

AHUNORED THOUSAND KNOTS

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

To everyone insecure

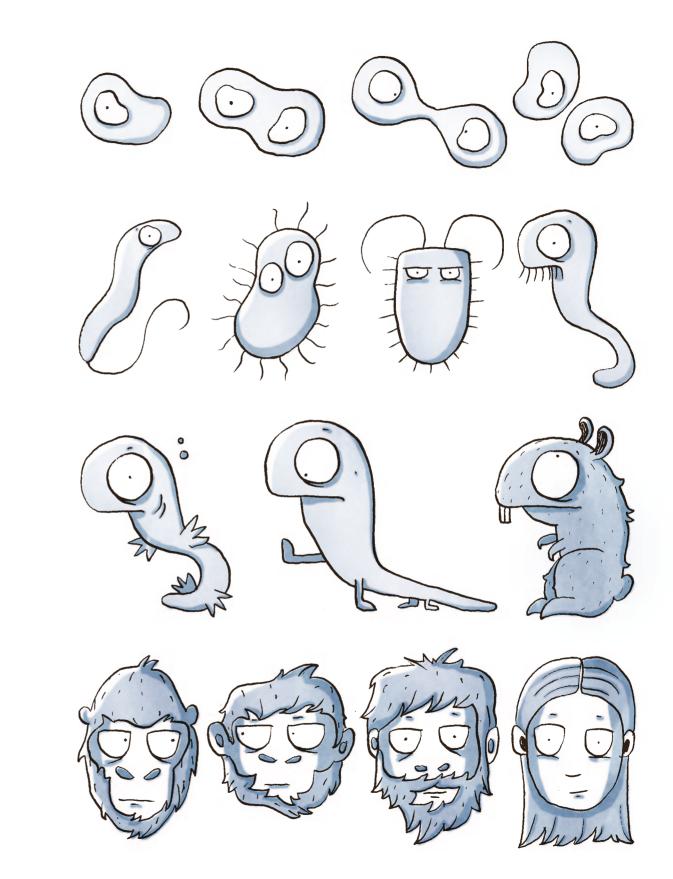


A Hundred Thousand Knots © Kukka-Maria Kiuru 2017 First published as Noin satatuhatta solmua, 2016

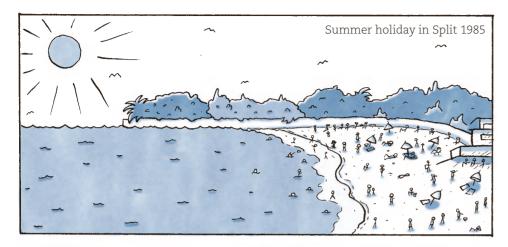
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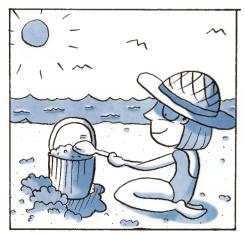
For more information, please visit: www.ahundredthousandknots.com













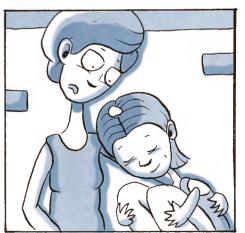








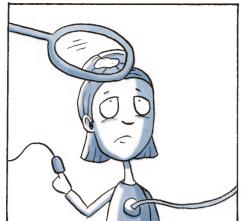






Alopecia Areata











IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S ALOPECIA. IT IS NOT PANGEROUS, IT JUST CAUSES A LOSS OF BODY HAIR. YOU MAY ALSO EXPE-PLENCE CHANGES IN NAILS AND VITILIGO, LOSS OF SOME SKIN PIGMENTATION. LET ME KNOW IF THE CONDITION



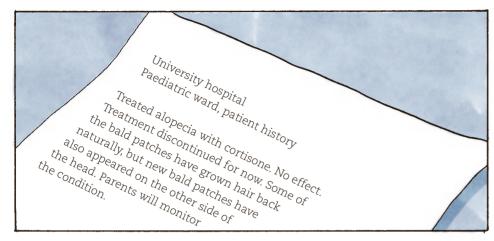
GETS ANY WORSE.
I'LL GIVE YOU A PRESCRIPTION FOR CORTISONE. UNFORTUNATELY THERE'S NO
CURE FOR ALOPECIA
AND THE CAUSE IS STILL
UN KNOWN.

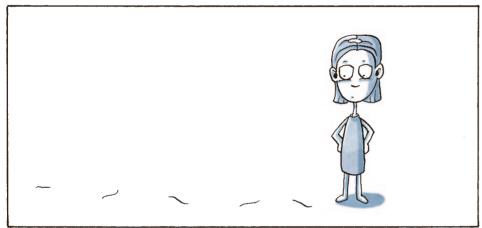






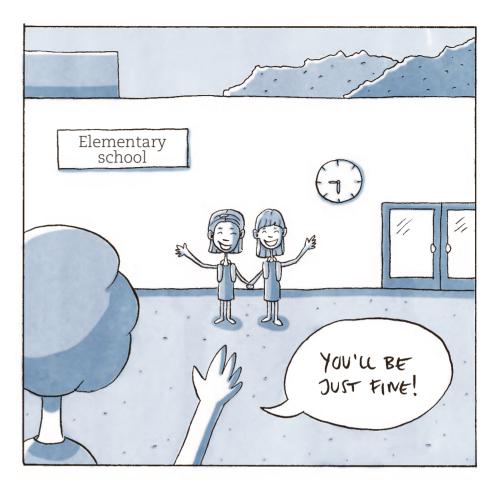
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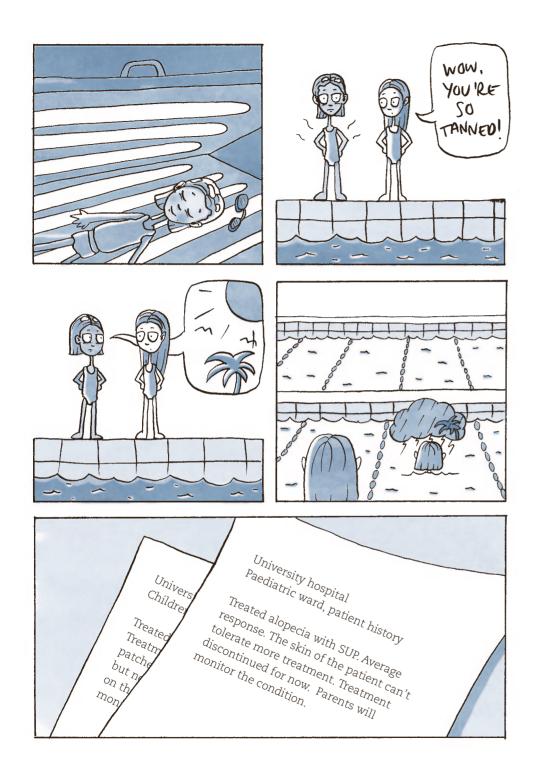




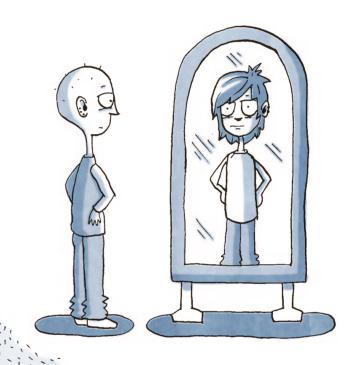












Alopecia Totalis







HELLO!

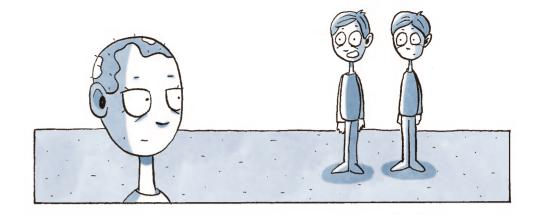
SALON LVCY?

OKAY, AT 10

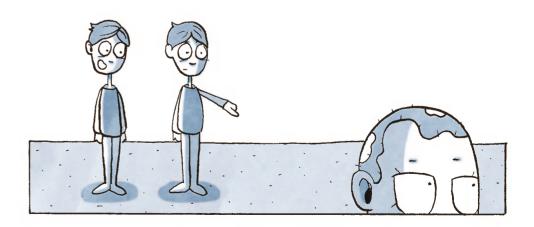
ON THE 28 HL.

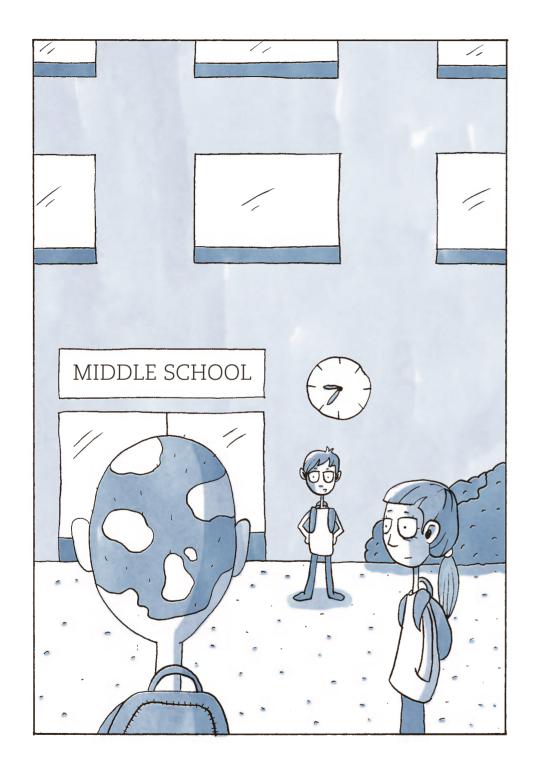
WE'LL SEE
YOU THEN!





