

# SPIRITS OF THE FOREST

## 妖怪森林外傳

*A botanist takes his daughter on his trips through the forests and towns of Taiwan – and the girl, who has supernatural powers, meets the local spirits. Six artists, six mythical spirits, six different styles – and one whole new look at Taiwanese folklore.*

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Sung, a botanist, travels Taiwan in search of unique plants – and takes his daughter, Laqi, with him. But Laqi has special powers and as they travel through Taiwan they see more than just the local sights – the local spirits also come out to meet them and fantastic adventures result.

An elusive white deer who transforms into a beautiful girl; a mischievous troublemaking monkey; a feared bird who wields a horrible curse; a goblin who makes children disappear; a cat ghost forever waiting for its beloved master; and a lonely little girl on a chair who just want to play.... Laqi's abilities lets her travel into the world of these spirits and hear their stories as she bridges the gap between her world and theirs.

A spin-off from the Laqi movie currently in production, the book features spirits and creatures drawn from the various peoples and places of Taiwan. It is a collection of six short pieces, each drawn by a different emerging graphic novel artist and so having its own unique style, linked to the others by a shared setting and characters. Each shows great imagination and an updating of Taiwan's myths.

### Tseng Yao-Ching 曾耀慶

Tseng Yao-Ching is a young illustrator and comic book artist who creates images using a multitude of different tools, such as Chinese calligraphy ink, poster paint, and cotton paper. Tseng faithfully records dreams, and often makes them the subject of illustrations. Tseng was nominated for the 2013 Golden Comic Award for Best New Artist, and was invited to represent Taiwan at the 2018 Angoulême International Comics Festival.



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## Lo Ning 羅寧

A native of Hsinchu now resident in Taipei. Currently a freelance illustrator and designer, she is gradually working more in digital formats.

## Huang Zen 黃正

Born 1994, Majored in commercial design and currently studying for an MA at Shih Chien University's Department of Communication Design. Huang enjoys reading and creating sci-fi style illustrations.

## Lee Weien 李瑋恩

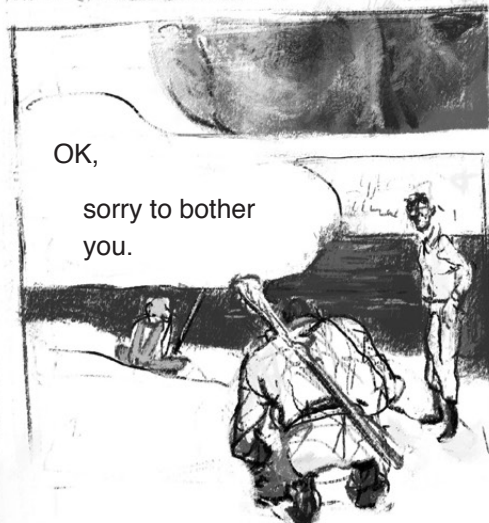
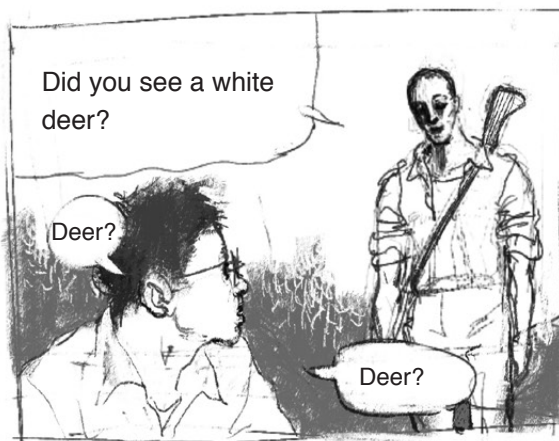
A graduate of the University for the Creative Arts in the UK, Li's works tend towards realism, using beautiful interlinked images to explore contemporary social issues. She participated in the 2019 Creative Expo Taiwan and in 2018 won a gold medal at the Taipei Illustration Fair and was a finalist in the 2nd Comico Original Graphic Novel Award.

