

What makes a line?

WHEN YOU ARE LITTLE YOU WILL DRAW PICTURES FOR NO REASON

WHATCHA DOIN'?

NOTHIN'.

THEN WHY YA DOIN' IT?

WATCH TV WITH ME.

Who can make a line?

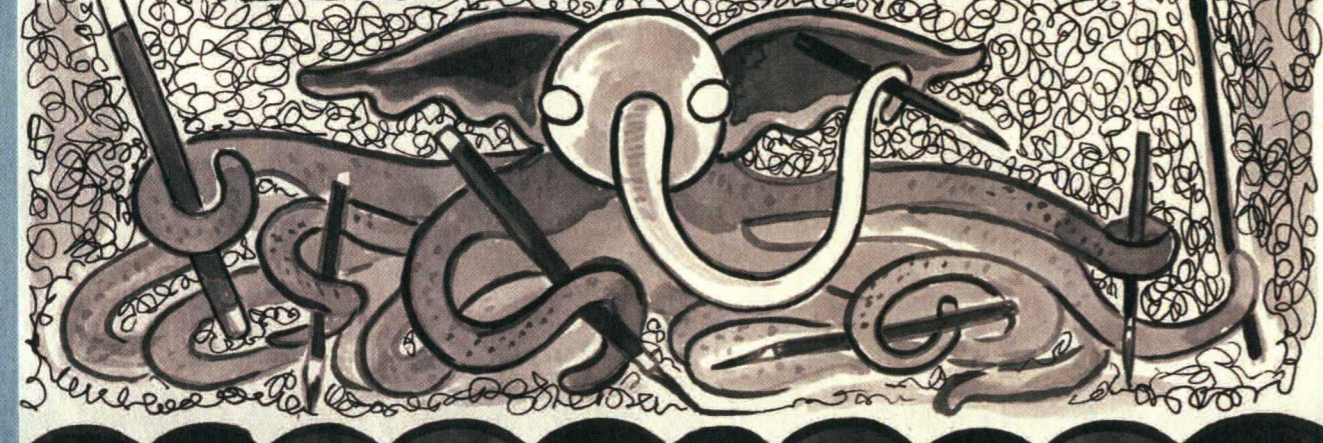
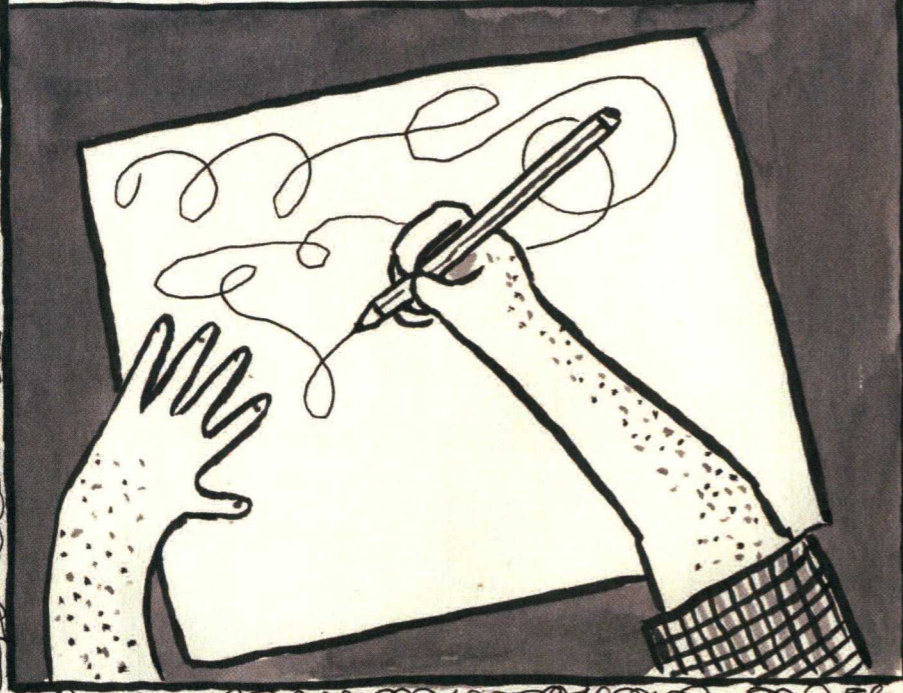
two lamps will cancel out shadows. I learned this from my dentist. Light from two sources is nice.

Q: IS IT BAD TO WATCH TV WHILE DRAWING?

A: IF YOU ARE GOING TO WATCH TV WHY NOT DRAW PICTURES TOO?

What does a line do?

IT'S NOT SOMETHING THAT YOU ARE GOOD AT OR BAD AT. IT'S SOMETHING ELSE.



What is it about the hand? The hand and the motion we call handwriting?

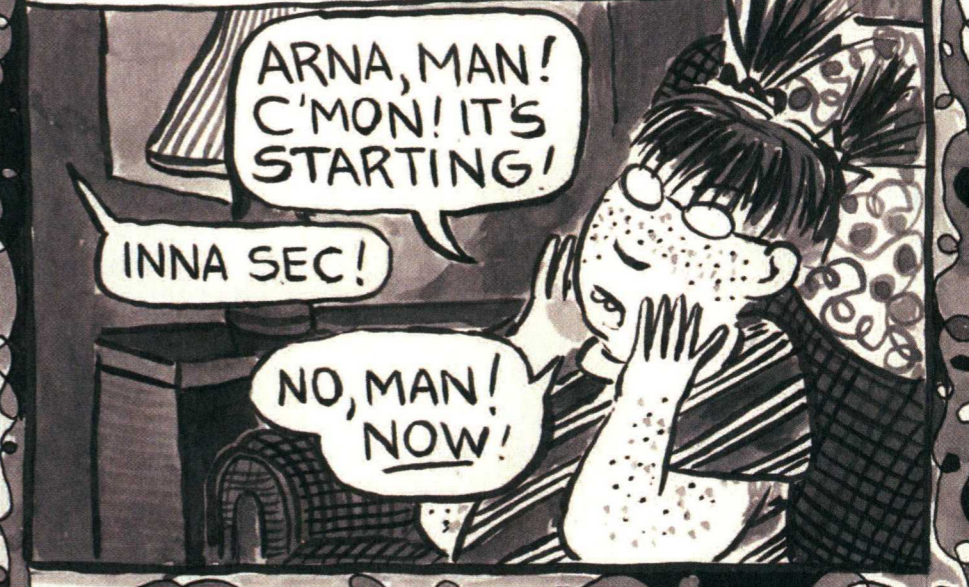


WHAT MAKES US START DRAWING?



WHAT MAKES US STOP?

