

Scout zine

*Iris, sculpture from the west pediment of the Parthenon
In ancient Greek religion and mythology, Iris is a daughter of the gods Thaumas and Electra, the personification and goddess of the rainbow and messenger of the gods.*



educational guide
against sexual violence

What to do
if someone opens up to you with
a sexual violence experience?

LISTEN TO WHAT THEY HAVE
TO SAY

Don't pressure them into anything and let them share just as much as they're comfortable with. Express gratitude for them confiding in you and placing their trust in you and ask if there's anything you can do for them.

Trust their words. Despite the prevailing myths it really isn't common for people to make this kind of traumatic experience up and it is crucial that they meet with an understanding approach.

RESPECT YOUR OWN
BOUNDARIES AS WELL

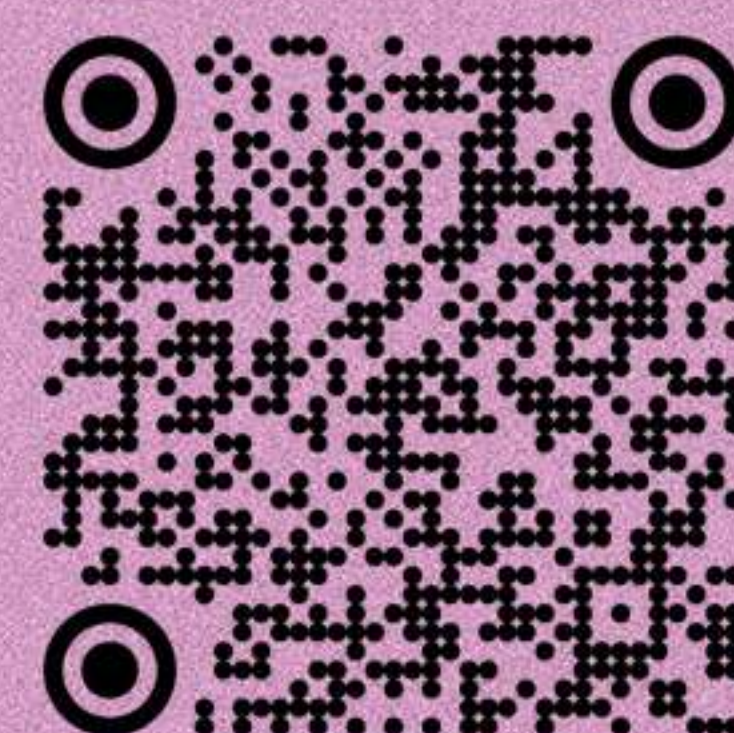
Being a support for a traumatized person can be hard work so make sure you respect your personal boundaries too.

Ask for emotional support from your close ones or do stuff that makes you feel grounded.

OFFER YOUR HELP

Make sure you offer your help but be prepared that the way in which they can use your help is up to them only. You can help them research information, accompany them to a crisis centre or a police station.

Never pressure them into anything YOU feel like they should do. They may not even want to undertake any steps (yet) and that's completely fine and not your responsibility. What they need from you is mainly to feel heard and trusted.



Why I didn't report?

HE WAS MY CAMPMASTER.

I was 14, he was 19. He was the scoutmaster of our troop. He wanted to date me, and threatened me. I really liked my friends from the troop and didn't want to lose them, so I figured that I had no other choice than to date him.

Everything escalated at the camp, where he would touch me during the watch, even though I resisted. Luckily, I later told everything to another campmistress and he had to leave the

scout center.



Why I didn't report?

