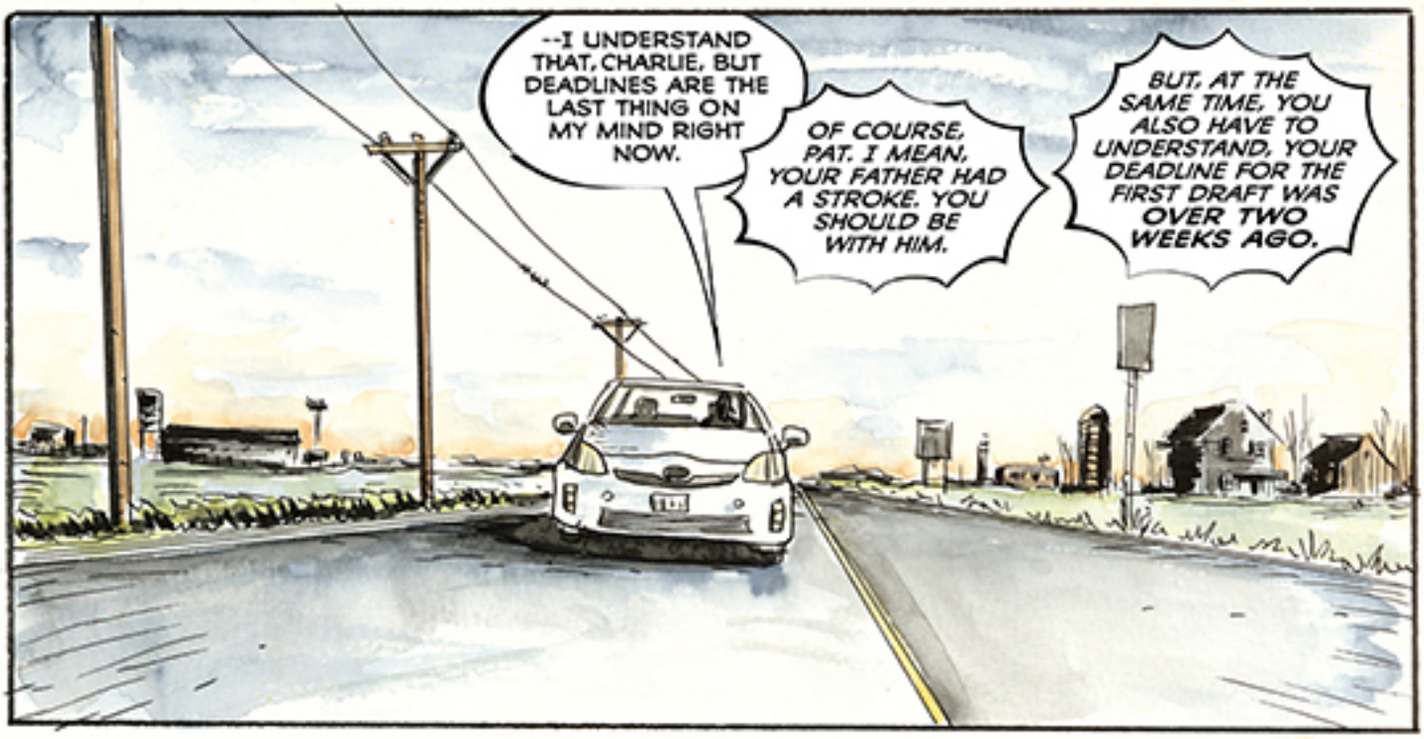
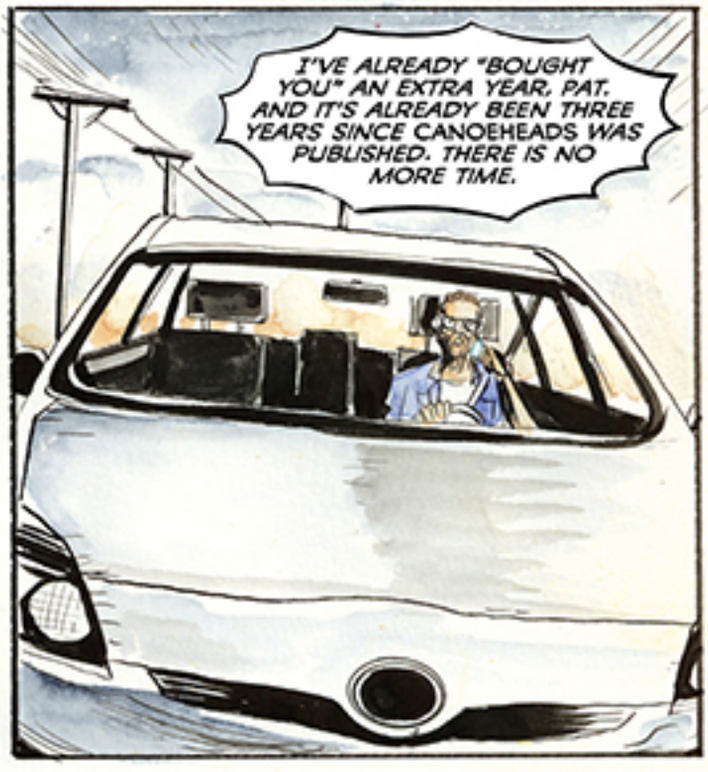
