

DEDICATION TO COME
(TO COME DURING PM
LASER ROUTING)



WALUK TRIED TO FALL ASLEEP IN HIS HOLE IN THE ICE.



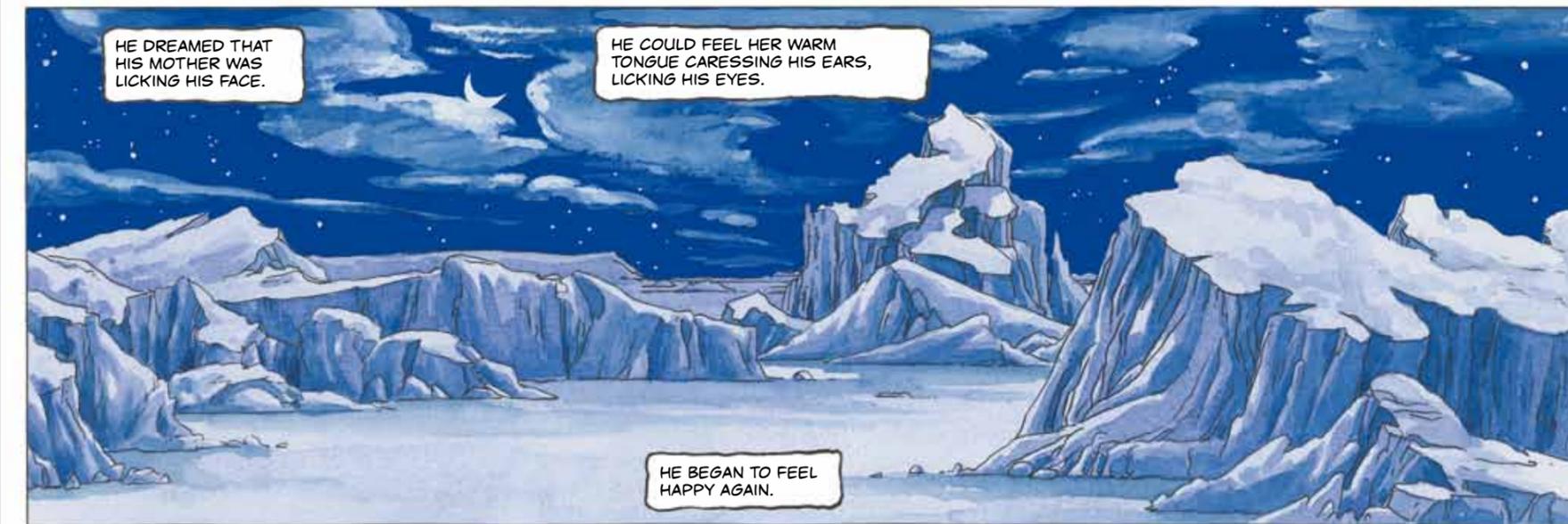
NO ONE IN THE WORLD COULD HAVE FELT MORE ALONE AND UNLOVED.

HIS MOTHER HAD ABANDONED HIM.



HE WAS HUNGRY AND VERY TIRED, BUT HE COULDN'T SLEEP A WINK.

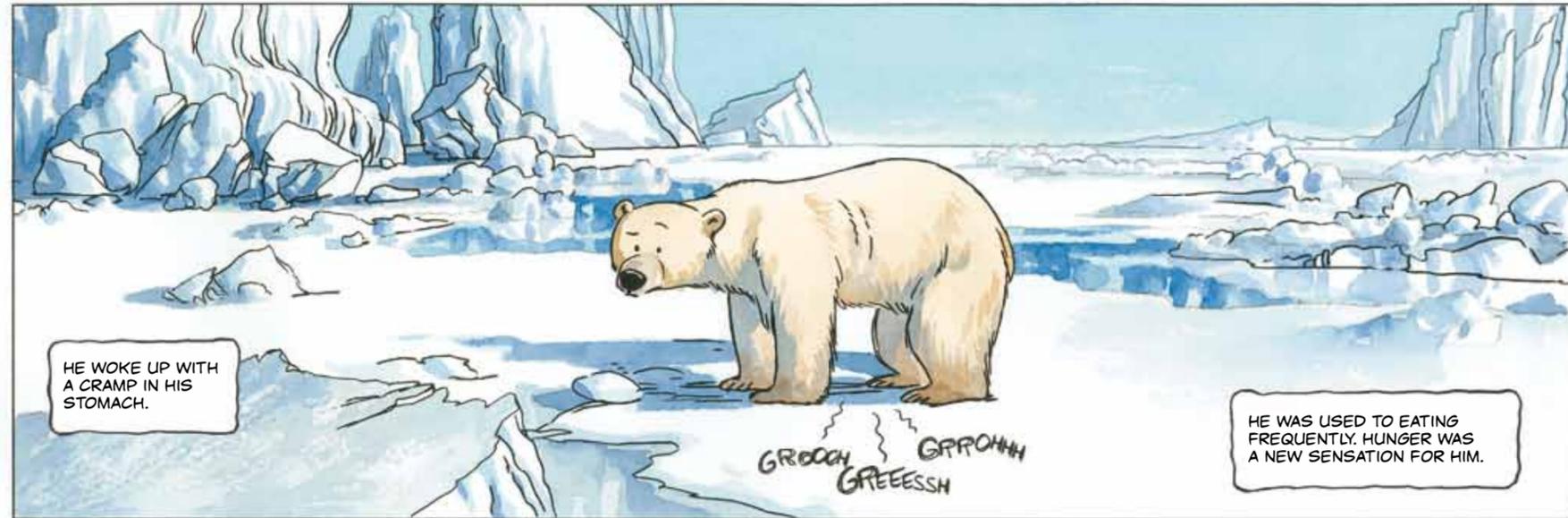
BUT FINALLY, HE SLEPT.



