



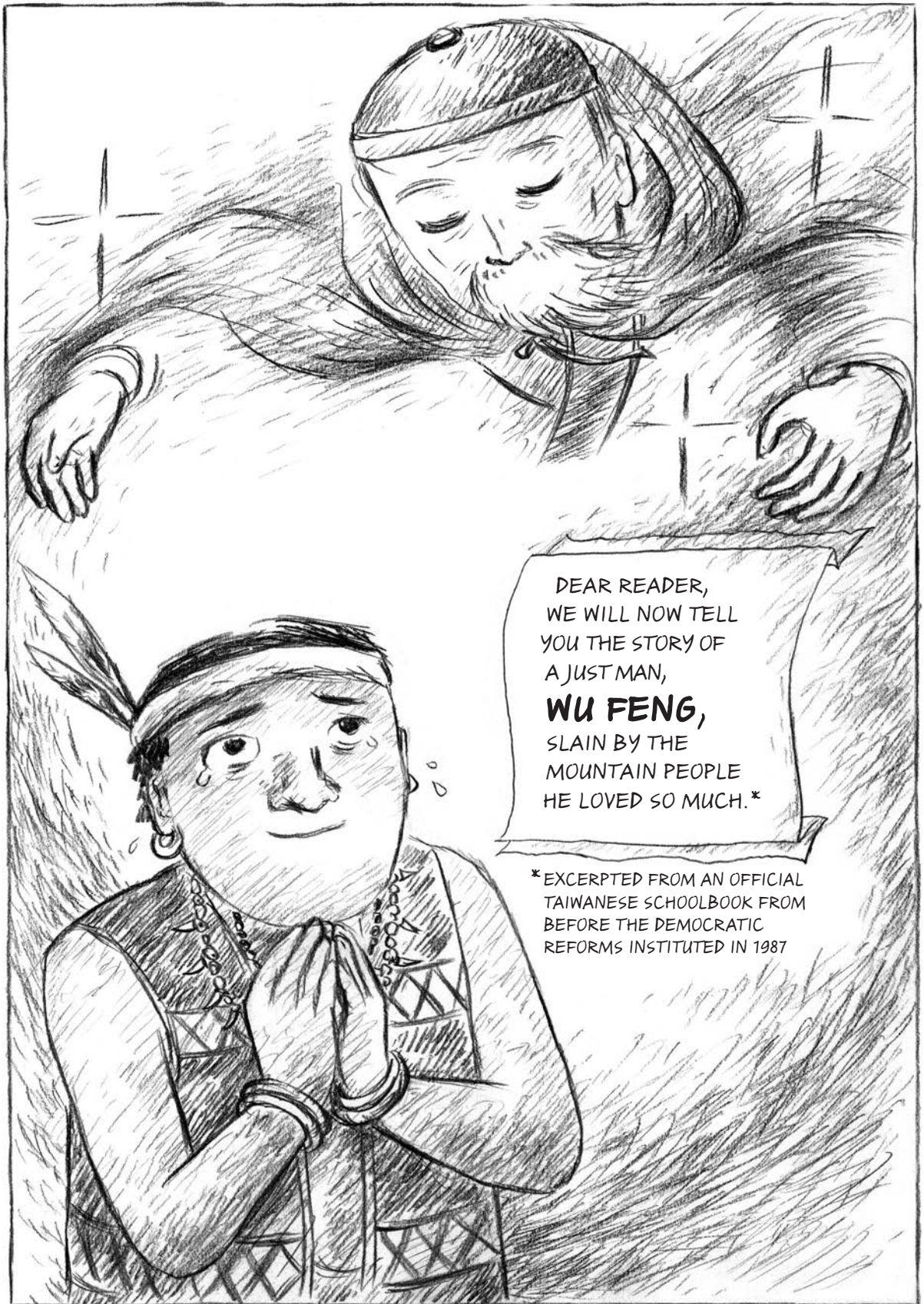
Li-Chin Lin

# FUDAFUDAK

The Glittering Place

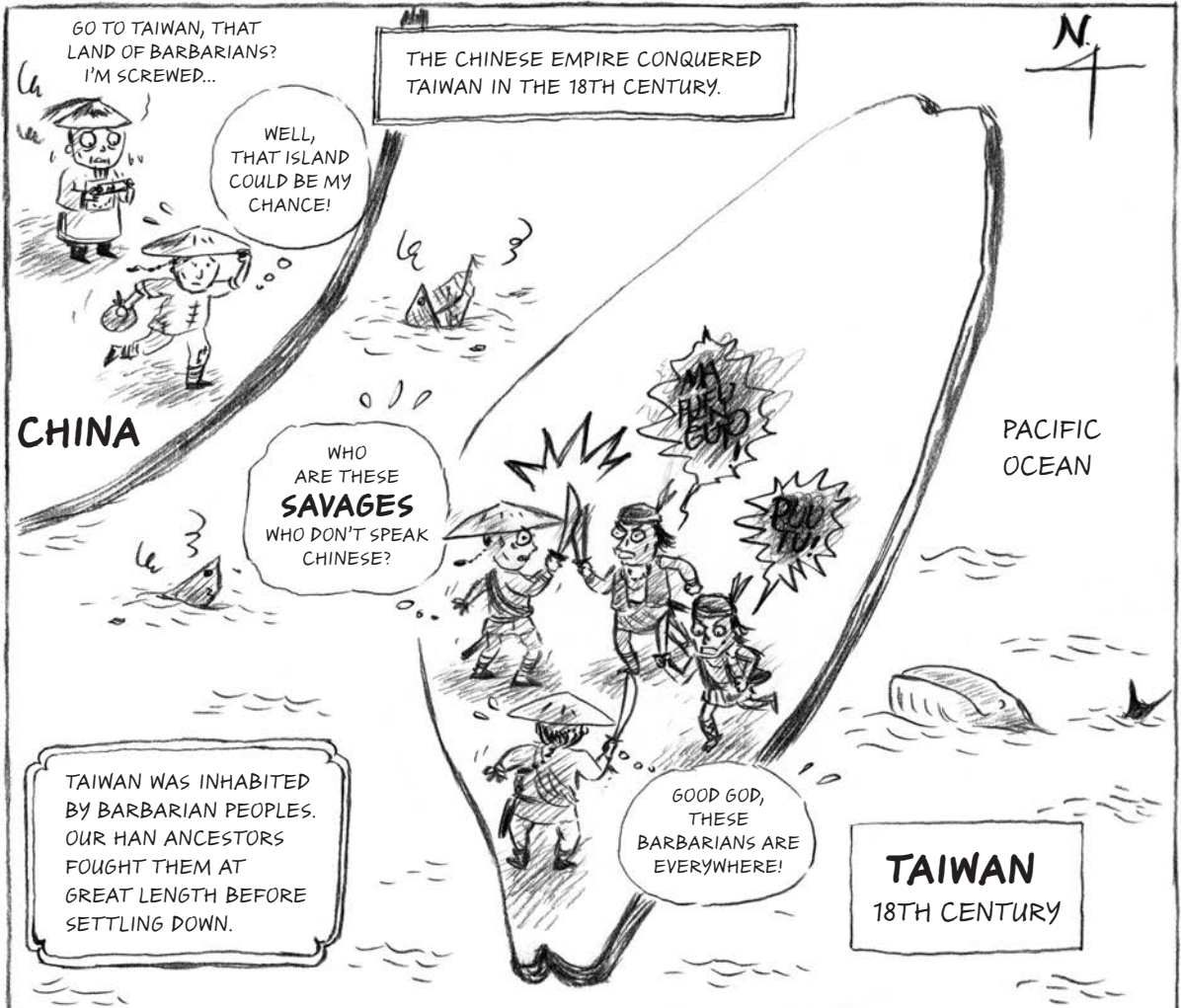
## CHAPTER 1

WHO ARE THE  
BARBARIANS?



DEAR READER,  
WE WILL NOW TELL  
YOU THE STORY OF  
A JUST MAN,  
**WU FENG,**  
SLAIN BY THE  
MOUNTAIN PEOPLE  
HE LOVED SO MUCH.\*

\*EXCERPTED FROM AN OFFICIAL  
TAIWANESE SCHOOLBOOK FROM  
BEFORE THE DEMOCRATIC  
REFORMS INSTITUTED IN 1987



GO TO TAIWAN, THAT LAND OF BARBARIANS? I'M SCREWED...

THE CHINESE EMPIRE CONQUERED TAIWAN IN THE 18TH CENTURY.

WELL, THAT ISLAND COULD BE MY CHANCE!

CHINA

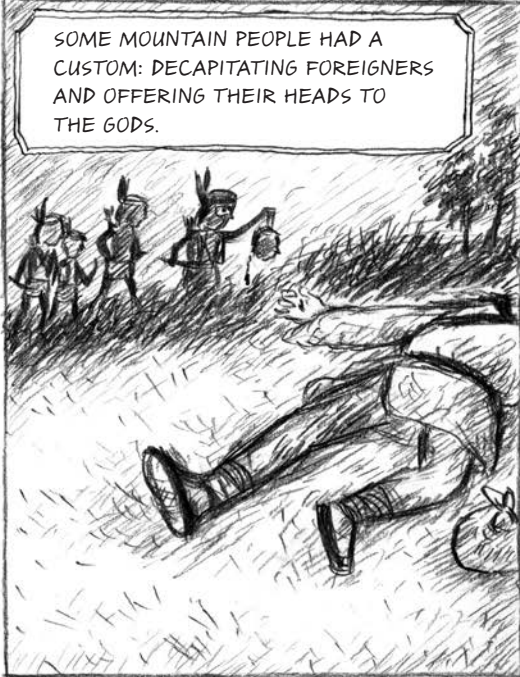
PACIFIC OCEAN

WHO ARE THESE SAVAGES WHO DON'T SPEAK CHINESE?

GOOD GOD, THESE BARBARIANS ARE EVERYWHERE!

TAIWAN WAS INHABITED BY BARBARIAN PEOPLES. OUR HAN ANCESTORS FOUGHT THEM AT GREAT LENGTH BEFORE SETTLING DOWN.

TAIWAN 18TH CENTURY



SOME MOUNTAIN PEOPLE HAD A CUSTOM: DECAPITATING FOREIGNERS AND OFFERING THEIR HEADS TO THE GODS.



WU FENG, AN INTERPRETER FOR THE CHINESE ADMINISTRATION, FELT FOR THEM AND TRIED TO CONVINCE THEM TO END THIS BLOODY PRACTICE.

TO DO SO, HE WANTED THEM A MAN IN A RED CLOAK WOULD RIDE BY ONE DAY, AND IF THEY KILLED HIM, THAT WOULD BE THE LAST HEAD THEY EVER CUT OFF.



