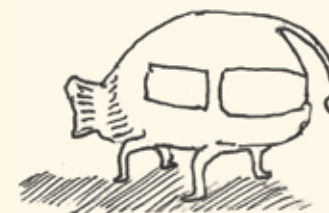


WINTERMOOT

BOOK ONE: AQPIK AND MARS APPLE

NATHAN SHAFER





THE WINTERMOOT SERIES

THE STORIES

Wintermoot began in 2011, as a mixed reality festival held during Fur Rendezvous (Fur Rondy), which is an annual festival in Anchorage held before the Iditarod Sled Dog Race. Over the years, Wintermoot has become more and more of a print-based endeavor.

This version of Wintermoot is a series of augmented reality comic books with Alaskan superheroes, and this book is the first in a series of ten planned comics. We begin with the stories of an Iñupiaq superhero named Aqpiq and her daughter Mars Apple. The next issue will focus on two others: Sourdough (who is introduced here) and Arête (who is from a younger generation of Alaskan superheroes), with the third installment focusing on Arête and her partner Anthrome as they explore the Cryoverse. The final issue will focus on Mars Apple and Shavila (Arête and Anthrome's daughter), several thousand years in the future, in a return to a small portion of the storyline that appears in this comic.

In this first set of stories, I did all of the artwork, augmented reality and wrote the story. Other comics in this series will look very different, and may be written and/or drawn by various other Alaskan authors and artists. Most of the characters in Wintermoot were created in collaboration with other Alaskans to better portray cultural idiosyncracies and worldviews. These comics include Indigenous languages and concepts from Alaska, for example: Aqpiq grew up near Kauwarek, so the Iñupiatun words included in this text, for the most part, are in the Kauwarek dialect, with due diligence given to some of the spelling conventions, etc.

When Alaska became a state in the mid-twentieth century, there was an excitement that the future was going to be in Alaska, and 'Polar Cities' began being planned to out-smart the cold of the north. This was obviously a folly, but as global warming has begun changing Alaska's biomes, we see a resurgence of futuristic planning and arcology to restore the original worlds found in Alaska.

Three 'domed' cities' were proposed in Alaska in the mid-twentieth century: Arctic City, Seward's Success and Denali City. None of them were actually built, but in the worlds of Wintermoot,

they were. These stories are alternate history fictions imagining an Alaska where the space age dreams of the future happened and then global warming began to make those methods for creating a future obsolete.

None of the characters in this series are taken from other stories, nor are any of the stories a retelling of Ancestral stories belonging to one group or another, but the structures are from ways Alaskans tell stories. Transitions between different realities without much exposition is common in many Alaskan stories, and it is parallel to the way augmented reality functions. Often, there is also very little in the way of closure, rather the stories end when they are over, sometimes in open and unsettling ways.

Representations of cultural groups are intended to be as respectful and accurate as possible. This is a work of speculative fiction and intended as entertainment.

THE AUGMENTS

A good portion of the stories included here cannot be seen on the printed page. Extra pieces of story, imagery, expositions, explanations, interactive content and multimedia works are embedded throughout the text as augmented reality. There are many ways to access the augmented reality* in this comic book, the easiest way is to check on the Luk'ae Tse' Tsass website, fishhead-soupcomics.com. It has up-to-date AR info, as it changes a lot, and I try and make something for as many third party AR platforms as possible. Scan anything in this comic that looks glitchy, out of place, or has an asterisk, it is probably augmented.

The augments in this comic book are mostly used as literary devices, akin to footnotes, addenda and historical asides. The story is told in first person by Aqpiq, and some of the augments tell the same story, from Mars Apple's point of view.

As the Wintermoot Series progresses, there will be a unique mobile app called Luk'ae Tse' Taas that will launch all of the augmented reality content from 3D models of the cities to literary content.

--Nathan Shafer, 2019

WINTERMOOT

BOOK ONE: AQPIK AND MARS APPLE

Nathan Shafer

AQPIK AND MARS APPLE

- 1 [LOW EARTH ORBIT.]
- 2 [THE CYBERINGIAN SIMULATION.]
- 3 [MOONLIGHTING IN ARCTIC CITY.]
- 4 [PINKBERRY DAUGHTERS.]
- 5 [THE FIRST FAILSAFE.]

AQPIK CREATED BY NATHAN SHAFER AND HOLLY NORDLUM.

STARBREATH AND THE BERRYPATCH CREATED BY JOELLE HOWALD.

SOURDOUGH CREATED BY NATHAN SHAFER AND BRENDAN PRICE.

DOME ARCHIVES, DOME PUNKS, LAKANOFF LOOPS AND REPOCALYPSE SCENARIOS CREATED BY PATRICK

LICHTY AND NATHAN SHAFER.

*DIRIGIBLES OF DENALI, AN ALASKAN REALITY TV SHOW ON NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC CHANNEL, KAOLIN

ANDRE AND THE CREW OF THE NELVANA* CREATED BY NATHAN SHAFER AND JOSHUA MEDSKER.

ARCTIC CITY CREATED BY FREI OTTO.

SEWARD'S SUCCESS CREATED BY TANDY INDUSTRIES.

DENALI CITY AND DIRIGIBLES FOR DENALI CREATED BY MIKE GRAVEL AND PAT POURCHOT.

CYBERINGIA IS DERIVED FROM TIMOTHY LEARY'S "CYBERIA"

MANY THANKS TO: BUNNELL STREET ARTS CENTER, CIRI FOUNDATION, CREATIVE CAPITAL, ALASKA ROBOTICS, ALASKA HUMANITIES FORUM, OUT NORTH CONTEMPORARY ART HOUSE, WRITER'S BLOCK BOOKSTORE AND THE ALASKA STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS.

IN THE 20TH CENTURY ALASKA BEGAN BUILDING SPACE AGE METROPOLISES.



ARCTIC CITY (NORTHERN)

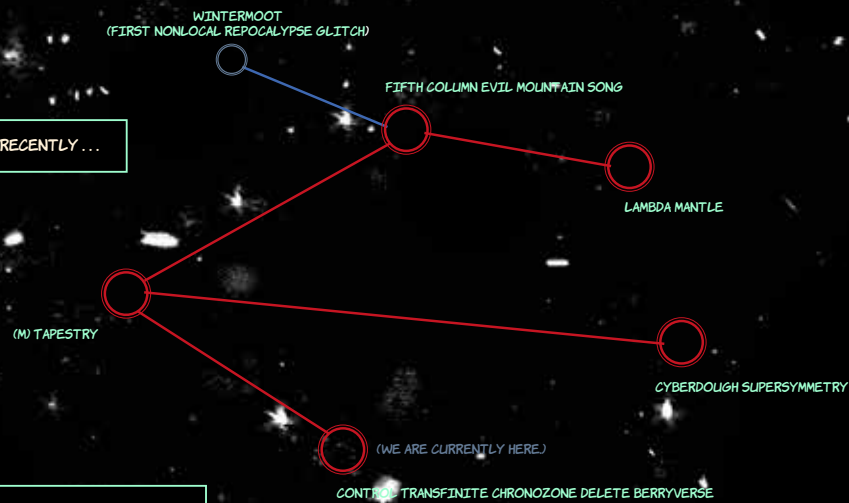


SEWARD'S SUCCES (SOUTHCENTRAL)



DENALI CITY (INTERIOR)

MORE RECENTLY ...



THERE WERE ALSO FIVE REPOCALYPSE SCENARIOS.

THE REPOCALYPSE SCENARIOS CAME FROM A BIOENGINEERED 'APOCALYPSE TAPESTRY' IN THE GENETIC VAULTS AND DOME ARCHIVES IN ARCTIC CITY.

THEY WERE BEING MANIPULATED BY AN CHAOTIC ENTITY CALLED 'ASSISTANT TO THE REPOCALYPSE.'

ALL OF THE REPOCALYPSE SCENARIOS WERE STOPPED BY A CONTINGENCY OF ALASKAN TERRITORIAL AGENTS (AKTAS) CALLED 'FFFBEZ' HOWEVER ...

THEY HAD THE AID OF SOME OTHER ORGANISMS FROM NEARBY REALITIES*.

THE (M) TAPESTRIES WERE SECRETLY ENGINEERED BY TWO AKTAS: Q'AHT'GHAL'AY AND KNIK QUARTERMASTER AT THE DOME ARCHIVES.*

(IMAGE REMOVED BY DOME ARCHIVISTS.)

THEY ARE KEPT IN A POCKET DIMENSION IN DENALI CITY.

(USE AUGMENTED REALITY APPS TO ACCESS MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE REPOCALYPSE SCENARIOS, HISTORY OF THE DOME CITIES IN ALASKA AND LEARN MORE ABOUT THE WINTERMOOT CHARACTERS.)

ATAUSRIK:
LOW EARTH ORBIT.

[CONTROL TRANSFINITE CHRONOZONE
DELETE BERRYVERSE.]
[1998.]
[LOW EARTH ORBIT.]
[INCREASING ORBITAL DECAY.]



T'SIENE.

AGPIK, I
CANT STOP THEM
ALL.



SILAM NUVITVAK.

GOT TO KEEP SAYING IT.

MARS IS OUT FRONT.

MY NAME IS AQPIK ...

MY DAUGHTER'S NAME IS MARS.

MARS APPLE.

SHE IS OUT FRONT.

THE PLASMOID'S NAME IS T'SIENE.

T'SIENE GOT A ROPE AROUND SOURDOUGH'S FOOT.

SO I COULD DRAG HIM TO THE BOREALIS DOCK.

AQPIK.





SOURDOUGH.

FFF8E7 (REDACTED AUDIO FILE): #93721800

FF...ZH...SSHZZZ

THE FEELS LIKE FIRE.

YADA DI?

ATCHLIL!

THE UNCONSCIOUS DUDE IN THE CAPE GOES BY SOURDOUGH.

HE IS STILL ALIVE. BY THE WAY.

AND AN IDIOT.

I THINK I HAVE DONE THIS BEFORE.

THIS TIME YOU ARE GOING TO GRAB THE AND THROW IT TO ME. I WILL GET IT TO GREEN BOREALIS.

THERE IS NOTHING BUT AN OLD THERMOS IN THIS ROOM.

AARIGAA!

THAT'S IT! TOSS IT OVER!

OR SOMETHING LIKE IT.

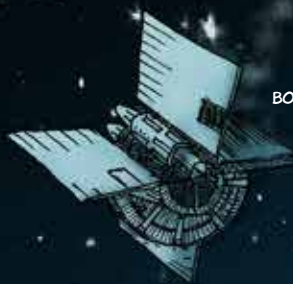
MARS APPLE. LET US KNOW WHEN YOU ARE IN LINE AND

HAVE POSSESSION OF THE LAST INGOT.

MY THOUGHTS ARE BEING DELETED AT THE MOMENT.

MARS IS AT THE BOREALIS DOCK.

GREEN BOREALIS IS THERE WITH HIS GARRISON READY TO RESTART THE CYBERDOUGH SUPERSYMMETRY.



BOREALIS DOCK. (1994).



HOLD ON.



FROM A MEMORY: (L.G.M. NEAR KALIWAREK)

I REMEMBER PICKING BERRIES WITH MY MOTHER AND SISTERS.

MY MOTHER NAMED ME AFTER ONE OF THE BERRIES WE USED TO PICK ON THE TUNDRA.

AQPIK.



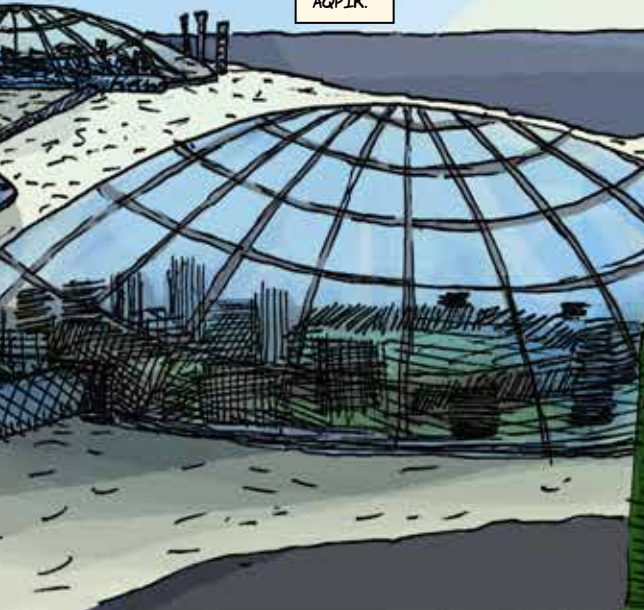
ORIGINAL FFF8E7 CONTINGENCY (AKTAS)

FFF8E7 USED TO CALL ME 'CLOUDBERRY WOMAN'.

I PREFER AQPIK. THANK YOU.



MARS APPLE.



MARS HAS THE LAMBDA MANTLE.

SHE IS IN HER SHIP. THE STARBREATH.

HOLD THAT MEMORY.

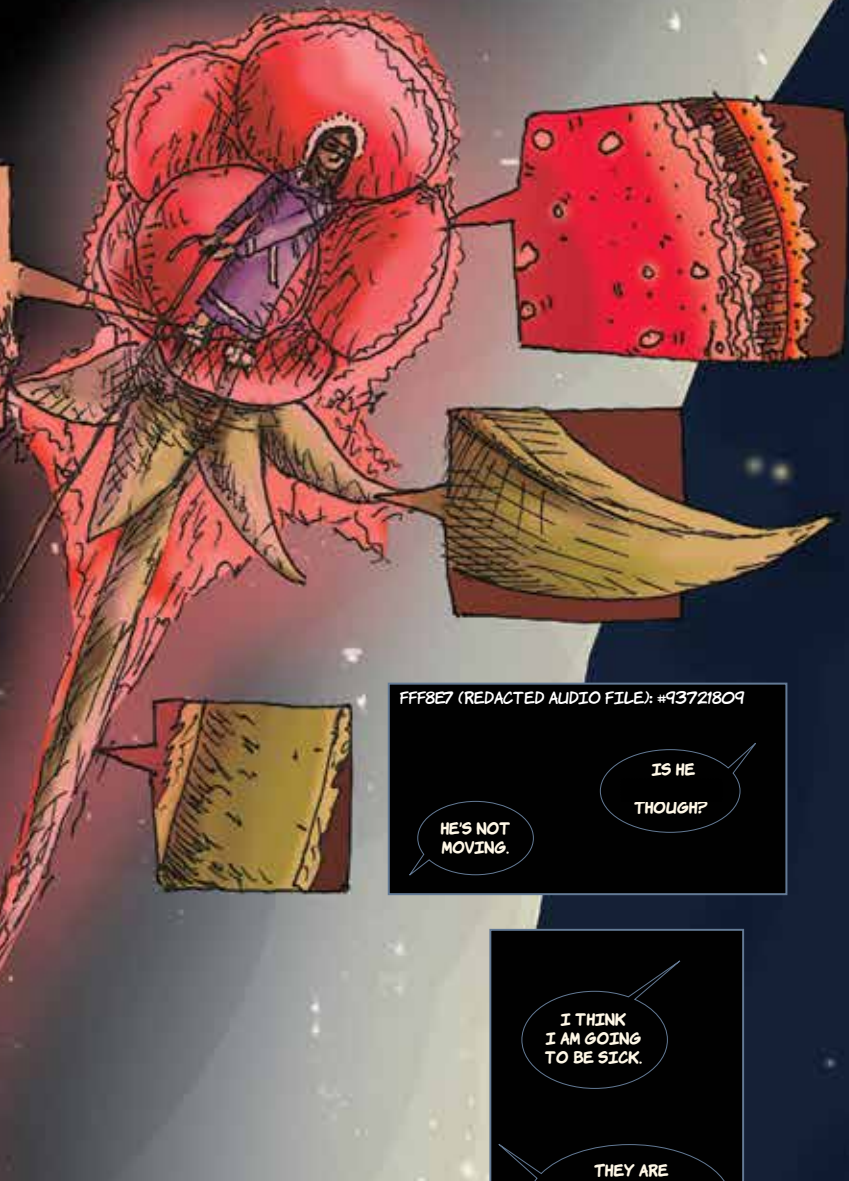
STARBREATH.

