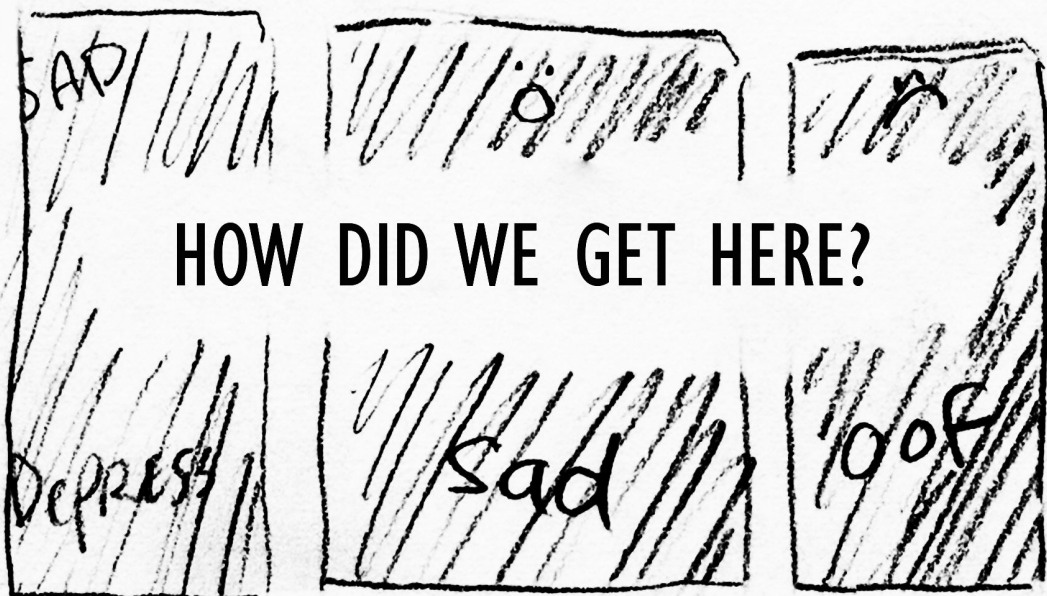
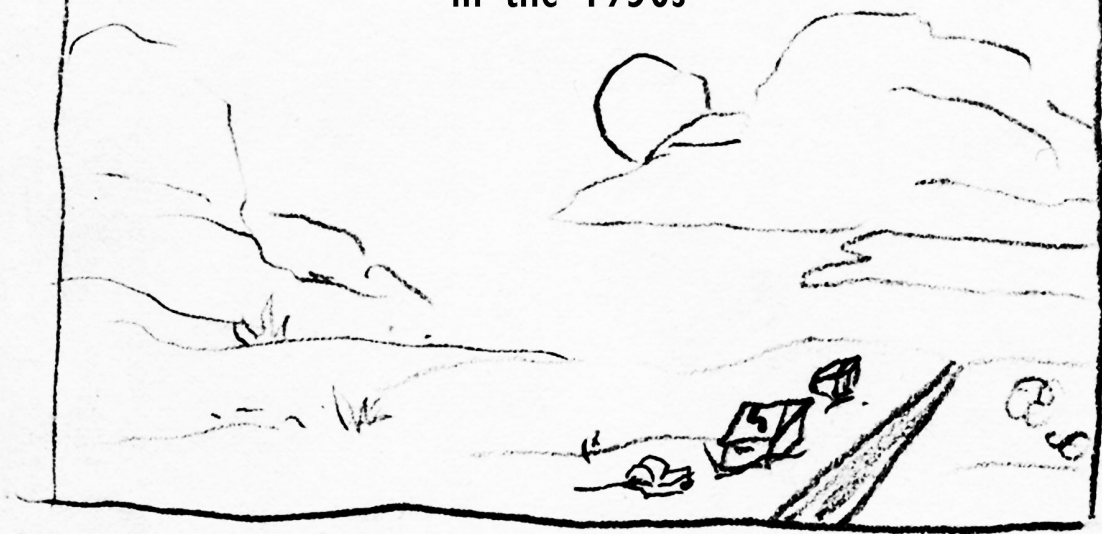




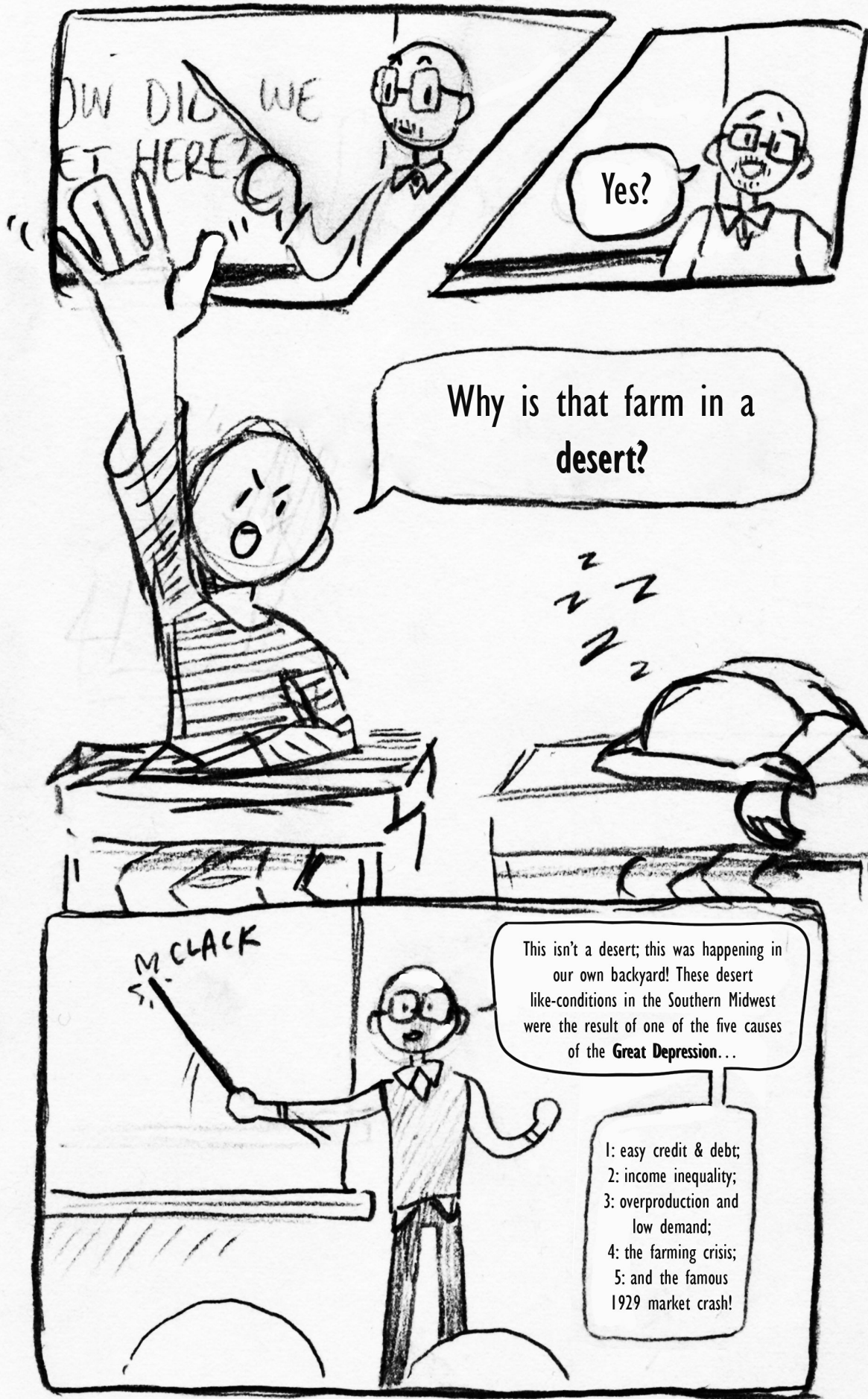
This is America  
in the 1930s



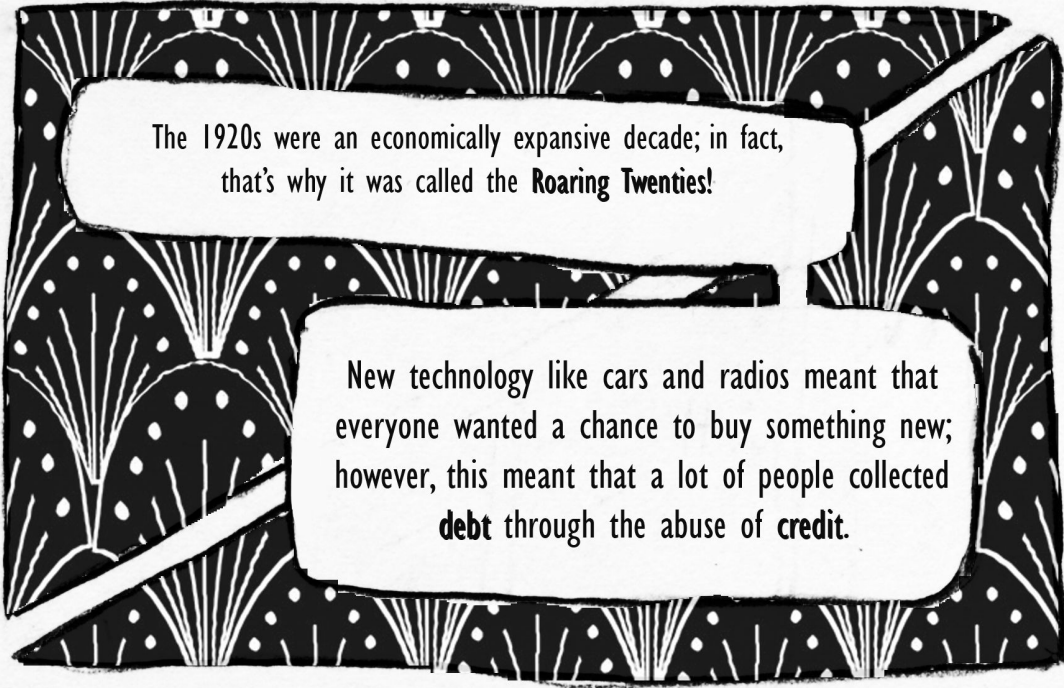
HOW DID WE GET HERE?

