









# My first Half-Century and beyond!

## A Contextual Work History

1966	Birth	I'm born one early Sunday morning to mother Zofia, father Klaus Radtke and two year old brother Ulf.	
1967	1		
1968	2		
1969	3		
1970	4	My parents break up. We move to a new apartment.	
1971	5		
1972	6	Mom gets re-married to Hans Joachim Wirth. We move into a big house in a very fine neighbourhood.	
1973	7	My sister Susanne arrives.	
1974	8		
1975	9		
1976	10	I remember my dad always making stuff. Finger puppets, paper cowboys...	
1977	11		
1978	12	I struggle to finish elementary school.	

Dad takes me to see "Bambi" I'm awestruck!

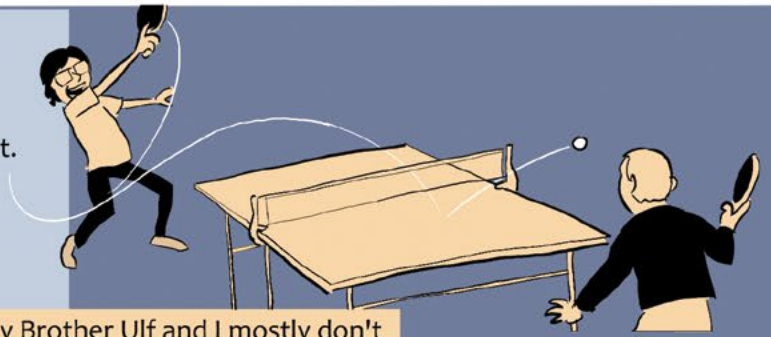
For many years I draw hundreds of Bambies. Girls in school ask for Bambi drawings.

I remember my dad always making stuff. Finger puppets, paper cowboys...

I spend many hours reading comic Books with friends - Great times!

1979

Highschool like elementary school is mostly a painful blurr. The best part is playing table tennis any chance I get.



13

1980



My Brother Ulf and I mostly don't get along but we do get together over superhero comics. Reading and making them.



Here is the hero of a story we cook up together.

14

1981

I miss a lot of school being bedridden for nearly a year with a bone marrow infection. And then my parents decide we should move. - To Canada.



15

1982



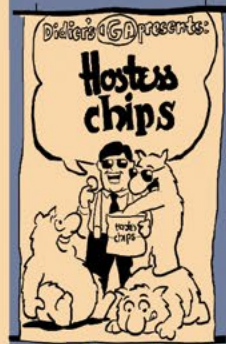
In Canada highschool is two years longer then in Germany so I need to go back. My english is bad, I feel culture shock, I fail school in most every subject.



16

1983

Then my remedial english teacher, Mrs. Law turns things around. She makes me design and illustrate a book. Succeeding doing this gives me confidence.



In english media class. I animate my first film. - A music video using plasticine figures.

17

1984

Another boost I get from working at the local supermarket. I do well as a store clerk. Also I make promotional posters.



Here is the most successful poster I made. The man with the sunglasses is Daniel Didier the store owner.

18

1985



I'm getting much closer to my stepdad when he teaches my brother and I how to drive. He is really good at this and we learn quickly. Just then my parents get divorced. I do not get a driver's licence.

19

1986

20

At George Brown College I discover I'm good at design but I have trouble working to deadlines. At the end of the first semester I give up.



1987

I go to work nightshifts at a Seven Eleven convenience store. I get promoted to assistant manager. -And let go.

21

Dennis Small is the owner of a **Grandma Lee's Bakery and Eating Place**. He likes my enthusiasm and hires me as a baker. After two weeks of burning cinnemon rolls I'm starting to get it right.

1988

Happily I move out of my mom's basement and find my own apartmentment.

22

1989



23

After four month of eleven hour shifts I go on UI so I can study cartooning on my own at the Toronto Central Library.

1990

24

1991

25

Mary and Joseph (No kidding) Gollop hire me at another Grandma Lee's Bakery.



1992

Mary sees some of my drawings and feels I'm wasting my time baking. She goes as far as to arrange an interview with the art director of an ad agency.

