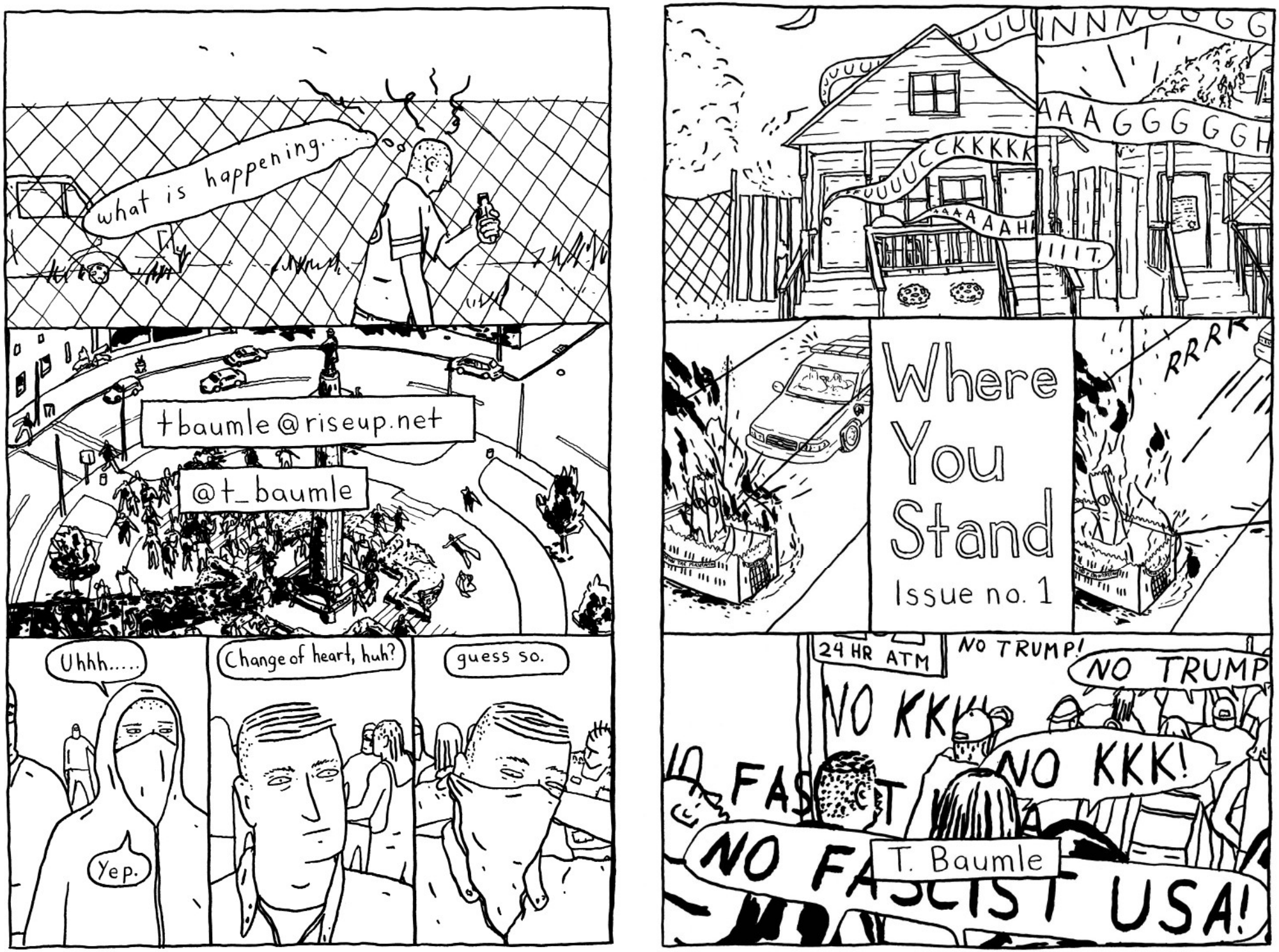
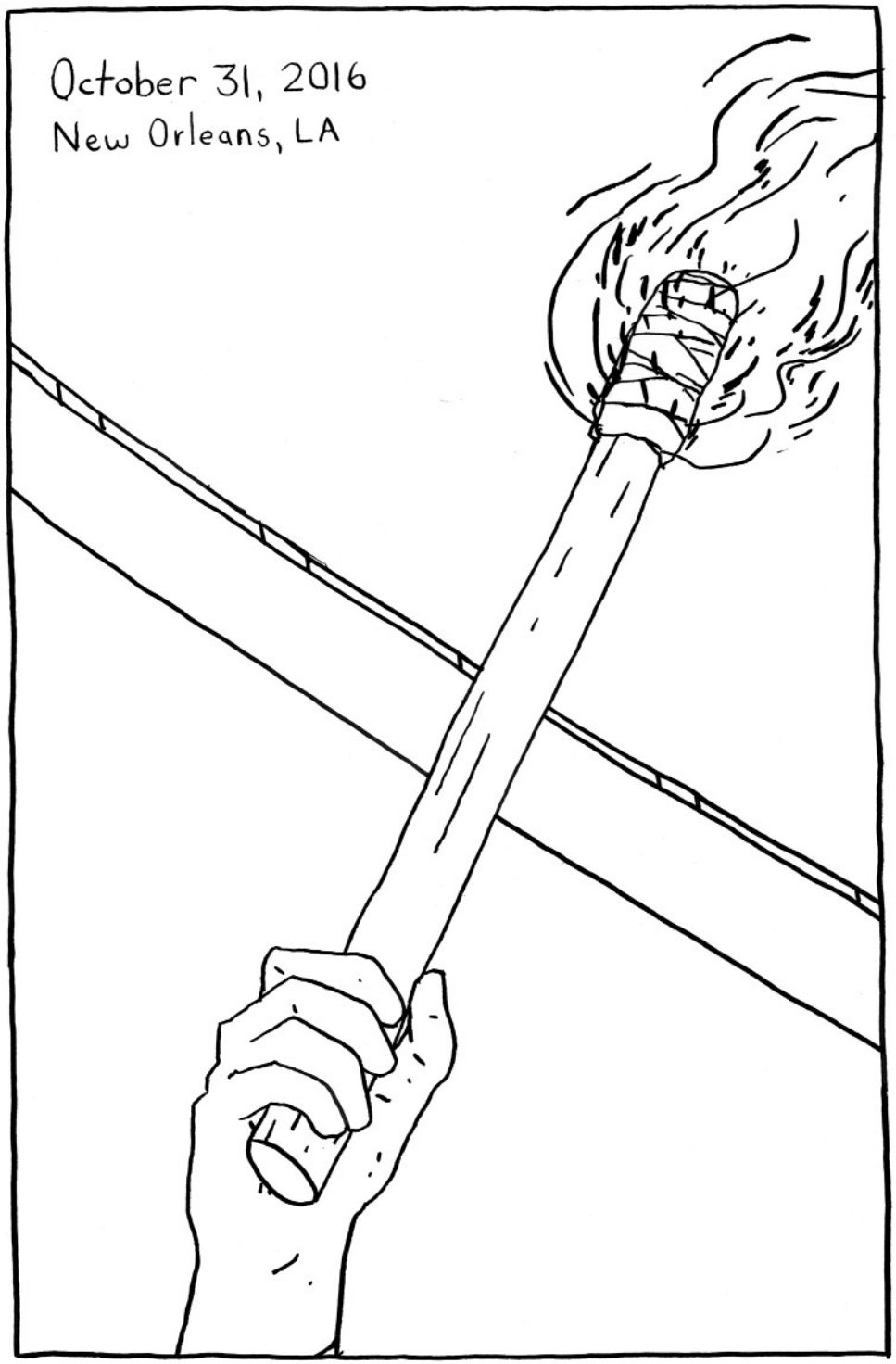

what is happening....
tbaumle@riseup.net
@t_baumle
Uhhh.....
Yep.
Change of heart, huh?
guess so.
UUUUCCKKKKK
AAAAAAH
IIIIT.
AAAGGGGGGH
RRRR
Where You Stand
Issue no. 1
24 HR ATM
NO TRUMP!
NO TRUMP
NO KKK!
NO KKK!
NO FASCIST USA!
T. Baumle

This is part one of a story about a year of antiracist and anarchist struggle in New Orleans. This book presents just one perspective of this story and does not attempt to speak for the larger movement or discredit other experiences in this struggle. All characters are fictional, any resemblance to actual people is purely coincidental.

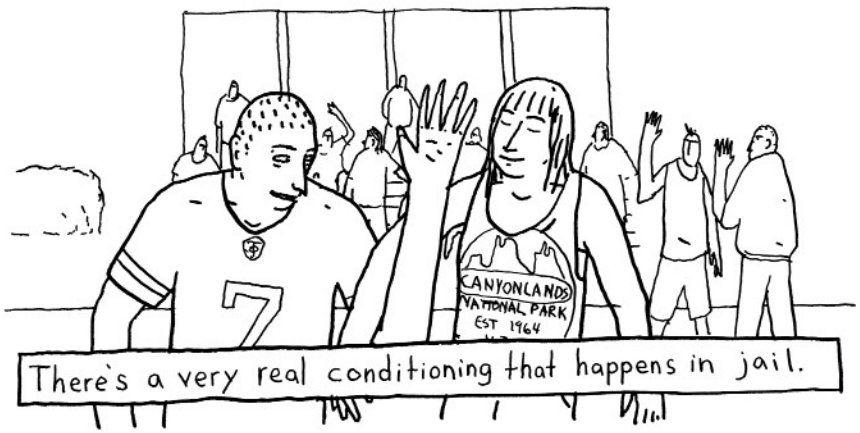
For all my comrades.
For those arrested in New Orleans and D.C. on January 20th, 2017.
For those blockading airports and preventing deportations.
For those brave people crossing deserts some call borders.
For the prison rebels and those in the streets.

Keep fighting.



