

COMICS

FOR EQUALITY

EUROPEAN AWARD
FOR THE BEST
UNPUBLISHED COMICS
BY AUTHORS WITH MIGRANT
BACKGROUNDS



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Europe is diverse. That's a fact. Europe is composed of people with different backgrounds, different cultural origins, different ethnicities, and from different countries. Diversity is part and will still be part of Europe's legacy in the coming decades. However, diversity faces rejection. Unfortunately, racism is still growing within our multicultural societies. People still face discrimination based on their skin colour, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality or legal status.

The time has come to promote positive values. What about a narrative that deconstructs misperceptions, ungrounded fears and enduring colonial legacies? What about an innovative approach to tackling discrimination and to highlighting the contribution of migrants, religious and ethnic minorities? Given that the economic aspect of migration has drawn some recent public attention, what about recognizing the personal and social dimensions of this phenomenon in the same way?

"Comics for Equality", a Europe-wide project led by Africa e Mediterraneo, is a cutting-edge initiative. It is unique because of the fact that it promotes a European society based on respect for fundamental human rights. The illustrations that we invite you to discover in the pages that follow successfully give flesh to the different forms of racism and xenophobia that are faced every day by individuals all across Europe, and make them understandable to the majority-based audience.

The cartoons belong to three categories: "stereotypes", "stories of migration" and "the fight against racism". They not only expose, with sensitivity and intelligence, the barriers faced by vulnerable groups, but also serve as a tool to empower artists with migrant backgrounds. They share their sides of the story. This project, in itself, is as an example of how the leadership and active participation of ethnic minorities are essential to shifting the negative rhetoric around migration.

The comics invite the reader to critically and constructively challenge stereotypes, connect with personal stories and take a stand against racial discrimination and xenophobia. They encourage us – all of us – to become transformational agents for societal change.

The European Network Against Racism – ENAR – is thrilled with this "Comics for Equality" catalogue and applauds the final outcome of the project which, through arts and entertainment, positively and sensitively contributes to the development of a more inclusive Europe, while avoiding the pitfalls of the tiresome debate concerning absolute freedom of expression versus the sedative of political correctness.

Michael Privot
Director
The European Network Against
Racism (ENAR)

The Project

The ComiX4= Comics for Equality project is based on the need to promote the development of a European society based on respect for fundamental human rights and anti-discriminatory and anti-xenophobic attitudes and behaviours across Europe. The purpose of the project is to foster intercultural dialogue against racism in Europe. This need is now greater than ever due to European enlargement and to Europe's key role as a destination for migration flows originating outside Europe. In order to reach this goal, the project aims to raise awareness of these topics among European societies, and especially among youth, using the artistic tool of comics created by artists with migrant backgrounds, and creating spaces for intercultural interaction. This approach aims to include migrants and the second generation - who are often subject to discrimination - in the creation of artistic tools to combat racism, gaining widespread support and promoting a cultural movement against xenophobia. The main activities include the Comics for Equality Award for the best unpublished comics by authors with migrant backgrounds; the interactive website www.comix4equality.eu; an eighty-page catalogue containing the best comics submitted as part of the award; the ComiX4= Toolkit for use in conducting informal creative workshops; a travelling comic-strip exhibition; and comic-strip workshops, to be held across Europe.

The project ComiX4= Comics for Equality is led by Africa e Mediterraneo (Italy), in partnership with NGO Mondo (Estonia), the Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation (Bulgaria), ARCA (Romania), Grafiskie stasti (Latvia) and the associate partner Hamelin Associazione Culturale (Italy).

The Award

The Comics for Equality Award for the best unpublished comics by authors with migrant backgrounds has three categories: the fight against racism, stories of migration and stereotypes. The award was open to comic-strip authors from all 28 EU member states, EFTA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland), and countries on the way to membership (Montenegro, Serbia, the Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Kosovo). The comic-strip artists uploaded their comics directly to the website comix4equality.eu.

The Award comprised two prizes: the Jury Award and the Audience Award. For the first, an international jury (see below) selected the three best comics, one for each category. As in the Audience Award, each comic could receive votes on the English-language version of the website. The comics receiving most votes in each of the three categories were declared the winners. To give a few figures: 56 comics were uploaded and displayed, receiving more than 6,000 online votes, and 41 comic-strip artists participated in the Award, representing 21 European countries (Italy, Slovakia, the UK, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Germany, Sweden, Romania, France, Slovenia, Finland, Bulgaria, Serbia, Denmark, Spain, Portugal, Hungary, Cyprus, Malta and the Netherlands).

NB: text in the comics appears as written by the authors in order to maintain the comics' completeness and authenticity, and to preserve the mixture of cultures and languages represented. To view the comics submitted within the competition and the full translations, please visit www.comix4equality.eu.

The Jury

EDO CHIAREGATO /// expert on modern comics;
SANDRA FEDERICI /// journalist and expert on media education and intercultural issues;
ELEONORA GADJEVA /// journalist, writer and editor;
RADU MIRCEA /// consultant on issues relating to migration and intercultural communication;
SANITA MUIŽNIECE /// editor of the Latvian comic-strip and culture magazine *kuš!*;
INGRĪDA PIČUKĀNE /// comic-strip artist, illustrator and movie animator;

JOONAS SILDRE /// illustrator, designer and founder of the Estonian Comics Society;
DIANA TAMM /// social designer of creative solutions for education and community development;
DIANA TRIFU /// specialist in human rights and intercultural communication;
ZVEZDA VANKOVA /// programme coordinator at the Law Program of the Open Society Institute, Sofia, and co-founder and chair of the Multi Kulti Collective Association.

The participants



Elhasni Karem

was born in Tunisi and graduated in Fine Arts. The Arab Spring forced him to leave his country. He now lives in Italy.



Petronela Dostalova

was born in Slovakia and came to the UK 5 years ago. She hopes to become a picture-book artist in the future.



Sofja Bolshakova

was born in Estonia to Ukrainian and Russian parents. There are 2 religions and 7 nationalities in her family.



Sabine Moore

was born in Latvia. Her father was born in Australia. She is currently studying visual communication.



Paulina Stulin

was born in Poland to Polish parents who migrated to Germany when she was 1 year old.



Emre Özdamarlar

was born in Turkey and moved to Sweden to work as a programmer. In 2009 he quit his job to become a comic-strip artist.



Cao Viet Nguyen

was born in Vietnam and later moved to Latvia. He then went to America, but came back to Latvia and hasn't left.



Agnieszka Piksa

was born in Poland and studied at the University of Art and Design in Romania. She is a comic-strip author and illustrator.



Elisa Furlani

was born in Italy and her mother comes from Australia. She works as an intern at a comic-book publishing house in France.



Corsino (Daniel L. Bončina)

was born in Argentina and in 2010 travelled to Slovenia, where he studies Italian literature and Spanish.



Anastassia Tšepaikina

was born in Estonia to Russian parents who had migrated to Estonia. Her dream is to design characters for video games.



Laura Ķeniņš

Her grandparents emigrated from Latvia to Canada. In 2012 she moved to Latvia, where she now works as a journalist and artist.



Evangelos Androutsopoulos

was born in Finland and grew up in Greece. He went back to Finland for civilian service and then moved to the UK in 2012.



Cheng Giuseppe Chen

was born in Italy, where he still lives. Both his parents are Chinese. He wants to work as a cartoonist in Japan.



Galyna Panchenko

was born in Ukraine. She now lives in Germany, where she is studying Illustration.



Marco Larocca

was born in Italy. He has always loved comics. He now lives in France, where he is trying to find a job.



Dmitry Yagodin

was born in Russia and studied Animation at the National Art Academy in Bulgaria, where he now works as a freelance artist.



Carlos Gustavo Carmona Medina

was born in Mexico and studied art in Mexico and Romania. He lives and works between Slovakia and France.



Katherine Woznicki

was born in the USA, and lived there until 2007, when she moved to Serbia. Her comics have been published in Serbia and abroad.



Angela Wanjiku Njoroge

was born in Kenya and is currently studying nursing in Italy. Having experienced the problem of racism, she wanted to tell her story through her drawings.



Milivoj Kostic

was born in Serbia in 1971. His father is from Bosnia and Herzegovina. He is a painter, 3D street artist and cartoonist.



Mari Ahokoivu

was born in Finland, and now lives in Denmark. She has created comics her whole life, and teaches in various schools.



Khadim Diop

was born in Senegal, but moved with his mother to join his father in Italy. He is currently studying Tourism Economics.



Miriam Klara Czapp

was born in Germany. She has also lived in Spain and, 3 years ago, moved to Italy. She has been drawing since she was a child.



Amanda Baeza

was born in Portugal, and raised in Chile by a Chilean father and Angolan mother. She is a graphic artist who devours comics for breakfast and plays the baritone saxophone at lunch.



Julia Vetik

was born in Estonia, but her father is Russian. This is her first comic.



Hyon Yong "Damian" Pakh

was born in South Korea, but felt the need to be reborn in Italy, where he now studies set design.



Alex Galbero

was born in Italy to a Swiss mother. He works for a composition and communication agency.



Pierluca Galvan

was born in Italy, but moved to France, where he now works as a freelance illustrator.



Dace Brakmane

was born in Latvia, but is now living in the UK. She is interested in illustration, comics, animation, photography and painting.



Julian Voloj

was born in Germany to Colombian parents. He frequently writes for the Swiss weekly "Tachles".



Dora Graur

was born in Romania. She lives in Hungary with her family. She aims to study animation or art in the future.



Elpida Kyriakou

was born in Cyprus to a Bulgarian mother. She has been creating comics for fun since she was 6 years old.



Elena Vitagliano

is Italian but lives and works in the UK as a graphic designer. She loves Japanese culture and art.



Sofya Smirnova

was born and lives in Estonia but has Russian citizenship. Her father is from Poland and her mother from Ukraine.



Ivanka Aleksandrova

was born in Bulgaria. Twelve years ago she moved to the UK, where she gained a BA in Design.



Nuno Abreu

was born in Spain and moved to Portugal when he was a child. He studied art and migrated to the UK, before moving back to Portugal.



Camilo Collao

was born in France. His father comes from Bolivia and his mother from Chile. He lives and works in France.



Thomas Cuschieri

is a Maltese mathematician who creates comics. He has spent most of the last 10 years in the UK, where he is currently studying.



Kristjan Müil

was born in Estonia to a Ukrainian mother. He studies blacksmithing at the Estonian Academy of Arts.



Dace Sietina

was born in Latvia but now lives in the Netherlands. She studied illustration in Rotterdam. She likes to tell unusual stories.

Stereotypes

Audience award

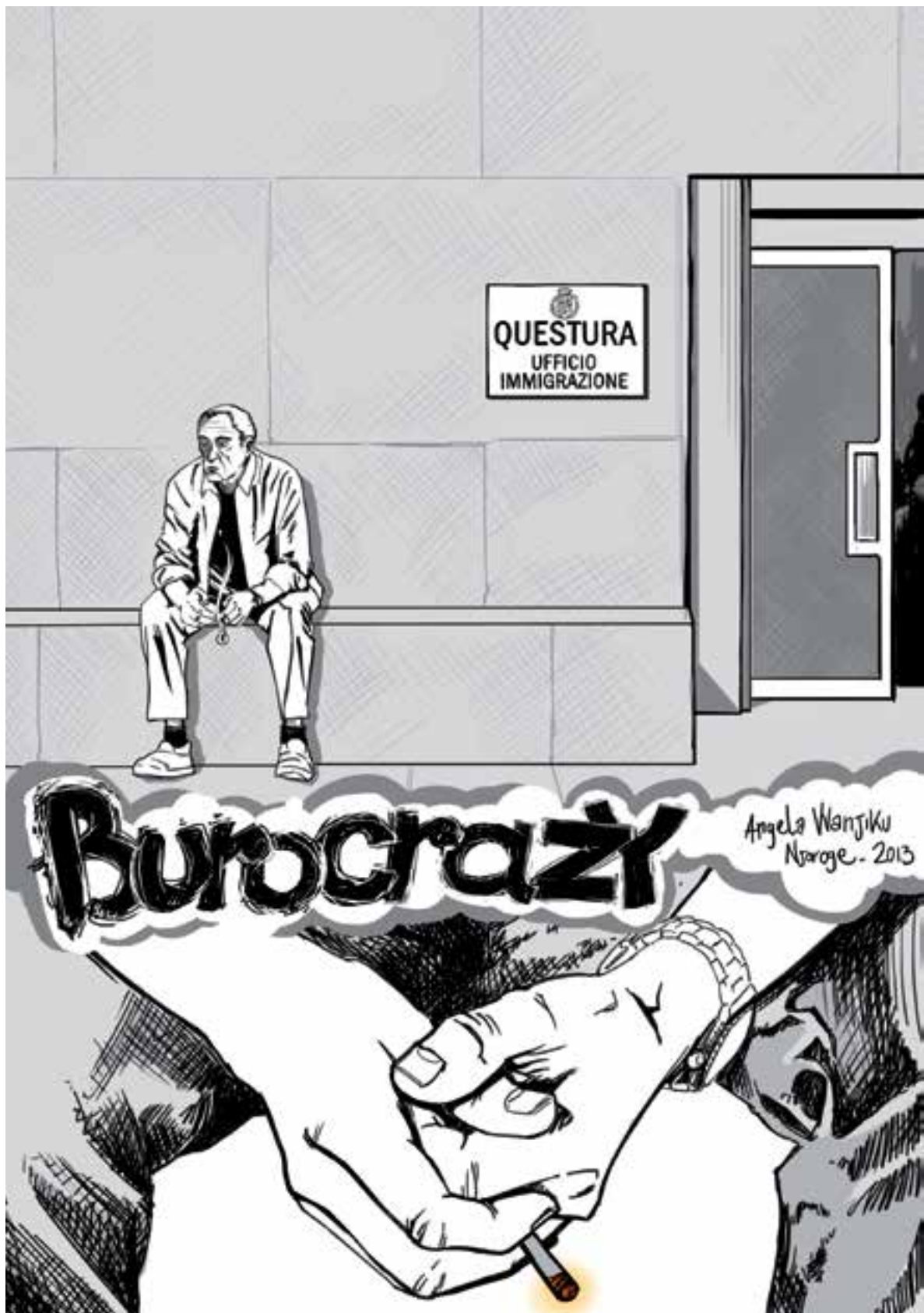


Jury award



*International Jury's Selection
of the most highly rated comics*







1. Waiting room 7:12 a.m. At the immigration office
2. Mom, I don't want to read it's boring! / Come on Tausi, the teacher said that you should read more often!
3. Where do you come from? / I was born in Codru, Moldavia.