YOU MOVE YOUR HAND AND YOU SCRIBBLE ALL YOU WANT AND IT FEELS VERY GOOD. I CAN REMEMBER THAT FEELING.



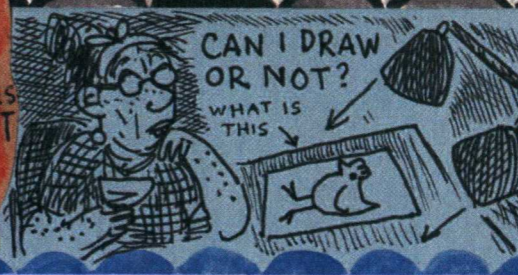
ARNA, MAN! C'MON! IT'S STARTING!

INNA SEC!

NO, MAN! NOW!

scribble slowly

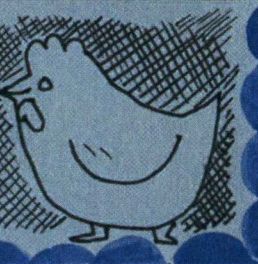
can you follow the lines?



CAN I DRAW OR NOT?

WHAT IS THIS

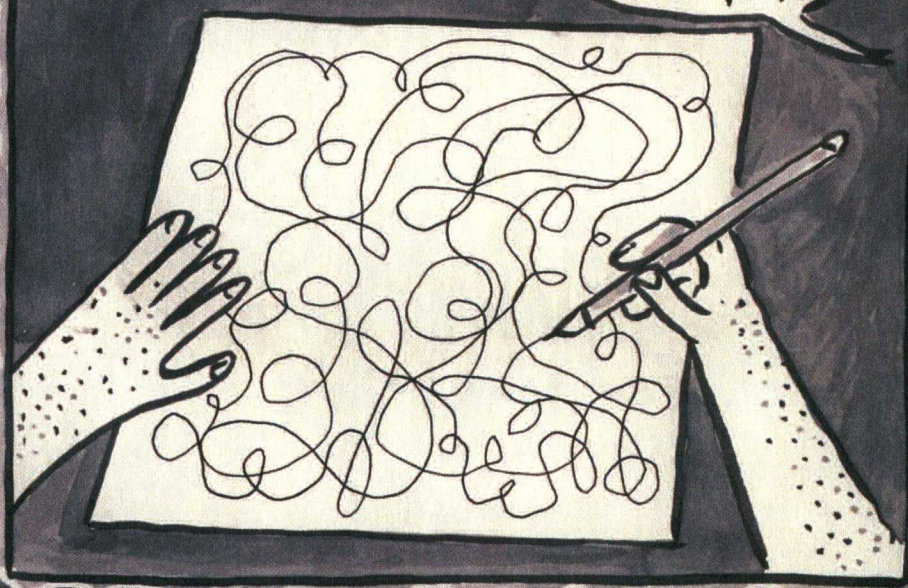
FROM THE BEGINNING OF MY TIME AS A CARTOONIST PEOPLE HAVE SAID I CAN'T DRAW OR THAT MY DRAWING IS BAD.



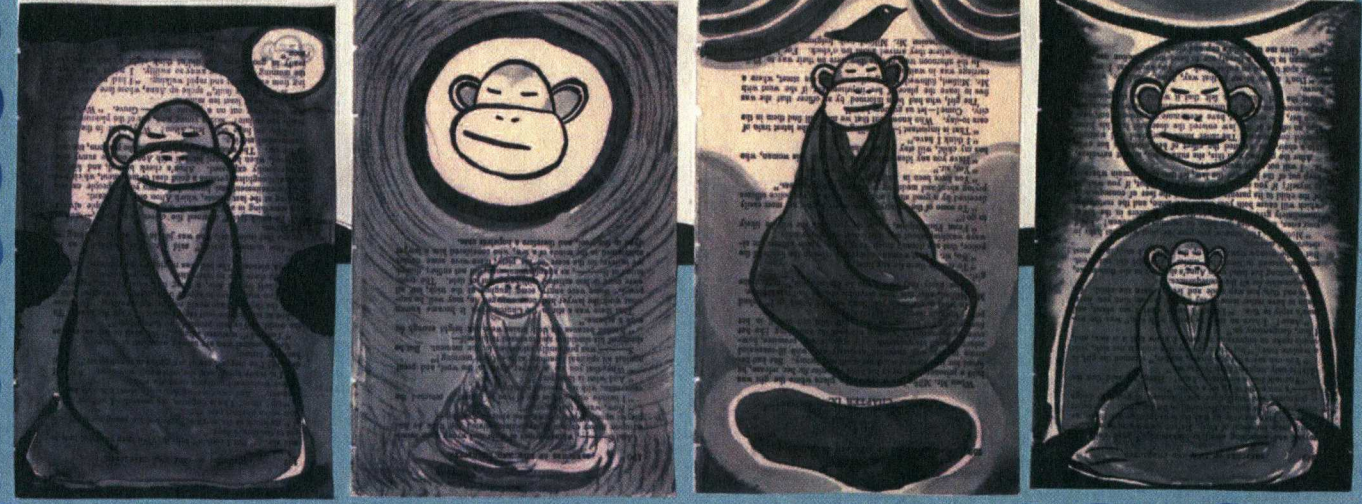
what turns a line into a

I DIDN'T KNOW IT IS BABYISH TO STILL LIKE TO DO THIS UNTIL MARLYS MADE FUN OF ME FOR IT.

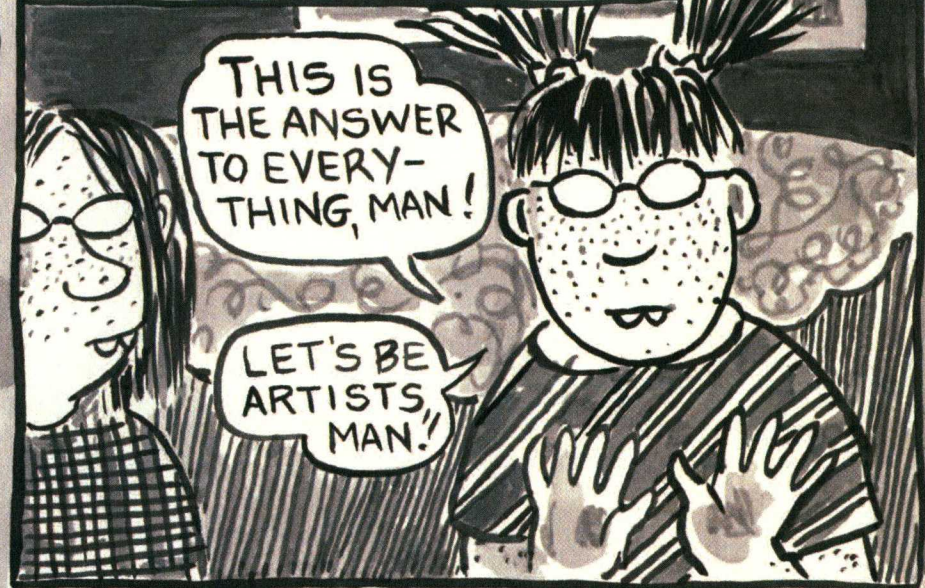
ARNA!



a line is a pull to what pulls you



BUT THEN WE SAW ON TV HOW HAIRY BEATNIKS WERE MAKING SCRIBBLE PICTURES AND SELLING THEM FOR A MILLION DOLLARS.



