

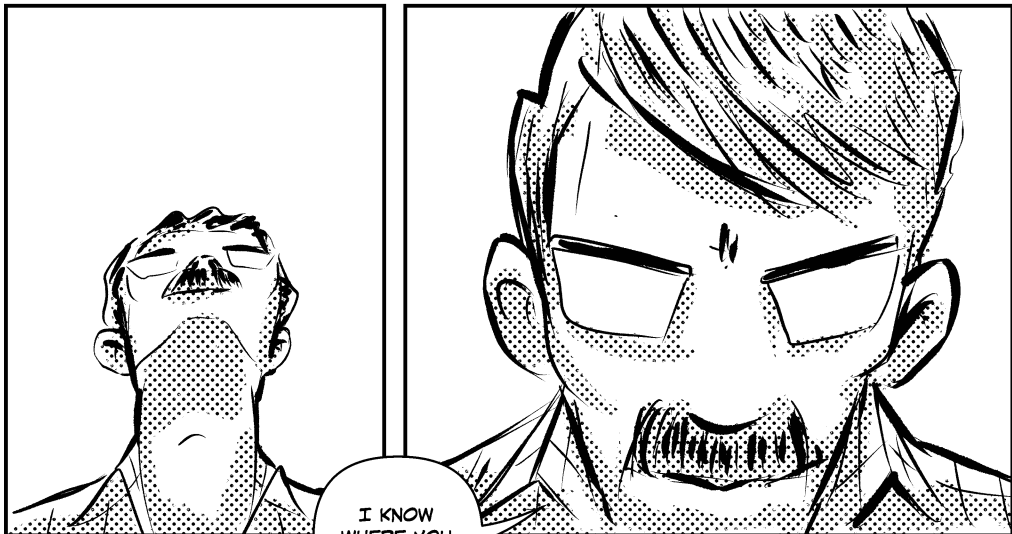


1978.  
SOMEWHERE IN  
EAST GERMANY.

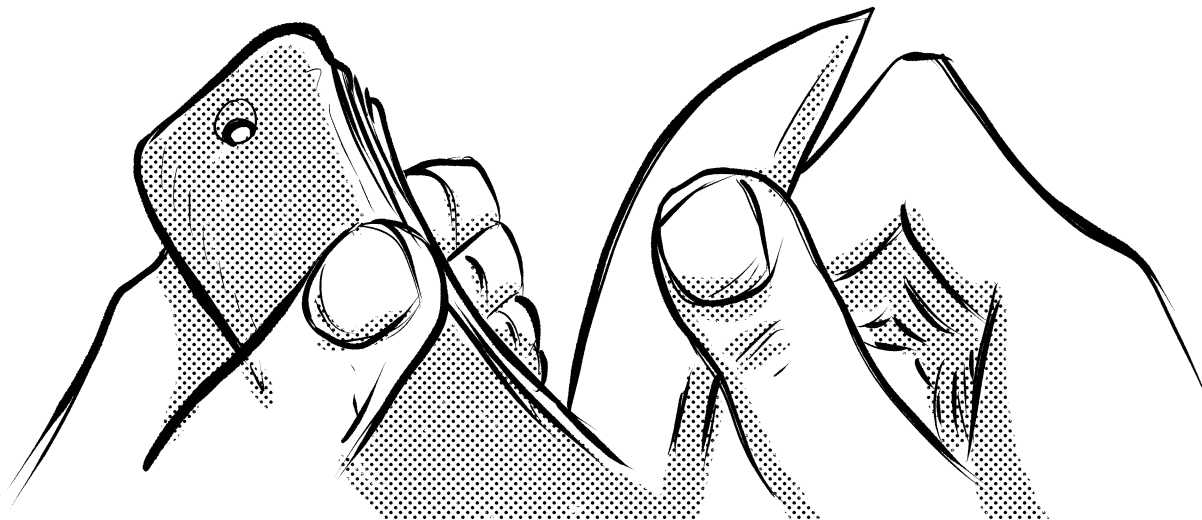
WHERE ARE  
YOU?!

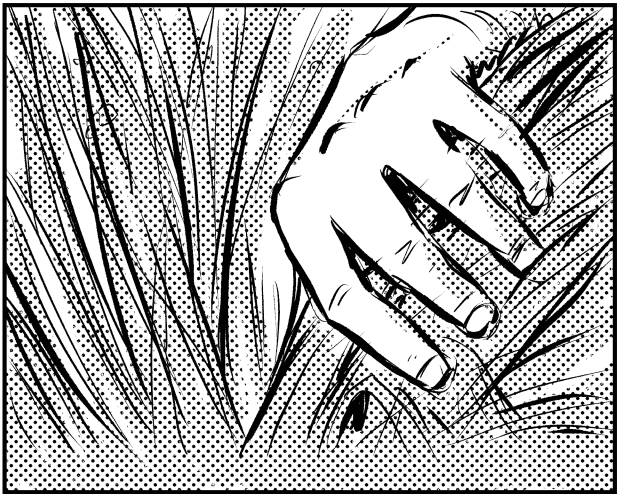
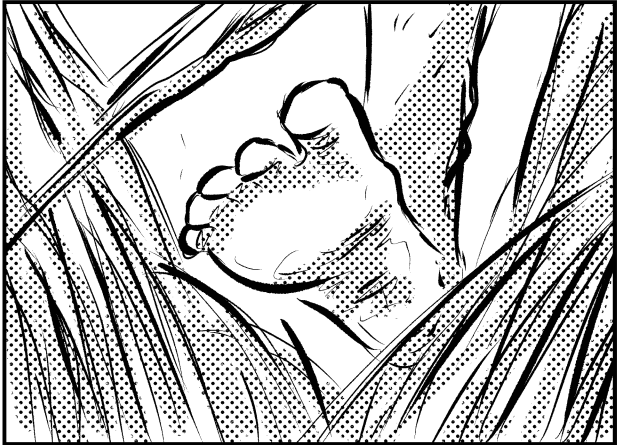
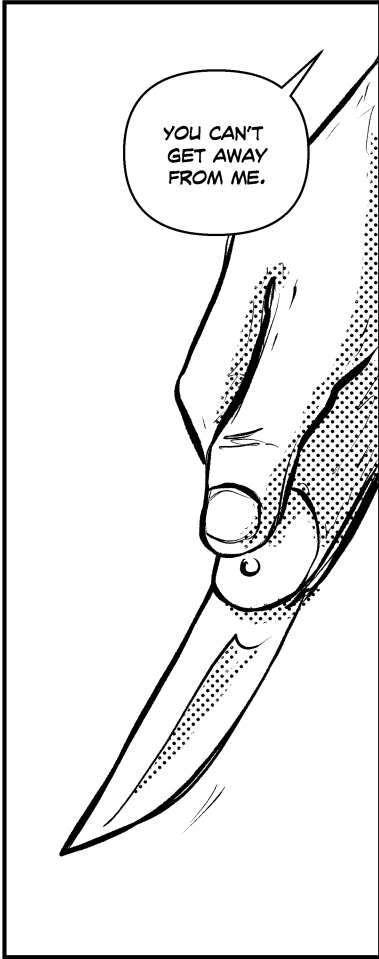


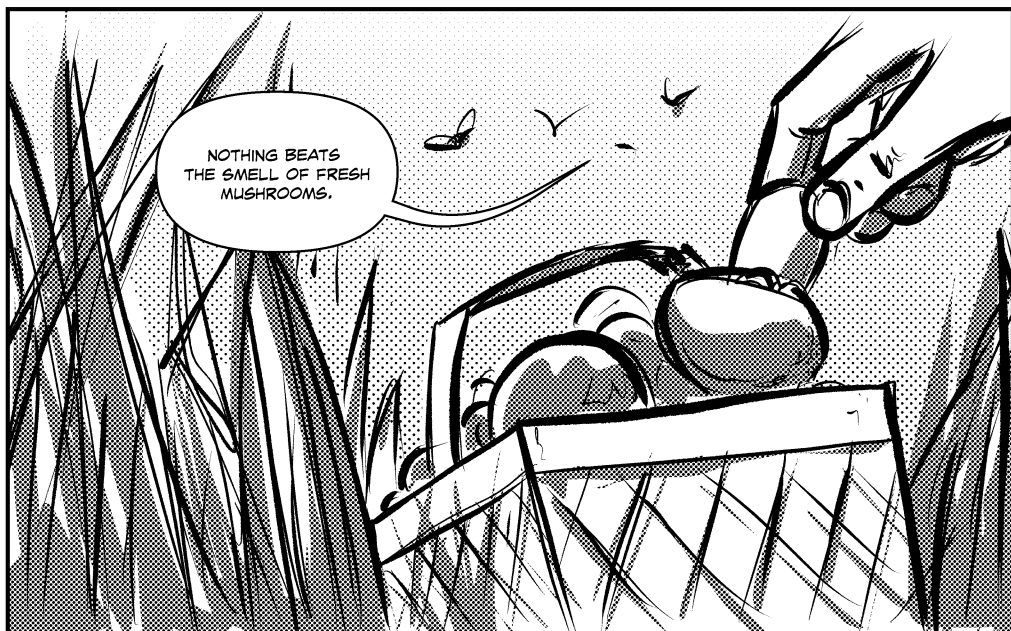
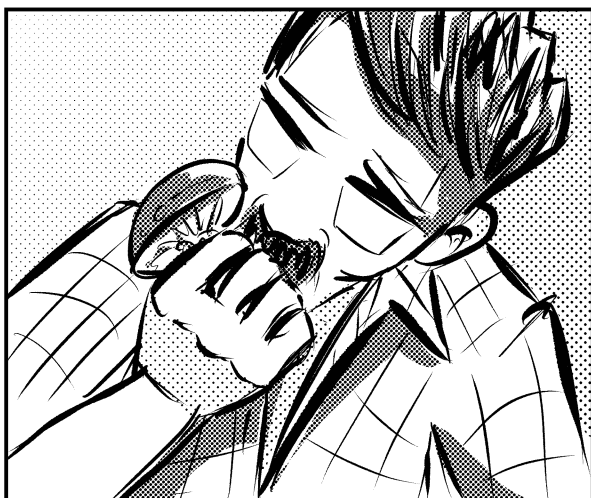
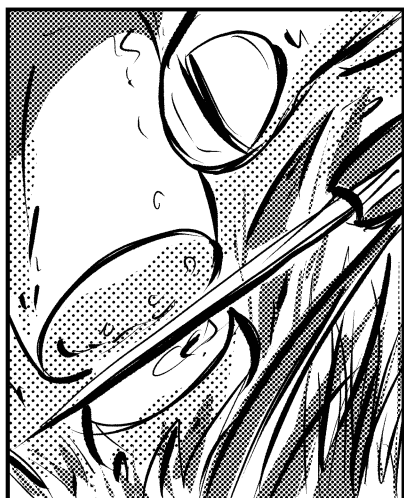
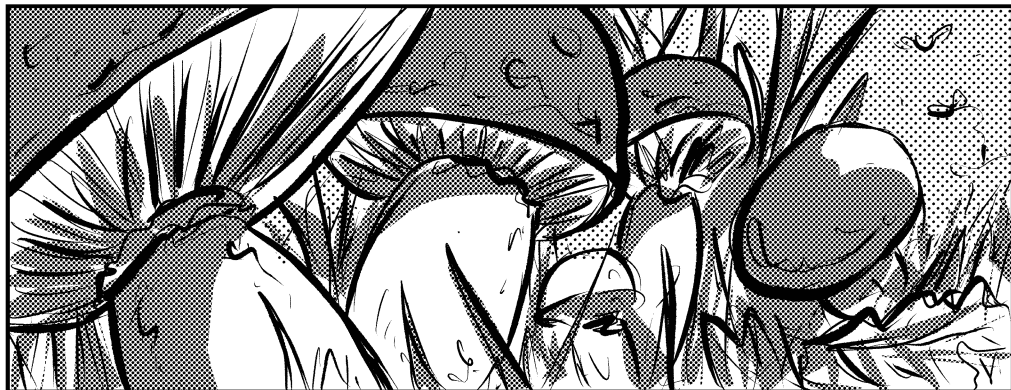
I CAN  
SMELL YOU.



