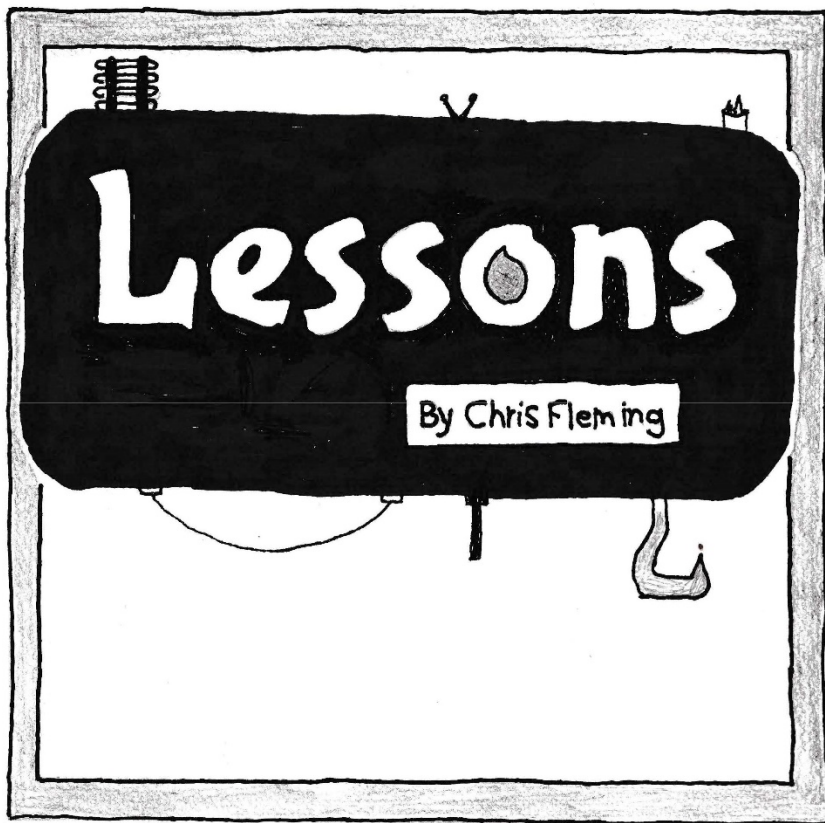
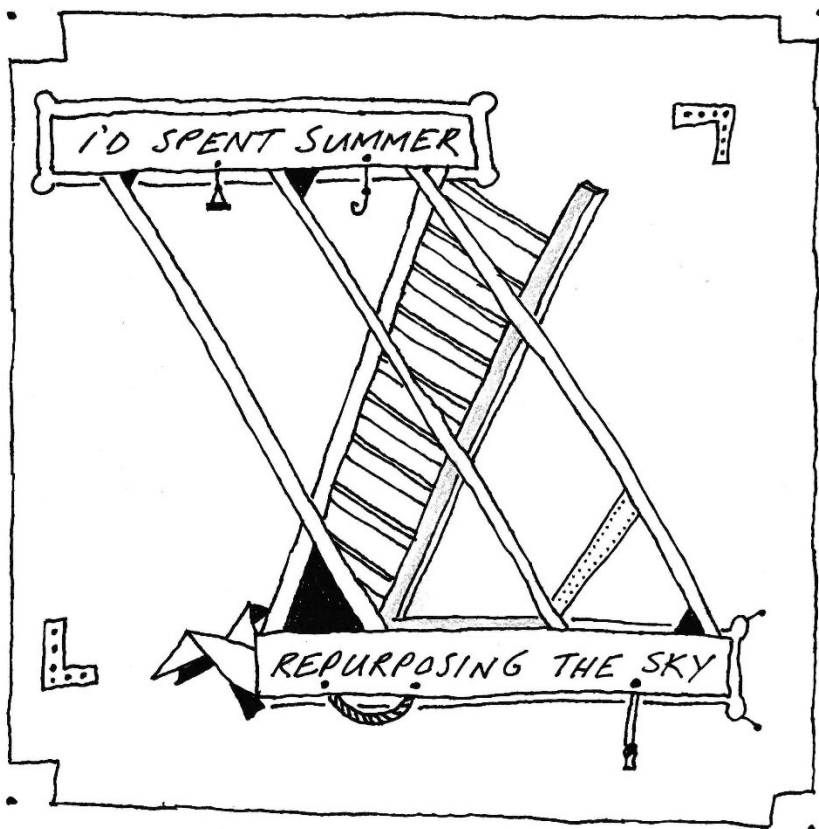
