



UCLV GRAPHIC
NOVELS AND
COMICS SOCIETY
presents

ESCAPISM

2020/21



Welcome to ESCAPISM 2020/21!

This zine has been carefully curated and put together through the hard works and efforts of the UCL Graphic Novels and Comics Society! We've chosen the theme of escapism to explore how the pandemic changed our reality, leading us seek reprieve from reality. This zine is split into two sections. You'll find thematic submissions at the front, and then monthly overviews of all of our activities at the back.

We hope you enjoy it!

- Louisa Norton (President)
Katie Cham (Treasurer)
Inés Buetow (Welfare Officer)

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CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBURARY

GOODBYE

AD REEL



Dandelion (Dent-de-lion)
Angel's trumpet
Wound rocket
Radical weed

Bird of paradise
Wild orange
Sweet orange
Fairy moss
Extinguisher moss

Petty morel
Cursed thistle
Serviceberry
Black-eyed Susan
Brown-eyed Susan









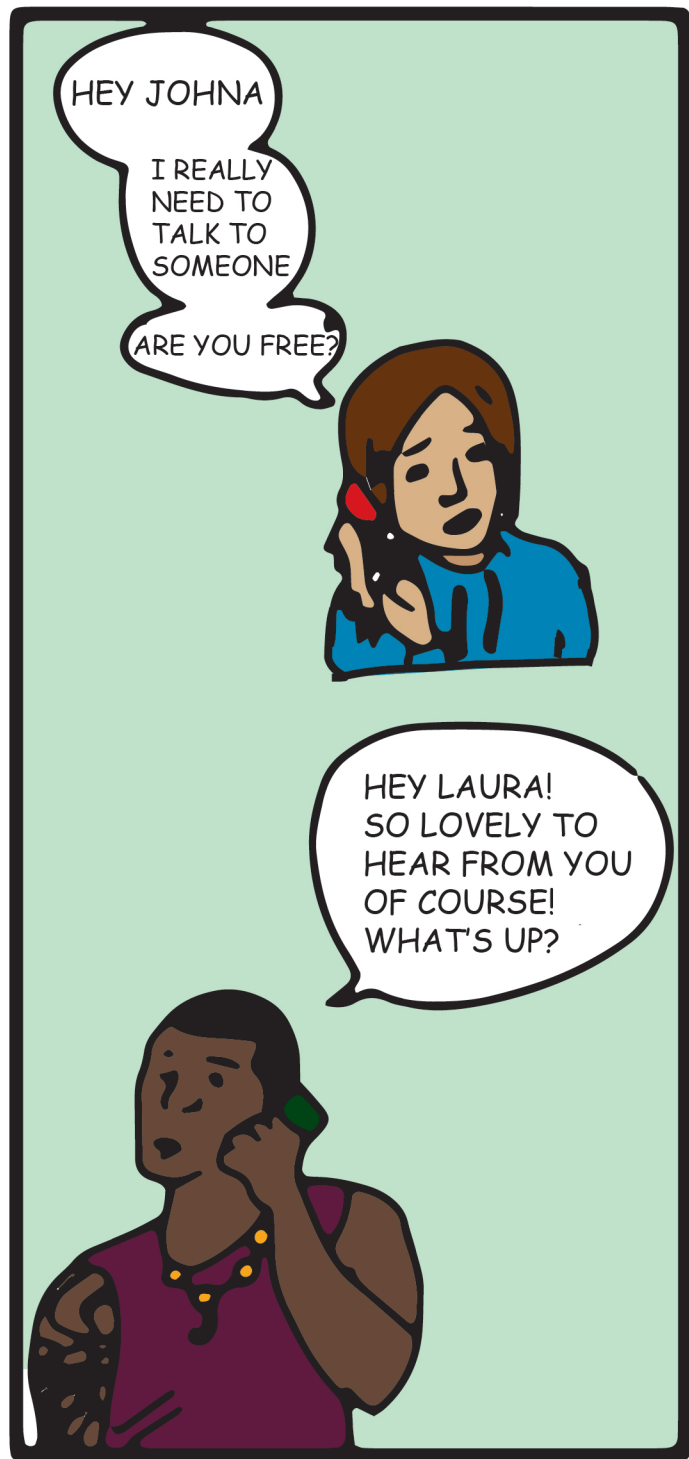




BETTER OUT THAN IN



SCRIPT & ILLUSTRATION BY GUY MERRILL



HEY JOHNA

I REALLY
NEED TO
TALK TO
SOMEONE

ARE YOU FREE?

HEY LAURA!
SO LOVELY TO
HEAR FROM YOU
OF COURSE!
WHAT'S UP?



