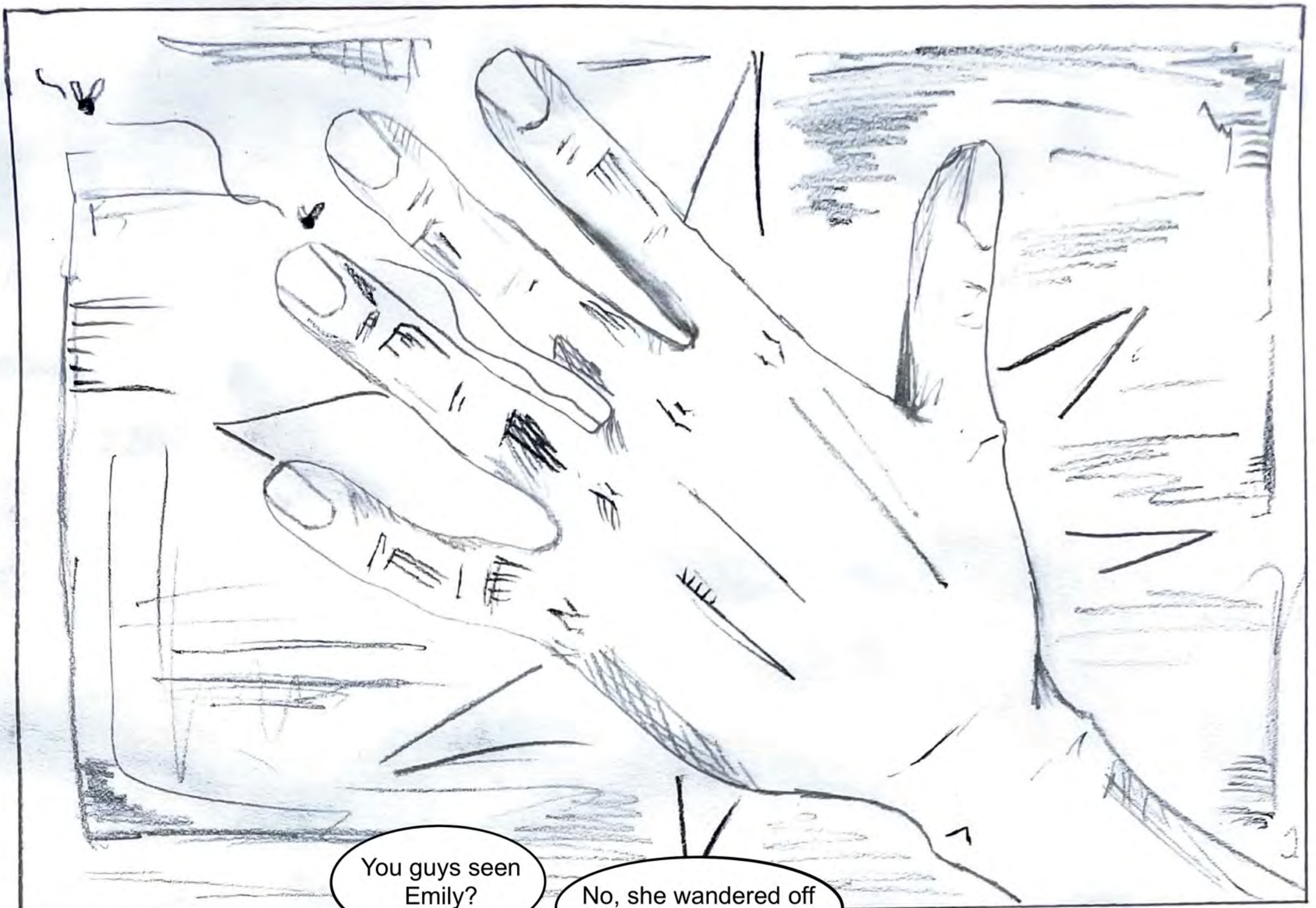


BLACKOUT
ANGELS



You guys seen Emily?

No, she wandered off again?



Yeah, third time this trip.



There's no saying how far she's gone, she was high as a kite when we got here.



That's what's got me worried.



That was surprisingly easy.



Heey.. Check this out! You catch me in 10 years not livin' in a tent like this and you can kill me.



Bold of you to assume you got 10 years on you.



Speak of the Devil, says its a fortune teller, lets see what they have to say about it.



Christ, it's hot in here.



Don't use the lords name in vain now, that'll be a tenner for each of you.

Shit, I got no cash.



It's fine, I got a twenty.



Thanks.

Let's see, well. I've been waitin' for this, this oughta be my finest work!

Not to alarm you young faces, but i'm being told that given five days, one of you'll become God!



Wow.



Eh?



Ooh..



WASH

✓



Wow, ain't a bad summer cradle for this album at all, might make Jacob's ideas bearable.



I'm off to set up heat and electricity, make yourselves at home.



Heard that! And you know our deal!

Boo!

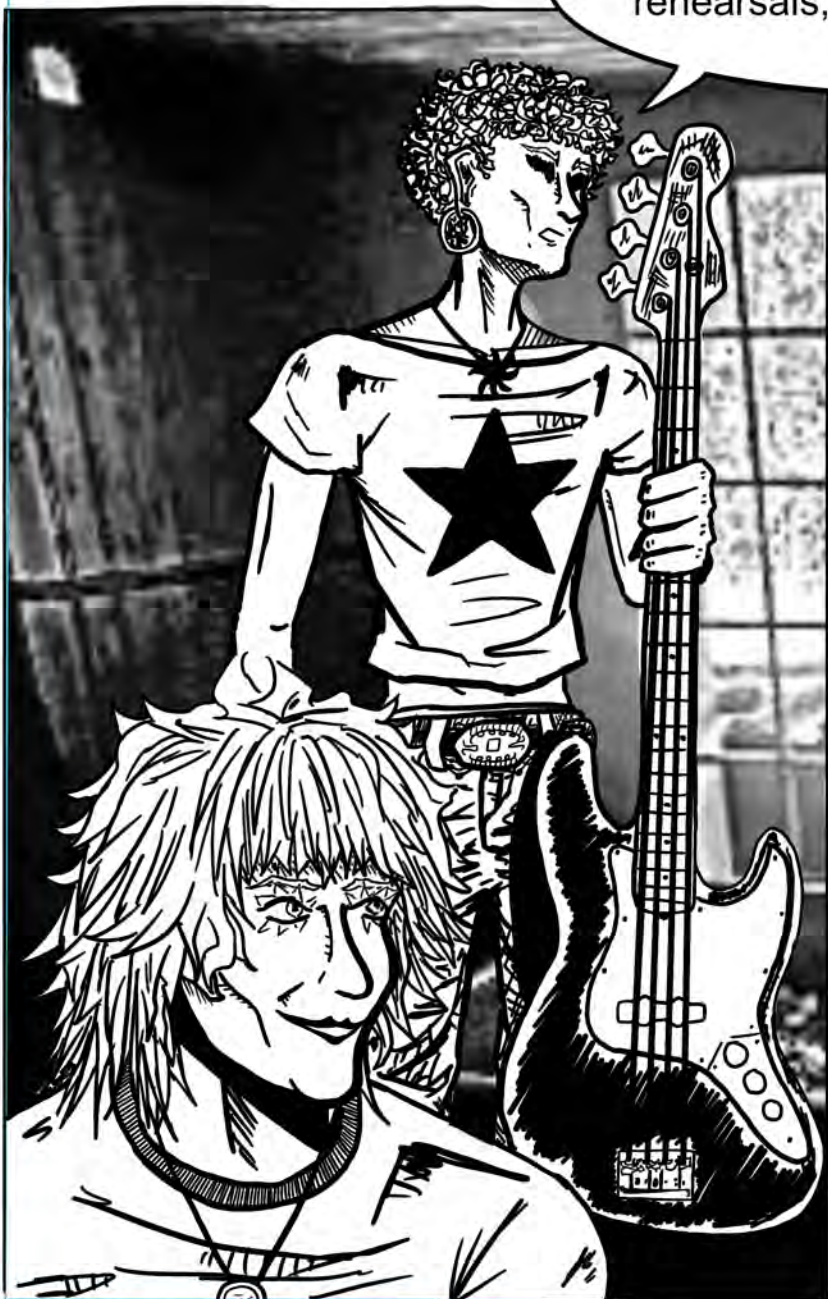


Just about ready now, dammit I told Emily to come down half an hour ago, where is she?



