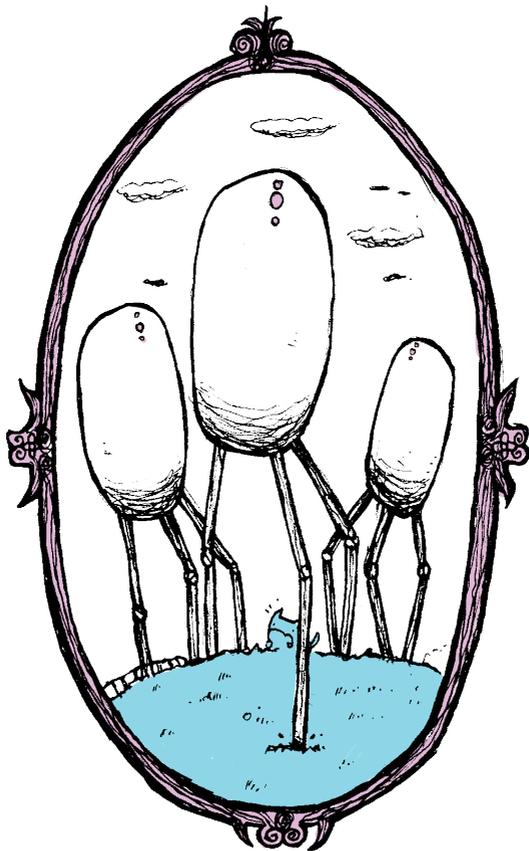
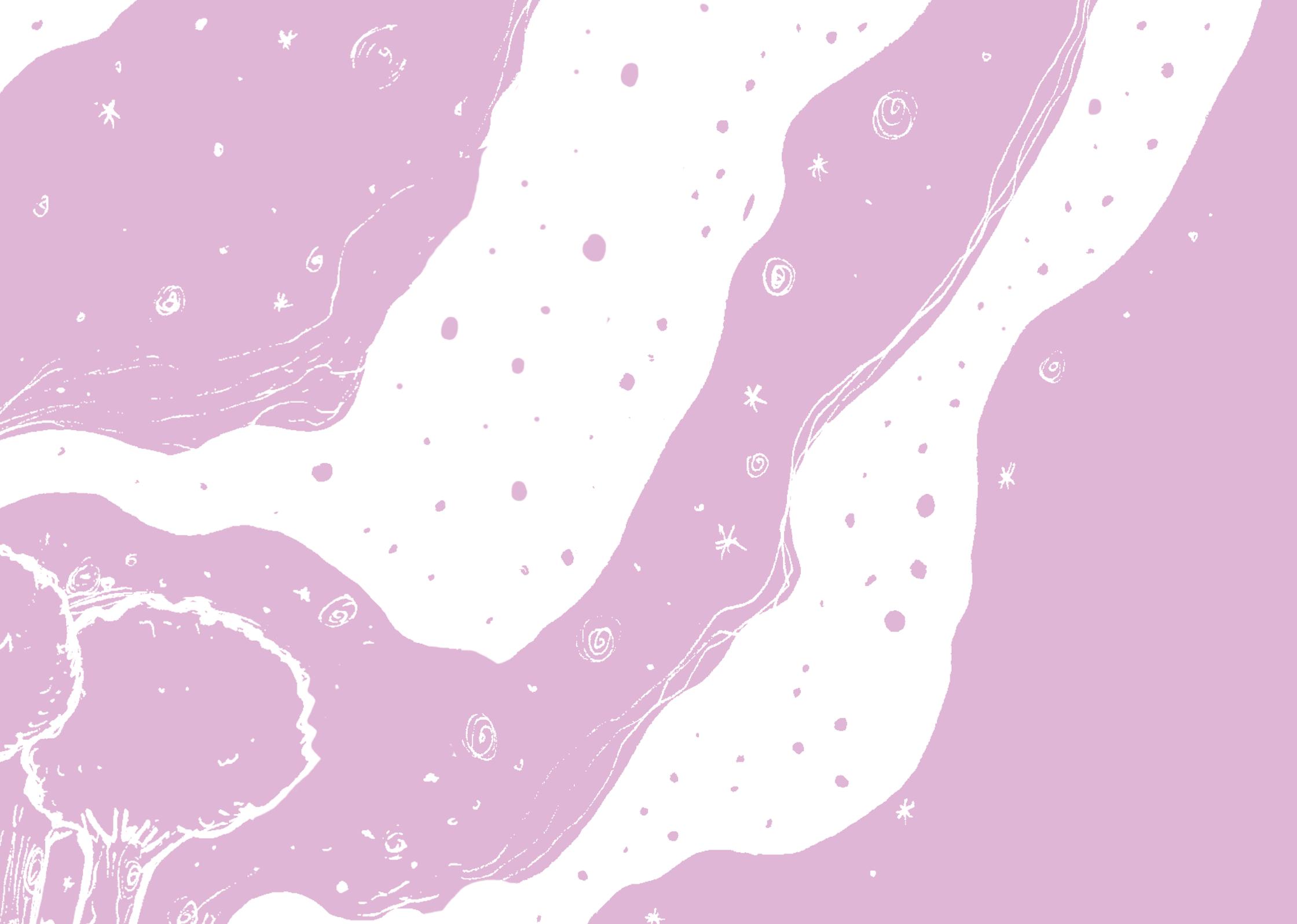


