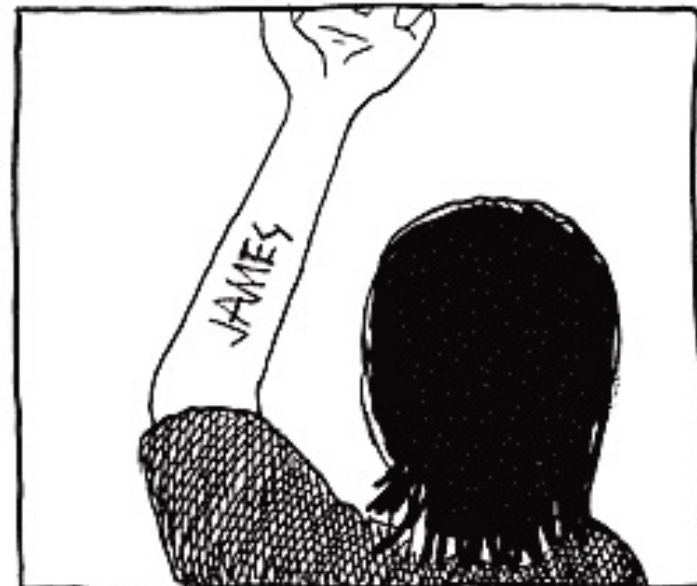
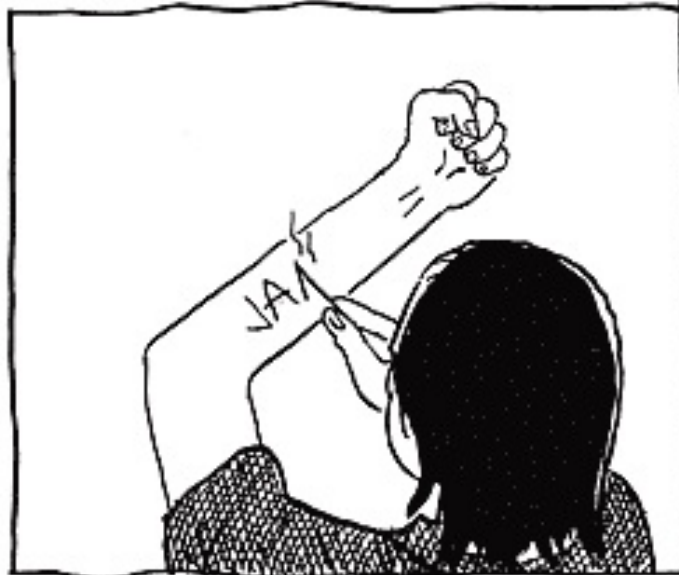