## Elainee

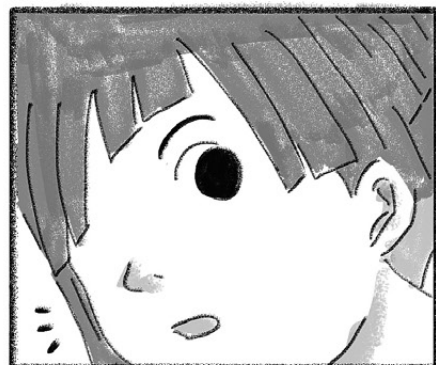
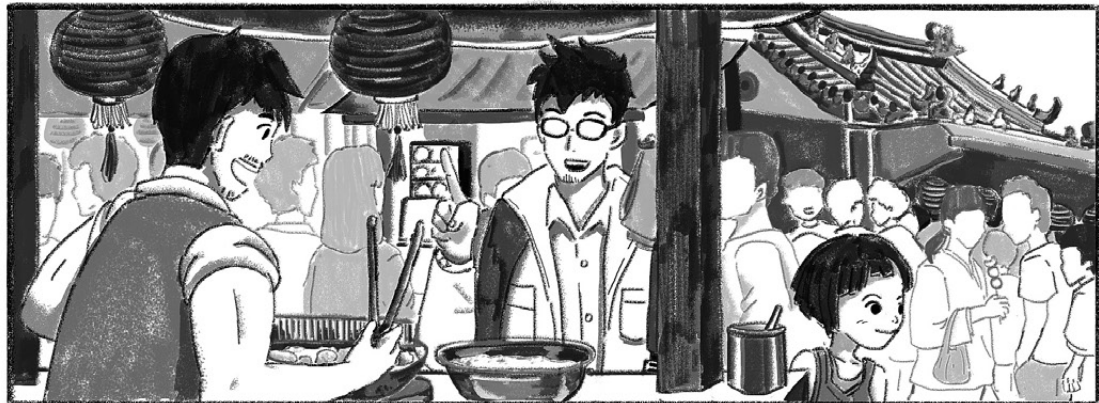
An illustrator, graphic novel artist and creator, Elaine studied occupational therapy at university and worked in hospitals and clinics for three years before realizing her true passion was art. And so she quit and became a street artist, setting up her stall where she could. In 2017 she obtained an MA from London's Royal College of Art and was awarded a residency in Angoulême.

## Penpoint 筆頭

Between 2012 and 2014, Penpoint contributed the "Desert Hospital" and "Jungle Hospital" installments of the *Creative Comic Collection's Aid Doctor* series. In 2015, *Imbalanced* was serialized on Comico. Between 2017 and 2018 she contributed illustrations to Dala Publishing's *Let's Talk About Love Love* and Locus Publishing's stand-alone *The Glorious Changes of Chinese Characters*. Artist in residence at the Angoulême International Comics Festival, 2019-2020.

