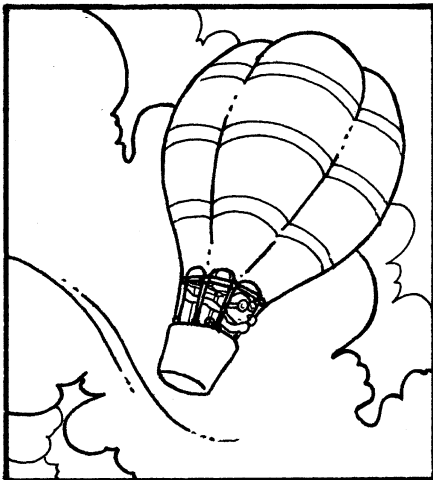
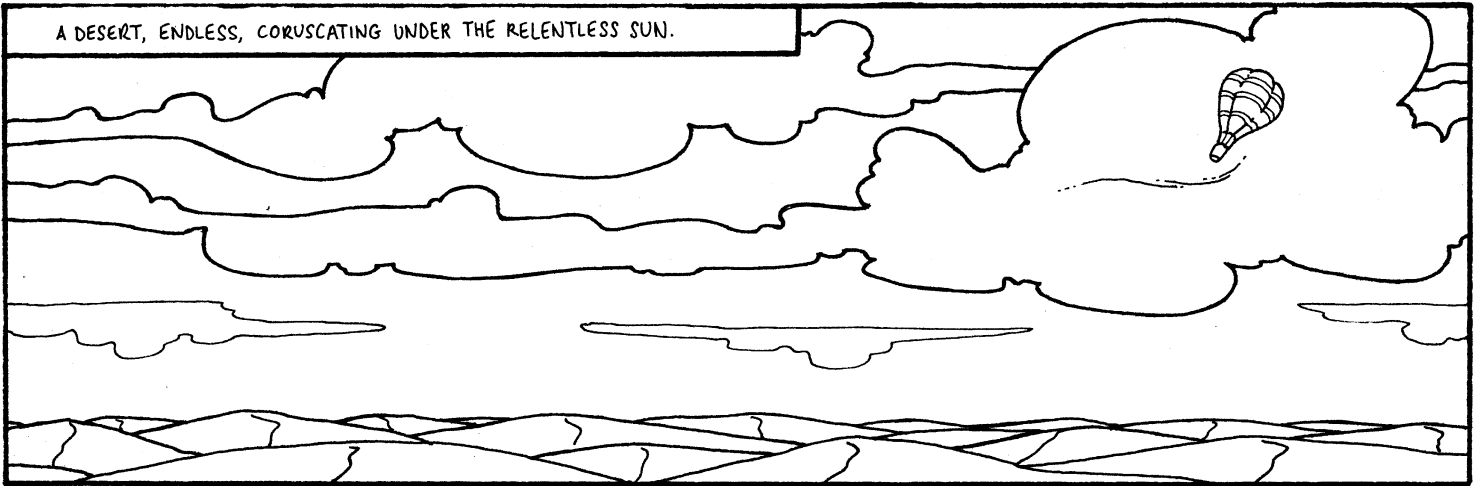
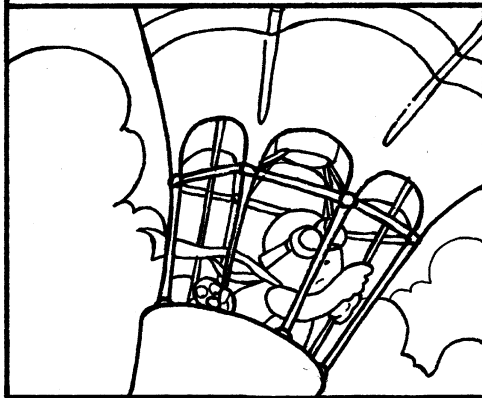


# LOUIS - THE ROUND THE WORLD RUG RACE

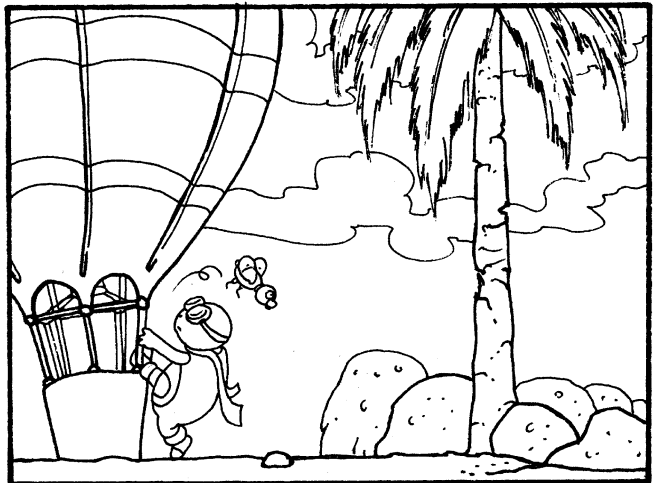
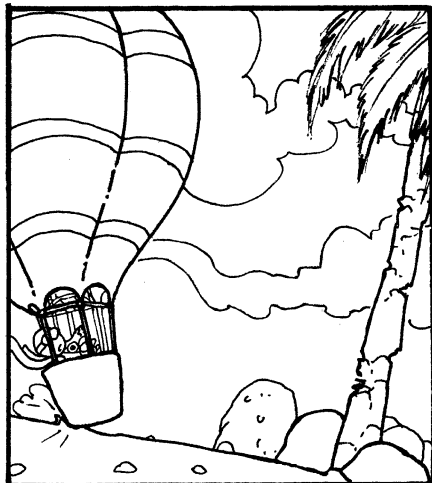
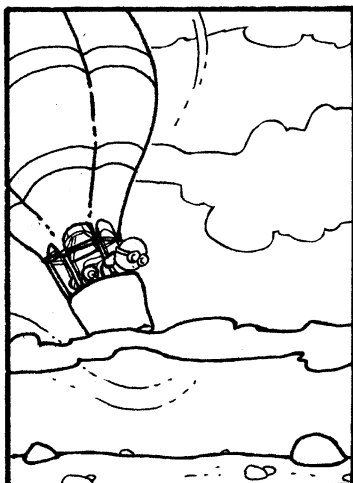
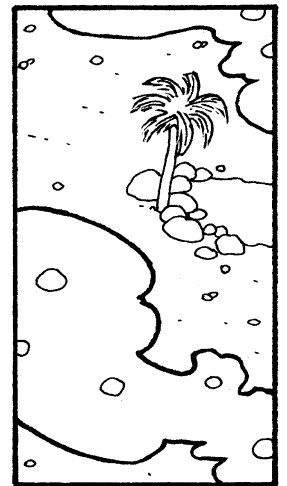
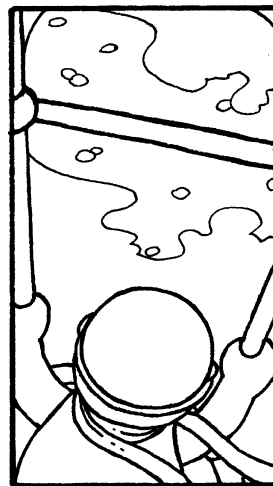
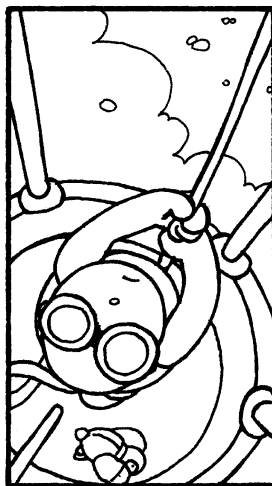
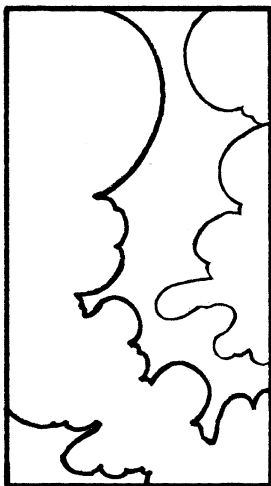
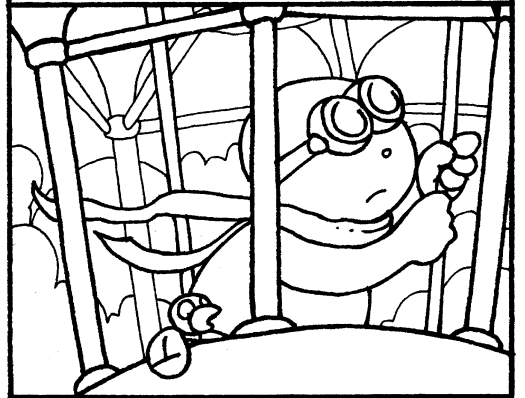
A DESERT, ENDLESS, CORUSCATING UNDER THE RELENTLESS SUN.



EVEN FOR AN EXPERT BALLOONIST, THE LANDING WOULD HAVE PROVEN DIFFICULT.

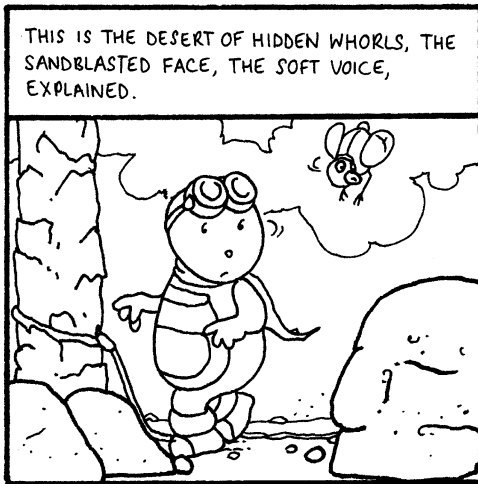


THE SKY SEEMED ALIVE WITH SWIRLING EDDYING CURRENTS: SUDDEN VOIDS, VACUUMS.