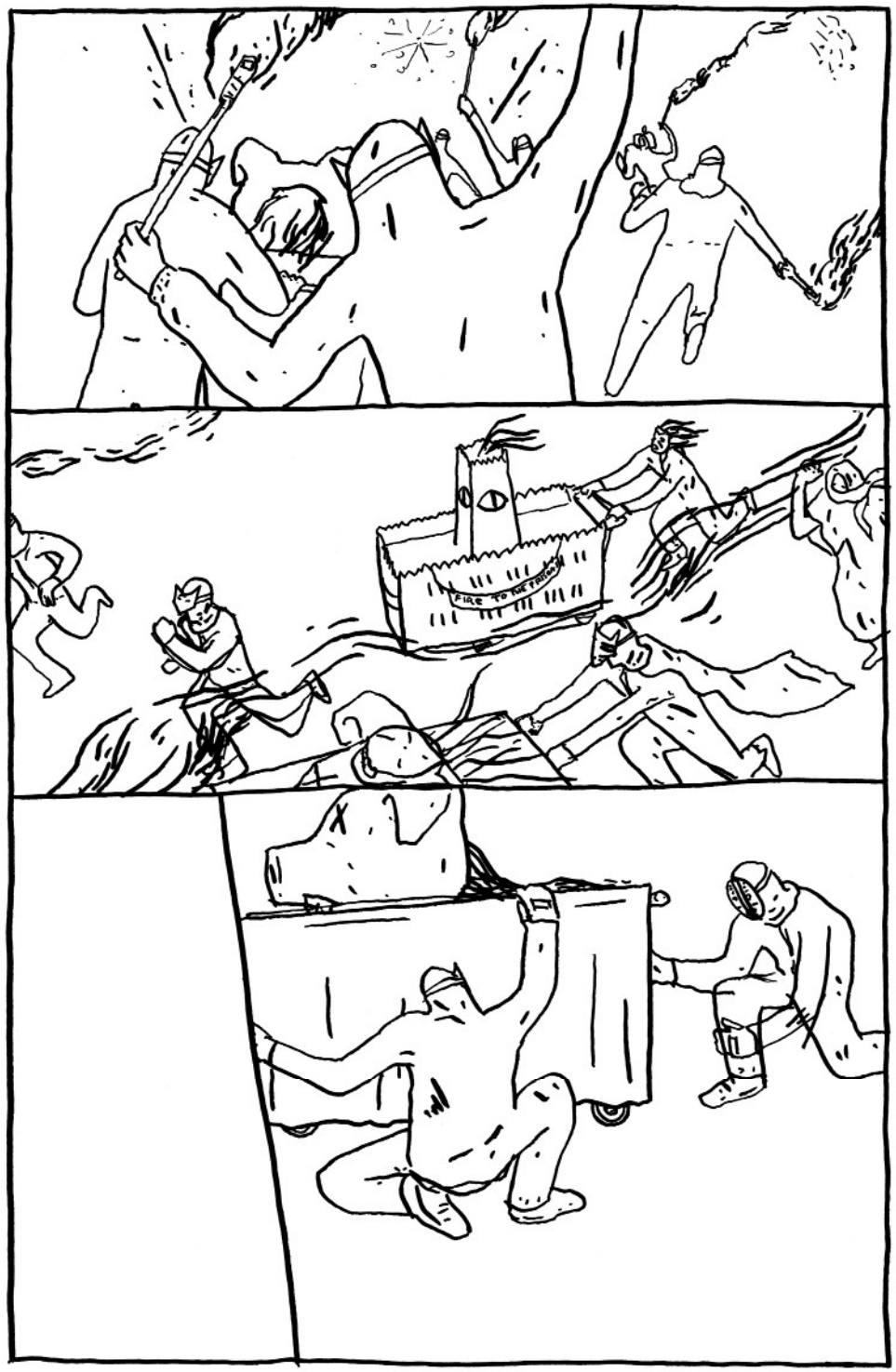
FIRE

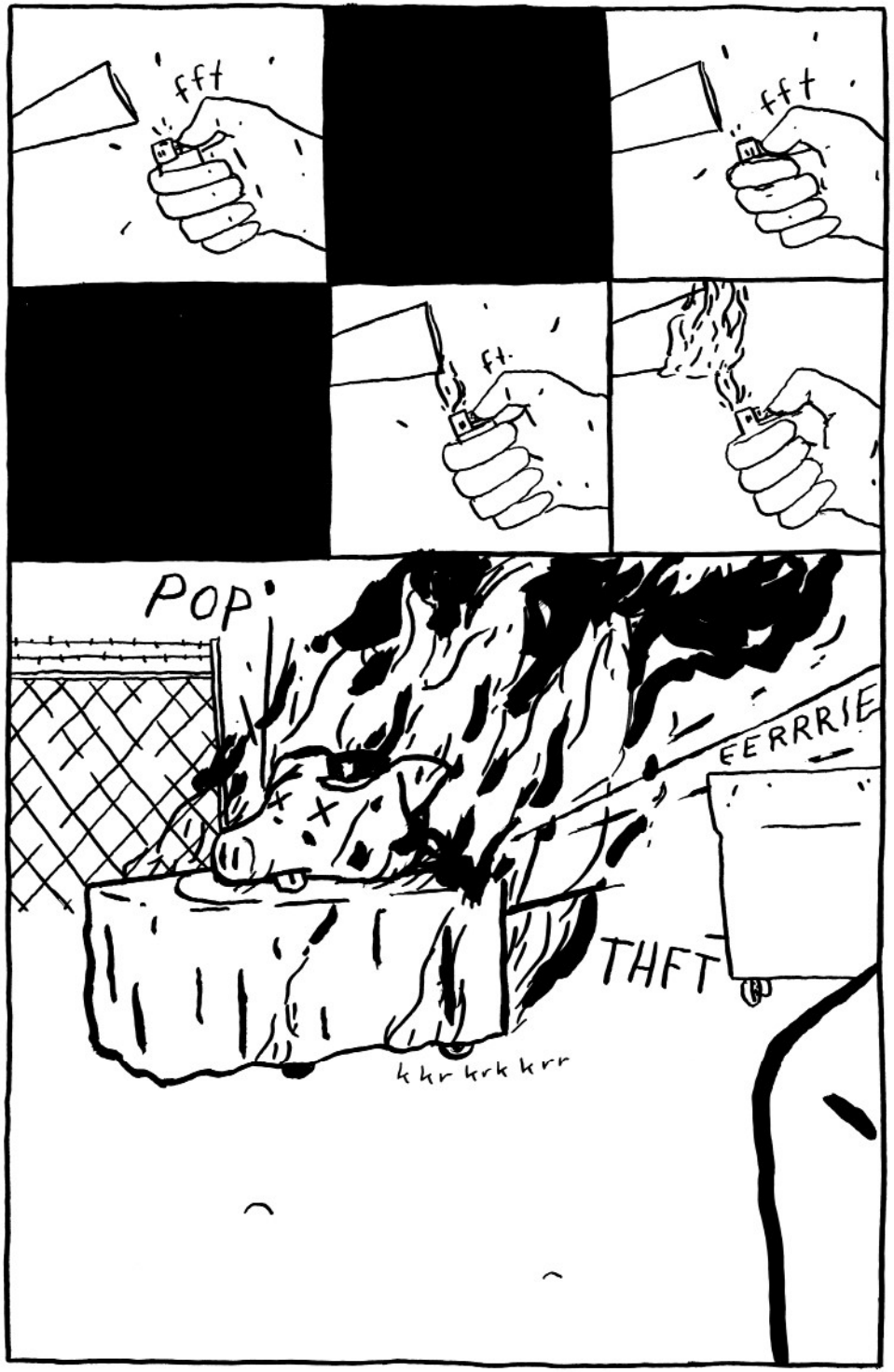
hehe
hehe
hehehe
hehe


CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK EST. 1964
There's a very real conditioning that happens in jail.

The cold, dry, sterile air is a constant reminder you're in captivity.

I can't unlock it with you pulling on the handle!
CLICK-CLICK!
EXIT
Walking outside, being embraced by the hot, humid, living New Orleans air that morning was the best feeling in the world.


