

POP MADNESS #0

THE WORLD'S FIRST REAL-LIFE SUPER-HERO REPORTER!

MADINAMERICA.COM
What Do Santa Claus and the Chemical Imbalance Have in Common? - Mad In America

THE INDEPENDENT - 3 MIN READ
Hearing voices is normal

'unnecessary red tape' | SK...
NDIS service providers are reporting their services are at risk due to budget cuts

The AAT Slams the NDIA's "unsatisfactory state of affairs"

Feral Psychiatry
Case of Gartin

10c

the SPICER

THE CONVERSATION
The concept of schizophrenia - here's why



While often considered mental illnesses, by psychosis, evidence is 'hear voices' and live in health.

Why ignoring lived experience is the mistake the mental health field ever made

MENTAL HEALTH

'Nothing between GP and emergency': Victoria's mental health failure

MADINAMERICA.COM
Recovery Porn: Tell Me Your Story I'll Tell You Your Value - Mad In America

'It's as though you're some kind of rabid animal': Seclusion in mental health units on...



IT'S A MADHOUSE... A MADHOUSE!!!

Psychiatry: Time To Tell The Truth - Death by Psychiatry (Ron Coleman)

TABITHAFA
Why ignoring mistake

MADINAMERICA.COM
The Right to Refuse Psychiatric Treatment - Mad In America

RECOVERYINTHEORG
I Have Never Been In A Place More Indifferent To Suffering Than A Psychiatric Ward

The Guardian
Proven Wrong About Many of Its Assertions, Is Psychiatry Bullshit?

DRUGPOLICY.ORG
Coercive Treatment - Moving Beyond "For Your Own Good"

THEGUARDIAN.COM
Are sexual abuse victims being diagnosed with a mental disorder they don't have?

SOUNDTELEGRAPH.COM.AU

Mental health horror stories expose Patients in fear, sedated, shackled - Mental Health

"I think the general public would be very shocked if they were aware of the human rights abuses that are going on in mental health wards," Maylea said. "We have a lot more oversight in the prison system than we do in the mental health system."

POST MODERN GONZO

GUERRILLA JOURNALISM AT ITS MOST INSANE!!!

NEWS!!!

MENTAL ILLNESS INDUSTRY IS MAD

ROYAL COMMISSION FAILS TO LISTEN TO VOICES OF LIVED EXPERIENCE

HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS OCCUR DAILY AS MENTAL HEALTH LAWS CONTINUE TO DISCRIMINATE DESPITE UN CRPD

"But what about clinical risk?" - Psychiatry

EXTRA!!! PEER SUPPORT - THE NEW CO-OPTED WORKFORCE!

NDIS-ASTER!!!

THOUSANDS LOSE ACCESS TO VITAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

HUNDREDS OF JOBS LOST AS COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS FORCED TO SHUT DOWN AMIDST BUNGLED REFORMS

Stigma New Formula

Stigma and Stigma: Placing Stigma on Stigma - Mad In America

This edition of *The Spicer* is in response to the Royal Commission into Victoria's Mental Health System and its subsequent failure to acknowledge the violence, abuse and human rights violations which have and continue to occur in said system.

Between 2007 to 2009 Australia signed and ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities (UN CRPD).

Article 14 of the UN CRPD clearly states that people with disabilities, including psychosocial disabilities, enjoy the right to liberty and security of person, and that the existence of a disability shall in no case justify a deprivation of said liberty.

To this day all states and territories in Australia continue to permit the forced detainment and use of compulsory treatment on people diagnosed with mental illness, without the need for consent. Mental health legislation also permits the use of seclusion and restraint practices, which have been deemed as torture by a number of United Nations Conventions.

**Dedicated to all mental health consumers, mad folk
and people with lived experience of mental and
emotional distress, past and present, everywhere.**

THE BOY



I'M NOT REALLY
SURE WHERE TO
BEGIN...



IT'LL SOUND CRAZY
WHICHEVER WAY I
TRY TO SPIN IT...

\$#!@... I HOPE
THEY DON'T TRY
TO SECTION ME
AGAIN FOR THIS.