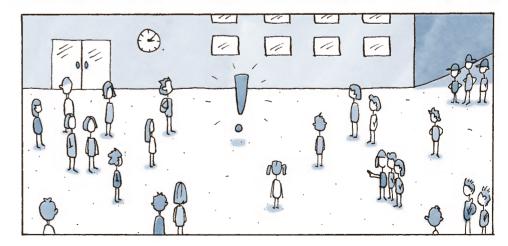


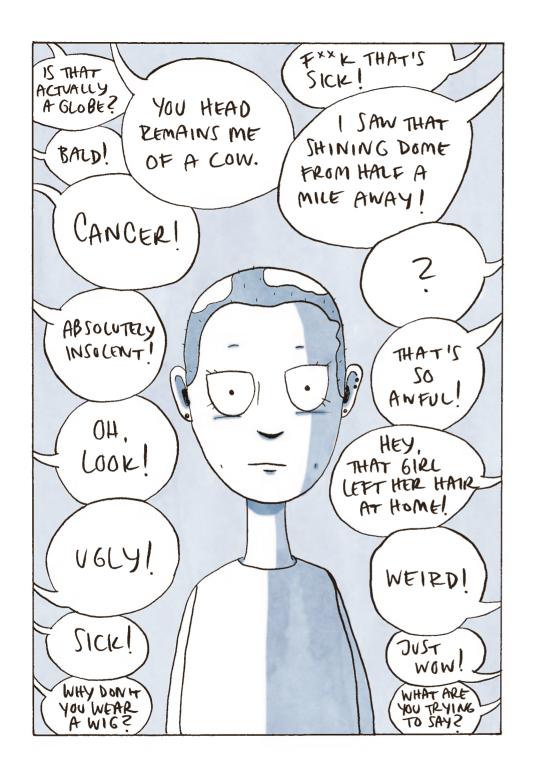


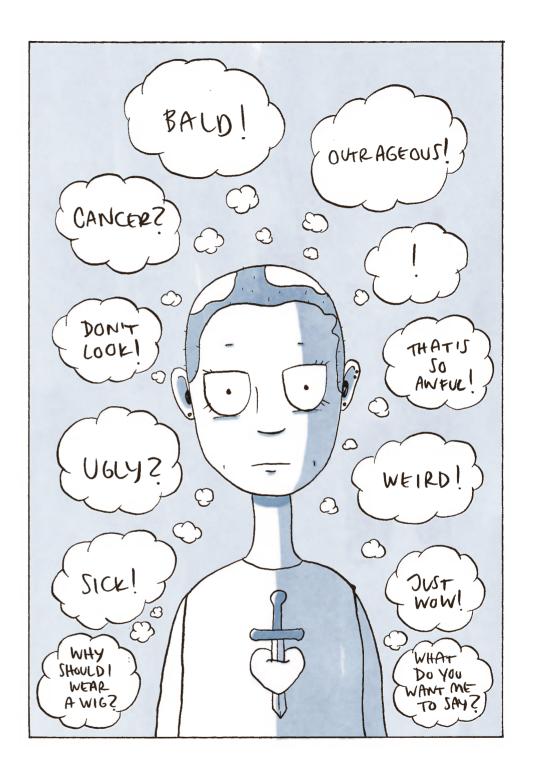


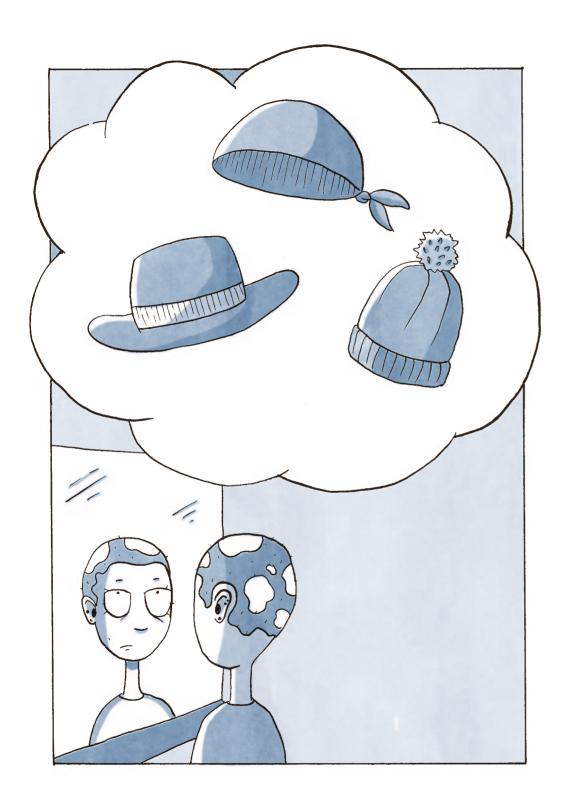




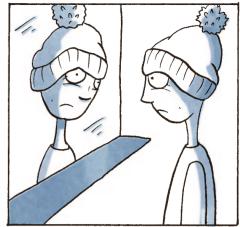


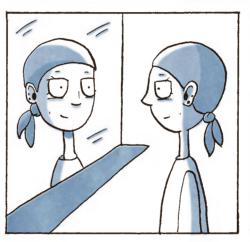




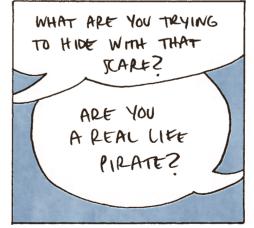


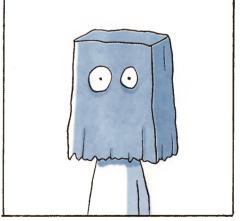


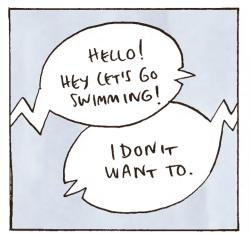












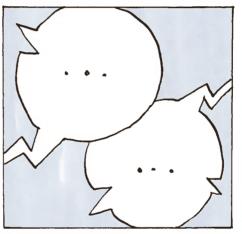


BUT I DONIT
WANT TO WEAR
A BATHING SUIT
IN PUBLIC.

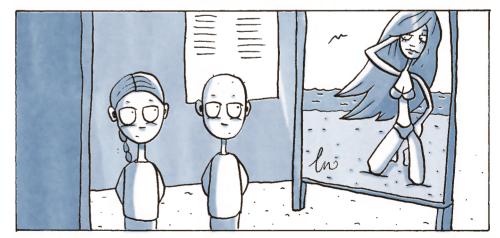


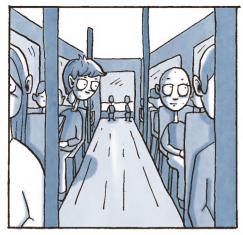
HELLO!
YOU HAVE HAIR AND
YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT
SOME THIGHS!

BUT YOU'RE STILL REALLY
BEAUTIFUL EVEN IF YOU HAVE
NO HAIR. I'VE UGLY FAT THIGHS
AND THERE IS NO WAY
TO HIDE THAT!





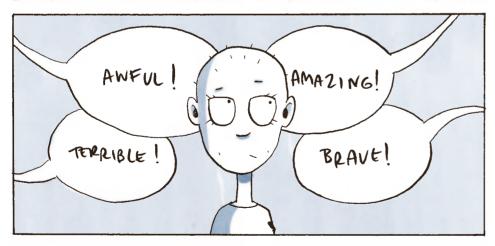






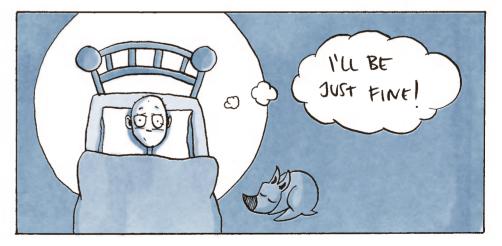












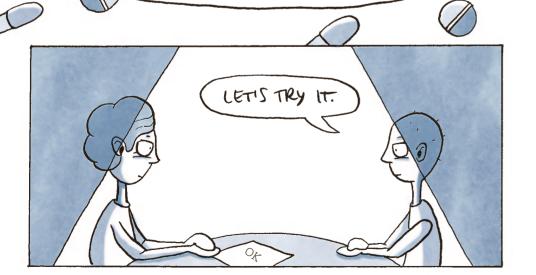








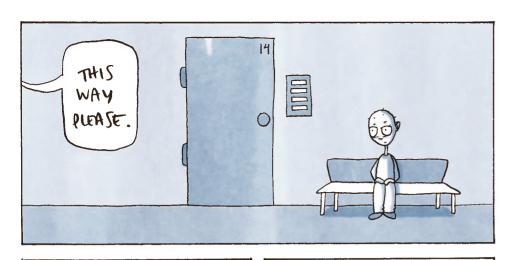
SOME DRUGS' SIDE EFFECTS MAY
INCREASE HAIR GROWTH, BUT OTHER
SIDE EFFECTS OF THE DRUGS, CYCLOSPORINE
AND CORTISONE, MAY NOT ALWAYS BE BENEFICIAL. WE NEED TO REQUEST PERMISSION FOR
THE DRUGS FROM THE SURGEON GENERAL









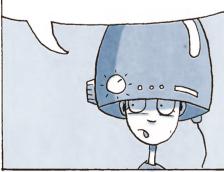


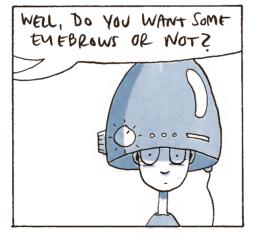
BEFORE THE TREATMENT APPLY THIS ONTO YOUR SKIN AND LET IT WORK. TRY NOT TO SWEAT.