AANAGA!! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I'M AT THE BOREALIS DOCK!



I CAN'T SEE MARS ANYMORE.



FFF8E7 (REDACTED AUDIO FILE): #93721809

HE'S NOT MOVING.

IS HE THOUGH?

I THINK I AM GOING TO BE SICK.

THEY ARE SPONTANEOUSLY GENERATING OFF OF THE

ASSISTANT TO THE REPOCALYPSE IS TRYING TO DELETE THE BERRYVERSE.

BOREALIS DOCK. (1987).

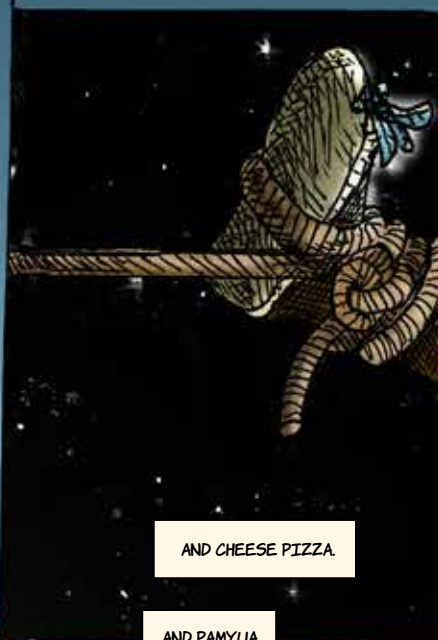


THIS IS HIS FOURTH REPOCALYPSE SCENARIO.

THERE ARE FIVE.

JUST HOLD ON.

MARS IS GONE.
SO IS THE BOREALIS DOCK.
YOUR DAUGHTER'S NAME IS MARS APPLE.



YOU LIKE ALASKAN DEATH METAL.

AND CHEESE PIZZA.

AND PAMYLIA.

AND THE SOUND OF SNOW
CRUNCHING UNDER YOUR FEET.

AND AKLITAQ.

AND SUSHI FROM THAT
PLACE IN DENALI CITY.



FROM A MEMORY: (37 MINUTES AGO,
LOW EARTH ORBIT):

THE LAMBDA MANTLE.

MARS APPLE AND THE
BOREALIS DOCK ARE GONE.

NO MATTER.

I CAN MAKE IT TO
SOME THERMOPAISE.

SOURDOUGH CAN ACTIVATE THE
CYBERDOUGH SUPERSYMMETRY FROM
SOME THERMOPAISE.

SOME THERMOPAISE.

FFF8E7 (REDACTED AUDIO FILE):
+93721813

THEY ARE ALL DEAD.
THERE WAS A
THAT THEM ALL.

RUN!!



T'SIENE'S PEOPLE CAN HELP HIM
DO THAT THERE ...

THOSE PLASMOIDS ARE
PRETTY CRAFTY.

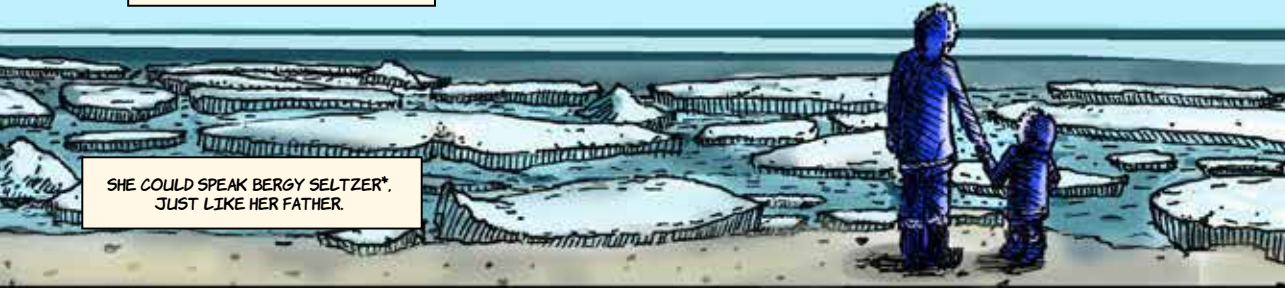
I CAN FEEL THEM
BITING ME.

THEY ARE
ALL
GO!!

FROM A MEMORY: (30 YEARS AGO, THE OCEAN FROM QIKIKTAGRUK.)

WHEN MARS FIRST TOLD ME WHAT THE SEA ICE WAS SAYING.

SHE COULD SPEAK BERGY SELTZER*. JUST LIKE HER FATHER.



THAT TIME MARS TOLD ME SHE WAS GOING VEGAN.

SHE IS LAUGHING.

SO I AM REALLY CONSIDERING GOING VEGAN THIS YEAR.

IT IS REALLY BETTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IF I DONT.

LIPON RECONSIDERATION, I AM GOING INULPIAQ VEGAN*.

OH SHLISH LIP AND HELP ME WITH THIS UGRUK.

WELL, IF YOU ARENT INTO IT...

HER VOICE IS ALL THAT IS LEFT OF HER.

MEMORIES STOLEN FROM ME.

JUST DELETED.

GONE.



T'SIENE! THEY HAVE MY GOGGLES!

I CANT SEE SOME THERMOPAUSE WITHOUT MY GOGGLES.



[1994]

THEY ARE FOLDING THE SUPERSYMMETRY REAL TIGHT.

JUST CLOSE YOUR EYES IF YOU ARE TIRED.

YOU HAVE DONE THIS BEFORE.



MARS HAS THE LAMBDA MANTLE.

I CANT MAKE SOME THERMOPAUSE.

GOTTA UPLDAD MY ISRUMA INTO THE CYBERINGIAN SIMULATION BEFORE I BLACK OUT.



TIME IS DISTORTING. TEMPORAL LENSING CAUSED BY THE FLY'S TECH.

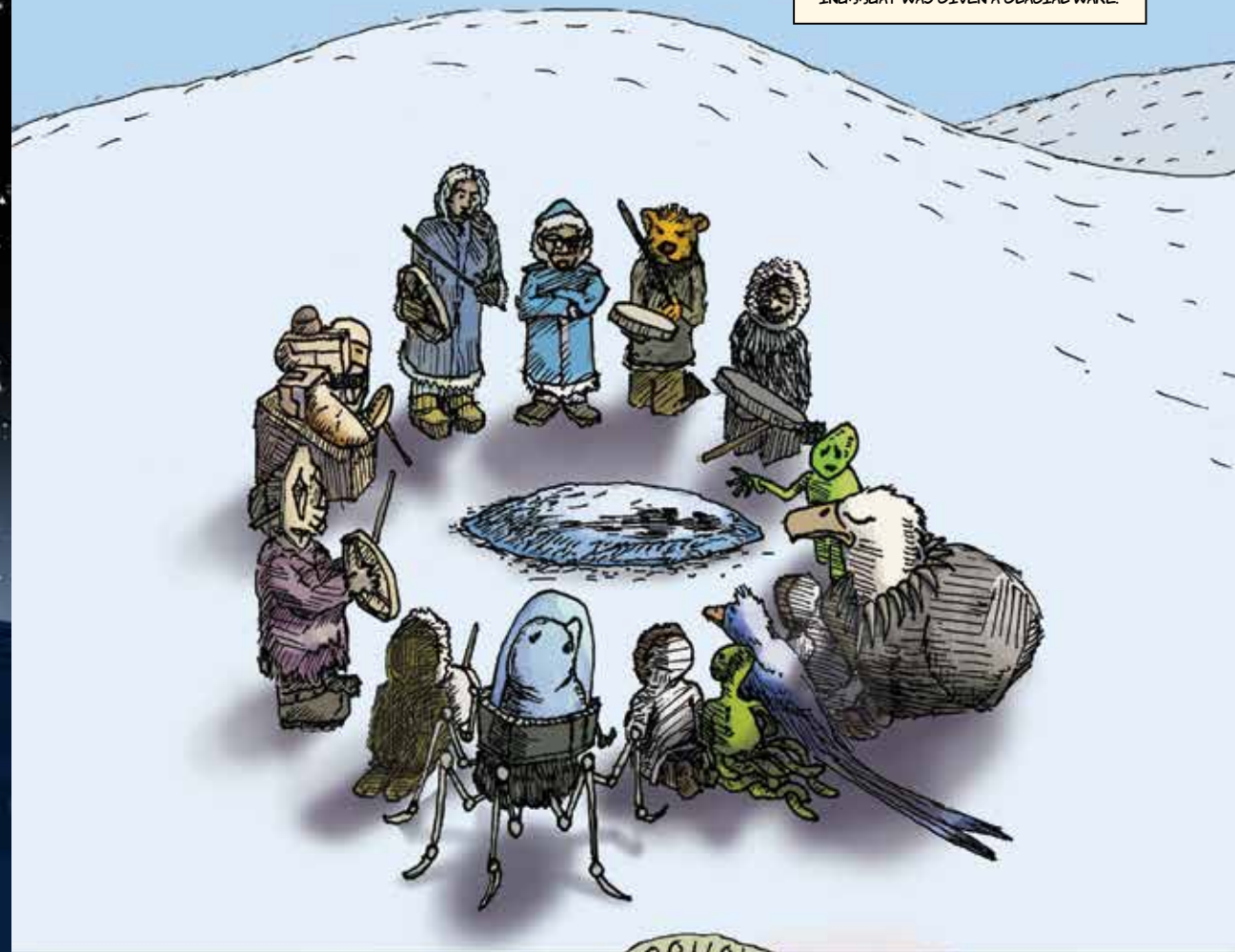
MY DIRIGIBLE PARKA WILL BREAK MY FALL, BUT MY ISRUMA WILL WAKE UP IN THE SIMULATION.

LOW EARTH ORBIT. (1985).

MALĠUK: THE CYBERINGIAN SIMULATION.

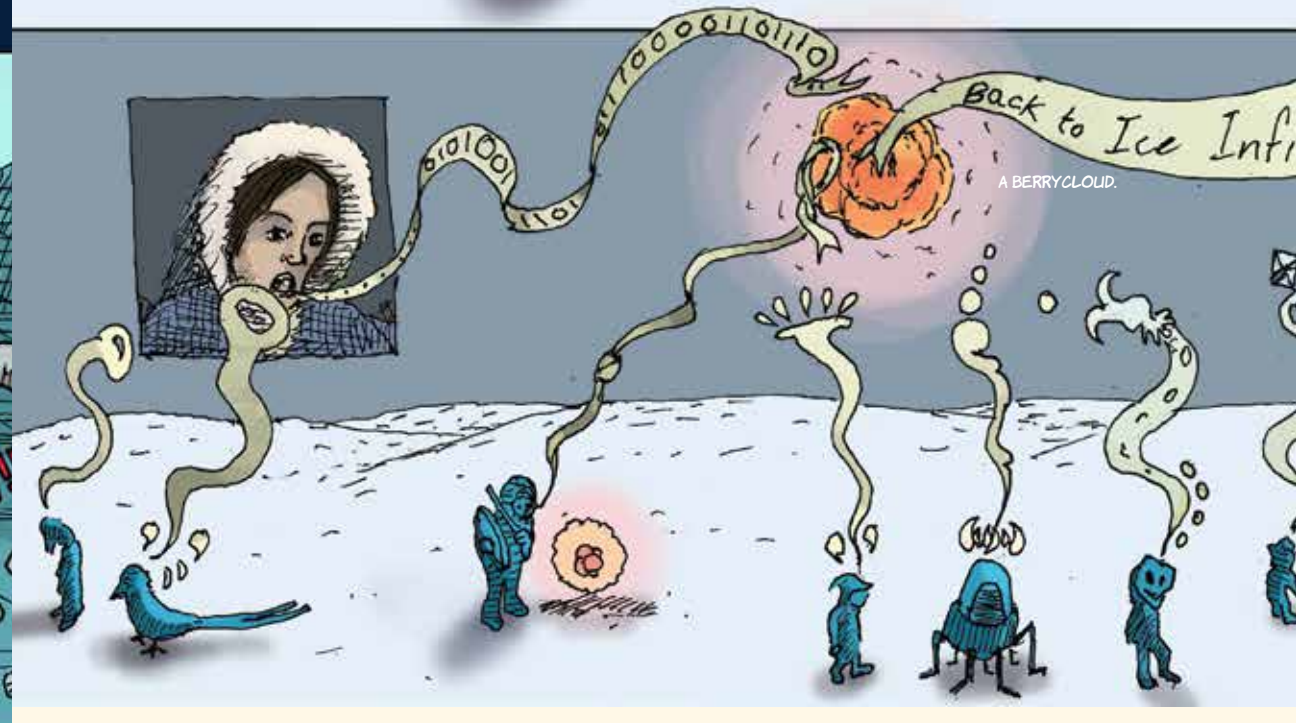
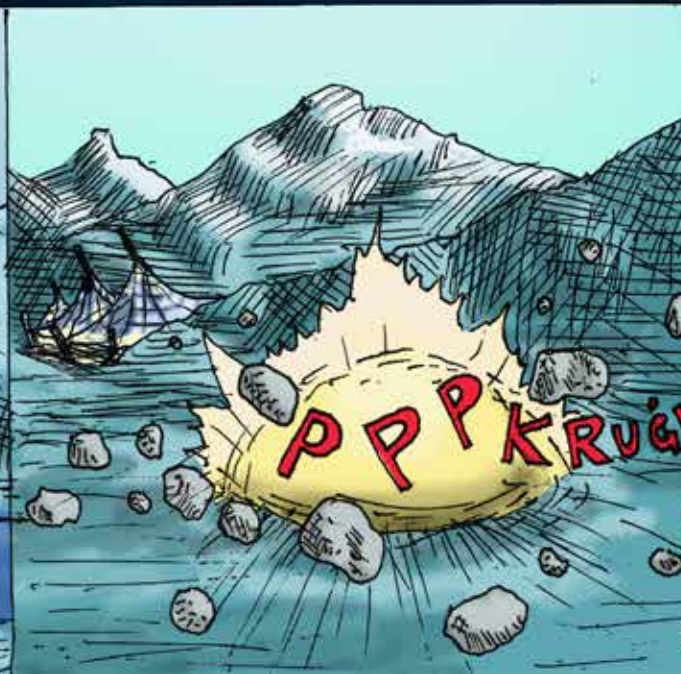
[CONTROL TRANSFINITE CHRONOZONE DELETE BERRYVERSE.]
 [A VIRTUAL GLACIAL WAKE.]
 [YOUNGER DRYAS.]
 [SOUTHERN CYBERINGIA.]