Heeere..

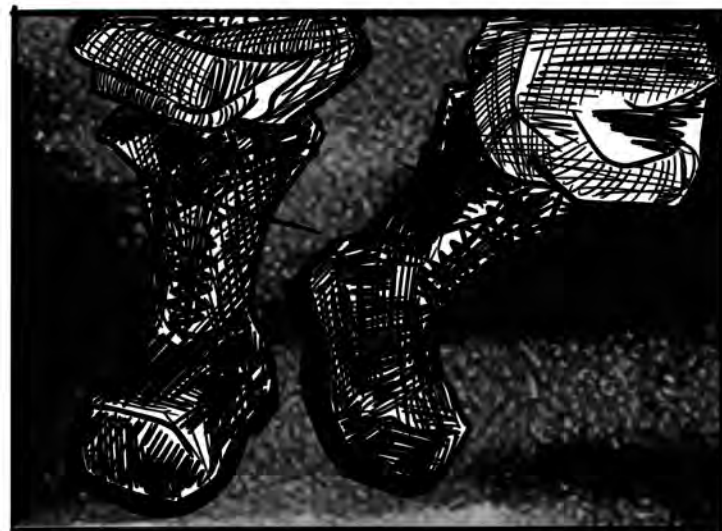
Expect nothing less, okay lets start rehearsals, everyone okay with track 5?



Yeah.

Great. Cindy, please try and stay with us, you know exactly what you're doing. Emily, just try your best okay.





Shit Emily!



Fuck, Emily are you okay!?



Yeah, just give... me a minute..



Okay, well good start today. Great job Rowan i'm loving the way you move.

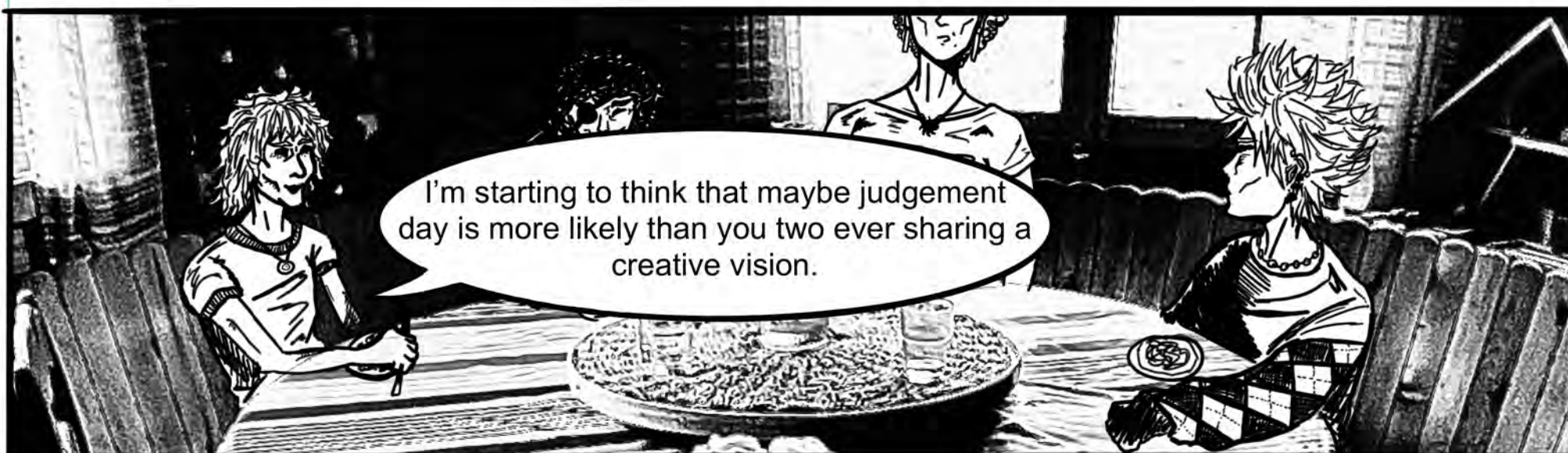
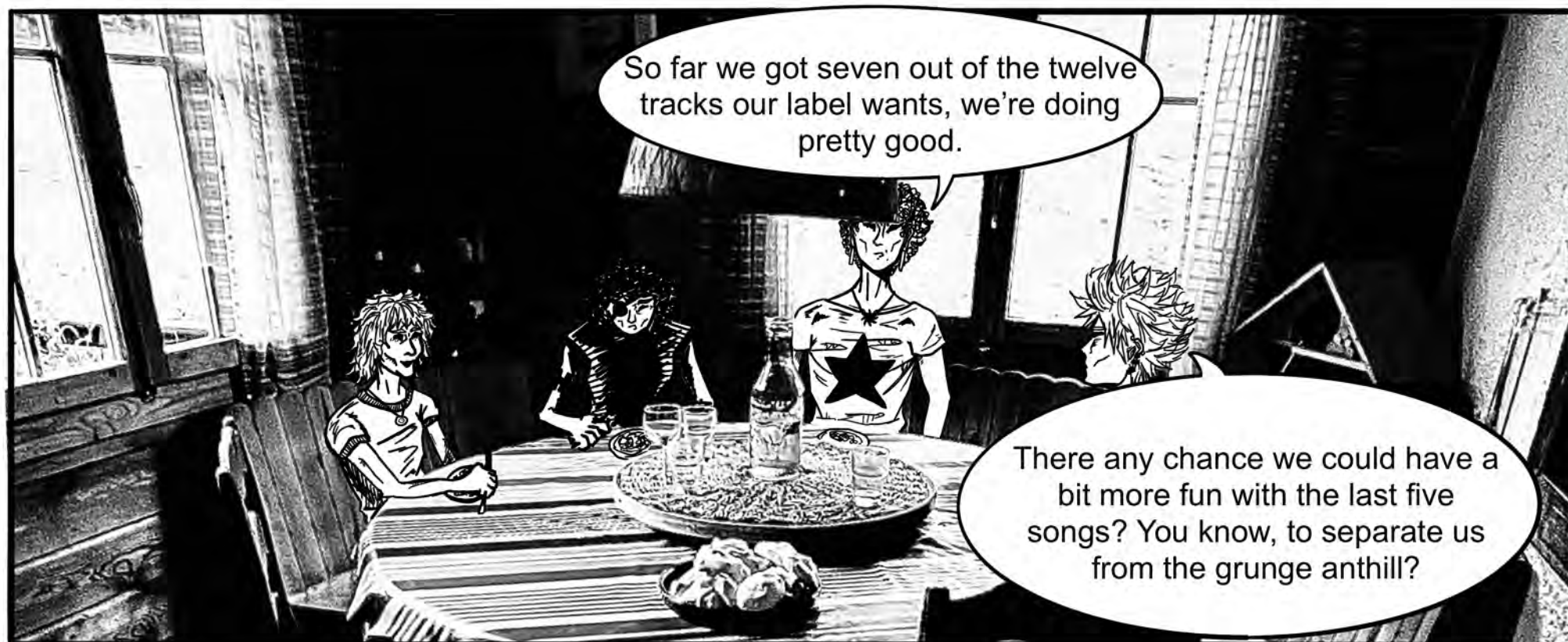


Cindy, thank you for trying to keep up but I know you can do better.