What had gone so wrong that a country with  
such roaring power and potential can be thrown  
so suddenly into a depression for  
ages—leaving millions upon millions of  
own citizens without stability,  
money to buy even a scrap of



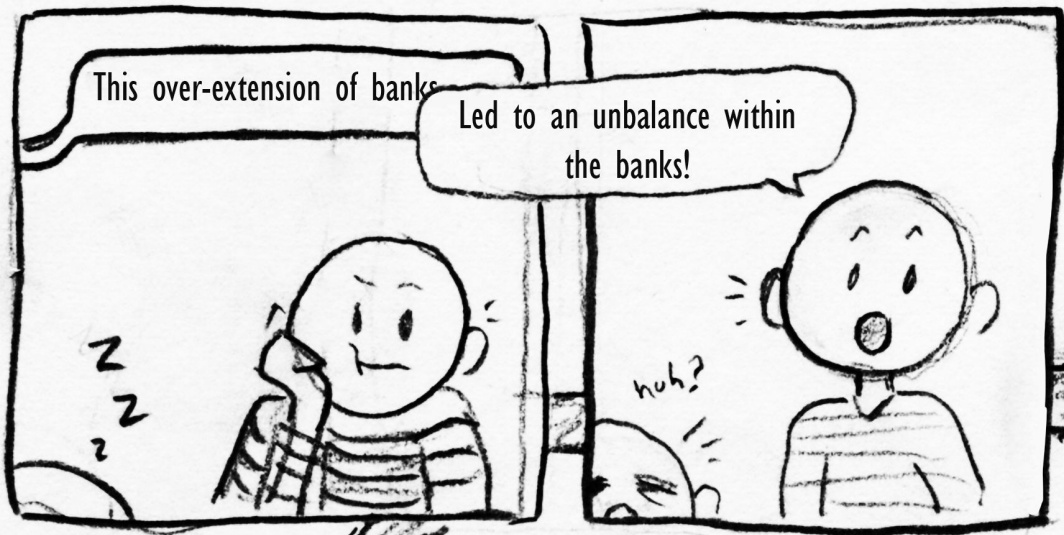






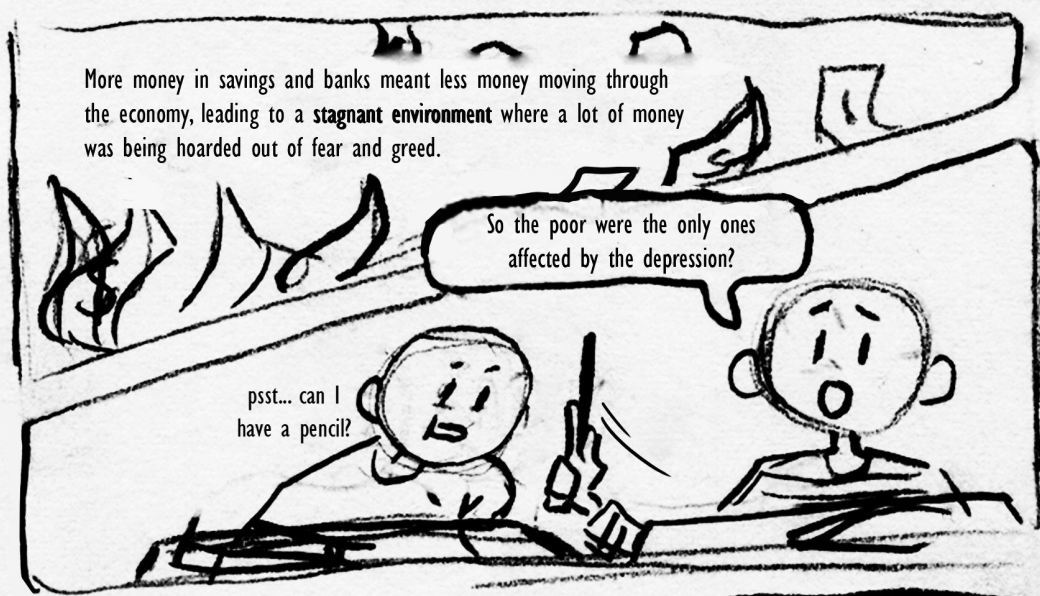
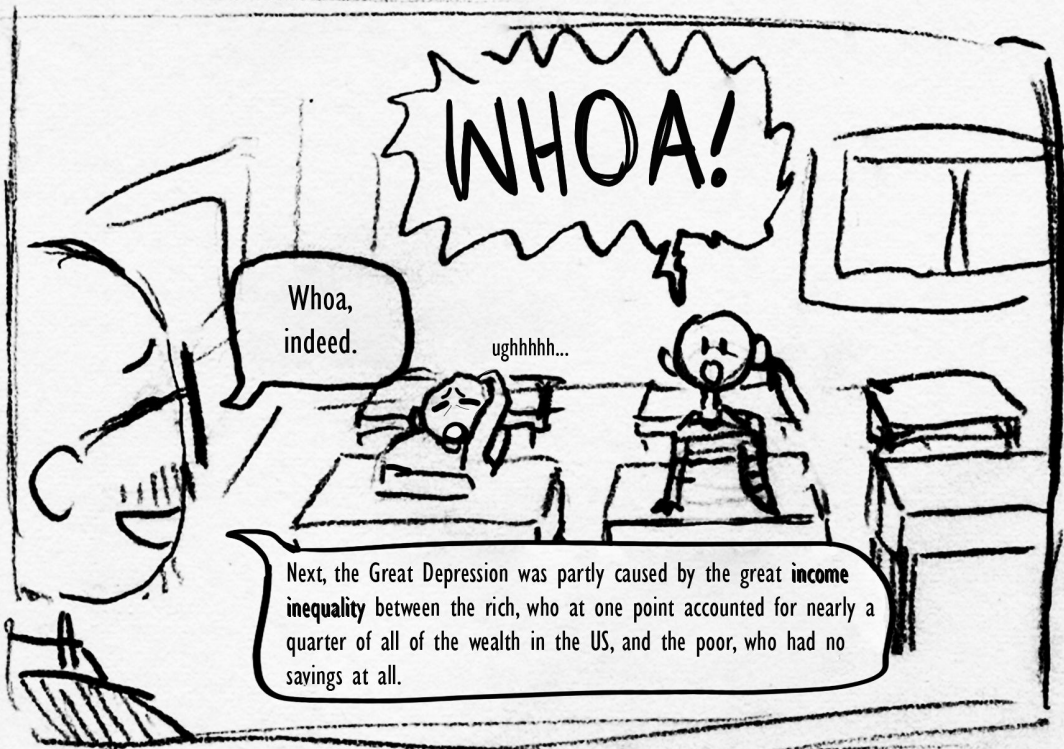
The 1920s were an economically expansive decade; in fact, that's why it was called the **Roaring Twenties**!

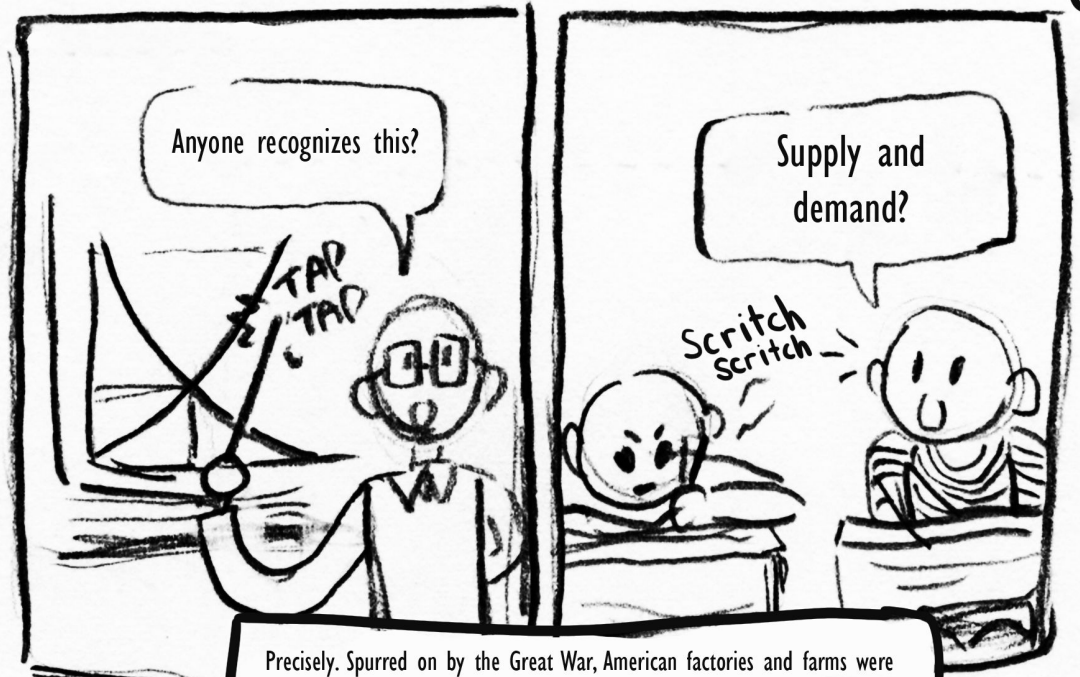
New technology like cars and radios meant that everyone wanted a chance to buy something new; however, this meant that a lot of people collected **debt** through the abuse of **credit**.