I WAS VIRTUALIZED AND MY CYBERINGIAN INUNNUAT WAS GIVEN A GLACIAL WAKE.

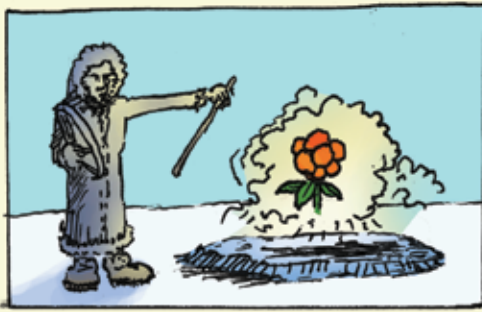


TOKOSITNA. (1976)

LOWER DENALI CITY



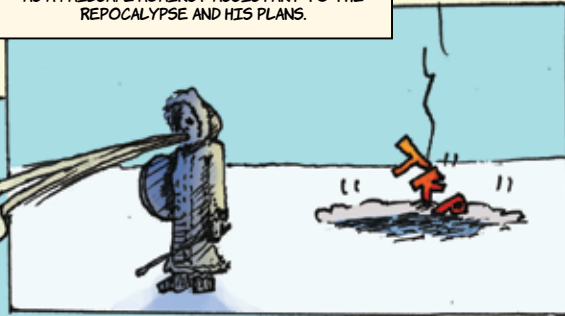
A BERRYCLOUD.



JUST TO BE CLEAR, I DIDN'T DIE. I WAS BEING VIRTUALIZED ON A GLACIER IN THE ANCIENT CYBERINGIAN SIMULATION



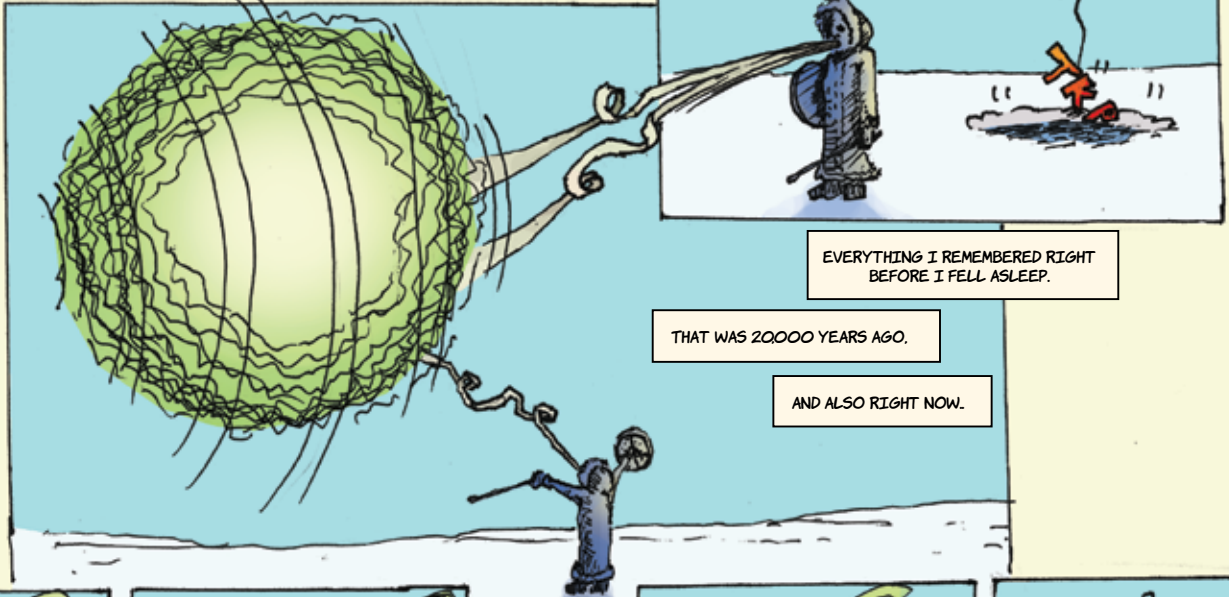
I UPLOADED MY ISRLUMA INTO THE SIMULATION AS A FAILSAFE AGAINST ASSISTANT TO THE REPOCALYPSE AND HIS PLANS.



EVERYTHING I REMEMBERED RIGHT BEFORE I FELL ASLEEP.

THAT WAS 20000 YEARS AGO.

AND ALSO RIGHT NOW.

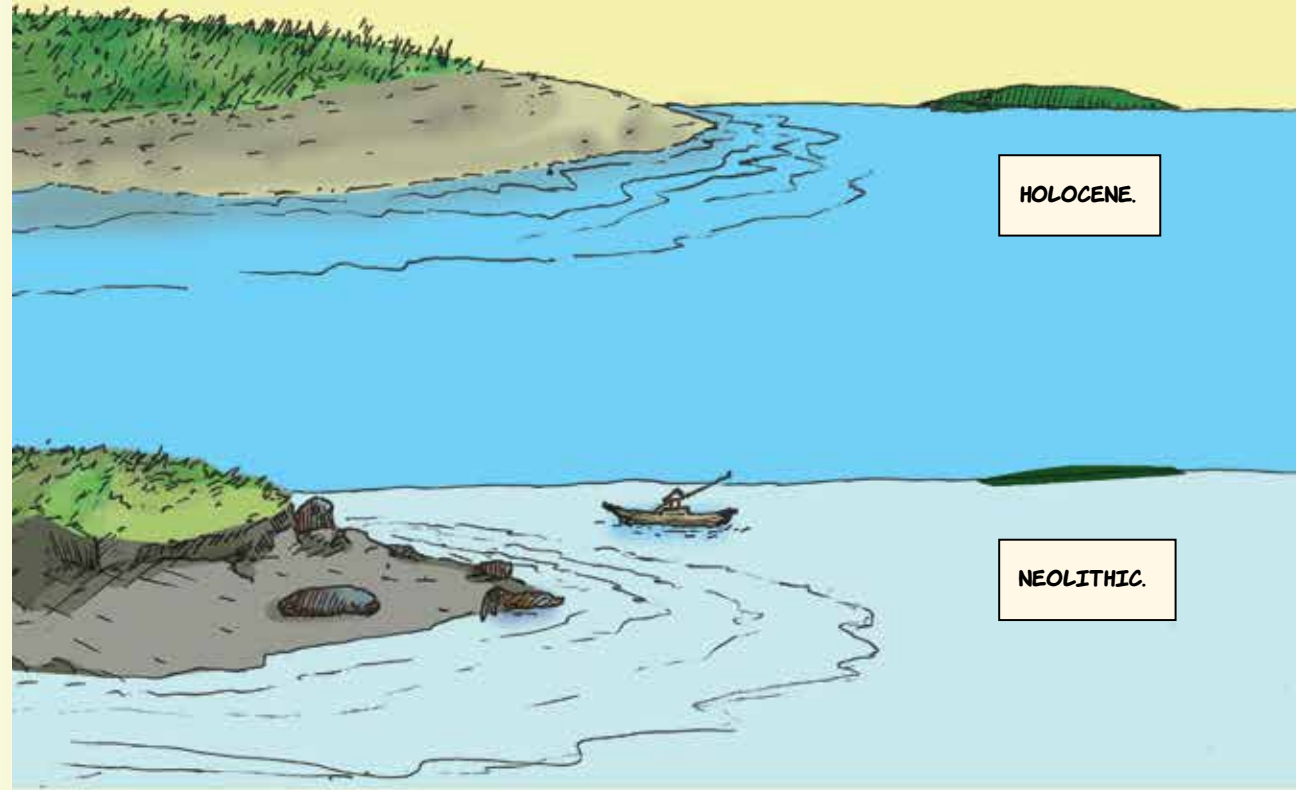


I AM TECHNICALLY STILL FALLING TO EARTH OVER AND OVER AFTER ASSISTANT TO THE REPOCALYPSE JIMMY JAMMED BY REALITY PERCEIVER.

h
n
s
h
gk.

PREBOREAL.

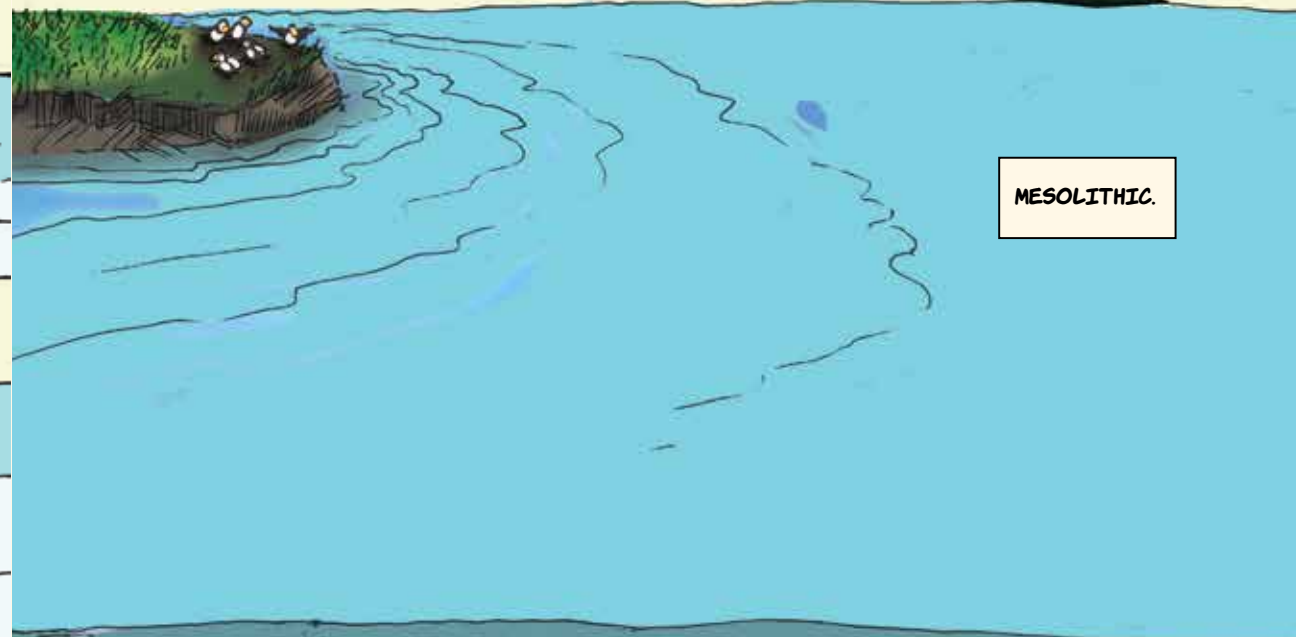
BY THE TIME THE GLACIER FINALLY MELTED, THE LAND IT WAS ON HAD ALREADY GONE UNDERWATER.



HOLOCENE.



NEOLITHIC.



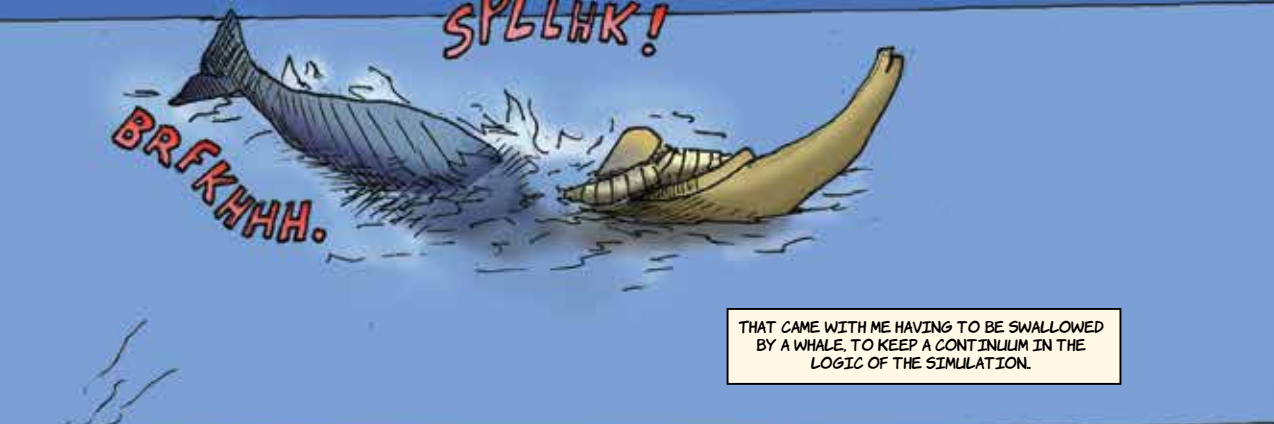
MESOLITHIC.

ANTHROPOCENE.



PPK LUK!

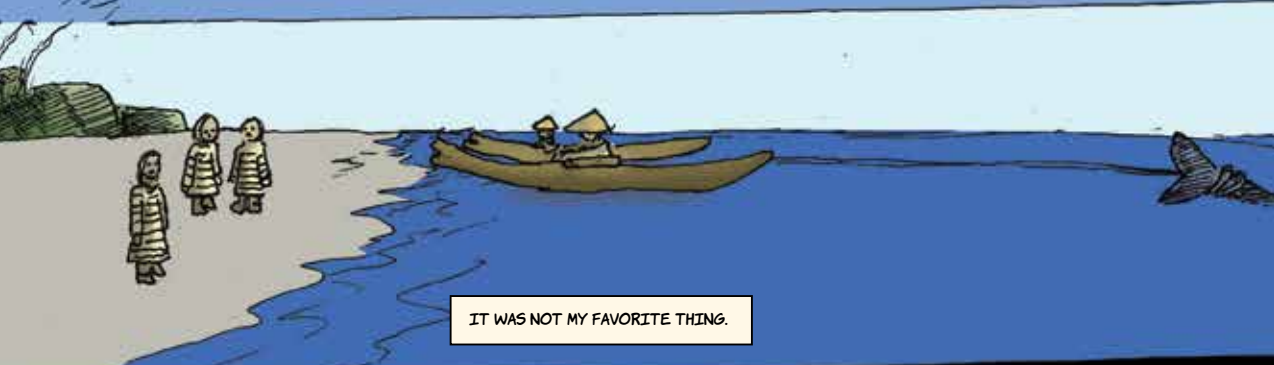
MY CYBERINGIAN INUNNUAT HAD TO BE VIRTUALIZED BECAUSE THERE WAS ALREADY ANOTHER ONE IN THE SIMULATION.



SPLLHK!

