UNDERGROUND HEROES

David Blandy and young people from Fairbridge in London

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With the assistance of photographer Tom Wichelow, costume designer Jenny Hayton and make-up artists Amita Rallin and Antigoni Livieratou, the group have been transformed into their characters for a series of photograp portraits on display at the entrance to Charing Cross Underground station. The young people have also devised their own heroic adventures with David Blandy and illustrator Inko for a trail of comic strips for this foot tunn in Embankment station.

The project has developed from David Blandy's own practice that deals with themes of identity and travel, questioning the extent to which we are shaped by popular culture. Personal journeys and new beginnings are centr to Fairbridge, a national charity supporting young people aged 13-25 who are outside of education, training or employment to develop the confidenc motivation and skills to change their lives. Fairbridge provides chances for those, who are often struggling with difficult situations, and this project is one such opportunity.

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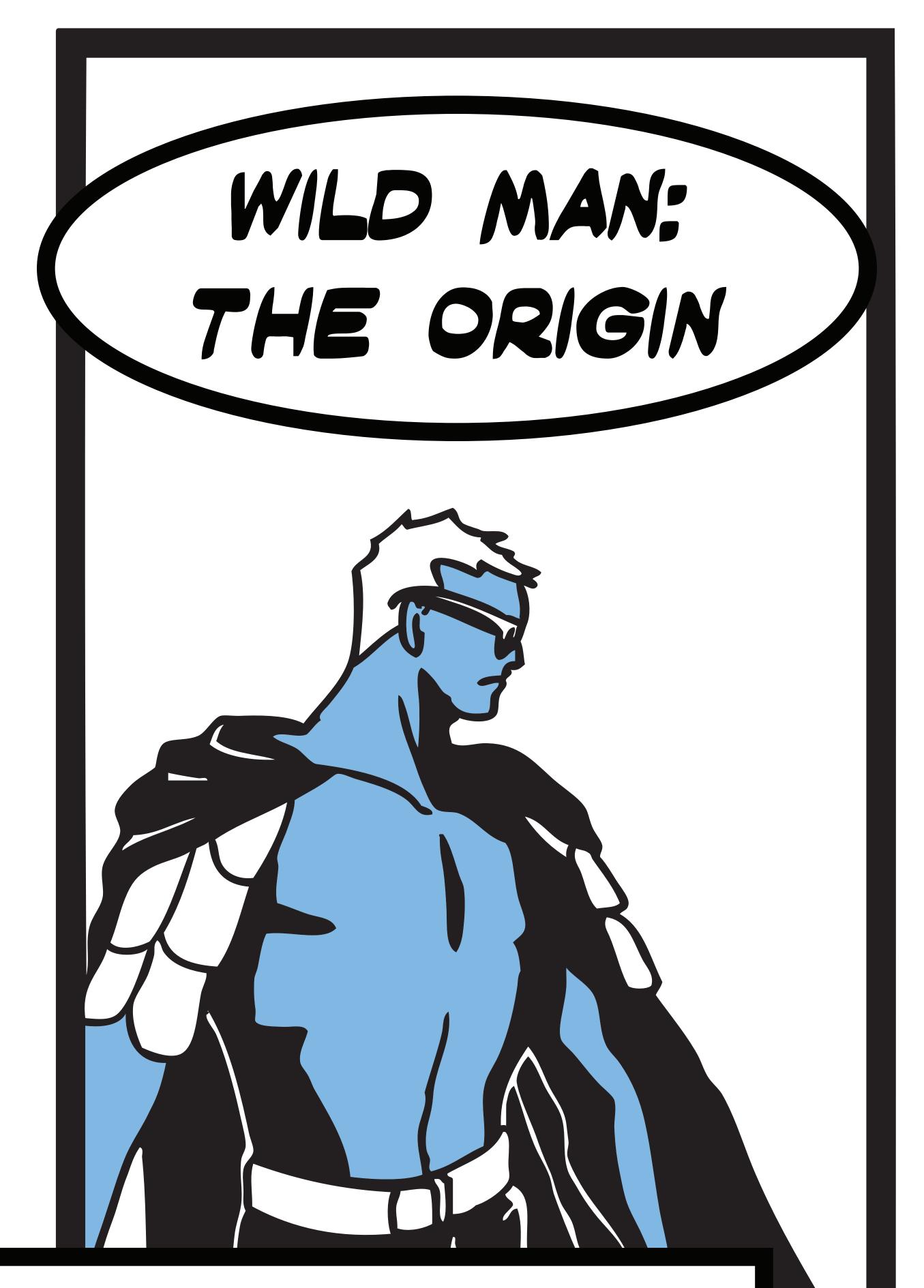
MAYOR OF LONDON fairbridge Supporting Inner City Youth

