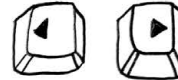


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TYL'S WATCH*

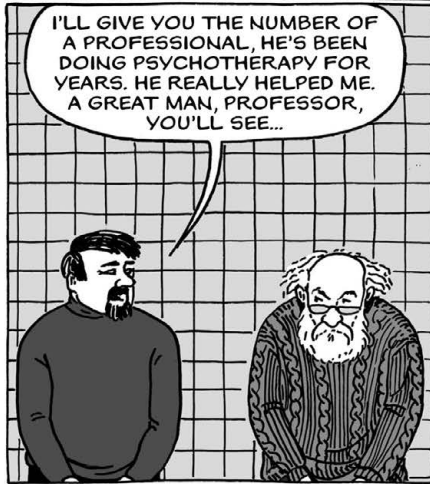
I. THE APPARITION

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY LUCIE LOMOVÁ





*Josef Kajetán Tyl (1808-1856) is considered the founder of modern Czech drama. He loved theatre and spent several years of his life as a travelling actor, always struggling with poverty. He is also the author of the lyrics of the Czech national anthem.



...BUT REMEMBER, THE BOY SAW HIM TOO!



I'LL SET OUT FOR KUTNÁ HORA!



...AND THIS WAS BEFORE OR AFTER YOU WERE IN THE PUB?...



SO SOMEWHERE AROUND HERE WAS THE HOUSE OF MRS KRÁLÍKOVÁ, TVL'S GRANDMOTHER...





TYL'S WATCH

II. THE TREASURE

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY LUCIE LOMOVÁ

THE GHOST OF J.K.TYL APPEARED TO PROFESSOR ŘEZAL AND TOLD HIM WHERE TO FIND A TREASURE. HE IS TO USE IT AS HE SEES FIT TO SUPPORT CZECH THEATRE. THE PROFESSOR AND A FRIEND SET OUT FOR KUTNÁ HORA TO TRY TO FIND THE TREASURE...



SO ON THIS SPOT WAS TYL'S GREAT-GRANDFATHER'S FIELD ...

I GUESS WE WON'T FIND THE TREASURE HERE...



BEHOLD THE MODERN SHRINE!

CONSUMERISM TODAY EVOKES MUCH MORE EMOTION THAN SOME THEATRE!

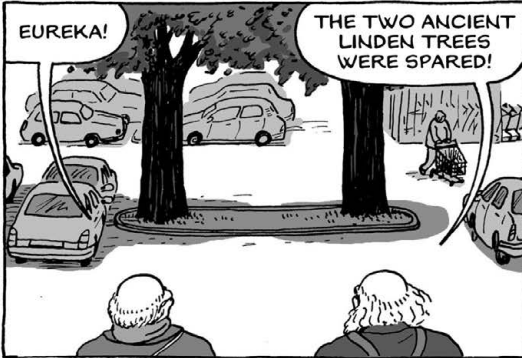


IT'S TIME TO PACK IT IN, FRANTIŠEK.

COME ON, THERE'S ANOTHER EXIT HERE.



HA!



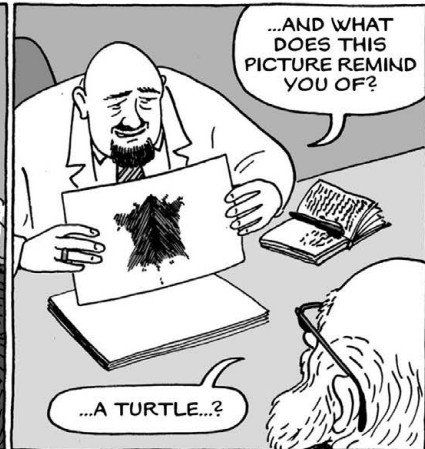
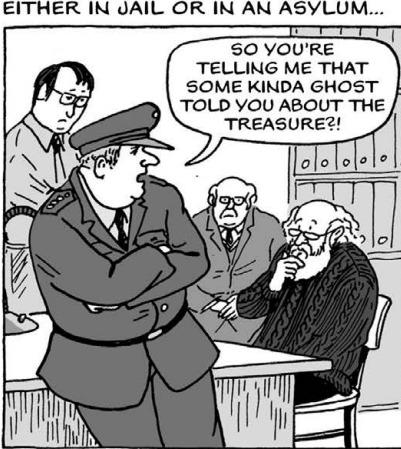
EUREKA!

