

18 JUNE, 1858, DOWN HOUSE,  
THE DARWIN FAMILY HOME



ONWARDS, SOLDIERS!  
HERE COME  
THE FRENCH!

WE'RE  
OUTNUMBERED!

ARGH! WE  
WON'T LAST LONG  
AGAINST THESE  
FROGS!

LISTEN TO THAT...  
A MARCHING SONG!  
REINFORCEMENTS!

SIR HORACE AND  
HIS KNIGHTS ARE  
HERE AT LAST!

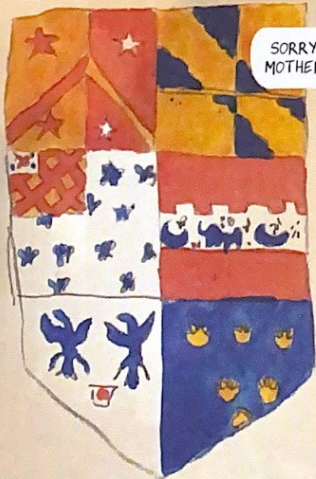
WE'RE  
SAVED!

A LITTLE QUIETER  
PLEASE HORACE,  
YOUR FATHER'S  
WORKING.

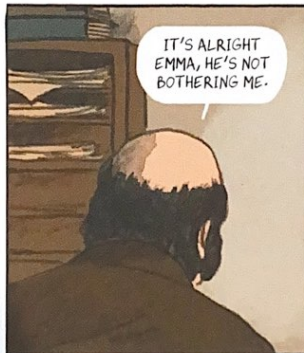
AH HA HA! DAMN  
FROGS! YOU'RE IN  
FOR IT NOW!

HORACE, WATCH  
YOUR LANGUAGE!  
AND NOT SO LOUD,  
I TOLD YOU, YOUR  
FATHER IS WRITING!

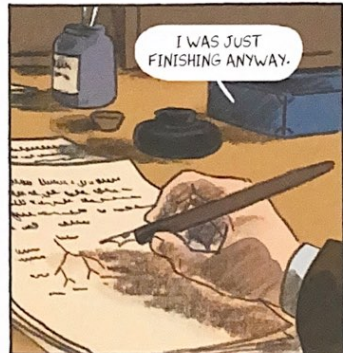
# Sir Horace DARWIN



SORRY,  
MOTHER.



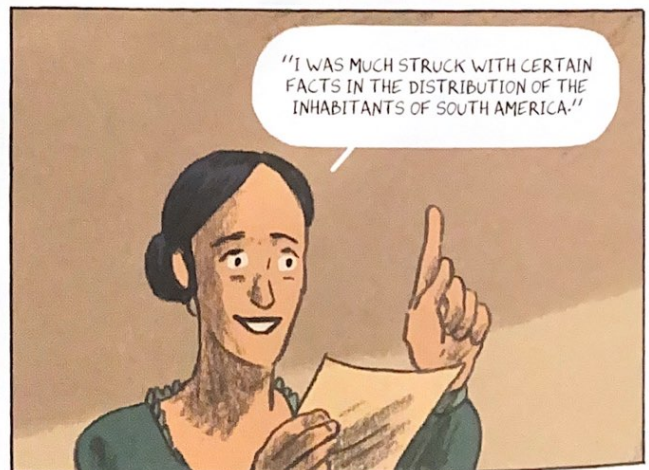
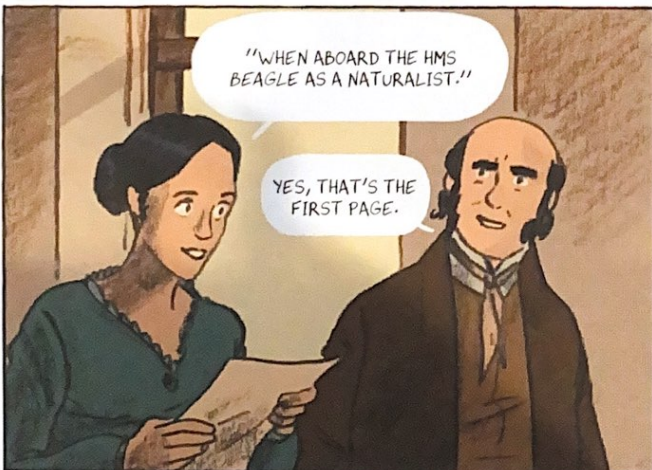
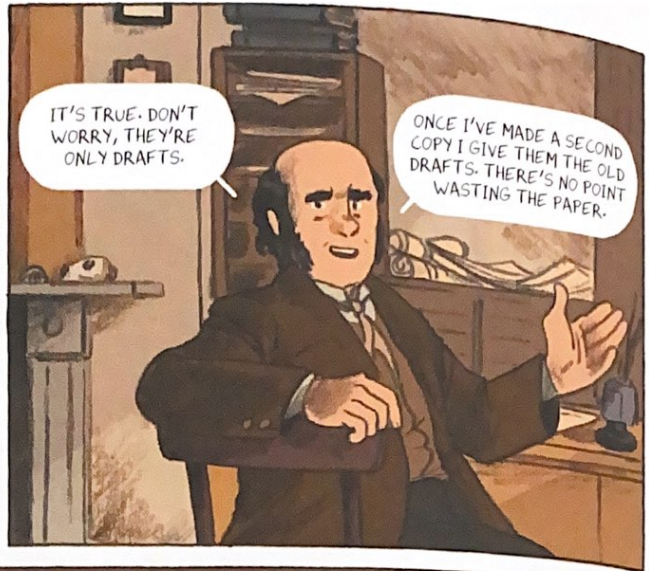
IT'S ALRIGHT  
EMMA, HE'S NOT  
BOTHERING ME.