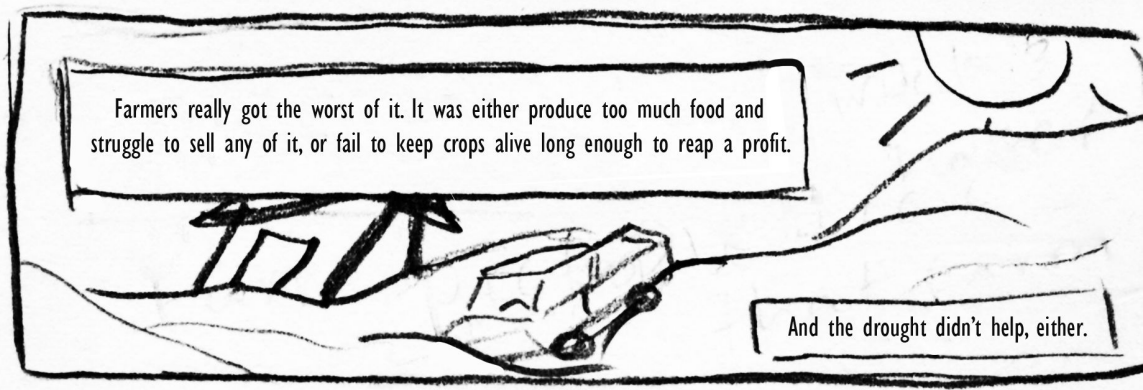
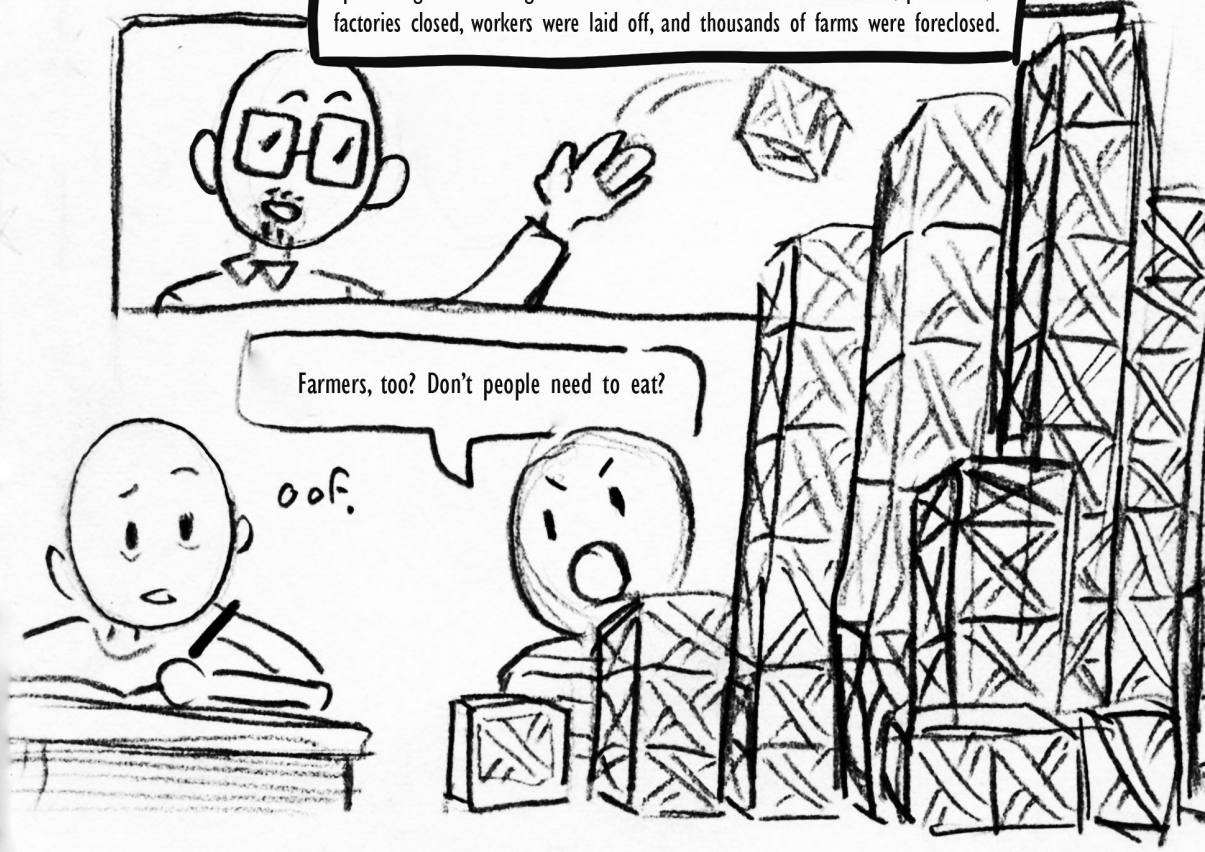
This caused an unseen crisis as more people racked up debt, struggled to pay them back, then withdrew their money out of fear. Bank after bank was closing without any signs of stopping; In all, 9,000 banks failed during the 30s, and by 1933, depositors saw **\$140 billion** disappear through bank failures!

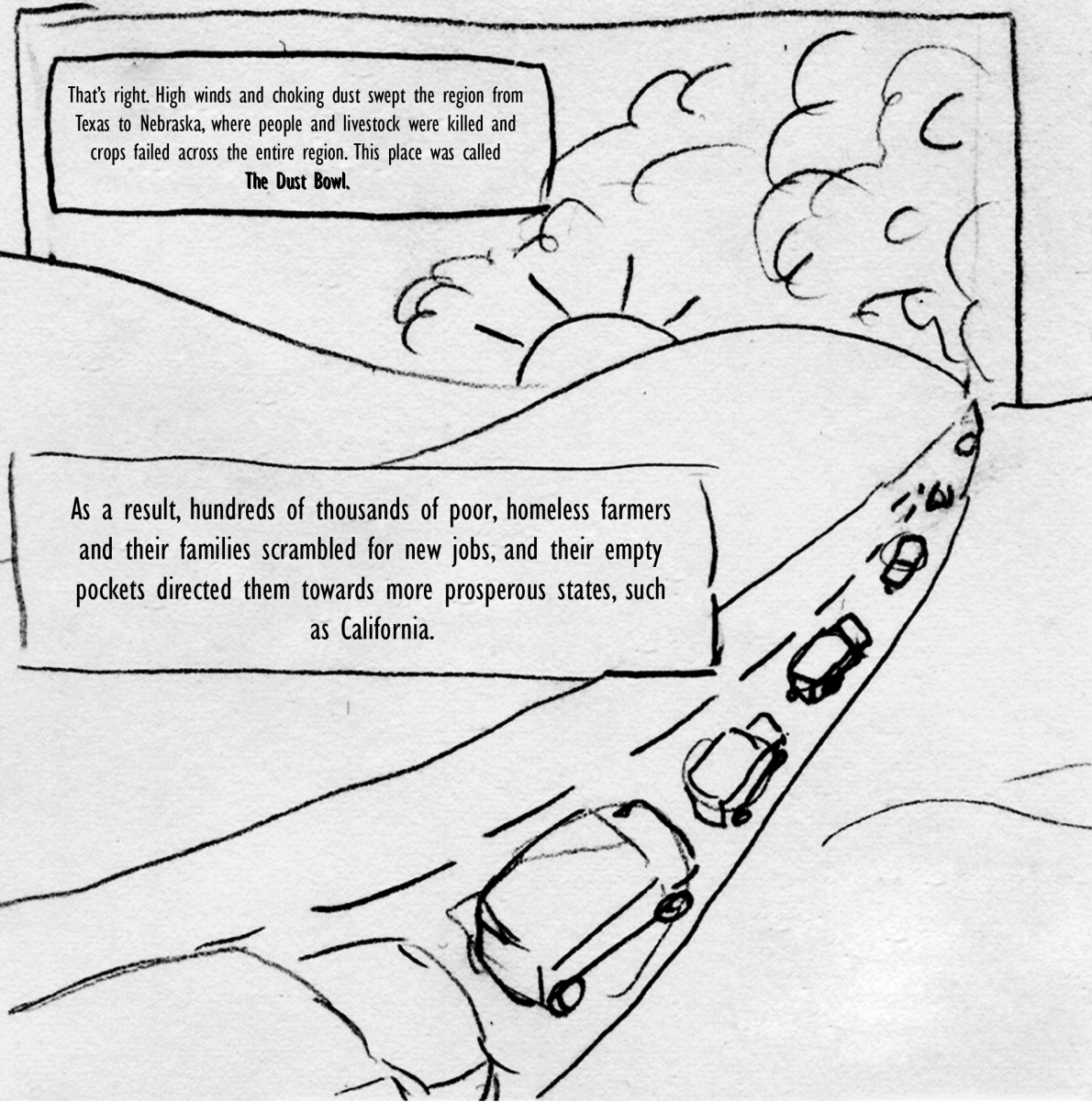
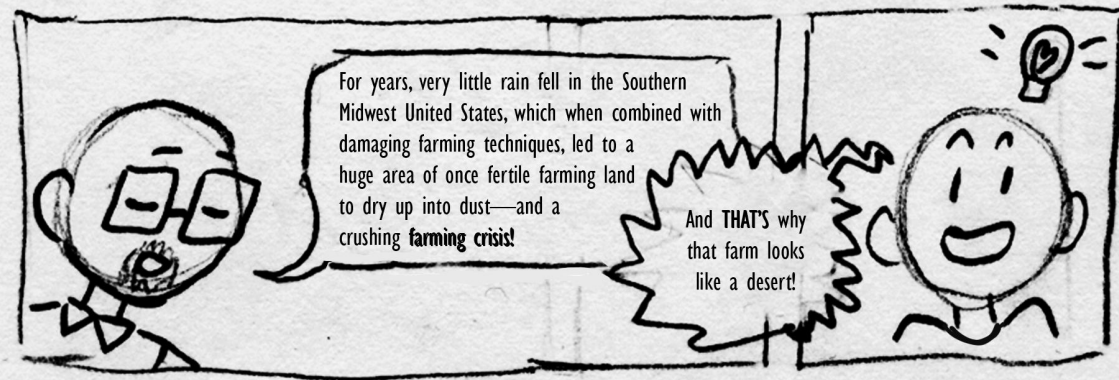