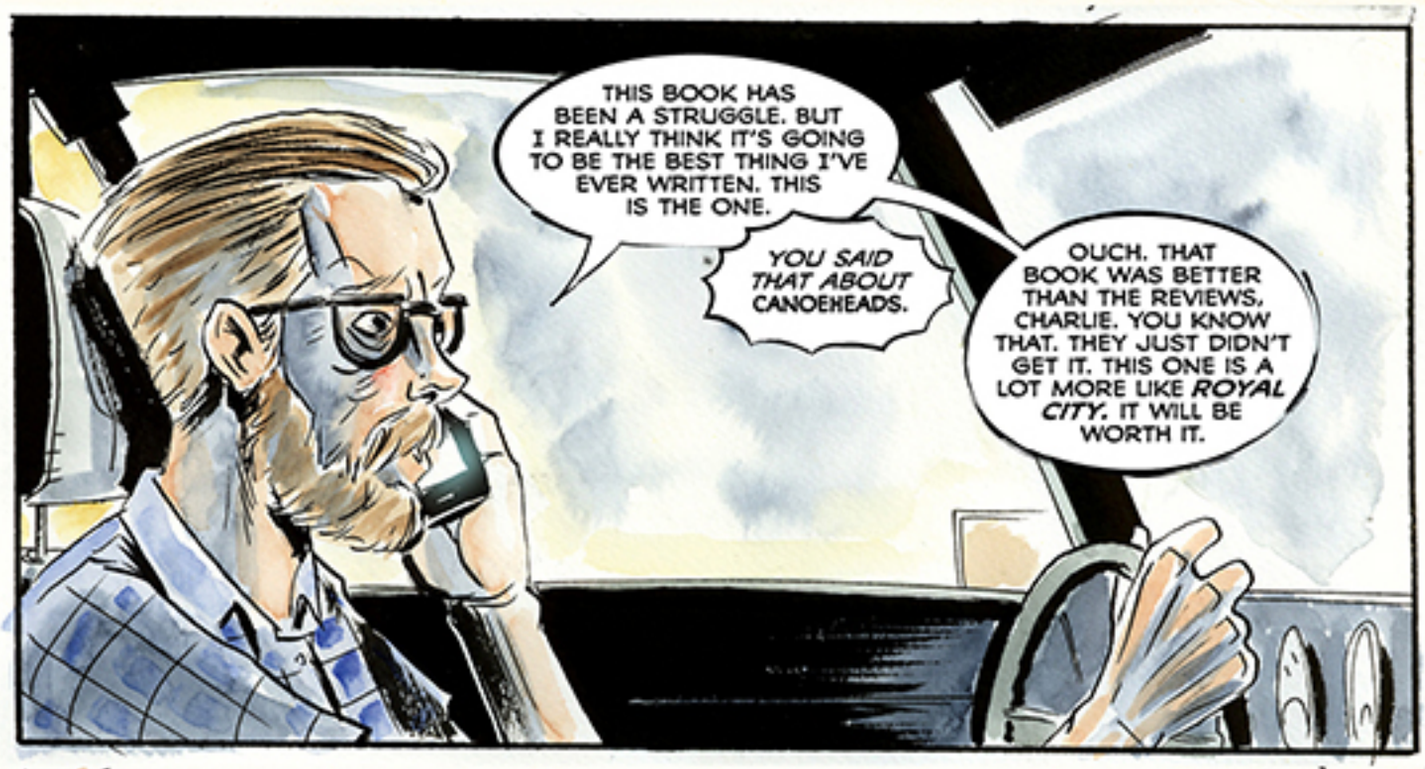

