

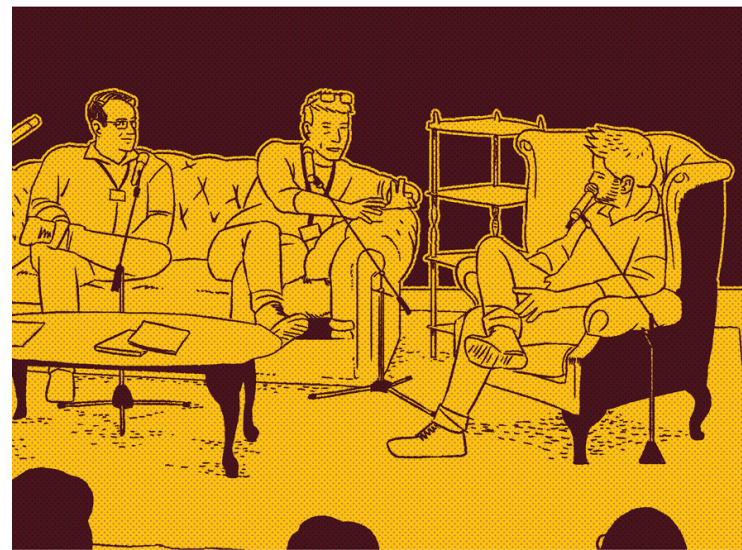
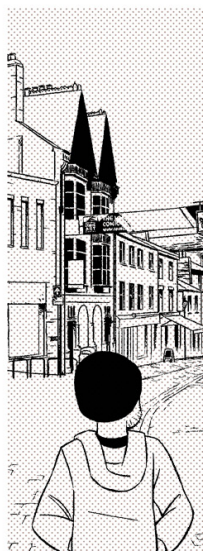
Jibé

LICAF JOURNAL 2019

Commissioned
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SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2019
I'M ON MY WAY TO THE LICAF FESTIVAL
IN ONE OF THOSE FANCY VIRGIN TRAINS,
FROM LONDON TO KENDAL, LIKE A
GEOGRAPHICALLY CONFUSED HARRY
POTTER IN HIS HOGWART EXPRESS.



MY NAME IS JIBÉ, AND
I HAVE BEEN INVITED ALONGSIDE FELLOW
FRENCH ARTISTS TO ATTEND THE FESTIVAL.
AND I'M ON A MISSION: IT'S UP TO ME TO
DRAW A COMIC BOOK REPORT OF THE
FESTIVAL. EXCITED YET NERVOUS.



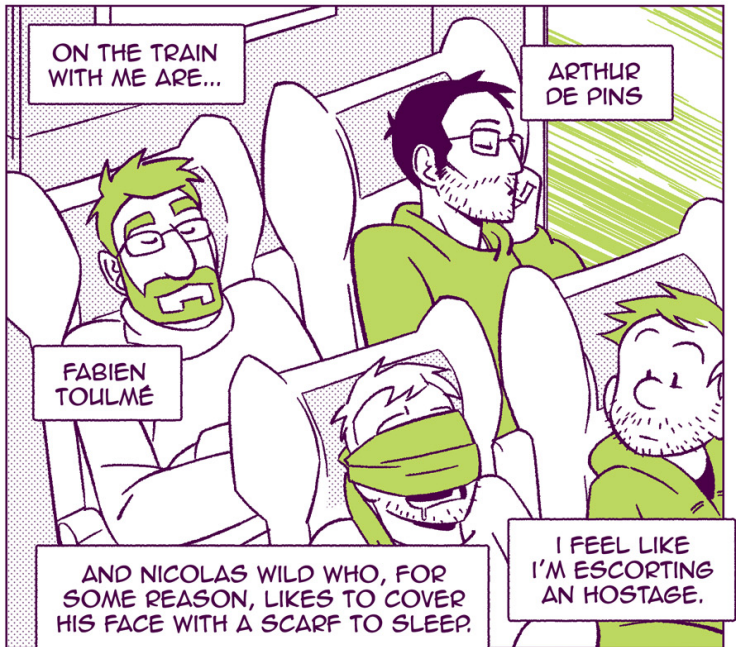
ON THE TRAIN
WITH ME ARE...

ARTHUR
DE PINS

FABIEN
TOULMÉ

AND NICOLAS WILD WHO, FOR
SOME REASON, LIKES TO COVER
HIS FACE WITH A SCARF TO SLEEP.

I FEEL LIKE
I'M ESCORTING
AN HOSTAGE.



NOT SO FANCY
AFTER ALL...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,
I AM SORRY TO ANNOUNCE
THAT THIS TRAIN WILL END
ITS RIDE AT PRESTON'S
STATION INSTEAD OF
GLASGOW CENTRAL.

WE APOLOGIZE FOR
THE INCONVENIENCE.

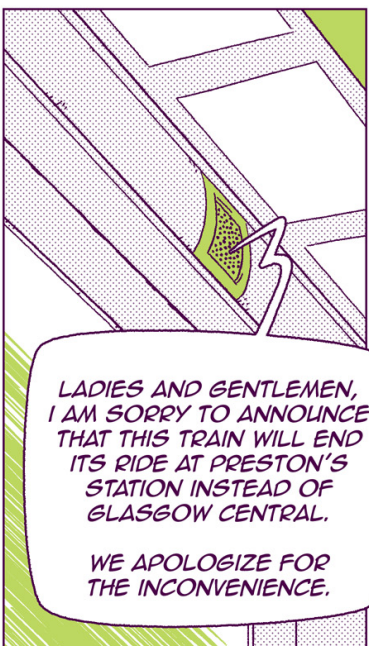
WHAT
HAPPEN?

THERE!
ANOTHER TRAIN
TO KENDAL!



THIS MINOR
DISTURBANCE
ASIDE, WE
ARRIVED ON
TIME IN
KENDAL.

AND IT
WAS...



... BEAUTIFUL!

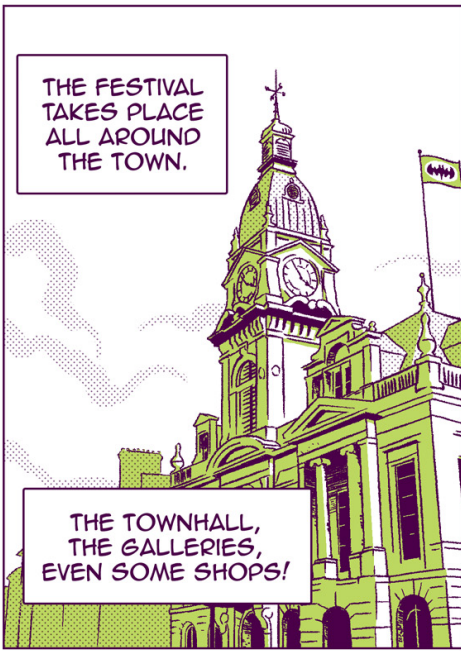


THIS YEAR MARKS THE SEVENTH THE LICAF FESTIVAL HERE IN KENDAL, CAMBRIA.

LAST YEAR, 18,000 ATTENDEES VISITED ITS EXHIBITIONS AND SIGNINGS. THE FESTIVAL IS RUN BY A STAFF OF 6 PEOPLE AND MORE THAN 60 VOLUNTEERS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTRY.



THE FESTIVAL TAKES PLACE ALL AROUND THE TOWN.



THE TOWNHALL, THE GALLERIES, EVEN SOME SHOPS!

TO GUIDE ME THROUGH THE CITY I WAS APPOINTED A LOCAL EXPERT IN KENDAL HISTORY, JAMIE BARNES.



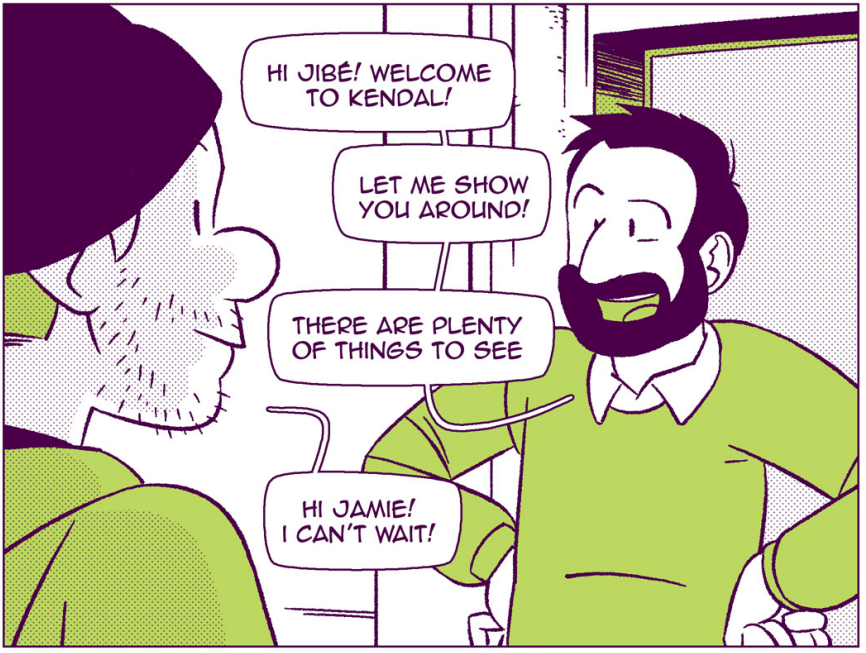
I'M HERE!

HI JIBÉ! WELCOME TO KENDAL!

LET ME SHOW YOU AROUND!

THERE ARE PLENTY OF THINGS TO SEE

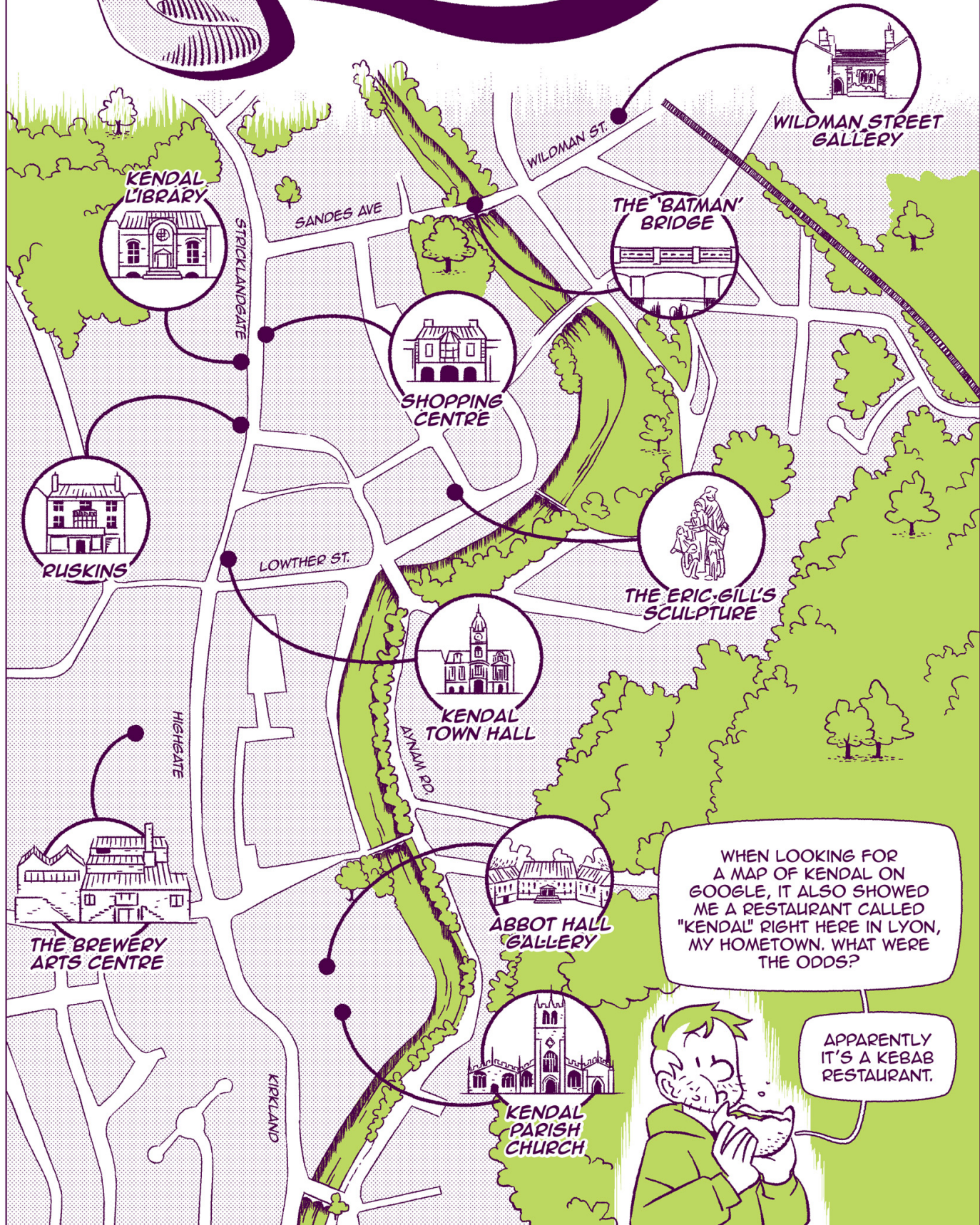
HI JAMIE! I CAN'T WAIT!