What does not being able to draw mean? IF I CAN'T DRAW WHAT AM I DOING?



WHY DO I DRAW ANYWAY?



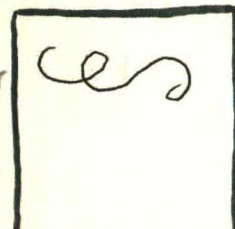
the Near-Sighted MONKEY can't draw either.

TRUE FALSE

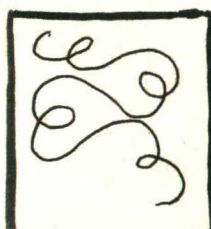
SO NOW WE BOTH MAKE THEM AND WHEN WE GET 100 DONE MARLYS SAYS WE CAN BUY THE UNIVERSE.



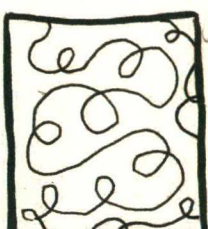
NOW ALL WE GOTTA DO IS CATCH A HAIRY BEATNIK AND MAKE HIM TELL US WHERE HE SELLS HIS PICTURES.



1 START YOUR SCRIBBLE



2 LET IT WANDER



3 COVER THE PAGE

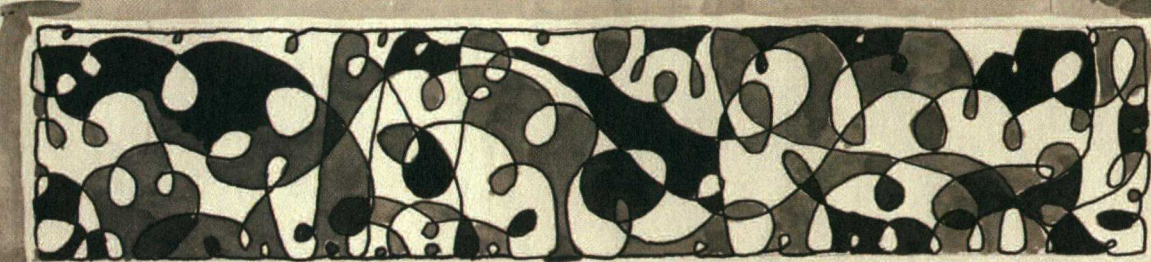
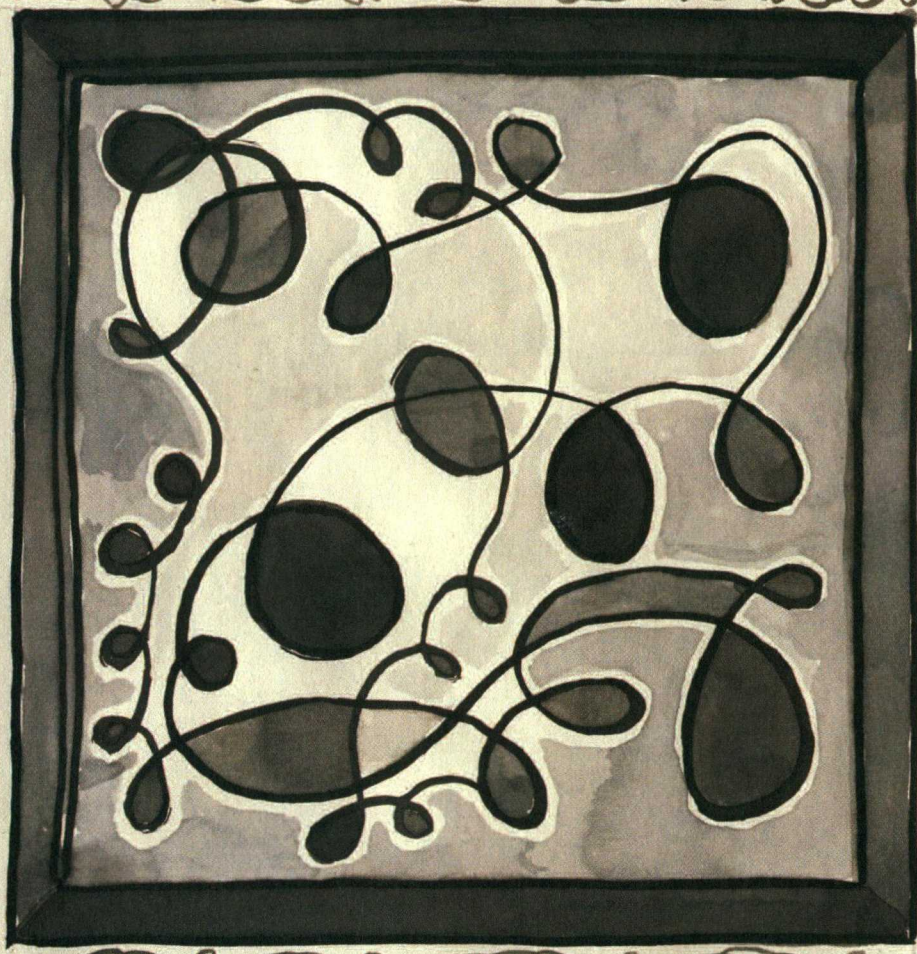