26

The Gollops sell their franchise and I get layed off.

At breakfast after work I draw a comic I call Cavebirds. - It's good.



1993

27

JAN.

FEB.

MAR.

APR.

MAY.

JUN.

JUL.

AUG.

SEP.

OCT.

NOV.

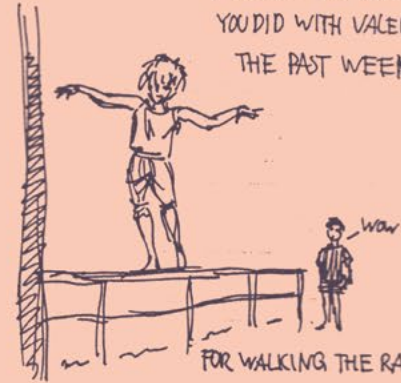
DEC.

I begin working up a portfolio of marker renderings. Included are comics and illustrations. I really like what I come up with.

I want you to know that I am very proud of you.



FOR CLIMBING THE TREE



FOR ALL THE WEIRD STUFF YOU DID WITH VALERIE IN THE PAST WEEK

FOR WALKING THE RAILING



FOR LOVING ME



FOR DARING TO DREAM AGAIN

Mary-Laure Vallart moves into the house where I live.

ALSO YOU HAVE EXTRAORDINARILY GOOD TASTE IN CLOTH (I'M LEARNING)

HAR ETC.

Marie-Laure and I spend weekends together and during the week we write letters. Mine include plenty of drawings.

... AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER



I get enrolled into a program at the Information Technology Design Centre and learn how to do design and illustration work on a computer.



I complete the program. My portfolio now includes computer generated cartoons and illustrations.



December 22 Marie-Laure and I get married. Next we fly to France to visit my bride's family.

1994

28

JAN.

M&M (Markus and Marie-Laure) return from visiting family in France.

M&M Meet **Clive Smith** Director of **Nelvana Productions**. I'm given tests to take home.

FEB.

M&M drop by at **Tom Mae productions**. I draw my first story board then and there for \$200.



MAR.

**Tom Mae** refers me to **Carla and Russ**, a couple recently engaged. They want a comic book to use as a wedding invitation. I get to work on my first comic. (23 pages)

**Marie-Laure** talks to **Terri Mulligan** owner of **Baldwin Bakery**. I follow up and I'm back to baking bread.

CARLA + RUSS



APR.



MAY.

**Marie-Laure** finds out about **The Outsider** a newspaper sold by the homeless. We go see publisher **Jim Mackin** who wants a weekly comic about an outer space Alien. I work it up and get published for the first time.



JUN.

**Marie-Laure** finds the **Chicago comic Convention** advertised in the Comics Buyers Guide, scheduled for July. As a published cartoonist I can get in free as a guest artist. We make plans to go.

Accommodations provided by our local church we make it to the **Chicago comic Convention** and it is hugely rewarding. I get to talk to some of my heroes as a fellow professional. Also **DC comics** takes me seriously and asks me to try out on one of there new books based on **Warner cartoon characters**. I get briefed on requirements and take home a script for the first three pages of a **Bugs Bunny Daffy Duck** story.

JUL.

When I get home I pencil two pages of the **DC** book but I have a hard time to make it work.

**Creative Carts and Freezers** hire me to sell **Tetley Iced Tea** around Toronto. I make sure to get noticed.



**M&M** make the **Toronto Comic Con**. **Marie-Laure** connects with **George Boyko** who directs art related summer camps. He's looking for a guest artist to demonstrate sculpting techniques for six to twelve year old kids. When we get there it turns out **M&M** are really good at teaching.

AUG.

**Marie-Laure** finds a **Janitor** position in the newspaper. Free rent for part time work. **M&M** get to move to a really nice apartment.



SEP.



**Marie-Laure** meets **Francois Glassman** at his restaurant the **Saint Tropez**. The man is into political commentary and he wants the cover of his menu filled with famous Canadian politicians. -All of them with a **Brian Mulroney** Chin.