DO I PUT THIS ANYWHERE OTHER THAN MY SKULP.







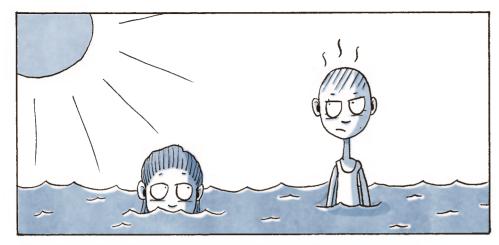




THAT'S ALL THE TREATMENT OPTIONS THERE ARE IN YOUR CASE, HIS UNLIFELY THAT YOUR HAVE WILL GROW BACK EVER MEATIN. ALL THE BEST TAKE CARE!

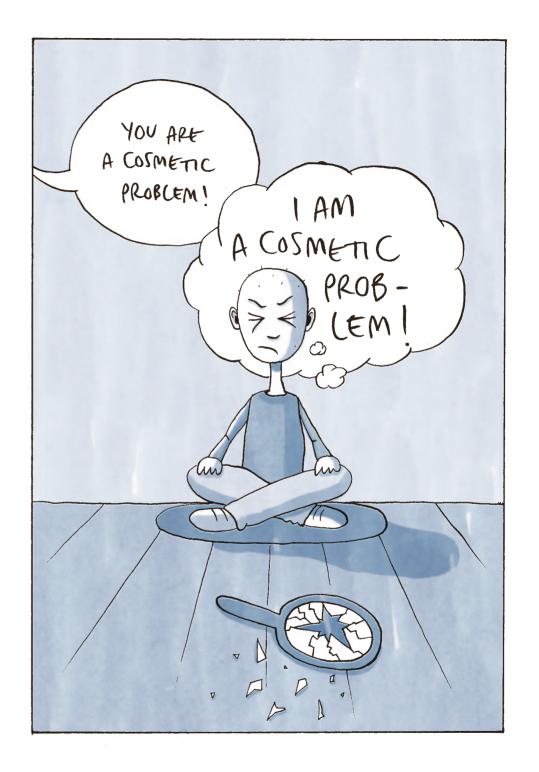




















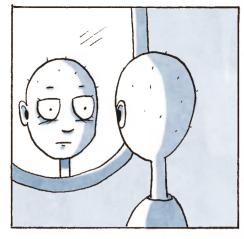


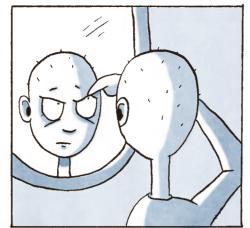




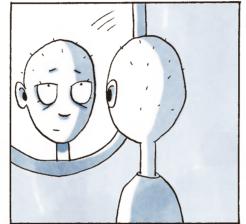






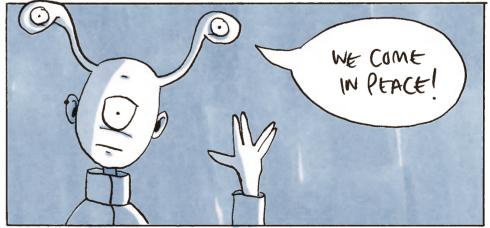


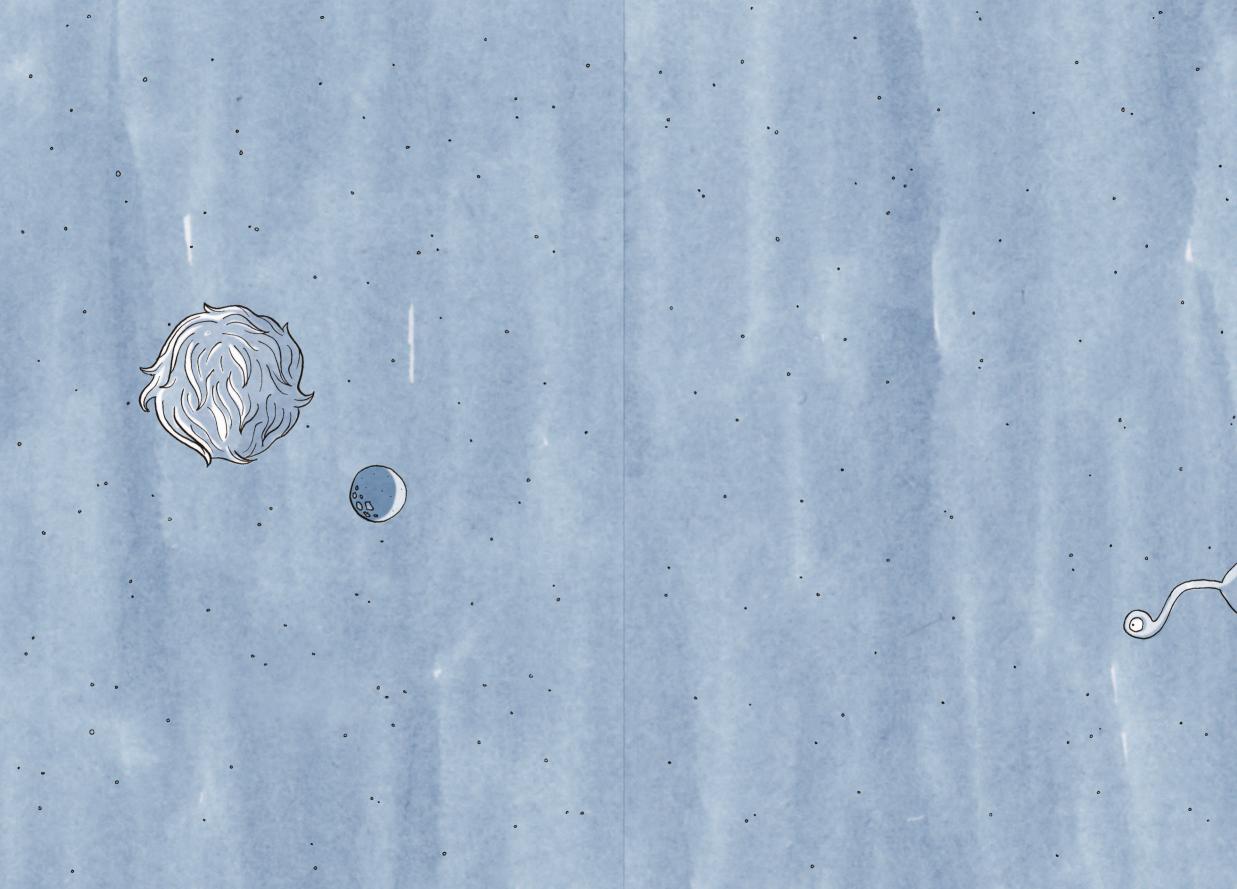








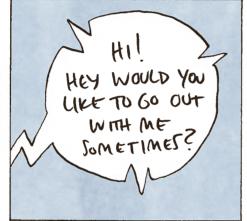






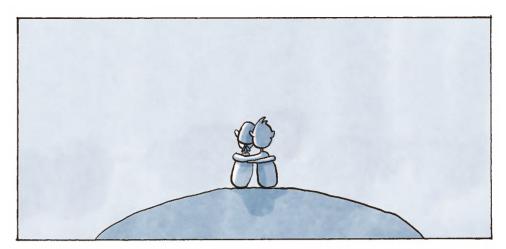






















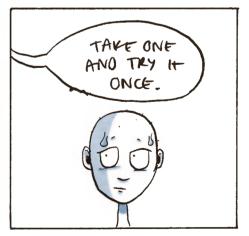














OH HEY!
WHAT'S UP?
IT HICHES, STINGS
AND IT'S WAY
TOO TIGHT.

YOU LOOK SO DIFFERENT.

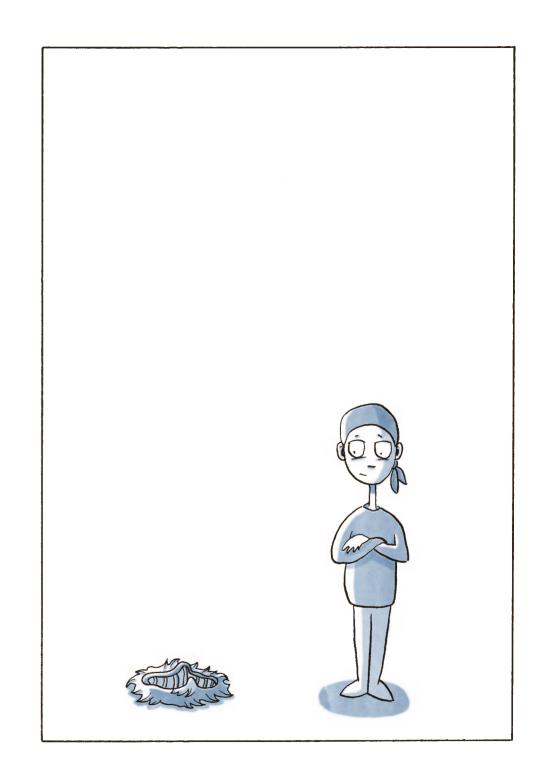
1 HAVE TO GO HOME NOW.