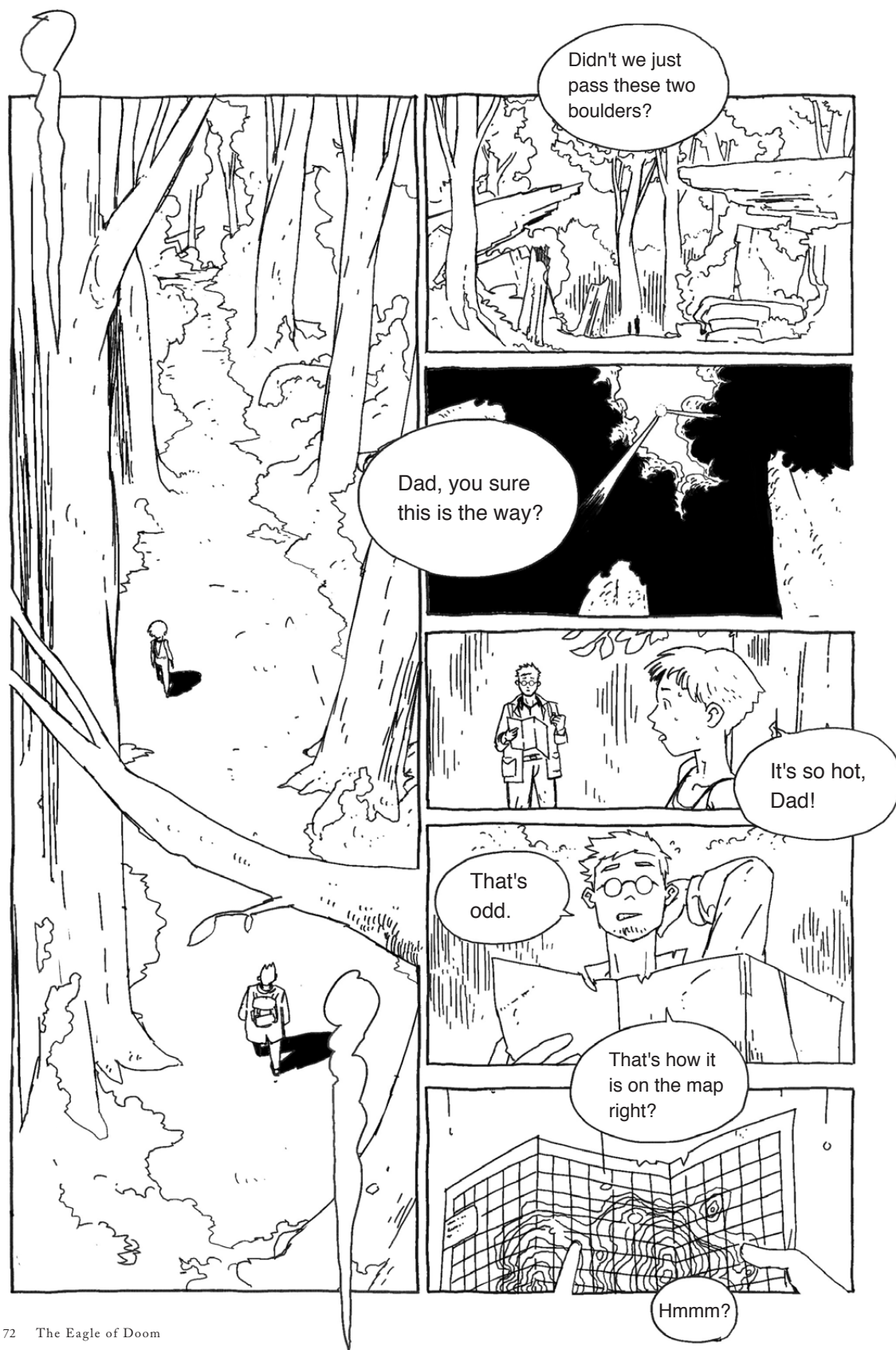


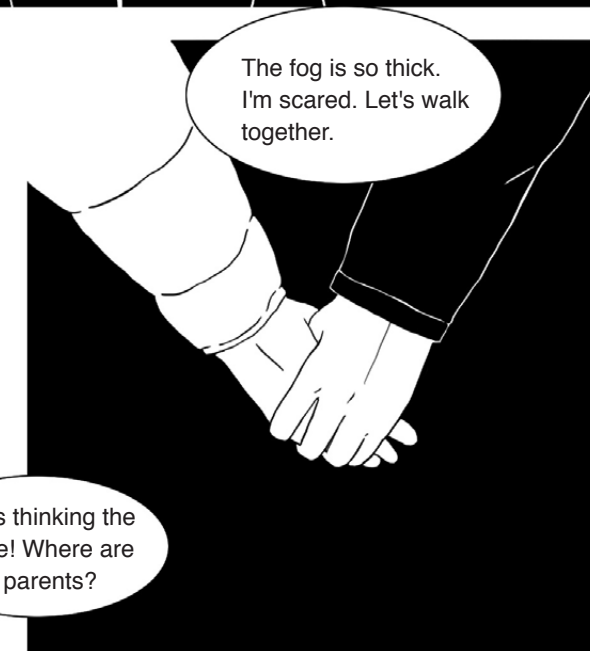