WHEN THE MAN IN THE RED CLOAK RODE BY, THE MOUNTAIN PEOPLE ATTACKED HIM. THEY WERE HORRIFIED TO LEARN THAT IT WAS THEIR FRIEND, WU FENG.



THE MOUNTAIN PEOPLE REGRETTED THEIR DEED. THEY GAVE UP THE CUSTOM OF HEADHUNTING. WU FENG'S SACRIFICE THUS MADE THEM MORE CIVILIZED PEOPLE.

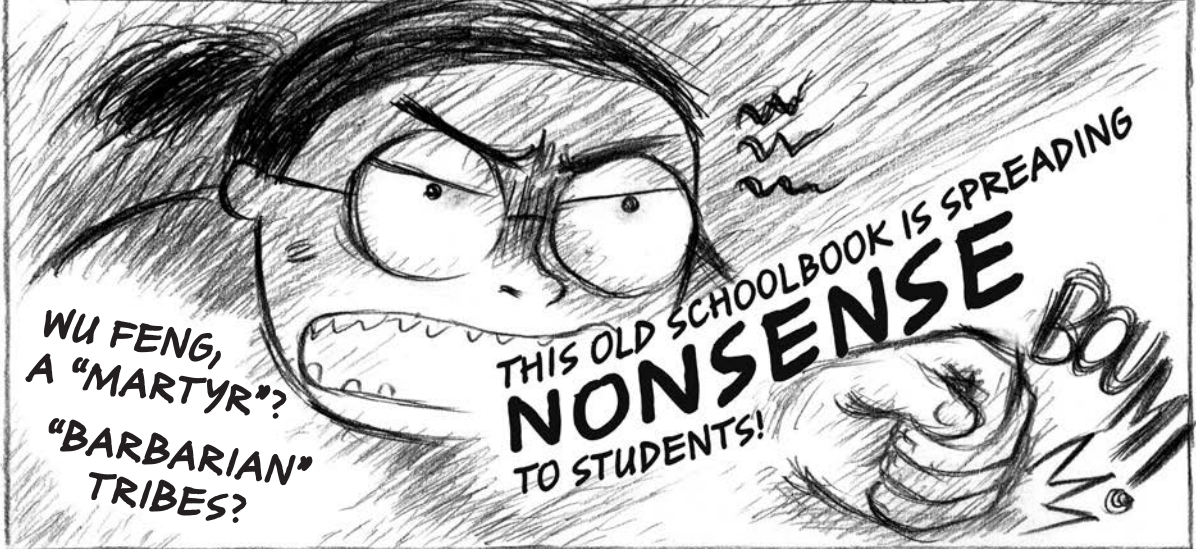


THE MOUNTAIN PEOPLE RE-NAMED THEIR VILLAGE WUFENG IN HIS HONOR.



HIS STORY HAS BEEN READ BY ALL 20TH-CENTURY TAIWANESE SCHOOLCHILDREN...

END



WU FENG, A "MARTYR"? "BARBARIAN" TRIBES?

THIS OLD SCHOOLBOOK IS SPREADING NONSENSE TO STUDENTS!

BOOM!

TAIPEI, 2012.

YES, HSIAO-CHING.

I AGREE COMPLETELY.

THE CHAPTER HAS BEEN WITHDRAWN FROM TEXTBOOKS FOR YOUR GENERATION...

BUT OURS WAS SADLY UNABLE TO AVOID IT.

ME



TRUE, OUR ANCESTORS CAME FROM THE CHINESE CONTINENT. ADMITTEDLY, CHINESE IMMIGRANTS HAD CONFLICTS WITH THE ISLAND'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE. BUT STUFFING CHILDREN'S HEADS WITH SUCH NONSENSE IS A DISGRACE!

MOVIE ABOUT WU FENG, 1949

MADE-UP INDIGENOUS COSTUME

PHOTO TAKEN BEFORE WORLD WAR II OF A YOUNG TSOU NATIVE

ACTUAL OUTFIT OF PEOPLE IN QUESTION

DO THE WINNERS REALLY GET TO WRITE HISTORY?

IN ORDER TO CONTROL THE ABORIGINALS, THE NATIONALIST CHINESE GOVERNMENT TOOK THE DISCRIMINATORY PROPAGANDA THE JAPANESE HAD ESTABLISHED AFTER WORLD WAR II.

IN TAIWANESE SCHOOLS, 20TH CENTURY

YOUR ANCESTORS ARE BARBARIANS



INDIGENOUS STUDENT

BARBARIANS

SAVAGES

YOU CAN IMAGINE THE PRESSURE ON INDIGENOUS STUDENTS AT SCHOOL.

CITY OF CHIAIYI, 1988.

AFTER MARTIAL LAW WAS LIFTED IN 1987, MOVEMENTS FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S RIGHTS INTENSIFIED.

STOP THE MYTH OF WOU-FONG!