FIRE TO THE PRISON

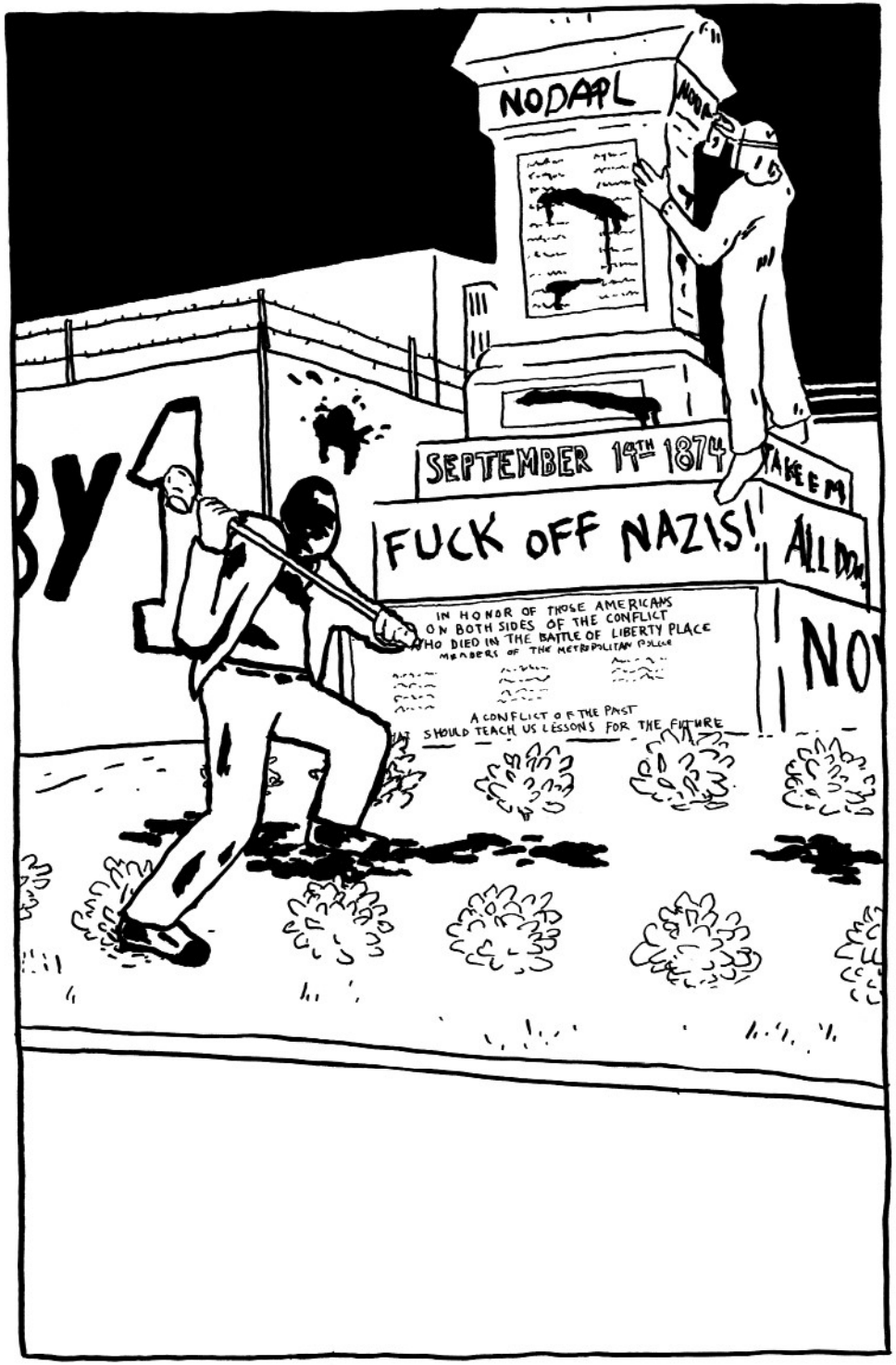

fft
fft
ft
POP
EERRRIE
THFT
khr krk krr

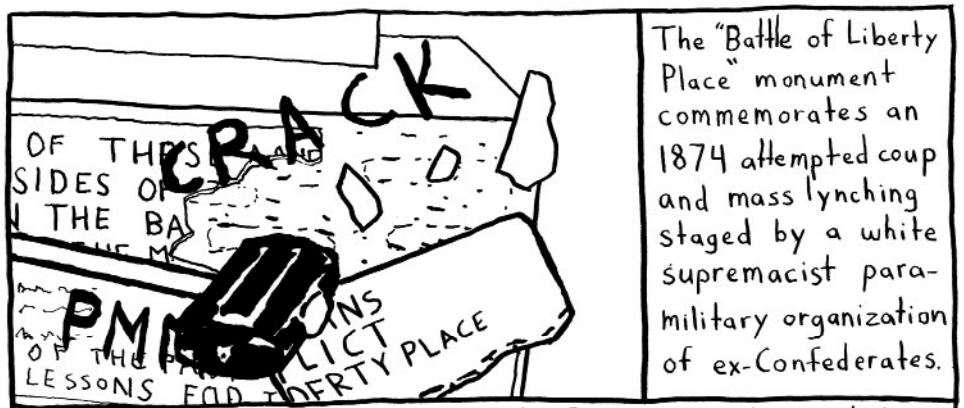
7
7
Probably want a smoke, huh?
ooooff, yeah I do
CANYONLANDS
NATIONAL PARK
the fucking bologna sandwiches
Ready to get outta here?
Yesssssss!

YEAAH!

HEY!
oh my god!
How are y
The support on the outside was incredible.

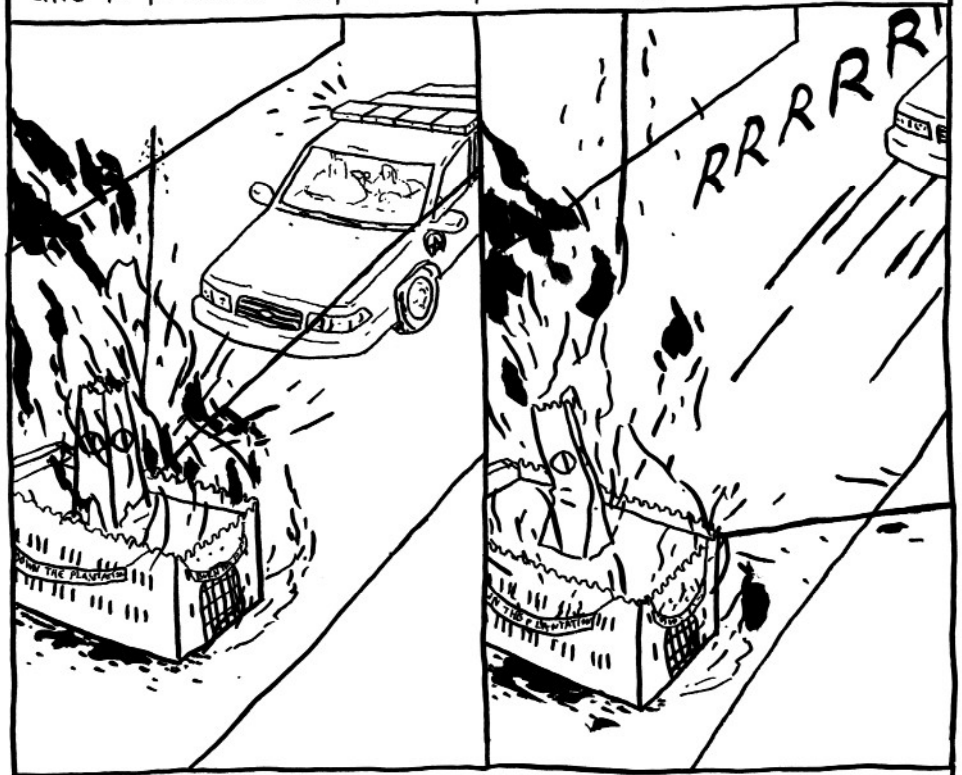
Hey.
Hey.
CANYONLANDS
NATIONAL PARK
Our comrades got all 15 of us out after a day and a half.


NODAPL
SEPTEMBER 14TH 1874
FUCK OFF NAZIS!
IN HONOR OF THOSE AMERICANS
ON BOTH SIDES OF THE CONFLICT
WHO DIED IN THE BATTLE OF LIBERTY PLACE
MEMBERS OF THE METROPOLITAN POLICE
A CONFLICT OF THE PAST
SHOULD TEACH US LESSONS FOR THE FUTURE