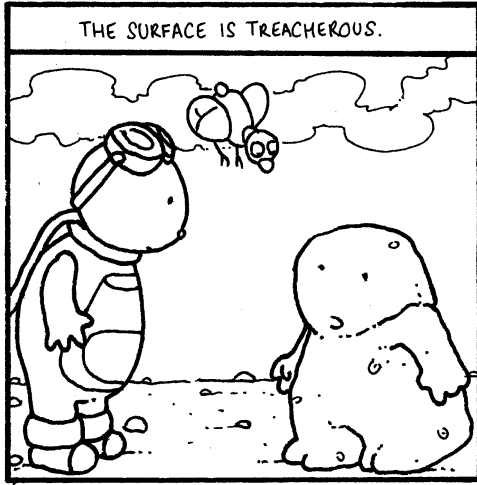
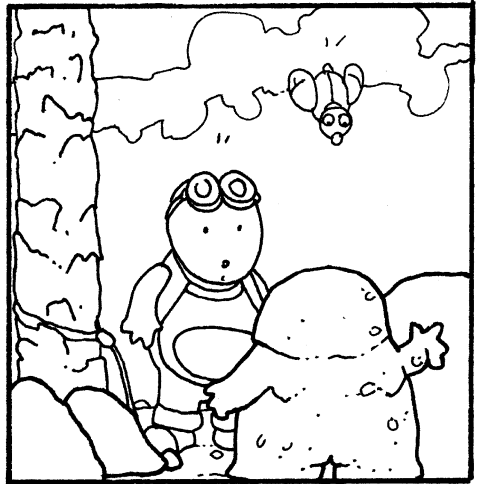




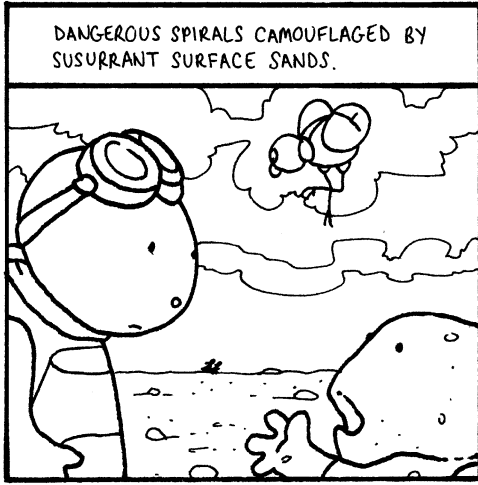
YOU'RE VERY LUCKY YOU KNOW - LANDING.



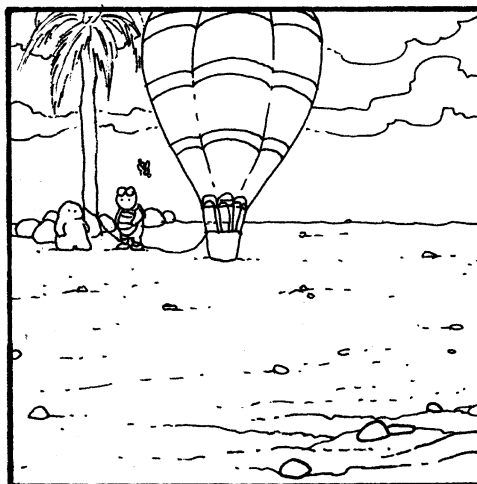
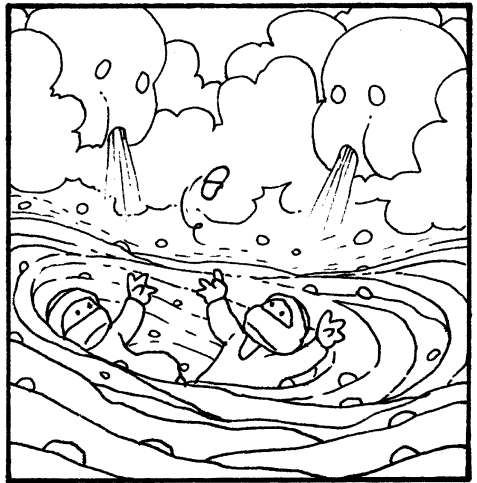
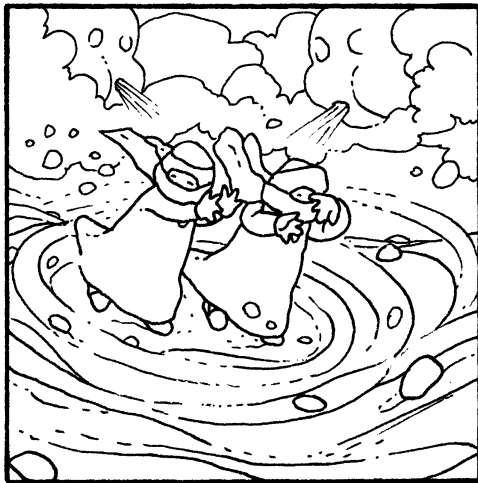
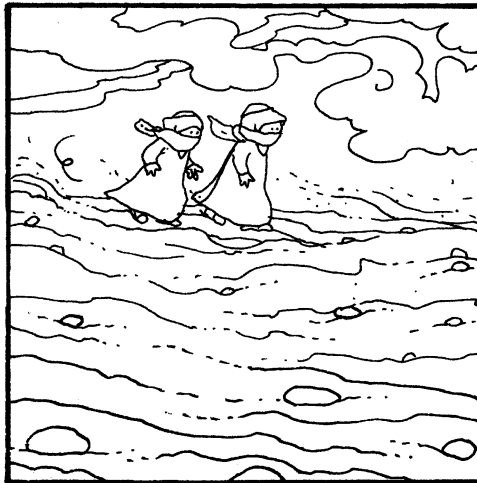
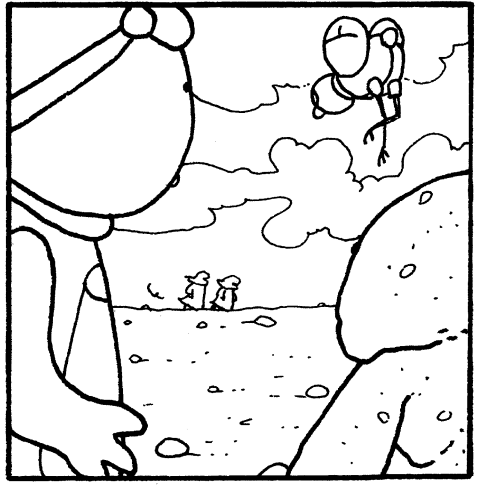
THIS IS THE DESERT OF HIDDEN WHORLS, THE SANDBLASTED FACE, THE SOFT VOICE, EXPLAINED.



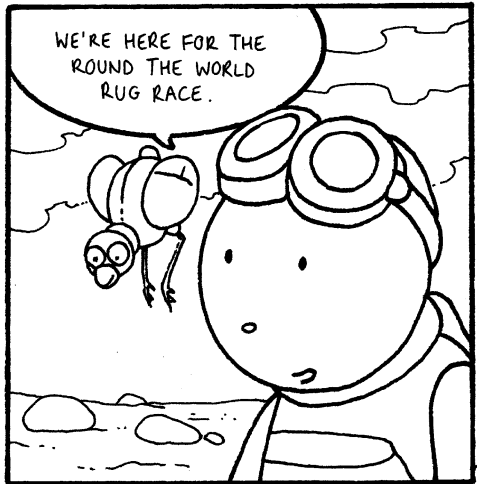
THE SURFACE IS TREACHEROUS.



