

# A SELECTION OF DARK HORSE COMICS THAT EXPLORE LGBTQ+ STORIES, THEMES, AND CHARACTERS

## LIEBESTRASSE

Nominated for Outstanding Comic Book by the GLAAD Media Awards, *Liebestrasse* tells the heart-wrenching, poignant tale of forbidden love and survival through the rise of hatred. During the final years of the Weimar Republic, Sam, an American banker, meets Philip, a German art critic, and they fall in love. Their romance is hit with an unspeakable reality as the Nazis come to power and fascism makes them a target.

9781506724553 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## US

What happens when the life you thought you had does a 180° turn? Everything, and yet ... nothing. *Us* is Sara and Diana's love story, as well as the story of Diana's gender transition. Full of humor, heartache, and the everyday triumphs and struggles of identity, this graphic memoir speaks to changing conceptions of the world as well as the self, at the same time revealing that some things don't really have to change.

9781506734187 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$26.99 CA · On Sale Now

## RENEGADE RULE

Both hilarious and heartwarming, this new graphic novel from Ignatz-nominated writer Ben Kahn, debut author Rachel Silverstein, and artist Sam Beck is a celebration of friendship, competition, queer identity, and the insane things we do for the things and people we love.

9781506718019 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## KILLER QUEENS

Meet Max & Alex. Reformed intergalactic assassins-for-hire. On the run. Also super gay. Their former boss—a fluffy monkey with a jetpack—is hot on their tail to take back his stolen ship. They gotta eat so they take a mission from Alex's old flame. Your standard no-kill, casually-free kidnapping recovery from a nearby moon. Only complication? Half the moon is ruled by a fascist dictator hostile to foreigners.

9781506722153 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## THE PRIDE OMNIBUS

Joe Glass's *The Pride* in a full omnibus trade paperback, collecting volumes 1 and 2 as well as the collection of self-contained stories, *The Pride Adventures!* In *The Pride*, FabMan is sick of being seen as a joke. Tired of the LGBTQ+ community being seen as inferior to straight heroes, he thinks it's about damn time he did something about it. Bringing together some of the world's greatest LGBTQ+ superheroes, the Pride is born to protect the world and fight prejudice, misrepresentation and injustice—not to mention a pesky supervillain or two.

9781506724478 · TP · \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA · On Sale Now

## ENIGMA: THE DEFINITIVE EDITION

*Enigma* is a visceral, postmodern tale of self-discovery and sexual identity told against the backdrop of outrageous superheroes and villains. Michael Smith lives a meaningless life of routine and boredom. But when the weird characters from *Enigma*—his favorite childhood comic book series—seem to come to life, Michael embarks upon an increasingly obsessive crusade to uncover the incredible secret behind their improbable existence.

9781506720692 · HC · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now

## YOUTH

From Curt Pires, *Youth* was named one of "10 Comic Books to Celebrate Pride" by *The New York Times*. *Youth* is a coming-of-age story of two queer teenagers as they run away from their lives in a bigoted small town and attempt to make their way to California. Along the way their car breaks down and they join up with a group of fellow misfits on the road. Embarking together in a van traveling the country, they party and attempt to find themselves. And then something happens ...

Volume 1 · 9781506724614 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

Volume 2 · 9781506730998 · TP · \$22.99 US | \$29.99 CA · On Sale Now

## TWELVE PERCENT DREAD

*Twelve Percent Dread* is a fast-paced, laugh-a-page graphic novel about friendship, capitalism, and never putting your f---ing phone away. From Emily McGovern, author of *Bloodlust & Bonnets* and the hugely popular webcomic *My Life As a Background Slytherin*.

9781506733203 · TP · \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA · On Sale Now

## SPARKS

Revel Guts's hit webcomic will now be in print for the first time! *Sparks* is a coming-of-age queer romance that can't be missed by fans of LGBTQ+ fantasy and adventure. In a world rising from the ashes of destruction, human society thrives only through their complex alliance with the magical Satyr.

Volume 1 · 9781506741581 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

Volume 2 · 9781506741598 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## GUNNERKRIGG COURT

Tom Siddell's acclaimed, long-running webcomic comes to Dark Horse, with a new cover and updated interior art! After the death of her mother and her father's disappearance, a young girl arrives at a mysterious boarding school. While the curriculum seems to be focused on advancing science and technology, Anthony "Annie" Carver quickly discovers that the grounds are home to plenty of things that science can't explain: ghosts, supernatural phenomena, and even the gods of the neighboring forest.

Volume 1 · 9781506742045 · TP · \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA · On Sale Now

Volume 2 · 9781506742069 · TP · \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA · On Sale Now

## SUMMER SHADOWS

*The Talented Mr. Ripley* meets *Dracula*, this stylish neo-noir horror graphic novel will sink its teeth into you and leave you infatuated. Forever. By day the Greek islands are all sand, sea and fun ... but by night they're the perfect hunting ground for vampires! Nick Landry is searching for his ex on the unpopulated island of Avraxos. Anthony was the love of his life, and without knowing why he left, Nick can't move on. But Anthony isn't the only one to disappear on Avraxos. As the mystery deepens, Nick and Alekos discover that the brighter the sunshine, the darker the shadows ...

9781506742243 · TP · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now

## MORE LGBTQ+ TITLES TO ENJOY!

Zodiac Starforce: By the Power of Astra ·

9781616559137 · TP

\$12.99 US | \$17.50 CA · On Sale Now

Spell on Wheels ·

9781506701837 · TP

\$14.99 US | \$19.99 CA · On Sale Now

The Once and Future Queen ·

9781506702506 · TP

\$14.99 US | \$19.99 CA · On Sale Now

Lost on Planet Earth ·

9781506724560 · TP

\$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

ElfQuest: Stargazer's Hunt Complete Edition ·

9781506742359 · HC

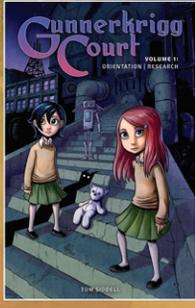
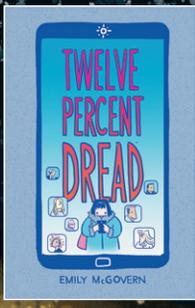
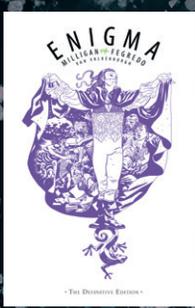
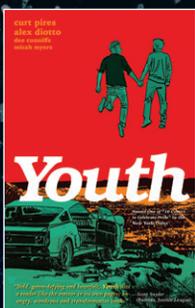
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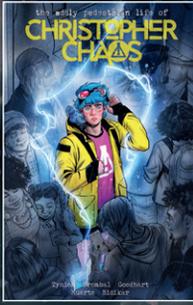
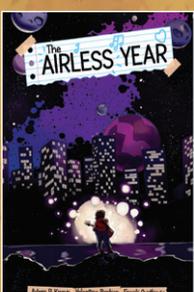
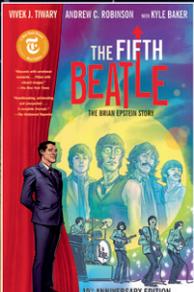
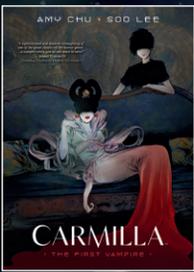
Barbalien: Red Planet—

From the World of Black Hammer ·

9781506715803 · TP

\$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now





## CARMILLA

Before Dracula, before Nosferatu, there was . . . CARMILLA. Inspired by the gothic novel that started the vampire genre and layered with dark Chinese folklore, this queer, feminist murder mystery graphic novel is a tale of identity, obsession, and fateful family secrets.

Volume 1 · 9781506734644 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$26.99 CA · On Sale Now  
Volume 2 · 9781506742205 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale July 2024

## THE ODDLY PEDESTRIAN LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER CHAOS

From the *New York Times* best-selling writers James Tynion IV and Tate Brombal and the artist Isaac Goodhart comes this LGBTQ+ horror-hero coming-of-age story that's *Invincible* meets *Doom Patrol*.

9781506736723 · TP · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now

## MONSTER CRUSH

A whirlwind adventure exploring love, gender, and big emotions, *Monster Crush* is the perfect read for anyone who's ever felt like an outsider. Since her parents split up, Ruby Reid has been having a tough time at Crestwood High. But everything changes the day Ella Mooney moves to town. Ella isn't like most teens: she's never been on a Ferris wheel, never had an ice cream cone, and sometimes she grows fangs and a tail!

9781506726878 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## MERRY-GO-ROUND

Life as a teenager is full of challenges and learning moments, from love triangles to missed appointments and beyond. Based on the Arthur Schnitzler play by the same name, this volume is a perfect encapsulation of growing up and trying to figure everything out.

9781506736594 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## INVISIBLE KINGDOM

In a small solar system in a far-flung galaxy, two women—one a young religious acolyte and the other a hard-bitten freighter pilot—uncover a conspiracy between the leaders of the most dominant religion and an all-consuming mega-corporation. On the run from reprisals on both sides, this unlikely pair must decide where their loyalties lie—and risk plunging the world into anarchy if they reveal the truth.

Volume 1 · 9781506712277 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now  
Volume 2 · 9781506714943 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now  
Volume 3 · 9781506721514 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## THE MARBLE QUEEN

A sapphic YA graphic novel with sword fighting, political intrigue, and magic where the princess needs a marriage alliance for the welfare of her kingdom, but she unknowingly accepts a proposal from a mysterious country, having come not from the prince, but his sister.

9781506728124 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$26.99 CA · On Sale Now

## LIGHT CARRIES ON

When Leon's camera unexpectedly breaks, he is forced to borrow a used one from his mom's antique store. As he snaps the first picture, the ghost of the camera's former owner is released and the two are inexplicably linked.

9781506726373 · HC · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## UNDER KINGDOM

School can be hard, and making friends can be even harder. Taking your mother's place as the guardian of a secret subterranean kingdom of monsters just might be impossible! With the help of his shapeshifting aunt Sa'Belle, Shay must search for his mother while doing what he can to safeguard the citizens of the "Under Kingdom" and try to maintain his normal high-school life.

9781506733630 · TP · \$14.99 US | \$19.99 CA · On Sale Now

## THE FIFTH BEATLE: THE BRIAN EPSTEIN STORY (ANNIVERSARY EDITION)

*The Fifth Beatle* brings to life the true story of visionary Beatles manager Brian Epstein—the man who launched the Beatles to worldwide stardom. This 10th-Anniversary edition of the critically acclaimed, award-winning international bestseller features a new cover, an accompanying musical soundtrack/playlist curated by writer Vivek J. Tiwary, a new introduction by legendary music manager Kelly Curtis (Pearl Jam), and an expanded sketchbook section.

9781506739465 · TP · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now

## BASIL AND OREGANO

Mix two parts *The Great British Bake Off* with one part magical boarding school plus a generous dash of romance and you've got *Basil and Oregano*, a sweetly delicious young-adult graphic novel.

9781506728704 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

## THE AIRLESS YEAR

For Kacee, a queer Black girl in middle school, everything feels like a struggle. When Kacee fails a class as a result of her stress and ends up in summer school, she starts to wonder why she even bothers trying—and ultimately begins to discover her own power to improve the things in her life she can't control, and try to let go of what she can't.

9781506720357 · TP · \$14.99 US | \$19.99 CA · On Sale Now

Text and illustrations of Carmilla™ © 2025 Amy Chu and Soo Lee. The Oddly Pedestrian Life of Christopher Chaos™ © 2025 Tiny Onion. Text and illustrations of Monster Crush™ © 2025 Erin Franey. Merry-Go-Round original title: Girotondo by Sergio Rossi and Agnese Innocente. English translation by Carla Roncalli di Montorio. First published in 2020 by Editrice Il Castoreo, viale Andrea doria 7, 20124 Milano (Italy) www.editriceilcastoreo.it By arrangement with Book On a Tree LTD, www.bookonatre.com Text and illustrations of The Invisible Kingdom™ © 2025 G. Willow Wilson and Christian Ward. The Marble Queen™ Art © 2025 Gabrielle Kaur, Text © 2025 Anna Kopp. Light Carries On™ © 2025 Ray Nadine. Under Kingdom™ © 2025 Marie Enger and Christof Bogacs. Crema © 2020, 2021 Johnnie Christmas. Basil and Oregano™ © 2025 Melissa Capriglione. Text and illustrations of The Airless Year™ © 2025 Adam P. Knave and Valentine Barker. All material, unless otherwise specified, © 2025 Tiwary Entertainment Group Ltd.™ produced under license by Dark Horse Comics.



# **DARK HORSE BOOKS LGBTQ+ SAMPLER**

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## **Killer Queens**

Written by David M. Booher. Illustrated by Claudia Balboni.

## **Us**

Written and illustrated by Sara Soler.

## **The Oddly Pedestrian Life of Christopher Chaos**

Written by James Tynion IV and Tate Brombal. Illustrated by Isaac Goodhart.

## **Monster Crush**

Written and illustrated by Erin Ellie Franey.



# KILLER QUEENS™

Putting the *SASS* in ASSASSIN!



BOOHER • BALBONI • SAXON • GATTONI



# KILLER QUEENS™

**"This is how you do comics. This is about as fun as they possibly get."**

**-PANEL PATER**

**"Fun to the extreme."**

**-COMIC WATCH**

**"Sit back and enjoy the ride."**

**-MULTIVERSITY COMICS**

**"A fun-as-hell silver age romp through a modern lens; Booher's script sparkles with razor-sharp dialogue, and Balboni's explosive art practically leaps off the page. This is a wonderful, witty, and propulsive read."**

**-MICHAEL MORECI (BARBARIC)**

**"Killer Queens has everything I want from a space adventure comic.**

**Aliens, gays, and witty dialogue! The story and art are superb!**

**I can't wait to see what happens next."**

**-TERRY BLAS (REPTIL, DEAD WEIGHT, HOTEL DARE)**

**"Killer Queens is SO MUCH FUN! This sci-fi epic has it all: assassins, explosions, sex, tons of queerness, a fabulous retro-cool space design and even an angry monkey with a jetpack. I am so in!"**

**-AMANDA DEIBERT (HE-MAN AND THE MASTERS OF THE UNIVERSE, WONDER WOMAN '77)**

**"Killer Queens is mesmerizing! Equal parts hilarious and poignant, David M. Booher and Claudia Balboni shine in this timely thriller about reformed assassins and a fascist empire."**

**-JULIO ANTA (HOME, FRONTERA)**

**"This book is for people who dig humor like *Schitt's Creek*, with an epic space adventure spin like *Cowboy Bebop*—it's a mix of quippy aggressive humor and high-end space stakes!!"**

