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Extraordinary tales and tall stories

Bernard Tant

After suffering a terrible shipwreck, a diver wakes up in a wreckage at the bottom of the sea. It appears that an octopus of mythical proportion has saved his life and housed him in his subaquatic abode. Wherever the diver looks, he sees relics of all ages and all parts of the world. And behind every object is a story... But what is fact and what is fiction?

Bernard Tant (1988, Antwerp) graduated from the Master of Graphic Storytelling at the LUCA School of Arts in 2022. As a student, he made short comic strips and cartoons for the Leuven-based student magazine Veto. He takes his inspiration from random facts, history, and the animal world. His debut 'Voorwendfels en Verhalen' is a re-working of his Master thesis.



3.

The Gulf of Mexico

The weather is getting worse, call them back upstairs.

Alright, boss.

Time to come back up, boys, it's getting a little too rough out here.
Back to the bell.

Let's go!

4.

Ok, everything's looking good here.
I'm pulling you up.

Watch the manometer. Get ready to attach the bell, wait for the signal...
HEY! HOLD UP!

8/9.

Nice job, mate.

That's my crew that you're drowning!

Your crew wanted you dead, captain, it's thanks to me you're alive!

You could've saved yourself the effort, you mutinous dog, we'll all go down anyway.

You knew the mutiny was immanent! I've warned you plenty, but you wouldn't listen!

I don't have time for this.

Ungrateful...

Will we last?

Not much longer, the wind is pulling apart the sails.

THE MAST!

Captain!

10.

Over there! A... a...

12/13.

That's a long time ago now, I was still in my prime.

The ships nowadays are far too heavy for me.

And maybe I've calmed down a bit through the centuries.

14/15.

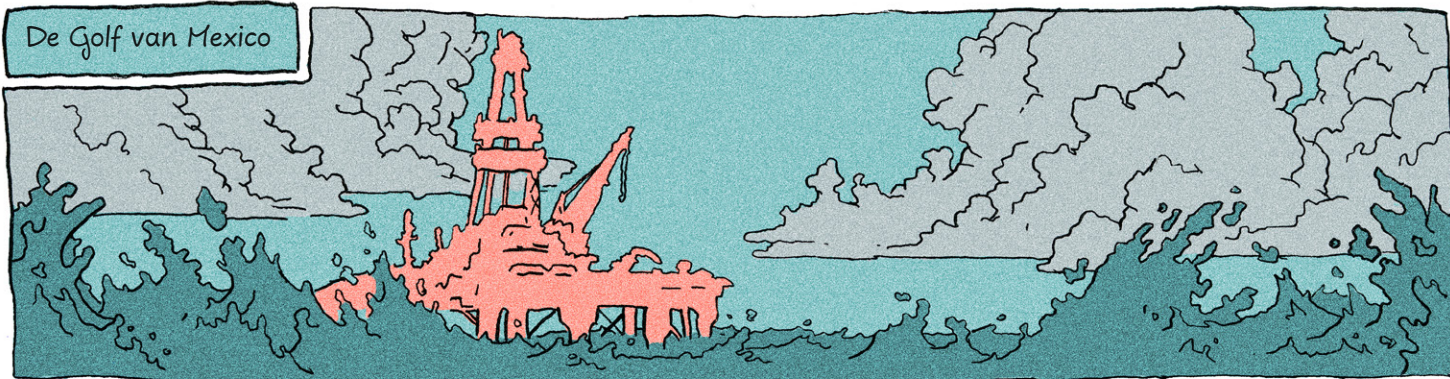
But you have to admit that this ship doesn't look bad in my collection.

And anyway, I thought this would be appropriate accommodation for someone of your kind.

You'll understand, I didn't know about that whole mutiny history back then, I only learned that after, from their logs.

I see you're still a little dazed, I will leave your diving suit here.

Why don't you come out when you're ready, we have lots to discuss.

