

MIGRANT

Stories of Hope and Resilience





Migrant: Stories of Hope and Resilience is a joint project with
The Hope Border Institute and The Kino Border Initiative.

Hope Border Institute (HBI) is an independent grassroots community organization working in the El Paso-Ciudad Juárez-Las Cruces region, that seeks to bring the perspective of Catholic social teaching to bear on the social realities unique to our region. Through a robust program of research, reflection, leadership development, advocacy and action, HBI develops and aligns the border's community leaders engaged in the work of justice from across the Mexico-US border to deepen solidarity across borders and transform our region.

The Kino Border Initiative (KBI) is a binational organization that works in the area of migration and is located in Nogales, Arizona and Nogales, Sonora, Mexico. The KBI was inaugurated in January of 2009 by six organizations from the United States and Mexico: The California Province of the Society of Jesus, Jesuit Refugee Service/USA, the Missionary Sisters of the Eucharist, the Mexican Province of the Society of Jesus, the Diocese of Tucson and the Archdiocese of Hermosillo. The KBI's vision is to help make humane, just, workable migration between the U.S. and Mexico a reality. Its mission is to promote US/Mexico border and immigration policies that affirm the dignity of the human person and a spirit of bi-national solidarity through direct humanitarian assistance and accompaniment with migrants, social and pastoral education with communities on both sides of the border, and participation in collaborative networks that engage in research and advocacy to transform local, regional, and national immigration policies.

Learn More! Get Involved!

Visit our websites at kinoborderinitiative.org and hopeborder.org
for suggestions on further reading and campaigns.

Footnotes

- The stories in this comic are based directly on interviews with migrants, though some names have been changed and a small number of composite characters created.
- 1: "Operation Streamline: An immigration nightmare for Arizona courts", MSNBC.com, July 1, 2014.
 - 2: *I was treated like a dog instead of a human being- 'Degradation, Negligence, and Abuse in ICE's El Paso Processing Center*, Detained Migrant Solidarity Committee, November 2016.
 - 3: *Fatal Neglect*, ACLU, DWN, NIJC, February 2016
 - 4: *Immigrants' Essential Rights While Being Held in a Detention Center*, The Legal Design Lab, Sept. 2015
- Information on page 8 from *Disappeared: How the US Border Enforcement Agencies are Fueling a Missing Person Crisis*, Derechos Humanos and No More Deaths, December 2016

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A special thanks to all of the advocates and migrants we interviewed, to whom this work is dedicated.

Every day along the border with Mexico, people hope to cross or stay in the U.S. The reasons for their crossing vary.

Economic migrants



Adult children brought by parents at a young age.



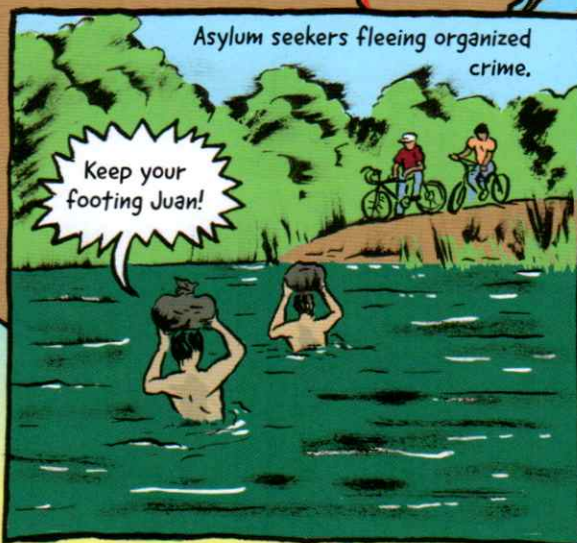
People reuniting with family members.



The push and pull factors are not always what you might think—or hear on cable news channels.



Asylum seekers fleeing organized crime.



It was a quick decision...we didn't plan to travel. We are...

CASA VILLA,
EL PASO TEXAS.

RUNNING FOR OUR LIVES

EL SALVADOR Our troubles started about a year ago. We were coming home from dancing.



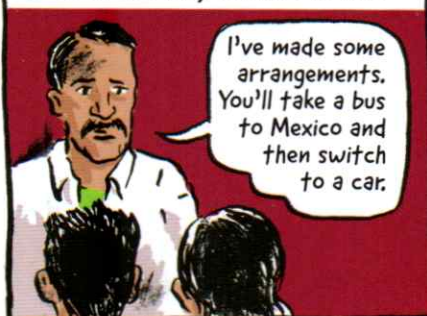
What's this on the door?

It was from the MS-13 gang.* They were going to chop off Freddie's head and hang it on the doorway, unless we left our house. Freddie had a good government job and I was in nursing school. They said they were jealous.



*A notoriously violent gang in El Salvador.

We took all that we could from the house and moved to Freddie's parents for a week. We went to the police and documented everything that happened. Freddie went back to work and they told him to flee.



I've made some arrangements. You'll take a bus to Mexico and then switch to a car.

We were lucky we didn't need to take the train. It's a dangerous trip, especially for women.



Give it up.. All of it! You! Come with us.



Our coyote* charged us just \$4,000 for the three of us. Some people pay \$7,000 just for one person.

*Smuggler

Thank God nothing bad happened to us— we were in the cold with no food, waiting for a pickup,...



walking through the mountains at 4:00 in the morning,...

Just a few hours more and the truck will pick us up.

every time we would move we would pray that the gang wouldn't catch up to us.

We rode in a truck across the border and when we got to a checkpoint, they unloaded us so we could talk to the immigration people about asylum. We spent the night outside, waiting to get in the El Paso Detention Center.

What time is it, Daddy? I'm hungry.

4:00 am, precious daughter, you should be sleeping...

They had us in detention for eight days. For two days we slept on boxes. Then we were allowed to come here to Annunciation House, where we wait.



We are hoping for asylum because we're afraid to go back to our country.

Yaquelyn and her family join hundreds of thousands of asylum seekers who flee violence in their home countries and enter the United States. The U.S. prides itself on its history of welcoming refugees and immigrants.

But our history does not always live up to our ideals. In 1939, 900 German Jews arrived in the Port of Miami aboard the German ship St. Louis seeking asylum. They were turned away and more than a quarter died in the Holocaust.



Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to be free...



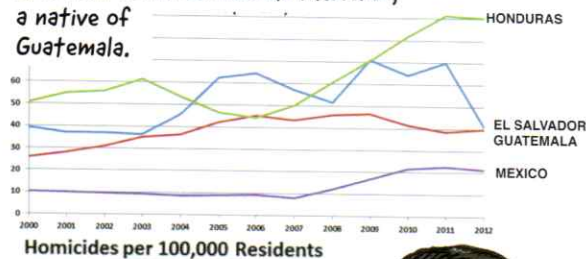
These refugees pose a serious threat to national security—some of them are probably German spies!



The United States has responded to asylum seekers with media campaigns in Central America telling people to stay put. The U.S. also sends aid to Mexico to catch people fleeing violence before they can ask for asylum at the border. Many are turned back before they can even apply for asylum.



