



CEMIN

NO SABÉIS
QUÉ ME PASA

Nº6

Jorge and Maria

The significance of **sharing** and the importance of **listening**

FAMILY MEDIATION



ARTWORK BY
CRISTINA RODRÍGUEZ-ACOSTA

CEMIN is an interdisciplinary organization, of social initiative, which offers interpretive and guiding criteria, from an independent vision of what constitutes the best interest of childhood and adolescence, in the different scenarios of professional intervention that condition their well-being: social, judicial, training, educational, and health domains.

It is formed by professionals from different fields of professional intervention related to the Family matters (judges, lawyers, psychologists, social workers, etc.) who put their knowledge and dedication at the service of **CEMIN**, to watch over and work for the interest of **CHILDHOOD** and **ADOLESCENCE**.

As part of the Awareness and Protection Campaign for the Family and Childhood "YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME," ("NO SABEIS QUE ME PASA") we present a collection of comics that address and reflect the problems and needs of families and adolescents in our environment, as well as the behavior and actions of children, their parents, and the professionals who deal with family conflicts.

We hope you enjoy reading it and that you send us your suggestions and proposals for future editions

Gerardo Rodríguez-Acosta Gómez
PRESIDENT DE CEMIN

Confederación por el Mejor Interés de la Infancia
(Confederation for the Best Interests of Children)

Financed by:



