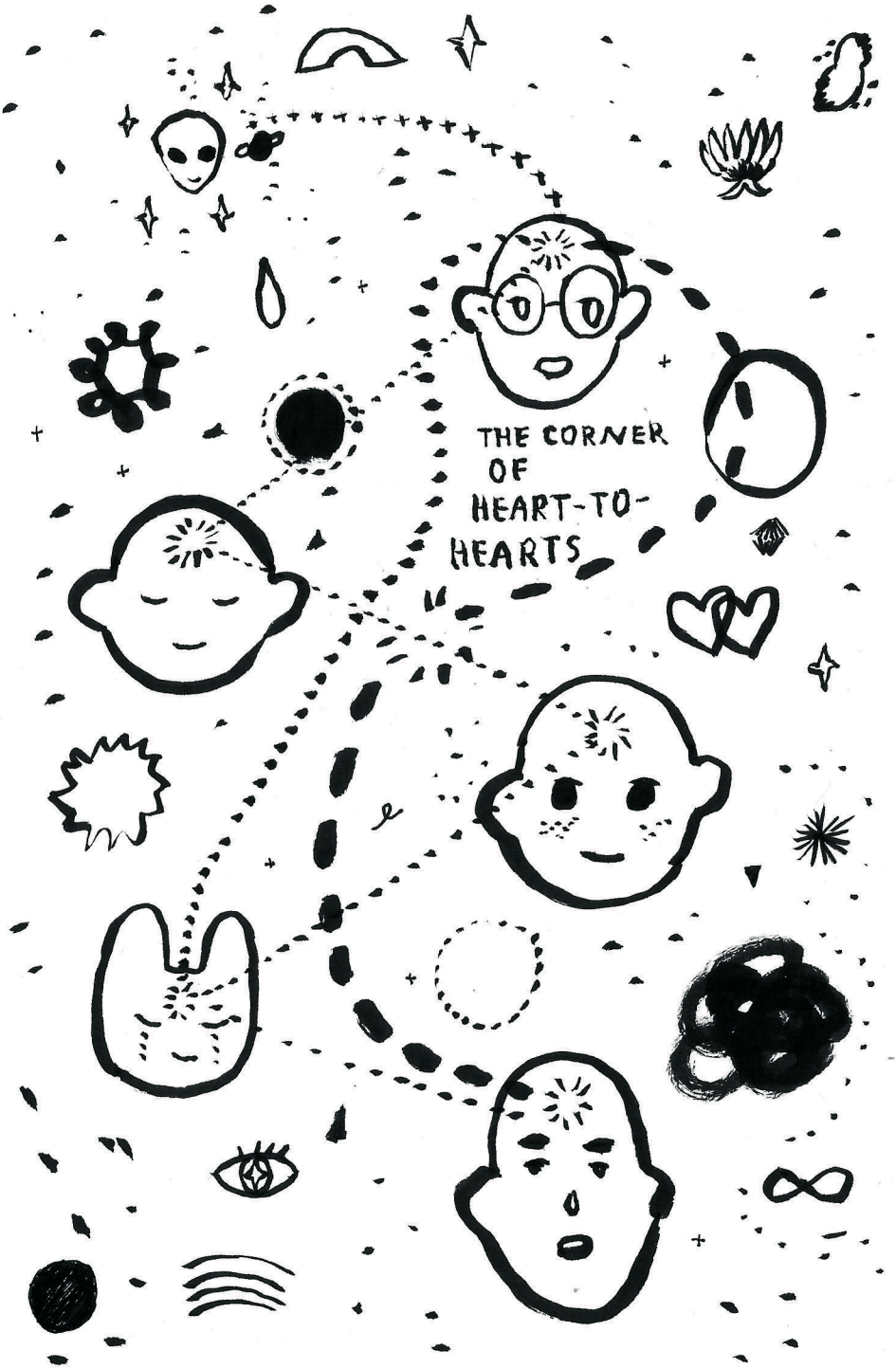
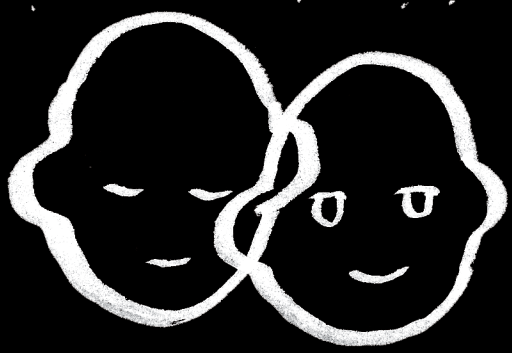


