

The Adventures of Rafael

NAME: RAFAEL
THE ROCK

TRIP: UP THE
HUDSON RIVER

DATE:
10/15/2013



ONE DAY I DECIDED TO GO
FOR A SWIM UPSTREAM IN
THE HUDSON RIVER AND I
REALIZED THAT THERE WAS
A DIVERSE POPULATION OF
FISH AND WONDERED...

WHERE I COULD FIND MY
BEST FRIEND LUKE THE
BANDED KILLIFISH? SO...

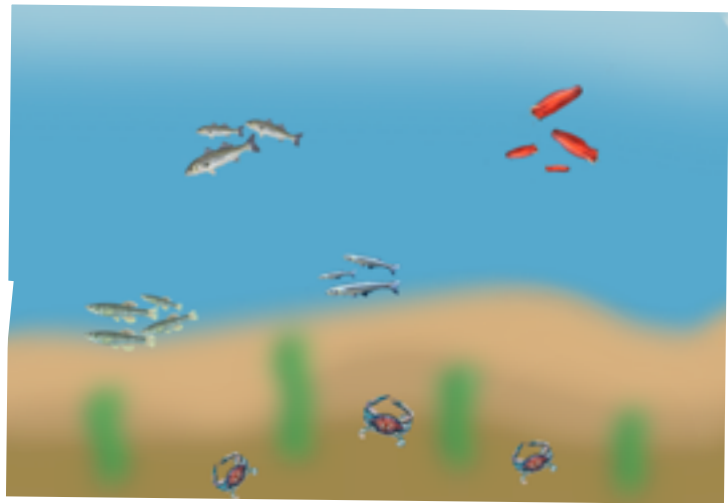


I DECIDED TO TAKE A TRIP
TO VISIT MY FRIENDS, AND
ALONG THE WAY I
ACQUAINTED MYSELF WITH
MANY SPECIES.

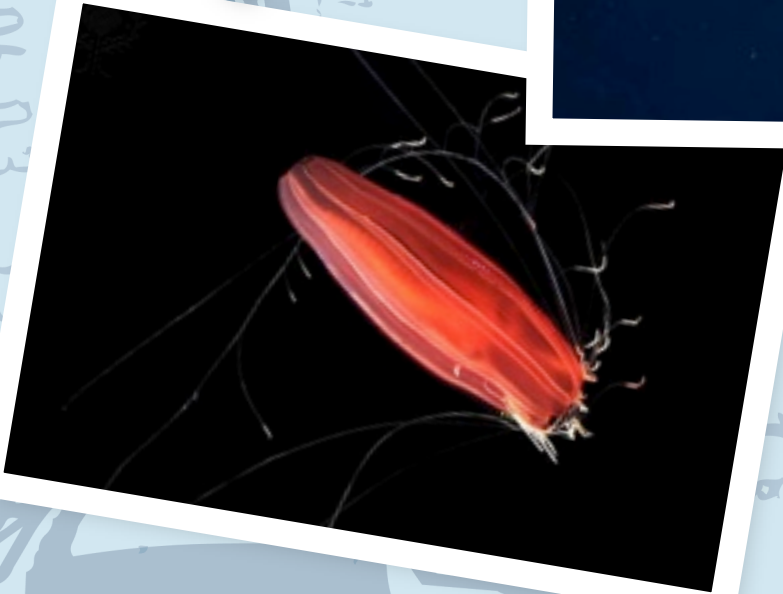
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AFTER 18 MILES OF SWIMMING UP THE HUDSON RIVER I PASSED THROUGH BECZAK - I FOUND



16 BLUE CRABS, 18 ATLANTIC SILVERSIDES, 22 CTENOPHORA,



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22 BANDED KILLIFISH, AND 2 STRIPED BASS.



OF COURSE I WAS HAPPY TO SEE OTHER FISH FRIENDS AS WELL AS SOME KILLIFISH BUT SADLY I DIDN'T FIND MY BEST FRIEND LUKE.

