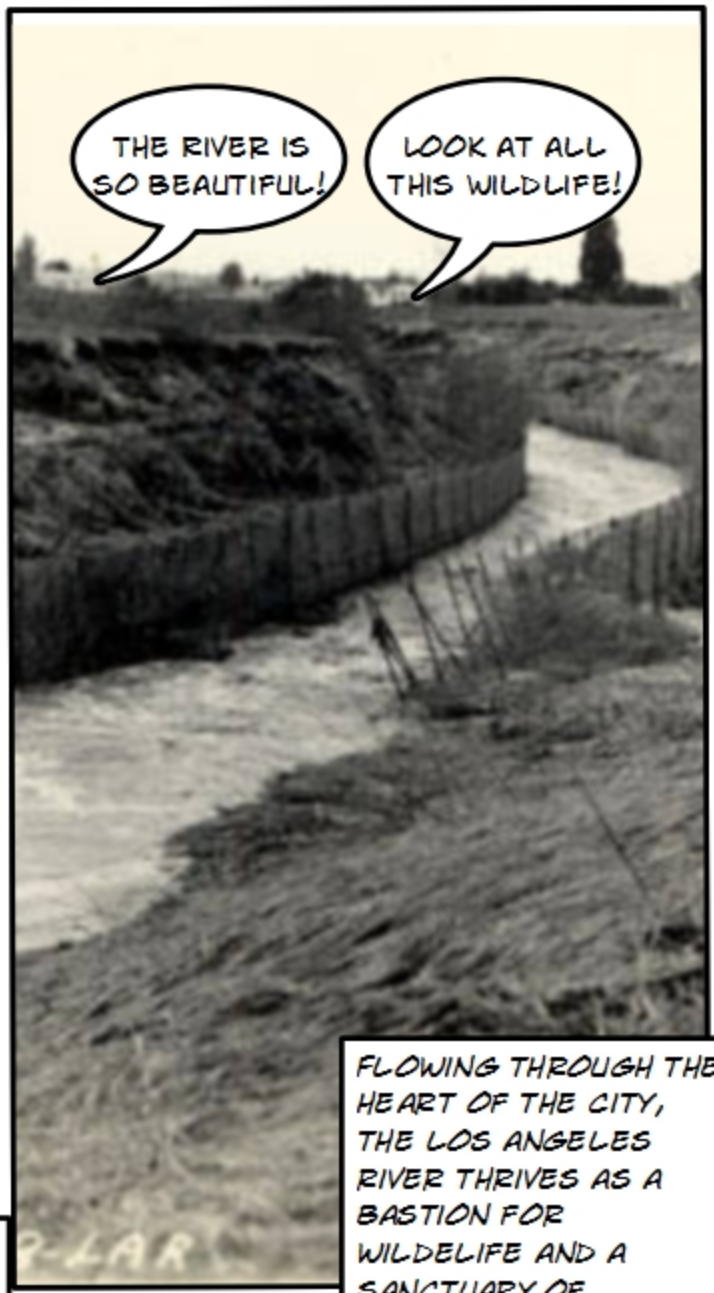




LOS ANGELES- SEASIDE BOOMTOWN, AND AMERICA'S NEW WESTERN PARADISE



FLOWING THROUGH THE HEART OF THE CITY, THE LOS ANGELES RIVER THRIVES AS A BASTION FOR WILDELIFE AND A SANCTUARY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES IS BECOMING INDUSTRIALIZED





THE GRIDLINES OF A NEW AGED CENTER FOR CONSMIPOLITAN LIFE HAVE BEEN LAID. MAN-MADE AMBITIONS HAVE BEGUN TO THWART THE VERY BEAUTY THAT HAS DRAWN SO MANY INTO THIS DESERT OASIS





FOR DECADES, TIME AND AGAIN THE RIVER FLOODS, CLAIMING LIFE AND LIVELIHOOD ALIKE

THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS IS HERE TO SAVE THE DAY!

