

RAMA TRAUMA TRUMP



I LEFT THE CULT
AND NOW
LOOK WHAT HAPPENED

Graphic non-fiction

STORY BY MARK LAXER
ILLUSTRATIONS BY MARCIE VALLETTE

"COMPELLING AND DARK--A MUST READ!" - STEVE HASSAN, AUTHOR OF THE CULT OF TRUMP

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WELCOME!

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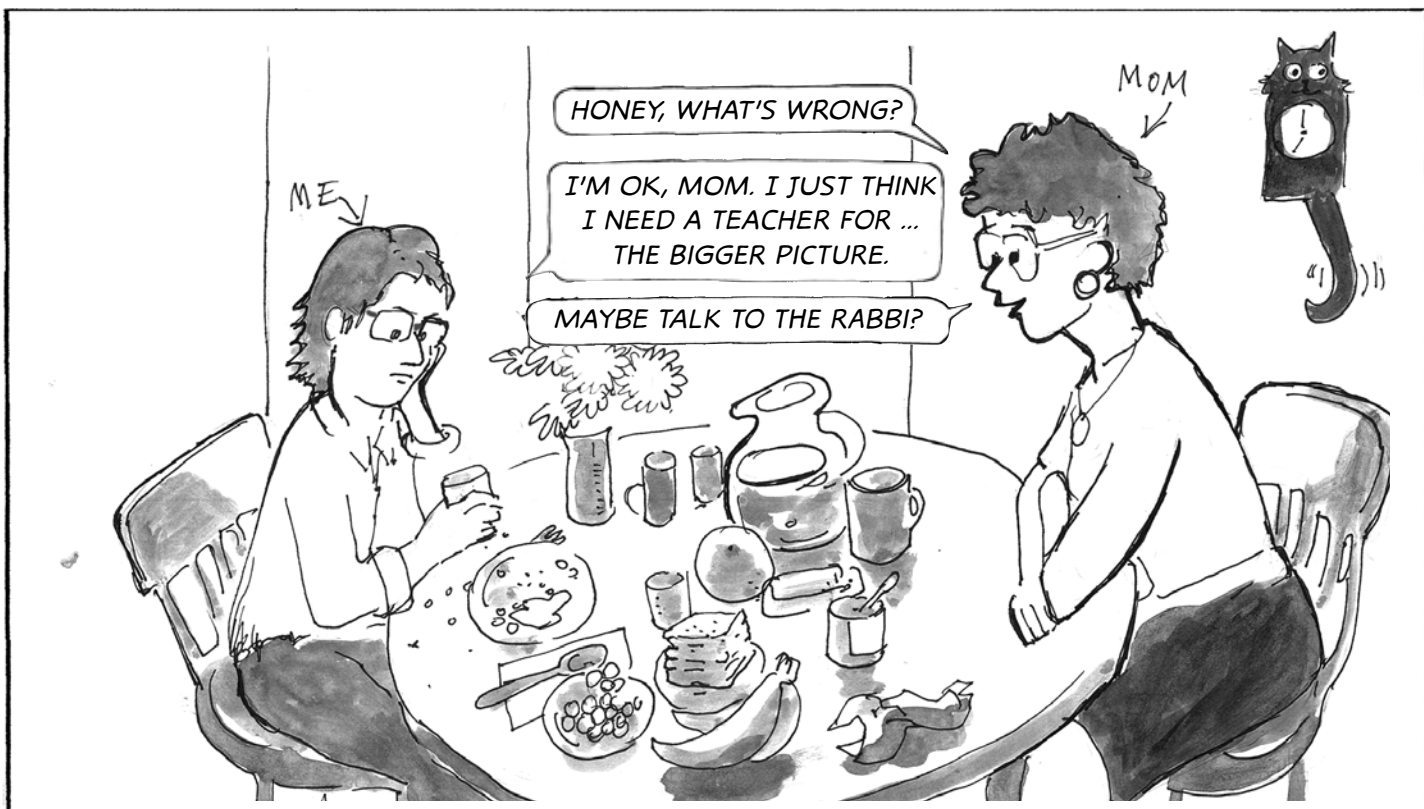
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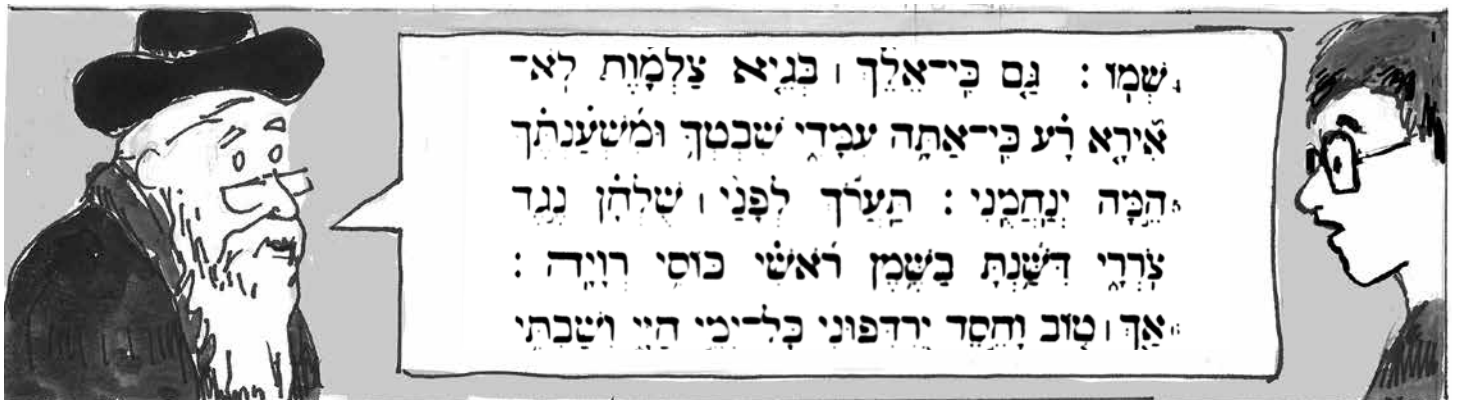
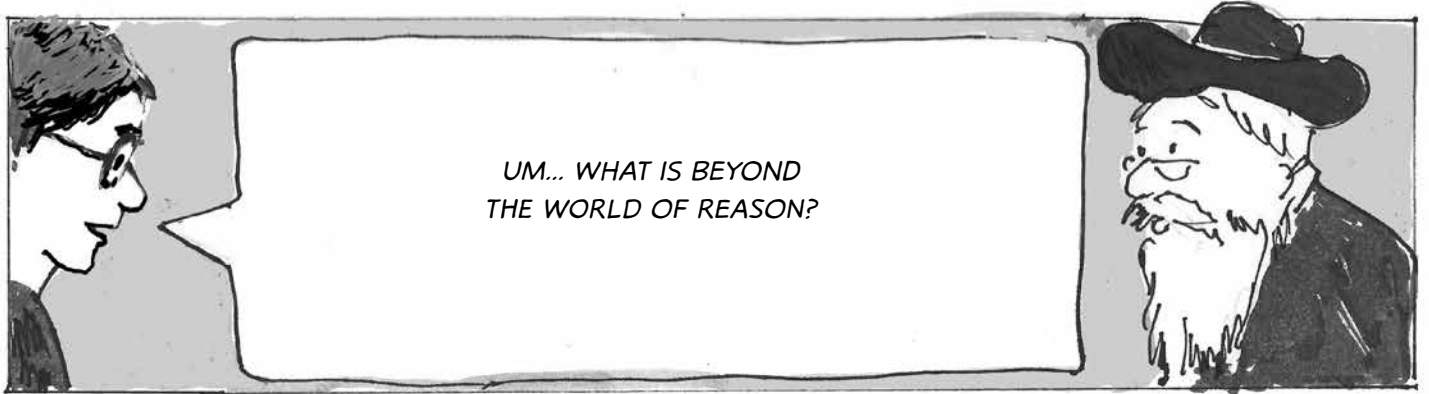
PART 1: THE SPIRITUAL SEEKER

WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL, I BECAME EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE NEWSPAPER. I HAD A KNACK FOR INSPIRING AND MANAGING A TEAM. I WAS WELL-REGARDED BY MY TEACHERS AND PEERS, AND I HAD MANY FRIENDS.