CHAD SHOMURA X YUMI SAKUGAWA

CREATED FOR CTRL+ALT:
A CULTURE LAB ON IMAGINED FUTURES,
BY THE SMITHSONIAN ASIAN PACIFIC
AMERICAN CENTER
THE FORMER SITE OF PEARL RIVER MART
NEW YORK, NY
12-13 NOVEMBER, 2016

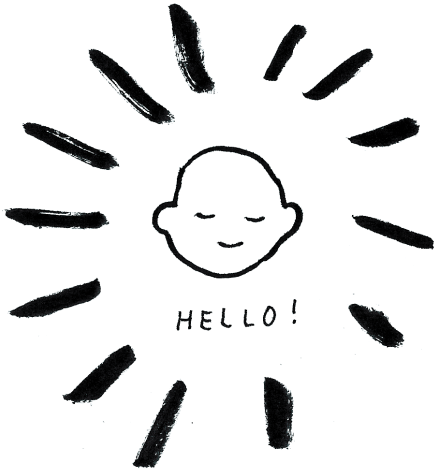


THE CORNER OF HEART-TO-HEARTS

AN INTERACTIVE EXPERIMENT IN
WELLNESS, PUBLIC FEELINGS, AND
STRANGER INTIMACY

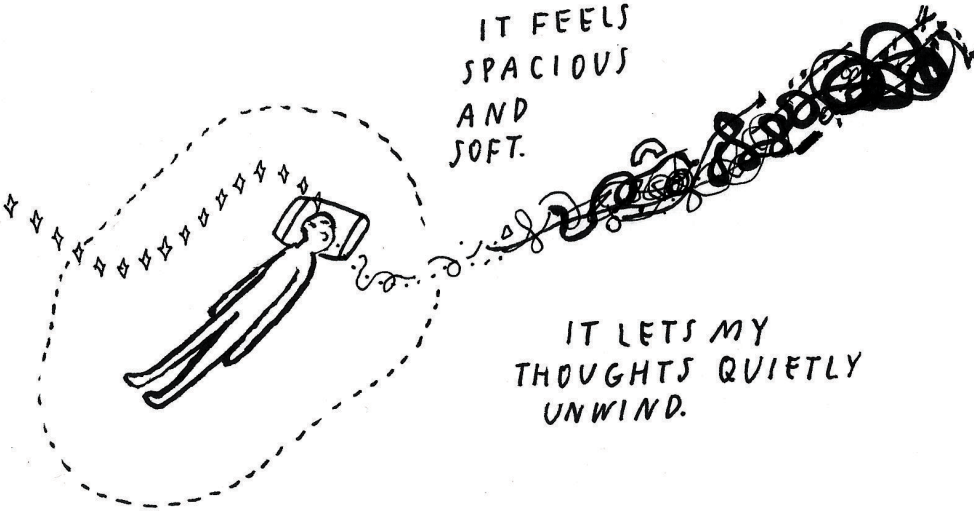
CONCEPT AND TEXT BY
CHAD SHOMURA

DESIGN AND IMAGERY BY
YUMI SAKUGAWA


HELLO!

I LOVE SOLITUDE.

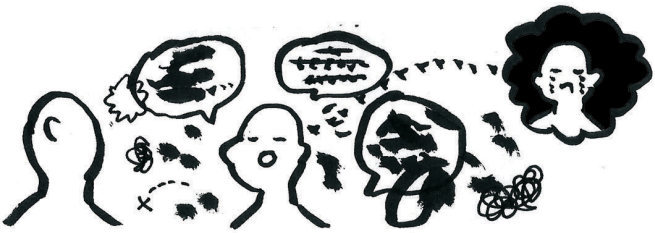
IT FEELS SPACIOUS AND SOFT.



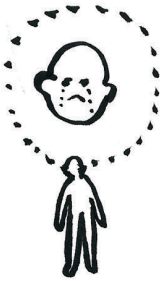
IT LETS MY THOUGHTS QUIETLY UNWIND.

IT WELCOMES MY SENSES TO DOTE ON EVERY DETAIL OR TO FEEL THINGS FLOATING BY LIKE A GENTLE BREEZE.

