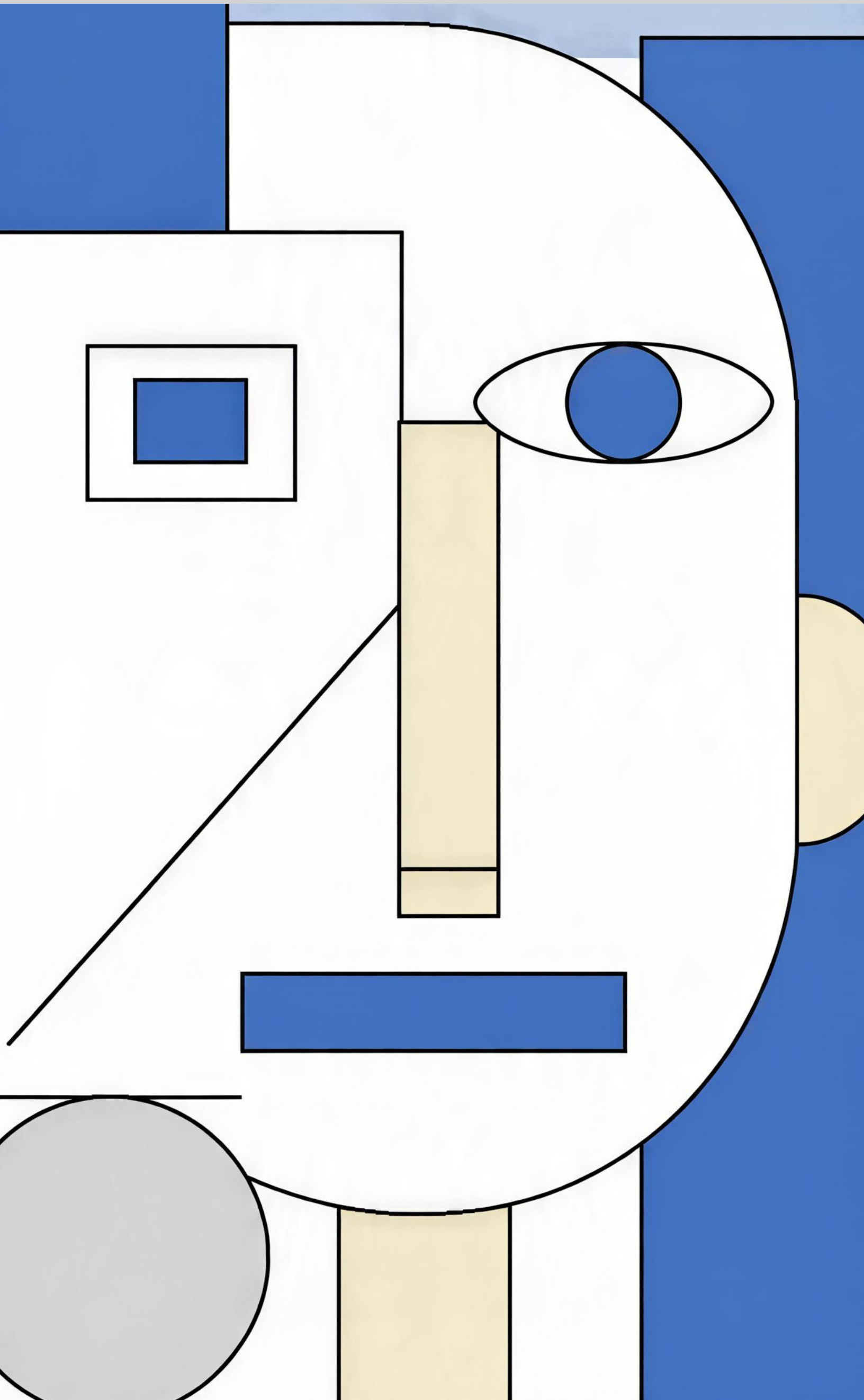