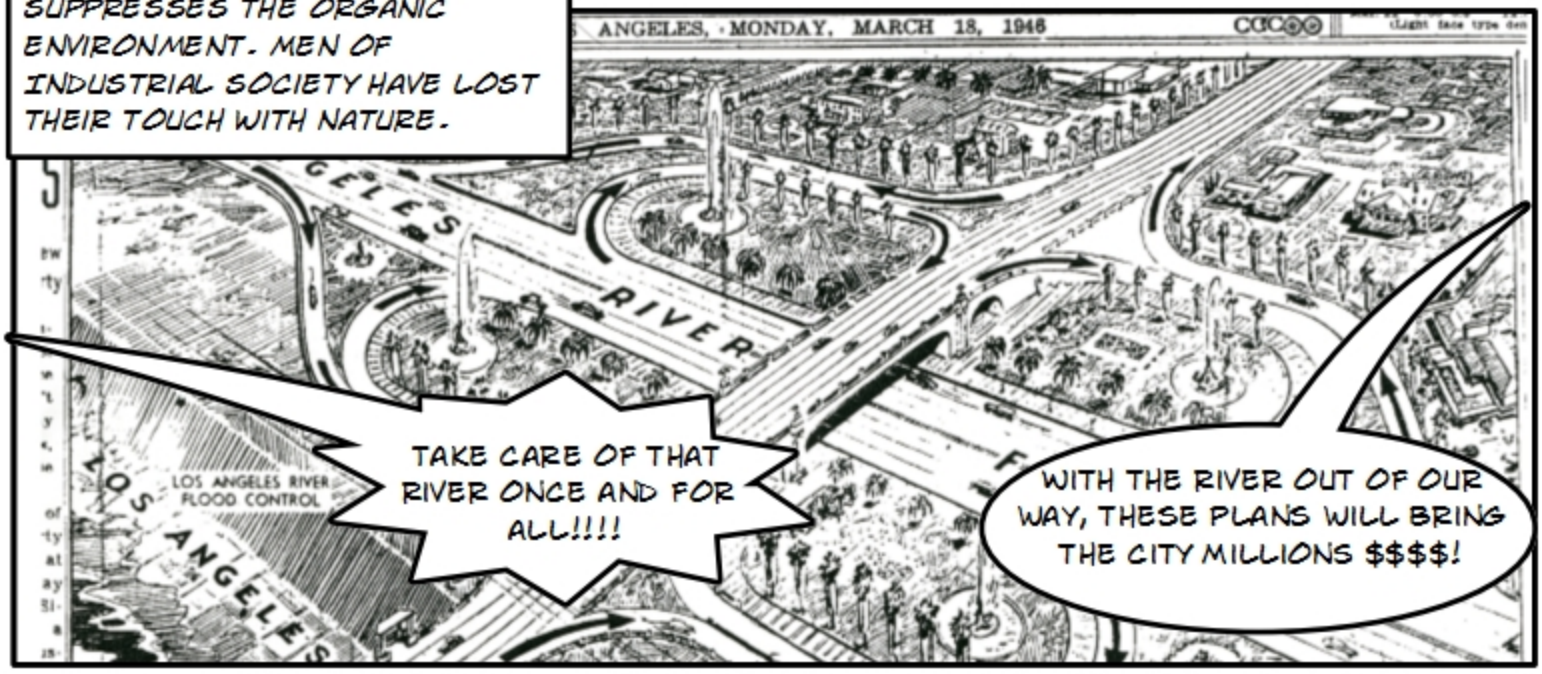


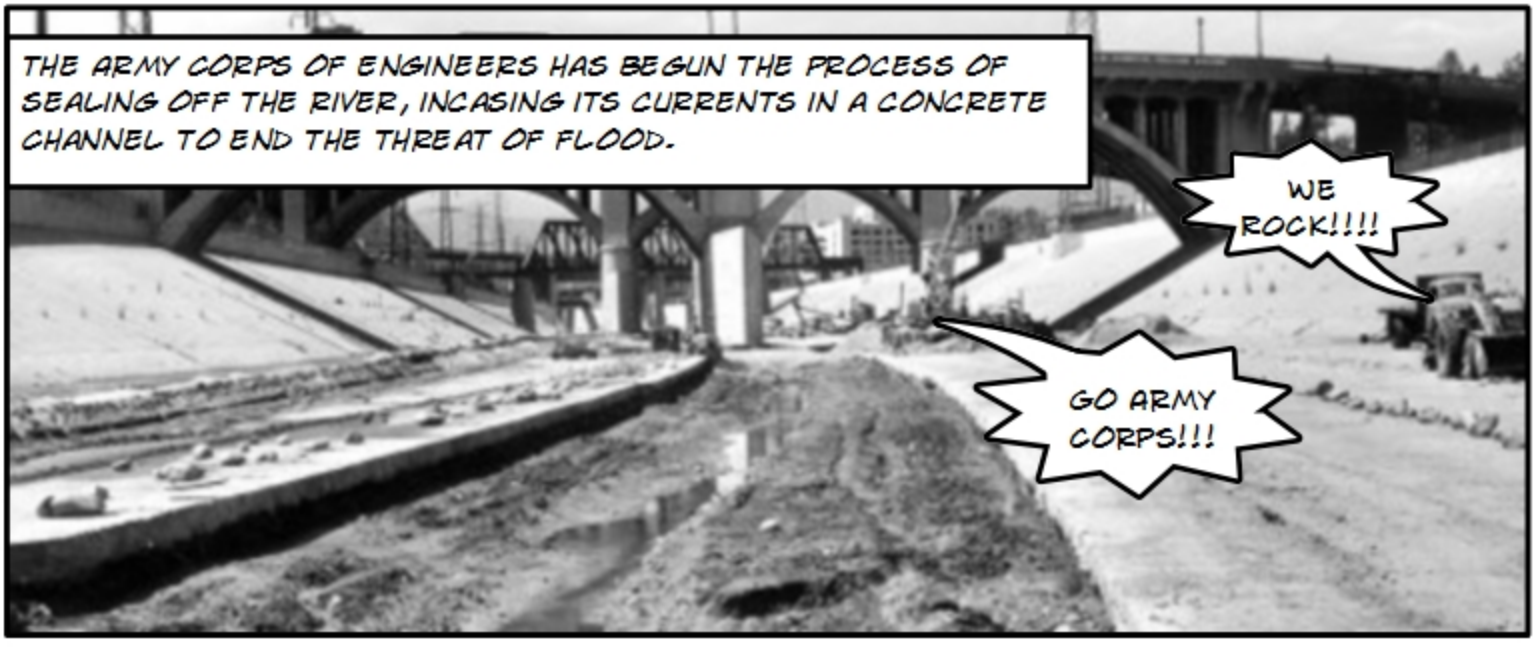


THE PEOPLE WHO ONCE DEPENDED UPON THE RIVER AS A SOURCE OF AGRICULTURE, TRAONSPORTATION AND RECREATION HAVE ADVANCED TECHNOLOGICALLY, AND HAVE NOW GROWN WEARY OF THE RIVERS UNCHECKED MOMENTUM...BUT THE RIVER WAS THERE FIRST.