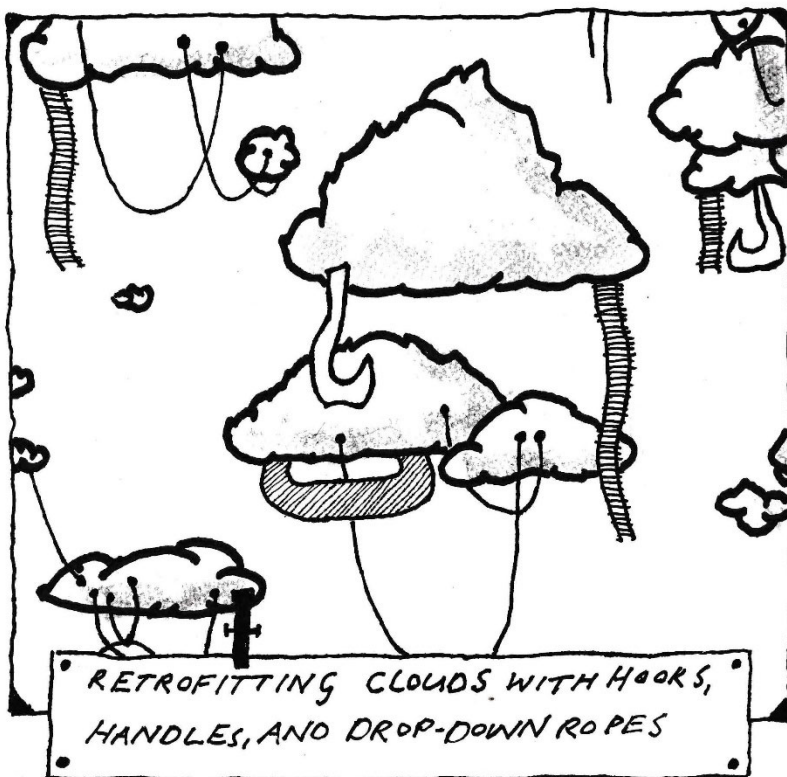