I COULD HAVE CONTINUED MY STUDIES AT A PRESTIGIOUS UNIVERSITY, BUT I WAS MORE INTERESTED IN WHAT LIES BEYOND THE WORLD OF REASON. I WROTE:



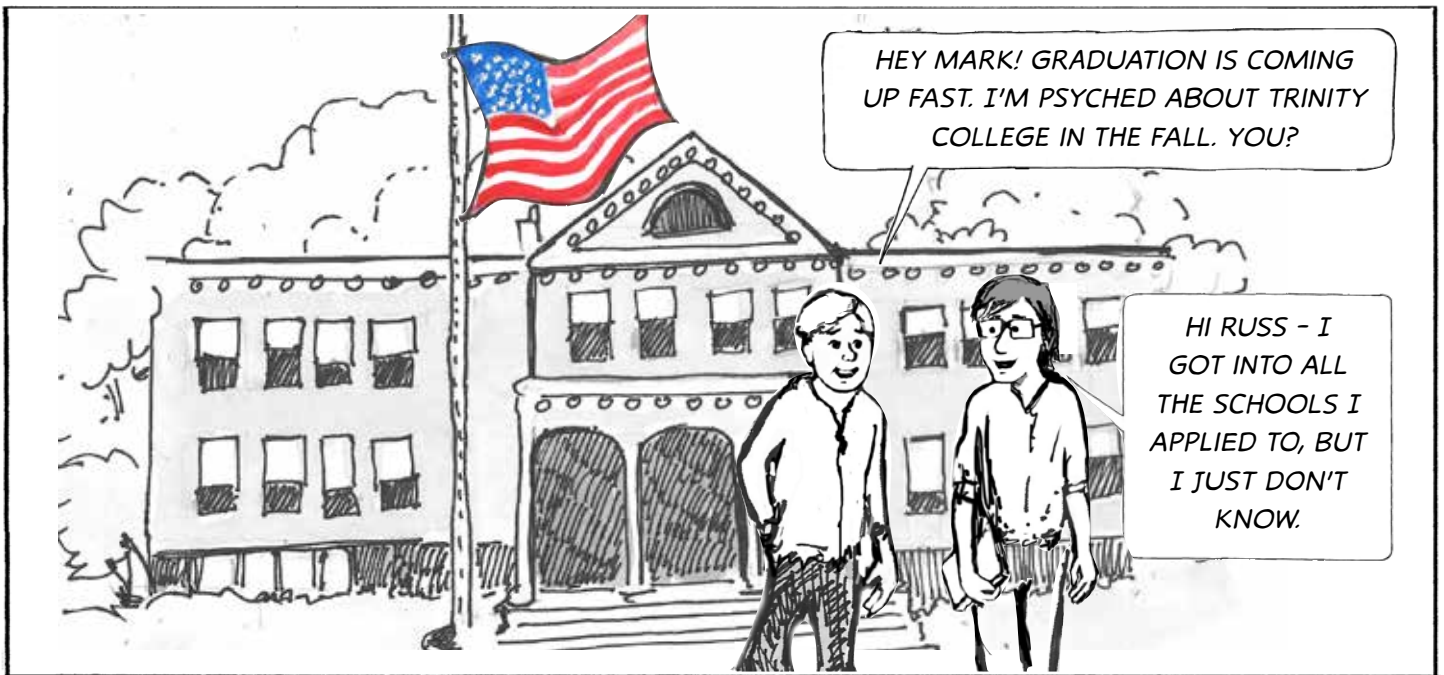
A FEW WEEKS LATER...





I SPOKE WITH MY FRIEND RUSSELL.

WE WERE GOOD FRIENDS AND LOVED TO BICYCLE TOGETHER. BUT I FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO SHARE MY LONGING FOR A MYSTICAL QUEST.



HEY MARK! GRADUATION IS COMING UP FAST. I'M PSYCHED ABOUT TRINITY COLLEGE IN THE FALL. YOU?

HI RUSS - I GOT INTO ALL THE SCHOOLS I APPLIED TO, BUT I JUST DON'T KNOW.

I WROTE A SPEECH AND GAVE IT AT GRADUATION.



I HAD BEEN SO INSPIRED BY BOOKS ON NEW AGE SPIRITUALITY BY CARLOS CASTANEDA THAT I PLANNED TO PUT COLLEGE ON HOLD AND HITCHHIKE WEST TO THE SONORAN DESERT, IN CALIFORNIA.

I PLANNED TO FIND A TEACHER LIKE CASTANEDA'S TEACHER, DON JUAN, A YAQUI INDIAN MEDICINE MAN, WHO WOULD GUIDE ME ALONG THE PATH OF DIRECT MYSTICAL KNOWLEDGE.



BEFORE HITCHHIKING WEST, I ATTENDED A FREE LECTURE SERIES IN MANHATTAN ON MYSTICISM AND MEDITATION GIVEN BY A COLLEGE PROFESSOR AT THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONYBROOK, DR. FREDERICK LENZ.

HIS INDIAN GURU, SRI CHINMOY, HAD GIVEN HIM THE SPIRITUAL NAME **ATMANANDA**, WHICH MEANS "**BLISS OF THE SOUL.**" ATMANANDA KNEW ALL ABOUT THE CASTANEDA BOOKS.



ATMANANDA WAS FRIENDLY AND FUNNY.



THERE WAS SOMETHING HAUNTINGLY FAMILIAR ABOUT THIS CONFIDENT, WELL-SPOKEN YOUNG PROFESSOR. I FELT DRAWN TO HIM. I FOUND MYSELF STARING INTO HIS FULL MOON, GRIPPING EYES. WHEN HE SPOKE TO THE CROWD, I FELT HE WAS REALLY TALKING TO **ME**.



AND THAT NIGHT HE DID TALK WITH ME, PERSONALLY.

IT WAS A BIG DEAL FOR A SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD SEEKER.



YOU ARE AN ADVANCED, VERY OLD SOUL, MARK, AND WITH THE GUIDANCE OF A FULLY ENLIGHTENED SPIRITUAL TEACHER, YOU COULD EVOLVE THOUSANDS OF LIFETIMES IN JUST ONE LIFETIME.



SURROUNDED BY MAGICAL BOOKS, MEDITATION, AND A WARM, TIGHT-KNIT COMMUNITY OF LIKE-MINDED SEEKERS, I CHOSE TO ABANDON THE QUEST TO HITCHHIKE WEST. IT SEEMED NO COINCIDENCE THAT I HAD ENCOUNTERED A MYSTICAL TEACHER BEFORE THE ADVENTURE EVEN BEGAN.



THERE WERE MANY BEAUTIFUL WOMEN IN THE GROUP WHICH MADE THE PATH EVEN MORE ATTRACTIVE.



I ROSE IN ATMANANDA'S ORGANIZATION. I DISCOVERED I WAS GOOD AT RECRUITING AND BRINGING IN MONEY.



THEN ONE DAY, ATMANANDA HAD US PACK UP AND MOVE ACROSS THE COUNTRY.



ATMANANDA INVITED ME TO MOVE IN WITH HIM AND THREE INNER-CIRCLE WOMEN INTO THE PLUSHLY CARPETED CENTER BY THE CLIFFS OF LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA.



I HAD AMAZING SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES AND WAS LOOKED UPON WITH ADMIRATION AND ENVY BY THOUSANDS OF SPIRITUAL SEEKERS.

WE ARE GOING TO MAKE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE HAPPY!

I LED A LARGE TEAM OF DISCIPLES WHO POSTERED EVERY CITY AND TOWN IN CALIFORNIA.

OUR RALLYING CRY ATMANANDA BORROWED FROM KERMIT-THE-FROG IN THE MUPPET MOVIE, "WE ARE GOING TO MAKE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE HAPPY."



