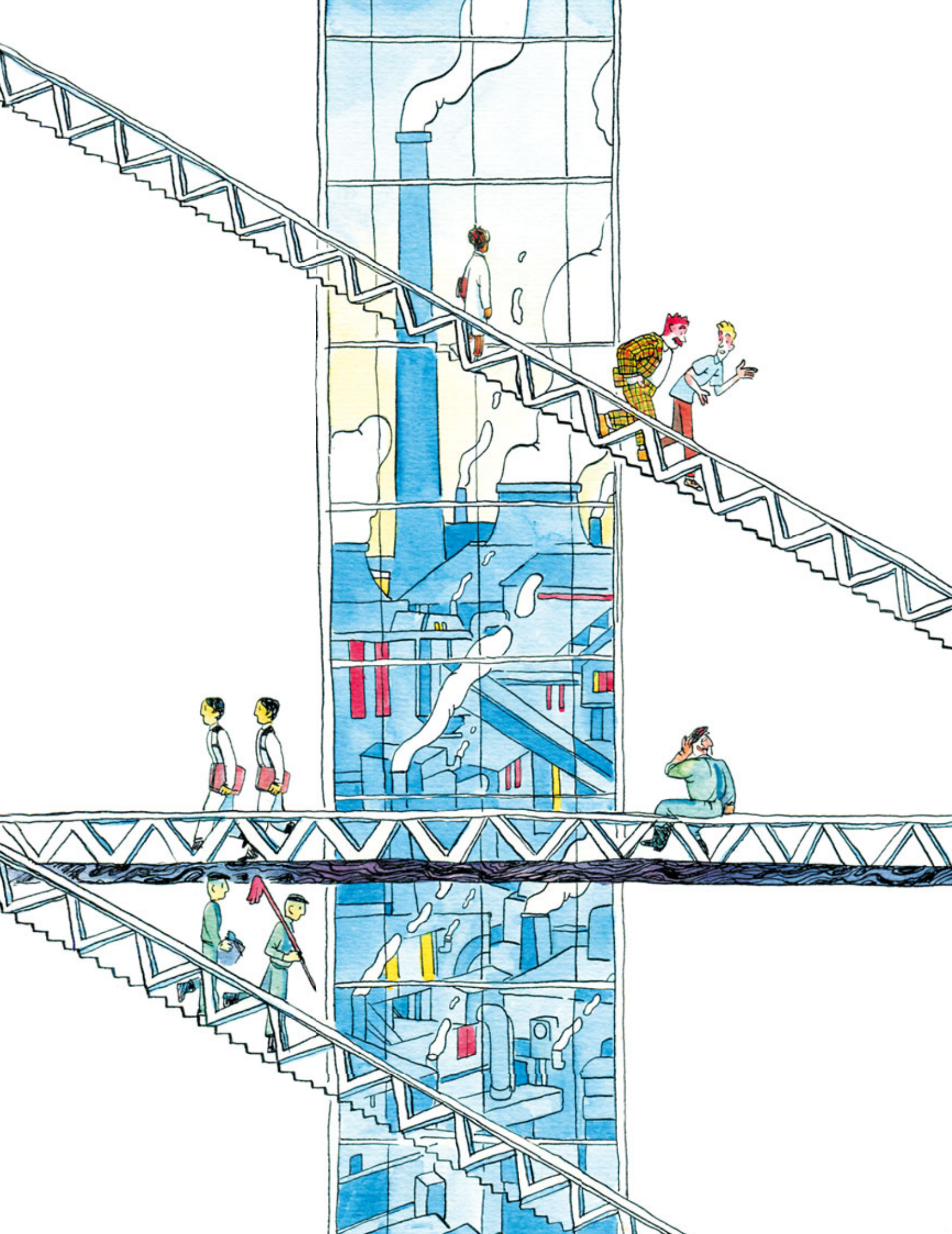


# RUR

KATEŘINA ČUPOVÁ

KAREL ČAPEK



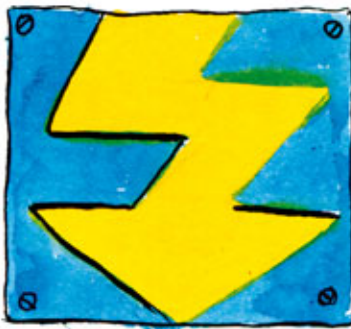
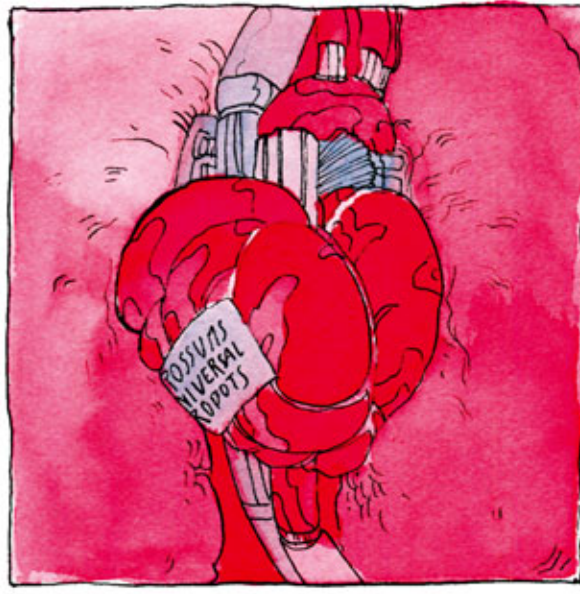