**-LIANA KANGAS (TRVE KVLТ, SEEDS OF EDEN, SHE SAID DESTROY)**

**"Killer Queens is the gay space epic we need right now.**

**Buy this book or I'll open the airlock!"**

**-PATRICK SCHUMACKER (CO-SHOWRUNNER, HARLEY QUINN)**





# KILLER QUEENS™

Putting the *SASS* in *ASSASSIN!*

Created and Written by **DAVID M. BOOHER**

Pencils and Inks by **CLAUDIA BALBONI**

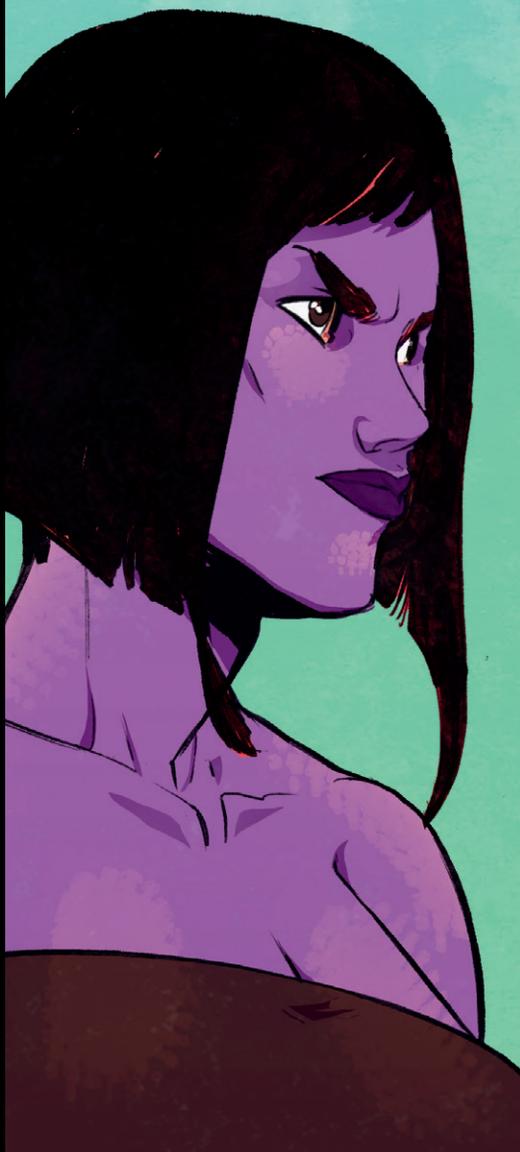
Colors by **HARRY SAXON**

Letters by **LUCAS GATTONI**

Cover by **CHRIS ABLES**



**DARK  
HORSE  
BOOKS**



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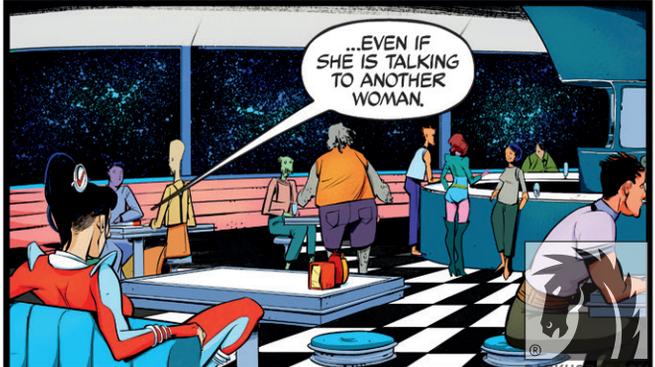
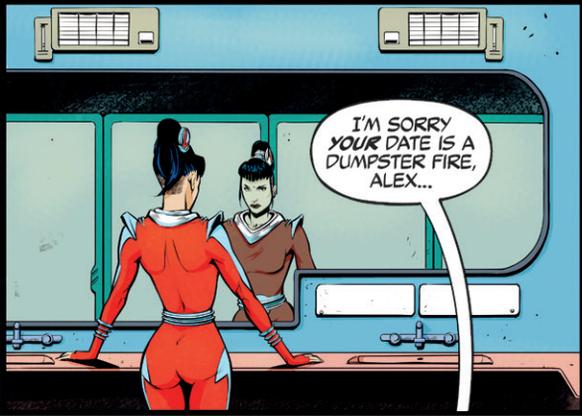
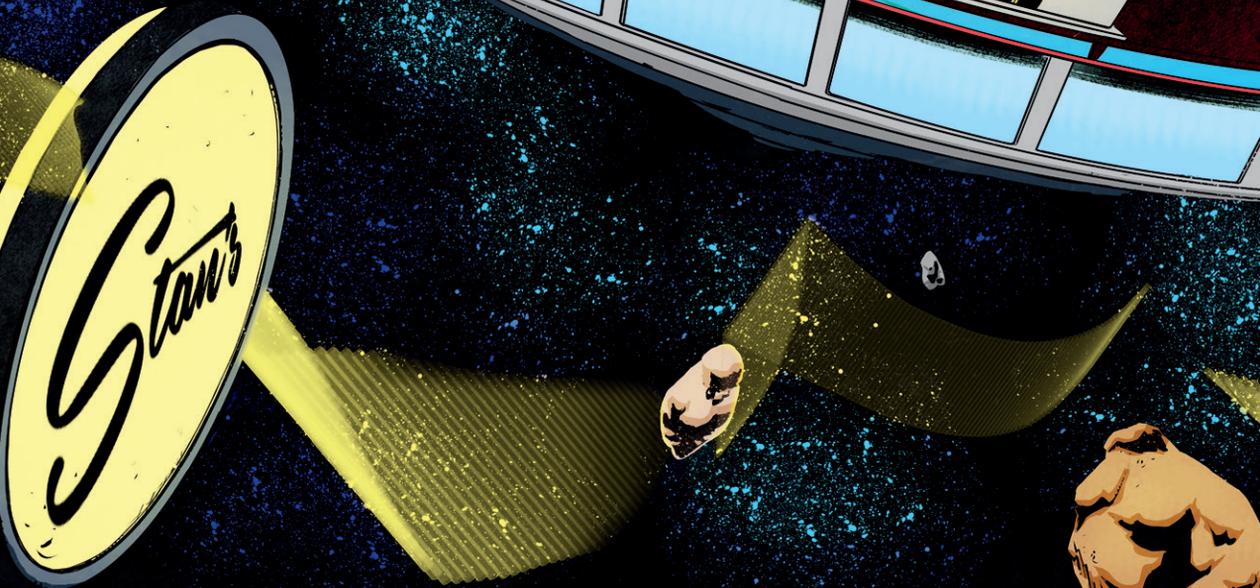
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THE NICEST RESTAURANT  
IN A REALLY CRAPPY  
PART OF THE GALAXY.

"YOU READY  
TO GO, MAX?"

"WE NEED TO  
KEEP MOVING."







BIETI.  
 CAPTAIN BIETI.  
 SO WE'RE BACK ON THAT AGAIN?  
 WHERE'S MY SHIP, ALEX?  
 WHAT SHIP?  
 CUTE, I SEE YOU STILL HAVE THE ATTITUDE.  
 WHERE'S YOUR IDIOT PARTNER?  
 IN THE BATHROOM COMING UP WITH AN ESCAPE PLAN.  
 DOES IT INVOLVE WRECKING UP THIS PLACE?  
 WAIT... I DON'T CARE.

I SEE YOU NOW HAVE HENCH OTTERS.  
 SURPRISINGLY CHEAP.  
 BUT DON'T CHANGE THE SUBJECT. GIVE ME MY SHIP OR SHE DIES.  
 MEH.  
 MEH?!



OH MY GOD, OF COURSE WE'RE GOING TO SAVE YOU.  
 AND KEEP BIETI'S SHIP.



HOW DO YOU PLAN TO DO THAT, MISS I'M-TOO-GOOD-TO-GET-PAID-TO-KILL-PEOPLE-NOW?  
 OH WAIT... I STILL DON'T CARE. GIVE ME BACK MY--

LET'S  
**WRECK UP**  
THIS PLACE!

WAIT,  
WHAT?

OH,  
GOD  
GOD





**FZZT!**

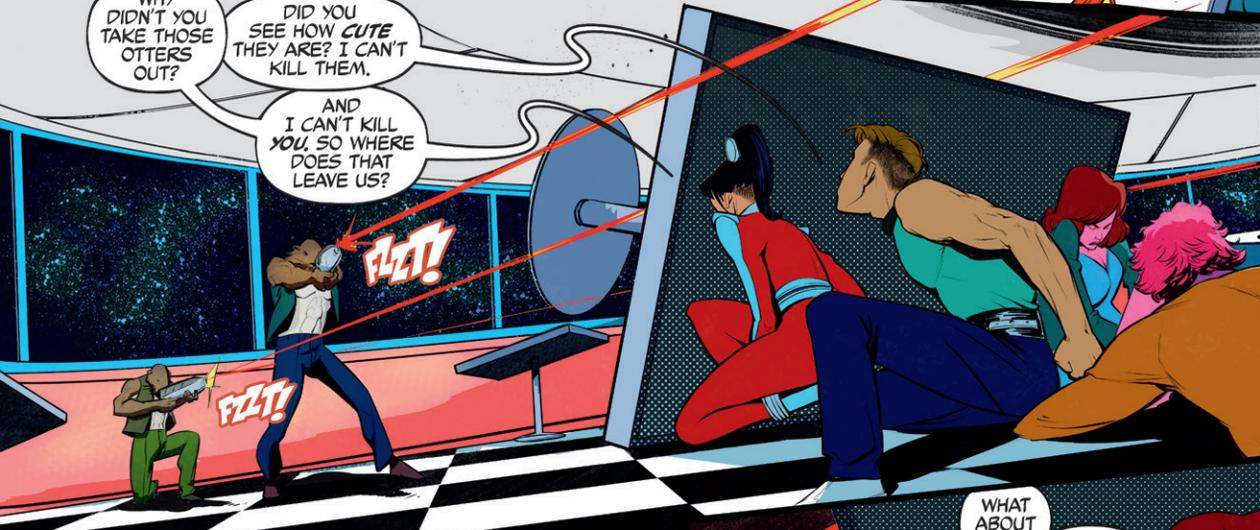
WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE THOSE OTTERS OUT?

DID YOU SEE HOW CUTE THEY ARE? I CAN'T KILL THEM.

AND I CAN'T KILL YOU, SO WHERE DOES THAT LEAVE US?

**FZZT!**

**FZZT!**



IS THERE A BACK EXIT?

HOW SHOULD I KNOW?

FROM YOUR GALACTI-GRIND'R PROFILE, SEEMS LIKE YOU COME HERE A LOT.

LIKE... A LOT.



**FZZT! FZZT! FZZT!**

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

DO YOU KNOW IF THERE'S A BACK EXIT?

MEH.



**FZZT! FZZT!**

THIS IS RIDICULOUS. YOU ALL OWE ME.

**SNATCH!**

BIG TIME.



**FLAT!**

**FLAT!**

NOW WE  
**WRECK UP  
THE PLACE!**



MOTHER  
fuuuuuu  
uuuuuu  
uuuuuu

**TINK**

**FLAT!**

**FLAT!**

THIS WAS  
A DUMPSTER  
FIRE.

THE  
OTTERS  
WERE CUTE,  
THOUGH.

"MAX, I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU PARKED BIETI'S SHIP OUT IN THE OPEN."

"I CAN'T BELIEVE HE DIDN'T LOOK FOR IT IN THE PARKING LOT."

"DID YOU SEE HIS NEW JET PACK?"

"HE'D BE PRECIOUS IF HE WASN'T SUCH AN ASS."

"DON'T FORGET HE ALSO RUNS AN INTERGALACTIC ASSASSINS-FOR-HIRE RING."

"OH, SO THIS IS THE PART WHERE WE HAVE TOTALLY UNNECESSARY DIALOGUE ABOUT STUFF WE BOTH KNOW?"

"LIKE THAT WE QUIT SAID INTERGALACTIC ASSASSINS-FOR-HIRE RING BECAUSE SAID MONKEY WANTED US TO KILL A WHOLE FAMILY, INCLUDING TWO KIDS."

"AND WE COULDN'T DO IT BECAUSE WE MAY BE MONSTERS, BUT WE'RE NOT **MONSTERS.**"

"AND WE'RE ON THE RUN BECAUSE WE STOLE HIS SPACE SHIP AND LEFT HIM WITH OUR PILE OF GARBAGE."

"IS THAT EVERYTHING?"

"OH, AND THAT WE'RE ABOUT TO GET OUR FIRST NON-ASSASSINATION JOB. BECAUSE A GIRL HAS TO EAT, TACOS, PREFERABLY."

**BEEP BEEP BEEP**

"SEE?"

"DOPE."







LATER ON CALLIOPE,  
WAAAAY OUT ON THE  
EDGE OF THE GALAXY.

POPULATION 100,000.  
ALL FEMALE.

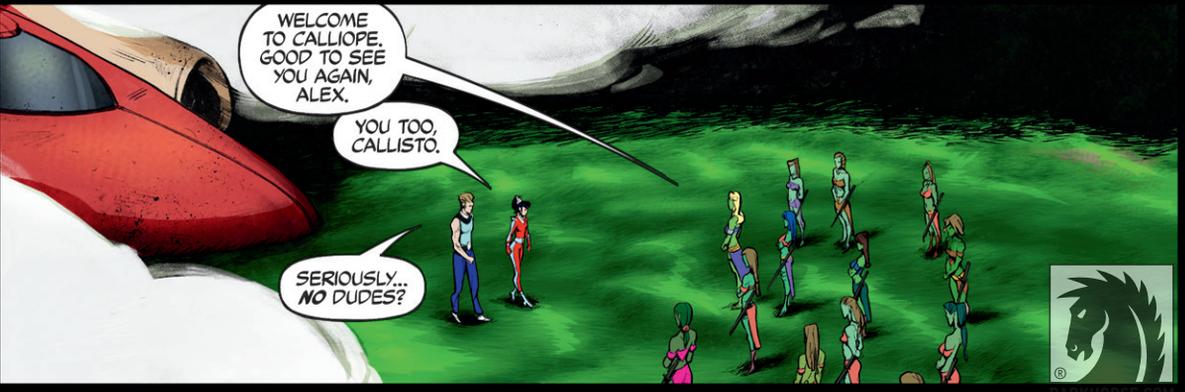
WELL...  
ALMOST.



WELCOME  
TO CALLIOPE.  
GOOD TO SEE  
YOU AGAIN,  
ALEX.

YOU TOO,  
CALLISTO.

SERIOUSLY...  
NO DUDES?





IT WAS A DISTRESS CALL FROM AMBASSADOR XIXA, A DIPLOMAT ON ANTIGONE, A NEARBY MOON.

WHAT'D THEY HAVE TO SAY?



COME ON.

ALL THE GUYS CAN'T HAVE LEFT.

THERE'S GOT TO BE ONE... SOMEWHERE...



ANTIGONE IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE.

DEMOCRATIC HUMANOIDS ON XIXA'S SIDE AND FASCIST DICTATORSHIP OF RHINOCORNS ON THE OTHER.

XIXA'S SON AND DAUGHTER ARE BEING HELD BY THE RHINOCORNS.

SO WE GO IN, GET THEM OUT, AND GET PAID HANDSOMELY FOR OUR ASTOUNDING BRAVERY, RIGHT?

SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

I MEAN... NONE? AS IN, NOT ONE MAN?

HOW DO YOU, LIKE, MAKE BABIES?



THERE'S A CATCH.

BECAUSE OF COURSE THERE IS.

THE RHINOCORNS' BORDER IS COMPLETELY CLOSED TO OUTSIDERS. IF YOU GET CAPTURED, THERE WILL BE NO WAY TO GET YOU OUT.

WE'VE HAD WORSE.

IF THEY FIND OUT YOU EVEN TRIED TO GET ONTO THAT SIDE OF THE PLANET... IT WILL BE ALL-OUT WAR.

OKAY, THAT'S WORSE.



STAY THE NIGHT. ANTIGONE CAN WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW.

WHAT ABOUT MAX?



WE'LL SHOW HIM TO HIS QUARTERS.

I'M SURE HE WILL FIND IT TO HIS LIKING.

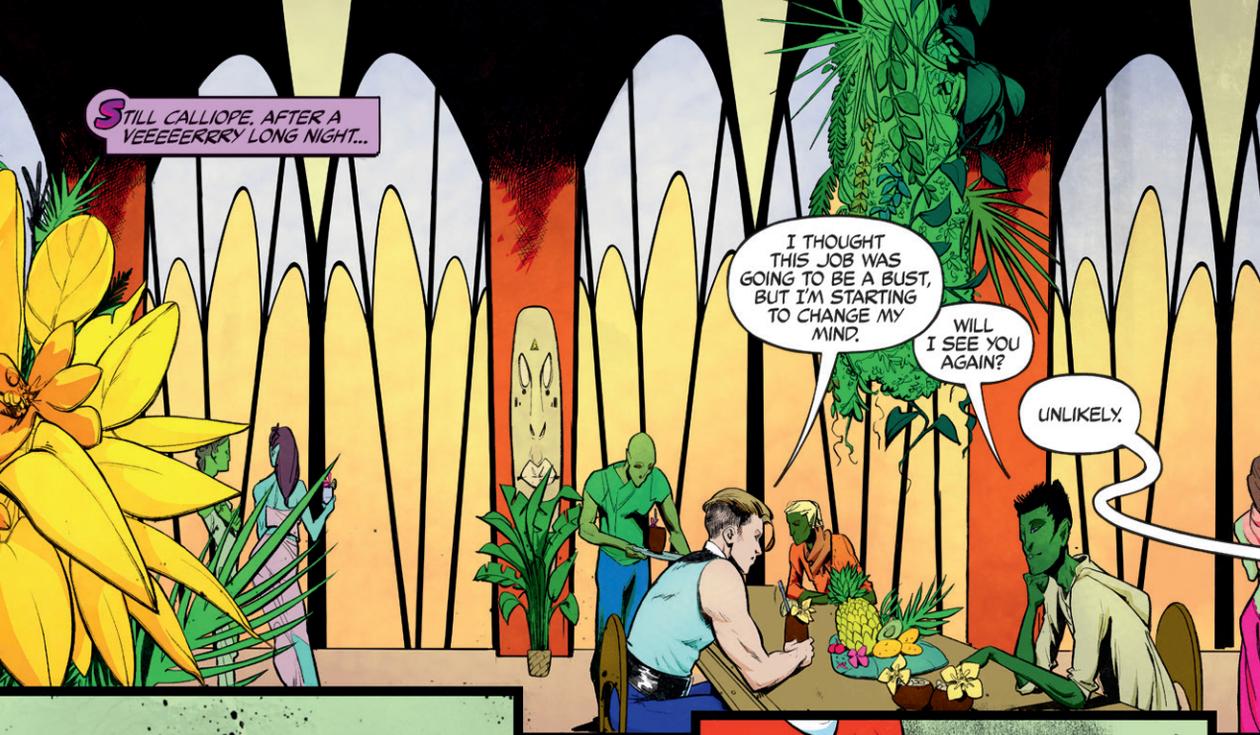
ALEX, I SWEAR TO YOU...



...I'LL NEVER LET YOU LIVE THIS DOWN.



STILL CALLOPE, AFTER A VEEEEERRRY LONG NIGHT...