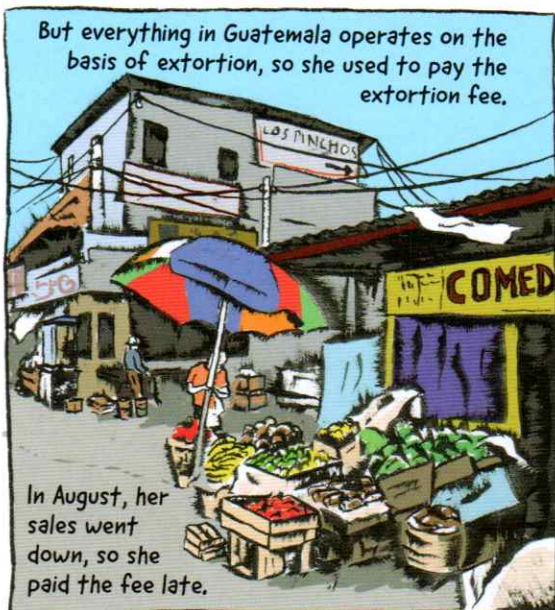
The tens of thousands of people fleeing three of the most violent, gang-infested Central American countries include Maricruz, a native of Guatemala.



My mom has a fruit and vegetable stand in our town.



But everything in Guatemala operates on the basis of extortion, so she used to pay the extortion fee.



In August, her sales went down, so she paid the fee late.

So it was about 1:45 in the morning...they went to shoot up my mom's house. So their idea was to come and kill everyone.

Everybody stay on the floor!

BAM BAM



My brother has special needs—a bullet hit him in the foot.

My mother went with him to stay with friends in another town. The gang shot my sister-in-law in the stomach.



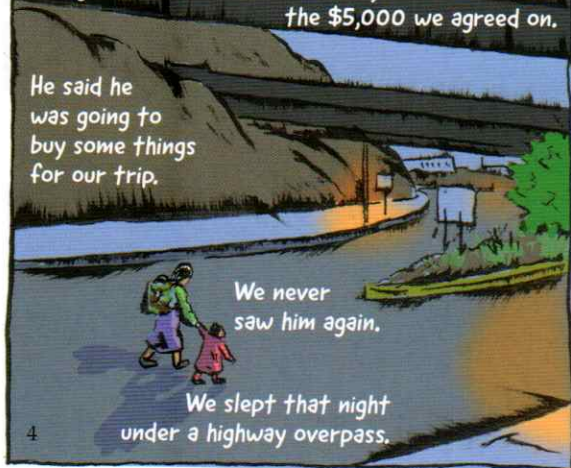
They sent me a note saying they would kill me if I didn't tell them where my mother was. I left the house with my sister to stay with friends.

You can't stay for long—you should try to get to the United States. I know someone who can help you.



I sold all of my possessions to pay for the trip by bus to Nogales. Our coyote met us in the bus station, but he wanted more money because of my daughter. But we didn't have any more so he took the \$5,000 we agreed on.

He said he was going to buy some things for our trip.



We never saw him again.

We slept that night under a highway overpass.

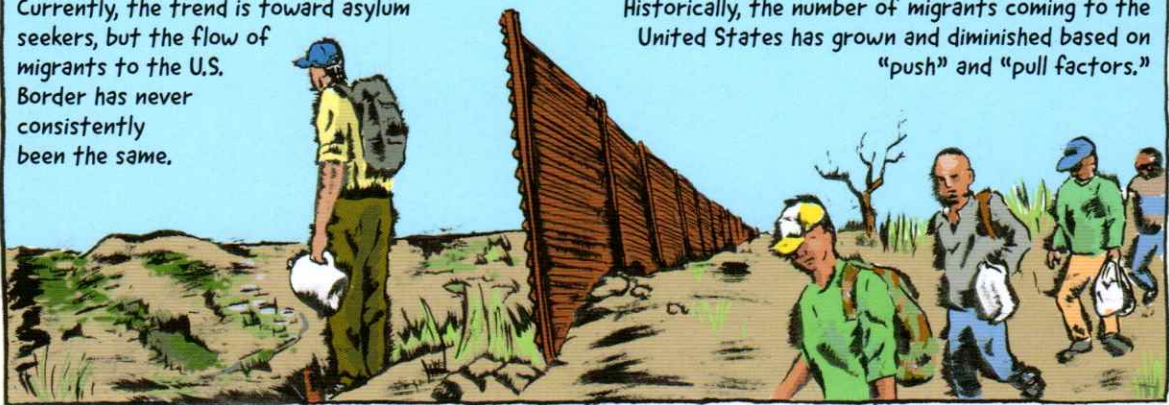
Then a stranger told us about Kino's Comedor breakfast. That's when I met Joanna at Kino and told her my story. She helped me get shelter and a lawyer. Now I am praying that the three of us will be able to find asylum in the United States.



But being granted asylum is not easy and getting harder. Recent statistics show that only 4.7% of Guatemalans like Maricruz were given refuge, only 3.9% of Hondurans and just 3.2% of Salvadorans.

Economic Forces at the Border

Currently, the trend is toward asylum seekers, but the flow of migrants to the U.S. Border has never consistently been the same.



Historically, the number of migrants coming to the United States has grown and diminished based on "push" and "pull factors."

PULL: The Bracero Program

Labor shortages during World War II prompted Congress to authorize an influx of Mexican workers. The booming post-war economy and future wars sustained the need for a Mexican guest-worker program from 1942 to 1964.



PUSH: Negative Impact of NAFTA



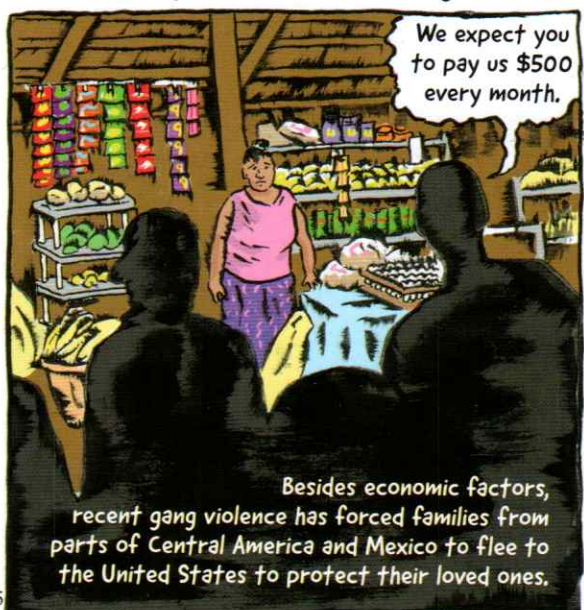
NAFTA opened Mexican markets to heavily subsidized U.S. corn. Mexican farmers simply could not match the price. An estimated 2 million farmers abandoned their farms. Parts of the country rebounded, but areas of southern Mexico have declined further.

