

COME  
ARMAGEDDON  
COME...



I'LL PROBABLY NEVER  
SEE YOU AGAIN





THE RAIN FALLS  
HARD ON A  
HUMDRUM  
TOWN



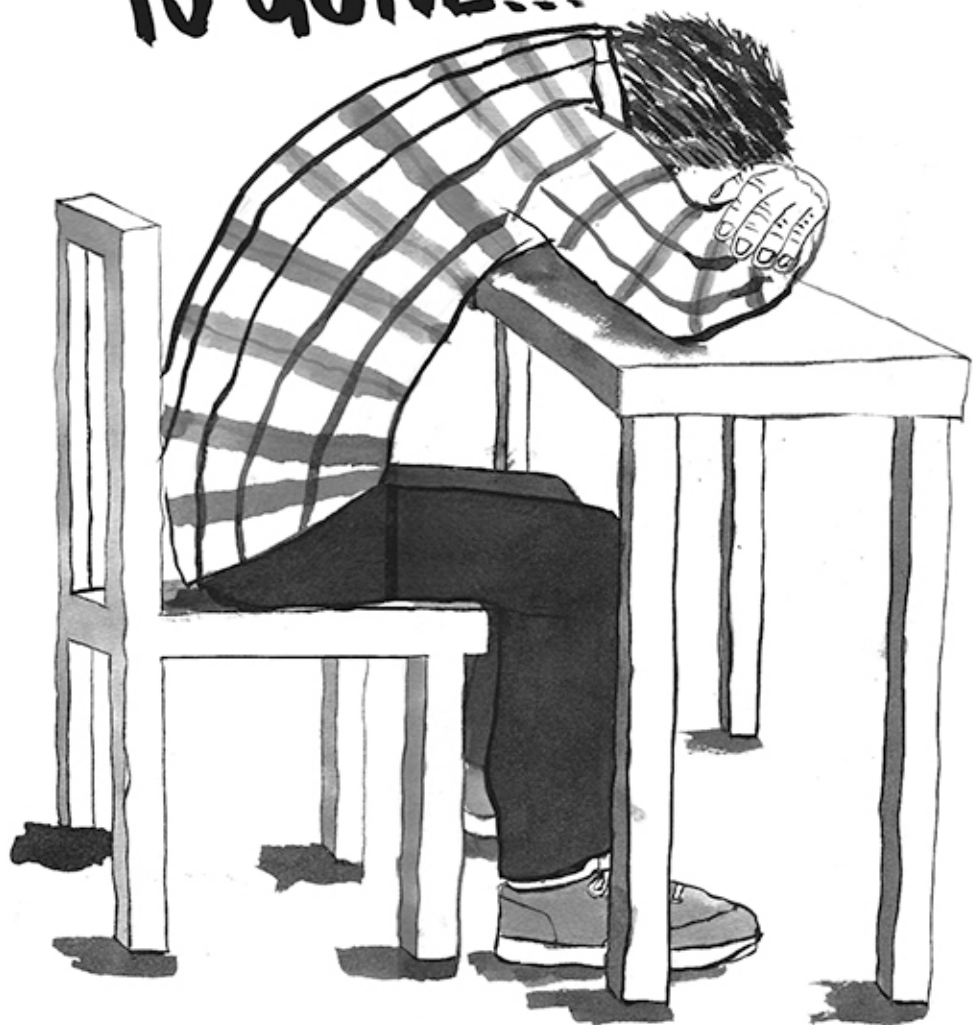
I KNOW  
IT'S OVER...



WHY DO YOU  
COME HERE,  
WHEN YOU KNOW  
IT MAKES  
THINGS  
HARD  
FOR ME?

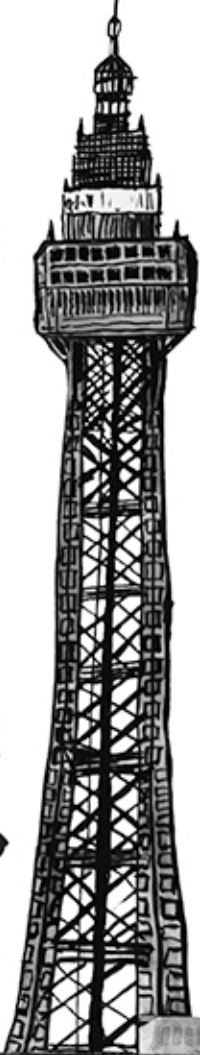


I'VE ALREADY  
WAITED TOO LONG,  
AND ALL MY HOPE  
IS GONE...





