

KIMERA

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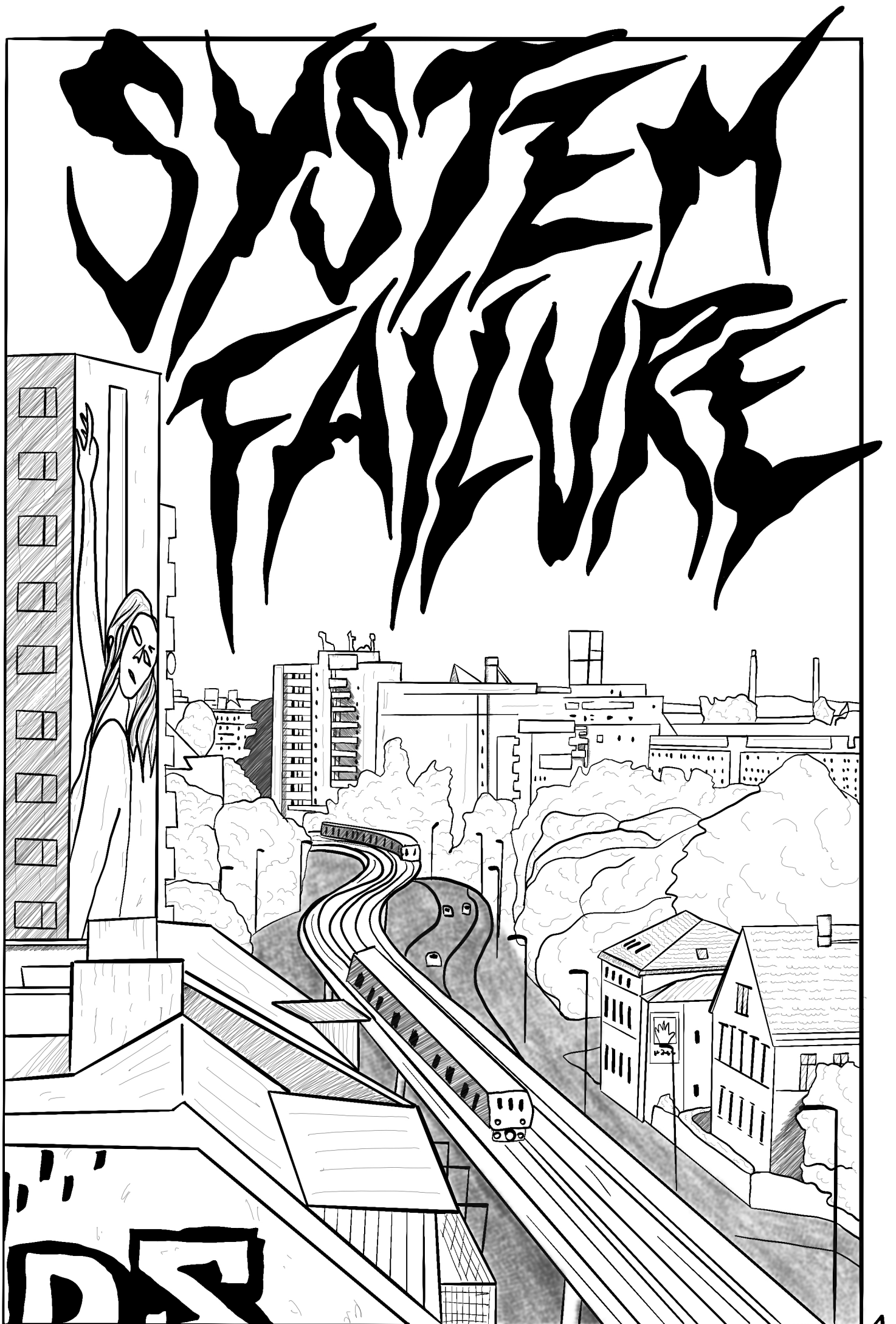


DRAWN AND WRITTEN
BY KIMERA

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"WE GROW UP, AND THE
DREAMS OF CHILDHOOD
BEGIN TO LOOK LIKE
AMBITIONS, AND AMBITIONS
BEGIN TO FEEL LIKE SHACKLES"