I'M NOT REALLY
SURE WHERE TO START...

I'VE GOT SO MUCH IN
MY HEARD RIGHT NOW...

IT'S DIFFICULT TO
ESCAPE MY OWN
THOUGHTS...

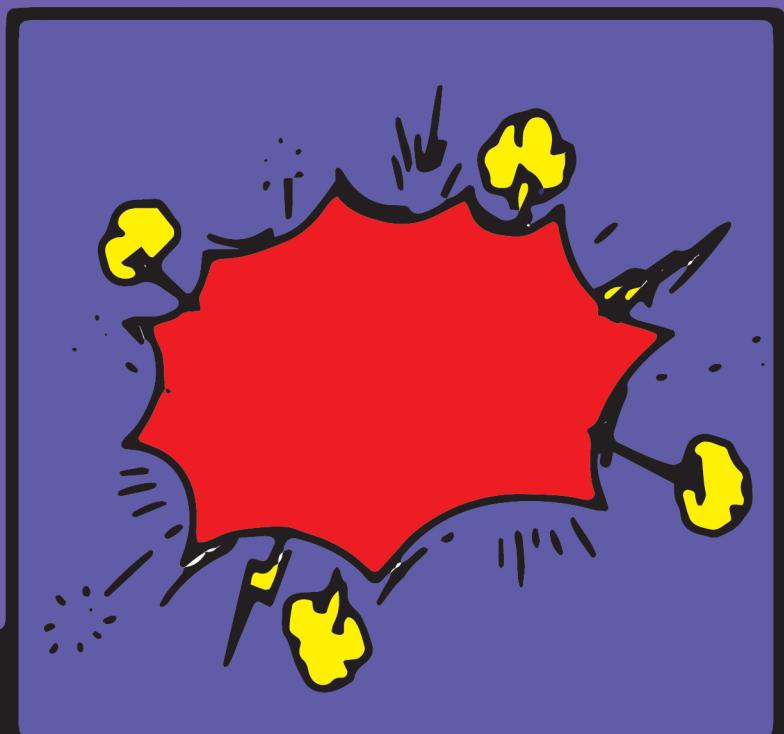
START WHEREVER
YOU FEEL MOST
COMFORTABLE

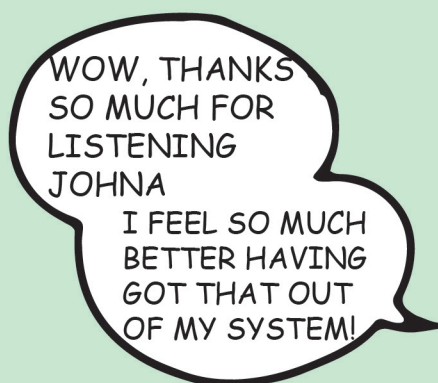
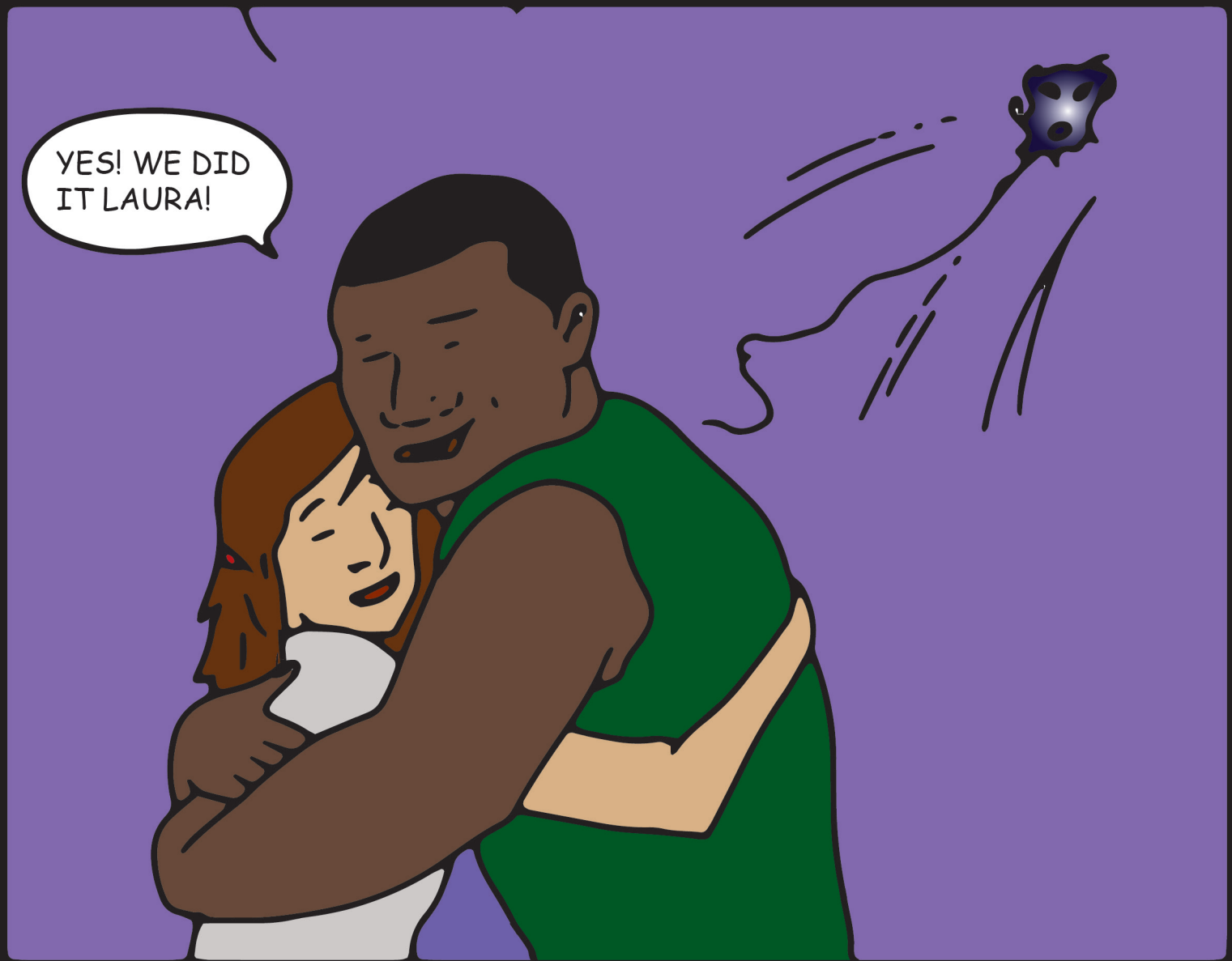
WE CAN WORK
THROUGH THEM
TOGETHER