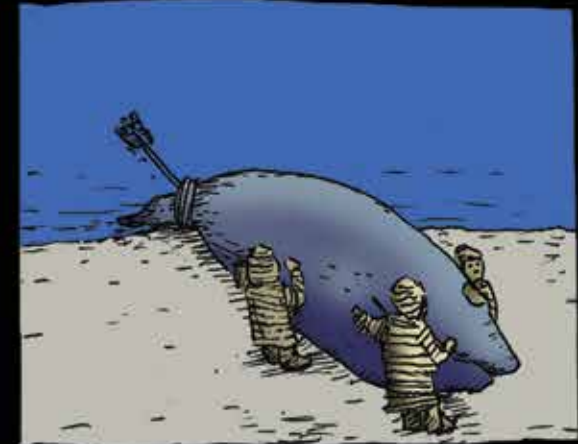
BRFKHHH.

THAT CAME WITH ME HAVING TO BE SWALLOWED BY A WHALE, TO KEEP A CONTINUUM IN THE LOGIC OF THE SIMULATION.



IT WAS NOT MY FAVORITE THING.

THE PEOPLE WHO CAUGHT THE WHALE DIDN'T APPRECIATE IT EITHER.



THEY GAVE IT BACK TO THE SEA.



AT THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN, THE WHALE BEGAN TO DECOMPOSE, AND BECAME A BIT OF A NUISANCE FOR THE HALIBUT FOLK WHO LIVED THERE.



ANOTHER WHALEFALL ...

NO.

NO.

WHERE DID IT COME ...

FROM?

DON'T PANIC.

GOT TO GET RID OF IT.

THE BONE EATING.

SNOT FLOWERS.

NO.

ARE ARRIVING.

NO.

NO.

SEND IT BACK TO THE UP.

IT JUST HAS A TRAVELER INSIDE.

THERE IS SOMETHING WRONG.

WITH IT IT HAS SOMETHING LIVING IN IT.

NO.

BERRIES.

NOT THEM.

BERRIES.

MORE BERRIES.

NO.

SEND IT BACK TO THE UP.

NO.

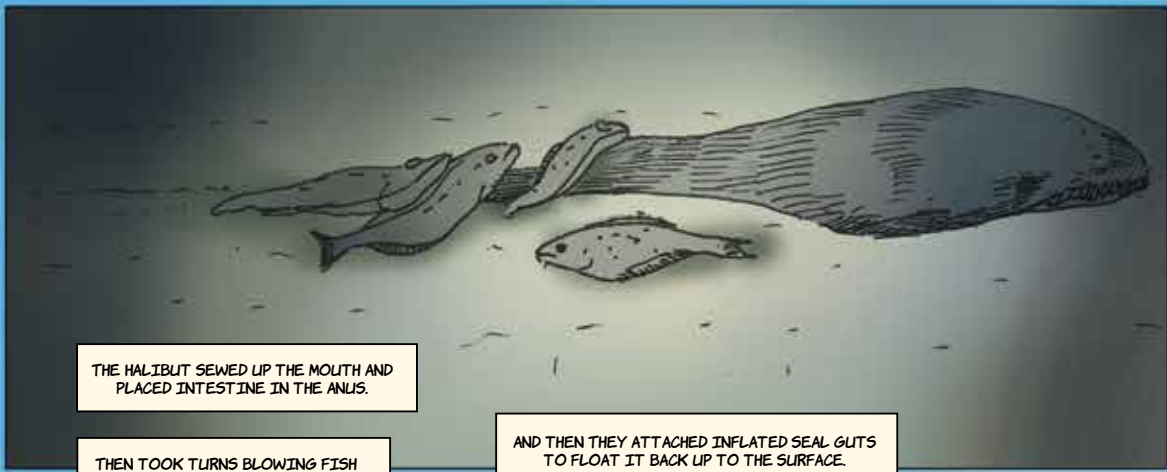
AGREED.

NO.

YES.

NO.

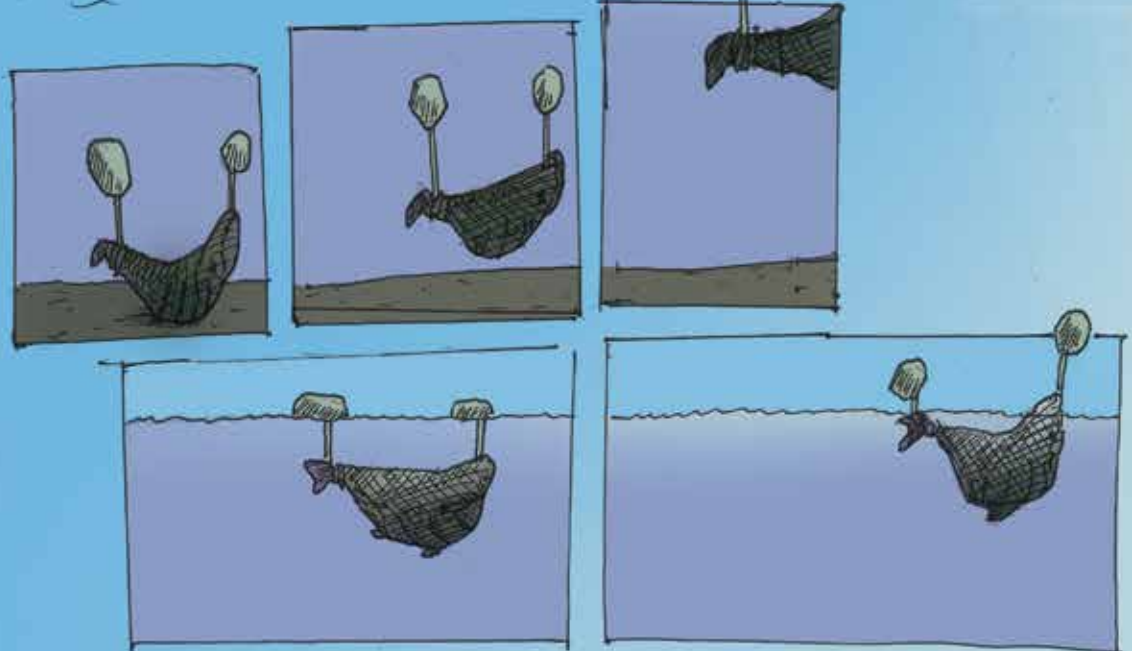
YES.



THE HALIBUT SEWED UP THE MOUTH AND PLACED INTESTINE IN THE ANUS.

THEN TOOK TURNS BLOWING FISH BREATH* INTO THE WHALEFALL.

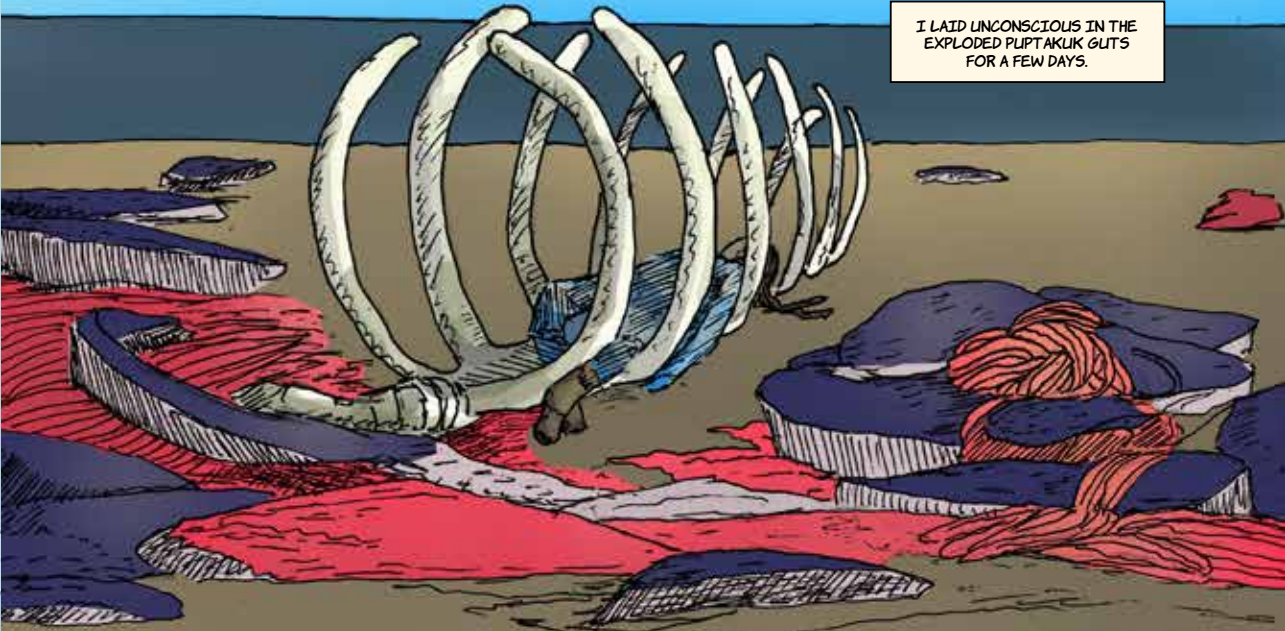
AND THEN THEY ATTACHED INFLATED SEAL GUTS TO FLOAT IT BACK UP TO THE SURFACE.



EVENTUALLY, THE FLOATING STINKER REACHED AN ISLAND ON THE EDGE OF THE CYBERINGIAN SIMULATION.



I LAID UNCONSCIOUS IN THE EXPLODED PUPTAKUK GUTS FOR A FEW DAYS.



IT TOOK ME A LITTLE WHILE TO REMEMBER WHO I WAS, AND WHAT I WAS DOING BEFORE I GOT SWALLOWED UP.



AFTER A BIT, I DIG A SHELTER INTO THE TREELESS EARTH.

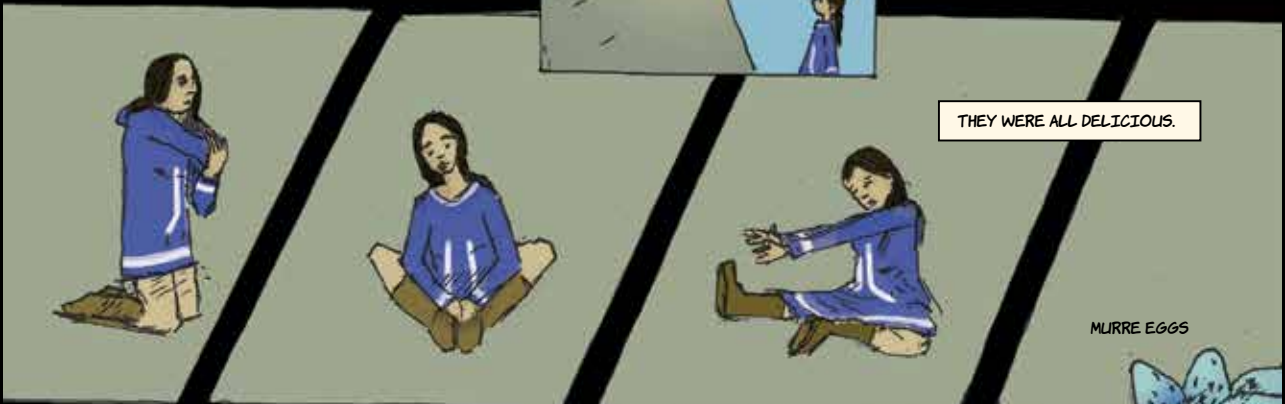
I MAKE CAMP AND GATHER FOOD.

AND STRETCH!



AT THE EDGE OF THE SIMULATION I FIND BERRIES FROM OTHER WORLDS AND FISH FROM BEFORE HUMANS WALKED THE EARTH.

THEY WERE ALL DELICIOUS.



MURRE EGGS



DEVIL'S CLUB (DRIFTWOOD)

SEACOWBERRIES

CLOUDBERRIES

BOREALSBERRY ROOTS

SABERTOOTH SALMON (TAIL STEAKS)

MOONBERRIES

STELLER'S SEA DUCK (BREASTS)

EELBERRY GRASS

GLACIER HERRING



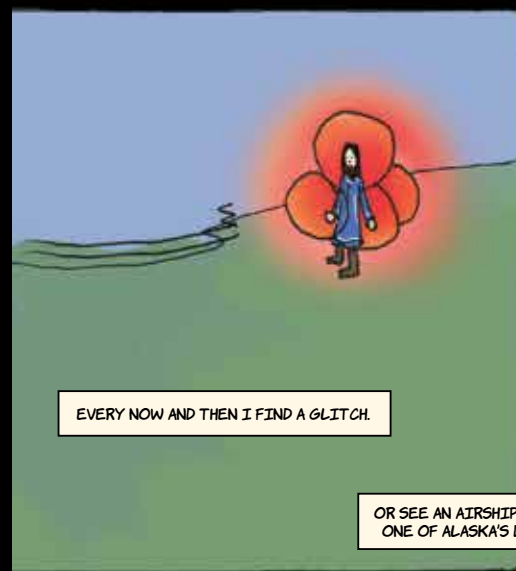
THERE ARE MANY INGOTS OF PURE TIME ON THE ISLAND.

IN ONE OF THEM I FIND MY OLD STUFF.

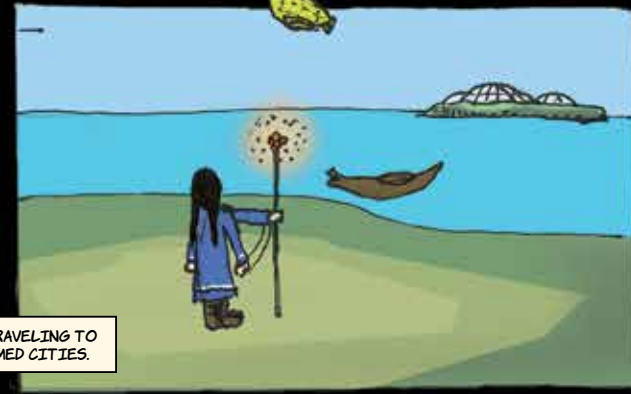
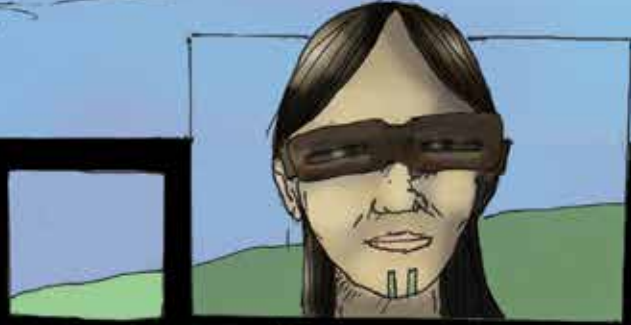


MY PARKA PROJECTS A CLOUDBERRY SHAPED ENERGY FIELD TO FLY.

MY SNOW GOGGLES CAN SEE BETWEEN DIFFERENT REALITIES.



EVERY NOW AND THEN I FIND A GLITCH.



OR SEE AN AIRSHIP TRAVELING TO ONE OF ALASKA'S DOMED CITIES.