4 FILL IT IN



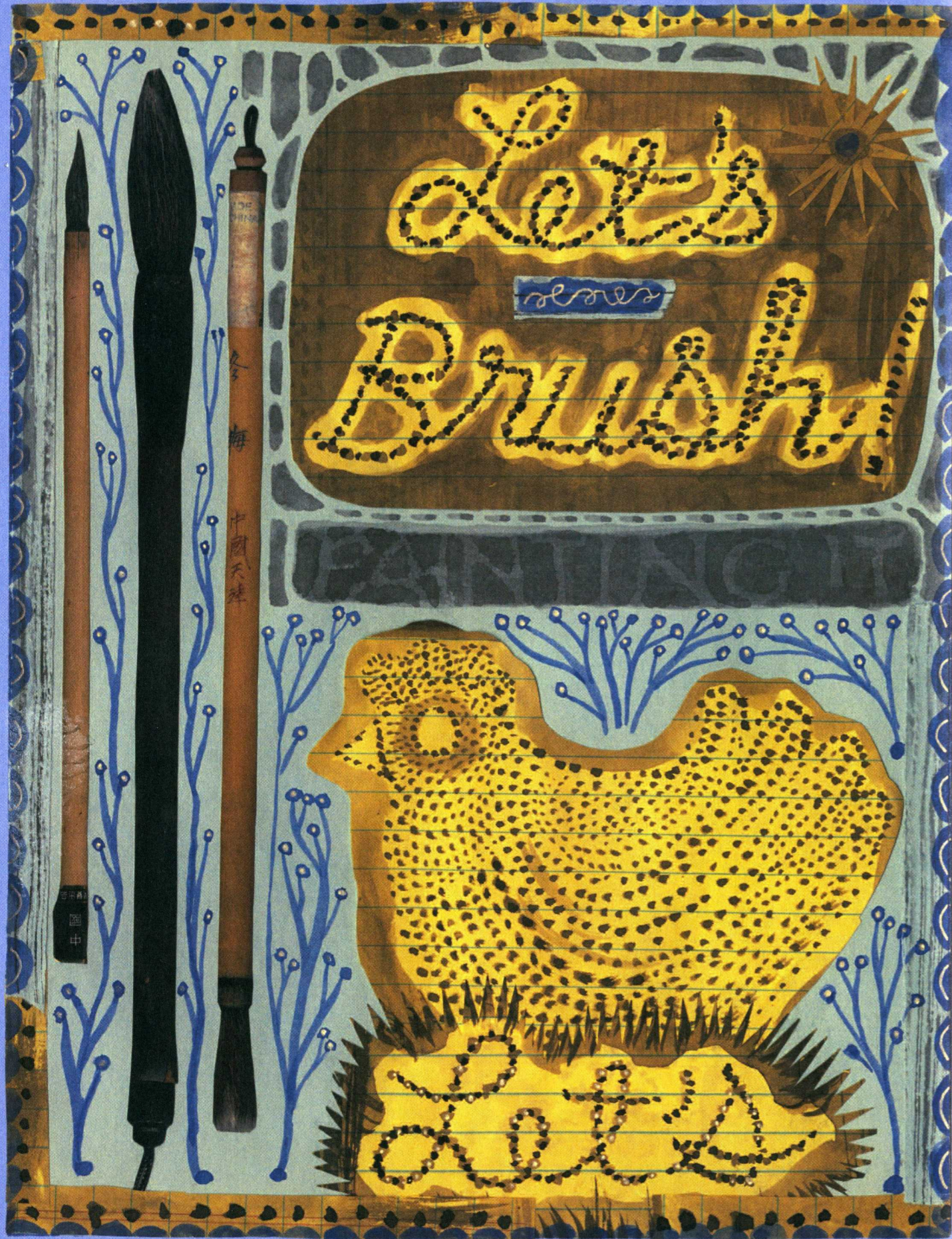
5 LOCATE HAIRY BEATNIK

Practicing Wandering Lines



Is there a pen for you but how shall you find it?

understanding your paintbrush and pretending it's alive and has a living sense of direction is recommended by the Monkey



THAW

LEAK. FROM THE CEILING IN OUR ROOM WHEN THE BUCKET IN THE ATTIC FILLS UP.



FOR ONE MONTH THE WORLD HAS BEEN FROZEN. NO RAIN, JUST ICE AND SNOW. THEN THE CHANGE.



AND AT THE DOOR DOWNSTAIRS: MY MOM AND MY AUNT, HOME FROM THE CANNERY AND NOT IN THE MOOD FOR LEAKS. WE SNEAK SOME PAILS UPSTAIRS.



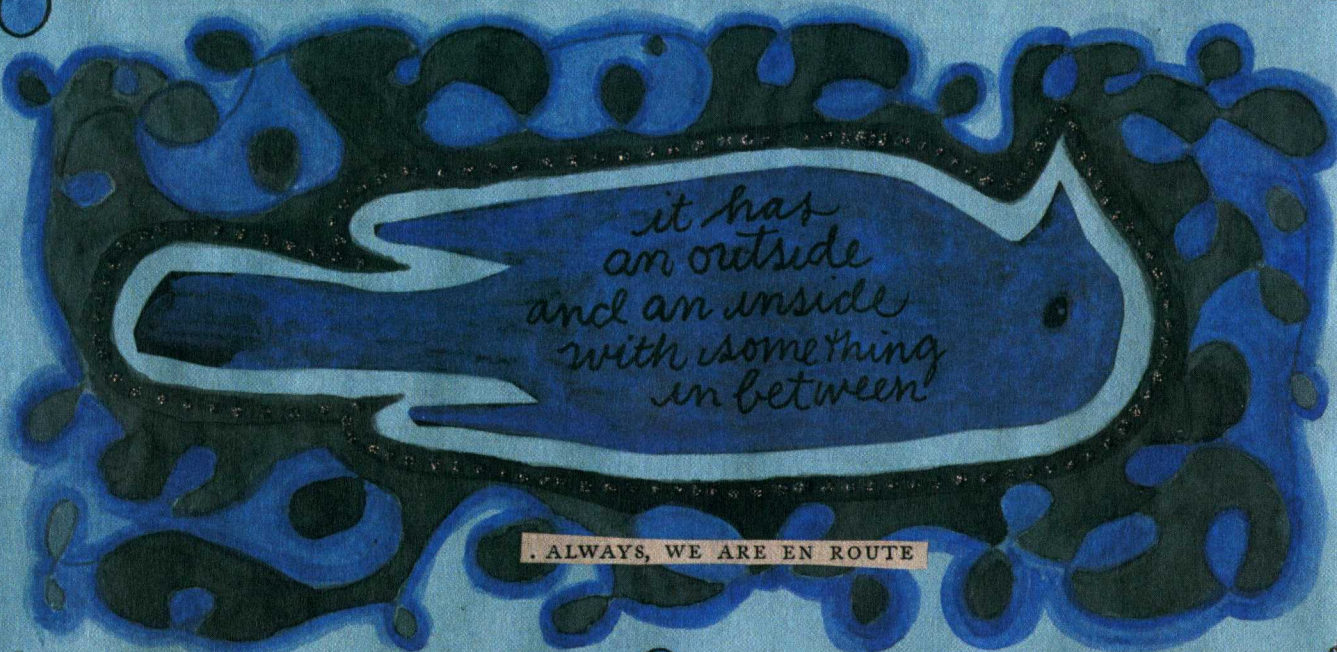
THE SPREADING STAIN ON THE CEILING, A SHAPE FLOATING OVER US AT NIGHT. A SMELL OF WET WOOD AND PLASTER. THREE MORE WEEKS 'TIL SPRING.