I THINK WE CAN TAKE IT.
LET'S WORK TOGETHER

IT LOOKS BEASTLY!
NO WONDER IT'S
GIVING YOU SO
MUCH GRIEF!

THAT'S IT OVER THERE!



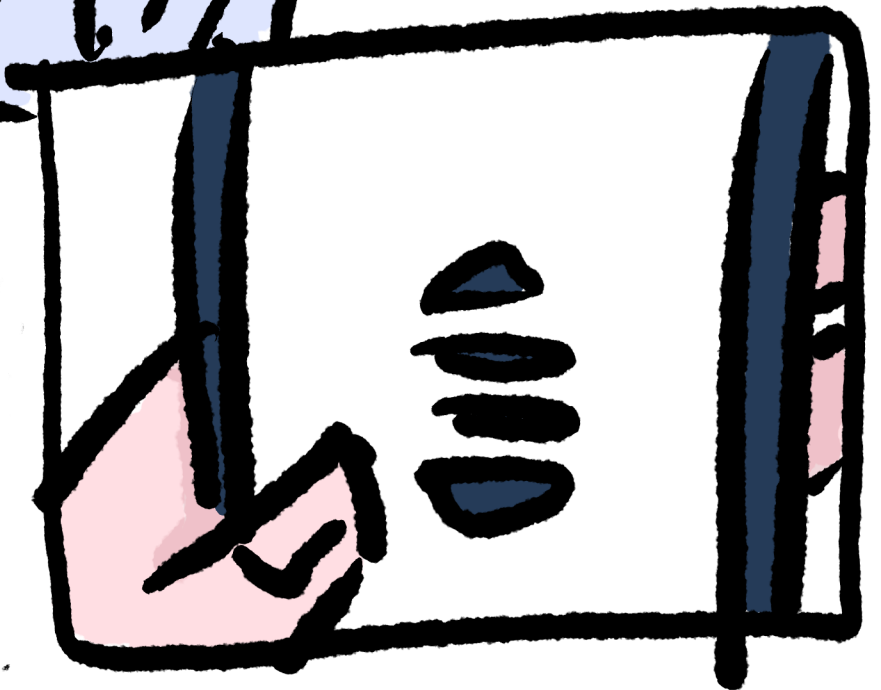






I live in
a sad, quiet
place

It's always
overcast,
it's cold and
windy,
and the sky...



the sky is bright red

there's
a new
call-

boss

~ oh

GET
UP!

