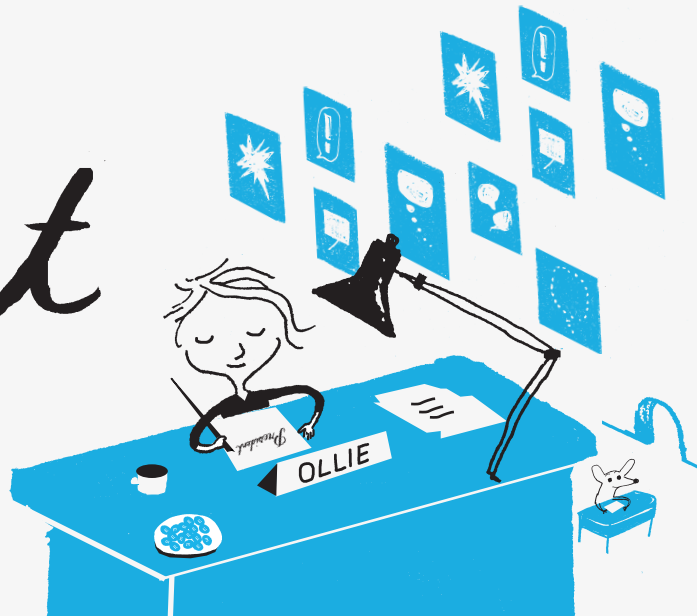




FROM THE DESK OF THE *President*

of The Center for Cartoon Studies

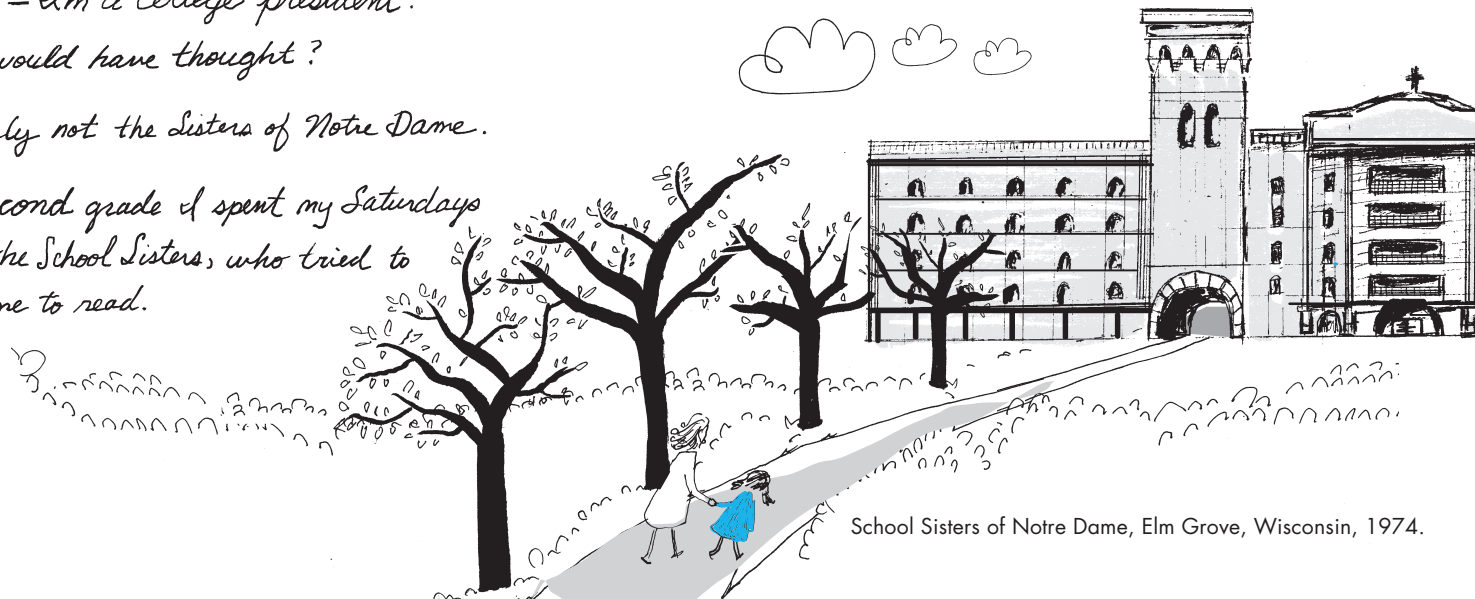


Look - I'm a college president!