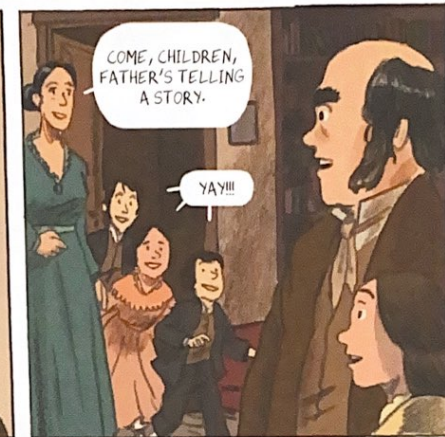
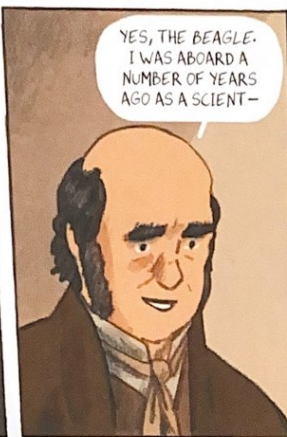
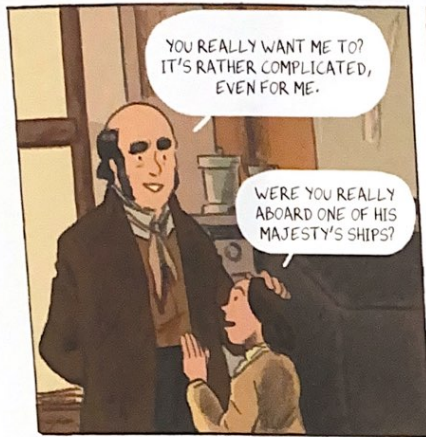
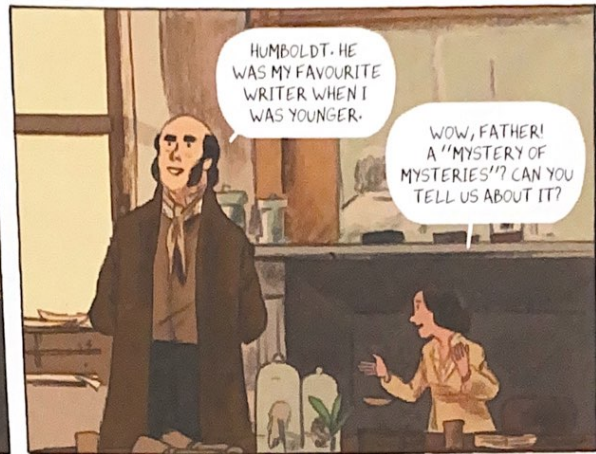
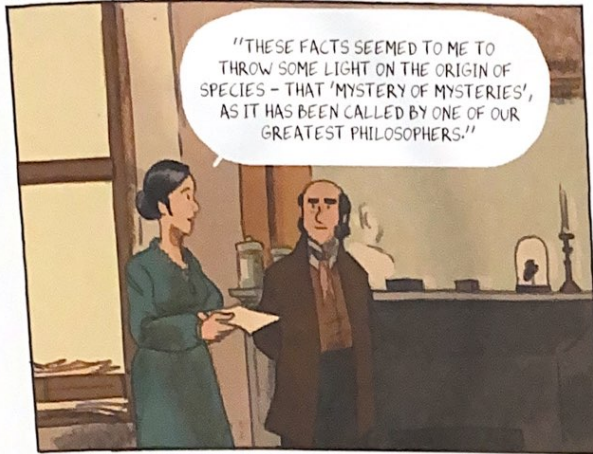



I WAS JUST  
FINISHING ANYWAY.



HORACE! WHAT'S  
THAT YOU'RE  
DRAWING ON?







THEN ONE DAY, I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM AN OLD AND MUCH-LOVED PROFESSOR, HENSLAW...

...ASKING ME TO JOIN THE CREW OF THE HMS BEAGLE AS A SCIENTIST. THE SHIP WAS SCHEDULED TO SET SAIL FOUR WEEKS LATER...

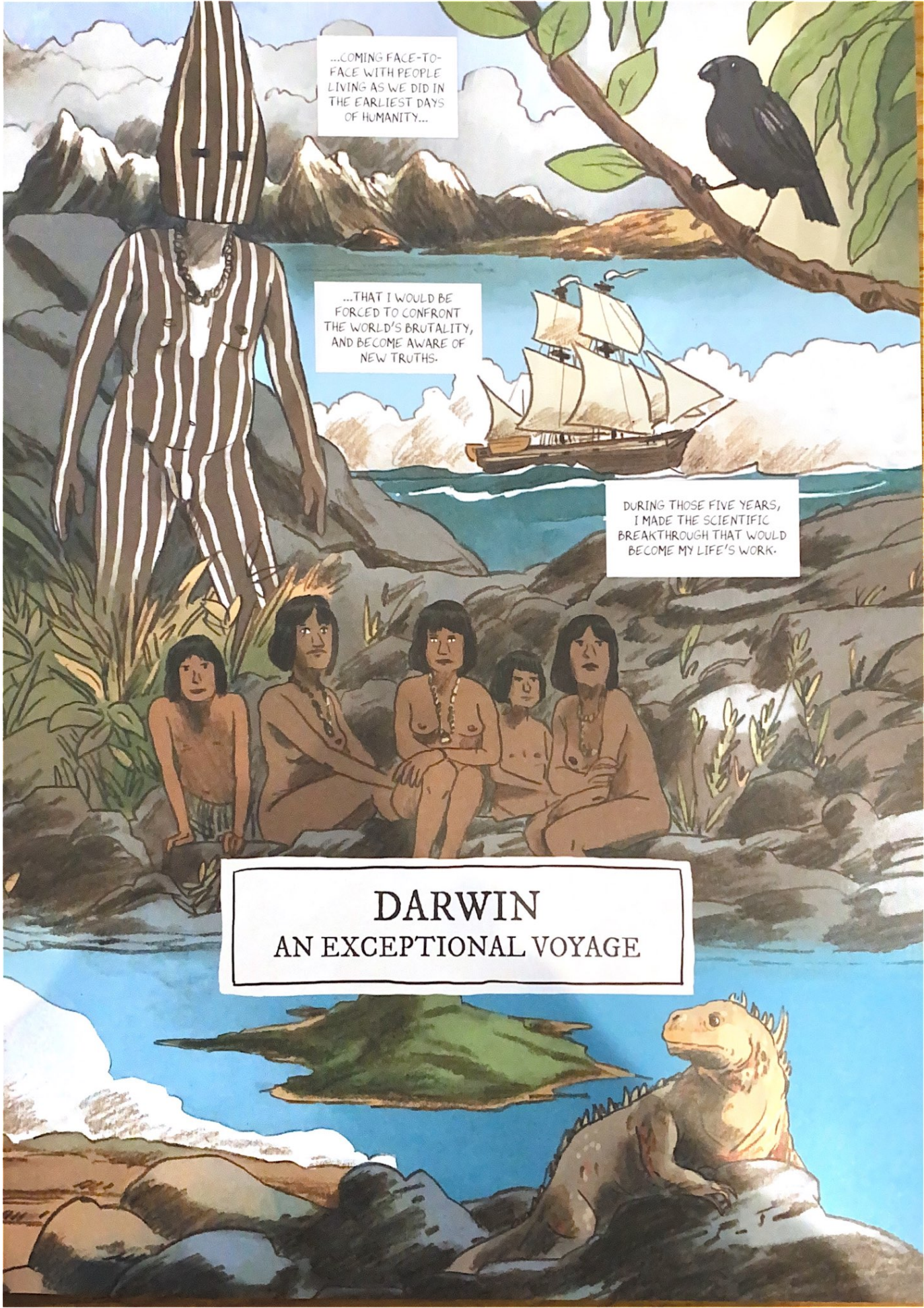
...AND WOULD SPEND TWO YEARS MAPPING SOUTH AMERICA.

THE CAPTAIN, FITZROY, WAS A CULTURED MAN LOOKING FOR A LIKE-MINDED COMPANION.

HE CHOSE ME.

BACK THEN I HAD NO IDEA I WOULD BE AWAY FOR FIVE YEARS TRAVELLING ALL AROUND THE WORLD...

...CROSSING DESERTS, WANDERING THROUGH TROPICAL FORESTS, DISCOVERING THOUSANDS OF SPECIES AND LINKS TO THE PAST...



...COMING FACE-TO-FACE WITH PEOPLE LIVING AS WE DID IN THE EARLIEST DAYS OF HUMANITY...

...THAT I WOULD BE FORCED TO CONFRONT THE WORLD'S BRUTALITY, AND BECOME AWARE OF NEW TRUTHS.

DURING THOSE FIVE YEARS, I MADE THE SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGH THAT WOULD BECOME MY LIFE'S WORK.

