

When the rain comes @raymondsbrain

DAZE  
in a  
LIFE



November 2020



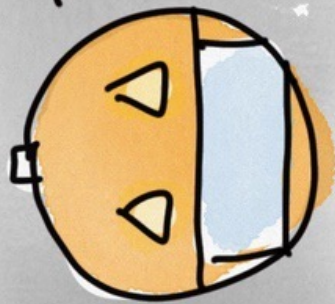
vol. II

by  
Raymond K. Nakamura



Dog is not a fan @raymondsbrain

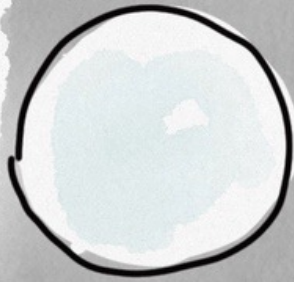
HALLOWEEN



TRICK  
or  
TREAT!

during a pandemic

under a BLUE MOON



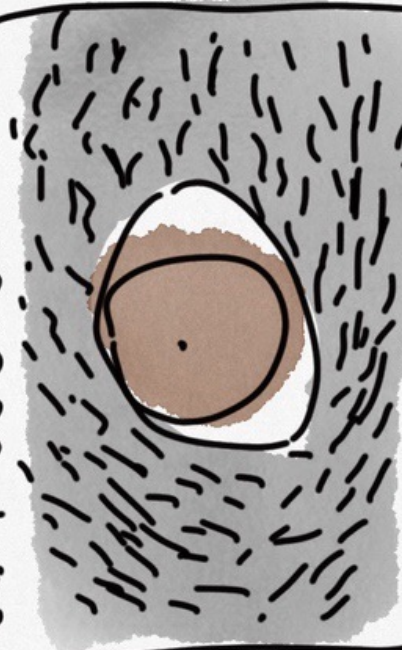
(Second full moon  
in a month)

on the last night  
fireworks can be



Sold in Vancouver

can't be over



soon enough.



# LITTLE WHITE WOMEN @raymondsbrain

Four talented sisters  
have a  
housekeeper  
to take  
for granted.

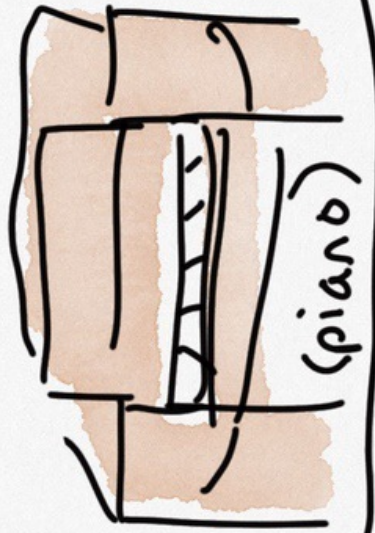


They help poor  
people



once a year

Inexplicably rich  
men give them presents.



And writing seems like  
a viable career.





# Clearing blockages @ rammondsbrain

Some problems just require



simple actions



in the right place



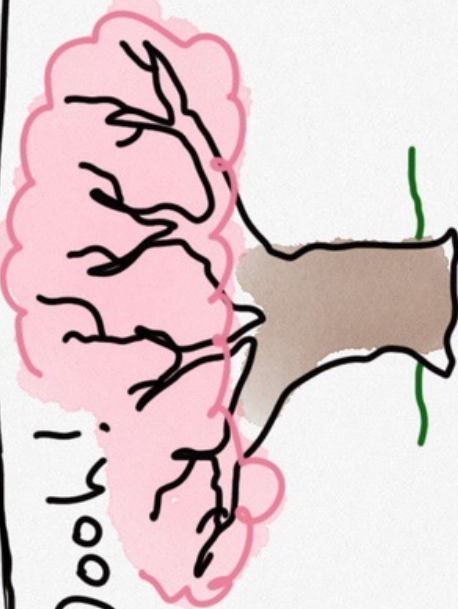
That was  
satisfying





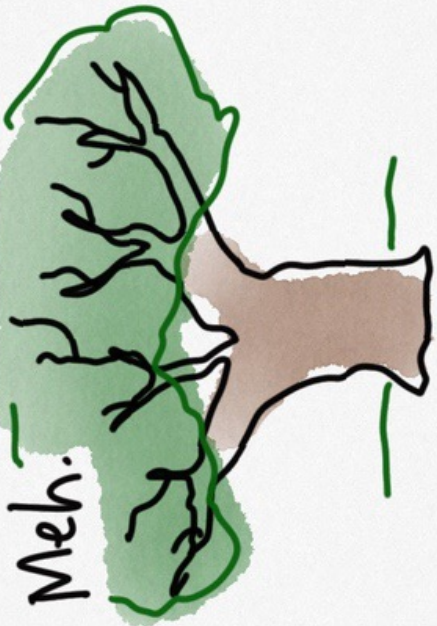
A tree for some seasons @raymondsbrain

Oooh!



