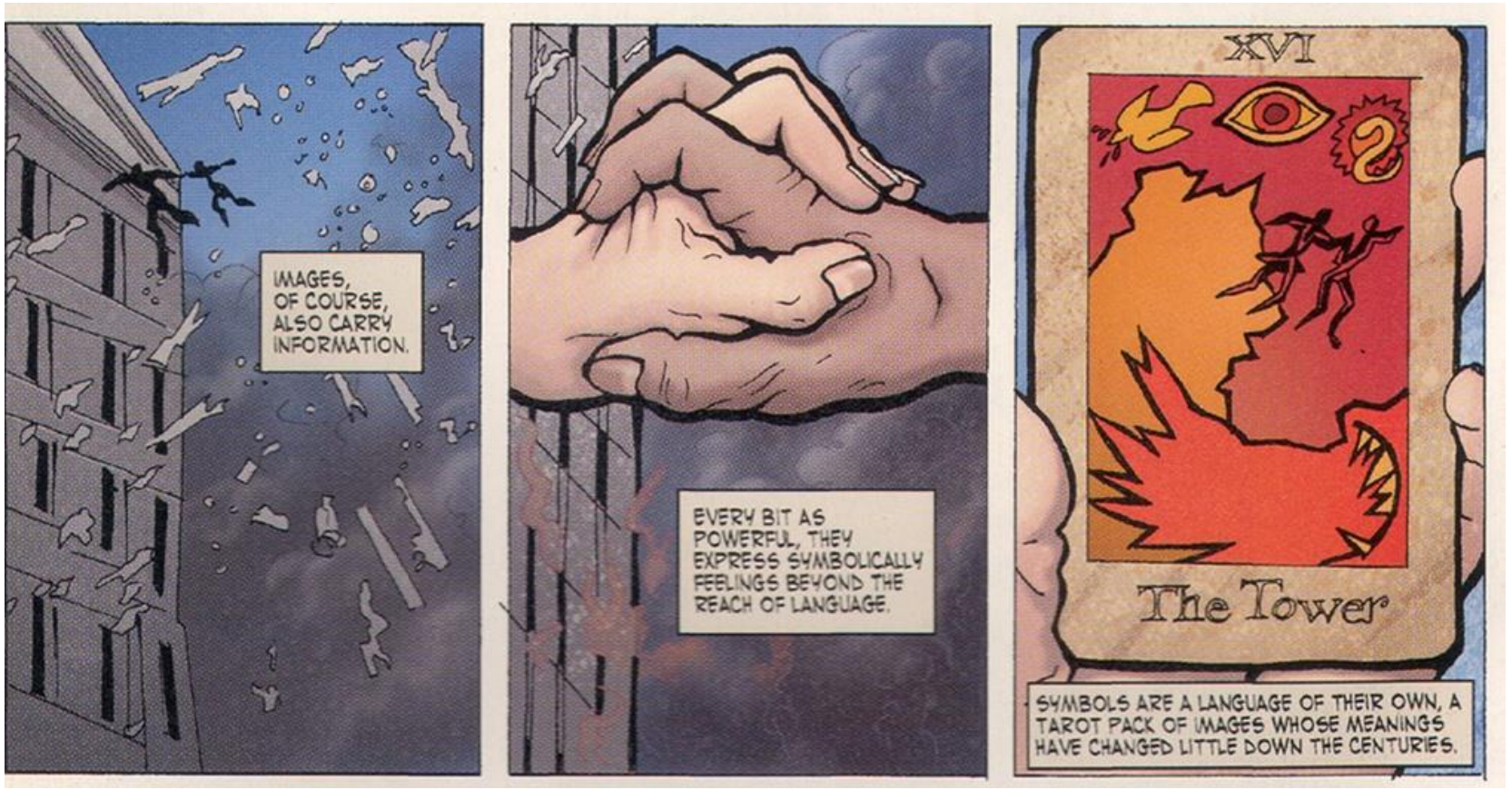
Visual Metaphor Project

Talk about one thing using a visual metaphor
of another. Some examples…



Alan Moore and Melinda Gebbie

"This is Information"

Resonance of word & picture

Nick's Formal Decision 1

- Non-Illustration
- Visual-Verbal Metaphors
- Images suggest words suggest images…



FROM HERE TO THERE (OR, HOW I STOPPED DRAWING MYSELF ALL THE TIME...)

I APPROACHED THE FIRST OF MY MATURE WORK, VERY MCCLOUD-ESQUE, INCLUDING MYSELF AS NARRATOR.



FOR MY NEXT PIECE, JUST A FEW WEEKS LATER - "SHOW OF HANDS" (ON ELECTIONS) - I CHOSE TO ELIMINATE MY AVATAR AND FOCUS ON A LITERAL SHOW OF HANDS TO SERVE AS SYMBOLIC IMAGERY. THEME AND METHOD CONFLATED - IT WAS A SIGNIFICANT STEP.



THIS DIDN'T COME OUT OF THE BLUE. I WAS HEAVILY INFLUENCED BY ALAN MOORE (AND HIS ARTISTS) AND HIS KNITTING TOGETHER OF TEXT AND IMAGE. IN "WATCHMEN", HE ACHIEVES THIS EVEN WHILE CARRYING ON A NARRATIVE.





"TANGLED UP", INDEED!



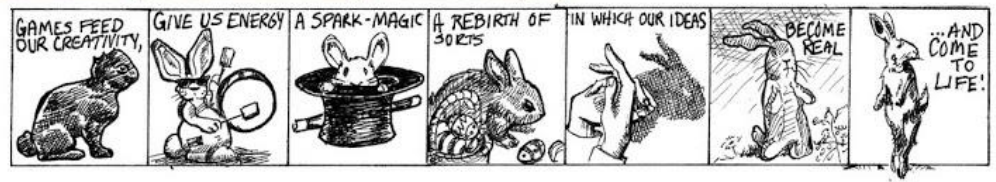
IN "THIS IS INFORMATION" FROM A 9/11 TRIBUTE BOOK, WITHOUT THE CONSTRAINTS OF CHARACTERS AND A STORY, MOORE IS ABLE TO PLAY MORE DIRECTLY WITH SYMBOL AND FURTHER BLUR IMAGE AND TEXT.



MCCLOUD WRITES: "IN COMICS AT IT'S BEST, WORDS AND PICTURES ARE LIKE PARTNERS IN A DANCE AND EACH ONE TAKES TURNS LEADING." (156) HE GOES ON TO DISCUSS THAT IN COMICS, SHOWING AND TELLING ARE INTERCHANGEABLE.

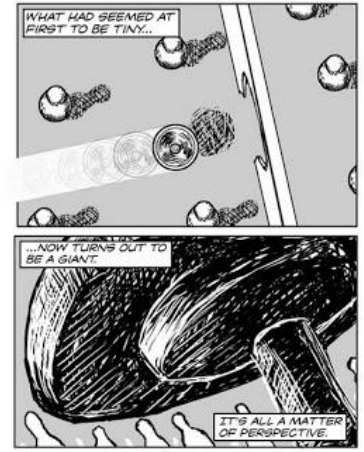


EXACTLY! FOR ME, BOTH IN TERMS OF MY CREATIVE PROCESS AND THE WORK ITSELF - WORDS AND IMAGES JOIN HANDS. IN MY NEXT PIECE, I DID A PAGE OF ALL DIFFERENT FICTIONAL RABBITS - EACH USED AS STANDING FOR A DIFFERENT CONCEPT I WAS TRYING TO GET ACROSS. RECOGNIZABLE IMAGERY RESONATED WITH TEXT, BUILDING LAYERS OF MEANING.



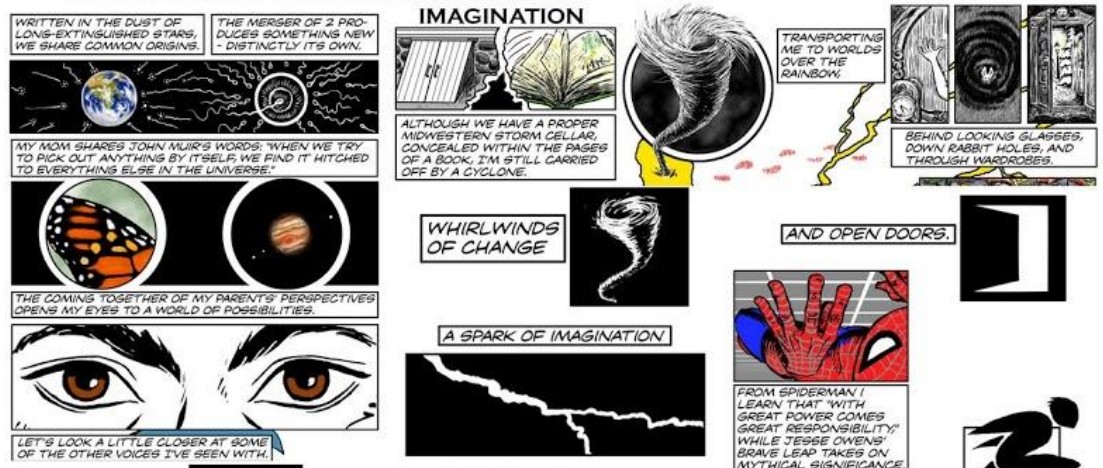
I'VE BEEN BUILDING ON THAT IDEA OF RESONANCE BETWEEN WORD AND IMAGE EVER SINCE. IN "MAXINE SAYS" ABOUT EDUCATION PHILOSOPHER MAXINE GREENE - I DEPICTED HER AS A TOP. THE STILL TOP IS HER AS FRAIL OLDER WOMAN, WHILE THE SPUN TOP IS HER MIND - WHIRLING LIKE LIGHTNING.

SIMILARLY, USING PERSPECTIVE - WE SEE HER AS TINY AND A GIANT.





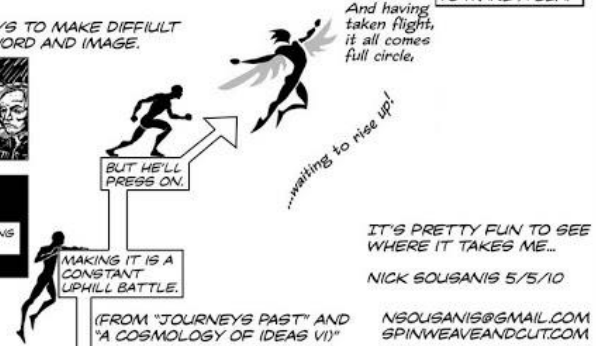
IN "BI(BLI)OGRAPHY", I TOOK MY LIFE STORY, AND TURNED A SERIES OF EPISODES INTO SYMBOLS, THEMES - IMAGERY AND TEXT TO DEVELOP A PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION.



IMAGES SEEN EARLY ON (AND REEATED THROUGHOUT IN VARIOUS FORMS) WERE TRANSFORMED INTO ICONS BY THE END OF THE PIECE. EACH ONE STANDING FOR A DISTINCT CONCEPT, A VOCABULARY THAT I'D BUILT INTO THE READER ALONG THE WAY.

