

SEEING THE BIGGER PICTURE

border land
between
Belfast and Dublin



Sunset show's over.
Time to go.



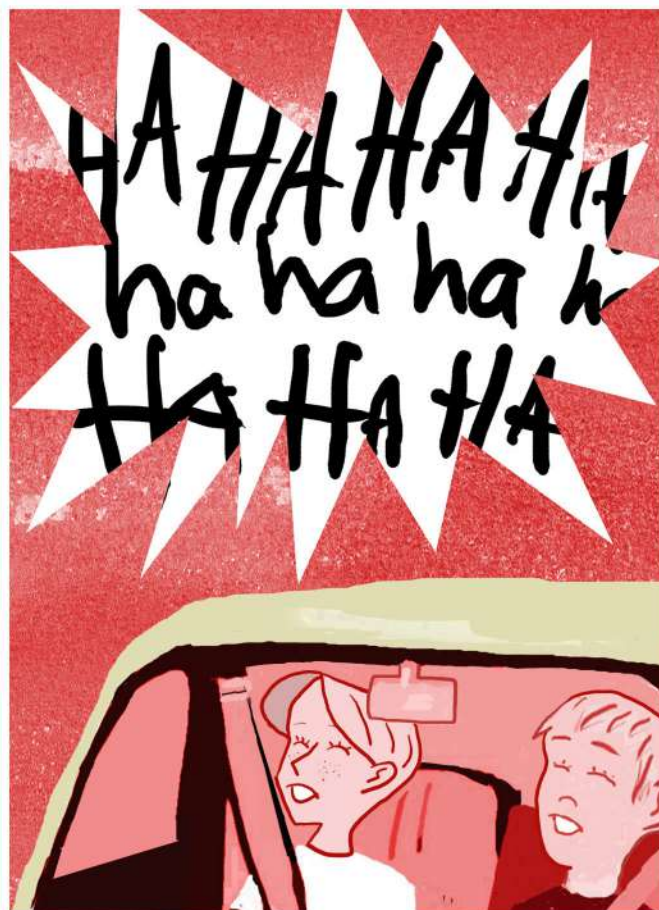
The mammy told
me twenty years
ago headlights
on a lonely road
filled her
with dread.



AND SHE
WASN'T EVEN
GAY.

"The Boys" would have
asked if we were prod
or catholic gays. When
we said we were one
of each we would have had
proportionate
beatings.





ME MA AND DA RECKONED
THEY WERE TAKING THEIR
LIVES IN THEIR HANDS
WHEN DRIVING THESE
ROADS AT ANY TIME
OF THE DAY OR NIGHT.