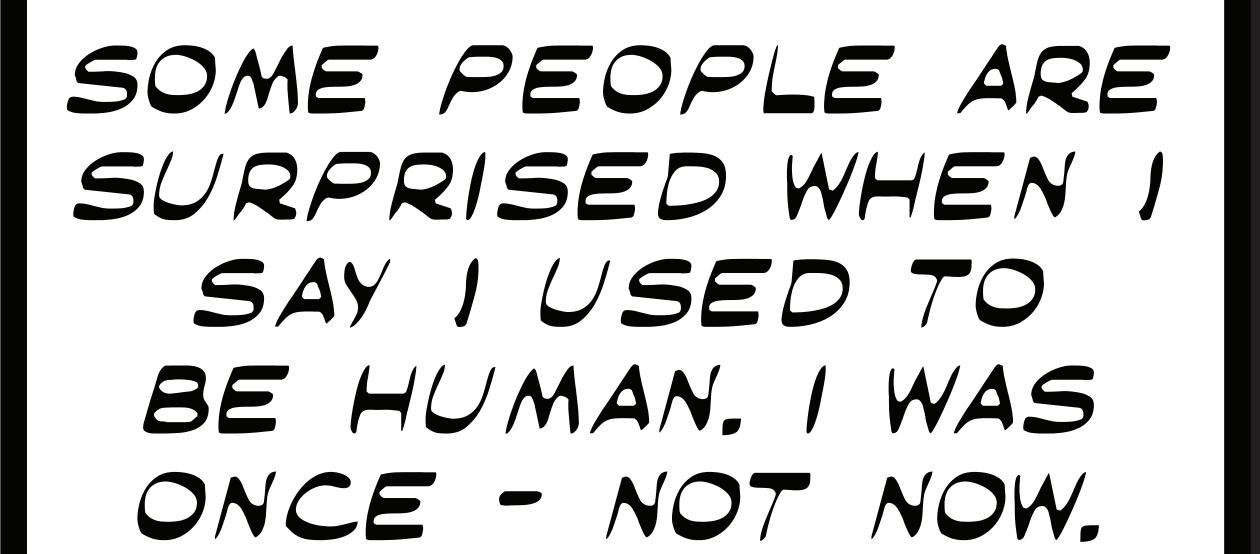




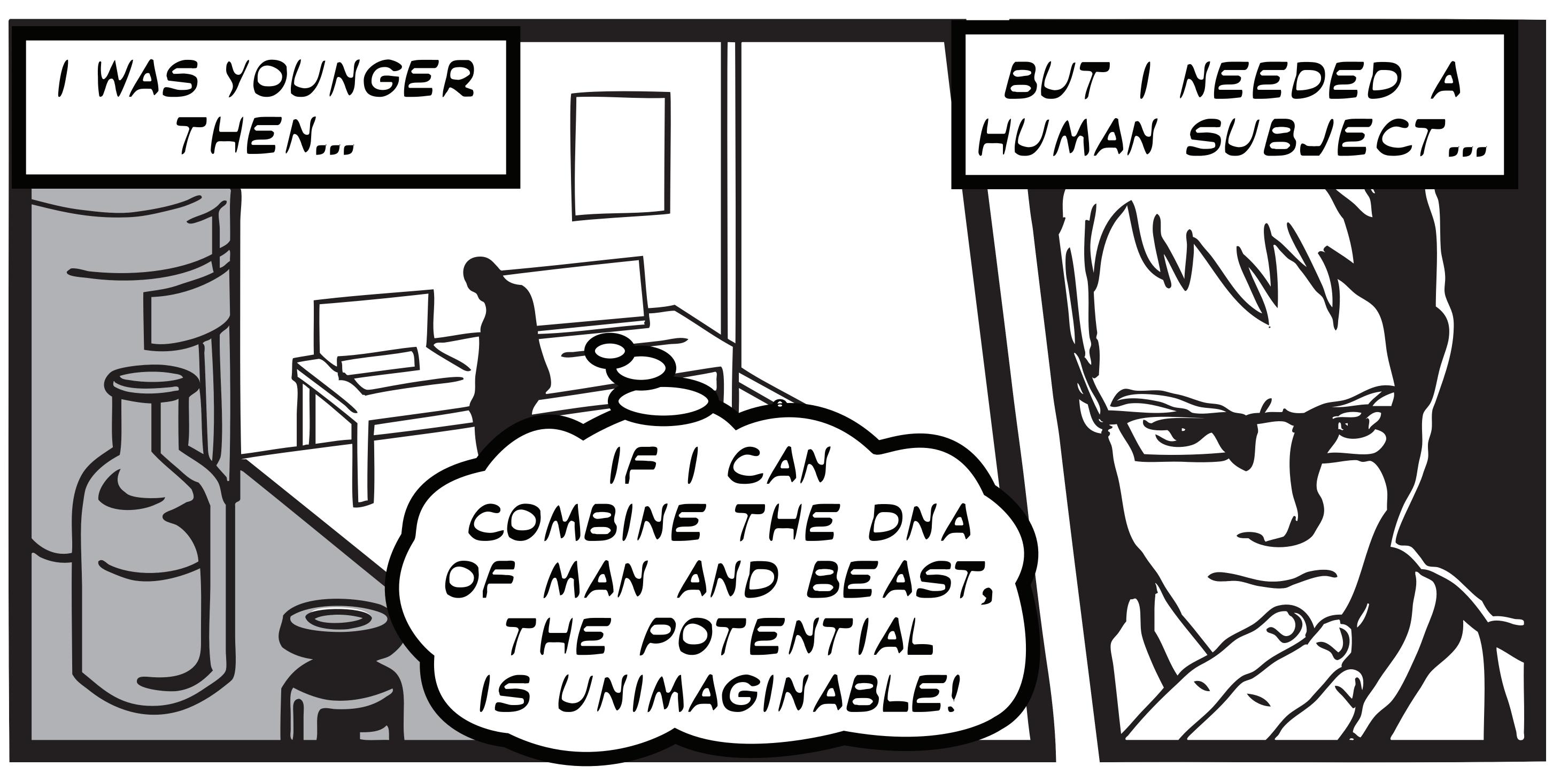






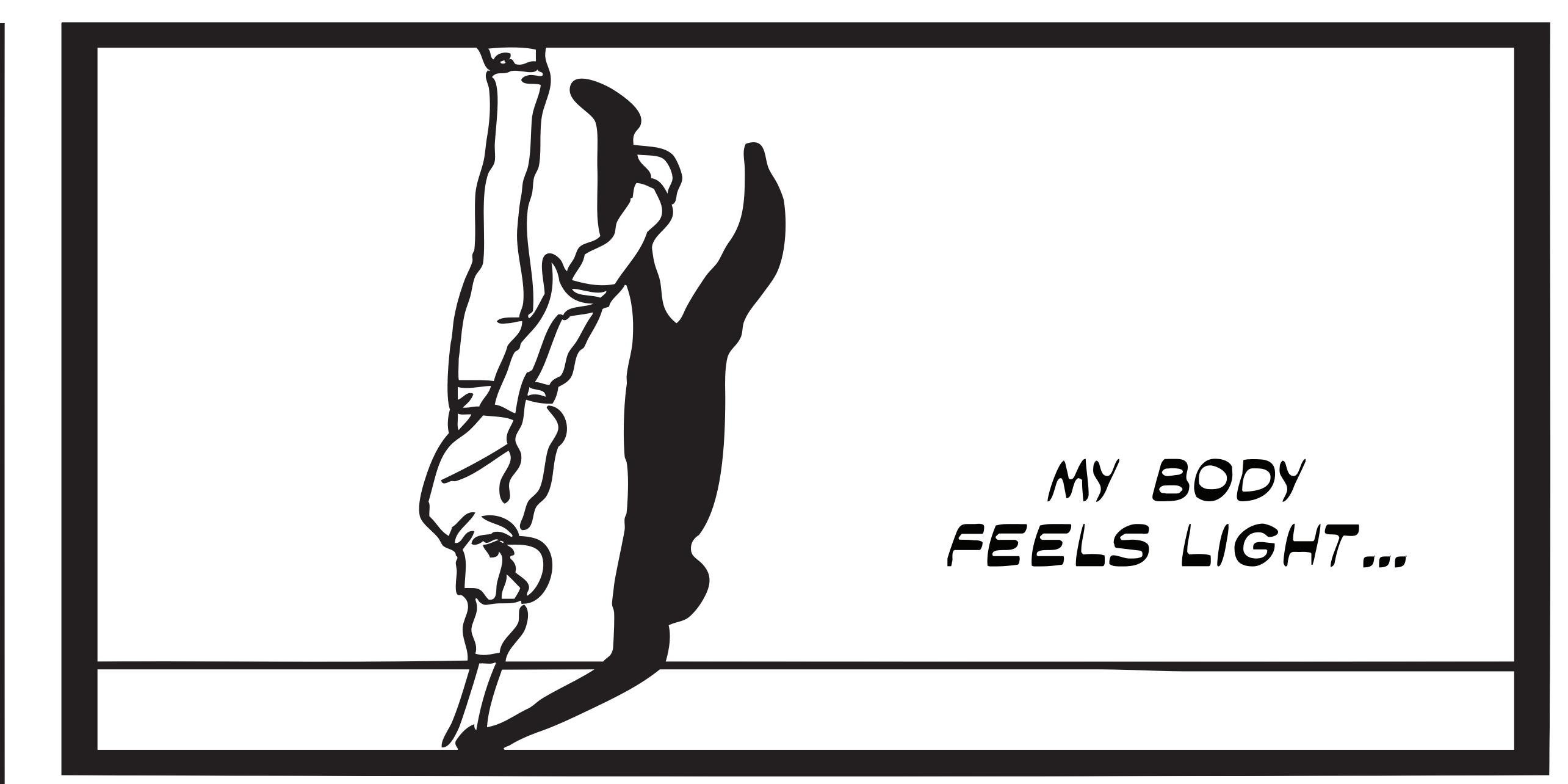






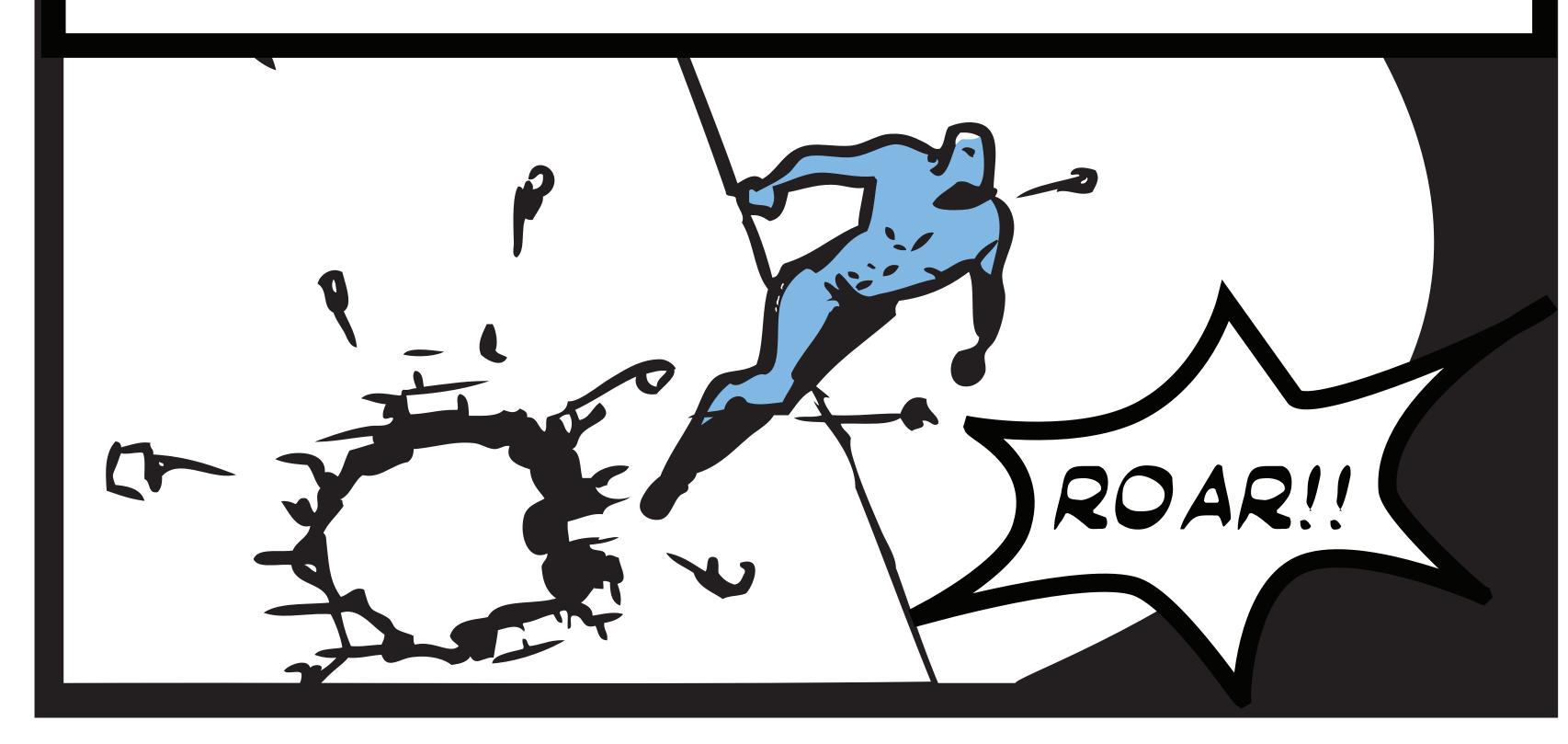




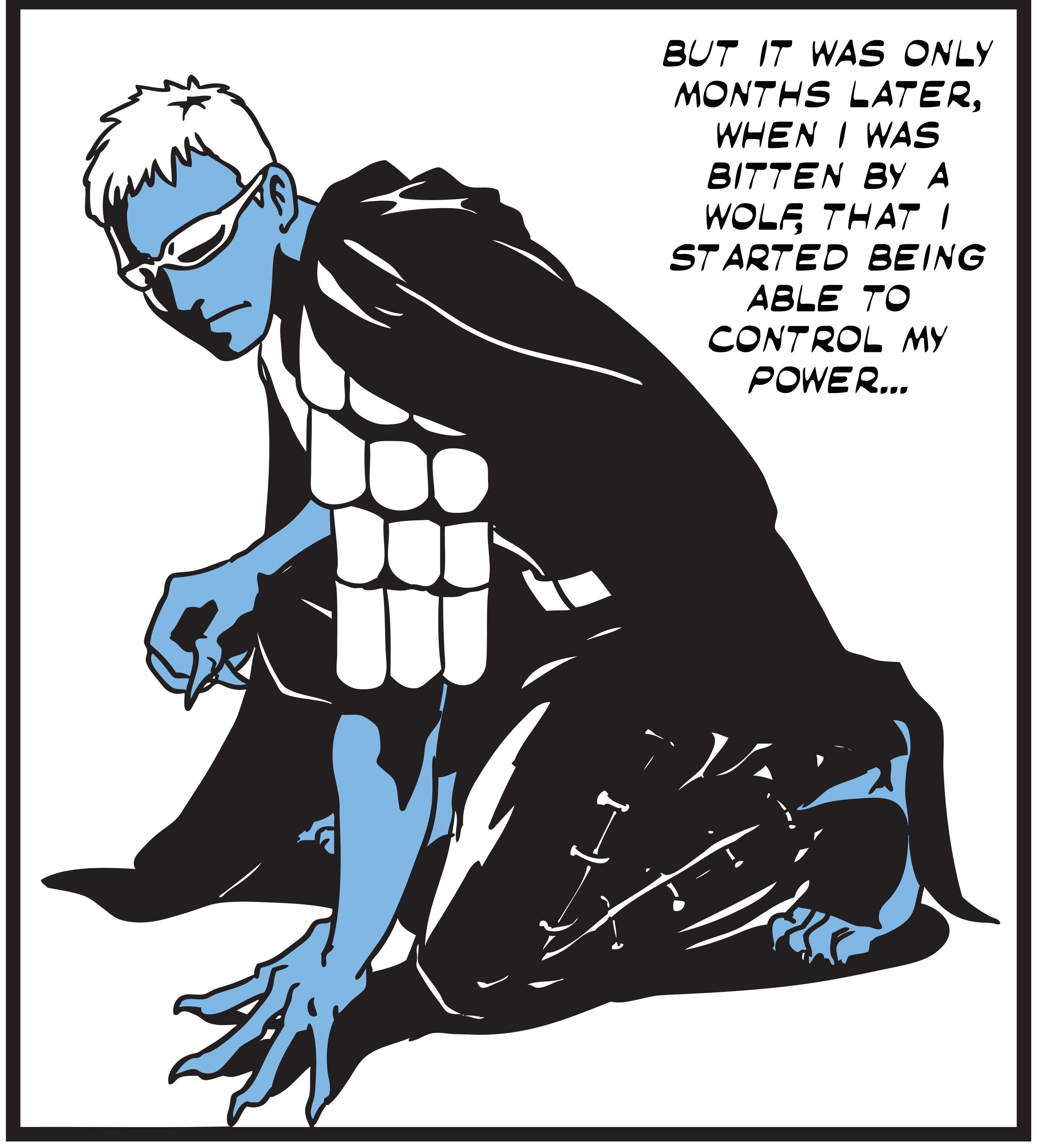


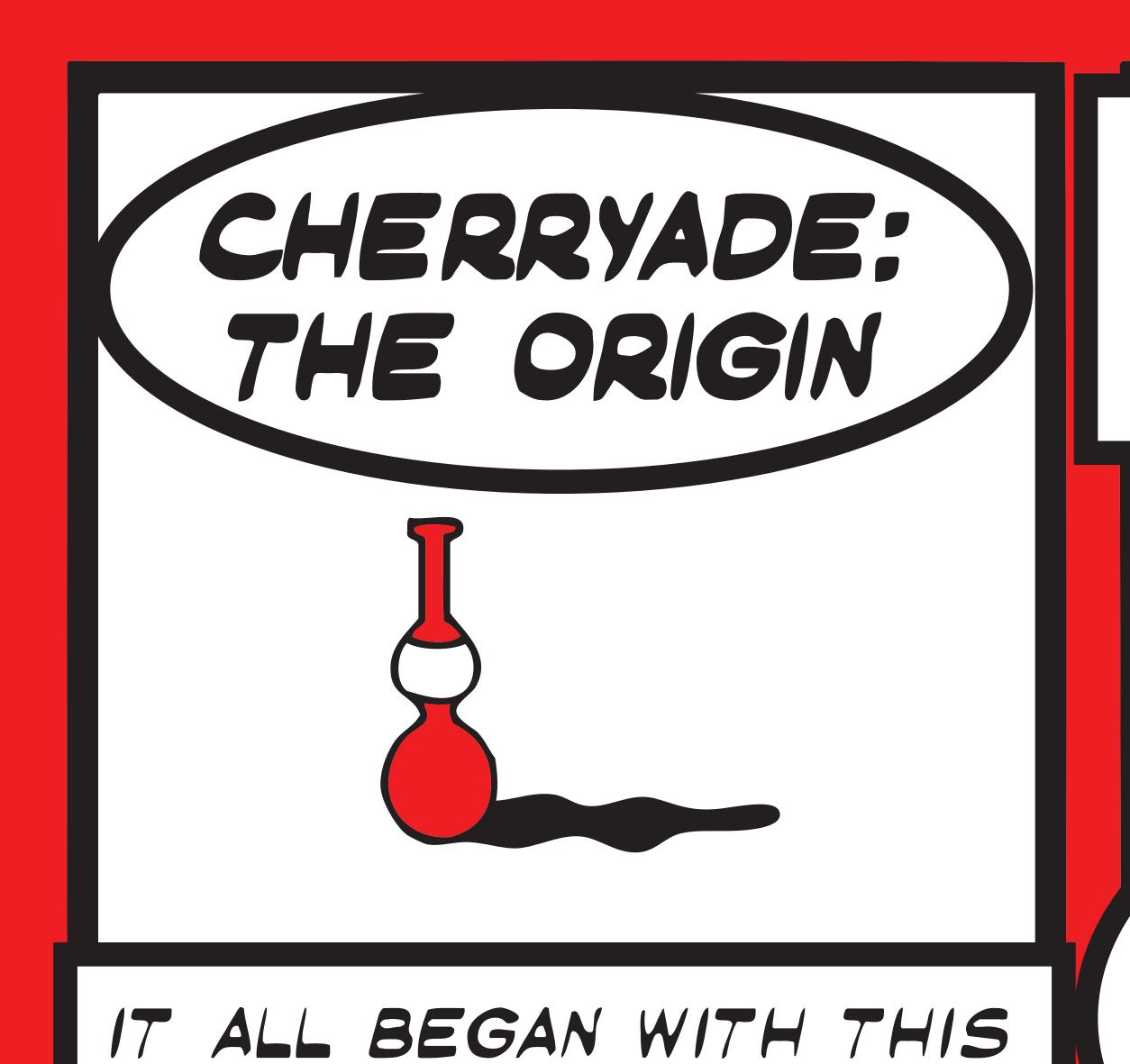


I WAS IN A KIND OF MAD RAGE, BREAKING THROUGH THE WALLS...









BOTTLE OF CHERRYADE.

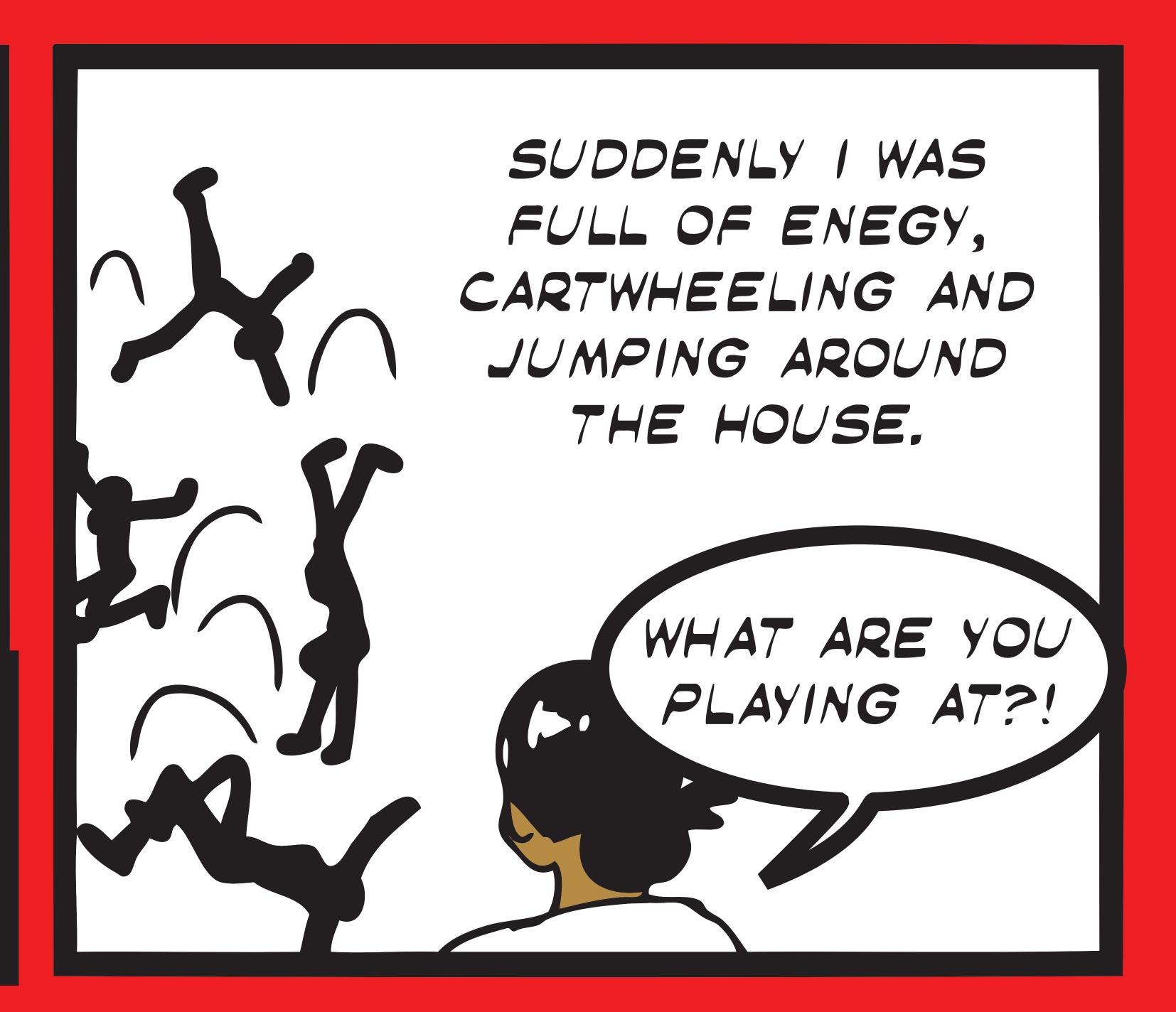
IT WAS ON SPECIAL OFFER, SO I DECIDED TO GIVE IT A TRY.



DRINK ONE EVERY MORNING - IT GIVES YOU A WHOLE NEW PERSPECTIVE ON THE DAY.

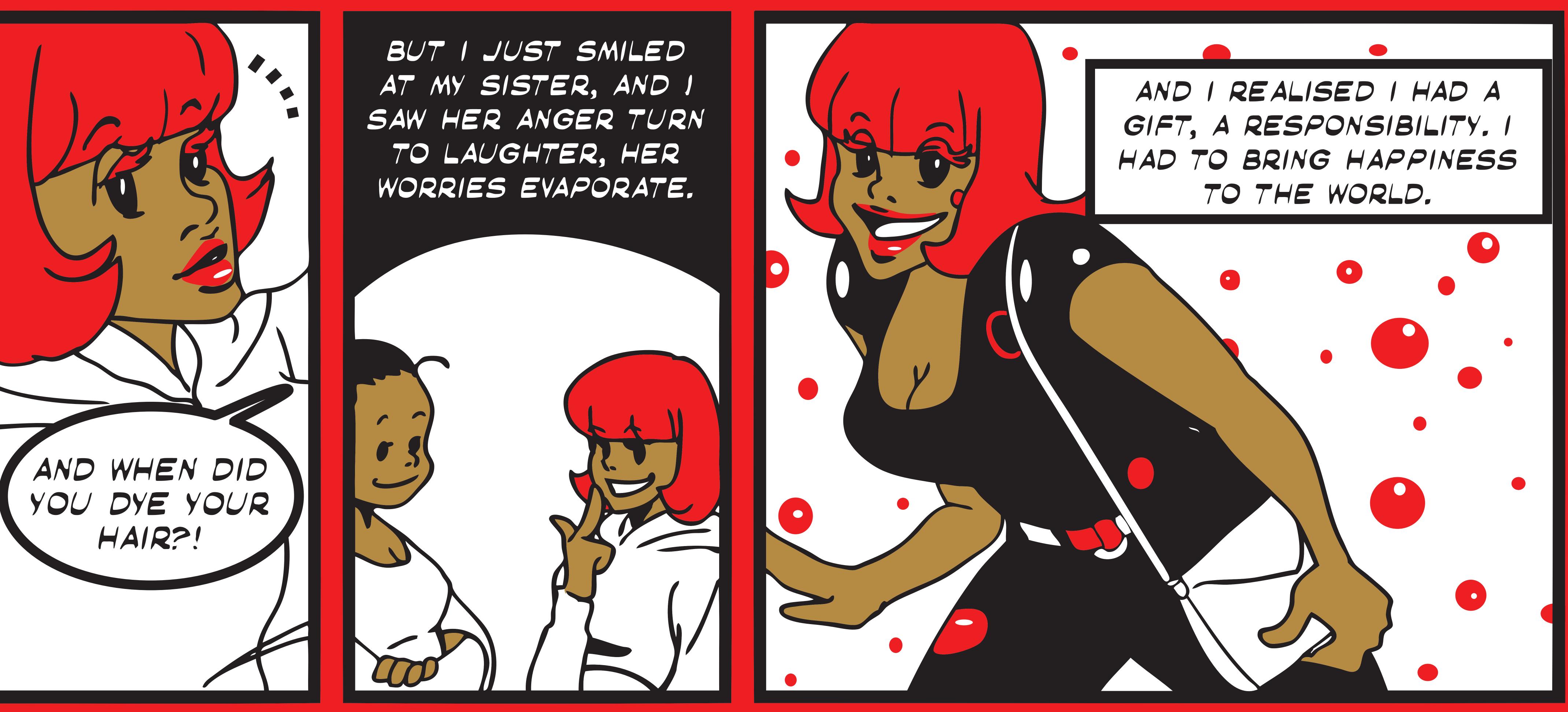


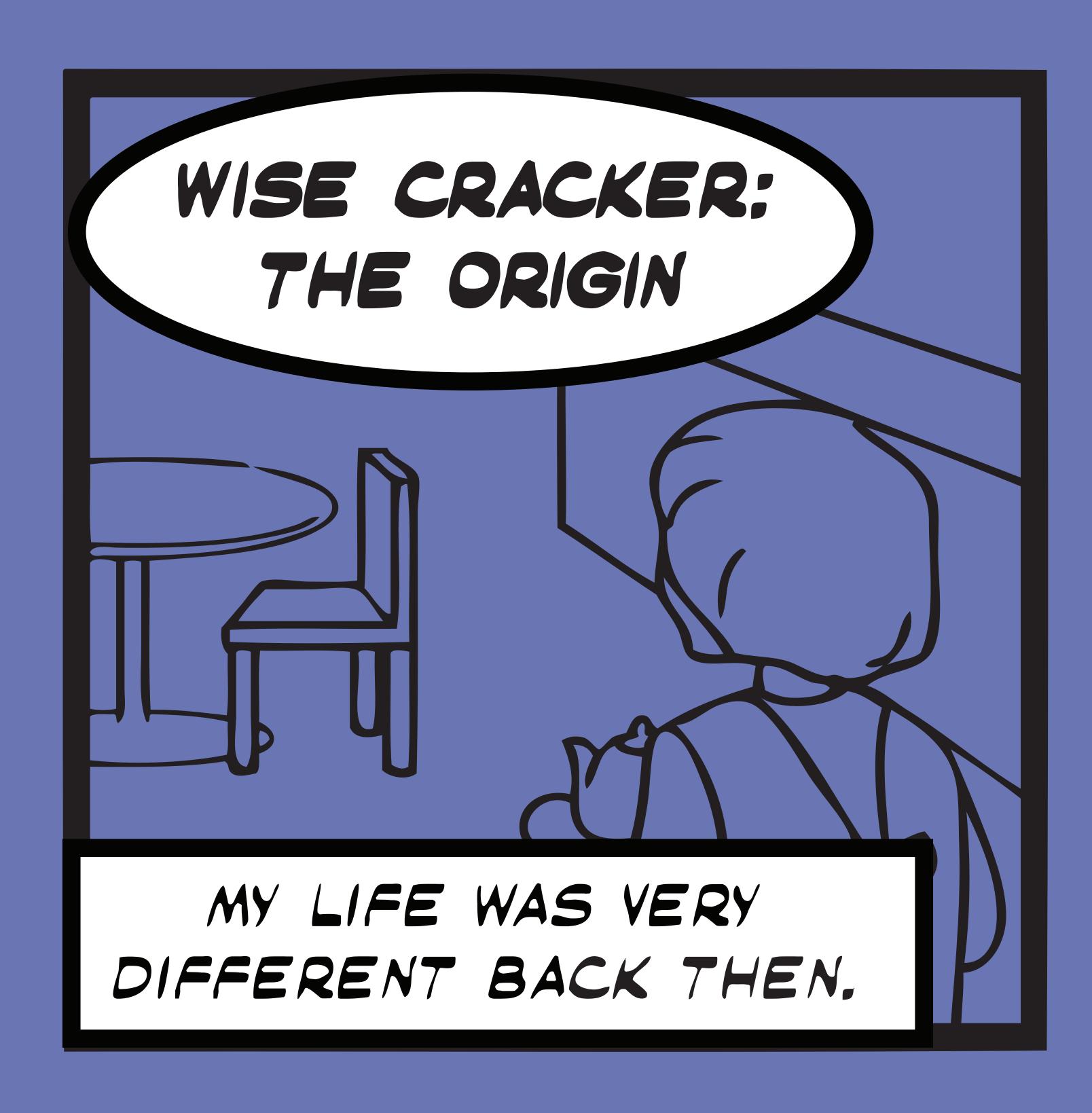
BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO WAIT TILL MORNING...













