

IDW
ISSUE
36

my LITTLE PONY

FRIENDS
FOREVER



AMF!16

RICE • FLEECES • BRECKEL



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THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THE FIRST SNOW OF WINTER.

ABSOLUTELY!



TODAY IS ONE DAY I LET MYSELF HAVE OFF!

YOU KNOW IT!

HEADS UP!



Woosh!



DID YOU SEE THAT? PRETTY COOL, RIGHT?

I SEE YOU'VE GOTTEN A HEAD START ON YOUR DAY OFF, RAINBOW DASH.

DAY OFF? THE FIRST SNOW IS TAKEN CARE OF.

THE WONDERBOLTS ARE ON WINTER HIATUS.

I'M TAKING THE WHOLE SEASON OFF!

INCOMING!



CRASH! I NEED TO SEE YOU OVER HERE.

NOW!

SPITFIRE?

I MEAN, YES, MA'AM!

Woosh!



I HAVE A MAJOR MISSION FOR YOU, CRASH.

SURE THING! WHAT IS IT?

I NEED YOU TO GO TO THE YAKET MOUNTAIN RANGE. TO THE MT. EVERHOOT OUTPOST.

WHAT?

OH, I GET IT! THIS IS SOME KIND OF WONDERBOLTS EXTENDED INITIATION.

NO JOKE, CRASH.



WHY DON'T YOU SEND SOARIN?

HE'S THE SECOND IN COMMAND.

AND AFTER THAT MASSIVE FLUB HE MADE AT THE LAST SHOW, HE CAN CERTAINLY USE THE PRACTICE.

SOARIN IS WHY I NEED YOU TO GO!



YES, HE DID MESS UP AT THAT SHOW.

AND IT SENT HIM INTO A MAJOR TAILSPIN.

NOW HE'S GONE UP THERE TO PROVE HE'S STILL WORTHY OF BEING A WONDERBOLT!



I'D GO MYSELF, BUT—

I'M NOT EXACTLY SURE HE'S COMPLETELY FORGIVEN ME FOR TRYING TO REPLACE HIM WITH YOU AT THE EQUESTRIA GAMES.

SOARIN RESPECTS YOU. HE'LL LISTEN TO YOU.

YOU NEED TO GET HIM TO COME DOWN!

WELL... SINCE YOU PUT IT THAT WAY—



GREAT! HERE ARE INSTRUCTIONS TO GET THERE. FOLLOW THEM EXACTLY, NO EXCEPTIONS!

AND CRASH?

YEAH?

THANKS.



ANYPONY ELSE WANT TO COME SIT BY THE FIRE WITH ME—INSIDE?

ME!





"APPROACH THE MIDDLE PEAK FROM A SOUTHWEST ANGLE, APPROXIMATELY 6,000 FEET ABOVE GROUND."

"AT THE FIRST SIGN OF FOG, ENGAGE YOUR NAVIGATION LIGHT."

MARKET

"AT FIRST SIGHT OF THE OUTPOST, DIP DOWN TO 5,500 FEET AND MAKE YOUR APPROACH FROM BELOW."

BUT IT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME! QUICKER TO GO STRAIGHT!

N

"DO NOT APPROACH STRAIGHT. THERE IS A MAJOR WIND TUNNEL."





"THIS MIGHT ALSO BE
A GOOD TIME TO SUIT
UP IN RAIN GEAR."

NOW YOU
TELL ME.

R A I N G E A R



"AND BE CAREFUL. NO TELLING
WHAT CHARACTERS YOU'LL FIND."



YOU'D BETTER BE HERE, SOARIN!



GULP!



EXCUSE ME, HAVE YOU SEEN—

UH, NEVER MIND!



HI THERE, I'M, UH... LOOKING FOR SOMEONY.

LOOKING! THAT'S A CHANGE.

MOST EVERYPONY HERE IS TRYING TO HIDE.

ASK JETT.

ASK WHO?

JETT GLIDER. BEHIND THE BAR WITH THE HAT.





HE'S COMING IN LOW!