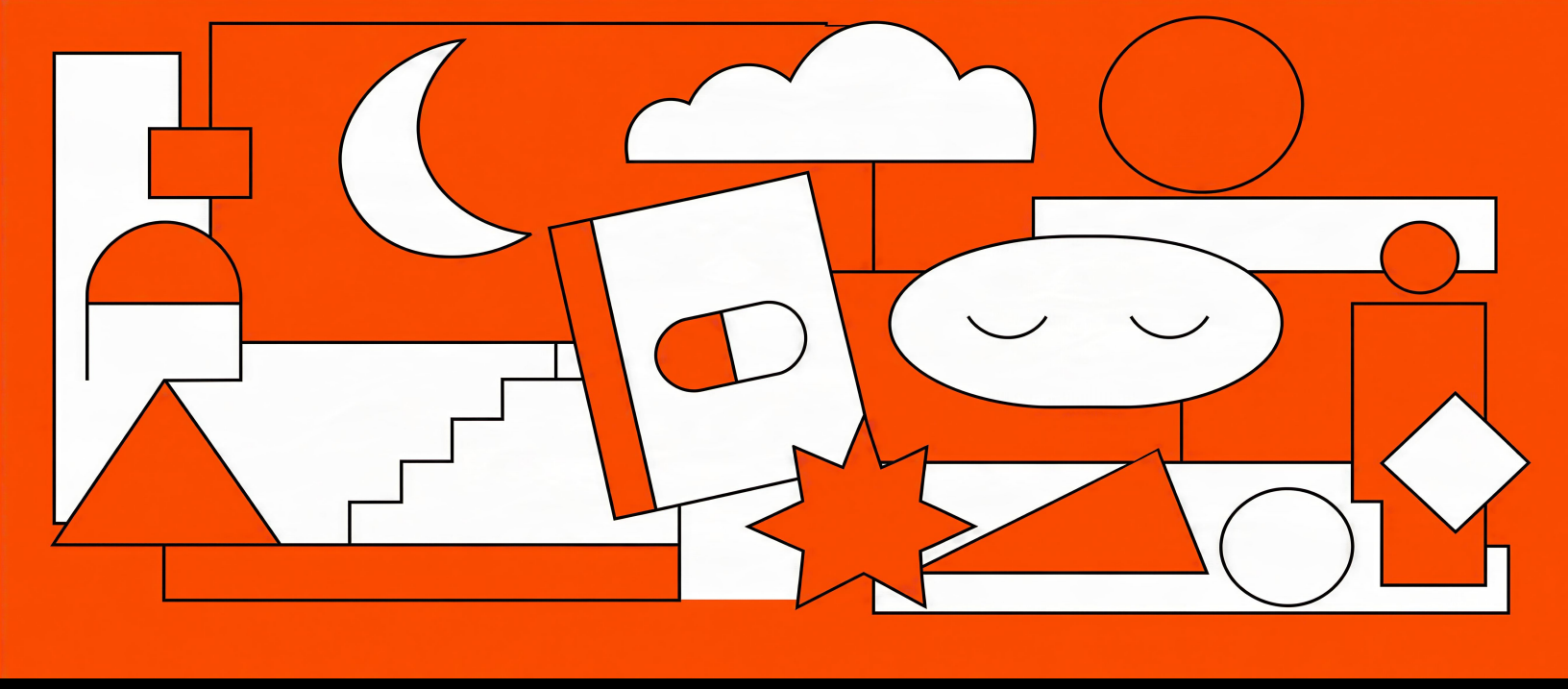
miniMAG

