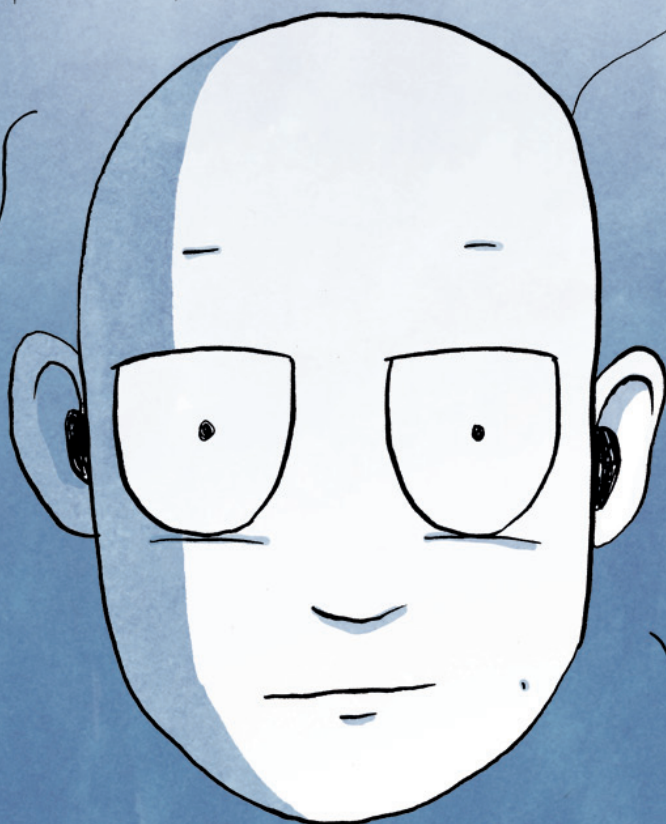


A HUNDREDO THOUSAND KNOTS



Kukka-Maria Kiuru

A HUNDRED THOUSAND KNOTS

A story about living life as a bald girl and a woman

To everyone insecure

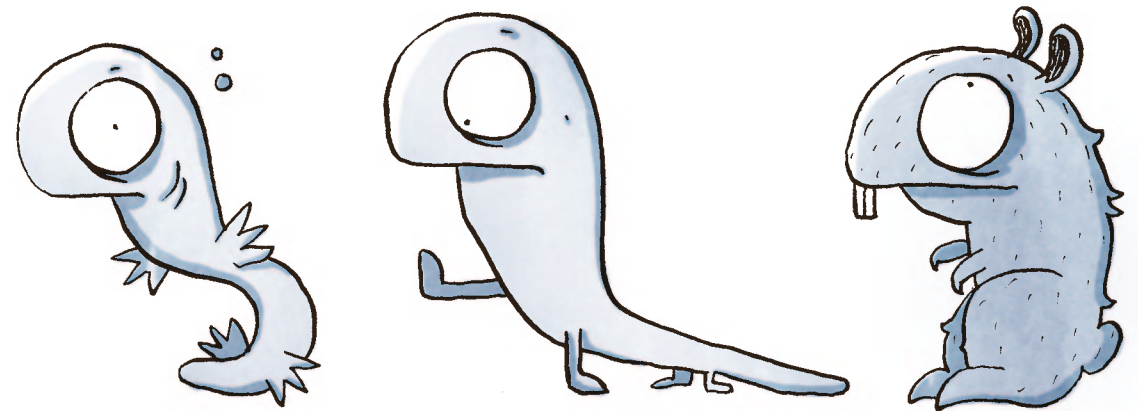
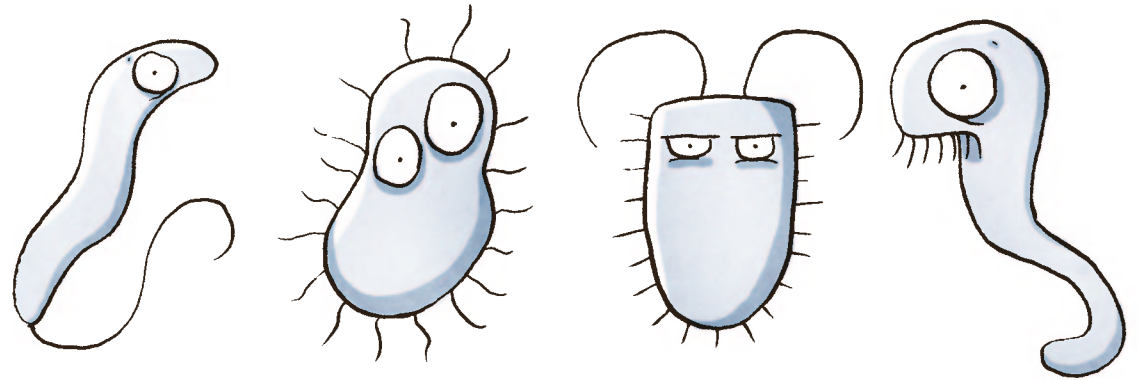
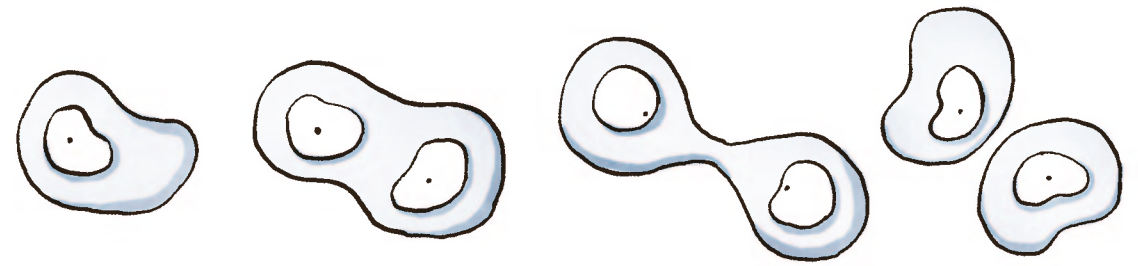


A Hundred Thousand Knots © Kukka-Maria Kiuru 2017
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The manuscript was written during 2013; the drawings and the layout completed in 2014, and the colouring in 2015.

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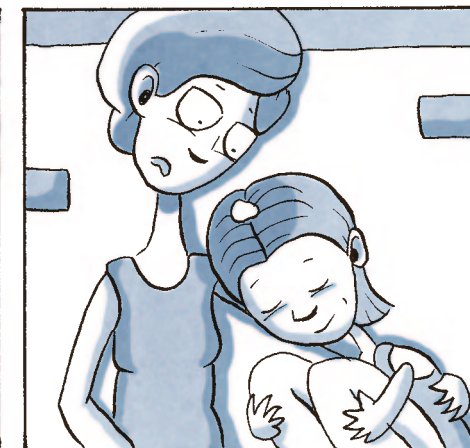
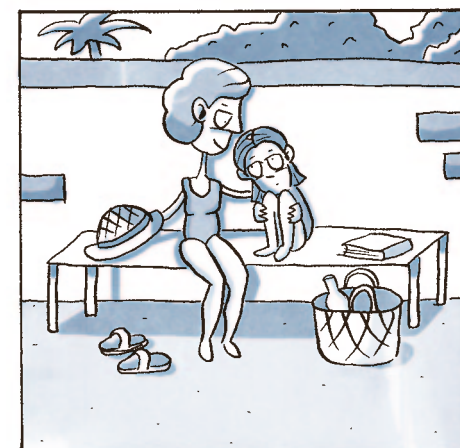
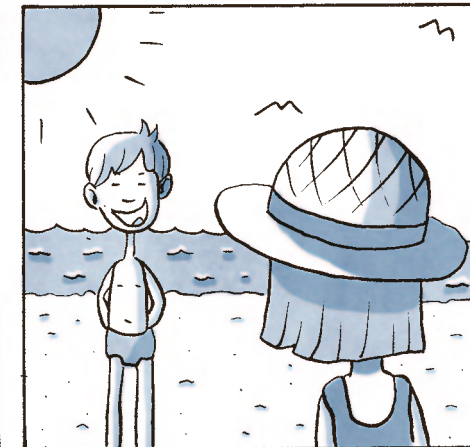
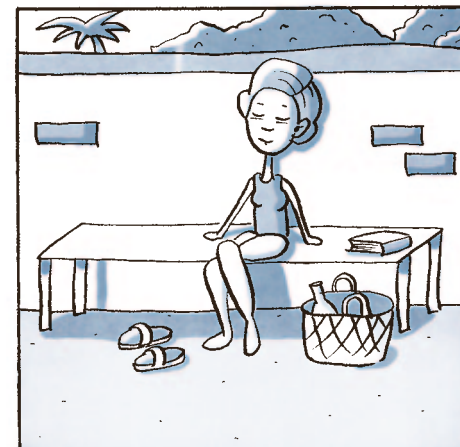
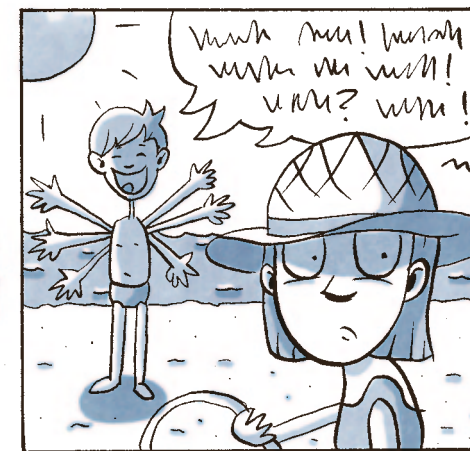
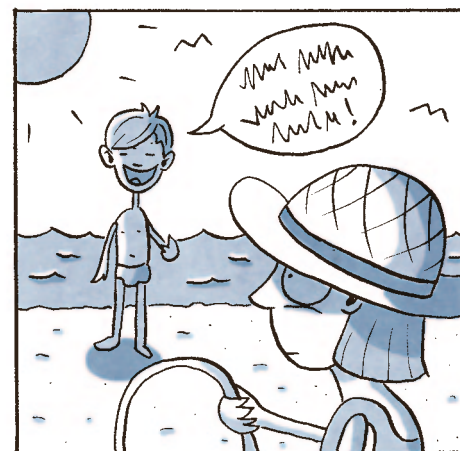
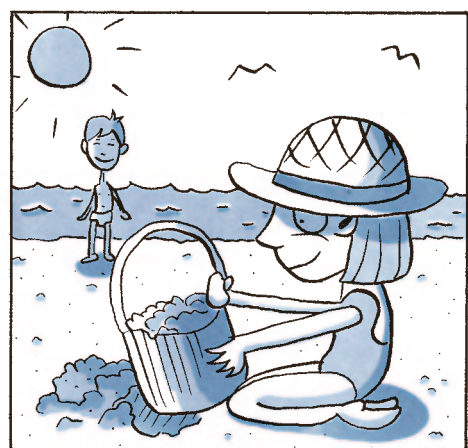
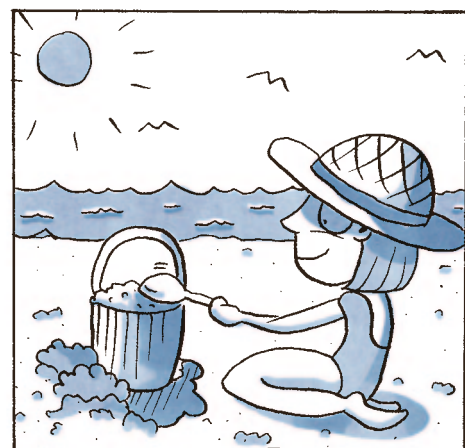
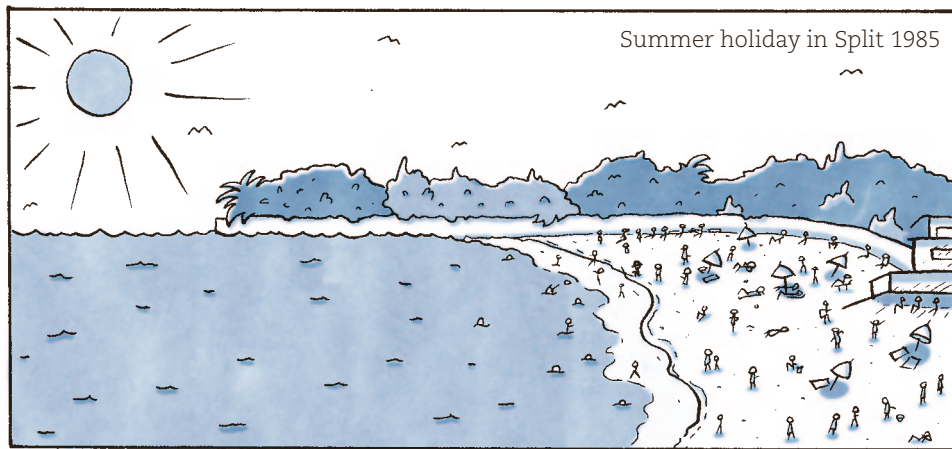
For more information, please visit: www.ahundredthousandknots.com





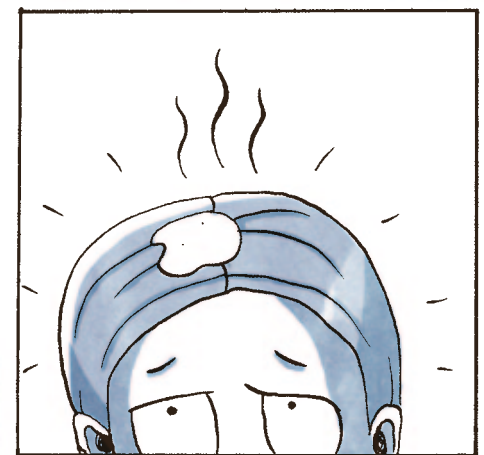
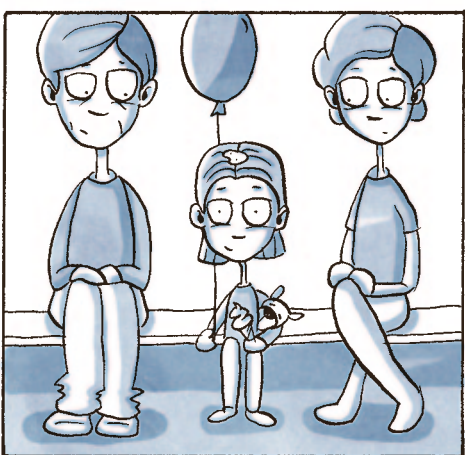
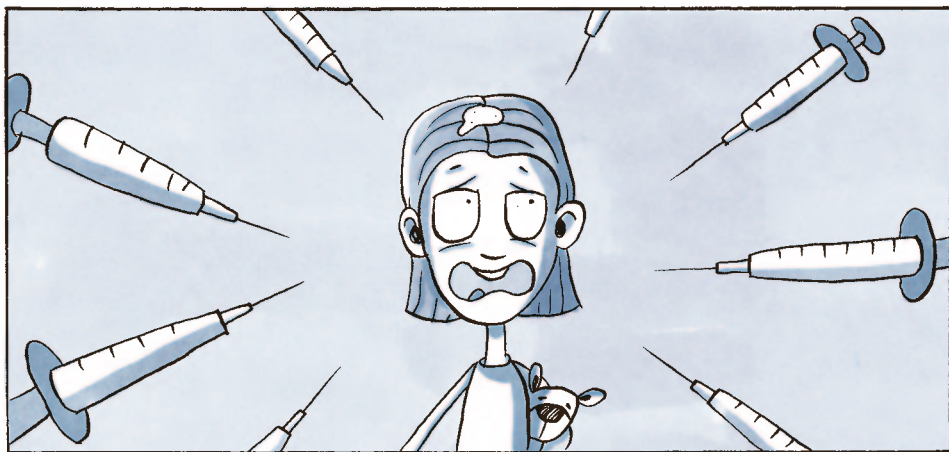
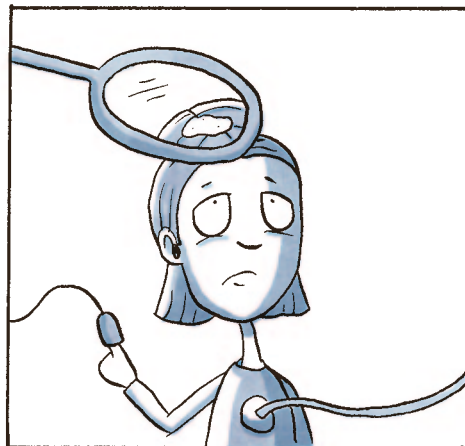
BUT
IT
IS

ONLY
HAIR.

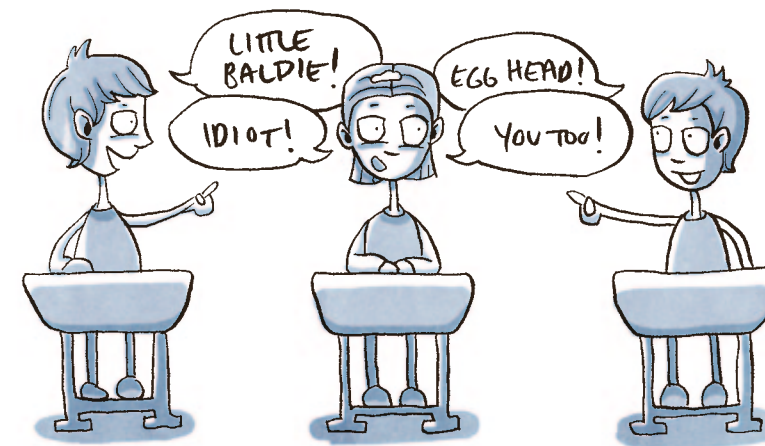
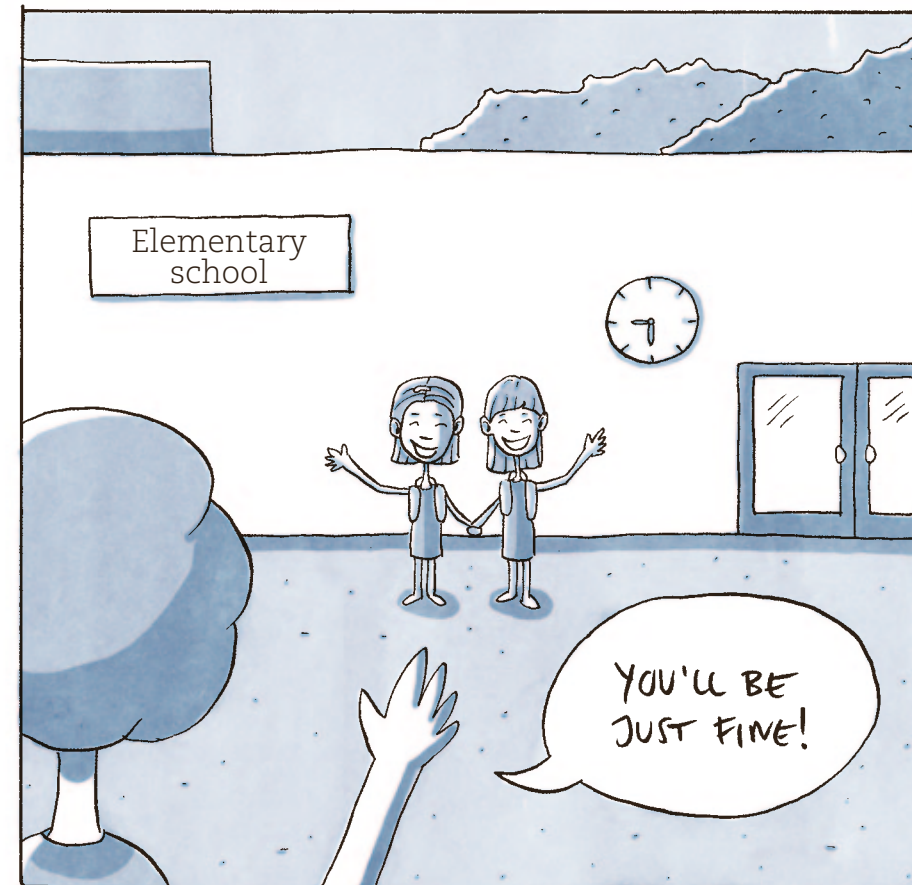
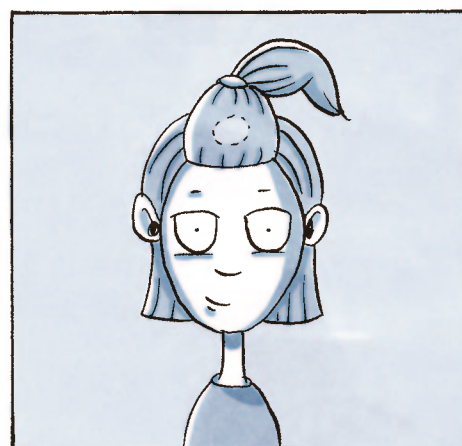
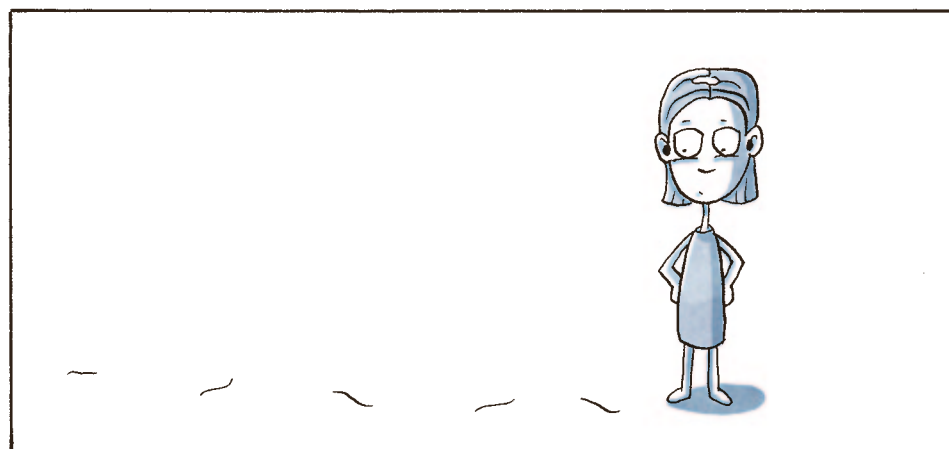


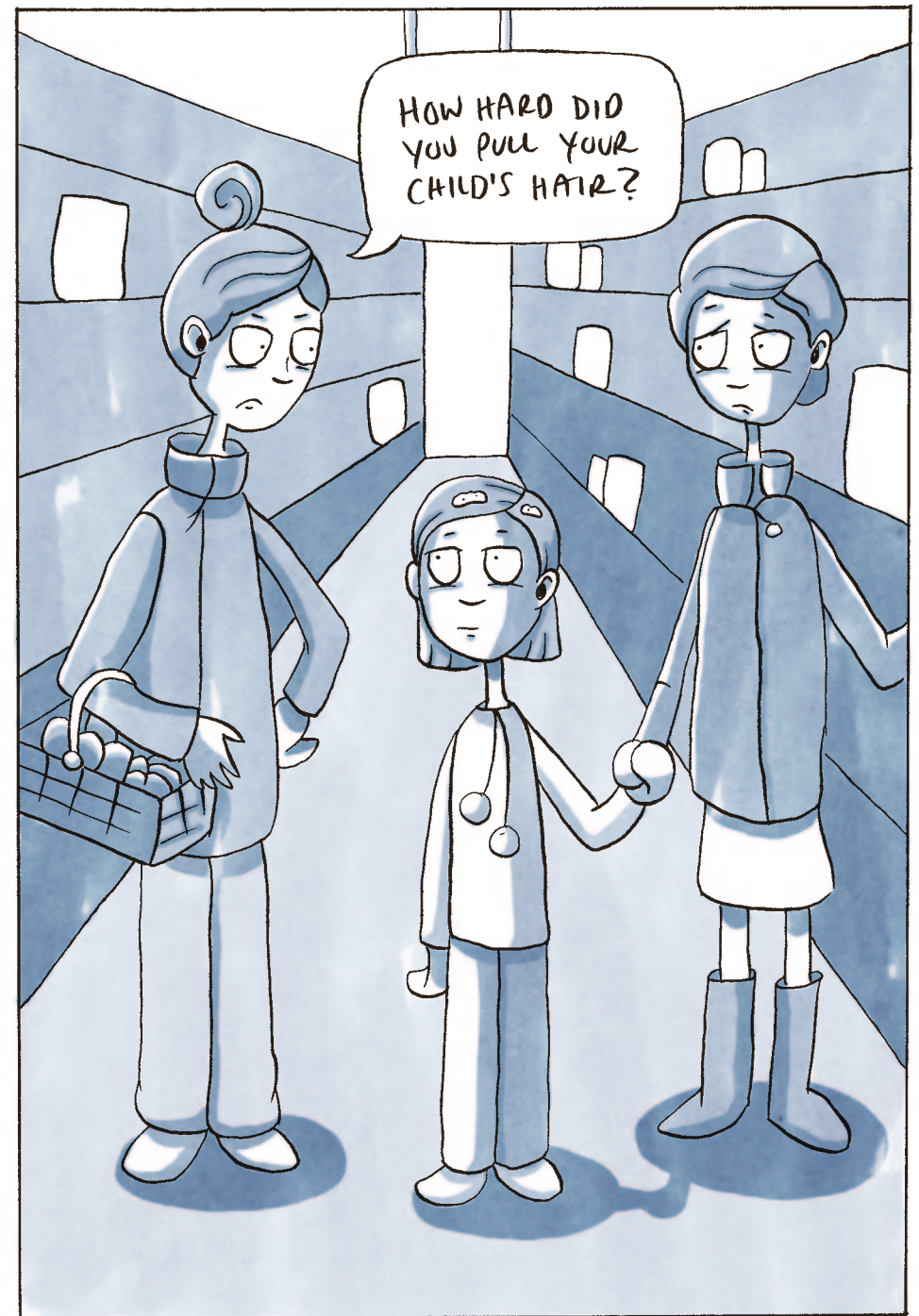


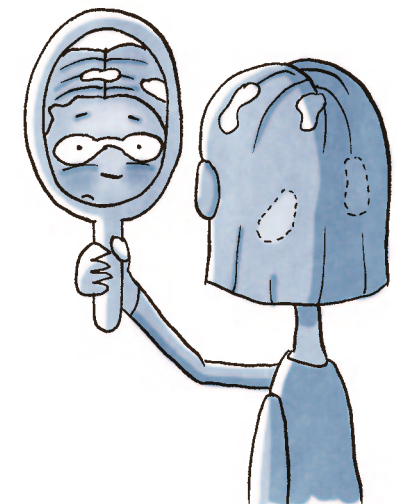
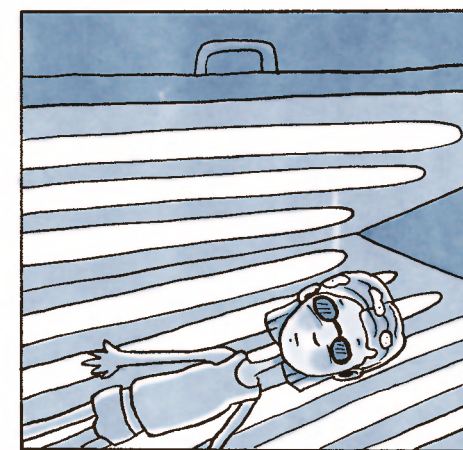
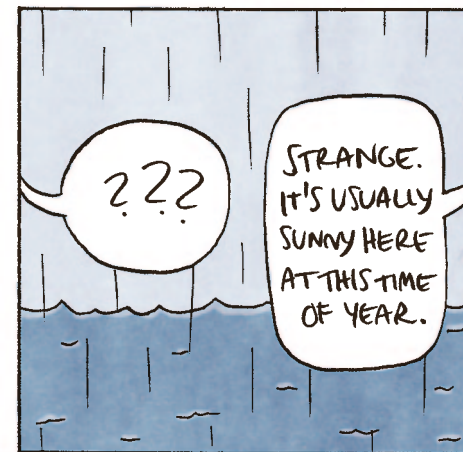
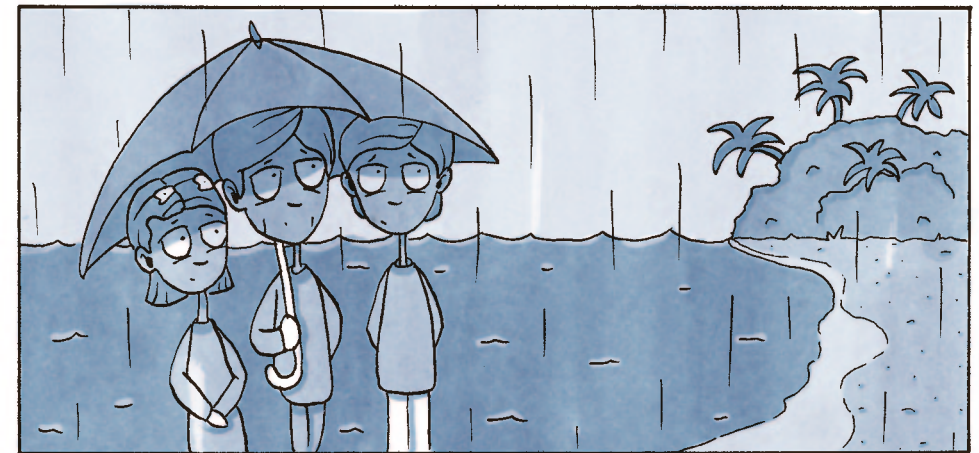
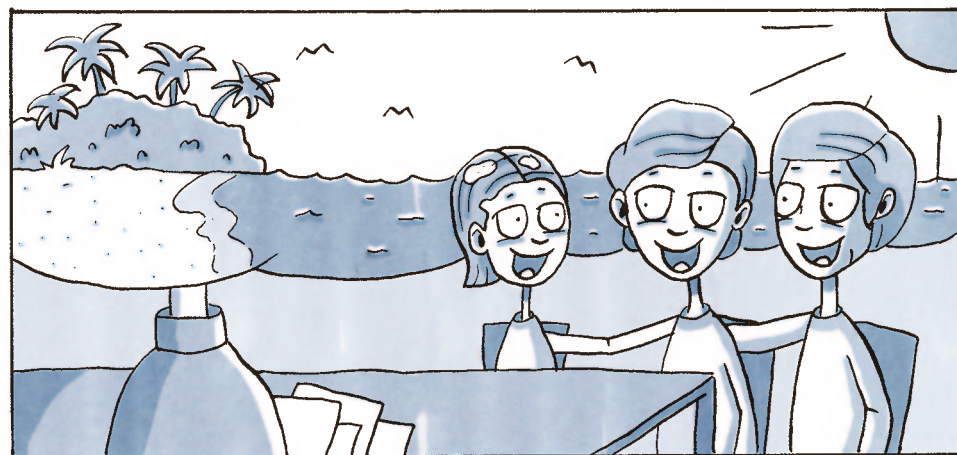
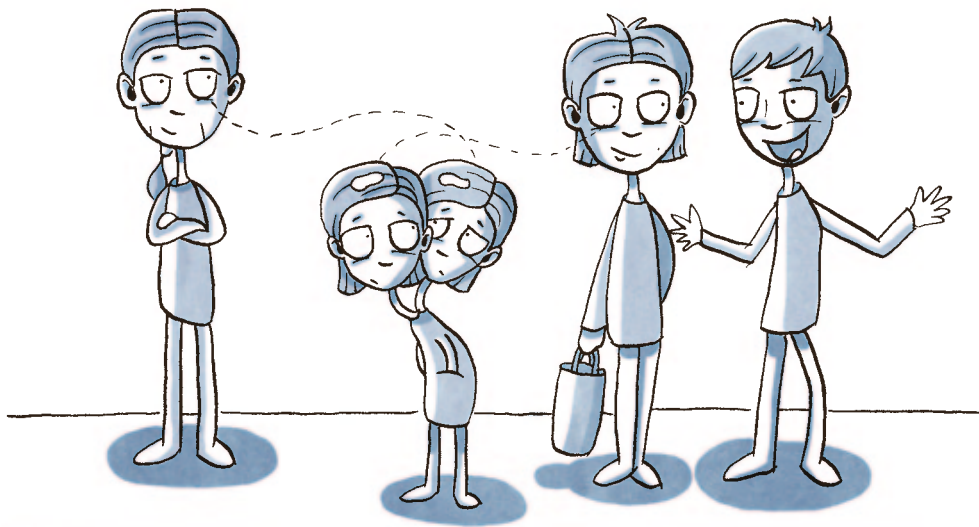
Alopecia Areata

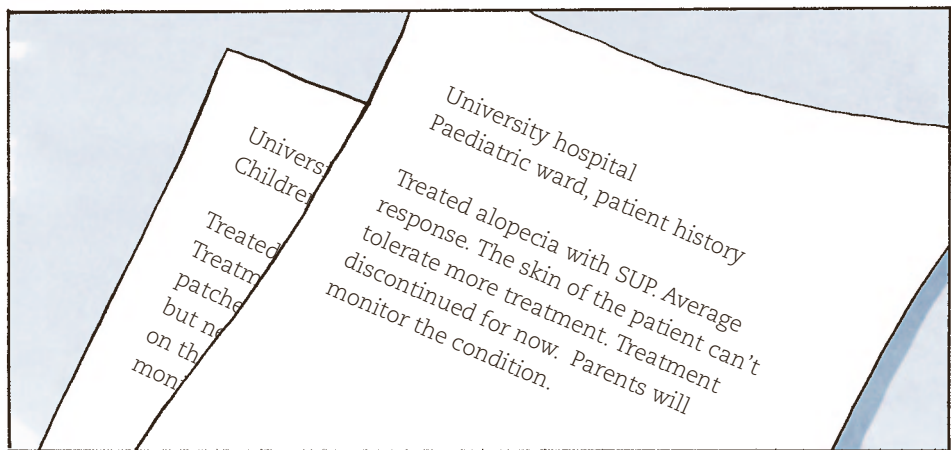
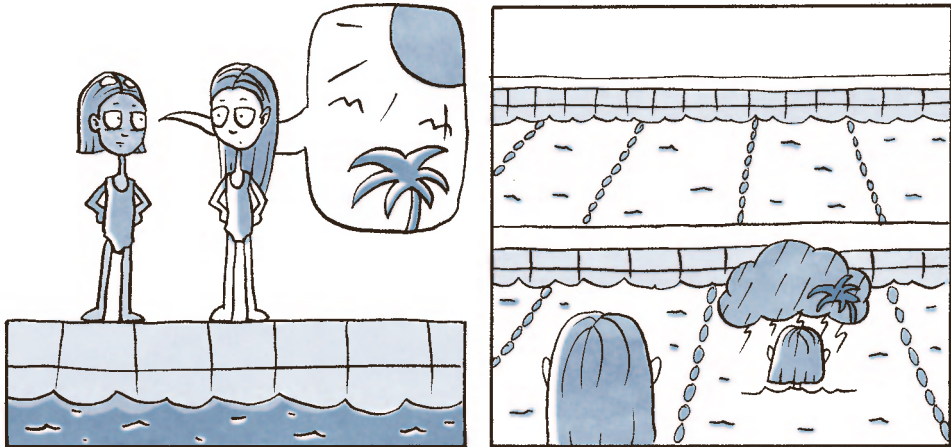
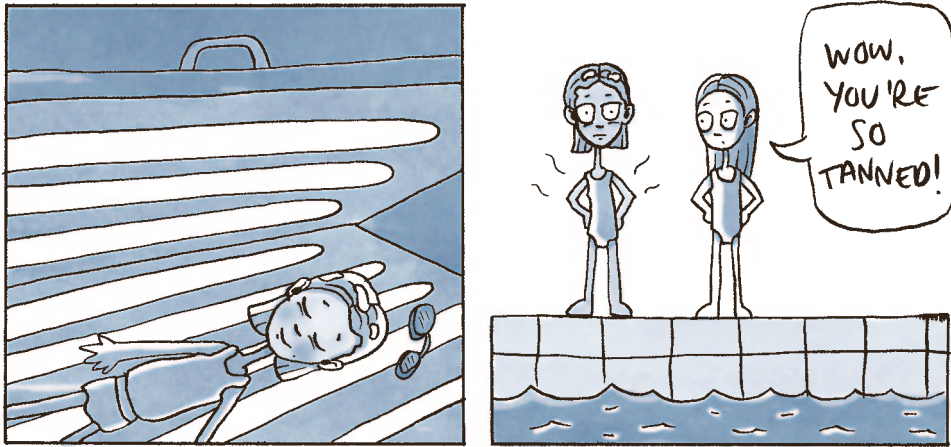