**Nobody believed me
that the sex wasn't consensual.**

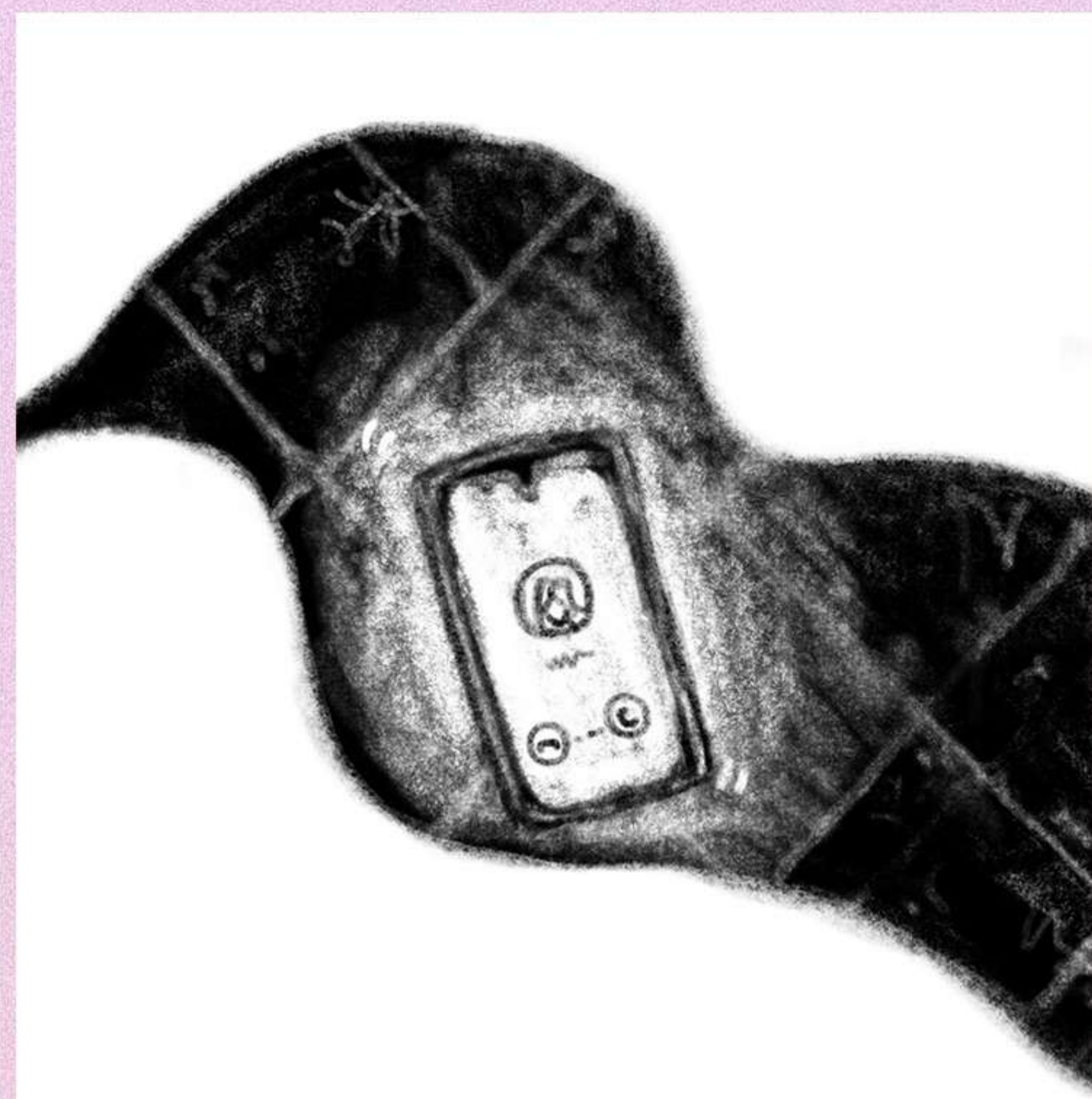
Me and my friend were interns at a camp, where I used to go as a child every year. It was the second-to-last day and we were preparing an evening party for the kids. We had a couple of drinks with the other leaders, but me and my friend didn't handle it well and we got drunk quite quickly. I took my friend to her tent, because she wasn't feeling well, and I went back to the hangar, where the party was taking place. On my way there, I was joined by another leader, who was around 32 and a soldier. I was so drunk I could barely walk. He dragged me to an empty tent, took my tracksuit off and raped me. I went completely stiff and couldn't make a sound. When I started realizing what's happening, I managed to break free from him and run away. I went to the river and started washing all that dirt off, crying. The next day, he was spreading rumors about us having sex, apparently I ran off during the best bit. I did say that I didn't want it, but my older step-brother, who was his friend, told everyone that I am making it up and I actually wanted to have sex with him. Afterwards, everyone was gossiping about me, what a whore I am. He had a girlfriend.

