

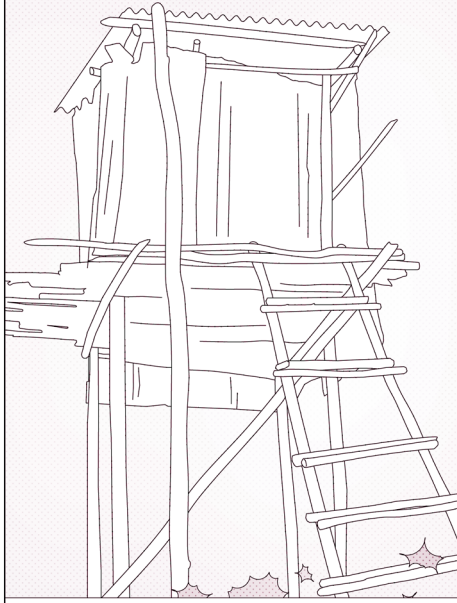
01_Abai

Abai is the husband of Cheren, the father of Liya and Fana. Their family lives in a house with both front yard and back yard in the Kolfe Low-cost Housing Site.

The elder daughter Liya is around the age of going to primary school. Abai and Cheren are in a little bit of dilemma, as they prefer to send Liya to private school, however, they don't currently have the money for the tuition...

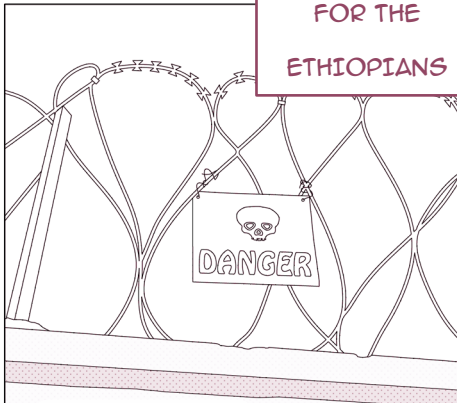
Unexpectedly, Ekub solved their problem.

WALKING BACK FROM THE
CHAIRMAN'S HOUSE...



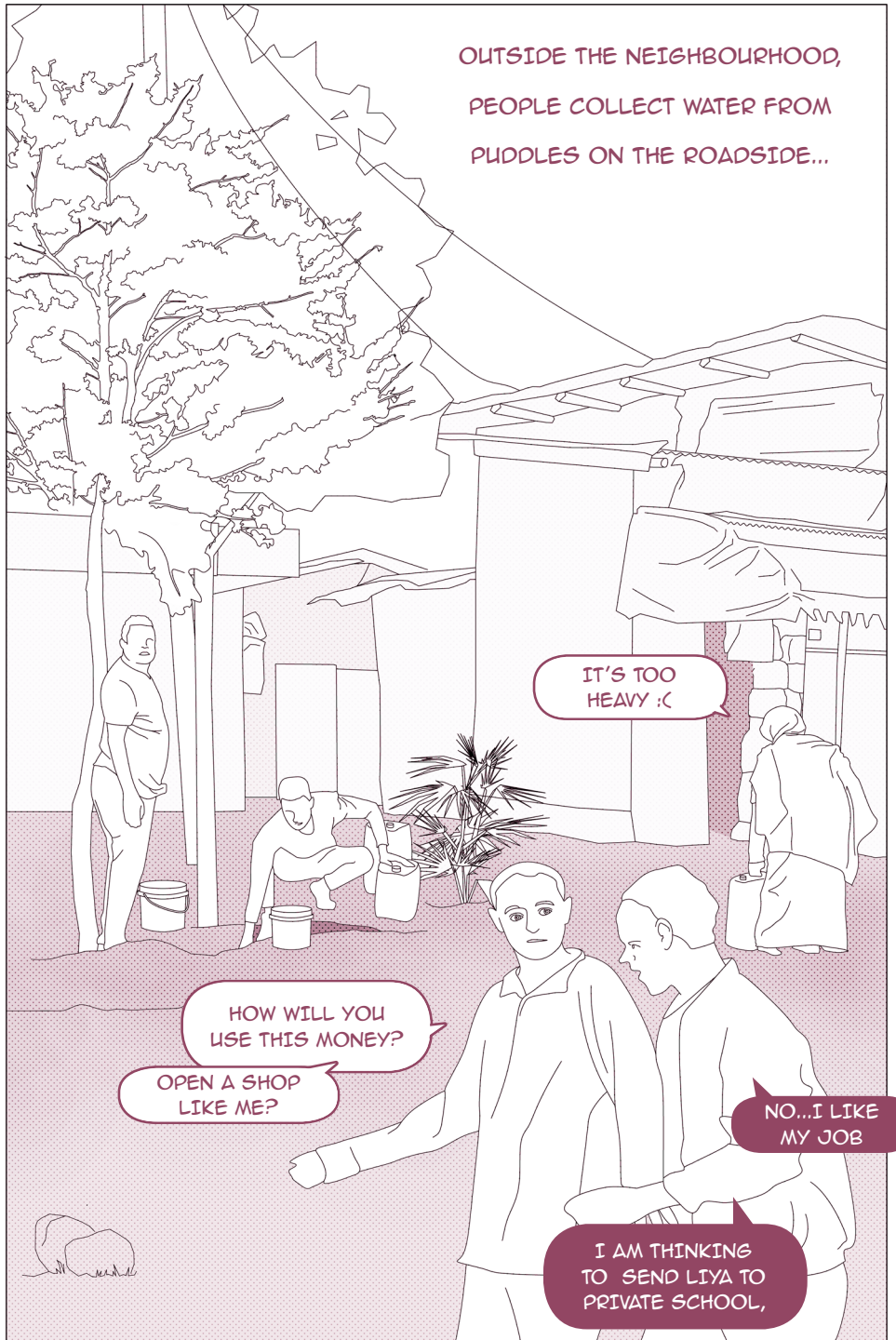
GUARD TOWER

FENCES ARE
IMPORTANT
FOR THE
ETHIOPIANS



FENCES

OUTSIDE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD,
PEOPLE COLLECT WATER FROM
PUDDLES ON THE ROADSIDE...



IT'S TOO
HEAVY :C

HOW WILL YOU
USE THIS MONEY?

OPEN A SHOP
LIKE ME?

NO...I LIKE
MY JOB

I AM THINKING
TO SEND LIYA TO
PRIVATE SCHOOL,



GATES ARE SELF-CONSTRUCTED BY THE RESIDENTS OF THIS NEIGHBOURHOOD.

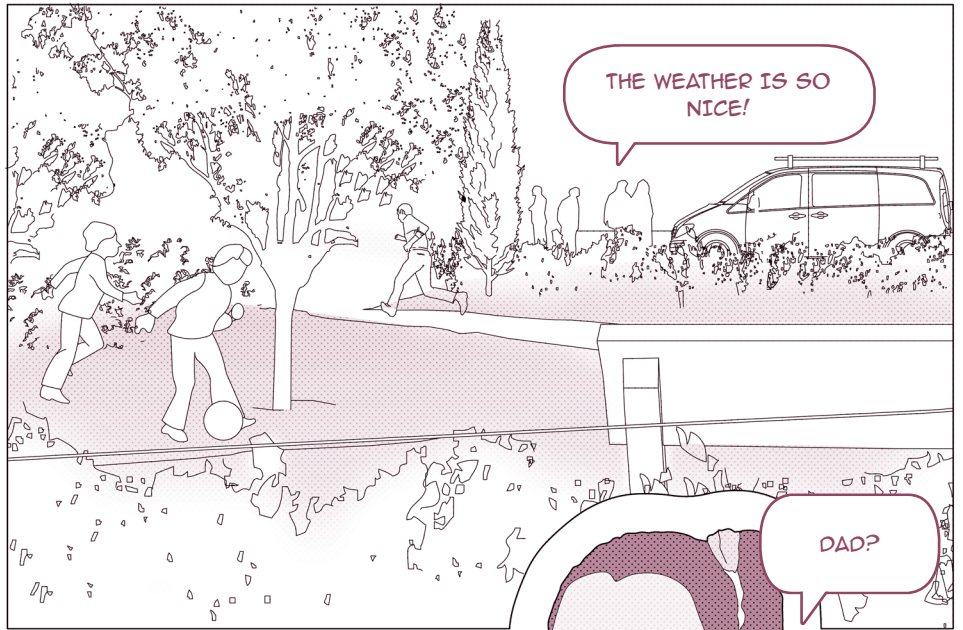


ABAI PASSED BY THE PARK WHERE HE USED TO PLAY AS A KID. JUST LIKE WHAT HIS DAUGHTERS ARE DOING NOW.