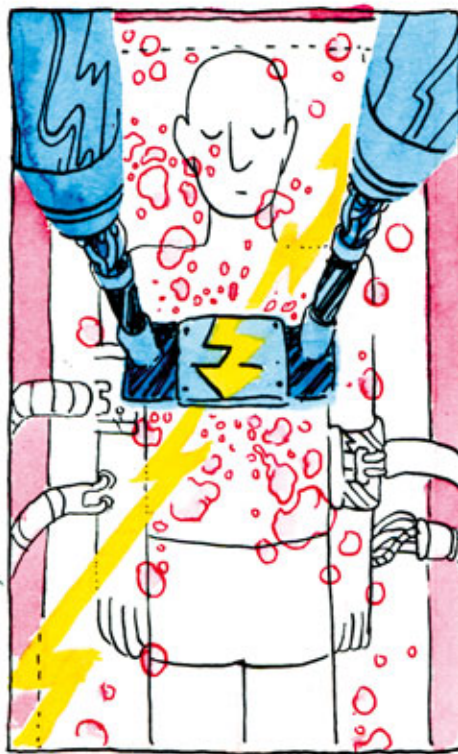
# PROLOGUE



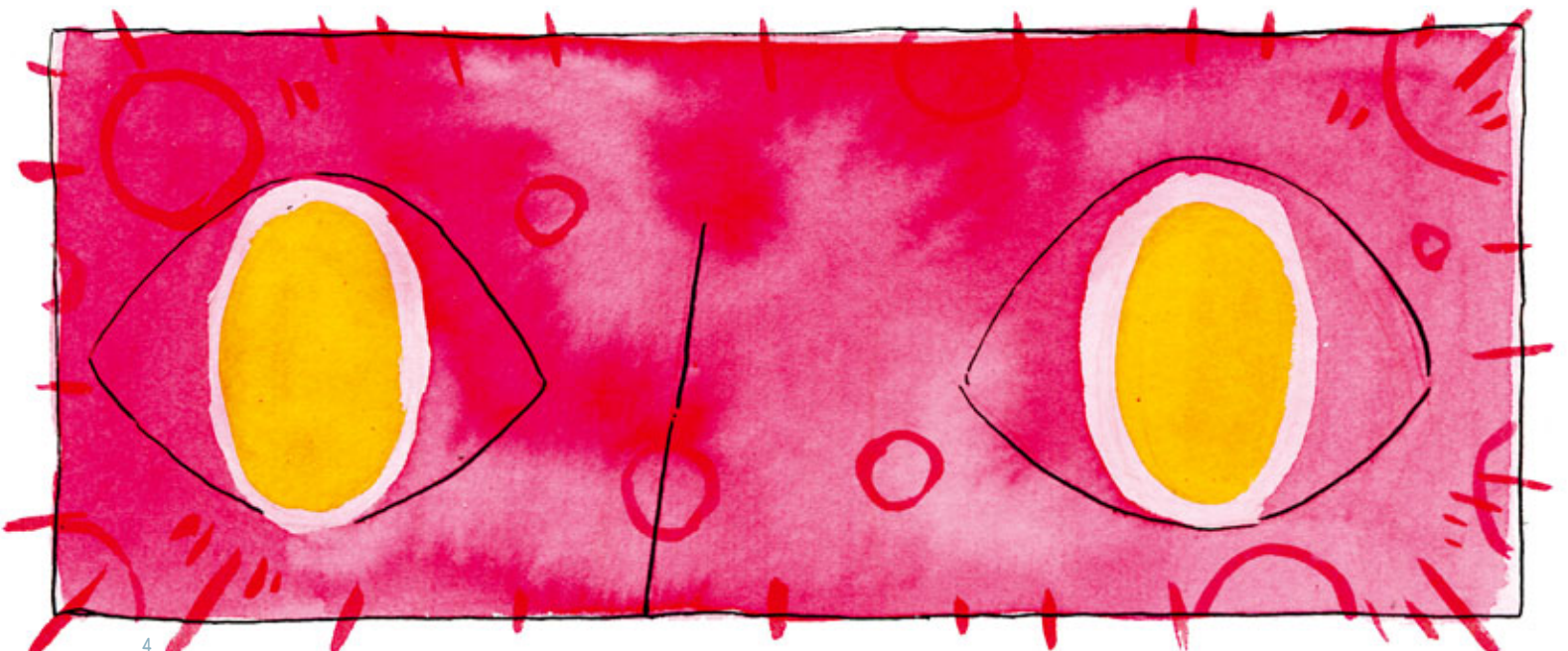




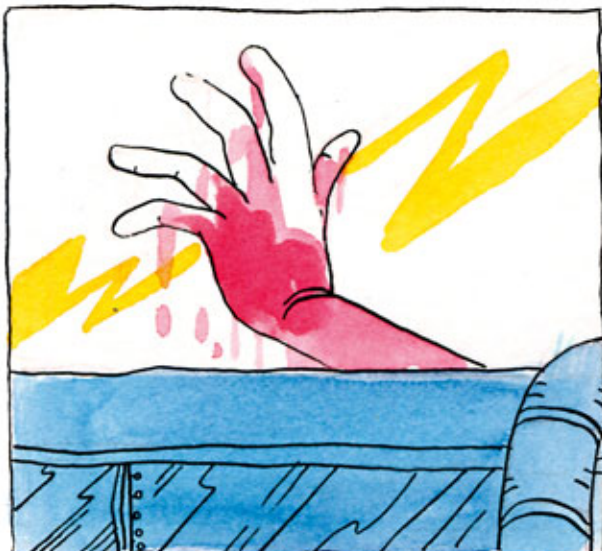
**BZZT**



**THUMP!**











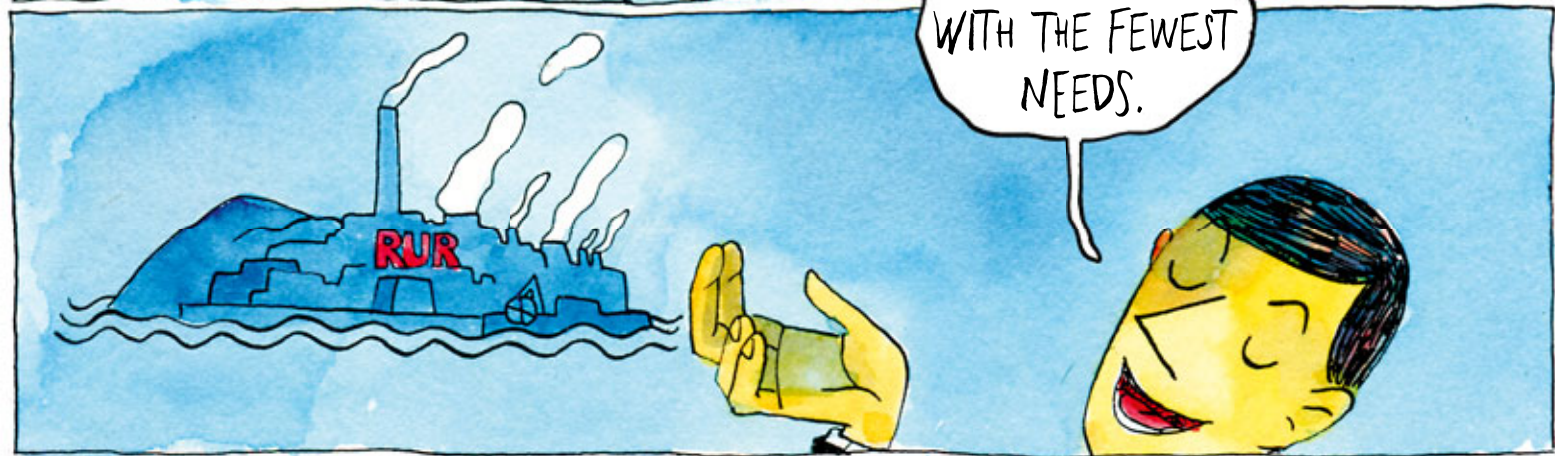
WHAT IS THE  
BEST QUALITY  
IN A WORKER?

DEDICATION?  
HONESTY?



NO! THE BEST WORKER  
IS THE CHEAPEST.

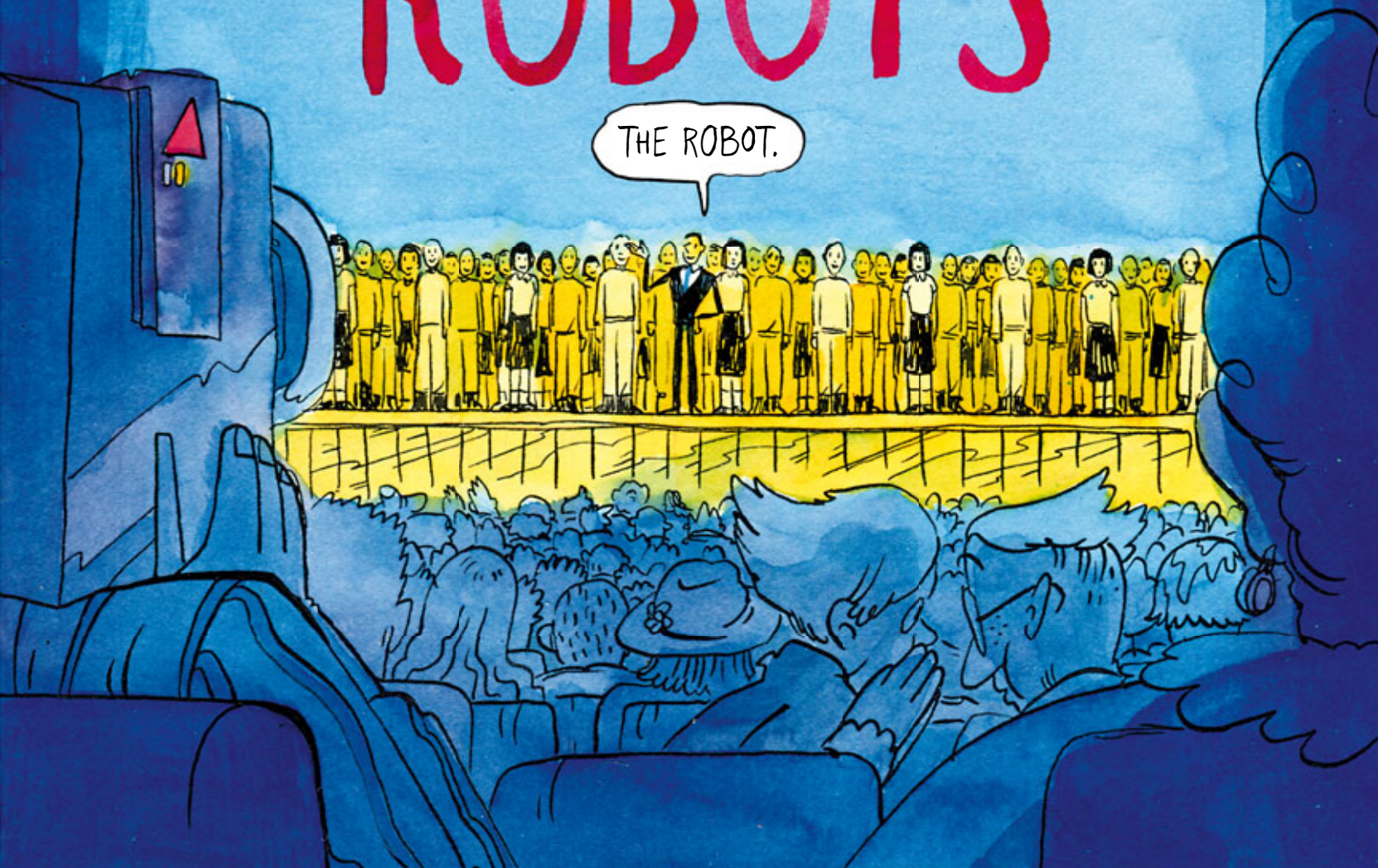
THE ONE  
WITH THE FEWEST  
NEEDS.





# ROSSUM'S UNIVERSAL ROBOTS

THE ROBOT.





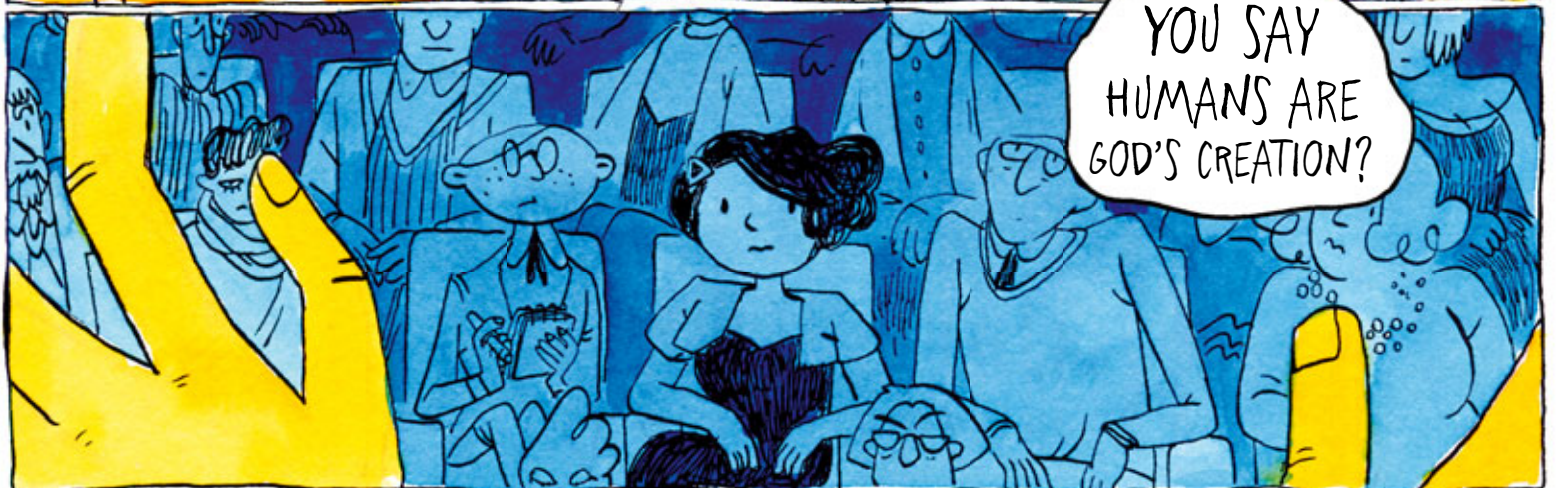


ROBOTS  
AREN'T PEOPLE.  
MECHANICALLY,  
THEY ARE  
SUPERIOR.