WELCOME TO KENDAL

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT WHAT THE FESTIVAL AND SOME PLACES WORTH SEEING LOOK LIKE...

I LOVE MAPS...



WHEN LOOKING FOR A MAP OF KENDAL ON GOOGLE, IT ALSO SHOWED ME A RESTAURANT CALLED "KENDAL" RIGHT HERE IN LYON, MY HOMETOWN. WHAT WERE THE ODDS?

APPARENTLY IT'S A KEBAB RESTAURANT.



SO THIS IS THE BREWERY ARTS CENTRE, THE MAIN VENUE OF THE FESTIVAL, IF YOU WILL. THAT'S WHERE MOST OF THE PANELS TAKES PLACE, AS WELL AS SOME EXHIBITIONS. THIS IS THE MAIN HUB WHERE TO GO FIRST.

AS THE NAME SUGGESTS, BEFORE BEING THE HEART OF KENDAL'S CULTURAL LIFE, IT WAS A BREWERY OWNED BY VALUX, WHICH PRODUCED, ACCORDING TO JAMIE, A PRETTY LOW QUALITY BEER...



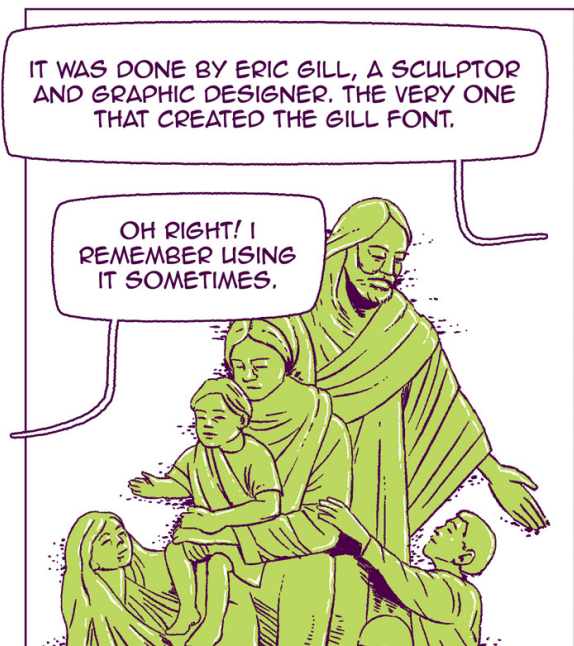
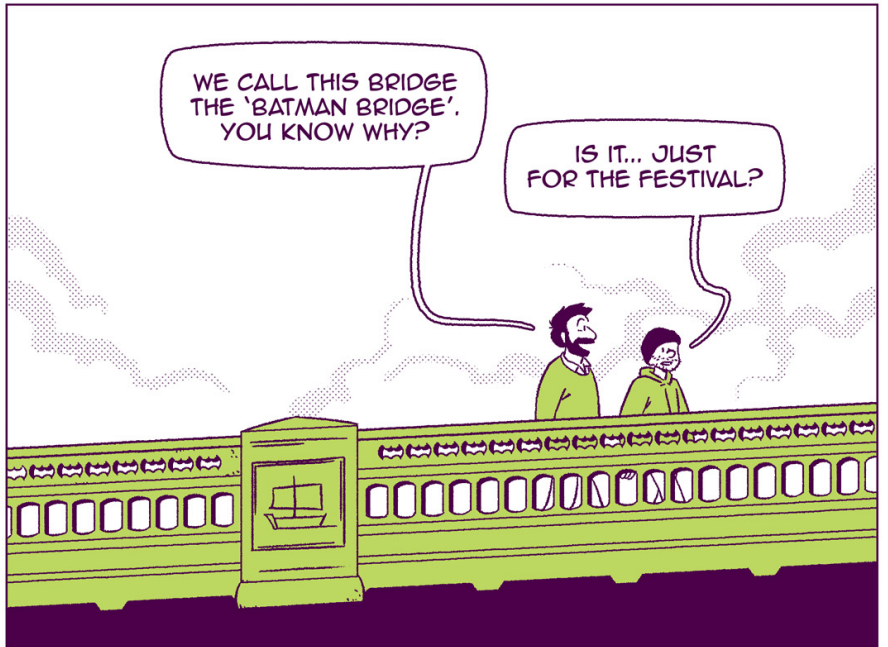
THERE IS ALSO THE TOWN HALL, WITH THE REST OF THE PANELS AND THE EXHIBITORS. DID YOU SPOT THE BATMAN FLAG ON TOP OF THE BUILDING ?

NOT FAR FROM HERE IS THE SHOPPING MALL WHERE OTHER EVENTS TAKES PLACE.



AND THERE IS RUSKINS, A BAR WHERE THE OFFICIAL AFTER PARTIES TAKE PLACE, AS WELL AS SOME EVENING EVENTS, LIKE LIVE DRAWING AND SHOWS.

AND BEERS.



HERE IS KENDAL'S PARISH CHURCH! THE OLDEST PARTS WERE BUILT 800 YEARS AGO AND IT IS FAMOUS IN THE AREA FOR BEING THE SECOND WIDEST CHURCH IN ENGLAND.



T-THE SECOND WIDEST?

SURE!

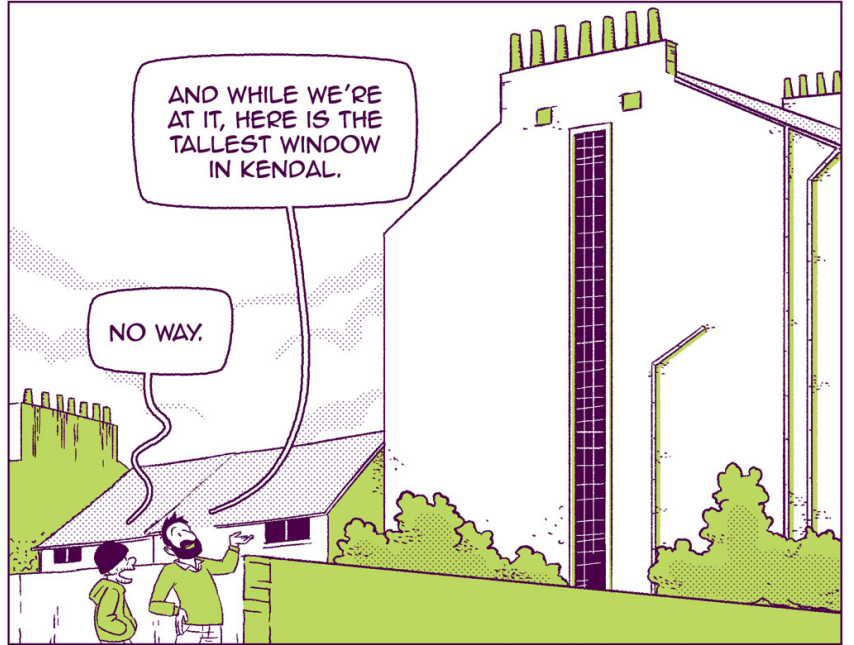
WHICH ONE'S THE FIRST?

I DUNNO.



AND WHILE WE'RE AT IT, HERE IS THE TALLEST WINDOW IN KENDAL.

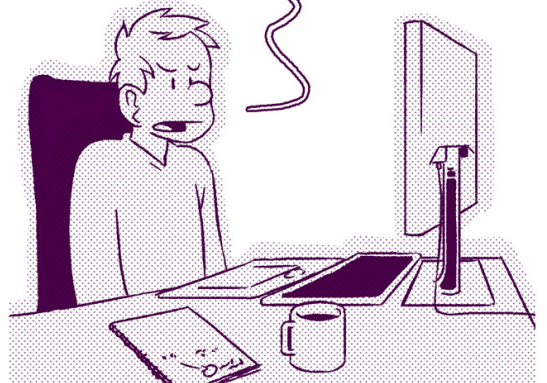
NO WAY.



FLASHFORWARD
JANUARY 2020



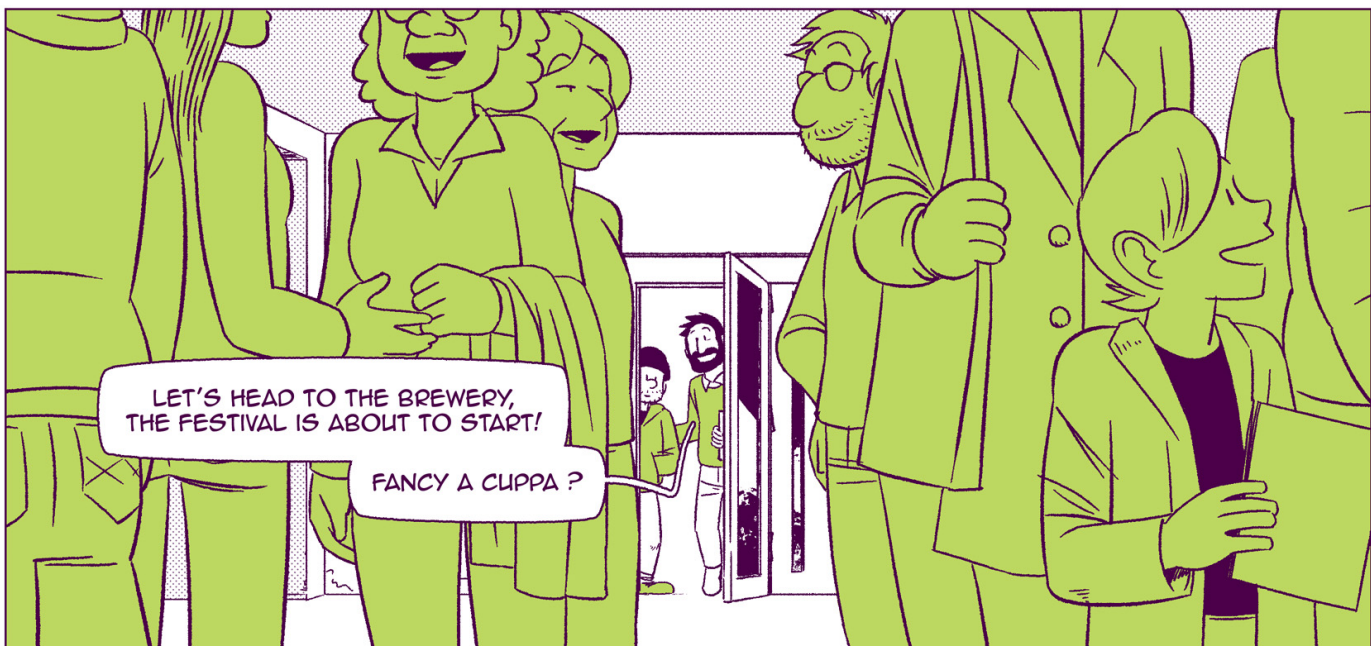
TO THIS DAY I CAN'T TELL IF HE WAS PULLING MY LEG OR NOT...