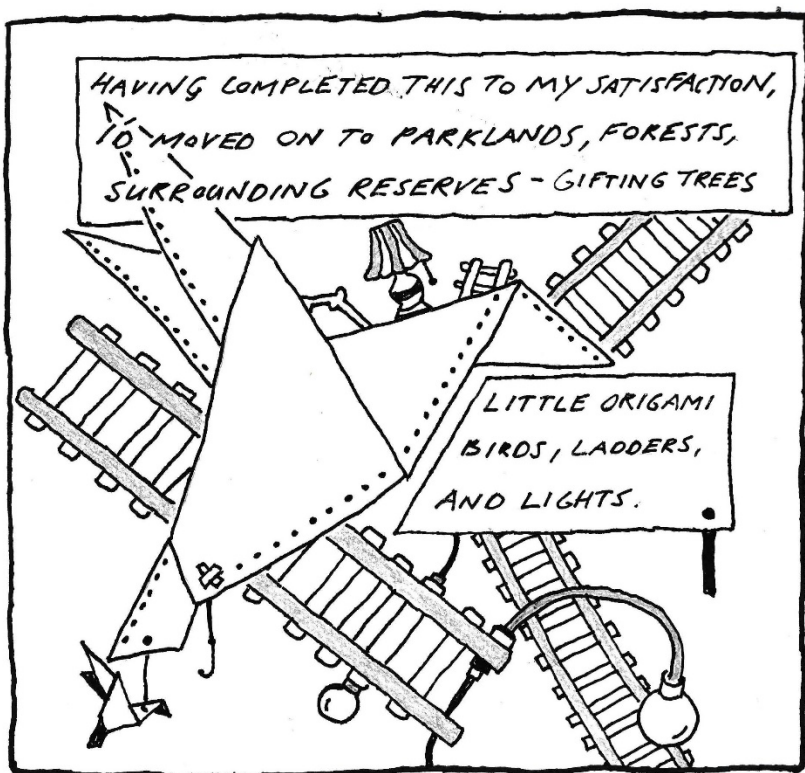
Lessons

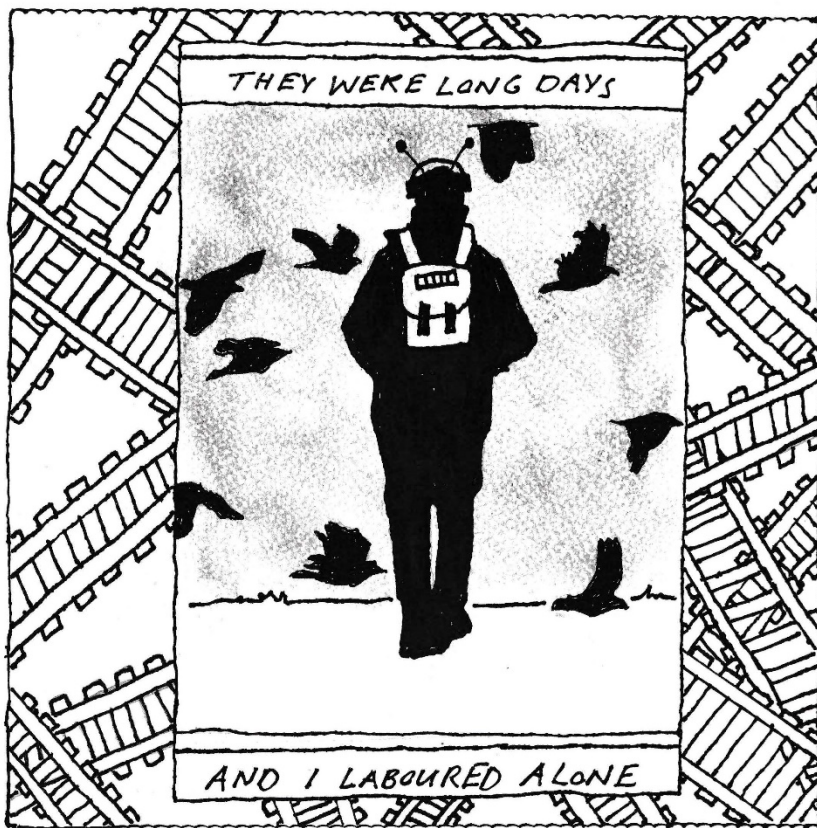
Chris Fleming



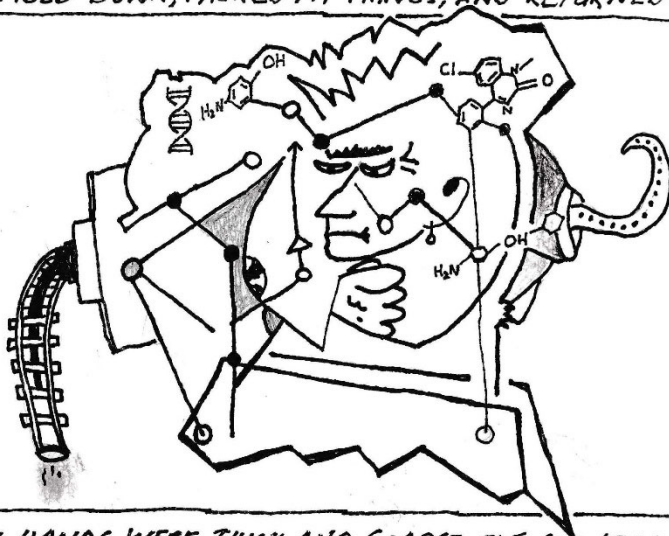






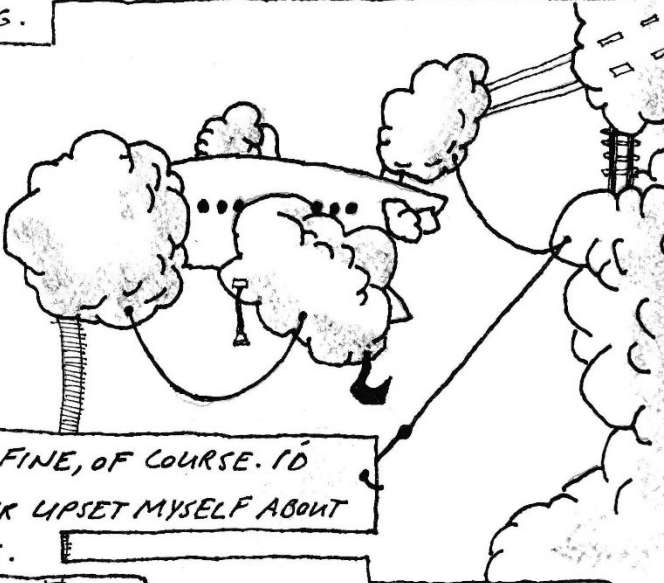


THEN SOMETHING SHIFTED UNDER THE SKIN, SOME DARK CHEMICAL