ANYTHING  
NOT USED FOR  
WORK WE GOT  
RID OF.



THE CREATION  
OF THE ENGINEER  
IS MORE REFINED THAN  
THE CREATION OF NATURE.



YOU SAY  
HUMANS ARE  
GOD'S CREATION?



ALL THE  
WORSE!

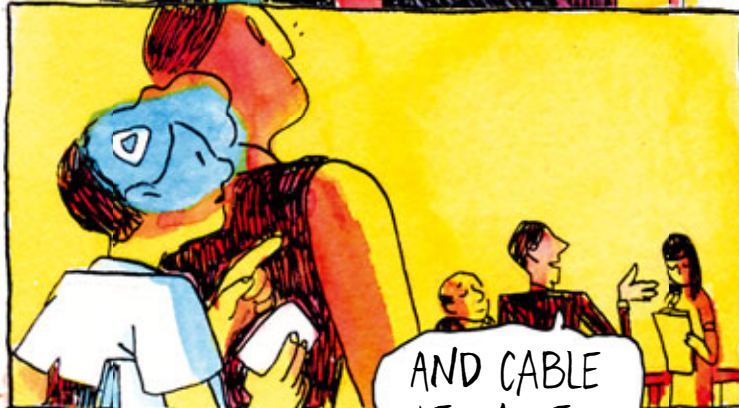
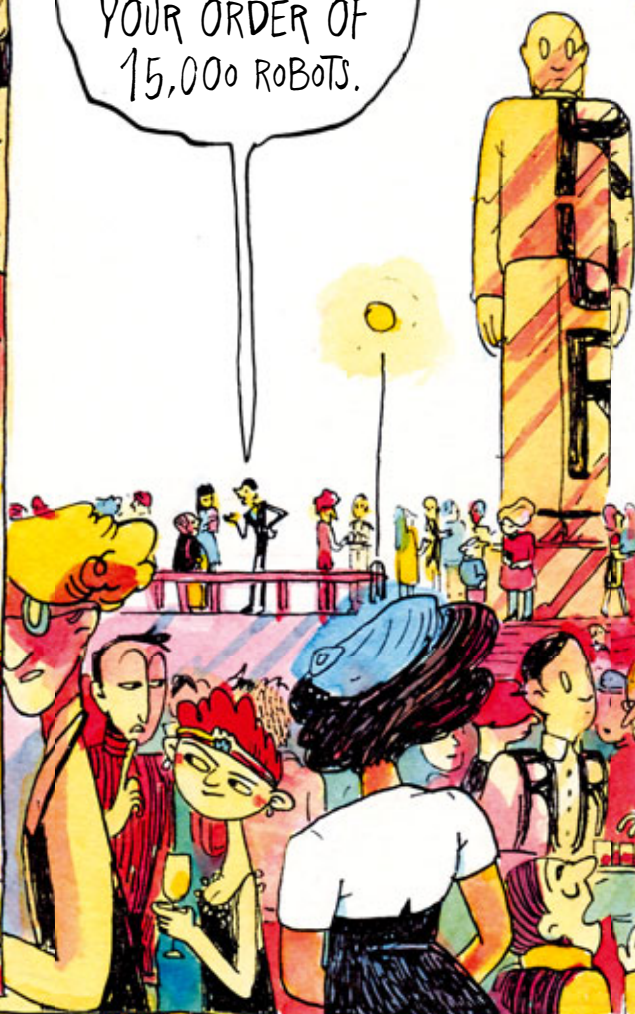
GOD HADN'T  
THE SLIGHTEST  
NOTION OF MODERN  
TECHNOLOGY.







MEMO:  
HAMBURG, WE  
HEREBY CONFIRM  
YOUR ORDER OF  
15,000 ROBOTS.



AND CABLE  
LE HAVRE—



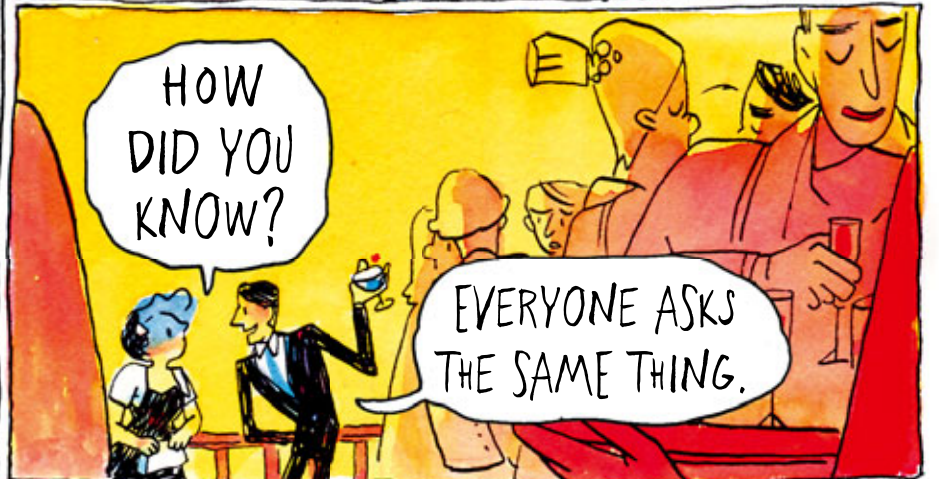
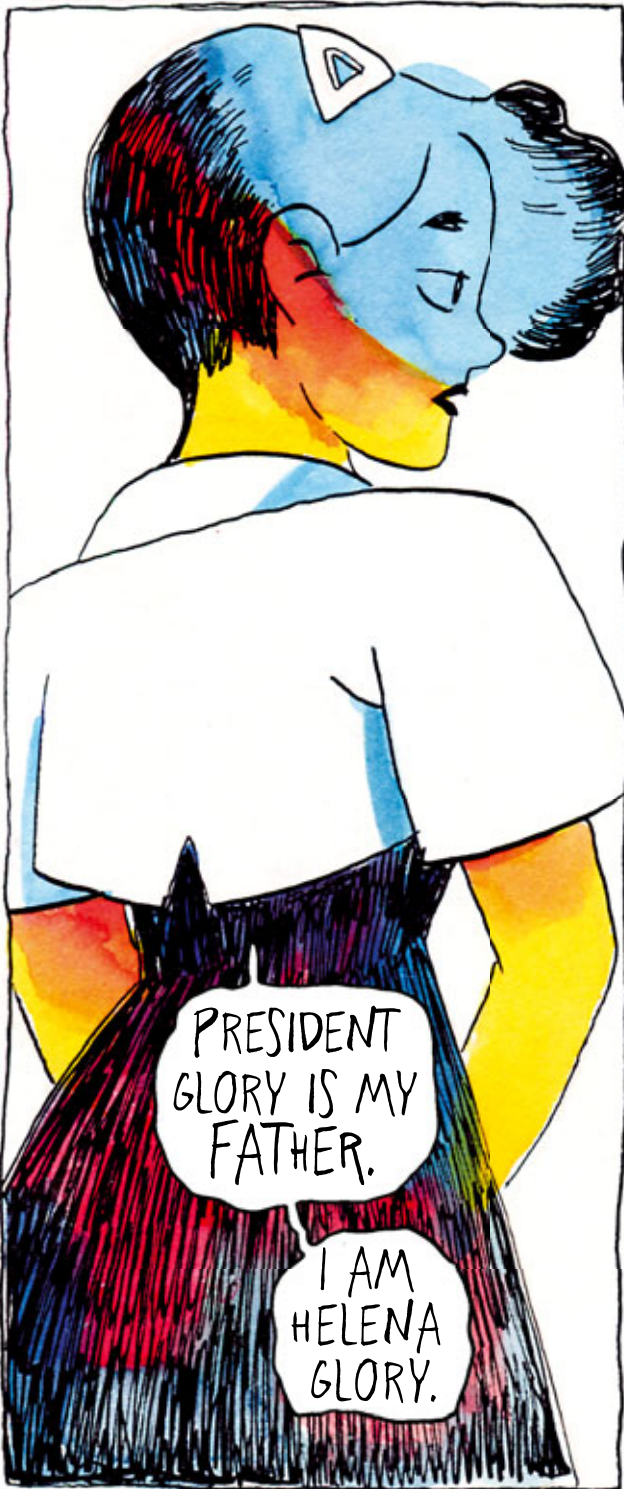
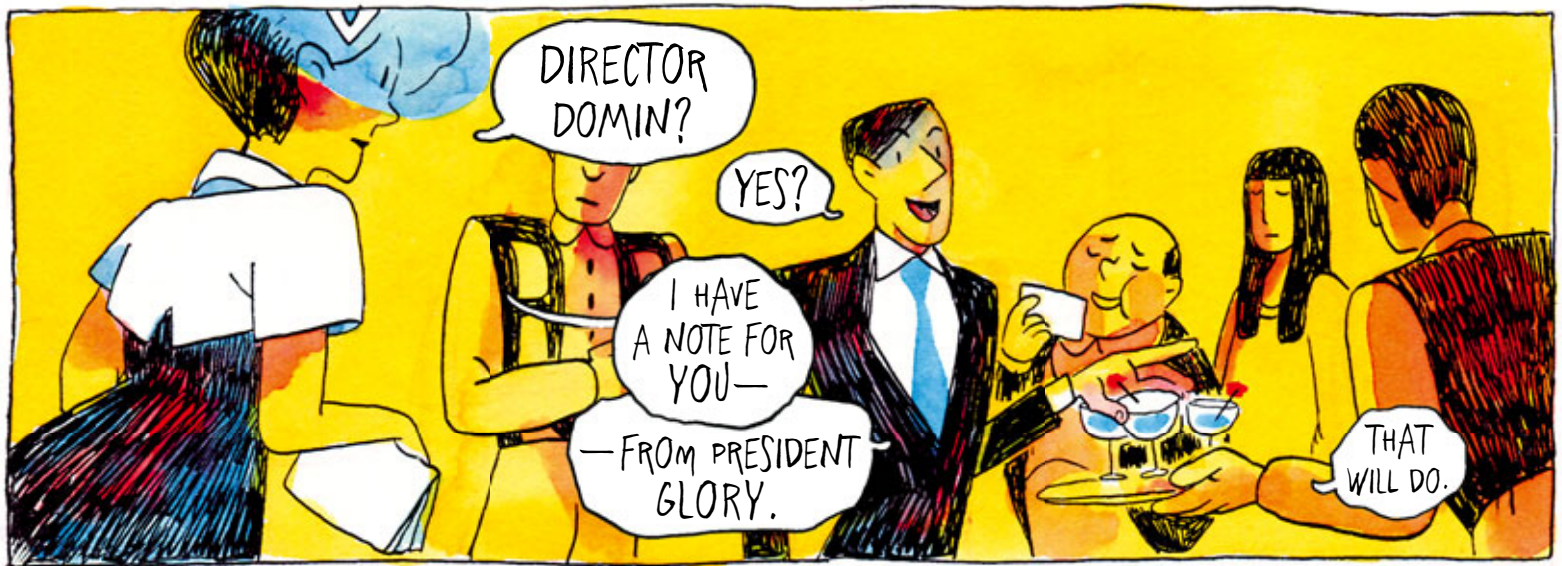
EH-HEM.