OCT.

NOV.

I create a set of three **Christmas** greeting cards. and we sell them to neighbours in our apartment building door to door.



**Tom Mae** asks me to animate a 30 seconds cartoon for **Much Music**. He sets me up at home with a lightbox and animation paper.

DEC.

1995

29

JAN.

**Marie-Laure** meets the publisher of the **Toronto Forum** a bilingual newspaper. I draw my first bilingual comic strip.

FEB.

**Marie-Laure** explores government assistance programs. With the aid of **Jobs Ontario Tom Mae** decides to hire me full time.

MAR.



Suppose there is a bug sitting on your shoulder telling you to be mean.

-A Meany Bug!

**Tom Mae** directs

**A Bad Case of the Meanies**

And I get to do hand drawn animation.

Better yet I get a whole character to myself:

**Professor Schlosselhofenfriesandketchup**

APR.

**Tom Mae** directs animation for **Great Parks** a TV nature show about **Yoho National Park**. I get to animate prehistoric crustations.

MAY.

"Did you know you can put more the gas on your **Irving Card**!?" I animate my first TV commercial.

JUN.

"Nothing works out like the Lady!" After two month of working up to it I mock up a photo real animatic for a lady **Speedstick** cermercial.

JUL.

"Nothing outlasts the Lady!" A second lady **Speedstick** animatic comes off better then the first.

AUG.

**Amway** Catalogues go CD-Rom. I do inspirational sketches for it.

**M&M** take a week off work to go swimming with wild dolphins in the Florida Keys.

SEP.

OCT.

**Tom Mae** is going out of business. **M&M** hear good things about the other side of Canada. We decide to move to Victoria BC.

NOV.

DEC.



1996

30

JAN.

Singer Songwriter **Paul Hann** hires me to make a CD cover. The project grows into a nine panel foldout with a colouring book inside.



FEB.

I get hired by **Desktop Publishing** to work on a job for **GabyLou Entertainment Products**. I direct design and illustrate: A brochure, a CD cover, covers for colouring books and a gameboard;

MAR.

**M&M** visit my Dad in Berlin Germany.



APR.

I sell **Nightowl Productions** on the idea of showing a cartoon slideshow as a sort of teaser trailer for commercial websites. We call these Cartoon lead-ins.

A number of Victoria companies like the idea including **Prices Alarms, Horizon West Hotel** and **Health In Motion**. And I end up with a partime job at Nightowls.



MAY.

JUN.

JUL.

**M&M** visit relatives in France.

AUG.

SEP.

**M&M** break up, Marie -Laure moves in with Jack Bakker.



OCT.

**Copeland Communications** hires me to do weekly cartoons for the **Fran & Frank** ad campaign. I get to see my drawings on bus boards, full page ads on the back cover of a **TV Guide**, T-Shirts and live size cut outs inside the **Click's** Furniture store. Where Frugal is Fun!



NOV.

Other jobs for **Copelands** include designing **Daisy the Cow** for **Island Farms**.



DEC.



1997

I move to **Vancouver**.

I make a promotional comic for a sports store.

At Kinkos I meet **Frank Northcott**. He is just starting a house painting and powerwashing company and we end up working together.

I attend a weekly writers group lead by the beat poet **Bud Osborn**.

I begin performing my poetry and songs at open microphone events.

I attend the **Search** program at the **Vancouver Cultural Alliance** and become close friends with *Eva Waldauf*



31

1998

I attend **Print to Publish** a design course at **SFU** and the **Pride Centre**.

My design teacher hires me to do spot illustrations for the **SFU Writing and Publishing Program** catalogue.

The **Vancouver Courier** hires me to do illustrations for a short story contest.

I become friends with **Martin Feuchtwanger** and we decide to rent a house together with some other friends. Actually **Martin** rents the house and I'm there to help out.



32

1999

At the art therapy group **Creative Burst** out I become friends with **Laurissa Weeler** and meet **Dolly Hopkins** for whom I make a mural for the **Circus of Dreams** event.