WHO WAS GOD

& Other
Stories...



THE WAY THESE THINGS WORK,
EVERYTHING ALWAYS BEGINS AT
SOME POINT CLOSER TO THE END.

OR MAYBE IT'S THE MIDDLE...



I THINK I MIGHT HAVE
CREATED ALL OF THIS...

OR CREATED SOMETHING, AT LEAST.



BELIEVE IT OR NOT, THIS KIND OF
STUFF IS ACTUALLY A PRETTY NORMAL
THING FOR HUMANS TO EXPERIENCE.



OF COURSE, THERE ARE ALWAYS
EXCEPTIONS, PEOPLE WHO
DON'T NECESSARILY AGREE.

WHAT IS REALITY ANYWAY?
AND WHO IS IT, EXACTLY, THAT
GETS TO DECIDE?



OK, I'LL ADMIT IT...

THIS MIGHT
BE STRETCHING
IT A BIT.





WHATEVER IT WAS THAT HAPPENED THAT NIGHT, IT HURT, I REMEMBER THAT MUCH.

JULY, 2000

I'D GOTTEN HOME FROM WORK, LOOKING FORWARD TO TAKING THE NEXT FEW DAYS OFF...



MY HOUSEMATES HAD GONE AWAY FOR THE WEEKEND, SO AT LEAST I KNEW I HAD THE PLACE TO MYSELF...



SLUMP!

THE STRANGENESS OF THE PAST COUPLE OF MONTHS WAS GETTING TO ME. I WAS EXHAUSTED.



I WAS TRYING MY BEST TO PROCESS EVERYTHING.

New Scientist
\$6.95
Messages from another dimension

ALIENS! PSYCHICS! CONSPIRACIES! TRIPPY!
NEW
READING WHATEVER I COULD GET MY HANDS ON...



OUR BRAIN?

TRYING TO EXPAND MY MIND.



I'D BEEN HAVING THESE WEIRD-ARSE DREAMS



THERE WAS THIS ONE WHICH FREAKED ME OUT...

IN IT, I WAS FLYING OVER THE DESERT IN THE CENTRAL AUSTRALIAN OUTBACK...



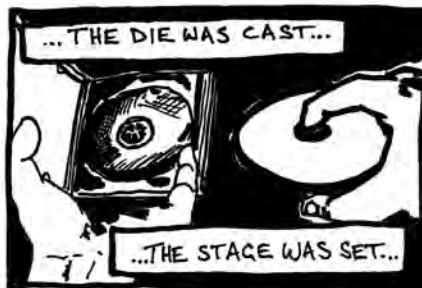
I MEAN, I'D HAD PLENTY OF FLYING DREAMS BEFORE, NOTHING UNUSUAL THERE...

BUT THIS ONE WAS DIFFERENT.

IN THIS ONE, I WAS REALLY SOARING! AND AT SUCH SPEED!



SUDDENLY, I LOOK UP...



AS THE BEATS STARTED AND MY CONSCIOUSNESS SANK DEEPER INTO ITS ALTERED STATE...

...MY MIND BEGAN TO REPLAY ALL OF THE EVENTS THAT FOLLOWED THAT DREAM.

MY SUDDEN ACADEMIC AND ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE AT UNIVERSITY WHERE PREVIOUSLY I'D BEEN FAILING.

THE RAPID TRANSFORMATION OF MY BODY FROM OVERWEIGHT SLOB TO PEAK ATHLETIC ABILITY.