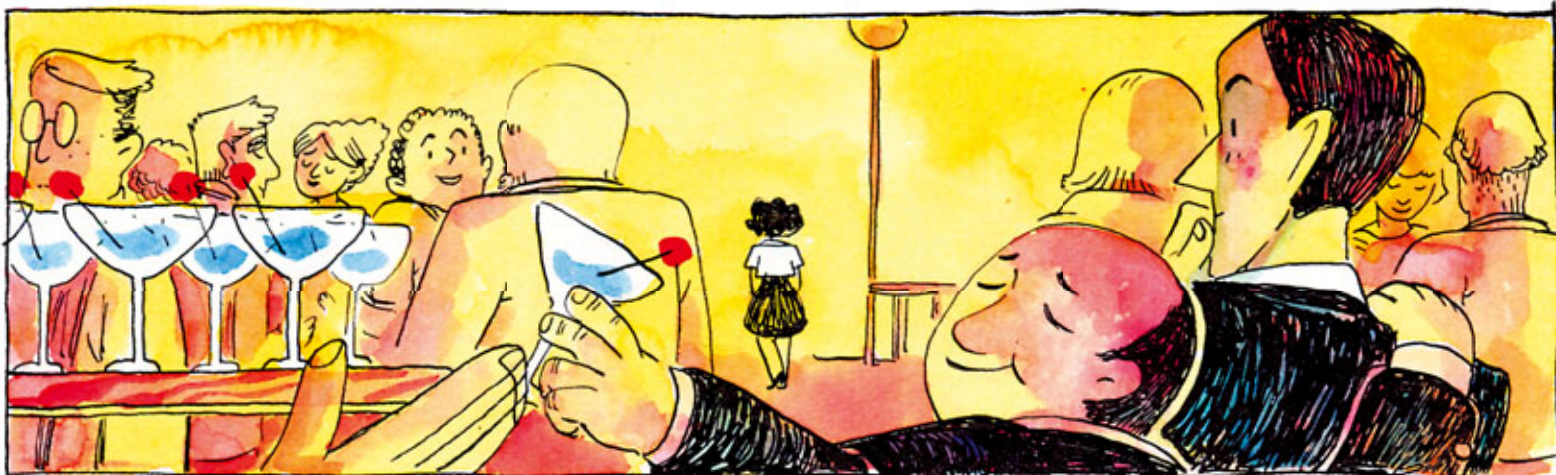
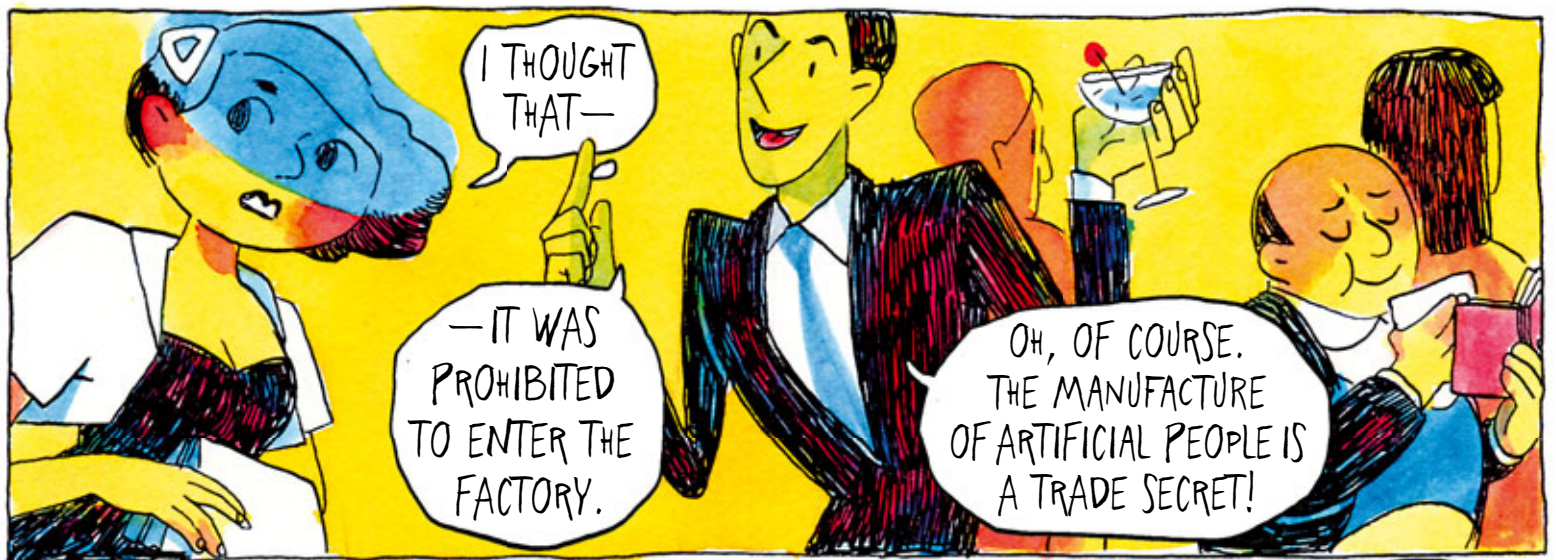
SIR,  
A LADY—

PRESIDENT GLORY!  
BY ALL MEANS.