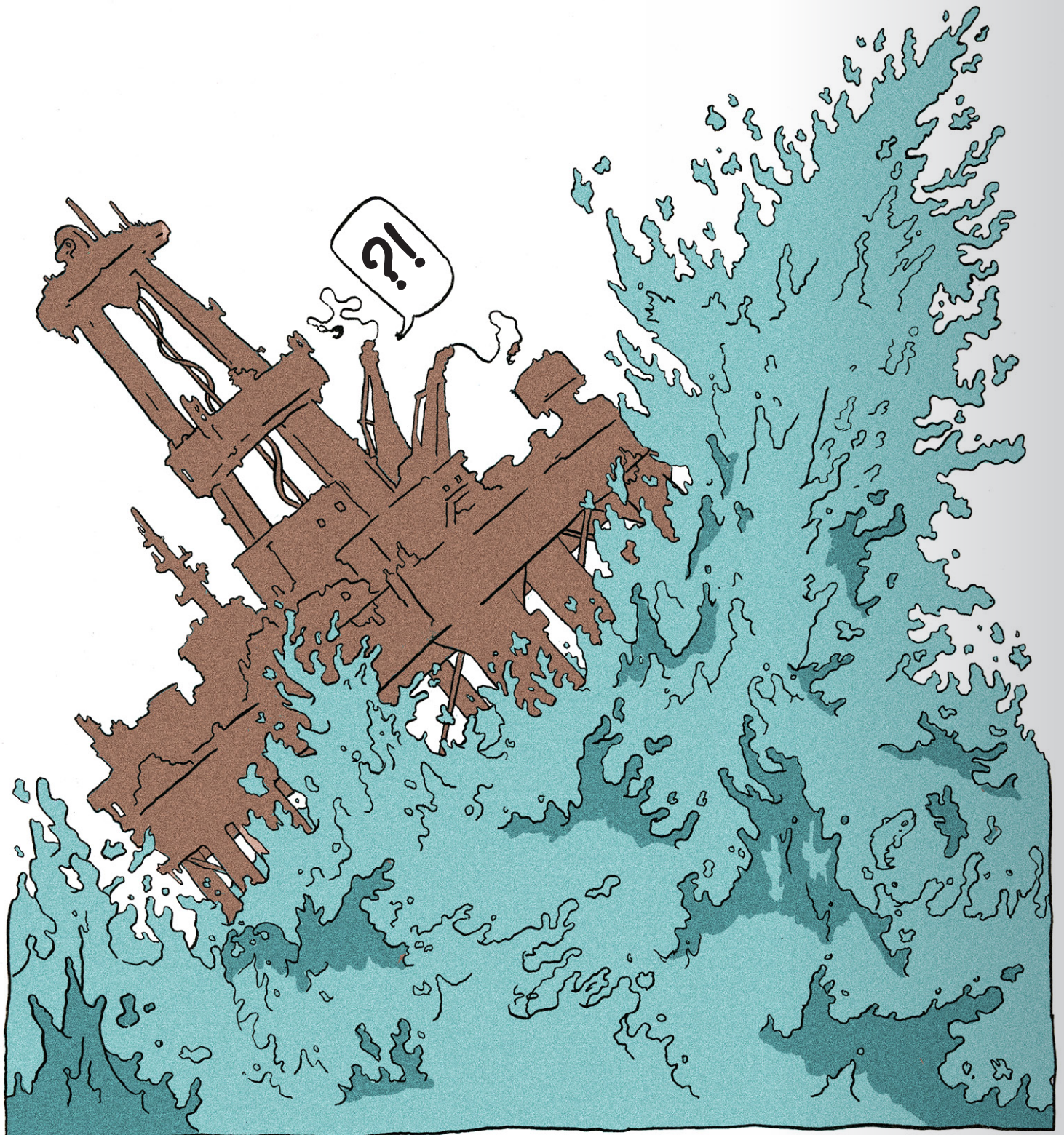
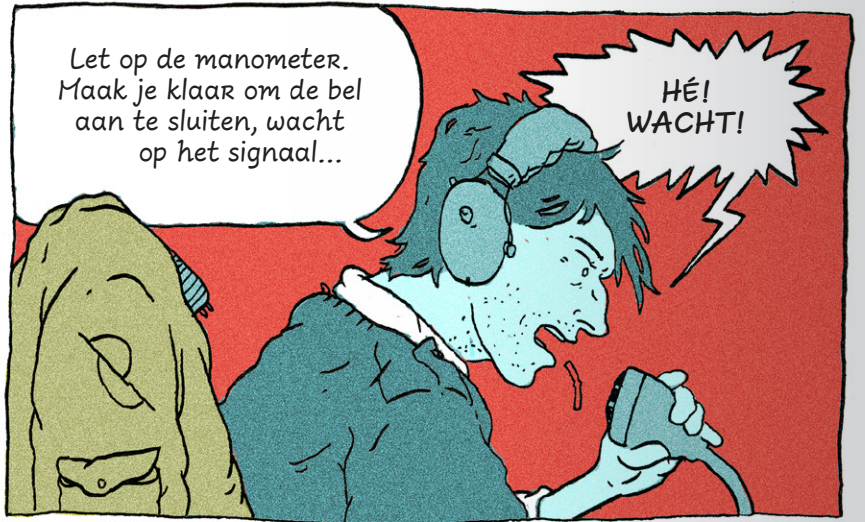