STOP AU MYTHE DE WOU-FONG

STOP

PROUD TO BE INDIGENOUS

CRACK

WOU-FONG

WOU-FONG

UYONGE TATAUYUN-GANA 1905-1954

PA

PAN

PAN

STOP AU MYTHE DE WOU-FONG

STOP

CHIANG KAI-SHEK UNIVERSITY

CHIANG KAI-SHEK STREET

CHIANG KAI-SHEK HIGH SCHOOL

CHIANG KAI-SHEK MEMORIAL

CHIANG KAI-SHEK LIBRARY

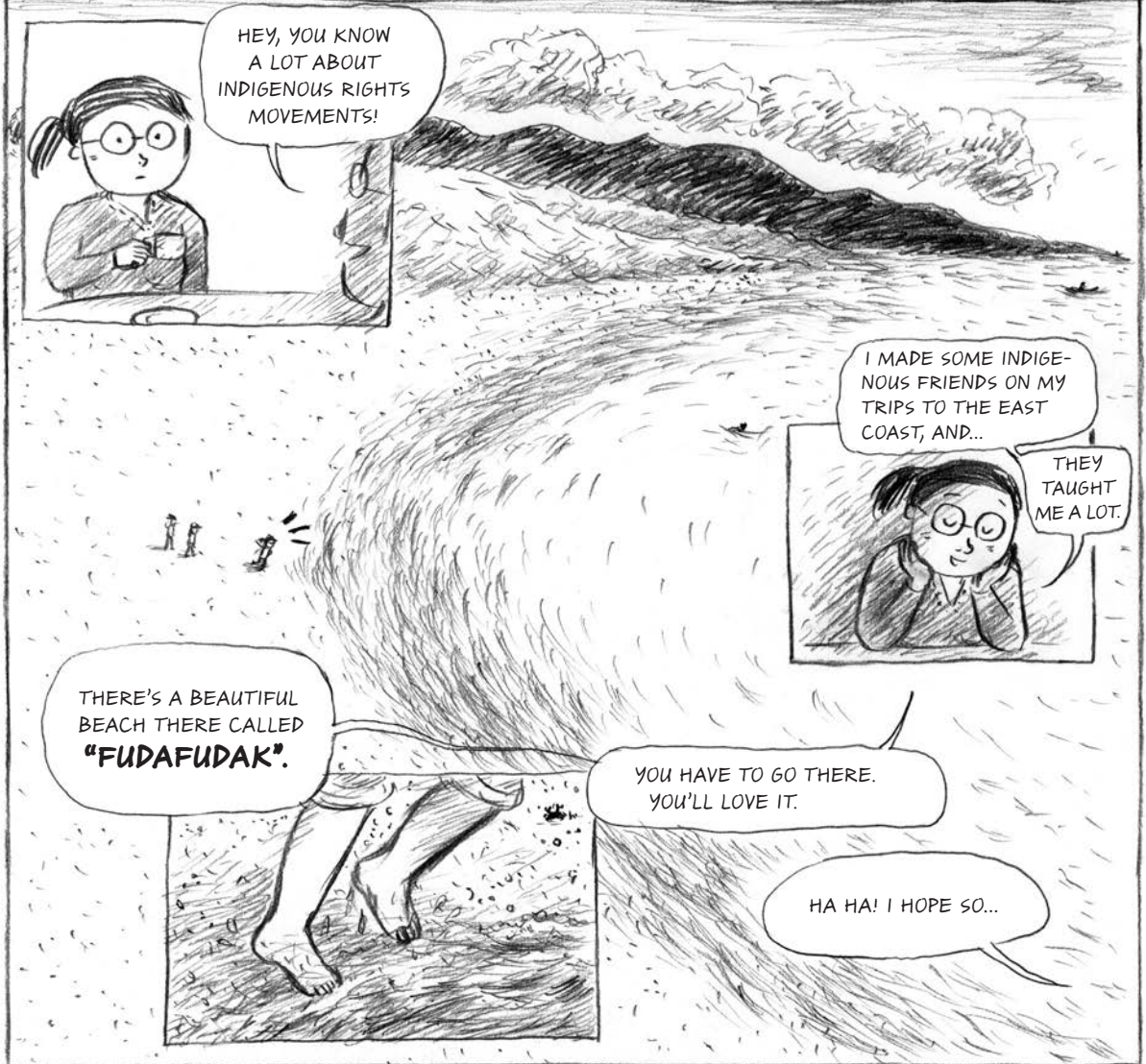
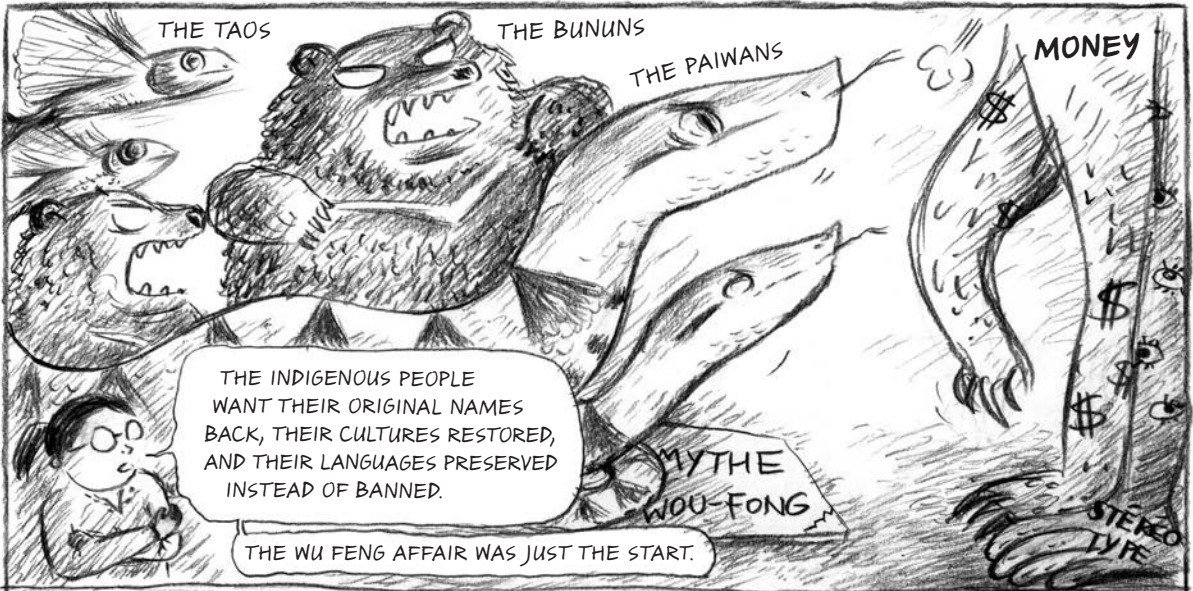
WU FENG'S STATUE WAS REMOVED AT LAST.