HE DREAMED THAT HIS MOTHER WAS LICKING HIS FACE.

HE COULD FEEL HER WARM TONGUE CARESSING HIS EARS, LICKING HIS EYES.

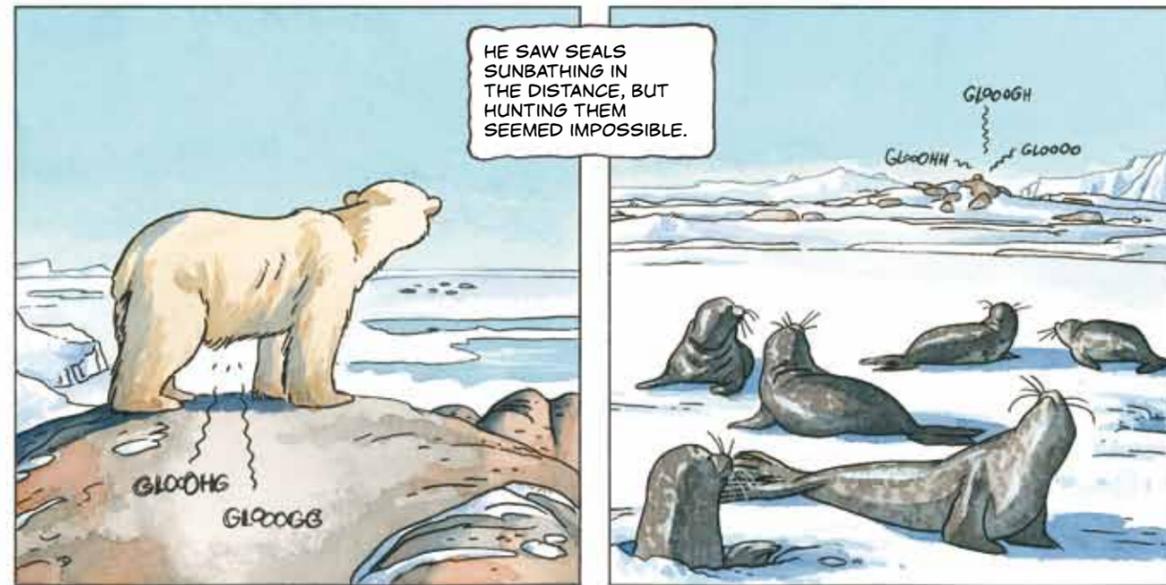
HE BEGAN TO FEEL HAPPY AGAIN.



HE WOKE UP WITH A CRAMP IN HIS STOMACH.

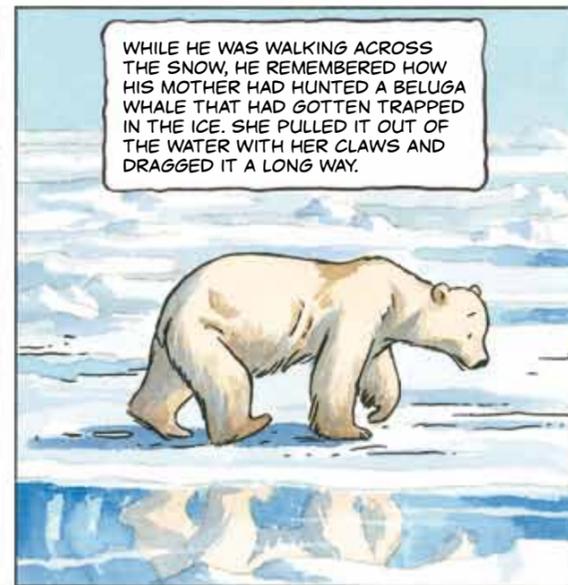
GROOCH
GREEESH
GRRROHH

HE WAS USED TO EATING FREQUENTLY. HUNGER WAS A NEW SENSATION FOR HIM.



HE SAW SEALS SUNBATHING IN THE DISTANCE, BUT HUNTING THEM SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE.

GLOOHH
GLOOHH
GLOOHH



WHILE HE WAS WALKING ACROSS THE SNOW, HE REMEMBERED HOW HIS MOTHER HAD HUNTED A BELUGA WHALE THAT HAD GOTTEN TRAPPED IN THE ICE. SHE PULLED IT OUT OF THE WATER WITH HER CLAWS AND DRAGGED IT A LONG WAY.



HIS MOTHER WAS VERY STRONG. WALUK JUST FELT SMALL AND WEAK.

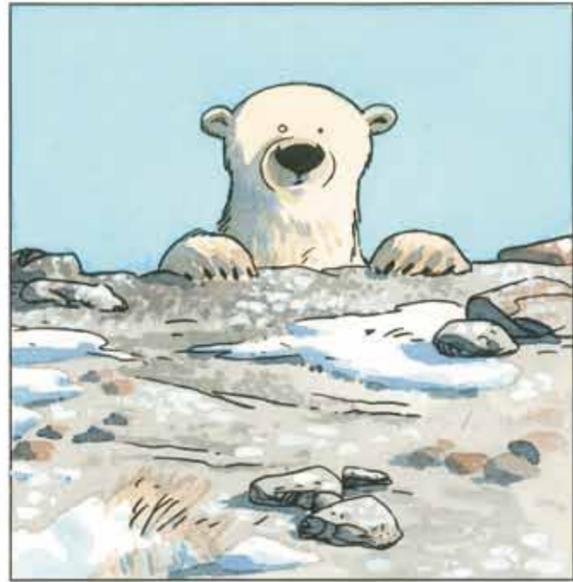
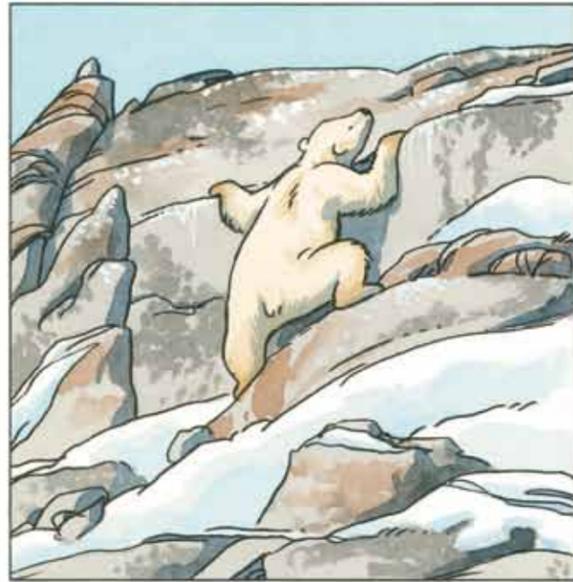