I'M EXCITING TO KEEP PLAYING - TO DISCOVER WAYS TO MAKE DIFFIULT CONCEPTS MORE GRASPABLE IN THE FUSION OF WORD AND IMAGE.





IT'S PRETTY FUN TO SEE WHERE IT TAKES ME...

NICK SOUSANIS 5/5/10

(FROM "JOURNEYS PAST" AND "A COSMOLOGY OF IDEAS VI)"

NSOUSANIS@GMAIL.COM
SPINWEAVEANDCUT.COM

I AM TRYING TO FIND AN IMAGE TO CONVEY MY THOUGHTS ON THE POLITICAL CLIMATE.

I'M FINDING IT HARD NOT TO WALLOW IN THE NEGATIVE.

I NEED TO FIND SOMETHING CONSTRUCTIVE.

IT'S NOT GOING WELL.

THIS WAS MY FIRST IDEA.

HEY KIDS: THE PRESIDENT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

HE CAN'T FIND ANY MISTAKES! DO YOUR PATRIOTIC DUTY AND HELP HIM FIND FIVE MISTAKES BETWEEN THE TWO PICTURES.

I THOUGHT IT WAS CLEVER BUT I'M CERTAIN THERE ARE OTHERS FAR MORE CLEVER THAN I. AND BESIDES, MY DRAWING MAKES HIM LOOK FAR TOO LIKABLE!

IN HONOR OF HALLOWEEN, HERE'S ANOTHER:

EEEEEK!

TRICK OR TREAT!

4 MORE YEARS

"THE SCARIEST COSTUME THIS YEAR"

WHILE THERE'S PLENTY TO POKE FUN AT, THE CURRENT MISLEADERSHIP IS NO LAUGHING MATTER.

THE ISSUES RUN DEEP- I'D LIKE TO ADDRESS SOMETHING MORE SUBTLE AND PERVASIVE, BUT NO LESS TROUBLING.

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE IDEA OF...

SECURITY

A NICK SOUSANIS PRODUCTION
CREATED FOR "RESTORING THE TREE OF LIBERTY"
@ ZEITGEIST GALLERY - DETROIT, MI OCTOBER 30, 2004

THE WORD "SECURITY" HAS A LOT OF CONNOTATIONS AND CONFLICTING MEANINGS. THE RECENT CREATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY HAS DONE LITTLE TO DISPEL THAT CONFUSION. IN FACT, IT'S ADDED TO IT.

SO FAR ITS BIGGEST CONTRIBUTION (BESIDES SOMETHING TO DO WITH DUCT-TAPE) HAS BEEN THE TERROR ALERT SCALE.

RED
ORANGE
YELLOW
BLUE
GREEN
???

SEVERE: SEVERE RISK OF TERR
HIGH: HIGH RISK OF TERRORISM; HIGH RISK OF TE
ELEVATED: SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORISM; SIGNIFICA
GUARDED: GENERAL RISK OF TERRORISM; GE
LOW: LOW RISK OF TERRORISM; LOW
CALM: NO RISK OF TERRORISM; NO

THIS SCALE RAISES SEVERAL QUESTIONS: FIRST, WHY ARE BLUE AND GREEN SWITCHED. DOESN'T ANYONE IN THE DHS HAVE KIDS OR REMEMBER ROY G BIV FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL? NO ONE CONSULTED AN ART STUDENT APPARENTLY.

AND WHAT DO YOU DO IN A GIVEN COLOR? HIDE IN YOUR BASEMENT OR GO SHOPPING? IT MAKES THE WHOLE TORNADO WATCH/WARNING THING LOOK SIMPLE.

BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, I THINK WE NEED TO ASK, WHY IS THERE NO 6TH COLOR? DOES THIS MEAN THAT THERE IS **NO** ALL CLEAR?

PERHAPS IT SHOULD BE THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND INSECURITY? (I MEAN, THEY'VE MADE THE RAINBOW SCARY, C'MON?!?)

"THROUGHOUT HISTORY WE'VE SOLVED OUR SECURITY FEARS..."

BY TRYING TO SEPARATE OURSELVES FROM THE WORLD OUTSIDE...

WE BUILD FENCES.

FROM THE **GREAT** WALL TO THE **BERLIN** WALL TO THE **GAZA** STRIP WE'VE BUILT PHYSICAL BARRIERS TO KEEP PEOPLE APART AND METAPHORICAL ONES TO KEEP IDEAS OUT.

BUT IS THIS WHO WE ARE? THE GUIDING PRINCIPLE OF;

We the People

HAS BEEN REPLACED WITH, "YOU'RE EITHER WITH US, OR YOU'RE WITH OUR ENEMIES." WE'VE PASSED LIBERTY'S TORCH FOR RAZOR WIRE.

NOT ONLY HAS ROY G BIV BEEN TURNED UPSIDE DOWN, BUT THE RED, WHITE, AND BLUE HAS BEEN SUBVERTED FROM A SYMBOL OF FREEDOM ABROAD TO ONE OF IMPERIAL MIGHT.

EVEN WITHIN OUR OWN BORDERS THE PRESIDENT OF **EVERY** CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES REQUIRES VOTING **"LOYALTY"** OATHS FOR HIS PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

NO MORE YEARS!

CIVIL LIBERTIES!

NOT ONLY ARE PEOPLE BEING RESTRICTED- BUT, IN THE NAME OF PATRIOTISM, OUR RIGHT AND DUTY TO VOICE OUR DISSENT HAS COME UNDER ATTACK.

WE MUST NOT FORGET, DISSENT IS PATRIOTIC

BUT EVEN IF WE ACCEPT THAT FENCES ARE THE WAY TO ACHIEVE SECURITY, IS IT REALLY POSSIBLE TO BUILD A FENCE HIGH ENOUGH TO KEEP US SAFE

IT SEEMS NOT.

FOR NO MATTER HOW HIGH WE GO...

...(AND INDEED THEY REACH AWFULLY HIGH IF WE CONSIDER THE MISGUIDED "STAR WARS" DEFENSE SYSTEM AS A FENCE OF SORTS)

THERE'S **ALWAYS** A WAY TO GET PAST THEM, EVEN WITH SOMETHING SO SIMPLE AS THIS.

ARE WE REALLY WORKING TOWARD GREATER SECURITY? DO OFFENSIVE WARS HELP TO SPREAD PEACE?

DO OUR CHARM SYMBOLS OF LOCK & KEY, THE CLUB, BARBED WIRE, AND A WARM GUN LET US SLEEP MORE SOUNDLY AT NIGHT?

Lucky Charms

OR PERHAPS, AS WE KEEP OTHERS **OUT**, WE, IN FACT, KEEP OURSELVES **IN**?

ALAN MOORE WROTE: "ALL WAR AND CONFLICT, IS NAUGHT BUT THE FAILURE OF THE IMAGINATION.

PERHAPS WHAT IS CERTAIN IS THAT WE LACK THE IMAGINATION TO TRULY UNDERSTAND WHAT SECURITY MEANS.

IF SECURITY MEANS FREE OF DANGER AND FEAR....

AS LONG AS WE LIVE IN THE SHADOWS CAST BY FENCES..

WE WILL ALWAYS BE REMINDED THAT OUR SENSE OF SECURITY IS AT BEST ARTIFICIAL.

BESIDES AN IMAGE OF BARBED WIRE, CAN WE REALLY PICTURE WHAT SECURITY AND PEACE OF MIND MEAN?

PERHAPS NOT.

BUT THERE IS A GROUP OF PEOPLE, WHO (BESIDES BEING WELL ACQUAINTED WITH MR. ROY G. BIV) ARE STILL ABLE TO PICTURE SECURITY IN SOMETHING SO SIMPLE AS A...

...BLANKET.

After SCHULZ (of course)

OUR CHILDREN.

NOT ONLY DO WE AS ADULTS SEEK SECURITY FOR THEM.

THEY CAN SHOW US HOW TO GET THERE.

A LOOK AT CHILDREN'S PERSPECTIVES ON POLITICS THROUGH ART

AFTER PICASSO

PROVIDES A GLIMPSE INTO A NEW PARADIGM:

THEY DEPICT A WORLD WITH NO BORDERS, NO FENCES, AND OF COURSE, THEY DRAW BIRDS - FLYING FAR FROM THE REACH OF FENCES.

THEY DRAW CIRCLES - **NOT** SPLIT BY LINES -

THEY DRAW GLOBES ENCIRCLED BY PEOPLE HOLDING HANDS.

COLORS COME TOGETHER IN LANDS SOMEWHERE OVER THE (CORRECTLY ORDERED) RAINBOW.

THEY GET IT IN A WAY TOO FEW OF US CAN.

THEY CAN IMAGINE A WORLD OF ONE PEOPLE, ONE PLANET, AT PEACE DOING THEIR BEST TO MAKE A GO OF IT ON THIS TINY ISLAND AMONGST THE STARS.

AND THAT'S AN IMAGE I THINK WE CAN **ALL** LIVE WITH...

IF THIS NATION IS TRULY "OF THE PEOPLE, THEN THE FACE OF THE NATION IS OUR OWN.

EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US.



LATELY I DON'T LIKE WHAT I SEE IN THE MIRROR



THIS CULTURAL LANDSCAPE IS SO FRACTURED, SO OUT OF SORTS, IT'S HARD TO BUILD ANYTHING POSITIVE FROM IT.

BUT WE MUST REMEMBER, EVERYTHING HAS ITS START IN THE FRAGMENTS OF SOMETHING PAST.

CREATION PROCEEDS FROM A RESTRUCTURING, A REORDERING OF WHAT HAS COME BEFORE.

SO I'M TRYING TO MAKE SENSE OF THIS **ELECTION**, OR Y'KNOW, THIS...

SHOW of HANDS

A Nick Sousanis Handmade Production
CREATED FOR "RESTORING THE TREE OF LIBERTY"
@ ZEITGEIST GALLERY - DETROIT, MI NOVEMBER 20, 2004.

ON ONE HAND, WE ALL COME FROM THE SAME STUFF.



THE DUST OF LONG EXTINGUISHED STARS FORMS THE BASIS FOR LIFE.

DNA EMERGES, PROVIDING A STABLE, YET MUTABLE BUILDING BLOCK.



COMPLEX ORGANISMS EVOLVE,

AND WITH THE ADDITION OF SOME SOPHISTICATED ADAPTATIONS...



HUMAN BEINGS STAKE OUT THEIR UNIQUE TERRITORY.

DESPITE OUR SIMILARITIES, EVEN WITHIN OUR OWN COUNTRY,

IT SEEMS WE SPEAK A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE IN SO CALLED "RED STATES"...

...AND BLUE STATES.



SOMETIMES IT SEEMS WE'RE NOT EVEN FROM THE SAME PLANET!

NOT YET, BUT SOON!