Hey at least I even gave it a thought!

And I'm grateful, lets have dinner.





You want to talk about earlier?

Not my proudest moment.



I'm worried Emily, I know it's been hard since-

You don't know the half of it.



You're right, but heroin is only making it worse, we both know that.



Well how am I supposed to fix that? Go cold turkey? Sweat and shit my guts out? I need it Jacob, and as much as i'd love to kick it, where do I go from then?



Put yourself in my shoes and try living a single evening with those memories, can't say it hasn't made dealing with things easier.



Sure, it's the long road, but let me be here for you.

It hasn't helped you deal with anything, just let you hide in its arms, and for kicking it, we both know you cold turkey ain't the only option. We can wheel you off.



If this goes on any longer, you're outta this band okay? Let's get this started tomorrow.

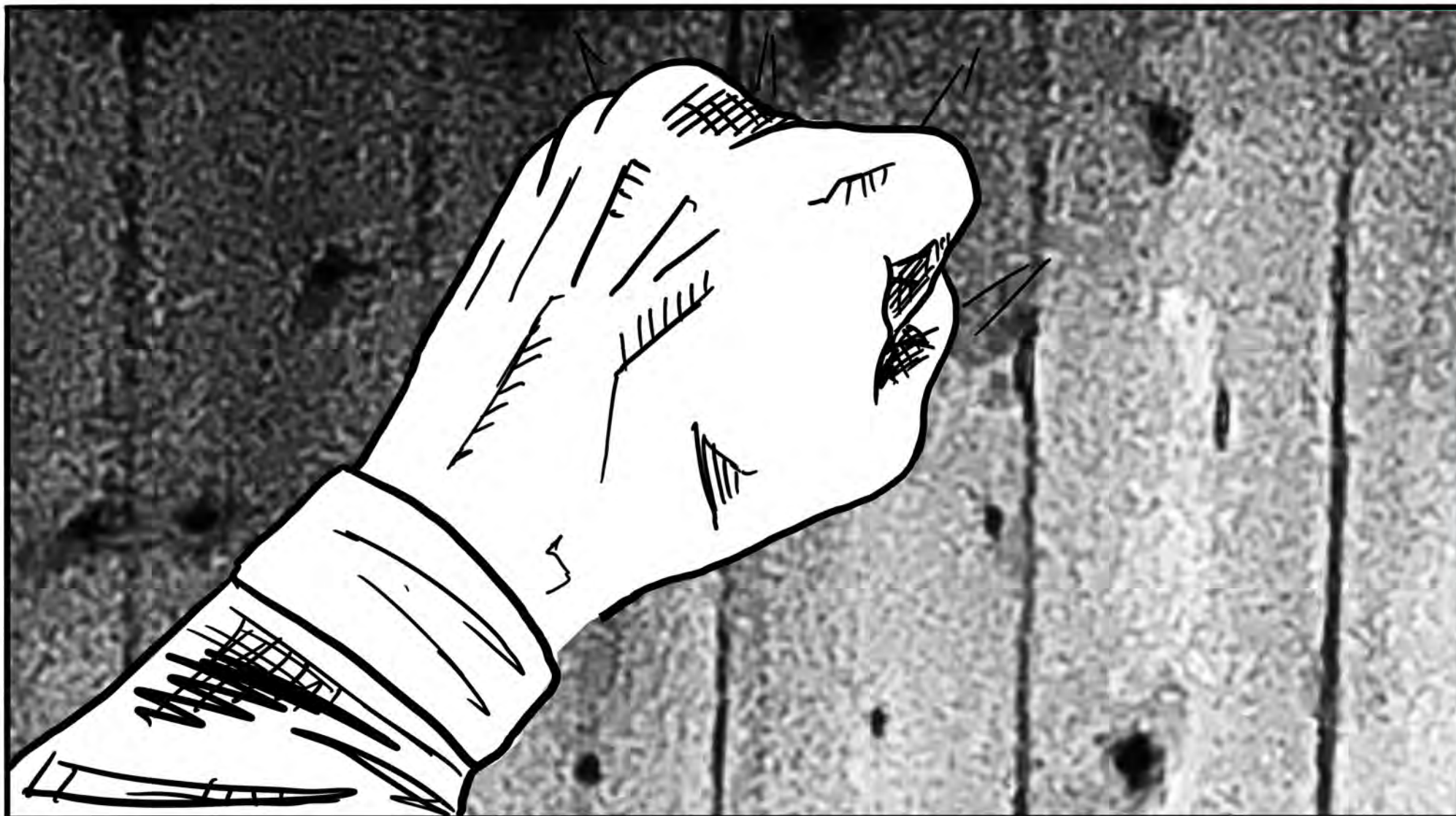
Unless you got any other ideas it's the fairest I got.

.. Not fair..

Tch..

STAY

Z





Here's the plan, you take the doses you need until you aren't physically dependent, we'll fill your new time with memories you can look back on fondly.

I'm sorry Jacob, I really am, but i'm not strong enough to deal with myself head on, it's too early.



First step to self improvement is self reflection, not what makes you say that?



You want me to make a list? Well how about I crashed a car, got my boyfriend killed, lost an eye then was told i'd never be able to have kids all in the same day! Oh, an now the job i've always wanted fronting a band is being usurped by my friend right before my eyes!



What happened to you is heartbreaking Emily, but tell me, why do you think Rowan has stepped up to front so many more of our new tracks?