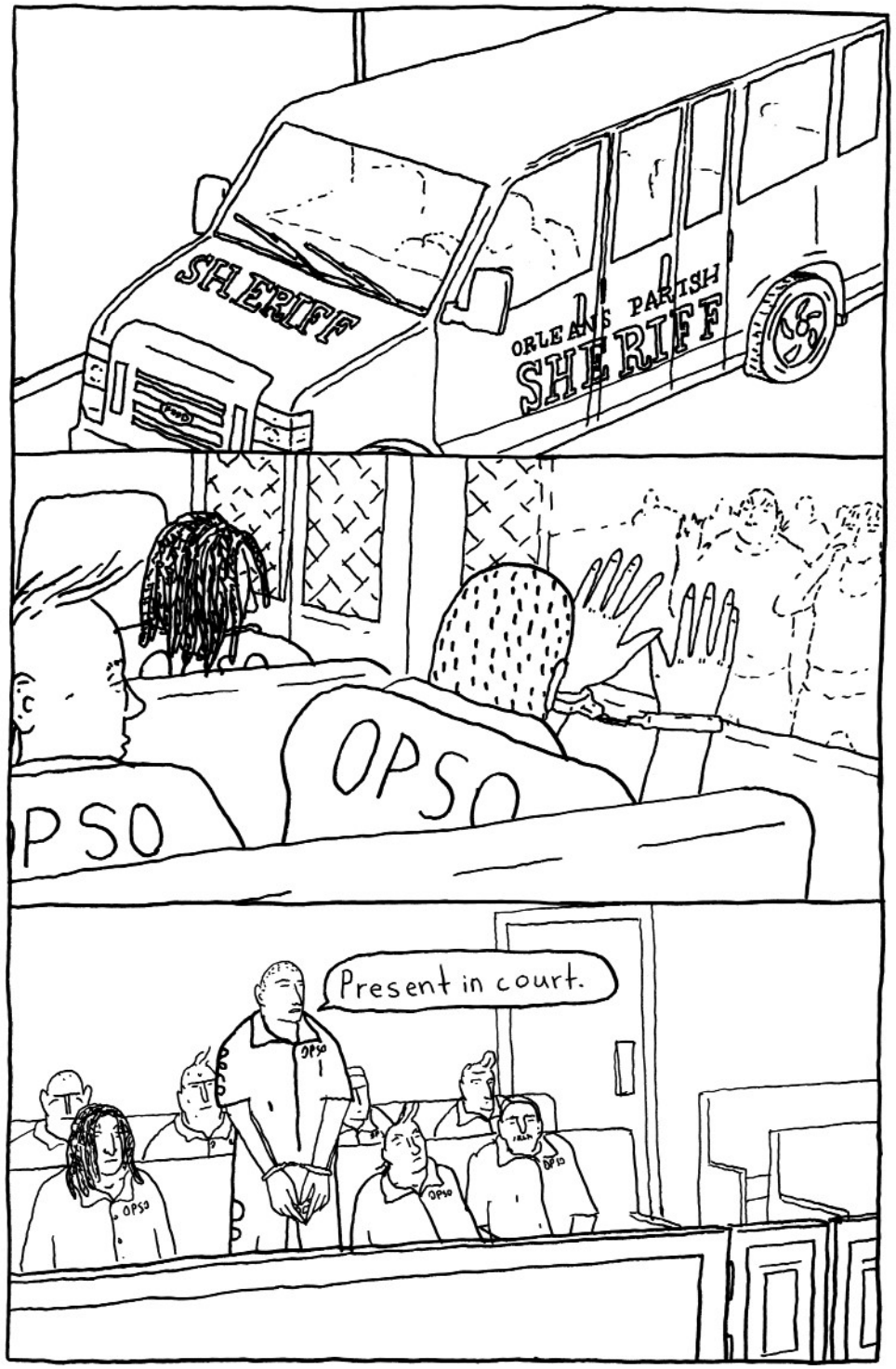


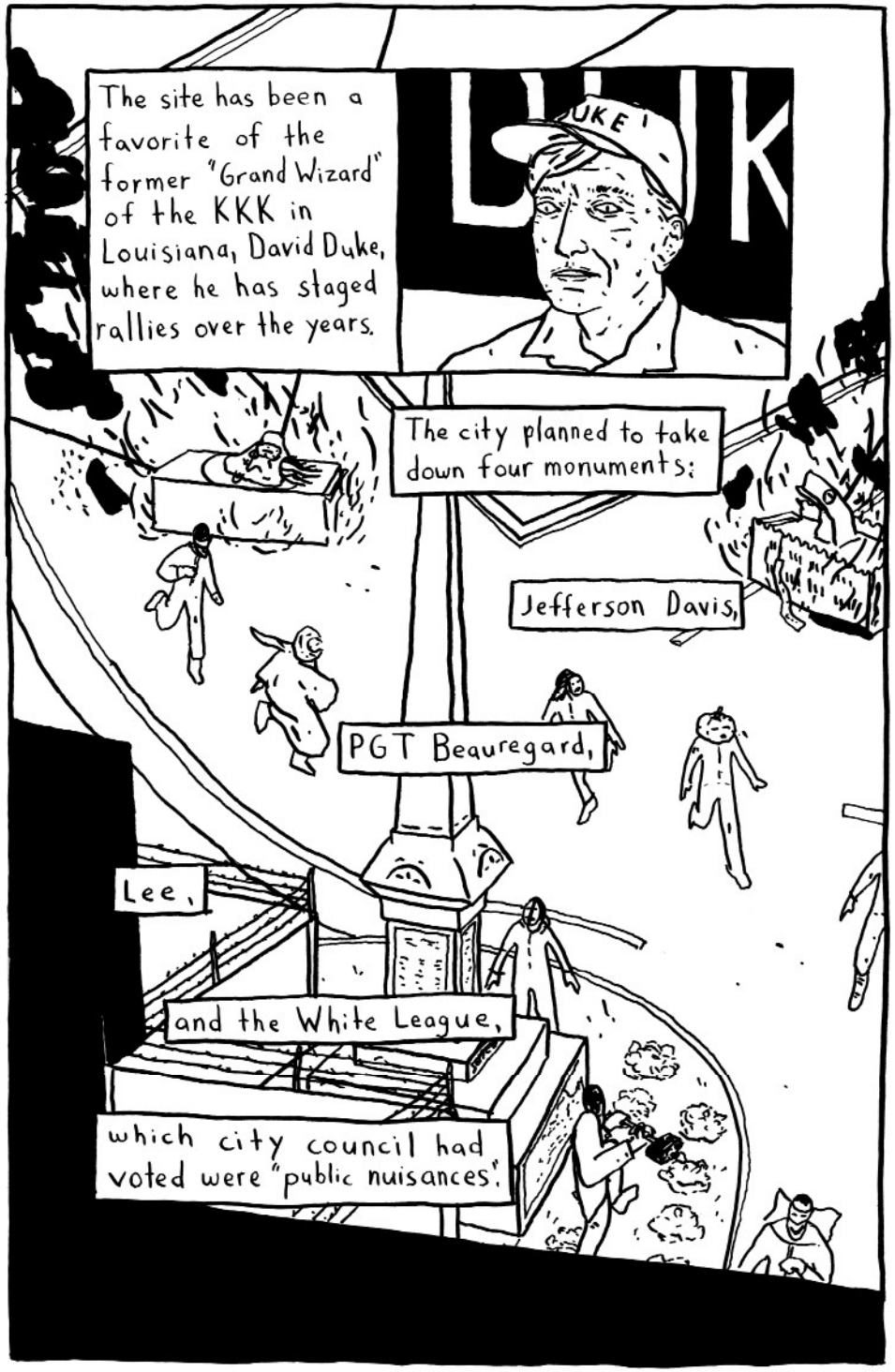
The "Battle of Liberty Place" monument commemorates an 1874 attempted coup and mass lynching staged by a white supremacist paramilitary organization of ex-Confederates.

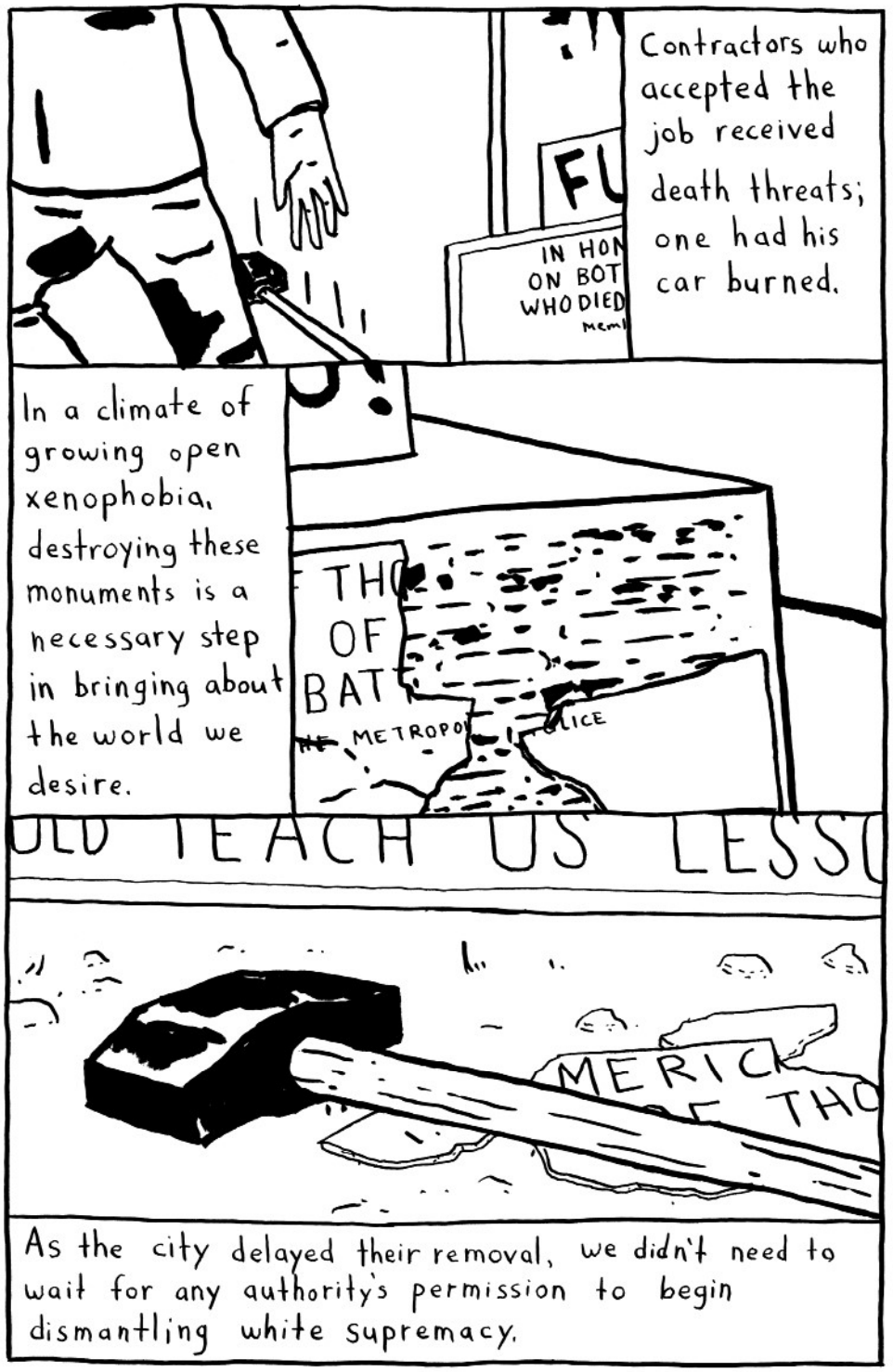
The "White League" was born out of a white militia that committed the Colfax Massacre, where around 150 black men were murdered. They formed to intimidate black voters and to prevent Republican political organizing.



Years after the monument was erected, inscriptions were added celebrating the uprising's role in reaffirming white supremacy in the South.


SHERIFF
ORLEANS PARISH
SHERIFF
OPSO
OPSO
OPSO
Present in court.

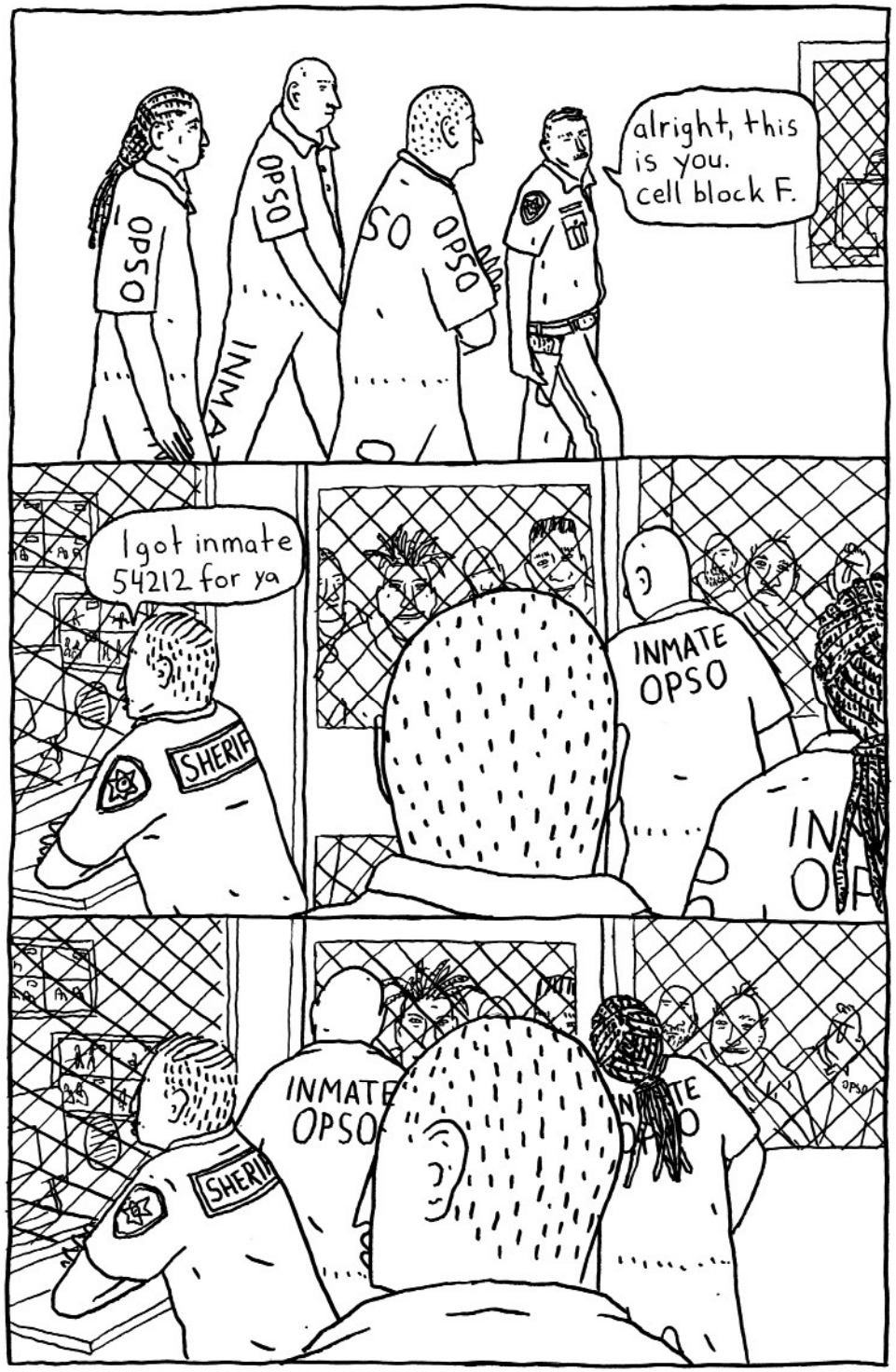

The site has been a favorite of the former "Grand Wizard" of the KKK in Louisiana, David Duke, where he has staged rallies over the years.
The city planned to take down four monuments:
Jefferson Davis,
PGT Beauregard,
Lee,
and the White League,
which city council had voted were "public nuisances".