PULL: A Booming U.S. Economy

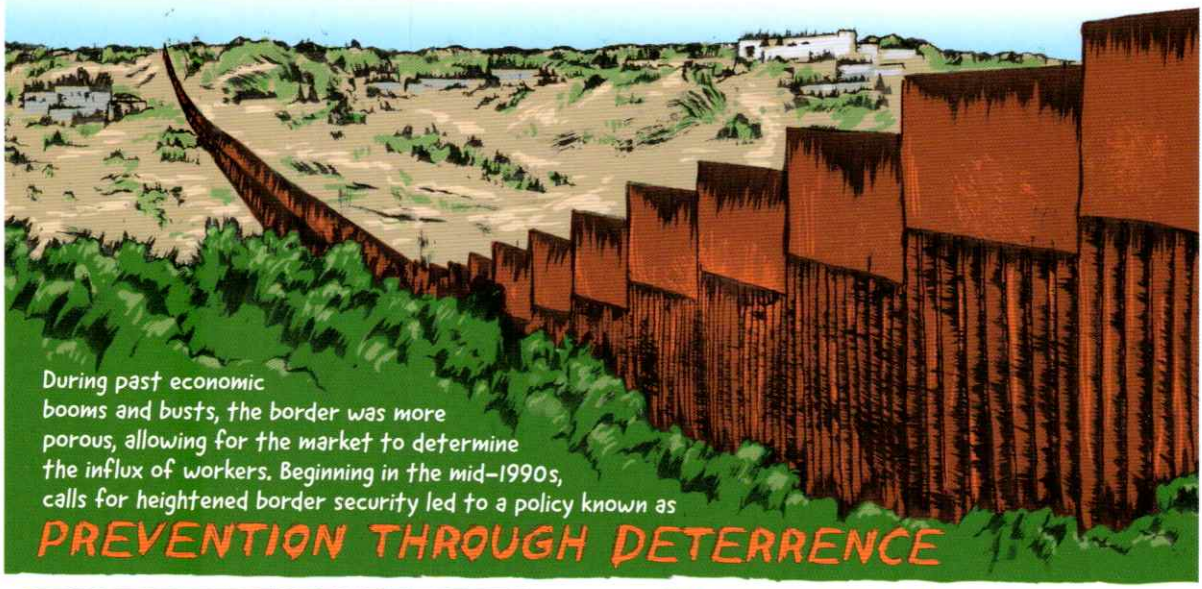
An economic boom in the late 1990's and a second, smaller expansion in the early 2000's created a demand for labor in new areas of the U.S. economy, including restaurants, construction, and landscaping.



PUSH: Gang Extortion and Drug Violence

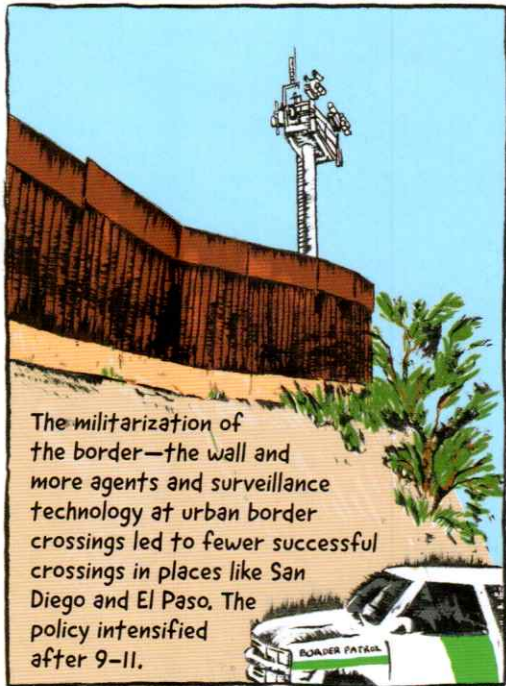


Besides economic factors, recent gang violence has forced families from parts of Central America and Mexico to flee to the United States to protect their loved ones.



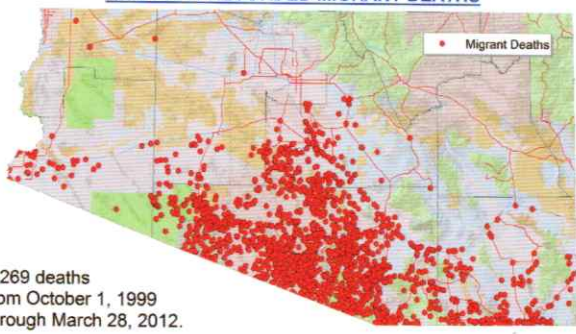
During past economic booms and busts, the border was more porous, allowing for the market to determine the influx of workers. Beginning in the mid-1990s, calls for heightened border security led to a policy known as

PREVENTION THROUGH DETERRENCE



The militarization of the border—the wall and more agents and surveillance technology at urban border crossings led to fewer successful crossings in places like San Diego and El Paso. The policy intensified after 9-11.

1999 - 2011 RECORDED MIGRANT DEATHS



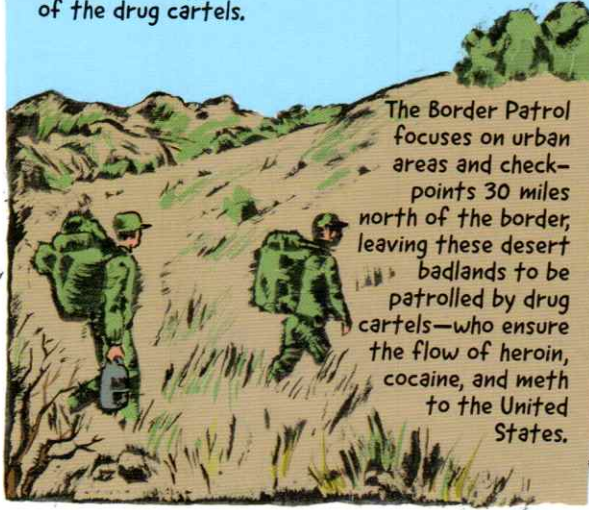
2,269 deaths from October 1, 1999 through March 28, 2012.

Internal Border Patrol (BP) documents predicted the resulting uptick in border crossings through “hostile terrain”: Arizona’s Sonora Desert. Thousands of people have died crossing, even during periods of low migration. The desert itself has become a weapon of enforcement.



240 bodies were found in 2015 but the figure reached twice that in the mid-2000’s. These figures don’t include those never found.

In addition to the dangerous conditions, migrants are vulnerable to kidnapping or forced smuggling at the hand of the drug cartels.



The Border Patrol focuses on urban areas and check-points 30 miles north of the border, leaving these desert badlands to be patrolled by drug cartels—who ensure the flow of heroin, cocaine, and meth to the United States.

After the desert crossing, migrants then pass through American ranches on their way to pick up points. Ranchers like Jim and Sue respect the migrants, but want the drug traffickers gone!



Statistics give us part of the story—but who are these migrants who cross at their own peril?

Nogales: Migrants like Jose Leonardo, Martine, and Julio Cesar will sleep anywhere they can —under a bridge, in caves—even a cemetery.

Jose Leonardo:
El Salvador.
Married with
three children
he can't feed
on the money
he makes.

Oh mi Dios, how'd we
end up here? I left the
MS-13 gang so I could
AVOID the graveyard.

Though staying
here in Mexico we
would probably
die of hunger.