UNCOUPLING, TITRATION OF WILL. I CLIMBED DOWN, PACKED MY THINGS, AND RETURNED.



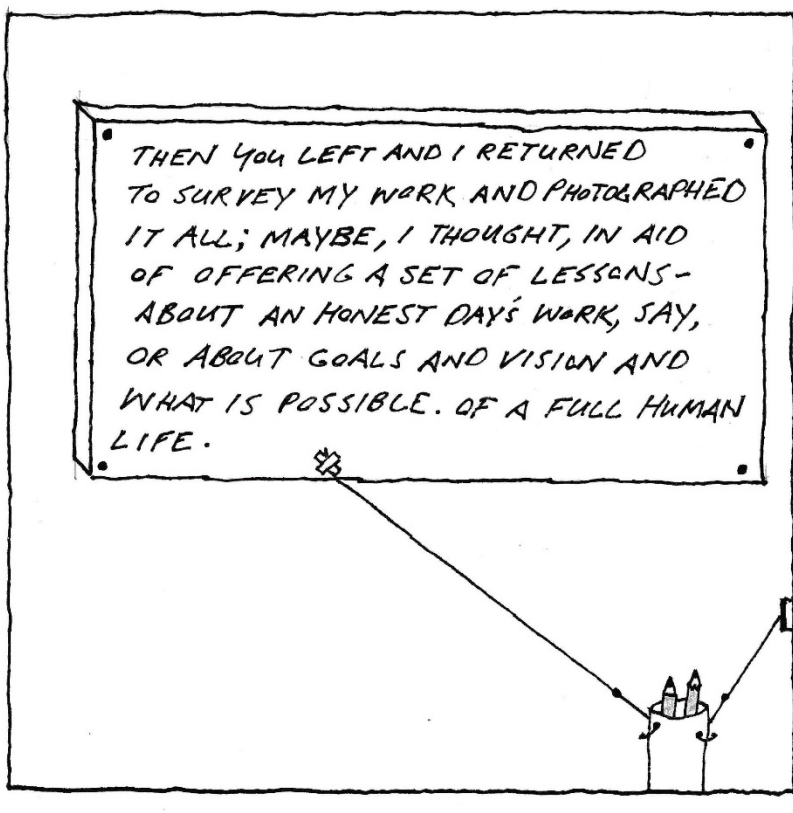
MY HANDS WERE THICK AND COARSE, THE CORNERS OF MY EYES CREASED, MY FACE BROWN. I LOOKED IN THE MIRROR. I WAS STRANGE TO MYSELF.