--I UNDERSTAND THAT, CHARLIE, BUT DEADLINES ARE THE LAST THING ON MY MIND RIGHT NOW.
OF COURSE, PAT. I MEAN, YOUR FATHER HAD A STROKE. YOU SHOULD BE WITH HIM.
BUT, AT THE SAME TIME, YOU ALSO HAVE TO UNDERSTAND, YOUR DEADLINE FOR THE FIRST DRAFT WAS OVER TWO WEEKS AGO.

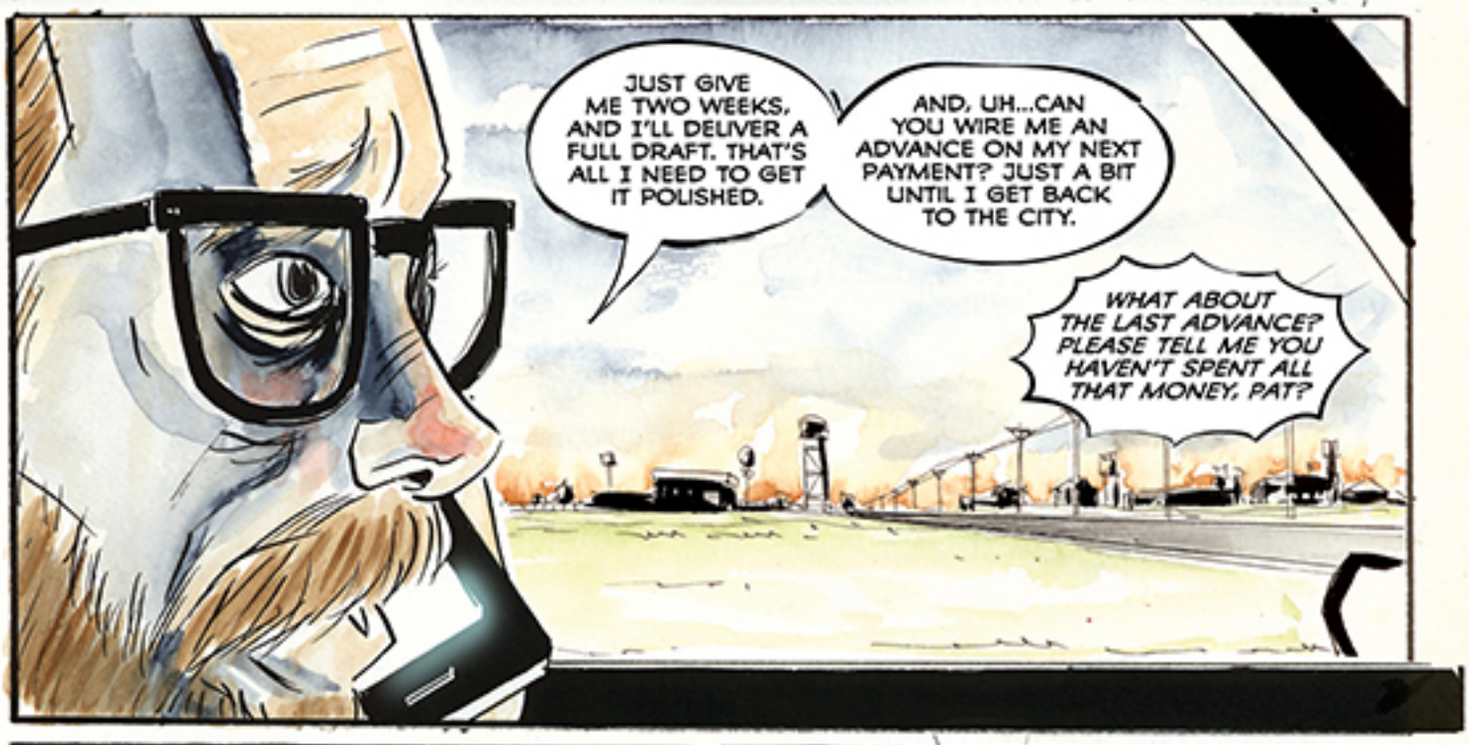
I KNOW. AND I TOLD YOU, I'M ALMOST DONE.
ALMOST DONE, AS IN YOU'LL SEND IT TO ME THIS WEEK?

