OUR CATS ARE MORE FAMOUS THAN US

— A —
JOHNNY WANDER
—COLLECTION—





ANANTH HIRSH
& YUKO OTA









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FOR CONRAD & JOHN.

Thanks for the adventures,
on paper and off.



INTRODUCTION

I met Yuko and Ananth for the first time in 2009, shortly after they moved to Brooklyn to start a new chapter of their lives, both on the pages of *Johnny Wander* and off.

But I felt like I already knew them. It was as though we had already been friends for years. I could refer to the time George did that one thing, or Conrad said something witty, or John created a cantankerous riot (as John is wont to do). Even though I'd only read about these anecdotes in their comics, it felt like I had been there.

Writing autobio comics is tricky business. I've been putting my own life into the pages of my graphic novels for the better part of a decade, but I have the advantage of a 20-year retrospective lens, so I'm not constantly gleaning my present-day life for kernels of interest. Yuko and Ananth channel the everyday, the mundane, the highs and lows of navigating adulthood, and for this I admire them greatly.

Striking the right balance is key. It's not easy to let your readers into your daily life, essentially allowing them to read your diary, while also keeping things fresh, universal, and most importantly, funny. But they are funny people. They are warm and caring and smart as tacks. Yuko really does geek out full tilt about dragons, and then grabs her pencil to scribble them in her sketchbook. Ananth really does like sugar. And books. And the human condition.

The two of them really will take you in, feed you a big curry dinner, sit you down on their comfy couch for an hour or two of TV or video games, and write or draw with you. (While John does the dishes.) They will ride in the backseat of your car on the drive to TCAF, and listen to Phil Collins with you, and then write a comic about how you guys just wanted food, but could only find massage parlors. (And Horseland Emporiums. Yeah. What gives, Toronto suburbs?)

Johnny Wander is my favorite comic on the Internet. It's by two of my favorite people, both on the Internet and off. It's about roommates and work and life and dreams and reality. It's funny as heck. It's about two people wandering, together, through the labyrinth of early adulthood. The reader wanders with them, stopping along the way to pet cats in laundromats, duck into doorways to get out of the rain, and brew a quick cup of tea to enjoy with a friend. Yuko and Ananth are my friends, and after you read *Johnny Wander*, you'll feel like they're yours, too.

Raina Telgemeier, author of Smile
San Francisco, CA
May 2016

I.

I WISH to go a'wanderin',
A' wanderin' with you

What won'drous woods and wilderness
We'll go a'traipsing through

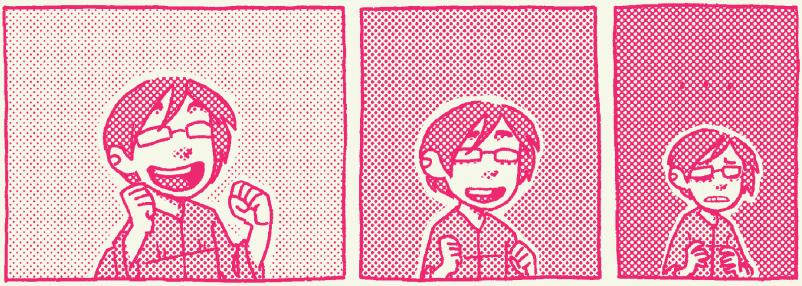
What kinds of creatures shall we see?
A wanderin', jus' you an me?
Birds and beasts from land and sea

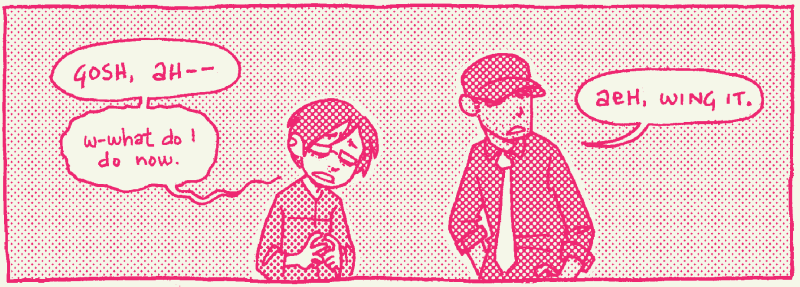
While wanderin' with you.

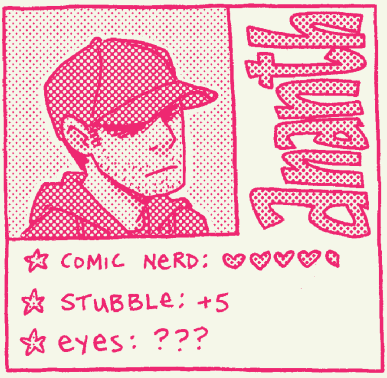


sage advice


SCHOOL'S OUT ~~
FO ~ EVVAH!
AWRIGHT!

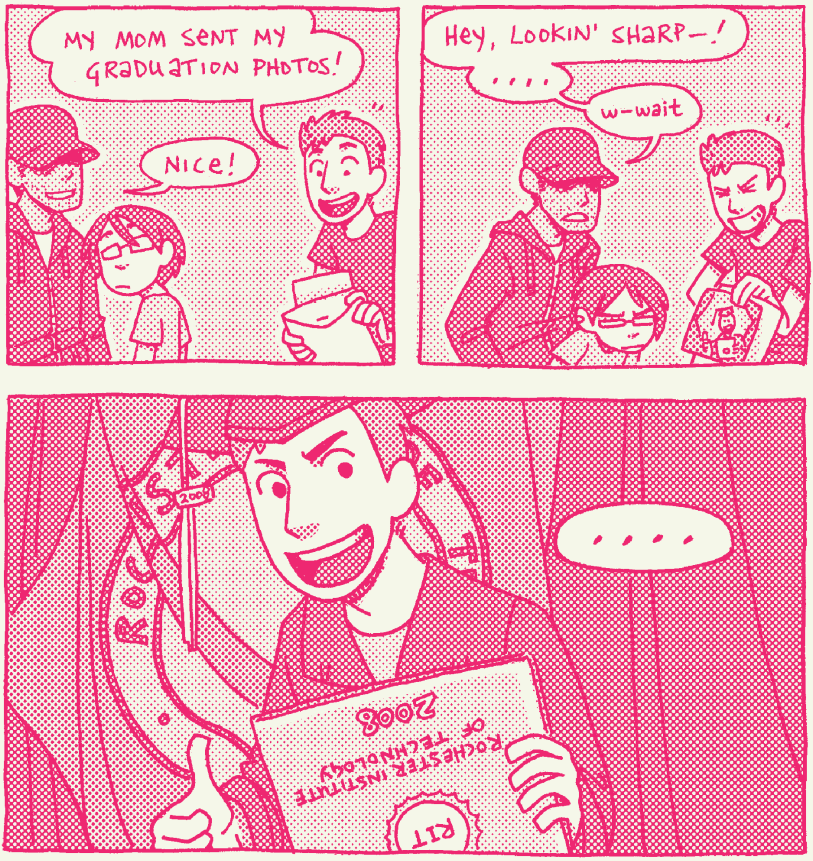



GOSH, AH--
W-WHAT DO I DO NOW.
AEH, WING IT.


STUBBLY
☆ COMIC NERD: ♡♡♡♡♡
☆ STUBBLE: +5
☆ EYES: ???

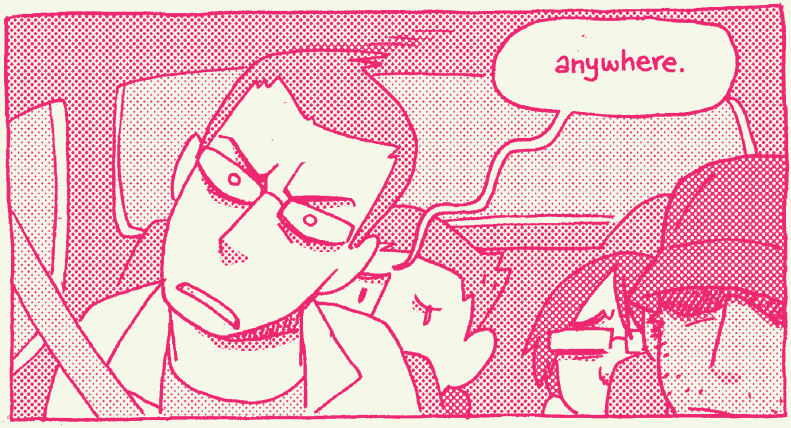

SUKI
☆ DRAW: YES
☆ FITS INSIDE A DRYER: YES
☆ DRAGONS: ABSOLUTELY

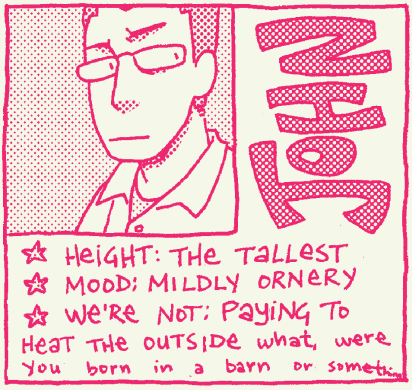
his parents must be so proud



a valid point



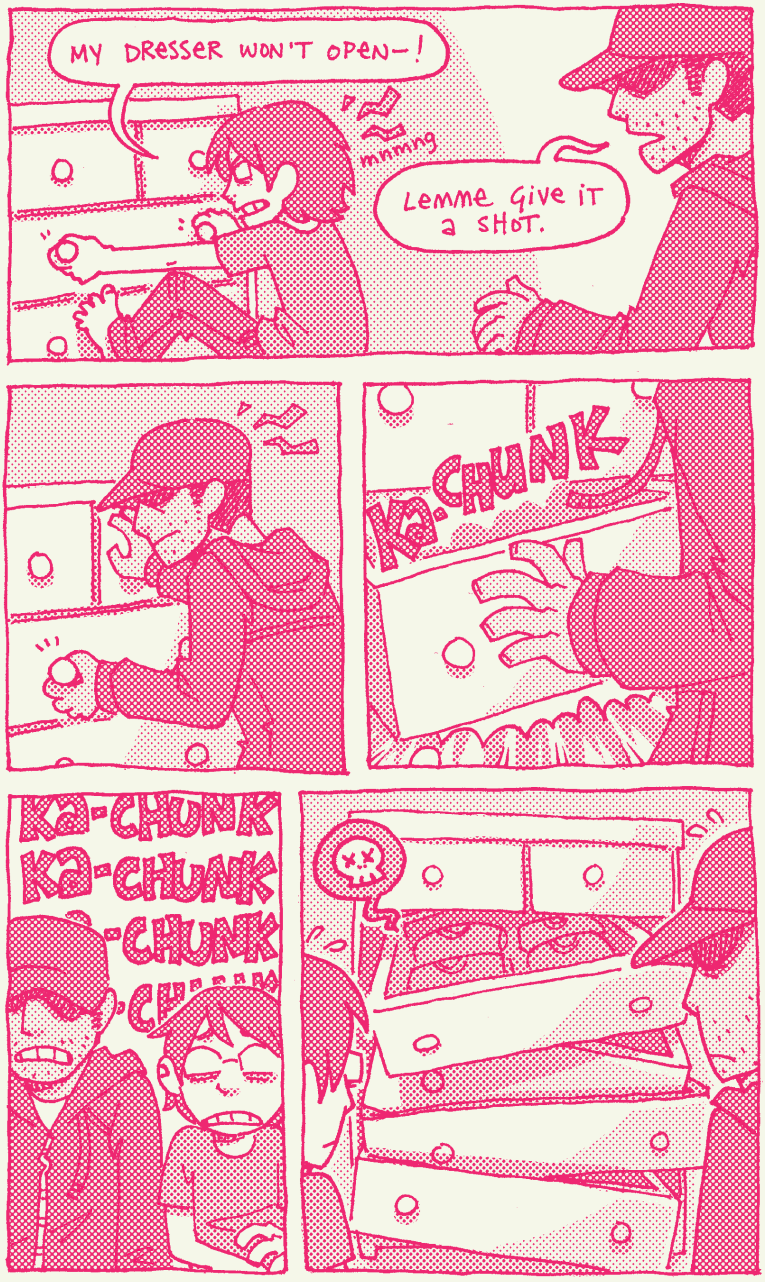




Puck Fair


~!
??
eeheeheheehee
I DON'T GET IT.
PUCK FAIR
HERE—
COME HERE—
ohhhhhh
hehe

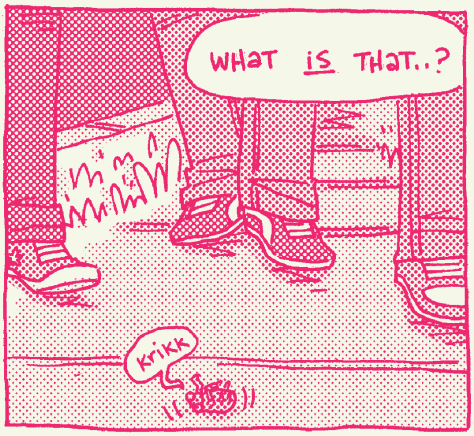
rest in pieces



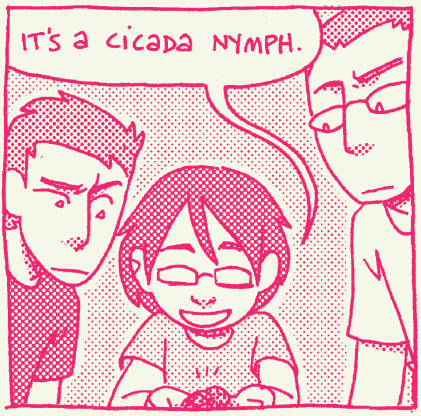
a face like sandpaper



boys are wimps

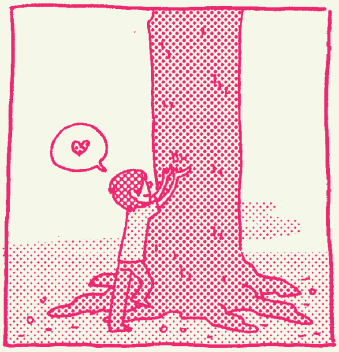




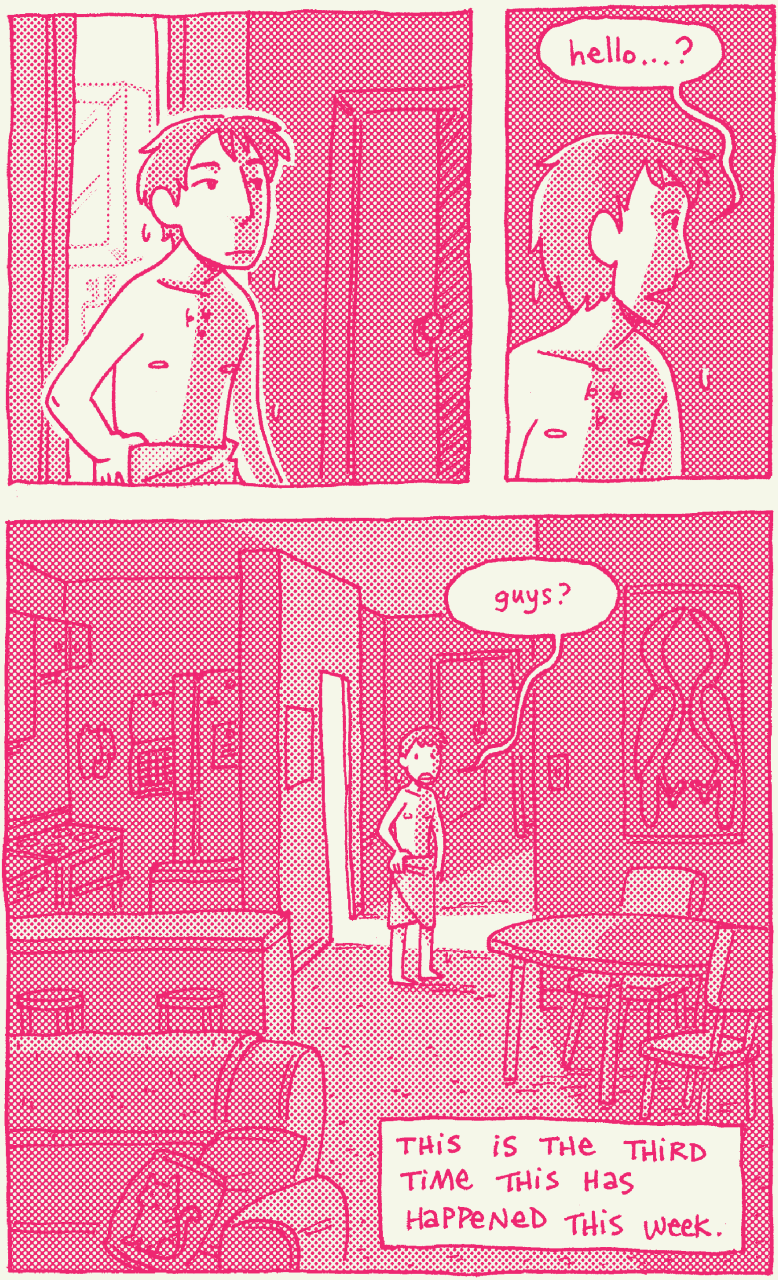




epilogue:



abandonment



an open letter to all US registered voters



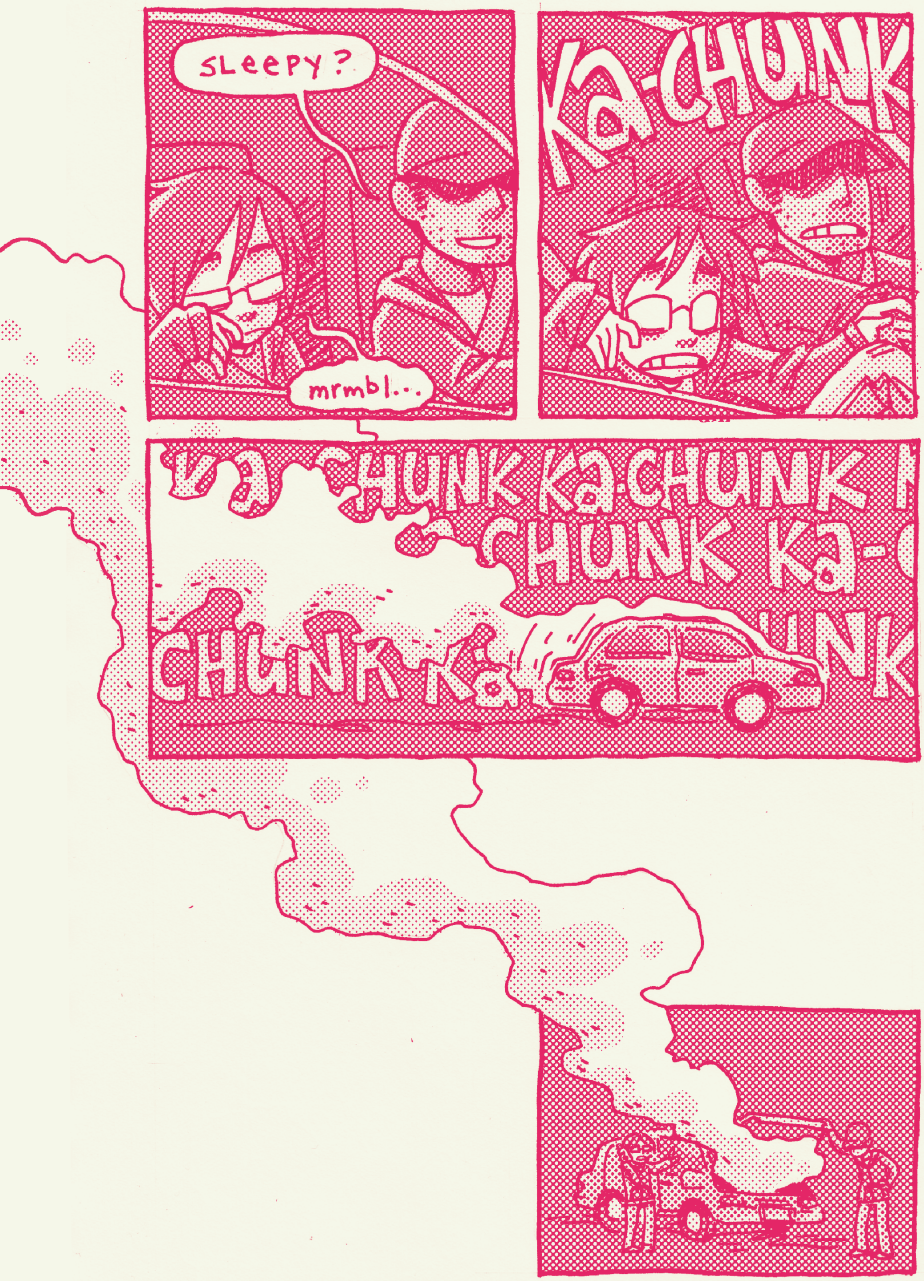
spreading the wealth around



exxxtreme furniture purchases

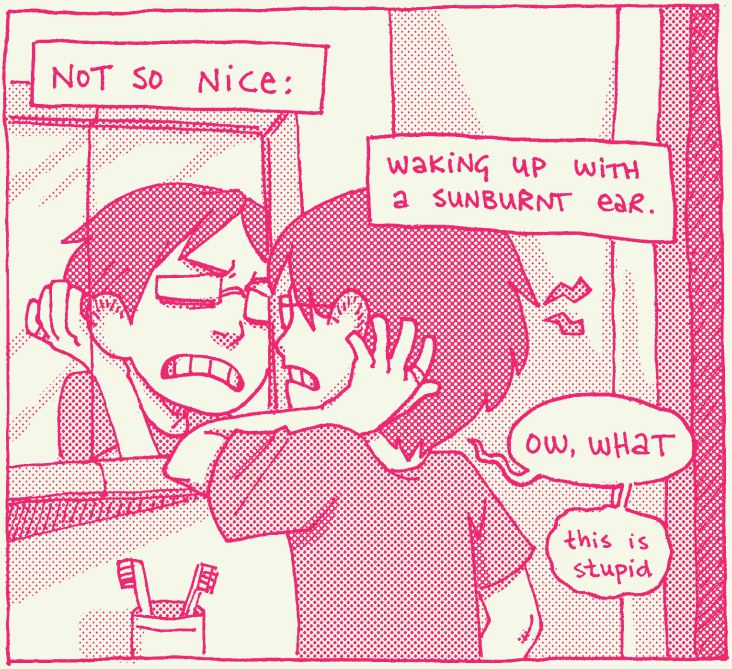


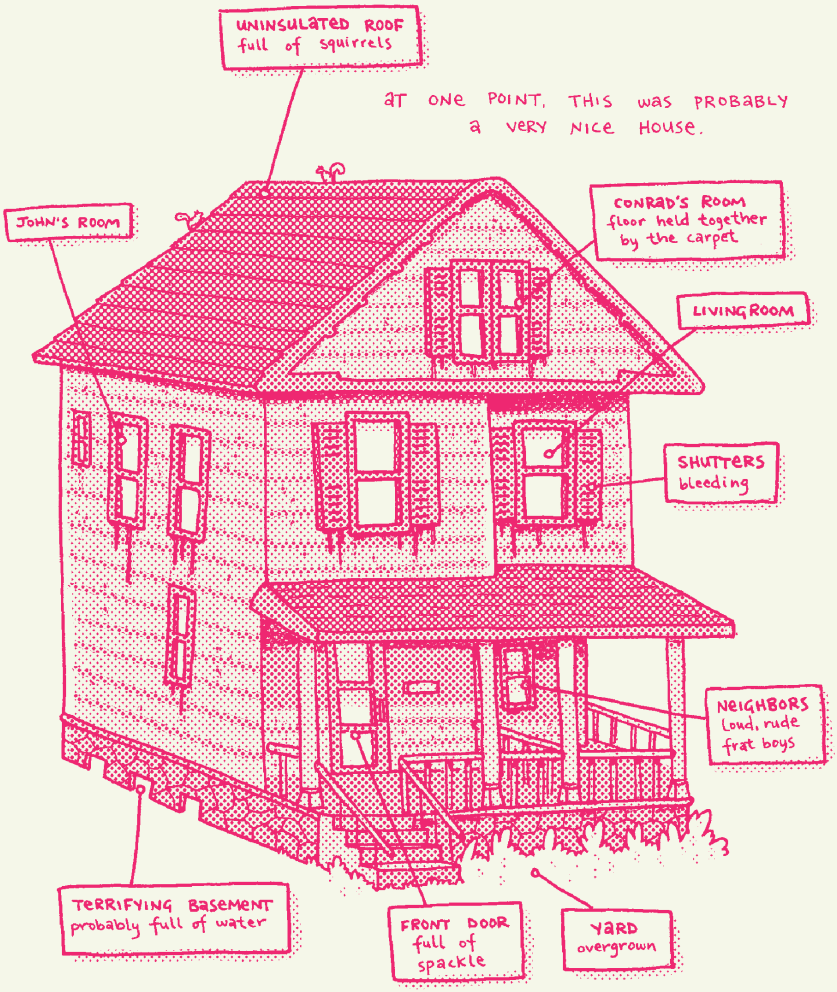
rest in pieces redux



then i got curtains



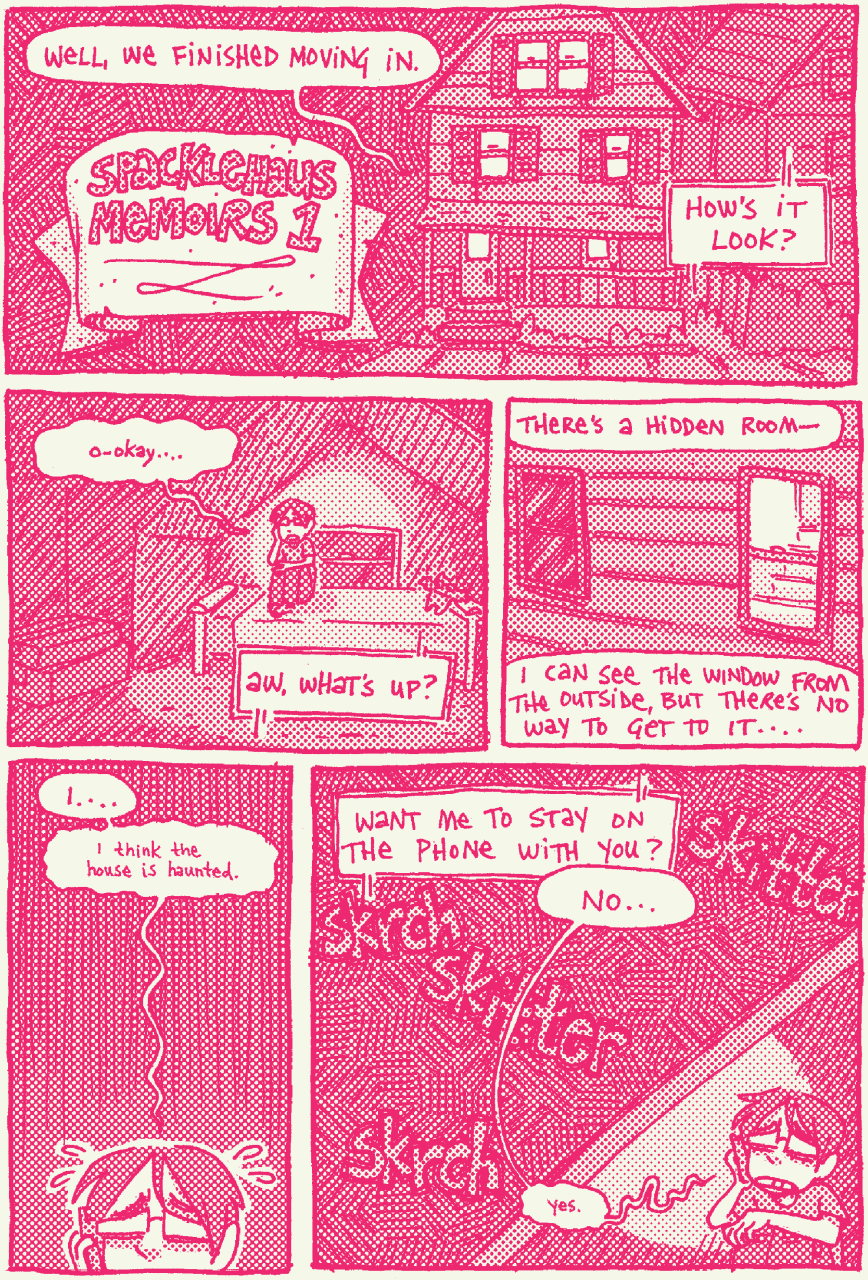




Before Maryland we lived in upstate New York, in a house the landlord repaired exclusively with spackle.

We named it SPACKLEHAUS.

in the walls


WELL, WE FINISHED MOVING IN.
SPACKLEHAUS MEMOIRS 1
HOW'S IT LOOK?
O-OKAY....
AW, WHAT'S UP?
THERE'S A HIDDEN ROOM—
I CAN SEE THE WINDOW FROM THE OUTSIDE, BUT THERE'S NO WAY TO GET TO IT....
I....
I think the house is haunted.
WANT ME TO STAY ON THE PHONE WITH YOU?
NO...
SKRCH
SKRITTER
SKRITTER
SKRCH
Yes.

ghosts might have been preferable



the best sleepover ever



the first plague



he only likes fake coffee



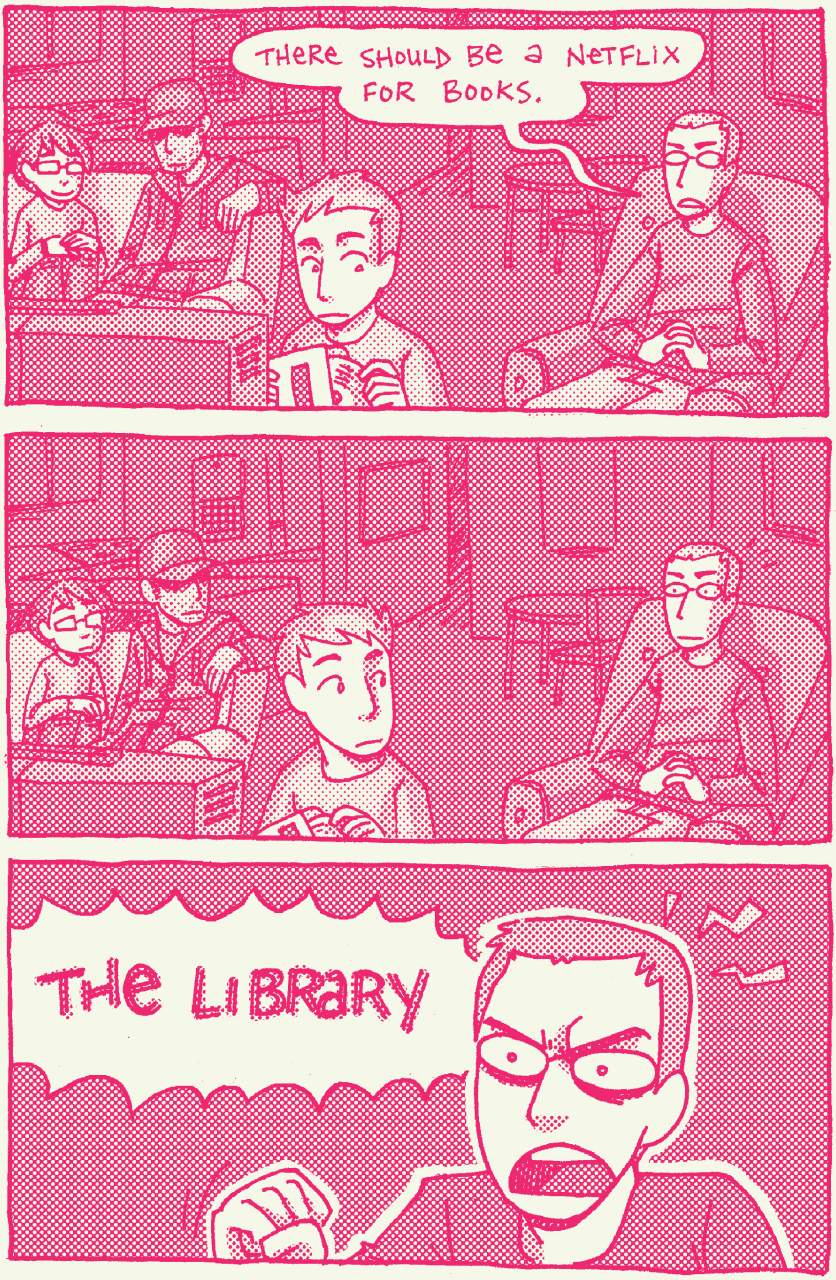
the most obvious course of action



theasaur


HEY, WHAT'S ANOTHER WORD FOR "DAPPER?"
LET'S ASK THE THEASAURUS!
HAHA, YOU MEAN THESAURUS?
there's only one "a."
....
I'VE BEEN PRONOUNCING IT WRONG THIS WHOLE TIME?
what's another word for "dapper?"

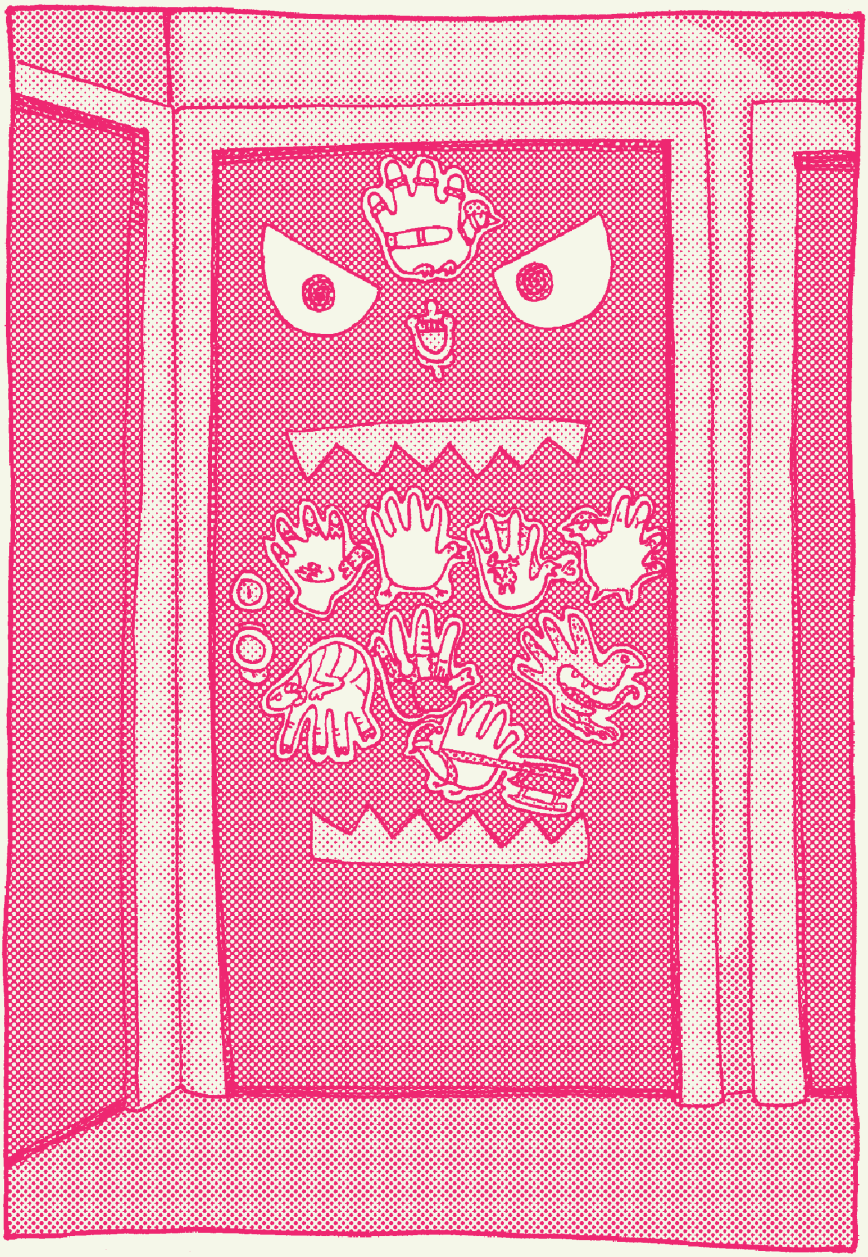
a netflix for books



guilty until proven guilty



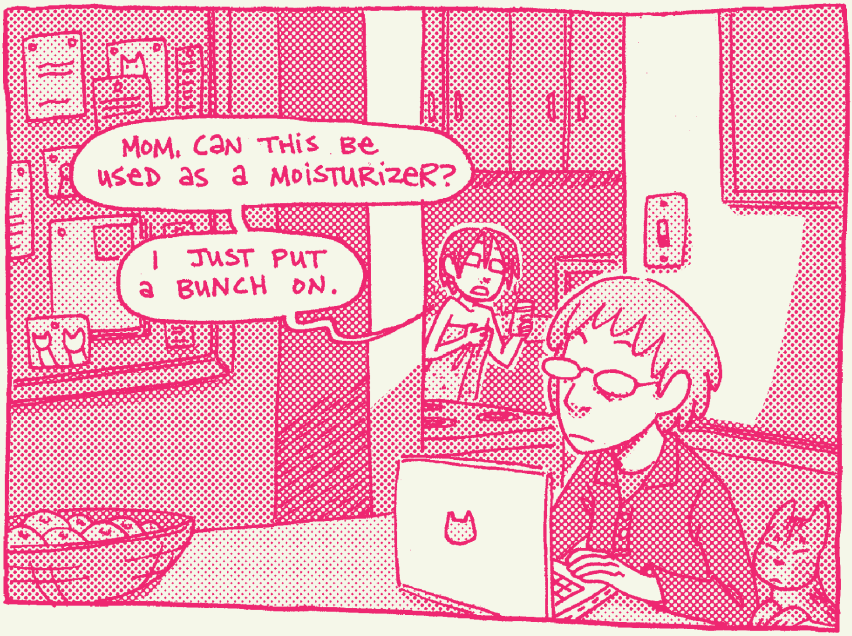
our neighbors think we are weird

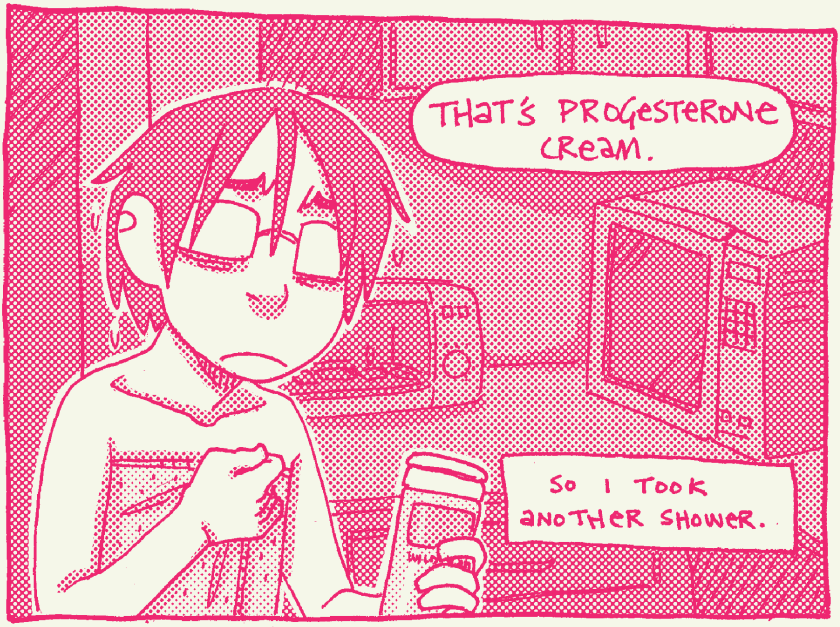


STOP EATING RIBBONS



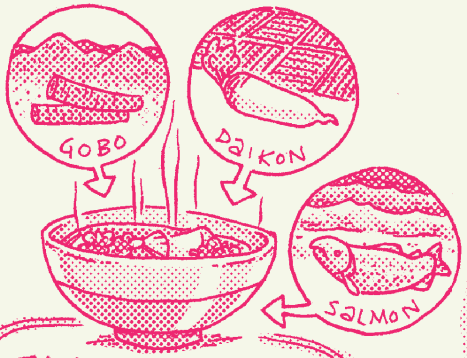
read instructions before proceeding





あけましておめでとうございます。

happy new year



ZONI — mochi soup.

A TRADITIONAL SOUP MADE WITH RICE CAKE AND FOODS FROM THE THREE HARVESTED REGIONS OF JAPAN: MOUNTAINS, FIELDS, AND OCEAN. THIS IS MY FAMILY'S RECIPE.



RENKON — pickled lotus root.

THE LOTUS FLOWER HAS TIES TO BUDDHA AND THEREFORE IS ASSOCIATED WITH GODLY BLESSINGS.





INARIZUSHI — sushi rice in a sweet fried tofu shell.

ASSOCIATED WITH THE RICE GODDESS, INARI — IT IS SUPPOSED TO BE A FAVORED FOOD OF HER MESSENGER FOXES.



ZENZAI — sweet adzuki bean and mochi soup

EATING RED THINGS ON NEW YEARS IS SUPPOSED TO BRING GOOD FORTUNE. (A HANDFUL OF PEOPLE DIE EVERY NEW YEAR BY CHOKING ON MOCHI.)

not the first time this has happened



You Have To Make It Really Bad



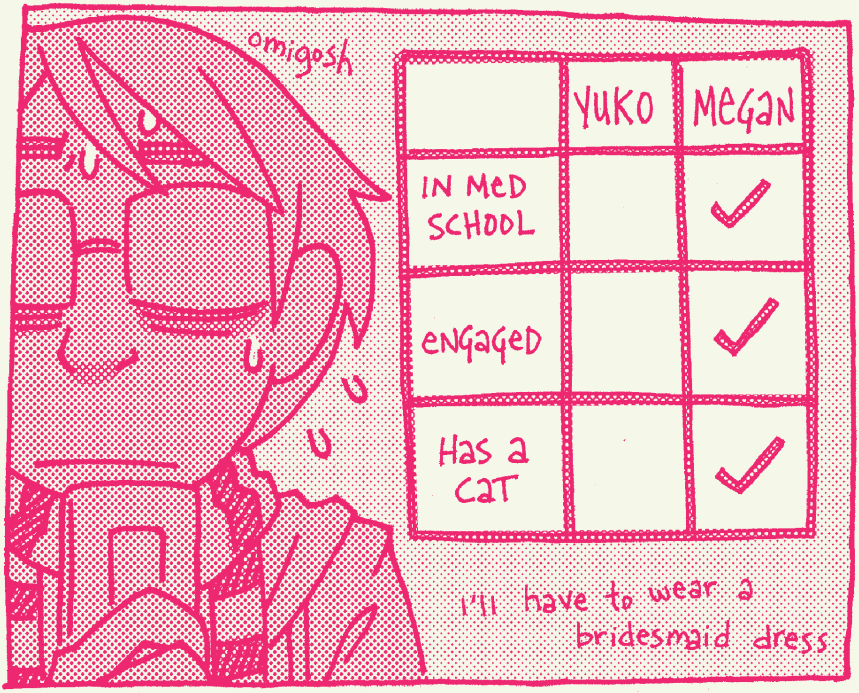
happy birthday conrad



various inadequacies







fifth sense


OH MAN, DO YOU SMELL THAT?
THAT SMELLS GREAT.


CONRAD HAS NO SENSE OF SMELL.

zoo LOLOLogy



without cable we cannot be sure anyway



three dollar comfort



on the origin of knife fights



incorrect bread anatomy

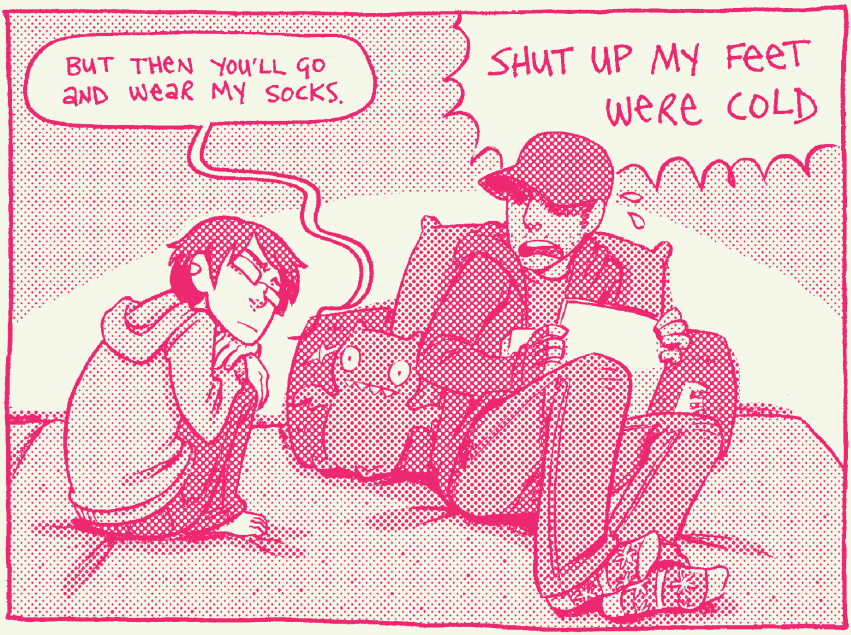


initial y

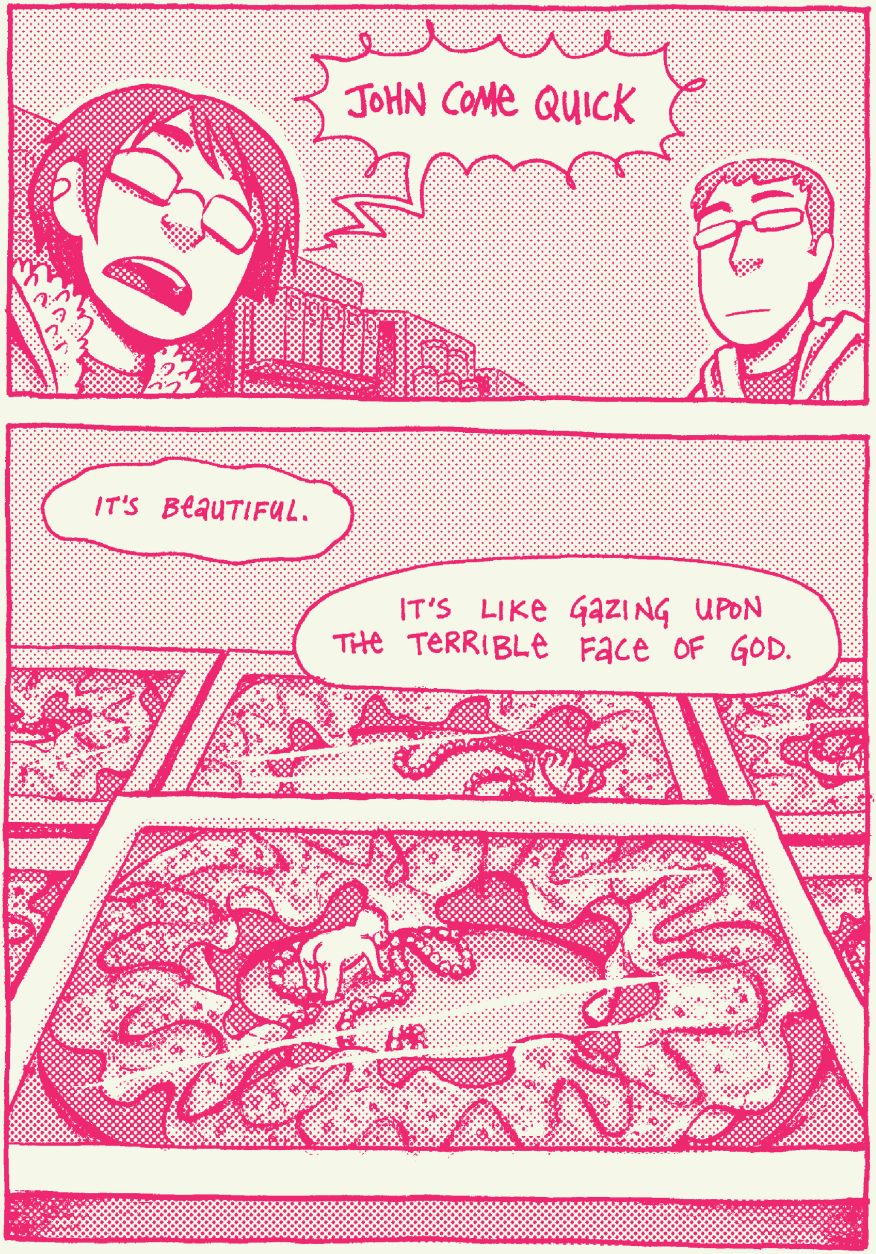

deedledoodlee
HI DAD— I'M DRIVING.
HOW FAR HAVE YOU DRIVEN
ER, MY ODOMETER SAYS 90 MILES OR SO.
SO YOU'VE DRIVEN FOR ONLY ONE HOUR?
....
stop assuming everyone drives just like you.

pink and purple poinsettia socks

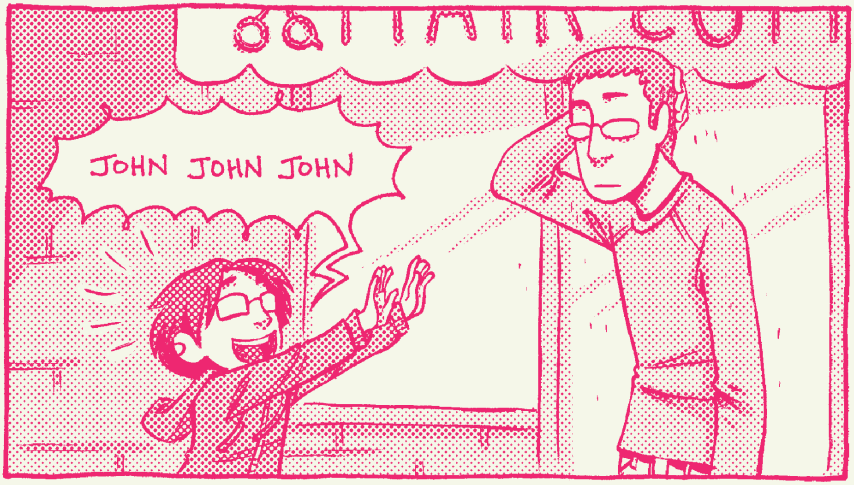




cake wreck


JOHN COME QUICK
IT'S BEAUTIFUL.
IT'S LIKE GAZING UPON THE TERRIBLE FACE OF GOD.

haircut tax



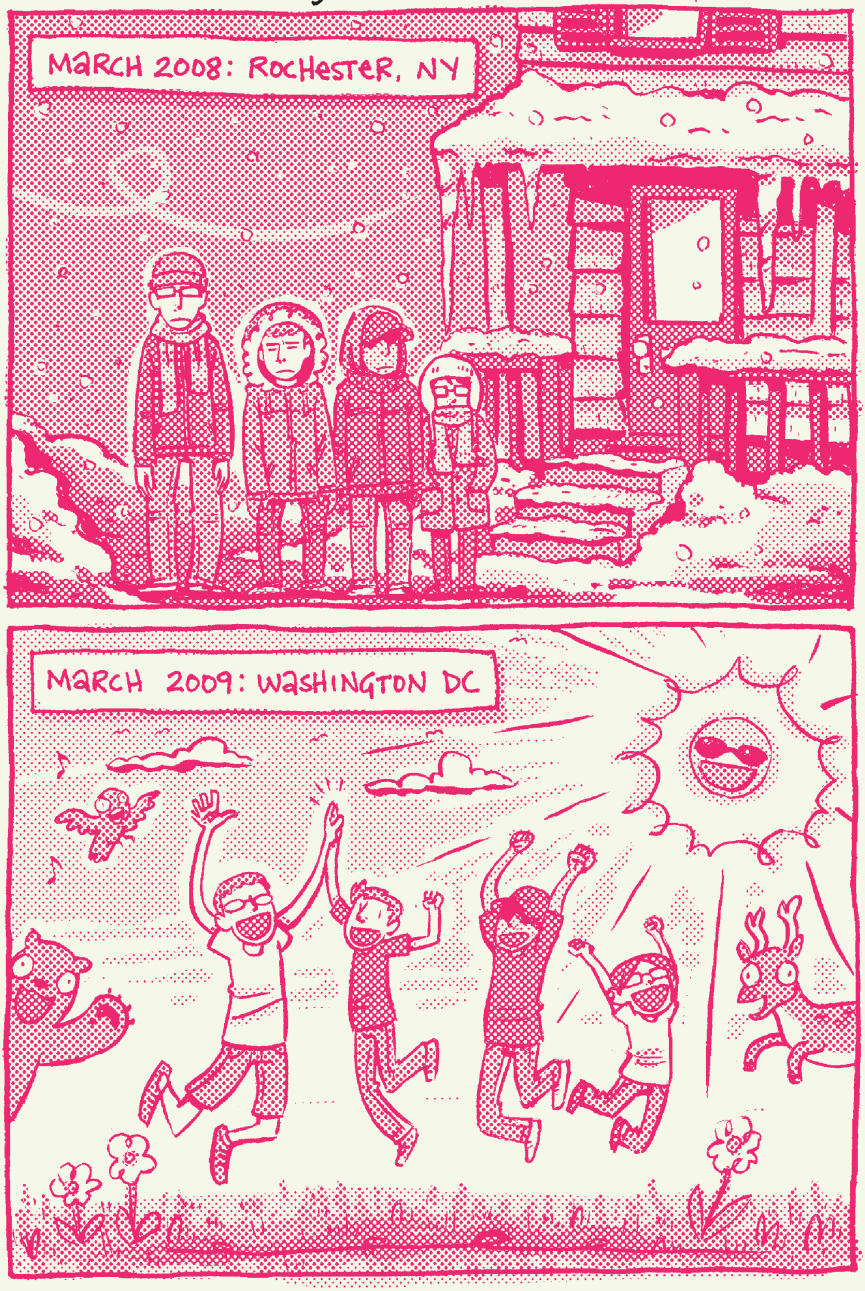




he named the houseplants



latitude change



inscrutable language joke



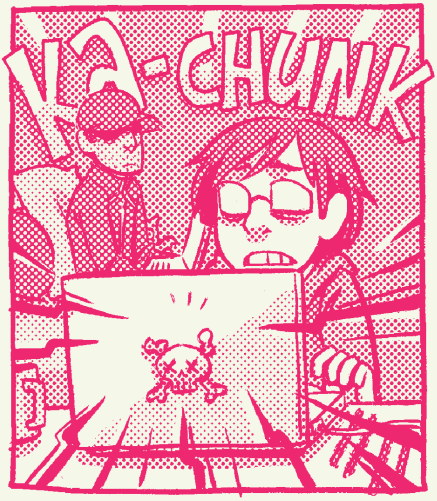
where Yuko has to explain the joke:

鋤 焼き = SUKIYAKI, BEEF HOT POT.
PLOW COOK

大 好き = DAISUKI, TO LOVE
BIG LIKE

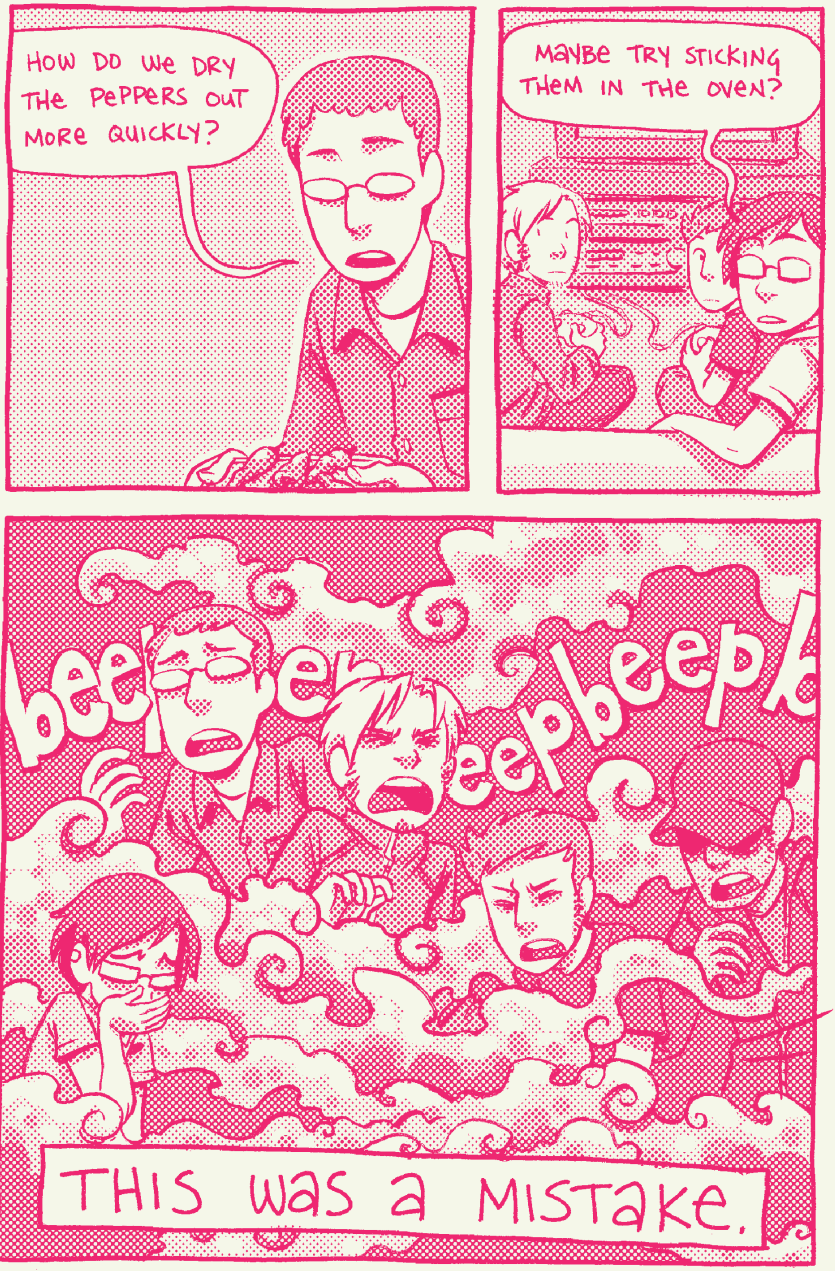
her computer died





AND THEN WE DID NONE OF THOSE THINGS.

homemade mace


HOW DO WE DRY THE PEPPERS OUT MORE QUICKLY?
MAYBE TRY STICKING THEM IN THE OVEN?
beeee

yuko's parents' cats again

things mika likes to do:



drink from wet hair



destroy things while no one is looking



sleep on people, sometimes

things gonta likes to do:



fret

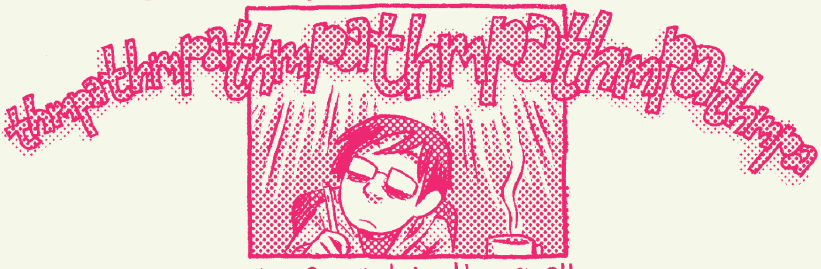


eat



fret

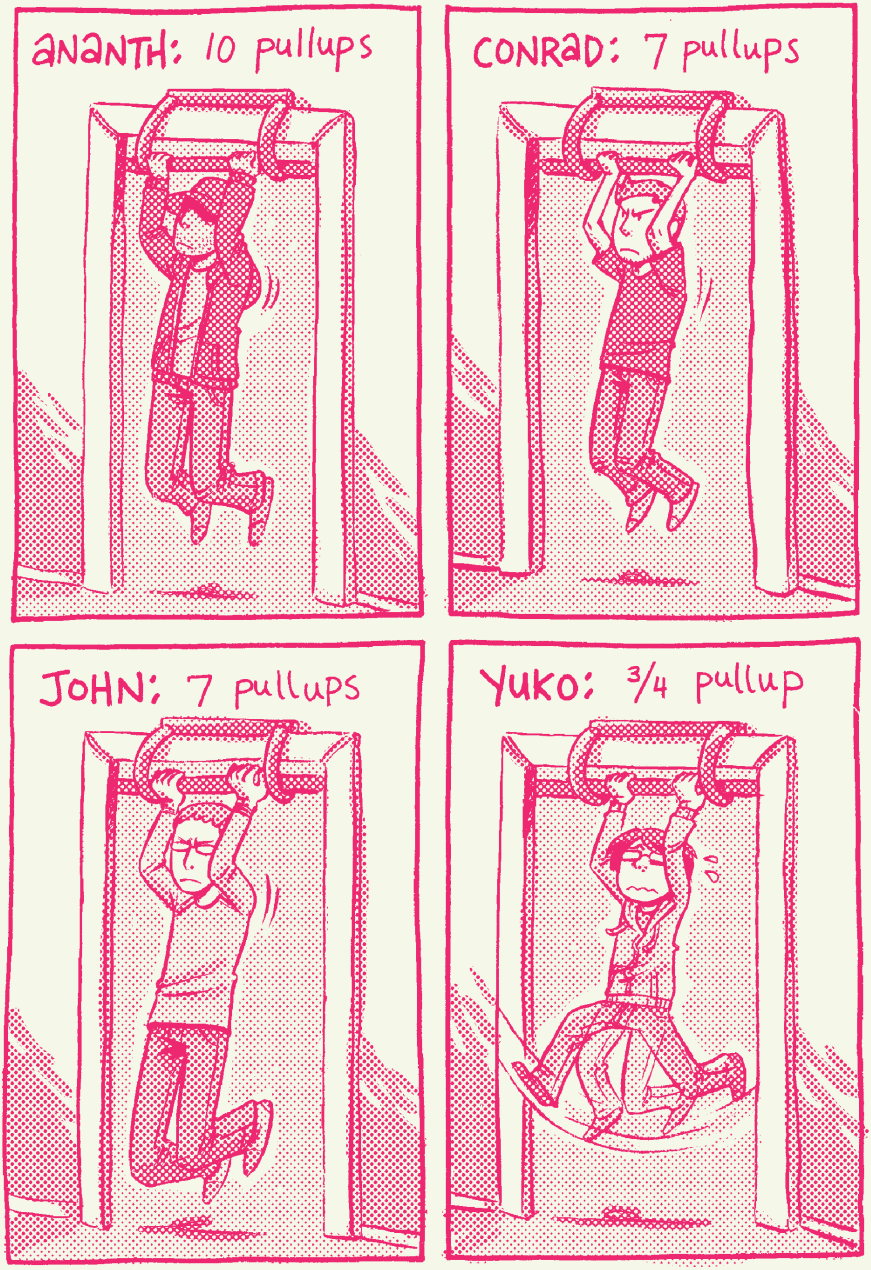
things they both like to do:


thumpthumpthumpth

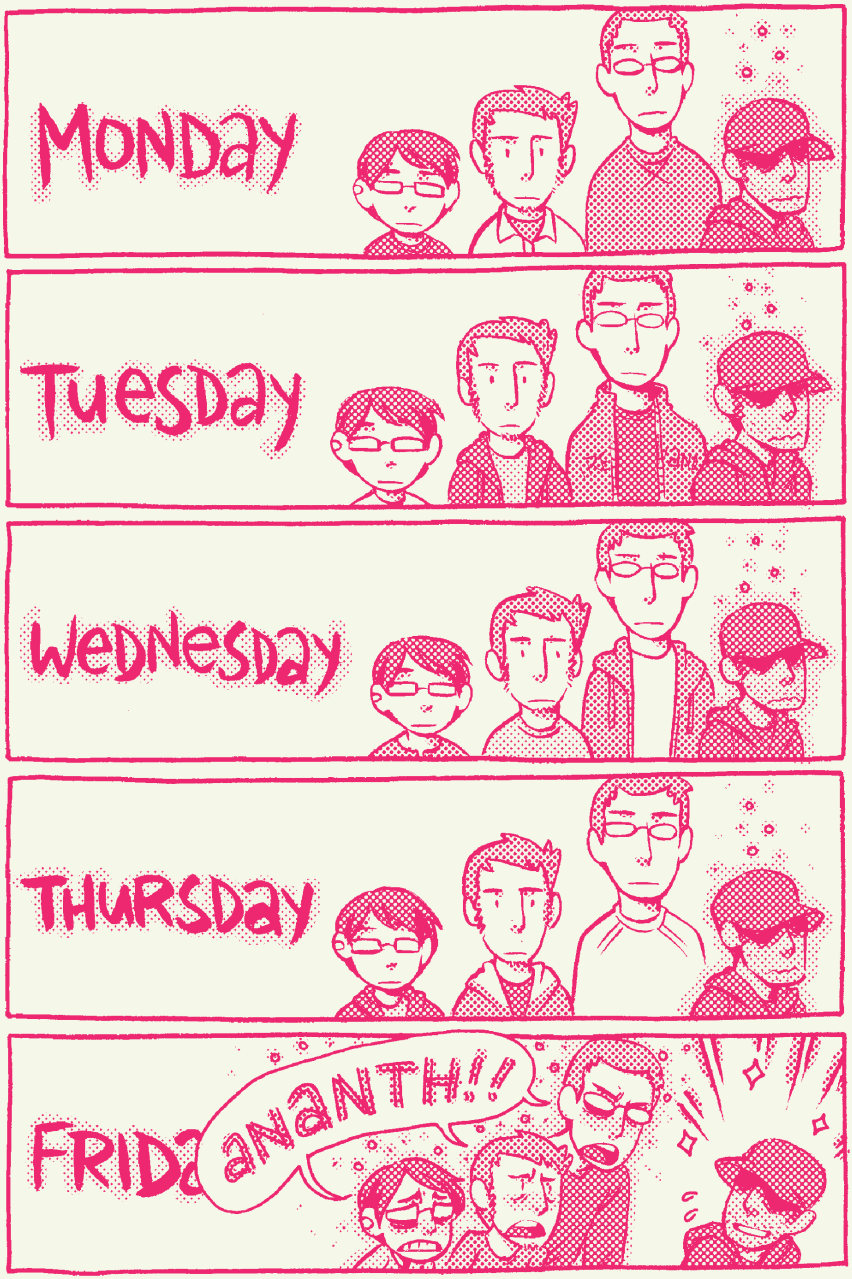
give or take ten years



get ripped quick



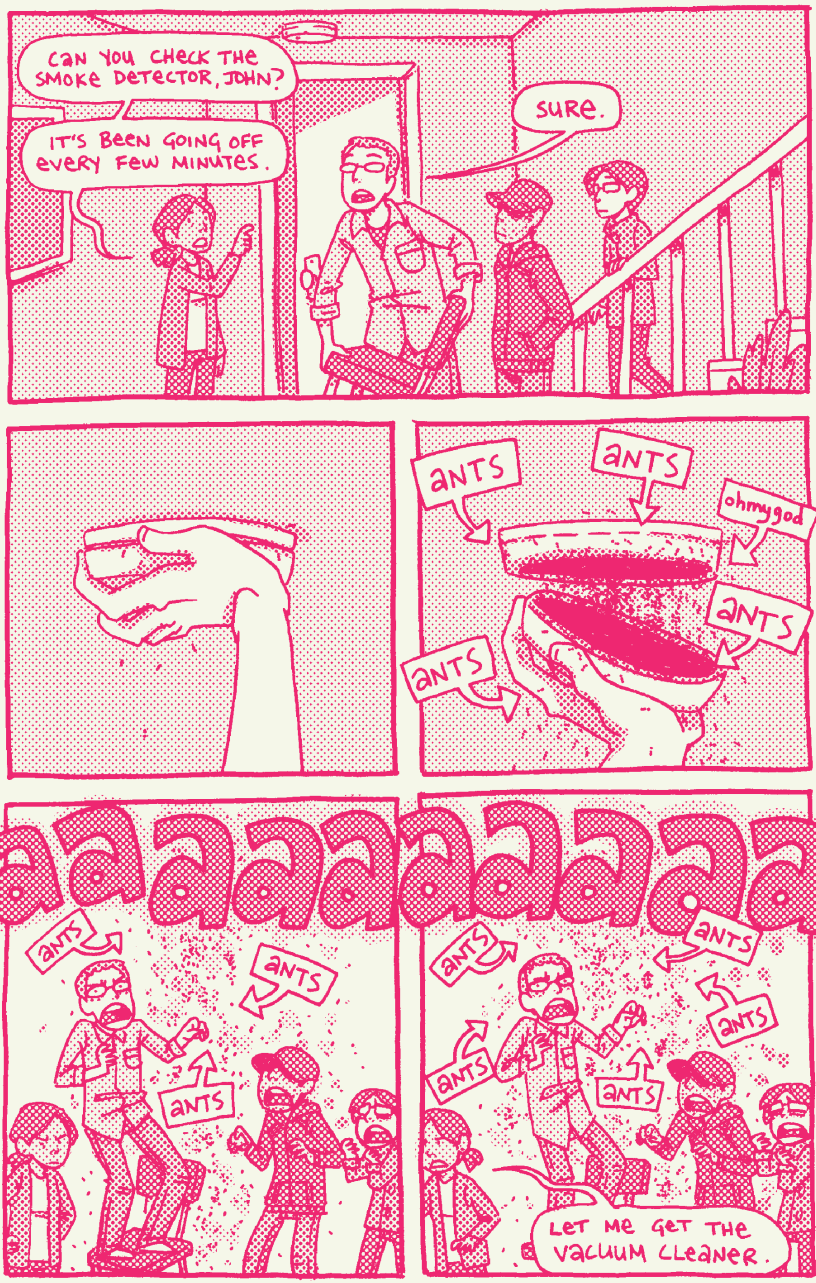
ananth's tennessee plague



you were boat-adopted



aaaaaaaaaa


CAN YOU CHECK THE SMOKE DETECTOR, JOHN?
IT'S BEEN GOING OFF EVERY FEW MINUTES.
SURE.
ANTS
ANTS
ohmygod
ANTS
ANTS
ANTS
ANTS
ANTS
ANTS
ANTS
ANTS
ANTS
ANTS
LET ME GET THE VACUUM CLEANER.