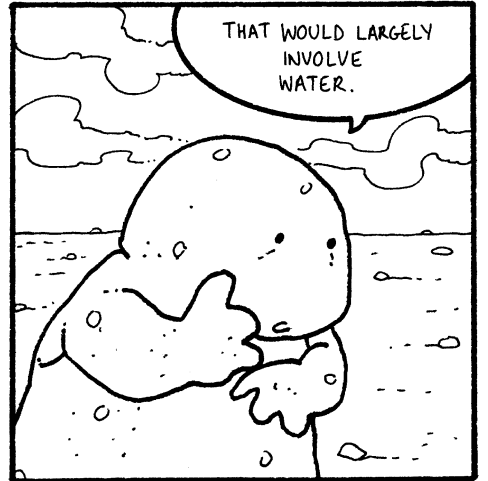
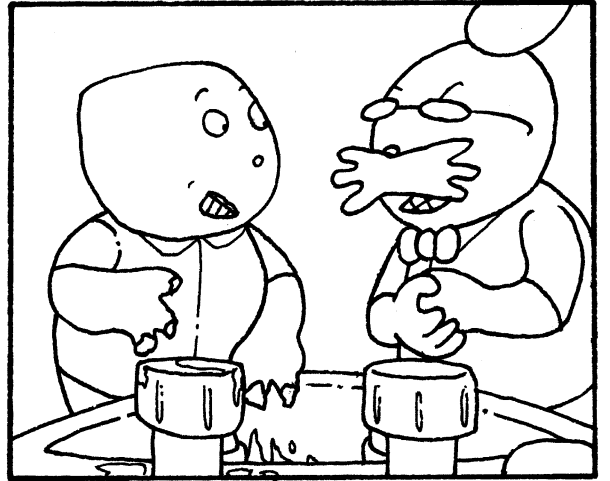
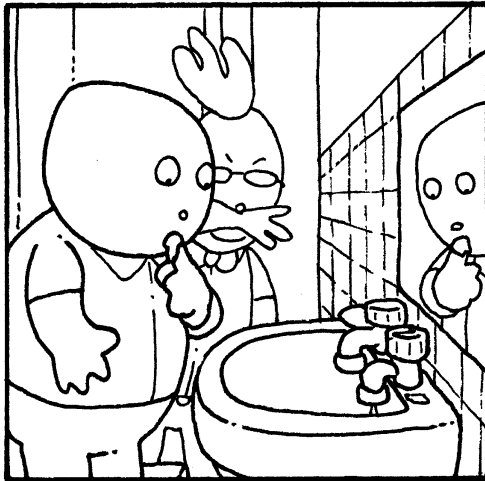
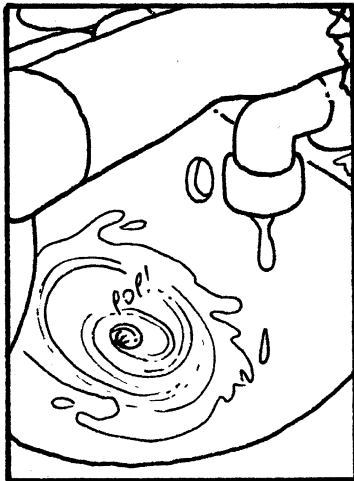
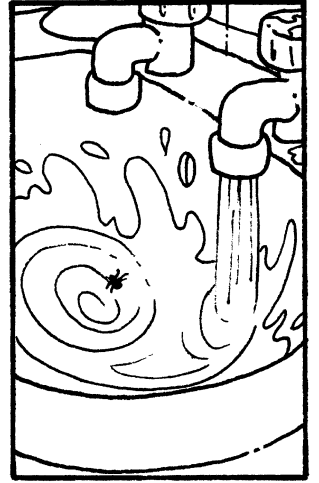
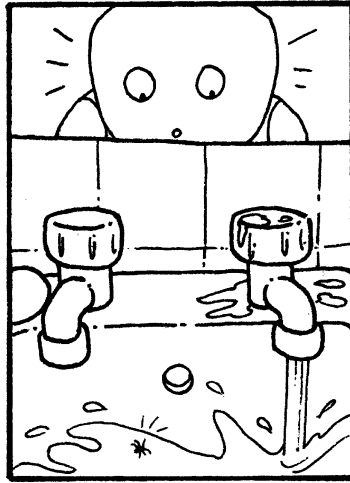
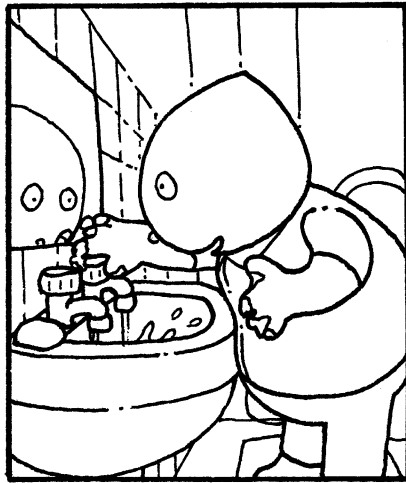
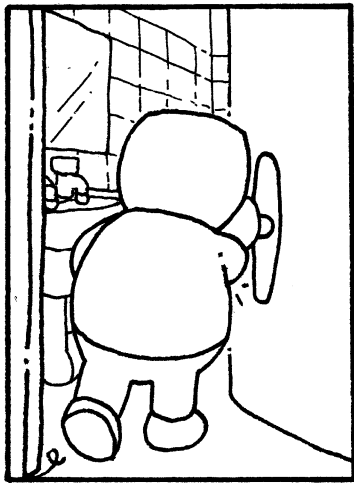
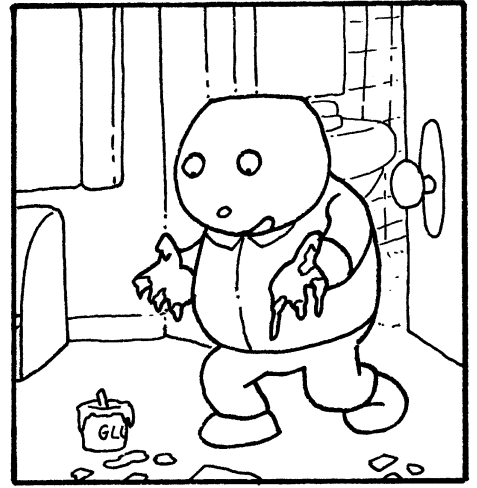
DANGEROUS SPIRALS CAMOUFLAGED BY SUSURRANT SURFACE SANDS.

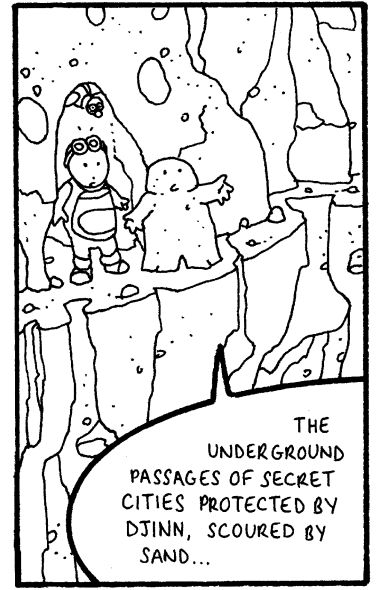
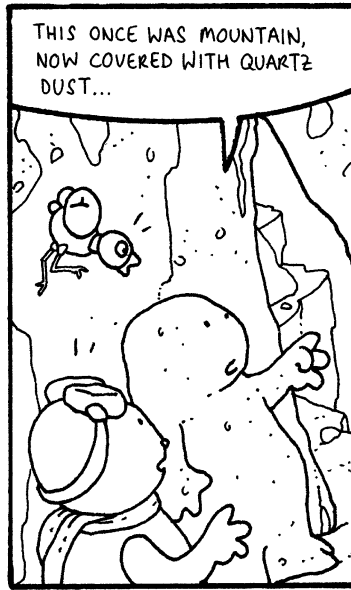
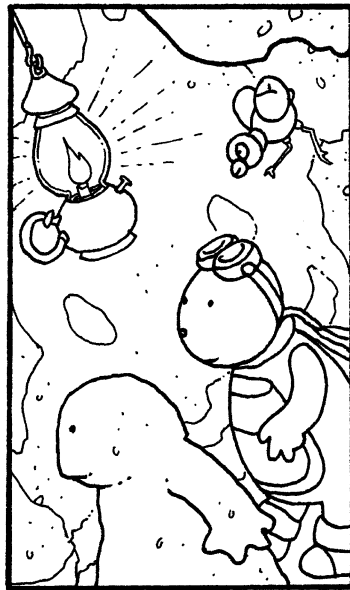
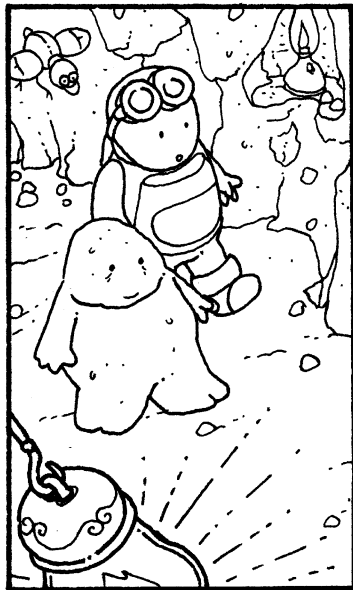
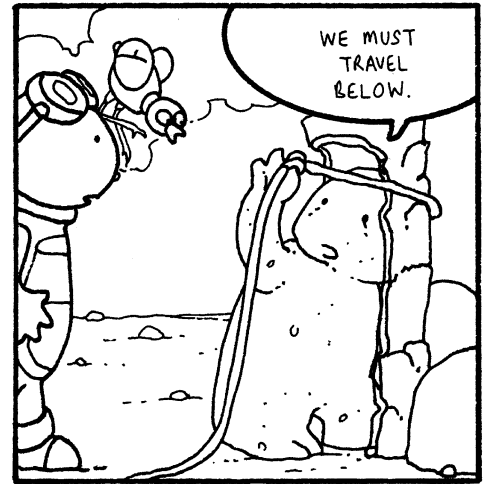