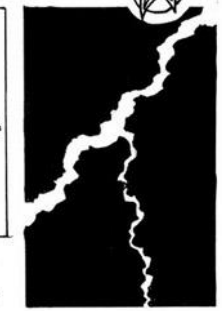
WHILE THE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION AVAILABLE TO US ARE EVER INCREASING,



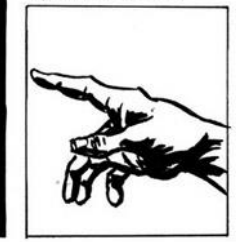
WE STILL CAN'T PHONE HOME...



AND FIND THE ESSENTIAL COMMON BOND THAT HOLDS US TOGETHER.



THAT SPACE BETWEEN US IS, IF ANYTHING, GROWING WIDER.



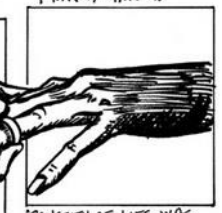
THIS ELECTION WAS SUPPOSEDLY DECIDED ON "VALUES."



IN OTHER WORDS, IT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO DETERMINE WHO CAN



AND WHO CAN NOT, MARRY WHOM.



SANCTITY OF LIFE WAS ANOTHER "VALUE" ISSUE. UNLESS OF COURSE IT APPLIED TO OTHER COUNTRY'S PEOPLES,

IN THAT CASE,...



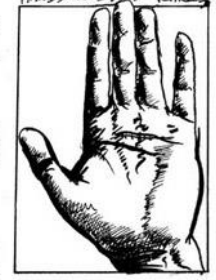
WE DON'T DO BODY COUNTS.

WE LOST OVER 3,000 PEOPLE ON SEPTEMBER 11th, 2001.

THE NUMBER OF CIVILIAN DEATHS IN IRAQ IS NO LESS THAN 10 TIMES THAT FIGURE.

BUT WE'RE THE GOOD GUYS RIGHT? SO HOW CAN THIS BE? HERE'S BUT ONE STORY:

AT US ROADBLOCKS IN IRAQ, SOLDIERS WOULD RAISE THEIR HANDS TO STOP VEHICLES.



WITH ORDERS TO SHOOT ANYONE WHO FAILED TO HALT.

BUT THE IRAQIS DIDN'T KNOW THAT, SO THEY KEPT DRIVING.

ONLY LATER DID THE SOLDIERS LEARN THAT A RAISED HAND IS A SIGN OF "HELLO" IN IRAQ.

BUT THEY DIDN'T KNOW THAT THEN.

IN ONE 2-DAY PERIOD, ONE EX-MARINE ESTIMATES HIS UNIT KILLED 30 CIVILIANS.

ALL ON ACCOUNT OF SIMPLE MISCOMMUNICATION.



SUCH INCIDENTS DON'T DETER US FROM CLAIMING THE MORAL HIGHGROUND.



WE TALK OF BRINGING PEACE,



LIBERTY, AND FREEDOM



TO BELEAGUERED PEOPLES. YET BY DOING SO BEHIND THE BARREL OF A GUN,



IS IT REALLY A SURPRISE WHEN THINGS PLAY OUT QUITE CONTRARY TO OUR STATED GOALS?



THIS COULD BE SEEN AS A FAILURE OF OUR ADMINISTRATION,

BUT BECAUSE OF THE DIVISIVE CAMPAIGN MANAGED BY THIS MAN....



(HERE, HE DOES HIS BEST TO PASS FOR HUMAN BY DEMONSTRATING OPPOSABLE THUMBS)

...THIS MAN WAS REELECTED.



AND GIVEN ANOTHER 4 YEARS TO KEEP HIS (OTHER) FINGER POISED OVER A VERY, SCARY BUTTON.



BUT ARE WE DISMAYED BY SUCH SIGHTS?



DO WE LISTEN TO WHAT'S GOING ON?



WHERE'S THE OUTRAGE?



IN PART, ANY SUCH QUESTIONS ARE SQUELCHED BY APPEALS TO PATRIOTISM AND PLEDGES OF LOYALTY.

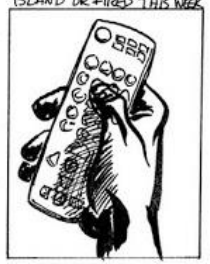


BLIND ALLEGIANCE IN THE NAME OF NATIONALISM HAS HAPPENED BEFORE.



IT CAN HAPPEN AGAIN.

WE ARE FURTHER DISTRACTED FROM REALITY- WONDERING WHO GOT VOTED OFF THE ISLAND OR FIRED THIS WEEK



SOMETHING SIMILAR TOOK PLACE IN THE COLISEUM SHORTLY BEFORE ROME FELL



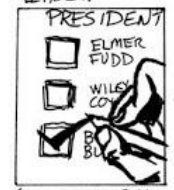
WE MUST PUT A STOP TO THIS,



AND CHART A NEW COURSE.



DEMOCRACY IS FAR MORE THAN JUST A SHOW OF HANDS TO PICK A CELEBRITY LEADER.



(DEMOCRACY & VOTING ARE NOT SYNONYMOUS)

IT COMES WITH GREAT POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY TO BE INFORMED AS TO WHAT'S BEING DONE IN OUR NAME.



THE DOOMSDAY CLOCK STANDS PRECARIOUSLY CLOSE TO MIDNIGHT.





WE MUST ACT.

INDIVIDUAL ACTIONS MAY SEEM SMALL, BUT LIKE PEBBLES PITCHED IN A POND, THE RIPPLES EXTEND FAR.



TO GET THE CHANGE OF PERSPECTIVE WE NEED



WE MUST LEARN TO THINK LIKE AN ASTRONAUT.



USA ASTRONAUT DONALD WILLIAMS: "FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SEEN THE EARTH FROM SPACE, AND FOR THE HUNDREDS PERHAPS THOUSANDS MORE WHO WILL, THE EXPERIENCE MUST CERTAINLY CHANGES YOUR PERSPECTIVE. THE THINGS WE SHARE IN OUR WORLD ARE FAR MORE VALUABLE THAN THOSE WHICH DIVIDE US."

IT IS THIS GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE WE MUST BRING TO OUR LOCAL ACTION.

AND SO WE CONTINUE TO FIGHT FOR A BETTER TOMORROW EVEN IN THE FACE OF DESPAIR.

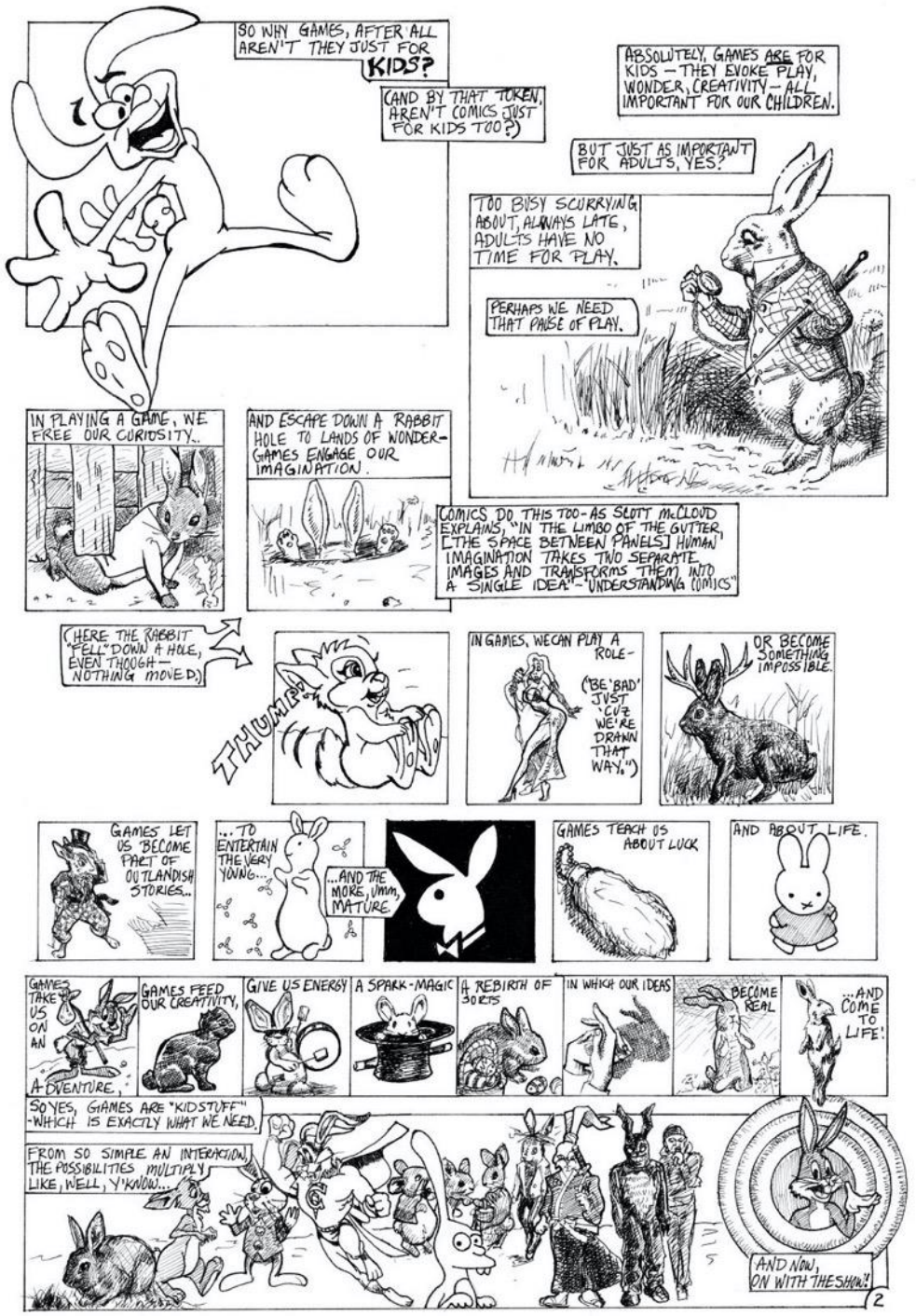


BY ALWAYS REACHING OUT, AND REMEMBERING, IN ORDER TO STAND TOGETHER, WE MUST UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER.

