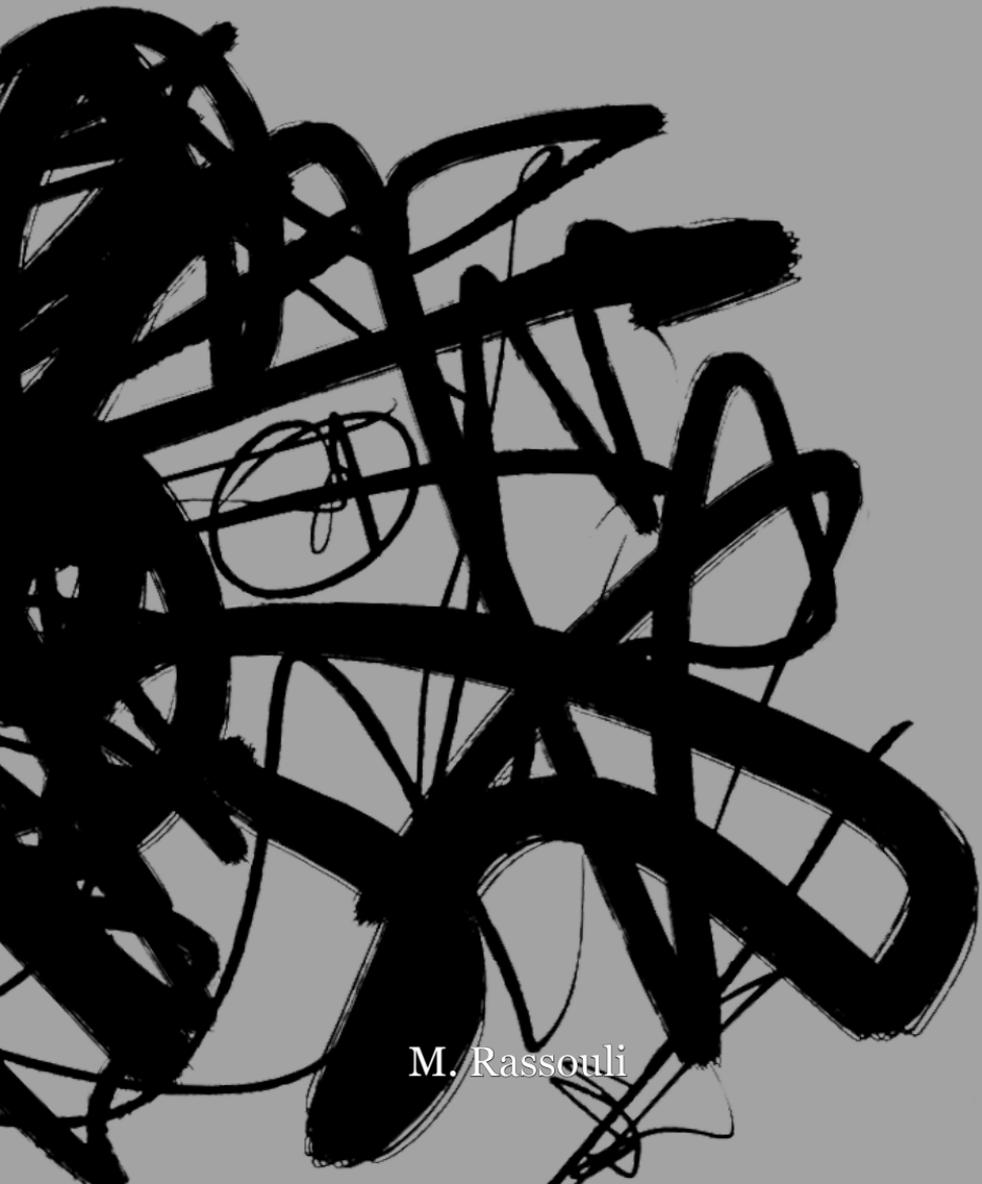


comics



M. Rassouli

Four years ago, I had a gut instinct to study and make comics.

Now I can explain why.