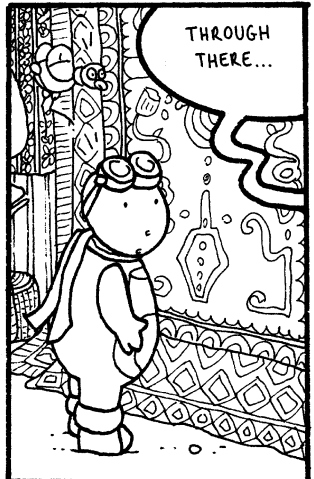
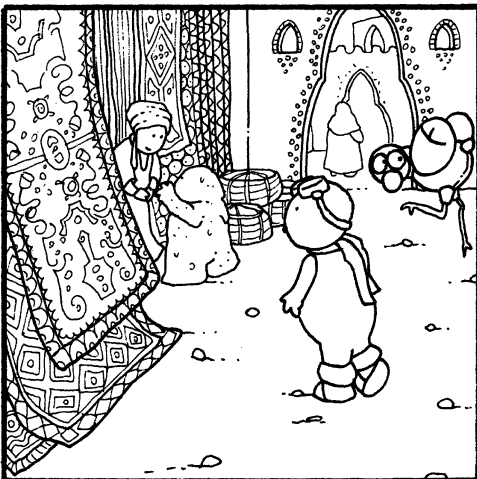
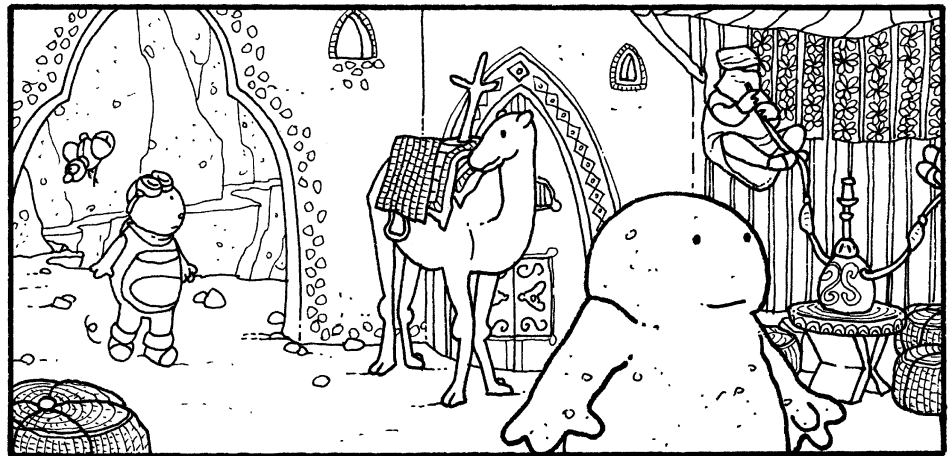
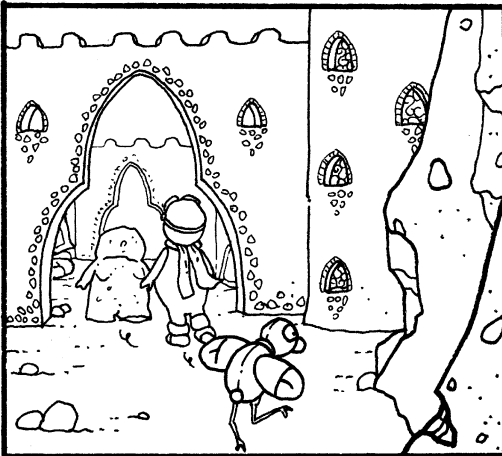
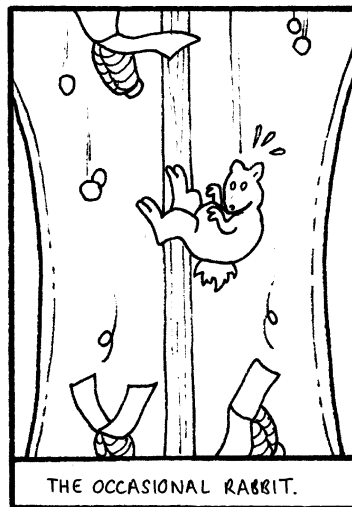
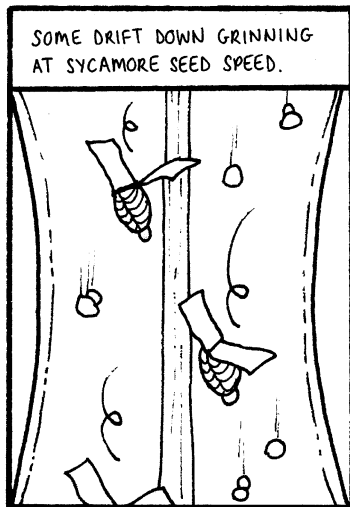
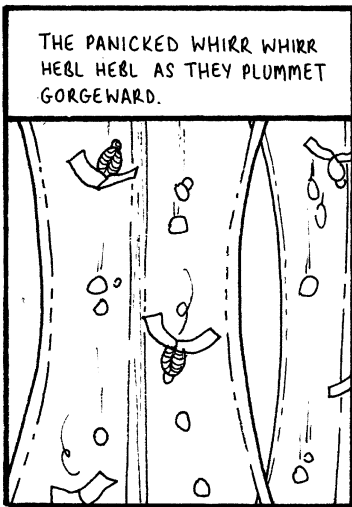
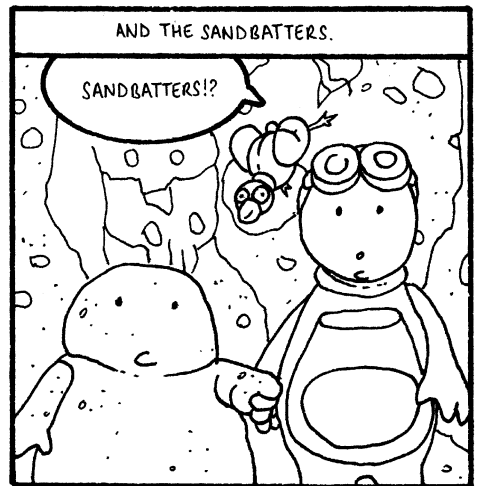
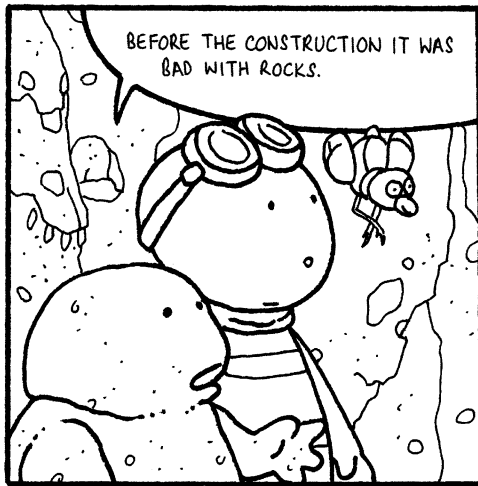
I'M LOUIS AND THIS IS FC...