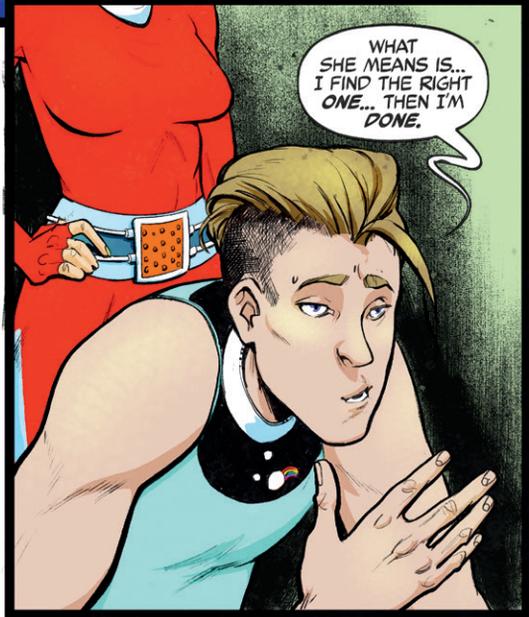
I THOUGHT THIS JOB WAS GOING TO BE A BUST, BUT I'M STARTING TO CHANGE MY MIND.

WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?

UNLIKELY.



MAX IS MORE OF A "ONE AND DONE" KIND OF GUY.



WHAT SHE MEANS IS... I FIND THE RIGHT ONE... THEN I'M DONE.



YOU NEED TO LIVE YOUR LIFE! DON'T WAIT FOR ME!

I WASN'T GOING TO, BUT OKAY!

OUCH.



HEY, MRS. GRUMPYPANTS, WHAT'S WITH THE ATTITUDE? DID SOMEBODY WAKE UP ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE BED?

DIDN'T MATTER WHICH SIDE. IT WAS THE WRONG *BED*.



WHY DO YOU KEEP DOING THIS WITH CALLISTO? EINSTEIN SAID THE DEFINITION OF INSANITY IS--

YOU FINISHING THAT SENTENCE.

"CHARGE THE HYPER ENGINE."

"CYCLING UP."



"TELL ME YOU AT LEAST GOT A GOOD DEAL OUT OF HER."

"TWENTY PERCENT."

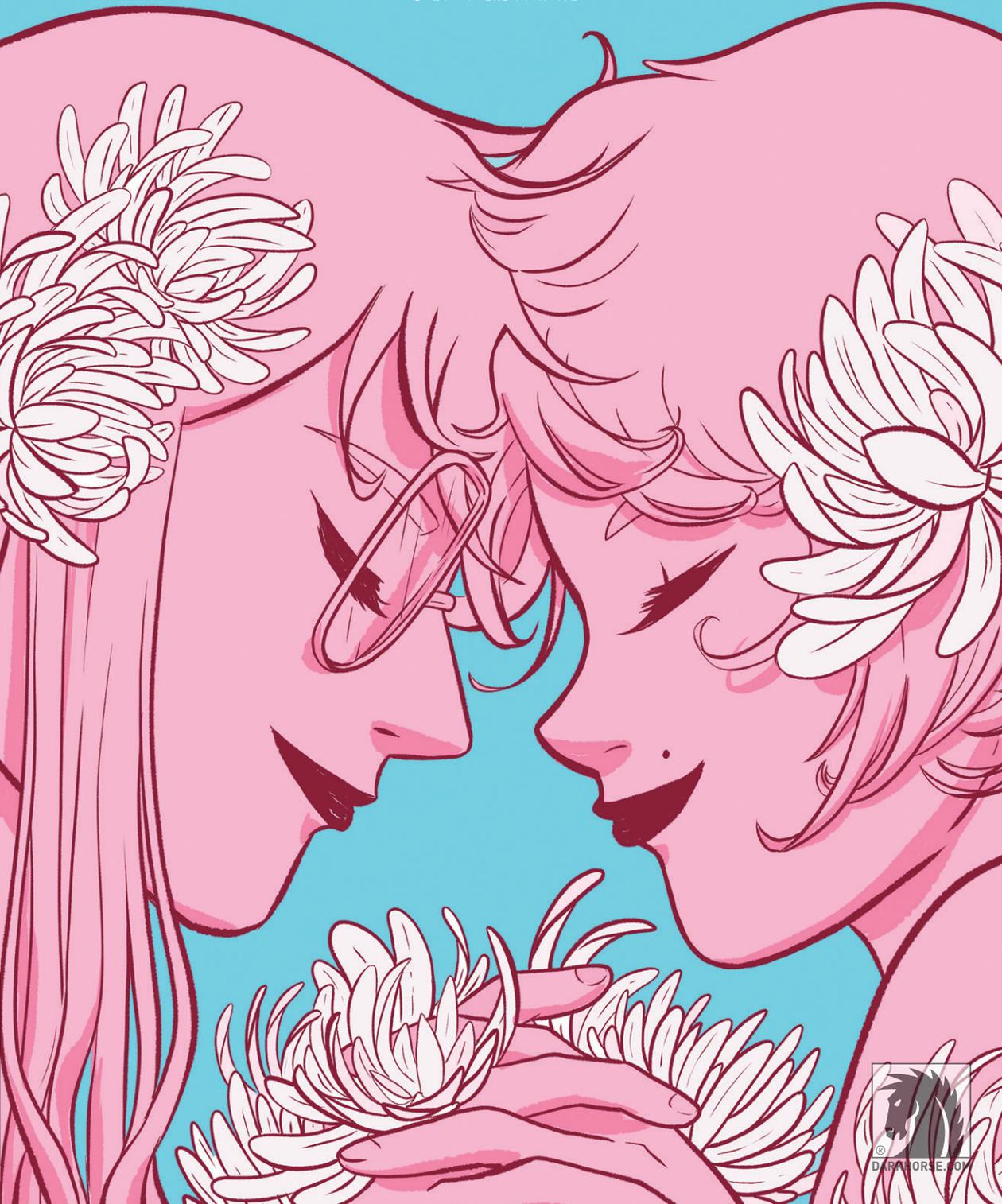


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# US<sup>TM</sup> SARA SOLER

TRANSLATED BY  
SILVIA PEREA LABAYEN



US™

SARA  
SOLER



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# US™

SARA  
SOLER

English translation by  
SILVIA PEREA LABAYEN

Letters by  
JOAMETTE GIL



# ONCE UPON A TIME

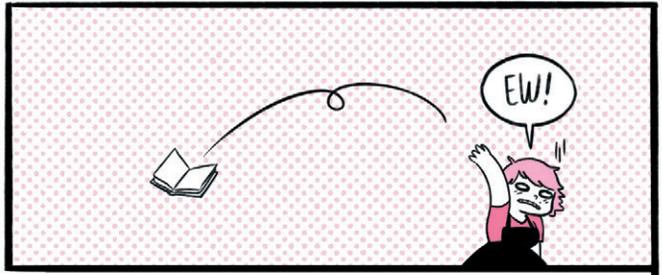
IN A VERY  
BINARY WORLD...

THERE WAS A LITTLE  
BOY DOING GIRLY THINGS  
LIKE WEARING DRESSES  
AND PLAYING WITH  
DOLLS.

EVER SINCE HE  
WAS LITTLE IT WAS  
OBVIOUS THAT HE  
WASN'T REALLY A  
BOY, BECAUSE...

...EVERYONE KNOWS  
THAT ONLY GIRLS CAN  
DO GIRL STUFF, AND ONLY  
BOYS CAN DO BOY STUFF.  
STEREOTYPES DON'T LIE.  
IT'S WRITTEN IN THE BOOK  
OF PRECONCEIVED  
NOTIONS.

THE BOOK  
OF  
PRECONCEIVED  
NOTIONS



**HI!**  
I'M SARA  
AND THIS IS DIANA.  
WE'RE HERE TO TELL  
OUR STORY!

THE FIRST THING  
YOU SHOULD KNOW  
IS THAT DIANA IS A  
TRANS WOMAN.

YUP, THAT'S  
RIGHT. YOU SHOULD  
ALSO KNOW WHY WE'VE  
CHOSEN TO START  
WITH THAT.

LOTS OF TRANS  
STORIES BEGIN THIS  
WAY, BUT IT'S NOT A RULE.  
SOME PEOPLE THINK THAT FOR  
SOMEONE TO HAVE THE RIGHT TO  
CALL THEMSELVES TRANS, THE  
SIGNS NEED TO HAVE BEEN  
THERE FROM AN EARLY AGE.

**ROOKIE  
MISTAKE!**

THIS IS A GENDER  
STEREOTYPE.

"IF YOU'VE  
ALWAYS BEEN A  
GIRL, WHY WEREN'T  
YOU PLAYING WITH  
DOLLS AND WEARING  
DRESSES?"



SARA →

↓  
CIMMI

←  
DIANA

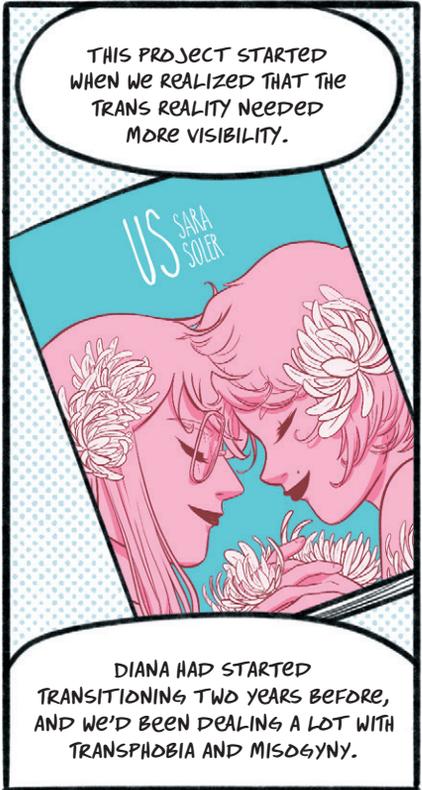






THIS COMIC BOOK STARTED AS A TWENTY-FOUR-PAGE FANZINE THAT I DREW IN 2014 TO TAKE TO A COMIC CON.

BUT I FELT LIKE TWENTY-FOUR PAGES WASN'T ENOUGH.



THIS PROJECT STARTED WHEN WE REALIZED THAT THE TRANS REALITY NEEDED MORE VISIBILITY.

DIANA HAD STARTED TRANSITIONING TWO YEARS BEFORE, AND WE'D BEEN DEALING A LOT WITH TRANSPHOBIA AND MISOGYNY.



IN GENERAL, PEOPLE DON'T HAVE A CLUE. IGNORANCE AND DISINFORMATION MAKE THEM ADOPT HARMFUL ATTITUDES TO THOSE WHO ARE DIFFERENT FROM THEM.



WHAT WE'RE ABOUT TO TELL YOU IS A TRUE STORY, GIVE OR TAKE SOME EXAGGERATIONS AND EXCEPTIONS IN THE NAME OF COMEDIC LICENSE.

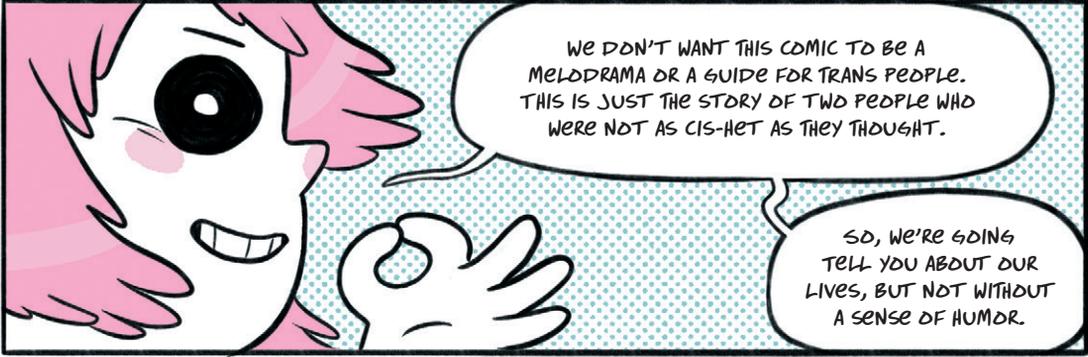
WE'RE GOING TO USE THIS HENDHENDMDHEJI DOLL TO RECREATE SOME OF THE SITUATIONS WE'VE HAD TO DEAL WITH WITHOUT NAMING ANY NAMES.

HENDHENDMDHEJI, THE BRAINLESS SCARECROW.

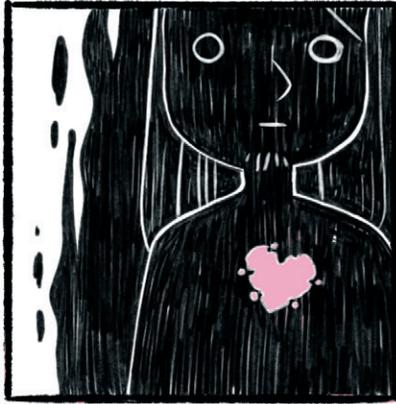
NO BRAIN NO GAIN

THE SCAPEGOAT

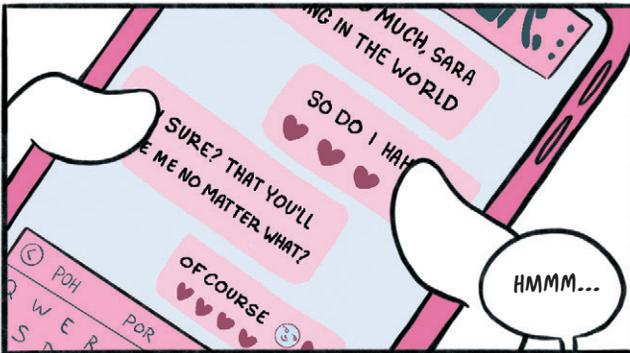
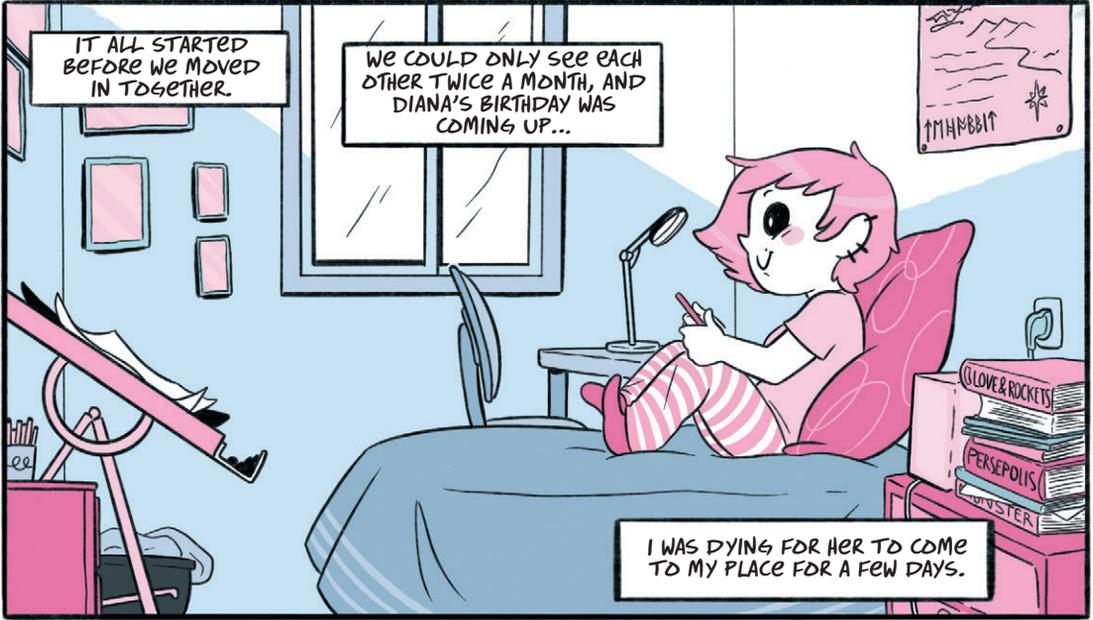


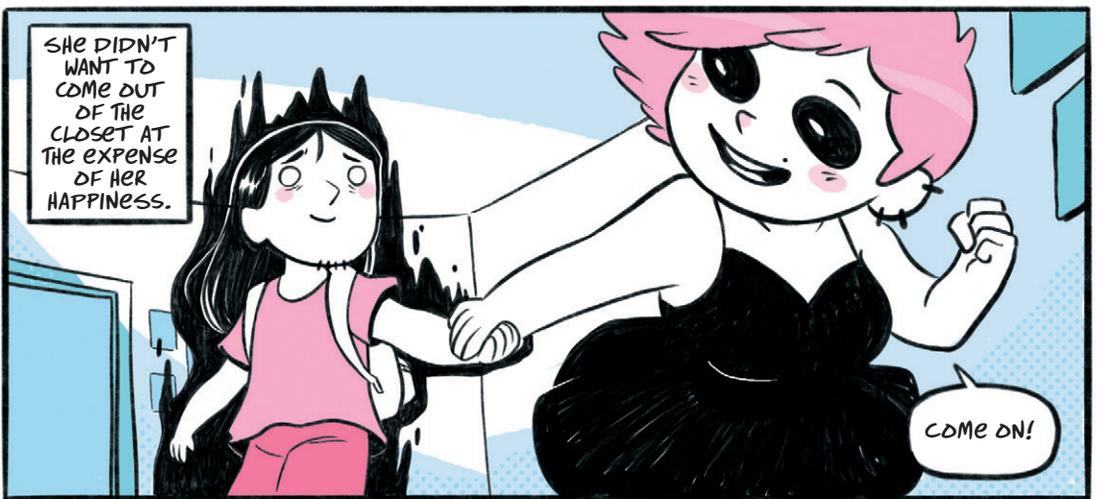
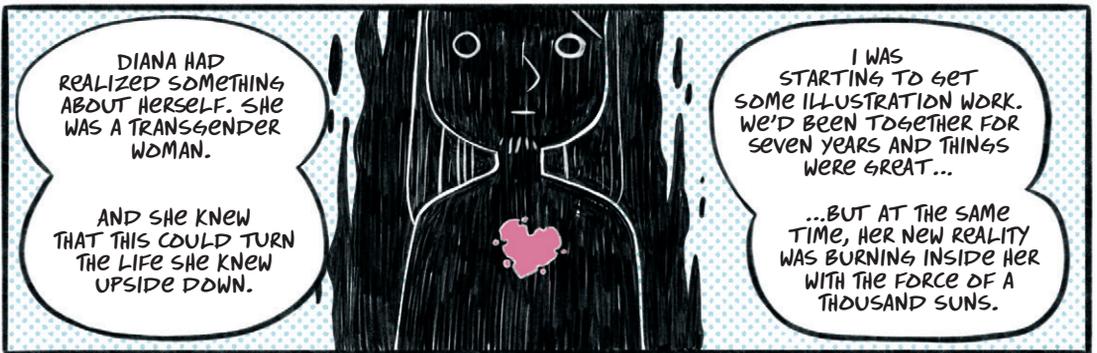


1.