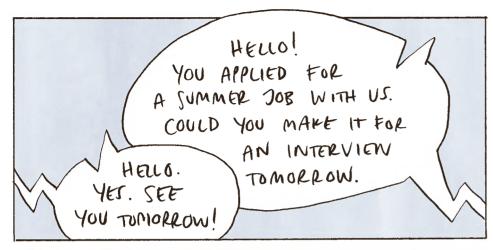
> BUT YOU JUST CAME.

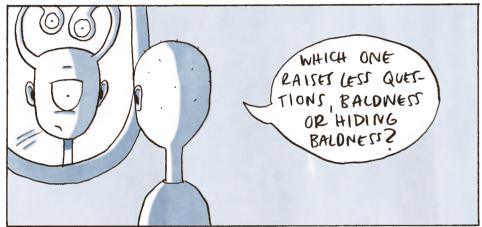
THAVE TO GO.

TERRIBLE HEADACHE
AND STINGING AND
POLESSURE. BYE.

2. ??









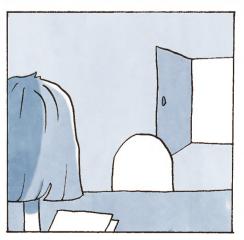






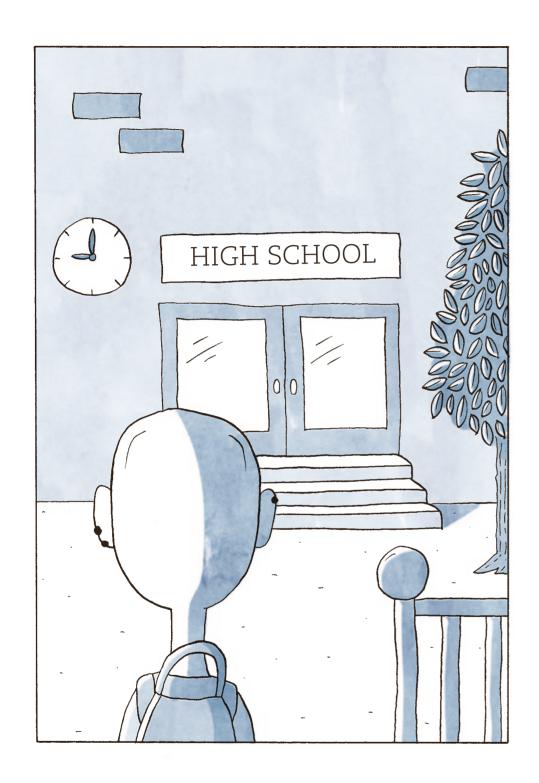




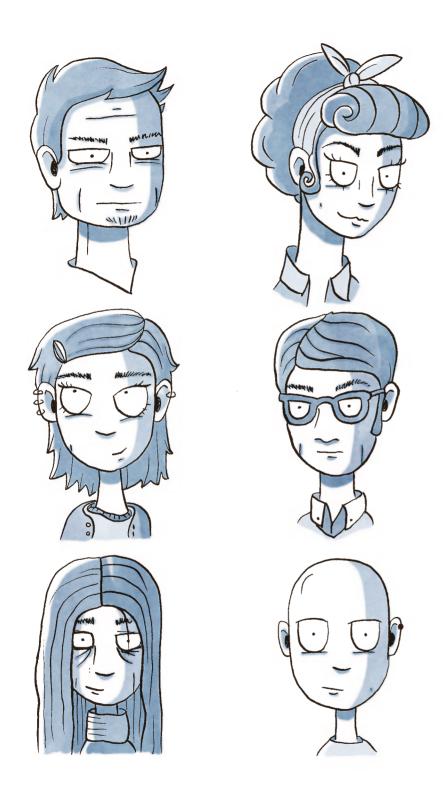


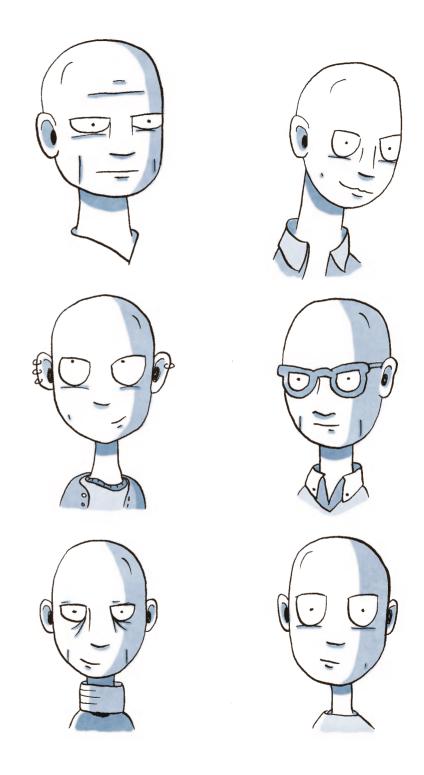


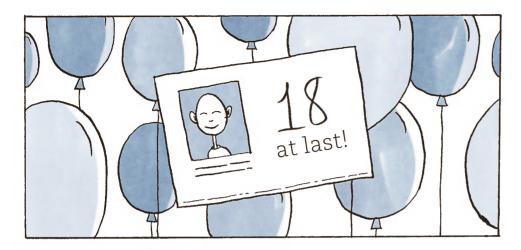
Alopecia Universalis



















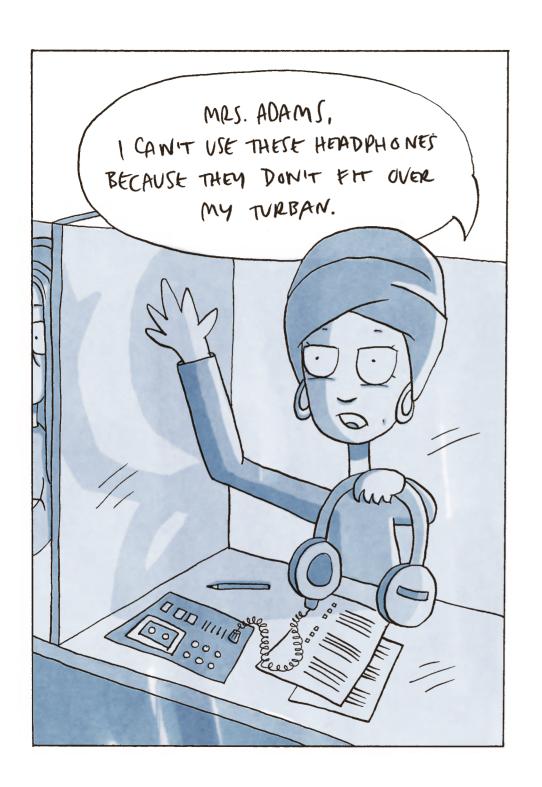








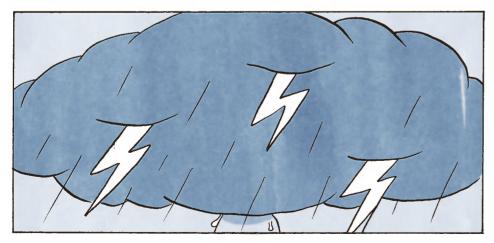
^{*} Hey let's go somewhere else. Somewhere where I don't have to look at that bald bitch.