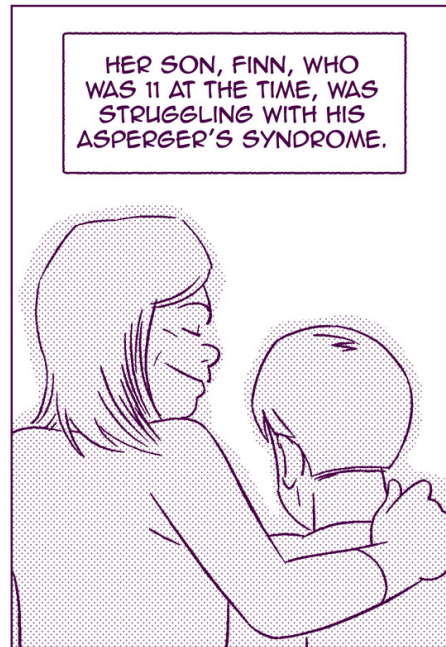
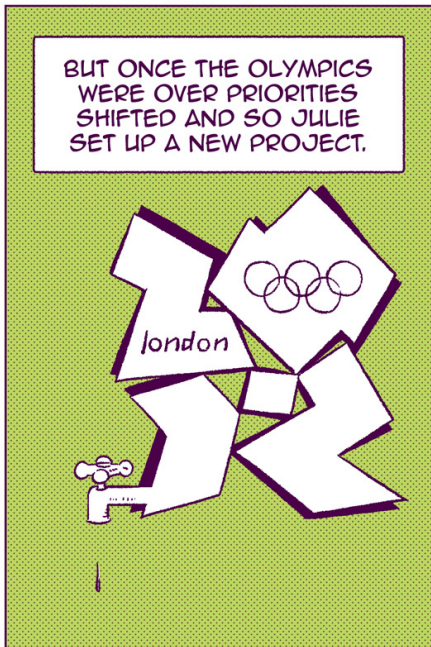
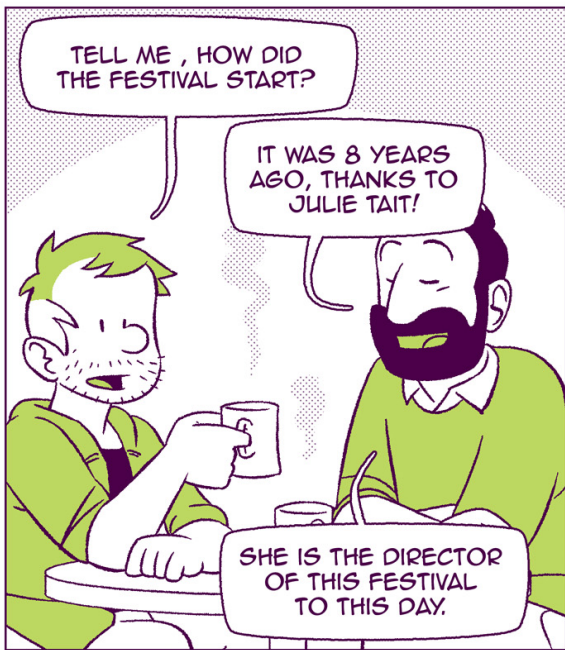


One way

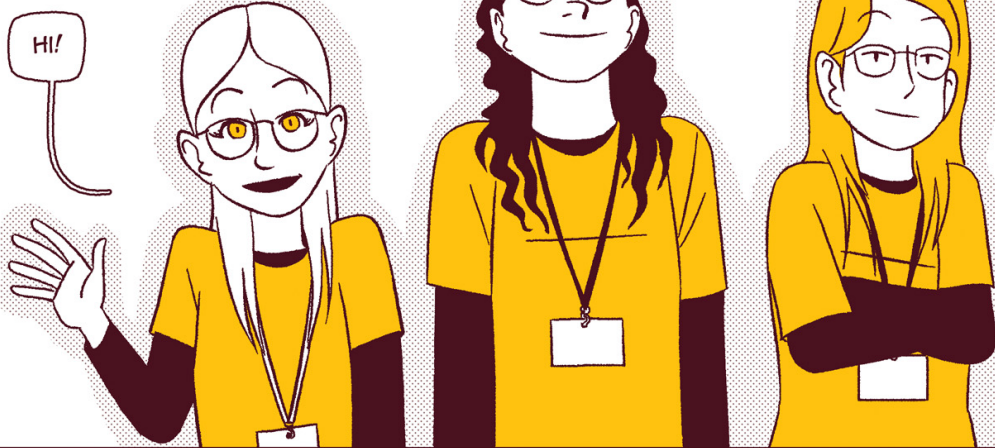
DRAWINGS ARE DISPLAYED ALL OVER THE TOWN IN SHOP WINDOWS. IT GIVES THE TOWN A COMIC BOOK VIBE AND GETS YOU IN THE MOOD.

IT IS CALLED THE WINDOWS TRAIL.





VOLUNTEERS HELPS RUN THE FESTIVAL DURING THE WEEK-END AND MONTHS BEFOREHAND. THE FESTIVAL WOULD NOT HAPPEN WITHOUT THEIR DEDICATION.



IT'S THE LARGEST FESTIVAL TO DATE! I WASN'T REALLY INTO COMIC BOOKS UNTIL I WORKED FOR THE FESTIVAL.

I AM MORE OF A SCULPTOR MYSELF, BUT I REALLY LIKE CULTURAL EVENTS!

HOW MANY PEOPLE VOLUNTEER?

ON THIS WEEK-END, MORE THAN 60. BUT WE ARE A TEAM OF 8 THE REST OF THE YEAR, WITH 3 OR 4 CORE TEAM MEMBERS.

IT'S A LOT OF WORK!

COME, THE OPENING NIGHT IS ABOUT TO START!

ON FRIDAY NIGHT AT 7PM, THE FESTIVAL HOSTED THE 'VIZ 150 CHARACTER WORLD RECORD CHALLENGE', WHICH CONSISTED OF DRAWING 150 CHARACTERS FROM VIZ AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.

VIZ

THE SHOW IS HOSTED BY PETER KESSLER.

DO YOU KNOW VIZ?

NOT AT ALL...

ALRIGHT, YOU'RE IN FOR A TREAT.

THIS WAS A WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT, AND TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN, FOUR CARTOONIST WOULD EACH DRAW ONE OF THE CLASSIC CHARACTERS FROM VIZ. A CHARACTER IS UNLOCKED EVERY TIME SOMEONE IN THE AUDIENCE RECOGNISES IT.

THE HOST WOULD KEEP TRACK OF EACH CHARACTER UNLOCKED ON A PANEL.

EACH NEW DRAWING IS FILMED AND PROJECTED ON SCREEN FOR THE AUDIENCE TO RECOGNIZE.

EACH CARTOONIST WAS DRAWING AT THE SAME TIME SO IT WAS PRETTY FAST PACED.

EVERYTIME SOMEONE FOUND A CHARACTER'S NAME, HE WOULD HAVE A TREAT OF SOME KIND.

SOME WENT HOME WITH A DOZEN NEW PENS THAT NIGHT...

WE ARE AIMING FOR LESS THAN AN HOUR AND A HALF. ALRIGHT, LET ME FIRST INTRODUCE YOU TO OUR CAST OF TALENTED ARTISTS...

STEVE MCGARRY

LUKE MCGARRY

GRAHAM DURY

SIMON THORP



NOT KNOWING WHAT VIZ WAS ABOUT MADE ME TAKE 40 YEARS OF NONSENSE RIGHT IN THE FACE IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.

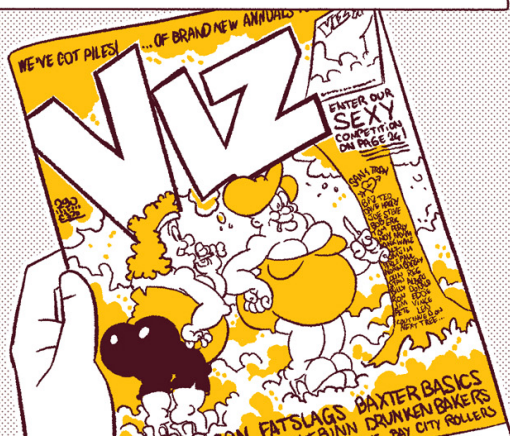
AS A FAN OF EVERYTHING ABSURD, IT WAS A DELIGHT TO BE INTRODUCED TO THIS UNIVERSE THAT WAY.

BASICALLY, EVERY CHARACTER IS A PUNCHLINE, BOTH SILLY AND GROSS.

LOVED DR POOLITTLE, WHO TALKS TO ANIMALS ABOUT CONSTIPATION.

OR BUSTER GONAD, A.K.A. THE BOY WITH UNFEASIBLY LARGE TESTICLES. YOU SEE THE DEAL.

I HAD TO GET MYSELF A COPY OF VIZ, TO WITNESS ALL OF ITS GLORY FIRST HAND. FROM A FRENCH PERSPECTIVE, IT LOOKS LIKE AN EVEN MORE STUPID VERSION OF 'FLUIDE GLACIAL', IF IT'S EVEN POSSIBLE.



THE WORLD RECORD WAS BROKEN AND THE SHOW WENT ON WITH THE AWARD CEREMONY AND A SPEECH FROM HANNAH BERRY, THE UK COMICS LAUREATE.

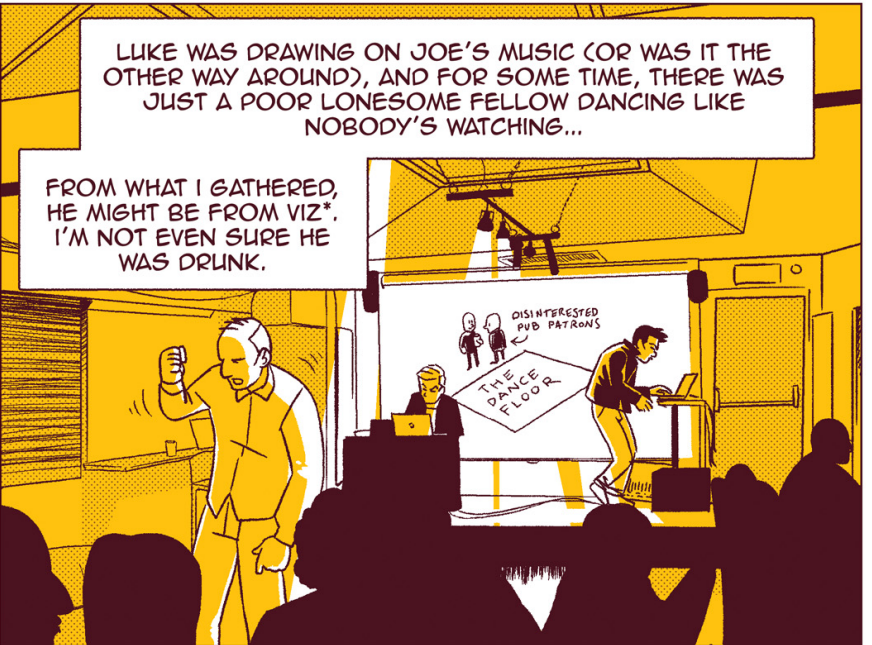
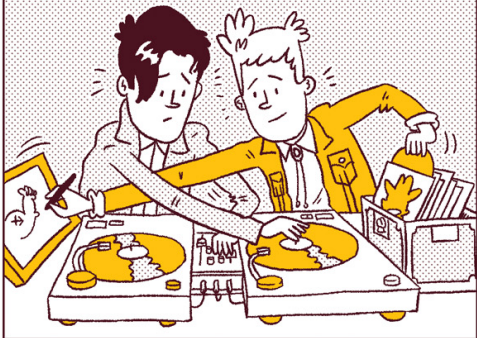
CHARLIE ADLARD ALSO COLLECTED HIS 'SERGIO ARAGONES INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMIC ART' HE WON IN CALIFORNIA EARLIER THIS YEAR.