Shadow, shadow, small or tall,
I wonder why you don't fall.
Shadow, shadow, big and tall
I wonder why you don't call.



TAKING SHAPE



1. COVER THE BACKGROUND OF A PHOTO OF A BIRD WITH BLACK INK.

2. COVER THE BIRD IN THE PICTURE WITH BLUE PAINT.



When does it happen?



When does something take shape?

"At last!" he cried, when he saw us; "I thought you were never coming. What in the world has kept you?"



How does it happen?



How does a thing take shape?

Moving Water Turns a Wheel



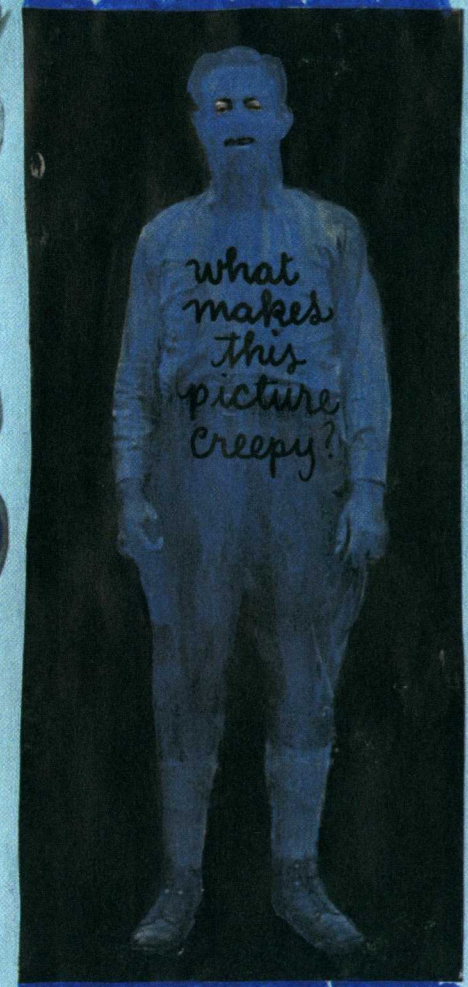
ADMIT THAT YOU MAKE CREEPY PICTURES ON PURPOSE.

YEAH.

BECAUSE YOU LIKE 'EM.

YEAH.

BUT WHY?



I was a kid that liked monsters. I LIKED TURNING PICTURES OF PEOPLE IN MAGAZINES INTO SOMETHING SCARY. I used an eraser. SOMETIMES I POKED HOLES



Sometimes my mother would see what I'd done and lose her mind



YOU RUINED THIS!

IT WAS IN THE GARBAGE, SO I THOUGHT---

YOU THOUGHT! YOU CALL THIS THINKING?

BUT YOU THREW IT AWAY--

WHEN I PUT SOMETHING IN THE GARBAGE I WANT IT TO STAY THERE!



DO NOT RUIN THE GARBAGE!

MONSTERS DON'T STAY PUT. THIS IS GOOD.

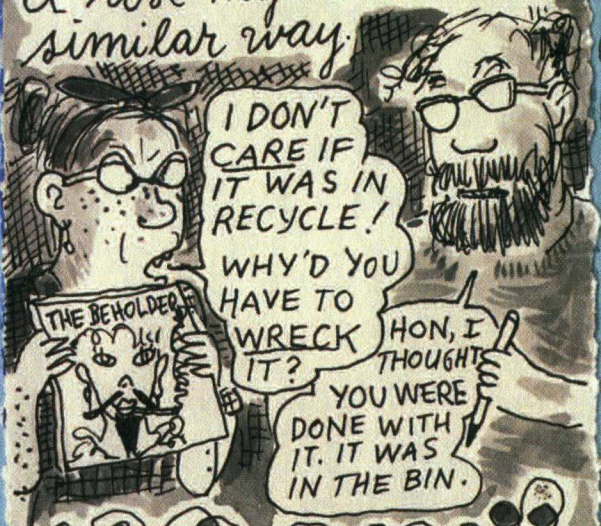


IT IS ALSO BAD. THEY ARE NOT ALWAYS THERE WHEN YOU NEED THEM

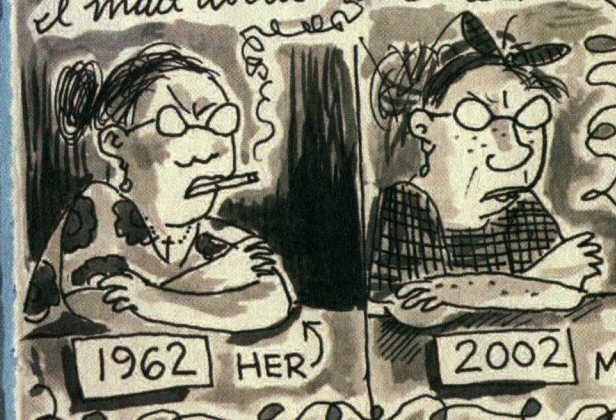


AND THEY DON'T ALWAYS COME WHEN YOU CALL THEM.

I remembered this on a day years later when I lost my mind in a similar way.

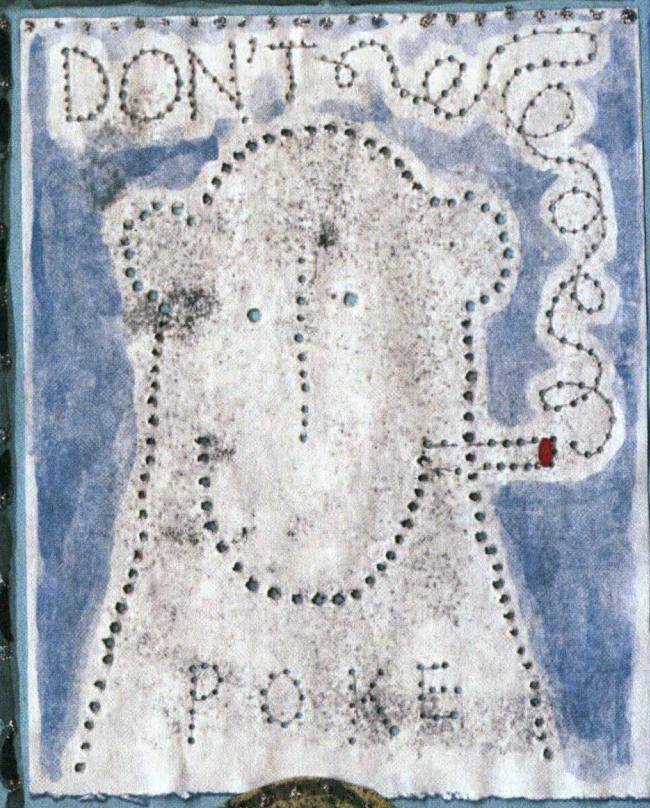


I was done with it I didn't care about it to begin with. So what was I mad about?



