



A Fight for Life

Glyphosate and harm to reproductive health



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A Fight for Life

Glyphosate and harm to reproductive health





But do you know from where death comes,
from above or from below?

- Pablo Neruda.



The day Iván and Yaneth got married they did so out of love and with the hope of starting a family together. Living in Solita, a municipality far from Caquetá, was not an inconvenience for them. They loved the countryside and felt tied to that land where they knew there was so much to do. Their story is that of so many Colombian families, full of hopes and dreams curtailed by external factors. Families affected by the violence of state neglect end up involved in situations that

they neither chose nor should have experienced.

The story of Iván Medina is the story of a man willing to fight tirelessly for the pursuit of justice for his family. This is also the story of Yaneth Valderrama, who was deprived of the possibility of living a full and happy life, and of having a child she wanted.

Their struggle is that of so many who never lose hope of living in a country where we all have equal opportunities and rights, and where the word justice isn't meaningless.

We will never forget the day we got the notification.

IVÁN, WE HAVE GREAT NEWS FOR YOU. YOUR CASE WAS ADMITTED BY THE INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.

THIS IS HISTORIC. IT'S THE FIRST CASE OF DEATH FROM GLYPHOSATE THEY EVER ACCEPT.

WE DID IT, DAD!

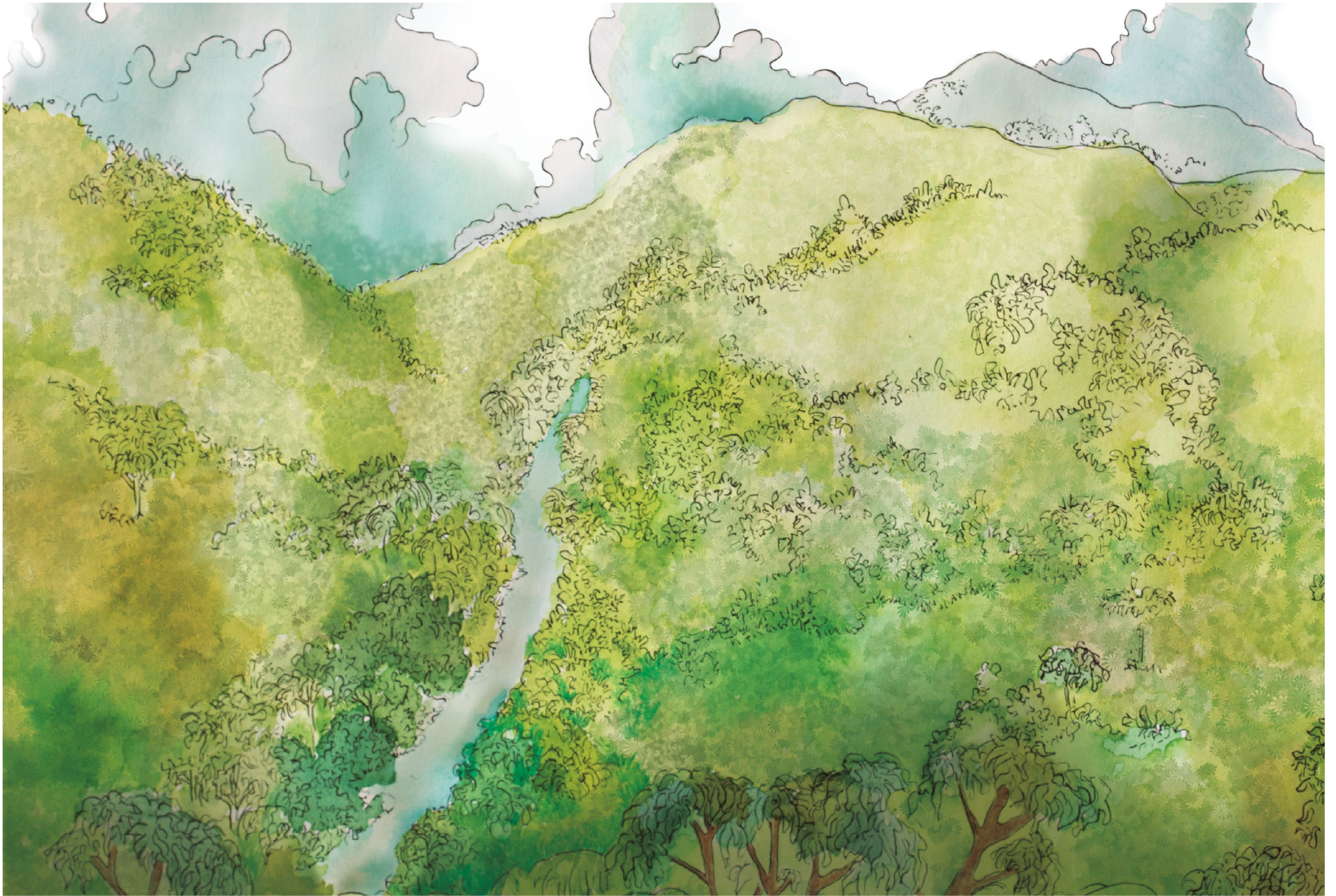


1998

This was a twenty-year struggle. Twenty years without my wife and son. Twenty years of seeking justice and reparations.



2018



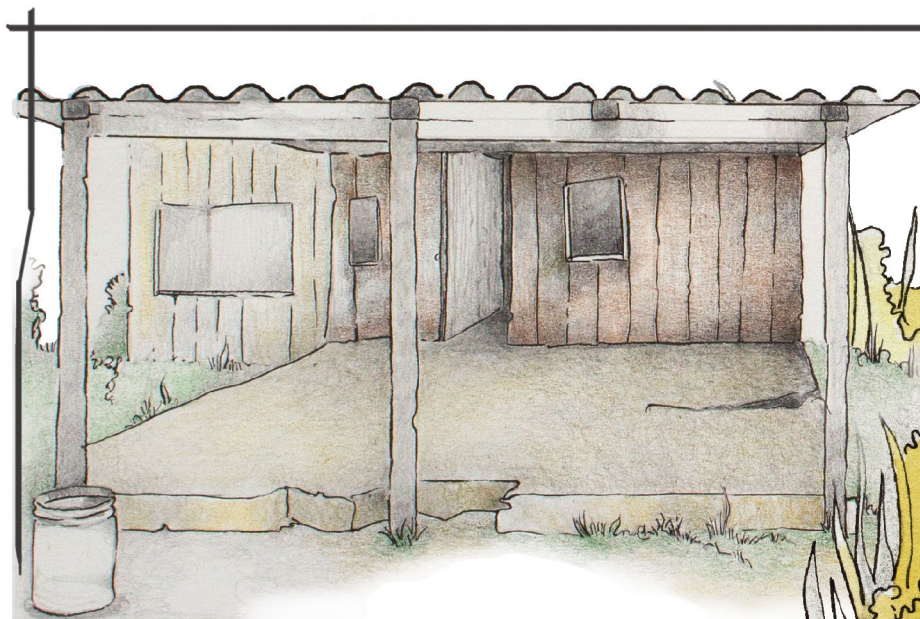




Before my life changed forever, I was a day laborer in Solita, a town on the Caquetá River. Solita, which means "lonesome" in Spanish, was not just the town's name; we were truly alone there, far from everything.

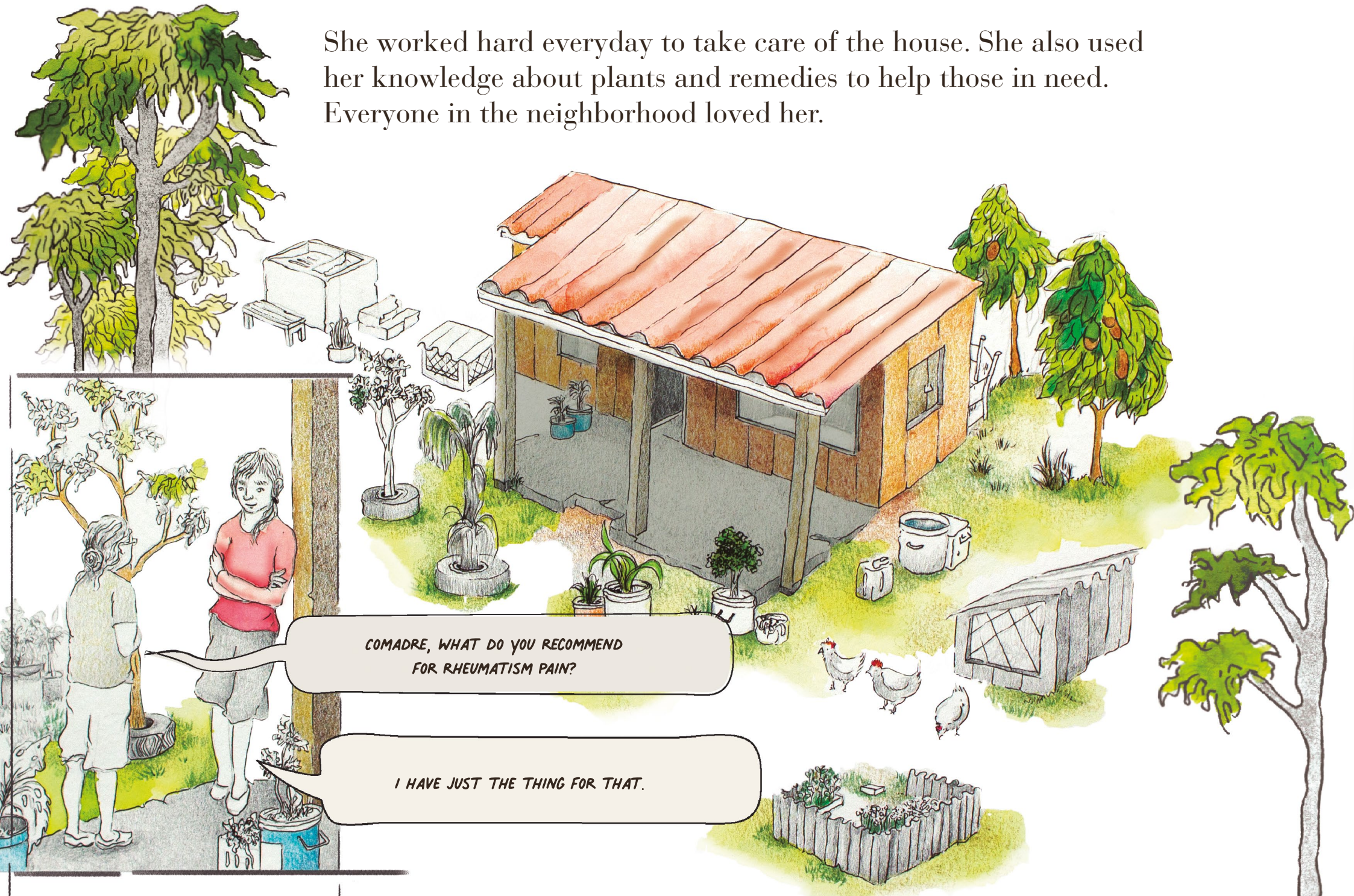
Florencia, the capital, is more than four hours away on a road full of landslides and cracks.

I came looking for work and a place to start a family with Yaneth, a strong, intelligent woman I fell in love with. By the sweat of our brows, we managed to buy a small parcel of land from her brother. We were very happy.



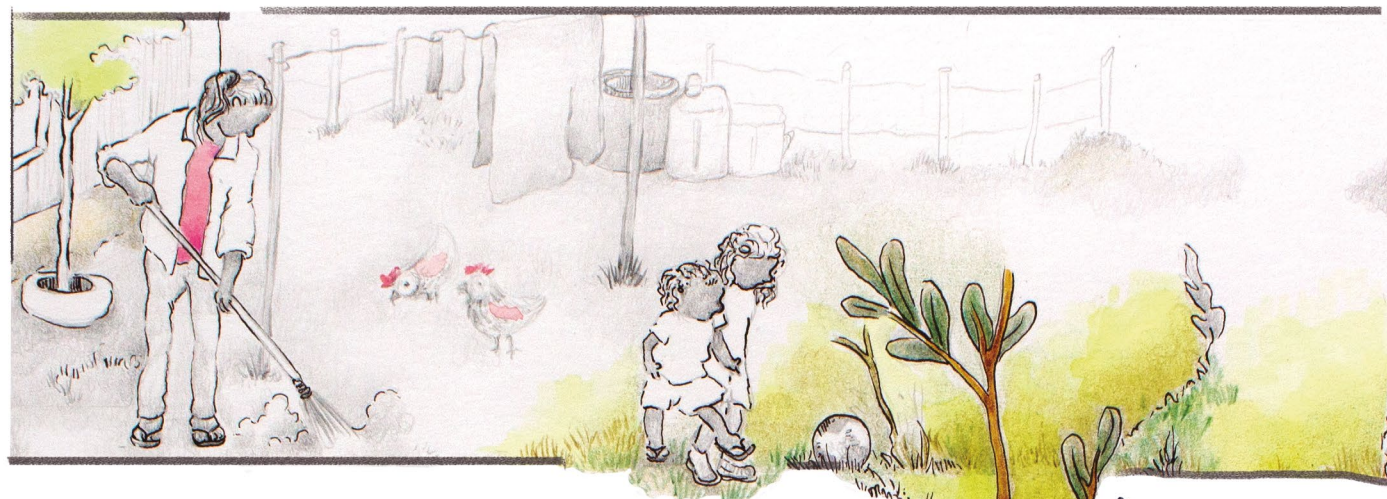
*IT'S PERFECT, IVÁN. WITH SOME HARD WORK YOU'LL SEE
HOW WE TURN THIS INTO A GREAT PLACE.*

She worked hard everyday to take care of the house. She also used her knowledge about plants and remedies to help those in need. Everyone in the neighborhood loved her.



COMADRE, WHAT DO YOU RECOMMEND
FOR RHEUMATISM PAIN?

I HAVE JUST THE THING FOR THAT.

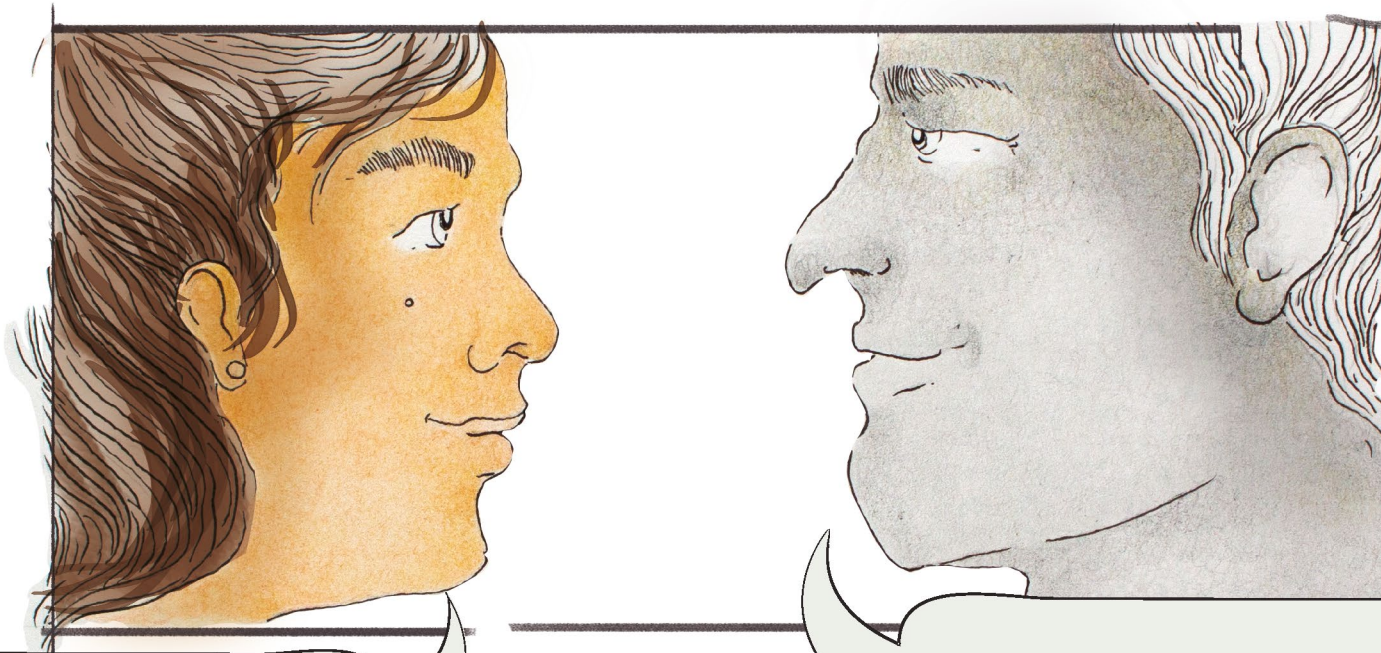


We were blessed with two daughters who filled us with joy and gave us even more strength to get ahead. I used to go out early to work the field. Between caring for the girls and household chores, Yaneth always had a lot to do.