**LEAVING**







BECAUSE I'M  
TOTALLY  
NOT A  
PESSIMIST, I  
THOUGHT:

# TERMINAL CANCER



BUT...  
BUT...  
WHY CAN'T  
YOU TELL  
ME? IS IT  
SERIOUS?



I DON'T  
KNOW...  
I'VE BEEN  
SEEING A  
PSYCHOLOGIST.  
BOTH  
SHE AND MY  
PARENTS THINK  
IT'S BEST FOR  
YOU NOT TO  
KNOW.



THEY  
TOLD ME  
THAT IF I SAY  
SOMETHING,  
YOU'LL  
BREAK UP  
WITH ME.

BUT I  
DON'T WANNA  
HIDE IT FROM  
YOU.

THIS IS  
BULLSHIT!  
I CAN'T STAND  
IT ANYMORE!

WHAT?!  
WHY WOULD  
I LEAVE  
YOU?

WHAT  
COULD BE  
SO WRONG?

OH MY  
GOD. HE IS  
DYING!







LISTEN. I...I'VE REALIZED THAT I'M NOT REALLY A MAN. I'M A WOMAN... I JUST REALIZED RECENTLY, AND I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. IT'S A TOTAL MESS. MY HEAD IS SPINNING BECAUSE I LIKE MY LIFE THE WAY IT IS NOW.



I DON'T WANNA LOSE YOU, MY FRIENDS, OR MY FAMILY, AND I KNOW THAT COULD HAPPEN... NOW THAT I KNOW WHO I REALLY AM, I CAN'T KEEP BEING LIKE THIS AND...I...I STILL LIKE WOMEN, SARA. I LOVE YOU MORE THAN ANYTHING...BUT MAYBE YOU DON'T LOVE ME FOR WHO I AM ANYMORE...

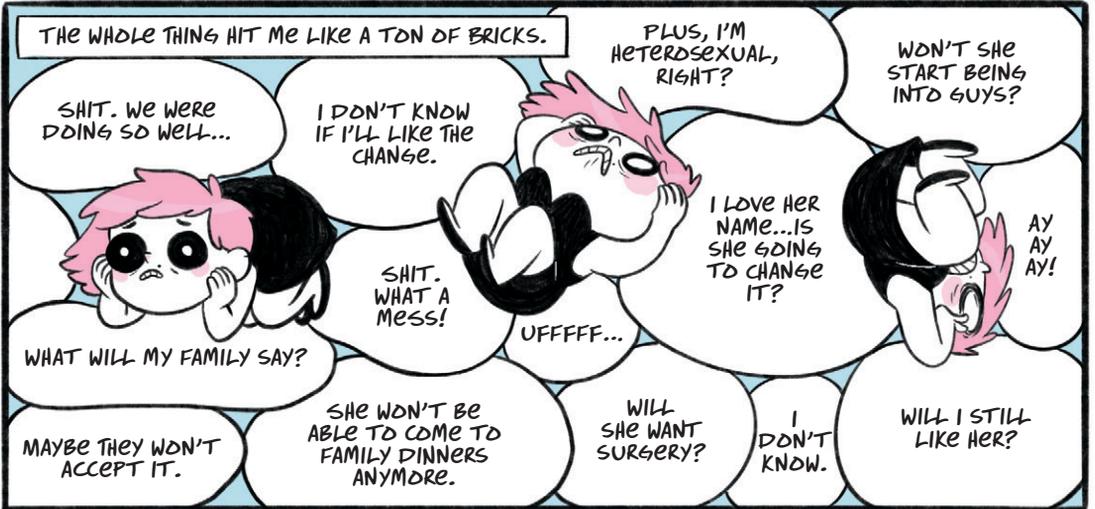


S...SARA? WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

HELLO?



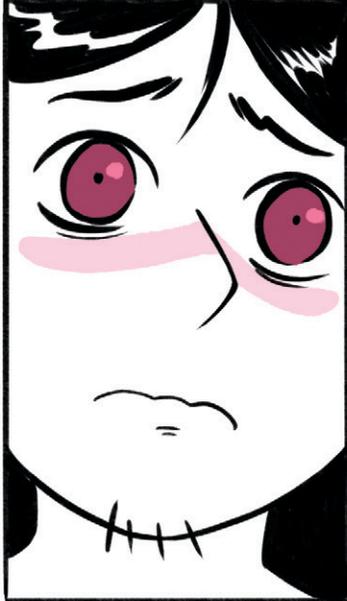








DIANA HADN'T YET REALIZED IT, BUT THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN HER LIFE THAT SHE SAW A TRANS CHARACTER THAT WASN'T A JOKE OR ECCENTRIC OR BAD. SHE WAS JUST A RANDOM REGULAR PERSON.







FUCK THAT! WHAT THE HELL KIND OF BULLSHIT IS THAT?!



I KNOW YOU, AND YOU'RE NO FOOL. IF IT WERE THAT SIMPLE, WHY WOULD YOU CONSIDER CHANGING IN THE MOST COMPLICATED WAY POSSIBLE?!



BEEFING UP AND GROWING A BEARD! WHAT A BUNCH OF CRAP! HER BRILLIANT SOLUTION IS FOR YOU TO BECOME A LUMBERJACK?!

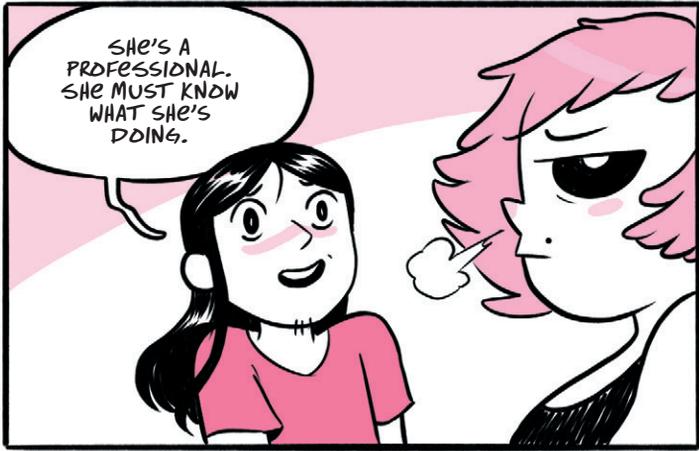


ARE WE OUT OF OUR MINDS?!



DID SHE WIN A PSYCHOLOGY DEGREE IN THE LOTTERY?!

YEAH, WELL...



SHE'S A PROFESSIONAL. SHE MUST KNOW WHAT SHE'S DOING.

SPOILER: SHE DIDN'T. SHE WAS LOOKING FOR EXCUSES TO KEEP THE POSSIBILITY OF DIANA'S TRANSGENDERNESS OUT OF THE EQUATION. SHE WAS UNINFORMED. SHE'D NEVER STUDIED GENDER OR IDENTITY ISSUES. IT WAS LIKE ASKING AN OPHTHALMOLOGIST TO DO OPEN HEART SURGERY.

THEY'RE BOTH DOCTORS, RIGHT?



NEITHER OF US KNEW WHAT TO DO OR HOW TO REACT.  
AFTER THAT INITIAL EMOTIONAL KNOCKOUT,  
WE'D BOTH REALIZED WHAT WAS HAPPENING,  
AND REALITY HIT US HARD.



OUR  
RELATIONSHIP,  
SOMETHING WE'D  
TAKEN AS A  
FIXED POINT IN  
SPACE-TIME, WAS  
SPIRALING OUT  
OF CONTROL.



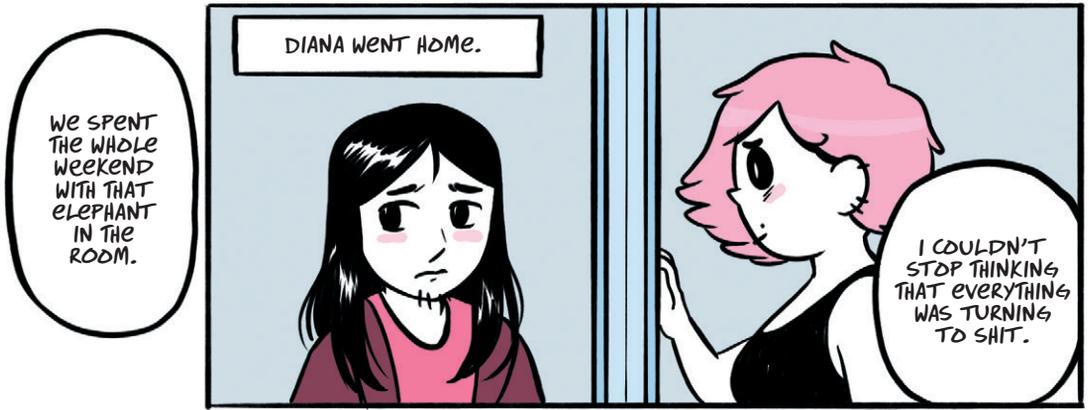
WITH THINGS AS  
THEY ARE... I THINK  
WE SHOULD HAVE A  
QUIET WEEKEND.

AND SEE  
HOW THINGS  
GO.

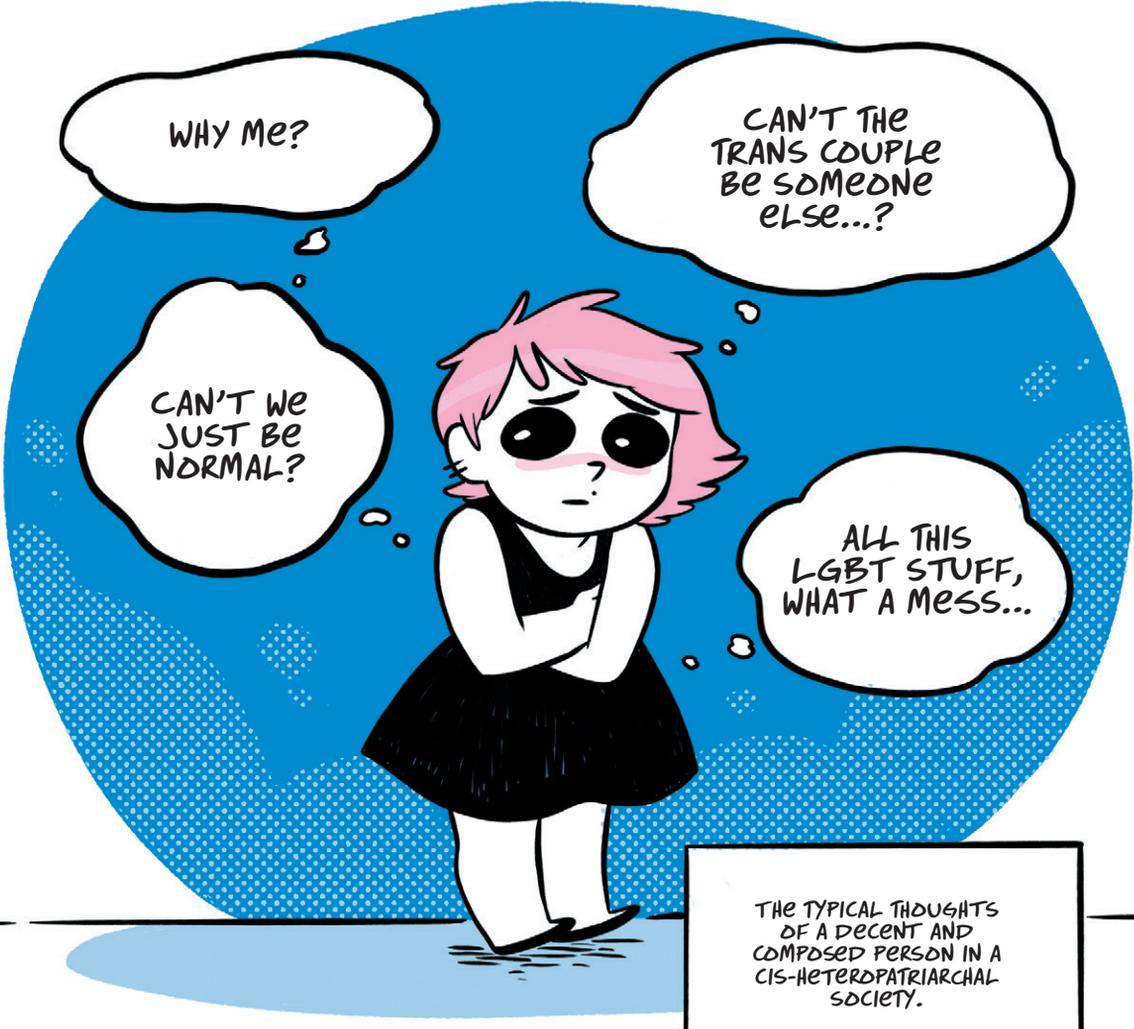
OKAY?

OKAY.





OVER THE NEXT TWO WEEKS BEFORE WE SAW EACH OTHER AGAIN, LOTS OF STUFF WENT THROUGH MY MIND. SOME REALLY UGLY STUFF THAT I'M NOT PROUD OF.



the oddly pedestrian life of  
**CHRISTOPHER  
CHAOS™**



Tynion Brombal Goodhart  
Muerto Bidikar

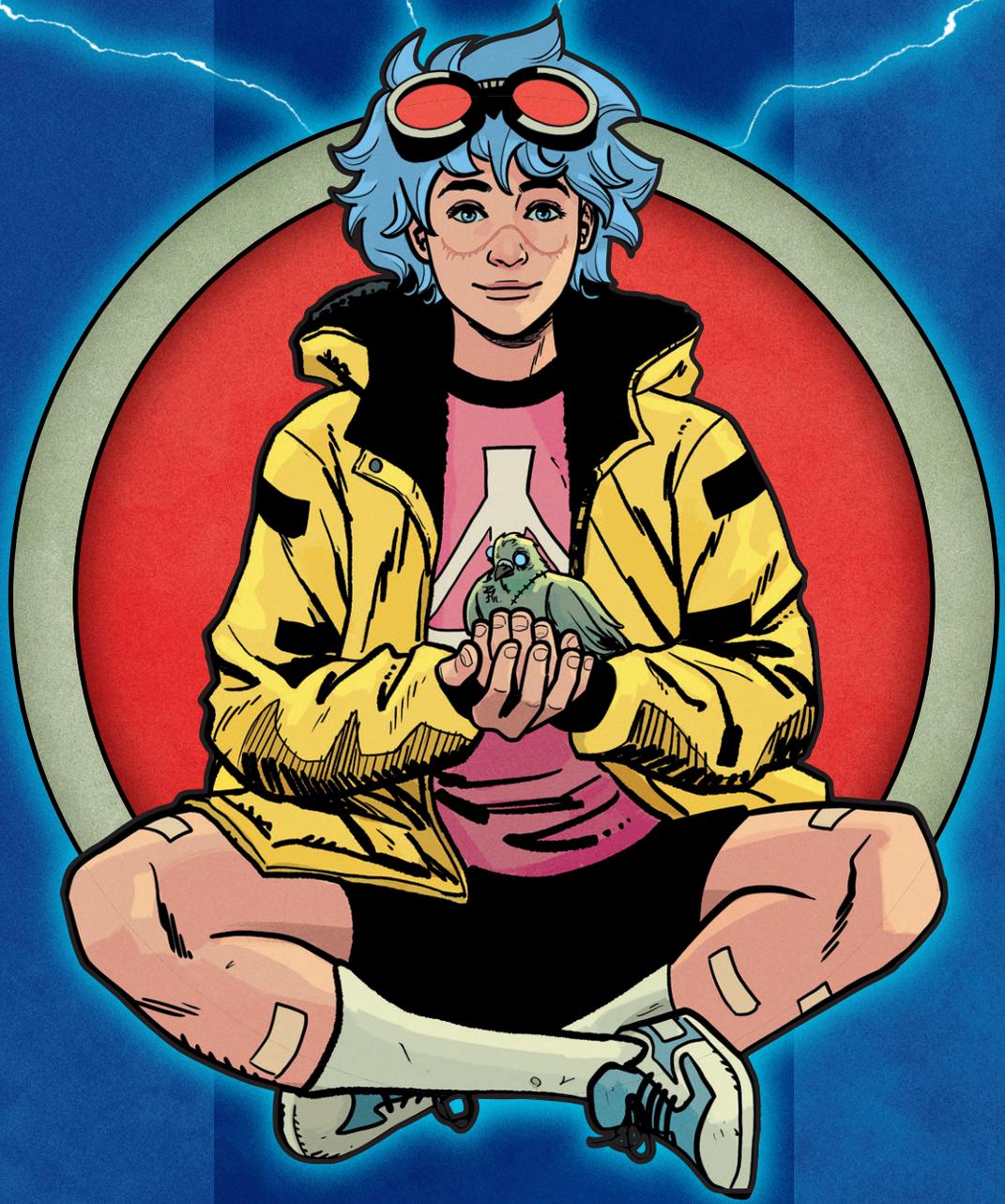


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the oddly pedestrian life of  
**CHRISTOPHER  
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CHAOS™**

Volume 1

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# Prologue



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**NEW BRIAR CITY.**  
*Night of the Full Moon.*

Where do I begin?

