



The "My Tri-C Life" (MTL) graphic novel project invites students to tell us the story of their lives. This second issue represents the fruits of a very unique collaborative interdisciplinary experience. English, Screenwriting and Creative Writing students are given reference materials and an eight-paneled primer in comic strip format based on the classical three-act structure from Aristotle's "Poetics." Visual art students then illustrate these stories in a cartoon strip form much like you'd find in any Sunday newspaper. The artists and writers don't meet and aren't identified until the work is published. Students from different campuses are represented and all Tr-C students are encouraged to participate.

The MTL project was inspired by the work of Clevelander Harvey Pekar (1939-2010), writer of the award-winning comic book "American Splendor," who chronicled his everyday life as a file clerk, husband and father.

As Artist in Residence, I curated MTL for Tri-C's Center for Creative Arts. Scripts were edited for form, clarity and continuity. They are all real-life scenes from the lives of Tri-C students.

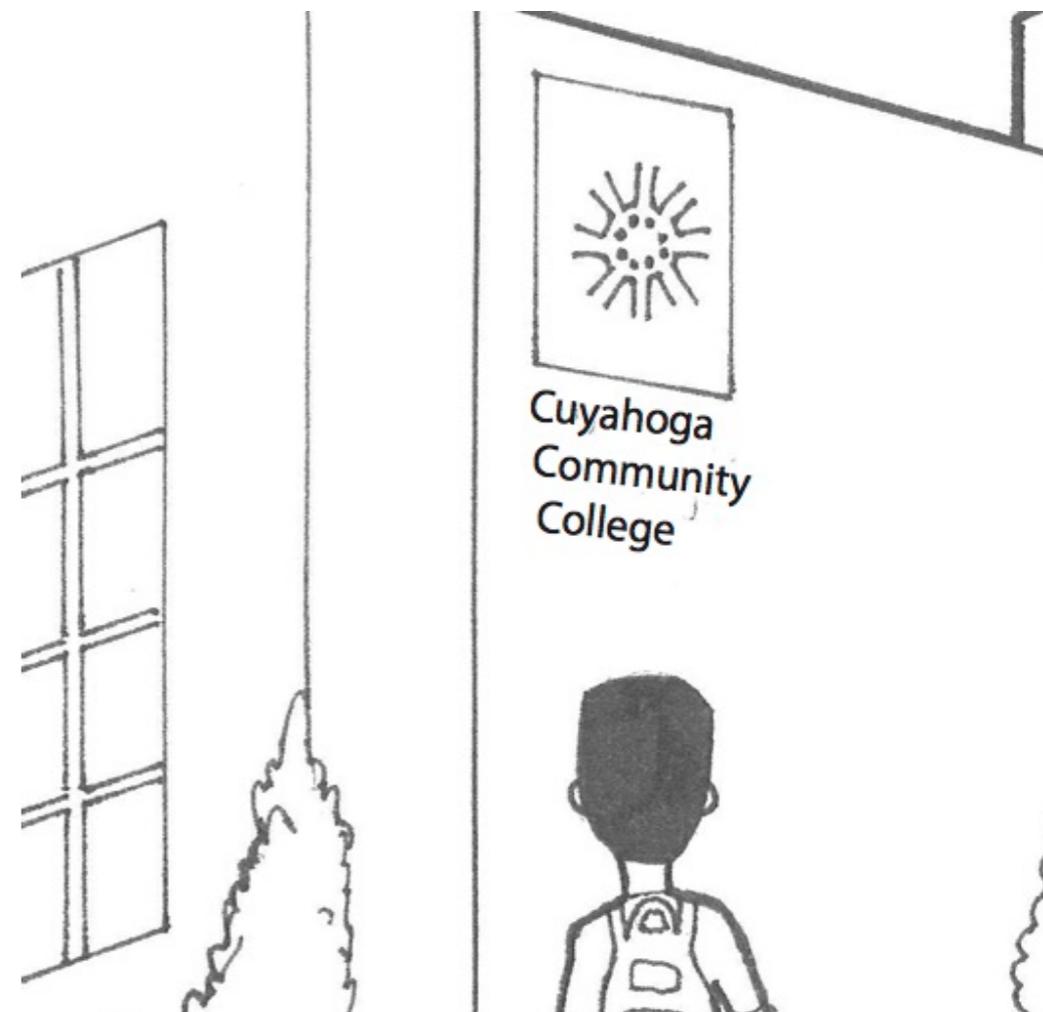
I'd like to thank all the student artist and writers who contributed. Also, thanks to Dr. Michael Schoop, Dr. Paul Cox, Pat Stansberry, Valerie Fales, Gayle Williamson, Trista Powers, Anne Hanrahan, Jack Hagan, John Kerezy, Julie D'Alosio, David Kennedy and Paul Miklowski. Without them, this project could not happen.

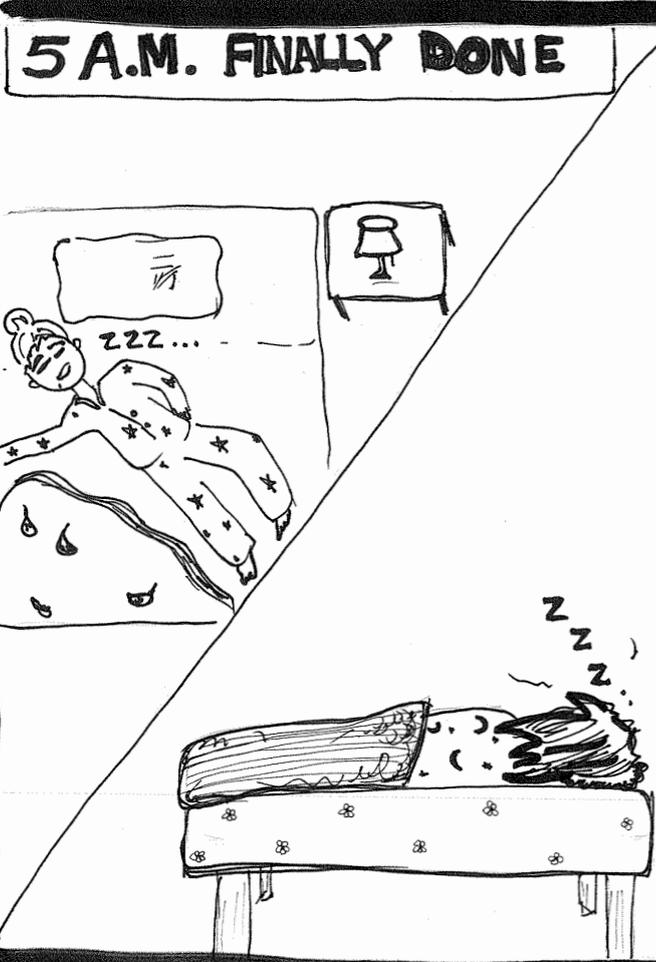
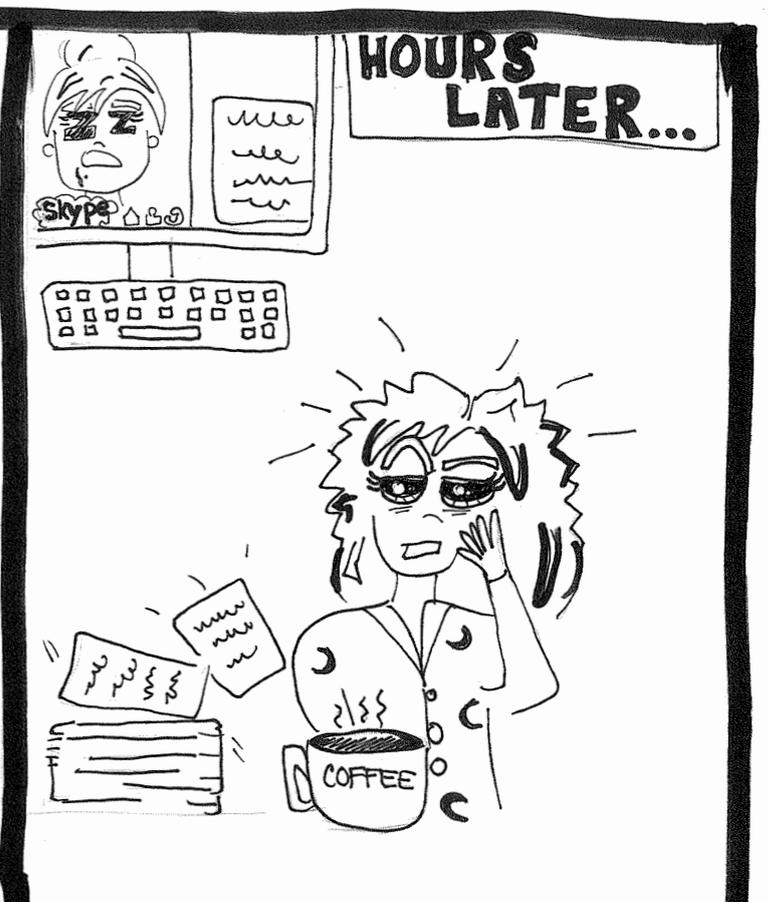
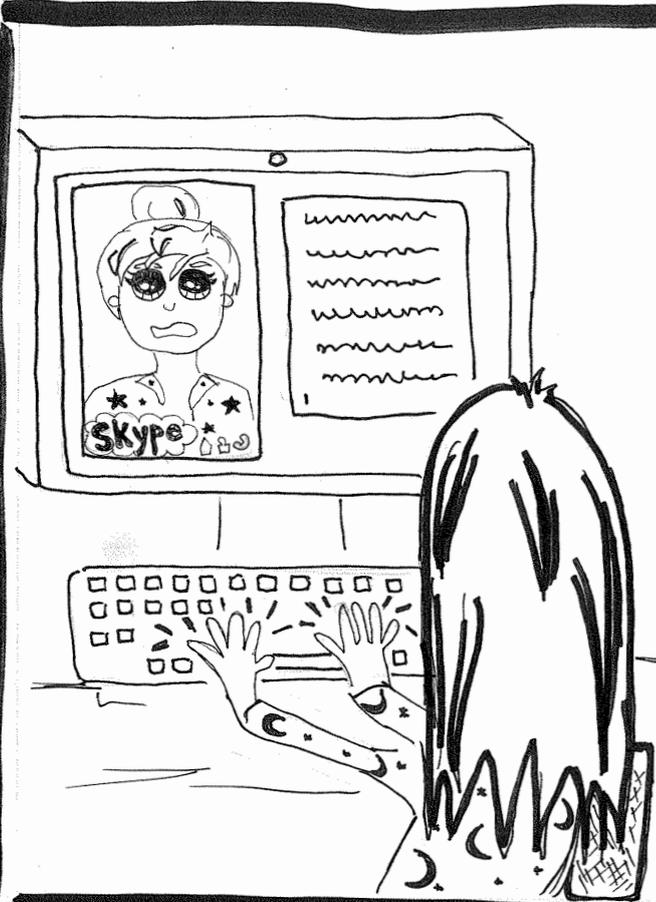
Education can give you wings -- you are the superhero you've been waiting for. Purpose, patience and perserverance are your superpowers.

You can change the world, and we're here to help. All of us.

It can all start right here at Tri-C.

-- j. izrael, MFA  
May2016





# Telling The Future art by Richard Johnson/story by Briana Young

IT WAS FUN GROWING UP WITH MY OLDER COUSIN CRYSTAL.



ONCE WE GREW UP, WE WEREN'T AS CLOSE



UNTIL SHE HAD A DAUGHTER!

I didn't know much about babies, but I learned quick.



INFLUENCING HER MEANS A LOT TO ME.



Watching my cousin be a good mother inspires me.

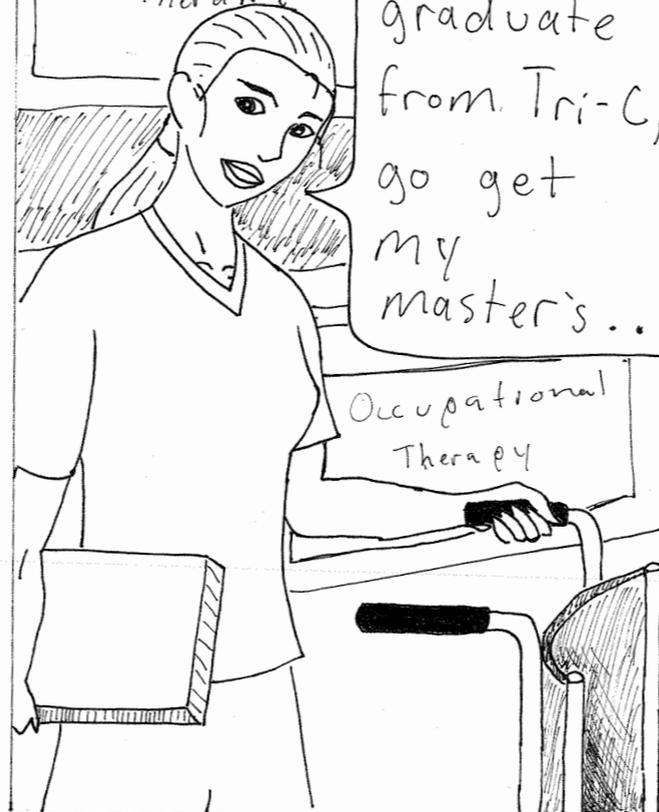
I need to stay in school and be a role model.



Occupational Therapy

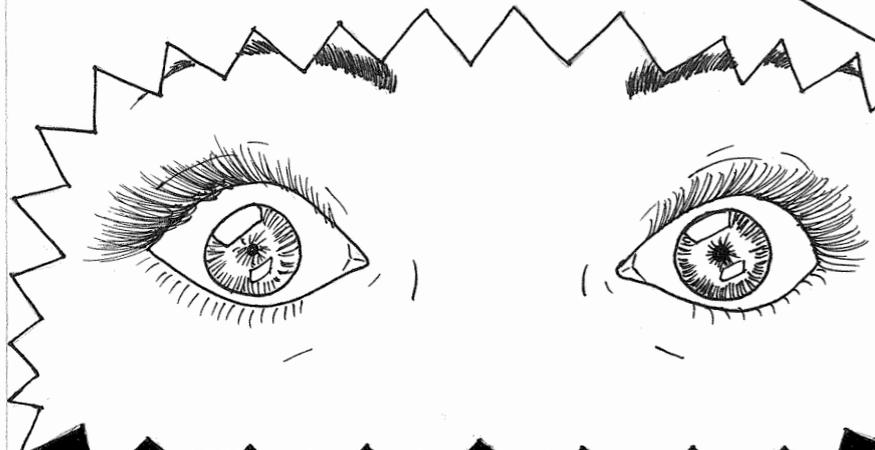
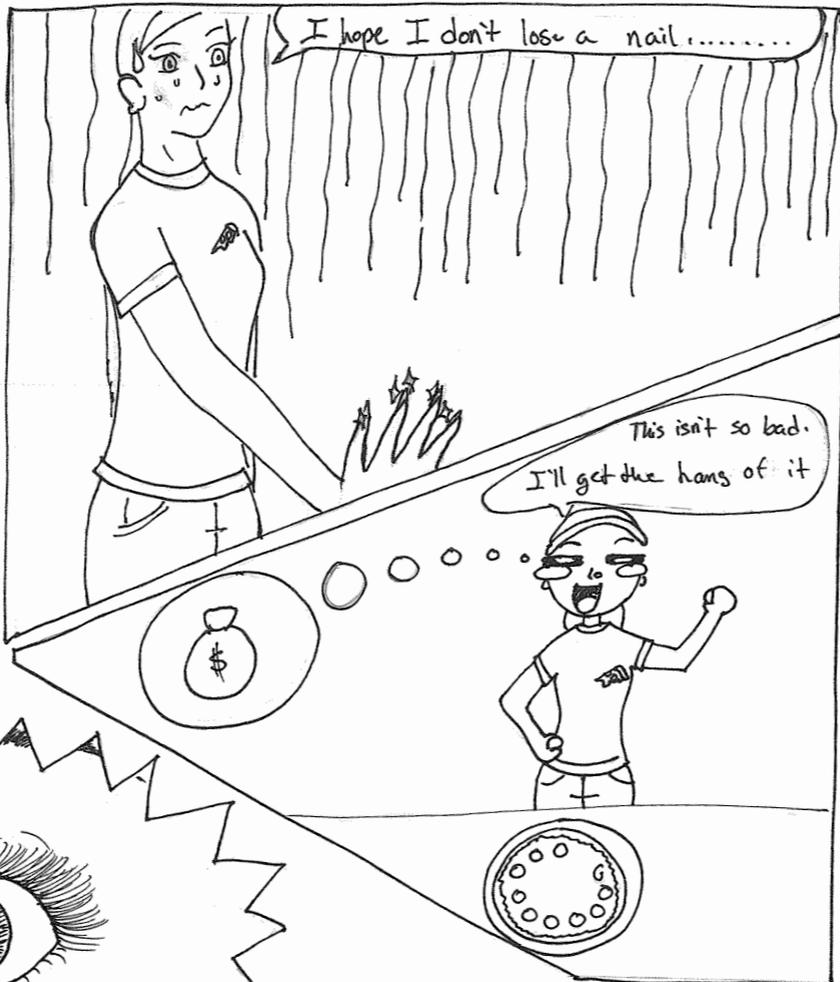
I'll graduate from Tri-C, go get my master's...

Occupational Therapy

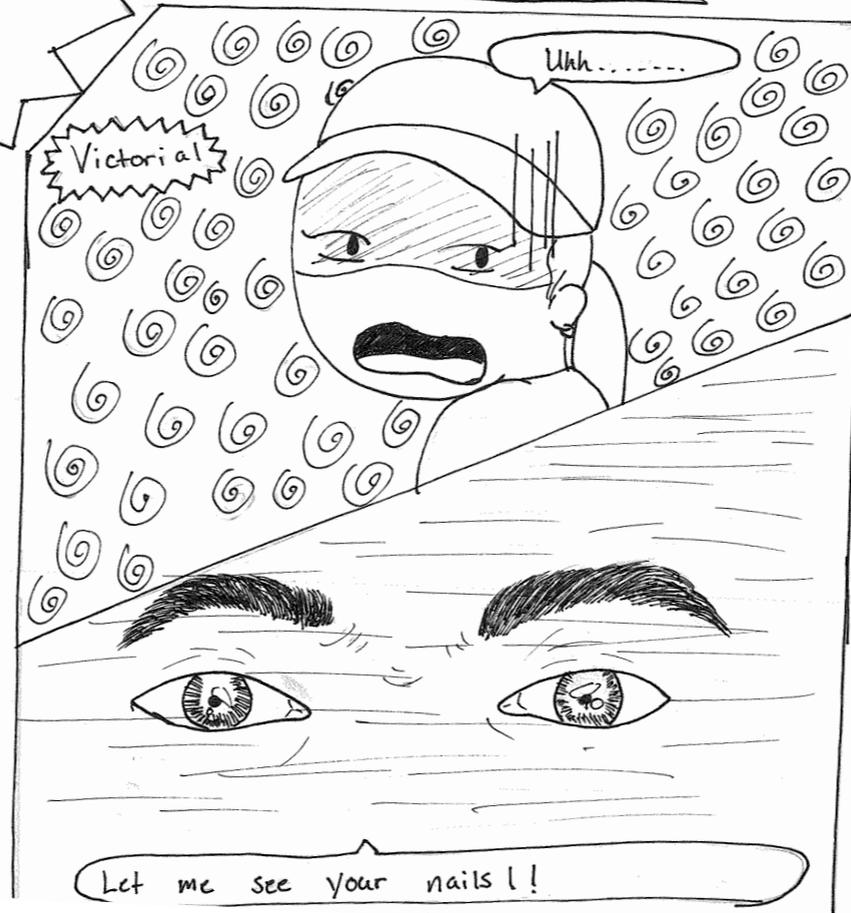
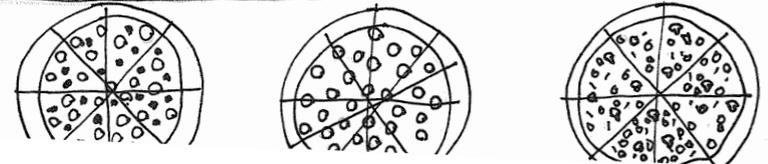


Then build a great future for my own children.

