

How I Lost My Vegetarianism



by
Katherine Aoki

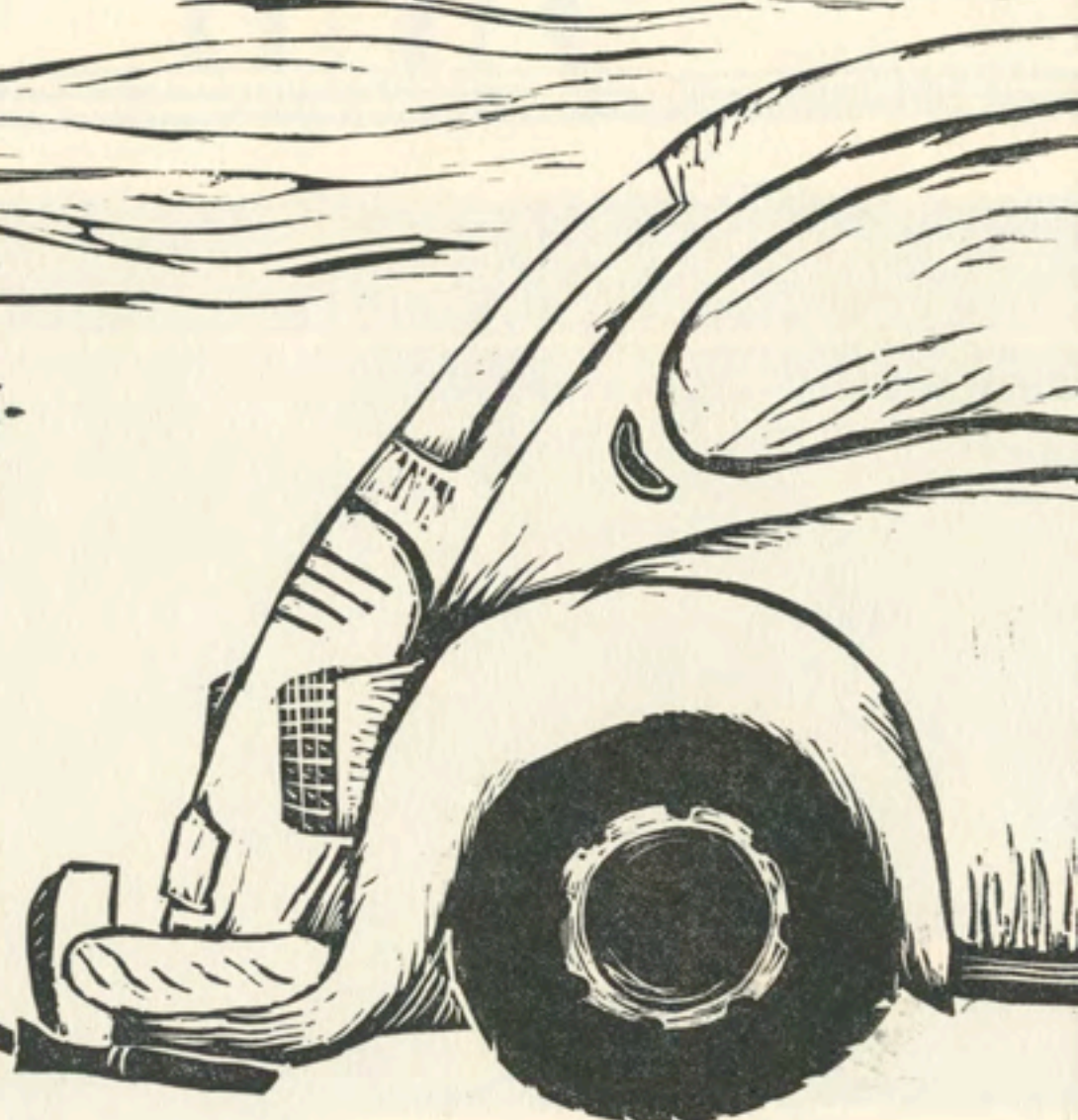





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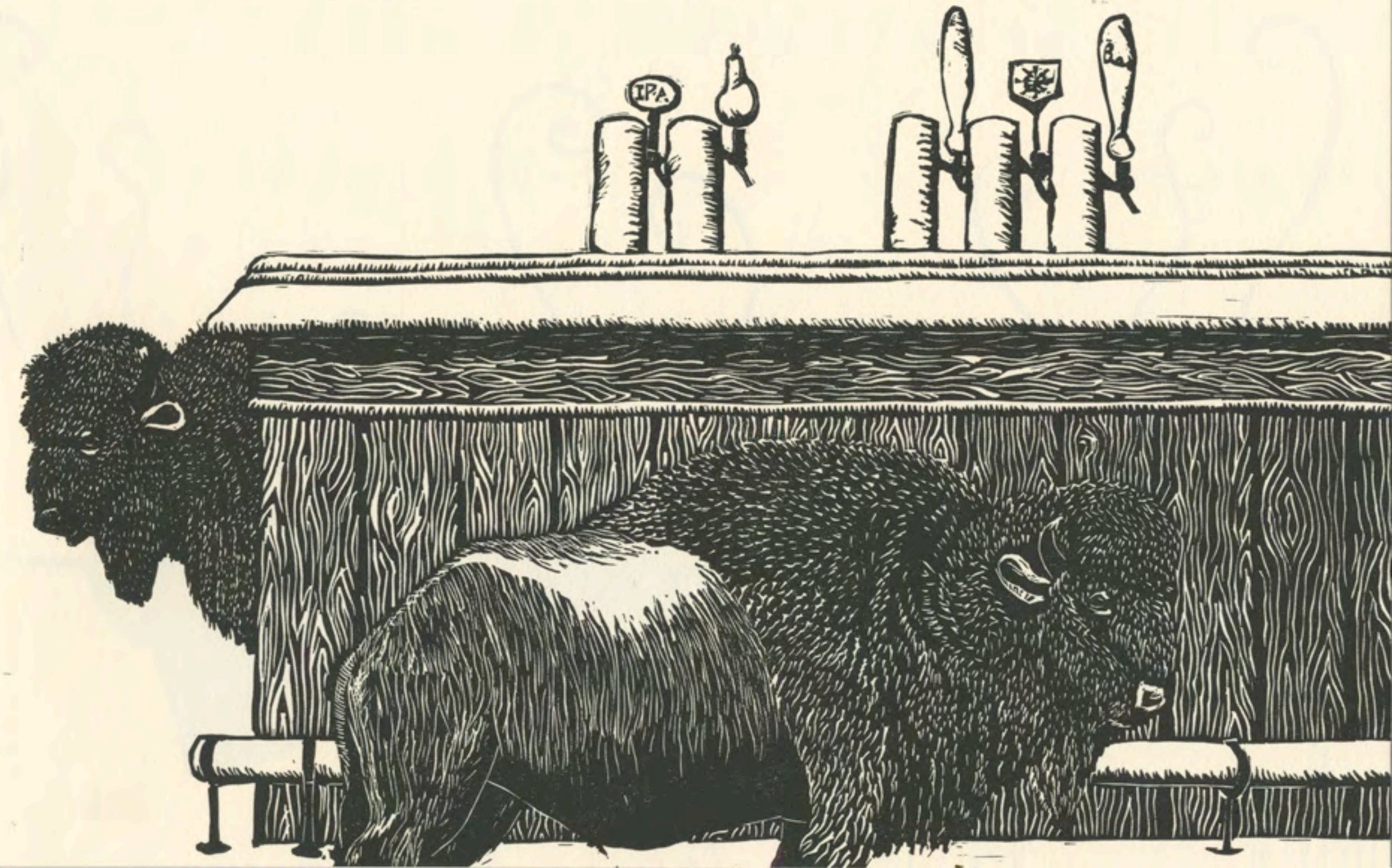
*A collection of fourteen anecdotes from
struggling vegetarian and ex-vegetarian women.*



I was driving in the Southern States Region
and saw huge billboards of family members
biting into boneless chicken strips.
They looked so happy, and there were no bones.