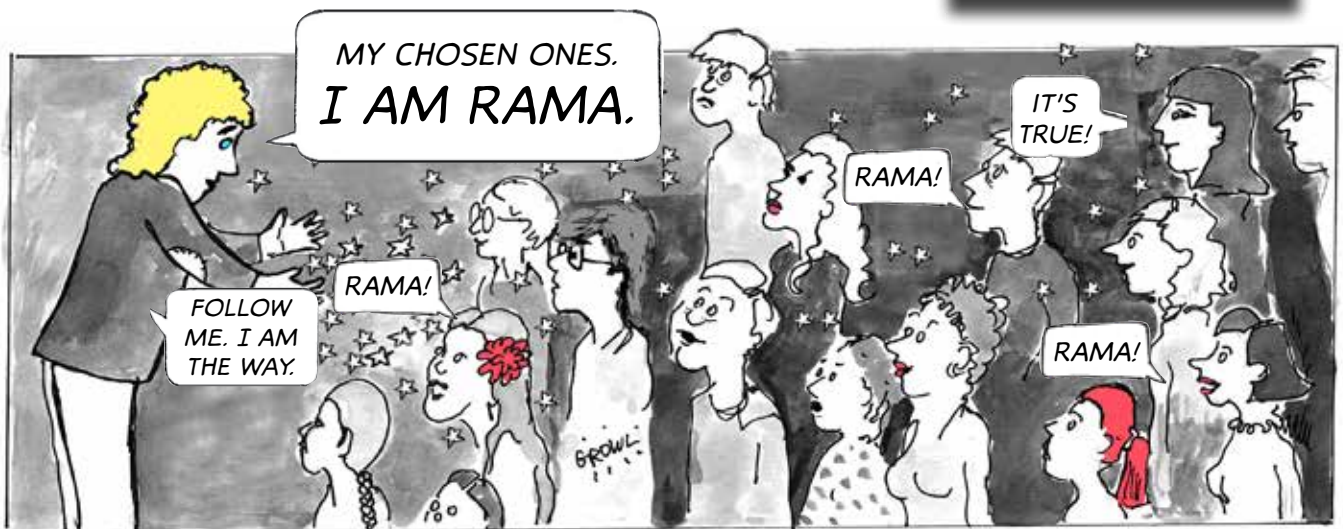


THINGS WERE BECOMING INCREASINGLY INTENSE IN CALIFORNIA.

ATMANANDA HAD US FAST FOR FOURTEEN DAYS AND KEPT US AWAKE MANY NIGHTS FOR INTENSIVE MEETINGS AND MEDITATIONS. HE SAID HE WAS GOING INTO SAMADHI, AN EXALTED STATE OF CONSCIOUSNESS.

HE SAID HE WAS NO LONGER **ATMANANDA**.

HE WAS NOW **RAMA**, THE LAST INCARNATION OF VISHNU, A HINDU GOD.



I AM RAMA

FOLLOW
ME.

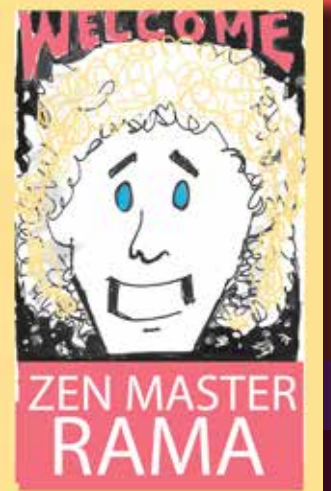
MY ENERGY
WILL SAVE
YOU.

WE ARE THE
CHOSEN
ONES.

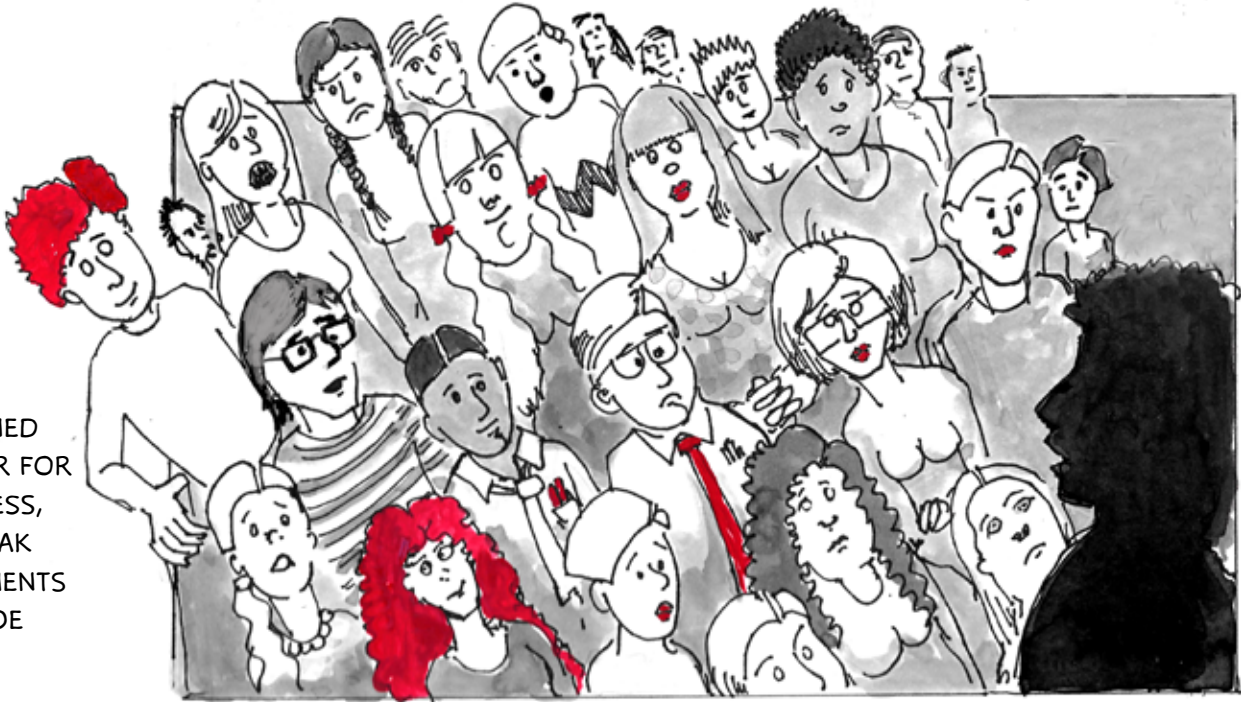
AREN'T WE
LUCKY TO BE
SO CLOSE
TO DIVINE
ENERGY.

WE ARE
HERE TO
USHER IN
THE NEW
AGE.

I AM THE LAST
INCARNATION OF VISHNU.



RAMA EXPLAINED
THAT IN ORDER FOR
US TO PROGRESS,
WE MUST BREAK
OUR ATTACHMENTS
TO THE OUTSIDE
WORLD.