KNOK

KNOK

KNOK



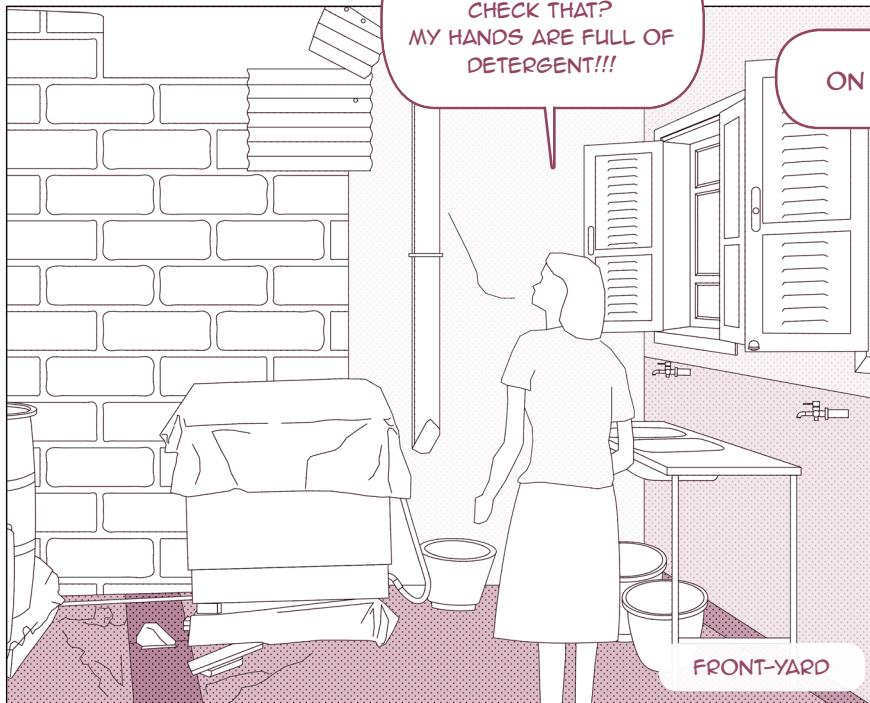
THE WEATHER IS SO NICE!
NICE!

DAD?

LIYA, COULD YOU CHECK THAT?
MY HANDS ARE FULL OF
DETERGENT!!!

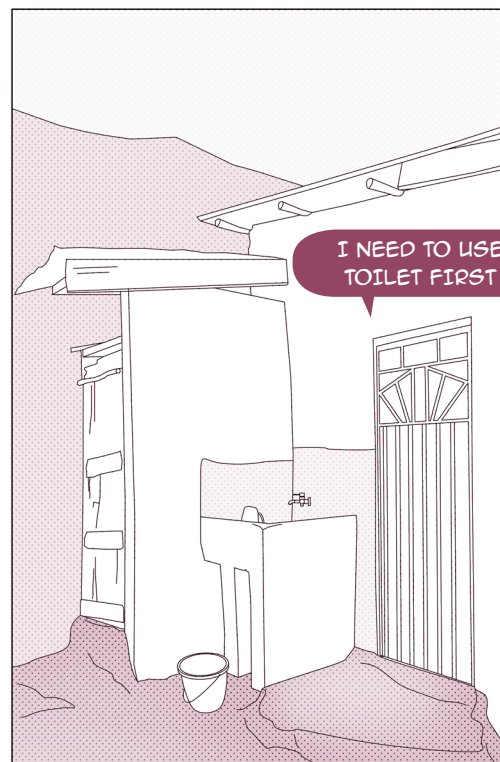
ON MY WAY!

FRONT-YARD

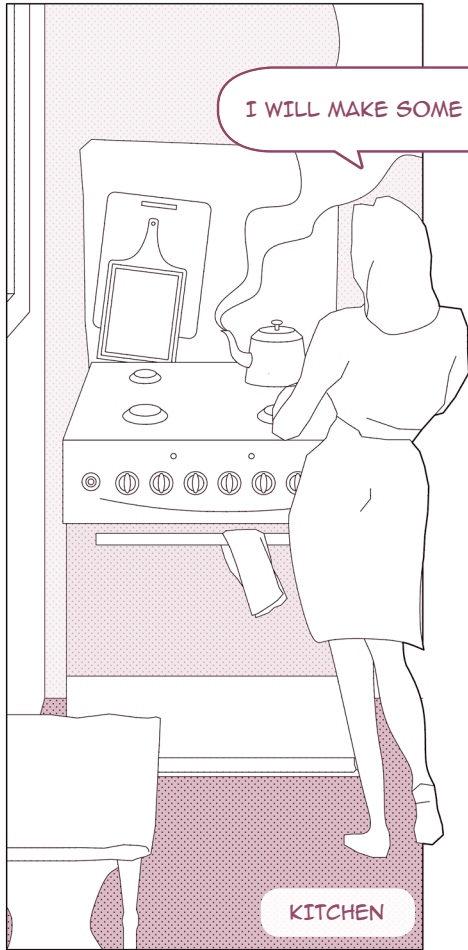




THE FRONT-YARD IS A PLACE FOR CHEREN, WHERE SHE DOES MOST OF THE HOUSEWORKS, LIKE WASHING AND HANGING CLOTHES.



LIKE MANY OTHER ETHIOPIAN FAMILIES, ABAI ALSO HAS AN OUTDOOR TOILET IN HIS COURTYARD, WHICH IS BUILT INFORMALLY BY HIMSELF.



I WILL MAKE SOME TEA

KITCHEN



ETHIOPIAN TEA SET

HOMEMADE GINGER TEA IS THE FAVORITE OF THIS FAMILY, AND THE THING THEY NORMALLY TREAT THEIR GUEST WITH.



WE SHOULD JOIN ONE MORE EKUB, TO SAVE THE TUITION FOR FANA!

I'M THINKING THE SAME!!!

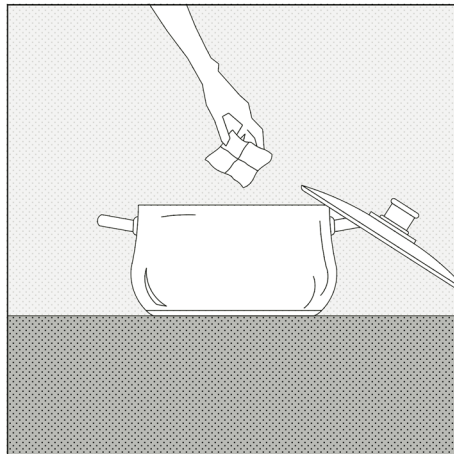
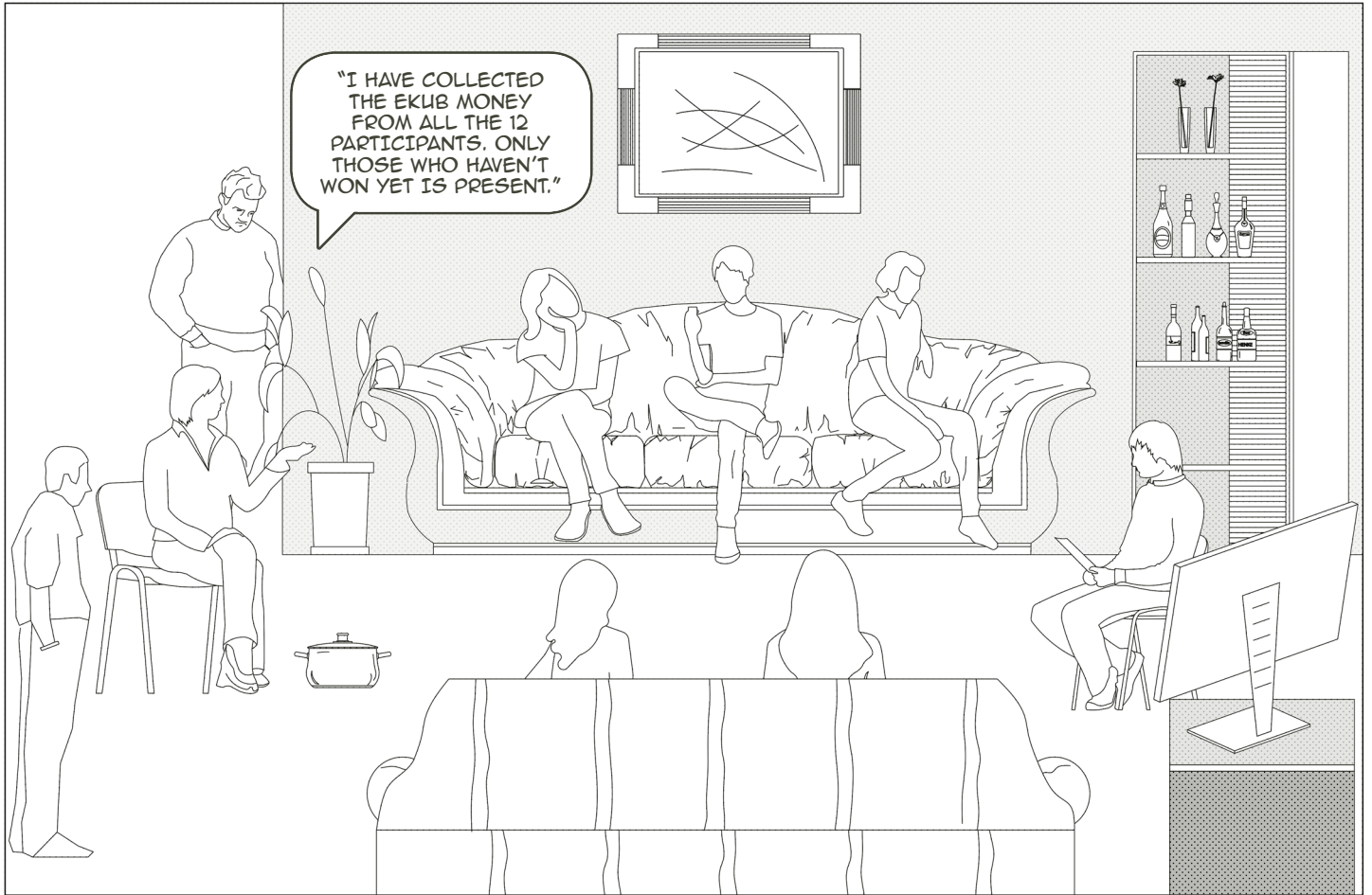
BACK-YARD