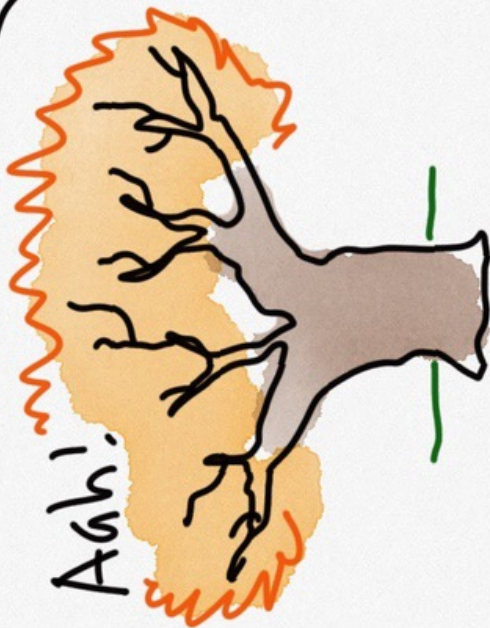
SPRING

Meh.



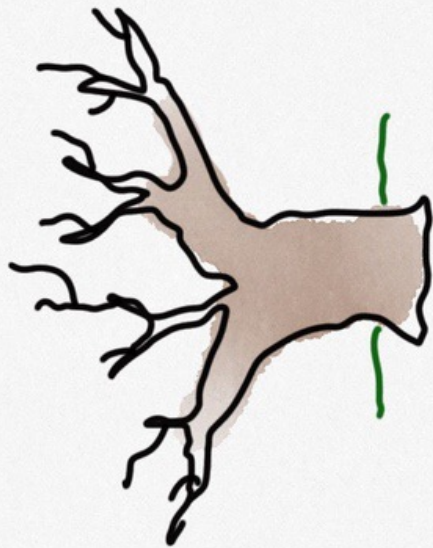
SUMMER

Agh!



FALL

Meh.



WINTER



# IRONIC CHEMISTRY @raymondsbrain

A certain teen is  
REACTING badly.



Help!

She knows the  
SOLUTIONS, but



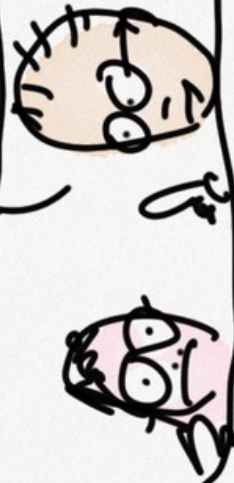
she has trouble  
with CONCENTRATION!

I don't get it!



Maybe it will be a  
BONDING experience

I remember when I  
Failed chemistry...