I get hired at **AKA Cartoon** to work on storyboards for the TV show: **Ed Edd'n Eddie**. After four month of trying and failing I'm let go.

Our home on 38th Avenue is a massive success. We have a cooking club, a chore matrix, by-weekly house meetings... -Plenty of love and support.



33

2000

On New Years I visit **Yoga West**. I make friends with **Atmakar** and together we do early morning yoga (Satna) beginning at four in the morning, every morning, for three month running.

I try to get accepted at **Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design** and succeed.

At **Emily Carr** I dream up the stories: **The Reject**, **the Visitor** and **the Crossing**

**Eva Waldauf** refers me to **Sandi Zweikaft** an actress who wants some promotional artwork.



34

2001

At **Emily Carr** I complete the foundation year. I chose to major in animation.

June 3 I'm struck by a car, propelled into the air, I crash land on my face.

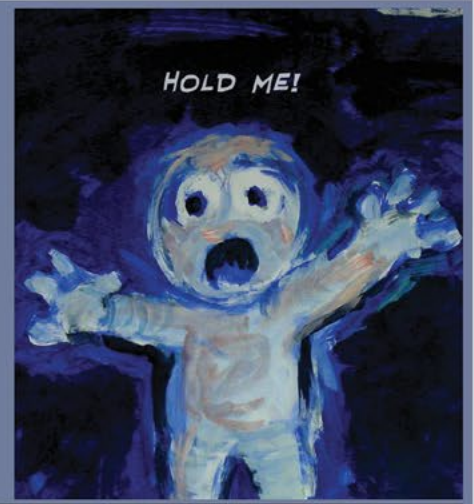
At **Emily Carr** I complete the first semester studying animation.

35



2002

At **Emily Carr** the affects of the car accident are catching up with me. Unable to meet deadlines I drop out, making arrangements to return in the fall.



36

At **Emily Carr** I ease back into the program with a lighter course load.

2003

**Mandana Sharifi** rents a room at my home on 38th Ave. and we become lovers.



37

I design a business card for **Bonny Giroux**, a life drawing model at **Emily Carr**.

2004

At **Emily Carr** I complete the first year of animation studies.

**Mandana** and I break up.

I tidy up my comic **The Reject** and show the book to publishers at the **San Diego Comic Convention**.

**Martin Feuchtwanger** moves to a condo with his newly found life partner **Cathy**. He leaves me in charge of our home on 38th Ave.



38

I design a business card for my friend **Mark Adams**

2005

At **Emily Carr** I complete my second year.

**Liam**, a classmate at **Emily Carr** is the nephew of **Drew Ann Wake**, owner of **Livewires Design Ltd.** Her company creates educational interactive games. Our first project together is called **Under Siege**.



39

For **Livewires Design** I create icons for project **Airdogs**.



2006

At **Emily Carr** I complete my third year.

I design a business card for for **Alan Munro**

For **Livewires** I take on Production design, Character design and animations for the game **Friend or Foe**.



40

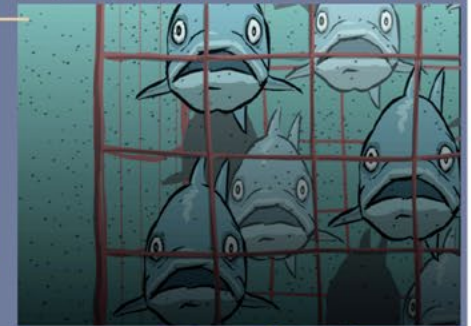
2007

At **Emily Carr (University)** I receive a Bachelor degree in Media Arts with a Major in animation. My grad film is **On Fire**.

For **LiveWires Designs** I draw the pirate Black Beard.

**Nic Quesnel** is moving into my house. He has talent for story telling and voice acting. We make an animated short calling it **Sudden Remakes 1**.

**Stan Probosk**, another housemate of mine lands a leading position at **Watershed Watch Salmon Society**. We create an animated short: **Wild Salmon in Trouble**.



