



SASHA

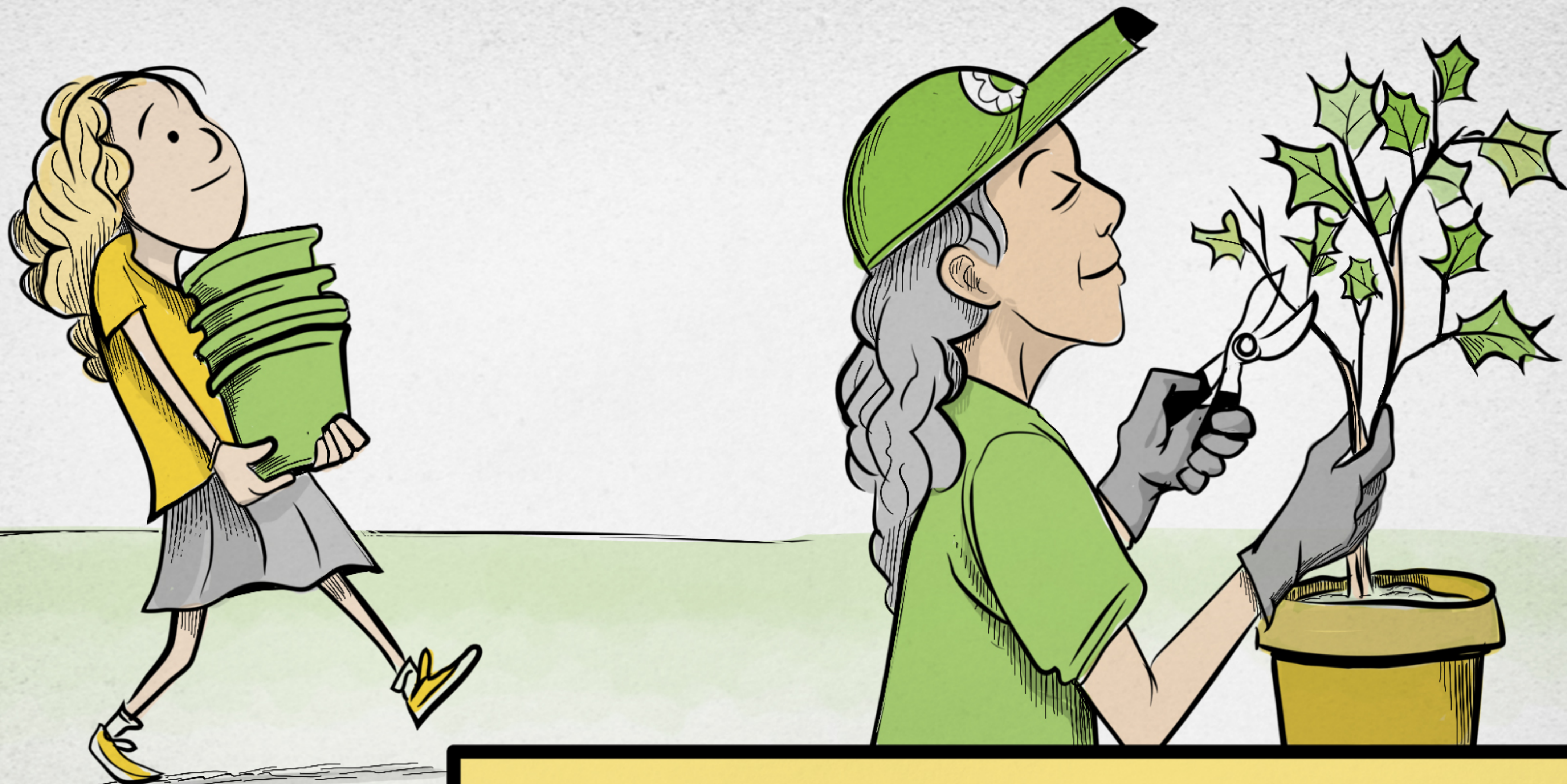
THE HORTICULTURIST

LET'S TAKE THIS *OUTSIDE!*

I BASICALLY GREW UP OUTSIDE.



I WAS ALWAYS DIRTY.



MY MOM HAD A HORTICULTURE BUSINESS,
SO I'D HELP HER OUT WITH LITTLE TASKS.

FINISHED.

SOMEHOW I ALWAYS
GOT STUCK WEEDING.