Contractors who accepted the job received death threats; one had his car burned.
In a climate of growing open xenophobia, destroying these monuments is a necessary step in bringing about the world we desire.
As the city delayed their removal, we didn't need to wait for any authority's permission to begin dismantling white supremacy.

Oh hey, good to see ya again
Yeah, nice seeing ya
SHERIFF
OPSO
so are yall like... rednecks?
uhhh, maybe?
Cause yall don't look like protesters.
Yeah?
... I kinda think we look
Okay, let's go, single file.
You know, yall got a lot of people out there for you.
Must be 35,40 people in front of that courthouse for yall.
A lot of folks care about yall.

Where You Stand

White boy!
Naw! Don't fuck with him!
eyyy.
Heeyyy!
Hey G white!
Don't fuck with him!
OPSO
Don't fuck with him!!
Back up!
Back the fuck up!!!
Yall know what he's in here for?
Last night they tore NOPD's ass up!
He was out there protesting Trump.


OPSO
INMATE
alright, this is you. cell block F.
I got inmate 54212 for ya
SHERIF
INMATE OPSO

FUCK TRUMP
whoever wins we lose Ⓐ
November 8, 2016
As the eve of the election finally arrived, I had a conversation with my mom, a public school teacher.
MTA
ELYSIAN FIELDS
My older brother, a doctrinaire Marxist was hassling her to vote, that the lesser of two evils is a justifiable vote. She insisted that she would never vote for Hillary, after the democrats sold out the teacher's union.
That fucking
bastard politician!

Liberals harp on about the need to fulfill your civic duty by going to vote for Hillary Clinton. She's fashioning herself the heir apparent of Barack Obama's legacy.

We remember that legacy:

Bailing out banks and corporations.

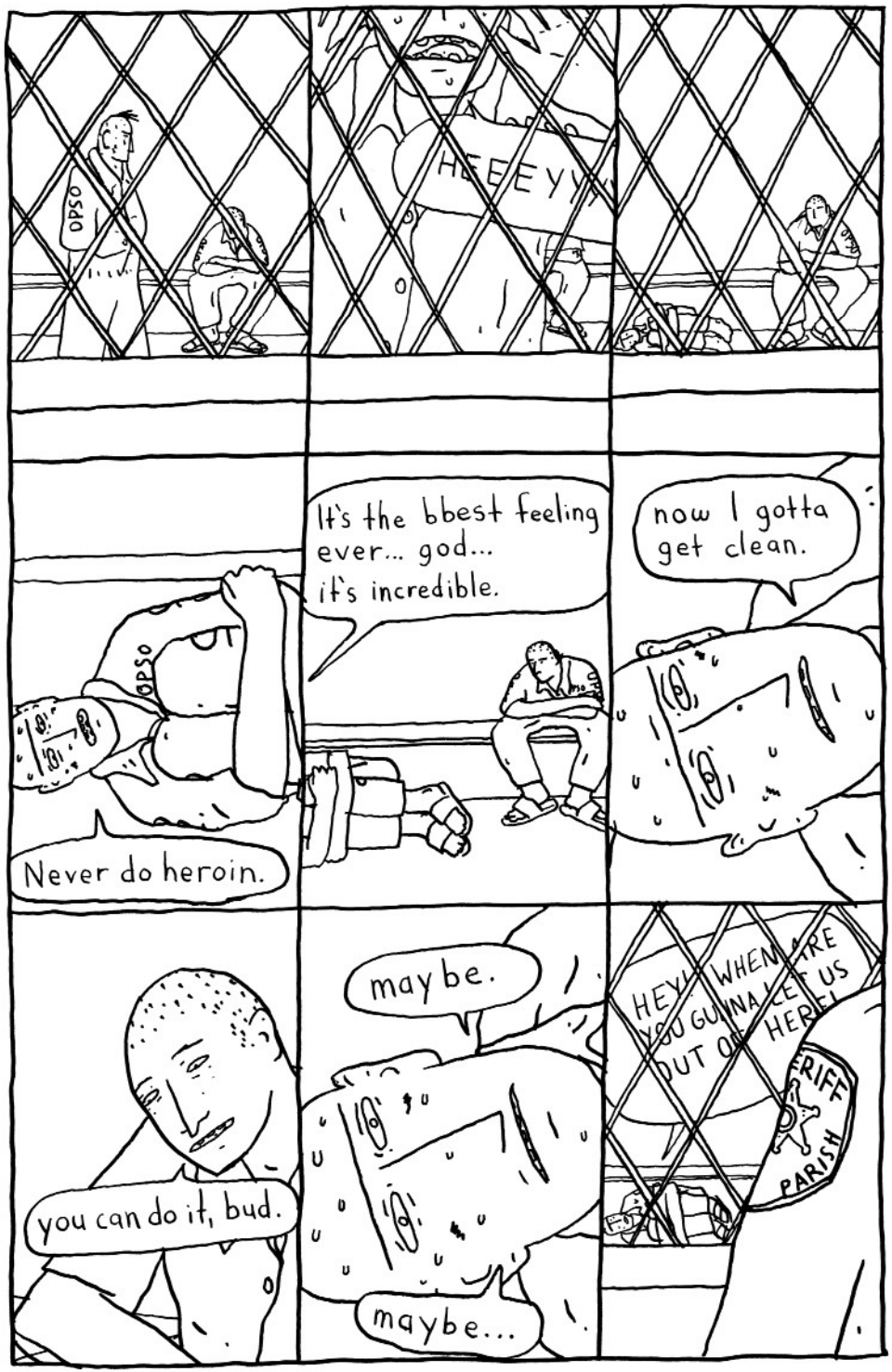
Increased drone warfare in the Middle East.

Drastically expanding executive powers.

Kicking in the fucking doors of undocumented families, sending them back to Central American countries ravaged by America's drug war.

Meanwhile, the Trump campaign instills racist fears in the white working class, fueling a nationalist "America First" motto, one echoed by David Duke in his senate campaign, one previously championed championed by the famed anti-semite, Charles Lindbergh.

Like the democrats, we pretty much ruled this one a wash, expecting Clinton's piss-poor campaign to roll to victory by virtue of not being Trump.

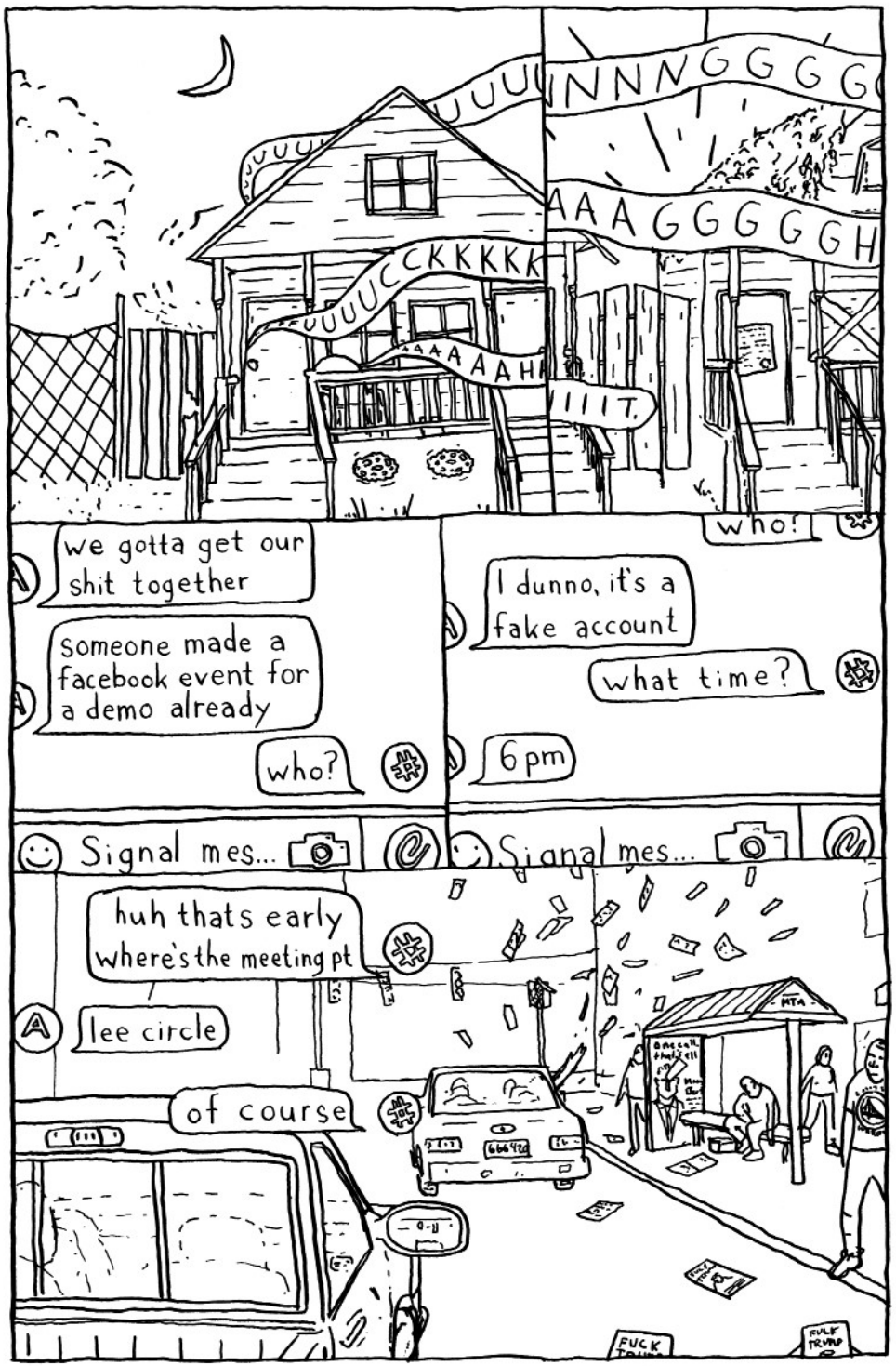

OPSO
HEEEYYY
Never do heroin.
It's the bbest feeling ever... god... it's incredible.
now I gotta get clean.
you can do it, bud.
maybe.
maybe...
HEY! WHEN ARE YOU GUYNA LET US OUT OF HERE!
DRIFT PARISH