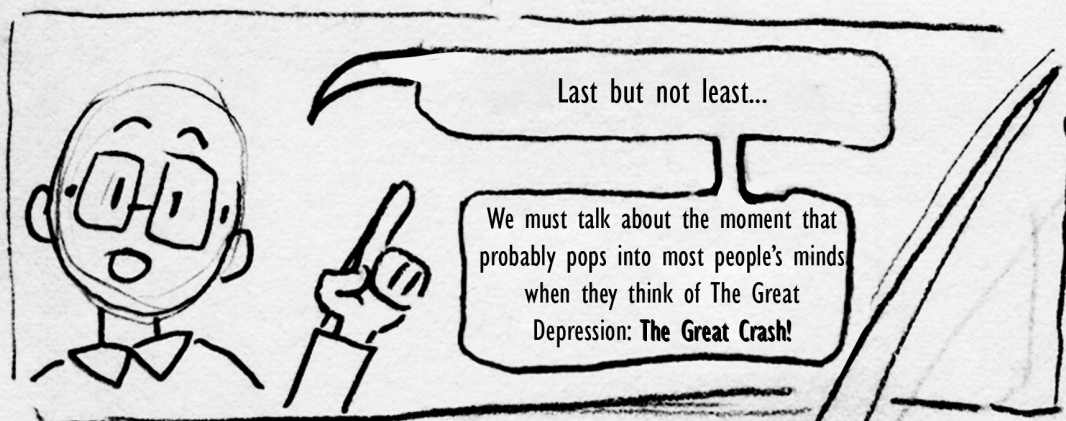


Precisely. Spurred on by the Great War, American factories and farms were producing WAY more goods than citizens could afford. As a result, prices fell, factories closed, workers were laid off, and thousands of farms were foreclosed.









On October 29, 1929, Black Tuesday hit Wall Street as investors traded more than 16 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange in a single day. Billions of dollars were lost, wiping out thousands of investors and leaving the nation stricken.

Over 50% of buyers in the stock market had bought on margin, which meant they took out money to invest—but now that the stocks were through the floor, they were in trouble.



First, **overproduction** showed its first signs of emerging...

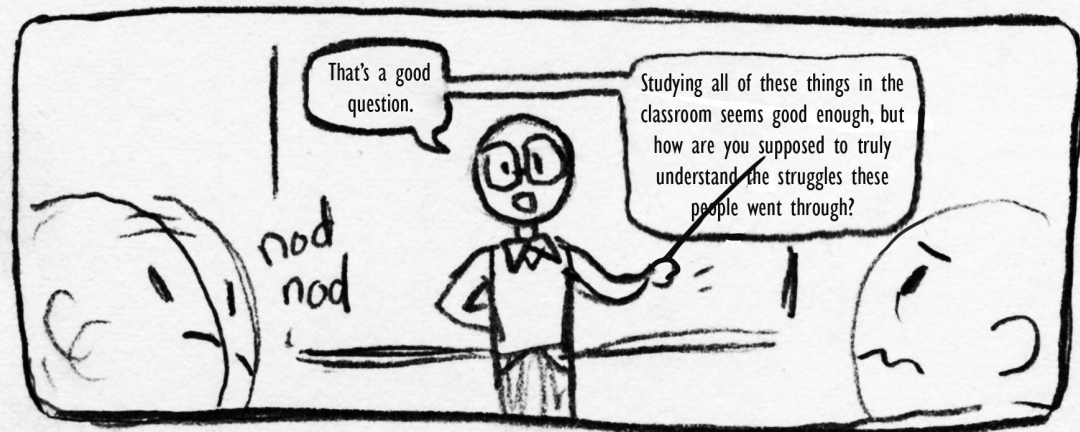
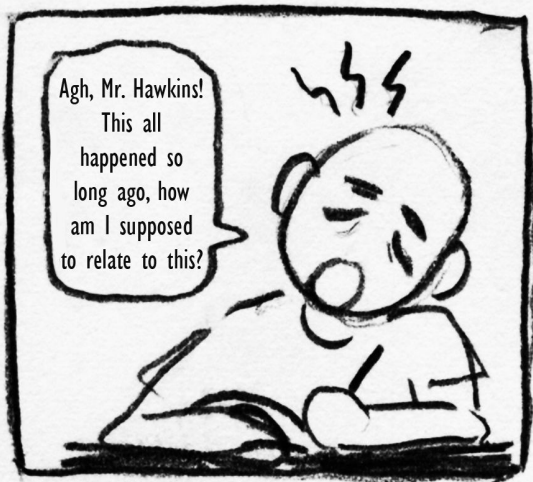
Then **unemployment** rates quietly began to grow

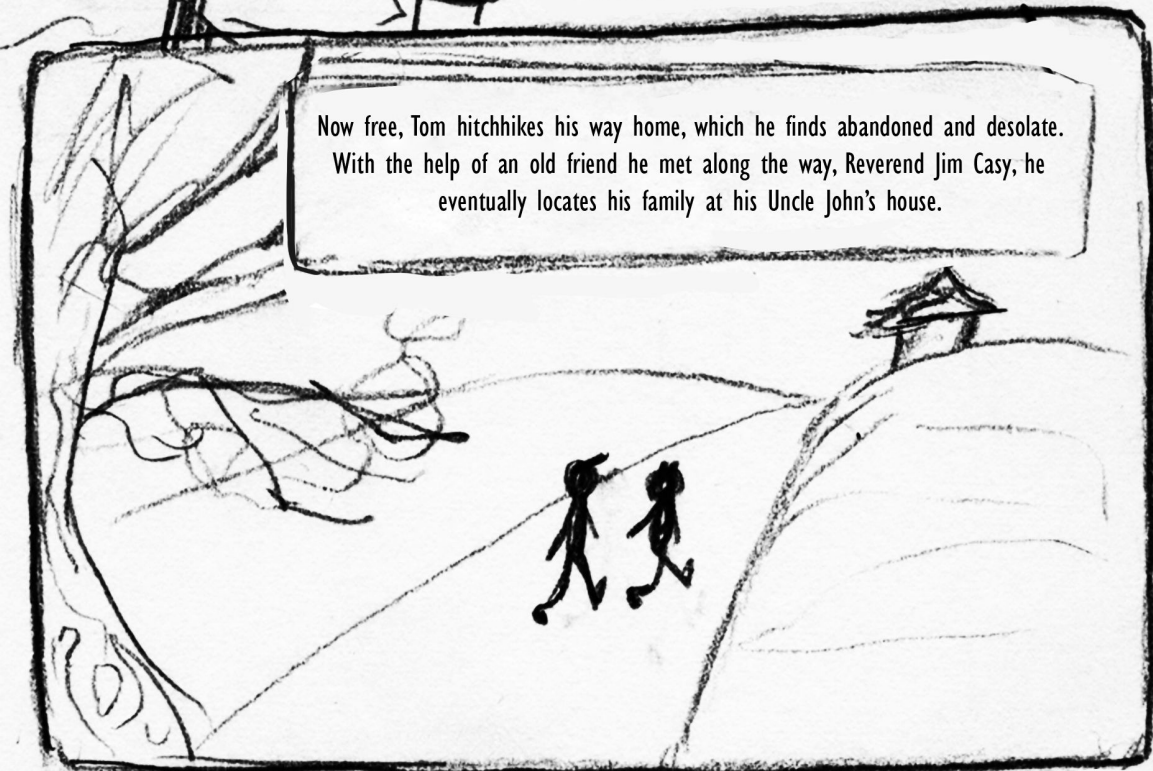
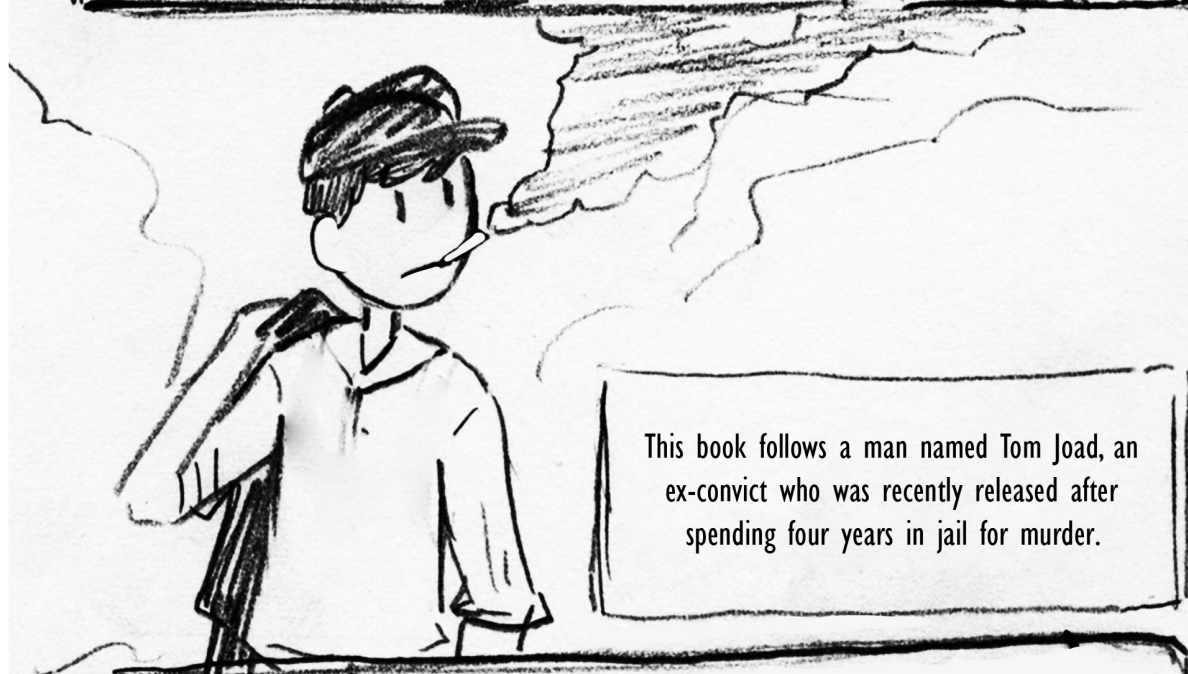
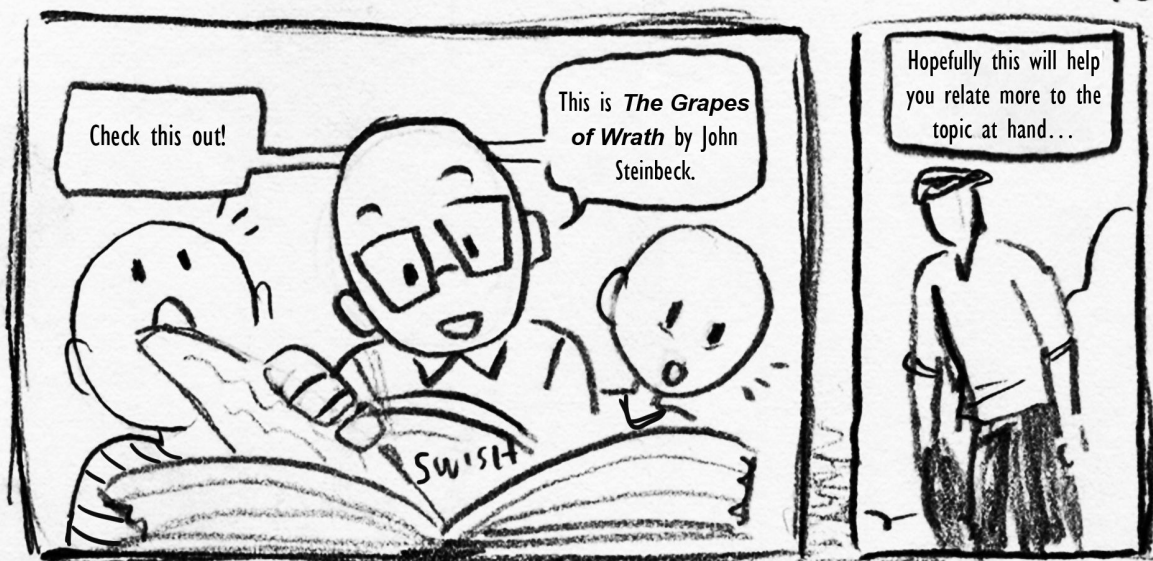
**AND SUDDENLY—**