HIS ONLY FOOD FOR DAYS HAD BEEN SEAWEED AND DEAD FISH THAT HE FOUND WASHED UP ON THE SHORE.



THAT MORNING, HE WOULD TRY TO EAT SOMETHING NOURISHING AND EASY TO CATCH.









THAT SAME MORNING NEAR WHERE WALUK SLEPT, ANOTHER BEAR ALSO FELT VERY ALONE.

HE WAS AN OLD BEAR NAMED MANITOK. IN HIS YOUTH, HE WEIGHED AS MUCH AS 1,300 POUNDS. HIS BODY STRETCHED OUT ALMOST 13 FEET WHEN HE LAY IN THE SNOW.

MANITOK COULDN'T SEE MUCH AND COULD SMELL EVEN LESS. HE DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH BODY FAT TO KEEP WARM.



MANITOK WAS WANDERING THROUGH THE FROZEN TUNDRA IN SEARCH OF ANYTHING HE COULD FIND TO FILL HIS BELLY WHEN OFF IN THE DISTANCE, HE SAW WALUK.

WALUK LOOKED DEAD, BUT MANITOK TRIED TO SENSE WITH HIS TONGUE IF THERE WAS ANY HEAT LEFT IN HIS BODY.

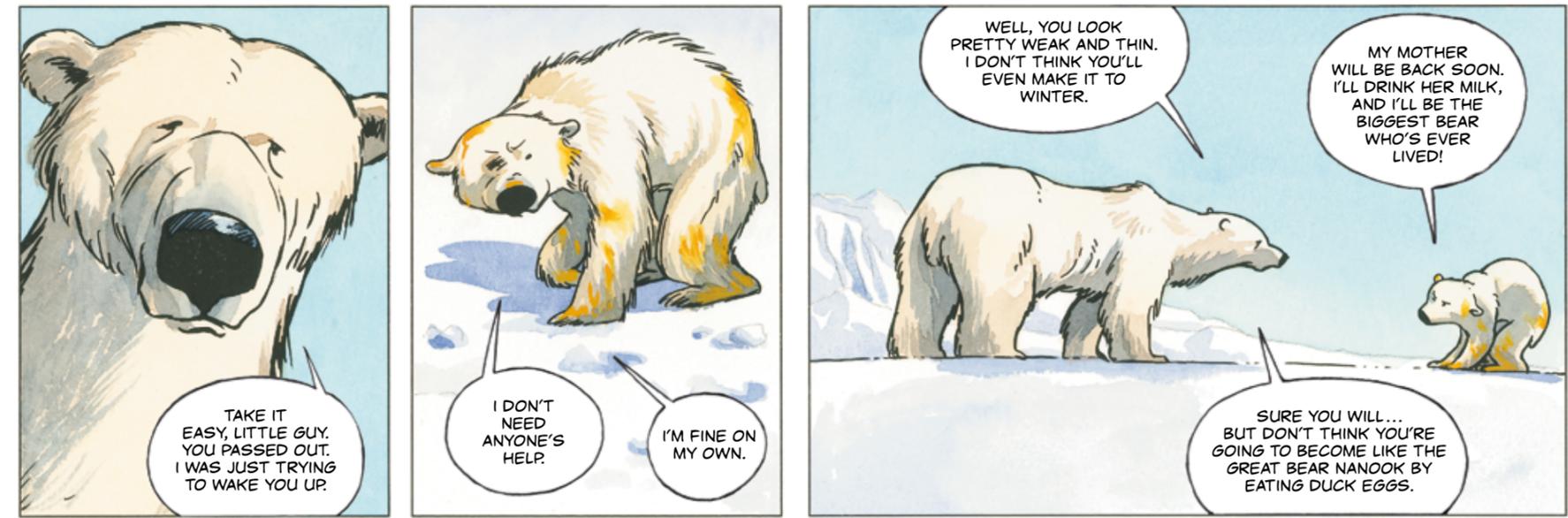


...MMM...
MMM

...MOMMA...

!!?!

AAA!!



TAKE IT EASY, LITTLE GUY. YOU PASSED OUT. I WAS JUST TRYING TO WAKE YOU UP.

I DON'T NEED ANYONE'S HELP.

I'M FINE ON MY OWN.

WELL, YOU LOOK PRETTY WEAK AND THIN. I DON'T THINK YOU'LL EVEN MAKE IT TO WINTER.

MY MOTHER WILL BE BACK SOON. I'LL DRINK HER MILK, AND I'LL BE THE BIGGEST BEAR WHO'S EVER LIVED!

SURE YOU WILL... BUT DON'T THINK YOU'RE GOING TO BECOME LIKE THE GREAT BEAR NANOOK BY EATING DUCK EGGS.