Mina Rassouli

02.2022

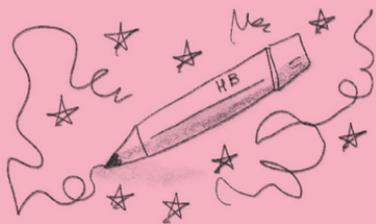
Here is a collection of comics I've made through the past 4 years of studying Comic Design.

Mostly reflecting on my own life, you can use them as a glimpse of my "emotional truth" (term used by Andrew Kunka in "*Autobiographical Comics*").

Comics has been the only medium I've found flexible and accessible enough to tell these stories and to express myself with the freedom I'd like.

My own skills in storytelling and comics don't come anywhere near to the broad range (arguably unlimited range) of the medium, but can definitely show you a more alternative style, which hopefully can entice you, the reader, into exploring further into the depths of comics.

THERE'S SOMETHING
MAGICAL ABOUT THE
★ PENCIL ★



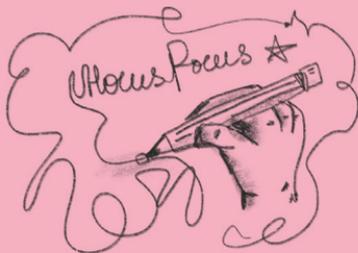
IT GIVES YOU SO
MUCH POWER!



YOU CAN SHARE YOUR
THOUGHTS AND IMAGINATION
WITH THE WORLD!



PUTTING IT IN
YOUR HAND IS
LIKE A MAGIC WAND



YOU CAN SAY OR
DRAW ANYTHING
YOU DESIRE



OR YOU COULD JUST
ERASE IT AND START
OVER, AGAIN AND AGAIN



ON A CLEAN SLATE.

you suck!



YOU'RE A TOTAL FAILURE!



CAN YOU JUST...



CAN YOU JUST GIVE A POSITIVE COMMENT ONCE IN A WHILE??



OR HOW ABOUT NOT GOING INTO A NEGATIVE SPIRAL IN 0.004 SEC AT EVERY INCONVENIENCE

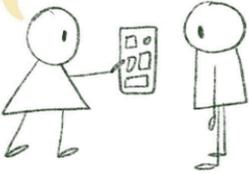


SUCH A DRAMA QUEEN!

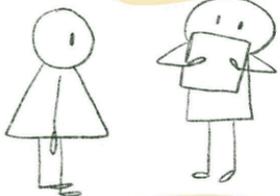
SUCH A DRAMA QUEEN!



HEY, I MADE THIS FOR YOU!



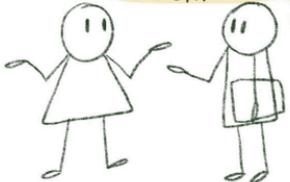
OH, THANKS, WHAT DOES IT MEAN?



WELL, WHATEVER IT MEANS TO YOU!



BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU?



WHATEVER IT MEANS TO YOU!



BUT WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU??



WHATEVER YOU UNDERSTAND FROM IT, THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS!



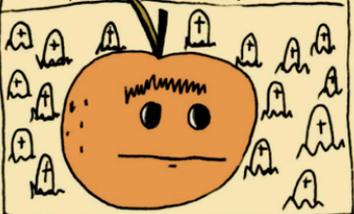
BUT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT YOU MEAN TO SAY!



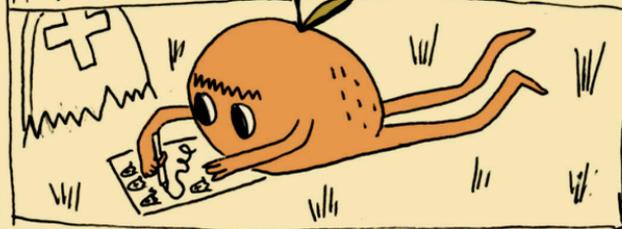
OH MY GOD..