It was going to be so easy...

Afterwards I got sick as a dog.

**I was at a bar in St. Louis with a bunch of guys.
They ordered buffalo wings without asking me.
I was bored and ate one without thinking twice.**



I am still vegetarian, but I am immensely tempted by lamb.

I go to Greek restaurants and make people order it.

I lean over, inhaling the fumes.



I was infatuated with this guy.

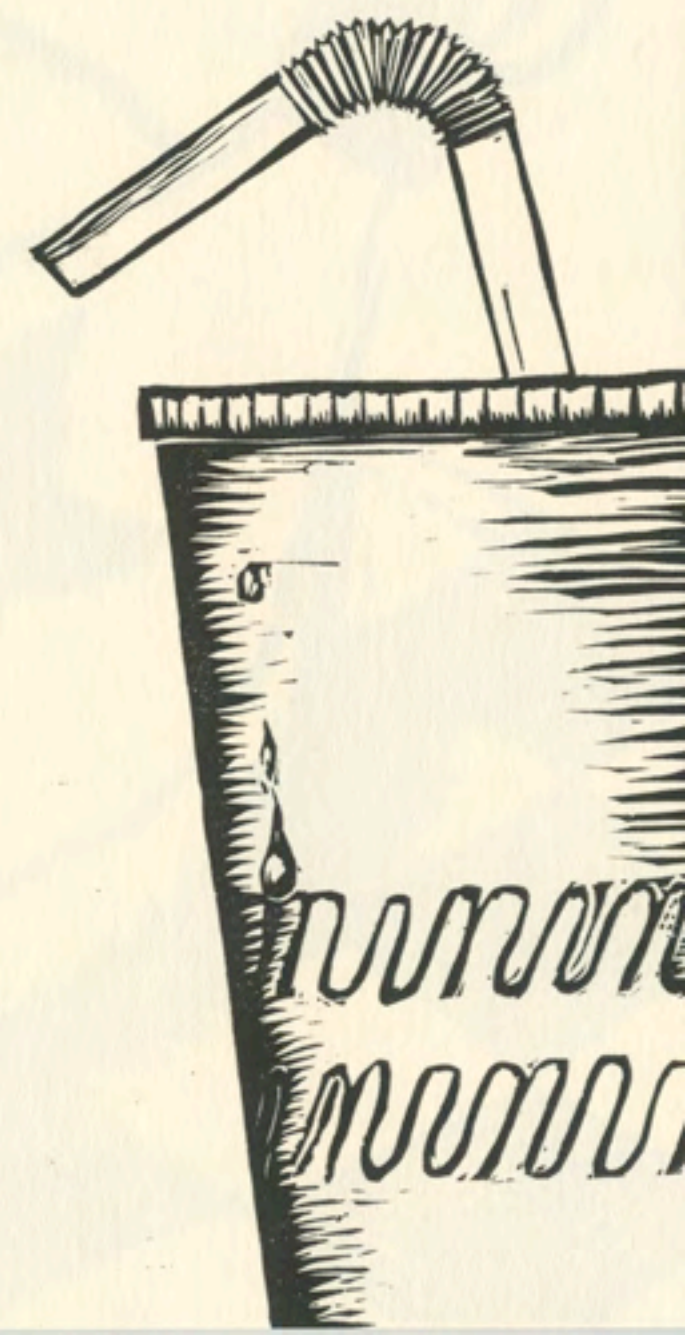
During a date we went to a fast food place.