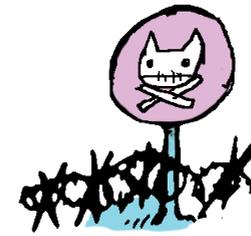
The War of the Meow



Ferran Clavero

 **ONE INK AGENCY**



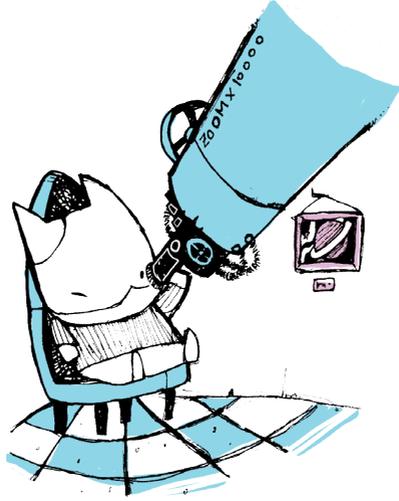


No one would have believed in the last years of the nineteenth century that this world was being watched keenly and closely by intelligences greater than man's and yet as mortal as his own.

*The War of the Worlds
H.G. Wells*

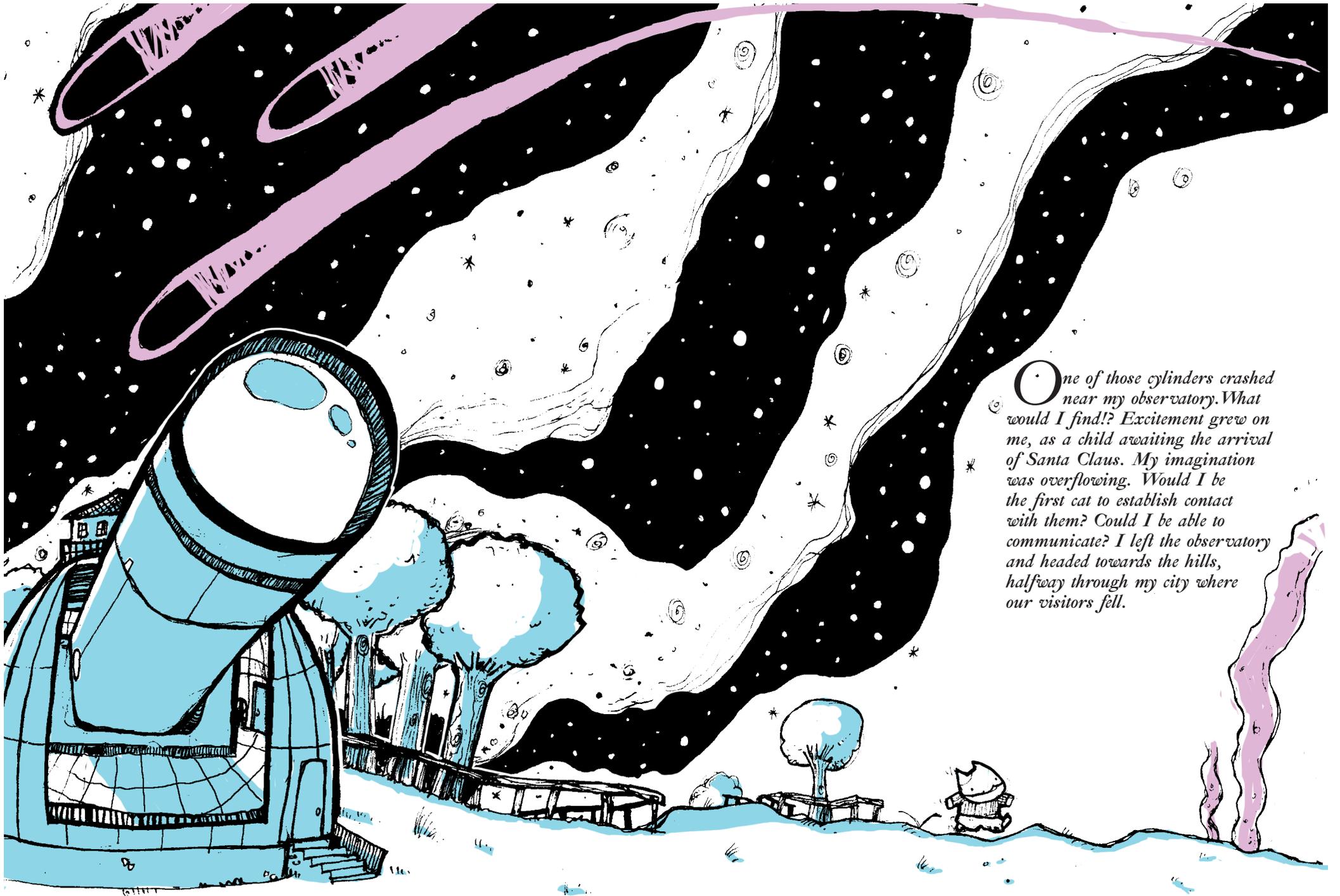
The novel by H.G. Wells The War of the Worlds inspires this work and it is his merit the imaginary of this book.

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Layout by One Ink Army.
Translation by Eva Villanueva.*



I was in the observatory the day it was announced on the radio that they were approaching our world. I was on duty and I couldn't resist the temptation to focus the telescope towards those cylinders that would come to our world in a few hours. I saw many of them; they were huge. What unknown and fascinating technology would they entrap? What beings were responsible for such a magnificent display of technology? What were they looking for in our world?





One of those cylinders crashed near my observatory. What would I find!? Excitement grew on me, as a child awaiting the arrival of Santa Claus. My imagination was overflowing. Would I be the first cat to establish contact with them? Could I be able to communicate? I left the observatory and headed towards the hills, halfway through my city where our visitors fell.



When I got there, I found a huge crater. The heat was unbearable. In the background you could see a huge cylinder, all-metal, that was still incandescent after penetrating our atmosphere. Would they have survived? Unable to get closer due to the high temperature inside— but sure that if those beings could travel between worlds, they would have had into account the factor of re-entry— I decided to go home, rest and investigate thoroughly tomorrow morning when everything is cooled down.