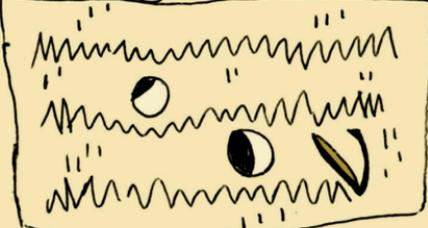
it took me years
to get over my grand-
mother's death.



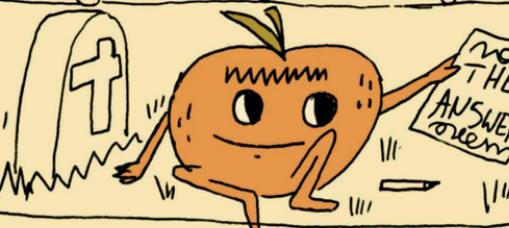
BUT SOMEHOW NOW THAT I'M MAKING A STORY
ABOUT THAT AND TALKING AND WRITING
A LOT ABOUT HER LIFE AND MINE...



the confusing feelings are
diffusing...



i understand better what i'm
feeling and why i'm feeling it



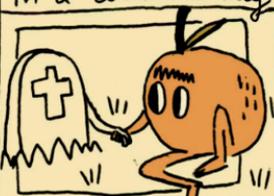
the combination of
images and text ...



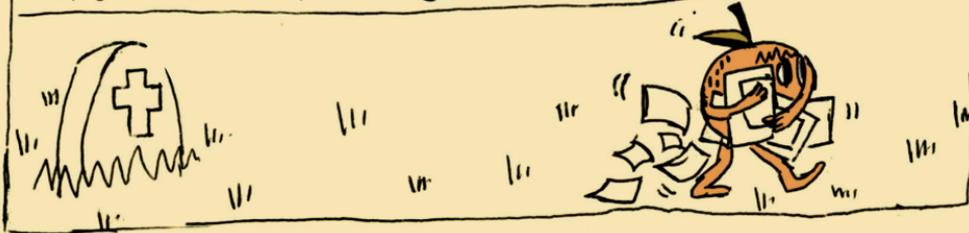
is like a puzzle
game for my
brain...



where i can combine
thoughts and feelings
in a coherent way



AND I WANT TO TAKE THESE COMICS & STORIES AND SHARE
THEM WITH OTHERS. THE ACT OF SHARING COMICS MAKES ME FEEL
LESS LONELY AND MISUNDERSTOOD AND I HOPE MY ART MAKES
SOMEONE FEEL A BIT BETTER TOO.