THE TWO ANCIENT LINDEN TREES WERE SPARED!





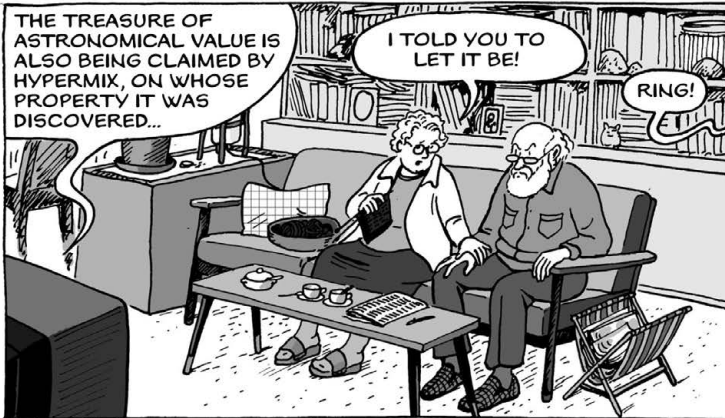
MISERABLE DAYS FOLLOWED WHERE IT SEEMED THAT PROF. ŘEZAL AND HIS FRIEND FRANTIŠEK WOULD END UP EITHER IN JAIL OR IN AN ASYLUM...

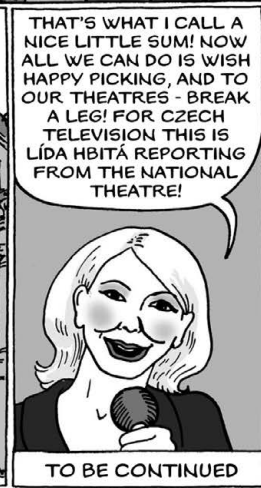
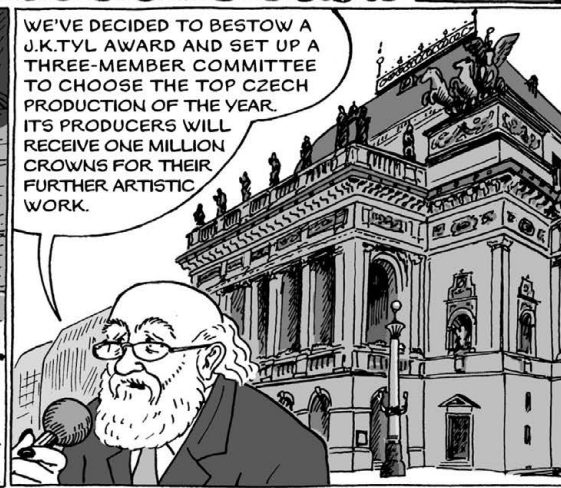
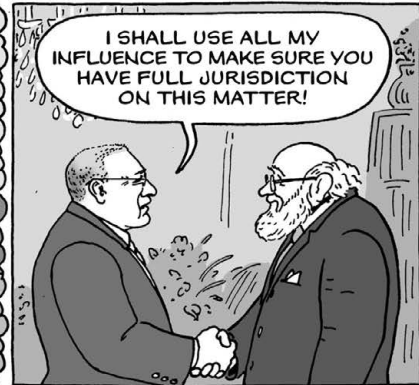


...HIS PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL HONOUR WERE ATTACKED...



...AND IT SEEMED THAT THE TREASURE WOULD DISAPPEAR IN THE BOTTOMLESS SWAMP OF STATE FINANCES. BUT THEN THE TABLES TURNED...







TYL'S WATCH

III. THE SELECTION

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY LUCIE LOMOVÁ

FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS OF J.K.TYL'S GHOST, PROF. ŘEZAL DUG UP A TREASURE IN KUTNÁ HORA, WHICH IS TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT OF CZECH THEATRE. AND SO THE J.K.TYL AWARD WILL BE BESTOWED UPON THE YEAR'S BEST PRODUCTION. THEATRE CRITICS ARE GATHERING AT THE CRITICS' HEADQUARTERS TO SELECT THE AWARD COMMITTEE FROM AMONG THEIR RANKS.