That stormy night, or far earlier?

takaTAKKt  
tkktAKKtktakata

It is my third attempt at this letter, as others found their end in ashes, and ashes they shall remain--I checked.

It appears I only write to you in my depths...

...when all is destitute of hope and the very end seems within grasp...

Is that where I have found myself? At an end?

TAKtakaTAK  
tAKTAKATA

Then, where do I begin?





ding ding!

BUENAS...



JUST TUNING IN, REPORTS OF WOLF ACTIVITY ONLY SEEM TO BE

hola...



EXPERTS SAY THE STORM FROM OUR EASTERN WOODS, SO PLEASE KEEP YOUR CATS AND DOGS INDOORS

AY, LUÍS, NO MÁS VISITAS A TU NOVI--



--OH!

--EL CLIMA ES DANCE, DANCE, IF YOU GOOOAL!--



I am not the man  
I once was...



My story has grown long  
and tired and my bones  
ache. I rarely sleep,  
though nightmares  
persist.



How many have I  
lost, while this  
life endures?



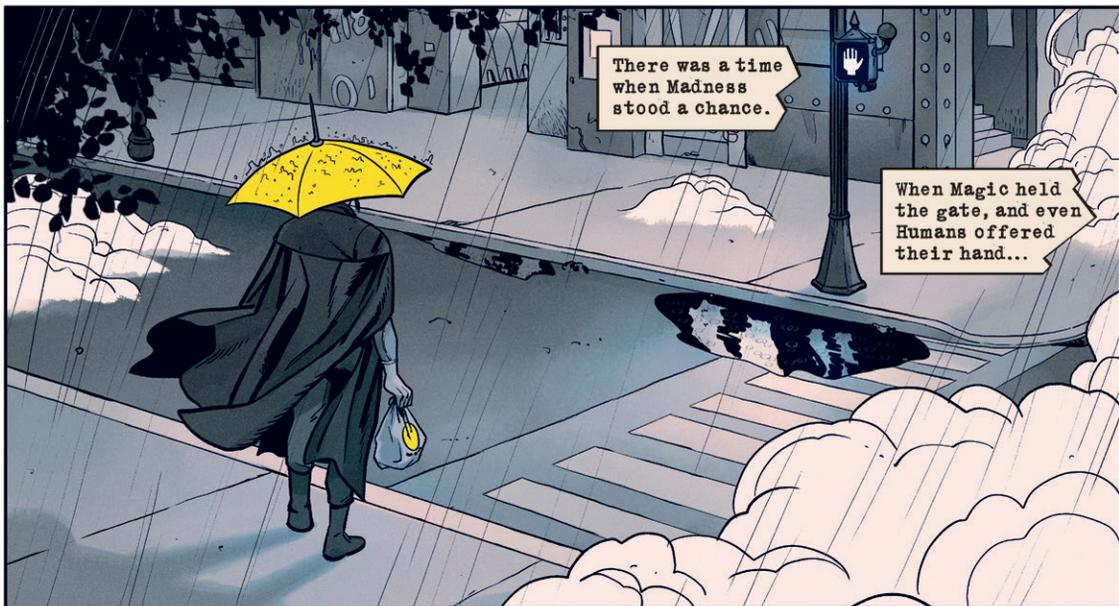
Though the dead may not  
stay dead, if they ever  
died--you know this.





And yet, there was a time when I fought back.

I waged wars and brokered peace... brought fire to these barren lands.



There was a time when Madness stood a chance.

When Magic held the gate, and even Humans offered their hand...



...And there was a time when my people entrusted me with their lives.

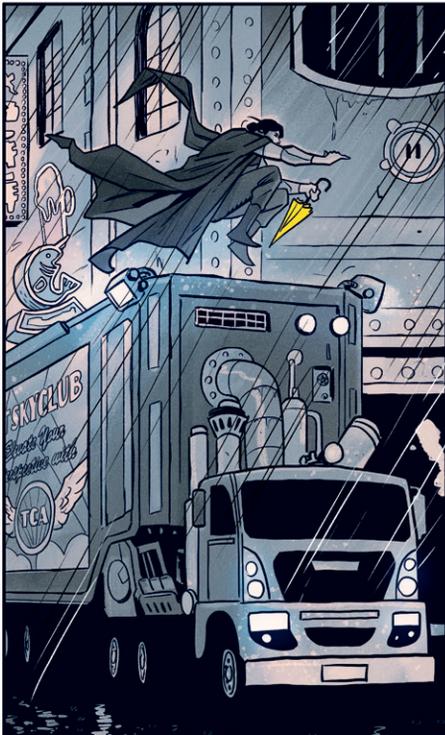
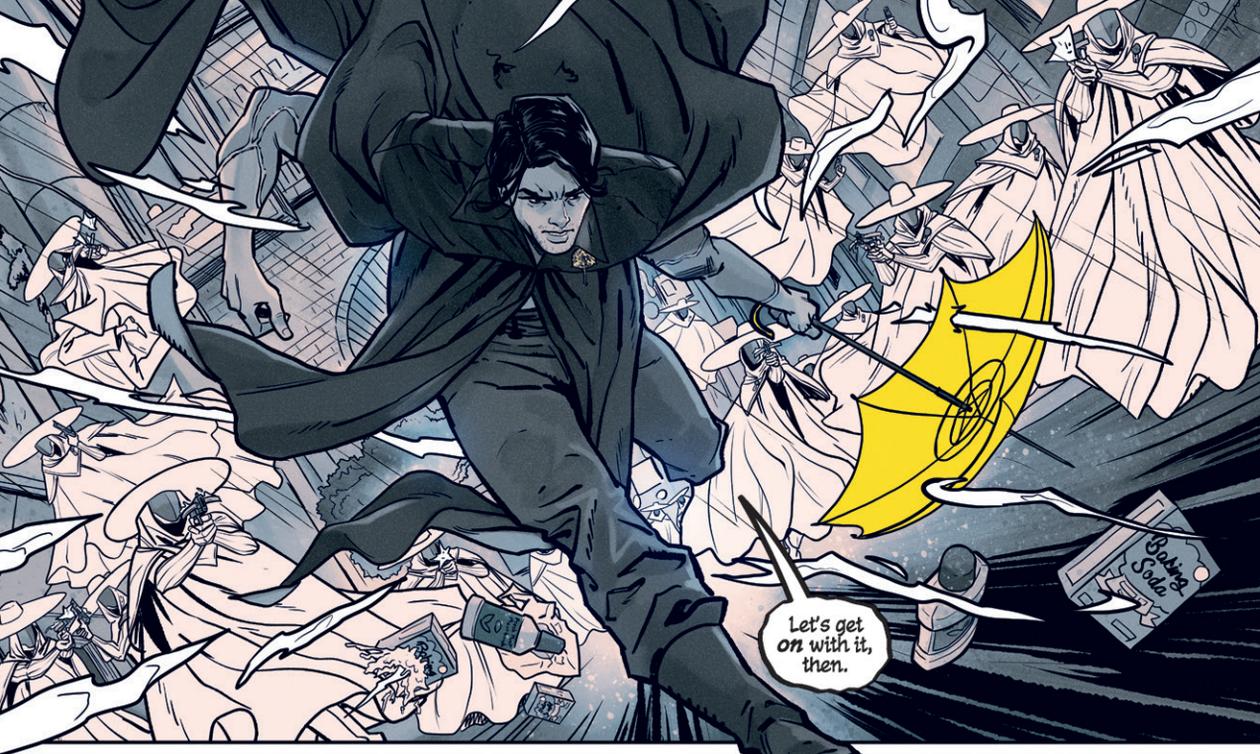
But those days have turned to dust--

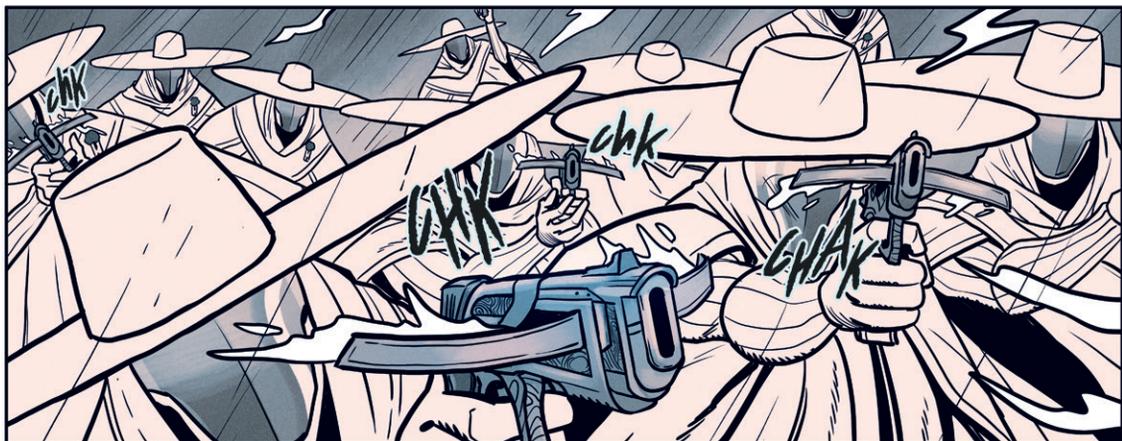


--while this night still bears the wretched scent of garlic on wet autumn winds.









I began as  
an idea--



--forged  
to live  
ever after.



Against  
my will.



Against my  
very flesh.



Is that why I write, Father?



So not your will, but mine, be done?

Yes...YES! Were you not the first to teach me that the hated are buried in the stories of their victors?



Let this be my small victory, then...

For this letter--my third in as many centuries--contains knowledge you desire but shall never possess.

And in your ignorance, my story shall never end.

So, fear the dark, Father. Light a candle for your dread.

The dead will not stay dead, if they ever died--I know this.



Because I once dreamed an extraordinary world...



...Now all I have is ashes.



And yet, I write on...



# Chapter One



Reales 2022







SOMETIMES I THINK I'M REALLY FUCKED UP IN THE HEAD.

AND I DON'T EVEN LIKE TO SWEAR.



BUT HALF THE THINGS I SEE CAN'T BE REAL, AND THE OTHER HALF--

WELL, THAT'S WHY I'M GLAD YOU'RE HERE...



I-I'VE JUST WITNESSED SOMETHING HORRIBLE THAT SAVED MY LIFE AND DOOMED ME, ALL THE SAME.



NOW I'M TRAPPED IN SOME UNSOLVABLE EQUATION WITH NOWHERE ELSE TO TURN...

SO I GUESS I'M ASKING--WILL YOU HELP ME?



cha-xx



N-NO--



chakk  
chakk



NO!

SHUT UP!

SHUT UP!

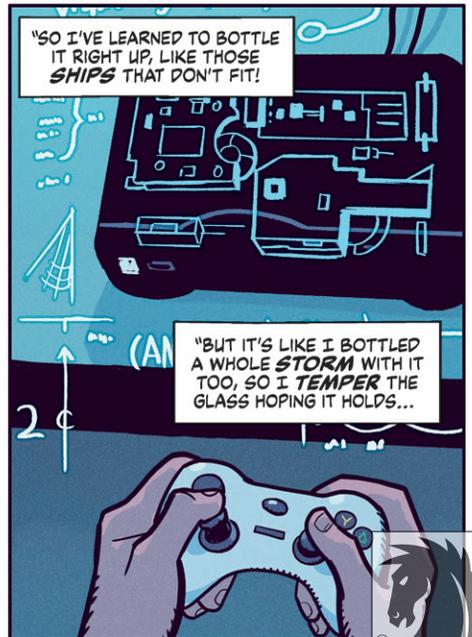
SHUT UP!

SHUT--



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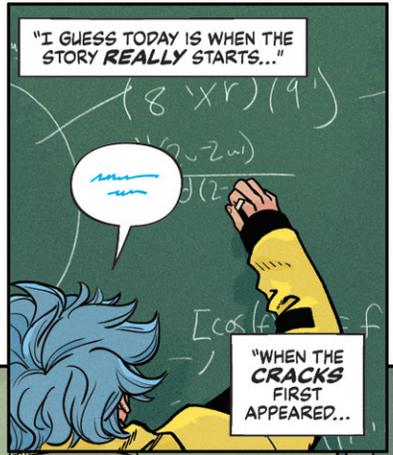


"...ABOUT HOW **GOOD** IT FEELS WHEN I LET IT ALL **OUT**."

mm  
mm



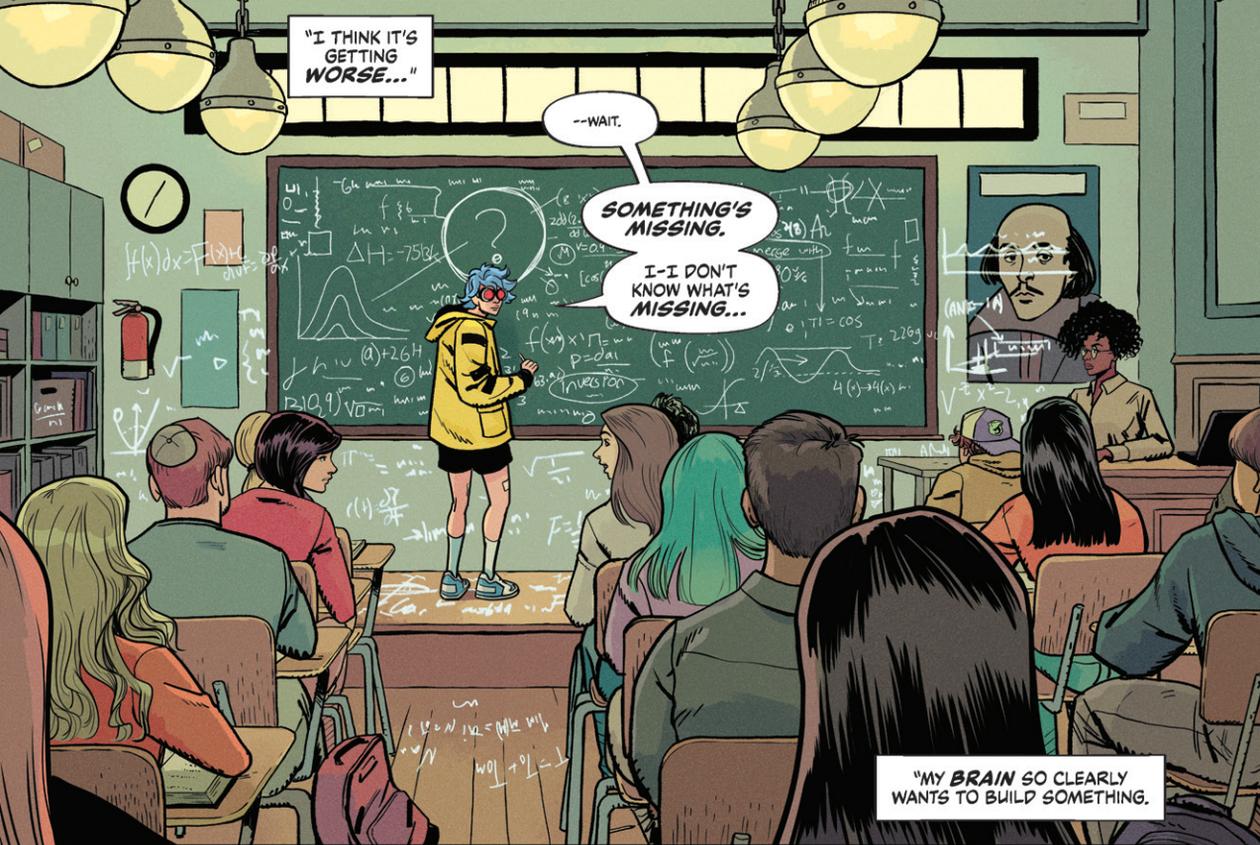
mm  
mm  
**NEUTRALIZE THE**



"I GUESS TODAY IS WHEN THE STORY **REALLY** STARTS..."

mm  
mm

"WHEN THE **CRACKS** FIRST APPEARED..."