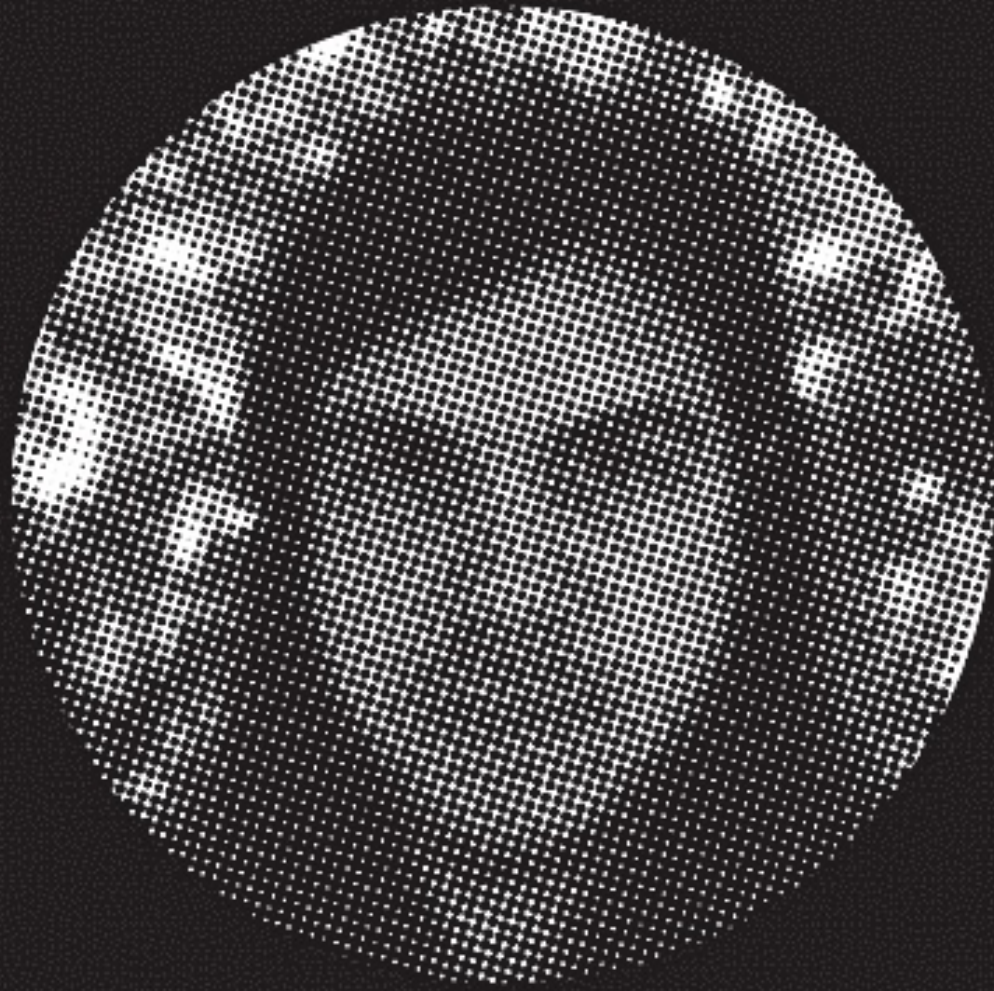












CHARLES FORSMAN (b. 1982) GREW UP IN MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA. AFTER DROPPING OUT OF HIGH SCHOOL HE WENT ON TO WORK AND FLAIL UNTIL FINDING A HOME AT THE CENTER FOR CARTOON STUDIES OF WHICH HE GRADUATED IN 2008. HE RUNS THE MICRO-PUBLISHING COMPANY, OILY COMICS, AND LIVES IN MASSACHUSETTS.

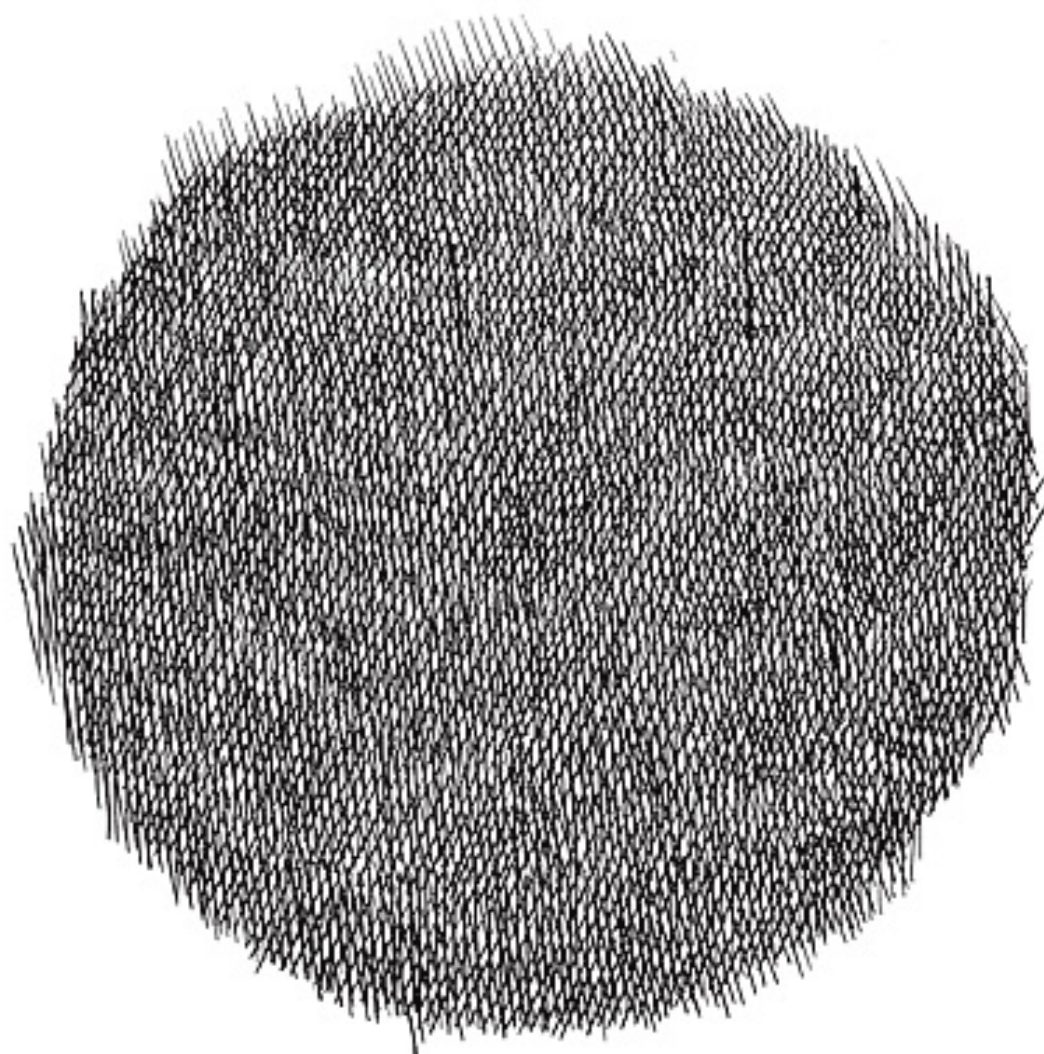


THE CARTOONIST THANKS THE  
FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR THEIR LOVE,  
SUPPORT, AND INSPIRATION:

MOM, DAD, ZAK, TOBEY, JAMES, STEVE,  
JASON, MICHELLE, SEAN, JOE, ALEX, DANE,  
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