WELL, I'M JUST WAITING FOR MY MOM. SHE WENT TO HUNT SEALS FOR ME.

HAA HAA! STOP OR YOU'LL MAKE ME CRY LAUGHING! IT'S SO COLD THE TEARS WILL FREEZE MY EYES SHUT.



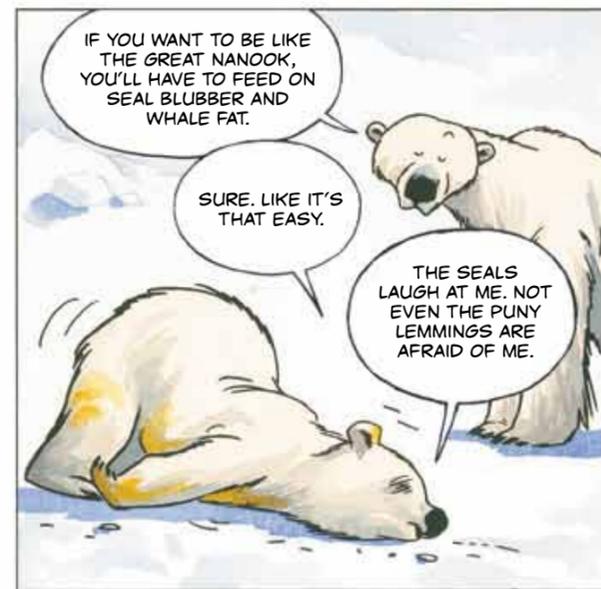
FINE. THE TRUTH IS I'M LOST.

MY MOTHER HASN'T COME BACK, AND I HAVE TO EAT WHAT I CAN FIND.

I'M VERY COLD AND HUNGRY.



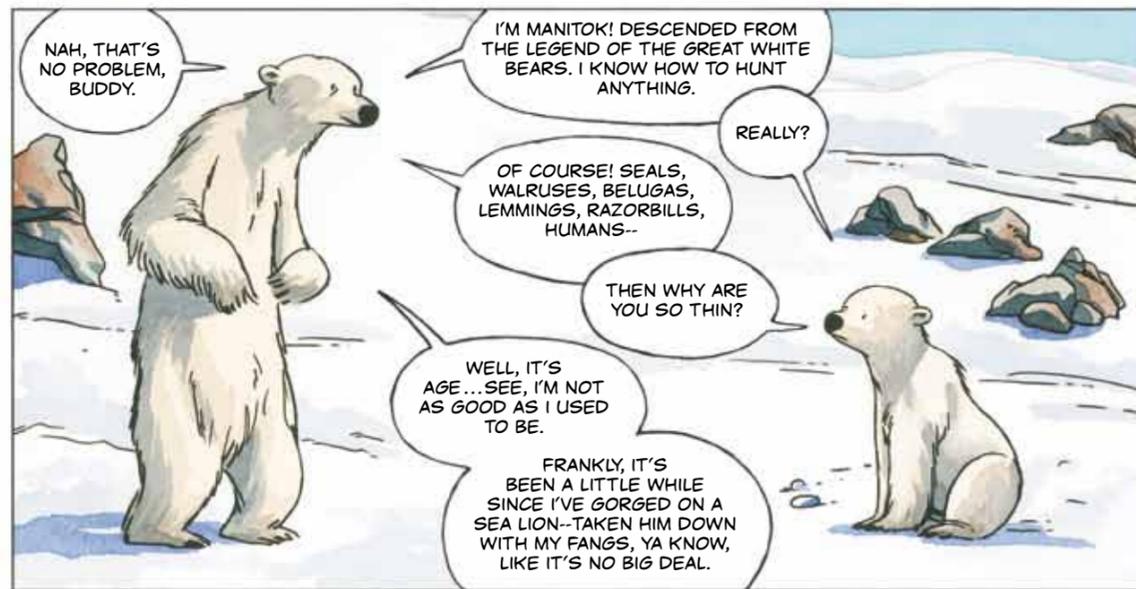
POOR LITTLE GUY. BUT, UH...UNTIL YOU FIND YOUR MOM, YOU GOTTA KEEP EATING.



IF YOU WANT TO BE LIKE THE GREAT NANOOK, YOU'LL HAVE TO FEED ON SEAL BLUBBER AND WHALE FAT.

SURE. LIKE IT'S THAT EASY.

THE SEALS LAUGH AT ME. NOT EVEN THE PUNY LEMMINGS ARE AFRAID OF ME.



NAH, THAT'S NO PROBLEM, BUDDY.

I'M MANITOK! DESCENDED FROM THE LEGEND OF THE GREAT WHITE BEARS. I KNOW HOW TO HUNT ANYTHING.

REALLY?

OF COURSE! SEALS, WALRUSES, BELUGAS, LEMMINGS, RAZORBILLS, HUMANS--

THEN WHY ARE YOU SO THIN?

WELL, IT'S AGE...SEE, I'M NOT AS GOOD AS I USED TO BE.

FRANKLY, IT'S BEEN A LITTLE WHILE SINCE I'VE GORGED ON A SEA LION--TAKEN HIM DOWN WITH MY FANGS, YA KNOW, LIKE IT'S NO BIG DEAL.