BUT NOT THOSE OF FORMER DICTATOR CHIANG KAI-SHEK AND HIS SON.

THAT'S WHY YOU MUST PUBLISH YOUR GRAPHIC NOVEL FORMOSA IN TAIWAN!



YEAH... WORKING ON IT.





A YEAR LATER, AFTER A TRIP TO SEE MY PARENTS.  
TAITUNG TRAIN STATION, ON TAIWAN'S EAST COAST.



SORRY MY TRIP'S SO SHORT. I COULDN'T CHANGE MY RETURN FLIGHT TO FRANCE.

NO WORRIES! SO HAPPY YOU CAME TO THE EAST COAST.

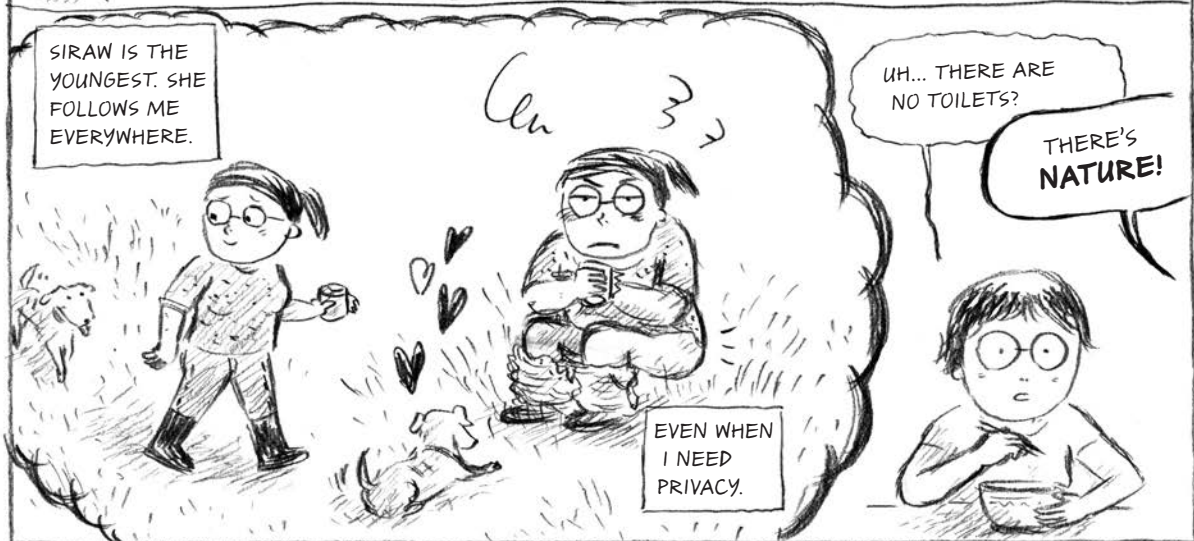
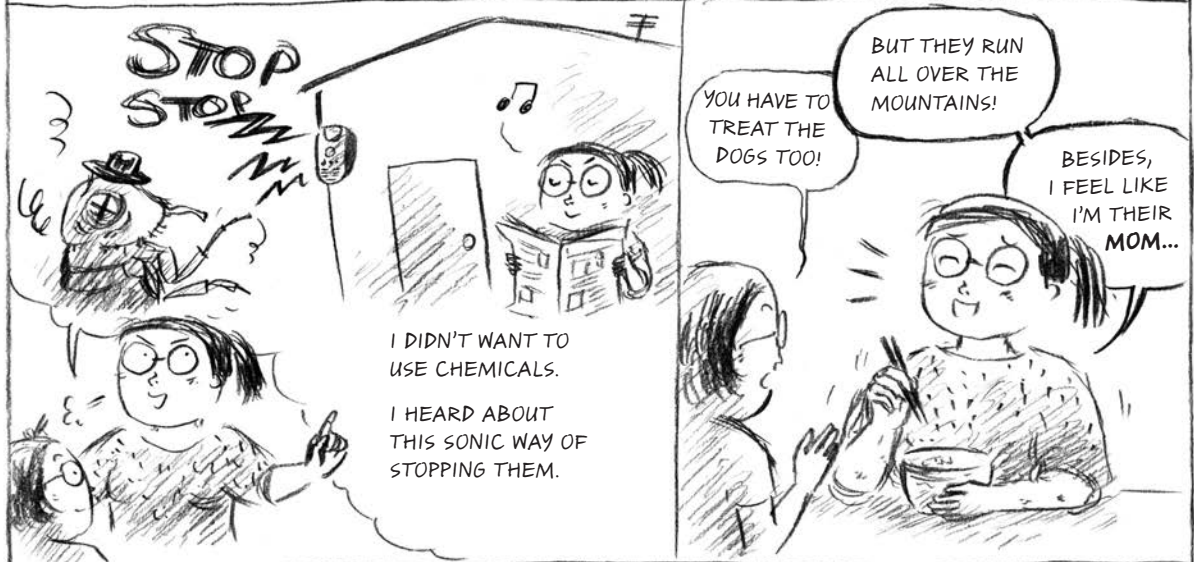
HOW'S THE LAST MEAL OF YOUR STAY IN TAIWAN?