YOU KNOW LÁĎA, SOMETIMES I GET SO SCEPTICAL...



MM... AT THE MALL I ASKED FOR "A DOLL'S HOUSE" AND THEY SENT ME TO THE TOY DEPARTMENT...



MORE MEETINGS, EH?

CKÉ EDI

MY STOMACH'S RUMBLING ALREADY...

GOOD LORD! WHAT'S HE DOING HERE?



I SAID WE SHOULDN'T PUT OUT SANDWICHES...



THERE'S A NEW COMEDY PLAYING AT TRAGICOMEDY THEATRE...



THE TRAGEDY IS THAT NOT A SOUL HAS SEEN IT.



...SO THERE WILL BE MEAL ALLOWANCES? AND TRAVEL EXPENSES TOO?

SORRY, WE MUST BEGIN!



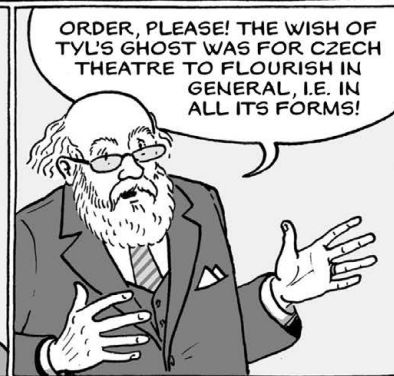
LADIES AND GENTLEMEN! WE'VE GATHERED HERE TO SELECT THREE OF US, A KIND OF WATCH, WHICH WILL ATTENTIVELY FOLLOW THE GOINGS-ON ON OUR THEATRE SCENE IN ORDER TO CHOOSE THE BEST PRODUCTION...



YOU MEAN JUST NORMAL PLAYS? WHAT ABOUT OPERA, BALLET, PANTOMIME?



MIME?! WHO'S INTERESTED IN MIME ANYMORE? DEBUREAU'S GHOST CAN APPEAR AND FINANCE THAT!



ORDER, PLEASE! THE WISH OF TYL'S GHOST WAS FOR CZECH THEATRE TO FLOURISH IN GENERAL, I.E. IN ALL ITS FORMS!

...SO AMATEURS TOO?
TYL WAS AFTER ALL
BASICALLY AN AMATEUR,
WASN'T HE?

WE SHOULD FOCUS ON OUR
CULTURAL FUTURE, THE
YOUTH!

AND WHAT ABOUT
THE CIRCUS? TODAY
THAT'S COUNTED AS
ART TOO!

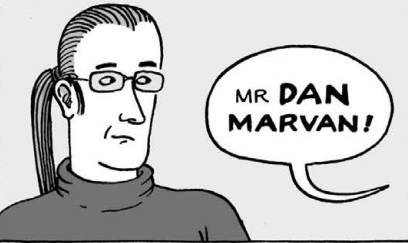
AT OUR SECONDARY, EVEN
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, THERE
ARE COUNTLESS INTRIGUING
TROUPEES, FOR EXAMPLE
AT CHOTÉRAD
ELEMENTARY
...



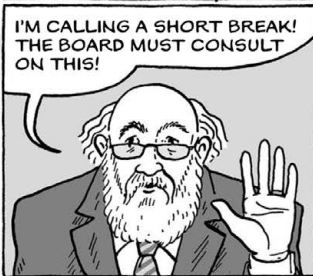
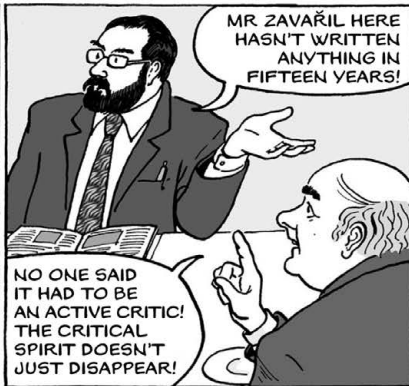
FOR CHRISAKES!
OR THE TWO WITH
THE HAND PUPPETS ON
THE CHARLES BRIDGE!
THEY'RE NOT BAD
EITHER! WHY NOT TOSS
THEM A MILLION?!
BAH! ABSURD!