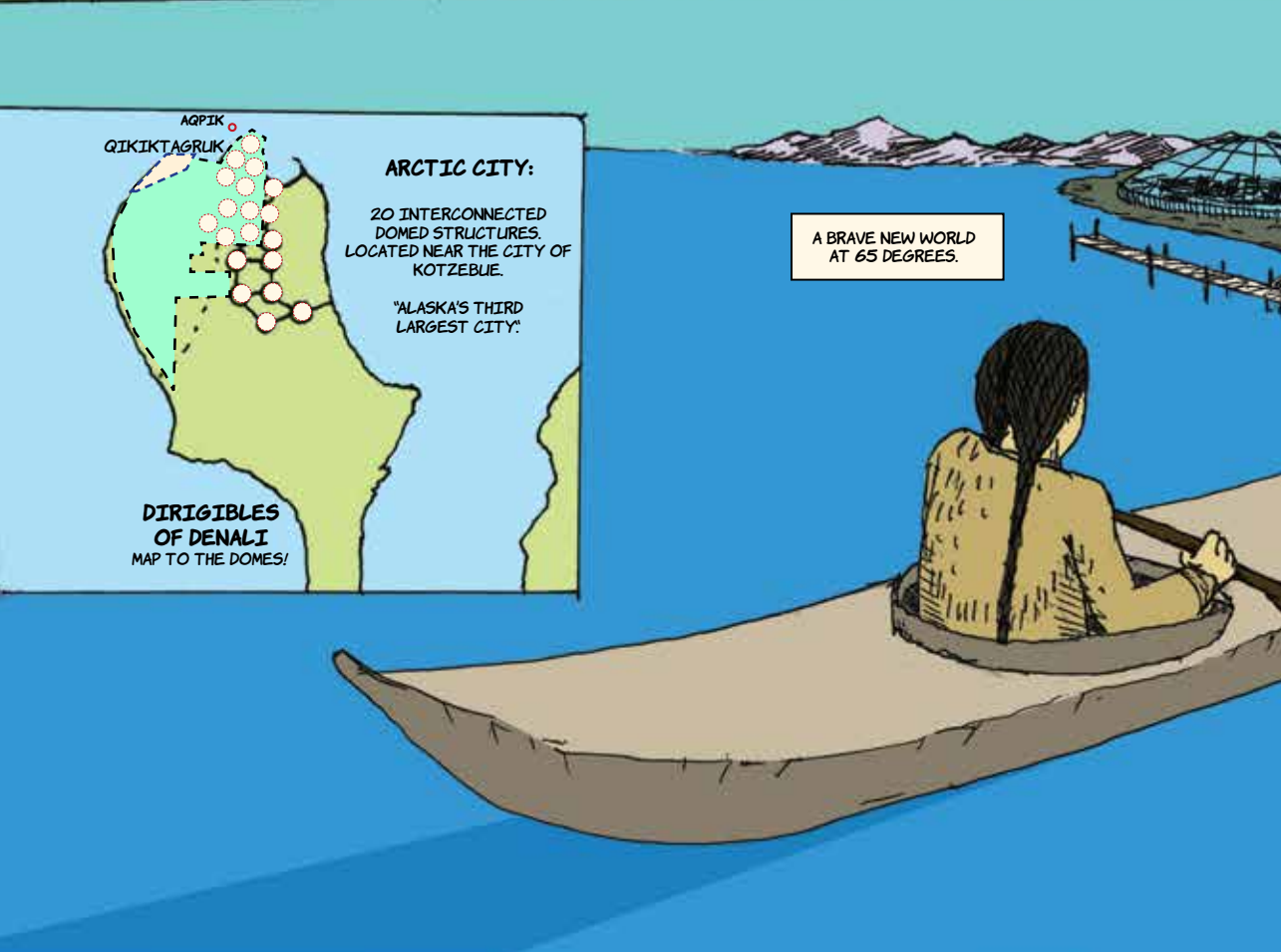
ONE DAY I LEFT.



THE DOMED STRUCTURES OF ARCTIC CITY. SECOND MIDTEMPORAL LIMIT.



THE ORIGINAL IDEA OF ARCTIC CITY WAS TO KEEP THE COLD OUT SO PEOPLE WOULD LIVE THERE.



A BRAVE NEW WORLD AT 65 DEGREES.

ARCTIC CITY:
20 INTERCONNECTED DOMED STRUCTURES. LOCATED NEAR THE CITY OF KOTZEBUE.
"ALASKA'S THIRD LARGEST CITY!"

DIRIGIBLES OF DENALI
MAP TO THE DOMES!



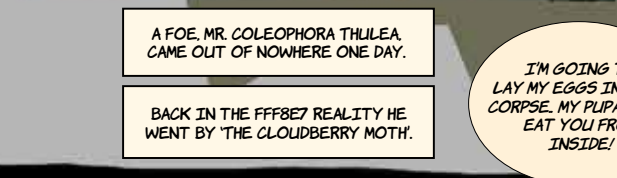
PIÑASRUT: MOONLIGHTING IN ARCTIC CITY.

[CONTROL TRANSFINITE CHRONOZONE DELETE BERRYVERSE] [SECOND MIDTEMPORAL LIMIT.] [ARCTIC CITY.]

EVENTUALLY I STARTED A NEW LIFE IN ARCTIC CITY.

THERE IS NO FFF8E7 HERE.

BUT THERE ENDED UP BEING PLENTY OF MONSTERS BOTH NEW AND OLD.



A FOE, MR. COLEOPHORA THULEA, CAME OUT OF NOWHERE ONE DAY.

BACK IN THE FFF8E7 REALITY HE WENT BY 'THE CLOUDBERRY MOTH'.

I'M GOING TO LAY MY EGGS IN YOUR CORPSE. MY PUPAE WILL EAT YOU FROM INSIDE!



LIKE HELL MOTH BOY.



SKY CAPTAIN

SINCE I AM NOT A PAID AKTA HERE, I HAD TO GET OTHER JOBS.

SOON, I ENDED UP WITH MY OWN SHIP AND NAMED IT AFTER ONE OF THE MANY FRUITS THEY GROW IN ARCTIC CITY.

ANVILICIOUS



THE STARFRUIT

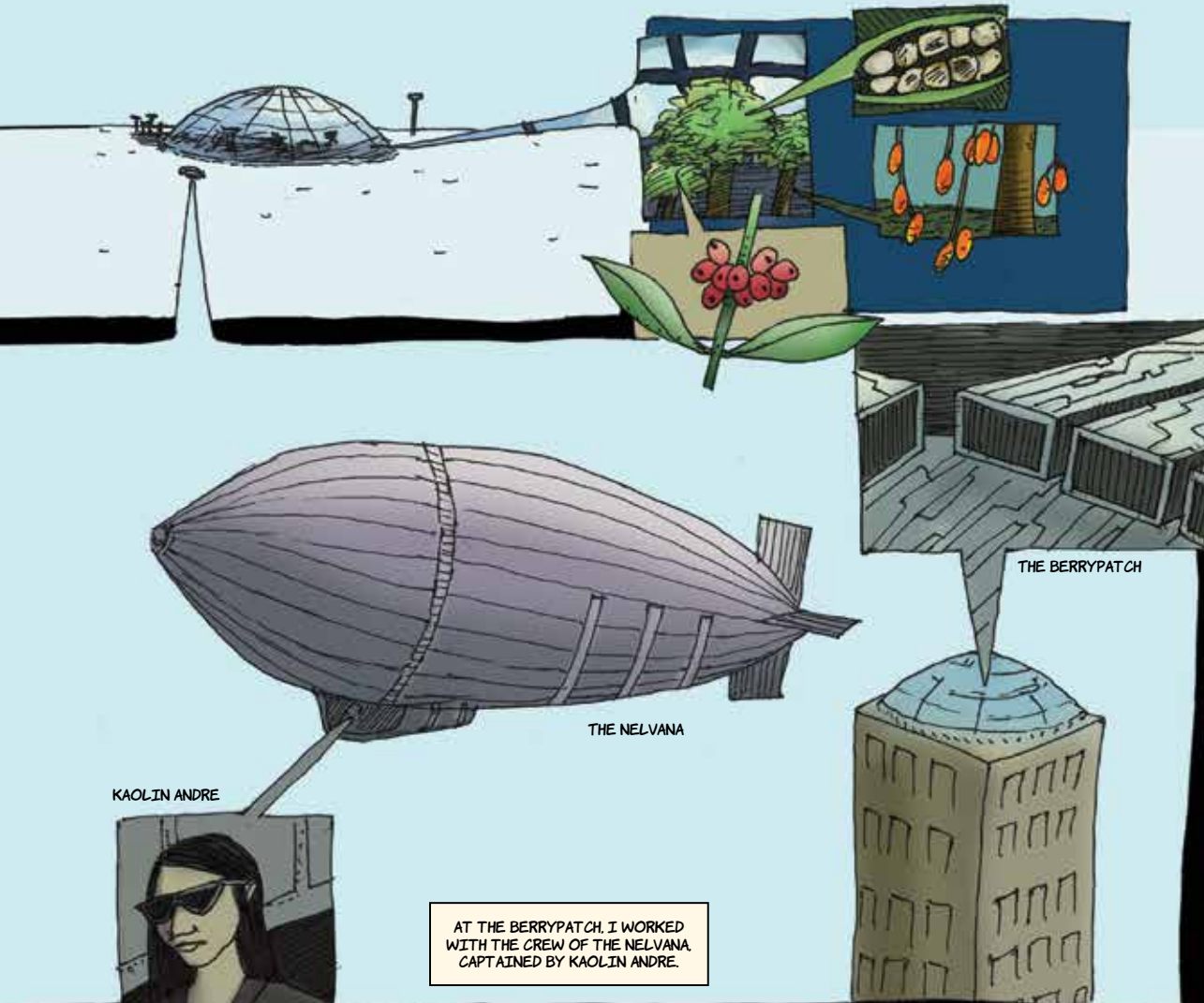
ARCTIC CITY



I RAN AIRSHIPS FOR A LONG TIME, ALL THE WHILE MOONLIGHTING AS A CRIMEFIGHTER, NOT JUST IN ARTIC CITY, BUT WHEREVER THE STARFRUIT TOOK ME.

BUT I STARTED TO MISS ALL OF MY OLD PALS FROM THE AKTA THEATER. EVEN THOUGH THEY WERE A BUNCH OF DUMB WHITE DUDES, THEY WERE MY FRIENDS AND WE HAD BEEN THROUGH A LOT TOGETHER.

I HAD A HOMEBASE IN ONE OF THE DOME ARCHIVES, CALLED THE BERRYPATCH, TO KEEP UP WITH THE CYBERINIGAN FAILSAFE.



KAOLIN ANDRE

THE NELVANA

THE BERRYPATCH

AT THE BERRYPATCH, I WORKED WITH THE CREW OF THE NELVANA, CAPTAINED BY KAOLIN ANDRE.

THEY WERE ABOUT THE CLOSEST THING TO FFF8E7 OR THE OTHER AKTAS IN THIS WORLD.



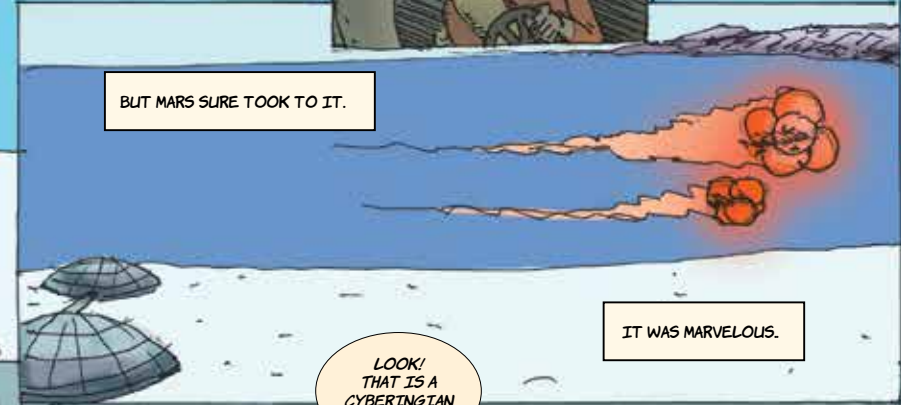
ONE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NELVANA CREW ENDED UP BEING SOMEONE FROM MY AKTA PAST, SUNCLIP. WE HAD A DAUGHTER LATER THAT YEAR IN THE CITY.

HE WAS A SCIENTIST, AND HE NEVER REALLY DID CARE TOO MUCH FOR CRIMEFIGHTING.

EVEN BACK IN AKTA DAYS.



BUT MARS SURE TOOK TO IT.



IT WAS MARVELOUS.

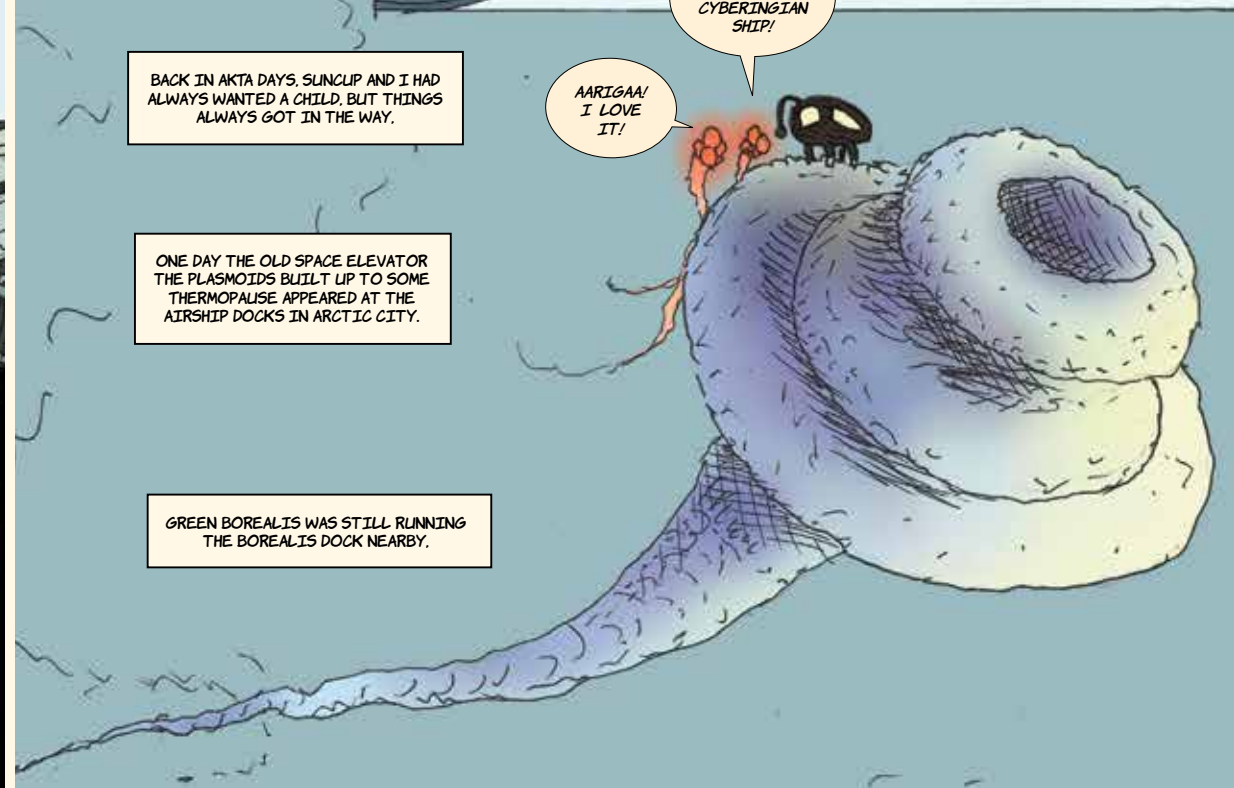
LOOK!
THAT IS A
CYBERINGIAN
SHIP!