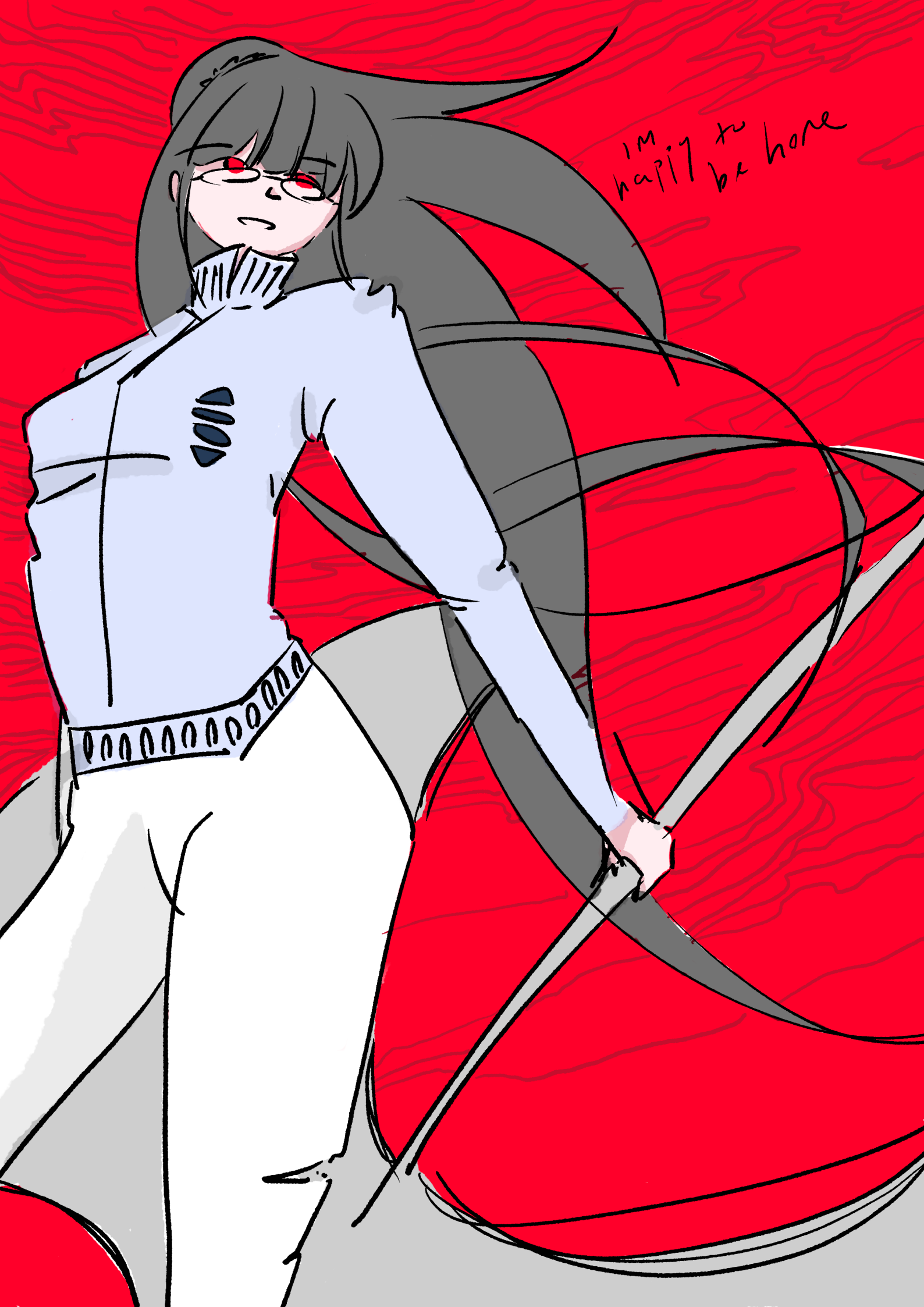
DO YOU RLY
HAVE TO DRAG
THAT THING?

Maybe if we ad
take turns we can
lft it

YEAH. NO. I'M NOT
TOUCHING IT.
EVER

it's not like it hasn't
been washed, right?

...