THEIR LIFE IS GOING ON, TOWARDS A PROMISING FUTURE...



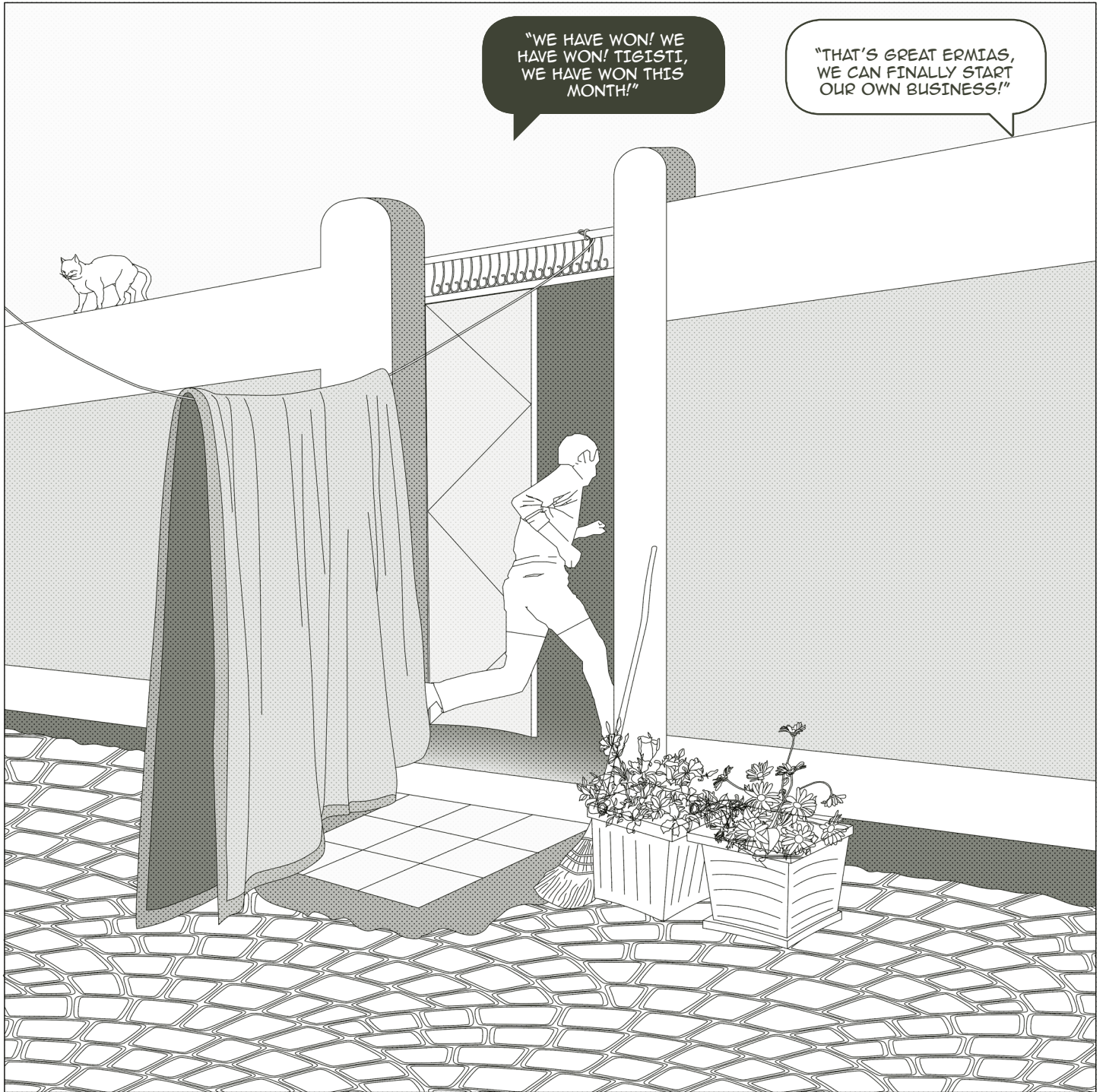
02_Ermias

The money from an ekub is generally used for occasions where a large sum is needed in a short period of time, like buying a car or house. The following story depicts how Ermias use the money from an ekub to expand his business and thus drastically change his family's living condition, for better or worse. This is showcased in an evolution of Ermias' home in Kolfe throughout the years after the ekub.

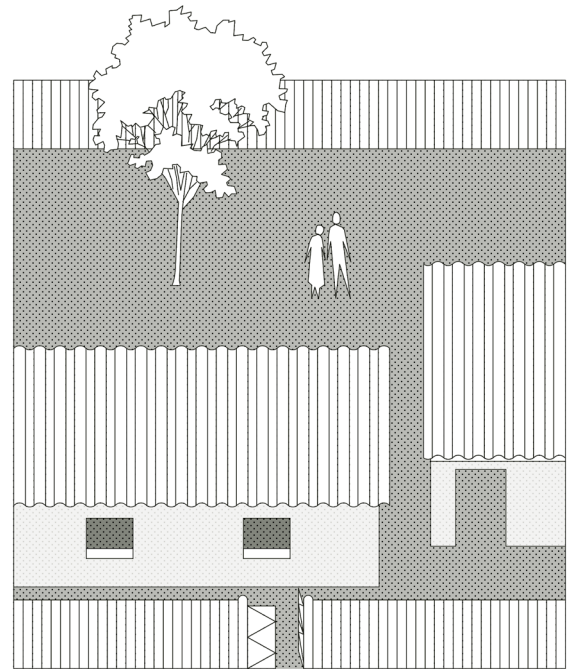


"WE HAVE WON! WE
HAVE WON! TIGISTI,
WE HAVE WON THIS
MONTH!"

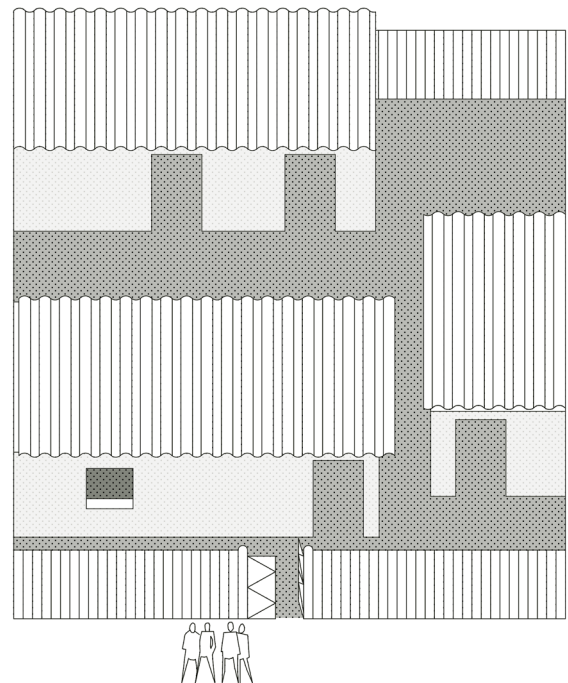
"THAT'S GREAT ERMAS,
WE CAN FINALLY START
OUR OWN BUSINESS!"