SOMETHING DIFFERENT @raymondsbrain

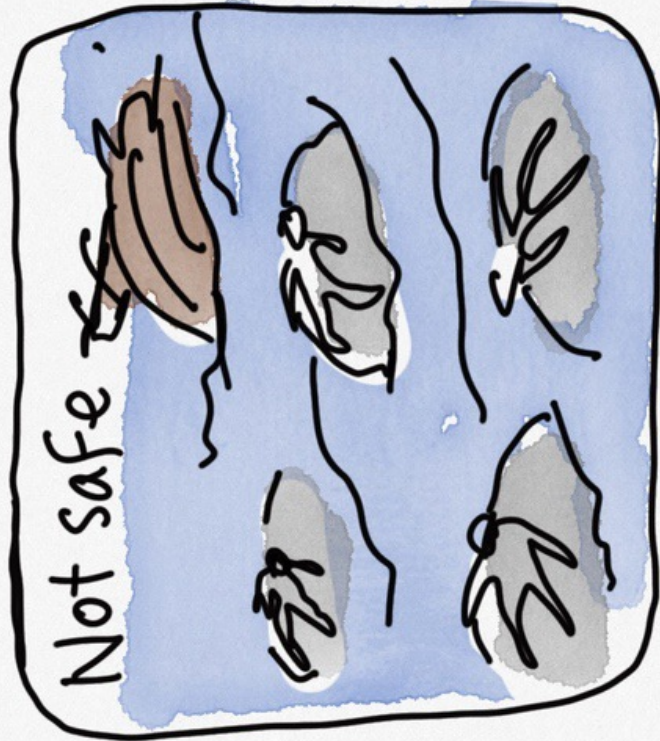
Not kind



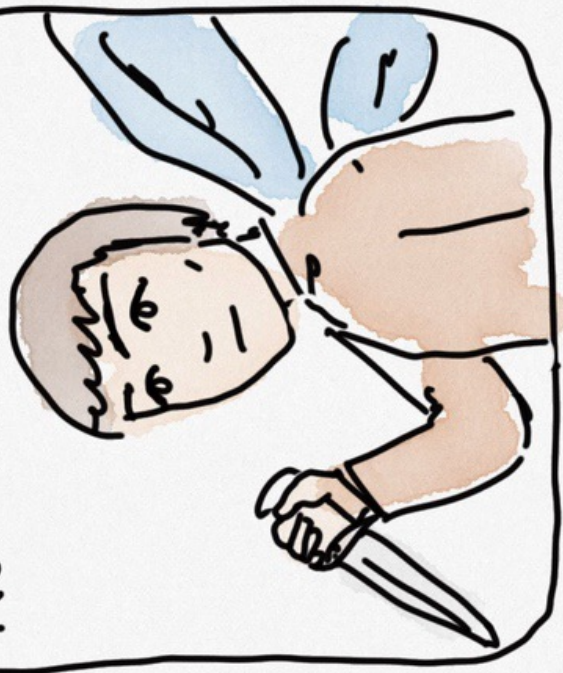
Not calm



Not safe



Not Tinker Bell





REMEMBERING @raymondsbrain

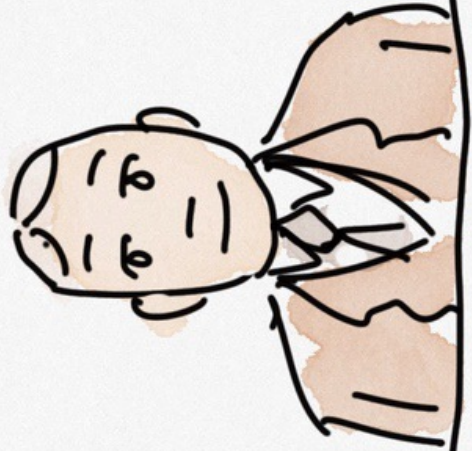
BROKEN PROMISES  
outlines the WWII  
dispossession of



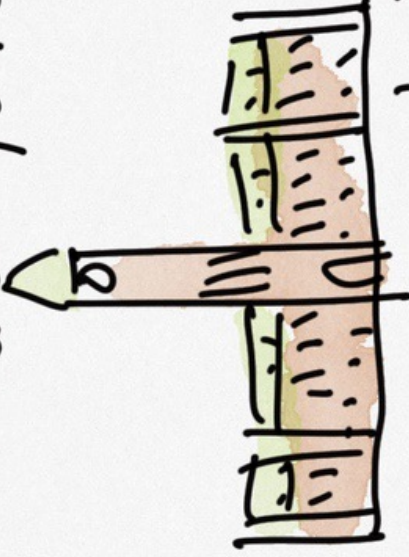
Thousands of  
Japanese Canadians



under William Lyon  
Mackenzie King



considered by some



Canada's greatest  
Prime Minister.



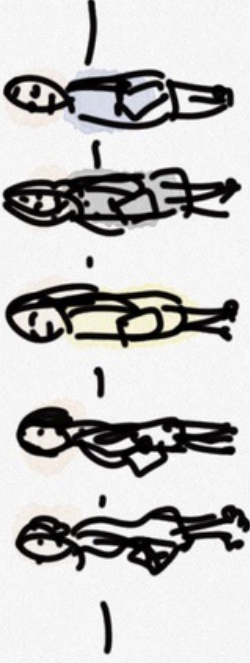
# Brush with greatness @ raymondsbrain

CONGRATULATIONS to



SOUVANKHAM  
THAMMAVONGSA

I met her and other  
Asian Canadian authors

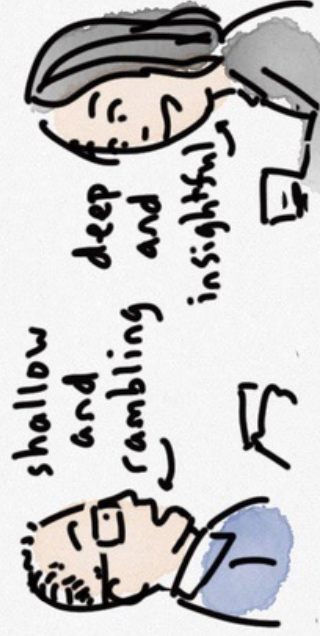


at LiterAsian in 2014

where she read her  
jewel-like poetry.



I don't remember what  
we talked about,



but she seemed nice.



