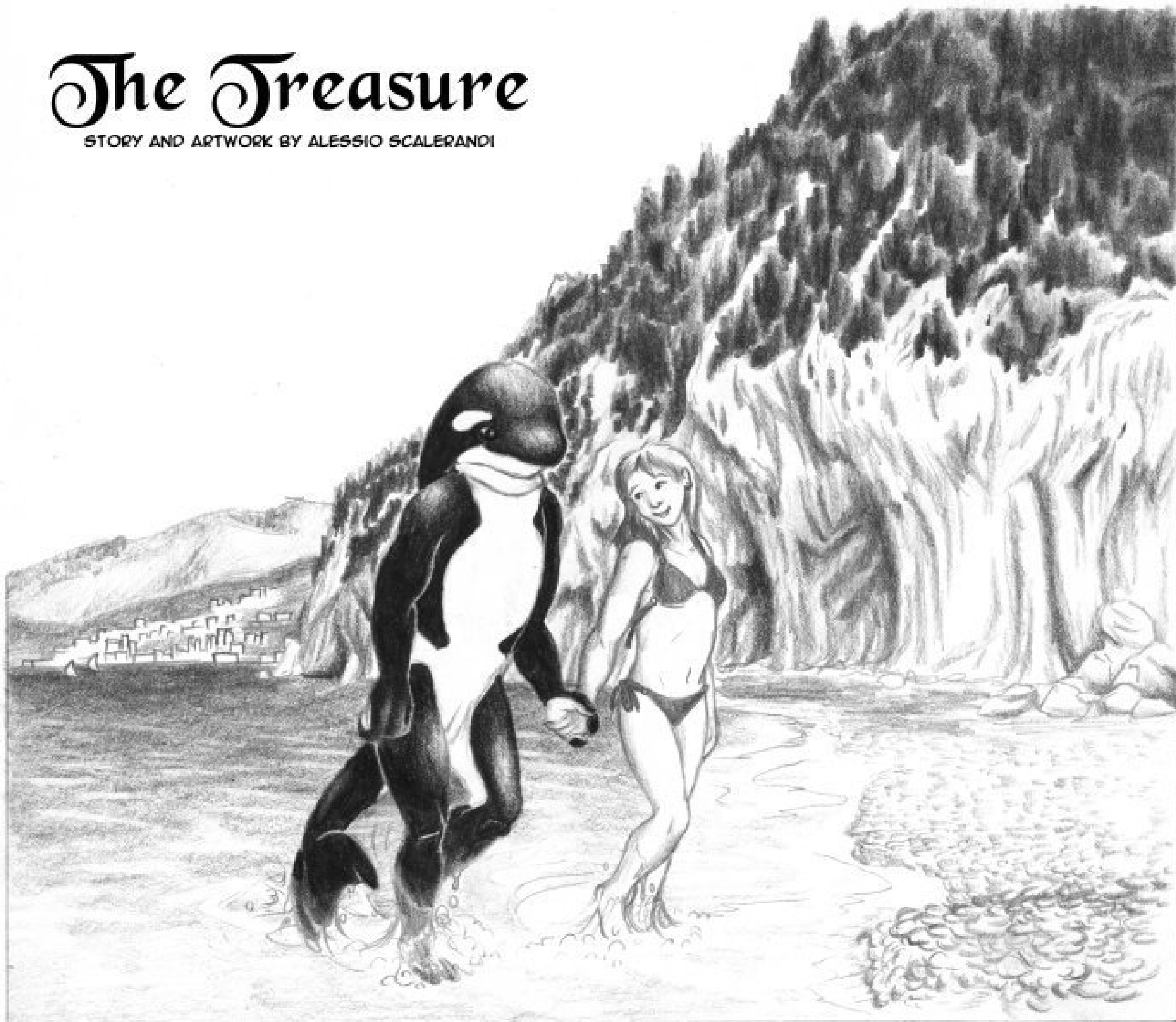


The Treasure

STORY AND ARTWORK BY ALESSIO SCALERANDI



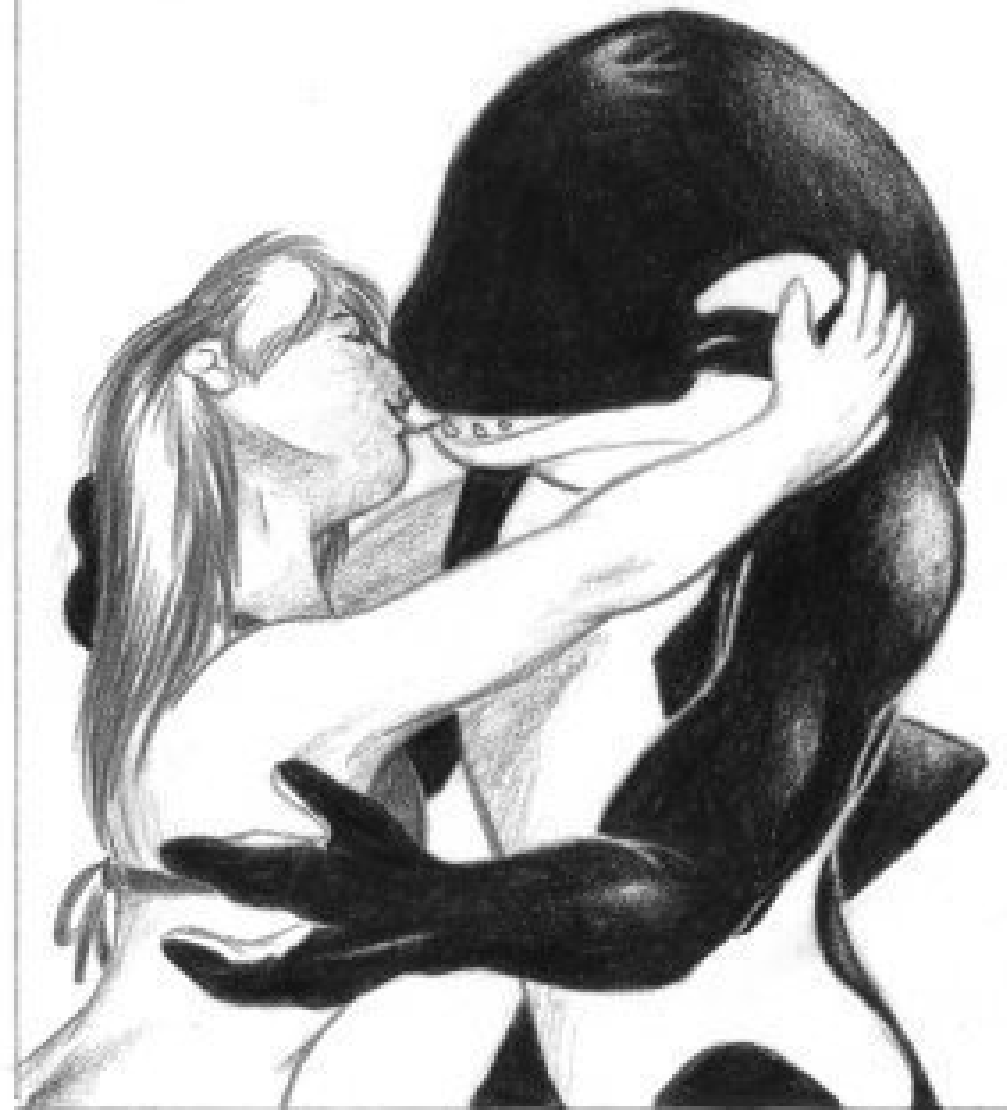
ONLY TODAY AND TOMORROW LEFT... I AM SO SAD I MUST DEPART ALREADY, IT HAS BEEN SO GOOD WITH YOU... PLEASE, PROMISE ME I'LL HEAR FROM YOU SOON!