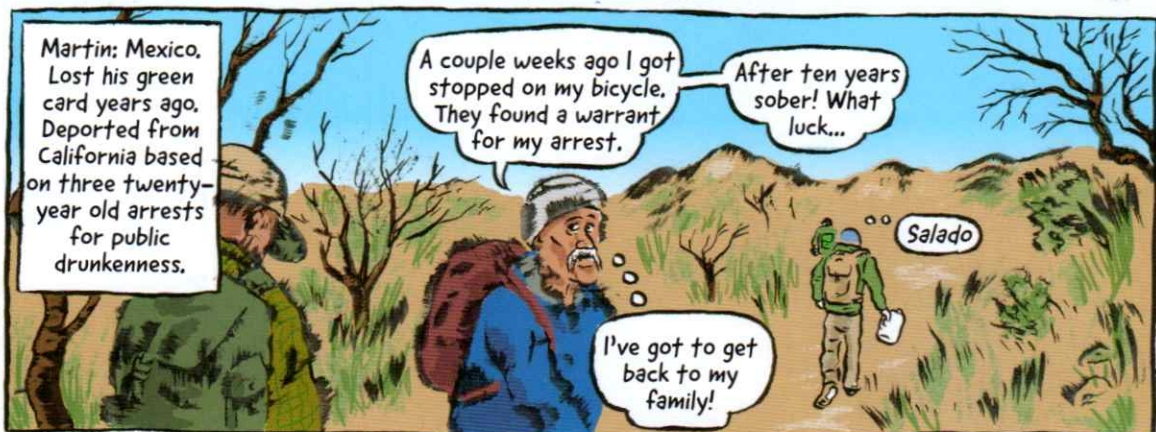
Martin: Mexico.
Lost his green
card years ago.
Deported from
California based
on three twenty-
year old arrests
for public
drunkenness.

A couple weeks ago I got
stopped on my bicycle.
They found a warrant
for my arrest.

After ten years
sober! What
luck...

Salado

I've got to get
back to my
family!



Julio Cesar:
Chiapas, Mexico.
Father of two
teenage boys.
Worked in water
distribution
company but
couldn't make
enough money
to support his
family.

It's my second
time crossing
since I was de-
ported. Last time
took sixteen days.

Ugh, sixteen
days!? I don't
want to hear it.

We'll need to walk
a few miles on
these trails.

Stay close,
it's easy to
get lost.



Using helicopters, SUVs, ATVs, horses and dogs, the Border Patrol pursues migrants through dangerous territory, implementing a policy known as...

CHASE AND SCATTER



Looks like four of them are running toward that clearing!

This practice is especially dangerous to migrants at night, who don't have the advantage of night goggles.

These chases can lead to injuries, exhaustion, and loss of orientation.

Please Lord cover me from their sight.

These deadly apprehension methods inflict trauma and injury and increase the likelihood of disappearance in the desert.

I have no idea how to get back to where we were!

CHOPPA CHOPPA

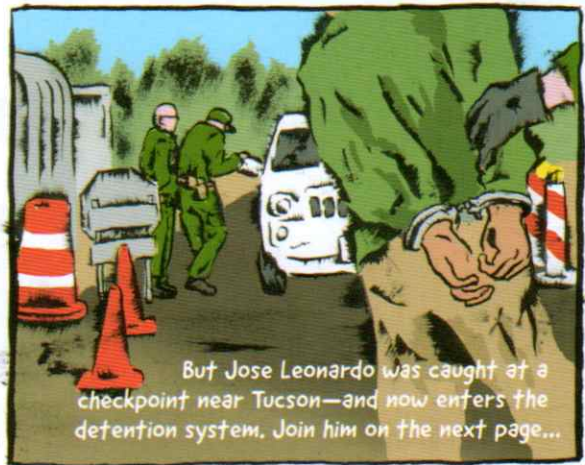
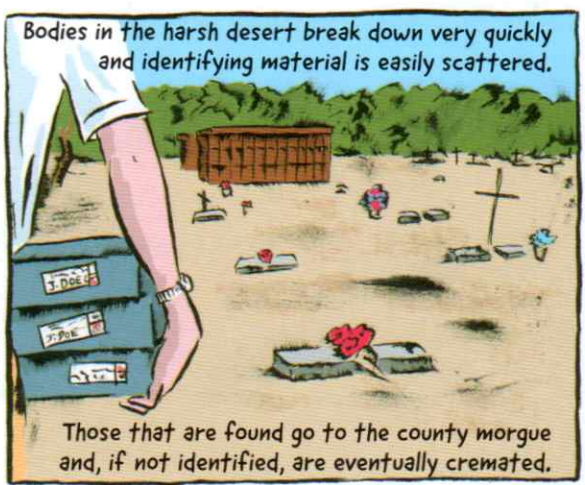
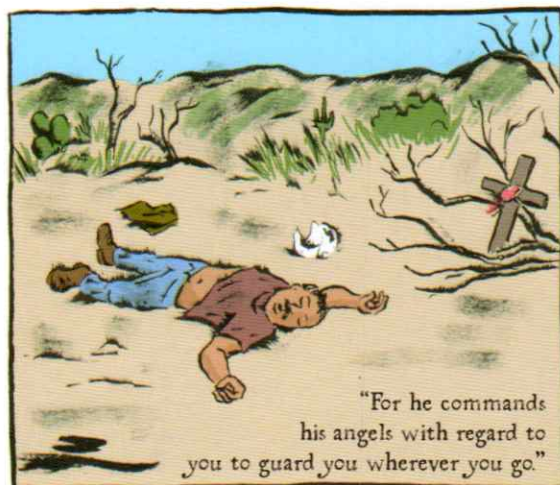
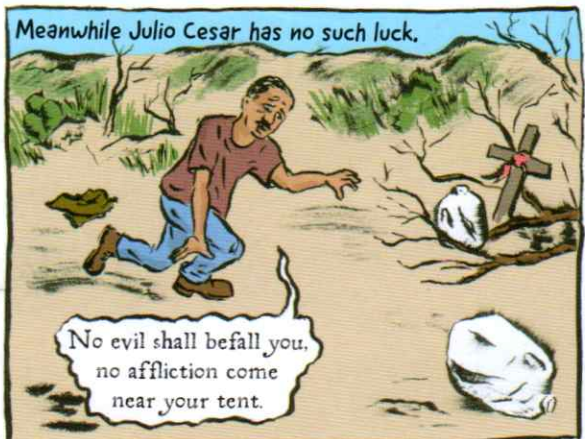
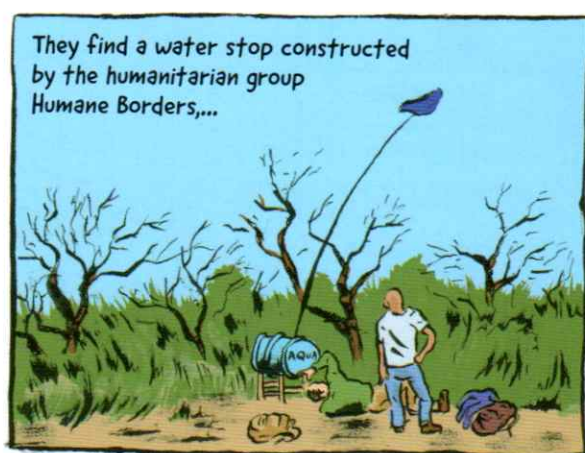
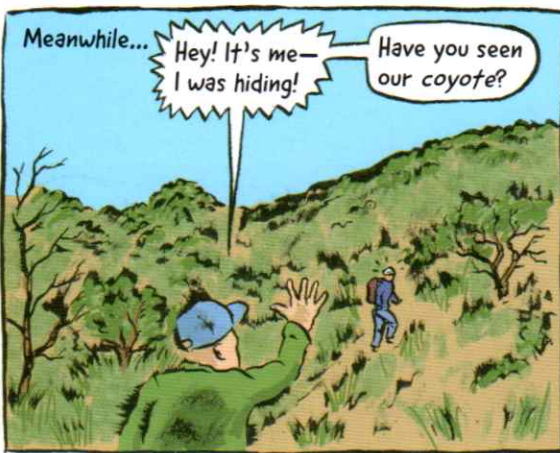
Three days later.