AARIGAA!
I LOVE
IT!

BACK IN AKTA DAYS, SUNCLIP AND I HAD ALWAYS WANTED A CHILD, BUT THINGS ALWAYS GOT IN THE WAY.

ONE DAY THE OLD SPACE ELEVATOR THE PLASMOIDS BUILT UP TO SOME THERMOPAUSE APPEARED AT THE AIRSHIP DOCKS IN ARCTIC CITY.

GREEN BOREALIS WAS STILL RUNNING THE BOREALIS DOCK NEARBY.



BOREALIS DOCK (SMTL)

GREEN BOREALIS

T'SIENE WAS THERE TOO.

THIS IS WHEN MARS APPLE AND I SPLIT UP FOR A WHILE.

IT WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO SAY GOODBYE.

AANAGA, I'M GONNA MISS YOU, BUT I NEED TO DO THIS.

I LOVE YOU!

PLEASE BE SAFE OUT THERE. THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS I NEVER GOT TO TELL YOU ABOUT.

I LOVE YOU TOO PANIGA, MY KANNIK... THE CRY-OVERSE IS VERY BIG AND WEIRD, I KNOW YOU WILL BE FINE, BUT REMEMBER SUNCLIP CAN HEAR YOU IN THE ICE.

ALWAYS LISTEN TO THE BERGY SELTZER, MARS.

WE CAN HEAR YOU THERE AS WELL.

WE HAD TO GO. MARS WAS NEEDED IN A DISTANT PART OF THE CRYOVERSE, AND I HAD SOMEONE I HAD TO GO MEET.

HARDWATER HAD BEEN KEEPING THEM SAFE IN ONE OF HIS OLD CRYOVAULTS UNDER THE LITEH.

THE REUNION WAS SHORT-LIVED.

SO BEGAN MY LONG DESCENT INTO ARCTIC CITY FOR THE VERY LAST TIME AS AQPIK.

OH MY GOD, I HAVE MISSED SEEING YOU GLIYS SO MUCH!

IT IS NICE TO FINALLY FIND YOU! WE DIDN'T KNOW WHERE YOU WERE.

THIS NEXT BIT IS GOING TO BE HARD.

Q'AHTGHAL'AY SENT US TO RETREIVE YOU, SHE SAW ALL YOUR EXPLOITS ON THE (Q-3) TAPESTRY.

WHO ARE WE GOING TO MEET?

SHE SAID THERE WAS A 98% PROBABILITY YOU WERE THE FAIL-SAFE.

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0010110
0010110

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0010110

WE ARE GOING TO MEET UP WITH AQPIK AND MARS APPLE.

0011111

SUNCLIP IS WAITING FOR US THERE TOO.

CHESTER* YOU GLIYS CAN'T DO THIS, I HAD EVERYTHING THERE.

BUT... I... HFFF...

SO THAT AQPIK ISN'T LOOKING TO HAVE ME RE-MEATSPACE? WHAT ABOUT THE OTHER CONTINGENCIES? DIDN'T THEY END UP ALRIGHT? DID WE WIN?

00100001
0011111
00100001

THE AQPIK WE ARE GOING TO MEET IS NOT THE ONE WHO FELL. SHE'S A FAIL-SAFE TOO.

0011111

0011111

LISTEN, Q'AHTGHAL'AY LEFT INSTRUCTIONS THAT WE WERE ONLY TO BRING YOU TWO TOGETHER.

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Q'AHTGHAL'AY IS GOING TO JOIN US IN A FEW HOURS.

REPOCALYPSE ISN'T OVER YET.

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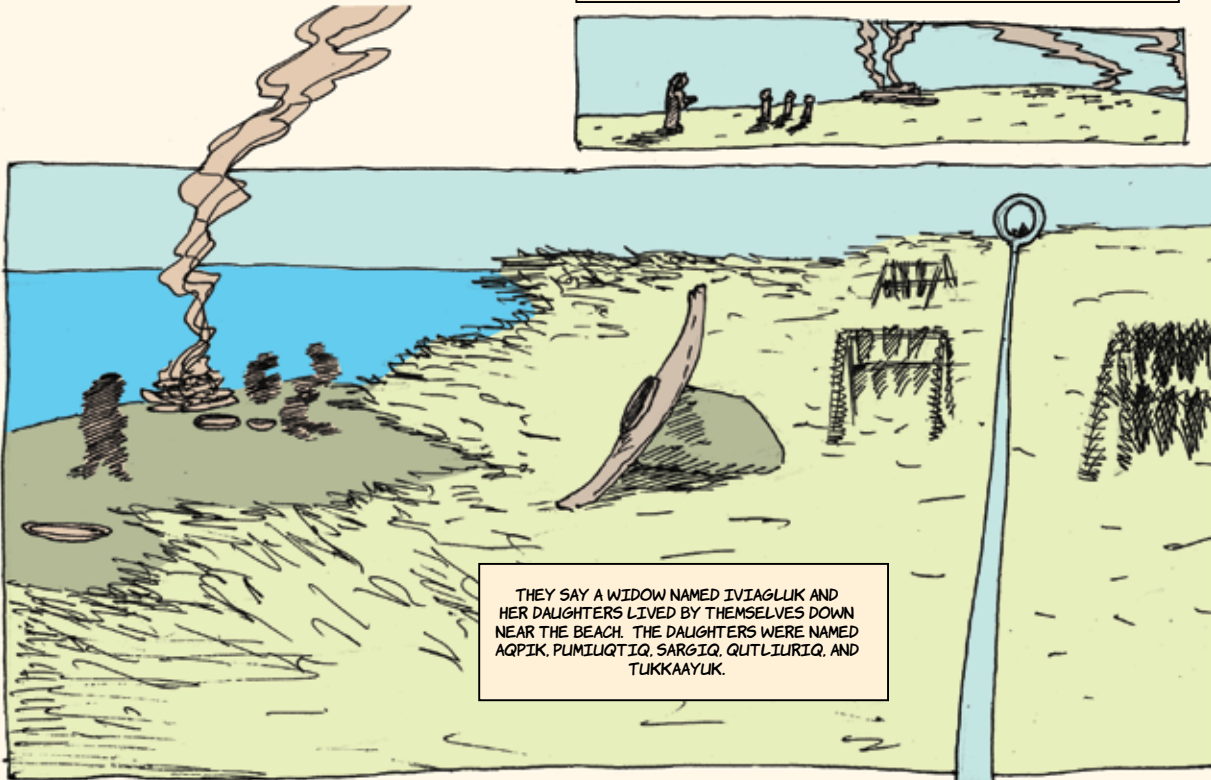
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ARCTIC CITY (SMTL)

SUNCLIP & MARS APPLE

(M) TAPESTRY #0023.
[LAST GLACIAL MAXIMUM.]
[A REFUGIA STATION.]
[SOUTHERN CYBERINGIA.]

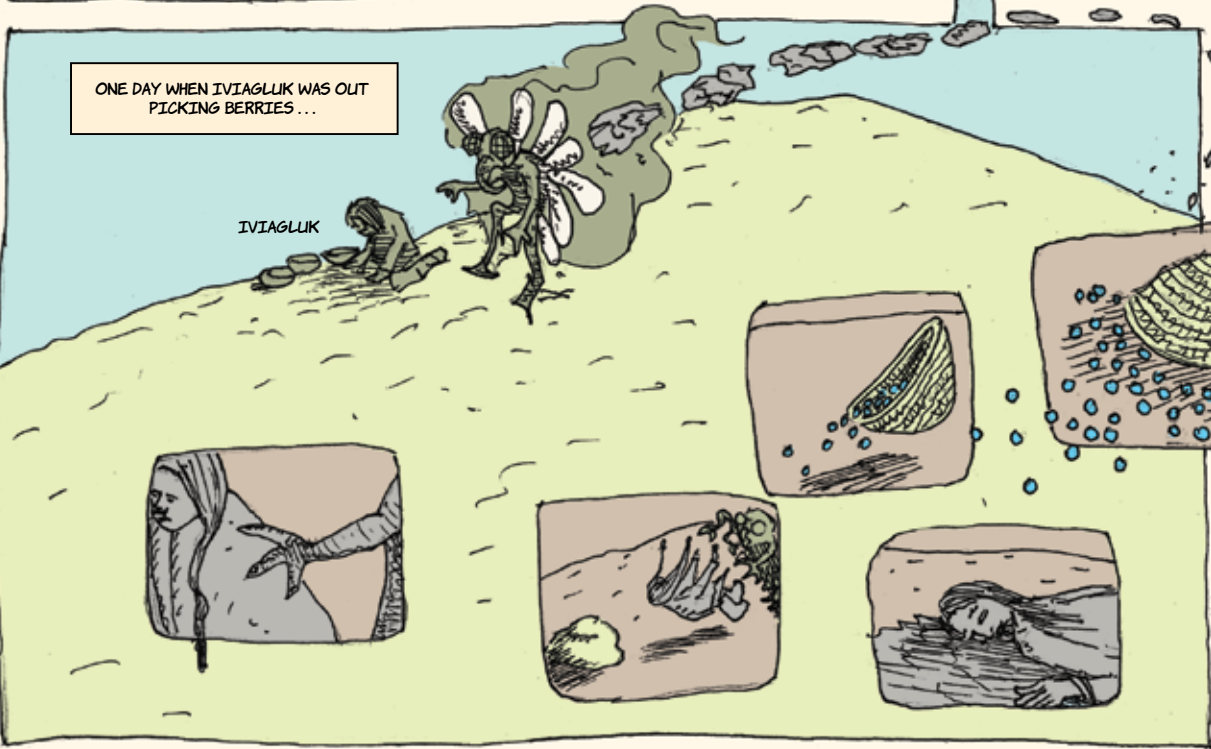
UNREDACTED (M) TAPESTRIES ARE LOCATED IN A POCKET DIMENSION IN DENALI CITY, MAINTAINED AND ARCHIVED BY Q'ANTGHAL'AY, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE KNIK QUARTERMASTER (FFF8E7 CONTINGENCY) FOR THE REMAINDER OF STANDARDIZED TIME.



THEY SAY A WIDOW NAMED IVIAGLUK AND HER DAUGHTERS LIVED BY THEMSELVES DOWN NEAR THE BEACH. THE DAUGHTERS WERE NAMED AQPIK, PUMIQT IQ, SARGIQ, QUTLIURIQ, AND TUKKAAYUK.

ONE DAY WHEN IVIAGLUK WAS OUT PICKING BERRIES ...