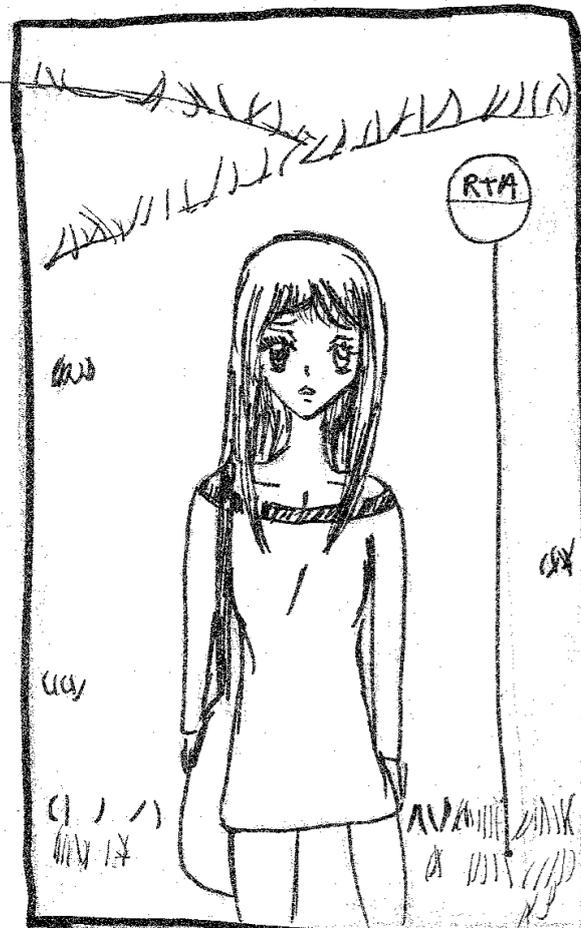
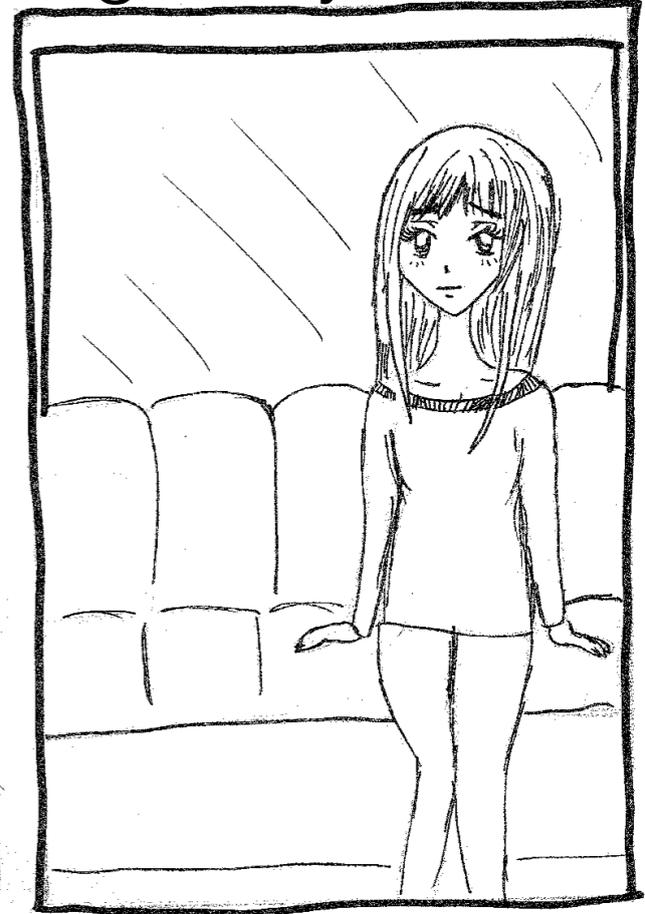
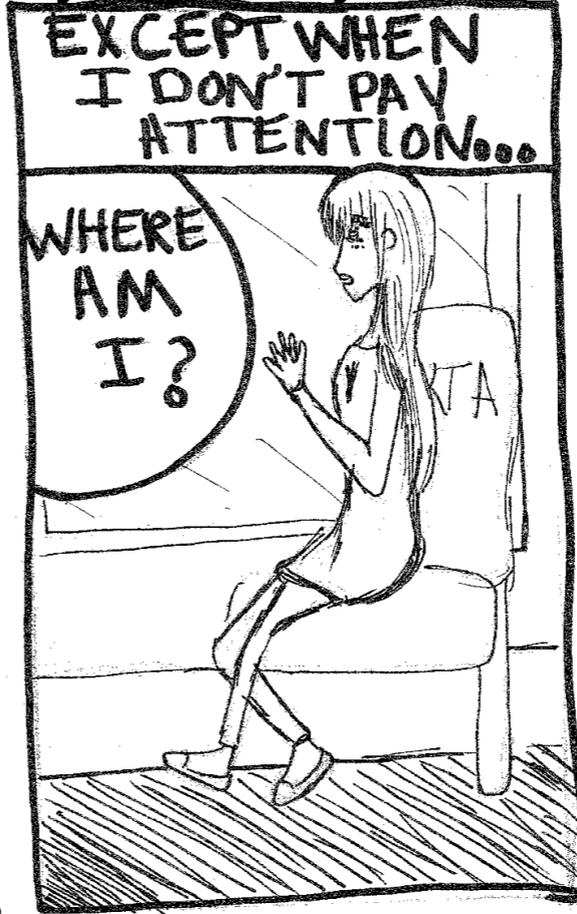
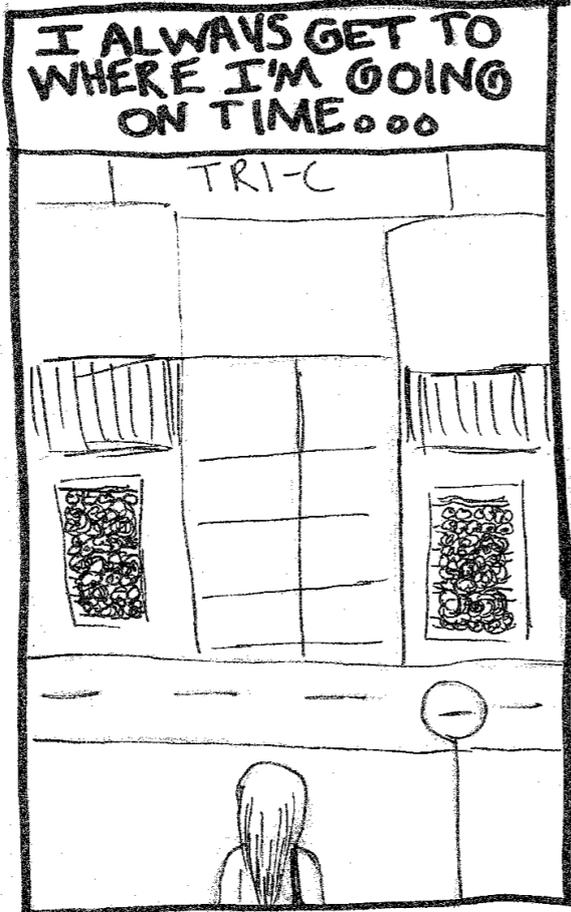
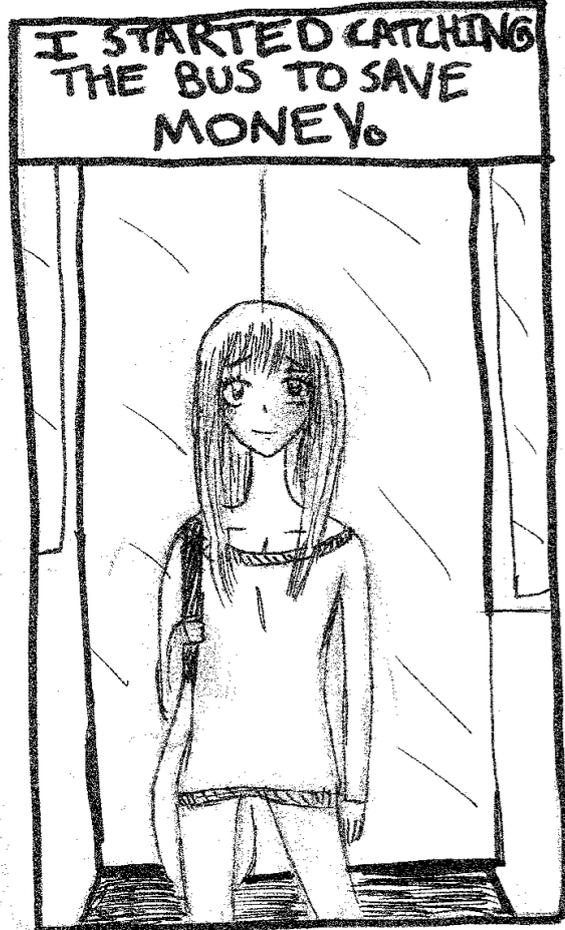
# New Nails, New Job art by Kaitlyn Waters/story by Miranda Meadows



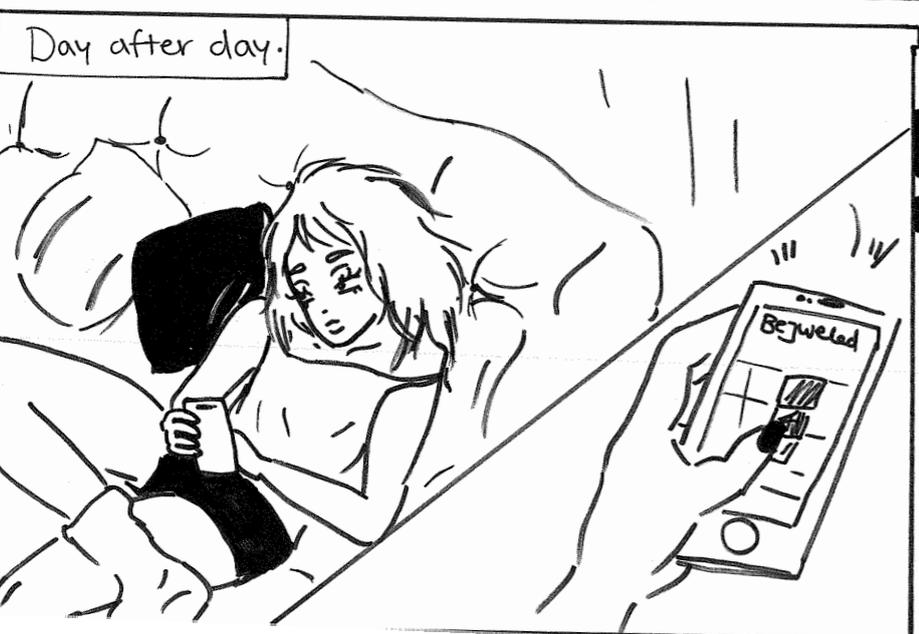
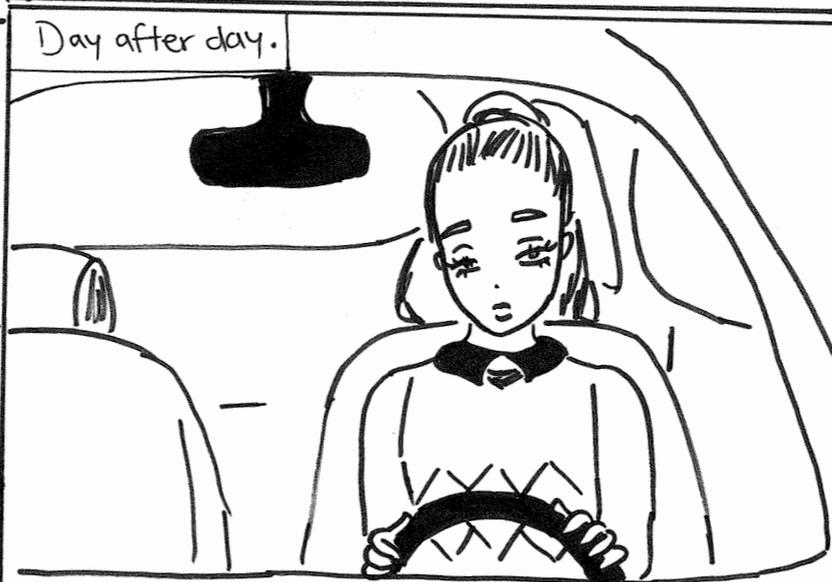
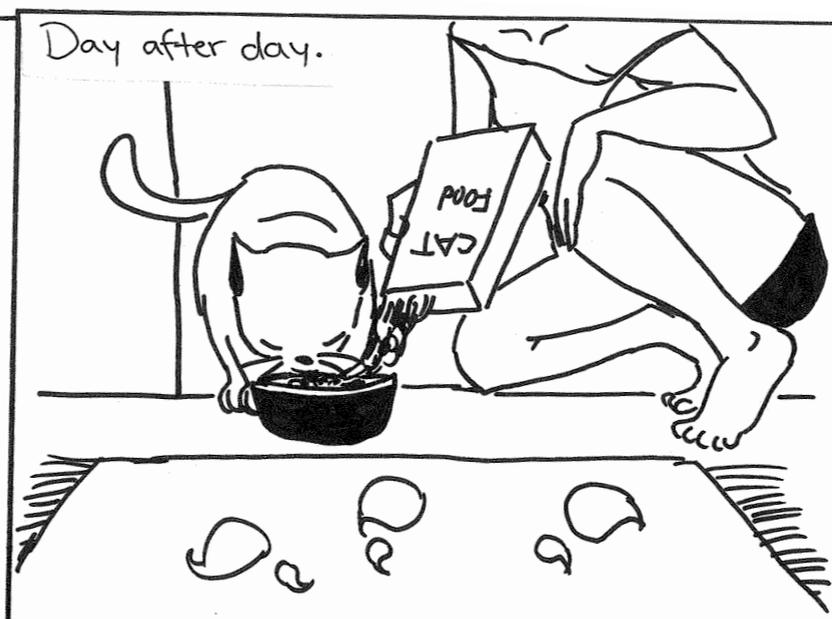
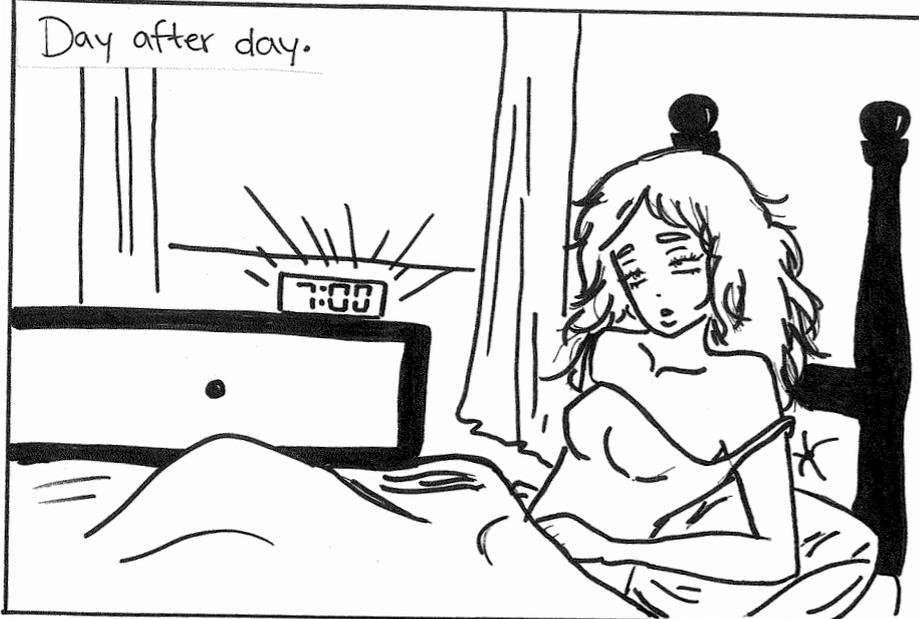
Aww HELL naw... I'm gonna get fired for this!



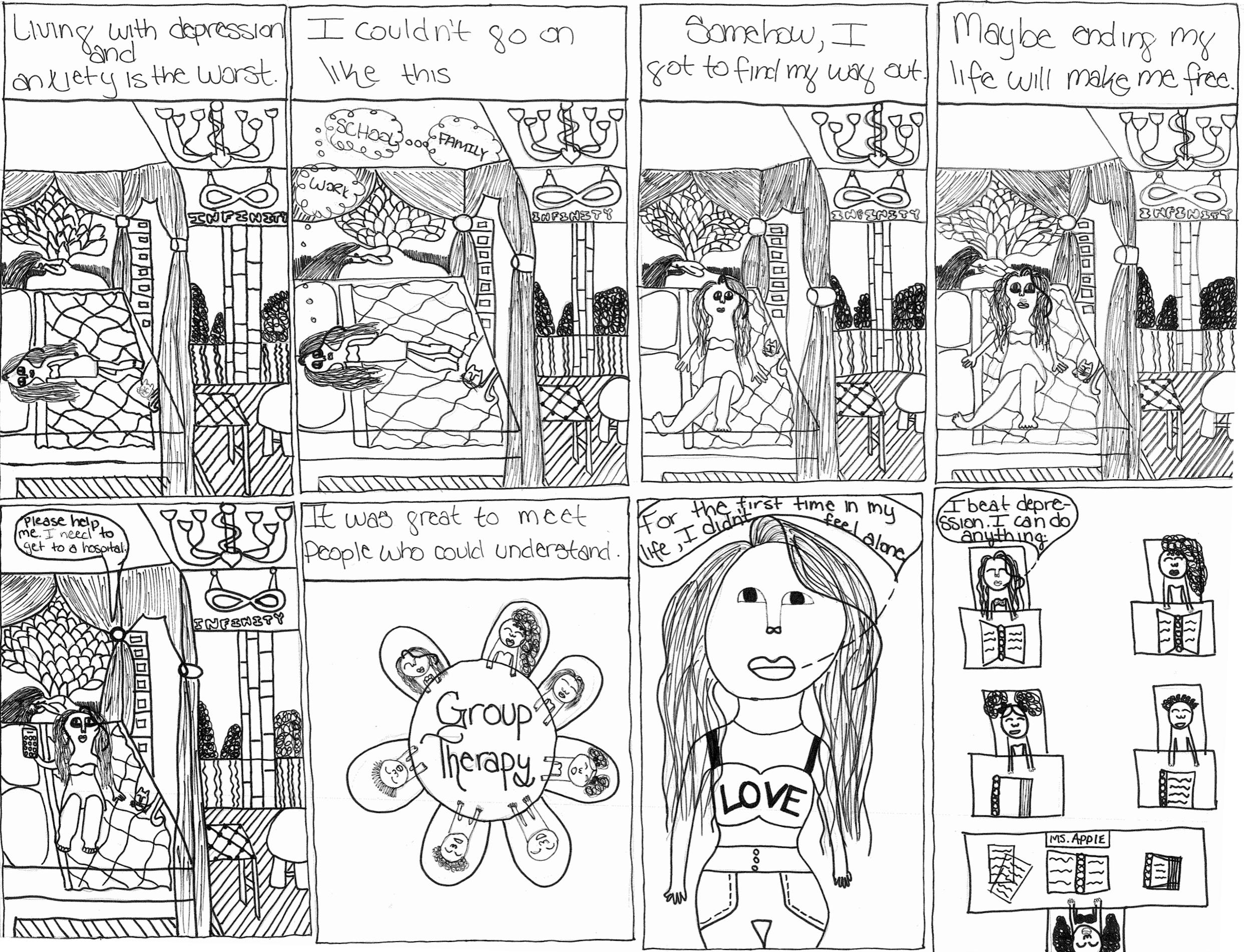
# Bus Fare art by Nieema Kern story by Daytona Stiegelmeier



Remains of The Day art by Zeinab H. /story by Schuyler Kibler



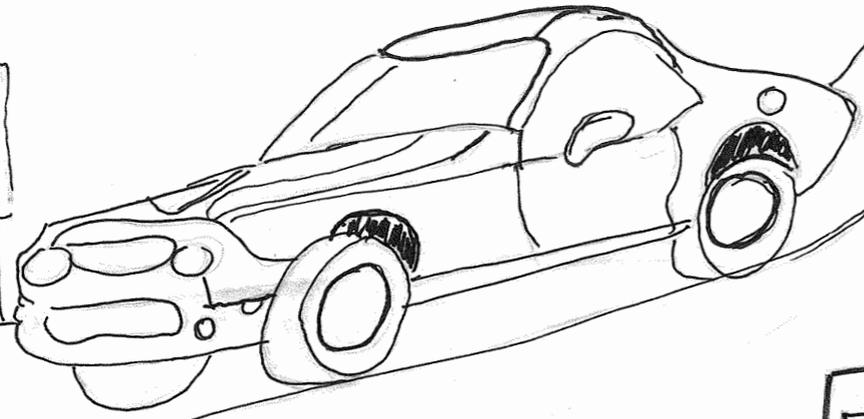
# Me vs. Depression art by Jessie Douglas/story by Marianne Wehman



**Drinking Underage** art by Michael Sallett/story by Nicholas Protsik

My friends and I took a trip to kent State.