I thought, "This guy is kind of cute;

I think I'll have a hamburger."



It was really quite lame.



I was in Texas.

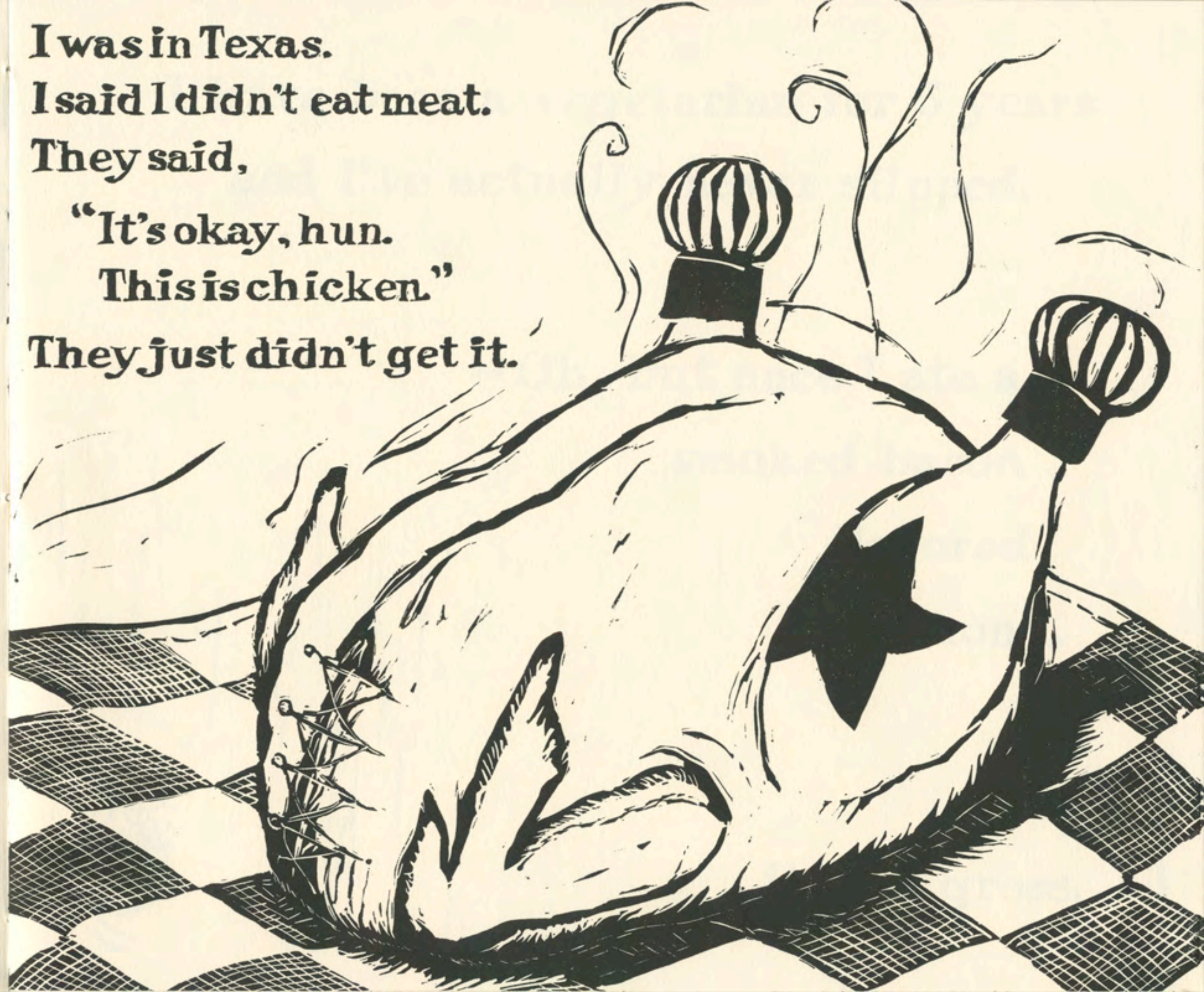
I said I didn't eat meat.

They said,

"It's okay, hun.

This is chicken."

They just didn't get it.