Where ARE they?!

I've got to keep my mind focused.

What was that psalm?

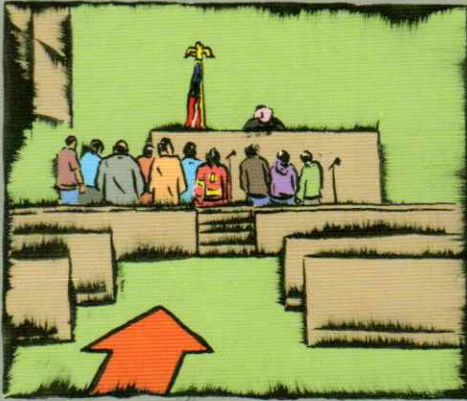
He will shelter you with his pinions, and under his wings you may take refuge.



Cases are heard in large groups, sometimes 70 at a time, which results in some people eligible for asylum going to prison instead.



Operation Streamline processes immigration violations in the criminal justice system. So before being deported, migrants are first imprisoned.



Sentences range from 30 days up to 6 months and increase from 2 to 20 years for those caught returning.

Are you pleading guilty voluntarily and of your own free will?



About 99% plead guilty in hopes of getting a lighter sentence.

When migrants like Jose Leonardo are caught, Border Patrol decides their fate based on a metric called a Consequence Delivery System the details of which are not public.

One option is Operation Streamline, a deterrent strategy instituted in 2005.

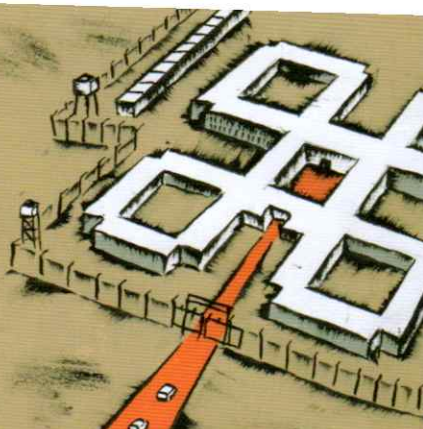
If Jose Leonardo is carrying drugs or has multiple misdemeanor sentences under Streamline, he will go to fast-track prosecution for felony offenses and end up in prison.

Asylum seekers, those judged as a flight risk, and non-citizens convicted of a crime go to long-term ICE detention as they wait to have their case heard.

Or, if Border Patrol decides, and finds that the person is not afraid of returning to his or her country, they can issue an expedited removal order without the person having the option to see an immigration judge.

In 2015 the average BP agent caught 20 crossers. The U.S. spent 3.8 billion dollars on Mexican border security, or about \$9,313 per person apprehended.

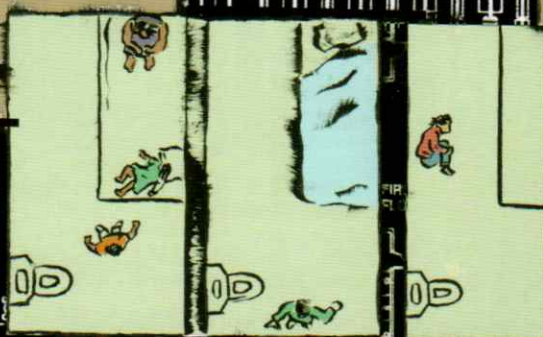
Observers often comment on the distinctive rattle of the chains and jarring effect of seeing so many people processed so quickly.



"It's sad as hell," said defense attorney Cheryl Blum. "It's offensive to the eyes."¹

Since its inception in 2005 the federal government has spent an estimated \$5.5 billion incarcerating undocumented immigrants.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) runs the detention system, subcontracting most of the detention space to county jails and private prison companies.



Currently over 400,000 people are detained yearly in over 200 immigration jails across the U.S.

Among these detainees are asylum seekers fleeing torture and criminal violence, families, pregnant women, and people with medical issues.

SALLY PORT
SUPPORT SPACES
MEDICAL EXAM, COUNSELING, LAUNDE

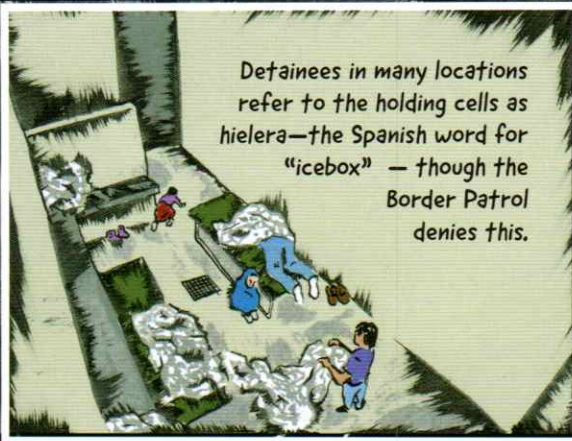
Federal budget rules require ICE to have 33,400 detention beds at all times.

This unprecedented quota means the private prison industry and local governments can count on a healthy profit stream.

These players have a strong incentive to influence policy to expand the detention system as well as maximize profits by cutting costs.

As a deterrent he also may be subjected to lateral repatriation - deported to somewhere far from where he was caught.

9 of the 10 largest detention facilities are run by private companies.



Detainees in many locations refer to the holding cells as *hielera*—the Spanish word for “icebox” — though the Border Patrol denies this.

TYPICAL CELL BLOCK

Another system-wide complaint is unsanitary conditions and expired or moldy food.



Verbal and physical abuse are commonly reported, as well as lack of adequate medical care.²



Examining 18 of these Death Reviews, independent medical experts found that substandard medical care contributed to 7 detainee deaths.³

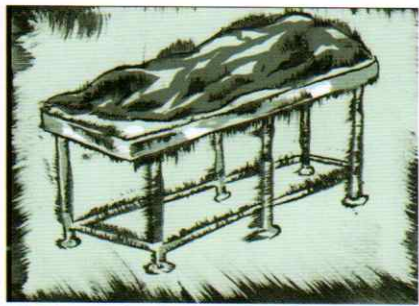


Drink lots of water— it will go away.