1. I'm bored / Ma Ji look at the photos of your cousin
2. He is beautiful and small. / Do you remember your aunt E-Hui? They live in Wenzouh now.
3. Excuse me, I would like to enquire about the family reunification process. / Go down the hall to the office on your right.
4. I want to request Italian citizenship for my son, who is 18 years old.
5. What's our number?



1. Mr. Pawan, please sign here... Here is your temporary residence permit, with this you can...
2. I can attend my sister's wedding and come back. / Yes.
3. Karim has just gone back home, he has gone to visit his mom. / Your brother has always been a good boy, and Samir? How is he?
4. What's for dinner tonight? / You have to write your surname here. / What is your doll's name? / Clara.

Chi chiede il permesso di Soggiorno?

Al 1° gennaio 2012 i cittadini stranieri non comunitari regolarmente presenti in Italia sono poco più di 3 milioni e 600 mila, circa 100 mila in più rispetto all'anno precedente. Tra il 2010 e il 2011 i flussi di nuovi ingressi verso il nostro Paese hanno subito un brusco rallentamento: i permessi rilasciati durante il 2011 sono 361.690, quasi il 40 per cento in meno rispetto all'anno precedente.

I paesi di cittadinanza più rappresentati sono Marocco (506.369), Albania (491.495), Cina (277.570), Ucraina (223.782) e Filippine (152.382). Ma è da segnalare che la più ampia comunità di immigrati è quella proveniente dalla Romania (1.071.342).

Chi Siamo?

Nonostante la più giovane struttura per età, la popolazione straniera (15-64 anni) presenta livelli di istruzione simili a quelli della componente autoctona. Quasi la metà degli stranieri è in possesso della licenza media, a fronte del 45,3 per cento degli italiani; le quote dei diplomati sono pressoché identiche (40,9 e 41,1 per cento rispettivamente), mentre possiede una laurea quasi uno straniero su dieci contro il 13,5 per cento degli italiani. Nel 2011 le forze di lavoro straniere rappresentano il 10,2 per cento del totale. Il tasso di occupazione degli stranieri continua ad essere più elevato di quello degli italiani (66,2 a fronte del 60,7 per cento), così come il tasso di disoccupazione (12,1 e 8,0 per cento, rispettivamente). Il tasso di inattività della popolazione straniera è, invece, inferiore di quasi dieci punti percentuali a quello della popolazione italiana (29,1 contro 38,6 per cento). Per il terzo anno consecutivo, il deterioramento delle condizioni di lavoro degli stranieri, con riguardo soprattutto al calo del tasso di occupazione, risulta più accentuato in confronto a quello degli italiani.

(Fonte Istat.)

Come si ottiene il Permesso di soggiorno?

Chi arriva in Italia per la prima volta ha 8 giorni di tempo per chiedere il permesso di soggiorno.

Per ottenere il permesso di soggiorno è necessario presentare:

Il modulo di richiesta;
Il passaporto, in corso di validità con il relativo visto di ingresso.
Una fotocopia del documento stesso;
4 foto formato tessera, identiche e recenti;
Un contrassegno telematico da € 14,62;
La documentazione necessaria al tipo di permesso di soggiorno richiesto
Il versamento di un contributo compreso tra € 80 e € 200.

fino a sei mesi per lavoro stagionale.
fino a nove mesi per lavoro stagionale nei settori che richiedono tale estensione;
fino ad un anno, per la frequenza di un corso per studio o formazione professionale
fino a due anni per lavoro autonomo, per lavoro subordinato a tempo indeterminato
e per ricongiungimenti familiari.

La tessera viene rilasciata dopo 4/6 mesi dalla stessa questura.
Nel frattempo si ha una ricevuta di avvenuta richiesta o rinnovo.



Who can request an Italian residence permit?

As of 1 January 2012, there were just over 3,600,000 non-EU citizens living in Italy, around 100,000 more than the year before. [...] The majority of migrants come from Morocco (506,369), Albania (491,495), China (277,570), Ukraine (223,782) and the Philippines (152,382). But the greatest number of migrants come from Romania (1,071,342).

Who are we?

In spite of their young average age, the foreign population (15-64 years) has similar levels of education to Italians. Almost half of foreigners possess a middle school degree, compared to 45.3% of Italians. The numbers of graduates are almost identical (40.9% and 41.1%, respectively), while one immigrant out of ten possesses a university degree, compared to 13.5% of Italians. In 2011 foreign labour represented 10.2% of the total labour force. The employment rate among foreigners continues to be higher than that among Italians (66.2% compared to 60.7%, respectively), as does the unemployment rate (12.1% compared to 8.0%, respectively). [...]

IS IT **WRONG** TO USE *Stereotypes* OF YOUR OWN COUNTRY TO YOUR **ADVANTAGE?** by Mari Ahokoivu (a Finn living in Denmark)



#1 FACT Box

FINNISH GOODBYE



Max 5 minutes,
NO TOUCHING!

DANISH GOODBYE



HA' EN
DEJLIG
WEEKEND

At least 20 minutes,
remember to shake hands,
hug and FEEL UNCOMFORTABLE.

CAN I **PRETEND** I DO *something* JUST BECAUSE I'M A **FINN**?



#2 FACT BOX:

FINNISH SMALL TALK



DANISH SMALL TALK



Stereotypes CAN BE funny...

#3. FACT BOX

WHAT FINNS THINK OF DENMARK:



THE LITTLE MERMAID

DANES ARE SWEDES WHO TALK IN A FUNNY WAY



FAIRY TALE PRINSES AND PRINSESSES!



WHAT DANES THINK OF FINLAND:



THEY SIT IN A SAUNA ALL DAY AND HIT EACH OTHER WITH BRANCHES

SISU

KNIVES

FINLANDIA VODKA



BEST METAL BANDS



... BUT many times THEY ARE NOT helping

JUST A NORMAL DANE



BUT I DON'T WANT TO DRINK VODKA...

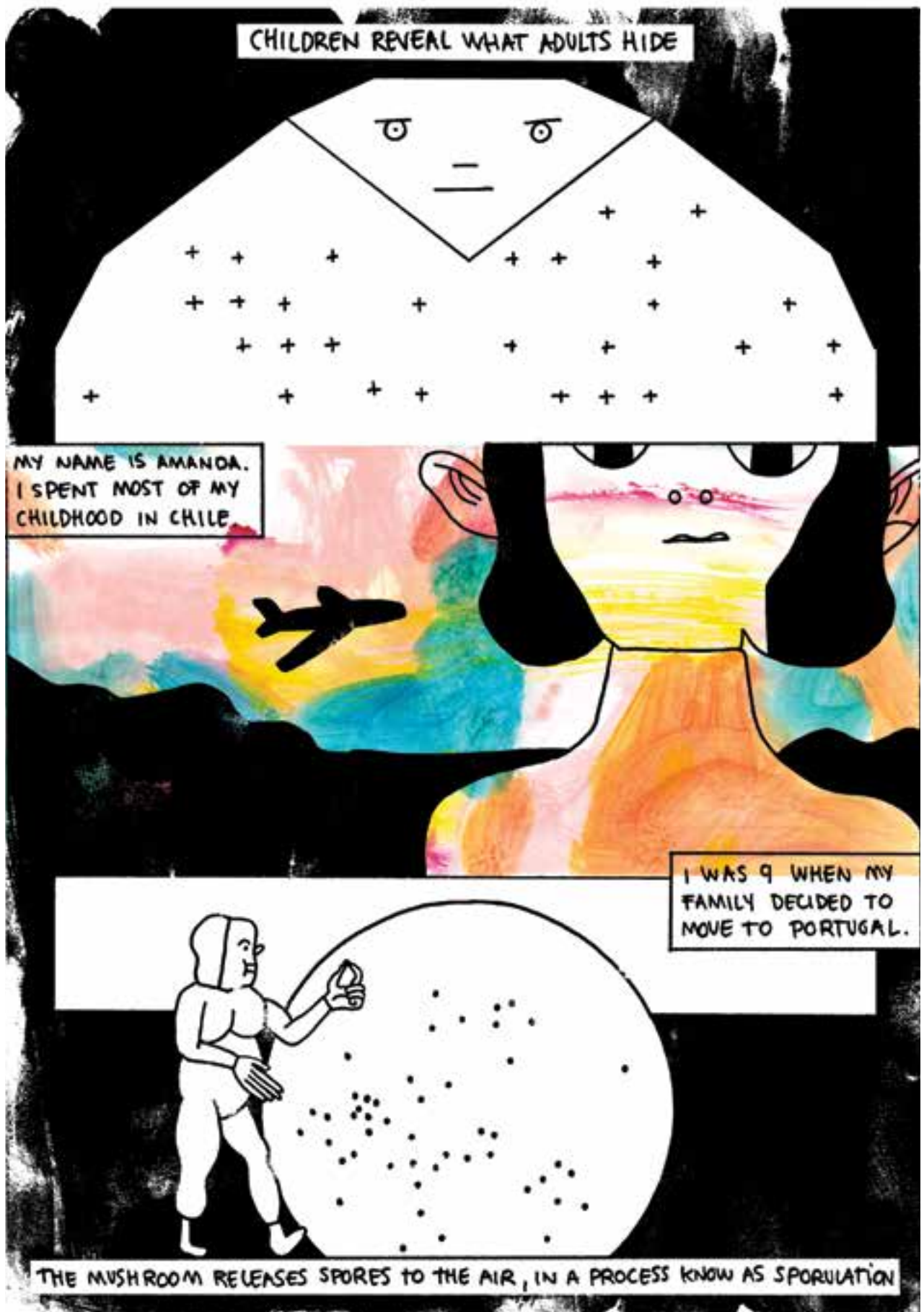
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A FINN!?

JUST A NORMAL FINN



df-13

"Children Reveal What Adults Hide"
Amanda Baeza (Portugal, Chile, Angola)



OUR MOM IS PORTUGUESE BUT I WAS BORN WITH DARKER SKIN AND CHILEAN FACIAL FEATURES LIKE MY FATHER.

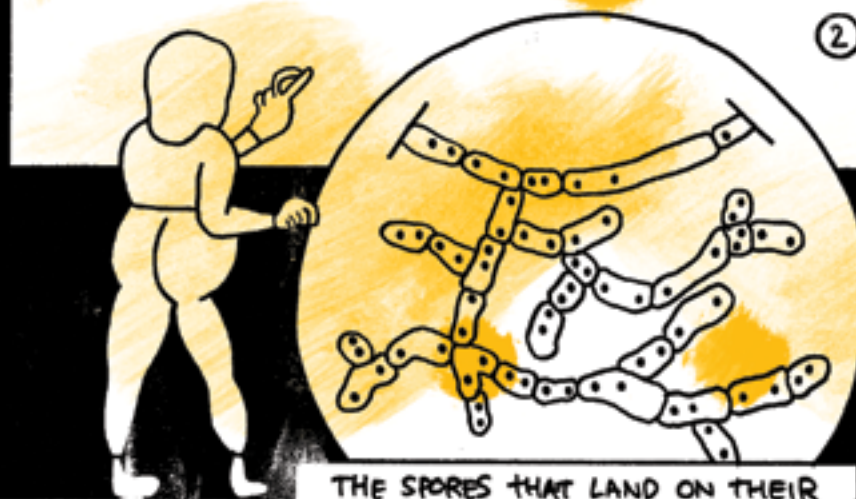
I BET SHE DOESN'T SHOWER

BECAUSE OF THIS AND THAT, PORTUGUESE CHILDREN REFUSED TO ACCEPT ME AS ONE OF THEM.

GOOD MORNING CLASS! I WANT YOU TO WELCOME AMANDA, SHE'S FROM CHILE, AND CAN'T SPEAK PORTUGUESE VERY WELL YET.

CHILE? THAT'S IN CHINA, RIGHT?

PFFFT HEHE HE



THE SPORES THAT LAND ON THEIR IDEAL ENVIRONMENT BEGIN TO PRODUCE THE MYCELIUM UNDER THE GROUND.

WHEN I ARRIVED IN LISBON I SAW A LOT OF POSTERS AGAINST ETHNIC AND SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION.

THIS IS CLEARLY AN ISSUE.

LOOK AT HER SKIN! SHE'S A GYPSY AND ALL GYPSIES ARE ROBBERS!

I'M SURE HER PARENTS ARE CRIMINALS FLEEING FROM JUSTICE

3

GROWTH OF THE MYCELIUM PRODUCES A YOUNG, VERY SMALL MUSHROOM COVERED BY A STRUCTURE CALLED THE UNIVERSAL VEIL.

LISBON HOUSES A LOT OF DIFFERENT COMMUNITIES. IN THE STREETS THERE IS A MULTICULTURAL FEELING, BUT AT HOME PEOPLE CHANGE THEIR BEHAVIOR, BELIEVING THAT THEY'RE HIDDEN BY FOUR WALLS, THEY FREELY EXPRESS THEIR FEARS AND PRECONCEPTIONS. CHILDREN IMITATE THIS GESTURE AS SOON AS THEY ARE OUTSIDE, REVEALING THE TRUTH BEHIND THE MASK.

IT'S SCARY TO SEE IT'S THE SAME EVERYWHERE



THE MUSHROOM BREAKS THROUGH THIS VEIL AND GROWS TALLER & WIDER.