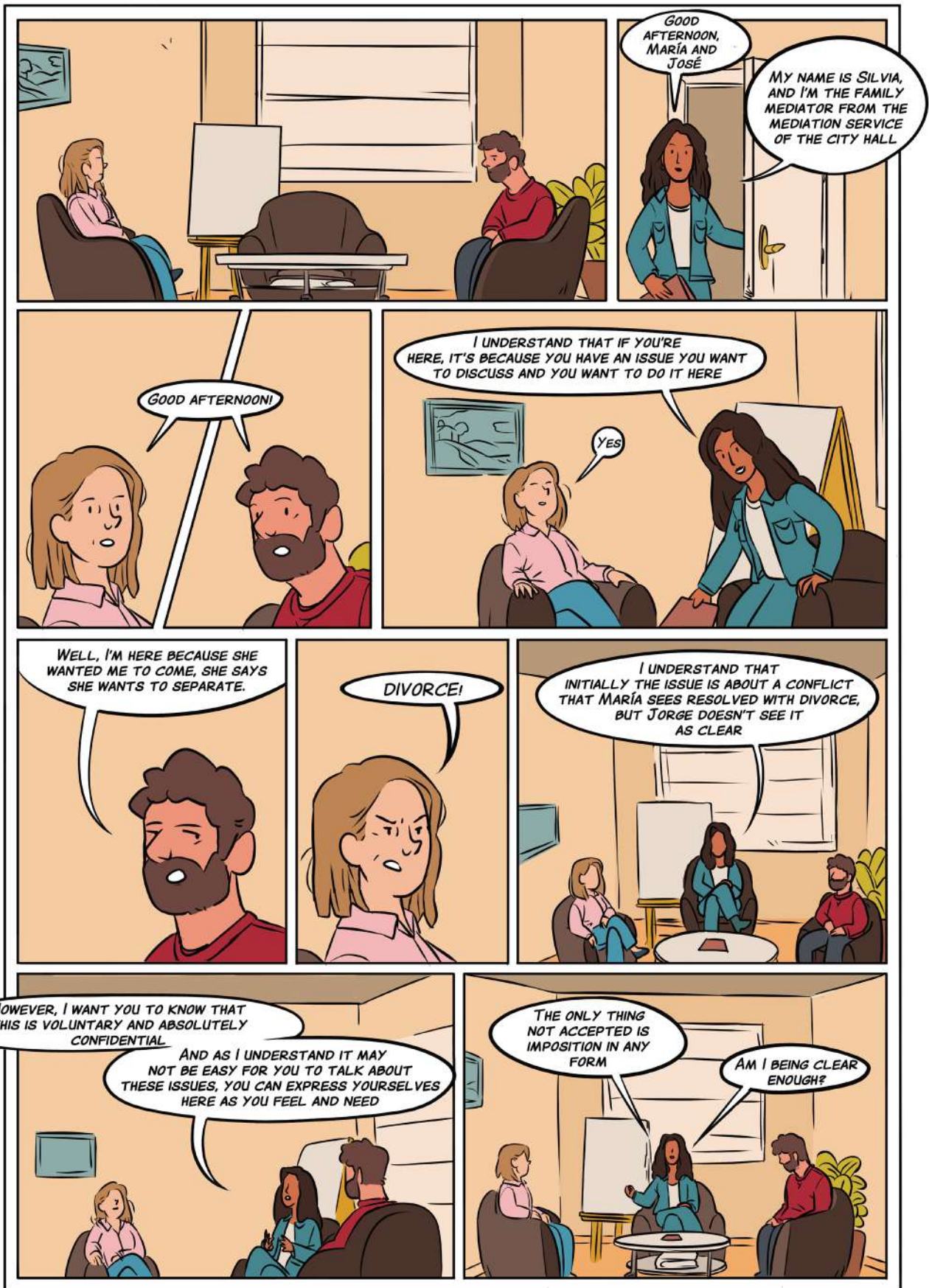
POR SOLIDARIDAD
OTROS FINES DE INTERÉS SOCIAL

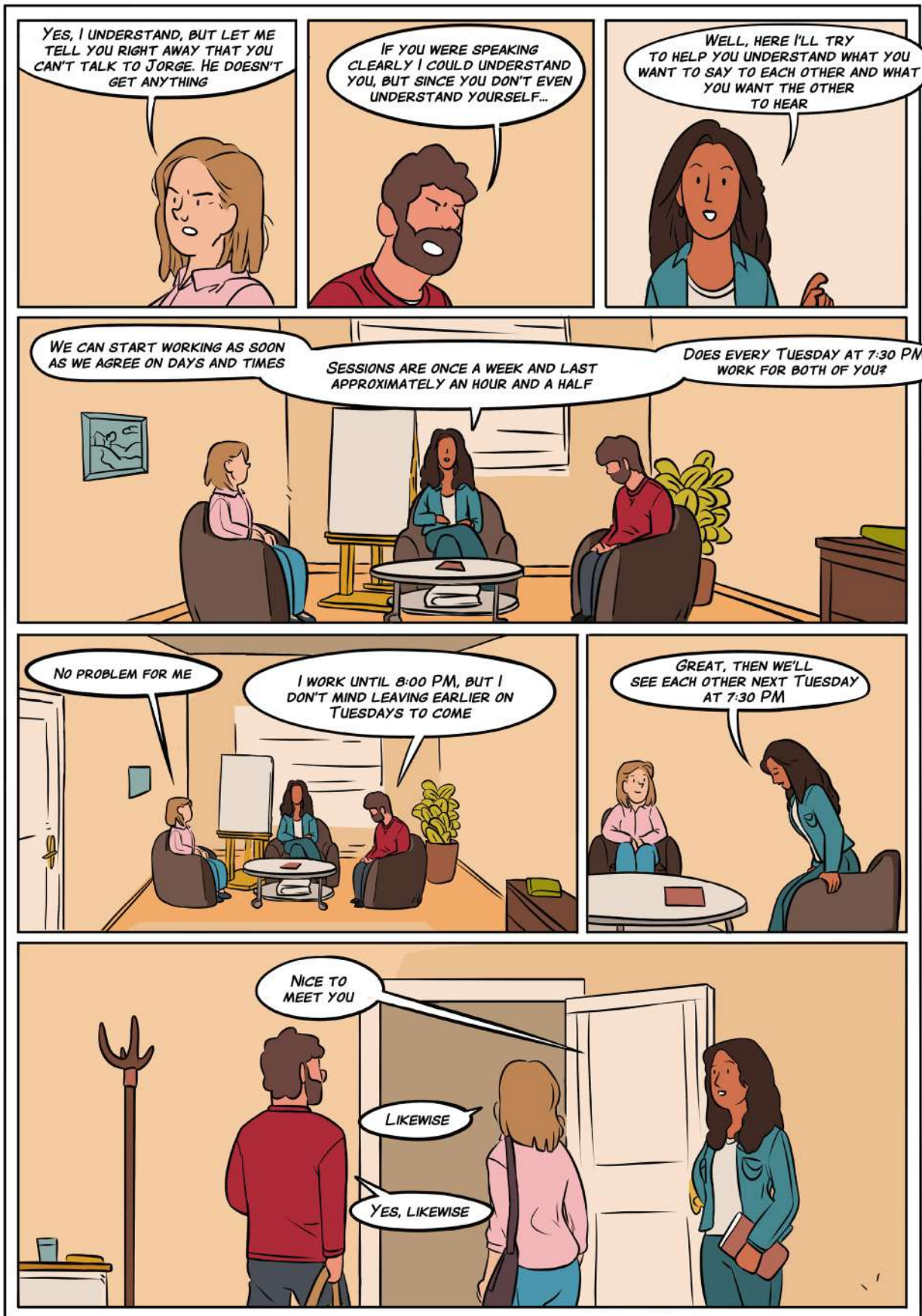