SO I DECIDED TO KEEP LOOKING...

I WAS ON A MISSION AND COULDN'T STOP NOW.

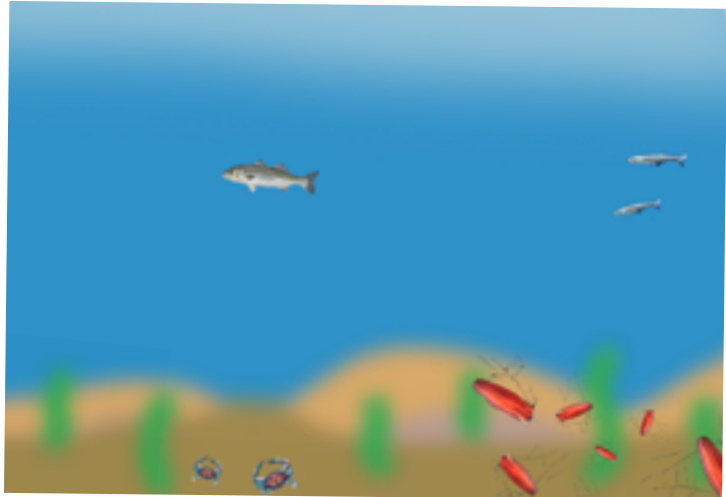


Current for three (3) months of visa

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AFTER ANOTHER 7 MILES OF SWIMMING I HIT A PLACE CALLED PIERMONT. HERE NOT ONLY DID I FIND COOL FISH BUT I ALSO NOTICED HOW THE POPULATION OF FISH CHANGED SO MUCH THIS YEAR.



THERE WERE 9 ATLANTIC SILVERSIDE AND 9 BLUE CRABS.



BUT THERE WERE 548 CTENOPHORA! I WAS AMAZING ESPECIALLY BECAUSE THERE WERE ONLY 22 LAST YEAR.

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SEEING THIS
MADE ME
WONDER WHY
THERE WOULD
BE SO MANY
MORE
CTENOPHORA
THIS YEAR
THAN LAST
YEAR?



WHAT
COULD
CAUSE THE
AMOUNT OF
CTENOPHORA
TO RISE?



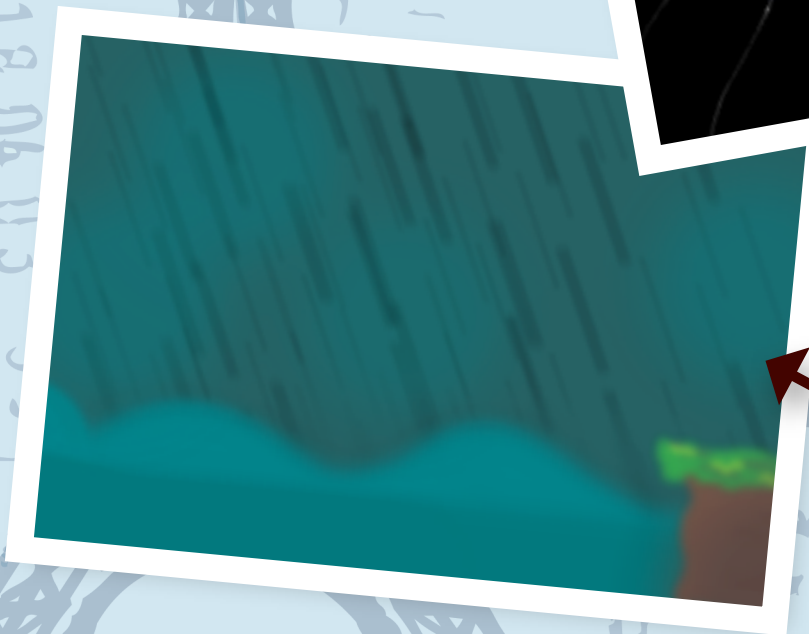
AFTER AN HOUR OF THINKING I REALIZED IN
2013 THE POPULATION OF ATLANTIC
SILVERSIDE WENT DOWN BY 170 FISH SO...