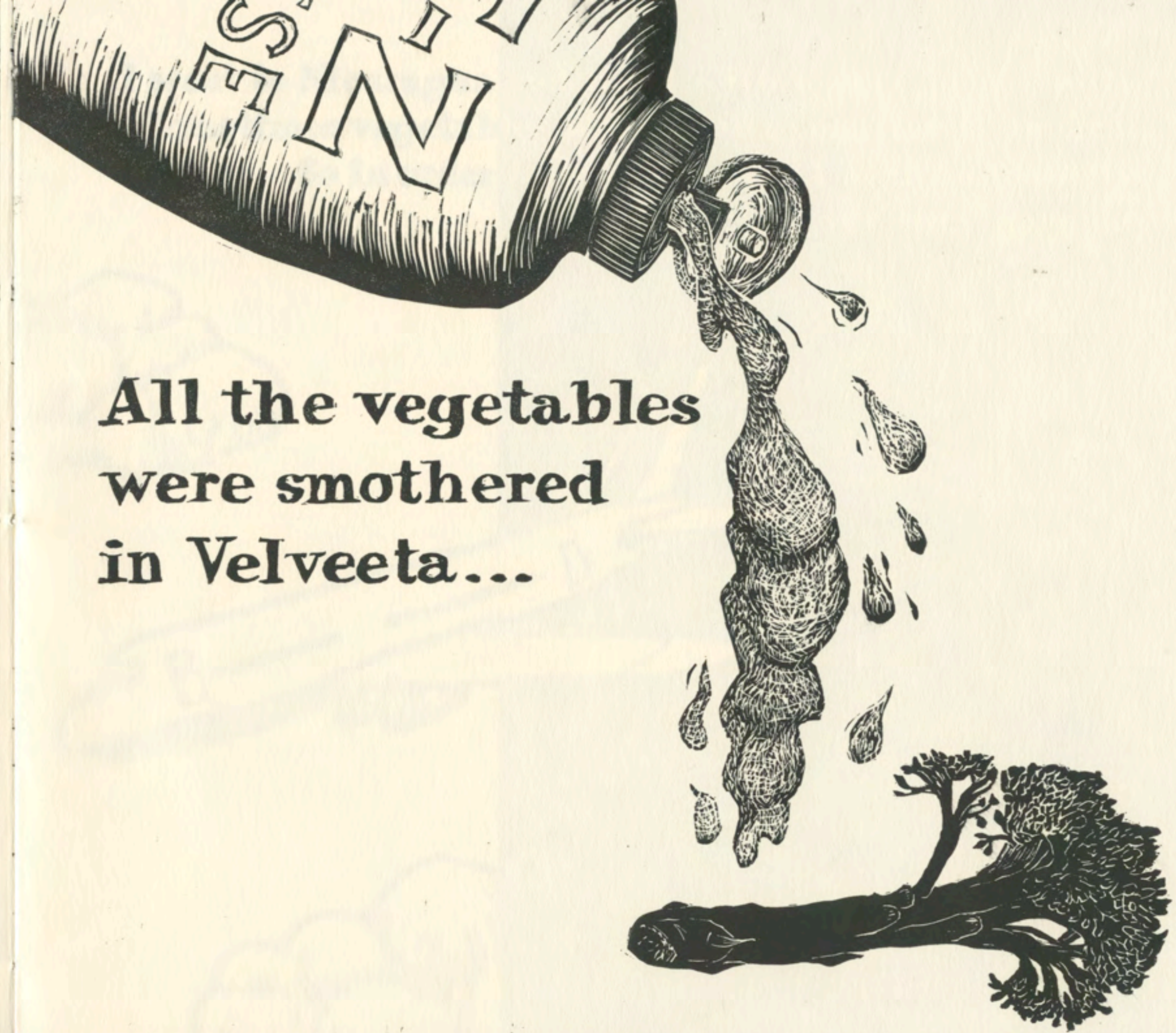


**I have been a vegetarian for 5 years
and I've actually never slipped.**

**~ Oh, but once I ate a
smoked bacon
flavored
almond.**

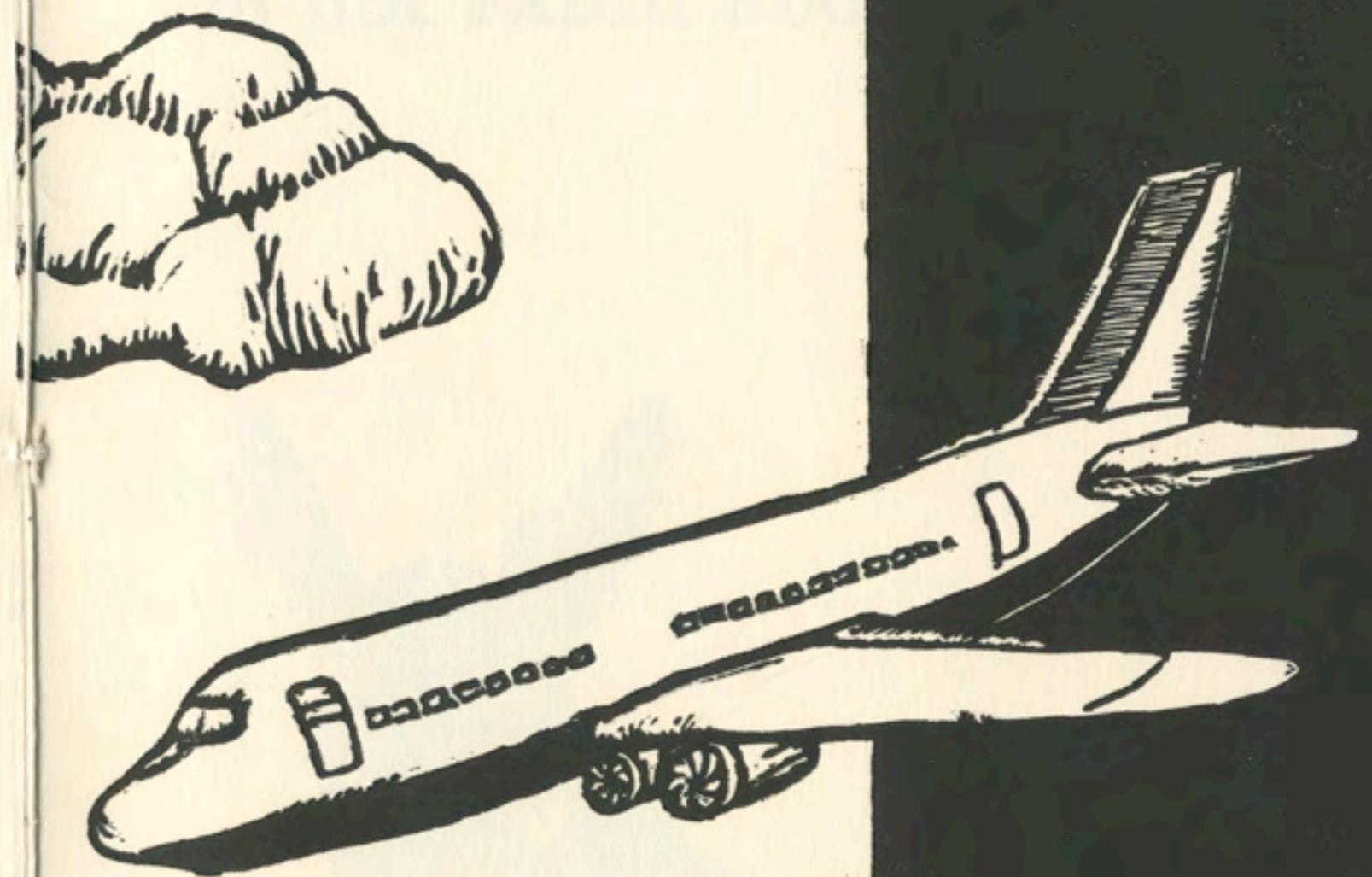
It was gross.