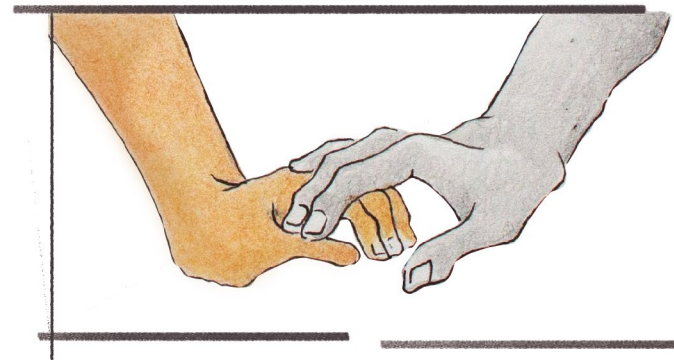
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU DO IT ALL. THE HOUSE IS ALWAYS RADIANT, THE GARDEN IS BLOOMING AND FULL OF PLANTS.

The news that she was pregnant again filled us with joy.



GUESS WHAT ... TODAY THE DOCTOR
CONFIRMED IT: IT'S A BOY!

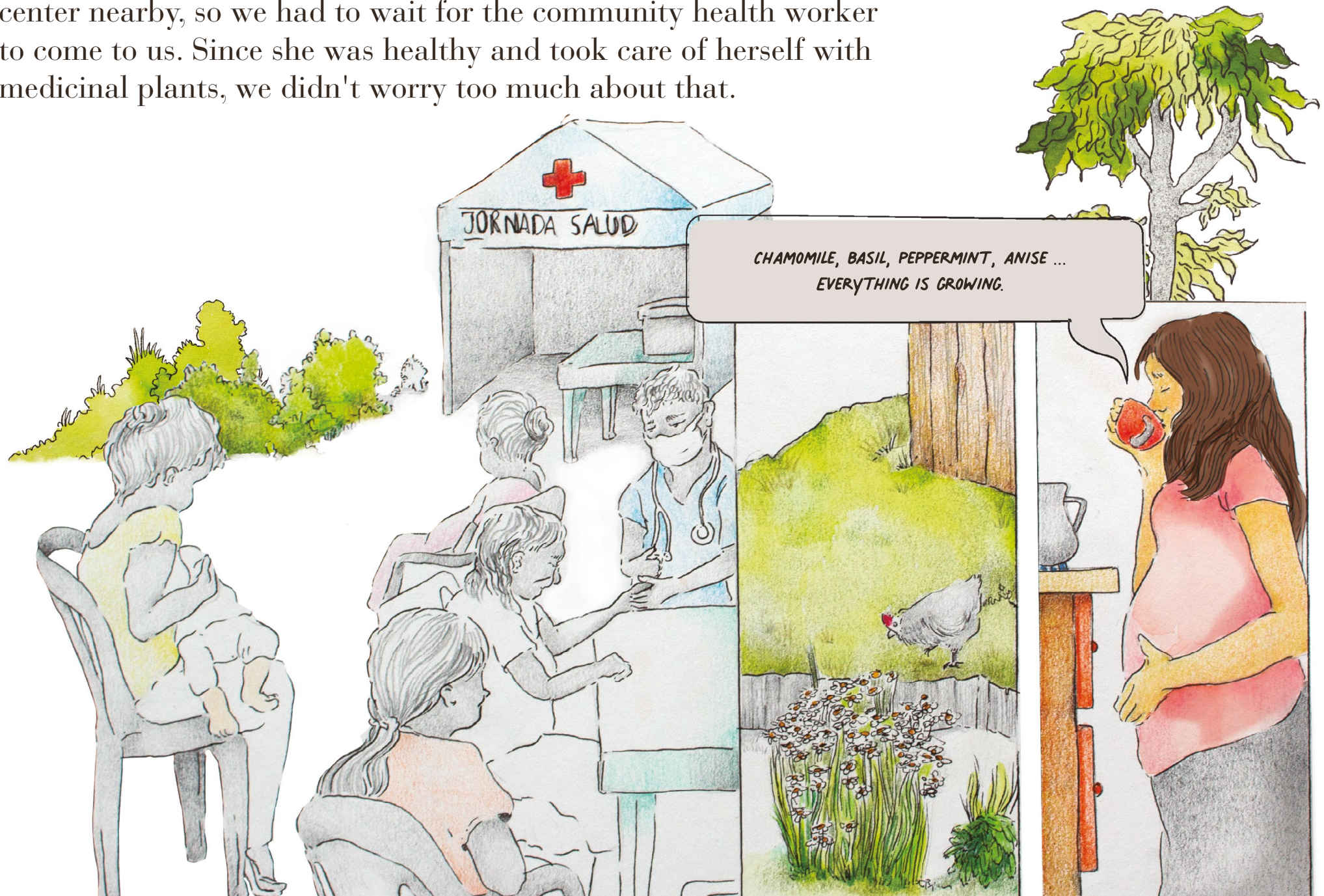
A BOY? REALLY? NOW OUR FAMILY
IS COMPLETE.



The arrival of our son had us all excited.
We couldn't talk about anything else.



Yaneth had very few medical checks because we did not have a health center nearby, so we had to wait for the community health worker to come to us. Since she was healthy and took care of herself with medicinal plants, we didn't worry too much about that.



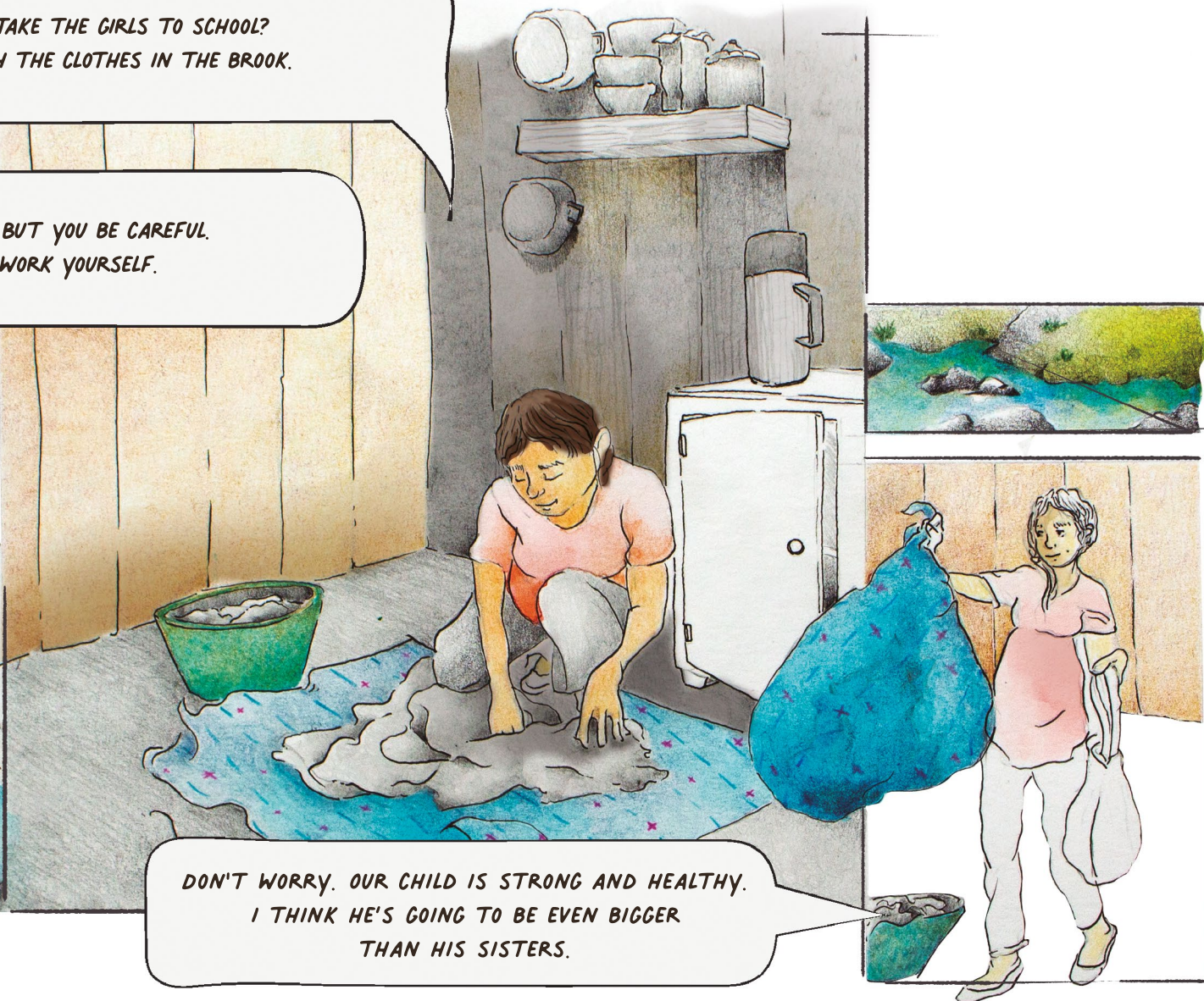
We didn't always have running water or light, but we believed things would get better. We felt that we would be rewarded for our hard work and that everything would make sense with the arrival of our child.



I will never forget what happened on **September 28th, 1998**.
It was a Monday and we got up early as usual.

