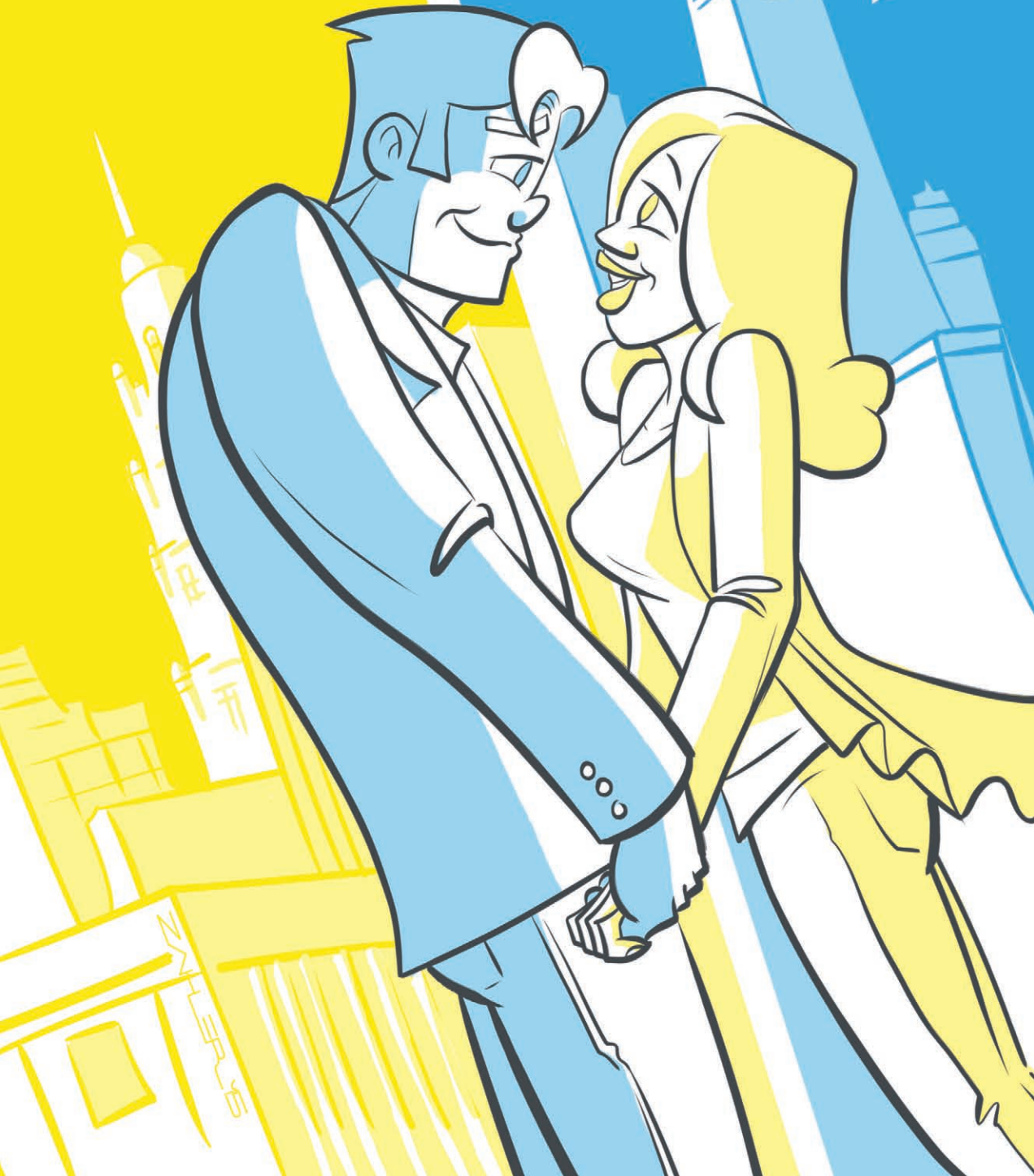


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# LONG DISTANCE



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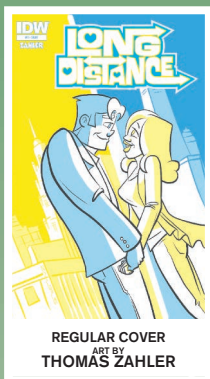
WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY THOM ZAHLER  
EDITED BY DAVID HEDGECOCK

This is the story of two people  
being drawn together...

...even though they live  
hundreds of miles apart.