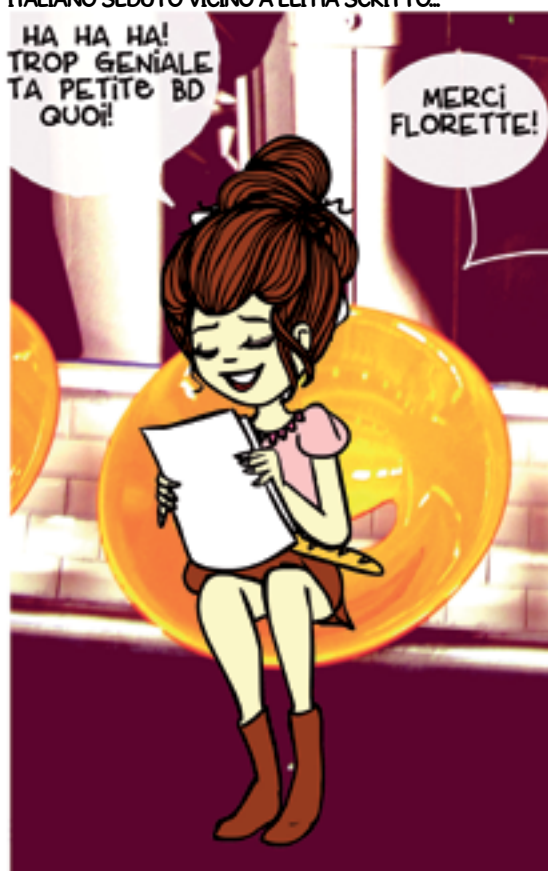


1. During a dinner our friends are involved in a discussion.../ Don't you feel ashamed to talk like that? You who once called yourself a communist. 2. I'm just trying to think about my future and I don't want to imagine my children playing in a park amongst Chinese who eat dogs, Moroccan pushers and black guys that steal jobs! 3. There are many Chinese people, Moroccans deal drugs but black guys are good! / [...good for what?] / ...making love? / ...eating? / ...In their souls?



1. You talk like that but Aziz is a friend of yours! / ...he's different... he sells hashish to me! / what about Samya? / ...She's different... and she's really hot / and what about Martino? / I hate him / Why? What have I done to you? (Martino is the boy with the glasses on) 2. Anyway I'm ok about their presence, but they just have to stay at home! / Ssst! Listen to this amazing melody... / It's Loretta playing music with a glass of wine! 3. Let's stop this bullshit and let's toast Loretta and her marvellous music! / Great! / Good!

IN UNA METRO DI PARIGI UNA TIPICA RAGAZZA FRANCESE STA LEGGENDO QUELLA STORIA CHE UN TIPICO RAGAZZO ITALIANO SEDUTO VICINO A LEI HA SCRITTO...



FINE

On a Paris metro a typical French girl is reading a story that a typical Italian guy sitting with her wrote 1. Ha ha ha your comic is terrific! / Thanks Florette! 2. I love the way you criticize your country, I knew you were very racist, more than us, that could be because you have a lot of problems... 3. Bla bla bla... mafia... bla bla bla "bunga-bunga" bla bla bla racism... but you make good pizzas! 4. Hey where are you going?! / We will be late for Jean-Jerome's party! / I need to use the bidet / ...use what?!





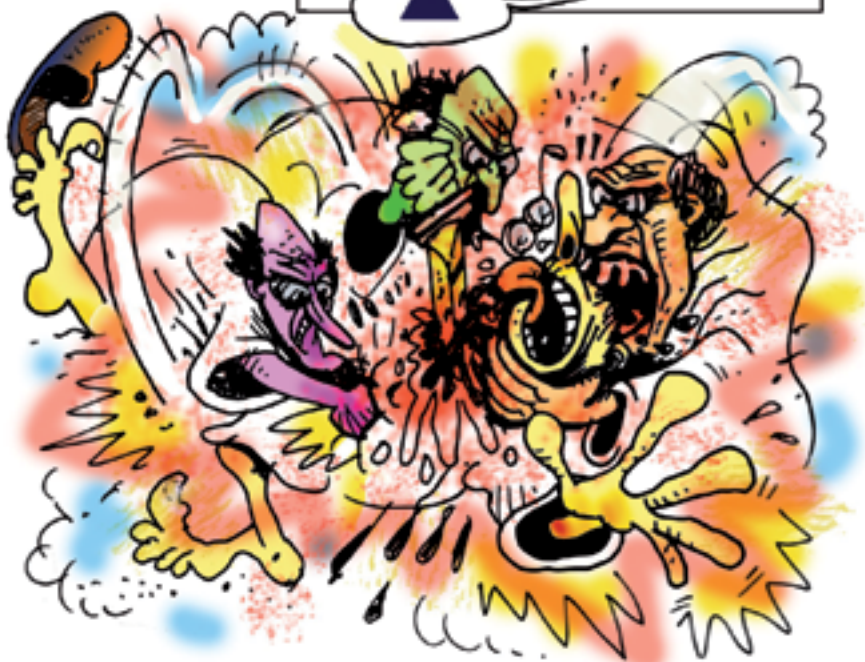
MUSEUM OF FRIENDS







Milivoj Kostić



Stories of Migration

Audience award



Jury award



*International Jury's Selection
of the most highly rated comics*



"The Boomerangs, in three chapters"
Corsino (Daniel López Bončina) (Argentina, Slovenia)



1. Chapter I Spain-Argentina 1945 / When the Spanish civil war concluded, lots of people were persecuted and shot due to their political ideas. During World War II, Franco tried to finish off the rest of the resistance. / Somewhere in Spain, 1939 / ...READY... AIM... FIRE!! 2. Surely it was in that moment that a series of unexpected events started. An ancestor, a world foreign to me and the possible question of "why" in relation to my place of birth. / I'll miss you mum... maybe some day I could see you again... maybe I will come back different... / Andres Fuentes emigrated to Argentina, where he would try to make his dreams come true; write down his ideas freely and someday go back to his place of birth, and hug his family... but sometimes, or even always, things don't happen as we dreamt.

3. Argentina, almost 55 years later 4. 2001, Economic crisis / Give us the future back. / Frozen Bank Deposits.

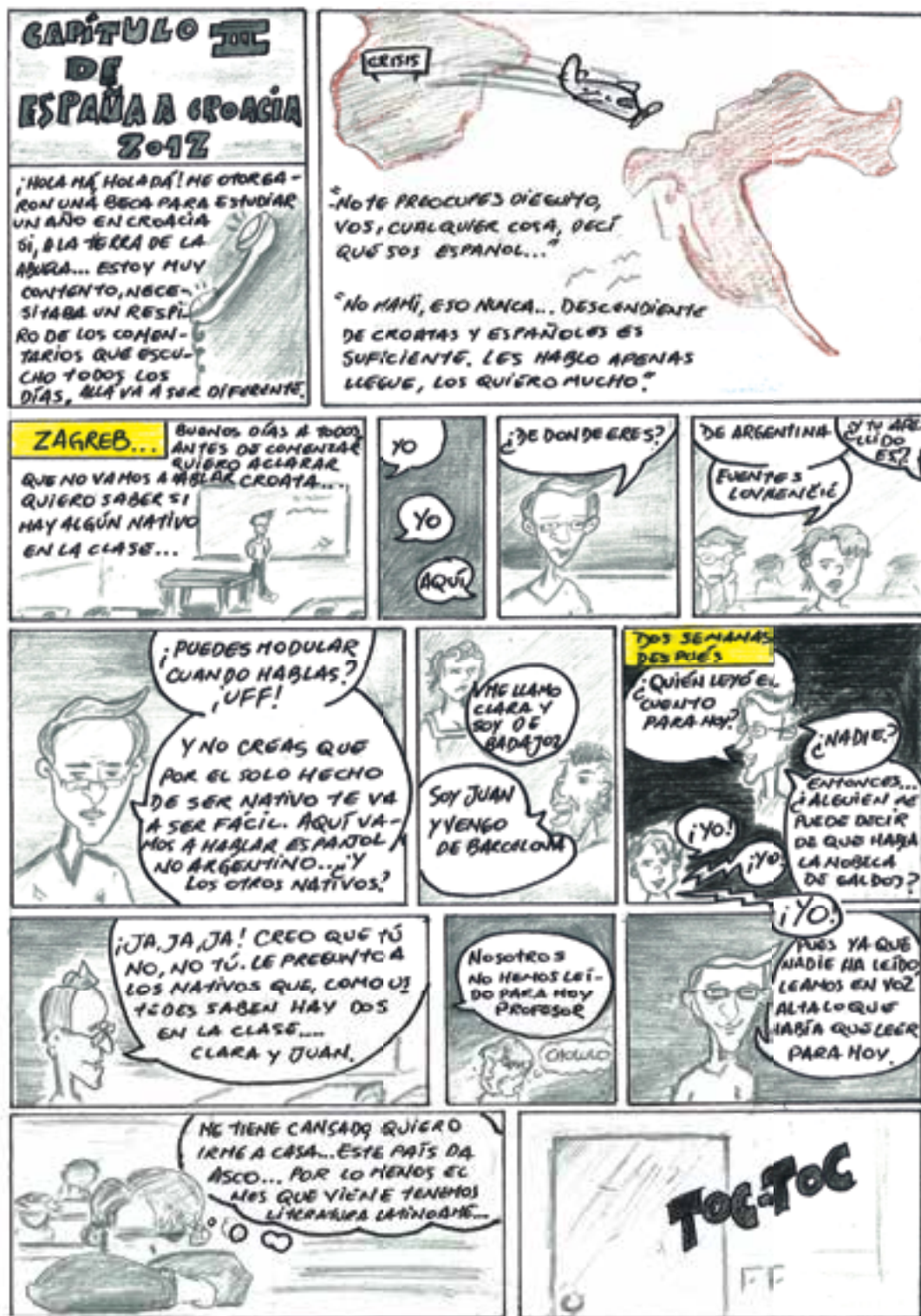
5. 2008, Farming crisis / Scarcity of some goods because of rural strikes in different parts of the country... the government is lying about inflation... the crisis is growing. In other news, Spain passed a law that would grant citizenship to descendents of exiles...



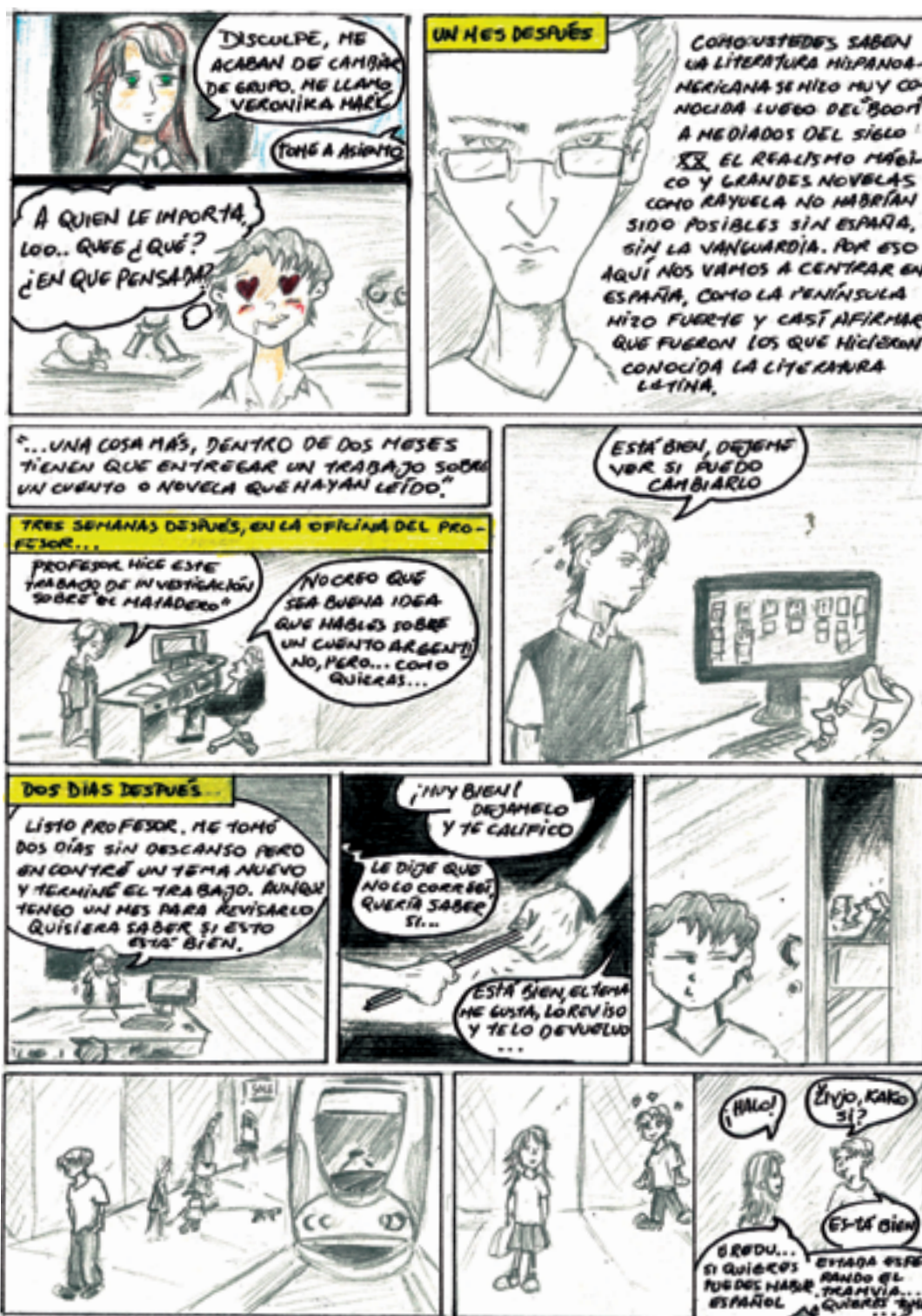
1. Law of historical memory? What's that? / ...yes, that's it... mum, dad, I'll go to Spain.
2. Why Spain? Now? Finish your studies before you go... I know it's difficult but we can help you. / Mum you know that I want to be a writer and here I have no future as one. Besides, how long should I wait to become independent. / Do you have a plan? Anyway, you are an adult. 3. ... Well, it's ok Diego... take care and remember that you can count on us. I'm sure that if your grandpa were alive he would go with you. 4. Thank you both! Now I have to start saving money... citizenship is not enough. / HMM! The only plan that I have is a dream. I think that if I continue thinking about it I won't go anywhere... HMM... but it doesn't seem complicated... and the language doesn't either... / At least I'll have security, which I don't have here. 5. Chapter II Argentina Spain 2010 / Crisis / Crisis 6. 1 month after the World Cup. Spain won and unemployment has increased. / Hi! Mum, I'm living in a flat with other students. I haven't found a job but I have already enrolled in university... 7. We are looking for waiters. 8. ...I found a job in a cafeteria and next week I'm starting university.