*IVÁN, CAN YOU TAKE THE GIRLS TO SCHOOL?
I HAVE TO GO WASH THE CLOTHES IN THE BROOK.*

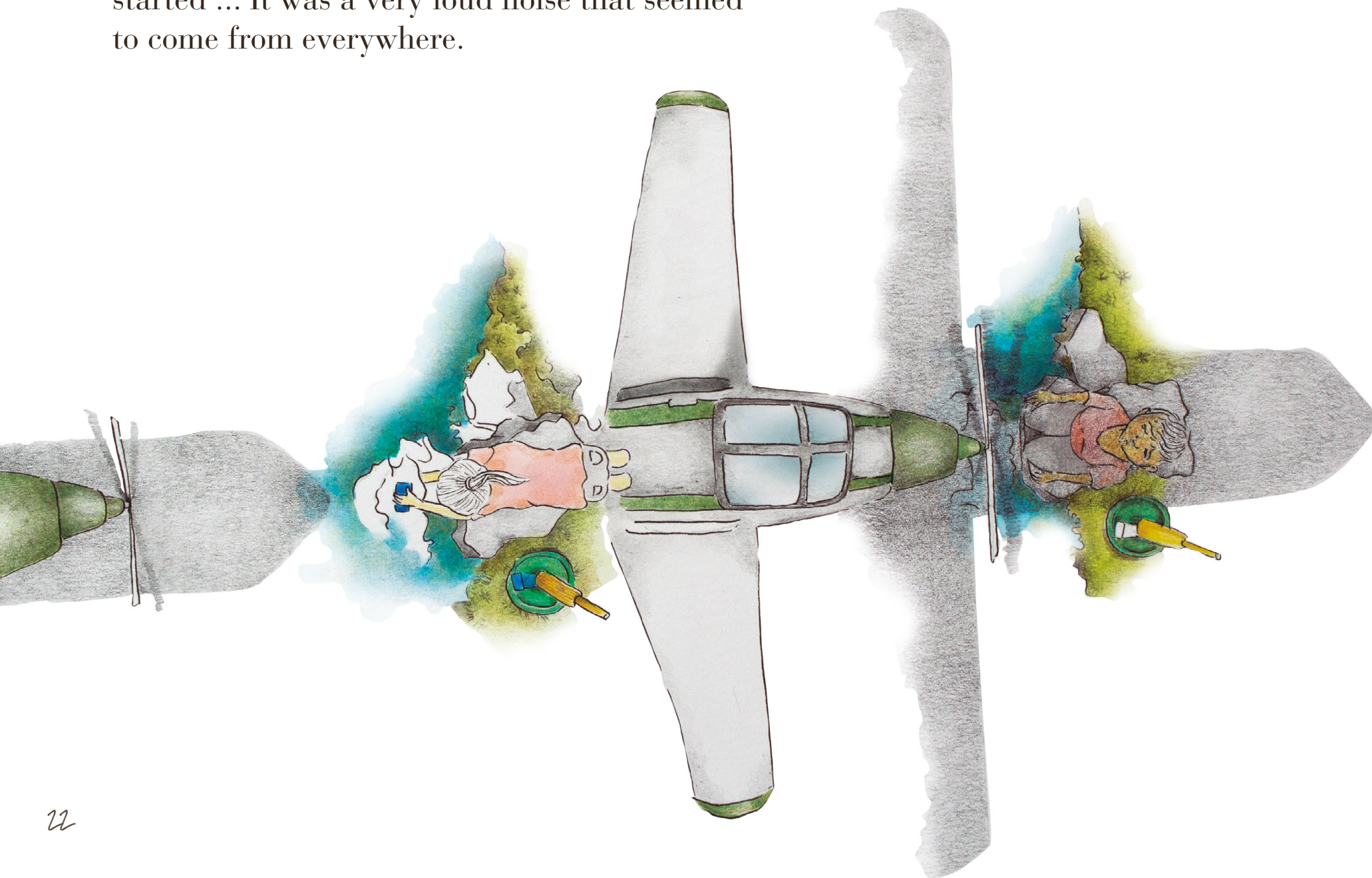
*SURE, I'LL DO IT. BUT YOU BE CAREFUL.
DON'T OVERWORK YOURSELF.*



*DON'T WORRY. OUR CHILD IS STRONG AND HEALTHY.
I THINK HE'S GOING TO BE EVEN BIGGER
THAN HIS SISTERS.*

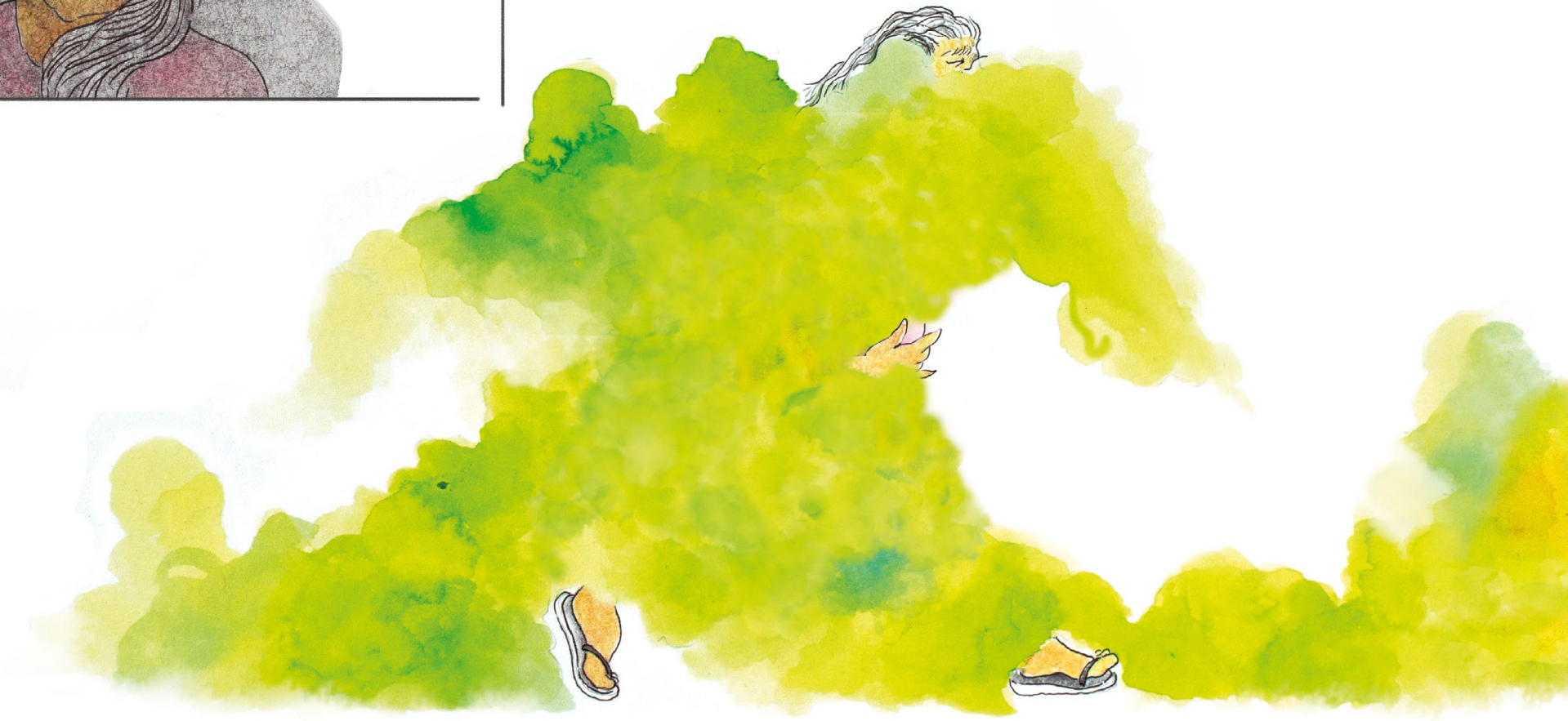


Everything seemed normal until the rumbling started ... It was a very loud noise that seemed to come from everywhere.





Yaneth knew that noise very well. We were used to the planes that passed by, but these ones were flying very low. She started running as fast as she could towards the house.

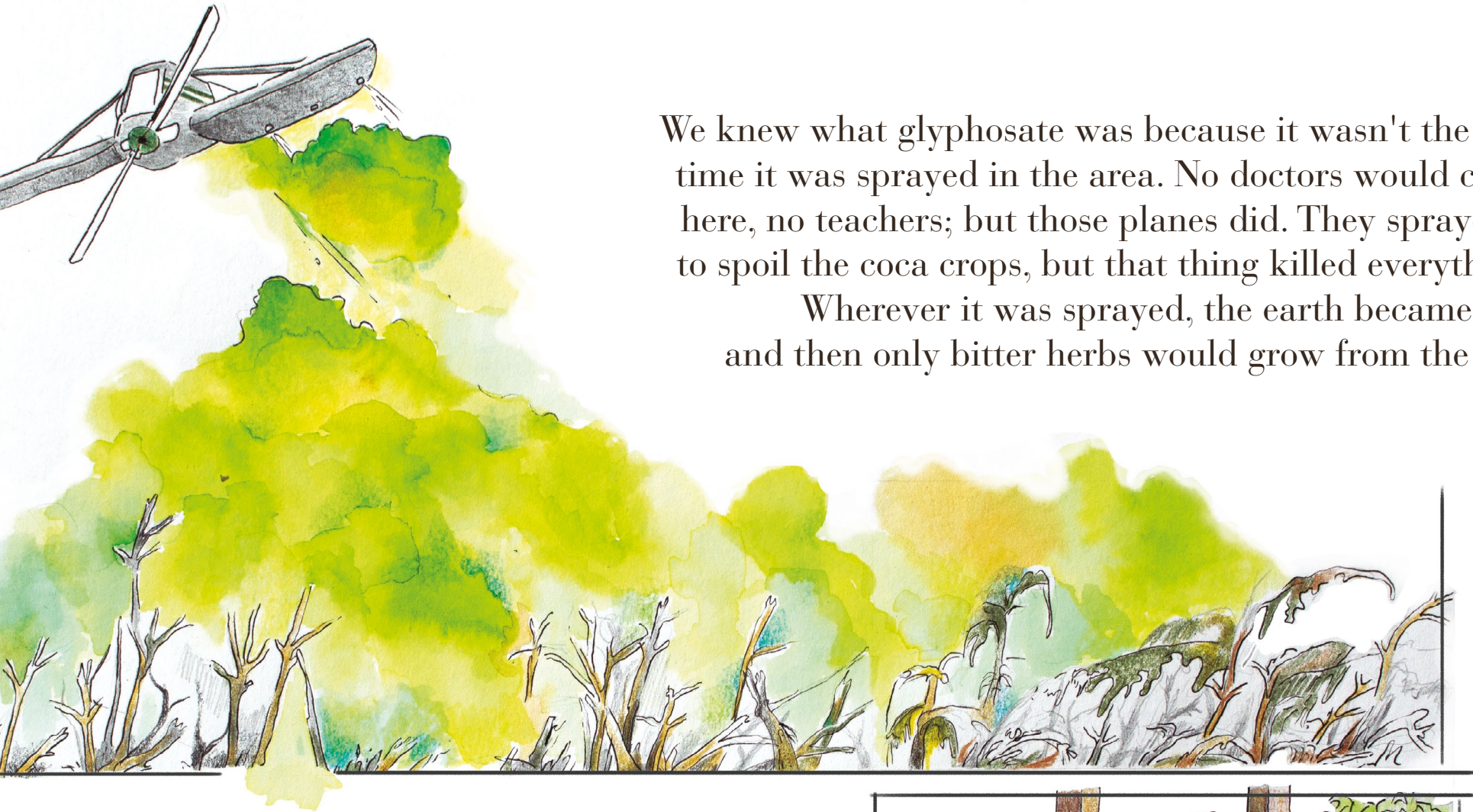


She didn't make it. They sprayed her from head to toe with poison.

As soon as she arrived at the house,
she washed herself to remove what
had been sprayed on her.



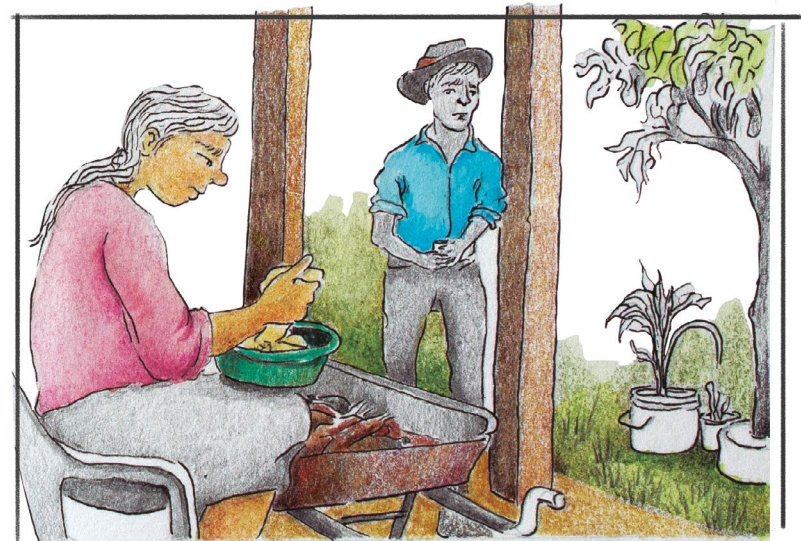
THEY SPRAYED ME WITH THAT
DISGUSTING SMELLY POISON! GOOD
THING THE GIRLS WEREN'T WITH ME.



We knew what glyphosate was because it wasn't the first time it was sprayed in the area. No doctors would come here, no teachers; but those planes did. They sprayed it to spoil the coca crops, but that thing killed everything.

Wherever it was sprayed, the earth became dry, and then only bitter herbs would grow from the soil.

THEY SPRAYED THAT GLYPHOSATE THING AGAIN. THE PLANTAIN CROP IS LOST.





We were never interested in growing coca. They paid well for it around the area and sometimes it was the only thing that people could really sell. We never wanted to do it. We didn't want to get in trouble with anyone or live in fear.

When I arrived
in the afternoon,
I realized that
something was
wrong. Yaneth was
not one to complain.



*I FEEL STRONG STOMACH CRAMPS AND
A BURNING SENSATION INSIDE ME.*



I immediately
had a bad feeling.

*MIJA, IS THE CHILD COMING? YOU'D BETTER
LIE DOWN AND GET SOME REST.*

I had never seen her like this before.

DO YOU FEEL A LITTLE BETTER?



*I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S WRONG
WITH ME. I HOPE IT'S NOT THAT POISON.*

*BUT YOU WASHED IT OFF QUICKLY ...
I'M SURE YOU'LL FEEL BETTER SOON.*

We went to bed...

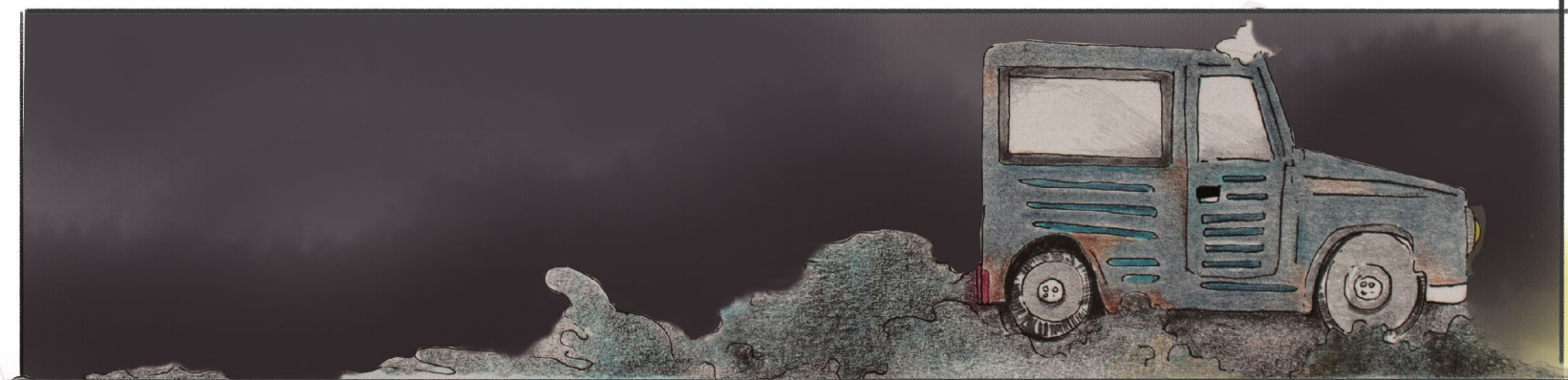
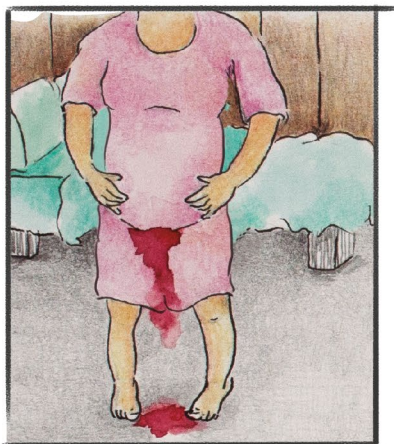
At about 1:30 in the morning I woke up. I could feel her tossing and turning in bed.

WHAT'S WRONG? ARE YOU STILL SICK?

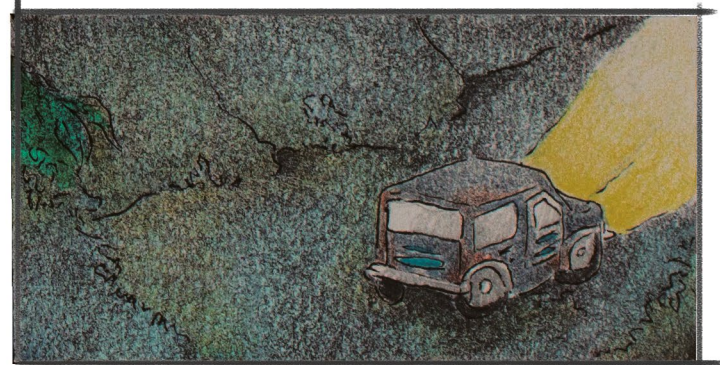
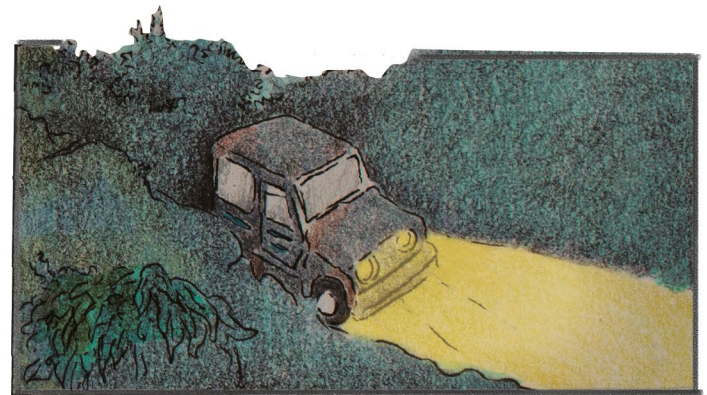
YES ... IT HURTS SO BAD!