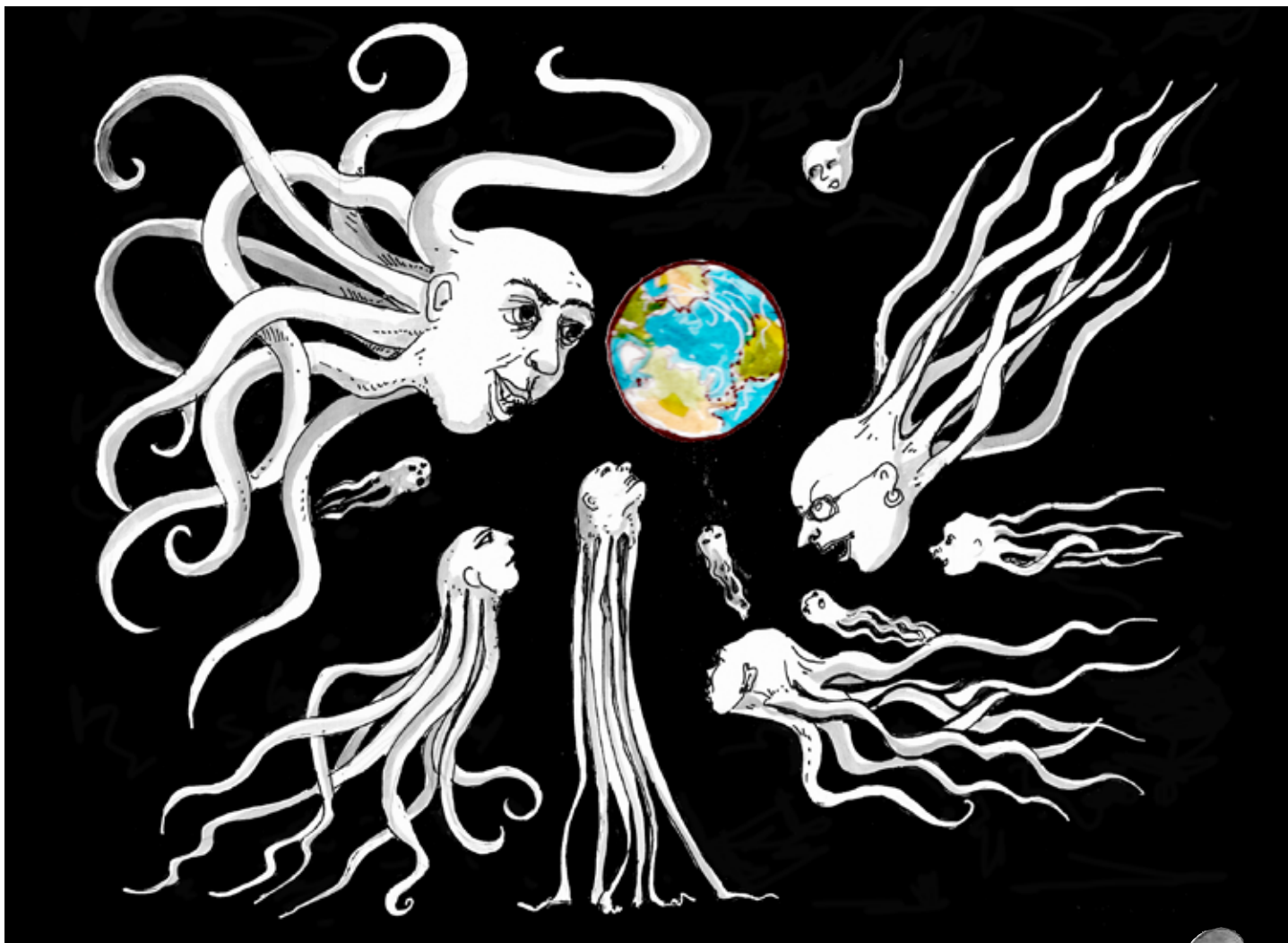
THAT'S WHEN
RUSSELL, MY
FRIEND FROM HIGH
SCHOOL, SHOWED
UP AT THE CENTER.



I TOLD RUSSELL I COULD
NOT TALK TO HIM.

I DID NOT INVITE HIM IN.

RAMA HAD BEEN INCREASINGLY TELLING US WE WERE ALL POSSESSED BY EVIL SPIRITS CALLED "DARK ENTITIES." INDEED, MANY OF US GREW FRIGHTENED THAT IF WE DIDN'T FOLLOW HIS EVERY COMMAND, WE WOULD BE DAMNED AND DESTROYED, ETERNALLY, BY THE UNSEEN SCARY ENTITIES. RAMA TOLD US HE WOULD PROTECT US.

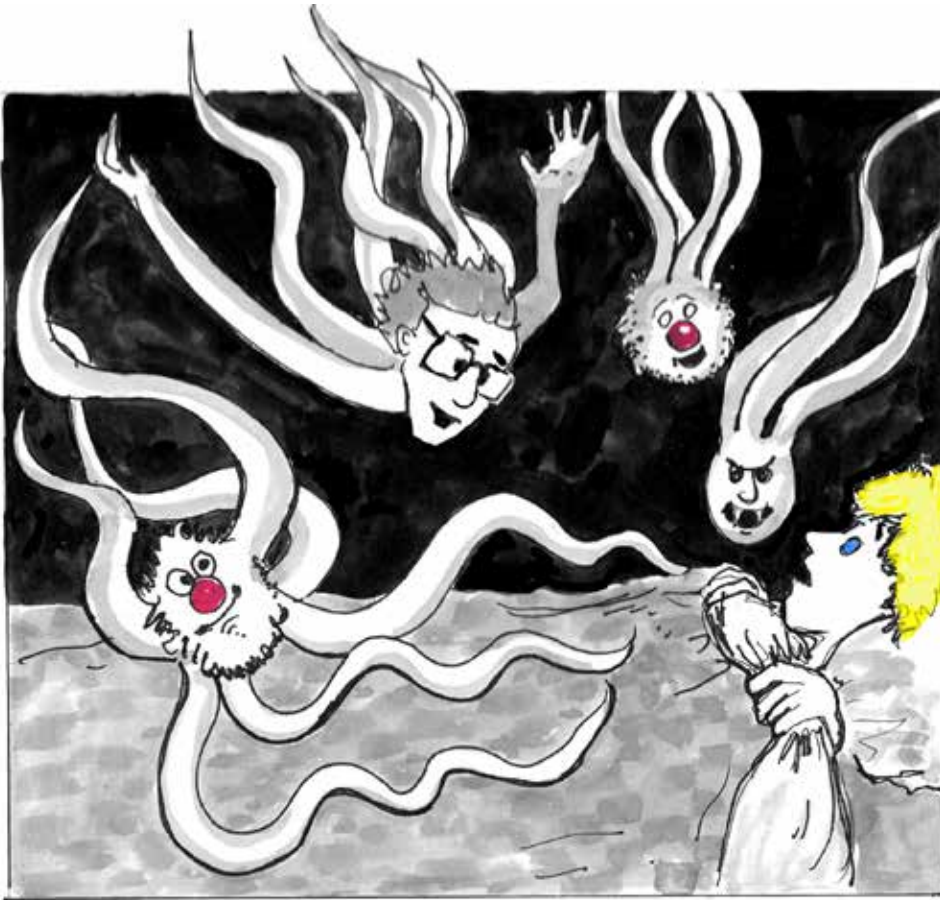


AS RAMA'S FAME AND FOLLOWING GREW, SO DID HIS ACCUSATIONS. SUDDENLY, HIS DISCIPLES WERE NOW MENTALLY ILL AND ATTACKING HIM IN THE INNER WORLD, DRAINING HIM OF HIS COSMIC POWERS.

BACK IN THE 60'S HE HAD EXPERIMENTED WITH **LSD**. HE REKINDLED INTEREST IN THE DRUG WITH GROUP ACID TRIPS.

YEARS LATER, HE WOULD SHOUT AT FOLLOWERS FOR HOURS, WHILE THEY WERE TRIPPING.

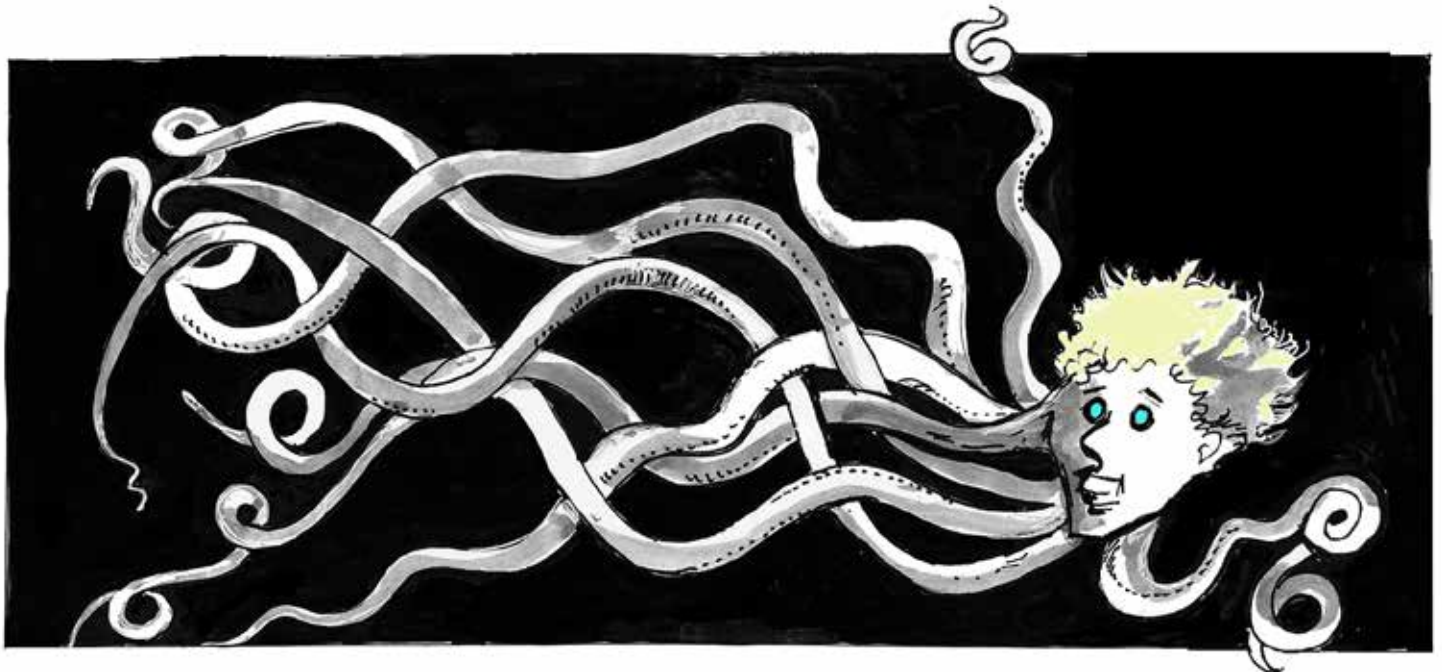




AT THIS TIME, I WAS STILL IN THE GROUP, BUT I HAD MOVED OUT OF RAMA'S HOUSE AND LIVED IN AN APARTMENT.