LET ME TELL YOU A STORY



OF HOW I GOT

IN THIS SCHOOL



IT STARTS WITH MY FIRST REAL JOB



I WORKED BEHIND A DESK



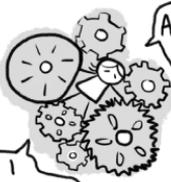
ALL DAY



IN A HUGE CORPORATE COMPANY



THE PAY WAS GOOD



A COG IN THE MACHINE

A REPLACEABLE PART

BUT I WAS JUST

IRRELEVANT

THE COMPANY WAS PHILIPS BTW

I WAS COMING HOME



EVERYDAY



UNMOTIVATED AND TIRED



I DECIDED I NEEDED CHANGE



SO I WENT TO GOOGLE



ANSWERS

THESE WERE MY OPTIONS



TOO SHORT

HMM MAYBE

Google Search

ONLINE COURSE
~~~~~

WEEKEND COURSE  
~~~~~

CREATIVE JOB
~~~~~

BACHELOR IN ARTS  
~~~~~

BA COMIC DESIGN
~~~~~

I NEED A REAL-LIFE TEACHER

DON'T HAVE THE PORTFOLIO

! WHAA THIS EXISTS?!

I HAD TO FIND OUT MORE



WHAT IS THIS COMIC DESIGN STUDY?

YOU STUDY..



STORYTELLING    DRAWING    BOOKMAKING



AND COMICS!