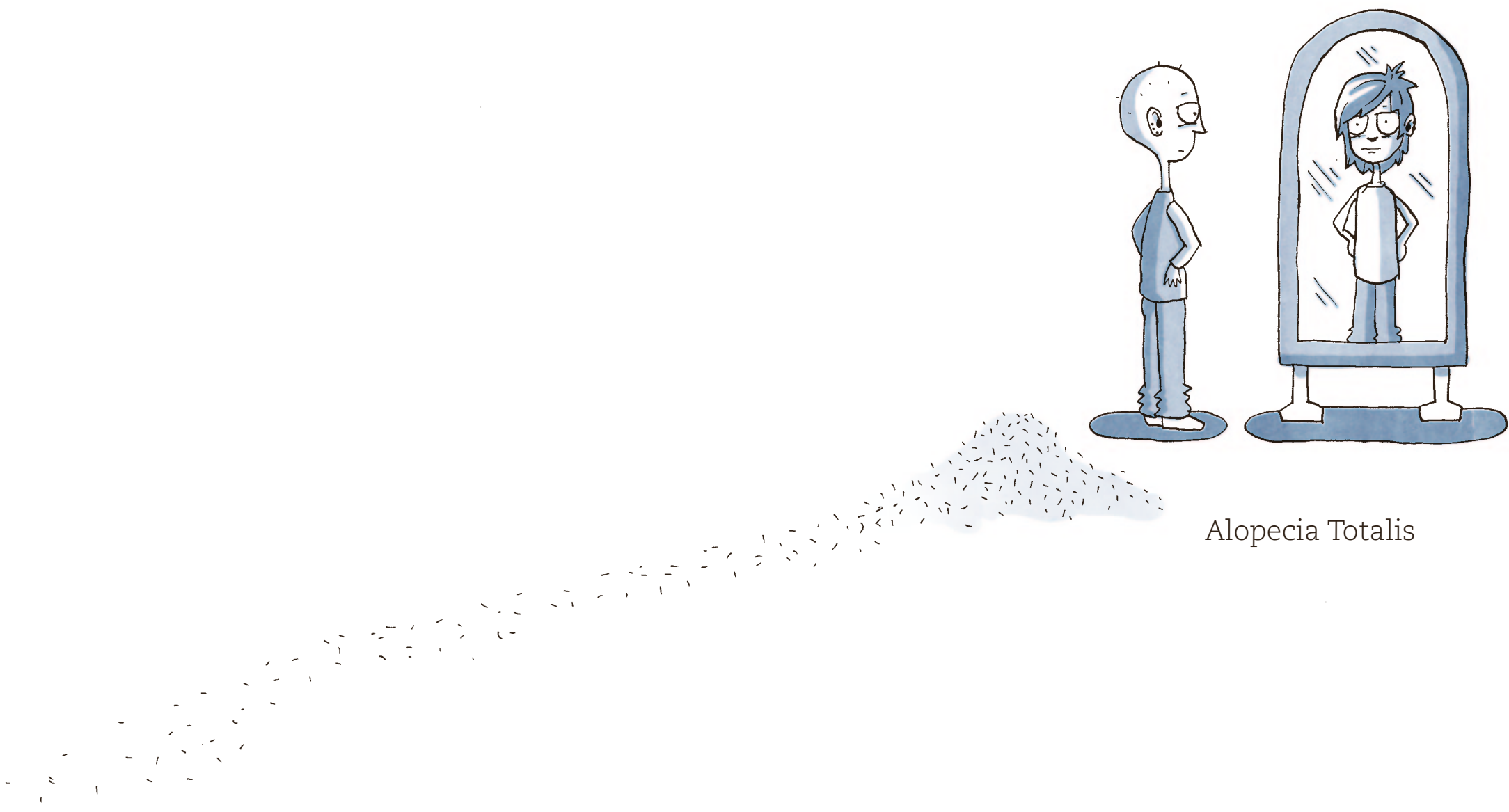
University hospital
Paediatric ward, patient history
Treated alopecia with cortisone. No effect.
Treatment discontinued for now. Some of
the bald patches have grown hair back
naturally, but new bald patches have
also appeared on the other side of
the head. Parents will monitor
the condition.



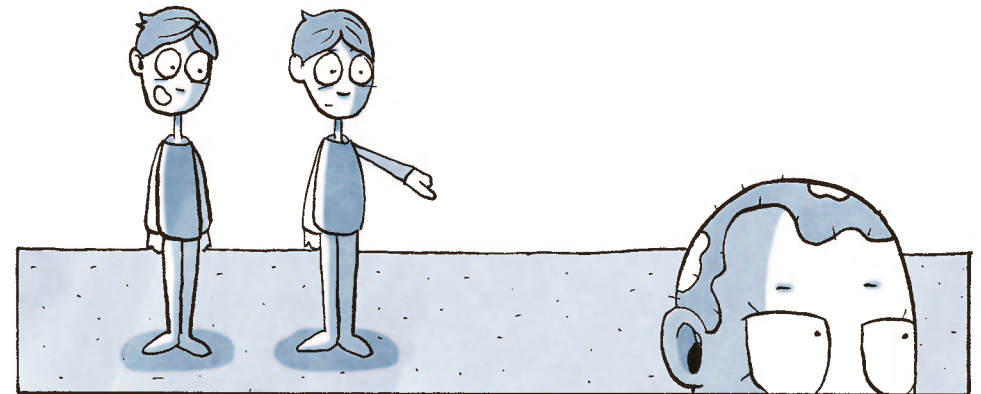
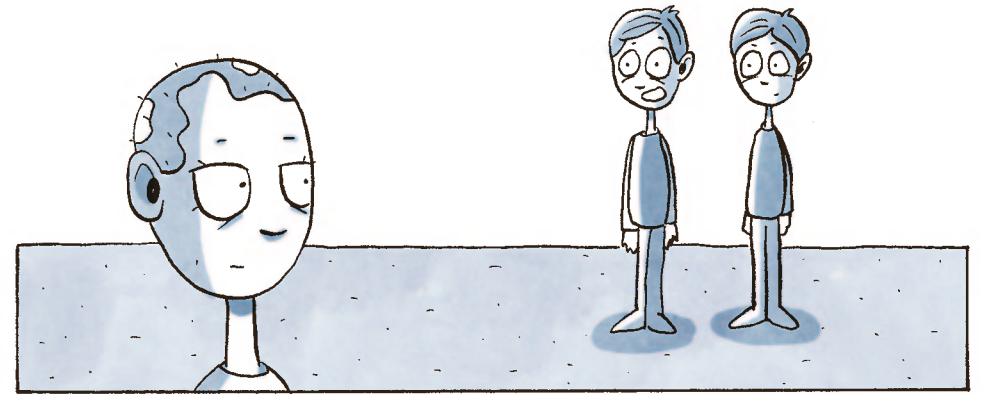
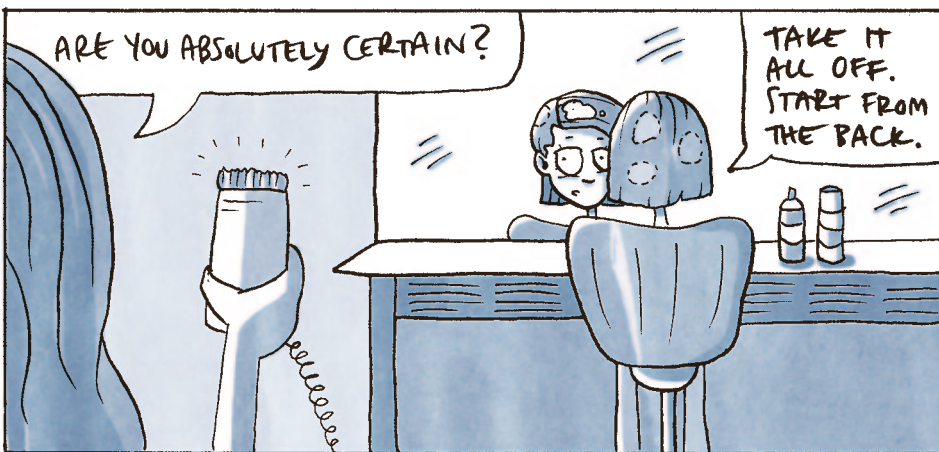
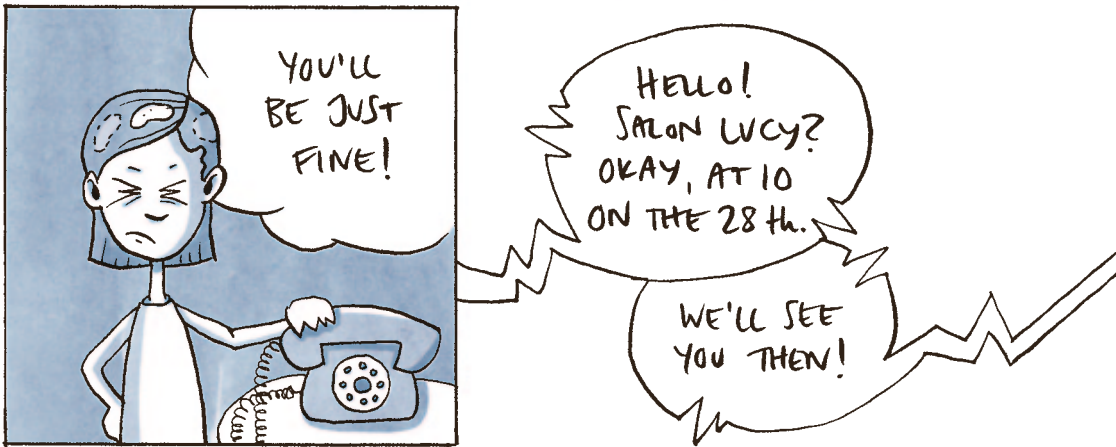


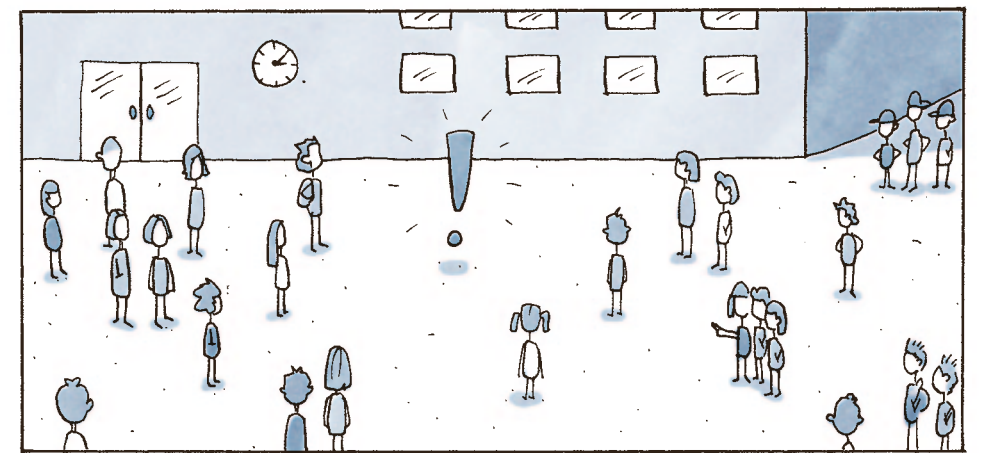
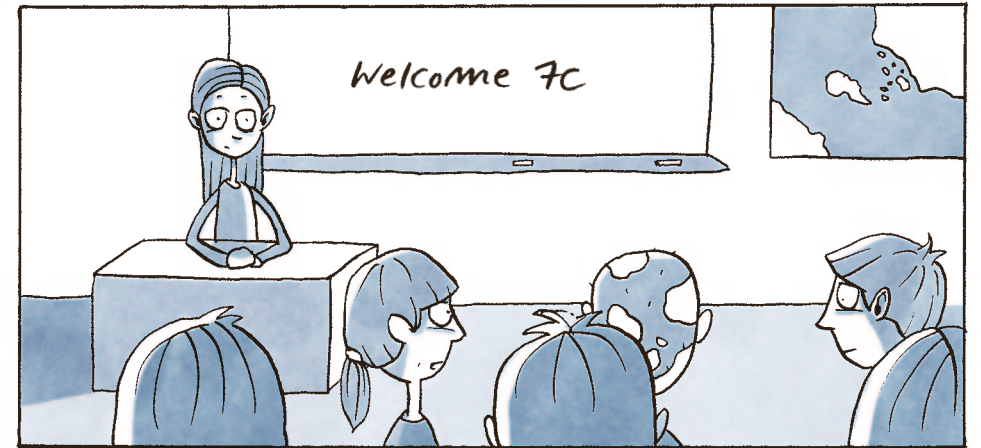
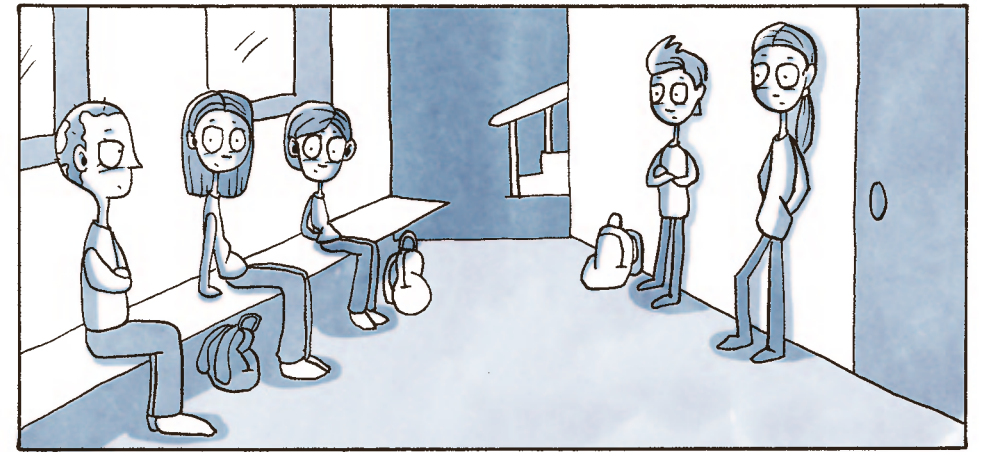
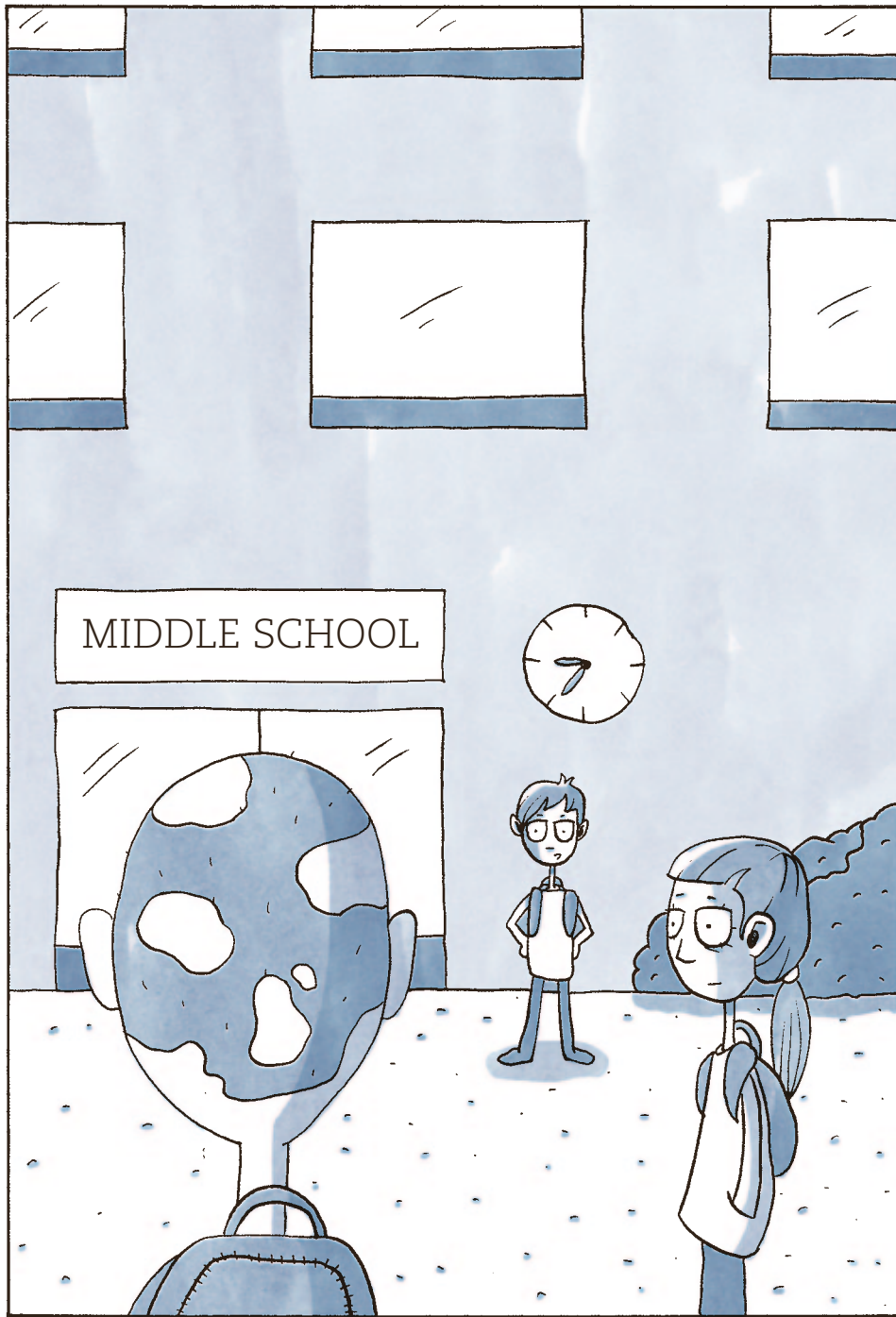


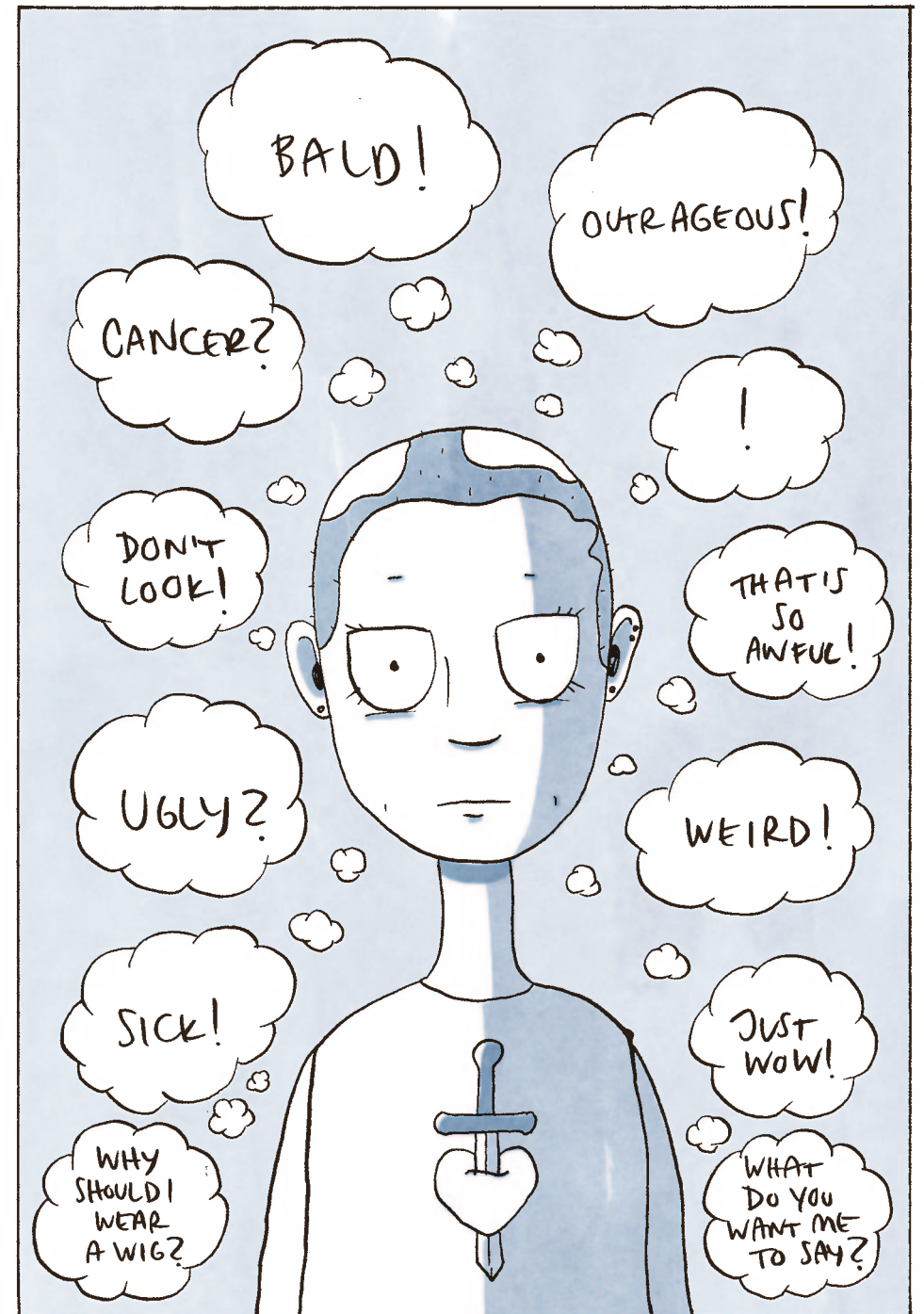
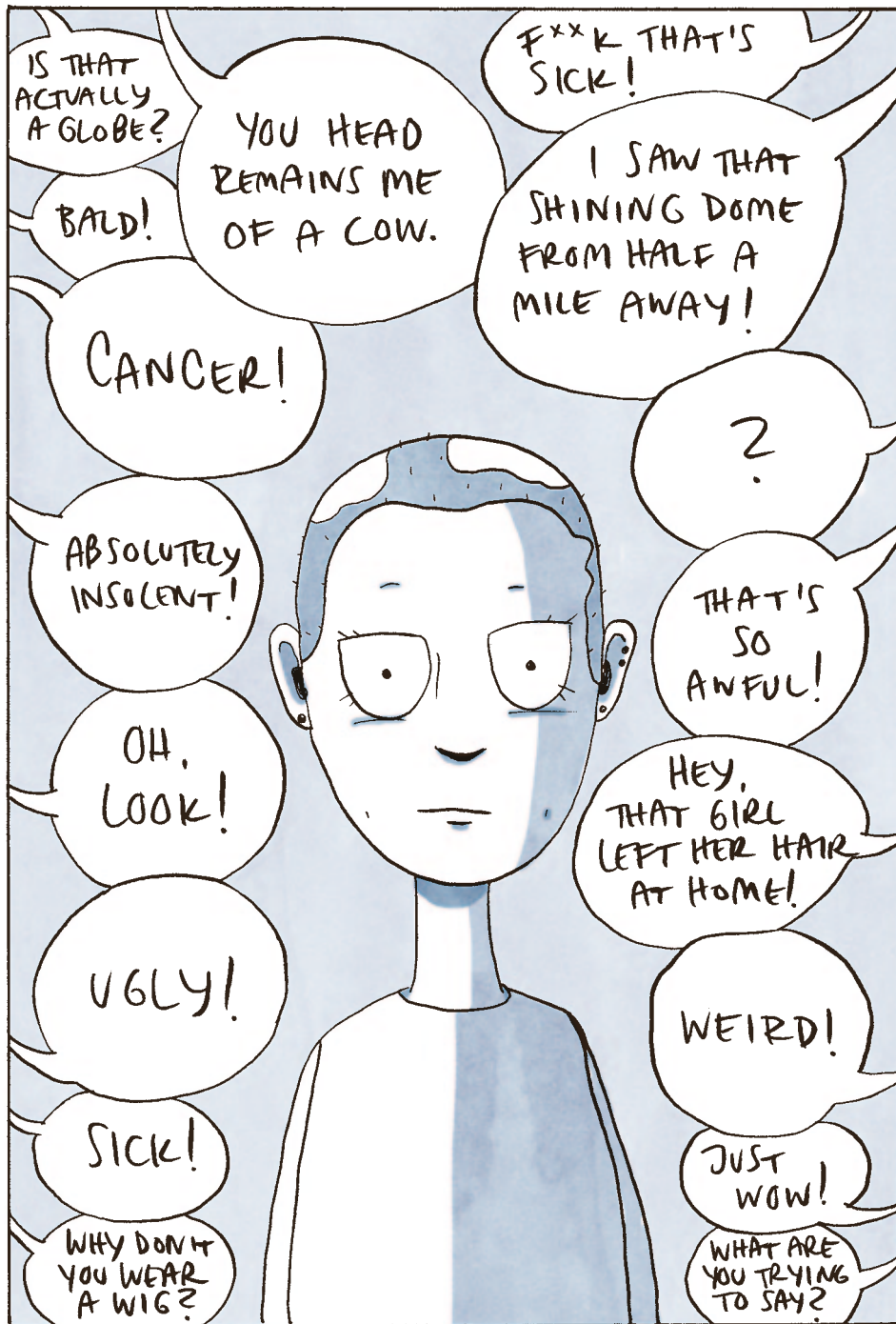


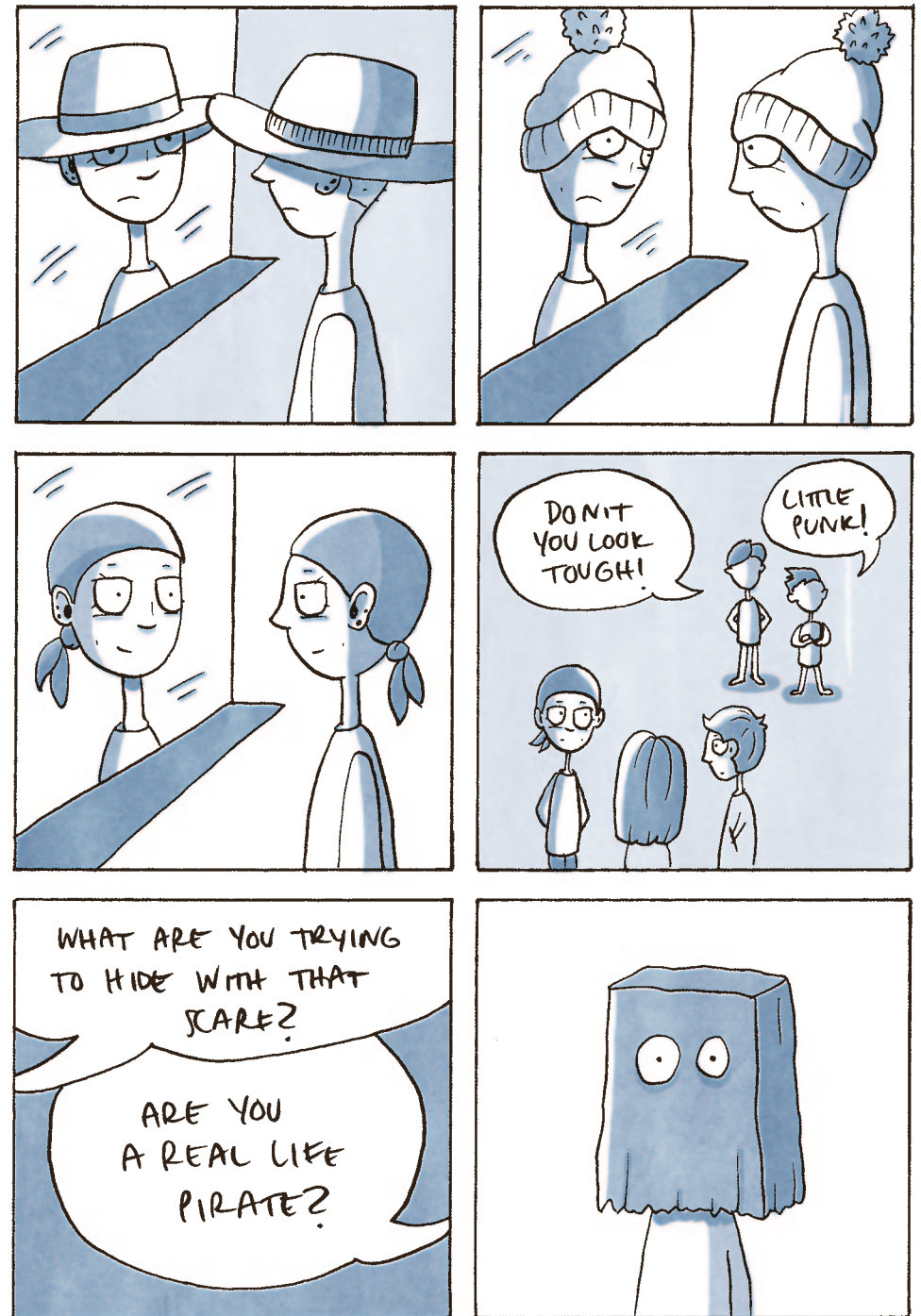
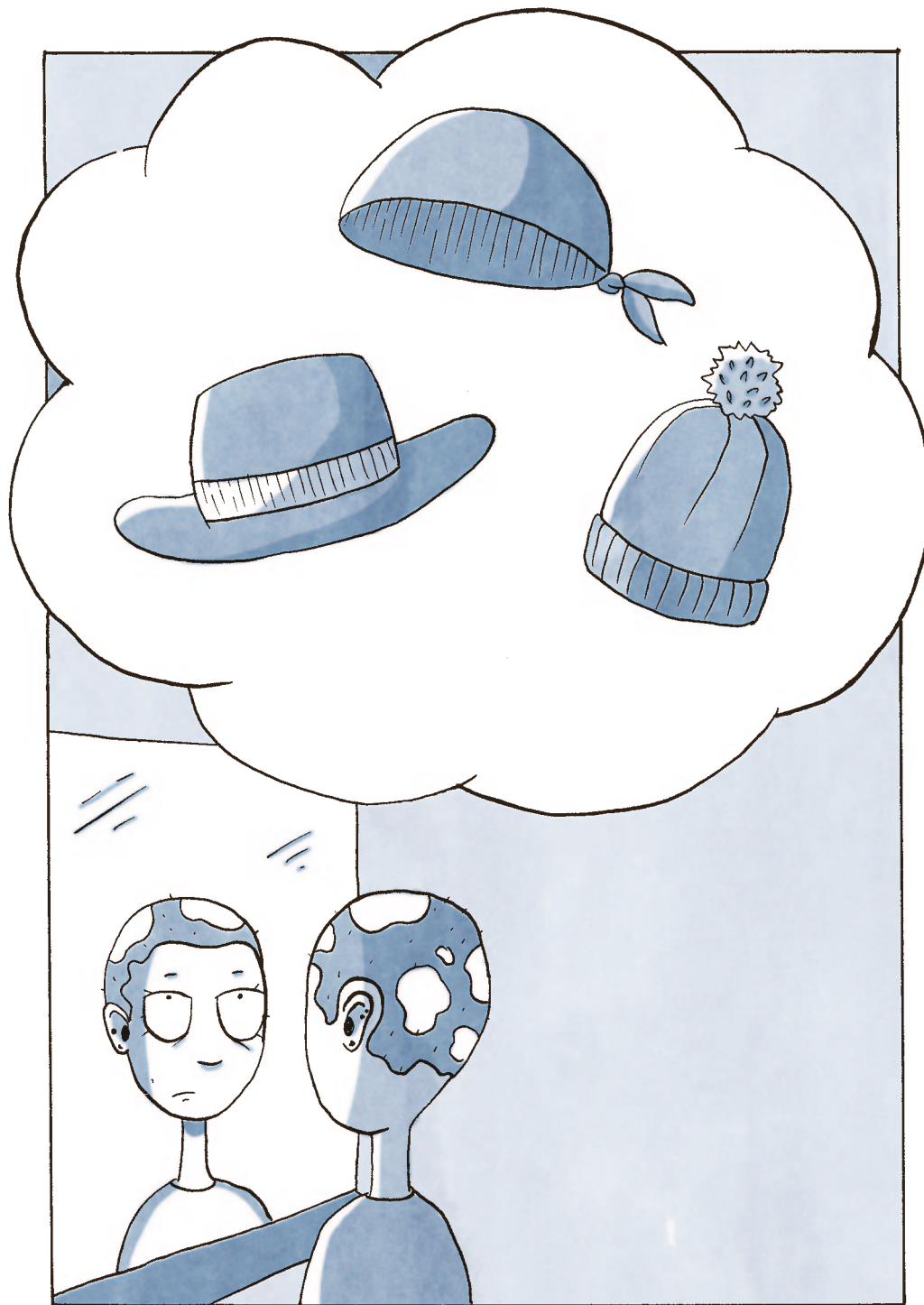