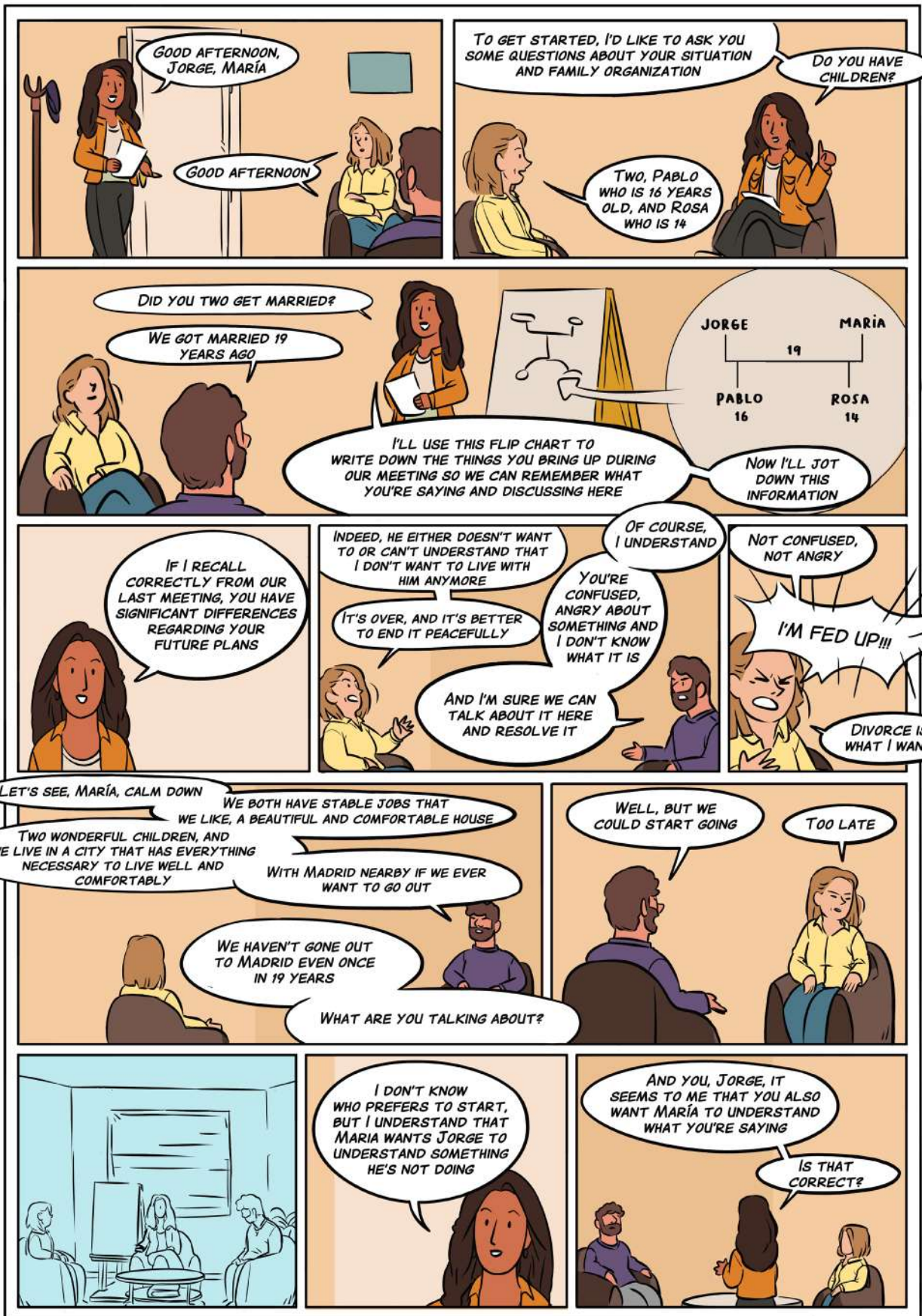
© Edition: CONFEDERACIÓN POR EL MEJOR INTERÉS DE LA INFANCIA