THE AFTER PARTY TOOK PLACE AT RUSKINS BAR, THE FESTIVAL'S OFFICIAL HANG OUT...

STARTING AT 9.30, JOE AND LUKE MCGARRY PERFORMED A MULTI-MEDIA DJ SET UNDER THE MONIKER 'POP NOIR'.

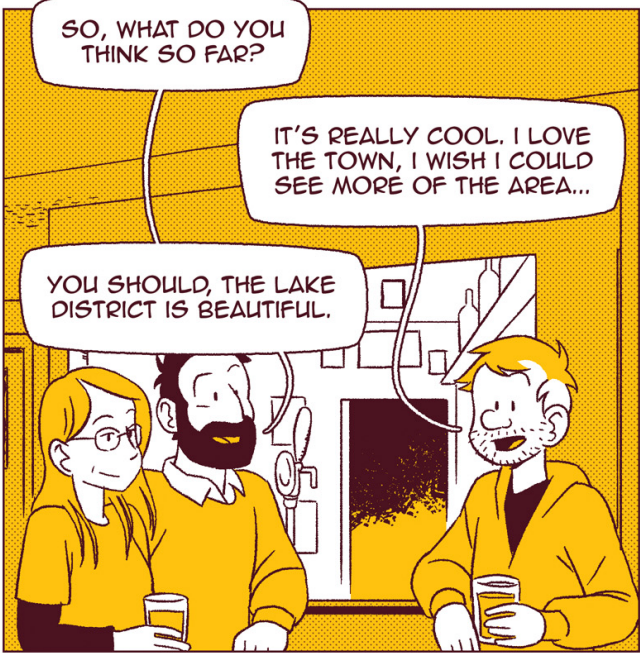
POP NOIR



LUKE WAS DRAWING ON JOE'S MUSIC (OR WAS IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND), AND FOR SOME TIME, THERE WAS JUST A POOR LONESOME FELLOW DANCING LIKE NOBODY'S WATCHING...

FROM WHAT I GATHERED, HE MIGHT BE FROM VIZ*. I'M NOT EVEN SURE HE WAS DRUNK.

*ACTUALLY FROM BELGIUM, WHICH IS MUCH OF A MUCHNESS.



SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK SO FAR?

IT'S REALLY COOL. I LOVE THE TOWN, I WISH I COULD SEE MORE OF THE AREA...

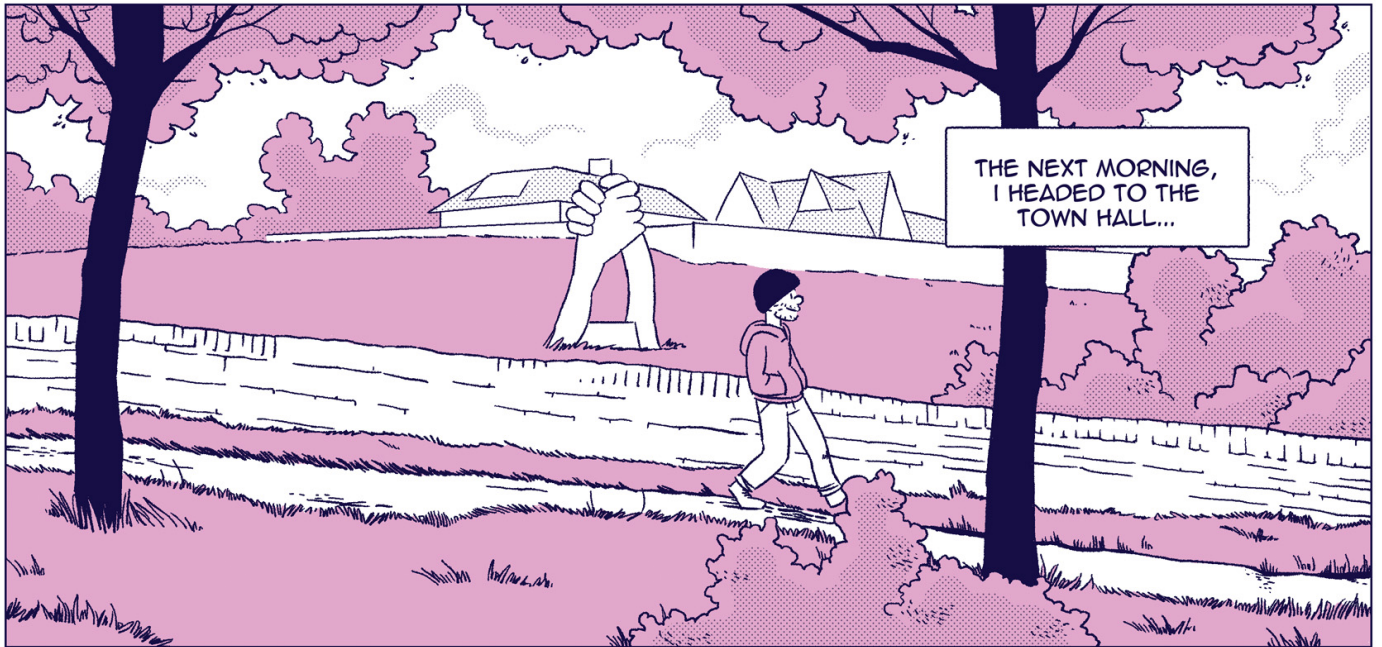
YOU SHOULD, THE LAKE DISTRICT IS BEAUTIFUL.



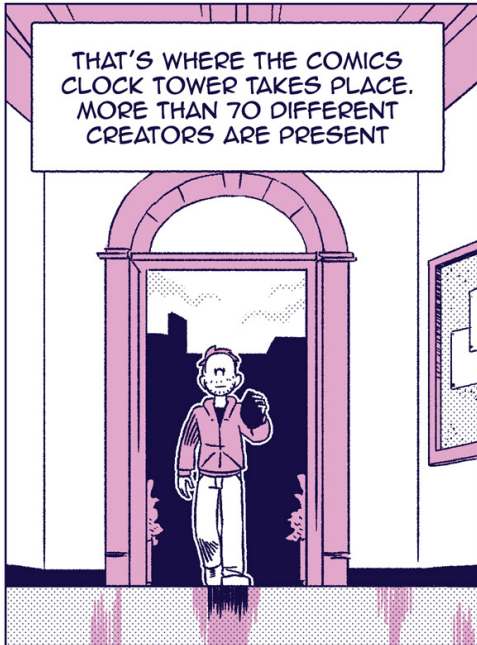
THIS IS THE SECOND MOST POPULAR PLACE FOR TOURISM IN ENGLAND, BEHIND LONDON.

THERE ARE MOUNTAINS AND LAKES ALL AROUND, A PERFECT PLACE FOR HIKING. THERE IS A HIKING FESTIVAL IN KENDAL TOO!

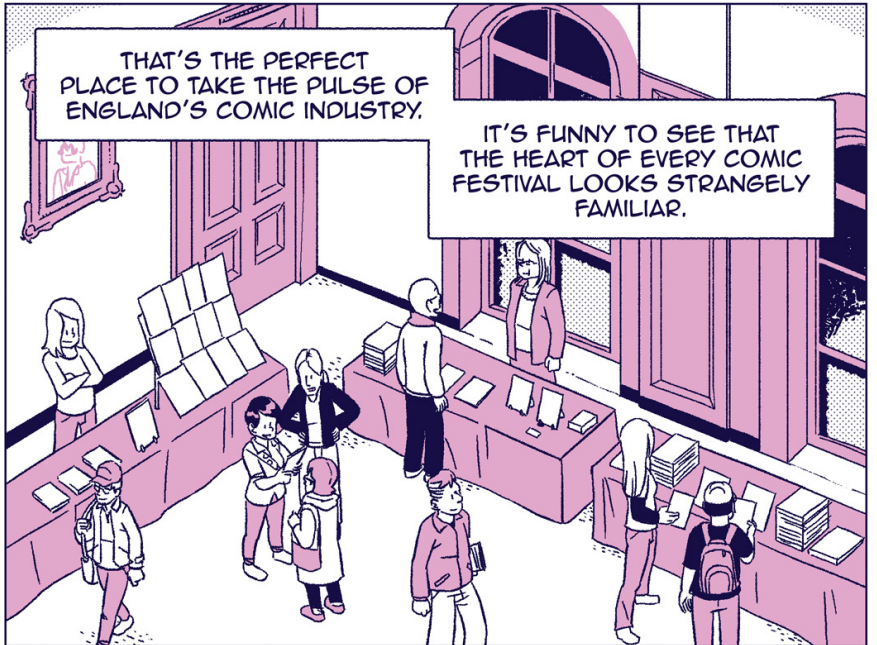
I'M NOT INTO HIKING SADLY... BUT LET ME GET ANOTHER ROUND!



THE NEXT MORNING, I HEADED TO THE TOWN HALL...

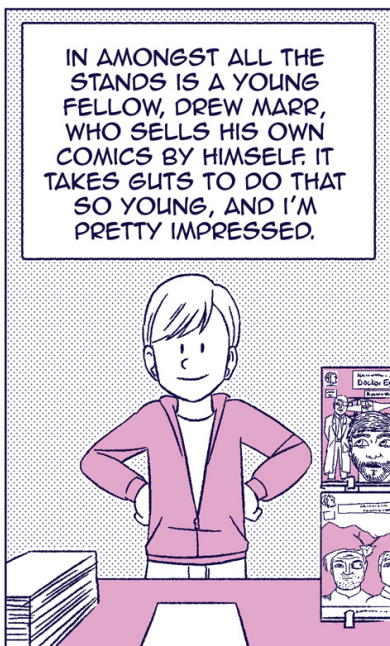


THAT'S WHERE THE COMICS CLOCK TOWER TAKES PLACE. MORE THAN 70 DIFFERENT CREATORS ARE PRESENT

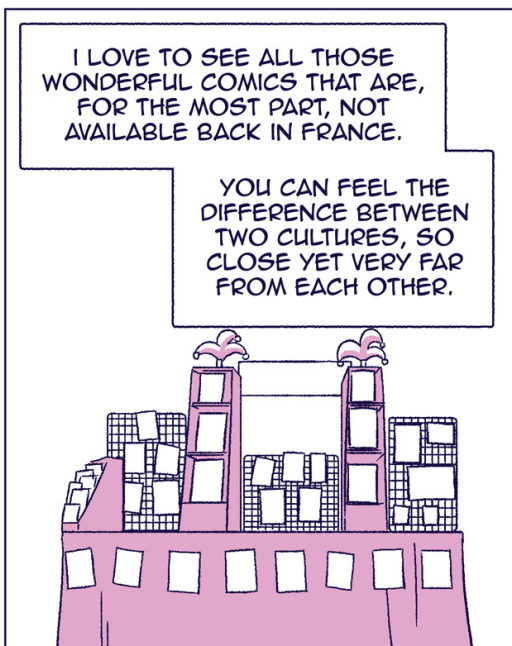


THAT'S THE PERFECT PLACE TO TAKE THE PULSE OF ENGLAND'S COMIC INDUSTRY.

