

The Whale

FREDERICK HAUTAIN
& HANNE DEWACHTER

Egbert Monk has been single all his life. However much he longs for it, love simply hasn't happened for him. During a night out, his best friend advises him to try a fortune teller. Egbert goes, but when he picks the card of death he loses it. That same night he is awakened by a ticking sound on the window. He moves the curtain and suddenly he is facing a whale, floating in front of the glass. **The Whale** is a magical story about daring to believe in the inexplicable, and in things that go beyond our understanding.

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“Surprising and brave.”

De Morgen

“To try to capture it in words, would only do injustice to this wonderful story.”

Lang Zullen We Lezen, VRT

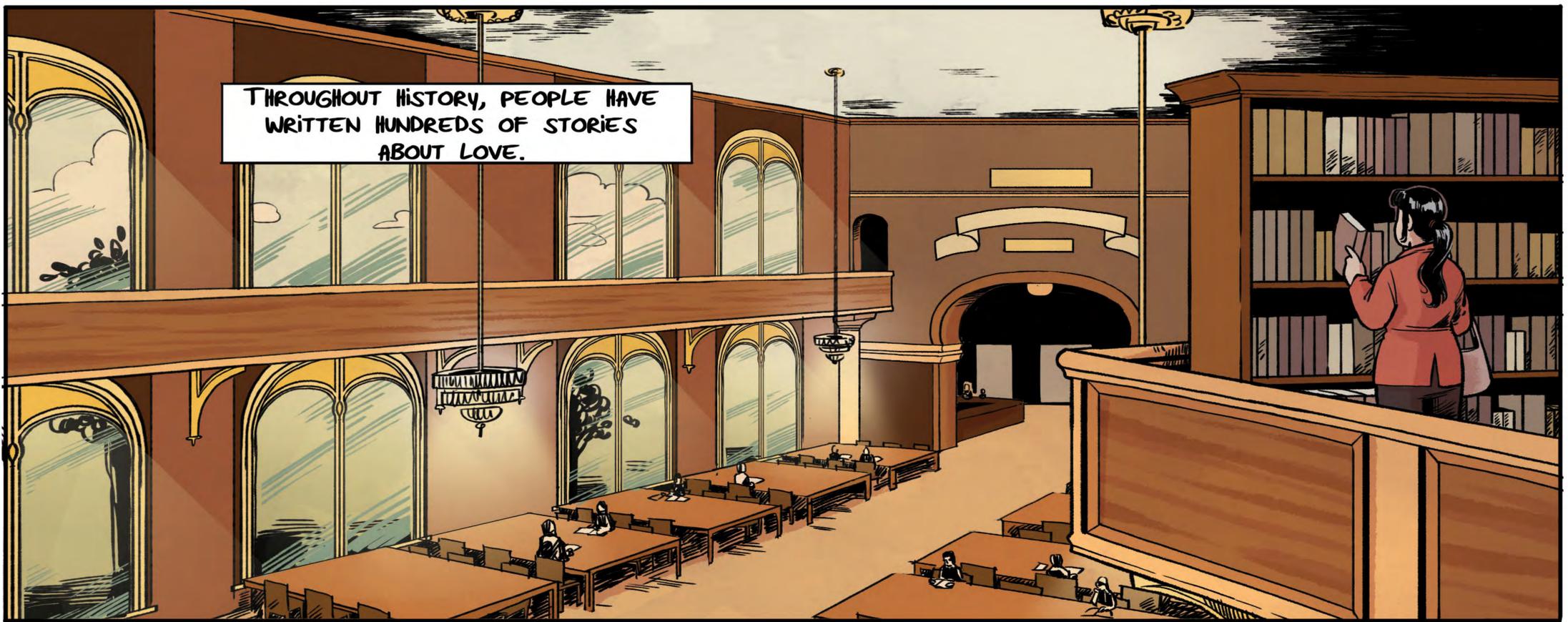


Frederick Hautain (Leuven 1983) grows up on a self-imposed diet of US comics, and teaches himself English by reading those. He heads the comics news site *Broken Frontier* for 15 years, and continues his journalistic activities as editor of *Stripgids* afterwards. In collaboration with *A Wave Blue World* editions, he publishes the *Broken Frontier Anthology* in 2016. Among the short stories in the anthology is one of his own. *The Whale*, a graphic novel with drawings by Hanne Dewachter is his first longer story.

Hanne Dewachter (Antwerpen, 1989) graduates from her bachelor in Animation film at the KASK Ghent in 2010. Since then, she combines comics with 2D animation. In 2012, she starts her webcomic *Dork Toes*, out of which have been born 4 self-published collections so far. She is co-founder of the comics collective *Artropoda*. As a child, it was her ambition to re-introduce cherubs into the art world. But these days she mainly draws chubby children without wings.