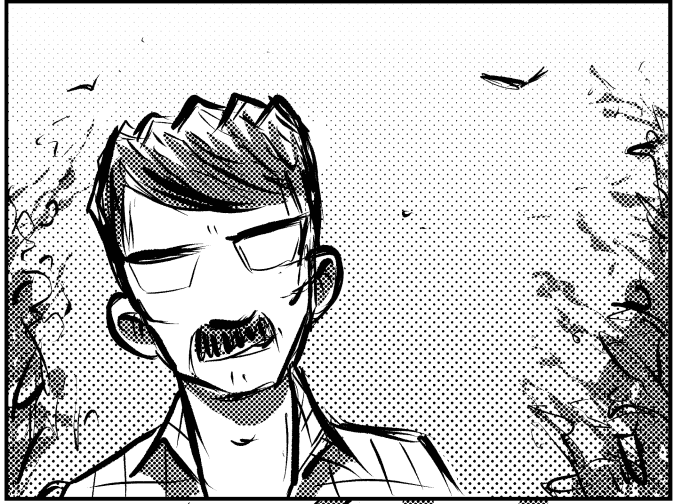
I KNOW  
WHERE YOU  
ARE.

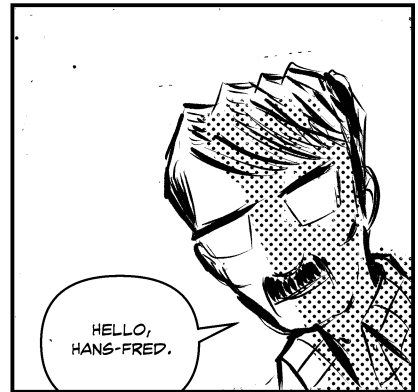










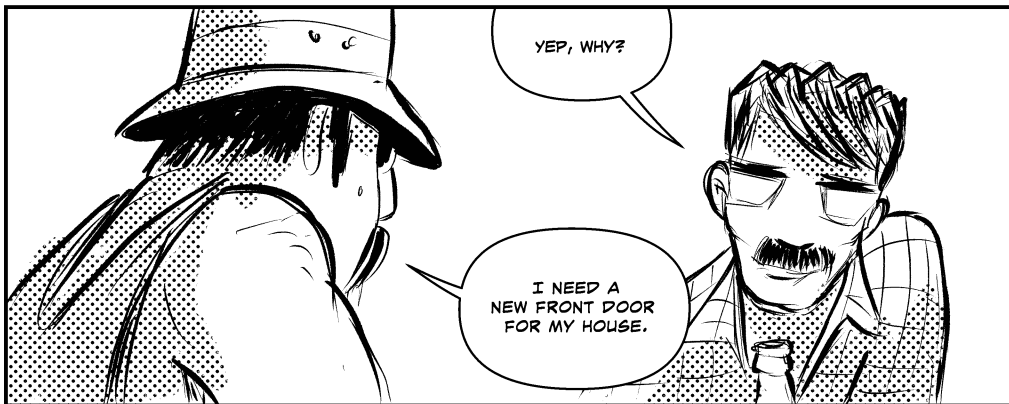




SAY ...



... YOU ARE A  
CARPENTER?



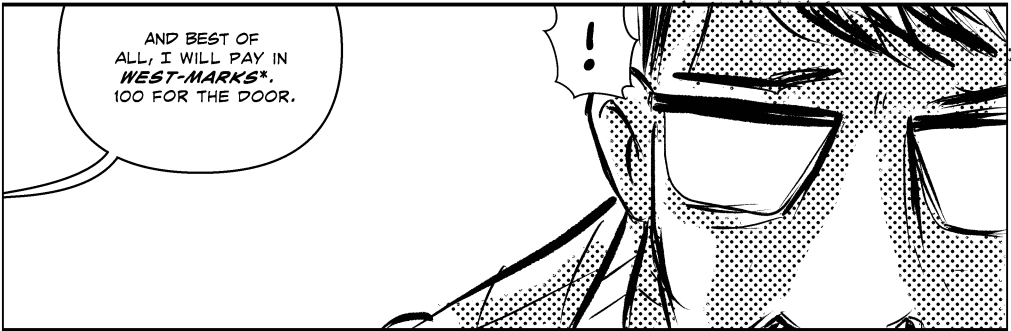
YEP, WHY?

I NEED A  
NEW FRONT DOOR  
FOR MY HOUSE.



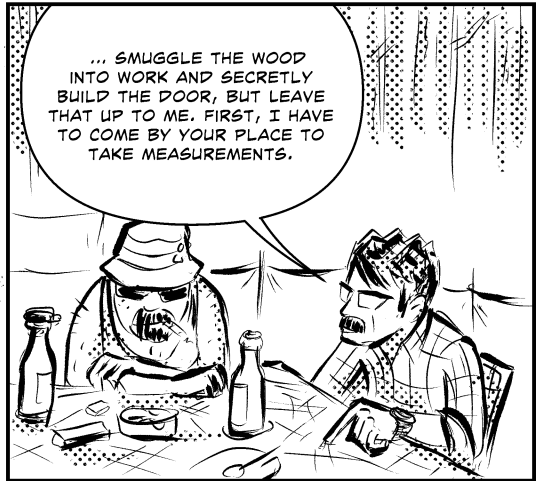
IT HAS TO BE  
TOP NOTCH.

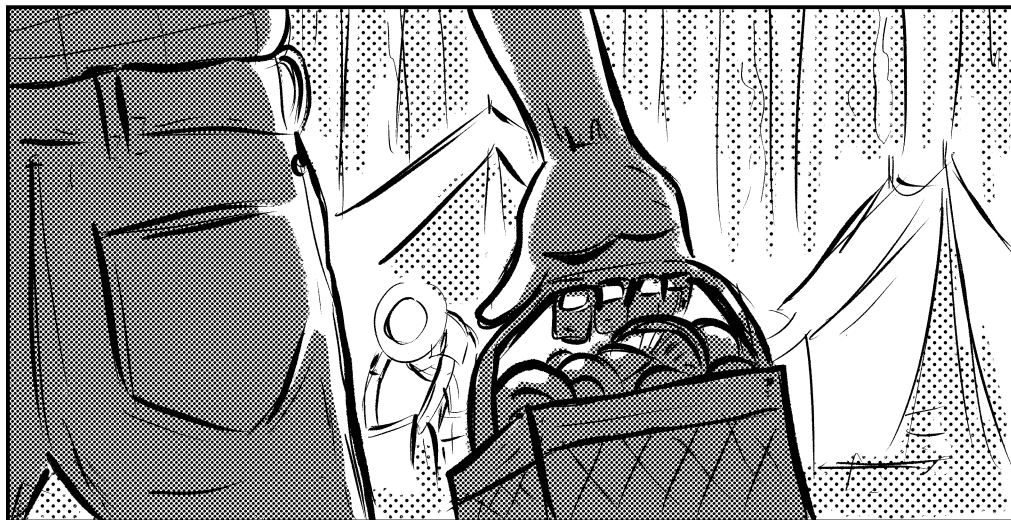
HMM. AT THE  
MOMENT THERE IS NO  
WOOD, EXTREMELY  
HARD TO GET.

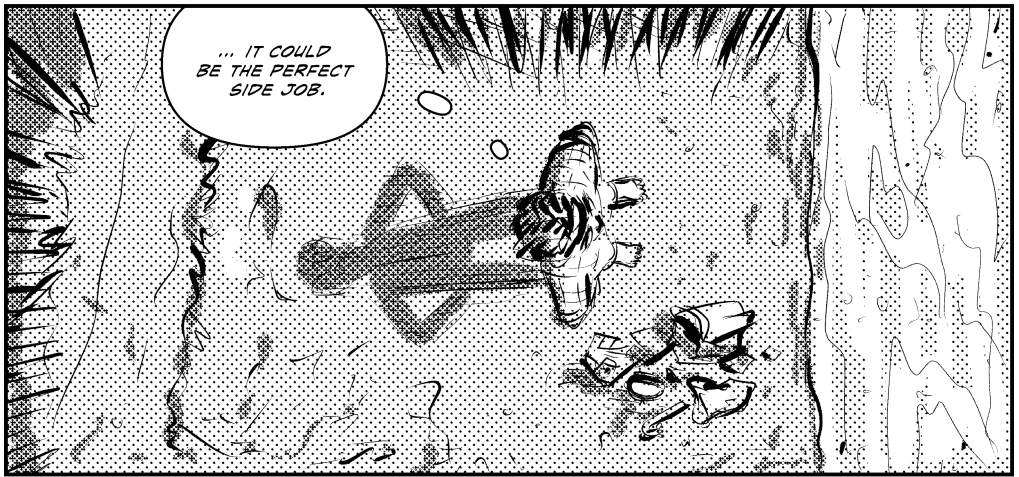
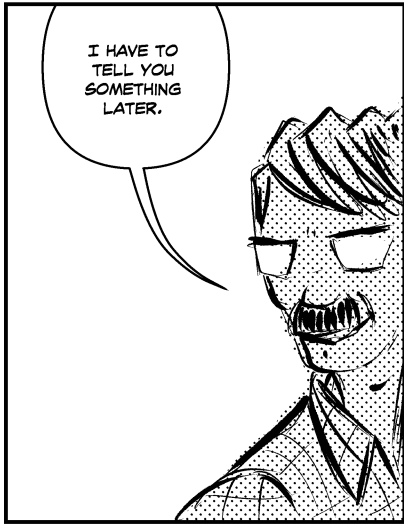


*\*WEST-MARK WAS THE CURRENCY OF WEST GERMANY AND SIGNIFICANTLY STRONGER THAN THE EAST GERMAN MARK.*

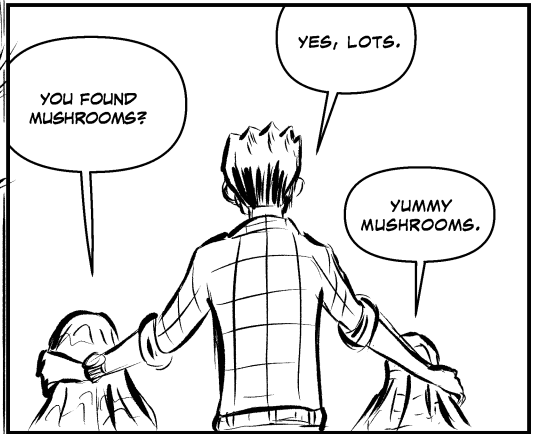
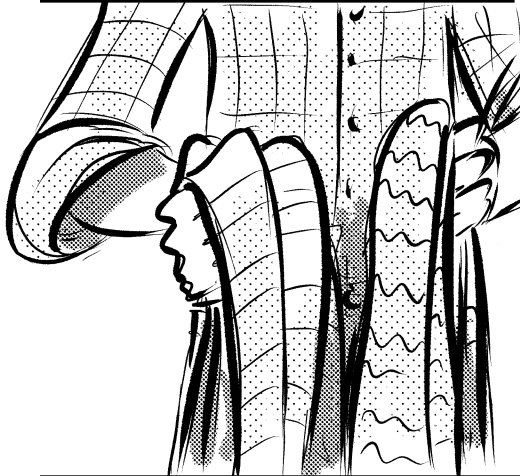
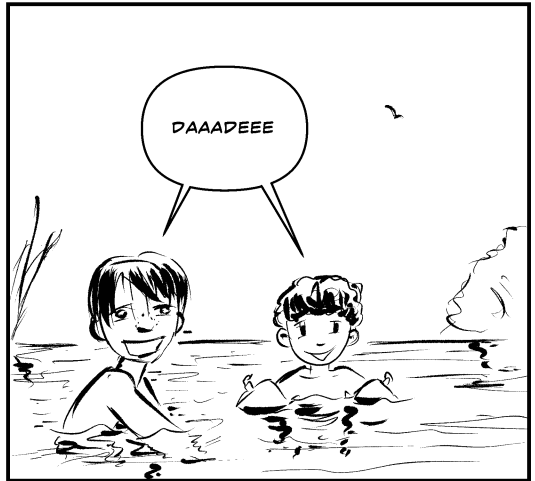