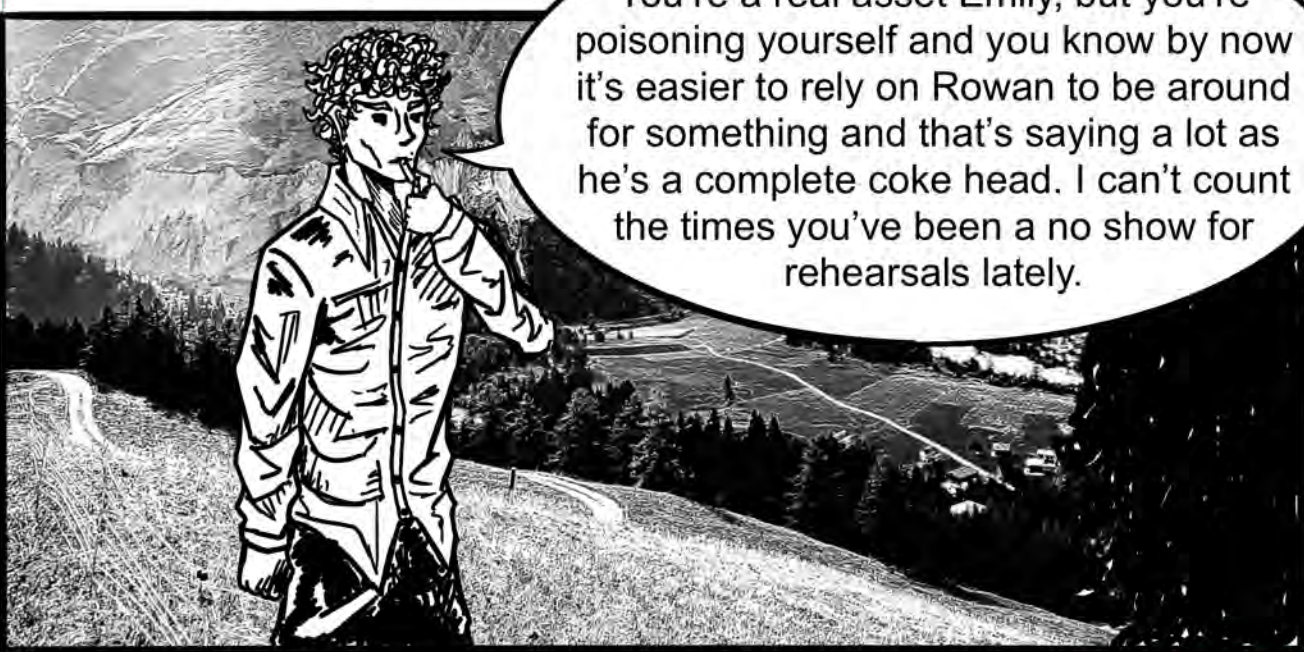


Bingo, you're doing great, you know I love having you in this band, one of the only good decisions mum made was pressurin' me into letting you in, remember that whole episode?

Haha- yeah..



Because... I'm a junkie.



You're a real asset Emily, but you're poisoning yourself and you know by now it's easier to rely on Rowan to be around for something and that's saying a lot as he's a complete coke head. I can't count the times you've been a no show for rehearsals lately.



God, i'm so sorry..



Speaking of, maybe that fortune was a sign?

Oh yeah?



Ever since the crash I always thought that maybe, if we make it big, if i'm able to front a real popular band, it'd make up for everything that happened?



Not that I want kids right now, but the idea I can't have them at all has struck me the wrong way, I keep askin' myself. What will I have to show when I die? I ain't got a legacy in my kids, no one to pass anything down to, no one to prove I was worth anything.



So the only thing I can do is pass myself out, out to the rest of the world who can document and learn from me in place of my own family, then i'll live on through a public conscience in place of the kids I can't have.



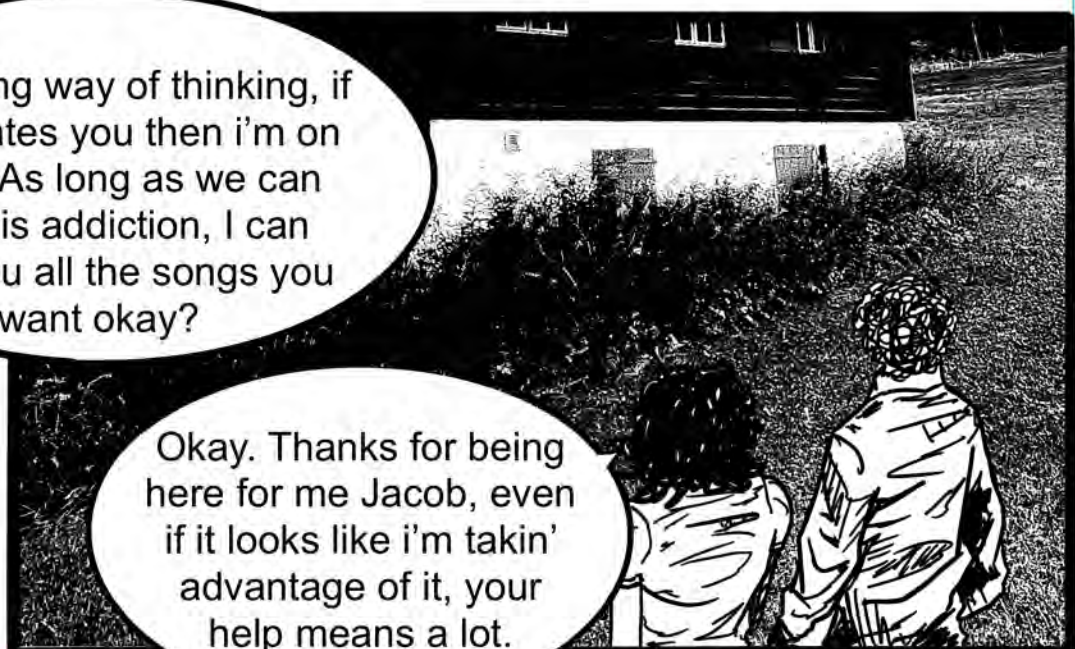
It ain't the most selfless thought i've ever had but this fortune had me thinking, what if he was talking about me? What if that was the world's way a tellin' me this is the place it'll all happen?



A human stepping outside of time, surely some kind of God?



Interesting way of thinking, if it motivates you then i'm on board. As long as we can kick this addiction, I can write you all the songs you want okay?



Okay. Thanks for being here for me Jacob, even if it looks like i'm takin' advantage of it, your help means a lot.



You're tellin' me you believe what that lunatic in the tent was talking about?

You're helpless..

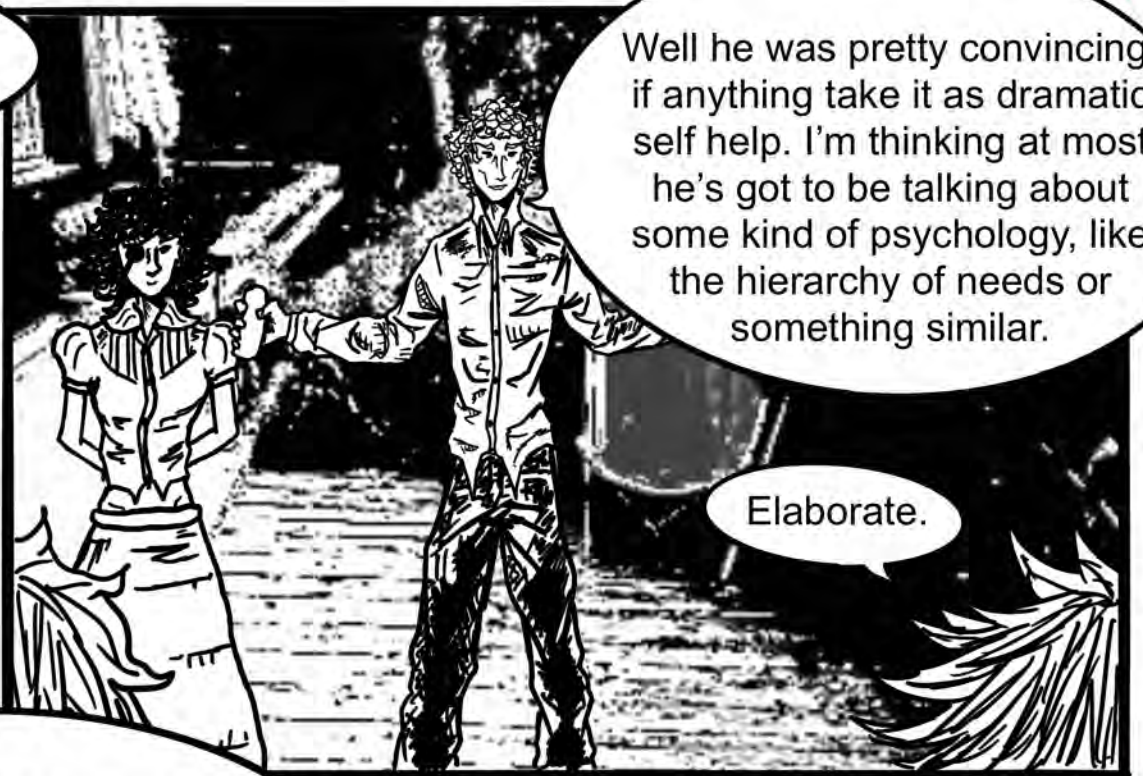
Hey, nothing wrong with a fun fortune.