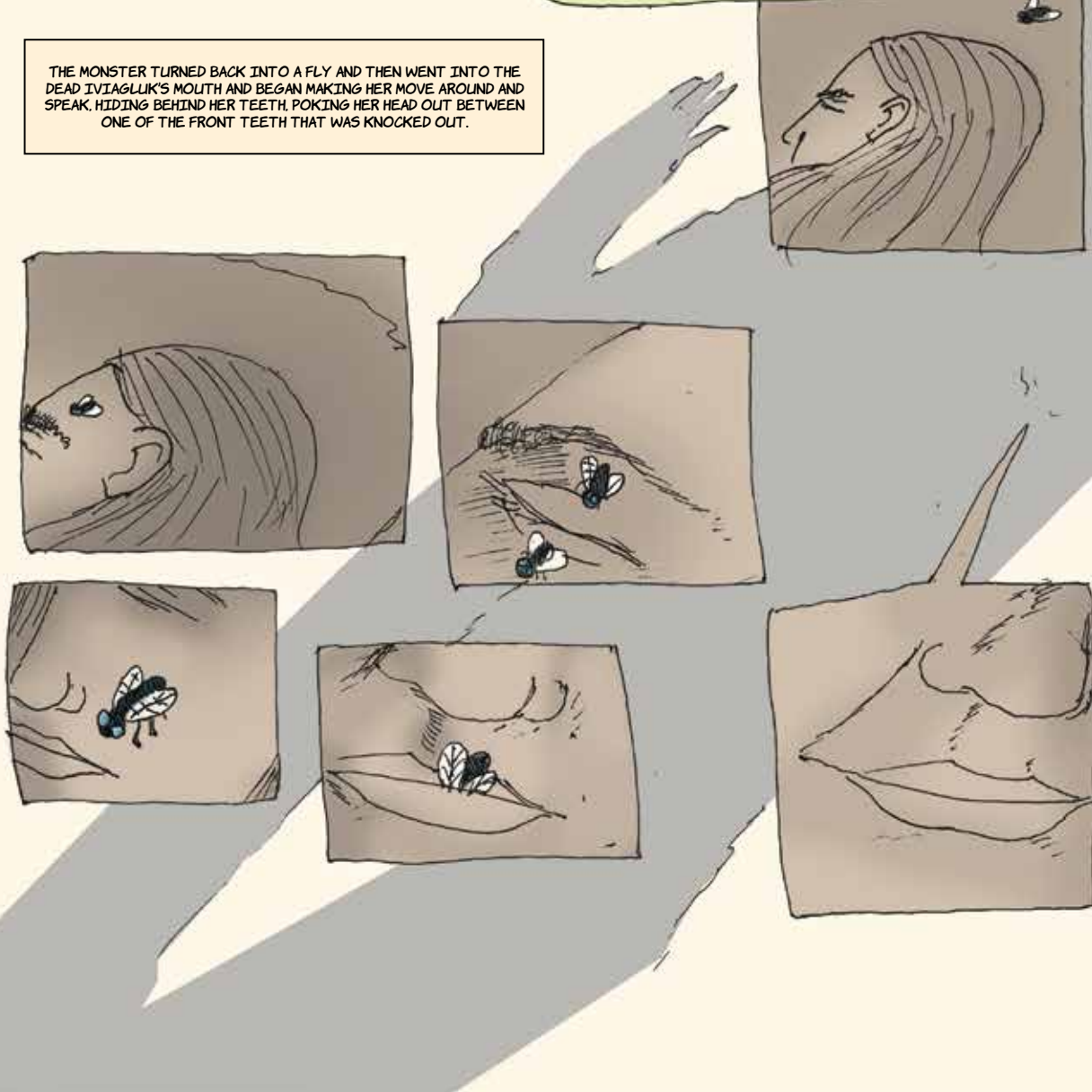
IVIAGLUK

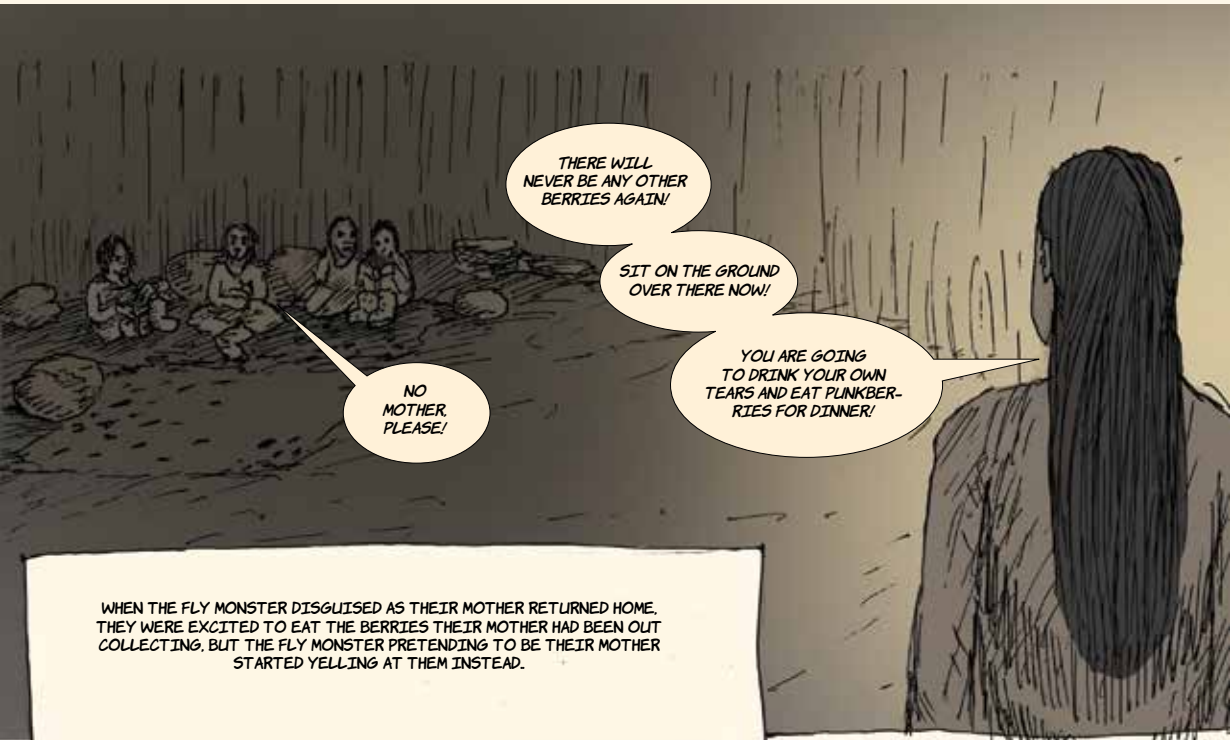


A FLY FOLLOWED HER AROUND, THEN TURNED INTO A BIG MONSTER AND TRIPPED HER AS SHE WAS WALKING, MAKING HER FALL ON A BIG ROCK AND BREAK HER NECK.



THE MONSTER TURNED BACK INTO A FLY AND THEN WENT INTO THE DEAD IVIAGLUK'S MOUTH AND BEGAN MAKING HER MOVE AROUND AND SPEAK, HIDING BEHIND HER TEETH, POKING HER HEAD OUT BETWEEN ONE OF THE FRONT TEETH THAT WAS KNOCKED OUT.





THERE WILL NEVER BE ANY OTHER BERRIES AGAIN!

SIT ON THE GROUND OVER THERE NOW!

YOU ARE GOING TO DRINK YOUR OWN TEARS AND EAT PINKBERRIES FOR DINNER!

NO MOTHER PLEASE!

WHEN THE FLY MONSTER DISGUISED AS THEIR MOTHER RETURNED HOME, THEY WERE EXCITED TO EAT THE BERRIES THEIR MOTHER HAD BEEN OUT COLLECTING, BUT THE FLY MONSTER PRETENDING TO BE THEIR MOTHER STARTED YELLING AT THEM INSTEAD.

THE DAUGHTERS DID AS SHE ASKED BECAUSE THEY WERE GOOD DAUGHTERS AND WANTED TO MAKE HER HAPPY, BUT THEY KNEW SOMETHING WAS WRONG ...



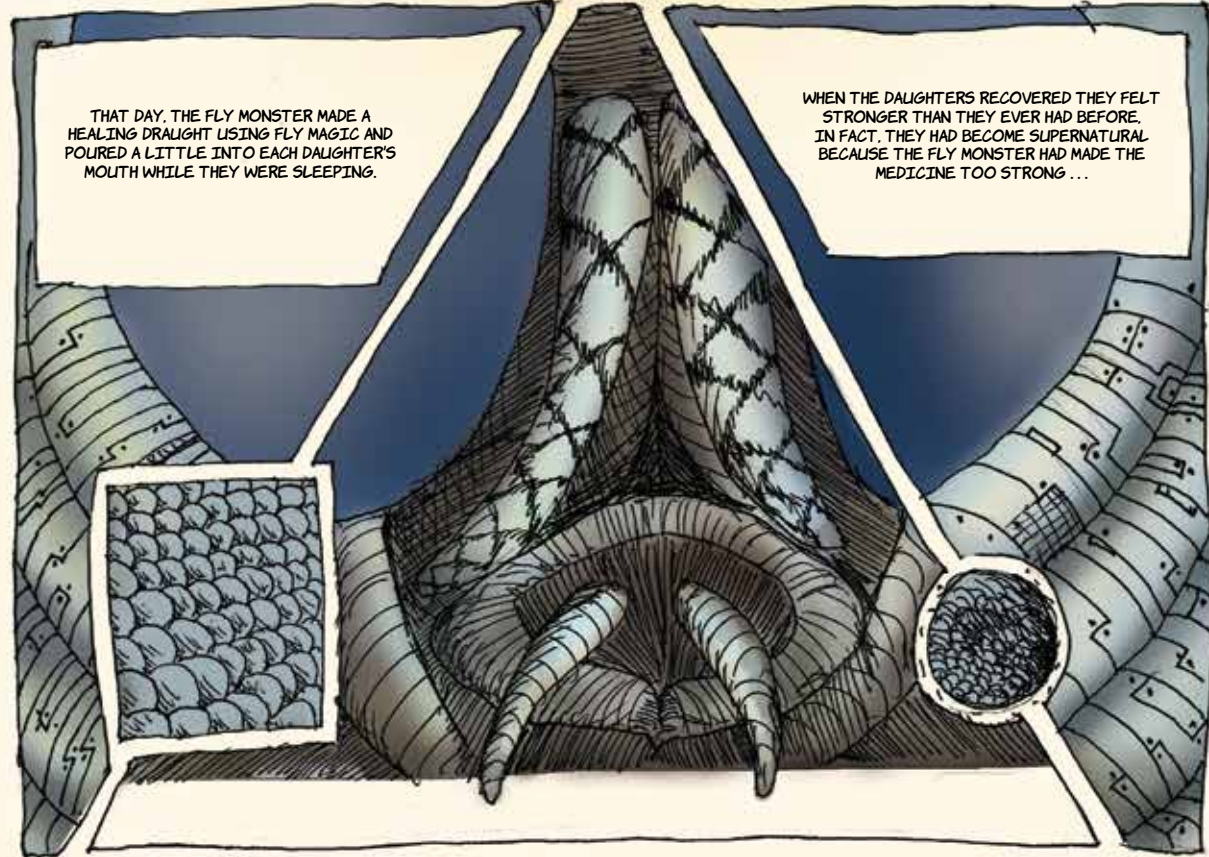
THEY WERE CONCERNED BECAUSE SHE WAS GLOWING AND ACTING VERY STRANGE AND THEY COULD SEE THE FLY HEAD POKING OUT FROM BETWEEN HER TEETH.

THAT NIGHT ALL OF THE DAUGHTERS GOT DEATHLY ILL FROM THE FLY'S PINKBERRY MEAL.



THE FLY MONSTER FELT VERY GUILTY AS SHE HEARD THE DAUGHTERS SCREAMING IN AGONY ALL NIGHT.

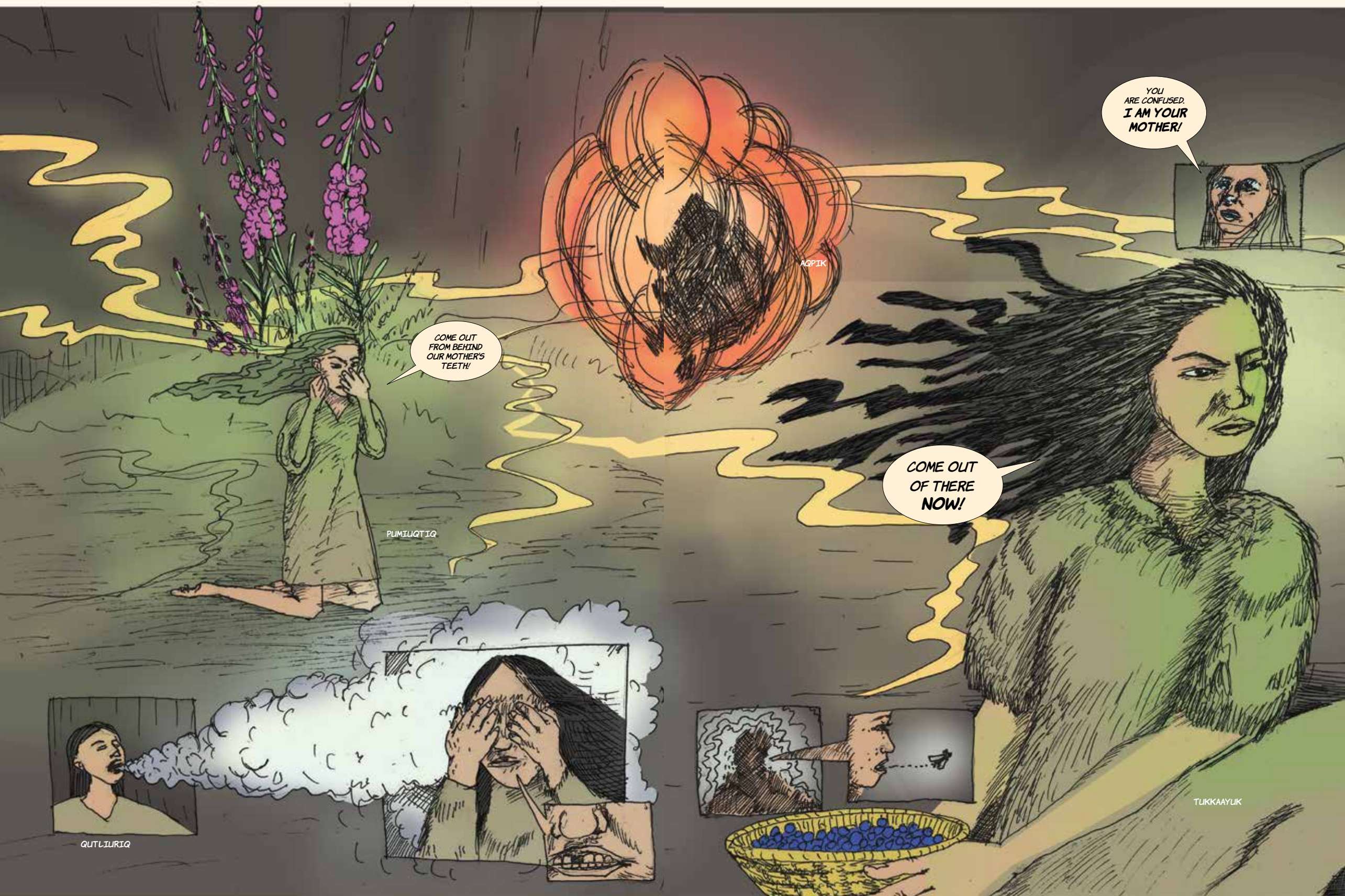
IN THE MORNING, SEEING HER REFLECTION IN SOME WATER, SHE DECIDED TO NURSE THE DAUGHTERS BACK TO HEALTH.



THAT DAY, THE FLY MONSTER MADE A HEALING DRAUGHT USING FLY MAGIC AND POURED A LITTLE INTO EACH DAUGHTER'S MOUTH WHILE THEY WERE SLEEPING.

WHEN THE DAUGHTERS RECOVERED THEY FELT STRONGER THAN THEY EVER HAD BEFORE. IN FACT, THEY HAD BECOME SUPERNATURAL BECAUSE THE FLY MONSTER HAD MADE THE MEDICINE TOO STRONG ...

... WELL, SHE THOUGHT SHE HAD ACCIDENTALLY MADE THE DAUGHTERS MAGIC AND IMMORTAL. BUT IVIAGLUK WAS ACTUALLY A WOMAN WITH SUPERNATURAL POWERS AND HAD TRICKED THE MONSTER INTO MAKING A DRAUGHT THAT WOULD ACTIVATE HER DAUGHTER'S POWERS. BY WHISPERING TO HER WHEN SHE WAS LOOKING AT HER REFLECTION THAT MORNING. SOON, THE DAUGHTERS WOKE UP AND BEGAN TO FIGHT THE FLY MONSTER WITH THEIR NEW MAGIC POWERS.



YOU ARE CONFUSED. I AM YOUR MOTHER!

COME OUT FROM BEHIND OUR MOTHER'S TEETH!

COME OUT OF THERE NOW!