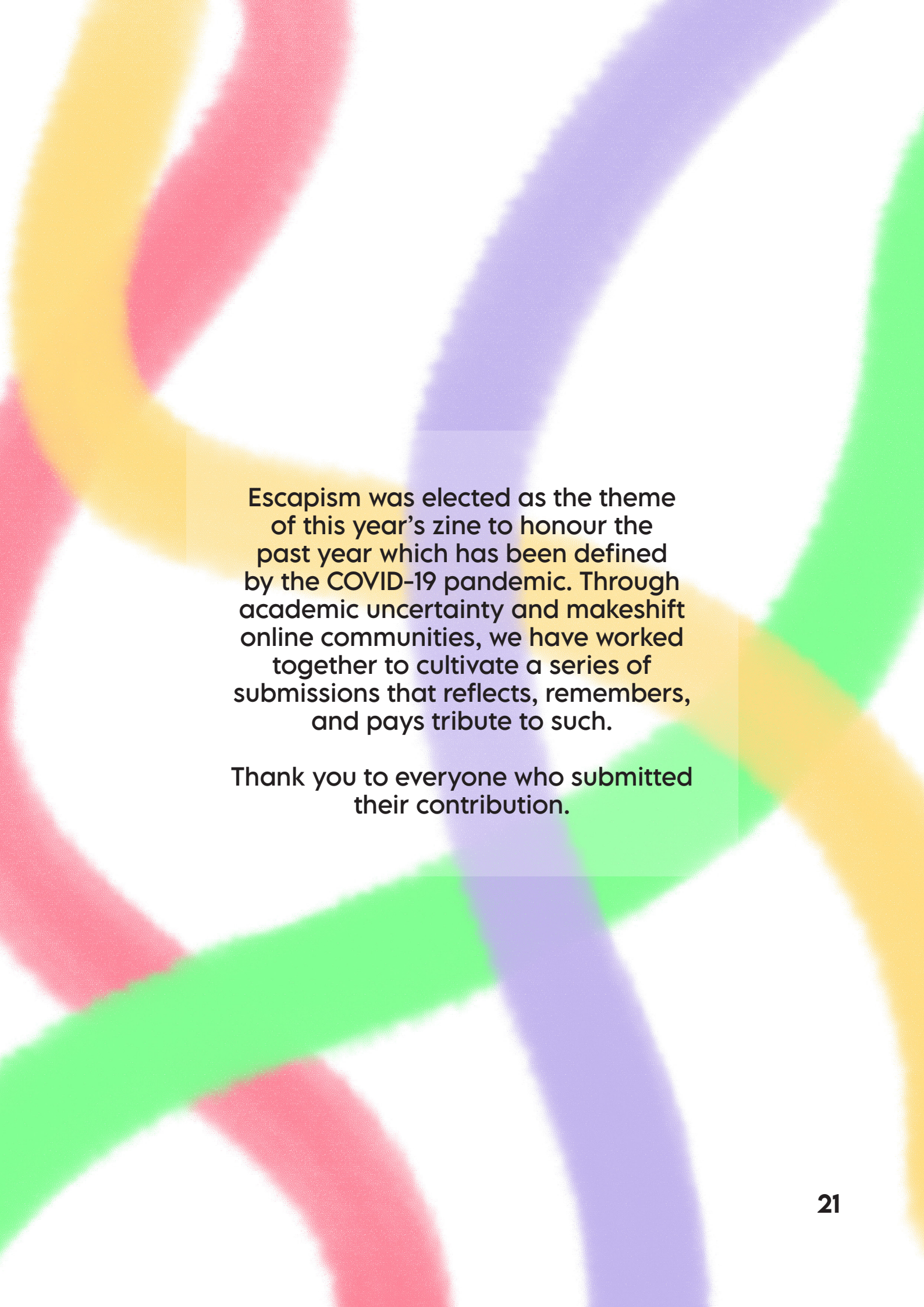


im happy to be home



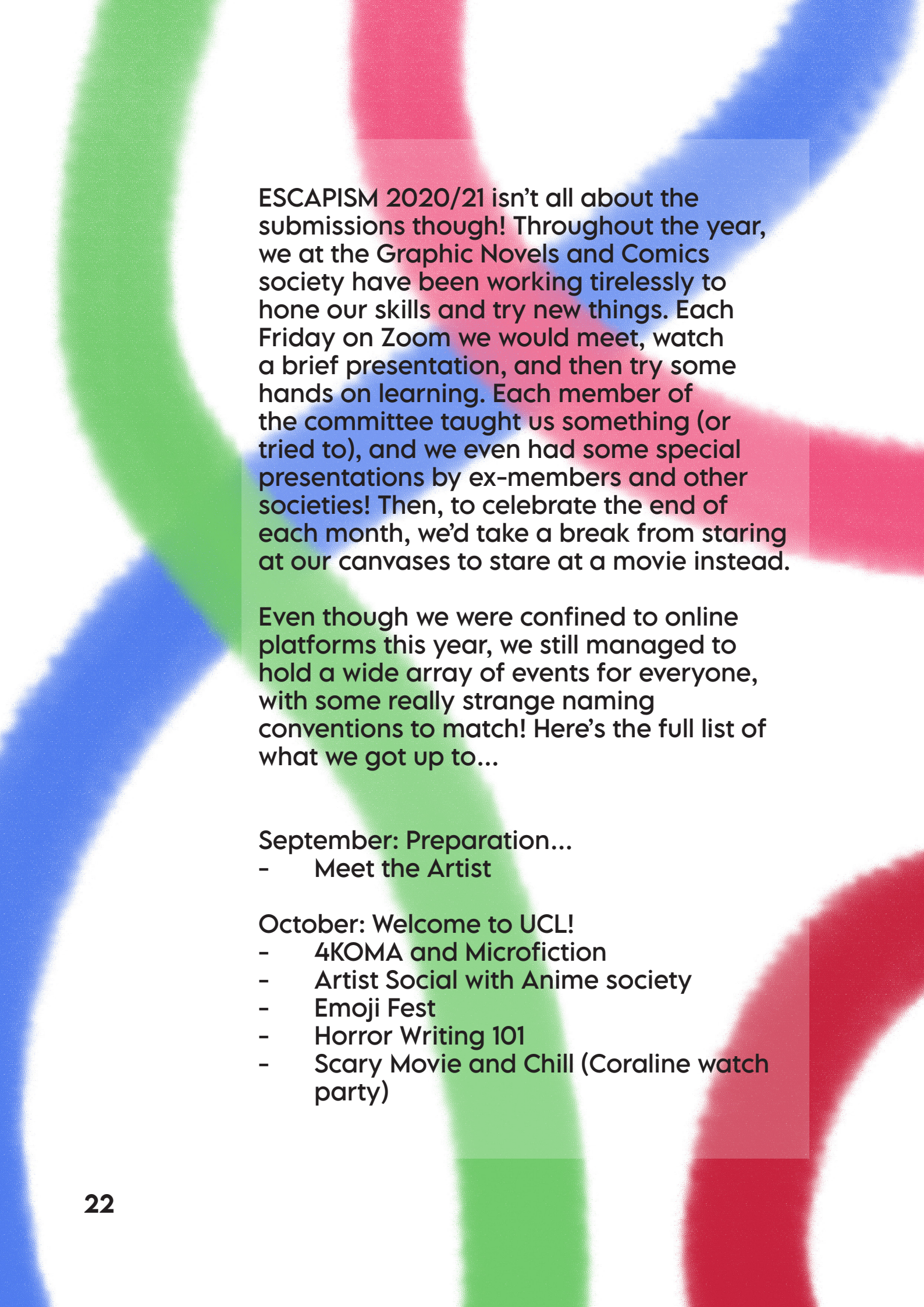
escape!





Escapism was elected as the theme of this year's zine to honour the past year which has been defined by the COVID-19 pandemic. Through academic uncertainty and makeshift online communities, we have worked together to cultivate a series of submissions that reflects, remembers, and pays tribute to such.

Thank you to everyone who submitted their contribution.



ESCAPISM 2020/21 isn't all about the submissions though! Throughout the year, we at the Graphic Novels and Comics society have been working tirelessly to hone our skills and try new things. Each Friday on Zoom we would meet, watch a brief presentation, and then try some hands on learning. Each member of the committee taught us something (or tried to), and we even had some special presentations by ex-members and other societies! Then, to celebrate the end of each month, we'd take a break from staring at our canvases to stare at a movie instead.

Even though we were confined to online platforms this year, we still managed to hold a wide array of events for everyone, with some really strange naming conventions to match! Here's the full list of what we got up to...

September: Preparation...

- Meet the Artist

October: Welcome to UCL!

- 4KOMA and Microfiction
- Artist Social with Anime society
- Emoji Fest
- Horror Writing 101
- Scary Movie and Chill (Coraline watch party)

November: Character Design!

- You've Activated my Trap Card!
- Miniature Worlds
- No, I'm the Greatest! with Pokémon Society
- Break a Leg! with Anatomy Art Society
- Hall of Fame (Megamind watch party)

December: Settings and Worldbuilding!

- More than Meets the Eye
- A Beginners Guide to Playing God
- It's a Virtual Winter Wonderland! (The Polar Express watch party)

January: COLOURS!

- The Power of One
- Of Pokémon and Men with Pokémon Society
- Brightest Apple of the Bunch (Soul watch party)

February: Character Dynamics!