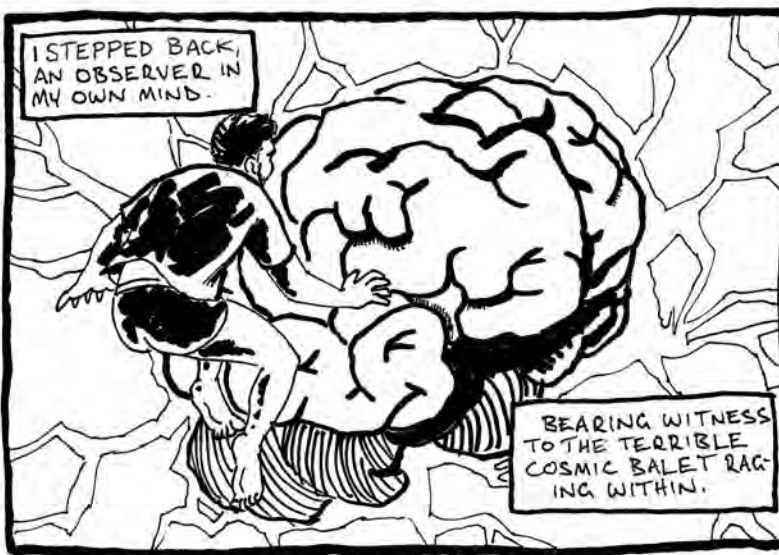
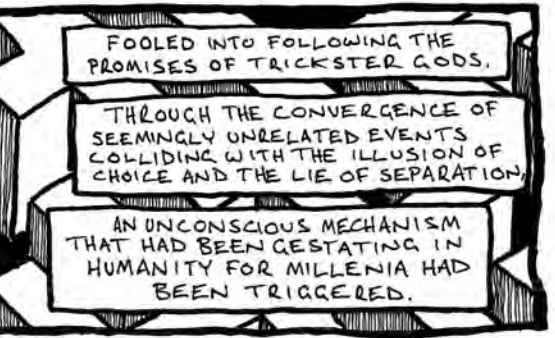
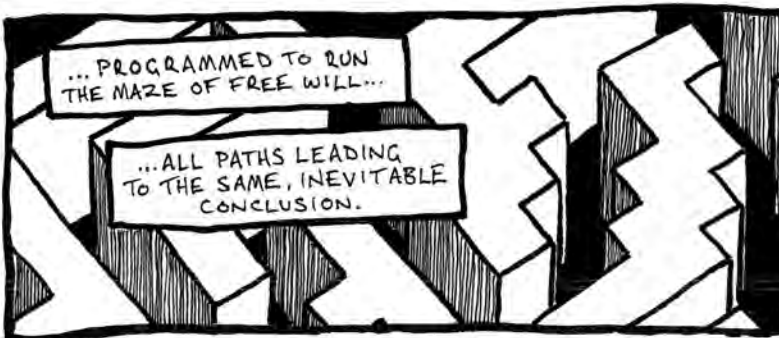
IT SUDDENLY OCCURRED TO ME THAT I HADN'T SPOKEN TO ANYONE ABOUT ANY OF THIS.

WITHOUT FEEDBACK FROM OTHERS; SOME KIND OF REFLECTION OF SELF TO DRAW MEANING FROM...

...I HAD NO WAY OF KNOWING IF I'D BECOME SOME SORT OF COSMICALLY-AWARE SUPER-MAN --

-- OR IF I'D JUST GONE NUTS.







THERE WAS NO WHERE LEFT FOR MY THOUGHTS TO GO...

I AM GOD.

FUCK!

...THE MUSIC FINISHED, MY TWO HALVES SEPARATED INTO DISTINCT REALITIES.

THE ENERGIES OF AN ENTIRE UNIVERSE BIRTHED THEMSELVES OUTWARD THROUGH MY SCREAMING MIND...

...OUT OF MY SKULL, AND INTO THE ROOM BEYOND...



SILENCE
THEN.