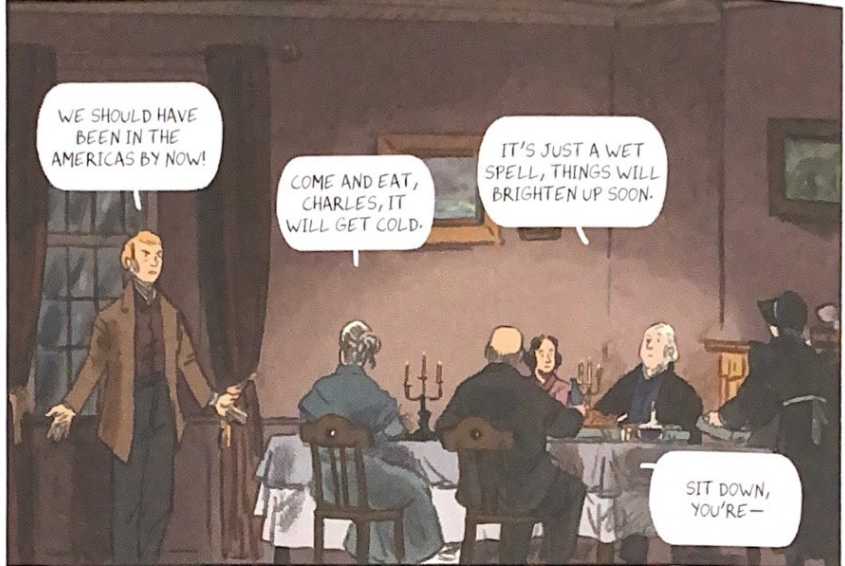
**DARWIN**  
AN EXCEPTIONAL VOYAGE

25 DECEMBER, 1831, DAVENPORT

ARGH, THIS RAIN!  
I CAN'T STAND IT  
ANY LONGER!



TWO MONTHS!  
IT'S BEEN RAINING  
NON-STOP FOR  
TWO MONTHS!

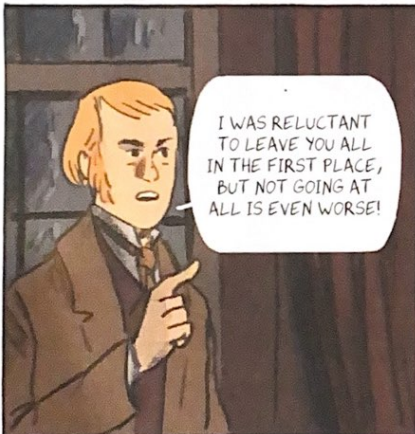


WE SHOULD HAVE  
BEEN IN THE  
AMERICAS BY NOW!

COME AND EAT,  
CHARLES, IT  
WILL GET COLD.

IT'S JUST A WET  
SPELL, THINGS WILL  
BRIGHTEN UP SOON.

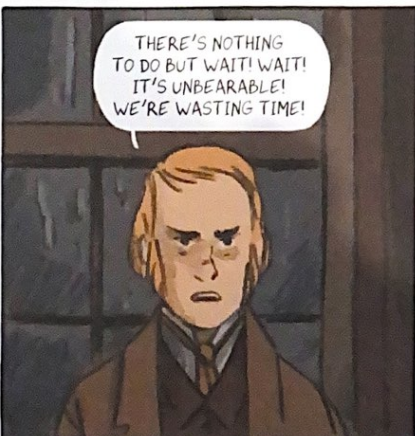
SIT DOWN,  
YOU'RE—



I WAS RELUCTANT  
TO LEAVE YOU ALL  
IN THE FIRST PLACE,  
BUT NOT GOING AT  
ALL IS EVEN WORSE!



THIS CHRISTMAS DAY,  
I'D LIKE TO RAISE  
A GLASS TO MY SON  
CHARLES' TRAVELS!



THERE'S NOTHING  
TO DO BUT WAIT!  
WAIT!  
IT'S UNBEARABLE!  
WE'RE WASTING TIME!



CHARLES?

CHARLES!



IT'S NOTHING, I'M FINE, I'M FINE...

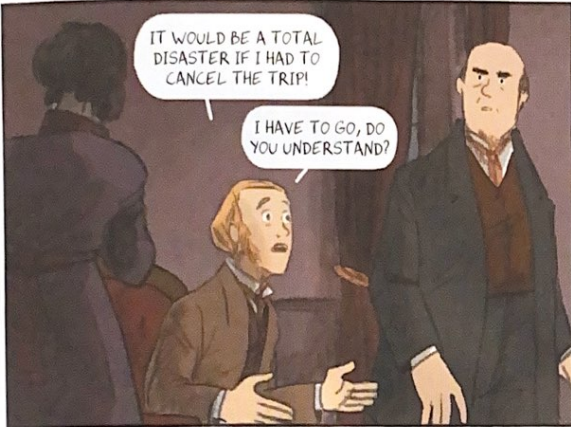
HUSH, I'M THE DOCTOR HERE.



IT'S ALRIGHT FATHER, IT'S JUST A FLUTTER...

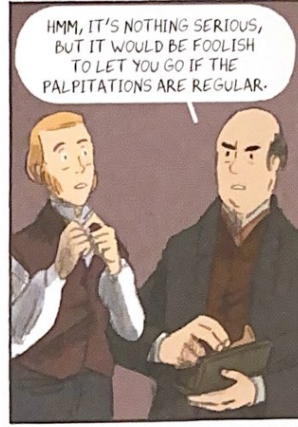
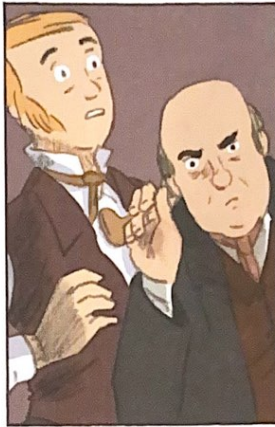


IF CAPTAIN FITZROY FINDS OUT ABOUT MY CONDITION, HE WON'T LET ME BOARD THE SHIP.

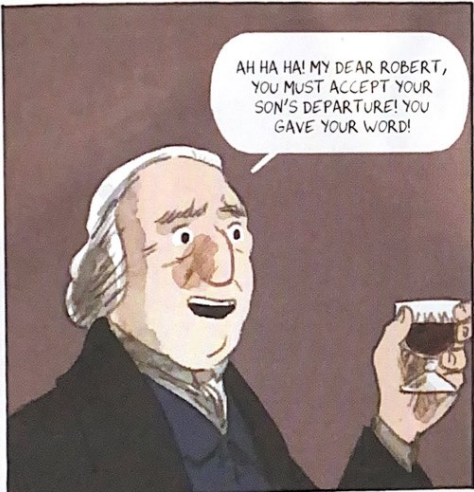


IT WOULD BE A TOTAL DISASTER IF I HAD TO CANCEL THE TRIP!

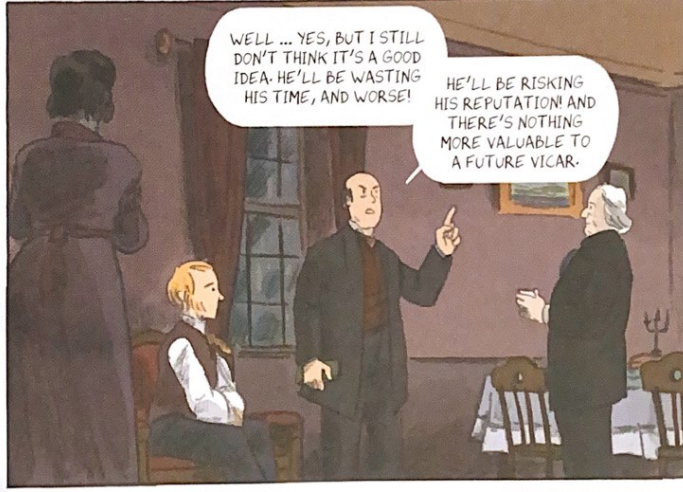
I HAVE TO GO, DO YOU UNDERSTAND?