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THROUGHOUT HISTORY, PEOPLE HAVE WRITTEN HUNDREDS OF STORIES ABOUT LOVE.



NO.. THOUSANDS.

MAYBE EVEN MILLIONS.



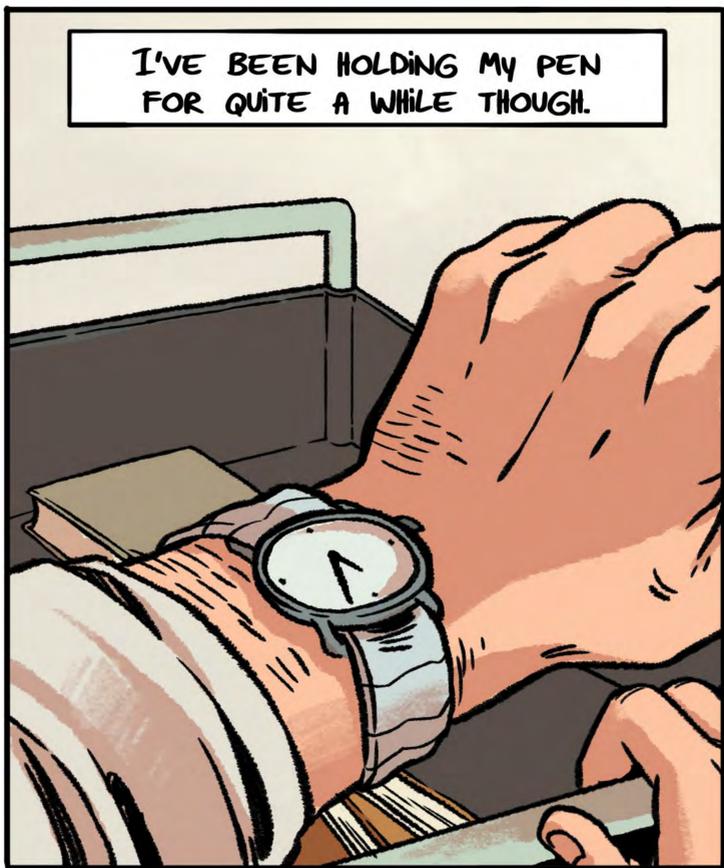
SOME ARE SO PURE THEIR ECHO SOUNDS THROUGH ETERNITY.



OTHERS... NOT SO MUCH.



AS FOR MY LOVE STORY? THE FIRST LINE HAS YET TO BE WRITTEN.



I'VE BEEN HOLDING MY PEN FOR QUITE A WHILE THOUGH.