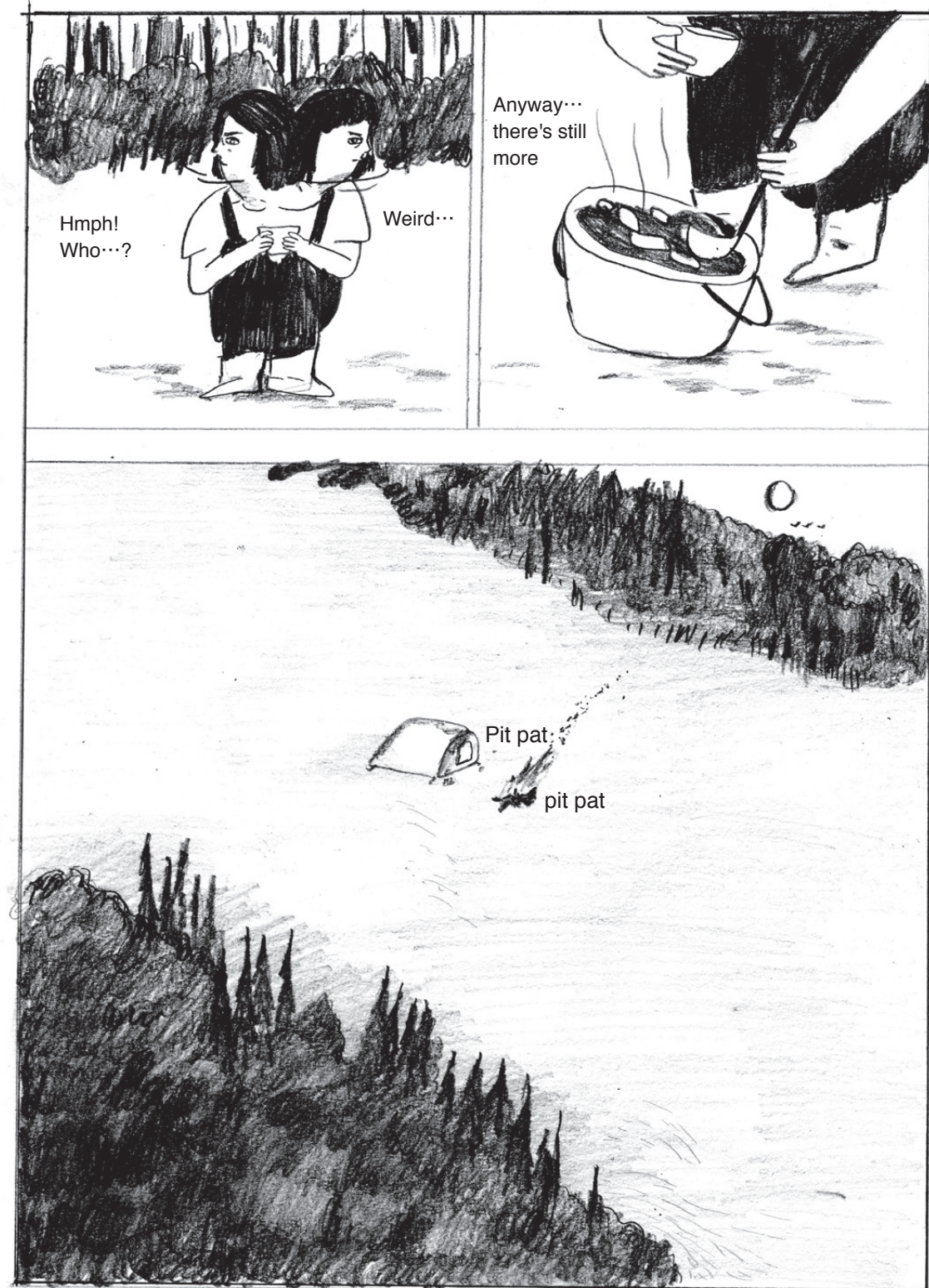