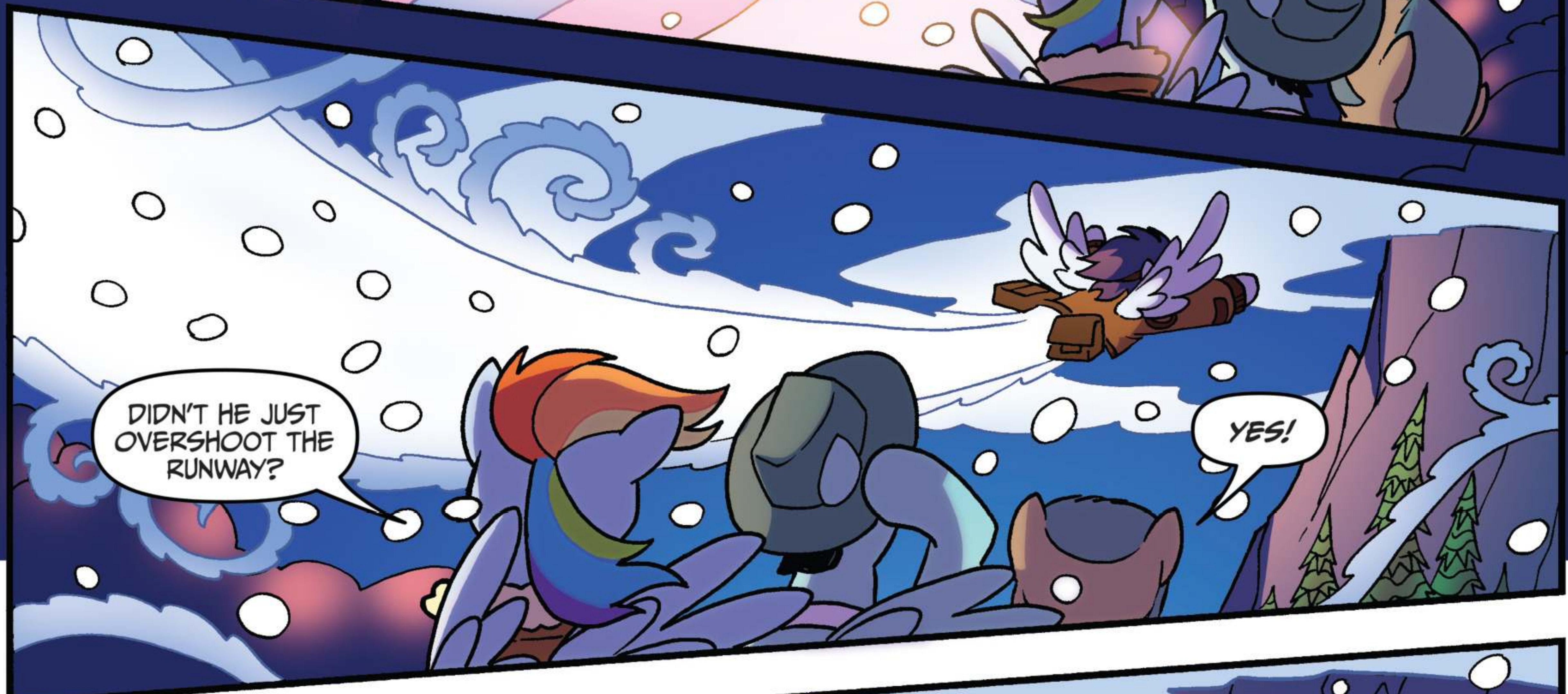
I CAN SEE THAT!

GET THAT LIGHT TO GUIDE HIM!



ISN'T HE COMING IN TOO FAST?

YES!



DIDN'T HE JUST OVERSHOOT THE RUNWAY?