- You've Got a Friend in Me
- Perfect Halves
- Wallaceathon!
- Talking Zines

March

- Zine Workshop 101
- Zine Workshop 102
- Zine Workshop 103
- MOVIE?? (Moana watch party)

MY NAME IS **SOPHIE**

I'M STUDYING

HISTORY OF ART
(2ND YEAR)

I LIKE

- CURSED IMAGES
- FASHION
- GAMING
- CHARACTER DESIGN
- FANCY HATS
- INTERNET DRAMA
- DISCOVERING WEIRD MUSIC GENRES

I PREFER



SOPHIE PIETRZYKOWSKA
IG@ SADBOINIETZSCHE

GABIJA JURKEVICIUTE
IG/TWITTER/AS@ THUATRRAS

MY NAME IS **GABIJA**
(the j is silent)

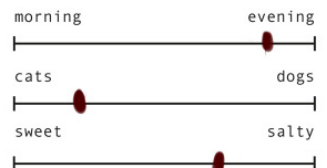
I'M STUDYING

biochemistry
(2nd year)

I LIKE

- making vaguely **emo** playlists for my friends
- **books**
- **sci-fi**
- **video games** (pathologic, dishonored)
- **music shows**
- **ANIMALS**

I PREFER



(not that red in c)

September

LUCAS DUKE

MY NAME IS **LUCAS**

And it's very nice to meet you

I'M STUDYING

PGCE Physics

I LOVE

Football **My Cats**
STAR WARS
Fudge **Gaming**

I PREFER



Name's

Wendy

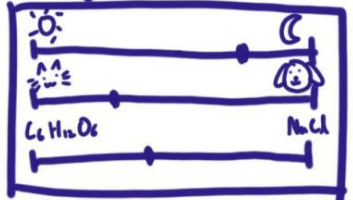
Studying

BSc Geography

Likes

Anime **Manga** **Jpop** **BOTW**

Prefer



WENDY LEUNG



DHEV RAJ TAMANG
IG@BABY.EH



LOUISA NORTON



KATIE CHAM



HANS HU



MEI ANN SIM



INÉS BUETOW

October

JENNY
IG@QQWDPG

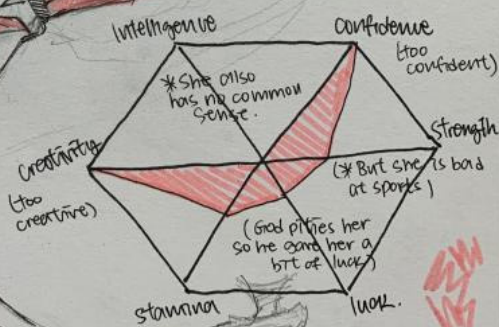


I am a student and I was crushed. parents named her in hopes of her being clever

Name = Wisdom
Age = 15
Weapon = Battle-axe
(doesn't know how to use)

A little about me...

- Fave season = Summer
- Hates = the heat.
- Loves = summer holiday
- IQ = 100 (barely)
- Favourite Subject = Math!
- Tried to conjure snowy weather in summer but ended up being crushed by a snow-globe. We do not know whether she lives.



KATIE CHAM

JENNY
IG@QQWDPG



RUOHAN LIU
IG@HADESAUR

HANS HU

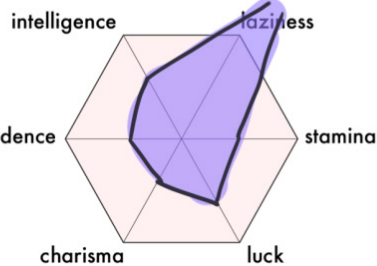


UCL Graphic Novels and Comics Society x UCL Pokémon Society

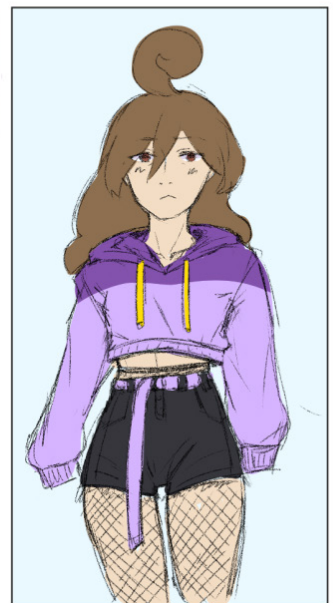
DESIGN A TRAINER

Using this blank sheet, design your own Pokémon trainer. Give them a name, organise their team, and figure out how they look!