ONE TIME HE DROPPED ACID AND I HELPED HIM THROUGH A BAD TRIP. IT WAS THEN I CAME TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE PLAY OF LIGHT AND DARKNESS, THE NARCISSISM, THE PARANOIA, THE EXTREME HIERARCHY AND FEAR EMBEDDED DEEP IN THIS MAN'S PSYCHE.

I BEGAN TO WONDER IF THE LAST INCARNATION OF VISHNU MIGHT BE A LITTLE LONELY.



THIS NEW UNDERSTANDING ABOUT RAMA LED TO A NEW UNDERSTANDING ABOUT MYSELF AND THE SPIRITUAL PATH I WAS ON. I WAS LEARNING TO LISTEN TO MY OWN VOICE, MY GUT FEELINGS, AND THIS BECAME KEY TO MY GRADUALLY LEAVING RAMA'S SPHERE OF INFLUENCE.

I FOLLOWED MY GUT FEELINGS DURING ONE GROUP ACID TRIP WHEN RAMA ASKED THE DISCIPLES TO REMAIN INSIDE. I HAD WALKED OUTSIDE AND WATCHED THE SMALL BIRDS FLY.

"THE BOTTOM LINE IS THAT HE'S WRONG ABOUT ME," I THOUGHT, MY SELF-CONFIDENCE GERMINATING, THE WAY PINE SEEDS FLOURISH WHEN THEIR CONES ARE SCORCHED BY FIRE. "I'M NOT POSSESSED BY DEMONS, MENTALLY ILL, OR BENT ON DESTRUCTION. I'M OKAY."

THIS REALIZATION THAT I WAS OKAY WAS THE KEY TO MY LIBERATION. I LEFT THE GROUP.

MONTHS LATER, RAMA CALLED THE INNER CIRCLE BACK FOR "OUR LAST MEETING." I MISSED MY FRIENDS SO I DECIDED TO GO. I FELT ALERT. I RODE MY THREE-SPEED TO HIS HOUSE LATE AT NIGHT AND WORE AROUND MY NECK A STRING WITH A BICYCLE LOCK KEY. RAMA TRIED TO TURN US AGAINST ONE ANOTHER. WHEN I CHALLENGED HIM, HE STARTED CHANTING AND POINTING HIS INDEX FINGER AT ME.

I SEIZED THE STRING WITH THE BICYCLE LOCK KEY. I PICTURED BRIGHT PURPLE SPARKS AND BLUE LIGHTNING BOLTS RADIATING IN ALL DIRECTIONS FROM THE KEY. I STEPPED OUTSIDE. HERE THE LIGHT WAS SOFT AND GRAY. A MOURNING DOVE COOED. THE BICYCLE WAS THERE FOR ME. IT WAS 1985 AND I WAS 25.

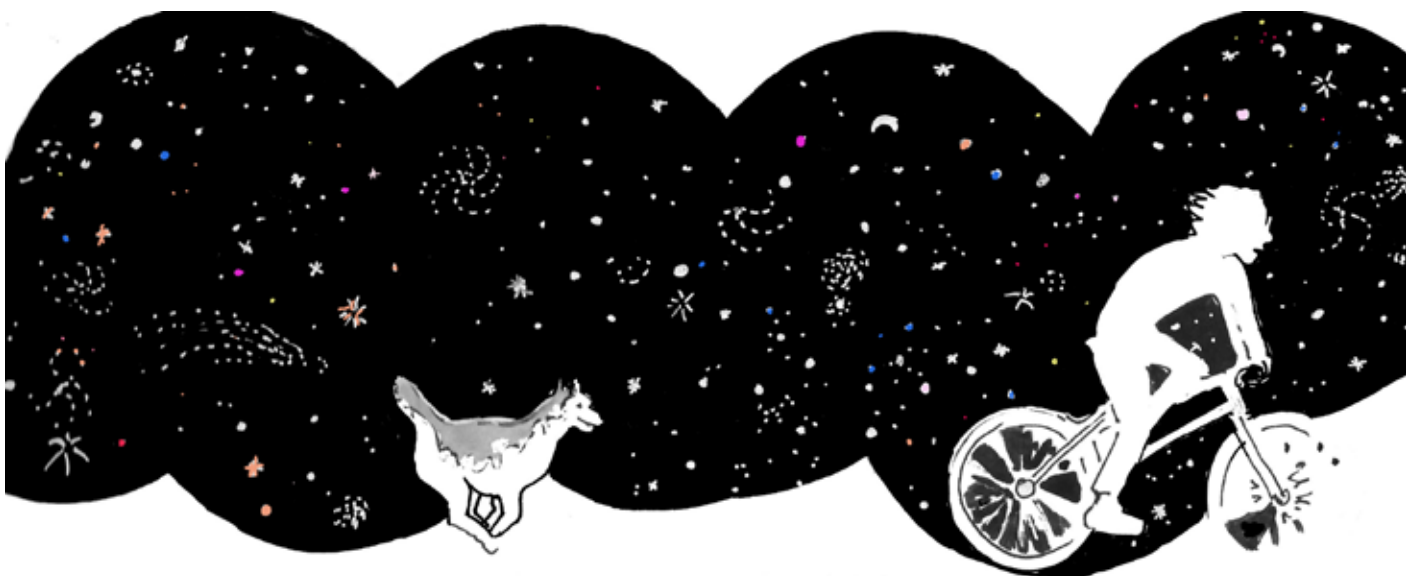


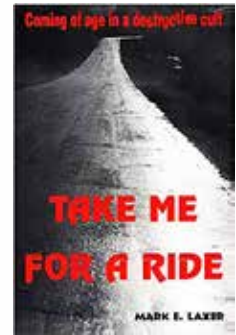


I MOVED BACK EAST.

IN THE MONTHS THAT FOLLOWED, I OCCASIONALLY BICYCLED TO WALDEN POND, WHERE I READ ABOUT THOREAU'S EXPERIMENT WITH SELF-RELIANCE. DISTRACTED BY HAUNTING MEMORIES, I GAZED AT THE WATER IN SEARCH OF CALM, BUT THE WIND SPAWNED NEW WAVES AND THE SURFACE SWELLED WITH COMPLEXITY.

"THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME TO SORT IT OUT," I REASSURED MYSELF. "MAYBE I'LL TAKE MYSELF FOR A RIDE ACROSS AMERICA AND DO SOME THINKING."





ON MAY 31ST, 1986, I BEGAN PEDALING WEST WITH NUNATAK, MY SIBERIAN HUSKY PUPPY. THE BICYCLE TRIP, THE REFLECTIONS, AND THE MEMORIES OF MY YEARS WITH RAMA BECAME THE BASIS FOR MY NON-FICTION BOOK: **TAKE ME FOR A RIDE: COMING OF AGE IN A DESTRUCTIVE CULT**. I WAS SUED FOR \$30 MILLION AS A WAY TO SILENCE ME. BUT IT DIDN'T WORK. I POSTED THE ENTIRE BOOK, OFFERING IT FREE, ON THE INTERNET.





HI MARK,
GOOD TO SEE YOU!