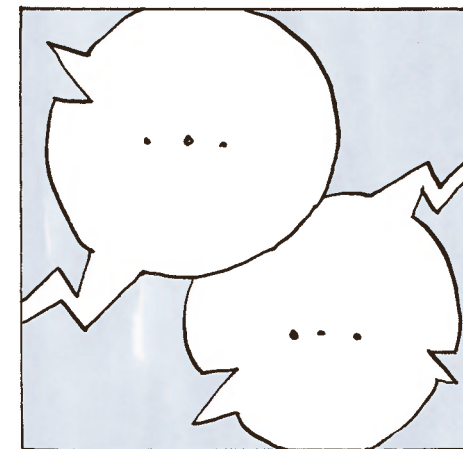
Alopecia Totalis

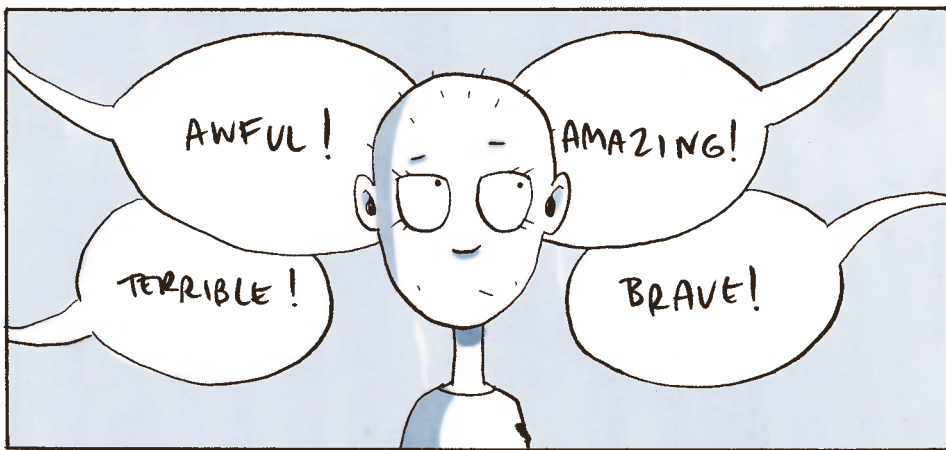
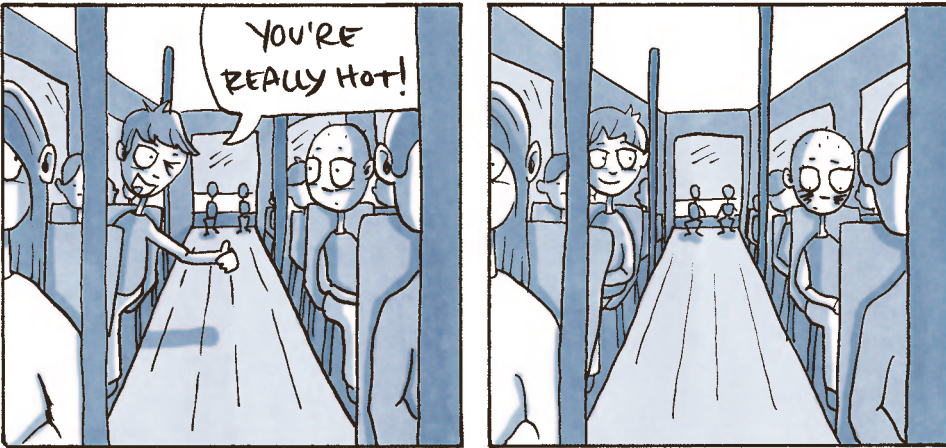


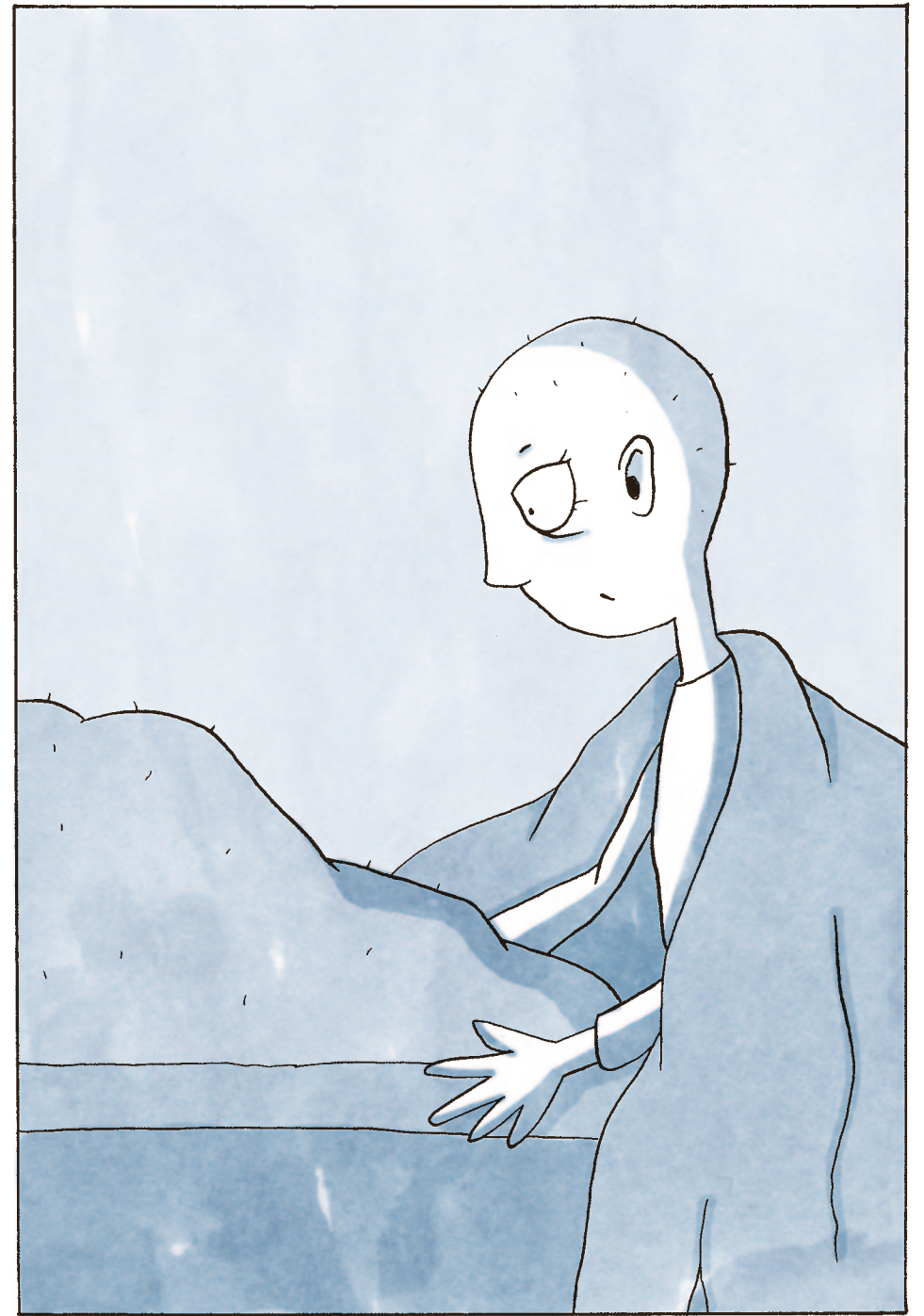


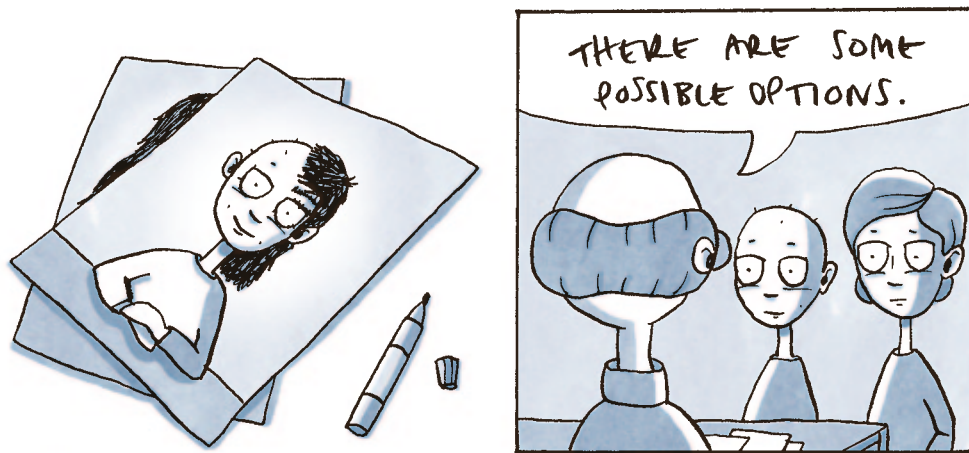




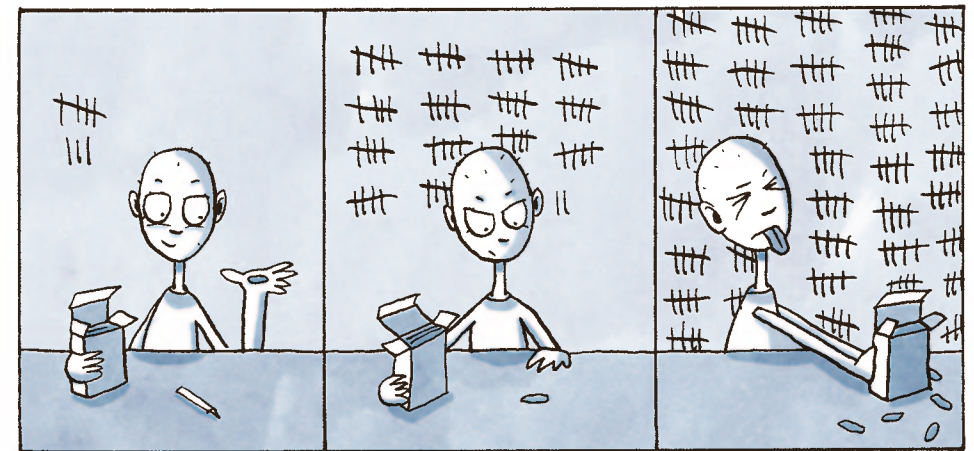
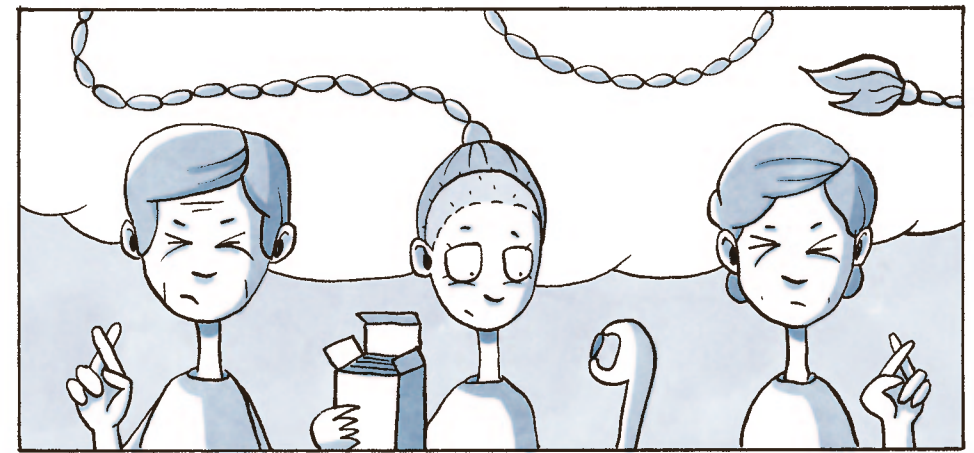


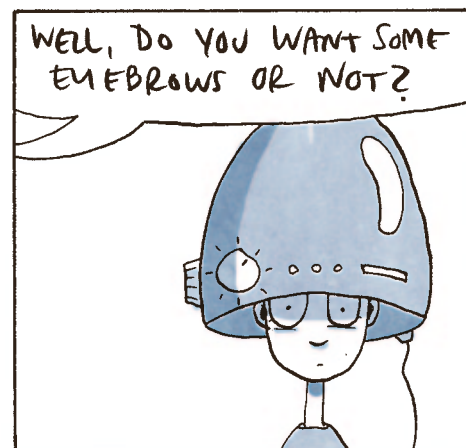
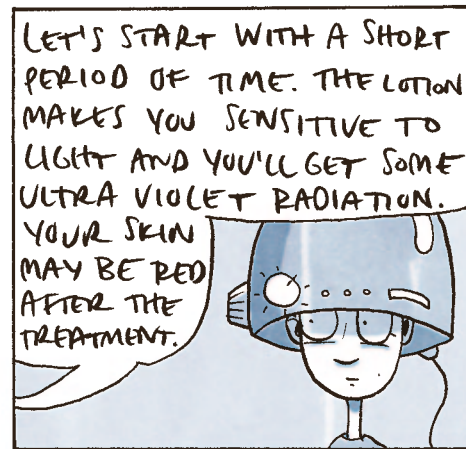
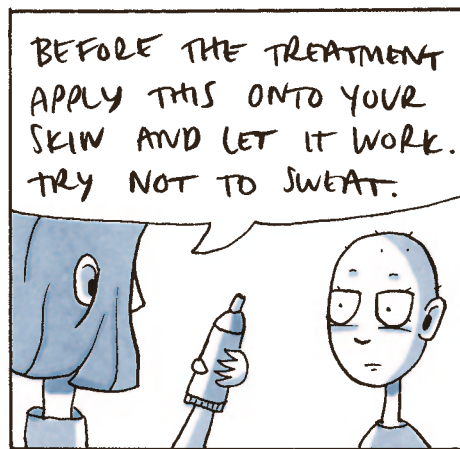
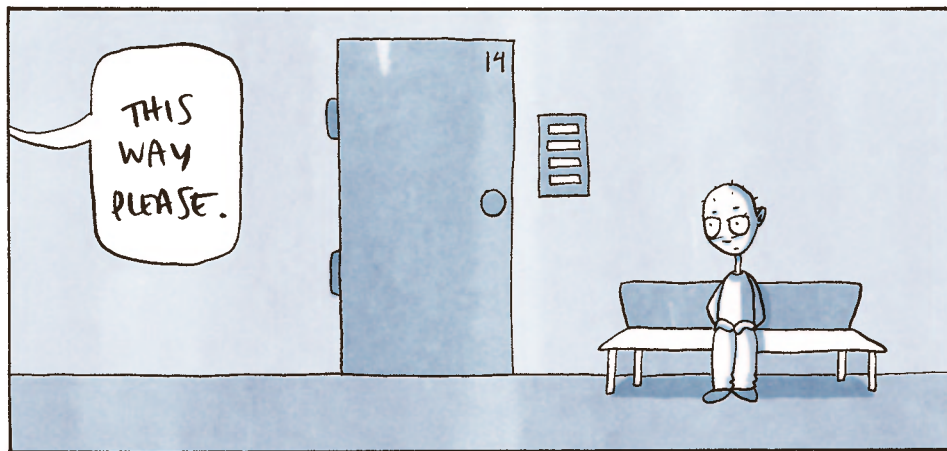


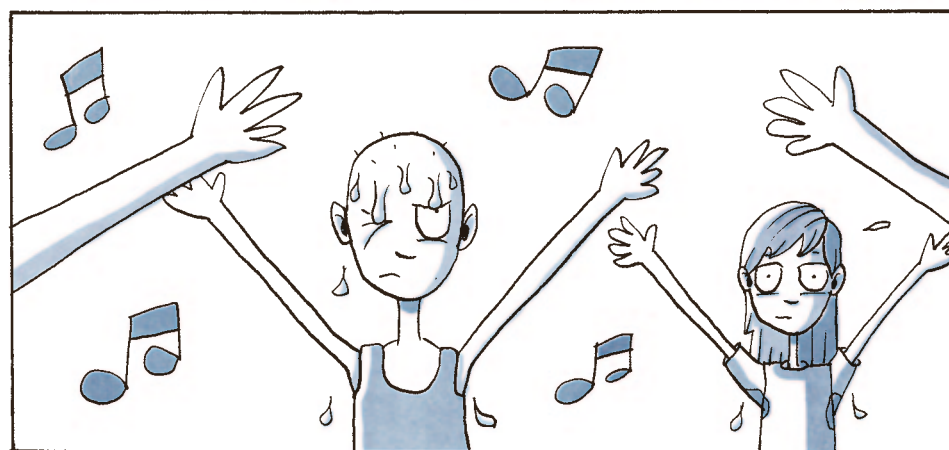
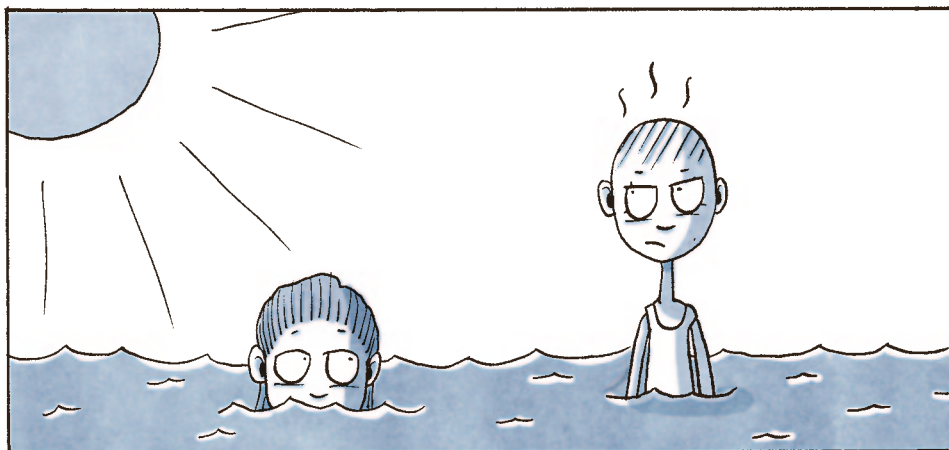


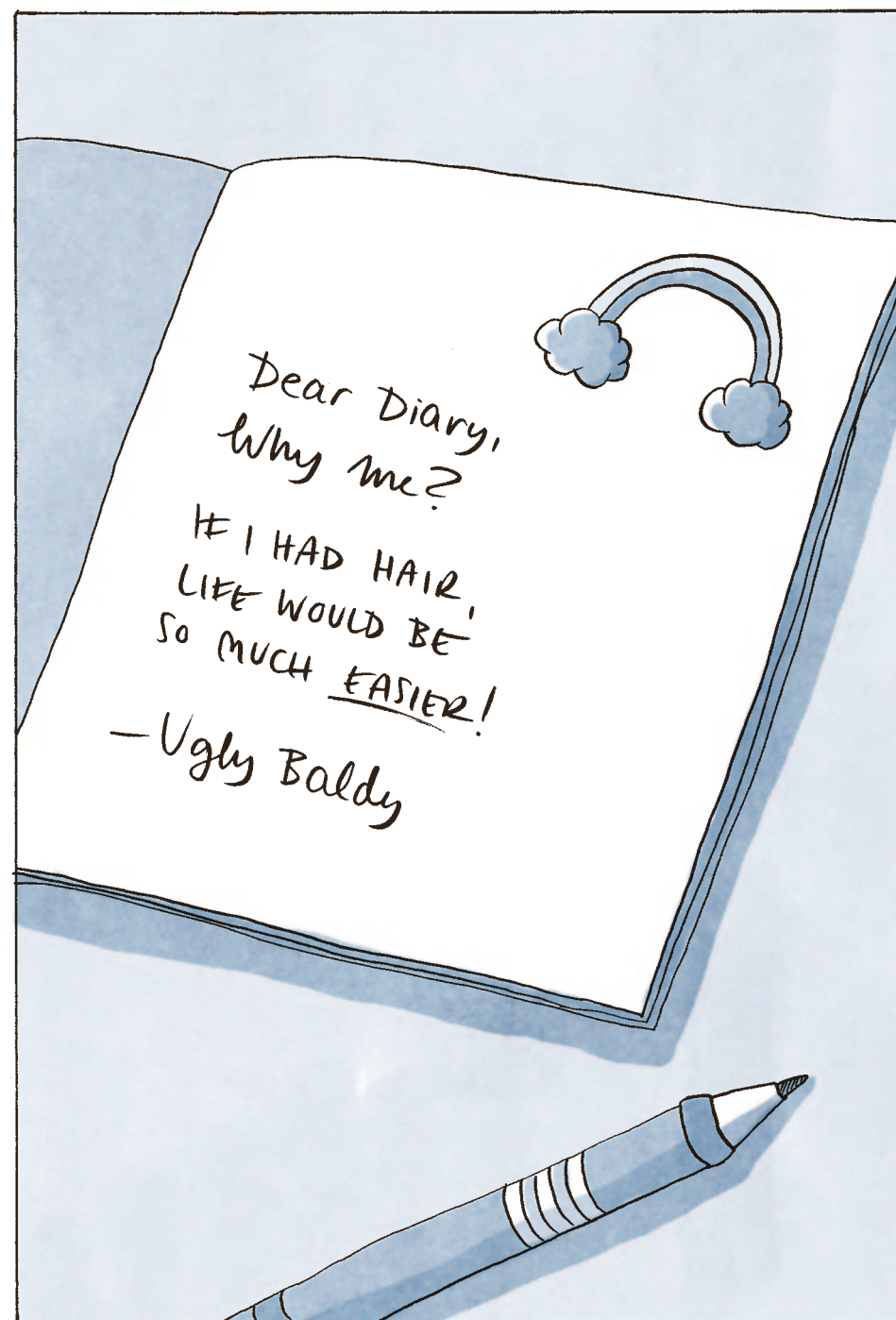


SOME DRUGS' SIDE EFFECTS MAY INCREASE HAIR GROWTH, BUT OTHER SIDE EFFECTS OF THE DRUGS, CYCLOSPORINE AND CORTISONE, MAY NOT ALWAYS BE BENEFICIAL. WE NEED TO REQUEST PERMISSION FOR THE DRUGS FROM THE SURGEON GENERAL.



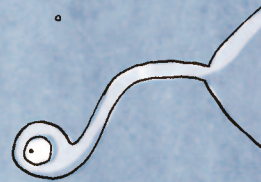
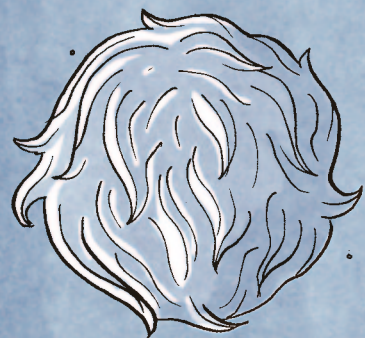


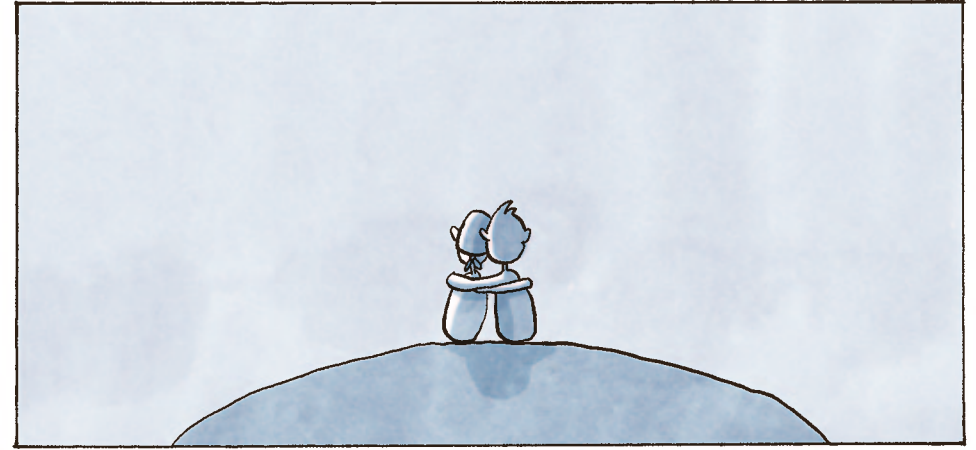
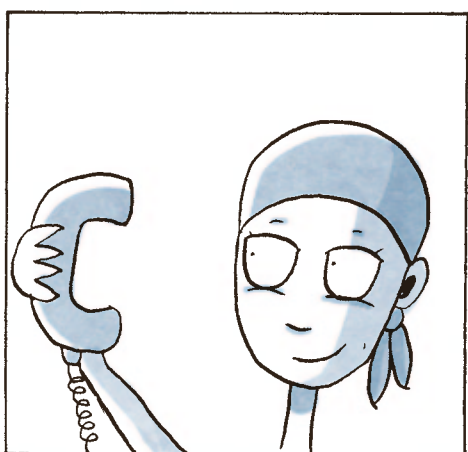


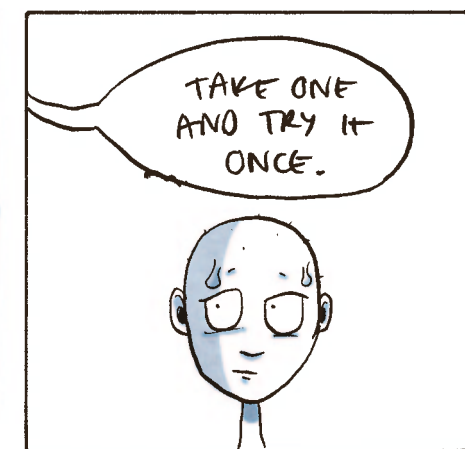
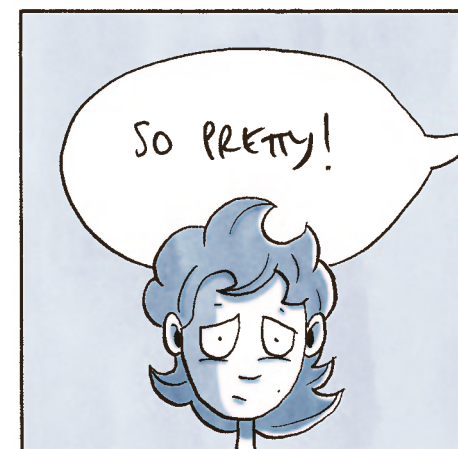
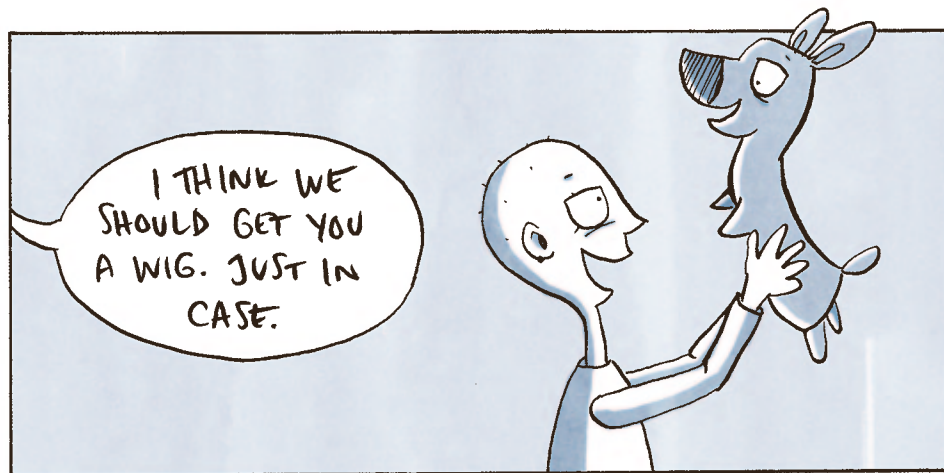


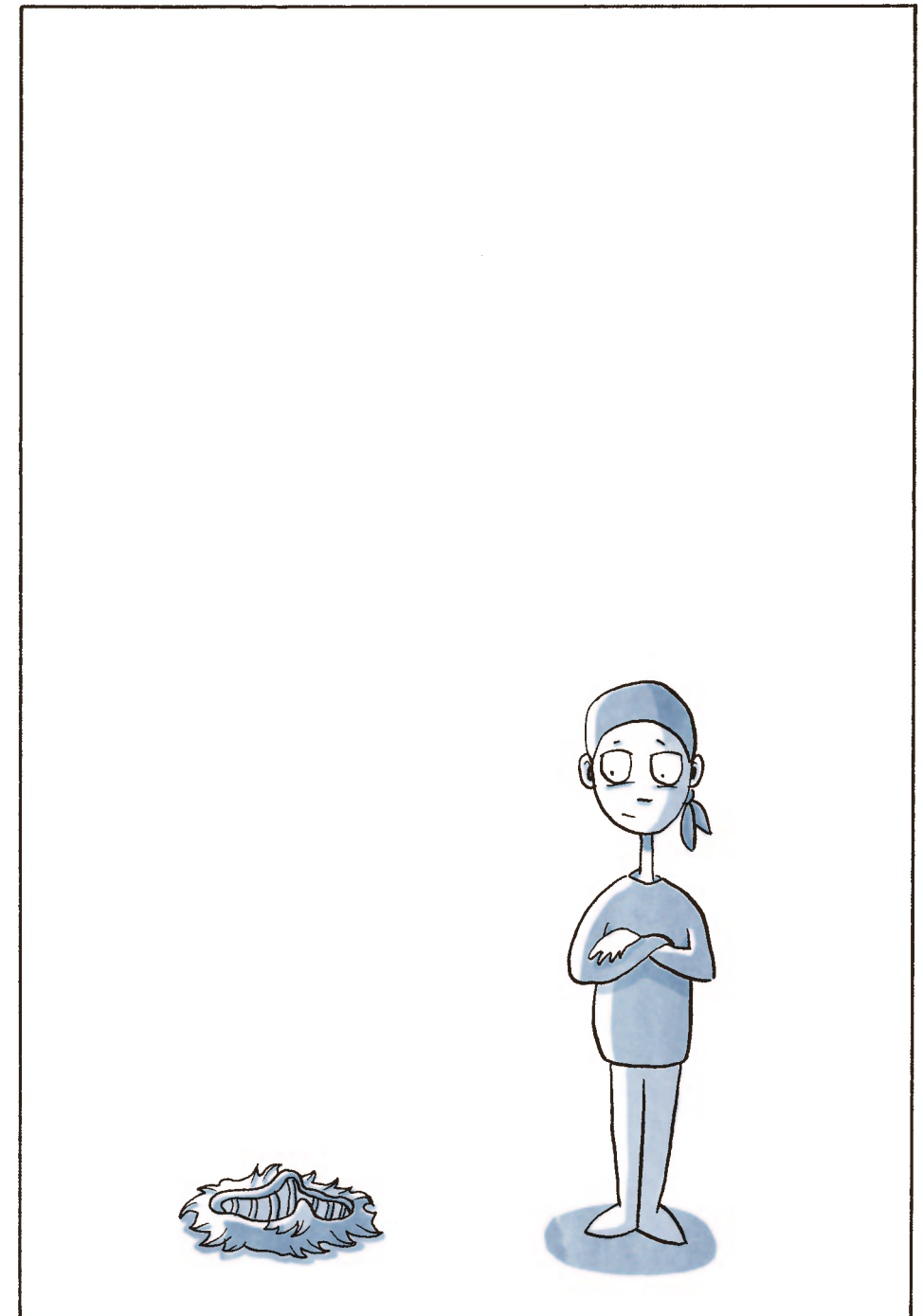
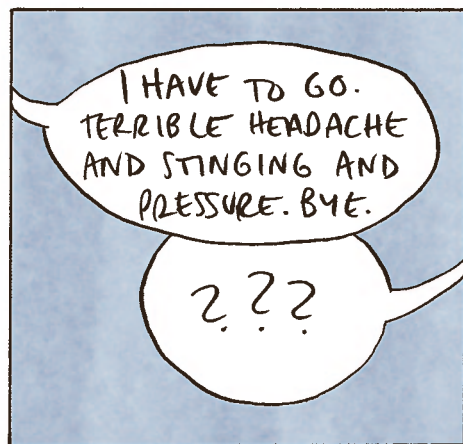
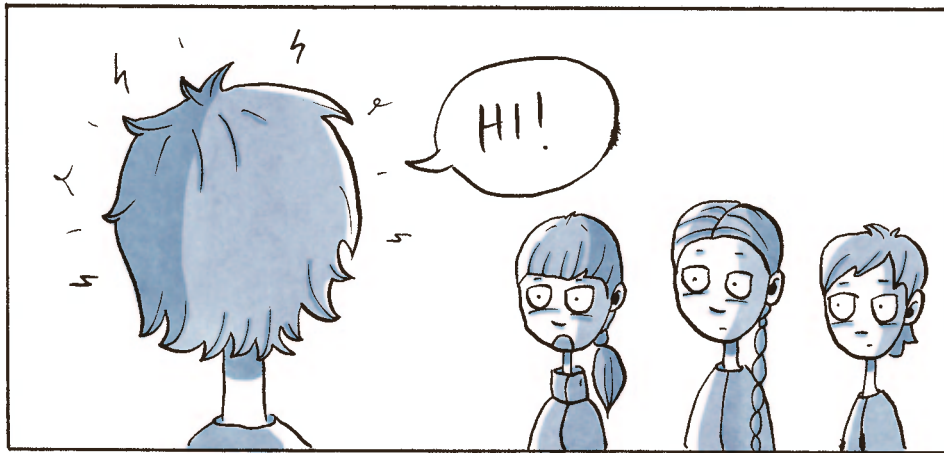