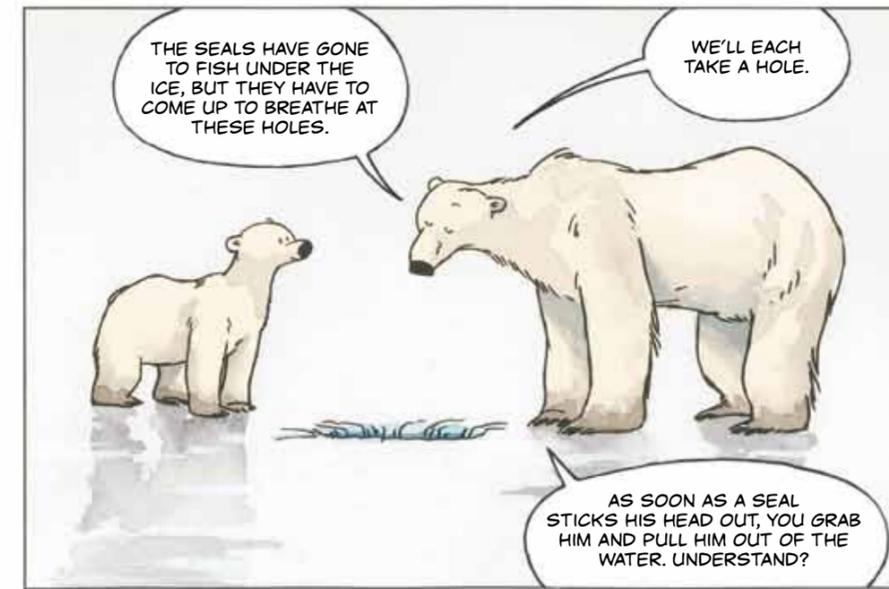
PERHAPS BECAUSE THEY WERE BOTH SO LONELY, WALUK AND MANITOK BECAME FAST FRIENDS. BUT EVERY DAY WHEN THEY WOKE UP, IT WAS THE SAME STORY...

I CAN'T GET RID OF THIS DARN COLD! MY NOSE IS ALWAYS STUFFY!

WHERE DO YOU SMELL FOOD, WALUK?

WALUK HAD NOTICED A WHILE AGO THAT MANITOK HAD A POOR SENSE OF SMELL.

I SMELL WARM SEAL. IT'S SUNBATHING SOMEWHERE OVER THERE.



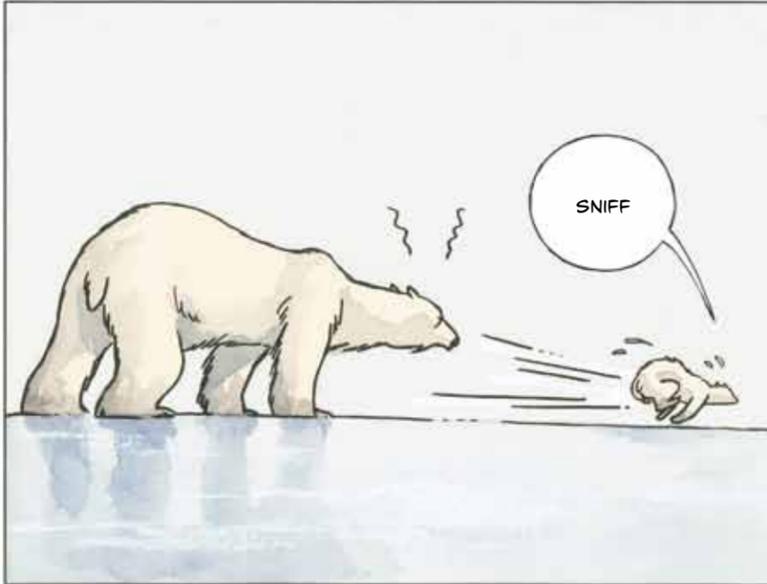
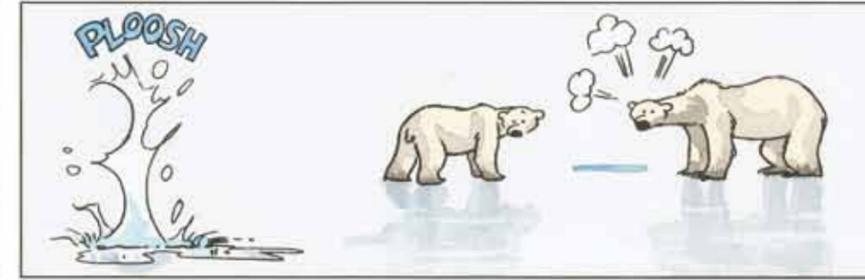
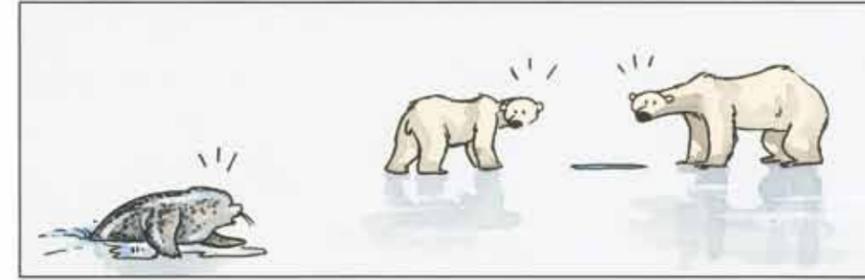
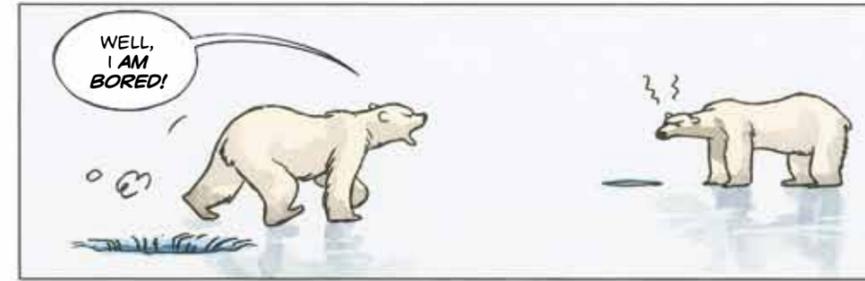
THE SEALS HAVE GONE TO FISH UNDER THE ICE, BUT THEY HAVE TO COME UP TO BREATHE AT THESE HOLES.