Helicopters circling.
Sinister lookin' watch
towers on every
high hill



evil eye

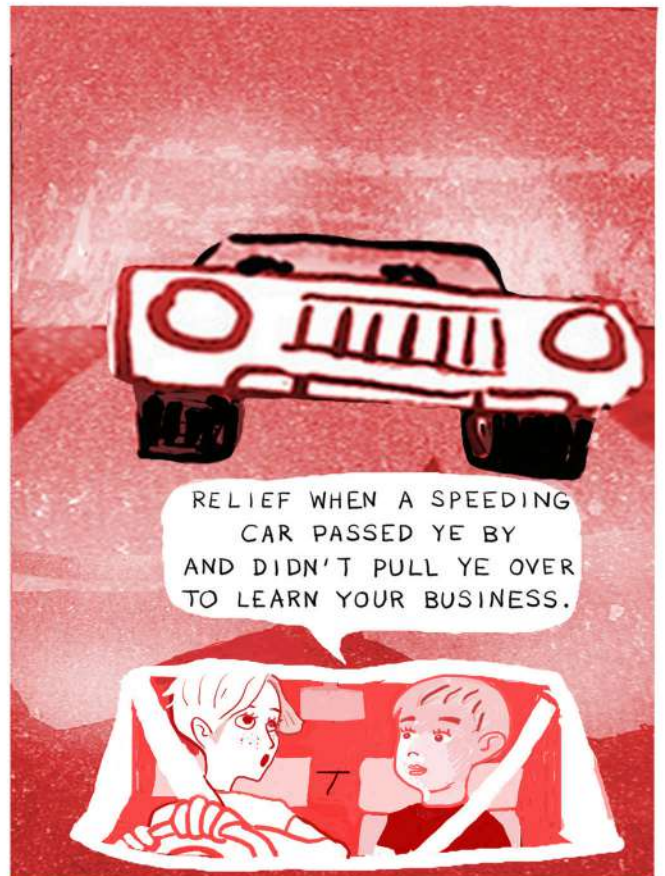
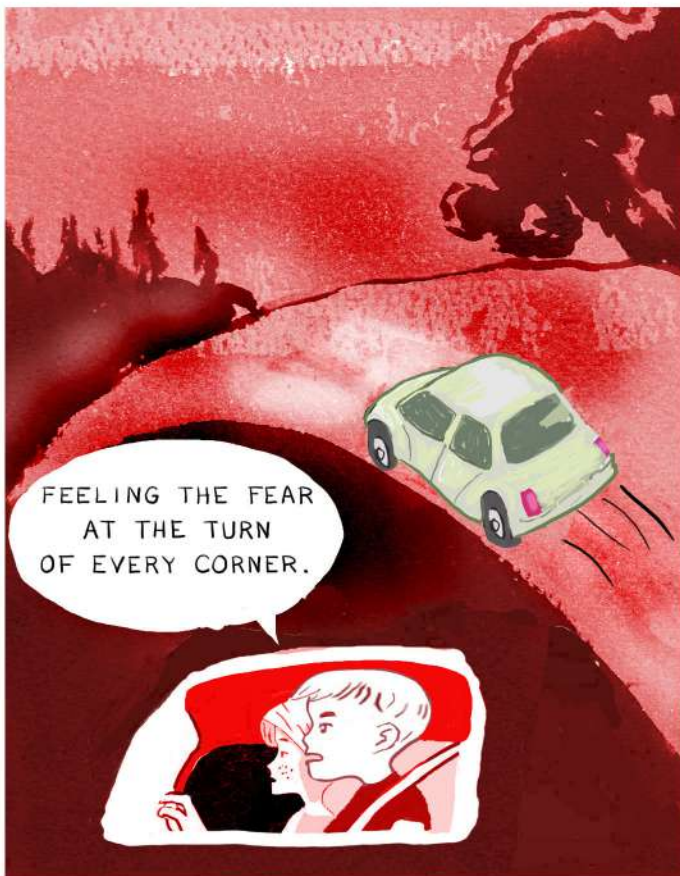


evil ear

Check-points manned
by God knows who.

EVERYONE WATCHING OR
BEING WATCHED.
NO ONE TRUSTED.









ALL IN THE PAST.

Back to Boomtown.

Greatest wee city in the greatest wee country in the world.

Home to George Best, Van "The Man" Morrison and Alex "The Hurricane" Higgins.