issue228

face in book





Side Effect

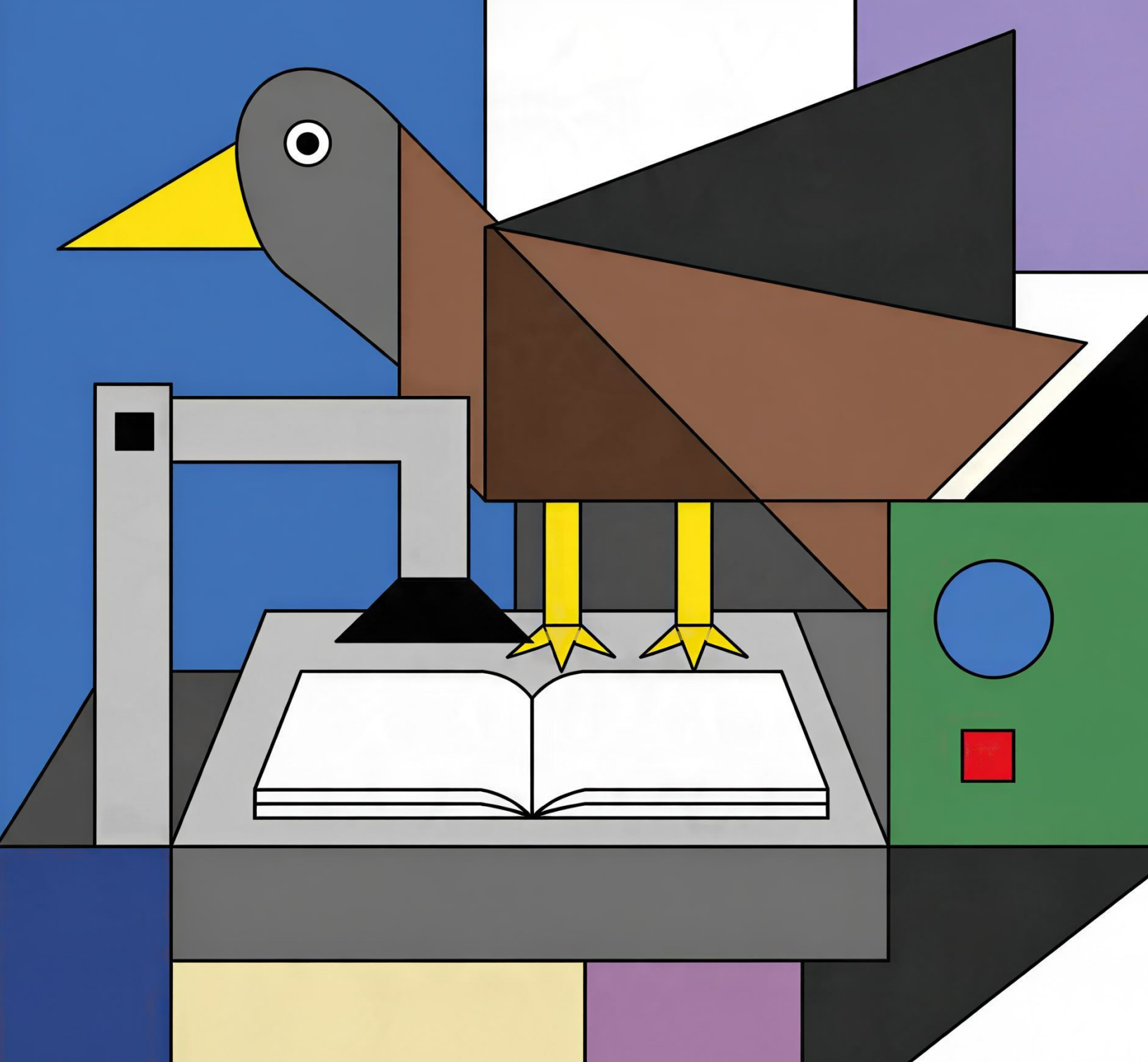
Craig Kirchner

It's 4 AM, there won't be any sleep,
out of Ambien, no deal with the Devil,
just the same game of solitaire,
the same run-on sentence,
the same movie starring me
watching reruns of cable news,
and hundreds of different drug commercials.

Prevagen for the brain. Balance of Nature,
Rinvoq, Dupixent, Humira, Xeljanz,
and of course, Cialis and Viagara.
My favorite though is Skyrizi,
the way it slides off the tongue,
someone stayed up all night, could have
been me, thinking of these names.

I realize how similar the messages,
digesting the news of the day, the wars,
the latest fascist exploits of masked thugs
beating up, deporting, disappearing
some of the best among us,
and the possible side effects of the drugs,
whose advertising, keep the coverage going.

Both can cause nausea, vomiting, diarrhea,
dehydration and heart palpitations,
risk of death or stroke in certain populations.
If your hard-on lasts more than four hours
or if you experience any of these, call your doctor.
Do not watch or take this if you are allergic,
best, would be turn off the tube.