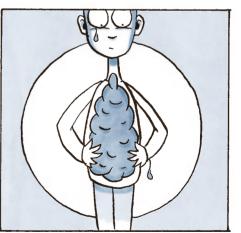




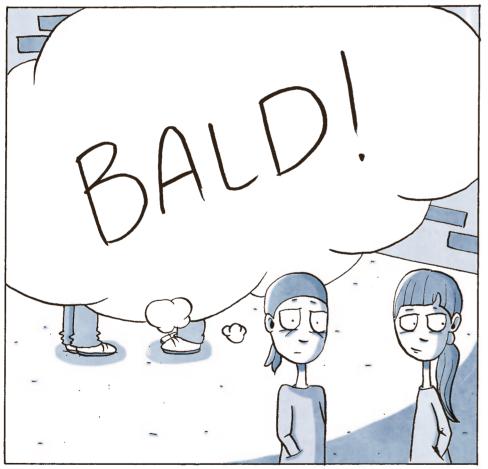


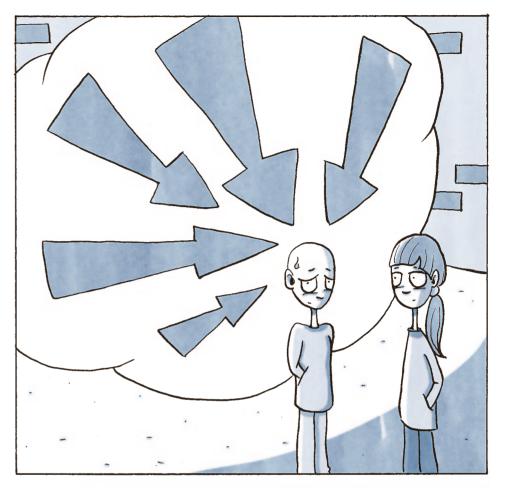




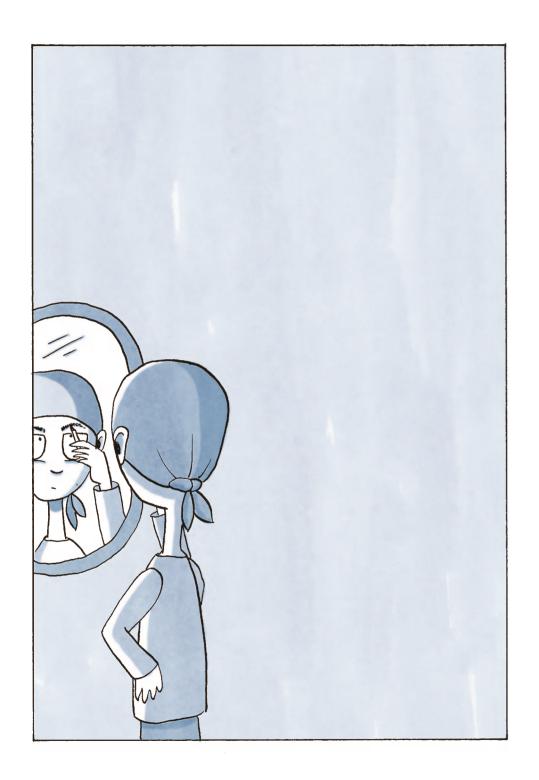


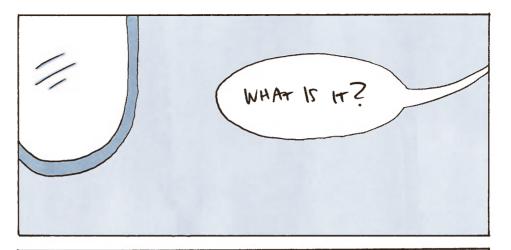






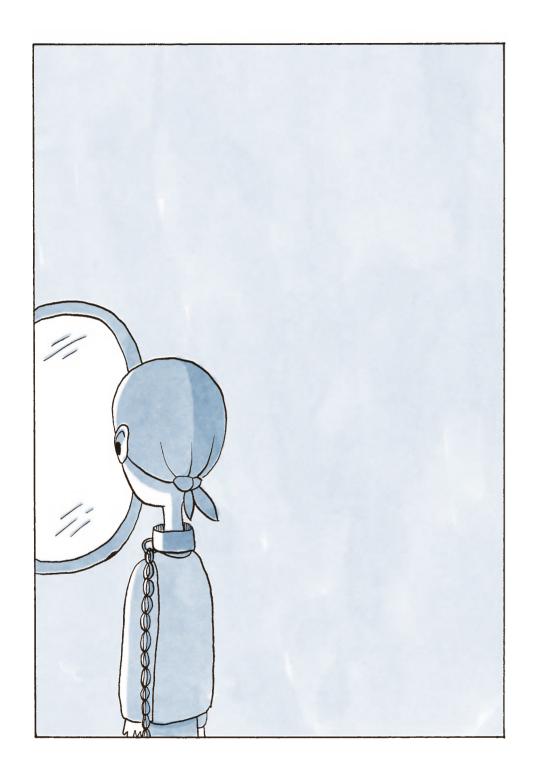


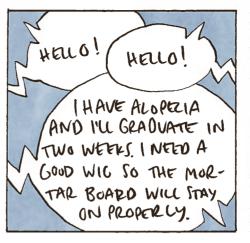


















LET'S FIND YOU
A WIG WITH NATURAL STYLE ONE THAT
FIT YOU WELL AND IS
NOT TOO TIGHT. AMN IF
WE CAN'T FIND ONE,
WE'LL CUSTOMIZE
A WIG FOR YOU.









WE DON'T CUT WIGS.

BUT I HAVE THE GRADUATION CEREMONY IN THREE DAYS.

WHATEVER YOU ASK.

No!

NO.

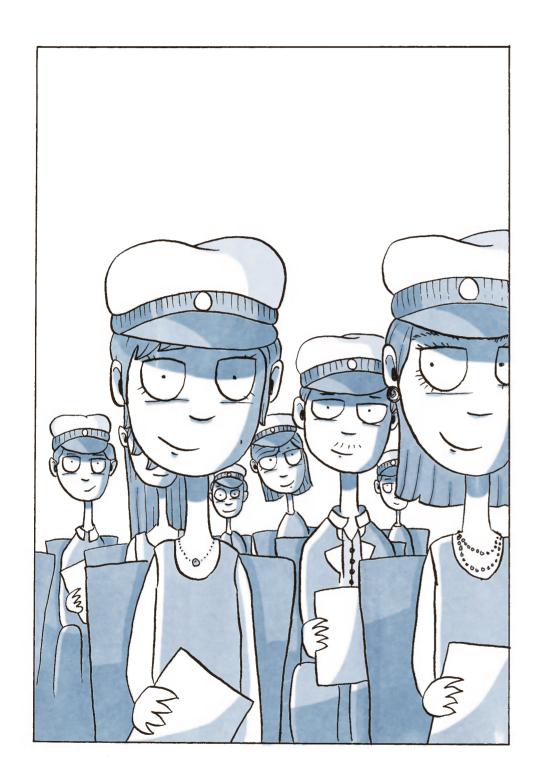




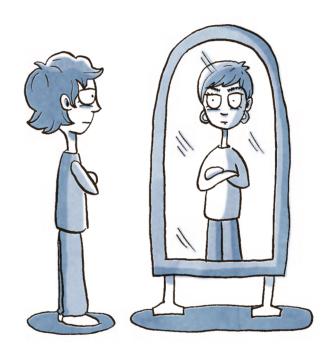




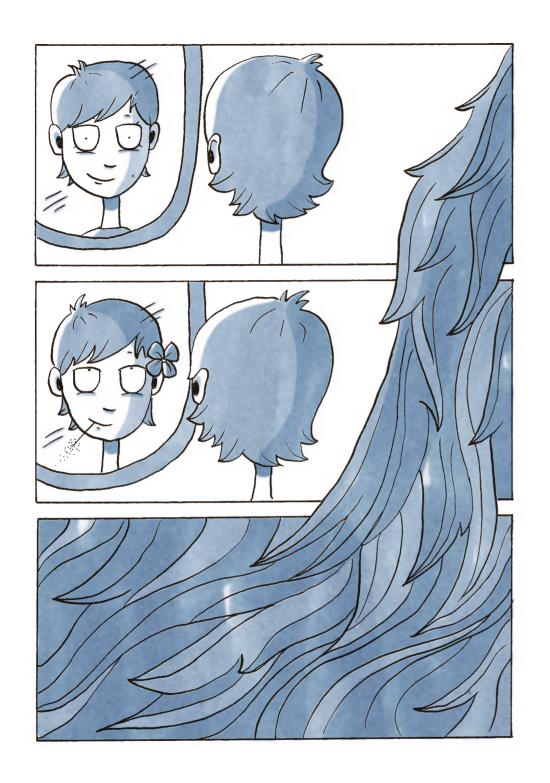




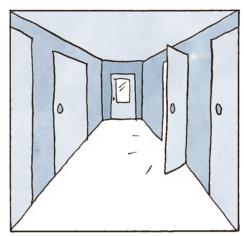




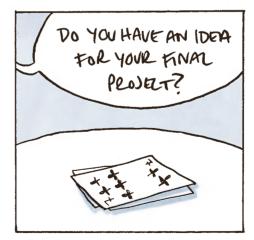
Synthetic hair, synthetic life.

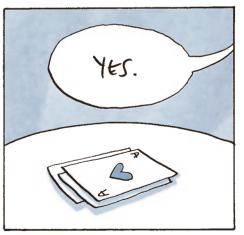














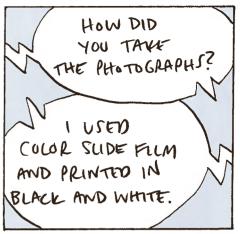


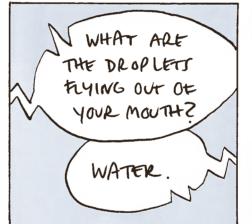








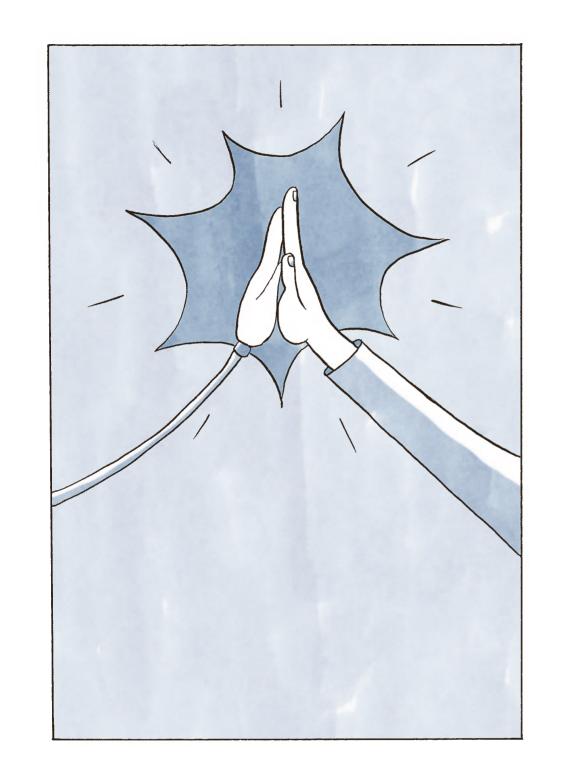






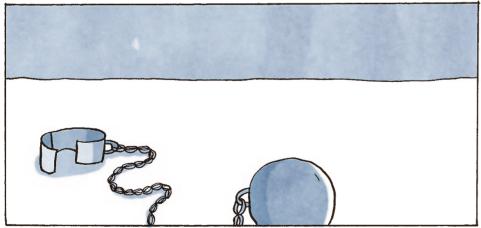














CHEERS
TO LIFE AND
TO BEING FLATMATES! SO WHY DO
YOU WEAR YOUR
WIG?