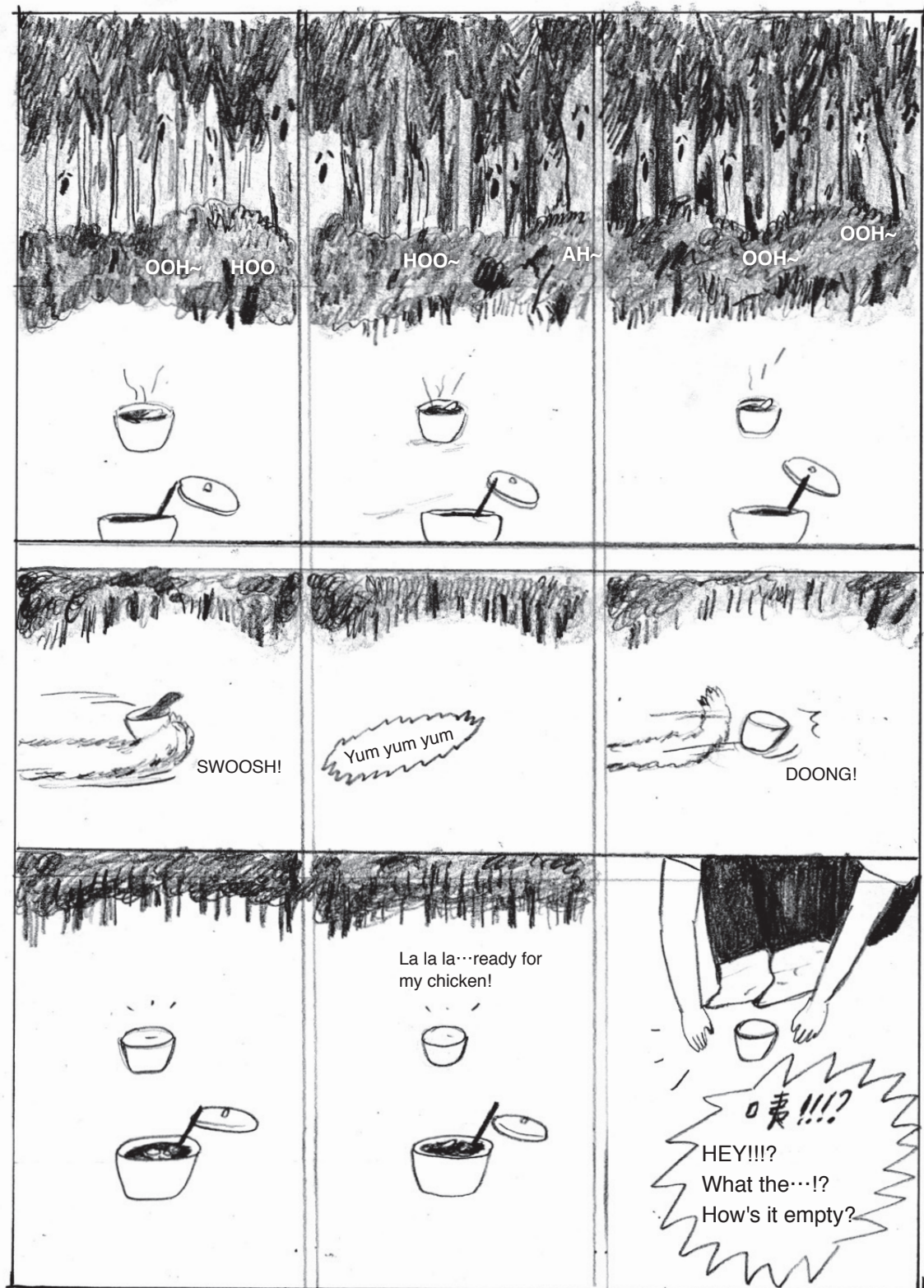
Earth God's Birthday











