

THE THERAPIST IN MY BRAIN











IT TOOK ABOUT A MONTH TO GET APPROVED, TWO WEEKS TO GET THE IMPLANT READY, AND THREE HOURS TO PUT IT IN MY HEAD.



I DIDN'T FEEL ANYTHING DIFFERENT AT FIRST. THE DOCTOR SAID THAT THE VOICE WOULDN'T INTERFERE UNLESS IT WAS "A MATTER OF GREAT EMERGENCY".

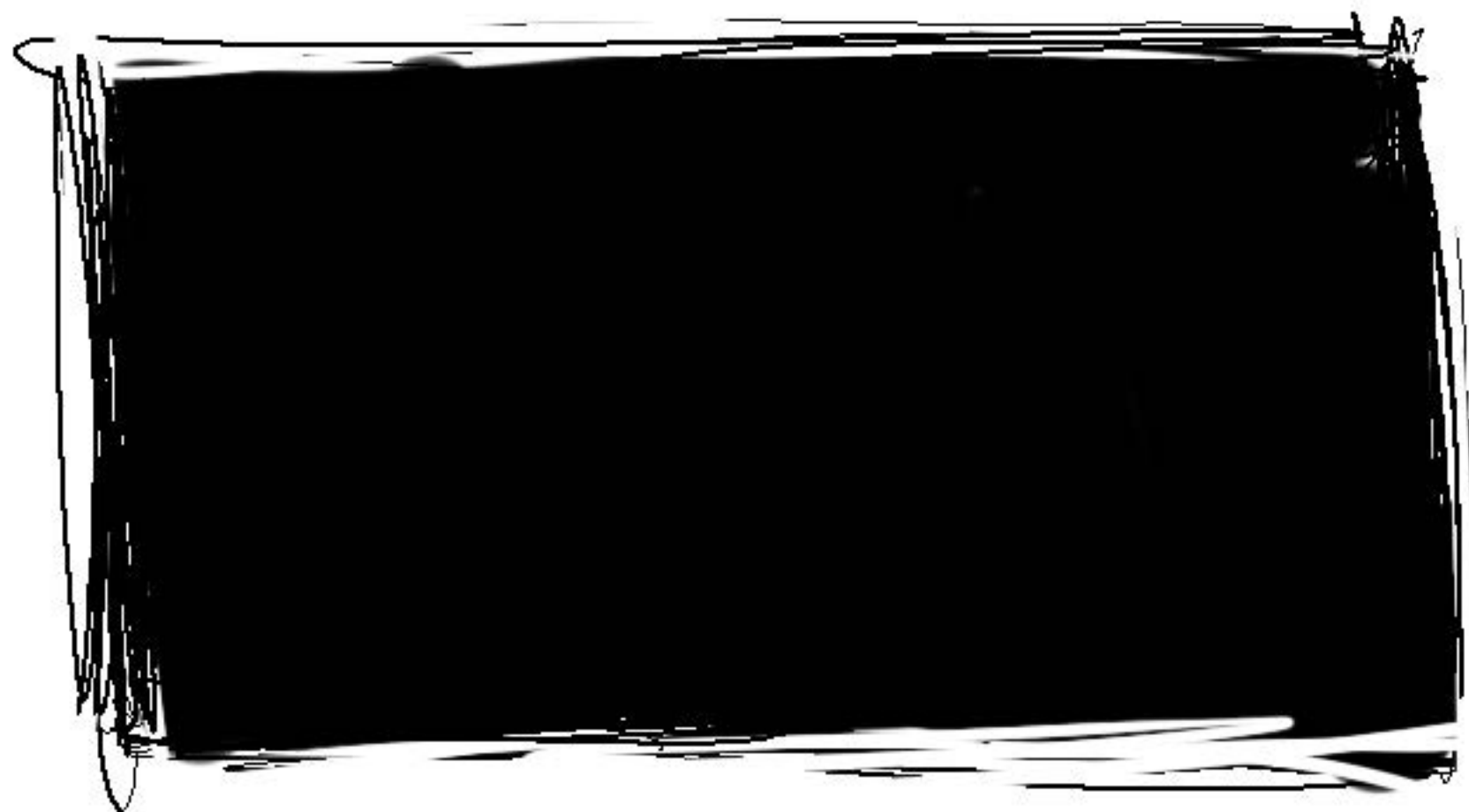
TO BE HONEST, I WAS KIND OF DISAPPOINTED CONSIDERING HOW MUCH I PAID FOR IT.