MY MOM SEEMED TO ENJOY IT, BUT I DECIDED I WOULD NEVER DO THIS FOR A LIVING. I LIKED HELPING PEOPLE, SO I'D BE A DOCTOR.

DON'T FORGET THE BACK.

C'MON, THESE ARE THE HANDS OF A FUTURE SURGEON!



BUT THE IDEA OF DRAWING BLOOD WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME, SO THAT WAS OUT.



KATTHUMP

SO I'VE FOUND THE VEIN AND I INSERT THE NEEDLE... SASHA?

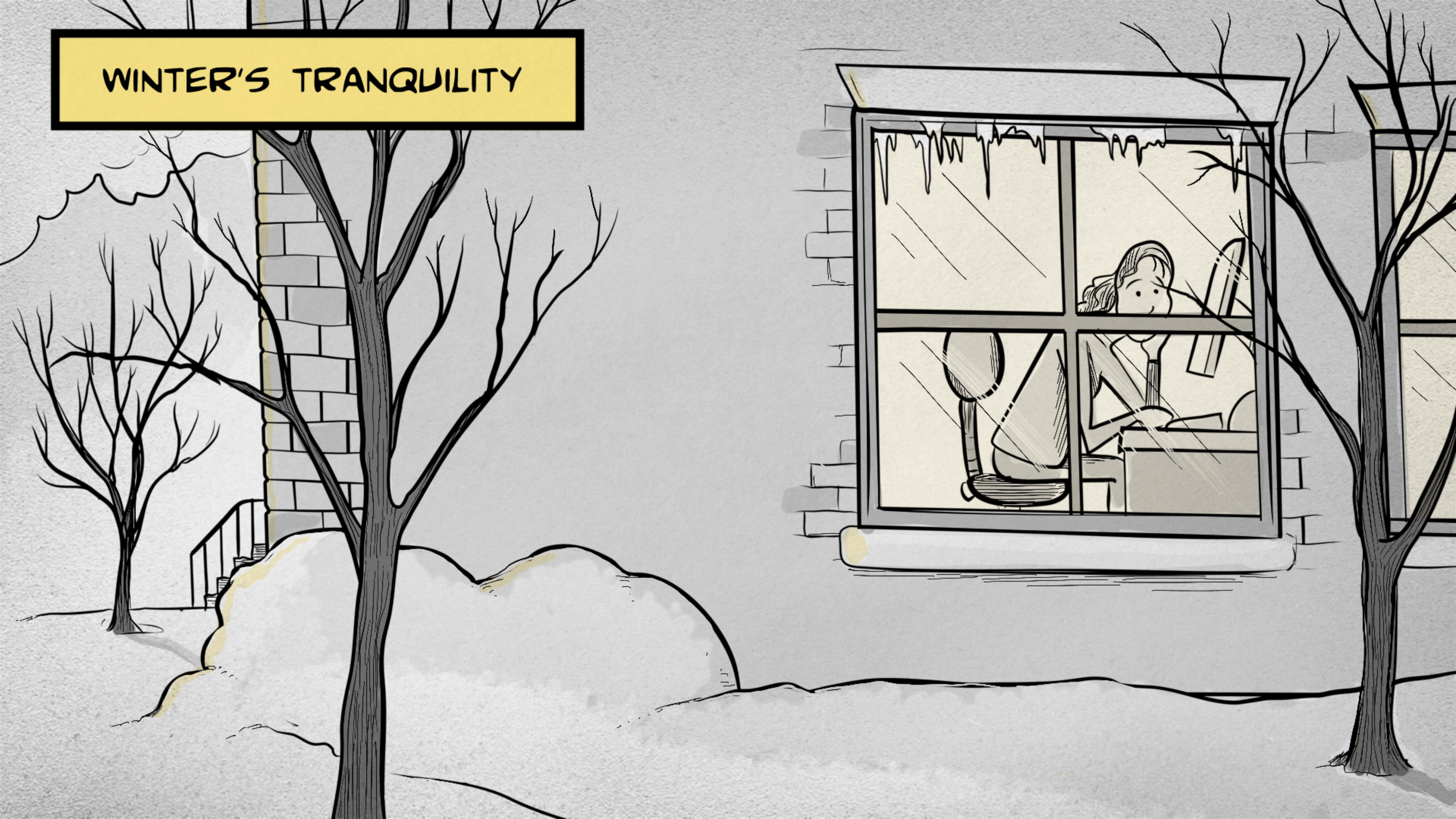
LIKE MY FRIENDS WERE DOING, I WORKED A VARIETY OF JOBS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT WHAT I LIKED, AND WHAT I DIDN'T.



