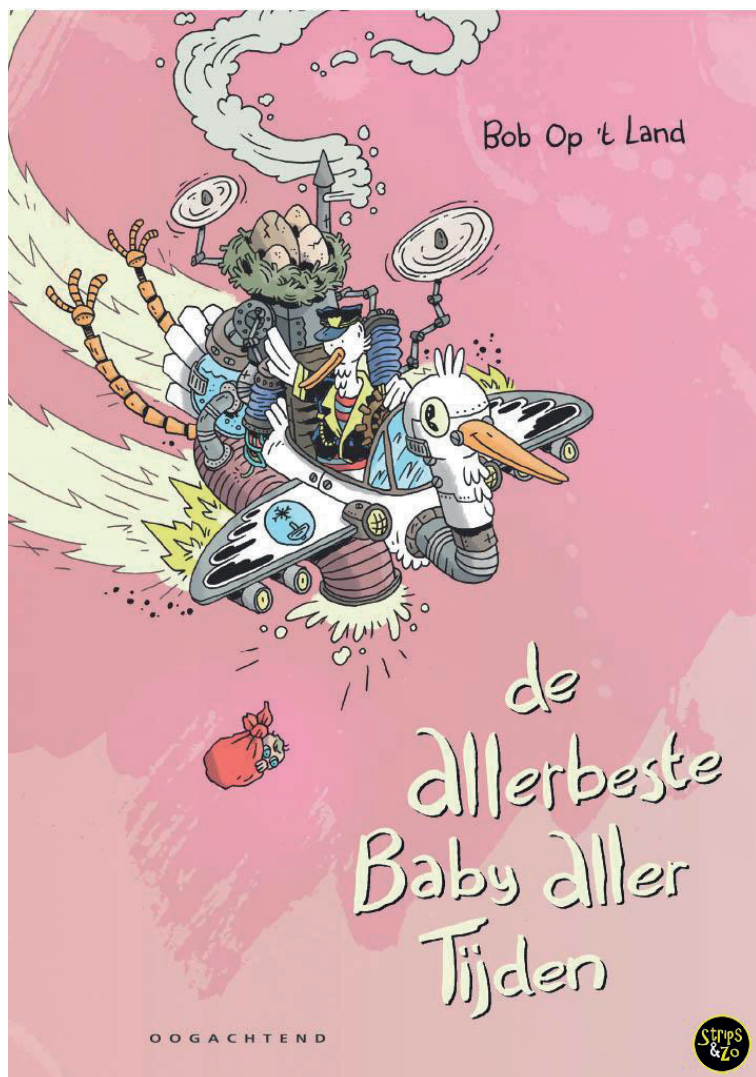




Visit www.letterenfonds.nl for information about translation grants

“With a lot of humour, Op ‘t Land offers us a glimpse [into his life] that’ll undoubtedly be very recognisable for many parents.”

De 9^e Kunst

The Best Baby Ever Born

Bob Op ‘t Land

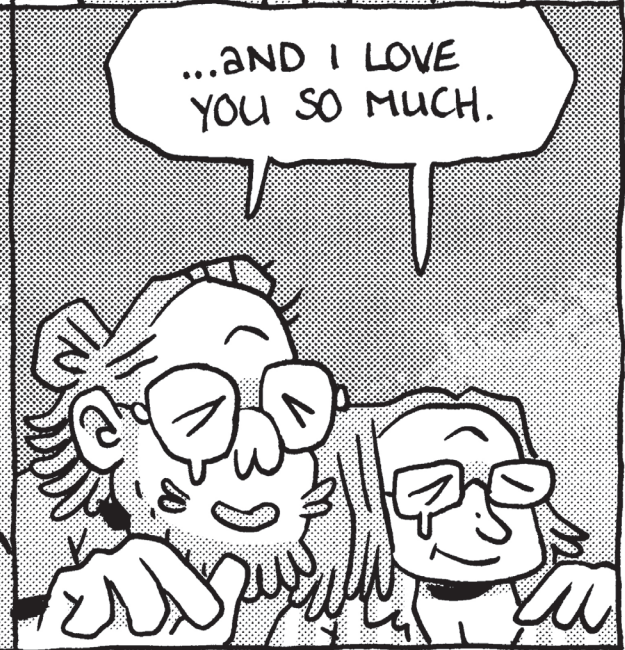
The Best Baby Ever Born is a tender and funny comic about the first months of parenthood, when your whole world has gone topsy-turvy. Tightly scheduled feeding-times, exploding diapers, sleepless nights... And a hundred things, big and small, to worry about.