*WE SHOULD GO TO FLORENCIA, TO THE
HOSPITAL. I'M BORROWING THE CAR
FROM YOUR BROTHER.*

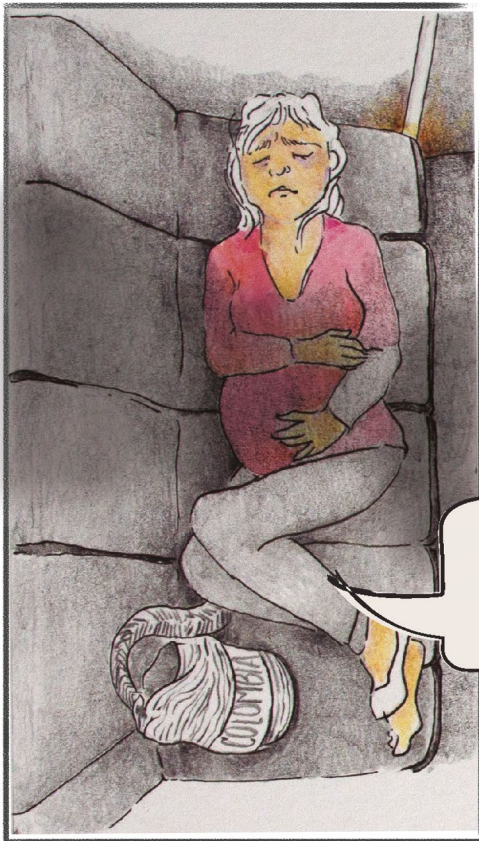
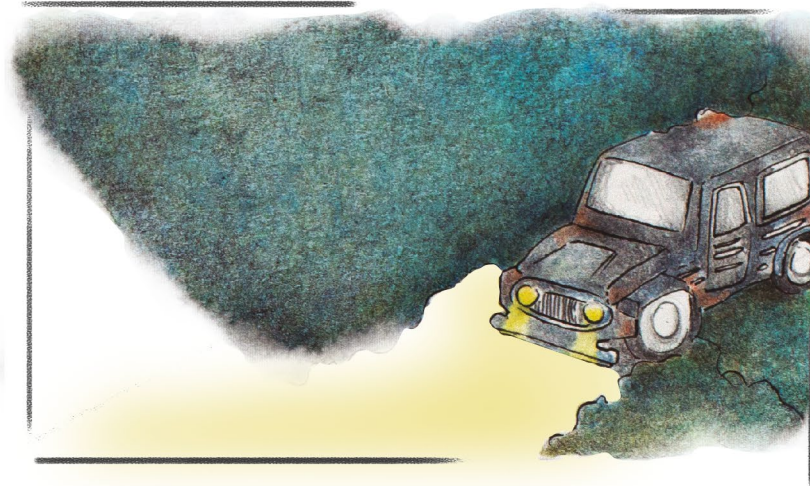


As soon as Yaneth started to get ready, we saw she was bleeding. We left the house at 2 a.m. I wanted to get there fast, but you never knew with that road. I prayed that there would be no landslides so that it wouldn't take longer than the usual four hours.





I was going as fast as I could.
Yaneth was still feeling very bad.
I was trying to cheer her up.



MY BONES HURT. IT'S HARD TO BREATHE ...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME? I HAD TWO DAUGHTERS
WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS BACK HOME AND
LOOK AT ME NOW, IVÁN...

DON'T SAY THAT MIJA ... WE'RE ALMOST THERE.
DOCTORS WILL KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON AND
WHAT TO DO. YOU ARE YOUNG AND HEALTHY.
DON'T WORRY. EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE.



We made it to the hospital at 5:30 a.m. We arrived straight to the ER.

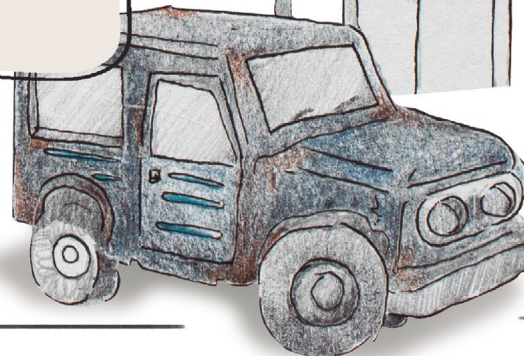
YOUR WIFE ARRIVED HERE WITH AN INCOMPLETE ABORTION. WE HAD TO PERFORM A CURETTAGE.

A WHAT? I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOING ON. WHAT DO YOU MEAN? SHE'S PREGNANT.

I'M SORRY. THERE WAS NOTHING WE COULD DO.

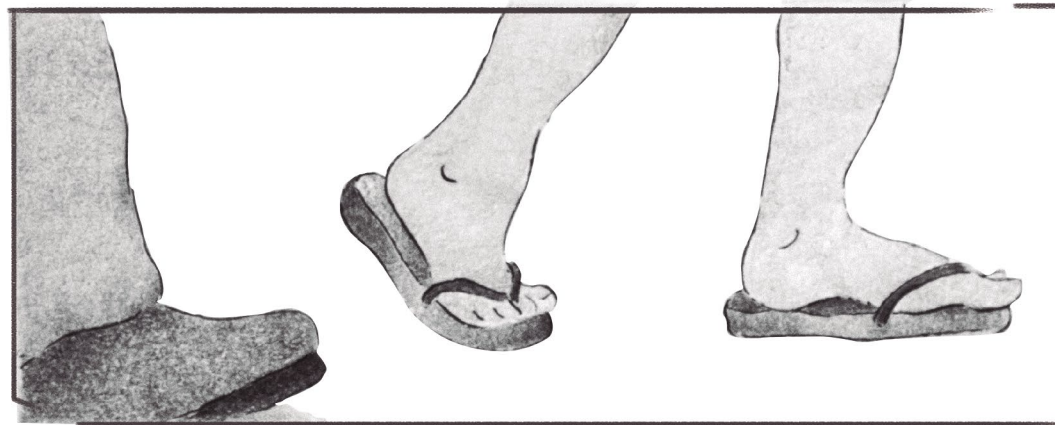
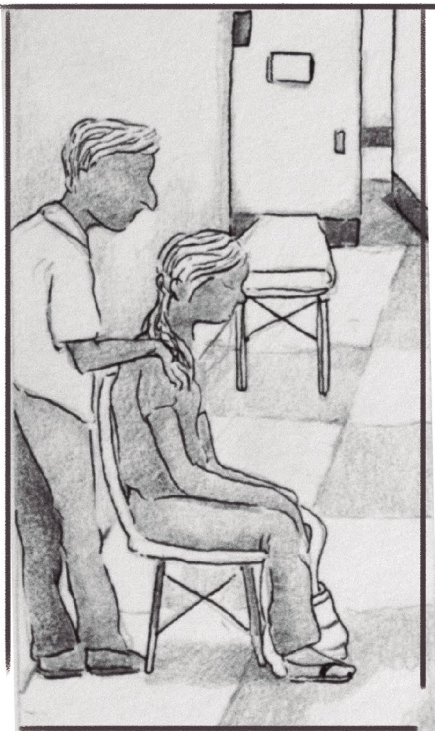
HAS ANYTHING HAPPENED TO YOUR WIFE IN THE LAST FEW DAYS?

WELL, THEY SPRAYED HER WITH GLYPHOSATE. I DON'T KNOW IF THAT HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT.

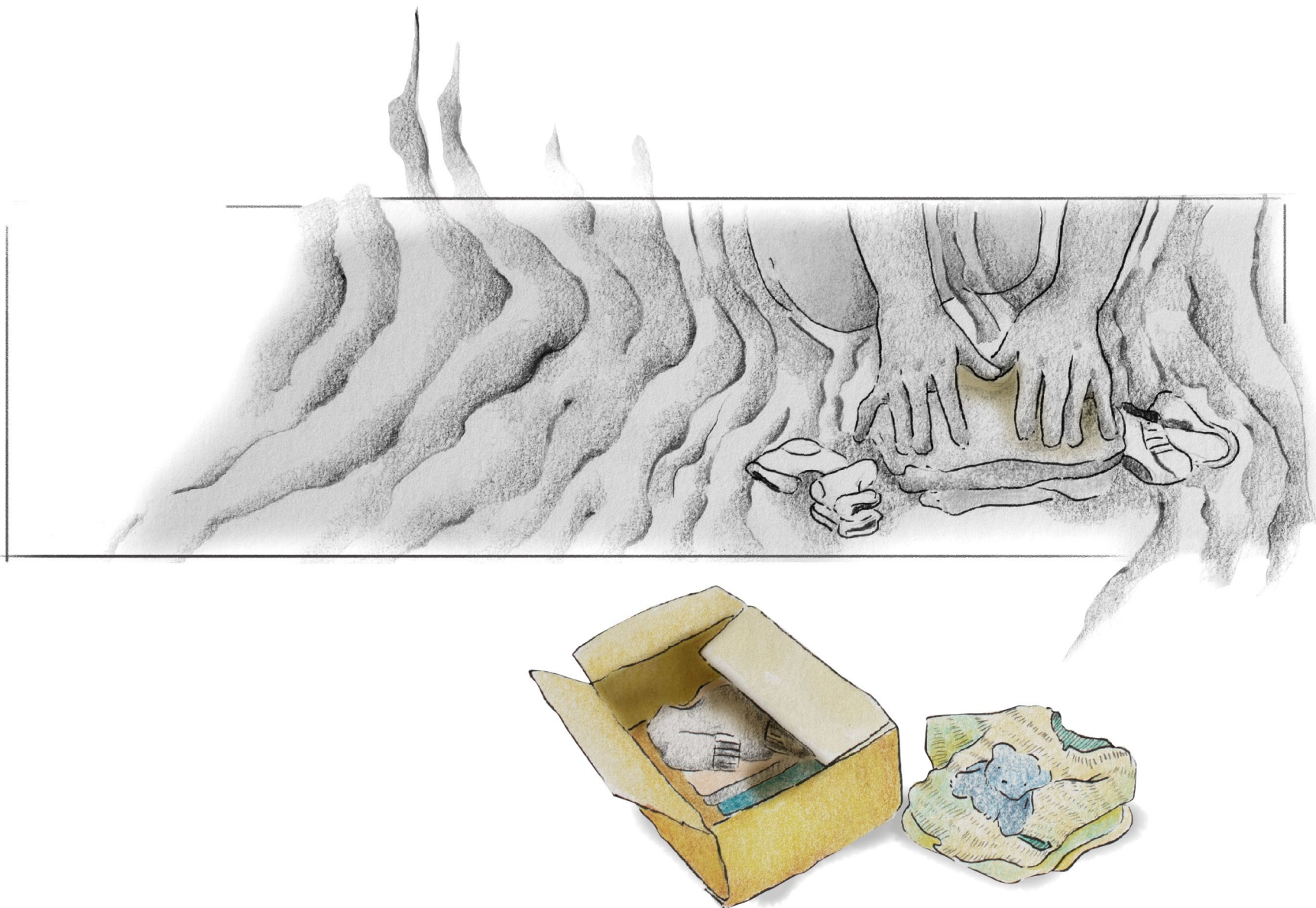




We lost our son just like that.
I couldn't do anything to stop it.



Just because they wanted to kill that plant,
they tore apart all our dreams.



Goodbye to all our hopes. Yaneth was not tested or anything after the procedure. We were told to go home and that she would recover in a few days. But that's not what happened.





We went many times to have her checked. We did everything the doctors told us to do. Nothing made her better. I always answered the same thing.

IT'S VERY STRANGE THAT SHE ISN'T FEELING BETTER. DID SOMETHING CHANGE IN HER DAILY ROUTINE? DID ANYTHING IN PARTICULAR HAPPEN TO HER?



SHE WAS ALWAYS FINE AND HEALTHY. YOU CAN SEE HERE THE LAST CHECK SHE HAD WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKER. SHE WAS DOING PERFECTLY, AND THE PREGNANCY WAS GOING WELL. THE ONLY WEIRD THING IS THEY SPRAYED HER WITH GLYPHOSATE.

Yaneth kept getting worse. She was getting skinnier, her skin had a bad color, and she almost didn't eat.



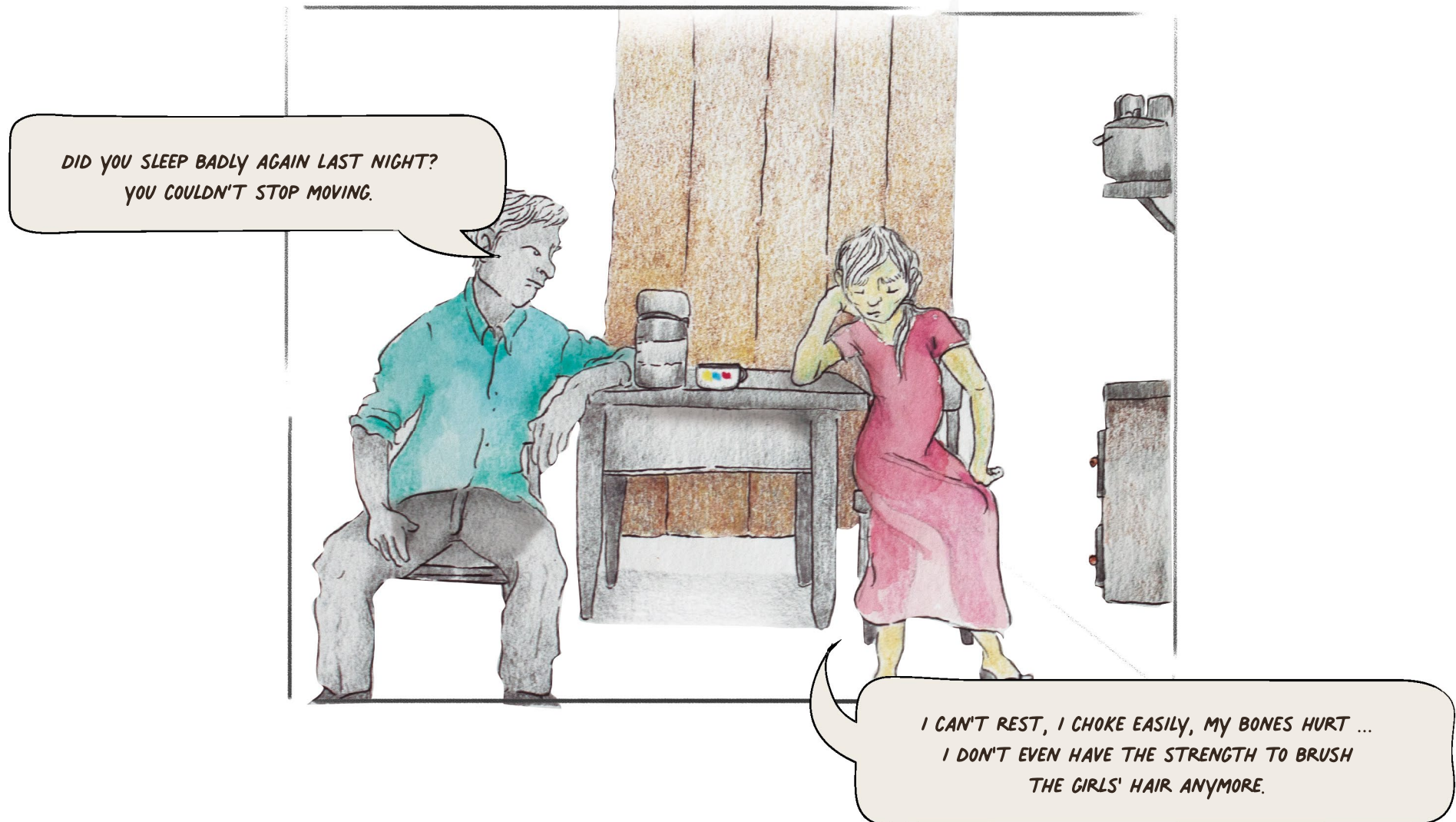
*I BROUGHT THE REMEDIES PRESCRIBED
AT THE LAST APPOINTMENT.*

WERE THEY TOO EXPENSIVE AGAIN?



*DON'T THINK ABOUT IT, MIJA. ALL THAT MATTERS
IS THAT YOU FEEL BETTER.*

Six months after miscarriage, Yaneth was still feeling very bad.



Despite how difficult it was for us, we decided to return to Florencia.



ARE YOU SURE? THE HOSPITAL IS FAR AWAY
AND, IF WE GO, WE ARE GOING TO STOP
WORKING FOR A FEW DAYS.



I JUST FEEL YOU ARE NOT WELL AT ALL. YOU PUT UP
WITH A LOT, BUT NOTHING WE'VE DONE HAS WORKED.
IT'S BETTER IF THEY CHECK YOU UP THERE.



At the hospital they found her in such a delicate state that they told us it was best if we went to Cali. That's over 14 hours away! The worst part is they told me I had to take her because there was no ambulance. I had to borrow the car again. In Cali we had no family or anyone to help us...

IT BREAKS MY HEART TO SEE HER LIKE THIS, MOM. SHE CAN BARELY TALK ANYMORE. LET'S SEE IF WE FINALLY FIND AN ANSWER IN CALI.