Welcome to the City of Kent

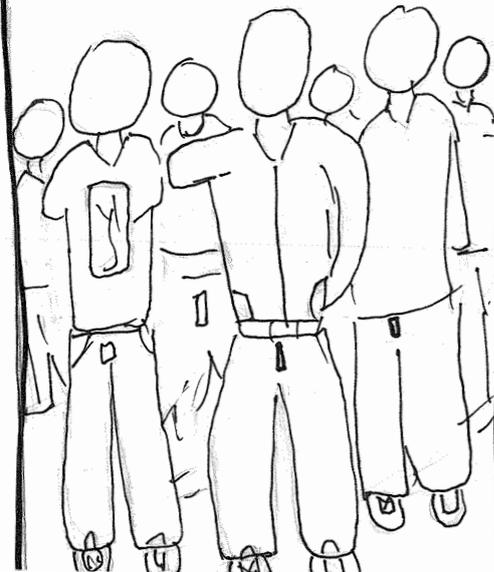


We got there and caught up with our buddies.



Then the logical question.

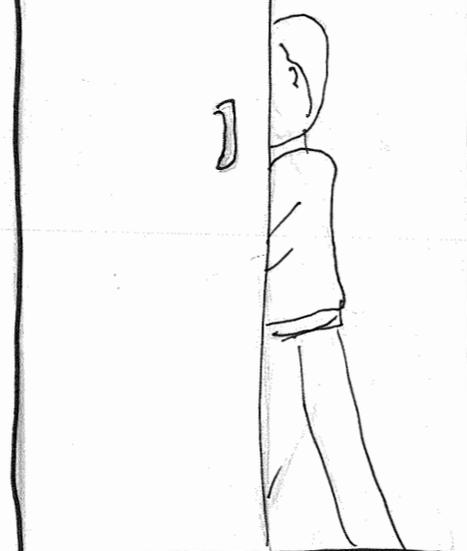
So where's The Party?



Later at the Party

I gotta run to the pisser

MEN



What's That you got there?



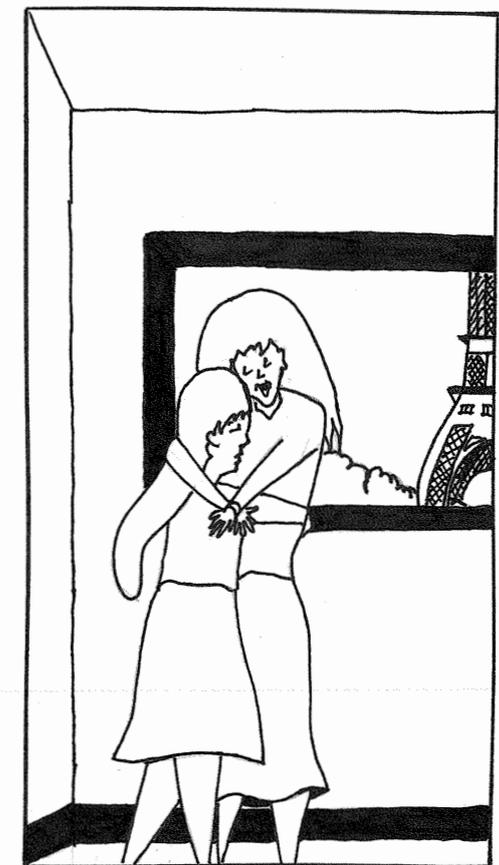
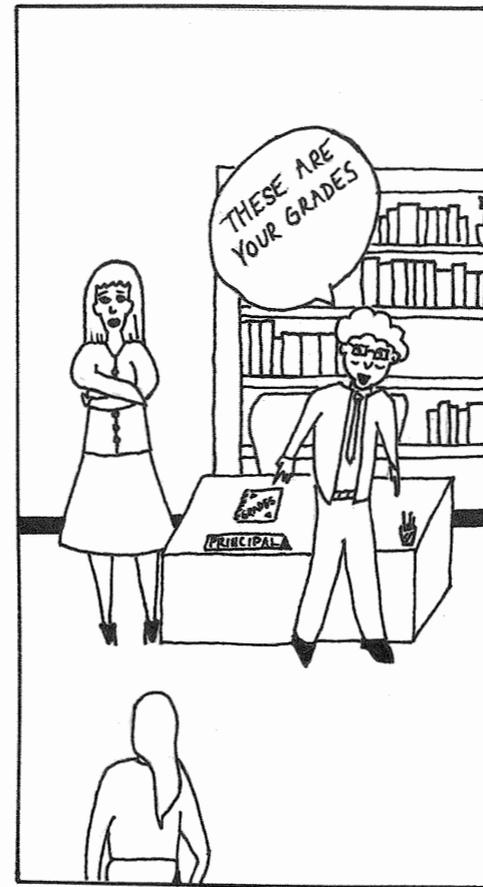
Oh Snap!



I should have had a V8

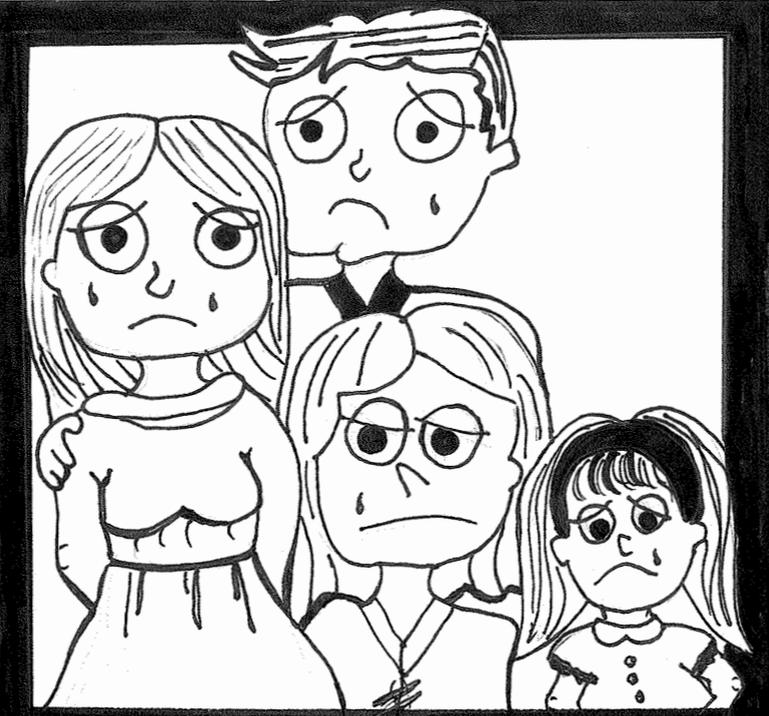
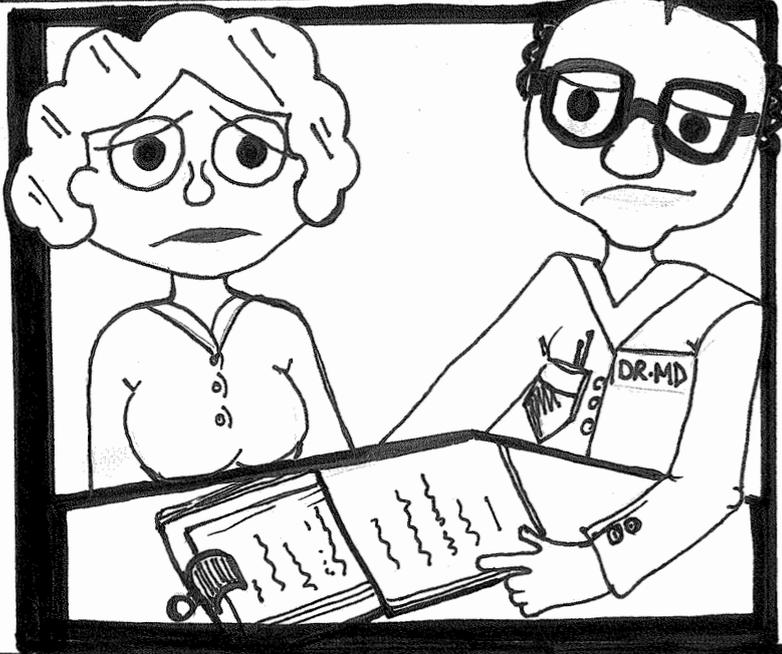


# #Grow art by Kenneth Macon/story by Deonne Boyne



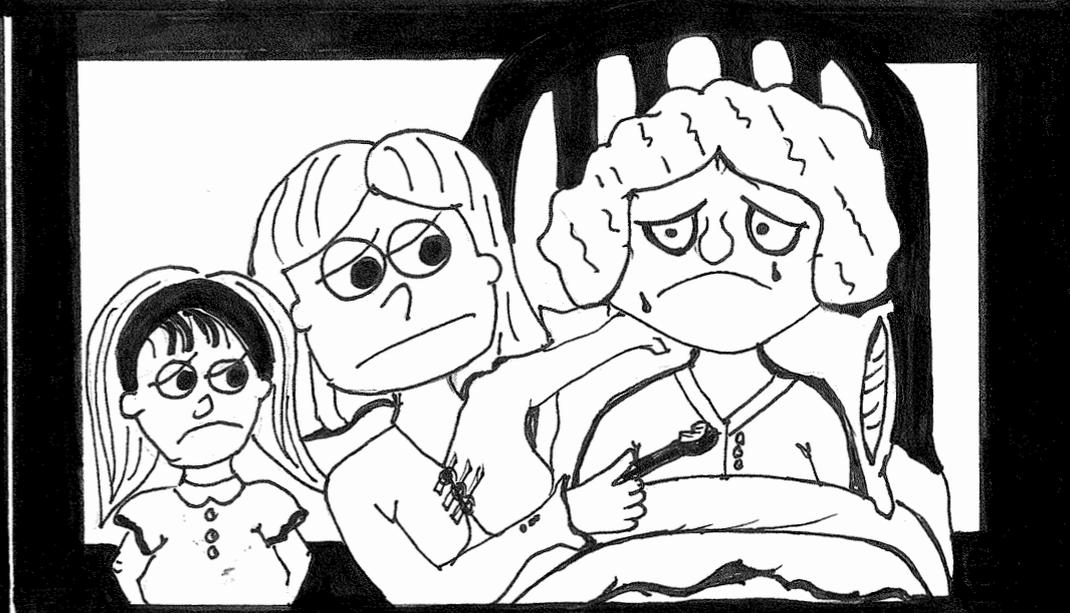
**Angel on My Shoulder** art by Jennifer Howard/story by Ashley Agnew

Nov 2009 My G-Ma found out she had Stage IV Colon Cancer.

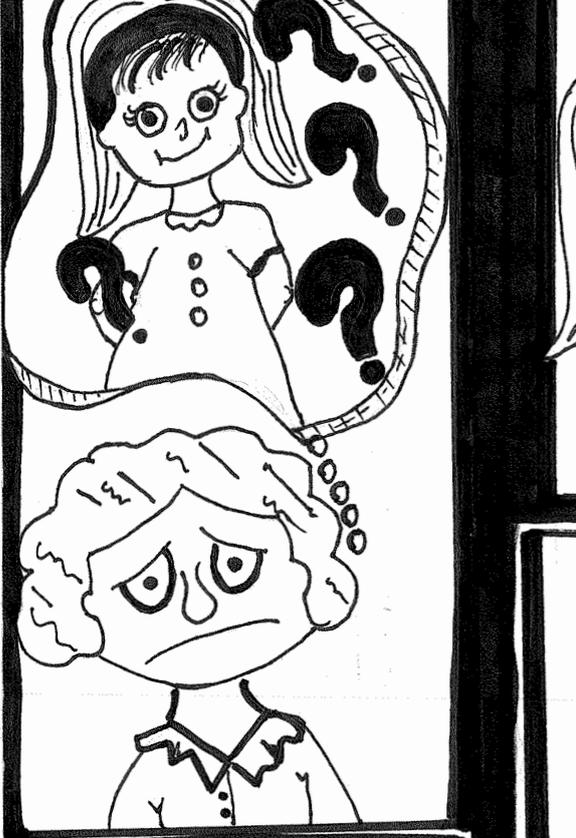


Family

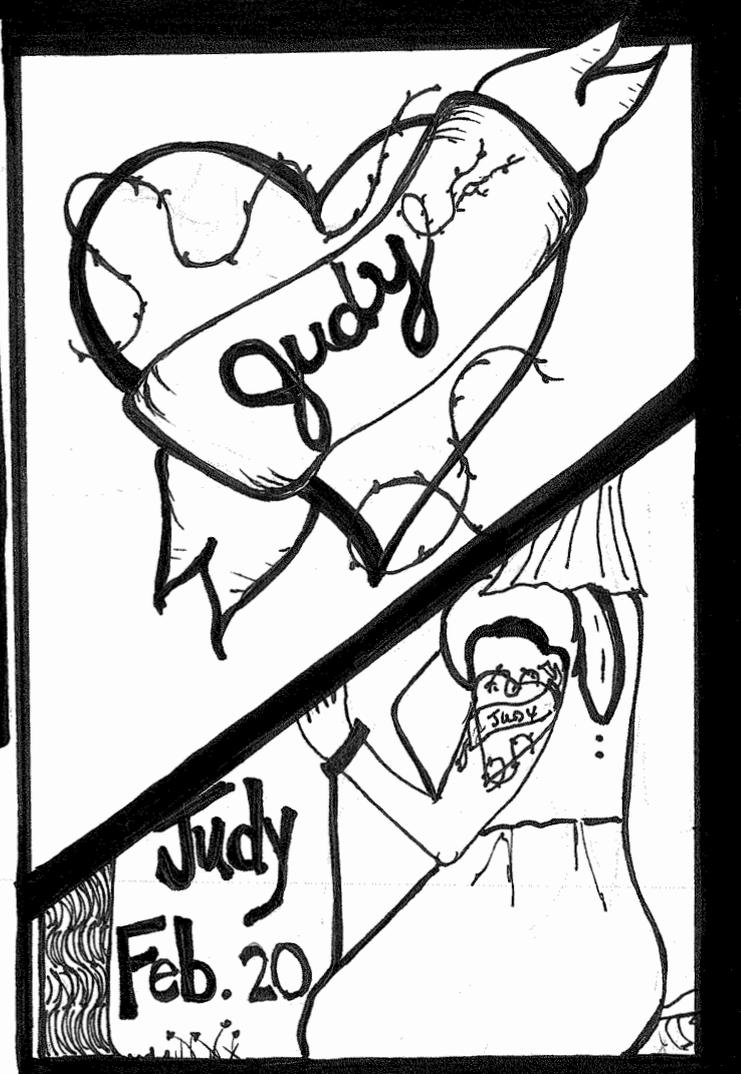
I Saw my Grandma Cry for the first time.



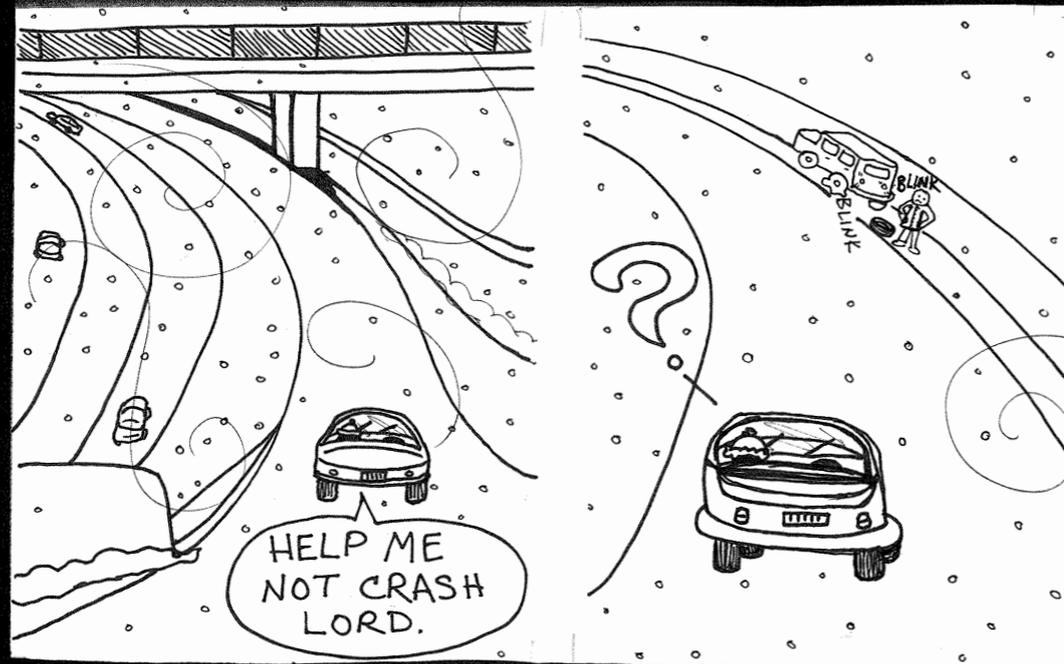
After a while, she didn't recognize me or anyone.