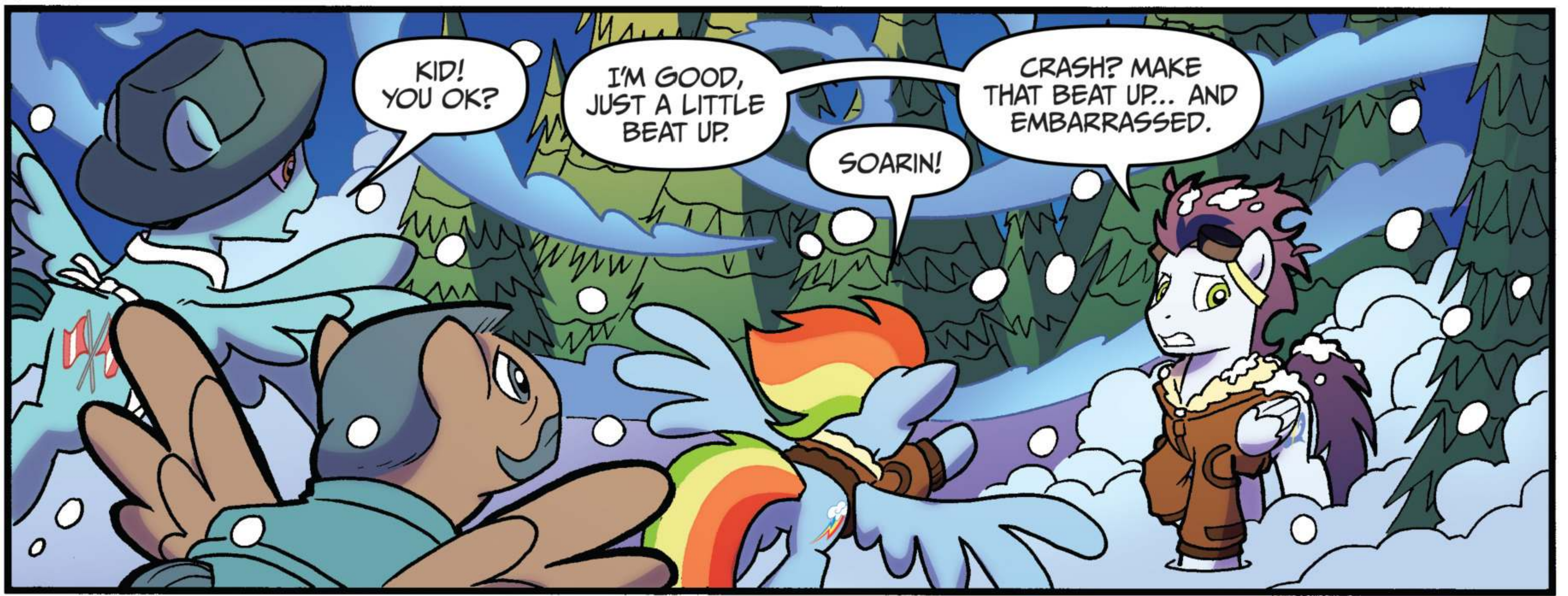
YES!



IS HE GOING TO RUN INTO THOSE TREES?

YES!

SMASH!



KID!
YOU OK?

I'M GOOD,
JUST A LITTLE
BEAT UP.

SOARIN!

CRASH? MAKE
THAT BEAT UP... AND
EMBARRASSED.



GOOD JOB, KID.
A LITTLE ROUGH,
BUT YOU MADE
THE DELIVERY!

COME ON
INSIDE AND GET
SOME HOT
CIDER.

MIGHT BE
THE BEST OUT OF
SWEET APPLE
ACRES YET!

DID HE SAY
SWEET APPLE ACRES
CIDER?? HOW'D THEY
MANAGE THAT?

COME ON,
SOARIN, LET'S
GET—



WHY ARE YOU HERE,
CRASH? SPITFIRE
SEND YOU?

WELL YEAH, BUT
ONLY BECAUSE SHE
KNEW I'M A STRONG
ENOUGH FLYER TO
GET UP HERE!

OR SHE
DOESN'T CARE
ENOUGH TO COME
HERSELF.



I'M SURE
THAT'S NOT
IT.

LET'S GO IN
AND TALK ABOUT
THIS OVER SOME
CIDER.

UH... MAYBE
LATER, CRASH. I
NEED TO MAKE SURE
THE DELIVERY
IS OK.

OK, THEN
WE'LL TALK
LATER.



I'M GONNA
HAVE CIDER!





C'MON, SOARIN!
LET'S GET OUT OF
HERE BEFORE YOU GET
YOURSELF SERIOUSLY
INJURED!

NO WAY! I'M
GOING TO MASTER
THIS MOUNTAIN!

JETT!
GIMME A
CIDER.



WE'RE OUT
OF CIDER.

SOME
PONY DRANK
IT ALL.

WHAT? CLEARLY
YOU'VE NEVER HAD
TO CONTEND WITH
PINKIE PIE FOR
IT.