REM cooking


MMNGH
I HAD THIS DREAM LAST NIGHT THAT I MADE CURRY WITH PUMPKIN AND CHICKEN.
Yuko, make us your dream curry.
Yes.
IT WAS PRETTY GOOD.

DREAM CURRY

This recipe makes enough curry for 6+ people, with leftovers. Quick to put together, no need to watch it, difficult to overcook... there aren't a lot of ways to mess this up.

Makes one giant 6 quart pot of curry!

INGREDIENTS
x2 Large chicken breasts, cubed (or more)
x1 15 oz can of pumpkin puree
x1 15 oz can of reduced sodium chicken broth
x1 8 oz box of S&B Golden Curry
x~4 carrots, peeled and cut into bite-sized pieces
x~3 big potatoes, peeled & cut into pieces
x1 Large onion, cut into large pieces
x~2 garlic cloves, diced
x~1 tbsp ginger (grated fresh or dried)
Cream or milk to taste

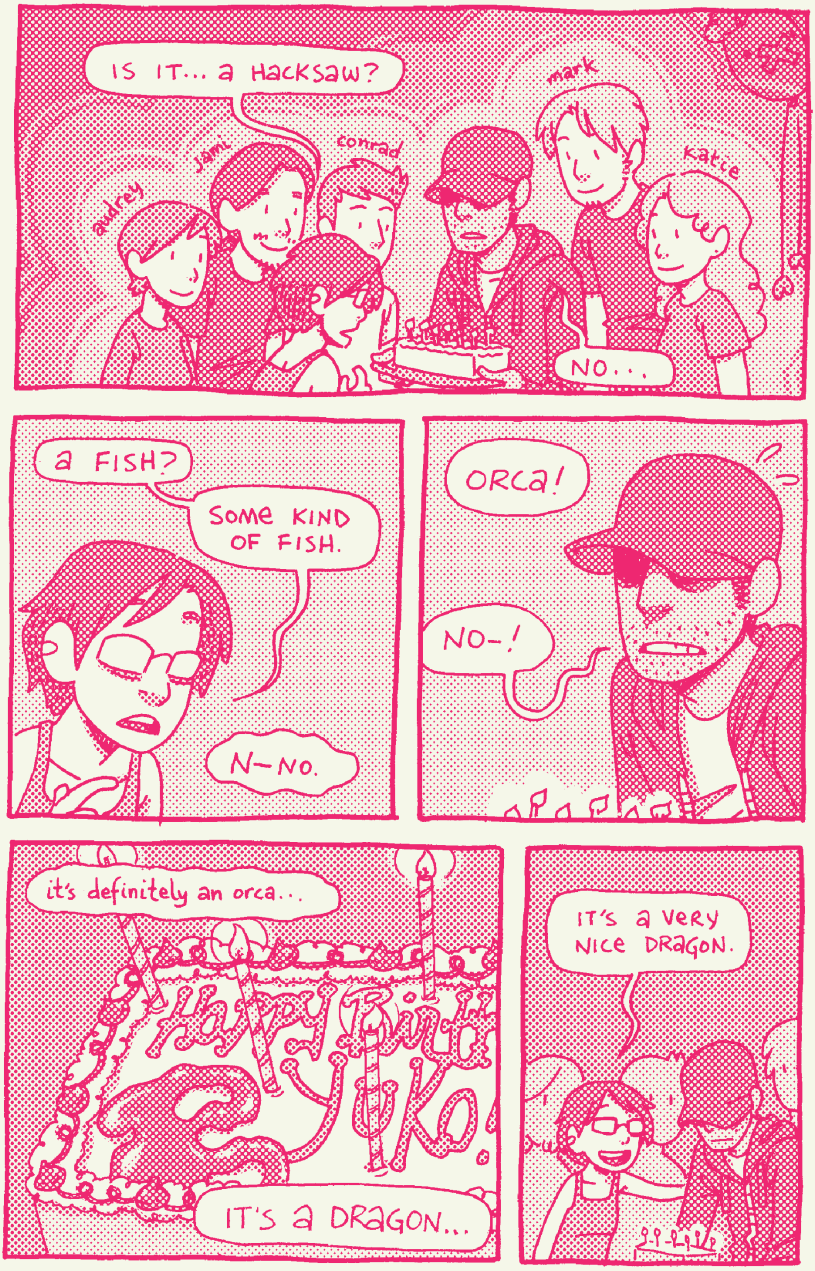
INSTRUCTIONS
1. Add all ingredients (except milk) to slow cooker.
2. Just barely cover all ingredients with water.
3. Cover and cook on high for 4-5 hours or low on 6-8 hours, stirring every few hours.
4. Add cream if desired.

Feel free to add or replace any vegetables. This will probably taste good with tomato, apple, sweet potato, peas, squash, eggplant, pepper, or whatever. There's no right way to make it.

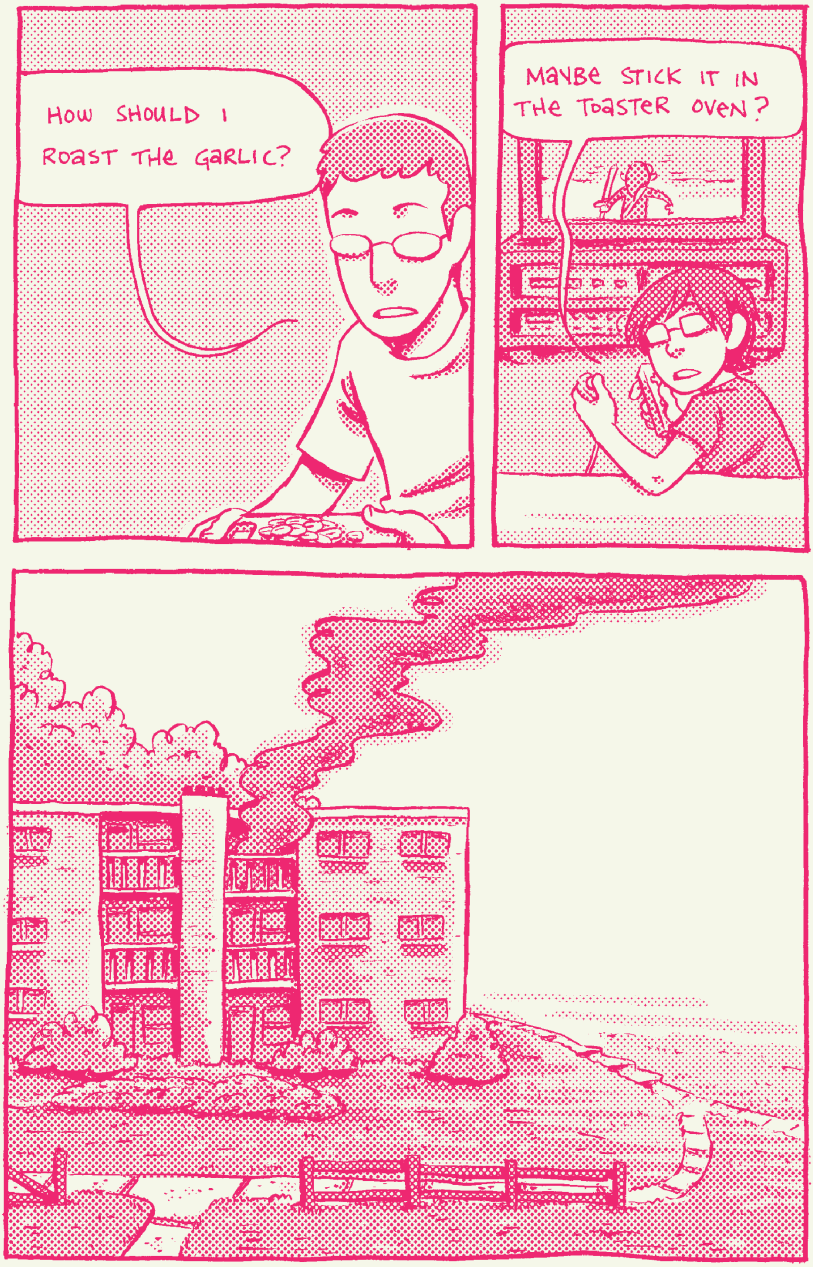
If you want, you can eat the curry plain. Traditionally, you pour it over Japanese sticky rice, but you can also put the curry over regular white rice, ramen noodles, spaghetti, or whatever else you might want.

This is an ideal winter meal. It's stick-to-your-ribs warm and it'll keep in your freezer for-ev-er.

the thought that counts



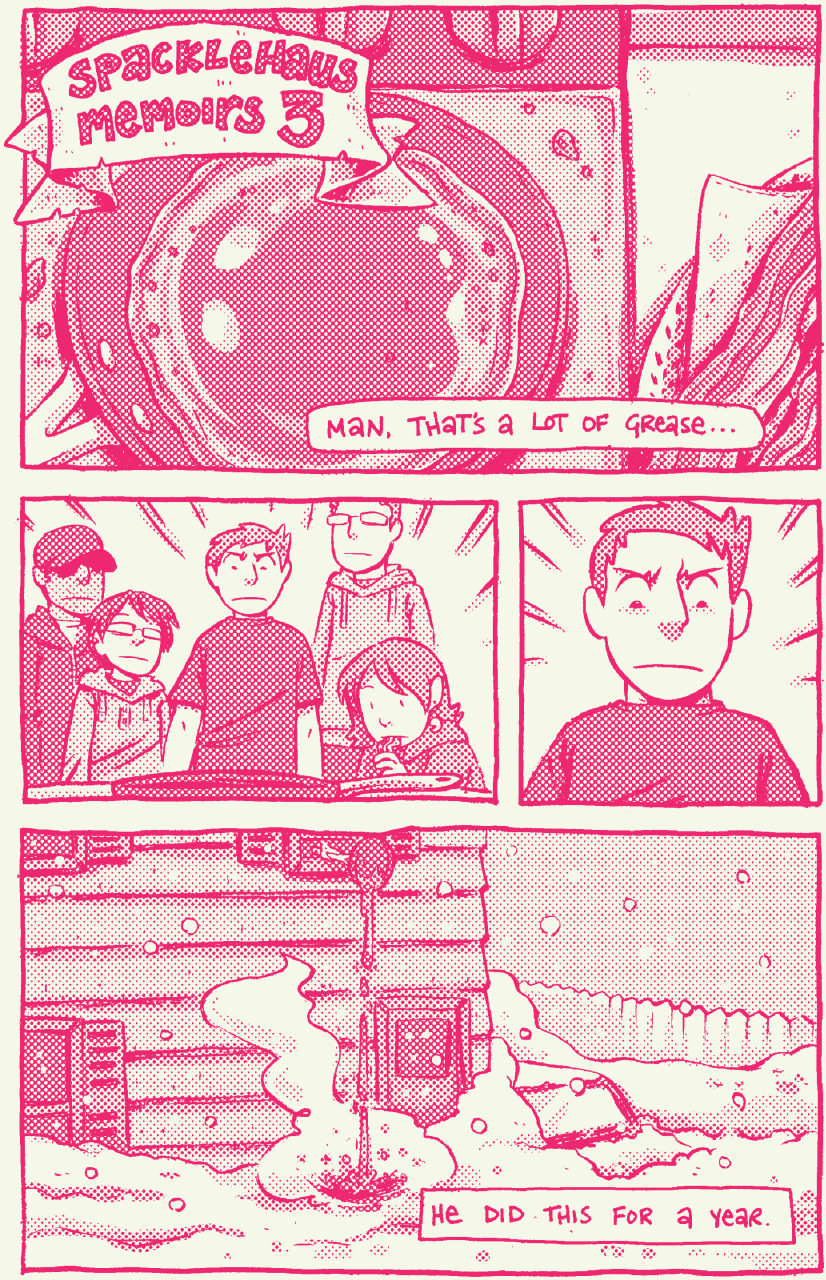
john sets more things on fire



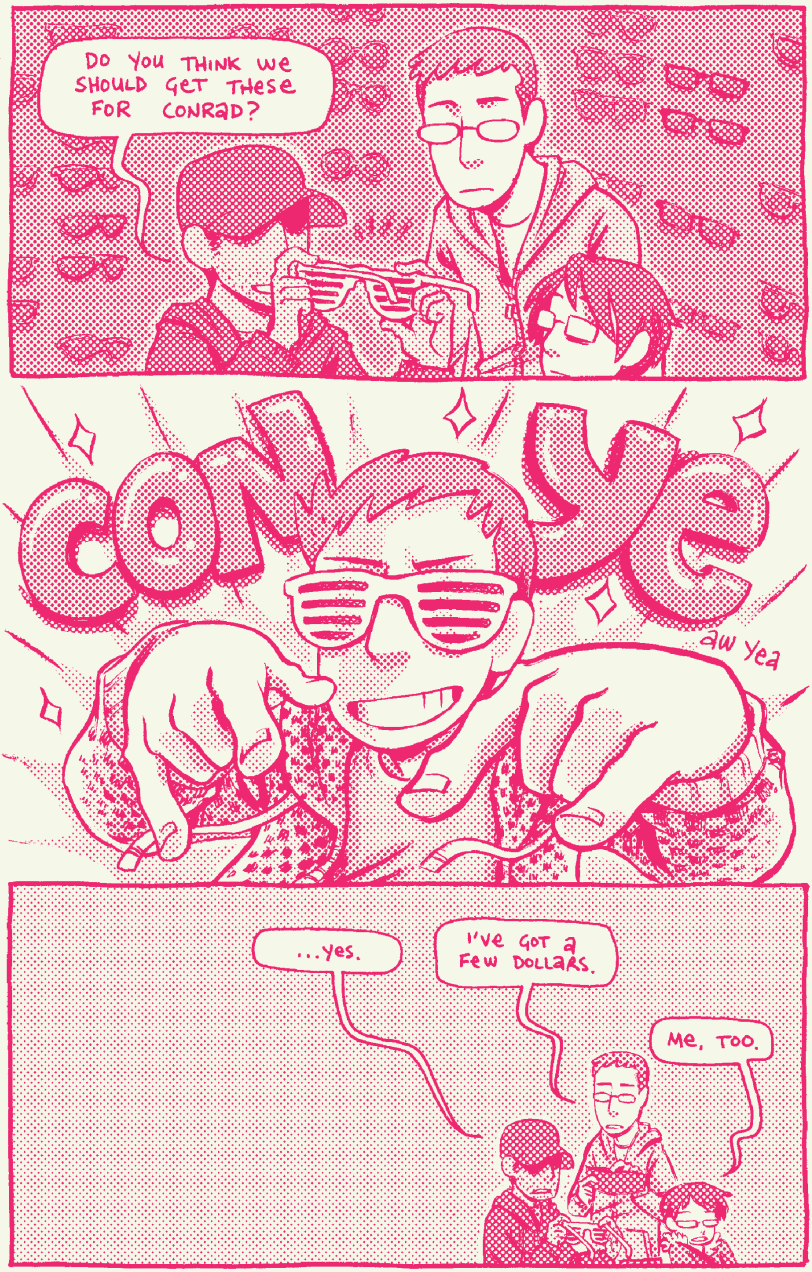
except for the cats and her mom



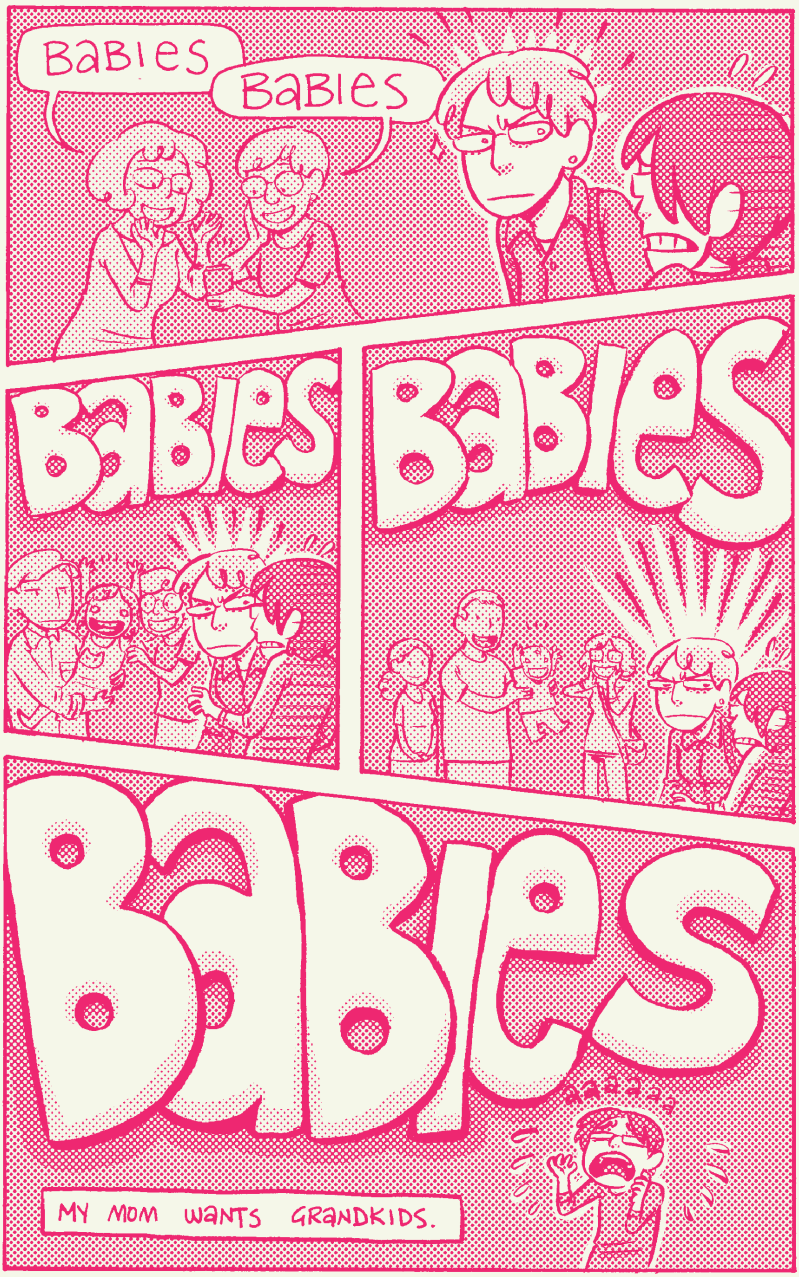
desperate times



harder better faster stronger



palpable discomfort



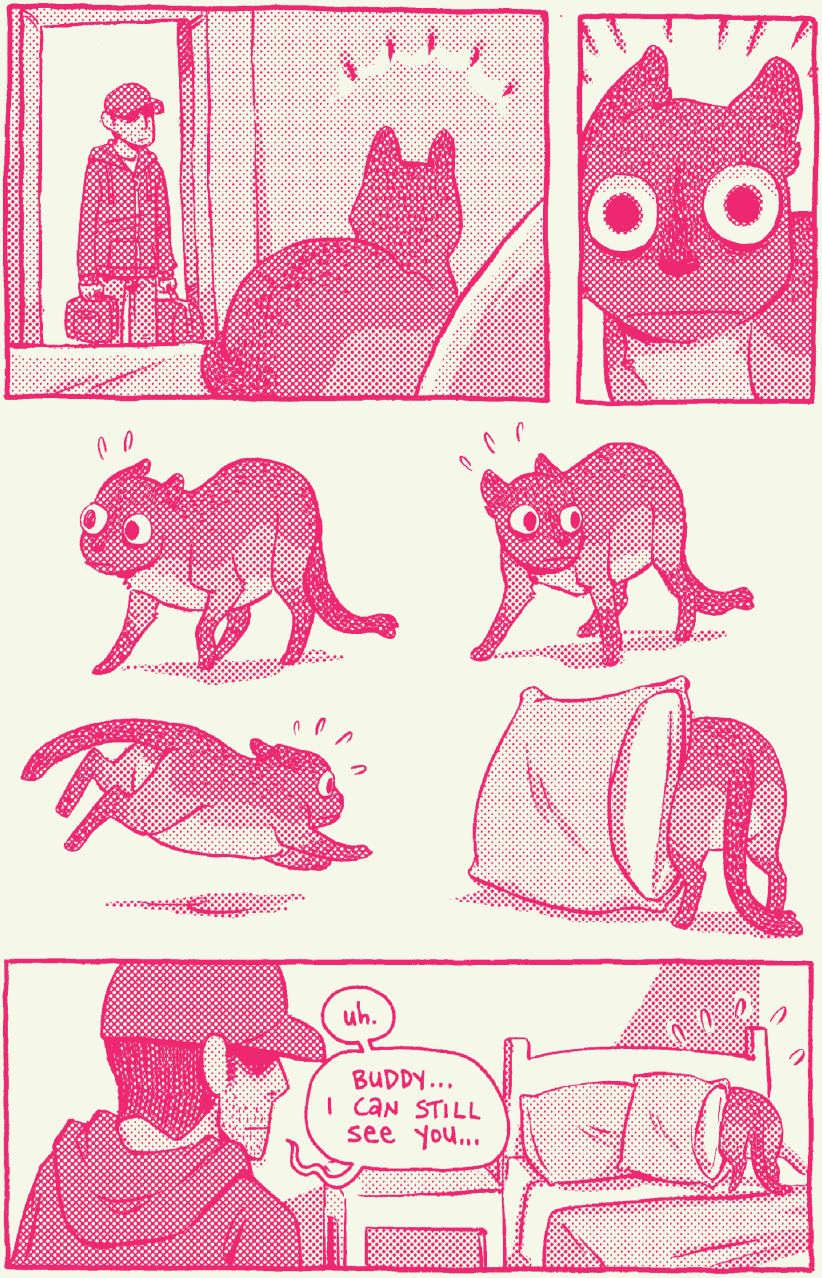
luckily they are all nerdy



on cats and burly ripped dudes



natural defense mechanisms



a lesson in appropriate attire



this keeps on happening.

she was pretty angry



STEEL NIBS AND I ARE BREAKING UP.

she only likes real coffee











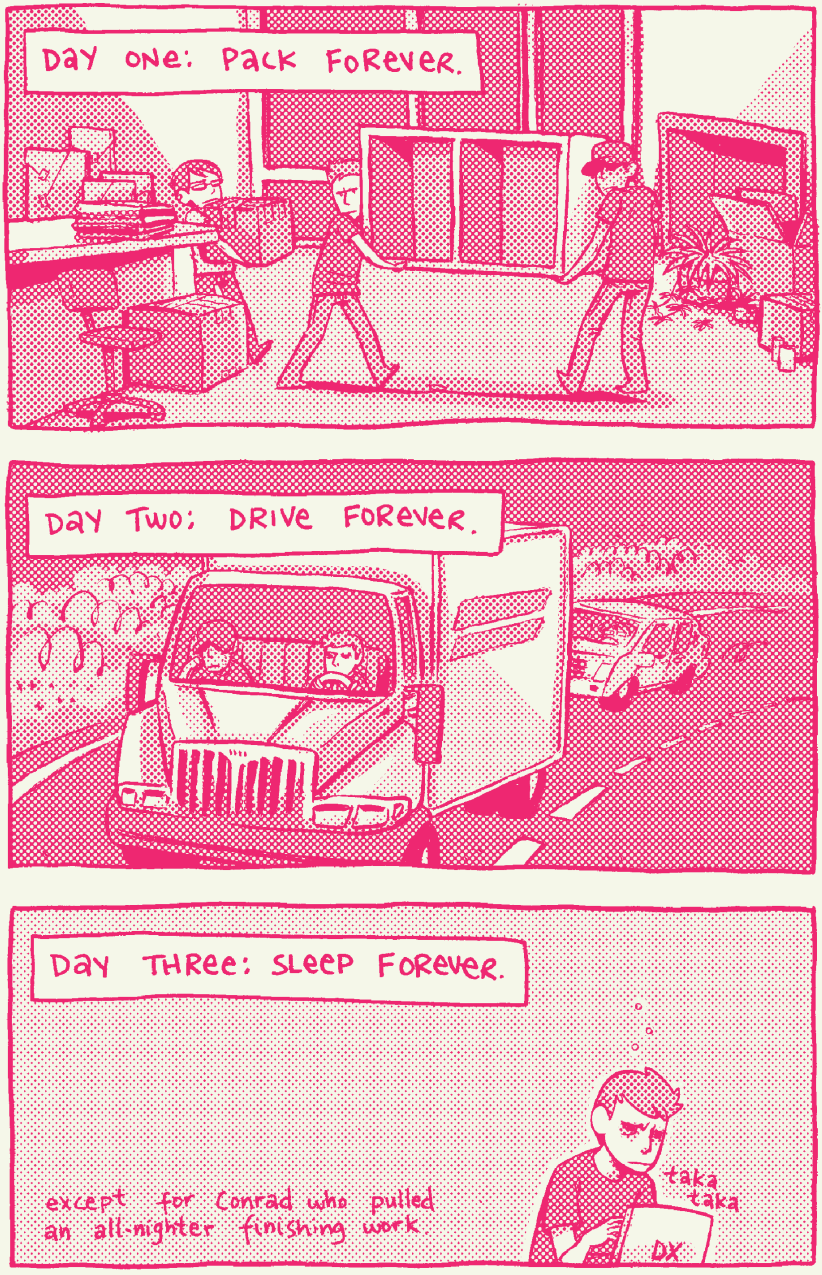
flights and flights of stairs



then again, it's probably engrish



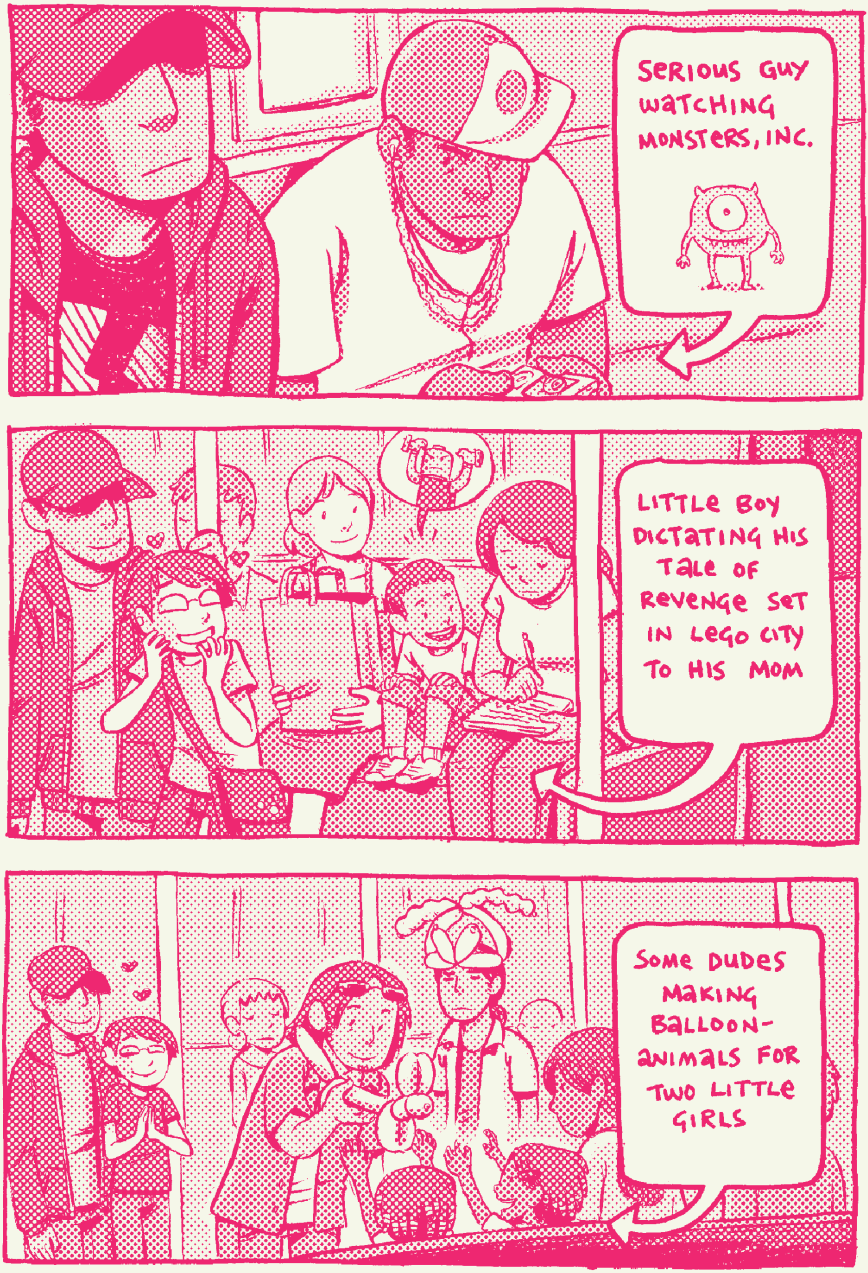
don't go back to rockville



foxes in the backyard



CUTE THINGS WE'VE SEEN ON THE SUBWAY LATELY

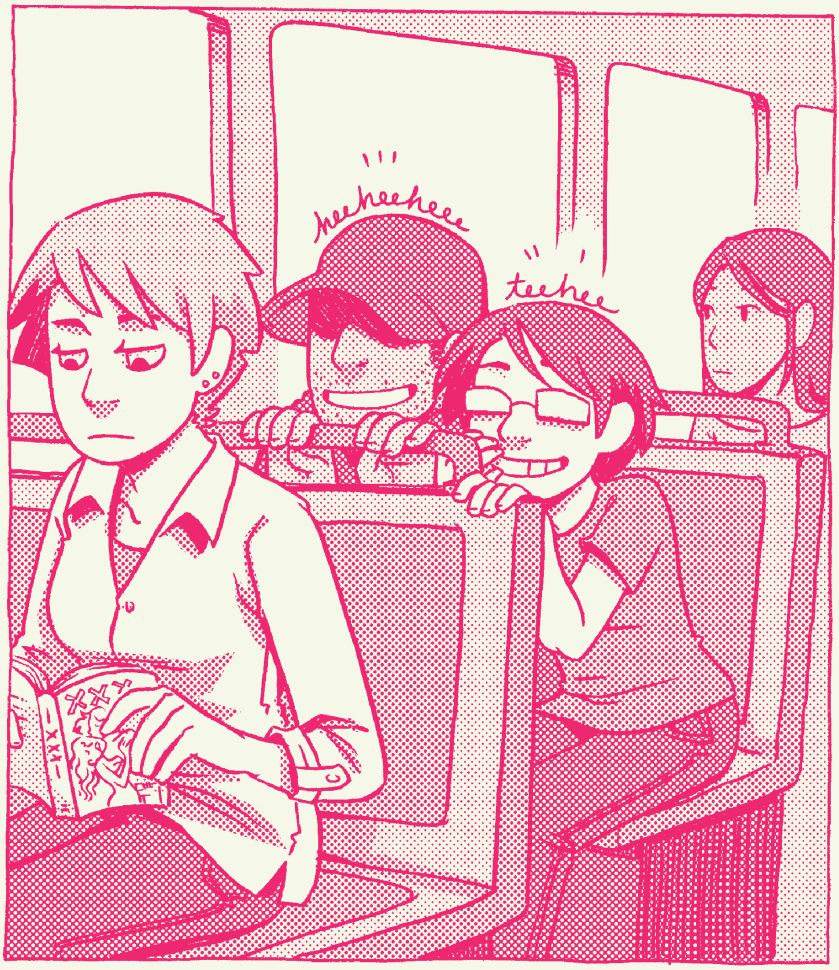


that can't be comfortable



his pride, her passion

THERE WAS A WOMAN READING A ROMANCE NOVEL ON THE METRO.

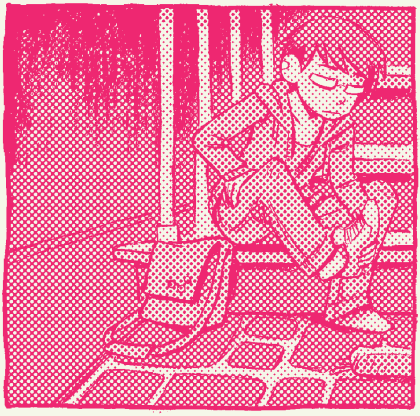


SHE WAS AT ONE OF THE STEAMY PARTS.

why is it always my carpet

MORE THINGS MIKA IS GONNA LIKE TO DO:







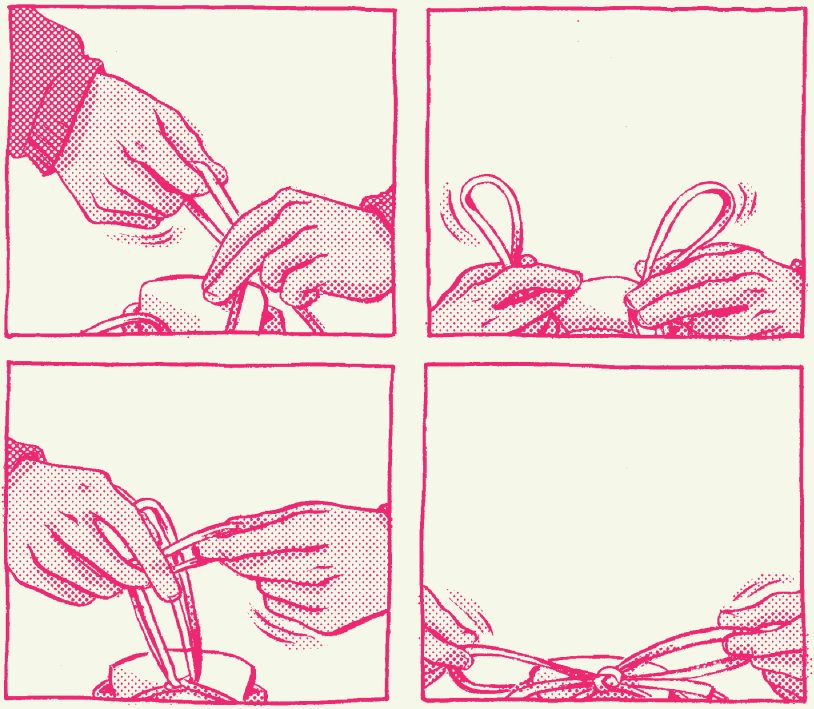




aaaaaaaa

VOMITING ON YUKO'S CARPET.

one bunny rabbit....



i still have to make bunny-ears to tie my shoes.



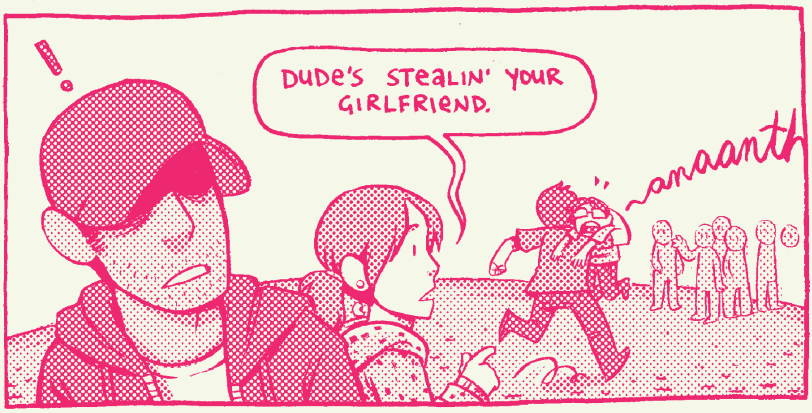
enjoy your four-hour flight



a weekend at connecticon

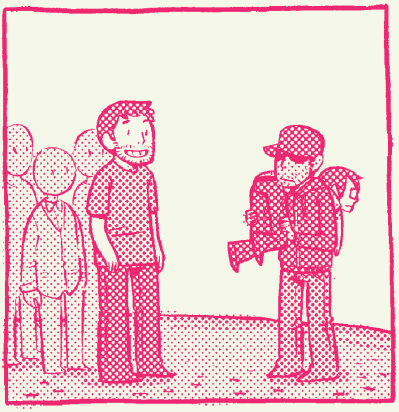


sacks of potatoes







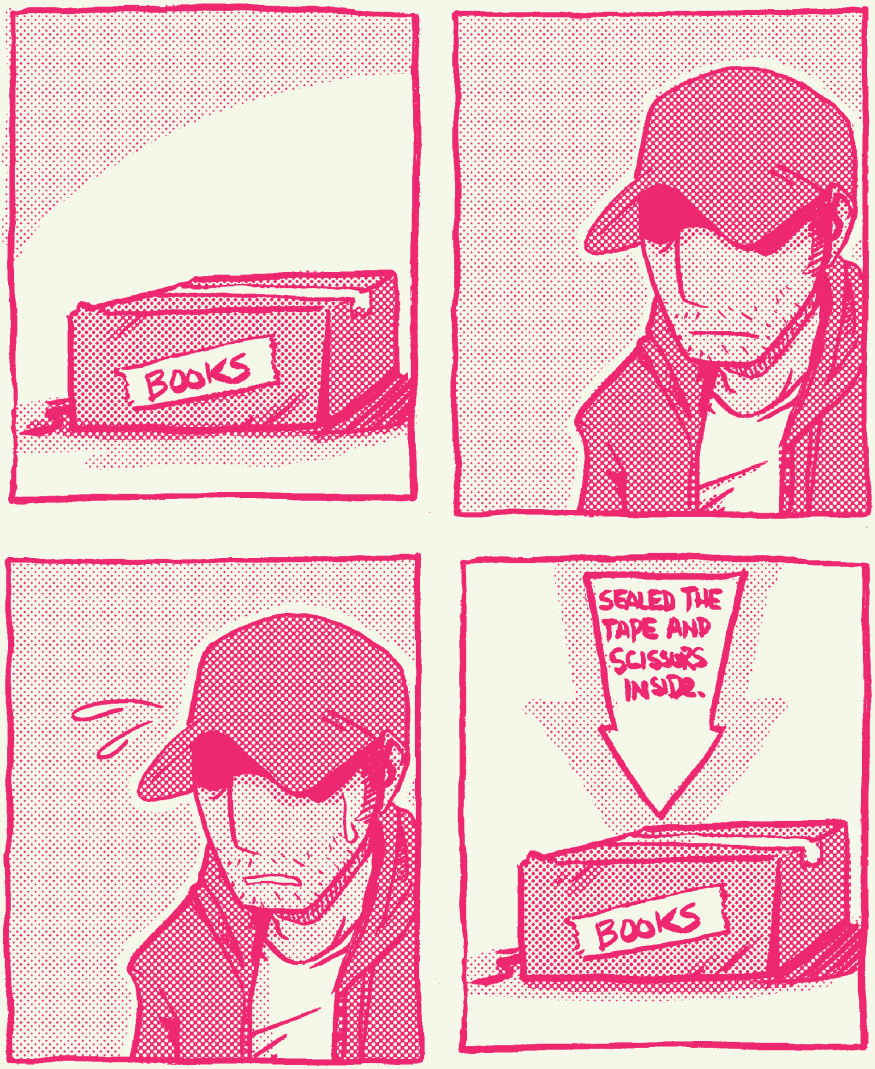


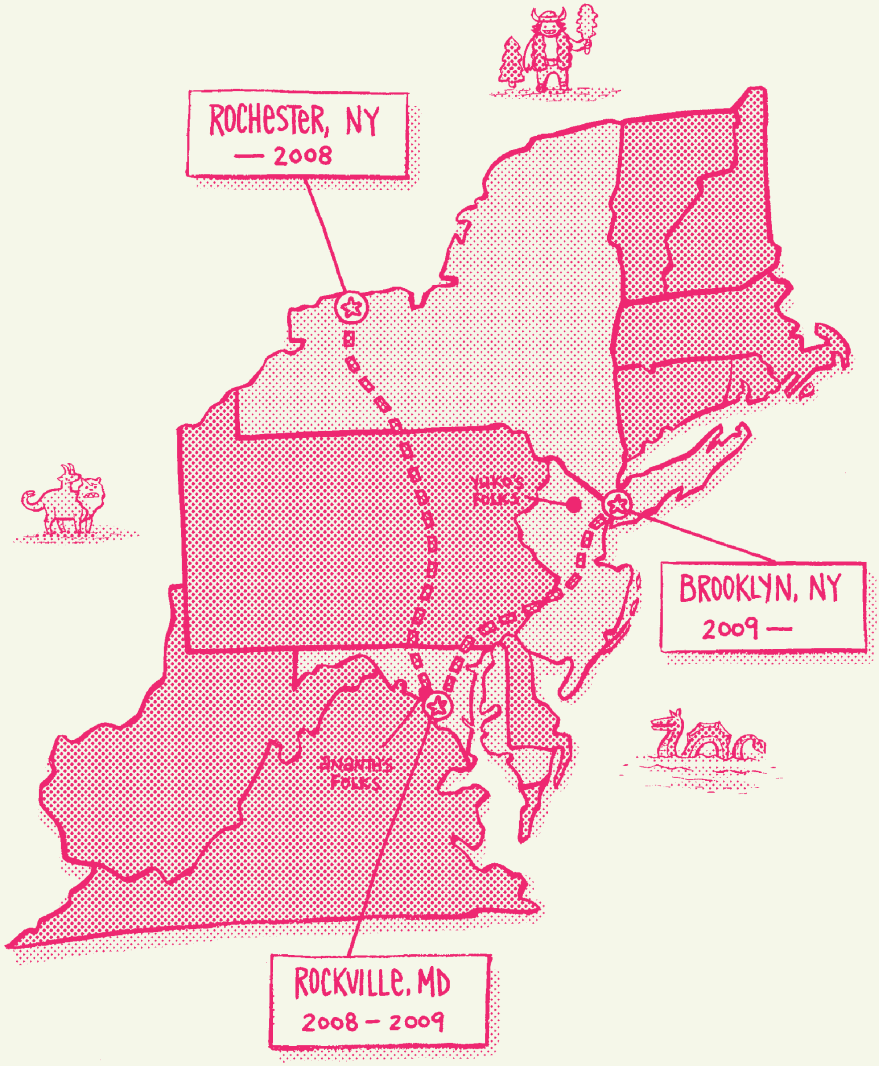


parental supervision required

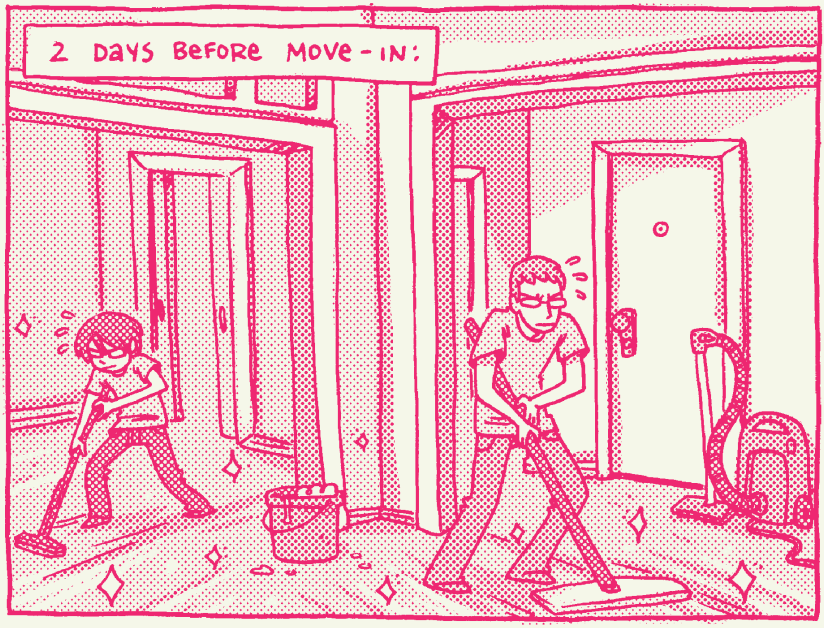


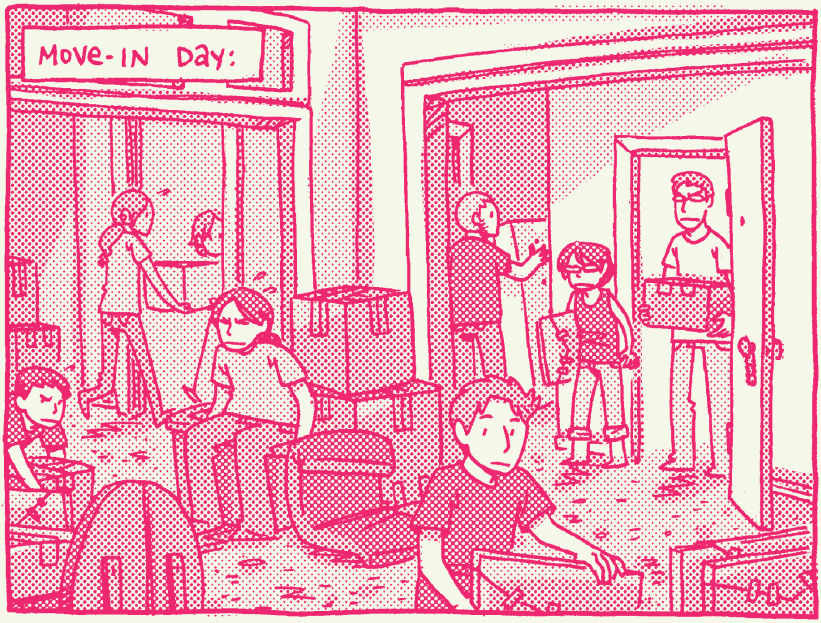
so dumb



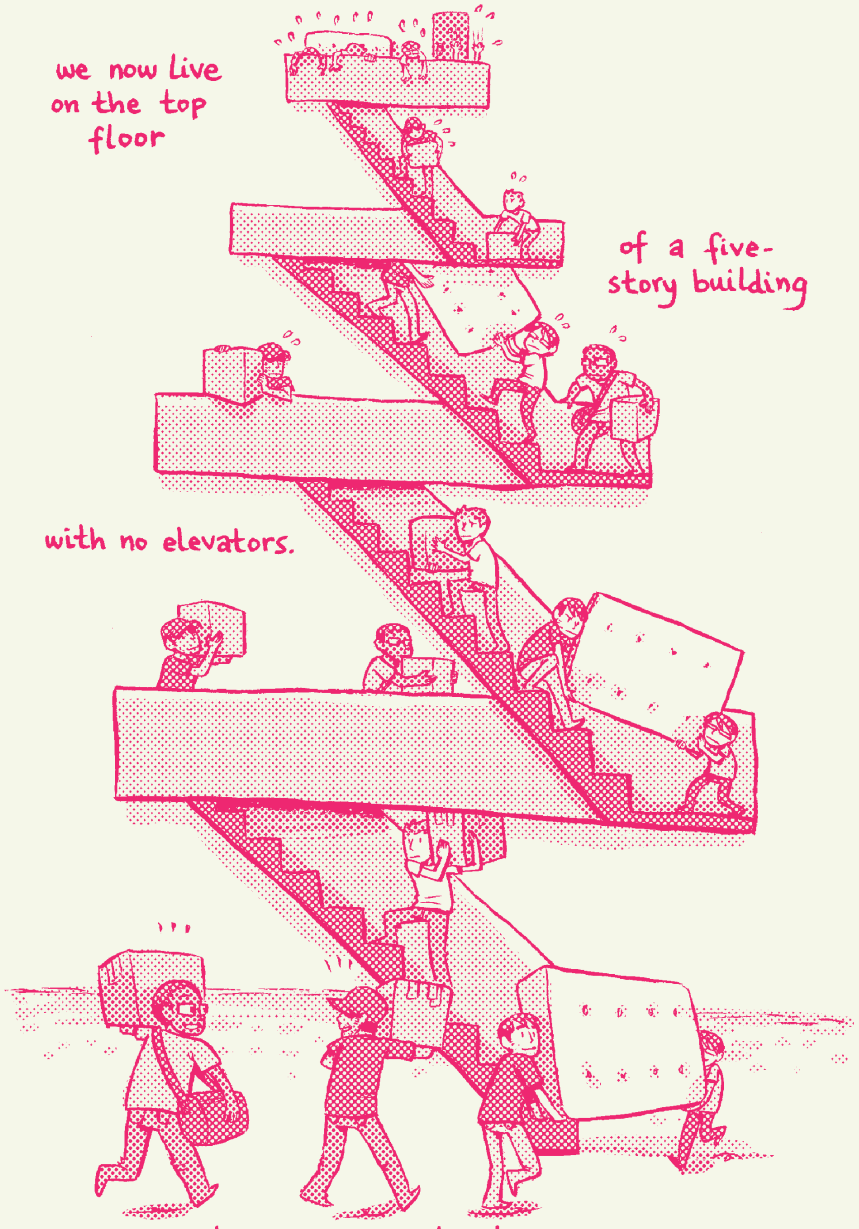

ROCHESTER, NY
— 2008
BROOKLYN, NY
2009 —
ROCKVILLE, MD
2008 – 2009

pardon our dust





stairs forever



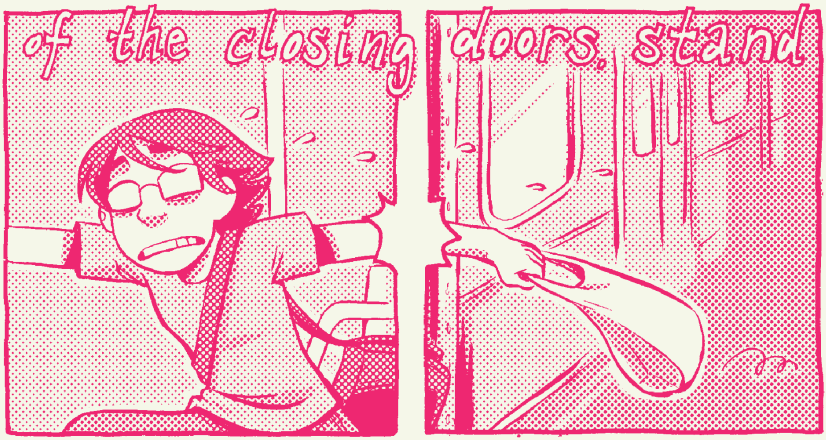
the most terrible thing

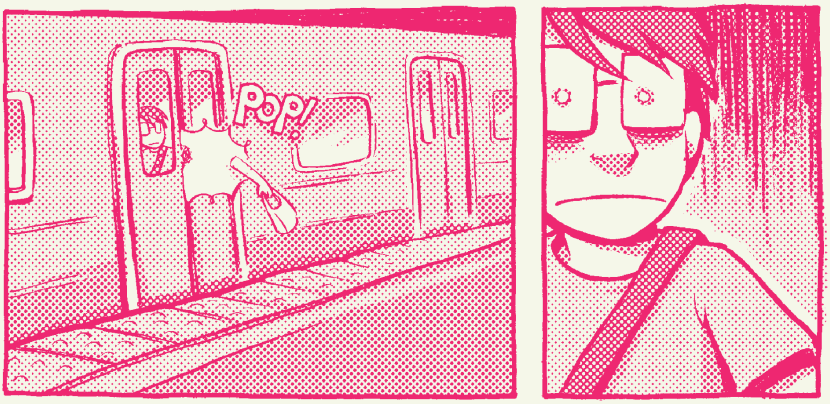


at least it wasn't your head

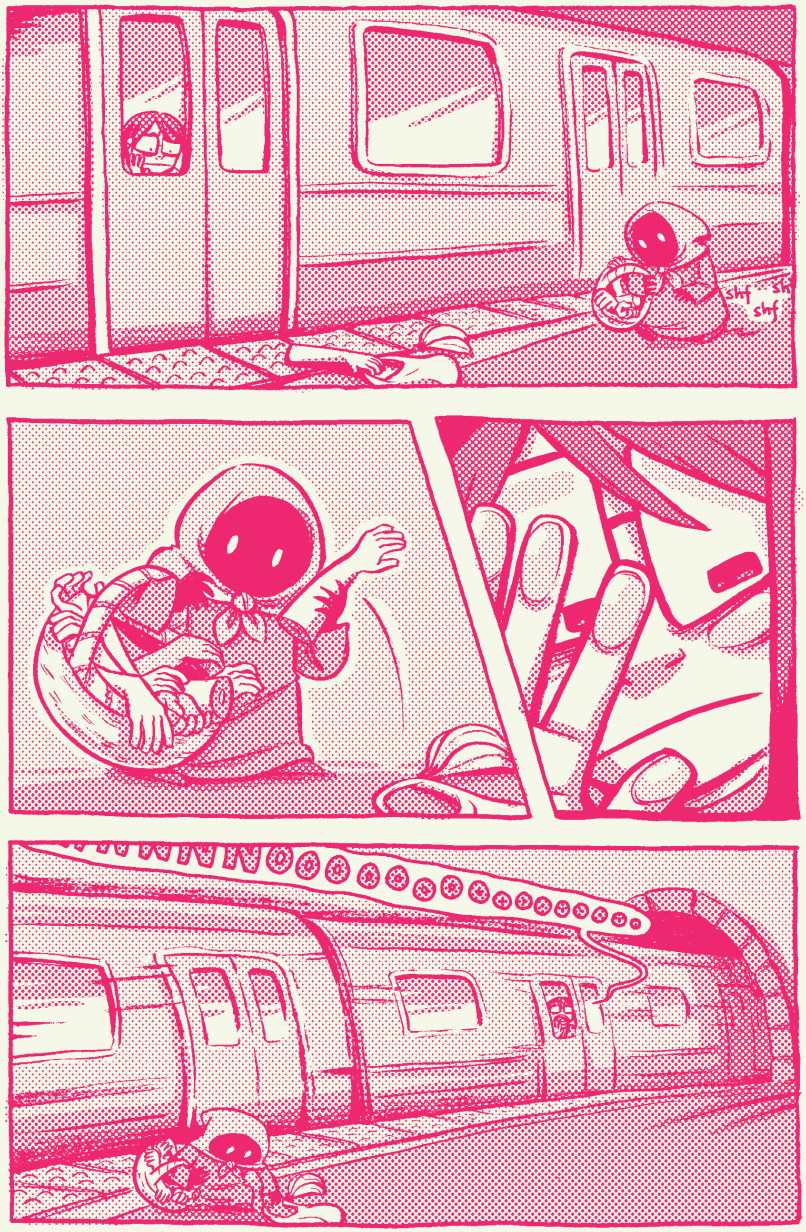
I SWEAR, THIS IS GONNA HAPPEN ONE OF THESE DAYS.





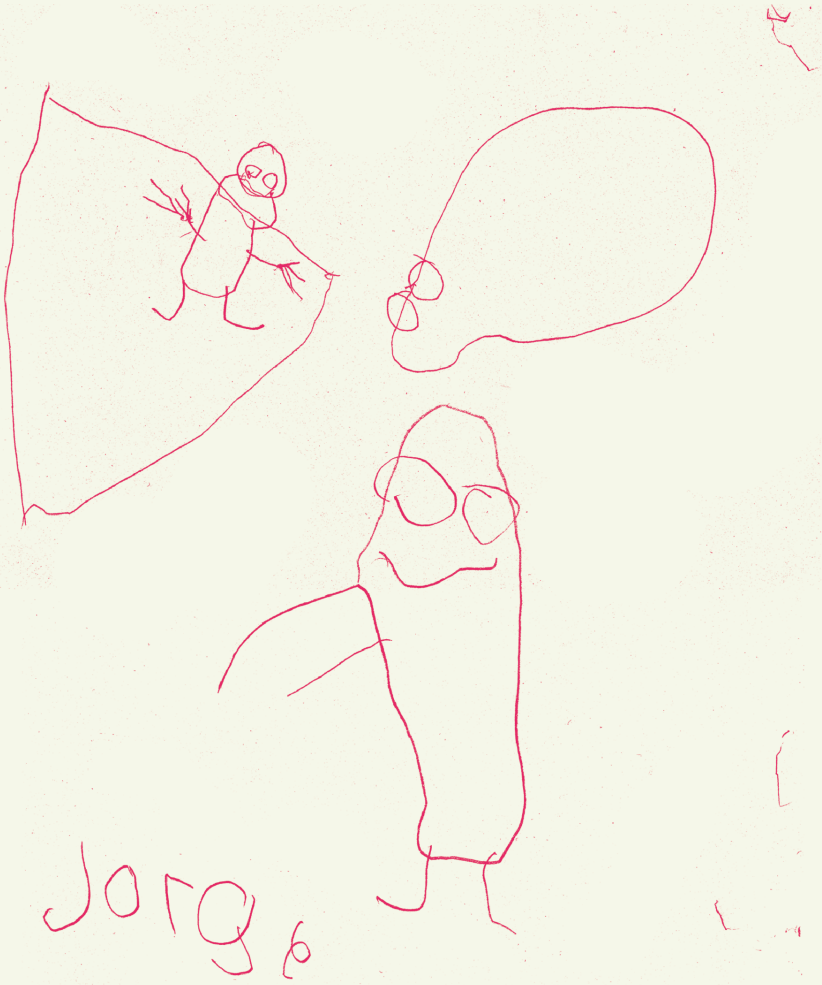


well, maybe your head would've been better



laundromat friends

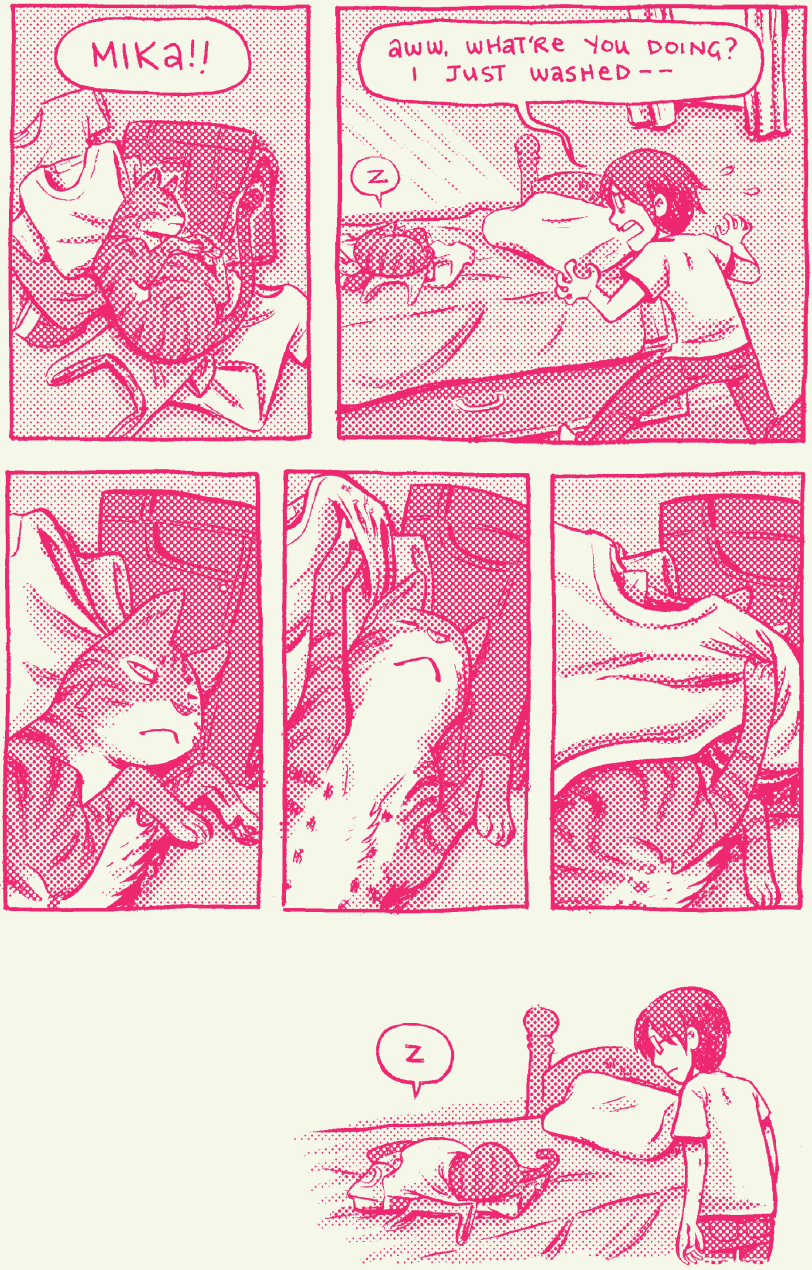



Jorge


AND THERE'S A TREE IN THE PARK AND A SQUIRREL AND A MOMMY BIRD BRINGING A WORM TO ITS BABIES AND THERE ARE EGGS IN THE NEST TOO AND THERE'S A SLIDE AND SOMEONE RIDING IT - NO IT'S TOO SHORT YEAH


WOW, I'M SUCH A GOOD ARTIST!

but how can I stay mad at you



how to ensure yuko never wears a skirt again











from planet panagarixa 7





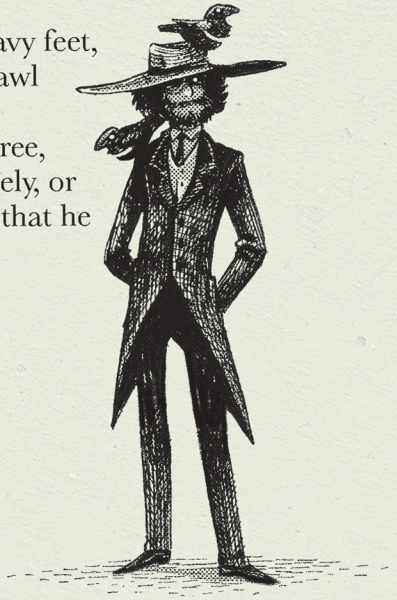
II.

WE'LL wander 'pon a pond'rous man,
His wide-brimmed hat held tall,

We'll sup amongst his heavy feet,
And find shade in his sprawl

Proposing to depart us three,
He'll decline dispassionately, or
Perhaps it will have been that he

Did not notice us at all.




this is
where
we live.

escape to new york



don't burn the house down



but you don't live with us anymore



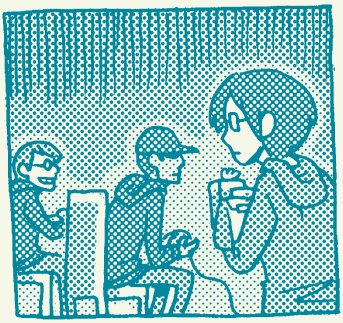
paleontoLOLgy



hourly comics: october 6, 2009

1:20 am

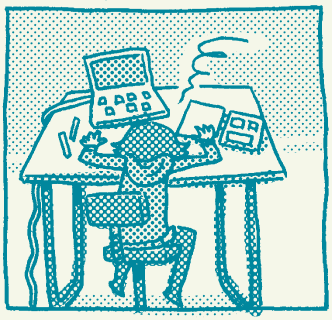




BUT ANANTH IS PLAYING LEFT 4 DEAD.

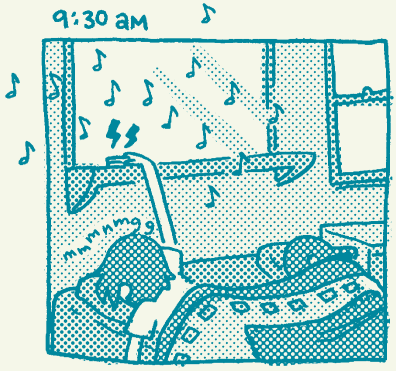


3:00 am

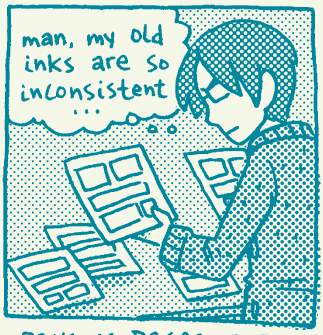


COMIC IS DONE
WANT TO DIE

9:30 am



10:30 am



PACKING PAGES FOR A COMICS EXHIBITION

11:00 AM



DIRTY DISHES FROM LAST NIGHT



CEREAL OUT OF A COFFEE CUP

11:30 AM



GEORGE ARRIVES!

12:45 PM



WE ARRIVE AT THE VIACOM BUILDING!