BECAUSE I'M NOT THE PERSON I LOOK LIKE WHEN I'M BALD.

YOU MEAN?

IDON'T WANT
TO BE BALD, AND I
DON'T HAVE A BALD
PORSONS IDENTITY. AND
IF A WOMEN DOESN'T
HIDE HER BALDNESS
EVERYONE THINKS
SHE WANTS TO BE
BALD.

AS A BALD PERSON
I'M CATTGORIZED AS A
CERTAIN TYPE OF PERSON AND THAT MAKES ME
ANXIOUS AND FRUSTRATED
AND I'M SICK OF BEING
ANY FASY TARGET FOR
ANYONE WHO
PASSES BY.

SO WHEN YOU'RE WEARING THAT WIG, YOU'RE THE REAL YOU?

NO. BUT PEOPLE TREAT ME BETTER. LET'S DANCE.

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HELLO!

IS THIS THE WIG

FROM YOU A LITTLE WHILE

AGO. HIS DUST PERFECT

AND NOW I NEED

ANOTHER ONE

1 LIVE IT.

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

OVER 800 KILOMETERS AWAY,
BUT I'LL SPEND
A WEEKEND IN
HELSING IN
TWO MONTHS.

UNFORTUNATELY NET ART CLOSED DURING THE WEEKEND.

WELL, I'LL BE IN HELSIN HI IN DULY.

HOUDAY THEN AND THEN
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 2

THERE ARE A FEW BUT THEIR SELECTION IS SO SMALL THAT I CAN'T FIND ANYTHING AND THAY ALL LOOK LIKE WIGS TOO.















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





I CAN'T RELAX BECAUSE THE WIG WON'T STAY ON MY HEAD AMO MY SHOULDERS ARE CONSTAWTLY TENSE BECAUSE OF IT. ANY HATS, BEANIES OR HELMETS WON'T STAY ON WITHOUT A SCARE OR A WIG, AND WHEN EVER I DRIVE A BICYCLE I HAVE TO PROTECT MY FRINGE WITH A HOOD OR A SCARE.



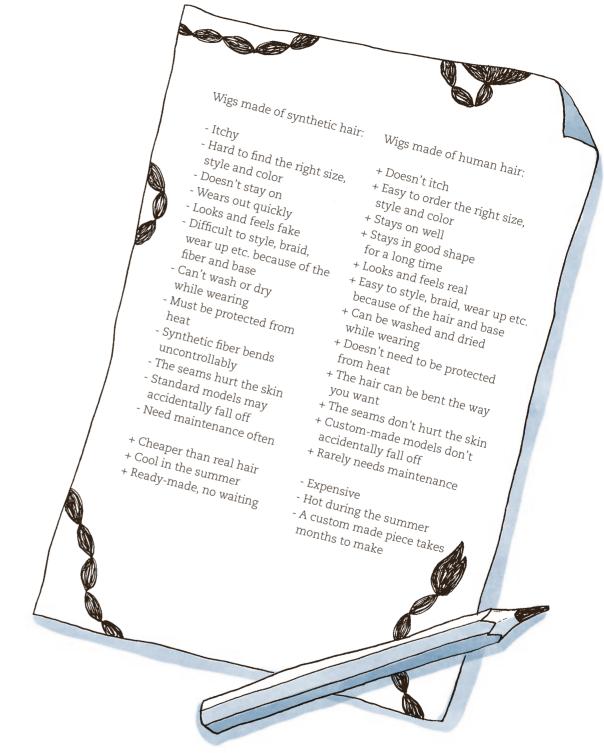


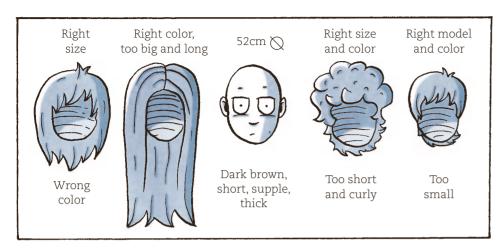
THESE
MACHINE-STITCHED
SYNTHETIC WIGS ARE
FOR EVERYDAY USE AND
COST AROUND EEE.HAND
TIED SYNTHETIC WIGS
ARE BETWEEN EEE
AND EEEE. ALL THE
STYLES ARE STANDART SIZES.

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









THIS IS GOOD. I'LL
TAKE TWO. LET'S FIX
THE BASE A LITTLE
SMALLER AND CUT A
FRINGE BECAUSE I
HAVE NO EYE BROWS.
THE FRINGE HIDES
THAT NICELY.

UNFORTUNATELY
WE ONLY HAVE THE ONE.
THE MANUFACTURER
SWITCHED FACTORIES
AND THE QUALITY
CHANGED SO MUCH
THAT WE NO LONGER
ORDER THIS
BRAND.

WELL WHERE CAN I GET ANOTHER WIG?

CUT THIS OTHER MOD-EL TO FIT YOU OR WE CAN ORDER YOU A CUSTOM WIG. ABOUT CUSTOMMADE WIGS LATER.
THEIR PRODUCTION
TAKET TOO LONG AND
INCED A WIG RIGHT
NOW. AND WHAT ABOUT
THE FRINGE? IT
BENDS UPWARDS?

YOU COULD USE A
SCARFOR A HEADBAND
ON TOP OF IT.

AND A SCARE...!

















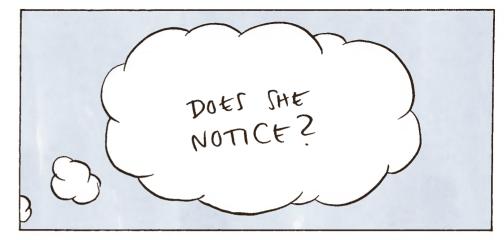




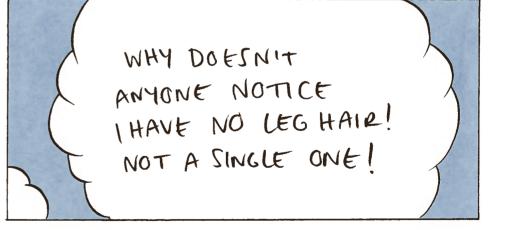


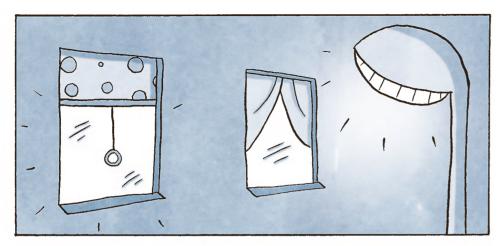


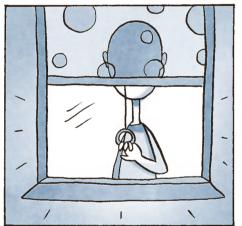


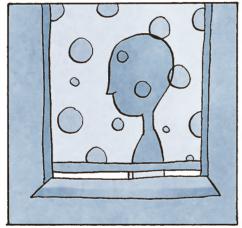












HELLO,
ANYBODY
HOME?

HEY,
WHY ARE ALL
THE CURTAINS
CLOSED AGAIN?

BECAUSE
I DONIT WANT
TO SHOW MY BALDNESS TO THE WHOLE
STREET AND I DON'T
WANT TO WEARA
WIG ALL THE
TIME.

BUT WHAT
DOET HY MATTER
IF YOU CAN SEE
IT FROM
OUTSIDE?

DON'T BE ASHAMED, YOU'RE REALLY BEAUTIFUL EVEN WITHOUT HAIR.

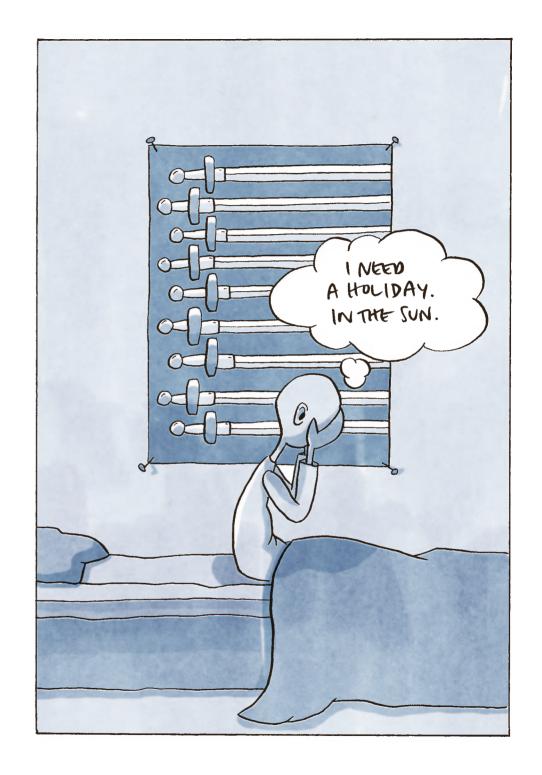
NO, I WANIT TO BE IN PEACE! I DONIT
WANT TO DEAL
WITH THIS WIG
OR ANY
AMENTION
RIGHT NOW.

