**Toby Beaulieu** is a singer song writer. I create some promotional artwork for him.

For **LiveWires** I animate cellphone history with **Brrring!** and **Towers** and a story about cell phone bullying with charcters **Oliver and Eddy**

Also we create a website called **Braince!!s**.

**Wild Salmon in Trouble** gets adapted for Norway.

**Margo Langford** hires me for **Discover Stanley Park**

**Nic Quesnel** teaches Guitar Lessons. I make a business card for him -April

For **LiveWires** I animate **Blue Tooth** aug 19 sept 4 Also we create the interactive website **Coach**, about the science in winter sports.

For **Tom Rankin** I draw **Dumb Frogs** and **Smart Bears**



With **LiveWires** I create two websites. **A Step Ahead** for client **Leon Bibb** and **Marpole** for **Joy Kogawa** house.

We develop **Coach** to become an Exhibit at the **Richmond Central Library**

2008

41

42

2009

43

2010

44

2011

At **LiveWires** we begin the project **Inquiry**.

In June I meet producer **John Hanrahan** I draw storyboards and a Pitch Bible for his show **Leap'n Lily**.

45



2012

Joan Franklin, the owner of our home on 38th Ave. dies. Her son sells the house.

I rent another house in Burnaby.



46

I animate music videos for chinese ESL TV show *Galaxy English*

For Singer/songwriter **Mike Isacson** I animate the music video *She said I'm gonna kill you*



2013

For **John Hanrahan** I create illustrations and a web comic for the *Leapin' Lily* website



47

2014

My home in Burnaby isn't working out. I rent an apartment in New West Minister.

For **Anne Le Blank** I design *Bud girl*

For **Livewires** I animate Jim Green Jughound

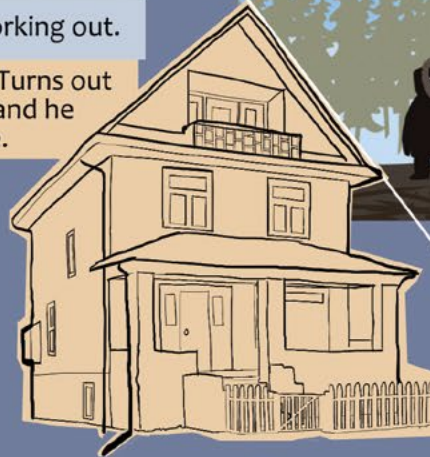


48

2015

My home in New West isn't working out.

I call up my friend **Nic Quesnel**. Turns out he rents a house in Vancouver and he needs tenants. - Happily I move.



49

2016

I begin drawing my own comic *Fabulous Times*



50

2017

51

JAN.

I begin writing/drawing *The Basics and Beyond* a book about visual storytelling

FEB.

I write/draw my first children's book *One very peculiar Piglet*



MAR.

I join **Tenth Church** and what we call a Small Group Friends gathering around Christ sharing their spiritual journeys.

APR.

MAY.



JUN.

For *Livewires* and the project *Inquiry* I animate *Voices* - A series of stories told by Inuit Elders.

JUL.

I self publish *One very peculiar Piglet* with **Ingram Spark**

AUG.

*Voices* becomes it's own exhibit at **Inter Urban gallery** and **UBC Robson Square**.

SEP.



OCT.

NOV.



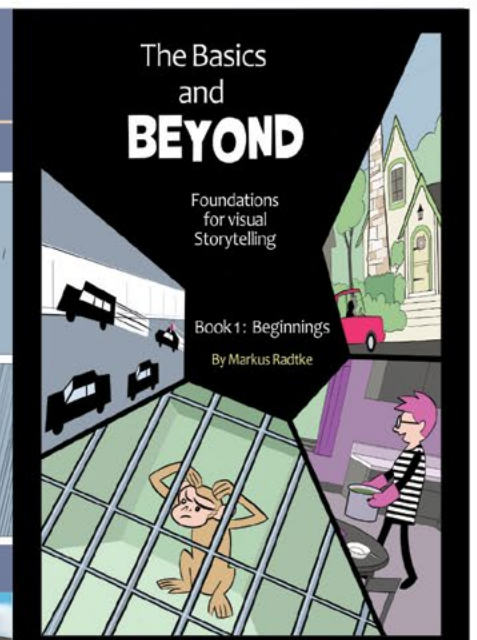
DEC.