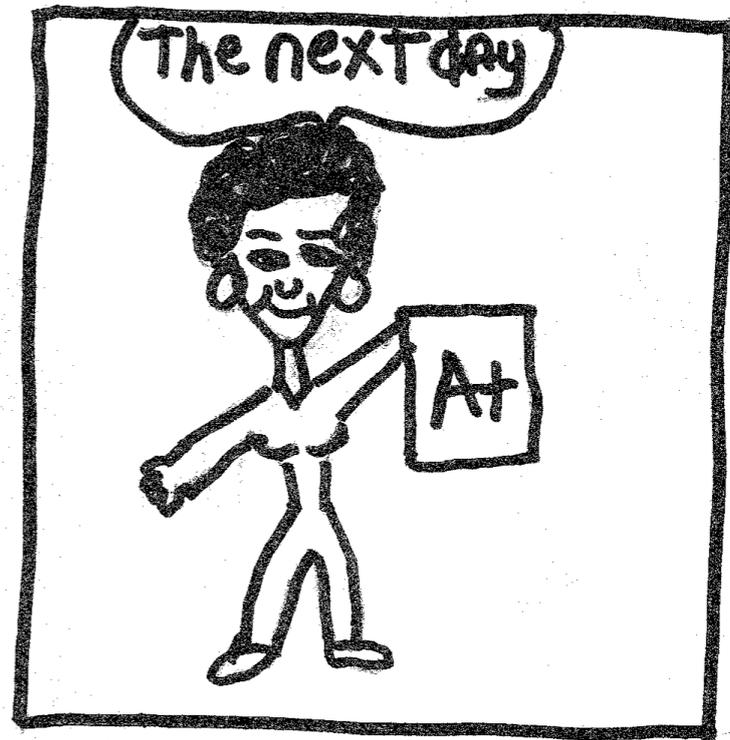
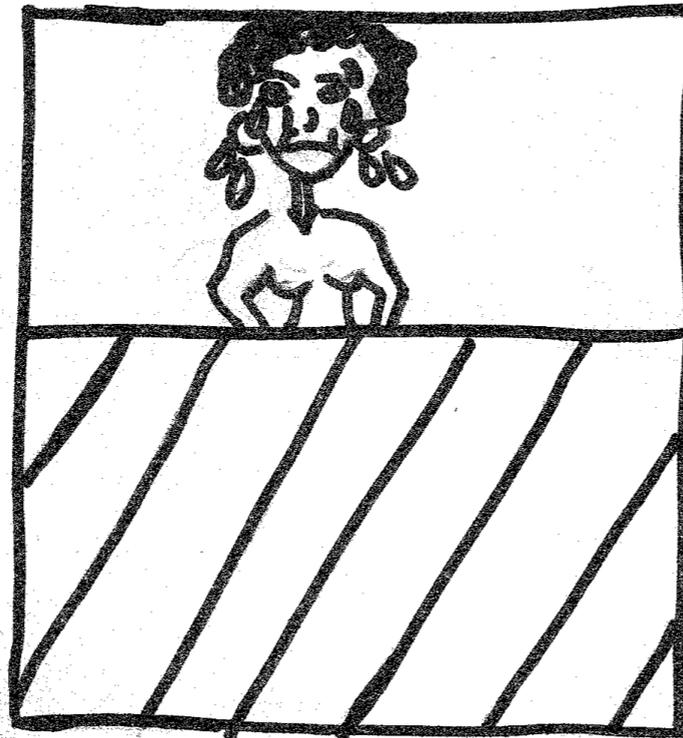
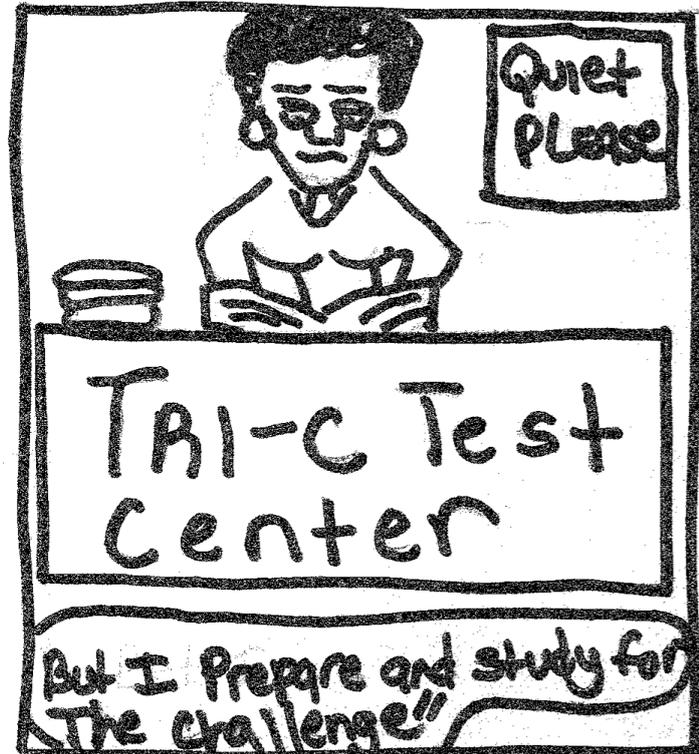
2015



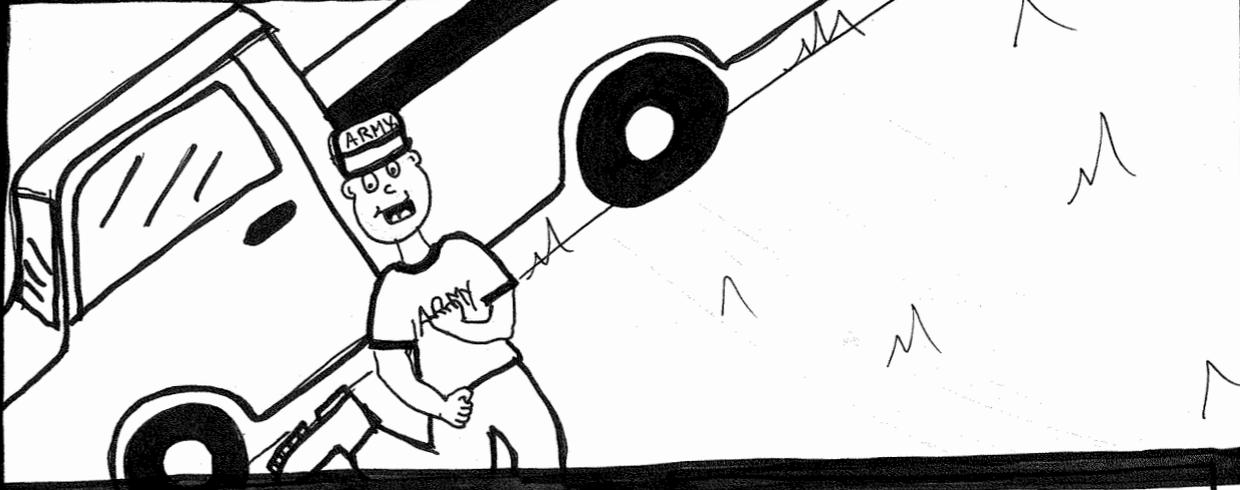
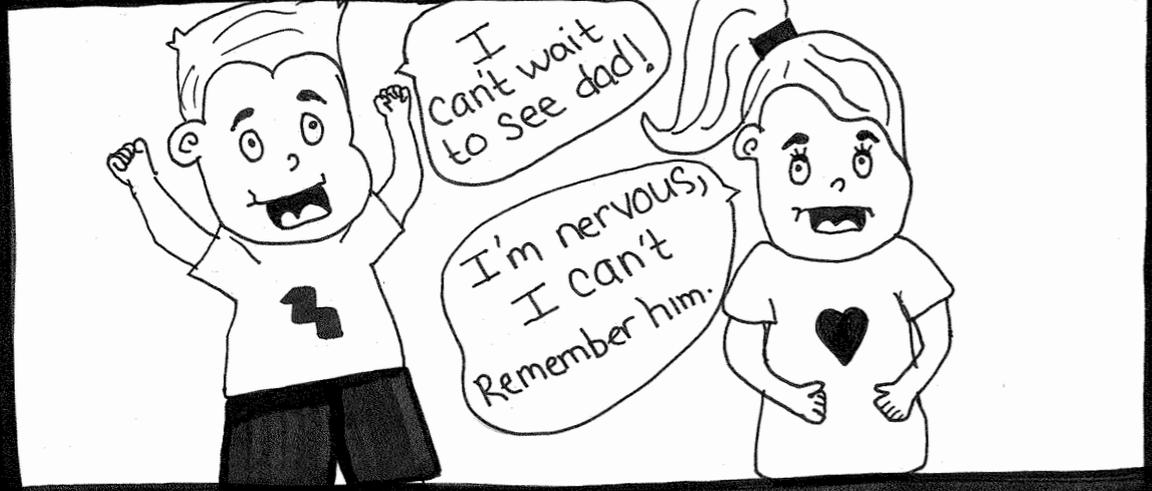
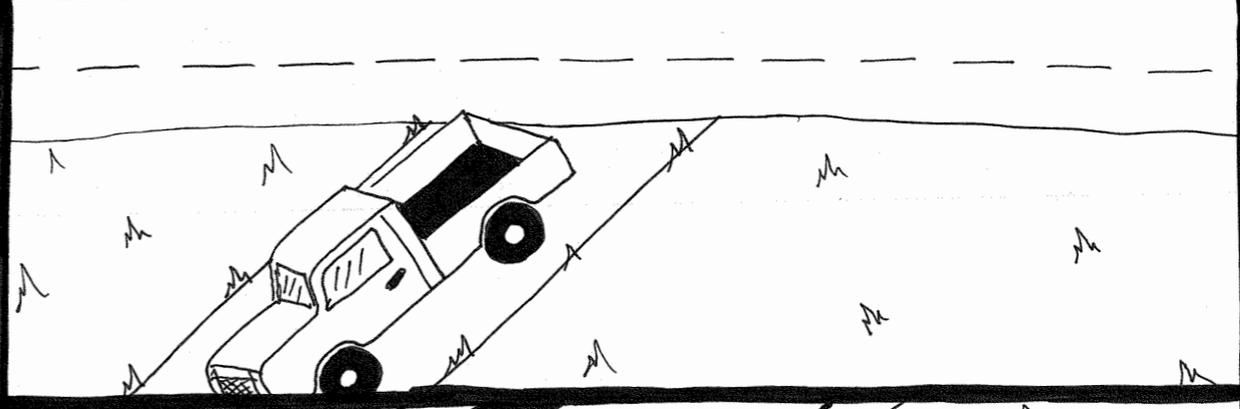
**God Ain't Done Yet** art by Bridgette DeRivera/story by Eric Dickson



**Tired But Inspired** art by Azzizat Crumble/story by Ronesha L. Jackson



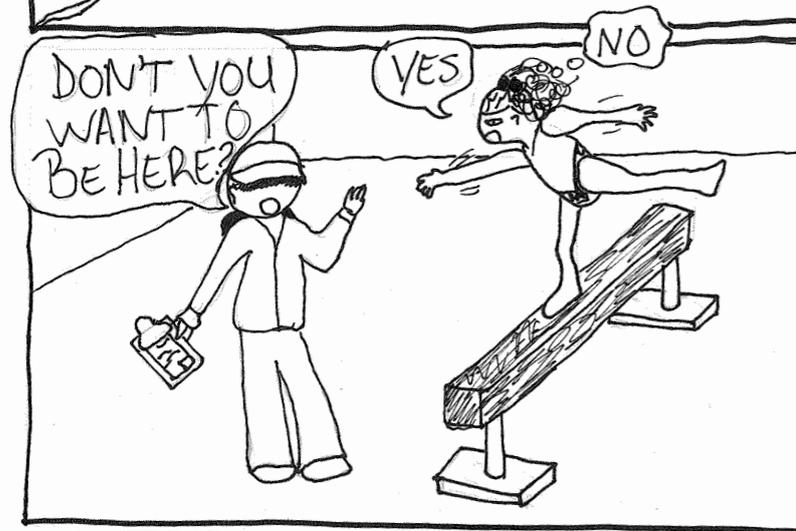
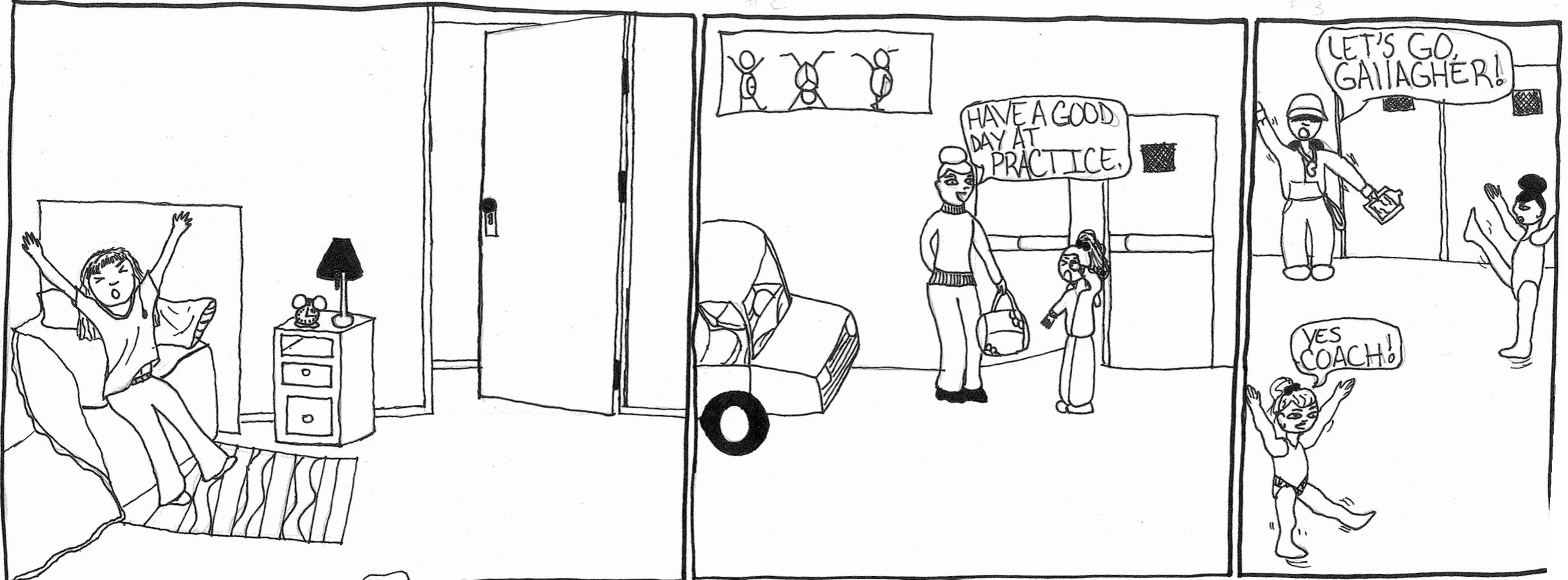
**Welcome Home** art by Michelle Wentz/story by Remi Lurns