Already at home, I enthusiastically explained: "...they come from another world, how many things to share together. What secrets will they reveal to us with the fantastic technology that allows them to travel through the vacuum stellar and visit different worlds!" My wife knew about my fascination with the possibility of life beyond our world. She listened to me with the joy and satisfaction of seeing a loved one making his dream come true. My son, due to his youth, was playing on the floor of the room oblivious to our comments... We fantasized about how the first contact would be like.

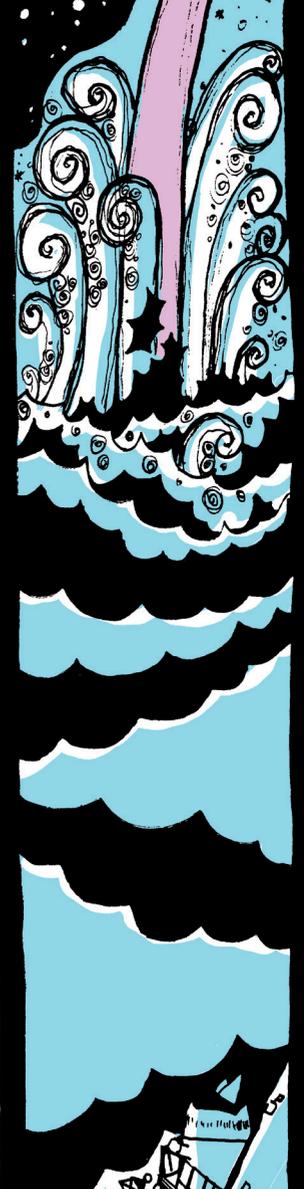


*Interlude One.
The Lighthouse Operator.*

*Night shift.
I leave my coffee
on the table. I have
to go to the top of
the lighthouse to
check the mirrors.*

*While going up,
I heard a beep.
From the sky
above appeared
some lights that
descended at high
speed.*

*One crashes
near the coast
producing a
geyser rising up
back to the stars.*





After a few minutes the sea was calm. It seems to me I see some flashes, when all of a sudden some fine lines are drawn in the sea and move towards the coast at a speed that exceeds that of any boat I've ever seen in my life. I'm terrified under the stairs of the lighthouse and while I run towards the exit I can hear the roar of the waters opening...

Outside, in front of me, there is a mountain emerging from the sea. Its three eyes look landward. Me, prisoner of the fear, start running inland following the path of the lighthouse...