# MISREMEMBERED & Raymond's brain

In Flanders field



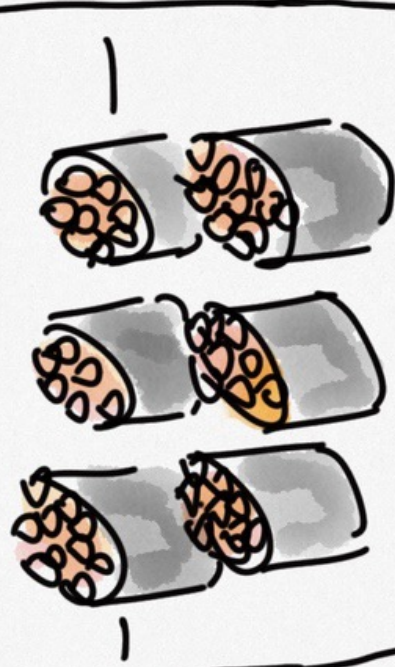
the puppies go



Between the croissants



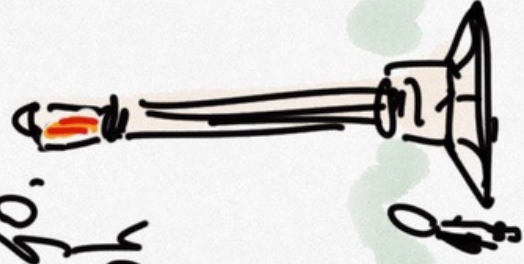
Rows of soe.



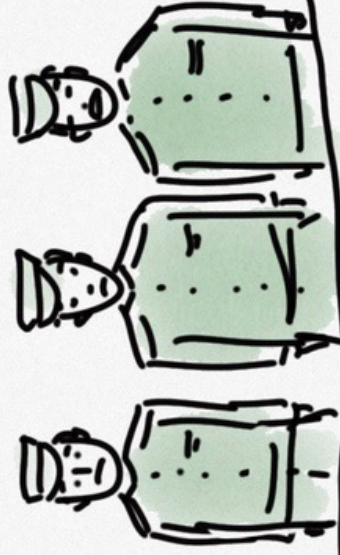


# REMEMBRANCE @raymondsbrain

100 years ago.  
the cenotaph  
in Stanley  
Park was  
built



to honour the 200+  
men from Japan who



fought for Britain  
in World War I



to prove Japanese  
Canadians deserved  
the right to vote  
in Canada.





PRIVILEGED

@raymondsbrain

I grew up in a loving family



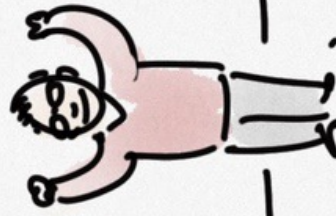
in a peaceful area.

I live with a spouse  
a kid, a dog



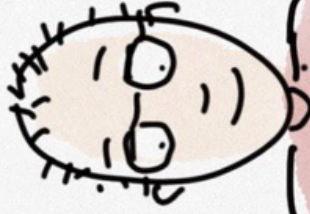
and internet.

I'm a mentally stable  
physically able



older cis male.

No wonder I'm



not making the world  
a better place.



LITERARY TAXIDERMISTRY @raymondsbrain

Take the first line  
of a story



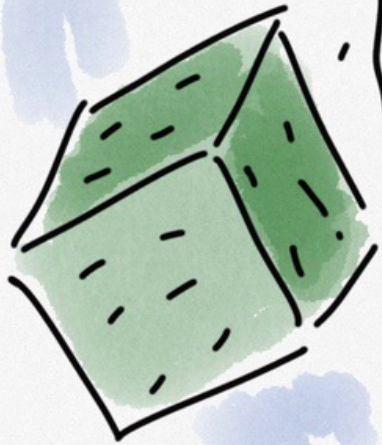
It was the best of times

and the last line



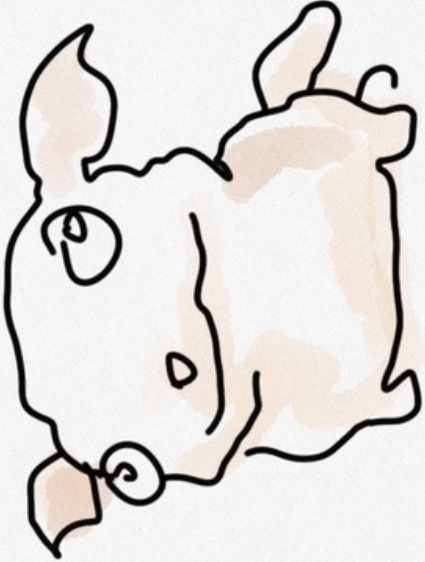
It is a far, far  
better thing

Add your own stuffing



Martians attacked

Then voila!