Who would have thought?

Certainly not the Sisters of Notre Dame.

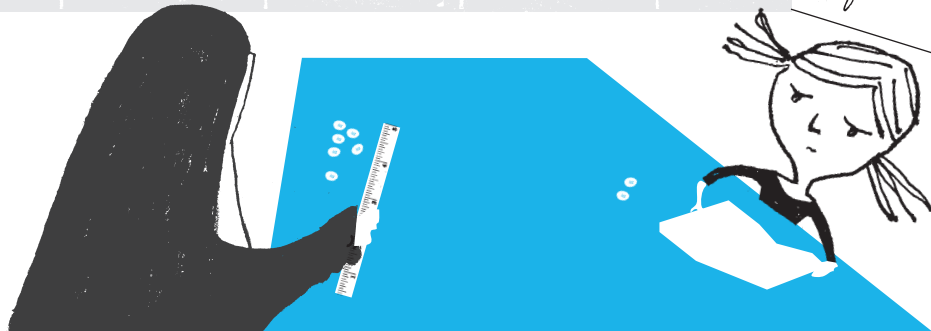
In second grade I spent my Saturdays
with the School Sisters, who tried to
teach me to read.



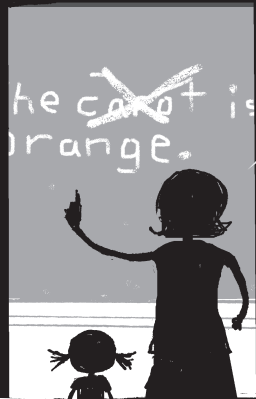
School Sisters of Notre Dame, Elm Grove, Wisconsin, 1974.

With a ruler, they would slide
an M+M across the table for
each sentence I read correctly.

Try as I might, I accumulated
few M+Ms.



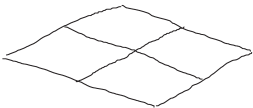
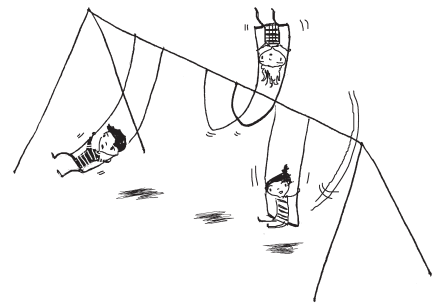
Irving Elementary School, West Allis, Wisconsin.



AGAIN!

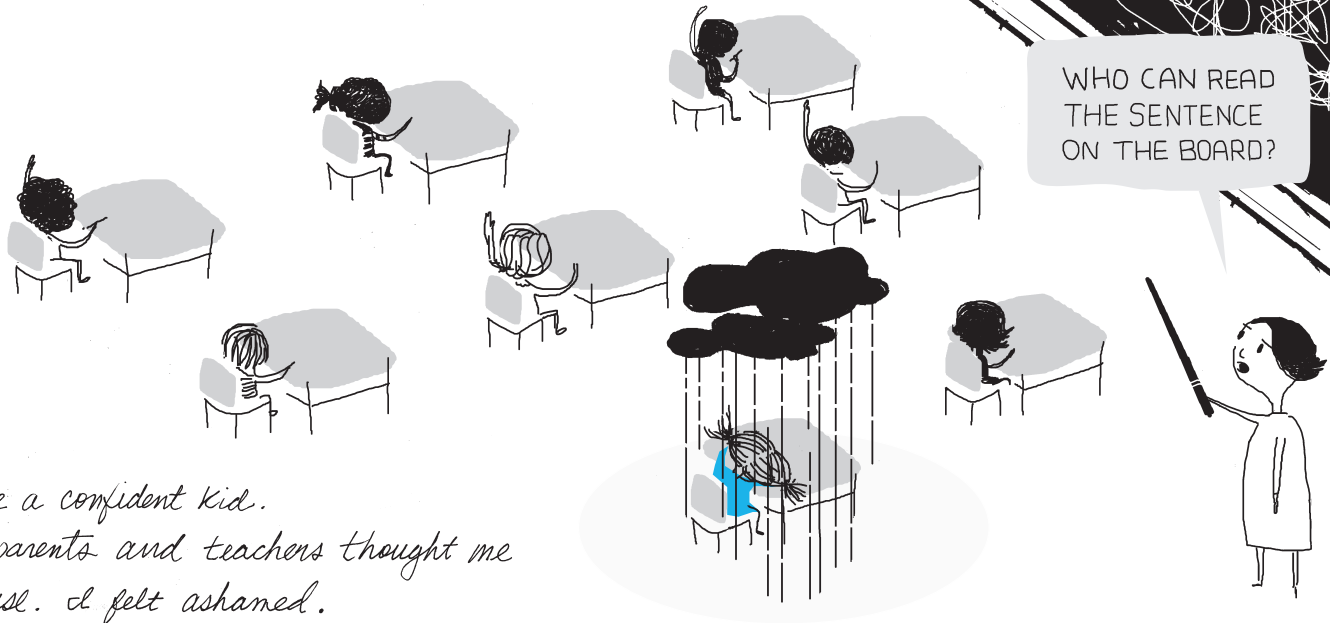
LOOK! OLLIE'S IN DUMMY CAMP!