Can You Answer This ?

DOES EXPERIENCE HAVE A SHAPE?
 Can this shape be passed from one person to another?
 Why do we talk about things that shape character?
 OR SHAPE THE COURSE OF OUR LIVES?
 What is it that 'TAKES SHAPE'?



It will soon be supper time.



good shape

bad shape



DONT



Where is my rabbit

What shape is expectation?

Who does a shape belong to?

WHEN WE HAVE BAD RAIN THE CEILING CHANGES. NEW SHAPES SEEP THROUGH.



OLD ONES CHANGE OR DISAPPEAR, CERTAIN ANIMALS AND ALSO MONSTERS.



STICK-ARM STAN, THE SMOKING SQUID, AND THE DRIP DROP FINGER MAN HAVE COME AND GONE.



AND NOW THERE IS A RABBIT

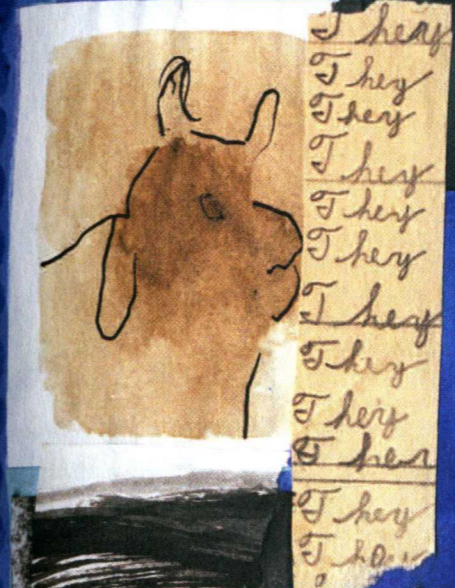
BUT IT IS RAINING HARD. SO NO ONE IN THIS WORLD WILL SEE THAT RABBIT BUT ME.



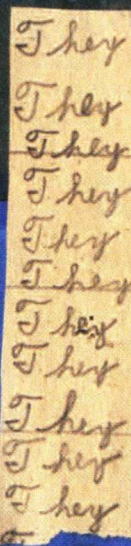
BAD SHAPE



GOOD SHAPE



DO YOU SEE WHAT IS THERE?

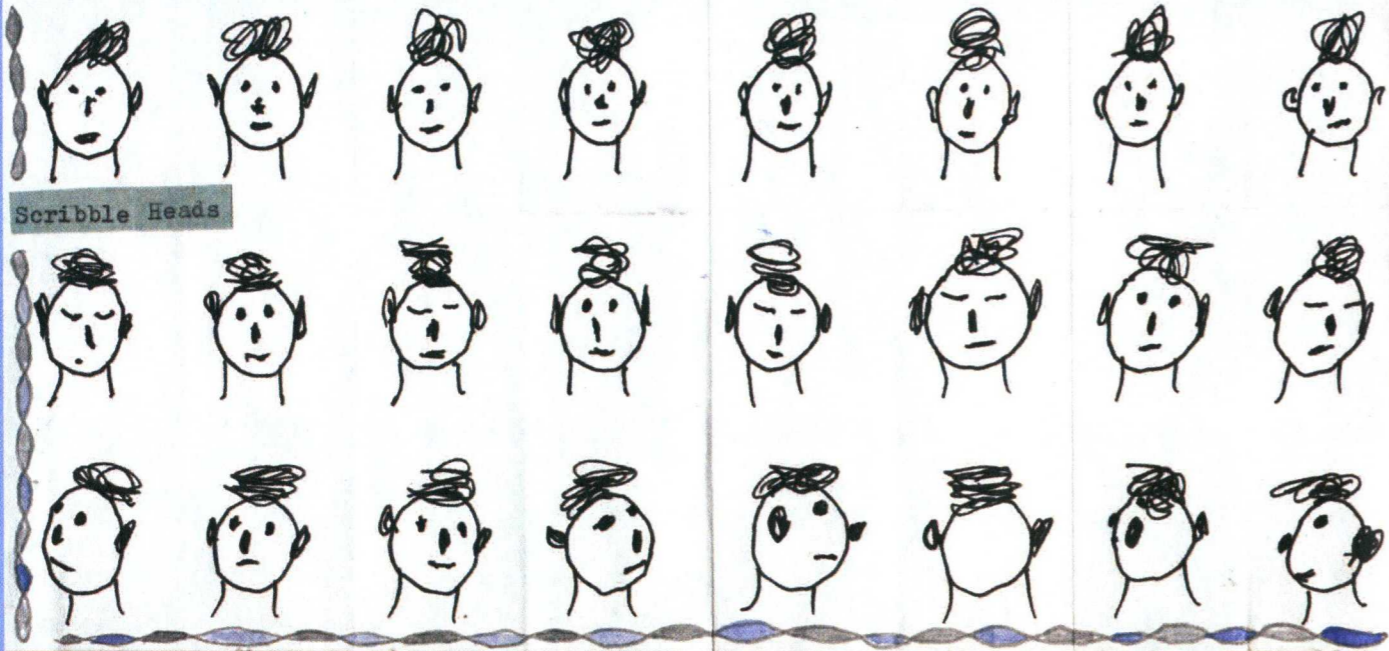


There are shapes that form in shadows and stains




what makes this happen?



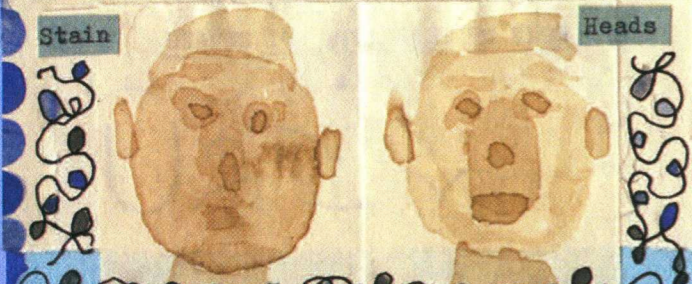


Scribble Heads

I DON'T REMEMBER WHEN I STARTED DRAWING FACES BUT I REMEMBER THE DAY I STOPPED BEING ABLE TO.



I ASKED AN OLDER COUSIN TO SHOW ME HOW TO DRAW A GIRL THE WAY SHE DID.



Stain Heads



THE NEAR-SIGHTED MONKEY MADE GRILLED-CHEESE FOR YOU

Don't please MENTION IT.



Stain Heads



IT'S NOT POSSIBLE TO KNOW WHAT WE ARE TRADING AWAY WHEN WE LEARN HOW TO DRAW IN A CERTAIN WAY, WITH INTENTION.