Eloy is, by far, the deadliest detention facility in the system, with 15 documented deaths since 2003, including numerous suicides.

Since 2003, 165 people have died in immigration detention. ICE has released information on only 31 of those deaths.

At CCA's* Eloy facility in Arizona, Manuel Cota Domingo died after an eight hour delay before staff transferred him to the ER in a van.



Just like six other facilities with medically negligent deaths.

Despite this and a high incidence of sexual assaults, Eloy has not failed an ICE inspection since 2006.



But people are pushing back. Hope Border Institute leaders have visited detention centers imprisoning families with small children to shine a light on the unacceptable conditions.



And at Kino Border Initiative's Comedor in Nogales, Mexico, recently deported migrants get a hot meal and a workshop on human rights.



From your dignity flow human rights.



They made me sign a piece of paper that I did not understand. Turns out I was agreeing to my own deportation!

You have the right not to sign.



Since he signed the papers Jose Leonardo will face jail time if he tries to return to the U.S.

I don't know if I should try again.

I don't have a choice.

I have to get back my family.



Before the 1990's militarization of the border, undocumented migrants could return to Latin America for important family events and then re-enter the United States.

I'll see you in about a week, after my Papa's funeral.

Got it.

Now they face tough choices because of the criminalization of crossing—risking permanent family separation if they travel.

Mama's funeral is next week. But what if I can't come back to Marta!

Family separation is a cruel reality of current border policies, as Socorro and Margueritte experienced.

#HugsNotWalls

BNHR

My son was traveling for soccer and they caught him at a checkpoint. Pulled him off a bus and deported him. Sixteen years ago.

Order the brake pads.

My husband was grabbed six years ago at the auto shop where he worked during an ICE bust. We had a house here. And we always paid taxes. We have a son who is a U.S. citizen.

And for others, their family separation includes anxiously awaiting news of the outcome of their desert journey.

Please Lord - let Julio Cesar be safe.

Families seeking asylum are often separated as well. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, this separation can have long term effects on children like post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety, depression, suicidal ideation, and other behavioral problems.

Children like Emily...



A Sick Child Needs Her Mother

Emily was born in Chicago in 2004, where our family lived from 2002 to 2006. In 2008 we returned to Mexico because we met our financial goals. But in 2012 Emily was diagnosed with systemic arthritis.



Before Emily got sick, she was a very, very happy child. She loved to ride her bicycle. She became a very isolated, sad child. The time she was in Mexico she didn't get the right treatment.



The steroids she was taking cause Cushing's Syndrome. So her face was very bloated. In Mexico she was constantly bullied.



Two years ago Emily and her father, who is also a U.S. citizen, returned to Chicago to get treatment for her—and the drugs unavailable in Mexico: Anakinra and Orencia.



I've tried three times to get a humanitarian visa to enter the United States and be with Emily and her father... and all of them have been denied. The second time they didn't even look at my case until late at night.

We have rejected your application—you are to be deported to Juarez immediately.

But it's 1:00 in the morning!

I didn't know it at the time, but my deportation was illegal. The United States and Mexico have a joint agreement banning deportations after 10:00 p.m. It's too dangerous!

I applied again and I was denied "humanitarian parole." A friend who knew how desperate I was bought me a fake passport.

You WILL be with her!



Any parent would do this for their child.

When I tried to use it I was arrested, and stayed in detention for two months. I could have been imprisoned for twenty years for using false documents.

Do you have a daughter?

But Hope Border Institute and other organizations rallied around me. The judge dismissed my case, but still deported me.

If I could say something to the person making the decision about my case,

I would ask them to look at a picture of my Emily, and tell her she doesn't have the right to go through this disease with her mom.

So I am still working with the lawyer they helped me find, and Blanca, my social worker. She is helping me to apply again. People I don't even know are contacting ICE about my case!

and when they have the urge to say no—to not think of me, but to think of her.



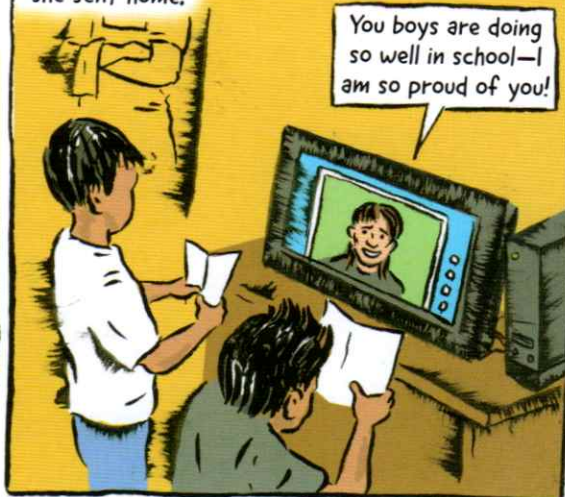
Under the Same Moon

My name is Ricardo. When I was growing up in El Salvador I worked at my grandmother's grocery store. So did my younger brother, Juan. That and school, took most of our time.



We lived with Abuela because our mother moved to the United States in 2002 to find work to support us.

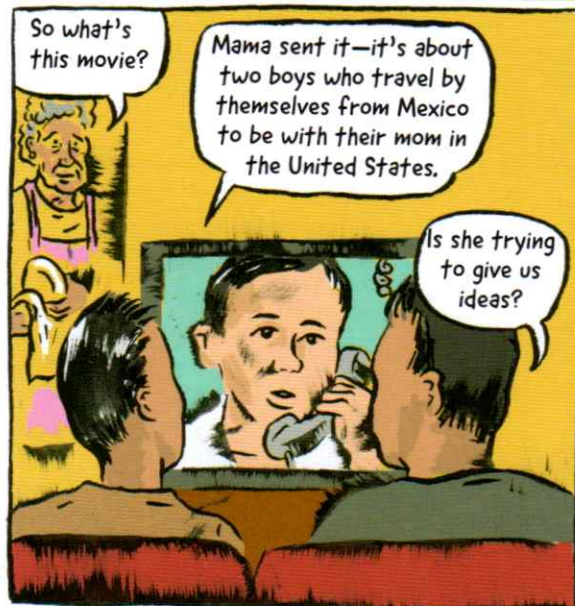
We missed her a lot. I had a few strong memories of being with her, but Juan did not. It was hard to be separated, but we needed the money she sent home.



So what's this movie?

Mama sent it—it's about two boys who travel by themselves from Mexico to be with their mom in the United States.

Is she trying to give us ideas?



Not long after that, one of the gangs asked me to carry drugs for them.



But Abuela was keeping an eye out for me and figured out what was going on.

We're getting you out of here—back to your mother!

Only if Juan comes too. I can't leave him behind.



It cost \$13,000 to arrange!

A friend of my mother's drove us near the El Salvador/Guatemala border and we hiked to the river, following two men on bikes.

Watch out Juan—the rocks are slippery.

Don't worry, we've got your stuff.

That girl drowned earlier.