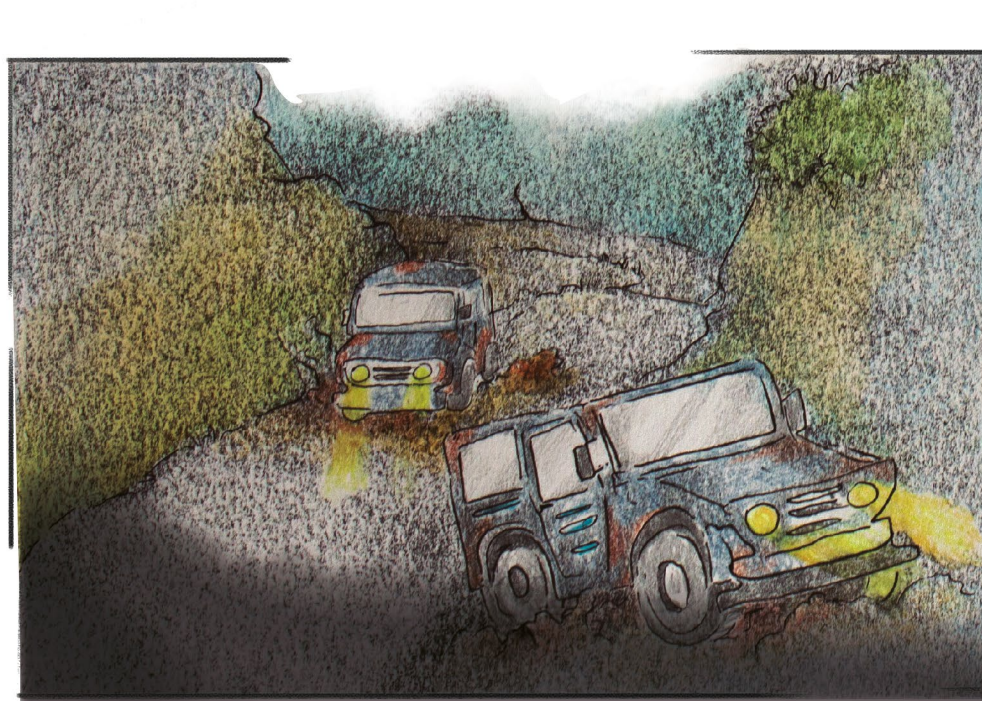


MIJO, I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE GIRLS. LEAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. YANETH IS LOOKING VERY ILL.

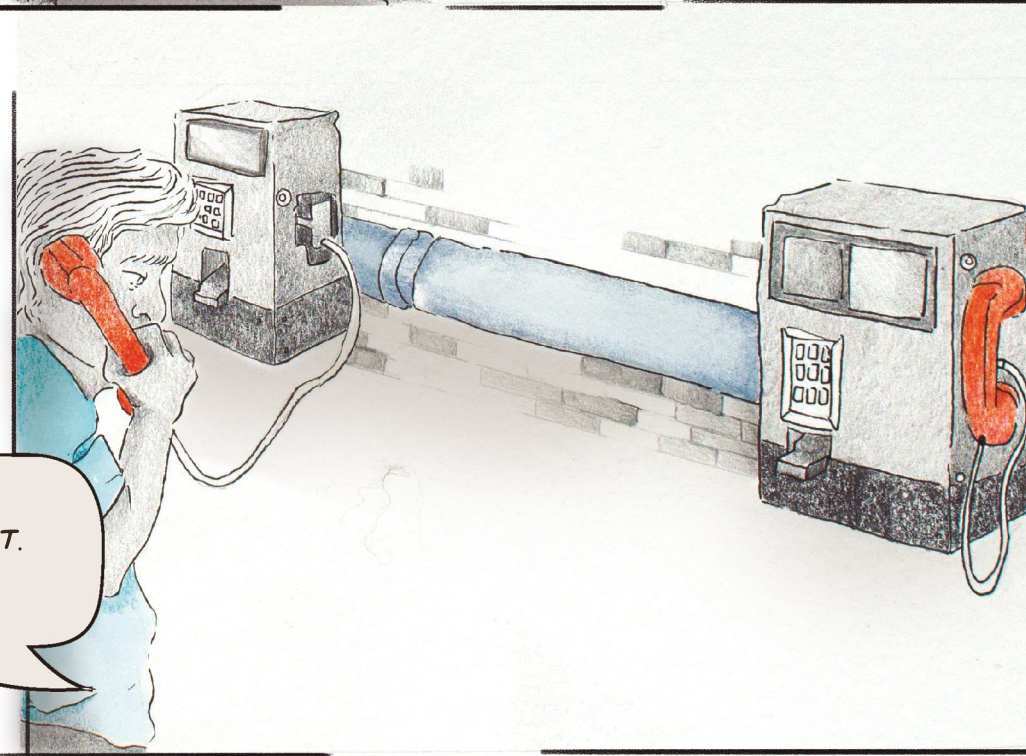




The journey felt
like an eternity.
Yaneth was feeling
very bad. I could
only drive and try
to get there quickly.

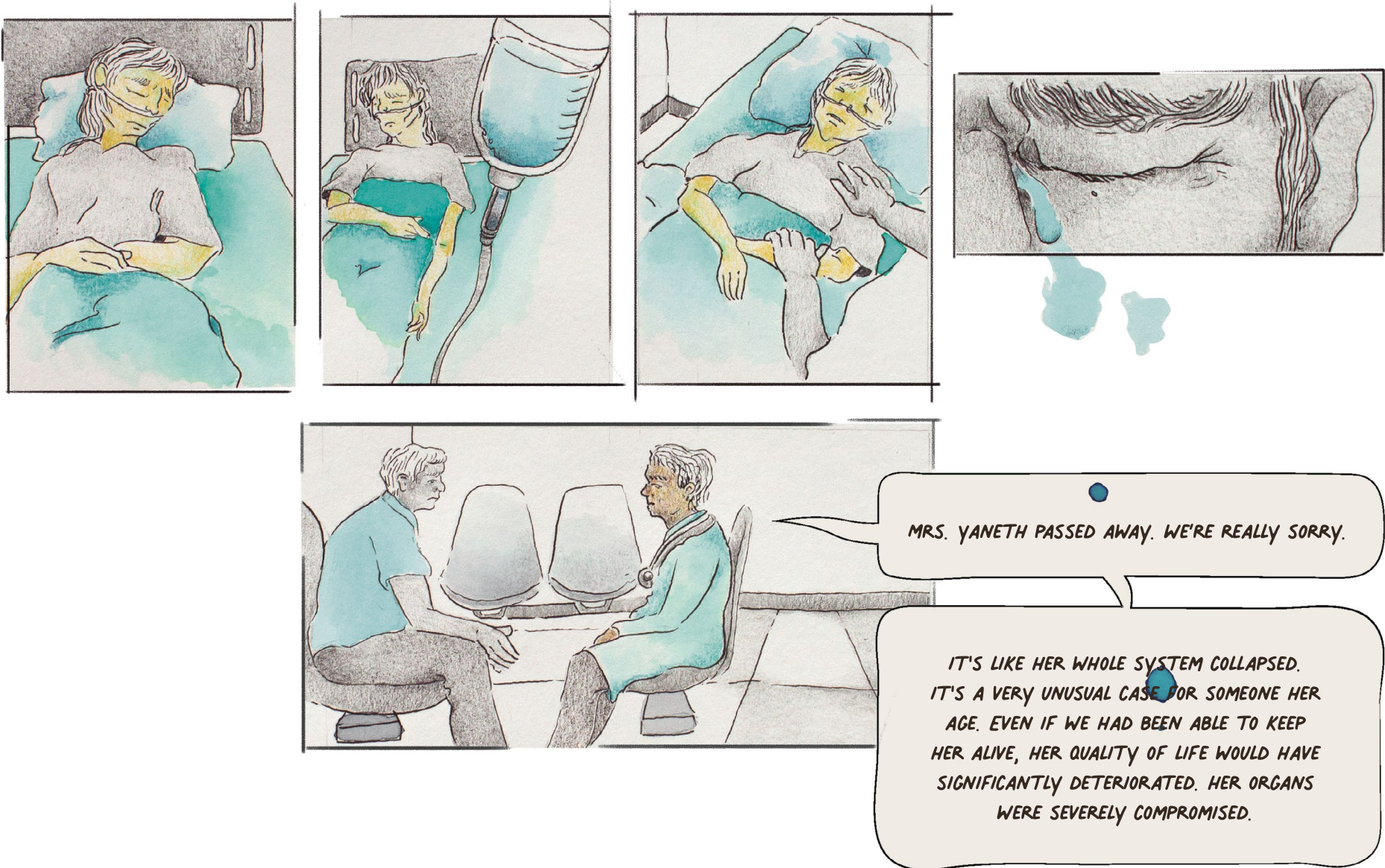


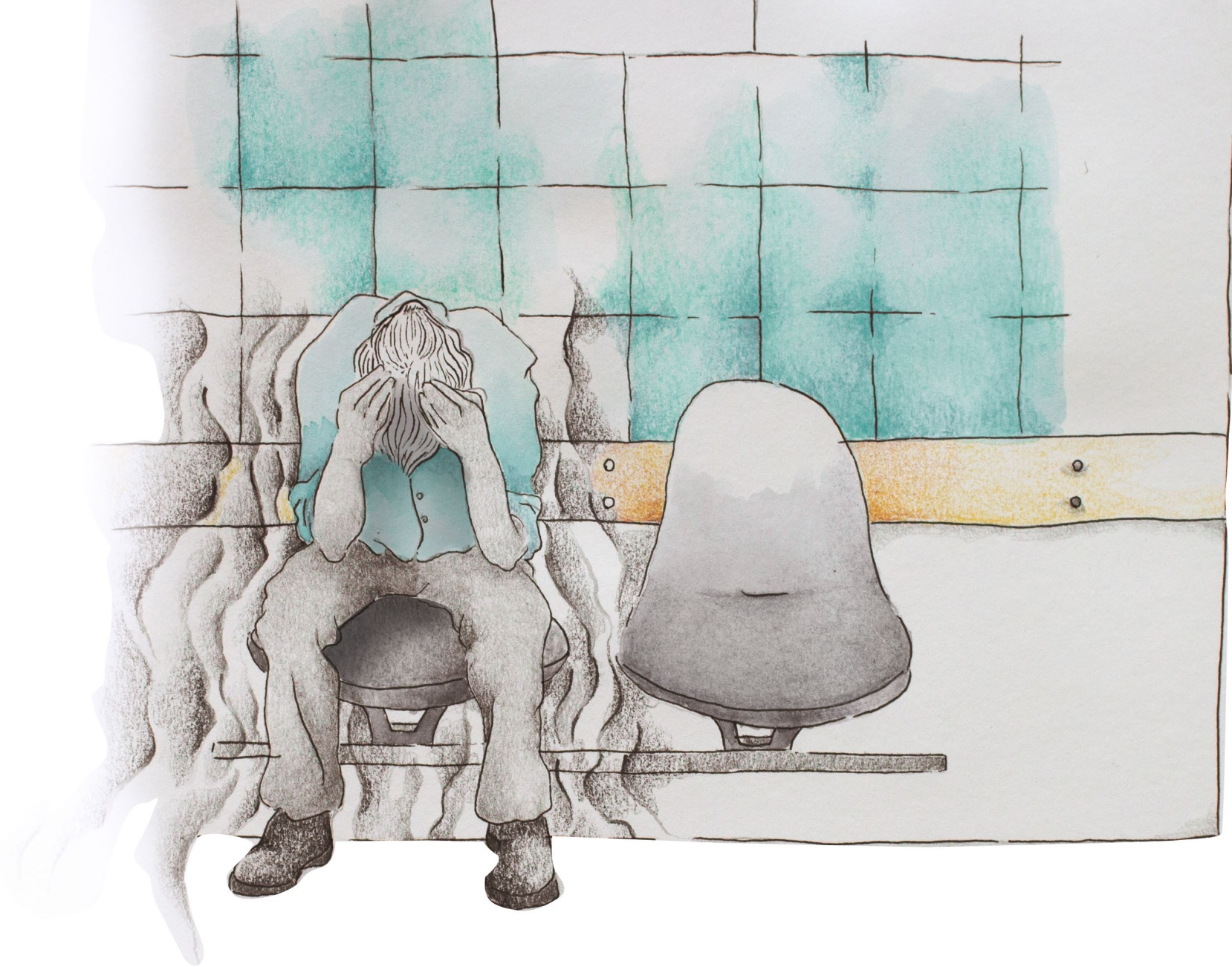
She was admitted to the clinic and the days went by. The few savings we had ran out in the blink of an eye.



LEND ME SOME MONEY, PLEASE. YOU KNOW I'LL PAY FOR IT.
YANETH IS STILL VERY SICK.

Yaneth was hospitalized in Cali for twenty-two days. I never lost hope that she would recover, that a miracle would happen, but it wasn't like that...





The news devastated me. I didn't know what I was going to do without her.

HOW DO I SAY THIS
TO MY DAUGHTERS?

HOW DO I TELL THEM
THEY LOST THEIR
MOM, TOO?

THIS CANNOT BE
HAPPENING TO US
IT'S JUST NOT FAIR

SHE WAS
TWENTY-
SEVEN YEARS

OLD
TWENTY-
SEVEN!!!



First it was our baby boy ... The dreams we had of seeing our family grow. Now, Yaneth, the heart of the house. How am I supposed to keep going without them?



I felt like my life was falling apart...

The director
of the clinic
spoke to me.

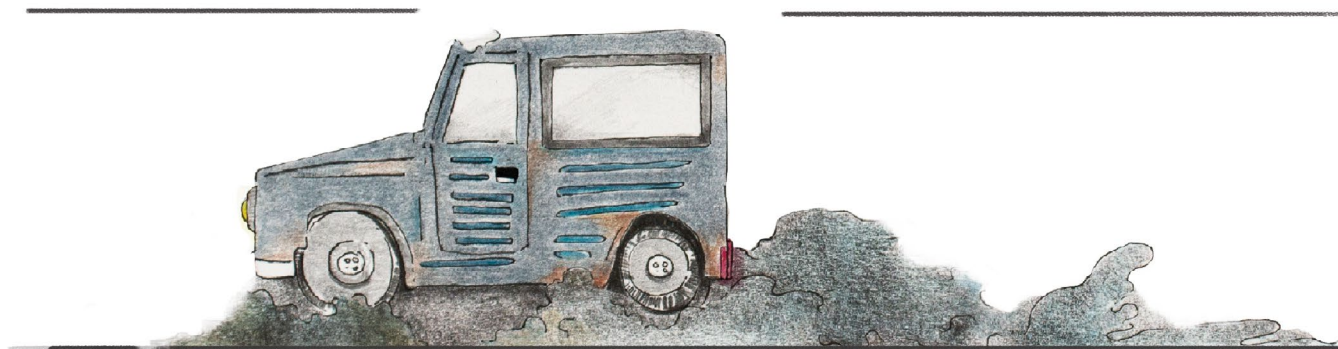


LOOK, MR. MEDINA, I'VE BEEN GOING THROUGH YOUR WIFE'S MEDICAL RECORDS AND I'M GOING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING. GO AND BURY HER, COMFORT YOUR DAUGHTERS. AFTER THAT, GET YOURSELF A GOOD LAWYER TO SUE THE STATE, BECAUSE I THINK YOUR WIFE WAS KILLED BY GLYPHOSATE.



What she told me
stuck with me. That
herbicide that makes
the earth dry had
done the same to my
wife: it had dried her
from the inside out.