Boom.

CRASH









Tom soon discovers that his family is preparing to make the long and treacherous drive to California, and he was lucky enough to catch them the day before they left.

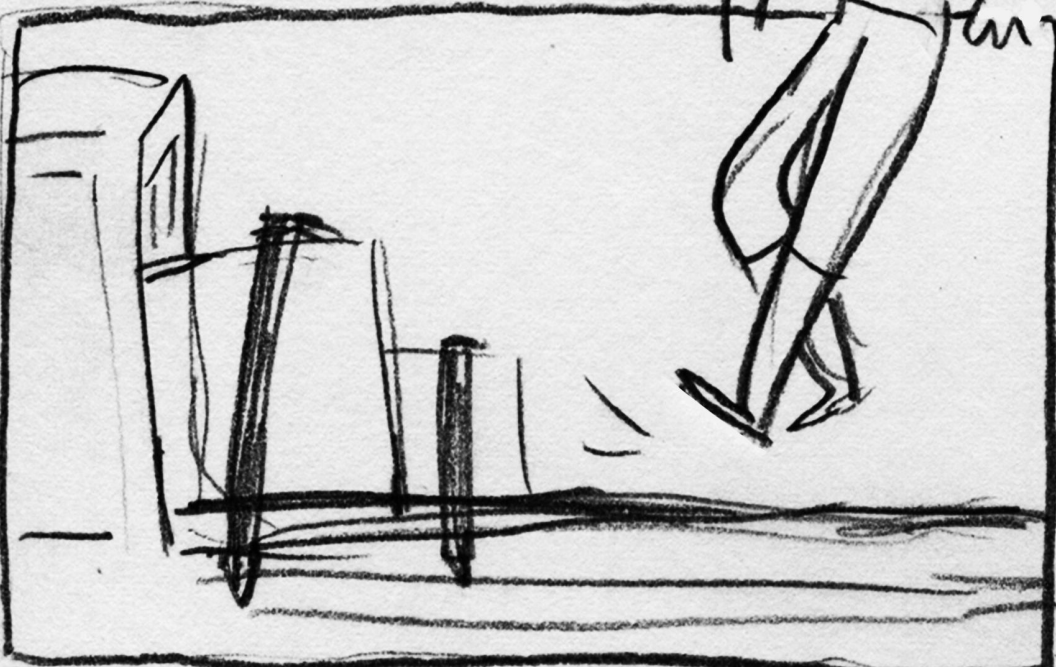


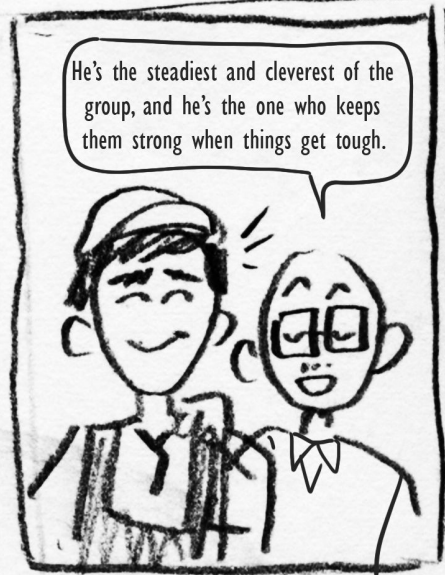
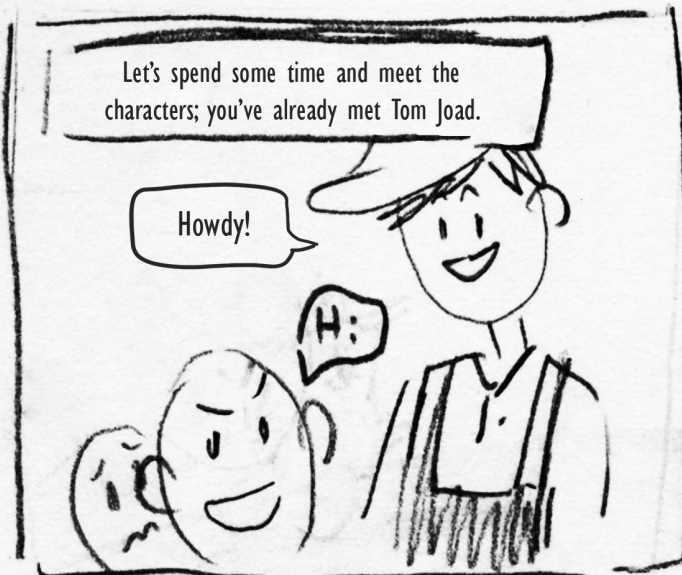
After selling almost everything they own, the loads are ready to make the drive—

Come on, let's go!

Didn't he kill somebody? Did I hallucinate that part?

With nothing but some tents and mattresses, a barely-running truck and one hundred and fifty dollars under their belt, their journey begins down route 66, en route to **California**.





The Joads struggle through the first few days of their journey and began losing members of their family as quickly as the road ran under them.



First, Granpa suffered a stroke.

And then Noah, who struggled to find his place within the family and succumbed to the comfort of staying in Oklahoma.

He left with little more than a goodbye.

Slowly, the Joads struggled through Oklahoma, then Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona.

Suffering through food shortages, breakdowns, and towering mountains, they finally reach the border of the land they had only heard about in stories; California!

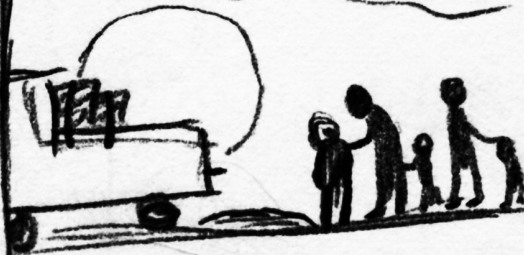
OKLAHOMA

TEXAS

NEW MEXICO

ARIZONA

However, even this victory was met with sadness; driven mad by Granpa's death, Granma finally succumbs to her own illness and dies right before crossing the border.



coroner's

Afraid of getting in trouble, the Joads are forced to leave her at the coroner's office instead of giving her a proper burial as they did with Granpa.



Now in California, the Joad's can't help but feel hesitantly optimistic.

Fruit pickin', warm winters, lil' houses, and iceboxes! Let's make some money!

Finally!!

But they quickly discover that work is going to be harder to come by than they thought.

Eventually, they end up in Hooverville, a makeshift camp for migrants with no money or jobs. It's here that the Joad's realize that they are not as welcome in this state as they would have hoped.