Bob Op ‘t Land (1992) is a comic-artist and illustrator. He graduated from Comic Design at ArtEZ University of the Arts in 2017. In 2020, he started making autobiographical comics that he posted online and eventually self-published as the ‘Plumbum’ series, of which he has released four parts thus far. Bob works in Deventer (The Netherlands) where he lives with his girlfriend, their child, and cat.



www.oogachtend.be
sammy@oogachtend.be

Original title : De Allerbeste Baby Aller Tijden (Oogachtend, 2025. Hardcover, 13x18. 56pp.)





SO INCREDIBLY
MUCH.

THE FIRST TIME I SAW YOU,
YOU WERE A LITTLE DOT
ON A SCREEN.



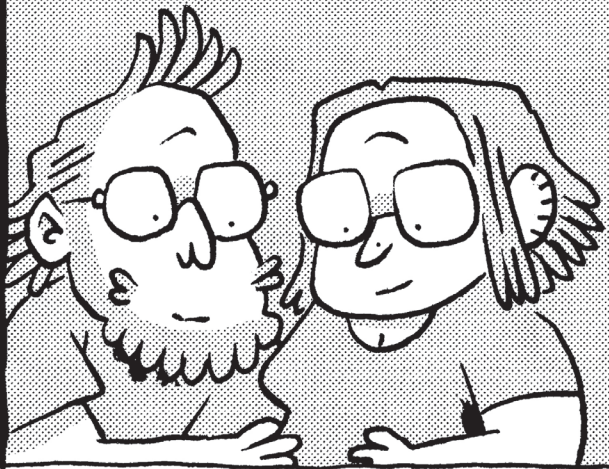
WE WATCHED YOU GROW
ON-SCREEN.



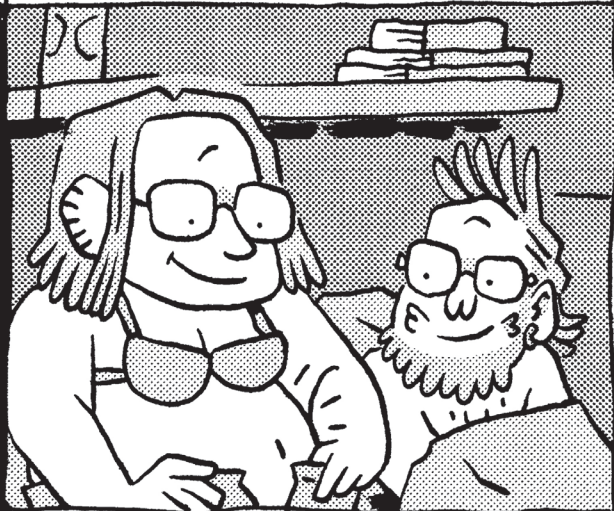
AND THE SCREEN DISPLAYED
A PERFECT LITTLE HUMAN.



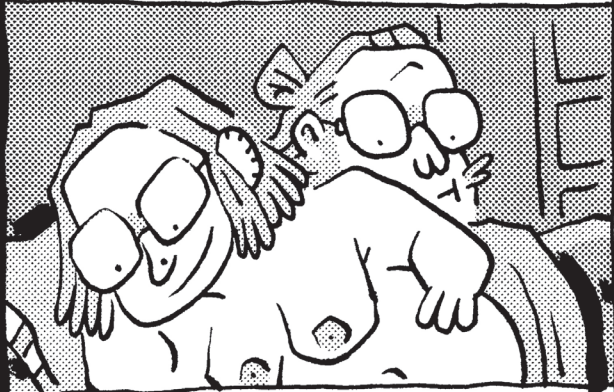
AND ONLY WE KNEW
YOU WERE THERE.