THAT SOUNDS SO MUCH FUN



BUT OF COURSE THERE WERE SOME ISSUES..

THE STUDY WAS  
IN DUTCH



IT WAS 4 MORE  
YEARS OF STUDY



I ALREADY HAD  
A BACHELOR



BUT SOMETIMES YOU JUST GOTTA SAY

#YOLO



I MADE MY PORTFOLIO IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT



NEXT DAY I WENT TO  
THE CITY WHERE  
THE SCHOOL IS



THE MOMENT  
I WENT IN  
I REALISED



I WAS THE ONLY NON-DUTCH



I WAS ALSO THE  
OLDEST



TEST  
BLAH BLAH

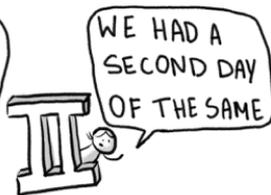
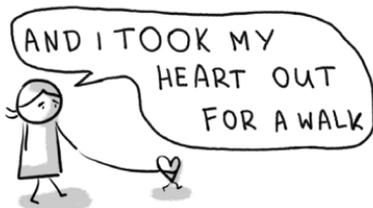
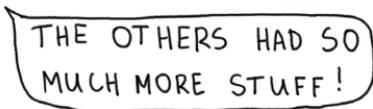


I COULD  
BARELY  
UNDERSTAND  
THE TEACHERS

I HAD NO CLUE  
WE HAD TO BRING

OUR OWN  
DRAWING  
MATERIALS







AT THE END OF THE SECOND DAY

THE TEACHERS STARTED  
CALLING OUT NAMES



I DIDN'T  
HEAR MINE



I THOUGHT  
THAT WAS IT

I DIDN'T  
GET IN

BUT THEN THE

TEACHERS  