THIS IS THE  
SEASIDE TOWN  
THAT THEY  
FORGOT TO  
CLOSE DOWN.



AMUSEMENTS

CASH  
PRIZES

CAFE  
INSIDE

TEA  
ONLY  
20P  
INSIDE



I'VE BEEN  
STABBED  
IN THE  
BACK  
SO MANY  
MANY  
TIMES





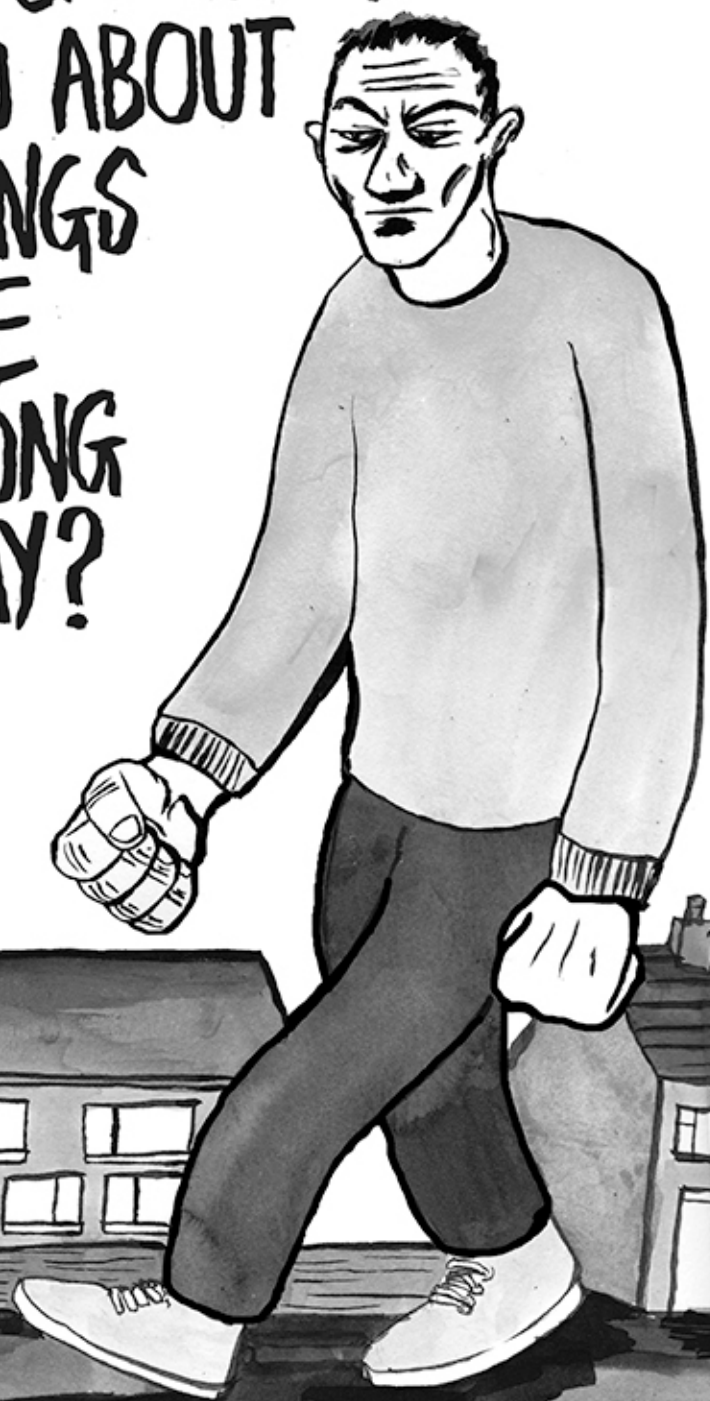
THERE'S TOO MUCH  
CAFFEINE IN MY  
BLOODSTREAM...