UNTIL YOU BECAME
VISIBLE IN REAL LIFE.



MY GIRLFRIEND FELT HOW YOU
SLEPT, TURNED OVER, HICCUPPED...

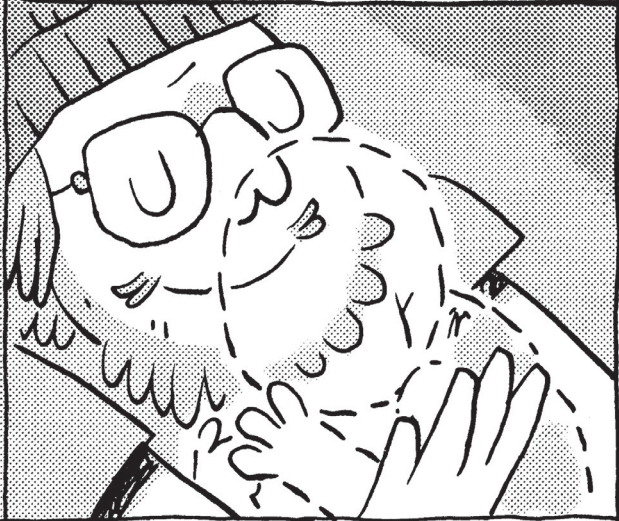


...BUT TO ME YOU STILL
SEEMED SO FAR AWAY.

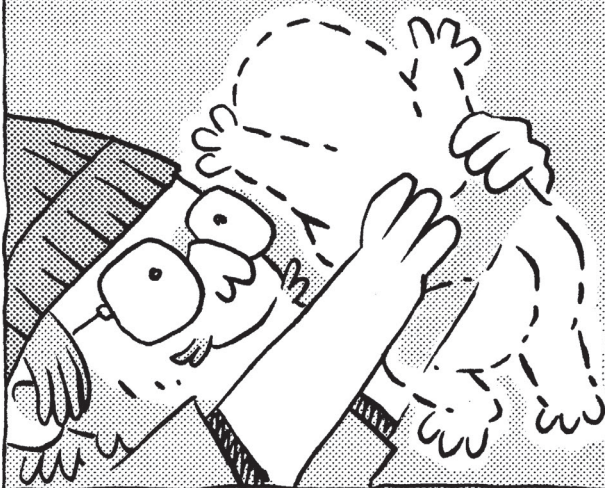
I TRIED TO IMAGINE YOU.



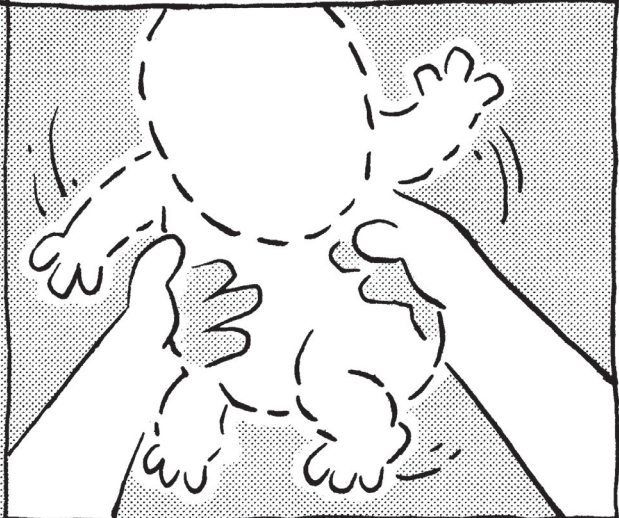
HOW YOU WOULD SMELL.



HOW HEAVY YOU'D BE.



HOW YOUR ARMS AND LEGS
WOULD MOVE.



AND NOW YOU'RE HERE.



AND YOU LIE SLEEPING
IN MY LAP.

AND I CAN HEAR YOUR GENTLE BREATHING.

BARKE IS RESTING.

I'M SO PROUD OF HER.

AND OF YOU.

AND I CRY WHEN I LOOK AT YOU FOR TOO LONG.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE.

ONLY YOU MATTER NOW.

AND I CAN HEAR YOUR GENTLE BREATHING.