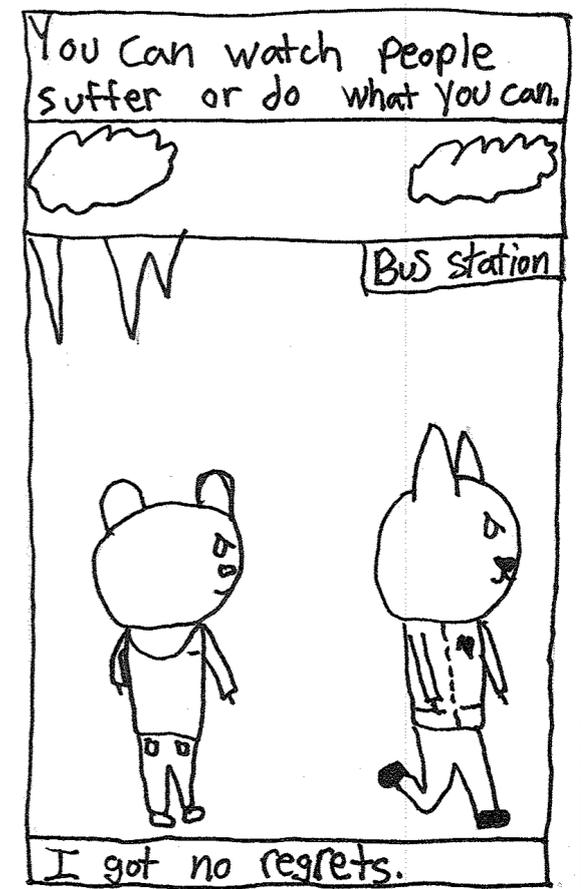
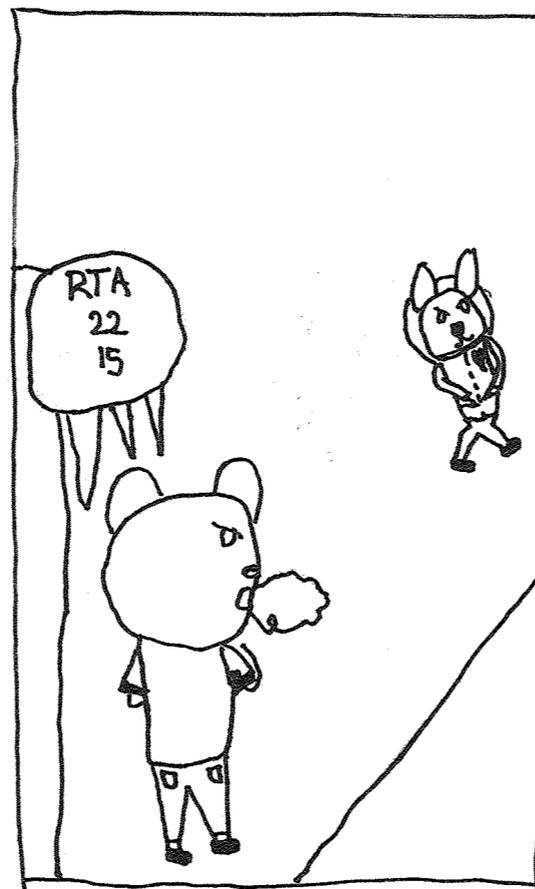
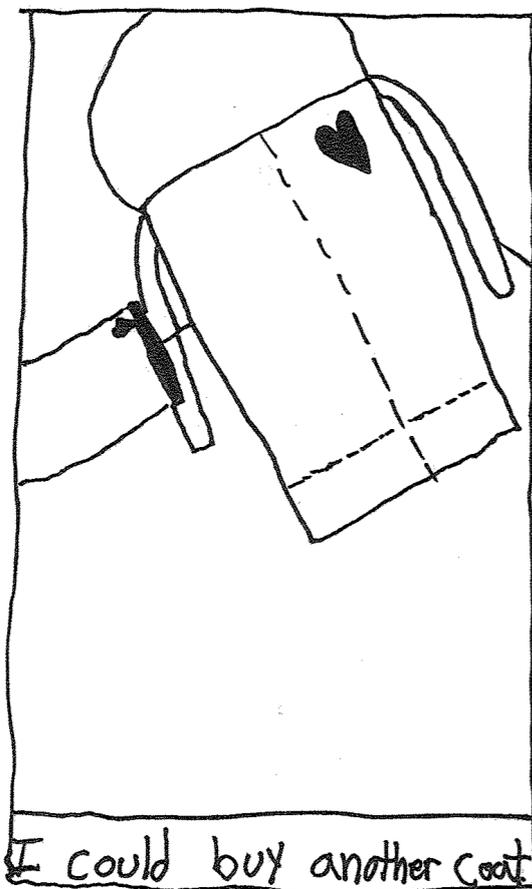
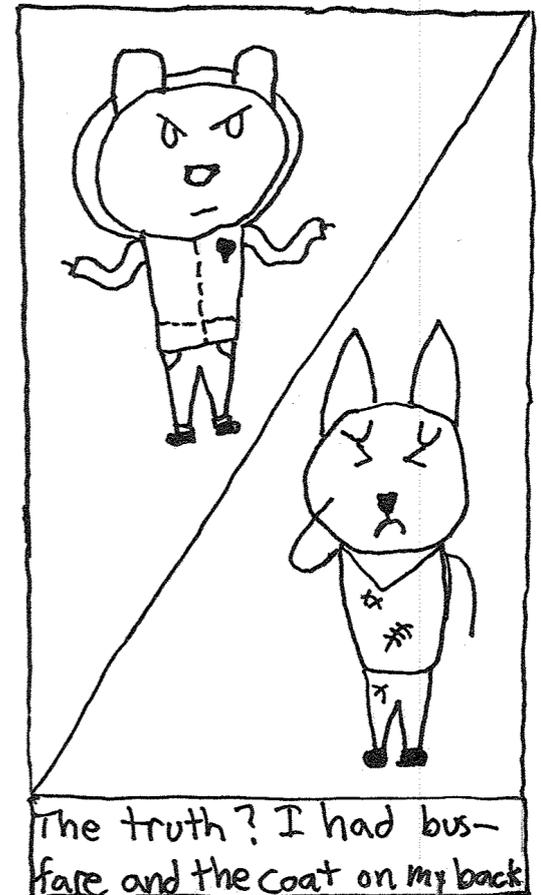
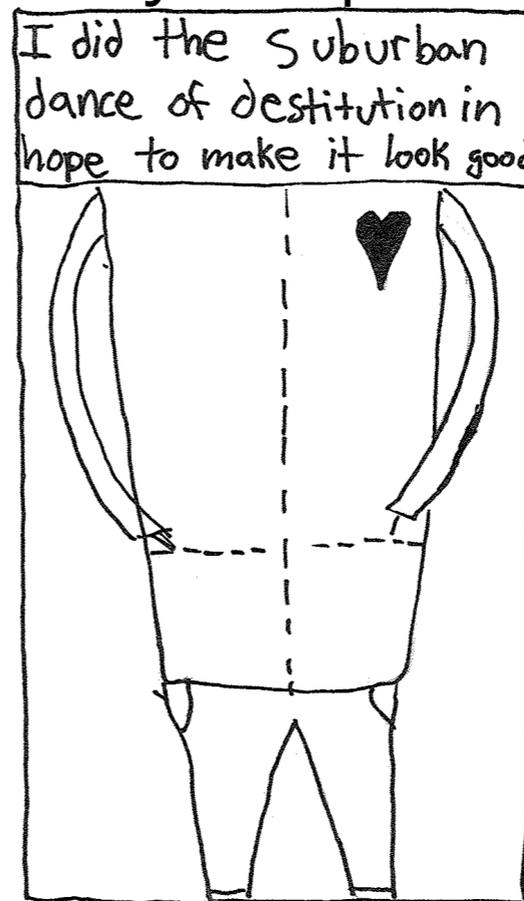
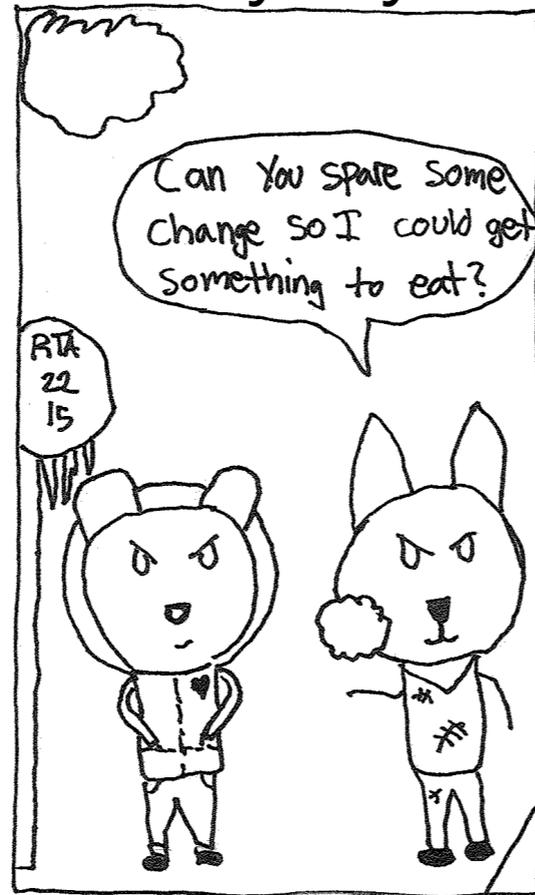
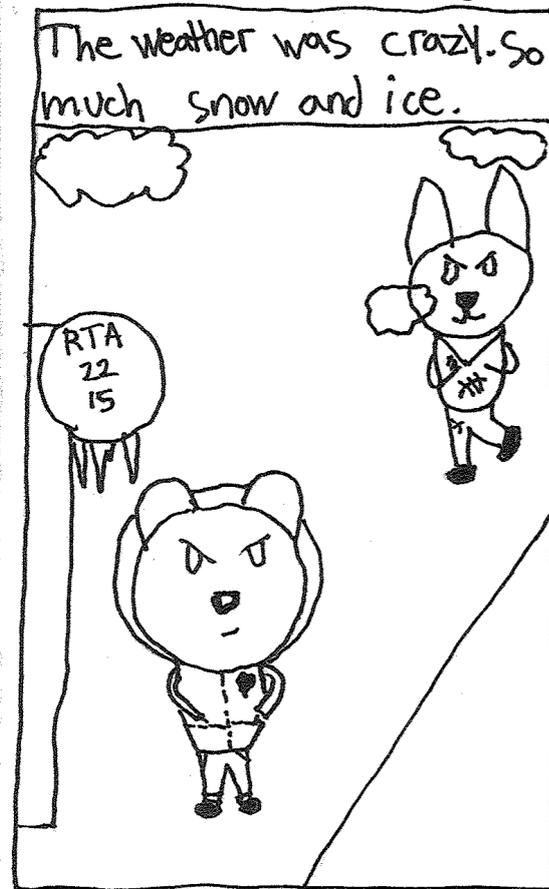
**Love Hides in The Strangest Places** art by Latasha Jackson/story by Shakita Snowden



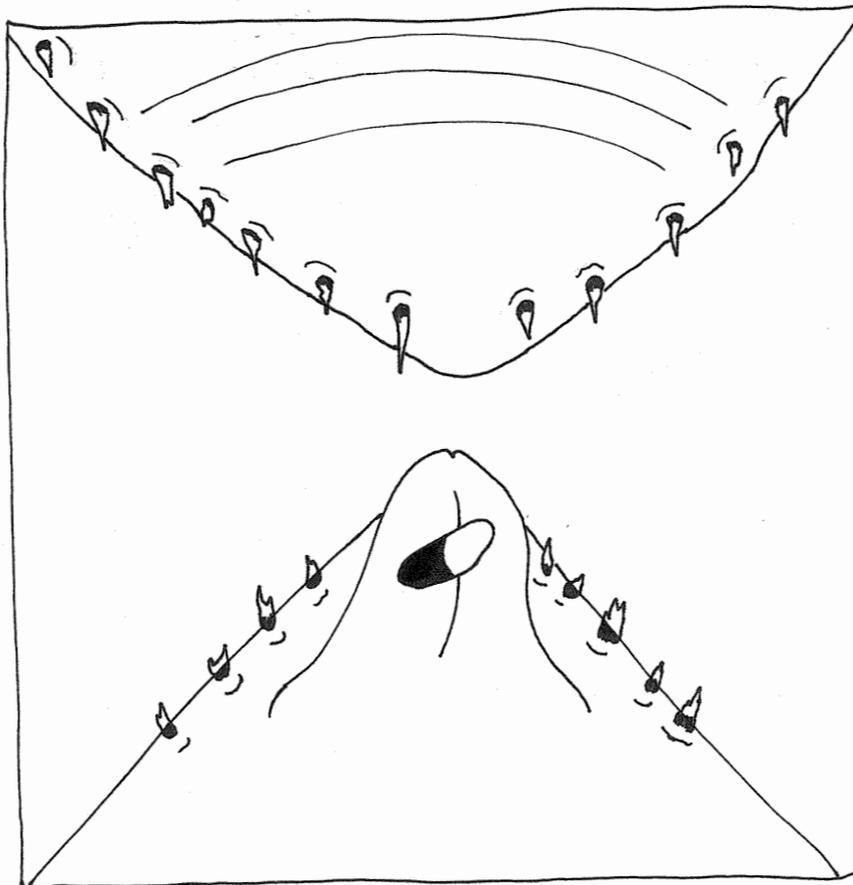
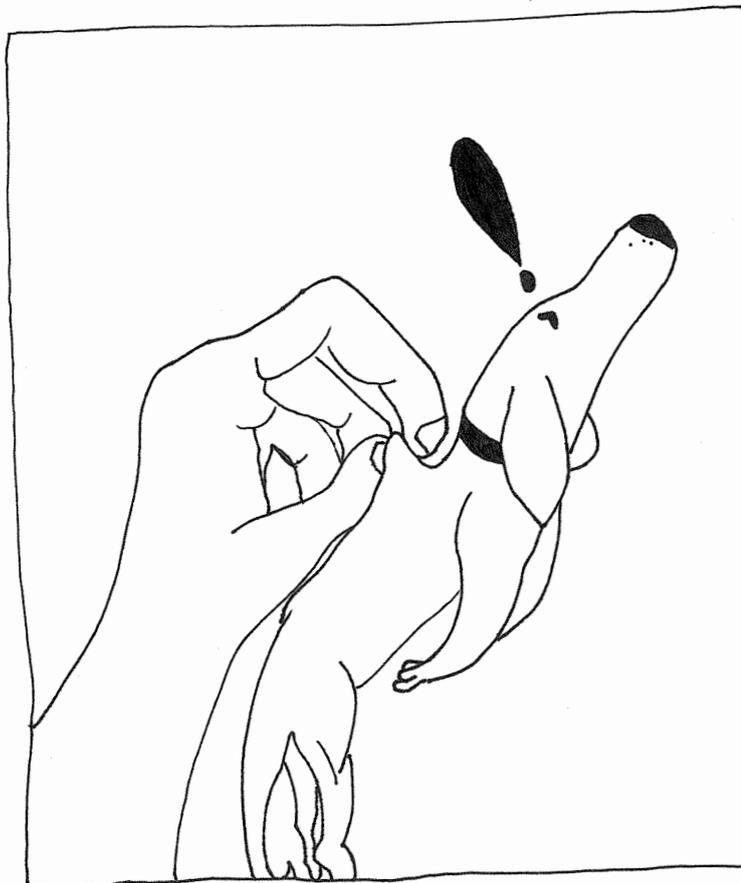
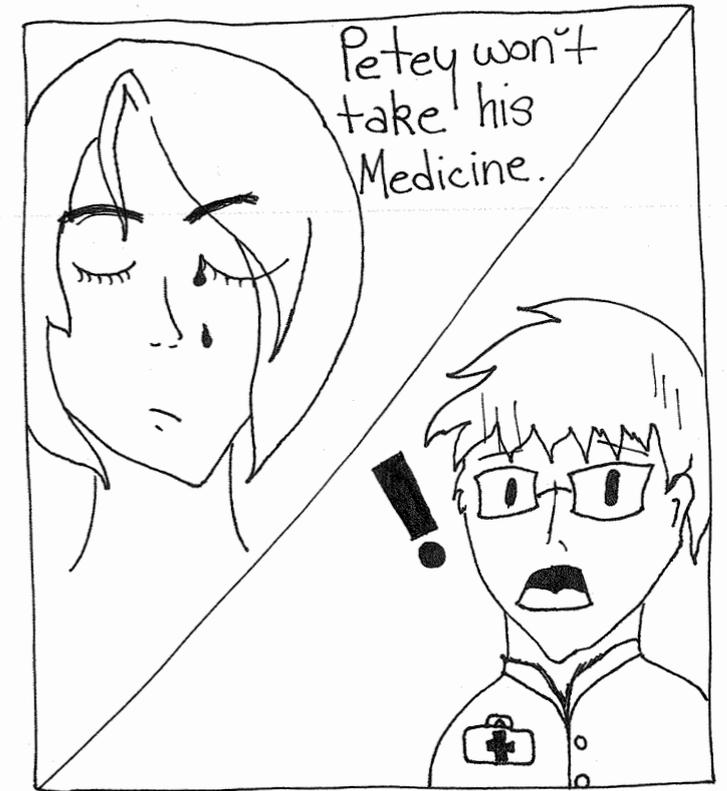
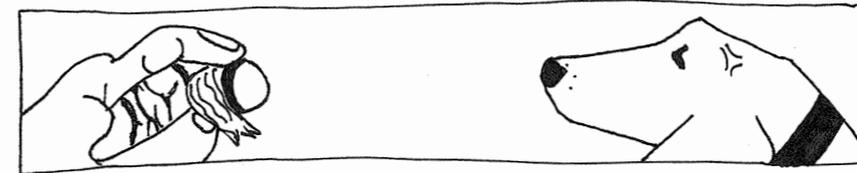
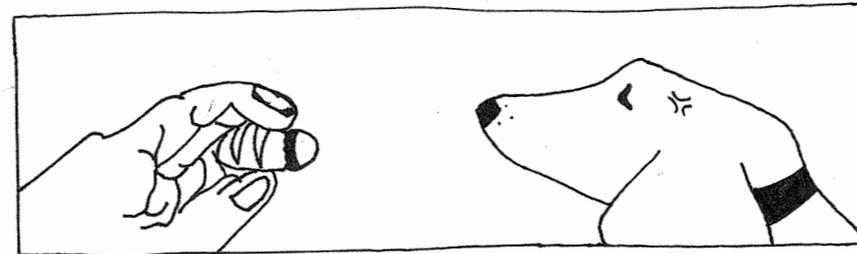
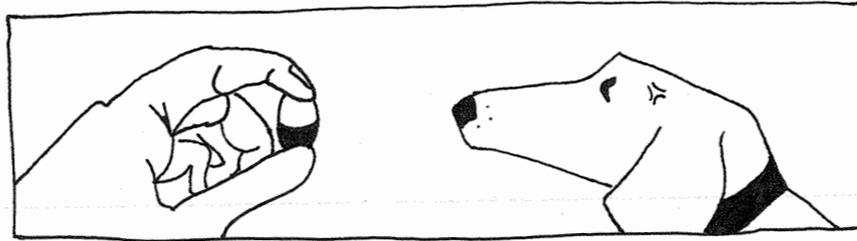
**Tough Love** art by Ashanique Johnson/story by Hannah Gallagher



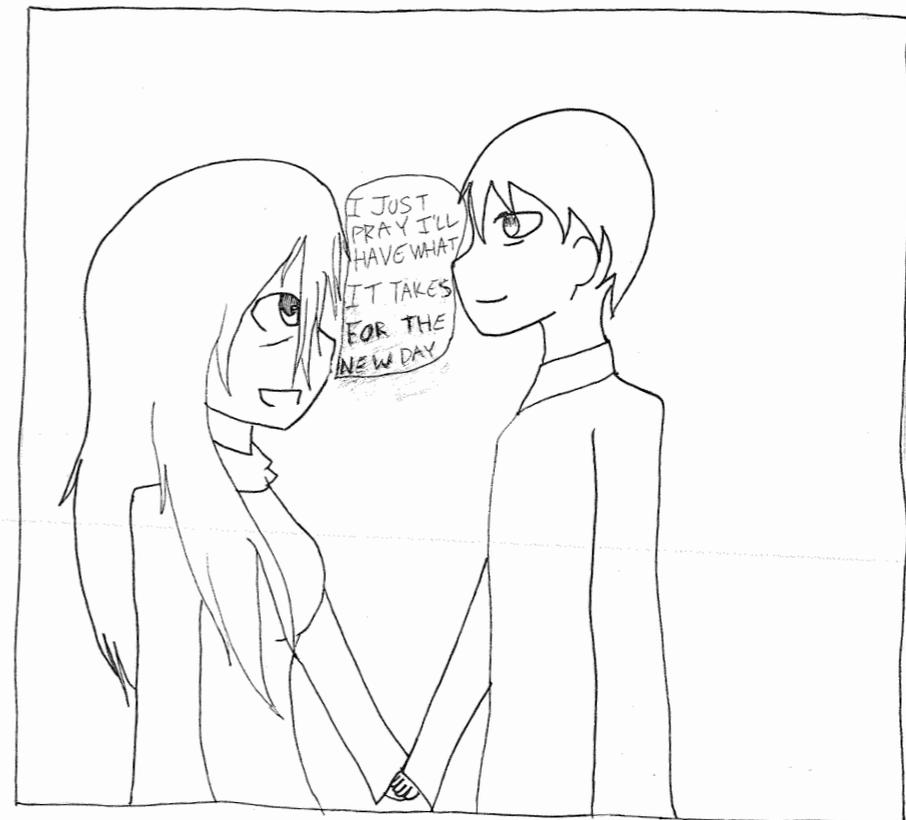
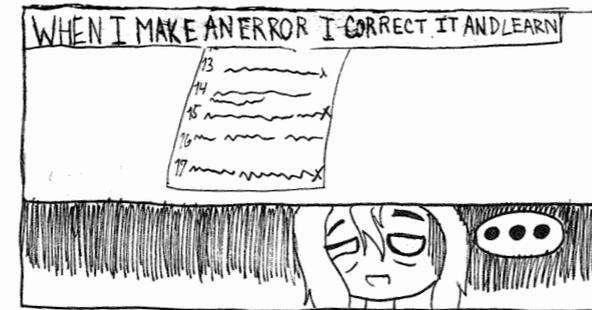
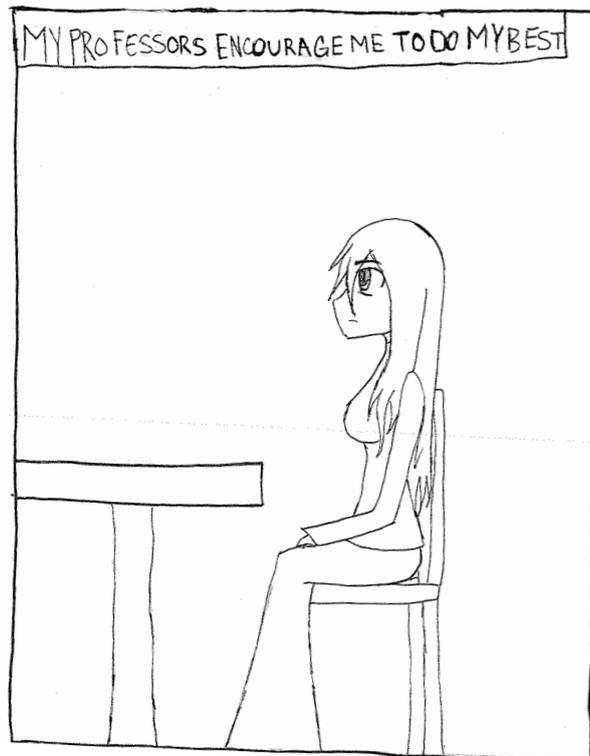
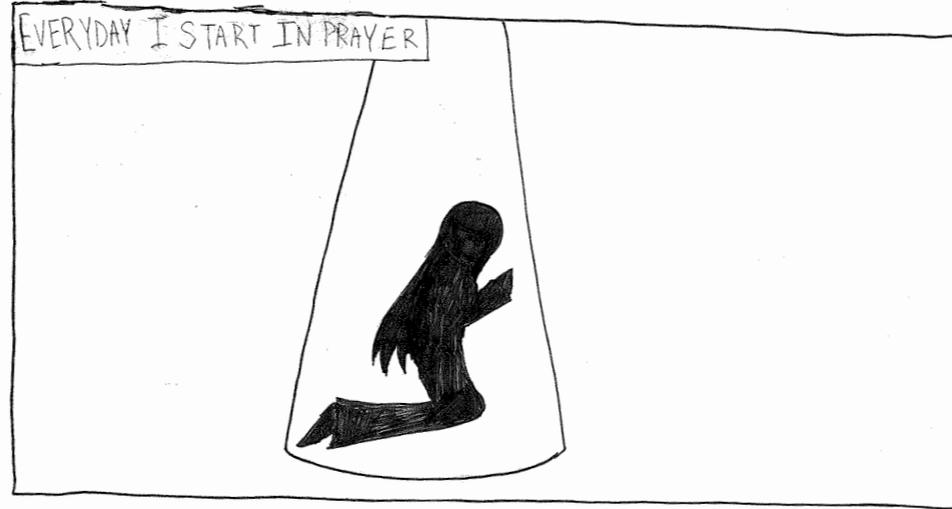
# Cold art by J.T./story by Jeremy Hopkins