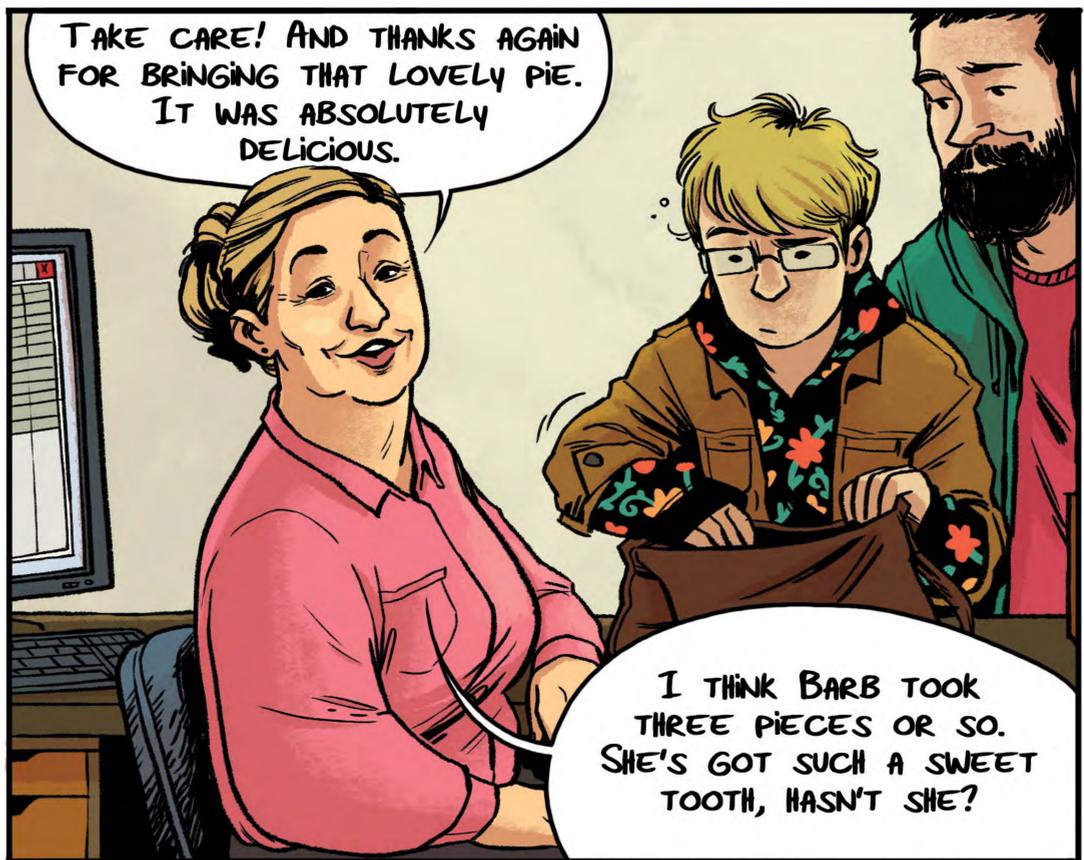


CAN I HAVE YOUR CARD TOO, PLEASE?

OH, SURE.



SEE YOU TOMORROW, SUSAN.



TAKE CARE! AND THANKS AGAIN FOR BRINGING THAT LOVELY PIE. IT WAS ABSOLUTELY DELICIOUS.

I THINK BARB TOOK THREE PIECES OR SO. SHE'S GOT SUCH A SWEET TOOTH, HASN'T SHE?





EARTH TO ED!

WHAT'S UP, DUDE? REINVENTING WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A WALLFLOWER?



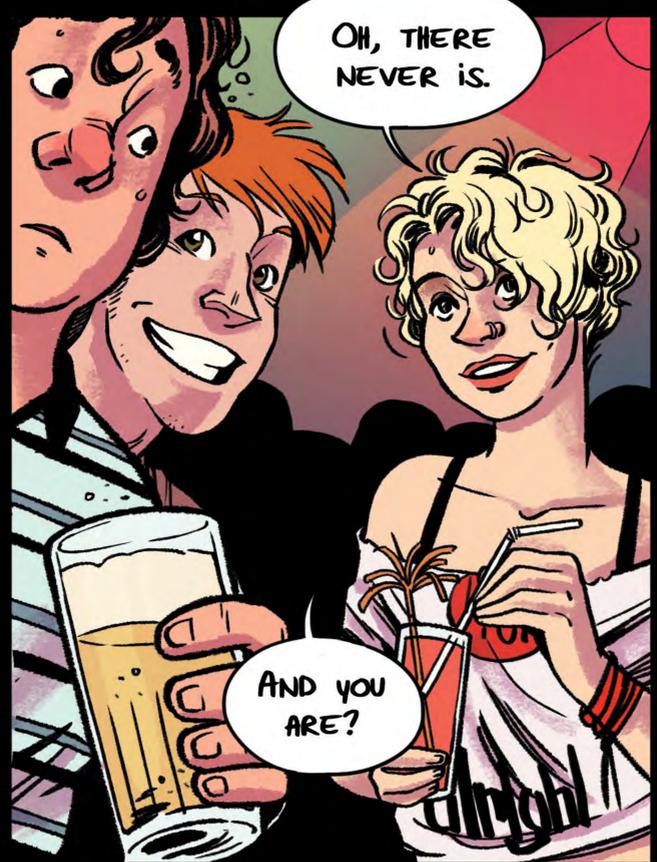
WHO'S THAT?

HER? ED, I'M TELLING YOU ONE THING: YOU ARE NOT THE FIRST AND YOU DEFINITELY WON'T BE THE LAST.

WE'RE ALL EATING OUT OF HER HAND.



Hi LIBBY. THERE'S NO STOPPING YOU TONIGHT, IS THERE?



OH, THERE NEVER IS.

AND YOU ARE?



EDWARD MONK. I'M, UH, AN ARTS & SCIENCE SOPHOMORE.

WE... UHM

... WE DON'T GO CRAZY LIKE THEY DO HERE.