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I TRIED TO CONNECT ATLANTIC SILVERSIDE AND CTENOPHORA -

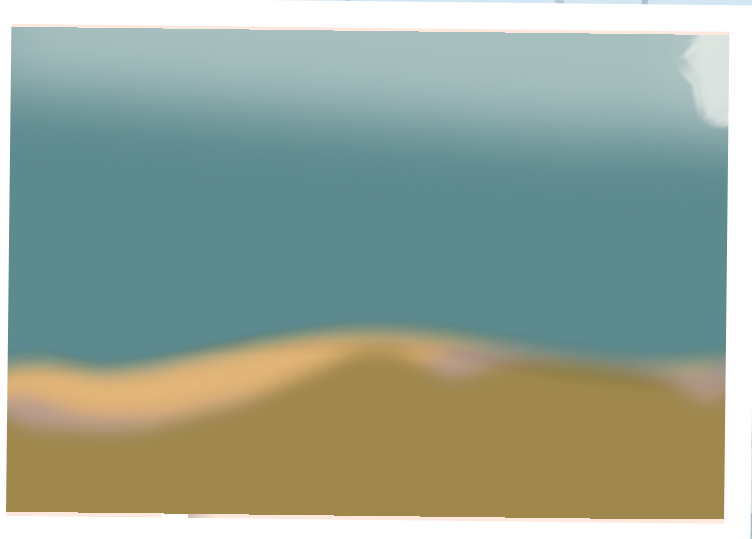


AND AFTER A LONG LONG TIME OF THINKING I THOUGHT MAYBE SUPERSTORM SANDY KILLED MANY ATLANTIC SILVERSIDE BUT VERY FEW CTENOPHORA.

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Entries Entradas Visas Departures Sorties / Salidas Vişas
AFTER THINKING OF THAT I DECIDED TO KEEP SWIMMING UP THE RIVER AND SEE WHAT OTHER THINGS HAPPENED IN 2013...



FINALLY I REACHED MILE 61 OF THE RIVER AND FOUND MYSELF AT A LOCATION CALLED BEACON.



THERE I FOUND NO FISH, IT WAS THE MOST DESERTED AREA I'D EVER SEEN.

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AND I REMEMBERED THAT
LAST YEAR THERE WERE 25
STRIPED BASS, 10
SPOTTAIL SHINERS AND 3
PUMPKINSEEDS!



I ALSO REMEMBERED
THERE WAS ONE BANDED
KILLIFISH.

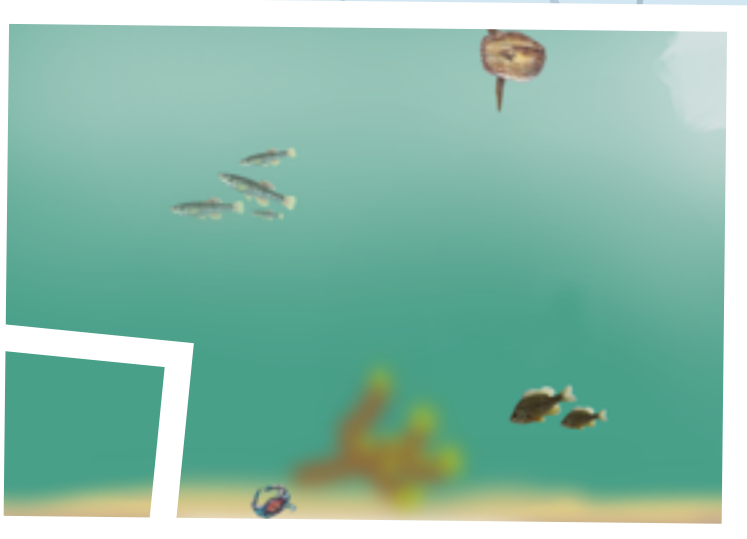


I WAS SO WORRIED I
WONDERED WHAT HAD
HAPPENED TO ALL MY
FISH FRIENDS.