SURPRISED US  
WITH A NASTY  
PLOT TWIST!



WHOEVER DIDN'T HEAR  
THEIR NAME WAS  
ACCEPTED!



MY JAW DROPPED!



I HAD TO CHECK WITH  
ALL THE TEACHERS IF  
IT WAS TRUE



I GOT IN!



Y E Y!



LITTLE DID I KNOW  
THAT WOULD BE THE  
EASIEST PART OF THIS  
ENDEAVOR!



I WAS SO NOT PREPARED  
FOR WHAT WAS TO COME!

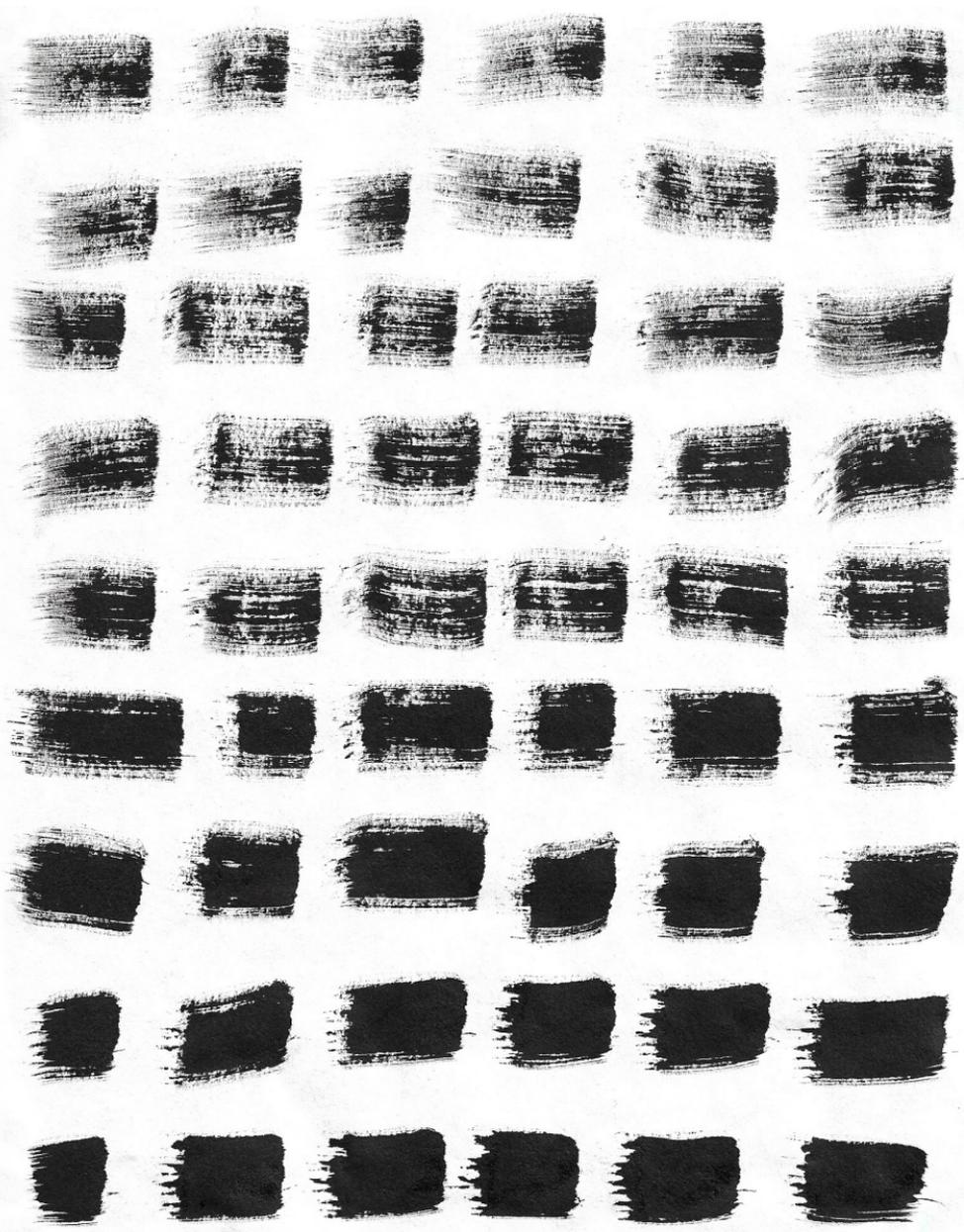
BUT THAT'S A  
WHOLE OTHER STORY!



I'M CRYING INTERNALLY  
HERE



BUT IN A  
BEAUTIFUL WAY, YOU KNOW?



# WHAT THE HELL IS ART BLOCK?



AT FIRST YOU NOTICE YOUR  
HANDS ARE NOT CREATING  
AS FREELY. IT'S A STRUGGLE  
TO MAKE STUFF.



AND THEN ART BLOCK SLOWLY CREEPS IN..



YOU SUCK!



GIVE UP!

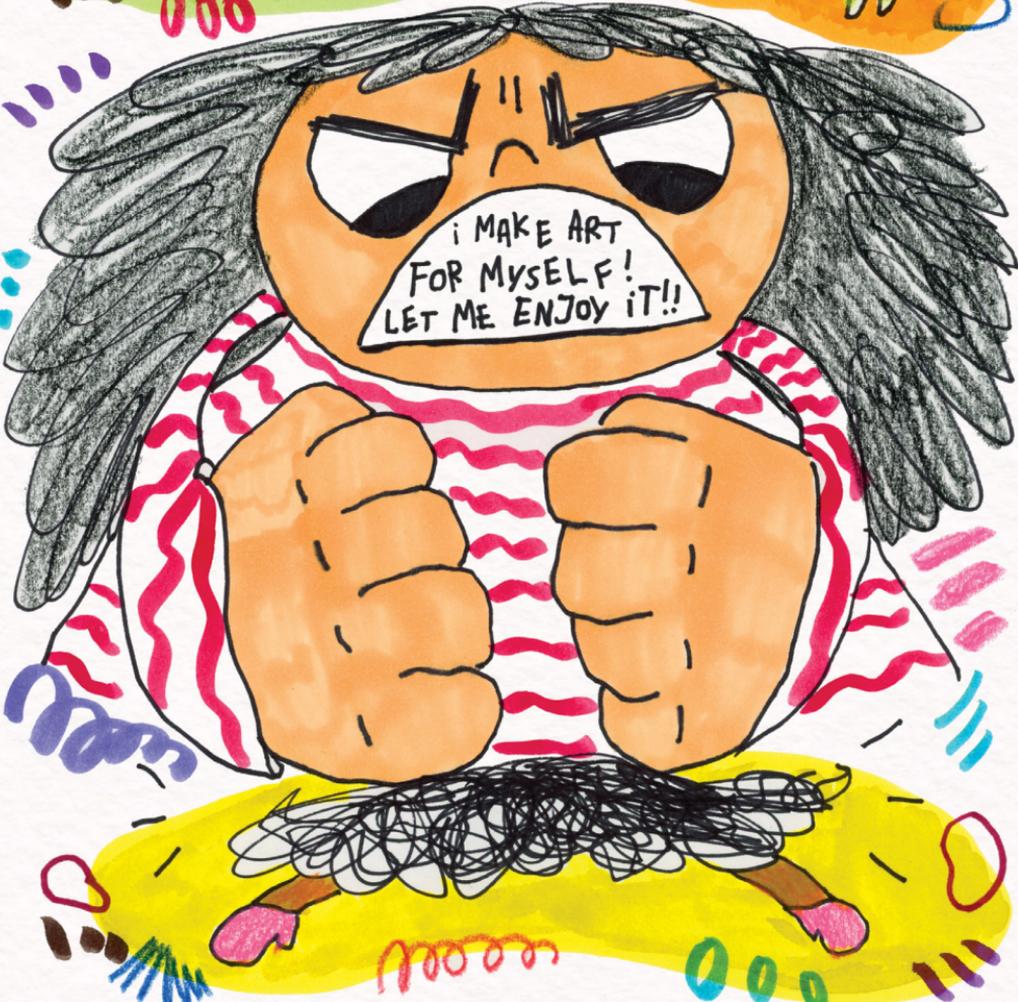
# A FIERCE INNER BATTLE BEGINS



YOU'LL NEVER BE GOOD ENOUGH!

SO WHAT IF I SUCK?!

HOW ELSE AM I SUPPOSED TO GET BETTER?