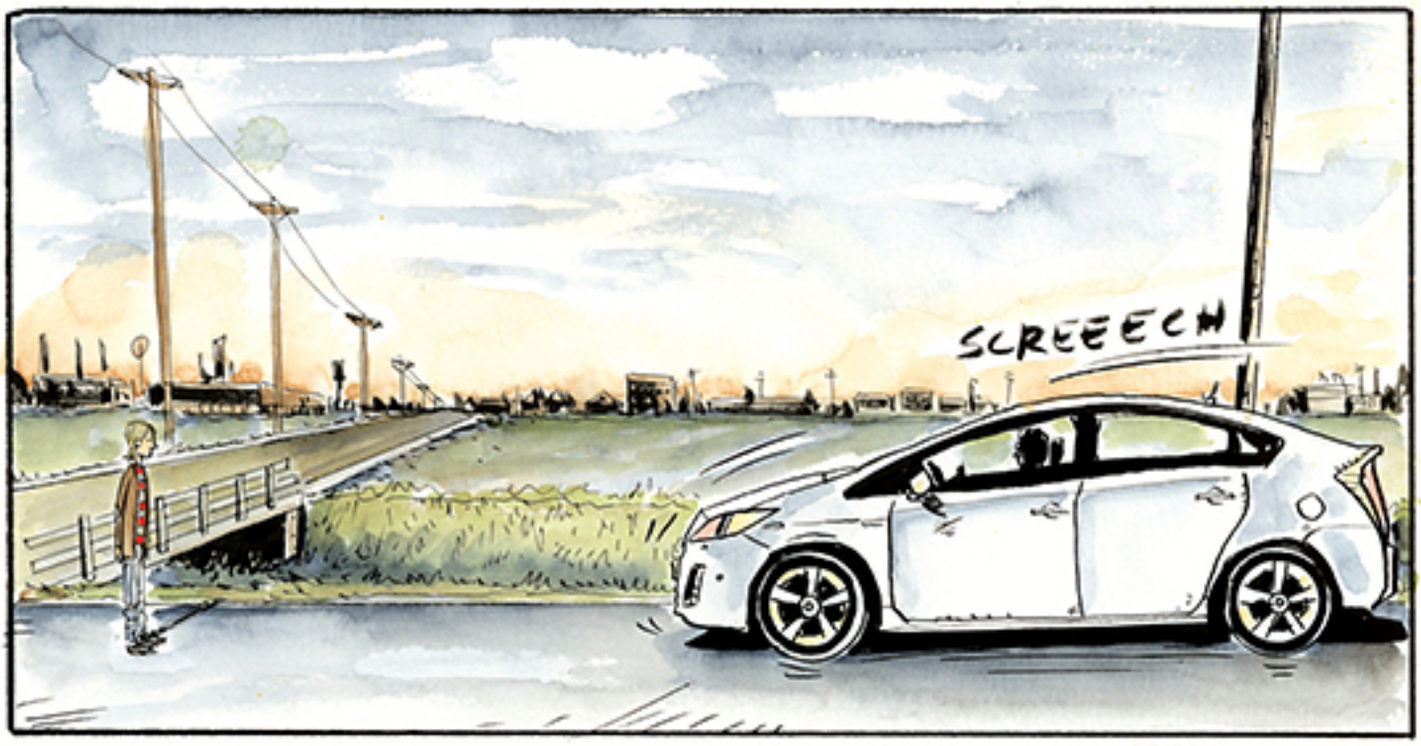
ALMOST DONE, AS IN IT'S ALL IN MY NOTEBOOK. THE WHOLE NOVEL. ALL I NEED TO DO IT TYPE IT UP AND POLISH IT A BIT.
IN YOUR NOTEBOOK?! JESUS, PATRICK!