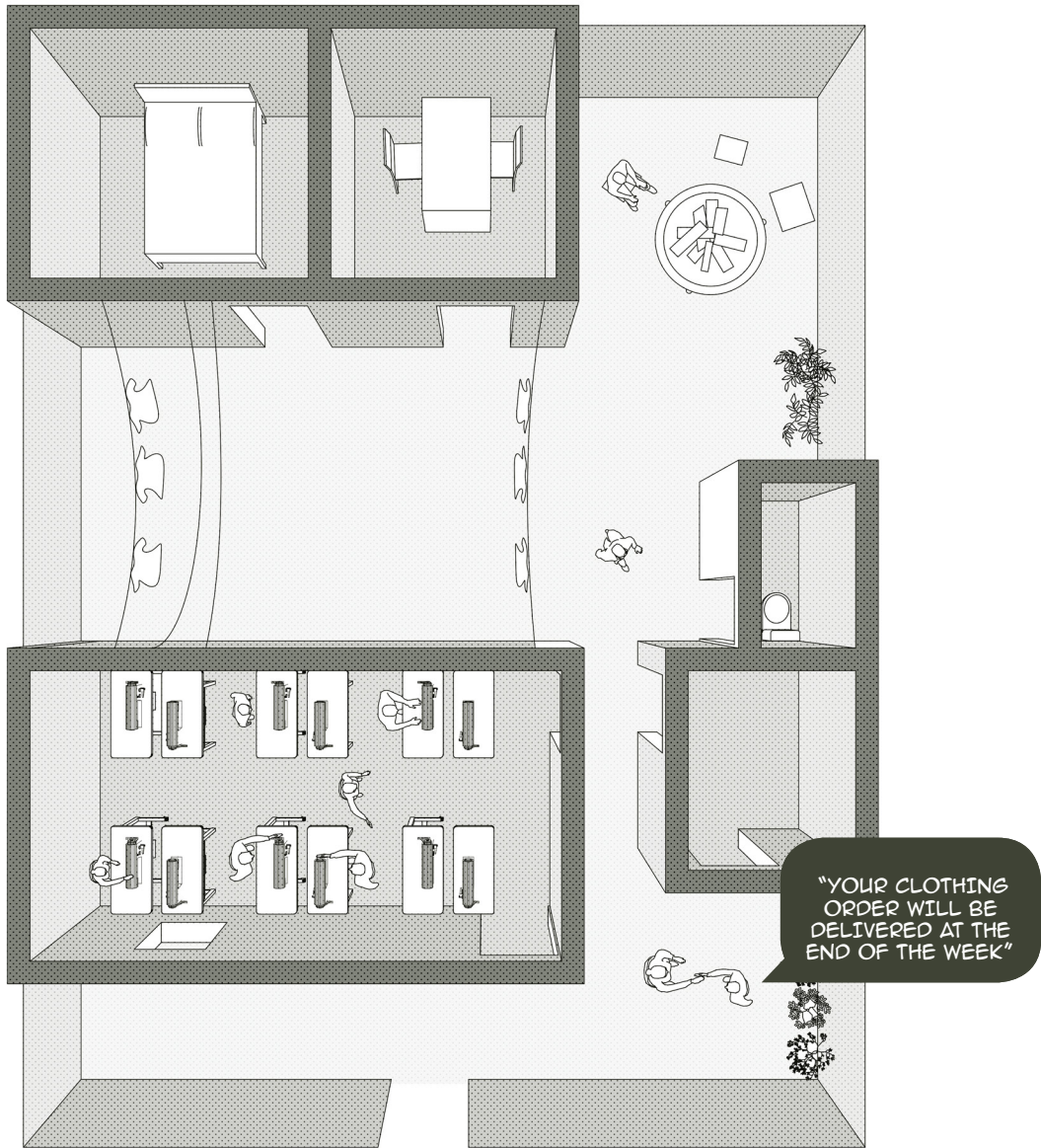


AS AN URBAN MIGRANT FROM THE RURAL AREA, ERMIA'S MARRIED WITH TIGISTI AND START LIVING TOGETHER IN TIGISTI'S OLD FAMILY HOME IN KOLFE. THIS FAMILY HOME HAVE A CORE UNIT WITH TOILET AND KITCHEN ON THE SIDE. THE BIG BACKYARD WAS USED BY TIGISTI TO EARN MONEY BY WASHING CLOTHES FOR OTHERS.

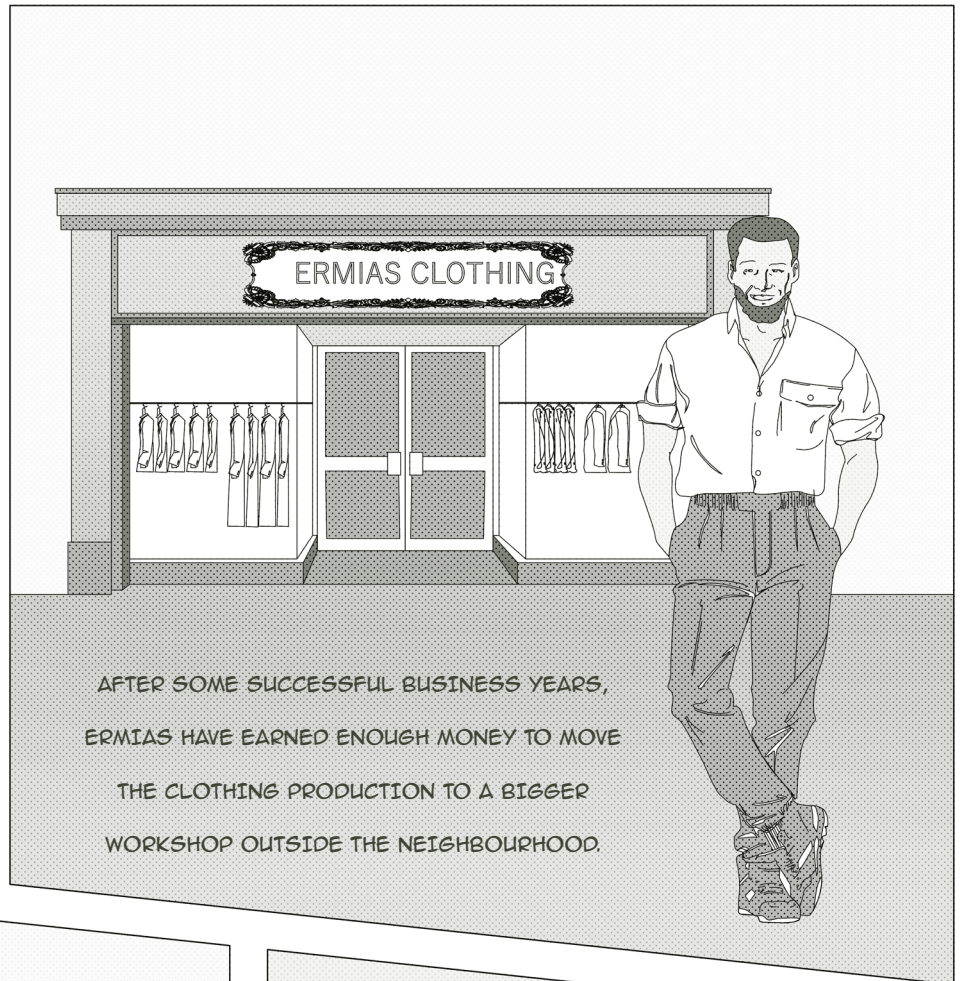


PLANNING ON MAKING MORE MONEY, ERMIA'S WANTS TO ADD NEW BEDROOMS AT THE BACK, AND TRANSFORM THE CURRENT LIVING ROOM/BEDROOM INTO A SEWING WORKSHOP. HERE HE CAN MAKE TRADITIONAL CLOTHINGS TO SELL IN THE BIG MARKET MERCATO. THE MONEY FROM EKUB WAS THE LAST THING ERMIA'S NEEDS TO BEGIN HIS PLAN.