SO, LIKE THIS?

Yes, just like that!

Only tiny steps at a time!

You're a bit rusty and slow but that's ok!!!

it's ok, just carry on with kindness!

Oh no, you fucked up again!

This aint so bad!  
Drawing shitty is fun!



DAMN, I CREATED SOMETHING WITHOUT EVEN REALISING IT!

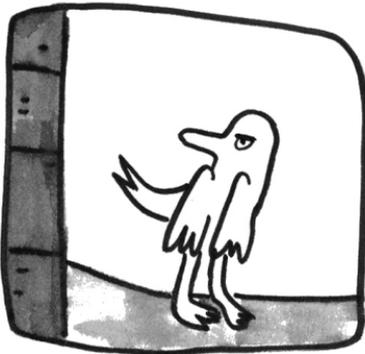
HINT: THIS IS THE BEST WAY TO GET OVER ART BLOCK: JUST CARRY ON DOING LITTLE LITTLE LITTLE STUFF AND BEFORE YOU KNOW IT, YOU'VE GOT A RHYTHM AGAIN!

Y E Y .

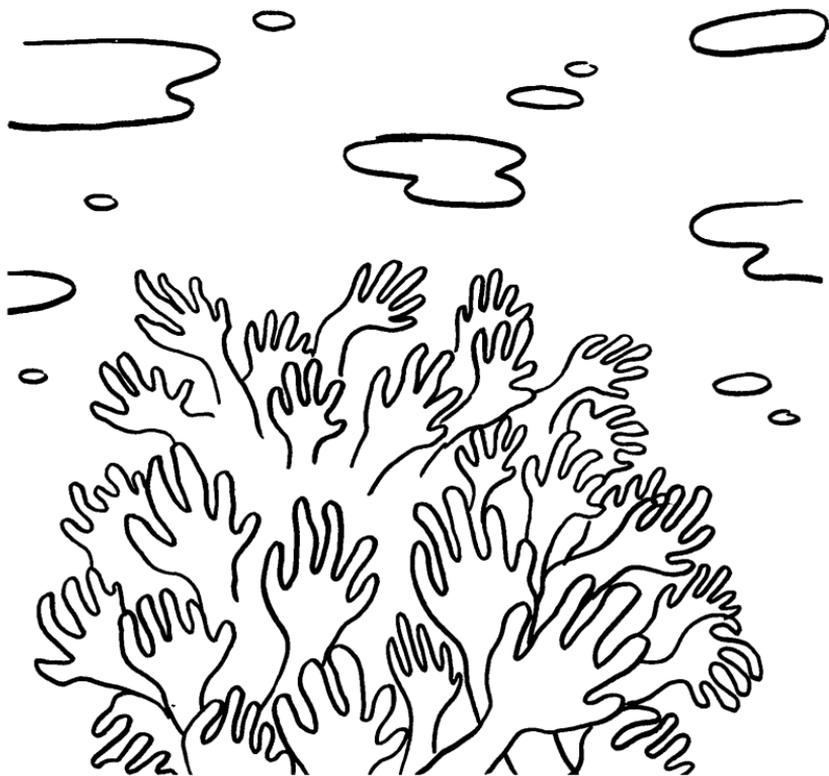
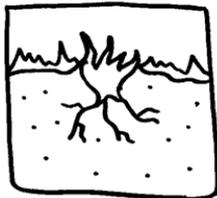
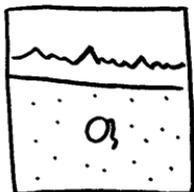




# BRICK

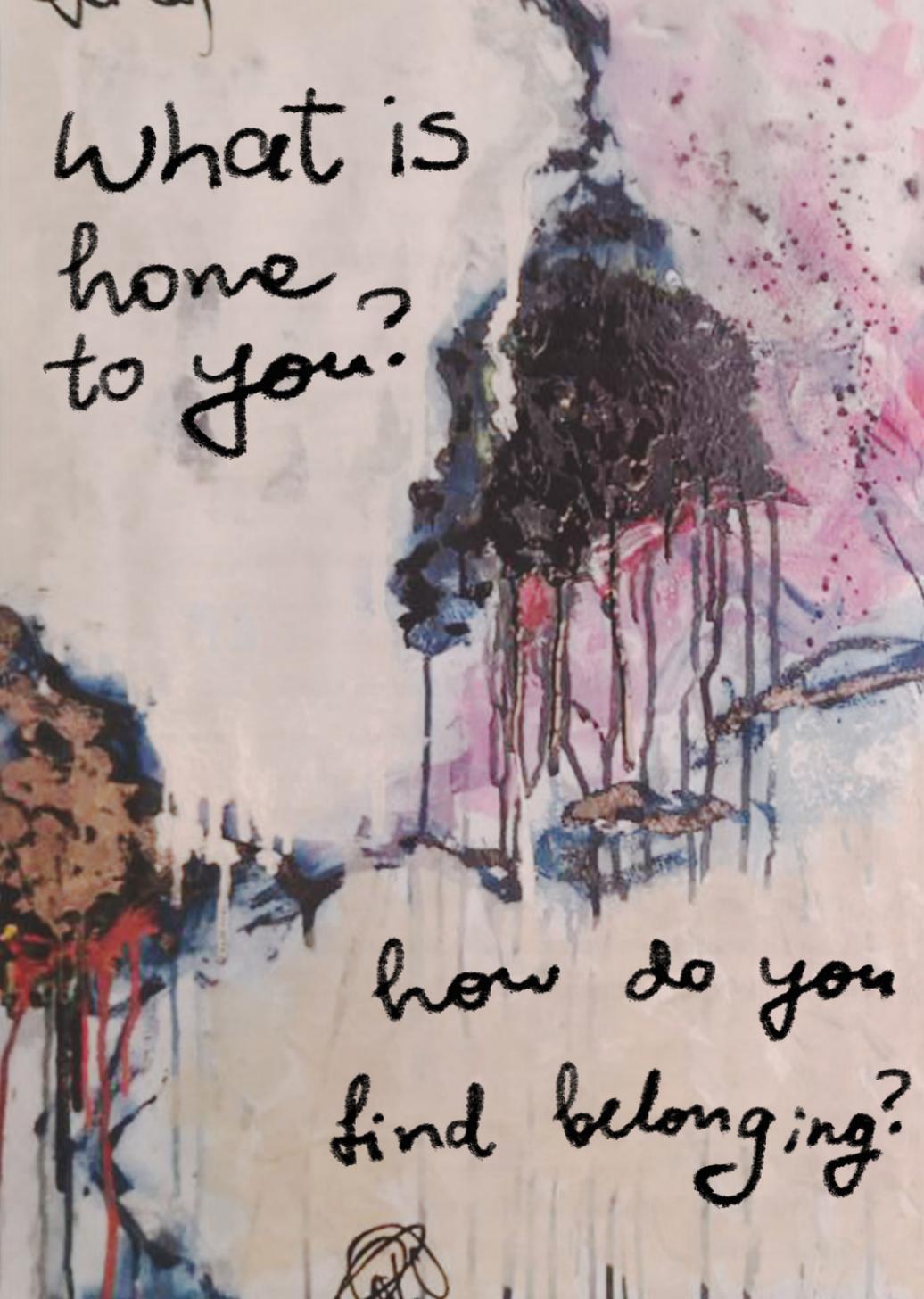


# TREE



What is  
home,  
to you.

how do you  
find belonging?





is it a  
home you  
cherish?

ZWOLLE

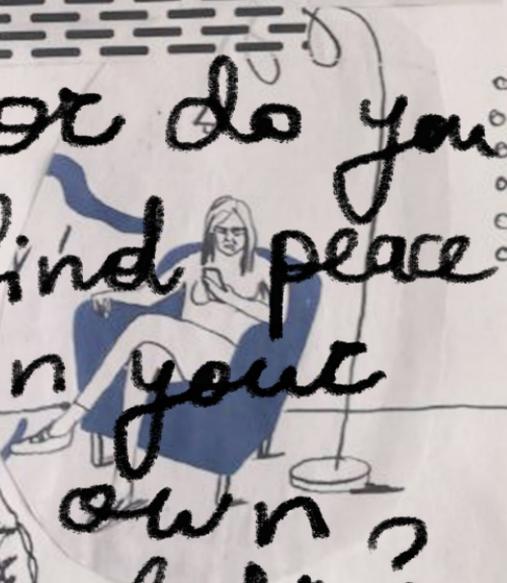




OGG VOOR DETAIL