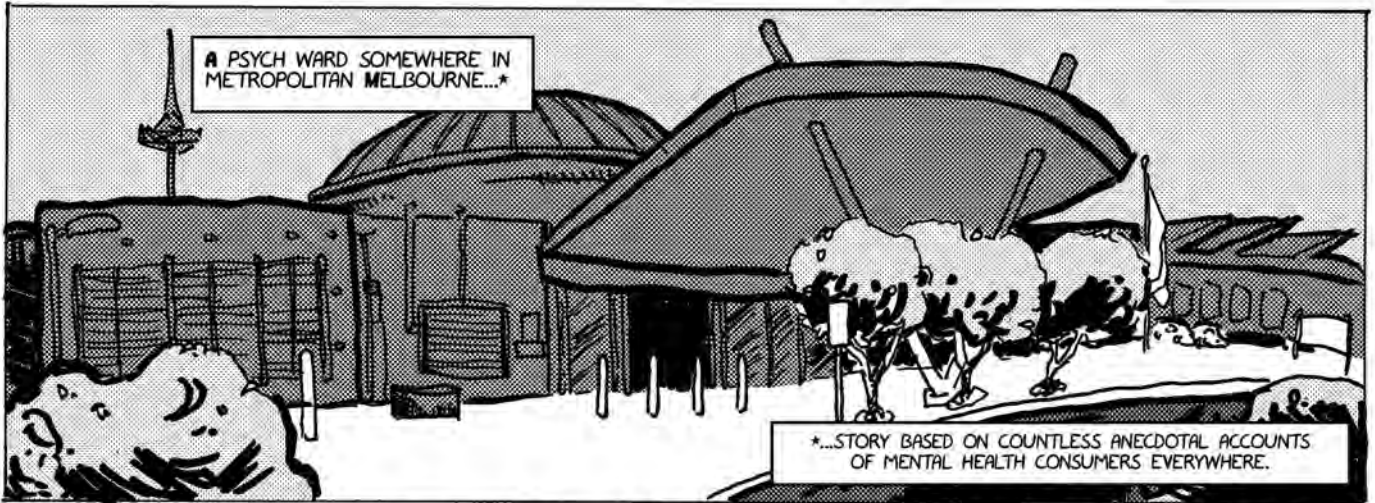
AKIRA

AKIRA



BOTH INSIDE
MY HEAD...

... AND OUT.



A PSYCH WARD SOMEWHERE IN METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE...*

*...STORY BASED ON COUNTLESS ANECDOTAL ACCOUNTS OF MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMERS EVERYWHERE.

#METOO, PSYCHIATRY, ME TOO...

A POST-MODERN GUERRILLA JOURNALISM COMIC STORY BY THE WORLD'S FIRST SUPER-HERO GONZO REPORTER - **THE SPICER!**



██████ HAS BEEN DETAINED HERE FOR ELEVEN DAYS NOW.

THE DOCTORS KEEP INSISTING THAT HE IS UNWELL...

...THAT THEY NEED TO BE SATISFIED HE ISN'T A RISK TO HIMSELF OR ANYONE ELSE BEFORE THEY WILL LET HIM GO.

ALL ██████ WANTS TO DO IS GO HOME.

RECOVERY!

TIMETABLE

HE SAW THIS MOVE ON TV ONCE.

A TACTIC USED BY PROTESTERS WHEN CONFRONTED BY POLICE.

HE KNOWS THE PSYCHS ARE COMING FOR HIM...



...AND HE WANTS TO MAKE IT AS DIFFICULT AS POSSIBLE FOR THEM TO CARRY HIM FROM THIS SPOT!

██████...

HE KNOWS THERE IS NO ESCAPE.

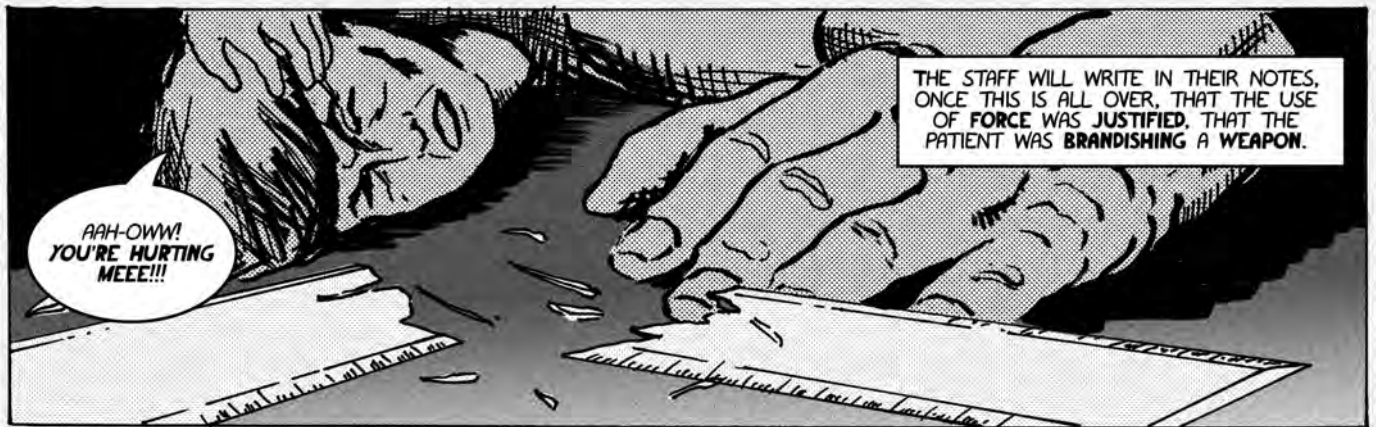
...IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN.