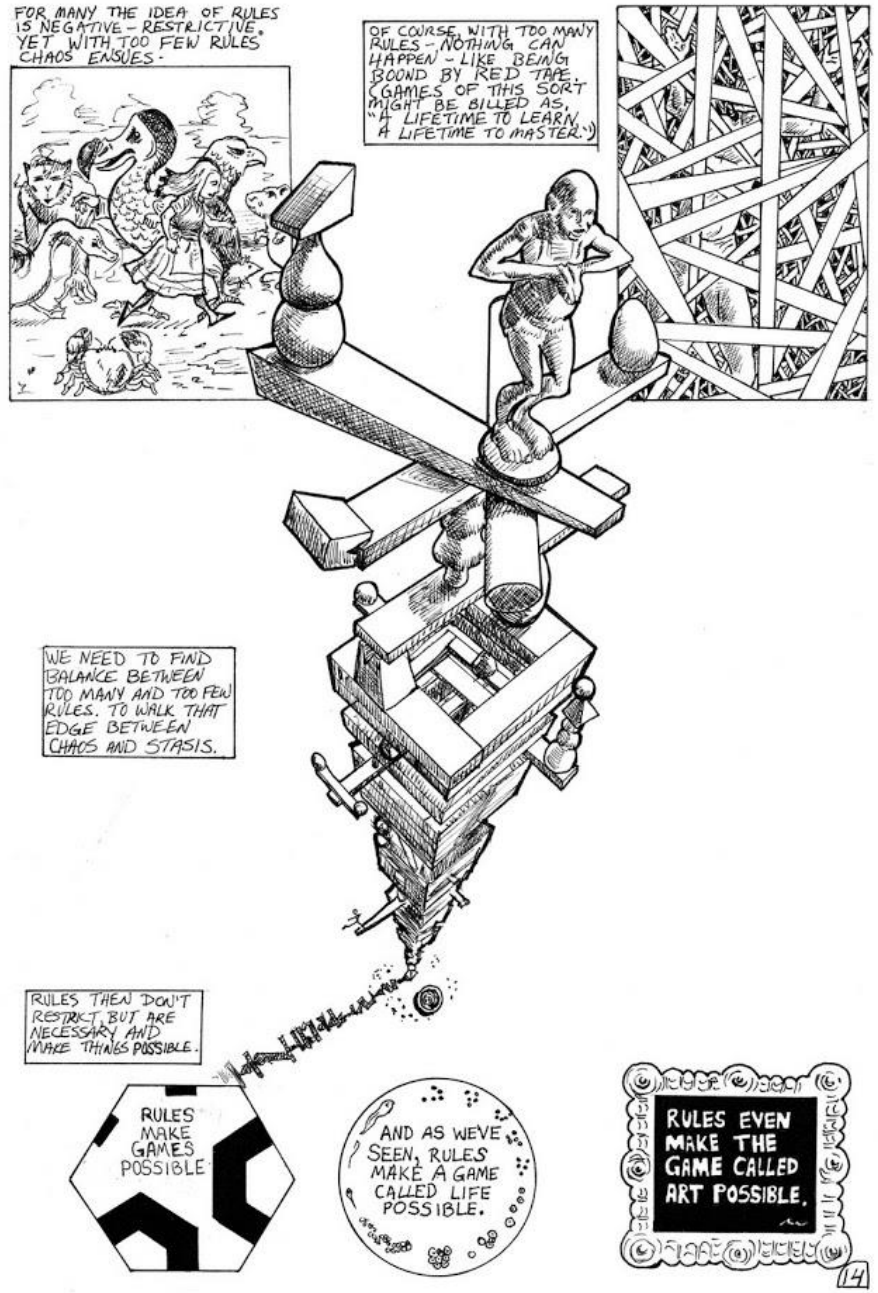


AND JUST MAYBE, SOMEDAY SOON WE WON'T BE ASHAMED TO SHOW OUR FACES.





Excerpt from "Possibilities"
Game Show Detroit, 2006


FOR MANY THE IDEA OF RULES IS NEGATIVE - RESTRICTIVE, YET WITH TOO FEW RULES CHAOS ENSUES.
OF COURSE, WITH TOO MANY RULES - NOTHING CAN HAPPEN - LIKE BEING BOOND BY RED TAPE. (GAMES OF THIS SORT MIGHT BE BILLED AS, "A LIFETIME TO LEARN, A LIFETIME TO MASTER.")
WE NEED TO FIND BALANCE BETWEEN TOO MANY AND TOO FEW RULES. TO WALK THAT EDGE BETWEEN CHAOS AND STASIS.
RULES THEN DON'T RESTRICT, BUT ARE NECESSARY AND MAKE THINGS POSSIBLE.
RULES MAKE GAMES POSSIBLE.
AND AS WE'VE SEEN, RULES MAKE A GAME CALLED LIFE POSSIBLE.
RULES EVEN MAKE THE GAME CALLED ART POSSIBLE.
14

TO TRULY EFFECT CHANGE AND TOUCH ONE ANOTHER WE NEED TO UTILIZE...

HOPE
HISTORY
PASSION
EMPATHY
PLANNING

Five Critical Senses of Engagement

IT ALL BEGINS WITH

HOPE

WHICH MAKES OUR WORK POSSIBLE.

AMONG THESE SENSES, HOPE IS BEST SYMBOLIZED WITH THE OPPOSABLE THUMB REPRESENTING AN EFFECTIVE NATURAL TOOL AND POWERFUL EMPOWERED POSTURE.

HOPE FACILITATES A UNIFYING AND SUBSTANTIAL ALBEIT EVASIVE TARGET FOR ONE TO GRAB ON TO MEET ENTRENCHED DYSFUNCTION IN SEEMINGLY INTRACTABLE SITUATIONS.





HISTORY



POINTS WITH HONESTY AND FACILITATES A TRUE RECKONING WITH THE FACTS OF SOCIAL REALITY REGARDLESS OF HOW UGLY THEY MAY BE.

1

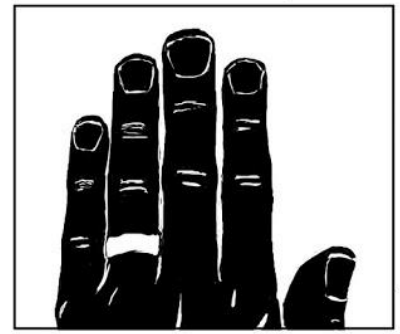
PASSION



THE "TALL MAN" IS THE OIL IN THE ENGINE OF HOPE, SYMBOLIZING THE PALPABLE EXCITEMENT THAT IS NEEDED TO PROPEL OUR EFFORTS TOWARD CHANGE.

BUT IT LACKS DEPTH, AND SO...

EMPATHY GOES DEEPER,



FOCUSING THE PASSION AND HELPING US REALIZE THAT WE ALL HAVE SKIN IN THE GAME; WE ARE ALL CONNECTED.

A SENSE OF **PLANNING**

PROVIDES TRACTION FOR PROGRESS AND THE NIMBLE, SHARP, DETAILED SENSE THAT BUTTRESSES SUBSTANTIAL ADVANCEMENT...





...IN TERMS OF BOTH PERSUASION AND POLICY.



AND IT TAKES A SENSE OF BALANCE TO COORDINATE ALL THE SENSES TO KEEP REACHING FOR REAL ENGAGEMENT...

2

CONCEPT/TEXT
TIMOTHY K. EATMAN
WWW.TIMOTHYKEATMAN.COM



VISUAL/VERBAL ADAPTATION
NICK SOUSANIS
WWW.SPINWEAVEANDCUT.COM



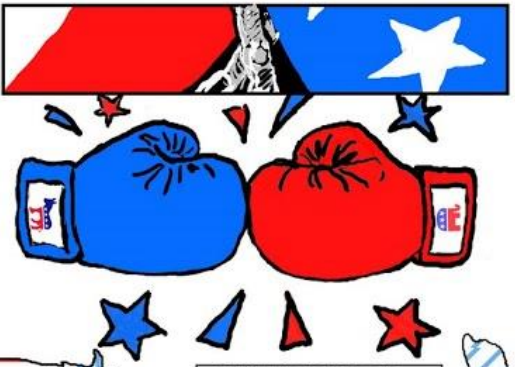
SEEING RED,

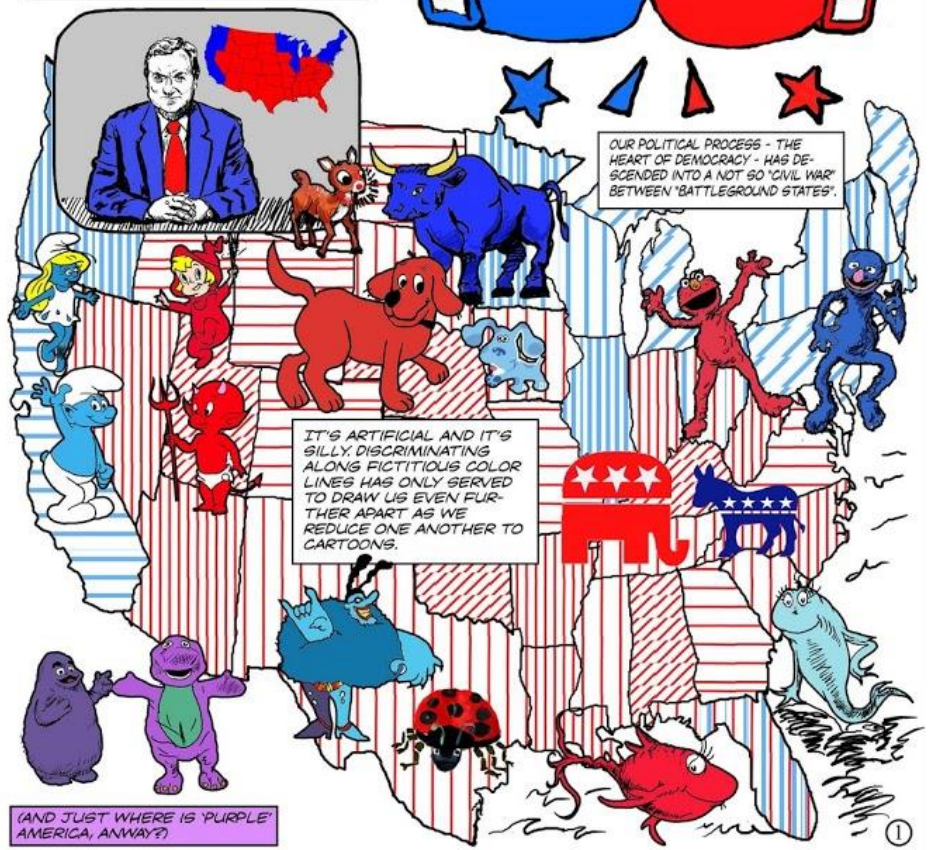
Feeling Blue.

by Nick Sousanis

THIS COUNTRY, ONE NATION, INDIVISIBLE WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL, IS BEING DIVIDED BY OF ALL THINGS - COLOR. SPECIFICALLY, WE'VE BEEN SPLIT INTO RED STATES AND BLUE STATES.

THIS PARTICULAR COLOR CODING HAS ITS ROOTS WAY BACK IN, WELL, 2000. BEFORE THAT TIME, TV COMMENTATORS HAD BEEN ASSIGNING COLORS TO PARTIES ARBITRARILY FROM ELECTION TO ELECTION. TIM RUSSERT IS CREDITED WITH APPLYING THE PARTICULAR LABELS THAT WE NOW SEEM STUCK WITH.









SUCH DIVISIONS OF COLOR ARE NOT LIMITED TO THE BLACK AND WHITE MORALITY OF COMICS. BY WEARING OUR SCHOOL COLORS AS BADGES OF SCHOOL SPIRIT AND PRIDE, WE STAY "TRUE TO YOUR SCHOOL."



