

The Panels:

A series of drawing table renderings

**Pencil on Bristol paper
2005-2012**

Around 2005 I started amalgamating imagery from older sketchbooks and calendar drawings. In the attempt to refine them into a more presentable shape than merely rough little drafts. I liked their instantaneous creativity, enough to want to do this with select sketches.

I ended up arranging disparate elements into a whole. It doesn't make empirical sense, yet tells their own dreamlike narrative, as visual art rather than conventional comic strips/graphic novels — which they resemble. For the following few years, I would occasionally spend hours on the drawing table, into the wee hours — a practice I've delved into since teenage years.

Finding my older roughs, translating into pencil renderings. Picking images that both amazed and amused. Having fun with different shaped panels, that seemed to have formed organically.

In a few years I had about 20 good pages, chock-full of interesting details, many original. All on identically sized Bristol paper, in varying degrees of graphite grades. I had booklets printed from a PDF I made — titled simply as '*The Panels*' — for sale at exhibitions I had between 2009-2015.

Here are eight examples selected from that series. The scans vary in contrast. So pardon any inconsistencies...

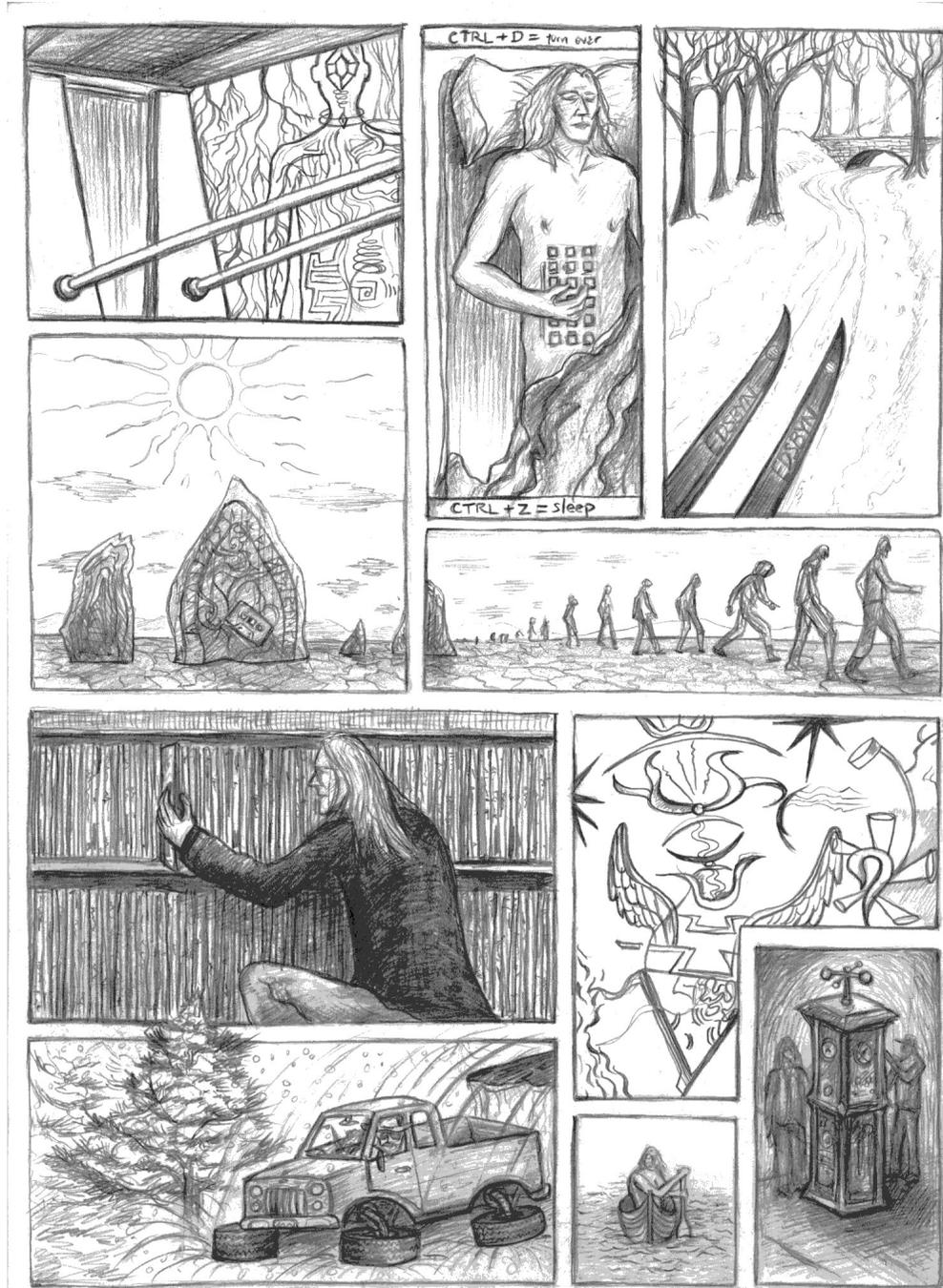
- Dean Gustafson, Feb 2026



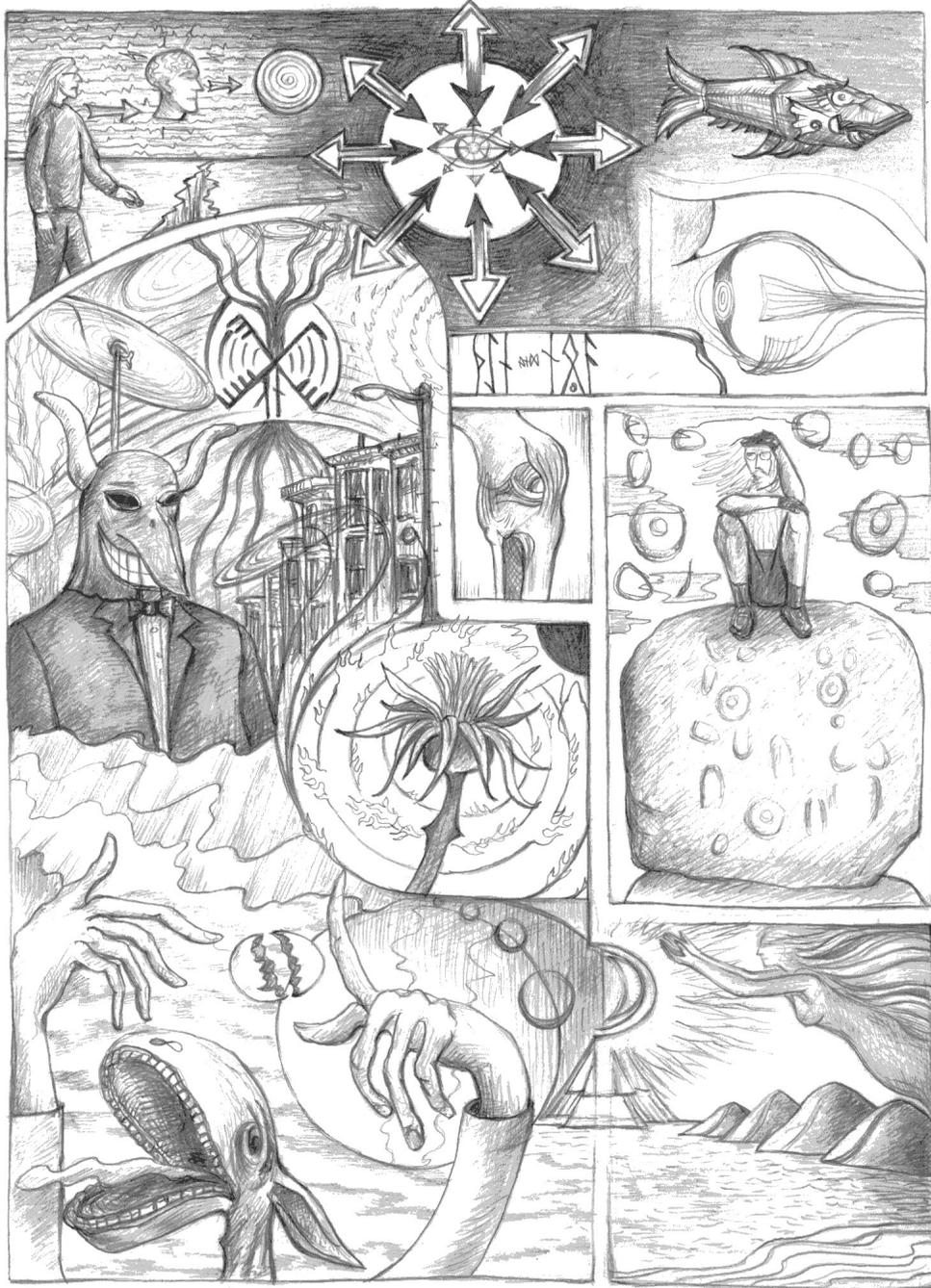
this must have been the first page of the series, indicated by the awkward text, attempting to describe what this is. Including a mingling of creative visuals with a few autobiographical elements. 2005