Hey, you guys talking about the fortune too?



Yeah, and can you believe it, he actually thinks he was onto something!



Well he was pretty convincing, if anything take it as dramatic self help. I'm thinking at most he's got to be talking about some kind of psychology, like the hierarchy of needs or something similar.

Elaborate.



Like, if someone has everything they want, what's stopping them from thinking they're the God of their own little universe? Just how I feel though, maybe he was eluding to one of us coming out this place real fulfilled?



Are you self projecting?



Maybe, i'm in a pretty good place right now, not 'God like' but pretty good.



Heeey.



You're all crazy.



Cindy wasn't lyin' withdrawals are drivin' me nuts. All for the sake of progress though isn't it? Feels like my hair's on fire all day, the walls are breaking down too. Everything is coming back into focus, it'll probably be a week until I start seeing real development on my playing but i've noticed a definite improvement.

No thanks to Rowan, I love him but he drives me mad with envy. I can't stop watching him. How can he dance like that? Don't think i'll ever know, I mean, the cocaine habit probably helps but that only gets someone so far. He's special he is, I want to be like him, I want to be valuable but damn it is hard.



I miss you Nathan. The clearer my mind the harder it is to deal with how I lost you. I can only hope I have the strength in the days to come.



Remember what you told Jacob Emily, this could be your only way out of this grave.

Besides, if i'm God, then surely there's a heaven; and that means one day we can be together again.





You aren't even trying to compromise for me are you Jacob!?

And all'a you can shove God up you're arse! I'm going for a walk..



Should be a payphone around here somewhere...



Bingo.

Hey Cindy, how's the trip?



Hey penny, exactly how we thought, i'm gonna rant for a little bit okay.

Sure, colour me interested.

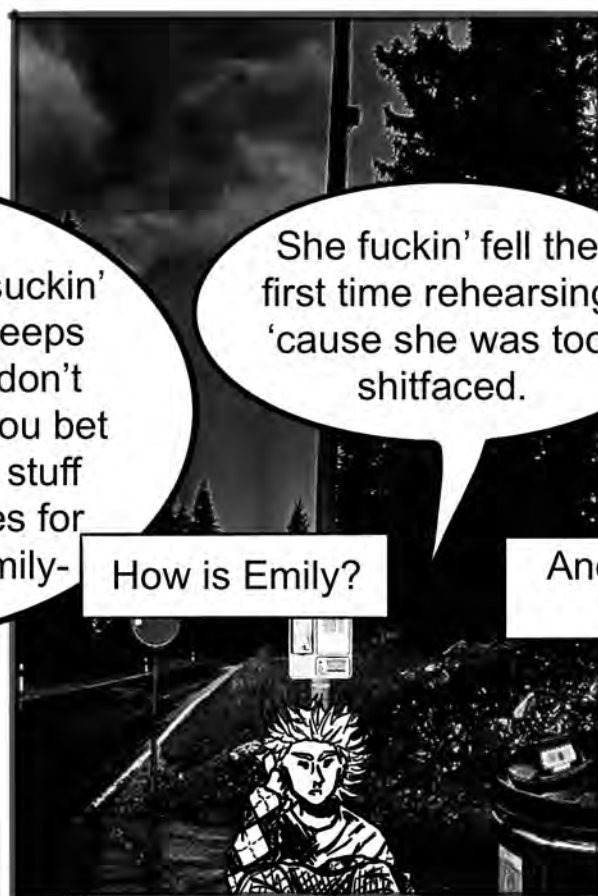


Well to start Jacob ain't budging when it comes to the direction of the band, as we both predicted.



A strong start to Cindy's board of predictions.

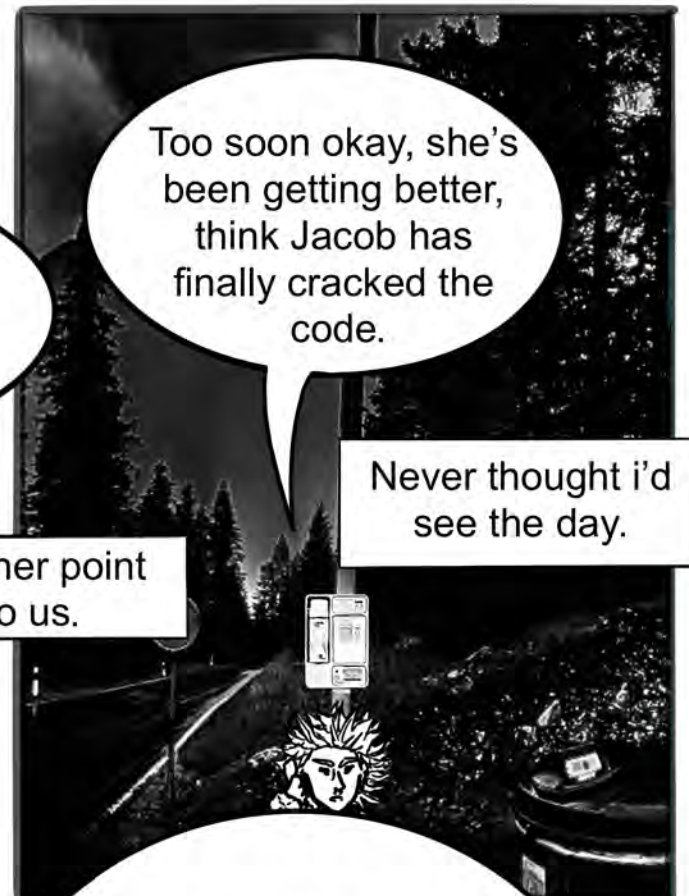
Ha, yeah he's really suckin' up to our label. He keeps giving me shit I just don't find exciting to play, you bet I can't write my own stuff because Jacob writes for both Rowan and Emily-



How is Emily?

She fuckin' fell the first time rehearsing 'cause she was too shitfaced.

Another point to us.



Too soon okay, she's been getting better, think Jacob has finally cracked the code.

Never thought i'd see the day.



Right? And this other thing, some nutter playing fortune teller said one of us'd become God on this trip, can you believe it?

Wow.



Yeah, load a' bullshit but it's driving me insane. Rowan keeps on bringin' it up like some kind of inside joke and everyone seems obsessed with it. Hey get this, not even an hour ago Jacob told me 'oh well if anyone's God it'd be me 'cause I write everyone's stuff'.

Classic Jacob.