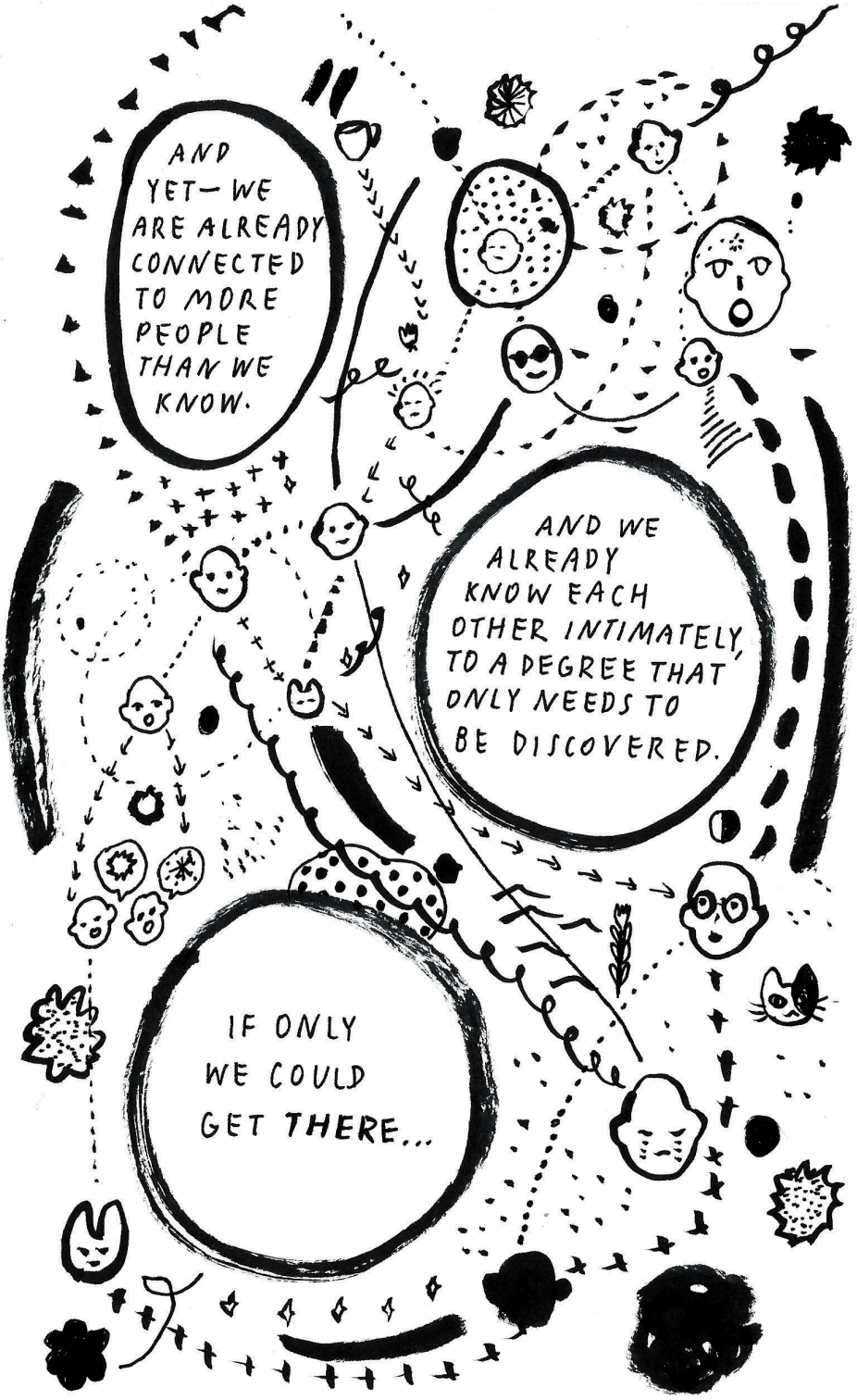
AT THE SAME TIME, I LONG FOR DEEPER CONNECTIONS WITH PEOPLE

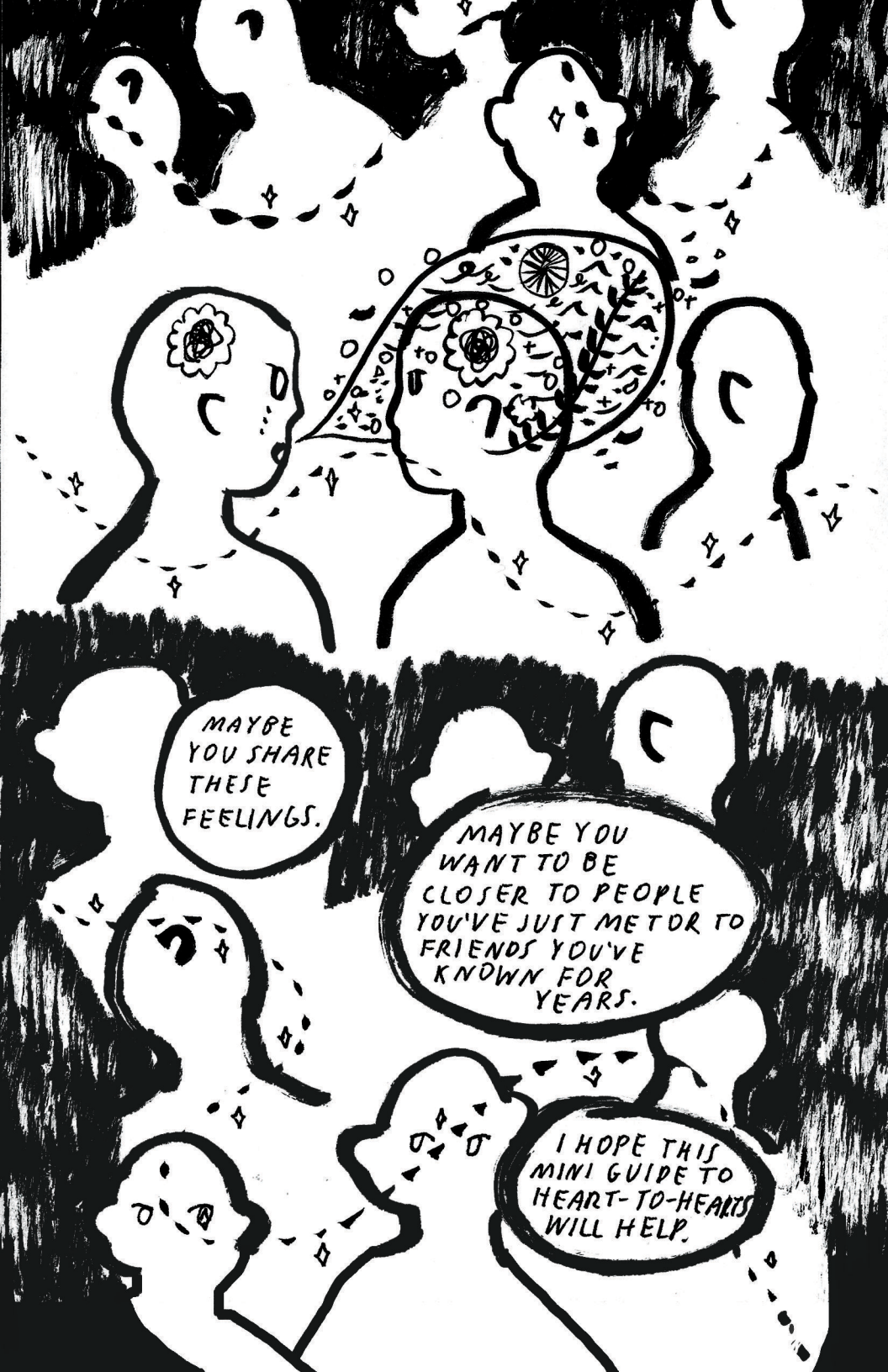


BUT I'M INTROVERTED, SHY, AND A BIT AWKWARD. I STUMBLE WHILE OTHERS SEEM TO TALK SO NATURALLY.



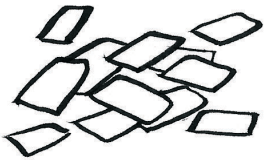
EVERYDAY CONVERSATION CAN MAKE PEOPLE FEEL SO FAR AWAY. I CAN FEEL LEFT BEHIND. THE WORLD CAN BE TERRIBLY LONELY.


AND YET— WE ARE ALREADY CONNECTED TO MORE PEOPLE THAN WE KNOW.
AND WE ALREADY KNOW EACH OTHER INTIMATELY, TO A DEGREE THAT ONLY NEEDS TO BE DISCOVERED.
IF ONLY WE COULD GET THERE...