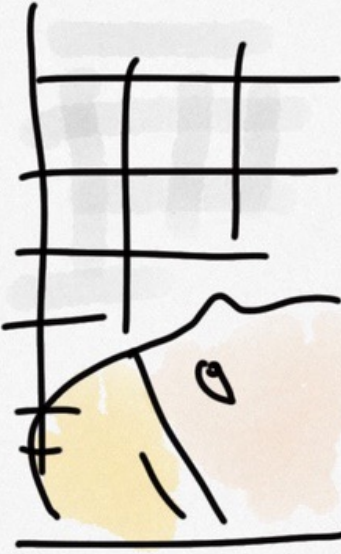
A new story.



Best Picture Book @Raymondsbrain

SYDNEY SMITH

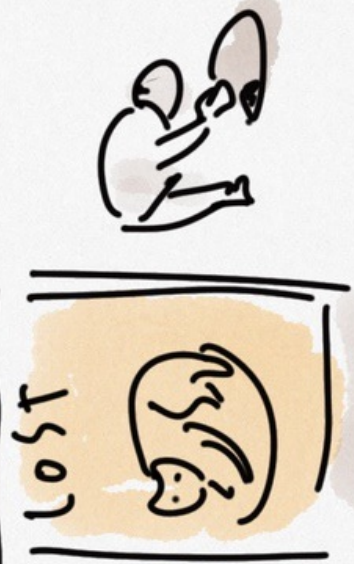
shared thoughts on



Stories as a safe  
places to build  
empathy



Aggregate effects  
of words + images



The pleasure of  
connecting through  
art.



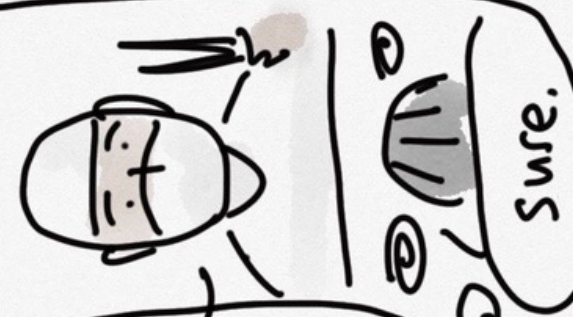


Mortal Cinnamon @raymondsbrain

After running an errand near the Cinnamon roll place...



Would you like a fourth for just \$2 more?



They were warm,



but stale.



The world is going to HELL.



# STICKER SHOCK @raymondbrain

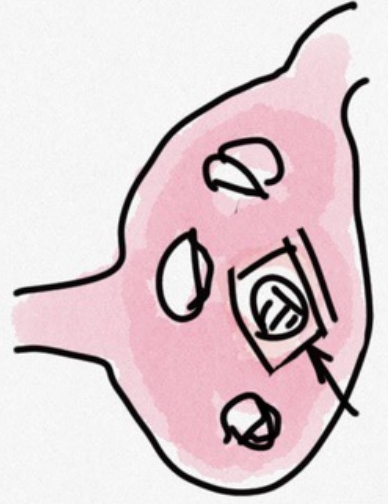
I guess fruit stickers help track inventory.



But it's one more thing I have to keep track of.



I may have swallowed one this morning,



While thinking about what to put in this comic.

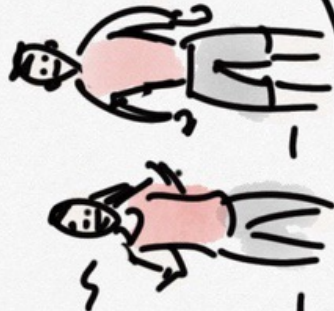




HASfit not cheezburger@Raymondsbrain

I found an exercise  
app I like.

30 minute  
low impact  
cardio!



I don't have to  
think, just do.



At my own pace.

Ten more  
seconds!



Keep it up!

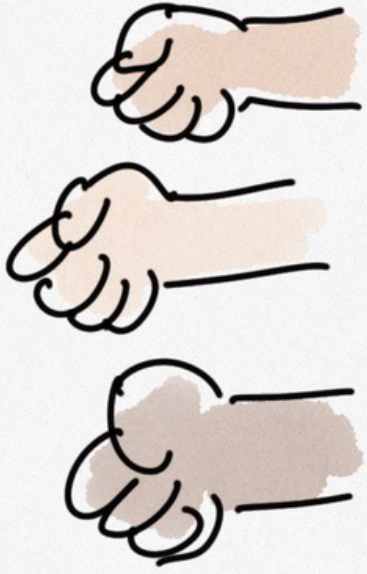


And no one cares  
if I fart.