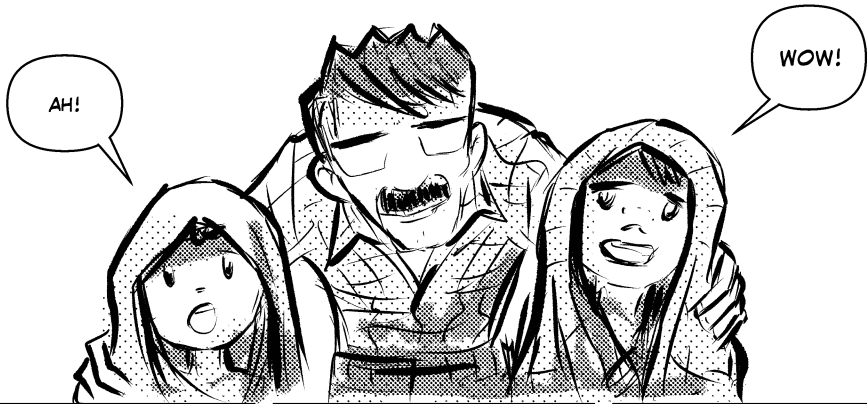
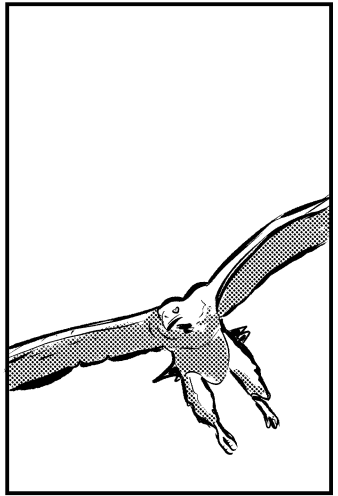
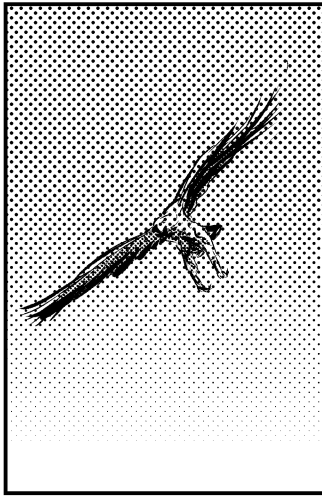


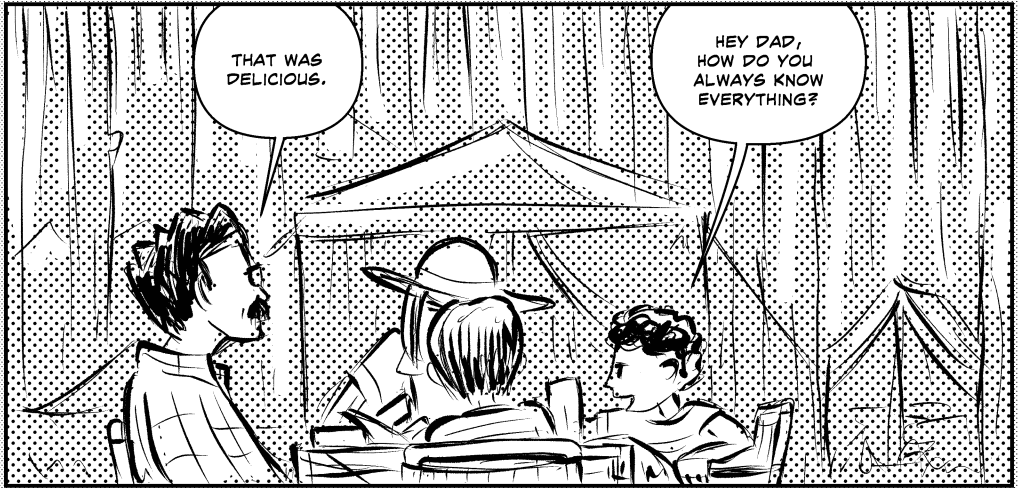










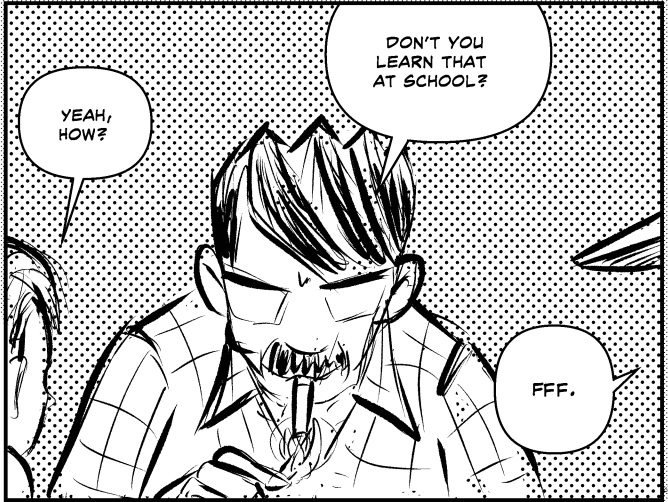


THAT WAS DELICIOUS.

HEY DAD, HOW DO YOU ALWAYS KNOW EVERYTHING?



LIKE; WHAT KIND OF ANIMALS THEY ARE AND WHERE TO FIND THE BEST MUSHROOMS?



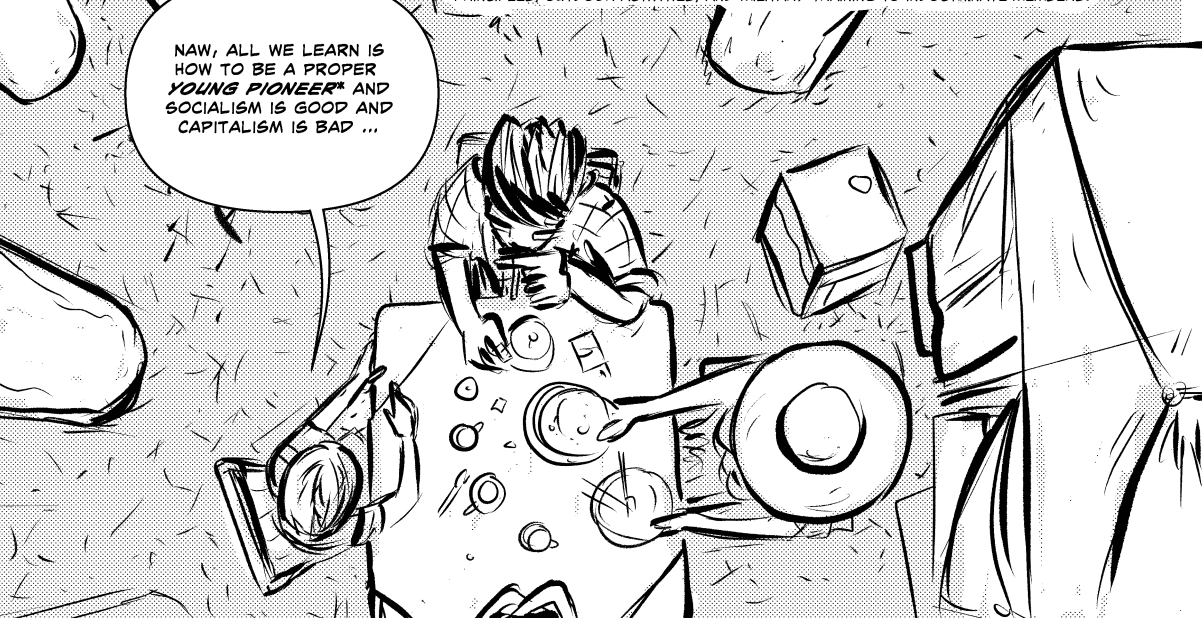
YEAH, HOW?

DON'T YOU LEARN THAT AT SCHOOL?

FFF.

*\*YOUNG PIONEER WAS EAST GERMANY'S YOUTH ORGANIZATION PROMOTING SOCIALIST PRINCIPLES, OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES, AND MILITARY TRAINING TO INDOCTRINATE MEMBERS.*

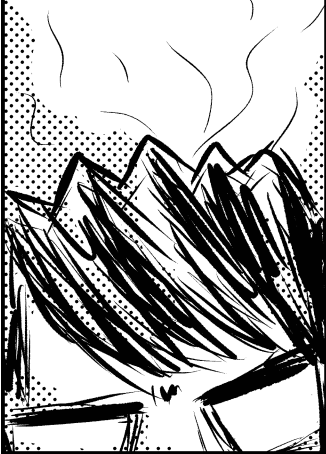
NAW, ALL WE LEARN IS HOW TO BE A PROPER **YOUNG PIONEER\*** AND SOCIALISM IS GOOD AND CAPITALISM IS BAD ...



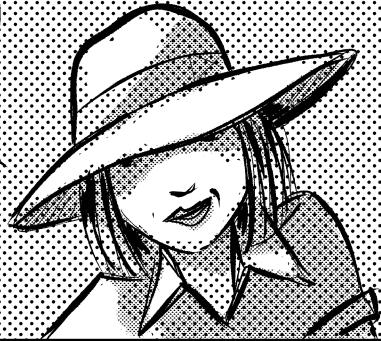
BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU GET LOST IN THE WOODS? THE WILD ANIMALS COULD CARE LESS IF YOU ARE EXEMPLARY PIONEERS. THEY WILL EAT YOU REGARDLESS.

WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, I HAD TO ROAM THROUGH THE FOREST FOR DAYS AND TO HUNT ANIMALS.

AND IF I DID NOT BRING HOME AT LEAST ONE DEER, TWO WILD BOARS, AND TEN RABBITS, THEN I WAS REALLY IN TROUBLE.



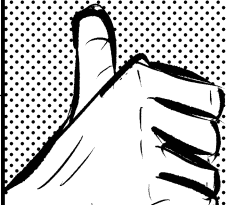
GRINNING  
HERE WE  
GO AGAIN.



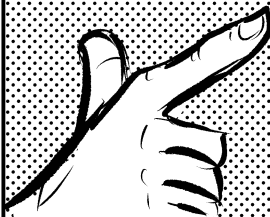
AND WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU GET LOST IN THE WOODS AND IT GETS DARK?



FIRST: WHEN IT GETS DARK, DO NOT GO ANY FURTHER. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS, YOU CAN GET INJURED.



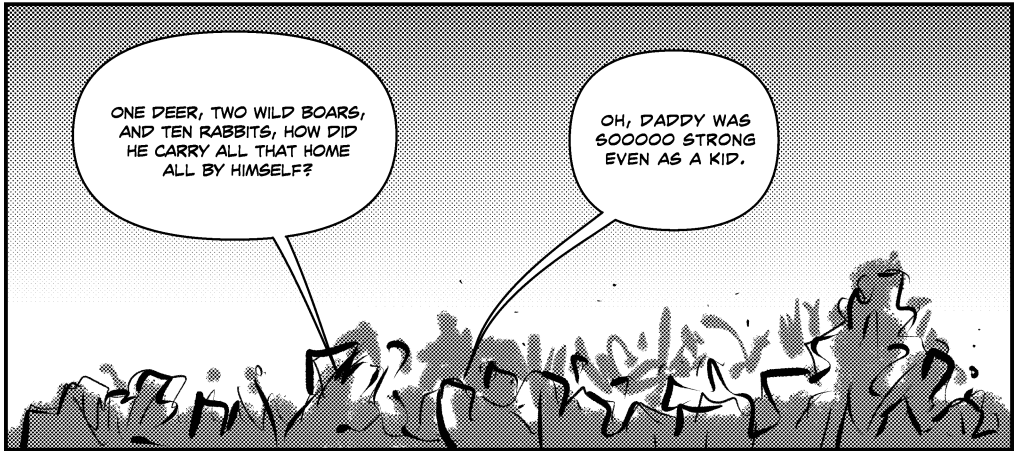
SECOND: FIND A SAFE PLACE TO STAY THE NIGHT.



THIRD: TRY TO SLEEP SO THAT YOU ARE RESTED THE NEXT DAY.