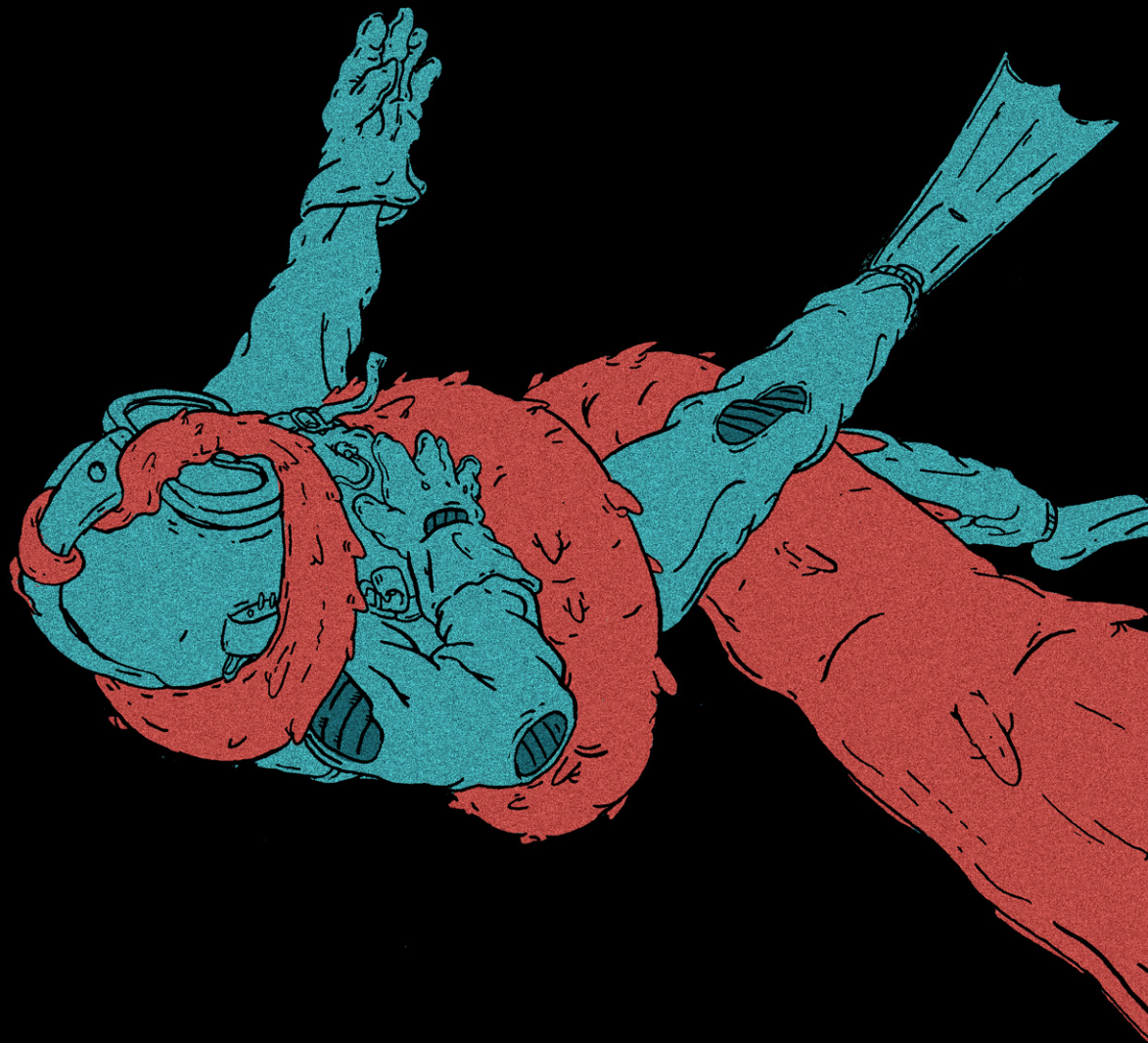
Tijd om naar boven te komen, jongens, het wordt hier wat te woelig.