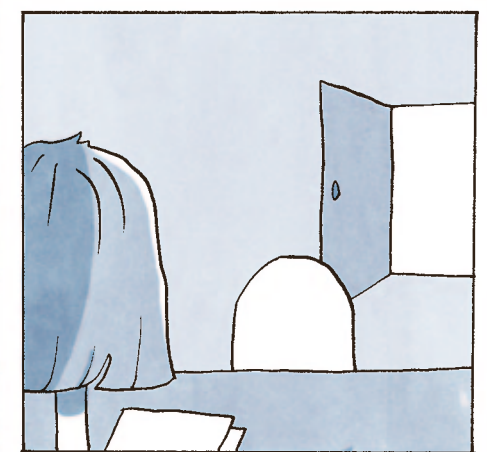
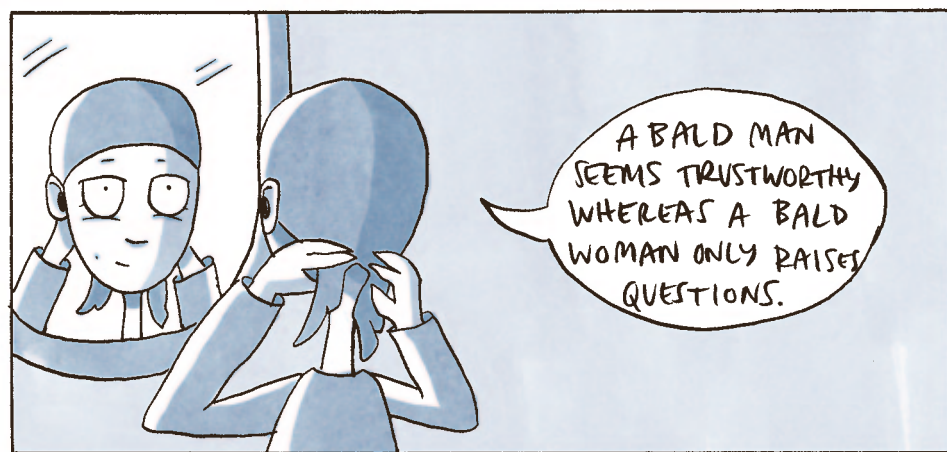
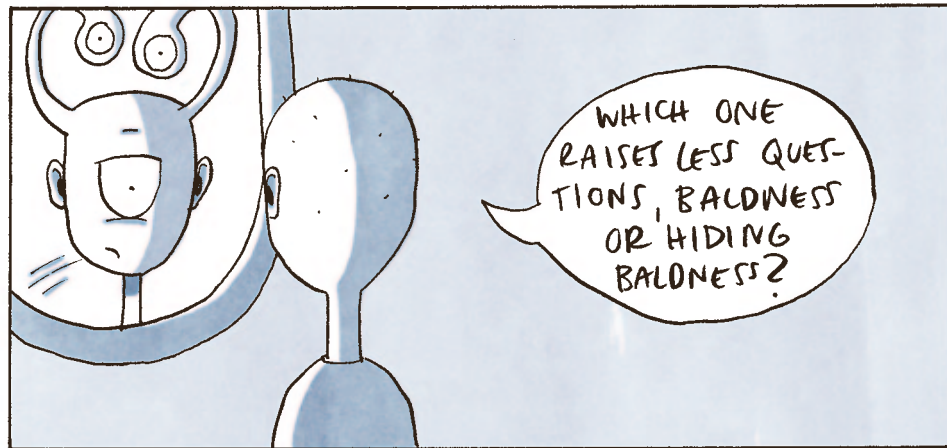
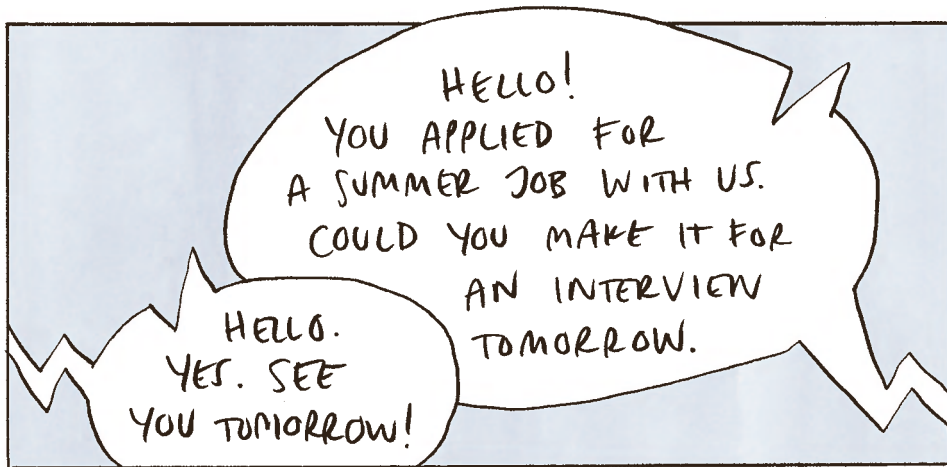






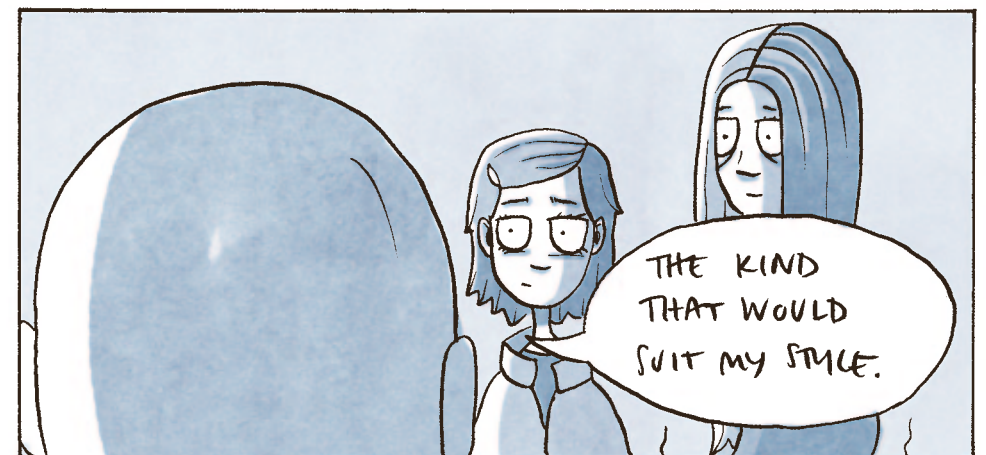
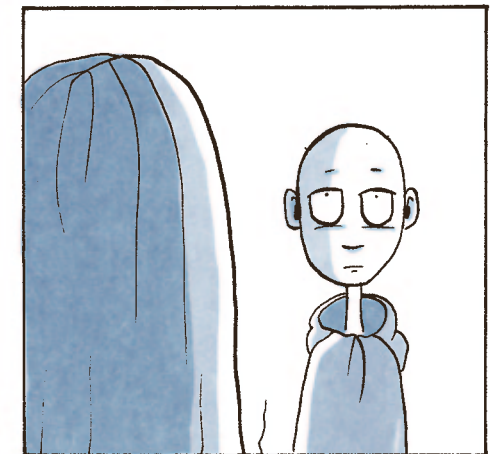
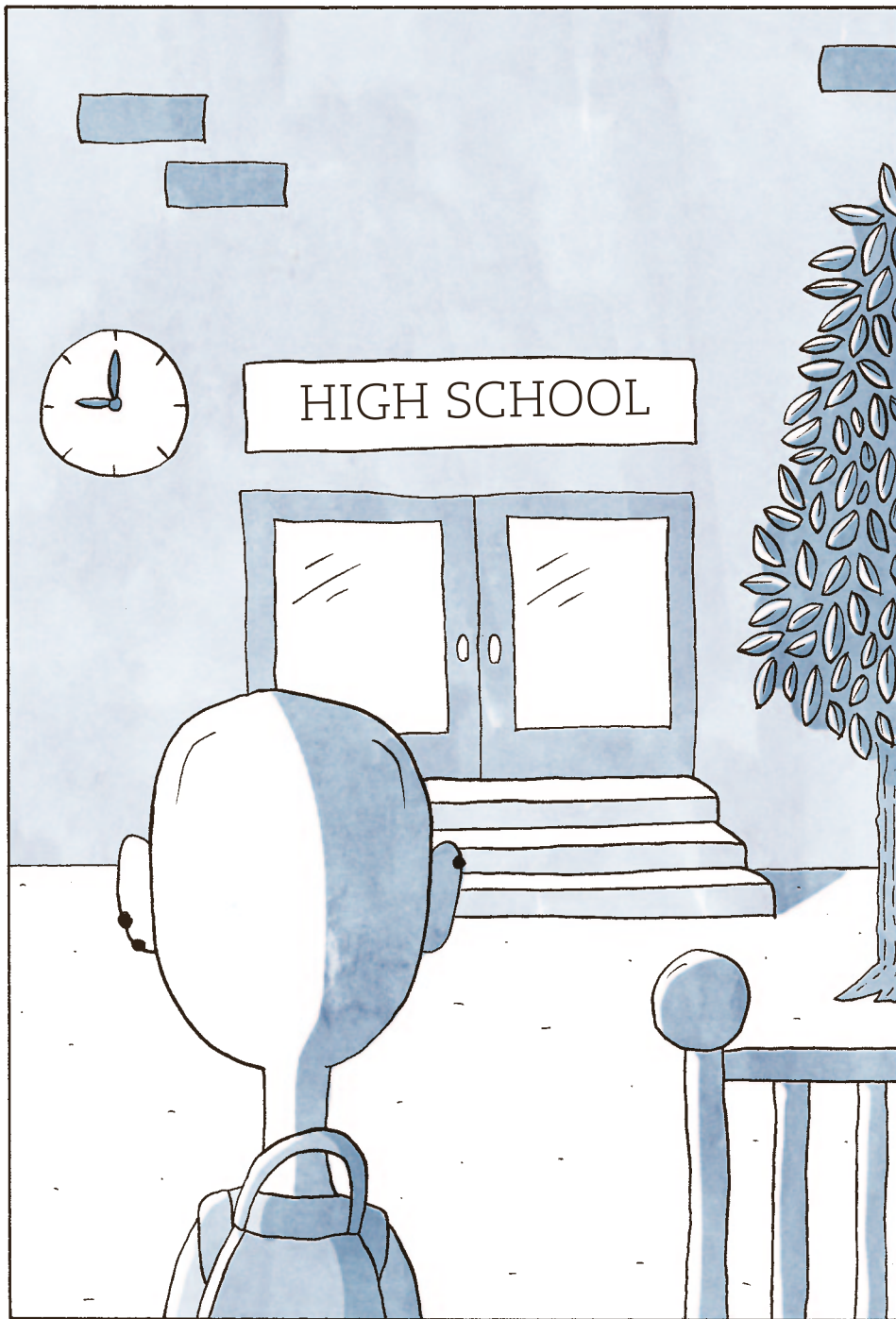


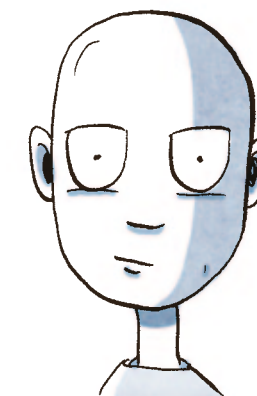
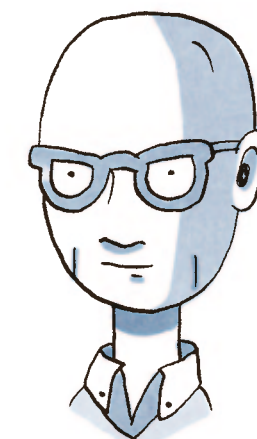
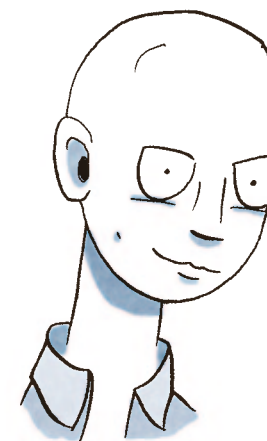
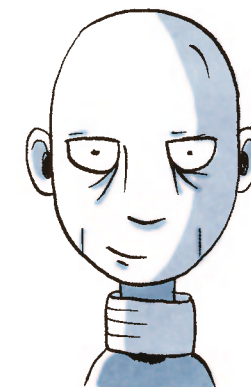
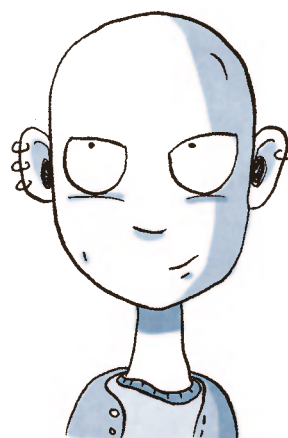
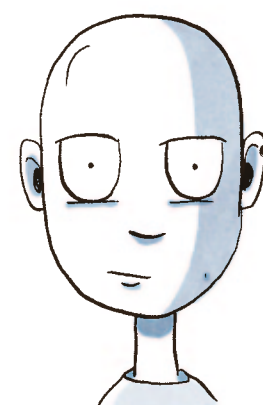
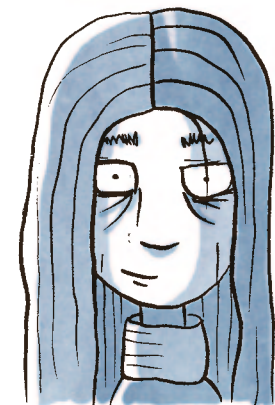
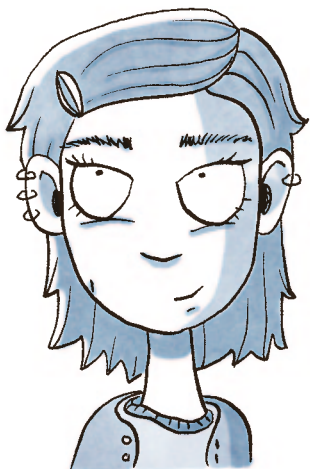
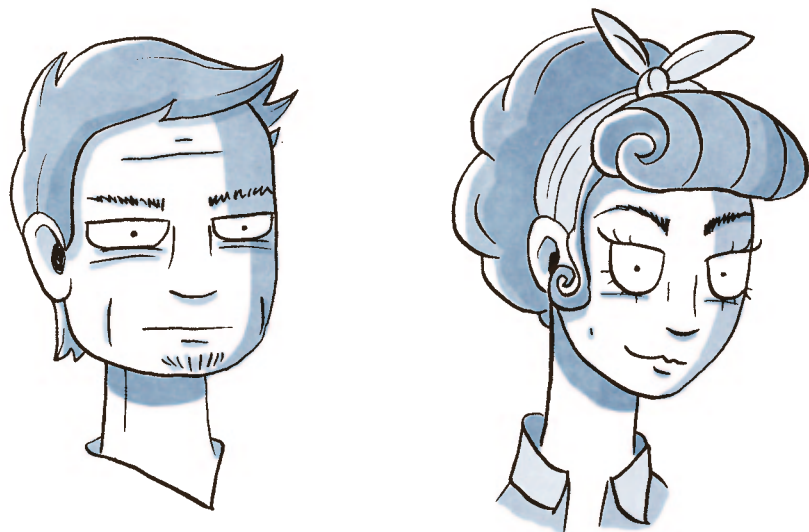


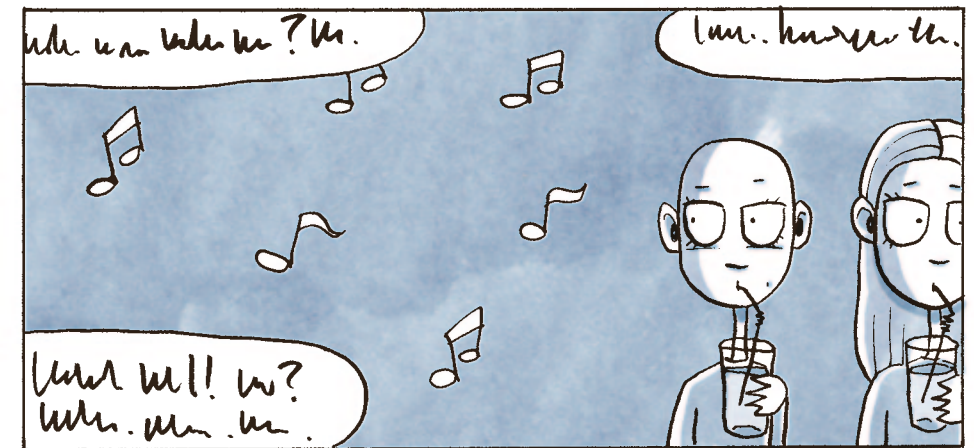
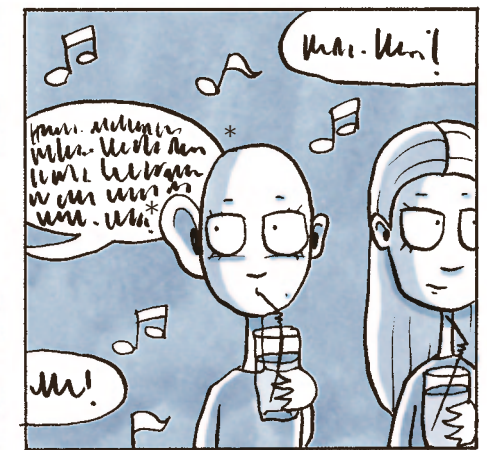




Alopecia Universalis

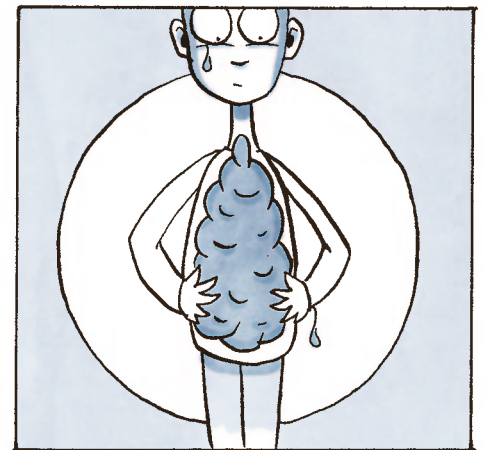
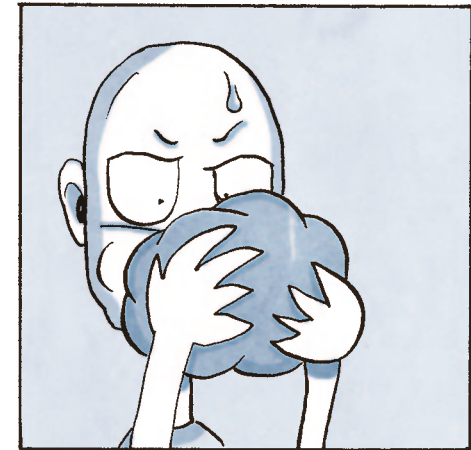
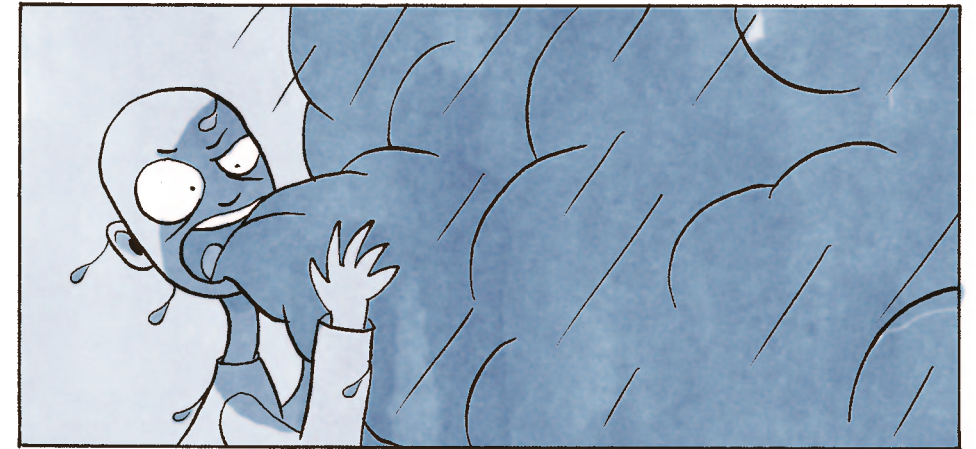
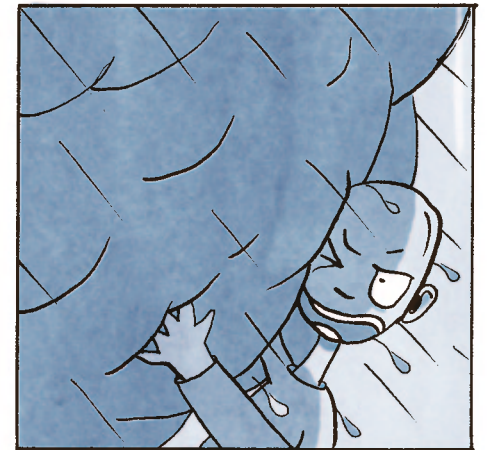
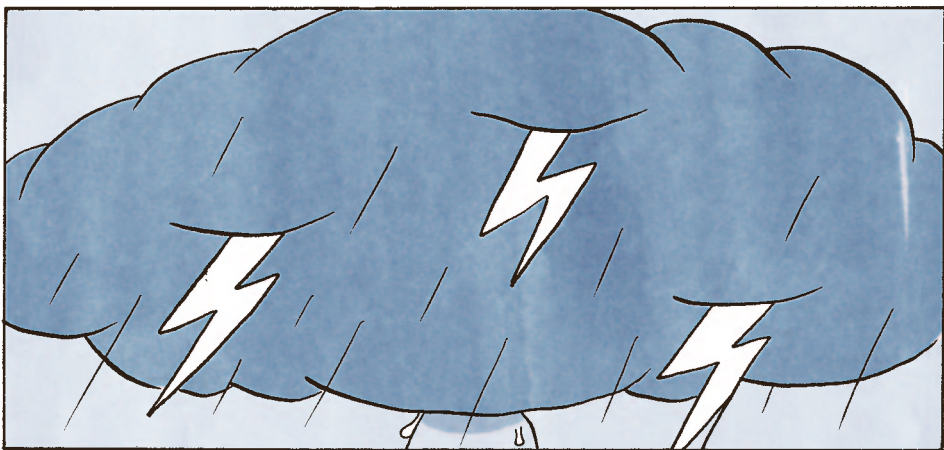


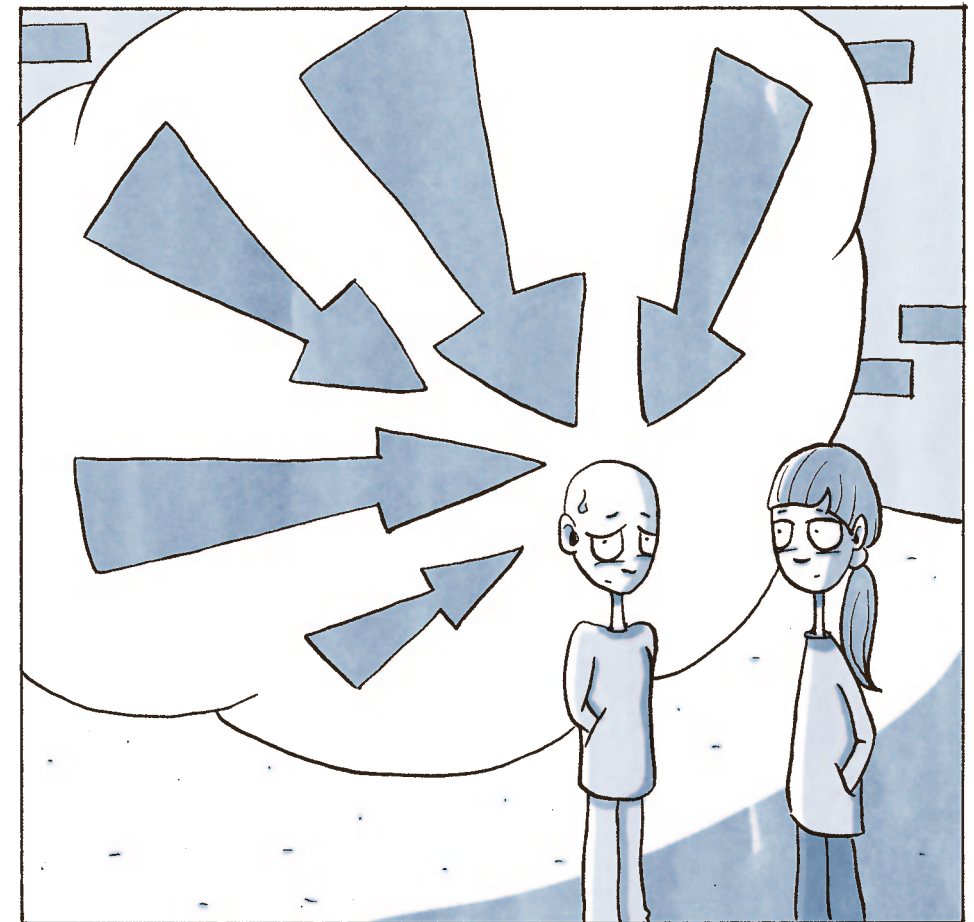
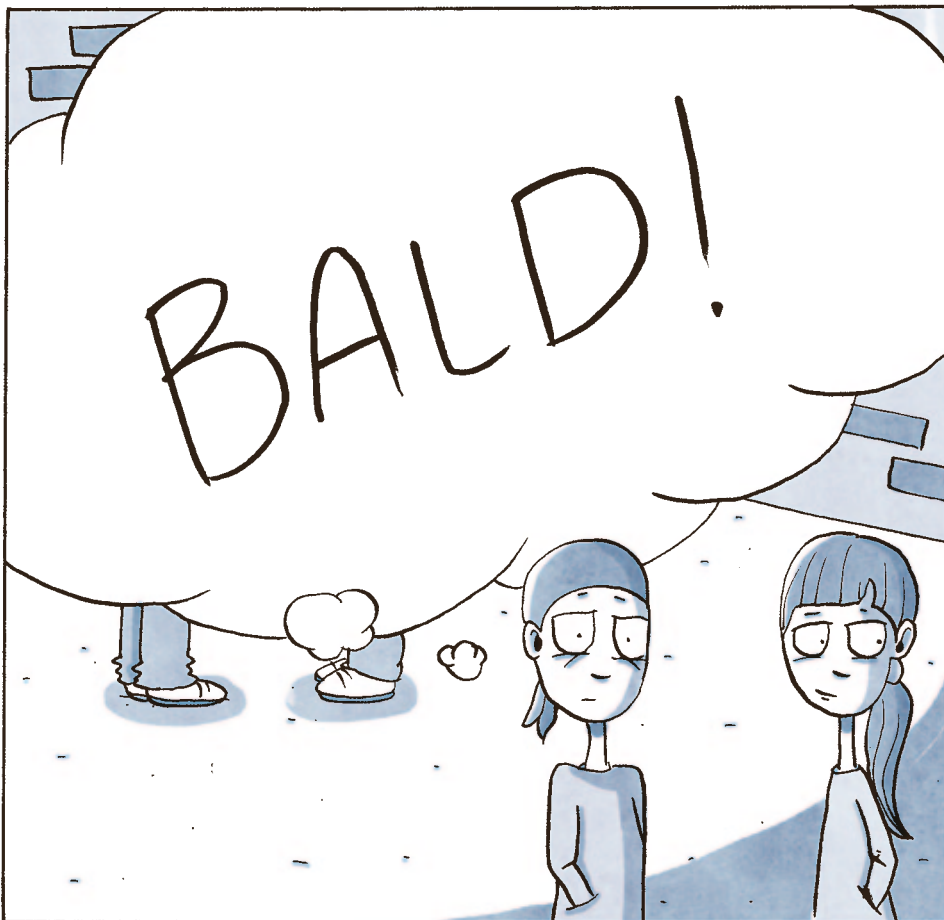


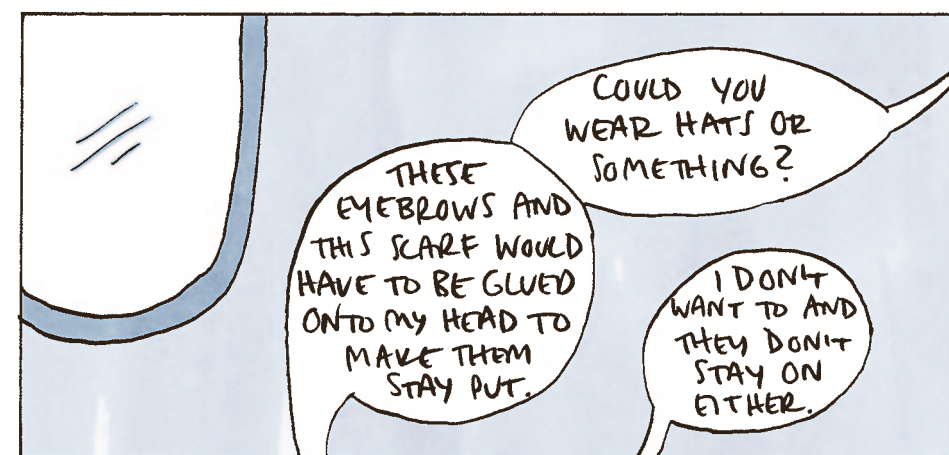
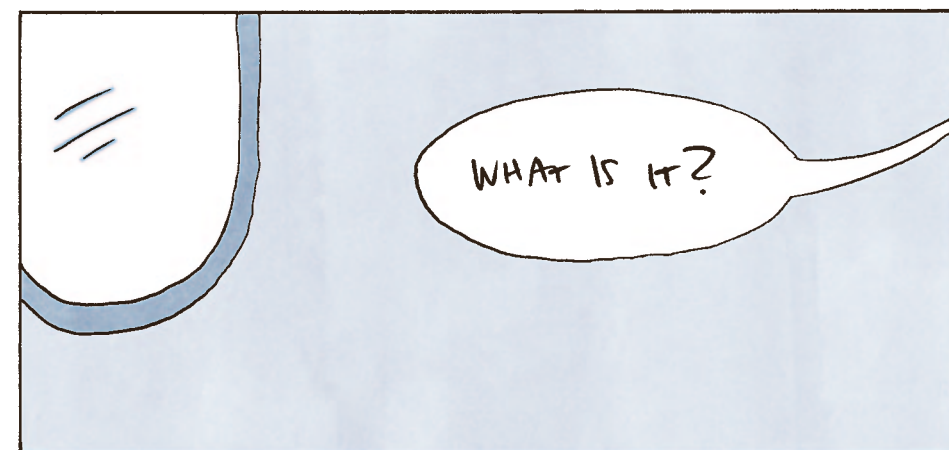
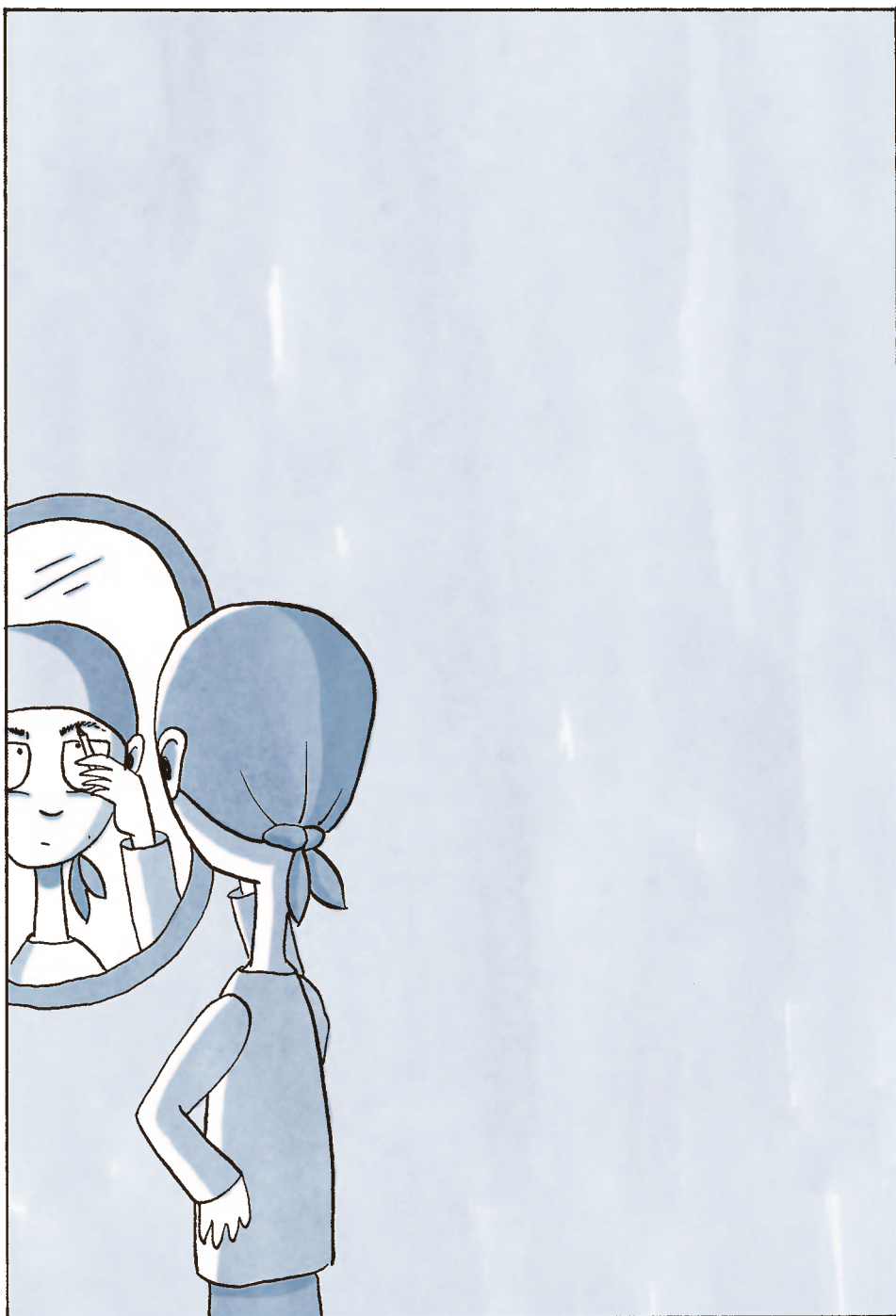


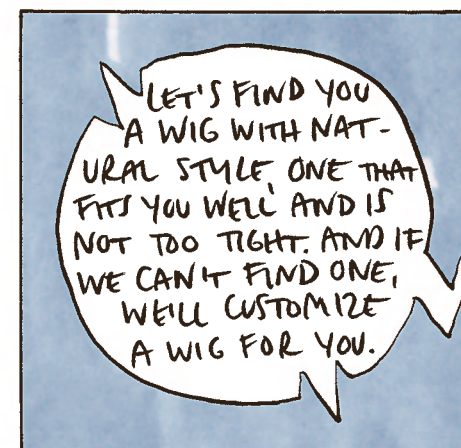
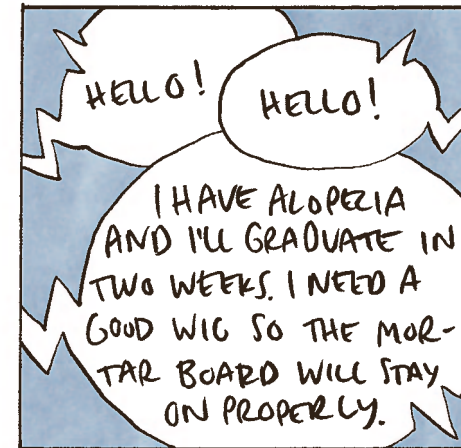
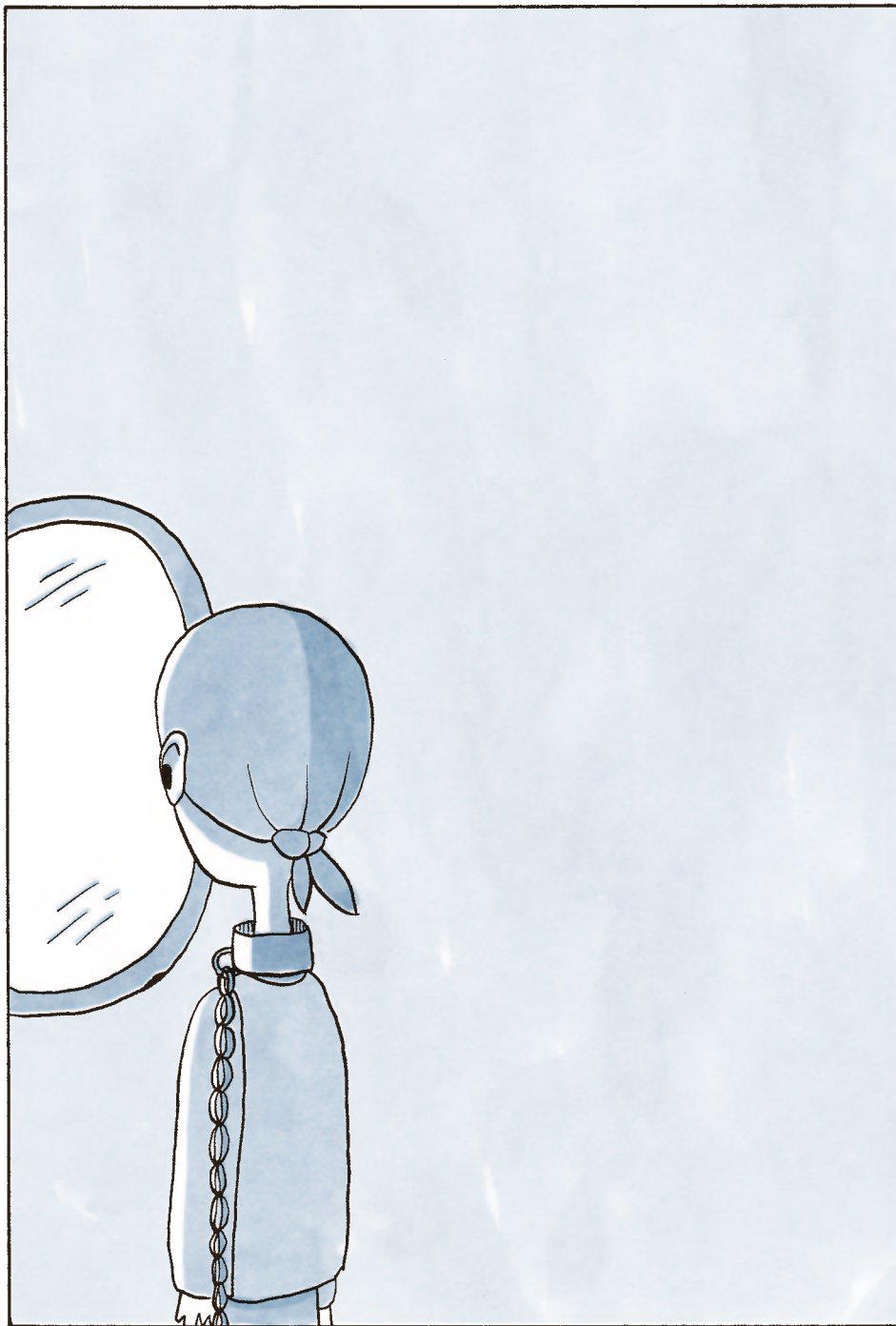
* Hey let's go somewhere else. Somewhere where I don't have to look at that bald bitch.