HMM, IT'S NOTHING SERIOUS, BUT IT WOULD BE FOOLISH TO LET YOU GO IF THE PALPITATIONS ARE REGULAR.



AH HA HA! MY DEAR ROBERT, YOU MUST ACCEPT YOUR SON'S DEPARTURE! YOU GAVE YOUR WORD!



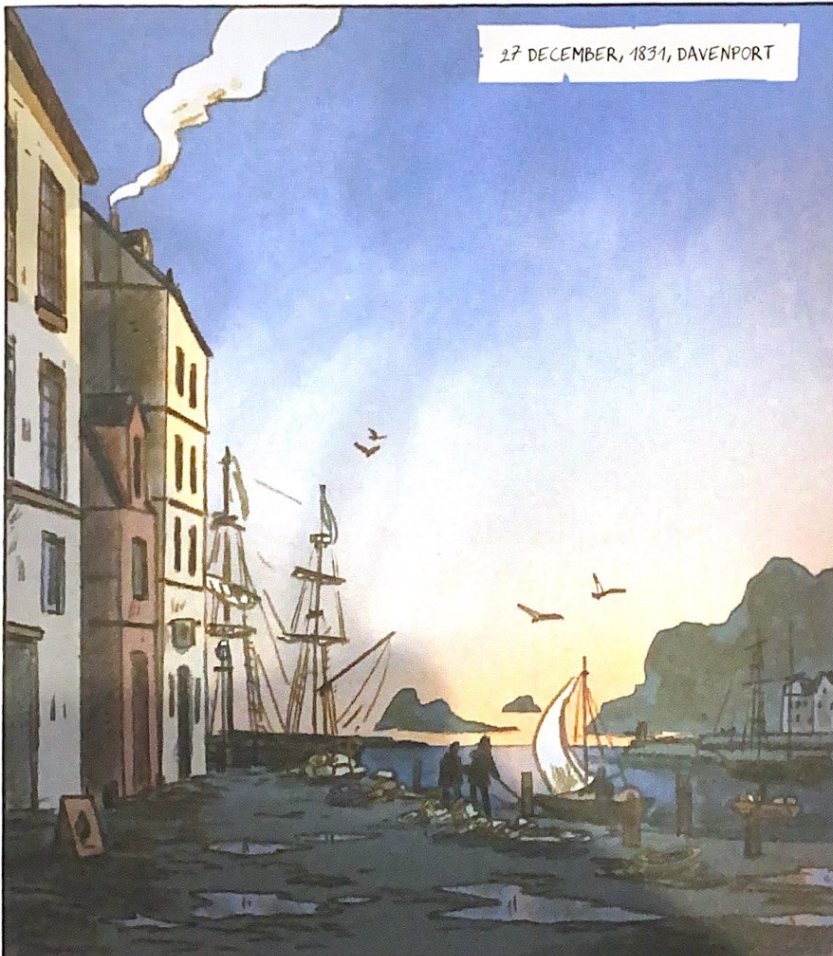
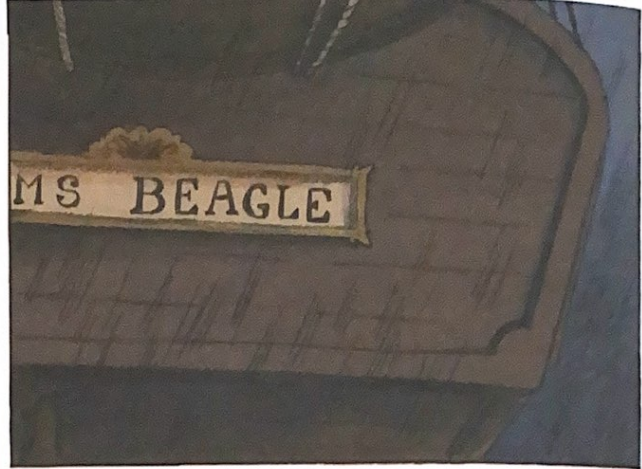
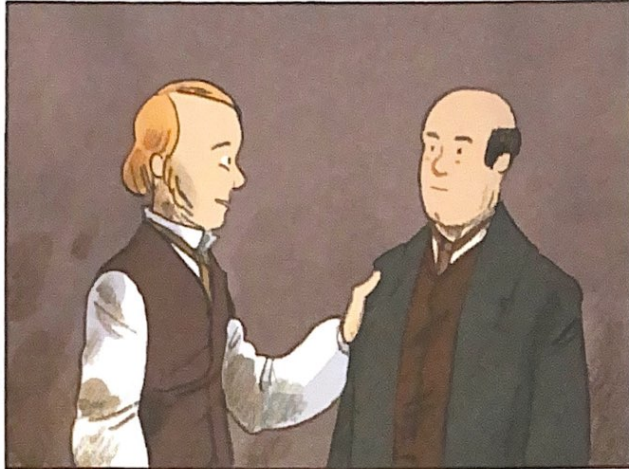
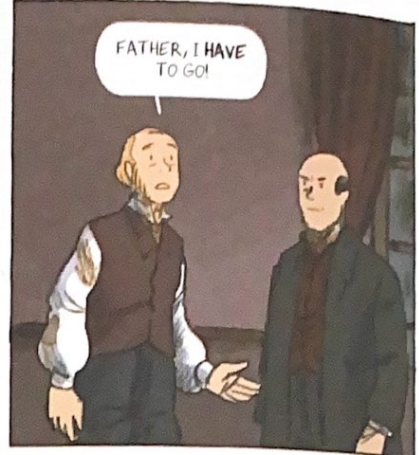
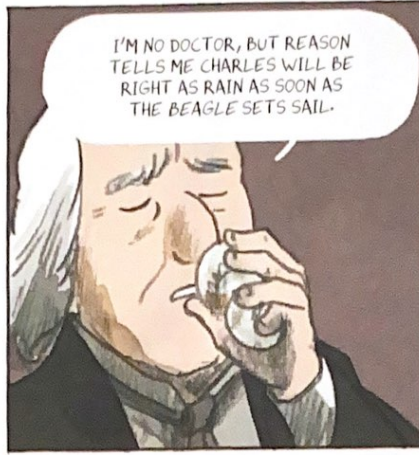
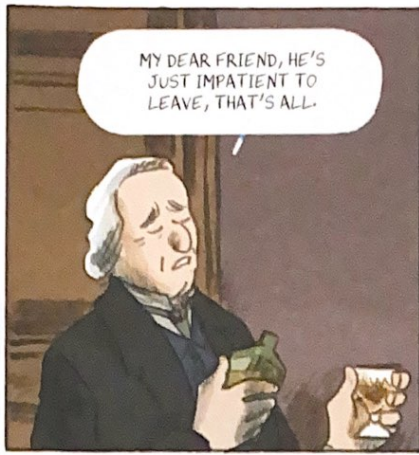
WELL ... YES, BUT I STILL DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA. HE'LL BE WASTING HIS TIME, AND WORSE!

HE'LL BE RISKING HIS REPUTATION! AND THERE'S NOTHING MORE VALUABLE TO A FUTURE VICAR.