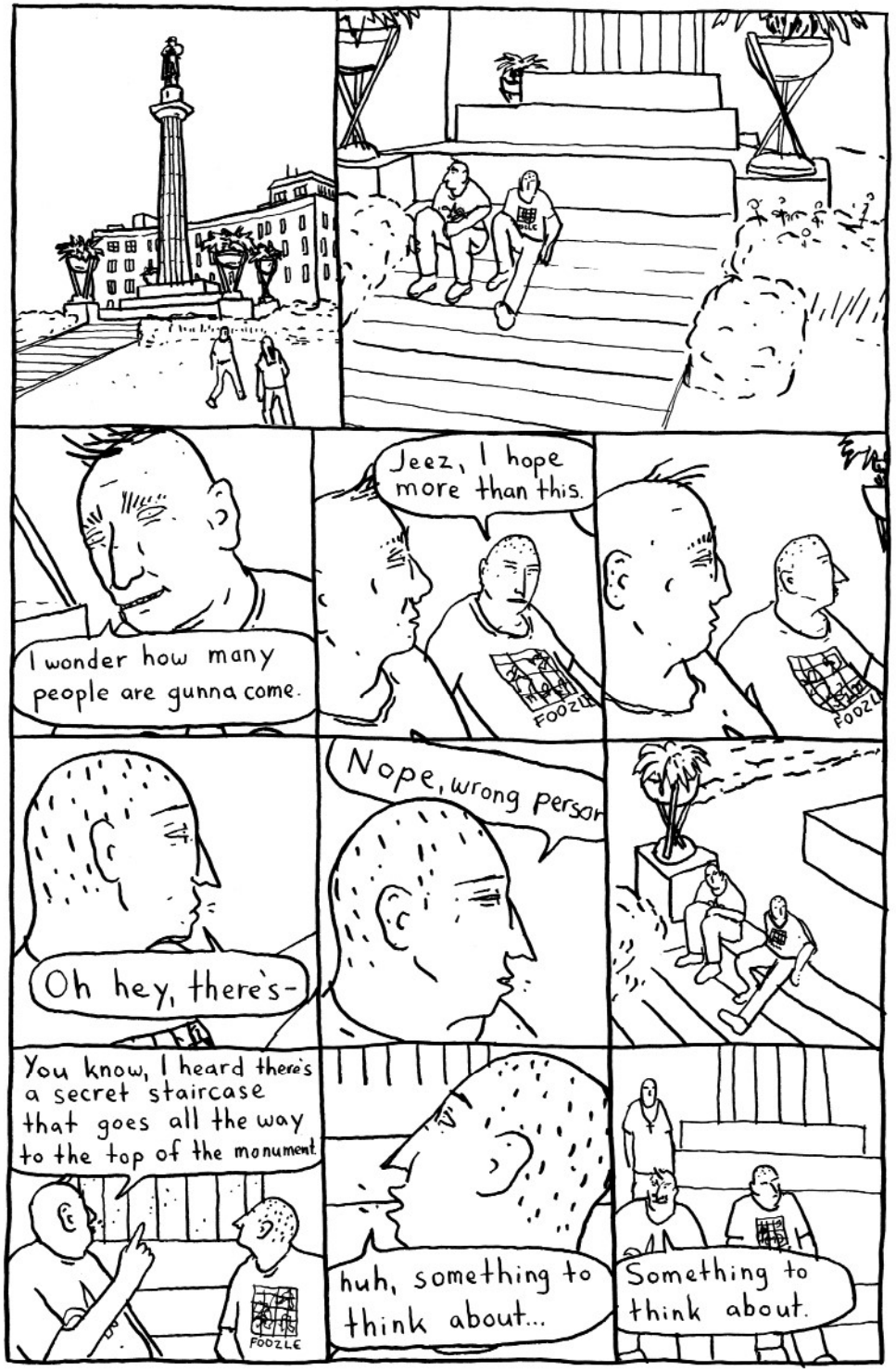
Until election night.
Poboys Beer Hot Plates
Rainbow Food Store
Milk Cigarettes Breakfast
RAINBOW FOOD STORE
PLAY HERE
COOL ICE
Thanks, Hamid
beep beep
Lane
tomorrow
WHAAT?!! hes winning?!
FUUCK!
Signal me.
Holy shit! Trump is actually winning?
Can you believe it?
Marlboro
5.99
maybe he won't be so bad?
I dunno, Hamid...
SNACKS
99¢
Ya know what... can I get a pint of Heaven Hill?

what is happening.
FUCK!
UUUUUCK!
1996
This shit!
Right now, an historic moment.
FUC
We can now predict the winner of the presidential race.
ELECTORAL VOTES
10
DONALD TRUMP
48.7%
HILLARY CLINTON
46.1%
CNN projects Donald Trump wins the presidency.

so, wwwhat are you in h-here for?
uhh, I was at a protest last night
What were you protesting?
It was a protest against Donald Trump, yesterday was his inauguration.
that motherfucker iiis president now? Jesus.
yeah, it's not great.
not... great...
WHY! is it so fucking COLD in here?!?!!
you?
DUI.
ah, shit.
it is really fucking cold in here.

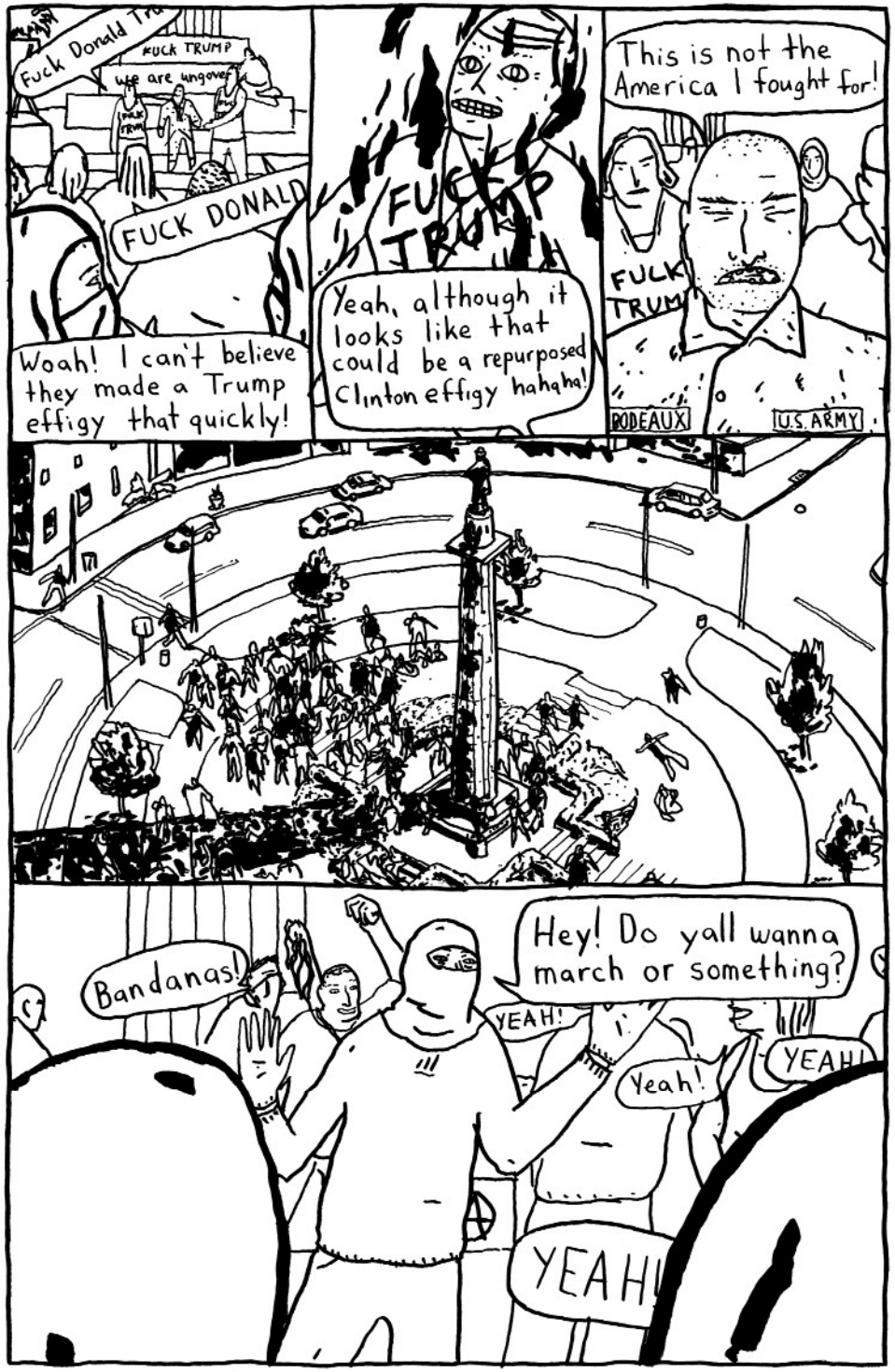
OPSO
I spent Donald Trump's first night in the White House in Orleans Parish Prison (which) boasts a 2.8/5 star rating on Google), with 14 comrades.
OPSO
OPSO
OPSO
For some reason my processing is taking the longest and I watch as my new friends file into jail. Eventually, I'm left in a holding cell with a man named James.