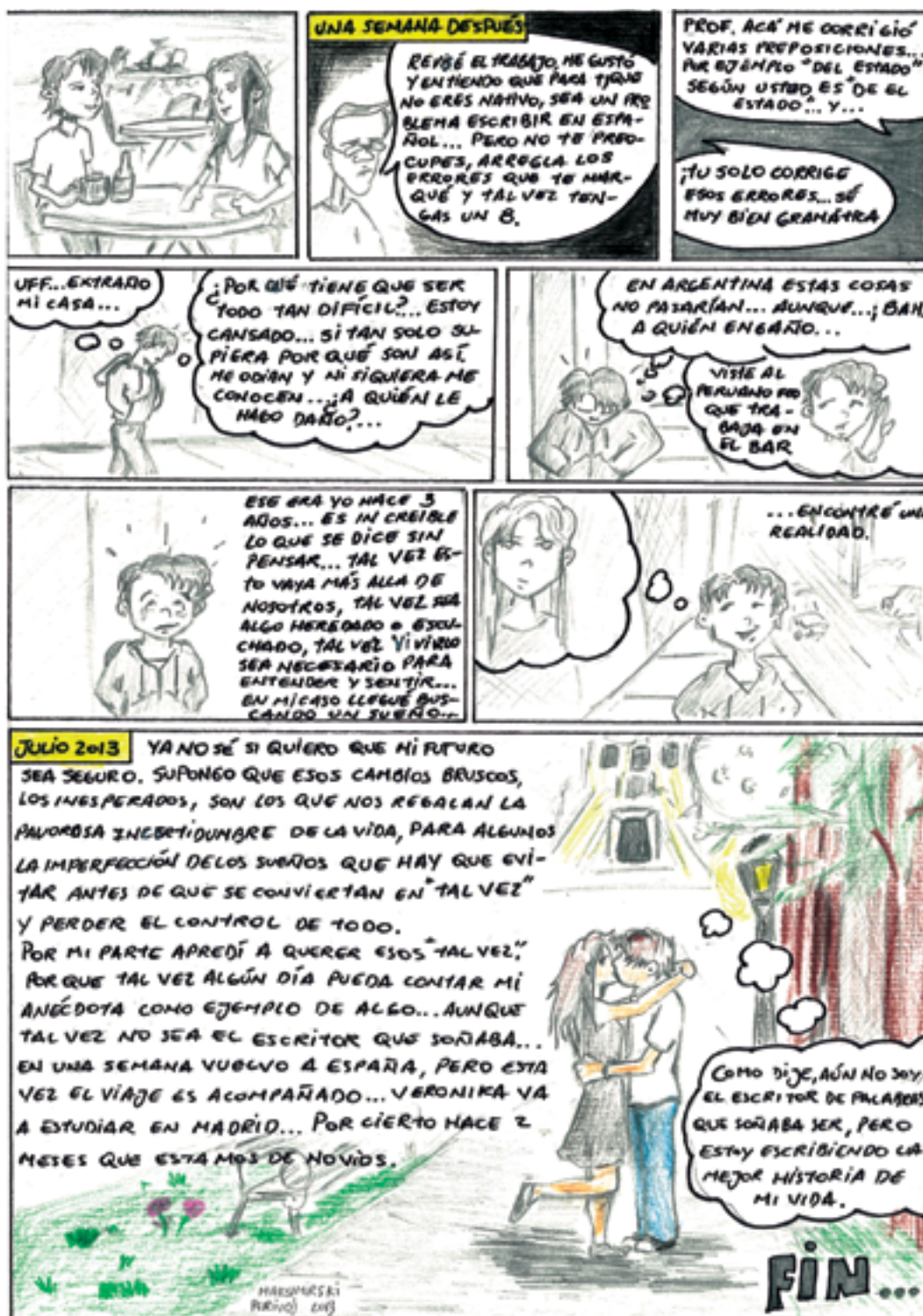
1. Waiter! No Sir, 2. Two coffees with milk and a question, you are not Spanish, are you? 3. I'm... my grandpa was Spanish. 4. Wait, I know that accent.. you are Argentinean! / That accent is so cool! / Another Messi... as if it were a great thing. / EEEH... Thanks, I'll be back in a minute. ...Sorry, anything else? 5. A month later... / Hey! Hey Argentinean! Come here! / Yes Sir, what would you like? 6. Three months later / This crisis is because of immigrants. It seems that stealing our jobs is not enough, they are also using our hospitals, on the TV, playing sport, without being Spaniards... and I'm still unemployed. 7. Well Carlos, your luck will improve. Come with me, I'll buy you a coffee. 8. Waiter! / Yes Sir, What would you like to drink? 9. You aren't Spanish, are you? / Er... no, I'm from Argentina 10. In your face! Have you seen! What have I told you? ...These South Americans, these Indians come to steal us... let's go somewhere else, with Spaniards.



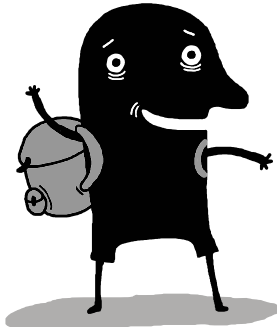
1. Chapter III from Spain to Croatia 2012. / Hi mum, hi dad! I got a scholarship to study for a year in Croatia. [...]
2. "Don't worry Dieguito, just say that you're Spanish..." / "No mum, never... a descendant of Croats and Spaniards is enough. I'll call you when I arrive, love you."
3. Zagreb... / Good morning, before we start I want to inform you that we won't speak Croatian... I want to know if there are any native speakers...
4. [...] 5. Where are you from?
6. From Argentina / What's your surname? / Fuentes Lovrenčić. 7. Can you modulate when you speak? HMM! And do not think that just because you're a native speaker it'll be easier for you. [...]
8. My name is Clara and I'm from Badajoz / I'm Juan and I come from Barcelona. 9. Two weeks later / Who will read the story today? / Me! / Me! / Me! / Nobody? [...]
10. Ha, ha, ha! I guess you. No, not you. I'm asking the native speakers who, as you know, there are two of in this class... Clara and Juan. 11. Professor, we haven't read it for today. 12. Well as nobody has read it, let's read aloud what you had to read for today. 13. I'm tired, I wanna go home... this country sucks... at least next month we have Latin-American Literature...



1. Excuse me, they have just changed my group. I am Veronika Marić. / Have a seat. 2. Who cares... what... what? What was I thinking about? 3. *One month later* / [...] The magical realism and great novels of Rayuela wouldn't have been possible without Spain, without the Vanguard. That's why we're going to focus on Spain, since the peninsula made Latin literature strong and well known. 4. "...one more thing, in two months you have to write a seminar paper on a tale or novel that you have read." 5. *Three weeks later, in the professor's office* / Professor, I've prepared this paper about "El Matadero". / I don't think it would be a good idea for you to talk about an Argentinean story, but... as you want... 6. ok, let me see if I can change it. 7. *Two days later* / That's it professor. It took me two days of hard work but I found a new topic and I've finished my paper. [...] 8. Ok! Give it to me and I'll grade it. / I told you that I haven't checked it, I just wanted to know if... / It's ok, I like the topic, I'll check it and I'll give it back to you. 9. Hello! / Hello, how are you? / Ok... you can speak Spanish if you want. Ok, I was waiting for the trolley... would you like...?



1. One week later / I checked the paper, I liked it and I understand that for you, who are not native speaker, it's difficult to write in Spanish... but don't worry, correct the mistakes that I've marked and maybe you'll get an 8.
 2. Professor, here you've corrected lots of prepositions, [...] 3. Hmm... I miss my home... / Why does it all have to be so difficult?... I'm tired... if only I knew why they are like this. They hate me and they don't even know me... what did I do to them?... 4. In Argentina these things wouldn't happen... but... bah! Who am I kidding?/ ...Have you seen the awful Peruvian that works in the bar. 5. That was me 3 years ago... what we say without thinking is unbelievable... maybe it is bigger than us, maybe it is something we have inherited or heard, maybe to live it is necessary to understand and feel... in my case I arrived seeking a dream... 6. ...I found a reality. 7. July 2013 / I don't know anymore if I want my future to be secure. [...] I learned to love those "maybes". [...] As I said, I am not the writer that I dreamt of being, but I am writing the best story of my life. The End.



**This is Mr. Black.
He is a real adventurer
and likes to travel a lot.
Mr. Black has visited many
countries and cities.**

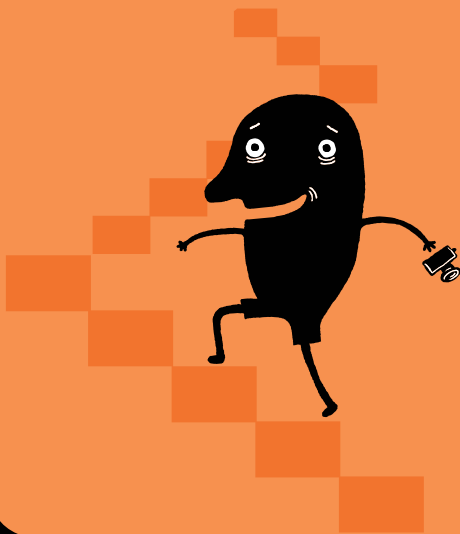


This is Mr. Black in exotic Greenada

and here, Mr. Black is in hot deserts of Yellowstan



**He visited the King's Castle
in ancient Orangeburg**



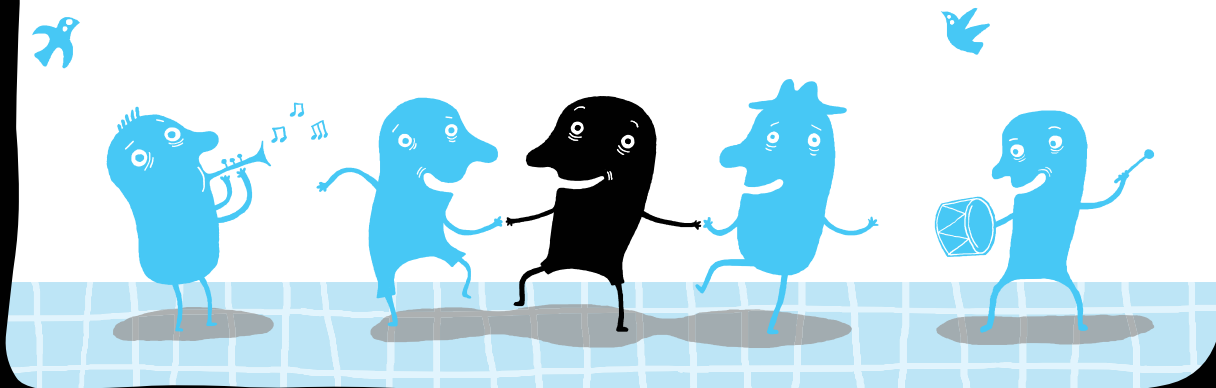
**Swam in the waterfalls of the
secluded Purple Islands.**



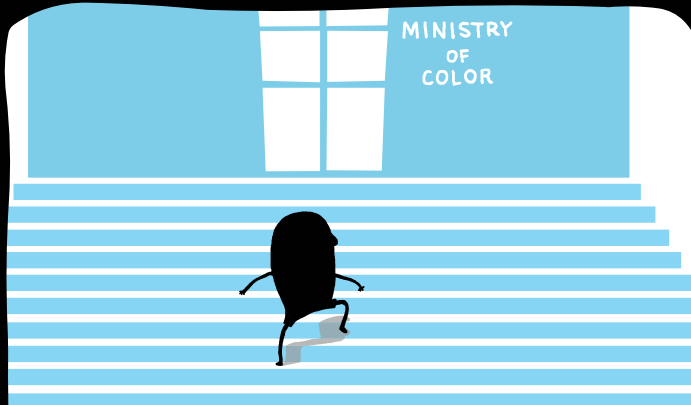


One day Mr. Black came to Blueland. Blueland was a small and nice country with a beautiful countryside and cozy towns.

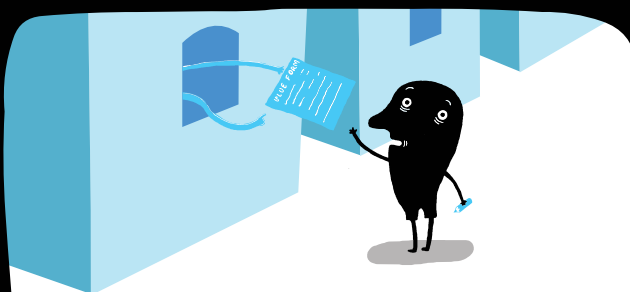
People were smiley and friendly, and their language – melodious and blue. Mr. Black realized that this is where he wanted to live forever!



But how to do this?

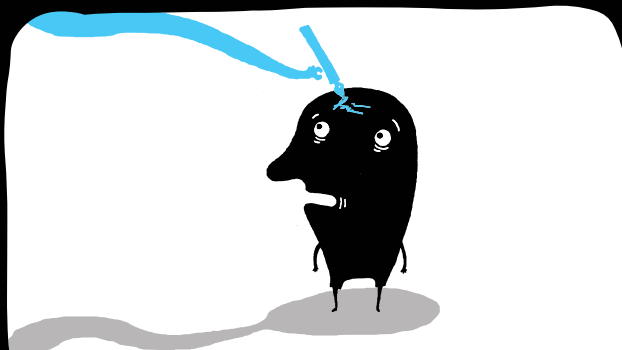
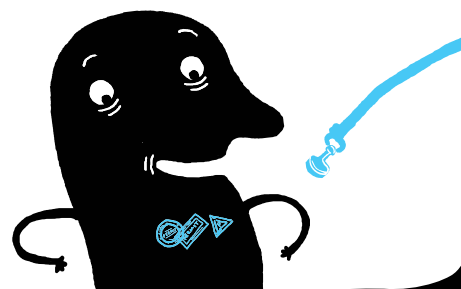


Mr. Black understood that to become a citizen of Blueland he must get The Big Blue Seal from the Ministry of Color. But it was a little bit problematic.