I DID GIVE MY WORD, JOSIAH, WHEN YOU BACKED HIM IN THIS MADNESS, AND I'M NOT THE SORT OF FATHER TO GO BACK ON A PROMISE.

IT'S THE DOCTOR IN ME THAT FEARS SOMEONE OF HIS FRAGILE DISPOSITION SHOULDN'T BE TAKING TO THE SEAS.







YOU'LL BE FINE. CAPTAIN FITZROY'S YOUNG, BUT HE'S A GOOD CAPTAIN.



THIS IS IT - THE BIG DAY!

I'M FOLLOWING IN YOUR FOOTSTEPS, BARON ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT!

IN A FEW DAYS WE'LL BE AT OUR FIRST PORT-OF-CALL, TENERIFE, WHERE I'LL FINALLY GET TO SEE THE MARVELLOUS DRAGON TREE YOU WROTE ABOUT.

THEN IT'S THE AMERICAS, THE ANDES, AND WHO KNOWS? MAYBE EVEN FURTHER?



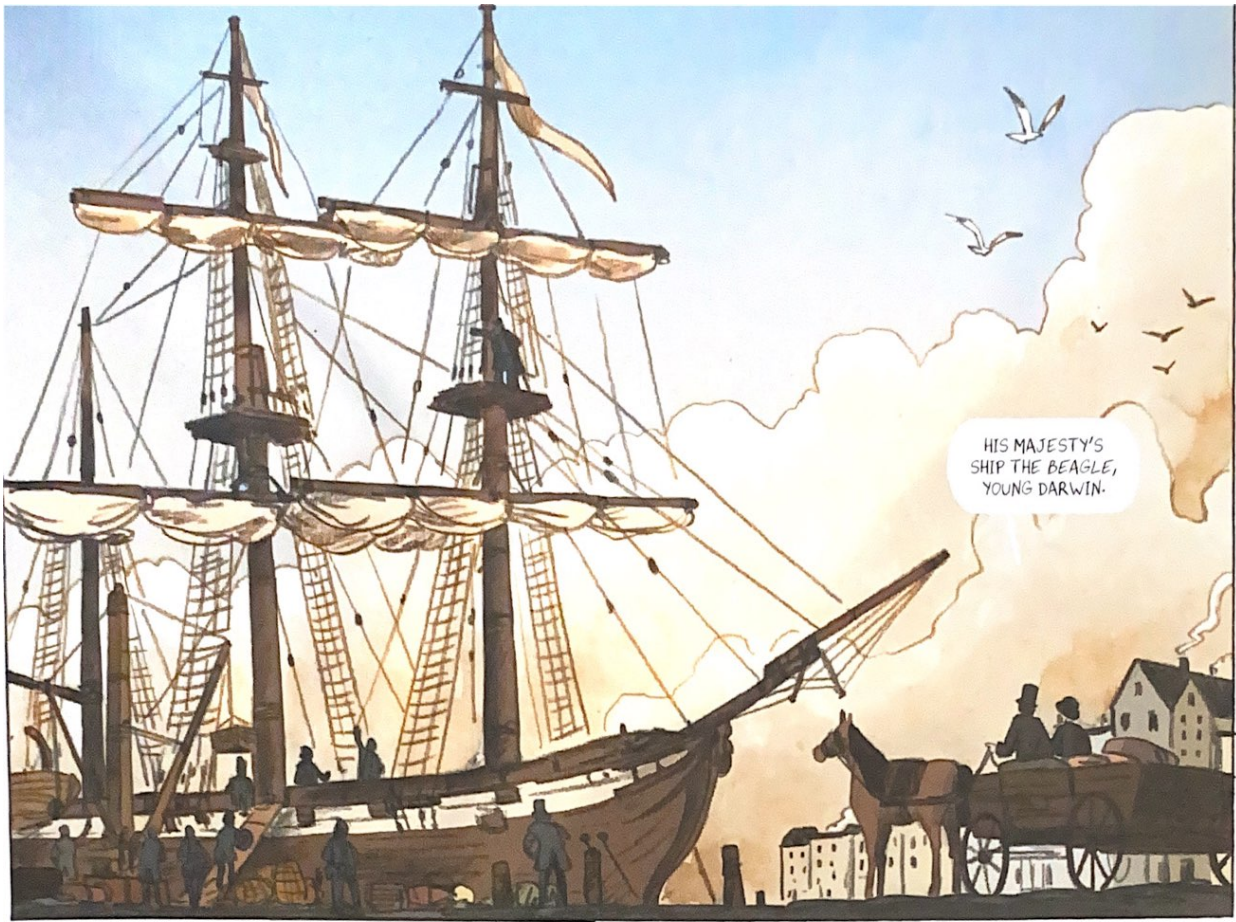
THAT BEING SAID, I DO HOPE HE DOESN'T SUCCEMB TO THE BEAGLE'S CURSE.

SORRY?

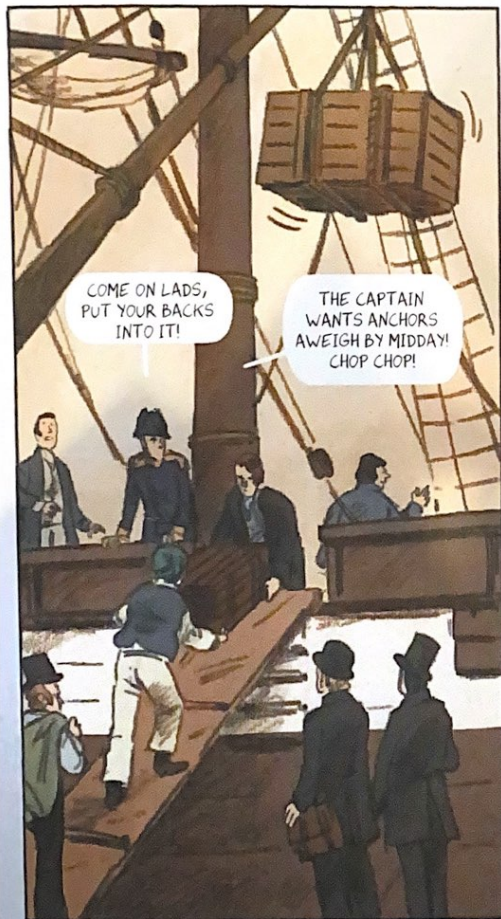


THE LAST CAPTAIN COULDN'T STAND THE SOLITUDE OF THE HIGH SEAS AND HANGED HIMSELF. DIDN'T YOU KNOW?

AH, HERE WE ARE.

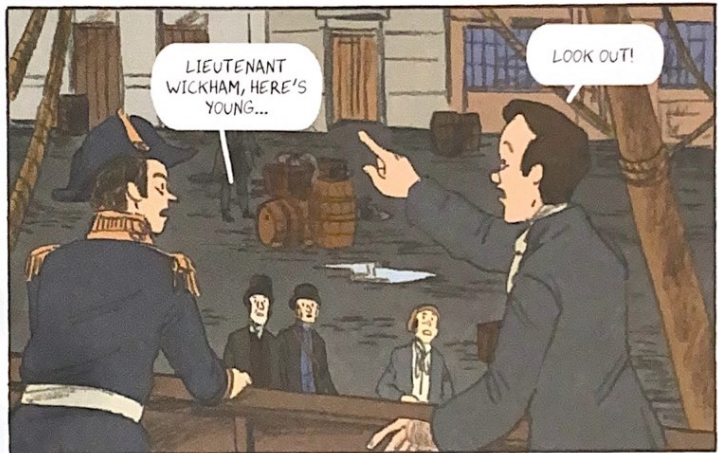


HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP THE BEAGLE, YOUNG DARWIN.