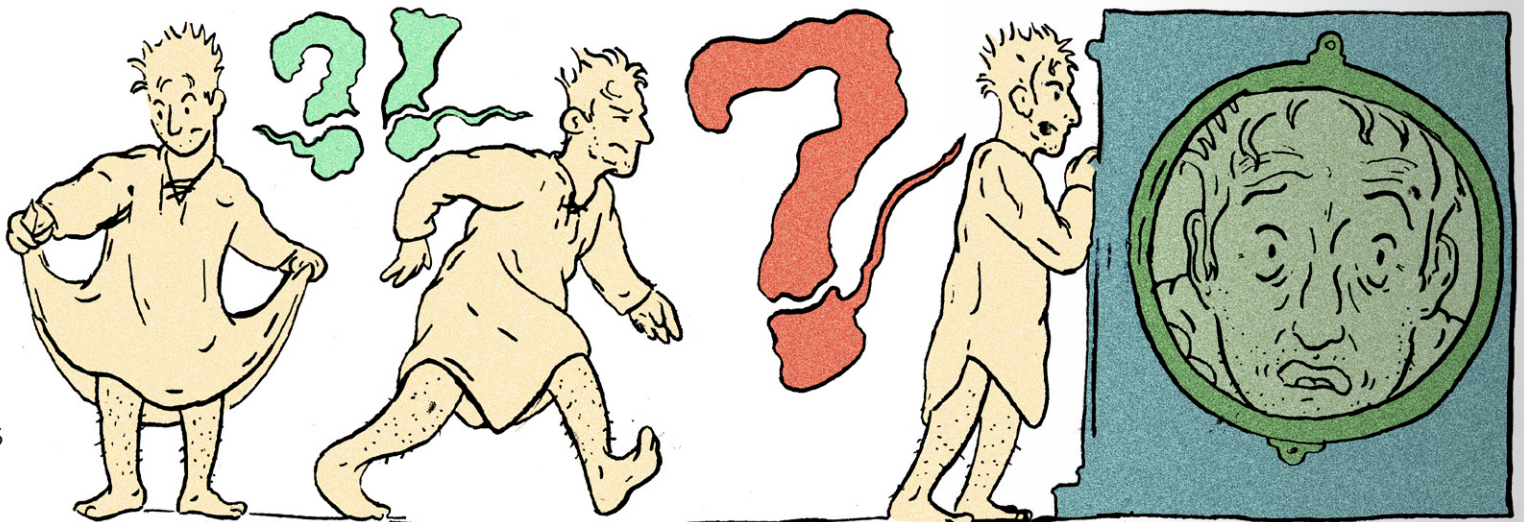
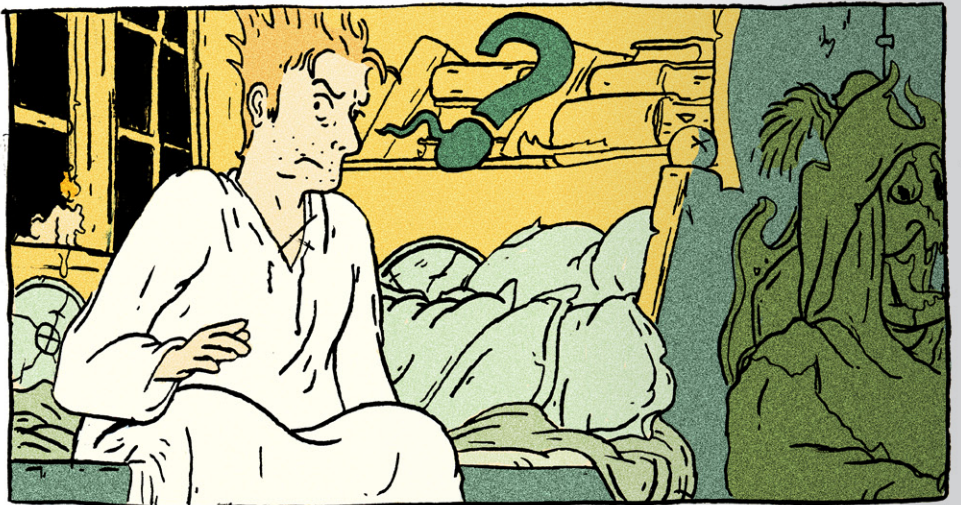