As soon as I arrived in Florencia to pick up my daughters, I went to the Prosecutor's Office to file a complaint. That wasn't going to give me my wife back, but I couldn't sit still or accept what had happened to us. The case didn't go through.



SHE WAS FINE UNTIL THE GLYPHOSATE FELL ON HER. SHE DIDN'T HAVE ANY COMPLICATIONS; SHE WAS A HEALTHY WOMAN AND LOOK ... FIRST IT WAS THE PREGNANCY LOSS AND THEN IT WAS YANETH WHO DIED.

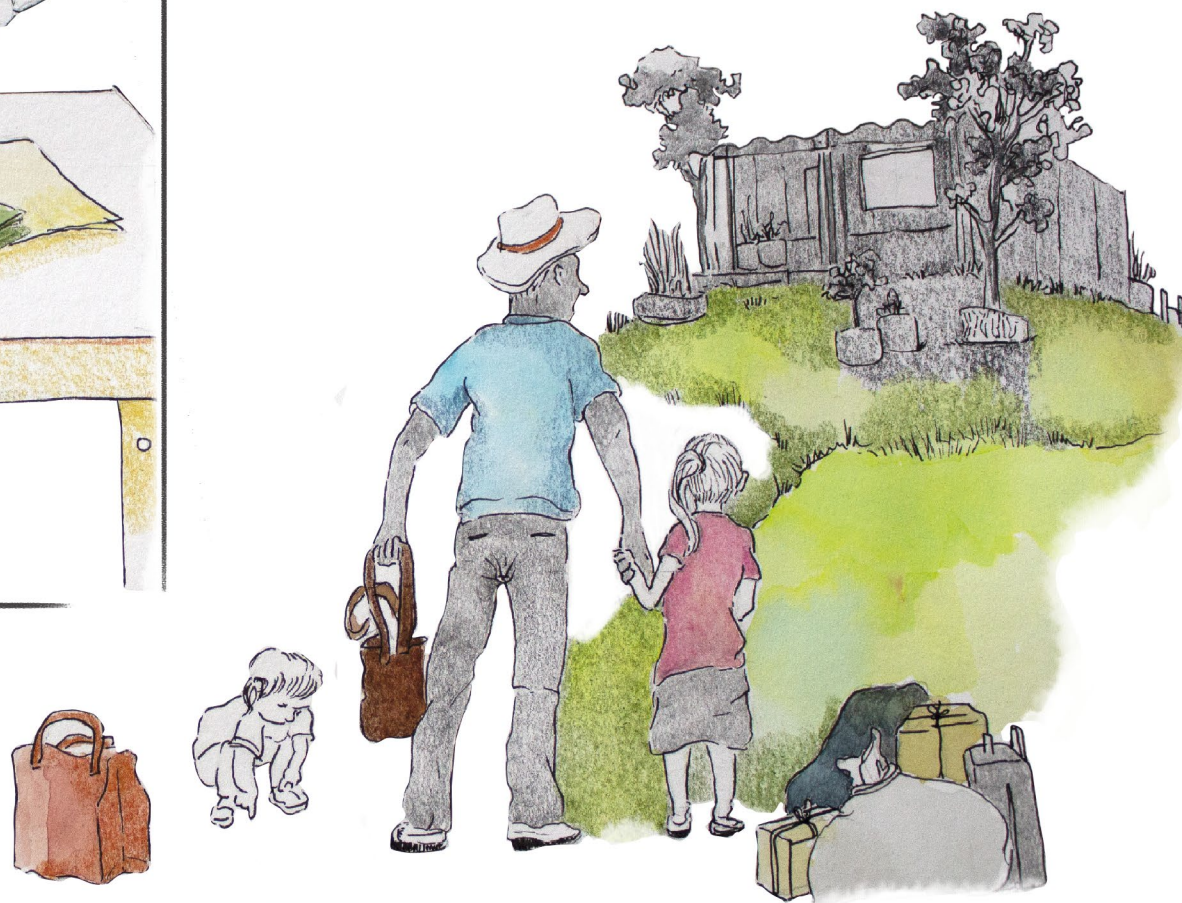
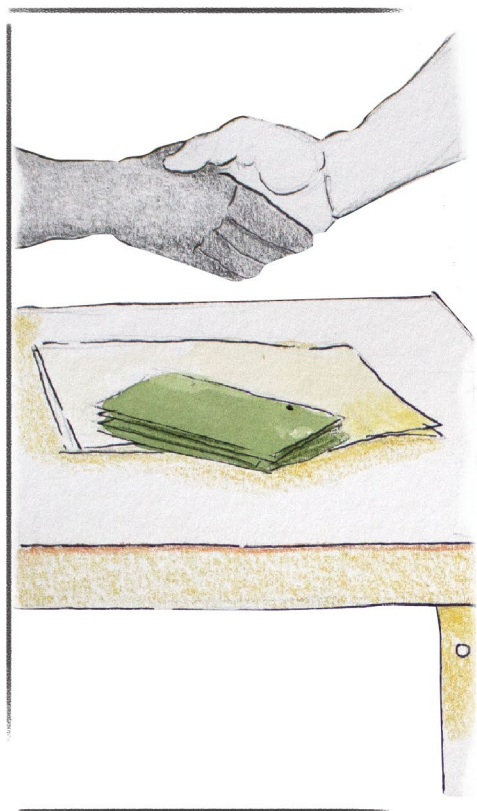
ANYTHING COULD HAVE CAUSED THE ABORTION. YOUR WIFE DIED FIVE MONTHS LATER. WHEN HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANYTHING KILL SO SLOWLY? GLYPHOSATE IS NON-TOXIC. WHAT YOU WANT IS TO BLAME SOMEONE FOR YOUR MISFORTUNE.

That was the first of the many doors that would shut in my face,



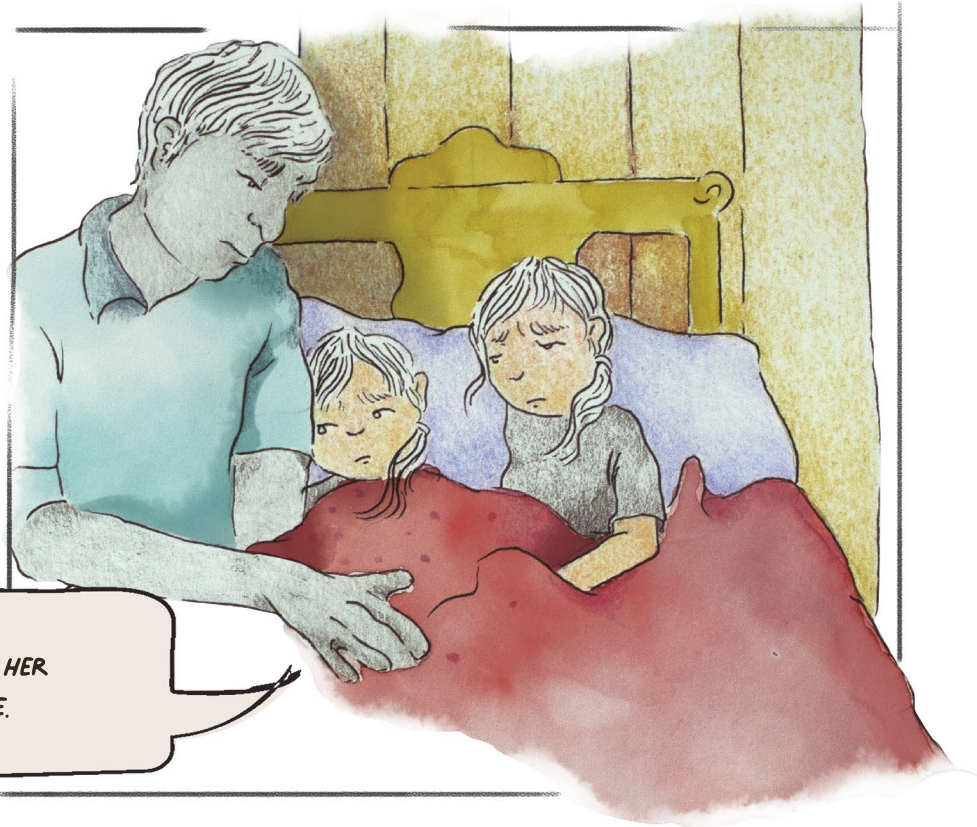
but Yaneth had taught me to
fight, and I wasn't going to
give up that easily.





My life was never the same again. The debts I had from Yaneth's medical expenses and burial forced me to sell everything.

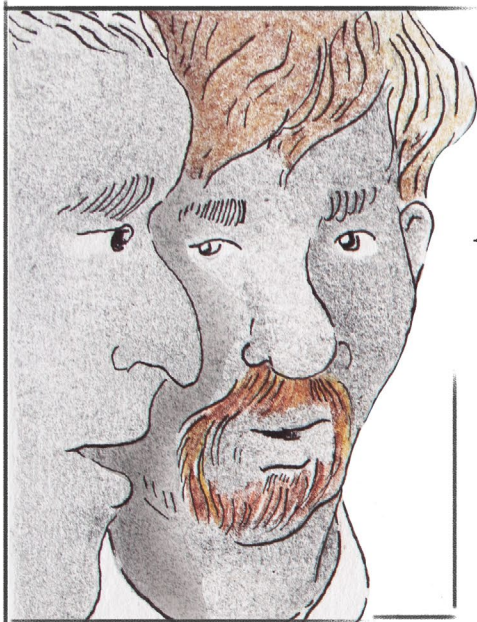
The girls
missed their
mom and
asked about
her every day.
I didn't have
it in me to tell
my youngest
one the truth.



*WHEN IS MY MOM COMING BACK FROM HER
TRIP? SHE'S BEEN GONE A LONG TIME.*



Although my family offered to take care of the girls, I decided that I would not separate from them. I settled in Florencia where I had to start from scratch. It was not easy. I knew how to be a farmer, how to work the land.

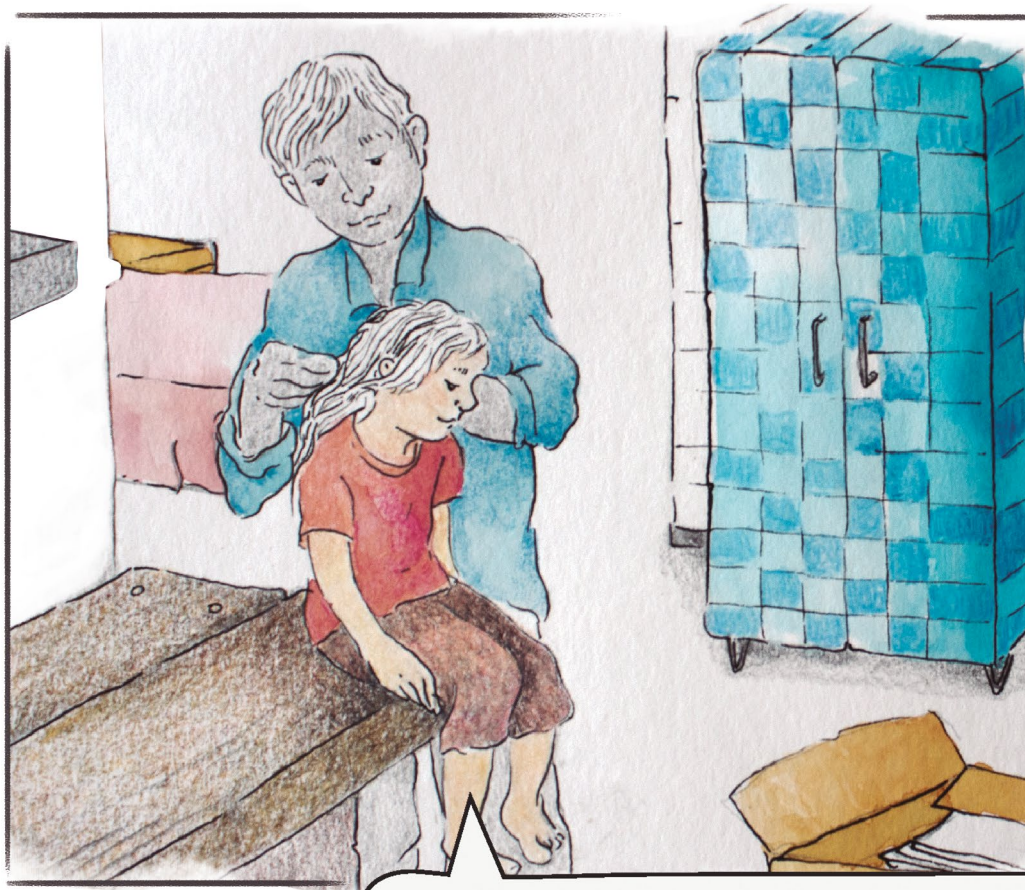


THERE'S A POSITION AS A SECURITY GUARD.
LET ME KNOW IF THAT WORKS FOR YOU.

ANYTHING WORKS FOR ME. I NEED TO GIVE
MY DAUGHTERS A FUTURE.



The change was hard, but I slowly adapted.
I had to learn to be both father and mother to my daughters.

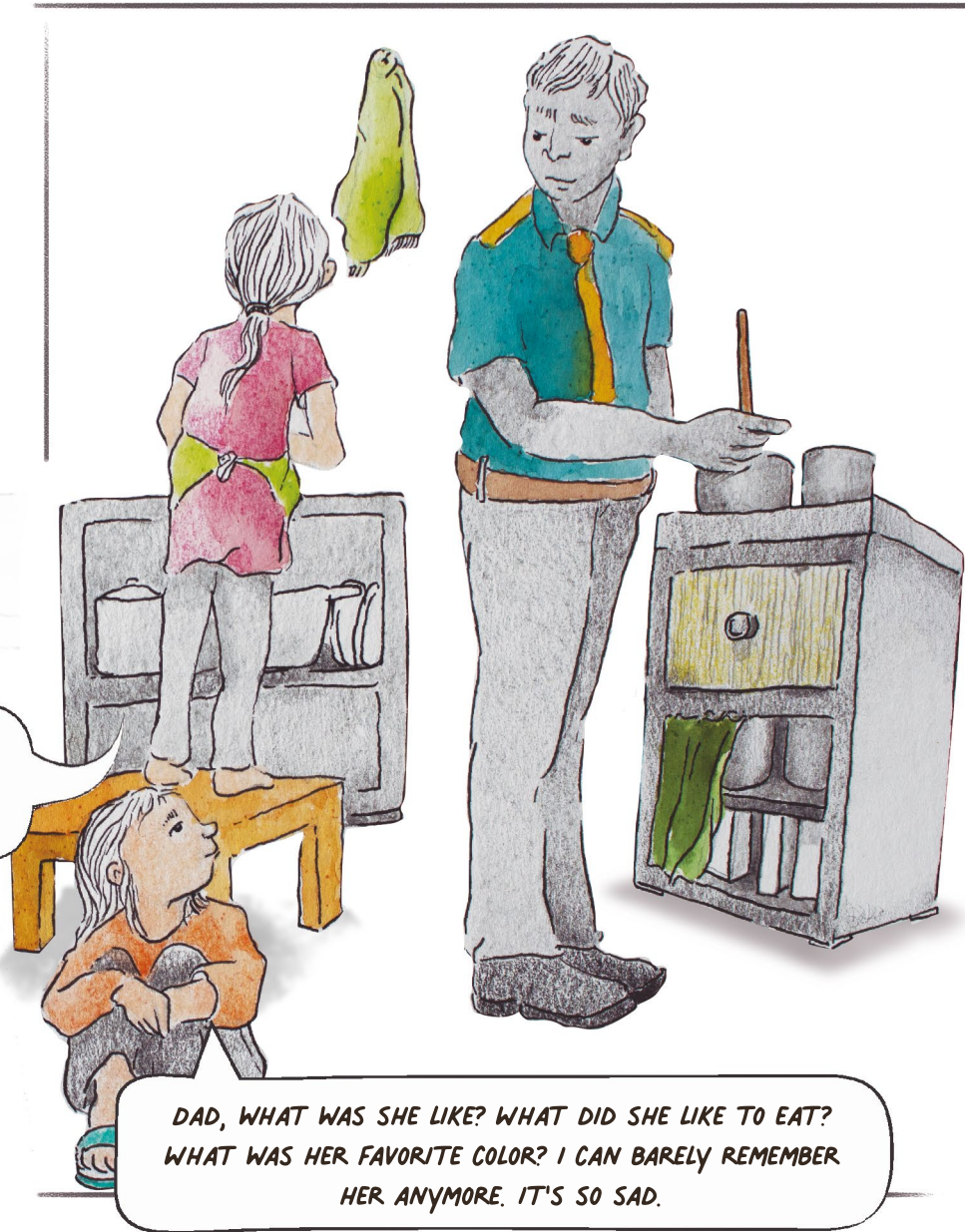


HERE'S YOUR SNACKS. I HAVE ALREADY LEFT THE FOOD READY.
I'LL WASH YOUR UNIFORMS TONIGHT.