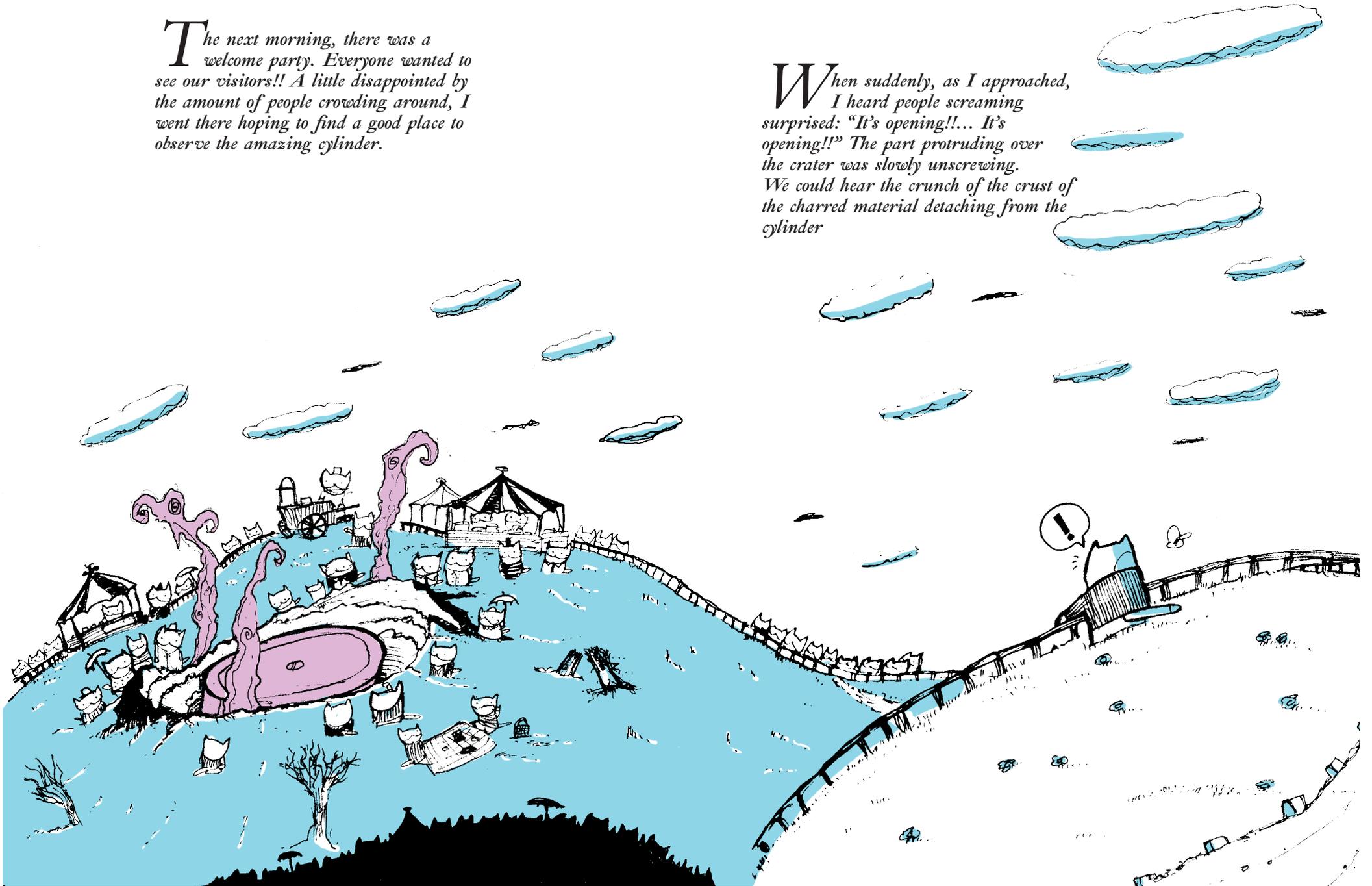


I run towards the mountains. A lighted castle can be seen in the distance, where I hope to find shelter.