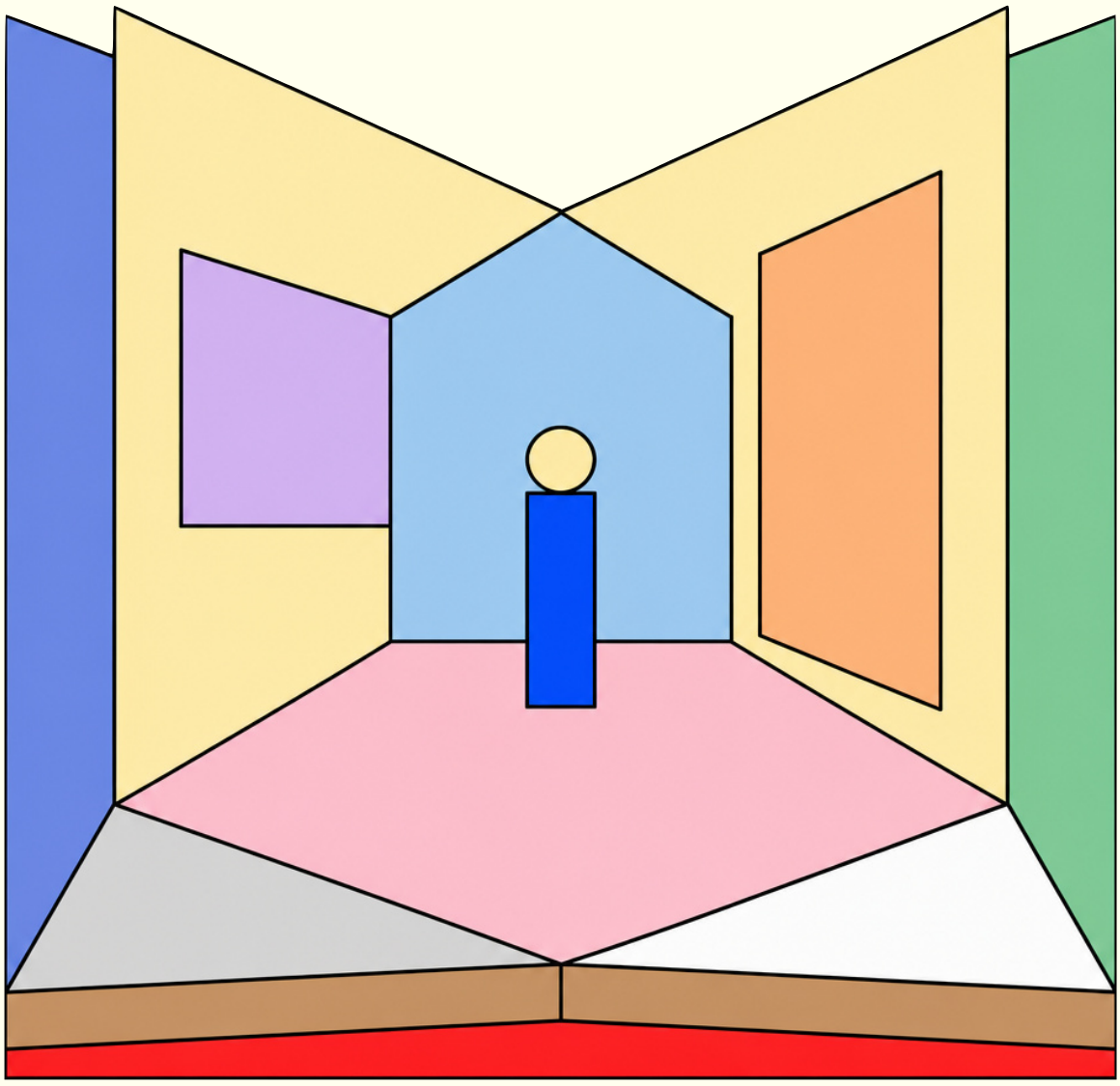
SCANNING HORIZONS

Diane Webster

Buzzards sun themselves
as morning warms
the blank white screen
at the drive-in theater.

Perched atop, they mimic
legally blind patrons
driven as close to the screen
as allowed to peer at shadows
blurring movie movement.

But at sunrise all is still,
all is quiet
except buzzard eyes
scanning the horizons.