MAYBE YOU SHARE THESE FEELINGS.
MAYBE YOU WANT TO BE CLOSER TO PEOPLE YOU'VE JUST MET OR TO FRIENDS YOU'VE KNOWN FOR YEARS.
I HOPE THIS MINI GUIDE TO HEART-TO-HEARTS WILL HELP.

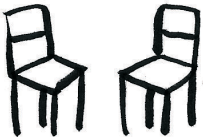
THE CORNER

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:



ONE SET OF HEART-TO-HEART CARDS

ONE SMALL TABLE



TWO CHAIRS

TWO WILLING PARTICIPANTS

NICE THINGS

A PLANT

A CANDLE

OTHER MAGICAL ARTIFACTS

THE PROCESS

① PICK A CORNER OF A ROOM.

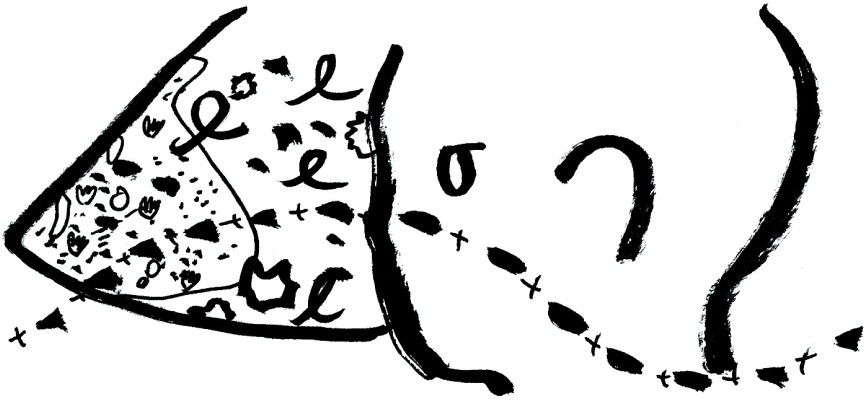
② PLACE THE TABLE AND CHAIRS THERE. GET COMFY.

③ SHUFFLE THE CARDS AND DRAW ONE AT RANDOM.

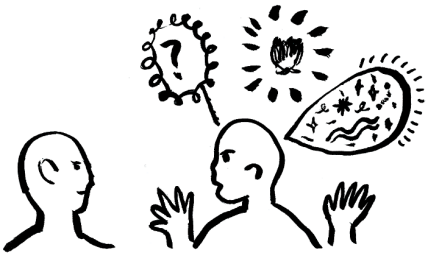
IT WILL HAVE A WORD SUCH AS "LOSS," "LOVE," OR "DREAM." EACH OF YOU SHARES A PERSONAL EXPERIENCE, MEMORY, OR STRUGGLE BASED ON THE WORD.

LISTENING IS VITAL
TO HEART-TO-HEARTS,
SO LISTEN...

...LISTEN...



...AND LISTEN MORE.



ASK QUESTIONS OR OFFER TIDBITS OF WISDOM.
CHAT FOR A WHILE.

CONVERSATION
WILL BLOOM.

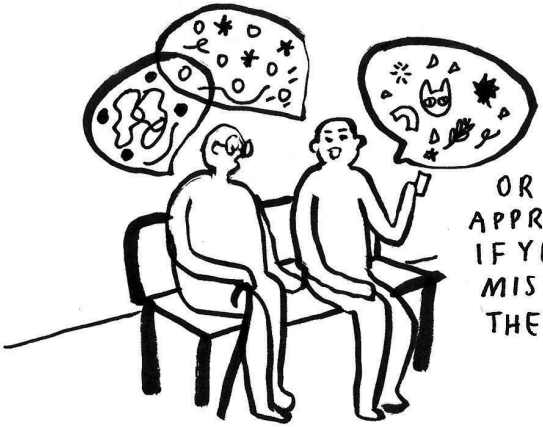
SO WILL CONTACT.
A CONNECTION.

WHO KNOWS WHAT WILL
HAPPEN NEXT?

VARIATIONS

HEARTS-TO-HEARTS CAN HAPPEN ANYWHERE, ANYTIME.

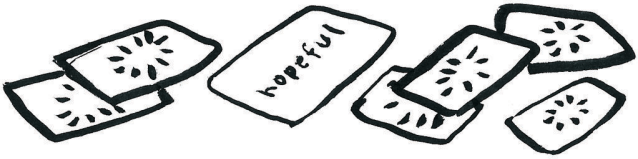
YOU COULD HAVE ONE ON A PATCH OF SOFT GRASS AT YOUR FAVORITE PARK.