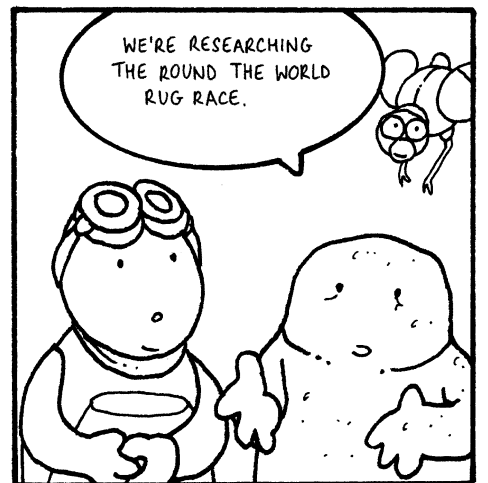
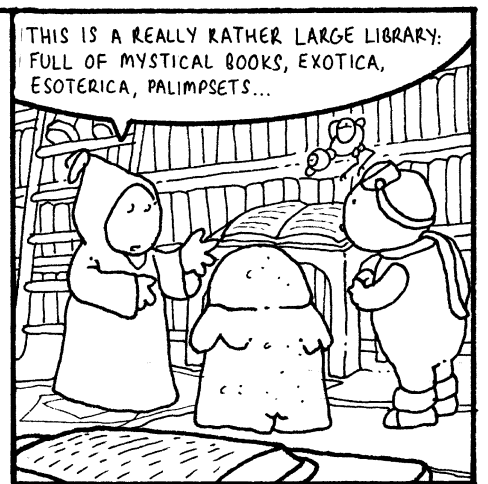
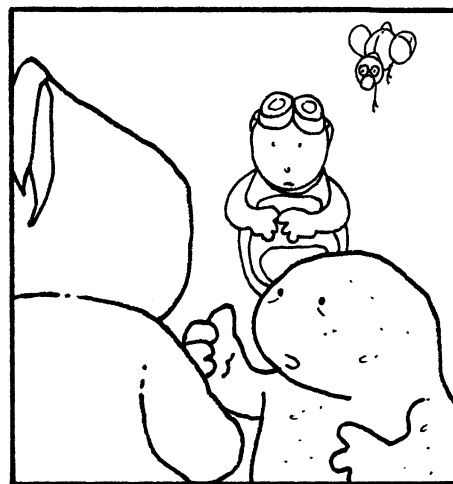
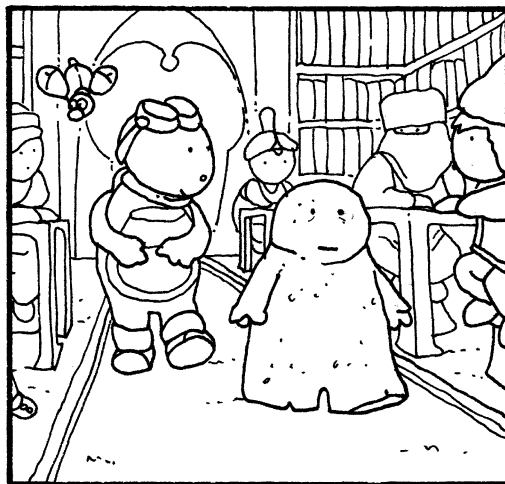
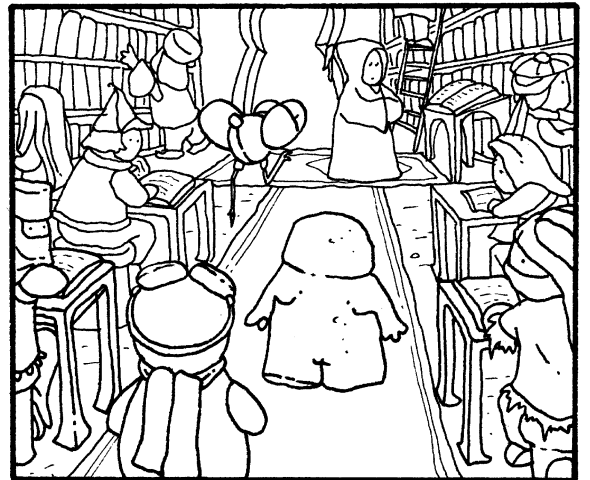
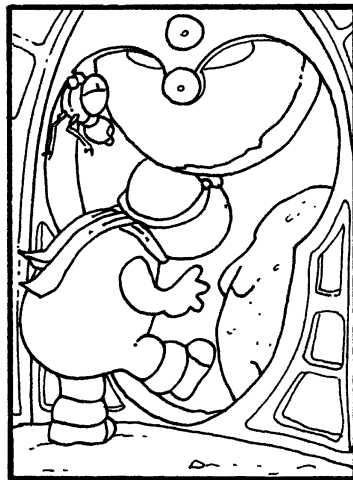
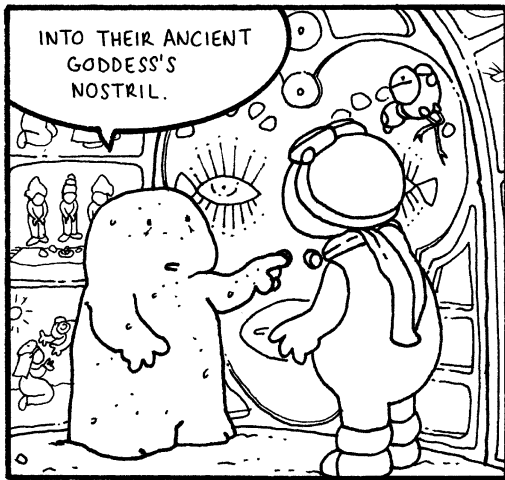
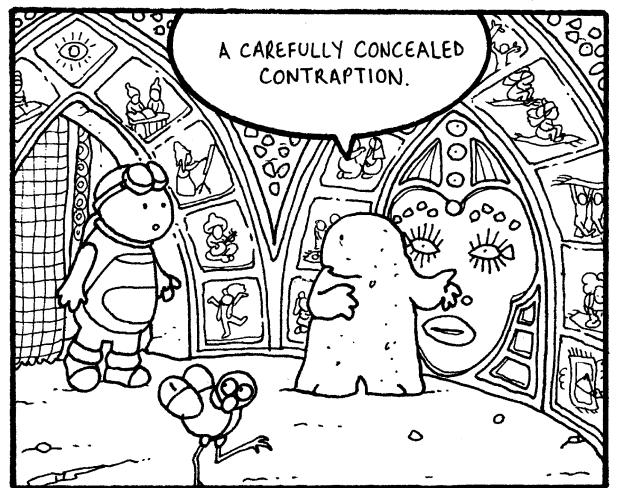
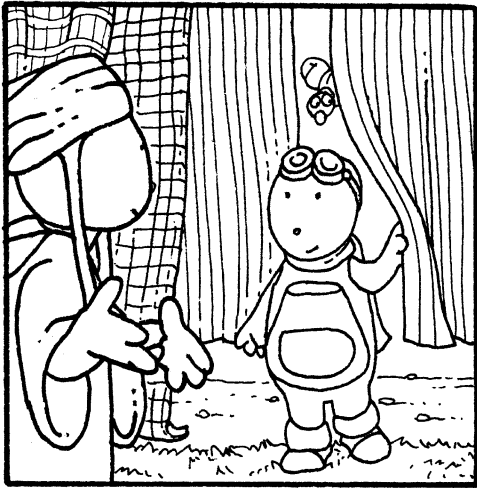


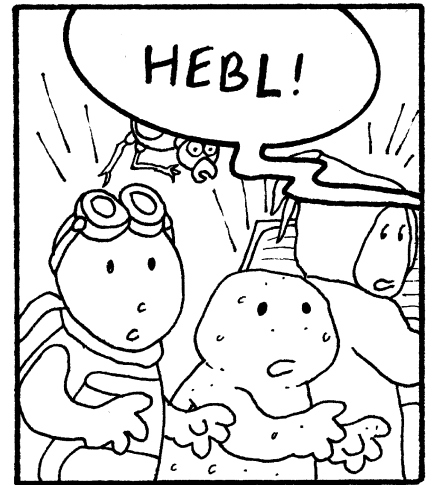
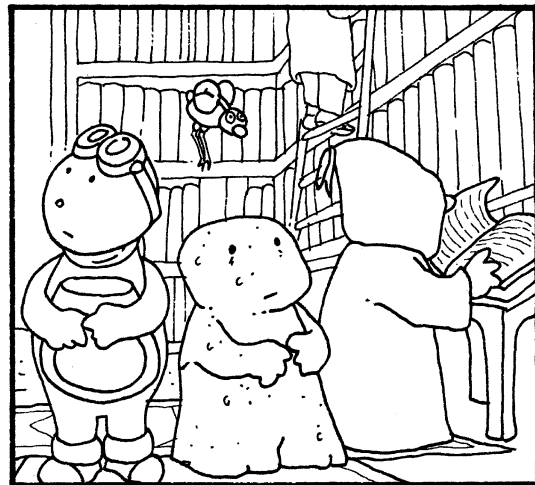
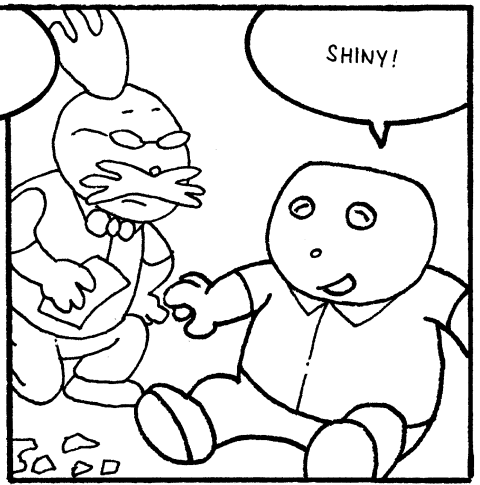
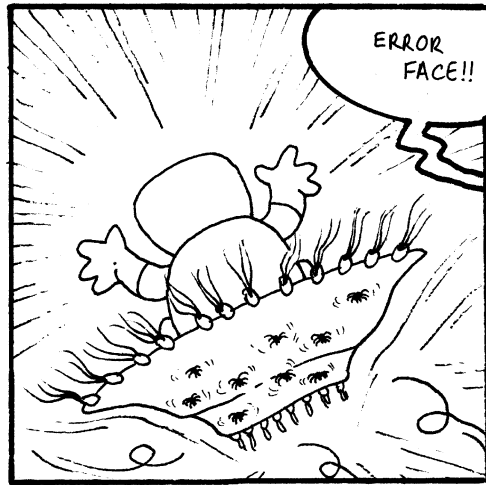
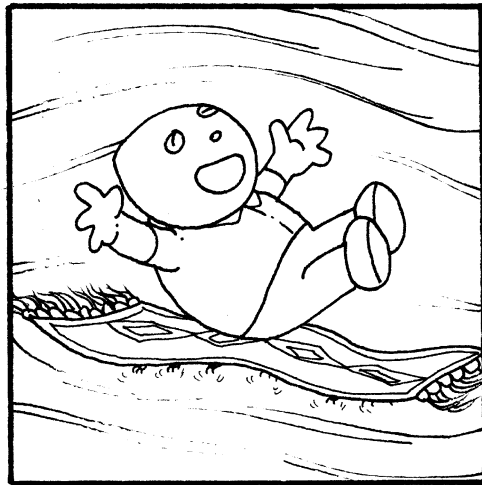
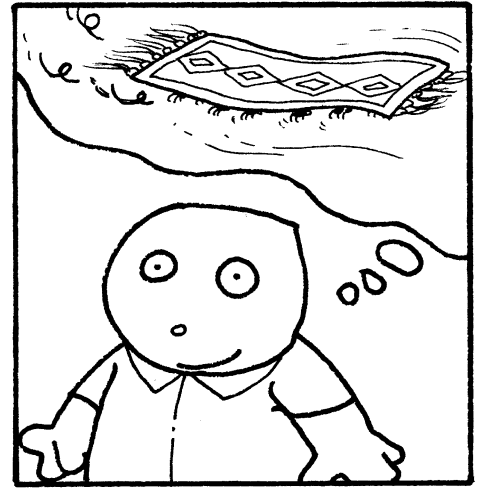
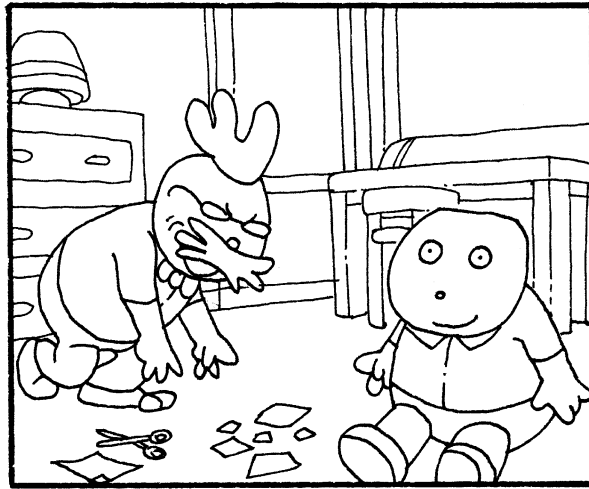
WE'RE HERE FOR THE ROUND THE WORLD RUG RACE.