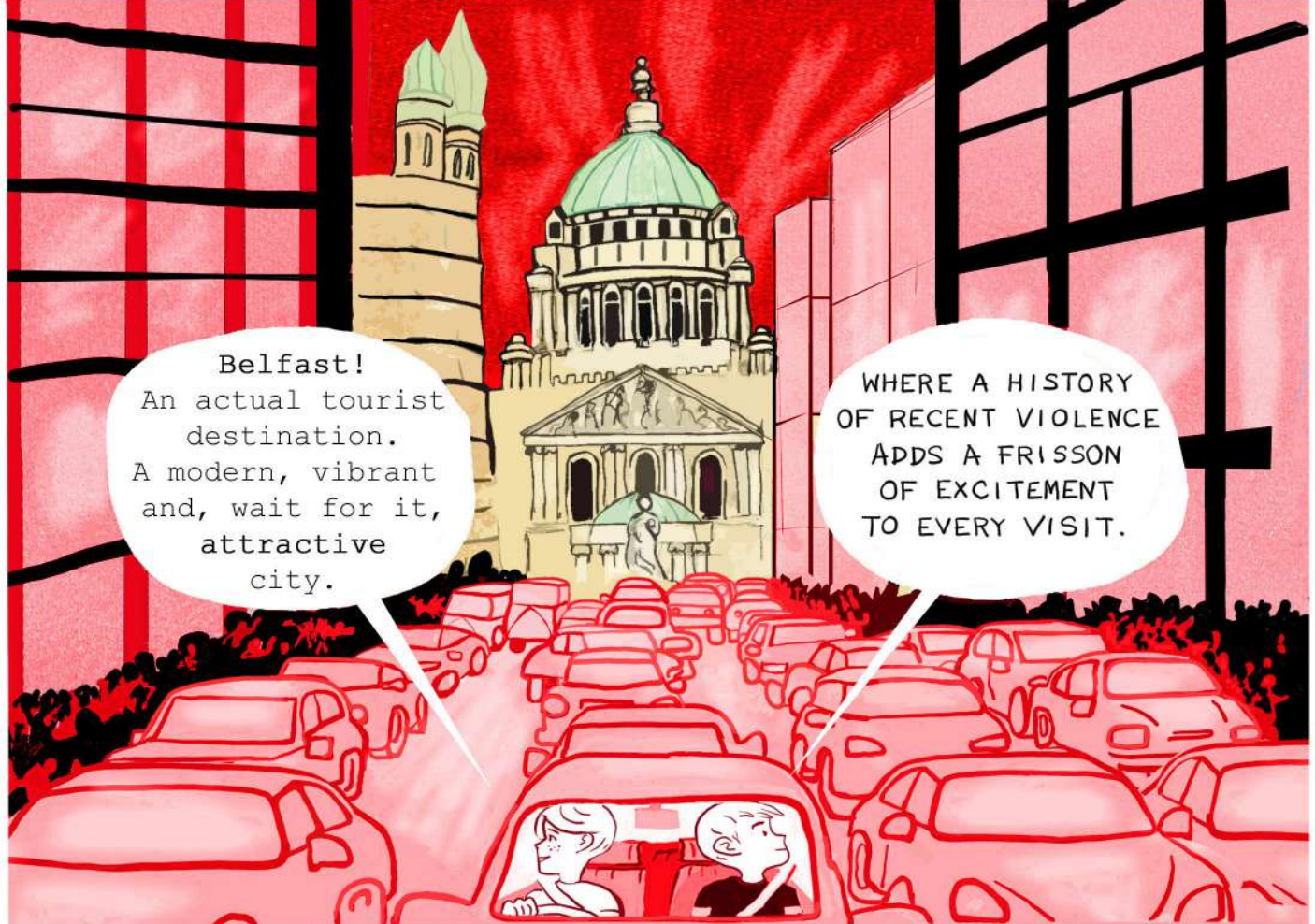


SEAMUS HEANEY

THE UNDERTONES

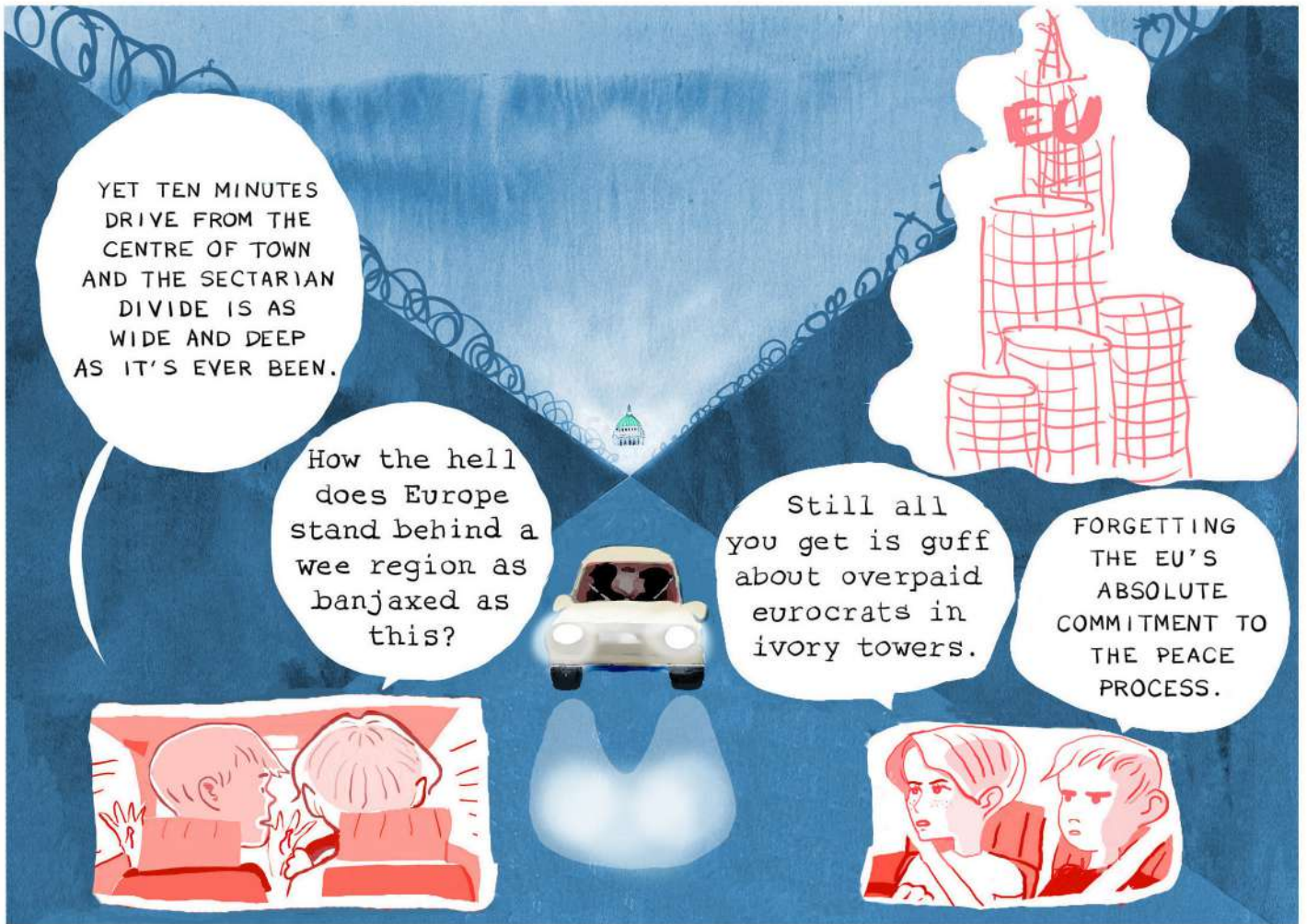
Anna Burns

AND NOT A GHOST IN SIGHT!



Belfast!
An actual tourist destination.
A modern, vibrant and, wait for it, attractive city.

WHERE A HISTORY OF RECENT VIOLENCE ADDS A FRISSEON OF EXCITEMENT TO EVERY VISIT.



YET TEN MINUTES
DRIVE FROM THE
CENTRE OF TOWN
AND THE SECTARIAN
DIVIDE IS AS
WIDE AND DEEP
AS IT'S EVER BEEN.

How the hell
does Europe
stand behind a
wee region as
banjaxed as
this?

Still all
you get is guff
about overpaid
eurocrats in
ivory towers.

FORGETTING
THE EU'S
ABSOLUTE
COMMITMENT TO
THE PEACE
PROCESS.



Belfast College
Nonsectarian
School.

Welcome

And all them
millions spent on
integration projects
that get torpedoed
by bullying bigots
at the first sign
of progress.

EVEN THEN THE
EU WILL STEP
STRAIGHT BACK IN
DETERMINED TO
TRY EVEN HARDER.
ALWAYS TAKING
THE LONG VIEW.