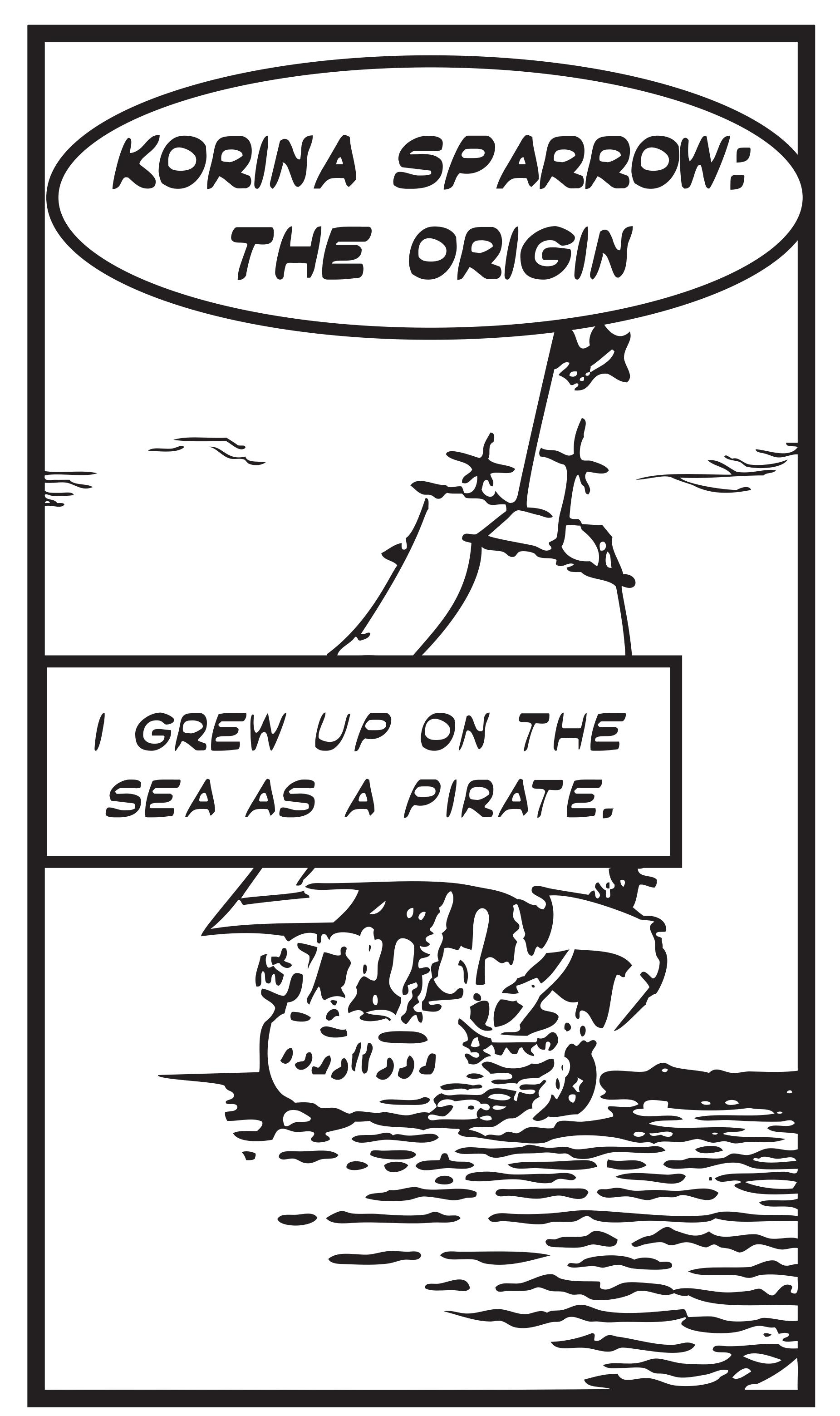


BUT THEN I FELT A LITTLE PECULIAR, SO I DECIDED TO HEAD HOME.