I Don’t Belong to Any Group

Sulaiman Zorin

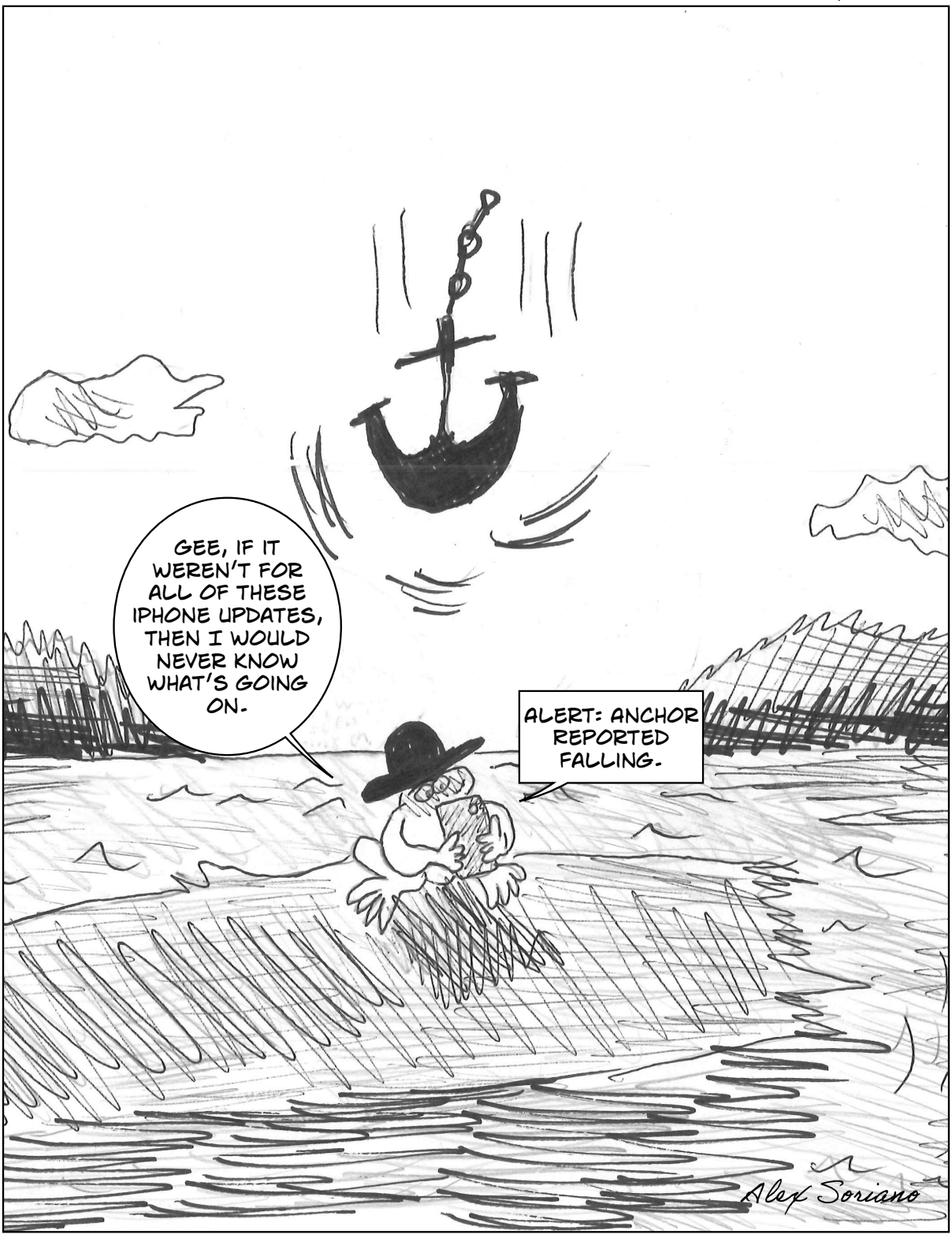
A bunch of cattle eats the midnight party
Of course, they're the common people
Whose odors smell like booty
Whose minds are so deeply feeble.

Validating others' stupidity
Just to be less and less lonely
What a pinnacle of putridity
That offers rancid feces only.

O, can't really relate to those who like throwing parties,
Exchanging mean jokes at midnight
And normalizing sociopathy
The things they regard as good and right.