THE LAW REMOVED THAT RIGHT FROM HIM WHEN HE WAS BROUGHT HERE.

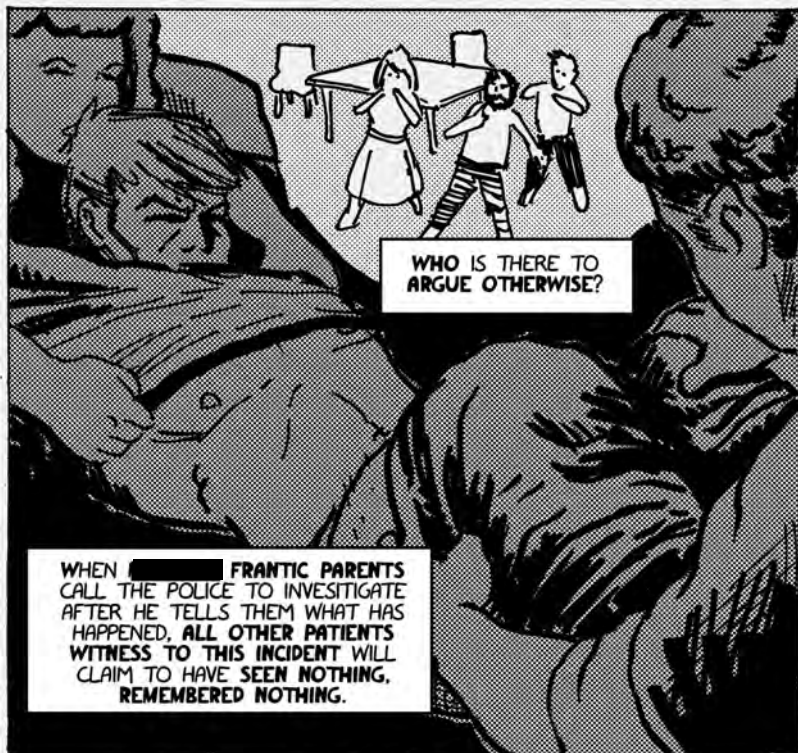
HE DOESN'T WANT THEIR MEDICATION, BUT SINCE WHEN DID WHAT THE PATIENTS WANT CARRY ANY WEIGHT IN THIS PLACE?



██████ HAS NEVER BEEN A VIOLENT PERSON; NEVER BEEN IN A SINGLE FIGHT HIS ENTIRE LIFE.



THE STAFF WILL WRITE IN THEIR NOTES, ONCE THIS IS ALL OVER, THAT THE USE OF FORCE WAS JUSTIFIED, THAT THE PATIENT WAS BRANDISHING A WEAPON.



WHEN ██████ FRANTIC PARENTS CALL THE POLICE TO INVESTIGATE AFTER HE TELLS THEM WHAT HAS HAPPENED, ALL OTHER PATIENTS WITNESS TO THIS INCIDENT WILL CLAIM TO HAVE SEEN NOTHING, REMEMBERED NOTHING.



NOW THAT THE GANG HAS HIM PINNED, ██████ BRACES FOR THE INEVITABLE...



<HH-HHNNNN...!>

THAT'S IT, THERE'S A GOOD BOY...