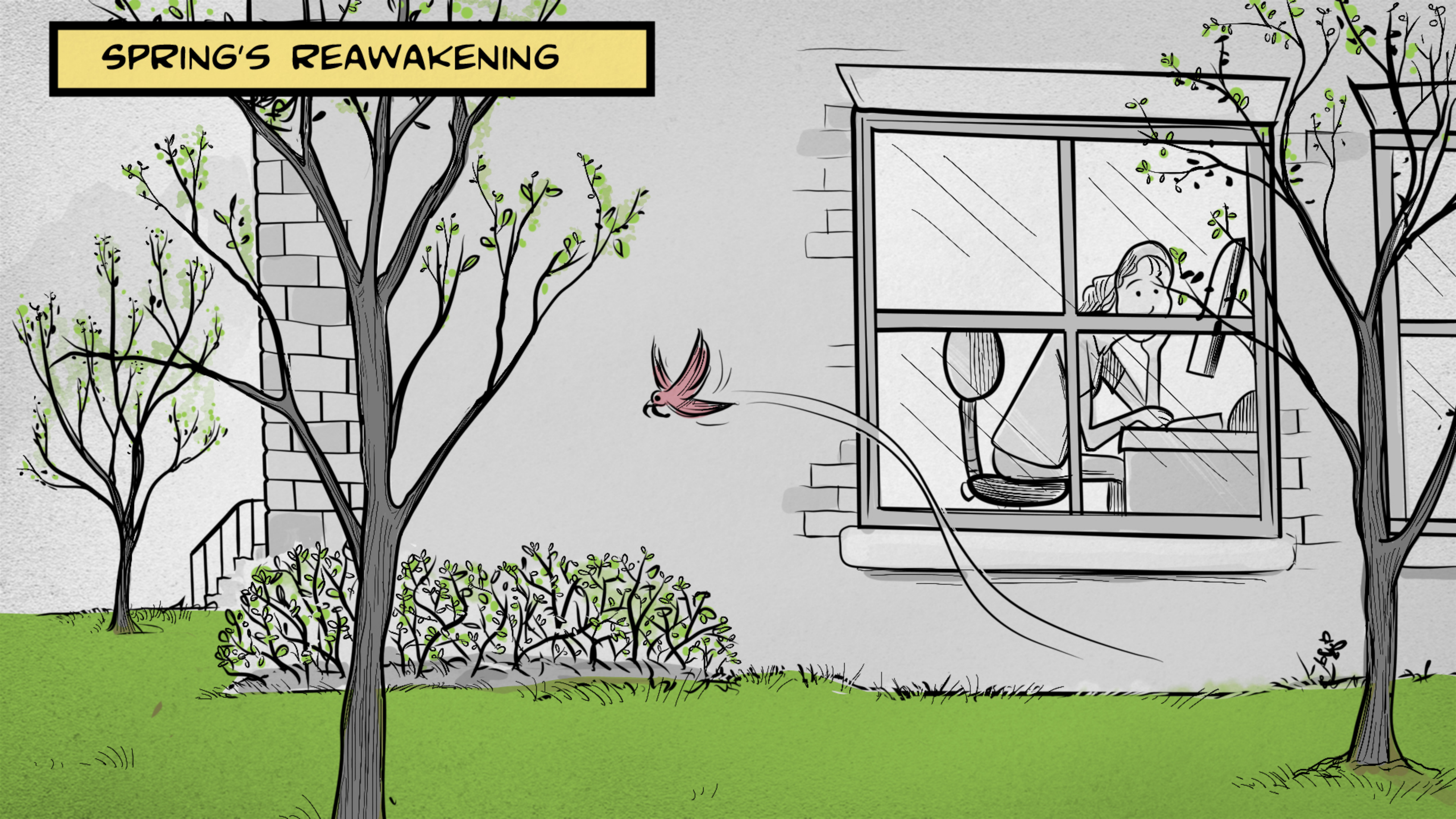
I'M AT MY BEST WHEN I'M
IN TUNE WITH THE SEASONS.



