



My dad asked if I learned anything from getting these scars.

I brushed it off.





It felt like he wanted my answer to be something about not helping strangers' dogs.


That wasn't my answer though.
I will be more cautious in the future, but I can't truly regret something done to be kind.


I couldn't say the real answer yet.

I learned that things can change in an instant,





life is short and I don't want it to pass me by.



medical situations are scary, but not the end of the world.

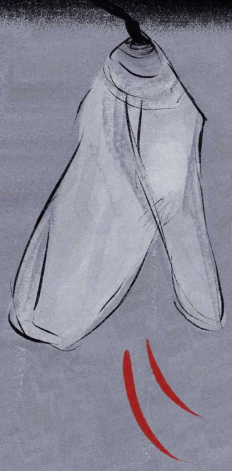
I solidified the knowledge that life continues on; I am capable of getting through hard situations.





I learned that this is my body, and I get to make the decisions for it.

and even if those choices lead to something that may cause strife it too will eventually heal.



These lessons are what led me to get an appointment to start physically transitioning.



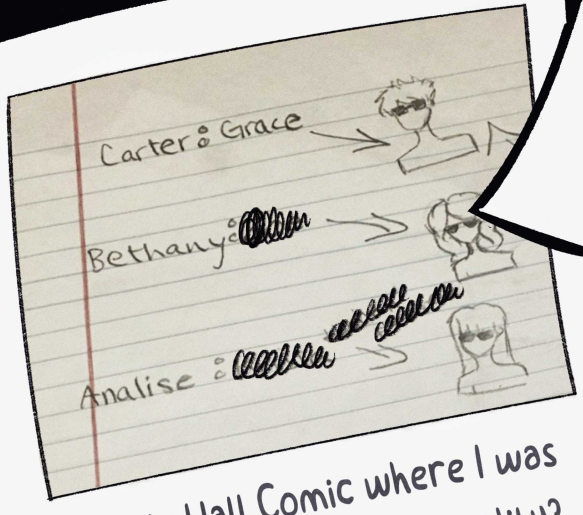
the thoughts about gender had been tumbling around in my head if I'm being honest.



11th Doctor Costume



Fancy Cravat-Wearer for years



Study Hall Comic where I was a dude for...gender equality?



teen-me, very displeased I kept getting called batgirl.

But thinking so much about how others would respond

(instead of my own comfort levels)

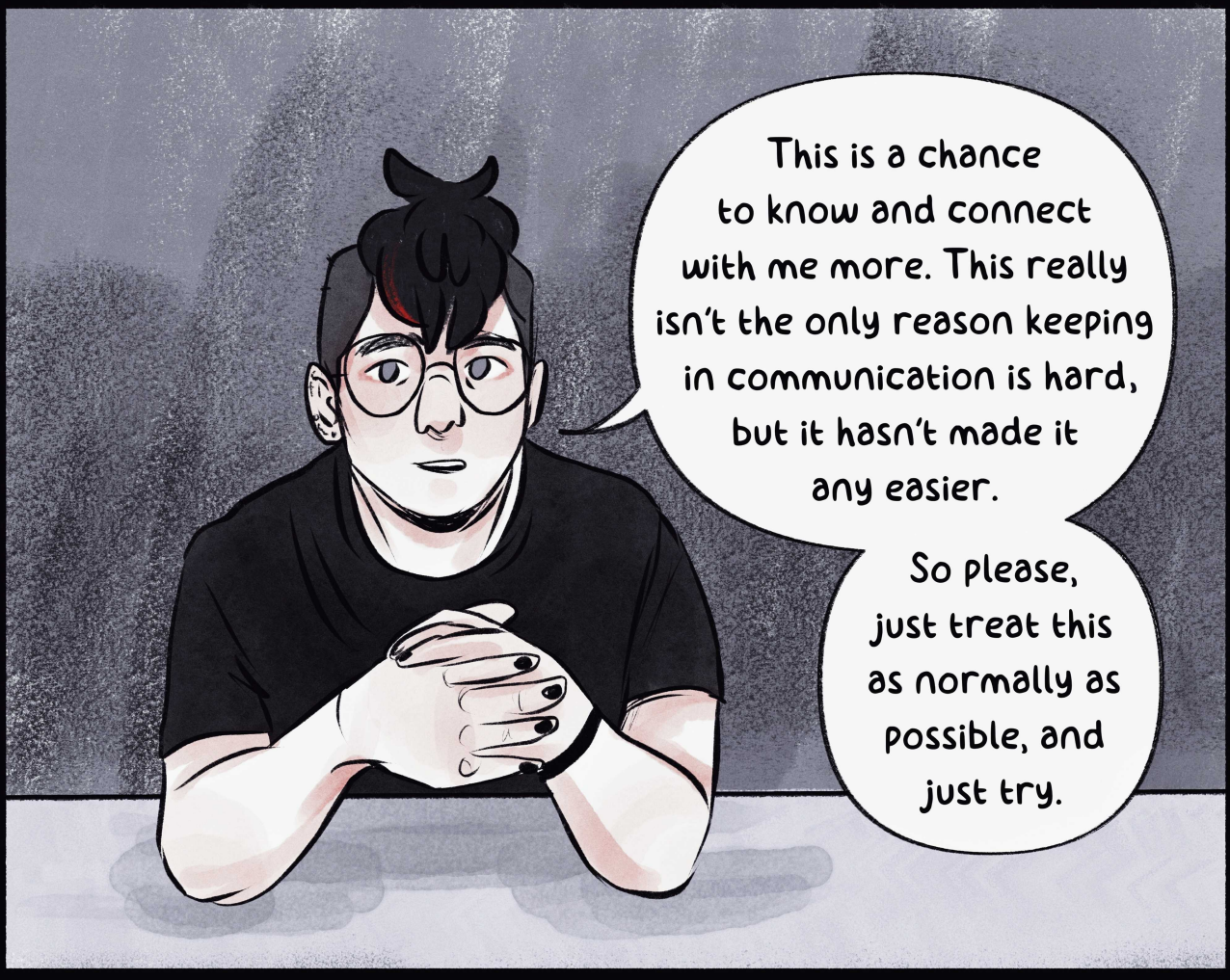


was so terrifying that it froze me.