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THE ONLY EXPLANATION I HAD FOR THIS WAS SUPERSTORM SANDY. SO I CONTINUED SWIMMING UP THE RIVER HOPING TO FIND MY BEST FRIEND.



23.5 MILES LATER I REACHED MILE 84.5 OF THE HUDSON RIVER KNOWN AS NORRIE POINT.

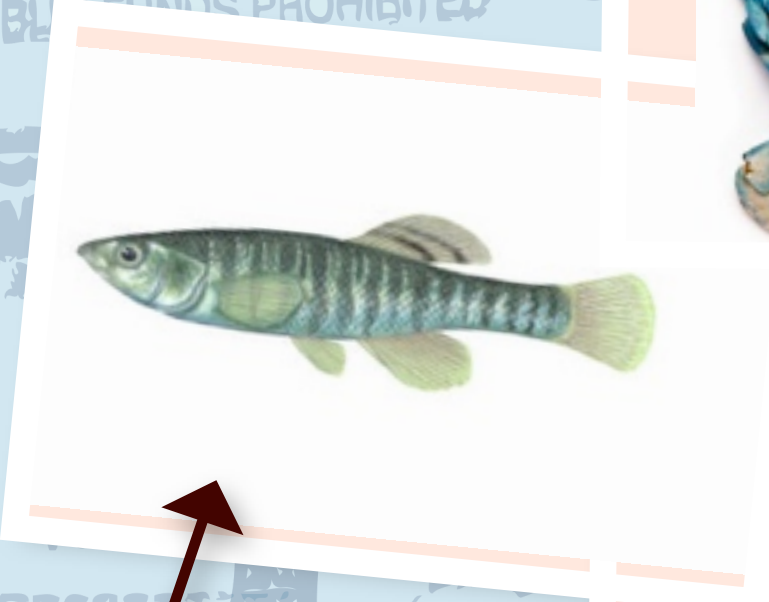


THERE I WAS DELIGHTED TO FIND 4 DIFFERENT SPICES OF FISH. I FOUND;

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FIVE BLUE CRABS,

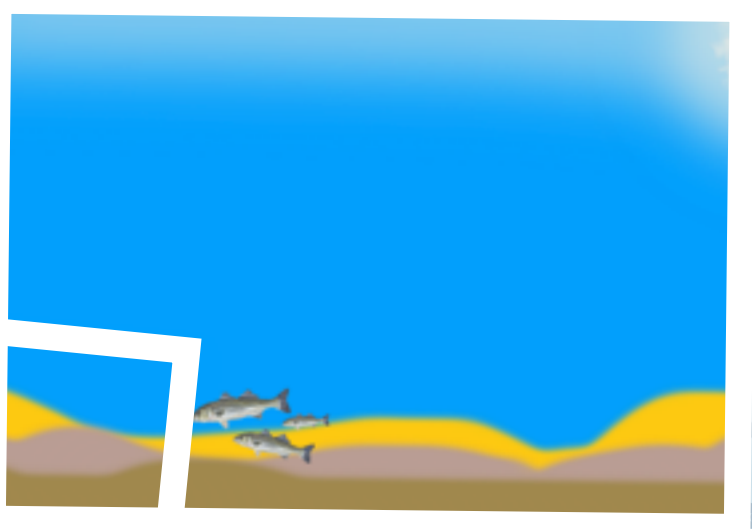


21 BANDED KILLIFISH, 9 PUMPKINSEEDS,



AND 8 SUNFISH.

SO I CONTINUED SWIMMING UP THE RIVER.



2 HOURS LATER I REACHED MILE 95.5 KNOWN AS ULSTER LANDING.



AT ULSTER LANDING I WAS INTERESTED THAT I ONLY FOUND 15 STRIPED BASS.