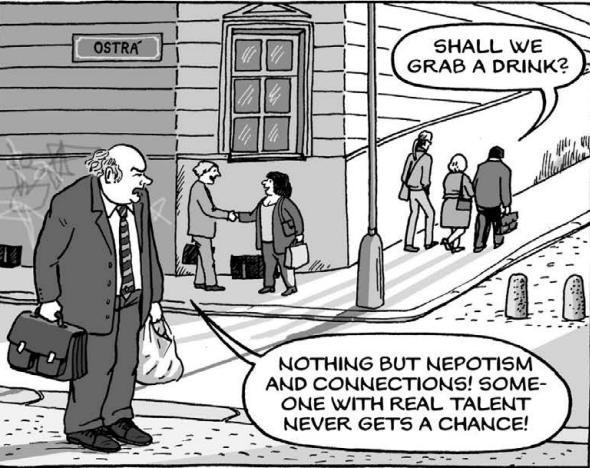
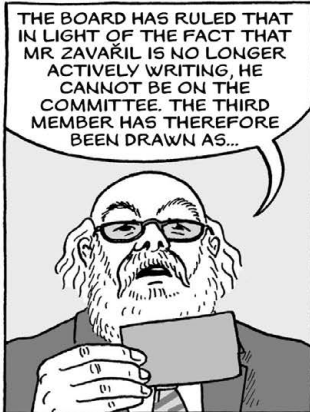
PLEASE, FRIENDS, LET'S CUT THIS
SHORT! THAT IS WHAT THE THREE-MEMBER
COMMITTEE WILL BE FOR, TO ASSESS WHAT
THE BEST THEATRICAL ARTISTIC INITIATIVE
IS! LET'S MOVE NOW TO THE DRAW...

SO...THE FIRST MEMBER OF THE
COMMITTEE IS...



MR DAN
MARVAN!





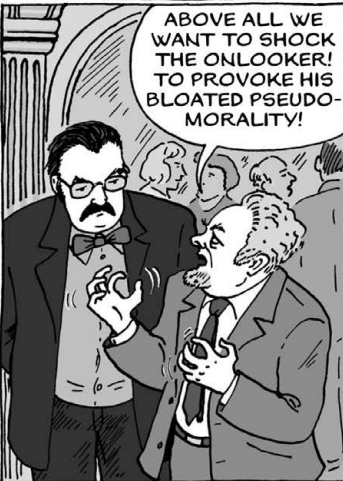
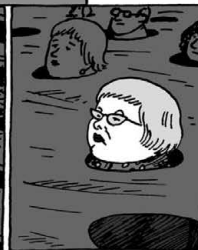


TYL'S WATCH

IV. ARTISTIC EXPERIENCES

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY LUCIE LOMOVÁ

ALL THREE MEMBERS OF TYL'S WATCH SPLIT UP AMONG BOHEMIA AND MORAVIA'S THEATRES TO CHOOSE THE BEST PRODUCTION. THEY PERFORMED THEIR MISSION DUTIFULLY, THOUGH IT WAS NO EASY TASK, AT TIMES DOWNRIGHT MISERABLE...





SO WHAT DO YOU SAY? YOU CAN'T DENY THIS "PUNCH IN THE GUT" IS A BREAKTHROUGH PERFORMANCE!



WELL, BREAKTHROUGH... I HAVE ONE GOLDEN RULE: IF I FALL ASLEEP DURING THE PERFORMANCE IT'S OUT OF THE RUNNING!



LOOK, ZAVARIL! OF COURSE HE'D BE HERE

APPARENTLY HE PESTERED THE HEADQUARTERS UNTIL THEY EVENTUALLY GAVE HIM THE POSITION OF TREASURER, SO NOW HE'S GUARDING TYL'S TREASURE...



HEY, DAN! WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU!

I'M JUST COMING BACK FROM THE ORLICE MOUNTAINS. WE CAN CROSS OFF THEATRE WILDCAT TOO.



YOU SURE THIS IS THE RIGHT WAY? WE DON'T WANT TO GET LOST!

SURE I'M SURE - OLD TUNNEL, TWENTY ZERO ZERO!