HA! HA!

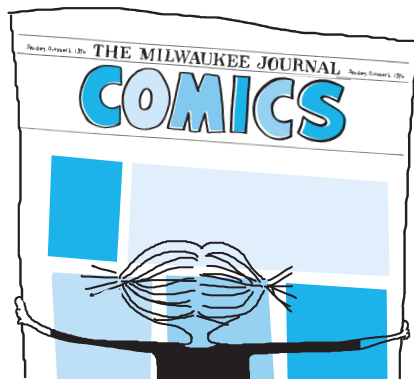


That summer trapped indoors didn't help.

*I was once a confident kid.
Now my parents and teachers thought me
a lost cause. I felt ashamed.*

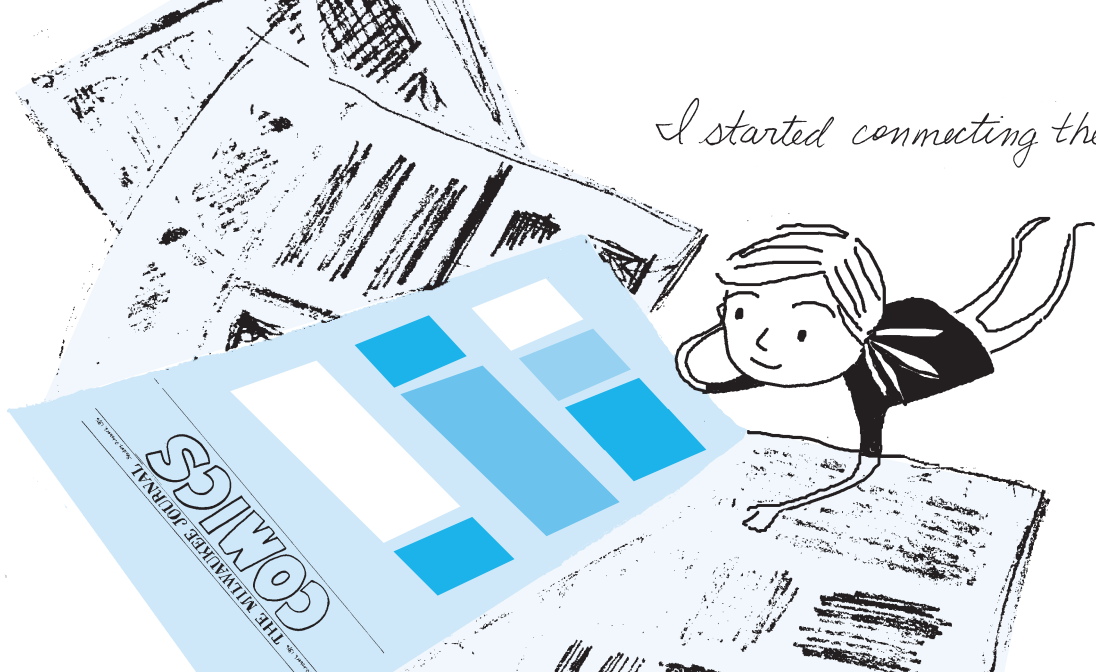


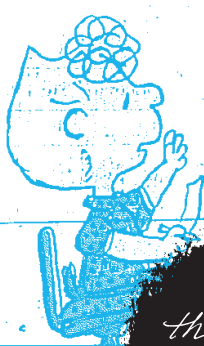
The only time reading was pleasurable was when my father and I read the paper together on Sunday mornings.