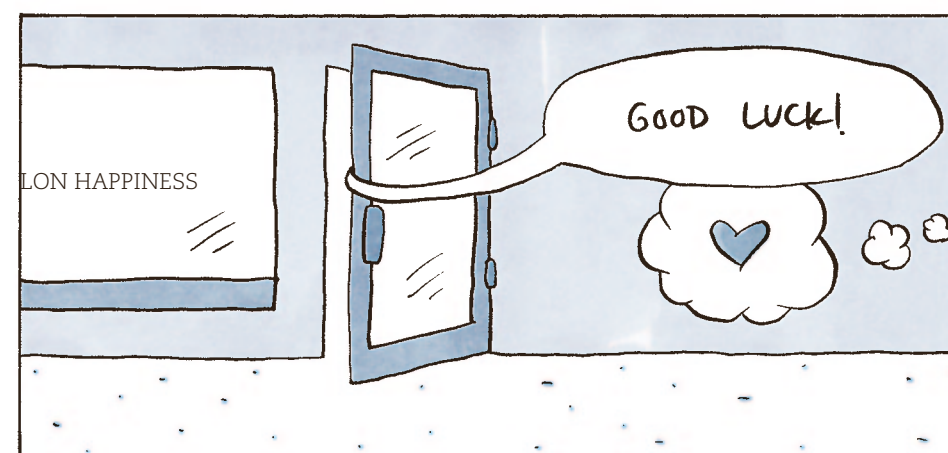
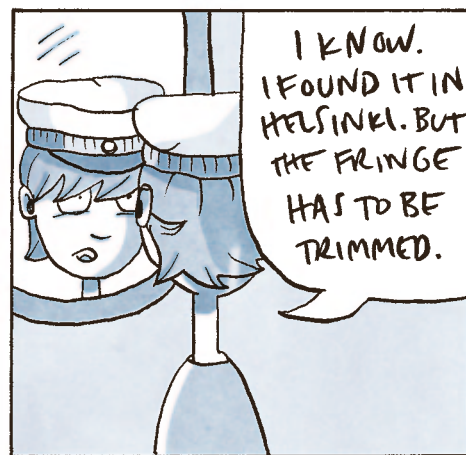


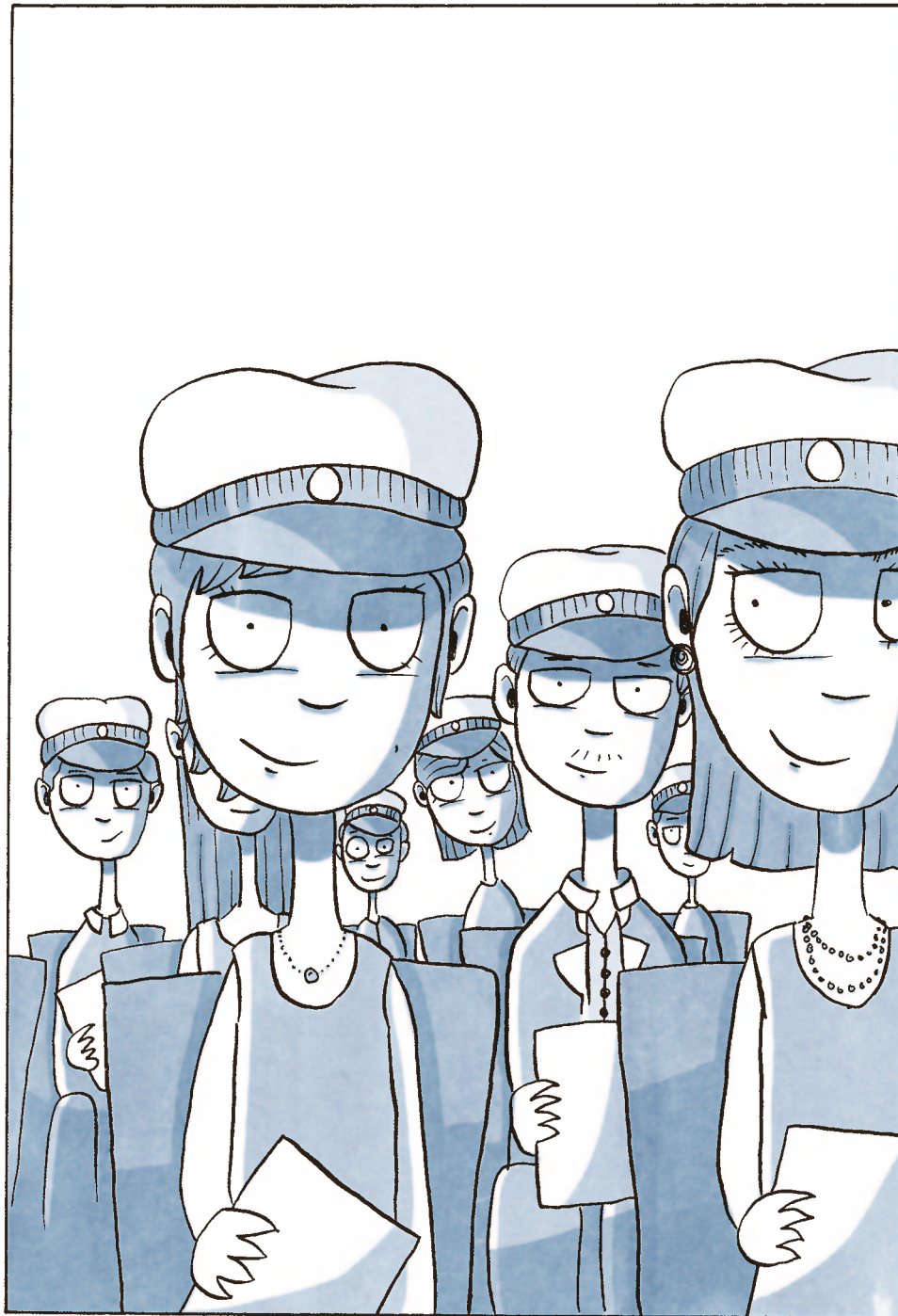






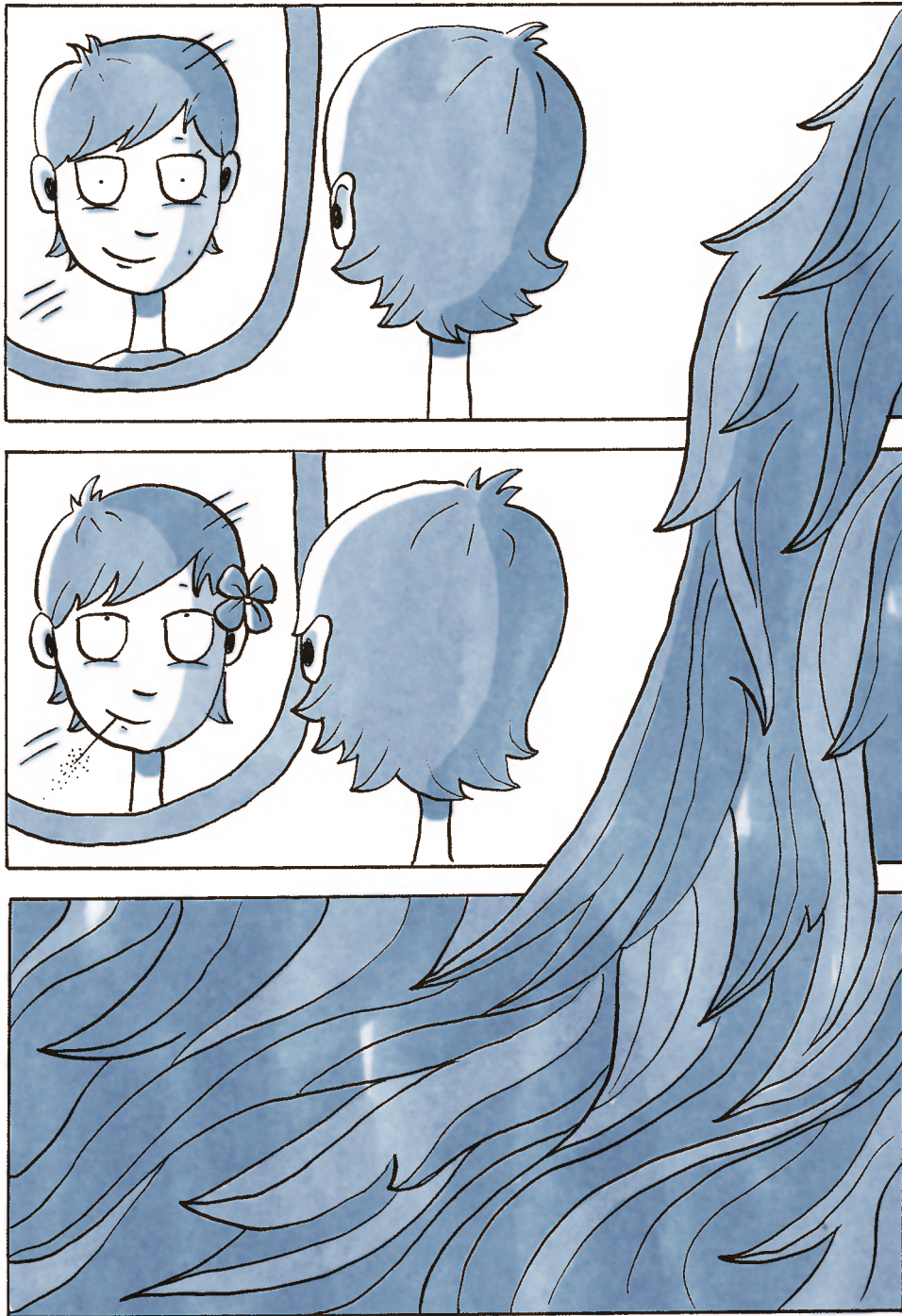


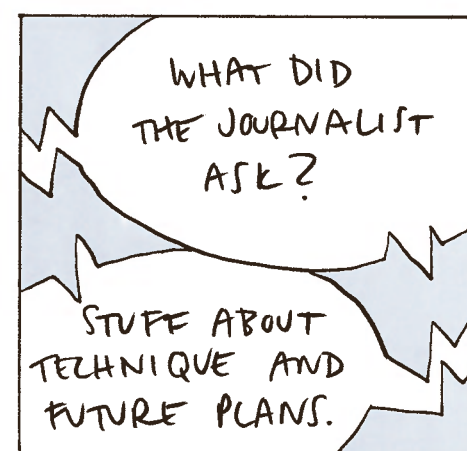
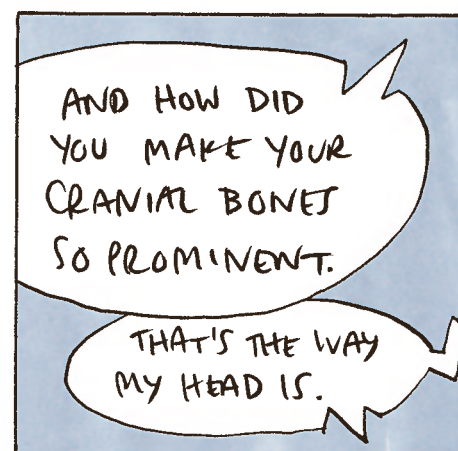
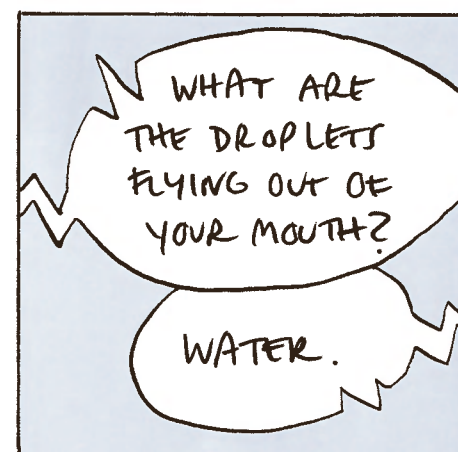
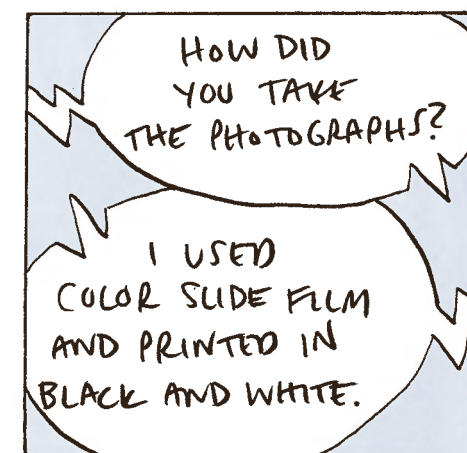
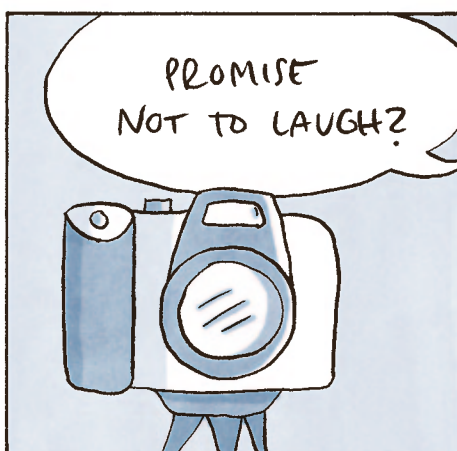
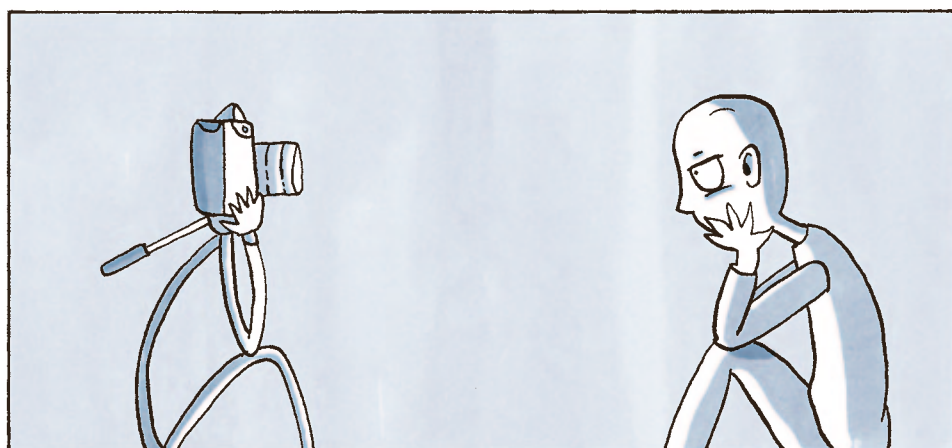


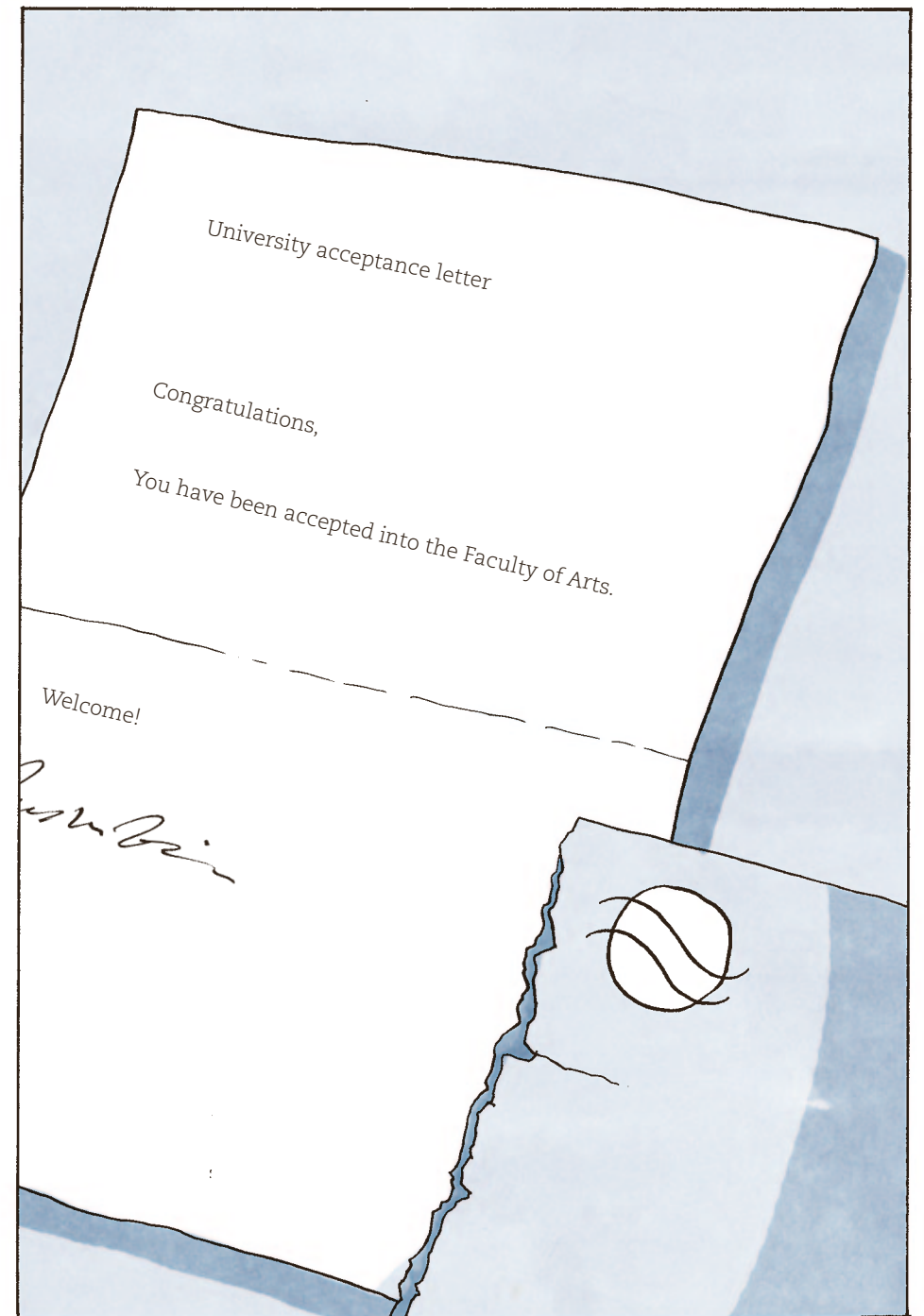
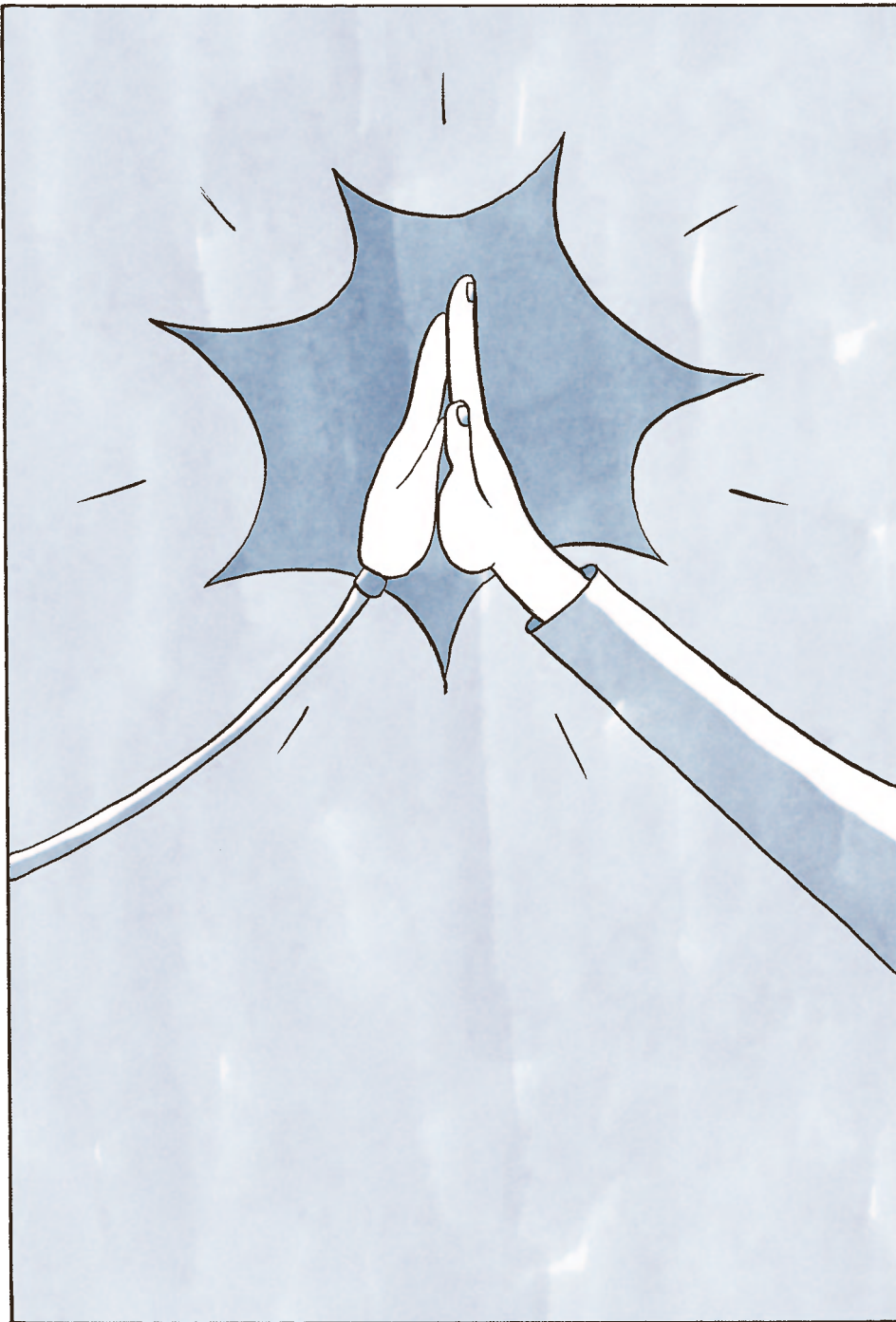


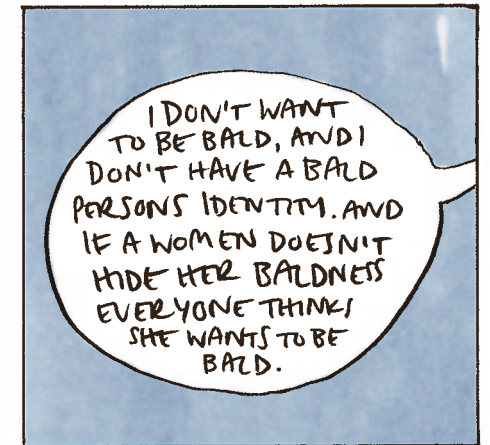
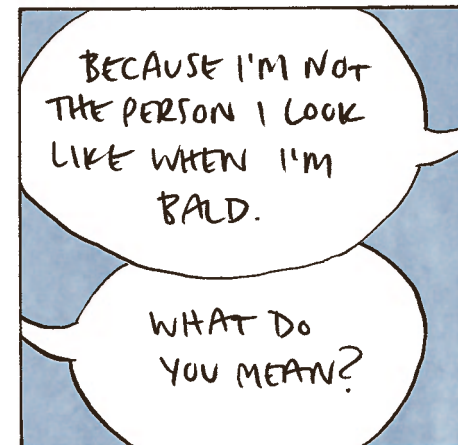
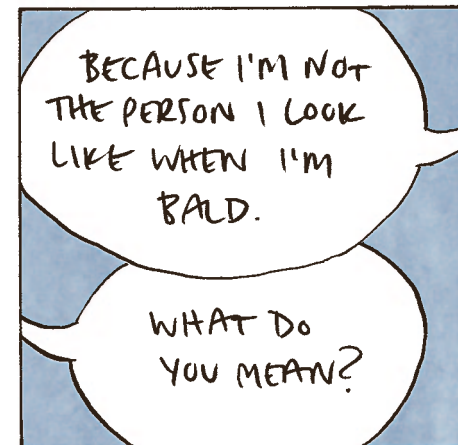
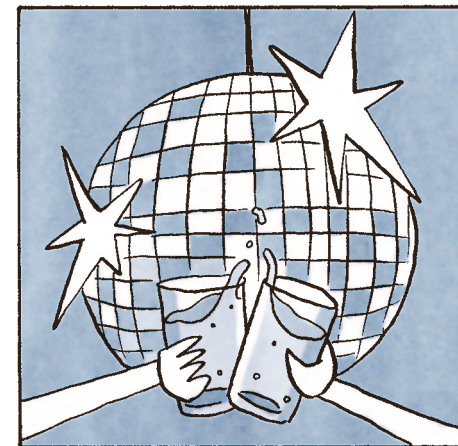
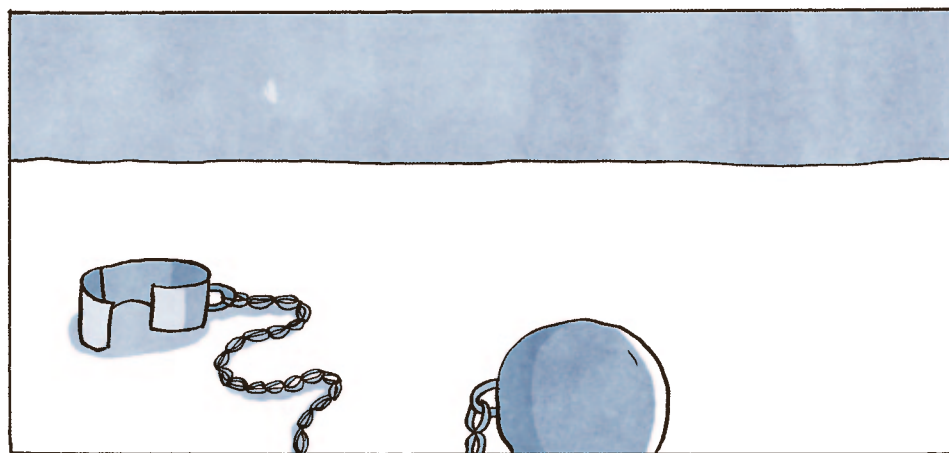
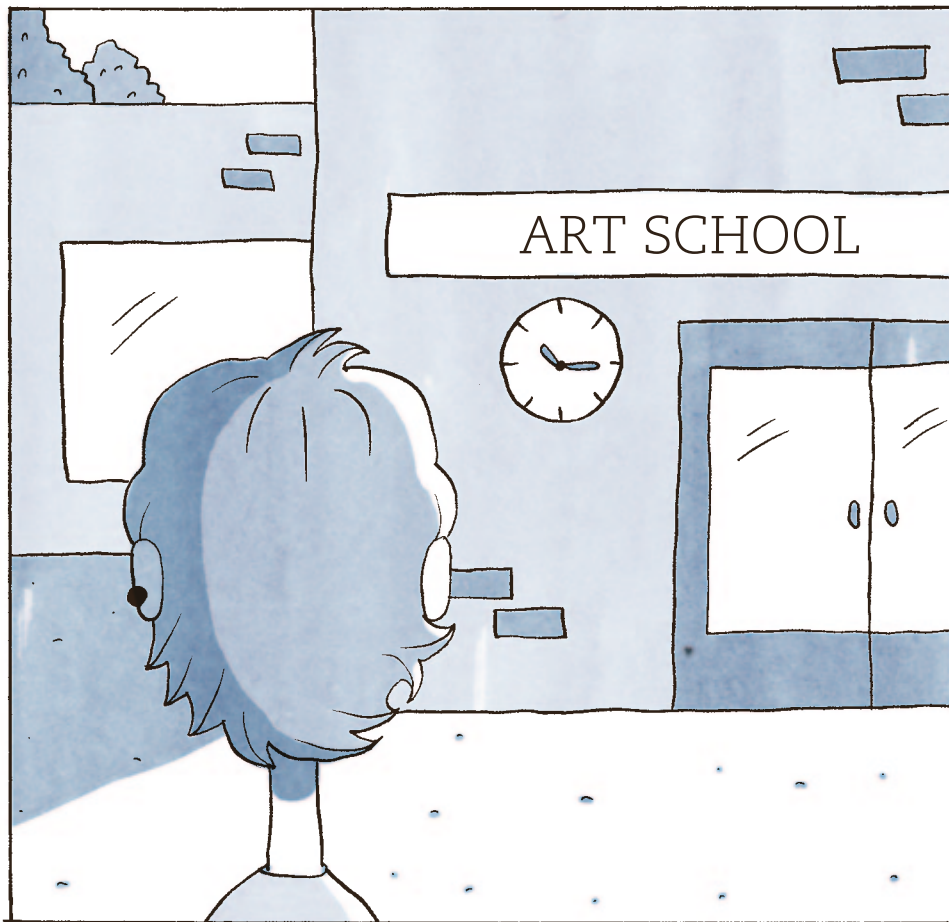


Synthetic hair, synthetic life.