COME ON IN.

PART 2: WHAT HAPPENED?





IT STARTS OUT WITH FEELINGS OF LOVE AND ACCEPTANCE FROM THE LEADER AND GROUP MEMBERS.

IN THE EARLY YEARS WITH RAMA, WE WERE ACCEPTED, LISTENED TO, AND WE FELT LOVED.

I REMEMBER MY FRIEND CAROL:

AT FIRST:

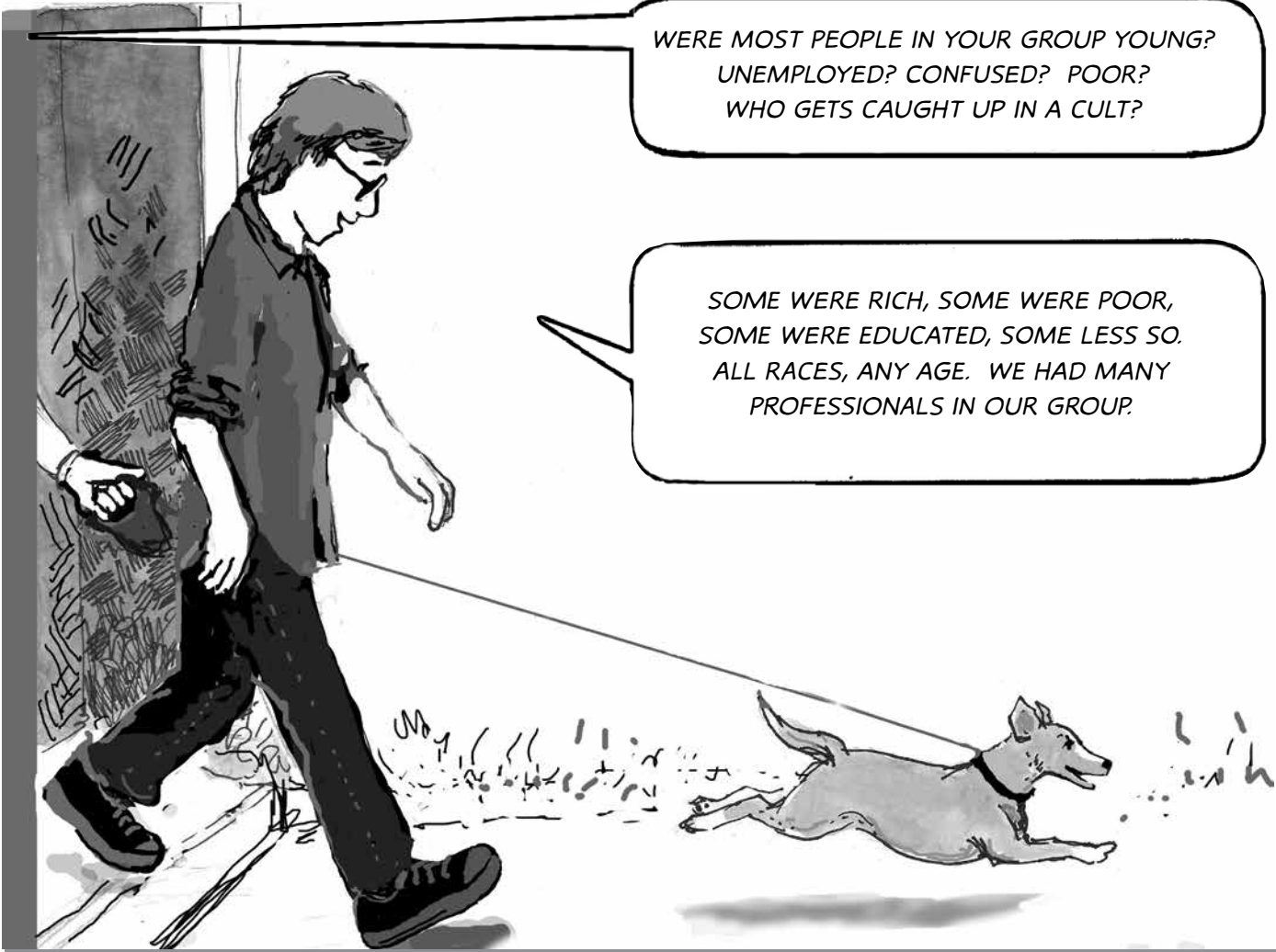
RAMA ACTUALLY LISTENS TO ME MORE THAN ANY OTHER PERSON IN MY LIFE, INCLUDING MY HUSBAND! I FEEL CARE FOR WHEN I'M WITH HIM.



THEN LATER:

I'VE PUT SO MANY YEARS, SO MUCH TIME AND EFFORT INTO THIS, AND IT'S STILL NOT GOOD ENOUGH FOR HIM. HE RIDICULES ME IN FRONT OF EVERYONE.





WERE MOST PEOPLE IN YOUR GROUP YOUNG?
UNEMPLOYED? CONFUSED? POOR?
WHO GETS CAUGHT UP IN A CULT?

SOME WERE RICH, SOME WERE POOR,
SOME WERE EDUCATED, SOME LESS SO.
ALL RACES, ANY AGE. WE HAD MANY
PROFESSIONALS IN OUR GROUP.

CHARLES WAS AN ENGINEER:

AT FIRST:



RAMA'S AN INTELLECTUAL!
HE'S FUNNY,
KNOWLEDGEABLE
AND INSIGHTFUL.
I BELIEVE HE IS
TRULY WISE.

I CAN LEARN
SOMETHING FROM
HIM!

THEN LATER:



I FELT BAD FOR
CHEATING AND LYING
FOR OUR BUSINESS,
THOUGH I KNEW
IT WAS FOR MY
OWN SPIRITUAL
ADVANCEMENT AND
THE ADVANCEMENT
OF MANKIND.

IT WAS FOR THE
GREATER GOOD... OR
WAS IT?



RAMA WAS ARTICULATE, CONVINCING,
AND HAD CHARISMA TO SPARE.

IT SEEMED LIKE HE COULD CHANGE THE
MINDS OF LARGE AUDIENCES
JUST BY HIS PRESENCE. INTENSE!

I BET THE WOMEN LIKED HIM.

OH YES! I REMEMBER JESSIE. TO HER THE WORLD SEEMED TO BECOME MAGICAL. SHE WAS RAMA'S GIRLFRIEND FOR A WHILE:

AT FIRST:

I NEVER KNEW I
COULD FEEL SO
HAPPY.

I'M IN LOVE! I
THINK HE'S MY
SOUL MATE.

THIS IS MY
DESTINY.



THEN LATER:

I LEFT MY
HUSBAND AND
QUIT MY JOB
FOR HIM.

BUT NOW HE'S
ABANDONED
ME...



IT SOUNDS LIKE RAMA AND HIS GROUP
GAVE YOU A SENSE THAT YOU
BELONGED TO SOMETHING BIG,
SOMETHING IMPORTANT.

A CULT, LIKE CULTURE, IS
COMPLEX. NOT ALL OF
IT IS BAD. BUT THERE
ARE MANY PROBLEMS--
INCLUDING MONEY.



KEVIN FOUND A COOL GROUP OF PEOPLE TO HANG OUT WITH AND HIS LIFE NOW SEEMED TO HAVE MEANING:

AT FIRST:

DUDE!

THIS RAMA GUY
IS COOL. HE IS
DEEP.

MY PARENTS
NEVER
UNDERSTOOD ME.



THEN LATER:

RAMA FOUND
OUT MY PARENTS
HAD MONEY. I
GOT SOME OF MY
PARENTS' MONEY
AND GAVE IT TO
RAMA. I FEEL
USED.



IN A DESTRUCTIVE CULT, THE LEADER LIES OR EXAGGERATES ABOUT HOW IMPORTANT AND SPECIAL THEY ARE. ONE SHOULD BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR GRANDIOSE CLAIMS.



CLAIRE WAS A SEEKER OF TRUTH AND WAS ATTRACTED BY STUDYING WITH A TRUE TEACHER:

AT FIRST:

THIS IS THE TRUE DHARMA. THIS IS THE TRUE PATH. THIS IS FOR REAL. RAMA IS A TRUE MASTER.

I WISH EVERYONE WAS ON THE PATH. I WANT TO SPREAD THE WORD.