COME ON LADS, PUT YOUR BACKS INTO IT!

THE CAPTAIN WANTS ANCHORS AWEIGH BY MIDDAY! CHOP CHOP!

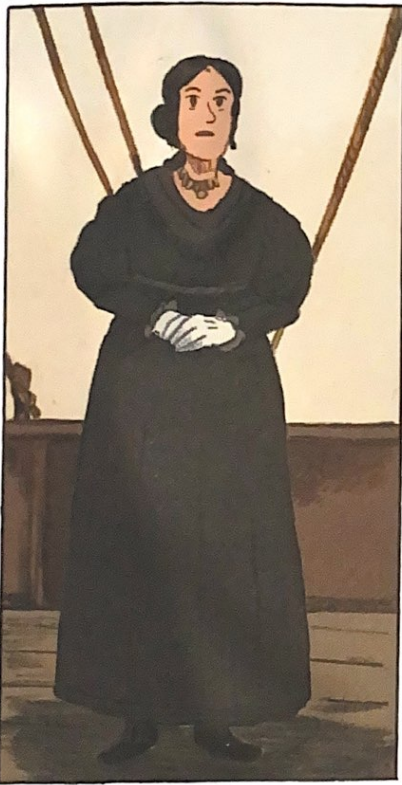


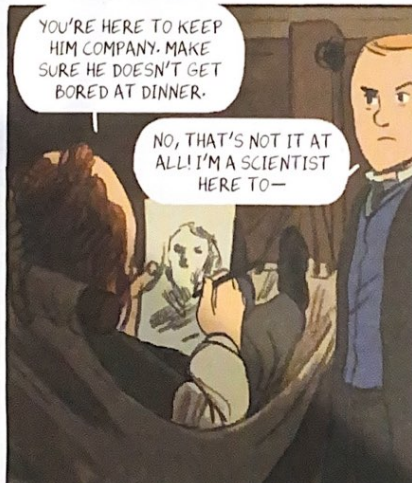
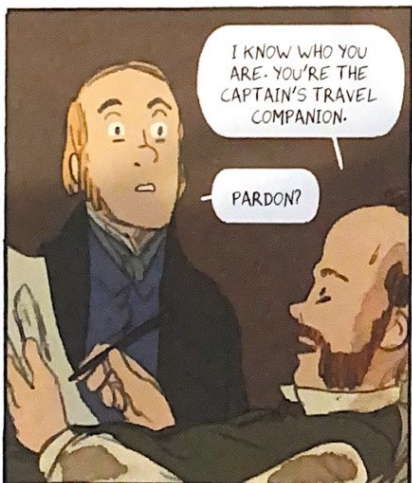
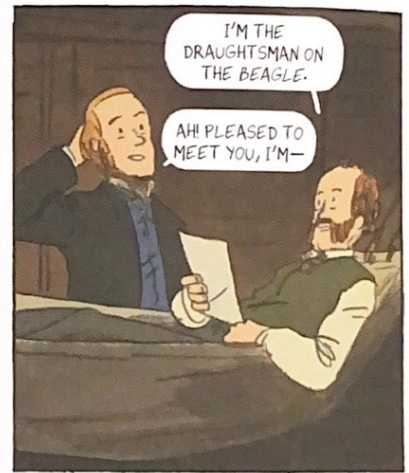
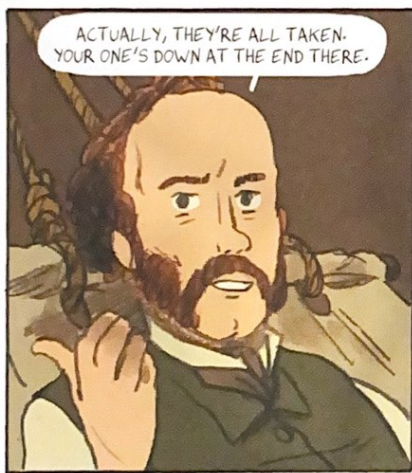
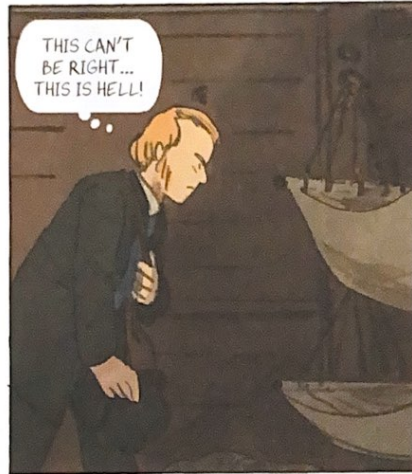
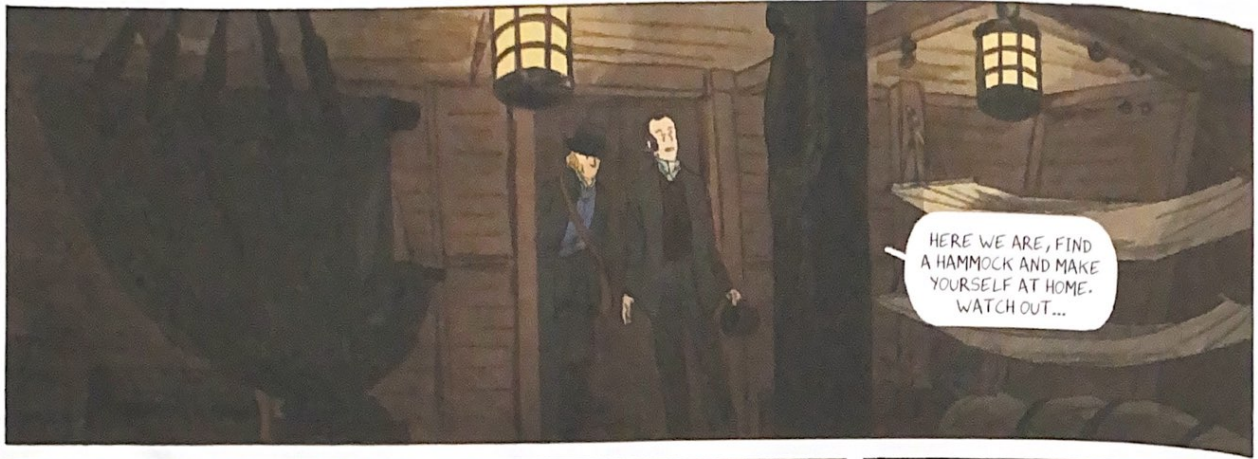
LIEUTENANT WICKHAM, HERE'S YOUNG...