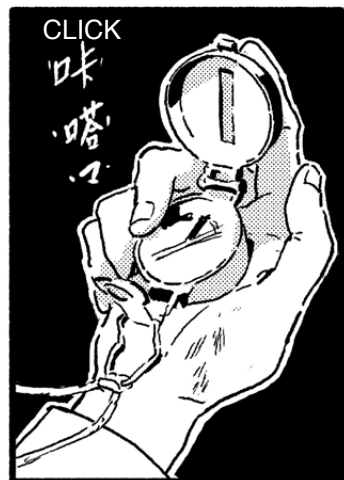




Ay....

I'm walking in circles again...

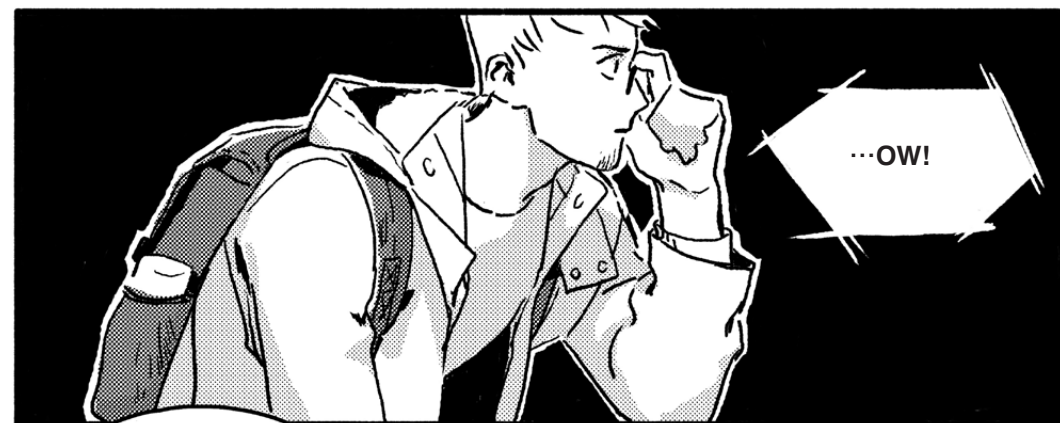
Laqi...where are you?



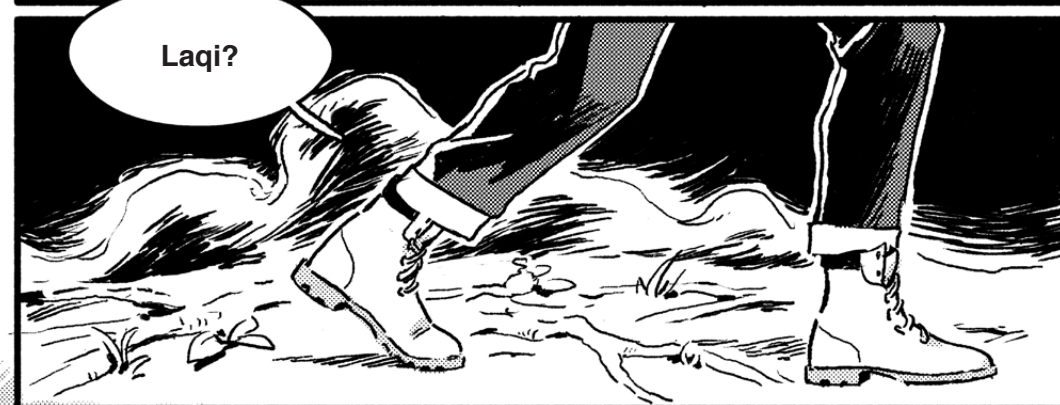
CLICK  
咔嗒



Hmmm?



...OW!



Laqi?



Help me...!