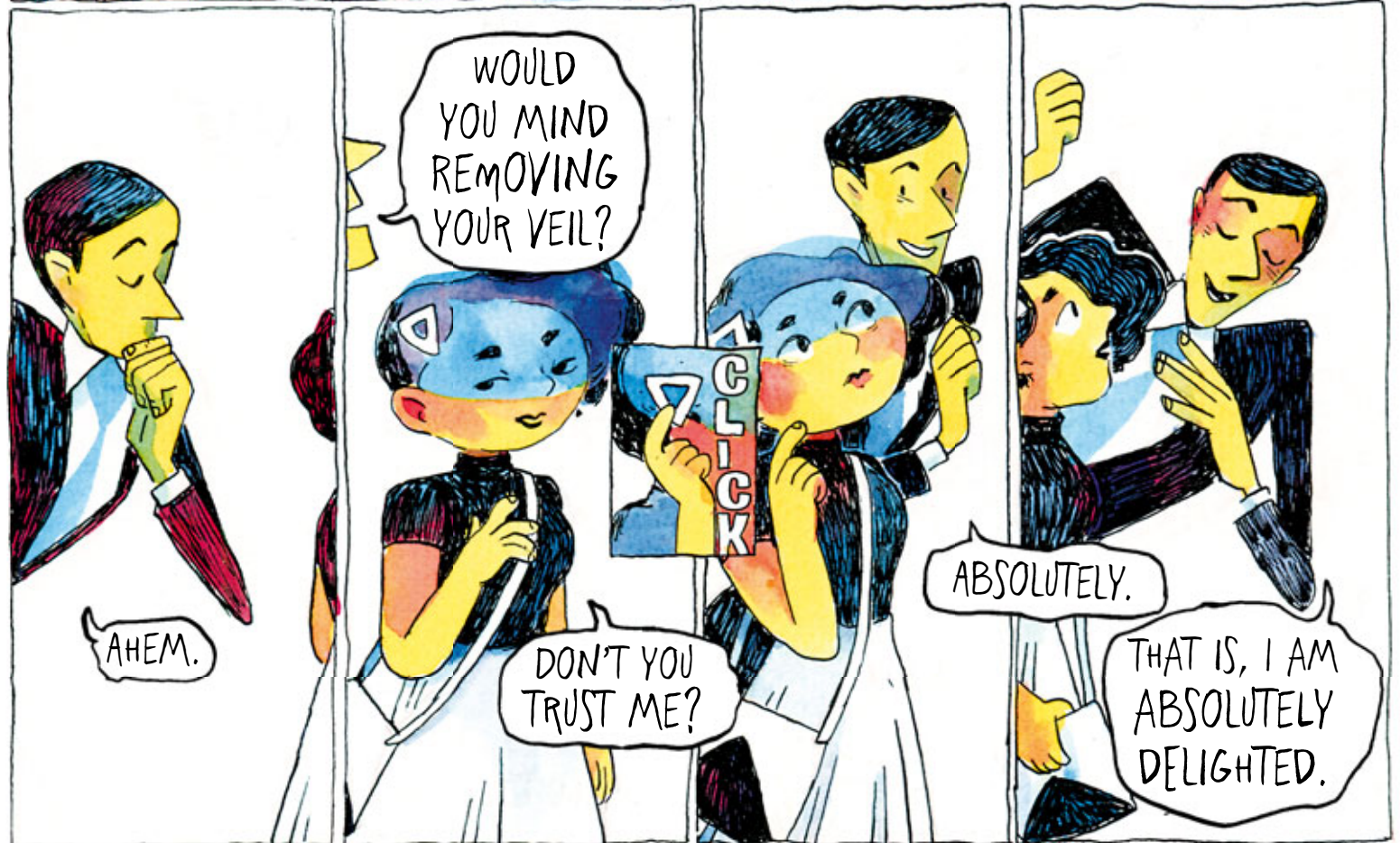
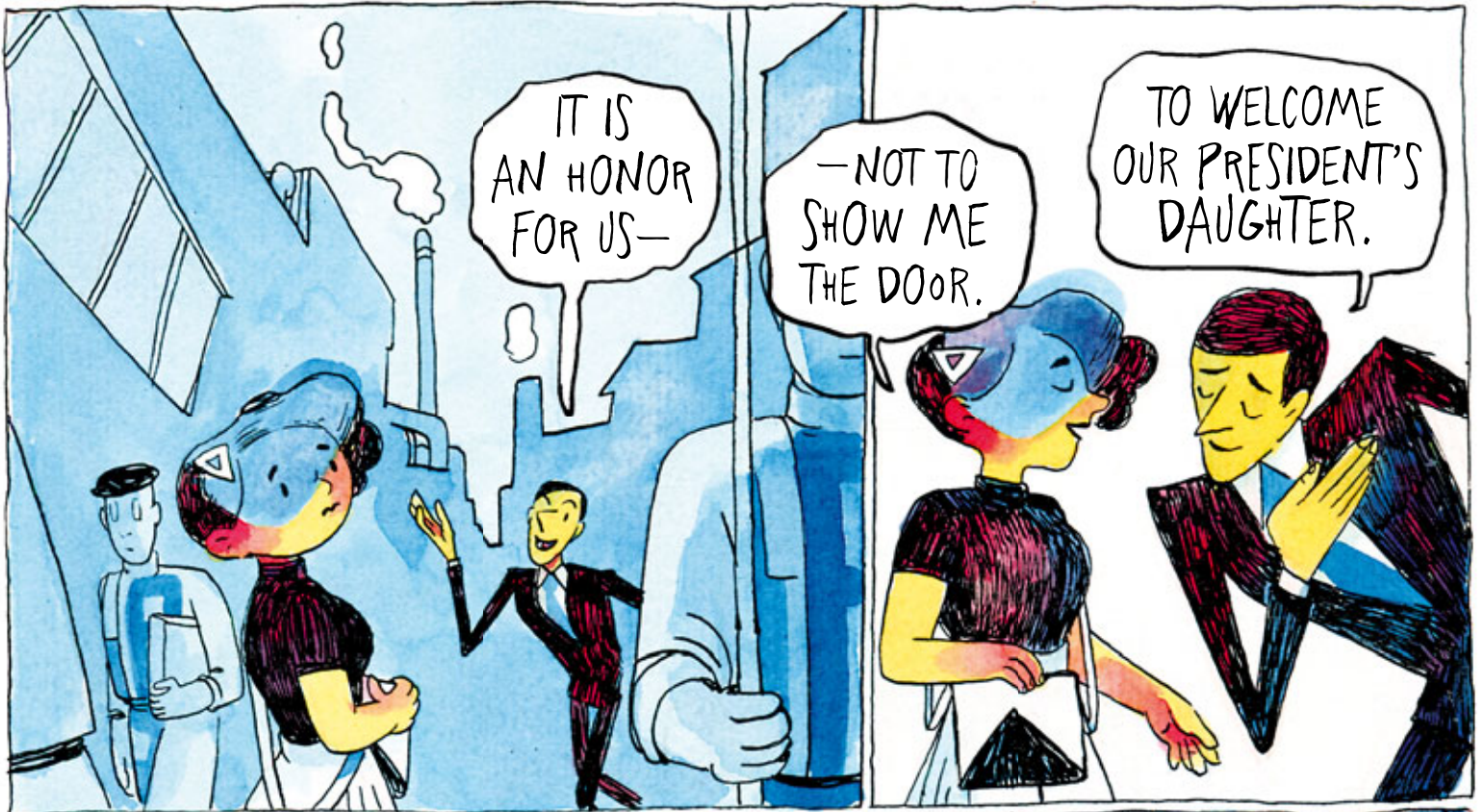




















HERE  
WE HAVE THE  
KNEADERS.

EACH VAT  
HOLDS ENOUGH  
TO MAKE  
A THOUSAND  
ROBOTS!

LET ME GUESS:  
TWENTY TWO?

TWENTY TWO  
WHAT?

YEARS.

TWENTY ONE.  
WHY DO YOU  
WANT TO  
KNOW?

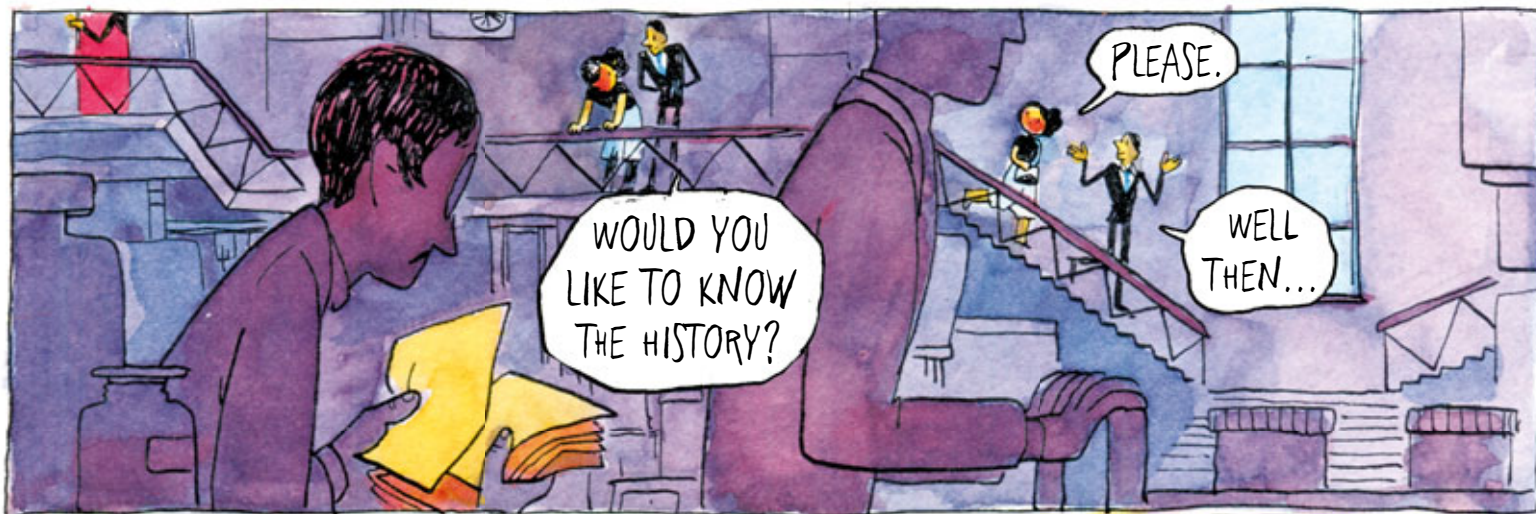


BECAUSE...  
IT'S JUST..  
... I MEAN...

ON  
WE GO!







WOULD YOU  
LIKE TO KNOW  
THE HISTORY?