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I NOTICED THAT THE AMOUNT OF STRIPED BASS ACTUALLY WENT UP WHILE THE AMOUNT OF BLUE CRABS WENT DOWN FROM 7 TO 0.



AGAIN DISAPPOINTED THAT I DIDN'T FIND MY FRIENDS I DECIDED TO KEEP SWIMMING.

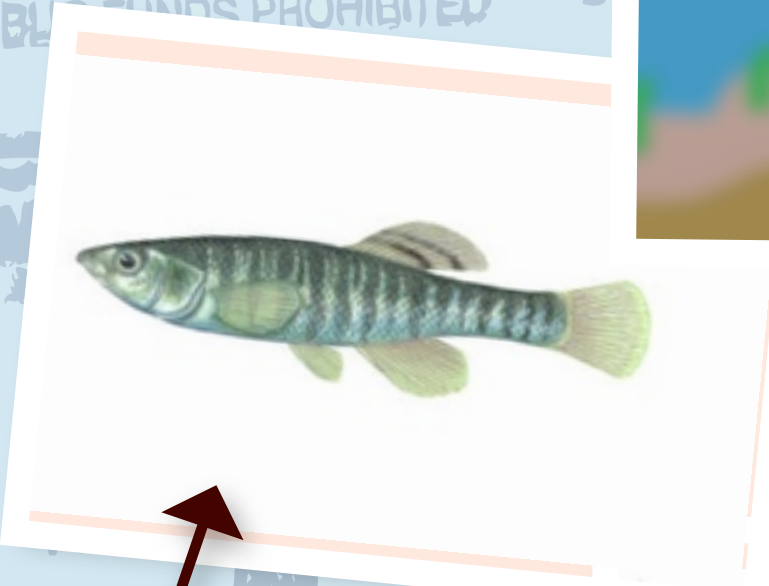
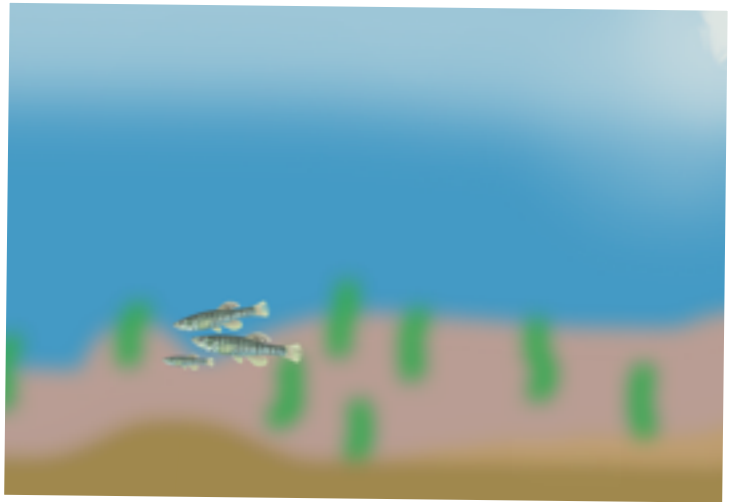


FINALLY AFTER WHAT FELT LIKE YEARS OF SWIMMING I REACHED MILE 153 OF THE HUDSON CALLED GREEN ISLAND.