I want to live authentically though, and at this point,
since I'm taking steps to match my exterior to my interior,
BZZZ
[insert Rock Band character here]
I figured it was about time to update everyone.


My name is Artemi. You can also call me Art.
I'm a guy.
Oh, I'm also bisexual if you haven't got that memo yet.
*If this is a BIG surprise, you maybe didn't know me as well as you thought.

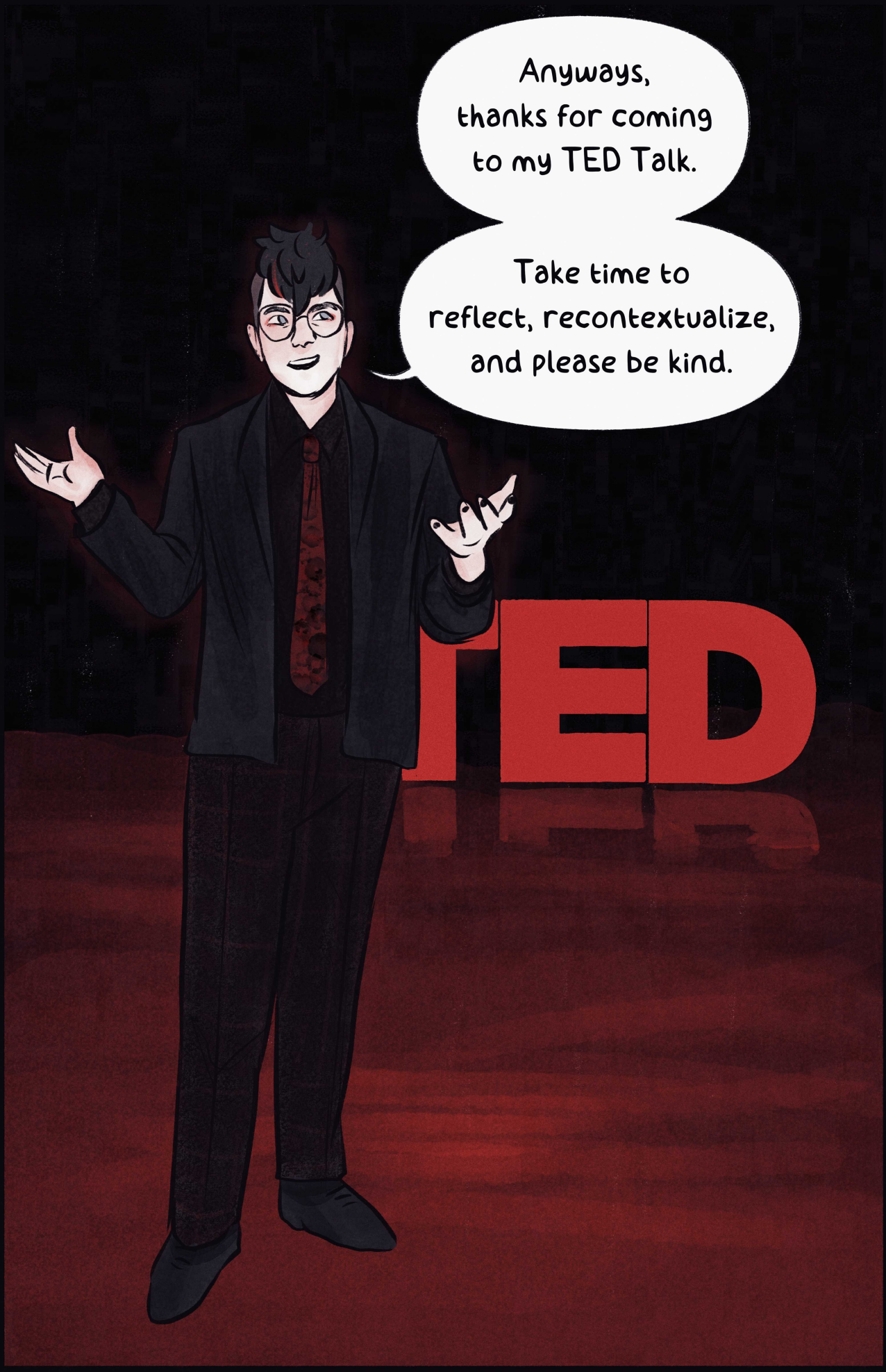

If I'm the first trans person you know, I'm going to be patient.
Most people will be.
I'm just gonna ask that you make a solid effort.
I'm also willing to answer some questions-of course none that are too personal.
?
But I'll also list some good resources to learn about trans issues on your own as well.
BOOK


This is a chance to know and connect with me more. This really isn't the only reason keeping in communication is hard, but it hasn't made it any easier.
So please, just treat this as normally as possible, and just try.


A side note: you won't be able to change my mind on this, and if you try, are hurtful or cruel, our relationship will be damaged.


Otherwise, I'm the same person.
I make comics,
refs
love music,


baking,
animals,
and fashion.
You just also know I'm a guy now.


Anyways, thanks for coming to my TED Talk.
Take time to reflect, recontextualize, and please be kind.
TED