UUUUNNNNGGGGG
AAAGGGGGGH
UUUUCCKKKKK
AAAAAAH
IIIT.
we gotta get our shit together
someone made a facebook event for a demo already
who?
who?
I dunno, it's a fake account
what time?
6pm
Signal mes...
Signal mes...
huh thats early where's the meeting pt
lee circle
of course


I wonder how many people are gunna come.
Jeez, I hope more than this.
FOOZLE
FOOZLE
Oh hey, there's-
Nope, wrong persor
You know, I heard there's a secret staircase that goes all the way to the top of the monument.
FOOZLE
huh, something to think about...
Something to think about.

NO PEACEFUL TRANSITION
WORLD FAMOUS
Pralines
SORRY CLOSED
NEW ORLEANS

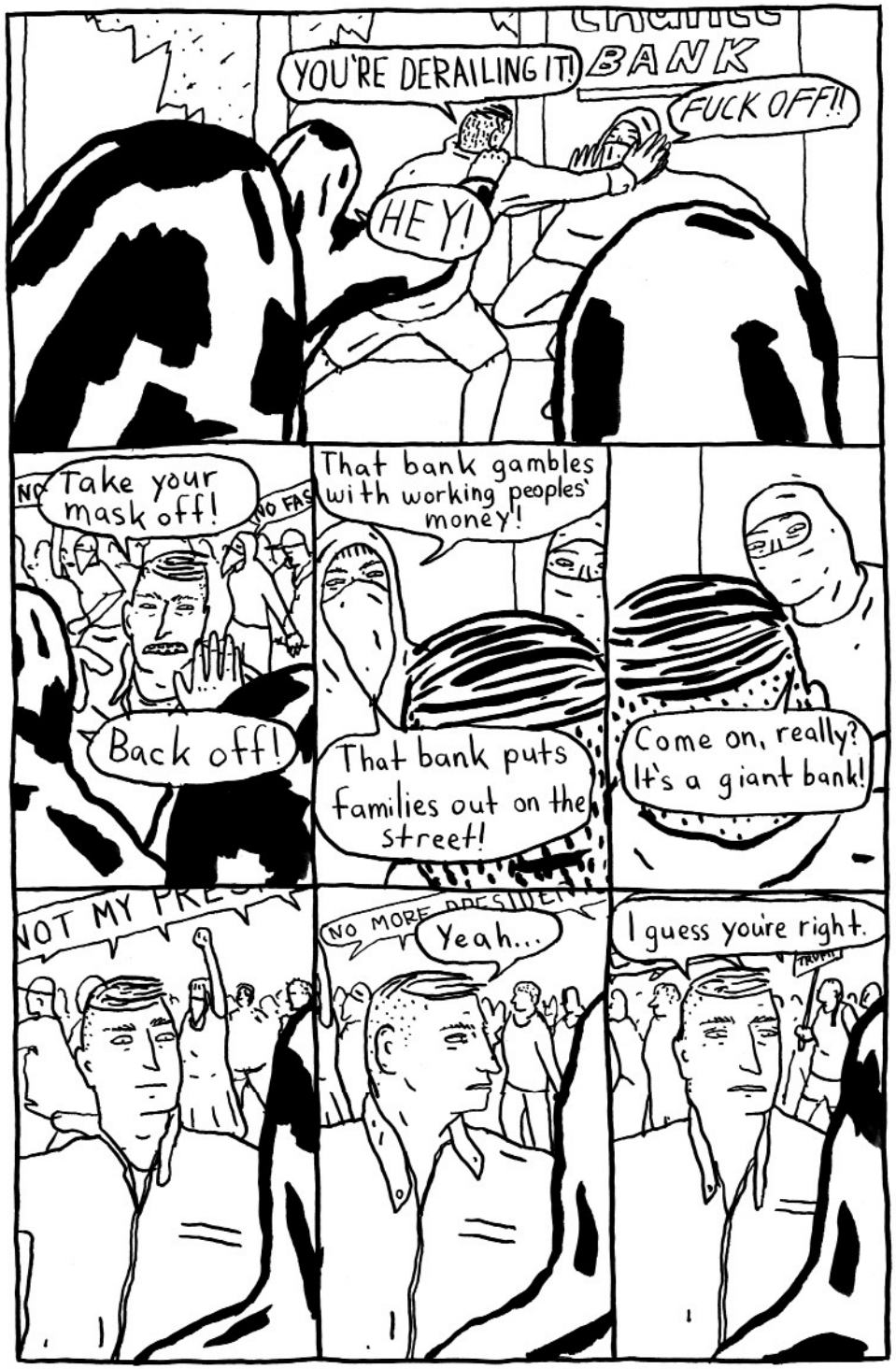
Hey do yall know who the organizers are?
TRUMP
AGAINST
RALLY
Lee Circle
6pm
nah, I think we all kinda are
Yeah, I'm not sure
well...
if we're doing this, let's be smart-
make sure yall got a buddy.
They gunna try to get around us.
be light on your feet, don't let them trap you!
for sure, we should have each others backs!
fuckin' right, good luck yall
hmm, it's kinda filling up, maybe mask up now?
yeah.
Racist!
Sexist!
Pig!

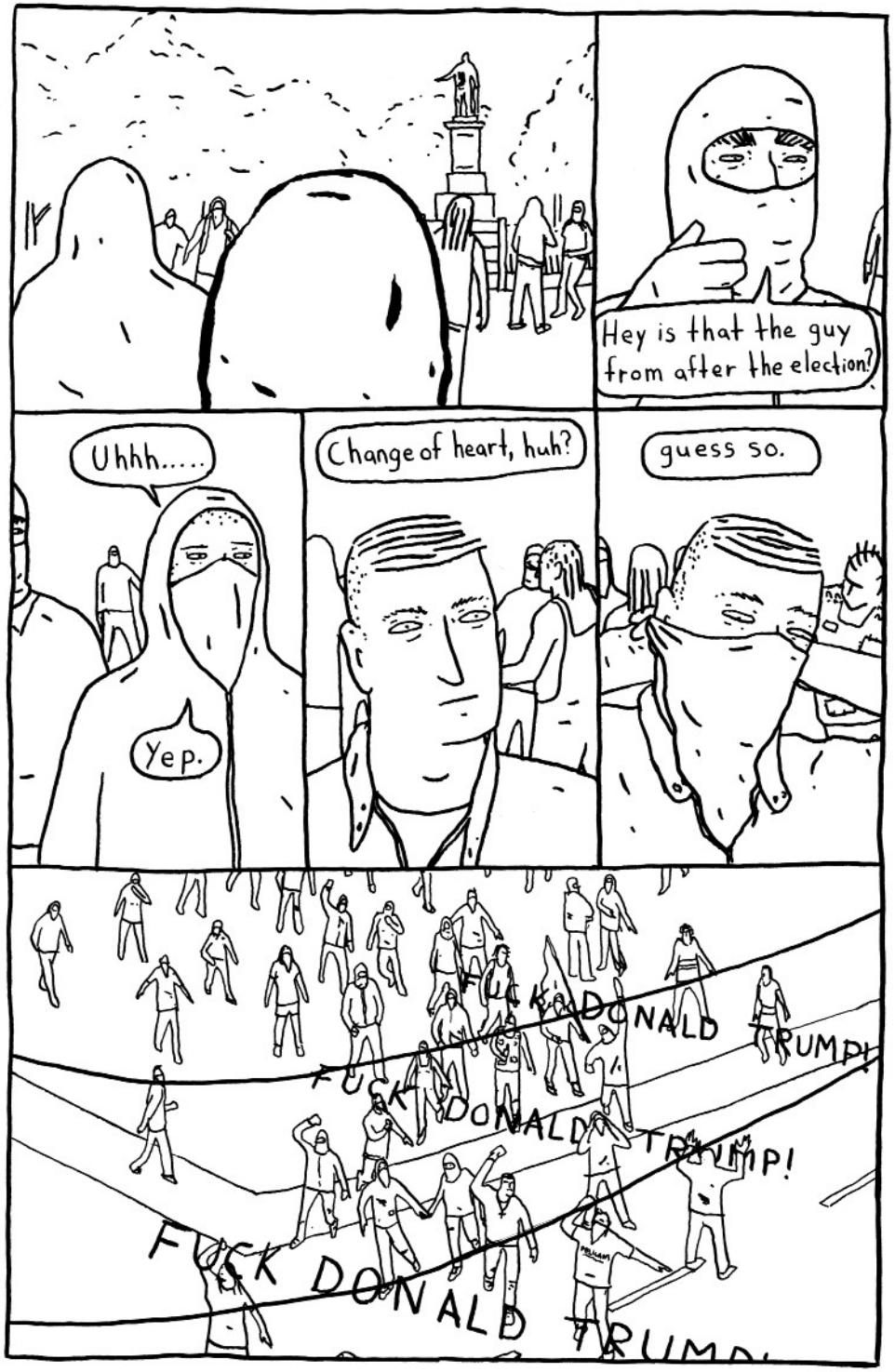

Fuck Donald Tru
#FUCK TRUMP
we are ungover
FUCK DONALD
Woah! I can't believe they made a Trump effigy that quickly!
FUCK TRUMP
Yeah, although it looks like that could be a repurposed Clinton effigy hahaha!
This is not the America I fought for!
FUCK TRUM
PODEAUX
U.S. ARMY
Bandanas!
Hey! Do yall wanna march or something?
YEAH!
Yeah!
YEAH!
YEAH!

SIDENTS!
NO MORE
FUCK
MORE P

NO MORE PRE
ONE CAN THAT'S MORRISON
NO

NO TRUM
What's with the grocery bag, you don't own a backpack?
O KKK!
Yep! I don't own a backpack haha!
NO KKK
24 HR ATM
NO TRUMP!
NO TRUMP!
NO KKK!
NO FASCIST USA!
24 HRATM
TSH!!
TSSH!!
WOOO!
WOO
WOOO!
NO FASCIST

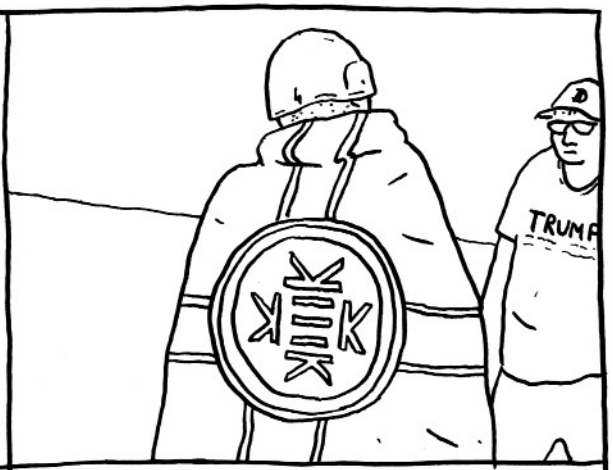

BANK
YOU'RE DERAILING IT!
FUCK OFF!!
HEY!
Take your mask off!
Back off!
That bank gambles with working peoples' money!
That bank puts families out on the street!
Come on, really? It's a giant bank!
NOT MY PRES
NO MORE PRESIDENTS
Yeah...
I guess you're right.