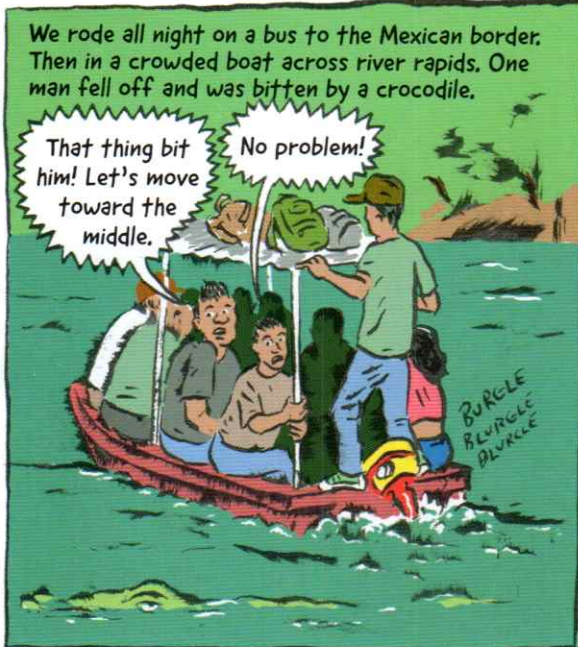


We found out later that they stole all the money in our clothing. Good thing we had some emergency money in my belt!

We rode all night on a bus to the Mexican border. Then in a crowded boat across river rapids. One man fell off and was bitten by a crocodile.

That thing bit him! Let's move toward the middle.

No problem!



One Agent stayed with us, so they eventually figured out that WE were the migrants. On December 20th they reunited us with our mom in New York.*

It's like being born again.

* as per current policy

CATHOLIC CHARITIES
ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK
Providing Help. Creating Hope.

We rode in buses through Mexico. Sometimes up in the seats, sometimes in the luggage compartment.

How far is Mexico City, again?



On December 8, 2014, we waded across the Rio Grande and waited for the Border Patrol to find us. I couldn't help pranking them.

We're looking for a group of migrants. Seen them?

Yes, they went that way!



Now we go to school in Brooklyn.

And have applied for green cards.

That reminds me-home work time!



All separated families seek hugs like Ricardo, Juan, and Flor experienced. But for those who can't yet permanently reunify, Hope Border Institute and its partners teamed up with the International Red Cross and, with Border Patrol supervision, reunited close to 200 families through 2 events in 2016.

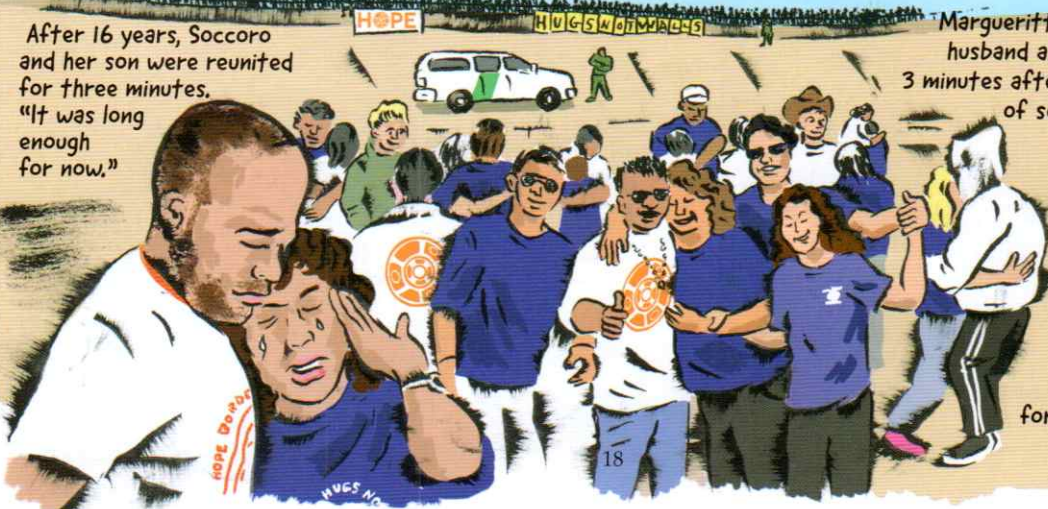
After 16 years, Soccoro and her son were reunited for three minutes.

"It was long enough for now."

HOPE HUGS NOT WALLS

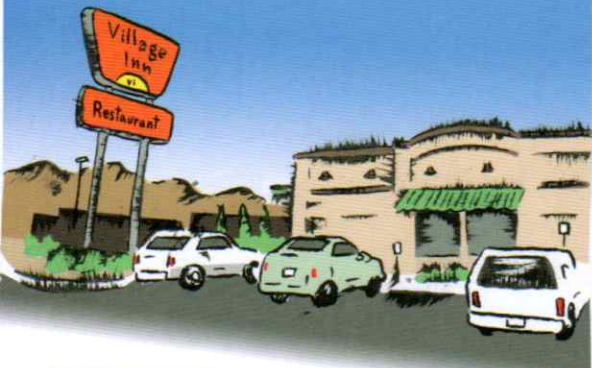
Margueritte and her husband also shared 3 minutes after 6 years of separation.

She was grateful for the time with him.



THE DREAMERS IN

Waking to a Nightmare



El Paso, Texas: A gathering of "Dreamers," young adults brought to the United States as children.

I was actually two years old, so I don't remember—I really have absolutely no memory of living in Mexico whatsoever...



My mom was actually pregnant when we migrated so... my little sister is a citizen.



I've always been very aware that if I wanted to go to college. You know, I made sure to get really high grades in school.. I got a scholarship and then Texas actually offered a grant that I took advantage of.



As a master's student, going to conferences is really important which is something that I wouldn't be able to do without DACA because of the checkpoints. But as of right now, you know, it's still very iffy.

They have our information; they know where we live...

They know where we go to school; they know where we work!



So right now I'm, at this point I'm just starting to think, how am I going to finish my Master's?



About 750,000 young adults in the U.S. have the same fear. Some are graduate students like Senaida—others work in professional jobs like Jacob Eibib, a civil engineer

I came over when I was seven. One day they told me you're going to go to your mom... I was a little ranch boy living with my grandma in Mexico.

So I lived with my mom and stepdad for about six years and then she had a schizophrenic attack and left. Then my step father got remarried and made me leave.

For like two years I just stayed with friends.

Now I'm in my senior year of civil engineering at the University of Texas at El Paso, and I'm currently working for a design company.

I would say it's the biggest here in El Paso.

I met this guy, he became my best friend and his dad, he had a construction company so his dad told me, "You know what? You want to work for me?" It was really hard because it was like, every day in the hot sun for 10-12 hour shifts.

Jacob, you are a good worker, but you need to study! I will help you find a college.

I guess I'm not scared of losing DACA or losing my job or anything like that. Because I proved to my supervisors and everyone in the factory that I'm good enough to work. So in case something happens, I know they're going to intervene.

President Trump has sent mixed messages on DACA. But new Department of Homeland Security deportation memos give agents more leeway on whom they choose to deport. Dreamers fear they are awakening to a nightmare.