ALTHOUGH WE TEND TO WEAR LESS FACE PAINT, IN THE NAME OF PATRIOTISM WE CLOAK OURSELVES (AND OUR HOMES AND OUR CARS) IN THE FLAG OF OUR COUNTRY WITH NO LESS ENTHUSIASM.

IF YOU'RE NOT WEARING THE COLORS, WE QUESTION WHETHER YOU'RE PLAYING FOR THE HOME TEAM OR NOT.

WE'VE SEEN WHERE THIS SORT OF NATIONALISTIC FERVOR CAN LEAD...

AND WE'VE HAD "RED" SCARES OF OUR OWN.

BUT AT OUR CORE, THE TIES THAT BIND US TOGETHER ARE STRONGER THAN THE FICTIONS THAT TEAR US APART.

(WE'RE ALL MADE OF THE SAME STUFF.)

WE ALL BLEED THE SAME COLOR ...

... UNDER THE SAME COLORED SKY.

3

PEOPLE CAN'T BE DEFINED BY SUCH SIMPLE DICHOTOMIES.

REALITY ISN'T AS SIMPLE AS CHOOSING THE RIGHT COLOR PILL.

THE STAKES ARE TOO HIGH - IT'S UP TO ALL OF US TO GET PAST THE BARRIERS OF COLOR.

3D FX GLASSES

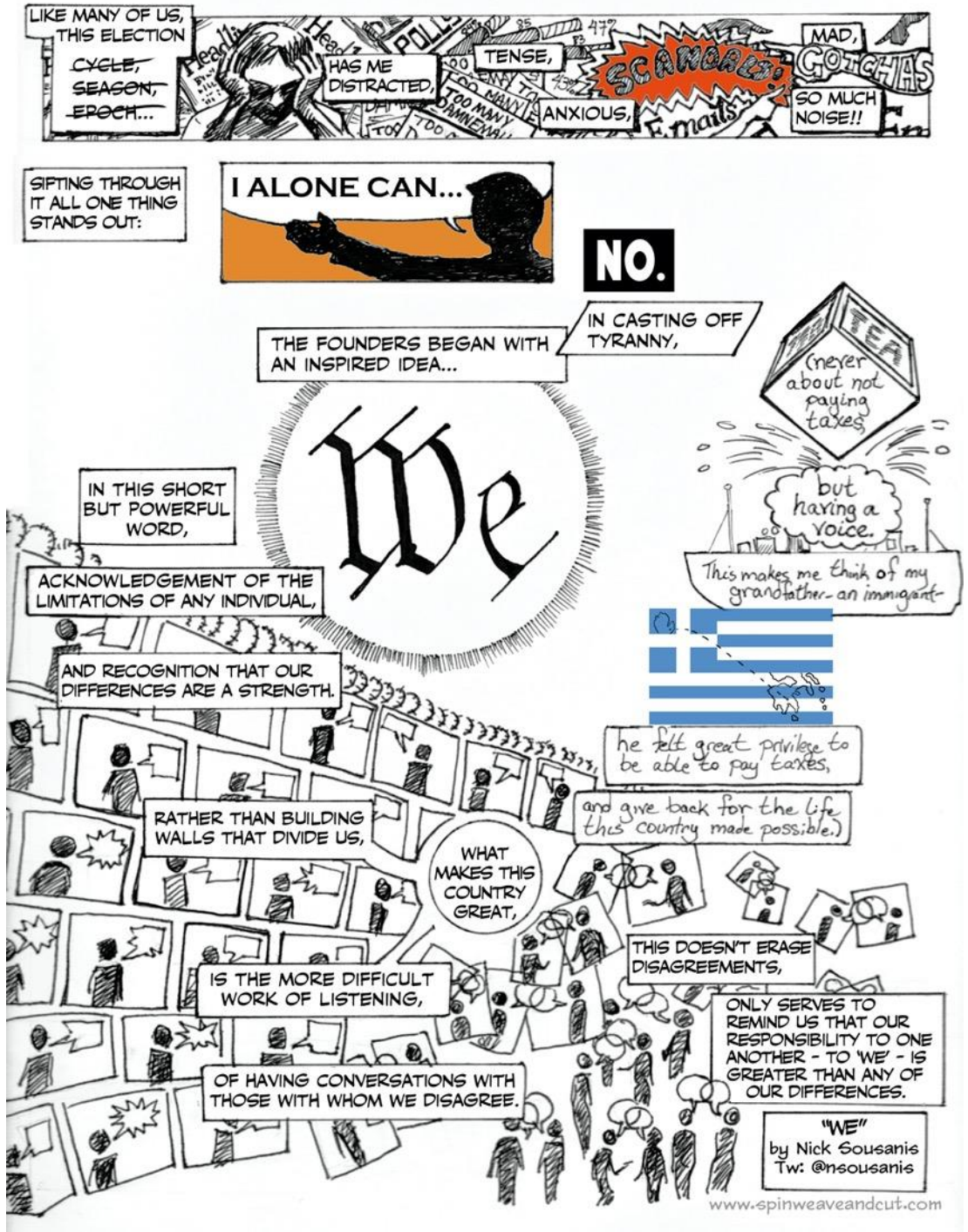
THE COMBINATION OF TWO OFFERS US PERSPECTIVE.

ONLY WITH ALL THE COLORS TOGETHER CAN WE TRULY SEE THE WHOLE PICTURE.

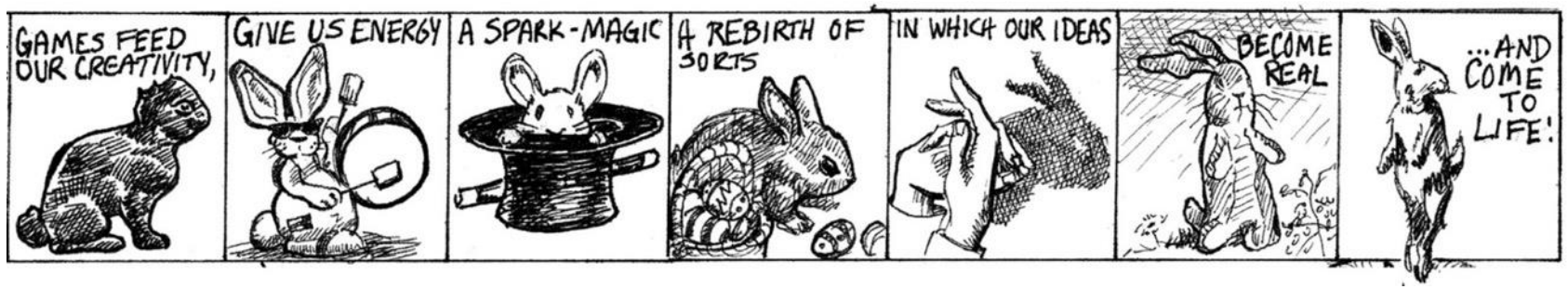
AND THEN WE CAN SHED LIGHT ON WHAT'S REALLY IMPORTANT.

NICK SOUSANIS 10/08

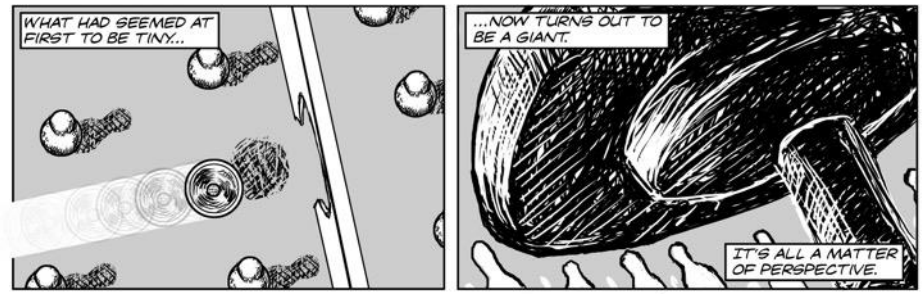
4


LIKE MANY OF US, THIS ELECTION
~~CYCLE,~~
~~SEASON,~~
~~EPOCH...~~
HAS ME DISTRACTED,
TENSE,
ANXIOUS,
SCANDAL!
MAD,
GOTCHAS
SO MUCH NOISE!!
SIFTING THROUGH IT ALL ONE THING STANDS OUT:
I ALONE CAN...
NO.
THE FOUNDERS BEGAN WITH AN INSPIRED IDEA...
IN CASTING OFF TYRANNY,
TEA
(never about not paying taxes)
but having a voice.
This makes me think of my grandfather- an immigrant-
We
IN THIS SHORT BUT POWERFUL WORD,
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LIMITATIONS OF ANY INDIVIDUAL,
AND RECOGNITION THAT OUR DIFFERENCES ARE A STRENGTH.
he felt great privilege to be able to pay taxes,
and give back for the life this country made possible.)
RATHER THAN BUILDING WALLS THAT DIVIDE US,
WHAT MAKES THIS COUNTRY GREAT,
THIS DOESN'T ERASE DISAGREEMENTS,
IS THE MORE DIFFICULT WORK OF LISTENING,
ONLY SERVES TO REMIND US THAT OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO ONE ANOTHER - TO 'WE' - IS GREATER THAN ANY OF OUR DIFFERENCES.
OF HAVING CONVERSATIONS WITH THOSE WITH WHOM WE DISAGREE.
"WE"
by Nick Sousanis
Tw: @nsousanis
www.spinweaveandcut.com