Literally! But like even if he's jokin' around it's still unbearable, I just feel isolated by it all. You know playing drums helps me with my short fuse and the shit i'm being forced to play now ain't scratching that itch no more. Even if I did quit who else-



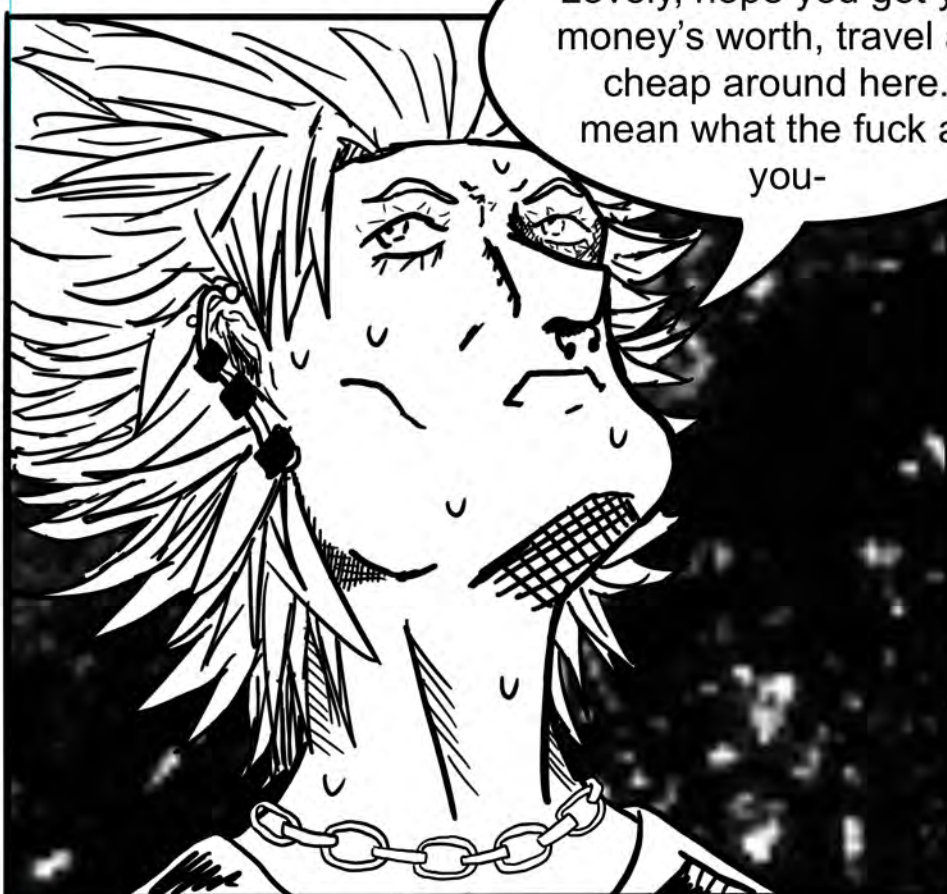


Well if it ain't the crimson crackhead.

I envy you, God brought you here of his own volition, I was not so lucky, had to do the searching myself. Tomorrow.. he is upon us, and he will have your head.



Lovely, hope you get your money's worth, travel ain't cheap around here. I mean what the fuck are you-



Fuck me how'd he do that? It was only a second..



Brought me here? Rowan? No.. I'm losing my mind...



FINAL

DAY



Oh Emily.. been here before.

O-oh Cindy -uh- I-



Trust me, I know I sound like a textbook but kicking a dope habit was the best thing i've ever done for myself. Hardest part is always keeping up after getting started Emily, I know you can see it through.



Please don't tell Jacob..



On the condition you spend the day with me, we got the day off and it'd be a damn shame if we didn't make the most of these mountains. I'll even throw in an earful of life advice for your troubles.

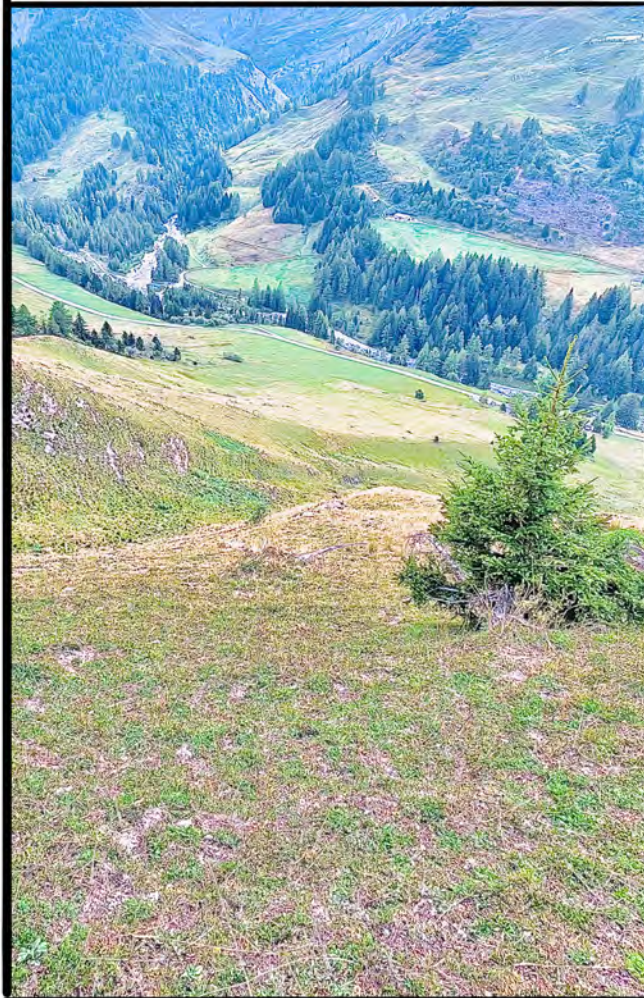




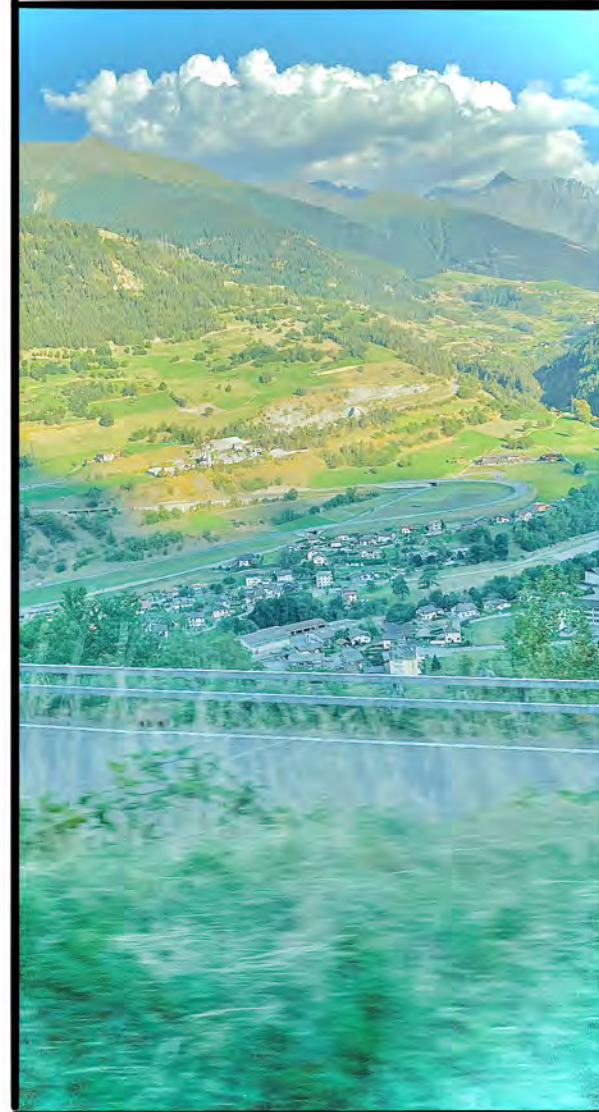
While I can't come close to understanding your pain Emily, what i've come to understand these past months is that you're letting it kill you.