NO JOBS AVAILABLE

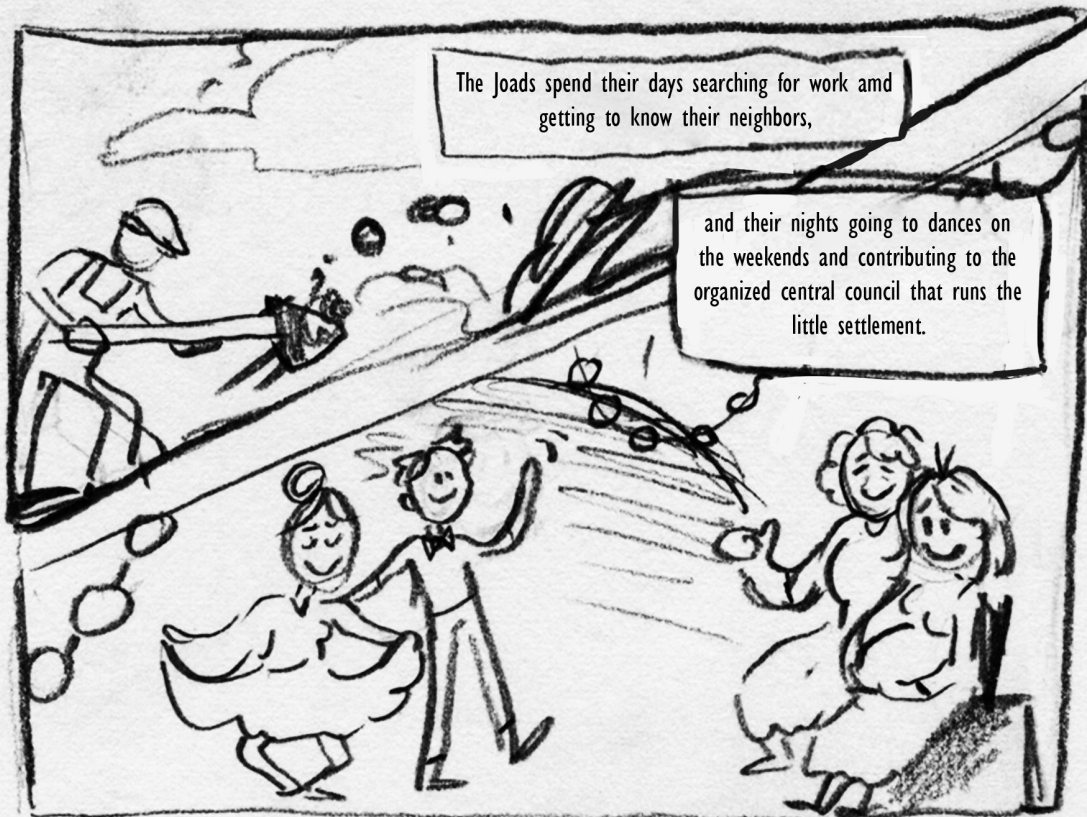
NO WORK!

STOP

Get out of here, Okie! Go back to your own town!

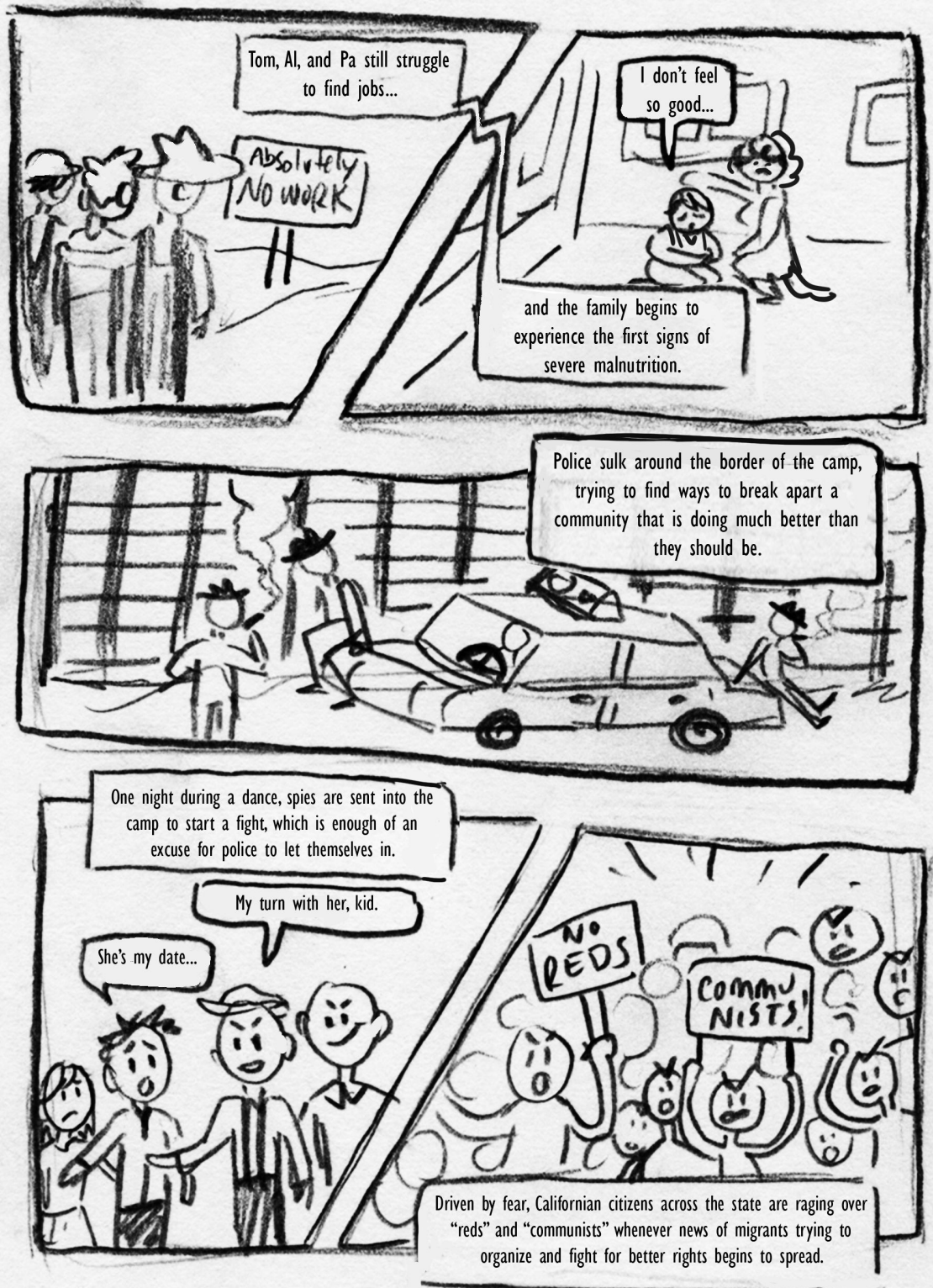
Yeah, we don't want you here!

Desperate for jobs, the Joads decided again to move south to a government camp called Weedpatch. Here, they're delighted to find running water, a camp council, and most importantly, no police!



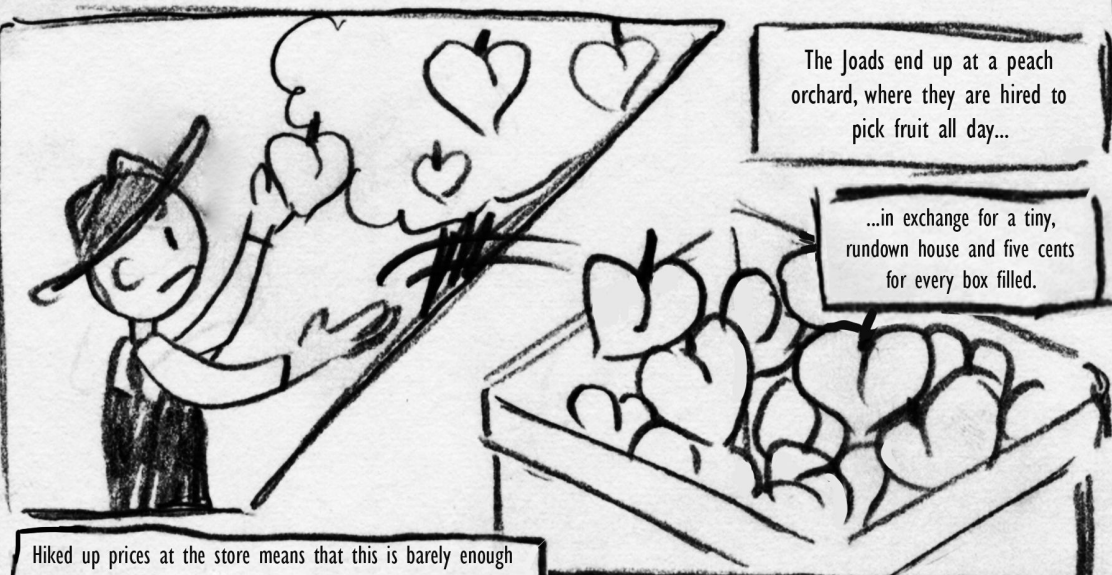
Things seem to finally be looking up for this rattled family...

But of course, not all good things can last during The Great Depression.



Eventually, the Joads are forced once again to move, desperate for jobs to tide them over.

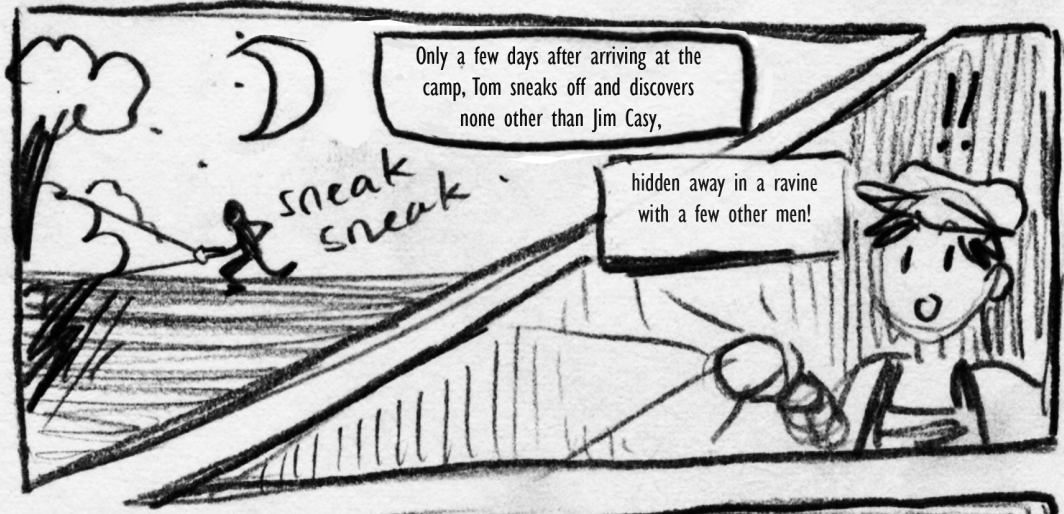




The loads end up at a peach orchard, where they are hired to pick fruit all day...

...in exchange for a tiny, rundown house and five cents for every box filled.

