

A Softer World

“Listen While You Can” consisted of a single image divided into six sections, however, that single background transported me into different locations. I felt waves of nostalgia and perhaps a yearning for memories long forgotten. It encapsulates the stillness of a day while reminding the reader that the unarbitrary acts of nature also get drowned out towards the end of the day. “Maybe 1996 Was” felt really close to home and reignited the feelings of self-sabotage and disappointment when one promises themselves a fresh start on January 1st. The panel in the middle has “maybe last year”, which I found interesting because it reverts to the past and contradicts with the longing of moving forward in the first panel. It prompted me to read it from left to right, which made the context make sense still. “Here, You Might As Well Have It” made me smile, as it weighs in with the self-awareness of one’s tendency to mess up, and I can relate due to being an overthinker. Although the first two comics adhered to visuals of nature and the outside world, this one has a horse or unicorn figure sitting next to a window, which I can only relate to the magical act of having a wish. The imagination emitted through childhood begins to slowly dissipate until there is nothing left but the acceptance of unfortunate events as an adult and toys no longer bound to endless possibilities. I enjoyed these comics, and they reminded me of blackout poetry. Each of these comics led me to reflect on what it means to be an adult, despite being unprepared to grow up and face reality head on.