He'd read the news,
I'd read the comics.

I started connecting the drawings to words.





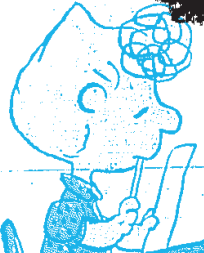
MAAM, I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THIS THIRD QUESTION...



DO YOU WANT US TO WRITE WHAT WE THINK, OR WHAT WE THINK YOU WANT US TO WRITE?

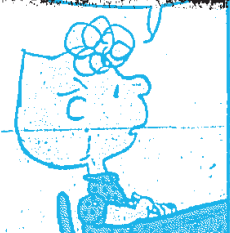
IF WE TRY TO WRITE WHAT WE THINK YOU WANT US TO WRITE, DOESN'T THAT GET US INTO THIS WHOLE MIND READING THING, AND OPEN A CAN OF WORMS?

My dad noticed I was reading the comics with no trouble. Soon there were comic books in the house and I was writing and drawing stories of my own. Instead of shame, I felt empowered.

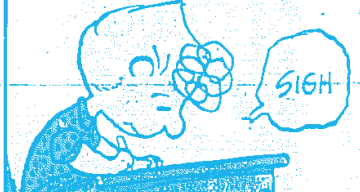


REALLY INTO MIND READING MYSELF..I'M NOT SO SURE IT CAN EVEN BE DONE...

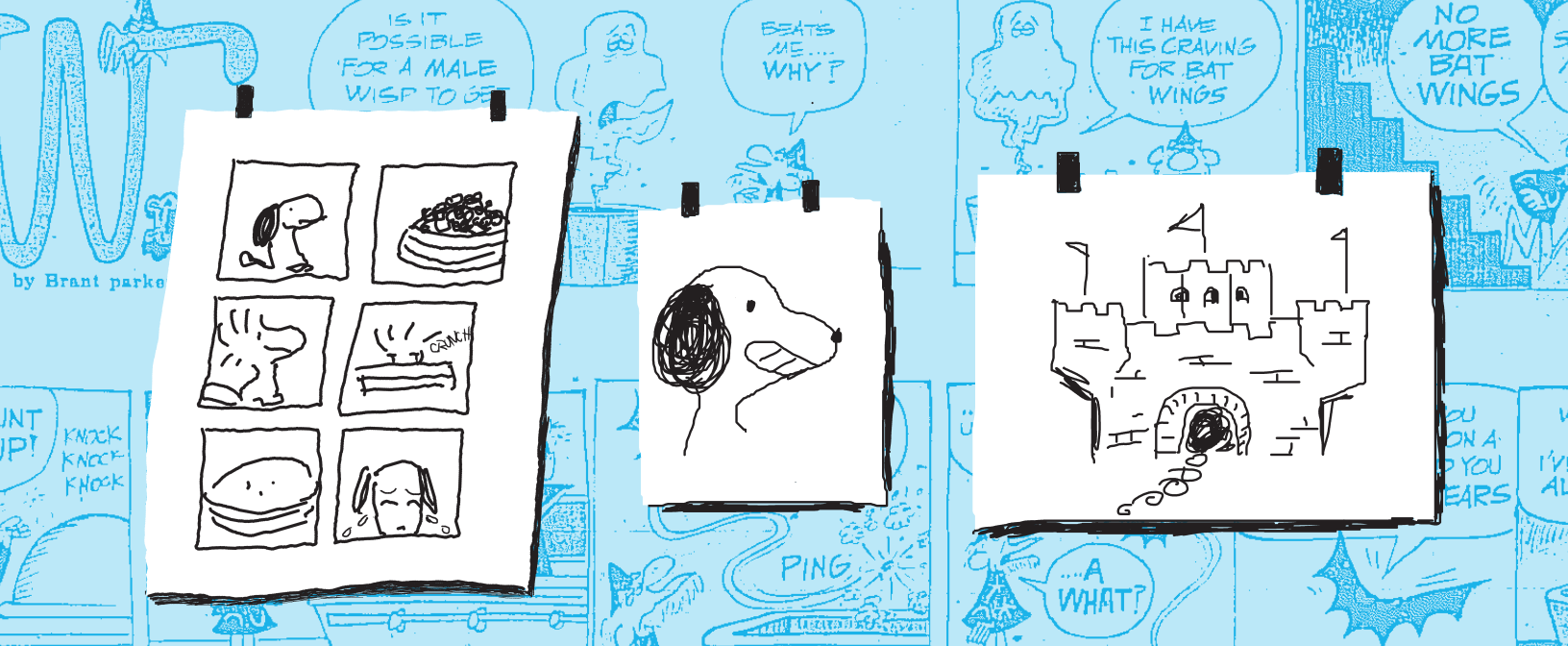
...AND REMEMBER THE BAG...ANYWAY, WE ALL SEEM TO...