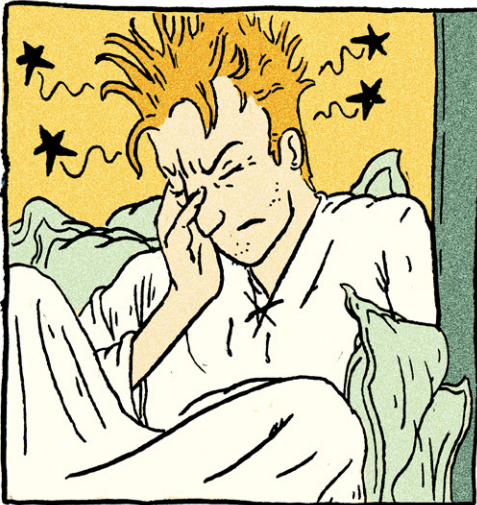
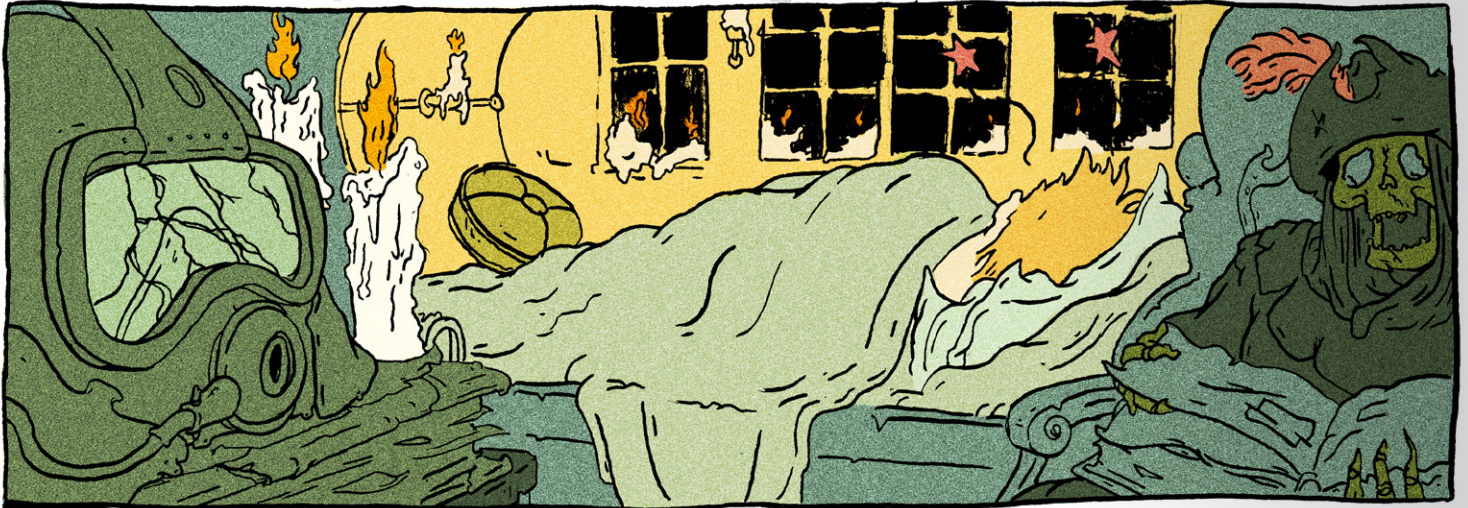