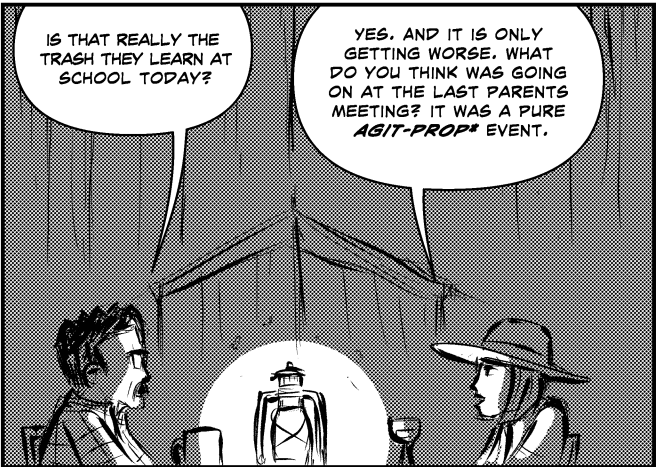
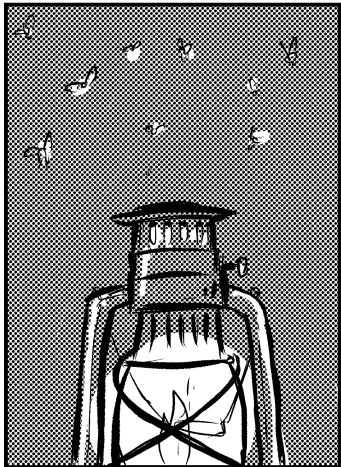
SPEAKING OF ...  
IT'S TIME FOR  
BED, BOYS.





ONE DEER, TWO WILD BOARS,  
AND TEN RABBITS, HOW DID  
HE CARRY ALL THAT HOME  
ALL BY HIMSELF?

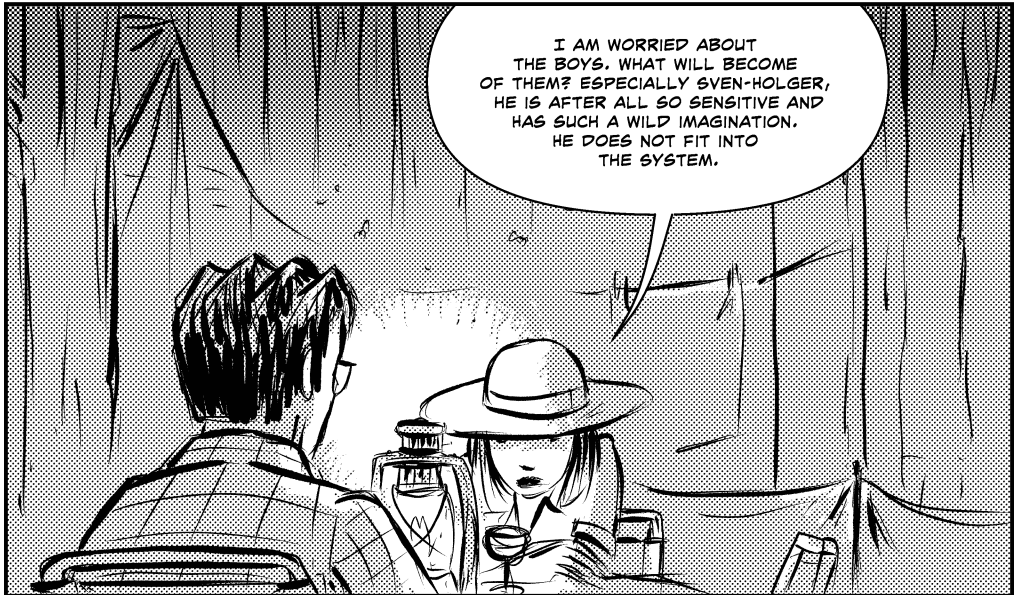
OH, DADDY WAS  
SOOOOO STRONG  
EVEN AS A KID.



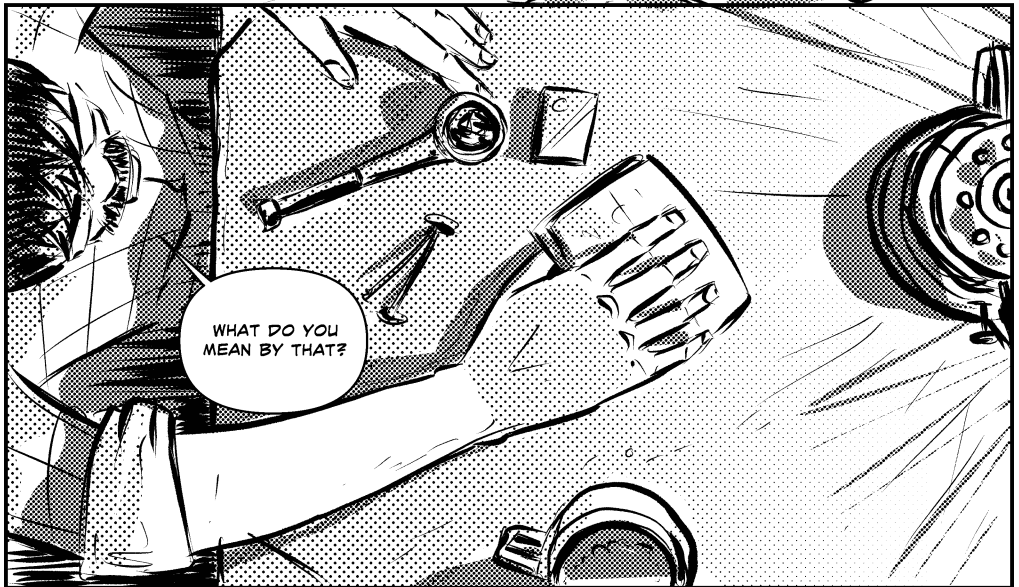
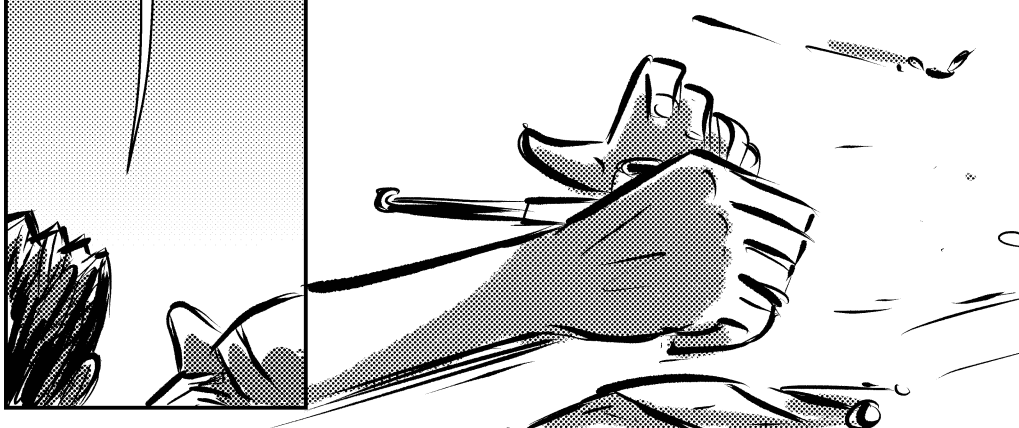
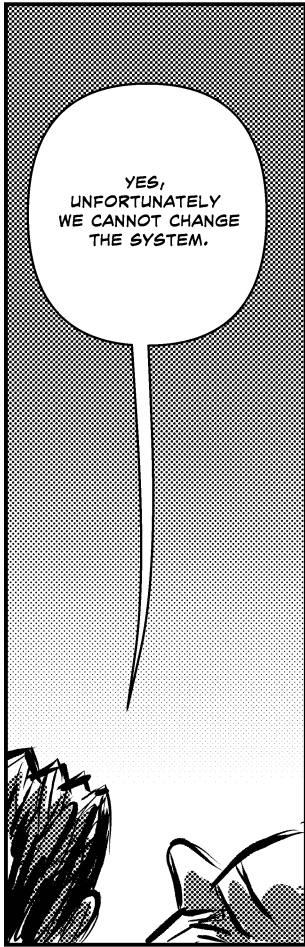
IS THAT REALLY THE  
TRASH THEY LEARN AT  
SCHOOL TODAY?

YES. AND IT IS ONLY  
GETTING WORSE. WHAT  
DO YOU THINK WAS GOING  
ON AT THE LAST PARENTS  
MEETING? IT WAS A PURE  
*AGIT-PROP\** EVENT.

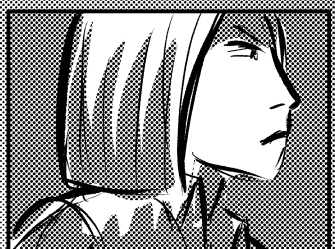
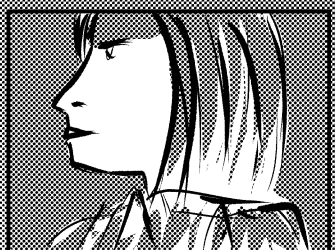
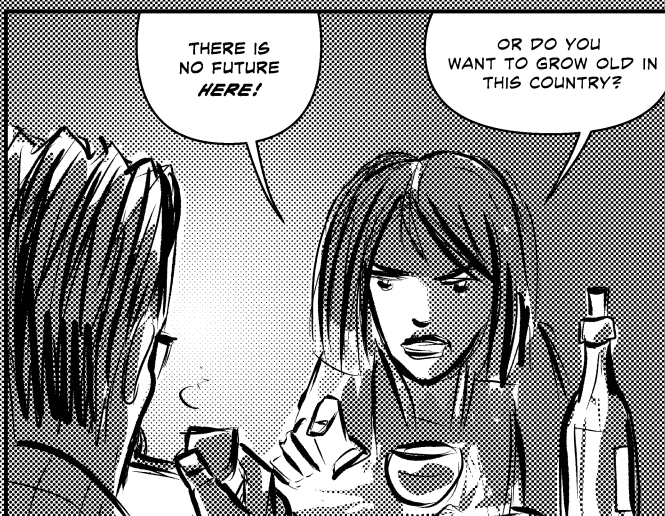
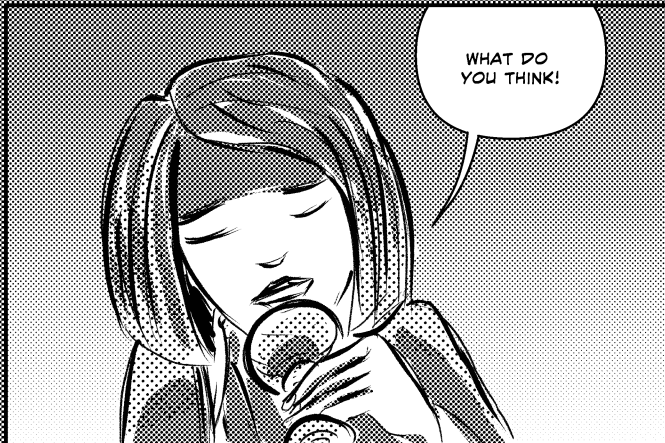
\* AGIT-PROP: AGITATION AND PROPAGANDA. USED TO SPREAD THE IDEOLOGY OF MARXISM IN THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE GDR



I AM WORRIED ABOUT  
THE BOYS. WHAT WILL BECOME  
OF THEM? ESPECIALLY SVEN-HOLGER,  
HE IS AFTER ALL SO SENSITIVE AND  
HAS SUCH A WILD IMAGINATION.  
HE DOES NOT FIT INTO  
THE SYSTEM.







I WANT US TO SUBMIT AN **AUSREISEANTRAG\***!

\*AUSREISEANTRAG - WAS AN APPLICATION FOR EAST GERMAN CITIZENS TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY, OFTEN RESULTING IN POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS AND SCRUTINY.