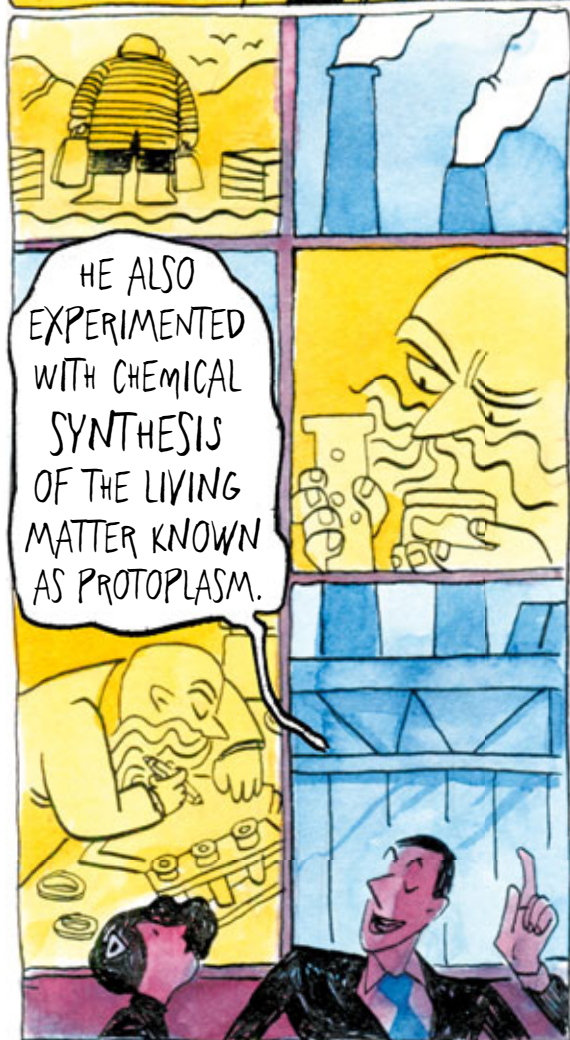
PLEASE.

WELL  
THEN...



IN 1920  
OLD ROSSUM MOVED  
TO THIS ISLAND...

... TO STUDY  
THE MARINE LIFE.

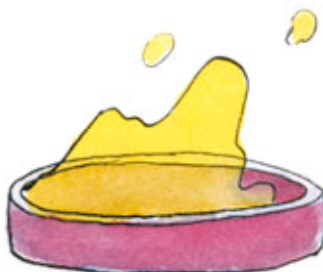


HE ALSO  
EXPERIMENTED  
WITH CHEMICAL  
SYNTHESIS  
OF THE LIVING  
MATTER KNOWN  
AS PROTOPLASM.



HE DISCOVERED  
A SUBSTANCE THAT  
BEHAVED LIKE LIVING  
MATTER...

... BUT ITS  
CHEMICAL MAKEUP  
WAS DIFFERENT!



THAT  
WAS 1932.

YOU KNOW THE  
STORY BY HEART?

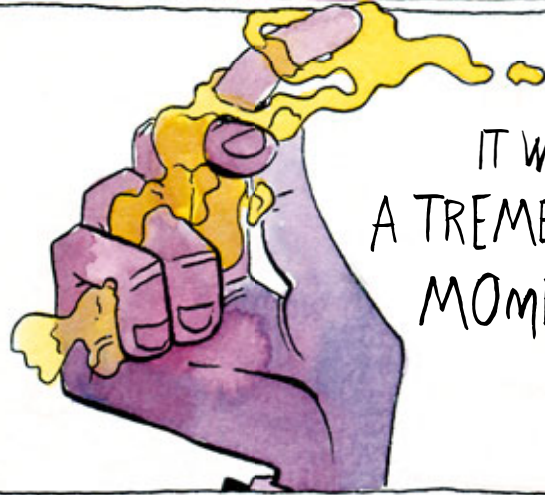
YES.



AND ONE DAY  
ROSSUM WROTE BENEATH  
HIS FORMULAS:

$20 + 189,55$   $\frac{4}{15}$   
 $\Delta \times 9$   $\nabla$   $500$   
Nature has found one way  
to organize living matter.  
But there is another way  
simpler, faster, more malleable  
today I DISCOVERED

HE WROTE THIS NEXT  
TO A BLOB OF GELATIN  
THAT EVEN A DOG  
WOULDN'T EAT.



IT WAS  
A TREMENDOUS  
MOMENT!

NOW THE QUESTION WAS  
HOW TO TAKE THAT LIFE  
OUT OF THE TEST TUBE.

CREATING NERVES,  
ORGANS, BONES,  
AND WHATNOT.

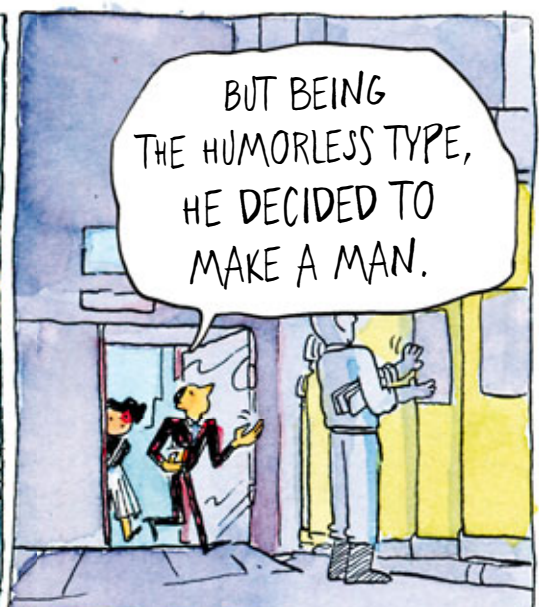
I DON'T UNDERSTAND  
IT ONE BIT.

HARRY!

I'VE FINISHED MY  
INSPECTION. WILL YOU  
PUT THE MANUSCRIPT  
IN THE SAFE?

CERTAINLY!

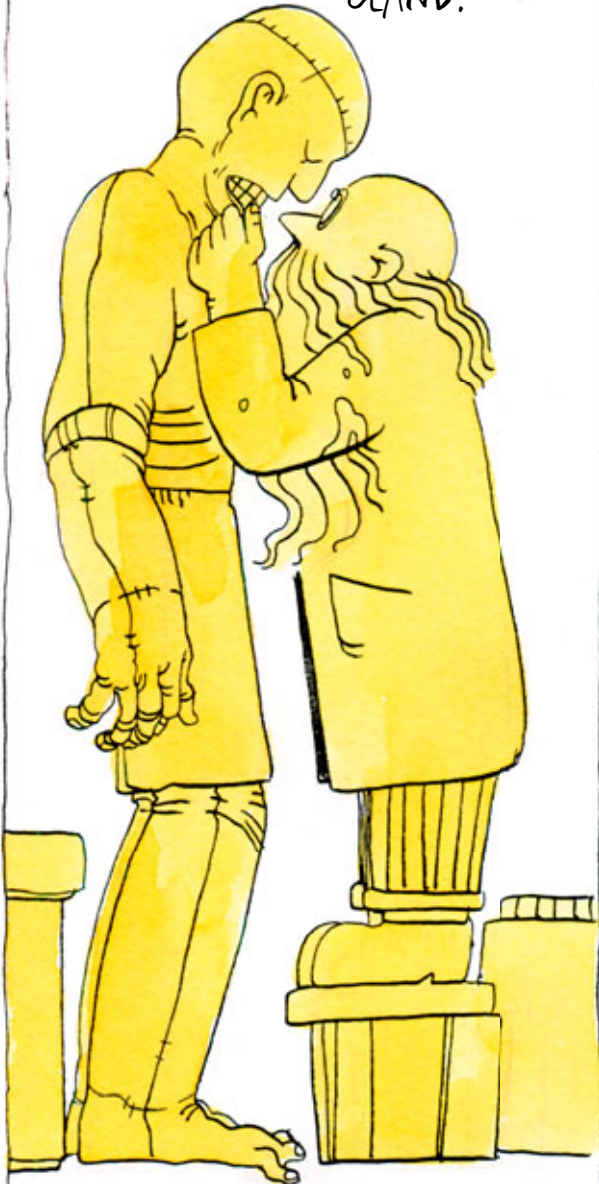




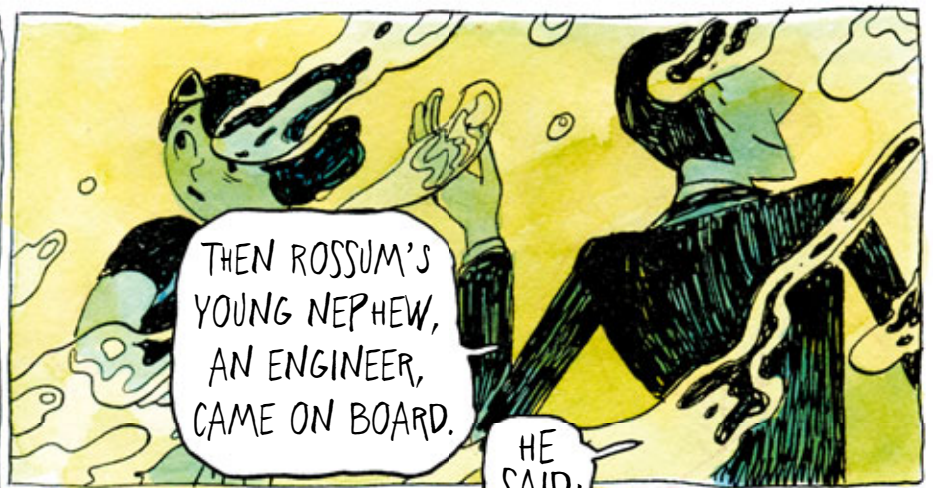


HE WAS A HOPELESS  
MATERIALIST  
AND ATHEIST.