THEN YOU CAME TO TOWN AND DIDN'T SEE -OR
TOOK NO NOTICE. OR MAYBE YOU SAW BUT SAID
NOTHING.

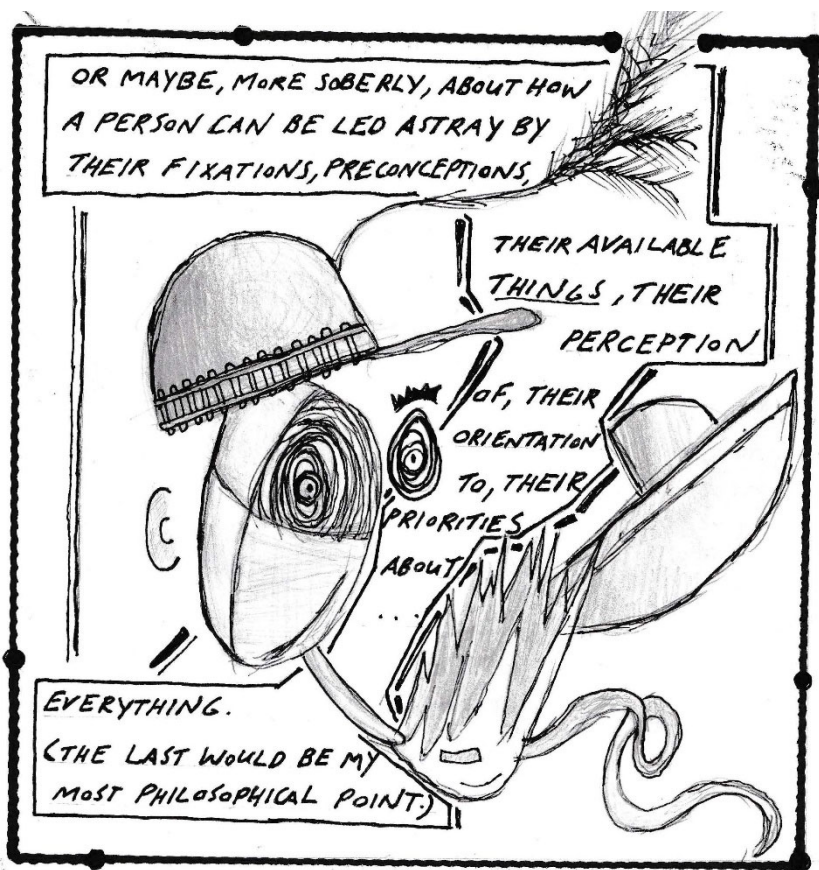


ALL FINE, OF COURSE. I'D
NEVER UPSET MYSELF ABOUT
THIS.

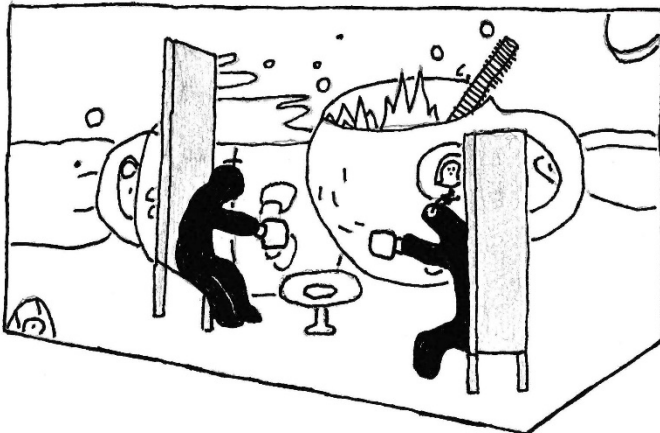
NONE OF IT WAS FOR YOU,
ANYWAY.