I know the idea of a quick fix on a particularly lonely evening is more charming than any other solution on earth trust me, and the disregard of your life that comes with the loss of a loved one can't make those seconds of agony feel any longer.



But once you start to peel back the curtain, step back onto the world's stage, you start to notice just how okay everything can seem to feel.



Leaving anything behind is a bitch for sure. The trick is learning how to give yourself things you know you can come to value just as much as what you lost.

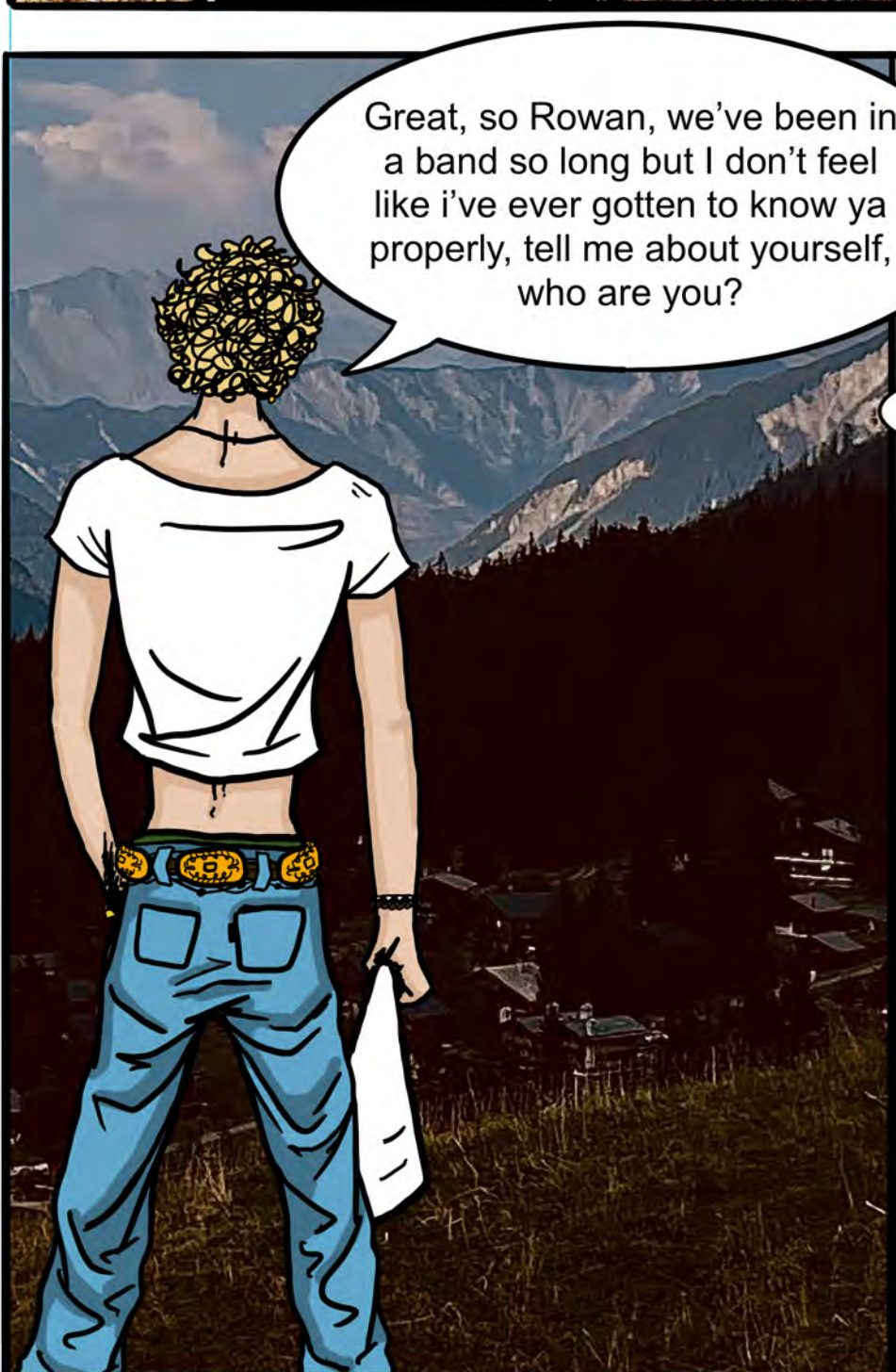


Ain't ever going to replace it, but think of yourself as a catapillar on its way to becoming the prettiest damn butterfly there ever was. That incentive to pick yourself up and grab desperately for another hand rail is your ticket out of here.



Look around you Emily, look at all the handrails you got, a lovin' brother in Jacob, plenty a' friends back home and you're the craziest gal I ever seen on your guitar. You have a future here Emily, you just got to do some real living to see so.

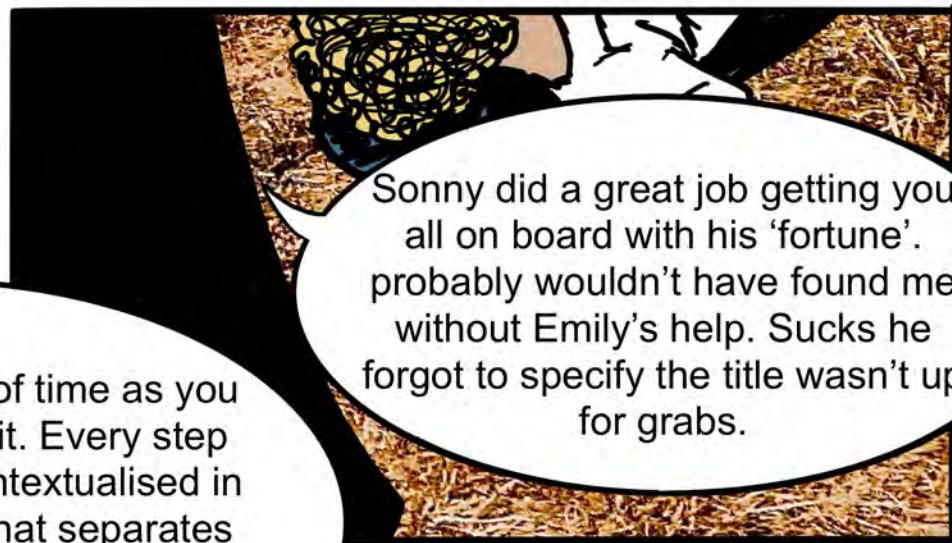






Augh!

Nono, wait wait..
please.. plea-oh..



Sonny did a great job getting you
all on board with his 'fortune'.
probably wouldn't have found me
without Emily's help. Sucks he
forgot to specify the title wasn't up
for grabs.

My place at the end of time as you
have come to know it. Every step
you have taken recontextualised in
my image. That is what separates
me from man. All you have ever
done has led to me, I am an avatar
for your absence of choice.



Any reason for your being
has been stripped down
to serving time in my
frozen hourglass.



If I can control these
pages where I have been
confined, who else but
me can take up the
mantle of God?