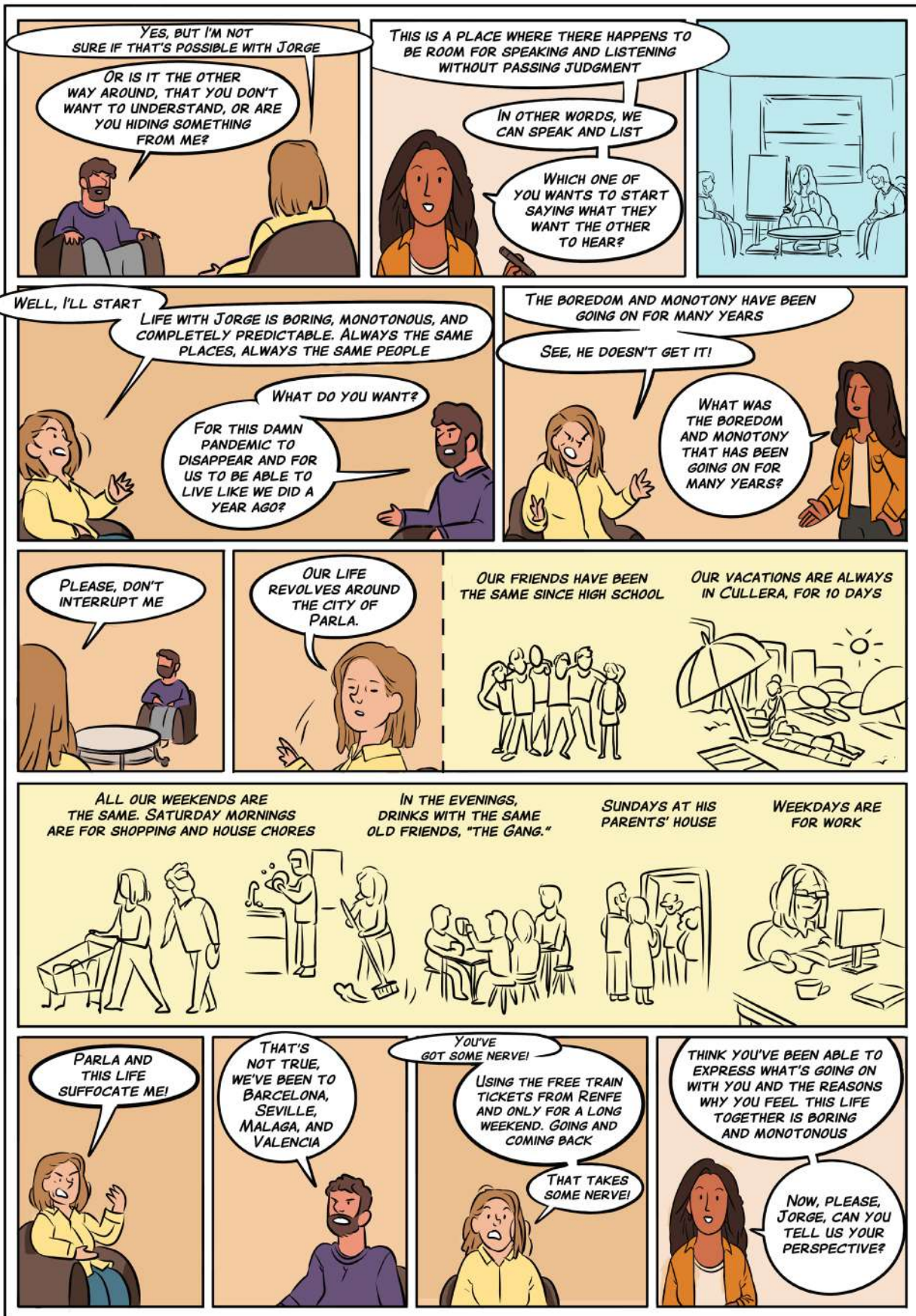
© Artwork: Cristina Rodríguez-Acosta

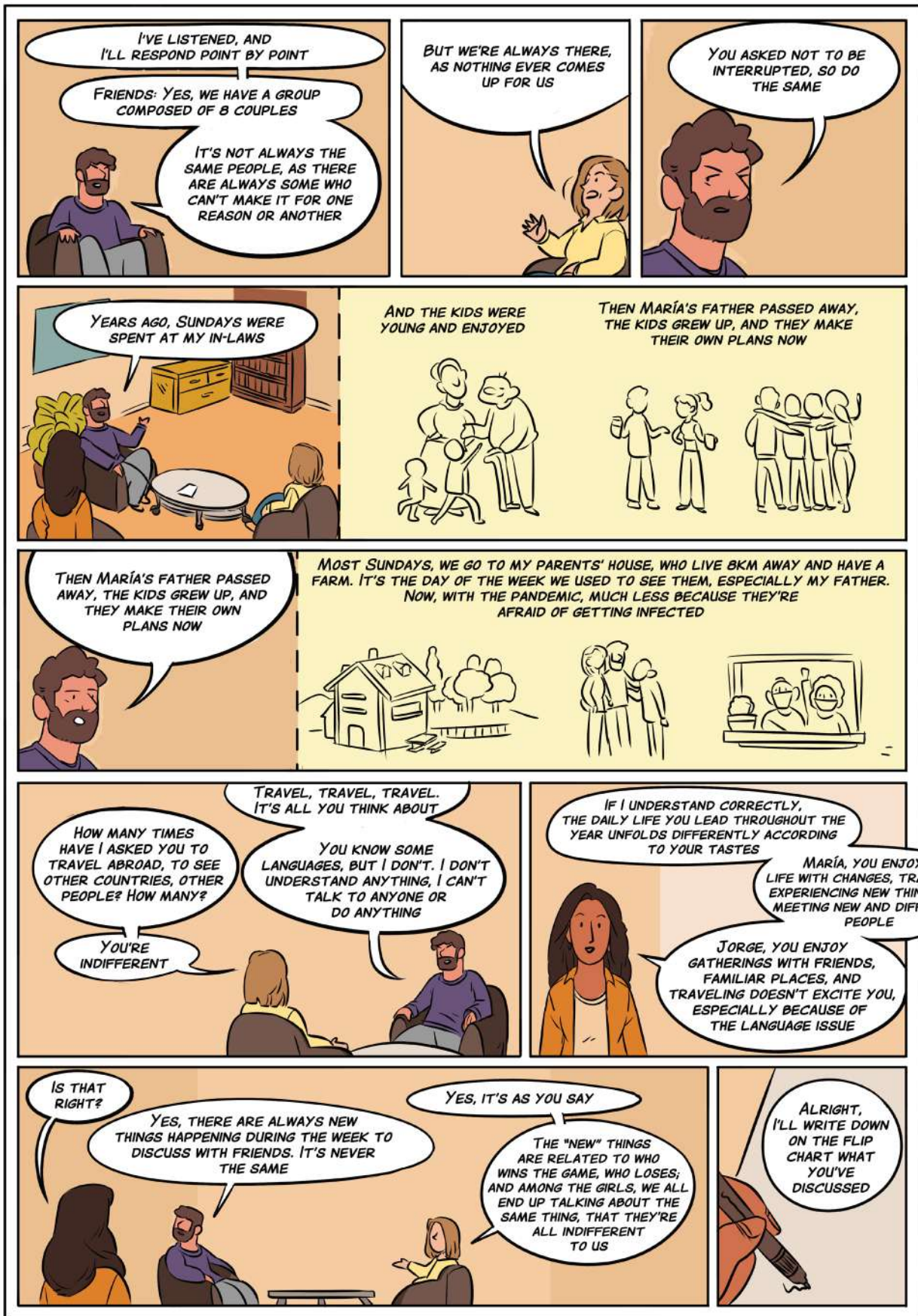
ISBN: 978-84-09-60574-3











MARÍA	JORGE
<p>YOUR LIFE IS BORING AND MONOTONOUS</p> <p>YOU WANT TO TRAVEL AND SEE NEW PLACES, PEOPLE, THINGS...</p> <p>PARLA AND THIS ENVIRONMENT SUFFOCATE YOU</p>	<p>YOU'RE CONTENT WITH YOUR LIFE</p> <p>YOU HAVE A GOOD JOB, A HOUSE, FAMILY, FRIENDS, AND A BEAUTIFUL CITY, WHAT MORE DO YOU WANT?</p> <p>TRAVELING ABROAD IS A HASSLE BECAUSE OF THE LANGUAGE, SHE HANDLES IT BETTER</p>

IS WHAT I'VE WRITTEN CORRECT, OR IS THERE SOMETHING ELSE TO ADD OR CORRECT?

IT'S FINE AS IT IS

THAT HE'S COMFORTABLE WITH THE LIFE WE HAVE, DOESN'T NEED ANYTHING ELSE, AND NOW I FIND OUT HE DOESN'T LIKE TRAVELING ABROAD BECAUSE OF THE LANGUAGE

I DIDN'T KNOW THIS.

HAVING SAID ALL THAT, MARÍA, DO YOU STILL THINK THE REASON FOR COMING HERE IS TO SEPARATE AND ORGANIZE YOUR FUTURE LIFE?

AND WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD FROM WHAT JORGE SAID?

YES, TO DIVORCE

THE NEW THING THAT SURPRISES ME IS THIS EXPRESSION THAT PARLA SUFFOCATES HER

I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT, JUST AS I DON'T UNDERSTAND, EVEN THOUGH I'VE HEARD HER, THAT SHE DOESN'T LIKE THE LIFE WE LEAD.

IS IT ONLY ABOUT TRAVELING ABROAD?

AND YOU, JORGE, GIVEN WHAT'S WRITTEN HERE

DO YOU STILL THINK YOU CAN SOMEHOW RESOLVE THE PROBLEMS TO AVOID SEPARATING

I DON'T WANT TO THROW AWAY 19 YEARS, I LOVE HER, AND I WANT TO CONTINUE LIVING WITH MY CHILDREN

AND WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD FROM WHAT MARÍA SAID?

THE NEW THING THAT SURPRISES ME IS THIS EXPRESSION THAT PARLA SUFFOCATES HER

I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT, JUST AS I DON'T UNDERSTAND, EVEN THOUGH I'VE HEARD HER, THAT SHE DOESN'T LIKE THE LIFE WE LEAD.

IS IT ONLY ABOUT TRAVELING ABROAD?

I BELIEVE THEY'VE BEEN ABLE TO EXPLAIN THEMSELVES, THAT EVEN THOUGH THEY MAY NOT AGREE, THEY HAVE LISTENED, WHICH WAS ONE OF THE THINGS THEY WANTED

HE LISTENED TO ME, BUT HE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND ANYTHING. IT ALL BOILS DOWN TO TRAVELING FOR HIM

THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID!

THAT SEEMS TO BE THE ENTIRE PROBLEM

CAN'T YOU READ? BORING AND MONOTONOUS LIFE, WANTING TO TRAVEL BUT ALSO TO MEET NEW PEOPLE, DO NEW AND DIFFERENT THINGS

YOU HEARD BUT DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THAT PARLA SUFFOCATES ME!!!

YOU MUST HAVE MET ANOTHER MAN

IT'S NOT POSSIBLE THAT OVERNIGHT, EVERYTHING THAT WAS GOOD NOW COUNTS FOR NOTHING

HAVE YOU TALKED TO YOUR FRIENDS, WHAT DID THEY SAY?