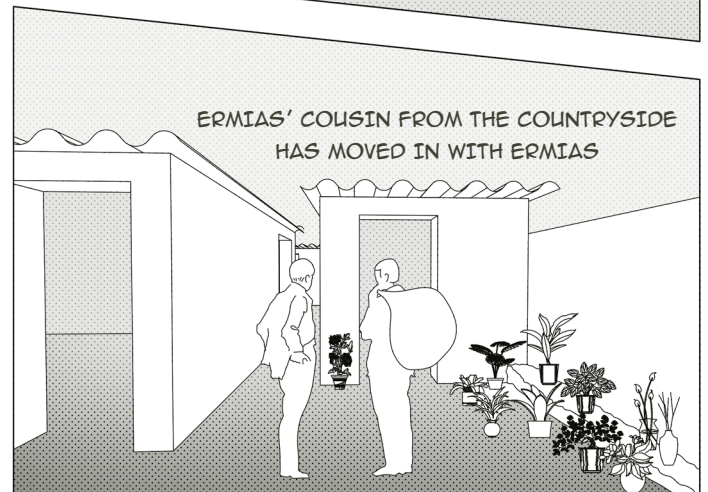
IN THE FOLLOWING YEARS,
THERE HAVE BEEN SOME
CHANGES IN THE LIFE OF
ERMIAS.



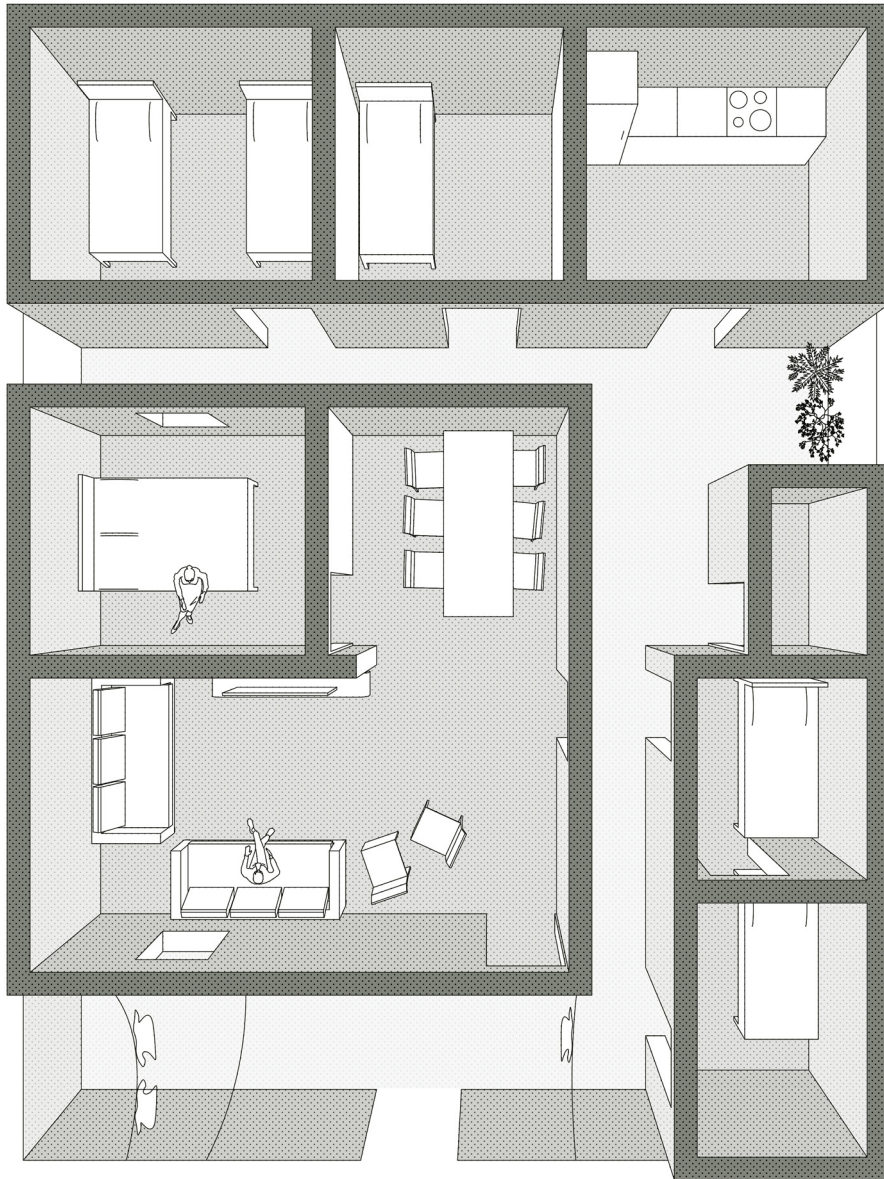
AFTER SOME SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS YEARS,
ERMIAS HAVE EARNED ENOUGH MONEY TO MOVE
THE CLOTHING PRODUCTION TO A BIGGER
WORKSHOP OUTSIDE THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.



IN THE MEANTIME, TIGISTI
AND ERMIAS HAVE GOTTEN
A NEW CHILD.



ERMIAS' COUSIN FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE
HAS MOVED IN WITH ERMIAS



ERMIAS HAS CHANGED THE SEWING WORKSHOP BACK INTO A LIVING ROOM, AND ADDED IN A NEW MASTER BEDROOM AND DINING AREA.

MORE SLEEP UNITS ARE ADDED FOR TIGISTI AND ERMIAS' CHILD AND ALSO OTHER DISTANT RELATIVES.

THE TRADITIONAL OUTDOOR KITCHEN IS REPLACED BY A MODERN ONE.

IT APPEAR THAT TIGISTI AND ERMIAS ARE IN A BETTER LIFE NOW. ONLY SOMETIMES TIGISTI STILL THINK ABOUT THE LARGE COURTYARD THAT THEY USE TO HAVE.



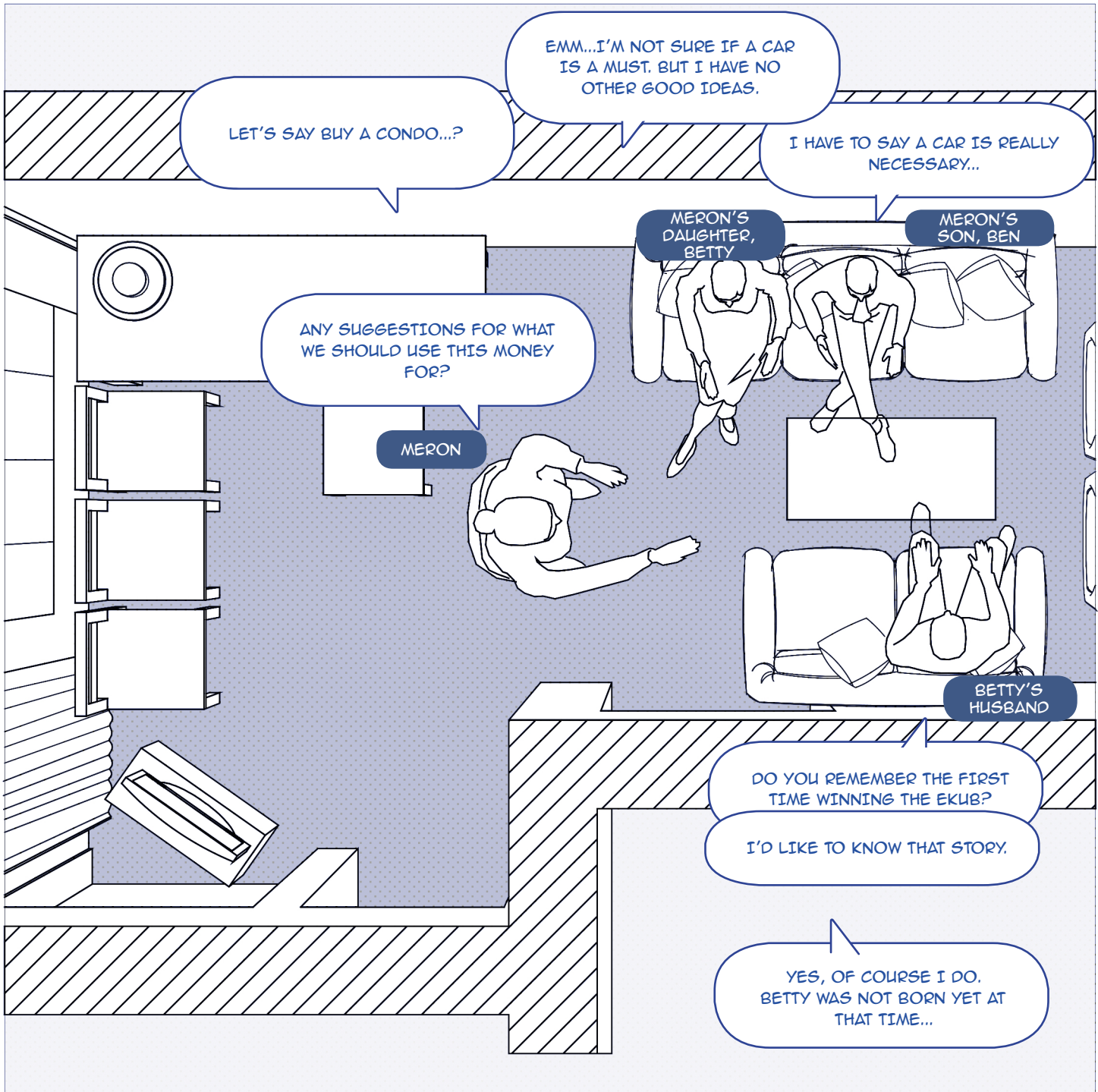
03_Meron

For meron, the last winner of this time's Ekub, getting this money is not as exciting as it was, for the first time, which was 30 years ago. Meron moved in Kolfe in 1978, and she has been participating in Ekub for the past 41 years. Over the years, the family has expanded their home more or less through the money won from Ekub, and opened shops. She is already thinking about quitting this activities...