IT'S FUNNY TO SEE THAT THE HEART OF EVERY COMIC FESTIVAL LOOKS STRANGELY FAMILIAR.



IN AMONGST ALL THE STANDS IS A YOUNG FELLOW, DREW MARR, WHO SELLS HIS OWN COMICS BY HIMSELF. IT TAKES GUTS TO DO THAT SO YOUNG, AND I'M PRETTY IMPRESSED.



I LOVE TO SEE ALL THOSE WONDERFUL COMICS THAT ARE, FOR THE MOST PART, NOT AVAILABLE BACK IN FRANCE.

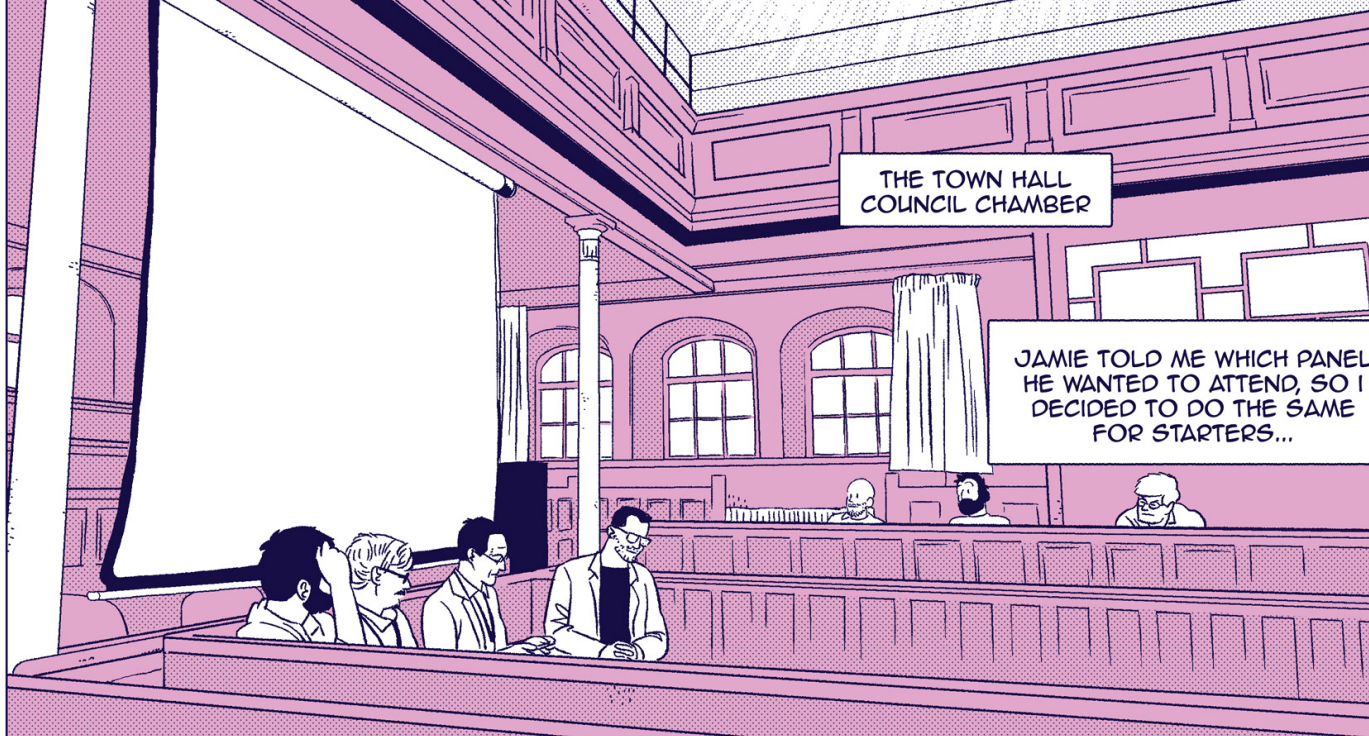
YOU CAN FEEL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO CULTURES, SO CLOSE YET VERY FAR FROM EACH OTHER.



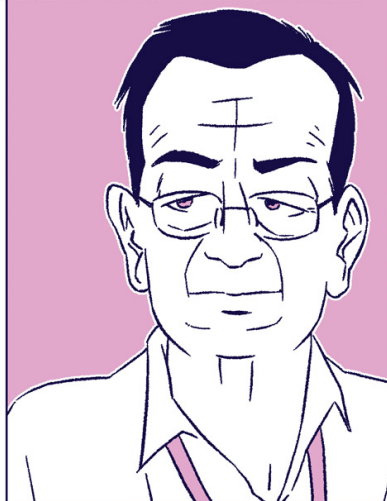
IT'S ALSO WHERE I SAW WHAT IS PROBABLY THE MOST ENGLISH JOKE I'VE EVER SEEN.

THE TOWN HALL
COUNCIL CHAMBER

JAMIE TOLD ME WHICH PANEL
HE WANTED TO ATTEND, SO I
DECIDED TO DO THE SAME
FOR STARTERS...



THIS ONE WAS CALLED
'SELFMADEHERO' AND WAS
HOSTED BY PAUL GRAVETT.



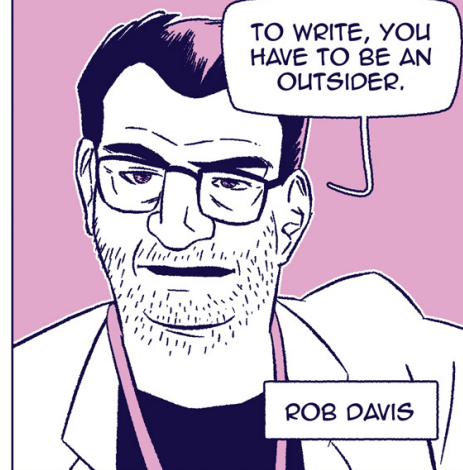
IT PRESENTED THE WORK OF
ALESSANDRO TOTA AND PAOLO
BACILIERI THROUGH THEIR RECENT
RELEASE 'MEMOIRS OF A BOOK
THIEF'.



THIS PANEL DEALT EXTENSIVELY
WITH THE CREATIVE PROCESS OF
THIS AUTHORS, AND SOME
QUOTES STUCK WITH ME...

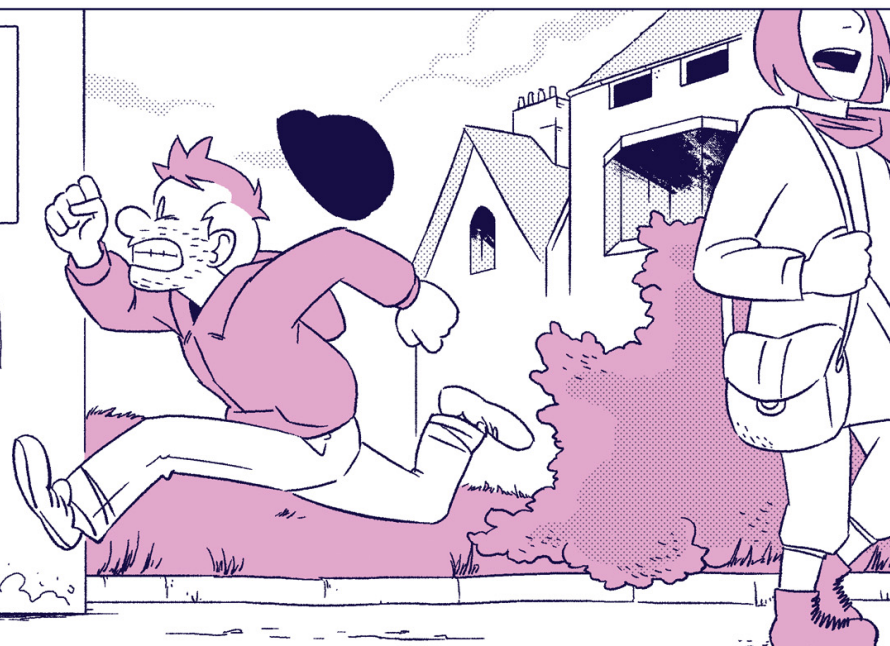
TO WRITE, YOU
HAVE TO BE AN
OUTSIDER.