CHICAGO

COLUMBUS



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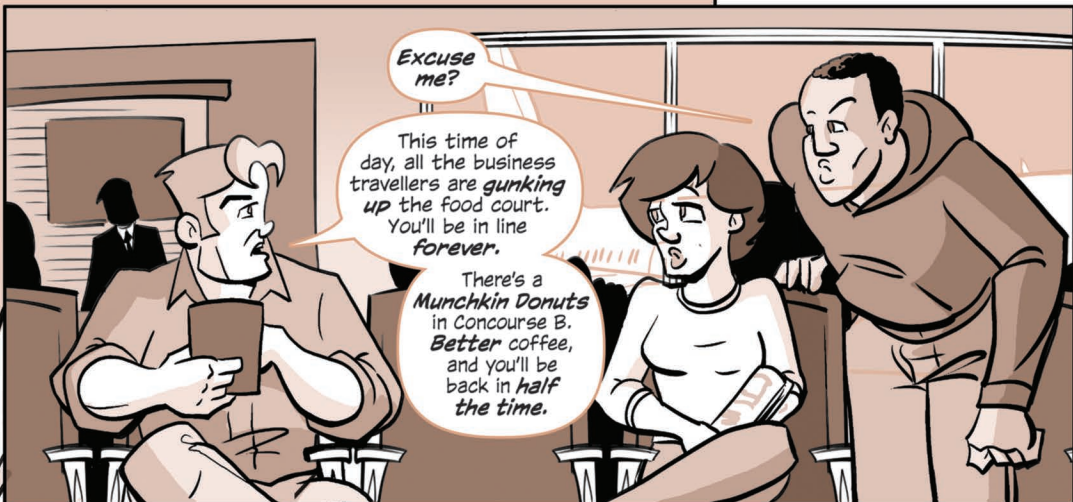
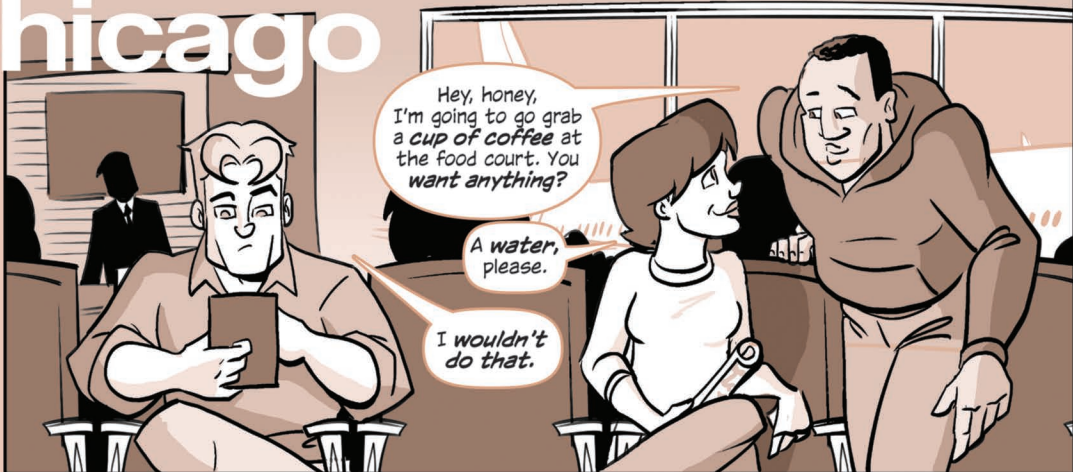
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# chicago

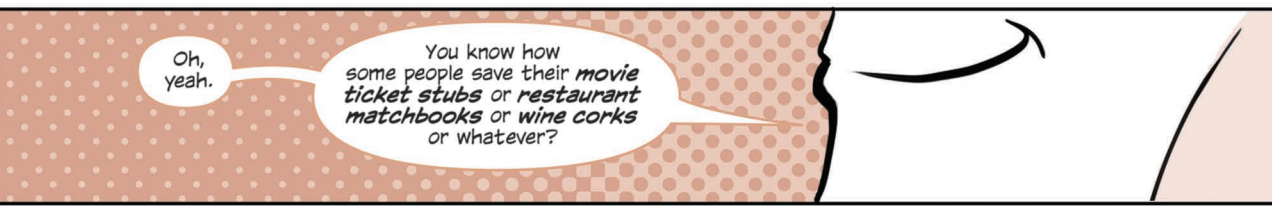




Used to be?