MMM! DELICIOUS!

I'M SURPRISED YOU SETTLED INTO THE EAST COAST SO QUICKLY, IN THE VILLAGE OF **DULAN**.

A FRIEND SAID I SHOULD COME WORK IN THE FIELDS THERE, SO I WENT.

AND FUDAFUDAK BEACH ISN'T FAR FROM DULAN...





LUCKILY, I FOUND A GOOD DERMATOLOGIST. HE ALSO GAVE ME SOME ANTI-MOSQUITO OINTMENT.

THERE ARE LOTS OF MOSQUITOES?

WELL, APART FROM THE USUAL ONES, TAITUNG ALSO HAS THESE LITTLE ONES.

I'VE GOT SENSITIVE SKIN, SO I HAVE TO BE CAREFUL.



IF YOU SHOWER AFTER WORK, IT GETS RID OF THE SWEAT SMELL... AND THE MOSQUITOES TOO, RIGHT?



HA HA! I HOPE THEY DON'T COME BITE ME WHILE I'M TAKING A SHOWER OUTSIDE!



WAIT, SO THERE'S NO BATHROOM AT ALL?



NO. WASHING OFF WITH A BUCKET OF WARM WATER AFTER WORKING IN THE FIELDS IS ENOUGH.

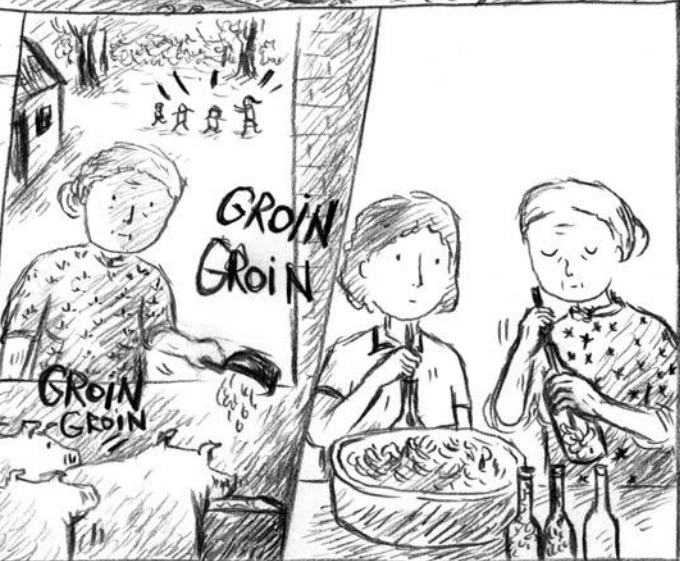


HOW COULD I LIVE WITH SO FEW COMFORTS?

I GUESS I'M BUYING!

THANKS!

FRONT DE'S PHYSIANS



LIFE IN THE COUNTRY WASN'T ALL WINE AND ROSES...

GOOD THING IT'S DARK OUT. I DON'T WANNA SEE WHAT'S DOWN IN THOSE TOILETS!



(TONS OF WORMS IN THE PIT TOILETS)

A BUCKET OF HOT WATER SHOULD BE ENOUGH. DON'T WASTE ANY!

WHAT ARE WE, CAMPING?



AT LEAST IT'S JUST ON WEEKENDS!

GRANDMA HAD TEN KIDS. NONE OF THEM STAYED ON THE FARM.

MAYBE THE FARMERS' SLIM EARNINGS DISSUADED THEM?

WHY DO TAIWANESE FARMERS EARN SO LITTLE, DESPITE ALL THE WORK THEY PUT IN?

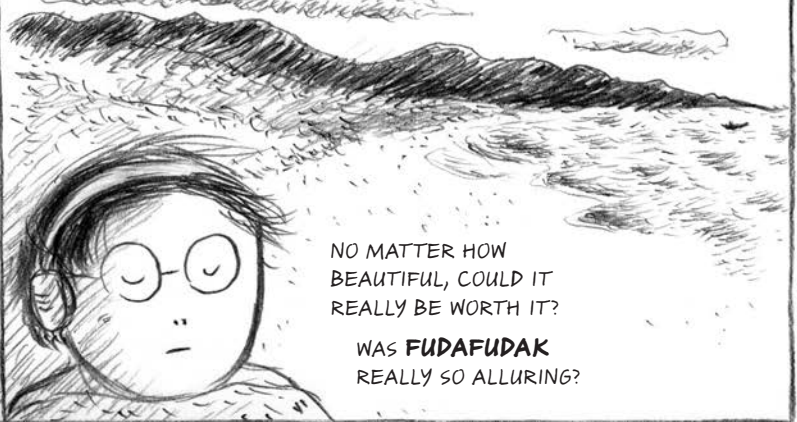
AND WHY DID HSIAO-CHING DECIDE TO MOVE TO THE COUNTRY AND WORK WITH HER INDIGENOUS FRIENDS?