NOOO... AH-HUH...!
S-STOP...!
PUH-PLEASE...

...THE SHARP PRICK...

...THE FEELING OF BEING PENETRATED...

...VIOLATED!



AARGHHH...



BUT HE KNOWS IT ISN'T OVER YET.

HE CAN HEAR THEIR VOICES YELLING AT HIM, COMMANDING HIM TO STAND.



BUT HIS BODY, NOW BEATEN...

...SIMPLY REFUSES TO RESPOND TO THEIR DEMANDS.



GET UP.

HE FEELS THE HAND OF A MAN HE HASN'T GIVEN CONSENT TO FORCE ITSELF ONTO HIS EXPOSED GROIN...



...WHERE IT GIVES A BRUTAL TWIST!

AAAHH...!

TOO TIRED TO FIGHT BACK ANYMORE...



VIOLENCE AGAINST STAFF WILL NOT BE TOLERATED

...TOO HUMILIATED TO LIFT HIS HEAD OR SPEAK...

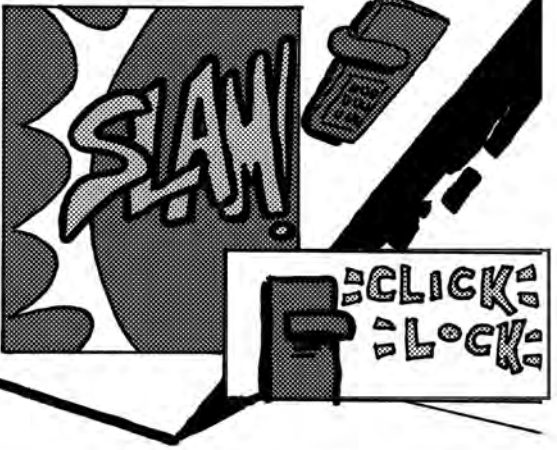


SECLUSION

... SURRENDERS TO HIS FATE.

AS ANYONE WHO'S BEEN HERE CAN TELL YOU...

...IN THIS PLACE...



...IT'S THE ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE.

HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW LONG
THEY PLAN TO KEEP HIM
IMPRISONED IN THIS ROOM...



LAST TIME THEY LOCKED HIM IN
SECLUSION FOR OVER SIX HOURS...



...THE STAFF JUST STARE,
COMPLETELY IGNORING HIS
PLEAS FOR HELP OR
INFORMATION.



...NO PRIVACY...



...NO CLOTHES, NO WATER...

...NO ESCAPE.

HE'LL TELL THEM WHAT THEY
NEED TO HEAR TOMORROW.



WHAT THEY'VE DONE
IS ALL LEGAL.

FOR MANY, THIS IS WHAT
HELP IN OUR PUBLIC MENTAL
HEALTH SYSTEM LOOKS LIKE.



COMPLY.

BE A GOOD SCHIZOPHRENIC.



**Bonus
feature!**

CONCEPT ART

BITTER LITTLE PILLS

JUST BECAUSE
YOU DON'T
WANT TO
SWALLOW
US...

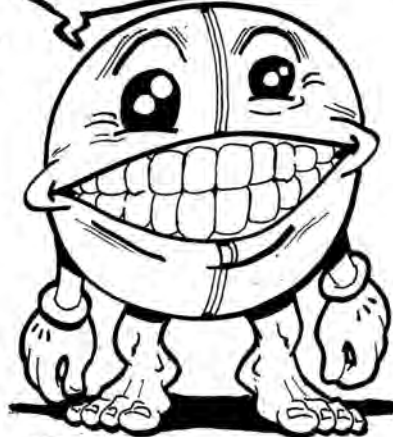


DOESN'T
MEAN
WE
CAN'T
FORCE
YOU!



THAT'S
A
COMPULSORY
TREATMENT
ORDER
SONNY!!!

ASK ME ABOUT MY
STREET VALUE!!!



Q.T. SQUIRREL ESQ.

COMING SOON!!!

**ALL NEW
SENSES
SHATTERING
FIRST
ISSUE!!!**

THE SYSTEM FAILS!