HELP! I'M LATE FOR A DRESS REHEARSAL!

HEY, WAKE UP!



YOU'RE TAKING YOUR WORK TO BED AGAIN DITUŠ!
HOW WILL THIS END?



AT THE RADA'S...

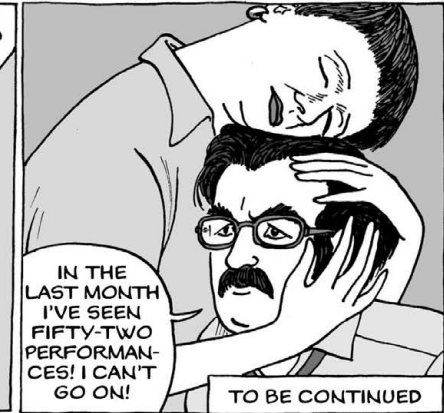
WHY ARE YOU SITTING IN THE DARK, HONEY?



LÁĎA, LÁĎA...



IT'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU!
I TURN ON THE LIGHT - AND YOU START CLAPPING!
YOU'RE TAKING IT TOO SERIOUSLY!



IN THE LAST MONTH I'VE SEEN FIFTY-TWO PERFORMANCES! I CAN'T GO ON!

TO BE CONTINUED



TYL'S WATCH

V.

CAKES

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY LUCIE LOMOVÁ

DITA OULIBSKÁ, DAN MARVAN AND LADISLAV RADA - THESE ARE THE THREE CRITICS THAT HAVE TO CHOOSE THE PRODUCTION OF THE YEAR, TO BE AWARDED THE TREASURE OF TYL'S GRANDMOTHER...

A YEAR HAS GONE BY...



...BUT TYL'S WATCH IS STILL UNDECIDED...

WE'VE COVERED THE WHOLE COUNTRY. WE'VE BEEN EVERYWHERE.

AND WHAT ABOUT BROUMOVSKY VYBEZEK?



COME ON LÁDA...

IT'S TIME TO DECIDE, WE'VE SEEN ENOUGH...



I GUESS I'D GO FOR "STORM CLOUDS"...

AND WHAT ABOUT "DON'T LEAVE, JARDA"?

I'D TAKE "CLOUDS" OVER "JARDA", OR...



KNOCK

KNOCK

KNOCK









YOUR ID PLEASE!



BLOOD TESTS CONFIRM YOU'RE UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF DRUGS, YET YOU CLAIM YOU DIDN'T SHOOT ANYTHING, SMOKE ANYTHING, OR DRINK ANYTHING!...AND WHAT DID YOU EAT?



JUST A COUPLE OF...CAKES...!



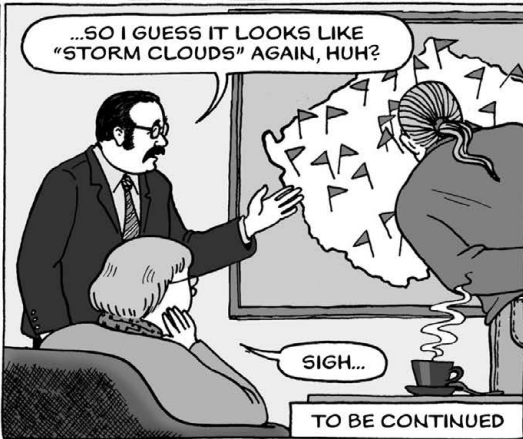
AHA! WE'D BETTER LEAVE YOU HERE UNTIL MORNING...



BAH! BOZO! TRICKING US LIKE THAT!

THE MANIPULATION!

WHAT WILL I TELL LUJZA?



...SO I GUESS IT LOOKS LIKE "STORM CLOUDS" AGAIN, HUH?

SIGH...

TO BE CONTINUED



TYL'S WATCH

VI. THE ANNOUNCEMENT

WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED BY LUCIE LOMOVÁ

THE CULTURAL PUBLIC IS EAGERLY AWAITING TOMORROW'S ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TYL'S GHOST AWARD. LET'S ASK MR ZAVARIL, THE GUARDIAN OF THE TREASURE...



...IS EVERYTHING OK?