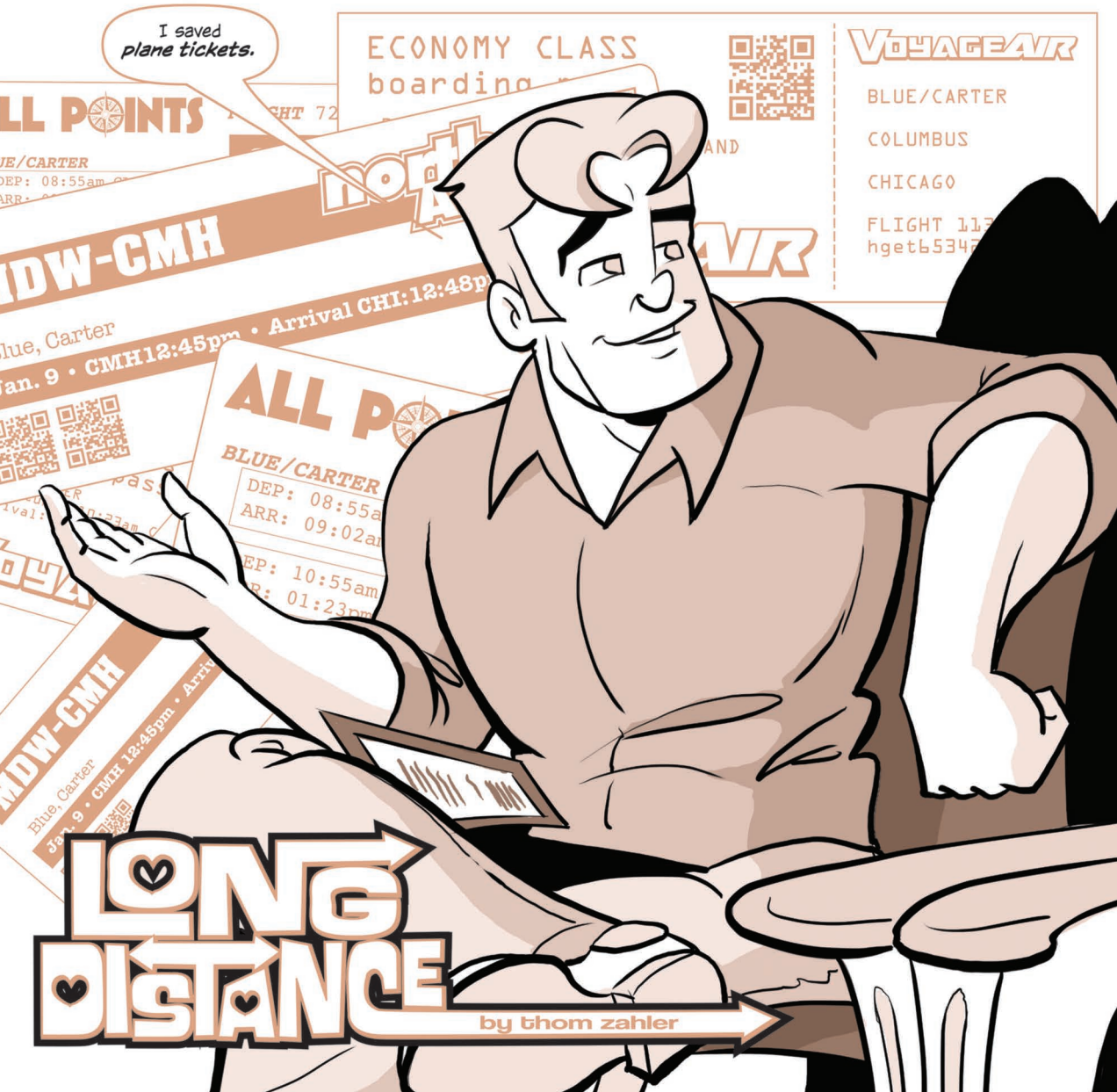
And you travelled a lot?

Well, that part's complicated.



Oh, yeah.

You know how some people save their *movie ticket stubs* or *restaurant matchbooks* or *wine corks* or whatever?



I saved plane tickets.

ECONOMY CLASS boarding

Voyage Air

BLUE/CARTER

COLUMBUS

CHICAGO

FLIGHT 117  
hget65347

ALL POINTS

BLUE/CARTER

DEP: 08:55am

ARR: 09:02am

MDW-CMH

Blue, Carter

Jan. 9 • CMH 12:45pm • Arrival CHI: 12:48pm

ALL POINTS

BLUE/CARTER

DEP: 08:55am

ARR: 09:02am

DEP: 10:55am

ARR: 01:23pm

MDW-CMH

Blue, Carter

Jan. 9 • CMH 12:45pm • Arrival

LONG DISTANCE

by thom zahler

# new york city

ECONOMY CLASS  
boarding pass



VOYAGEAIR

BLUE/CARTER  
NEW YORK CITY  
COLUMBUS

FLIGHT 1138  
hget65342jaxx

BLUE/CARTER  
departure: 8:22pm NEW YORK CITY  
arrival: 9:55pm COLUMBUS

VOYAGEAIR

"Appropriately,  
I met her at an  
airport..."