**All the vegetables
were smothered
in Velveeta...**

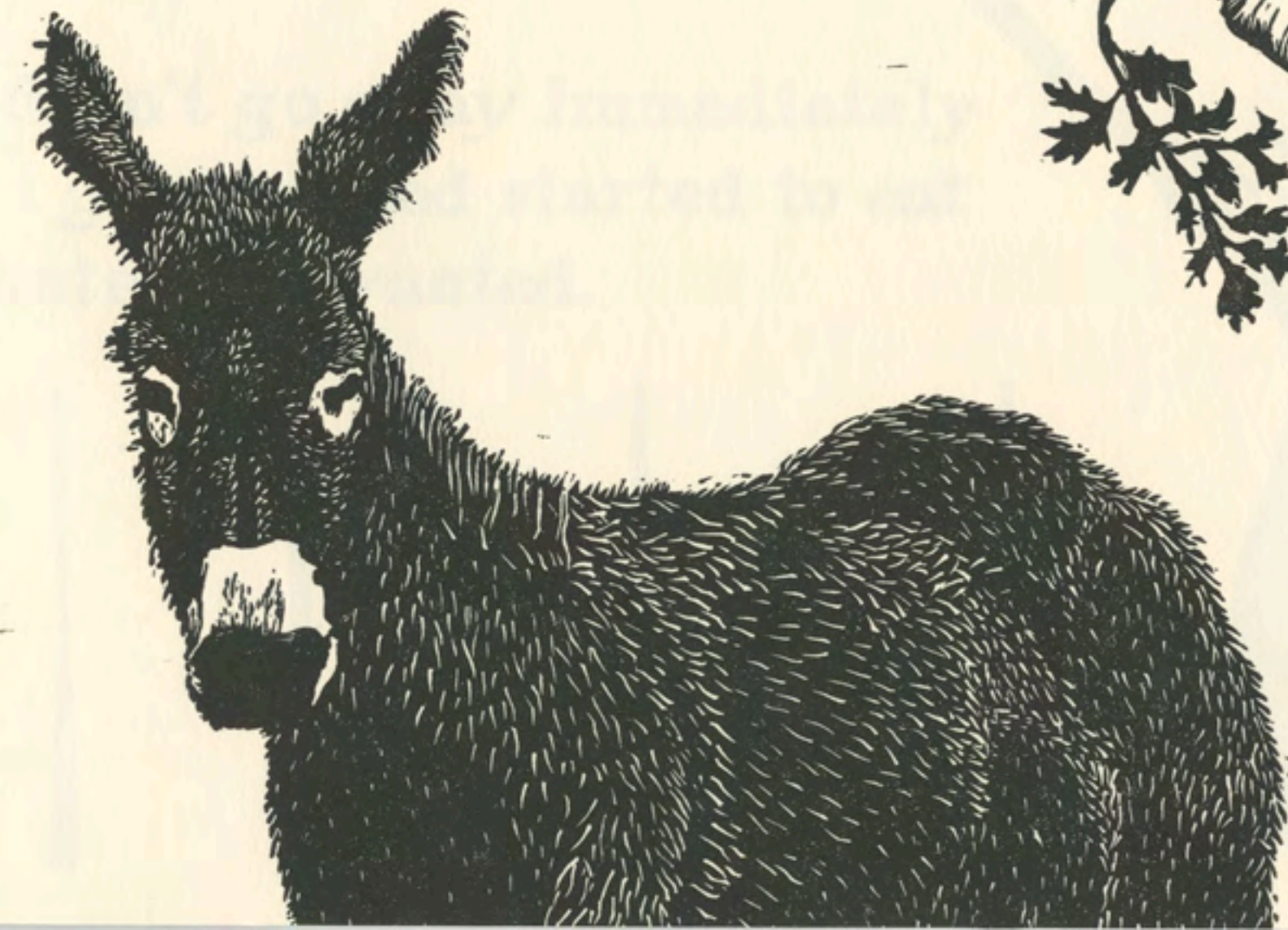
I went to Nicaragua and lived with a very poor family.
Sometimes vegetables were more expensive than meat.
So in order to lose my rich American identity,
I ate whatever they gave me.



Now I like the taste of meat.