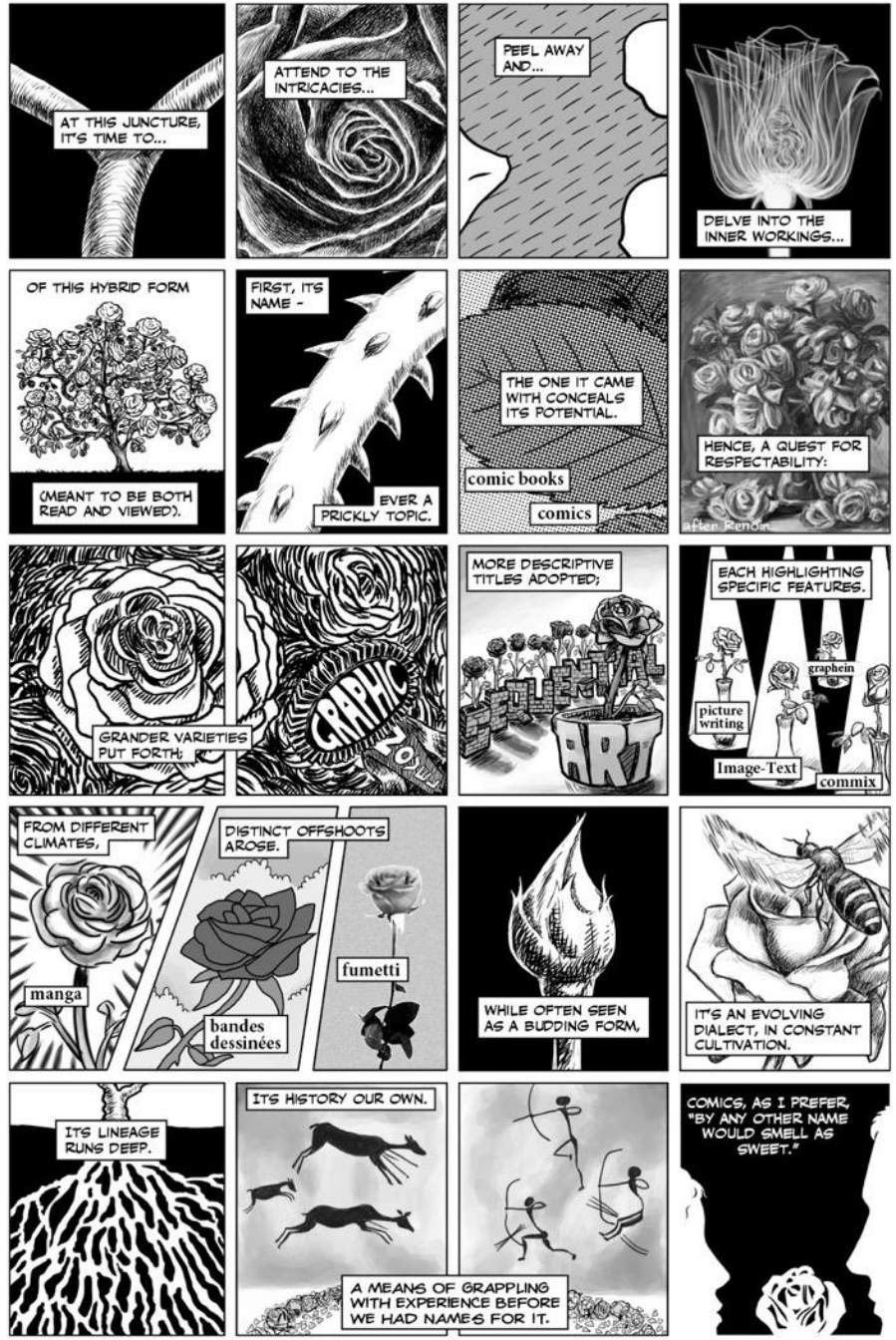

SUCH INCIDENTS DON'T DETER US FROM CLAIMING THE MORAL HIGHGROUND.
#1
USA
NE TALK OF BRINGING PEACE,
LIBERTY, AND FREEDOM
TO BELEAGUERED PEOPLES. YET BY DOING SO BEHIND THE BARREL OF A GUN,


GAMES FEED OUR CREATIVITY,
GIVE US ENERGY
A SPARK - MAGIC
A REBIRTH OF SORTS
IN WHICH OUR IDEAS
BECOME REAL
...AND COME TO LIFE!


AT FIRST, WHEN SHE'S BROUGHT OUT TO CLASS, SHE'S THIS IMPOSSIBLY FRAIL-SEEMING FORM. NOT UNLIKE THE UNWOUND TOP.
AND THEN...
A RIP OF THE CORD, THE POTENTIAL ENERGY IN THE WOUND UP STRING TRANSFORMS INTO KINETIC ENERGY.
THIS MIND IS ON FIRE. SHE'S OFF RACING.


WHAT HAD SEEMED AT FIRST TO BE TINY...
...NOW TURNS OUT TO BE A GIANT.
IT'S ALL A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE.


SO WHERE WERE WE? OH YES, THREAD, SPINNING, LABYRINTHS.
THE TOP SPUTTERS AND WOBBLES, SPINNING IN PLACE AS IF TO COME TO A STOP.
MAXINE SAYS, "I DON'T WANT TO BE ABSOLUTE."
AND THEN, JUST AS SUDDENLY, IMPOSSIBLY, IT PICKS UP SPEED. IT RACES - SHE RACES - OFF AGAIN.
MAXINE SAYS, "THERE'S STILL MORE TO DO."