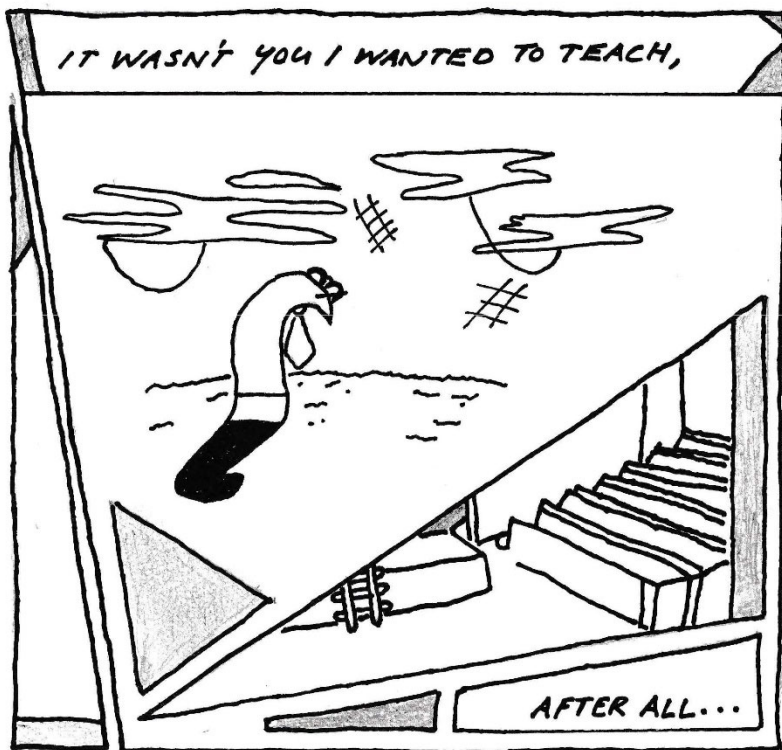
• THEN YOU LEFT AND I RETURNED
TO SURVEY MY WORK AND PHOTOGRAPHED
IT ALL; MAYBE, I THOUGHT, IN AID
OF OFFERING A SET OF LESSONS-
ABOUT AN HONEST DAY'S WORK, SAY,
OR ABOUT GOALS AND VISION AND
WHAT IS POSSIBLE. OF A FULL HUMAN
LIFE. •



YOU RETURNED ONE LAST TIME IN JANUARY



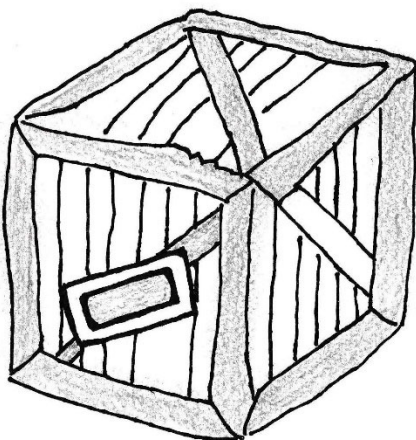
I LIT AN OIL BURNER, ARRANGED LAMPS WITH THEATRICAL PRECISION, AND TRIED TO HOLD YOUR GAZE OVER TEA. WE SMILED OFTEN AND YOU LAUGHED TWICE. IT WAS NORMAL, ADULT, CIVIL, NICE-NICE ENOUGH. AND YOU CERTAINLY DIDN'T HAVE TO REACT: OUTLINE OF MY NEW TAKE, THE LESSON, ROUNDED 2, EVIDENCE, PEDAGOGICAL APPROACH, USE OF COLOUR.



I DONT KNOW WHY I MENTION IT.

(EVEN SO.)

I'VE DECIDED I WILL TEAR IT ALL DOWN
ONE YEAR FROM NOW. I WILL PACK IT AND
STORE IT IN THE FLAT WHERE WE USED TO
LIVE, AND PEOPLE CAN COME AND LOOK.



THERE WILL BE NO ADMISSION CHARGE.