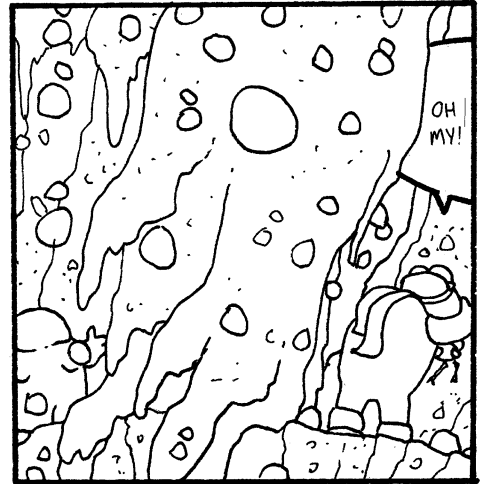
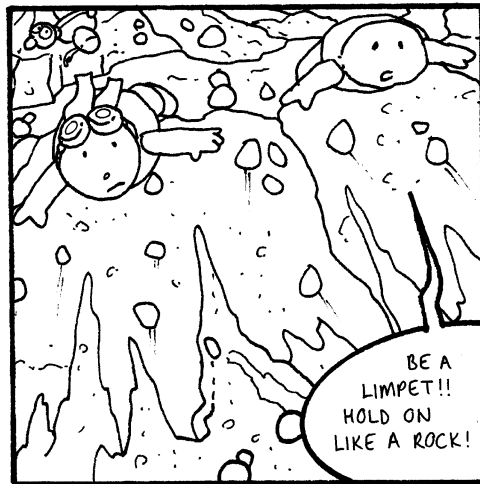
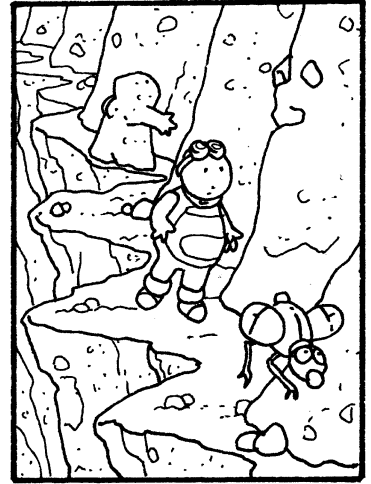
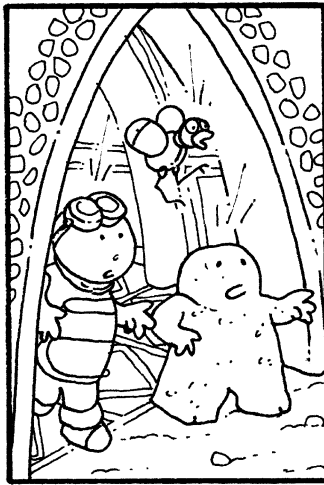
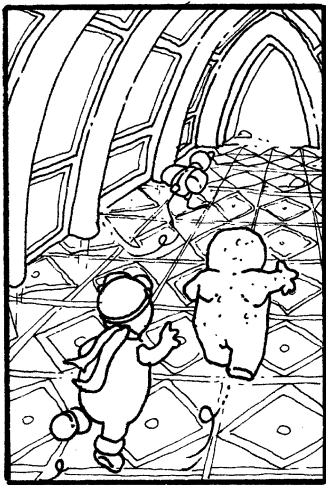
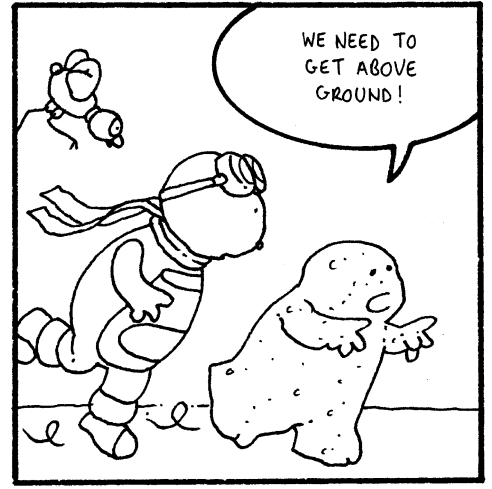




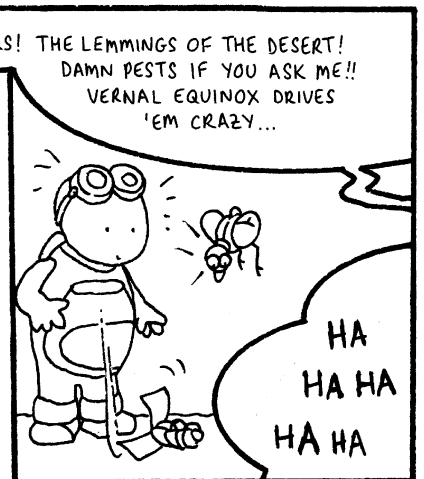
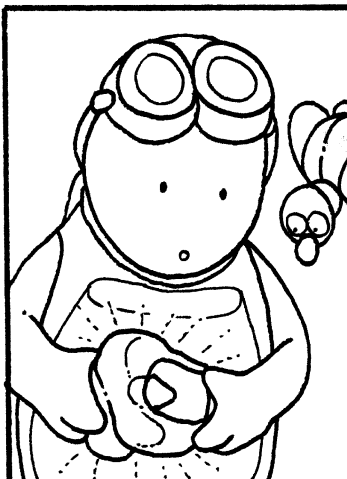
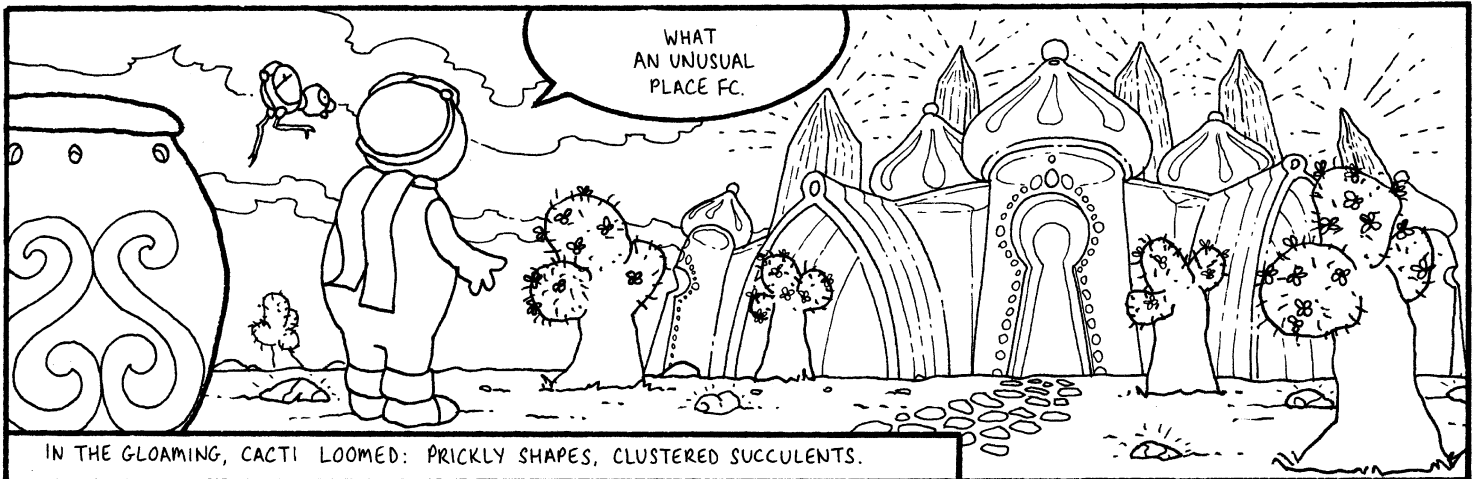
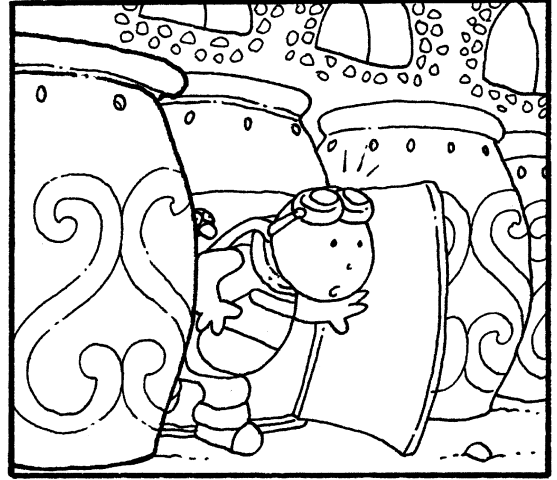
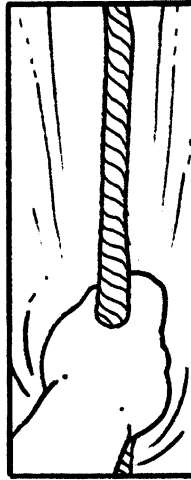
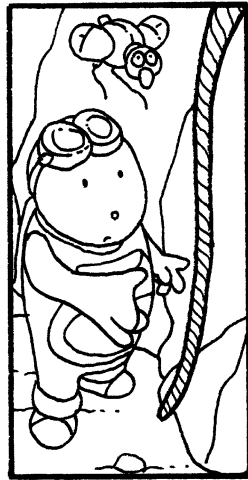
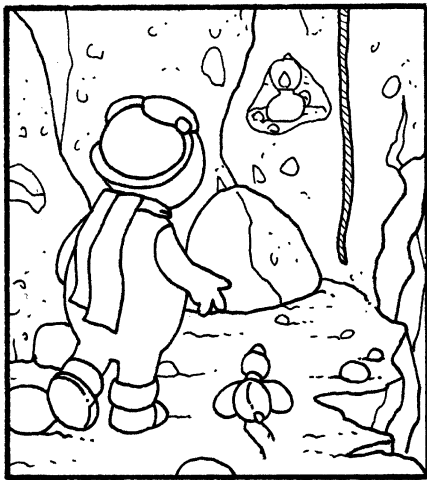
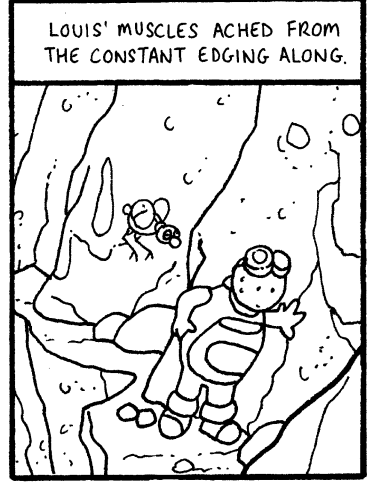