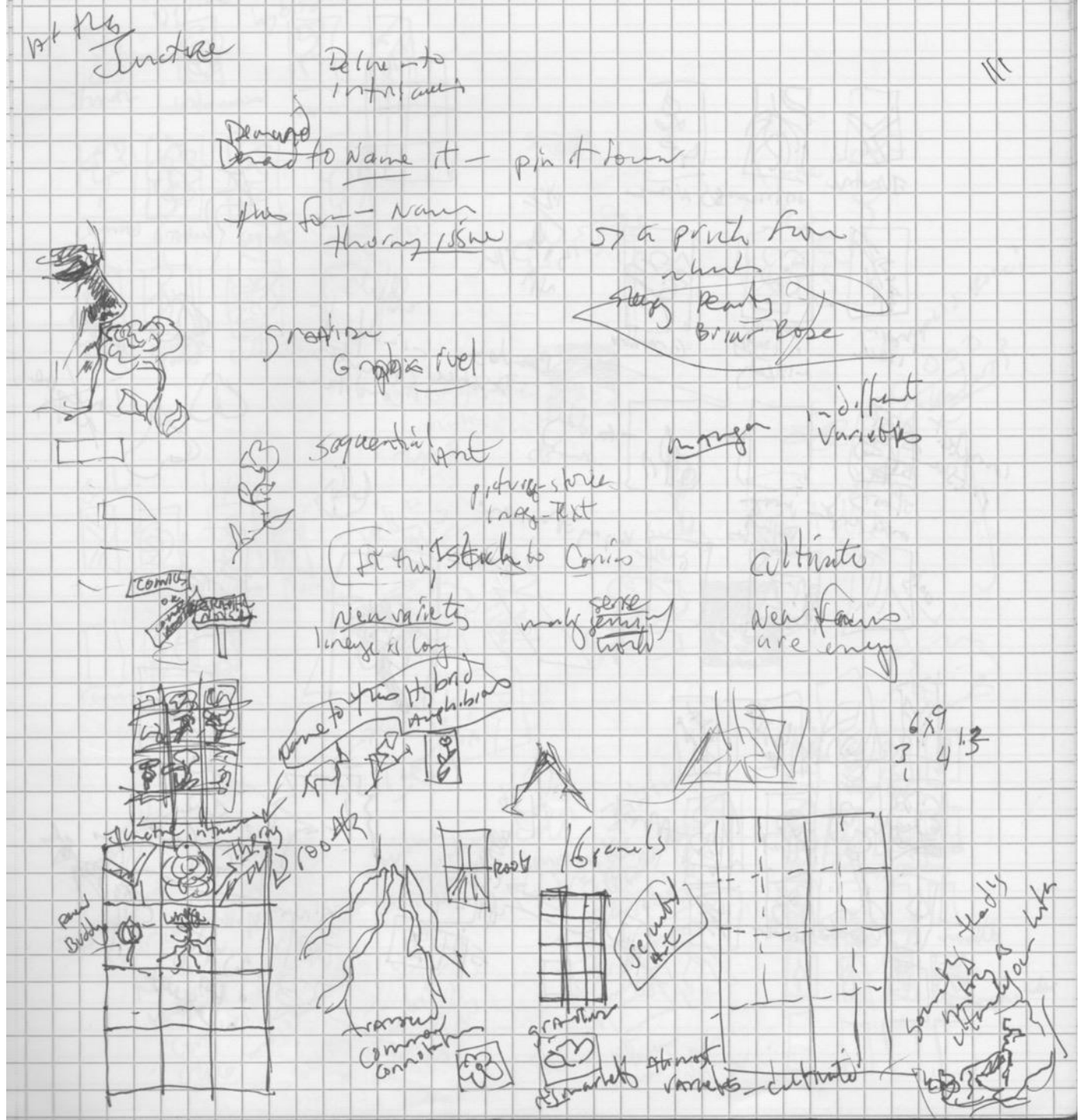


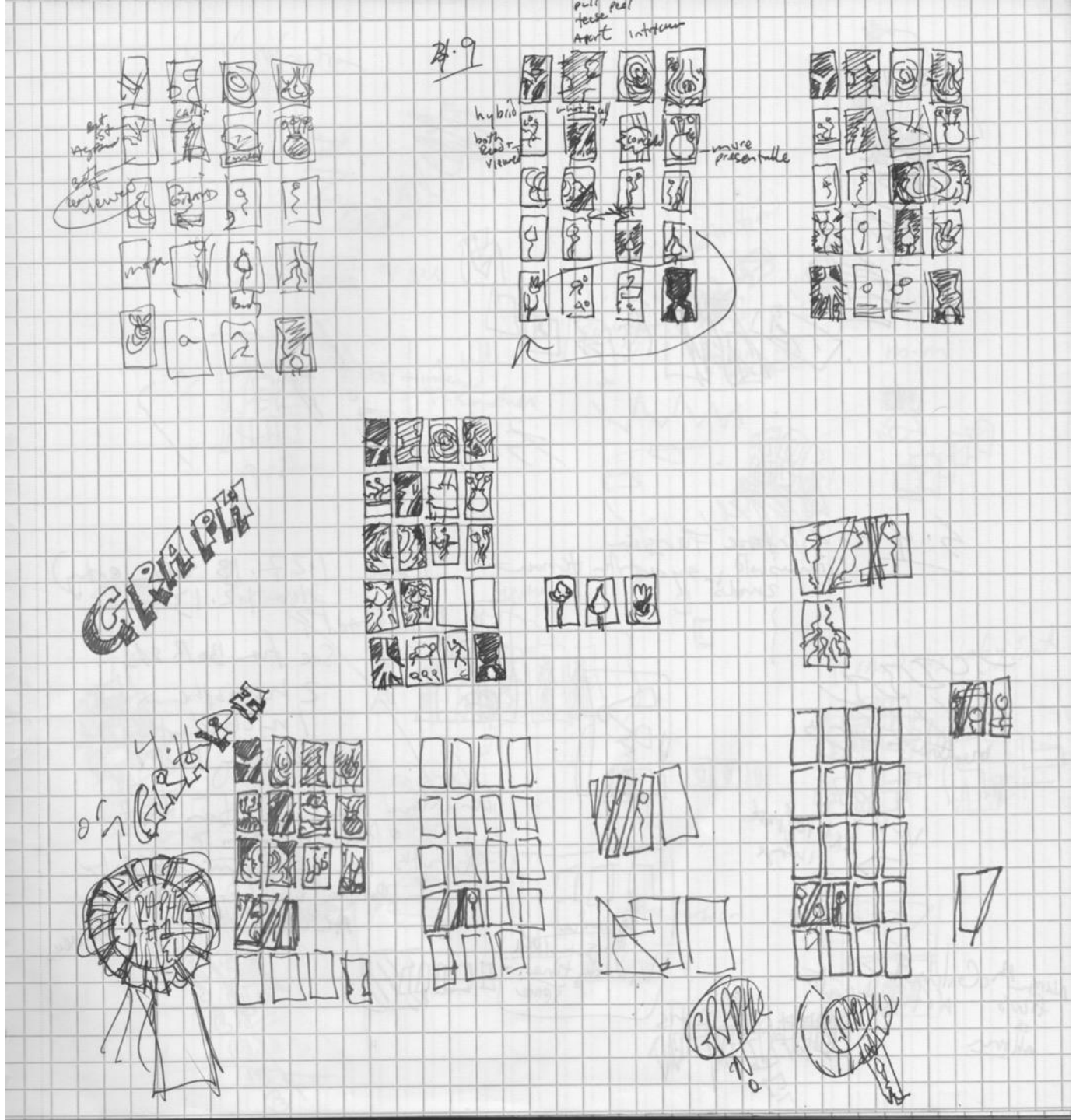
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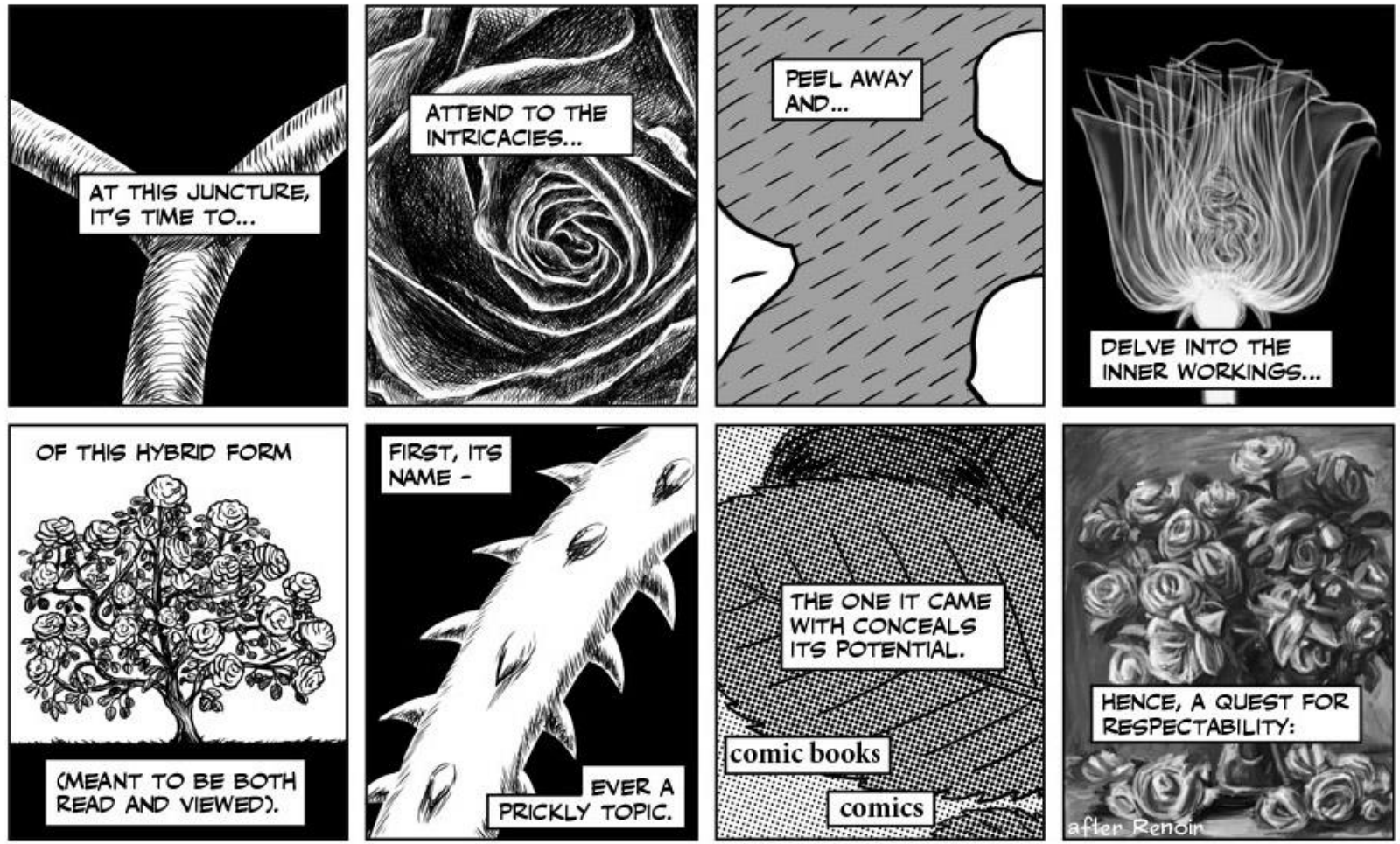
Referencing Shakespeare – I worked backwards from the last panel – every panel would have something to do with Roses…

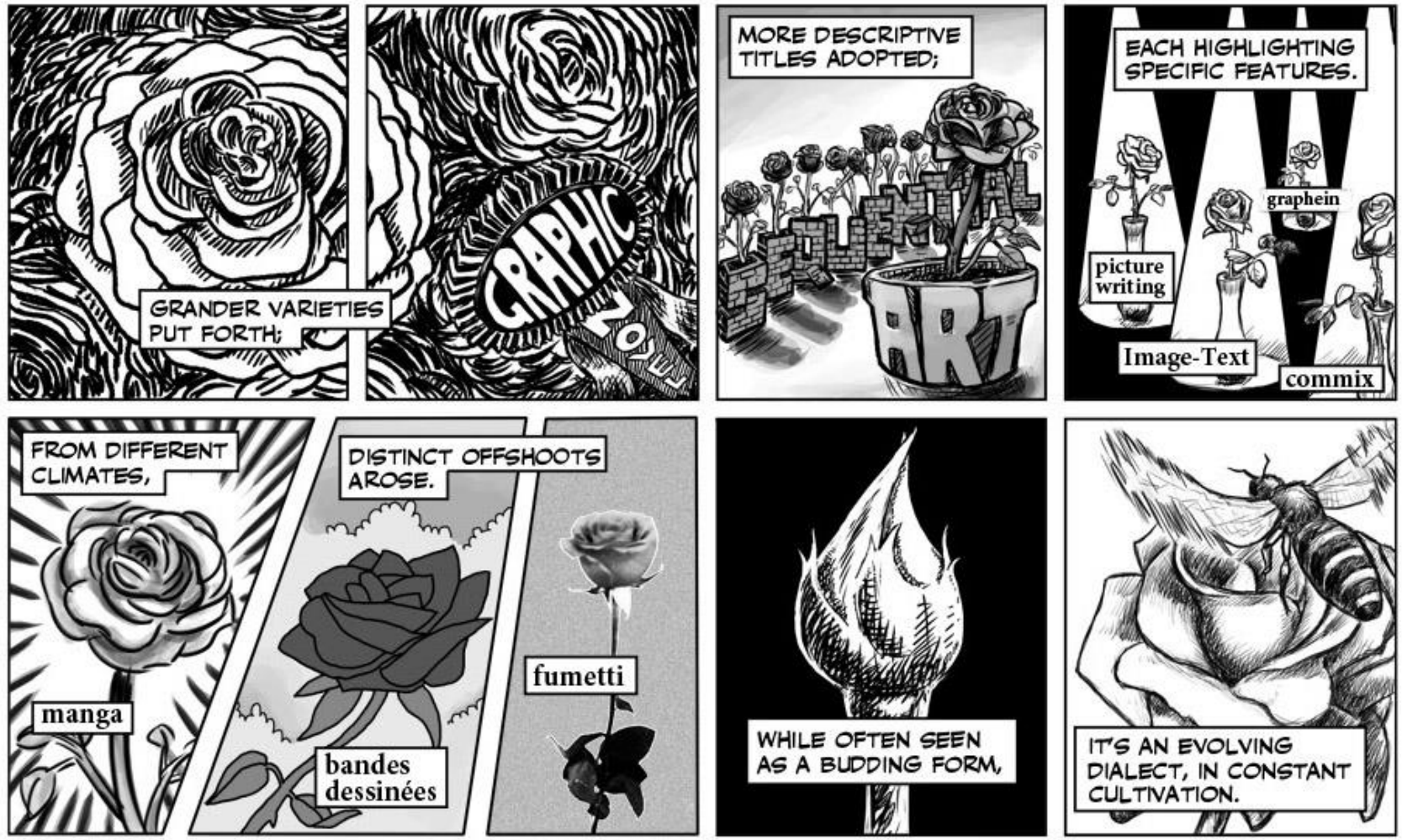

pull apart
these
peal
intricate
hybrid
both read + viewed
what to call it
condiment
more presentable

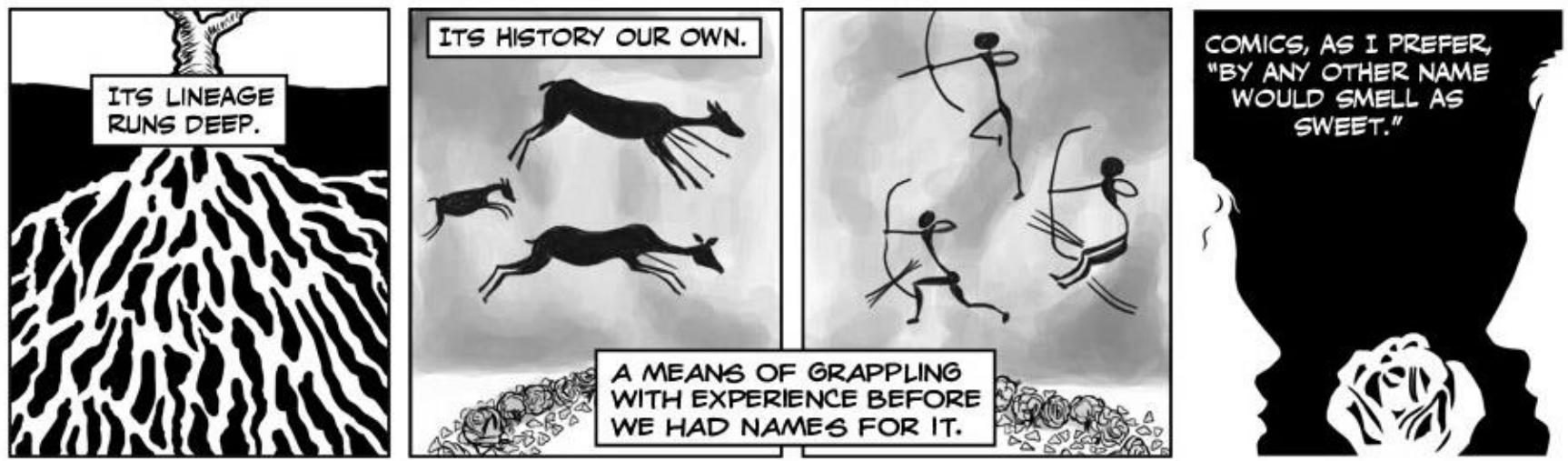

Structure
Define into intricacies
Demand to Name it — pin it down
Name
theory issue
Sprouting
Graphic fuel
sequential art
picture-story
Text
Comics
New variety
lineage is long
same to the hybrid
cultivate
New forms
are emerg
6x9
100 AR
16 panels
Roots
sequential art
transmit
Common
creation
elements
stories
variants
cultivate