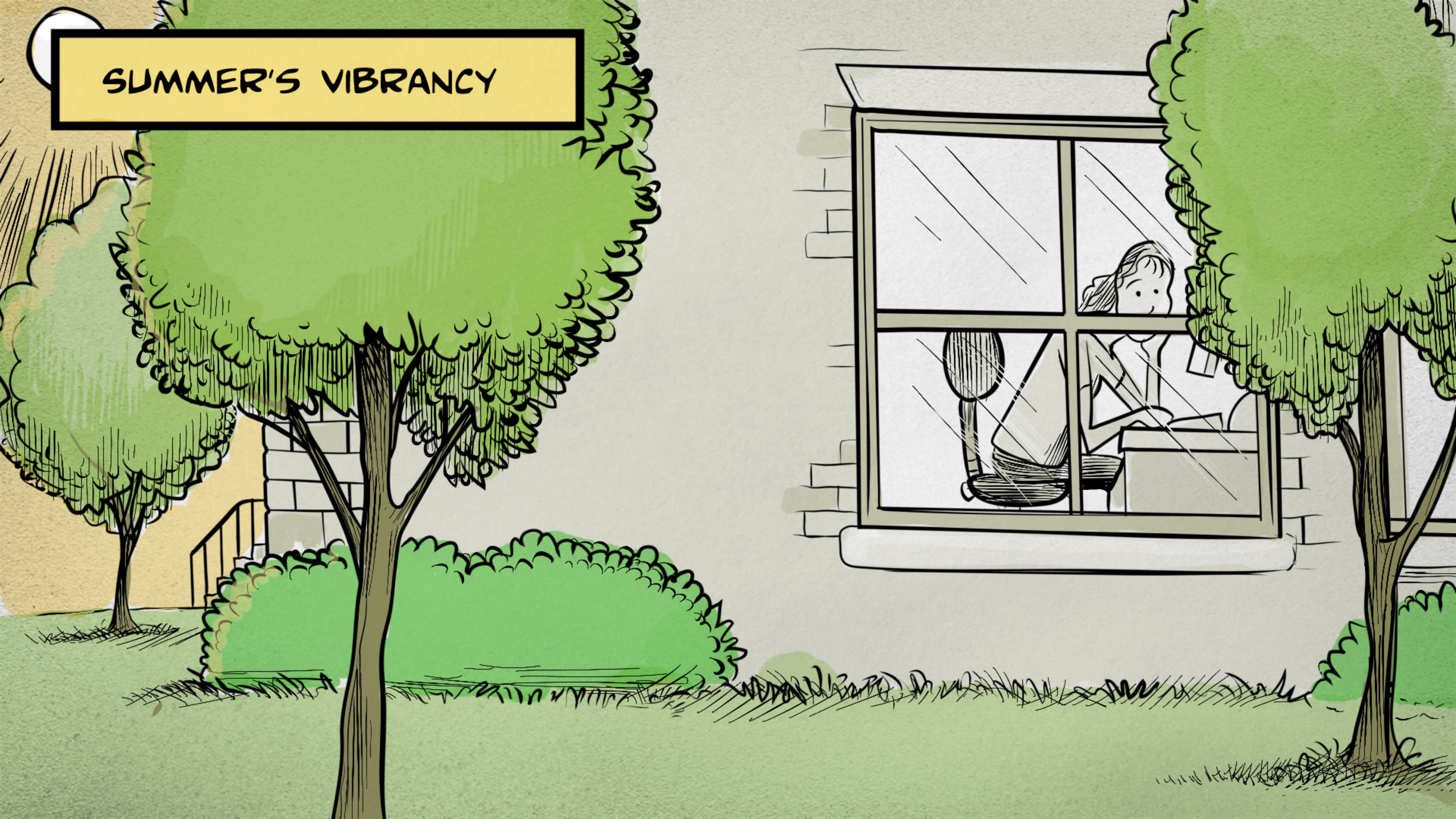
WINTER'S TRANQUILITY



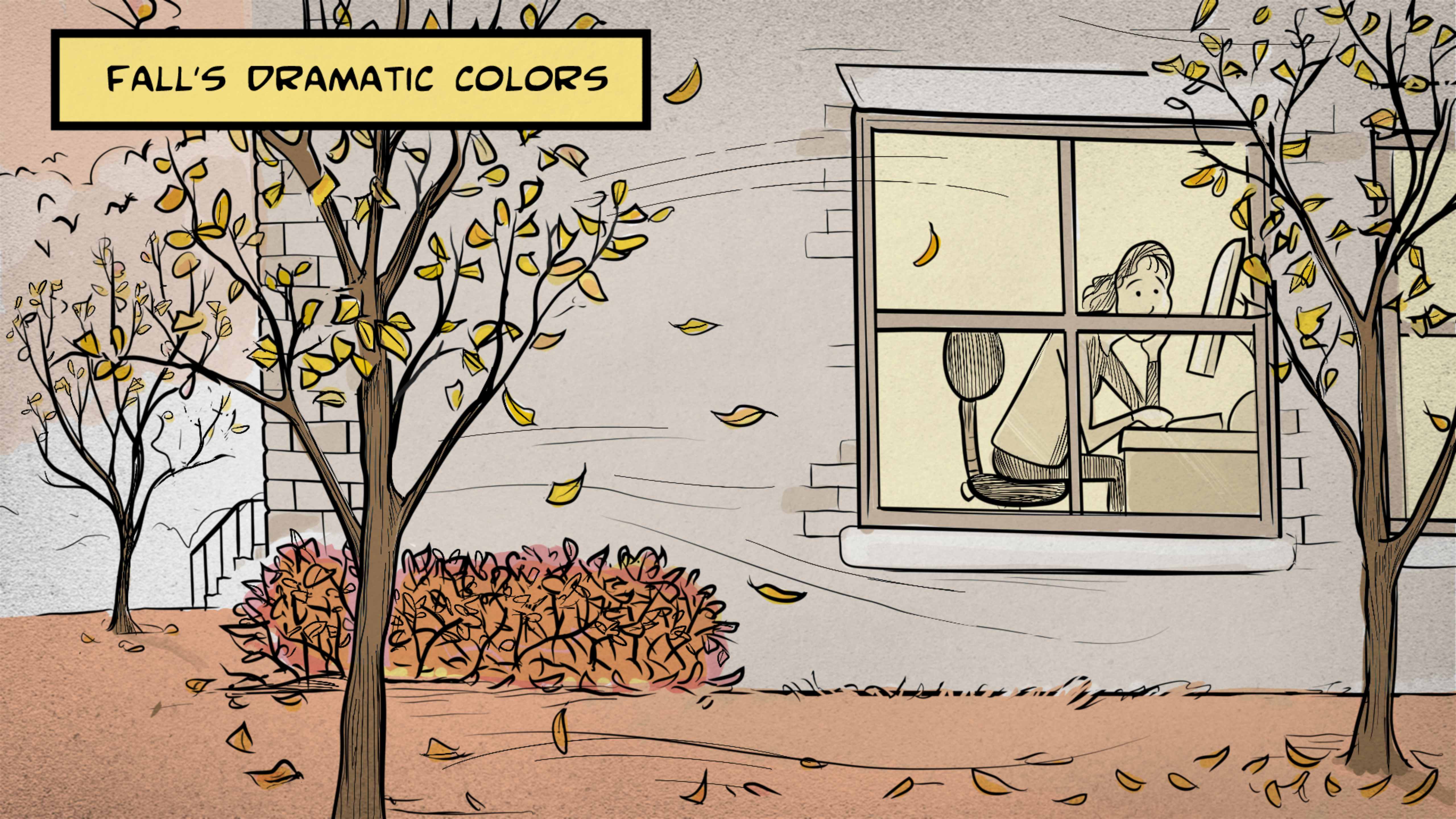
SPRING'S REAWAKENING



SUMMER'S VIBRANCY



FALL'S DRAMATIC COLORS





YOU DON'T GET THAT WHEN YOU'RE IN A CLIMATE CONTROLLED OFFICE. I REALIZED I JUST WASN'T BUILT TO SPEND MOST OF MY TIME WORKING INDOORS.



SO I FOUND A JOB AS A HORTICULTURIST IN A PUBLIC GARDEN, MAINTAINING THEIR PLANTS AND TREES.

I CAME TO REALIZE IT WAS A LOT MORE THAN JUST WEEDING. I GET TO BE CREATIVE, DESIGNING AND PLANTING NEW GARDENS.



AND I DO A
TON OF
PROBLEM
SOLVING.