YES, OF COURSE! BUT WAIT, I WANT TO MAKE YOU A PRESENT BEFORE YOU GO... SO YOU WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER ME...



YOU ARE SO KIND! THEN JUST TAKE THE MOST "SPECIAL" THING YOU KNOW INTO THE SEA! A SMALL SEA TREASURE!



UHM... SHE HAD ONE OF THOSE *REALLY* DIFFICULT EXPRESSIONS... WHAT DID SHE MEAN? I GUESS SHE WAS JUST JOKING, BUT WHAT DID SHE MEAN BY "TREASURE"? I'M NOT SURE AT ALL. DARN, HUMAN FACES ARE SO HARD TO READ AT TIMES.



THE MOST SPECIAL THING I KNOW... WELL, YES, BUT I SHOULD GO VISIT THAT HORRIBLE PLACE...



I HAVE NO FEAR BUT THAT'S SUCH A SPOOKY PLACE... AND HUMANS KNOW WE NEVER GO THERE, IT IS TOO MUCH SICK OF A FEELING FOR US... MMM...



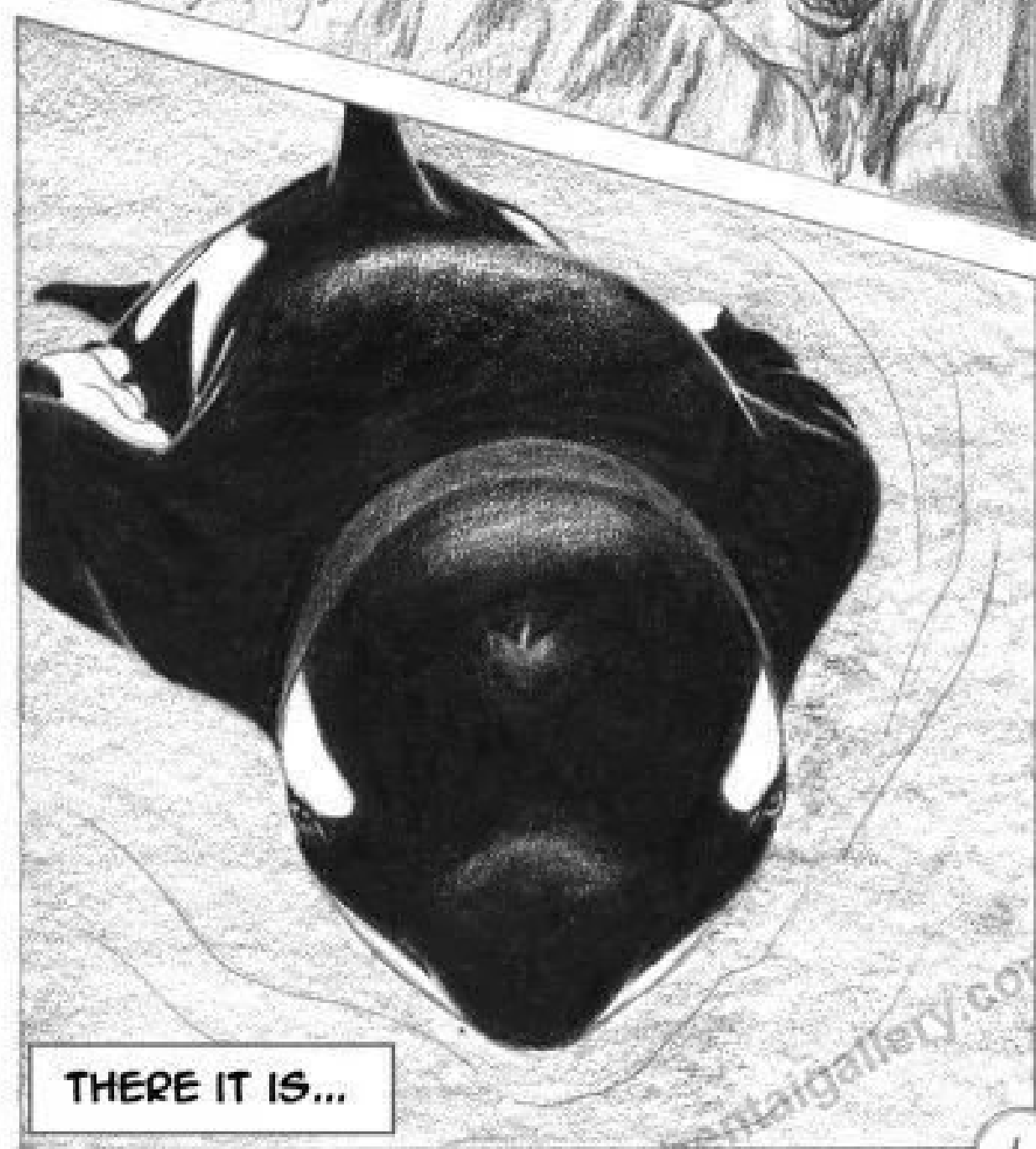
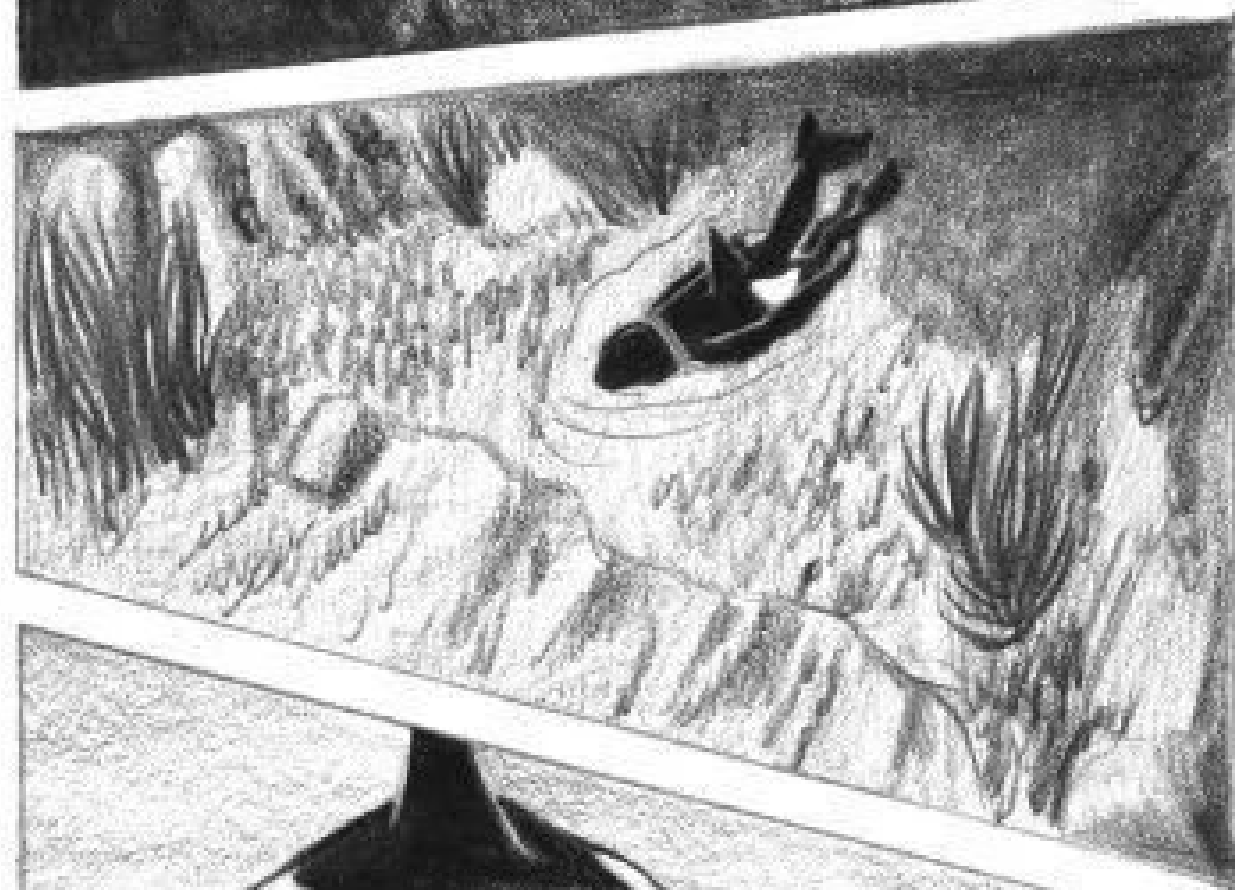
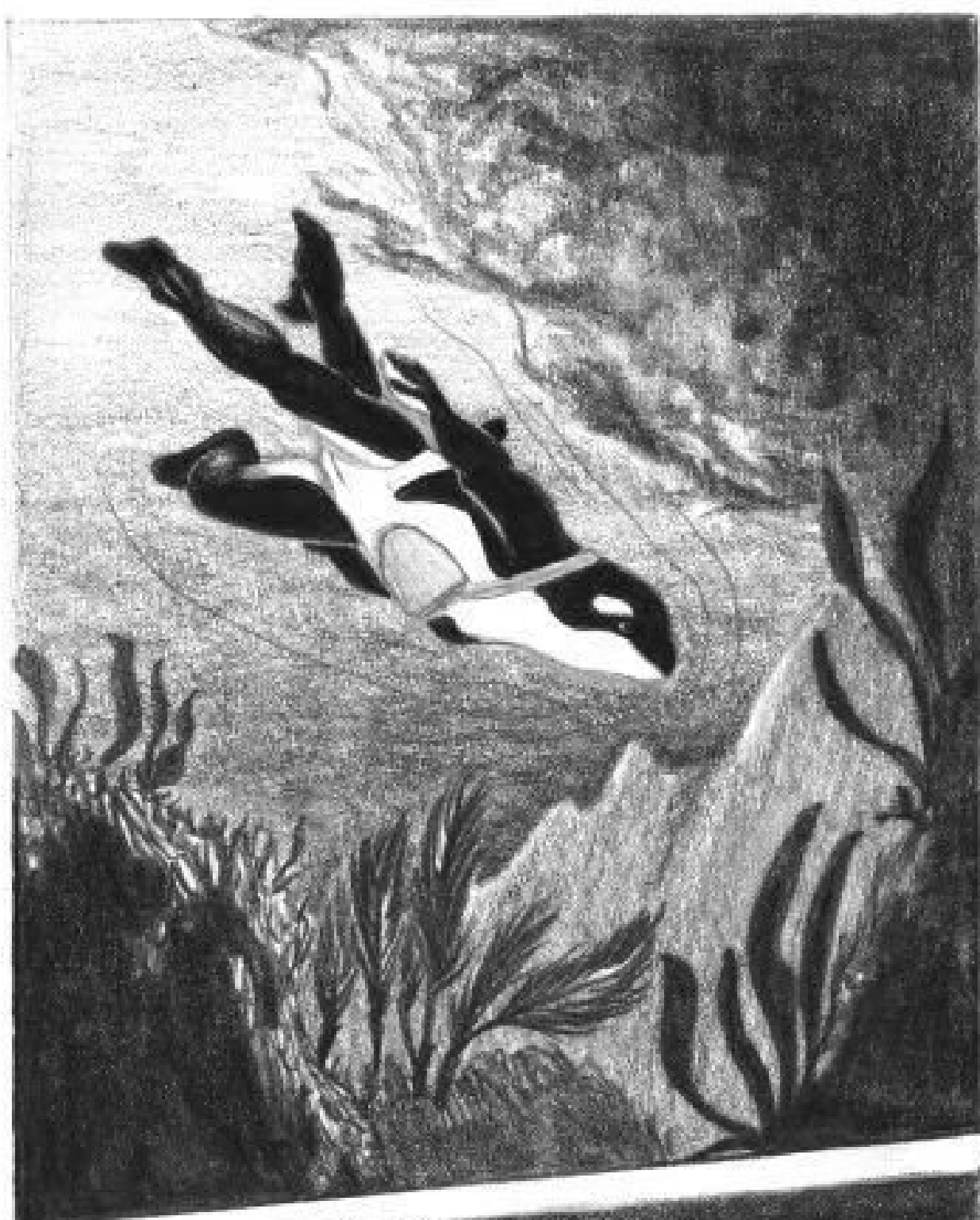
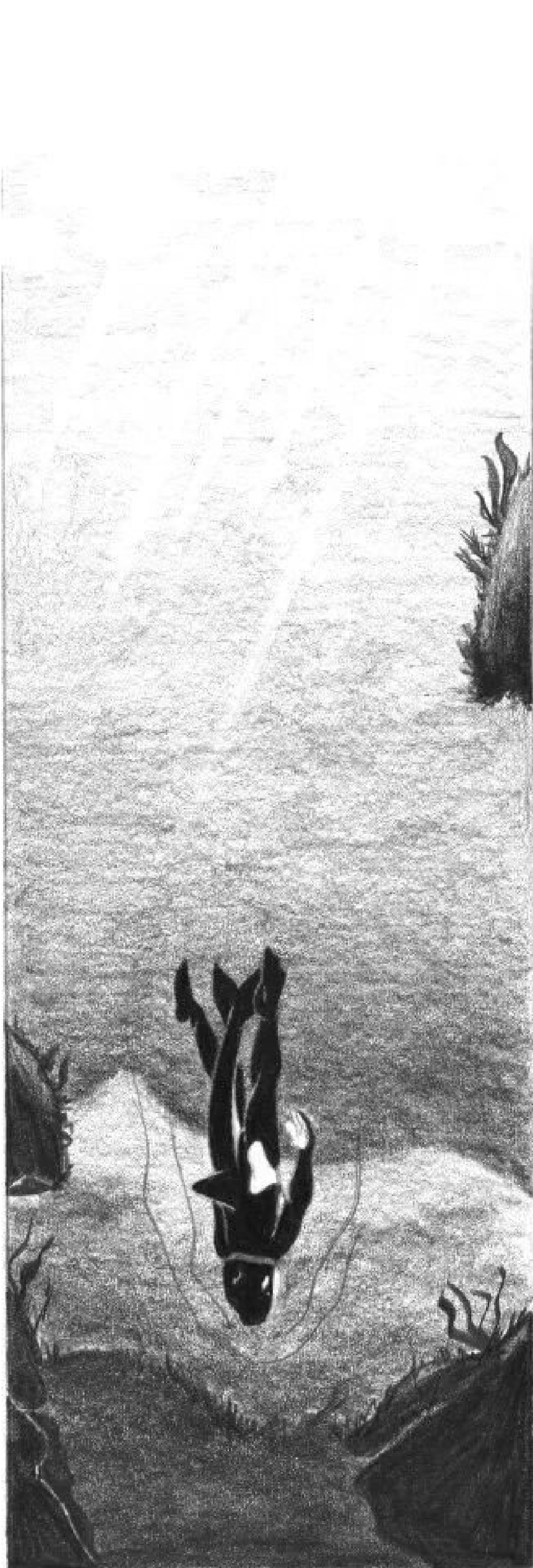
NEXT MORNING...

SOOO, A GOOD
BREATH...
AAAAHH!

JUST RELAX... THINK
OF HOW MUCH SHE
WILL BE HAPPY!