Suffocating authority,
is what my son meant
by God.

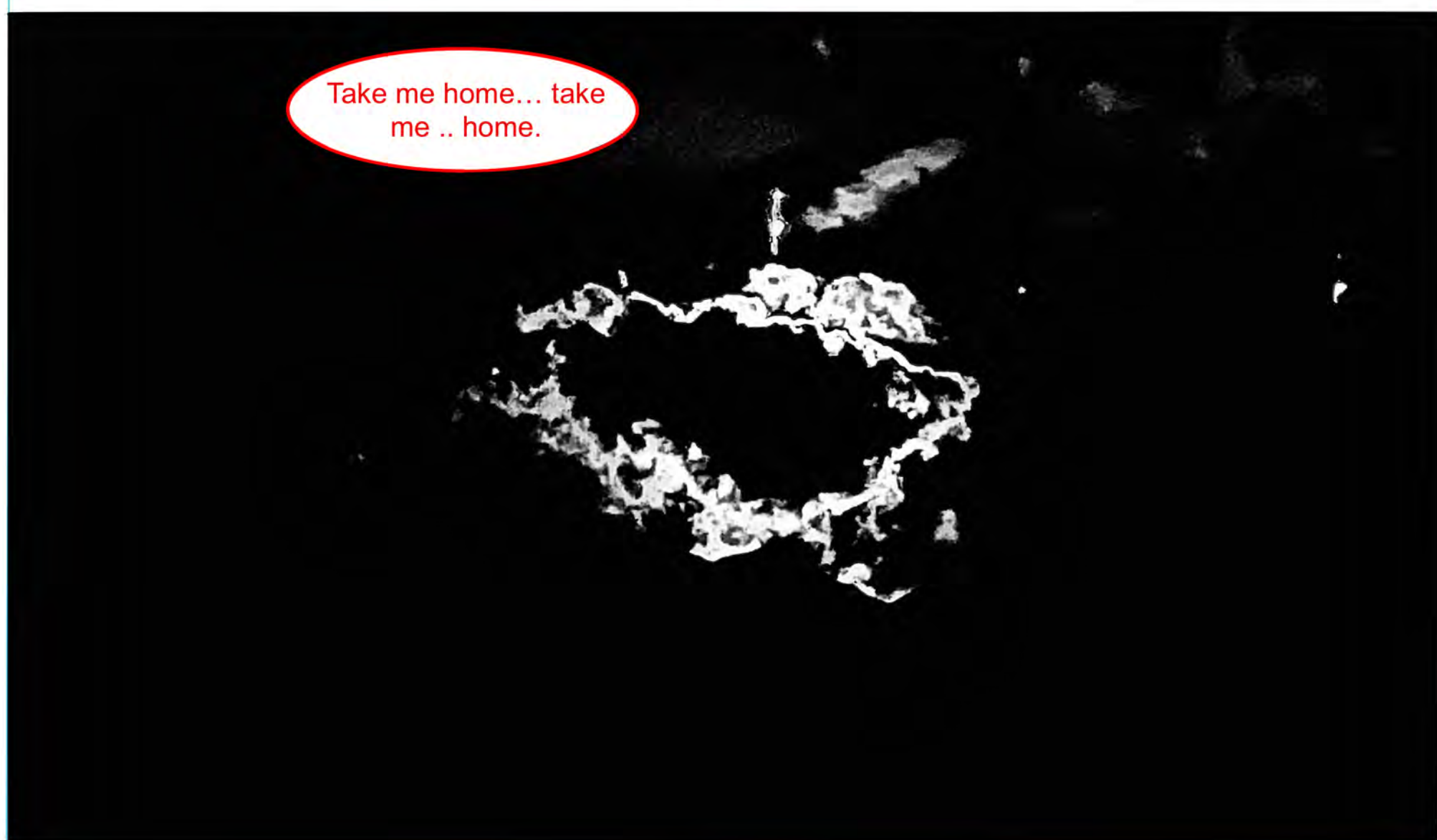




He's here.



Oh Father, will you
forgive me?



Take me home... take
me .. home.



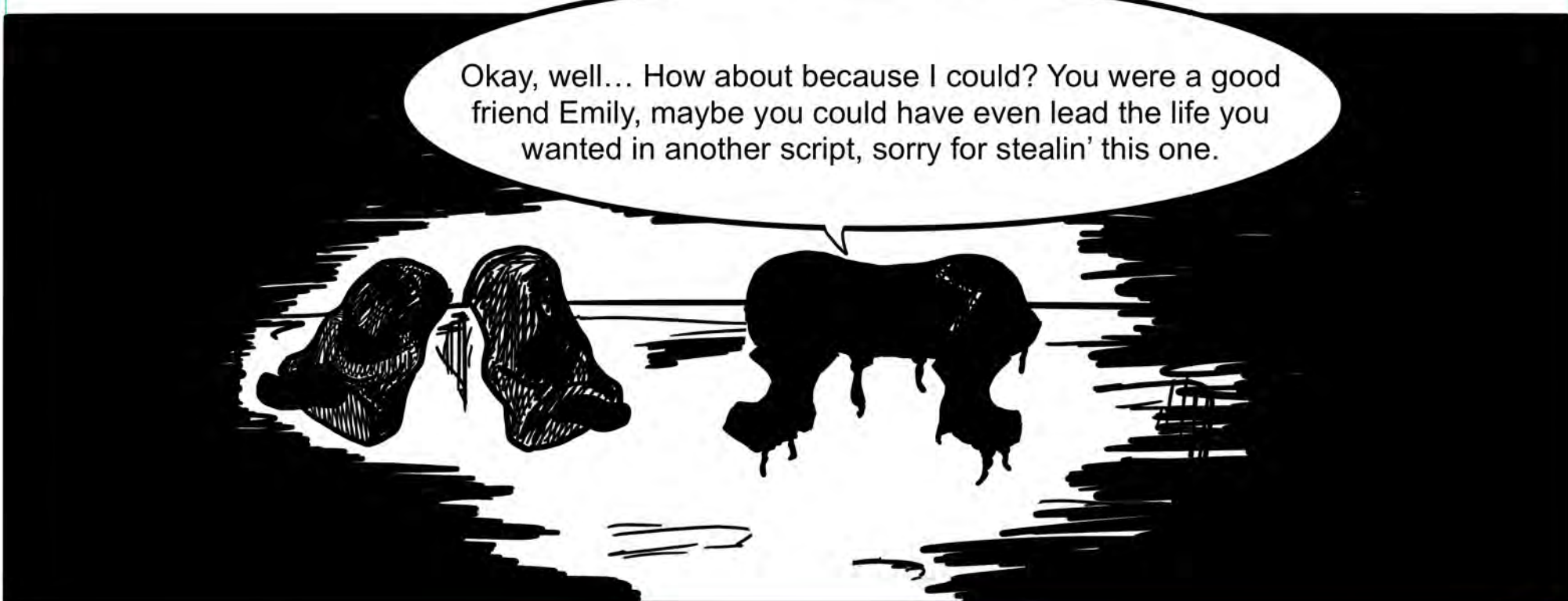
Hey i'm occupied right now,
could one of you turn the
electricity back on? Panel's in
the basement. It's the switch to
the left, pretty easy.

Sure.











Written By: Alex Foakes.

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Contact: alexfoakes@gmail.com

On their way to
record their first
studio album in the
swiss alps, a band
of 4 meet a
travelling fortune
teller that states in 5
days, one of them
will become God.