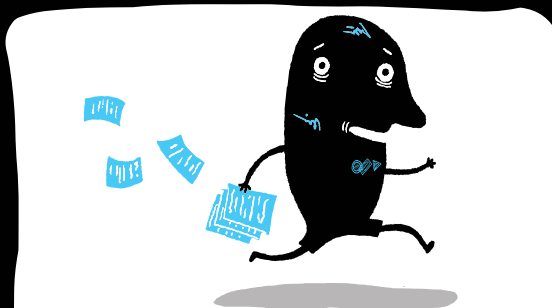


'To get the Big Blue Seal you must first fill the Special Blue Form," they said in the Ministry. And so, the longest adventure of Mr. Black began.

After filling in the form, Mr. Black got three little pretty seals, but it wasn't enough



Now he had to have them certified with nine Blue Signatures of nine different directors.



So Mr. Black started to collect all the necessary signatures and seals



But the number of seals and signatures started to increase becoming more...



and more...



and more...

Days turned into weeks, weeks into months...months into years.



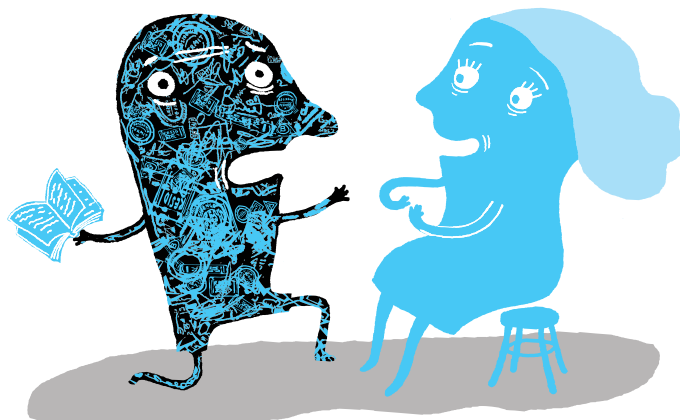
In the meantime Mr. Black
found a job



married a nice Blue lady



moved into a cozy
Blue house



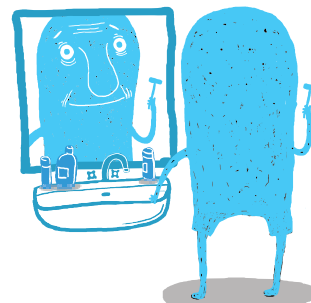
and eventually began to speak
the Blue language quite well



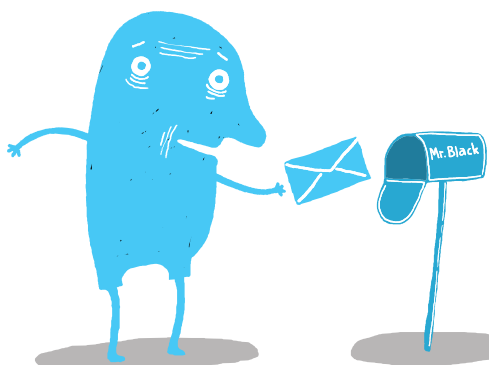
His new Blue friends often laughed at him:
"you've become as Blue as us!"



Indeed, Mr. Black noticed,
that the black color of his body began to fade
because of the numerous signatures and seals.



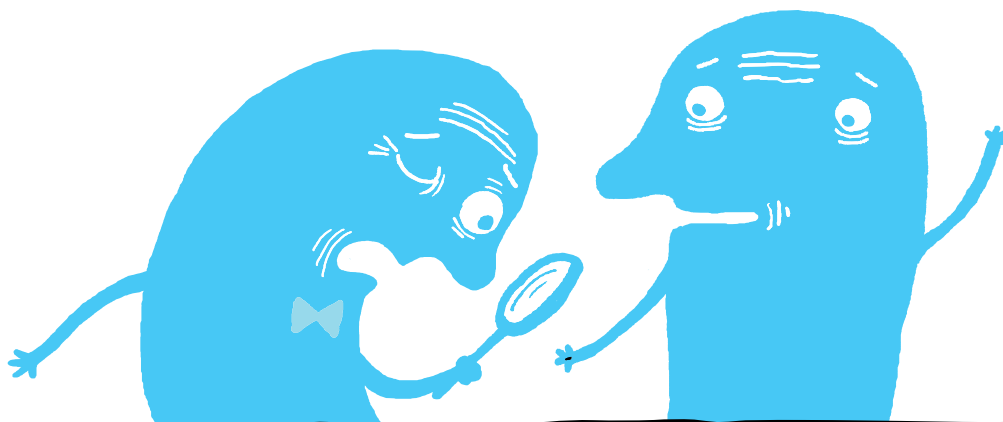
One day, after many years of waiting,
Mr. Black received a letter from the Ministry of Color.

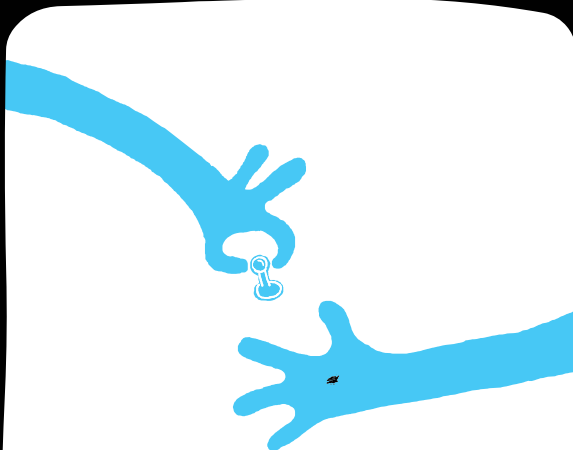


"We would like to inform you,
that you have been approved
for the Big Blue Seal!" the letter read.



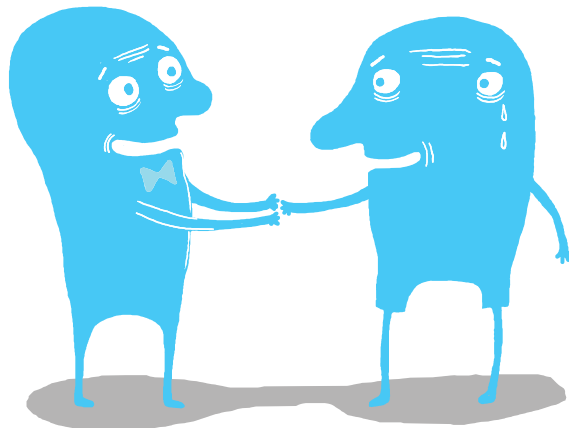
When Mr. Black went to the Ministry, his body was already so blue,
that it was really hard to find a place for the last seal.



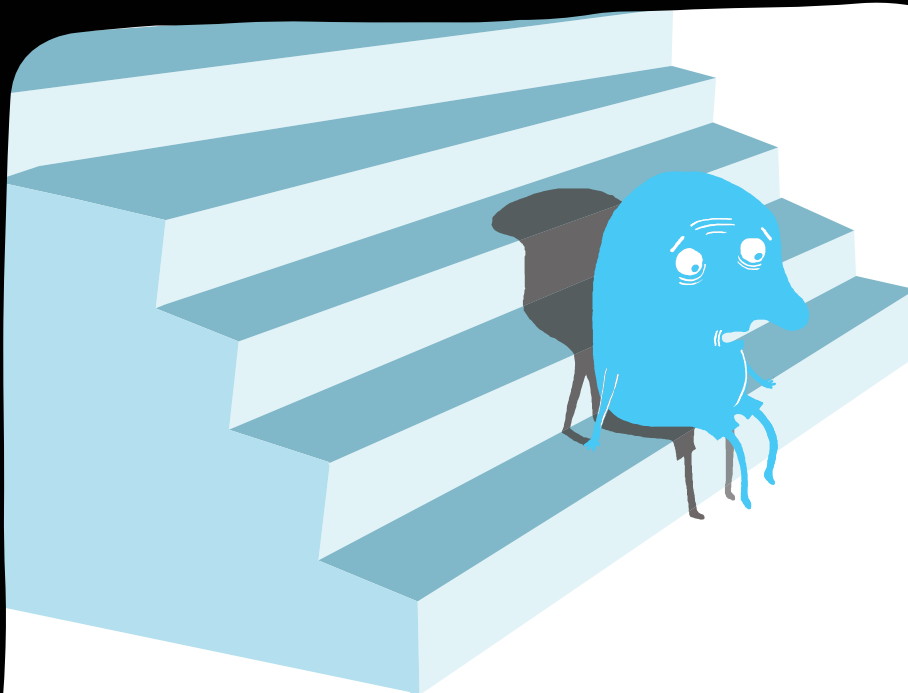


Actually, the Big Blue Seal turned out to be not so big after all and Mr. Black was surprised that he had to wait for such a long time for it.

"Congratulations, Mr. Black! Finally, you are completely Blue!"



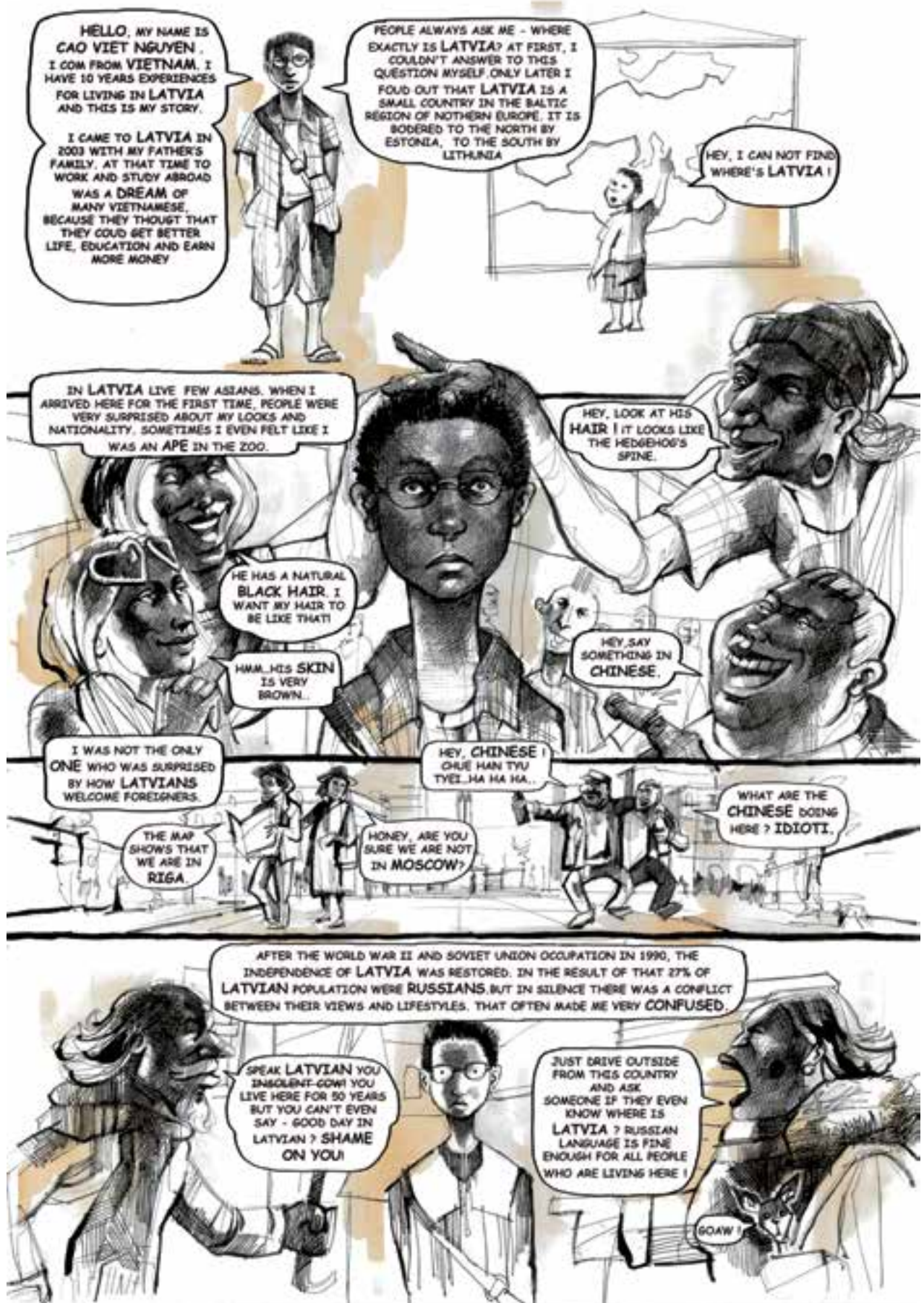
the Head Minister said.



Sure enough, after many long years of expectation, Mr. Black already felt really blue.



**"A story about a Vietnamese living in Latvia", Cao Viet Nguyen
(Vietnam, Latvia)**



IN MY OPINIONS A LITTLE COUNTRY ALSO HAVE THEIR OWN VALUES. NATURE IS LATVIANS TREASURE. THE FOREST, THE FIELDS AND THE BEAUTIFUL RIVER DAUGAVA WHICH PASS THROUGH ALL THE COUNTRY. THESE ARE THE SOULS OF LATVIA.



THERE ARE A LOT OF FESTIVALS IN LATVIA. THE MOST POPULAR AND AMAZING ONE IS THE SONG AND DANCE FESTIVAL. IT IS INCREDIBLE THAT LATVIANS COULD KEEP THIS TRADITION FOR SUCH A LONG TIME. THOUSANDS OF SINGERS AND DANCERS COME TO RIGA, JUST TO BE TOGETHER AND SHARE THE FEELING OF UNITY.



IT IS AMAZING THAT LATVIAN STILL KEEP THEIR TRADITIONAL MANNERS IN THEIR ARTWORK, WHILE OTHER COUNTRIES START TO FORGET IT SLOWLY.



HERE ARTISTS WORK HARD AND CREATE SPECTACULAR ARTWORK. THEY NEVER STOP TO DISCOVER NEW METHODS OR STUDY NEW ART STYLES.

AFTER A LONG WINTER LATVIANS DREAM ABOUT SUMMER AND THEIR TRADITIONAL CELEBRATION OF THE MIDSUMMER DAY, WHEN ALL FAMILIES COME TOGETHER WITH THE CHARLETS AROUND THEIR HEADS. AT THAT NIGHT NO ONE SLEEPS. THEY ALL ARE SINGING TRADITIONAL SONGS AND DANCE AROUND THE CAMPFIRE.