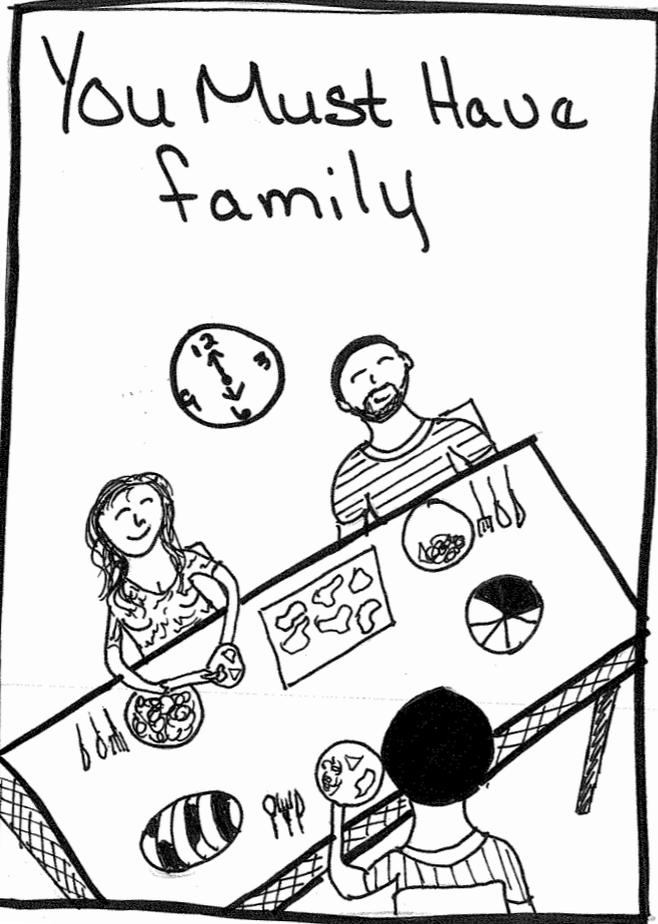
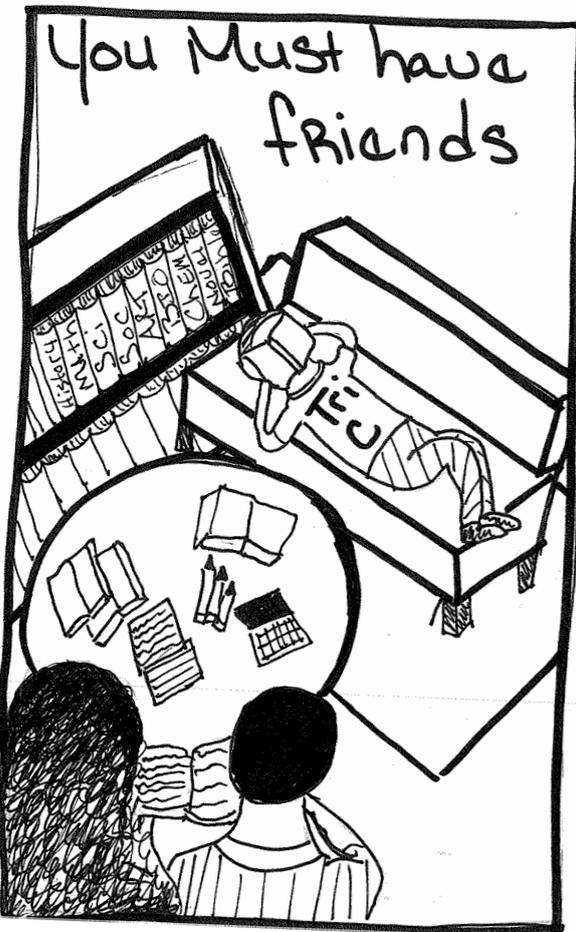
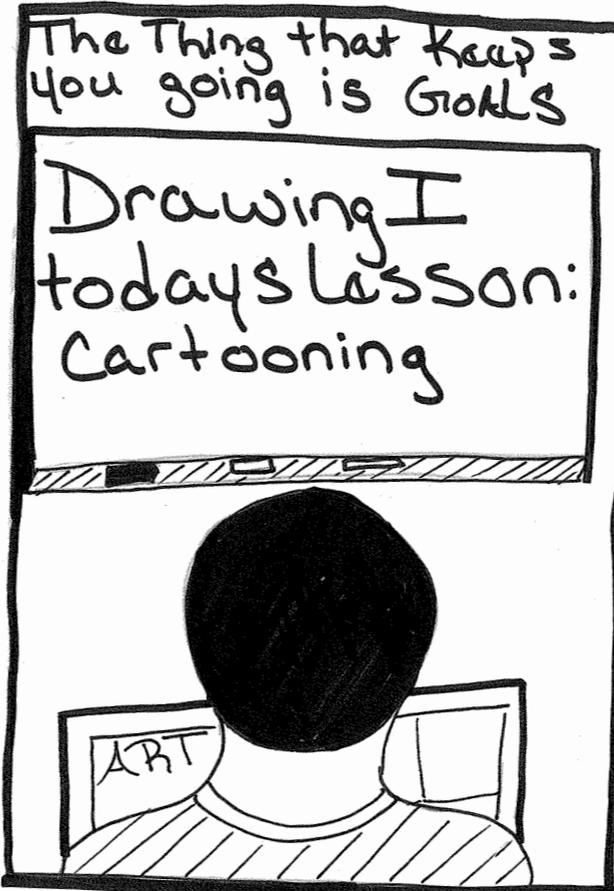


**Miss Ann, Petey and The Pill** art by Luis Cirillo/story by Mary James

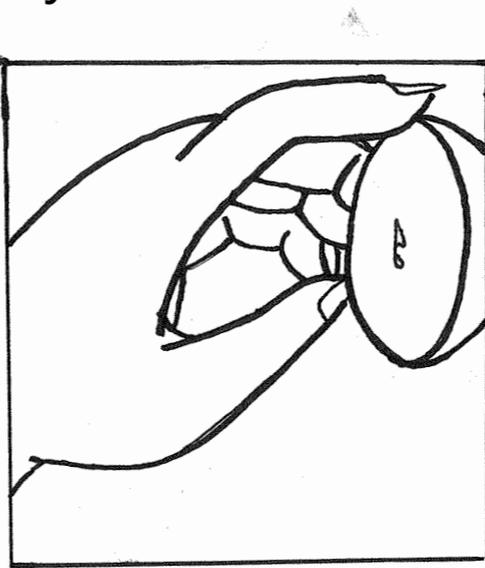
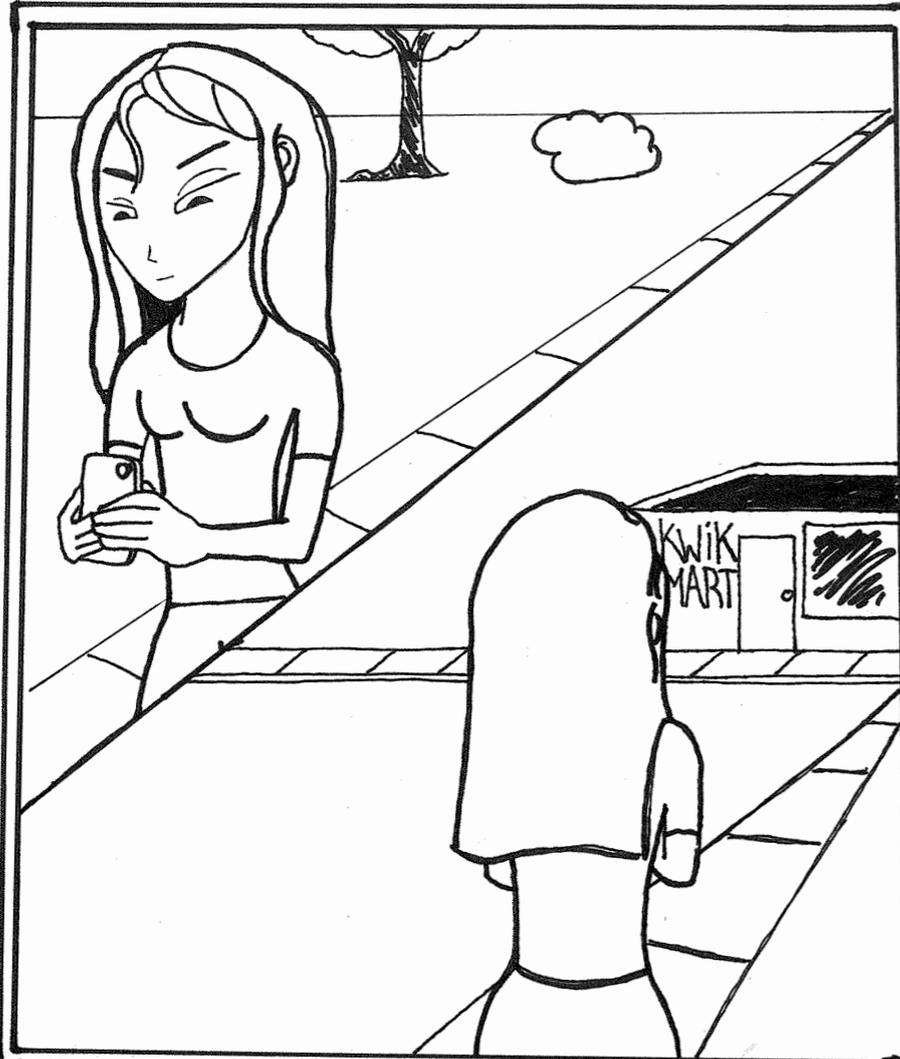


# The Best Me Everyday art by Sonia Sanchez/story by Khadeejah Kirk

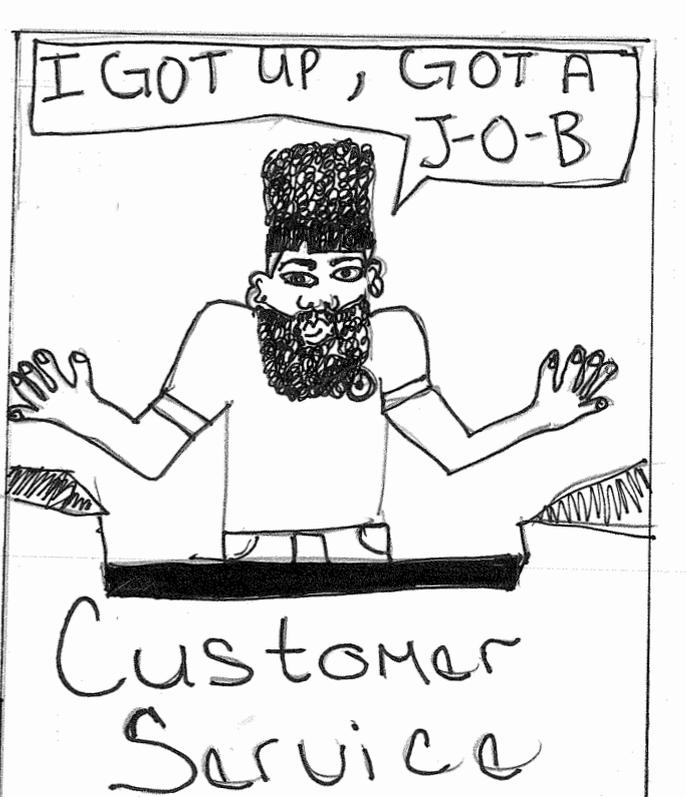
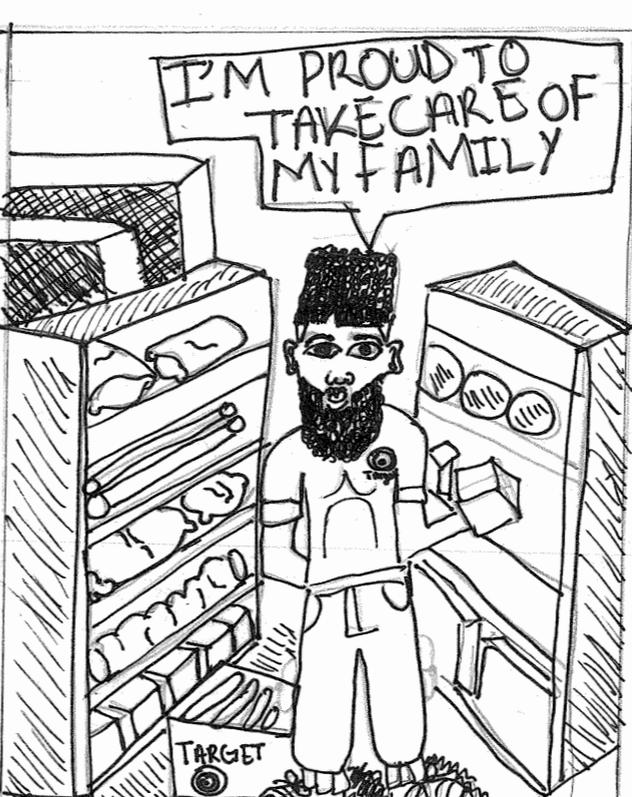
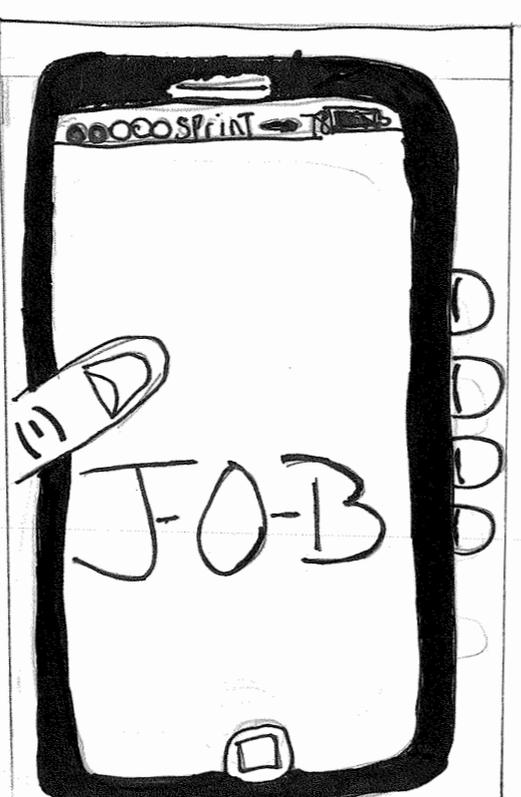
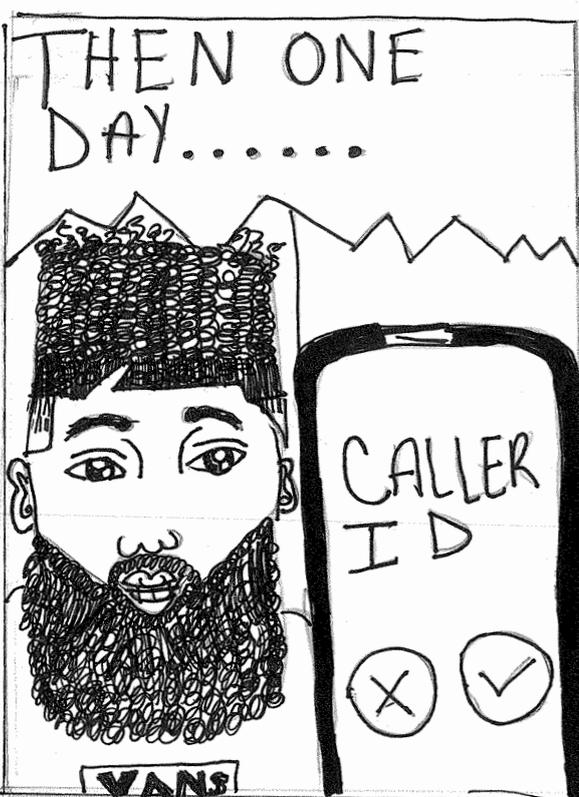
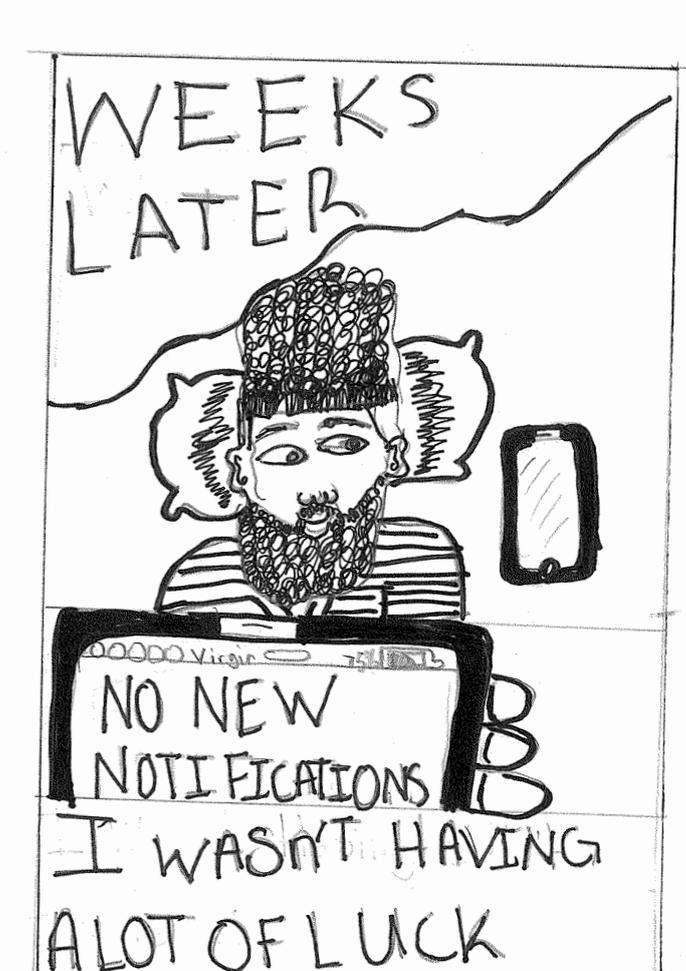
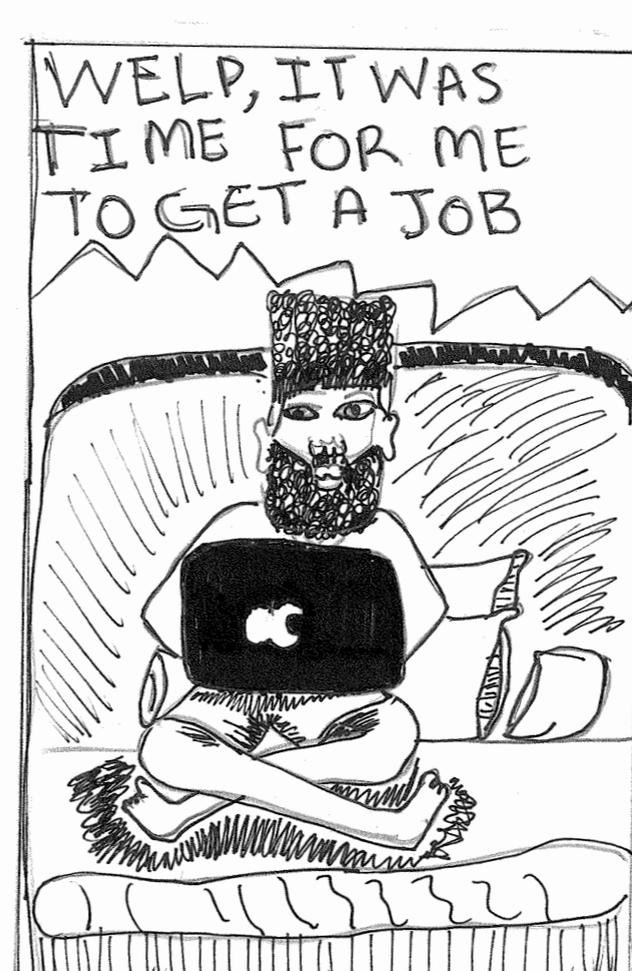
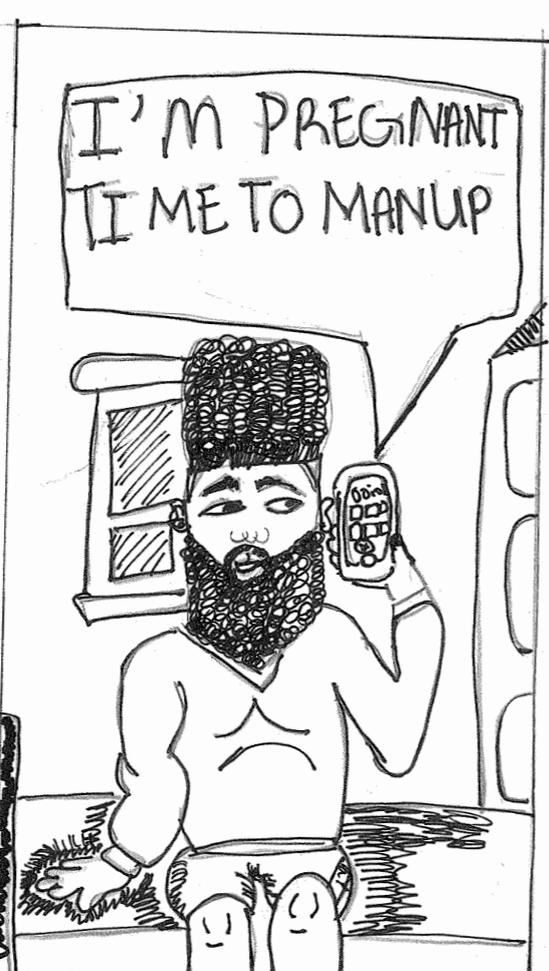
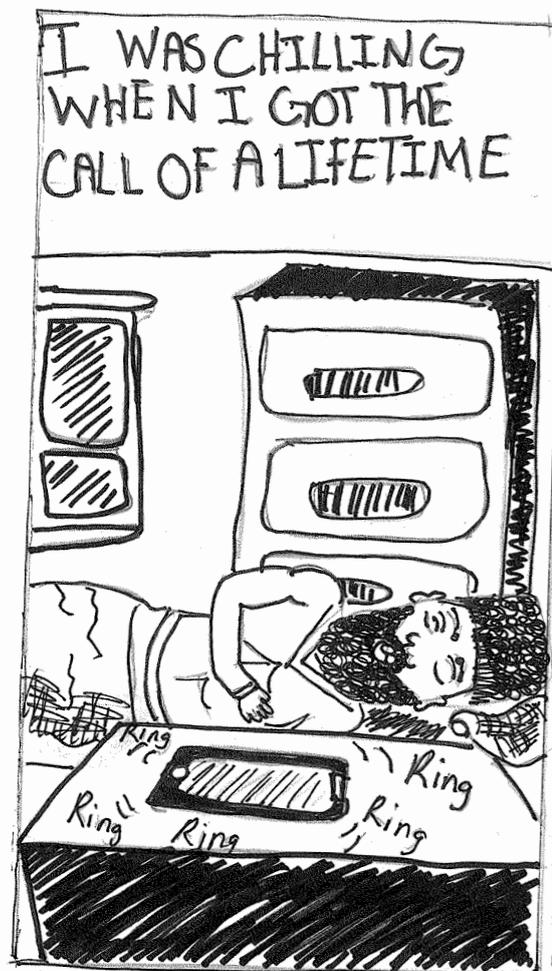