"I THINK IT'S GETTING **WORSE**..."

--WAIT.

**SOMETHING'S MISSING.**

I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S **MISSING**...

"MY **BRAIN** SO CLEARLY WANTS TO BUILD SOMETHING."



"BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT."

I'M SORRY.  
IT HAPPENED AGAIN, DIDN'T IT?



TH-THAT'S OKAY, CHRISTOPHER!

IT--IT WASN'T **HAMLET**, BUT EVERYONE PLEASE GIVE A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR THAT WONDERFUL... **SOLILOQUY!**





ANYBODY ELSE WANT TO GIVE IT A TRY?



REAL SUBTLE, CHAOS.

HAYDEN?

HOW ABOUT YOU?



DOES OUR ROMEO WANT TO TAKE A CRACK AT IT?

'COURSE, Ms. CLARKE.

I FIRST PERFORMED THIS MONOLOGUE AT A TALENT SHOW IN THE SECOND GRADE.



WHY?

WHY CAN'T I JUST BE--



--NORMAL?

I'M SORRY. YOU'RE BEING SO PATIENT WITH ME.

BUT THE TRUTH IS THAT WITHOUT YOU...



I THINK  
I'D BE GOING  
ENTIRELY  
*INSANE.*



COO?



"I WAS SO LOST IN MY HEAD THAT HOURS PASSED AND I FOUND MYSELF NEAR THE WOODS MOM ALWAYS WARNED ME ABOUT.

"BUT I-I COULDN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT HOW HAYDEN LOOKED AT ME IN CLASS EARLIER...

"AT FIRST, I THOUGHT HE WAS JUST ANNOYED, BUT I THINK IT WAS MORE, I THINK IT WAS...*SHAME?*

"LIKE HE WAS *EMBARRASSED* BY ME?"

"BUT HE WAS *HAYDEN*, HE'S--HE'S...

"...HE WAS STANDING RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME, NOT FORTY YARDS AWAY.

"AND PART OF ME SCREAMED TO *RUN*, TO LEAVE HIM ALONE.

"BUT HE LOOKED *SCARED*."

"LIKE HE WAS BEING *FOLLOWED* OR WAS ABOUT TO DO SOMETHING... *DANGEROUS*."

"IF ONLY I  
KNEW THEN  
WHAT I  
KNOW NOW."

H-HAYDEN?

IT--IT'S  
CHRISTOPHER...

EVERYTHING  
OKAY?

A-ARE YOU  
MEETING  
SOMEONE,  
OR--

I DON'T  
THINK THESE  
WOODS ARE  
EXACTLY *SAFE*  
AT NIGHT,  
HAYDEN!

YOU KNOW,  
TH--THERE HAVE  
BEEN SOME  
VERY RECENT  
SIGHTINGS OF  
COYOTES AND  
WILD--



aaa-

WOOOOOOOOO

--WOLVES?!



HAYDEN?

YOU'RE--  
YOU'RE--



brrrrr

RAAOR!



WAIT--  
WAIT--  
WAIT--!







hrr  
hrr  
hrr

Grrr...



...P-PLEASE,  
WHOEVER YOU  
ARE, DON'T  
DO THIS.

I'VE DONE  
NOTHING WRONG,  
I SWEAR, I'M  
JUST A--



NO...

HAYDEN--



CHAK...



CHAK



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"AND THEN..."

"AND THEN I..."

"...I RAN."





I RAN HOME TO MY MOTHER.



EXCEPT... SHE'D ALREADY HEARD SOME NEWS OF HER OWN.

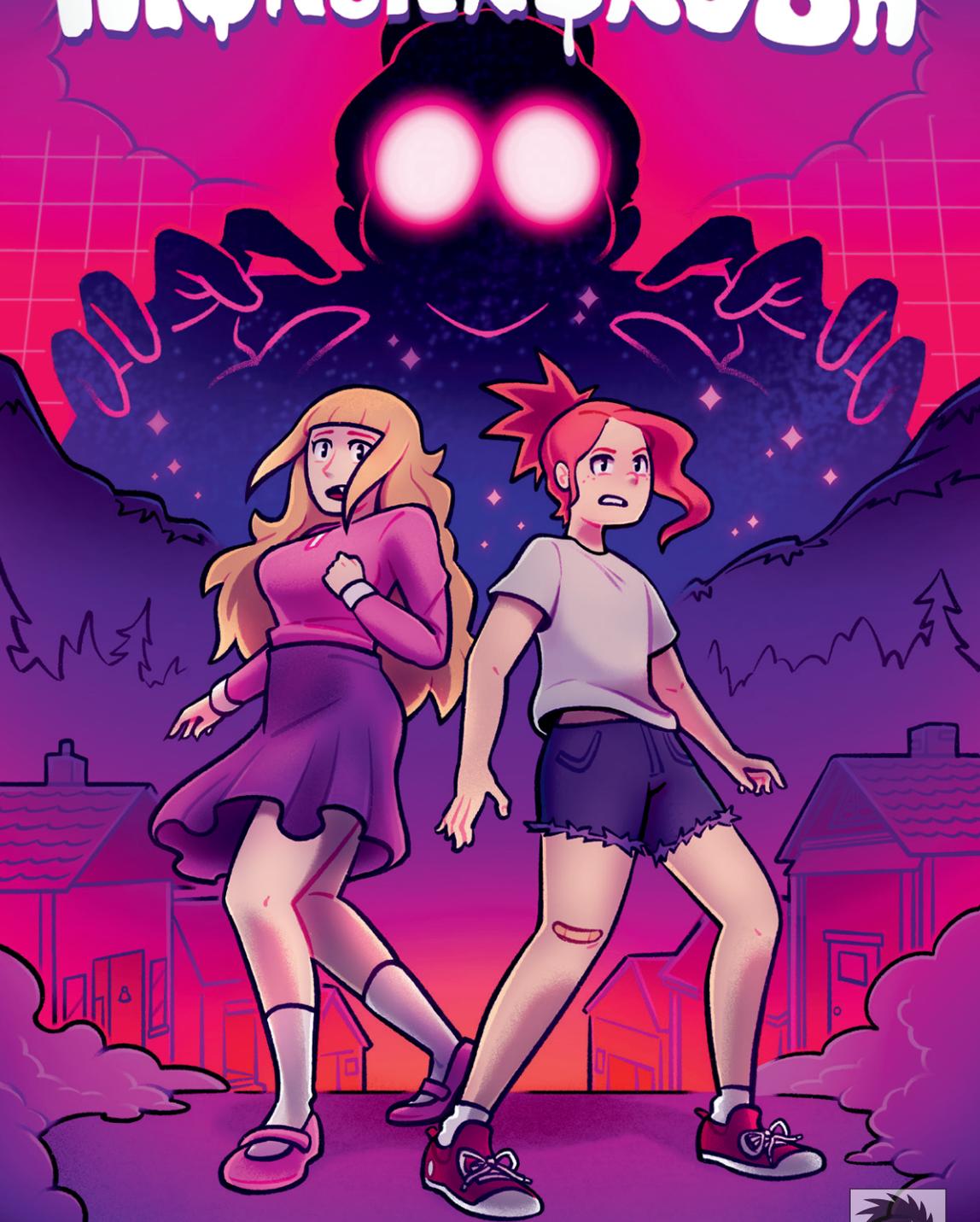


--OF WOLVES THIS FAR INTO THE URBAN CENTER IS UNUSUAL BUT NOT IMPOSSIBLE.

WE ASK EVERYONE TO STAY SAFE INDOORS AS MEASURES ARE TAKEN TO CONTROL SUCH BEASTS...

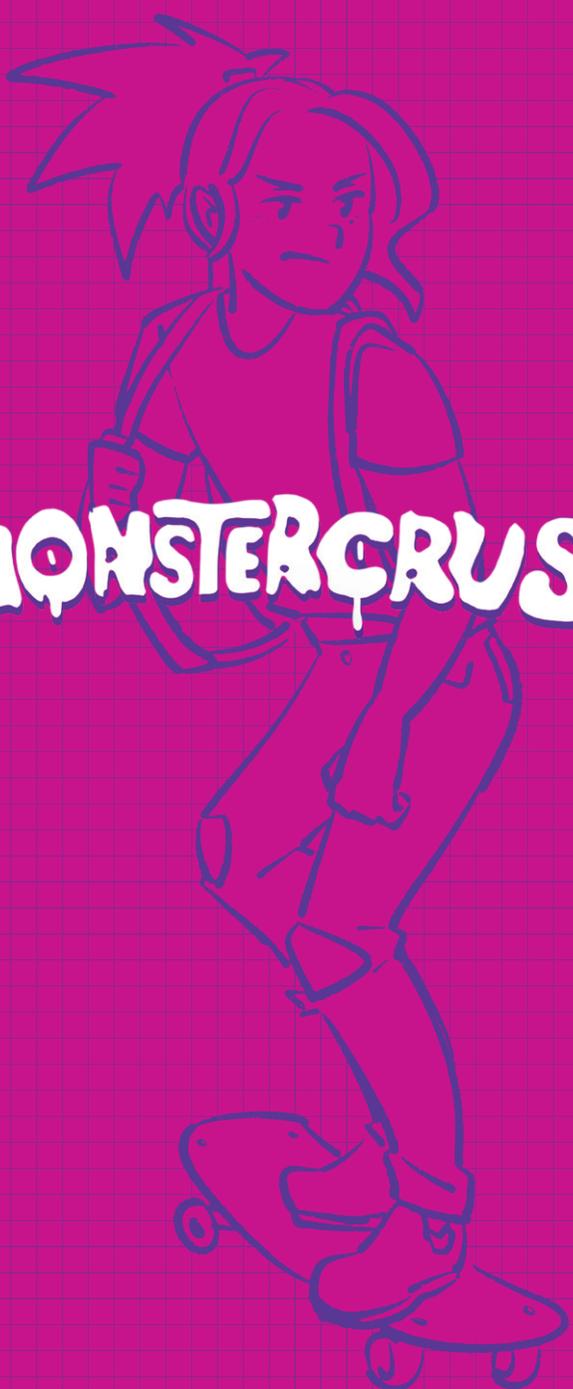


# MONSTER CRUSH™



ERIN ELLIE FRANEY





# MONSTERCRUSH™



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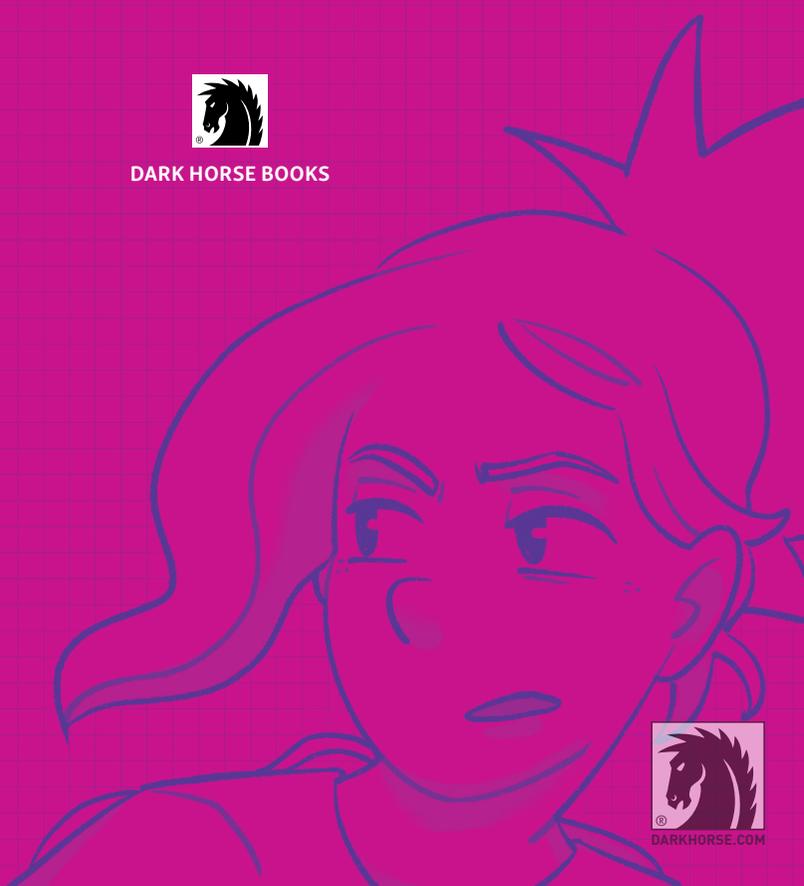


# MONSTERCRUSH™

BY  
ERIN ELLIE FRANNEY



DARK HORSE BOOKS



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*WHEN I WAS A KID, I WAS ALWAYS FASCINATED BY FANTASTICAL CREATURES-- INTRIGUED BY THE UNKNOWN.*

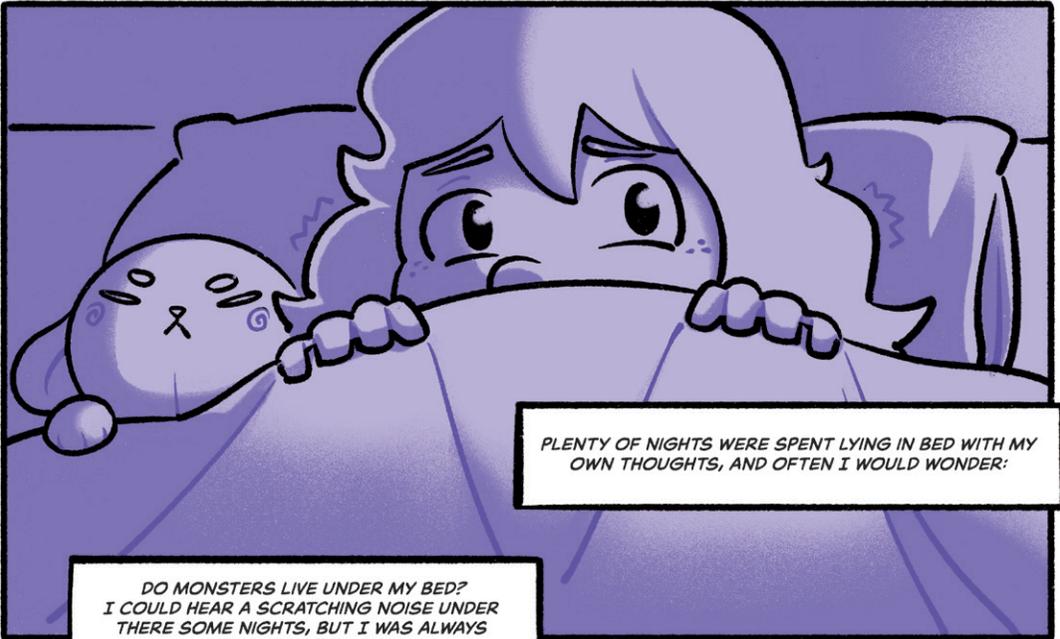


*LIKE ANY OTHER KID, I WAS VERY IMAGINATIVE. TO ME, FAIRY TALES AND FOLKLORE STORIES WERE AS REAL AS ANYTHING ELSE.*



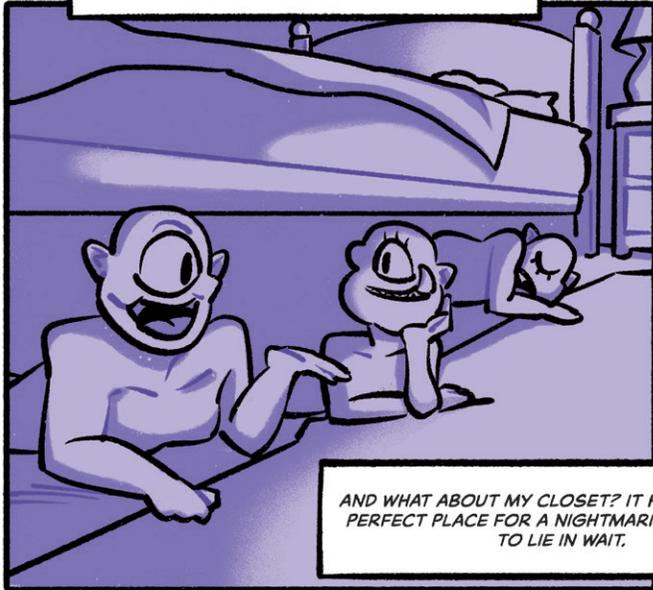
*I WAS PROBABLY TOO IMAGINATIVE FOR MY OWN GOOD, SINCE ANY LITTLE BUMP IN THE NIGHT WAS ENOUGH TO KEEP ME AWAKE.*





PLENTY OF NIGHTS WERE SPENT LYING IN BED WITH MY OWN THOUGHTS, AND OFTEN I WOULD WONDER:

DO MONSTERS LIVE UNDER MY BED? I COULD HEAR A SCRATCHING NOISE UNDER THERE SOME NIGHTS, BUT I WAS ALWAYS TOO AFRAID TO LOOK.