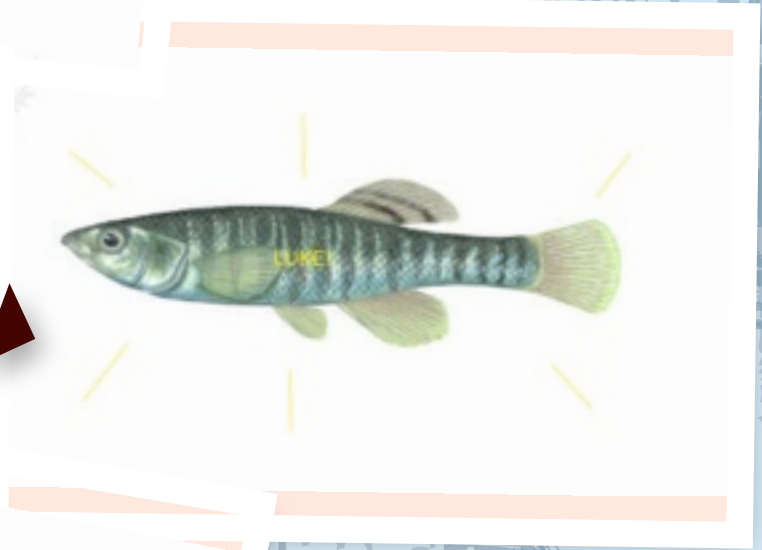
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WHEN I REACHED GREEN ISLAND I WAS SAD TO SEE THERE WERE ONLY 14 BANDED KILLIFISH...



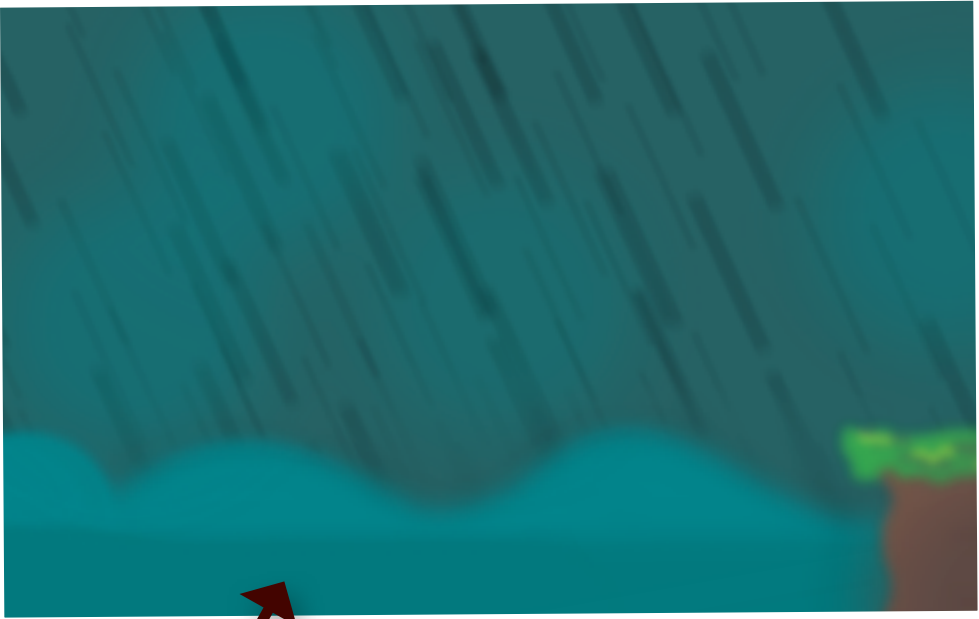
BUT...
LUKE WAS AMONG THEM



I RACED UP TO HIM AND ASKED WHY HE WAS SO FAR DOWN THE RIVER, SO HE BEGAN HIS STORY...

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HE STARTED BY TALKING ABOUT HOW SUPERSTORM SANDY CHANGED HIS ENTIRE LIFE