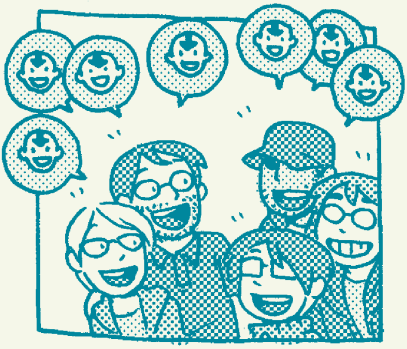
1:00 PM



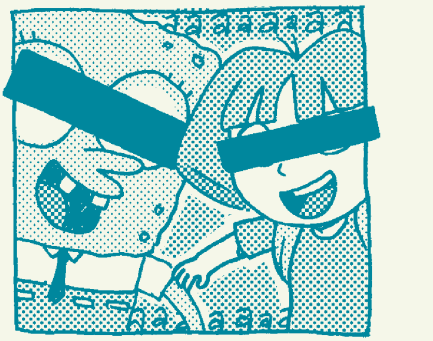
♡ MEET WITH DAVE + RAINA! ♡



OMIGOSH WE'RE TOURING NICKELODEON MAGAZINE eee

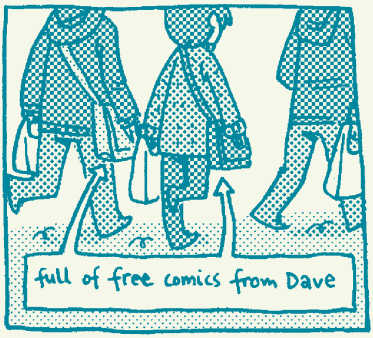


NERDING ABOUT AVATAR



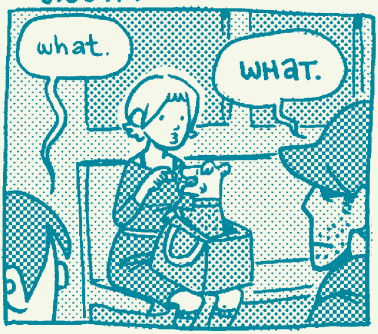
IT'S LIKE A SHRINE TO [redacted] AND [redacted] HERE.

5:00 PM



GROCERY SHOPPING FOR CAKE INGREDIENTS

6:00 PM



WOMAN FEEDING COMBOS TO HER DOG ON THE TRAIN D:

7:00 PM



SO WE ALL DO BIRTHDAY SUSHI.

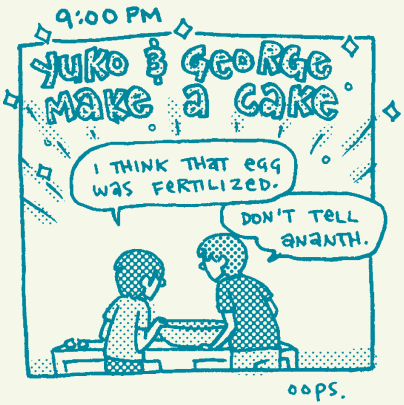


BUT FIRST, WE HAVE TO DO DISHES. and vacuum.

8:00 PM



9:00 PM



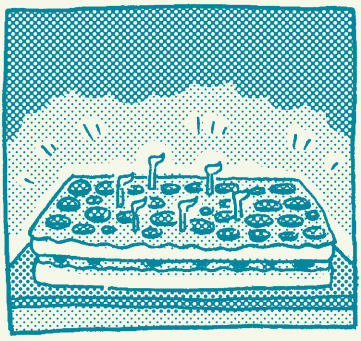
oops.

10:00 PM

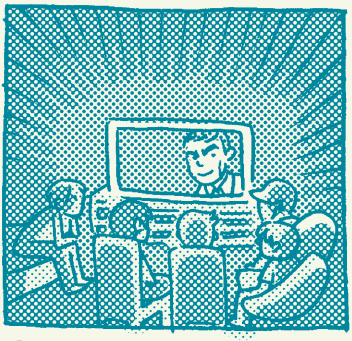


WORKING ON CONTRACT WORK WHILE CAKE COOLS.

11:00 PM

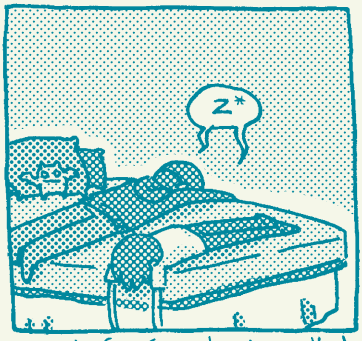


11:30 PM



FINISHING DEXTER SEASON 1

3:30 AM



*except for Conrad who pulled an all-nighter finishing work

दिवाली DIWALI (in my family)

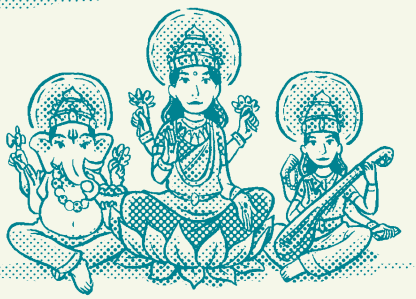
DIWALI CELEBRATES THE RETURN OF RAMA FROM EXILE, DURING WHICH HE DEFEATED THE DEMON KING RAVANA TO SAVE HIS WIFE SITA. HIS SUBJECTS LIT ROWS OF LAMPS (DIYAS) TO LIGHT HIS HOMECOMING. DIWALI MEANS "ROW OF LAMPS" IN SANSKRIT, AND IS CELEBRATED AS THE FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS.



DIYA

A LAMP MADE FROM COTTON STRING WICKS AND GHEE (CLARIFIED BUTTER)

PUJA (PRAYER) IS OFFERED TO LAKSHMI (THE GODDESS OF WEALTH), GANESH (THE GOD OF PROSPERITY AND LUCK), AND SARASVATI (THE GODDESS OF LEARNING).



PUJA



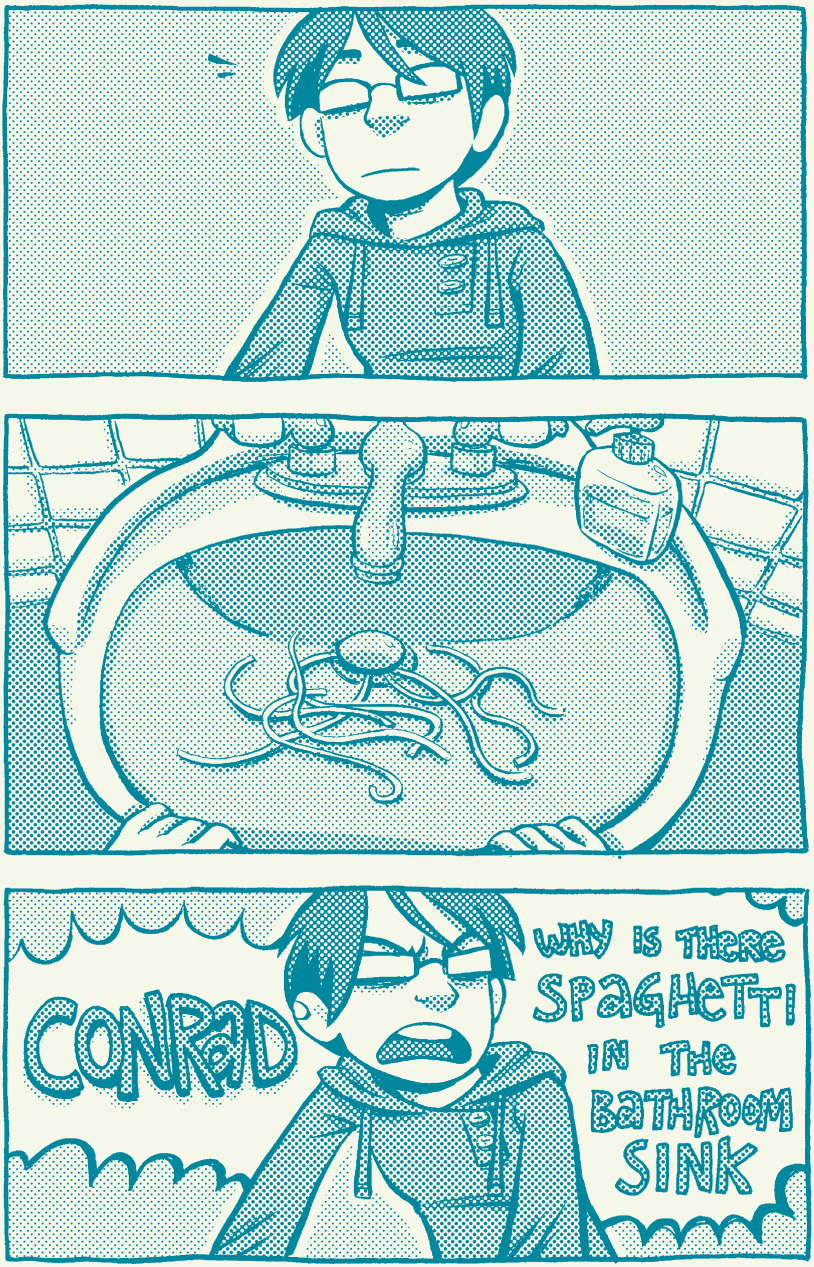
VARIOUS THINGS ARE OFFERED AS PART OF THE PUJA SUCH AS FRUIT, MITHAI (SWEETS), AND SILVER COINS WASHED IN A BOWL OF MILK. TILAK (A RED MARK) IS PUT ON THE FOREHEAD OF GODS AND THOSE PARTICIPATING WITH ROLI (VERMILLION).

YOU TOUCH THE FEET OF YOUR ELDERS AS A SIGN OF RESPECT — IN RETURN YOU RECEIVE BLESSINGS AND OCCASIONALLY GIFTS.



PRANAAM

these things happen sometimes



protomen @ trashbar



hand in the proverbial cookie jar

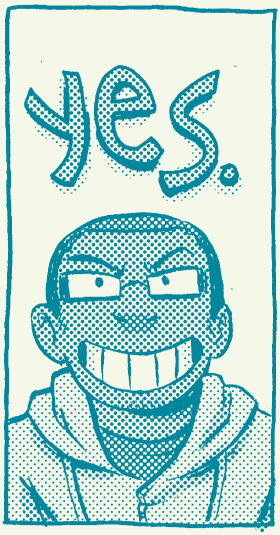


5 minutes later

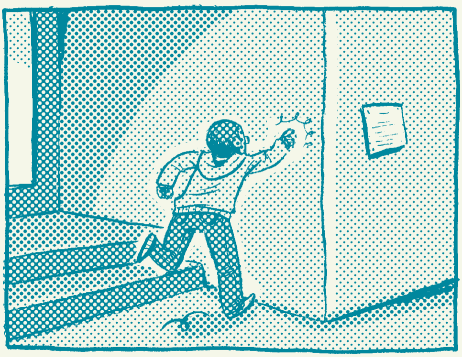


now he knows it's real

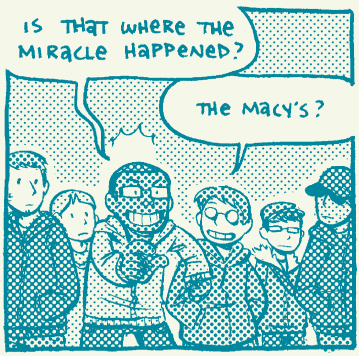




AND SO:



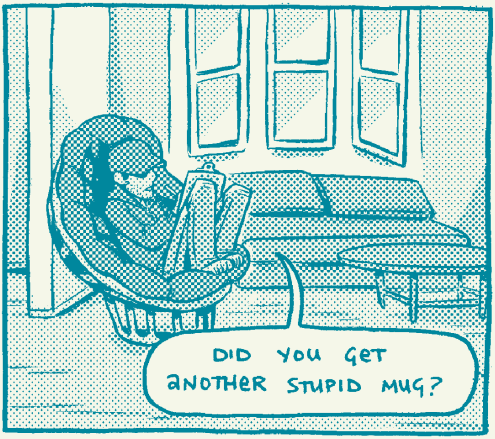
AND LATER:





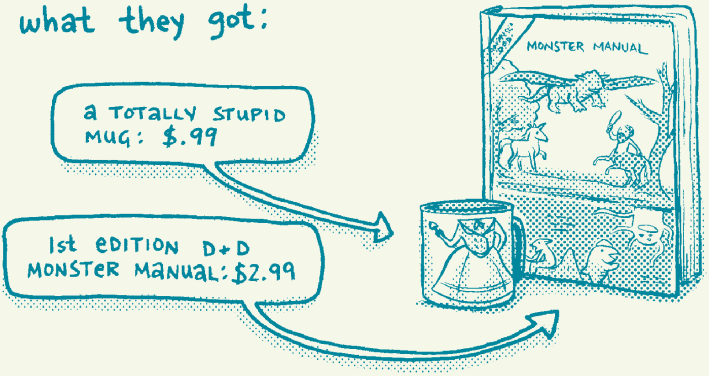
YUKO AND GEORGE GO TO GOODWILL







what they got:





CHRISTMAS MUG



BIRTHDAY MUG



PLASTIC INACCURATE DINOSAUR MUG



BLACK CAT MUG



WILD STRAWBERRY MUG



SEDONA SUNSET MUG



WEIRD FRENCH GOODWILL MUG



RABBITS IN TREES MUG



GRUMPY DOLLAR-STORE MUG



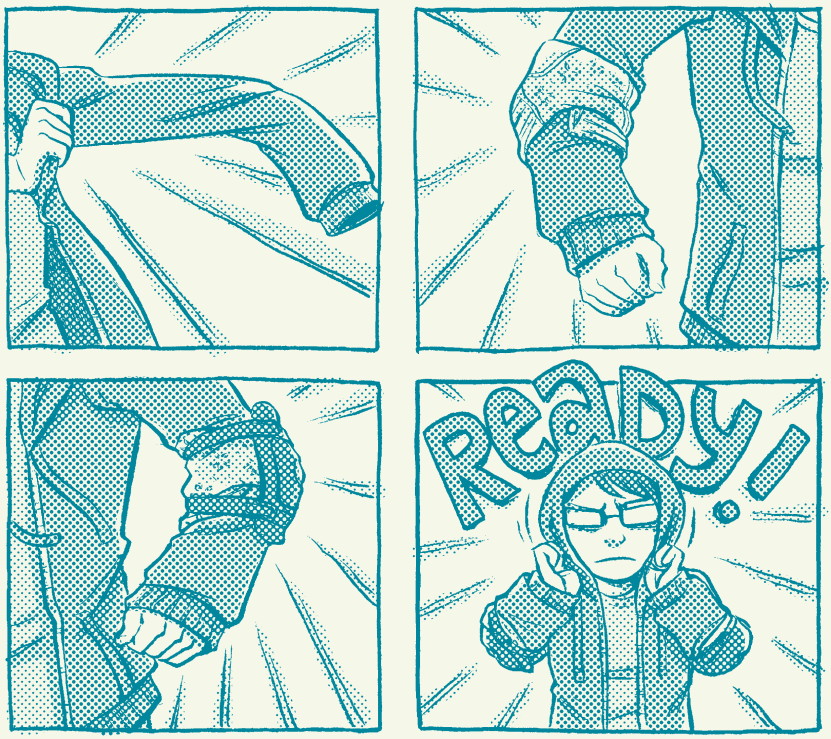
YUKO'S HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION MUG



GOODWILL GIRL MUG



GOODWILL "THIRTY HURTS" MUG


READY!



we're sorry john



OTHER THINGS JOHN TAKES SHOTS OF:


soysauce


salad dressing


ketchup


barbeque sauce


teriyaki sauce


balsamic vinegar


salt


honey


sugar

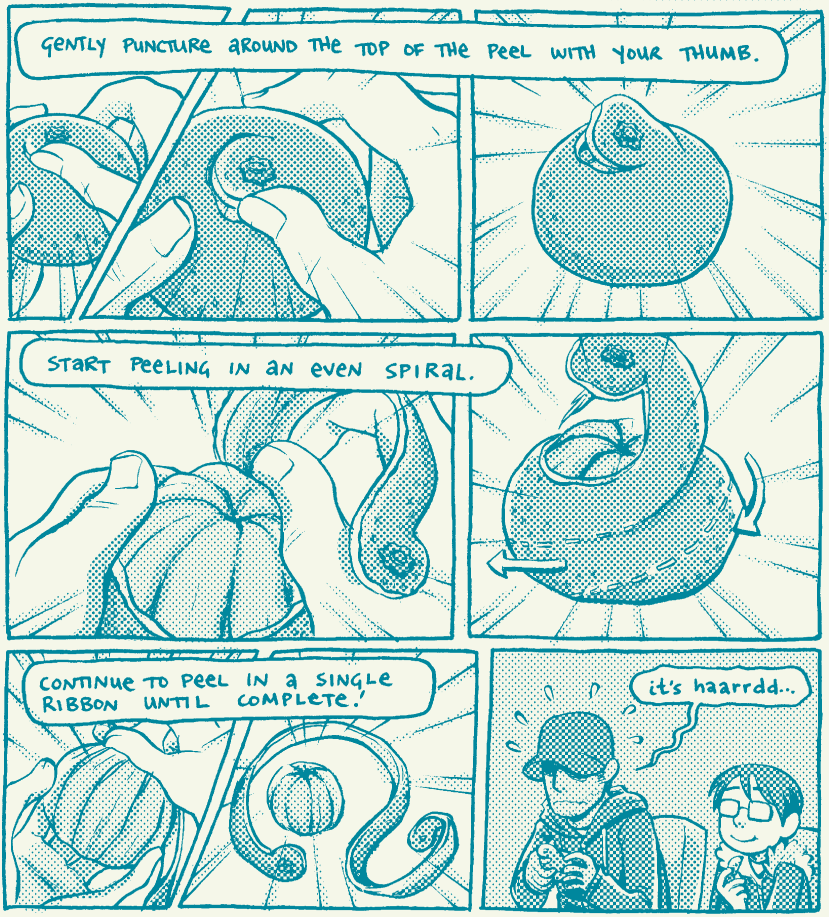
when did we even buy kiwis



speeed liines



THE ULTIMATE CLEMENTINE PEELING TECHNIQUE!



inept baby mouse

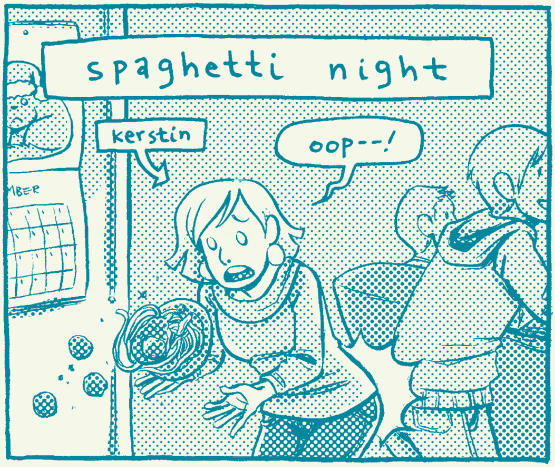


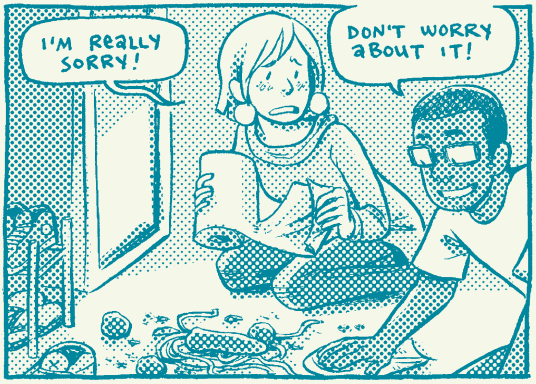
inept baby mouse II



on top of spaghetti all covered in cheese

FOR NEW YEARS EVE WE HAD A BUNCH OF FRIENDS STAY WITH US...





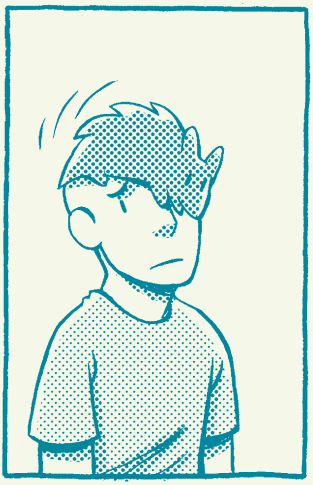
BUT THE NEXT MORNING

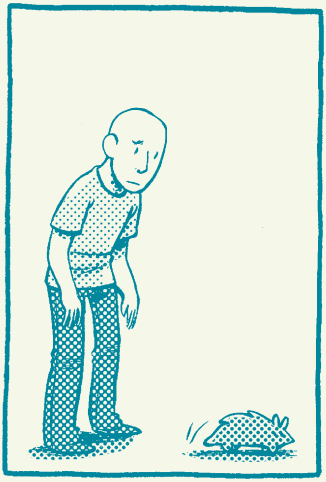


VERY IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

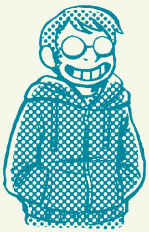
WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH CONRAD'S HAIR?

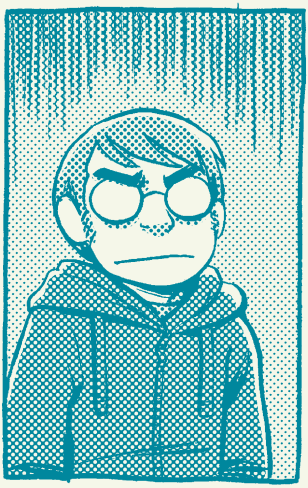


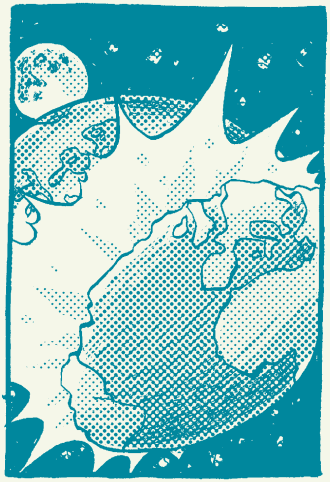




WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF GEORGE STOPPED SMILING?



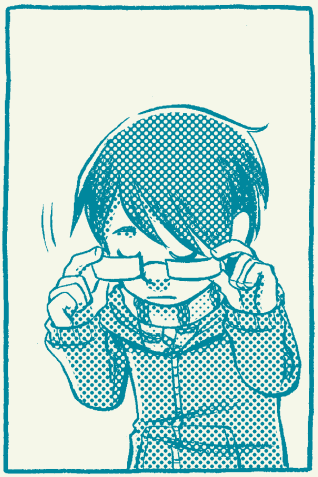


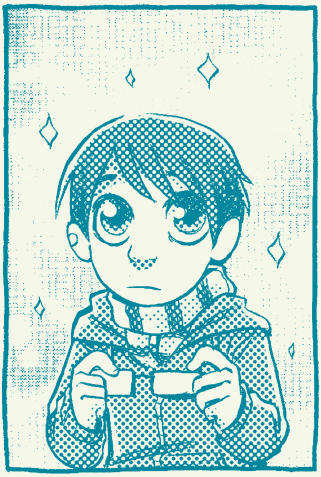


MORE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS

WHAT IS BEHIND YUKO'S GLASSES?



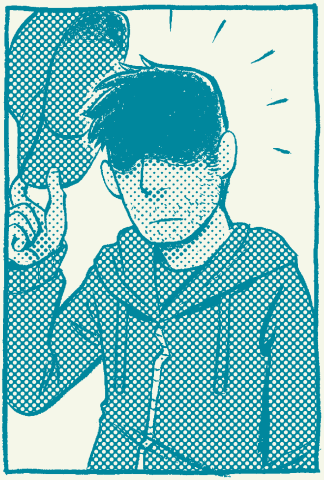


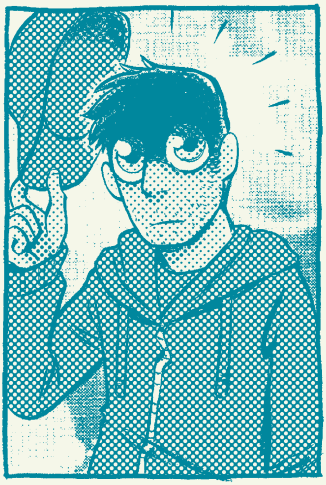


WHAT DOES ANANTH'S FACE LOOK LIKE?



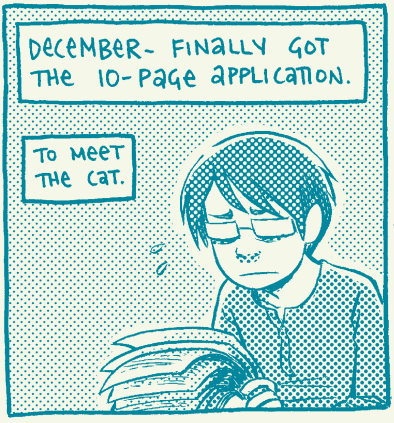


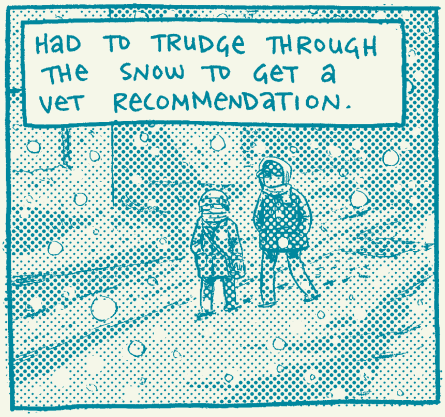




TERRIBLE CAT ODYSSEY







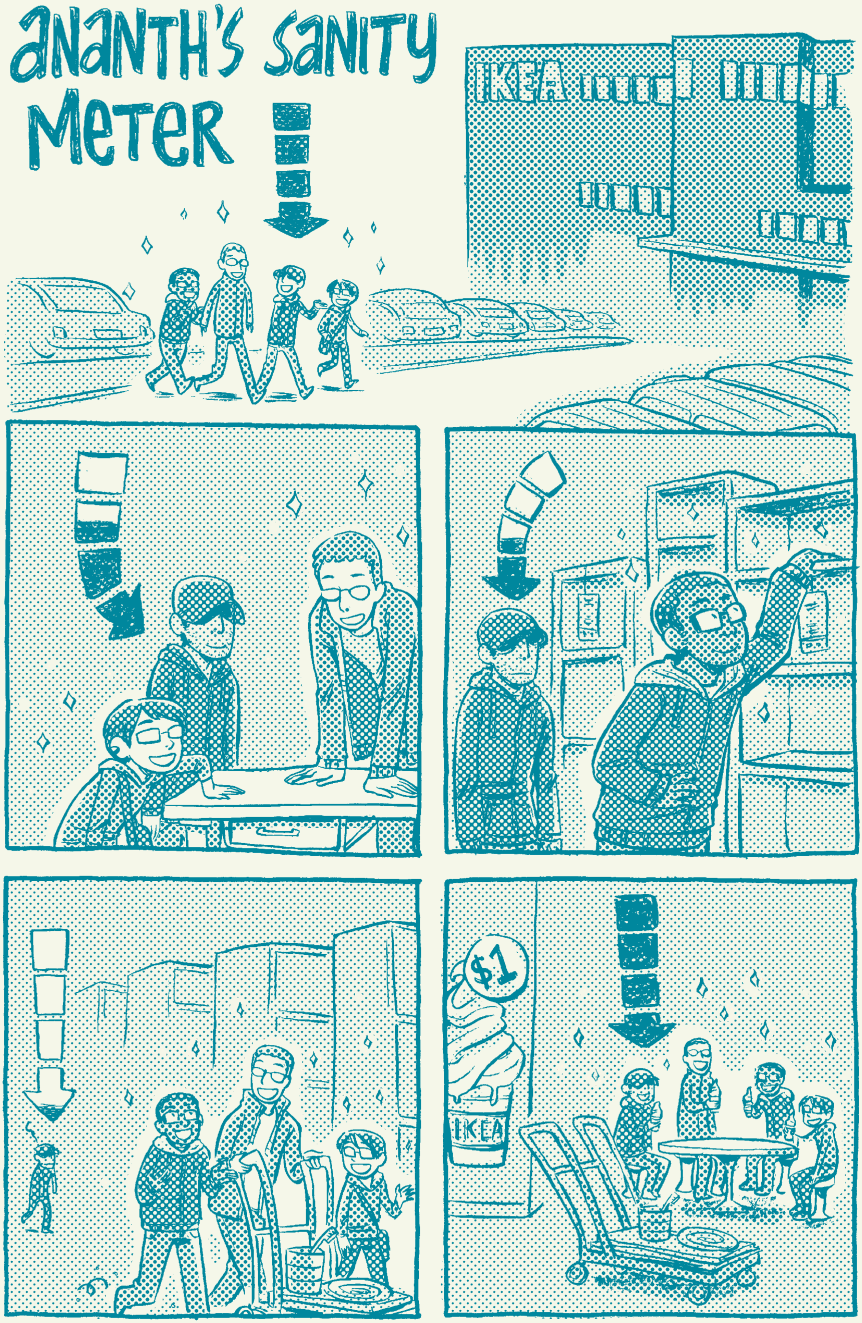




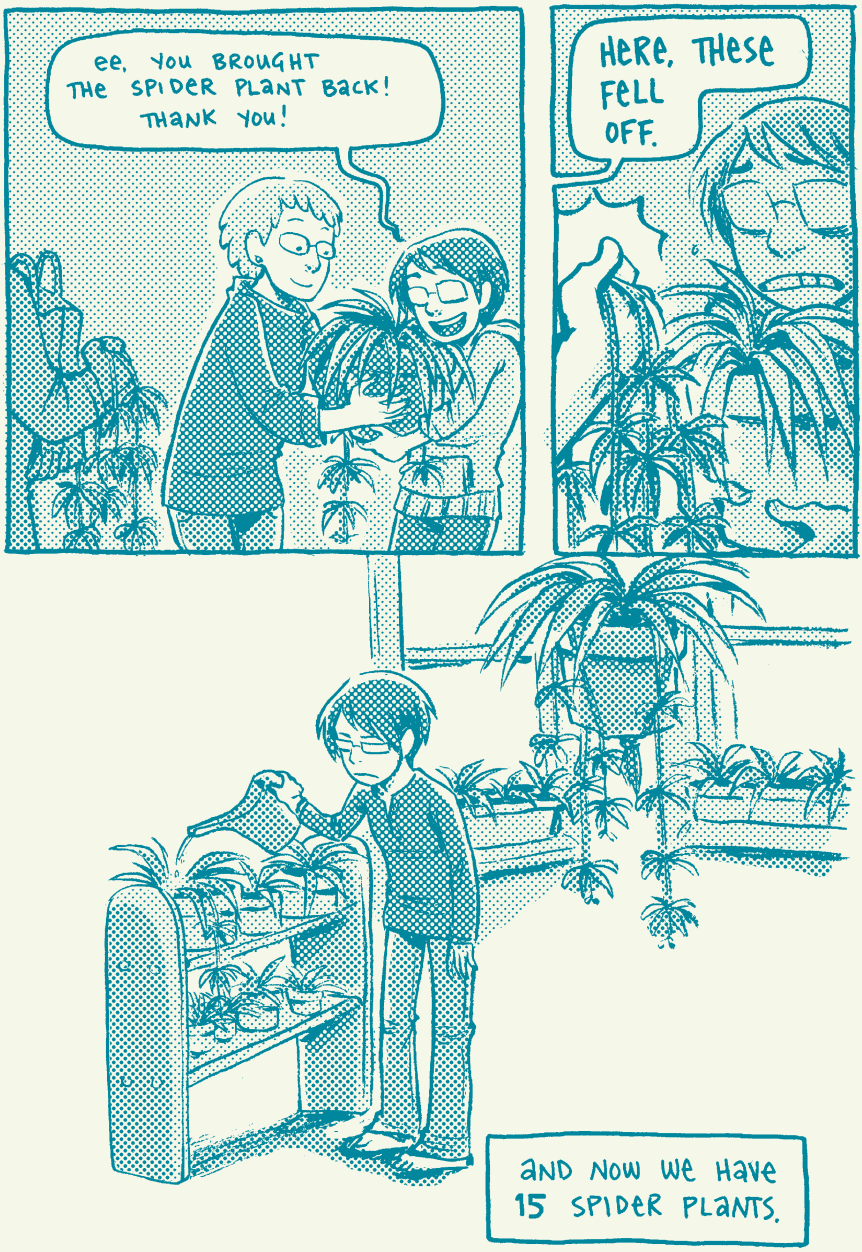


the johnisms continue




ANANTH'S SANITY METER
IKEA
$1
IKEA

the triumphant return of wolf



HOW LAID BACK IS THIS CAT?

LET'S BOTHER IT AND SEE HOW LONG IT TAKES FOR ME TO GET BITTEN.



THIS OBVIOUSLY ISN'T A REAL CAT.

hourly comics: february 1, 2010



AT THE POST OFFICE:



ALSO MY MOM SENT LIKE 12 LBS OF ORANGES.



THE ORANGES ARE SO ACIDIC THEY HURT MY TEETH.



WORKING ON MEGAN'S WEDDING INVITATION.



SUPER CALLS ME TO LET IN THE RECENTLY EVICTED TENANTS SO THEY CAN CHECK THEIR MAIL.





MAKING TEA



DRINKING TEA, TALKING TO ANANTH ABOUT SCRIPTS.

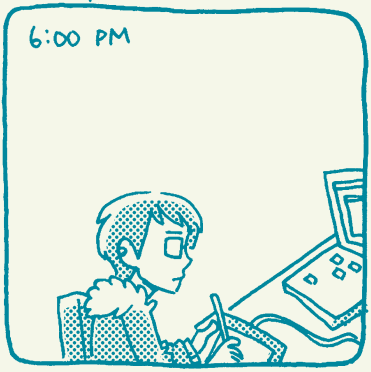


WRITING A LIVEJOURNAL POST.





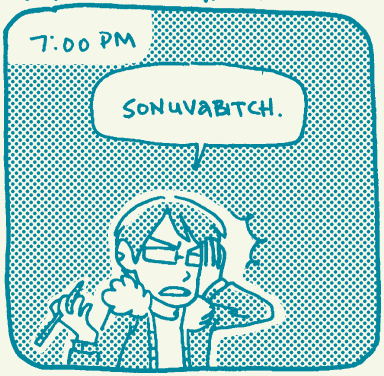
STILL WORKING ON THAT THING FOR MEGAN.



AND THUMBNAILS.



AGH, I FORGOT — TODAY WAS ART GROUP.



DROWNING SORROWS IN CUTE CAT NAMES.



eta: oops, the cat's a boy.

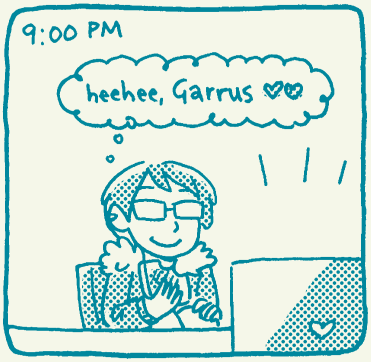
ANANTH LEAVES FOR HIS PARENTS' PLACE



BURNT THE TOAST (dinner)



WATCHING AWKWARD MACKIN' SCENES FROM MASS EFFECT 2



MAYBE I SHOULD START DRAWING MY HOURLIES.



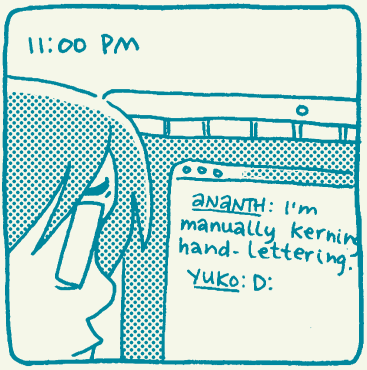
WORKING ON JOHNNY WANDER COMIC INSTEAD



LISTENING TO ANGELS? DEMONS ON AUDIOBOOK.



INKING AND TALKING TO ANANTH ON AIM



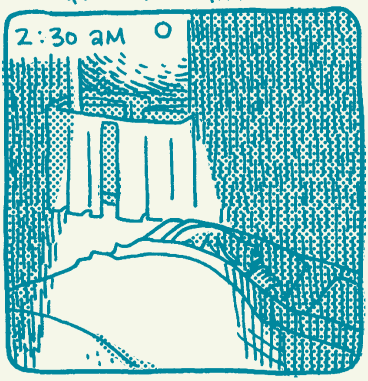
THROAT IS FEELIN' SCRATCHY.



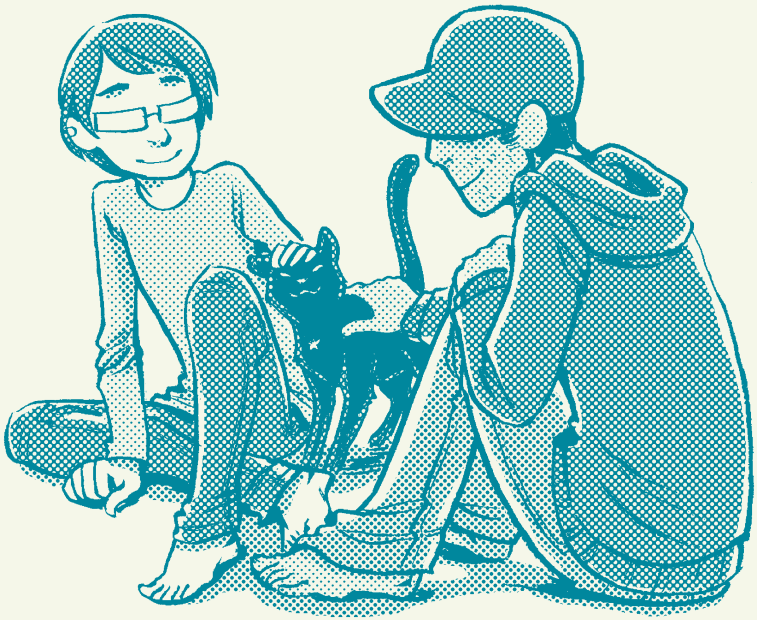
DRAWING HOURLIES.



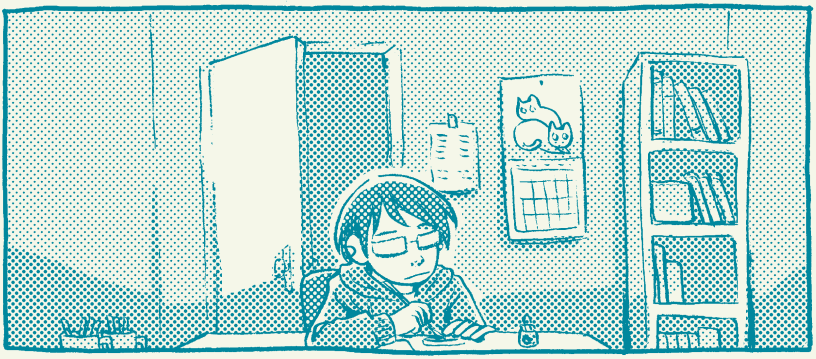
THE MOON IS STUPENDOUSLY BRIGHT TONIGHT.

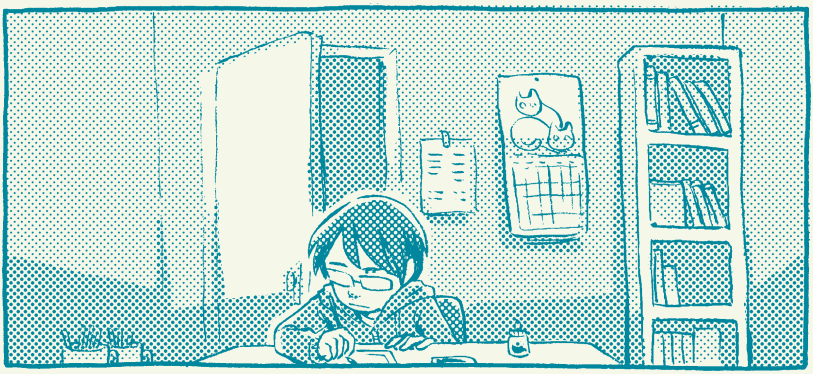


Busy week.



well I guess conrad is home







YUKO'S TRAUMATIZING DENTAL MISADVENTURES

age 10: TWO OPERATIONS IN ONE WEEK....



① BABY TOOTH PULLED BECAUSE IT WAS FUSING TO ADULT MOLAR. PERMANENT RETAINER AFTERWARDS.

② THE MUSCLE ATTACHING THE UPPER LIP TO THE GUMS REMOVED BECAUSE IT WAS PUSHING APART THE TOP INCISORS.



age 12: BRACES PUT IN FOR ABOUT A YEAR TO FIX THE GAP BETWEEN FRONT TEETH.



AFTERWARDS, A RETAINER.

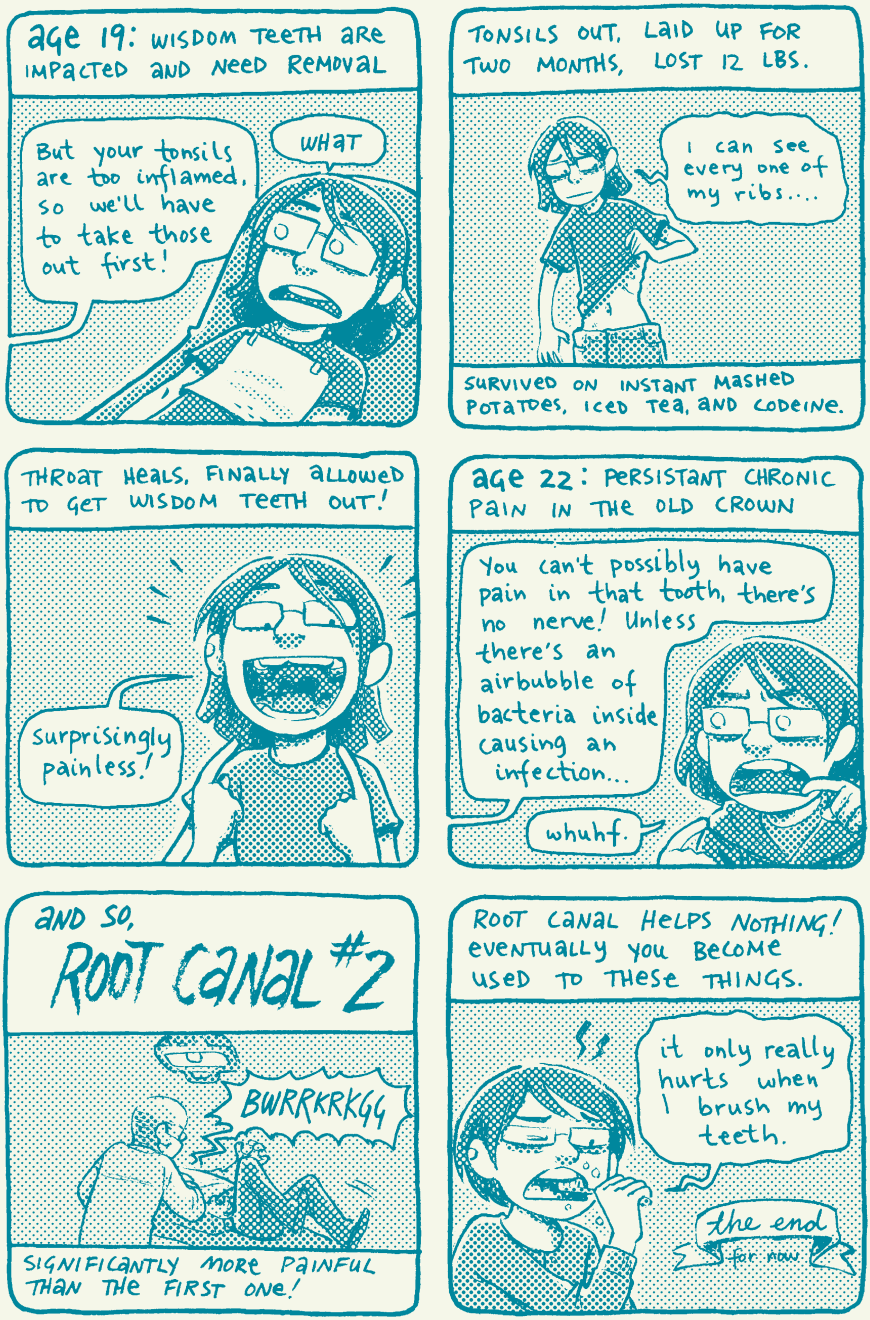
age 15: AFTER GETTING FOUR CAVITIES IN THE SAME TOOTH, DENTIST DECIDES TO CROWN IT.



BUT FIRST, ROOT CANAL



(GOT TO BRING THE NERVES HOME!)

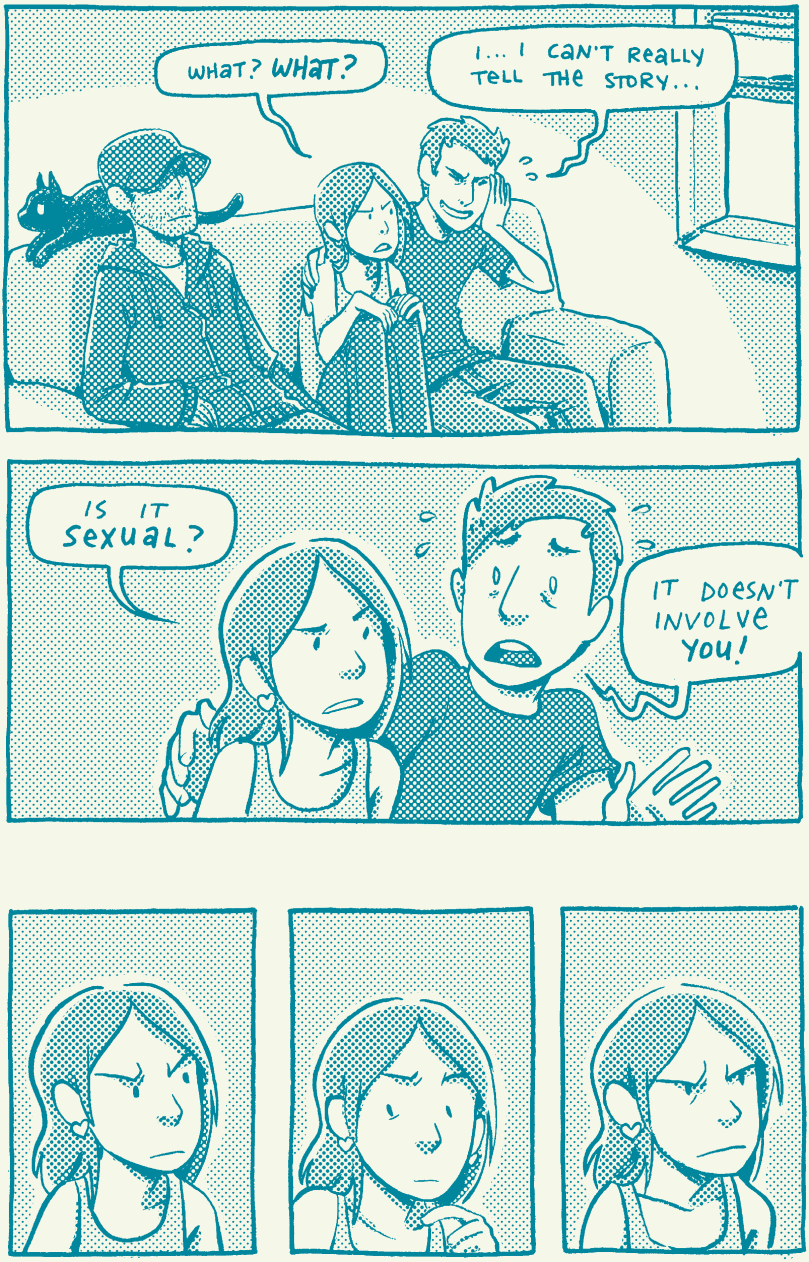

age 19: WISDOM TEETH ARE IMPACTED AND NEED REMOVAL
But your tonsils are too inflamed, so we'll have to take those out first!
WHAT
TONSILS OUT, LAID UP FOR TWO MONTHS, LOST 12 LBS.
I can see every one of my ribs....
SURVIVED ON INSTANT MASHED POTATOES, ICED TEA, AND CODEINE.
THROAT HEALS, FINALLY ALLOWED TO GET WISDOM TEETH OUT!
surprisingly painless!
age 22: PERSISTANT CHRONIC PAIN IN THE OLD CROWN
You can't possibly have pain in that tooth, there's no nerve! Unless there's an airbubble of bacteria inside causing an infection...
whuhf.
AND SO,
ROOT CANAL #2
BWRRKRKGG
SIGNIFICANTLY MORE PAINFUL THAN THE FIRST ONE!
ROOT CANAL HELPS NOTHING! EVENTUALLY YOU BECOME USED TO THESE THINGS.
it only really hurts when I brush my teeth.
the end for now

chivalry I guess

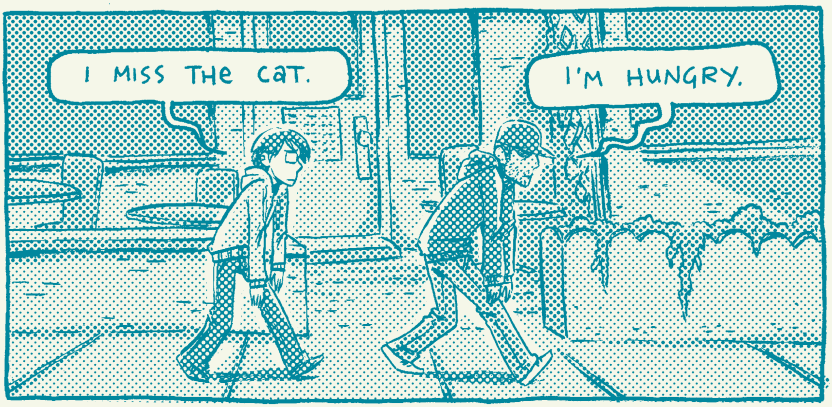


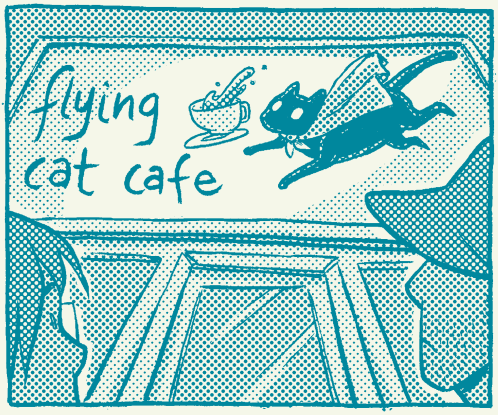
SO THE DUDES IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD THINK ANANTH IS A JERK.

on self-incrimination

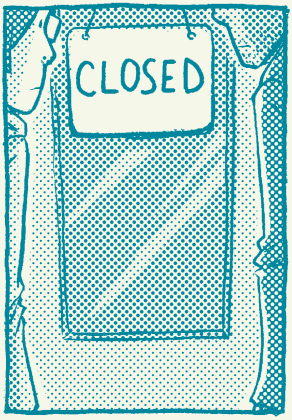


as foretold


I MISS THE CAT.
I'M HUNGRY.


flying cat cafe


IT'S A SIGN!


CLOSED


this too is a sign.
CLOSED

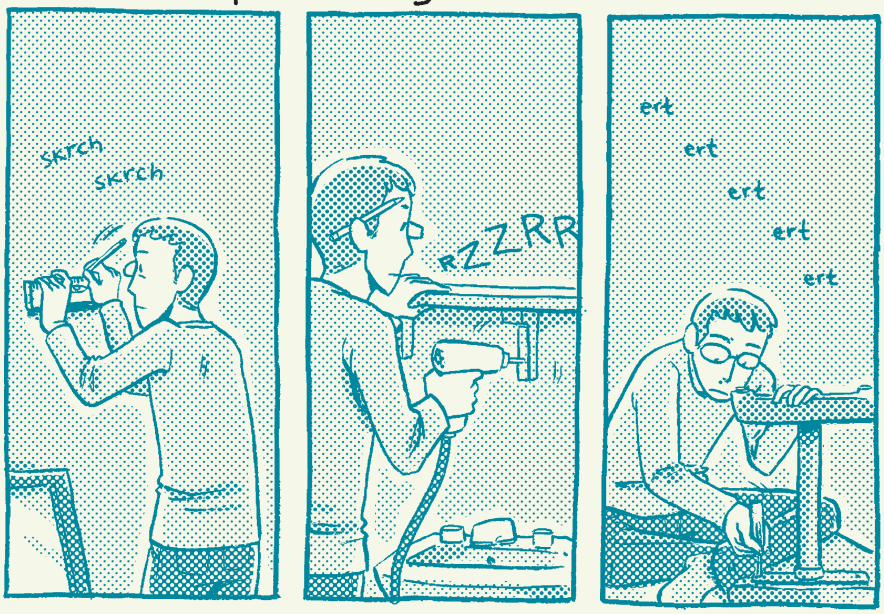
ambulance cat

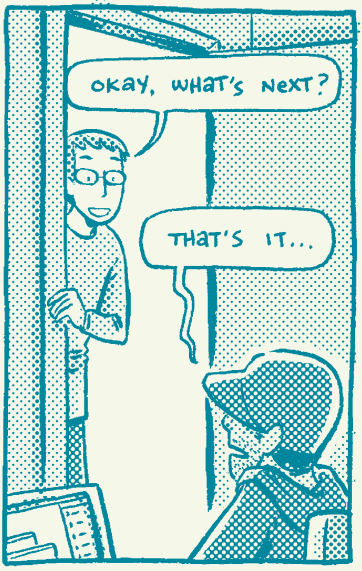


Ladies only


JUST TO WARN YOU—
ROOK CAN BE KINDA SKITTISH
...around strangers.
OH HELLO!
you hussy
prrrr
prrr
Laydeez man

Like $200 of tinkertoys







one man's trash



SPACKLEHAUS MEMOIRS 4

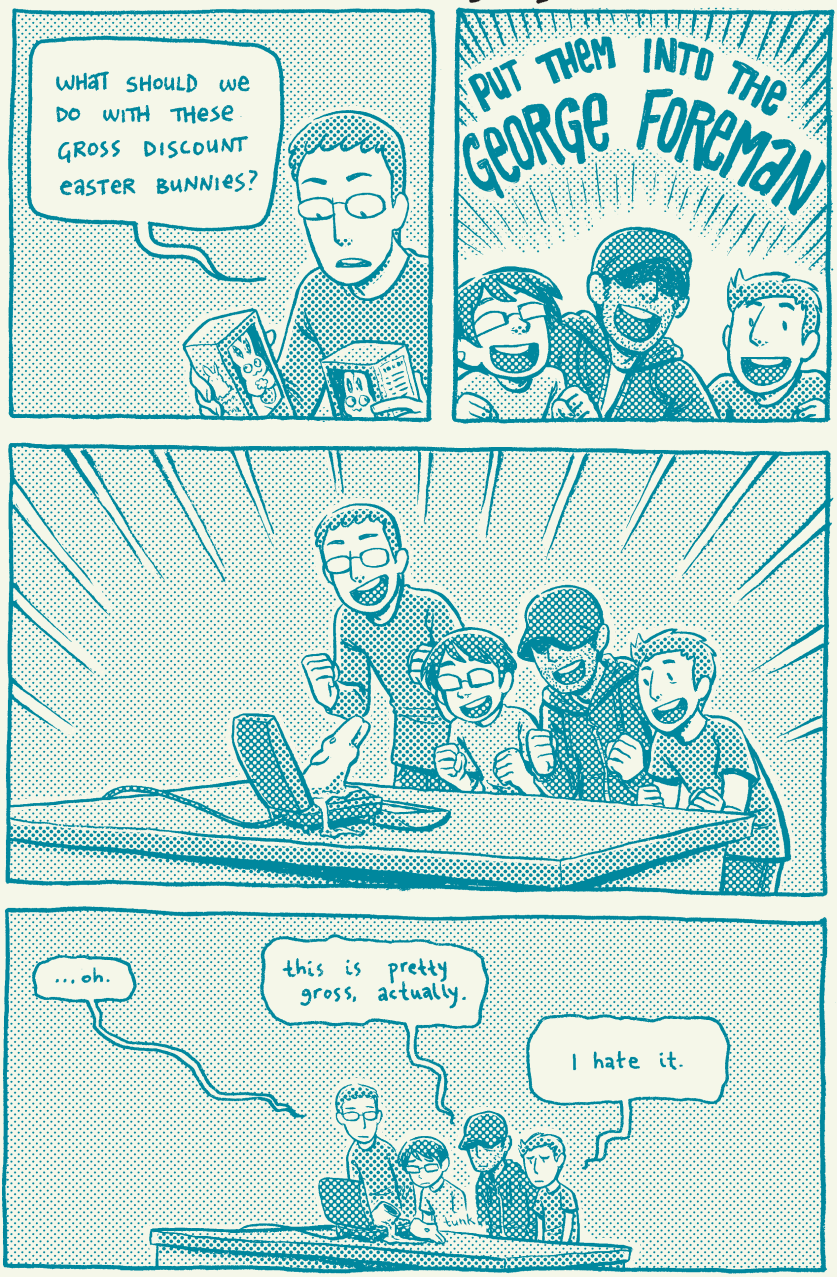
the landlord



nothing some epoxy won't fix



because we sure weren't going to eat them



nothing personal



THINGS ROOK WILL EAT
GIVEN HALF THE CHANCE

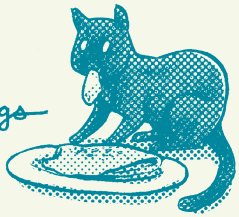


marinara sauce


ice cream


yogurt


flies


eggs


soup

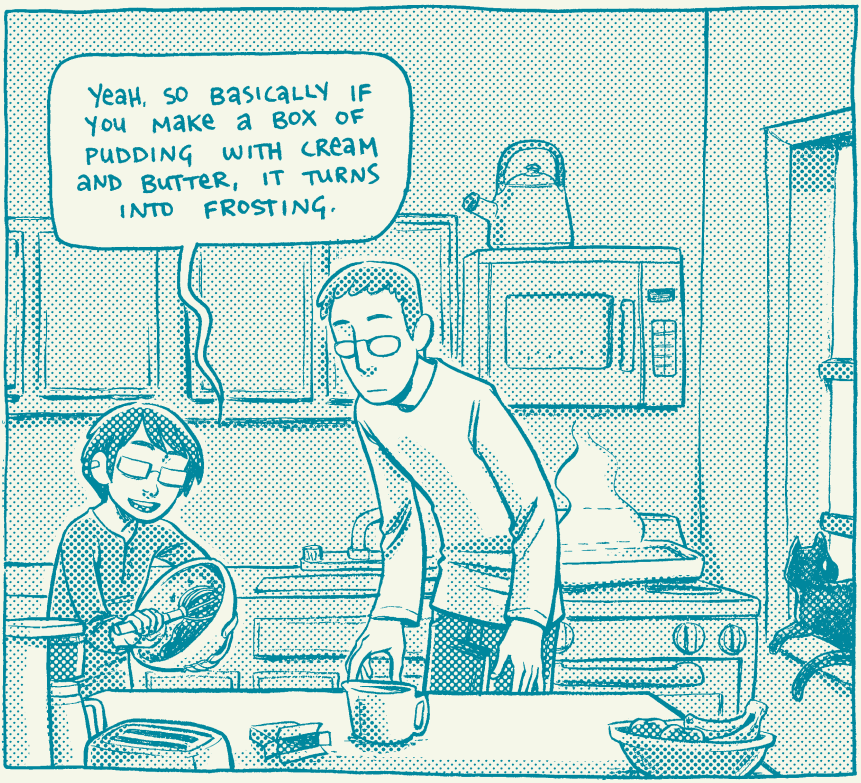

soy sauce


rice


miso paste



coffee grounds


Yeah, so basically if you make a box of pudding with cream and butter, it turns into frosting.


omigosh.


give that to me, I'm going to eat it.

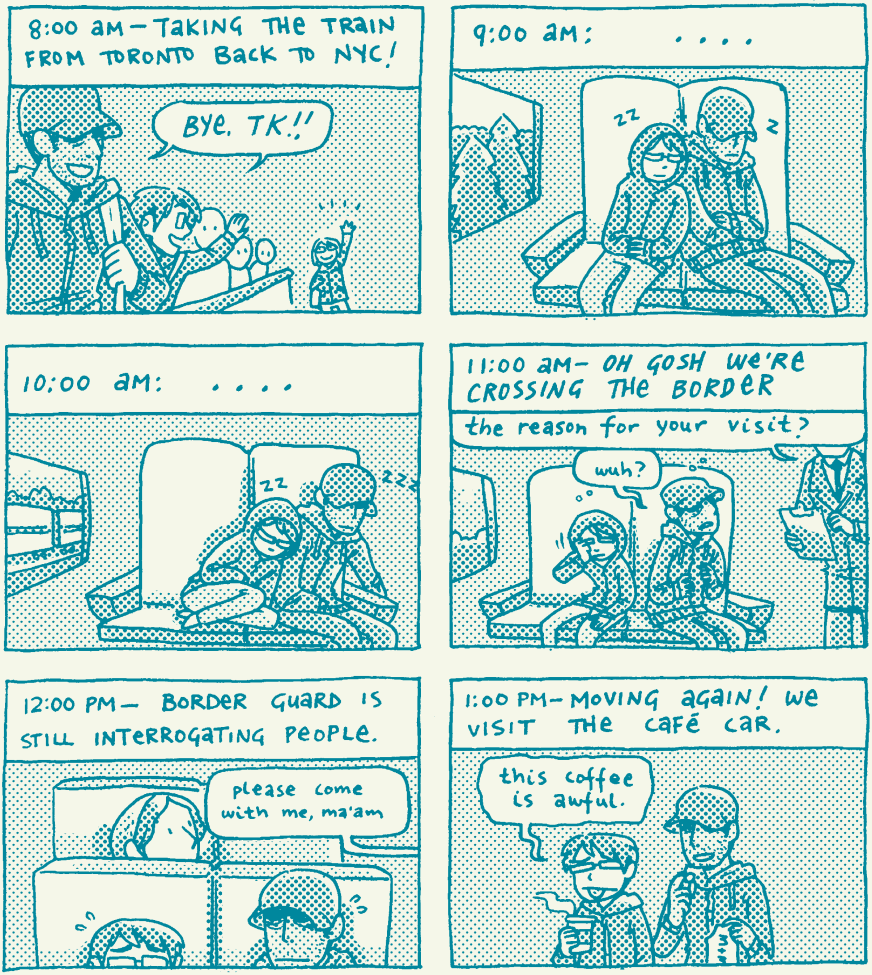

SPACKLEHAUS MEMOIRS 5
HEY GUYS! THIS HOUSE CAME WITH AN INDOOR WATERFALL!
R... REALLY?
ALSO, THE BASEMENT IS FLOODED.

he's still the best super we've ever had



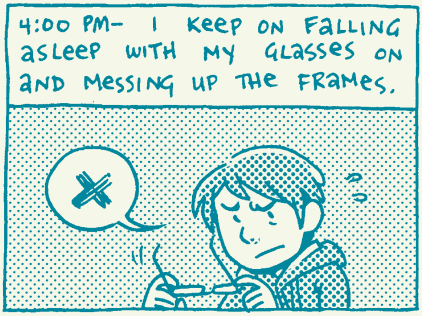
I CAN'T TELL IF THE SUPER IS MAKING FUN OF ME

FAIRLY UNEVENTFUL 14-HOUR TRAIN RIDE FROM TORONTO TO NEW YORK



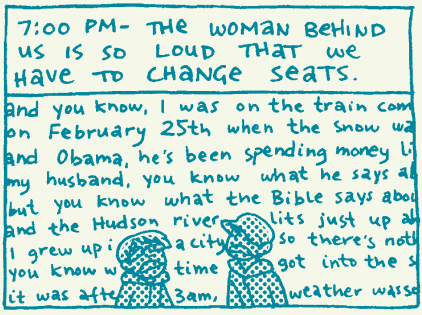

2:00 PM- TAKING DOWN SOME FUTURE STORY IDEAS.


3:00 PM- THE GUY ACROSS FROM US WON'T STOP SINGING...
ohh my daaarling...


4:00 PM- I KEEP ON FALLING ASLEEP WITH MY GLASSES ON AND MESSING UP THE FRAMES.

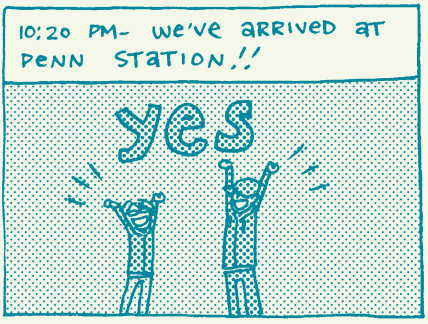

5:00 PM- THE TEENY JANITOR CARTOON IN THE BATHROOM KINDA LOOKS LIKE A DEVIL.
Be consider
the next p
and clean


6:00 PM- THUMBNaaaIIILLSS
skrch
skrch


7:00 PM- THE WOMAN BEHIND US IS SO LOUD THAT WE HAVE TO CHANGE SEATS.
and you know, I was on the train com
on February 25th when the snow wa
and Obama, he's been spending money li
my husband, you know what he says a
but you know what the Bible says abo
and the Hudson river lits just up a
I grew up i a city so there's not
you know w time got into the s
it was afte 3am, weather wasn

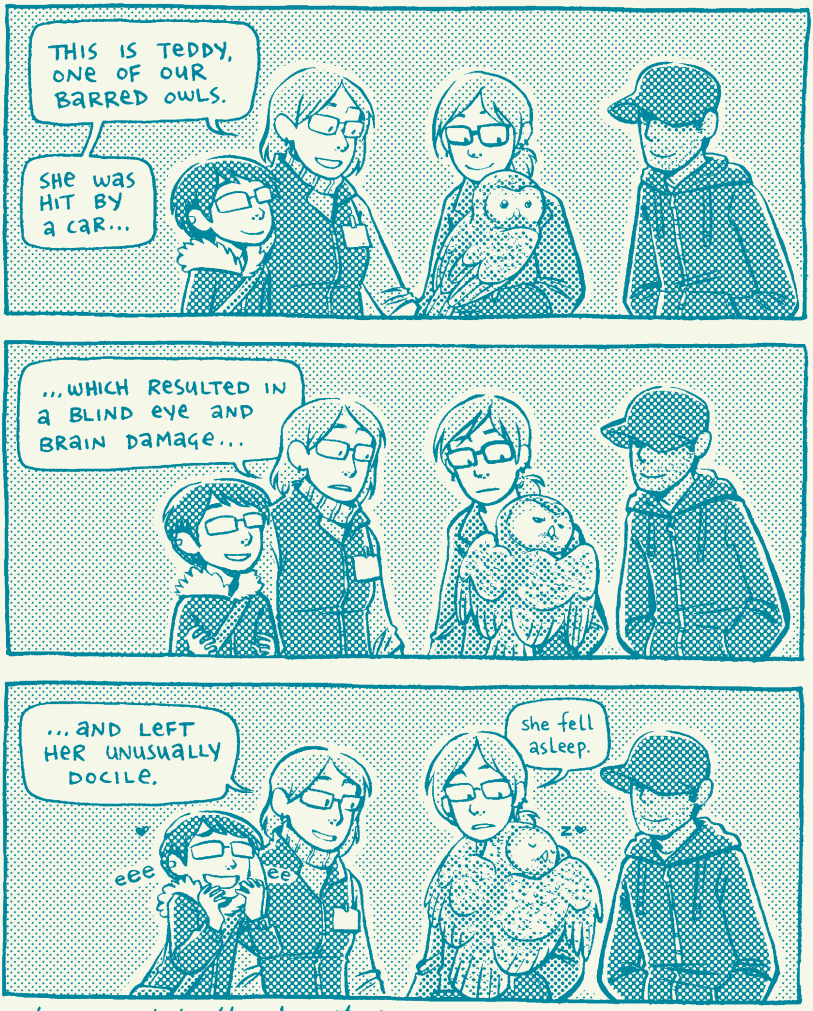

8:00 PM- TEENY LIGHTHOUSE ON THE HUDSON RIVER.