NO TWO
YEARS ARE
THE SAME.



I LOVE BEING A
PART OF A TEAM,



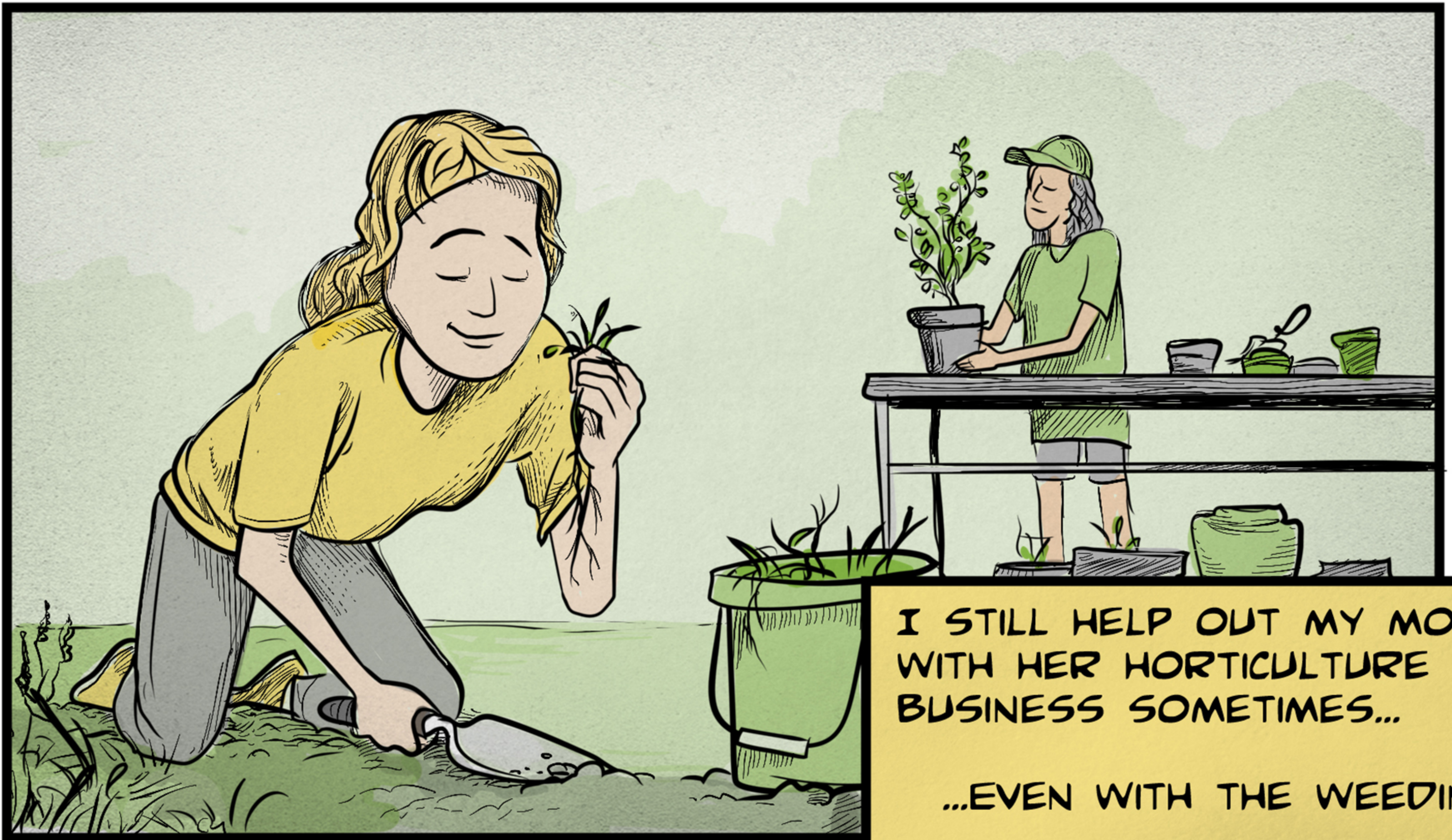
I LOVE BEING A
PART OF A TEAM,



BUT I ALSO LOVE GETTING
TO BE ALONE SOMETIMES.