I was 19 years old.

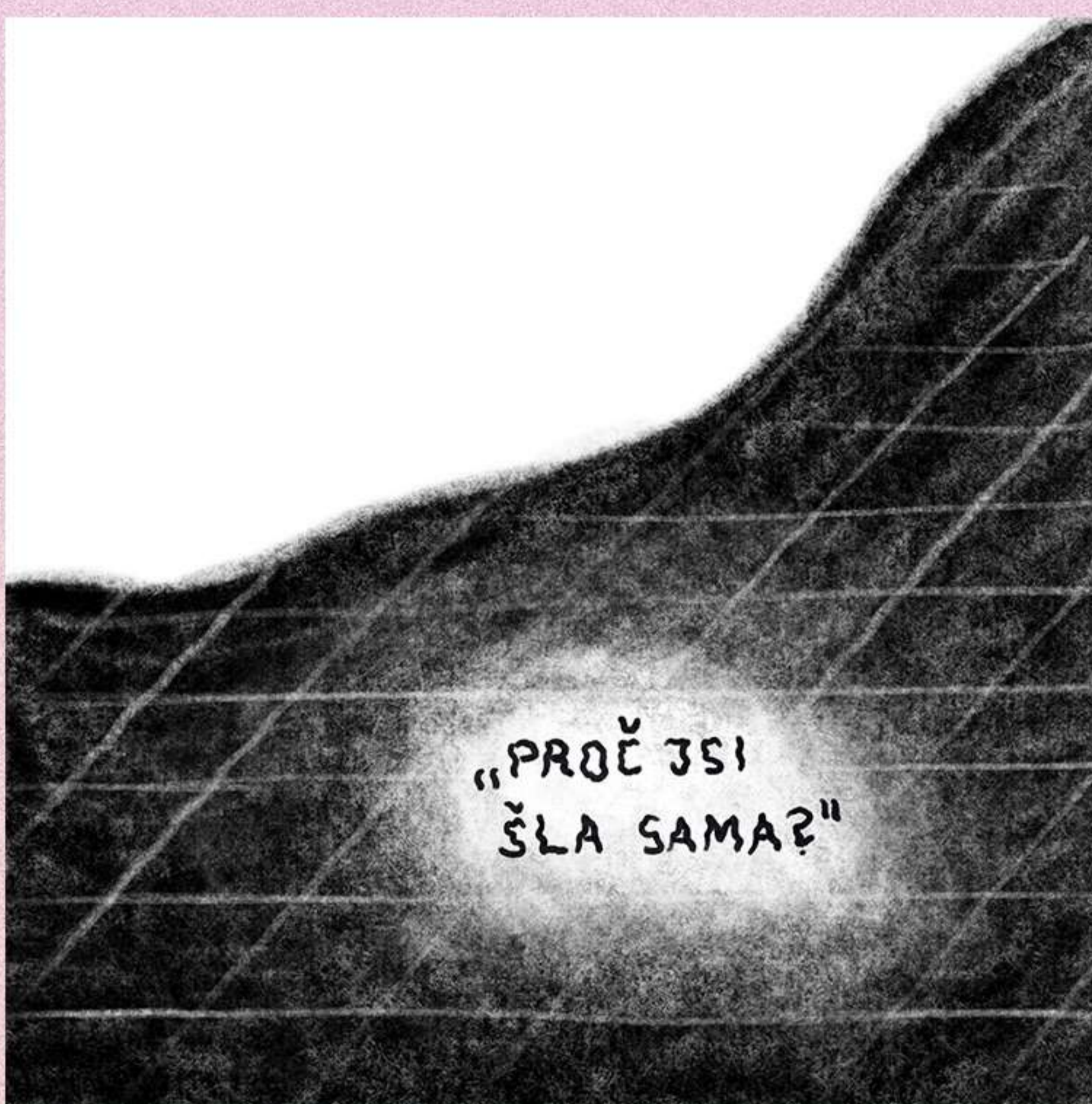