DRAWING WAS MY BEST SIDE. I DECIDED TO BECOME AN ARTIST AND I WENT TO THE ART SCHOOL OF OGRE. I STUDIED DRAWING AND PAINTING IN THE STUDIO OF THE DIRECTOR PETERIS AULMANIS.



AT THE BEGINNING MY LANGUAGE WAS NOT SO WELL, SO I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT HE SAID. BUT I WATCHED HOW HE DREW, EVEN WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING, I COULD UNDERSTAND WHAT HE WANTED FROM ME.

THE FACE SHAPE IS ROUND AS THE SPHERE.

LANGUAGE WAS THE MOST DIFFICULT PART TO ME. EVERYONE WAS LOOKING AT ME WITH WEIRD EYES. I DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY SAID.



I COULD FEEL THAT THEY WERE NOT COMFORTABLE WITH THE STRANGER NEAR THEM

BUT ALL BECAME WORSE WHEN THE RACISTS WANTED TO "EXPRESS" THEIR EMOTION.

HERE LIVES ONLY LATVIANS AND RUSSIANS. HERE'S NOT THE PLACE FOR YOU CHINESE!

I AM NOT CHINESE. I AM VIETNAMESE. I LIVE AND STUDY HERE. MY FRIENDS ARE LATVIANS AND RUSSIANS

YOU IDIOT! IF I WILL SEE YOU AGAIN I WILL SHOOT YOU DOWN!



I COULDN'T IMAGINE THAT THERE ARE SUCH PEOPLE IN THIS BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY. BUT I COULDN'T GIVE UP. STUDYING LANGUAGE WAS THE KEY TO CHANGE THEIR ATTITUDE TO ME.



TIME WAS PASSING AND MY LATVIAN LANGUAGE WAS GETTING BETTER. I HAD MORE FRIENDS AND EVERYONE BECAME MORE FRIENDLY.



IN 2007 AFTER ARGUING WITH MY FAMILY, I DECIDED TO LIVE ON MY OWN. I DIDN'T HAD ANY PLACE WHERE TO STAY. AND MY TEACHER PETERIS SUGGESTED ME TO LIVE IN HIS STUDIO AND SOMETIMES TO HELP HIS STUDENTS. WAS IT NOT A MIRACLE. THAT A LATVIAN FAMILY ACCEPTED ME? NOW I CALL HIM NOT ONLY AS MY TEACHER, BUT AS MY LATVIAN FATHER.



HISTORY AND MYTHOLOGY WAS MY FAVORITE THEMES. I HAD AN INTEREST IN LATVIAN FOLKLORE AND MYTHOLOGY ALSO. MY FAVORITE BOOK WAS THE EPIC LĀČPLĒŠIS- "BEAR SLAYER", THE AUTHOR OF THE BOOK WAS ANDREJS PUMPURS. HE WROTE IT AT 19. CENTURY.



THE EPIC IS ABOUT A STORY OF THE HERO BEAR SLAYER WHO LEADED LATVIAN IN BATTLE AGAINST THE GERMAN INVADERS IN 13. CENTURY. HE STOOD AGAINST THE DARK KNIGHT. THEY BOTH FOUGHT UNTILL THEY FELT INTO THE DAUGAVA. PEOPLE SAY THAT THE BEAR SLAYERS SPIRIT IS STILL ALIVE AND HE GUARDS HIS PEOPLE UNTIL TODAY.

AFTER THAT BEAR SLAYER BECAME A NATIONAL HERO OF LATVIA. HE SYMBOLIZES STRENGTH, COURAGE, VIRTUE. THE STORY ABOUT HIM GAVE ME A LOT OF INSPIRATIONS. SO I HAD AN IDEA TO DRAW A COMIC BOOK ABOUT HIM.



AT 2009 I GRADUATED FROM JAN ROZENTALS ART HIGHSCHOOL WITH A DIPLOMA WORK "THE CHRONICLES OF THE BEAR SLAYER". I WAS VERY HAPPY ABOUT MY FIRST SUCCESS.



CONGRATULATE! TOO BAD THAT COMIC IN LATVIA IS NOT SO WELL KNOWN. WHAT IS YOUR PLAN IN THE FUTURE?



THEN I WENT TO SAN-FRANCISCO IN AMERICA TO MAKE MY DREAM COME TRUE.





YES, LATVIA IS A SMALL COUNTRY, BUT CAN A SMALL COUNTRY BE STRONG? LATVIA HAS WENT THROUGH A LOT OF DIFFICULT TIMES, JUST TO EARN INDEPENDENCE. AT THE 13 CENTURY, THE GERMANS INVADIED LATVIA. AFTER THAT POLISH, DANISH AND RUSSIANS OCCUPIED. THE WAR DESTROYED THIS COUNTRY FOR MANY YEARS, BUT THEY NEVER GAVE UP. ONLY IN NOVEMBER 18, 1918 LATVIANS FINALLY GAINED THEIR INDEPENDENCE AND THEY COULD CALL THEMSELVES AS A FREE NATION.

AND IN NOVEMBER 11, 1919 LATVIANS PROVED THEIR STRENGTH, WHEN THEY DEFEATED BERMONTIANS WHO WERE MUCH MORE STRONGER. THAT DAY LATVIANS CALL THE BEAR SLAYER DAY.

AT THE BEGINNING OF WORLD WAR II WHEN SOVIET UNION AND GERMANS OCCUPIED LATVIAN TERRITORY, THE DREAM OF BEING AS A FREE COUNTRY SLOWLY FADED AWAY. BUT LATVIANS ROSE AGAIN AND IN AUGUST 21, 1991 LATVIA RESTORED FULLFEL INDEPENDENCE. WE SHOULDN'T FORGET HOW MANY SACRIFICES THEY GAVE FOR THIS COUNTRY AND FREEDOM. WE DON'T LIVE IN WAR ANYMORE, BUT WE STILL DON'T FEEL FREE. EACH ONE OF US MISS SOME QUALITIES LIKE PATIENCE, COURAGE, VIRTUE, SINCERITY TO PROTECT AND CULTIVATE OUR COUNTRY.



NOWADAYS IN LATVIA LIVE DIFFERENT KIND OF NATIONS. I GUESS THEY CHOSE LATVIA IN THE SAME WAY AS I DID. IT DO NOT MATTER WHERE YOU COME FROM WHAT IS YOUR SKIN COLOR. BUT, IF WE CAN FEEL SOME CONNECTIONS WITH THIS COUNTRY, THEN WE ARE TOGETHER LIKE A BIG FAMILY. EACH ONE IN LATVIA HAVE DUTY TO PROTECT AND MAKE LATVIA STRONGER. THE ONLY THING WHAT WE SHOULD DO IS TO TREAT EACH OTHERS WITH RESPECT.

HELLO ! I COME FROM AFRICA. MY WIFE IS LATVIAN. I WANT TO START MY BUSINESS HERE

I AM LATVIAN AND I WILL LIVE HERE TO PROTECT MY COUNTRY LIKE MY GRANDFATHER DID

HE, I AM FROM TURKEY. I WANT TO INTRODUCE MY TURKISH SWEETS TO LATVIANS !

I COME FROM JAPAN. I REALLY LOVE TO BE HERE. I EVEN LEARNED SOME TRADITIONAL SONGS !

MY NATIONALITY IS RUSSIAN, BUT I WAS BORN AND RAISED HERE. IT'S MY HOMELAND AND I LOVE IT.

MANY PEOPLE HAVE GAVE UP, BUT SOME OF THEM ARE STILL FIGHTING. THEY AREN'T NOT ONLY LATVIANS, BUT ALSO PEOPLE FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY. THEY LOVE LATVIA. AND FOR ME ? I DON'T WANT TO GIVE UP.

I KEEP DRAWING THE STORY I STARTED. THE STORY ABOUT THE BEAR SLAYER, THE SYMBOL OF LATVIANS STRENGTH.

SOMEWHERE IN THE HARD TIME YOU STILL CAN SEE SOMEONE SMILING. THAT IS A HOPE. THAT GIVES US STRENGTH TO RISE AGAIN

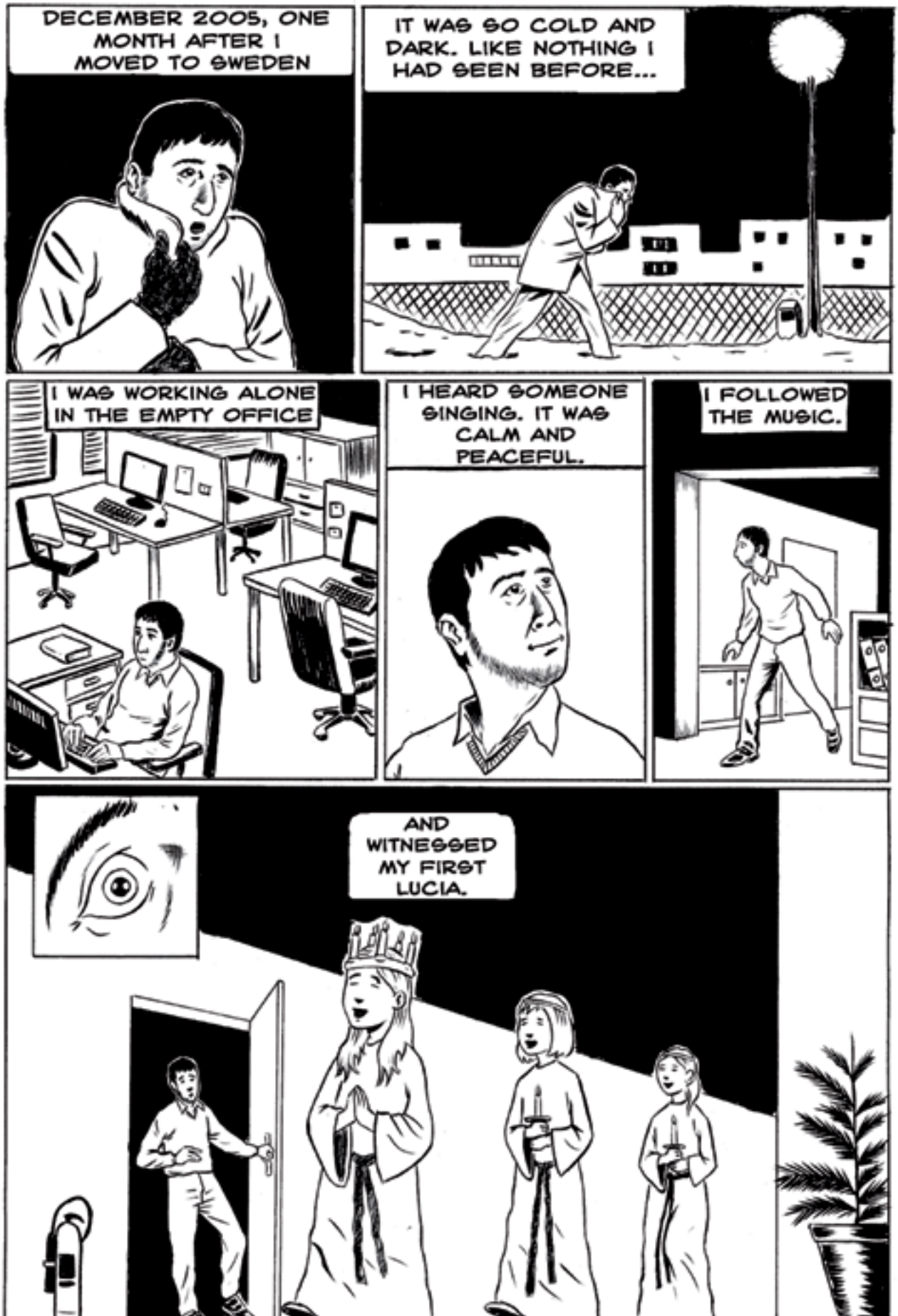
AND HE, MY HERO, IS STILL STANDING ON THE STATUE OF FREEDOM.

IF HE IS STANDING THERE, IT MEANS HE IS FIGHTING AND PROTECTING HIS MOTHERLAND. I BELIEVE THAT EACH ONE OF LATVIA CAN BE LIKE HIM. SOMEDAY I WOULD LIKE TO SEE THAT LATVIA WOULD BECOME STRONG AND HAPPY.

MANY PEOPLE LEAVE THEIR HOME WITH HOPES AND DREAMS TO FIND A BETTER PLACE FOR LIVING, WORKING AND RAISING THEIR FAMILY. THE PATH WHICH I HAVE CHOSED, ISN'T EASY AT ALL. BUT IT'S LEADING ME TO FULFILL MY MEANING OF LIFE. I WANT TO MAKE THE BEAR SLAYER REBORN AGAIN IN THE LATVIAN HEART AND IMPROVE LATVIA.

AND THIS IS MY STORY ABOUT VIETNAMESE WHO LIVES IN LATVIA.





6 YEARS LATER, IT WAS LUCIA AGAIN, AND I WAS READING THE NEWS...



SAW AN ARTICLE ABOUT A FAMILY, WHO GOT DEPORTED TO ARMENIA, AFTER LIVING 11 YEARS IN SWEDEN.



SAW A VIDEO OF THE FAMILY, LIVING IN TERRIBLE CONDITIONS. THEIR 17 YEAR OLD SON, HAIK, TOLD THE STORY.



THEY SEPERATED US, SO THAT WE WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO TALK TO EACH OTHER.



THEY TOLD US TO PACK ONLY THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS. THEY TREATED US AS IF WE WERE TERRORISTS.



AND IN COUPLE HOURS WE WERE IN ARMENIA.



FIRST NIGHT THEY DIDN'T LET US INTO ARMENIA, CAUSE WE DIDN'T HAVE THE RIGHT DOCUMENTS. WE SLEPT IN A COLD ROOM.



MOM SUDDENLY INTERRUPTS THE INTERVIEW.



WE DIDN'T GET ANY FOOD!

WE WERE ALL SO HUNGRY...



I MISS MY FRIENDS IN SWEDEN, MY FOOTBALL TEAM, MY SCHOOL.