C'MON! YOU'RE A
WONDERBOLT! WE'RE
THE BEST FLYERS IN
EQUESTRIA.

YOU'VE
ALREADY PROVEN
YOURSELF.

NOT
LATELY I
HAVEN'T.



PROVING I'M
GOOD ENOUGH TO BE
A WONDERBOLT IS
ONE THING.

STAYING
THAT GOOD IS
SOMETHING
ELSE.

DID YOU SEE
ME AT THAT LAST
SHOW?

OK, YEAH, THAT
WAS AWFUL,
BUT—



**BUZZ
BUZZ
BUZZ**

WHA, WHAT'S
THAT?

THE
EXTREME WEATHER
ALARM.

YOU MEAN THE
WEATHER HASN'T BEEN
EXTREME BEFORE
NOW?









YOU REALLY SAVED MY HIDE BACK THERE.

THAT DIVE WAS AMAZING.

YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH FANCY MOVES.



THAT'S WHY I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE.

YOU'RE A GREAT FLYER.

I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO UNDERSTAND.

TRY ME.



YOU'RE NATURALLY A GOOD FLYER, RAINBOW DASH.

A GREAT ONE, IN FACT.

YOU DID A SONIC RAINBOOM AS A FILLY!

PRETTY AWESOME, RIGHT?



BUT ME? MAYBE I HAVE SOME RAW TALENT, BUT I'VE ALWAYS HAD TO WORK HARDER.

I ALWAYS KNEW I WANTED TO BE A WONDERBOLT, BUT NEARLY EVERYPONY TOLD ME THAT I'D NEVER BE THAT GOOD.

SO I PRACTICED HARDER THAN ANYPONY.

PRACTICALLY DID NOTHING ELSE.



AND YOU BECAME A WONDERBOLT!

SO, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

JUST BECAUSE I MADE IT, DOESN'T MEAN I STILL DON'T FEEL LIKE A FRAUD SOMETIMES.

WHAT?







WHAT DO YOU SAY? READY TO COME BACK AND START PLANNING ROUTINES FOR THE SPRING?

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN!



YOU TOO, CRASH!
YOU WEREN'T PLANNING ON TAKING THE WINTER OFF OR ANYTHING, WERE YOU?

NO, MA'AM!



I GUESS THIS IS IT, JETT. THANKS FOR EVERYTHING.

THANK YOU, KID, FOR TAKING MORE CHANCES THAN ANYPONY I'VE EVER MET.

NOW GO GRAB YOUR THINGS AND LET'S GO STRAIGHT HOME!

WELL, MAYBE NOT STRAIGHT HOME.



THERE'S A MIGHTY NICE WIND CURRENT OUT THERE RIGHT NOW.



GUESS ALL THOSE WEATHER WARNINGS ABOUT THIS PLACE WERE JUST AN EXAGGERATION.

WHATEVER YOU SAY, SPITFIRE.

