

It's about 7:23 in the morning in NYC, in late September. Directly down below an exceptionally unexceptional grey sky, the grey masses begin to flow.



Near the corner of 7th and 4th, people start their day:



Uncomfortable women in uncomfortable shoes, business men and their business dogs, all marching at the same hurried pace... too busy to notice that a tragedy had just taken place.





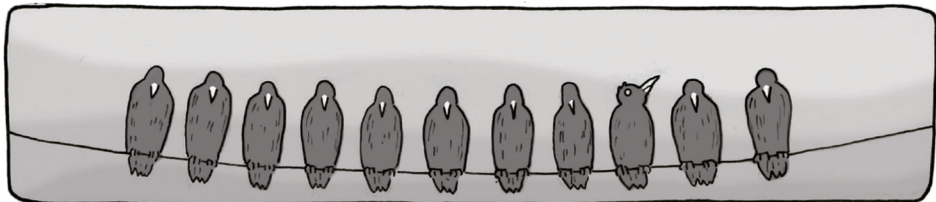
Eddy was the first of his family to be born in the city. On that joyous occasion his parents exhibited the most emotion they had in years.



High up in the tower of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Eddy opened his eyes for the first time.



Growing up, Eddy quickly came to realize that he did not fit in with the other ravens.

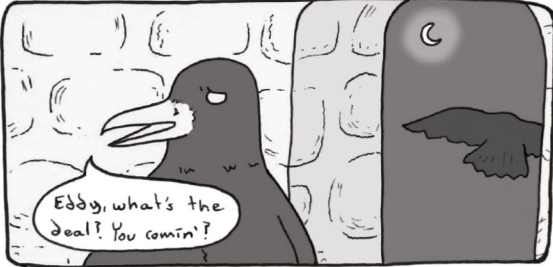


For one thing, he found it incredibly difficult to maintain a constant somber attitude. The whole effort seemed quite contrived to him anyway.



Deep down, at the heart of it, Eddy was just not capable of playing the role written for him by the humans. While his peers got enjoyment out of toying with the judgemental human's fragile emotional state, Eddy could only feel ashamed.

Needless to say, a distance formed between Eddy and the other ravens at St. Patrick's.

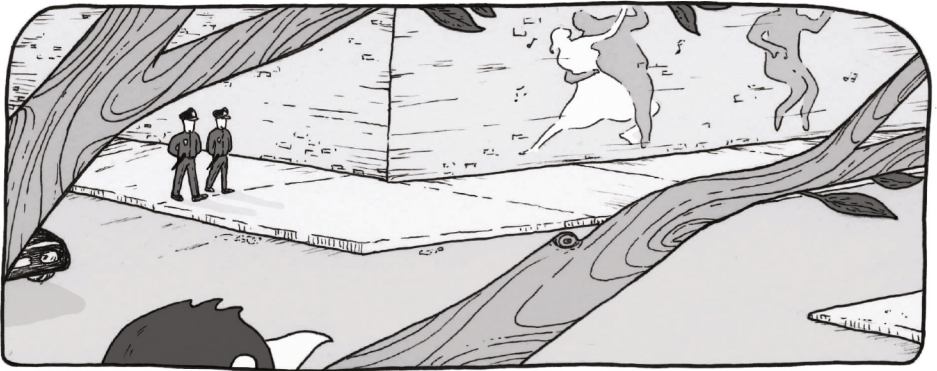


Instead of waiting outside of super markets, looking to terrorize...

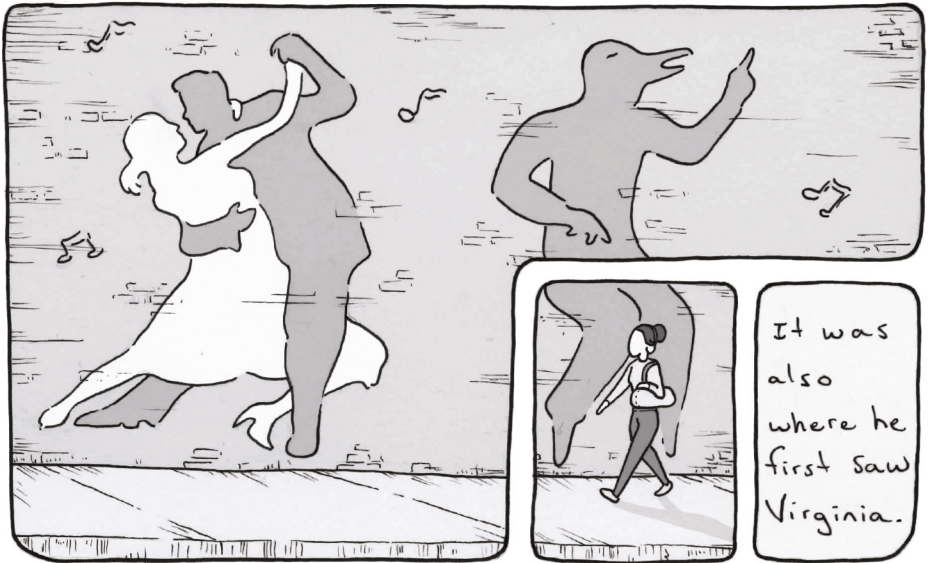


...Eddy would go to his favorite spot: the park on the corner of 7th and 4th (being very careful to stay hidden, of course.)