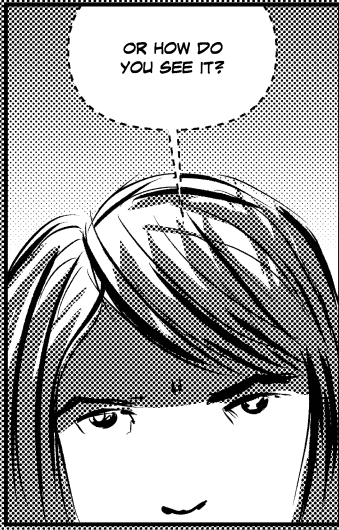




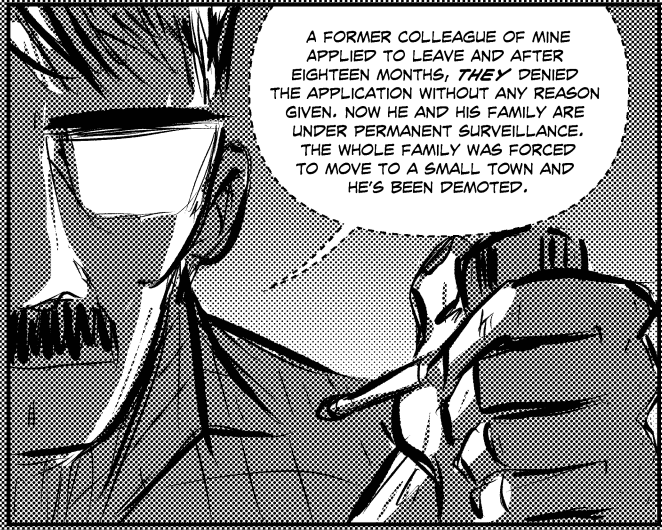
IN THE WEST,  
WE'D HAVE MORE  
OPPORTUNITIES AND WE  
WOULD NOT BE CONSTANTLY  
CONTROLLED.



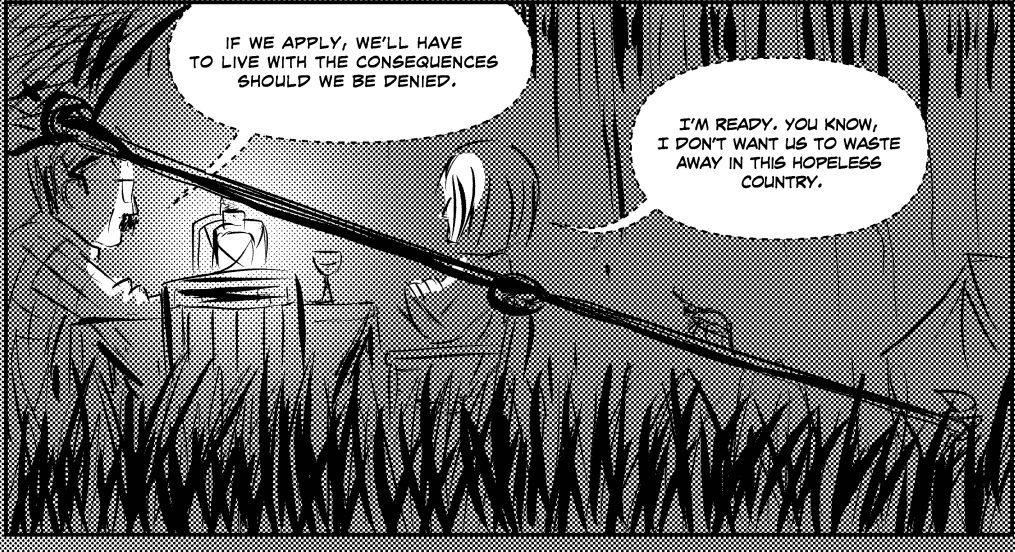
EHMMME



OR HOW DO  
YOU SEE IT?



A FORMER COLLEAGUE OF MINE  
APPLIED TO LEAVE AND AFTER  
EIGHTEEN MONTHS, *THEY* DENIED  
THE APPLICATION WITHOUT ANY REASON  
GIVEN. NOW HE AND HIS FAMILY ARE  
UNDER PERMANENT SURVEILLANCE.  
THE WHOLE FAMILY WAS FORCED  
TO MOVE TO A SMALL TOWN AND  
HE'S BEEN DEMOTED.



IF WE APPLY, WE'LL HAVE  
TO LIVE WITH THE CONSEQUENCES  
SHOULD WE BE DENIED.

I'M READY. YOU KNOW,  
I DON'T WANT US TO WASTE  
AWAY IN THIS HOPELESS  
COUNTRY.

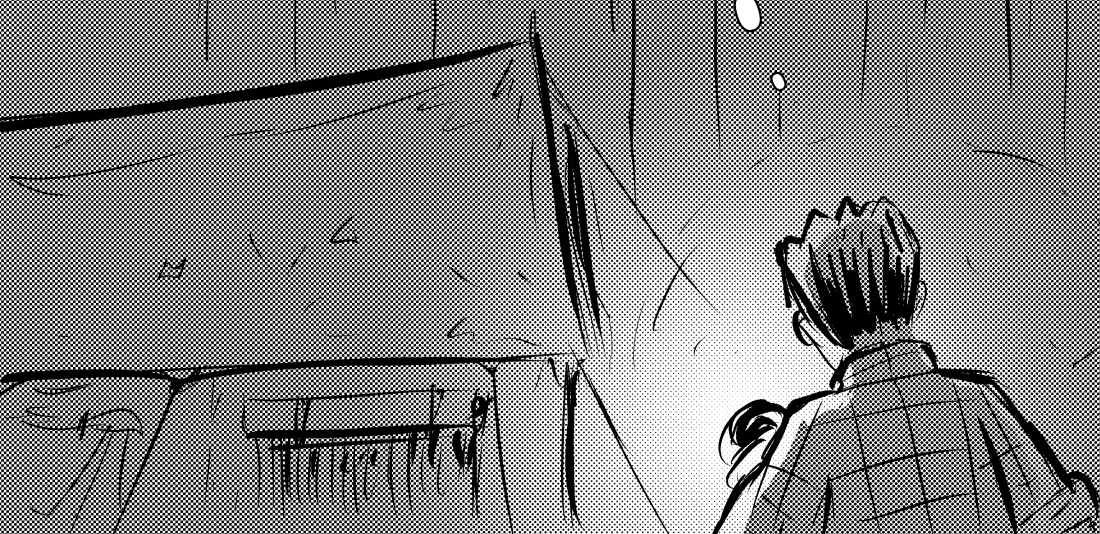
I WILL THINK  
IT OVER.

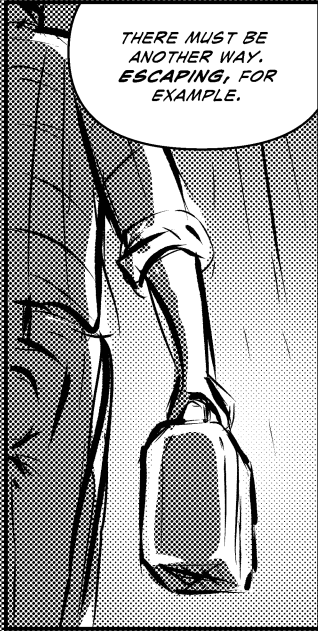


BUT FIRST, I'LL  
GET SOME WATER  
BEFORE THE MOSQUITOS  
EAT ME ALIVE.

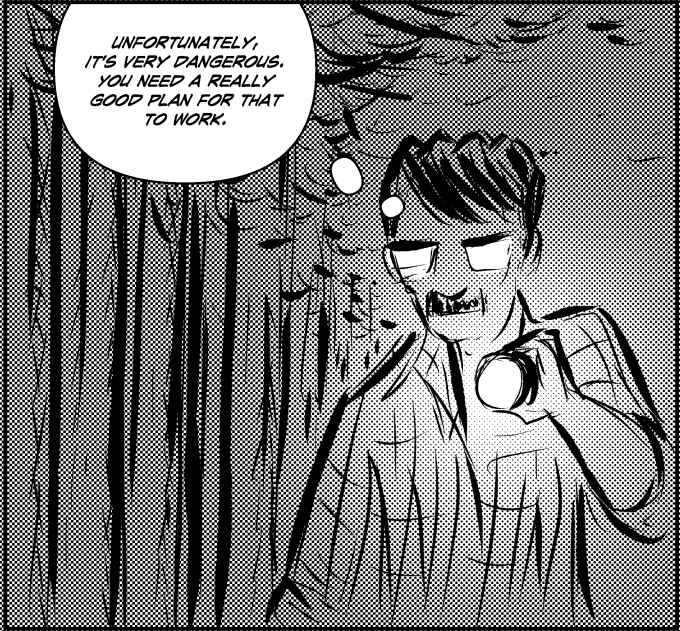


*SHE'S RIGHT, BUT AN  
AUSREISEANTRAG?  
THIS CONSTANT FEELING  
OF UNCERTAINTY AND  
ONCE THEY HAVE  
YOU IN THEIR SIGHTS,  
THEN IT IS ALREADY  
TOO LATE.*

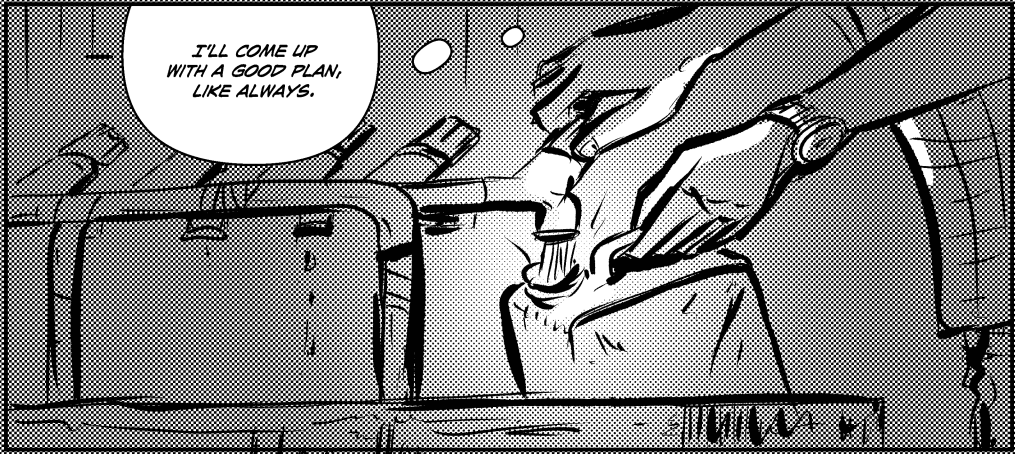




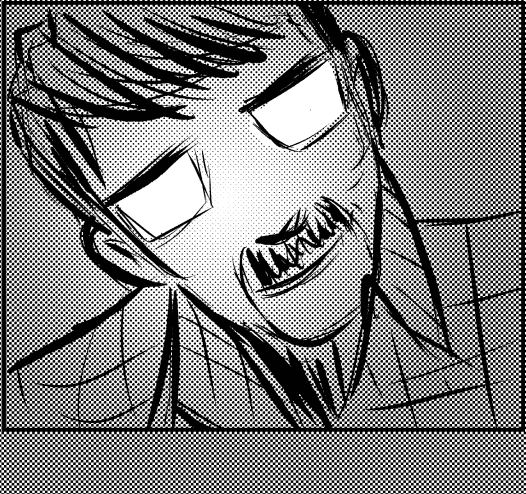
THERE MUST BE ANOTHER WAY, ESCAPING, FOR EXAMPLE.



UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S VERY DANGEROUS. YOU NEED A REALLY GOOD PLAN FOR THAT TO WORK.

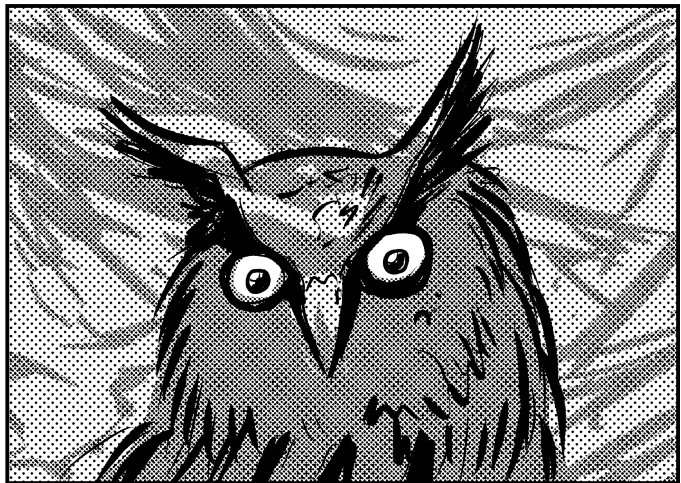
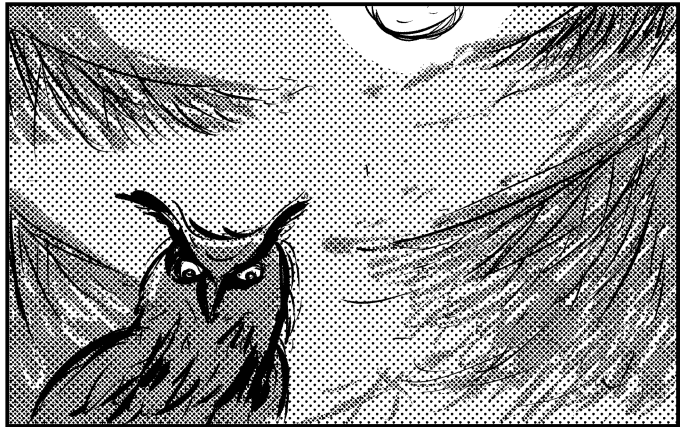


I'LL COME UP WITH A GOOD PLAN, LIKE ALWAYS.