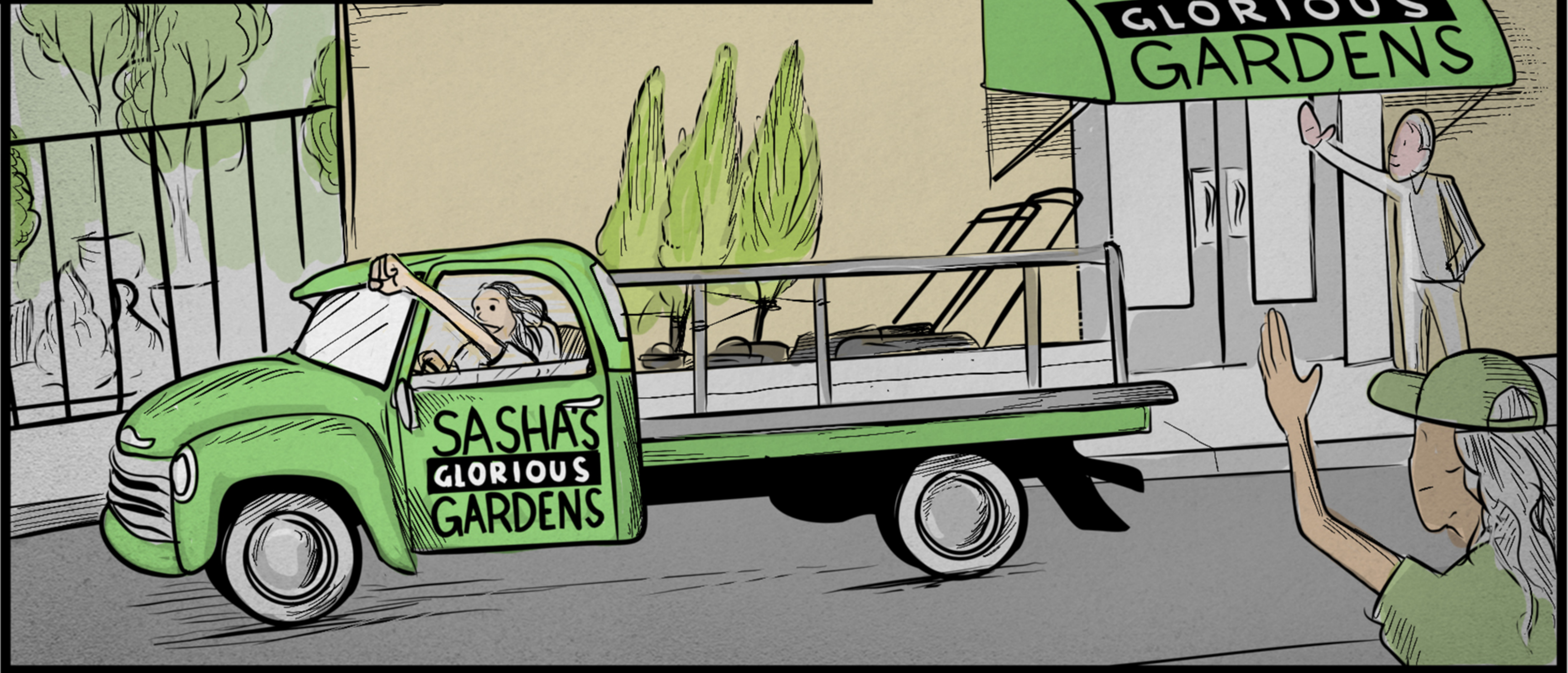
SO MUCH OF THIS WORK HAS TO BE LEARNED BY DOING.
I LOVE THAT IT'S HANDS-ON AND PUSHES ME TO
CONTINUALLY REFINE MY SKILLS.



I STILL HELP OUT MY MOM
WITH HER HORTICULTURE
BUSINESS SOMETIMES...

...EVEN WITH THE WEEDING.

I'M EVEN CONSIDERING STARTING
MY OWN GARDEN DESIGN
BUSINESS SOMEDAY.



I'M NOT A DOCTOR, BUT I'VE COME TO REALIZE THAT THIS IS HELPING PEOPLE TOO.



**THERE'S A TON
OF RESEARCH
SHOWING
EXPOSURE TO
PLANTS AND
NATURE
REDUCES
STRESS AND
IMPROVES
PEOPLE'S
WELL-BEING
OVERALL.**





SO IN MY OWN WAY, I'M HELPING BRING SOME OF THAT NATURE INTO PEOPLE'S LIVES.