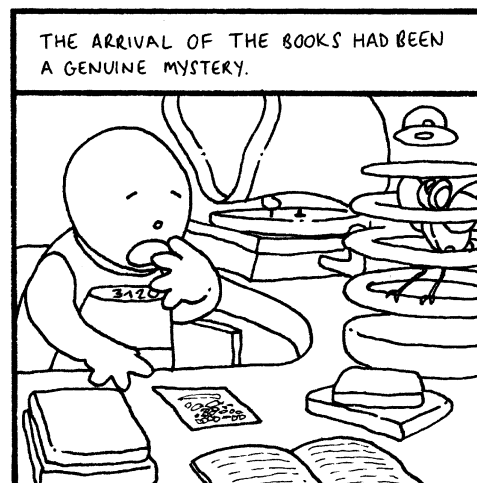
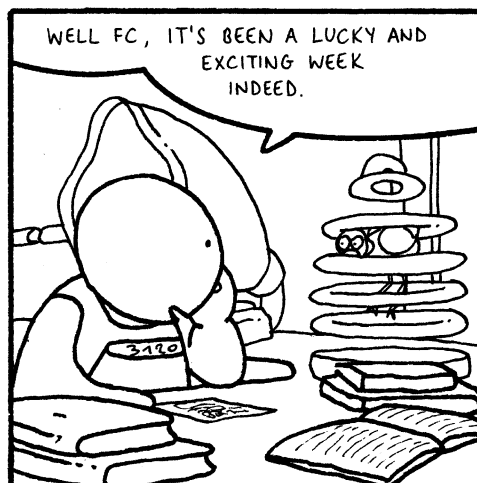
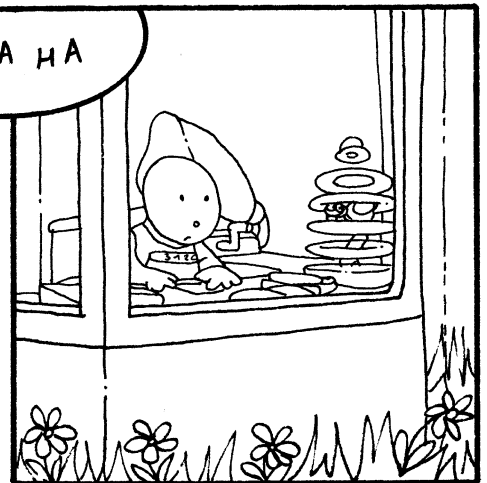
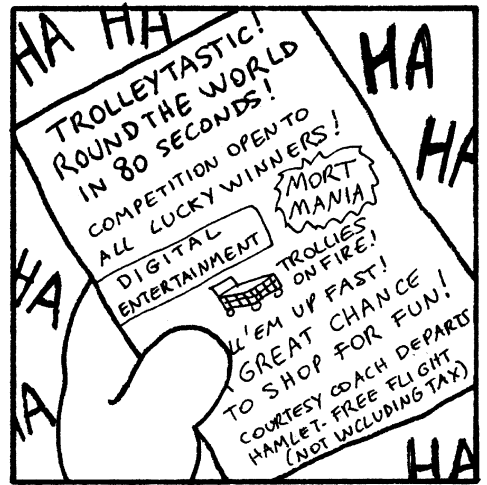
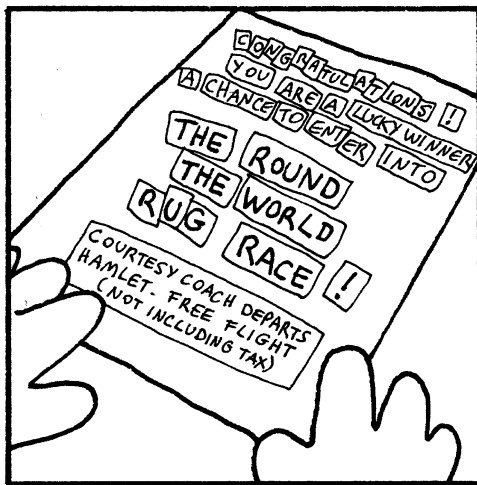
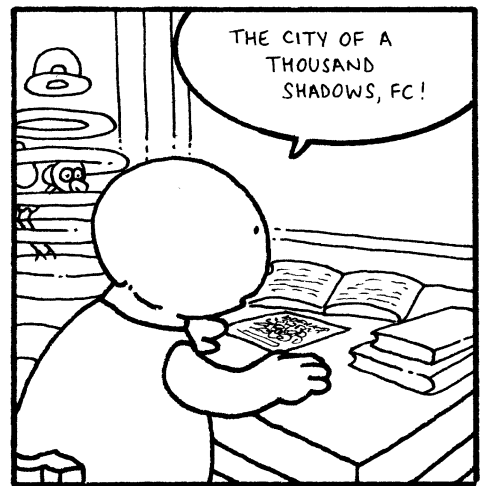
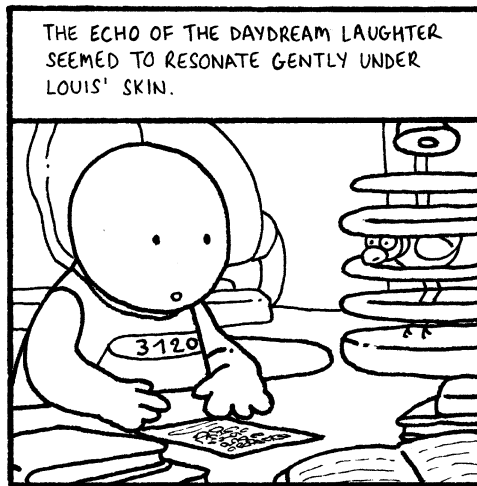