YES. I PERSONALLY CHECKED ON THE TREASURE AND I CAN DECLARE THAT THE CHEST AND THE SEAL ARE UNDISTURBED.



FANTASTIC. WELL THEN WE'LL LOOK FORWARD TO TOMORROW'S LIVE BROADCAST. FOR CZECH TELEVISION I'M LIDA HBITÁ.



HERE OTHELLO, HAVE SOME BUDDY. I OVERDID IT WITH THE MAYONNAISE TODAY. NOT FEELING SO GOOD...



URG.. HIC...



RUFF.. SNORK...

HULLO, EMIL! CAN YOU HEAR ME?





IT'S... TYL! AM I ASLEEP OR AWAKE?!

DREAM AND REALITY ARE ONE AND THE SAME, AS COUNTLESS OF MY COLLEAGUES HAVE SHOWN. BUT TO THE MATTER AT HAND...



FROM NEED AND HARD-SHIP, SINCE THE START, BLOOMS THE FLOWER OF TRUEST ART! CZECH ARTISTS E'ER KNEW PENURY, NOW ENOUGH OF THIS ORAT'RY!

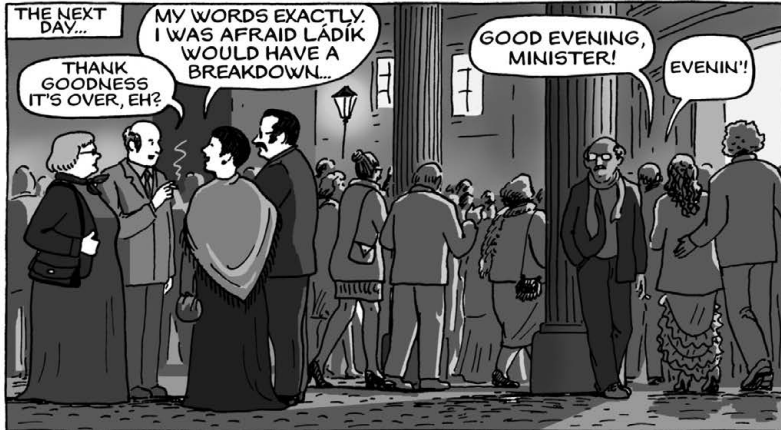


TOMORROW THIS MY MESSAGE TELL! AND NOW, DEAR EMIL, DO...



...SLEEP WELL!...

BLIP!



THE NEXT DAY...

THANK GOODNESS IT'S OVER, EH?

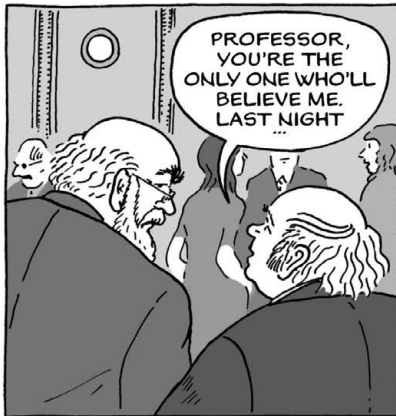
MY WORDS EXACTLY. I WAS AFRAID LÁDIK WOULD HAVE A BREAKDOWN...

GOOD EVENING, MINISTER!

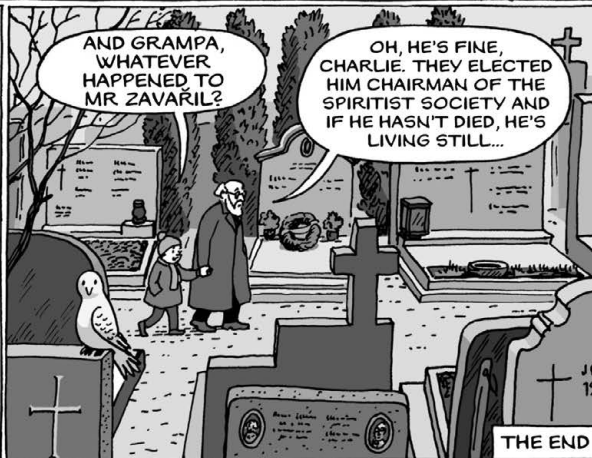
EVENIN'!



WHAT'S WITH YOU? ARE YOU ALRIGHT?











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