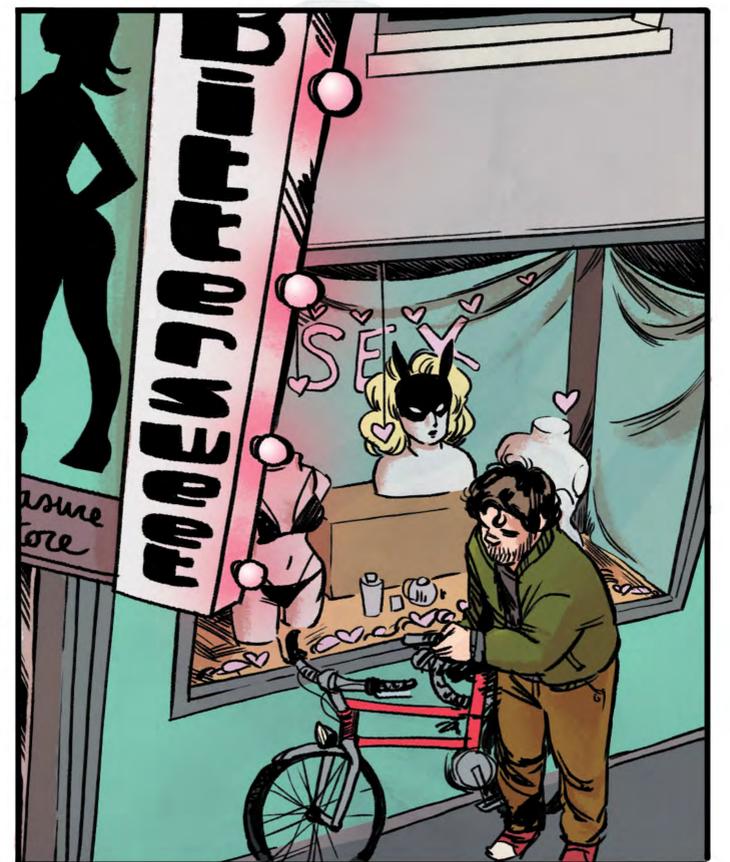
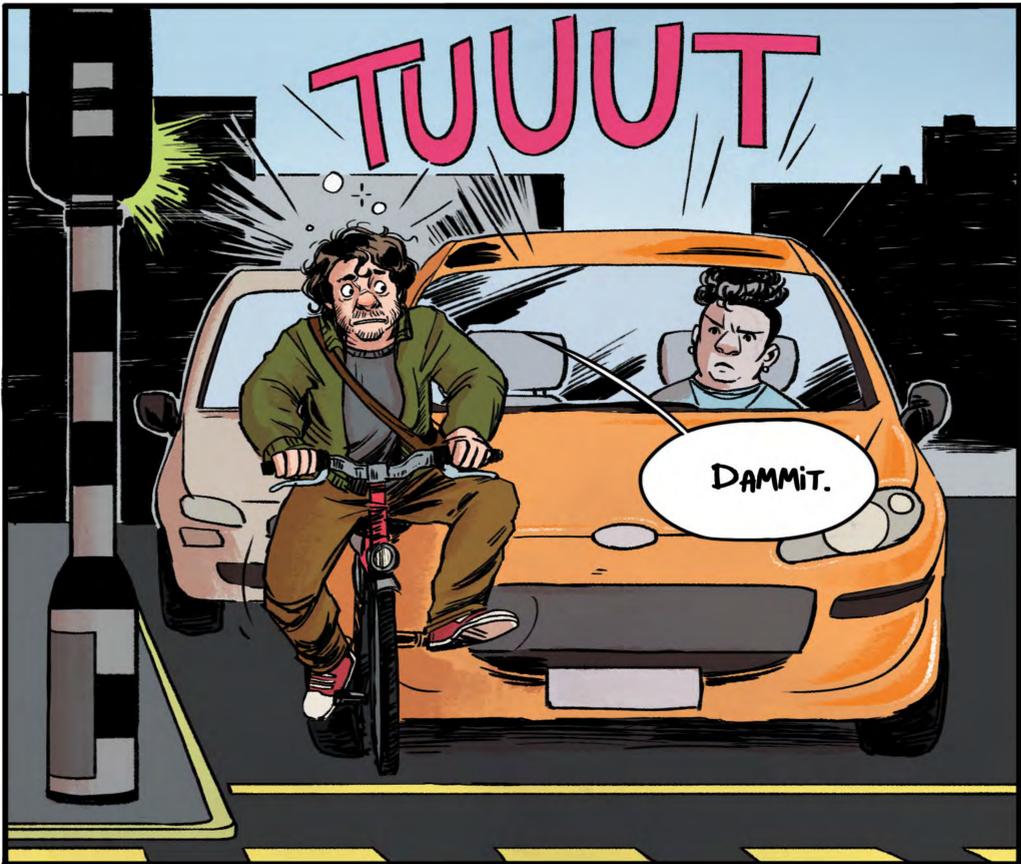