I have vague plans to go back but

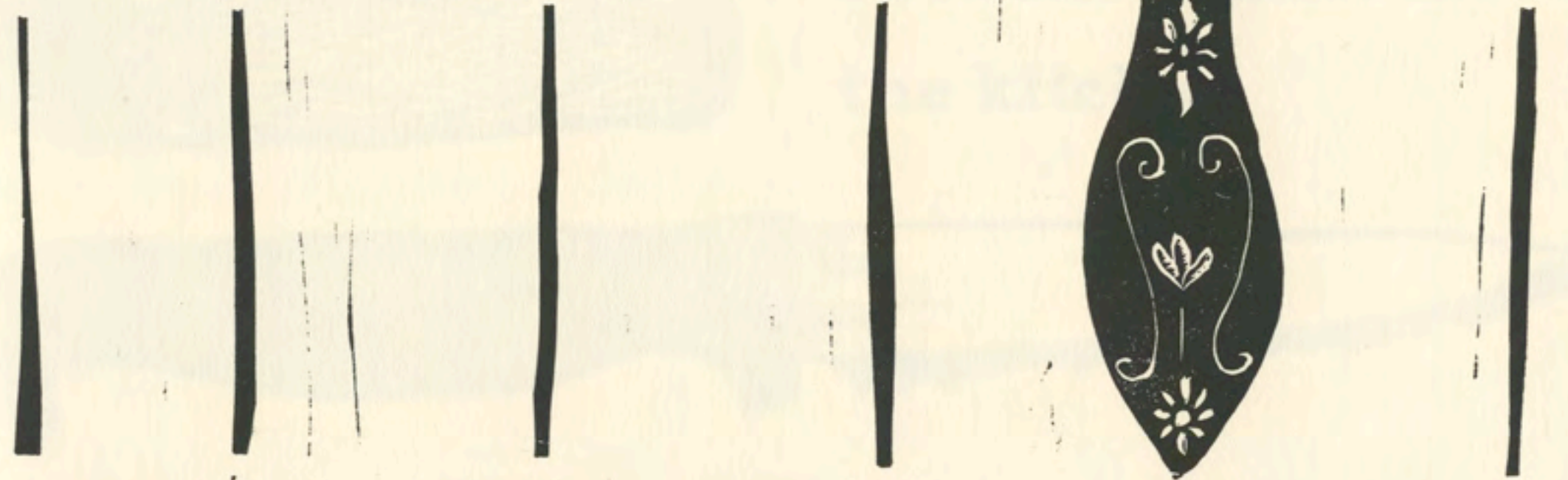
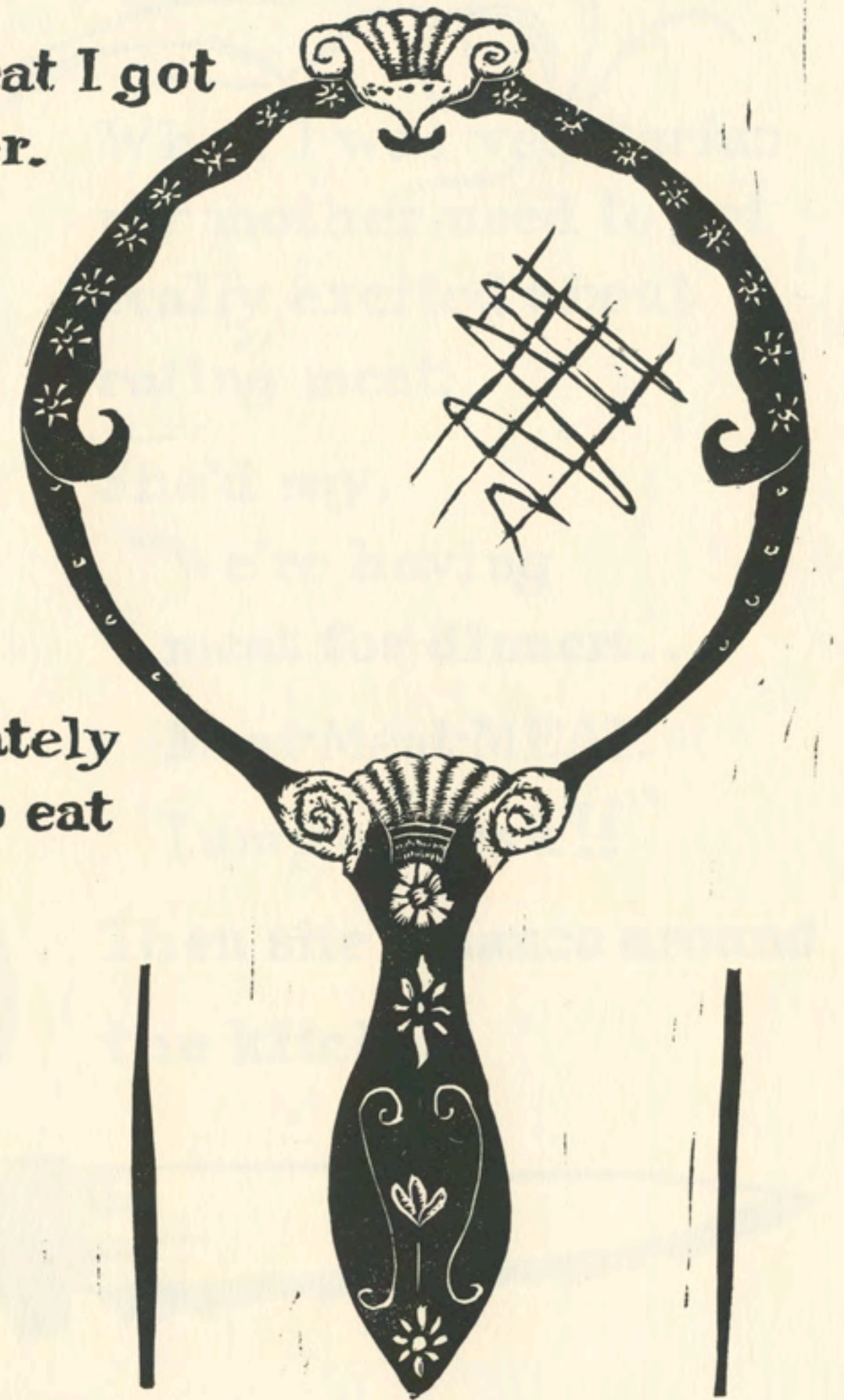
I'm not rabid about it.