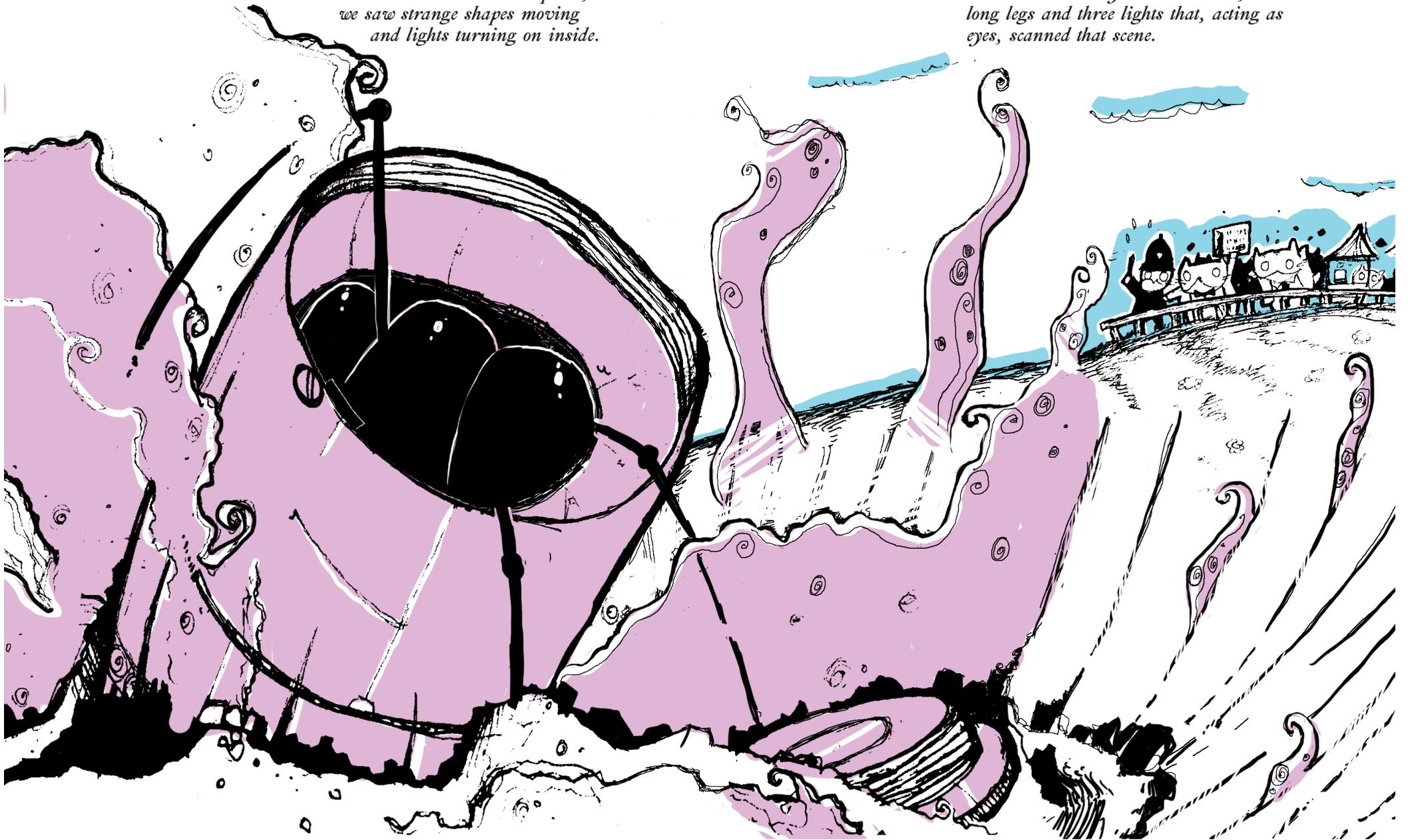
The next morning, there was a welcome party. Everyone wanted to see our visitors!! A little disappointed by the amount of people crowding around, I went there hoping to find a good place to observe the amazing cylinder.