ALRIGHT WHERE CAN I HANG THIS TO DRY?

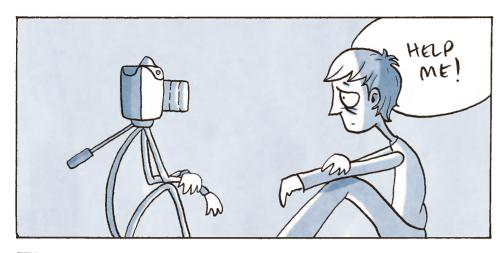
HANG IT THERE ON THE HANDLE OF CUR WINDOW.
LET'S GO FAT WHILE IT DRIES.



I CAN'T BELIEVE
IT, IT'S FALLEN
DOWN TO THE
COURTYARD.

LUCKILY
YOU HAVE ANOTHER
ONE FOR THE
TRIP HOME.

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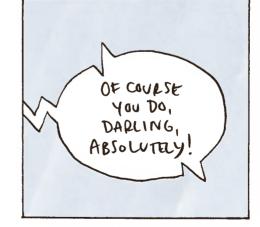


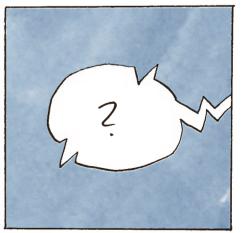
HELD, MISS KIVEUR,
WE'BE PLEASED TO
TEUL YOU THAT YOUR
PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT
HAS BEEN CHOSEN FOR
OUR BOOK AWD OUR
EXHIBITION. IT'S
SO INTERESTING.
CONGRATULATIONS!













HOW DID YOUR
HEAD TO LOOK
SO REAL?

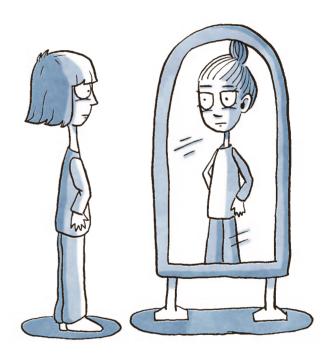


I HAVE ALOPECIA. It'S A HERED ITARY AVTO IMMUNE DI SEASE.

OH, I NEVER
WOULD'VE NOTICED,
BUT THAT MAKES
THE WORL EVEN
GREATER.
THANKS.

ARE YOU
COMING TO
THE PARM ON
SATURDAY?
YES.





Real hair, real life?

HEY, CONGRATICATIONS FOR GRADUATION AND FOR THE NEW JOB.



NOW YOU FINALLY GET TO THE IMG STORES EASILY. YEAH.





"A Custom-made human-"...it improved my quality of life so much." would be hard without it..." "...but the production takes between

two and four months and costs a fortune..."

"...real-hair wig... problem, problem, problem..."

"...absolutely no consumer protection and not covered by insurance..."

"...everything has gone really well and I have had no problems whatsoever..."

"... one doctor told me to wear a beanie instead to make my wig last longer..."

" ...Our family has two alopecia patients and we both need custom-made wigs. They're the best one can get under the circumstances, but the cost is pretty high...

"...european hair is more expensive, Indian is cheaper..."

"...and after the first wash it was completely knotted and I had to wait ages for a new one..."

"...but it's really hot and I can't wear it during the summer..."

"...it feels so real...well, it is human hair..."

"...I don't need a wig, I feel better without wearing one..."

> "...my wig is really worn but I don't have money enough to buy a new one."

" ... Custom-made wig improved my quality of life significantly, but only few doctors and nurses understand what's the difference between custom-made and readymade wigs. Ready-made wigs are "fashion wigs" and proper custommade human-hair wigs are medical wigs, the ones we truly need. I'm tired of explaining this difference to healt care workers..."

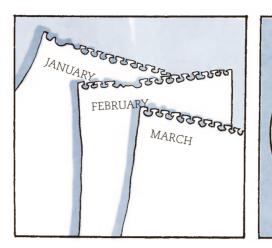


HELLO,
I'D LIFE A
CUSTOM-MADE
HUMATN-HAIR
WIG.

POINTMENT WE HAVE
IS ON TVESDAY AT THREE.
LET'S MAKE A MOULD AND
CHOOSE A HATE TYPE,
LENGHT, THICKNETS AND
COLOR. WE'LL BOOK YOU
FOR TWO HOURS.
WELCOME.







YOUR WIG IS READY AND ARRIVED YESTERDAY. WHEN WOULD YOU HAVE TIME TO COME IN AND TRY IT ON.









WOW,
IT LOOKS TO 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
LIVE YOUR
OWN HAIR.



YES.

CEL ONES CHU YOU MHERE

CUSTOM-MADE PROM SPEZIALIZED SALONS.

THE MEASUREMENTS ARE TAKEN
IN FINLAND, THE HAVE
COMES FROM INDIA OR
EVROPE, AND THEY'RE
THEO TO THE WIG BASE
MAYBE IN SOME
WHERE IN ASIA

HAR, TYPE, COLOR, CURLINESS, LENGHT AND THICKNESS.

LOOKS UNBE-

FEELS LIKE IT, TOO.

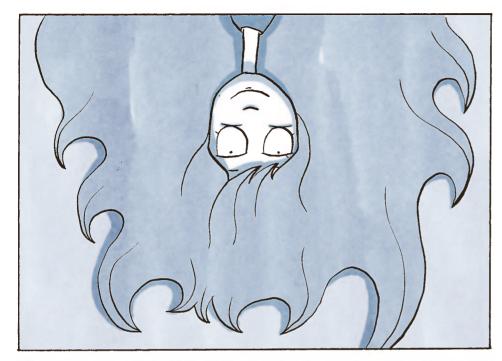
SOMEONE HAS HAND THEO THIS.

IMAGINE, SOMETHING UKE A HUNDRED THOUSAND KNOTT!

ONE BY ONE

AHAIR AT A TIME, DOUBLE KNOTJ.

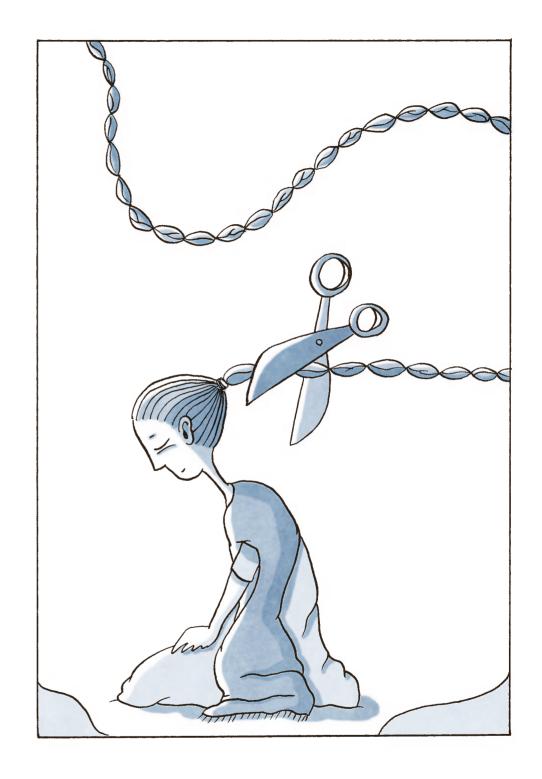
> MAN HASN'T BEEN TO MARS.

















WELL LET'S
ORDER A NEW ONE
PIGHT AWAM. I DON'T
WANT TO BE BAILD
WHILE WAITING
FOR A
NEW ONE.

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THE SAME
AS THIS ONE.

WE CAN TRY,

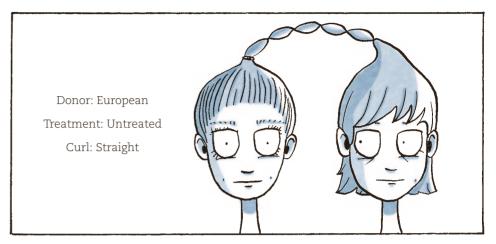
BUT YOU MUST RE
MEMBER THAT THESE

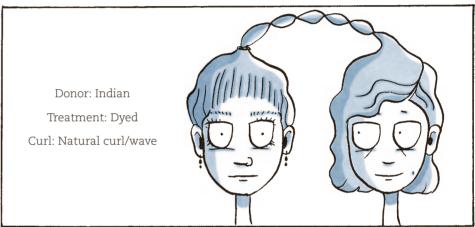
ARE HAND MADE AND WILL

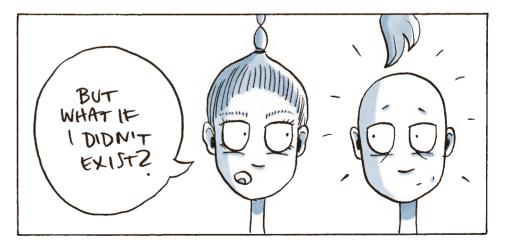
BE FROM DIPFERENT PER
SON'S HAIR AND THERE
FORE ALWAYS

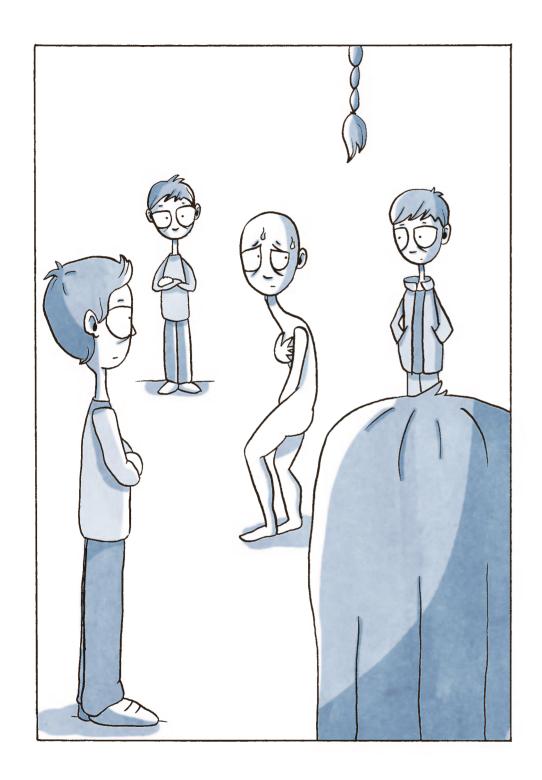
UNIQUE.