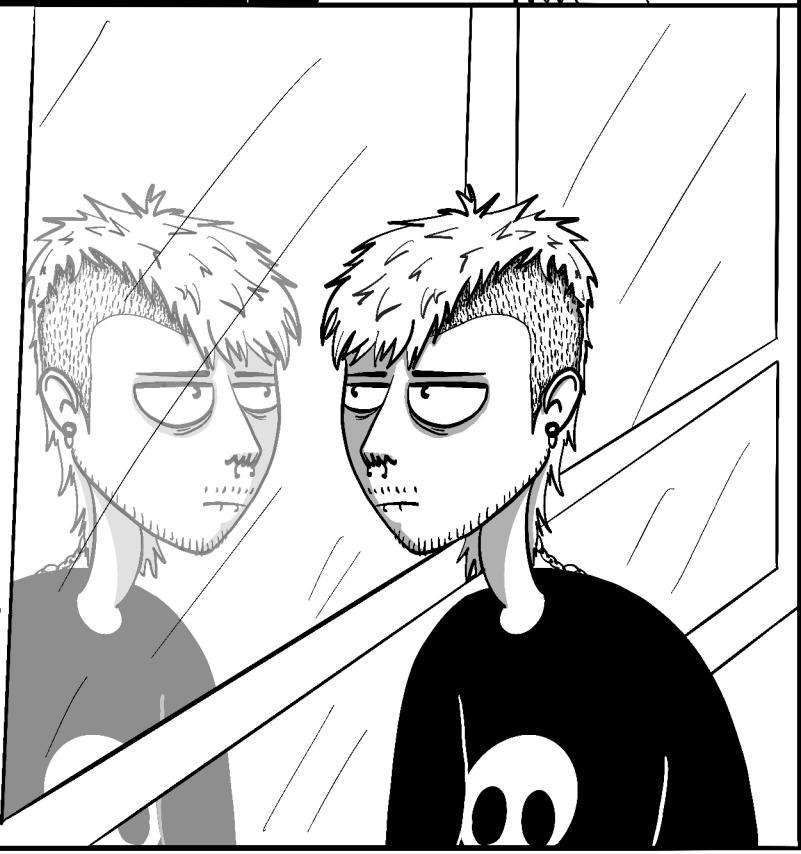
WHO THE HELL AM I?



HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO GET TO YOUR LATE 20s



AND STILL NOT HAVE FOUND YOUR PLACE IN THE WORLD?



IT WASN'T
ALWAYS
LIKE THIS

WHEN I WAS
A KID I WAS
AN OVERACHIEVER

I HAD VERY
SPECIFIC
PLANS FOR
MY LIFE

BUT UNDERNEATH
IT ALL LAY
MY PROBLEMS

IT WAS A
VERY FRAGILE
CONSTRUCTION

AND IT WAS
BOUND TO
FALL,
EVENTUALLY



I DIDN'T WANT
TO CONFORM TO
THE SYSTEM

BUT I STILL WANTED
TO EXCEL IN IT

SO IT WAS CLEAR THAT
I REFUSED TO TAKE
PART IN IT NOT
BECAUSE I COULDN'T
BUT BECAUSE I
DIDN'T WANT TO

PARTLY OUT
OF SPITE



PARTLY BECAUSE
I WANTED
EVERYTHING

NEEDLESS
TO SAY,
IT WAS
A TRAP

IT'S A REALLY HARD LIFESTYLE TO SUSTAIN LONG-TERM



NO CLUE HOW I MANAGED TO KEEP IT UP FOR SO LONG

CAFFEINE AND SELF-HATE, I GUESS



EVENTUALLY,
I CRACKED

THE PRECARIOUS
HOUSE OF CARDS
I HAD BUILT
SUDDENLY
COLLAPSED

AND I
FELL



I GOT SO PHYSICALLY
AND MENTALLY ILL
THAT I WAS UNABLE
TO DO ANYTHING

FINANCIALLY
AND
EMOTIONALLY
UNSTABLE

IN A HELLISH
SOCIO-POLITICAL
LANDSCAPE,
WITH NO ENERGY
TO TAKE ACTION
AGAINST IT

SO, IN MY
MID-20s I
FOUND MYSELF
COMPLETELY
BURN-OUT

RIDDLED WITH
CHRONIC
PSYCHOSOMATIC
SYMPTOMS

AND NO
PERSPECTIVE
IN LIFE



LOOKING BACK I REALISED HOW MUCH TIME I HAVE WASTED STRESSING OUT ABOUT IRRELEVANT THINGS



I THOUGHT I WAS DIFFERENT FROM MOST OF MY PEERS

AND HAD A MORE CRITICAL VIEW OF LIFE



BUT INSTEAD I WAS STILL A VICTIM OF A CAPITALIST, WORKAHOLIC, SELF-OPTIMISING IDEOLOGY

THE WORLD IS ENDING!
DO SOMETHING!