Hey is that the guy from after the election?
Uhhh.....
Yep.
Change of heart, huh?
guess so.
FUCK DONALD TRUMP!
FUCK DONALD TRUMP!
FUCK DONALD TRUMP!

The demonstrations continued nightly for the next week, each night becoming more and more tame. A general assembly was introduced, turning any remaining ecstatic energy into a bureaucracy.

Vulgar language and anti-police chanting are banned wholesale. Like many others, I only go out the first few nights.

The alt-right, until recently a largely ignorable group of white supremacists hidden in the depths of internet chatrooms, was starting to gain steam.



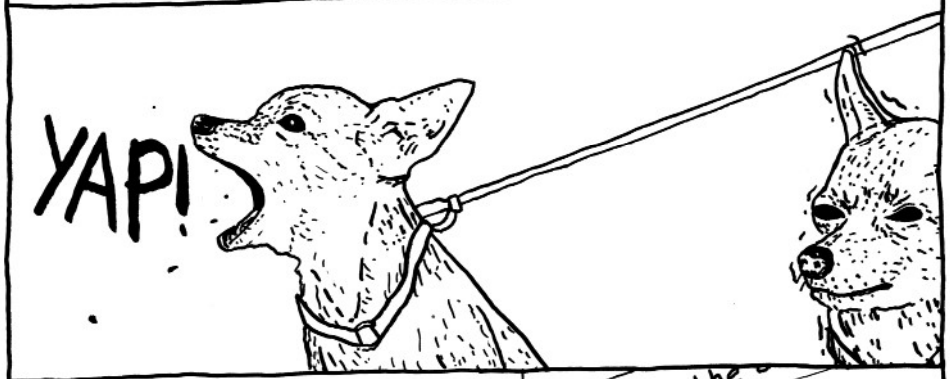
One of their favorite figures, Steve Bannon of Breitbart.com, was named CEO of Trump's campaign and later White House chief strategist, giving them a feeling that they were behind the scenes.

The alt-right employs a false ironic use of fascist imagery and language, hiding their true Nazi colors.

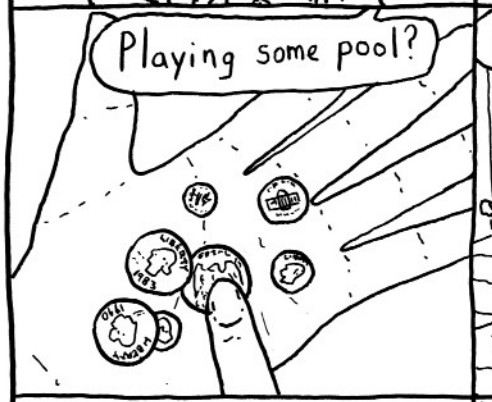
On my breaks I read about the other D.C. Comrades shutting down entrances to the inauguration, the mass arrests, the burning limousine.

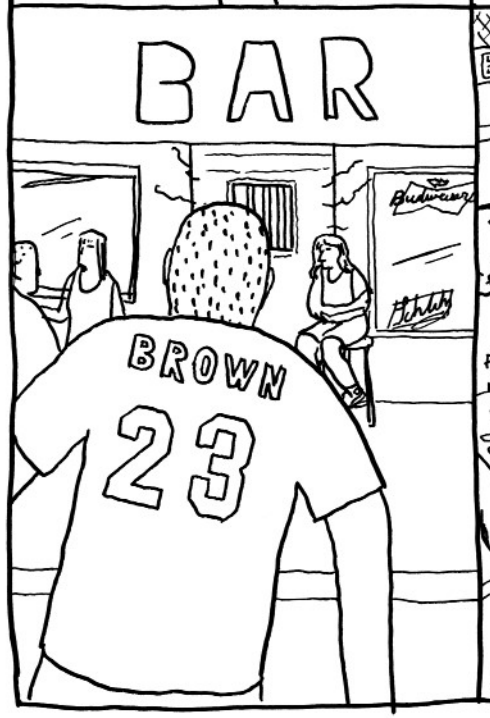
Aside from Take 'em Down's daytime march, an autonomous night march was to be held after. As the various posters covered the walls, collective anticipation welled up in the city.

The night before Trump's inauguration, the alt-right organized a gala event in DC to celebrate called the "Deploraball" in reference to many Trump supporters being a "basket of deplorables." A large antifascist demonstration gathered outside, chasing away event-goers.



On inauguration day, Donald Trump's spray-tan sounding voice is echoing down the street I'm working on.





I was out of work in January, occasionally working odd jobs to make rent, but there was plenty else to do in the lead up to the inauguration. Posters covered the streets, every surface, column, trash can and bus stop.

The most heavily featured were the posters from "Take 'em Down NOLA", a predominantly black led group comprised of socialists, progressives and communists organizing against the monuments and symbols of white supremacy in the city. Fronted by Malcolm Suber, a self-described Leninist, Take 'em Down is one of the most influential radical organizations in New Orleans.

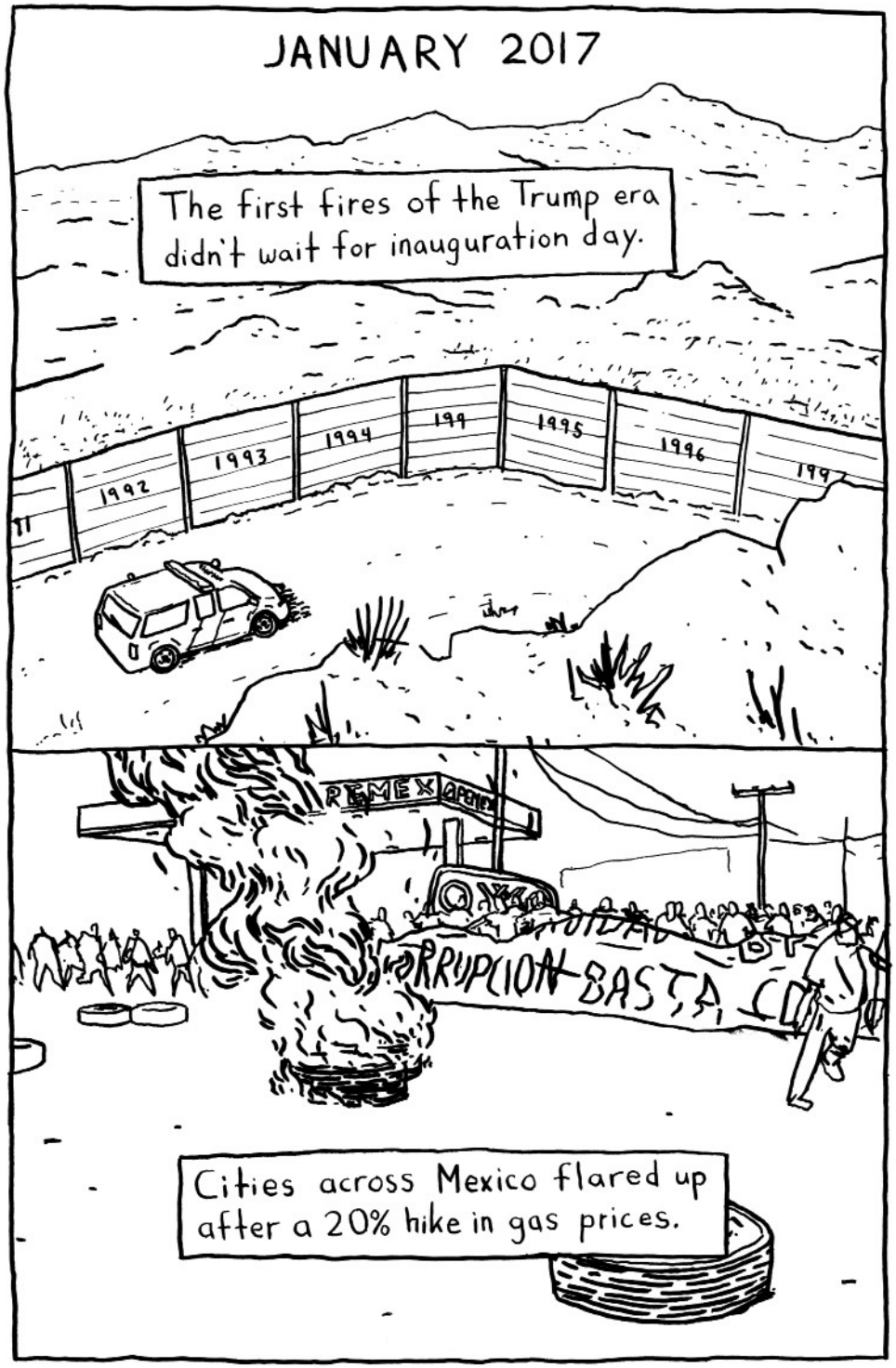
The group started in July 2015, shortly after the Charleston church shooting, organizing demonstrations with Black Lives Matter activists and other groups, laying much of the groundwork for a larger struggle against white supremacy and fascism.

Anger simmering under the surface at a corrupt neoliberal government, imposing privatizations and cozying up to the incoming Trump regime boiled over in the form of strikes, riots, mass marches and highway blockades.

Refueling trucks and gas stations were seized, railroad tracks heading to Arizona were blocked and the border crossing in Tijuana was occupied, allowing cars to pass without inspection.

Watching on back home, it feels ominous.

...so I told him "that's Lebron James!"
HAHAHA!
Well, I go this way, I had a lot of fun!
Me too, it's been a while.
good night
bye
BROWN 23
Yeah, actually, I have to go back this way...
I know.
Shit!


JANUARY 2017
The first fires of the Trump era didn't wait for inauguration day.
1992
1993
1994
1995
1996
PEMEX
Cities across Mexico flared up after a 20% hike in gas prices.