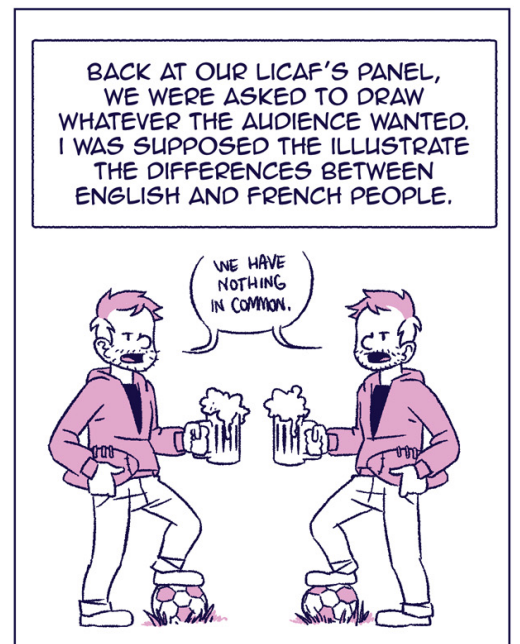
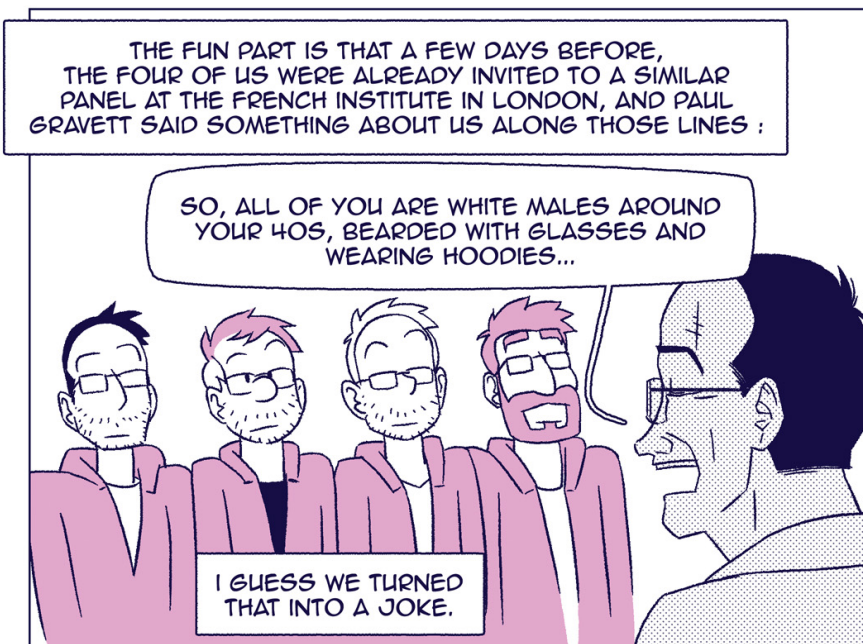
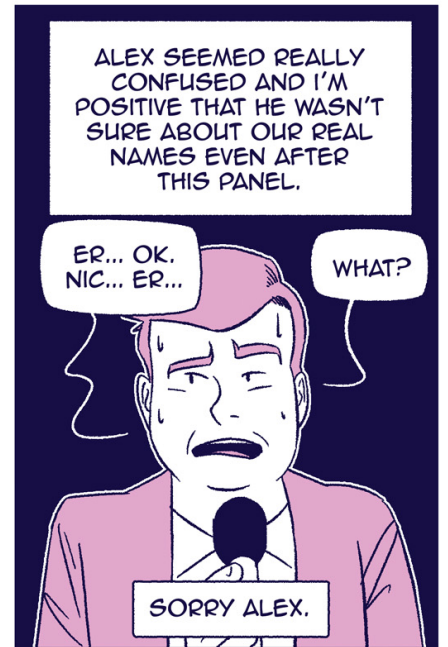
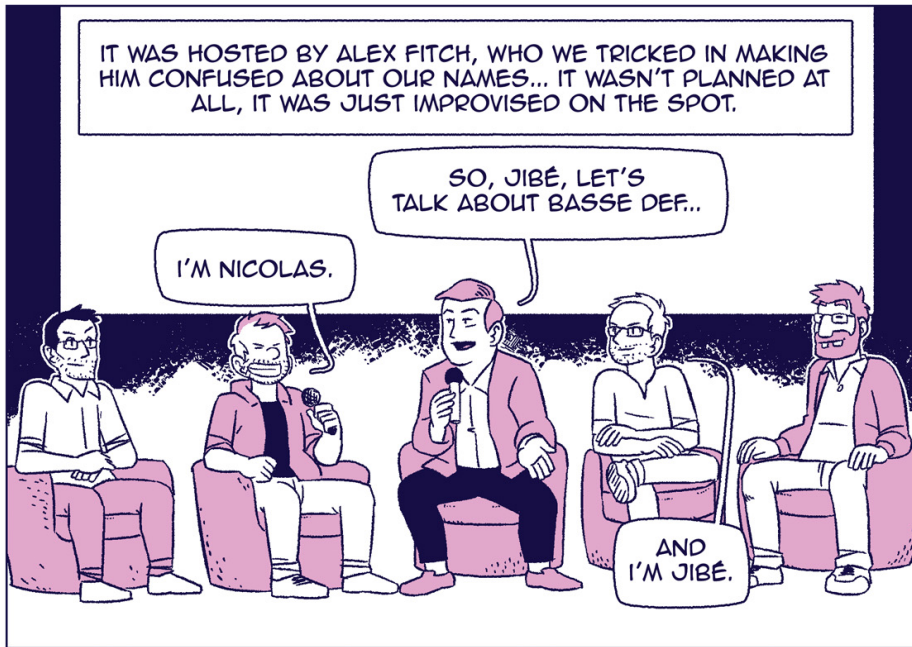
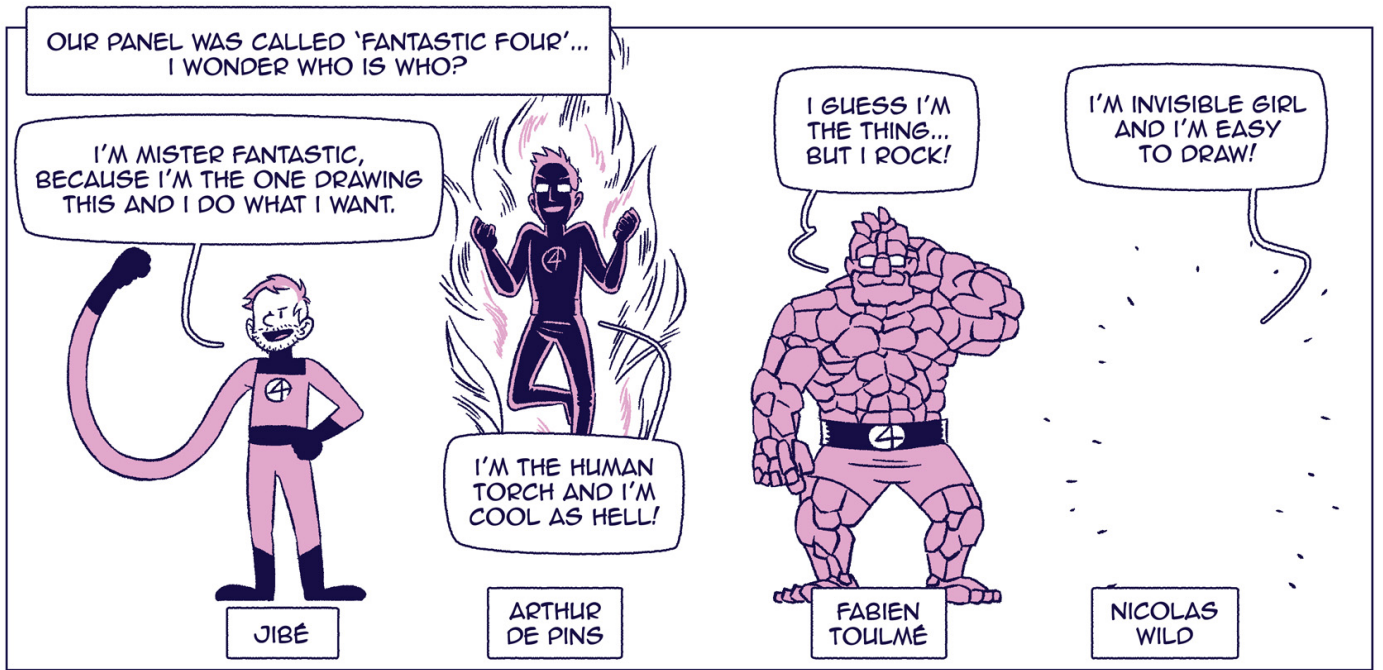
ROB DAVIS



AFTER THIS PANEL AND SPENDING
SOME TIME WITH CREATORS AT
THE COMICS CLOCK TOWER, I
ALMOST FORGOT THAT I WAS
INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN A
PANEL AS WELL!

I'M SUPPOSED TO TALK
ABOUT MY WORK WITH
MY FELLOW FRENCH
COMPANIONS, FABIEN
TOULMÉ, ARTHUR DE PINS
AND NICOLAS WILD.





AFTER OUR PANEL, I DIRECTLY WENT TO SEE ANOTHER PANEL CALLED 'MY OWN PRIVATE HELL'.

ONCE AGAIN, IT'S ABOUT AUTHORS TALKING ABOUT THEIR WORK. IT WAS HOSTED BY CHRIS THOMPSON WHO WOULD INTERVIEW THE ARTISTS IN PAIRS, WHILE THE REMAINING TWO LIVE DRAW ON THE BIG SCREEN.

THIS TIME, THE ARTISTS WERE JUNKO MIZUNO, SEAN PHILLIPS, DUNCAN FEGREDO AND LAURENCE CAMPBELL.

AND ONCE AGAIN, I WROTE DOWN QUOTES THAT STRUCK ME...



I WORK IN MY ROOM, I LOVE SMALL PLACES. SOMETIMES I JUST DO NOTHING.

JUNKO MIZUNO



WHILE WORKING, I LISTEN TO TALK SHOWS AND GET ANGRY.

LAURENCE CAMPBELL



99% OF THE WORK IS TO MAKE IT LOOK LIKE IT'S NOT WORK.

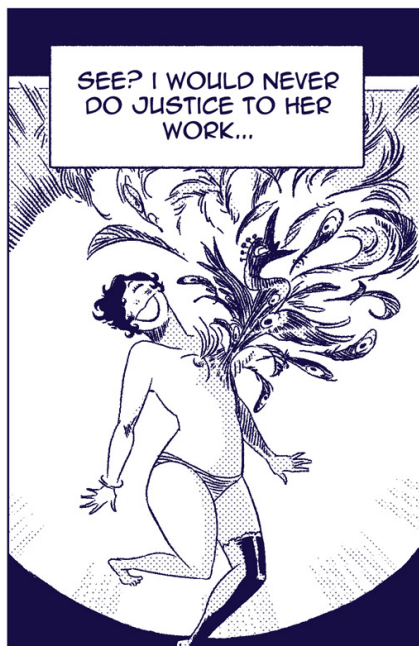
DUNCAN FEGREDO



LATER, I STUMBLED ACROSS JULIE ROCHELEAU'S EXHIBITION. I WAS IN ALREADY IN AWE OF HER ARTWORK, AND COMPLETELY JEALOUS OF HER TALENT AND WORK.



SEE? I WOULD NEVER DO JUSTICE TO HER WORK...

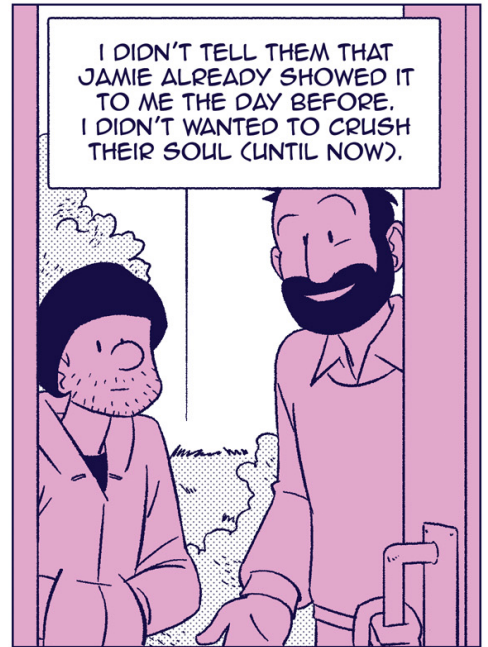


WITH FABIEN TOULMÉ AND RAPHAËL RUFFIER, A JOURNALIST, WE TRIED TO SEE HELLBOY'S ARTWORK EXHIBITION.

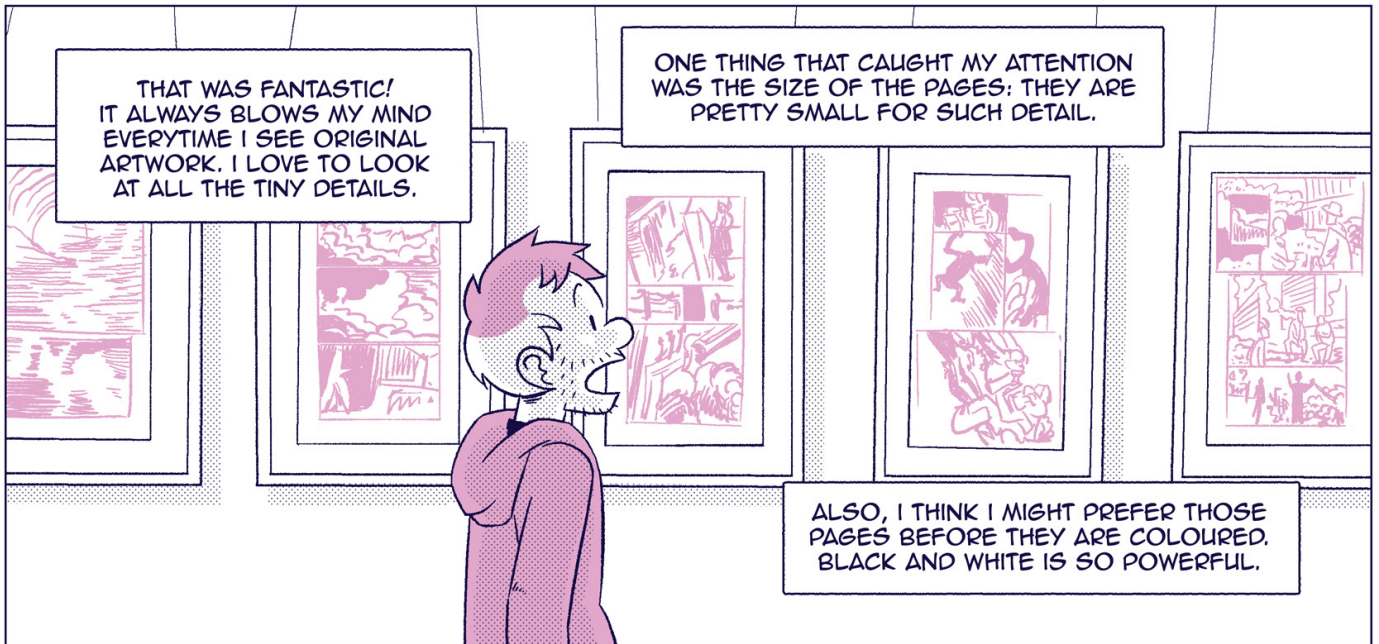




SADLY, IT WAS ALREADY CLOSED FOR THE DAY.