# The Basics and BEYOND

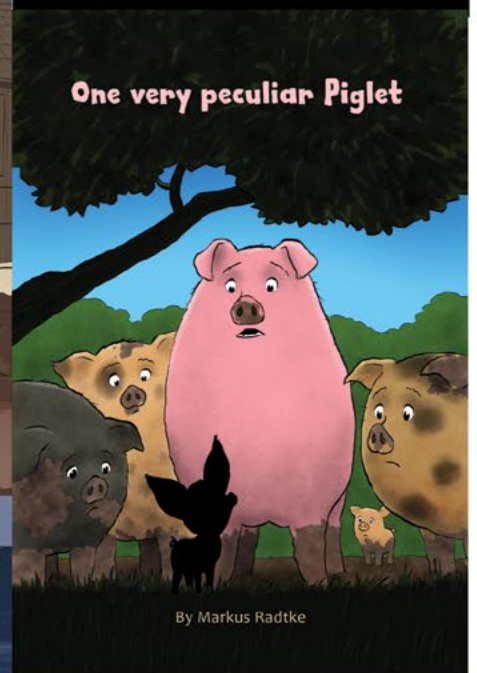
Foundations for visual Storytelling

Book 1: Beginnings

By Markus Radtke



# One very peculiar Piglet



By Markus Radtke

# VOICES

Stories told by Inuvialuit and Dene Elders

Animated by Markus Radtke with the Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre and the Inuvialuit Cultural Resource Centre

We gratefully acknowledge the support of



JAN.

Through **Livewires** I meet **Michael Shumiatcher** the Department Head of Visual and Performing Arts of Burnaby Central Secondary School. He hires me as a teaching assistant for **Hidden Histories** a program teaching animation and inter generational story telling.

FEB.

With high hopes I upload my comic **Fabulous Times** to **Webtoons**. It takes off like a lead balloon. I upload two shorter stories **Badass City** and **Complications**. Those two get lots of hits and plenty of good reviews.

MAR.

APR.

**Bardell Entertainment** and **Atomic Cartoons** are hiring. I build a new website to showcase my animation experience. My application does nothing. I try to talk to somebody there but that's not happening either.

MAY.

For **Drew Ann Wake** I design a logo. It turns out really well.

JUN.

My friend **Nic**, his family and I move to a new house next to Queen Elizabeth Park.



Kathryn M. Wake Education Fund

JUL.

For **Livewires** I animate **There they go!** and **Suitcase**. Two shorts that feature drawings by students.

AUG.

SEP.