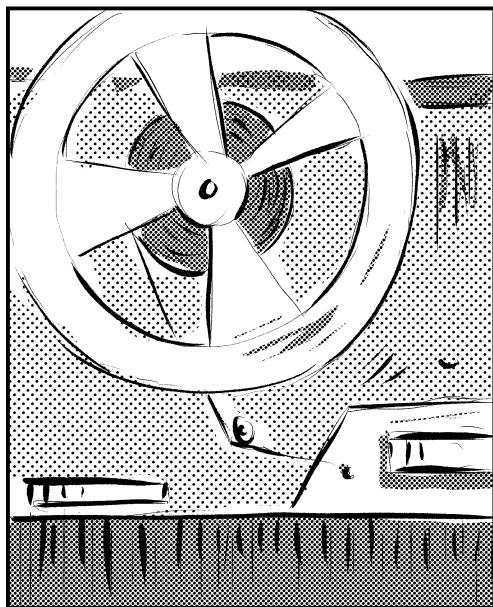
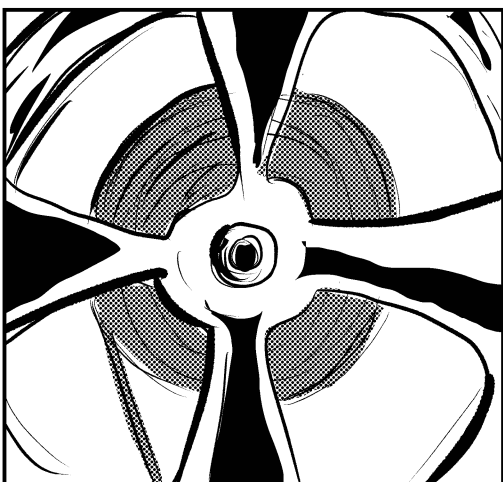
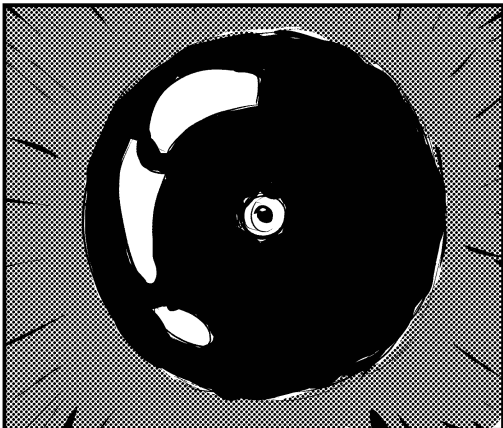
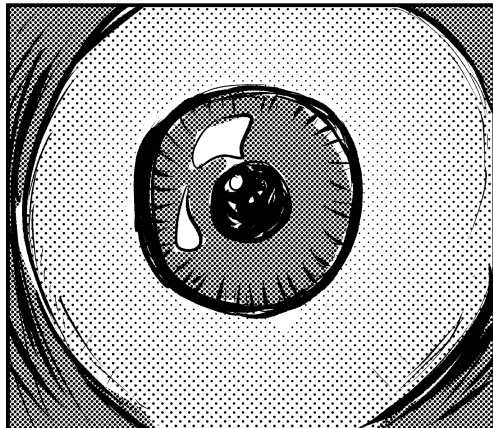
AH, AN  
OWL!



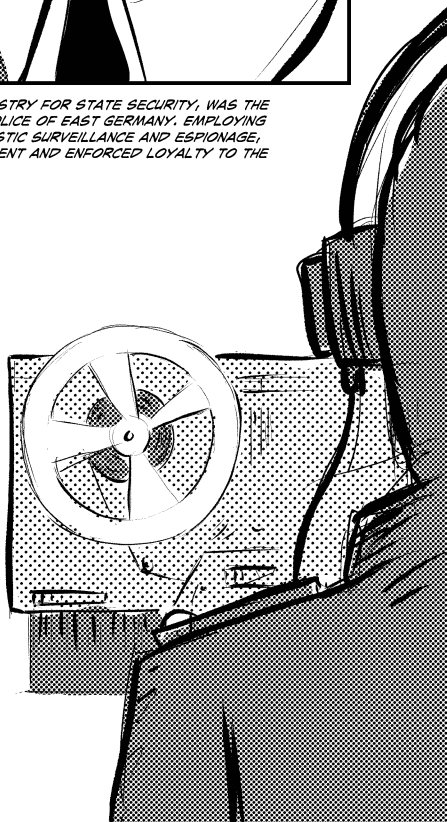
IT SEES AND HEARS  
EVERYTHING, EVEN  
IN THE DARK ...

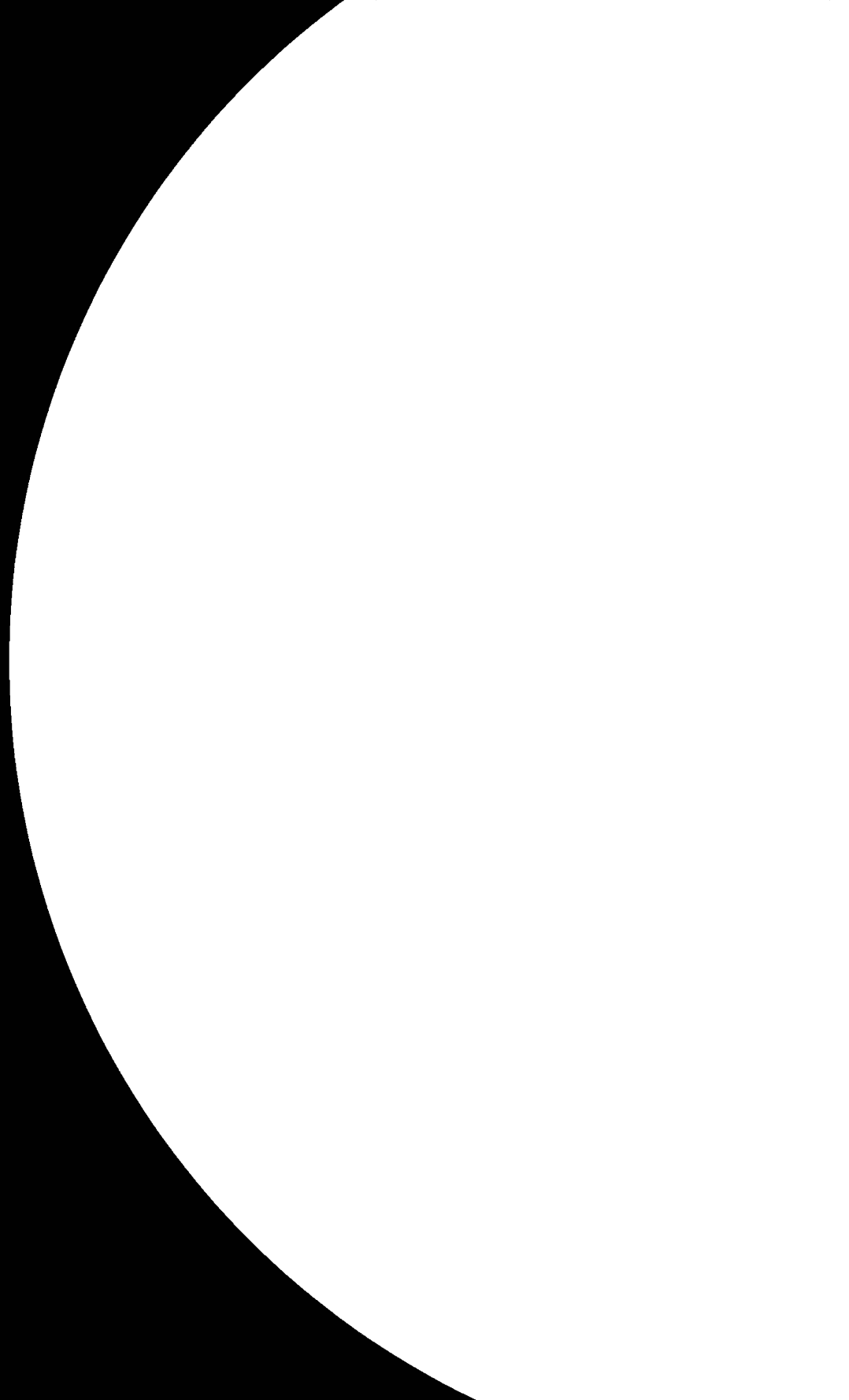
... LIKE  
THE STASI\*.





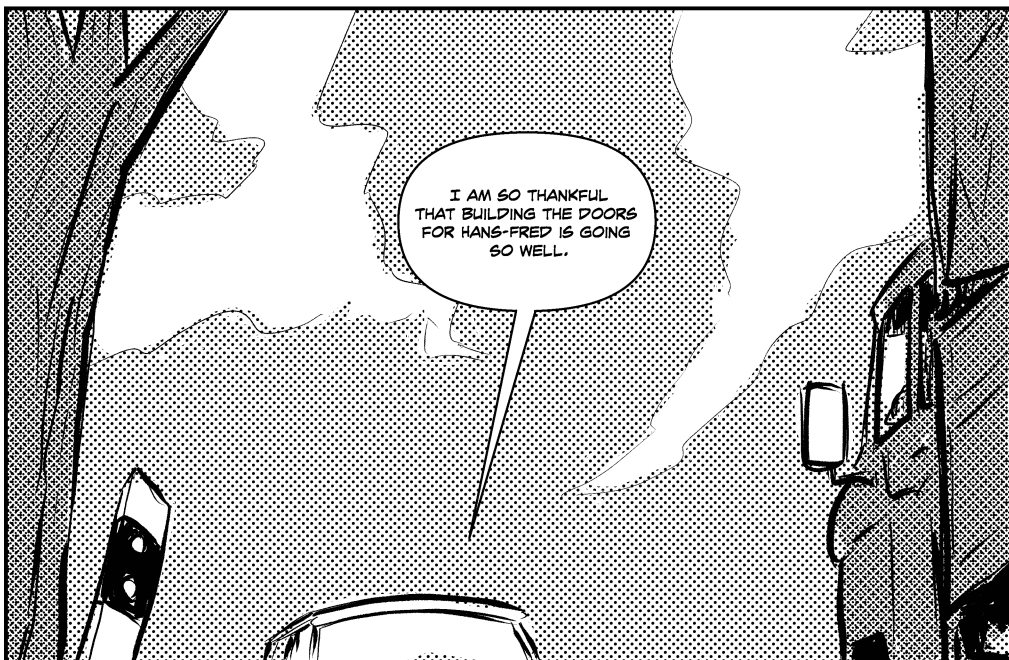
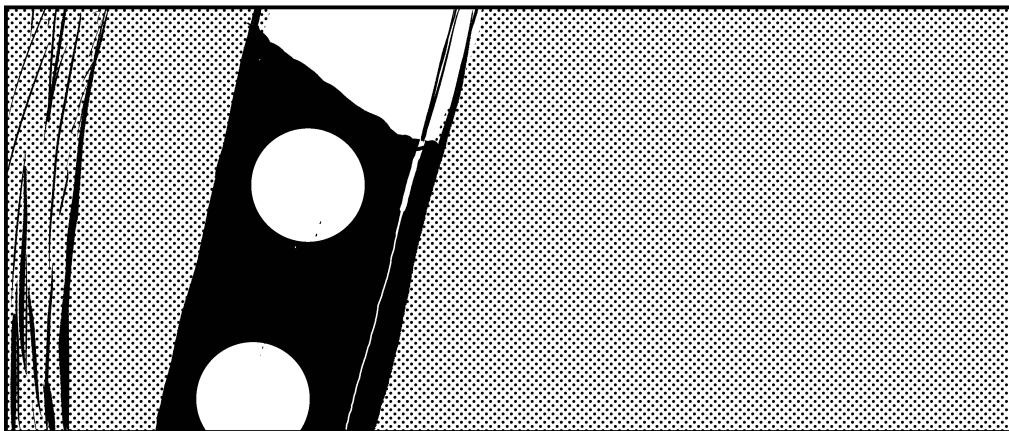
*\*THE STASI, OR MINISTRY FOR STATE SECURITY, WAS THE OFFICIAL SECRET POLICE OF EAST GERMANY. EMPLOYING WIDESPREAD DOMESTIC SURVEILLANCE AND ESPIONAGE, IT REPPRESSED DISSSENT AND ENFORCED LOYALTY TO THE COMMUNIST REGIME.*





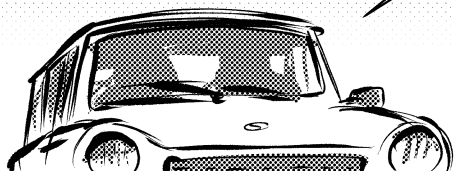
ONE YEAR LATER.