ington was a good man.



SIGH



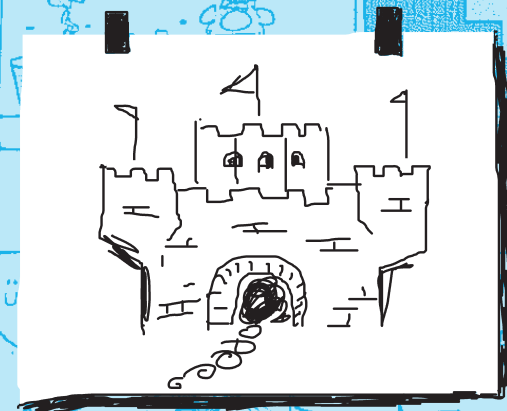
by Brant parker

IS IT POSSIBLE FOR A MALE WISP TO GET...

BEATS ME... WHY?

I HAVE THIS CRAVING FOR BAT WINGS

NO MORE BAT WINGS



WANT UP!
KNOCK
KNOCK
KNOCK

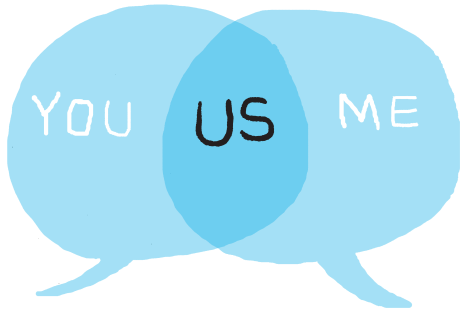
PING

....A WHAT?

YOU
ON A
AND YOU
EARS

I'VE
AL

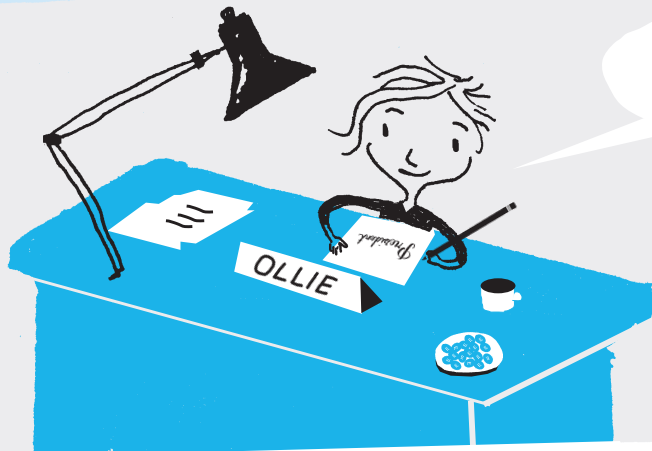
For CCS students, cartooning is not only a vehicle for self-expression, but a sense-making tool that helps them deepen their understanding of themselves and the world.



Over the years, I've seen the profound impact reading and making comics can have on children in the classroom and veterans returning from combat -



and even a kid with dyslexia.



THANKS FOR
READING!





Write. Draw. Learn.

THE CENTER FOR CARTOON STUDIES
cartoonstudies.org

Written and drawn by Michelle Ollie, President and Co-founder.