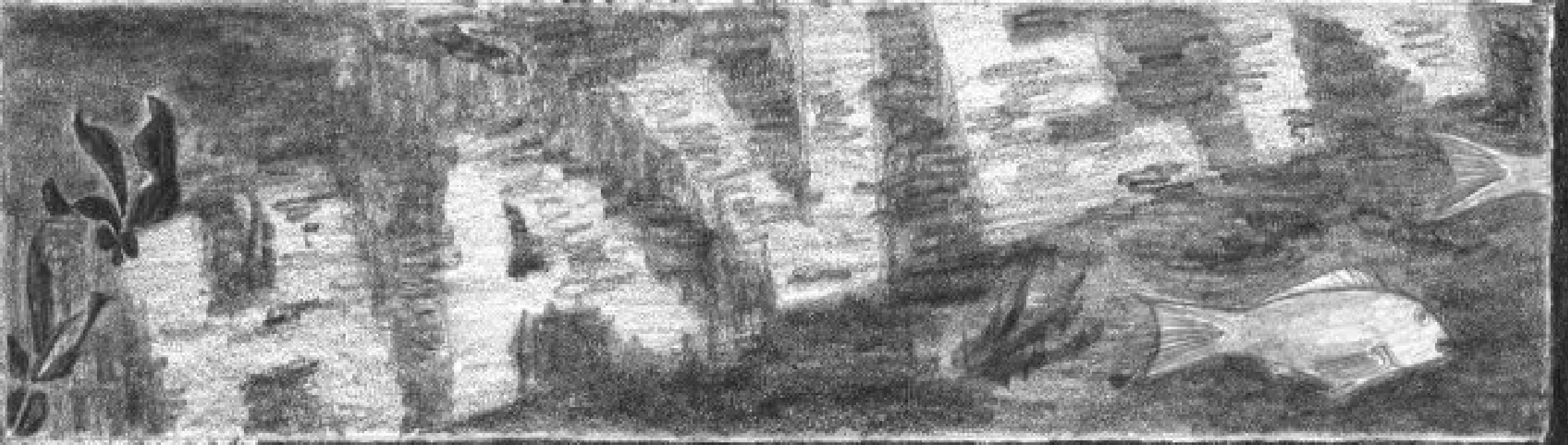
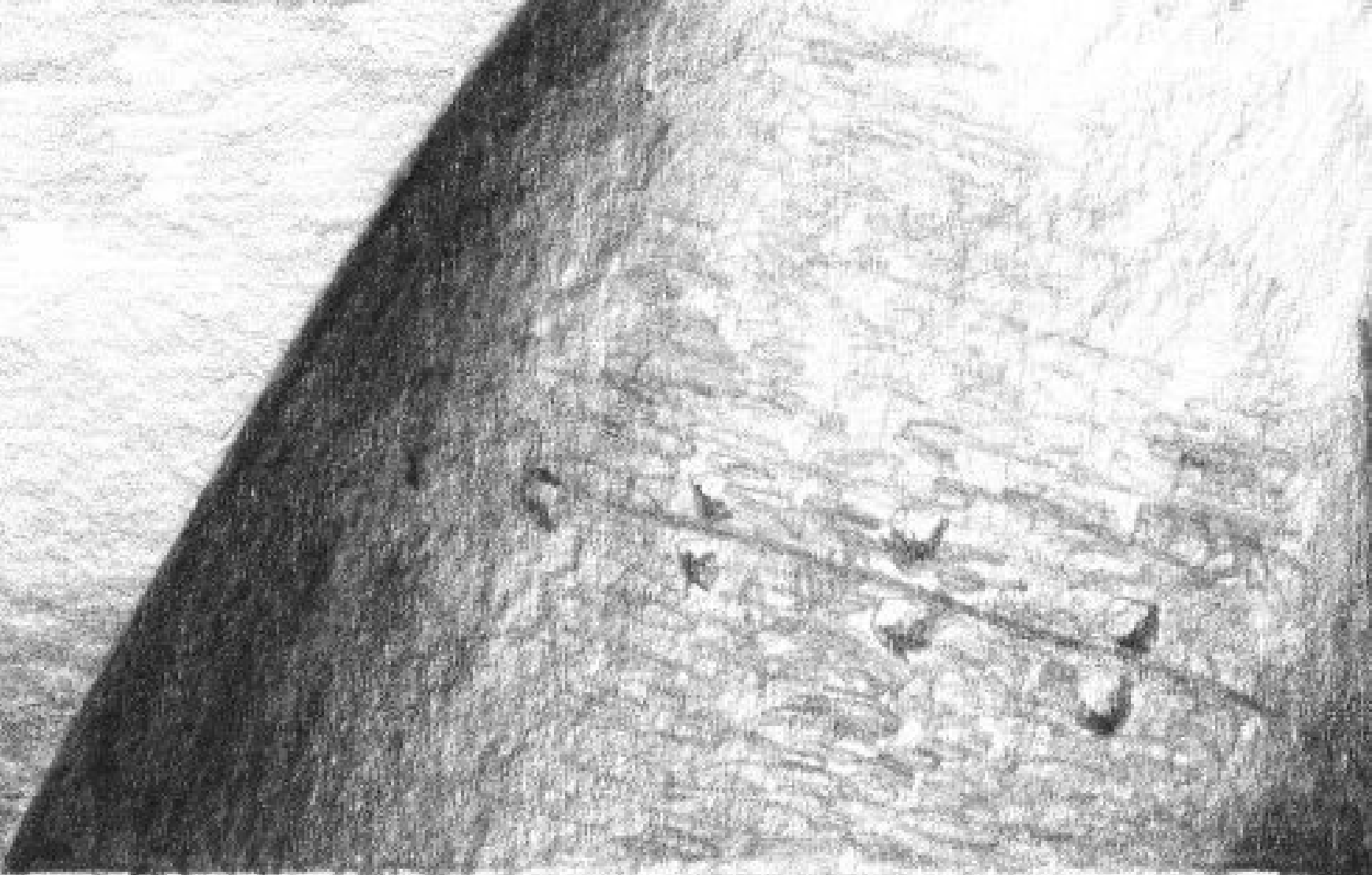
AFTER ALL WE DID
TOGETHER, I MUST REALLY
GIVE HER SOMETHING
SPECIAL. THAT'S FINE. IF
IT'S FOR HER, I MUST
REALLY GO GET *THAT*...

AFTER ALL IT
WON'T BE TOO
HARD FOR ME...