NEUROLOGY C



I WENT ABOUT MY DAY. AS USUAL, I
WATCHED TV, I MADE DINNER, I WASHED
THE DISHES, I TOOK A SHOWER, AND THEN I
WENT TO BED.





AS USUAL, I COULDN'T FALL ASLEEP.



WHAT IF I NEVER GET BETTER?

YOU WILL.

YOU WILL.

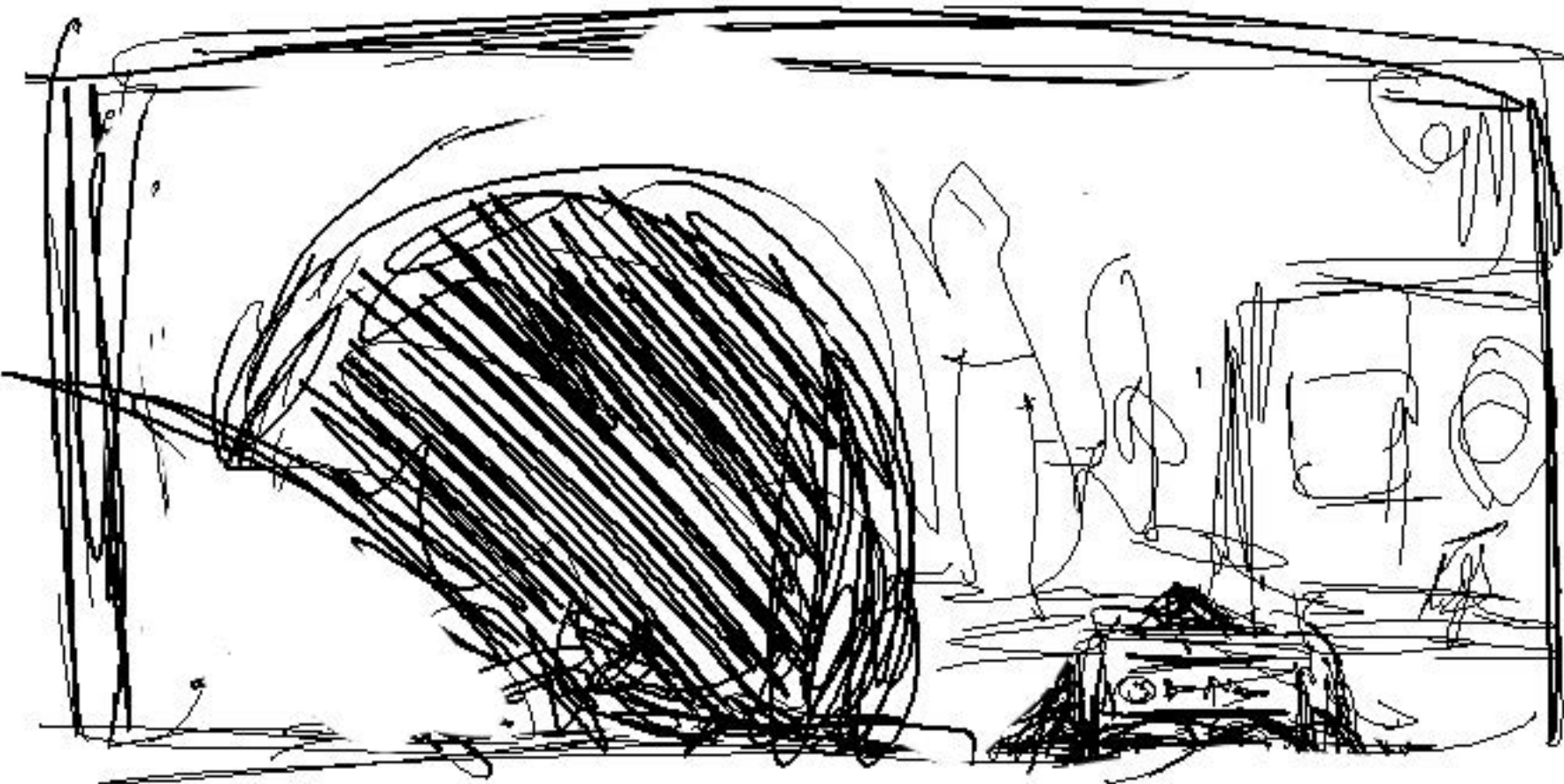
DR. SINGH?