HE WANTED  
TO REPLACE GOD  
WITH SCIENCE AND CREATE  
A WHOLE HUMAN  
DOWN TO THE LAST  
GLAND.



IT TOOK HIM  
10 YEARS,  
WITH DREADFUL RESULTS.  
HE DIDN'T HAVE  
A SPECK OF TASTE.



THEN ROSSUM'S  
YOUNG NEPHEW,  
AN ENGINEER,  
CAME ON BOARD.

HE  
SAID:



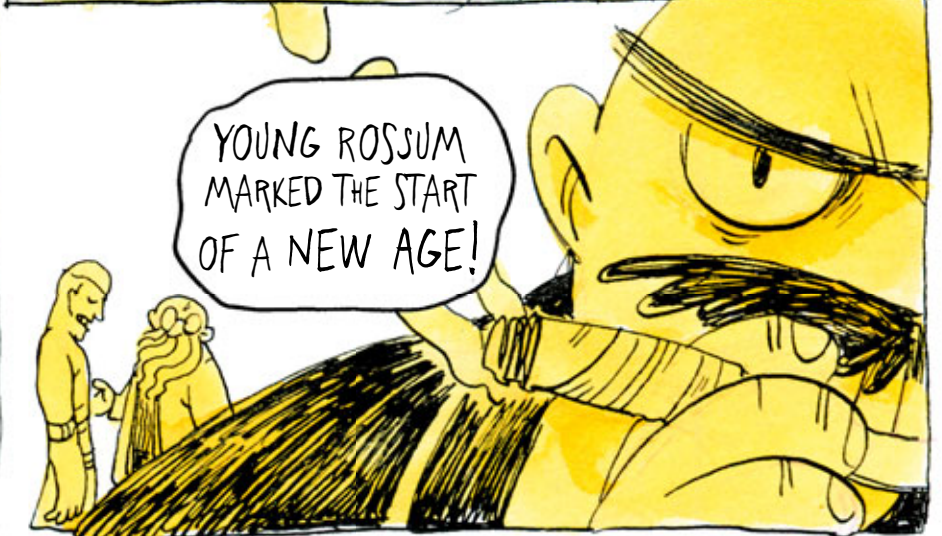
10 YEARS?  
THAT'S  
RIDICULOUS!

IF YOU CAN'T  
DO IT FASTER  
THAN NATURE, JUST  
FORGET THE WHOLE  
THING.



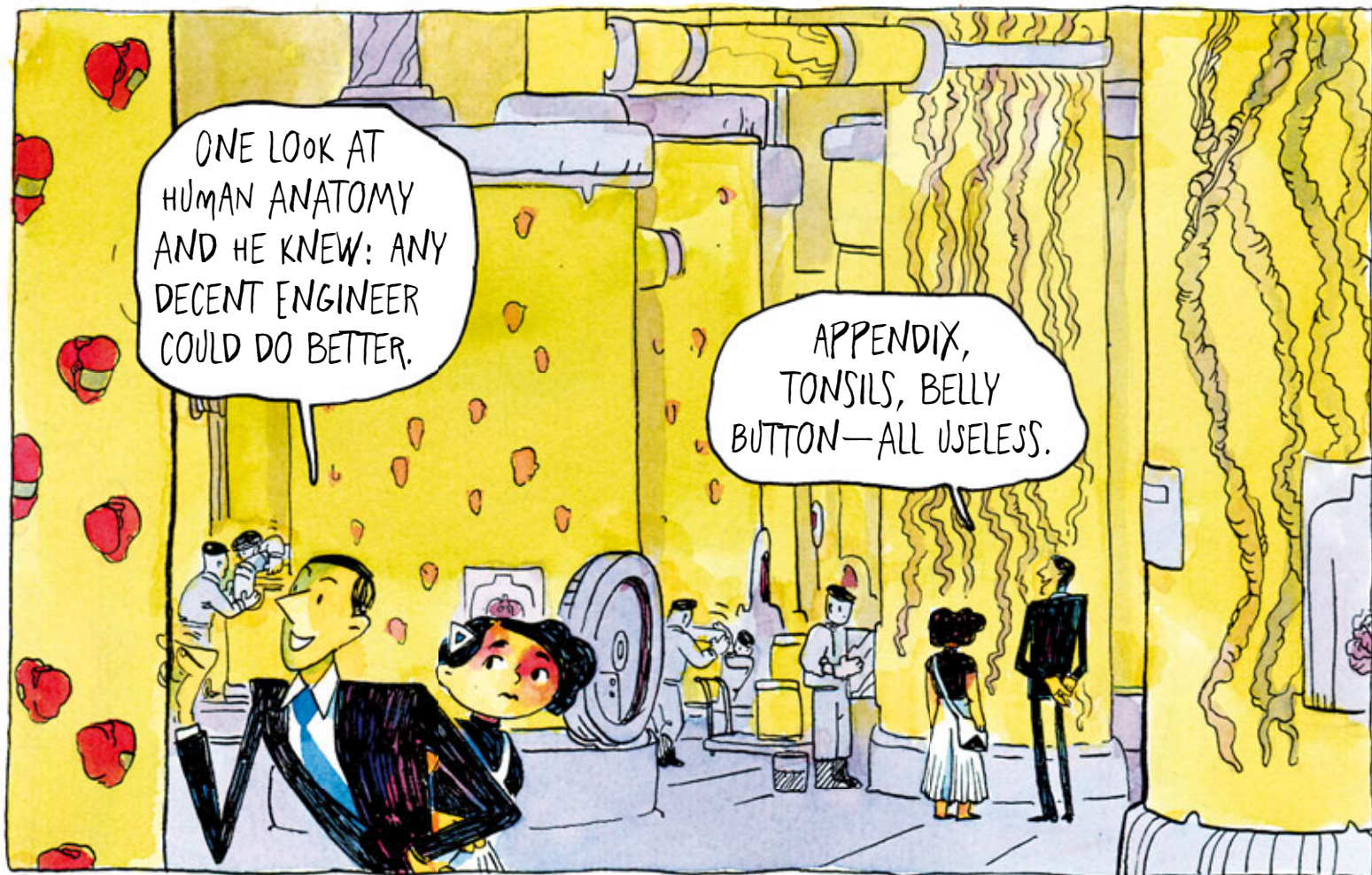
THAT'S NOT WHAT  
THE HISTORY BOOKS SAY.

THOSE BOOKS ARE  
NOTHING BUT  
PAID ADS.



YOUNG ROSSUM  
MARKED THE START  
OF A NEW AGE!



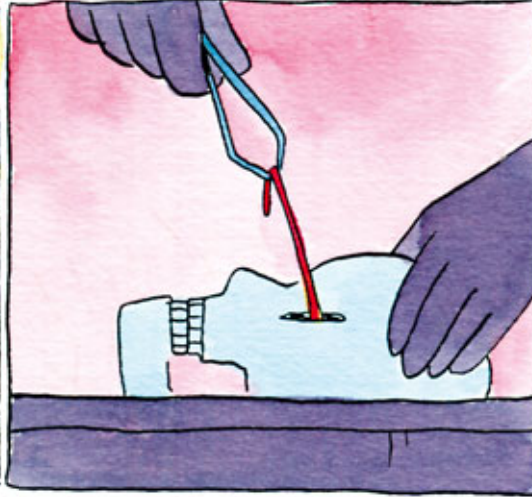






AN ENGINE DOESN'T  
NEED DECORATIONS.

AND MAKING  
ROBOTS IS THE SAME AS  
MAKING ENGINES.