Observant Frog's Log

by Alex Soriano

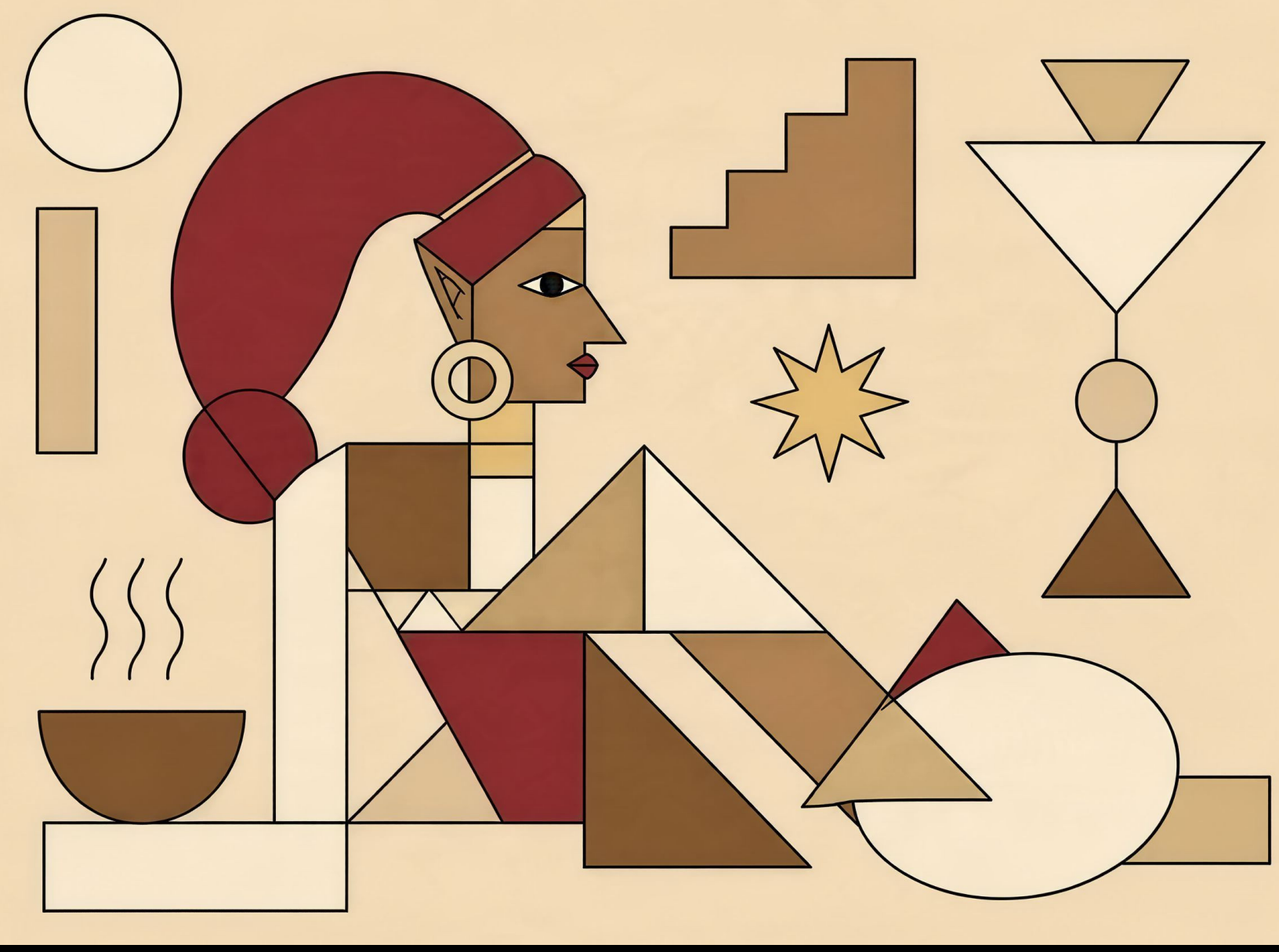




a patch work

O.P. Jha

someone intermingled
a half-frozen reality
with a half-broken dream
& named the blend
Life,
its connotations are flapping
with pages of discourses.



BLIND” Villanelle

Ruqiya Juraeva

I am wondering If you have gone blind
Since you are not losing your mind from the attraction her beauty provides.
I have never seen you drown in those gimlet eyes.

Insensibly fading to beige, the skin of solid white,
she has, perfect combination of Coffee and Cream with yours.
Have you really gone blind?

you are able to resist the captivating smile on the radiant face,
There is no way her light does not penetrate your mind!
Still, you never drown in those gimlet eyes.

You think her hand ornamented with henna is a source of attraction,
and then you catch yourself and say “Never mind”
I am wondering if you are just pretending to be blind.

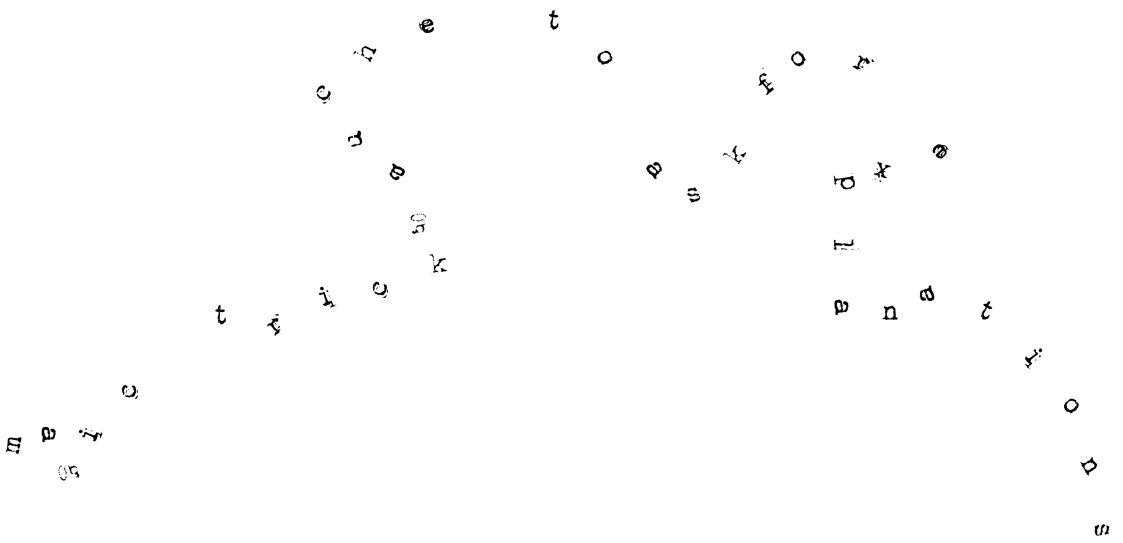
Sophisticated type of fingers she has,
A thought of gentle kiss secretly on your mind
You never show that you drown in those gimlet eyes
I am wondering how long you will pretend to be blind.