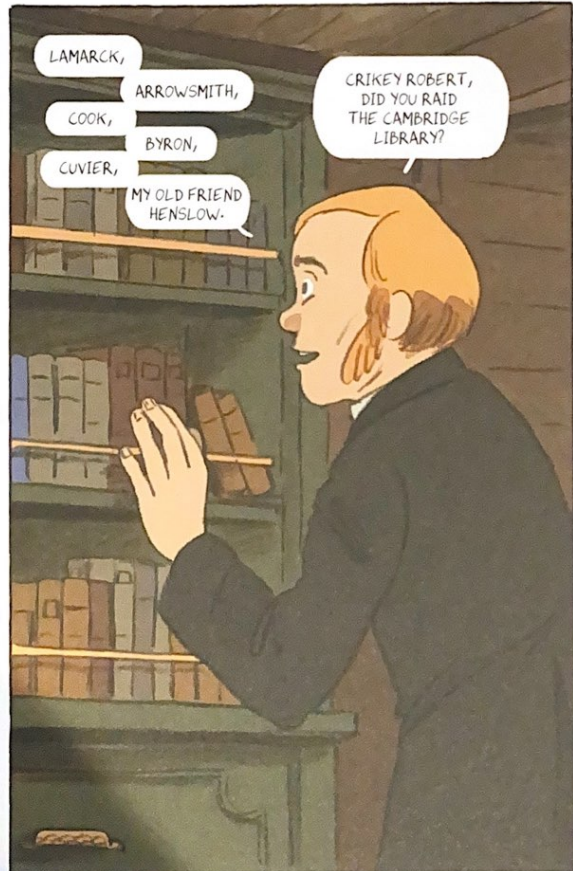
LOOK OUT!

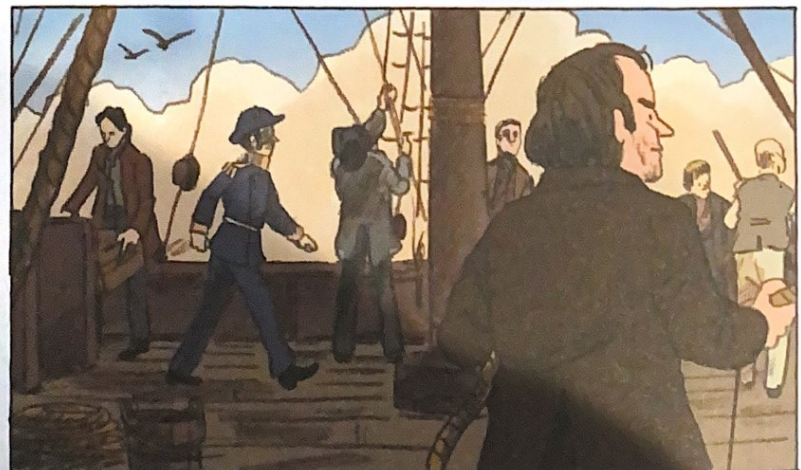
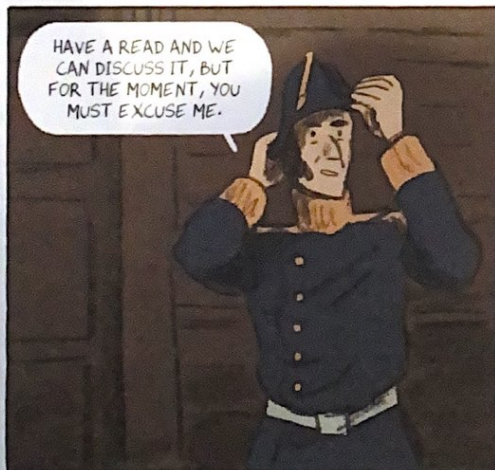
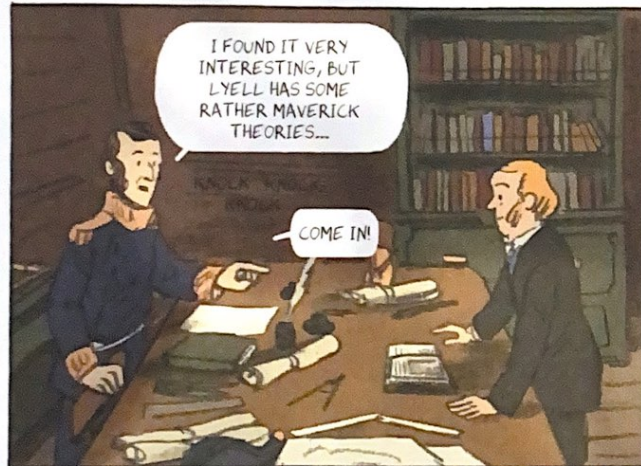
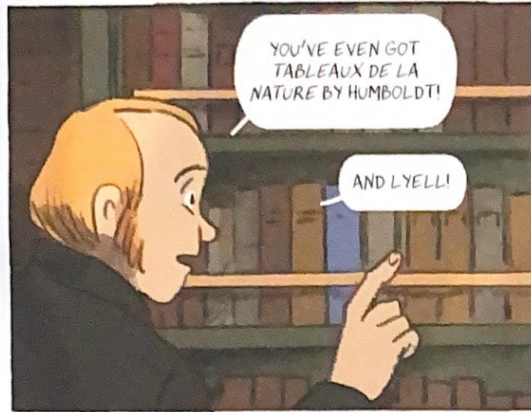
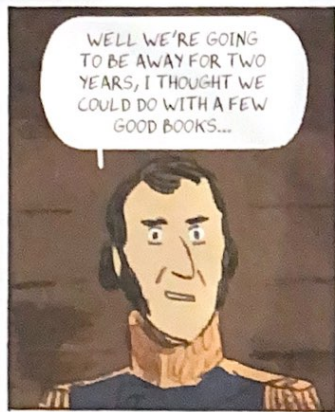