I remember TRYING TO GET THE EYES TO MATCH and being YELLED AT FOR WASTING PAPER. AND I remember REALIZING I COULD NOT DRAW.



DON'T

WHY DO SHAPES
APPEAR IN SHADOWS
AND STAINS?

SEE
THERE?

BOSS OF EVERYONE:
THE PIRATE
CHICKEN

WHERE?

BY THE
LIGHT
FIXTURE

NEEDED MY
GLASSES ON.

NEXT CAR
GOES BY YOU'LL SEE
THE HEADLIGHTS
SLIDE OVER THE
PIRATE CHICKEN.

OK. I'M
SEEIN' IT.



IS THERE A POWER
THAT MAKES THEM
SHOW THEMSELVES?

NOW YOU.

'CEPT NO
MONSTERS.
GOTTA BE
SOMETHING
NICE.

'K.

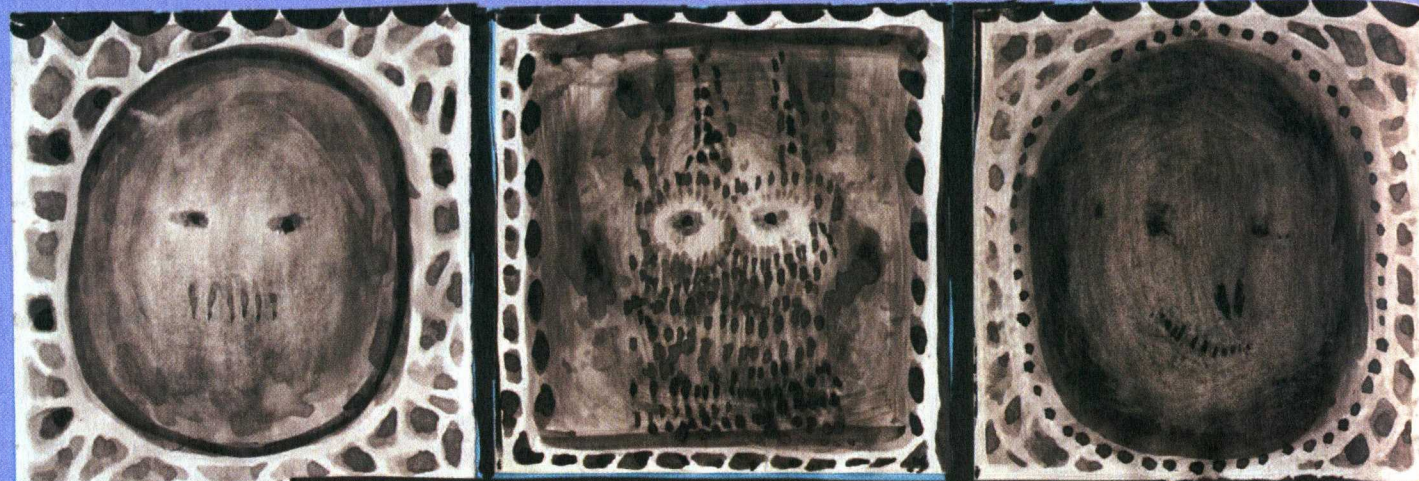
UM...



can we

choose what

we see?

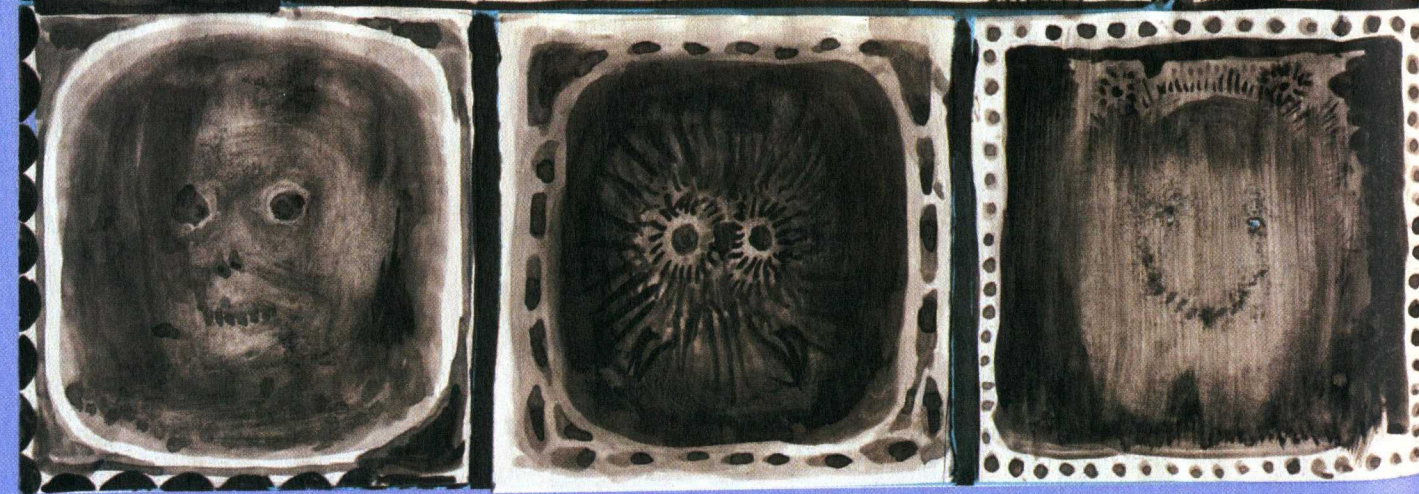


WHEN I TRY NOT TO SEE MONSTERS THEY ARE EVERYWHERE.

WHY'S IT GOTTA BE NICE?

BECAUSE THAT'S THE RULE.

WANNA FORFEIT?



WHEN WE SEE THE WATER-STAIN CREATURES, ARE WE INVENTING THEM OR IS THE CEILING INVENTING THEM?