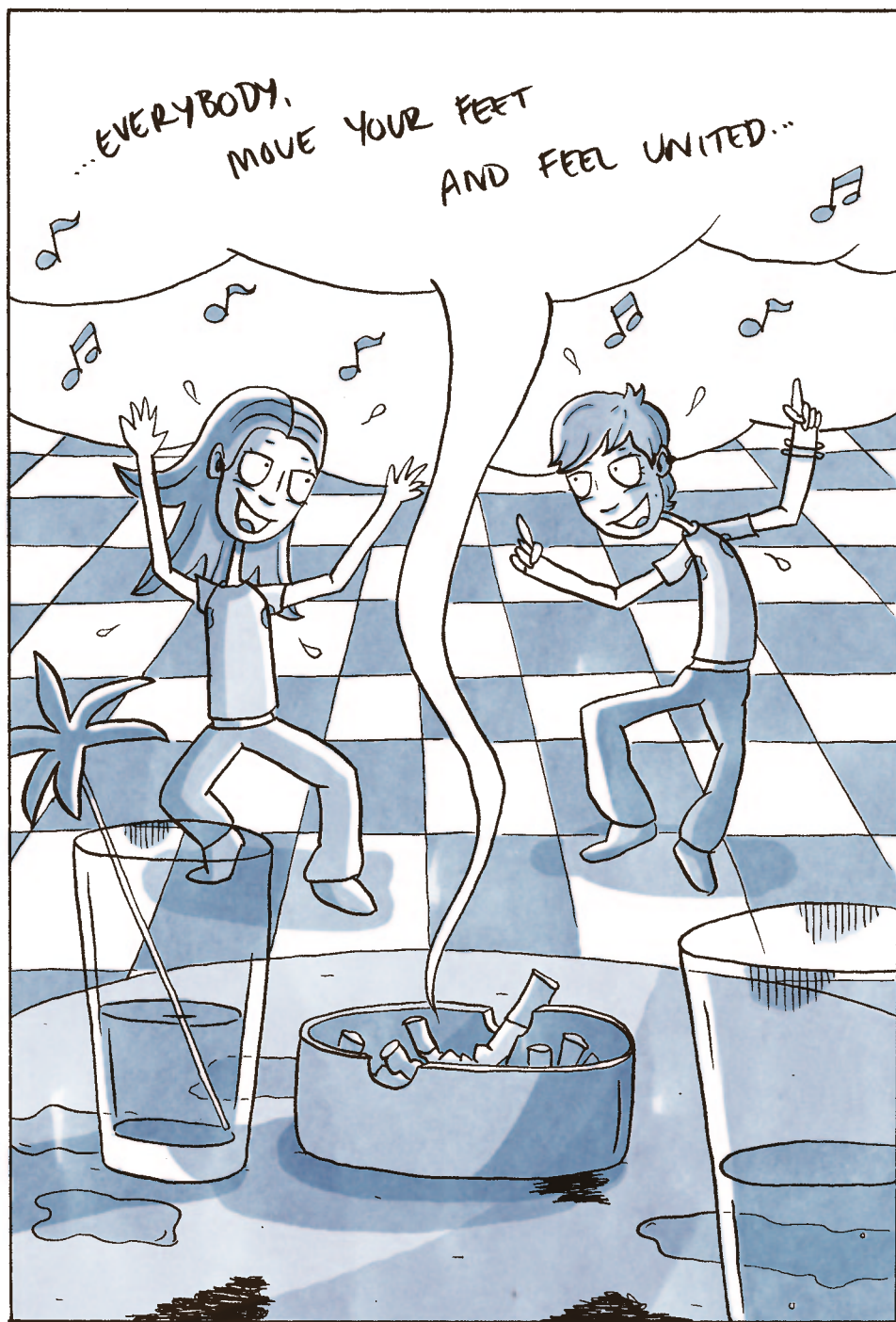












HELLO!
IS THIS THE WIG
STORE? I GOT A WIG
FROM YOU A LITTLE WHILE
AGO. IT'S JUST PERFECT
AND NOW I NEED
ANOTHER ONE
LIKE IT.

UNFORTUNATELY
THAT MODEL IS NO
LONGER PRODUCED.
WOULD YOU LIKE TO
COME ON AND TRY ON
OTHER STYLES? HOW
FAR AWAY DO
YOU LIVE?

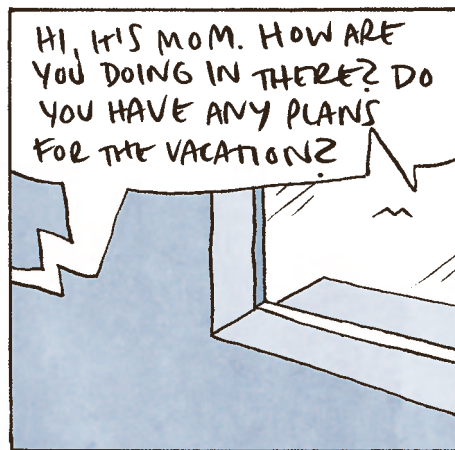
OVER 800 KILLO-
METERS AWAY,
BUT I'LL SPEND
A WEEKEND IN
HELSINKI IN
TWO MONTHS.

UNFORTUNATELY
WE ARE CLOSED
DURING THE
WEEKEND.

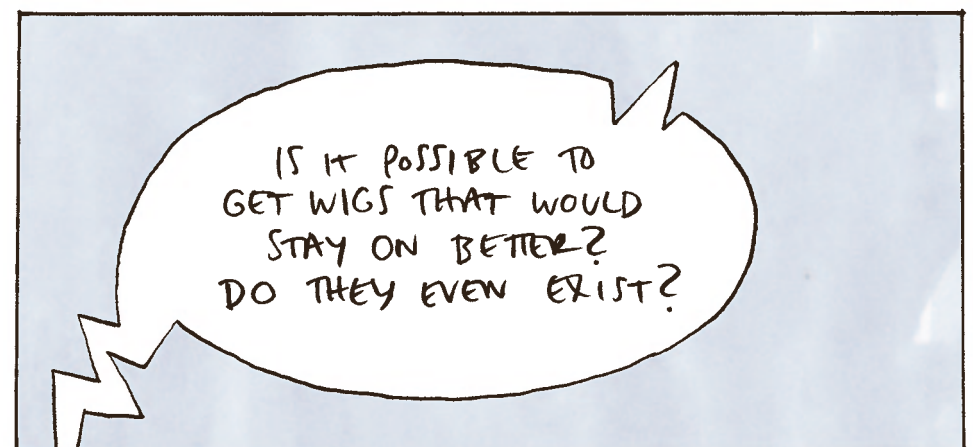
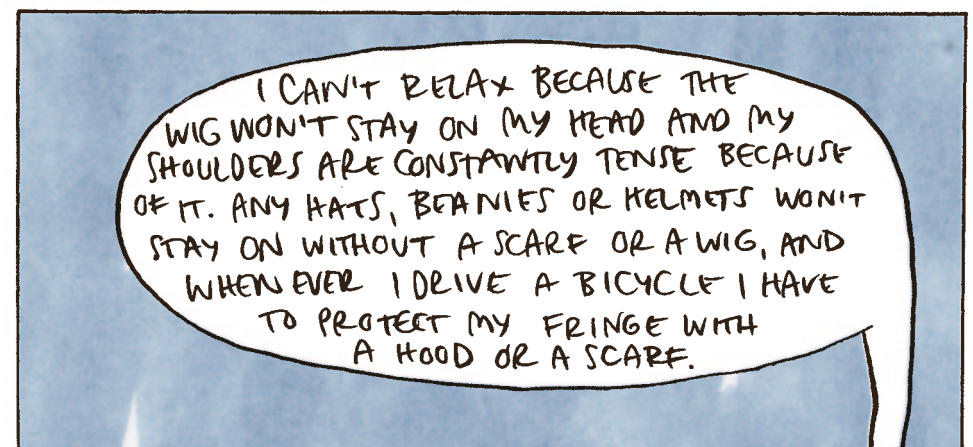
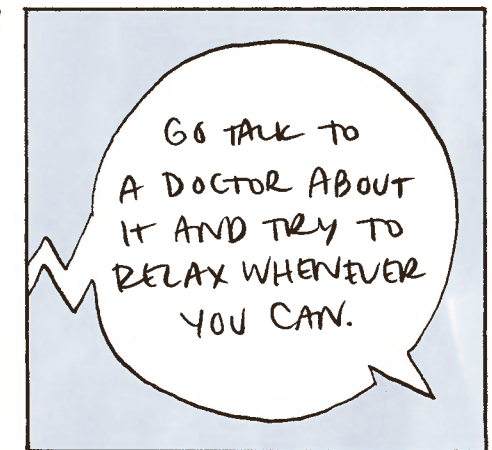
WELL, I'LL BE
IN HELSINKI
IN JULY.
WE'LL BE ON A
HOLIDAY THEN AND THE
SHOP IS CLOSED IN JULY.
COULD YOU MAKE IT ON
A WEEKDAY BETWEEN
NINE AND SIX.

CAN'T YOU FIND
A WIG STORE
ANYWHERE
CLOSER?
THERE ARE A FEW
BUT THEIR SELECTION
IS SO SMALL THAT I
CAN'T FIND ANYTHING
AND THEY ALL LOOK
LIKE WIGS TOO.





* Elizabeth I, Andy Warhol, Dame Edna, Lady Gaga!



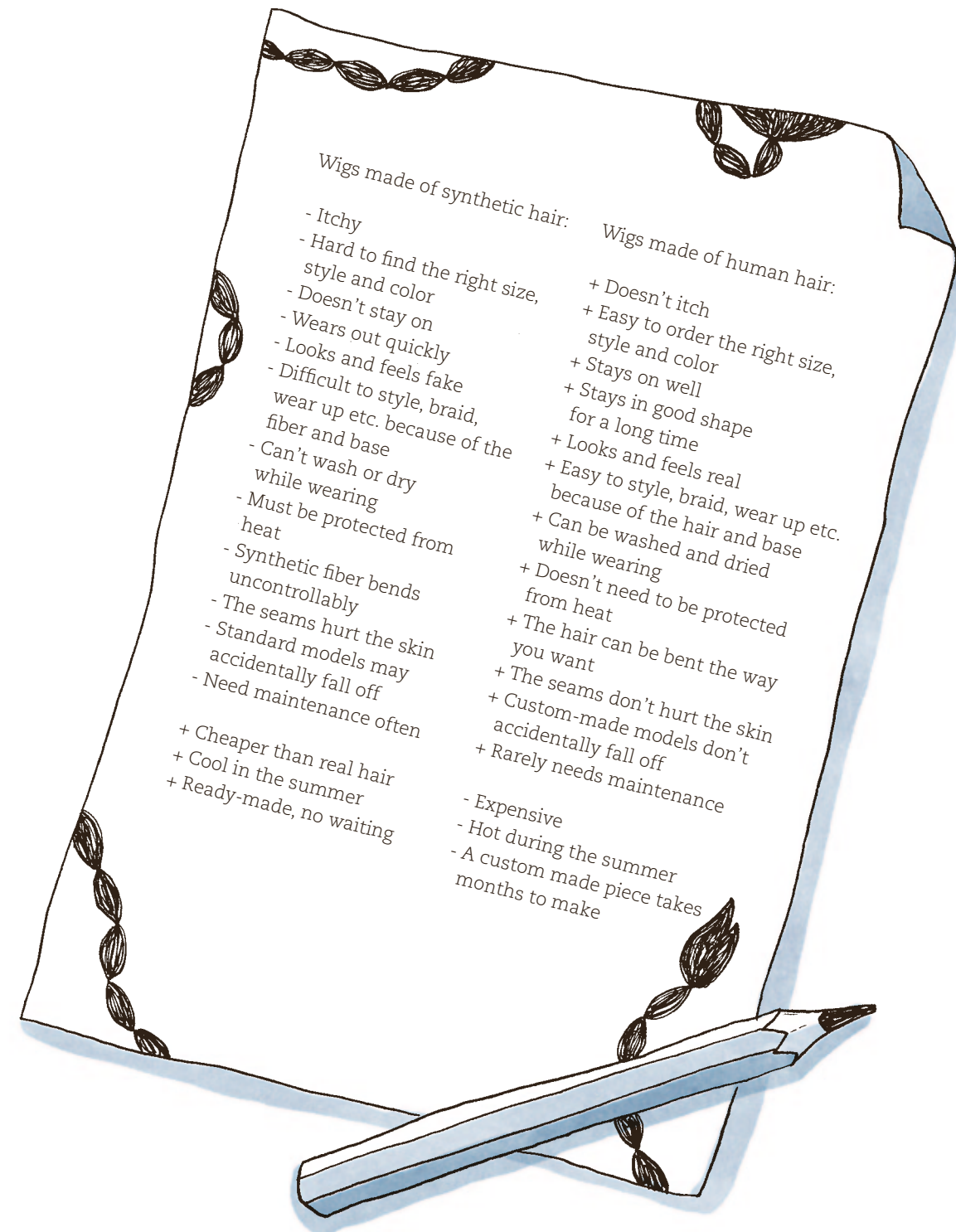


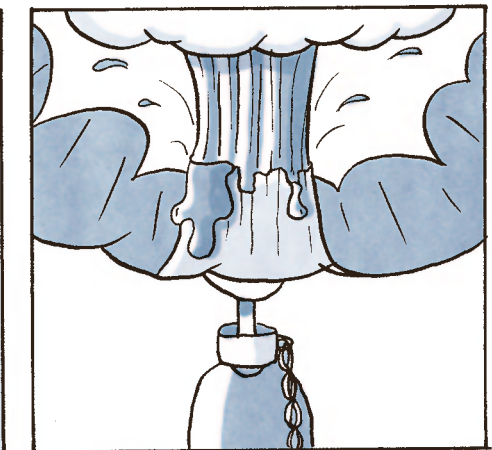
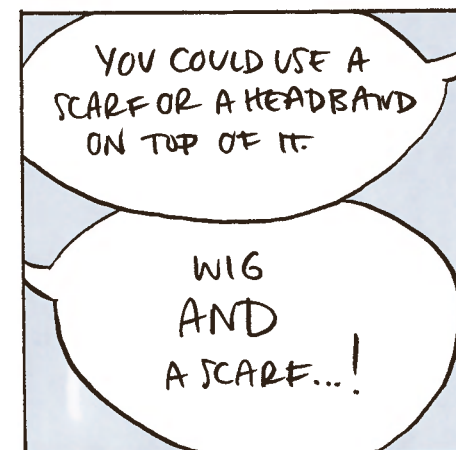
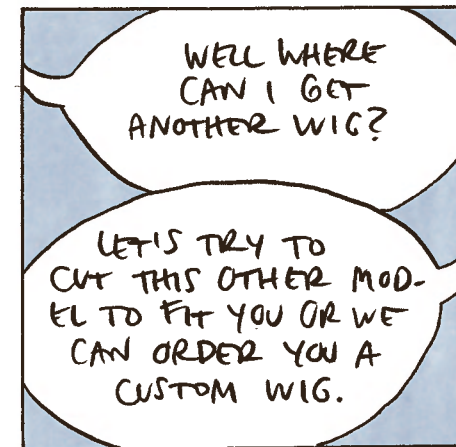
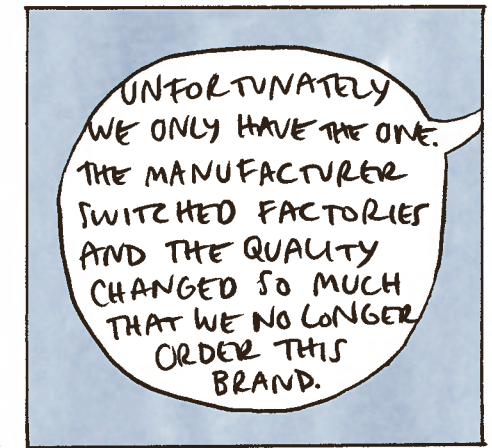
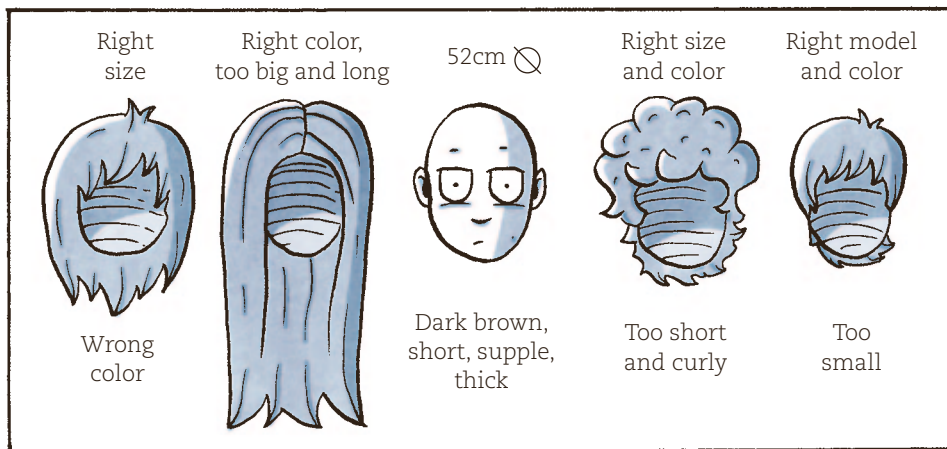
THESE MACHINE-STITCHED SYNTHETIC WIGS ARE FOR EVERYDAY USE AND COST AROUND €€€. HAND TIED SYNTHETIC WIGS ARE BETWEEN €€€ AND €€€€. ALL THE STYLES ARE STANDARD SIZES.

WIGS FROM REAL HAIR ARE MORE EXPENSIVE BUT BETTER. HAND TIED STANDARD SIZES COST BETWEEN €€€ AND €€€€. AND THE BEST ONES, HAND TIED WIGS MADE TO CUSTOM SIZE ARE €€€€ AND UP.

HI MOM.
YES, YOU CAN GET THEM BUT THEY'RE VERY EXPENSIVE AND THEIR DELIVERY TAKES TIME.

HOW ABOUT YOU MAKE A PRO-AND-CON LIST. THAT MIGHT HELP YOU MAKE SUCH A HARD DECISION.



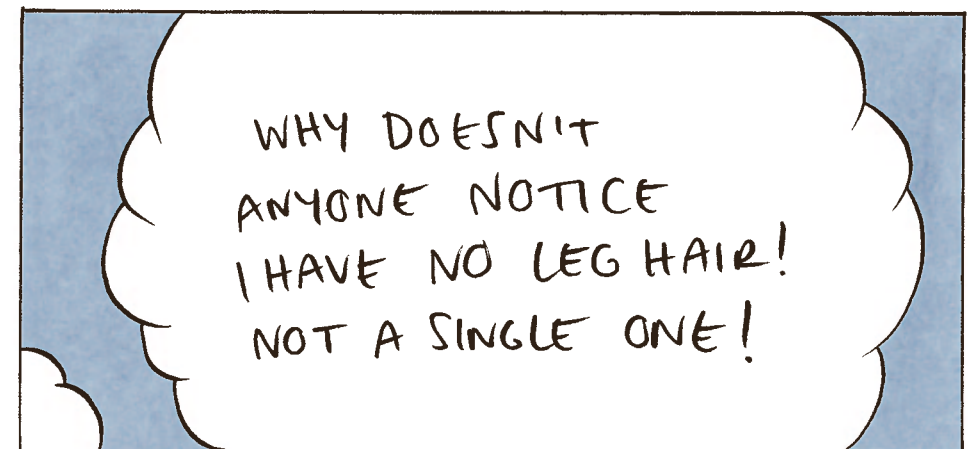
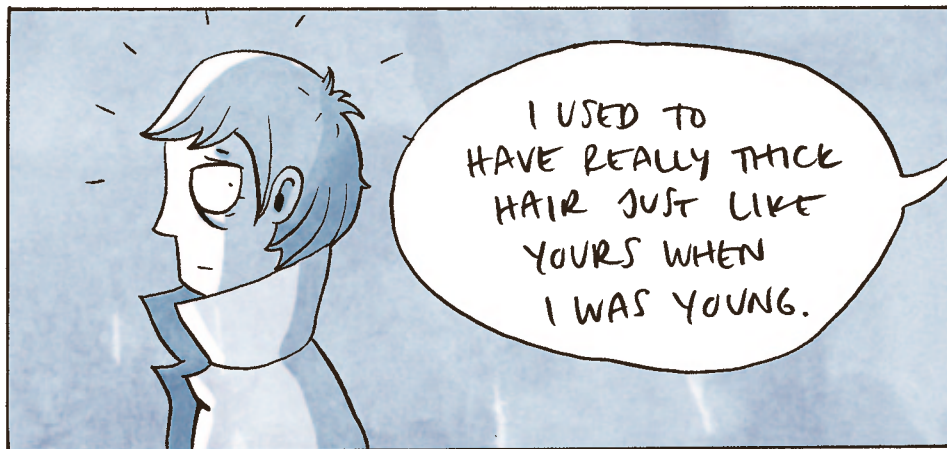


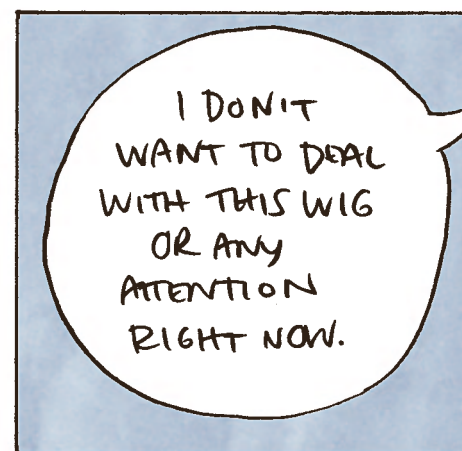
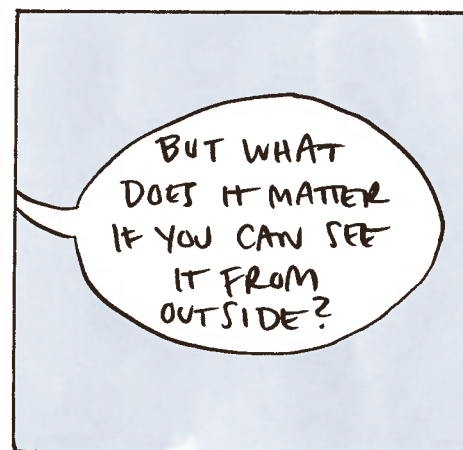
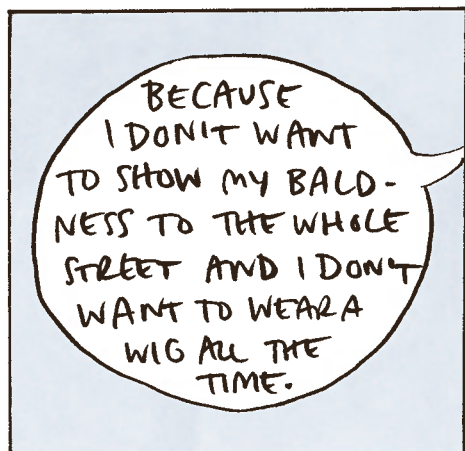
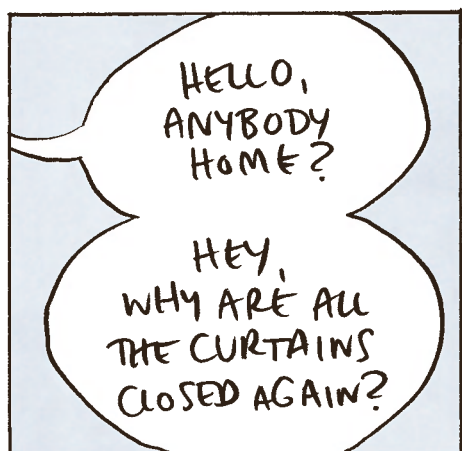
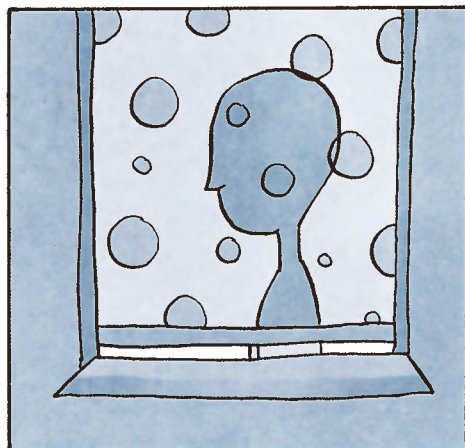
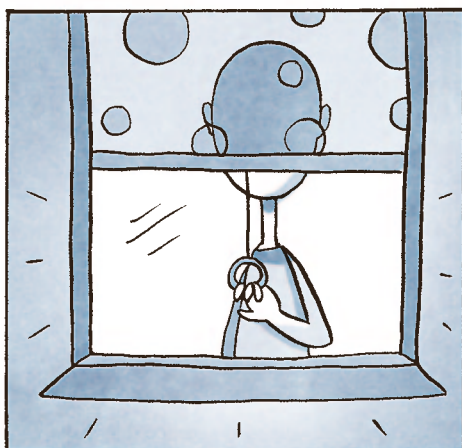
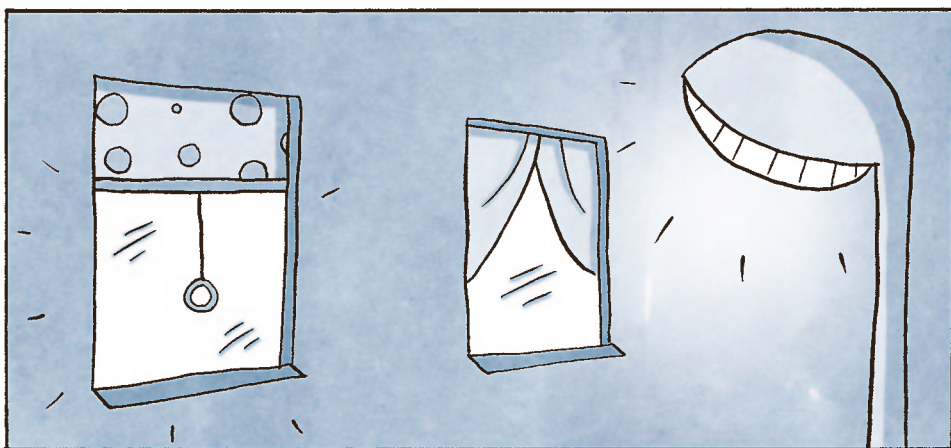


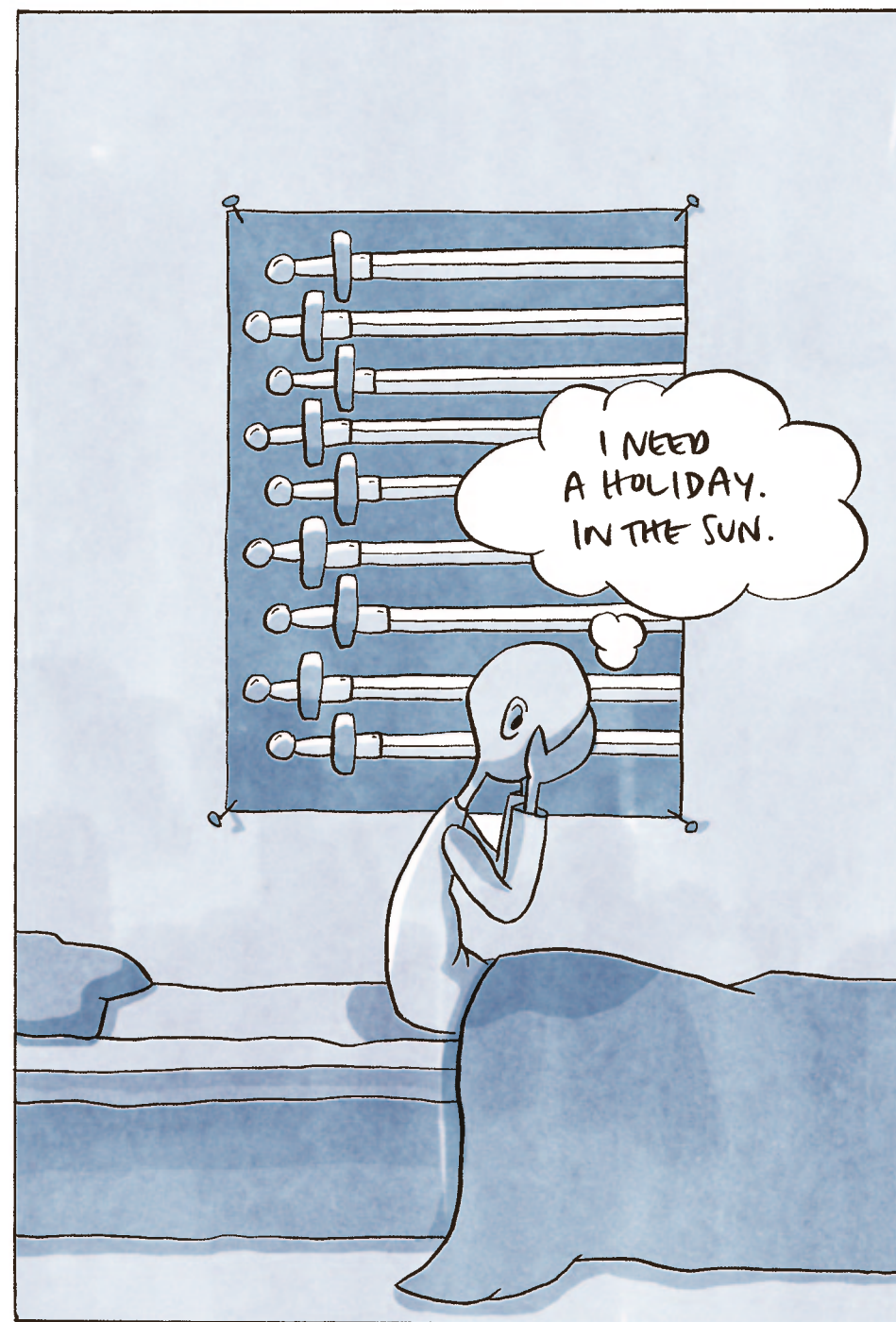
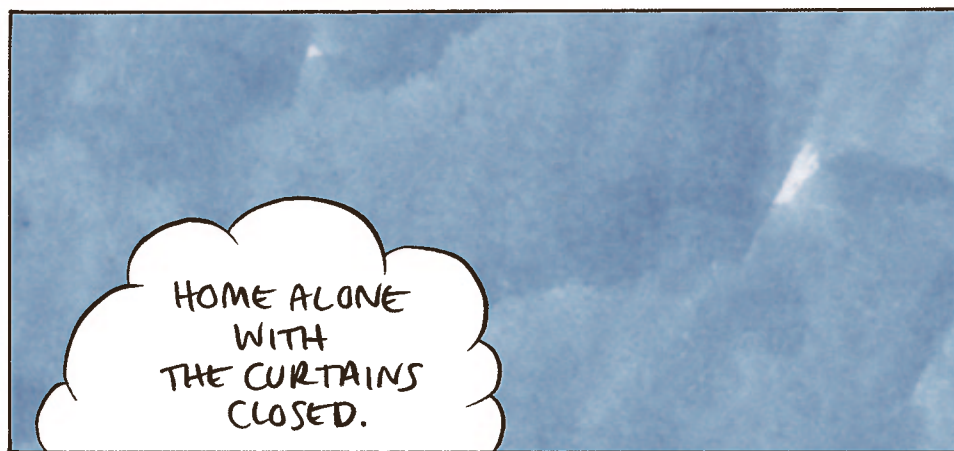
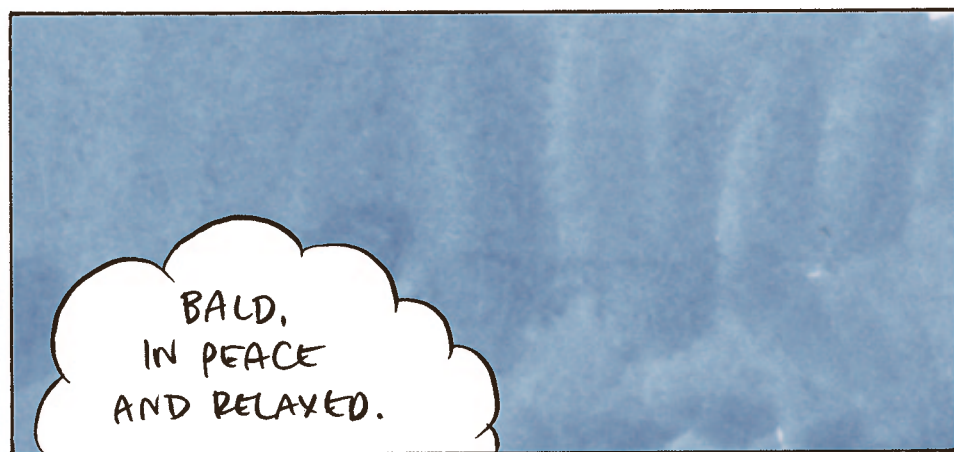


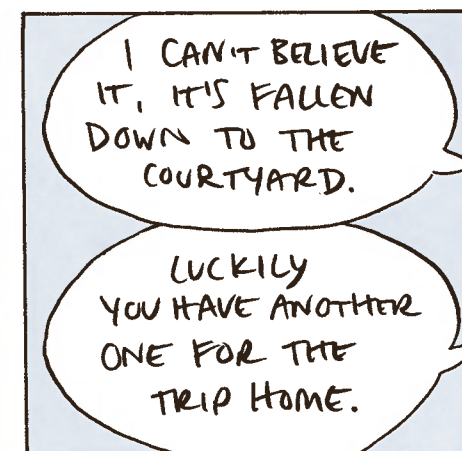
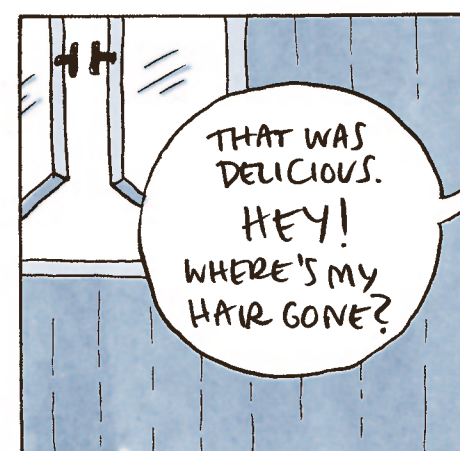
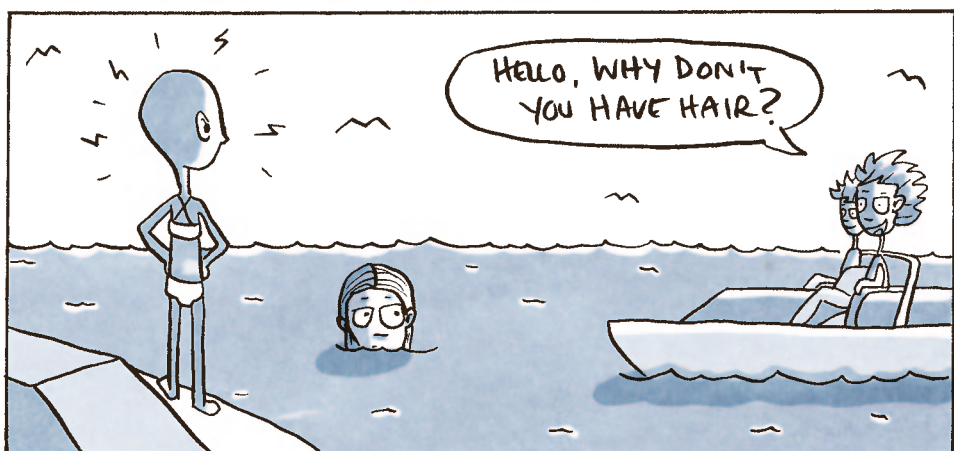
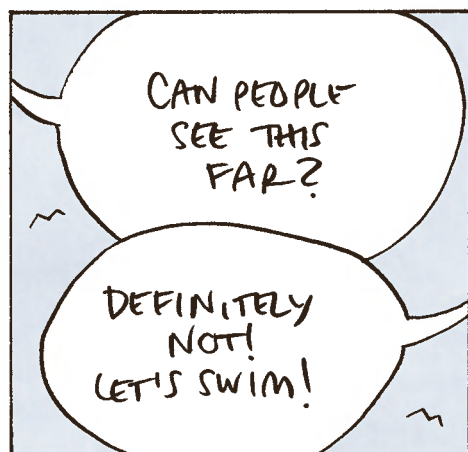
66° 25' #3