HE ALMOST SMILES. DOESN'T GET THAT THIS IS REAL. HE LOOKS LIKE HE'S WAITING FOR SOMEONE TO TELL THAT ALL OF THIS IS A JOKE.



DURING THE INTERVIEW, WE SEE THE DAD IN THE BACKGROUND. HE DOESN'T TALK, HE DOESN'T LOOK AT THE CAMERA.



HE DOESN'T LOOK SAD. HE DOESN'T LOOK ANGRY. HE JUST LOOKS EMPTY.



THIS IS HOW YOU TAKE LIFE OUT OF A MAN. THIS IS HOW YOU BREAK A HUMAN BEING.



"CITIZENSHIP IN WESTERN LIBERAL DEMOCRACIES IS THE MODERN EQUIVALENT OF FEUDAL PRIVILEGE-AN INHERITED STATUS THAT GREATLY ENHANCES ONE'S LIFE CHANCES."

-JOSEPH CARENS

COUPLE DAYS LATER I
WENT TO TURKEY
FOR VACATION.



FRENCH PARLIAMENT HAD JUST PASSED
A LAW STATING THAT THE TURKS COMMITTED
GENOCIDE AGAINST ARMENIANS IN 1915.



AND ANYONE WHO
CONTRADICTS, WILL
GO TO PRISON FOR
1 YEAR AND HAS TO
PAY 40.000
EUROS.



TURKISH PEOPLE GOT CRAZY.
NATIONALISM EXPLODED IN
THE WHOLE COUNTRY



A BIG MEDIA CAMPAIGN
AGAINST FRANCE
AND ARMENIA STARTED.



EVEN PEOPLE AROUND ME
STARTED TALKING NONSENSE.

IT WAS THE
ARMENIANS WHO
ATTACKED US FIRST.
WE DID WHAT WE HAD
TO DO.



US?
WE?



WHO'S WRITING THESE BOOKS? WHO'S PRINTING THEM? HOW CAN THEY DO THIS SO FAST, ONLY IN ONE WEEK?



WHO IS BEHIND THIS CRAZINESS?
WHO ARE THESE EXPERTS
TELLING ME WHOM TO HATE?



I WAS TIRED OF ALL THIS. I WANTED TO GO BACK TO SWEDEN.



THE PEACEFUL LAND
WHERE THINGS WERE
NORMAL, WHERE THERE
WAS LESS HATE



THEN I REMEMBERED,
EVERYTHING WAS NOT
OK FOR EVERYONE IN
SWEDEN EITHER.



WHERE DO YOU
THINK YOU WILL
BE IN ONE YEAR?

I HOPE
I WILL BE
BACK HOME.



SWEDEN IS
YOUR HOME?

SWEDEN IS
MY HOME.



I HOPE YOU
COME BACK
HOME AND SEE
THE LUCIA THERE
NEXT YEAR
BROTHER...



EMRE

"NATIONALISM DOES NOTHING BUT TEACH YOU HOW TO HATE PEOPLE THAT YOU NEVER MET."

-DOUG STANHOPE

This one time when I was student, I went on a trip to Barcelona with friends...



At the airport border-control, I had this conversation with the officer:

What are you studying in Romania?

I am learning the language.

Why the heck are you learning such an useless language? Just a few people speak it...

Well, more speak Romanian than Catalan...

That day They lost my luggage and sent it back to my hotel in two plastic bags: one with my backpack and other with the rest of my things.



And because of that, and many other experiences, I feel qualified to offer you...



THE unofficial BORDER-CROSSING GUIDE for non-europeans

1- Always look like the pic
in your passport.

People
change!



2- If you are
hitch-hiking,
don't cross the
border on foot.



3- Don't say you
are unemployed.



Yeah,
I am
my grandma's
designated
personal assistant.

4- Take a shower.

What is that smell?
uh... sardines.



*Don't transport sardines
either

5- Don't transport your things in cardboard boxes.



6- Buy a cheap ticket somewhere else so it looks like you're in transit.



How long are you staying here in Finland?

Oh, just a couple of months I mean... hours.

7- Don't put stickers on your passport. Just don't.



8- Search for contact numbers online before you get there.



who are you coming to visit here in Rome
well, there's this guy... they call him the Pope...



9- If you can't be white, at least be rich.



10 - If your name is Mohamed... don't even try it!



The fight against racism

Audience award

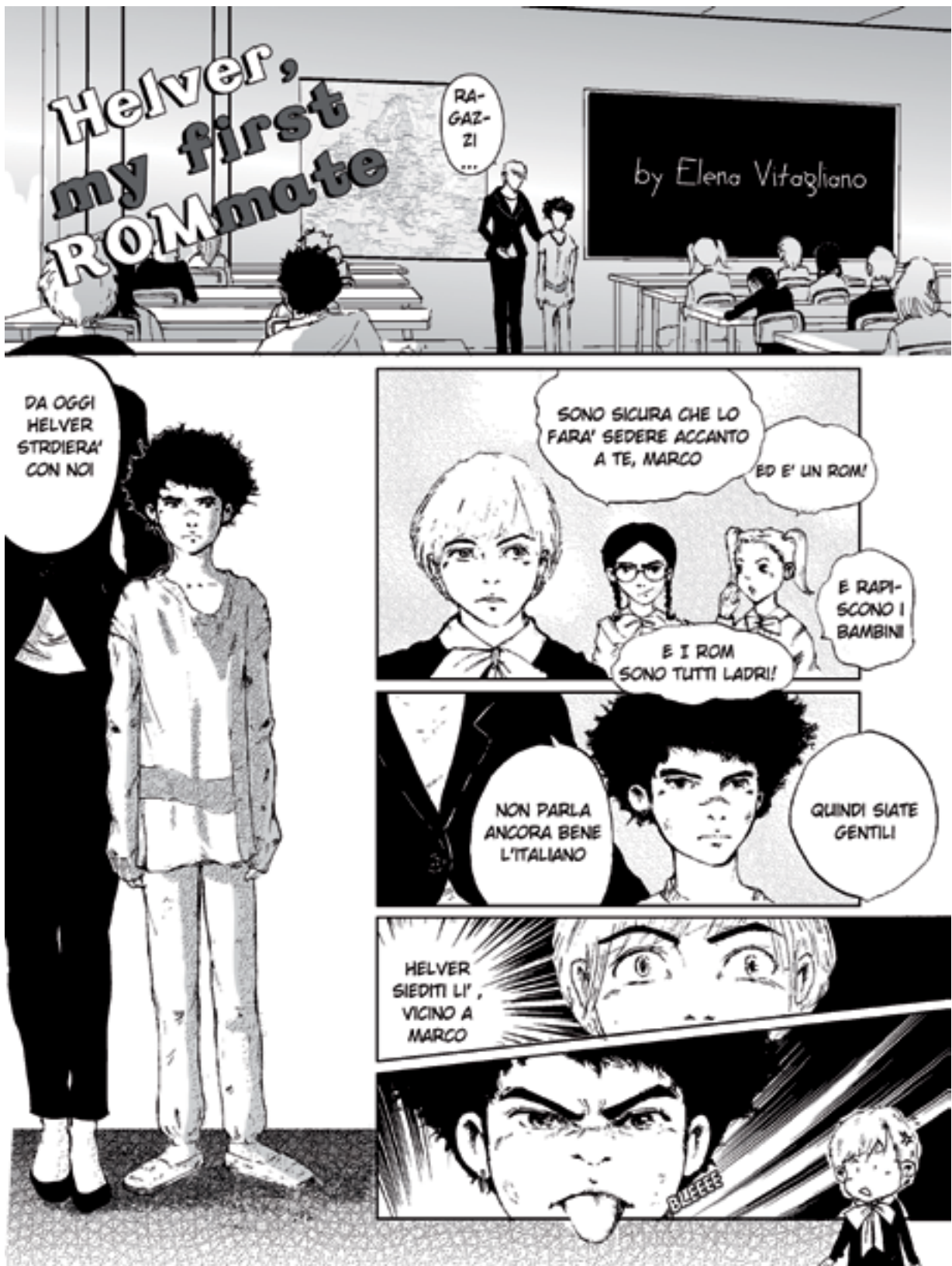


Jury award

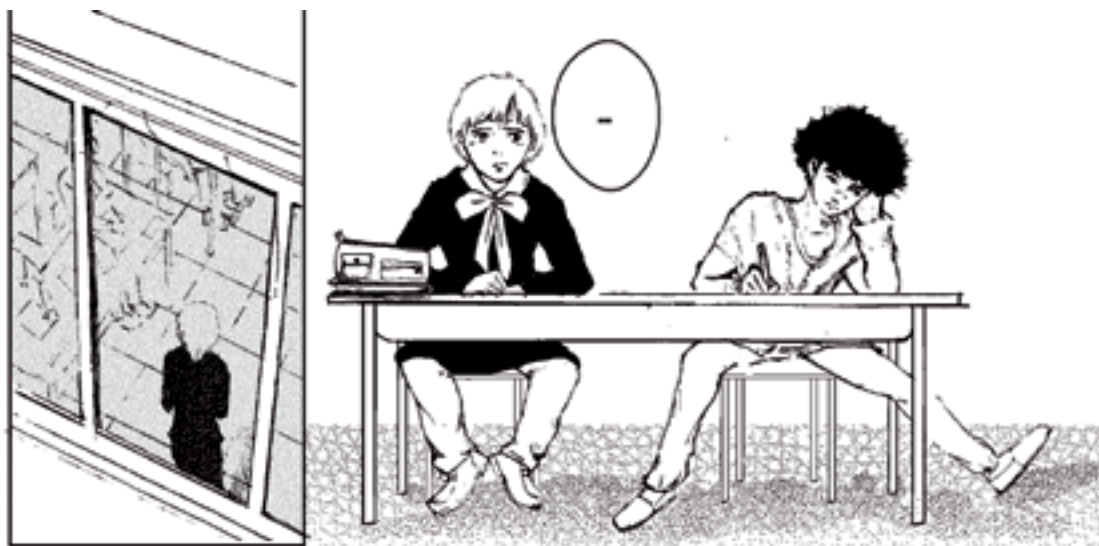


*International Jury's Selection
of the most highly rated comics*

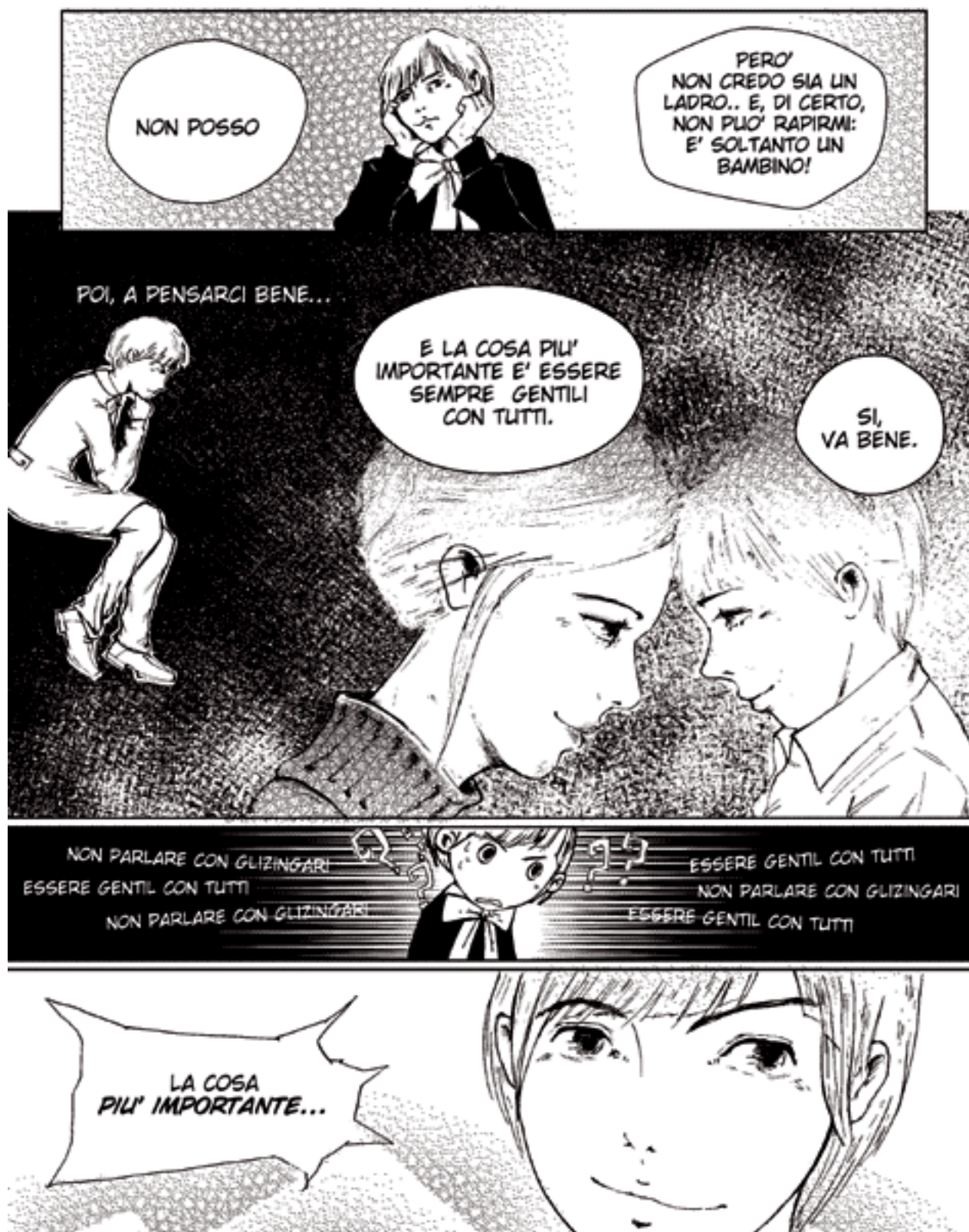




1. Children
2. From today, Helver is going to study with us
3. I am sure she is going to make him sit next to you Marco / And he is a Rom! / and the Rom are all thieves! / and they kidnap children
4. He doesn't speak Italian very well yet / so be kind to him
5. Helver, please sit over there, next to Marco.