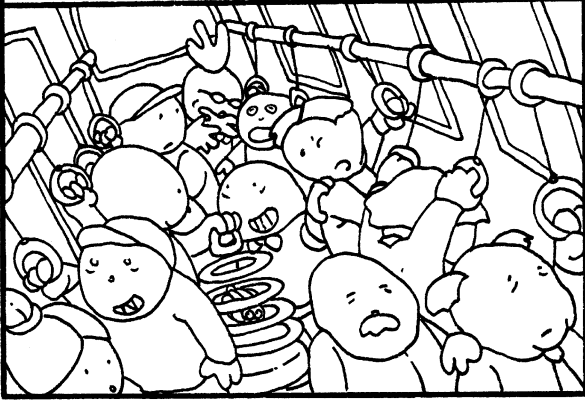








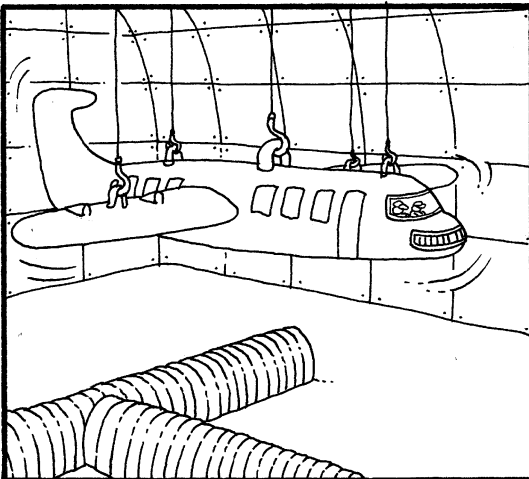
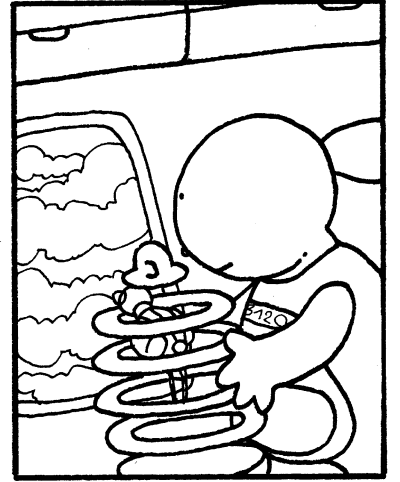
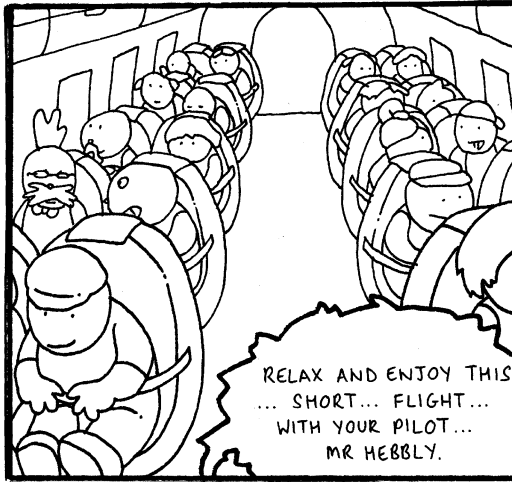
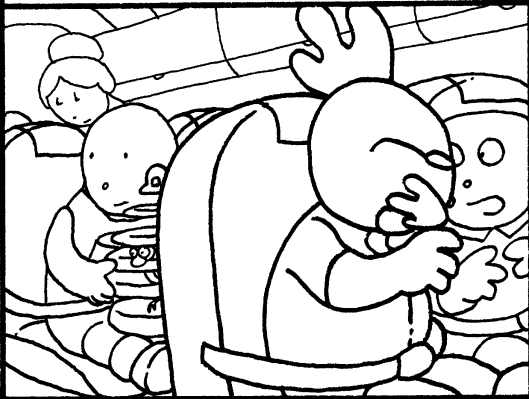
TIRED, YET EXCITED, LOUIS HAD WOKEN EARLY FOR THE COURTESY COACH.



PLEASE HAVE YOUR LUCKY WINNER VOUCHER READY ON BOARDING.



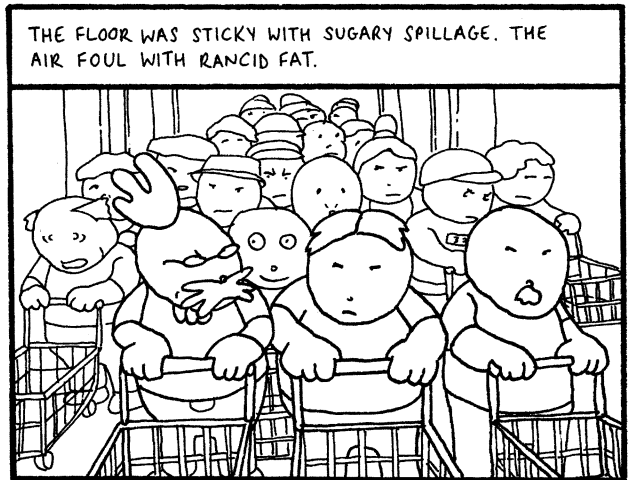
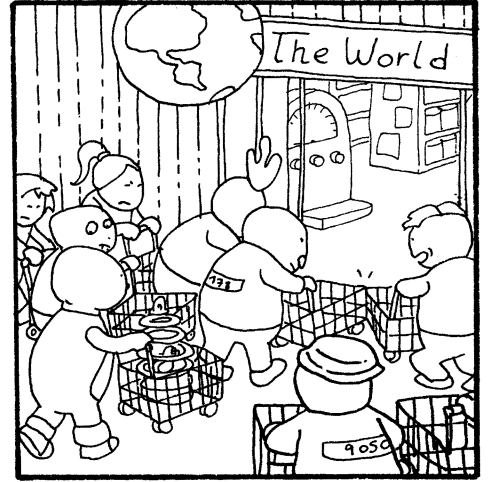
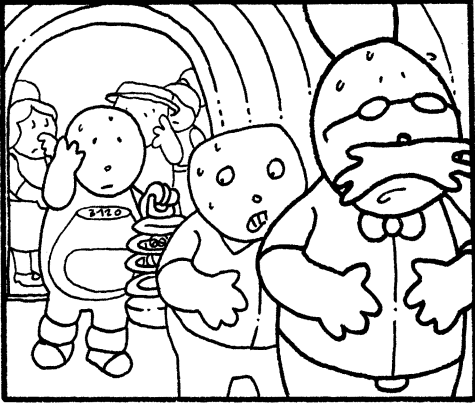
HE HAD NEVER REALLY FLOWN BEFORE. IT WOULD BE CONFUSING FOR FC.



A WHO'S WHO OF HEBBLY... IT'S MR HEBB...LY HEB!



LOUIS FELT RELIEVED WHEN THE PLANE FINALLY LANDED.

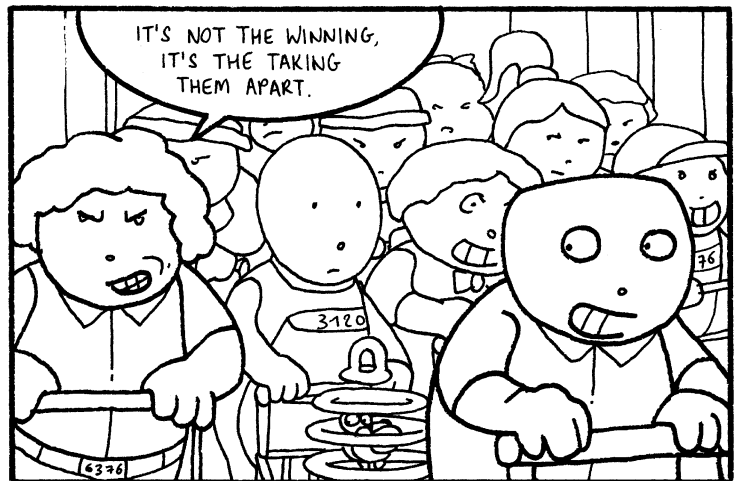


THE FLOOR WAS STICKY WITH SUGARY SPILLAGE. THE AIR FOUL WITH RANCID FAT.

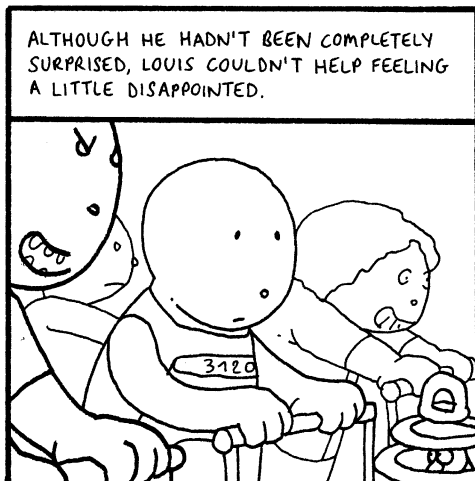
THE WORLD WAS A SHOPPING CENTRE, AN ASSAULT ON ALL FIVE SENSES.



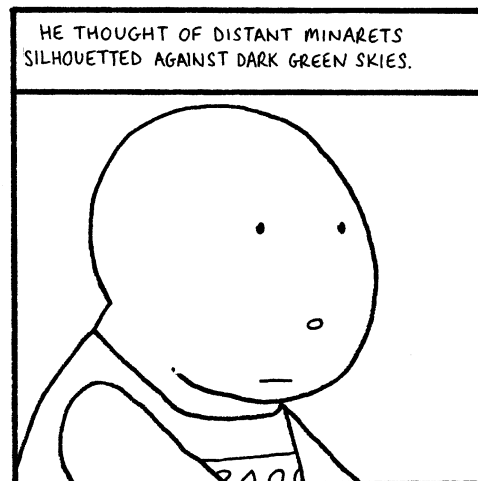
LUCKY WINNERS... PLEASE... READY YOUR TROLLEES! THE WORLD IS WAITING!!



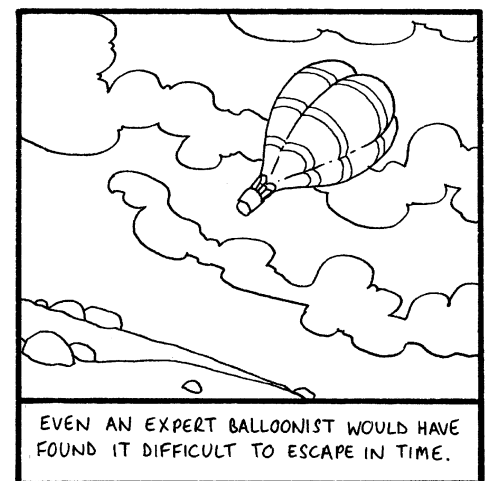
IT'S NOT THE WINNING, IT'S THE TAKING THEM APART.



ALTHOUGH HE HADN'T BEEN COMPLETELY SURPRISED, LOUIS COULDN'T HELP FEELING A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED.



HE THOUGHT OF DISTANT MINARETS SILHOUETTED AGAINST DARK GREEN SKIES.



EVEN AN EXPERT BALLOONIST WOULD HAVE FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO ESCAPE IN TIME.