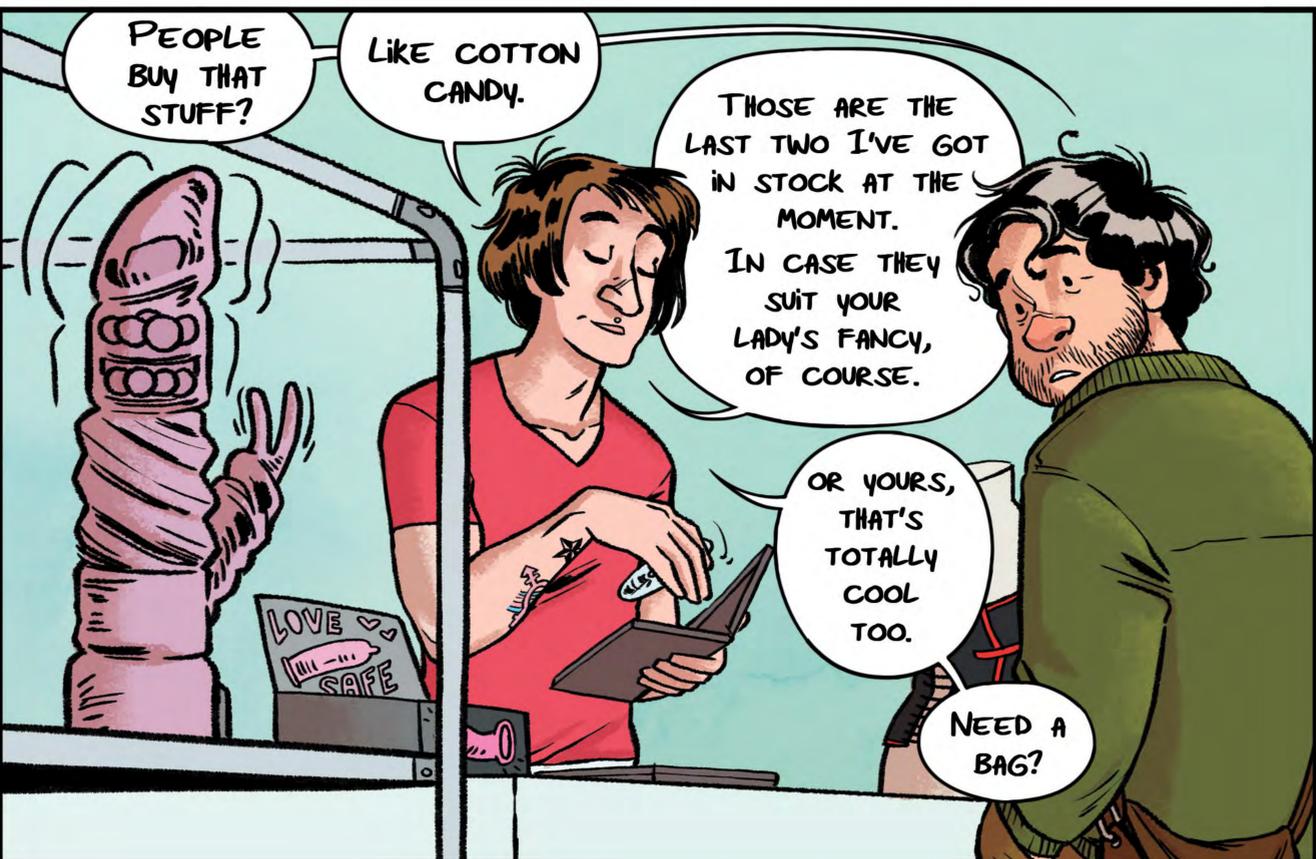
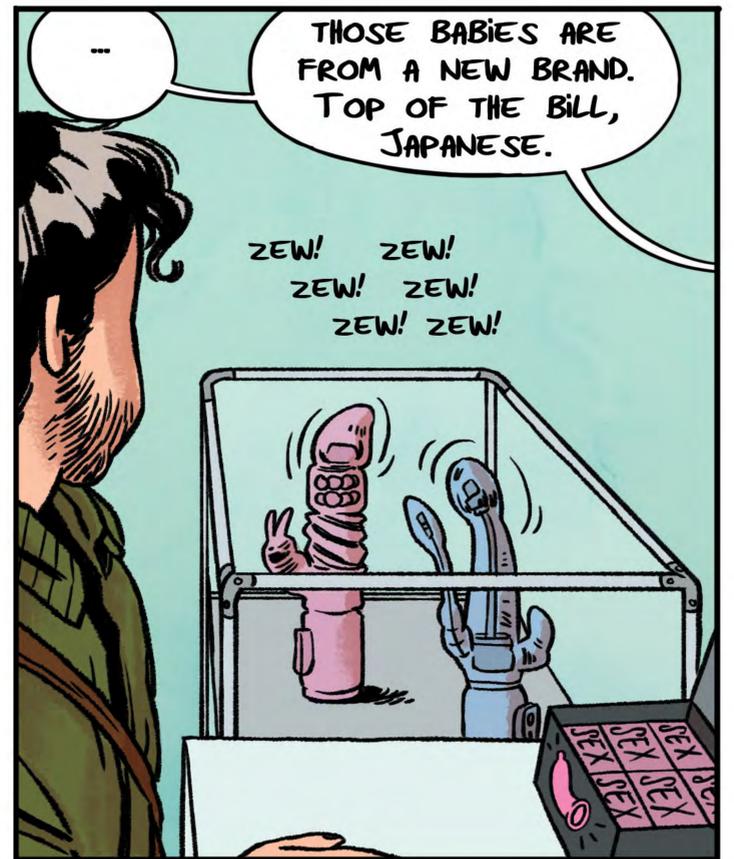
WELL, EDWARD MONK, I DON'T HAVE A CRYSTALL BALL OR ANYTHING...