9:00 PM- WE'RE GETTING ANTSY.
aaa we've been here for over twelve hours aaaa
fidget
fidget
fidget

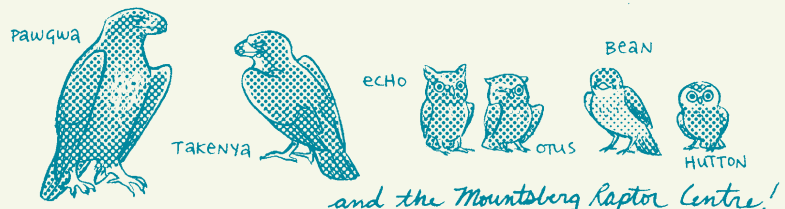

10:20 PM- WE'VE ARRIVED AT PENN STATION!!
yes


I'm hungry.

visiting the mountsberg raptor centre



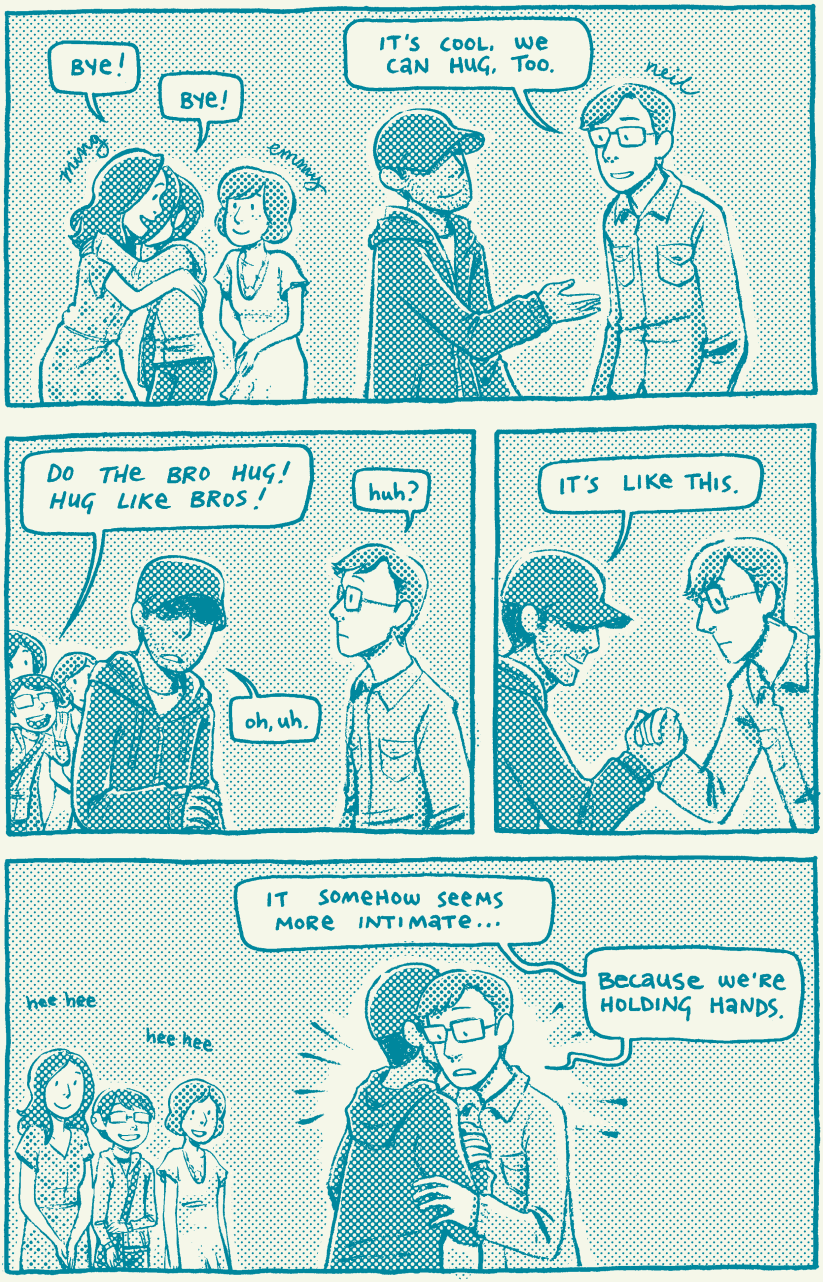
also special thanks to:



and the Mountsberg Raptor Centre!


meoww
WHAT IF
ROOK COULD TALK
hey
heeyyy
heeeeyyyy
heeeeyYyYyy
heeeeee
eyyyy
i'm hungry

an alternate interpretation

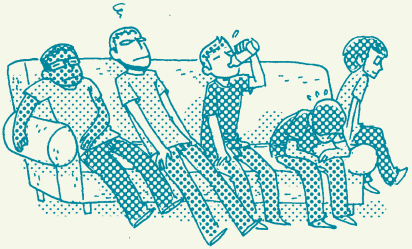



I THINK WE'VE GOT TOO MANY BOOKS.
AGAIN.
KRAK!
KA-CHUNK
aaaaaaaa
aaaaa


oww

woes of a fifth-floor tenant



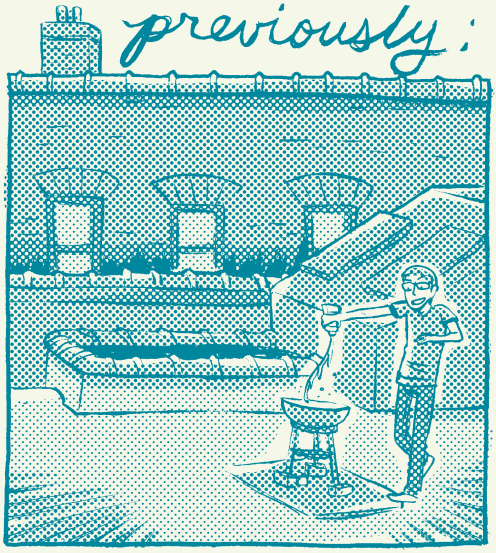


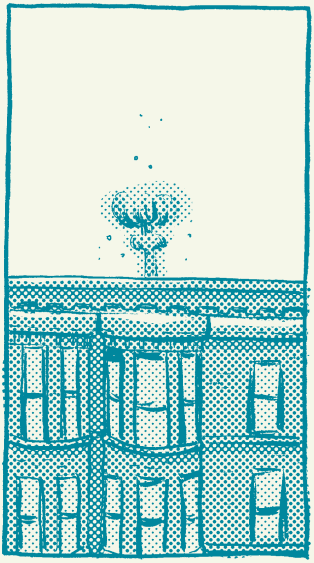
IS SITTING ON IT AFTERWARDS.

but we were out of lighter fluid





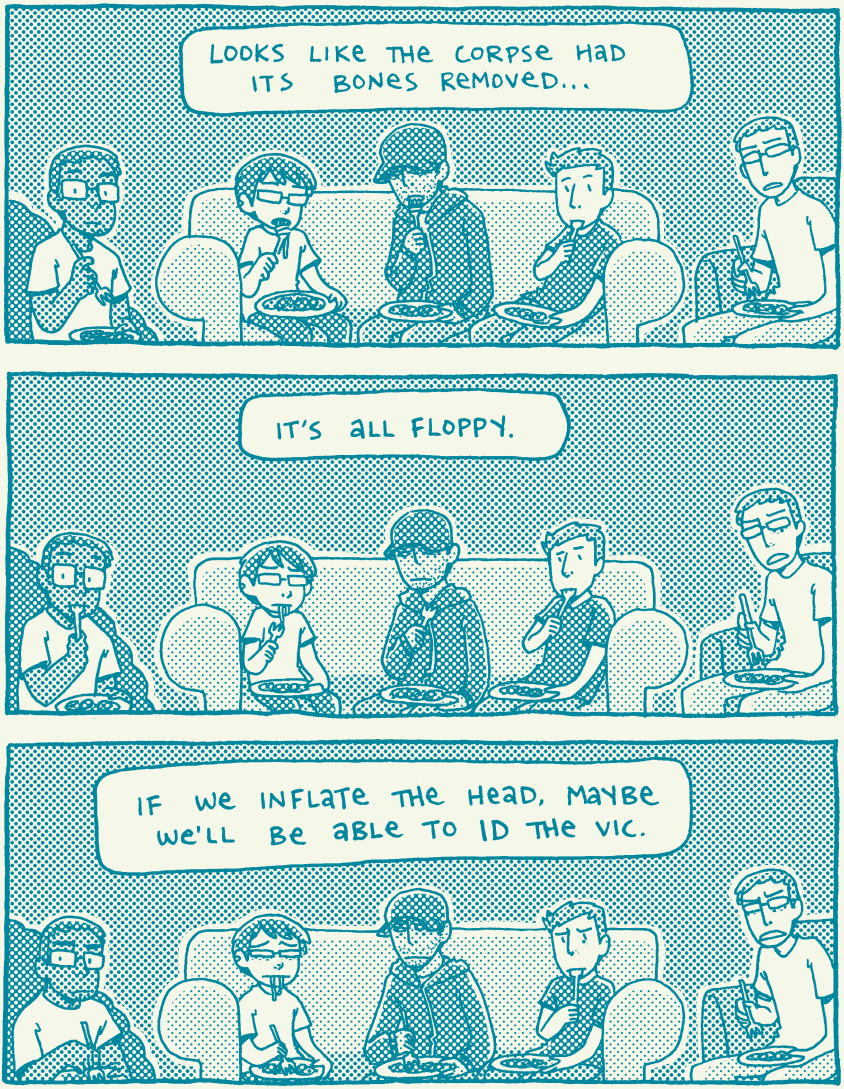




the most delicious of the cingulatas



how bout them noodles

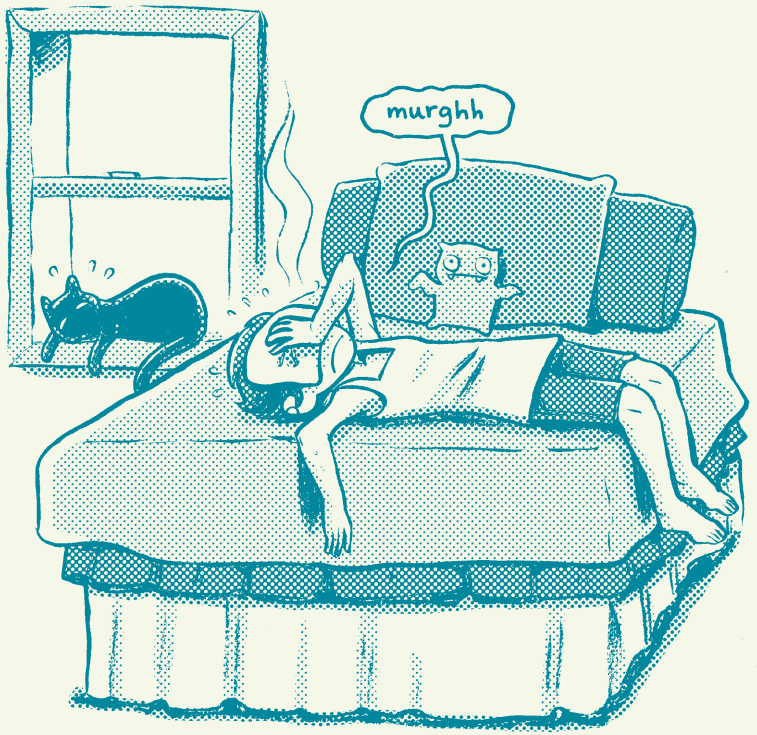


the sheddingest cat



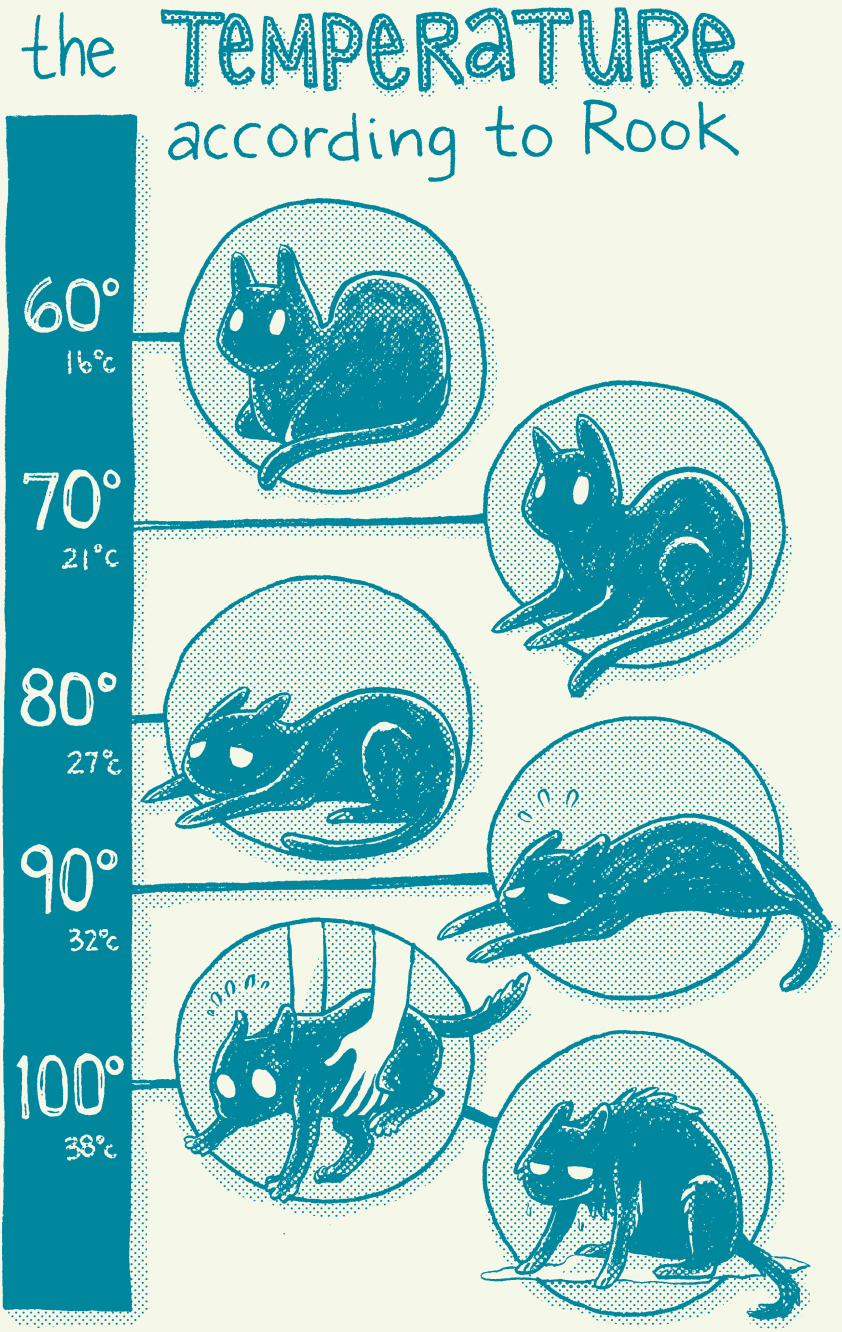
bad: having a stye on the inside of your eyelid

worse: holding a hot compress to your face in sweltering heat



the great escape




the TEMPERATURE
according to Rook
60°
16°c
70°
21°c
80°
27°c
90°
32°c
100°
38°c

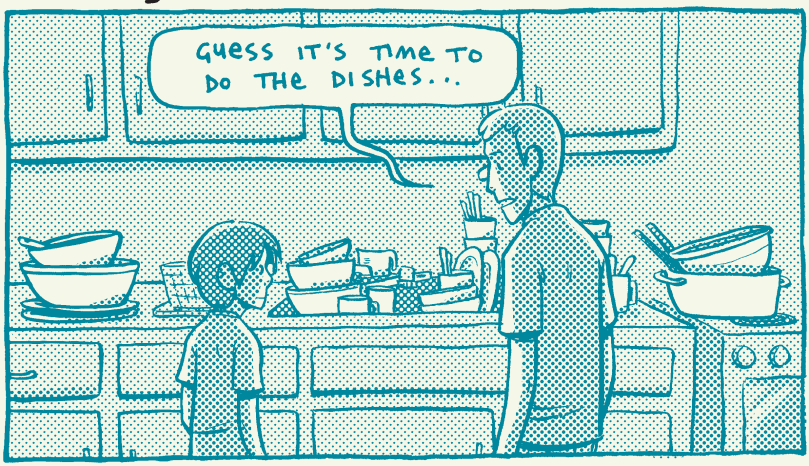
when it rains



driver's tan


Driver's tan,
Driver's tan,
From my shoulder to my hand
Drove around,
Windows down,
Now my left arm is all brown.

the integral first step





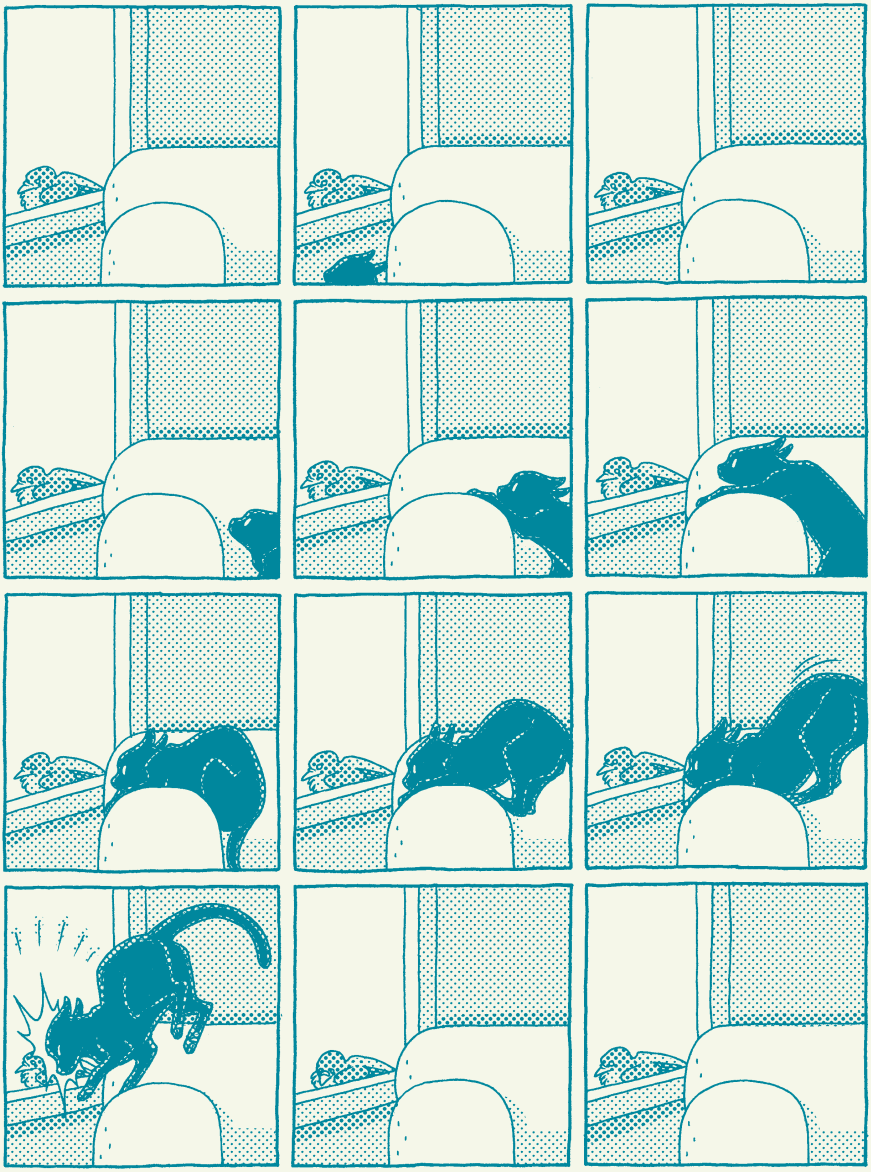
the same terrible wavelength

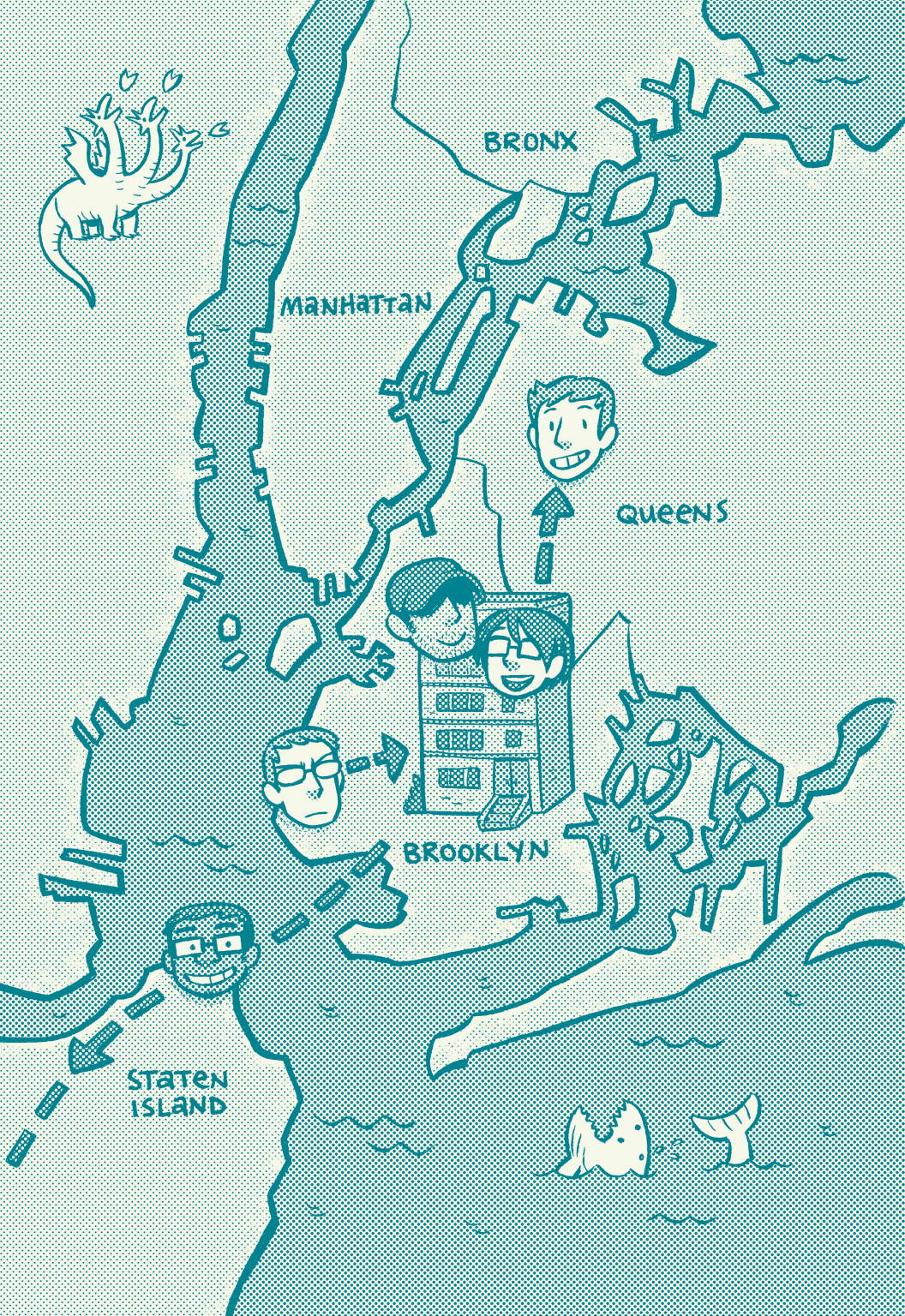


but bookshelves are heavy

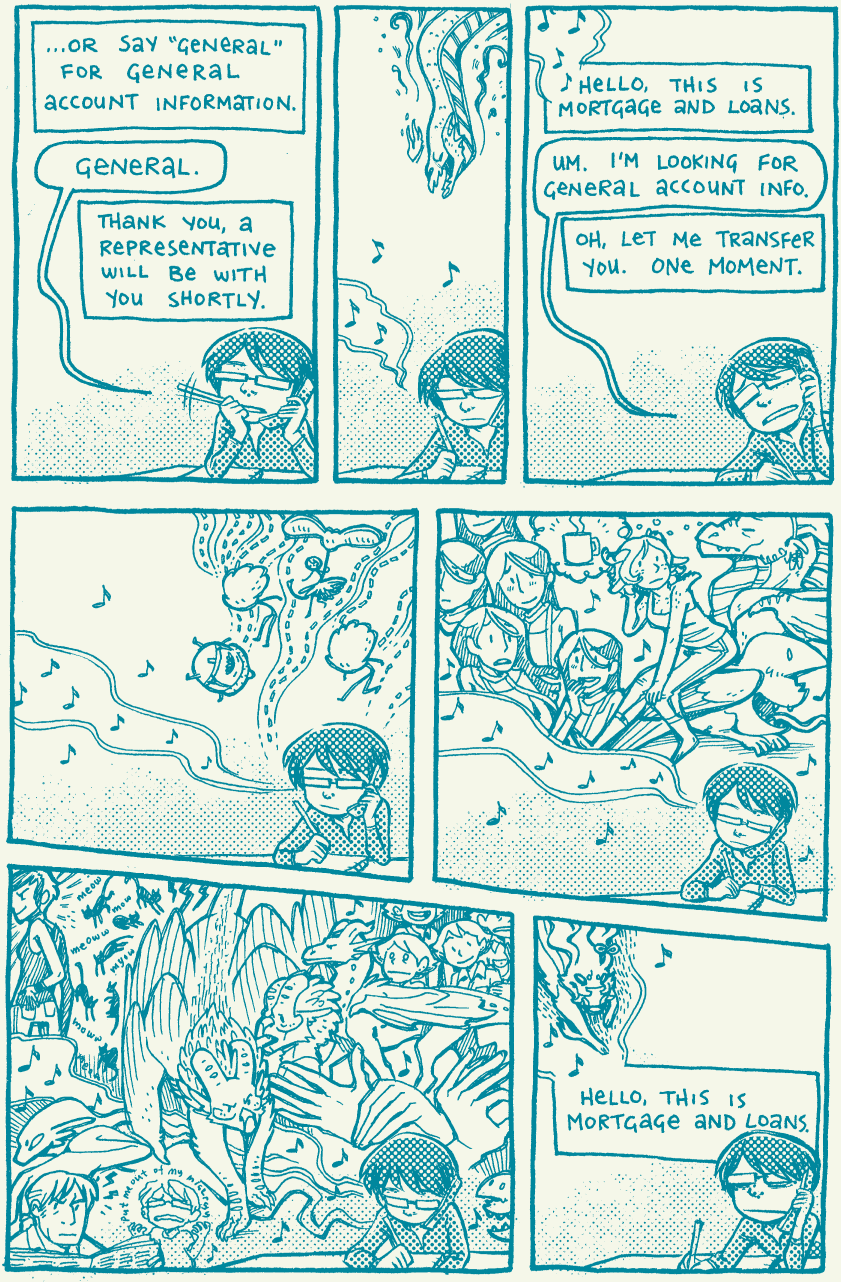


battlecat




BRONX
MANHATTAN
QUEENS
BROOKLYN
STATEN ISLAND

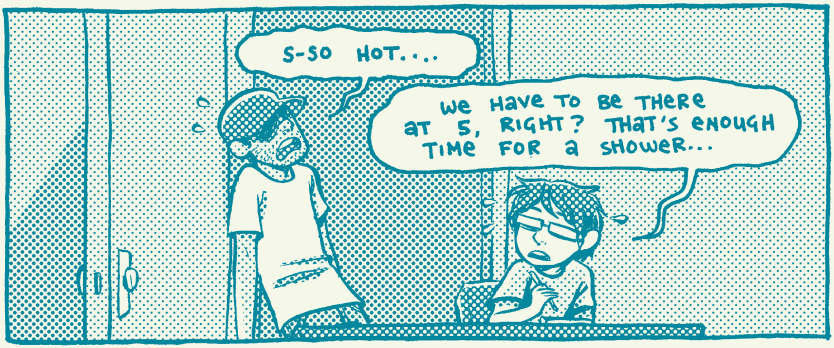
but I don't have a mortgage


...OR SAY "GENERAL" FOR GENERAL ACCOUNT INFORMATION.
GENERAL.
THANK YOU, A REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE WITH YOU SHORTLY.
♪ HELLO, THIS IS MORTGAGE AND LOANS.
UM. I'M LOOKING FOR GENERAL ACCOUNT INFO.
OH, LET ME TRANSFER YOU. ONE MOMENT.
MEOW
MEOW
MEOW

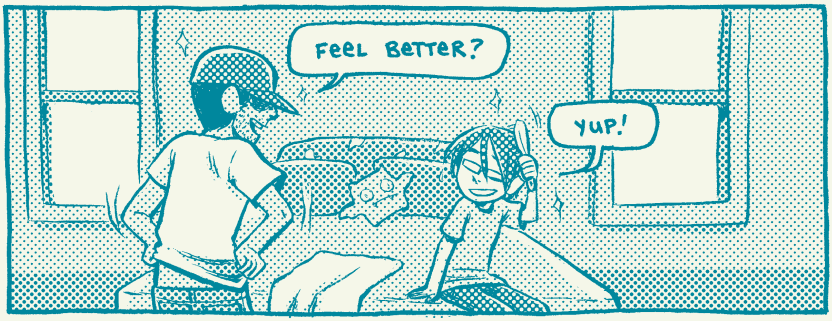
wookie of honor



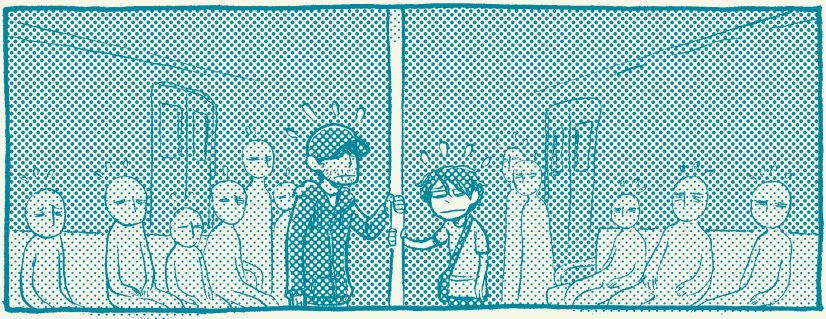
ananth showers with his hat



AND SO: SHOWERS



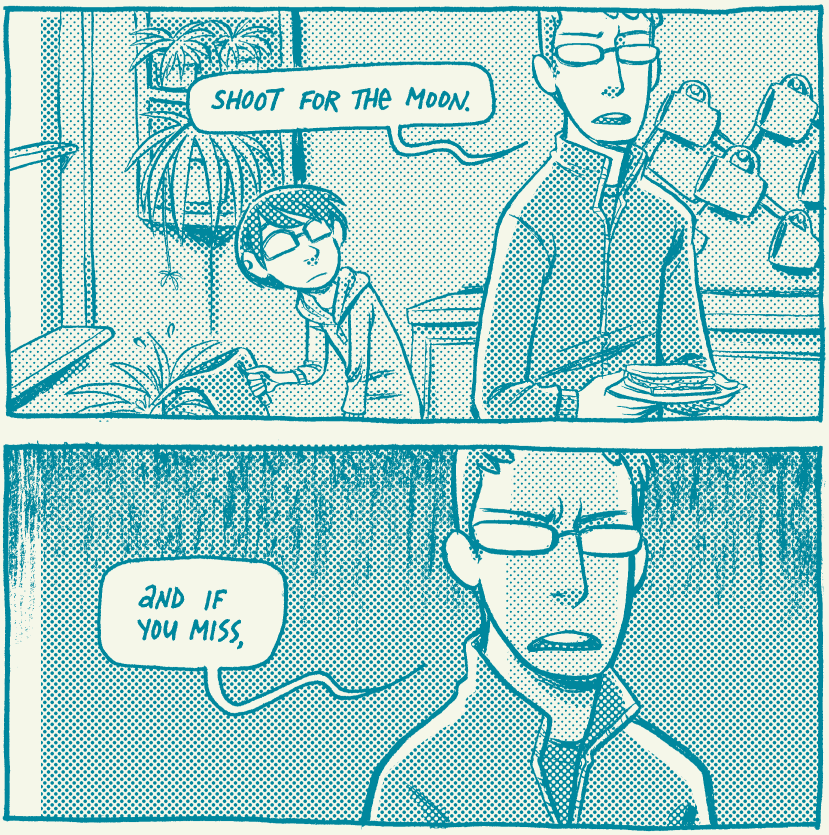
AND THEN: THE SUBWAY



i don't trust it



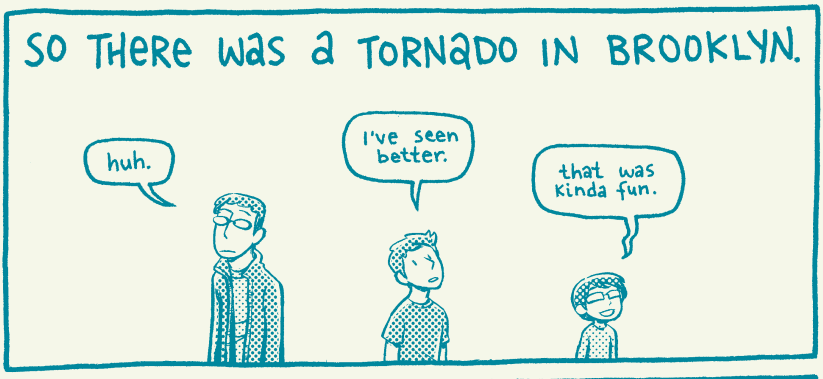
motivational speaker



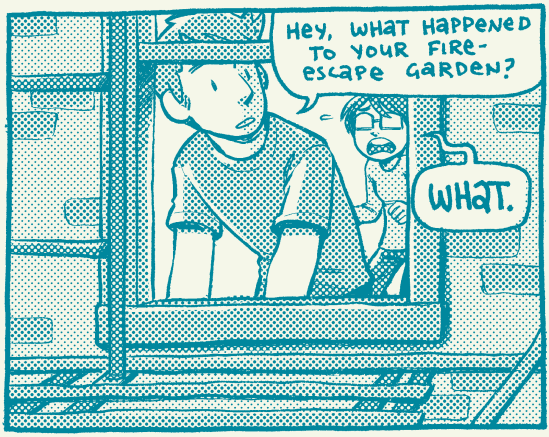
good thing: y/n

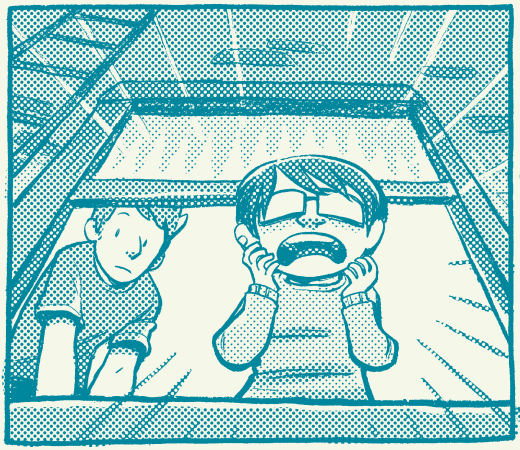



yeeahh
well at least you don't have his eyebrows.

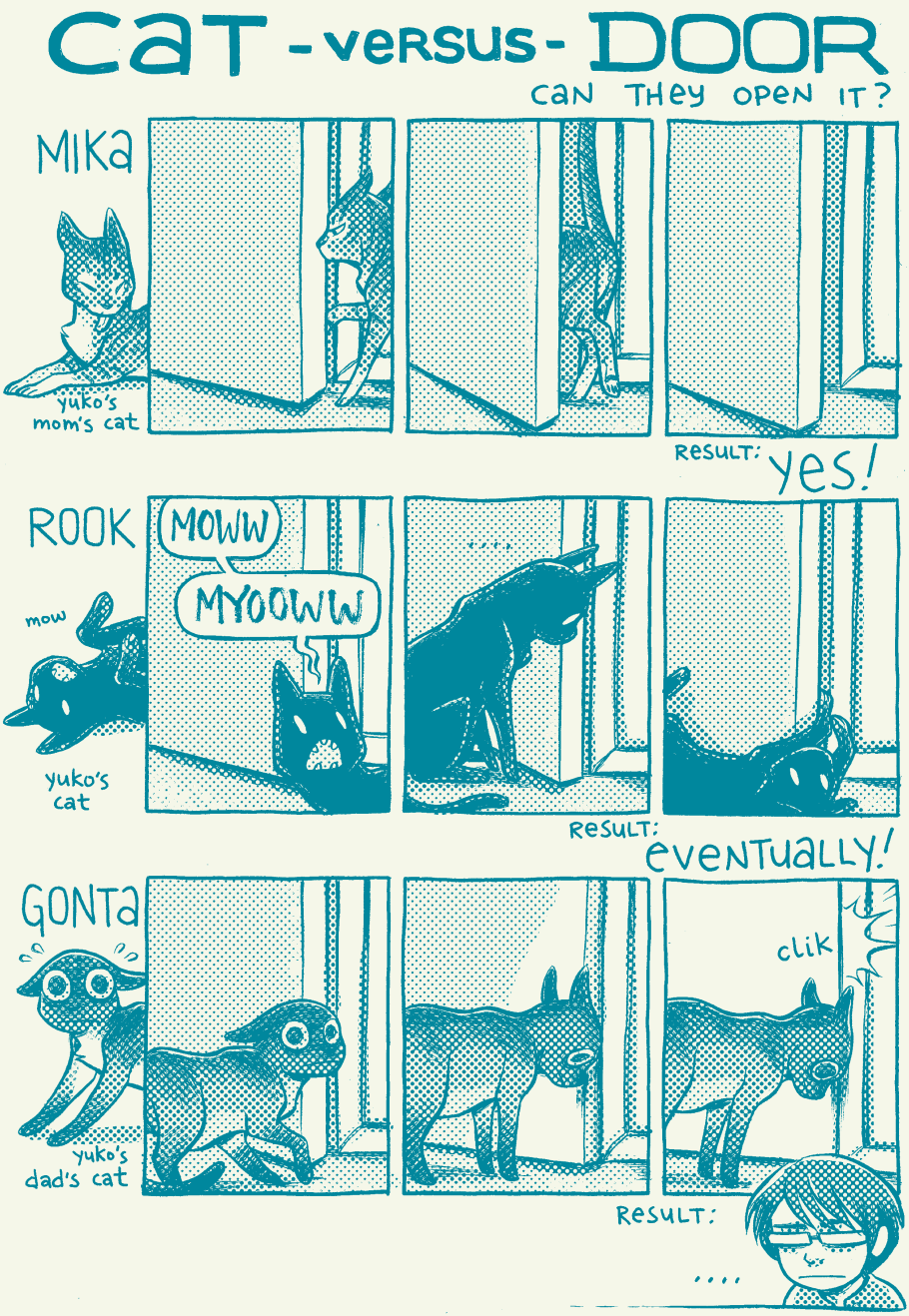

SO THERE WAS A TORNADO IN BROOKLYN.
huh.
I've seen better.
that was kinda fun.

BUT SOON:


HEY, WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR FIRE-ESCAPE GARDEN?
WHAT.




R.I.P. 2010-2010


CAT -versus- DOOR
CAN THEY OPEN IT?
MIKA
yuko's mom's cat
RESULT: yes!
ROOK
MOWW
MYOOWW
mow
yuko's cat
RESULT: eventually!
GONTA
yuko's dad's cat
clik
RESULT:
....

oh no don't do that



and this is how you get sick.

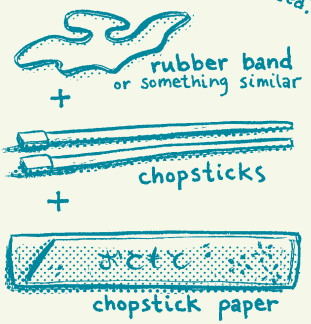


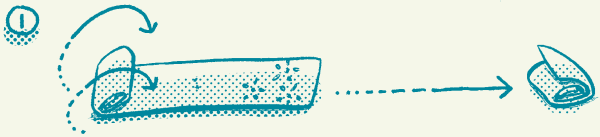
thank you, pterodactyl crazy band



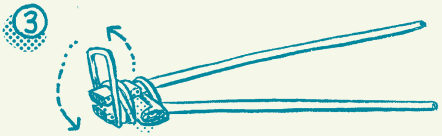
LET'S HELP KC EAT NOODLES!

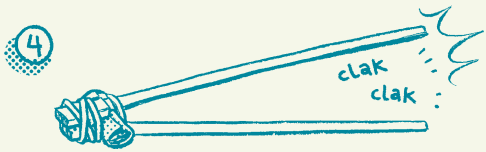
you'll need:











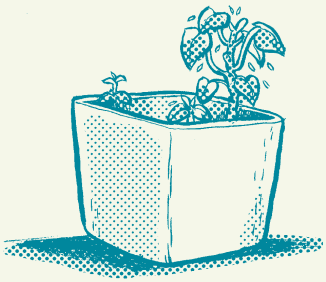
OKAY, NOW YOU'RE SET!



sweetie pie the sweet potato



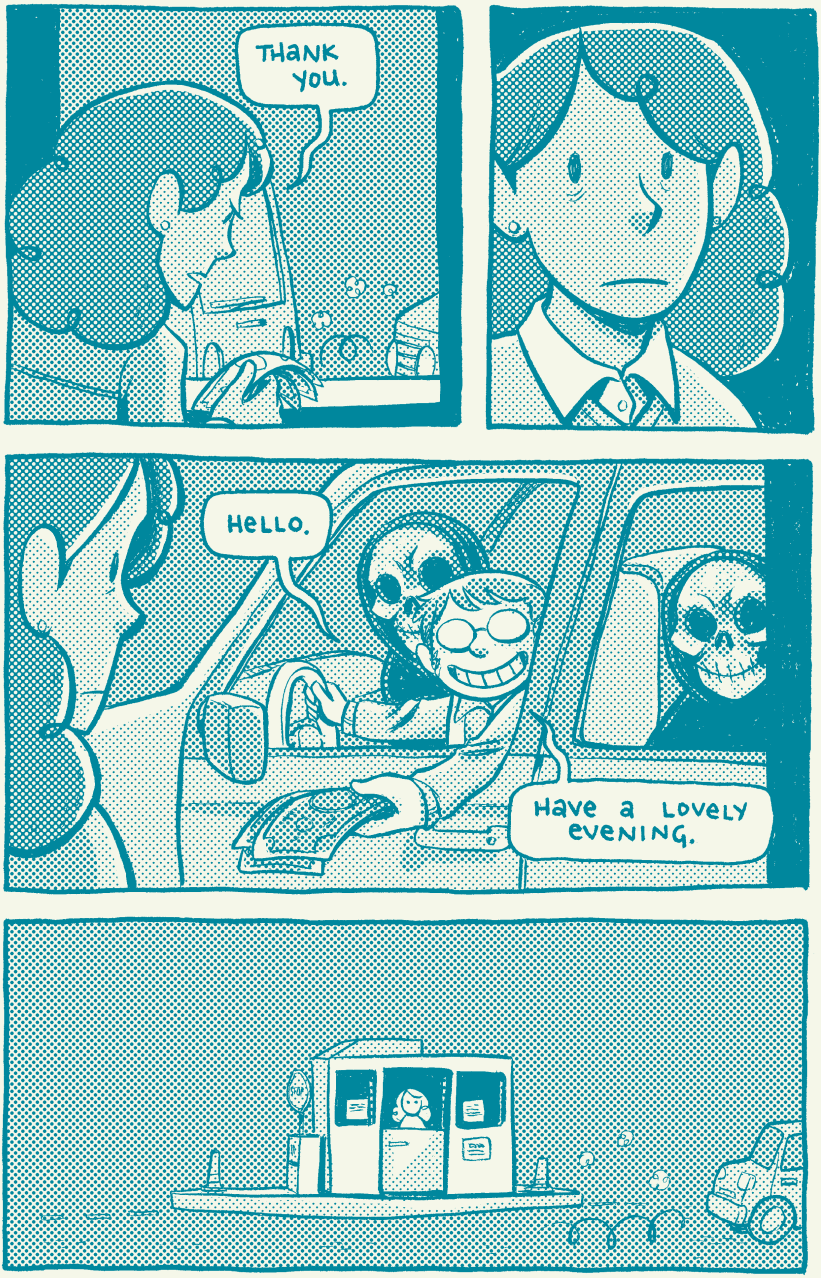
and so,



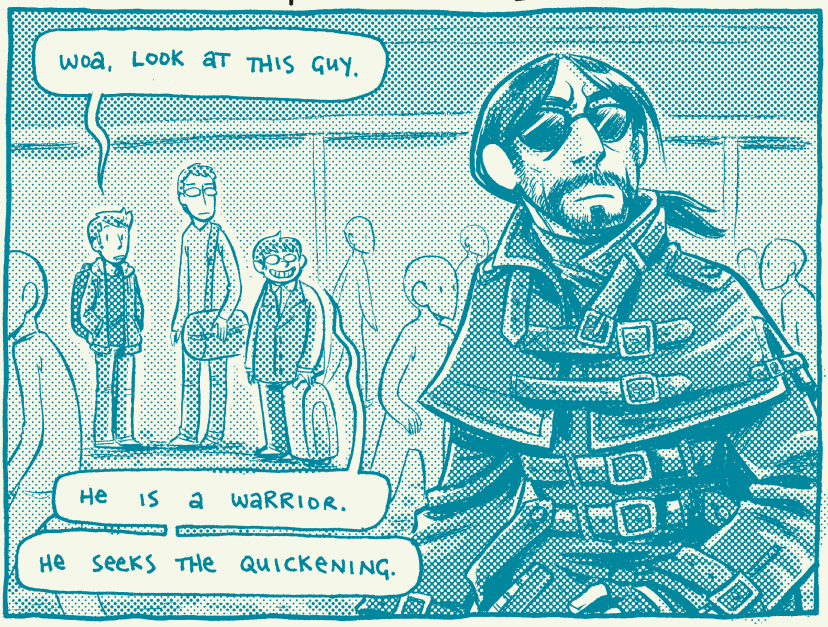
welp



george has a posse



highlander in port authority





HOW YUKO GOT INTO SCIENCE AND STUFF



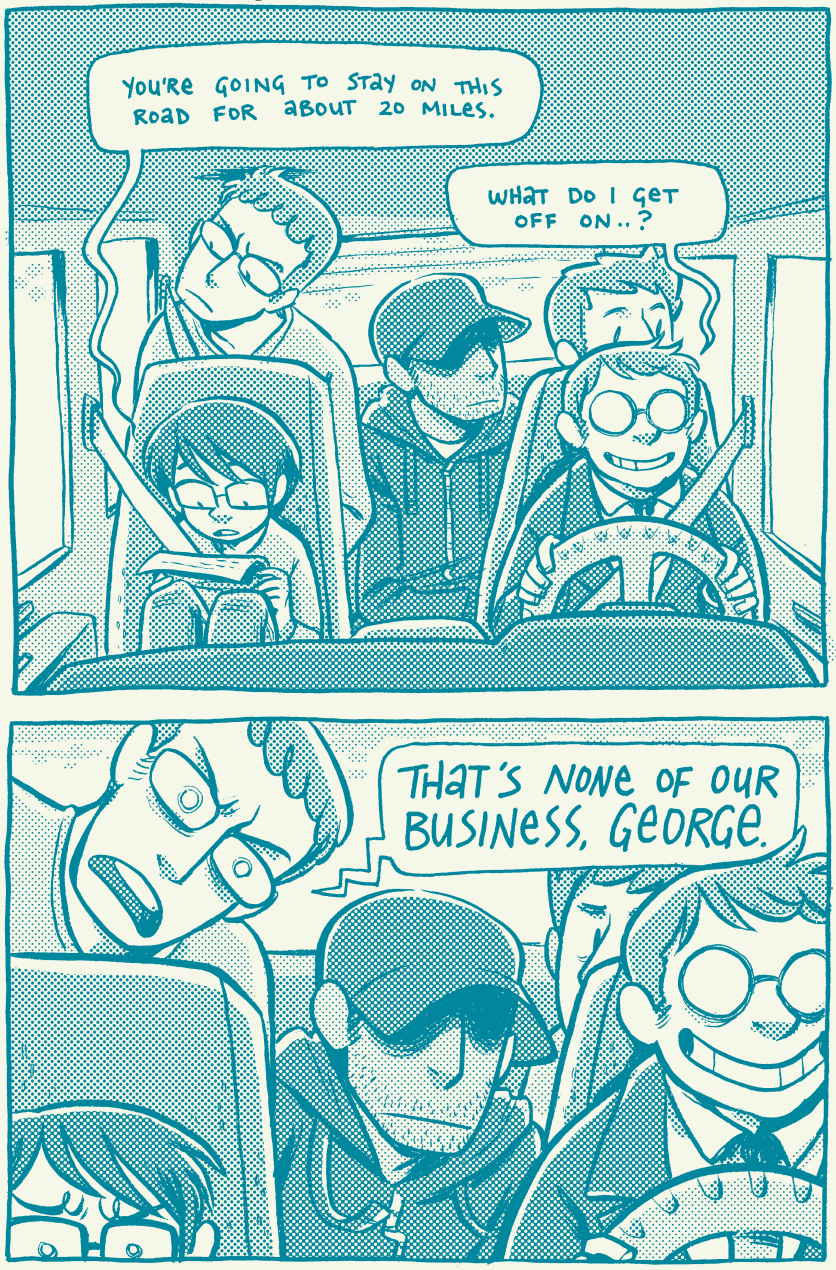




BUT I READ IT ANYWAY



your jeers only make him stronger



drawing the drawing hand that is drawing you



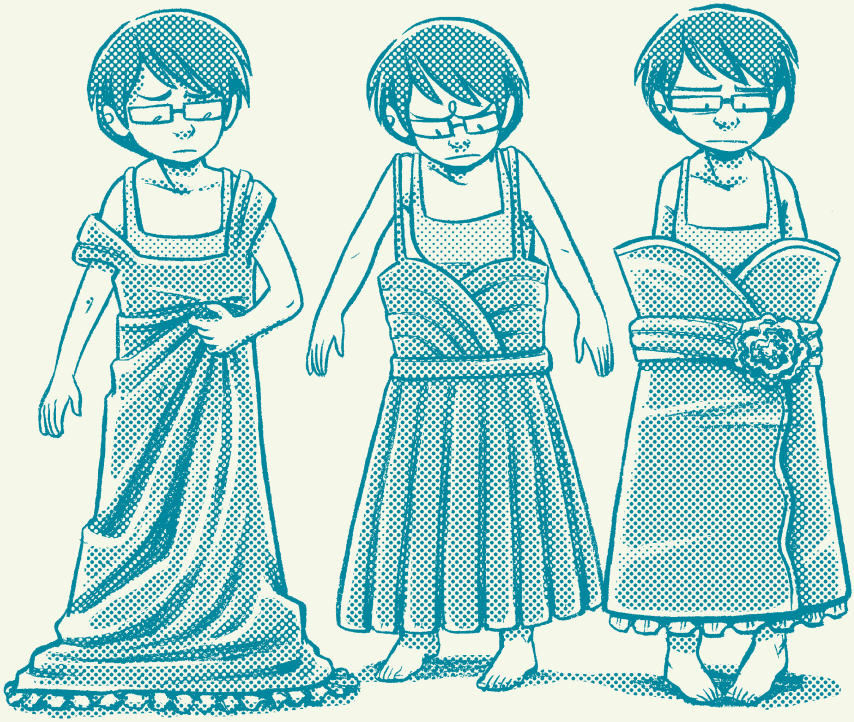
cat-meras



right, guys?


YOU KNOW WHAT WE SHOULD FRY THE PLANTAINS IN?
BACON GREASE.
VEGAN
VEGETARIAN
VEGAN

bridesmaid dresses is hard





all quiet on the western bus



beer-scented car freshener



nutella: the sriracha of sweet foods

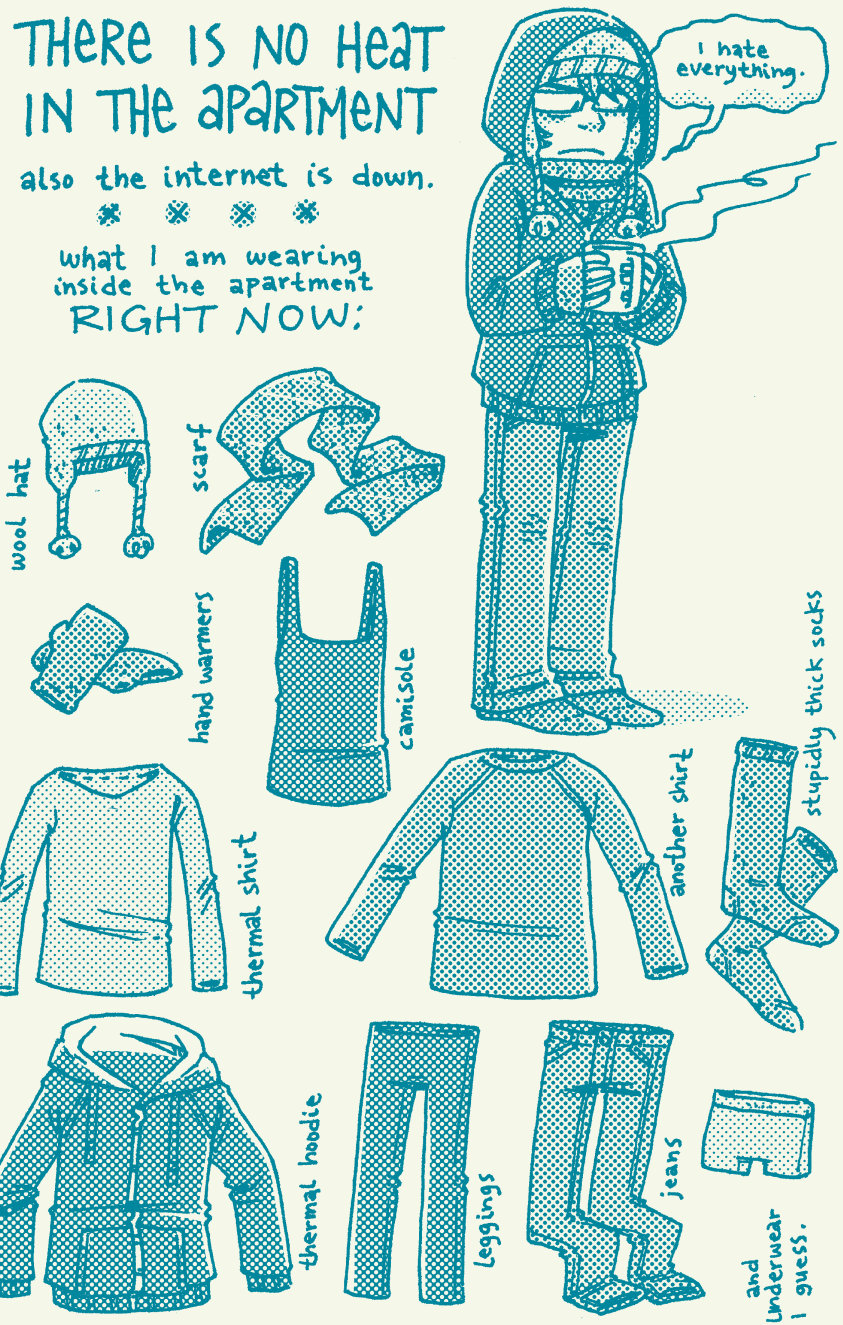


THERE IS NO HEAT IN THE APARTMENT

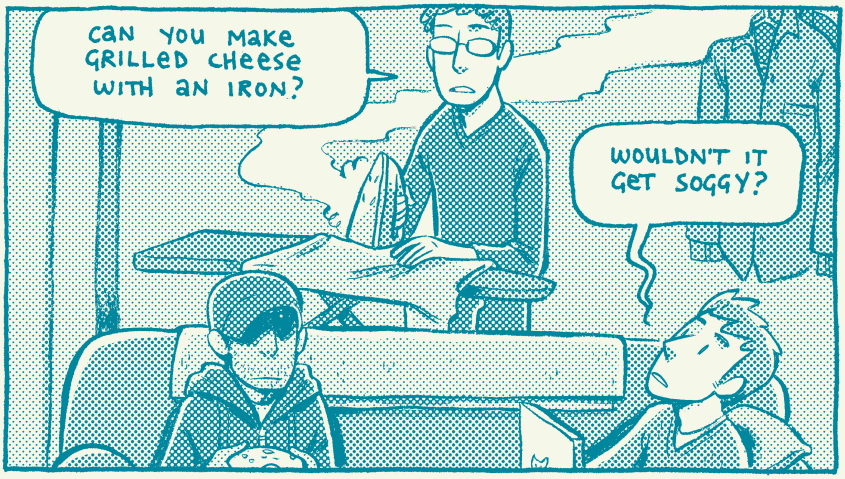
also the internet is down.

* * * *

what I am wearing inside the apartment RIGHT NOW:



terrible terrible food science







but in all seriousness



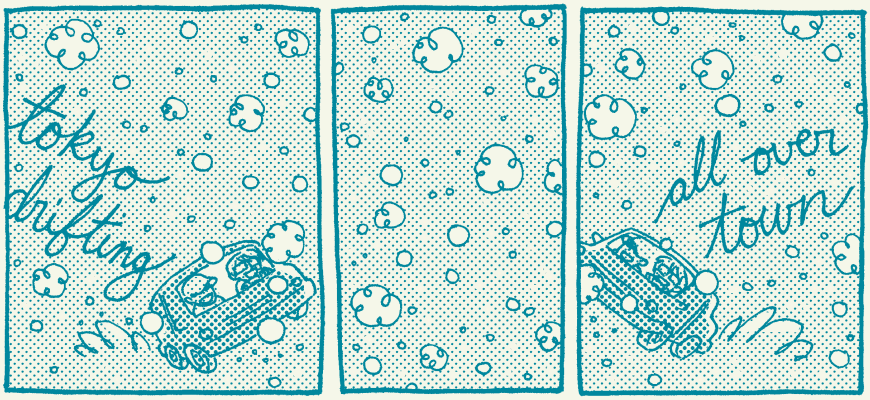
how did we get two dozen eggs anyway



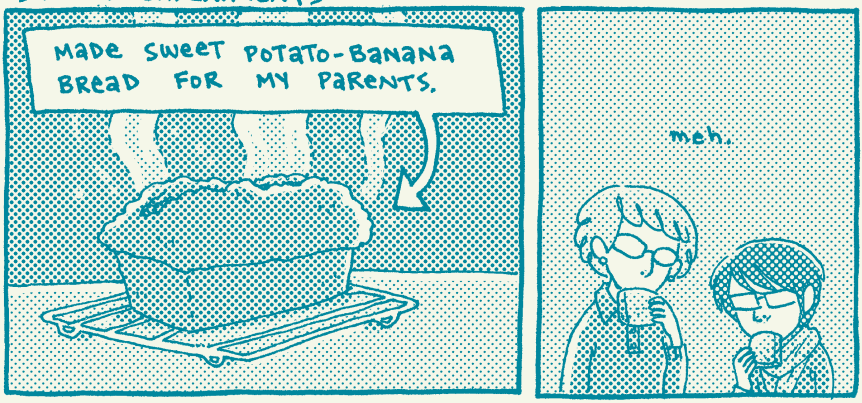
but I'm your only... oh.



DRIVING ON THE BACK ROADS



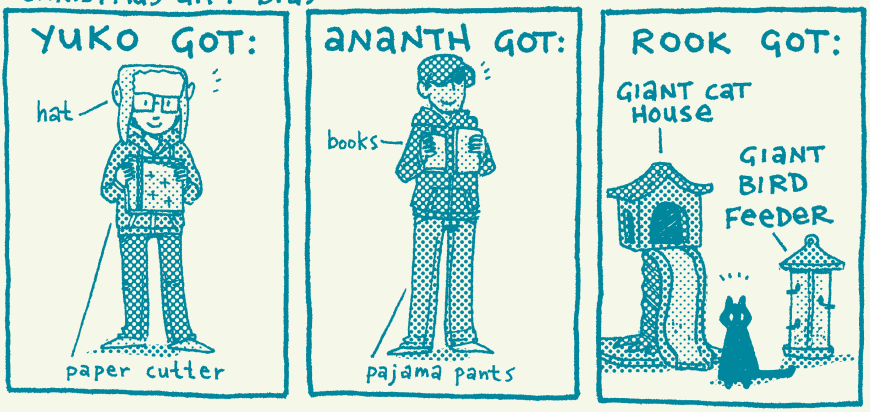
BAKING EXPERIMENTS



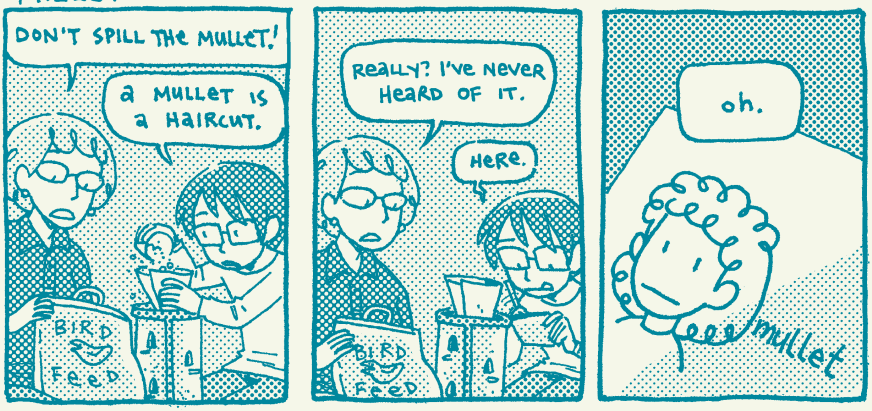
GOT A NEW HAT FOR CHRISTMAS



CHRISTMAS GIFT BIAS



MILLET



EXCITING NEW YEAR CELEBRATION



look that gift horse right in the mouth

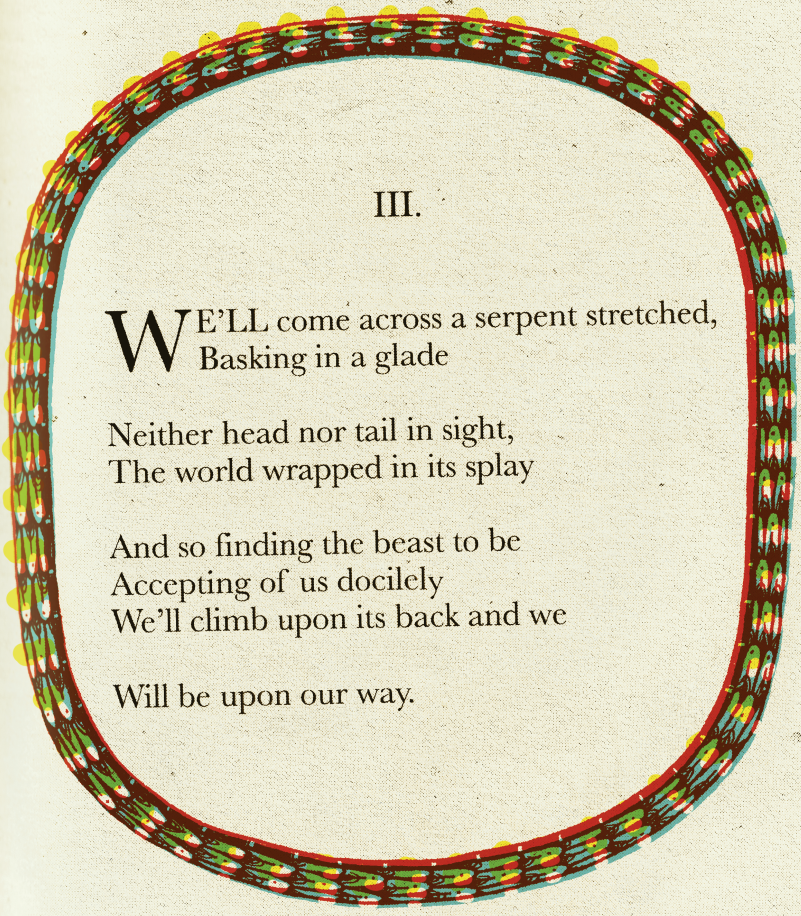


speaking from experience



meanwhile, in queens





III.