GRAFFITI
GRAFFITI

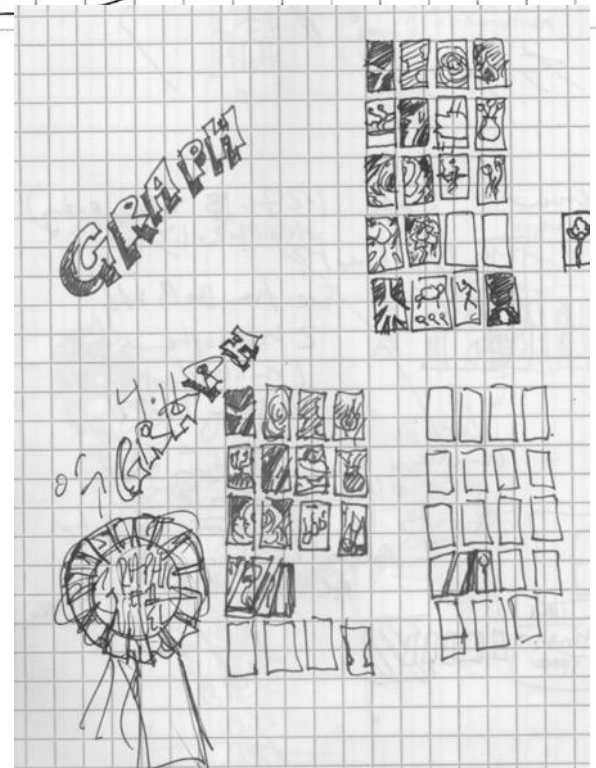

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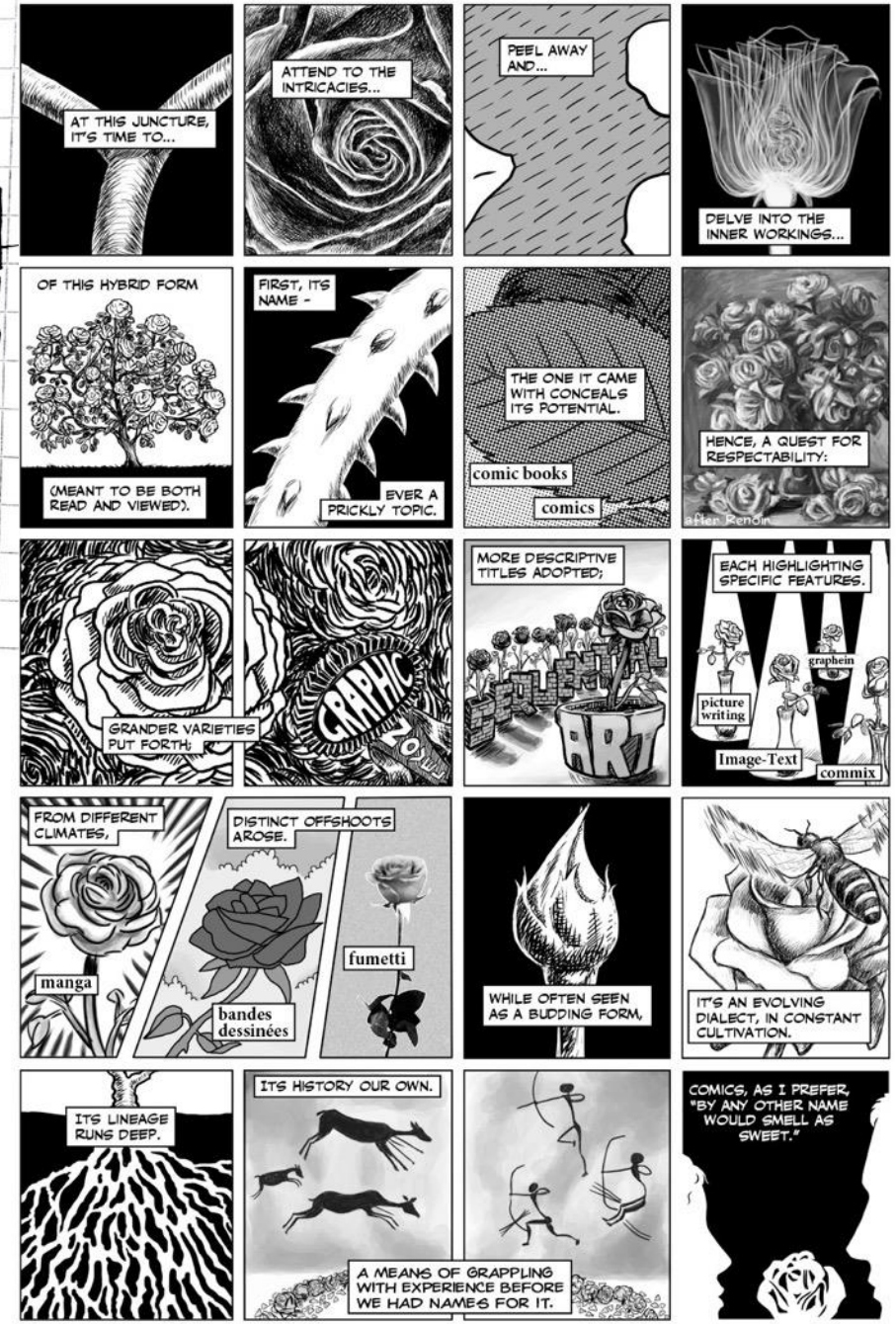

AT THIS JUNCTURE, IT'S TIME TO...
ATTEND TO THE INTRICACIES...
PEEL AWAY AND...
DELVE INTO THE INNER WORKINGS...
OF THIS HYBRID FORM
(MEANT TO BE BOTH READ AND VIEWED).
FIRST, ITS NAME -
EVER A PRICKLY TOPIC.
THE ONE IT CAME WITH CONCEALS ITS POTENTIAL.
comic books
comics
HENCE, A QUEST FOR RESPECTABILITY:
after Renoir


GRANDER VARIETIES PUT FORTH;
GRAPHIC NOVEL
MORE DESCRIPTIVE TITLES ADOPTED;
EACH HIGHLIGHTING SPECIFIC FEATURES.
picture writing
graphein
Image-Text
commix
FROM DIFFERENT CLIMATES,
manga
DISTINCT OFFSHOOTS AROSE.
bandes dessinées
fumetti
WHILE OFTEN SEEN AS A BUDDING FORM,
IT'S AN EVOLVING DIALECT, IN CONSTANT CULTIVATION.


ITS LINEAGE RUNS DEEP.
ITS HISTORY OUR OWN.
A MEANS OF GRAPPLING WITH EXPERIENCE BEFORE WE HAD NAMES FOR IT.
COMICS, AS I PREFER, "BY ANY OTHER NAME WOULD SMELL AS SWEET."

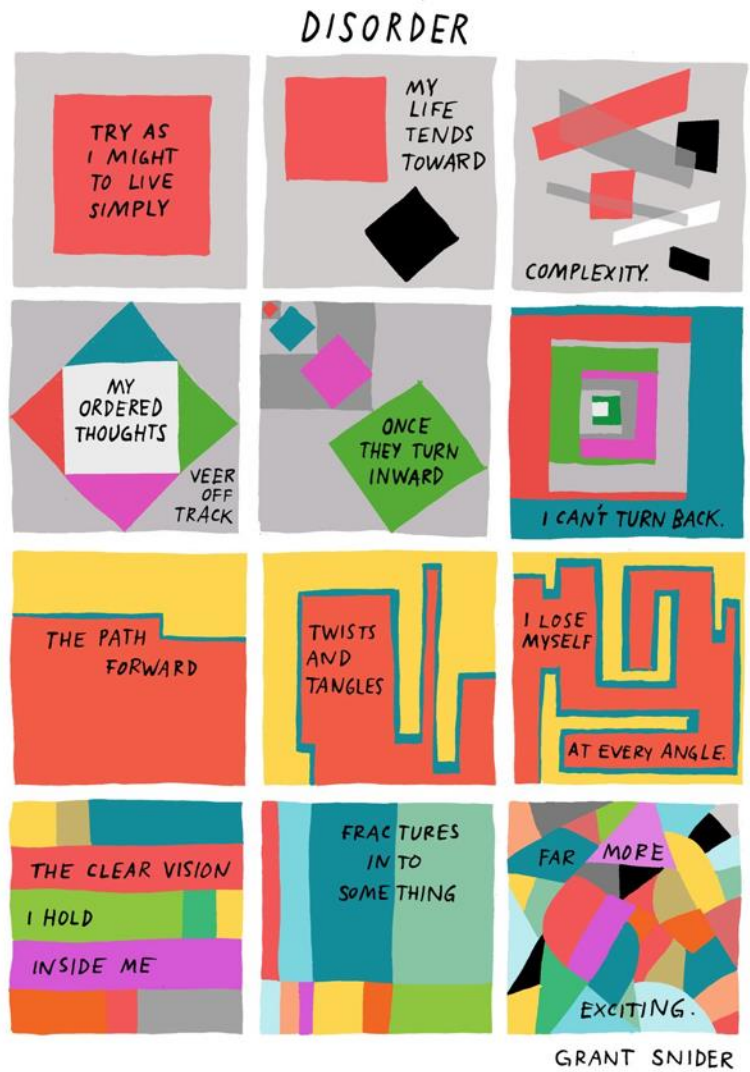

hybrid
both read + viewed
what half of
more presentable


GRAPH
on GRAPH


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Grant Snider's comics do a somewhat similar thing I think




DISORDER
TRY AS I MIGHT TO LIVE SIMPLY
MY LIFE TENDS TOWARD
COMPLEXITY.
MY ORDERED THOUGHTS
VEER OFF TRACK
ONCE THEY TURN INWARD
I CAN'T TURN BACK.
THE PATH FORWARD
TWISTS AND TANGLES
I LOSE MYSELF
AT EVERY ANGLE.
THE CLEAR VISION
I HOLD
INSIDE ME
FRACTURES IN TO SOMETHING
FAR MORE
EXCITING.
GRANT SNIDER


Tangled
THE MORE I STRUGGLE AGAINST MY FLAWS
THE KNOTTIER THEY BECOME.
WHEN I THINK I'VE ESCAPED THEM...
THEY TRIP ME UP.
HOW DO I LIVE WITH MY SHORTCOMINGS?
WEAR THEM PROUDLY?
CUT FREE OF THEM?
SWEEP THEM UNDER THE RUG?
OR UNTANGLE THEM WITH PATIENCE...
TO SEE IF THEY EVER END.
GRANT SNIDER

Metaphor Talk about one thing using a visual metaphor of another. Some examples…