MANCHESTER,  
SO MUCH TO  
ANSWER  
FOR...



HOW CAN YOU SAY  
I GO ABOUT  
THINGS  
THE  
WRONG  
WAY?



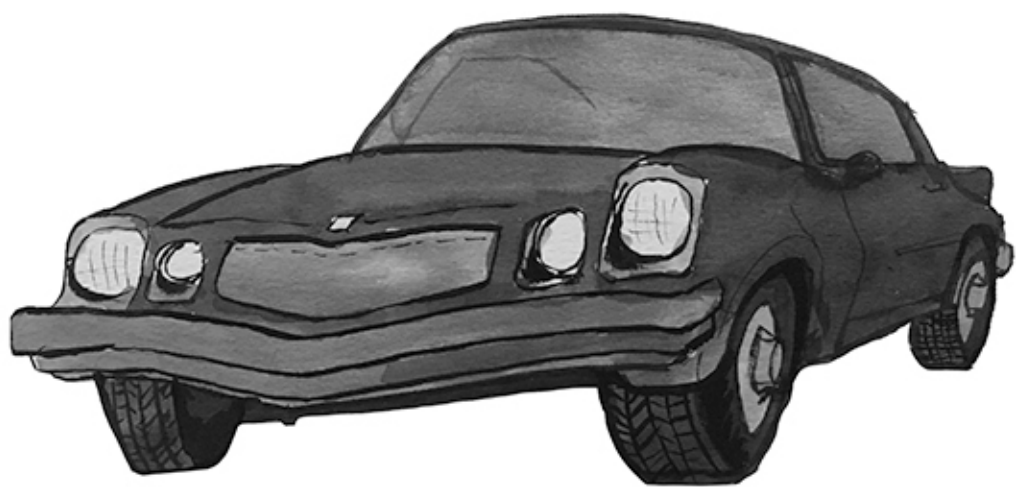


**THE DEVIL  
WILL FIND WORK  
FOR IDLE HANDS  
TO DO.**

# THE SANEST DAYS ARE MAD



TAKE ME  
OUT  
TONIGHT..





Being from the glorious north of England myself, I felt like I related a lot to the music of the Smiths and Morrissey. I discovered him a little later in my life, when I was in my mid 20's I think, working at Slam City Skates in London. Before that I had been listening to a lot of punk and heavy metal in my teenage years.

His lyrics have definitely crept into artwork that I've made over time. Recently I approached this inspiration head on and started working on some paintings that would end up being a series of Heroin boards inspired by Morrissey Lyrics.

I wanted to take my personal interpretations of his lyrics and add my perspectives on those, without trying to be too literal, and at the same time challenging the viewer to ask questions.

Here's a few words about some of the pieces.

"Come Armageddon come" was inspired by the London riots of 2011, curiously enough I'd seen Morrissey play back to back in London at the time these were happening, this was also the year I moved to America.

"This is the seaside town that they forgot to close down" was about the eight months that I lived in Blackpool, Lancashire and went to the college there. I know the song was inspired by the novel "On the Beach" by Nevil Shute, but I can't help of think of Blackpool when I hear that song.

"How Can you say I go about things the wrong way" was about a troublemaker on a council estate in Blackburn that I watched a BBC documentary about.

"Worst council estates in Britain" or something.

"I know it's over" has a couple of meanings, I redrew this one a couple of times and it originally had the text "Jesus do you hate me?" from a later Morrissey release, when I spoke to Shimizu and this was going to be his last pro model, I started thinking that the "I know its over" lyric would be perfect for that. He was originally holding a phone, but I switched it for a coffee and thought it made him more pensive, rather than a literal idea that he's part of a breakup that happened on the phone.

"Why do you come here when you know it makes things hard for me?" was a happy accident that sometimes happens. The character originally had a plaid shirt on, but I didn't like it and went to colour it all in, and he ended up looking like a priest, so I thought that felt quite fitting wit that lyric.

"Manchester, so much to answer for." will be a board for Note in Manchester a little later this year, I used to get the X43 bus to Manchester every Saturday and skate the city. This drawing is of the town hall and the monument that was a really great skate spot.

FOS  
LOS ANGELES, 2018