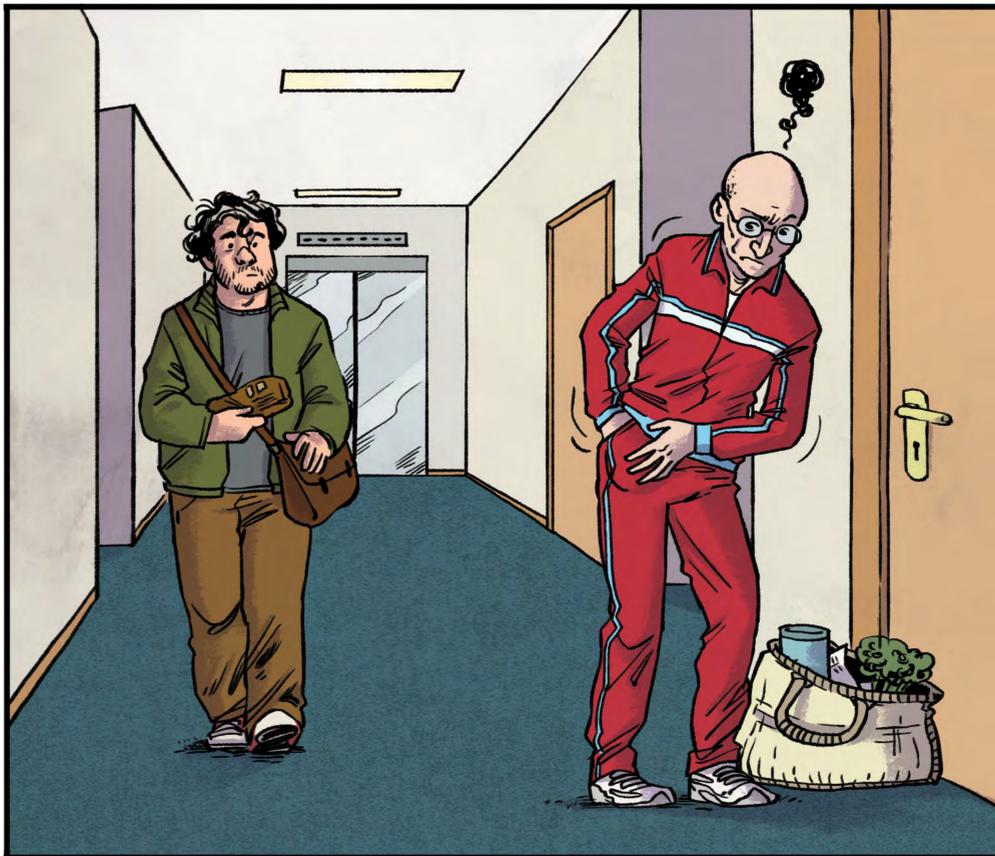
BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME YOU'RE JUST AS SPECIAL AS THAT NAME OF YOURS SAYS YOU ARE.