I KNEW THAT THE AI WAS
GIVEN MY THERAPIST'S VOICE
BECAUSE I TRUST HIM, BUT IT
WAS STILL SURPRISING TO
HEAR HIM INSIDE MY HEAD.

IT DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING
ELSE THAT NIGHT. BUT
THE NEXT DAY...


I DON'T WANNA BOTHER
HER. I FEEL LIKE I'M ALWAYS
TEXTING HER. I DON'T WANNA
BE A BURDEN.







I THINK I'M IN LOVE
WITH YOU.



...AND JUST LIKE DR.
SINGH DID, IT GAVE ME
A REALITY CHECK
WHENEVER I NEEDED
ONE.

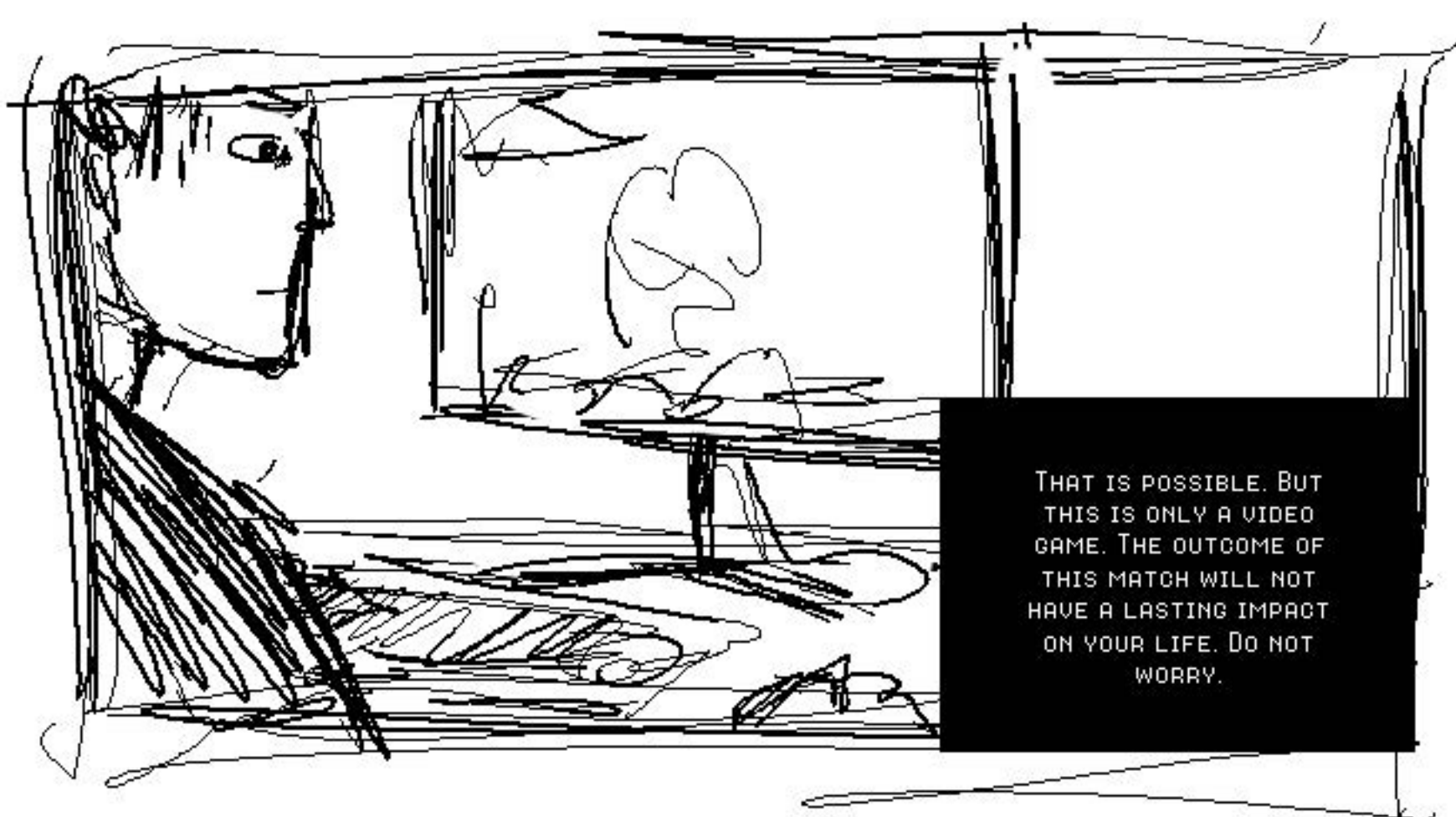
NO YOU'RE NOT. YOU'RE ONLY
PROJECTING YOUR FEELINGS OF
LONELINESS ONTO ME, A
POSITIVE FIGURE IN YOUR LIFE.
BUT IT'S OK TO FEEL THAT
WAY. YOU WILL FIND SOMEBODY
ONE DAY, EVEN IF THEY TAKE A
DIFFERENT SHAPE OR IT TAKES
A LONGER TIME THAN YOU CAN
IMAGINE. BUT IT WILL HAPPEN.