WE'LL come across a serpent stretched,
Basking in a glade

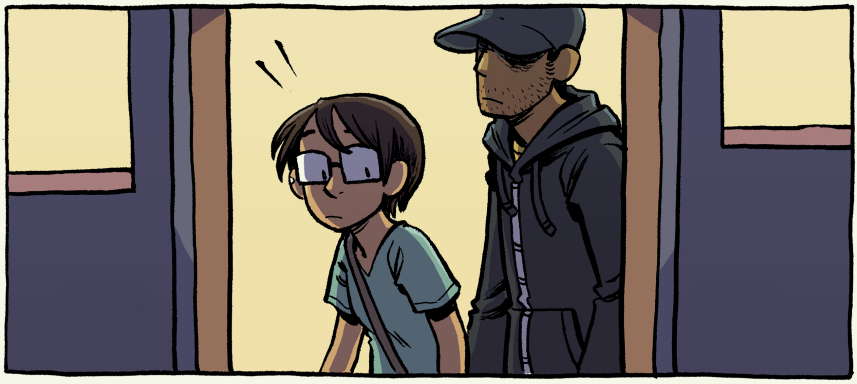
Neither head nor tail in sight,
The world wrapped in its splay

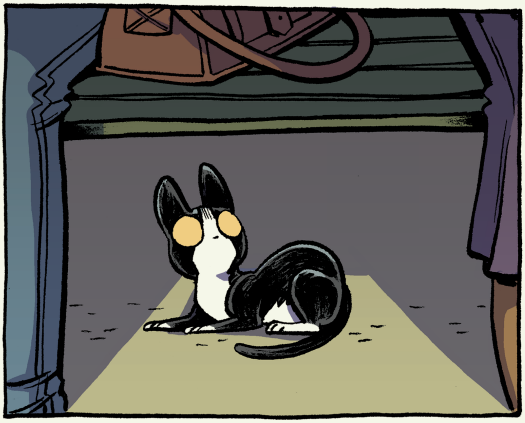
And so finding the beast to be
Accepting of us docilely
We'll climb upon its back and we

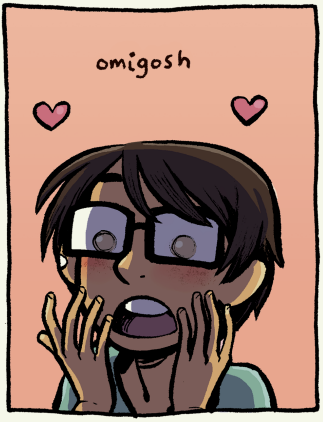
Will be upon our way.

prelude to a ballad

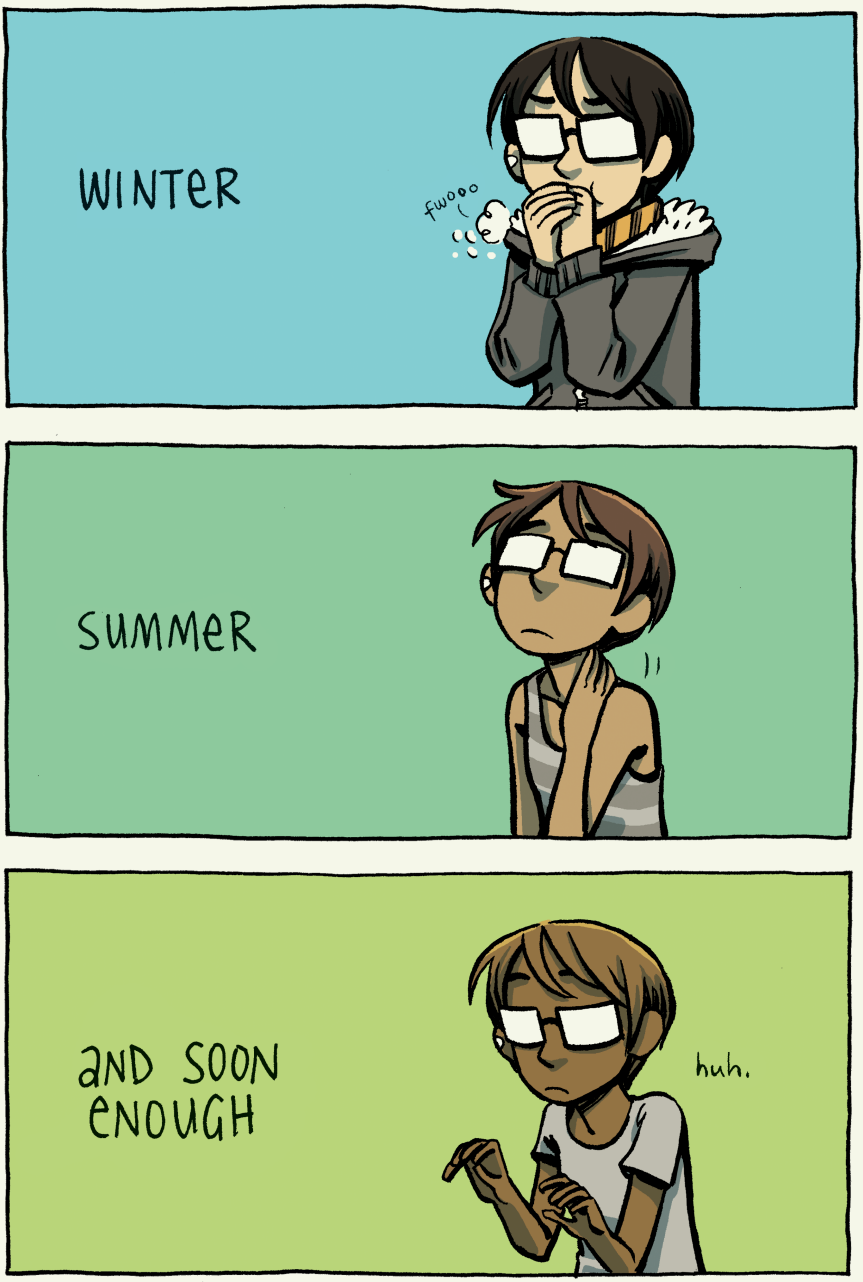






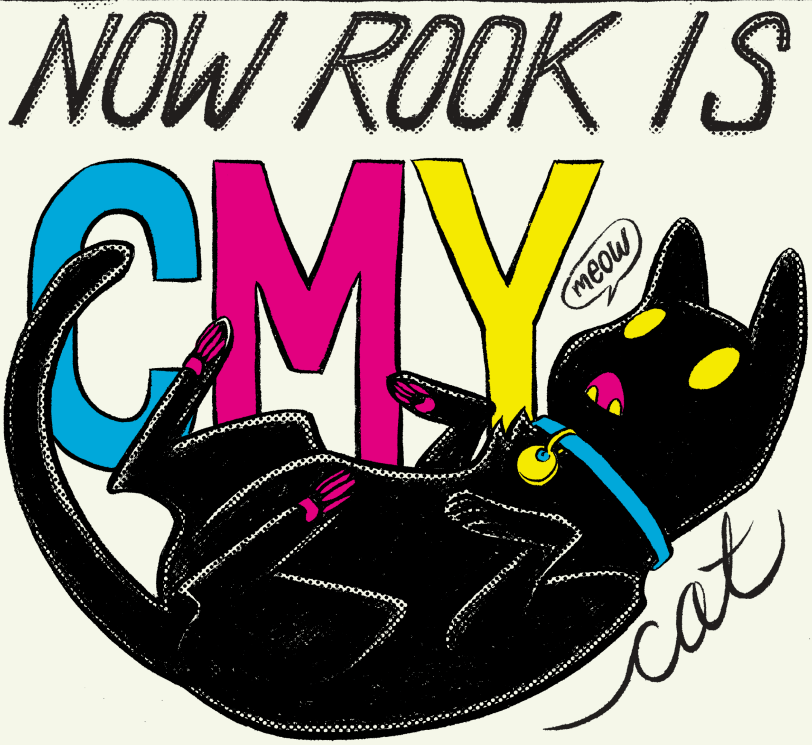


monochrome

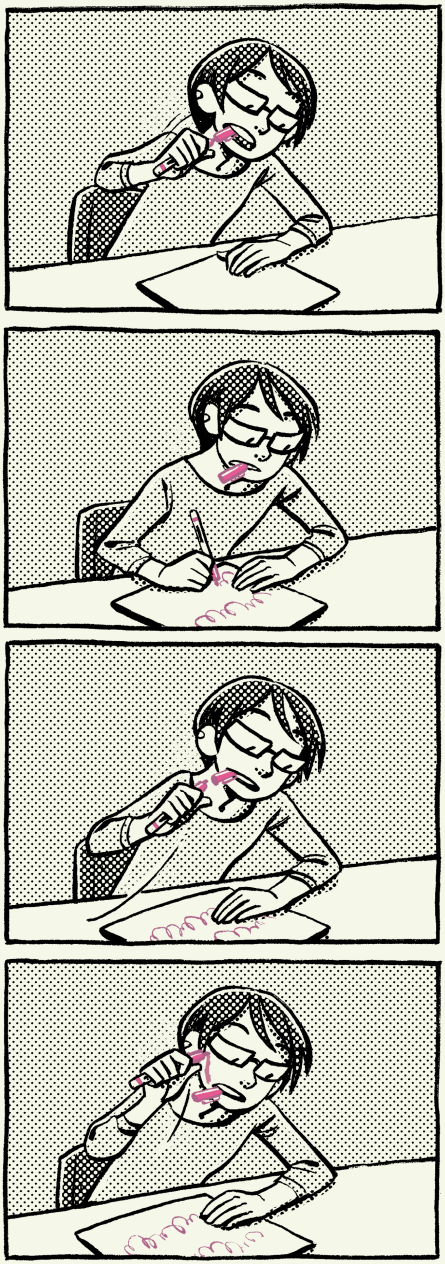


CMYcat


finally, we found a cyan cat collar!
yesss


NOW ROOK IS
CMY
meow
cat

hand-face coordination

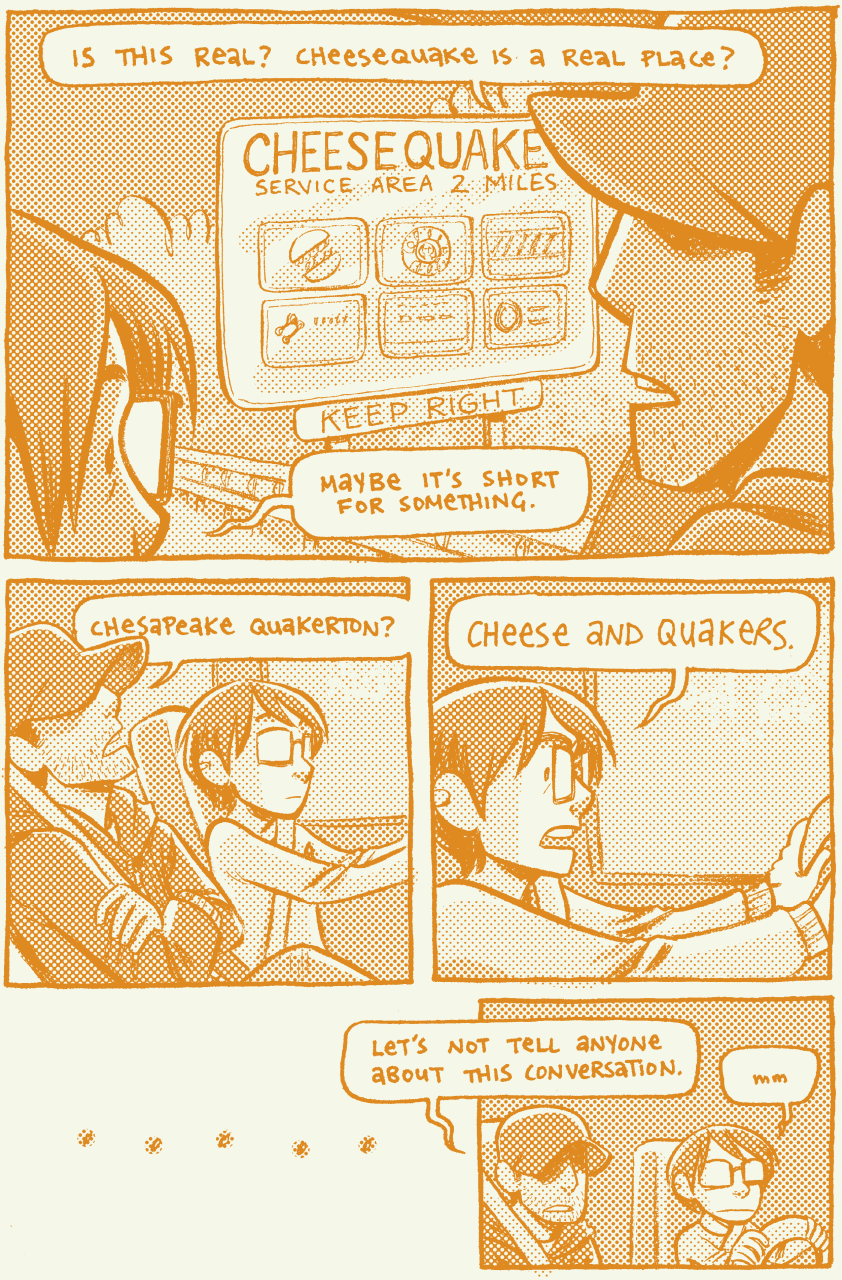



oh the horror
now we have to buy a new pork loin.

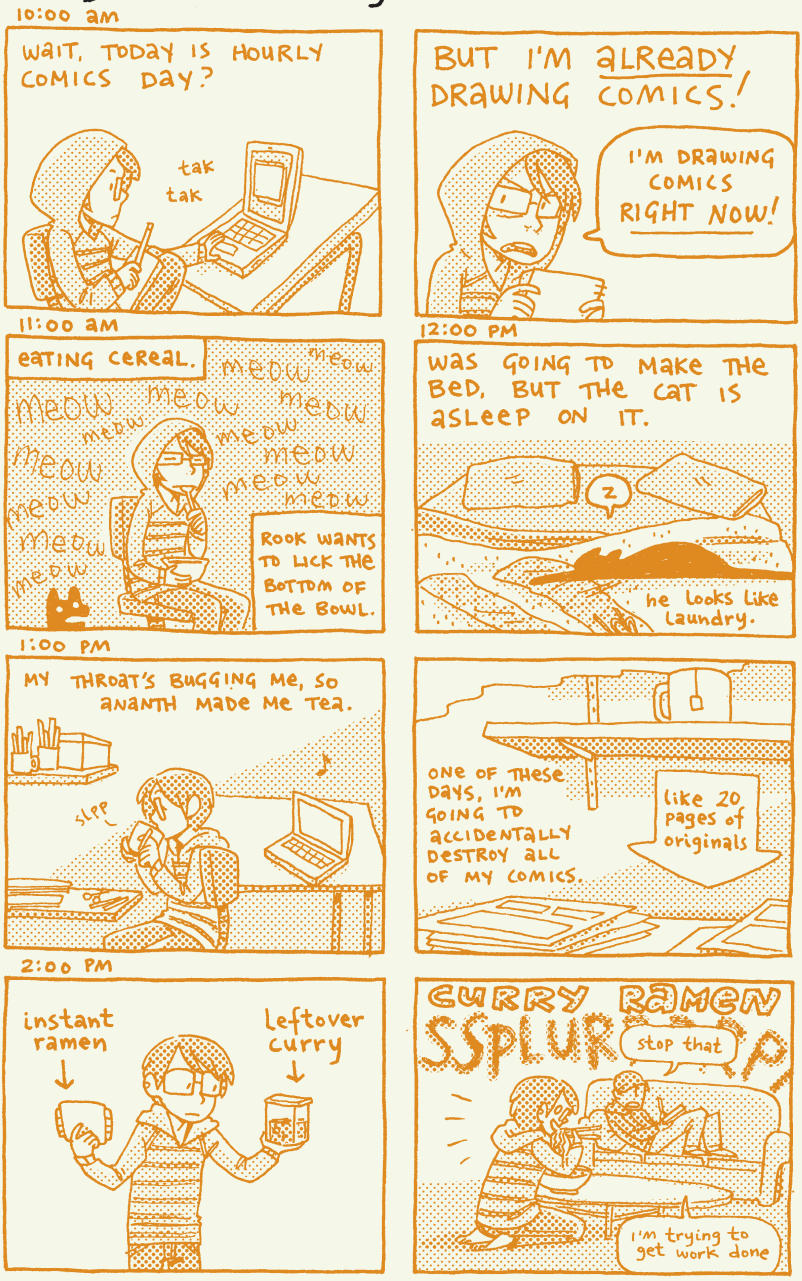
the ballad of laundry cat



a secret for the ages



hourly comics: february 1st, 2011



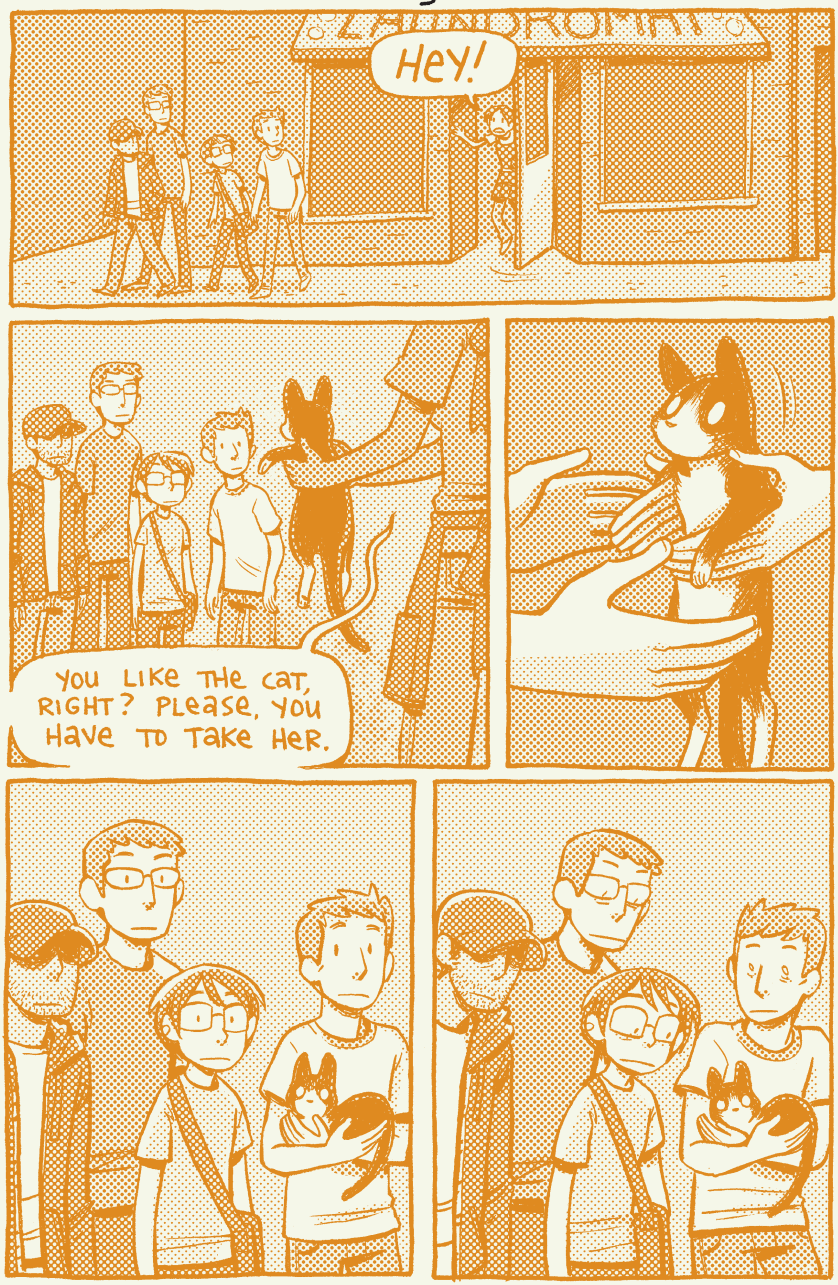

3:00 PM
GAHH
meow
meow
meow
YOU DON'T EAT FOR TWO MORE HOURS
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
4:00 PM
I DON'T WANT TO GO GROCERY SHOPPINGGG
buhhh
BUT I PROMISED I'D MAKE A FUNFETTI CAKE FOR TOMORROW'S D+D GROUP....
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
5:00 PM
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
funfetti
CAKE
FUNFETTI
6:00 PM
DON'T LET HIM FOOL YOU, I FED HIM WHILE YOU WERE OUT.
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
meow
7:00 PM
DICKING AROUND ON THE INTERNET OR WHATEVER
la
la
la
la



and then I went to bed.

HOURLY COMICS: FEBRUARY 1ST, 2011.

extended ballad of laundry cat



kitten quarantine



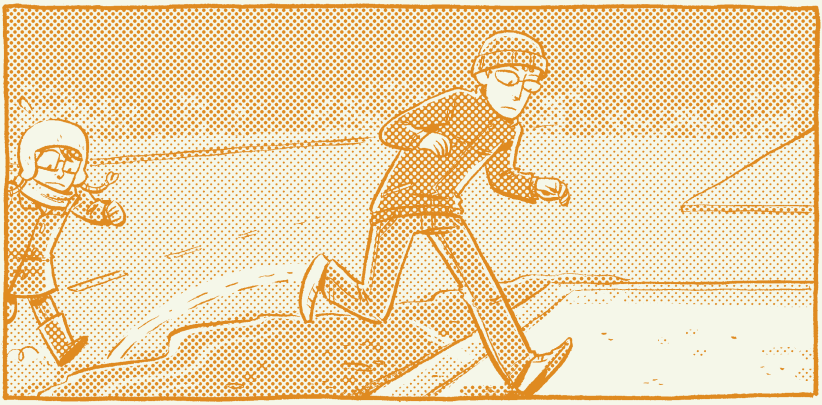
almost

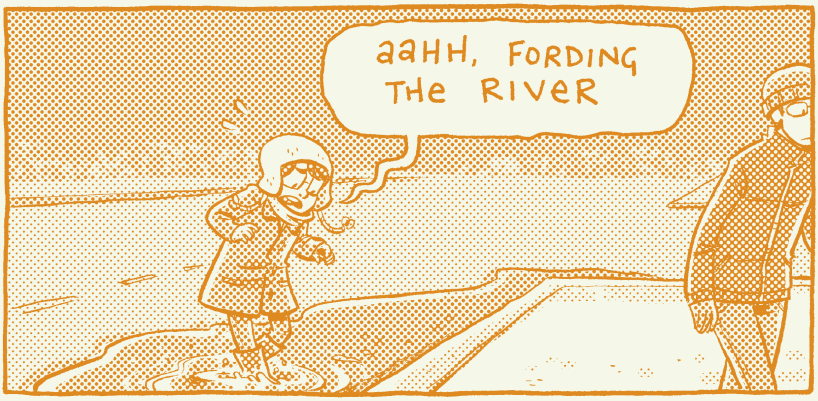

HEY DAD— I SENT THE MOCKUPS FOR YOUR SITE.
GREAT, THANK YOU!
IT'S ALMOST AS GOOD AS HAVING A DOCTOR IN THE FAMILY.
HAHA, SEE YOU!
... ... WAIT.

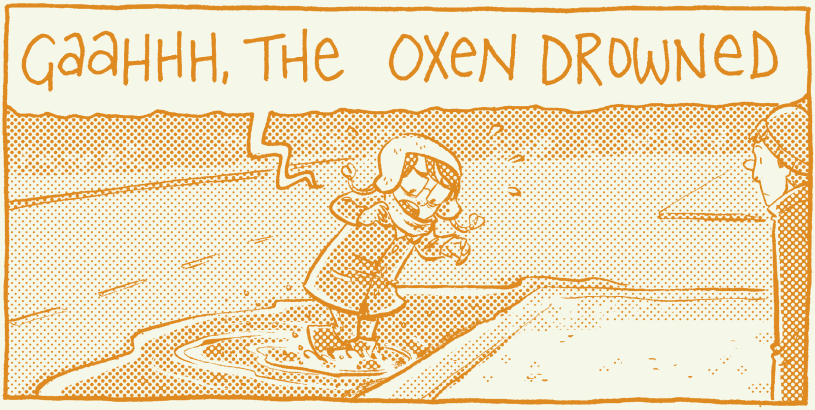
combustifier



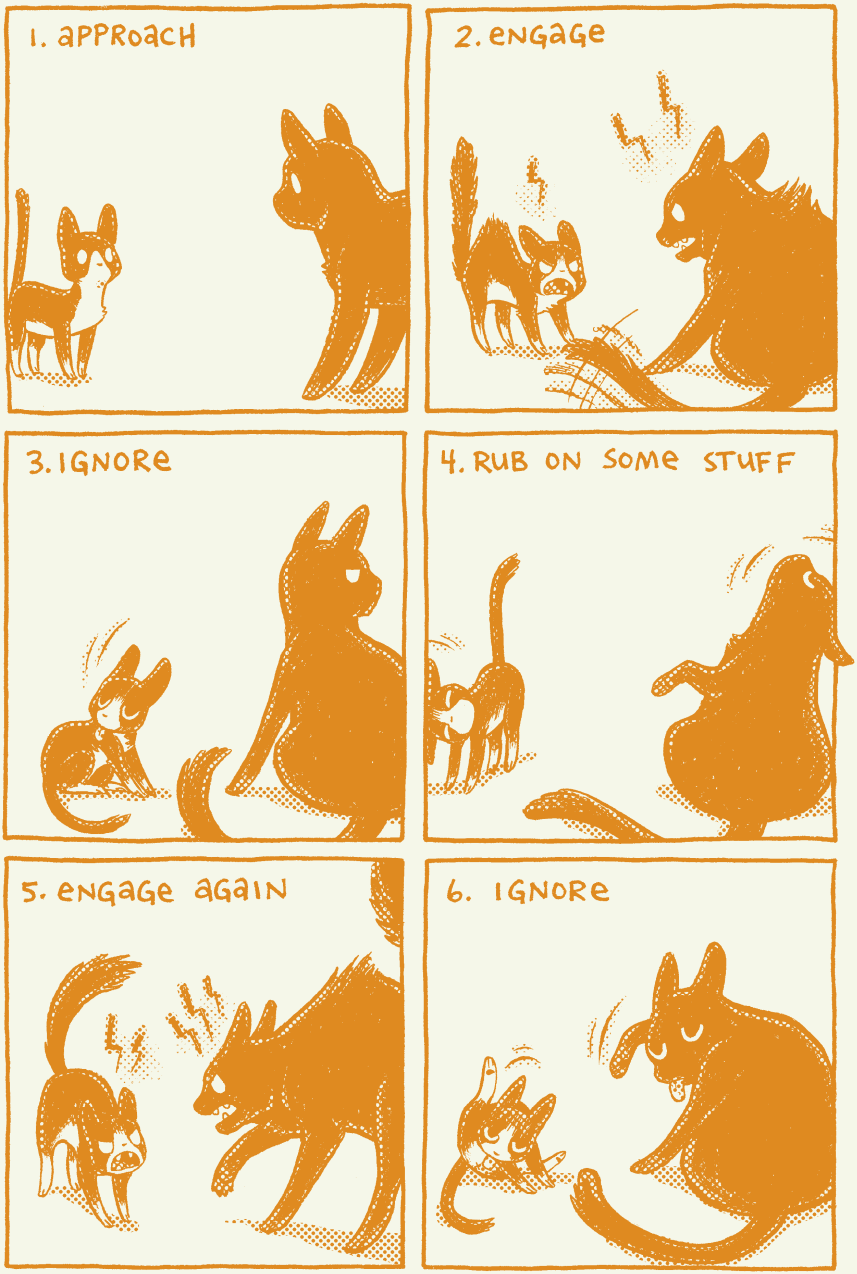
should've taken the ferry







the surest path to friendship



tick tick tick tick



what does it meeean



naming the kitten



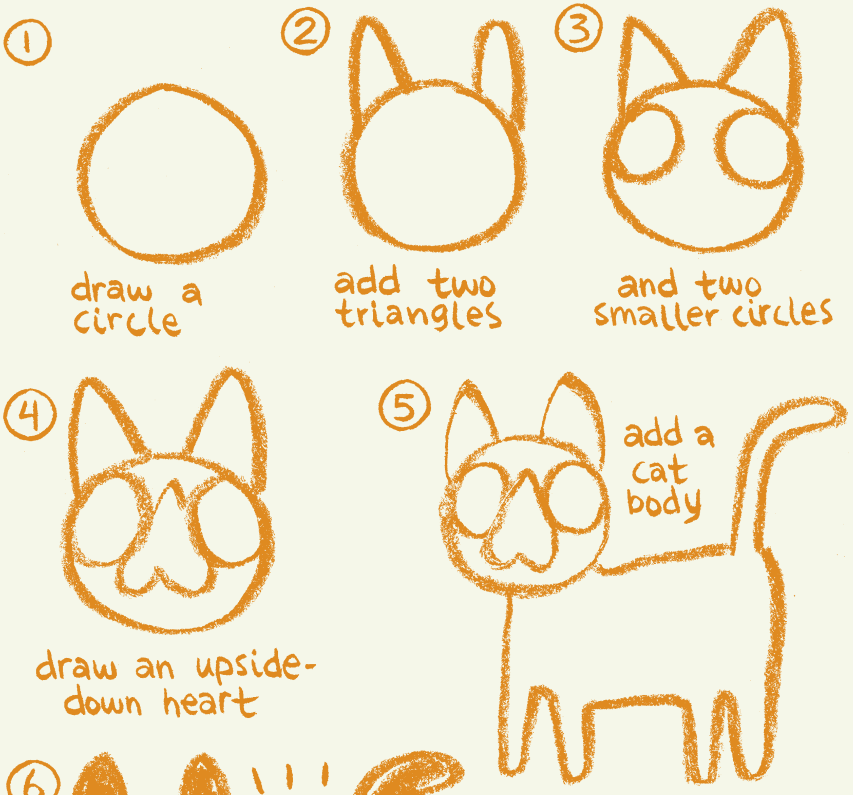
nearly burning down the apartment part fifty jillion



octopuses, not octopi



HOW TO DRAW CRICKET



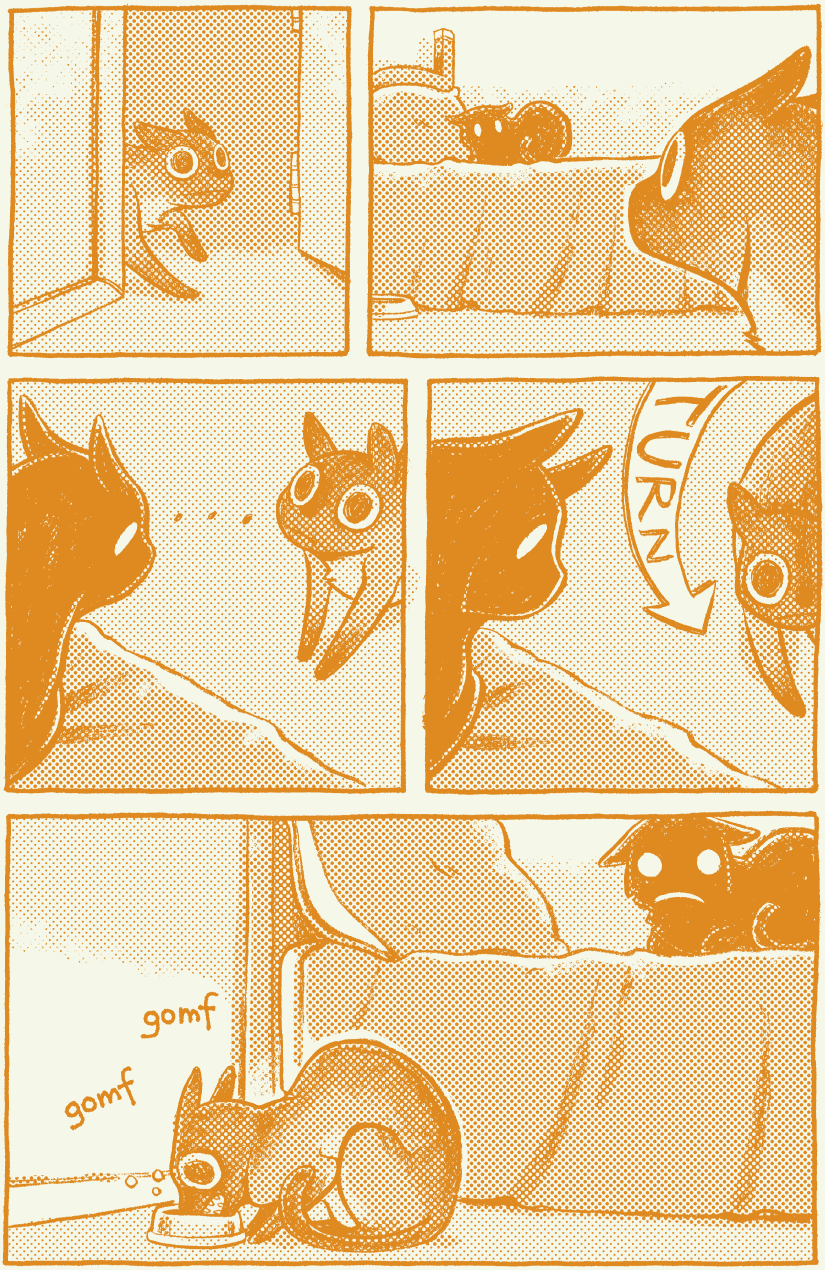
urgent matters



when rook met mika



when rook met gonta

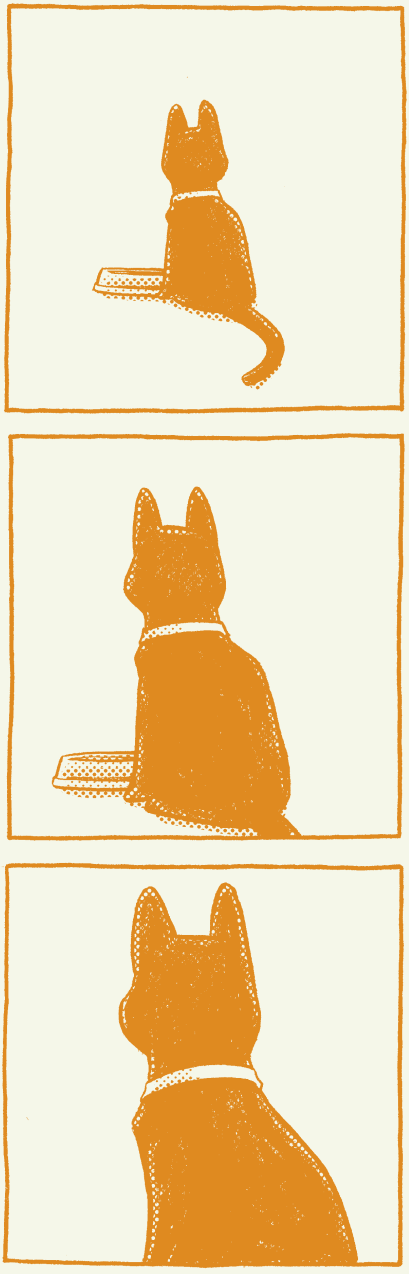


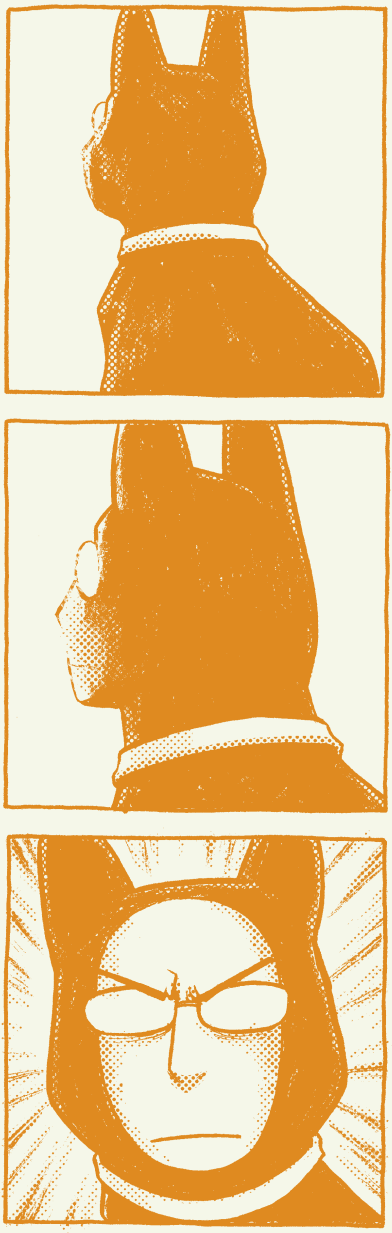
maid of honor



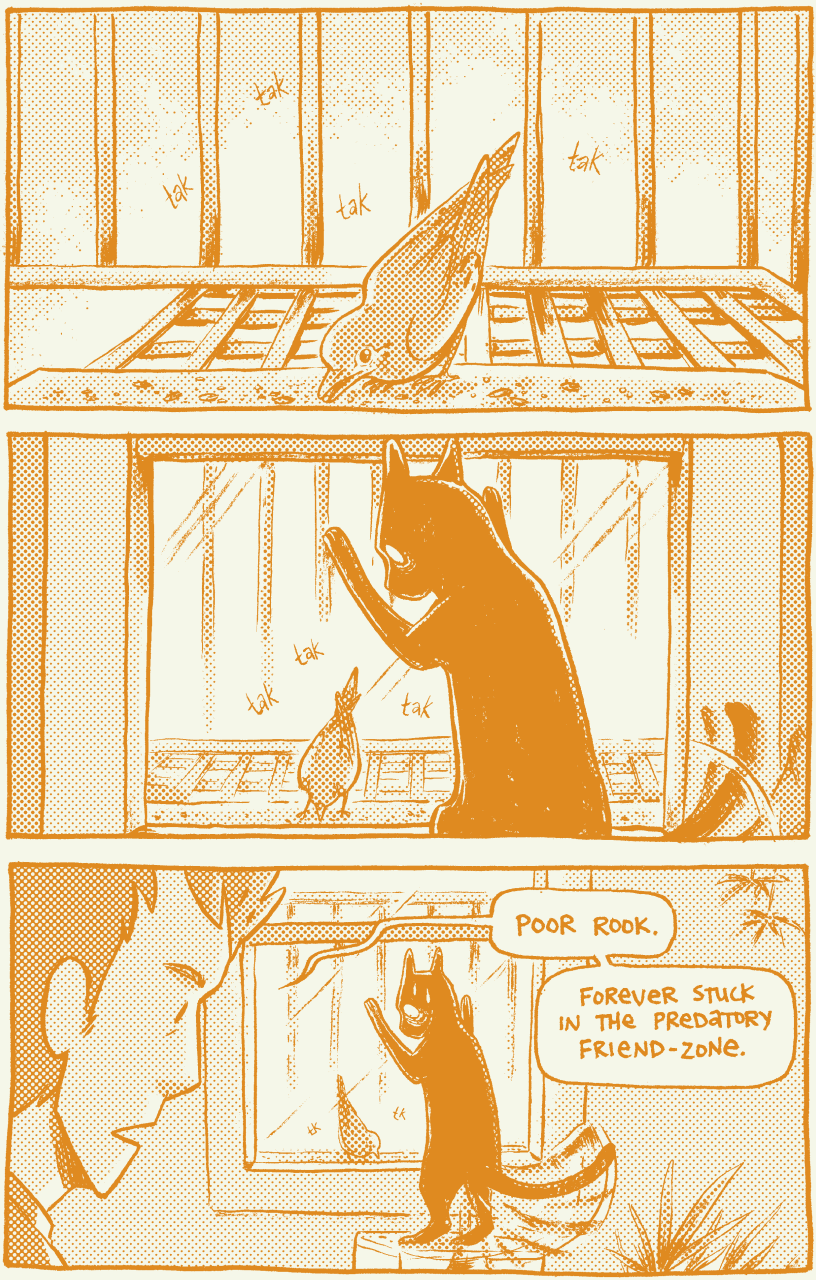
don't get any ideas, mom






happy april fools!

carnivore - blocked



the return of sweetie pie



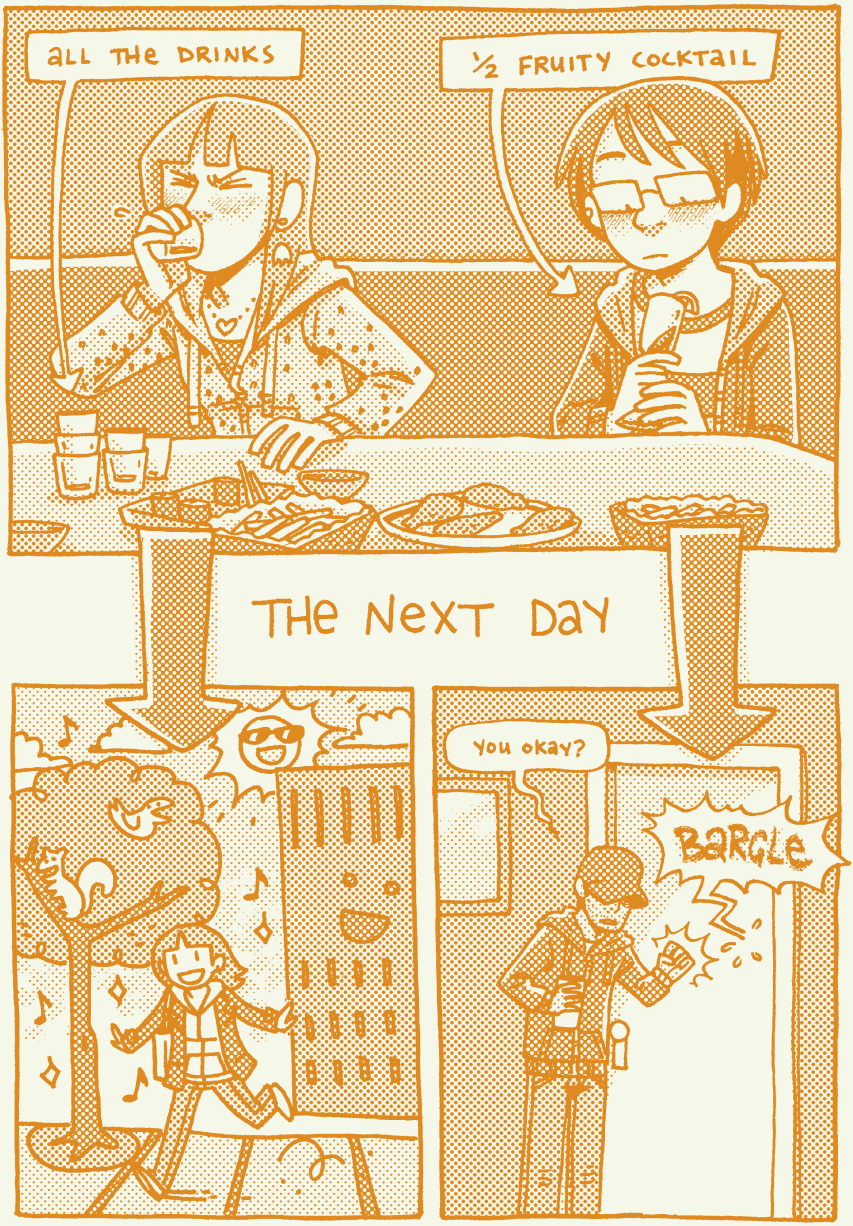
5 DAYS LATER:



cake sagan


IT'S...
COSMOS
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
HAPPY BIRTHDAY
LOVE, CARL SAGAN
it's so beautiful...

bargle



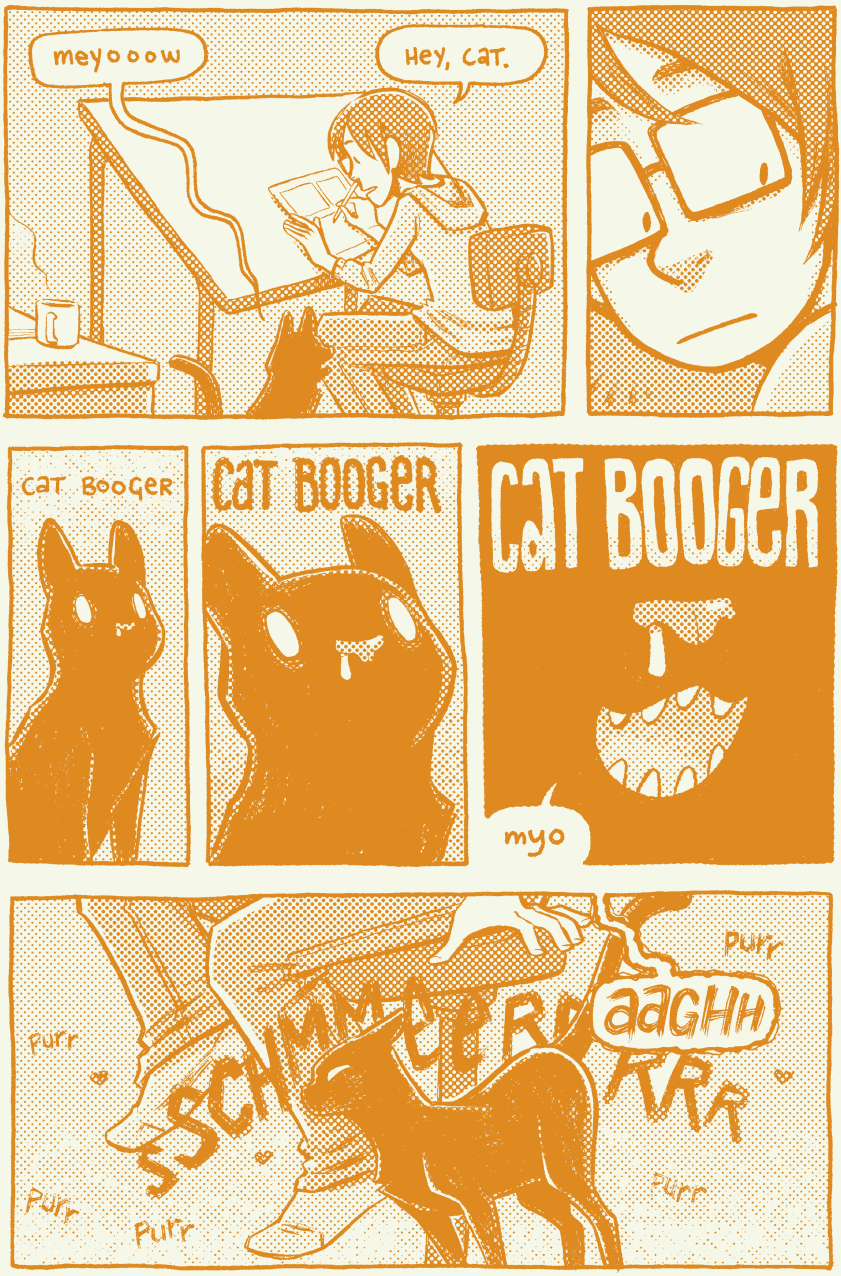
BROUGHT TO YOU BY ASIAN ALCOHOL INTOLERANCE

thanks, nihilism dad





cat booger


meyooow
Hey, cat.
cat booger
cat booger
cat booger
myo
purr
purr
purr
purr
purr
aaghh

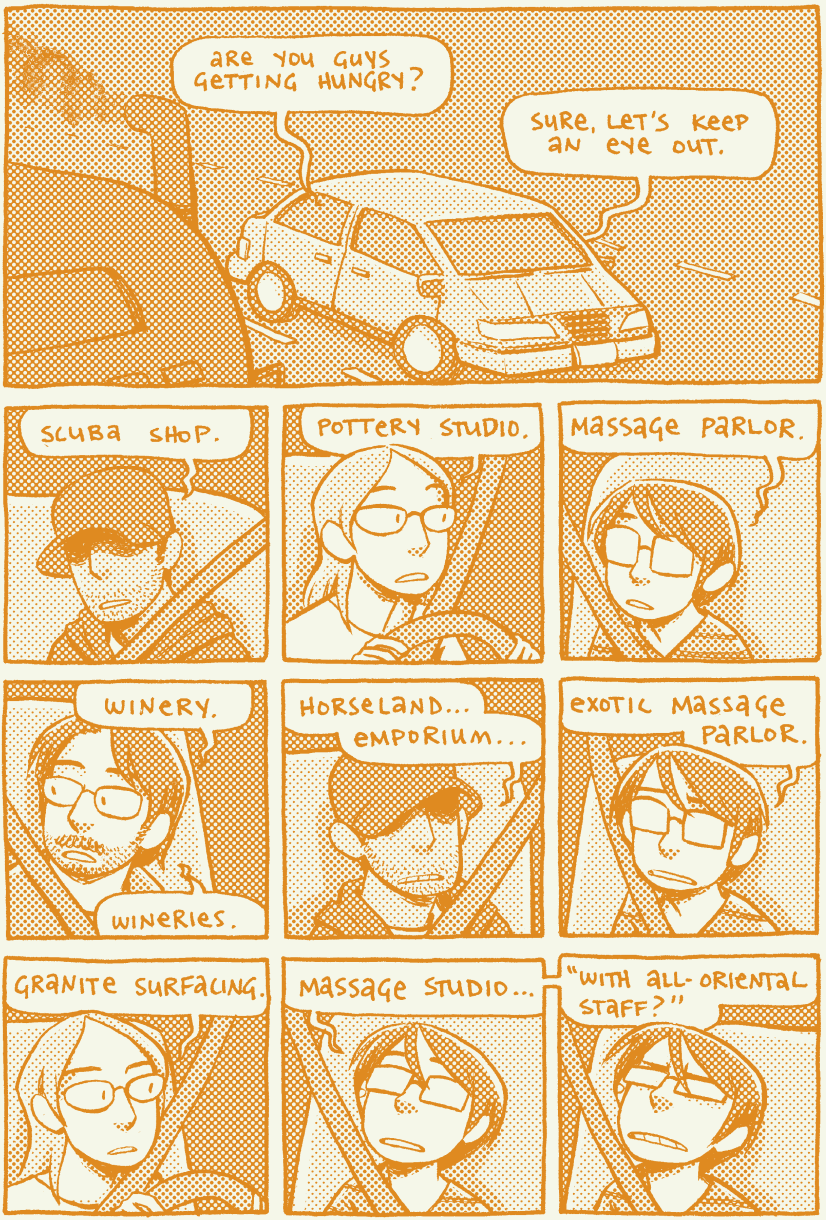
drinking problem



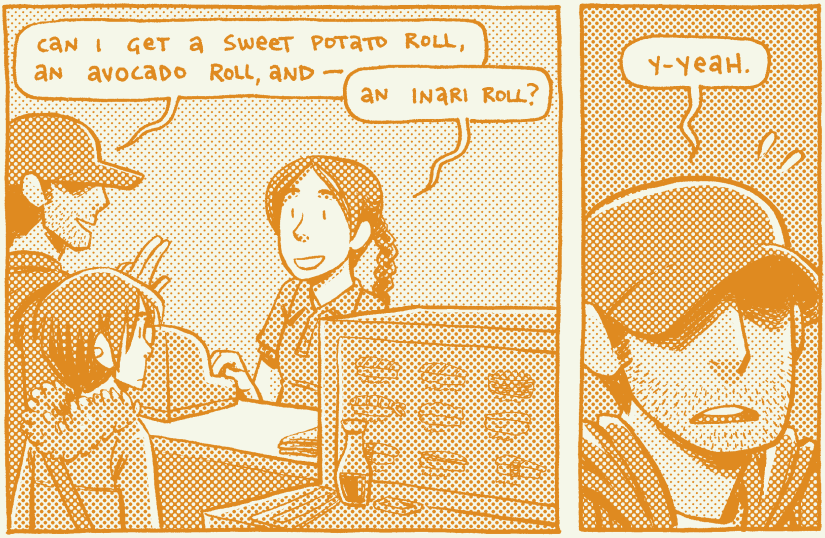
the call is coming from inside the houussee

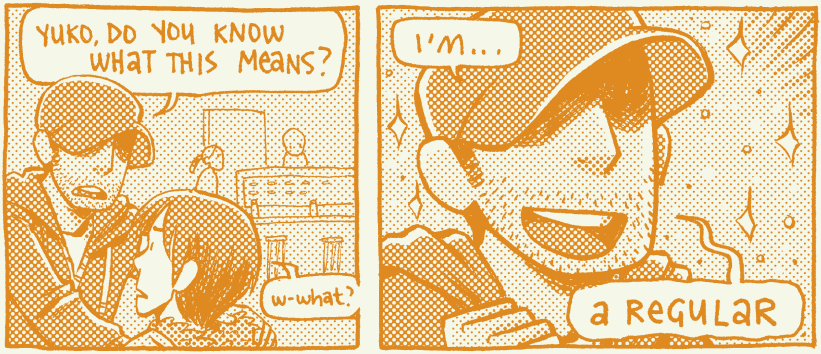


gas station snacks for dinner

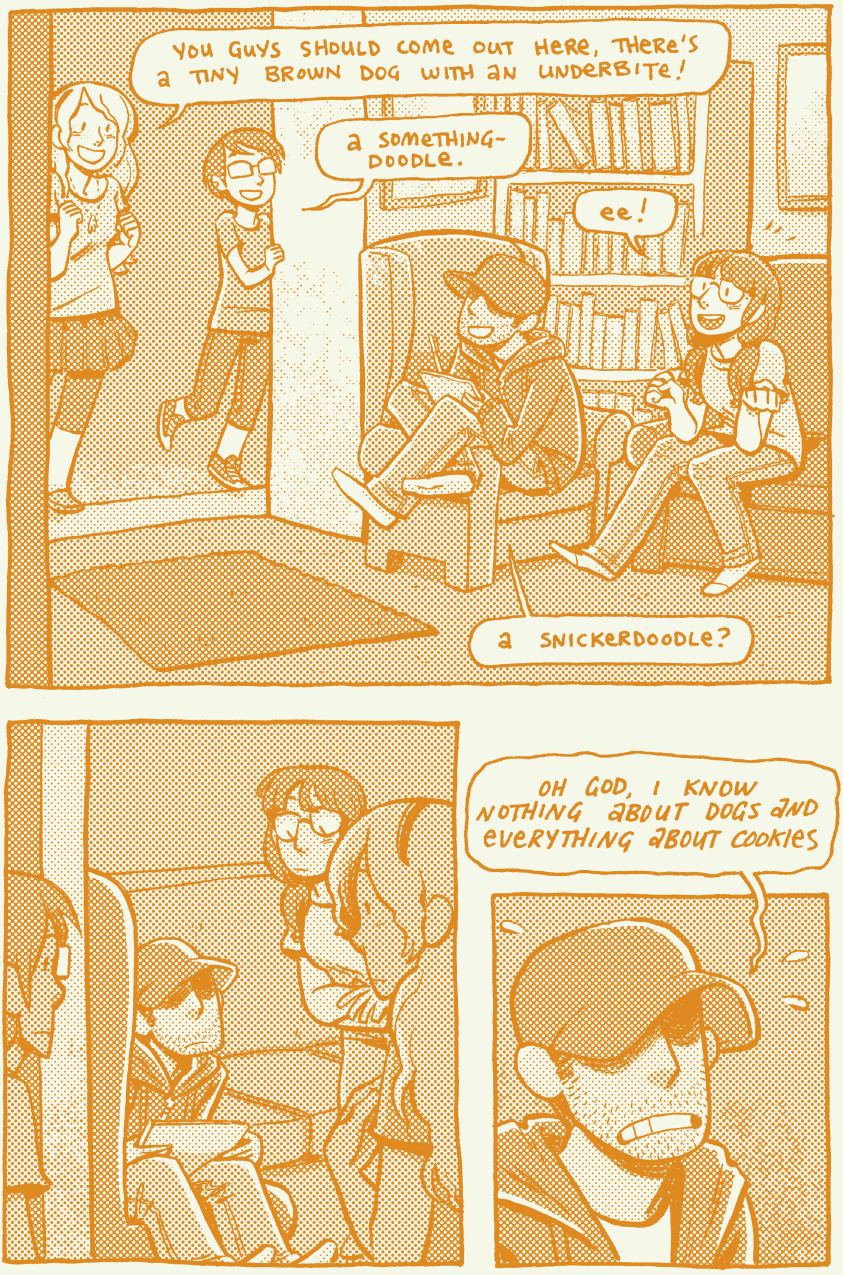


where everybody knows your name





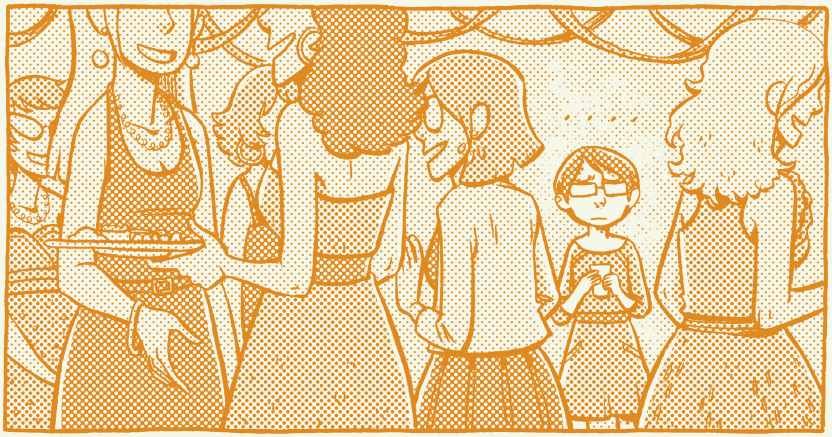
snickerdoggle

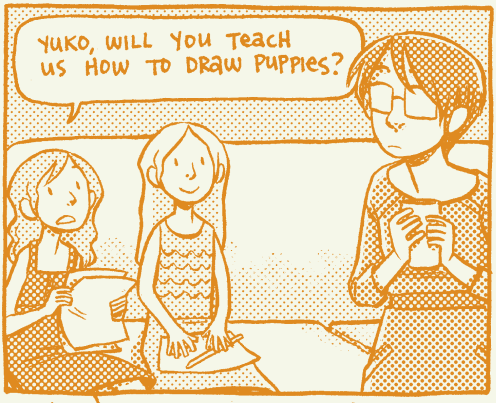


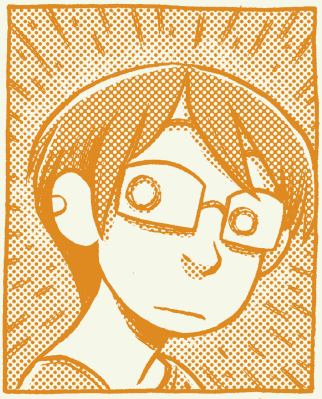
saxocat

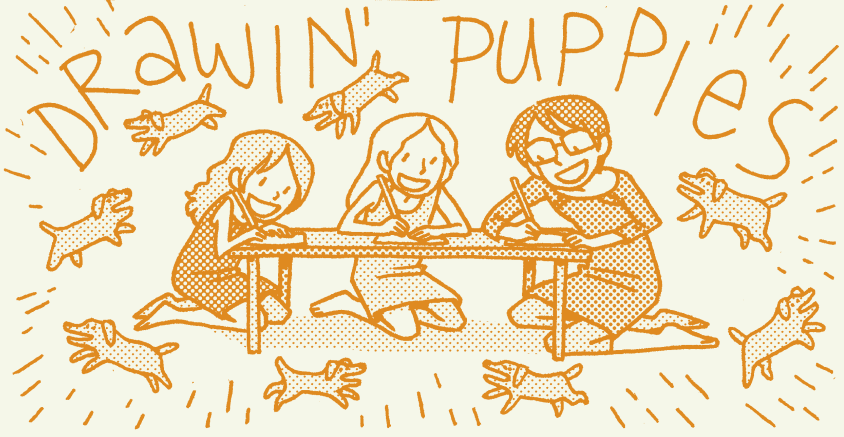


puppy shower

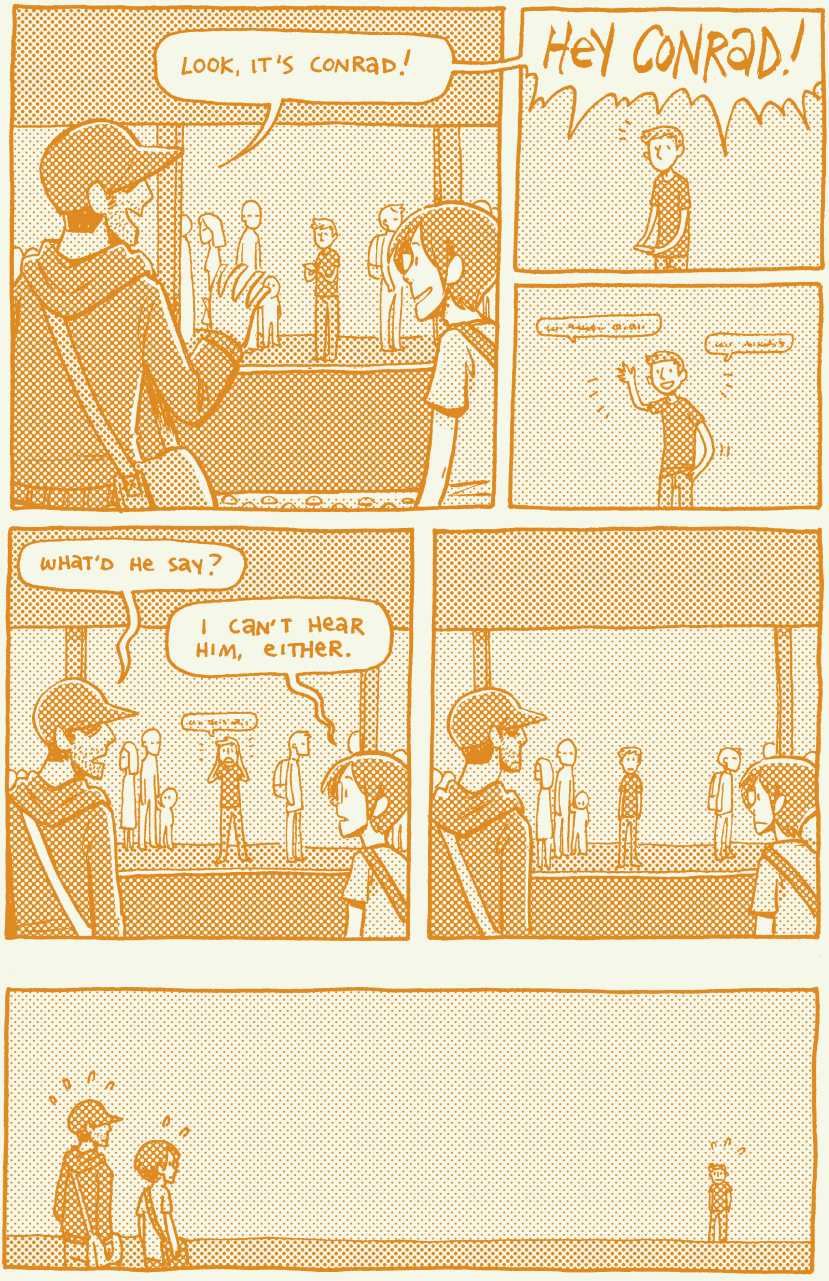






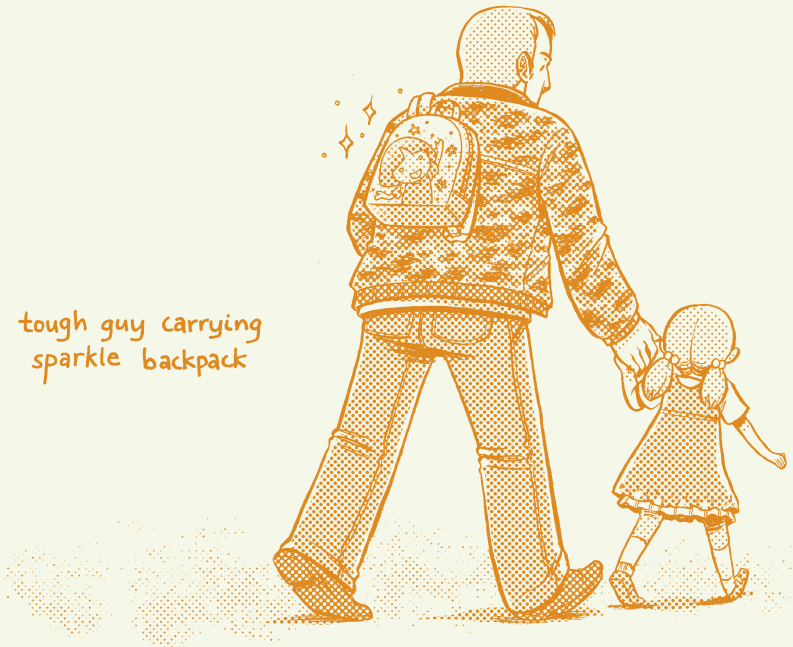


should have learned flag semaphore



a few of my favorite things: TOUGH GUY EDITION






THAT WEIRD ECTO-COOLER SMOOTHIE THING THAT JOHN MAKES:
BLEND TOGETHER:
THE BETTER PART OF A 6oz BAG OF FRESH SPINACH
10-15 FRESH MINT LEAVES
A HALF (or more) CAN OF FROZEN WHITE GRAPE JUICE CONCENTRATE
and a can of ginger ale if you want
then fill the blender with ice
and blend that, too
BABY SPINACH
NO SERIOUSLY IT'S REALLY GOOD YOU GOTTA BELIEVE US

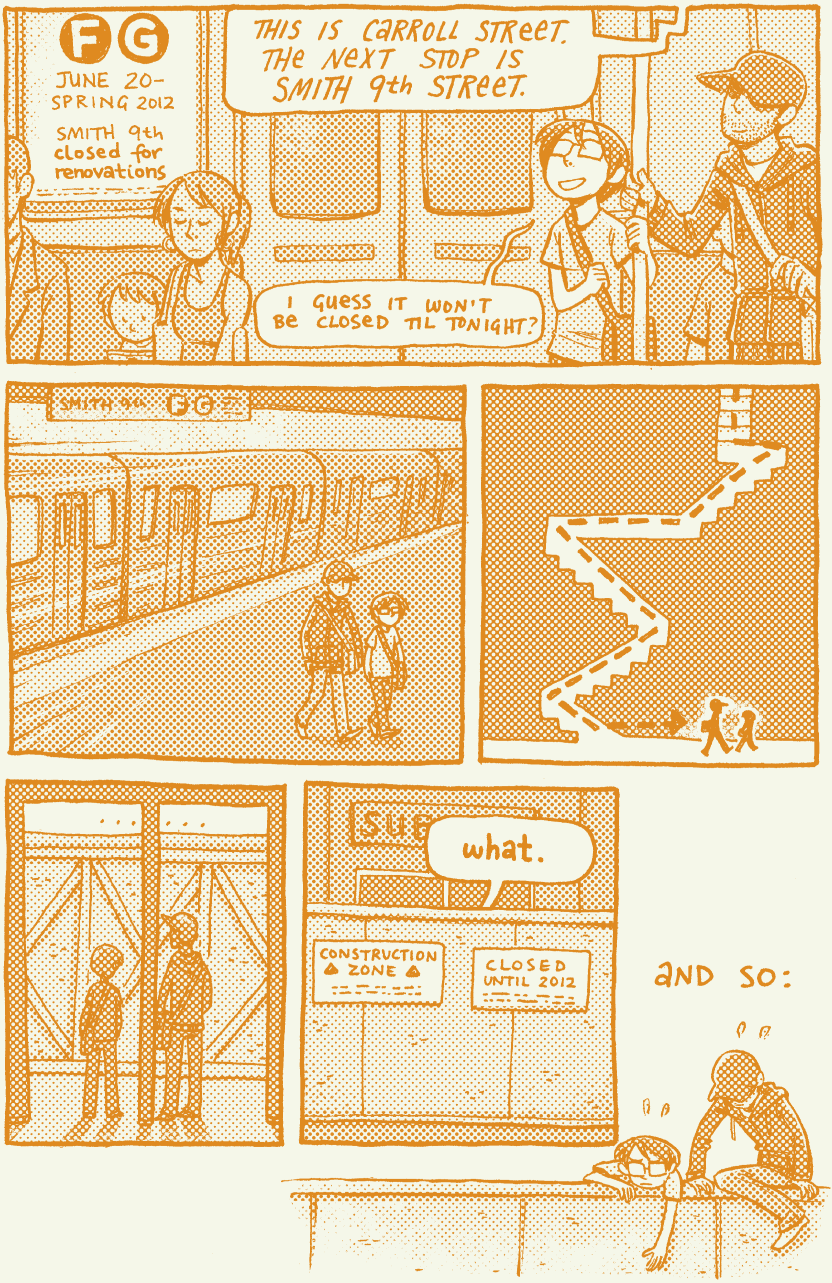
another day, another person mistaking yuko for a teenager



nope



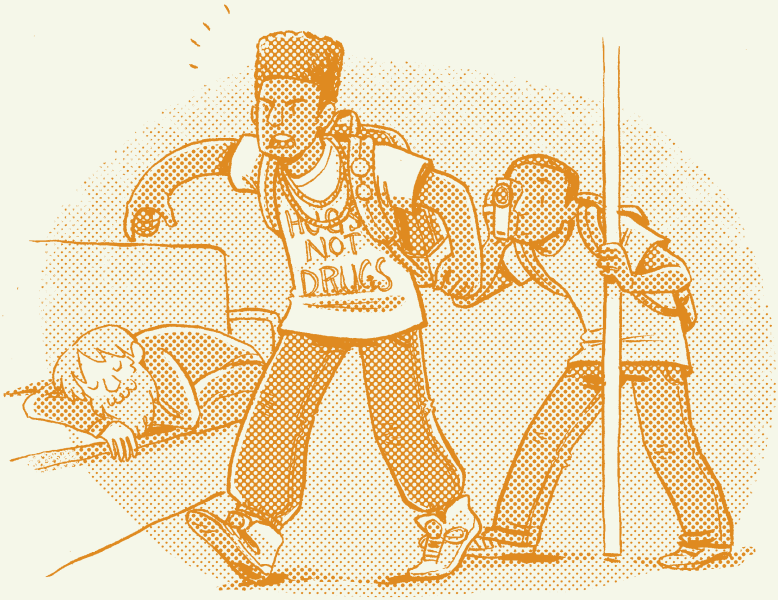
good thing we just took up rock climbing



a few of my favorite things: SUBWAY MUSICIANS VERSION



FIVE-PIECE MARIACHI BAND IN FULL REGALIA

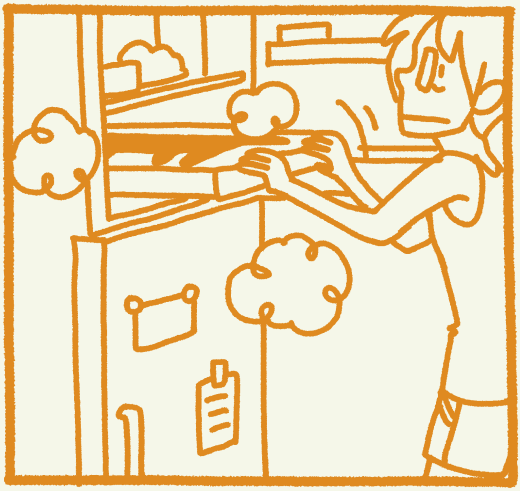


TIME-TRAVELING '80S RAPPER
(I didn't know they still made those shirts)

the time we drag-raced hulk hogan




cat ice tray
OH NO
THE CAT IS MELTING
meowwwu




whew, that was a close one.