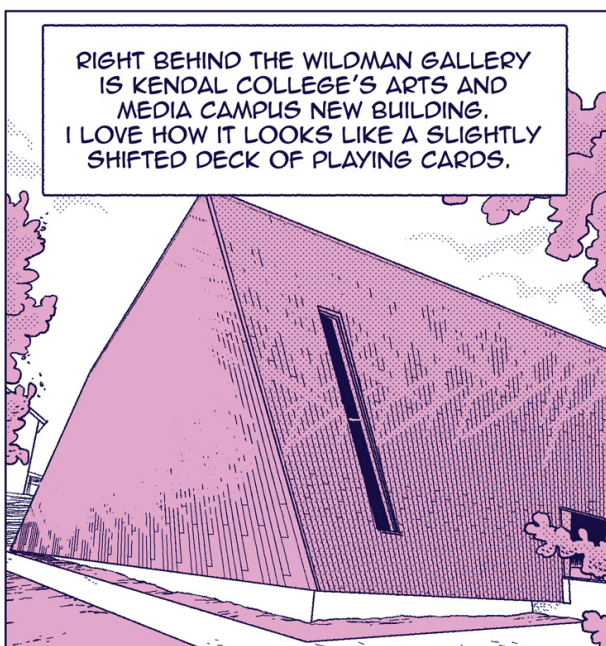
I DIDN'T TELL THEM THAT JAMIE ALREADY SHOWED IT TO ME THE DAY BEFORE. I DIDN'T WANT TO CRUSH THEIR SOUL (UNTIL NOW).



THAT WAS FANTASTIC! IT ALWAYS BLOWS MY MIND EVERYTIME I SEE ORIGINAL ARTWORK. I LOVE TO LOOK AT ALL THE TINY DETAILS.

ONE THING THAT CAUGHT MY ATTENTION WAS THE SIZE OF THE PAGES: THEY ARE PRETTY SMALL FOR SUCH DETAIL.

ALSO, I THINK I MIGHT PREFER THOSE PAGES BEFORE THEY ARE COLOURED. BLACK AND WHITE IS SO POWERFUL.



RIGHT BEHIND THE WILDMAN GALLERY IS KENDAL COLLEGE'S ARTS AND MEDIA CAMPUS NEW BUILDING. I LOVE HOW IT LOOKS LIKE A SLIGHTLY SHIFTED DECK OF PLAYING CARDS.



NO EXHIBITION AND NO PANEL TO ATTEND TO CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING : BEER TIME.



LATER THIS EVENING THERE WOULD BE A NEW KIND OF SHOW AT RUSKINS...

RIGHT AFTER THE 'TOM OF FINLAND LICAF LEATHER PARTY', THERE WAS A LIVE SHOW!

THE ALL STAR BAND WAS FORMED BY COMIC BOOK ARTISTS CHARLIE ADLARD (ON DRUMS), LUKE MCGARRY (GUITAR) AND JOE MCGARRY (VOCALS, MACHINES), UNDER THE NAME 'NOIR LEATHER'.



NOW I WANNA
BE YOUR DOG!

EVEN IF THE THREE MEMBERS ONLY HAD A COUPLE REHEARSALS, IT WAS A GOOD SHOW WITH A LOT OF ENERGY!

EVENTUALLY, OTHER COMIC BOOK ARTISTS JOINED THE BAND ON STAGE. AS A DRUMMER MYSELF, I WAS ASKED TO JOIN AS WELL.



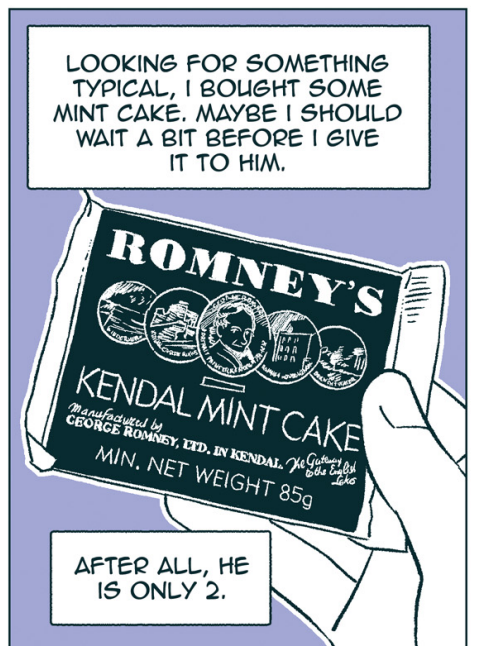
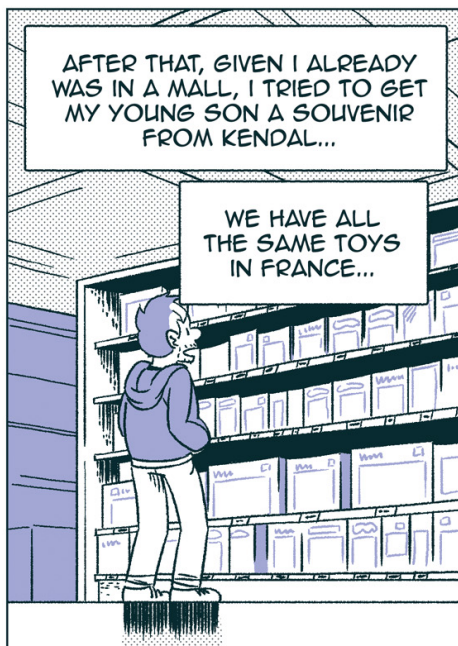
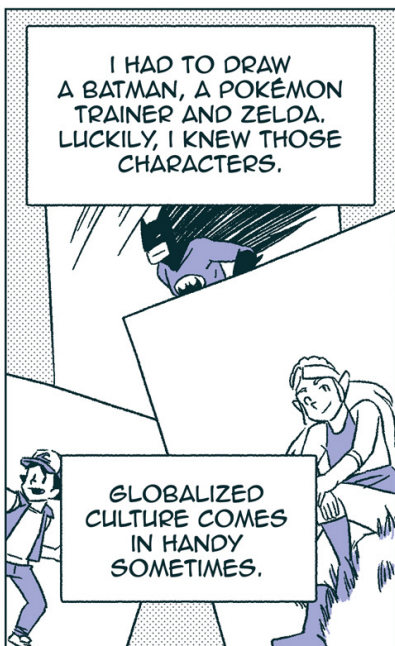
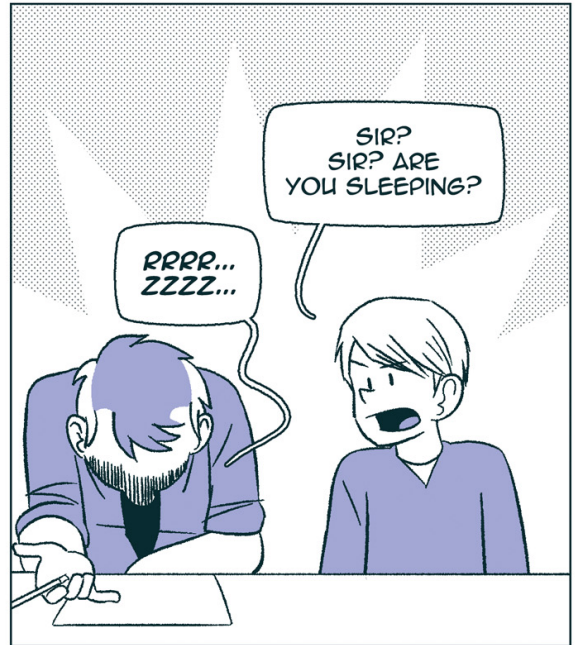
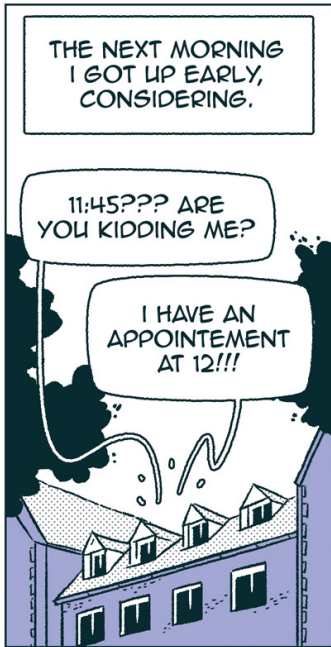
BUT SINCE DRUMS WERE ALREADY TAKEN BY CHARLIE ADLARD, THEY WANTED ME TO PLAY THE TAMBOURINE INSTEAD. I POLITELY DECLINED THIS TIME.