22FKK IS RESTING.

I'M SO PROUD OF HER.

AND OF YOU.

AND I CRY WHEN I LOOK AT YOU FOR TOO LONG.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE.

ONLY YOU MATTER NOW.

AND I CAN HEAR YOUR GENTLE BREATHING.

22FKK IS RESTING.

I'M SO PROUD OF HER.

AND OF YOU.

AND I CRY WHEN I LOOK AT YOU FOR TOO LONG.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE.

ONLY YOU MATTER NOW.

AND I CAN HEAR YOUR GENTLE BREATHING.

22FKK IS RESTING.

I'M SO PROUD OF HER.

AND OF YOU.

AND I CRY WHEN I LOOK AT YOU FOR TOO LONG.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE.

ONLY YOU MATTER NOW.

AND I CAN HEAR YOUR GENTLE BREATHING.

22FKK IS RESTING.

I'M SO PROUD OF HER.

AND OF YOU.

AND I CRY WHEN I LOOK AT YOU FOR TOO LONG.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE.

ONLY YOU MATTER NOW.

AND I CAN HEAR YOUR GENTLE BREATHING.

BABE IS RESTING.

I'M SO PROUD OF HER.

AND OF YOU.

AND I CRY WHEN I LOOK AT YOU FOR TOO LONG.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE.

ONLY YOU MATTER NOW.

AND I CAN HEAR YOUR GENTLE BREATHING.

BABE IS RESTING.

I'M SO PROUD OF HER.

AND OF YOU.

AND I CRY WHEN I LOOK AT YOU FOR TOO LONG.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE.

ONLY YOU MATTER NOW.

AND I CAN HEAR YOUR GENTLE BREATHING.

BABE IS RESTING.

I'M SO PROUD OF HER.

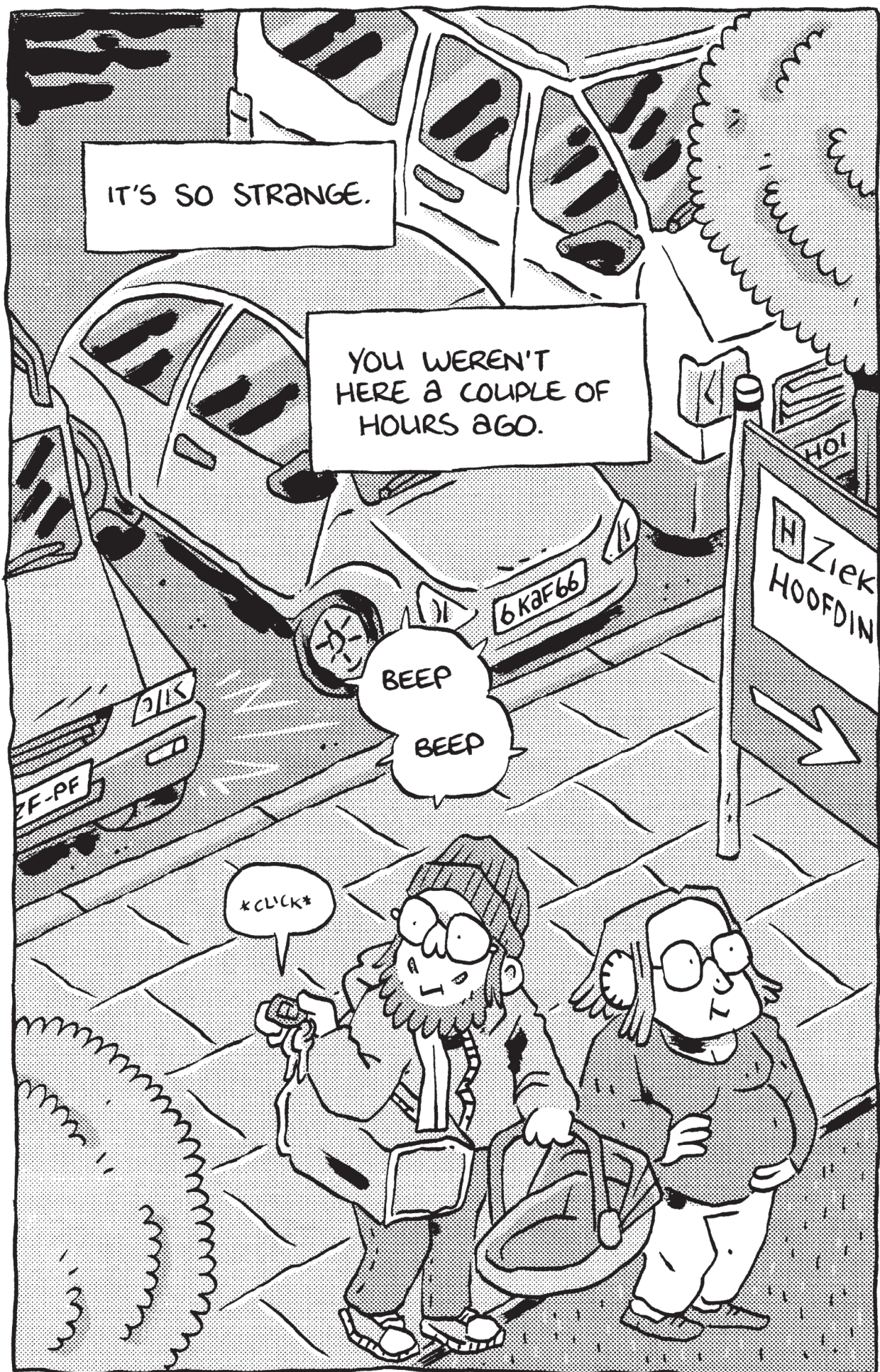
AND OF YOU.