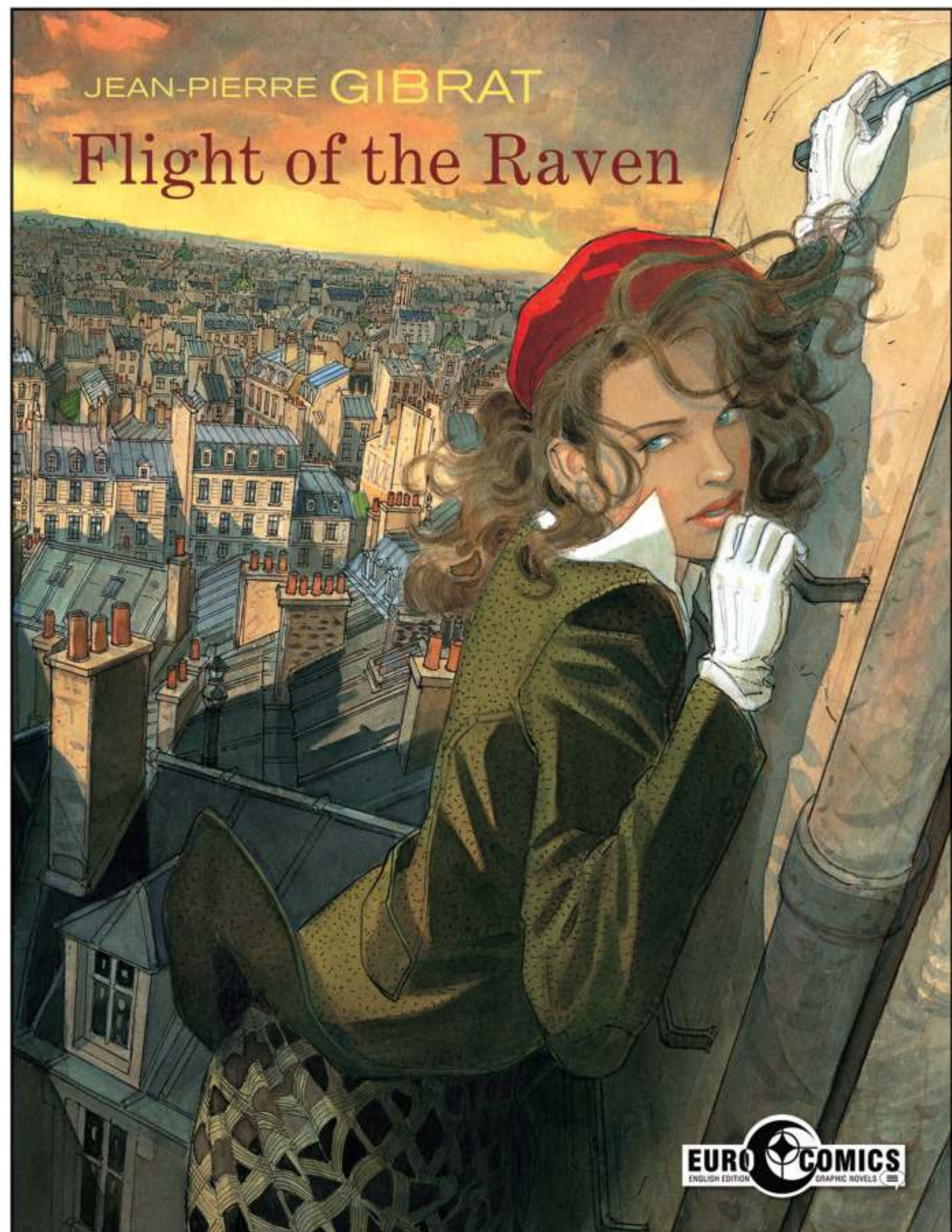
YES, MA'AM!

THE END.

FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

by Ted Adams

We're kicking off 2017 with two books that I can't wait to read — *Flight of the Raven* from our EuroComics line and *You Might Be An Artist If...* from Top Shelf. I asked my colleagues Dean Mullaney and Chris Staros to tell you more about them.



After 40 years as an editor, I sometimes think that I've seen it all. And then last year I discovered the sheer awesome beauty of Jean-Pierre Gibrat's artwork in the French graphic novel *Flight of the Raven*. Gibrat's lush watercolors made my jaw drop and it clearly illustrates why we started our EuroComics imprint in the first place — so that those of us who love comics can enjoy English translations of the best comics from around the world. Just imagine if we lived in a country or spoke a language where there were no comics, for example, by Neil Gaiman, Fiona Staples, Brian K. Vaughan, Will Eisner, Jack Kirby, or Mike Mignola.



That's the position we are in regarding comics created in other languages. We're missing out on a lot of great comics by writers and artists who are superstars overseas. *Blacksad* artist Juanjo Guarnido said, "Gibrat has a unique vision of comics, one in which color — especially watercolor — stands as a storytelling pillar." Gibrat is also a fantastic writer, creating fully-rounded characters and — surprisingly for a story set in wartime — a gentle, bittersweet tale of love and betrayal. I'm proud to have the English translation of this book on my bookcase and I think you will be too.