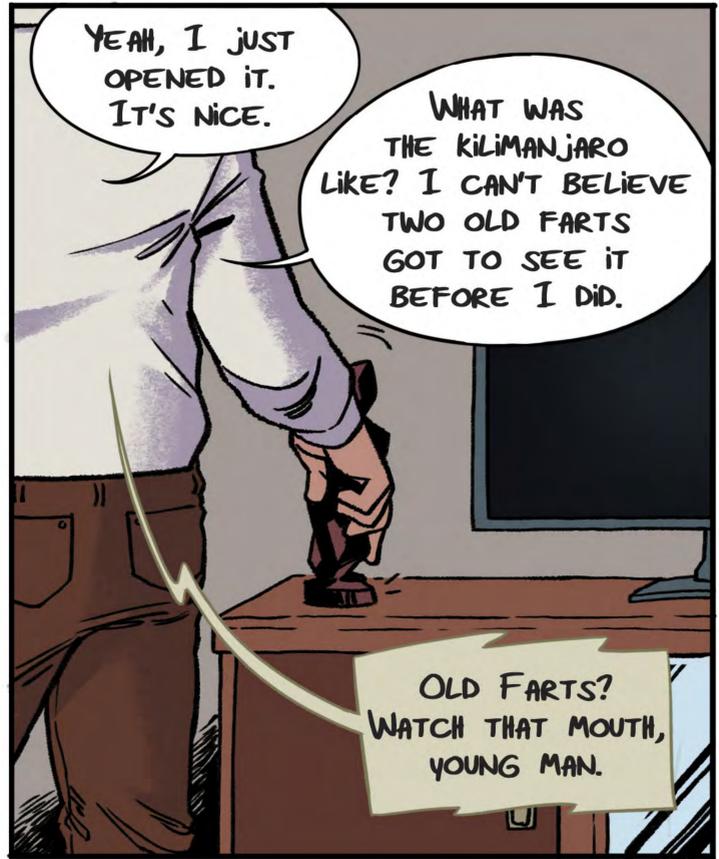
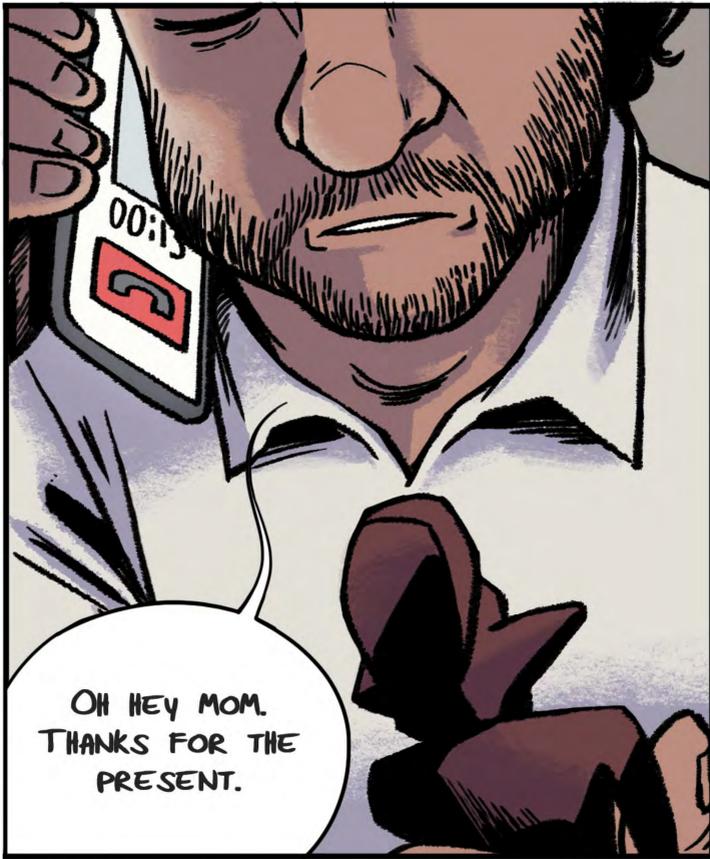


SEE YOU AROUND?