YOU'RE LAZY
AND SPOILED
GET A JOB!

DEVELOP
YOUR
TALENTS
NOW
BEFORE
IT'S
TOO
LATE

DO MORE!

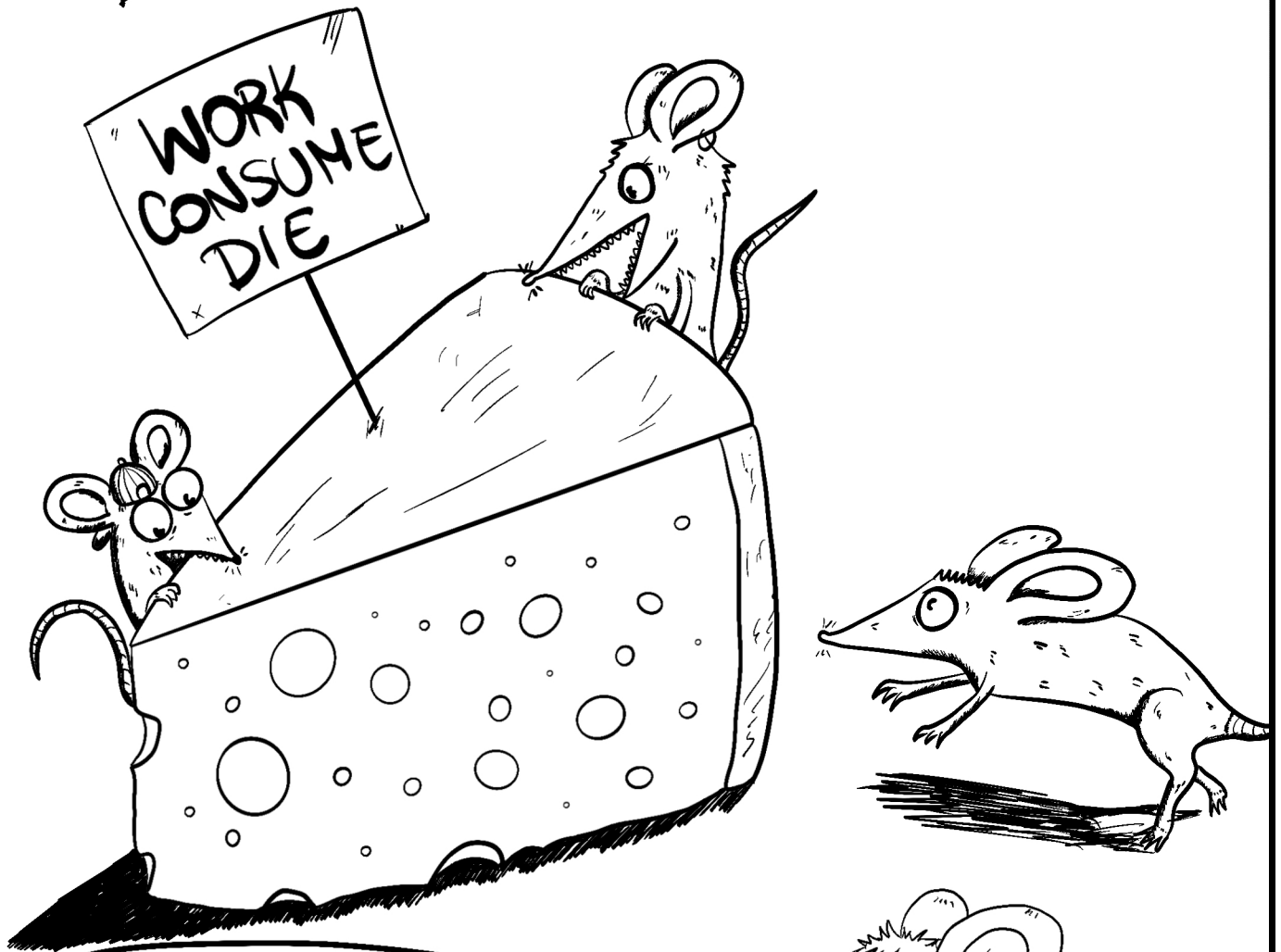
YOU MUST
GET A
DEGREE!