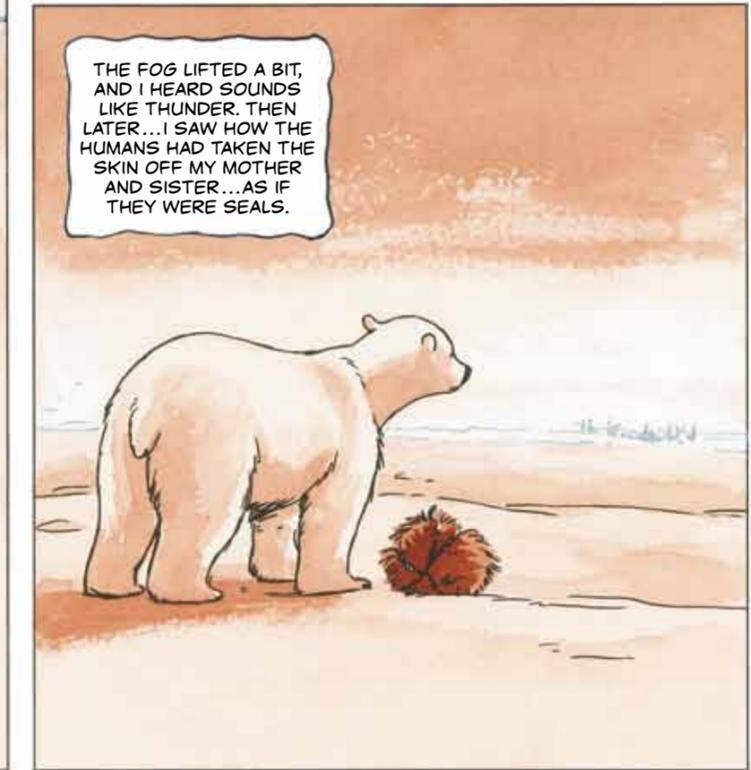
WE'LL EACH TAKE A HOLE.

AS SOON AS A SEAL STICKS HIS HEAD OUT, YOU GRAB HIM AND PULL HIM OUT OF THE WATER. UNDERSTAND?



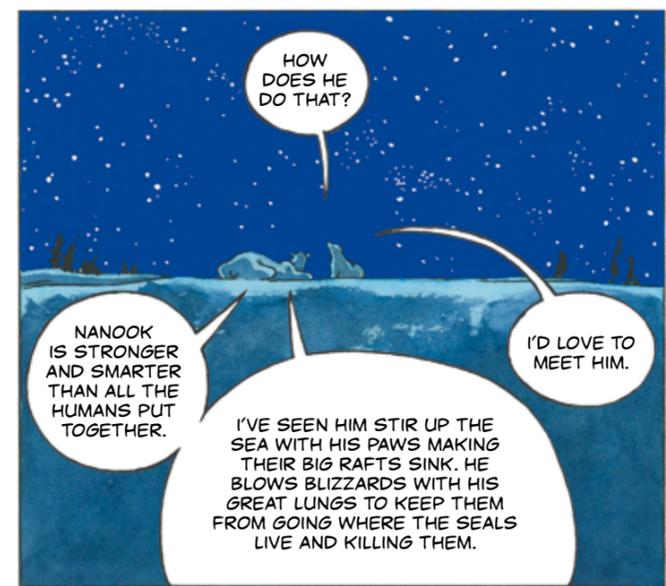
BUT COVER THAT BLACK SNOUT OF YOURS WITH YOUR PAW SO YOU'LL BLEND IN WITH THE ICE. OTHERWISE, YOU'LL SCARE THEM, AND THEY WON'T COME UP.

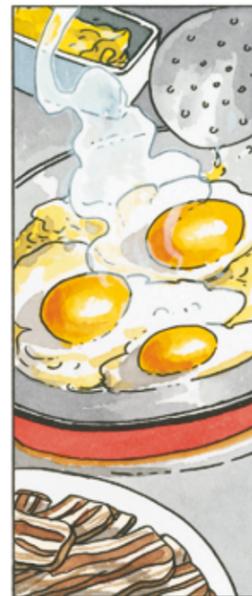
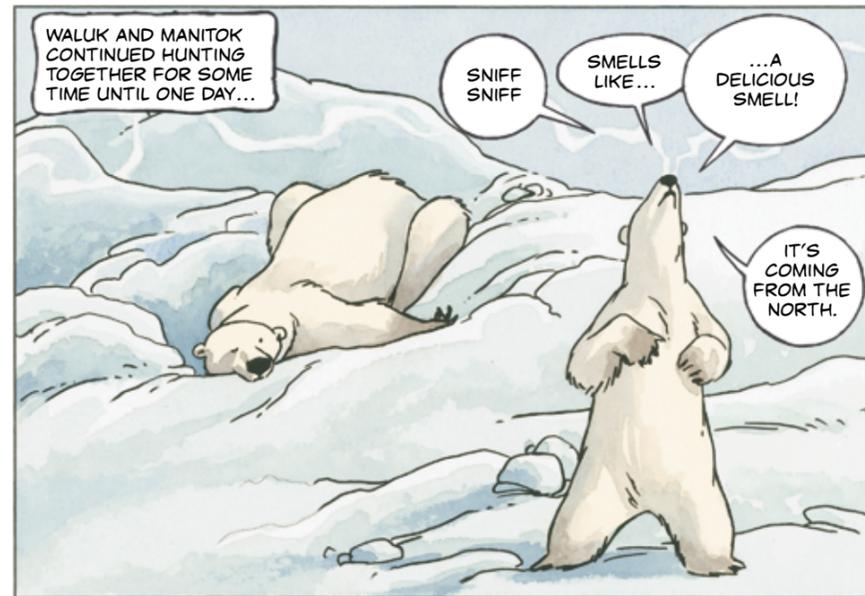