**When I stopped eating meat I got
this terrible skin disorder.**

**I thought I was eating
very healthfully,
but the doctor said I
needed to take some zinc
supplements.**

**It didn't go away immediately
so I gave up and started to eat
whatever I wanted.**



When I was vegetarian
my mother used to get
really excited about
eating meat.

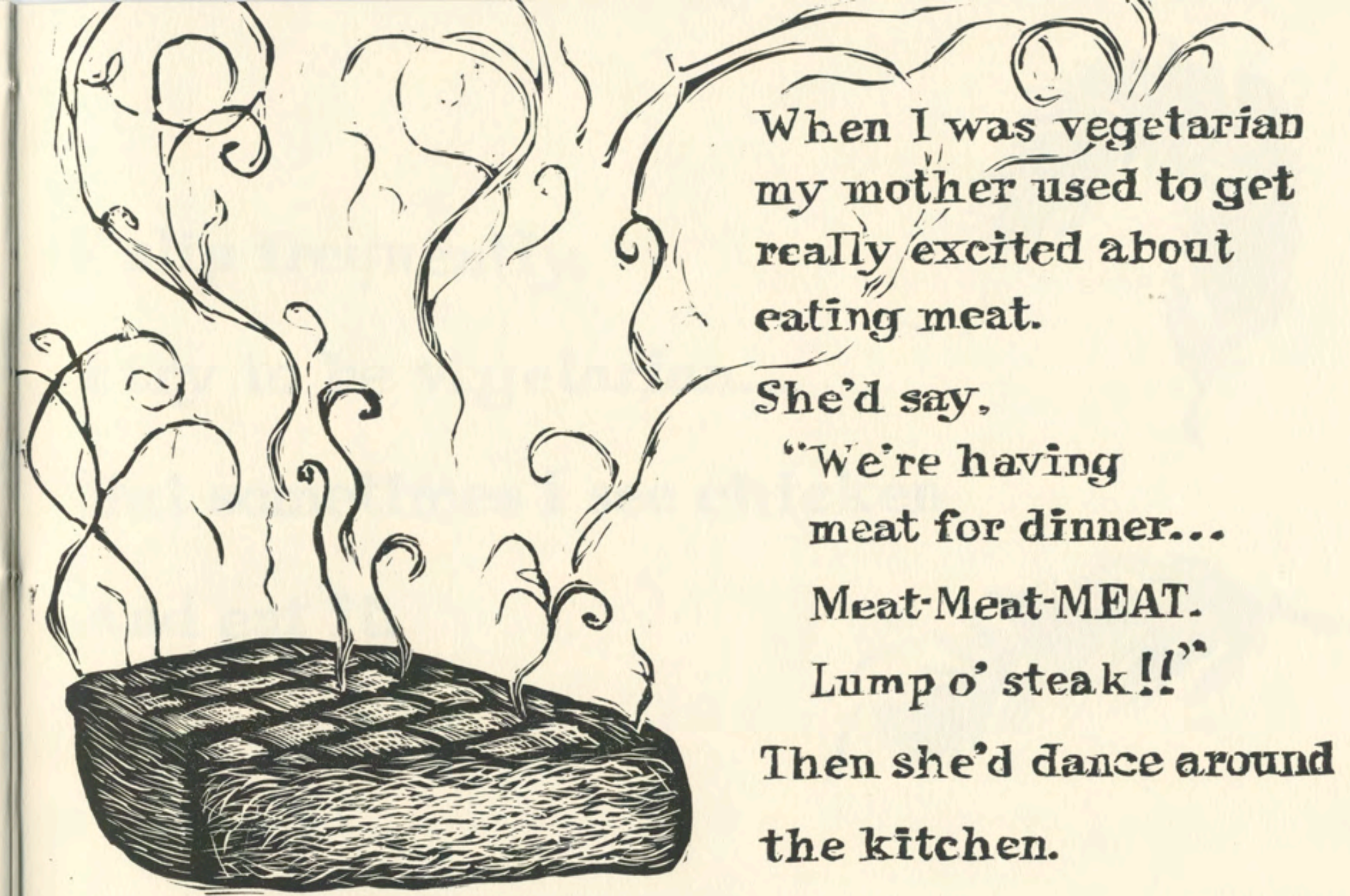
She'd say,

"We're having
meat for dinner...

Meat-Meat-MEAT.

Lump o' steak!!"

Then she'd dance around
the kitchen.



I slip frequently.

I try to be vegetarian...