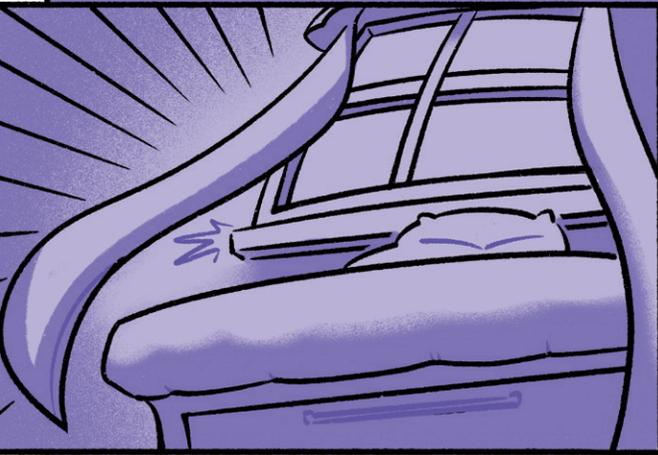


AND WHAT ABOUT MY CLOSET? IT HAD TO BE THE PERFECT PLACE FOR A NIGHTMARISH CREATURE TO LIE IN WAIT.

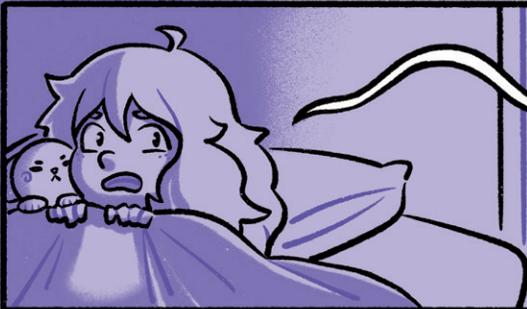


PERHAPS WHAT SCARED ME THE MOST WAS THE DARKEST CORNER OF MY BEDROOM. I SWEAR I COULD SEE A SHADY FIGURE WHENEVER I FELT BRAVE ENOUGH TO SQUINT AT IT.





**SLAM**



**M-MOMMY!  
DADDY!**

**I HEARD  
A MONSTER!**







NO MONSTERS OVER HERE,  
BUT THIS WINDOW IS KINDA  
LOOSE. WIND GUST MUST'VE  
SLAMMED IT SHUT.

NO MONSTERS  
IN HERE EITHER.



SEE, PUMPKIN?  
YOUR ROOM IS MONSTER-  
FREE, *GUARANTEED*.



YOU HAVE NOTHING  
TO WORRY ABOUT.  
WE PROMISE.



PLUS, YOU HAVE LAMBY TO WATCH OVER YOU.  
AND IF YOU EVER GET SCARED, JUST  
SQUEEZE HIM TIGHT-- HE'LL  
ALWAYS KEEP YOU SAFE.



SAFE  
AS CAN  
BE!



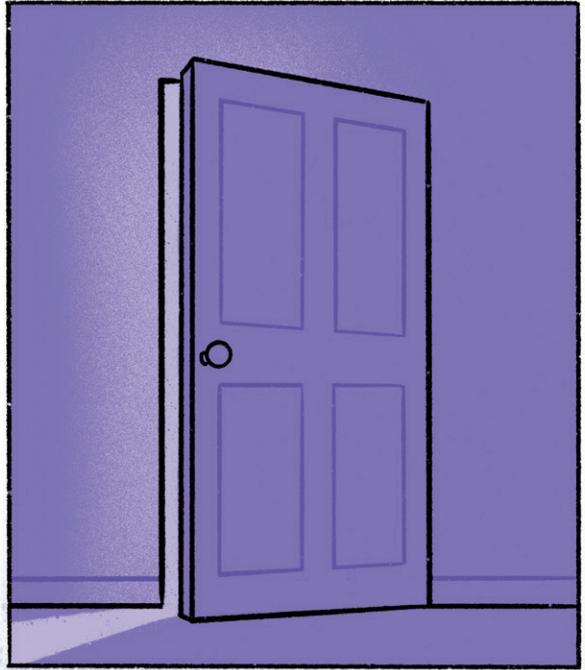
SWEET  
DREAMS,  
RUBY.



NOW THEN,  
LET'S ALL GET SOME  
SLEEP, YEAH? MOMMY  
AND DADDY HAVE TO  
GET UP EARLY.

SLEEP TIGHT,  
PUMPKIN.

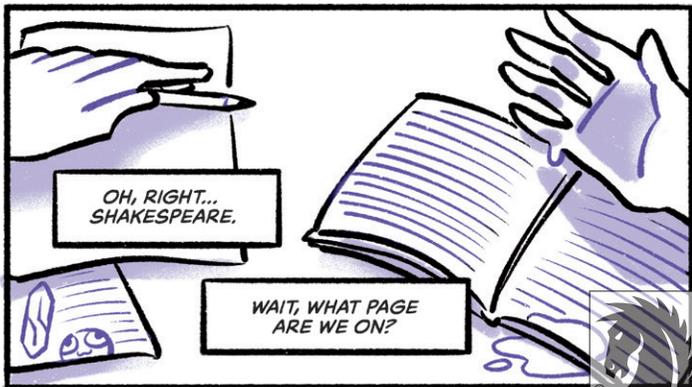
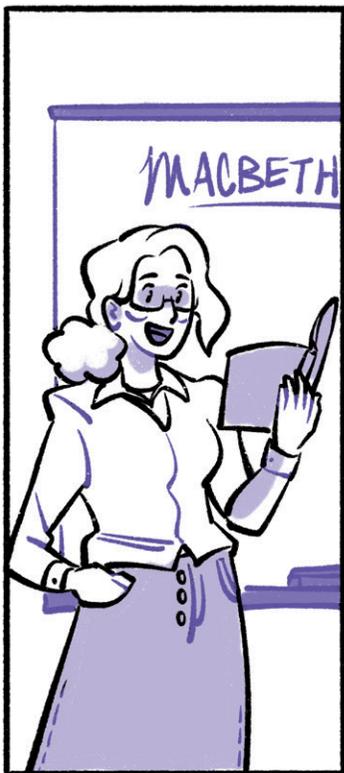
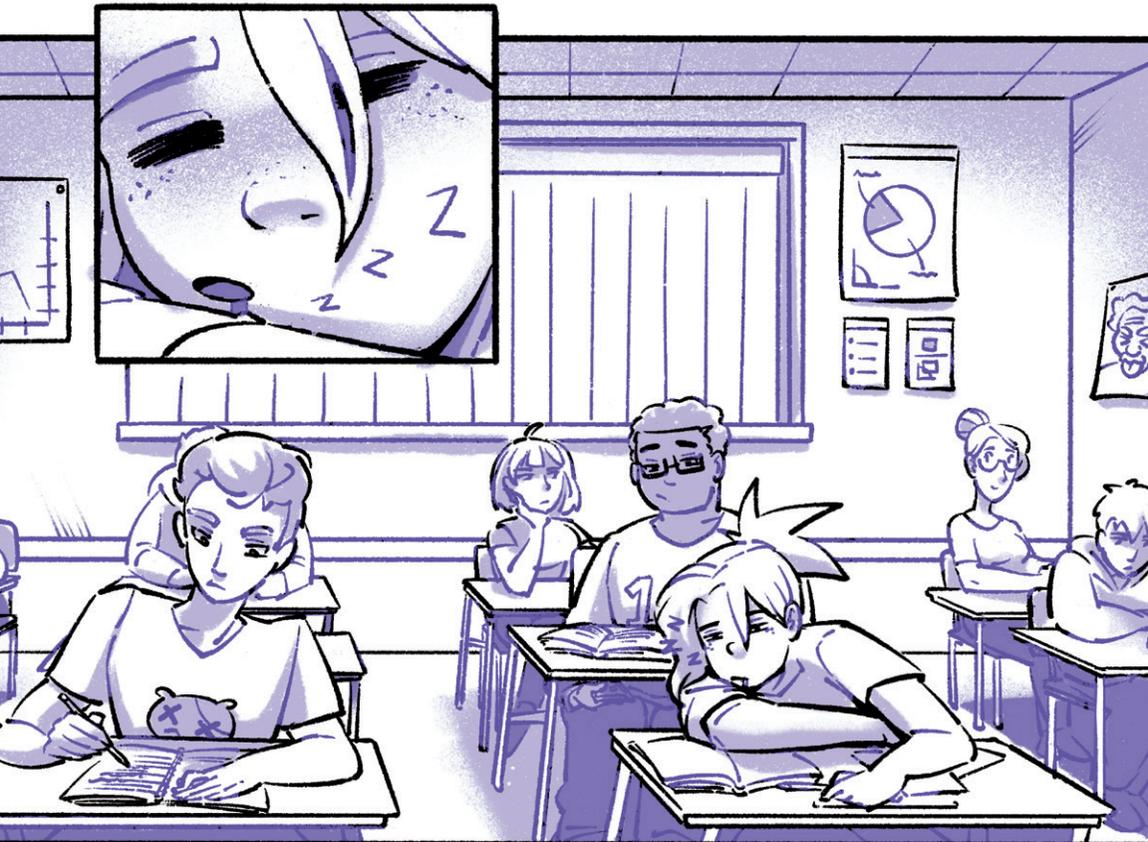




*DESPITE WHAT MY PARENTS TOLD ME, I NEVER REALLY STOPPED BELIEVING. BUT NOWADAYS I STILL WONDER...*



*IF MONSTERS COULD BE REAL... THEN WHERE ARE THEY ALL HIDING?*



DROOL?  
SERIOUSLY, RUBY?!

Shake

Shake

SOMETHING  
WRONG,  
MS. REID?

UM, NOPE.

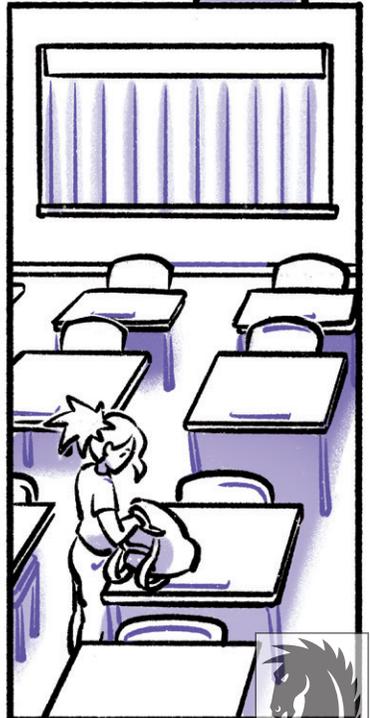
I WAS  
JUST...

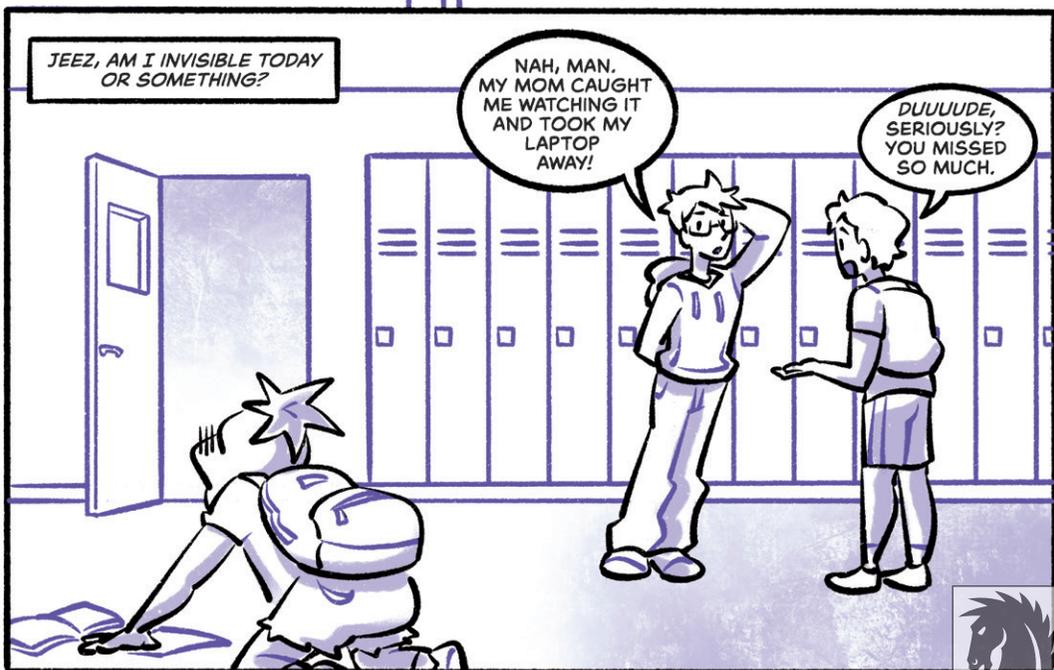
...UH--

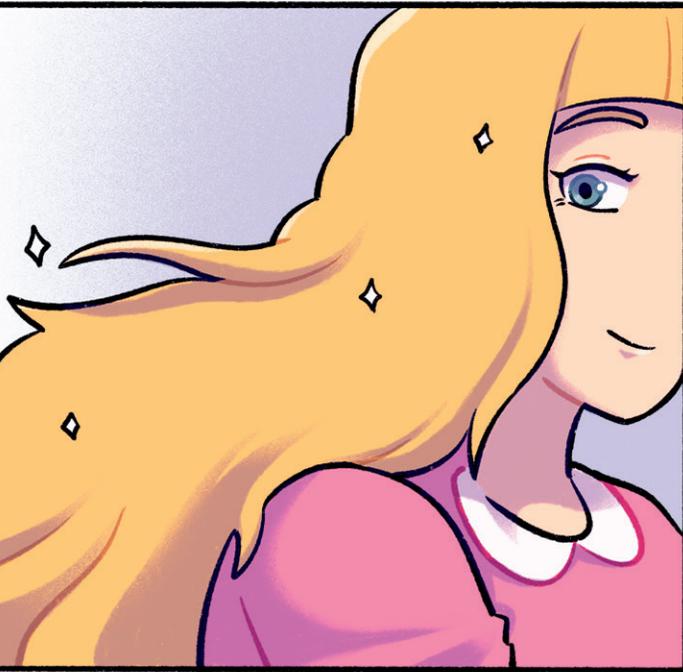
JUST SLEEPING IN MY CLASS?  
YES, I'M WELL AWARE.

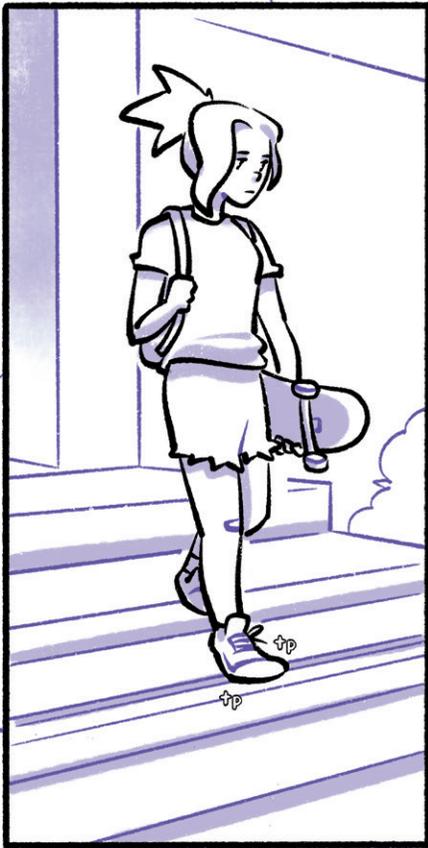
IF YOU HAD BEEN READING ALONG  
WITH US, YOU WOULD KNOW THAT  
POOR KING DUNCAN WAS JUST  
MURDERED IN HIS SLEEP.

I ADVISE THAT YOU STAY AWAKE  
IN MY CLASS, MS. REID. OR YOU CAN  
SLEEPWALK YOUR WAY TO THE  
COUNSELOR'S OFFICE.