1. Be careful of the gypsies, they are dangerous, if they get close to you, don't talk to them, do you understand me? / Yes Mom
2. I know it's not kind to avoid speaking to him... but I have to obey...
3. Wow, what a nice drawing he is doing! / How does he do that? / I would like to ask him but...



1. I can't / I don't think he is a thief or that he could kidnap me: he is only a child!
2. But if I remember... / the most important thing is to be kind to everyone. / Ok then.
3. Do not talk to gypsies / Be kind to everyone / Do not talk to gypsies / Be kind to everyone / Do not talk to gypsies / Be kind to everyone
4. The most important thing...



1. Helver this horse is really beautiful
2. You are really good!
3. Do you want to give it to me?
4. Yes, yes

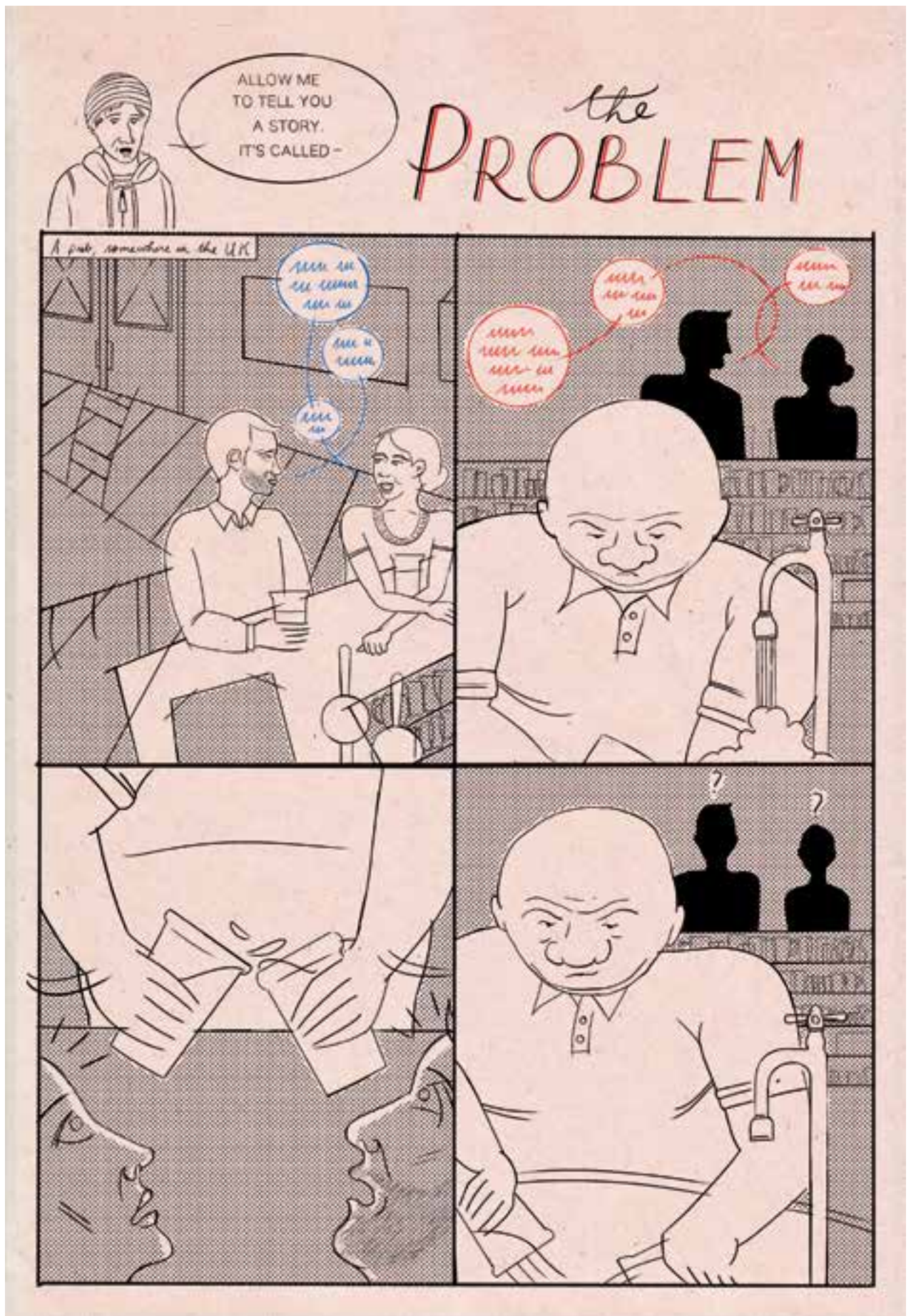




1. Thank you, it's really beautiful / Write your name over here so it is finished.
2. Why?
3. I can't write
4. Oh... well
5. I will help you then
6. Look look



1. The gypsy's friend / You'll see in a little while he will become Rom as well. Ahahaha
2. You are just jealous because you don't have a drawing like this
3. Helver, can you teach me to draw like you? / Can you teach me to write?
4. Deal! / Helver, my first Rom mate!





NO WE
DID NOT!
HE TOOK
OUR DRINKS
AND THREATENED
US AND



WE
WERE JUST
CHATTING AT
THE BAR AND WE
WERE
A NUISANCE AND
IT'S BEEN AN ...



WHERE ARE
YOU FROM?

WHAT?

WHAT NATIONALITY
ARE YOU? WHERE ARE
YOU FROM?



MALTA!
BUT WH...

WAIT
HERE.



MALTA!



I LOVE
MALTA!



DRINKS
ON THE HOUSE!



Turns out it was
just a language problem –
he'd only **MISTAKEN** them
for people he hated!



SILLY ME!
HA HA!



YES.
HA HA.



MALTESE IS A SEMITIC
LANGUAGE, BUT IT'S
WRITTEN WITH THE
LATIN SCRIPT.

IT IS THE ONLY SUCH
LANGUAGE IN THE WORLD



I LIKE THIS FACT A LOT.
FOR ME IT EXPRESSES OUR
POTENTIAL TO BRIDGE
CULTURES



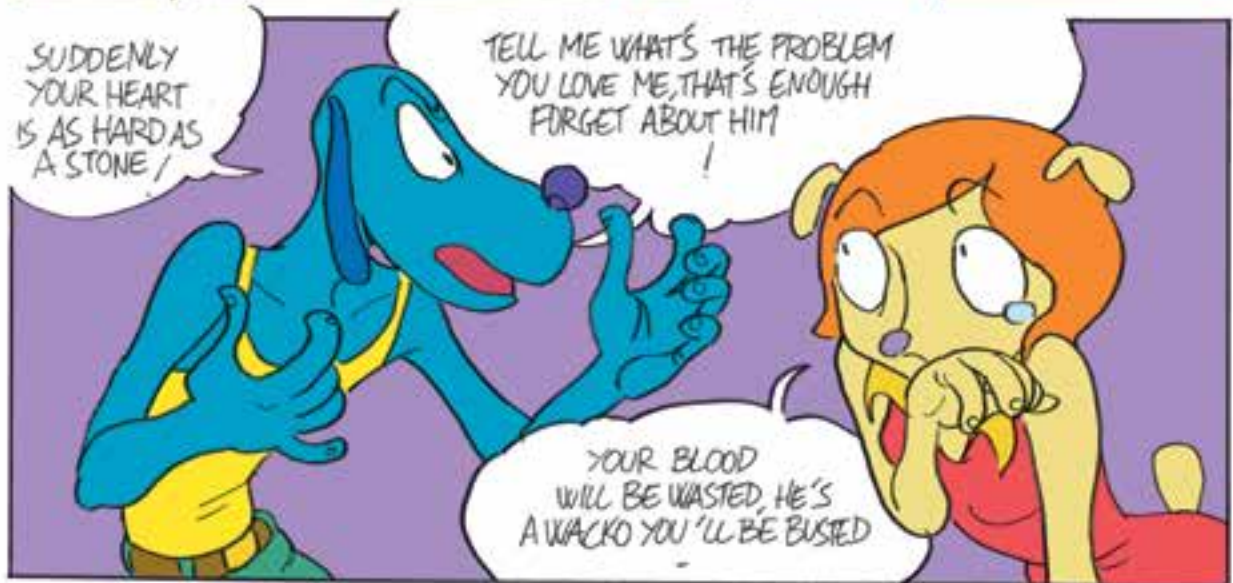
ONE TIME, AFTER I'D RETOLD
THE STORY OF MY FRIENDS
IN THE PUB, SOME BRIGHT
SPARK OFFERED THE
FOLLOWING INSIGHT:



THE PROBLEM IS WHEN YOU
SPEAK MALTESE QUICKLY
IT SOUNDS LIKE ARABIC



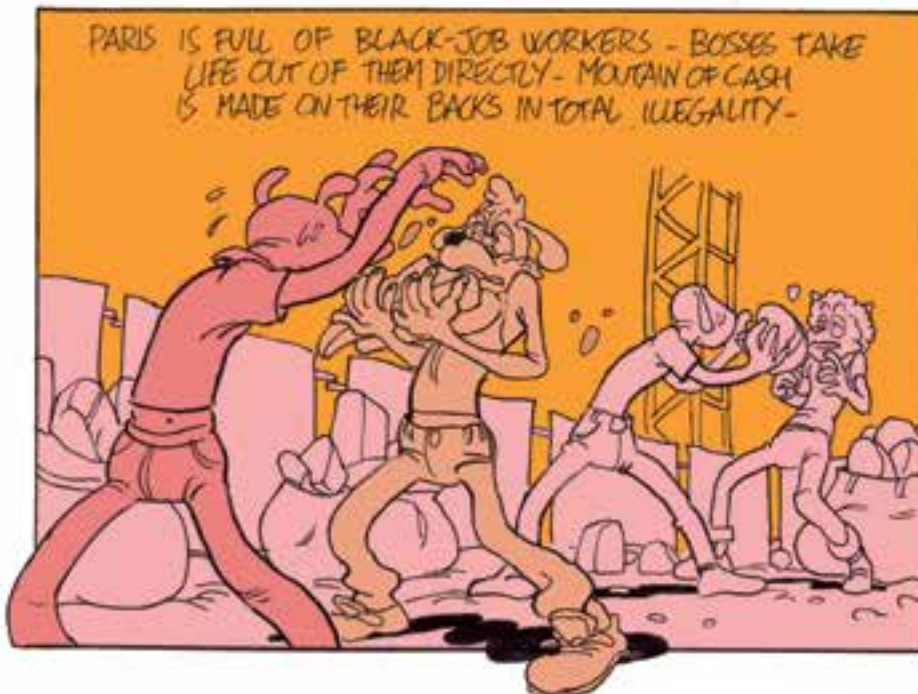
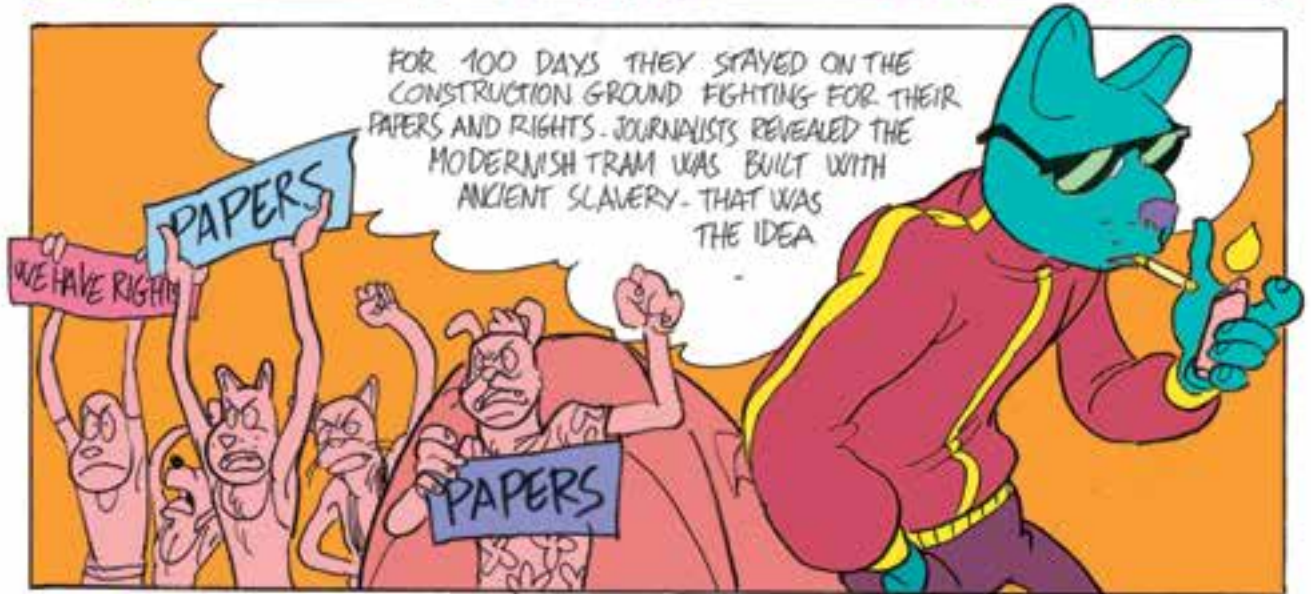
YES, THERE IS A PROBLEM
BUT THAT'S REALLY NOT IT.













**"A story of migration? ... Or a tale to fight racism?", Nuno Abreu
(Spain, Portugal, UK)**













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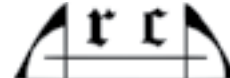
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COMICS

FOR EQUALITY

EUROPEAN AWARD
FOR THE BEST
UNPUBLISHED COMICS
BY AUTHORS WITH MIGRANT
BACKGROUNDS

The ComiX4= Comics for Equality project promotes the development of a European society based on respect for fundamental human rights and anti-discriminatory and anti-xenophobic attitudes and behaviours. The purpose of the project is to foster intercultural dialogue against racism in Europe. This need is now greater than ever due to European enlargement and to Europe's key role as a destination for migration flows originating outside Europe. In order to reach this goal, the project aims to raise awareness of these topics among European societies, and especially among youth, using the artistic tool of comics created by artists with migrant backgrounds, and creating spaces for intercultural interaction. This approach aims to include migrants and the second generation – who are often subject to discrimination – in the creation of artistic tools to combat racism, gaining widespread support and promoting a cultural movement against xenophobia.