THEN LATER:

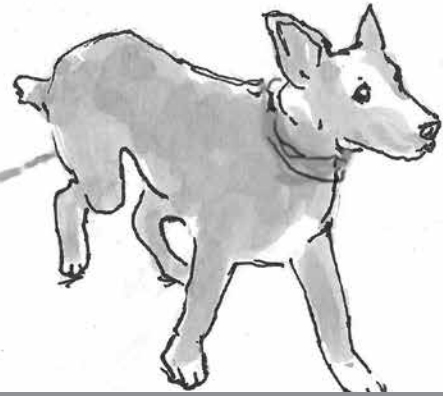
I WORKED SO HARD FOR HIM. HE LIED TO ALL OF US AND HE LOST IT AT THE END.

CAN I EVER TRUST ANYONE EVER AGAIN? CAN I EVER TRUST MYSELF?





CULT LEADERS TRY TO CONTROL YOUR LIFE, PARTICULARLY IF YOU'RE IN THE INNER CIRCLE.



BOB HAD A GREAT FUTURE PLANNED OUT.

AT FIRST:



I AM ON A MEANINGFUL PATH OF STUDIES AND ACTION! I'M GOING TO BE A DOCTOR. THIS PATH WILL HELP ME WITH MY STUDIES.

THEN LATER:



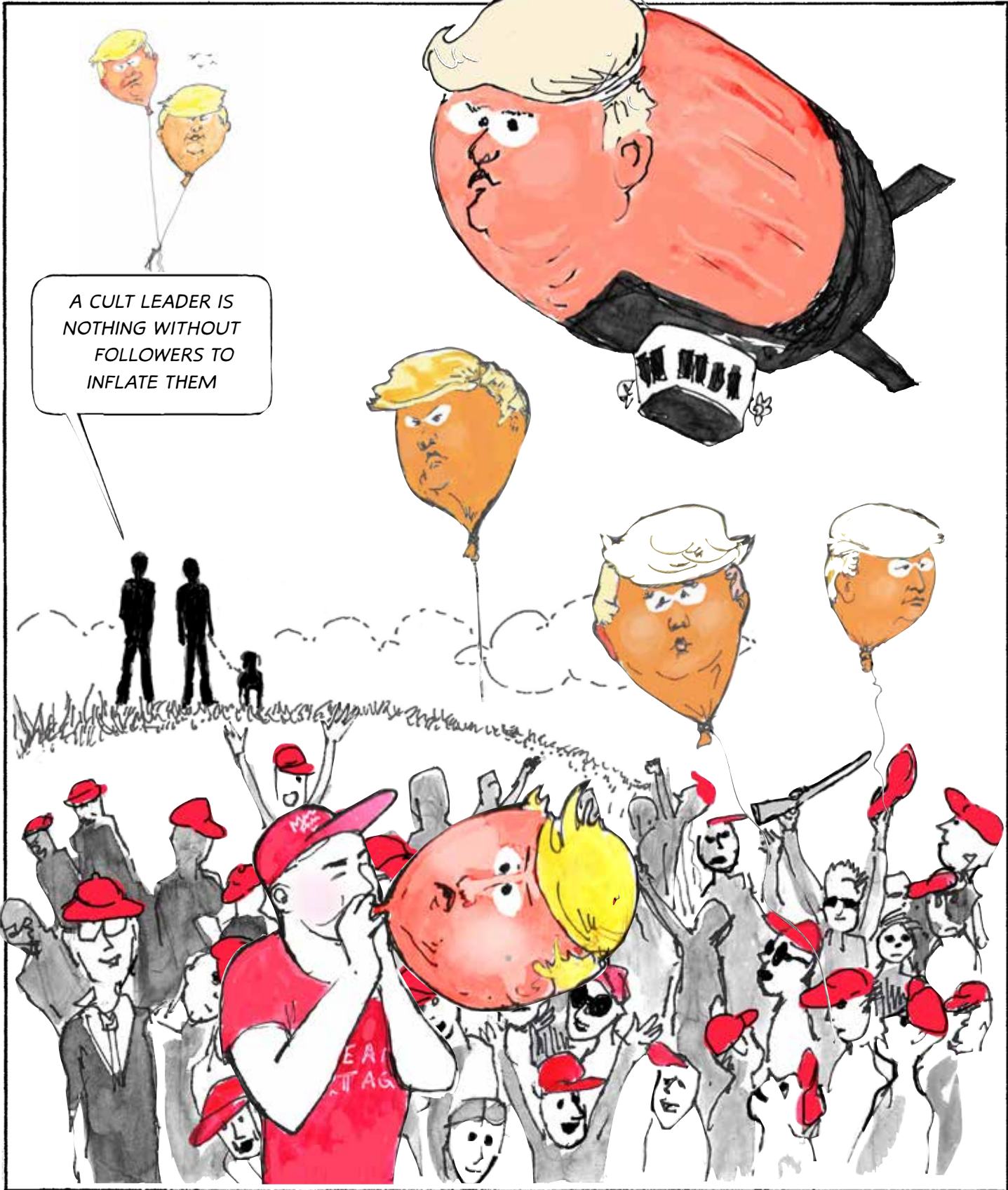
HE SAID HE KNEW MORE ABOUT ME THAN I KNEW ABOUT MYSELF. SO I QUIT PRE-MED TO LEARN SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT.



HOW CAN WE AVOID CULTS?

MAYBE WE CAN'T. THEY'RE AROUND US ALL THE TIME. WE JUST HAVE TO PAY ATTENTION TO THE SIGNS.

PART 3: THE SIGNS



I AM PRESIDENT

I AM A VERY STABLE GENIUS.

I GIVE MYSELF AN A+.

NOBODY'S DONE A BETTER JOB THAN I'M DOING AS PRESIDENT.

UNDER THE NORMAL RULES I'LL BE OUT IN 2024 SO WE MAY HAVE TO GO FOR AN EXTRA TERM.

I COULD STAND IN THE MIDDLE OF FIFTH AVENUE AND SHOOT SOMEBODY AND I WOULDN'T LOSE ANY VOTERS.



THE BEAUTY OF ME IS THAT I'M VERY RICH.



I DON'T KNOW, MARK. IT SEEMS THIS ONE CAN INFLATE HIMSELF.

A DESTRUCTIVE CULT LEADER
IN CHARGE OF OUR COUNTRY COULD
THREATEN OUR DEMOCRACY.



AT FIRST:



I KNOW TRUMP HAS
AUTOCRATIC
CONSPIRATORIAL
TENDENCIES AND I CAN
SEE HE'S NOT WILLING
OR ABLE TO SEE THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
FANTASY AND
REALITY -- I'M
NOT STUPID. BUT
I THINK HE'LL
MAINLY FOCUS ON
THE ECONOMY AND
I'M WILLING TO TAKE
THAT RISK, GIVEN THAT
THERE'S PROBABLY ONLY
SO FAR HE'LL GO. HE'S A
SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS
GUY AFTER ALL. SURELY,
NORMALCY WILL KICK IN.
IF NOTHING ELSE, OUR
INSTITUTIONS, OUR SYSTEM
OF CHECKS AND BALANCES,
WILL SAVE US.



THEN LATER:



OH
WELL.



SO MUCH FOR CHECKS
AND BALANCES.
WHAT CAN WE DO ABOUT THIS?

WE CAN LEARN ABOUT THE SIGNS OF
A DESTRUCTIVE CULT LEADER.
WE CAN KEEP TALKING ABOUT IT.
AND WE CAN VOTE.



KEEPS
YOU
GUESSING!