No, Tim, it  
didn't go well. They  
want to change  
everything.

"Edgy."  
That's what they  
said. They want her  
drawn "edgy."

How do  
you make a  
six-year old  
"edgy"?

Quincy!  
Stop  
running *this*  
minute!

On top of that,  
the meeting ran  
long and now I'm  
rushing to my  
gate.

This is  
my city!

oooh!

I protect  
the city!

No, I haven't  
looked outside.  
Why? Srr--





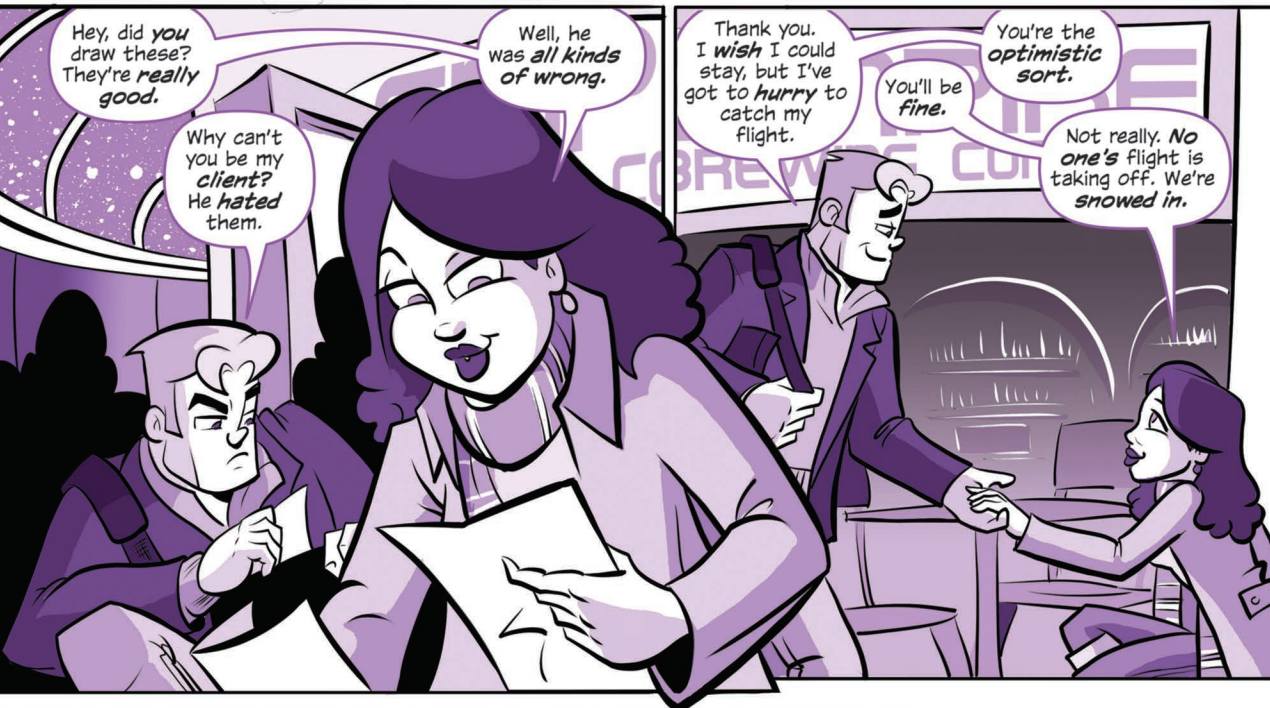
Thanks. I appreciate it. I didn't see that kid at all.

I think hiding in shadows is kind of his deal.

You really didn't stand a chance.

TO TIM

Sorry I got cut off. Kid ran into me and I wallpapered the concourse in rejected sketches.



Hey, did you draw these? They're really good.

Why can't you be my client? He hated them.

Well, he was all kinds of wrong.

Thank you. I wish I could stay, but I've got to hurry to catch my flight.

You'll be fine.

You're the optimistic sort.

Not really. No one's flight is taking off. We're snowed in.



All the flights?

Everything headed west.

We're in New York. Everything's west.

Not England.

I'm not going to England.

Then you're not going anywhere.

Crap! What am I going to do then?



Well--

--you could buy me another drink.



Um...

...yeah, I could do that.



Hi. I'm Carter. Carter Blue.

Lee Smith. Nice to meet you.

You know anywhere around here to get a drink?

I know a great little bar about ten feet from here.

Sounds perfect.