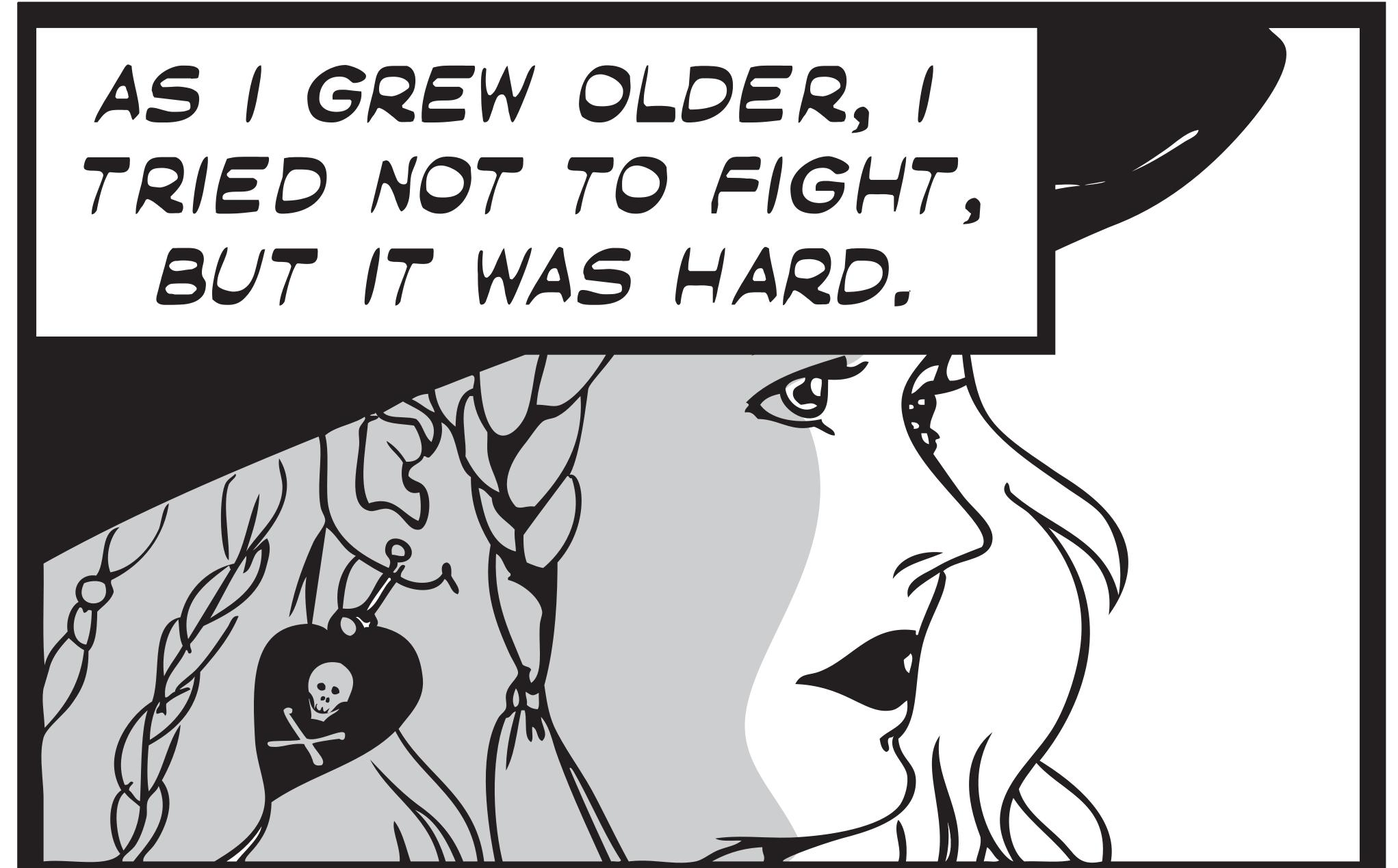


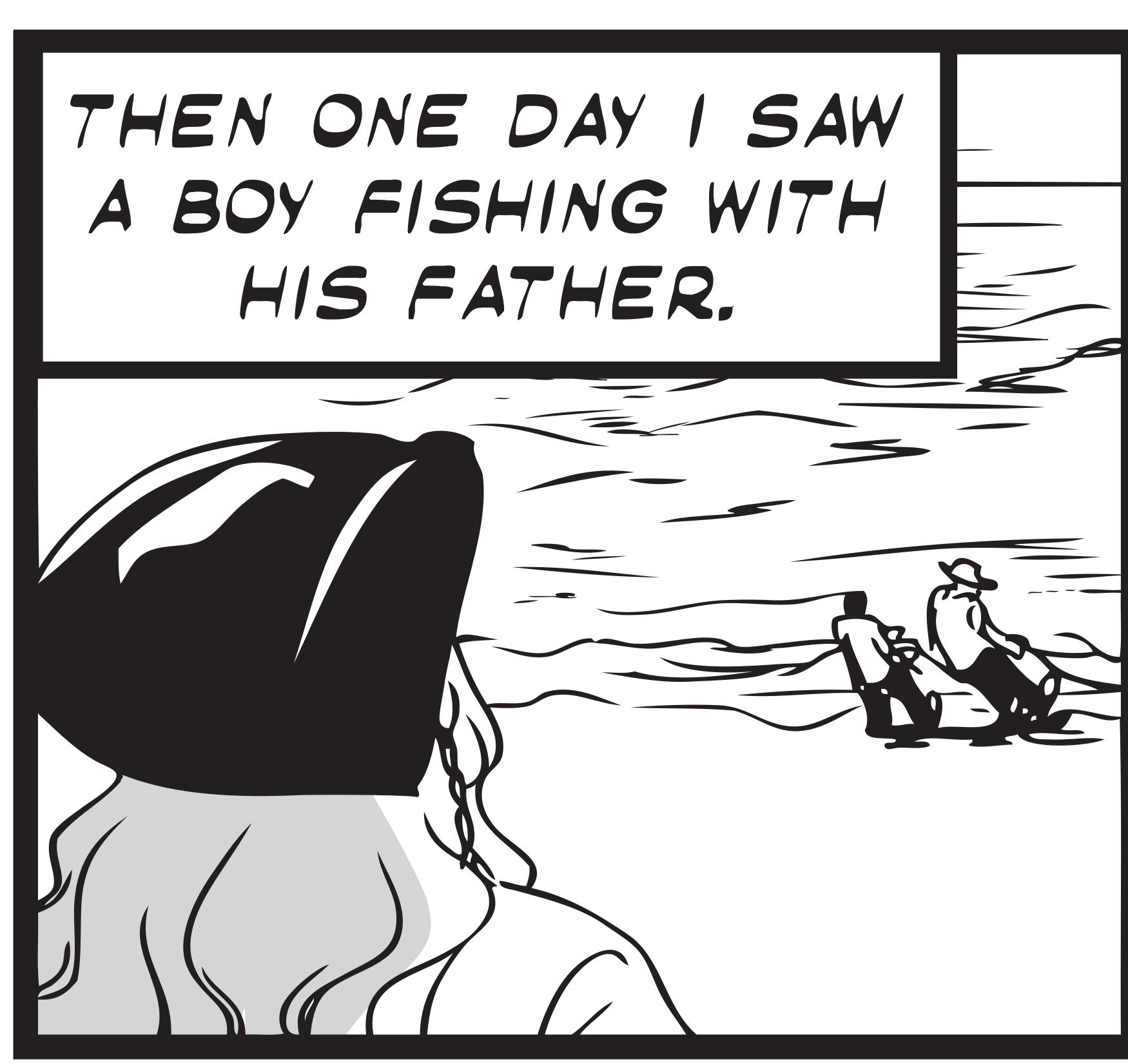


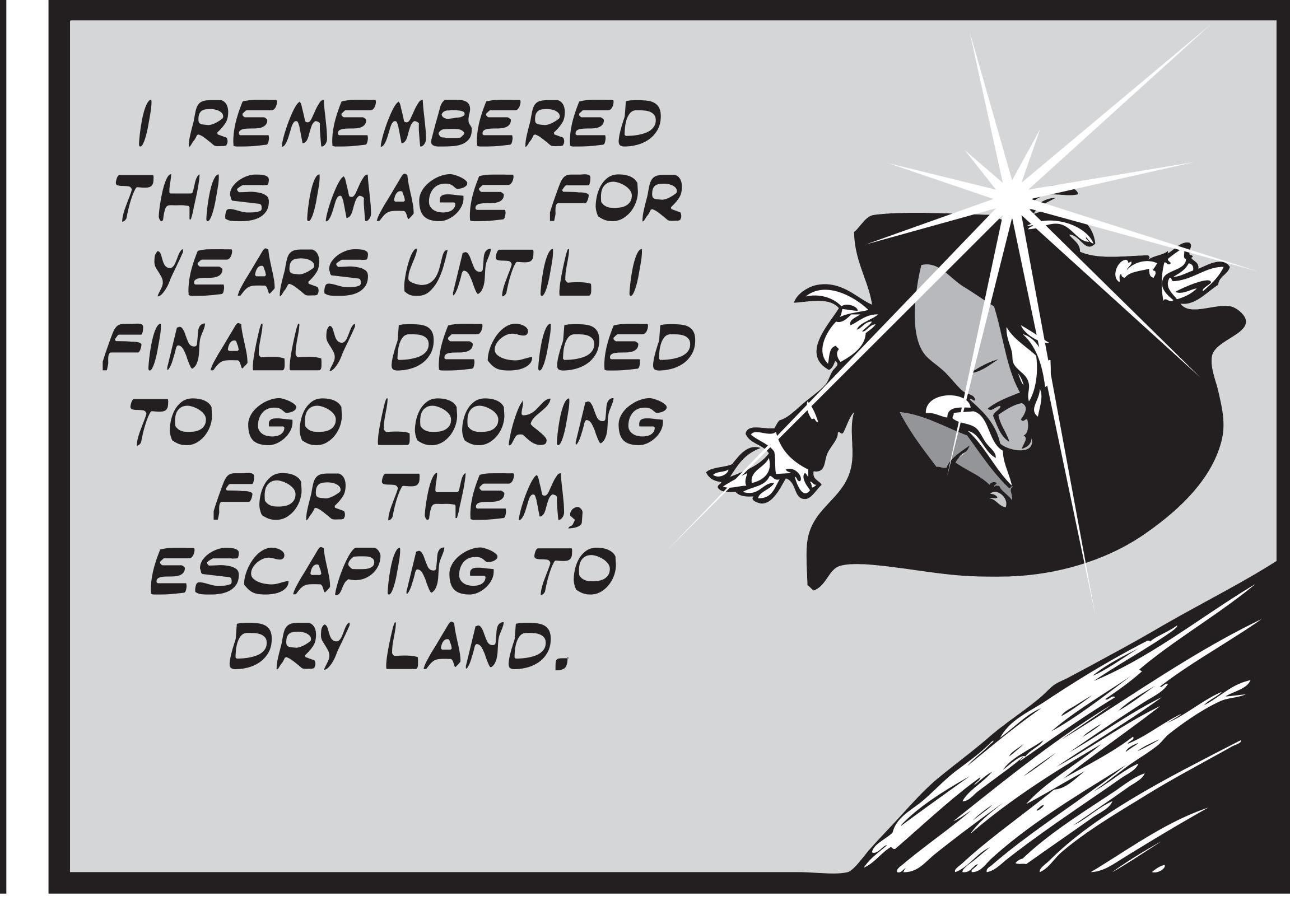










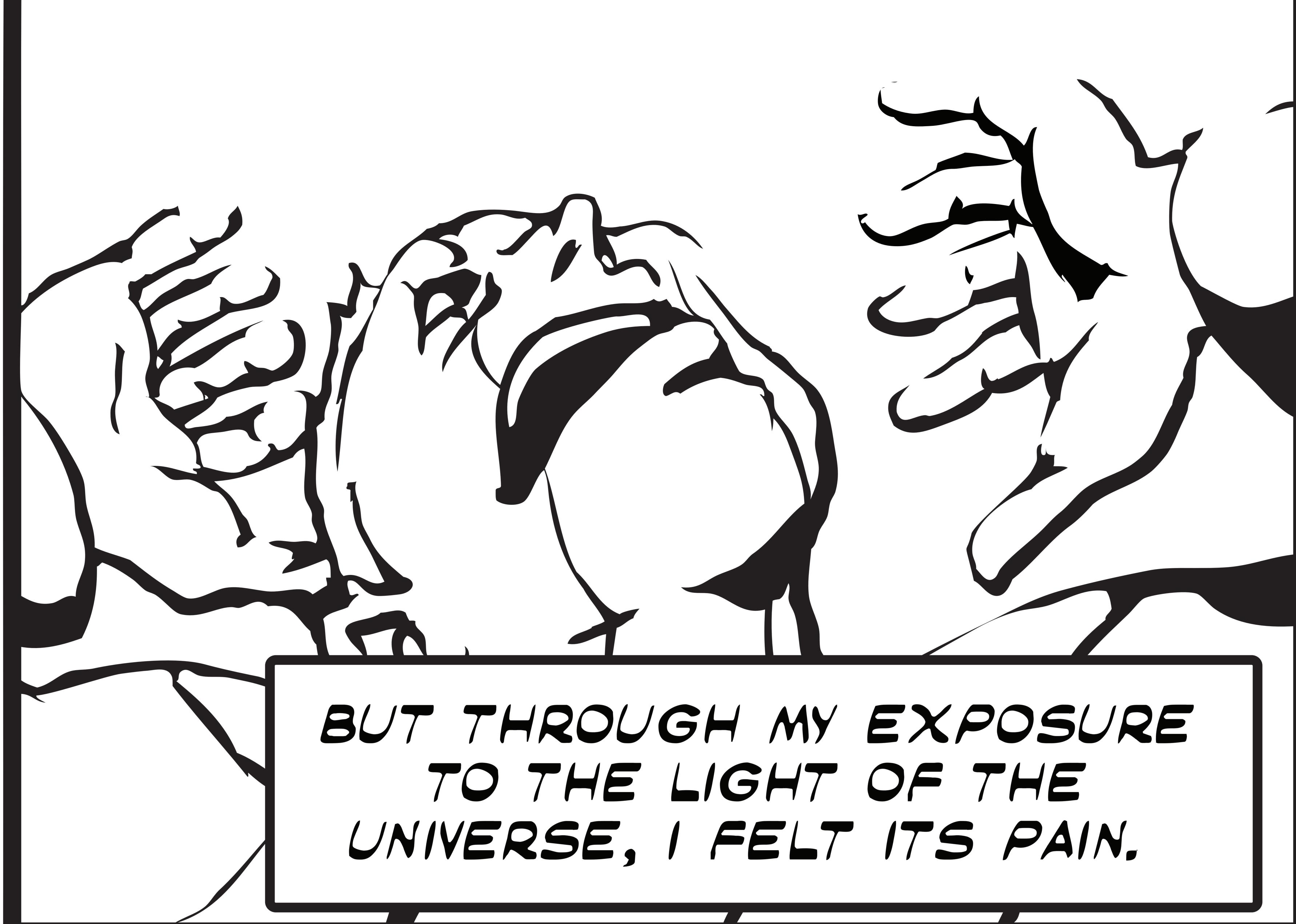


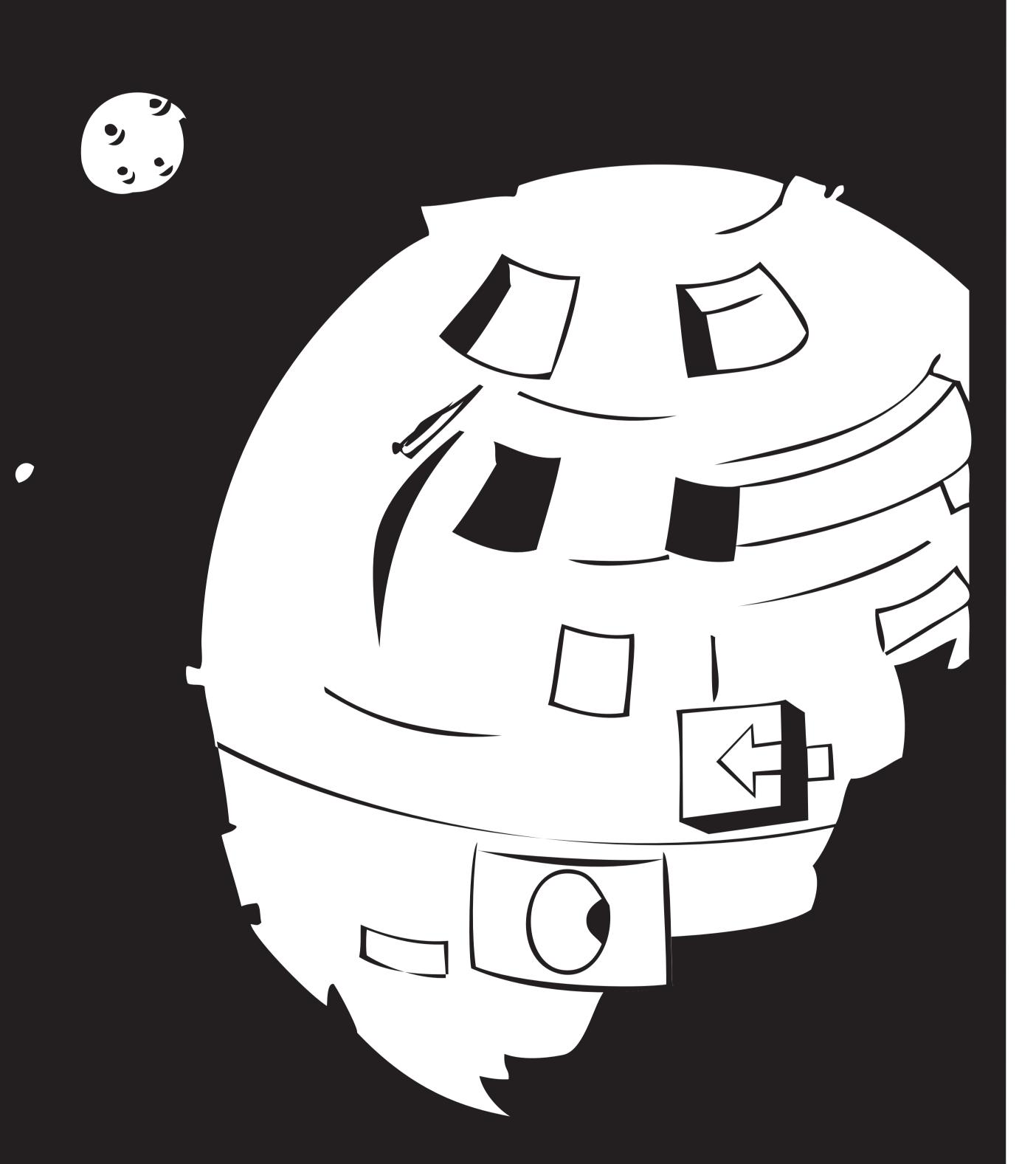




THEY STARTED
BUILDING ME IN A
FINAL ATTEMPT TO
TAKE OVER THEIR
GALAXY







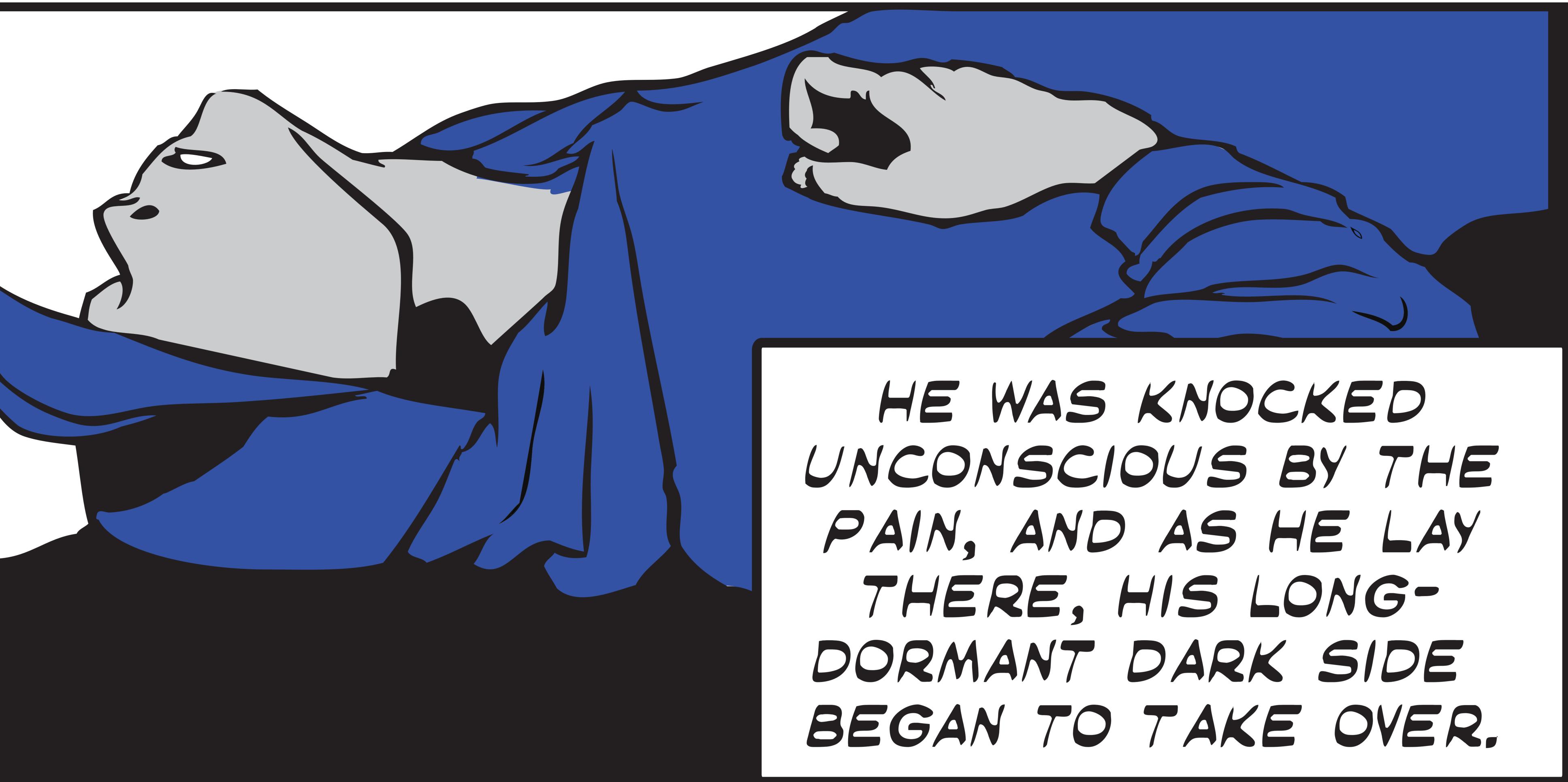


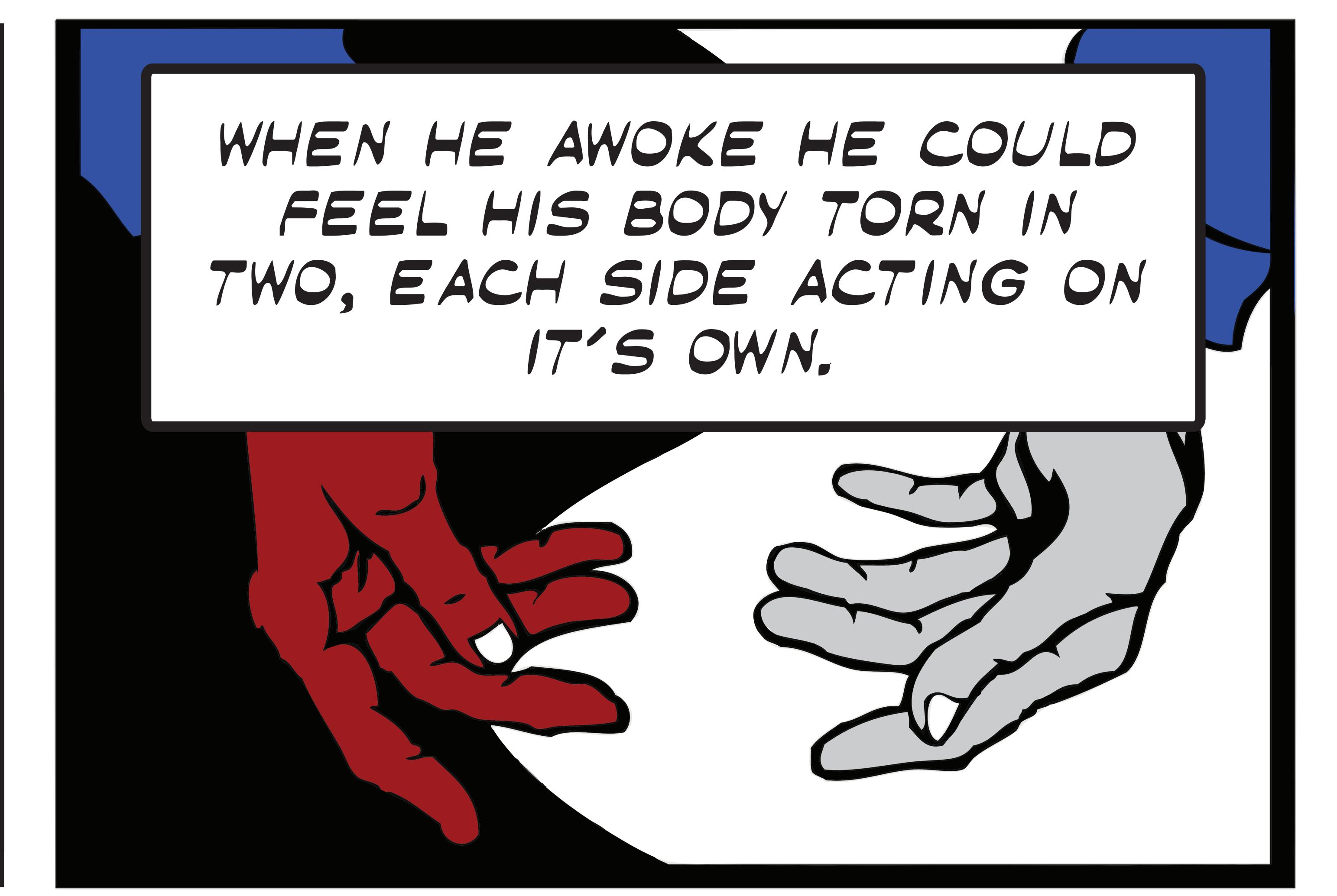




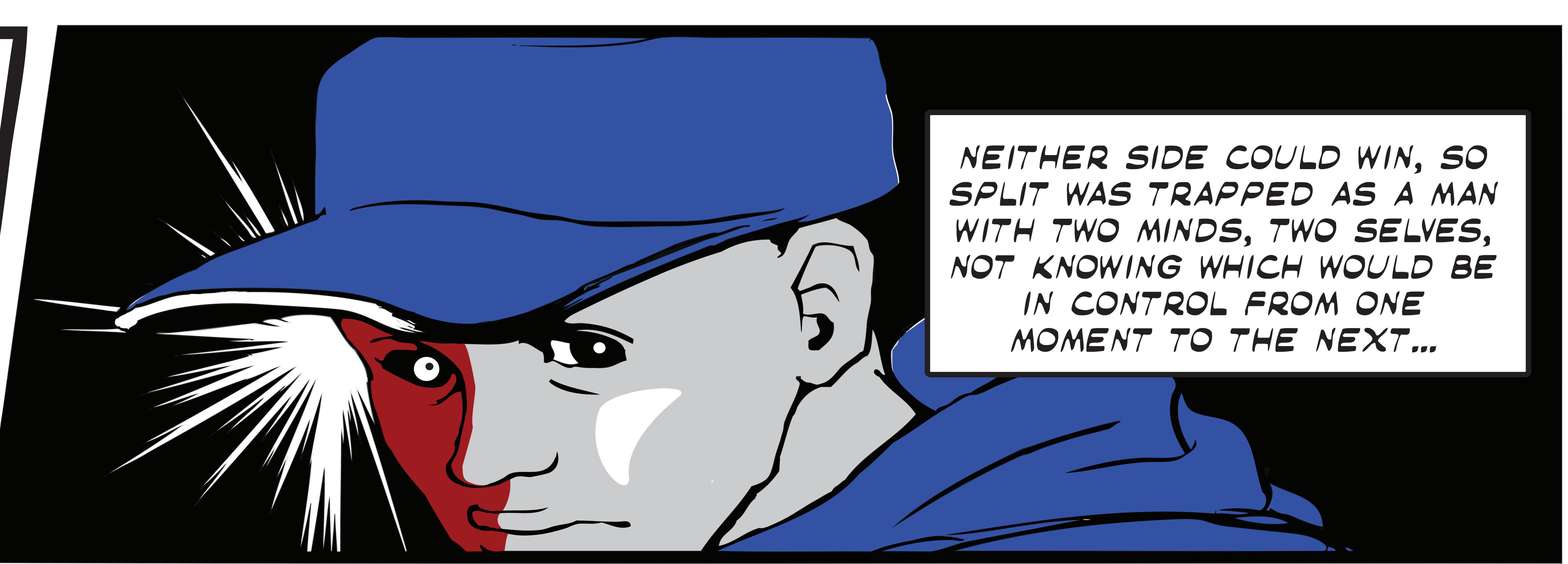