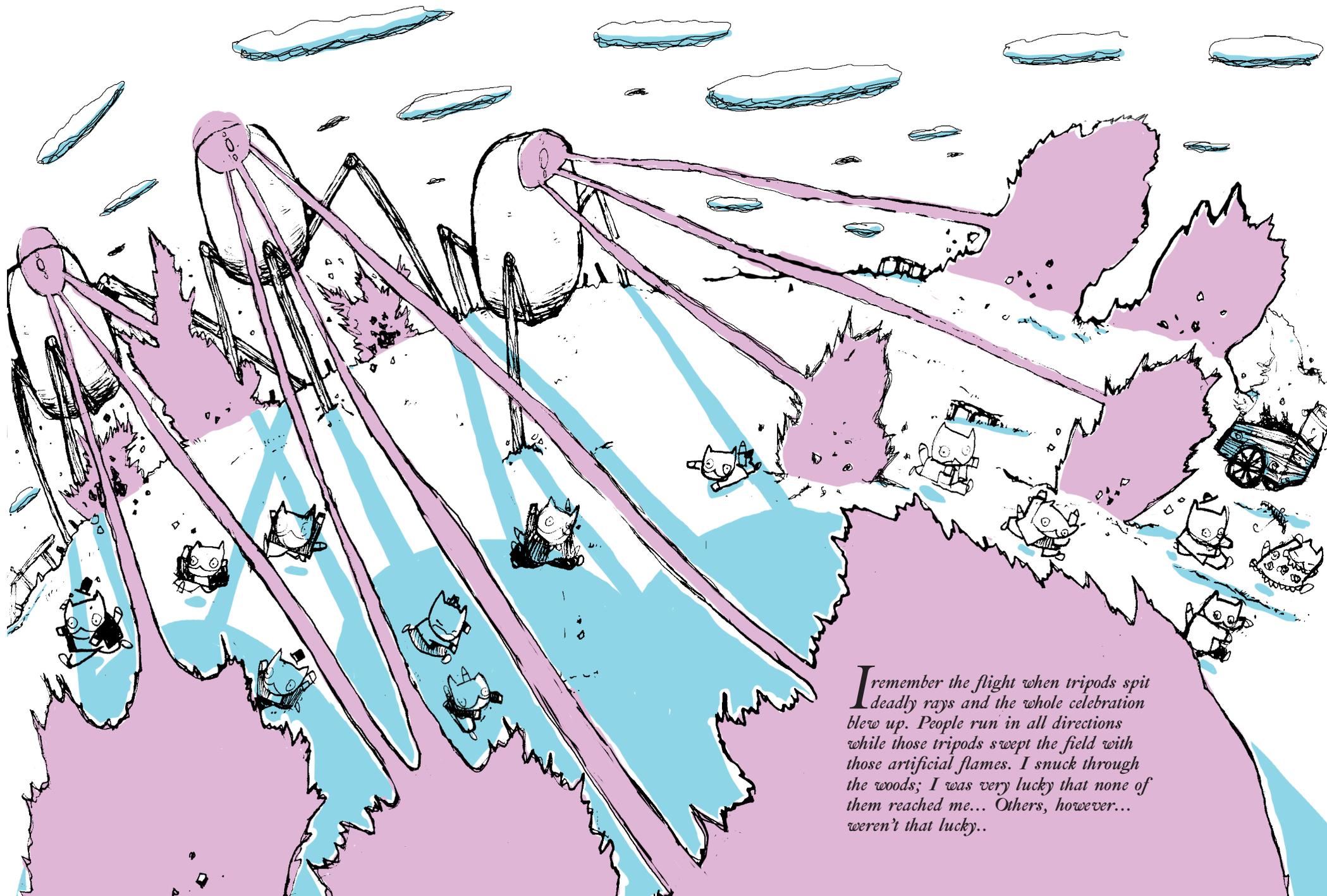
When suddenly, as I approached, I heard people screaming surprised: "It's opening!!... It's opening!!" The part protruding over the crater was slowly unscrewing. We could hear the crunch of the crust of the charred material detaching from the cylinder