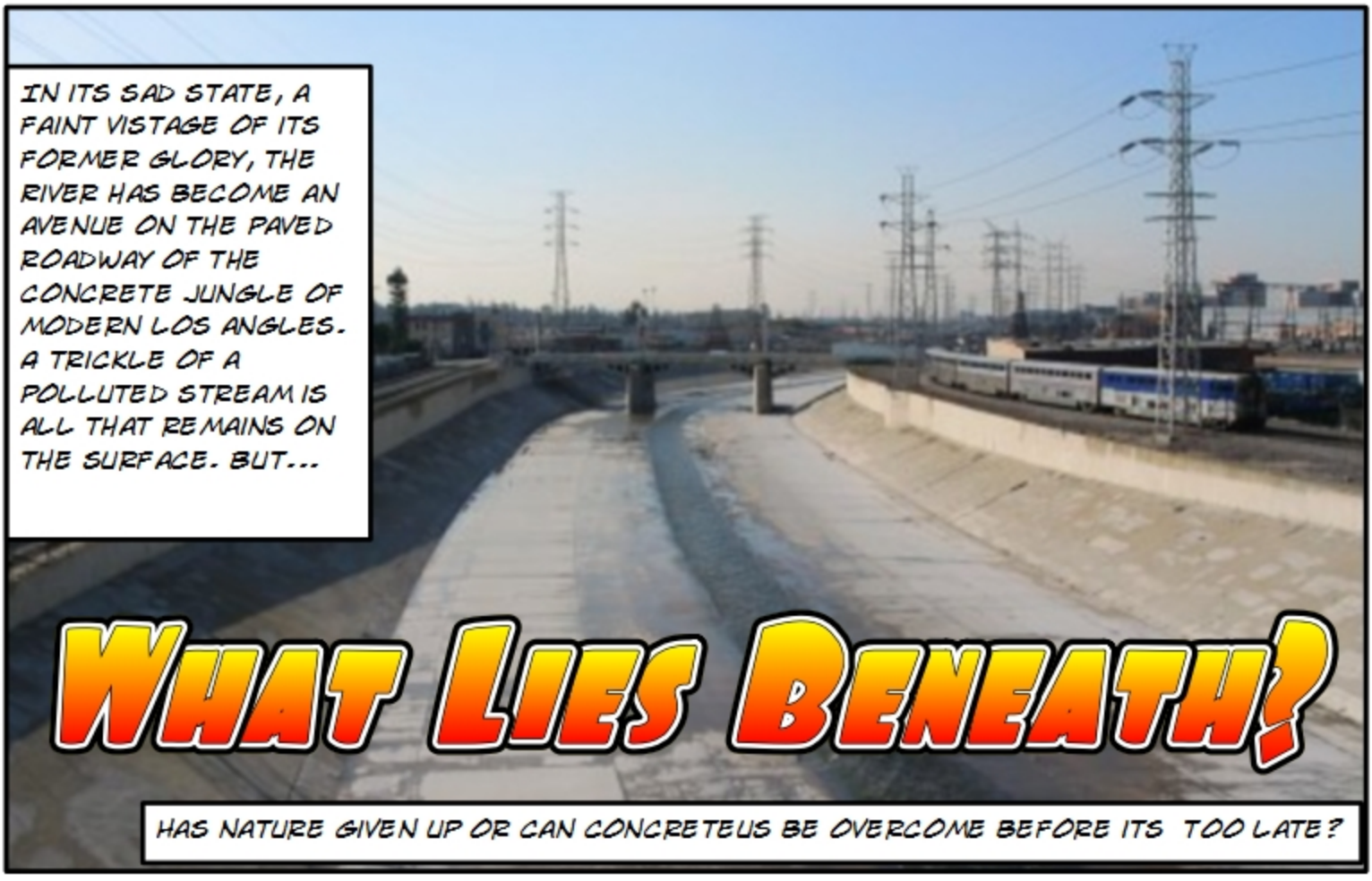


WITH THE INDUSTRIALIZATION OF THE CITY COMES THE RISE OF CONCRETEUS. PORTLAND CEMENT IS POURED IN EVERY NOOK AND CRANNY AS THE CIVIC DEVELOPMENT OF THIS WESTERN U.S. CAPITAL TAKES ITS FOOTHOLD ON THE LUXURIOUS NATURAL TERRAIN. THE CONCRETE SUFFOCATES AND SUPPRESSES THE ORGANIC ENVIRONMENT. MEN OF INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY HAVE LOST THEIR TOUCH WITH NATURE.






DECADES LATER...
THE CITY HAS RISEN INTO A SPRAWLING METROPOLIS, BUT WHAT HAS BECOME OF THE RIVER?
WHO SAID SOMETHING ABOUT A RIVER?
WHAT RIVER?
THERE'S A RIVER?


IN ITS SAD STATE, A FAINT VISTAGE OF ITS FORMER GLORY, THE RIVER HAS BECOME AN AVENUE ON THE PAVED ROADWAY OF THE CONCRETE JUNGLE OF MODERN LOS ANGLES. A TRICKLE OF A POLLUTED STREAM IS ALL THAT REMAINS ON THE SURFACE. BUT...
WHAT LIES BENEATH!
HAS NATURE GIVEN UP OR CAN CONCRETEUS BE OVERCOME BEFORE ITS TOO LATE?



THE CONCRETE SPREAD...