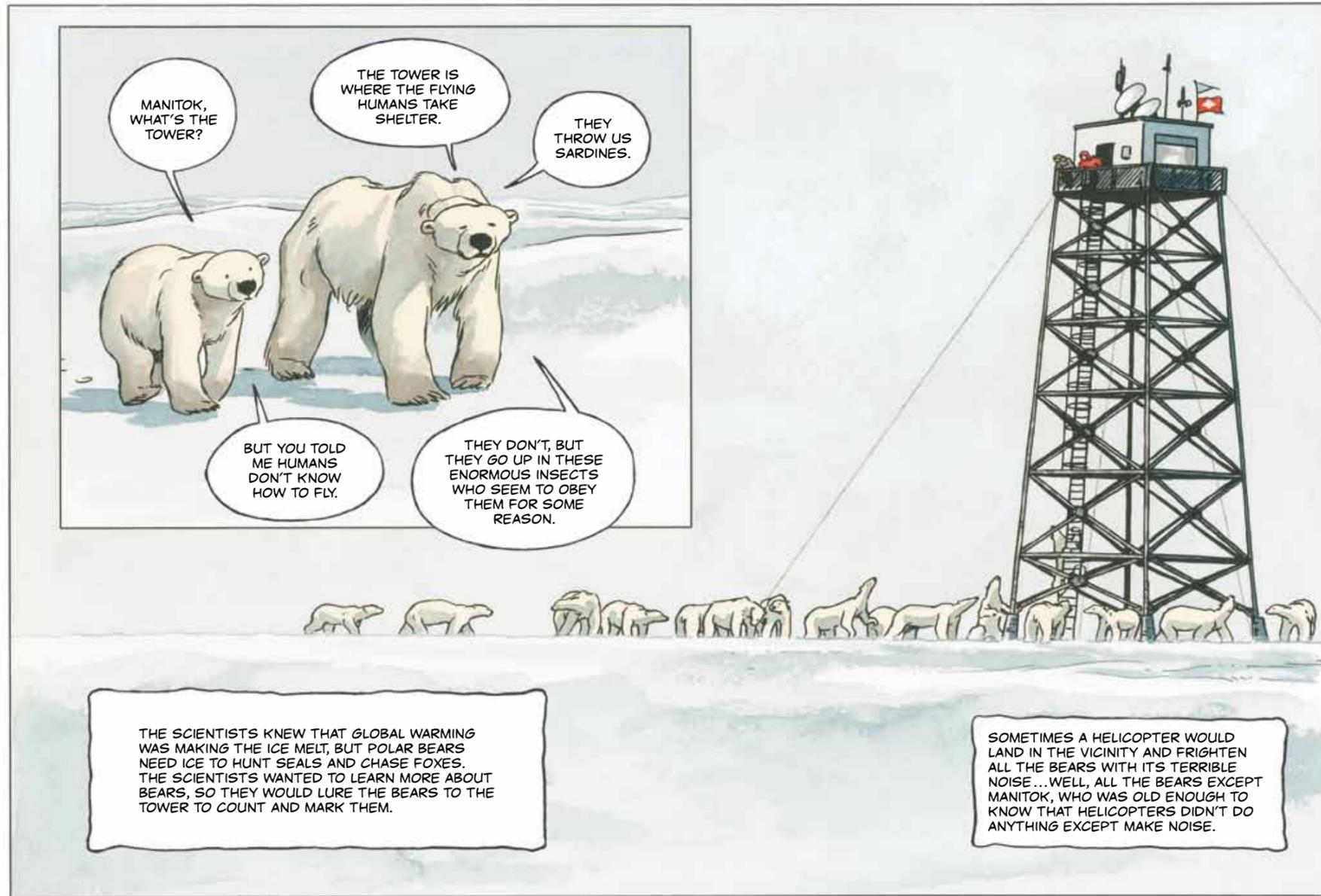




THEY DON'T HAVE FUR. THAT'S WHY THEY TAKE OURS. THEY ALL LOOK ALIKE. THEY ALWAYS WALK LIKE BIRDS ON TWO PAWS, BUT THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO FLY. THEIR CLAWS ARE VERY WEAK, AND THEY USE THEM TO BRING FOOD TO THEIR MOUTHS BECAUSE THEY HAVE FLAT SNOUTS. THEIR SENSE OF SMELL... BAH! THEY DON'T EVEN HAVE ONE. BESIDES, THEY BARELY KNOW HOW TO RUN OR JUMP OR SWIM. AND WHEN THEY TRY, THEY TIRE QUICKLY. EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE STICKS THAT KILL FROM FAR AWAY, THEY ARE WARY AND USUALLY GO OUT IN GROUPS. IF YOU SEE A HUMAN ALONE WITHOUT HIS STICK, DON'T MISS THE CHANCE TO EAT HIM. EVEN THOUGH THEY DON'T HAVE MUCH FAT, THEY'RE QUITE TASTY.







MANITOK, WHAT'S THE TOWER?

THEY THROW US SARDINES.