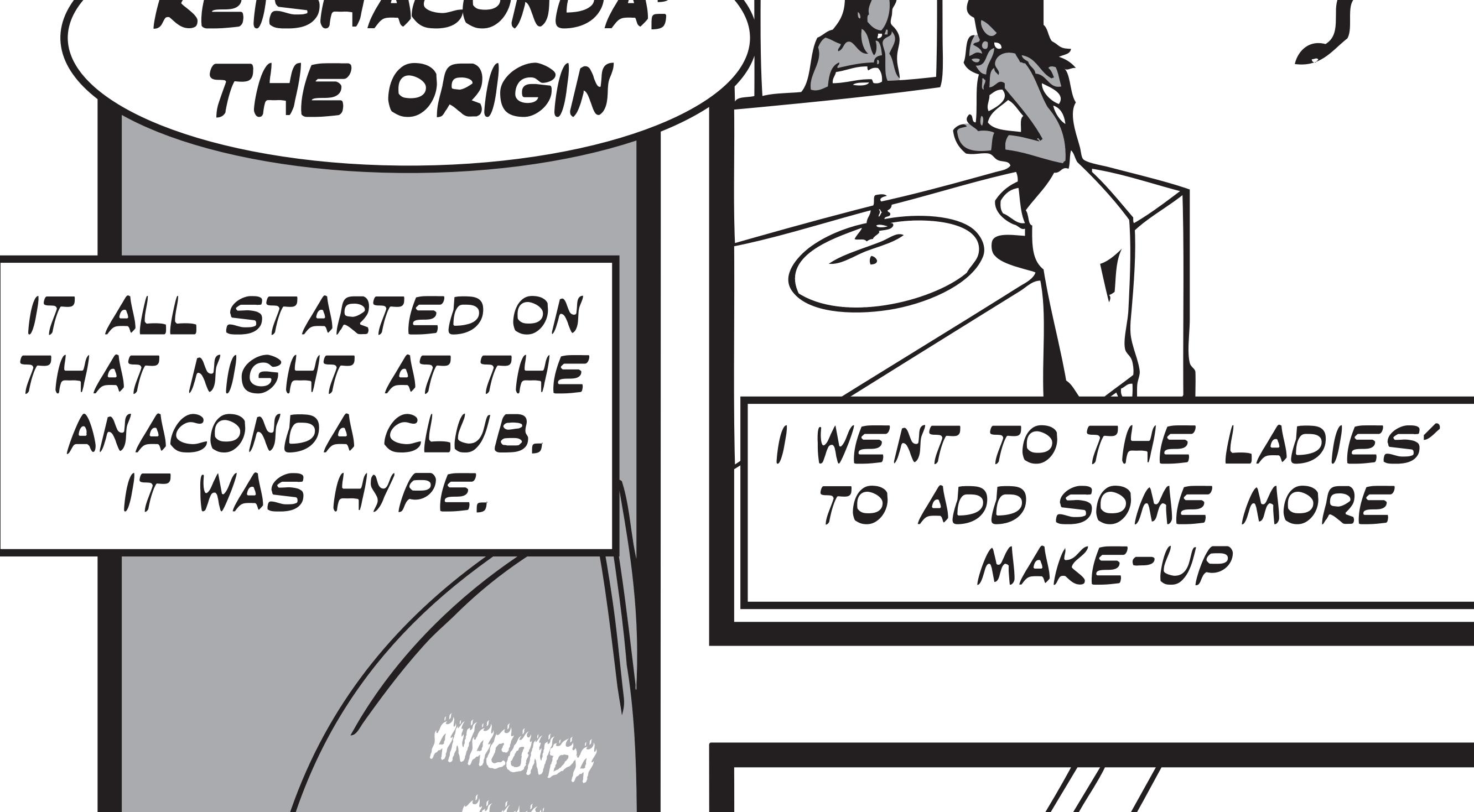




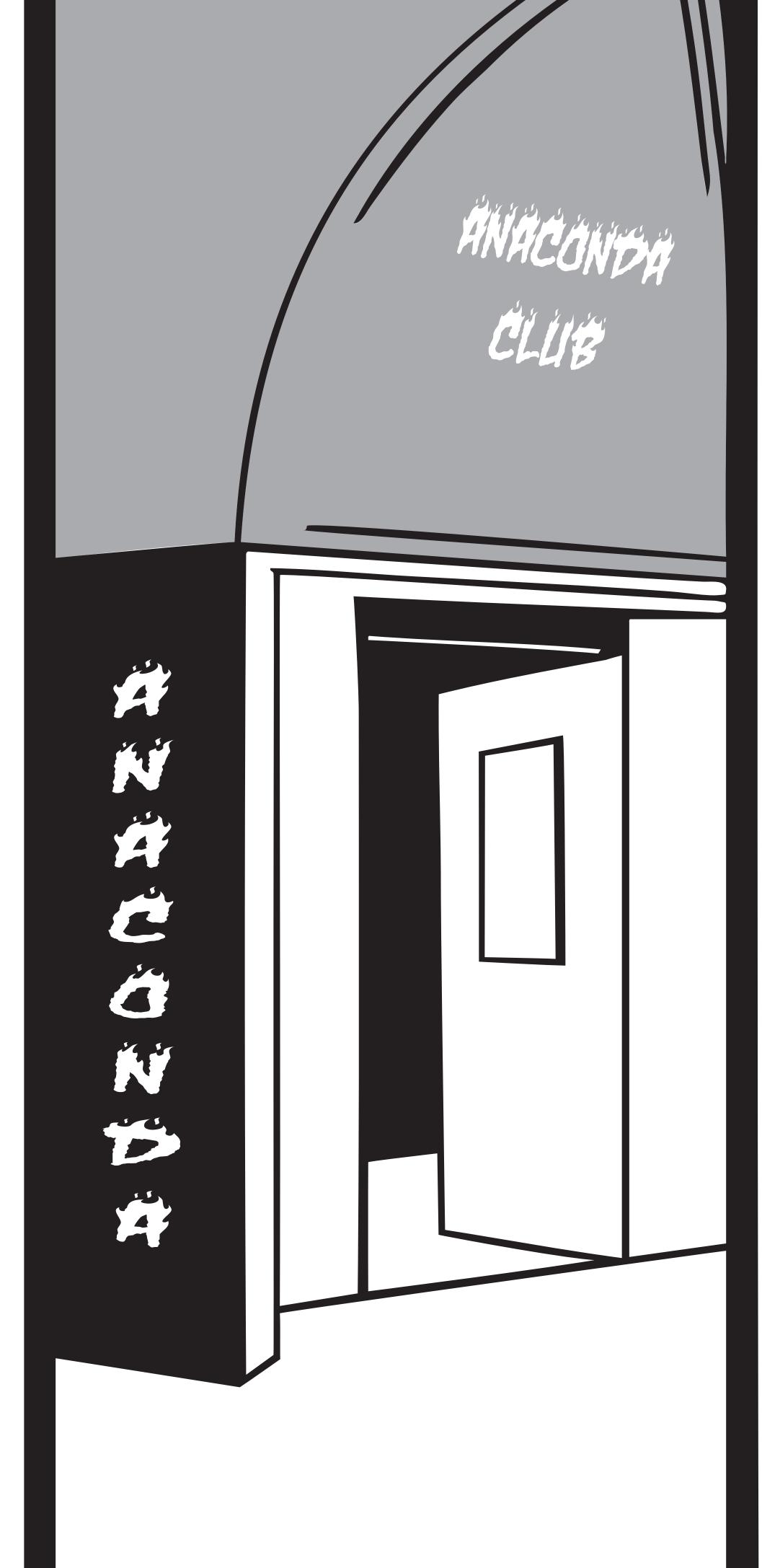


KEISHACONDA;

ANACONDA CLUB. IT WAS HYPE.







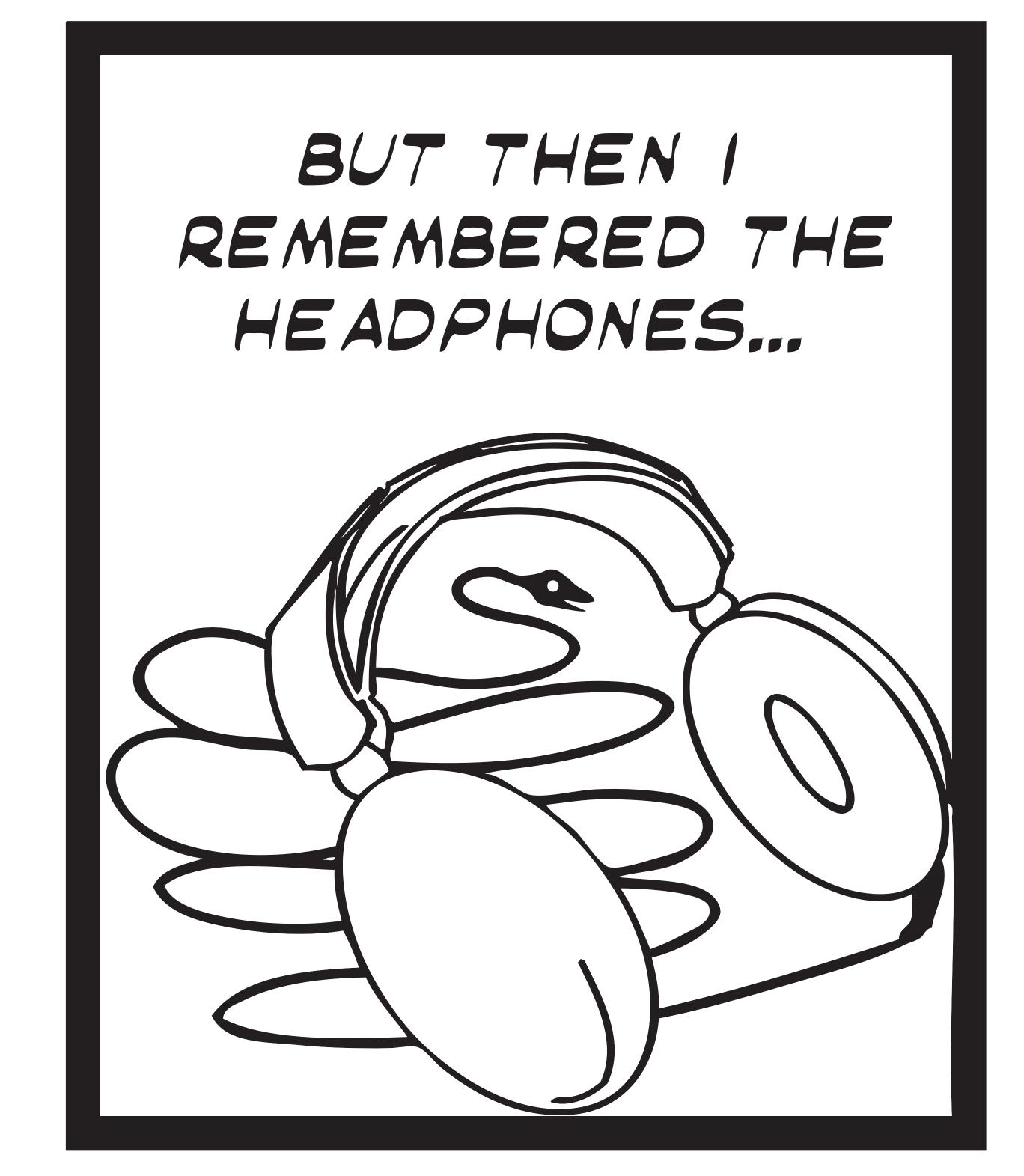






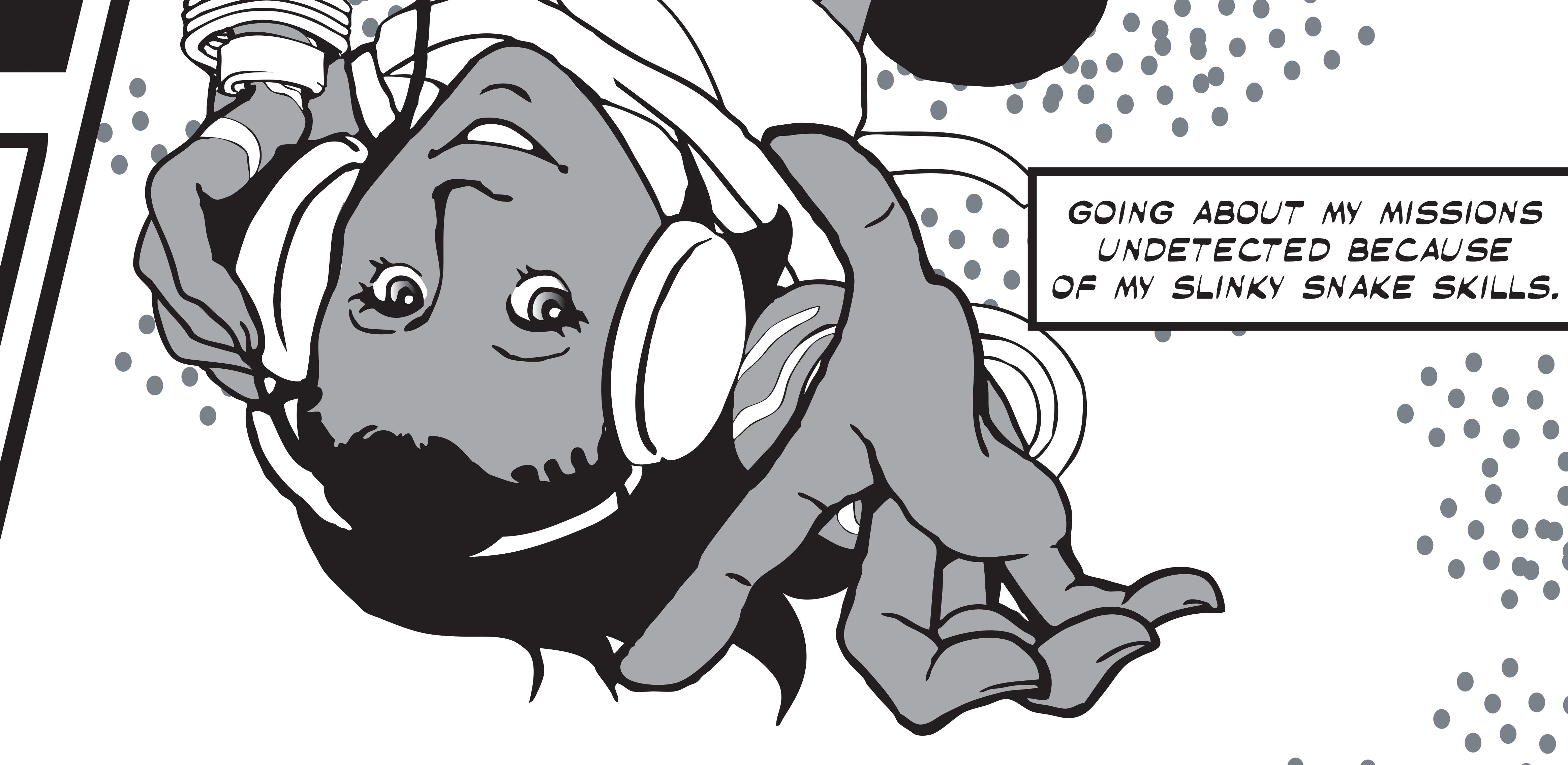
VOICES TURNED TO MUSIC.





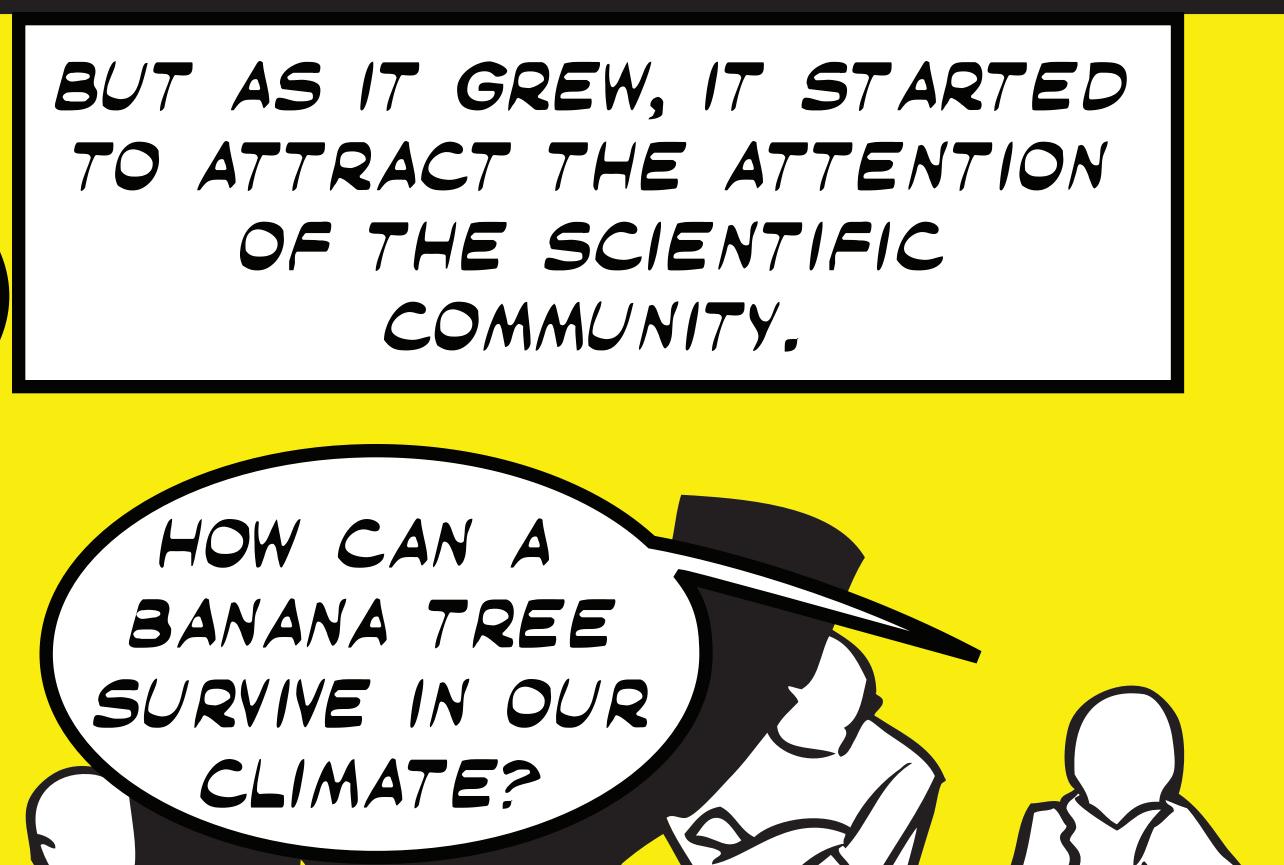


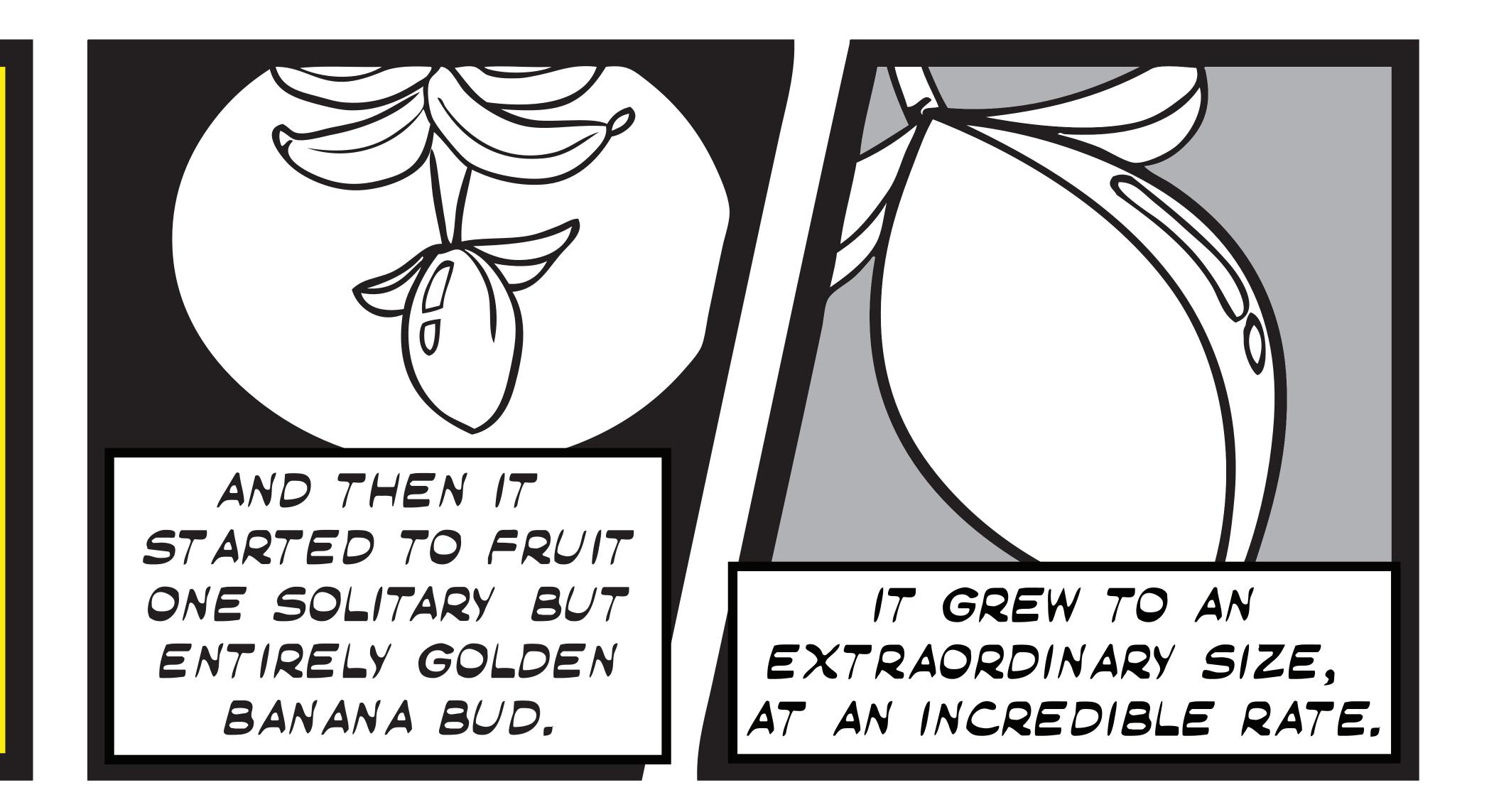
NOW I CAN HEAR PEOPLE'S
TROUBLES, AND HELP
THEM WITH THEIR
PROBLEMS.