I KNOW, I KNOW. IT'S BEEN HARD, CHARLIE. I JUST NEED YOU TO BUY ME A LITTLE MORE TIME WHILE I DEAL WITH THIS STUFF BACK HOME.


I'VE ALREADY "BOUGHT YOU" AN EXTRA YEAR, PAT. AND IT'S ALREADY BEEN THREE YEARS SINCE CANOEHEADS WAS PUBLISHED. THERE IS NO MORE TIME.

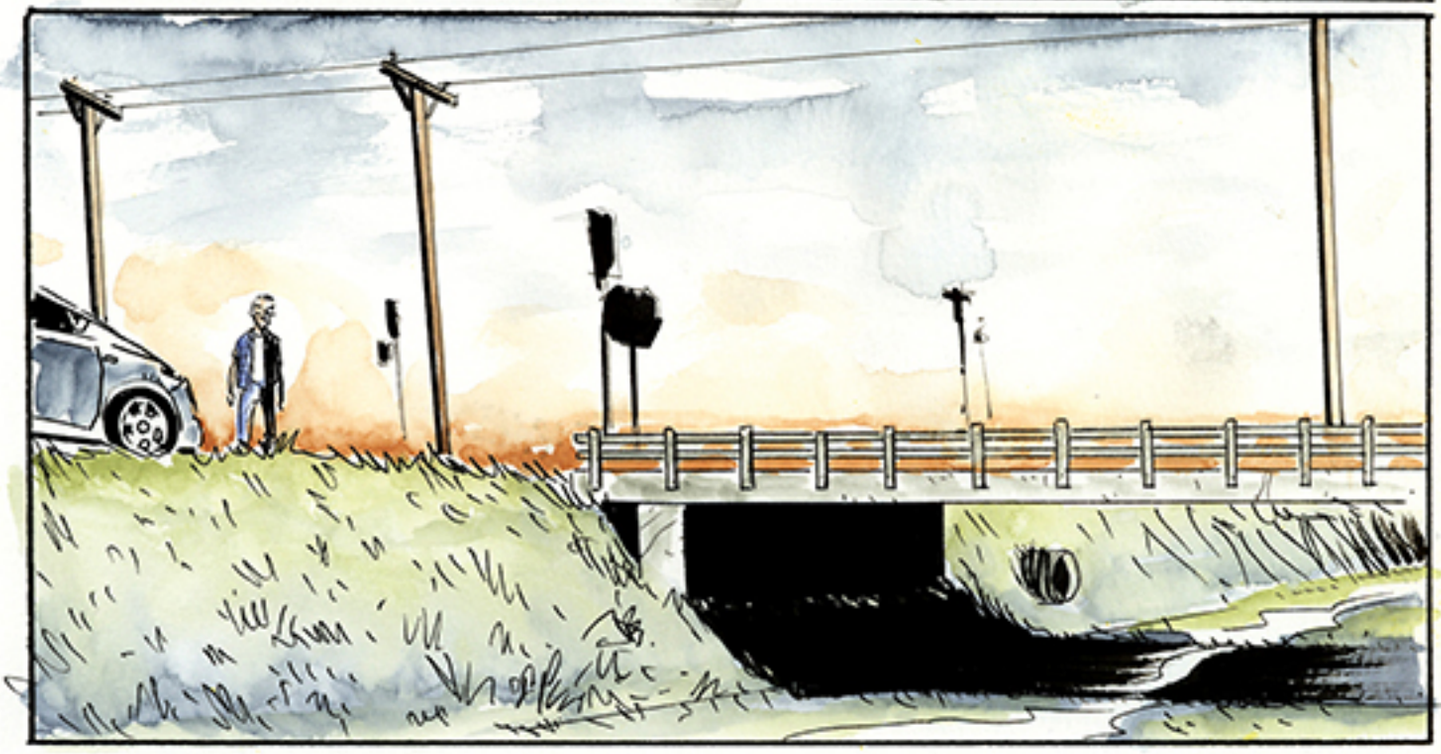

THIS BOOK HAS BEEN A STRUGGLE. BUT I REALLY THINK IT'S GOING TO BE THE BEST THING I'VE EVER WRITTEN. THIS IS THE ONE.
YOU SAID THAT ABOUT CANOEHEADS.
OUCH. THAT BOOK WAS BETTER THAN THE REVIEWS, CHARLIE. YOU KNOW THAT. THEY JUST DIDN'T GET IT. THIS ONE IS A LOT MORE LIKE ROYAL CITY. IT WILL BE WORTH IT.