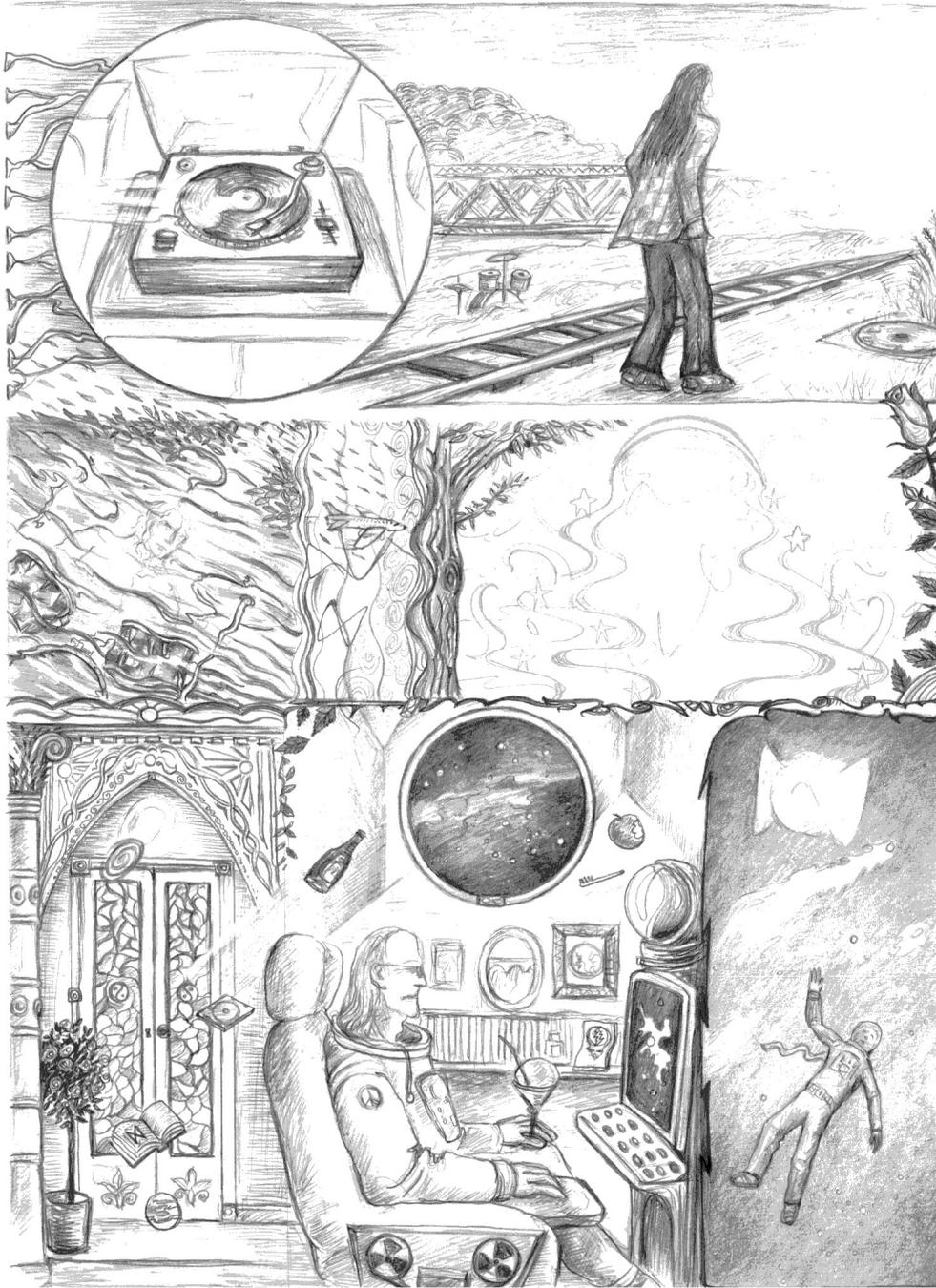
*a thematic page, looking back on Europe '94.
Sweden, Prague, Athens, Innsbruck are included here. 2007*