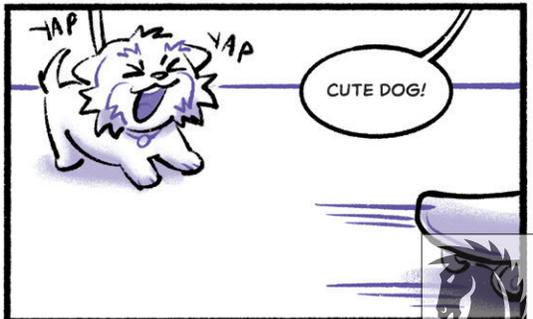
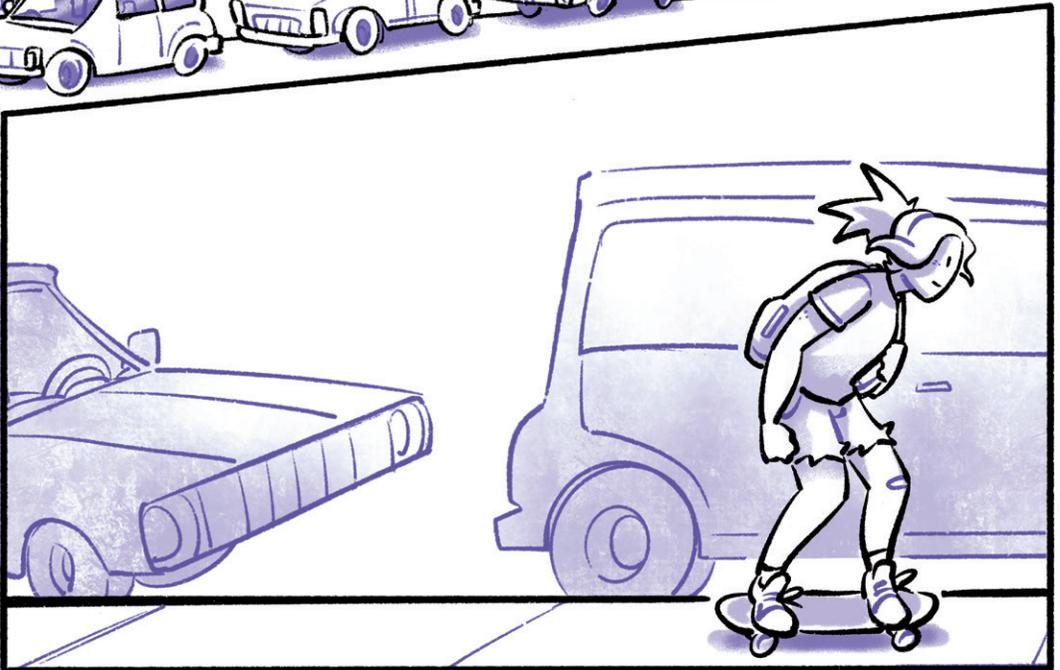
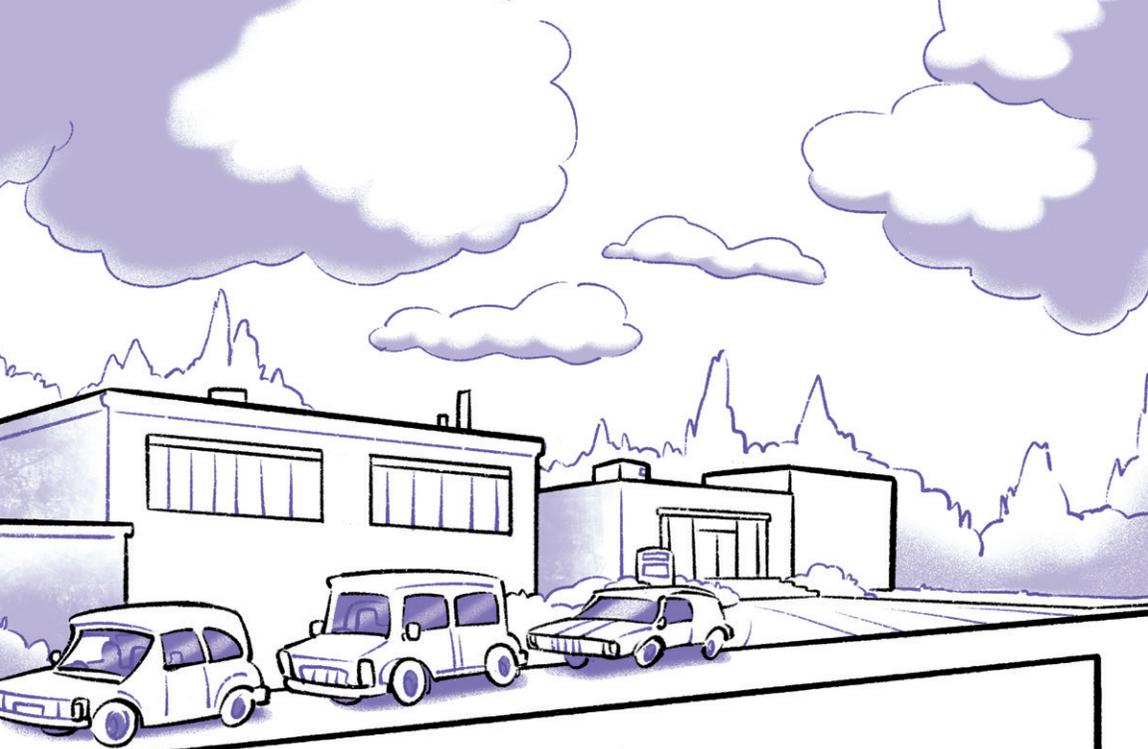


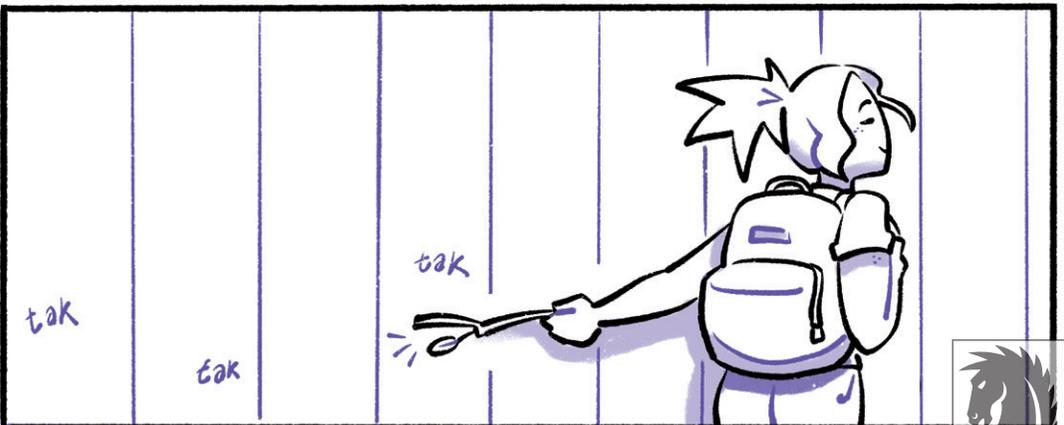
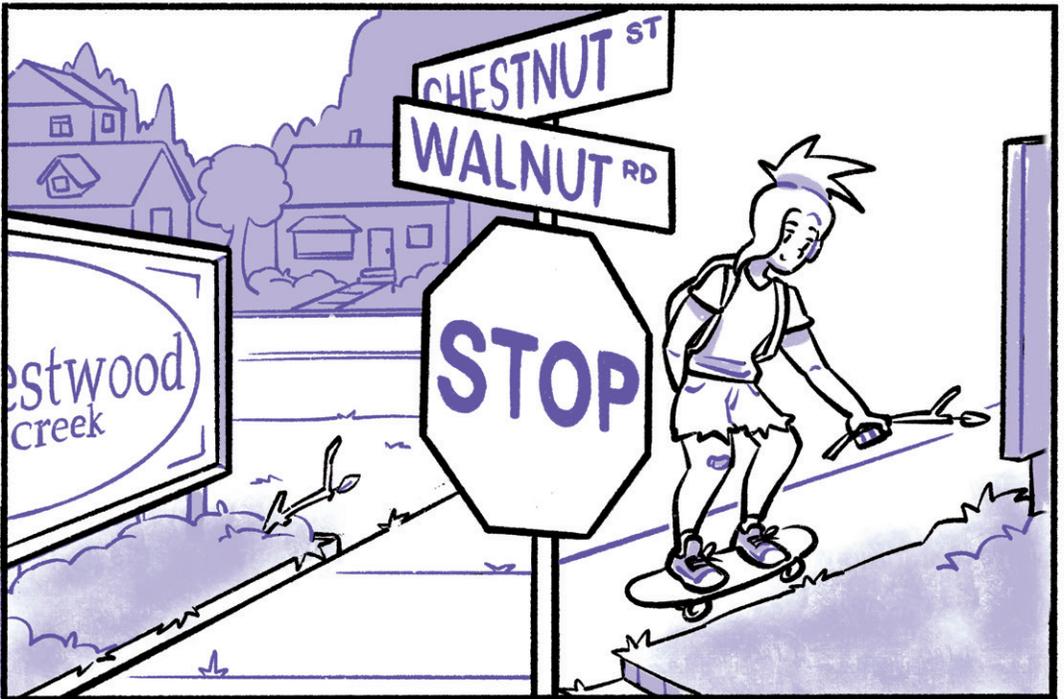




TIME TO GET OUTTA HERE.

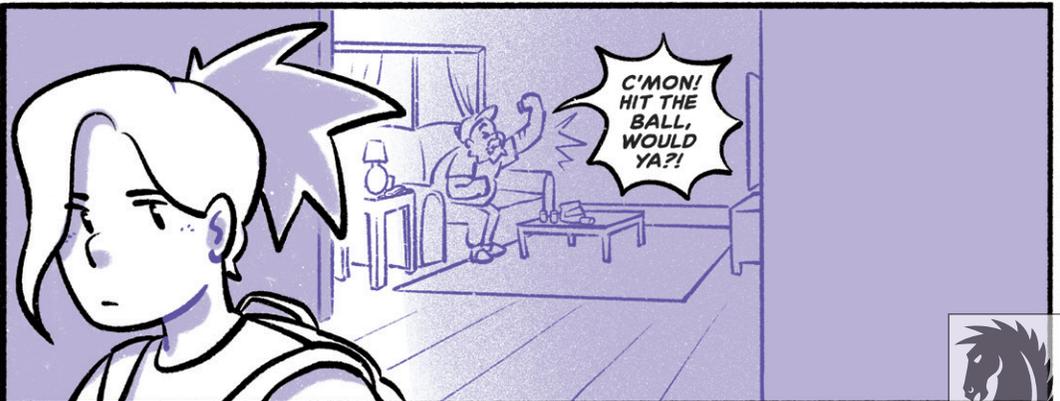
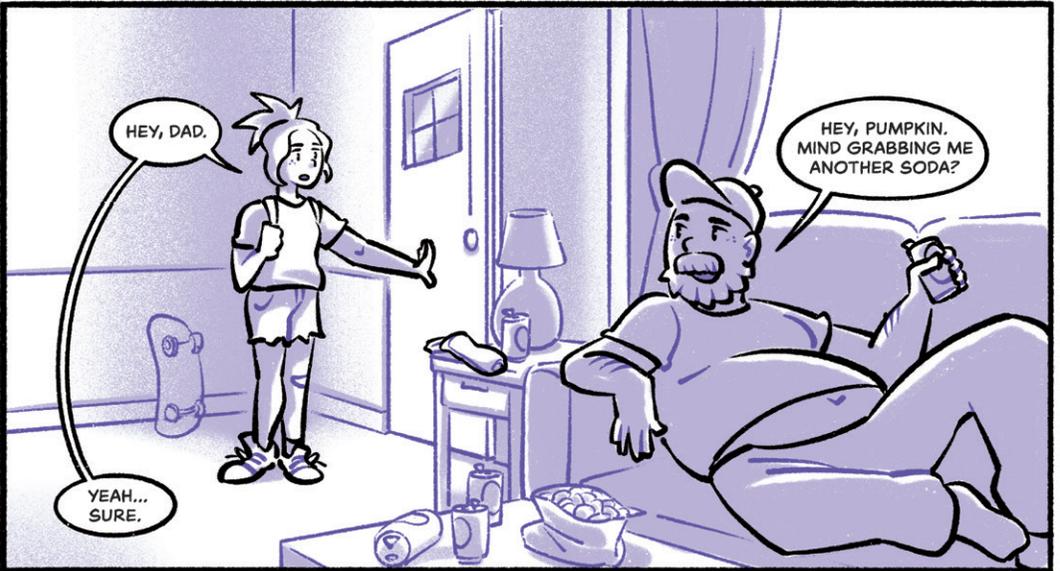


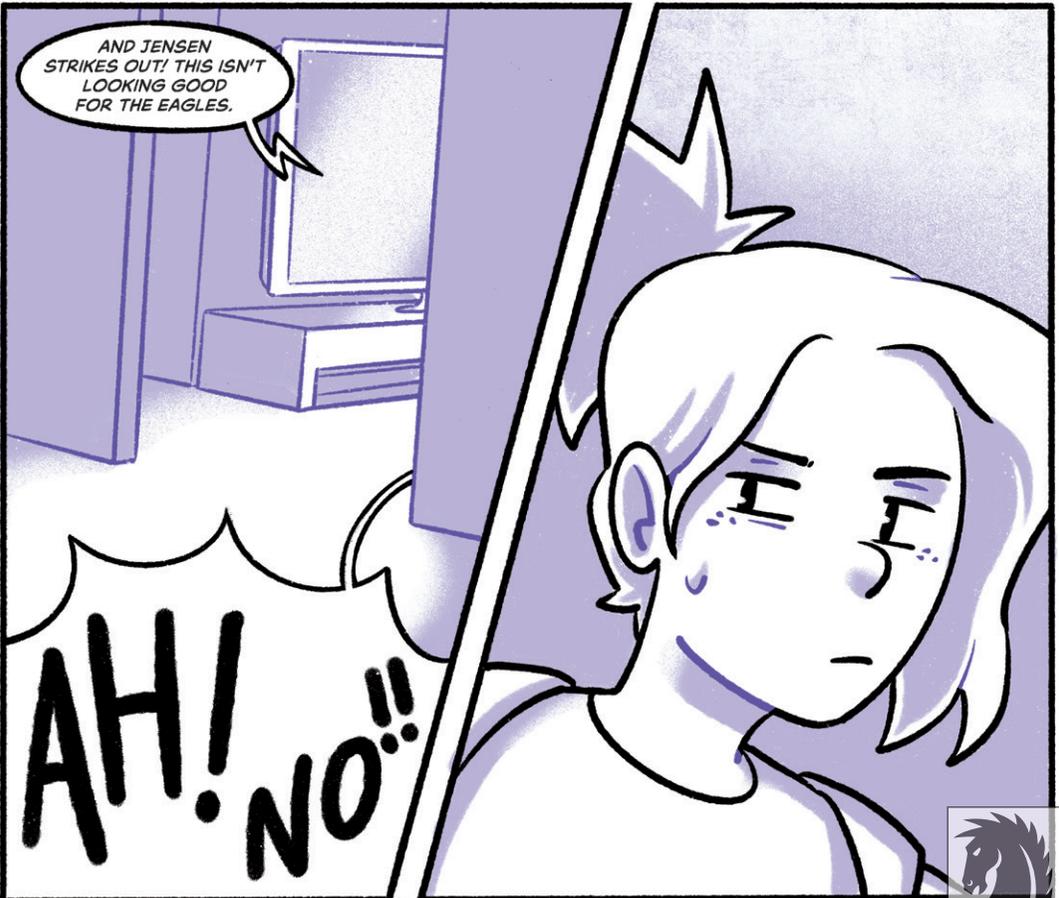
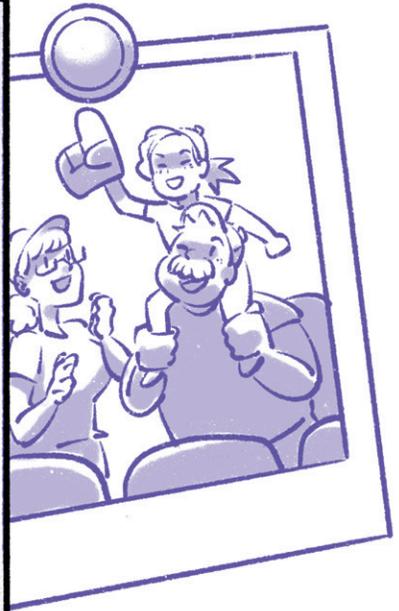
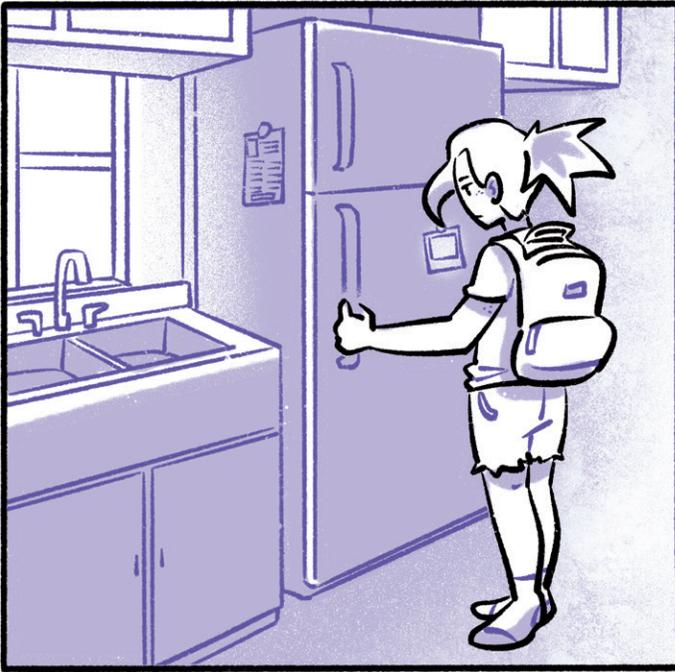




HOME SWEET HOME.







AND JENSEN STRIKES OUT! THIS ISN'T LOOKING GOOD FOR THE EAGLES.

AH! NO!!