ARROGANT,
GRANDIOSE

MOCKING,
BULLYING

BLOCKS &
DENIES
REAL WORLD
INFORMATION
GASLIGHTING

DEMANDS
100%
LOYALTY

CAN'T HEAR
ADVICE OR
CRITICISM

DISTORTS
REALITY

CREATES
FEAR:
US VS.
THEM

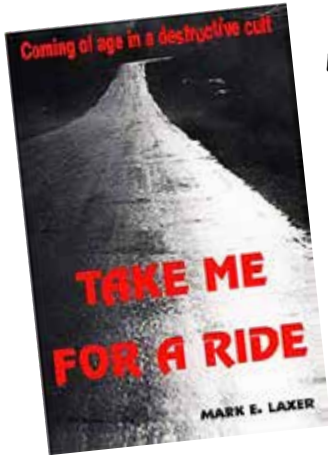
NARCISSIST
ON
STERIODS

HYPNOTIC,
REPETITIVE,
CHARISMATIC

NORMALIZES
LYING
DISTRACTS YOU
FROM TRUTH

THE END

FURTHER READING _s



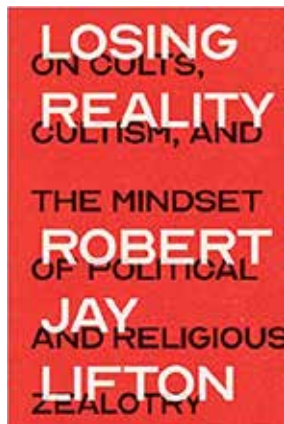
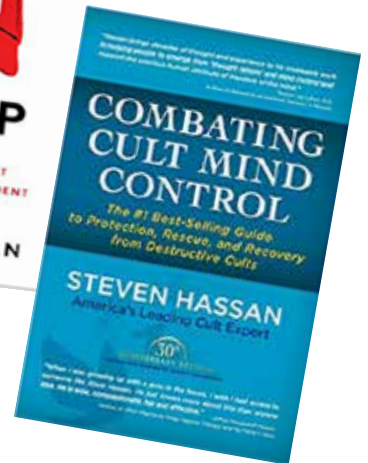
MARK LAXER'S
TAKE ME FOR A RIDE: COMING OF AGE IN A DESTRUCTIVE CULT

"WHILE HIS PORTRAIT OF A CHARISMATIC LEADER'S SLIDE INTO MADNESS IS GRIPPING, PERHAPS MORE IMPORTANT HERE IS LAXER'S DISCLOSURE OF SOME OF THE MOTIVES IMPELLING YOUNG PEOPLE TO IMMERSE THEMSELVES IN CULTS...THE WORK IS WELL WRITTEN." --**LIBRARY JOURNAL**

STEVE HASSAN'S THE CULT OF TRUMP

"A BRILLIANT ANALYSIS OF A UNIQUE MODERN PHENOMENON. READERS WILL NOD THEIR HEAD IN RECOGNITION AS HASSAN EXPERTLY TAKES THEM THROUGH A FASCINATING, ENGAGING EXPLORATION OF THE COERCIVE CONTROL TECHNIQUES THAT PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP USES DAILY TO INFLUENCE HIS FOLLOWERS." --**DR. PHILIP ZIMBARDO, AUTHOR OF THE LUCIFER EFFECT AND EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF PSYCHOLOGY, STANFORD UNIVERSITY**

SEE ALSO HASSAN'S WEBSITE: WWW.FREEDOMOFMIND.COM; AND SEE HIS HIGHLY REGARDED BOOK: **COMBATING CULT MIND CONTROL**.

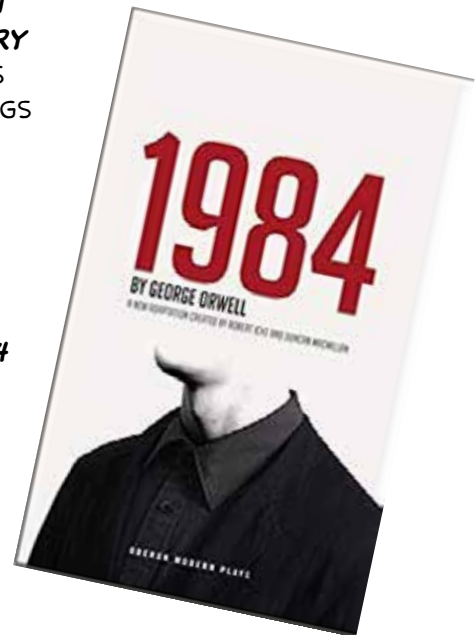


ROBERT JAY LIFTON'S LOSING REALITY: ON CULTS, CULTISM, AND THE MINDSET OF POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS ZEALOTRY

"ONE OF THE WORLD'S FOREMOST THINKERS ON WHY WE HUMANS DO SUCH AWFUL THINGS TO EACH OTHER." --**BILL MOYERS**

GEORGE ORWELL'S 1984

"ORWELL SAW, TO HIS CREDIT, THAT THE ACT OF FALSIFYING REALITY IS ONLY SECONDARILY A WAY OF CHANGING PERCEPTIONS. IT IS, ABOVE ALL, A WAY OF ASSERTING POWER."--**THE NEW YORKER**





MARK LAXER, WRITER:

MARK LAXER'S QUEST TO UNDERSTAND THE BIGGER WORLD LANDED HIM IN THE INNER CIRCLE OF A BRILLIANT, CHARISMATIC GURU GONE MAD. THIS CULMINATED IN A \$30 MILLION LAWSUIT AND THE PUBLICATION OF **TAKE ME FOR A RIDE: COMING OF AGE IN A DESTRUCTIVE CULT** (1993). LAXER CONTINUED THE QUEST BY WRITING **THE MONKEY BIBLE** (2010) WHICH--WITH ERIC MARING'S COMPANION ROCK OPERA **THE LINE**--ASKS SCIENCE, RELIGION AND MYTHOLOGY WHAT IT MEANS TO BE HUMAN.



MARCIE VALLETTE, ILLUSTRATOR

INTERESTS IN ART, HEALING, TEACHING, MEDITATION, AND POWER DYNAMICS HAS LED VALLETTE TO CARTOONING AND GRAPHIC NOVELS AS A FORM OF EXPRESSION. SHE HAS BFA, M ED, AND LPN DEGREES. SHE LIVES AND WORKS IN VERMONT, WHERE SHE EXHIBITS HER ART, TEACHES ART TO ADULTS, AND WORKS AS A NURSE.



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PODCAST WITH ERIC MARING: **TAKE ME FOR A RIDE**

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: MARK LAXER

TAKE ME FOR A RIDE (FREE DOWNLOAD):
WWW.GUTENBERG.ORG/EBOOKS/162

TAKE ME FOR A RIDE (FREE AUDIO) PLAYLIST ON MARK LAXER YOUTUBE CHANNEL (READ BY AUTHOR)

THE MONKEY BIBLE IS AVAILABLE ON AMAZON
MARCIE VALLETTE'S WEBSITE: WWW.VALLETTE.NET

WE WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE OUR WORK AND FRIENDSHIP WITH CULT EDUCATOR GERETTE BUGLION, AUTHOR OF UPCOMING BOOK **AN EVERYDAY CULT**.

TO ORDER A PHYSICAL COPY OF THIS BOOK (NOT FREE) VISIT WWW.RAMATRAUMATRUMP.COM

CONTACT PUBLISHER FOR INTERVIEWS AND PUBLIC SPEAKING.



RAMA TRAUMA TRUMP IS THE TRUE STORY OF A SEVENTEEN-YEAR-OLD WHO JOINS A SPIRITUAL GROUP THAT STARTS OUT COOL BUT GRADUALLY, OVER YEARS, TURNS ABUSIVE. THE YOUNG MAN LEAVES THE GROUP, TRIES TO COME TO TERMS WITH THE PAST, AND IS SURPRISED TO FIND THAT THE LARGER CULTURE LOOKS AN AWFUL LOT LIKE THE CULT HE HAD LEFT.

THIS HEARTFELT, EDUCATIONAL GRAPHIC NOVEL EXPLORES THE IMPORTANCE OF CULT-PROOFING KIDS, COMMUNITIES, AND NATIONS. ULTIMATELY, **RAMA TRAUMA TRUMP** IS THE STORY OF FRIENDSHIP AND LOYALTY WHICH TRANSCENDS THE MIND-BENDING POWER OF NARCISSISTIC CHARISMATIC LEADERS.

RAMA TRAUMA TRUMP IS A COLLABORATION BETWEEN VERMONTERS MARCIE VALLETTE AND MARK LAXER. THEY'RE SHARING THE BOOK AS A FREE DIGITAL DOWNLOAD BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE BAD THINGS HAPPEN WHEN GOOD PEOPLE DO NOTHING. THEY FEEL THE NATION IS IN DANGER. PLEASE DOWNLOAD AND SHARE THE BOOK AND, ABOVE ALL, PLEASE VOTE.



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