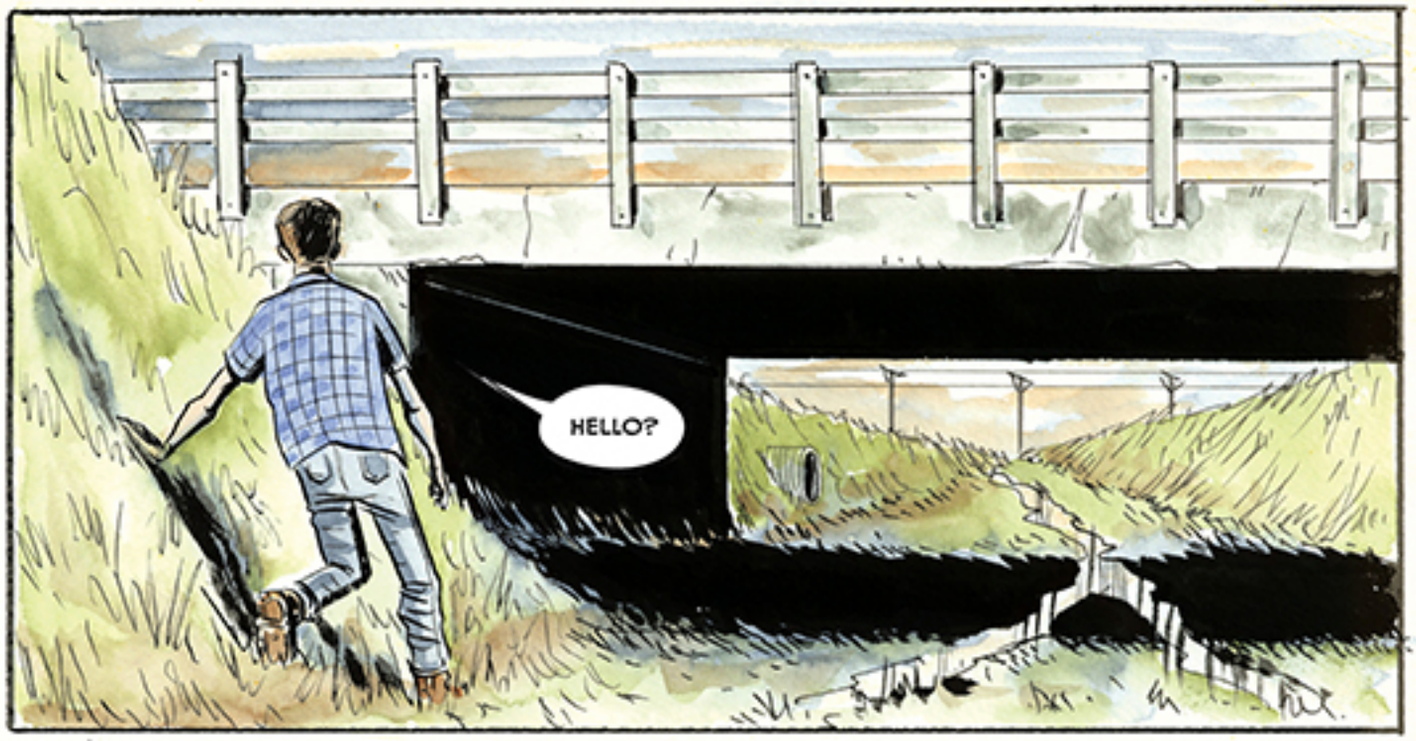

JUST GIVE ME TWO WEEKS, AND I'LL DELIVER A FULL DRAFT. THAT'S ALL I NEED TO GET IT POLISHED.
AND, UH...CAN YOU WIRE ME AN ADVANCE ON MY NEXT PAYMENT? JUST A BIT UNTIL I GET BACK TO THE CITY.