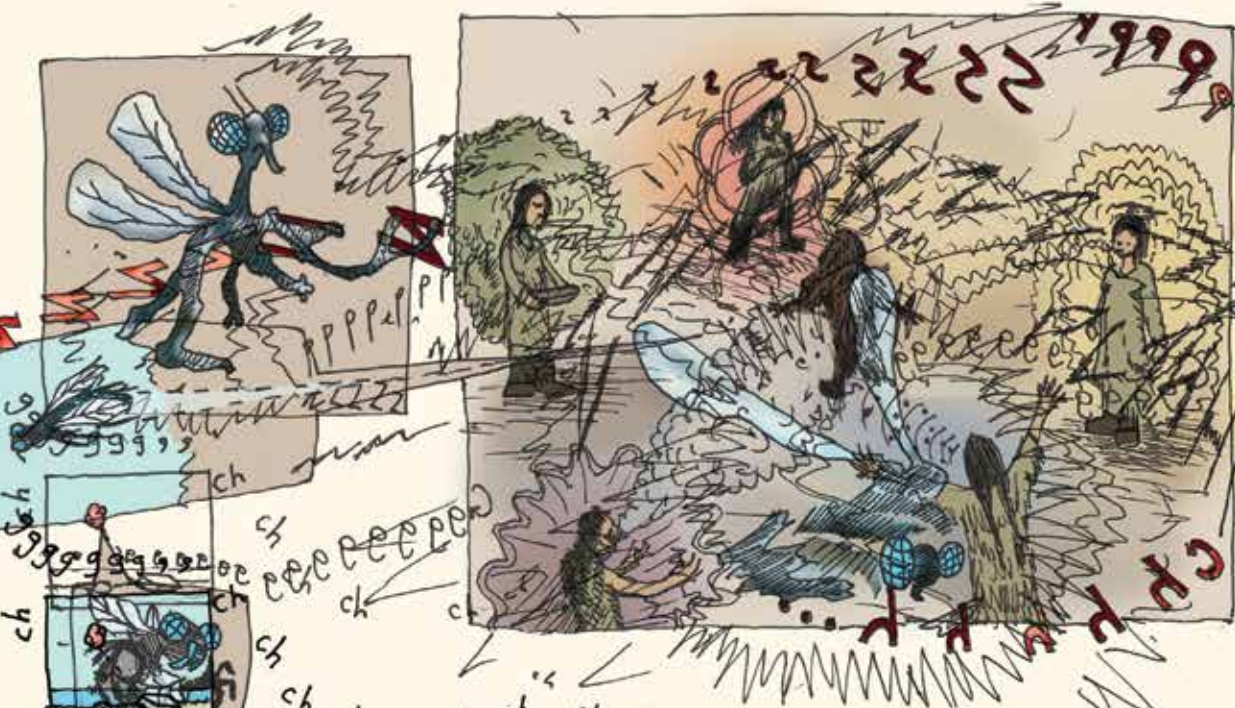
QUTLIURIQ



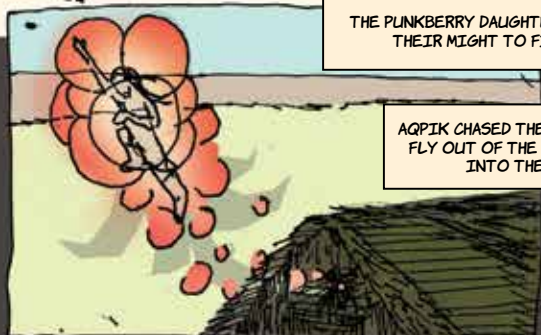
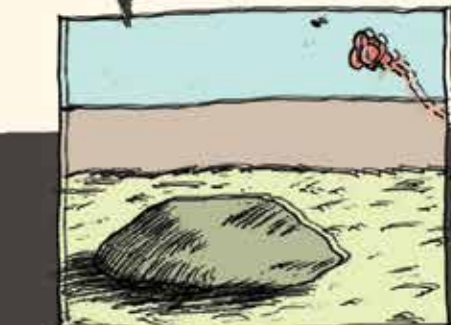
TUKKAAYLIK

PUMIUTIQ

AQPIK

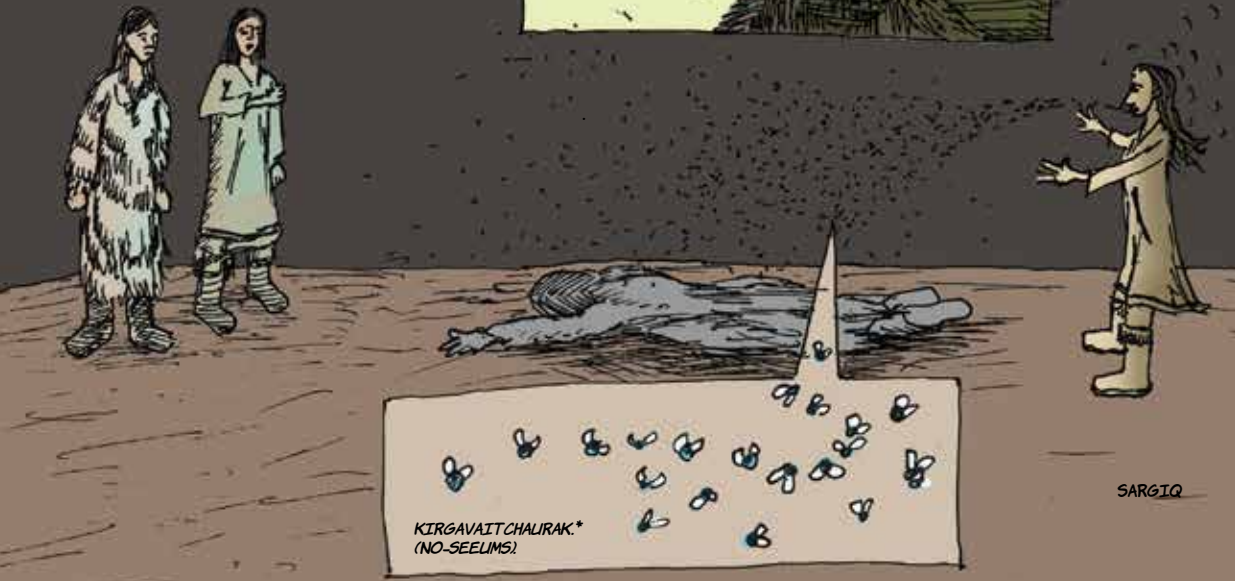


AS SOON AS THE FLY FLEW OUT OF IVIAGLUK'S MOUTH, IT BEGAN TO MANIPULATE TIME AROUND THEM.



THE PINKBERRY DAUGHTERS USED ALL THEIR MIGHT TO FIGHT IT.

AQPIK CHASED THE SHAPESHIFTING FLY OUT OF THE HOUSE, AND UP INTO THE SILA.*



KIRGAVAIT CHAURAK* (NO-SEELIMS)

SARGIQ



WITH THEIR COMBINED EFFORTS, THE DAUGHTERS EVENTUALLY BREATHED LIFE BACK INTO THEIR MOTHER.

IVIAGLUK WOKE UP AS IF SHE HAD ONLY BEEN TAKING A NAP IN THE SUMMER SUN, RATHER THAN THE ORDEAL SHE HAD BEEN THROUGH.

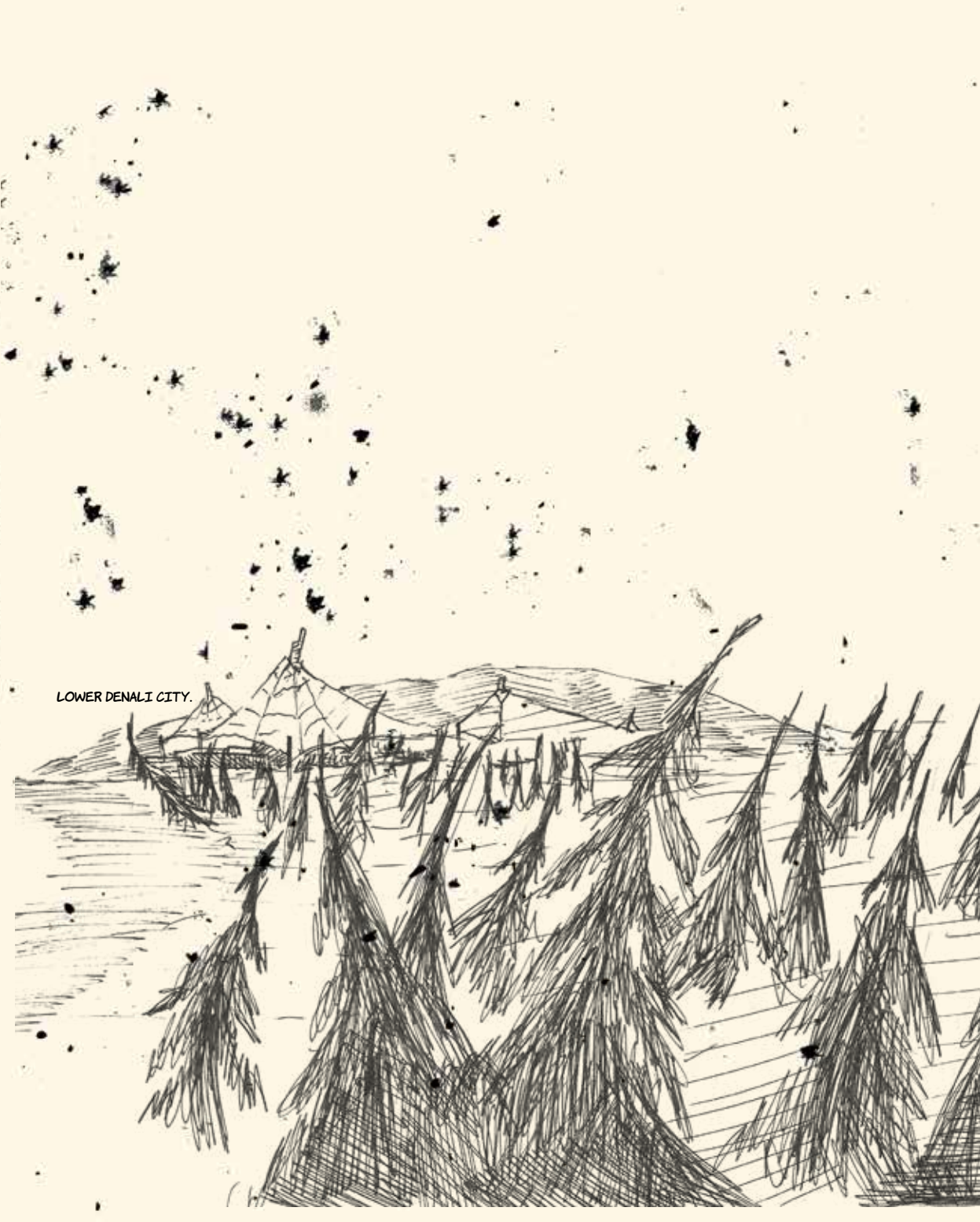


ANYWAYS, THEY SAY THAT IS HOW THE PINKBERRY DAUGHTERS ENDED UP USING THEIR POWERS FOR THE FIRST TIME.

STOP& BRANE #50.009590 (M) TAPESTRY #0023. Q'HTGHAL'AY (EDITED BY) LAKANOFF LOOP/ SHORTENED CHRONOZONE/ BLOOMINGDEER QUANTA (3, 4, 7). BERRYVERSE INTERSTICE LOCATOR CAPTION. SECTIONS 1-5: ALL ACCOUNTED FOR/ STOPPED. APPROVED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF DOME ARCHIVISTS, DOME ARCHIVES OF THE (M) TAPESTRY POCKET DIMENSION DENALI CITY, ALASKA 2013. THROUGH 2052. (THE UNREDACTED SECTIONS) NO FURTHER ACCESS REQUIRED.

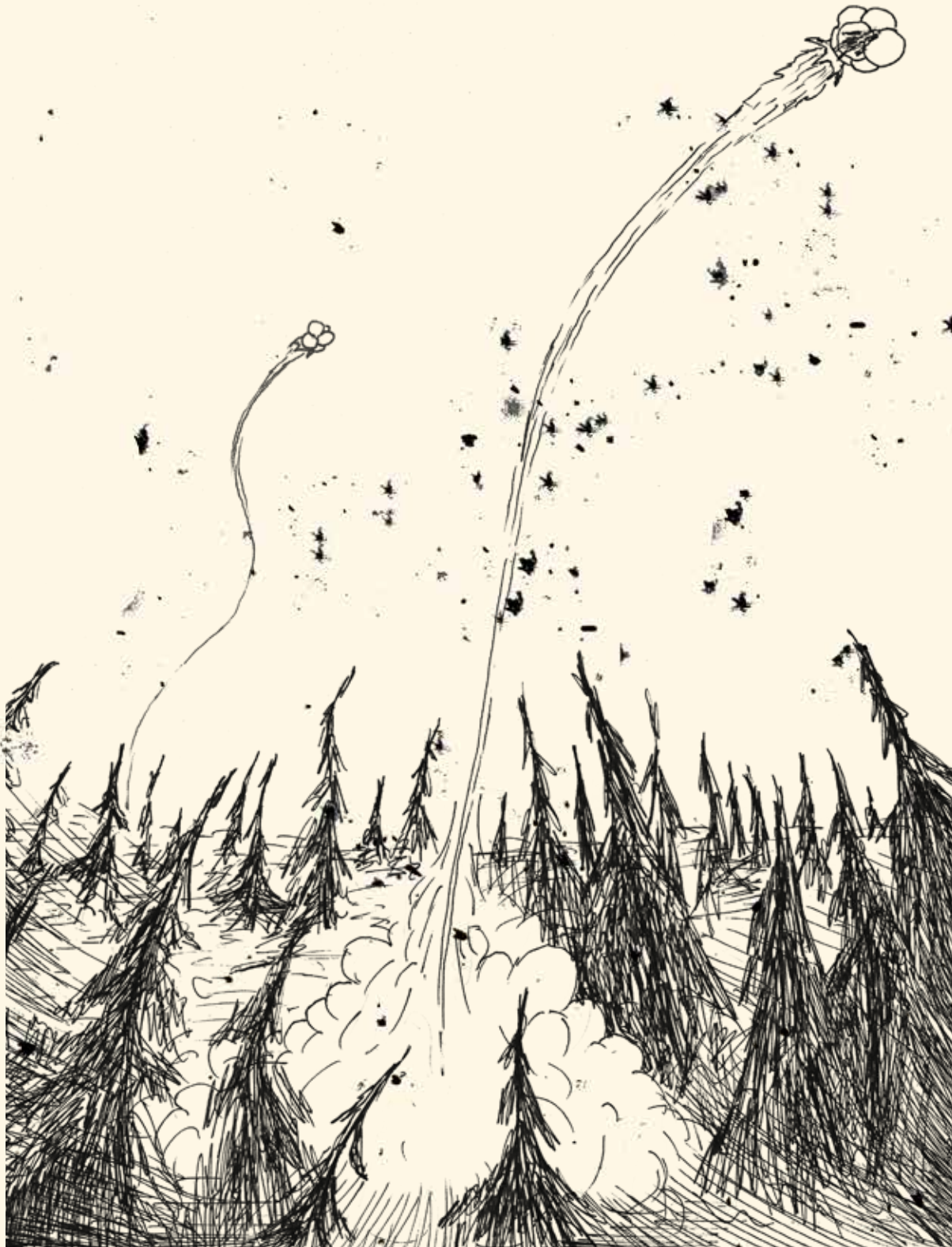
TALLIMAT: THE FIRST FAILSAFE

[LAMBDA MANTLE]
[1994]
[LOWER DENALI CITY]



LOWER DENALI CITY.

TO BE CONTINUED IN BOOK TWO: SOURDOUGH AND ARÊTE...



{AUDIO EXCERPT}
[SPANDEX IN THE SNOW:
COLONIALISM AND THE AKTA THEATERS.]
[ANCHORAGE.]

"SPANDEX IN THE SNOW,
SECOND ATTEMPT ON AN INTERVIEW WITH
SOURDOUGH, IN THE OFFICES OF SOURDOUGH
SECURITY, ALASKA CITY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018.
THIS IS MELISSA CHVALTEH SULLIVAN, FFF8E7
CODENAME ARÊTE. CAN YOU STATE YOUR NAME,
FOR THE OFFICIAL RECORD?"

"GROVER THORNTON."

"AND YOU HAVE
FOUGHT CRIME OFF AND ON OVER
THE LAST 80 PLUS YEARS UNDER THE
CODENAME?"

"THEY CALLED ME
SOURDOUGH BACK THEN,
BACK IN AKTA DAYS."