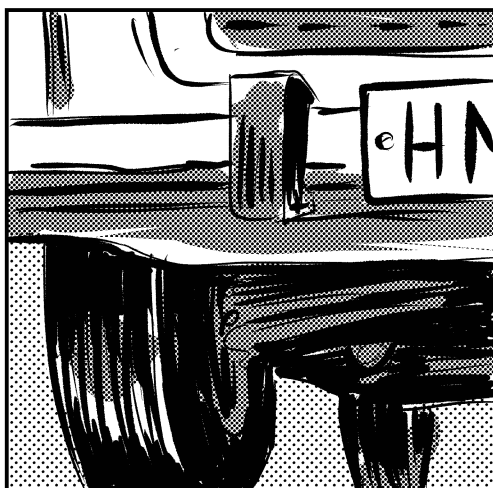
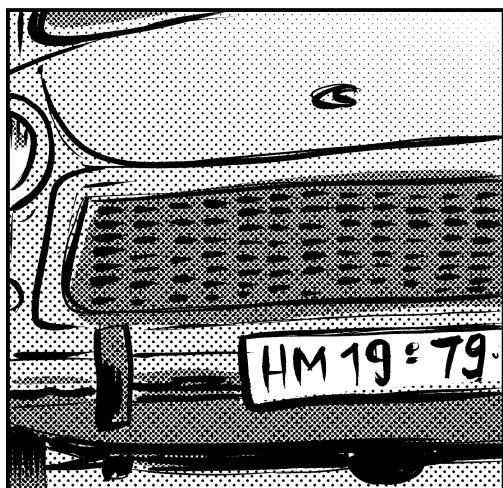


FINALLY WE HAVE  
WEST MONEY AND CAN AFFORD  
TO BUY SOMETHING FROM  
THE *INTERSHOP*\*

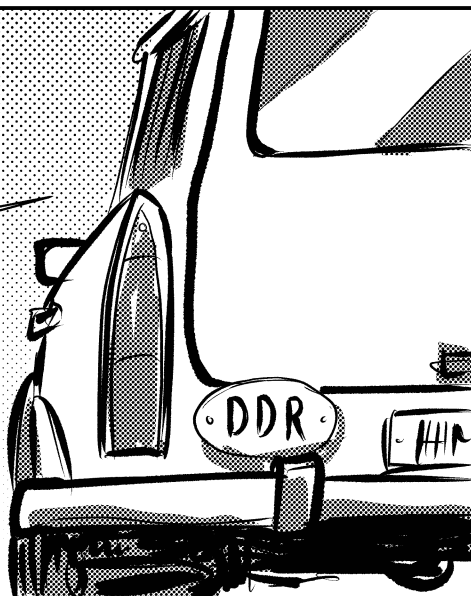
I DIDN'T THINK IT  
WOULD WORK THAT  
WELL, EITHER.

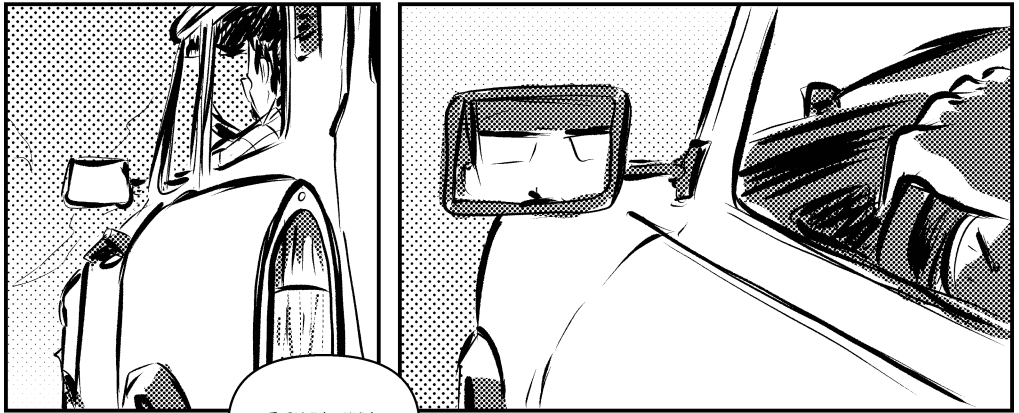


*\*INTERSHOP WAS A STATE-RUN CHAIN OF STORES WITH WESTERN GOODS, MAINLY FOR FOREIGN VISITORS AND PRIVILEGED LOCALS, OFFERING PRODUCTS RARE IN THE EASTERN BLOC, PROMOTING WEST-MARKS.*

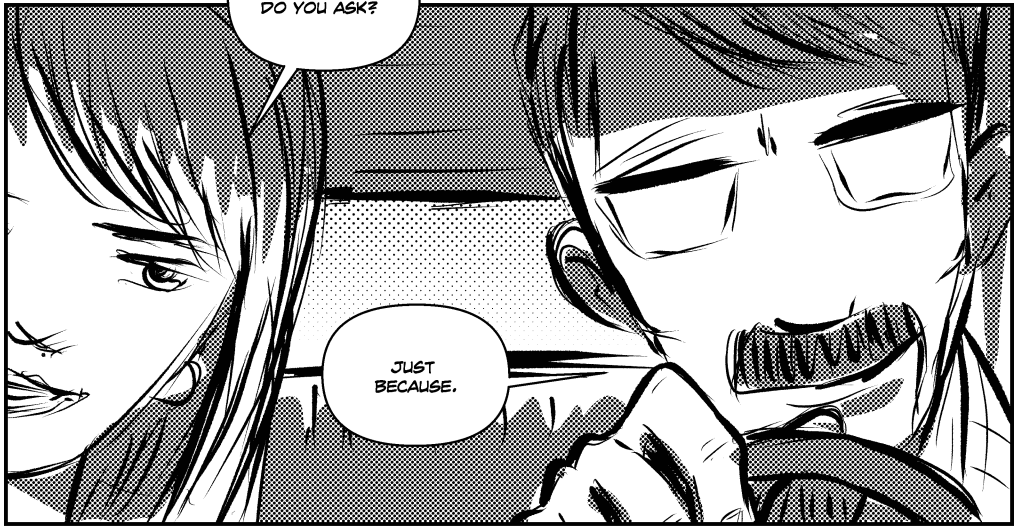


HOW MANY  
WEST-MARKS  
HAVE YOU GOT  
ON YOU?

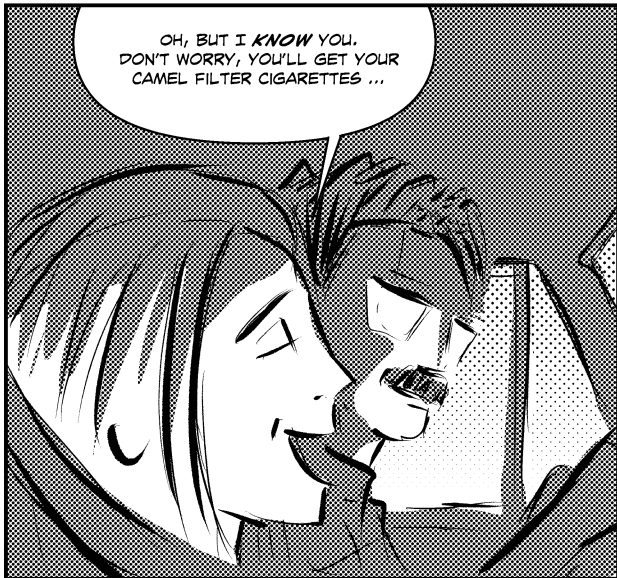




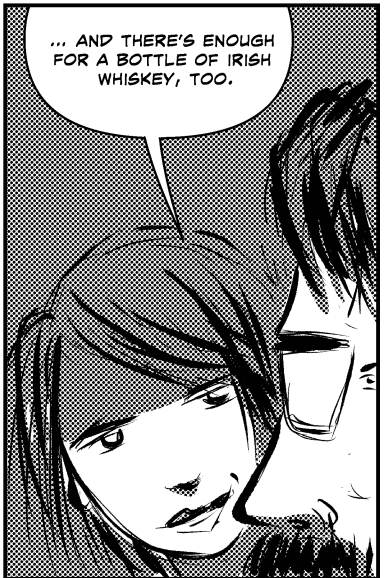
EIGHTY. WHY DO YOU ASK?



JUST BECAUSE.



OH, BUT I *KNOW* YOU. DON'T WORRY, YOU'LL GET YOUR CAMEL FILTER CIGARETTES ...

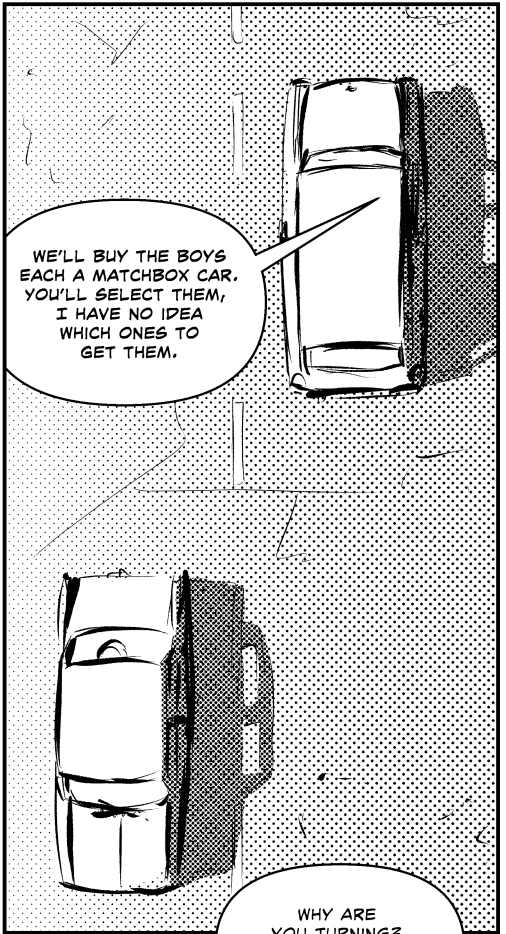


... AND THERE'S ENOUGH FOR A BOTTLE OF IRISH WHISKEY, TOO.



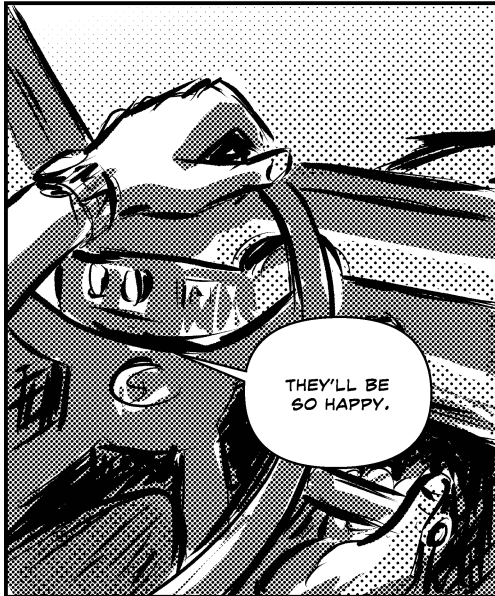
I REALLY NEED A NEW PAIR OF PANTYHOSE AND THE LUX-SOAP IS ALSO GONE.