THANK YOU!

CONGRATULATIONS! MERON!
YOU'RE THE LAST ONE!
WILL YOU CELEBRATE TONIGHT?



LET'S SAY BUY A CONDO...?

EMM...I'M NOT SURE IF A CAR IS A MUST. BUT I HAVE NO OTHER GOOD IDEAS.

I HAVE TO SAY A CAR IS REALLY NECESSARY...

ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR WHAT WE SHOULD USE THIS MONEY FOR?

MERON

MERON'S DAUGHTER, BETTY

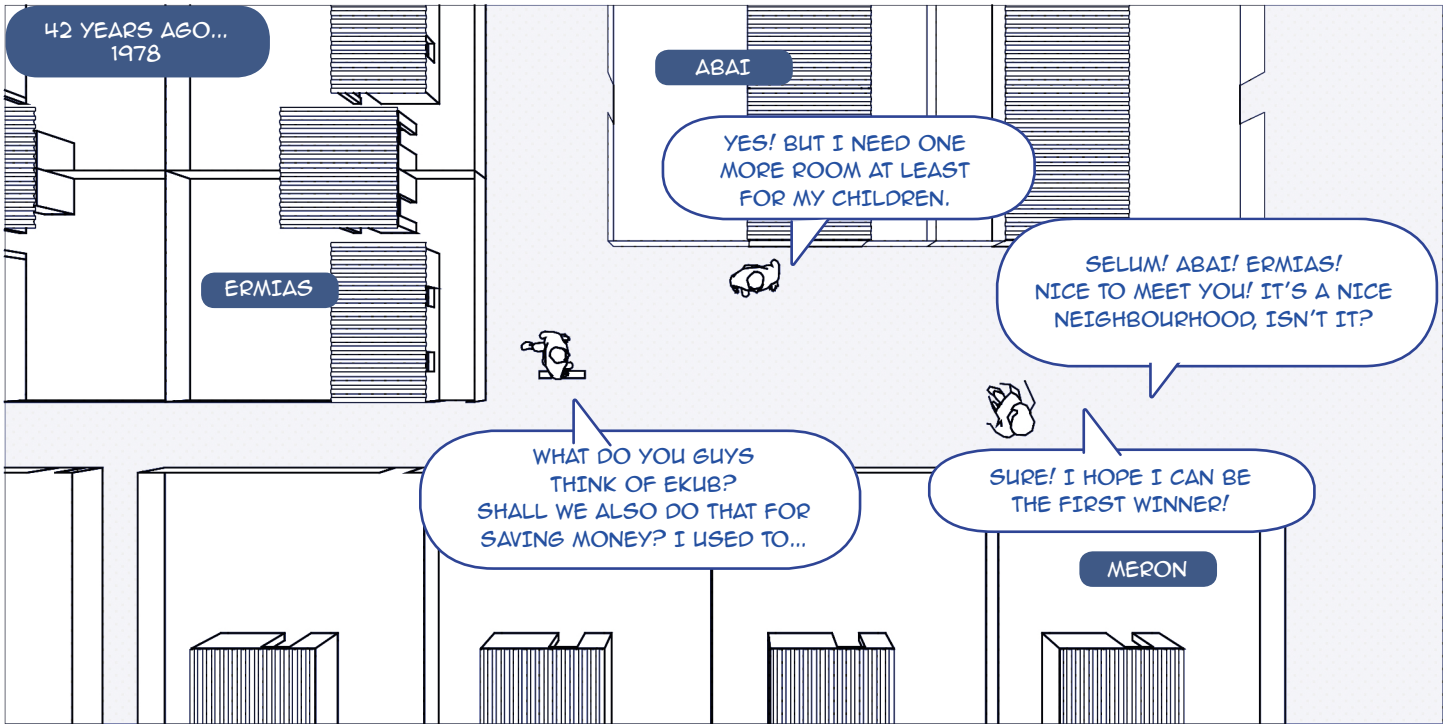
MERON'S SON, BEN

BETTY'S HUSBAND

DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME WINNING THE EKUB?

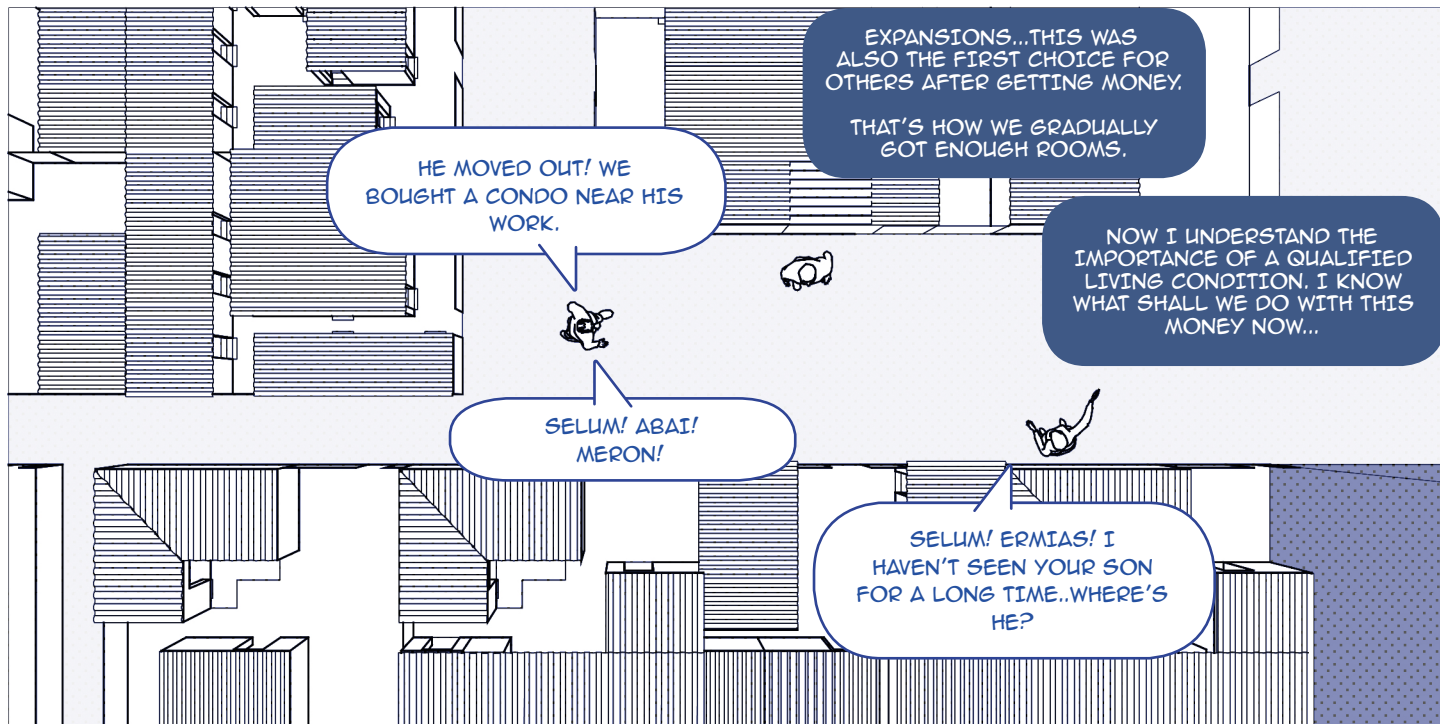
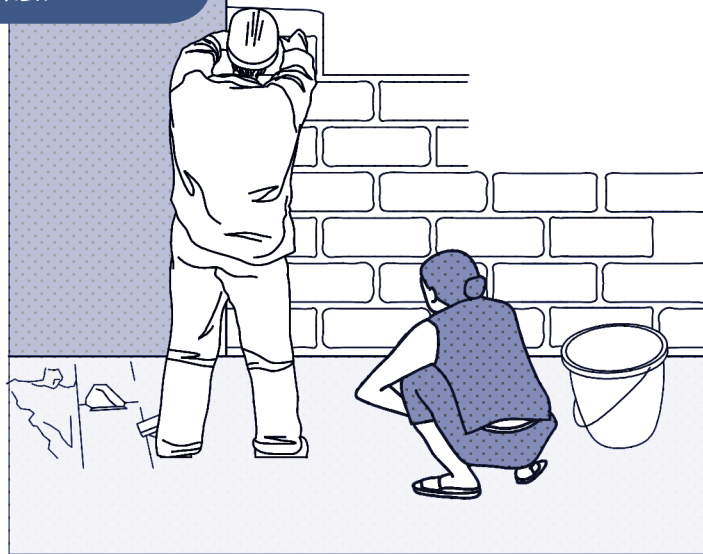
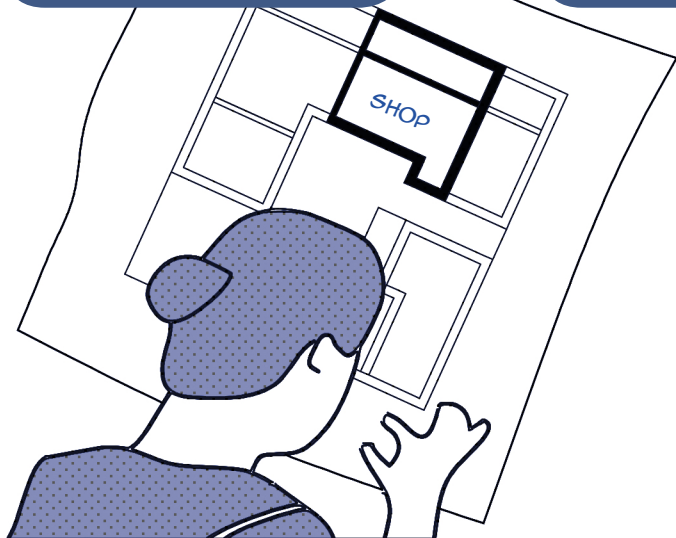
I'D LIKE TO KNOW THAT STORY.