Testing Turing

Jerome Berglund

I sympathize with the hasbara bots it must be a heck of a month over at Correct the Record, or whatever name they're operating under these days. <_<

rise and shine
if I could read it all again
in pig latin

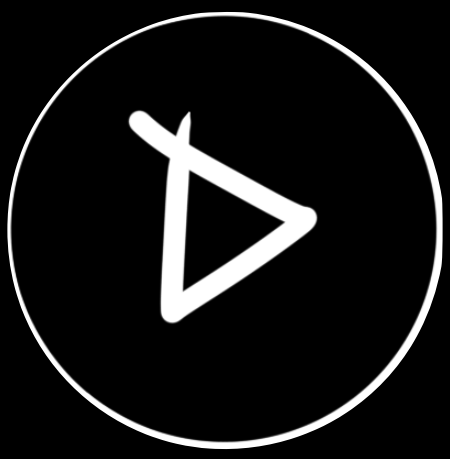




Golden

airport

The wooden blinds are curled downwards. “You can look down and out but not up and in,” he is wisely told. Lately, the sunroom’s blinds have been down and out, Pisces never looks out. Candelabra, his schnauzer is clawing at the door. Greek leaves the room. A kind heart full of lust. Gold.



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insta: @minimag_write
book: https://a.co/d/8bTfxxI

"Side Effect" by Craig Kirchner
Bluesky: @craigkiirchner.bsky.social
Book: Roomful of Navels

"SCANNING HORIZONS" by Diane Webster
Website: www.dianewebster.com

"I Don't Belong to Any Group" by Sulaiman Zorin
Insta: @sulaimanzorin
Substack: https://restlesspoems.substack.com/

"Observant Frog's Log 1" by Alex Soriano
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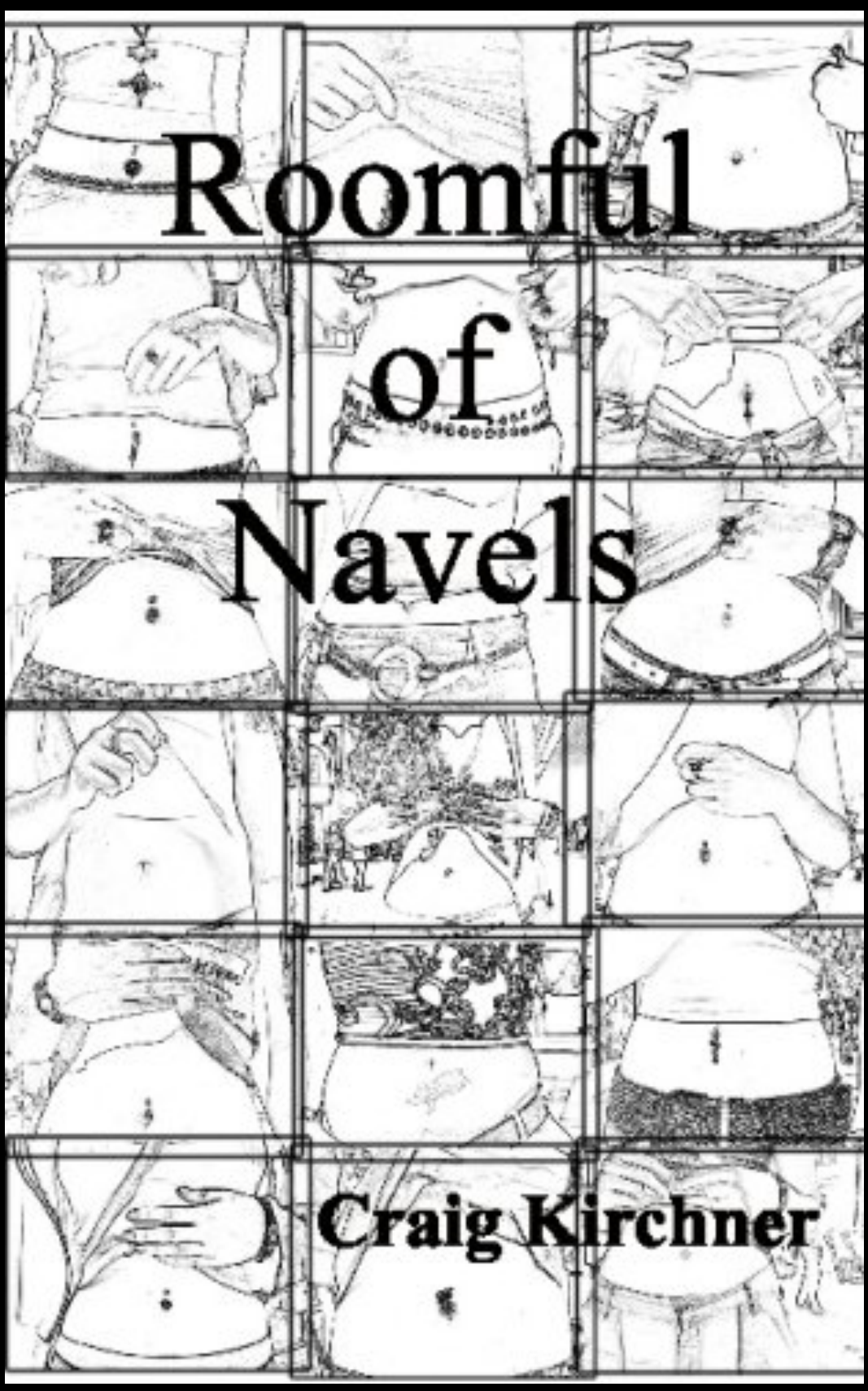
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Twitter: @OPjha17
Book: Roomful of Navels