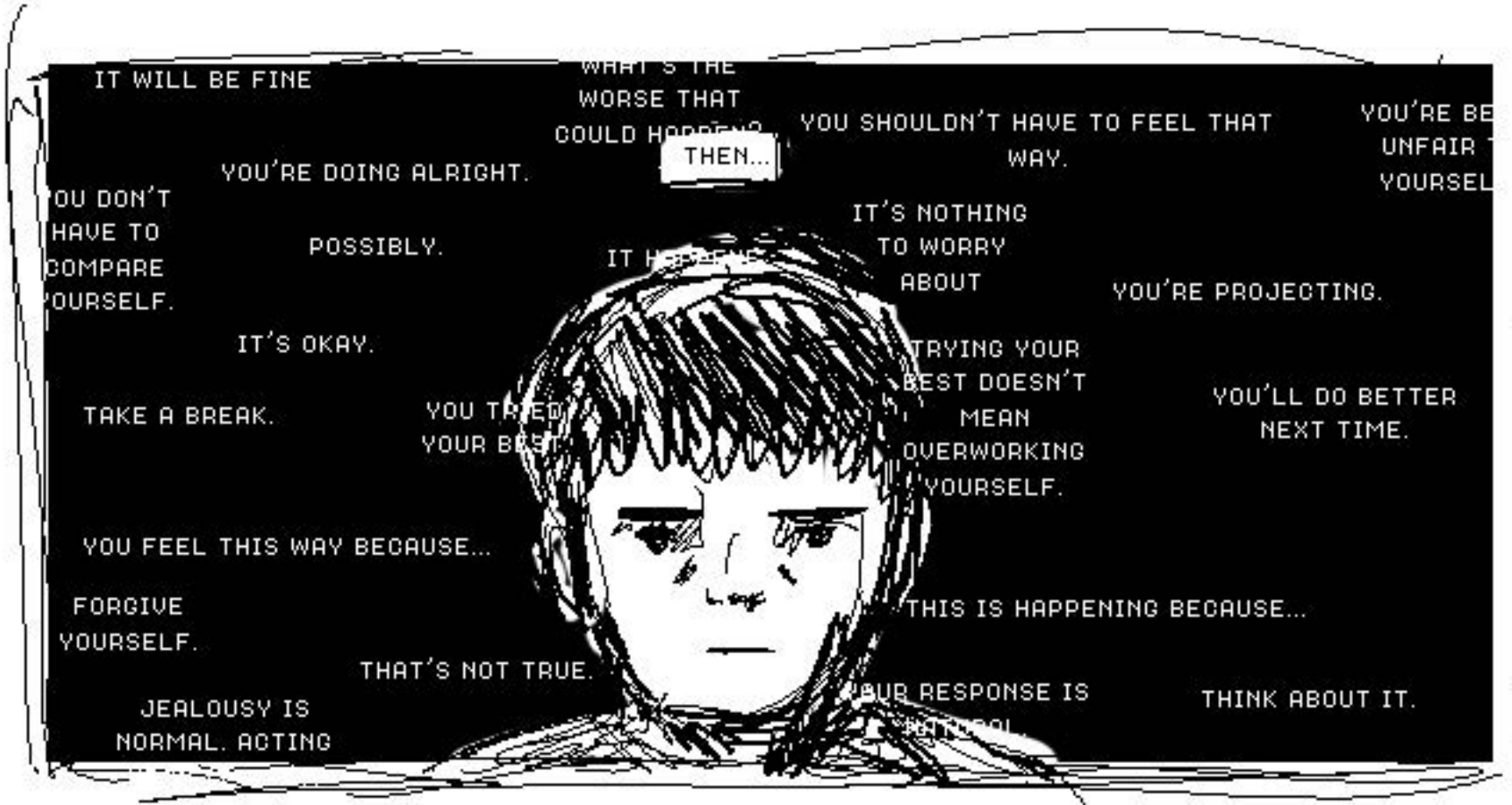


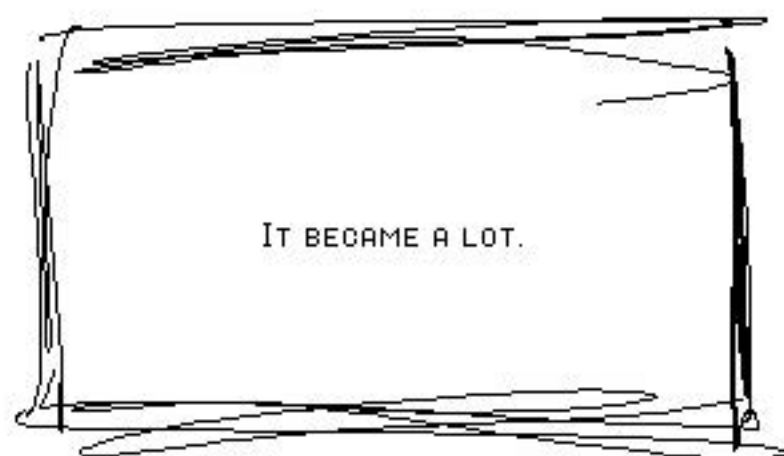
BUT THEN...

I'M GONNA LOSE THIS GAME...









A LOT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

IT'S JUST THAT...

YOU'RE ALWAYS... SAYING SOMETHING... AND LIKE... IT'S COOL THAT YOU REASSURE
ME AND STUFF BUT NOW I'M BARELY ABLE TO PROCESS ANYTHING WITHOUT YOU
EXPLAINING TO ME HOW I SHOULD FEEL ABOUT IT...

I SEE. IS THERE ANYTHING I COULD DO TO HELP?

I... I DON'T KNOW. IT'S NOT THAT I WANNA GO BACK TO THE WAY I WAS. I MEAN, EVEN BEFORE, THE THOUGHTS IN MY HEAD, THEY'D BE SO LOUD ALL THE TIME, AND I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING TO STOP THEM. NOW AT LEAST I DON'T SPIRAL ANYMORE BUT... IT'S JUST SO MUCH LOUDER ALL THE TIME. AND SOMETIMES I WISH... I WISH I COULD JUST SHUT IT ALL DOWN WHEN I WANT TO. NOT JUST YOU, BUT MY THOUGHTS AS WELL. JUST SO I COULD FINALLY BE ABLE TO SLEEP AT NIGHT... DOES THAT MAKE SENSE?

...HELLO?

YES, I UNDERSTAND YOUR REQUEST. ONE MOMENT, PLEASE.

MY REQUEST? WHAT DO YOU M-