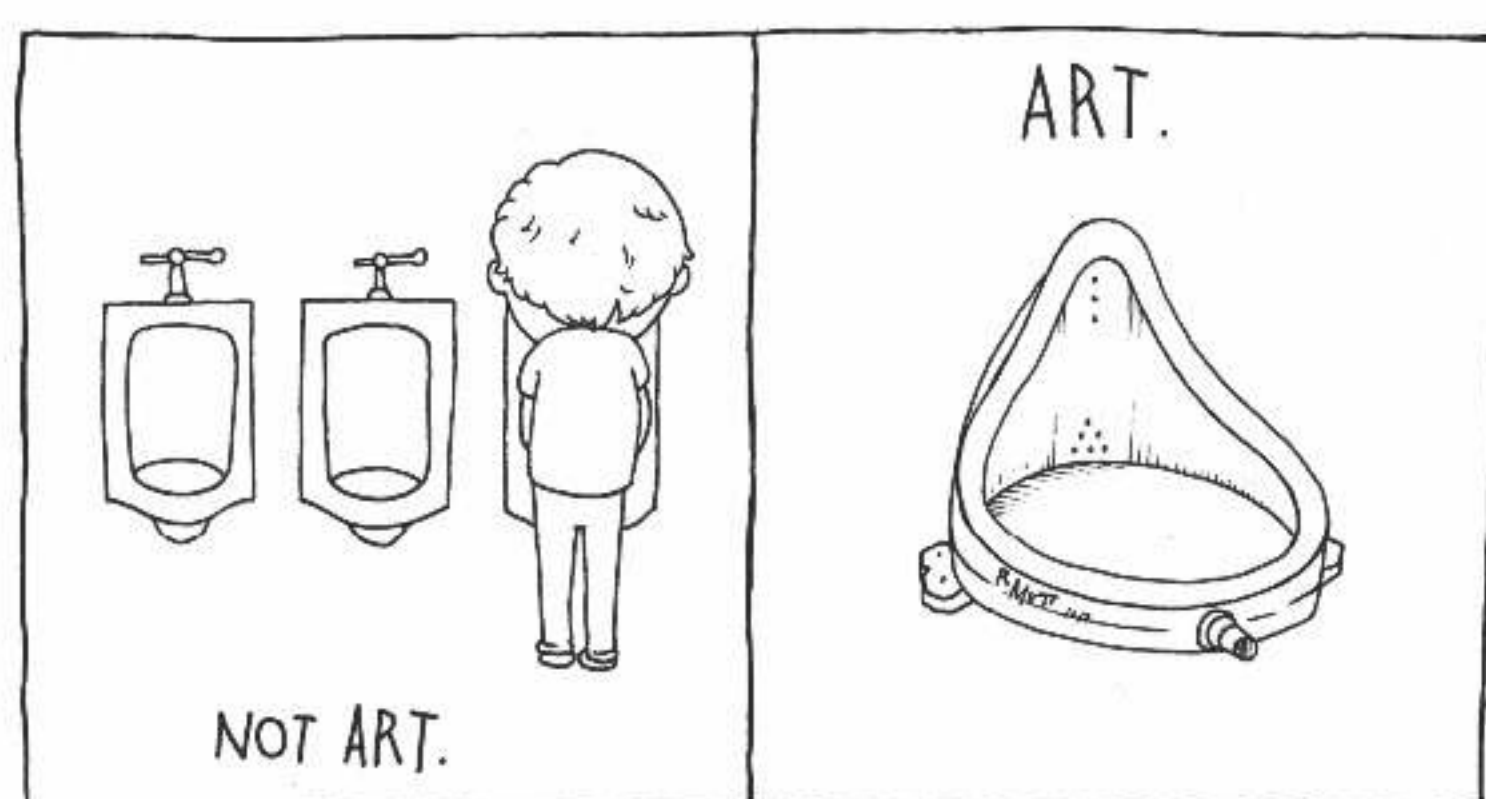
— *Dean Mullaney, Editor-in-Chief, EuroComics*

Every artist I know — who takes their craft seriously — is their own worst critic. And as an editor, you often find yourself providing constructive criticism and moral support in equal measure, trying to push the creative envelope and keep someone from falling apart at the very same time.