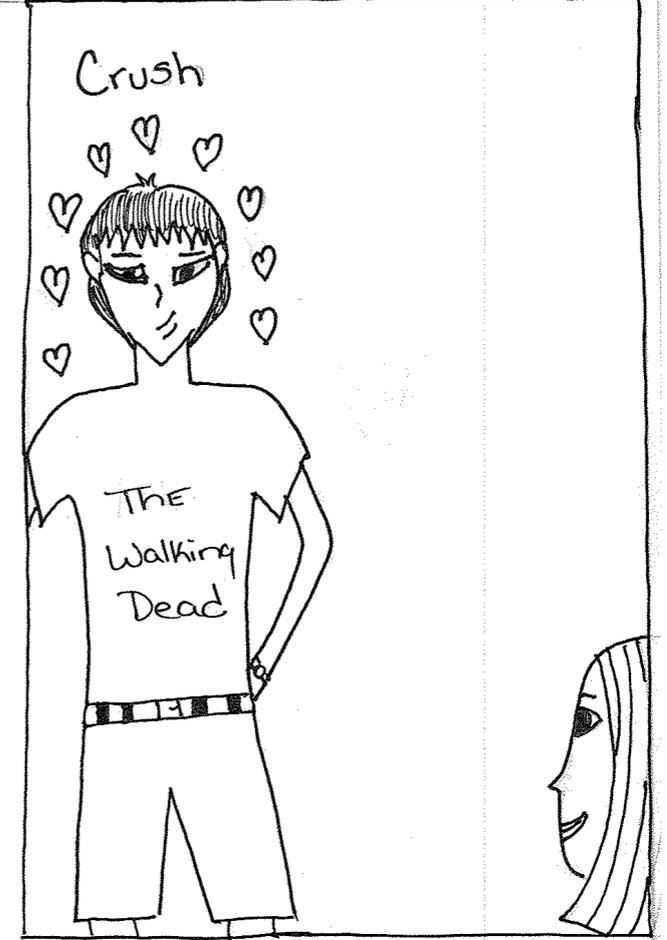
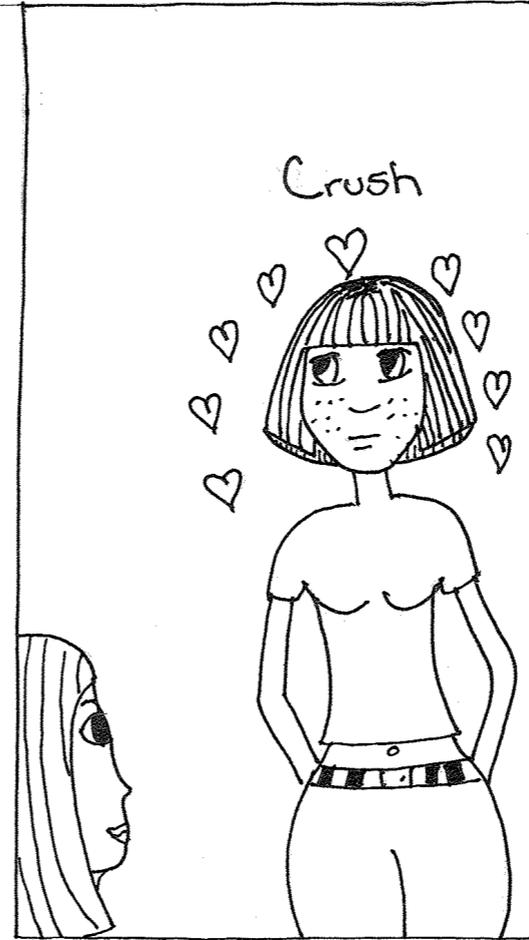
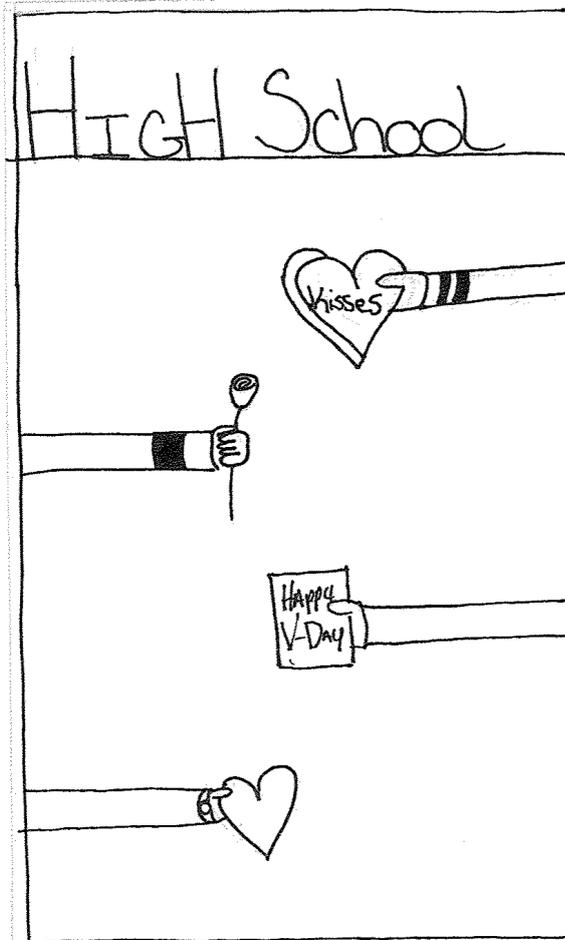
**Awkward Acts of Kindness** art by James Warmack/story by Tiara Gayle



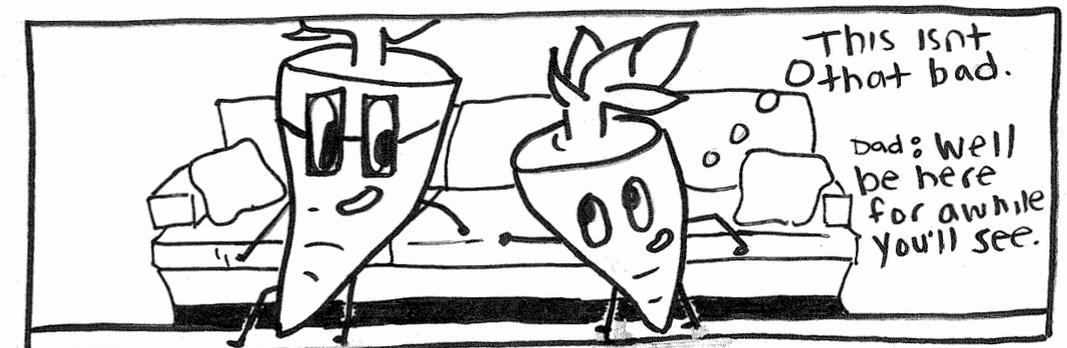
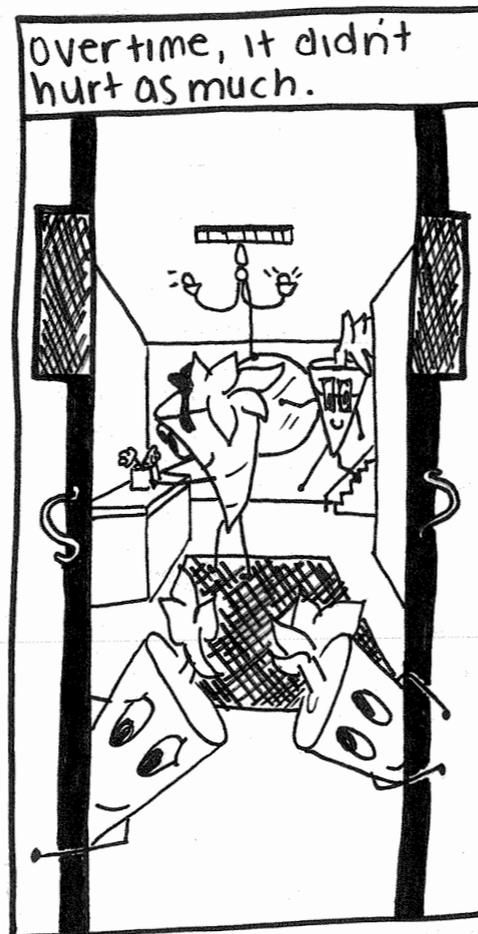
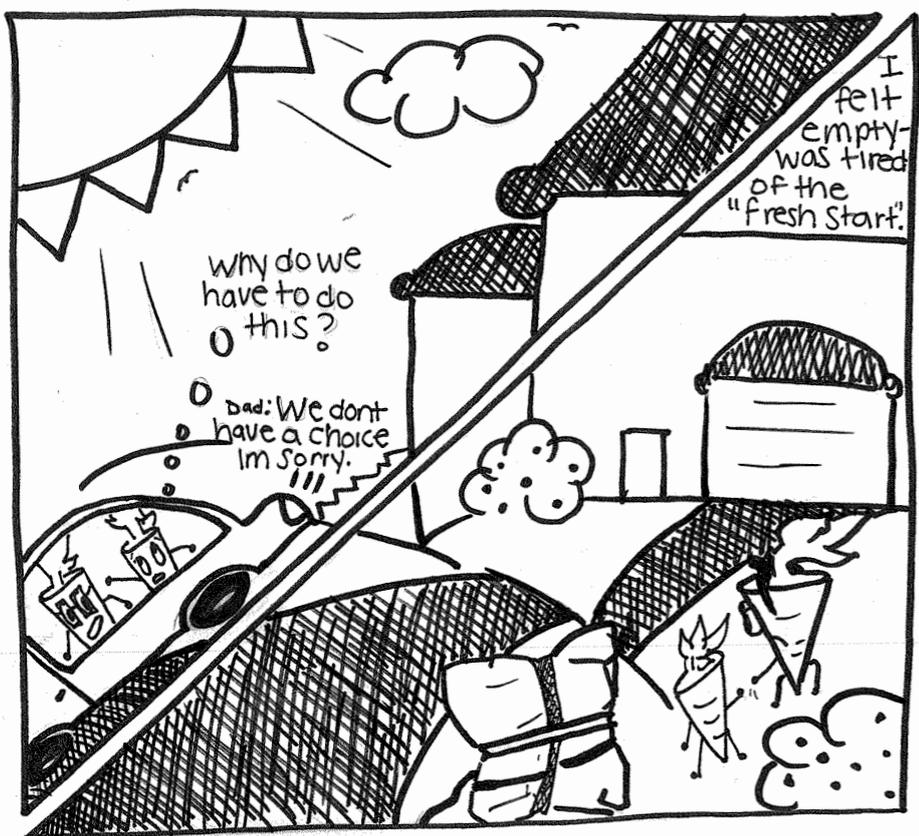
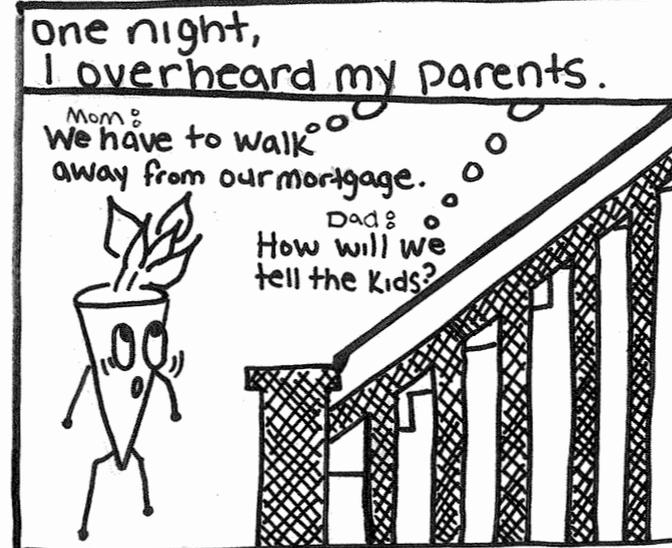
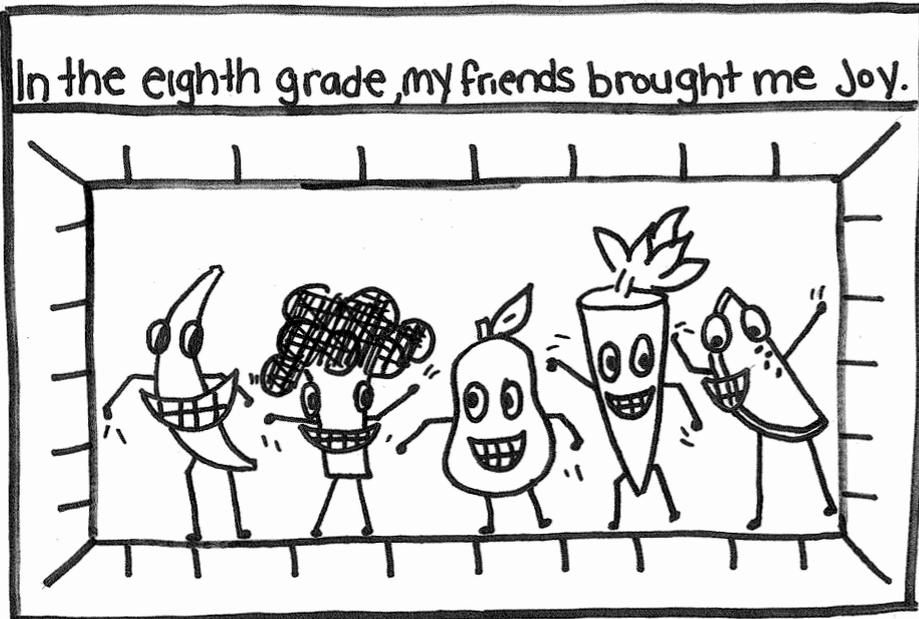
J-O-B art by Destiny Leatherwood/story by Cameron Williams



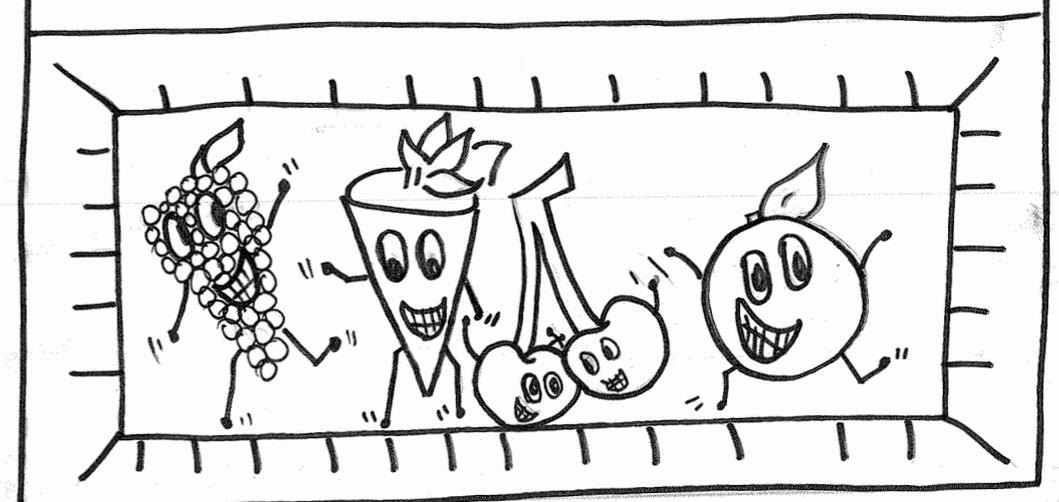
**Valentine's Day** art by Tiffany Battle/story by Lakeisha Henderson



# Joy Follows You Everywhere art by Shawnterra Donald/story by Connor Hess

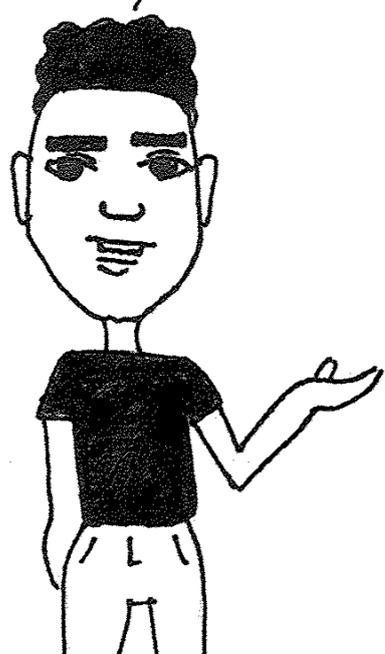


It's not the same joy, but it brings me joy.