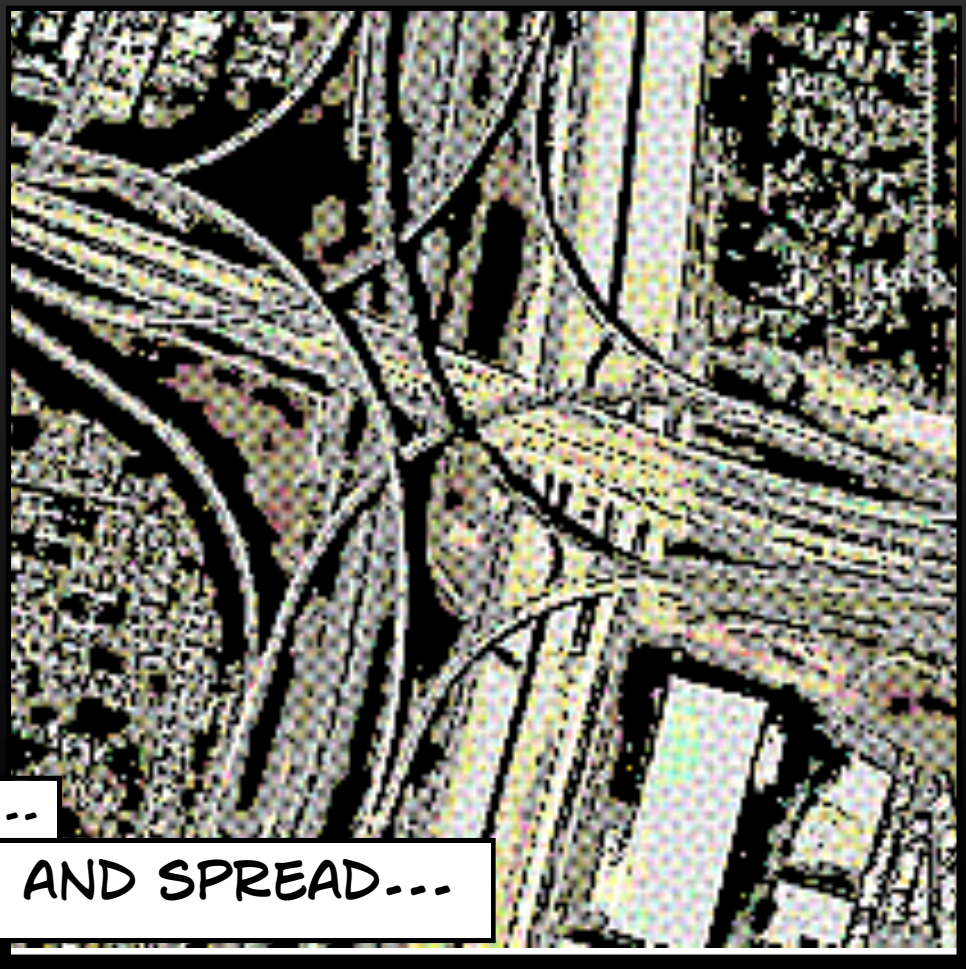


AND CLIMBED...





AND CLIMBED...



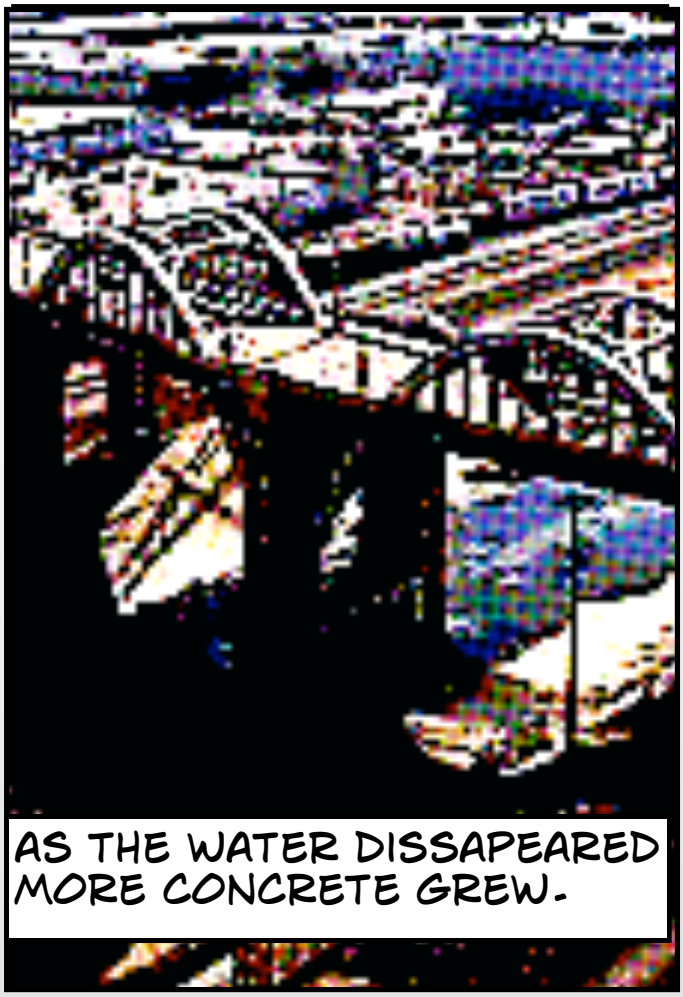
AND SPREAD...





AND AS IT SPREAD, THE CONCRETE SUCKED UP EVERY DROP OF WATER IN THE CITY...