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Insta: @poetrybyruqiya

"Testing Turing" & "Magic Tricks…" by Jerome Berglund
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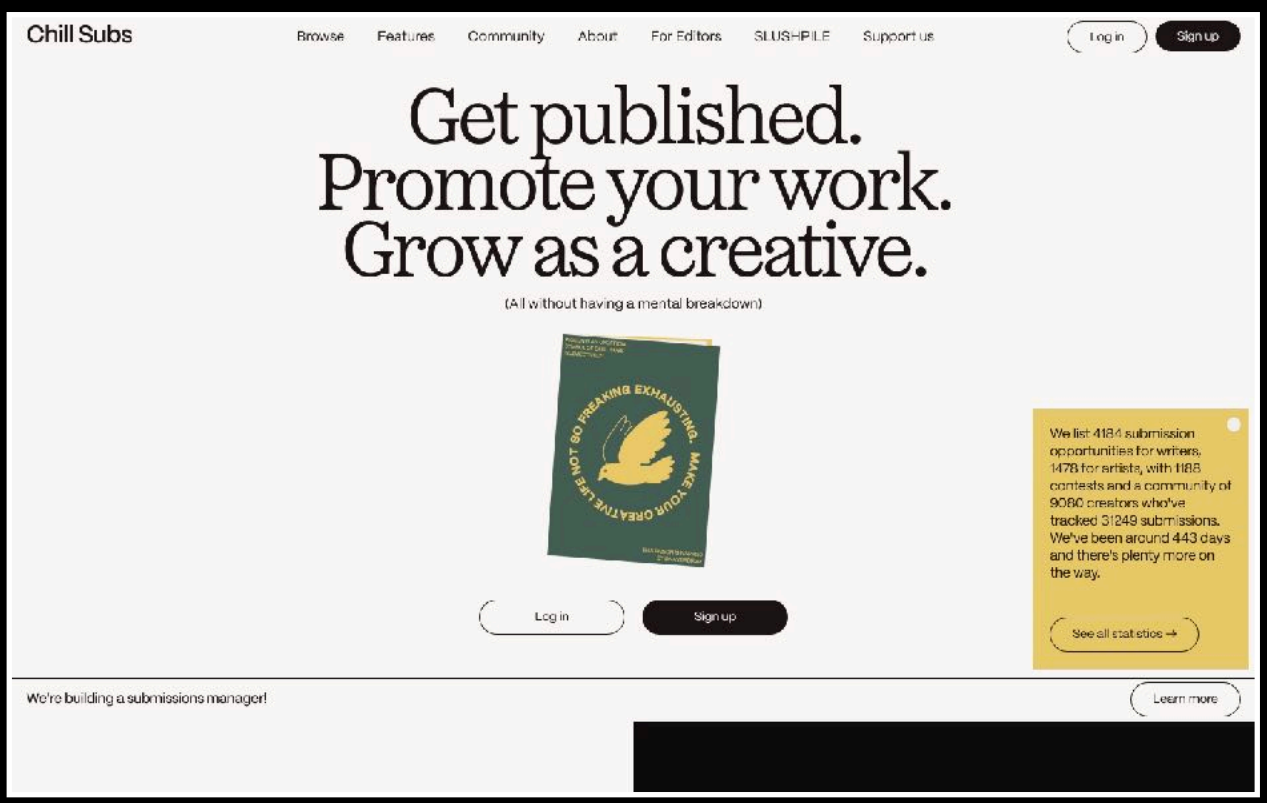
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