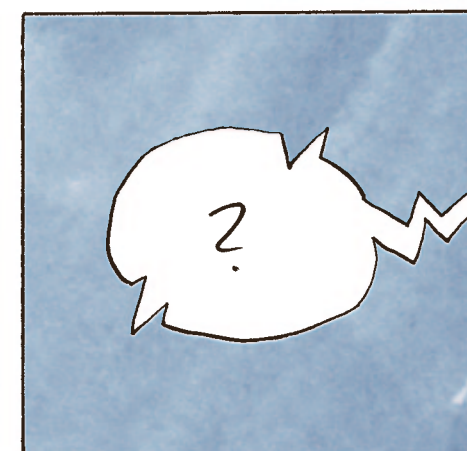
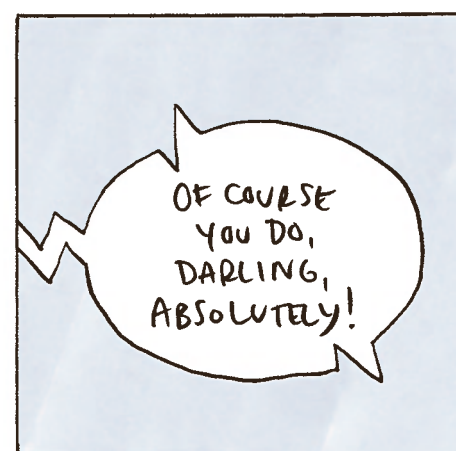
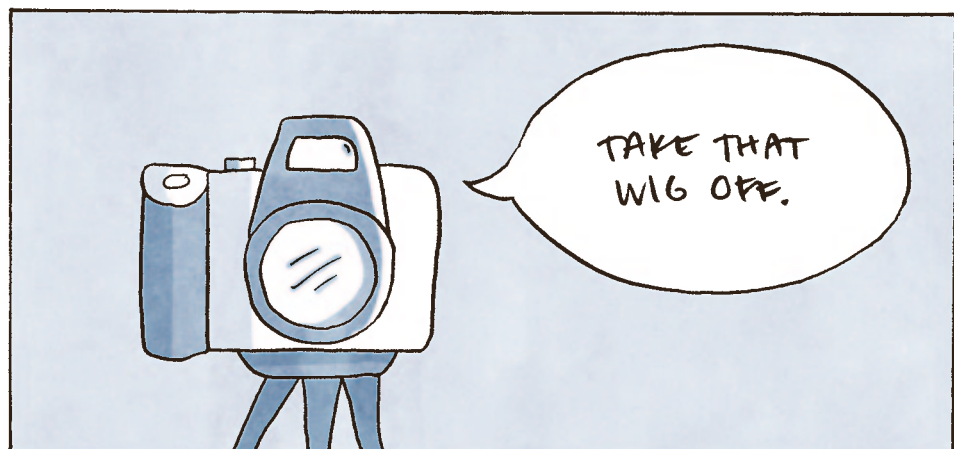
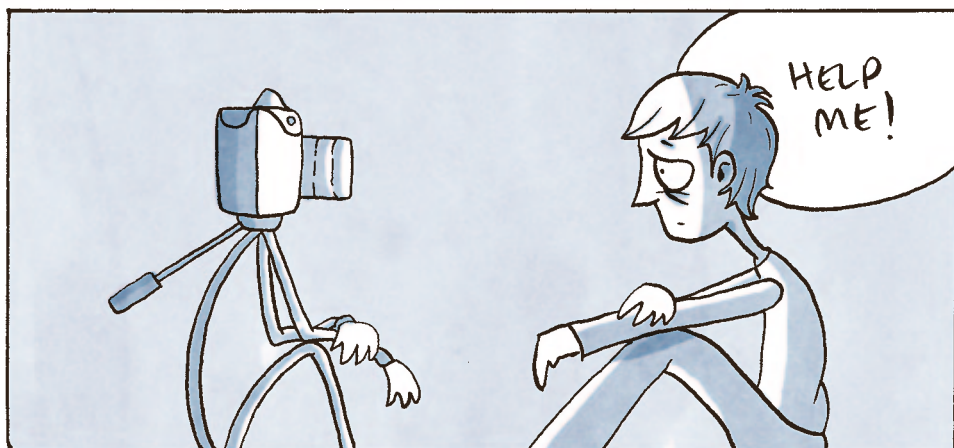


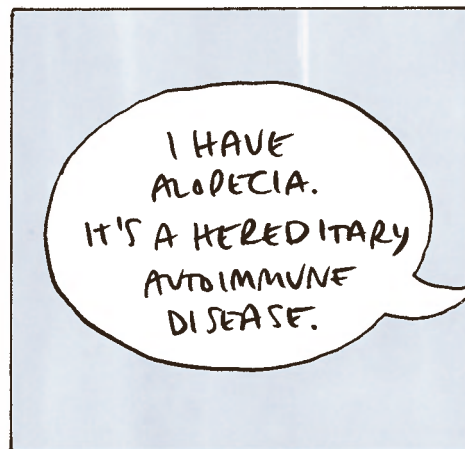


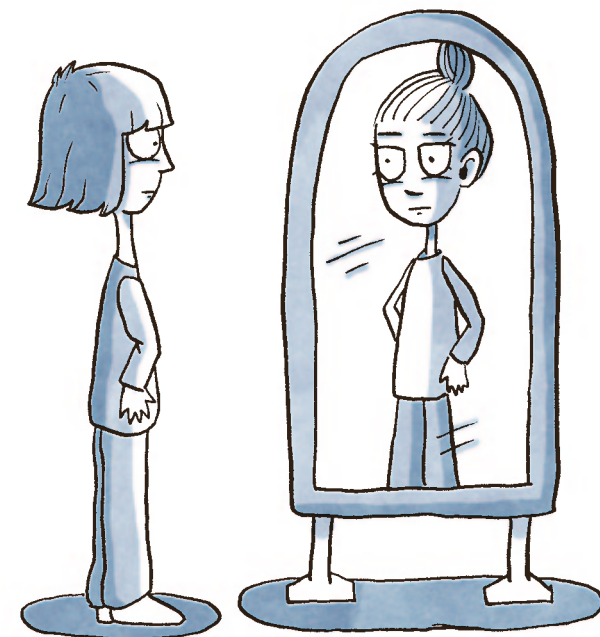




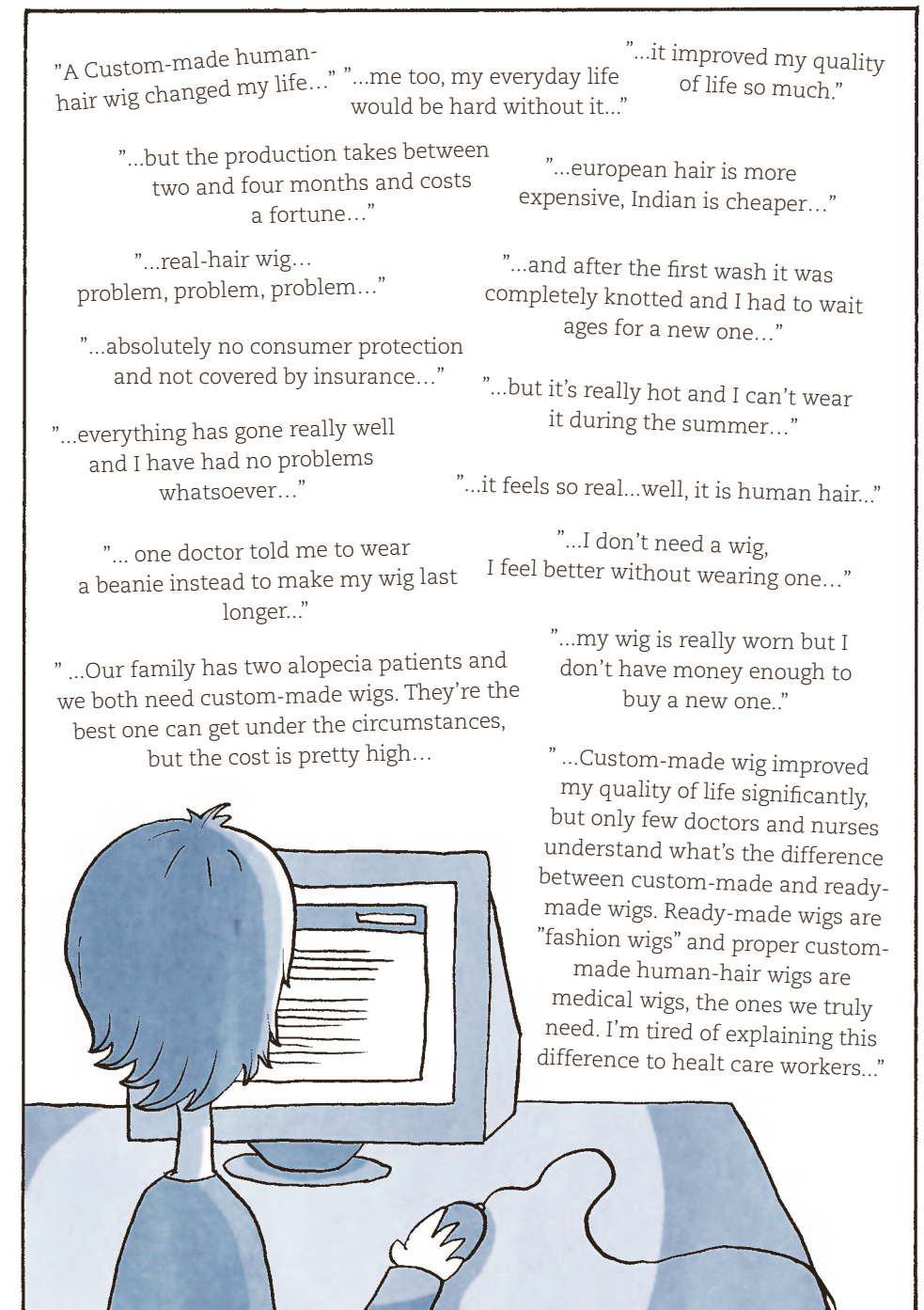
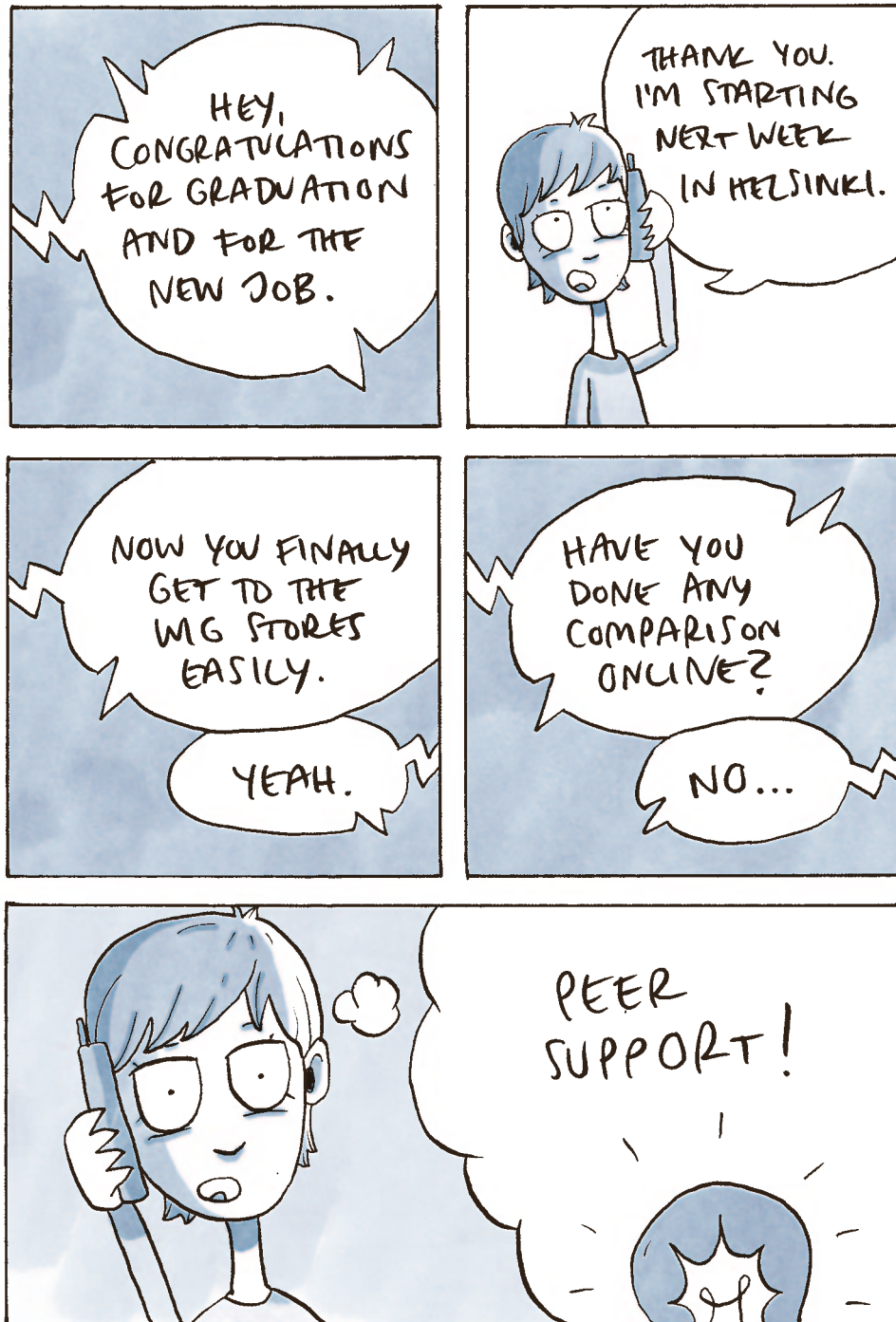


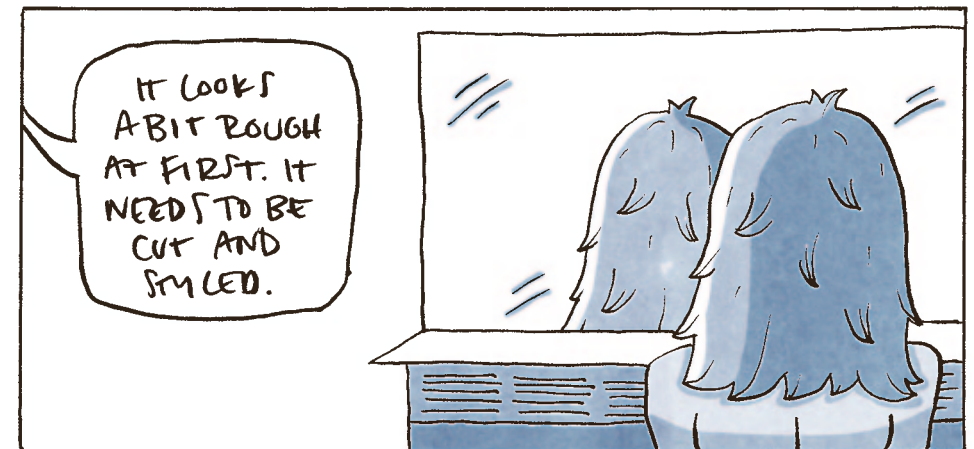
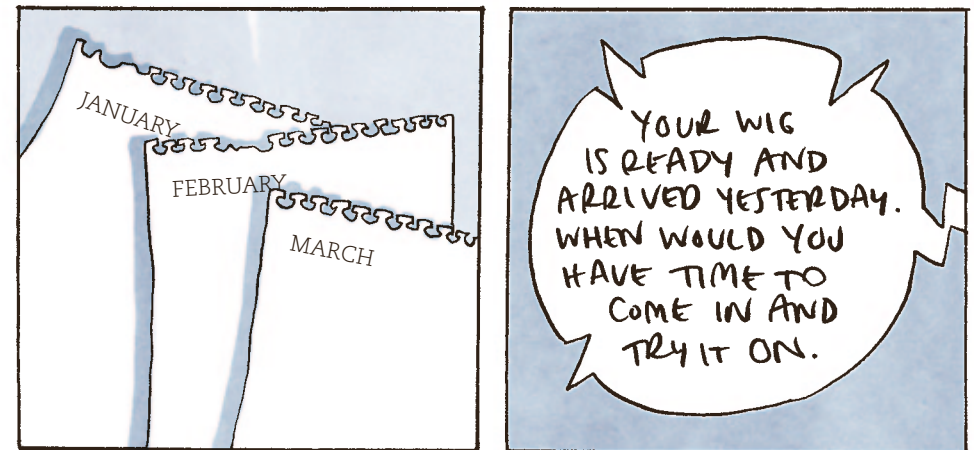
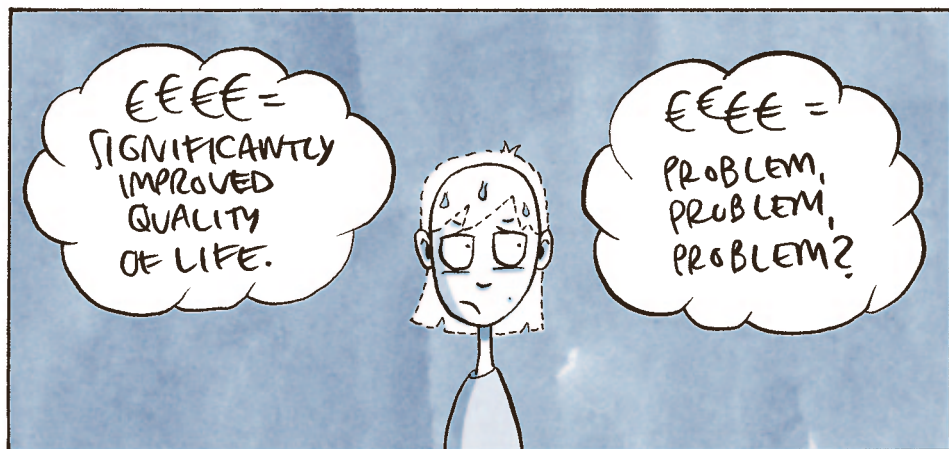
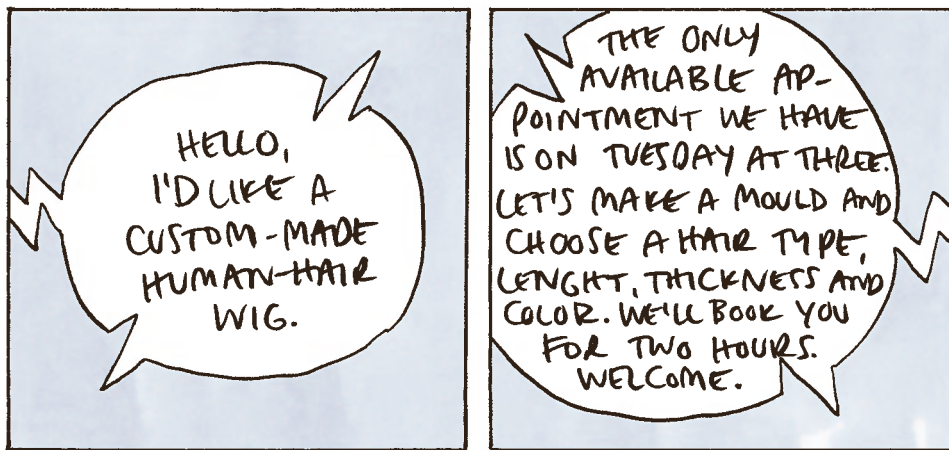


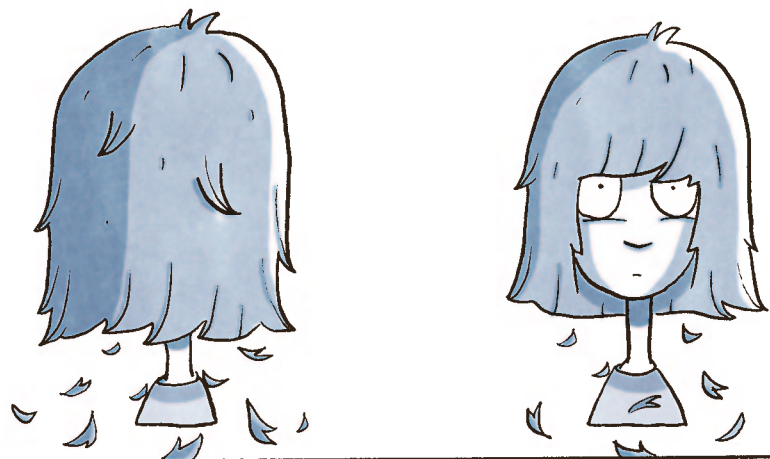




Real hair, real life?







WOW,
IT LOOKS SO REAL
AND FITS LIKE
A GLOVE.
THANK YOU
SO MUCH!

NO PROBLEM,
IT DID TAKE
ITS TIME BUT NOW
IT FITS YOU SO WELL
THAT IT REALLY LOOKS
LIKE YOUR
OWN HAIR.



SO THAT'S
A WIG?

YES.

WHERE
CAN YOU
GET ONE?

CUSTOM-MADE
FROM SPECIALIZED
SALONS.

THE MEASURE-
MENTS ARE TAKEN
IN FINLAND, THE HAIR
COMES FROM INDIA OR
EUROPE, AND THEY'RE
TIED TO THE WIG BASE
MAYBE IN SOME
WHERE IN ASIA.

I CAN CHOOSE THE
HAIR, TYPE, COLOR,
CURLINESS, LENGTH
AND THICKNESS.

LOOKS UNBE-
LIEVABLY REAL.

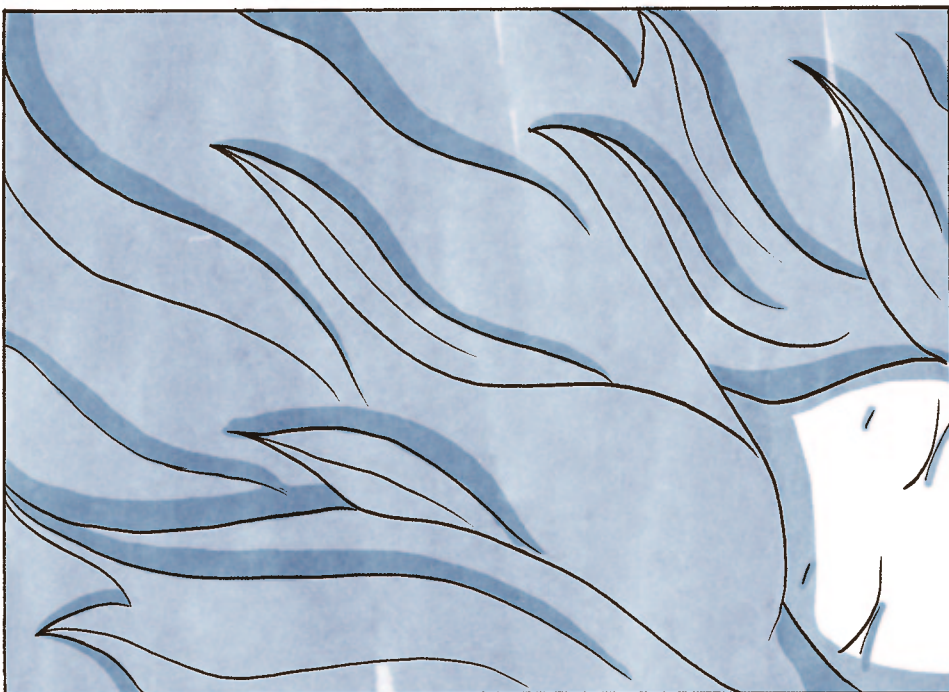
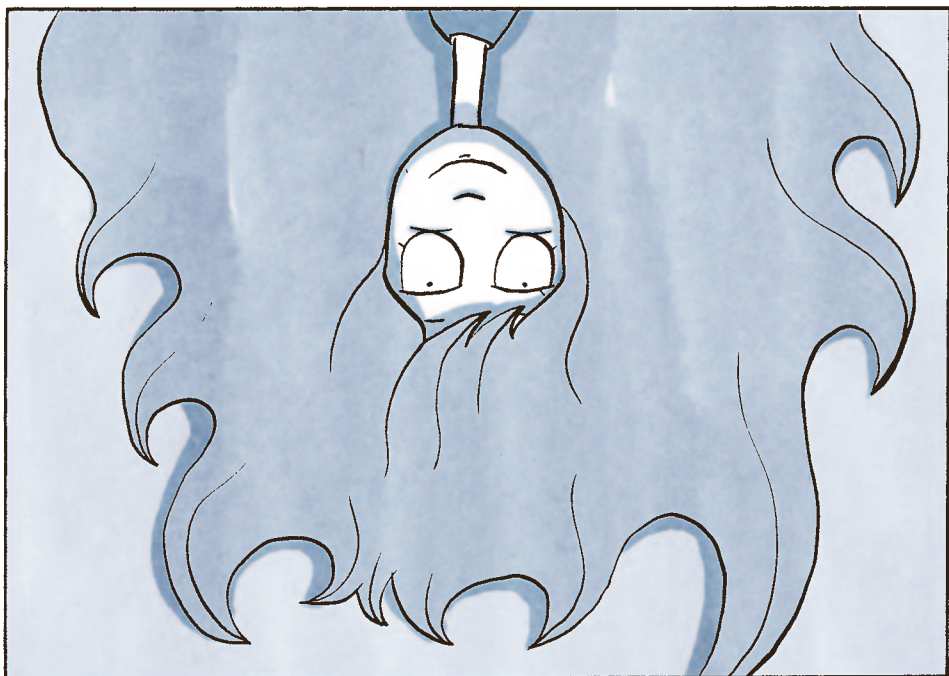
FEELS LIKE
IT, TOO.

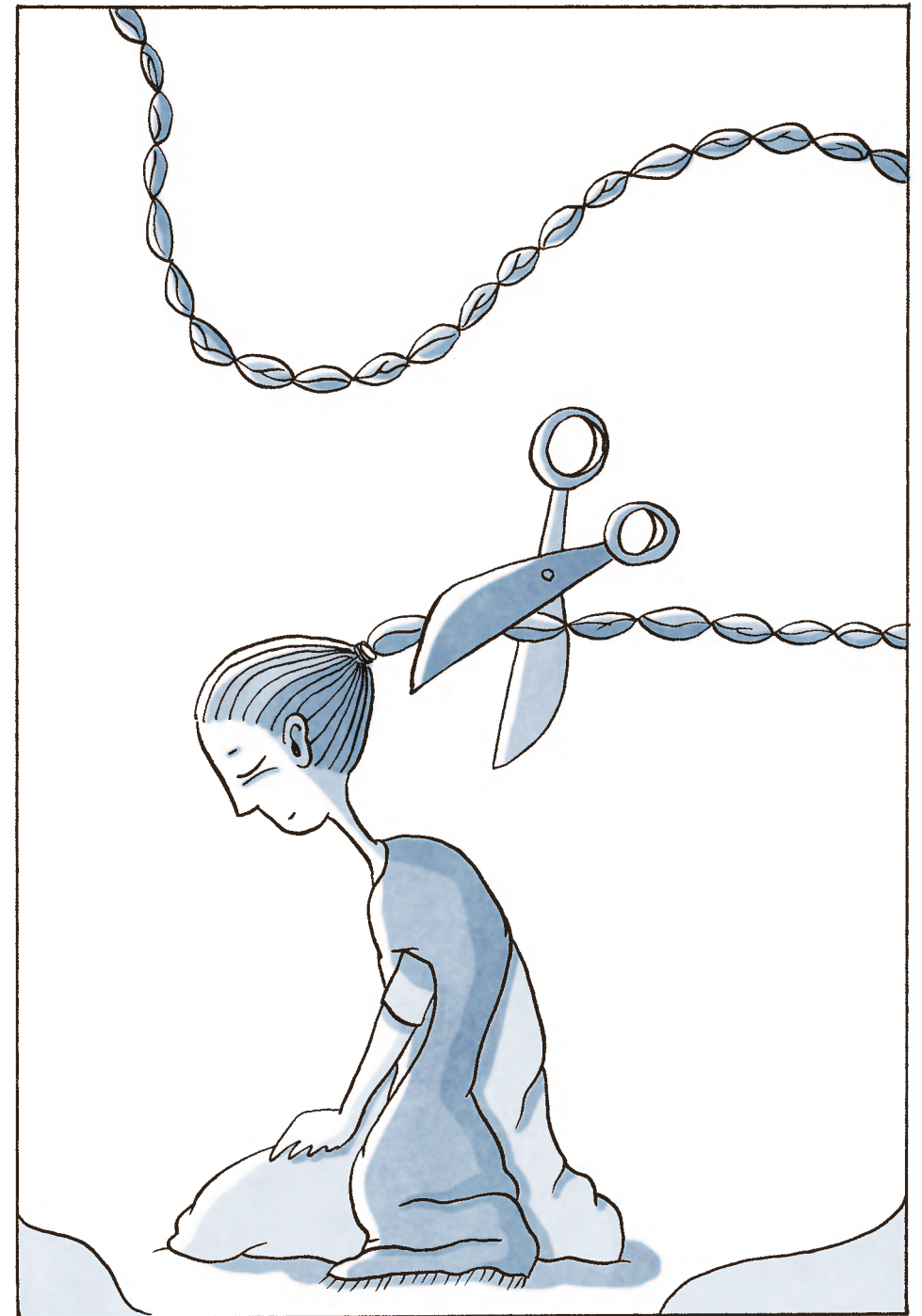
SOMEONE HAS
HAND TIED THIS.
IMAGINE, SOMETHING
LIKE A HUNDRED
THOUSAND KNOTS!

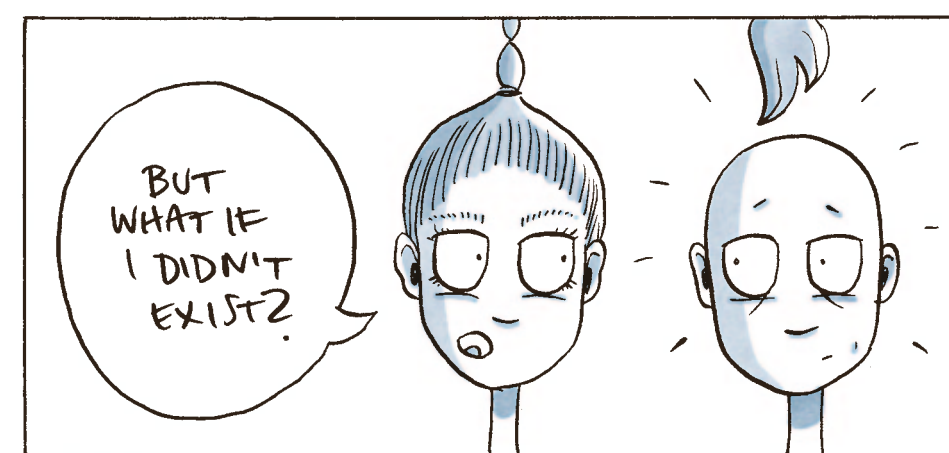
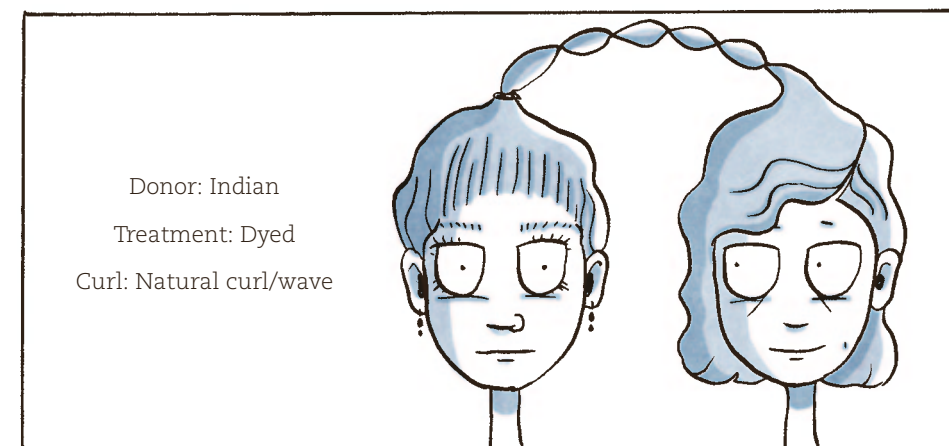
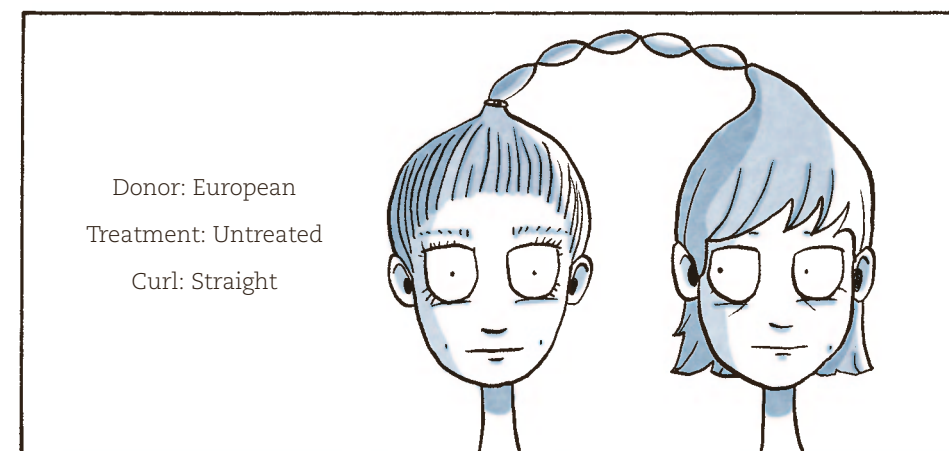
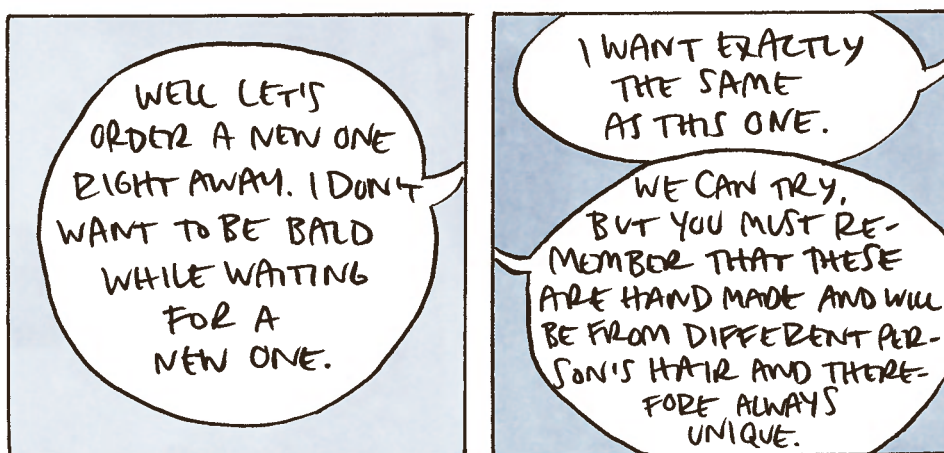
ONE BY ONE!