AND FINALLY SOME REAL COFFEE MADE FROM COFFEE BEANS.

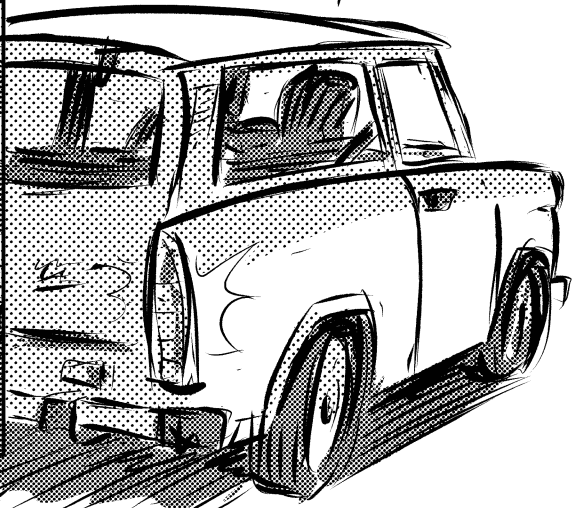


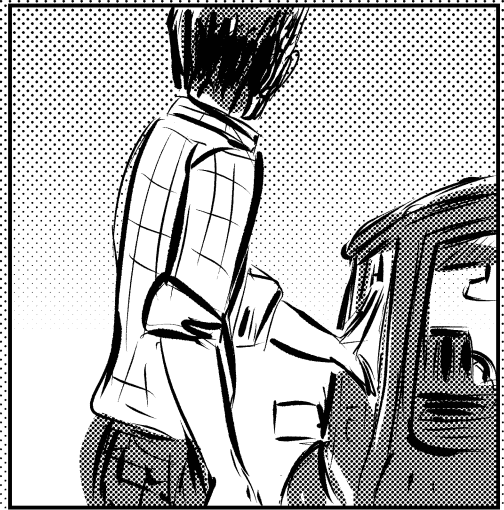
WE'LL BUY THE BOYS EACH A MATCHBOX CAR. YOU'LL SELECT THEM, I HAVE NO IDEA WHICH ONES TO GET THEM.

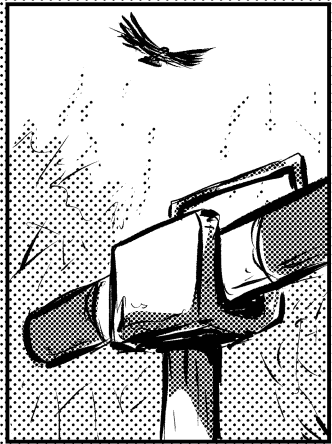
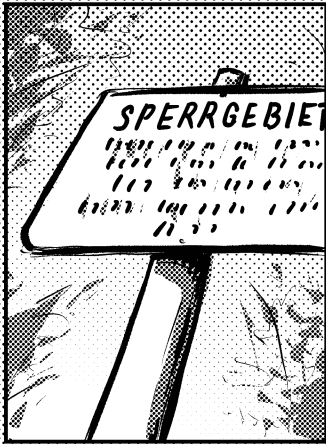
WHY ARE YOU TURNING? THE INTERSHOP IS STRAIGHT AHEAD.



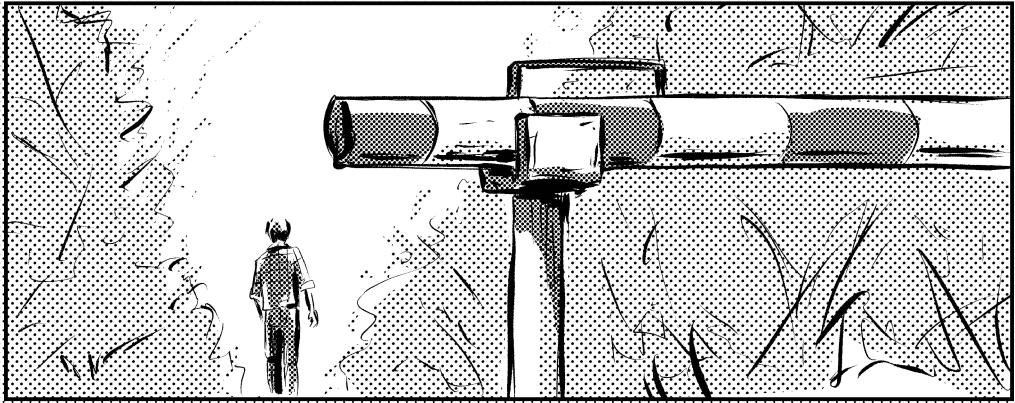
THEY'LL BE SO HAPPY.



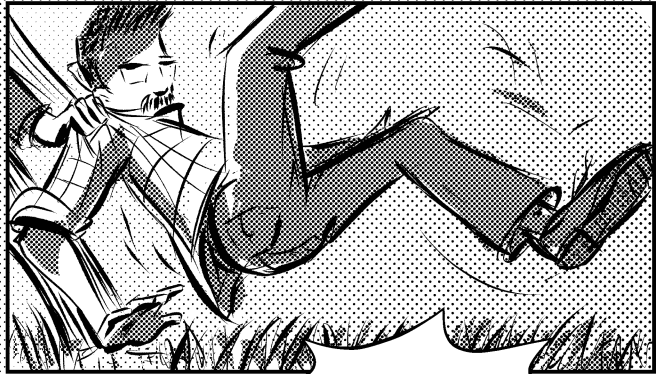
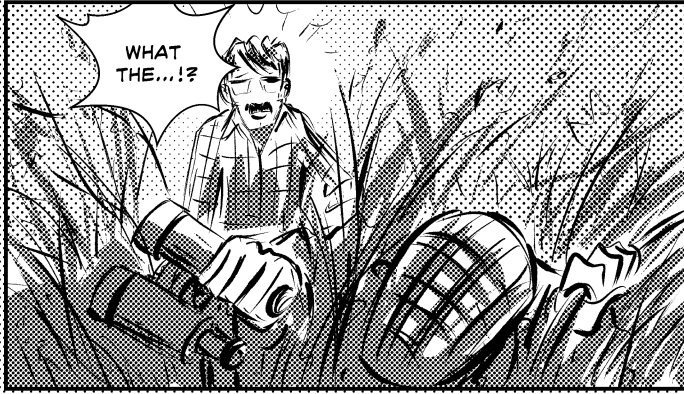




SPERRGEBIET = RESTRICTED AREA

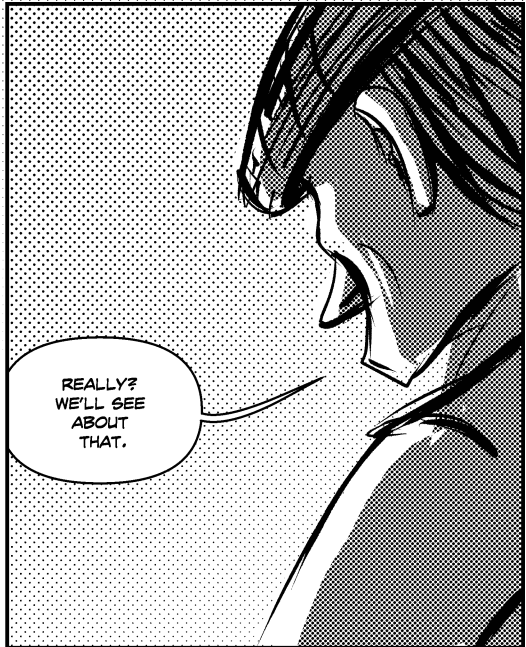
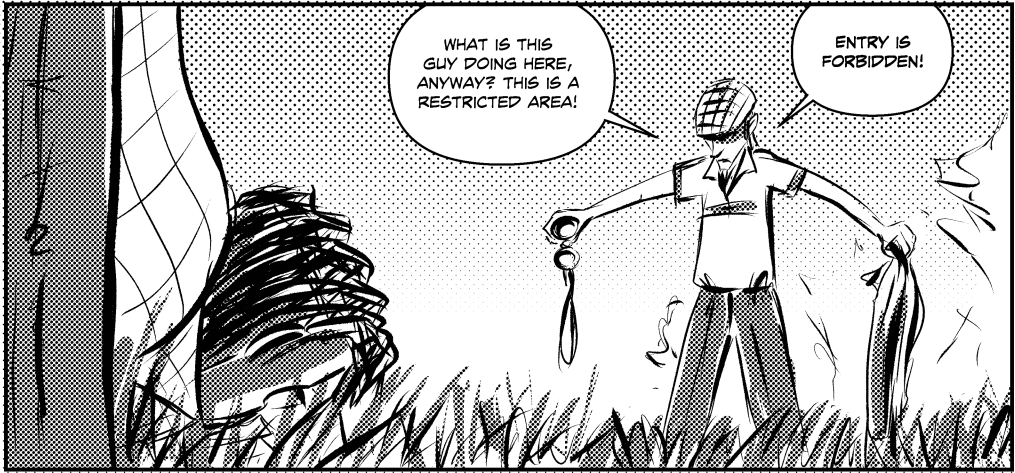






ARE YOU  
KIDDING ME! HE  
ACTUALLY PISSED  
ON ME!!!







AND THIS  
HERE IS ...

...VANDALISM OF  
SOCIALIST PUBLIC  
PROPERTY!



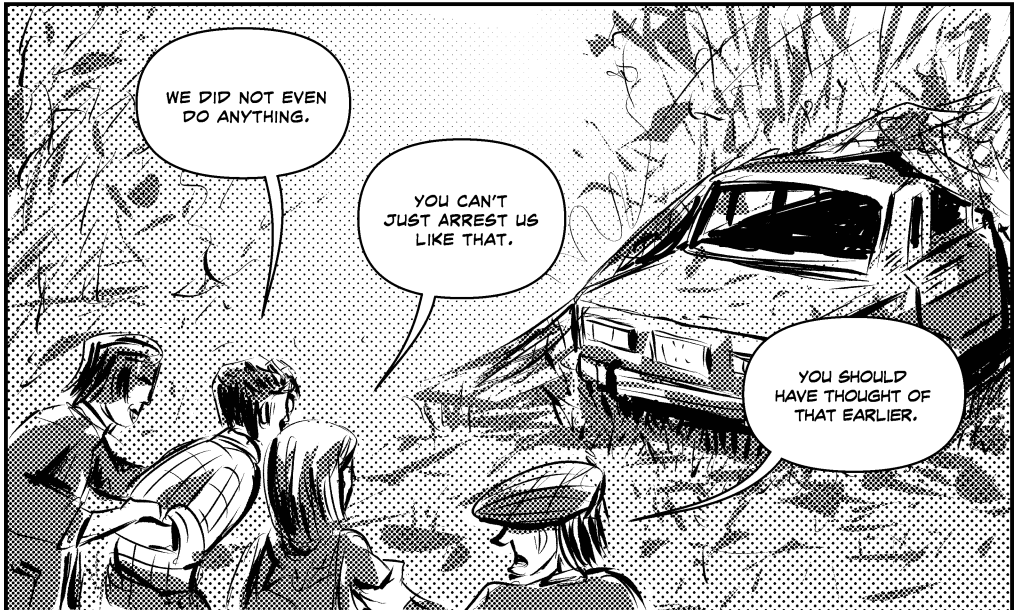
WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?  
LET MY HUSBAND GO!



WHO ARE  
YOU? ARE YOU  
WITH HIM?



YOU ARE BOTH  
UNDER ARREST!



WE DID NOT EVEN  
DO ANYTHING.

YOU CAN'T  
JUST ARREST US  
LIKE THAT.

YOU SHOULD  
HAVE THOUGHT OF  
THAT EARLIER.

