

Decembre 2009

My dear friend,

I'm already in White River Junction for several weeks now. Sorry I didn't take time to write you earlier...

Let me tell you a little bit about my life here at the Center for Cartoon Studies.



OUR ANNUAL APPEAL

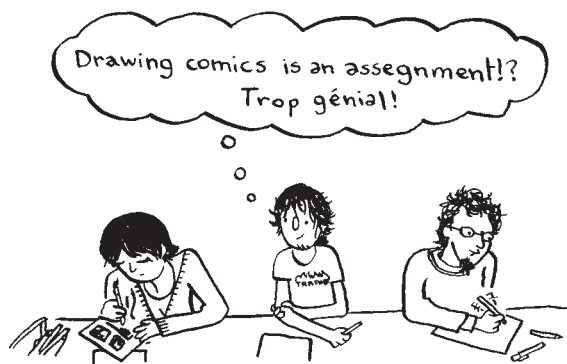
As you know, my mother is crazy about books, and as a kid I spent a lot of time in bookshops and Libraries ...in the comics section of course.



My friend Cédric and I would create our own sequel based on the comics we read.



My dad wanted me to study marketing or something "serious" like that... but I went to an Applied Art school in Brussels where they have a comics major.



Now here I am in White River Junction (pop.2500), a tiny village in Vermont, to continue my education.



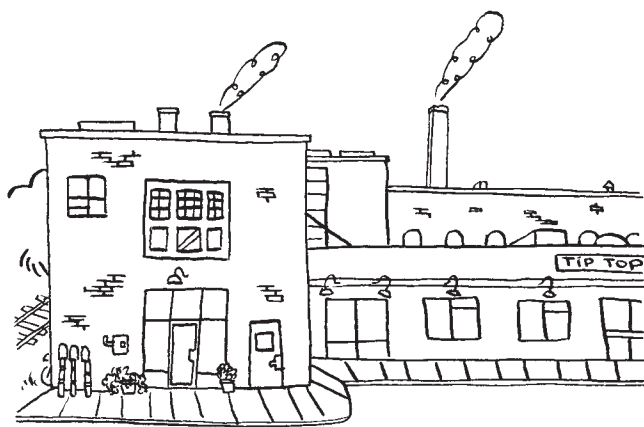
Being here feels like a comics version of Montmartre. The town lives and breathes comics. Students, alumni, and even instructors are getting together to draw...



and on any given day you can see some great cartoonist walking down the street.



I'm sharing a studio with some alumni. It's in the Tip-Top building. Once an old bakery, now it's occupied by artists, a printmaking studio, and a restaurant.



It's the first time I'm drawing full-time - I was afraid to be lost in front of my pages, but it's the opposite. Being surrounded by people equally as dedicated is inspiring.



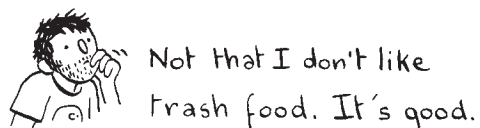
But life isn't only about working...
We're playing soccer every Sunday,
sometimes basketball...



We've also been
swimming in the White
River (but with the winter,
it's not possible anymore).



I'm also trying to teach my American friends about food... They have a lot to learn...



But just every once in a while... What I really miss is what we call "l'apéro." Just taking time before dinner to have good cheese and good beers or wine with friends.



I know what you're thinking... What about her? Well, that's the most painful part. Skype is a poor substitute. I miss our daily routine together.



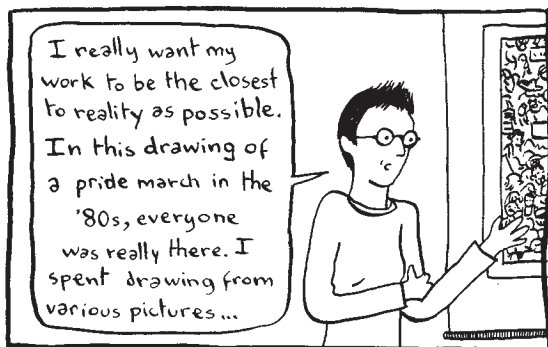
But she came to visit me for two weeks and we had an amazing time here and in New York!



Seeing her helps me to get confident about all this.

I MISS HER BADLY
BUT I KNOW THAT IT'S IMPORTANT
FOR ME TO BE HERE!

Every week I learn so much...
 And the visiting artists! This semester alone we had: James Kochalka, John Porcellino, Seth, Dash Shaw, Meredith Gran, Tom De Haven, David Macaulay and Alison Bechdel...



I was excited when



After a brief and wet fall (the foliage was truly spectacular), winter is settling in... When winter is mentioned in Vermont, it's with fear and awe...



We are not used to that in Belgium. It's more 5 days of snow rather than 5 months! I'll try to stay warm and savor my time here. I'll come through this stronger than ever.

All the best my friend!
 You should consider a visit to see it with your own eyes...

Love,

Max



the CENTER for CARTOON STUDIES



A CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Please support this special community of artists.
To make a donation, visit cartoonstudies.org/donate
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CCS is a 501(c)3 tax deductible organization.
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For info about CCS and Max de Radiguès visit
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