AND I CRY WHEN I LOOK AT YOU FOR TOO LONG.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER.

NOTHING MATTERS ANYMORE.

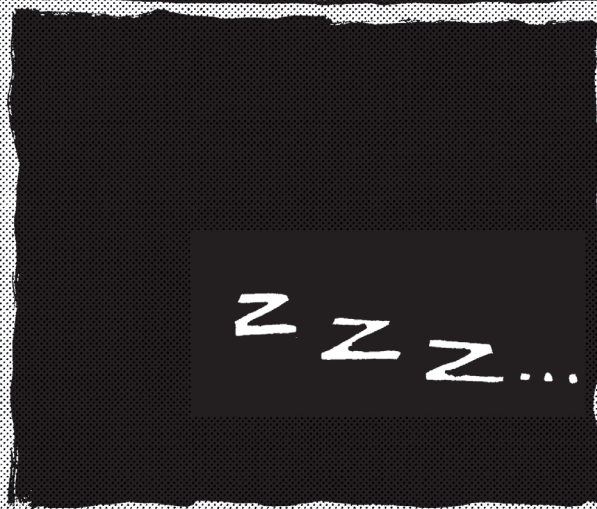
ONLY YOU MATTER NOW.



THAT SEEMS SO FAR AWAY NOW.



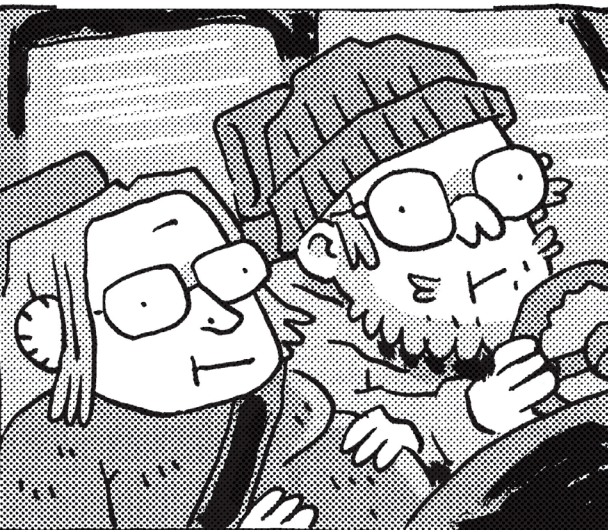
AS IF IT WAS SOME
ABSURD DREAM.



WE GOT UP EARLY
IN THE MORNING.



WE DROVE TO THE
HOSPITAL.