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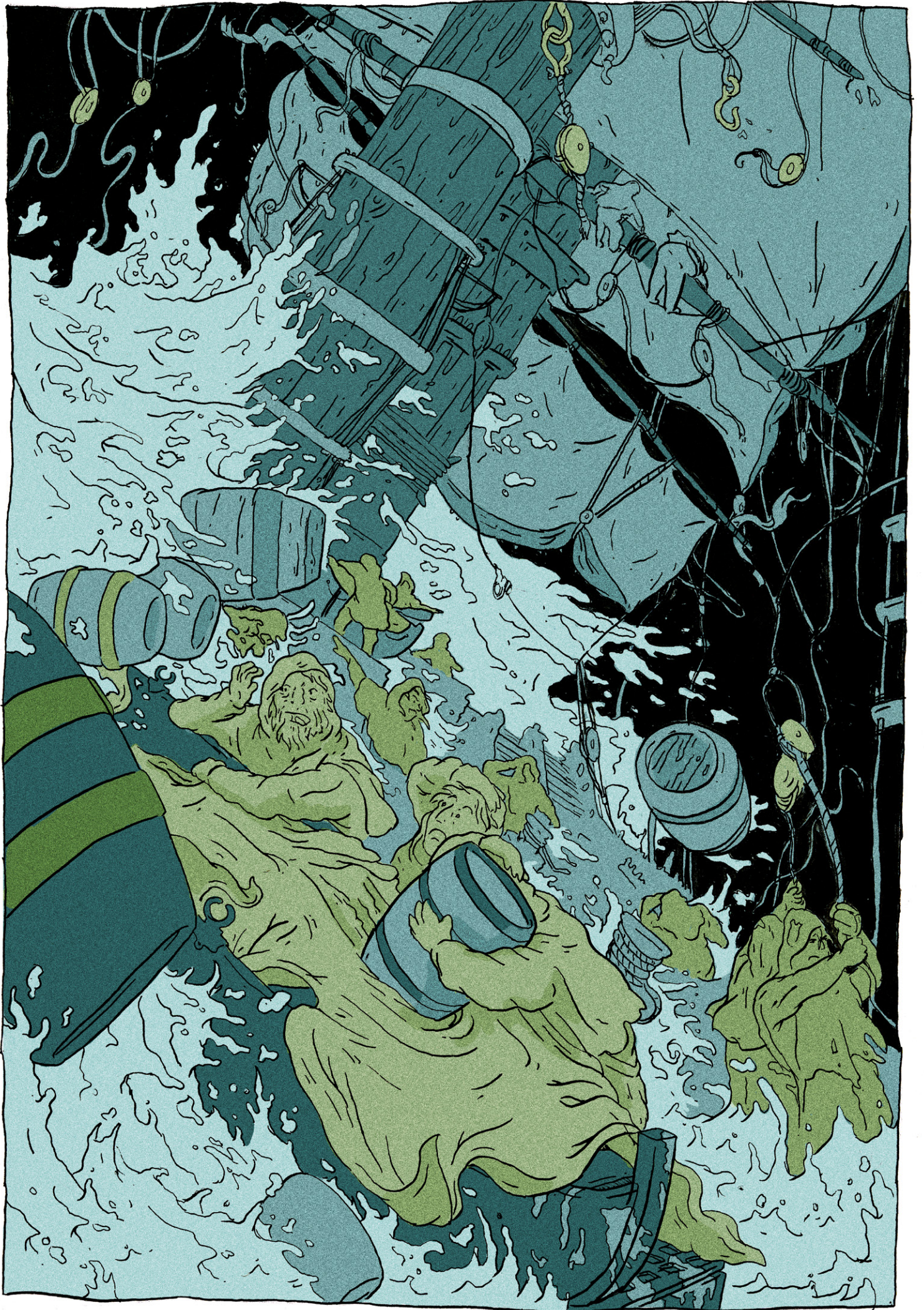
Let's go!