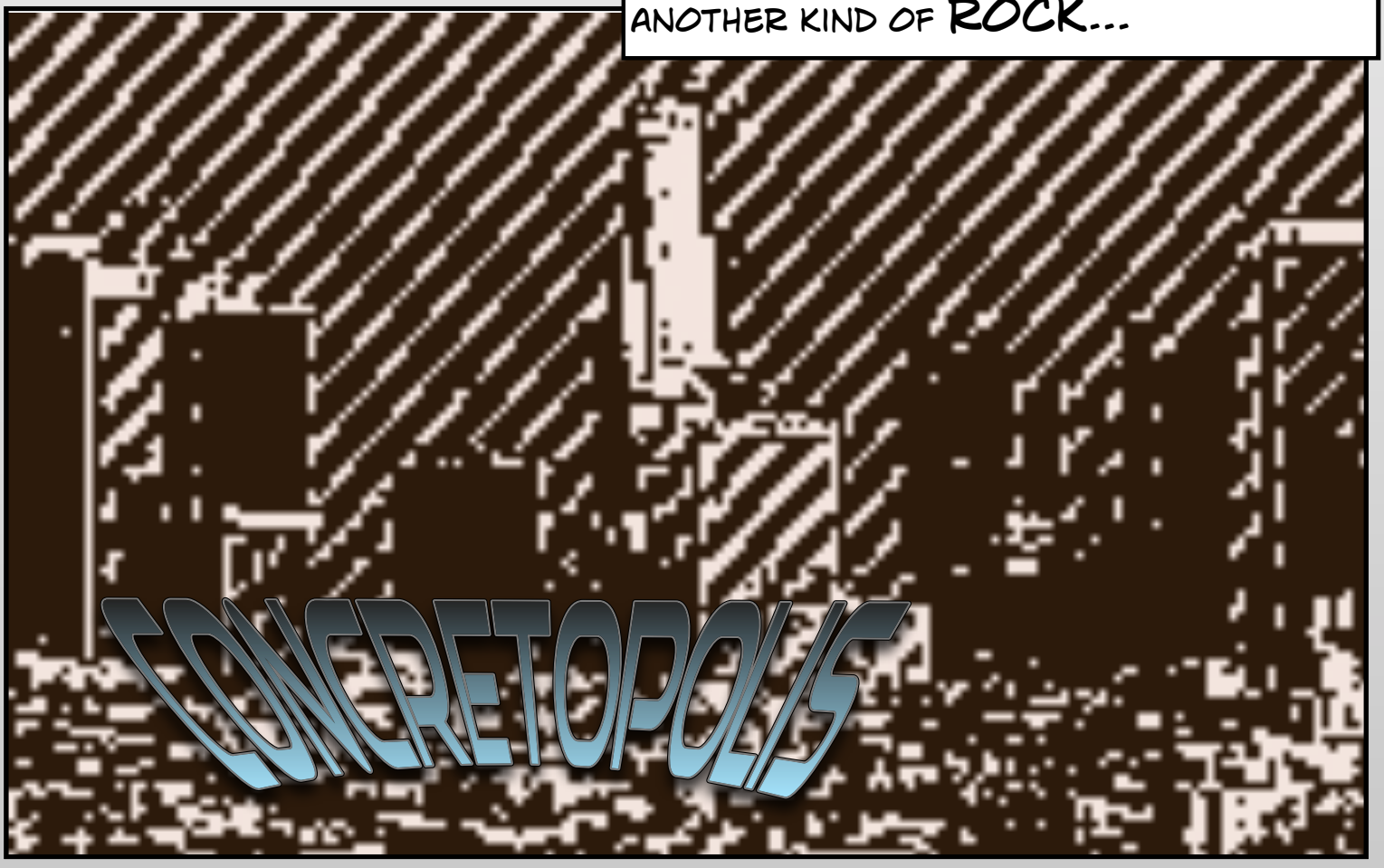
AS THE WATER DISSAPEARED MORE CONCRETE GREW.



STRUCTURES BOTH BEAUTIFUL AND FRIGHTENING GREW OUT OF THE RIVER AND SPREAD ACROSS THE LAND.

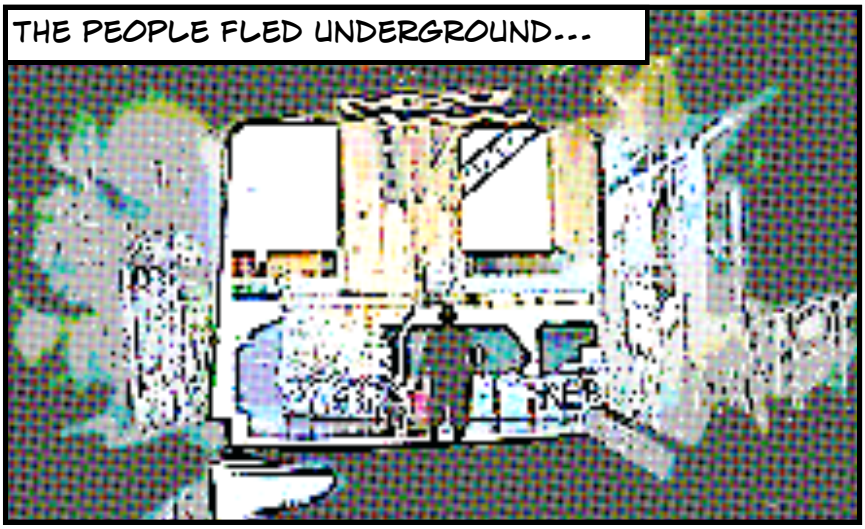


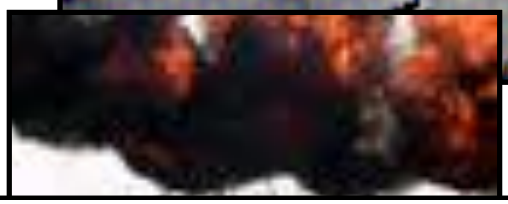
A NEW STONE CITY WAS BORN, NOT OF EMERALD, DIAMOND OR QUARTZ BUT ANOTHER KIND OF **ROCK**...