or do you  
find peace  
in your  
own  
body?



WHY DO I  
HAVE A HEAD-  
ACHE?



HAVE YOU  
HAD SOME  
WAATERR?



HAVE YOU  
HAD A  
POO?



BLA  
BLA-BLA  
BLA-BLA  
BLA-BLA



I NEED AN  
ASPIRIN!



20-06-2019

i feel very strange,  
very restless



it's like i'm waiting  
for something but  
also in a  
hurry ...



everybody looks like  
they're  
working  
really  
hard



i'm just working  
hard on eating  
and growing this  
belly



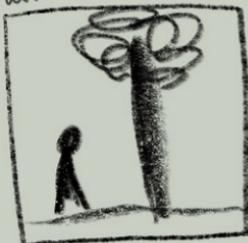
i don't know if  
i should panic



or should i stop  
and relax



i have this recurring



dream..

i climb a ridiculously



tall tree!

i finally get to



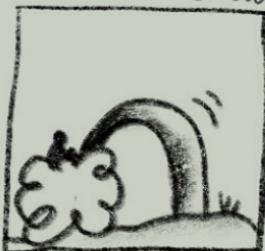
the top

and i go flying



in the air

all of a sudden



the tree bends  
like a sling

i always wake up



from the feeling  
of falling

THE END