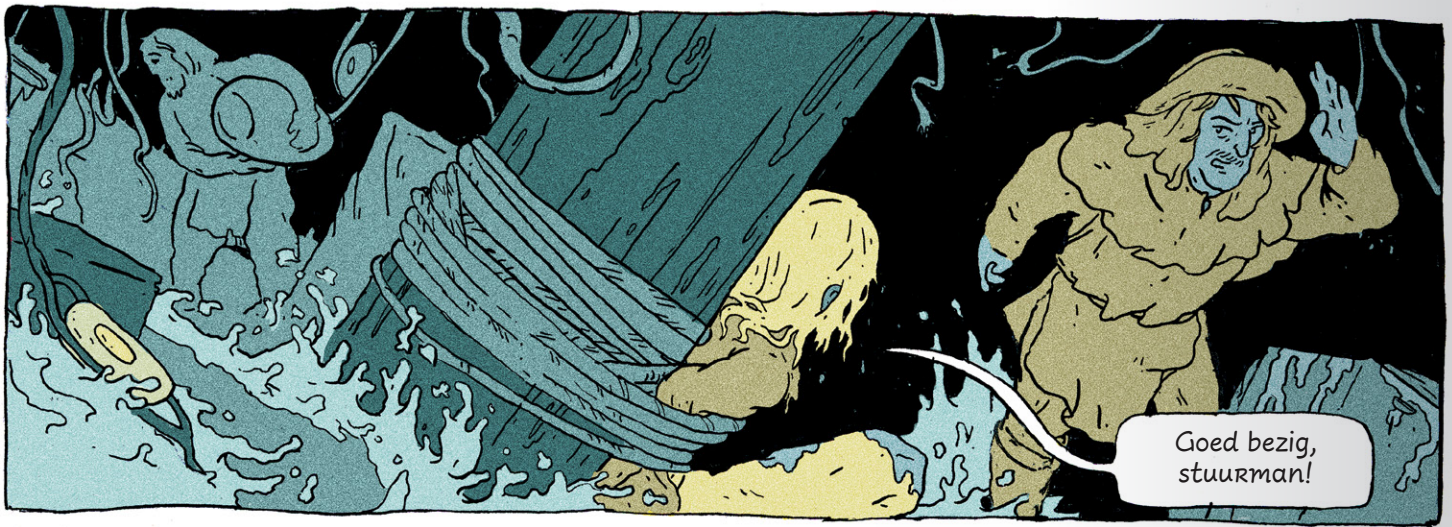












Goed bezig, stuurman!



Dat is mijn bemanning die je aan het verzuipen bent!



Uw bemanning wilde u dood, kapitein, dankzij mij leeft u nog!



Je had je de moeite kunnen besparen, miltende hond, straks gaan we toch allemaal de dieperik in.



U weet dat de mouterij onvermijdelijk was! Ik heb u meer dan genoeg gewaarschuwd, maar u wilde niet luisteren!



Hier heb ik geen tijd voor.



Ondankbare...



Houden we dit vol?



Niet lang meer, de wind trekt de zeilen stuk.

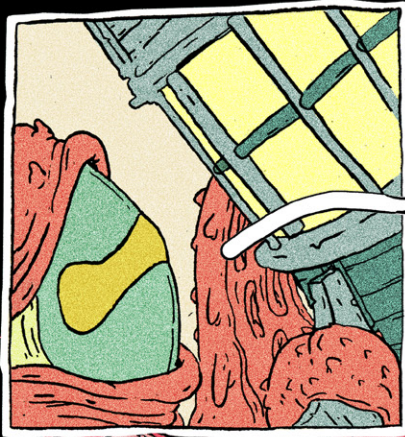


DE MAST!

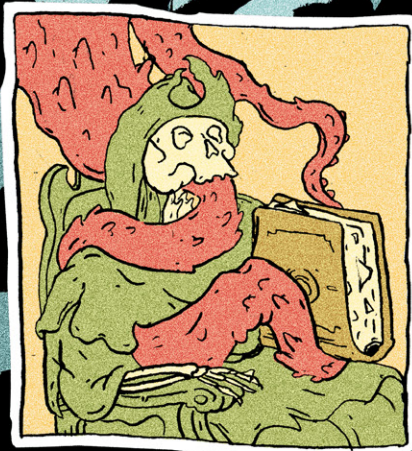
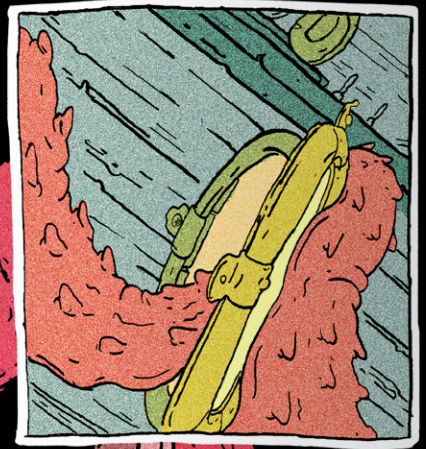
Kapitein!







Dat is ondertussen al een hele tijd geleden, toen kon ik zulke krachtmetingen nog aan.




De schepen van nu zijn me te zwaar geworden.





Misschien ben ik zelf
met de eeuwen
ook wat gekalmeerd.



Maar u moet toegeven dat dit zeilschip
niet misstaat in mijn verzameling.

Bovendien leek het me een
geschikte accommodatie
voor iemand van uw soort.

Die hele geschiedenis van die muitenrij
kende ik toen natuurlijk niet, dat
begrijpt u wel, die heb ik later pas in
hun logboeken gelezen.

Ik merk dat u nog
wat in de war bent,
ik laat uw duikpak
hier achter.

Komt u maar naar
buiten als u klaar
bent, we hebben
veel te bespreken.