**HUMAN RIGHTS
ATROCITIES!
PSYCHIATRIC
INCOMPETENCE!
GOVERNMENT
CORRUPTION!
BIG PHARMA!
PSYCHIC POWERS!**



THIS ONE HAS IT ALL!!!

**DON'T DARE MISS THE STORY OF THE CENTURY AS THE EPIC
TALE OF THE WORLD'S FIRST SUPERHERO IS REVEALED!!!**

PLUS:

**IT
BEGINS!!!**



**THE TITANIC TALE
OF THE LAST
GREAT CIVIL
RIGHTS MOVEMENT
STARTS HERE!!!**

#WHOISTHESPICER

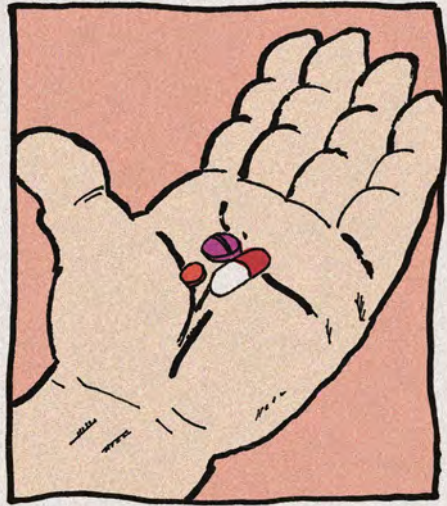
DSM IT'S SHIT!

LET'S ALL LAUGH AT PSYCHIATRY & OUR FAILED MENTAL HEALTH SYSTEM TEE - HEE - HEE




DOCTOR, I NEED HELP. THE WORLD'S A MESS AND I KEEP HAVING VISIONS I THINK GOD MIGHT BE CALLING ME AND I'M JUST NOT SURE WHAT TO DO.

HMM... YOU'RE A PARANOID SCHIZOPHRENIC WITH BIPOLAR AND DELUSIONS OF GRANDEUR. HERE, TAKE THESE PILLS.



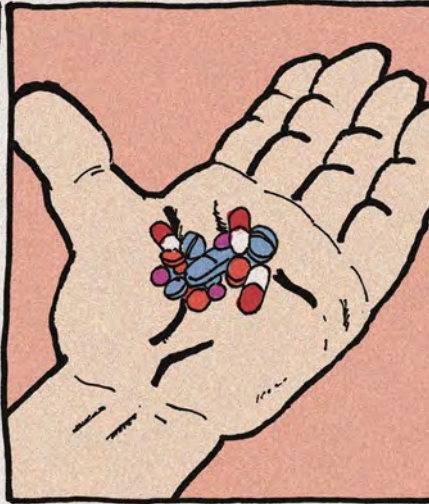
I DON'T KNOW DOC, I'M STILL HAVING VISIONS AND FEELING CONFUSED, BUT NOW I JUST FEEL KIND OF NUMB.

ALSO, I'VE LOST ALL OF MY CREATIVE ENERGY. IF I'M ON THESE PILLS I CAN'T DRAW!

YOU'RE JUST TREATMENT RESISTANT. I THINK YOU NEED MORE PILLS.

ALSO, I'VE DECIDED TO MAKE YOU AN INVOLUNTARY PATIENT BECAUSE THE LAW SAYS I CAN.

I'M LEGALLY ALLOWED TO USE ALL KINDS OF VIOLENCE IF I THINK YOU'RE A RISK!



THE PILLS ARE MAKING ME FAT. I'M TIRED ALL THE TIME, I CAN'T FUNCTION AT WORK, AND THEY'RE RUINING MY SEX LIFE!

I THINK YOUR DIAGNOSIS IS WRONG!

YOU'RE JUST SUFFERING FROM ANOSOGNOSIA. LACKING INSIGHT AND DISAGREEING WITH MY OPINION IS PART OF EVERY MENTALLY ILL PERSON'S CONDITION!



WELL NOW, THIS IS JUST ATTENTION SEEKING.

DID YOU KNOW THAT I EARN \$420 PER HOUR IN MY PRIVATE PRACTICE?