WHAT ABOUT THE LAST ADVANCE? PLEASE TELL ME YOU HAVEN'T SPENT ALL THAT MONEY, PAT?

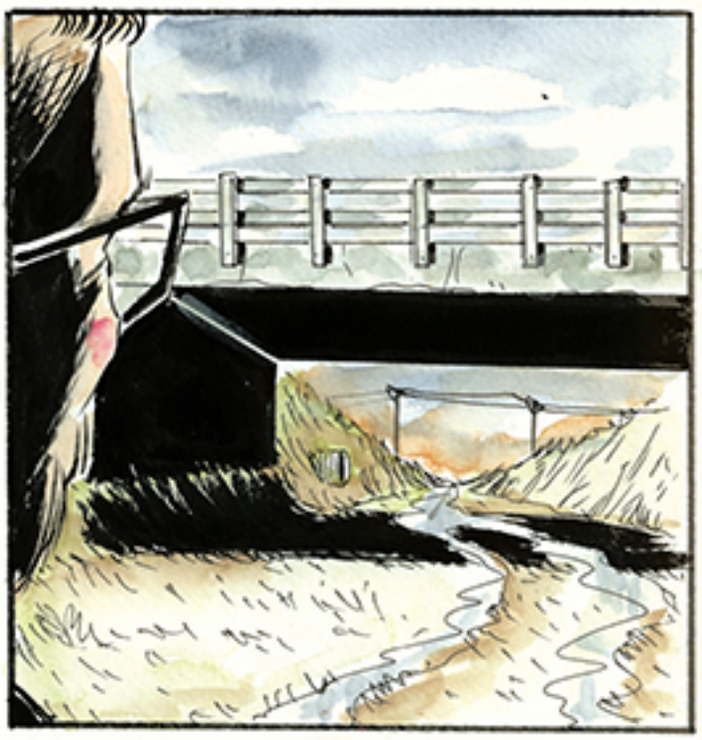

SCREEECH

PAT?!
I--I GOTTA GO.

PAT? WHAT THE HELL IS GO--
CLICK




HELLO?



TOMMY?

SLAM!
ROYAL CITY
NEXT EXIT
POPULATION 45 300