I COULD PUT UP WITH A LITTLE LESS COMFORT IN THE COUNTRY OVER BREAK...

BUT MOVING THERE?



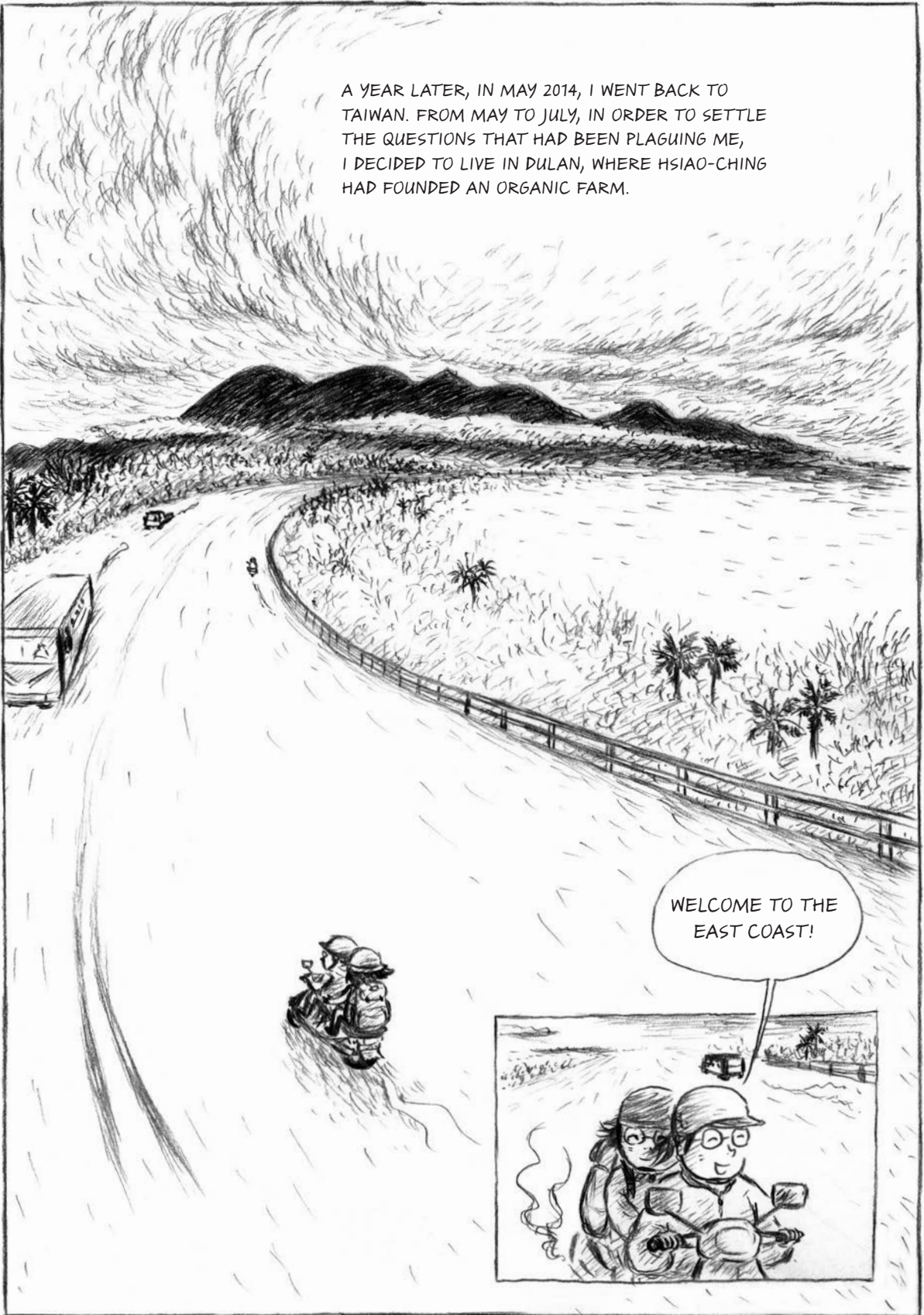
IN A FEW MOMENTS, WE'LL BE ARRIVING AT TAIPEI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.



NO MATTER HOW BEAUTIFUL, COULD IT REALLY BE WORTH IT?

WAS **FUDAFUDAK** REALLY SO ALLURING?

A YEAR LATER, IN MAY 2014, I WENT BACK TO TAIWAN. FROM MAY TO JULY, IN ORDER TO SETTLE THE QUESTIONS THAT HAD BEEN PLAGUING ME, I DECIDED TO LIVE IN DULAN, WHERE HSIAO-CHING HAD FOUNDED AN ORGANIC FARM.



# CHAPTER 2

## WEEDS & BOARS

TAIPEI (CAPITAL)



DAY OF SHOPPING IN  
THE CITY OF TAITUNG

LET ME TELL  
YOU A STORY OF  
THE AMIS PEOPLE.