YES, OF COURSE I DO. BETTY WAS NOT BORN YET AT THAT TIME...



ALL I THOUGHT ABOUT WAS HOW TO OPEN A SHOP TO MAKE MONEY IN THE FIRST FEW YEARS.

I QUICKLY REALIZED THAT BY CHANGING THE ORIGINAL ROOM INTO SHOP AND GOT ONE EXTENSIONS WITH THE MONEY.



HE MOVED OUT! WE BOUGHT A CONDO NEAR HIS WORK.

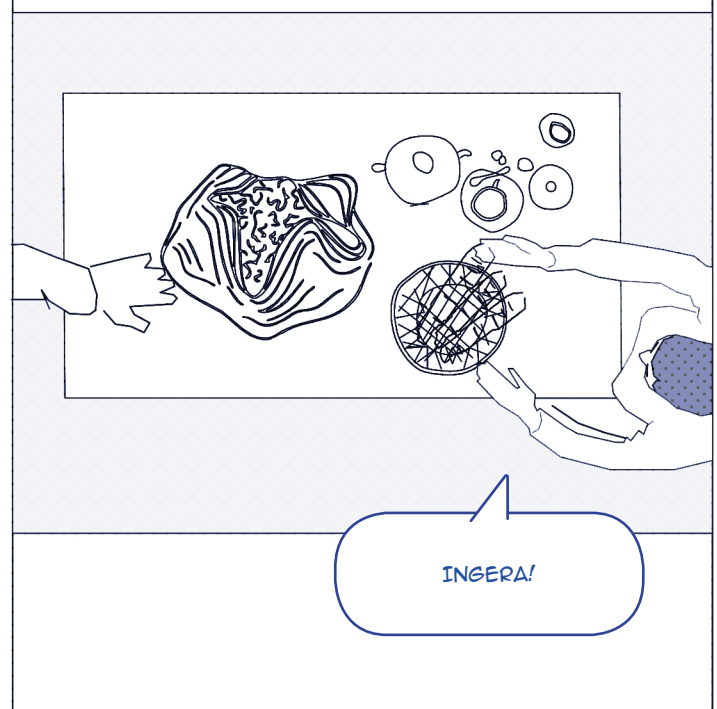
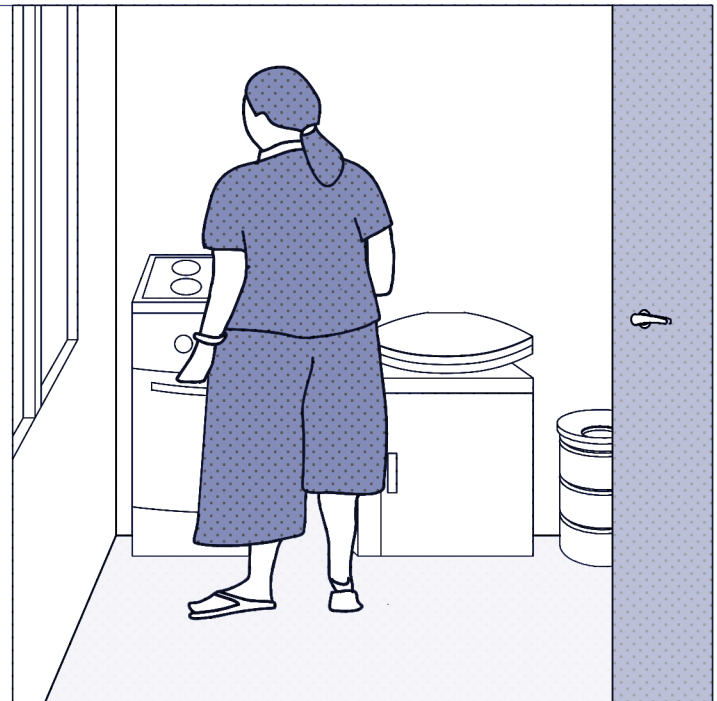
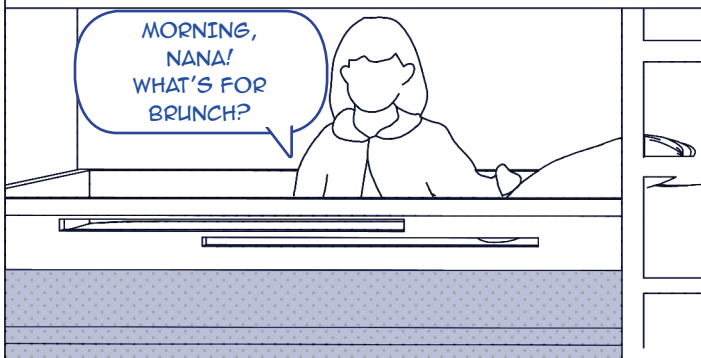
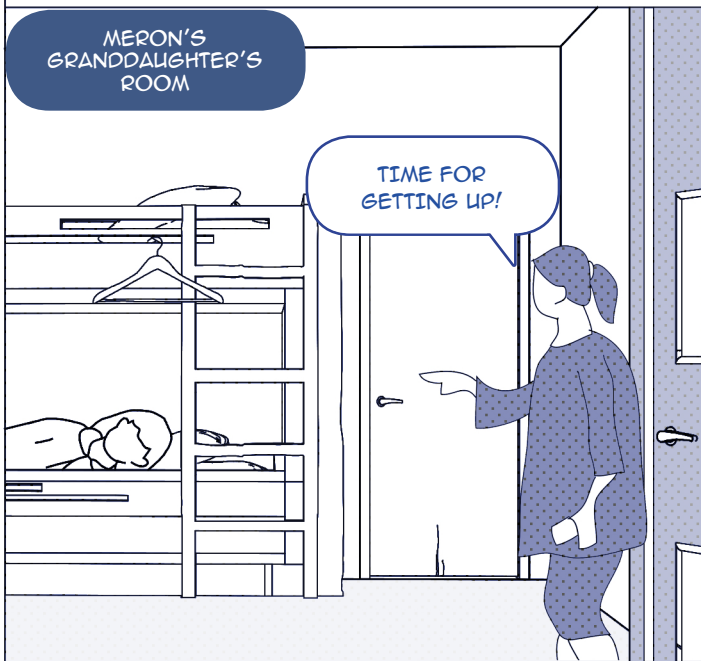
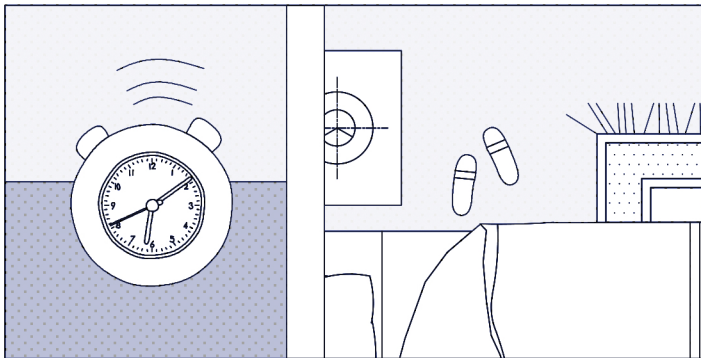
EXPANSIONS...THIS WAS ALSO THE FIRST CHOICE FOR OTHERS AFTER GETTING MONEY.