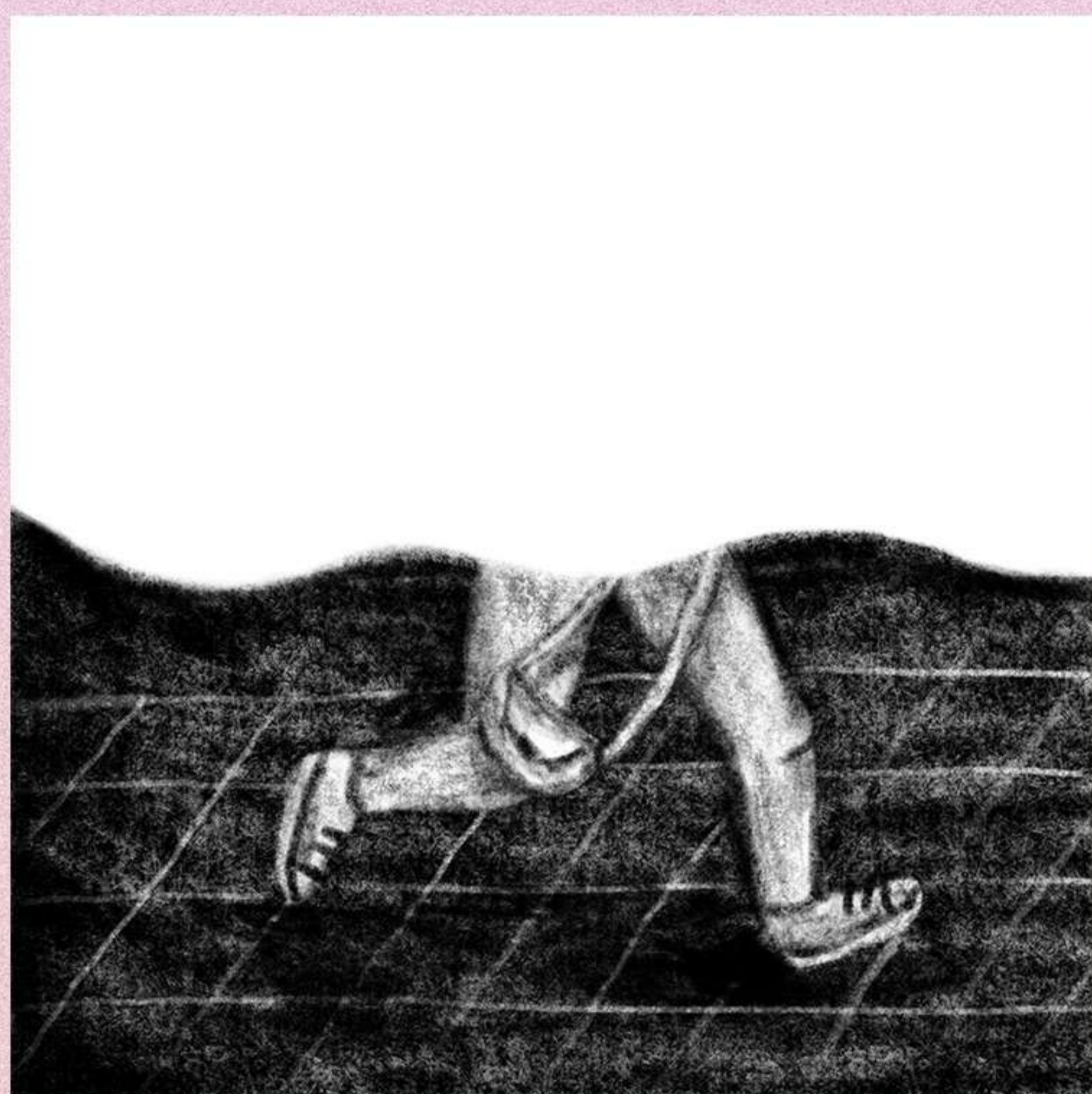




And what was the time when you were coming home?