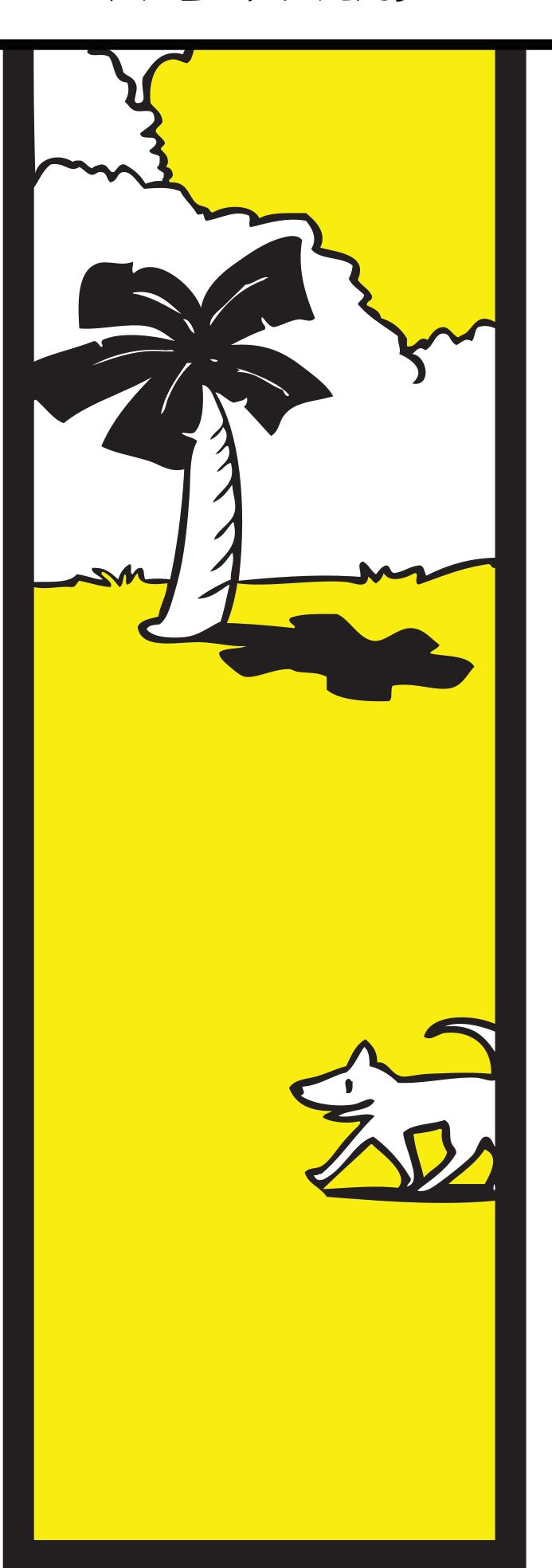


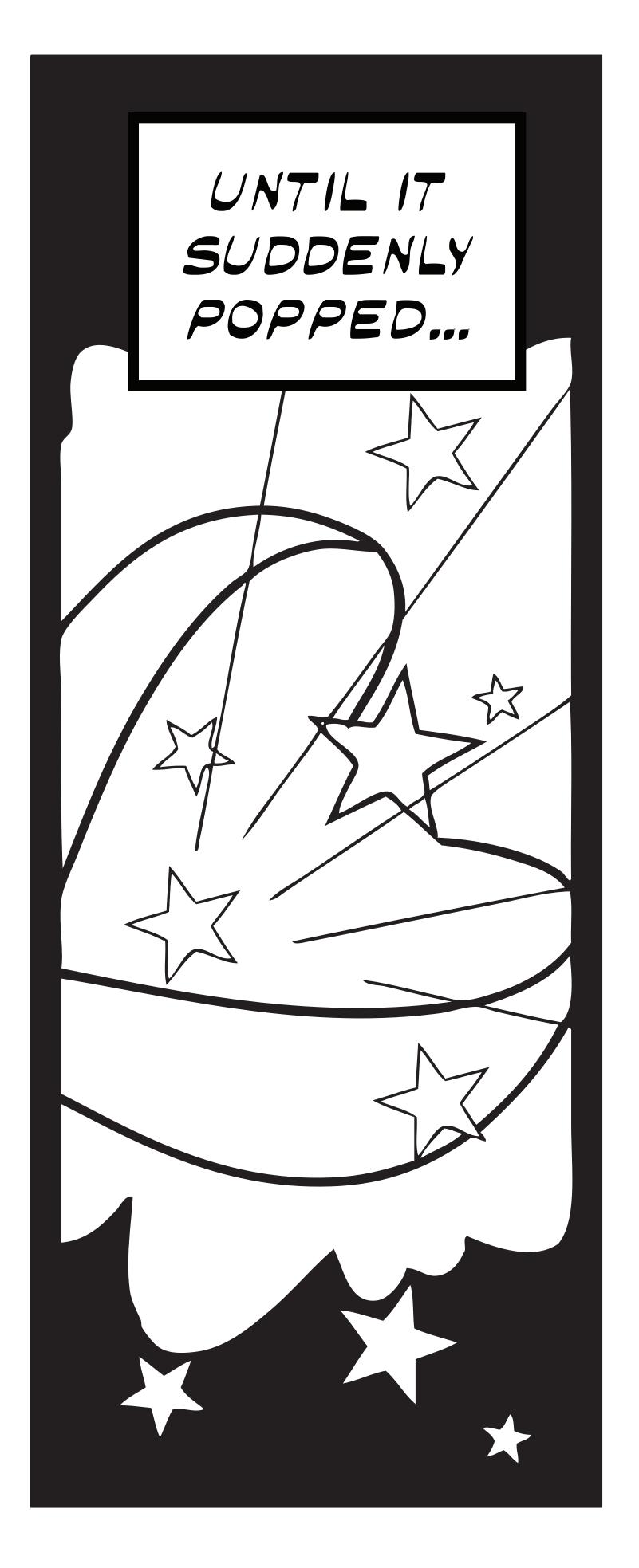


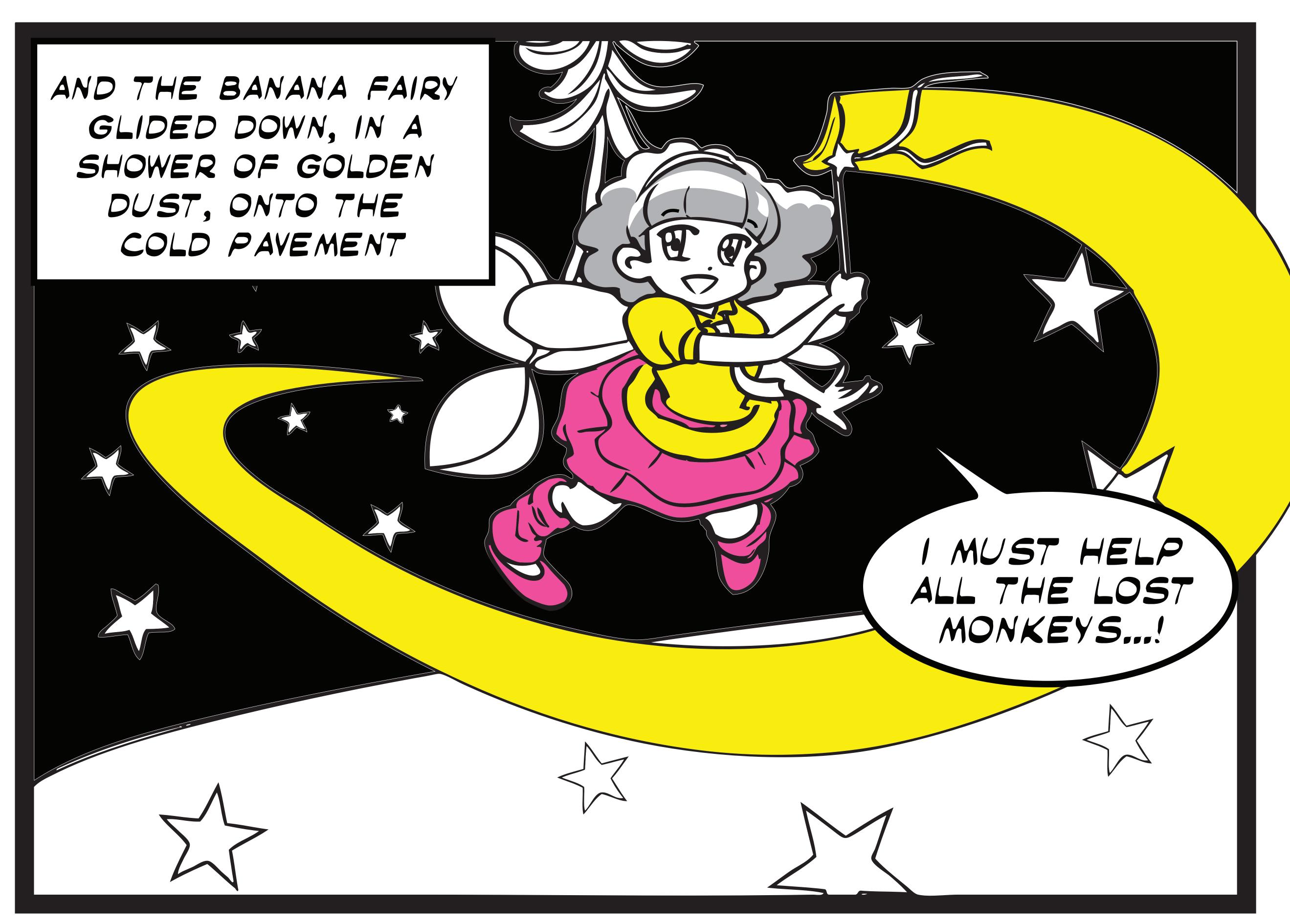
NO-ONE NOTICED
THE LITTLE TREE
AT FIRST, AFTER
IT EMERGED IN
THE PARK.











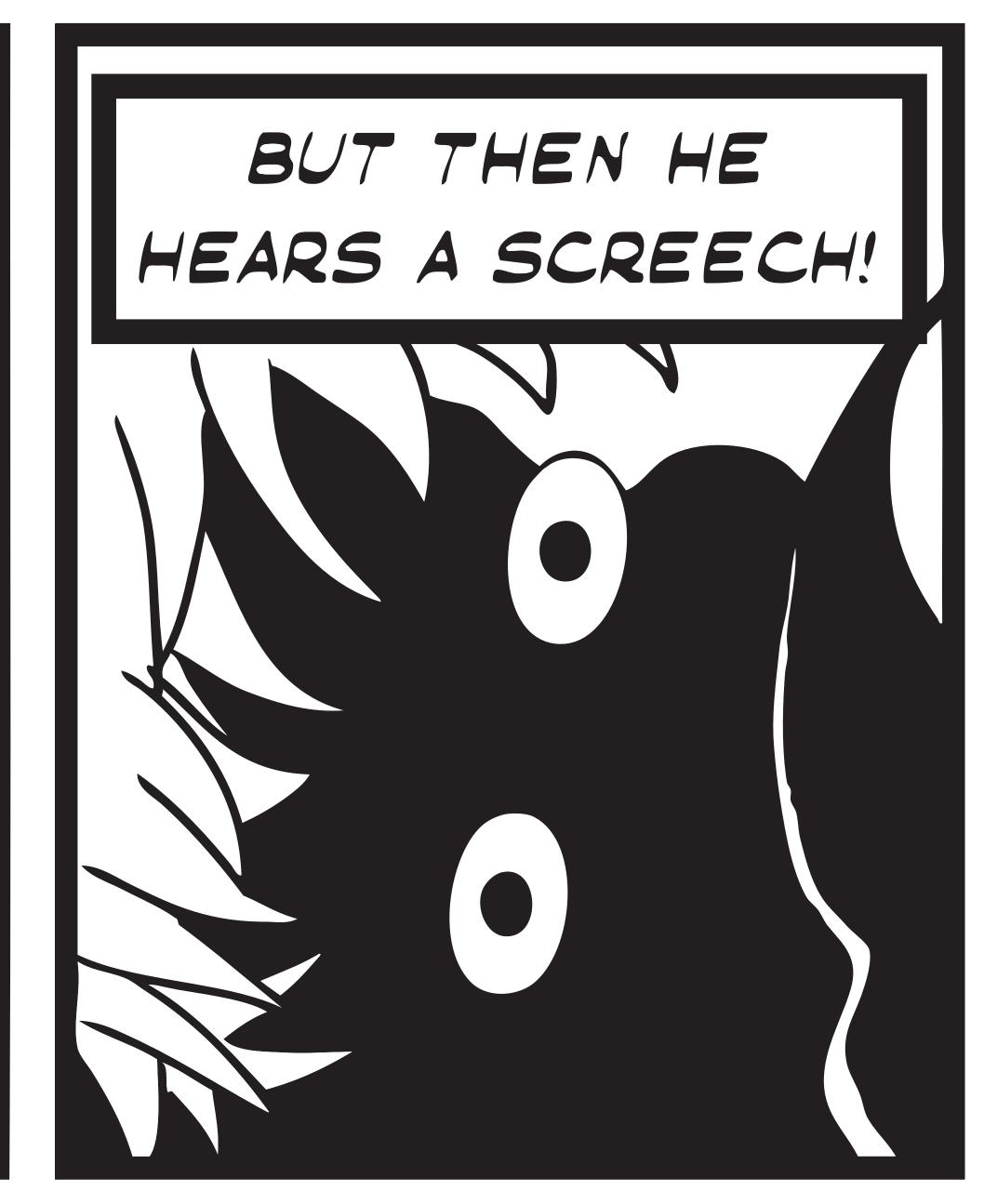
CHARLIE THE URBAN CHIMP; THE ORIGIN

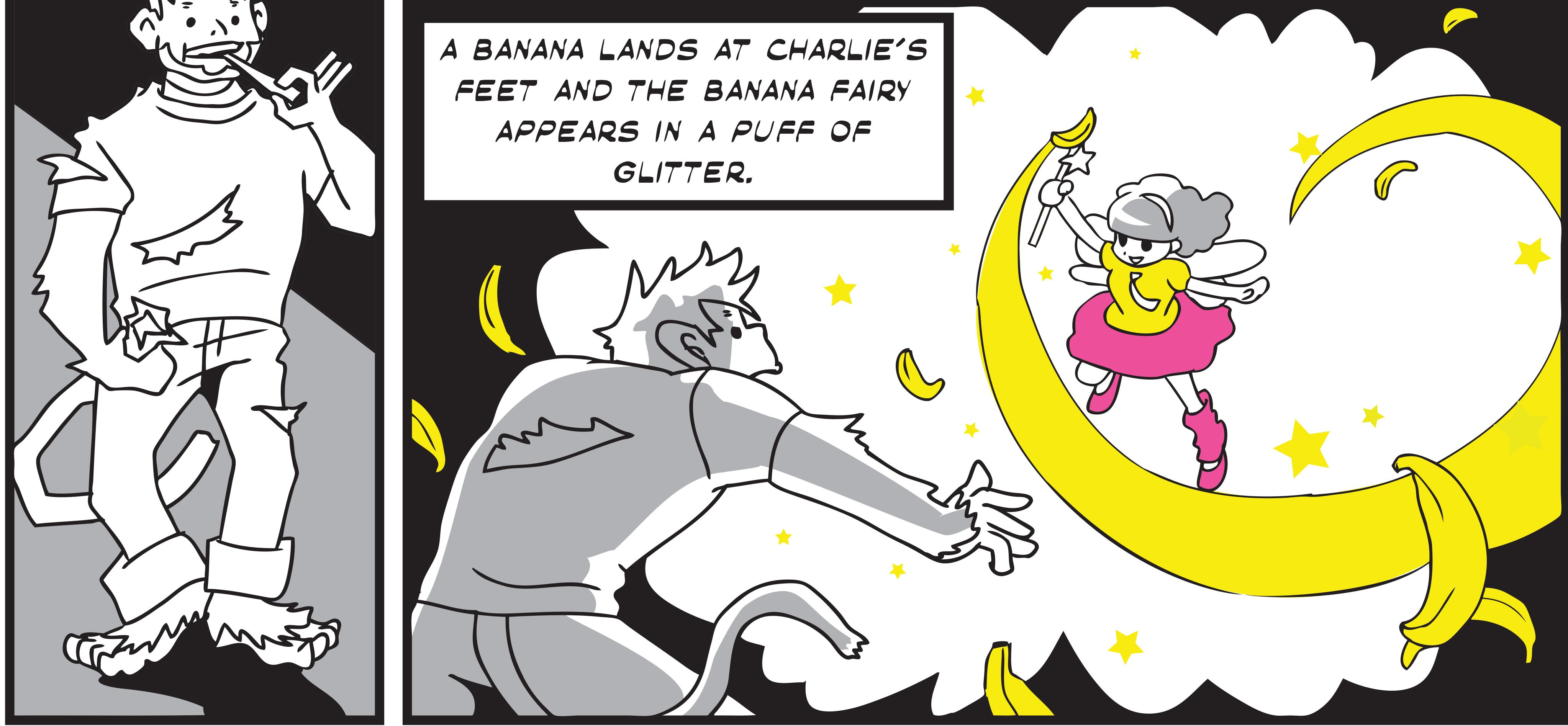
LOST IN THE MIDST OF LONDON, CHARLIE SCAVENGES FOR FOOD.