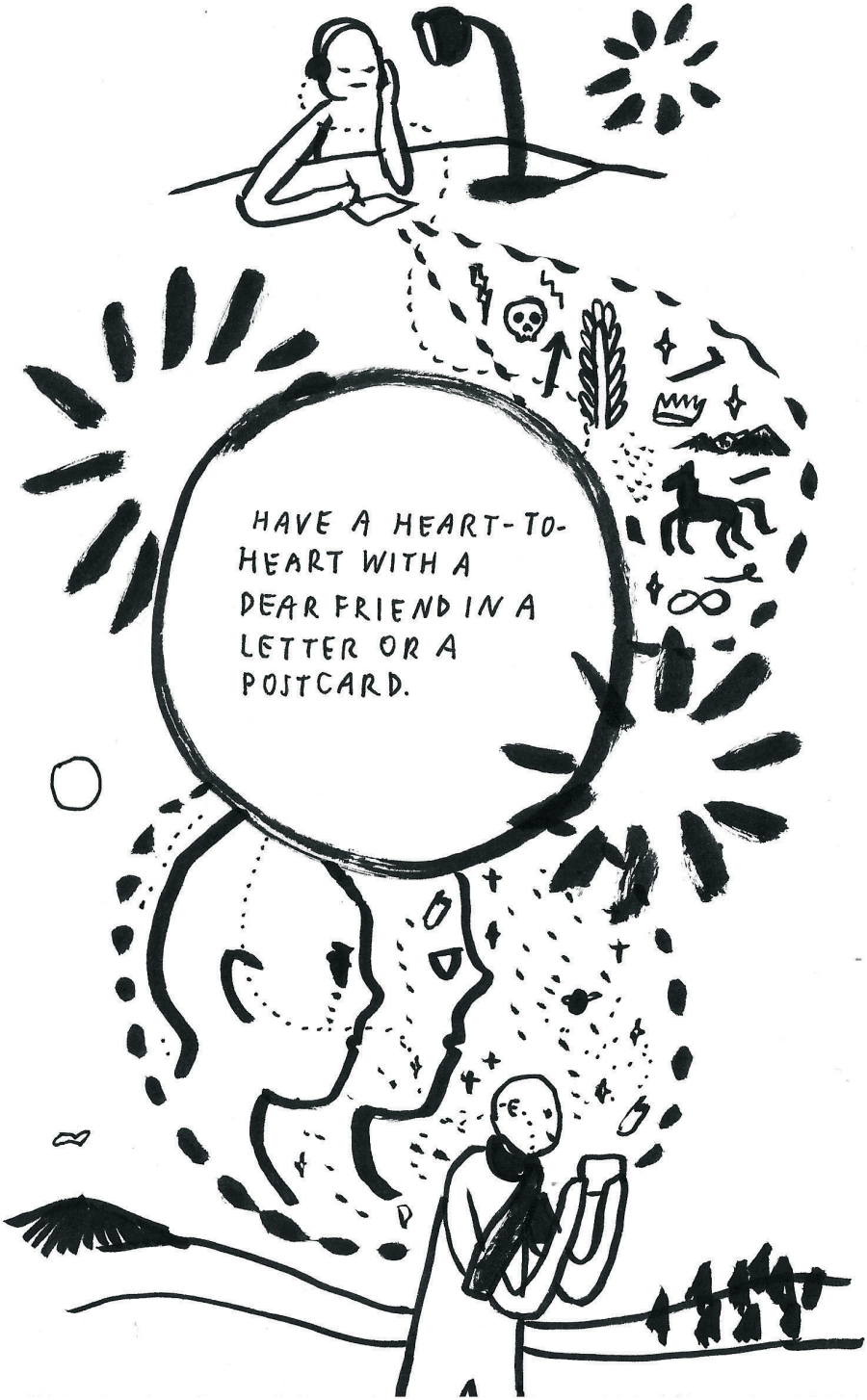


OR YOU COULD APPROACH A STRANGER IF YOU BOTH JUST MISSED A BUS OR THE METRO.

DO YOU NOT LIKE SMALL TALK BUT GO TO PARTIES FOR FEAR OF MISSING OUT? SET UP A HEART-TO-HEARTS CORNER!