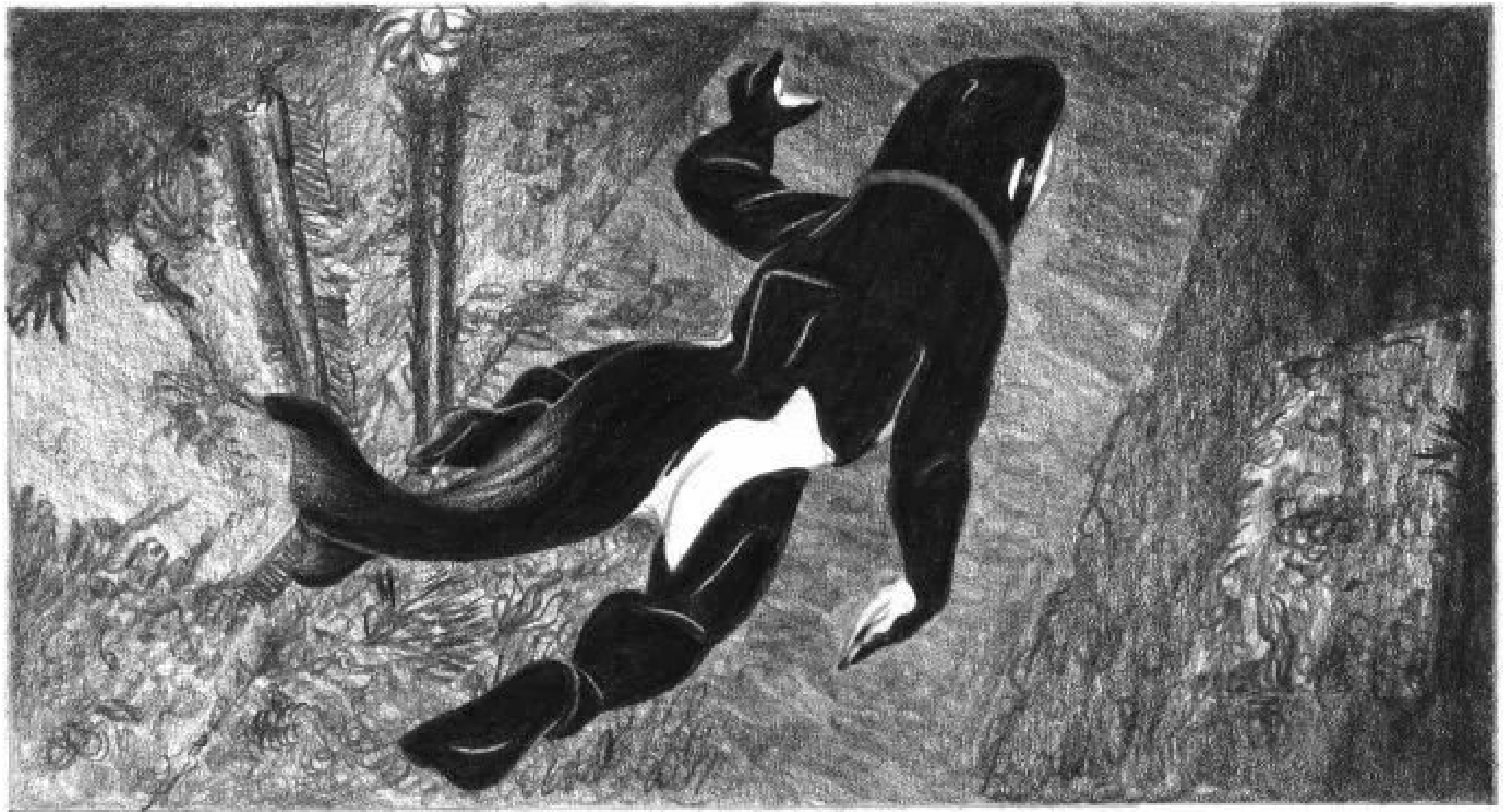
THERE IT IS...



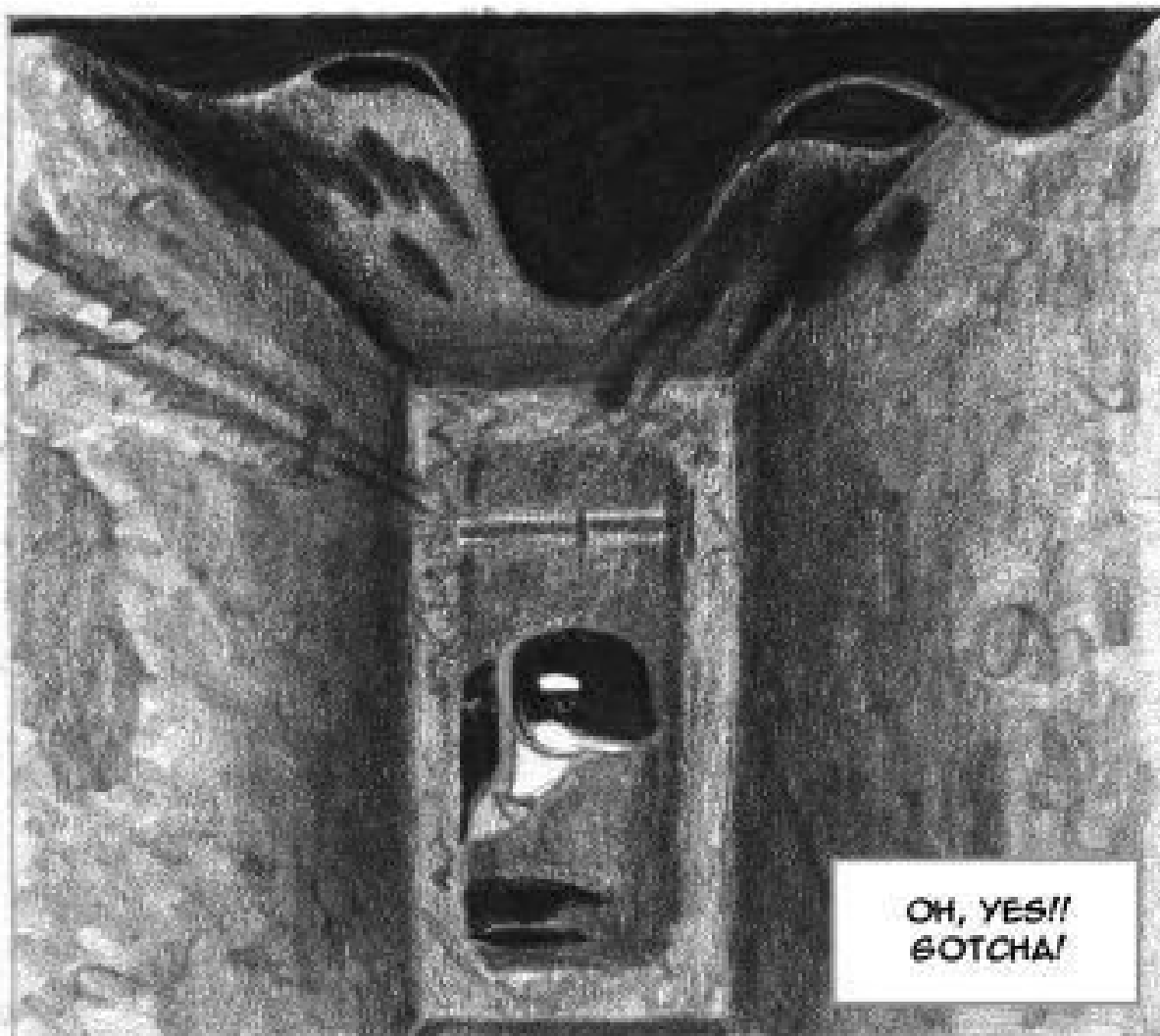
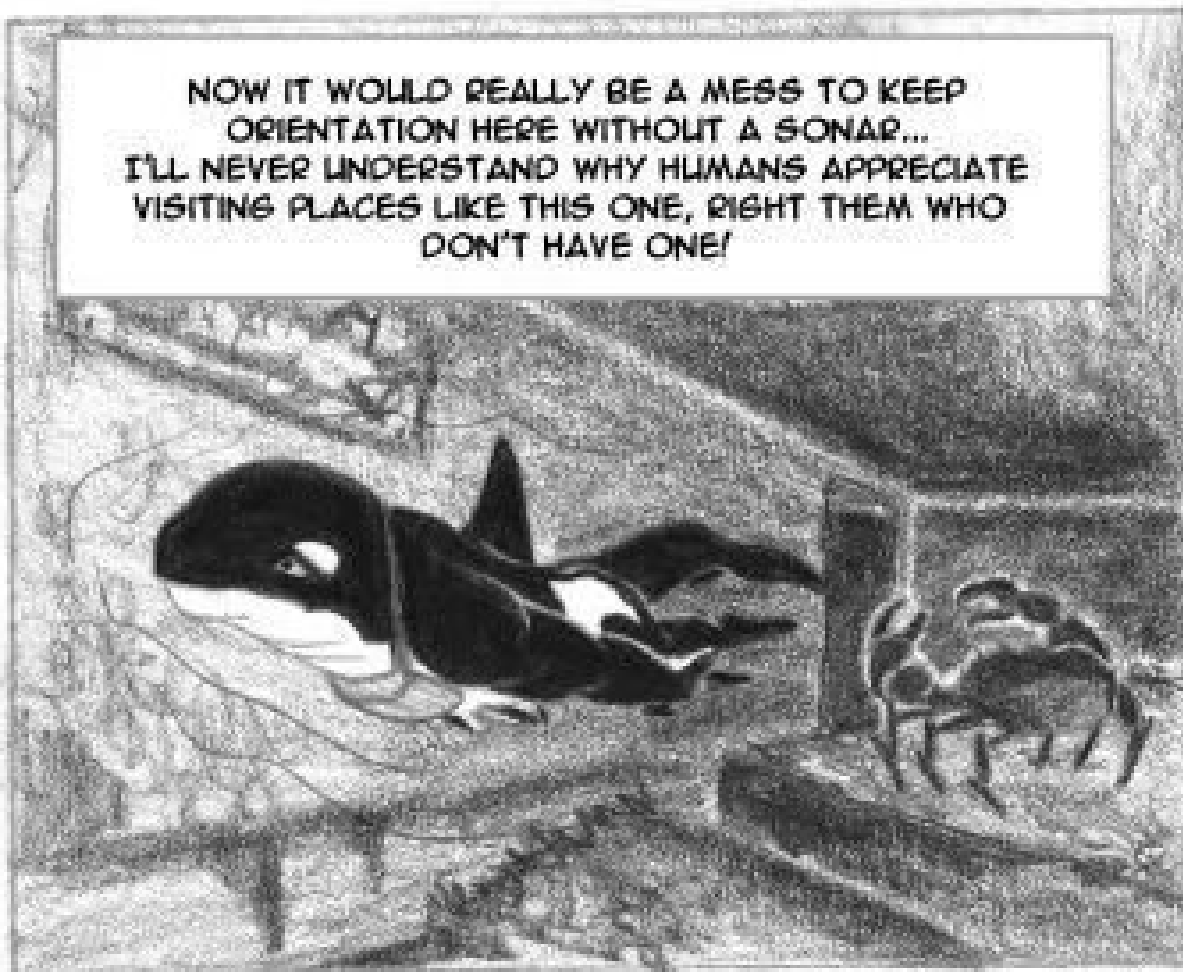