But many are rising to defend the Dreamers. Over 90 college presidents have called for continuation of DACA. Sanctuary Cities and Universities have promised to resist removal of DACA recipients.

And many churches continue to provide a safe haven for immigrants seeking refuge—perhaps one day Senaida and Jacob Eibib.

THE KINO TEENS IN The Posada

The Kino Teens are a network of after-school clubs. They come together to learn leadership skills, help out at the Comedor, and share their stories with visiting delegations of teens.

I'm a U.S. citizen but I live in Mexico. I go to Lourdes Catholic School in Nogales, Arizona so I live in both countries. There's a lot of kids like me that do that.

I was born in on the U.S. side and lived here all my life. But most of my family members live across the border, so we go down there every weekend to my grandma and my aunts and uncles. I go to a parish on the Mexican side.

My situation is similar to Yamelle's. We cross the border every week to see family and pick up stuff that's cheaper or just has more, I dunno, personality.



The Kino Teens not only serve food at the Comedor to migrants, they sit with the men and women and listen to their stories.

My husband killed her twin, and now we are running for our lives. I hope to cross the border and escape him.

I am so sorry.



At first she was just so scared, and she didn't trust us. And it was nice when I gained her trust and she found me comforting.

I was thinking, THIS is who I am going to defend for the rest of my life!



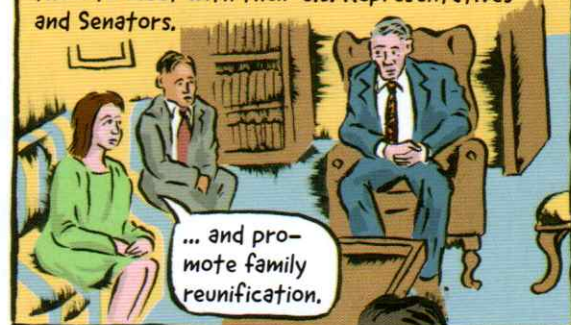
After getting trained in advocacy at the KINO Teens summer Leadership days, the Nogales, Arizona group met with Senator Flake's staff and talked to them about immigration policy.

and that's why we need to make sure DACA continues...



The Kino Teens have led other teens from around the country on border immersion tours, helping them understand the issues and encouraging them to meet with their U.S. Representatives and Senators.

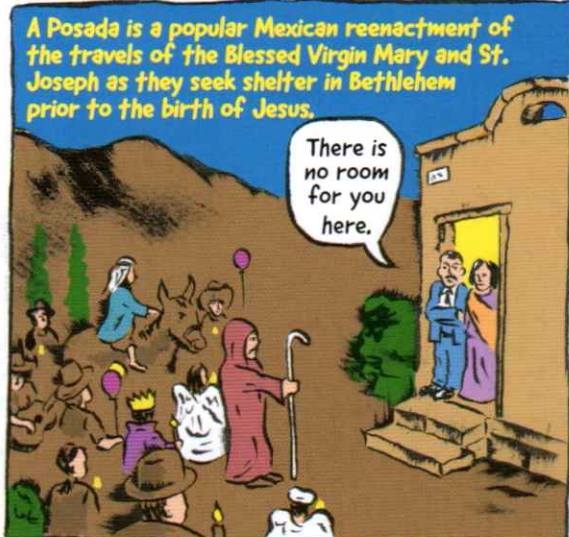
... and promote family reunification.





Today is a special day—a bi-national Posada! Cesar and Yamelle will be playing the parts of Mary and Joseph.

That's a good look for you!



A Posada is a popular Mexican reenactment of the travels of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. Joseph as they seek shelter in Bethlehem prior to the birth of Jesus.

There is no room for you here.

For four hundred years, Mexican Catholics have held posadas in their own neighborhoods, with certain houses designated as inns that refuse Mary and Joseph shelter.

Come in, holy pilgrims

Receive this corner

Because even though
the place is poor

I offer it to you from my heart

Let sing with joy

Everyone at the thought!

Everyone at the thought!

Came today to honor us!

At the final house they are recognized as the Holy Family and welcomed in with song and refreshments.

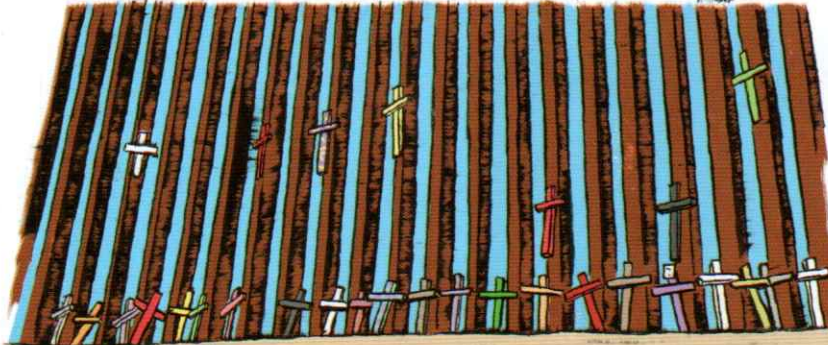
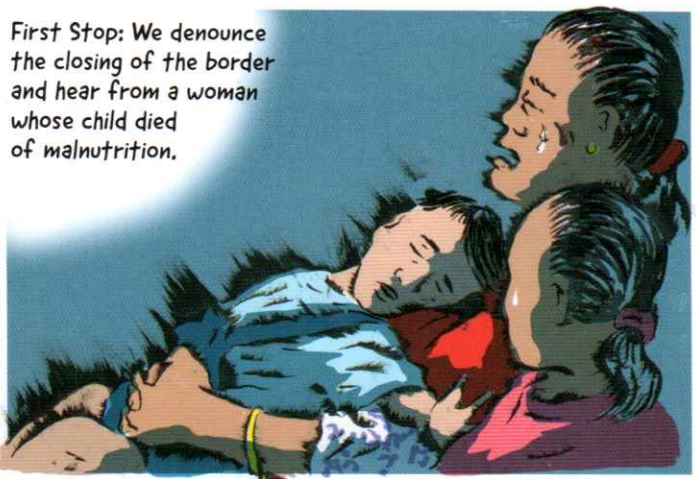
This posada is different...

This posada commemorates the many times we have turned our brothers and sisters away at the border.

Each stop recalls a painful part of the migrant's journey—migrants like Mary and Joseph, who were also turned away.



First Stop: We denounce the closing of the border and hear from a woman whose child died of malnutrition.



Second Stop: We remember the thousands of families separated by deportation, especially children deprived of the right to have parents, who now cry as orphans.



Third Stop: We lament the violence of the border through poverty, organized crime, and the desert used as a weapon of policy.

We especially mourn the death of José Antonio Elena Rodríguez, shot in the back on this street ten times by a Border Patrol agent on the U.S. side.



We approach the Border, our final stop. It is a parade of love and solidarity. U.S. high school and college students walk alongside recently deported persons. Advocates march with priests.



Mary and Joseph come to the end of their journey. How will they be received?

How will you
receive them?

What will you say to
the migrant at your door?

Will you give them shelter?

Will you give them your heart?