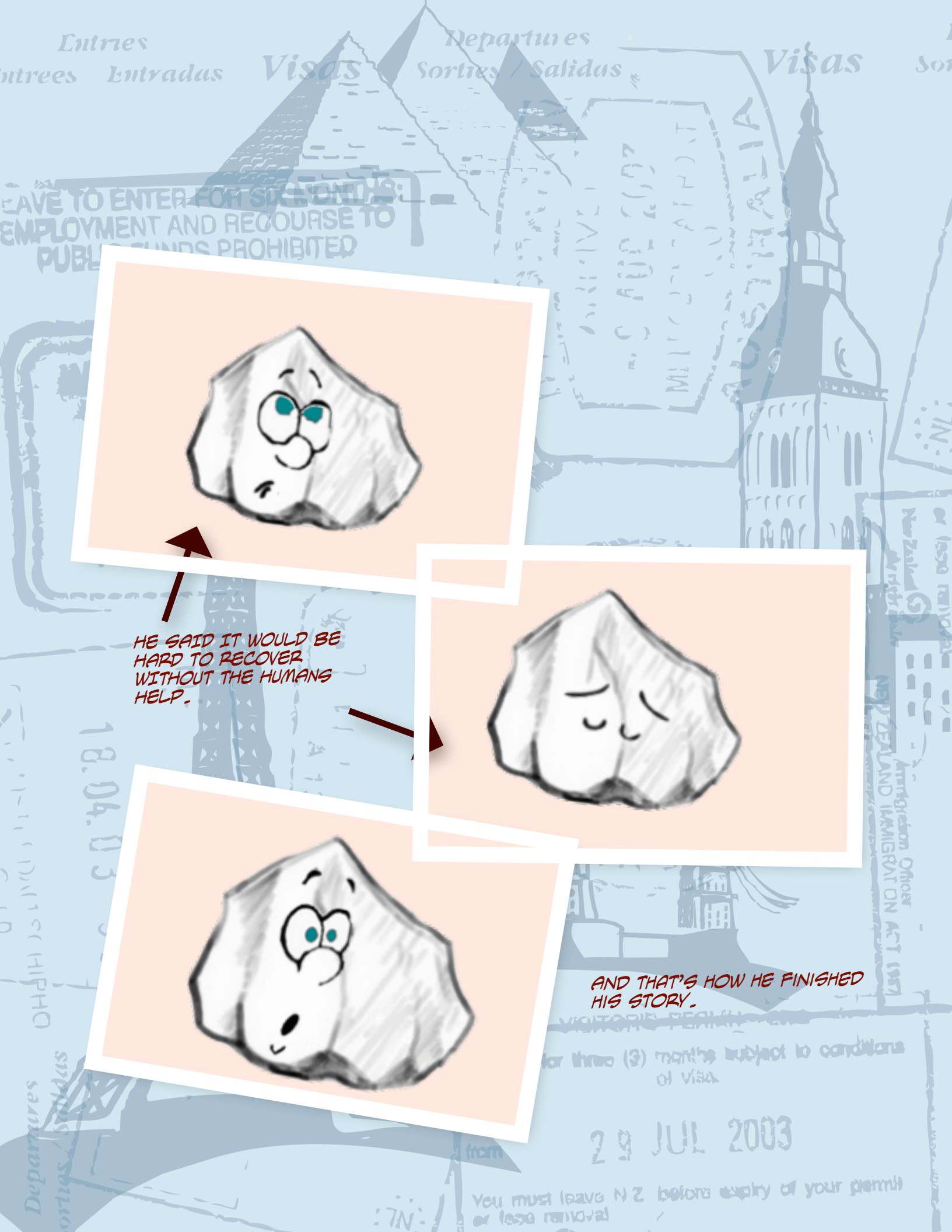
HE THEN SAID HE SWAM UPSTREAM BECAUSE HE THOUGHT THE STORM WAS NOT AS BAD THERE AND HE WAS CORRECT



HE TALKED ABOUT HOW THE STORM PRACTICALLY WIPED OUT EVERYTHING.

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HE SAID IT WOULD BE HARD TO RECOVER WITHOUT THE HUMANS HELP.



AND THAT'S HOW HE FINISHED HIS STORY.



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HE TOLD ME TO WRITE THIS JOURNAL AND FIND A WAY FOR THE HUMANS TO READ IT.



SO I WROTE THIS BOOK AND EXPLAINED HOW WE NEED THE HUMANS TO HELP. AND NOW I CAN ONLY HOPE SOME HUMAN PICKS THIS UP AND READS IT.



IF YOU ARE A HUMAN READING THIS PLEASE HELP US!