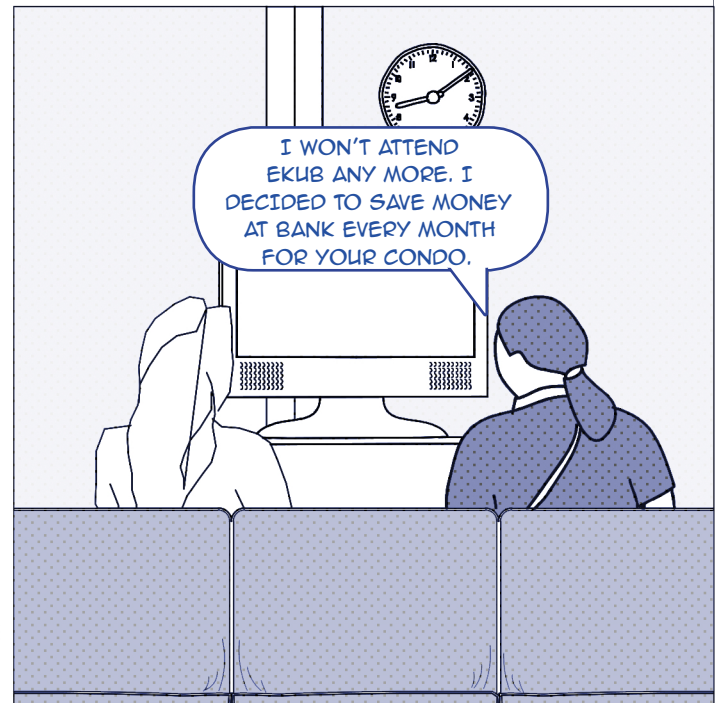
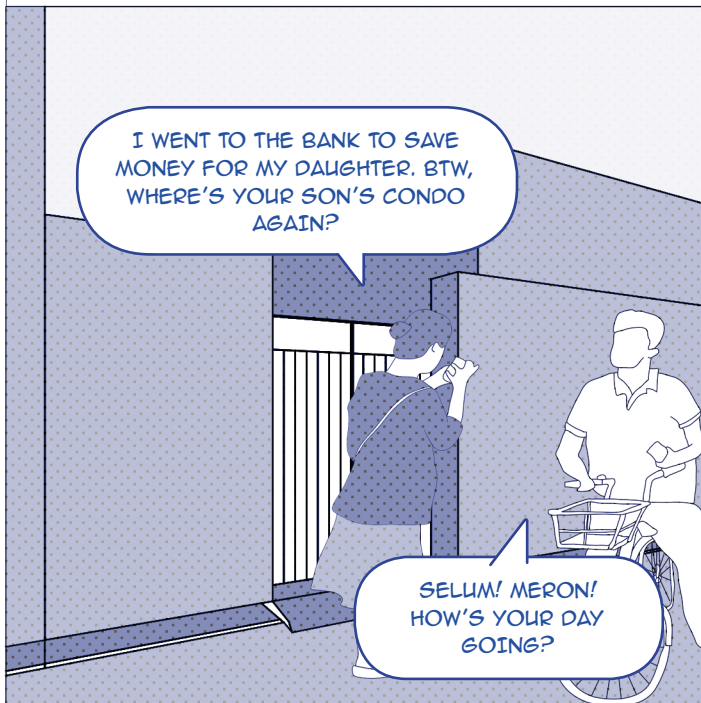
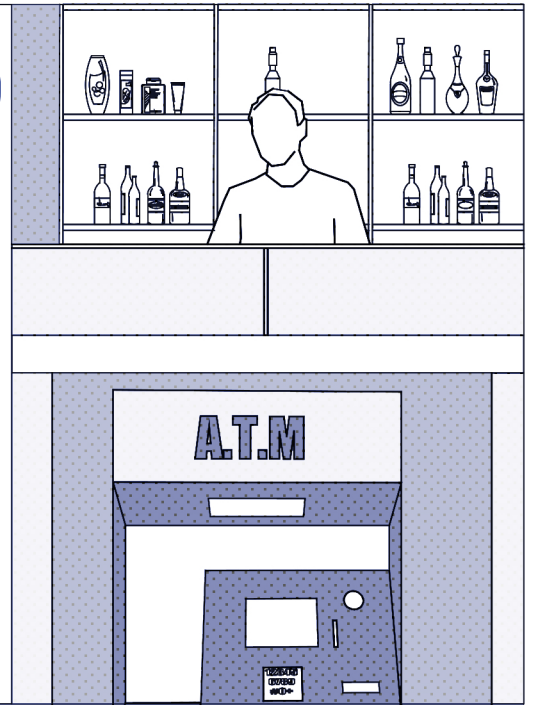
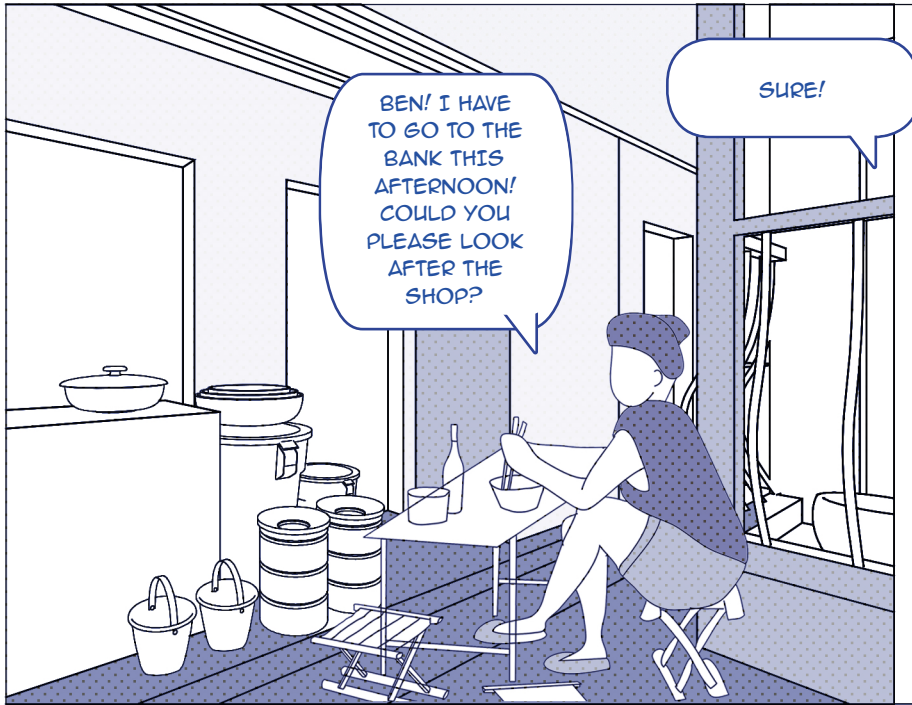
THAT'S HOW WE GRADUALLY GOT ENOUGH ROOMS.

NOW I UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF A QUALIFIED LIVING CONDITION. I KNOW WHAT SHALL WE DO WITH THIS MONEY NOW...

SELUM! ABAI! MERON!

SELUM! ERMIAS! I HAVEN'T SEEN YOUR SON FOR A LONG TIME..WHERE'S HE?





BY: YUERONG ZHOU & SUNNY SOU & JIE YANG

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO: WELDE & HAWI & MICHAEL

TUTORIS: NELSON MOTA & FREDERIQUE VAN ANDEL & HARALD MOOIJ

AREAD030 GLOBAL HOUSING RESEARCH SEMINAR

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