WHAT I'VE TALKED ABOUT IS OUR BUSINESS, MINE AND THEIRS. THAT'S WHY WE SPLIT UP. HUSBANDS ON ONE SIDE, WIVES ON THE OTHER

THEY'RE THE WIVES OF MY FRIENDS, SO THERE'S NO ROOM FOR SECRETS

UNLESS THEY'RE THINGS YOU DON'T WANT ME TO FIND OUT

JORGE, YOU'VE MENTIONED TWICE ALREADY THE POSSIBILITY THAT MARÍA MIGHT HAVE MET SOMEONE AND THAT THIS IS THE REASON FOR HER SUDDEN DECISION TO DIVORCE

I'LL WRITE IT DOWN ON THE FLIP CHART

MARÍA	JORGE
YOUR LIFE IS BORING AND MONOTONOUS	YOU'RE FINE AND CONTENT WITH LIFE
YOU WANT TO TRAVEL AND SEE NEW PLACES, PEOPLE, THINGS...	HAVE A GOOD JOB, HOUSE, FAMILY, FRIENDS, A BEAUTIFUL CITY, WHAT MORE?
PARLA AND THIS ENVIRONMENT SUFFOCATE YOU, AND YOU'VE SAID THAT'S WHY YOU WANT A DIVORCE	TRAVELING ABROAD IS A HASSLE BECAUSE OF THE LANGUAGE, SHE HANDLES IT BETTER
	YOU WANT TO USE THIS SPACE TO TALK AND SAVE THE MARRIAGE. EXPLAINING THIS SUDDEN DECISION JUST BECAUSE SHE MUST HAVE MET ANOTHER MAN

WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY TO JORGE ABOUT THIS ISSUE THAT HE SEES AS THE ONLY POSSIBLE REASON FOR WANTING A DIVORCE?

LET'S SEE, JORGE

THINKING THAT'S THE ONLY POSSIBLE REASON MAKES IT CLEAR YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND ME

BUT IF THAT'S YOUR CONCERN, I'LL TELL YOU I HAVEN'T MET ANY OTHER MAN, AND NOT BECAUSE I COULDN'T

I'VE LOVED YOU, WE HAVE CHILDREN WHO WILL SUFFER IF WE DON'T HANDLE THIS PROPERLY, AND PARENTS WHO WILL ALSO SUFFER IF THEY SEE US HURTING EACH OTHER

OF COURSE, AND I'LL BE DAMMED!

IT CAN'T BE, HOW DID I NOT REALIZE!

AND SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN BORED AND SUFFOCATED?

FOR A LONG TIME

JORGE

I'VE TRIED TO TELL YOU A THOUSAND TIMES, BUT IT WAS USELESS

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

YOU'VE COME BECAUSE MARÍA, YOU WANTED JORGE TO LISTEN TO YOU, AND YOU, JORGE, TO TRY TO UNDERSTAND WHAT MARÍA WANTED TO TELL YOU. YOU'VE ACHIEVED SOMETHING IN THIS LONG AND DIFFICULT MEETING

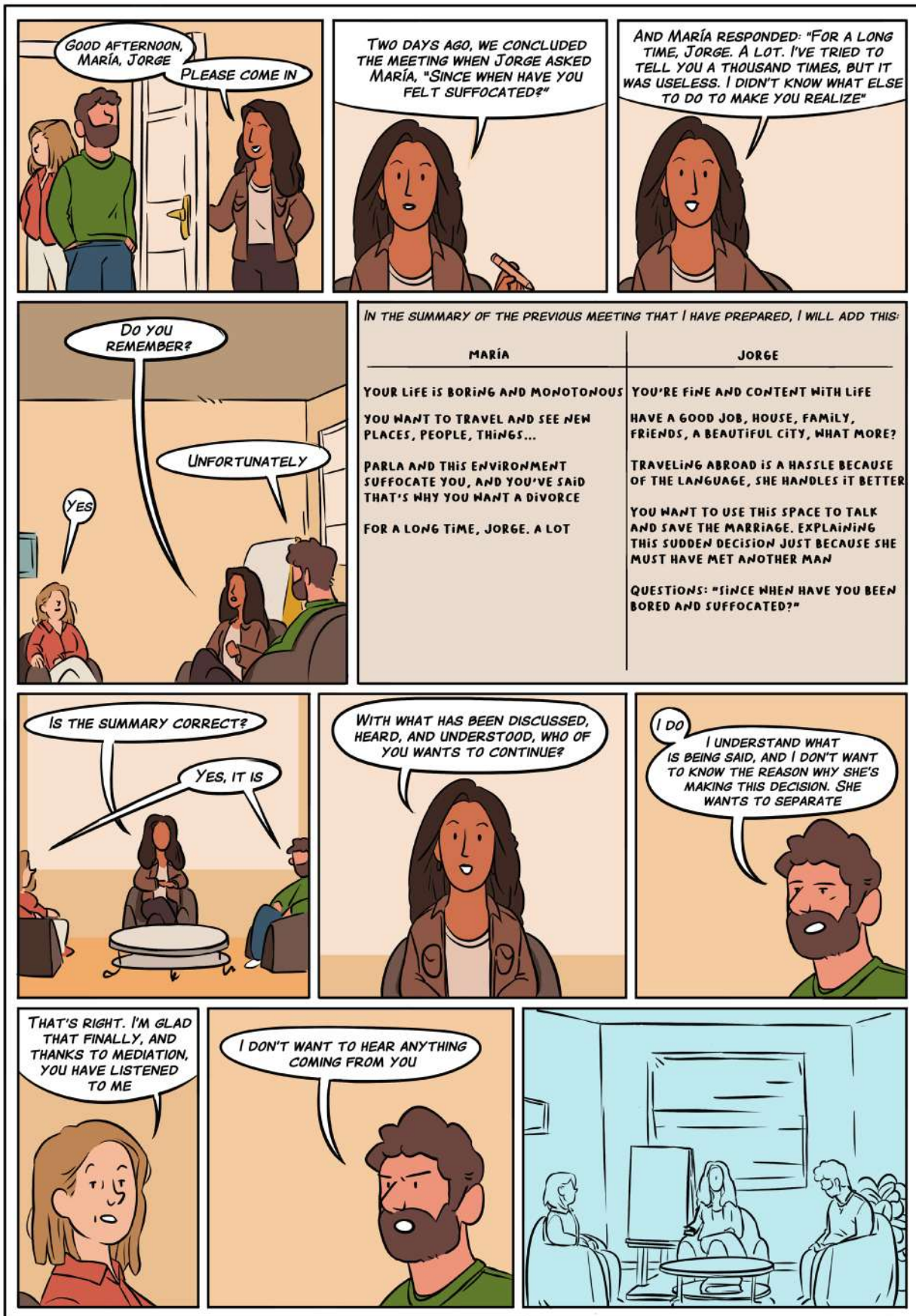
I INVITE YOU TO FINISH FOR TODAY, GO HOME WITH WHAT YOU'VE HEARD, AND FOR NOW, I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST NOT TO CONTINUE TALKING ABOUT THE TOPIC UNTIL OUR NEXT SESSION AT THE CENTER. TAKE CARE

