

# BE YOUR OWN BACKING BAND



comics about music by  
**LIZ PRINCE**



welcome to my book *Be Your Own Backing Band*: a collection of comics I've drawn for the website *If You Make It*, and *Razorcake* magazine.

Most of these comics focus on the theme of punk music and how it has related to my life.

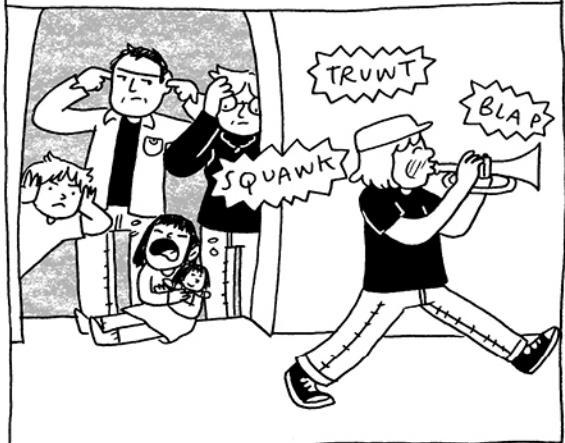


A Life that, despite my most fervent wishes, has been devoid of musical talent.

The artist, age 9, performing along with They Might Be Giants "Flood" to an audience of her extremely unlucky parents.



The artist, age 12, torments her poor family under the delusion that she can play the trumpet.



The artist, age 14, gives up trying to learn guitar because her father is an impatient teacher.\*



The artist, age 17, is told it would really be better for everyone involved if she stopped singing - a long to the stereo.



\*and I was a petulant student

So I rightfully never got behind an instrument. Often when I saw a band play I would imagine myself up there with them.



And although I was always a little envious when my friends started bands, I made sure to be front and center at their shows.



I learned that being in a band isn't the only way to contribute to your scene.

Helping make and distribute show fliers



Doing art work for local bands



Simply just showing up to support touring bands, even if you've never heard them.



Eventually drawing comics for websites like If You Make It and the long-standing punk zine Razorcake became a way for me to connect with like-minded folks.



Some of the pages in this book are from 2010, and there are a few that I don't really relate to anymore, but it's cool to see my personal evolution.



Regardless, I hope you enjoy this collection of stories about punk and life and how the two things (often messily) intersect.



♪ THANK YOU FOR PLAYING THE WAY YOU PLAY ♪ ♪ ♪



LP2017



and

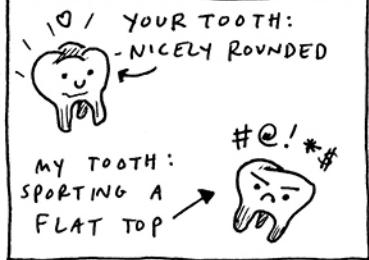
# PUNK ROCK IS RUINING MY TEETH

Ever since I was a teenager I've had this bad habit of clicking my teeth together to the beat of songs I really like

I've only met 2 other people who also do this: My dad (who I assume I got it from) and my friend Kyle, who was in my favorite local band in highschool, Pintsize (they were emo)

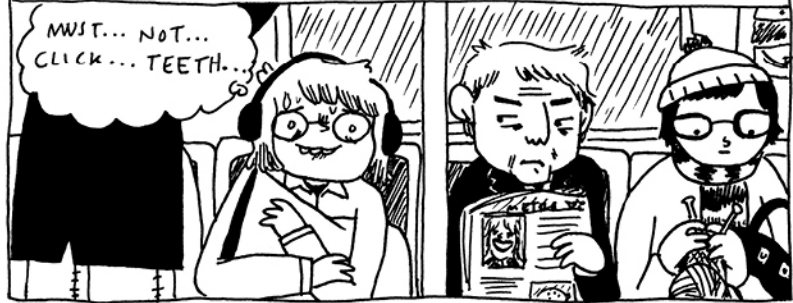


clicking my teeth is not as bad as grinding, but it is still having a noticeable impact on the landscape of my mouth



In order to lessen the strain on my teeth, I bite my lip or the inside of my cheeks, especially in public. Neither solution is very effective, and both result in horrible jaw tension

I guess I'll just let my teeth fall out, and when they do I'll send my dentist bill to Lookout Records.



# O, Spring!

a poem by LIZ PRINCE  
2010



I Don't want to grow up



LIZ PRINCE 2011