UNABLE TO LIVE UNDER THE TYRANNY OF THE SPREADING CEMENT...




THE PEOPLE FLED UNDERGROUND...




WHILE THE CITY BURNED DAY AND NIGHT, LIFELESS AND GROWING.

PEOPLE NOW SOUGHT REFUGE IN THE VERY PLACE THE HORRORS HAD BEGUN...





THE RIVER!



THERE THEY WAITED FOR THE DAY THAT THEY WOULD BE THE LAST RESOURCE LEFT FOR THE CONCRETE TO CONSUME.



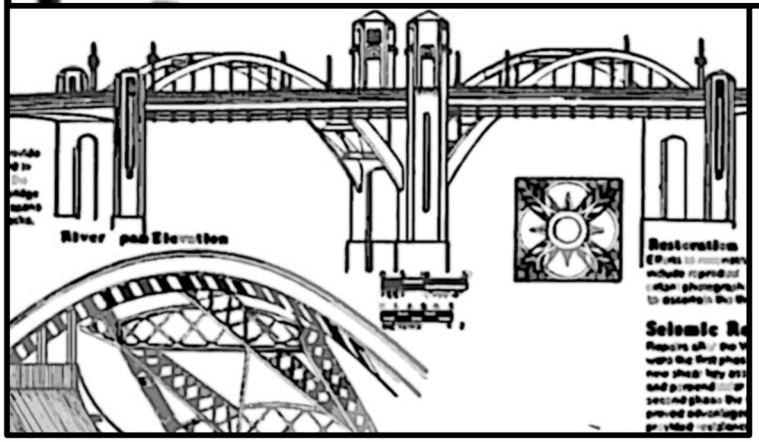


AND ON THE RIVER'S DEADENED WALLS THEY PAINTED TOTEMS AND IDOLS, DESPERATELY HOPING THEY MIGHT SOMEHOW COAX THE RIVER BACK TO LIFE.

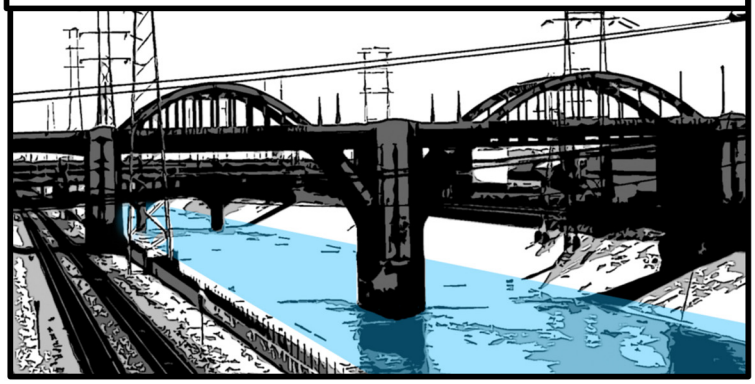


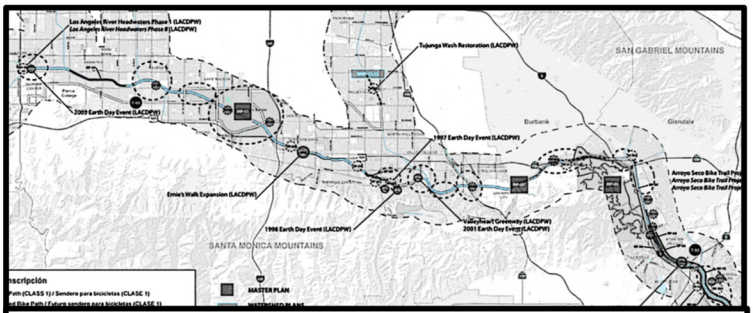
Los Angeles River

I HAVE BEEN ENGINEERED TO TAME THE VOLATILITY OF NATURE, TURNING TURBULENCE INTO LAMINAR...



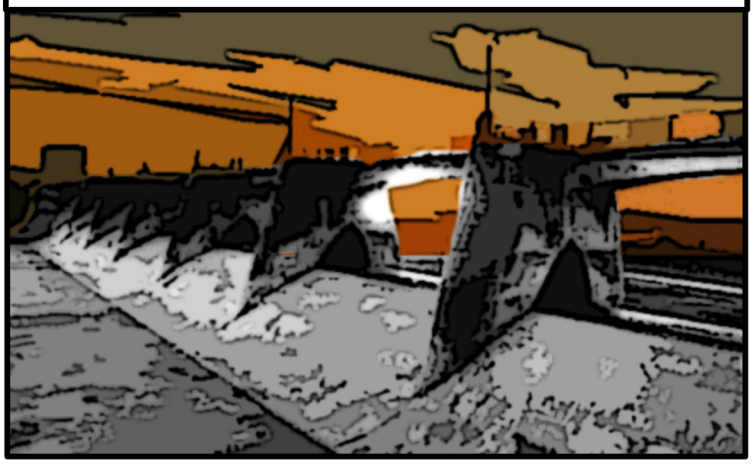
...BUT THE SOLID FACES OF MY VEINS ARE UNWELCOMING, MY STRUCTURES DEGRADING.