Eddy liked watching the kids laugh and enjoy life, but best of all he loved to get lost in the mural on the dance studio across the street. It was the most beautiful scene in the world to Eddy, and more than anything he wanted to join them.



It was also where he first saw Virginia.

Virginia took dance classes there, and Eddy spotted her walking home one afternoon about two years ago.



There was just something about her that drew Eddy in... maybe it was because she actually seemed happy.



Most nights Eddy would sit outside Virginia's window, cloaked in darkness, and watch her dance. Occasionally Eddy's favorite song "Rave On", by Buddy Holly, would come on, and Eddy would jam out. Of course, he may have misunderstood Mr. Holly's intentions.

But when Eddy got home, the illusion always wore off.



He still felt like he had to stay hidden...



No matter where he was, Eddy felt like an outsider... like he was never welcome.

That very next morning Eddy woke up early to head to the park. However, he was not alone this time.



As the other ravens arrived, they were not so careful to stay hidden.



Terrified and embarrassed, Eddy rushed home.



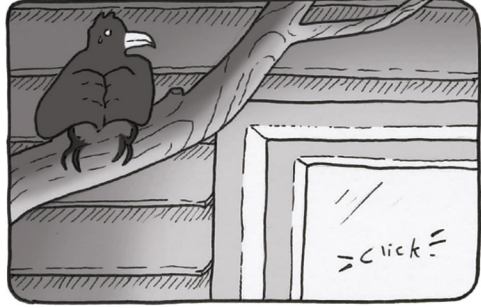
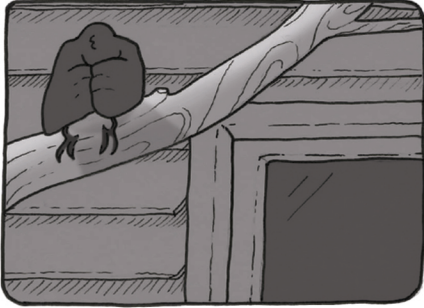
But when he arrived home, things were no better. All the other ravens were there waiting for him.



Eddy had to escape. He had to see Virginia.



It was midday, and Virginia was not to be home for a few hours yet. Eddy didn't seem to notice, though. His world was crumbling down around him.



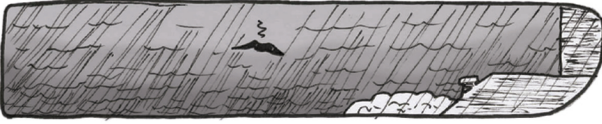
That night Eddy just sat there in silence, watching. That was, until "Rave On" came on. In that moment Eddy lost control, and sang out with all his might...



And Virginia's true colors finally shown.



What was left of Eddy flew away with nowhere to go.





As Eddy flew, trying to escape the nightmare his life had become, he started to see the world as everyone else did. In the faces of the humans below, Eddy could only see the terror he struck through them.

On a nearby building, Eddy caught his reflection.



In the figure standing before him, Eddy did not see himself anymore. What he saw was something much, much darker...



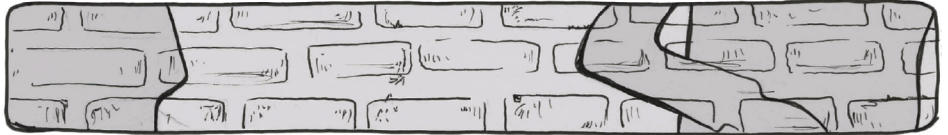
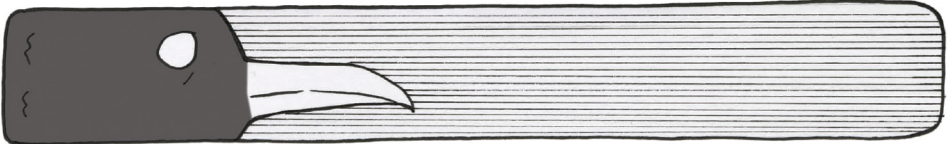
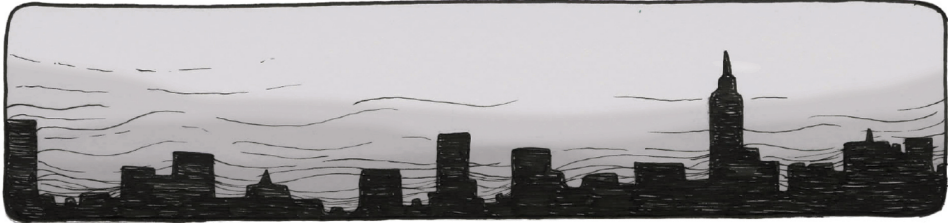
His reflection had become an omen... an omen of his own death.

Inside Eddy,
something broke...



...and in that
moment he
made a
terrible, horrible
decision

In NYC, the sun was rising behind an exceptionally unexceptional grey sky.





So as the masses march by, perhaps it is right that noone weep for Eddy. Much like the tears shed by a crocodile as it devours its prey, it would not mean much. All that can be certain is that the world really lost a lot of its color this morning.