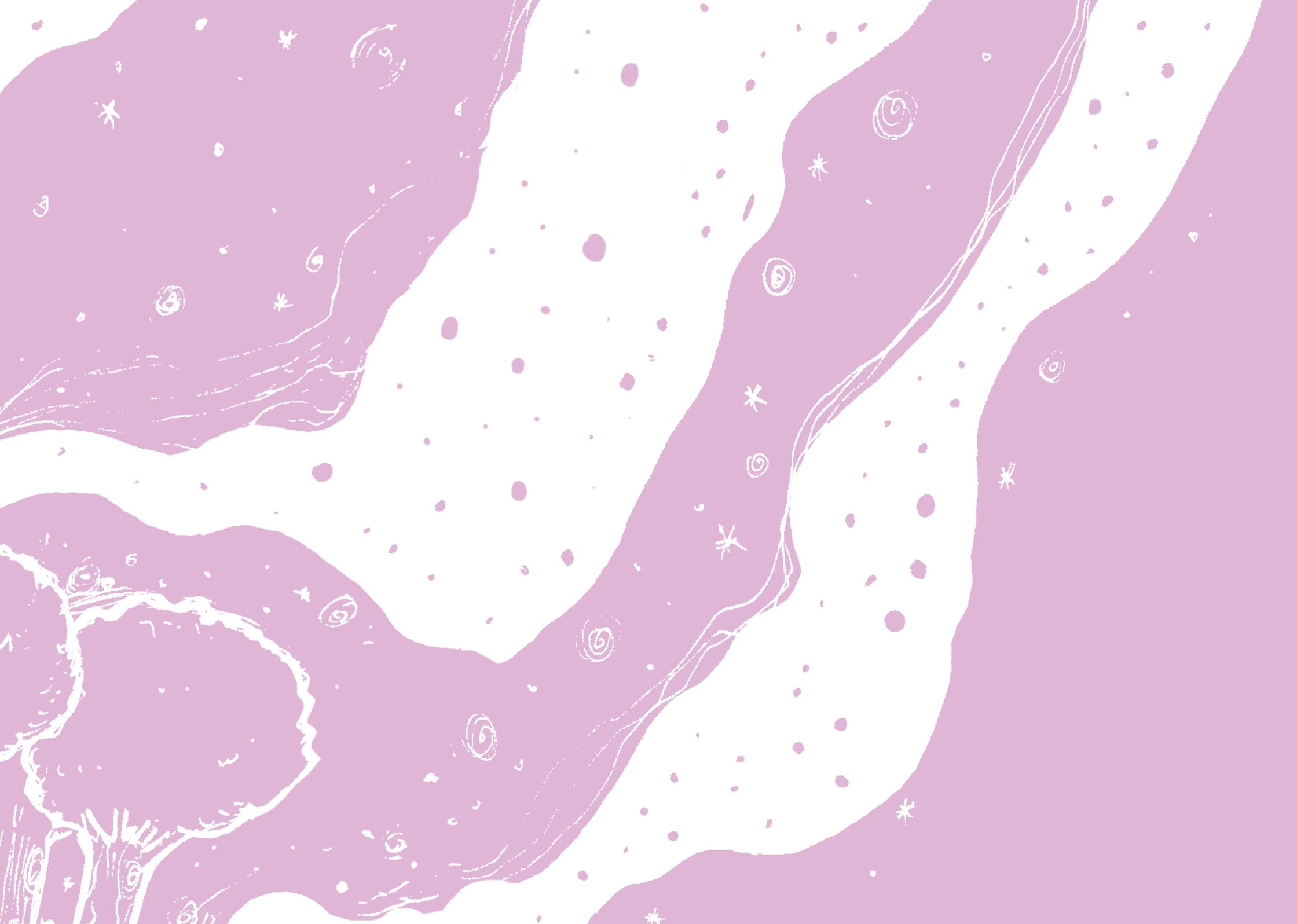
Expectation grew when the cylinder opened. The top part contorted falling to the ground with a crash. When the smoke dissipated, we saw strange shapes moving and lights turning on inside.

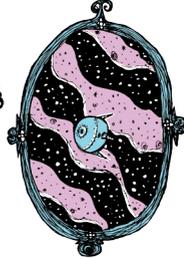
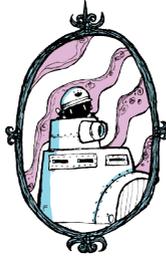
Fear invaded people when they saw three giant tripods coming out from the inside. These cylindrical bodies, with long legs and three lights that, acting as eyes, scanned that scene.





I remember the flight when tripods spit deadly rays and the whole celebration blew up. People run in all directions while those tripods swept the field with those artificial flames. I snuck through the woods; I was very lucky that none of them reached me... Others, however... weren't that lucky..





 ПЕ ІНК АЯМУ