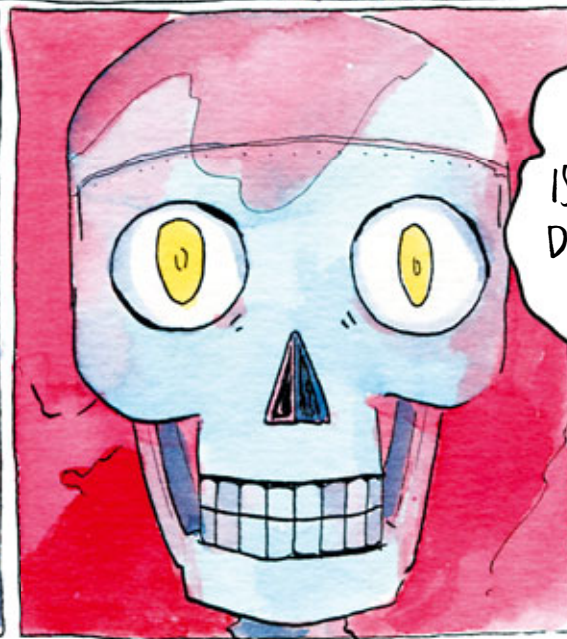
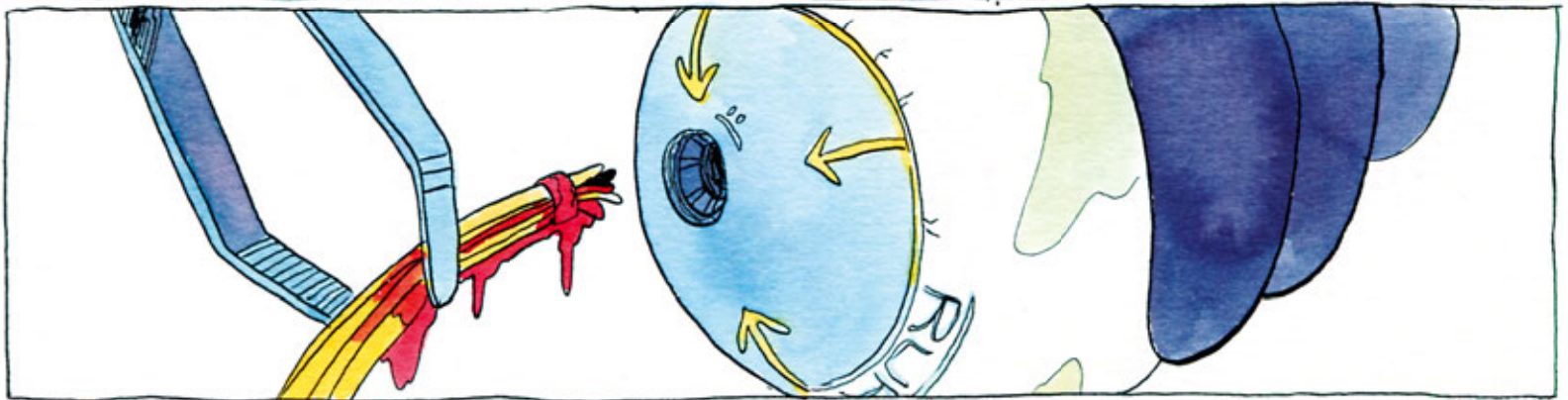
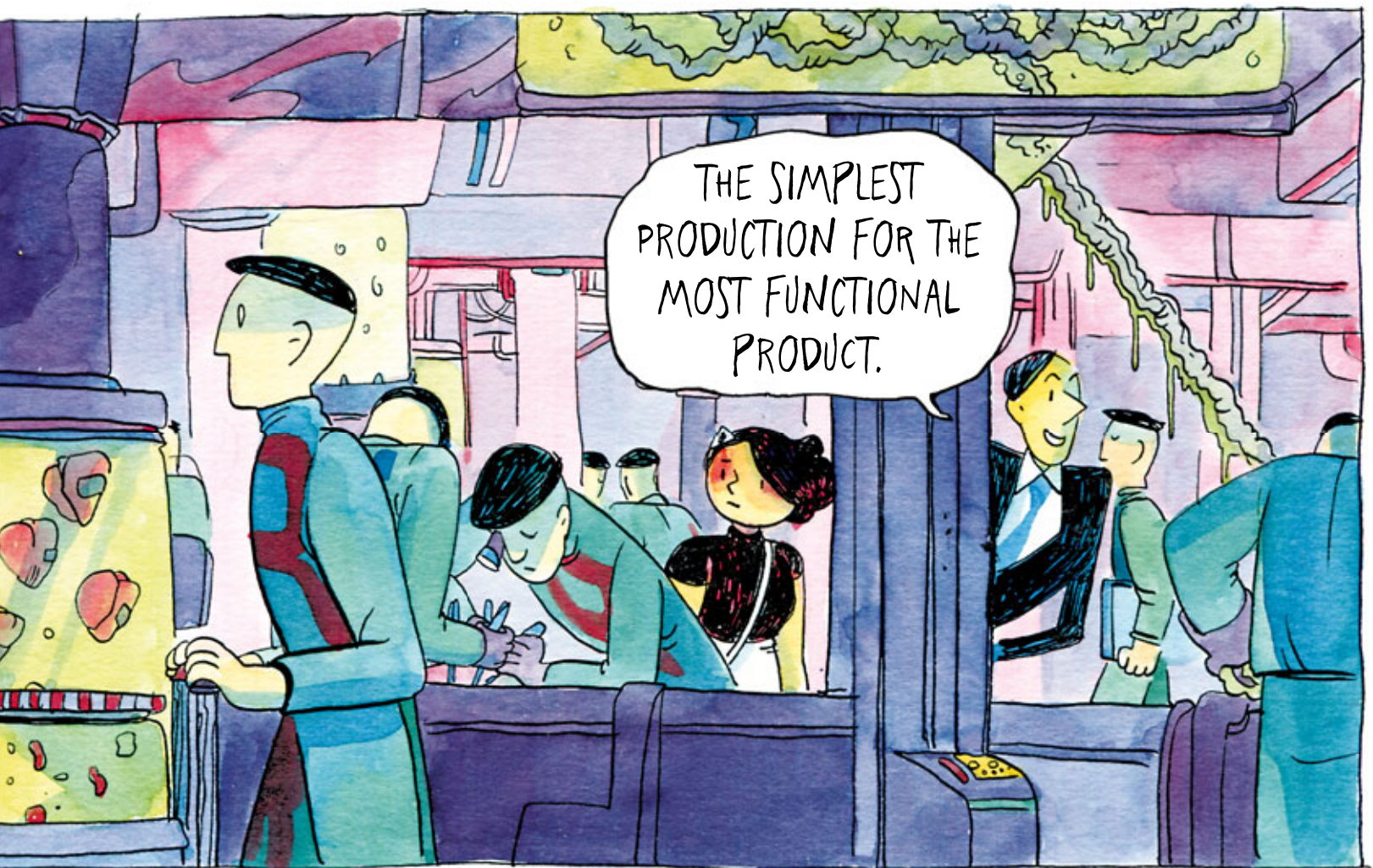
AND SO  
YOUNG ROSSUM  
INVENTED A WORKER  
WITH AS FEW NEEDS  
AS POSSIBLE.



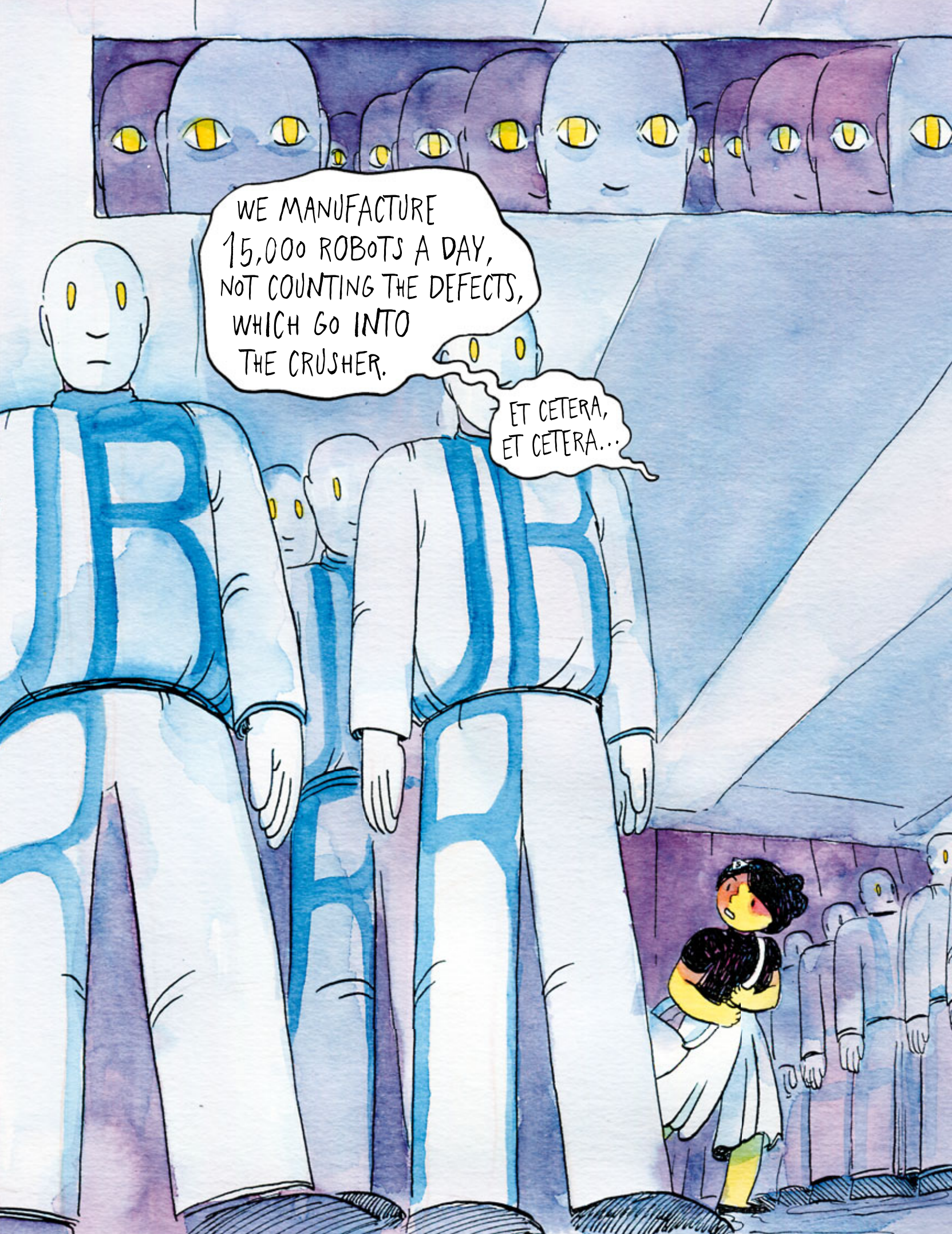
IN EFFECT, HE GAVE UP  
ON MAN AND CREATED  
THE ROBOT.

ROBOTS HAVE  
ASTOUNDING INTELLIGENCE,  
ASTOUNDING MEMORY.









WE MANUFACTURE  
15,000 ROBOTS A DAY,  
NOT COUNTING THE DEFECTS,  
WHICH GO INTO  
THE CRUSHER.

ET CETERA,  
ET CETERA...





THE BEST ONES  
LAST UP TO  
TWENTY YEARS.

THEN  
THEY DIE?

THEY  
WEAR OUT.