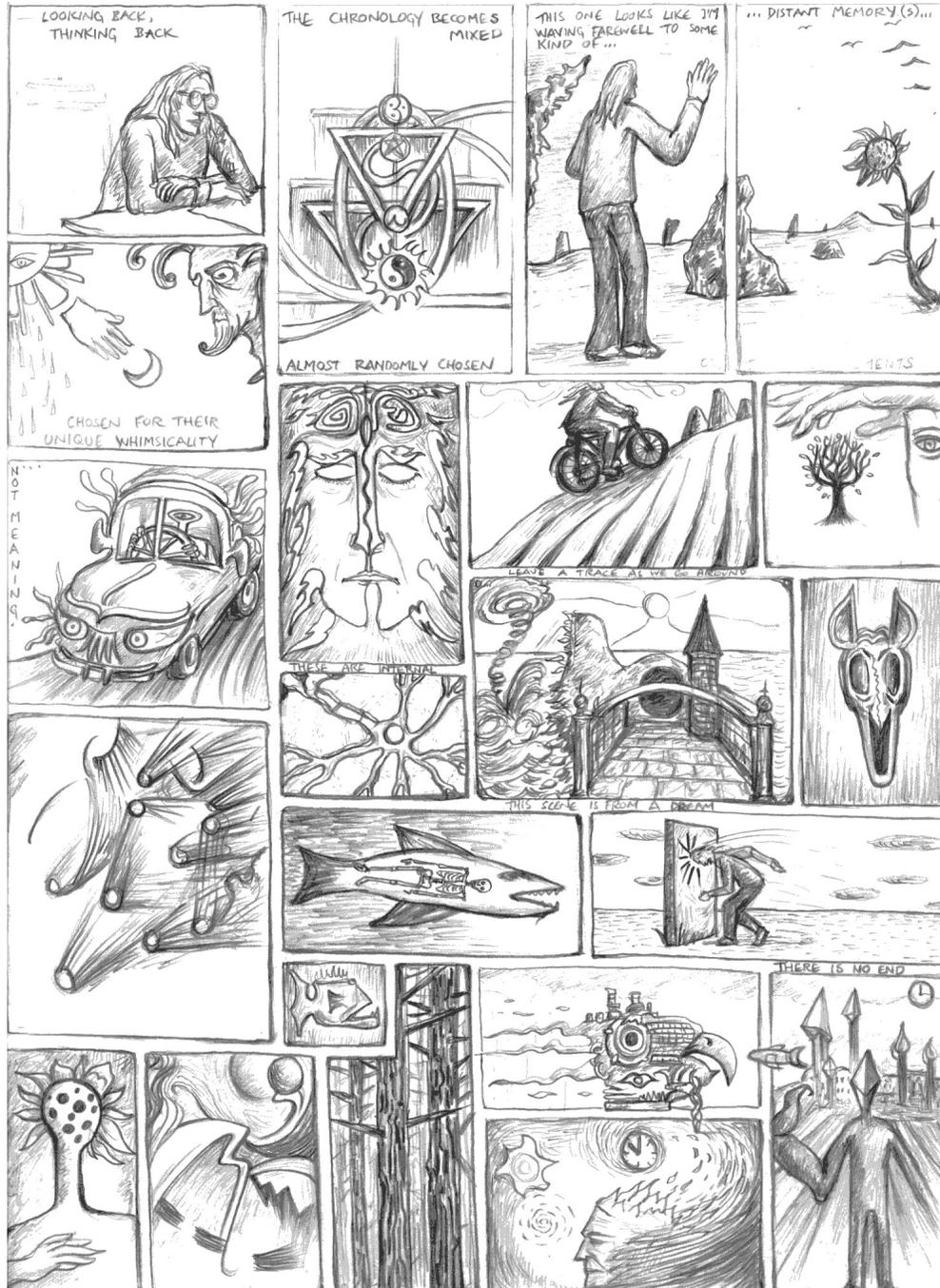
*More disparate memories, dream images, flights of fancy. 2006
Reaching into my record collection is something I always did when drawing these!*



*Most of this is drawn from my 1995 sketchbook. A transitional year.
Friend Dhaivyd is sitting on the boulder. A real memory!
Drawing was probably 2006*



*2007. With some images created anew for this.
I appear to be a lost-in-space aged astronaut. An ominous prophecy.
At top is old friend Jim Capra. A first impression, long before tragically dying too young.*



2005. This is one of the first, indicated by the text, soon dropped. Incorporating several calendar sketches.



San Francisco theme. 2007
When I would walk the city an average of 10 miles at a time, weekly.
A privileged time!



*It skips ahead to 2012. Musicians and muses.
I'm seeing some Dickens Fair interests here.*