



STEPH

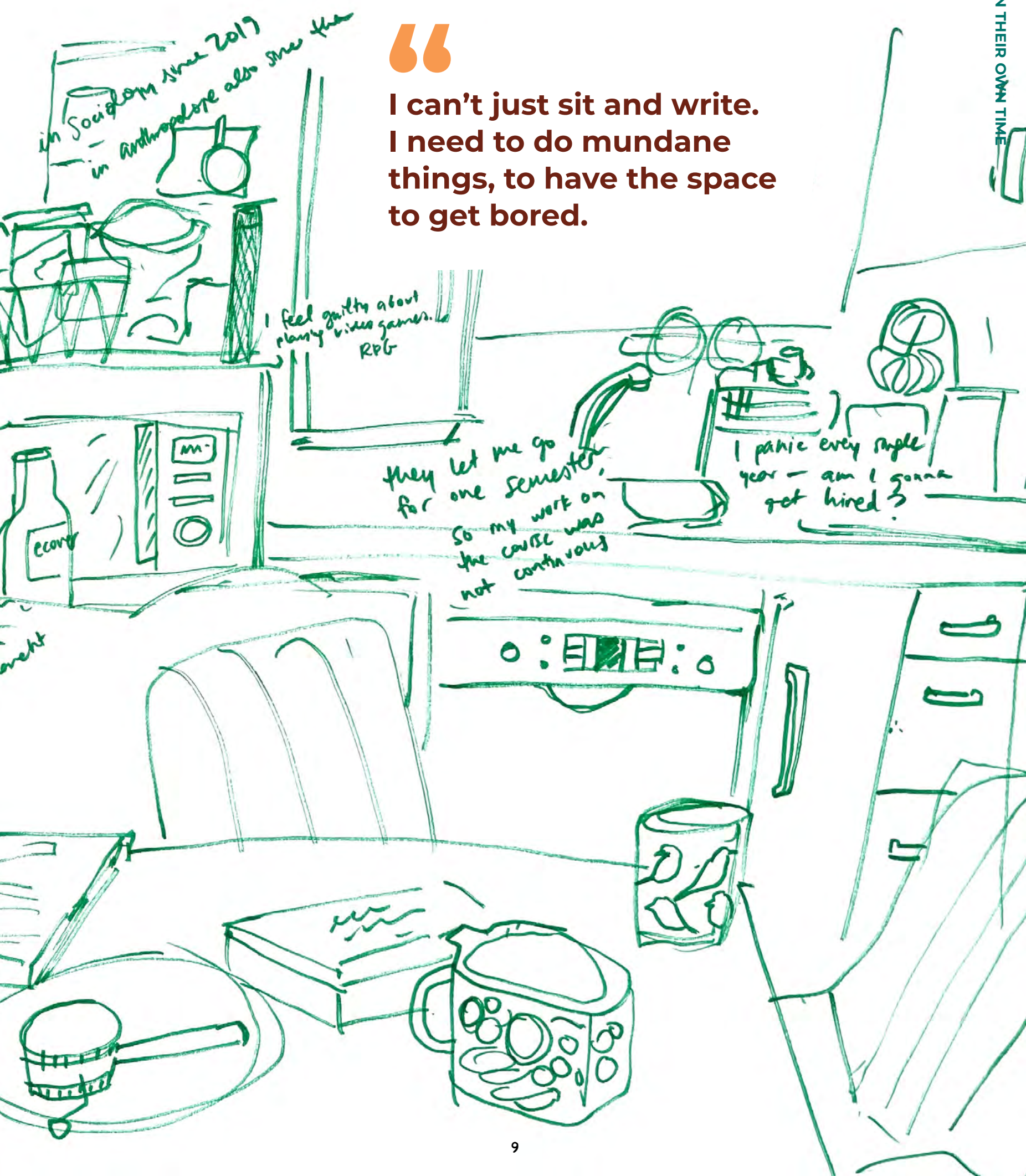
Steph is a migrant academic, researcher, teacher and single mum. She highlights the difficulty of juggling an academic career and childcare. Alongside her fight for better care for her child, who is disabled, Steph battles changing immigration rules – as a precariously employed migrant parent, she juggles childcare, visa extensions, and grant applications.

The hostile immigration rules impact her research: she has had to decline research project positions on two other continents due to visa restrictions, and others because of lack of support for disabled family coming along. Time is never enough: she wishes she could collaborate and meet up with fellow researchers, but with the unpaid care and unpaid academic work she says: 'I'm so busy, I haven't had any time to write ... It's been hard to have your own time.' Her own time, she says, is when her kid is in bed at night – then she does emails for one of her jobs.