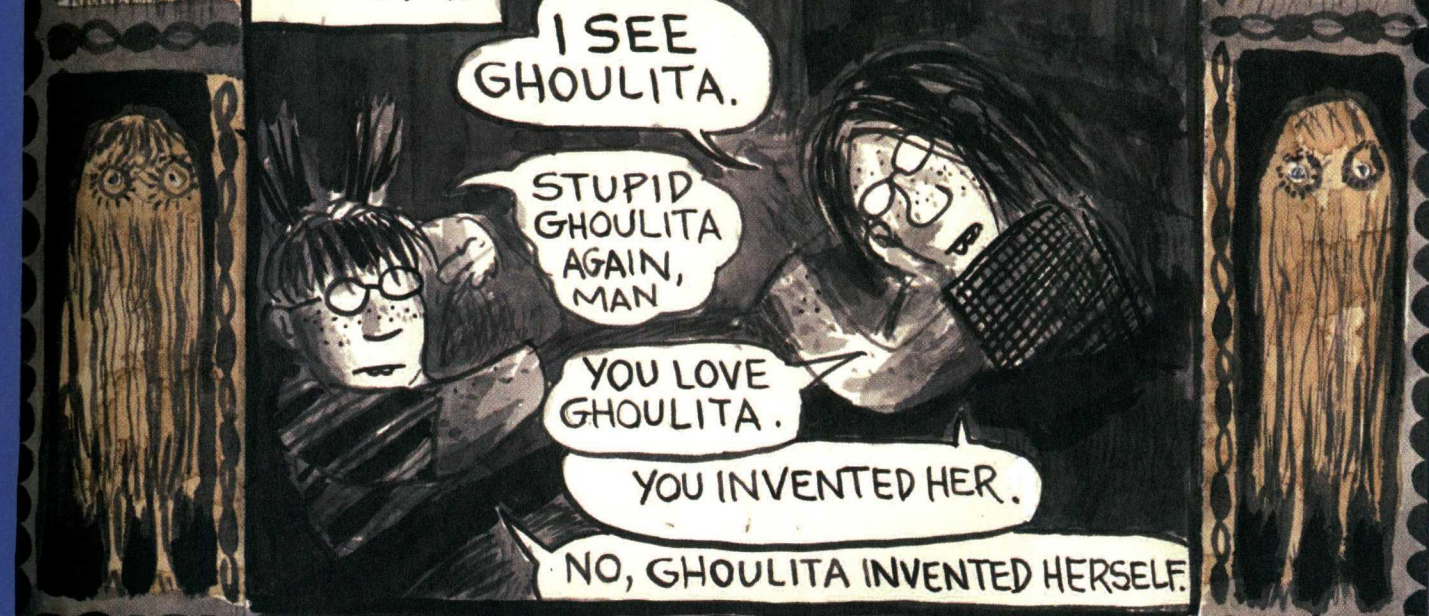
I SEE GHOULITA.

STUPID GHOULITA AGAIN, MAN.

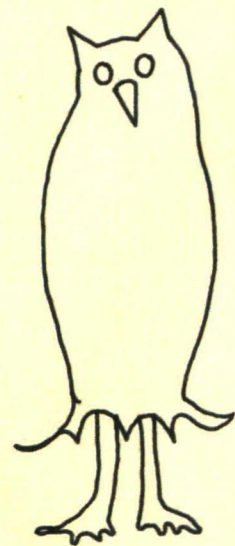
YOU LOVE GHOULITA.

YOU INVENTED HER.

NO, GHOULITA INVENTED HERSELF.

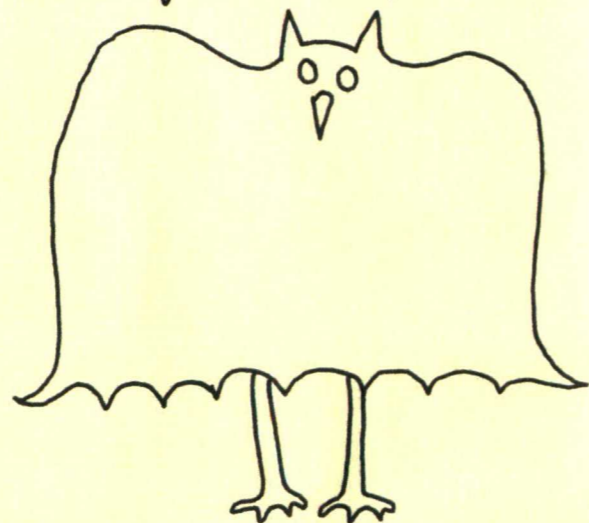


What happened ON the DAY I REALIZED I could not DRAW?

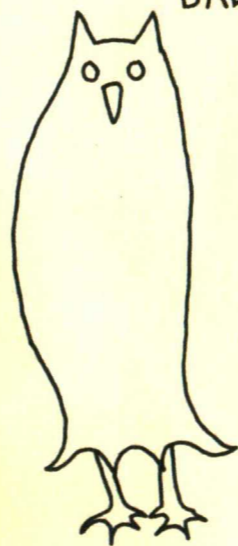


IT HAPPENS TO ALMOST everyone.

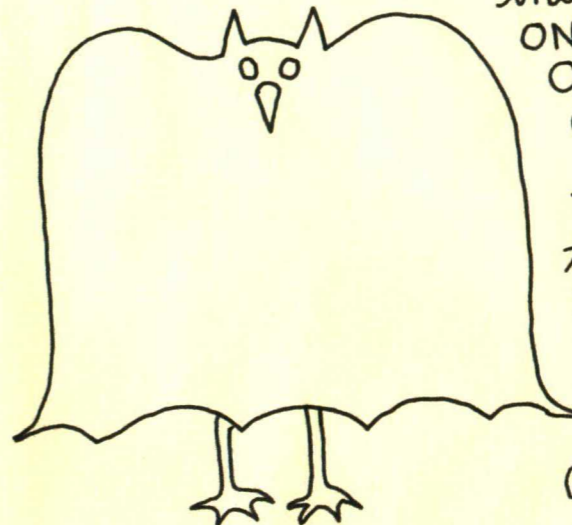
The transformation OF THE PAPER place for an experience.



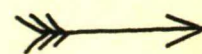
INTO A PAPER thing THAT IS GOOD or BAD.



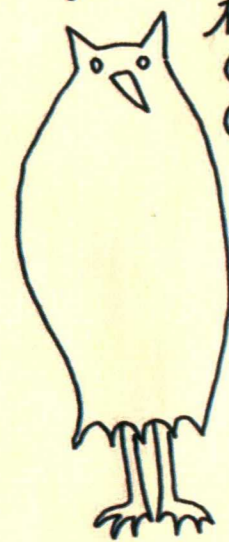
Shapes DIVIDED into PRETTY OR UGLY and the UGLY shapes ARE PUSHED away into A PLACE ON the OTHERSIDE OF thought.



TO keep them THERE SOME OF us had TO STOP DRAWING completely.



OR WE had TO LEARN
how TO DRAW in
AN Organized WAY



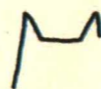
that
OTHERS
could
RECOGNIZE
AND
say
YES TO.

YES THAT IS
A nice DRAWING.



SO YOU have
not WASTED
TIME or PAPER.

KEEP DRAWING



and IF
YOU ARE LUCKY
and YOU CAN
REMEMBER what
drawing used
TO BE TO YOU.



you MAY be
ABLE TO
FIND YOUR
way BACK TO
THE PLACE
where the
SHAPES are
HAPPENING.