# NO ANTIDOTE @raymondsbrain

At an ANTIFA rally



my auntie took an antacid, which



was actually a genetically modified ant, turning her into-



The Anti Anty Auntie Hero





# DIE HARDS

@raymondsbrain

At 7pm every day  
neighbours salute  
front line workers,



each in their own  
style



and rhythm.



It's fun,

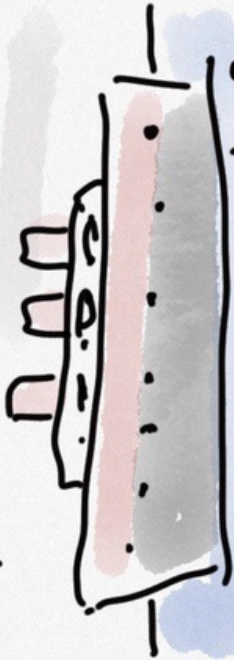


but I still wish  
we could stop.



# A SEAT at the TABLE @raymondsbrain

This exhibit on Chinese Canadians



provided context for my in-laws coming,

and why my spouse's grandfather was kept apart from his family for so long.

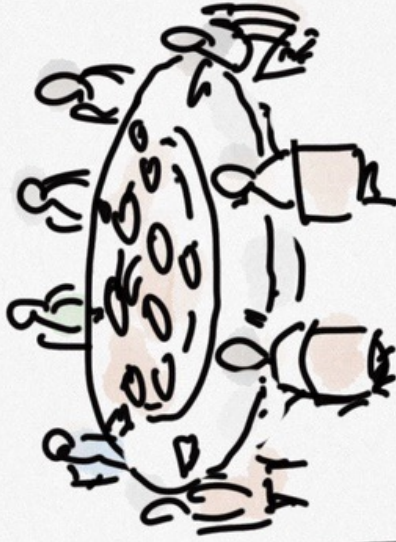
CHINESE  
EXCLUSION  
ACT

It reminded me of clearing out my mother-in-law's kitchen



after they sold their house

and family dinners



before COVID-19



## A checkered Past @raymondsbrain

When I was younger, I took a Saturday morning chess class.



The teacher beat everyone at once.

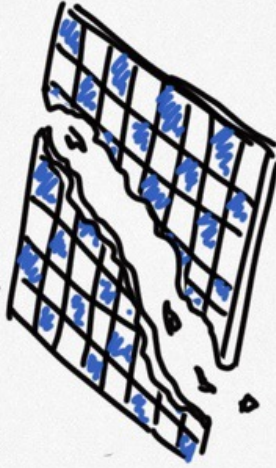


In high school, on a trip to Italy, I bought a 'marble' chess set.



But the pieces turned out to be plastic, and

the board broke during the flight.



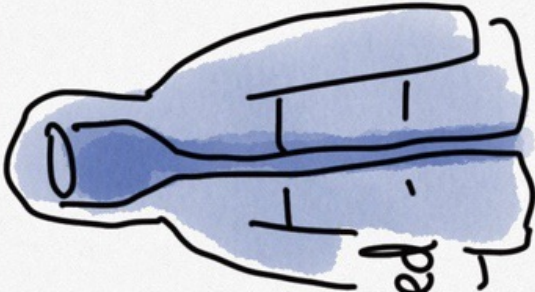
I lost interest after that.



# When the rain comes @raymondsbrain

My used  
Goretex  
jacket

needs to be  
re-waterproofed -



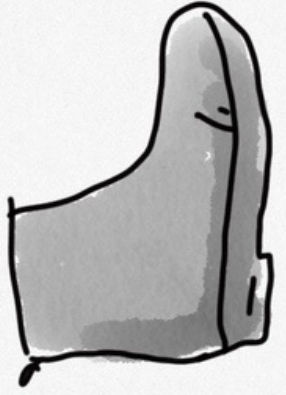
My rain pants  
were made  
for someone  
of my girth  
but much  
taller.



The fingertips of my  
dollar store  
gloves wore  
out so I  
got another  
pair to put  
on top.



And there is a crack  
in my boot; that's how  
the water gets in.