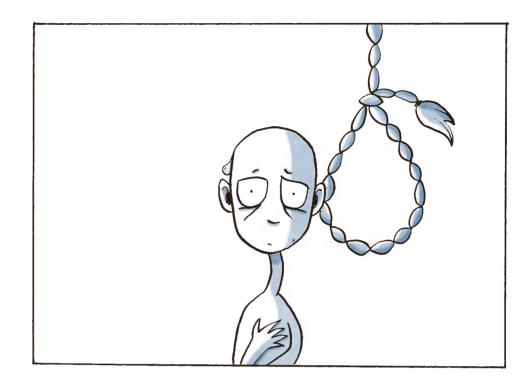
I WANT EXACTLY

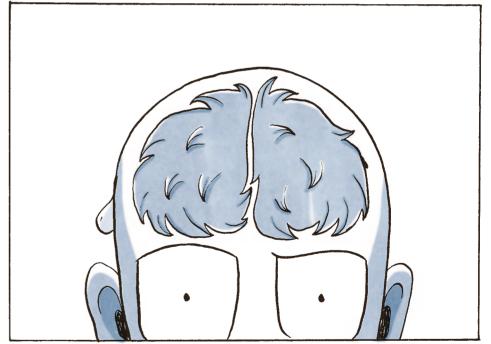


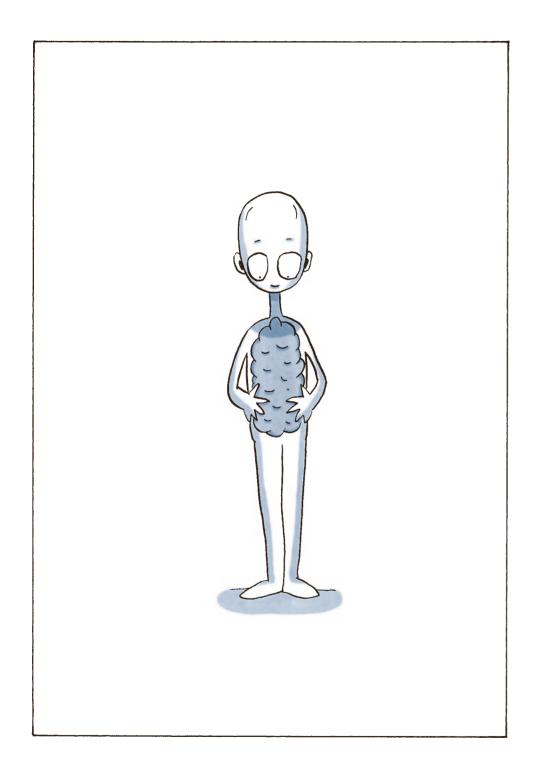


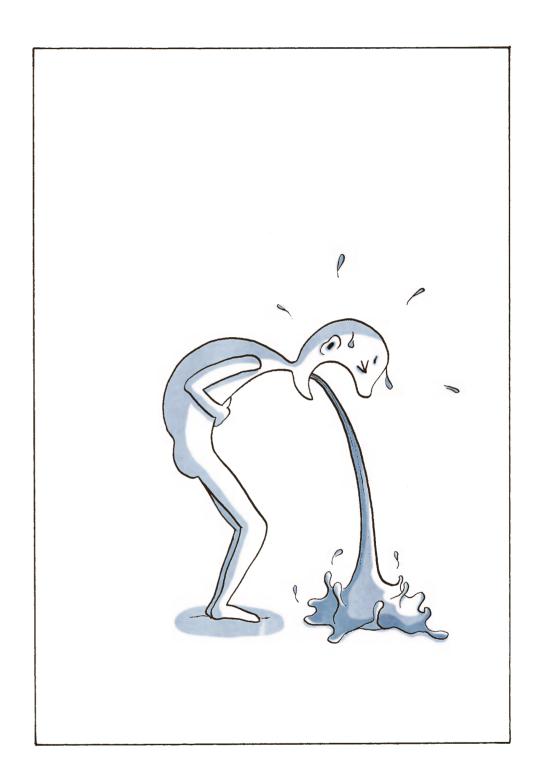




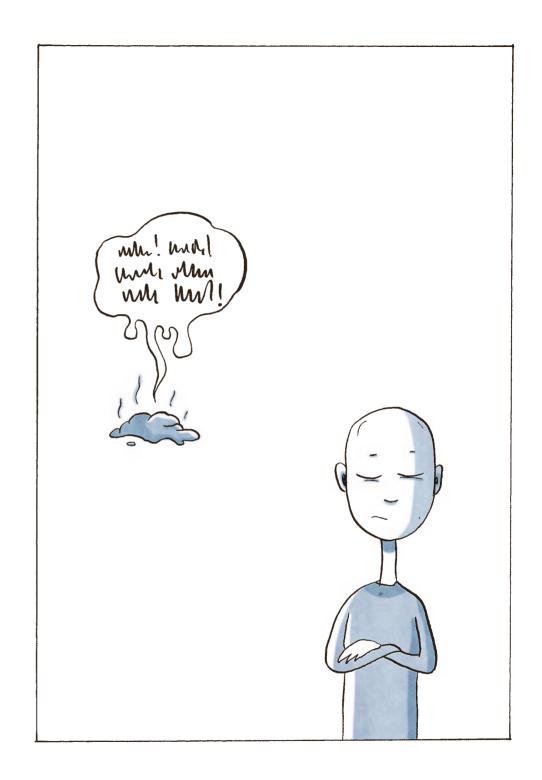


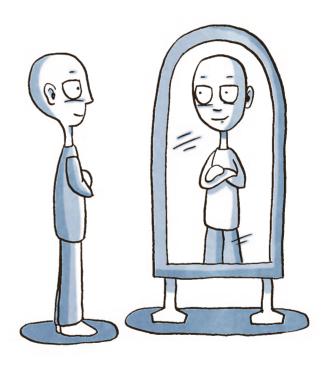




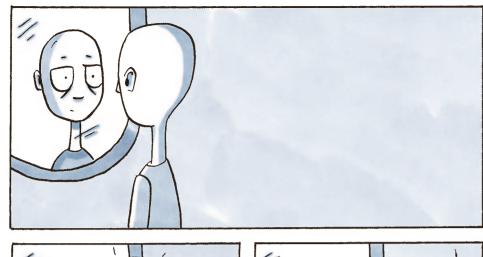






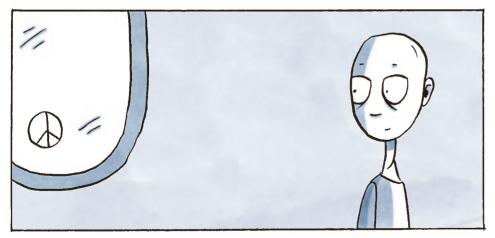


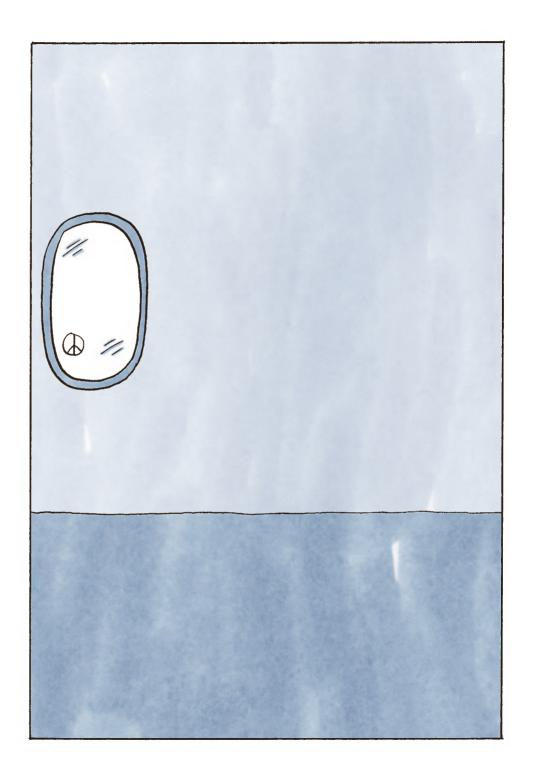
Hair. Life.











GOOD LUCK, YOU'LL BE DUST 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 About hundred thousand hairs Ear hair Eyebrows Eyelashes Nose hair Beard Back hair, Underarm hair chest hair and breast hair Hair on arms and fingers Belly, pubic and butt hair Leg hair and toe hair = 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!