But sometimes I see chicken

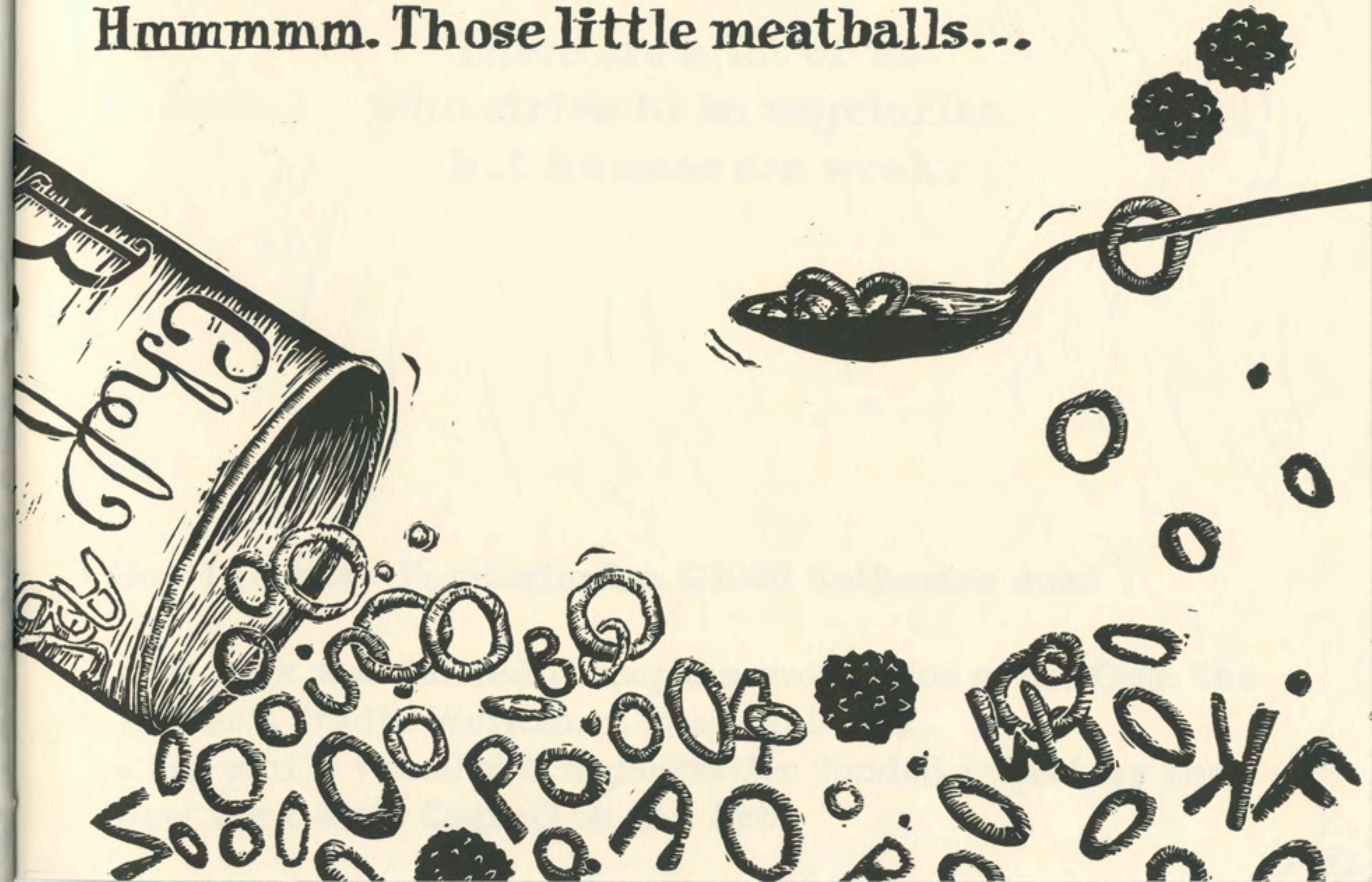
And eat it.



Do you mean really losing your vegetarianism
or do you mean chicken upgrade to beef?

I had
already
started to eat
chicken sandwiches
But then I got this
craving for McDonald's
cheeseburgers...

I lost my vegetarianism eating out of a can.
It was really cheap and really yummy.
Hmmmmm. Those little meatballs...



**There are a lot of us
who strive to be vegetarian,
but humans are weak.**

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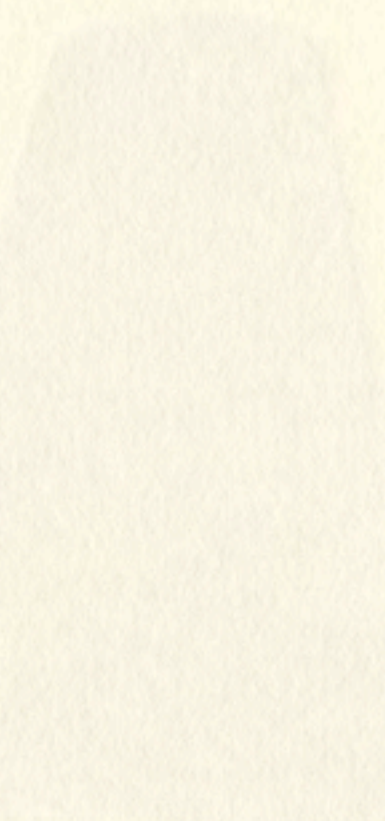
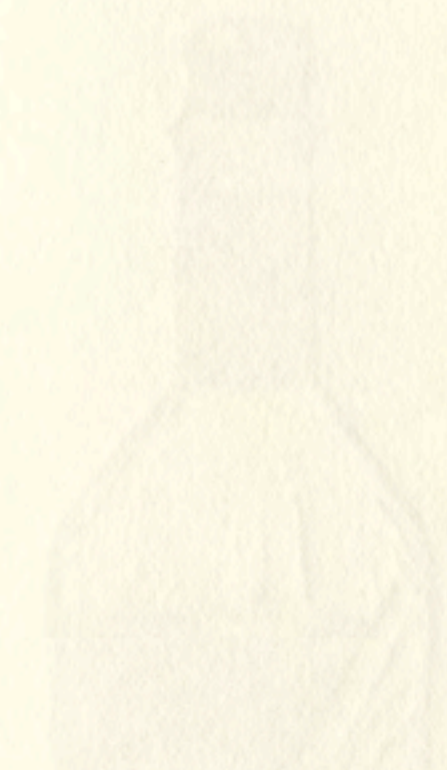
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but humans are weak.

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