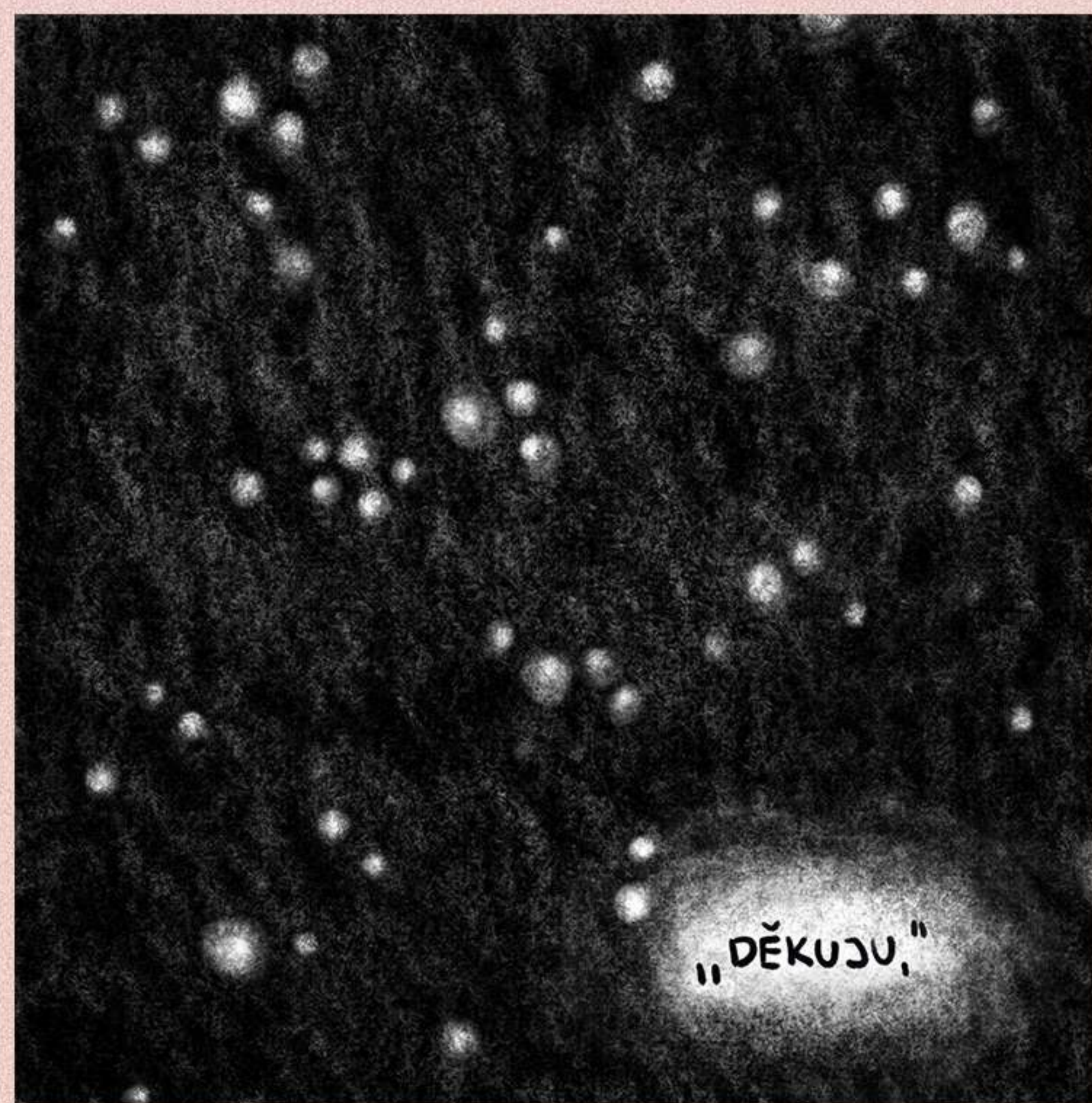


Why did you go by yourself?