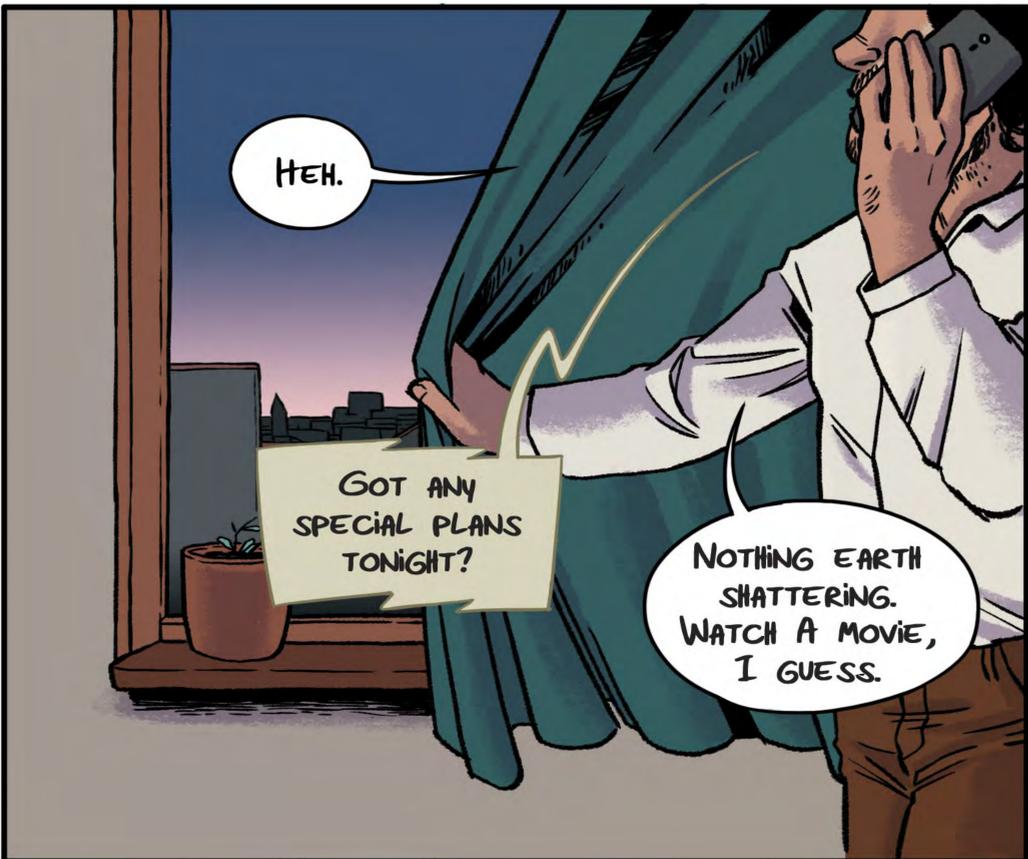


OH HEY MOM. THANKS FOR THE PRESENT.

YEAH, I JUST OPENED IT. IT'S NICE.

WHAT WAS THE KILIMANJARO LIKE? I CAN'T BELIEVE TWO OLD FARTS GOT TO SEE IT BEFORE I DID.

OLD FARTS? WATCH THAT MOUTH, YOUNG MAN.



HEH.

GOT ANY SPECIAL PLANS TONIGHT?

NOTHING EARTH SHATTERING. WATCH A MOVIE, I GUESS.

TELL DAD I SAID HI.

HE'S SPOTTING BIRDS OUTSIDE THE LODGE. THOSE NEW BINOCULARS YOU GUYS GAVE HIM ARE A REAL HIT.



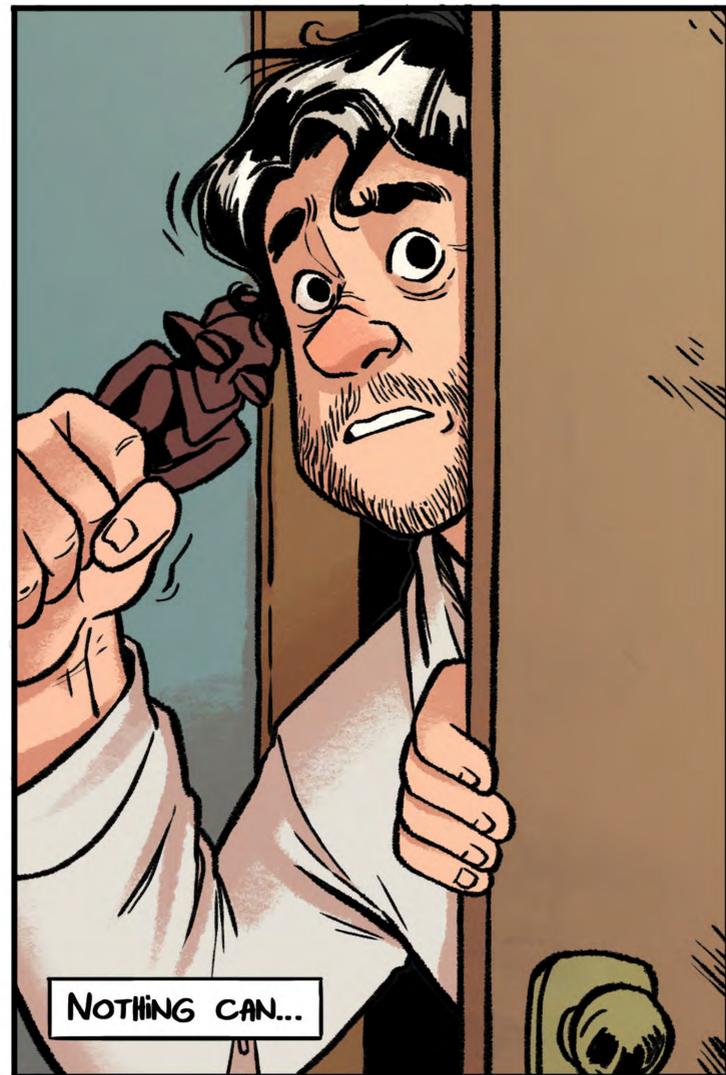
DAT GELOOF IK. TOT BINNENKORT.

BYE SON. LOVE YOU.

Mam

Divinities
LUSTY Angels
2! DISC
Lola Lovelace
Jandra Smarter than you





AS OF THIS MORNING MY ODOMETER SAYS 40.

YAY.

AND I'M STILL SINGLE.



DOUBLE OUCH, RIGHT?