From Pebbles to Boulders and Beyond art by Azia Perry/story by Michael Sawyer

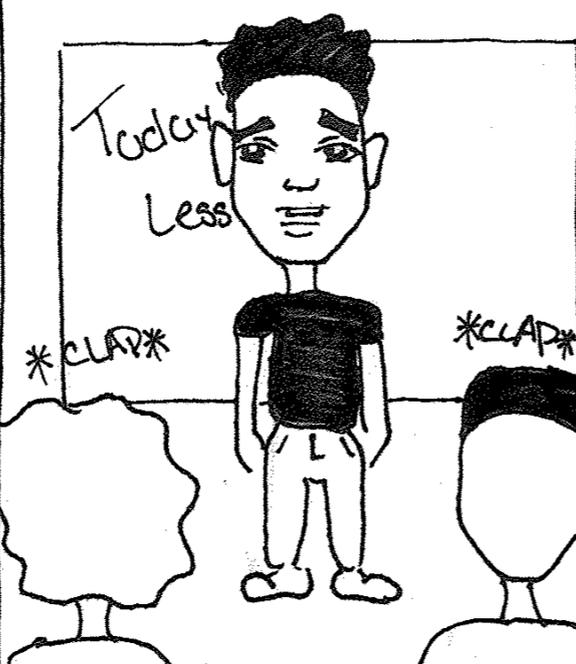
I felt like I'd sailed in life until I started my GED.



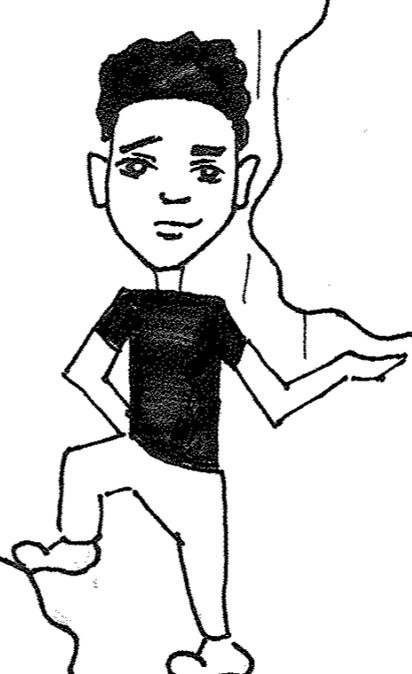
I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT MY FIRST DAY BUT IT WAS GREAT.

Today  
Less

\*CLAP\*



I WENT FROM JUGGLING PEBBLES TO TOSSING BOULDERS - I HAD THE POWER.



ONE DAY, I GOT KICKED OUT FOR TALKING SHIT TO MY TEACHER.

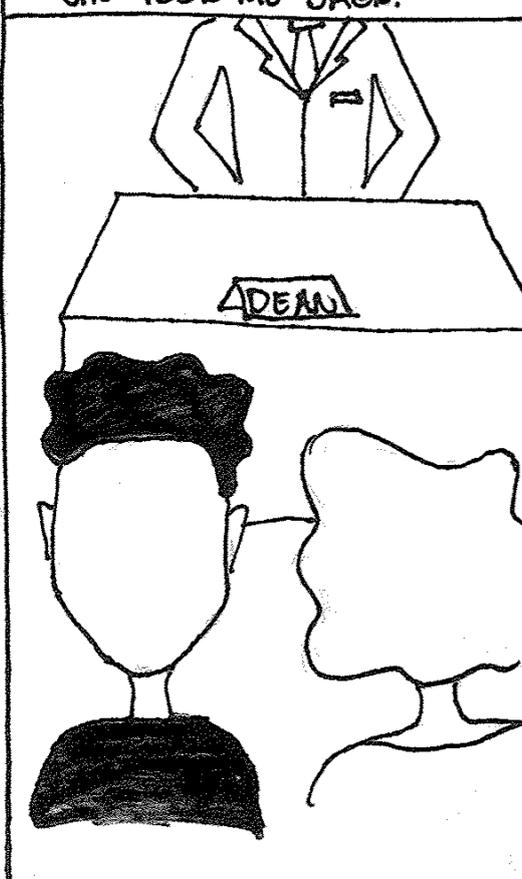
\*@#!

\*@#!



GREATFULLY, AFTER A MEETING WITH THE DEAN AND AN APOLOGY SHE TOOK ME BACK.

DEAN

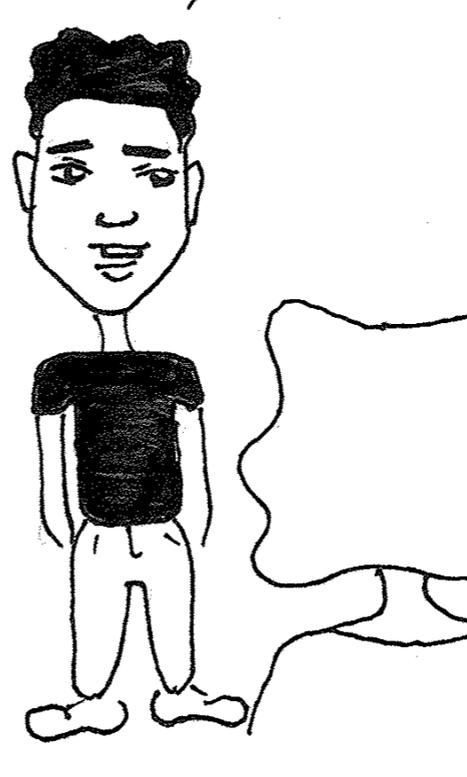


THAT SAME TEACHER HELPED ME STUDY FOR THE GED... AND I PASSED.

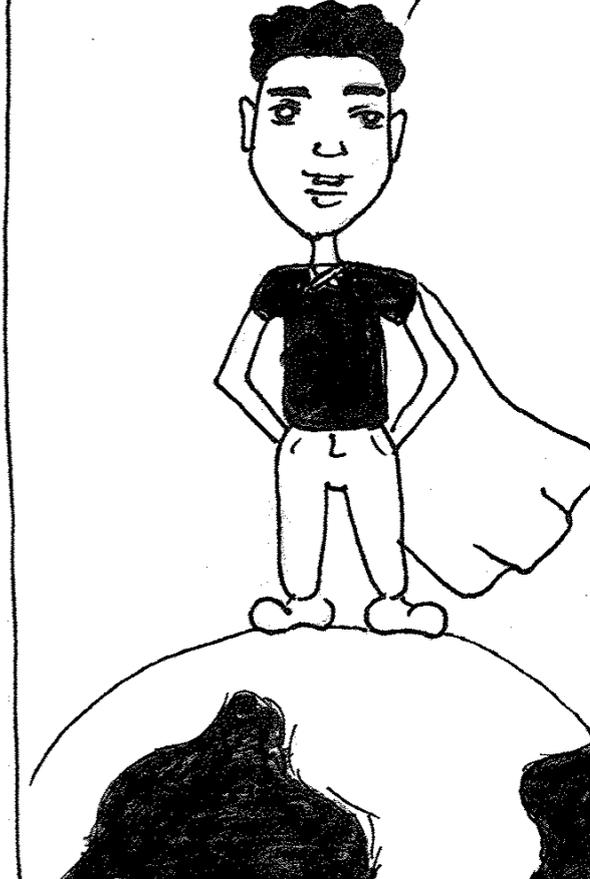
What's next for you?



Well with a GED, I can go to Tr-C, and from there...



Maybe I can conquer the world!



## Comic Strip Script-Writing Format Guide

### **Number of Panel**

Short, vivid descriptions of the scene and what is going on should be written here.

*CAPTIONS: Should be italicized and specified to go on top or on the bottom of the panel.*

**CHARACTER SHOULD BE ALL CAPS AND BOLDED:** (any emotion they have should be in parenthesis) Their dialog should be no more than 10 words long.

Capitalize the CHARACTER NAME(s) in the descriptions.

(example)

### **Panel 1**

It's blinding snowy Cleveland winter night.

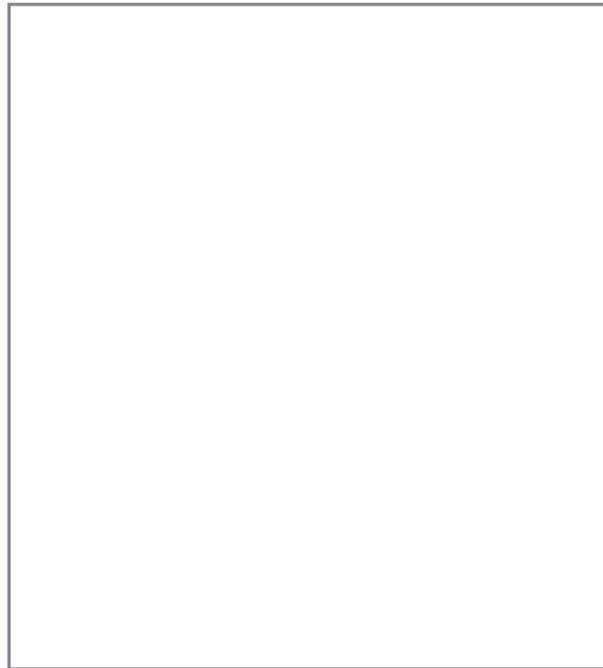
*CAPTION: "The weather was crazy. So much snow and ice."*

A BUM, frost covering his head in a thin, ragged shirt, ambles towards OUR MAN.

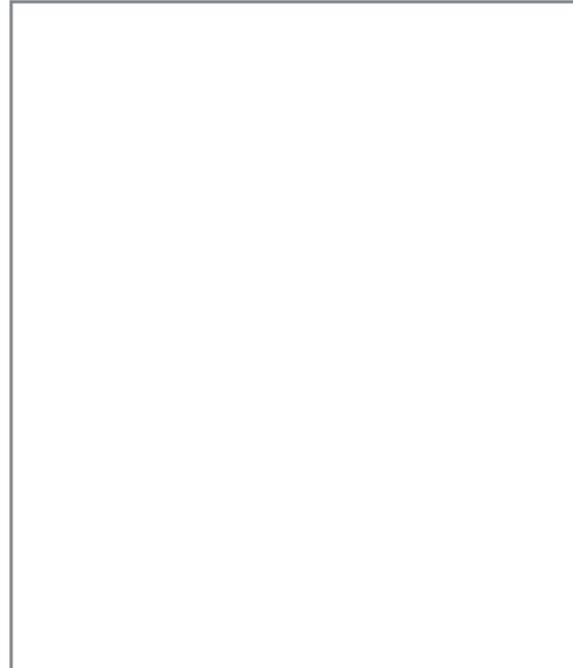
### **Panel 2**

**BUM:** Can you spare some change so I could get something to eat?

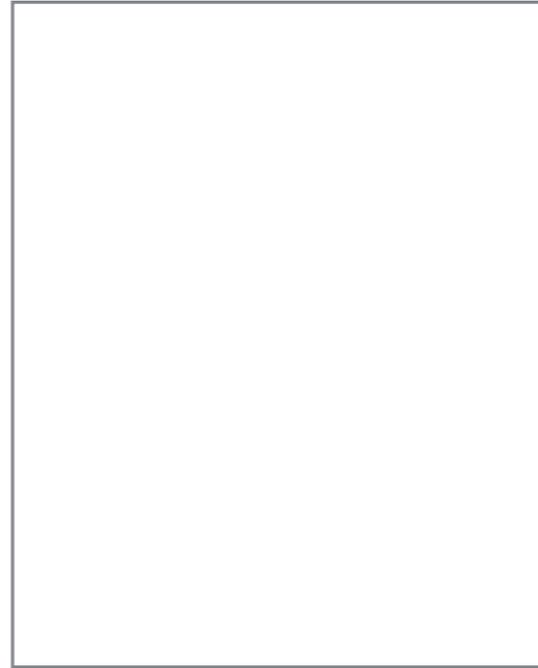
“My TriC Life” THREE ACT STRUCTURE FOR COMIC STRIPS SCRIPT/ART PROMPT  
BY jimi izrael, MFA



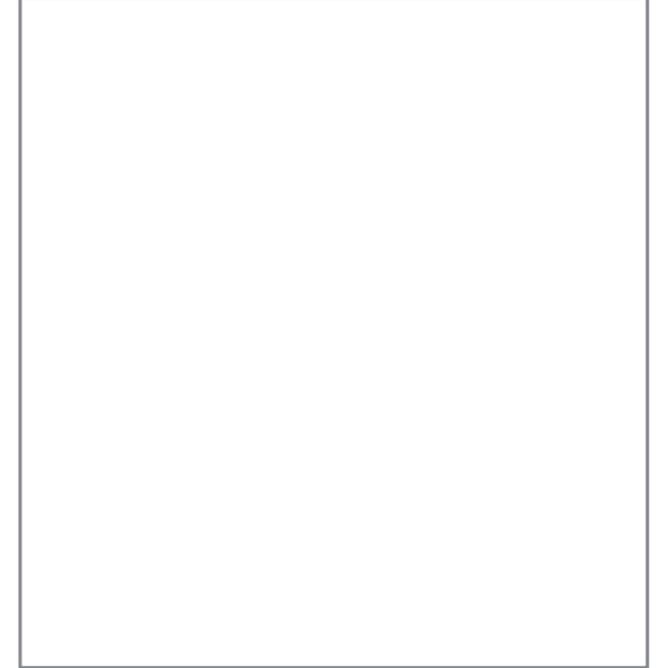
**ACT ONE:**  
THE STORY BEGINS ON AN  
ORDINARY DAY.



**ACT ONE CONCLUSION:**  
SOMETHING HAPPENS THAT  
CHANGES EVERYTHING -  
PROBLEM IDENTIFIED.



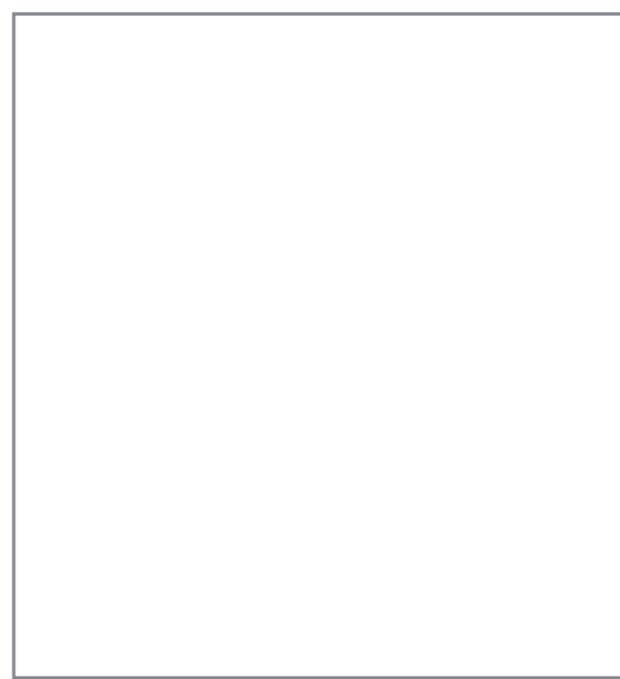
**ACT TWO:**  
THERE IS A PROBLEM THAT  
MUST BE SOLVED.



**ACT TWO:**  
HOW TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM?  
TRIAL AND ERROR, ET AL.



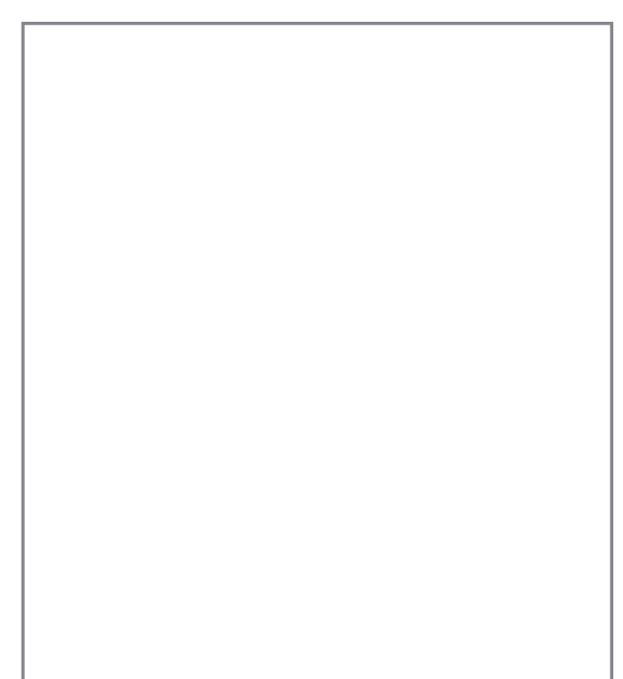
**ACT TWO:**  
A SOLUTION IS EVIDENT



**ACT TWO CONCLUSION:**  
A CHANGE OCCURS, FOR  
GOOD OR BAD.



**ACT THREE:**  
THE STORY TURNS —  
THINGS ARE DIFFERENT.



**ACT THREE CONCLUSION:**  
MORAL OF THE STORY.