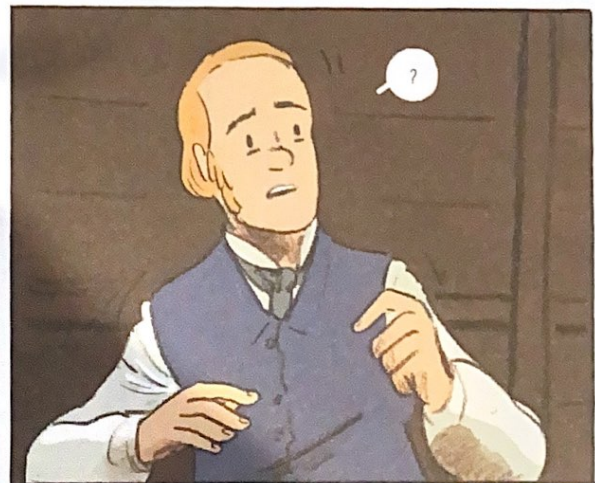
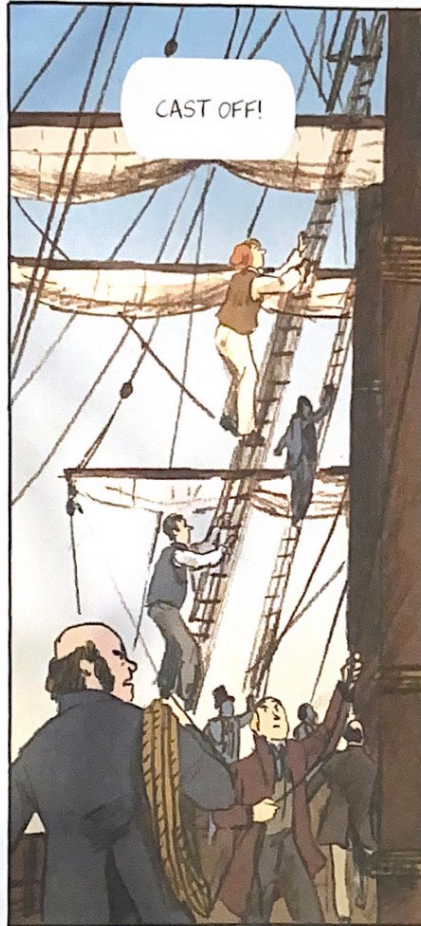
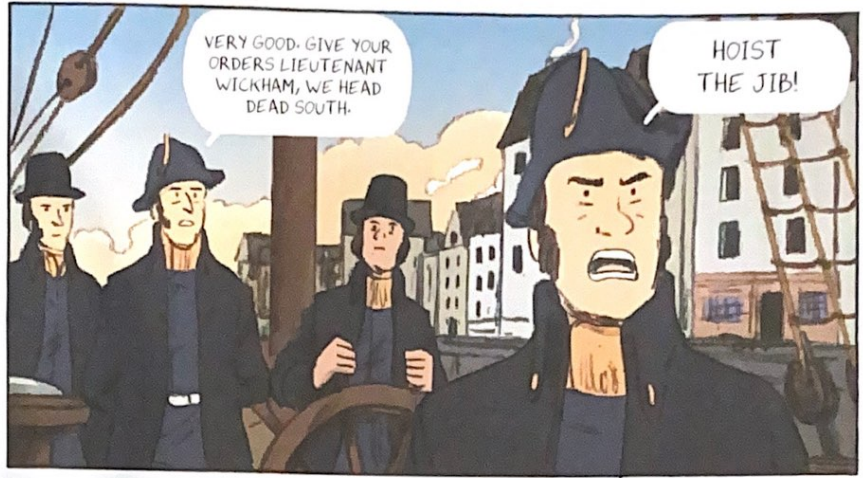
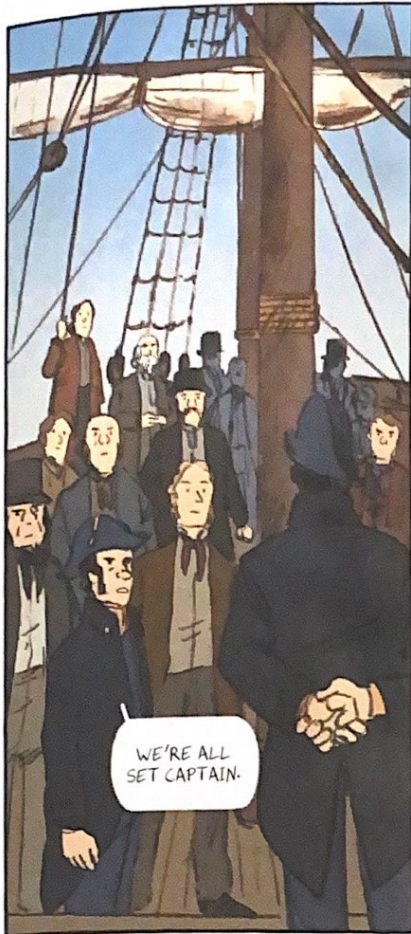


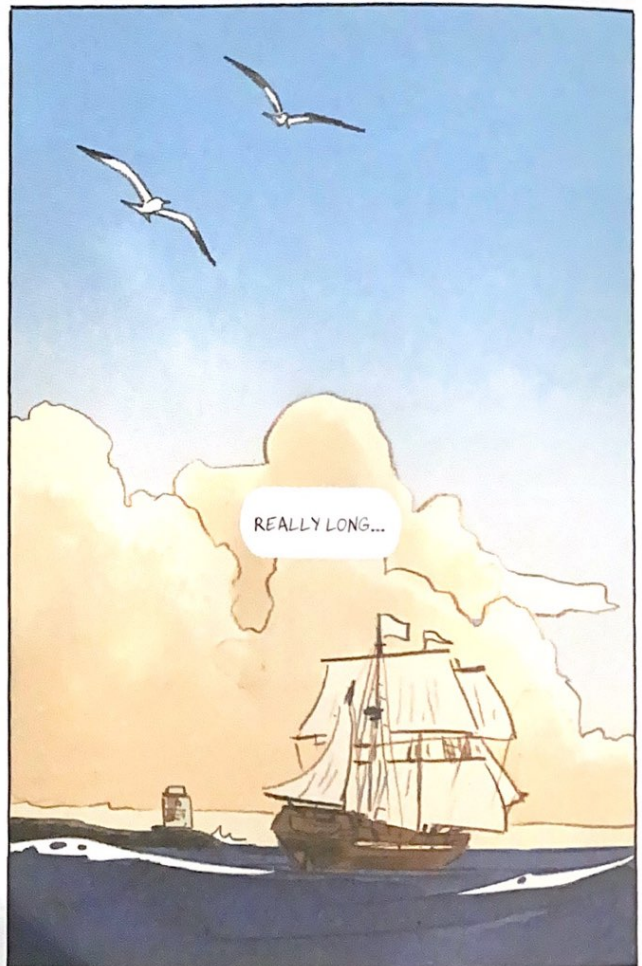
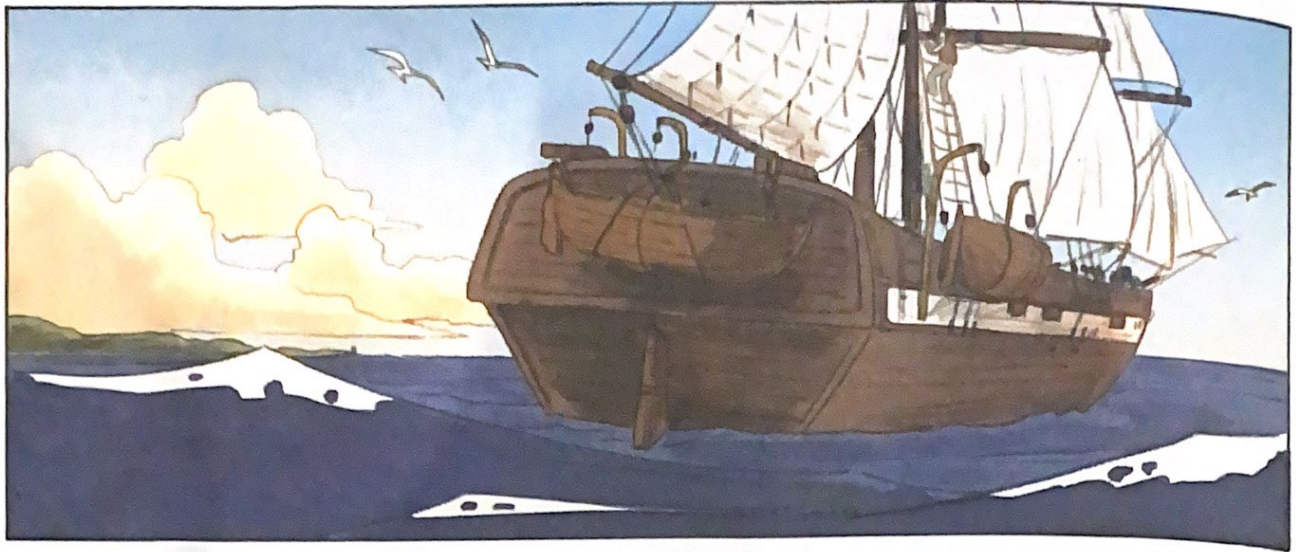












· FIRST LEG ·  
ENGLAND ~ CAPE VERDI ~ BRAZIL

WHEREIN DARWIN STOPS IN  
CAPE VERDI INSTEAD OF TENERIFE,  
MAKES A GEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY  
AND CROSSES THE ATLANTIC.