I did what I could, but a mother can't be replaced.



I MISS HER VERY MUCH. MY MOM WOULD UNDERSTAND WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME.

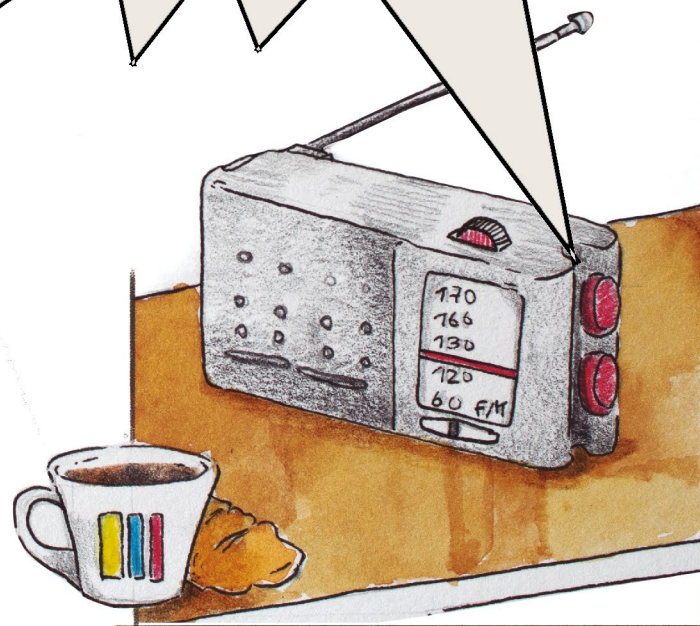


DAD, WHAT WAS SHE LIKE? WHAT DID SHE LIKE TO EAT? WHAT WAS HER FAVORITE COLOR? I CAN BARELY REMEMBER HER ANYMORE. IT'S SO SAD.

On the nights
I was on duty,
I listened to
the radio.

IT WAS AS IF THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT
A DIFFERENT COUNTRY, ONE THAT DID NOT
UNDERSTAND THE SUFFERING OF PEOPLE LIKE
ME IN THEIR FIELDS.

THIS WEEK, GLYPHOSATE SPRAYING IN
CAQUETÁ IS RESTARTING. THE RESULTS
HAVE SHOWN THAT THIS IS AN EFFECTIVE
AND SAFE METHOD IN THE FIGHT AGAINST
DRUG TRAFFICKING...



In the newspapers I saw the same thing. No one talked about the people affected by these fumigations. We didn't exist.

The lives of my wife and so many others didn't seem to matter.

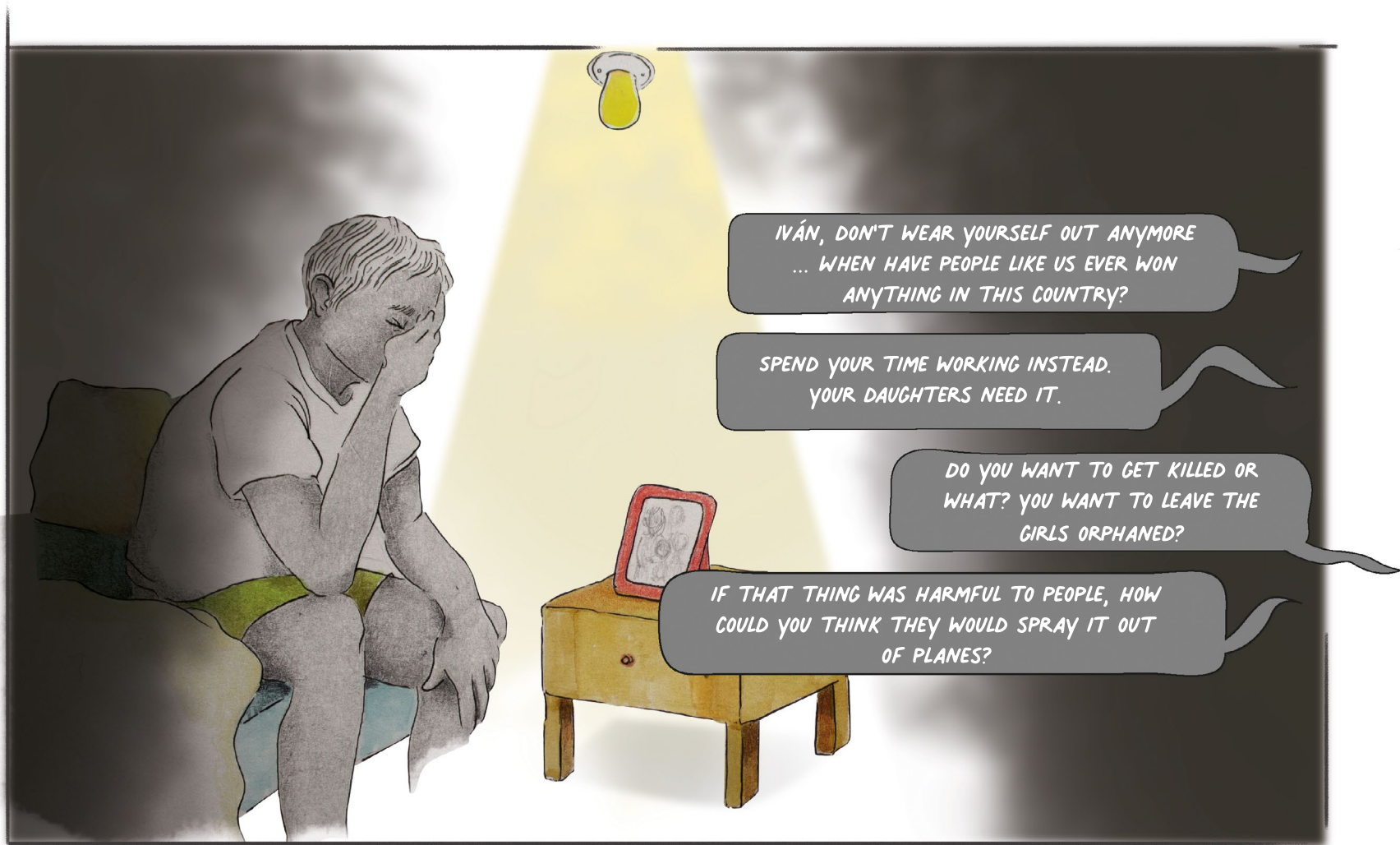


During that time, I did not stop seeking justice, but no door seemed to open. No one wanted to hear that glyphosate was bad or that the army could be to blame for what had happened to us.



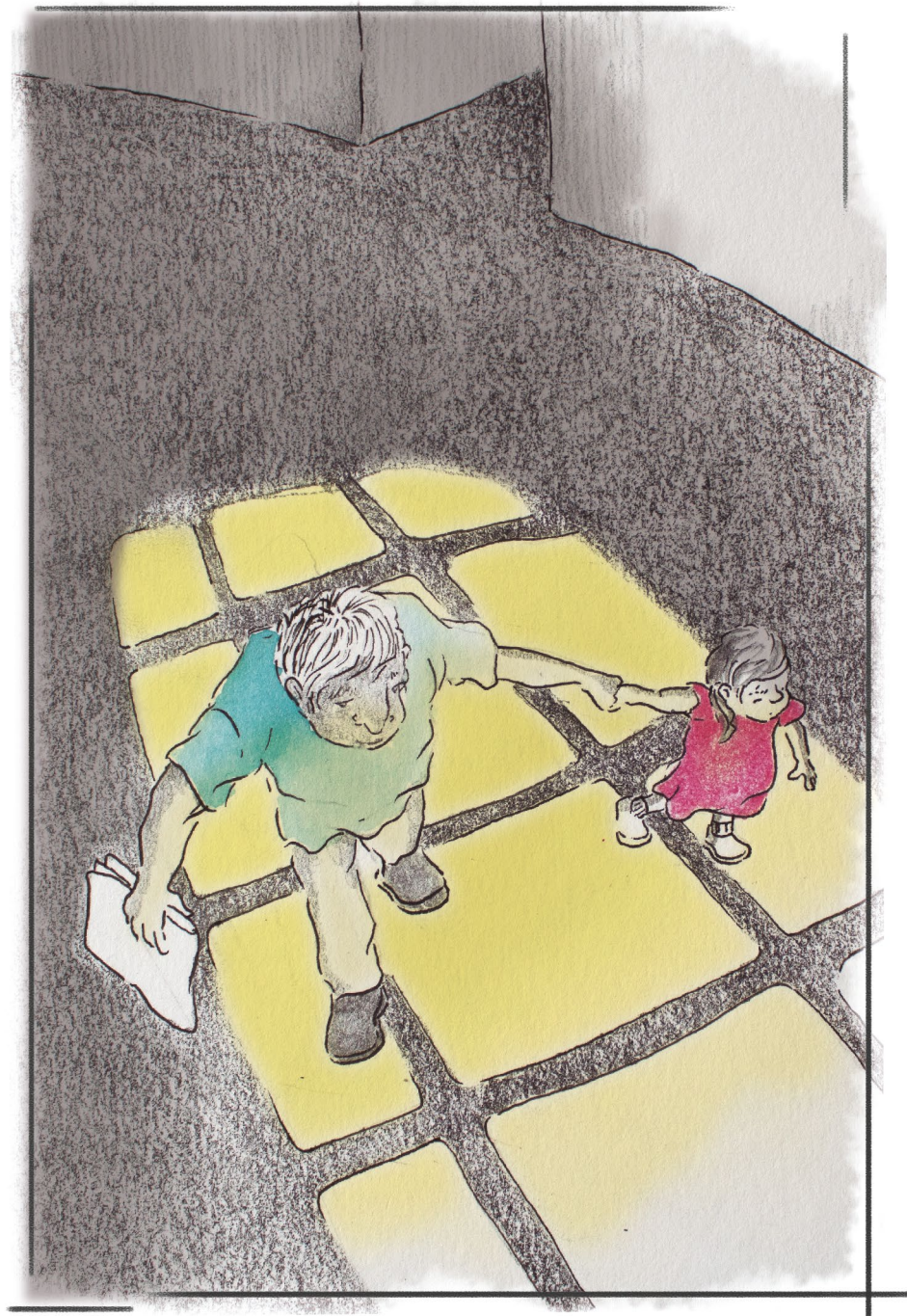


What people told me tormented me for many nights
and filled me with doubts.



But the memory of Yaneth and our baby gave me
strength to keep fighting.

And one day a small
window opened.



I was contacted by the law firm Conde Abogados. They wanted to hear about my case. It was the first time someone listened to me without judging me. They validated that what had happened to me was wrong.



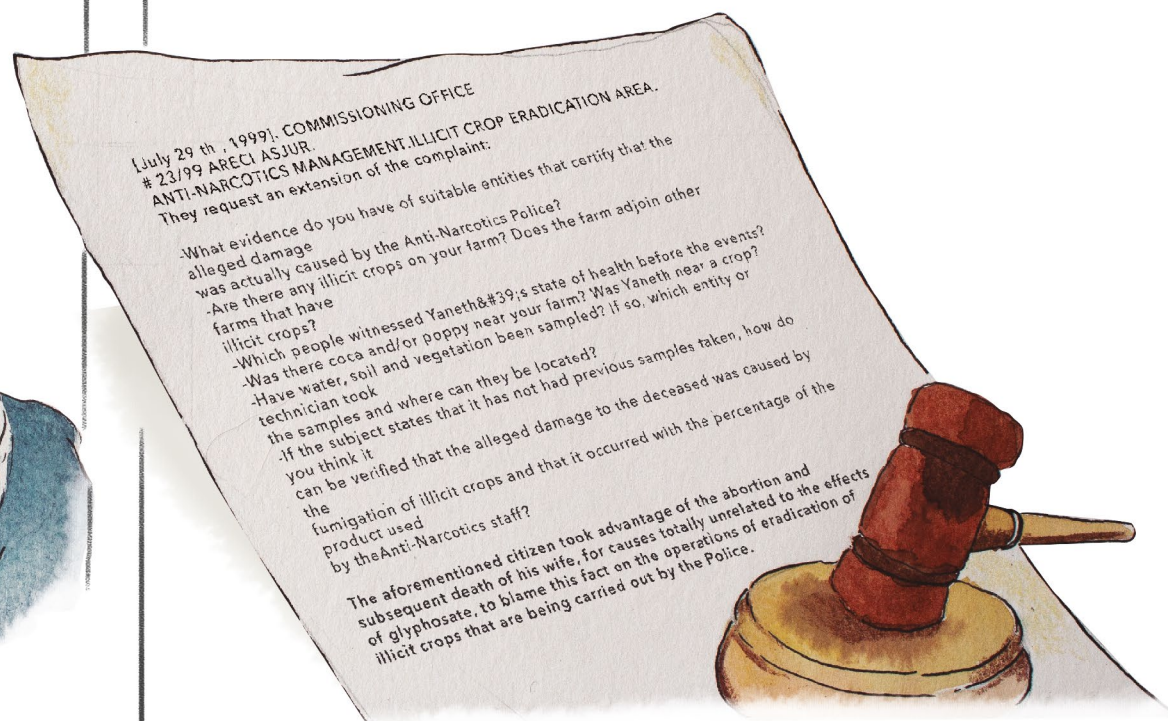
WE ARE CONVINCED THAT YOUR WIFE WAS THE VICTIM OF AN INJUSTICE, IVÁN. WE WILL HELP YOU PROVE THAT THE STATE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR HER DEATH AND THE LOSS OF HER PREGNANCY.

They explained many things to me that I did not know and helped me feel safe. What I wanted was fair and I shouldn't give up.





In 2000, we filed a lawsuit to have the Ministry of Defense pay us reparations but seven years later, the petition was denied.



(July 29 th , 1999). COMMISSIONING OFFICE
23/99 ARECI ASJUR.
ANTI-NARCOTICS MANAGEMENT. ILLICIT CROP ERADICATION AREA.
They request an extension of the complaint:

- What evidence do you have of suitable entities that certify that the alleged damage was actually caused by the Anti-Narcotics Police?
- Are there any illicit crops on your farm? Does the farm adjoin other farms that have illicit crops?
- Which people witnessed Yaneth's state of health before the events?
- Was there coca and/or poppy near your farm? Was Yaneth near a crop?
- Have water, soil and vegetation been sampled? If so, which entity or technician took the samples and where can they be located?
- If the subject states that it has not had previous samples taken, how do you think it can be verified that the alleged damage to the deceased was caused by the fumigation of illicit crops and that it occurred with the percentage of the product used by the Anti-Narcotics staff?