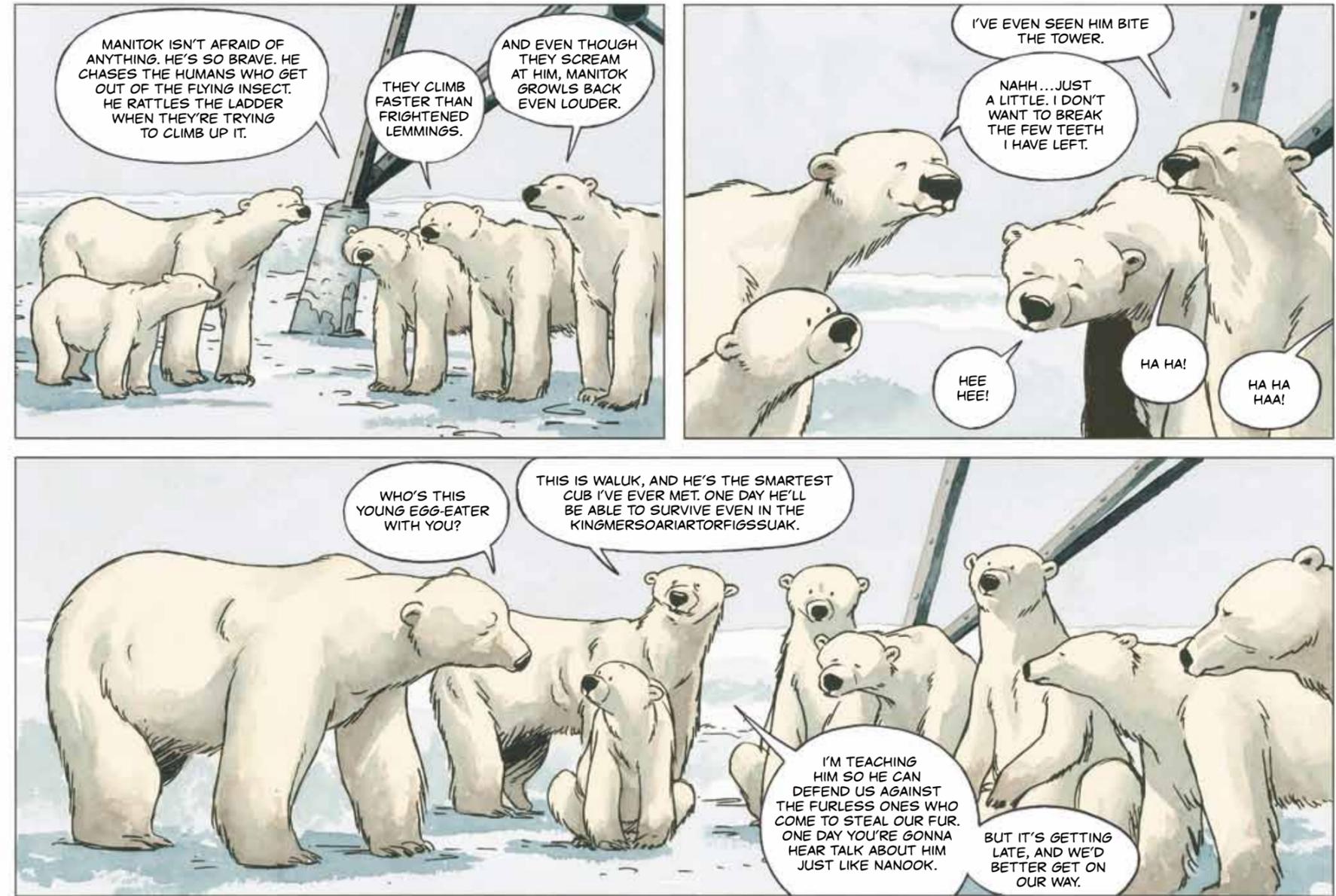
THE TOWER IS WHERE THE FLYING HUMANS TAKE SHELTER.

BUT YOU TOLD ME HUMANS DON'T KNOW HOW TO FLY.

THEY DON'T, BUT THEY GO UP IN THESE ENORMOUS INSECTS WHO SEEM TO OBEY THEM FOR SOME REASON.

THE SCIENTISTS KNEW THAT GLOBAL WARMING WAS MAKING THE ICE MELT, BUT POLAR BEARS NEED ICE TO HUNT SEALS AND CHASE FOXES. THE SCIENTISTS WANTED TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BEARS, SO THEY WOULD LURE THE BEARS TO THE TOWER TO COUNT AND MARK THEM.

SOMETIMES A HELICOPTER WOULD LAND IN THE VICINITY AND FRIGHTEN ALL THE BEARS WITH ITS TERRIBLE NOISE... WELL, ALL THE BEARS EXCEPT MANITOK, WHO WAS OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT HELICOPTERS DIDN'T DO ANYTHING EXCEPT MAKE NOISE.



MANITOK ISN'T AFRAID OF ANYTHING. HE'S SO BRAVE. HE CHASES THE HUMANS WHO GET OUT OF THE FLYING INSECT. HE RATTLES THE LADDER WHEN THEY'RE TRYING TO CLIMB UP IT.

THEY CLIMB FASTER THAN FRIGHTENED LEMMINGS.

AND EVEN THOUGH THEY SCREAM AT HIM, MANITOK GROWLS BACK EVEN LOUDER.

I'VE EVEN SEEN HIM BITE THE TOWER.

NAHH... JUST A LITTLE. I DON'T WANT TO BREAK THE FEW TEETH I HAVE LEFT.

HEE HEE!

HA HA!

HA HA HAA!

WHO'S THIS YOUNG EGG-EATER WITH YOU?

THIS IS WALUK, AND HE'S THE SMARTEST CUB I'VE EVER MET. ONE DAY HE'LL BE ABLE TO SURVIVE EVEN IN THE KINGMERSOARIARTORFIGSSUAK.

I'M TEACHING HIM SO HE CAN DEFEND US AGAINST THE FURLESS ONES WHO COME TO STEAL OUR FUR. ONE DAY YOU'RE GONNA HEAR TALK ABOUT HIM JUST LIKE NANOOK.

BUT IT'S GETTING LATE, AND WE'D BETTER GET ON OUR WAY.