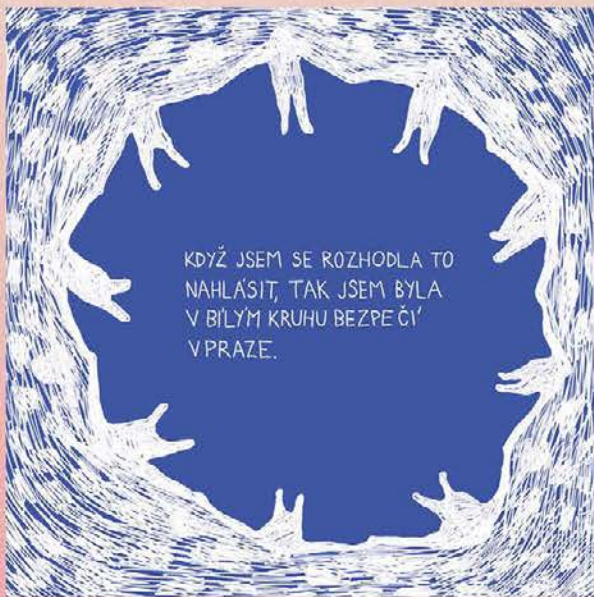
Well, don't go alone next time, it won't happen again.

Thank you.



artwork: Adéla Beznosková

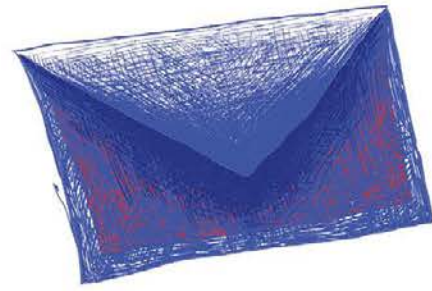
I was walking down the street, when he attempted to rape me. I had managed to run away, but struggled with mental health consequences afterwards. I felt dirty and cried into the pillow at night. I didn't know what to do. I had turned to a doctor with hopes of finding help and understanding. All I got was a few questions about the circumstances of the assault, like what time and with whom I was walking. I was battling tears and ran from the office. The doctor said that if I don't go home by myself in the future, it won't happen again. I didn't report the next case of sexual harassment. I want people to stop questioning the truthfulness of victims of sexual violence. The victim shouldn't have to prove their innocence on what had happened to them.



KDYŽ JSEM SE ROZHODLA TO NAHLÁSIT, TAK JSEM BYLA V BÍLÝM KRUHU BEZPEČÍ V PRAZE.

When I had decided to report it, I went to Bílý kruh bezpečí (a civil rights organisation) in Prague.

A ONI TI PORADILI, ABYS TO POSLALA POŠTOU?
And they advised you to send it by post?



JOJO, ŽE TO JE SAMOZŘEJMĚ NA MĚ, ALE ŽE TODLETO JE NEJLEPŠÍ, PROTOŽE ONI SE TOMU BUDOU VĚNOVAT A VYHNU SE KONTAKTU PŘÍMŮ S TĚMA POLICAJTAMA NA STANICI.

Yes, that it's up to me, of course, but that this is the best option, because they will deal with it and I will avoid the direct contact with the policemen at the station.

BYLA JSEM FAKT HROZNĚ NERVOZNI, ALE TÍM, ŽE JSEM MĚLA ZAŽÁDÁNO, ABY MĚ FAKT VYSLÝCHALA ŽENA, TÍM JSEM BYLA TROŠKU UKLIDNĚNÁ.



MĚLA JSEM DVE VYŠETŘOVATELKY, A OBĚ BYLY SKVĚLÝ.