COME ON! I SHOULD
HAVE ENOUGH AIR...



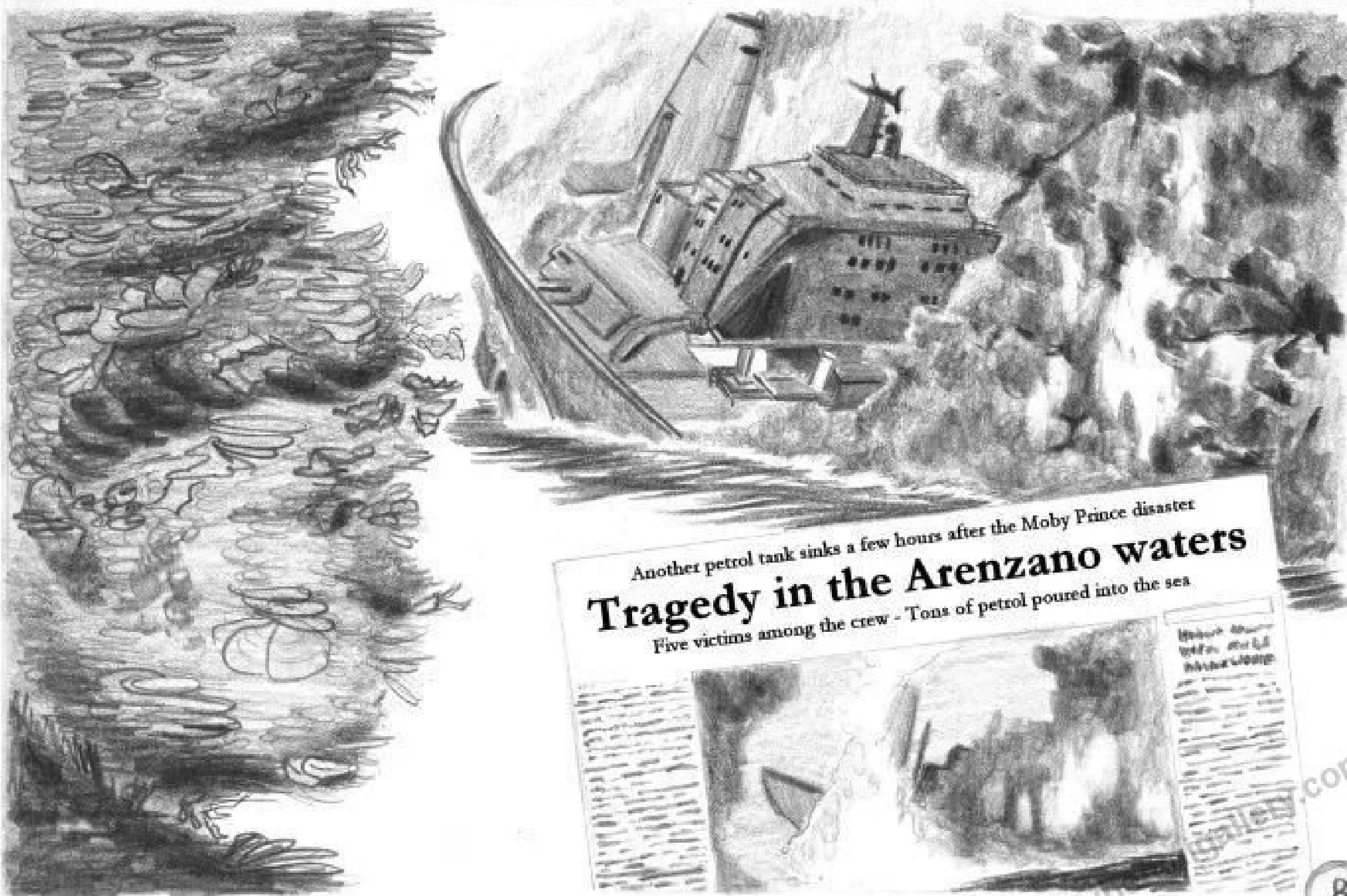
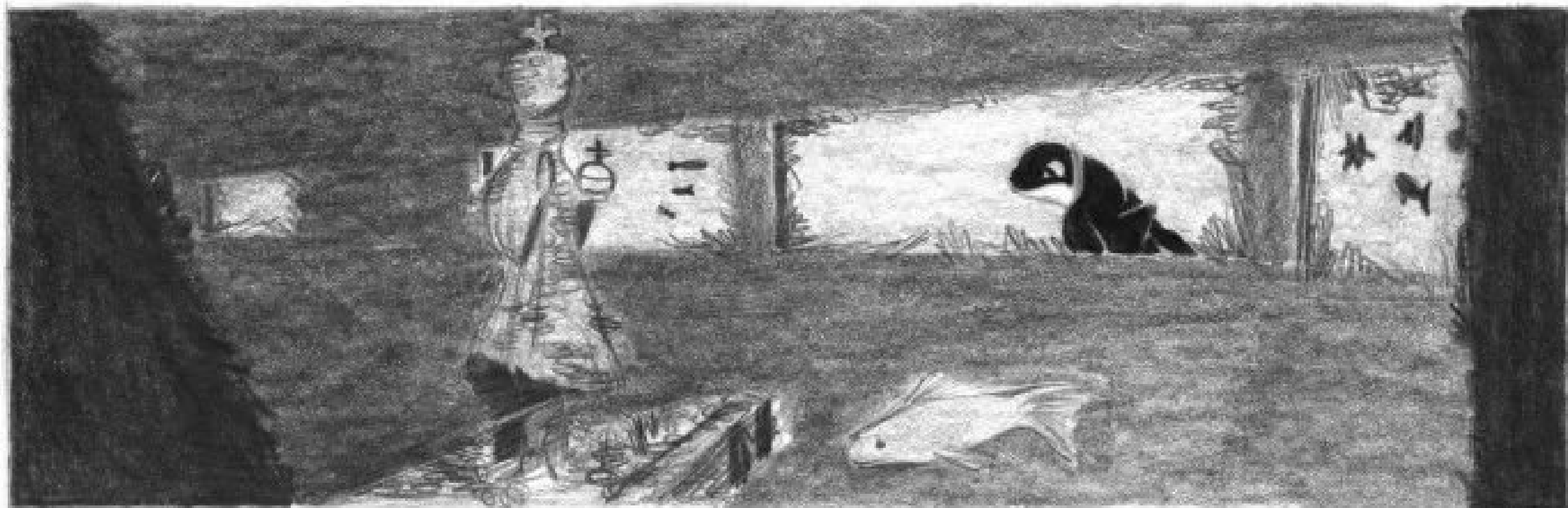
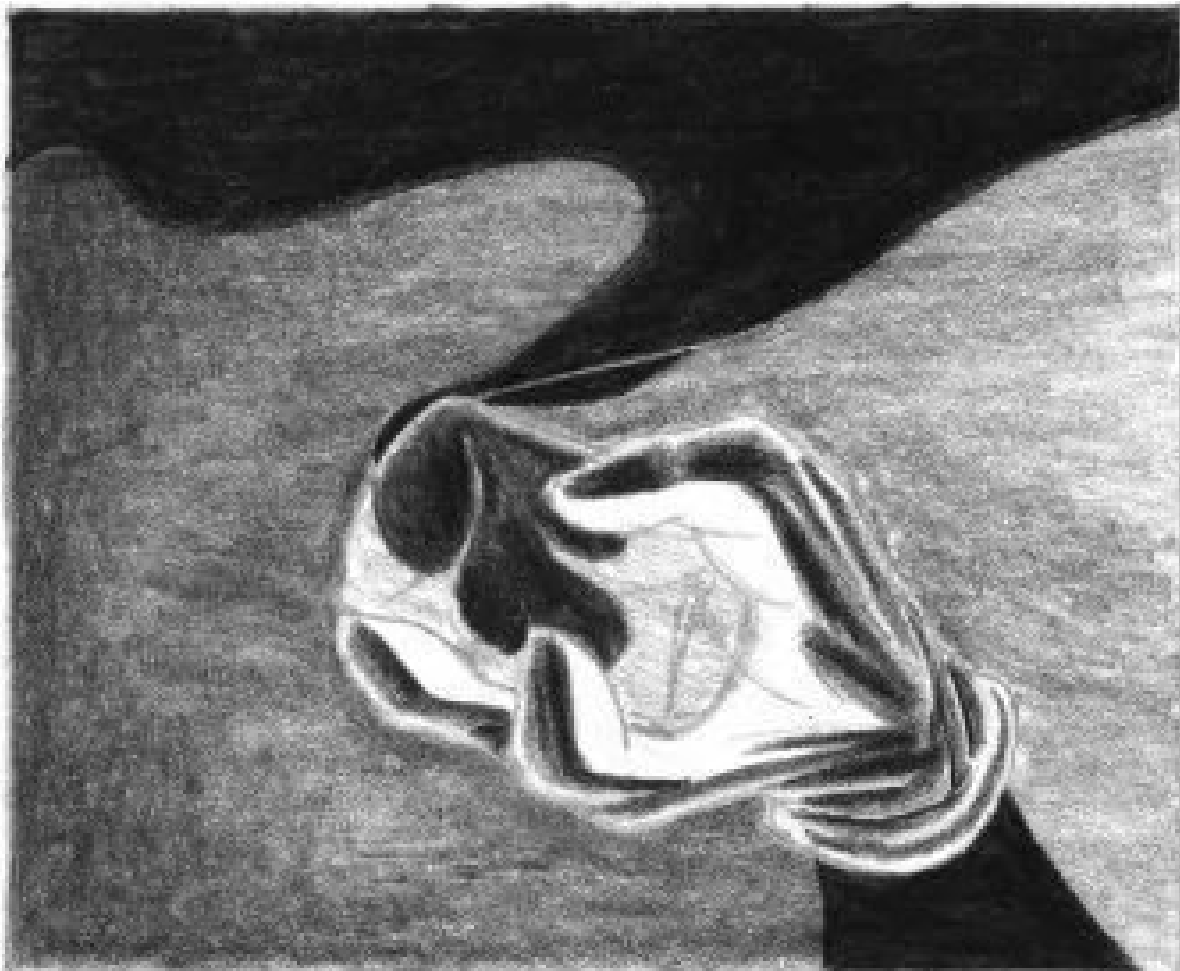