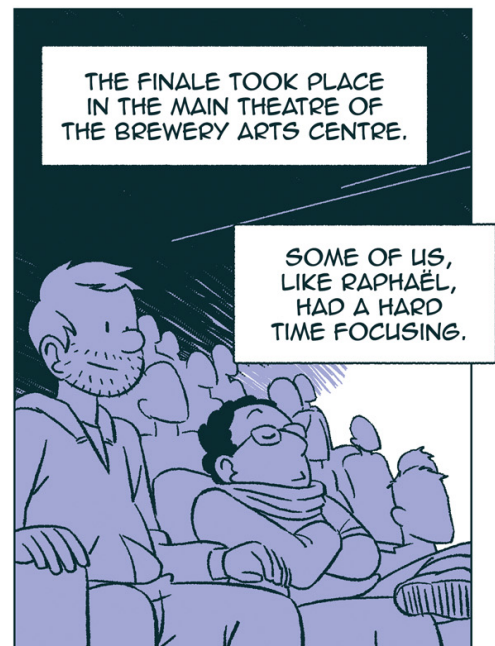
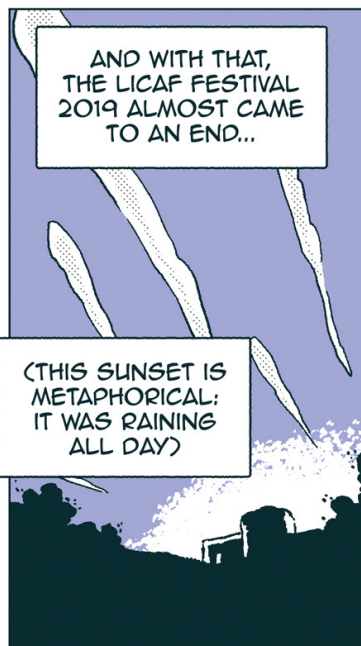
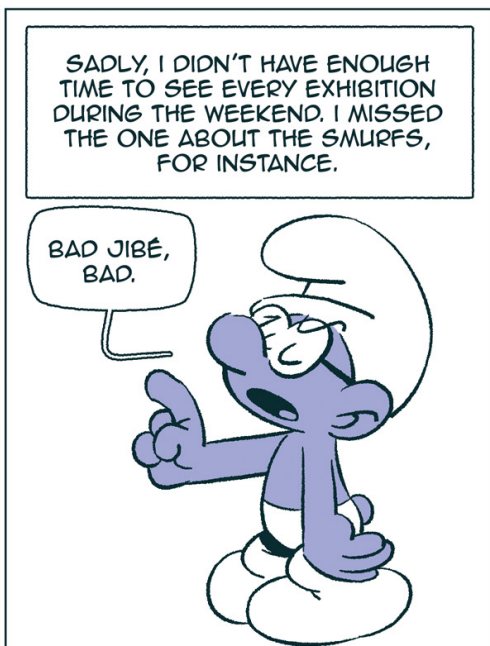
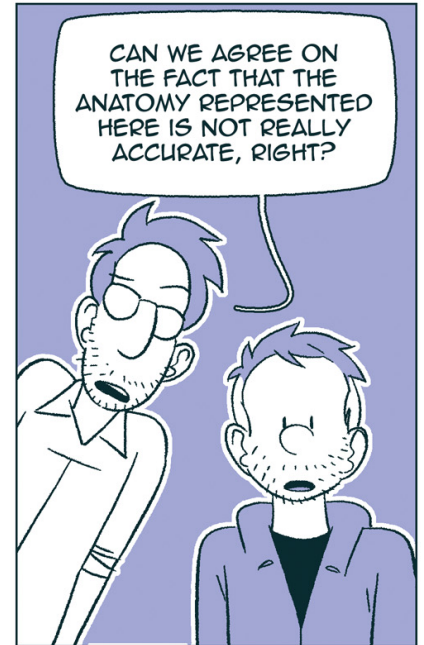
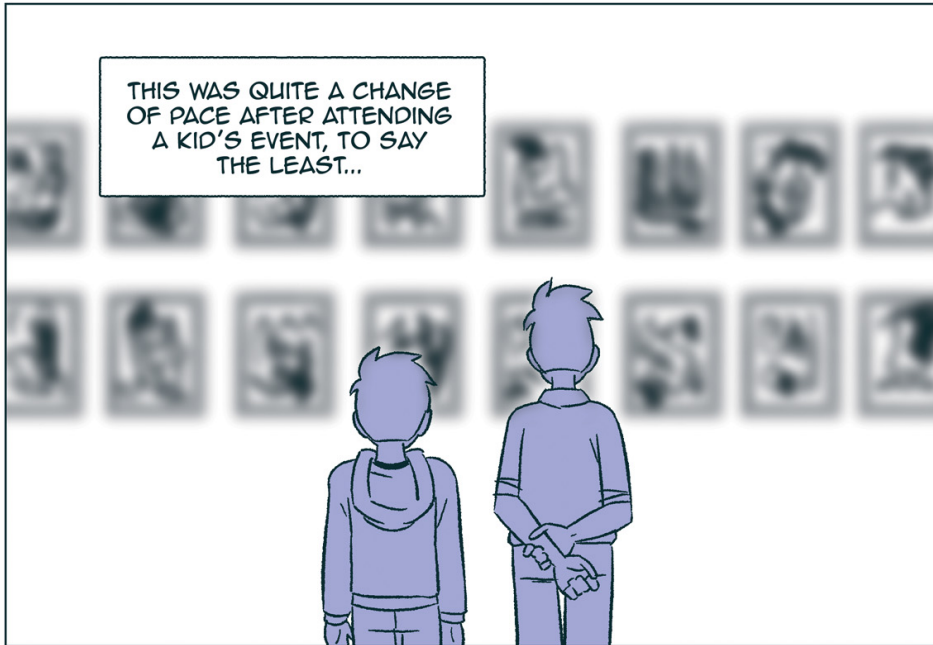
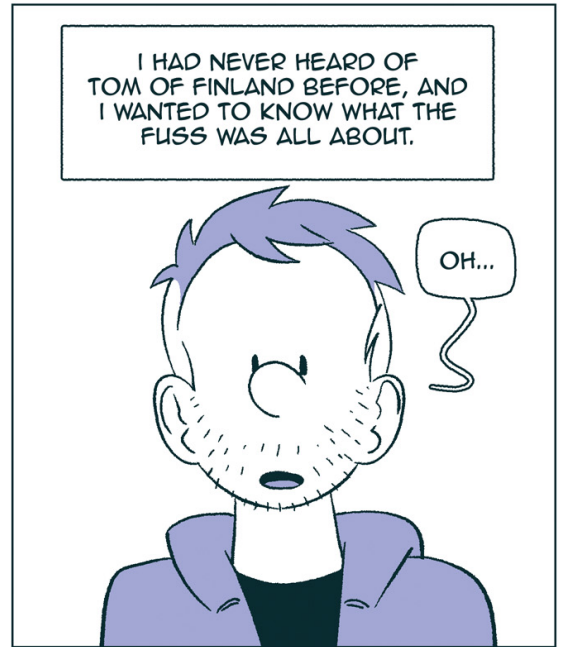
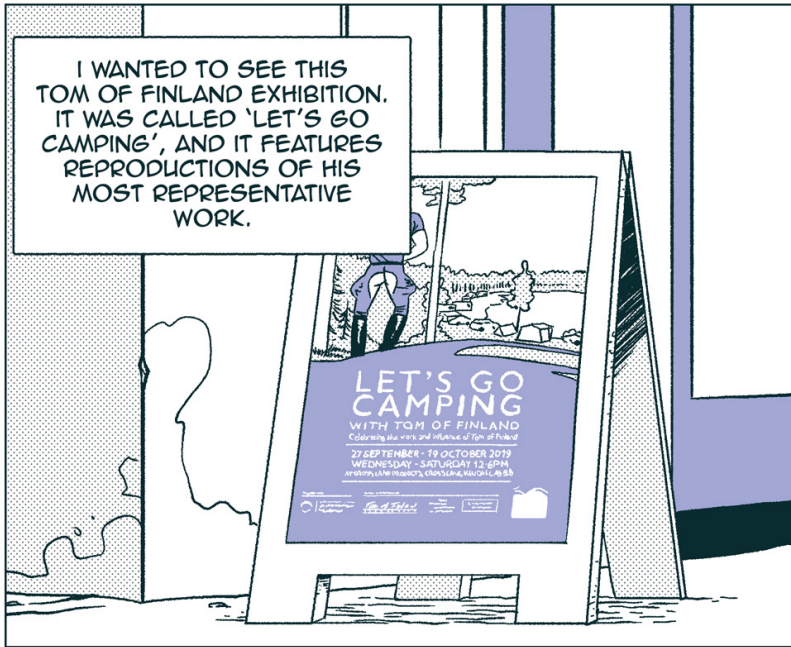


AN UNOFFICIAL AFTER PARTY TOOK PLACE IN A HIDDEN LOCATION IN KENDAL. NOTHING MORE NEED BE SAID.



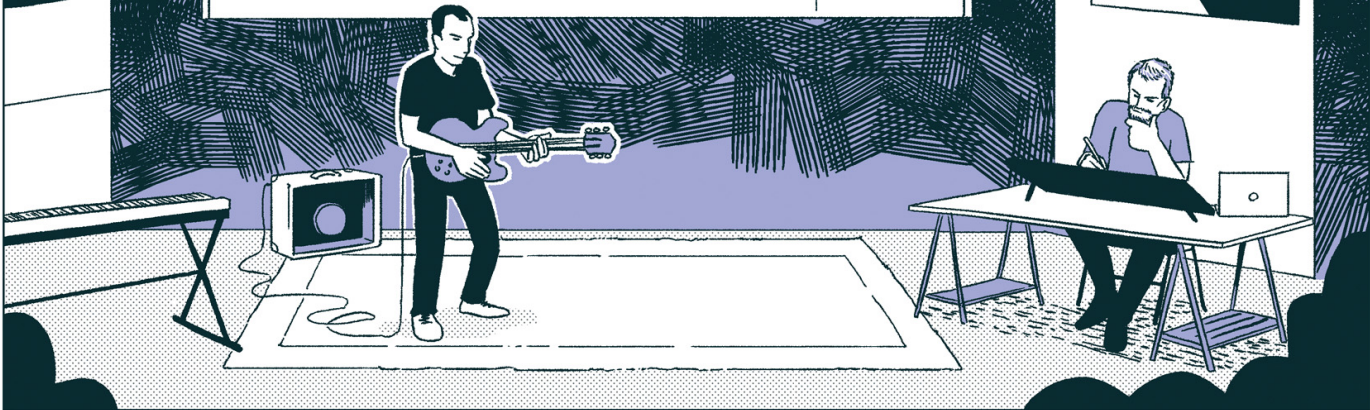
IMAGE NOT FOUND





THAT WAS A PERFORMANCE
COMBINING LIVE DRAWING BY
CHARLIE ADLARD AND LIVE
CINEMATIC MUSIC PERFORMED
BY JULIEN LIMONNE.

THAT WAS VERY
ATMOSPHERIC AND MOODY...
NO WONDER RAPHAËL
SLEPT THROUGH IT, IT
WAS IDEAL FOR RELAXING.



THIS WAS THE THIRD AND FINAL TIME
THIS SHOW HAPPENED, AFTER BEING
ALREADY PERFORMED DURING LYON BD
IN FRANCE AND IN LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA EARLIER THIS YEAR.

AND THAT CLOSED THE
LAKES INTERNATIONAL
COMIC ART FESTIVAL 2019.



THANK YOU JULIE FOR THIS
AMAZING EVENT! I CAN'T WAIT
TO DRAW MY REPORT! YOU'LL
HAVE IT BY THE END OF OCTOBER*.

THANK YOU TOO,
I LOOK FORWARD
TO READING IT!



AND I WANT TO THANK
ALL THE VOLUNTEERS, ARTISTS,
ATTENDEES AND FRIENDS FOR
THIS WONDERFUL WEEK-END!

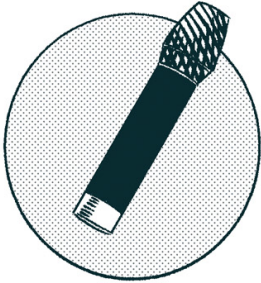
IT'S TIME
TO PARTY!

AGAIN!

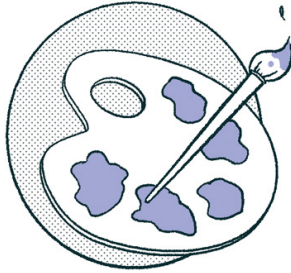


*JANUARY 2020, ACTUALLY U_U

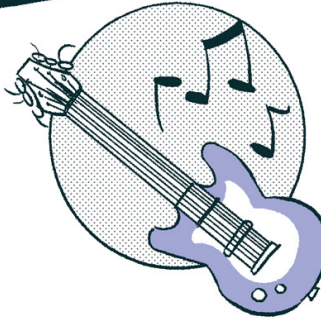
THE LAKE INTERNATIONAL COMIC ART FESTIVAL 2019 IN FIGURES



THERE WERE 24 PANELS
AND LIVE DRAWS,



5 EXHIBITIONS,



2 LIVE SHOWS,



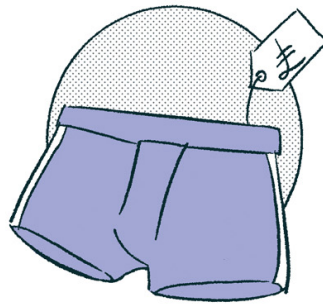
I MADE
5 COMMISSIONS
(SLOW WEEK-END),



I DRANK TOO
MANY BEERS,



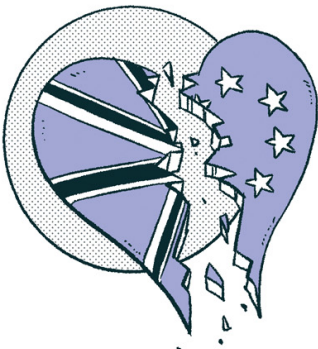
I DRAW A 22 PAGE
REPORT (LATE),



I TALKED TO TOO
MANY PEOPLE IN ORDER
TO BUY A SWIMSUIT FOR
ME TO USE IN THE HOTEL'S
SWIMMING POOL AND
DIDN'T EVEN HAD THE
TIME TO DO SO,



I BOUGHT 3 MINT
CAKES TO GIVE MY
BELOVED ONES.
NO COMPLAINTS
SO FAR.



I'VE SPENT 4 WONDERFUL
DAYS IN ENGLAND, RIGHT
BEFORE OUR COUNTRIES
PART WAYS...



I'VE MEET TOO MANY
NICE PEOPLE TO COUNT,
AND I'M SORRY NOT TO
HAVE THE TIME NOR THE
PLACE TO TALK ABOUT
EVERY ONE OF THEM.



AND... I WILL SOON HAVE
A NEW BABY GIRL!