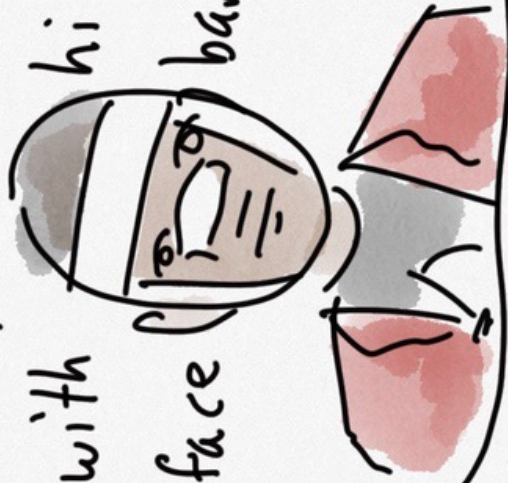


Bits of my feed @raymondsbrain

A 'coydog' in our neighbourhood.



A guy got an award with his face bandaged



Green Acres and the Beverly Hillbillies



Houses made of meat



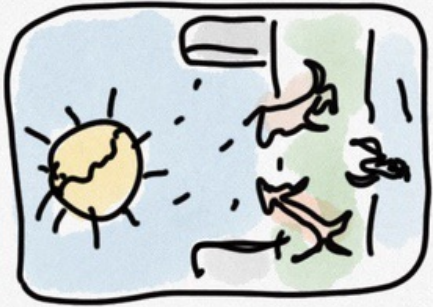


# The future of Fortune Telling @raymondsbrain

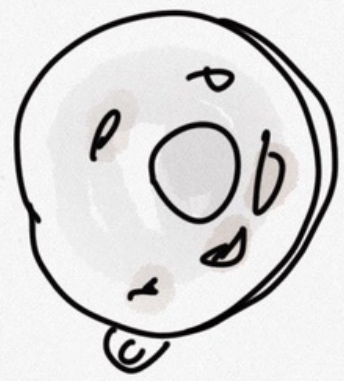
Some people look at stars



or Tarot cards

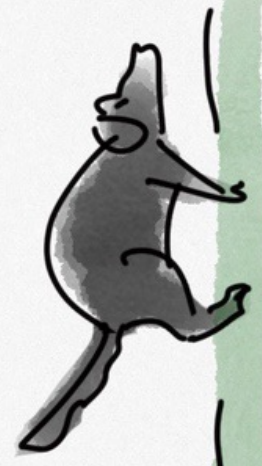


or tea leaves



to tell the future.

So I'm figuring out how to read dog poop.



Ask me something.



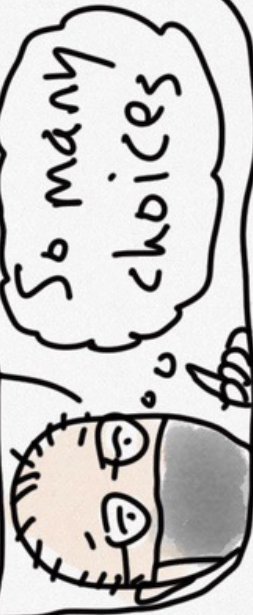
BORING IS GOOD

@raymondslrain

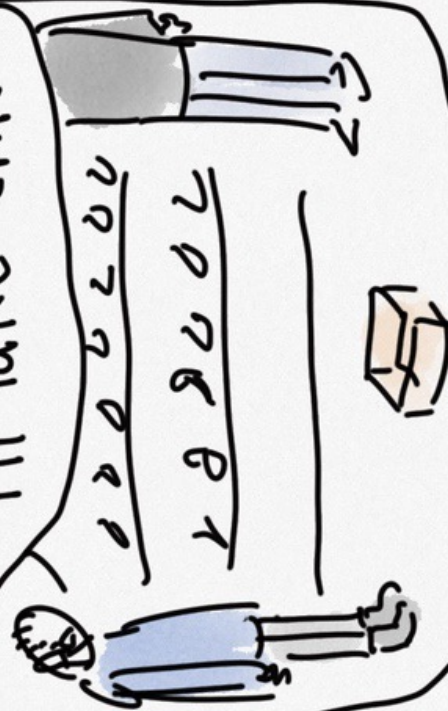
Do you have any low waterproof men's boots?



I'll try the black-  
no the brown -  
no, black. The black.



They don't hurt -  
I'll take 'em.



Goodbye old boots  
you served me well.

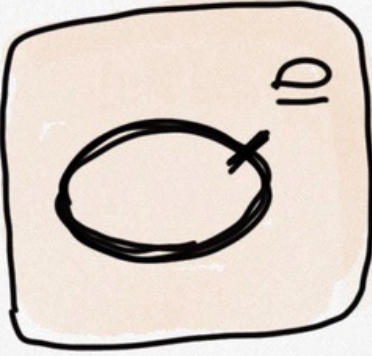


Maybe we could work  
for WikiLeaks.