NOW IT WOULD REALLY BE A MESS TO KEEP
ORIENTATION HERE WITHOUT A SONAR...
I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND WHY HUMANS APPRECIATE
VISITING PLACES LIKE THIS ONE, RIGHT THEM WHO
DON'T HAVE ONE!

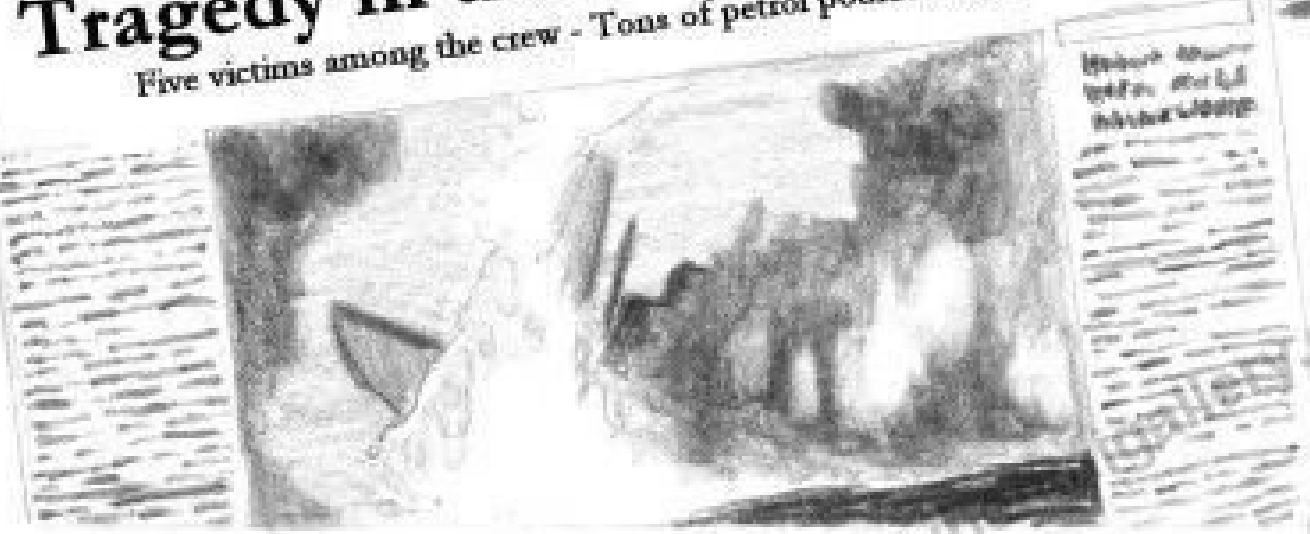


OH, YES!!
GOTCHA!