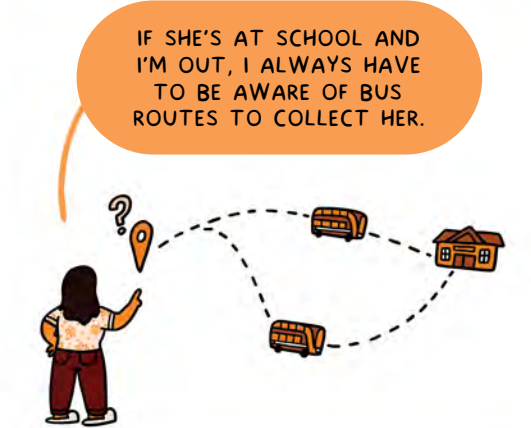
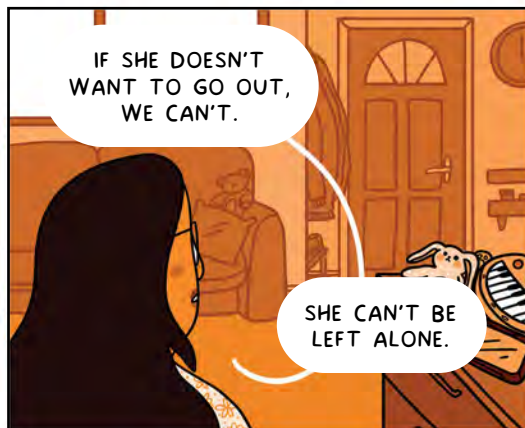
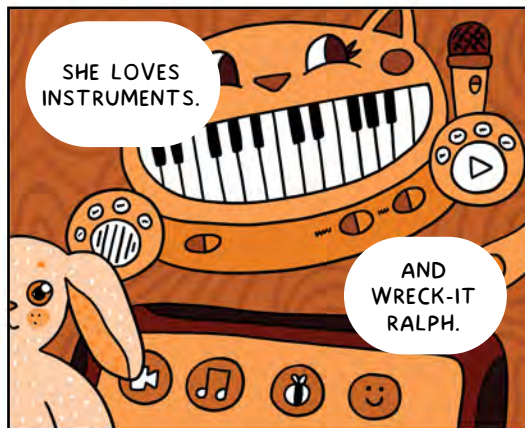
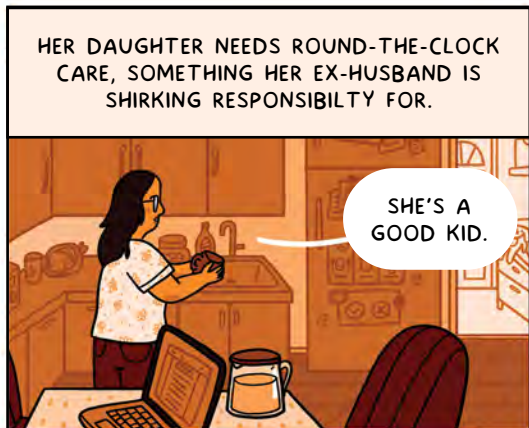


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I can't just sit and write.
I need to do mundane
things, to have the space
to get bored.



SHWIYA, SHWIYA



STEPH HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO GO OUTSIDE IN THREE OR FOUR DAYS. SHE DOESN'T HAVE A ROUTE. SHE JUST WALKS.

IS IT BRITAIN? IN THE COUNTRY I WAS BORN? WHERE MY FIANCÉ LIVES? WHERE MY PARENTS ARE? WHERE I'VE WORKED IN THE PAST? DO I EVEN BELONG IN ACADEMIA?

I'M STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHERE I BELONG.

I HAVE OFTEN HAVE TO DEAL WITH VISA BATTLES. IT MIGHT HAVE AFFECTED MY PHD FUNDING, AND IT'S MADE APPLICATIONS FOR POSTDOCS DIFFICULT.

I'M NOT ABLE TO TAKE JUST ANY JOB, ANY PLACE.

I HAVE TO THINK ABOUT MY DAUGHTER.

SOME COUNTRIES DON'T SUPPORT DISABLED FAMILY MEMBERS COMING ALONG FOR RESEARCH POSITIONS.

