

THE TWO SPIRIT'S TALE



CHARLEY HAD ITS DAY AND MAKES FOR A TIDY ENDING, BUT IT'S CAUSED AS MUCH HARM AS IT'S RESCUED DAMSELS IN DISTRESS

OH COME NOW SENORITA ER SENOR UMM I DON'T WISH TO OFFEND BUT I'M NOT SURE WHICH YOU ...



IF YOU PREFER THAT I DIDN'T, SENOR ...



NO NO, GO AHEAD PLEASE, IT'S LATE AND I'M A BIT CRANKY

AS YOU WISH

MY TALE IS ABOUT A YOUNG WOMAN LEADING A DOUBLE LIFE



ONE IS A LIFE SHE'S BEEN FORCED INTO AND JUST MUDDLES ALONG IN.

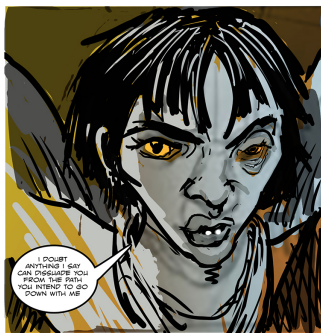


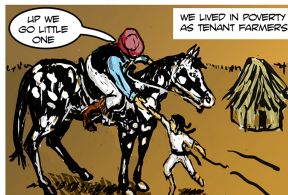
THE OTHER IS A LIFE WHERE SHE EXCELLS

IT STARTS IN THE MEXICO CITY OF THE 1650S WHEN MEXICO WAS STILL PART OF THE DOMINION OF SPAIN



YOLOTLI CALDERON, YOU MUST FOREWITH CONFESS TO YOUR WITCHERY AND COLLABORATION WITH SINISTER AND OTHERWORDLY FORCES.

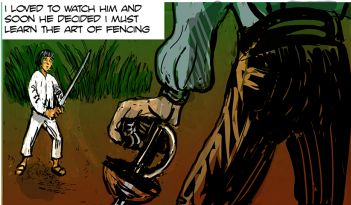




PAPA HAD BEEN A CAPTAIN DURING THE PEASANTS REBELLION AND STILL PRACTICED HIS FENCING



I LOVED TO WATCH HIM AND SOON HE DECIDED I MUST LEARN THE ART OF FENCING



I LEARNED QUICKLY AND GOT BETTER, BUT HE WAS A DEMANDING TASK MASTER



BY THE TIME I TURNED 13, I WAS BESTING HIM REGULARLY BUT THAT ONLY GAVE HIM PLEASURE



HE OFTEN TOOK ME WITH HIM ON COLLECTION RIDES TO HIS TENANTS. IT WAS HARD TO SEE HOW POOR THEY WERE, KNOWING THAT I HAD COME FROM THE SAME LIFE.



THE DROUGHT SENOR. I'LL HAVE IT ALL NEXT MONTH

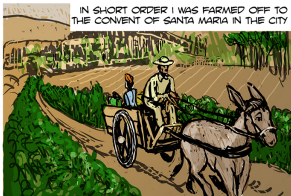




WHEN I WAS 15, MY FATHER DIED OF THE POX, PROBABLY CONTRACTED ON HIS RENT COLLECTION VISITS



I, OF COURSE, HAD NO SAY IN THE MATTER



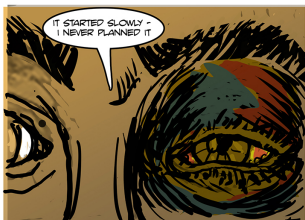
IN SHORT ORDER I WAS FARMED OFF TO THE CONVENT OF SANTA MARIA IN THE CITY



THE SISTERS SEEMED TO KNOW LITTLE OF WHAT TO MAKE OF ME, AS I DID OF THEM.



QUICKLY MY LIFE SETTLED INTO A SLOW, STEADY STREAM OF MASS AND PRAYER



THEY QUEUED UP AT A MUNICIPAL
BUILDINGS TO PAY THEIR TAXES