I was really nervous, but because I had asked to actually be questioned by a woman, I was a little reassured.

And one of the investigators had the I.T. staff print it out and just read the antire conversation without leaving anything out. That's why she was so great. She went above and beyond what she had to do.



A TA JEDNA VYŠETŘOVATELKA SI TO NECHALA TĚMA AJTÁKAMA VZJET A PROSTĚ TU CELOU KONVERZACI PŘEČETLA A NIC NEVYNECHALA. V TOMHLE ONA BYLA SUPER, ŽE SE TOMU VĚNOVALA I NAD RÁMEC TOHO CO MUSELA.

artwork: Terezie Puršlová

S TŮU DRUHOU JSEM FURT V KONTAKTU JO ŽE ONA OBČAS ZAVOLÁ, JAK SE MÁTE A JA NA VÁS MYSLÍM A JAK SE ŽÍVE A JAK SE DAŘÍ, TAKŽE TO JE FAKT HEZKÝ ŽE SE OZVE I PO TĚCH LETECH.



I'm still in touch with the other one. She calls from time to time, asking me how I'm doing and telling me that she's thinking of me. That's really nice, the fact that she still reaches out after all these years.

My athletics coach had been sexually abusing me for three years. After a junior world championship in America, which was spoilt because of the terror he was causing me, I decided to seek help and went to Bílý kruh bezpečí with my ex girlfriend. I wanted people to find out the truth about him and for him to be banned from working with the youth, because apart from being a coach, he was a teacher, too. During my two visits of the BKB, a psychologist and a lawyer were present. They were both very helpful with what to do next. Among other things, they gave me contacts for a few therapists, out of which I chose one and had been visiting her for half a year. They also advised me to send the criminal complaint by post and to write down that I wish to be interrogated by a woman. There, too, I was lucky with the people assigned to me. The case procedure was long and exhausting and the result far from satisfactory - after all the appeals, the case reached the Supreme Court in Brno, where they had ordered the cancellation of the former sentence and a revision, after which he was only sentenced to 3 and a half years in jail - but I would do it all again regardless. I want to advise everyone else not to go straight to the police, but to consult with an organisation that deals with sexual violence. It increases the chance of a better experience.

Don't worry,
it will work out!