AND SOON;

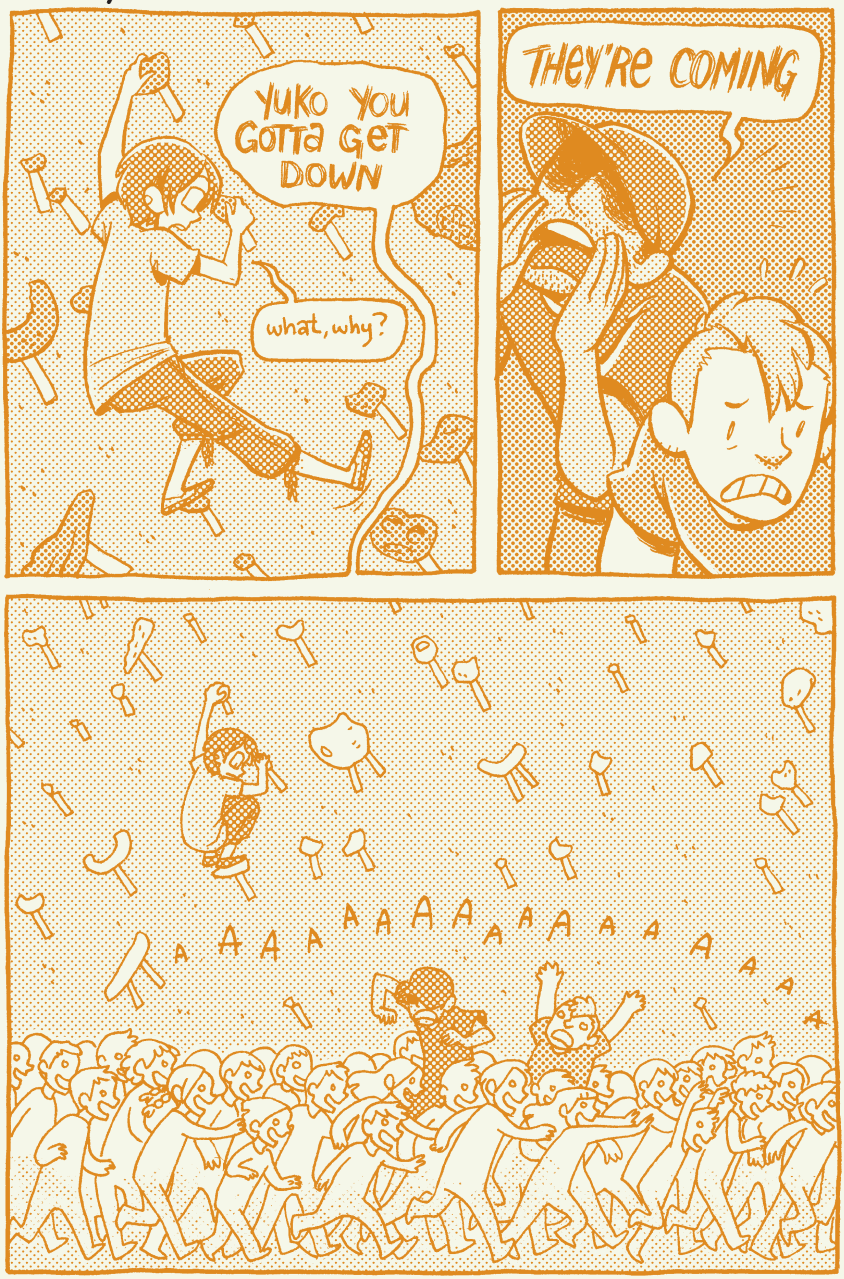
not the first, not the last



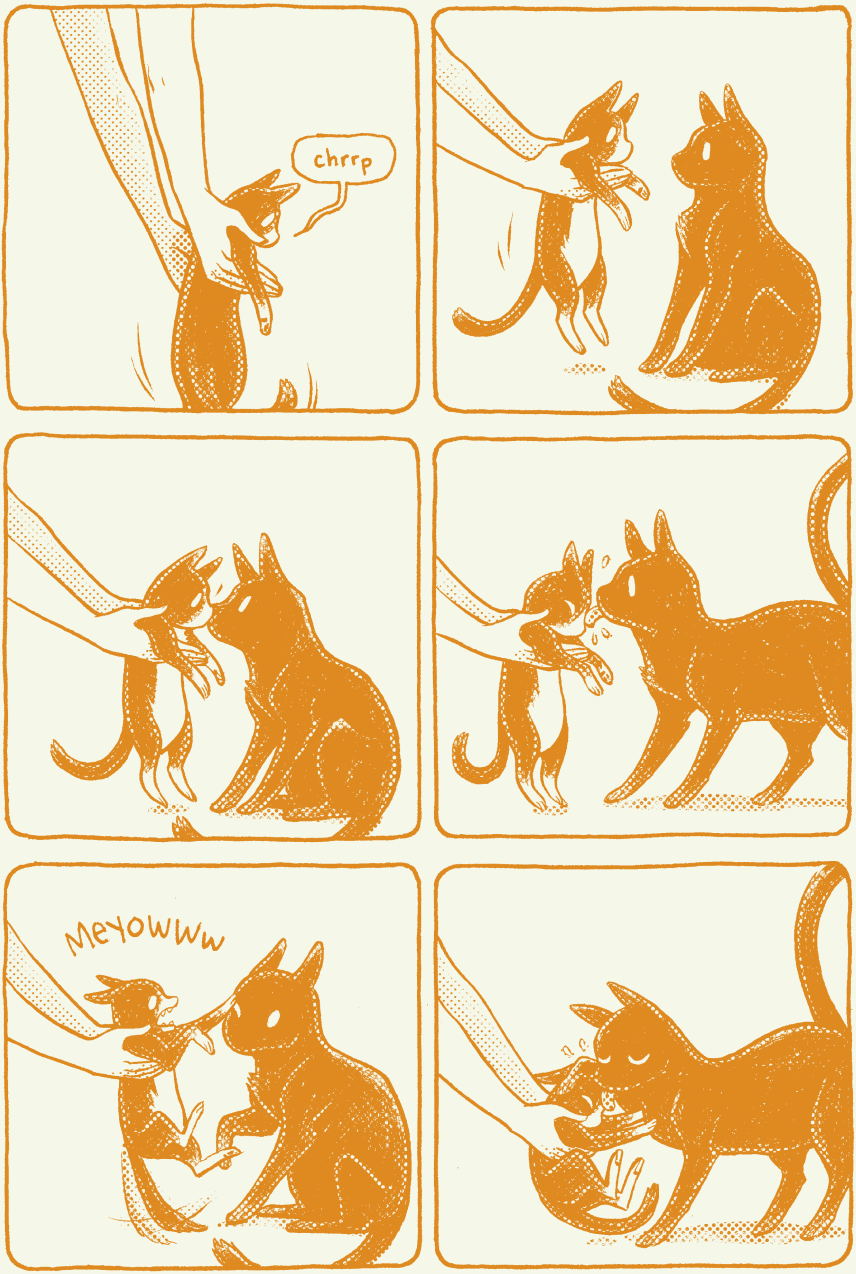
every o'clock shadow



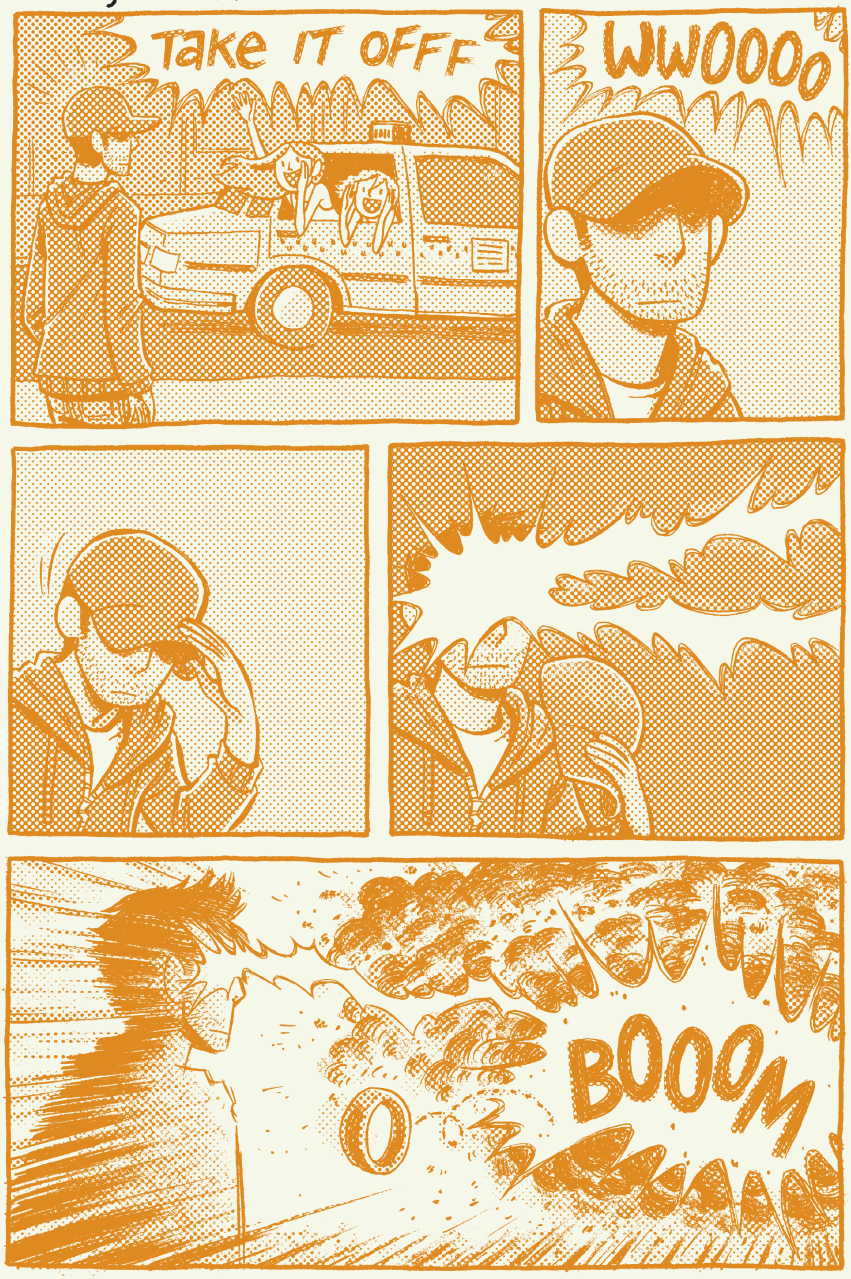
save yourself



stoppit, cat-dad

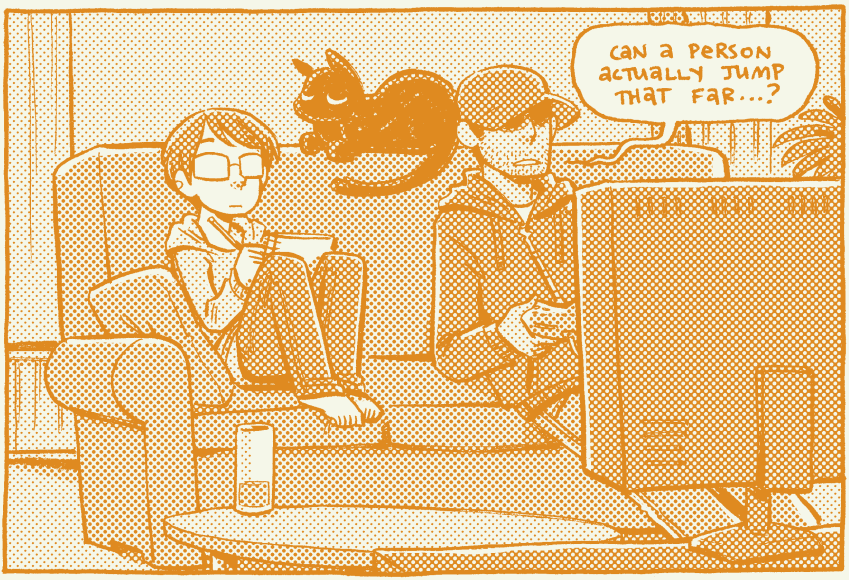


taking it off



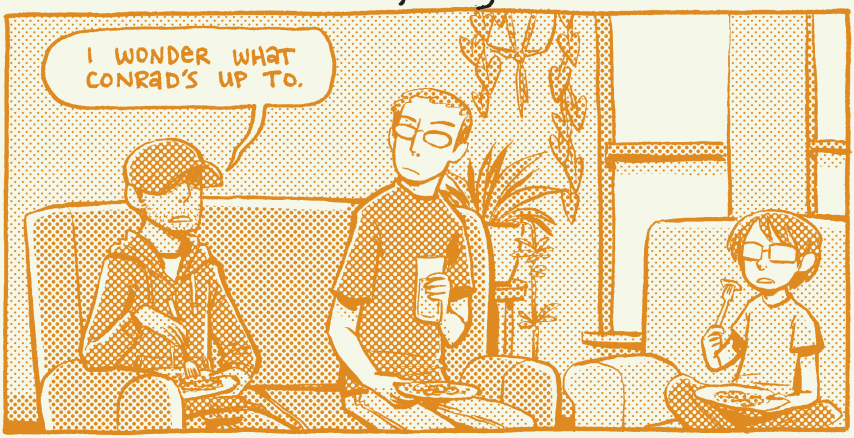
Lock your doors



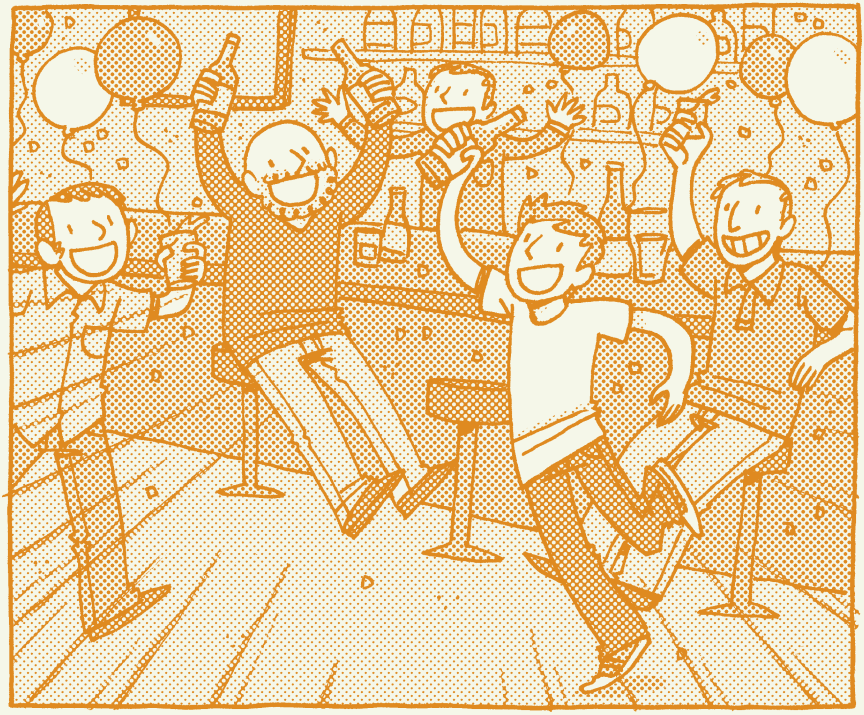

CAN A PERSON ACTUALLY JUMP THAT FAR...?


BUT SOON
I could jump that.

international man of mystery



MEANWHILE IN TAIPEI



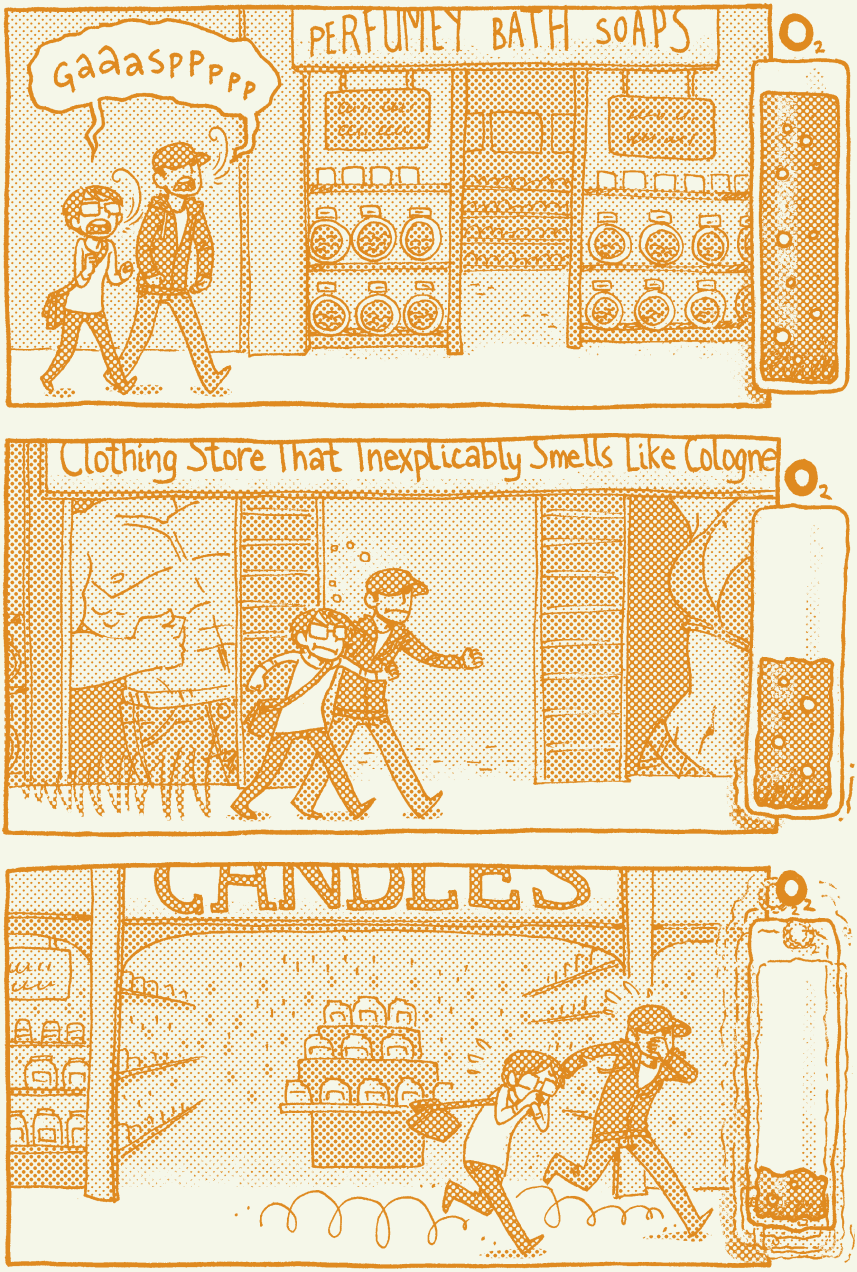
magical buried treasure



chair sniper

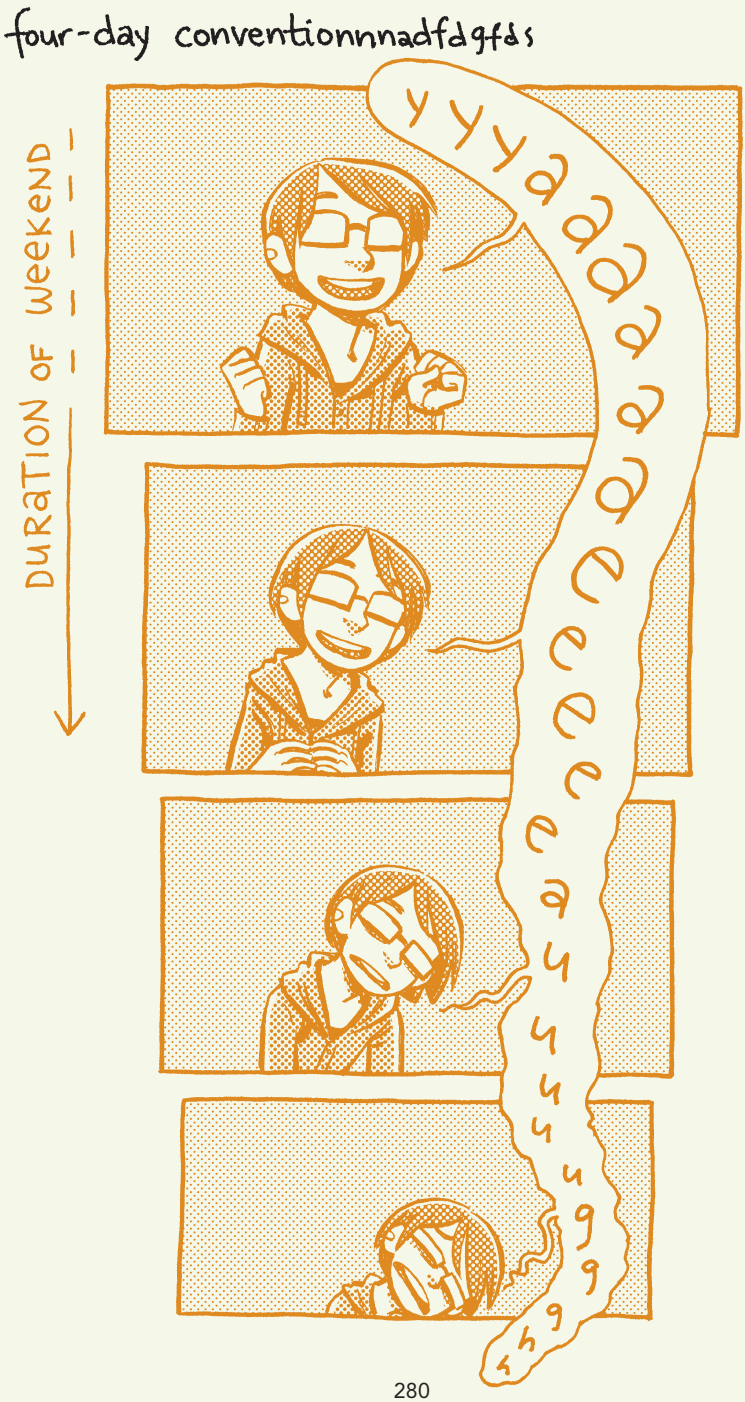


why did they put them all next to each other



peanut blarghr

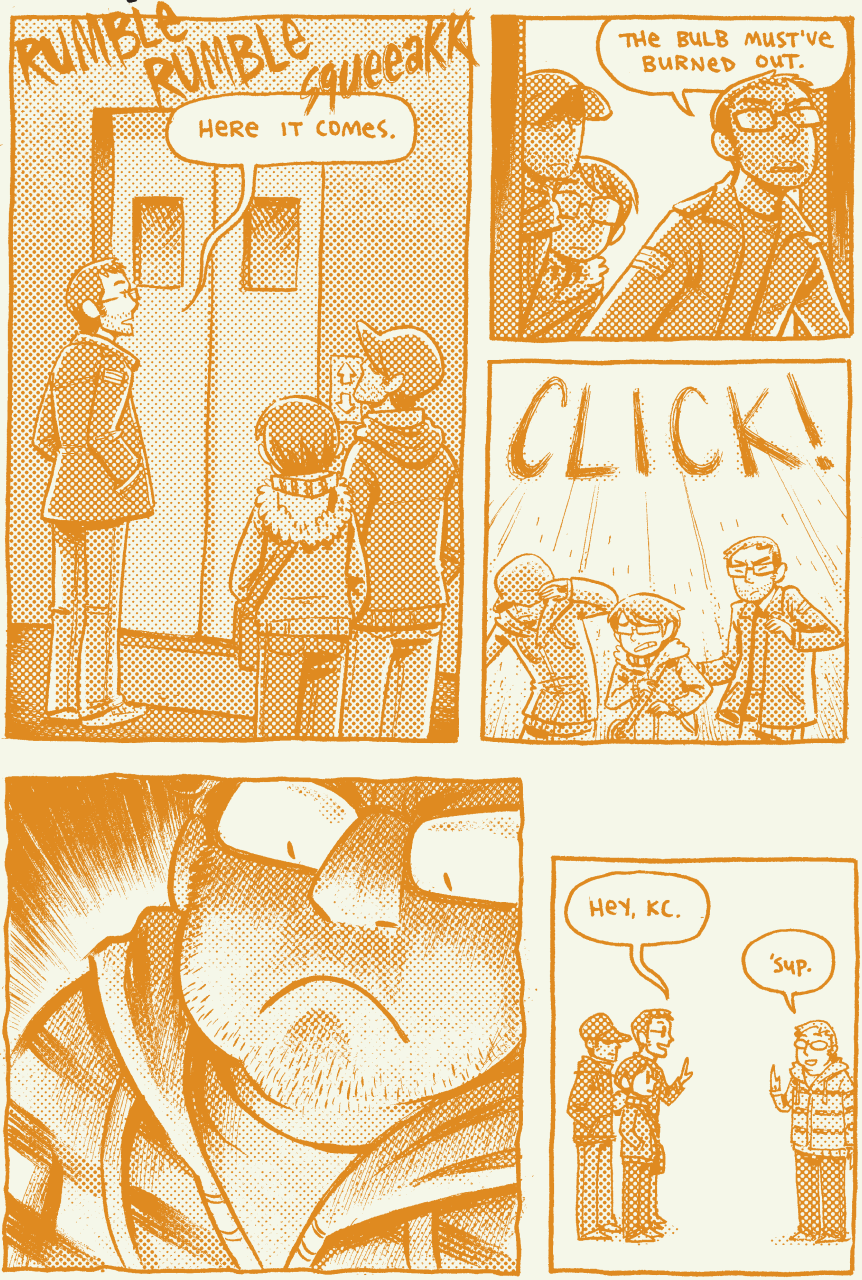



four-day conventionnnadfdgfds
DURATION OF WEEKEND
yyyaaaaaaeeeeeauuuuuuggggg

peppermint bargles



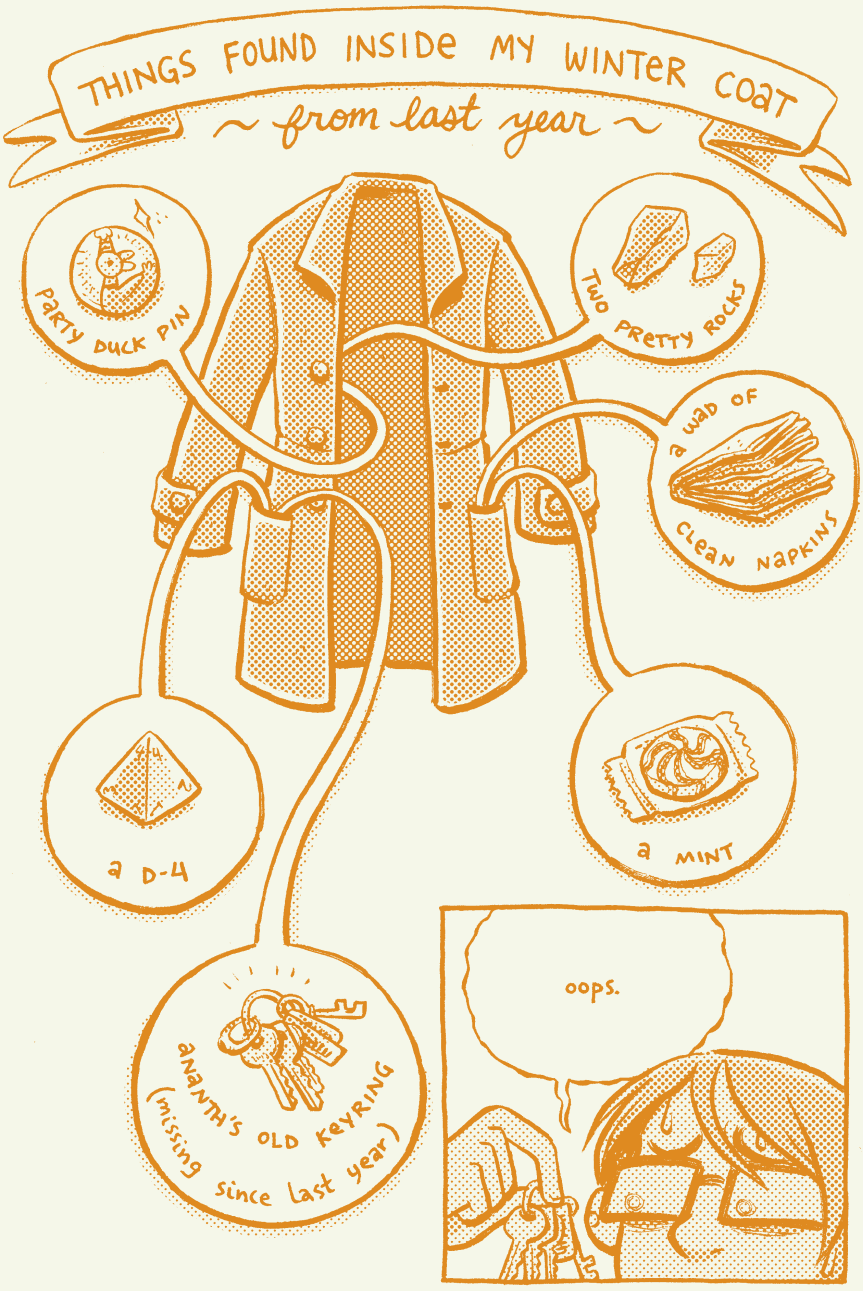
all freight elevators are haunted



party cone




everything I own has grey stripes how did this happen
oops.

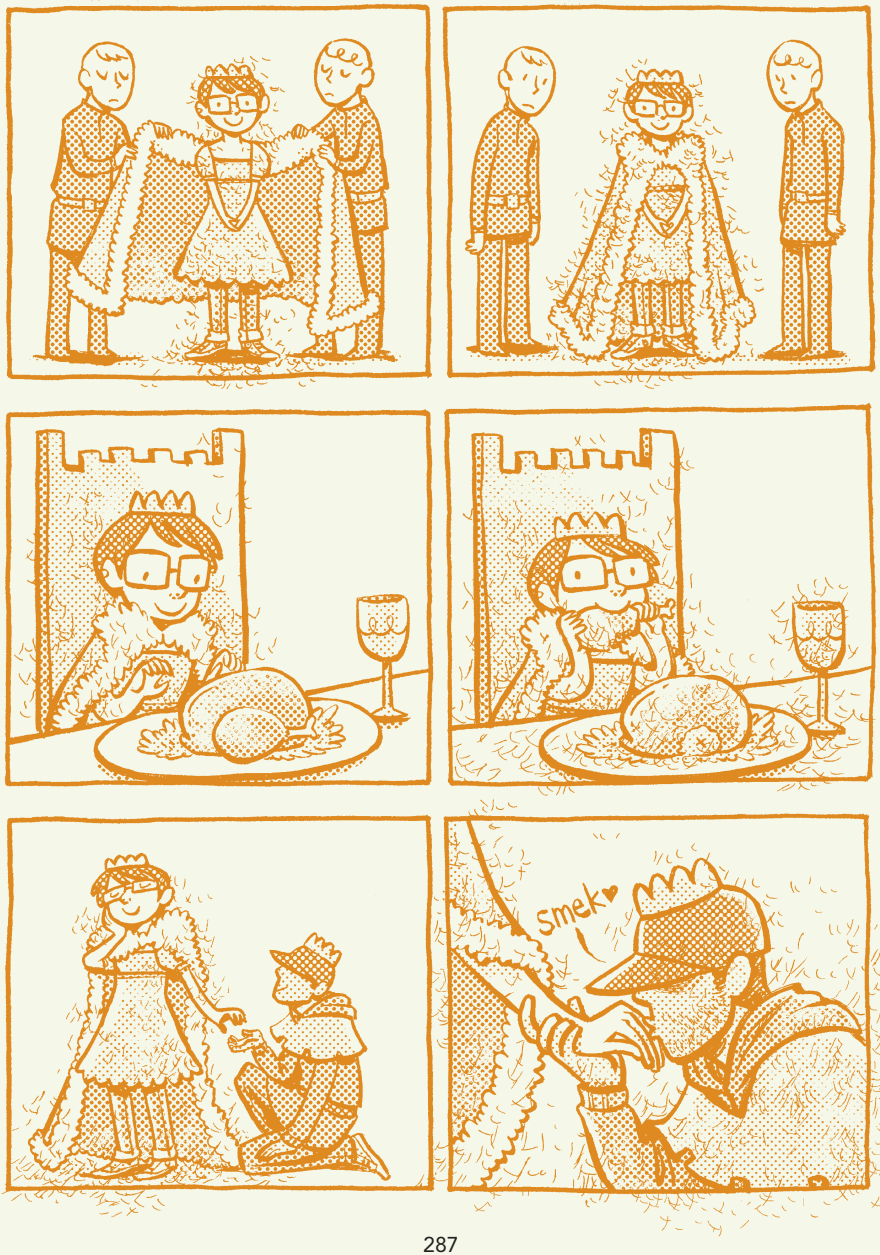

THINGS FOUND INSIDE MY WINTER COAT
~ from last year ~
PARTY DUCK PIN
TWO PRETTY ROCKS
a wad of
CLEAN NAPKINS
a D-4
a MINT
ananth's old keyring
(missing since last year)
oops.

cat-rad


BZZT BZZT
bwip
INBOX
From: Ananth
Hey, out with Conrad. Xmas gift ideas.
REPLY
gift ideas: He needs a bigger litter box.
REPLY
FOR HIS CATS, RIGHT...?
tak
tak

The Midas Touch

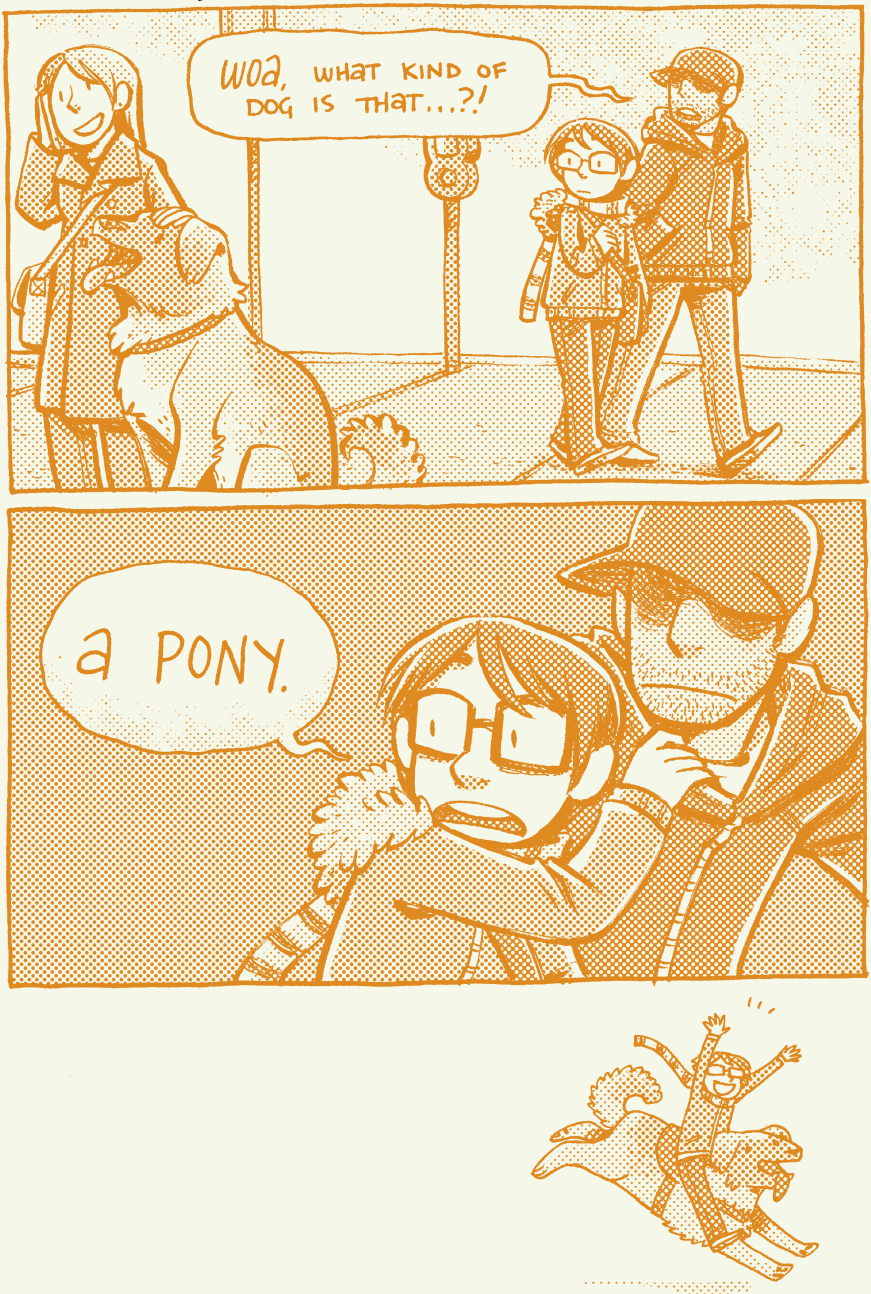
BUT WITH CAT HAIR



needs about ten packs of sugar



we are going to be best friends



it runs in the family



laundry rich



teeny fractal buddy



yes

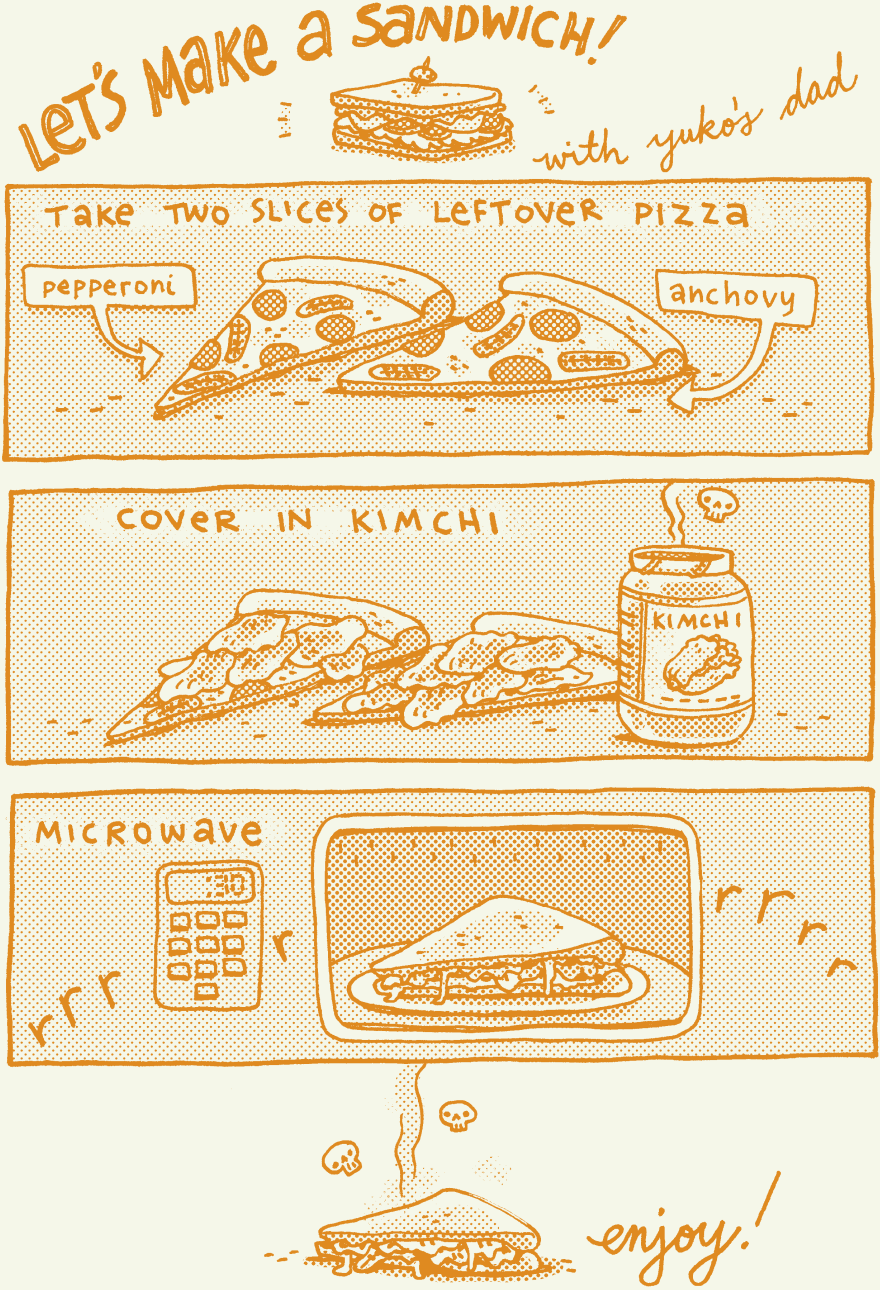

HI, ARE YOU—
...OVER 18?
YES.
YES, I'M 26.
OH! BECAUSE I COULD'VE SWORN YOU WERE 15.
I GET THAT A LOT.
YOU CAME TO THE DOOR AND I SWORE YOU WERE IN HIGH SCHOOL.
YES.
BECAUSE YOU LOOK LIKE A TEENAGER.
YES.

roadtrip soundtrack



merry christmas, mom




LET'S MAKE A SANDWICH!
with yuko's dad
TAKE TWO SLICES OF LEFTOVER PIZZA
pepperoni
anchovy
COVER IN KIMCHI
KIMCHI
MICROWAVE
enjoy!

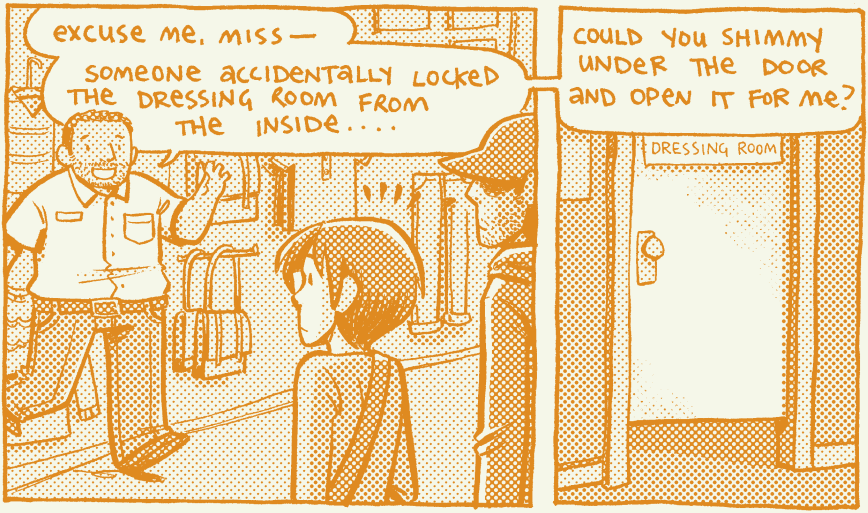
kitten of a hundred names

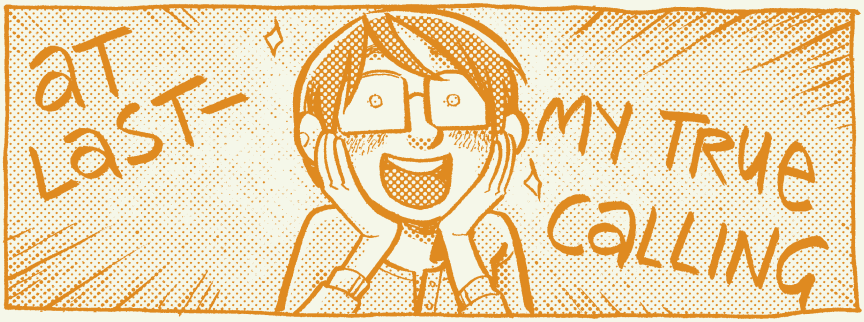


how can you be unhappy while wearing a cupcake hat

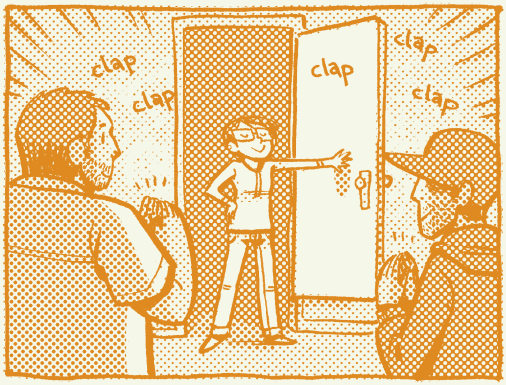


cat burglar in the making





and so:



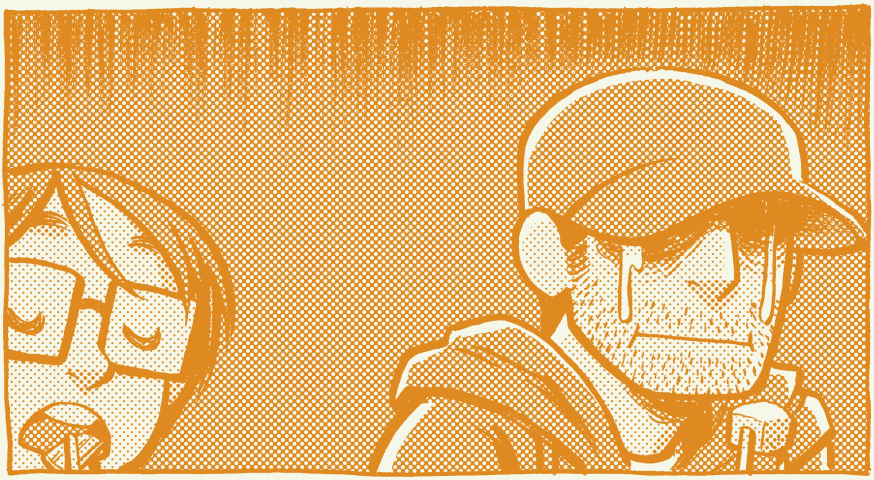
on hubris



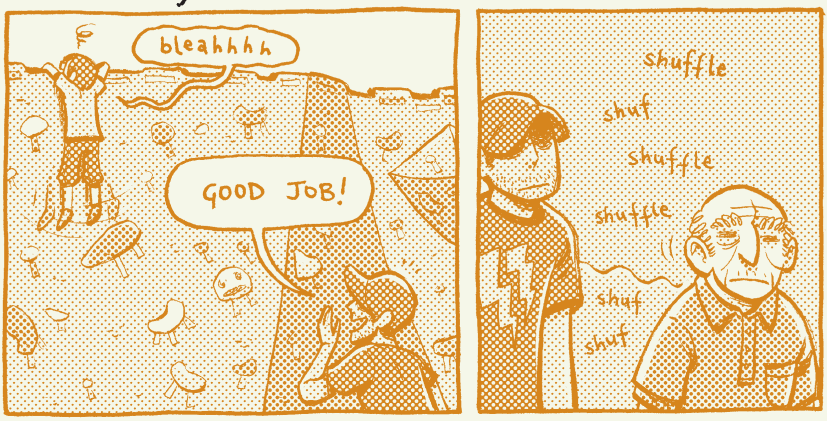


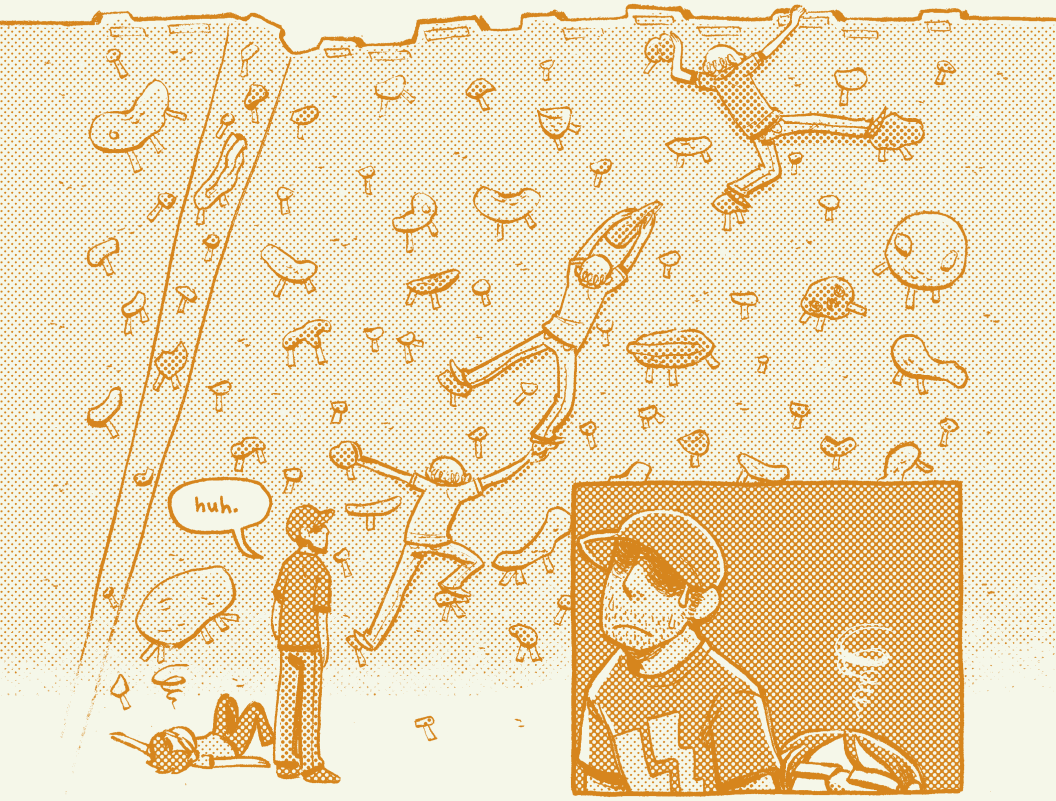
BUT THEN





tai chi-ing up the wall

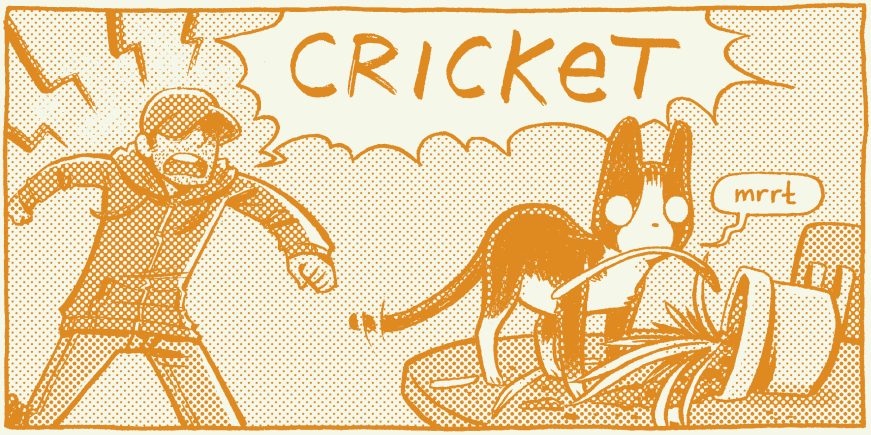




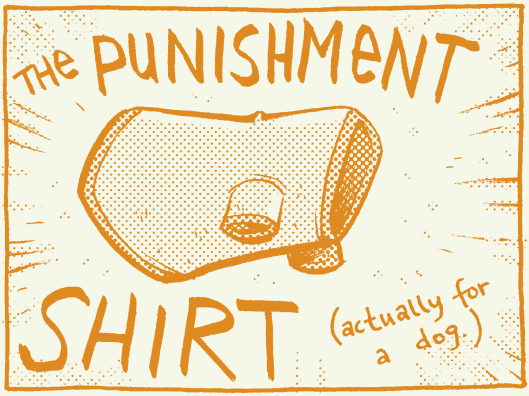
water cat


CRICKET!!
DOWN!
sprtz
sprtz
sprtz
sprtz
sprtz
sprtz
sprtz
nope.

shirt cat


CRICKET
mrrt


DON'T make me get out...

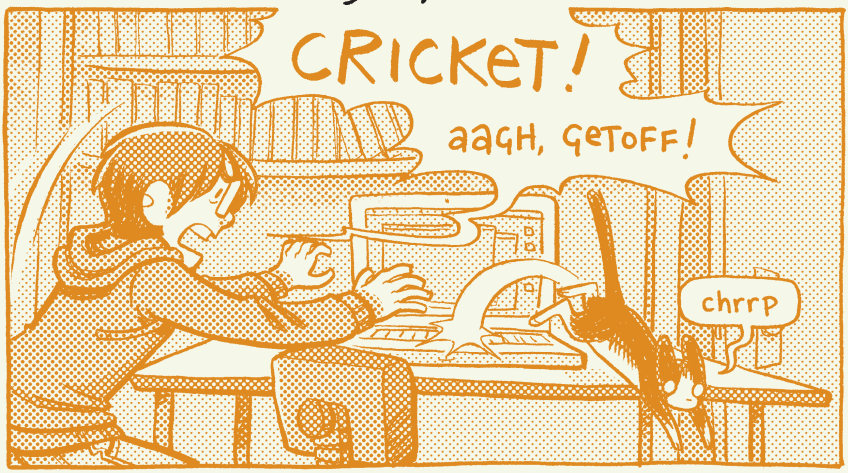

THE PUNISHMENT
SHIRT
(actually for a dog.)