The aforementioned citizen took advantage of the abortion and subsequent death of his wife, for causes totally unrelated to the effects of glyphosate, to blame this fact on the operations of eradication of illicit crops that are being carried out by the Police.

Even though I didn't have positive results, I didn't think to stop. I owed it to Yaneth and the son we couldn't meet.



IN COLOMBIA WE'VE ALREADY EXHAUSTED ALL RESOURCES. WE CAN STILL RESORT TO INTERNATIONAL BODIES. WE THINK THEY'RE GOING TO WANT TO HEAR US OUT. IT'S NOT GOING TO BE EASY AND IT'S GOING TO TAKE TIME, BUT IT'S WORTH A TRY.

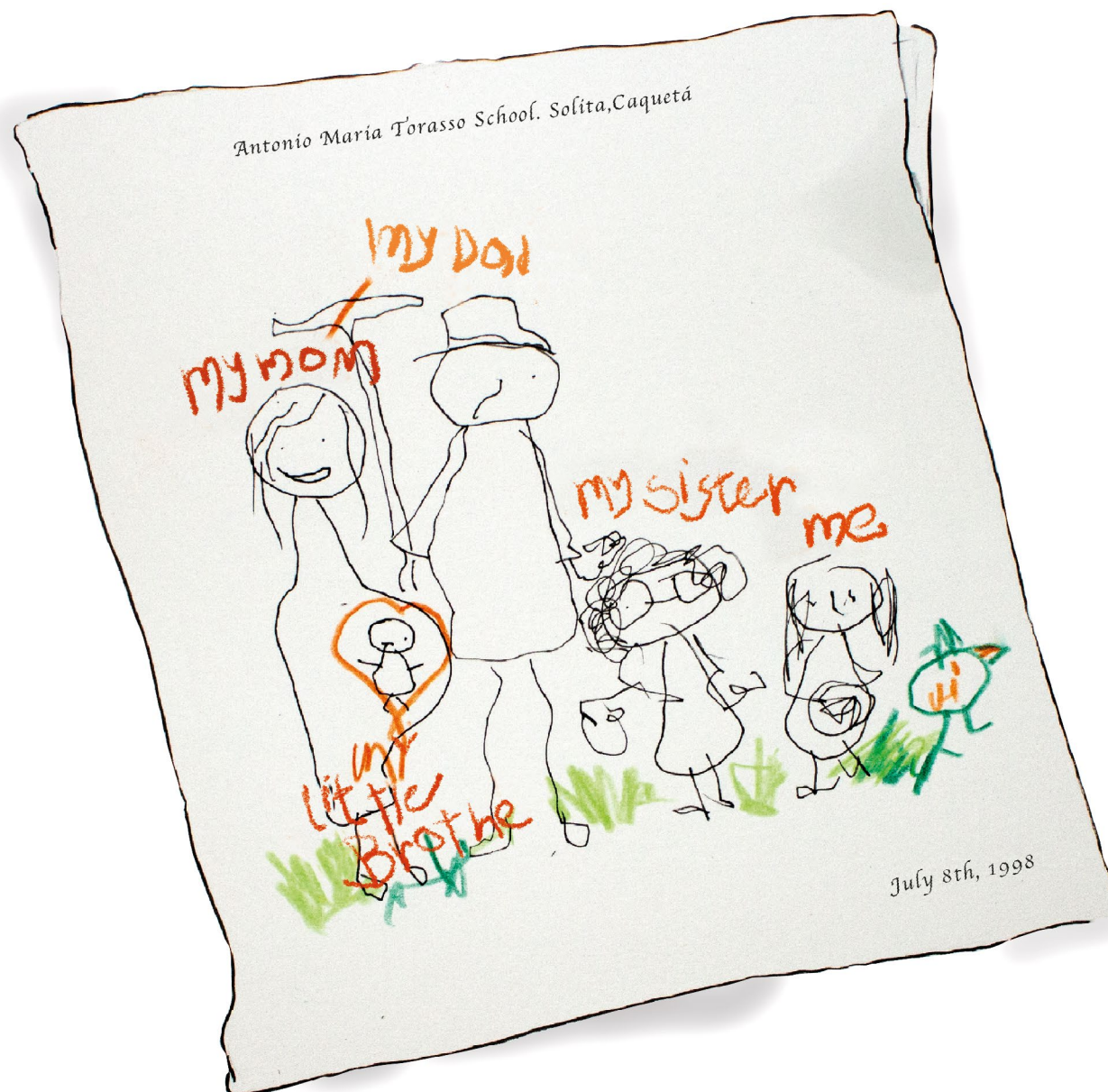
WE, LIKE YOU, BELIEVE THAT A GREAT INJUSTICE WAS COMMITTED HERE AND THAT THE COLOMBIAN STATE MUST RECOGNIZE IT.



Nothing prepared me for what came next. The frustration, the helplessness. I saw months and years go by. You keep living but you keep thinking about the case. I kept my ears peeled in case something came up, in case they'd answer, in hopes one day justice could be done.



I managed to get on with my life and to get my girls ahead, but I never forgot what I once had. I never stopped thinking about the family they took from me.

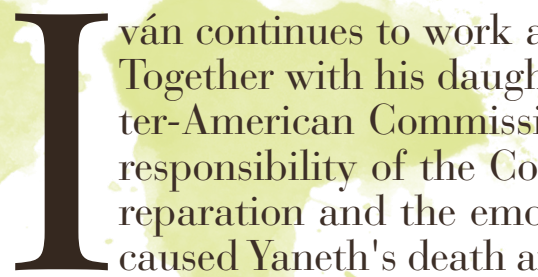


On June 21st, 2018, twenty years after losing Yaneth and the promise of another child, the phone rang...






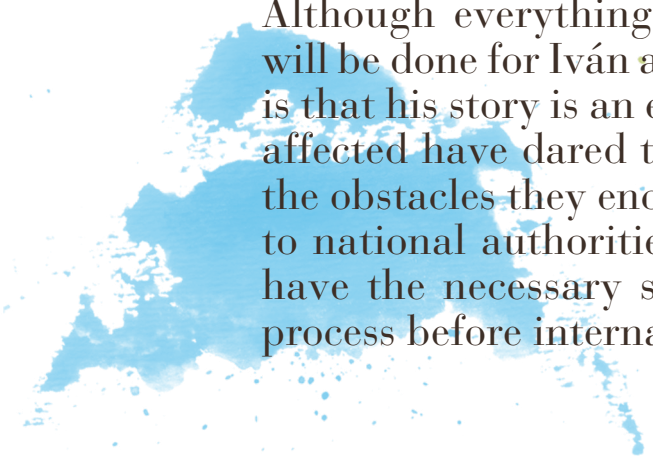
I hope the hardest part is over. No one can bring back my wife and son, but perhaps my story and my struggle can prevent something like this from happening again and help other families to find justice.



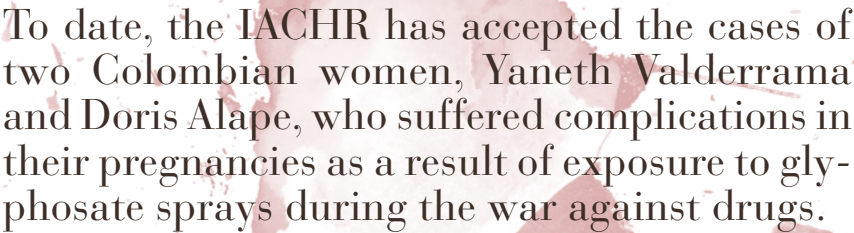
Iván continues to work as a security guard in Florencia, Caquetá. Together with his daughters, he hopes that the decision of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights will determine the responsibility of the Colombian State and grant them economic reparation and the emotional distress and suffering these losses caused Yaneth's death and miscarriage.



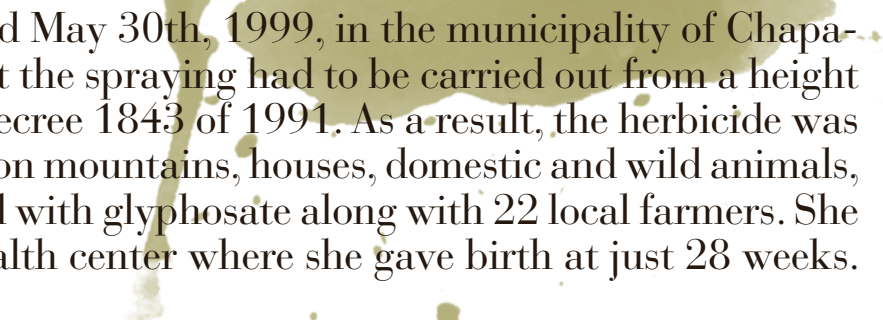
The main demands that Iván Medina, in solidarity with other victims of glyphosate, is presenting to the IACH include: ***absolvement of campesinos*** who were labeled as coca-growing narco-terrorists, ***payment for material damages***, including the loss of crops and land, and ***acknowledgment of the damage caused by the Colombian state.***




Although everything indicates that justice will be done for Iván and his family, the truth is that his story is an exception. Few of those affected have dared to face the stigmas and the obstacles they encounter when reporting to national authorities, let alone those who have the necessary support to carry out a process before international bodies.



To date, the IACHR has accepted the cases of two Colombian women, Yaneth Valderrama and Doris Alape, who suffered complications in their pregnancies as a result of exposure to glyphosate sprays during the war against drugs.



In Doris' case, the events occurred between April 15th and May 30th, 1999, in the municipality of Chaparral, Tolima. The rugged geography in the area meant that the spraying had to be carried out from a height of 300 meters and not from 100 meters as indicated by Decree 1843 of 1991. As a result, the herbicide was spread without control: “the product fell indiscriminately on mountains, houses, domestic and wild animals, crops, pens, water sources and schools.” Doris was sprayed with glyphosate along with 22 local farmers. She quickly showed signs of poisoning and was taken to a health center where she gave birth at just 28 weeks. After a week in intensive care, her son died.



In 2017, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights admitted complaints by Doris and other campesinos, considering that there is a possible violation of articles 4, 5, 8, 19, 21, 25 and 26 of the American Convention on Human Rights.



Learning about these stories allows us to value the resilience of many families unjustly impacted by the war on drugs as well as understand the human toll that hides behind cold, hard statistics.

Iván's Struggle Throughout Time

May
1999

SIX MONTHS AFTER THE SPRAYING, YANETH CONTINUES TO PRESENT SERIOUS HEALTH COMPLICATIONS. SHE IS REFERRED TO THE VALLE DE LILI HOSPITAL IN CALI. ON MAY 23D, YANETH DIES IN THE HOSPITAL DUE TO MULTISYSTEM ORGAN FAILURE.

November
1999

THE COMPLAINT REACHES THE MILITARY CRIMINAL JUSTICE THAT REFRAINS FROM OPENING AN INVESTIGATION CONSIDERING THAT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO HOLD THE NATIONAL ARMY RESPONSIBLE FOR YANETH'S DEATH.

September
1998

YANETH IS SPRAYED WITH GLYPHOSATE. THAT SAME NIGHT, SHE LOSES HER CHILD AS A RESULT OF AN INCOMPLETE ABORTION.

May
1999

IVÁN FILES THE FIRST COMPLAINT WITH THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE IN FLORENCIA, CAQUETÁ, BUT THE COMPLAINT IS REJECTED BECAUSE, ACCORDING TO THE MUNICIPAL REPRESENTATIVE, THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO DEMONSTRATE THE LINK BETWEEN THE SPRAYING AND YANETH'S DEATH.

A horizontal timeline with a light blue background featuring faint world maps. The timeline is marked by a central horizontal line with five white circular nodes. From left to right, the nodes are connected to text blocks for July 2000, July 2007, July 2008, June 2018, and Septiembre 2020. The text for July 2000 and July 2007 is in blue, while the others are in red or dark blue. Decorative line art includes a magnifying glass over a document for July 2008 and a handshake for June 2018.

**July
2000**

*IN 2000, IVÁN SUES THE
MINISTRY OF DEFENSE
BEFORE THE ADMINISTRATIVE
JURISDICTION.*

**July
2008**

*IVÁN'S CASE IS TAKEN UP BY THE LAW
FIRM DE CONDE, WHICH COLLECTS THE
EVIDENTIARY MATERIAL TO PRESENT
THE CASE TO THE INTER-AMERICAN
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.*

**Septiembre
2020**

*THE CENTER FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS, ALONG WITH THE
GROUP OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND POPULATION HEALTH, PUBLISHES
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND GLYPHOSATE, AN INVESTIGATION
THAT SEEKS TO GATHER THE FINDINGS ON THE MATTER
AND PROVIDE EVIDENCE TO IVÁN'S CASE BEFORE THE
INTER-AMERICAN COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS.*

**July
2007**

*THE LAWSUIT IS REJECTED AGAIN
BECAUSE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
YANETH'S ABORTION AND THE
FUMIGATION IS NOT ACCEPTED.*

**June
2018**

*ON JUNE 21, 2018, THE IACHR DECLARED THE CASE
AGAINST THE COLOMBIAN STATE ADMISSIBLE,
CONSIDERING THAT THERE IS ENOUGH EVIDENCE
TO POINT TO IT AS POSSIBLY LIABLE
FOR YANETH'S DEATH.*

Key moments in the regulation of glyphosate herbicide in Colombia

1992

THE USE OF THE GLYPHOSATE HERBICIDE IS AUTHORIZED BY THE NATIONAL NARCOTICS COUNCIL.

2015

THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL PROTECTION CALLS FOR THE SUSPENSION OF GLYPHOSATE USE FOR THE ERADICATION OF ILLICIT CROPS BECAUSE IT ENTAILS A POTENTIAL RISK TO HUMAN HEALTH.

2003

THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ISSUES RESOLUTION 1054 THAT REGULATES THE SPRAYING PROTOCOL (FORMULA OF USE AND FLIGHT HEIGHT AMONG OTHER SPECIFICATIONS).

2015

*THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LICENSING AGENCY
SUSPENDS THE LICENSE OF GLYPHOSATE THROUGH
RESOLUTION 1214 IN ORDER TO PREVENT AND
AVOID INFRINGEMENT ON THE RIGHT TO HEALTH.*

2017

*THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT WARNS
THAT A "DECISION-MAKING, PARTICIPATORY,
IMPARTIAL AND RIGOROUS" PROCESS
MUST BE AVAILABLE IN ORDER TO
RESUME GLYPHOSATE USE.*

2022

*AFTER STUDYING FOUR WRITS FOR PROTECTION OF
FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS OF SOCIAL AND CAMPESINO
ORGANIZATIONS, THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT
REJECTS THE PROCESS OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT PLAN WITH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT
SOUGHT TO RESUME THE USE OF GLYPHOSATE
FUMIGATIONS CONSIDERING THAT THE COMMUNITIES'
RIGHT TO PARTICIPATION WAS NOT RESPECTED.*

.....
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A Fight for Life

Glyphosate and harm to reproductive health

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If you want to learn more about this fight, go to:
www.unaluchaporlaveda.com

**There you can access the animated
version of the novel as well as
digital pedagogical resources.**



Yaneth Valderrama was four months pregnant when three small planes sprayed her with glyphosate in Solita, Caquetá. This is the story of a fight for life.

The aerial spraying of illicit crops with glyphosate has left an invisible trail that affects life in the Colombian countryside and puts the health of campesino communities at risk.

However, the implications for women's sexual health and reproductive rights have rarely been given enough study. Based on Yaneth Valderrama's story and the struggle of her husband, Iván Medina, this graphic novel seeks to shed light on this conversation.



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