BUT IT'S UP TO YOU AND WHAT YOU CAN MANAGE

TO AVOID MAKING THE WAIT TOO LONG AND DIFFICULT, I SUGGEST WE MEET THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW, THURSDAY, AT 10:00

YES, THAT'S FINE, THURSDAY IS BETTER

YES, BETTER



WELL, SINCE IT'S YOU WHO WANTS TO SEPARATE AND THE HOUSE IS MINE, I'LL STAY LIVING THERE WITH THE CHILDREN, AND YOU CAN SEE THEM WHEN YOUR ENTERTAINMENTS ALLOW IT

DON'T EVEN DREAM ABOUT IT. I'LL HAVE CUSTODY, AND I'LL STAY IN THE HOUSE WHERE THE CHILDREN HAVE LIVED THEIR WHOLE LIVES

MARÍA, WHAT DO YOU UNDERSTAND BY CUSTODY, WHICH IS A MORE LEGAL TERM?

WELL, OBVIOUSLY! LIVING WITH MY CHILDREN AND TAKING CARE OF THEM EVERY DAY, EXCEPT ON THE DAYS THEY SEE THEIR FATHER

THANK YOU, MARÍA. NOW I UNDERSTAND YOU WILL HAVE PLENTY OF TIME TO ORGANIZE YOUR FUTURE LIFE SEPARATELY AND HOW TO SHARE THE CARE AND LOVE FOR YOUR CHILDREN, BUT WHAT DOES SEEM CLEAR IS THAT THERE IS A FIRST AGREEMENT THAT YOU WANT TO SEPARATE

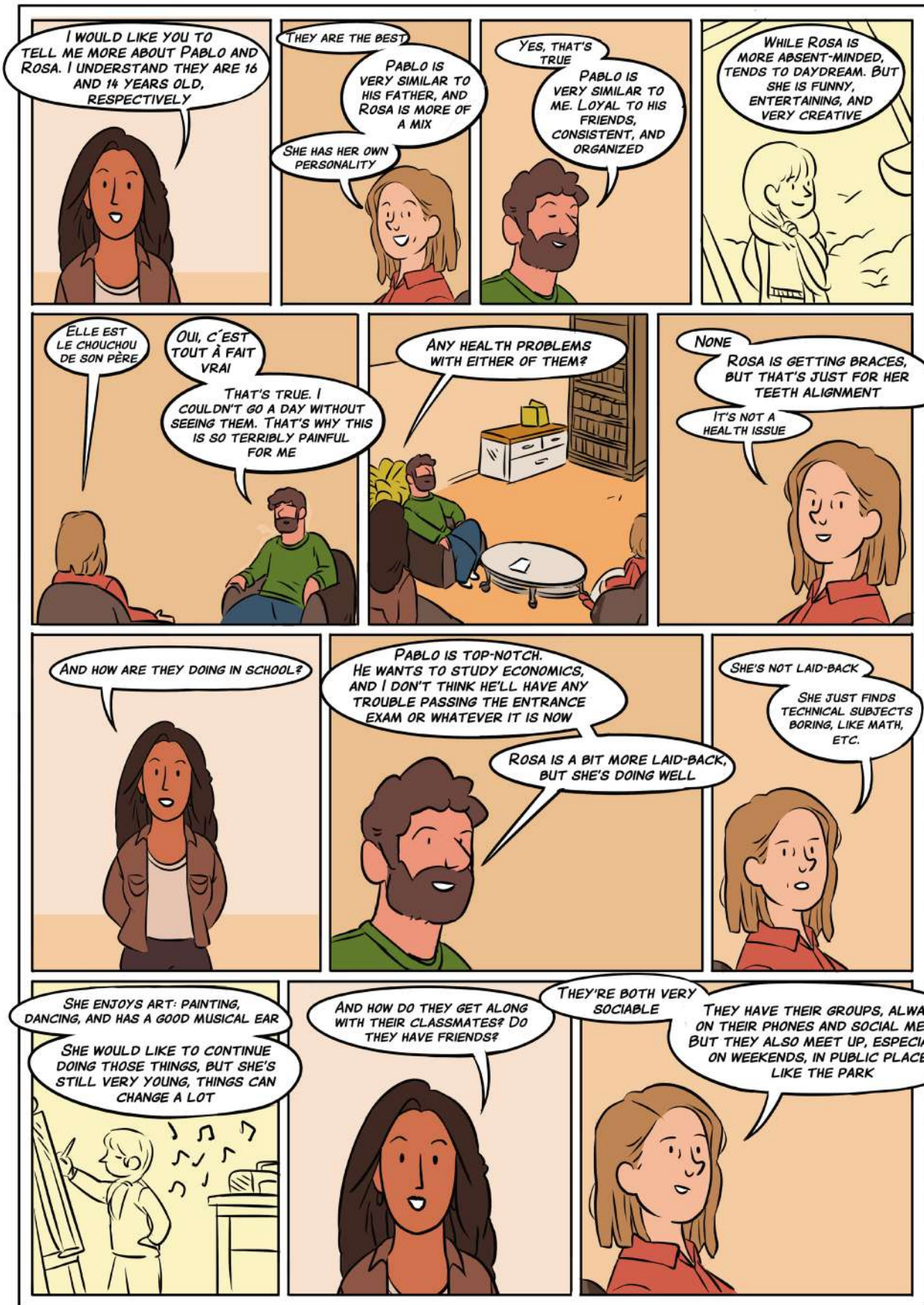
DIVORCE!