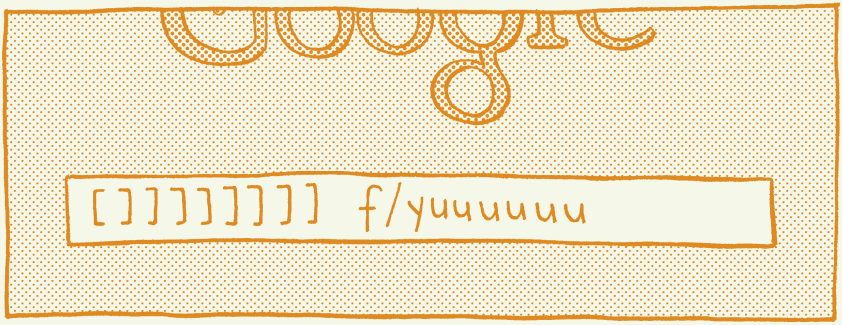

welp
so much for that

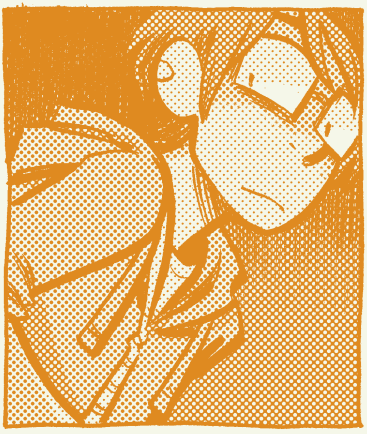
punishment shirt

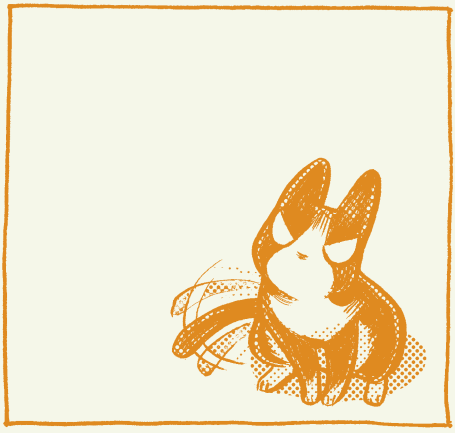


c'mon I was checking my e-mail





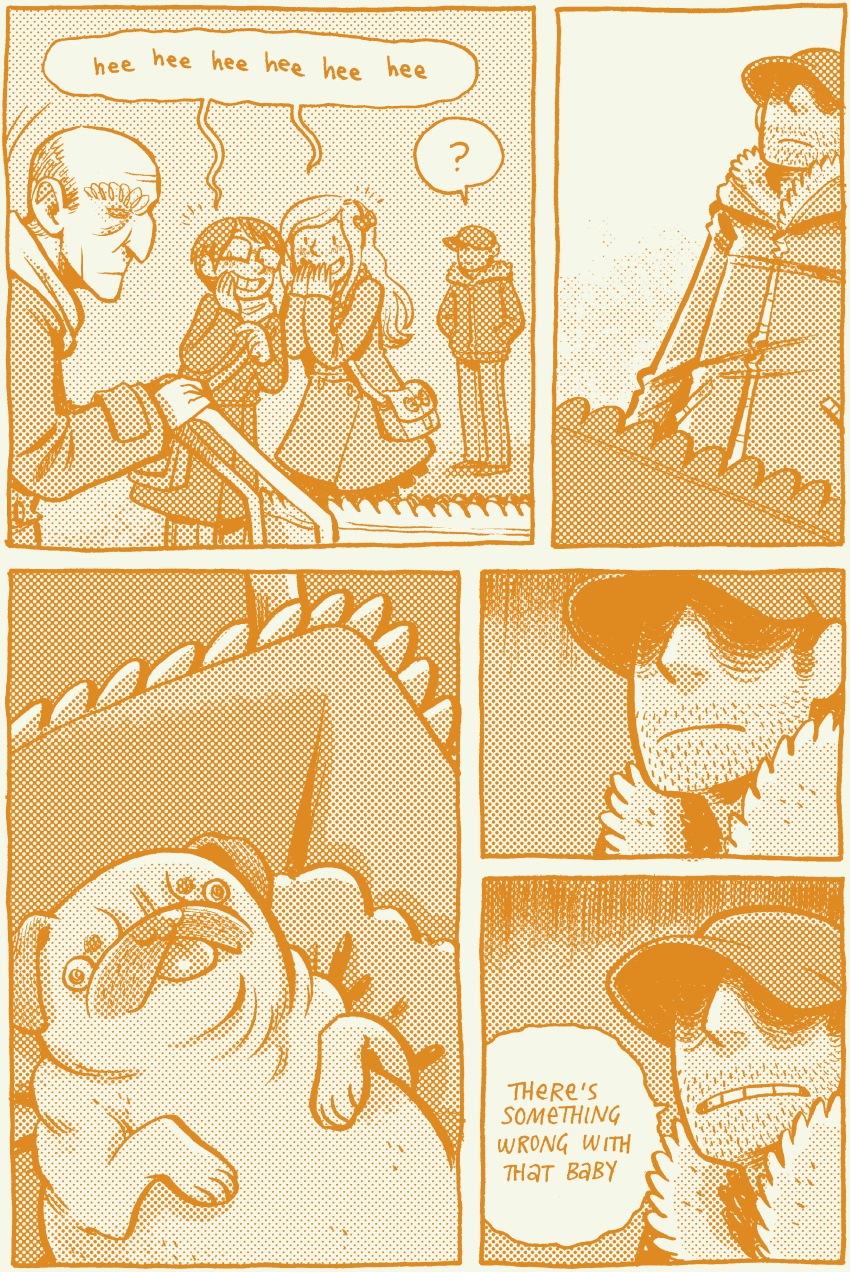




taking compliments like a pro with yuko



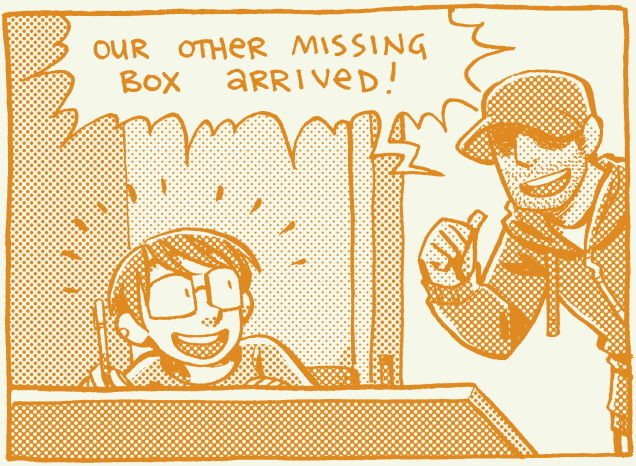
bassinet chariot

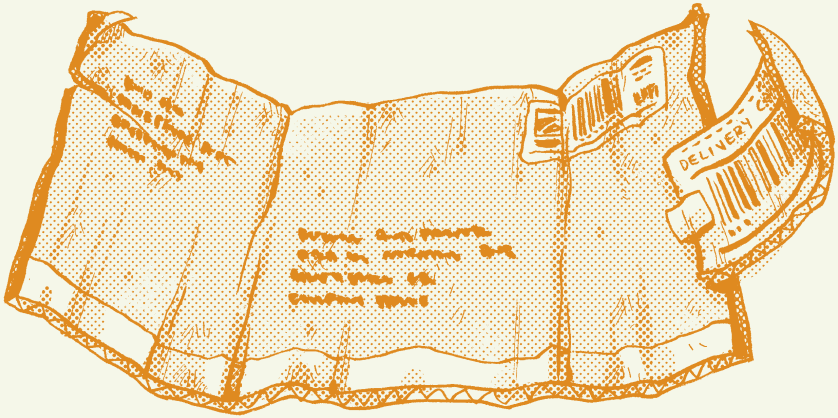


schrödinger's book



this is not my beautiful box





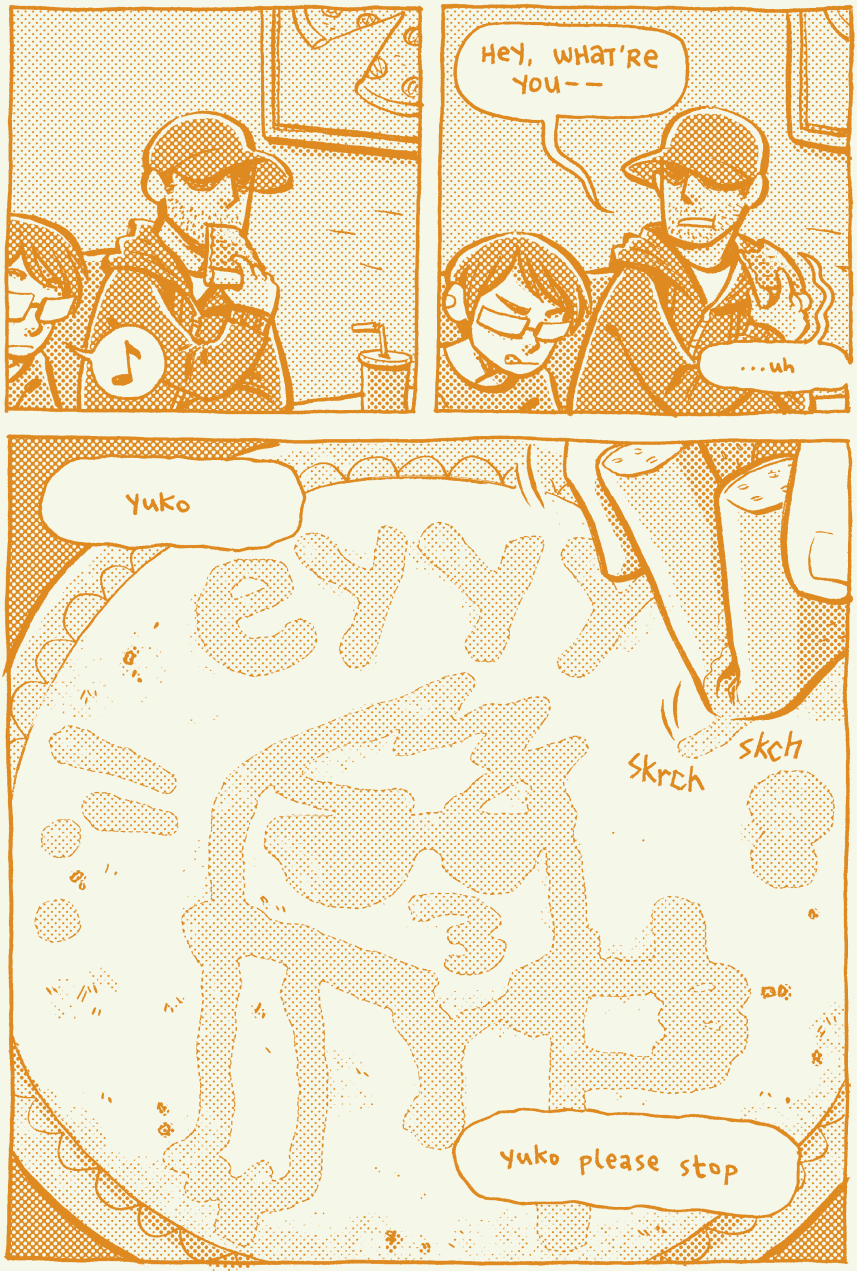


hunger games

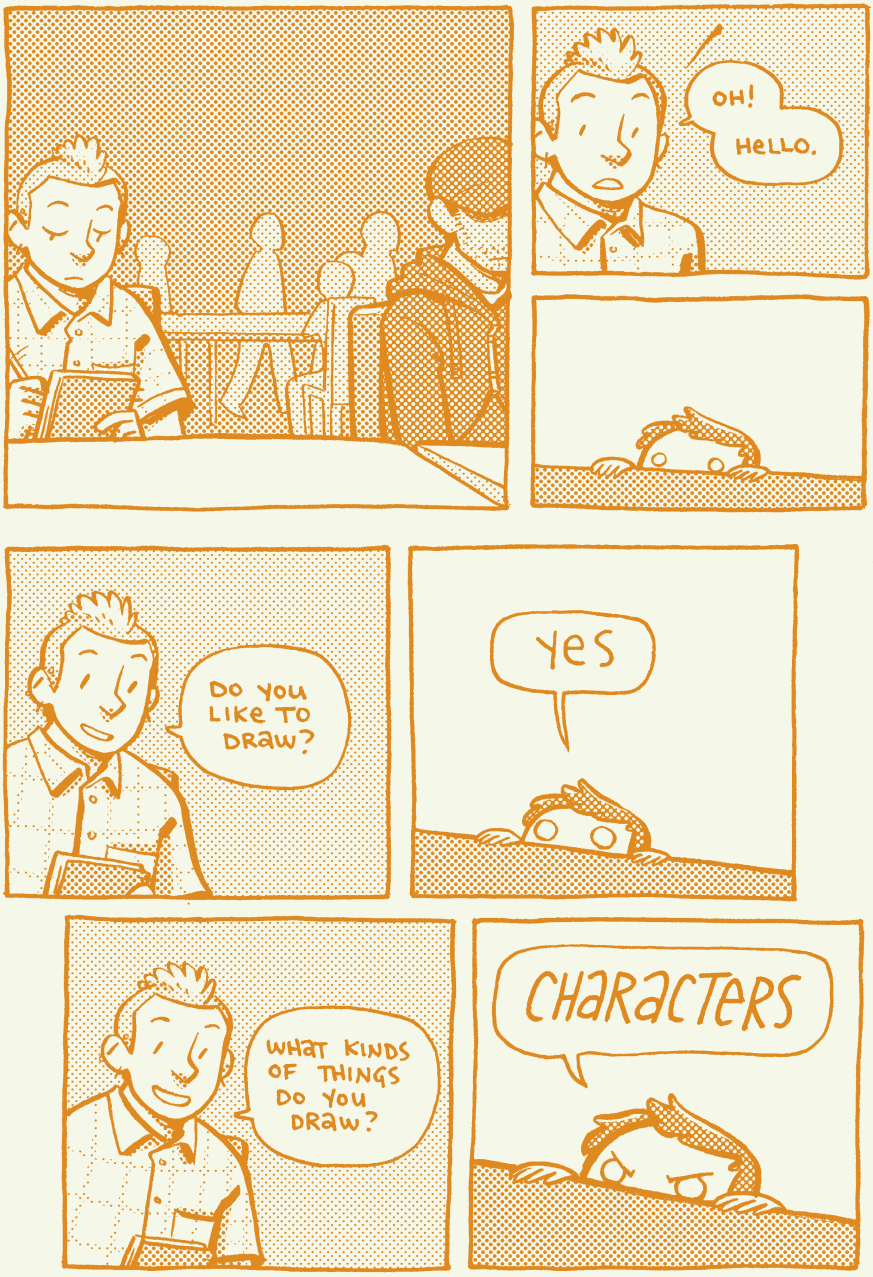


FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS SHOP HUNGRY

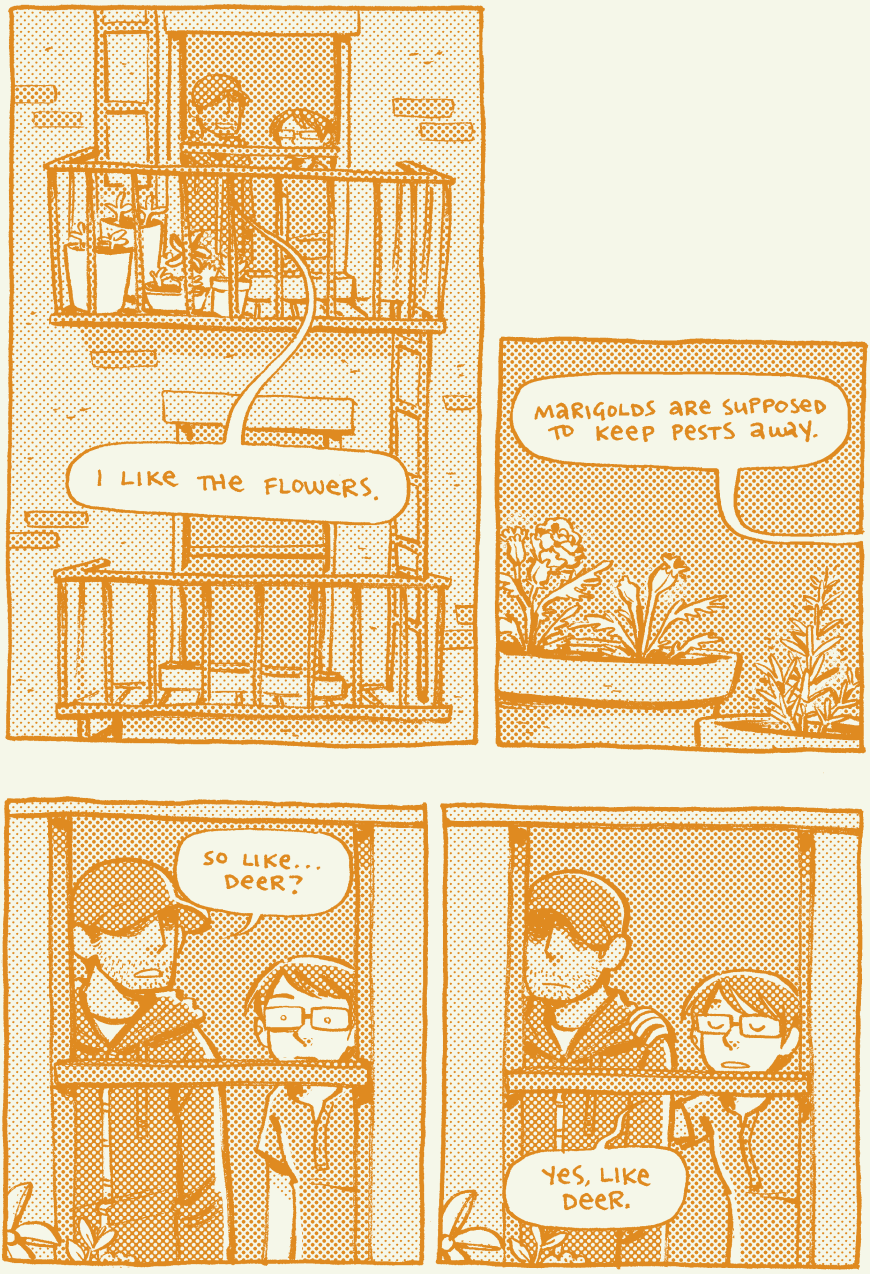
greasy pizza bro



serious art discussions



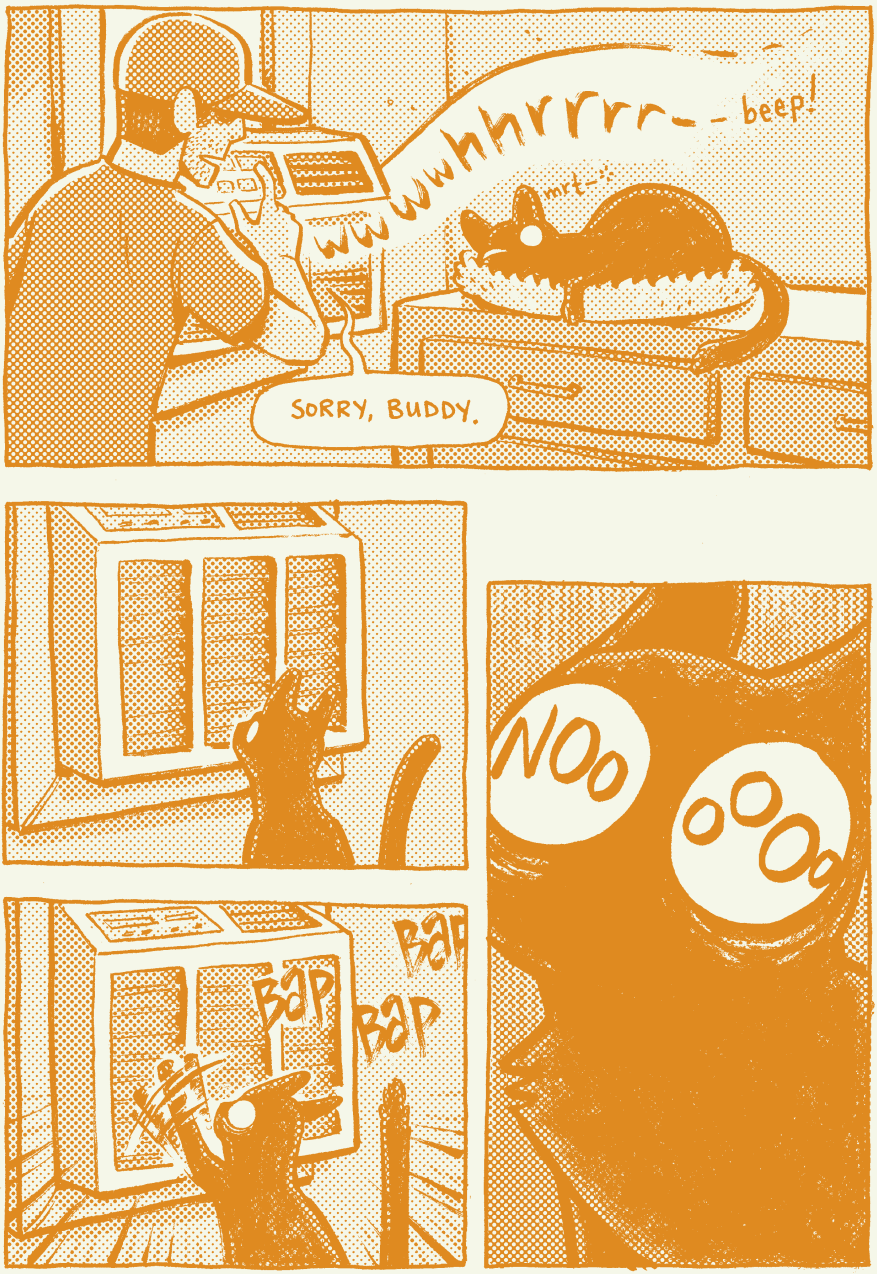
the urban climbing deer



the most wonderful time of the year



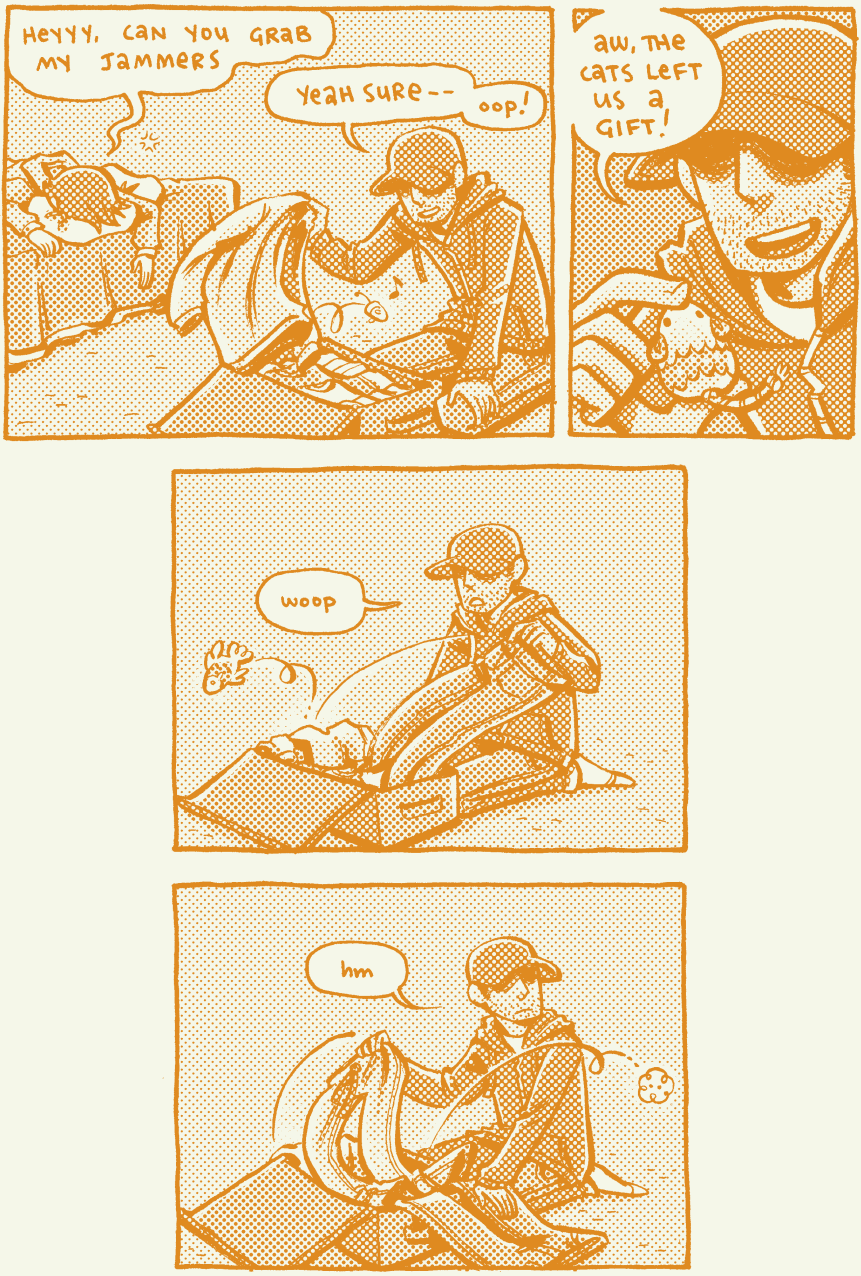
nooooo



a funny thing happened on the way to the movies



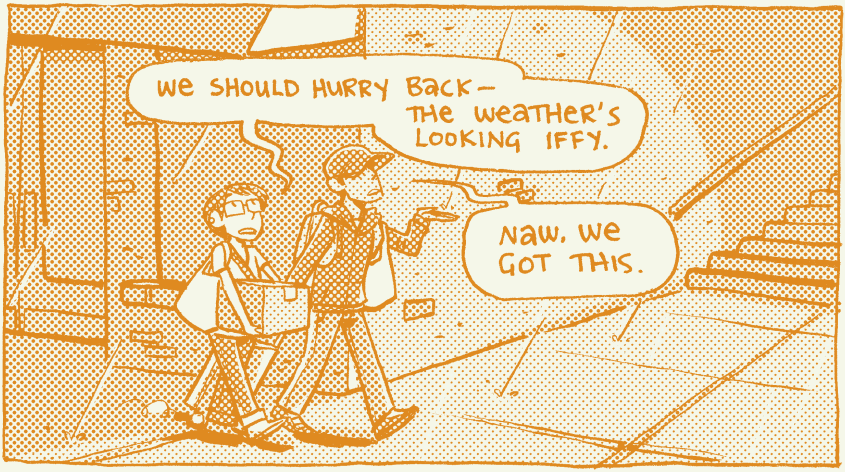
with love from cat

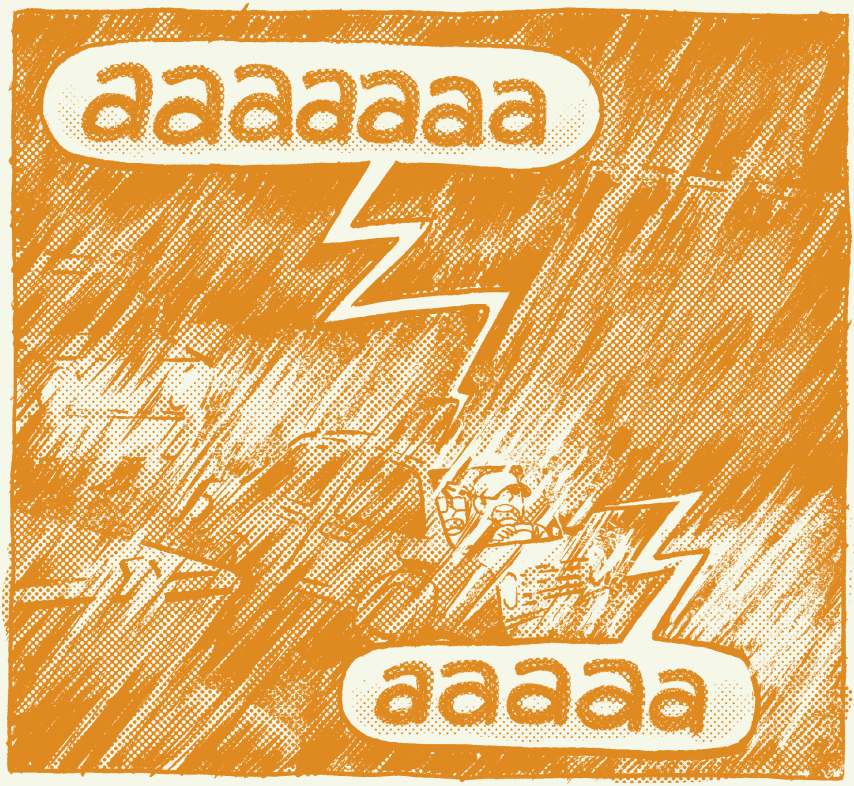


a dangerous addiction

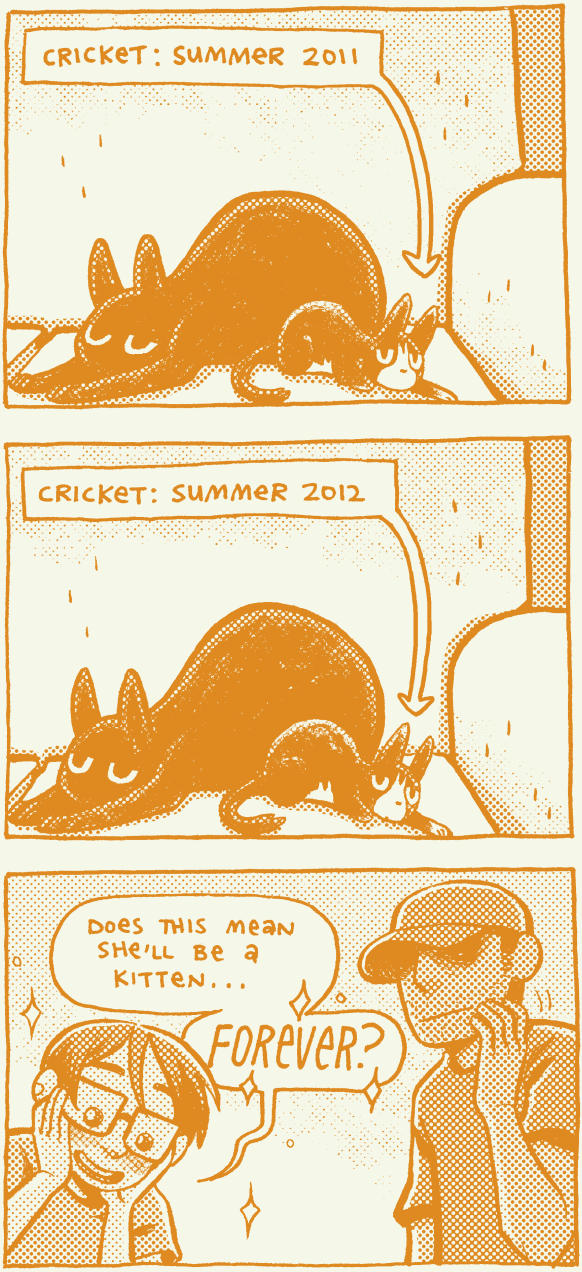


a pleasant drive

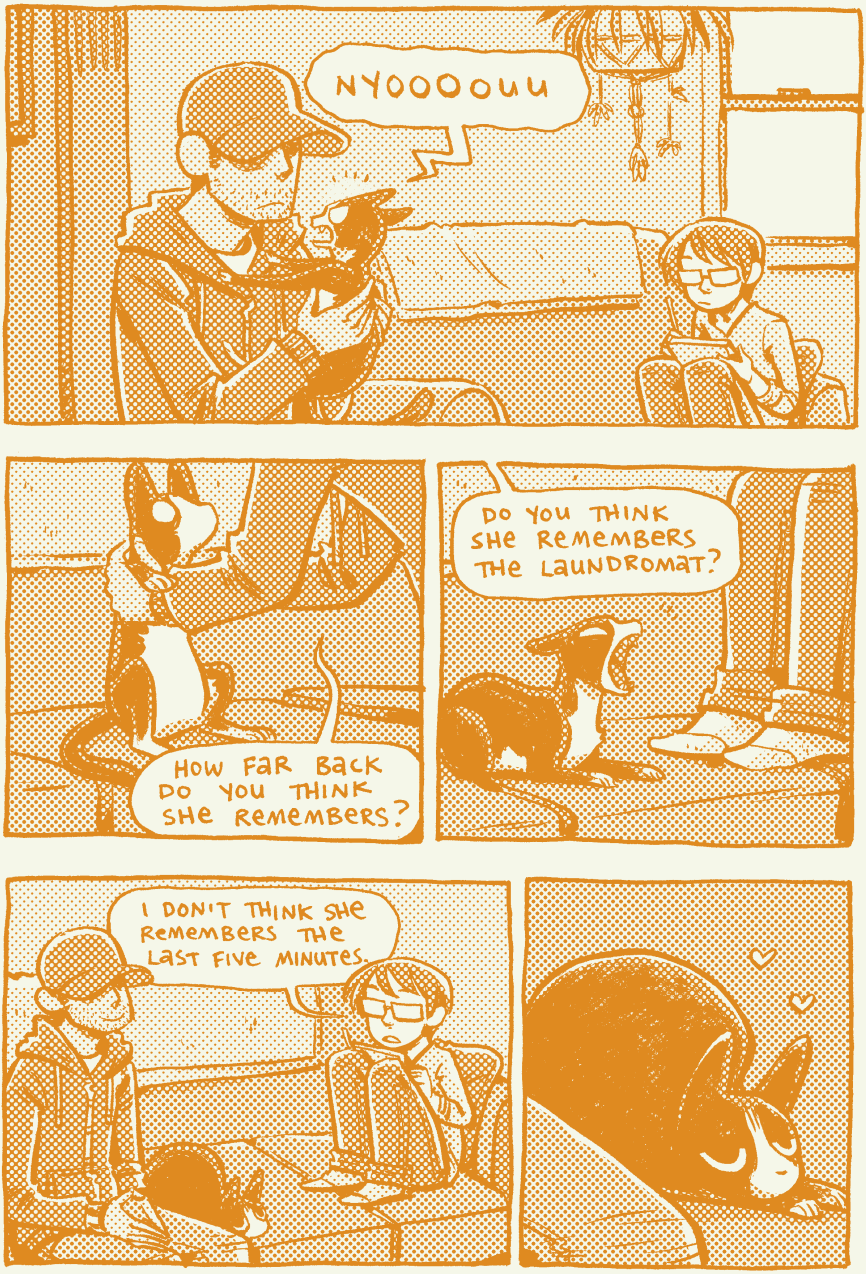


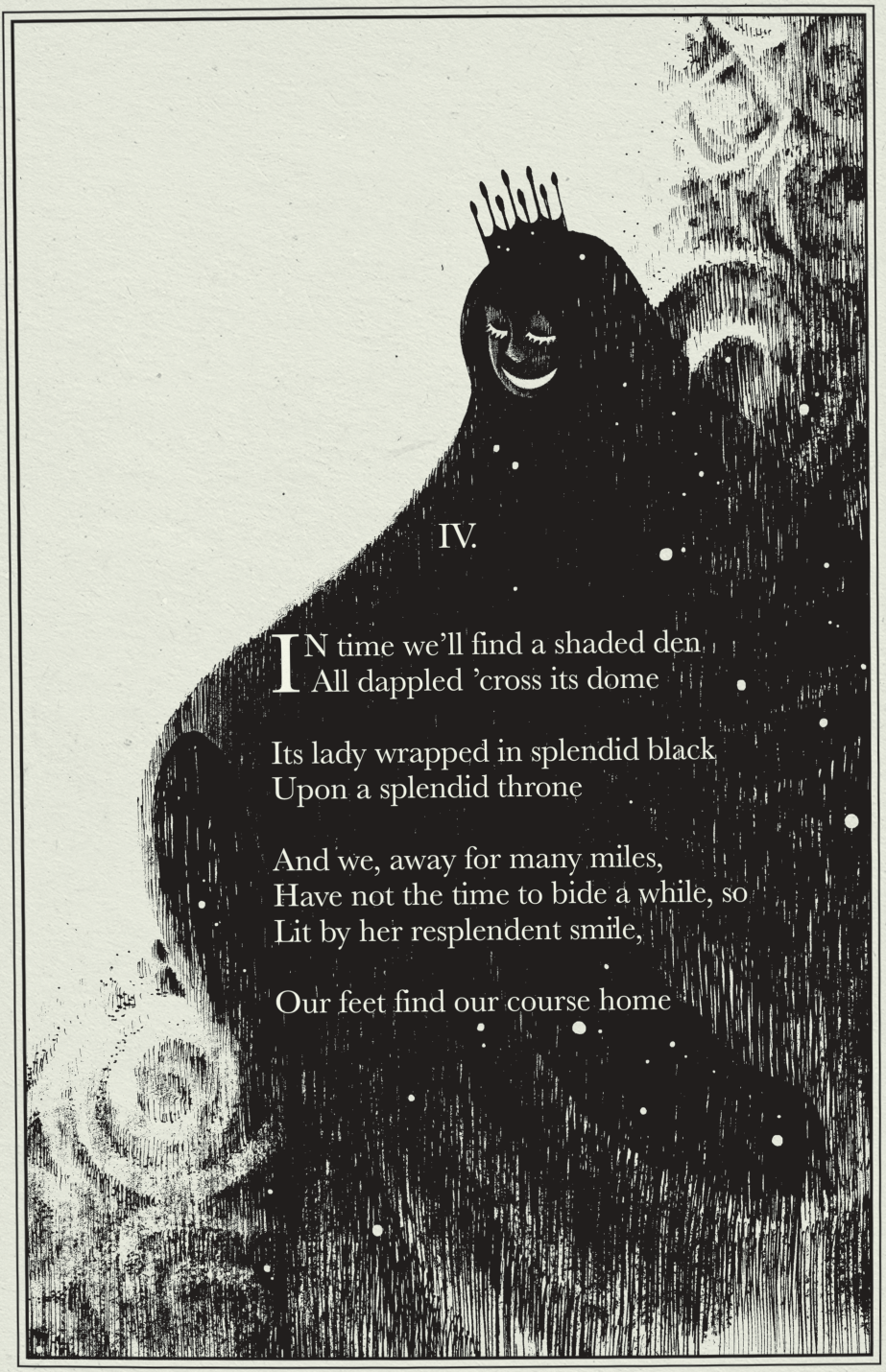


birthday cricket



kitten coda


NYOOOouu
HOW FAR BACK DO YOU THINK SHE REMEMBERS?
DO YOU THINK SHE REMEMBERS THE LAUNDROMAT?
I DON'T THINK SHE REMEMBERS THE LAST FIVE MINUTES.



IV.

IN time we'll find a shaded den
All dappled 'cross its dome

Its lady wrapped in splendid black
Upon a splendid throne

And we, away for many miles,
Have not the time to bide a while, so
Lit by her resplendent smile,

Our feet find our course home

everything is fine nothing is broken



carpal tunnel of fun



non-dominant hand adventures



haunted cat



spacey cat



burn it down and start over



omnivore cat



hospitality



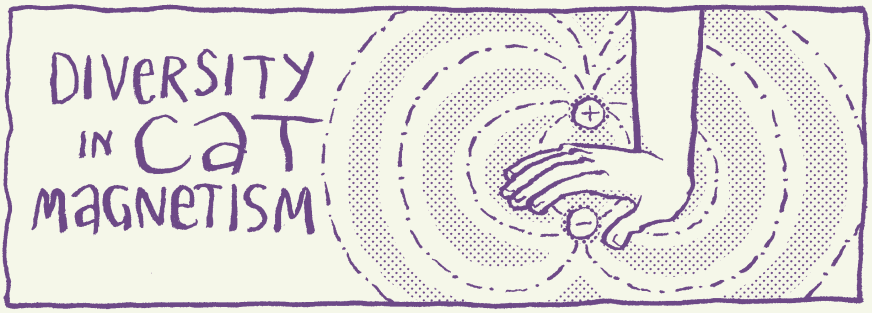


FIG 1. ROOK

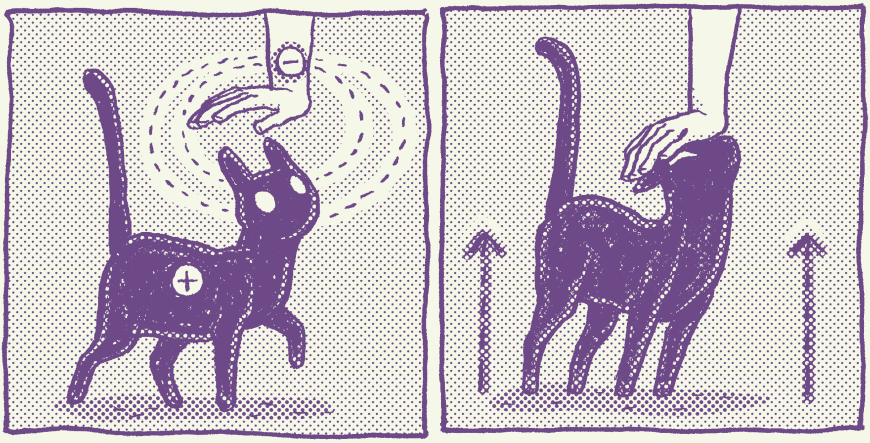
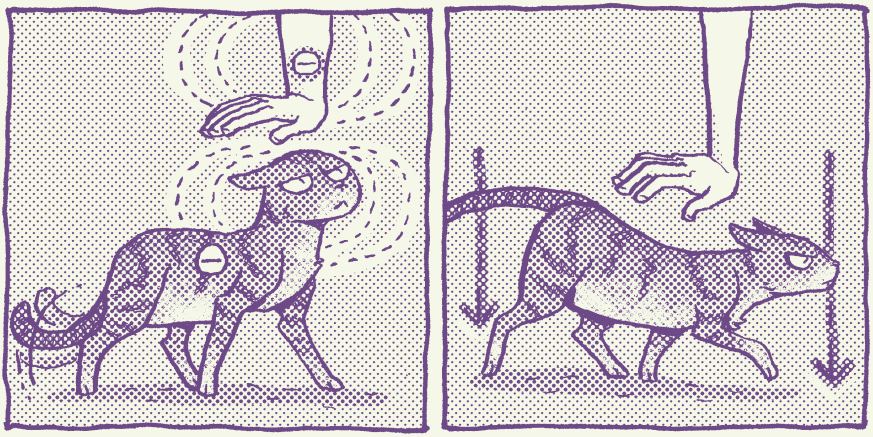


FIG 2. MIKA



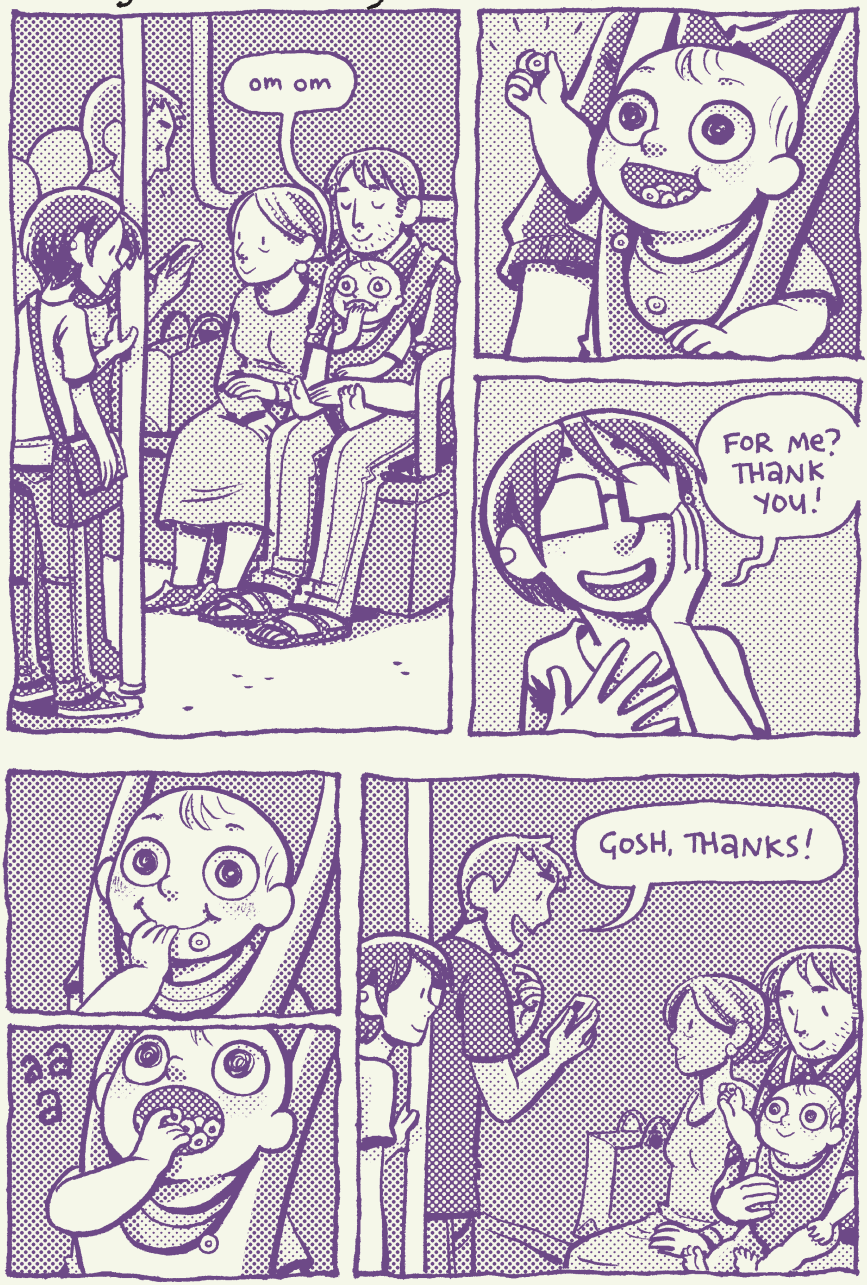
sassycat


meow meow
eow meow m
meow meo
meow meow
eow meow m
meow meow
meow meo
I'LL FEED YOU IN A MINUTE, BUDDY.

filing cabinet

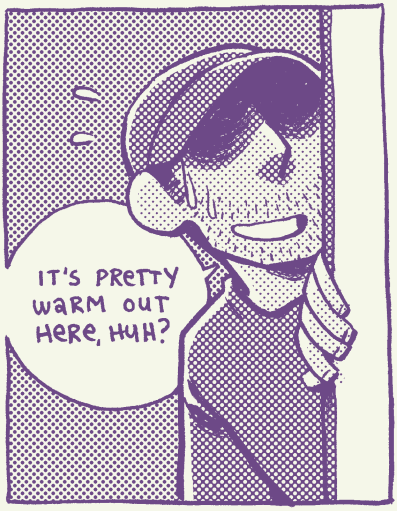


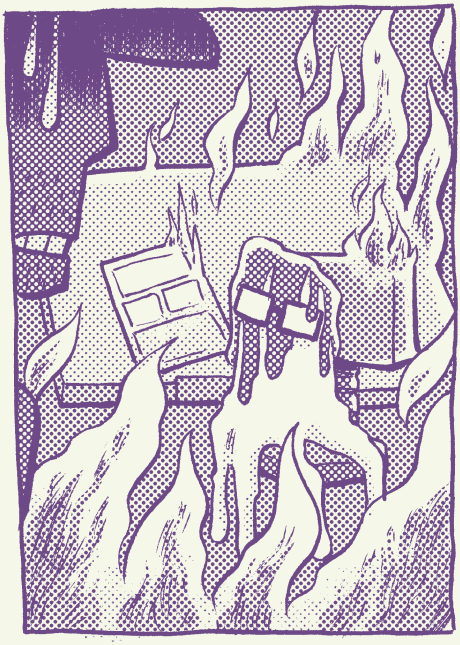
most generous baby



a song of ice and aaaablaugh







why-yew-kay-oh



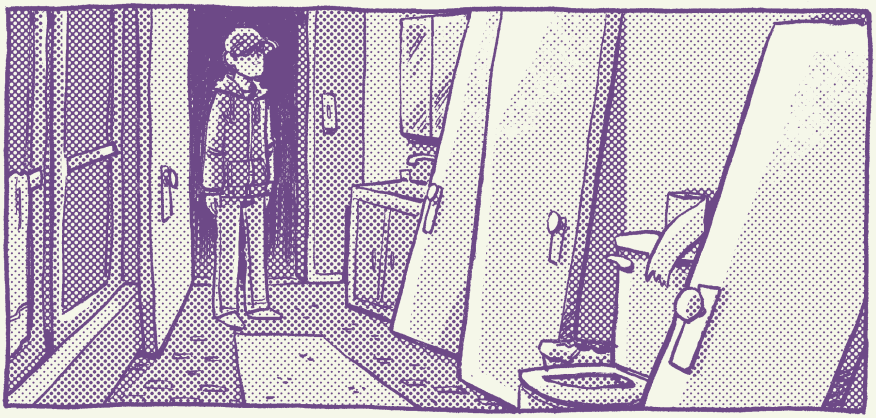

cats in our neighborhood
mrr
ROMEO
meow
ROOK AND ROMEO MEOW AT EACH OTHER ALL DAY.
meow
SOMETIMES THE WANDERING BARD COMES THROUGH ROMEO'S YARD
AND EATS ALL HER FOOD.
IT'S VERY TRAGIC.

there were extras

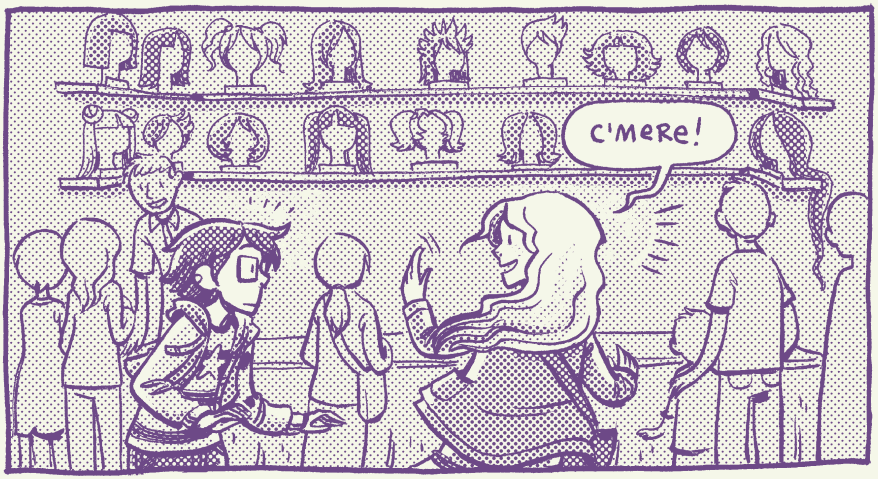


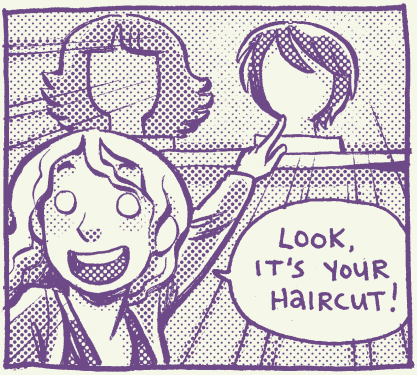


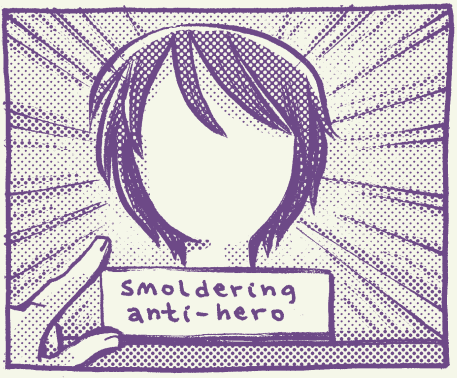


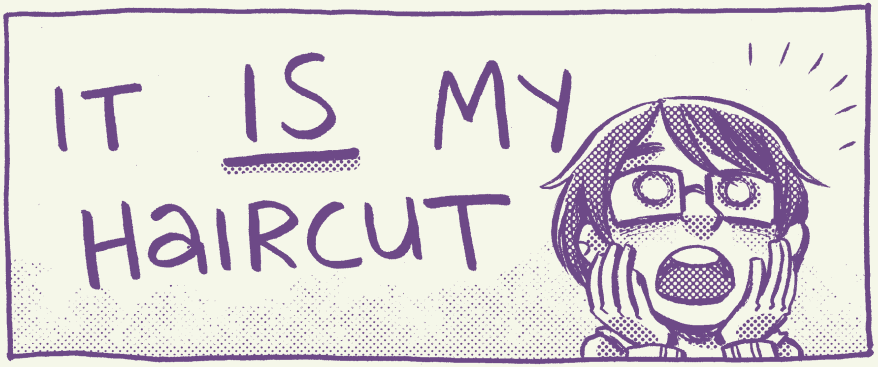


katie finds yuko's official classification



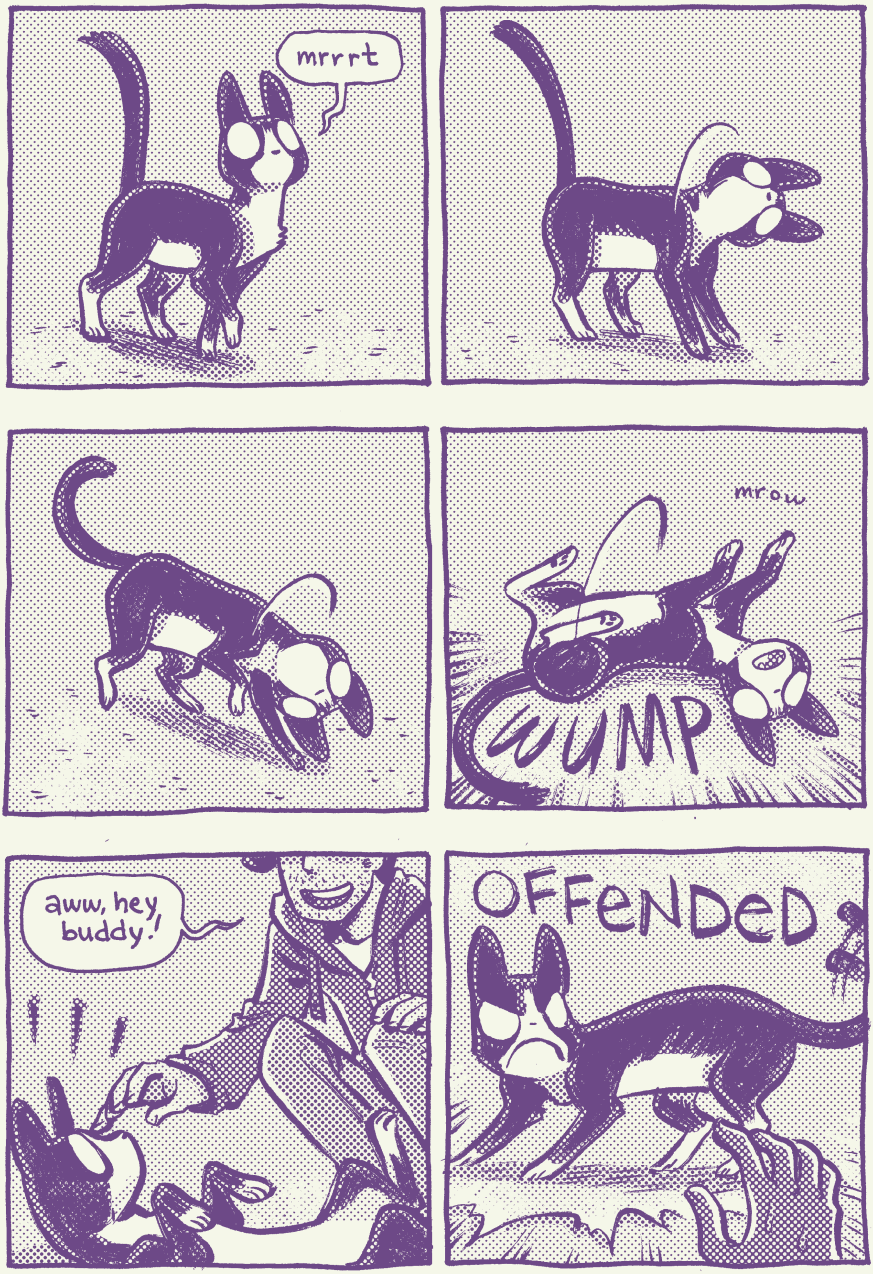




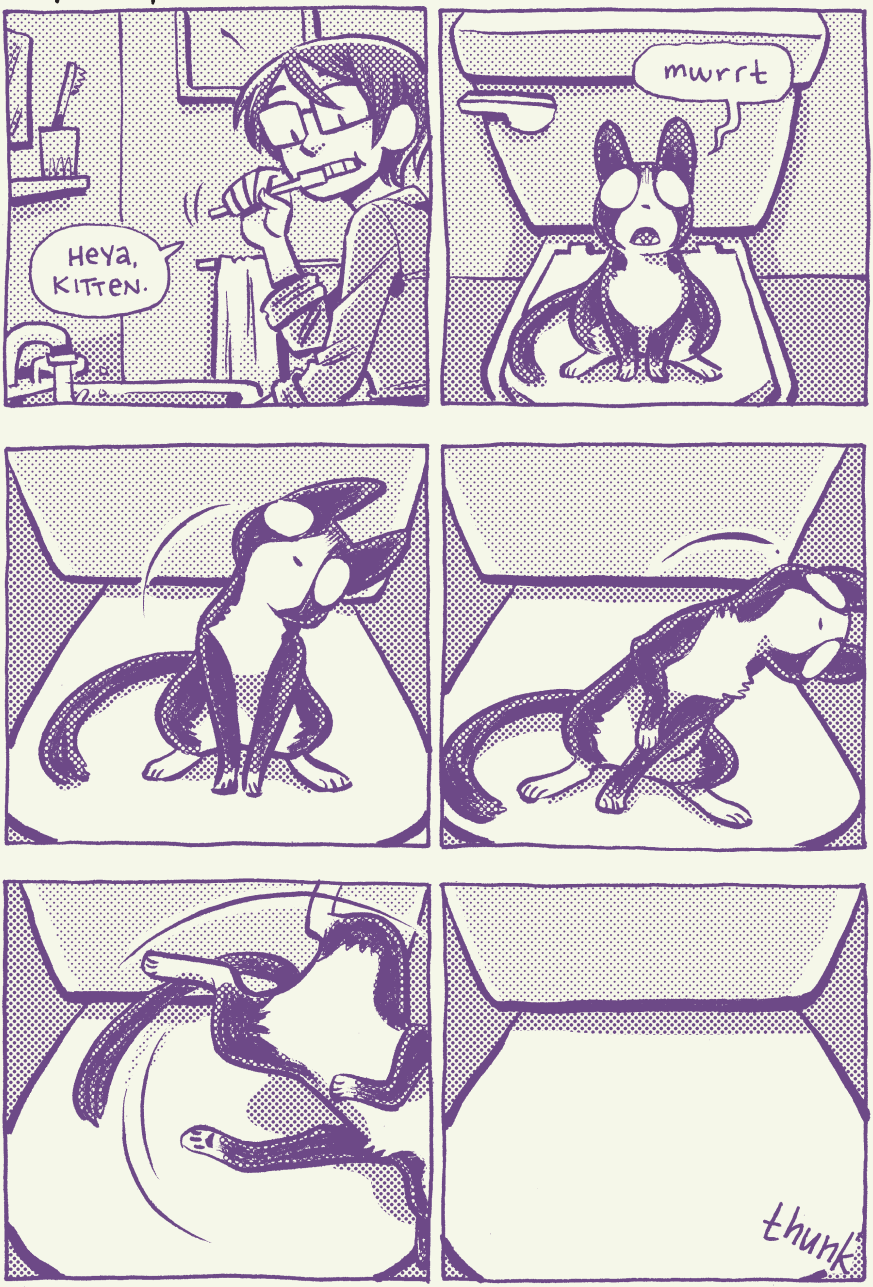



yeaaHHH

no belly pets



depth perception



classy tea for lazy people

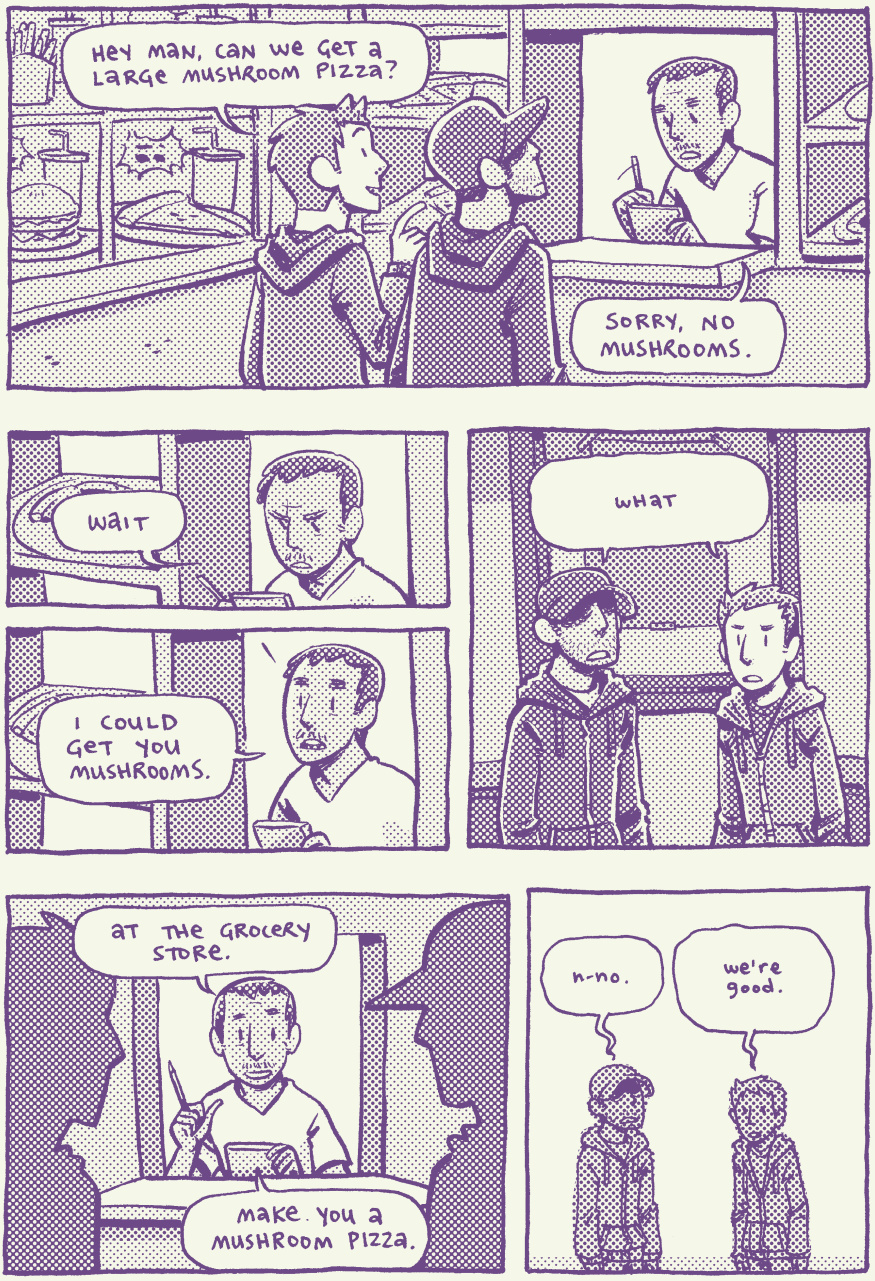


Lazy Tea

for lazy people



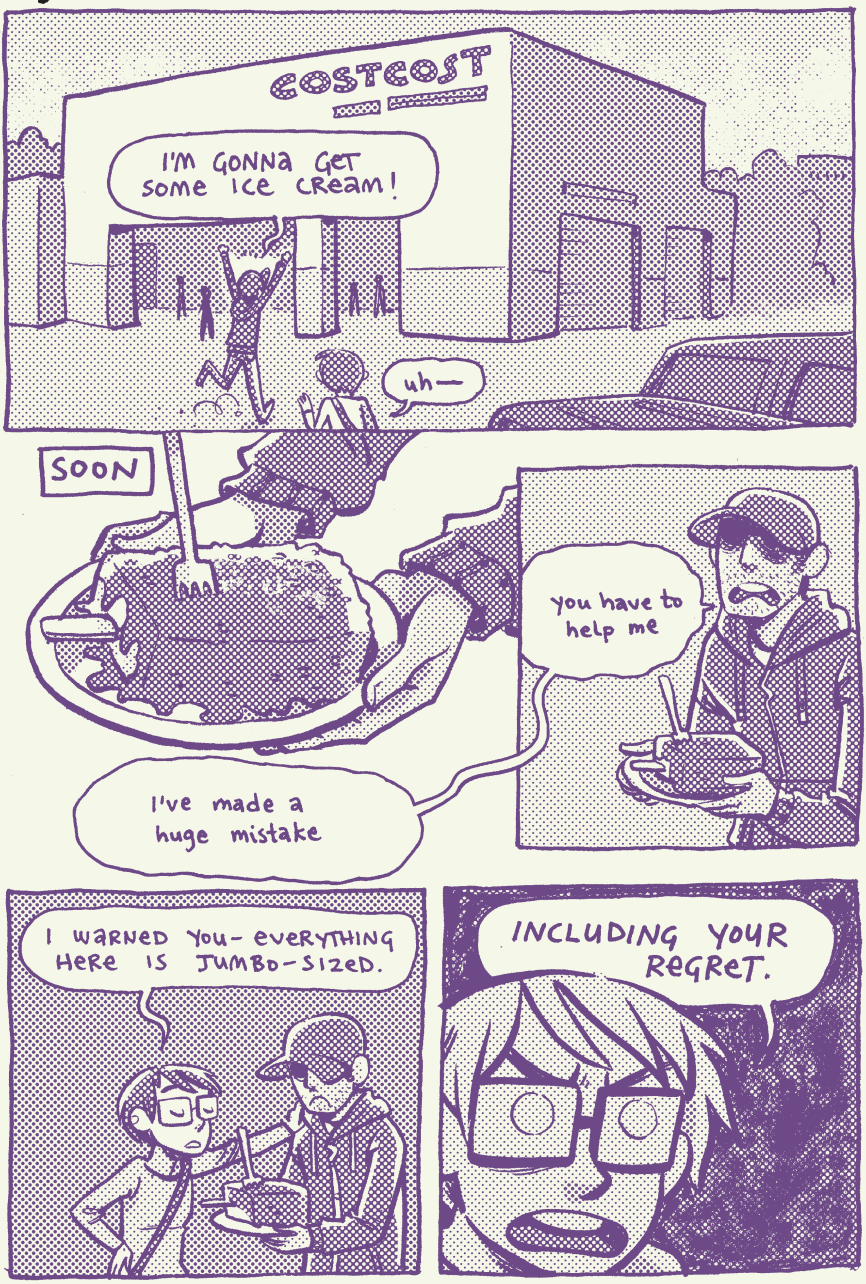
could you also get some milk and eggs



dream surgeon



regret in bulk



shamesgiving



this quickly-turning world



hospitality dad



NEXT TIME.....

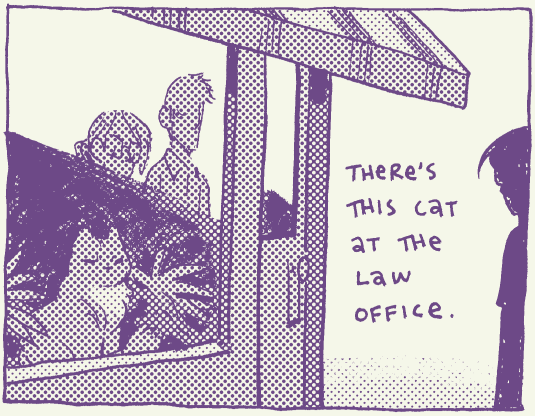

I'M GETTING SOME OF MY MUSCLES BACK.
COOL.
BUT STILL NOT AS MUCH AS I WANT.
NEXT TIME.
NEXT TIME:

ananth vs choco croissant

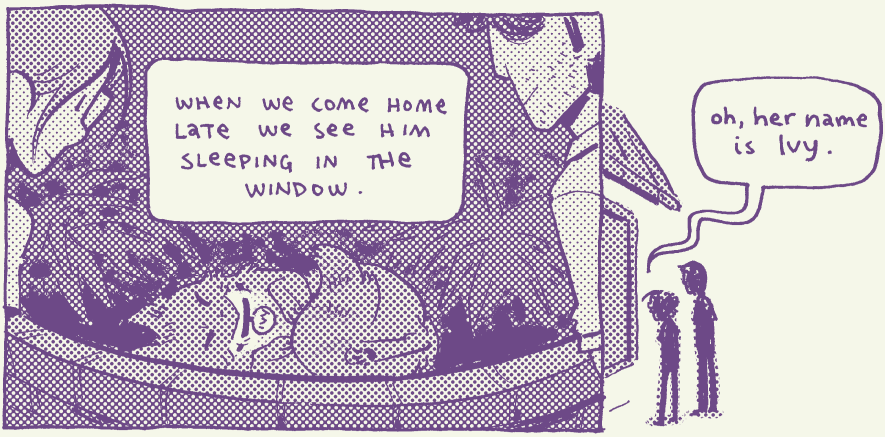





cats
in our
neighborhood
the viscount


there's this cat at the law office.


we originally called him "the viscount"
because he's very regal


when we come home late we see him sleeping in the window.
oh, her name is Ivy.