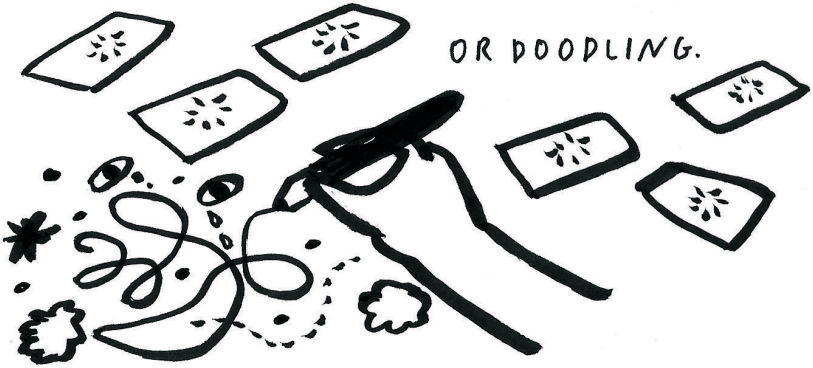
MAYBE GET A WHOLE CROWD INVOLVED!




HAVE A HEART-TO-HEART WITH A DEAR FRIEND IN A LETTER OR A POSTCARD.

OR YOU COULD HAVE A HEART-TO-HEART
WITH YOURSELF
WHILE YOU'RE JOURNALING.

OR DOODLING.



OR MEDITATING.

HOWEVER YOU DO HEARTS-TO-HEARTS, REMEMBER TO LISTEN.

LISTEN GENEROUSLY.

CONTINUE TO HAVE HEART-TO-HEARTS AND GETTING CLOSE WILL BE EASIER.

THE WORLD WILL FEEL LESS LONELY.

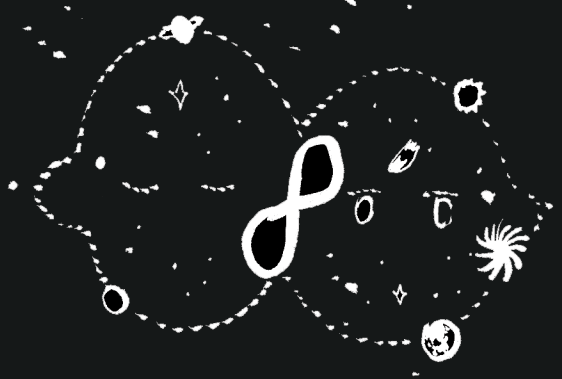
YOU WILL FEEL MORE FULL.

AND THE FUTURE WILL BE OUR HOME
EVEN AS WE ARE SOMEHOW ALREADY THERE.

ACCOMPLISHED	ANGER
ANXIETY	BEAUTY
BURNOUT	DEVASTATED
DISAPPOINTMENT	DISCONNECT
DREAMS	FAILURE
HEALING	HOPEFUL

IMPERFECTION	INSUFFICIENT
LONELINESS	LONGING
LOSS	LOVE
NEGLECTED	PLEASURE
PROMISE	SENSITIVITY
SHAME	TRAPPED

TENDERNESS	UNCERTAINTY



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

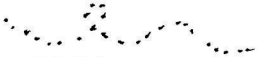
CHAD THANKS YUMI FOR ENRICHING THE CORNER OF HEART-TO-HEARTS WITH HER CREATIVE SPIRIT. HE DEEPLY APPRECIATES THE SPONSORSHIP OF LAWRENCE-MINH BÙI DAVIS AND THE SMITHSONIAN ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN CENTER. FINALLY, HE THANKS LINH HUỲNH FOR BRINGING A WORLD OF HEART-TO-HEARTS SO MUCH CLOSER TO THIS ONE.

YUMI IS THANKFUL TO CHAD FOR BEING SO OPEN TO THIS COLLABORATION, AND TO LAWRENCE-MINH BÙI DAVIS FOR SUGGESTING THIS COLLABORATION IN THE FIRST PLACE. SHE IS ALSO THANKFUL TO THE SMITHSONIAN ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN CENTER, DAVID, AND THE UNIVERSE.