DULAN

FUDAFUDAK  
BEACH

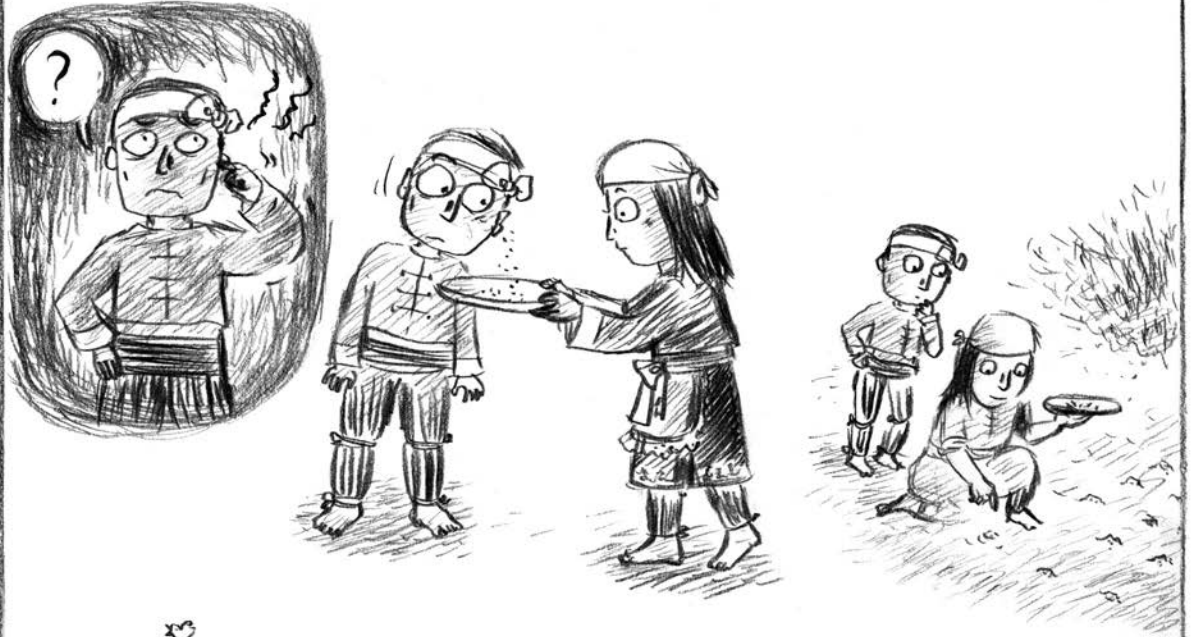
TAITUNG



PACIFIC OCEAN



ACCORDING TO ONE OF THEIR LEGENDS, GRAINS COME FROM A VERY SPECIAL PLACE.







THOSE JERKS USED **WEEDKILLER** AGAIN!  
IT'S POISONING THE SOIL!



WELL, AT LEAST  
THEY HUNG AN  
EMPTY BOTTLE TO  
WARN PASSERSBY.

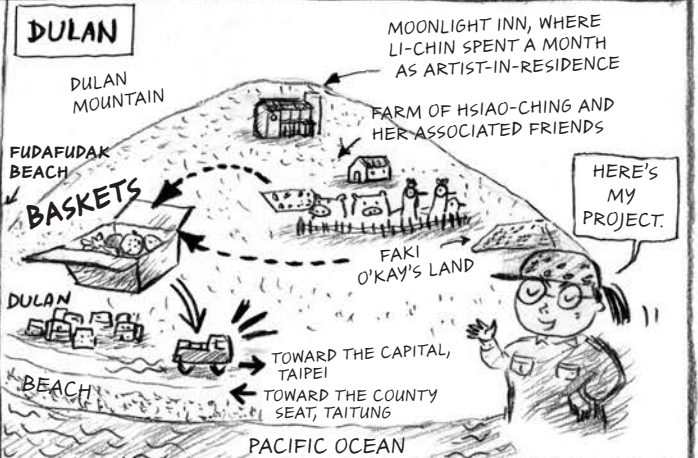


THEY SPRAYED  
IT RIGHT ON  
THE EDGE OF  
THE CANAL TO  
KILL WEEDS!

I'VE HAD  
**ENOUGH!**



IF WEEDKILLER  
COST MORE, THEY  
WOULDN'T USE  
SO MUCH!



\*THE TERMS "FAKI" ("UNCLE") AND "FAYI" ("AUNT") ARE USED TO REFER TO PEOPLE WHO ARE OLD ENOUGH TO BE OUR UNCLES AND AUNTS, UP TO OUR GRANDPARENTS' GENERATION.



YOU DOING OK WITH THE PRUNER?



IT'S NOT BAD FOR WEEDING IN THE MEDICINAL HERB FIELD.

THEY'RE EXPENSIVE, SO YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL.



WHO TAUGHT YOU THAT?



WHO? NO ONE.

I TRY IT OUT. IF IT DOESN'T WORK, I CHANGE MY METHOD.



I LEARN FROM NATURE.

BUT NATURE IS POWERFUL...

IF YOU DON'T KEEP UP WITH THE UPKEEP...

HA HA. THAT'S WHY YOU NEED GOOD TOOLS!



LIKE THIS?

NO.

ELECTRIC WEED-WHACKER

NOW THERE'S AN EFFECTIVE MACHINE!



THEN, ALONG WITH SOME OTHER YOUNG ORGANIC FARMERS, WE GOT SUBSIDIES TO HELP BUY TOOLS TO SHARE.

LIGHTER ELECTRIC MOWER

VROOM VROOM

THIS WAY, WE SAVE MONEY.