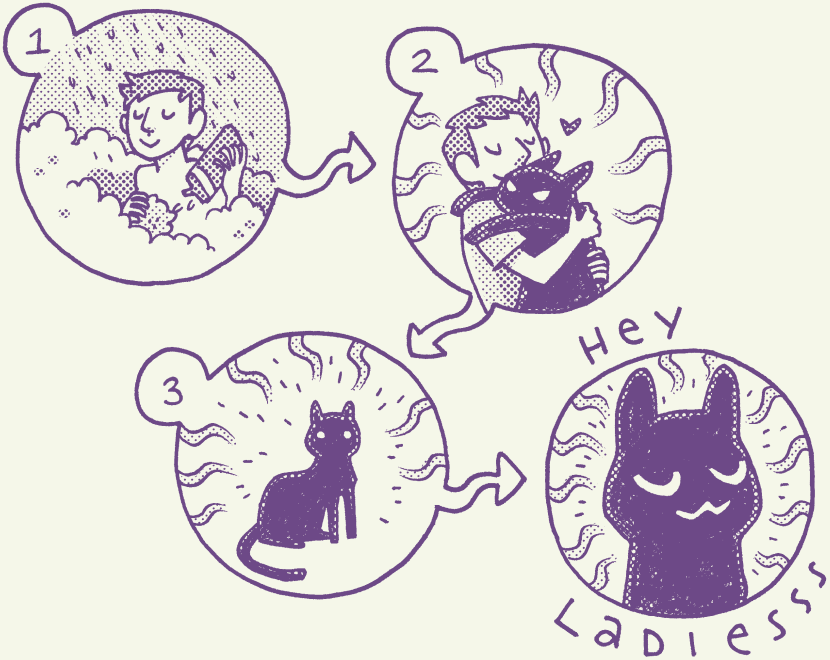
or maybe both



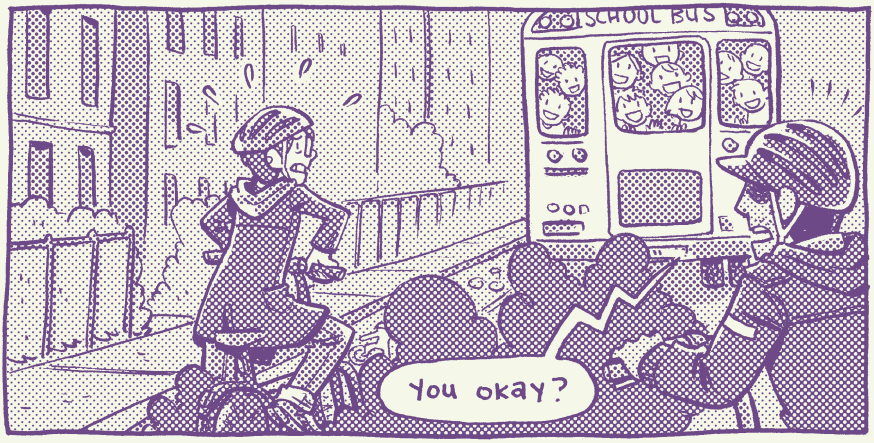
laydeez cat



PREVIOUSLY:



student drivers





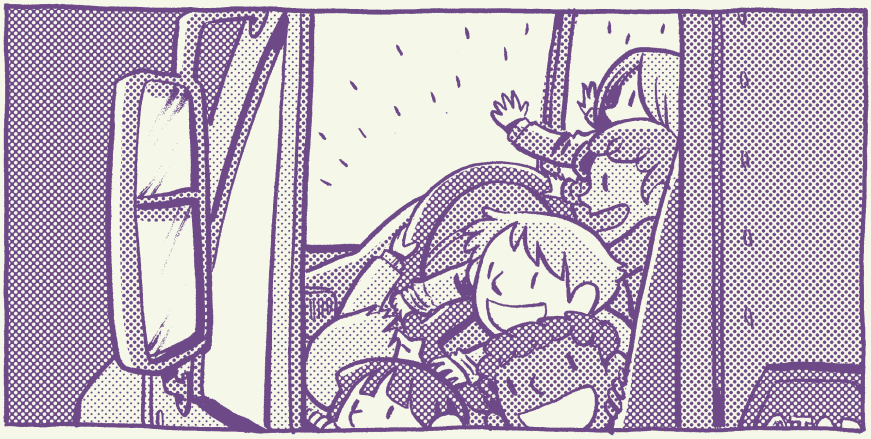
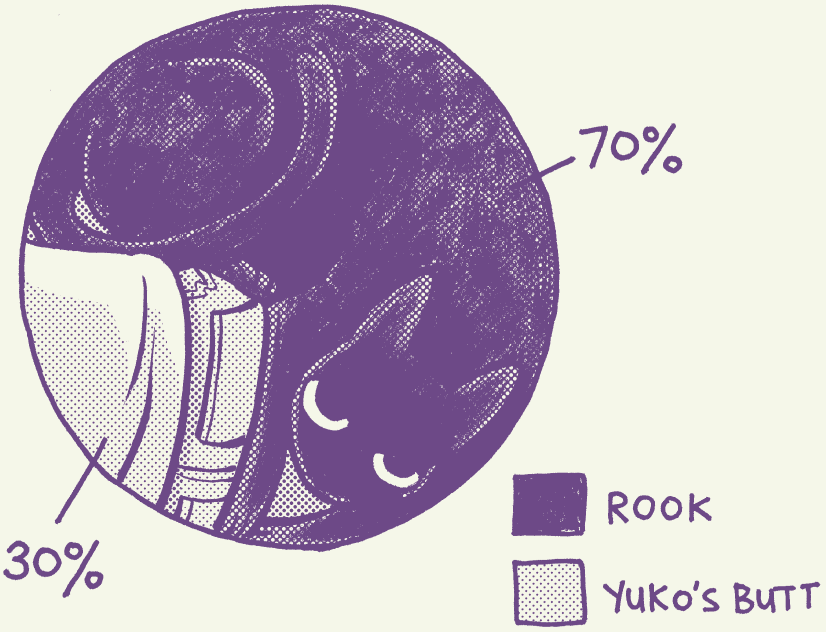
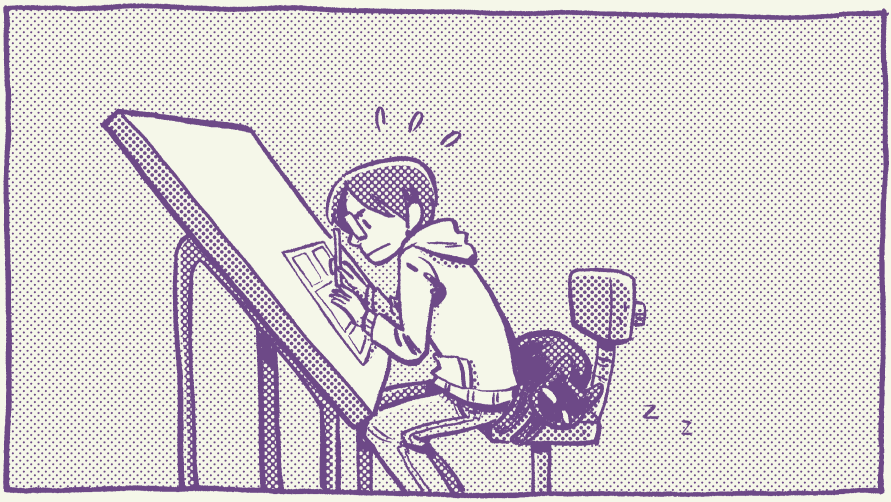


fig 1.: USAGE OF YUKO'S OFFICE CHAIR: *a pie chart*





inner ear adventures

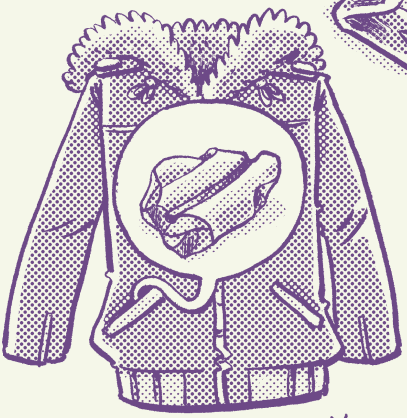


small treasures I keep in my pockets

TO FIDDLE WITH WHEN I'M IDLE OR ANXIOUS



a small red marble



a piece of smooth purple glass



a red & gold D4

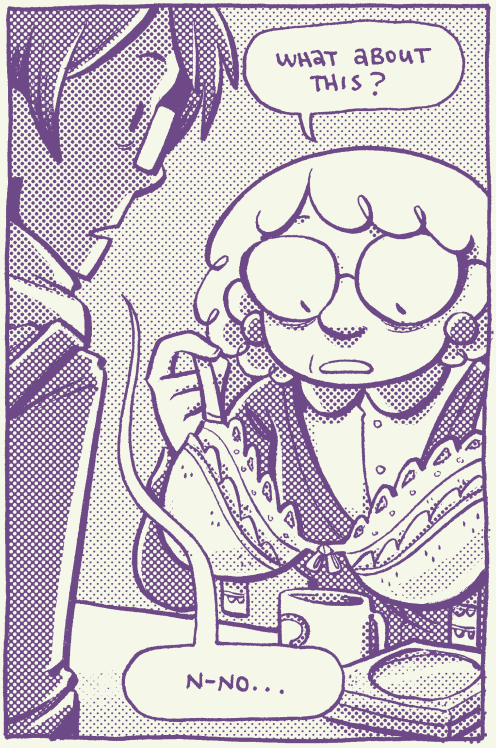


a decoder ring



mysterious thrift store undergarments

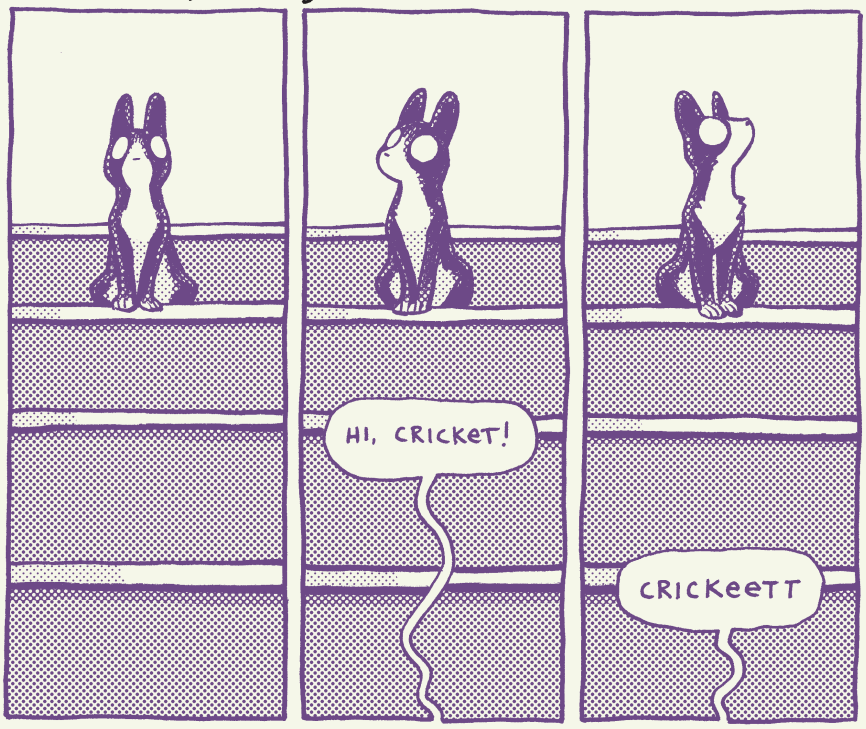


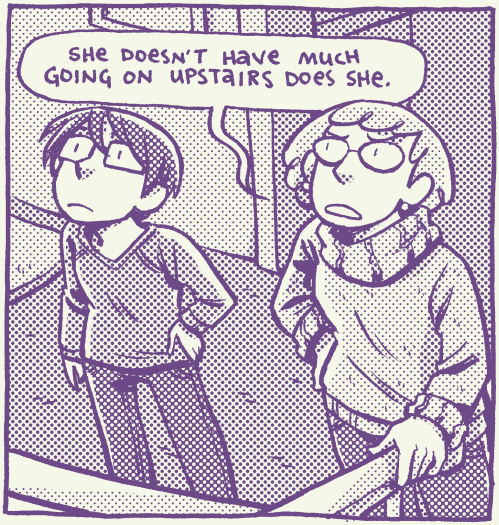






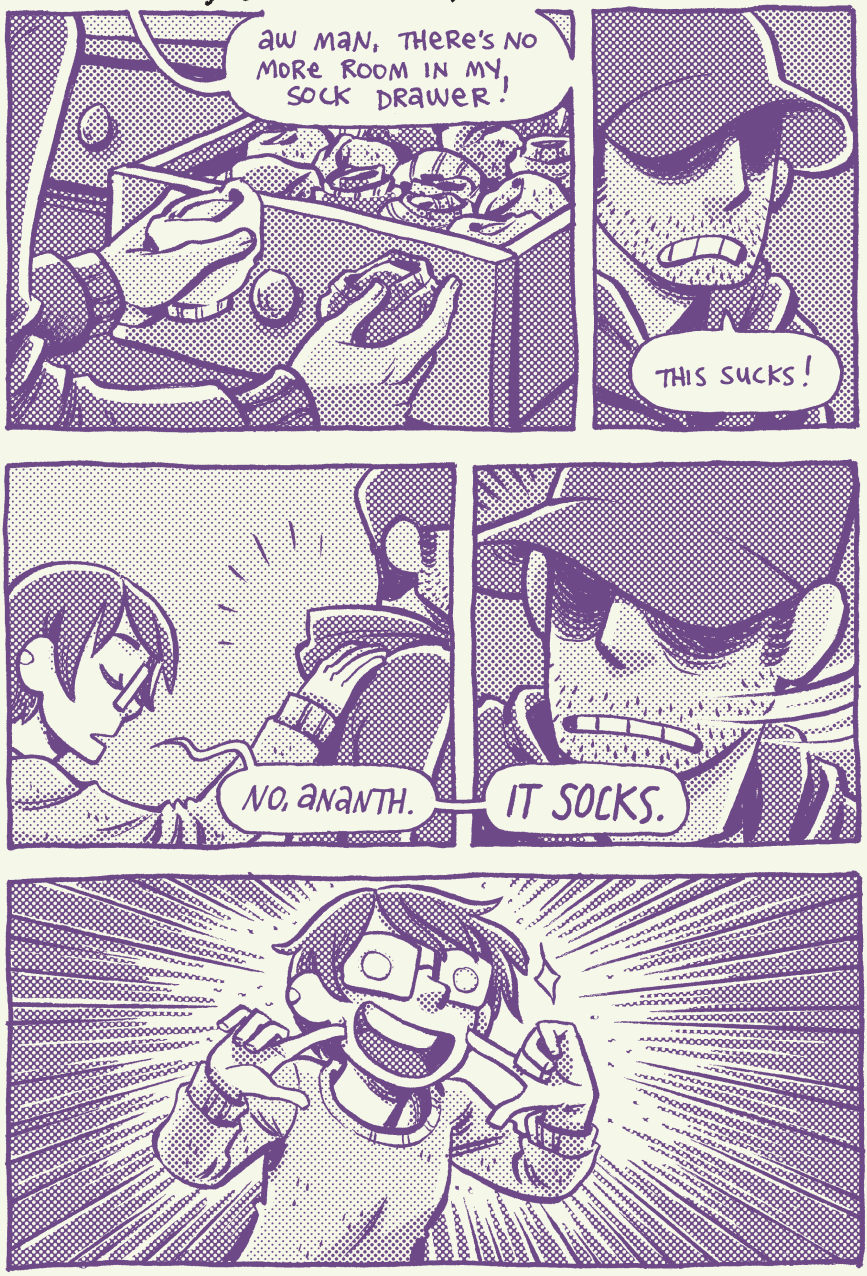
no not especially



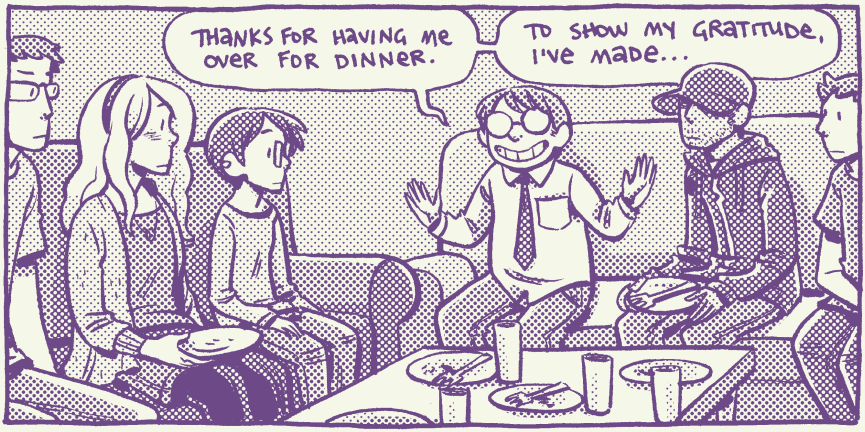




ananth only got socks for christmas

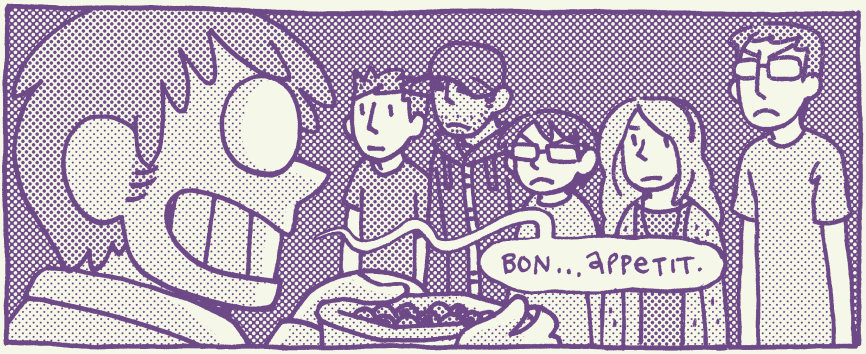


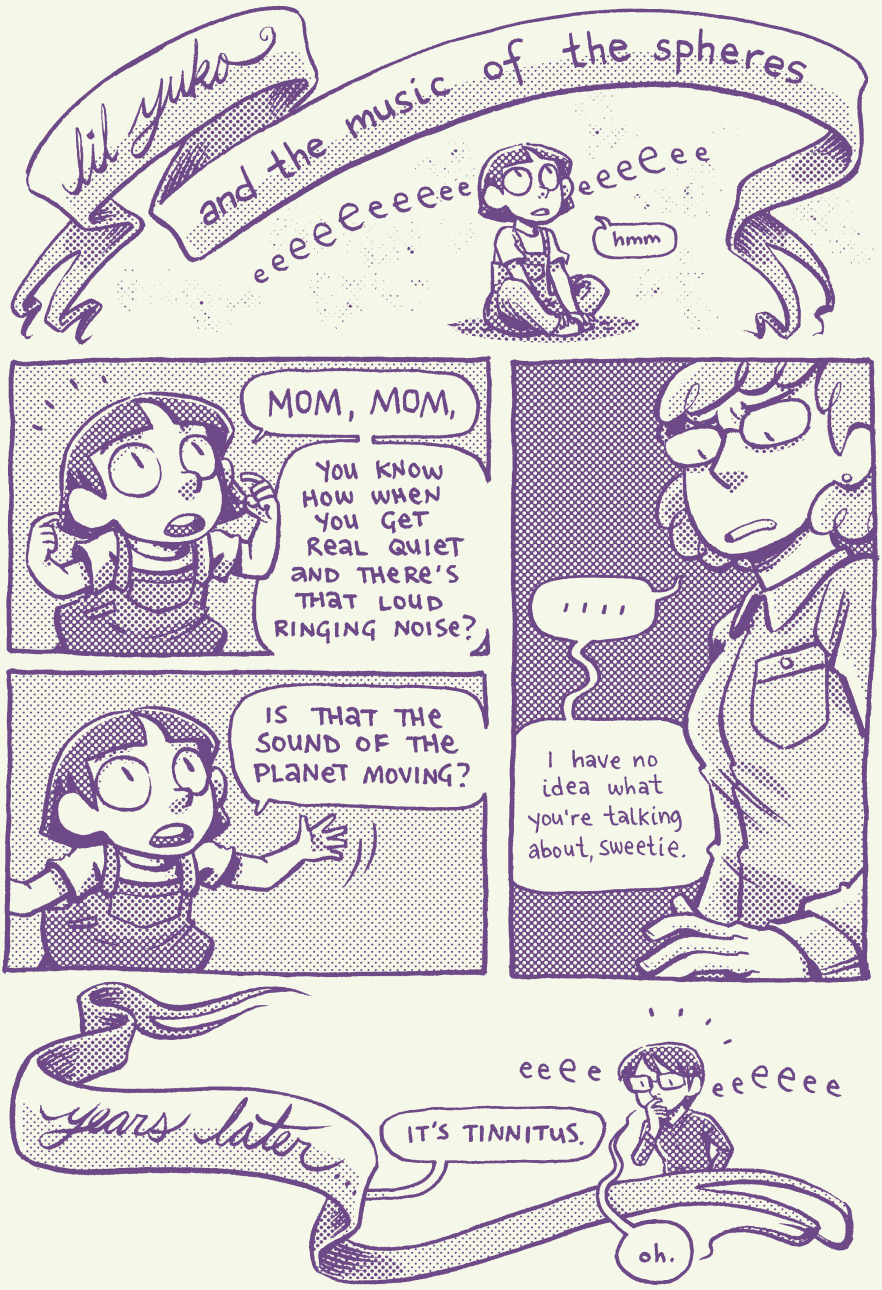
fresh homemade dessert










lil yuko and the music of the spheres
eeeeeeeeee
eeeeeee
hmm
MOM, MOM,
You know how when you get real quiet and there's that loud ringing noise?
IS THAT THE SOUND OF THE PLANET MOVING?
....
I have no idea what you're talking about, sweetie.
years later...
eeee
eeeeee
IT'S TINNITUS.
oh.

an imposter



phone master conrad

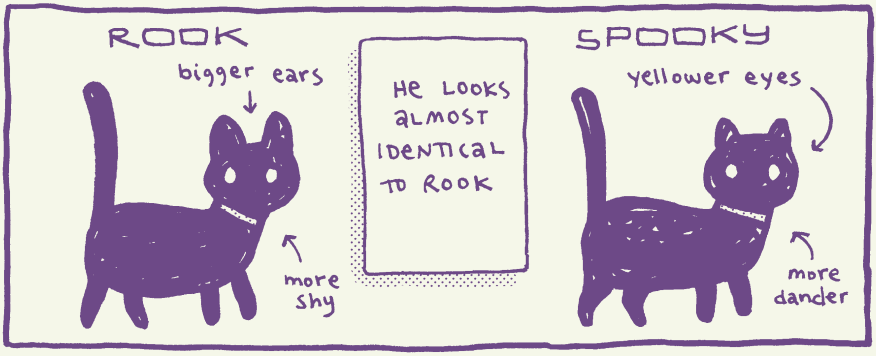


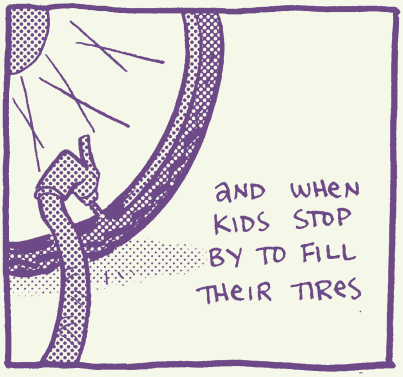
no stop


WHERE'S CONRAD, I HAVE TO ASK HIM HIS OPINION ON PHONES.
NO
NO DON'T DO IT



THERE'S A CAT AT THE BIKE SHOP NAMED SPOOKY.







HE GETS SPOOKED.

guess it's time to use hot chocolate as creamer



the half and half went bad.

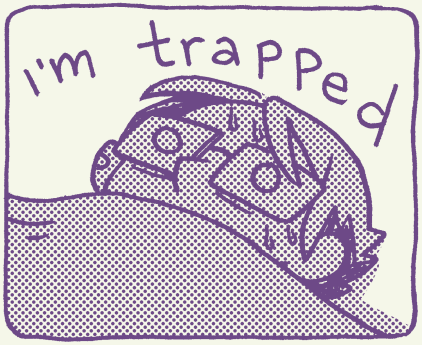


hourly comics

FEBRUARY 1st 2013

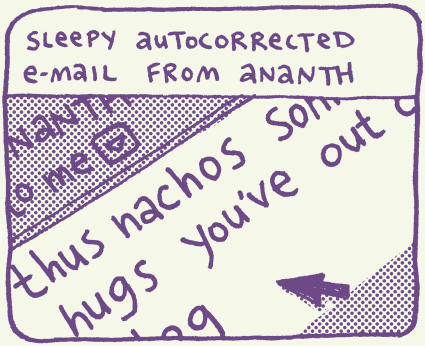
9:00 am



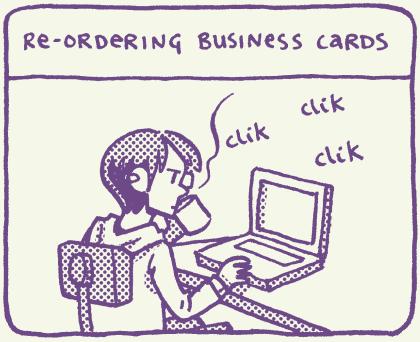


10:00 am

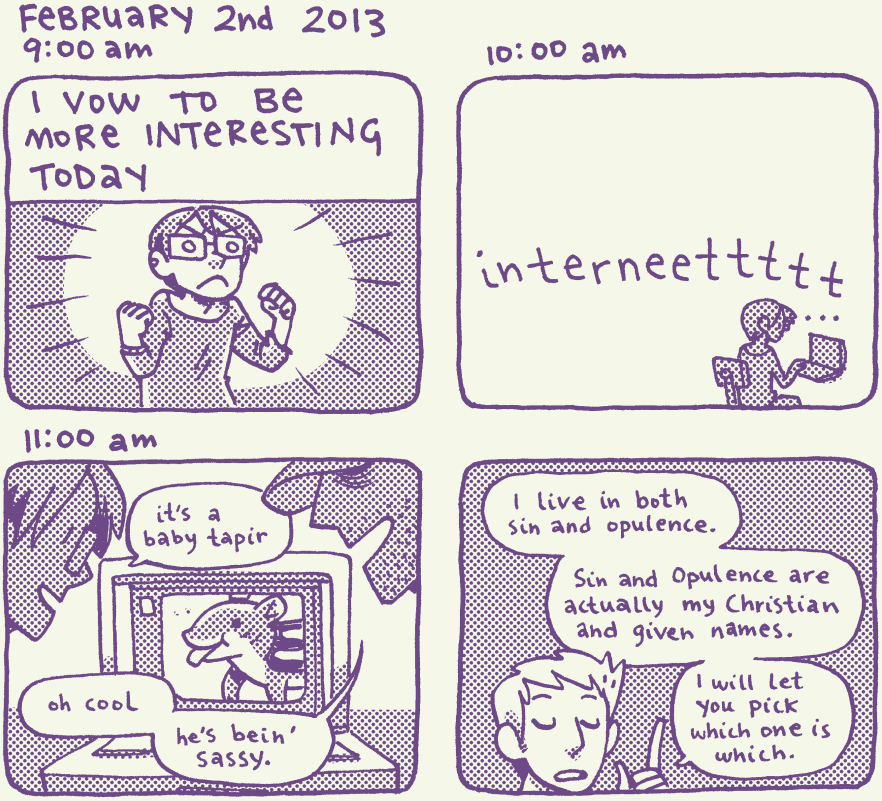


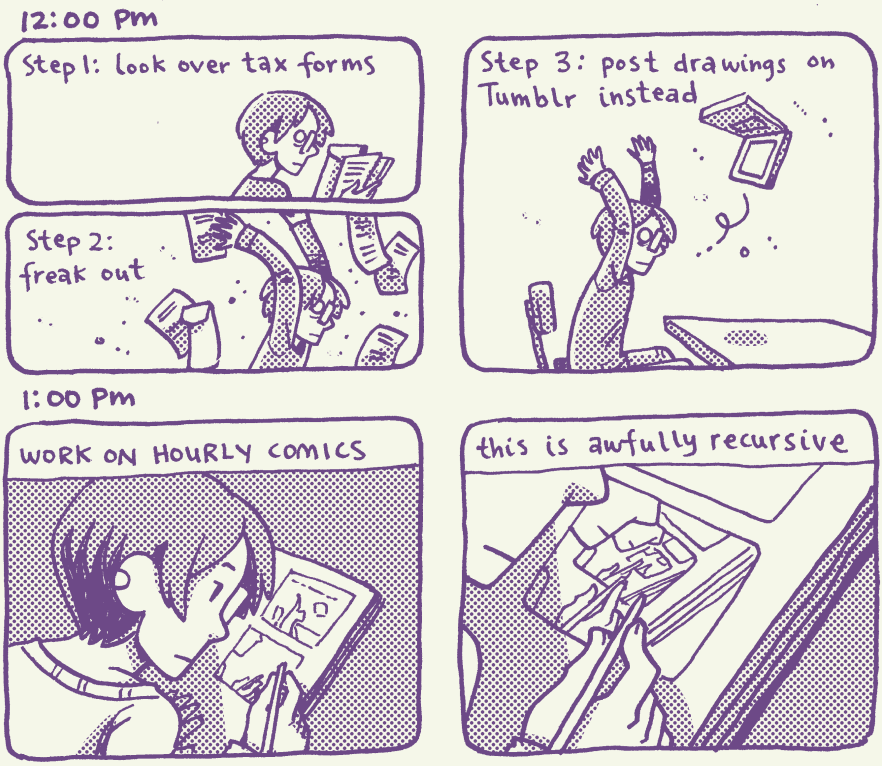


11:00 am

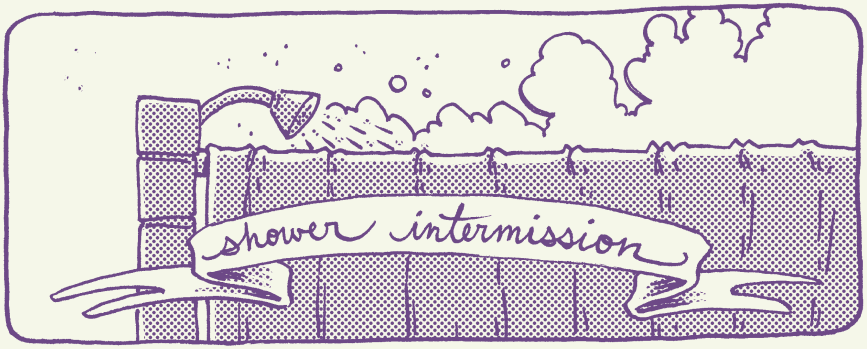





FEBRUARY 2nd 2013
9:00 am
I VOW TO BE MORE INTERESTING TODAY
10:00 am
interneettttt...
11:00 am
it's a baby tapir
oh cool
he's bein' sassy.
I live in both sin and opulence.
Sin and Opulence are actually my Christian and given names.
I will let you pick which one is which.


12:00 pm
Step 1: look over tax forms
Step 2: freak out
Step 3: post drawings on Tumblr instead
1:00 pm
WORK ON HOURLY COMICS
this is awfully recursive


2:00 pm
I got you this hand towel
oh, thank you.
oblivious
3:00 pm
ROOK you don't get fed for another two hours, cut it out
MEOW
MEOW
MEOW
4:00 pm
MEOWMEOWMEOW
5:00 pm
FED CATS, EATIN' AN APPLE.
I can tell this was sitting next to a bell pepper in the crisper

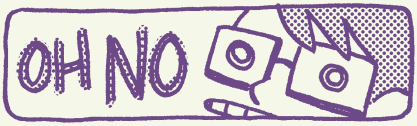

shower intermission

6:00 pm

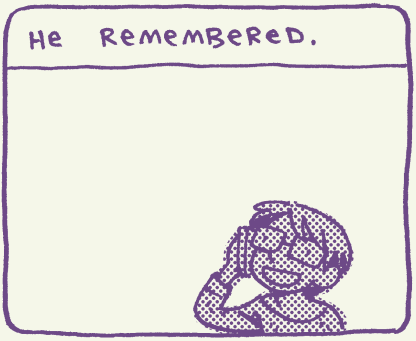

Lick
Lick
Lick

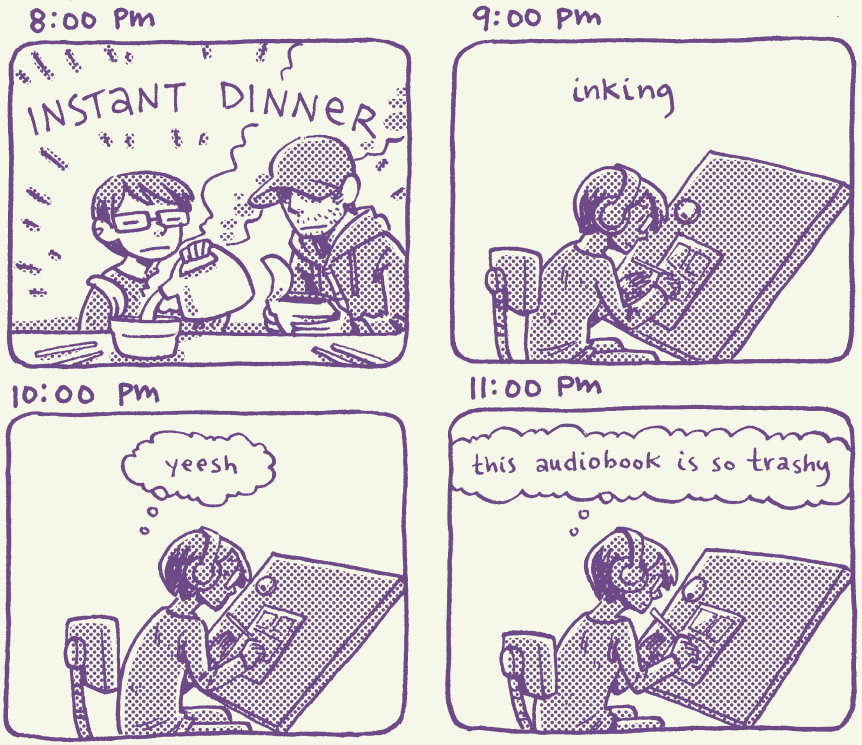

everything smells like cat spit.

7:00 pm


OH NO


I FORGOT TO REMIND MY DAD THAT TODAY IS HIS WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
beep
boop
boop


He Remembered.

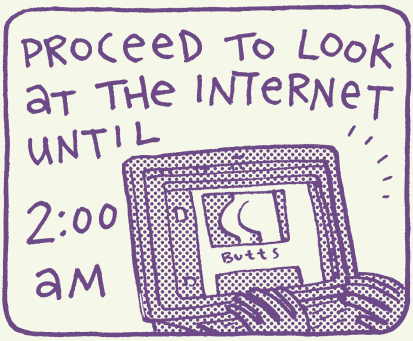

8:00 PM
INSTANT DINNER
9:00 PM
inking
10:00 PM
yeesh
11:00 PM
this audiobook is so trashy

12:00 am



12:30 am





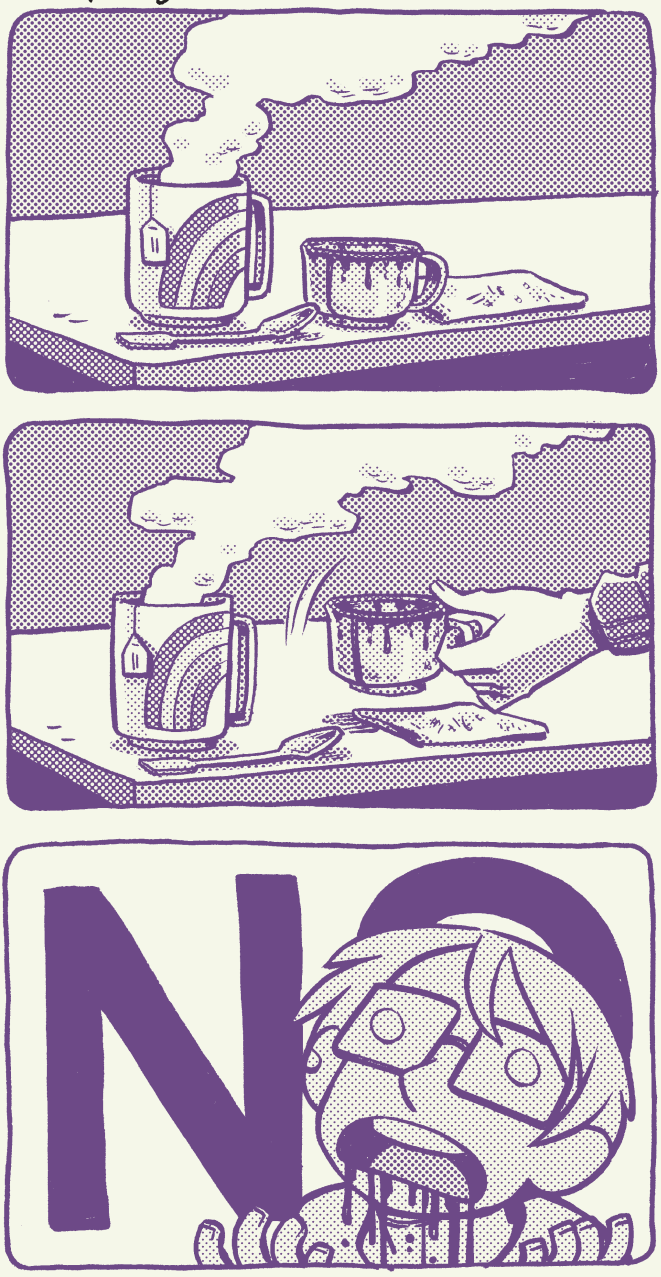
THE END



tempting fate



tempting fate once more



an open letter to all registered US voters (2012 ed.)

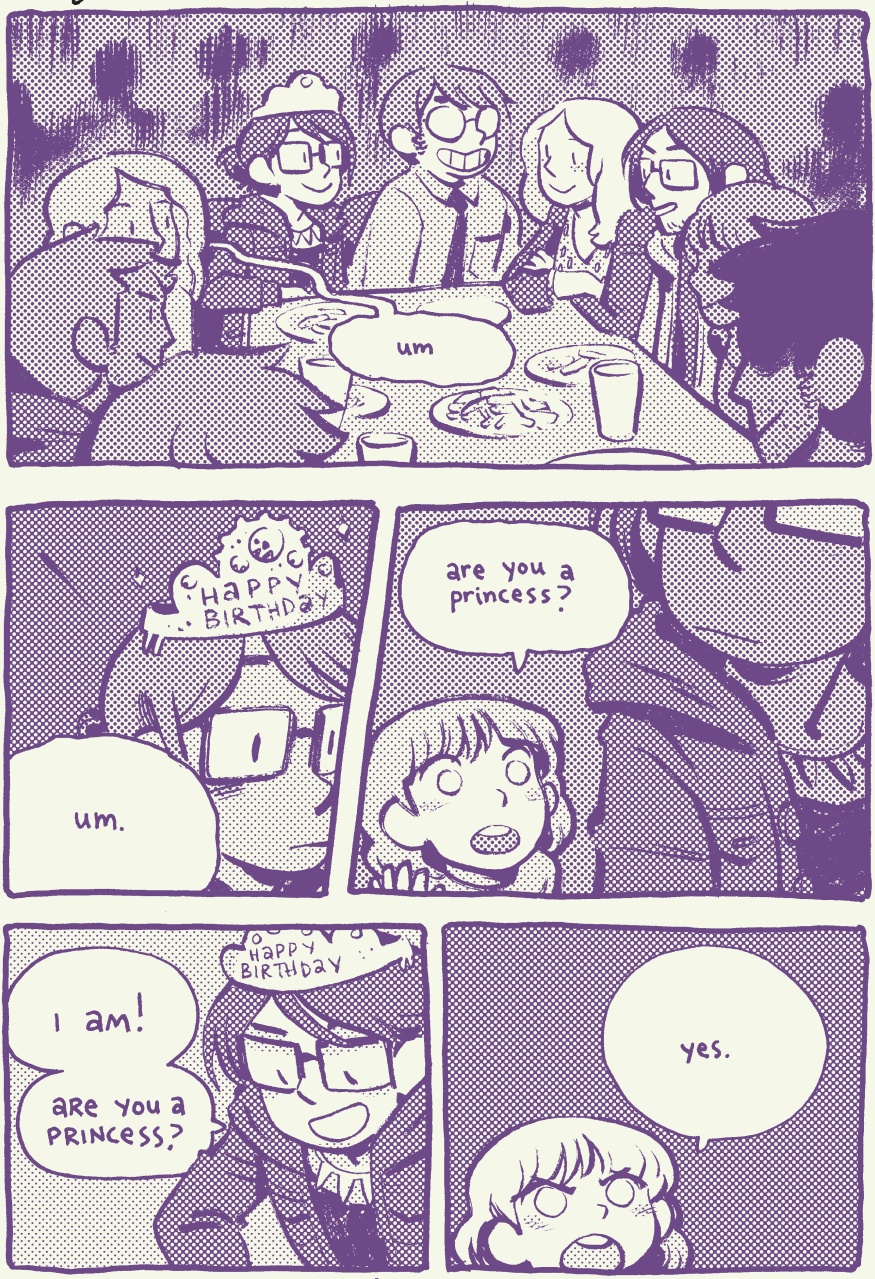


(it's chard)


IS THIS LIKE...
KALE.
NO, SEE THE SHAPE OF THE LEAF?
IS IT ARUGULA.
NOPE.
THIS IS DEFINITELY ESCAROLE.
nuh uh.
FOR A VEGETARIAN YOU'RE REAL BAD AT PLANTS.
watercress.


cats in our neighborhood
BODEGA KITTEN
THERE'S A KITTEN AT THE GROCERY
WHO'S SMALL AND ENERGETIC
SHE GETS INTO EVERYTHING.
EVERYTHING.

many princesses



freshly brewed




whydja stop
NYOOWR
C'MON BABYCAT, LET'S HANG OUT!
NYO
OOO
aw, fine.

haunted bhel puri



namaste to every grandma



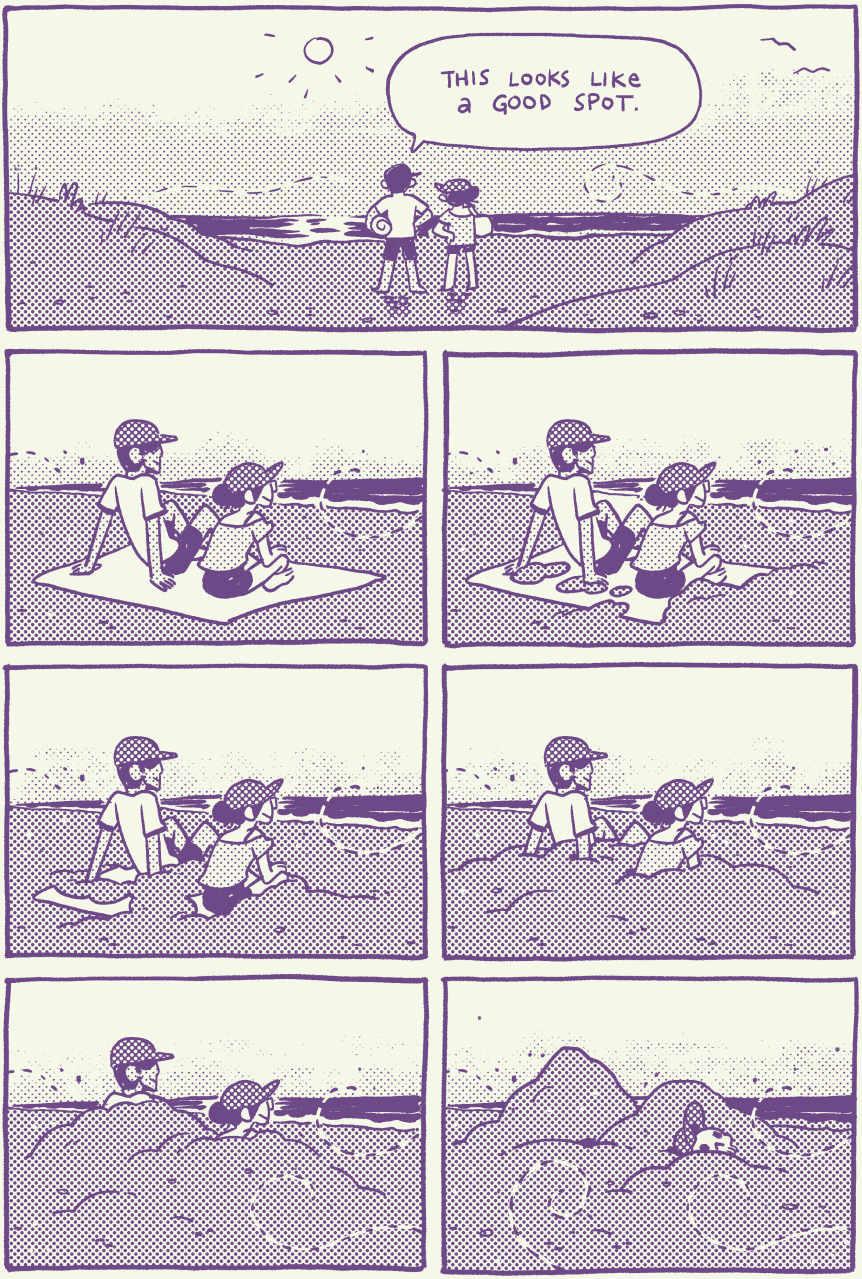
work vacation







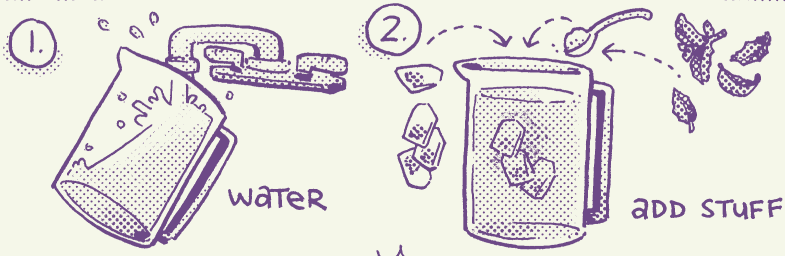
wind storm beach vacation fun times 2K15



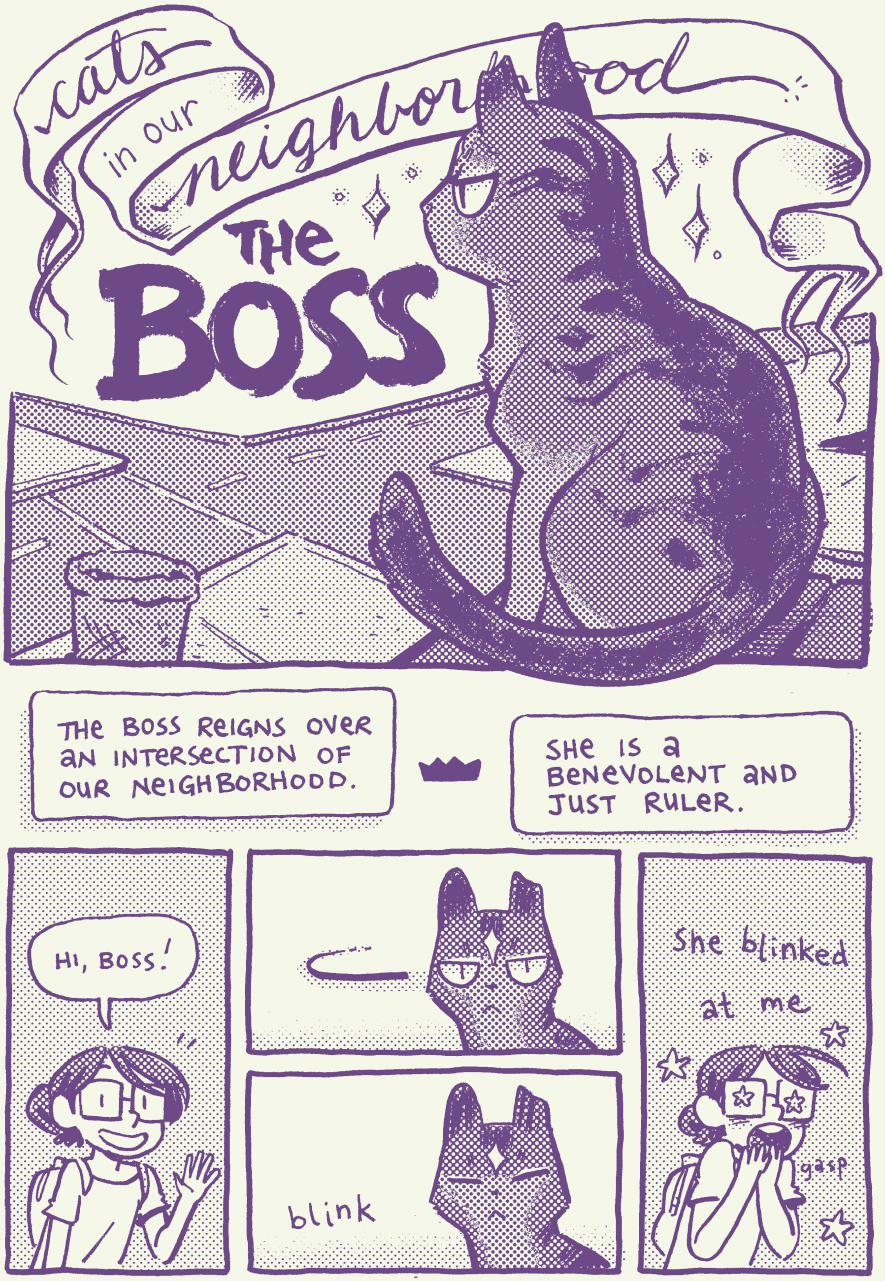
HEY IT'S SUMMER, HYDRATE YOURSELF!

let's make some Sun Tea!

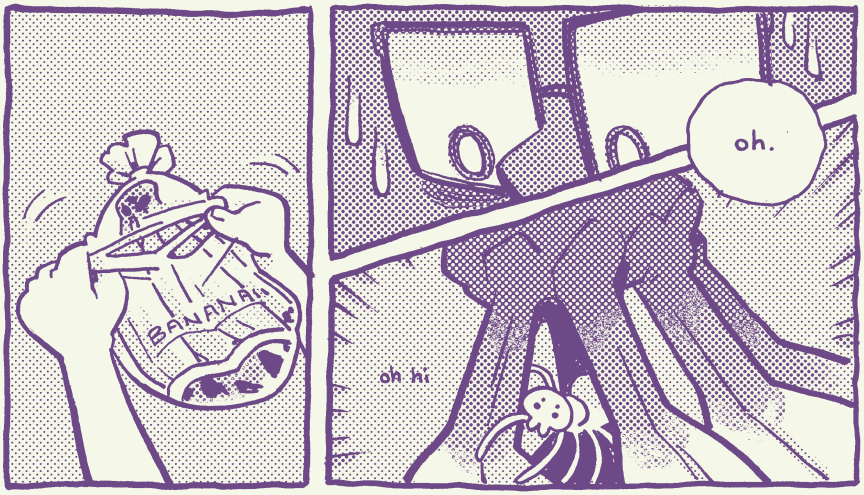


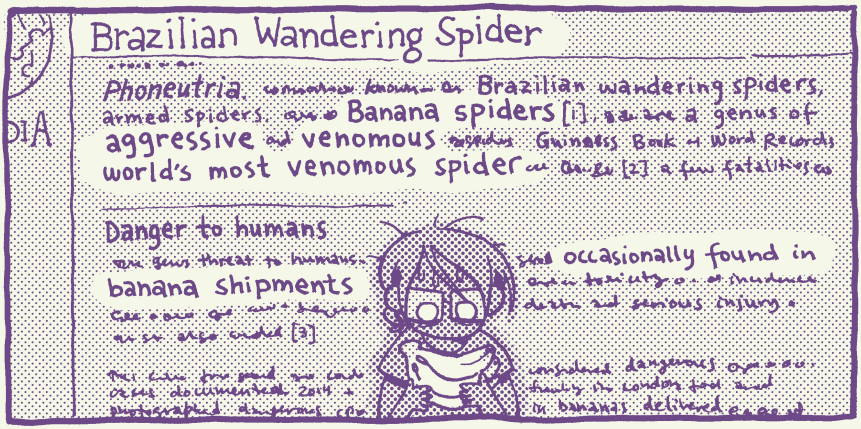


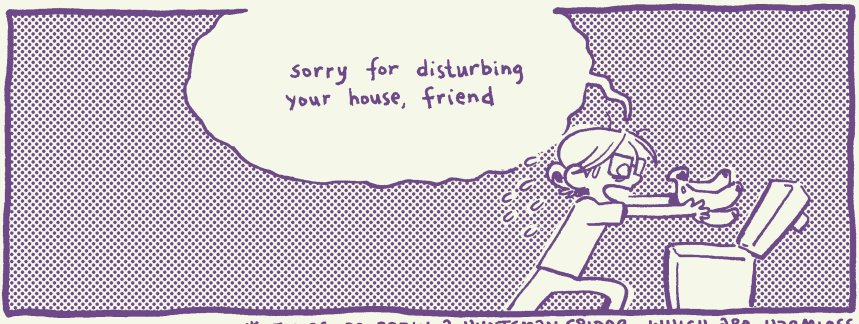



cats in our neighborhood
THE BOSS
THE BOSS REIGNS OVER AN INTERSECTION OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD.
SHE IS A BENEVOLENT AND JUST RULER.
HI, BOSS!
blink
She blinked at me
gasp

a comic about a spider





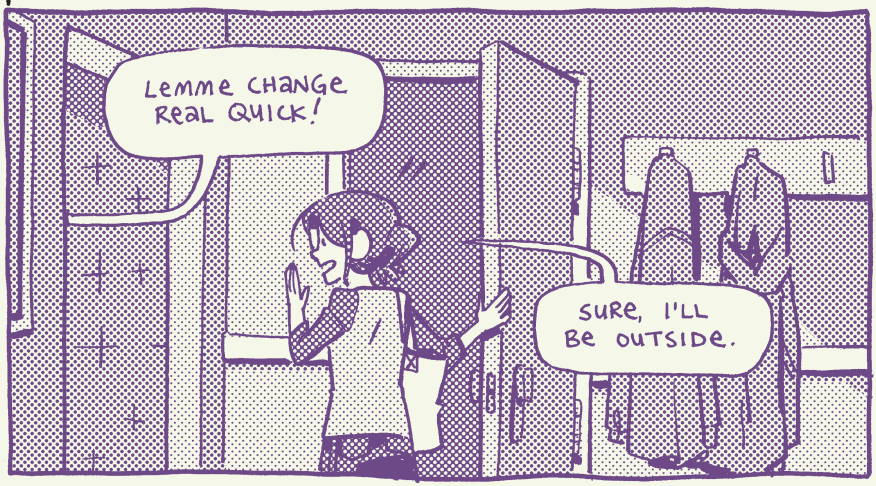


*IT WAS PROBABLY A HUNTSMAN SPIDER, WHICH ARE HARMLESS

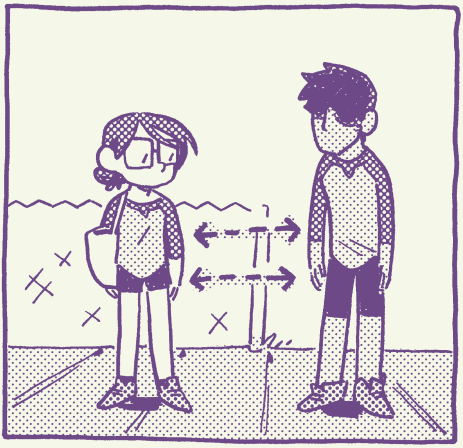
sleepy nurse


UGH I'M SO BEAT, I ONLY GOT TWO HOURS OF SLEEP LAST NIGHT.
WELP, TIME TO TAKE A BLOOD SAMPLE.
a a a
a a a

parallel fashion



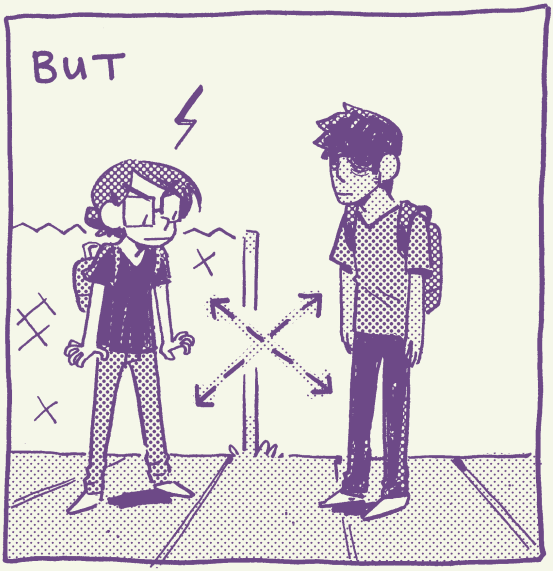






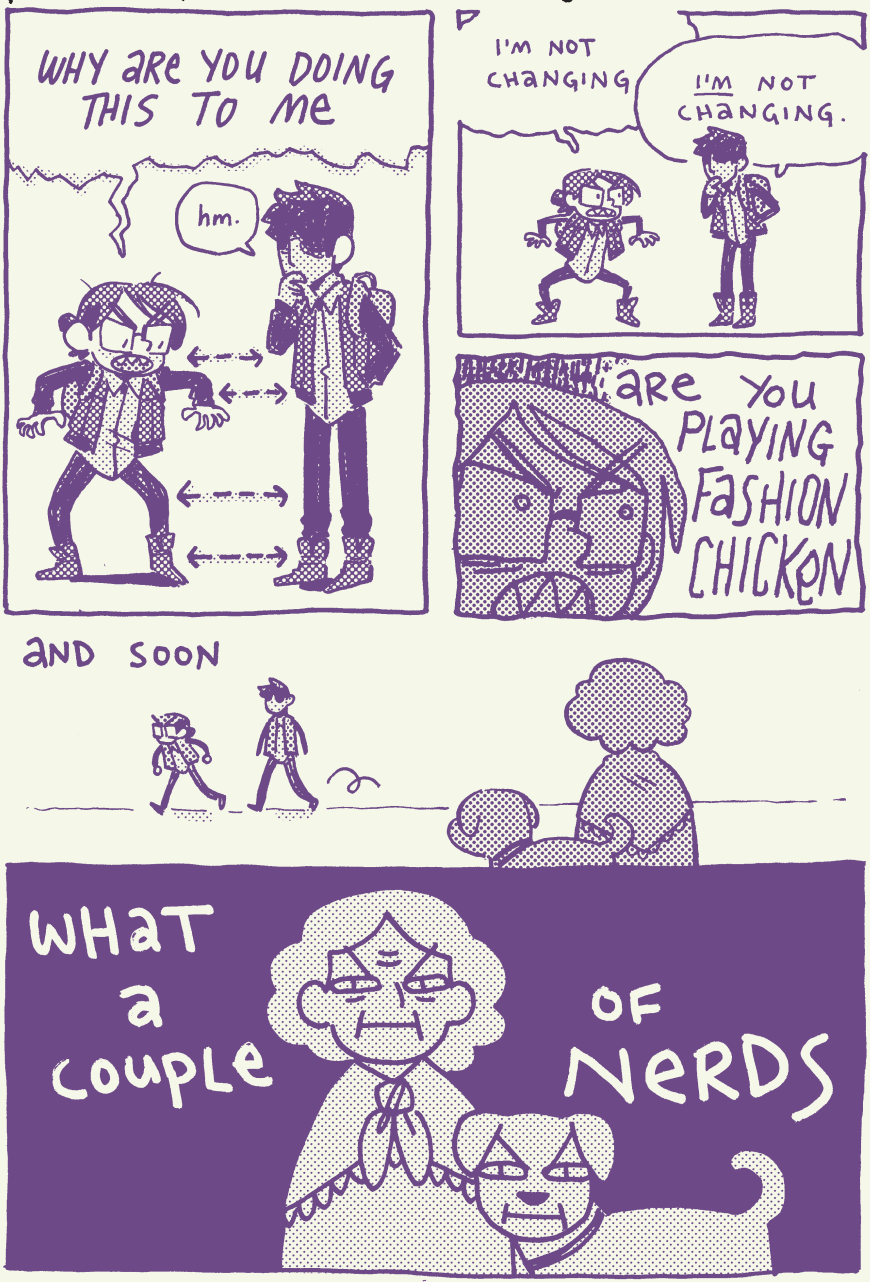
parallel fashion harder





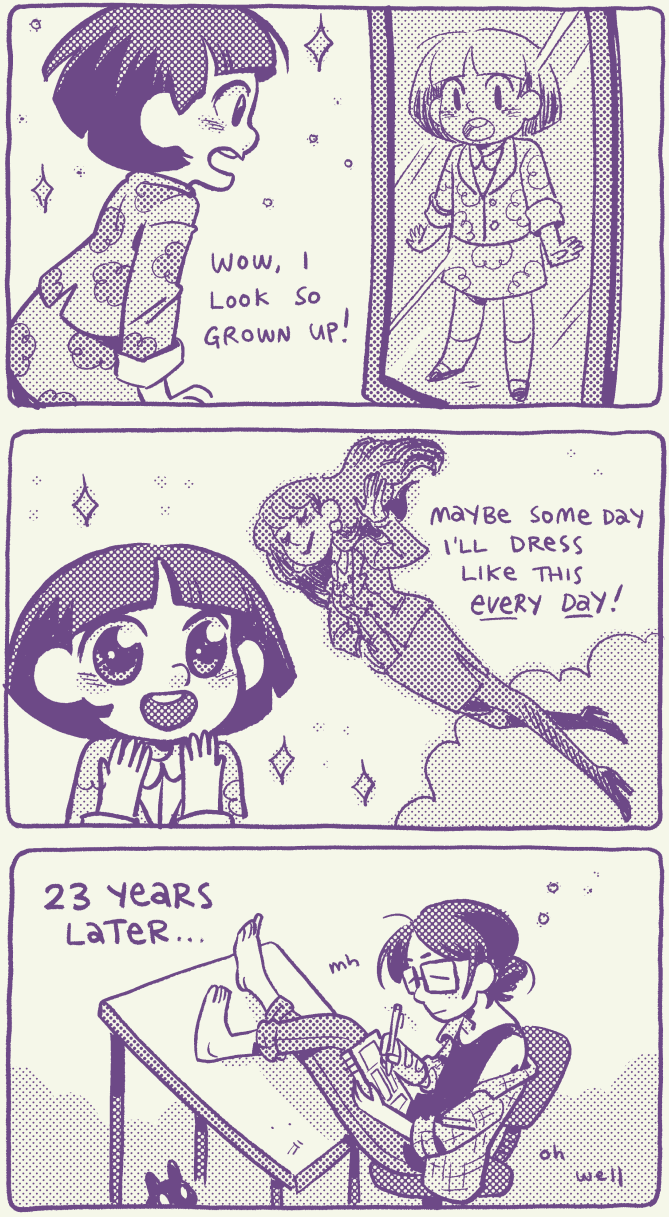


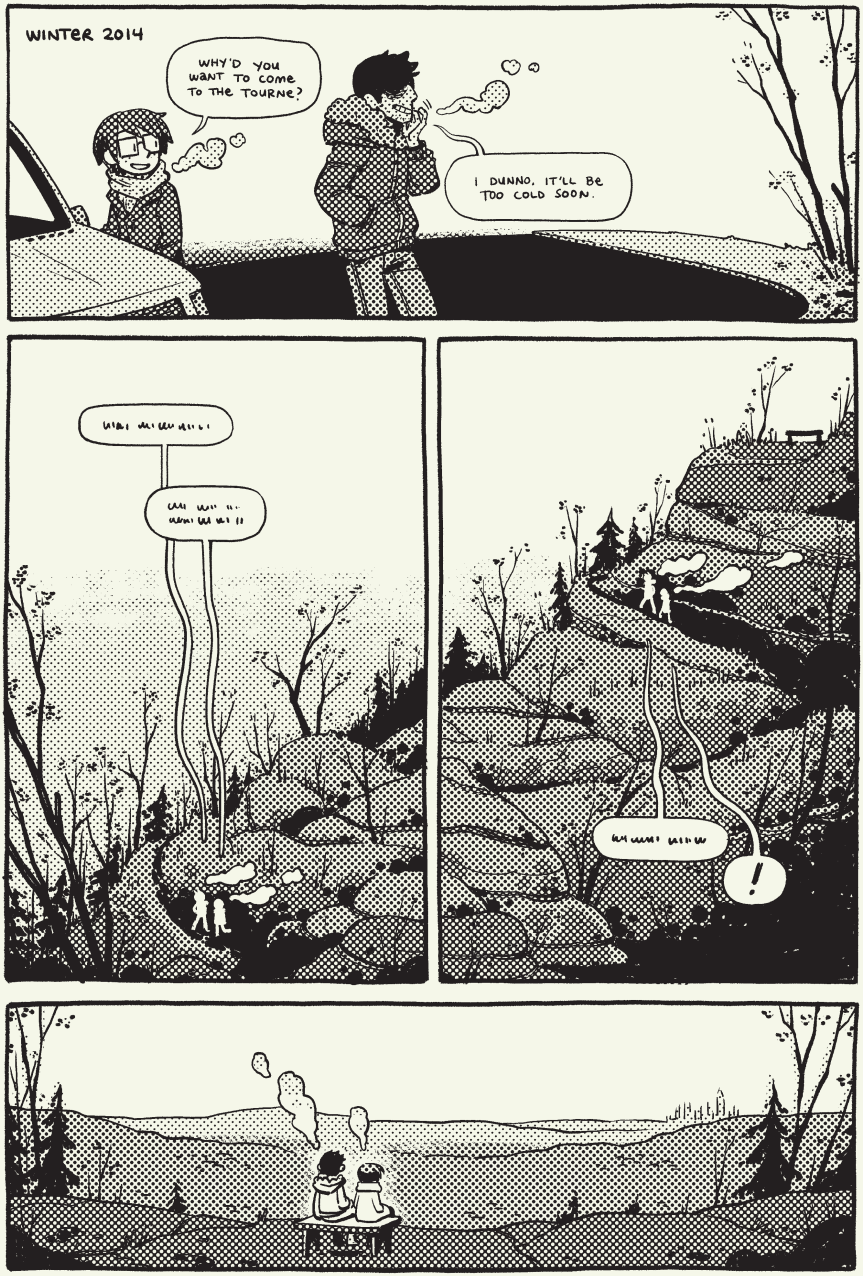
parallel fashion: with a vengeance



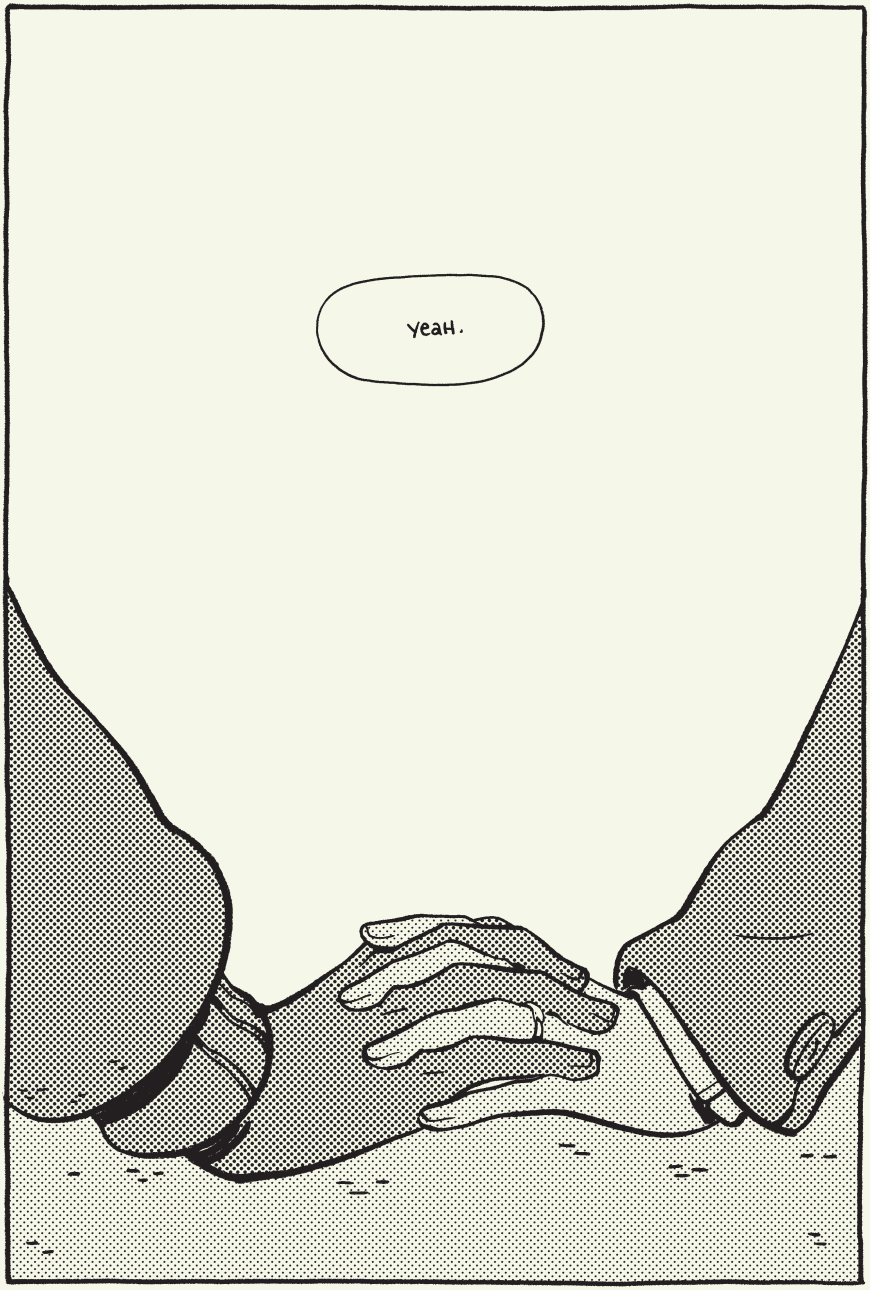

cats
in our
neighborhood
Door stop

one time I got a hand-me-down baby suit from my cousin




WINTER 2014
WHY'D YOU WANT TO COME TO THE TOURNE?
I DUNNO, IT'LL BE TOO COLD SOON.
!


SHOULD I GET DOWN ON A KNEE?
NO THANKS.
WANT TO?


yeah.



V.

THROUGH the thickest knell of night,
Through milky morning dew,

What wondrous sights I'm set to see
While wanderin' with you

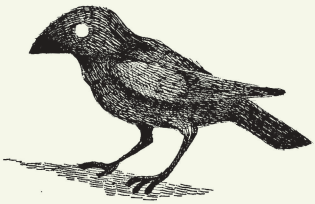
For we could see nigh anything
While wanderin' jus' you an me
For any thing's a won'drous thing

With you, my friend
With you




OK, YOU'RE MARRIED.


WHAT...
DO WE DO NOW...
WING IT?
LET'S NOT
OK



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

There are a lot of people who we'd like to acknowledge from over the years. I'm sure some names have slipped my mind– so sorry for that!

Our parents, who can never be thanked enough.

George Rohac, who was there for the whole thing.

Mike Miller, for friendship and artisan marshmallows.

Raina & Dave, for giving us such a warm welcome to New York.

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Tucker & Nina Stone, who championed us in a way that means so much.

Bergen Street Comics, for hosting the most killer release parties we ever had.

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Rachelle, for soju & Boka.

Andrew & Claire, for your kindness and for dessert.

Katie & Jordan, for always meeting us at Target at 1 AM.

Megan & Archer, for decades (and decades) of friendship.

Jamie & Audrey Noguchi, and little Hazel. Can't wait to boulder with all three of you.

Mike Ey. You're the best of us.

Our readers, old and new, for laughing with us.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS



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Aatmaja Pandya

Yuko Ota & Ananth Hirsh live in Brooklyn, NY.

Yuko is a cartoonist.

Ananth is a writer.

Their previous book was *LUCKY PENNY*.

They've worked with Oni Press, BOOM!, Dark Horse, Lerner Publishing, Red5, and more.

In addition to their work with publishers, Ananth & Yuko have self-published *CUTTINGS*, a collection of fiction comics and related artwork.

Ananth has a previous book with Oni Press, titled *BUZZ!* You can see more of Ananth Hirsh's work with Tessa Stone on their latest collaboration, *IS THIS WHAT YOU WANTED*.

Yuko and Ananth post comics at johnnywander.com. Their latest project is titled *BARBAROUS*.

thank you to all of our readers!

MANY OF THEM HELPED MAKE THESE COMICS POSSIBLE, AND YOU CAN READ THEIR NAMES BY FOLLOWING THE LINK BELOW.

johnnywander.com/thankyou

ANANTH HIRSH · YUKO OTA

BARBAROUS



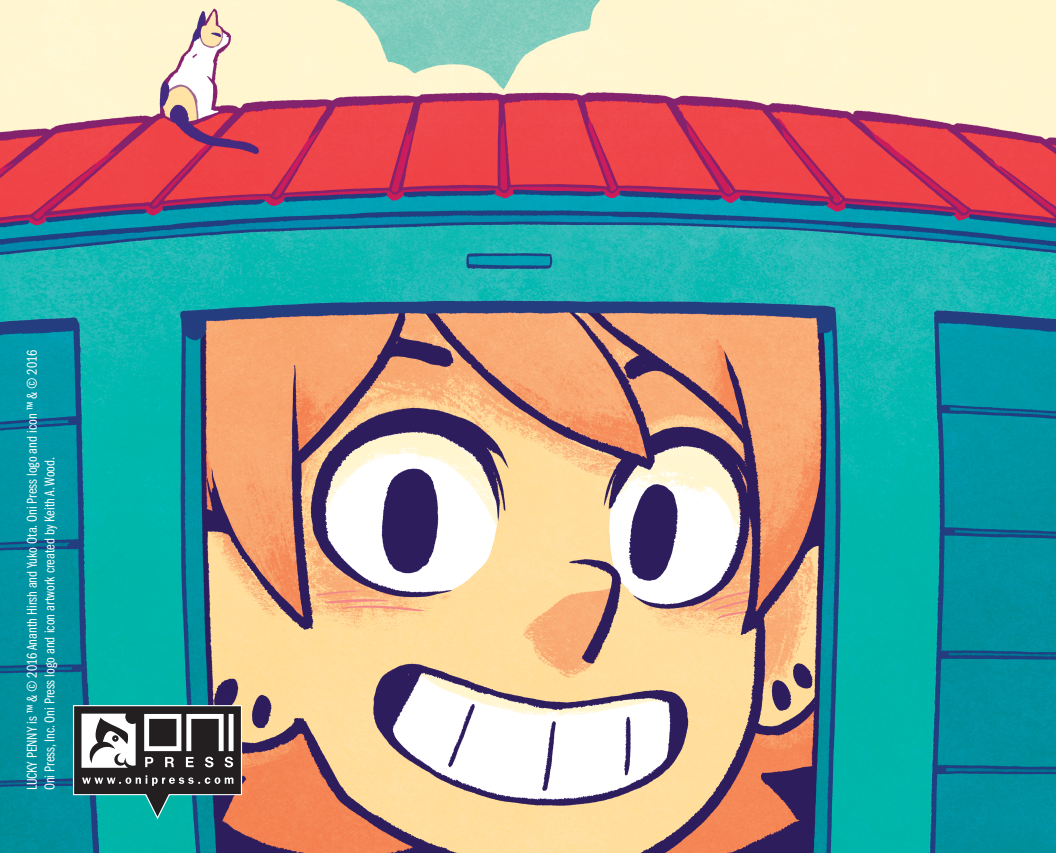
JOHNNYWANDER.COM

"I LOVE IT! Penny is a human disaster after my own heart!"
- Noelle Stevenson, *Nimona*, *Lumberjanes*

LUCKY PENNY

ANANTH HIRSH YUKO OTA

A new graphic novel from the creators of *Johnny Wander*!



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IS THIS WHAT YOU WANTED

Ananth Hirsh · Tessa Stone · Sarah Stone

FROM ANANTH HIRSH *(Johnny Wander)*
AND TESSA STONE *(Hanna is Not a Boy's Name)*!

A hero is born as brazen word slingers do battle in thrilling, high-stakes, underground spelling bees!

BUZZ!



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"*Johnny Wander* is my favorite comic on the Internet."

–Raina Telgemeier, author of Smile

In 2008, Ananth Hirsh and Yuko Ota launched the auto-bio webcomic *Johnny Wander*. Eight years, four cats, and three moves are chronicled in this gorgeous hardcover omnibus, which includes a foreword by Raina Telgemeier (*Smile*, *Ghosts*). Hirsh and Ota's charming reverie about new adulthood will appeal to fans of Kate Beaton, Bryan Lee O'Malley, and Jeffrey Brown – along with anyone who's just winging it.

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