...AND MY 51 MILES ARE NOT EASILY MAINTAINED.

THE RIVER IS MORE OFTEN A DRY VOID, SEPARATING COMMUNITIES AND SUPPRESSING NATURE.





THE UGLIEST OF MOTHER NATURE - THE WEEDS - STRUGGLE TO CRACK ME, RARELY



WHICH OF THESE IS THE VITAL INFRASTRUCTURE?



THE RIVER ON A GOOD DAY!

MOTHER NATURE NEEDS HELP!



POPULATION AND DENSITY ARE ONLY INCREASING GOING FORWARD. LOS ANGELES COUNTY WLL SURPASS 13 MILLION RESIDENTS BY 2050. MORE STRESS ON THE RIVER AND ENVIRONMENT!!!!

GOING FORWARD, WHO IS GOING TO HELP ME, THE RIVER, RELIEVE THE SURMOUNTING STRESSES AMONGST THIS CONCRETE JUNGLE? ANYBODY?



TRAFFIC WILL ONLY WORSEN UPON THE CONCRETE NETWORK OF FREEWAYS. STRESS. DEGRADATION OF ROADS. WEAKENING BRIDGES.



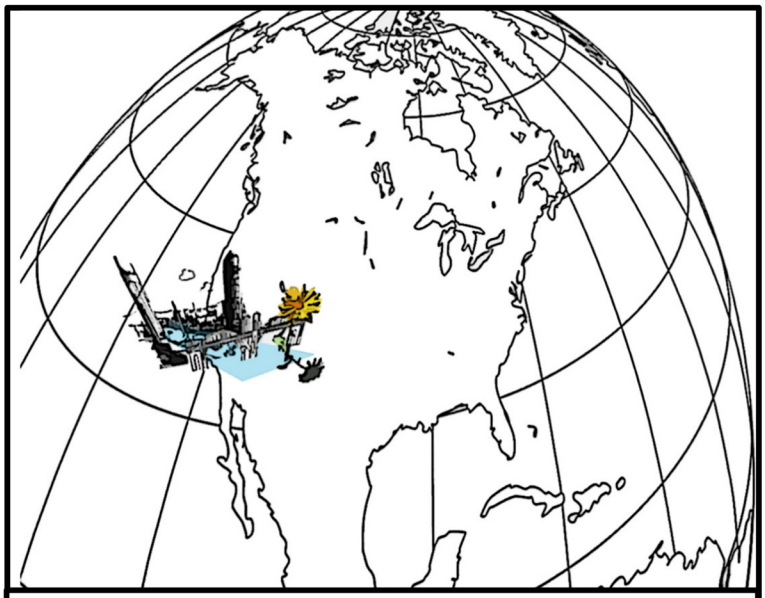
POLLUTION FROM SURROUNDING INFRASTRUCTURES CONTRIBUTE TO A DESOLATE, WASTELAND FUTURE FOR MY DRY BED.



GOD FORBID AN EARTHQUAKE HARM MY AGING CONCRETE SLOPES, CHANNEL AND BRIDGES. THERE IS ONLY SO MUCH MY WALLS CAN SUPPORT. MAYBE A FEW CRACKS WILL BE JUST THE OPPURTUNITY FOR NATURE TO BREAK THROUGH AND REVITALIZE ME.



GLOBAL FORCES WILL CONTINUE TO SURMOUNT!



LOS ANGELES HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE ONE OF THE GREAT RIVER CITIES OF THE WORLD!

SUN, SHADE, BREEZE AND WATER.....AHHHHH!





BUT THERE MOST BE A HYBRID MEDIUM WHERE ENVIONMENT IS IMPROVED ALONG WITH THE LOOMING INFRASTRUCTURAL CHALLENGES.





VITALITY AND LIVEABILITY WILL WELCOME THE CITY'S DENSIFICATION WHEN A HYBRID SOLUTION BRINGS THE NATIVE GRASSES, WILDLIFE AND WALKABILITY TO THE FOREFRONT.

THE SAME WAY THE ARMY CORP APPROACHED BUILDING ME IN THE 20TH CENTURY, ANGELINOS MUST COME TOGETHER TO, SOLIDIFY A VISION FOR THE FUTURE, AND HARNESS THE RIVER AS A MEANS TO BRING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER, BRIDGE CULTURES AND IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT.