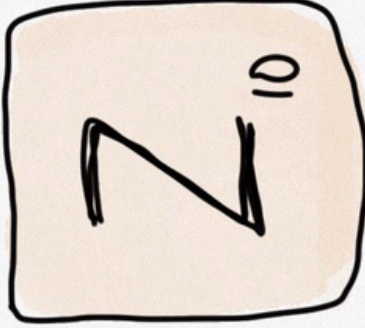
# Letters of Recreation @raymondsbrain

I play Scrabble on my iPad



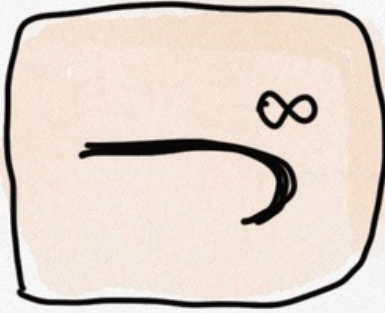
against the computer.

It knows more words



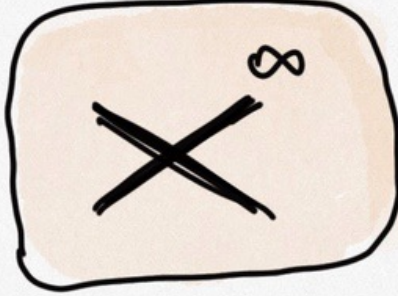
but seems less strategic.

So I can win sometimes,



if I'm lucky.

I avoid the new version

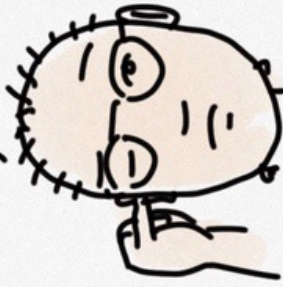


It has really annoying ads



Now ear this @raymondsbrain

I know you're not supposed to stick anything in there,

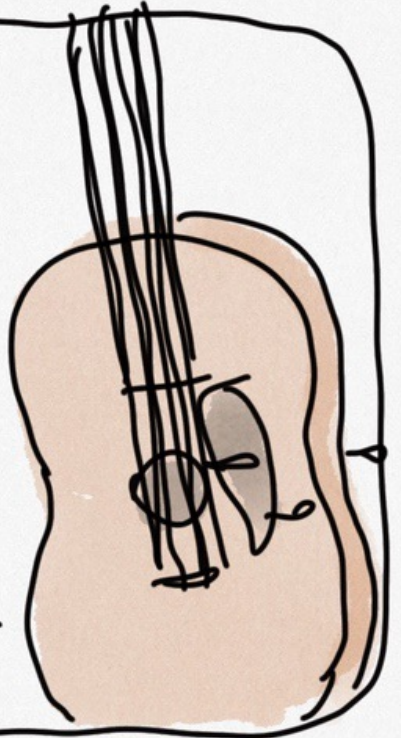


but it was itchy.

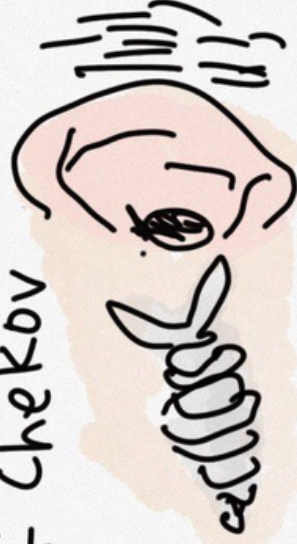
So now fluid is oozing out.



'As My Guitar Gently Weeps' has become my earworm.



And I keep thinking of Chekov



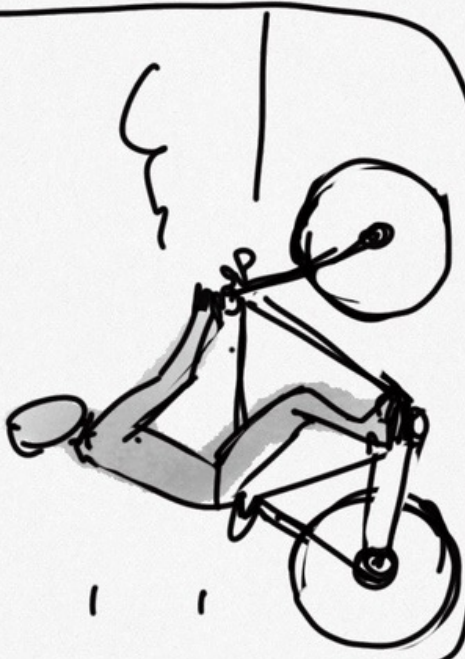
(in Star Trek, not the writer.)



@ODDS

@raymondsbrain

If a man on a bicycle



wears a mask



but not a helmet,



what's the probability he uses a condom in bed?