Another petrol tank sinks a few hours after the Moby Prince disaster
Tragedy in the Arenzano waters
Five victims among the crew - Tons of petrol poured into the sea



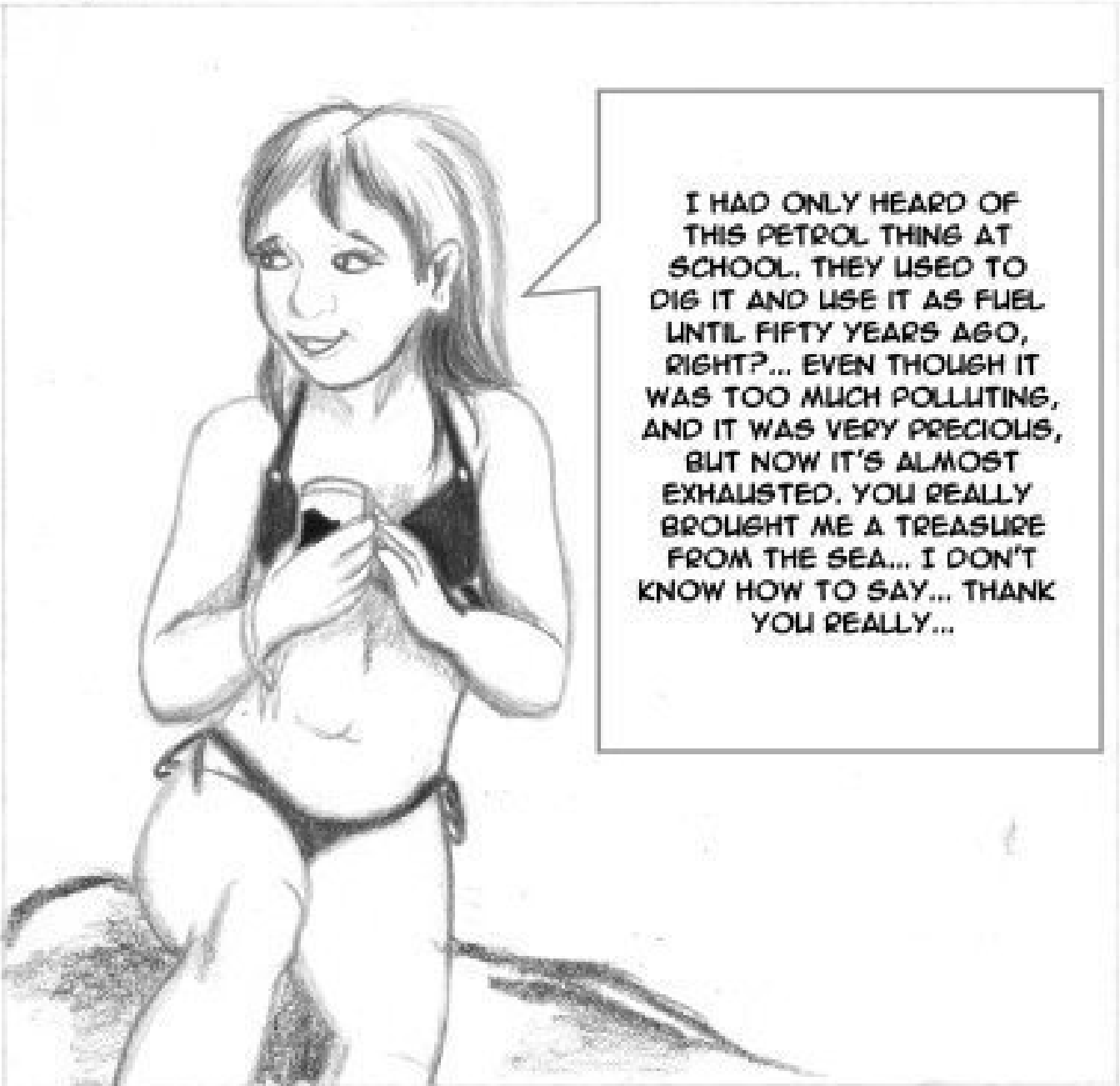


...HHHHHHHHHHH!

THAT EVENING...



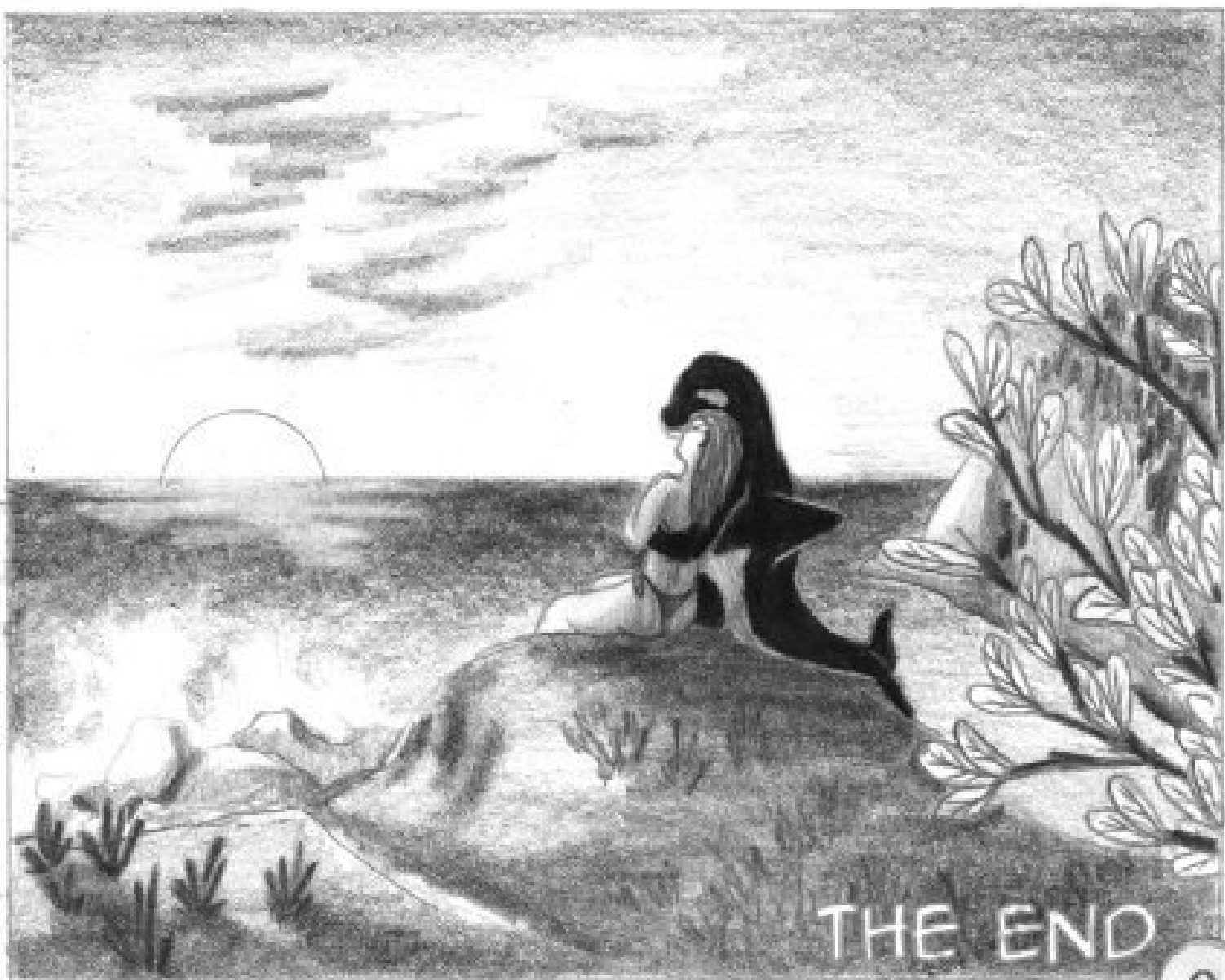
OH, THANK YOU!
BUT YOU ARE MAD! HOW MUCH
DID YOU RISK TO BRING ME THIS!?



I HAD ONLY HEARD OF
THIS PETROL THING AT
SCHOOL. THEY USED TO
DIG IT AND USE IT AS FUEL
UNTIL FIFTY YEARS AGO,
RIGHT?... EVEN THOUGH IT
WAS TOO MUCH POLLUTING,
AND IT WAS VERY PRECIOUS,
BUT NOW IT'S ALMOST
EXHAUSTED. YOU REALLY
BROUGHT ME A TREASURE
FROM THE SEA... I DON'T
KNOW HOW TO SAY... THANK
YOU REALLY...



IT MAKES ME THINK OF THE
COLOR OF YOUR SKIN, YOU KNOW?...



THE END