CHAD SHOMURA IS A SCHOLAR AND A CAT BASED IN HONOLULU, HAWAI'I. SOME OF HIS FAVORITE THINGS:

COFFEE (BLACK)

ICE CREAM



LONG, MEDITATIVE WALKS

INSTAGRAM

EVERYDAY MAGIC

YES

MOMENTS WHOSE ONLY DESCRIPTOR CAN BE "YES"

PLANTS AND A CERTAIN LITTLE SPROUT

YUMI SAKUGAWA IS A COMIC BOOK ARTIST BASED IN LOS ANGELES. SOME OF HER FAVORITE THINGS:

COFFEE (BLACK)

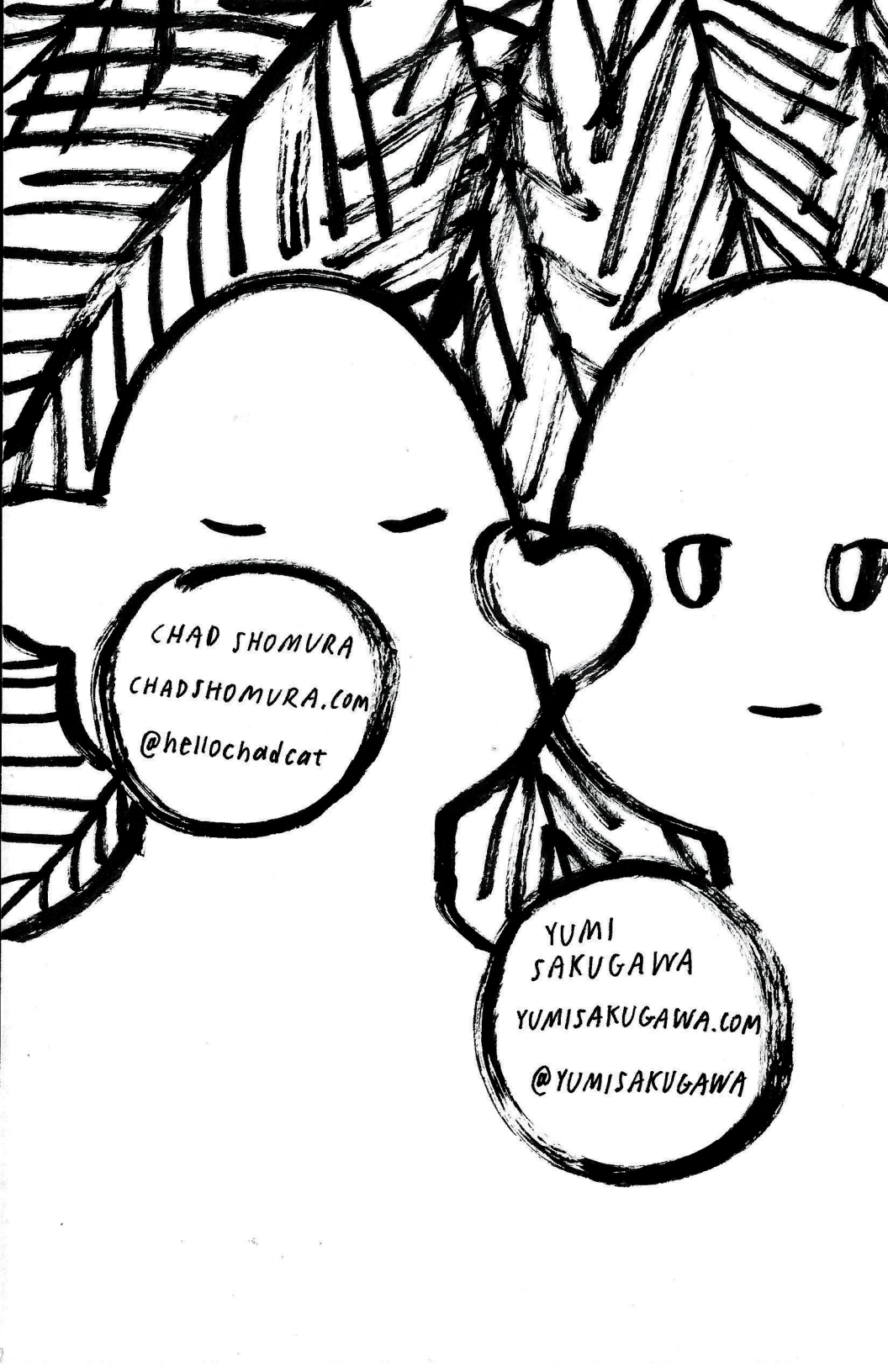
ASTROLOGY (AQUARIUS RISING)

BOOKS

PONDERING THE NATURE OF THE UNIVERSE

THIS EMOJI

MAGICAL, SERENDIPITOUS CONNECTIONS AND COINCIDENCES


CHAD SHOMURA
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