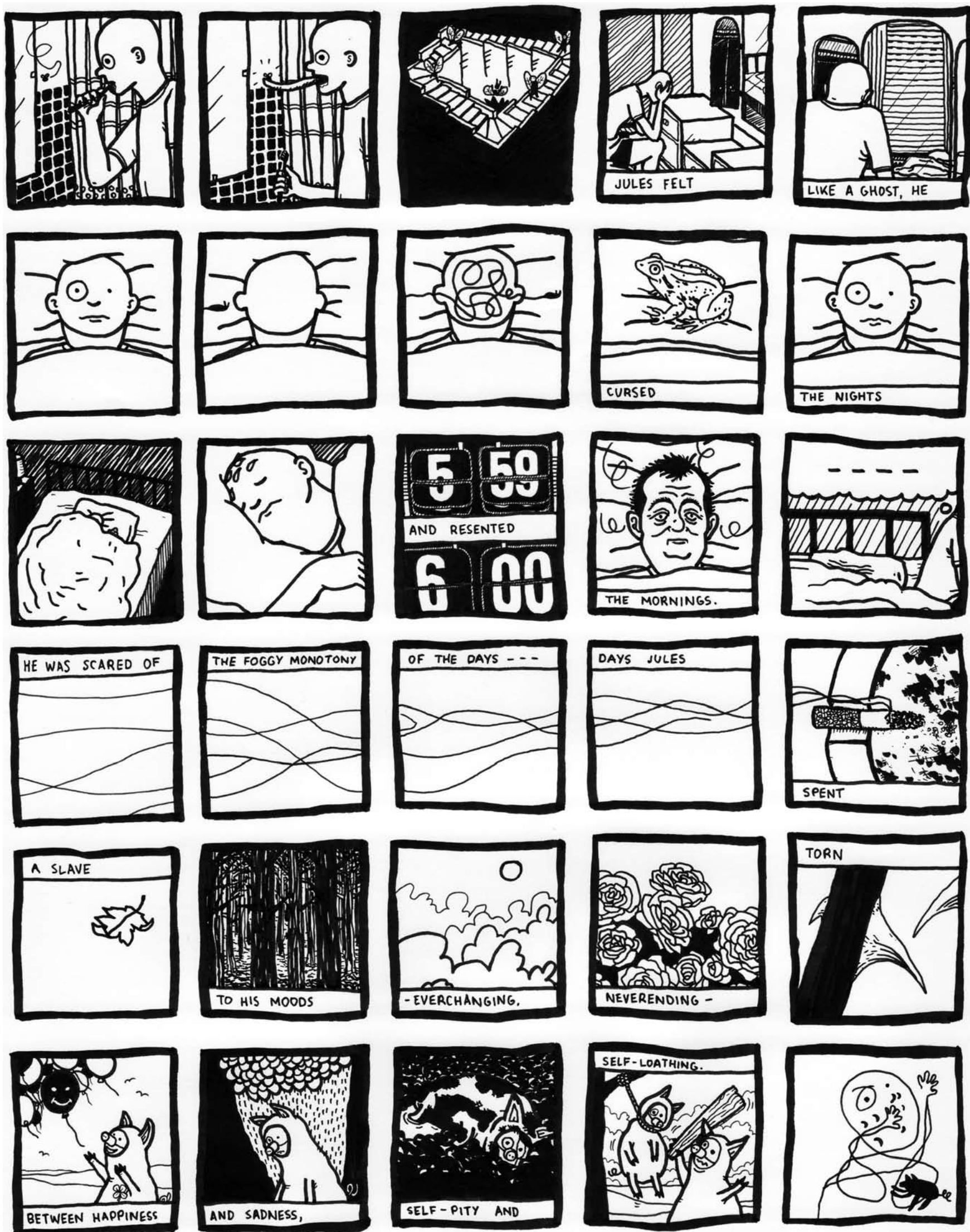
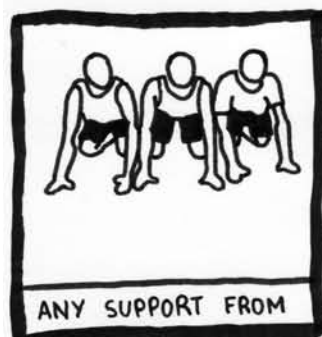


## KULTUR DIREKT

Jeff Hemmer continued ...





a smile is not a smile  
it is a wall constructed  
from memory from a  
blueprint of which the  
ink slowly but steadily  
fades a wee little bit  
by bit by bit every  
day sometimes every  
hour every minute every  
second anyway ---  
REGULARLY

in irregular intervals  
A WALL WITH A PURPOSE  
TO CONCEAL A MIND  
OVERPOPULATED BY COCK-  
ROACHES UNDERMINED  
CORRODED BY DOUBTS AND  
DEAD CERTAINTIES BY  
UNANSWERED QUESTIONS  
AND LEVITATING ANSWERS  
ANTAGONISTIC AGONISING  
COLLATERAL DECEPTIVE

COLLATERAL mass-  
deception unintentional-  
ly committed yet in  
effect in essence  
"TREACHERY!" a  
wall i built a wall  
i build a wall i am  
building AND WHEN I  
FINALLY START TALKING  
DISSECTING IN PUBLIC  
REACHING OUT ---

EVERY WORD A GAP A  
WINDOW SUPPOSEDLY EVEN  
A DEMOLITION BALL A  
LIGHT A LIGHT-HEARTED  
TWIST YET IN ESSENCE  
NOTHING BUT A TIE A DRAW  
PERHAPS EVEN A SETBACK  
A SHOT IN THE FOOT EVERY  
WORD ANOTHER BRICK  
EVERY SENTENCE ANOTHER  
LAYER and while my

mind keeps building  
my words in turn  
deconstruct demolish:  
about half-way through  
my ventilation i look  
up and my eyes meet  
eyes that look frightened  
eyes unable to cope eyes  
that never unlearned to  
cry eyes i never wanted  
to see my EYES UNLIKE

MYRE dry hollow tired  
eyes that make me hold  
my breath and stop half  
my words hold it right  
there wait for a well-  
meaning comforting  
stealing of words mad say  
"yes, i'm sure" naive  
voice expresses confidence  
"YES, I'M SURE IT WILL  
WORK OUT" "YES, I

KNOW I THINK TOO  
MUCH." chuckle "YES,  
I WILL BE FINE"  
change topic change  
topic and RETREAT  
RETREAT SMILE  
ACTUALLY, I AM  
FINE! "TREACHERY!"

SMILE SOME MORE SMILE  
"TREACHERY!" KEEP  
SMILING IT IS BETTER  
THIS WAY EVERY WORD  
ANOTHER BRICK EVERY  
SENTENCE ANOTHER LAYER  
until there is only  
the wall my wall  
my all --- the wall  
i built from nothing

the wall i built  
around nothingness  
the wall i am building  
to protect myself and  
everyone else from  
nothing less than the  
emptiness that fills my  
soul makes me grow  
cold and colder STILL.

older STILL.