**NEBOJ, TO
SE VYŘEŠÍ!**

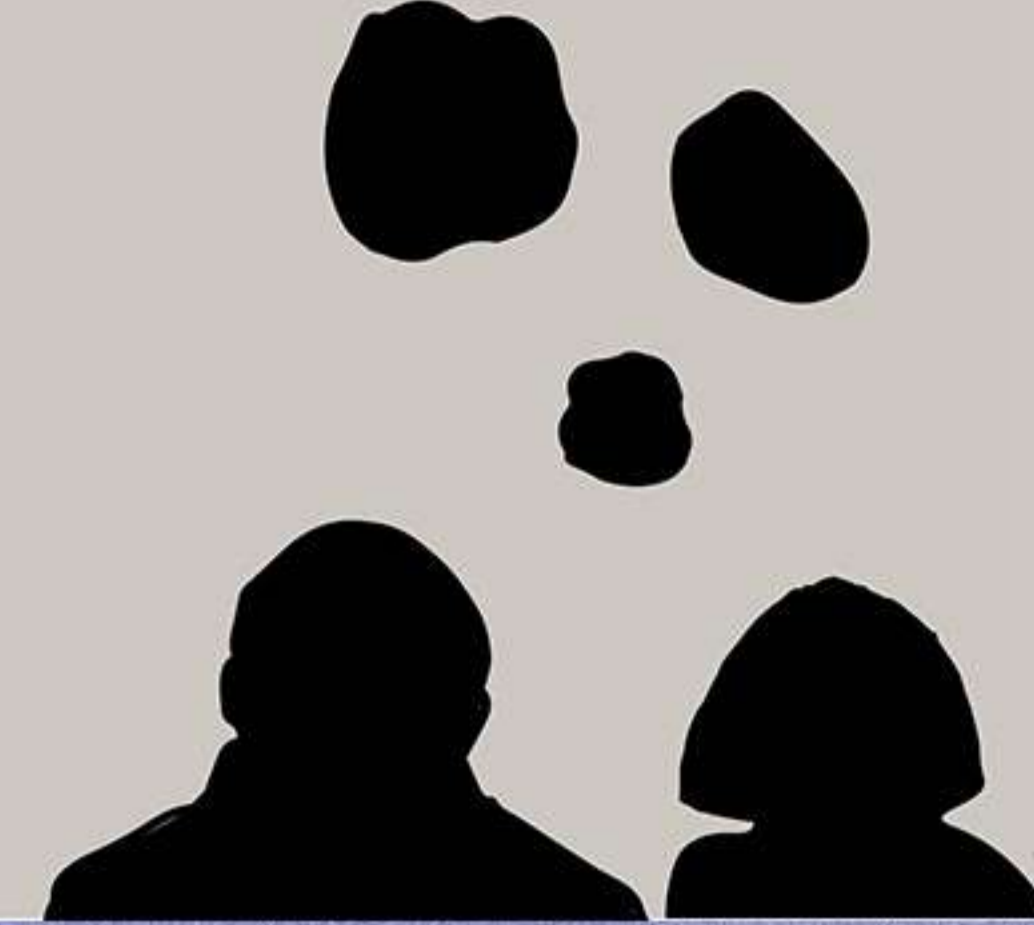


**JSEM TU
S TEBOU!**

*I'm here
with you.*

Police of the
Czech Republic

**POLICIE ČR
POMÁHAT
A CHRÁNIT**



*To protect and
to serve.*

**VÍTE VŮBEC, JAK
TAKOVÉ ZNÁSILNĚNÍ
VYPADÁ, SLEČNO?**

*Do you even know what
a rape looks like, miss?*



*Why did you even
come to report this?*

**PROČ TO
VŮBEC CHODÍTE
NAHLAŠOVAT?**

**COPAK JE TO
VŠECHNO MOJE
VINA?**

Is it all my fault after all?



**PROČ JSOU
VŠICHNI PROTI
MĚ?**

*Why is everyone
against me?*



*Why won't those,
who can help
me, do it?*

**PROČ MI TI, CO
MI MŮŽOU
POMOCT
NEPOMŮŽOU?**

*I don't believe this story
you've been telling*

**NEVĚŘÍM TOMU
CO NÁM TU
VYPRÁVÍŠ!**



**PŘECE
NEMŮŽEŠ PŘED
POLICIÍ ŘÍKAT LŽI!**

*You must not lie to
the police!*

artwork: Julie Pravcová



When I was thirteen, my then twenty year old boyfriend got me drunk, manipulated me and then sexually assaulted me. Three years later, I went to the police to report it with my step brother. I didn't want him to hurt anyone else. I hoped that they would understand. I had to describe what had happened in the hallway, in front of my brother. They called my mom and transferred us to the criminal department. The lady interrogating me kept questioning my testimony. She asked me why had I even come to report this. A defence councillor and a social worker were present at my next interrogation. The councillor made inappropriate comments and kept trying to please the policewoman, while I had to describe how exactly a sexual intercourse takes place. They kept putting special emphasis on what a false accusation means. The case is still ongoing. I am scared of that person to this day.



1. *A scout will always respect other's boundaries and privacy.*
2. *A scout understands that everybody has their bodily autonomy.*
3. *A scout never pressures another person into intimate interactions.*
4. *A scout always asks for consent, even if previously given, and never coerces another person into giving them one.*
5. *A scout understands that those under influence of alcohol/drugs are unable to give clear consent.*
6. *A scout understands the legal age for giving consent.*
7. *A scout never abuses their position of power to form sexual and other relations.*
8. *A scout never gaslights victims.*
9. *A scout doesn't take advantage of the vulnerable.*
10. *A scout never overlooks when others violate these rules and offers their help to victims instead.*