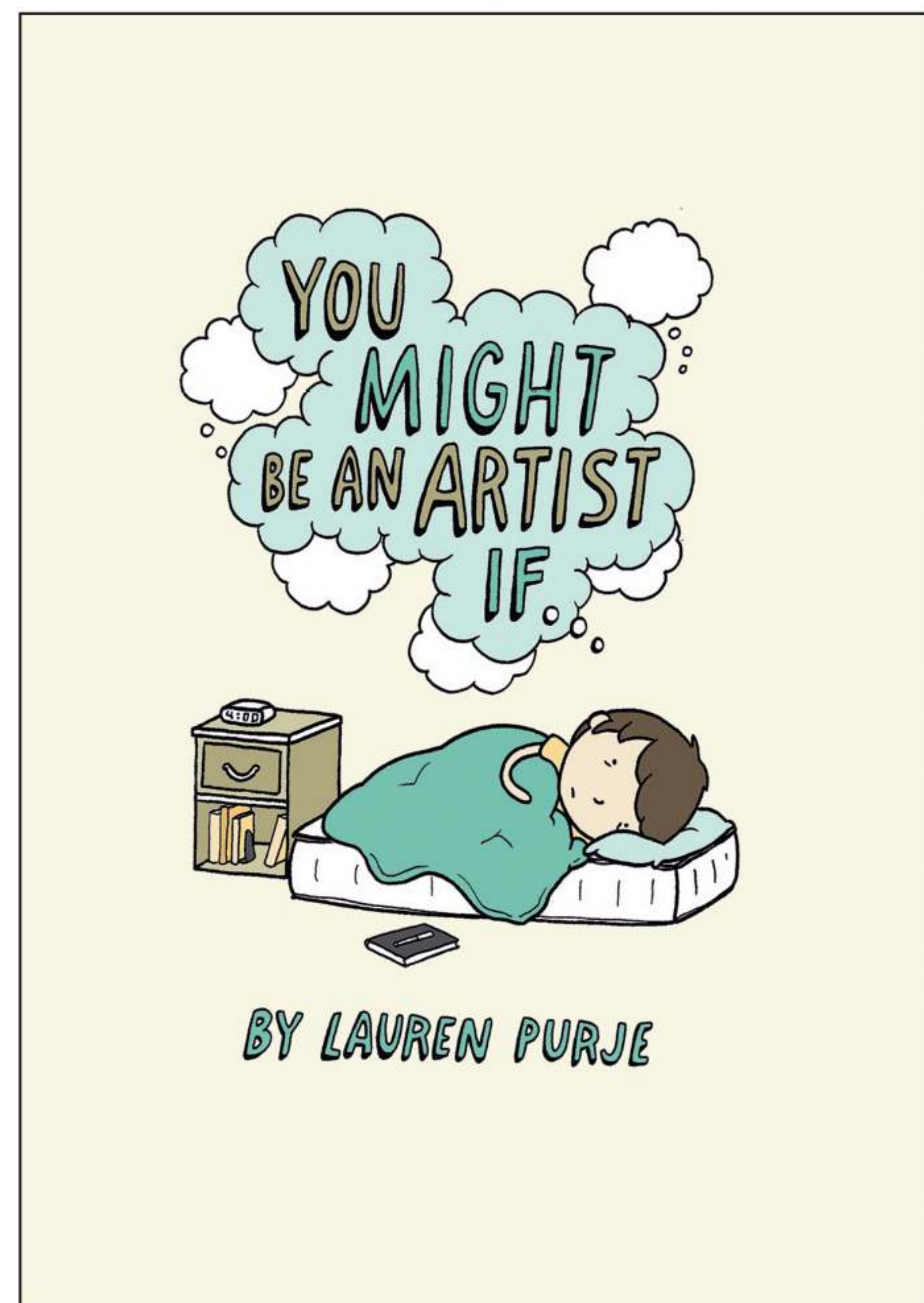


In *You Might Be An Artist If...*, Lauren Purje perfectly captures all the mood swings of the artistic life: the writer's block, the insecurity, the triumph, and the depression; the yin and yang of that feeling that you've simultaneously made the best and worst career decision of your life (and that if you don't make it, your mom or dad is going to say "I told you so").

And while procrastination may be the highest art form of all, the next time you find yourself in a rut, pick up this book, read a few strips, and remember that you're not alone. I bet the laughter will get you back to the drawing board in no time at all.



— *Chris Staros, Editor-in-Chief, Top Shelf Productions*



BY LAUREN PURJE

Thanks, guys! I'll be back next month to tell you about *Animal Noir*, a creator-owned book that I found last year at a comics festival in Barcelona.