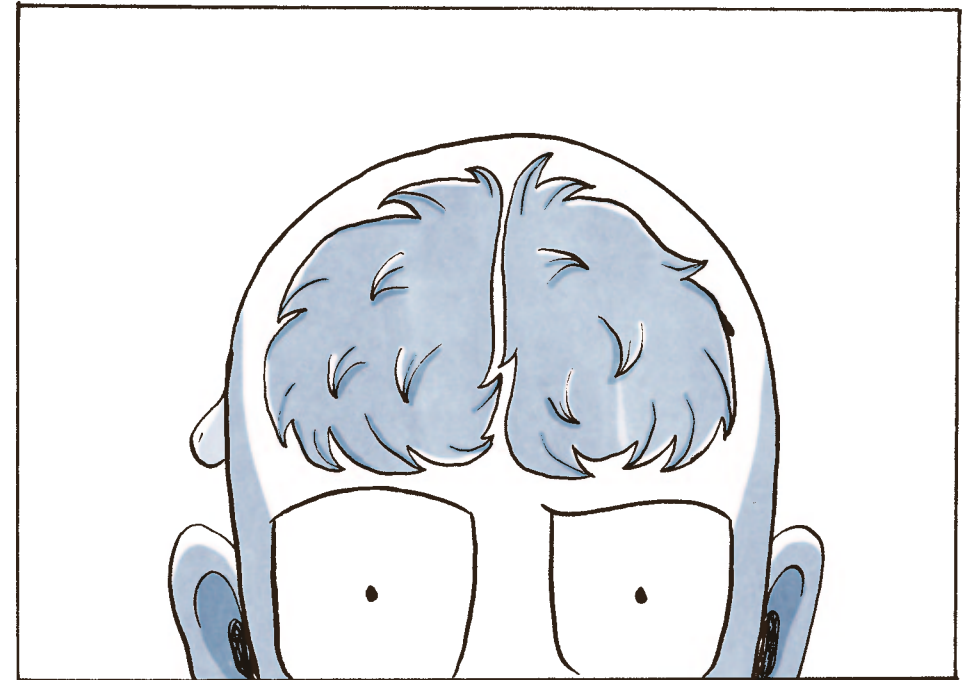
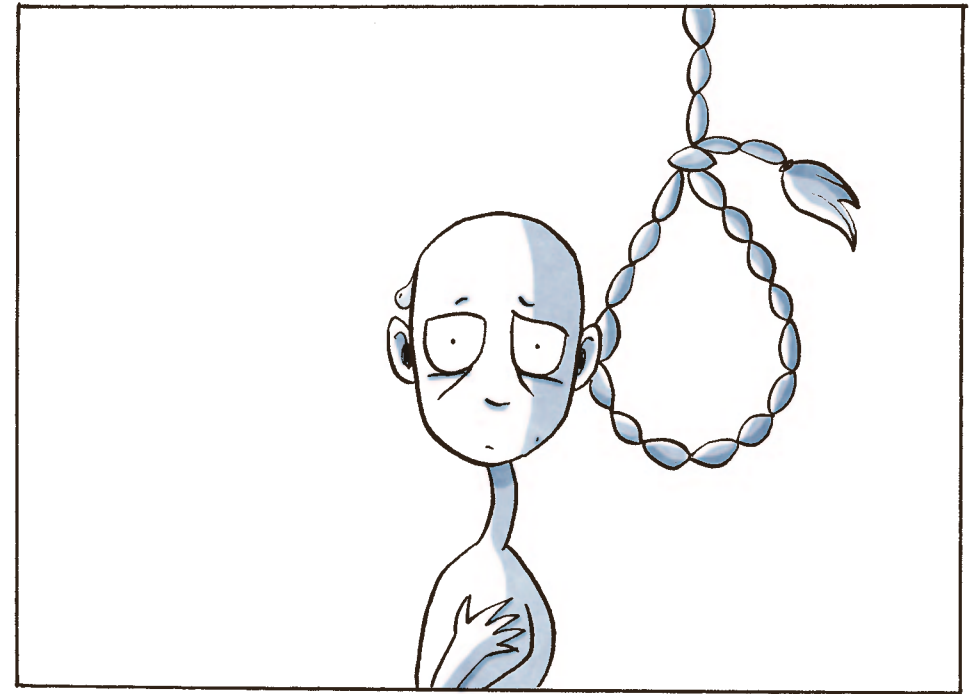
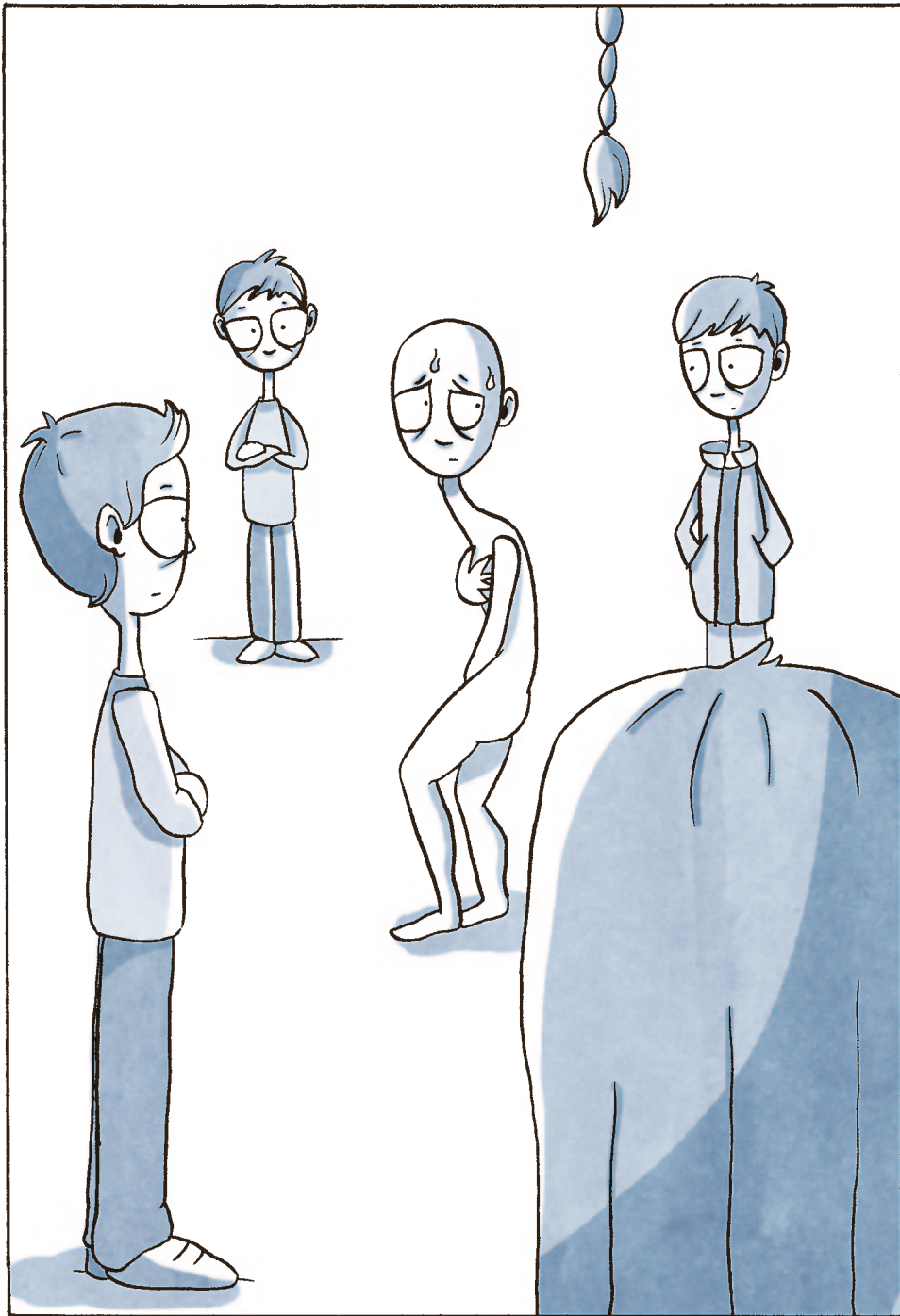
A HAIR
AT A TIME,
DOUBLE KNOTS.

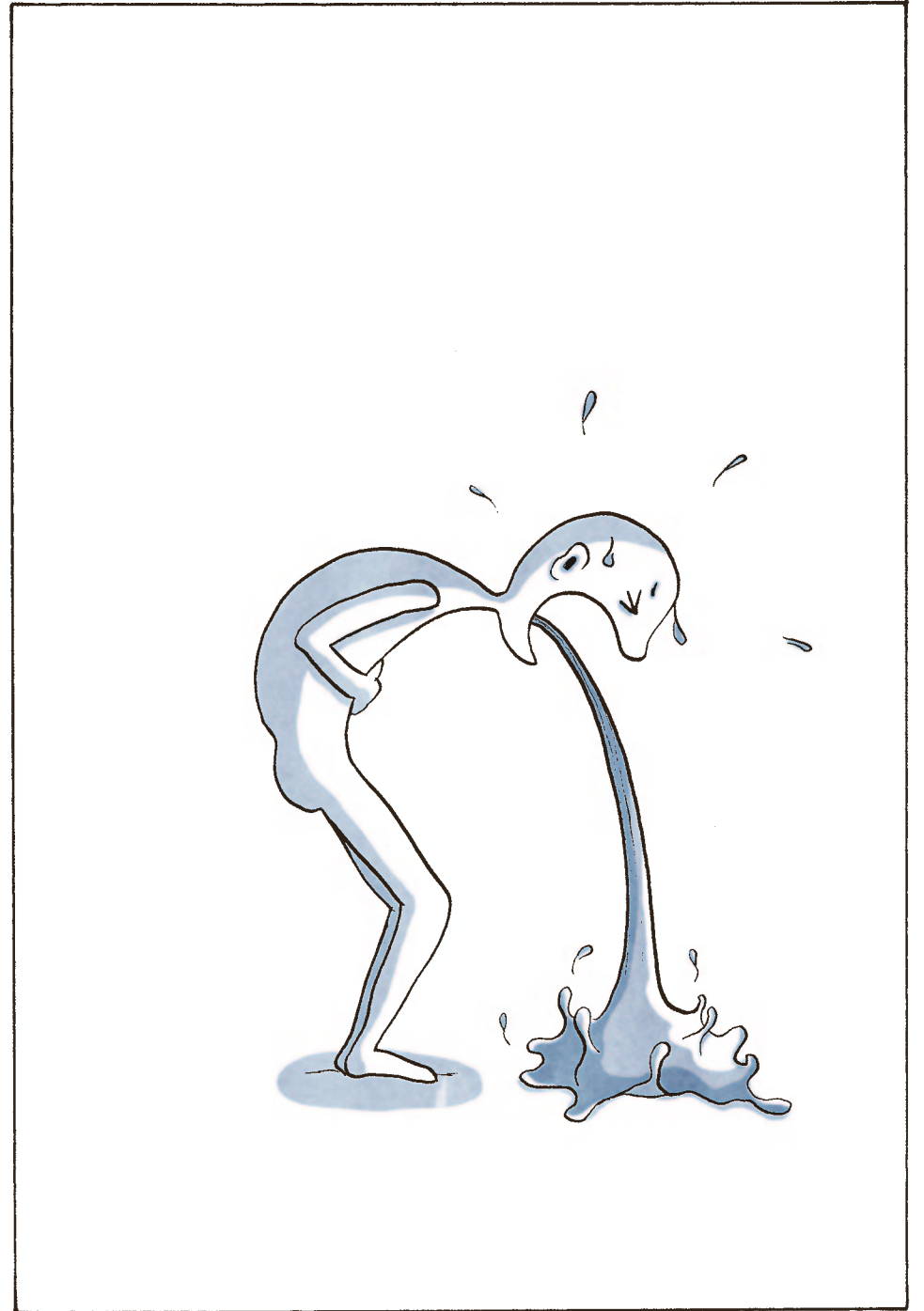
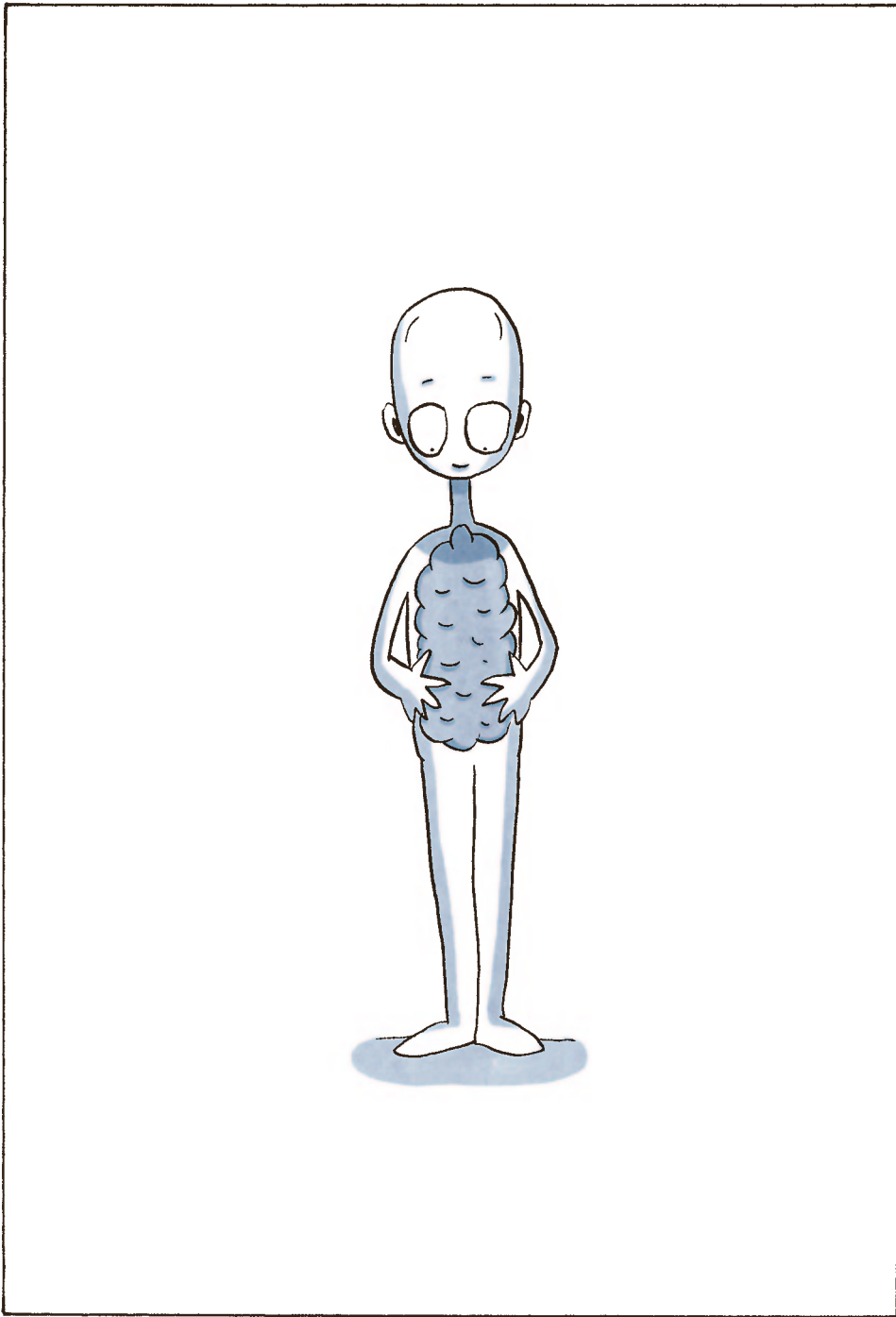
IT'S A WONDER
MAN HASN'T
BEEN TO MARS.

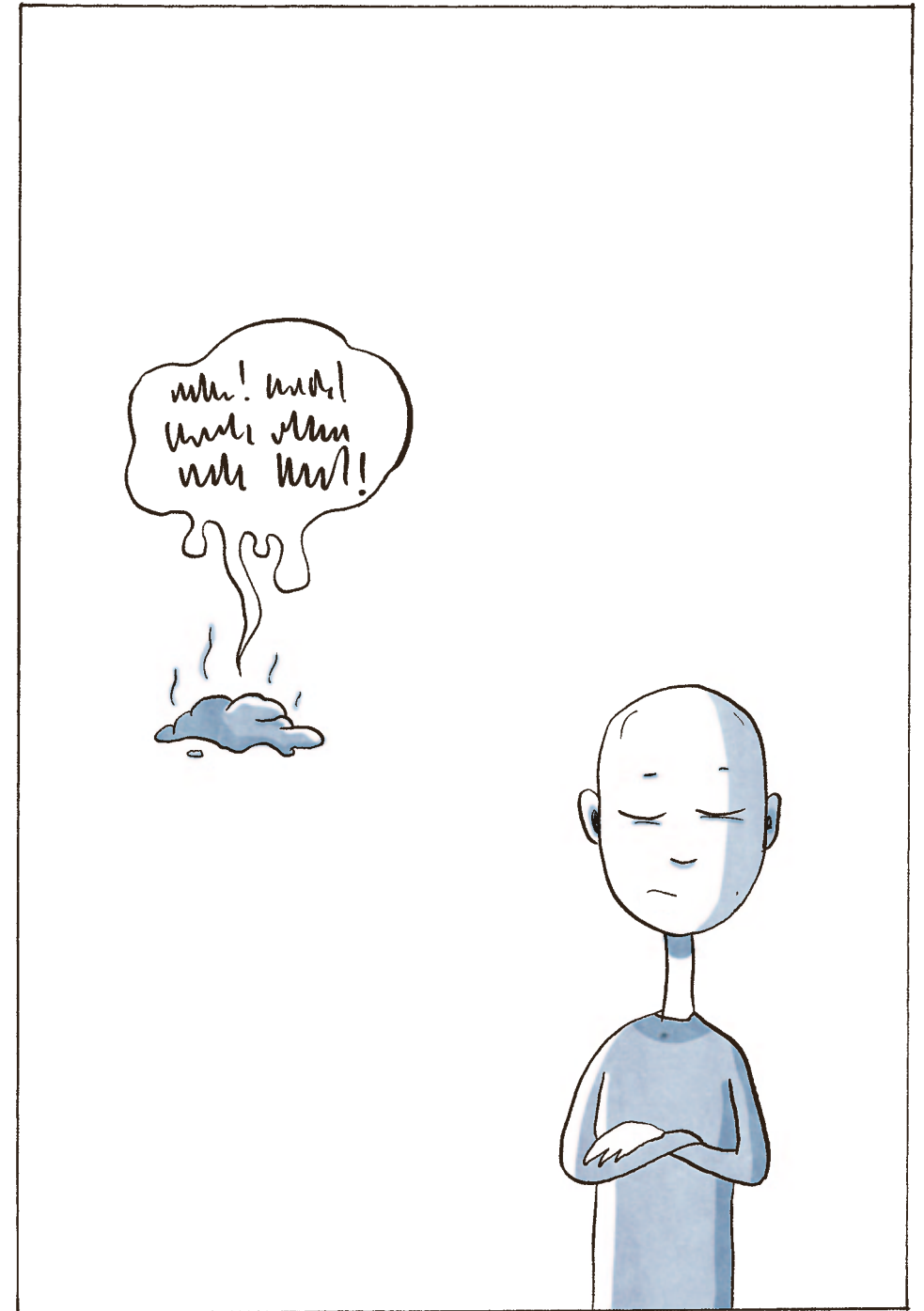


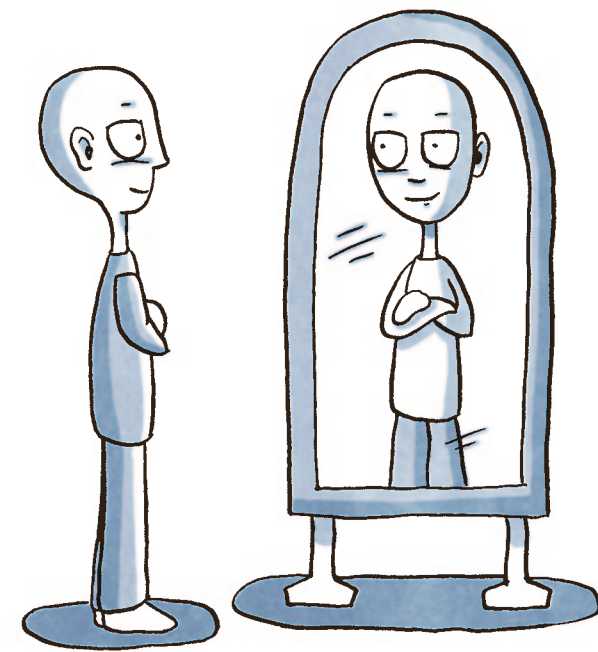




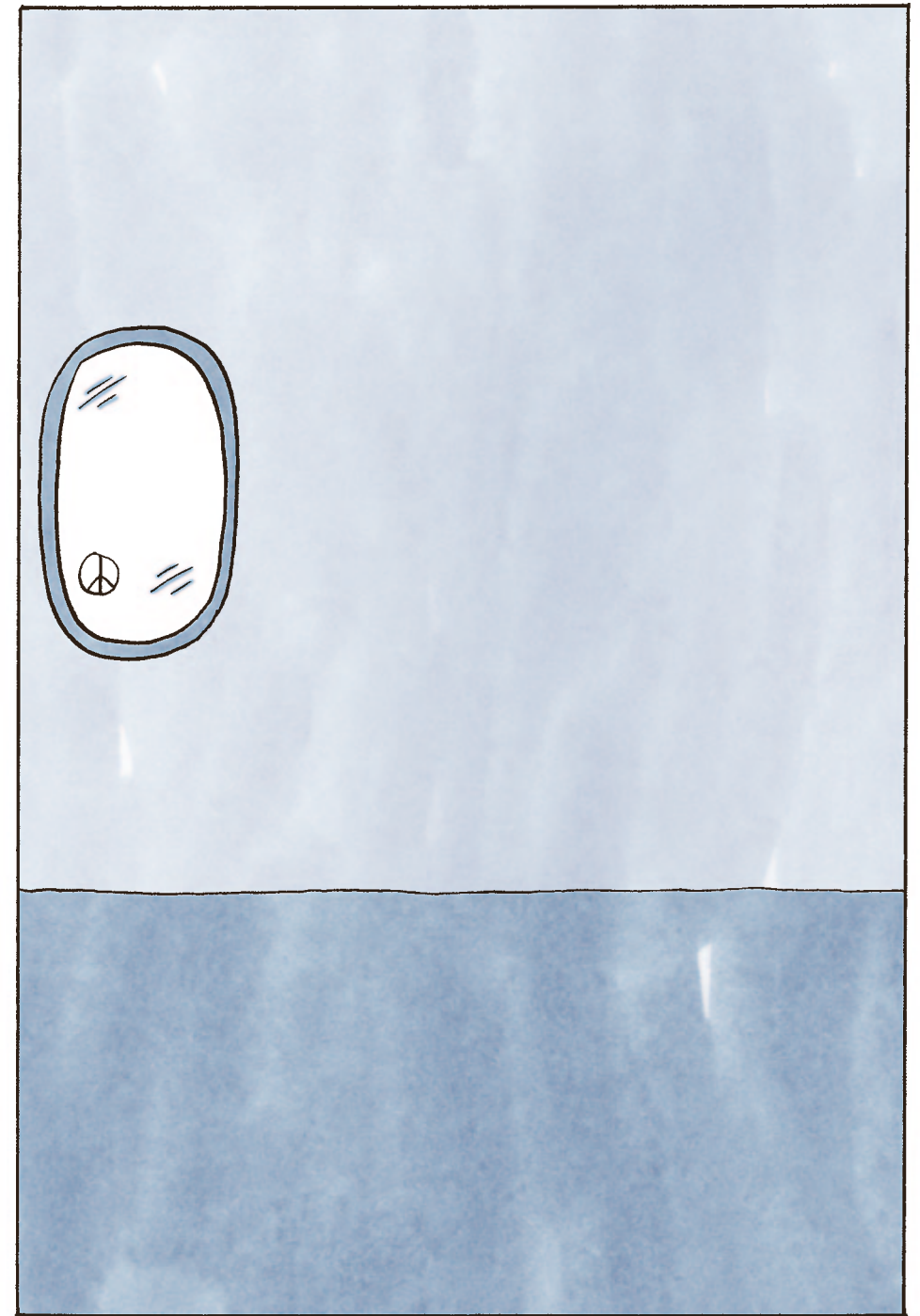
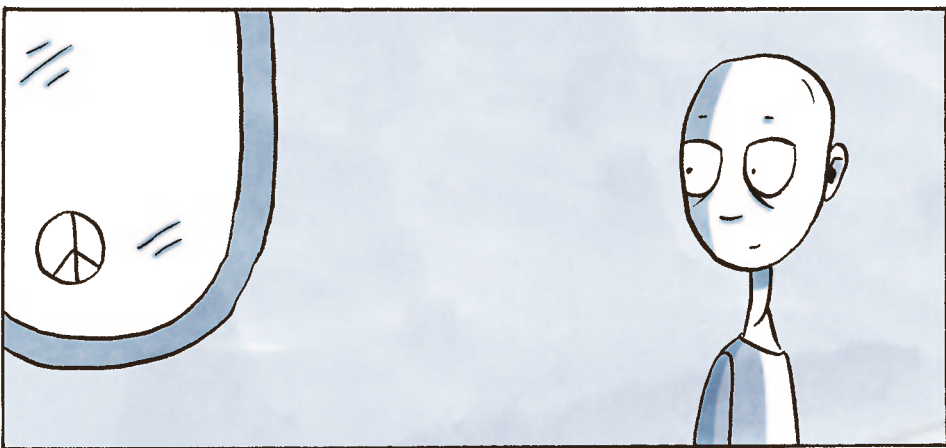
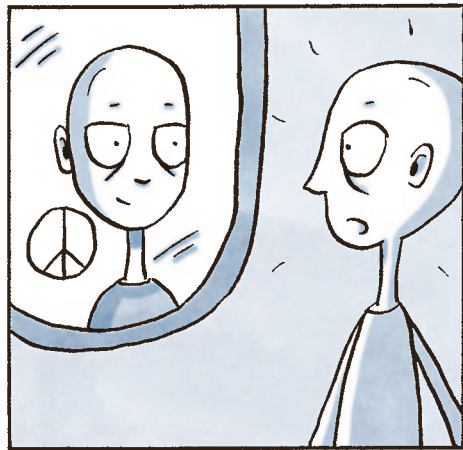
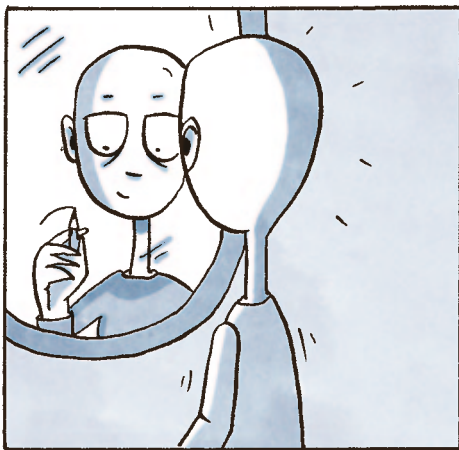
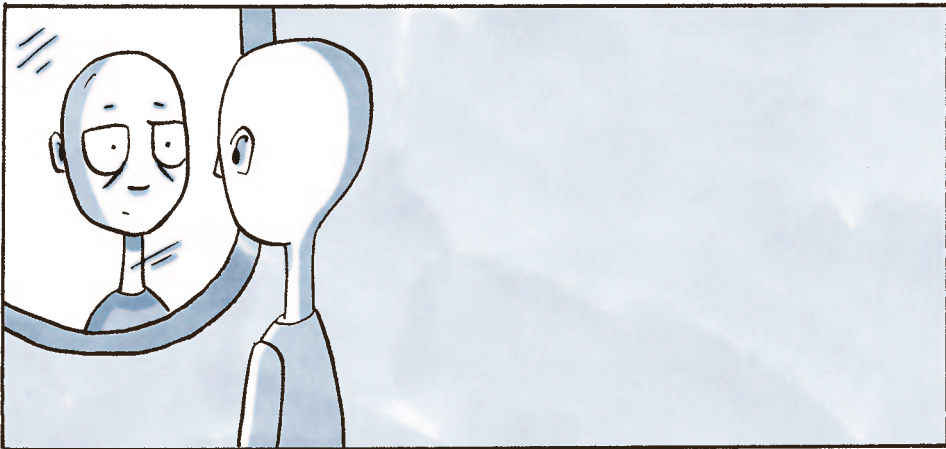








Hair. Life.



GOOD LUCK,
YOU'LL BE JUST FINE!

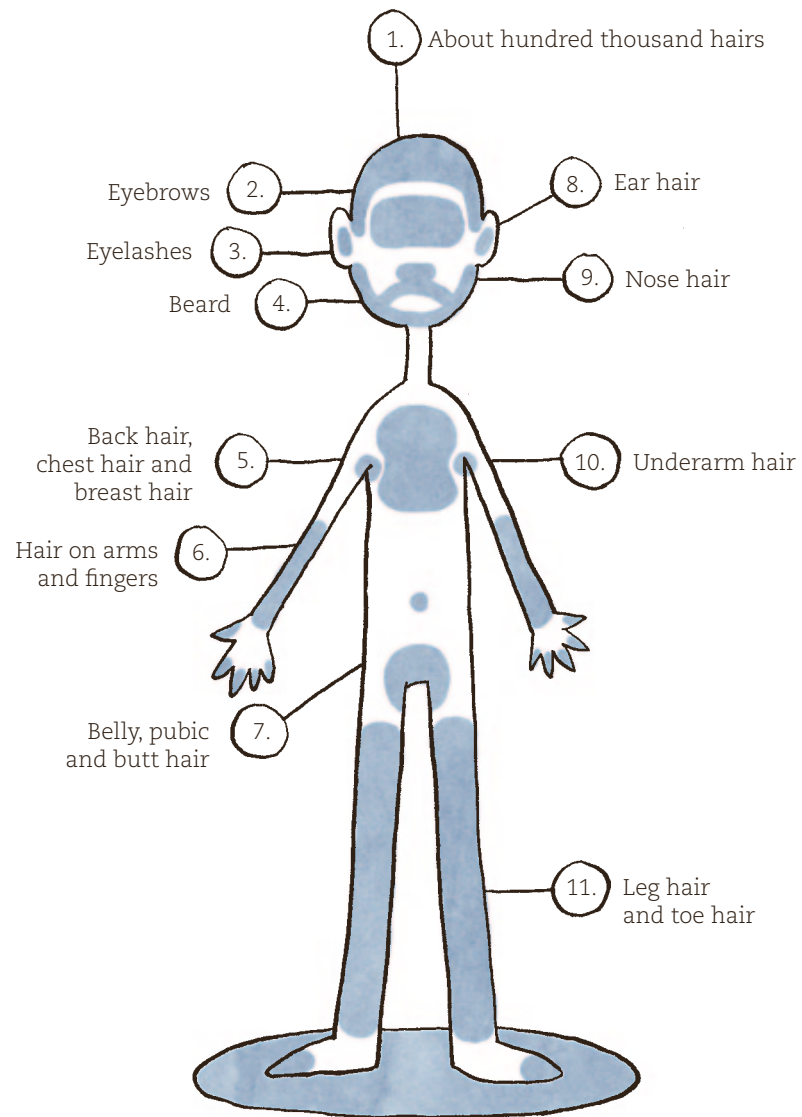
Thank you Pauli Kervinen, Mum, Dad, Inari Kiuru and Kaisli Kiuru and their families, and friends. Without you there is nothing.

Thank you goes also to support groups, other people who have alopecia and to those hairdressers and entrepreneurs who can see your despair and help.

Thank You Paula Malinen, Suvi Humalisto, Ella Kivinen, Tuuli Juntunen, Yasmin May Jafaar, Shaun Tan, Kaisa Leka, Maija Savolainen, Aleksi Manninen, Hilda Törmänen, Ross Hvidsten, Anniina Zabelin and all of you who helped me and showed support and interest towards this work.

Thanks also goes to Jasso the Cat, Peanuts, Corto Maltese, Inspector Canardo, Silence, Spiderman and Batman.

Womans hair in 2017



 = hair growth area

1. Covers the head ja helps us to recognize a person. Let it grow or shave it. Dye, curl, straighten, add a hairpiece, play. Do what feels best. If you don't grow any, that's ok. Sometimes it happens. Get a wig if you feel like you need one.
 2. Prevent sweat from dripping/running into you eyes and are an important part of a nonverbal body language. Let them grow, pick or shave them away. Whatever you like. Also dyeing is ok. If you don't grow any, just be without; have a permanent or semi-permanent pigmentation or draw them yourself.
 3. Protect eyes from small particles and sweat. Curl, dye, add extensions or forget them and pay attention to something else, there's only so few of them anyways.
 4. Also women can grow a beard. That's the way it is. Back in the day everybody's face was covered with hair, so let it grow, shape, shave or get it removed.
 5. If you have it, let it grow, shave or have it waxed. These are only some lonely leftovers from evolution and don't play a major role in the big picture.
 6. Hair that gets the least attention of all woman's hair. What could you possible do with them?
 7. Some shave, sugar or wax all of it away, some only shave sides and some just let it grow. Choose for yourself or try something new.
 8. Protects the ears from dirt. I suppose.
 9. Protects the nasal passage and lungs from dust and dirt, and prevents mucus from draining freely. I was twenty-something when I realised that women grow nasal hair too!
 10. Almost everybody has it and so many removes it. Why?
 11. Somebody somewhere started to remove these. Maybe just for fun, maybe to please others. I'd like to know which one.
- PS. Men, your bodies grow the same hair and you can do exactly the same things as women can with your hair. People, have fun with it!