WE WAITED.

WAITING ROOM



THEN WE WERE
CALLED IN.

WAIT

BARKE AND BOB?
ARE YOU READY?



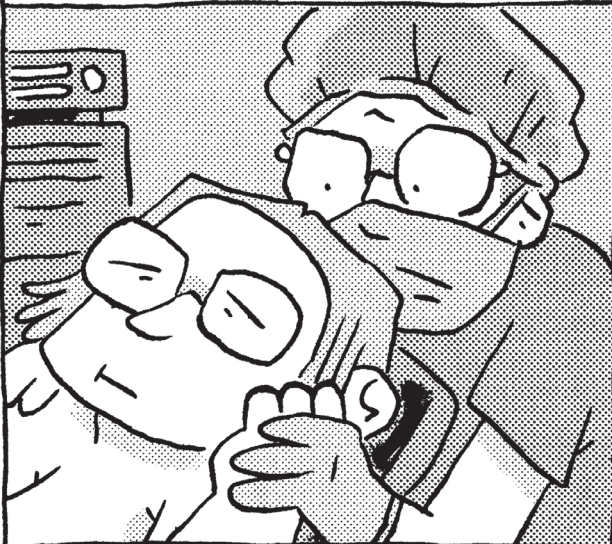
I HAD TO WEAR SCRUBS.



THEY PUT A SCREEN OVER
BOBKE'S BELLY.



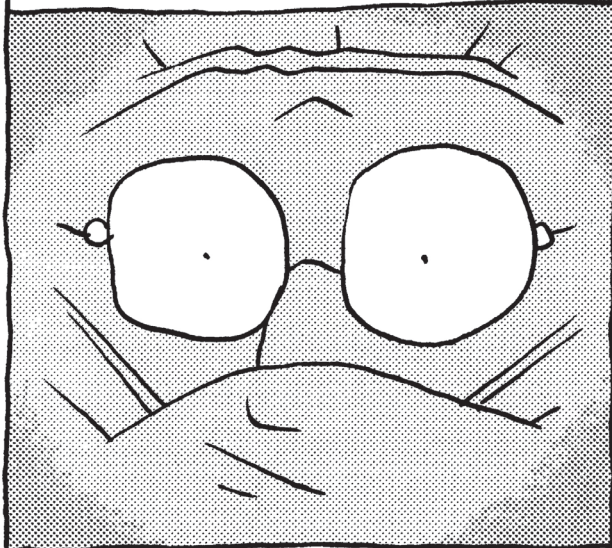
WE HELD EACH OTHER.



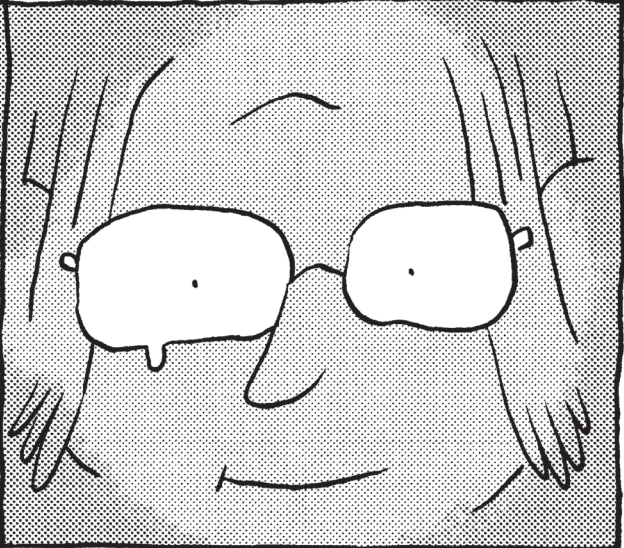
THEY ROLLED UP A BIT OF SCREEN
TO REVEAL A LITTLE WINDOW.



AND SUDDENLY I WASN'T
BOB ANYMORE.