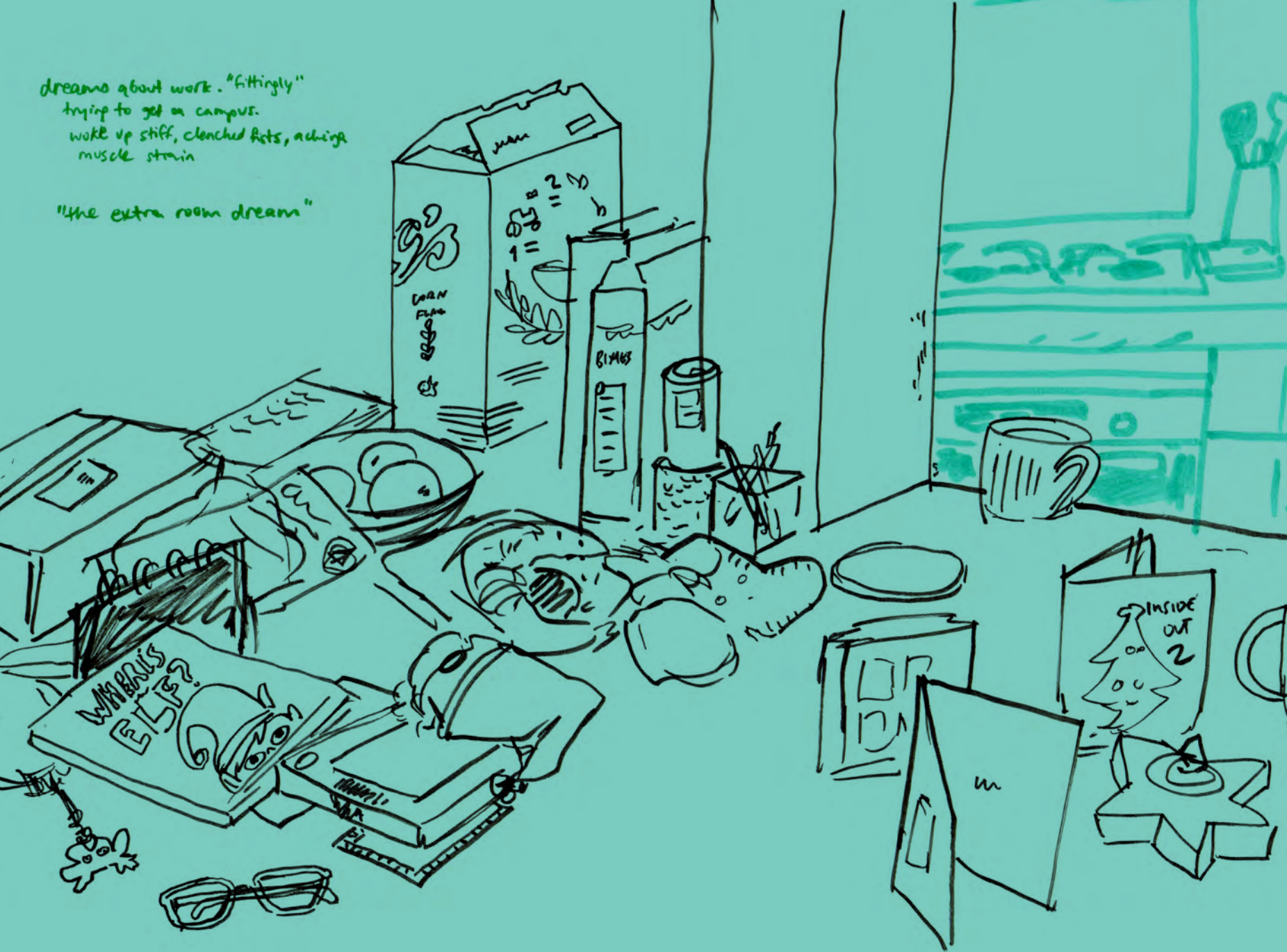
THE JOBS I'M IN NOW ARE HOURLY AND UNSTABLE.

EVERY YEAR I PANIC - AM I GOING TO HAVE A JOB THIS YEAR?

SOMETIMES I BRING MY DAUGHTER HERE. SHE LOVES THIS SPOT, TO WATCH THE WATERFALL.

"SHWIYA SHWIYA." I LEARNED THIS RECENTLY.

IT MEANS, TAKE THINGS AS THEY COME.



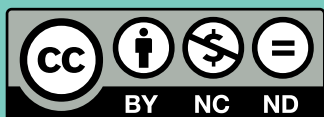
dreams about work. "fittingly"
trying to get on campus.
woke up stiff, clenched fists, aching
muscle strain

"the extra room dream"

IN THEIR OWN TIME

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Every year I panic – will
I have a job next year?