Hiked up prices at the store means that this is barely enough money to feed the family dinner—but they comply anyways, because at this point, they had no other options.



Only a few days after arriving at the camp, Tom sneaks off and discovers none other than Jim Casy,

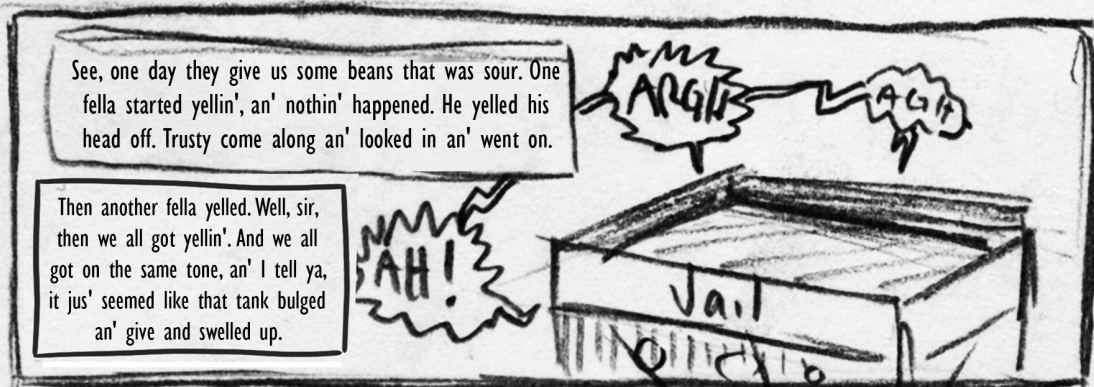
hidden away in a ravine with a few other men!



Jim, oh my God!

What are you doing here?

We're on a strike, Tom. Ain't no way folks can survive on two and a half cents a day, so we ain't given 'em the satisfaction.





Maybe I don't either. But you gotta tell 'em, Tom, when you go back.

Tell 'em what?

Tell 'em they're stabbin' themselves in the back with this. As soon as we're gone, it'll be right back to two and a half cents a box.

There ain't no way you can feed yourself with that kinda money.

I'll try, Jim, but I don't think anyone in their right mind would give up—

They're over there!

Get 'em!

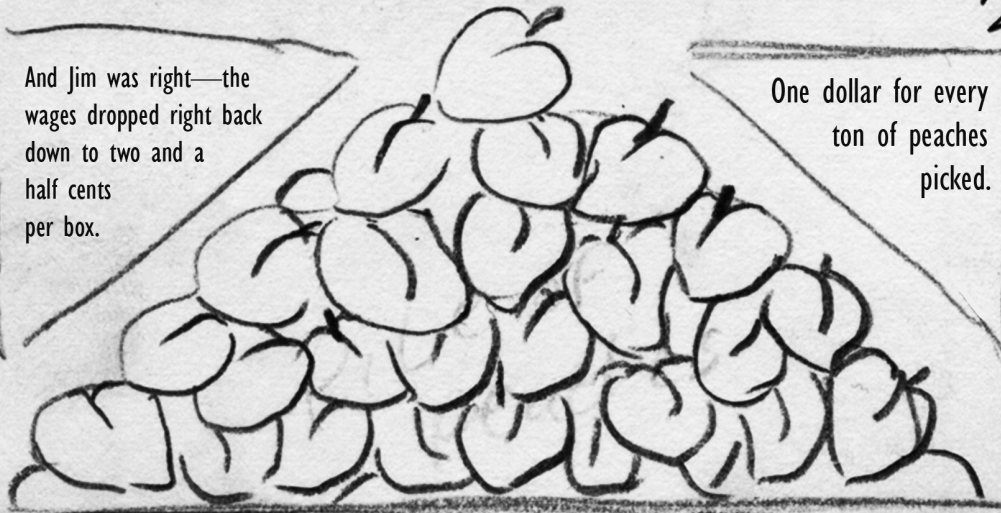
Ouch  
SMACK BANG = CRUNCH

The strike ended that night. Jim Casy was dead.



And Jim was right—the wages dropped right back down to two and a half cents per box.

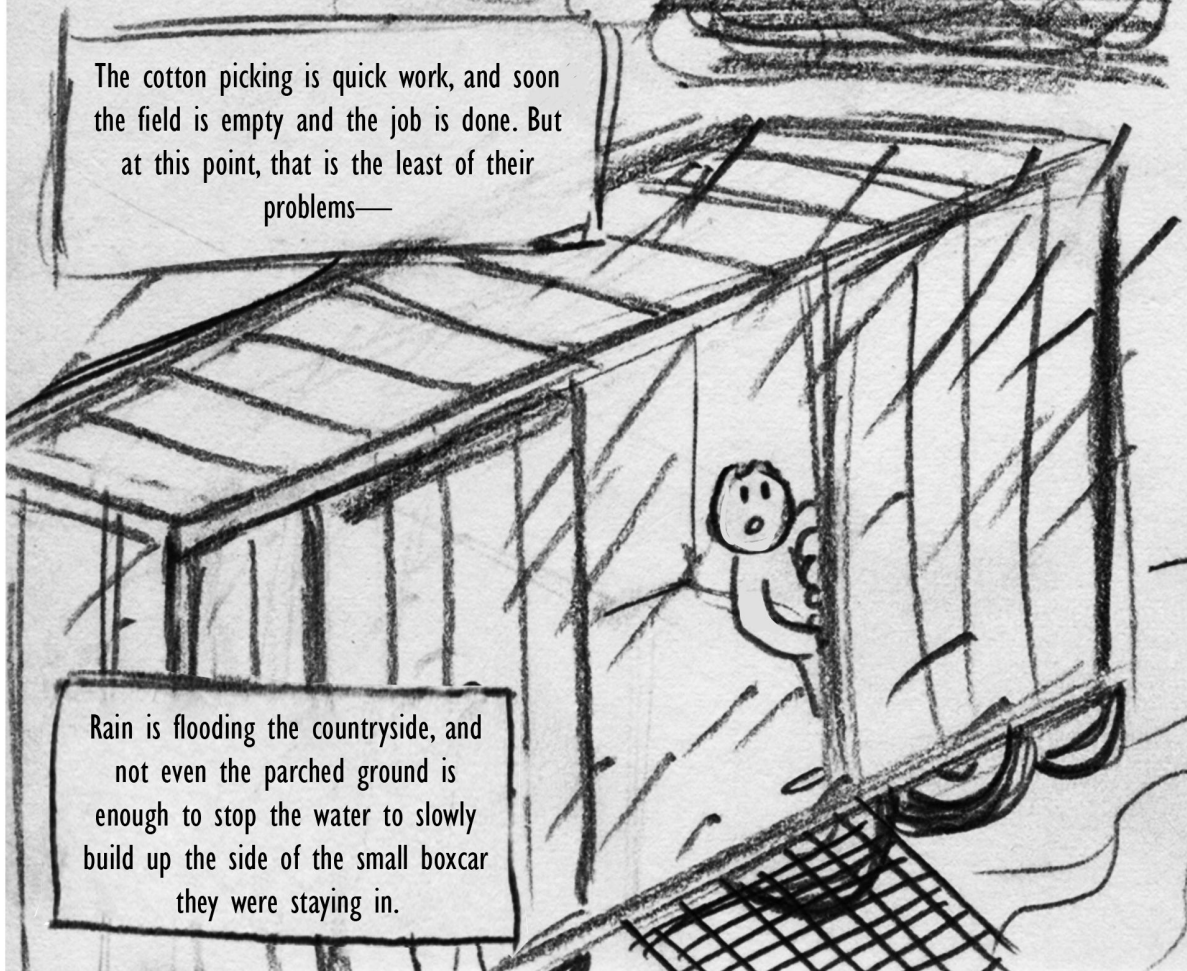
One dollar for every ton of peaches picked.



And with Tom in hiding after attacking on of the cops that had found the strikers camp, the loads were forced once again to find new work.



The cotton picking is quick work, and soon the field is empty and the job is done. But at this point, that is the least of their problems—



Rain is flooding the countryside, and not even the parched ground is enough to stop the water to slowly build up the side of the small boxcar they were staying in.

To make matters worse, Rose of Sharon was about to have her baby!



The family struggled to keep the water from entering the boxcar, but in the end, their efforts are futile. Rose of Sharon's greatest fear had come true—

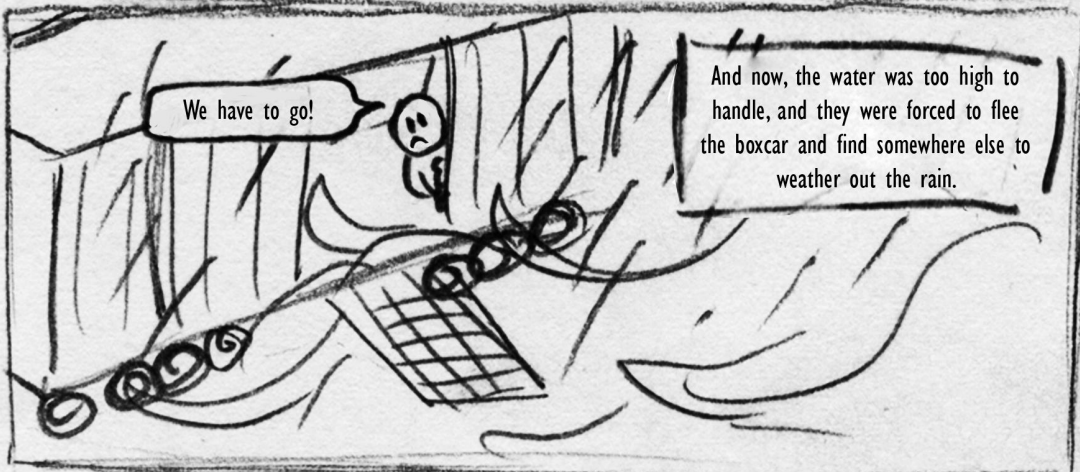
her baby was stillborn.



We have to go!



And now, the water was too high to handle, and they were forced to flee the boxcar and find somewhere else to weather out the rain.