DEFAULT TEAM



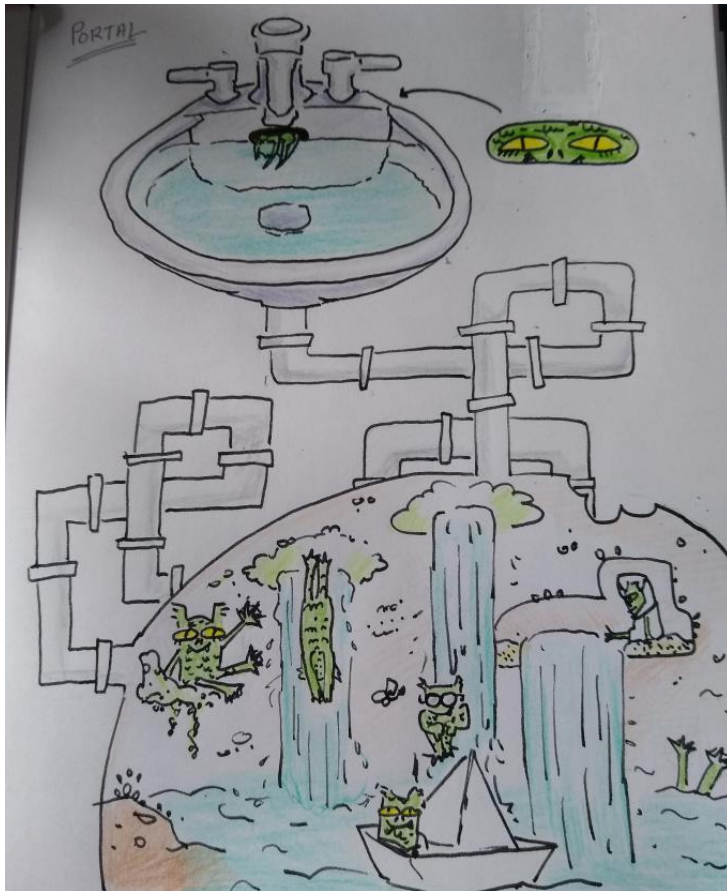
STARTER



November

December

INÉS BUETOW



LOUISA NORTON



HANS HU

ARLO CHESSBURY
IG@ARLO_CHESSBURY

KATIE CHAM



January

QIAO FEI CHIA



RUOHAN LIU
IG@HADESAUR

HANS HU



February



NICOLE ZHAO
IG@EMETITUR.ART

QIAO FEI CHIA



LOUISA NORTON

I'd like to finish off ESCAPISM 2020/21 with a final thank you. I've been the president of this society for two years now and it continues to bring me nothing but happiness. Every workshop hosted, discussion group held, misspelt newsletter sent, and evening spent staring at myself on Zoom has all been worth it. Setting aside two hours every Friday to spend time doing what I love surrounded by likeminded people has been nothing short of a pleasure, and no one has ceased to be amazed with their enthusiasm to get involved.

It's worth celebrating the many societies that we were able to collaborate with this year. Anime Society, Pokémon Society, and Anatomy Art Society have all been wonderful to work with, bringing excitement, curiosity, and a lot of new faces into the mix. We've been able to reach outwards in different workshops that wouldn't have been possible without them, from designing Pokémon trainers to studying the ins and outs of joint movement!

I'd also like to extend one final thank you to you - reader, contributor, LinkedIn hiring manager, whoever - for reading ESCAPISM 20/21. This is a labour of hard work, friendship, and a lot of love. Whether this zine is sitting in a PDF online, or it's been printed and you're holding a paper copy, I'm thankful that you've read through and seen the fantastic contributions made by everyone in our little society. I hope you can see the passion that every artist has put into their work, how proud I am of everyone who is and isn't showcased here, and how, despite an immensely difficult year for all of us, we were able to put together such a colourful, exciting piece.

It's onwards and upwards to a new year of the Graphic Novels and Comics society, and I can't wait to see what comes next!

All my love,
Louisa Norton
President 2019 - 2021

GNCs in October
welcome to
UCL edition 

GNCs in November
character design
edition 

(GNCs) in December
settings and worldbuilding
edition 

GNCs in January
colours edition 

GNCs in February
character dynamics
edition 
FRI, 5 YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN ME



in March
zine edition



FRI, 5

ZINE WORKSHOP 101



Break
= a leg =

LETS STUDY THE BASICS OF
THE HUMAN BODY AND THEN
DISTORT IT.

23.11.20 // 18:00-19:30

GRAPHIC
NOVEL &
COMICS
SOCIETY
UCL

~
HORROR
WRITING
101 ~





GNCS x ANISOC

a
17:00 BST
14 OCT
in ANISOC
DISCORD

LET'S DRAW
TOGETHER!



cover/back illustration by louisa norton
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gncs.neocities.org

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