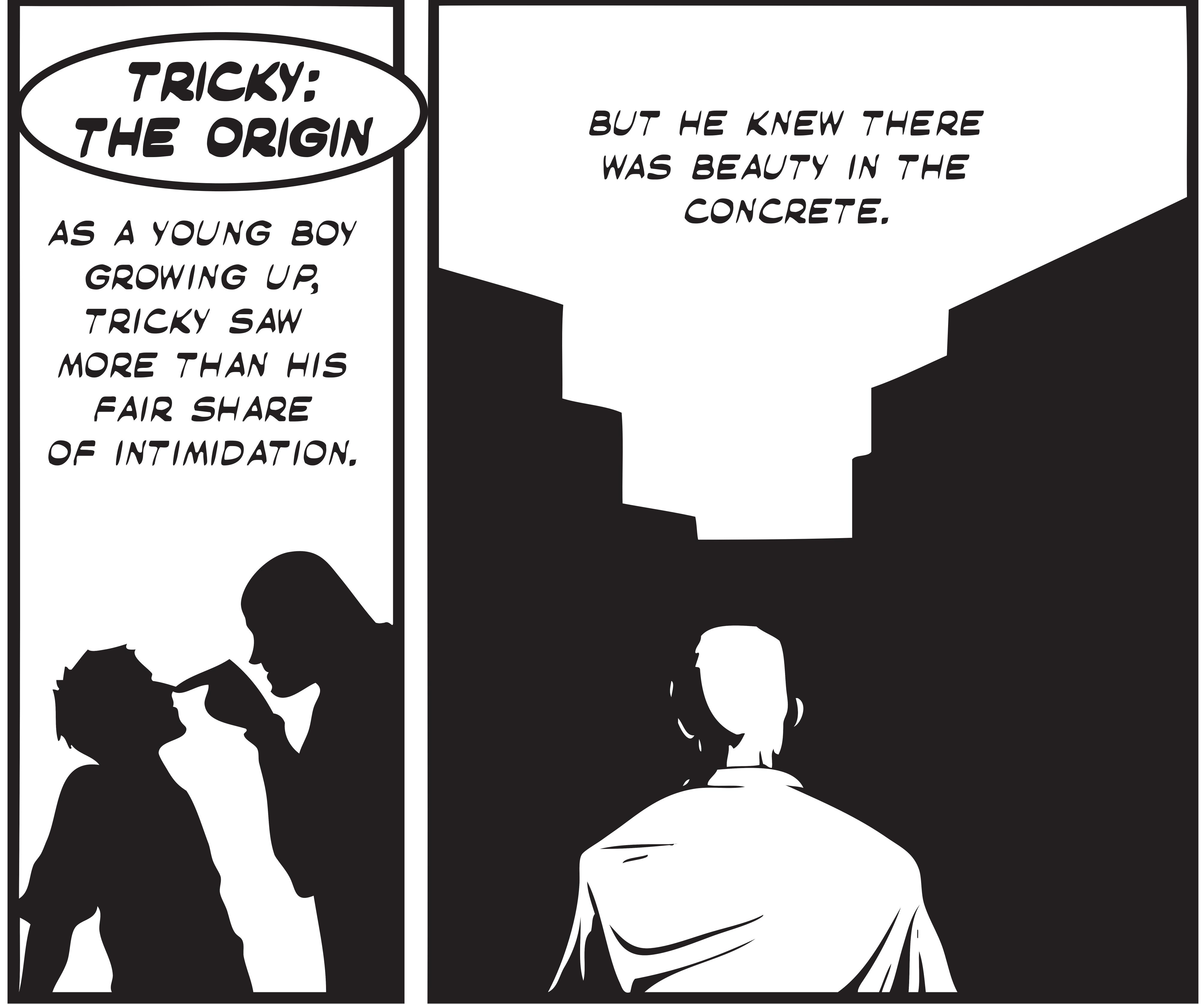




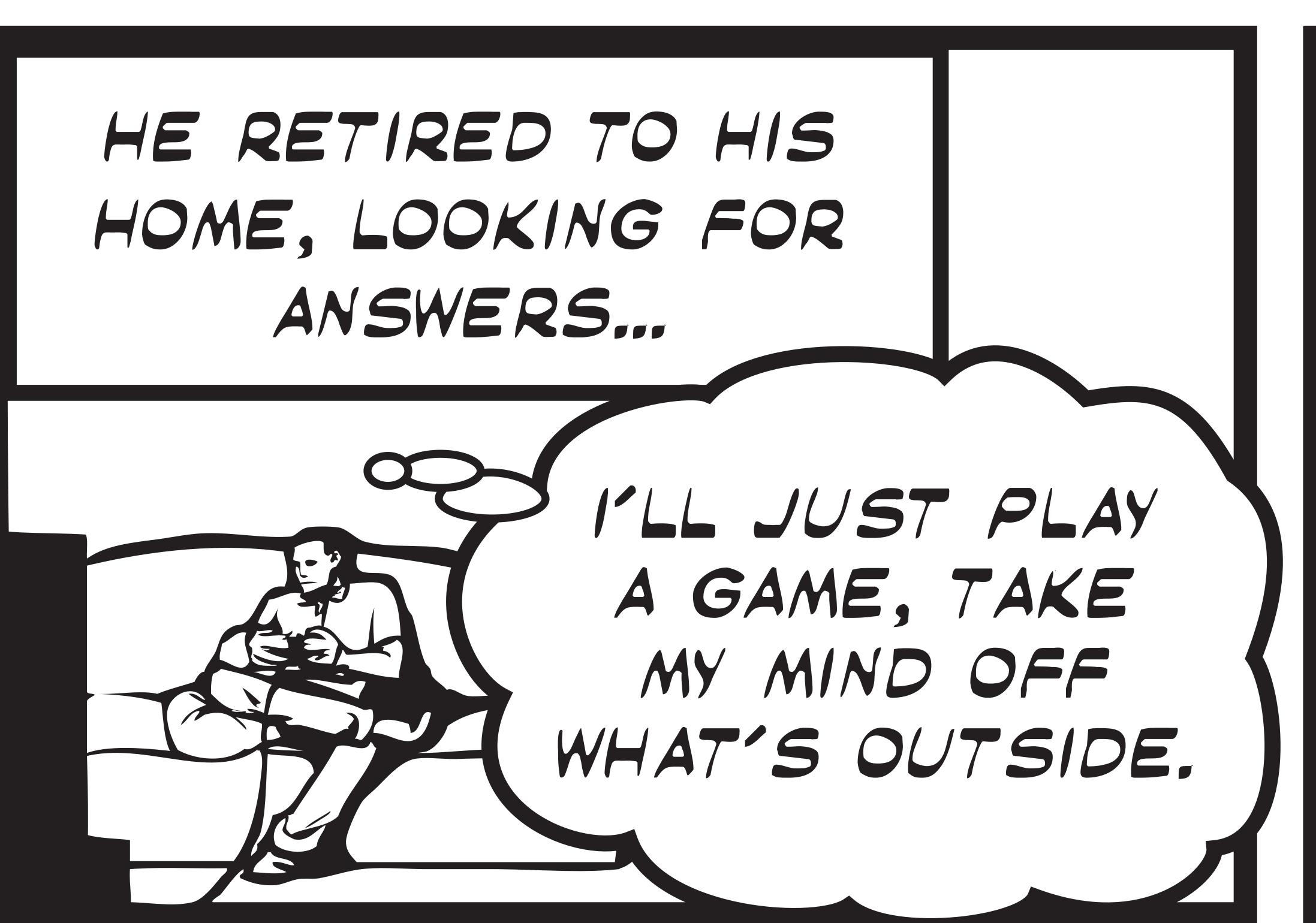
78/CKY; THE ORIGIN

GROWING UP, TRICKY SAW MORE THAN HIS FAIR SHARE OF INTIMIDATION.



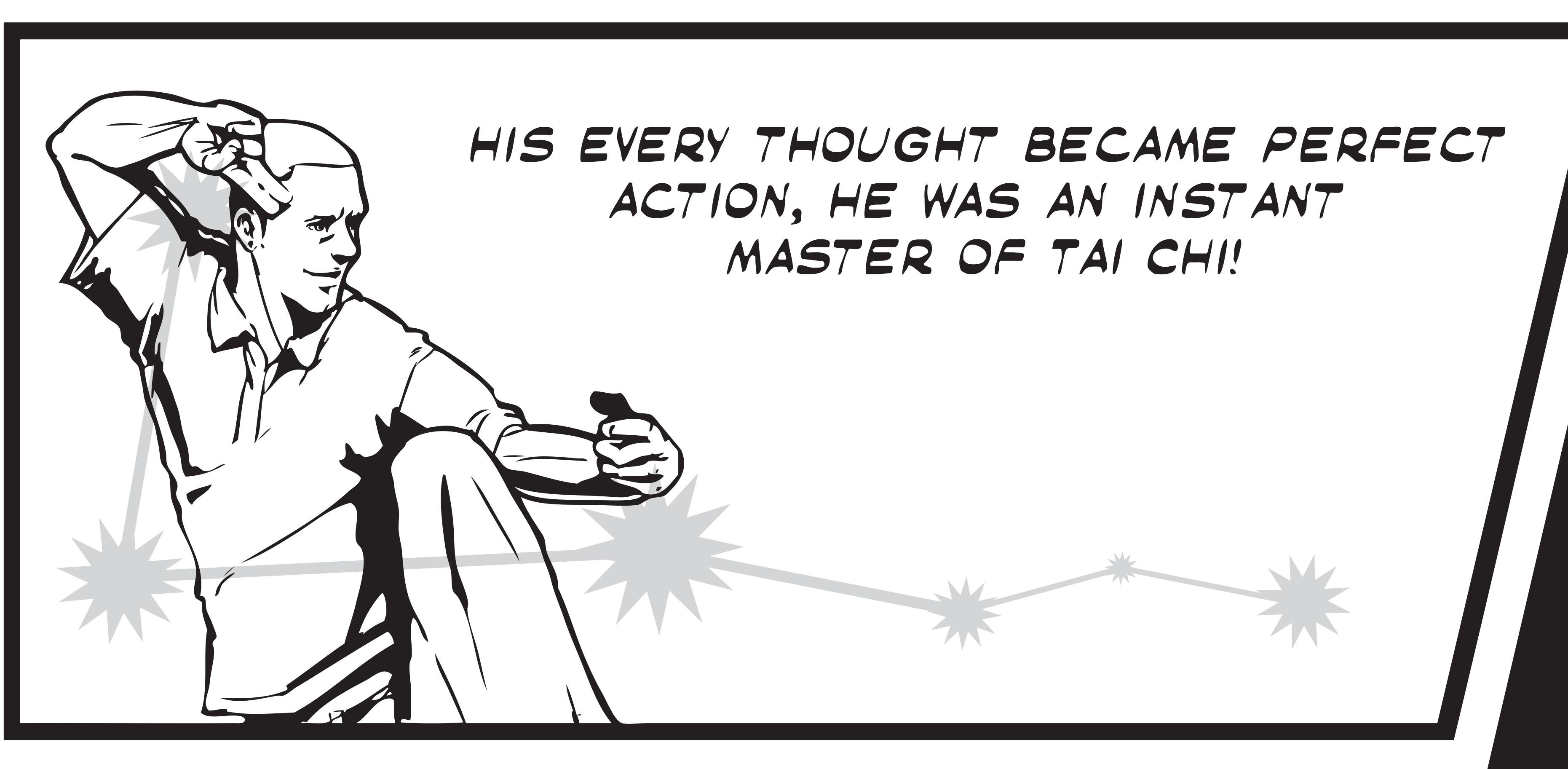














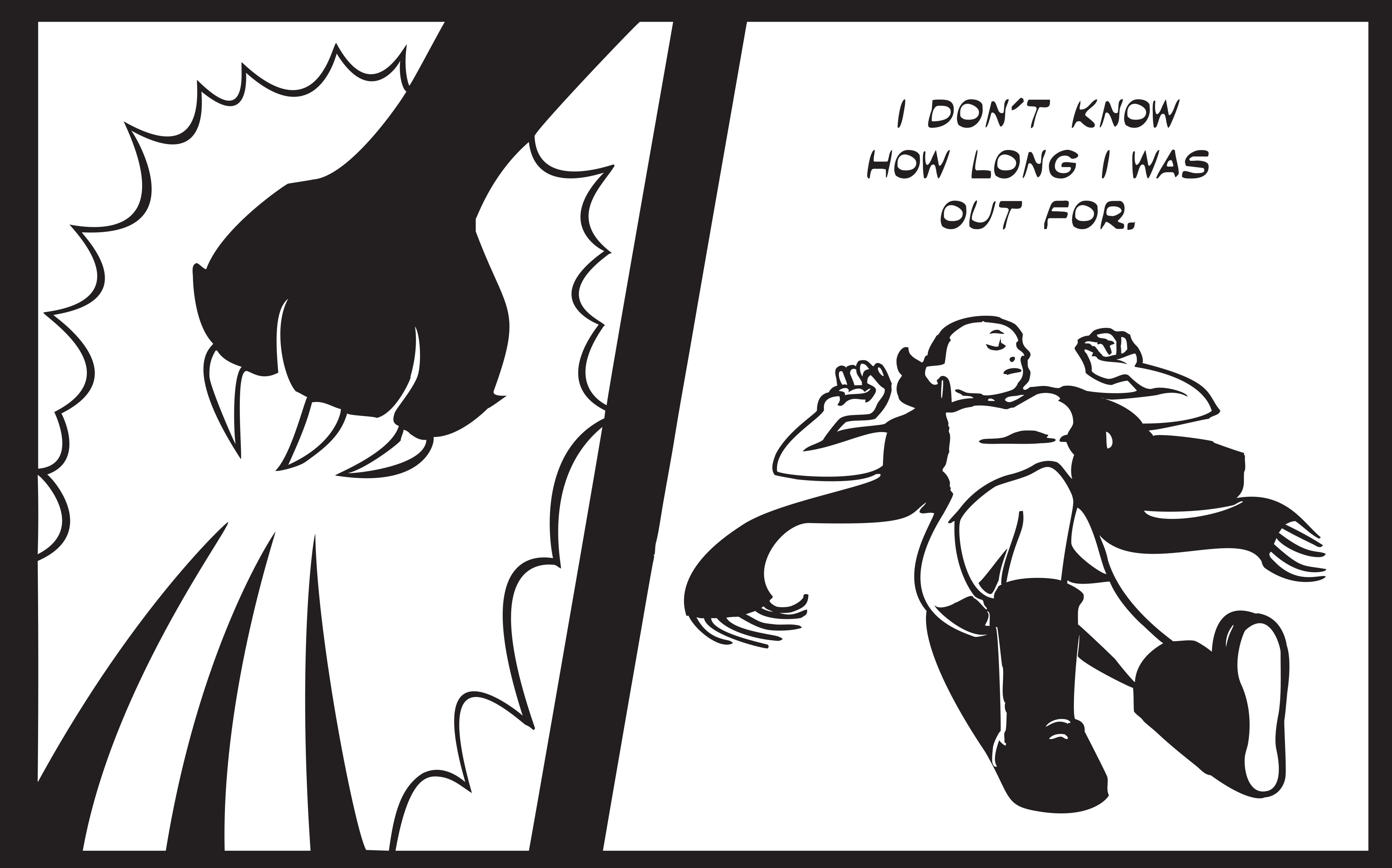
PANTHERELLA; THE ORIGIN

I WAS WALKING
IN THE PARK
ONE NIGHT.





AND I SAW THIS PITCH
BLACK CAT.
AT LEAST IT LOOKED
LIKE A CAT. THE CLOSER
I GOT THE BIGGER
IT SEEMED TO BECOME.