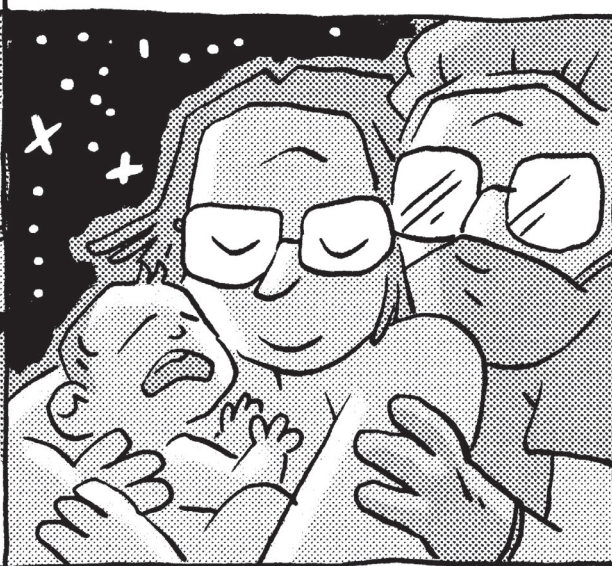
AND BOBKE WASN'T BOBKE
ANYMORE.



I AM YOUR DADDY NOW.



AND ZAFKE IS YOUR MOMMY.



AND YOU ARE OUR CHILD.



MOMMY'S NURSING YOU.



I NOTICE THAT, JUST LIKE
HERS, YOUR EAR FOLDS
OVER FUNNILY.



SHE'S WHISPERING
SOFTLY TO YOU.

THAT MAKES ME
SO HAPPY.

FROM BEHIND A TEAR-SOAKED MASK I SAY YOUR NAME FOR THE FIRST TIME...

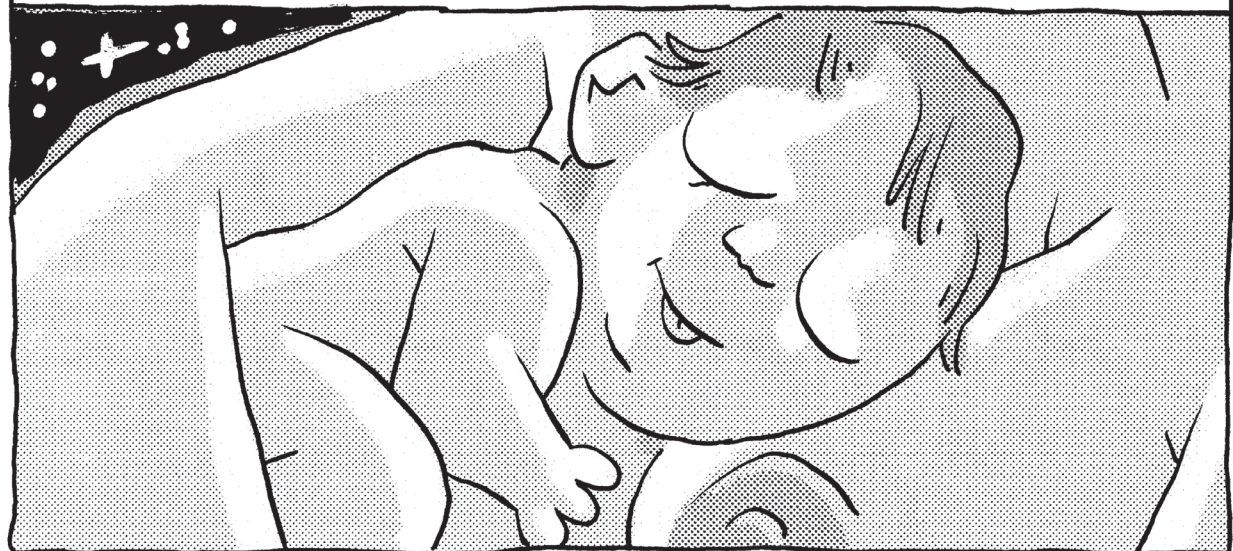


WHAT A COINCIDENCE, MY NEIGHBOUR'S KID IS CALLED THE SAME!

OR, WELL, FROST HAMMER BLOOD GOBLIN THE SECOND, TO BE EXACT, BUT STILL...



OUR LITTLE FROSTY.



* NOT THE REAL NAME (OBVIOUSLY), BECAUSE, REASONS.