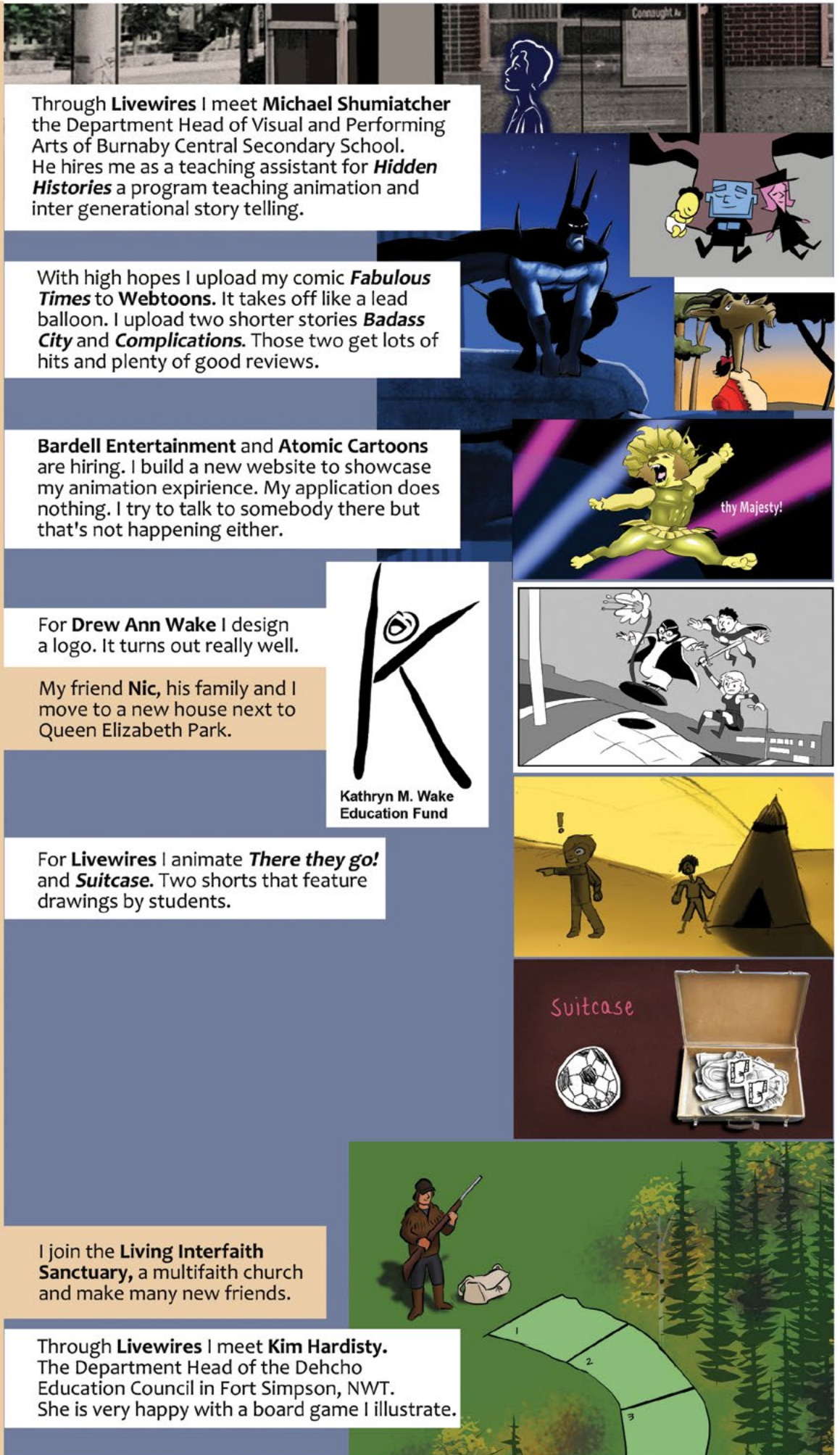
OCT.

I join the **Living Interfaith Sanctuary**, a multifaith church and make many new friends.

NOV.

Through **Livewires** I meet **Kim Hardisty**. The Department Head of the Dehcho Education Council in Fort Simpson, NWT. She is very happy with a board game I illustrate.

DEC.



JAN.

For **Living Interfaith Sanctuary**  
I volunteer design and illustration work.



FEB.

MAR.

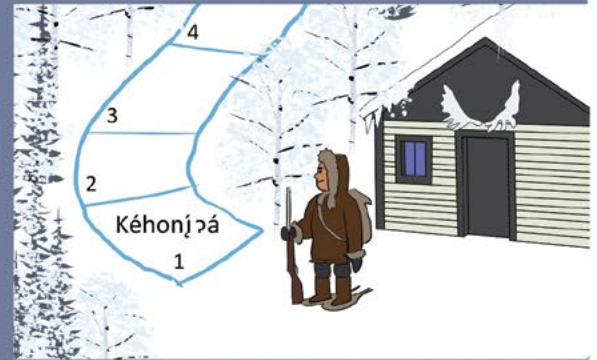
For **Livewires** I animate two more  
inuit stories from long ago.



APR.

MAY.

**Kim Hardisty** flies me into Fort Simpson,  
NWT for a week to do more illustrations.



JUN.

JUL.

AUG.

For **Joy Kogawa House** I do  
animation and illustration work.



SEP.

OCT.

NOV.

DEC.