SHOW THEM
YOU'RE SMART
ENOUGH



I WAS SO AFRAID OF FAILURE THAT I BROKE DOWN TRYING TO ADHERE TO IMPOSSIBLE STANDARDS THAT I DIDN'T EVEN SET MYSELF

I WAS IN THE
RAT RACE
THIS WHOLE TIME
AND DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE



WHY SHOULD I STRUGGLE
LIKE THAT? EVEN IF YOU
WIN THE RAT RACE YOU'RE
STILL A GODDAM RAT*



AND NOW, ALL MY
CERTAINTIES
HAVE CRUMBLLED

ALL MY
PLANS
HAVE FAILED

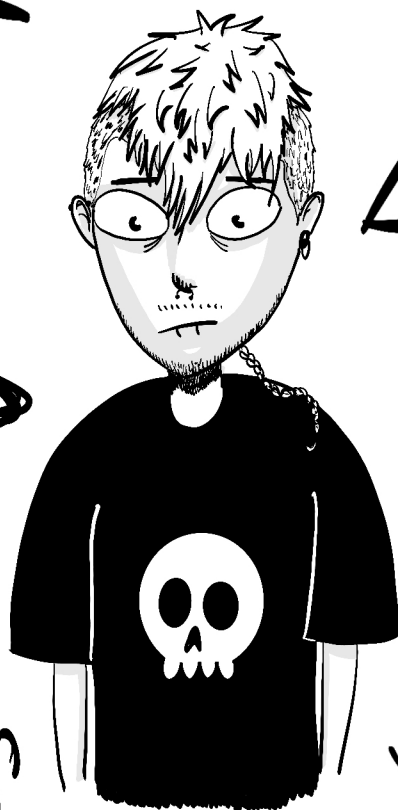
FINALLY, I'M
OFFICIALLY A
BURNOUT WITHOUT
A DIRECTION
IN LIFE

IDLER
QUITTER

DEADBEAT
DROPOUT

LAZYBONES

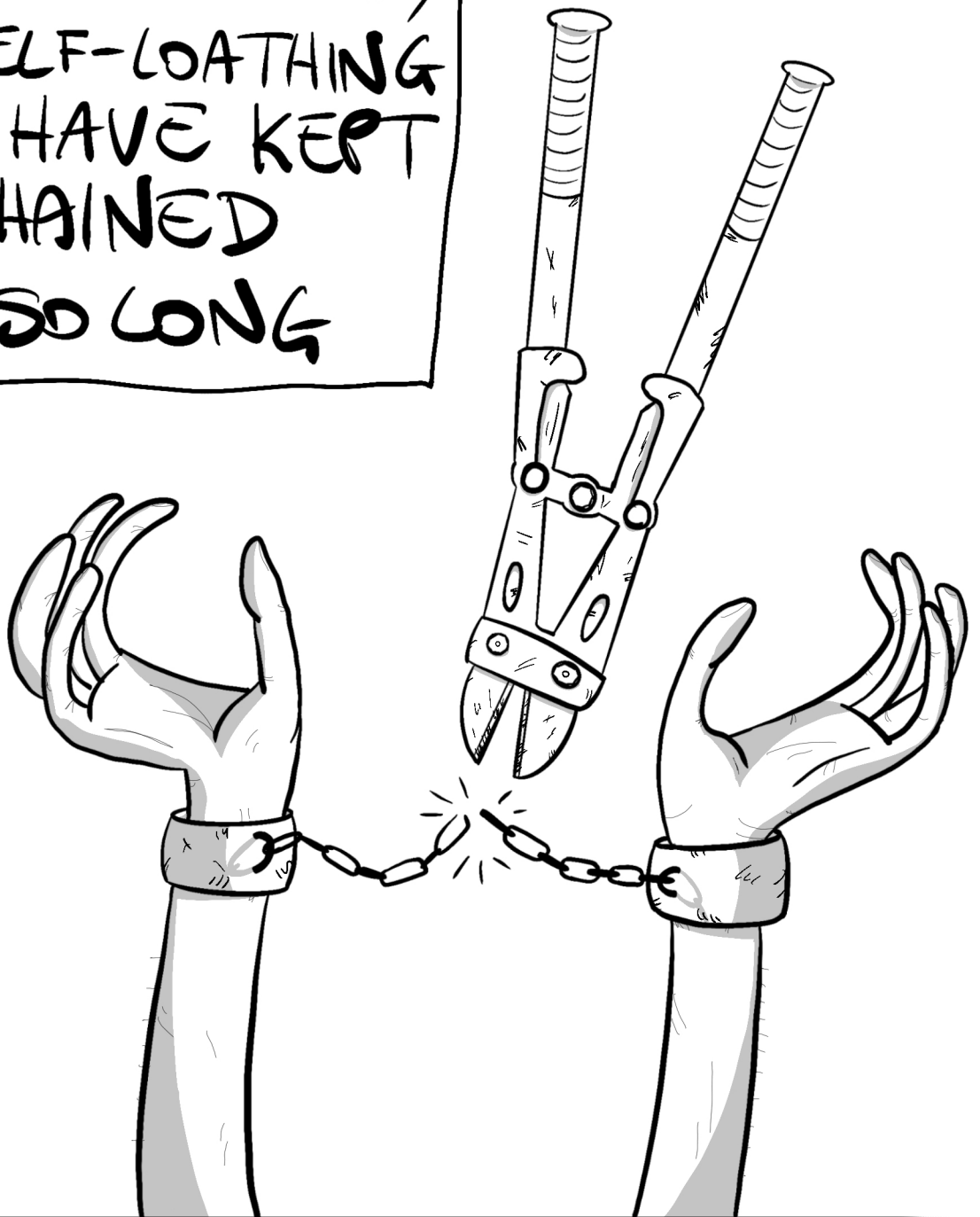
SCROUNGER
SLACKER



BUT YOU KNOW WHAT?

SOMEHOW I'VE
NEVER FELT
MORE FREE

IT'S LIKE I'VE
LOST THE SHACKLES
OF AMBITION,
COMPETITIVENESS,
AND SELF-LOATHING
THAT HAVE KEPT
ME CHAINED
FOR SO LONG

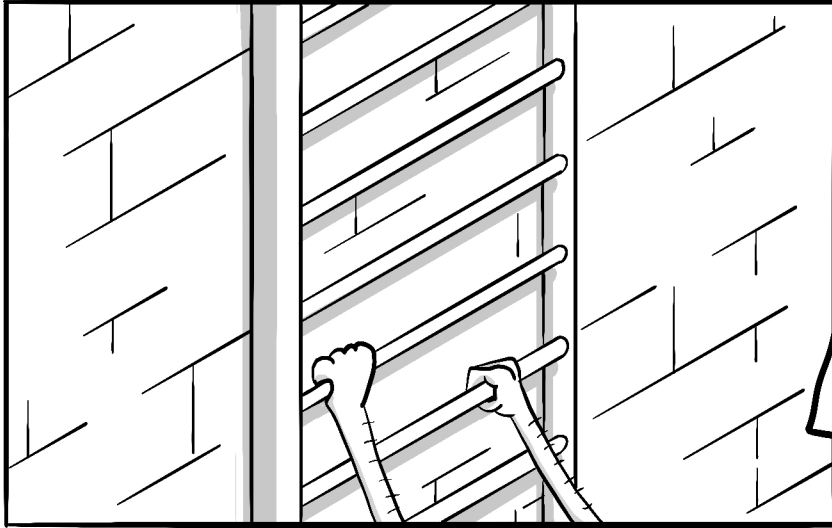


MAYBE IT'S TRUE

THAT FREEDOM LIVES
IN THE CREVICES BETWEEN
RESPONSIBILITIES & AMBITION



IN THE MARGINS
UNRULED BY
THE PRESSURE TO
BE PRODUCTIVE
AND THE COMPULSION
TO PERFORM



THOSE
EMPTY
SPACES

WHERE
IMAGINATION
CAN
FLUORISH
AND WE'RE
ABLE TO
ENVISION
SOMETHING
DIFFERENT





THERE IS A WORLD OF POSSIBILITIES
OUTSIDE OF THIS
CAPITALIST HELLHOLE

AND I CAN'T WAIT
TO EXPLORE IT

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'VE REACHED ADULTHOOD AND STILL DON'T HAVE YOUR SHIT TOGETHER? WHEN YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE A "PRODUCTIVE MEMBER OF SOCIETY" BUT STILL STRUGGLE TO GET THROUGH THE DAY?

WHAT IF YOU'VE WORN YOURSELF OUT TRYING TO KEEP PACE WITH A SYSTEM YOU WERE NEVER MEANT TO SUCCEED IN?

WHAT IF THERE WAS MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?

FOR FEEDBACK, PRAISE, COLLABORATIONS, DEATH THREATS, AND THE LIKE YOU CAN REACH ME AT:

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