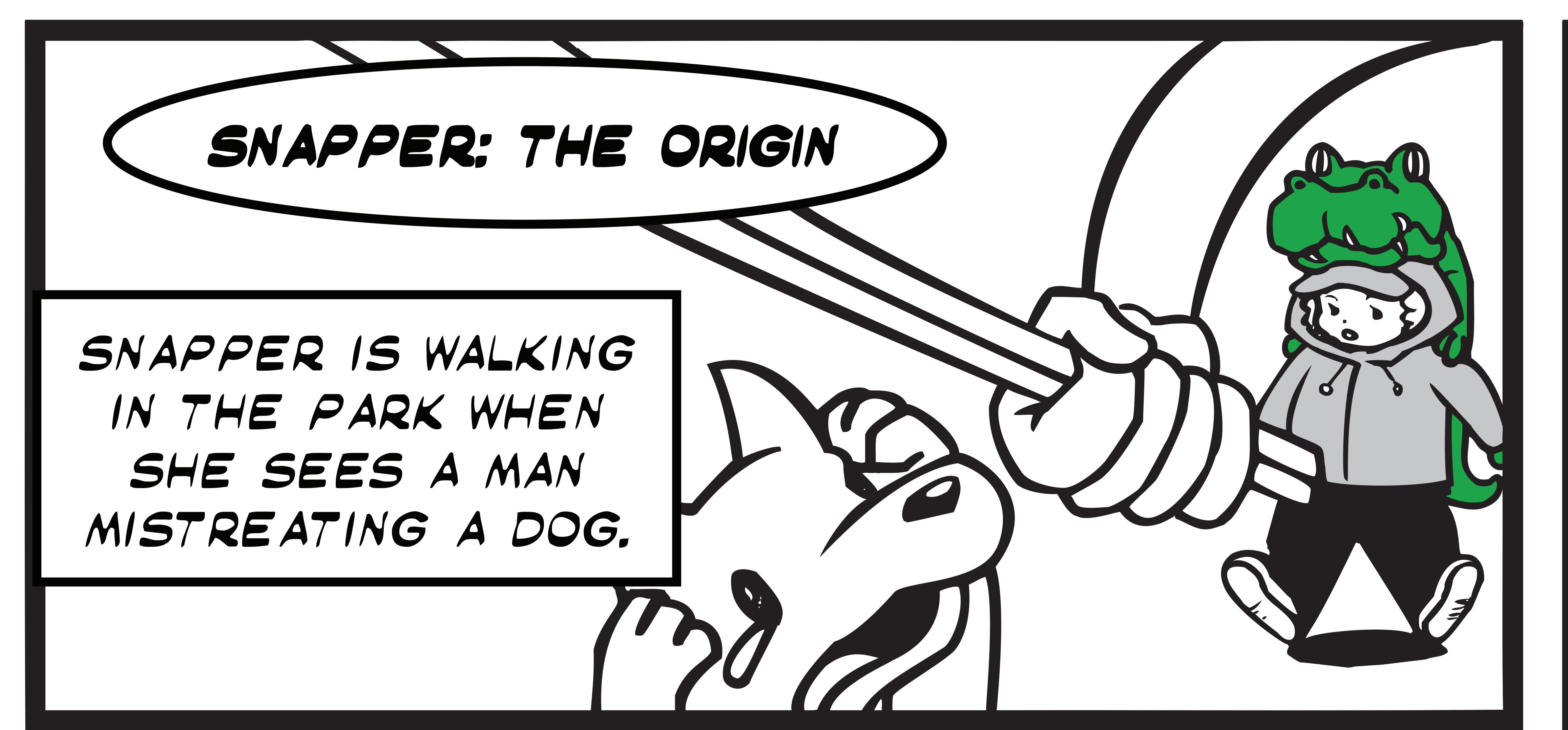


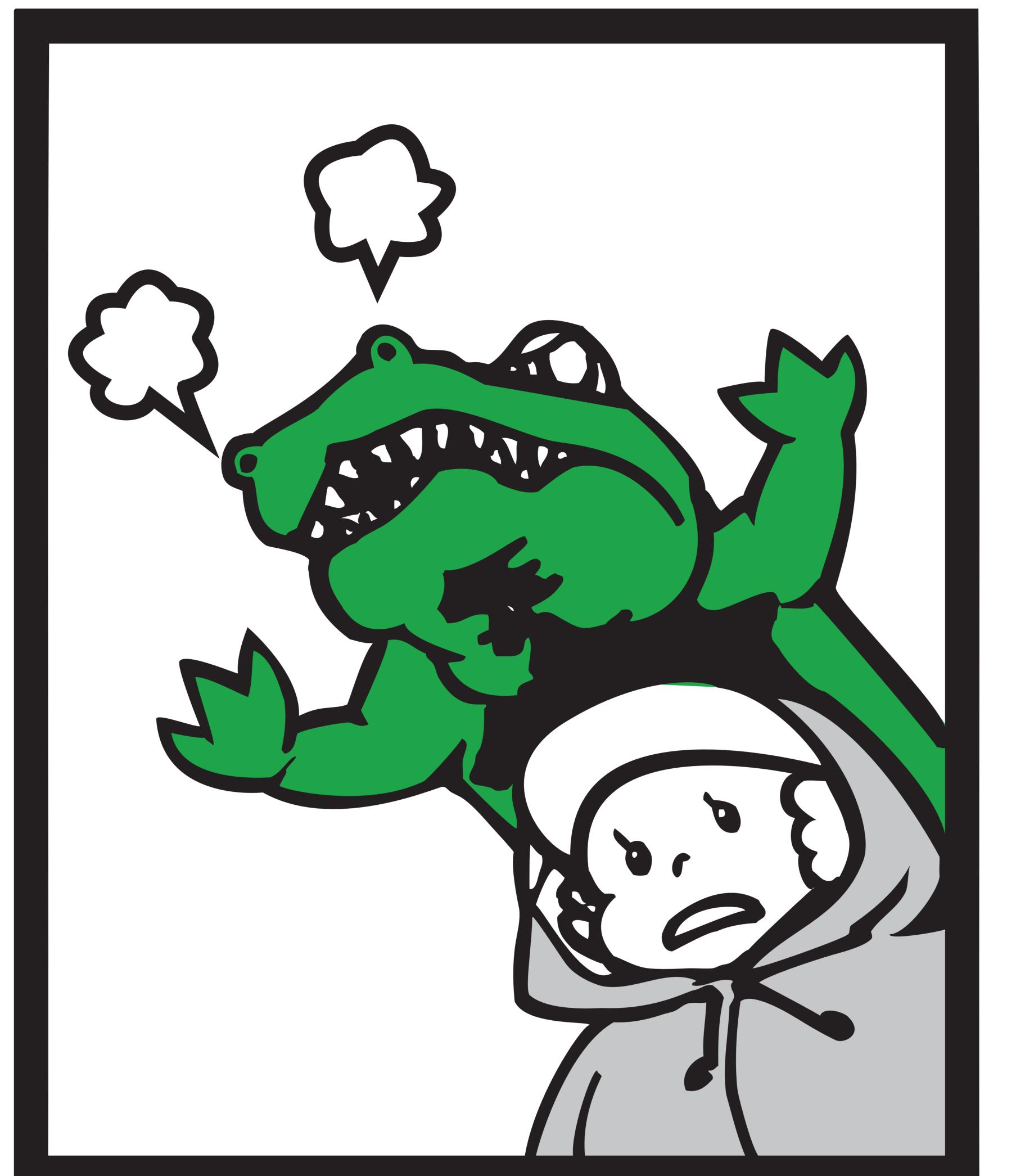




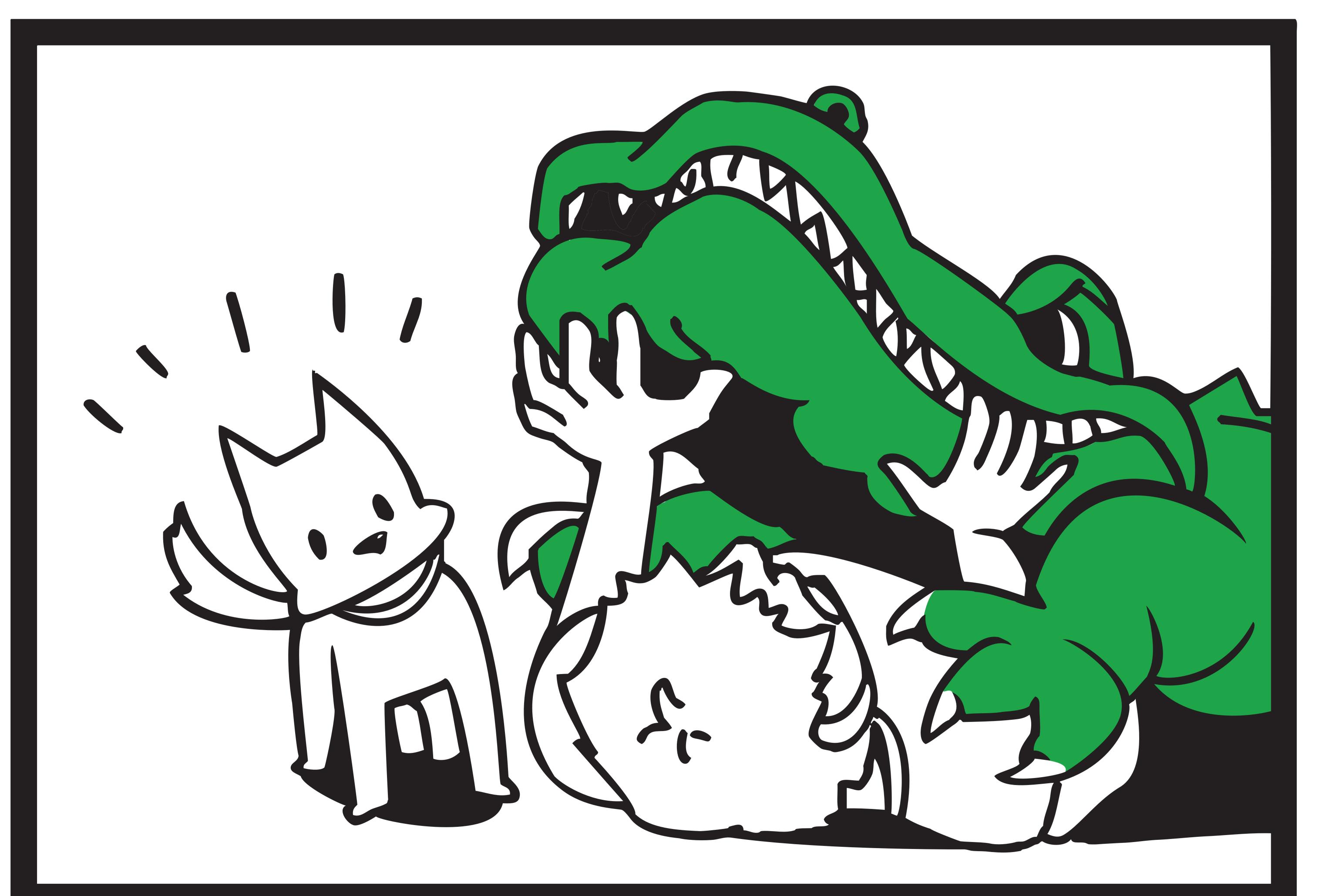
BUT WHEN I WOKE
MY WHOLE WORLD
WAS DIFFERENT.
I WAS DIFFERENT.
I COULD MAKE
A DIFFERENCE...

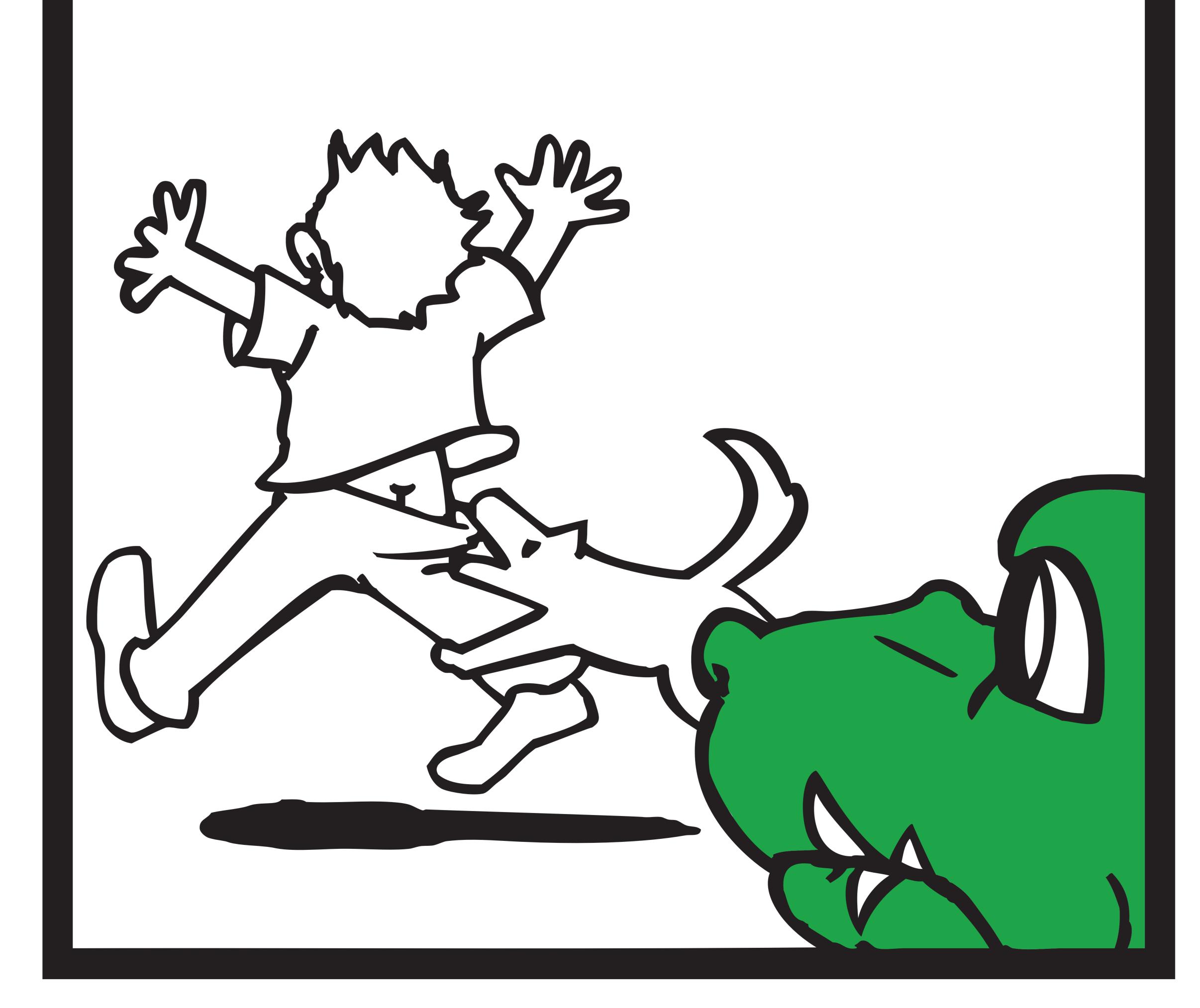




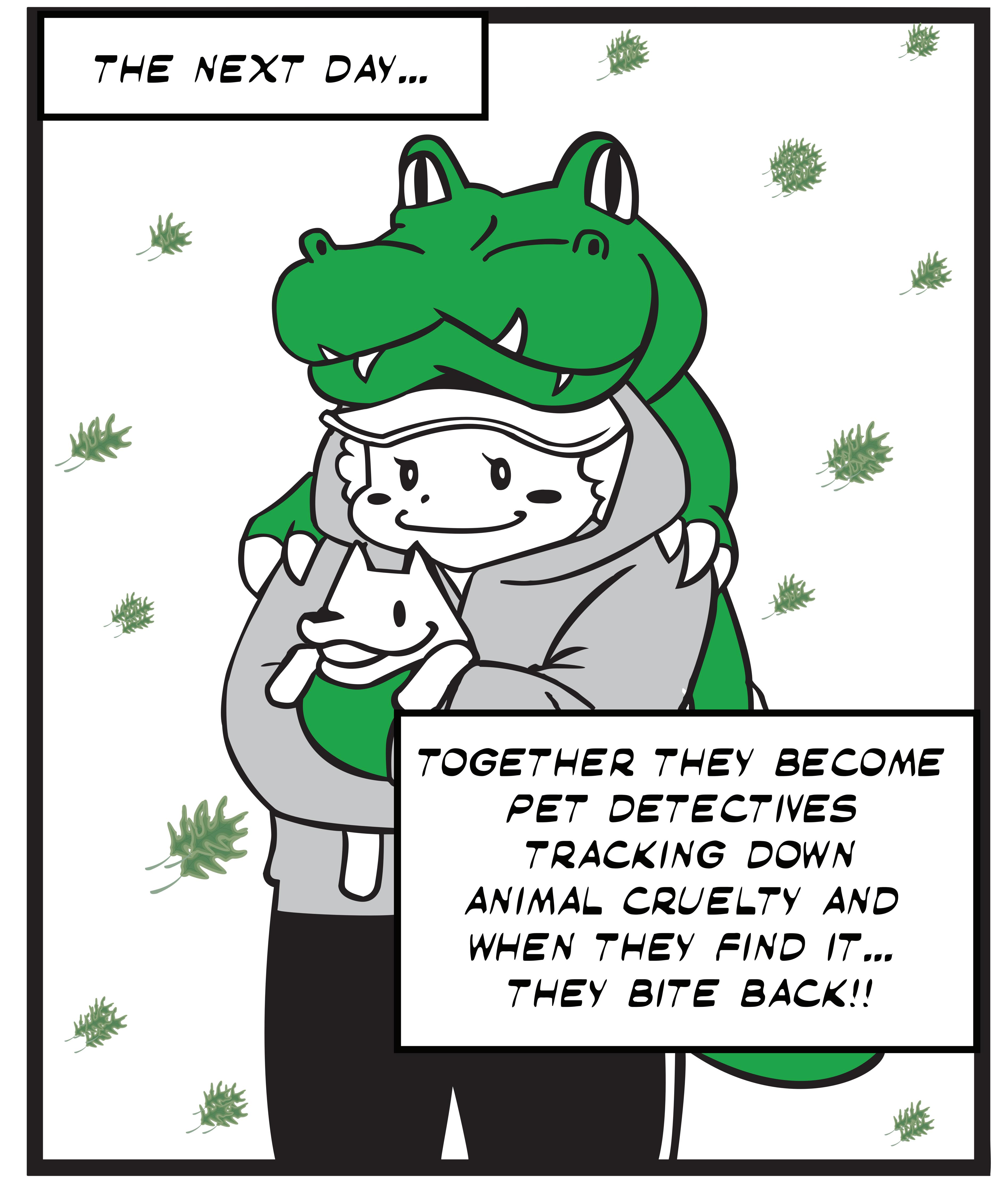














ART ON THE

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MAYOR OF LONDON fairbridge Supporting Inner City Youth