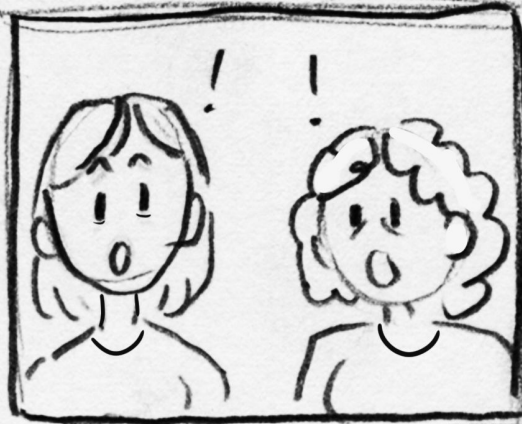
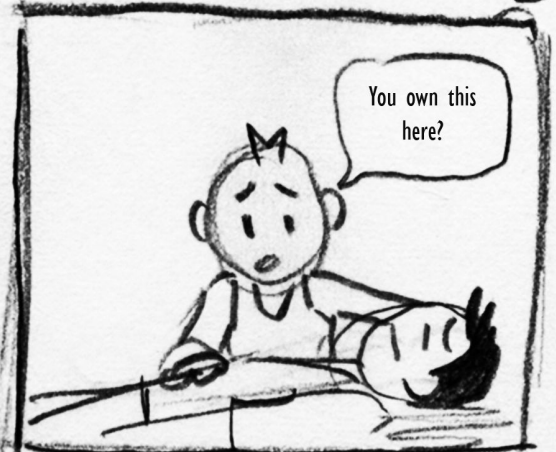
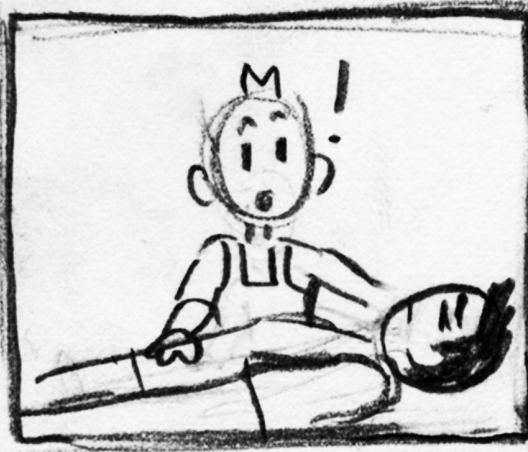


There's a barn up ahead!



Dry yourself off, dearie,

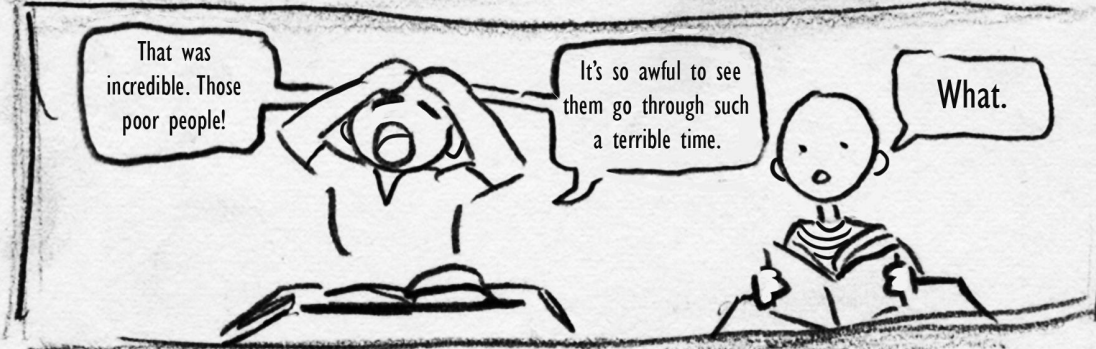


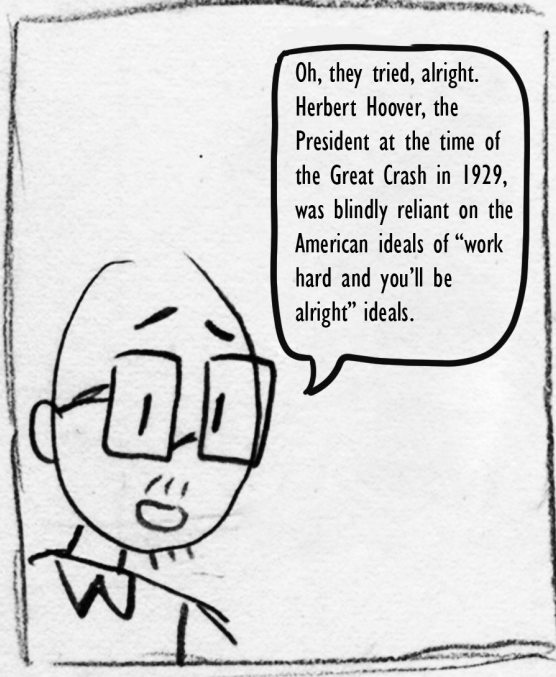


After just giving birth, Rose of Sharon realizes that by breastfeeding the man, she could save his life. Despite her struggles and everything she's lost, she would still have a chance to bring new life into the world.

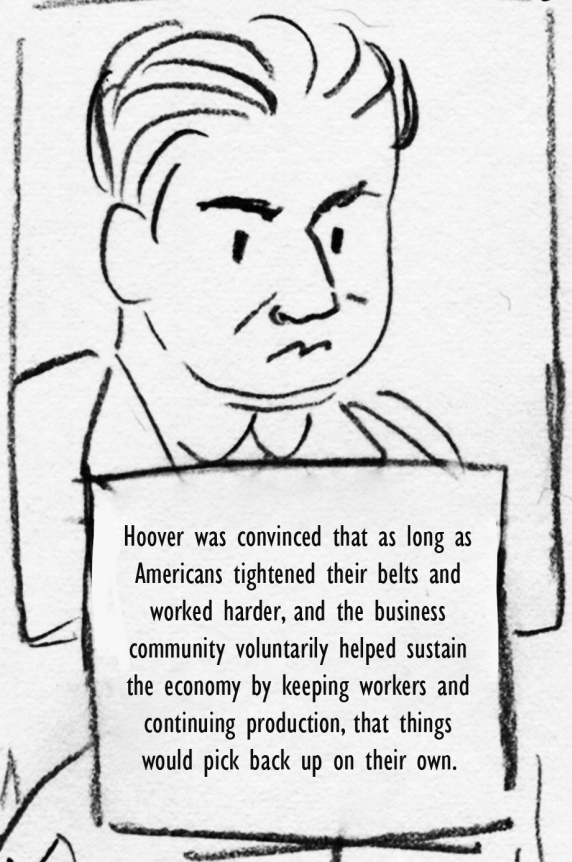




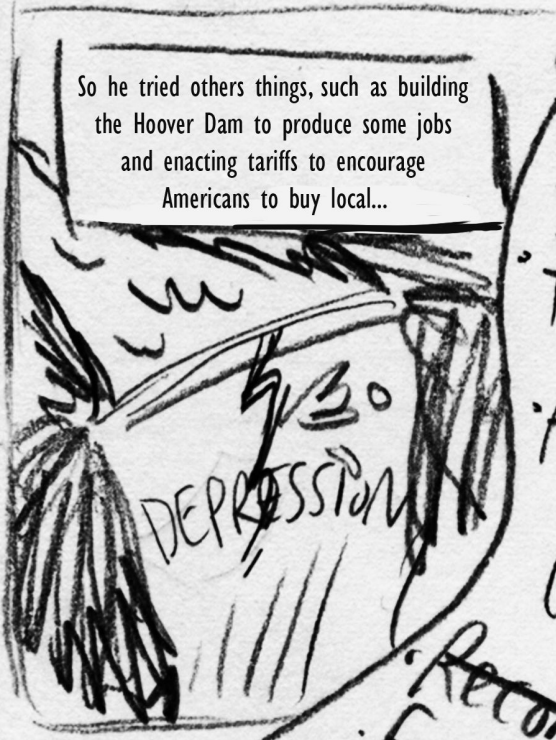




Oh, they tried, alright. Herbert Hoover, the President at the time of the Great Crash in 1929, was blindly reliant on the American ideals of "work hard and you'll be alright" ideals.



Hoover was convinced that as long as Americans tightened their belts and worked harder, and the business community voluntarily helped sustain the economy by keeping workers and continuing production, that things would pick back up on their own.



So he tried others things, such as building the Hoover Dam to produce some jobs and enacting tariffs to encourage Americans to buy local...



DEPRESSION

~~Dam~~  
~~Tariff~~  
~~Mex Rep. Programs~~

~~Recons.~~  
~~Finance~~  
~~Federal Home Loan Bank act~~

...but in the end, his actions were futile.

By 1933, employment rates nationwide reached 25%.

Left with scores of breadlines, soup kitchens, makeshift "Hoovervilles" for poor migrants, and a country in shambles, enter: Franklin Delano Roosevelt.



In the United States, no one talked much about the importance of a president's first 100 days—until Franklin D. Roosevelt took office in 1933.

Determined to fix the country after Hoover left office, Roosevelt took swift action to calm the nation's crippling financial panic by enacting The New Deal.

Focused on the need of relief, reform, and recovery, Roosevelt introduced important staples of his Presidency, including the Emergency Banking Act and the "fireside chats" that soothed the nation through the radio.



100 DAYS  
MARCH 9 -  
JUNE 16, 1933

- EMERGENCY  
BANKING  
RELIEF  
ACT. ✓

- Glass-Steagall Act ✓

- Federal Securities Act ✓

- SEC ✓

- AAA ✓

- TVA ✓

- CCC ✓

- NIRA ✓

- PWA ✓

- NRA ✓

- HOLC ✓

- FHA ✓

- FERA ✓

FDR's extraordinary productivity translated into enormous popularity, and he set a first 100-day standard against which all future U.S. presidents would (perhaps unfairly) be measured.