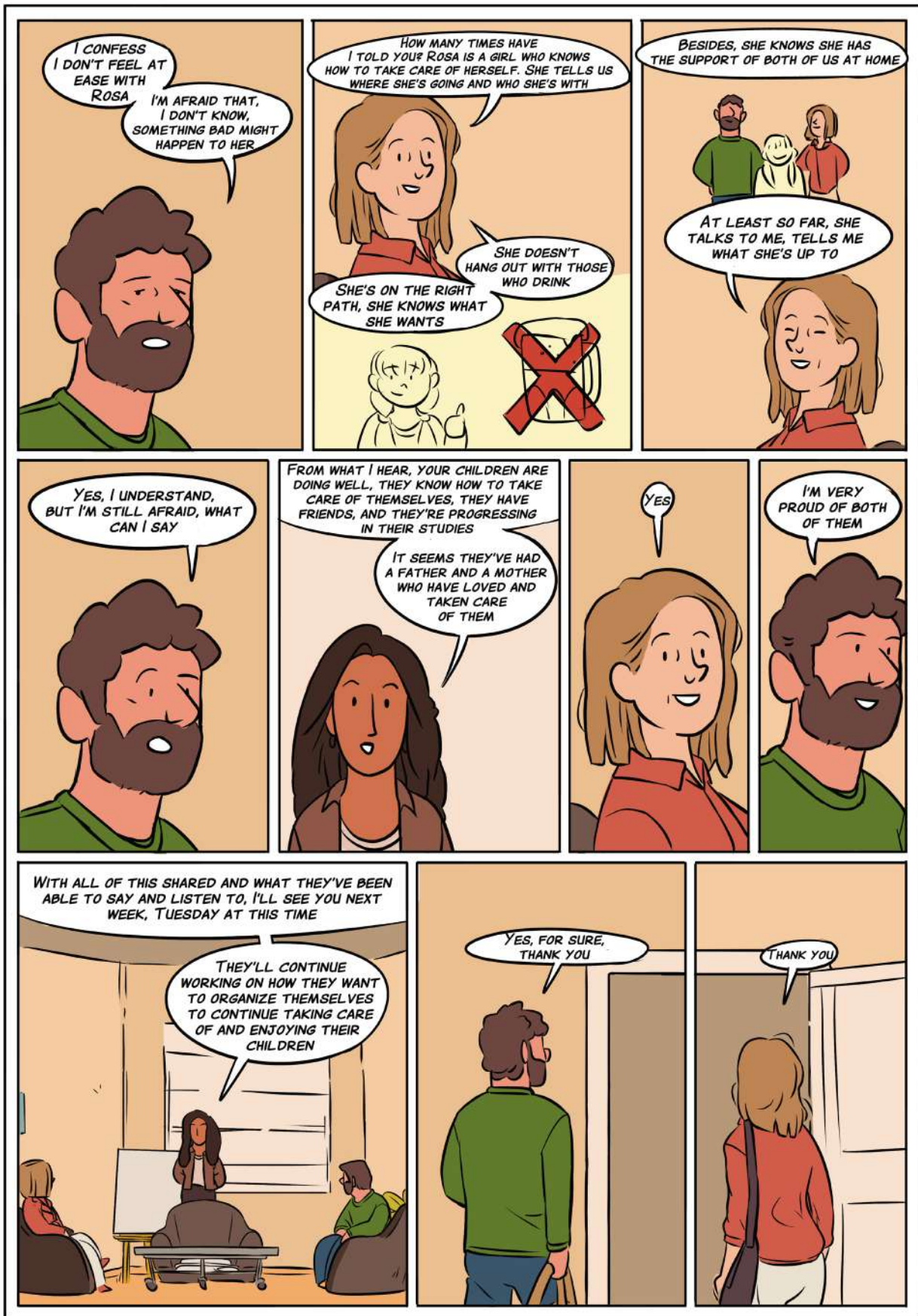
THAT'S RIGHT

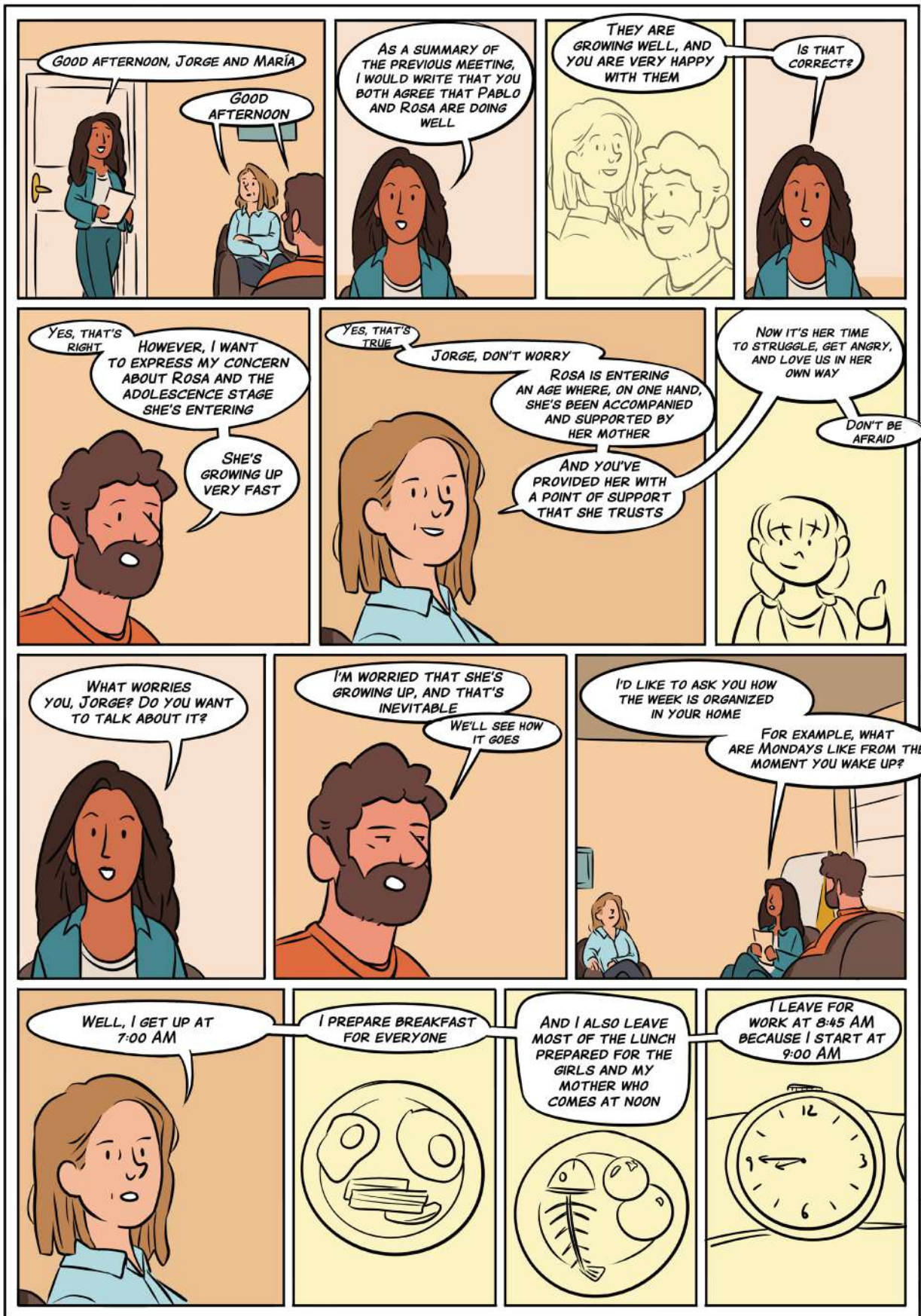
SORRY, THAT YOU WANT TO DIVORCE

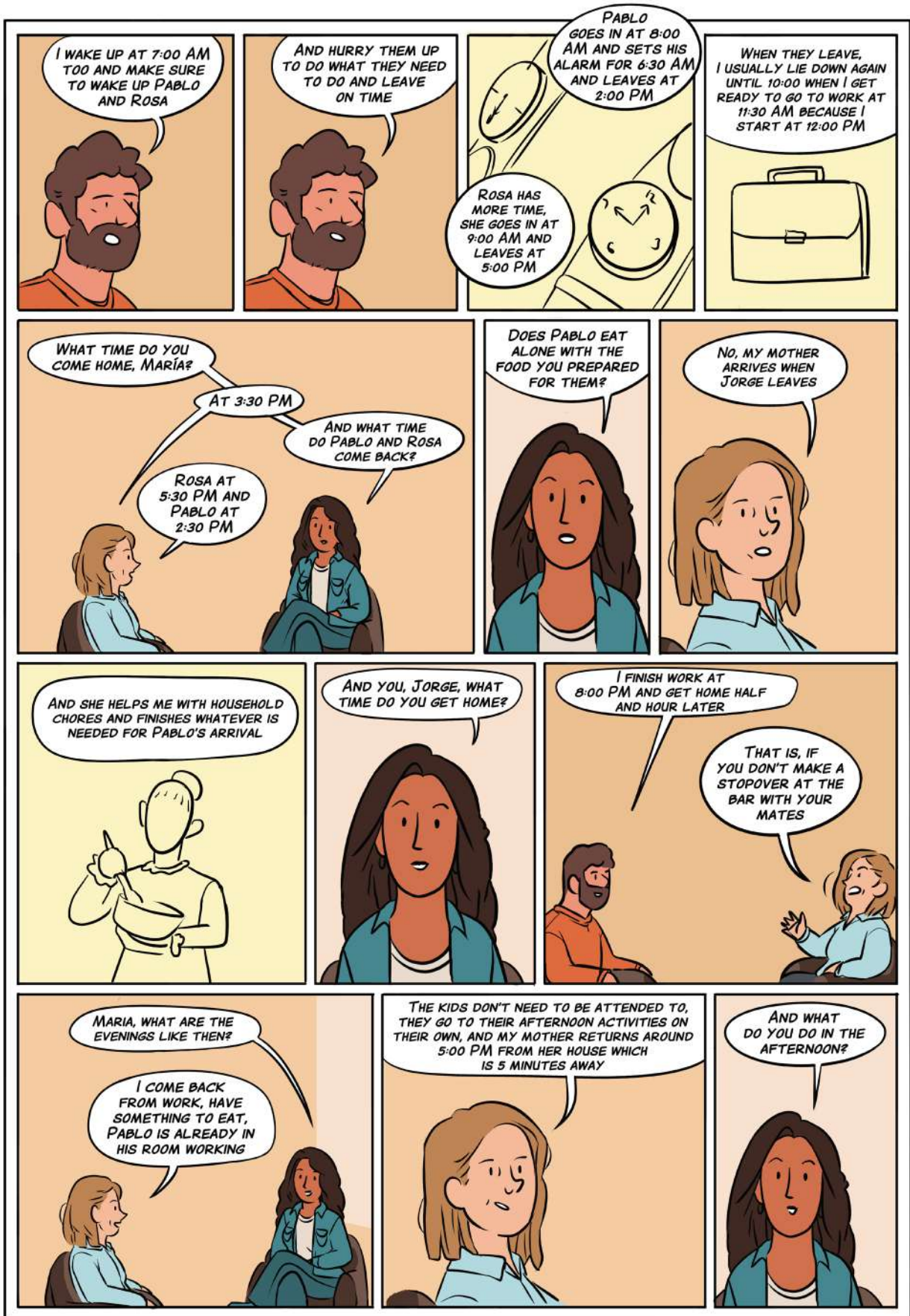
MARÍA	JORGE
YOUR LIFE IS BORING AND MONOTONOUS	YOU'RE FINE AND CONTENT WITH LIFE
YOU WANT TO TRAVEL AND SEE NEW PLACES, PEOPLE, THINGS...	HAVE A GOOD JOB, HOUSE, FAMILY, FRIENDS, A BEAUTIFUL CITY, WHAT MORE?
PARLA AND THIS ENVIRONMENT SUFFOCATE YOU, AND YOU'VE SAID THAT'S WHY YOU WANT A DIVORCE	TRAVELING ABROAD IS A HASSLE BECAUSE OF THE LANGUAGE, SHE HANDLES IT BETTER
FOR A LONG TIME, JORGE. A LOT	YOU WANT TO USE THIS SPACE TO TALK AND SAVE THE MARRIAGE. EXPLAINING THIS SUDDEN DECISION JUST BECAUSE SHE MUST HAVE MET ANOTHER MAN
	QUESTIONS: "SINCE WHEN HAVE YOU BEEN BORED AND SUFFOCATED?"

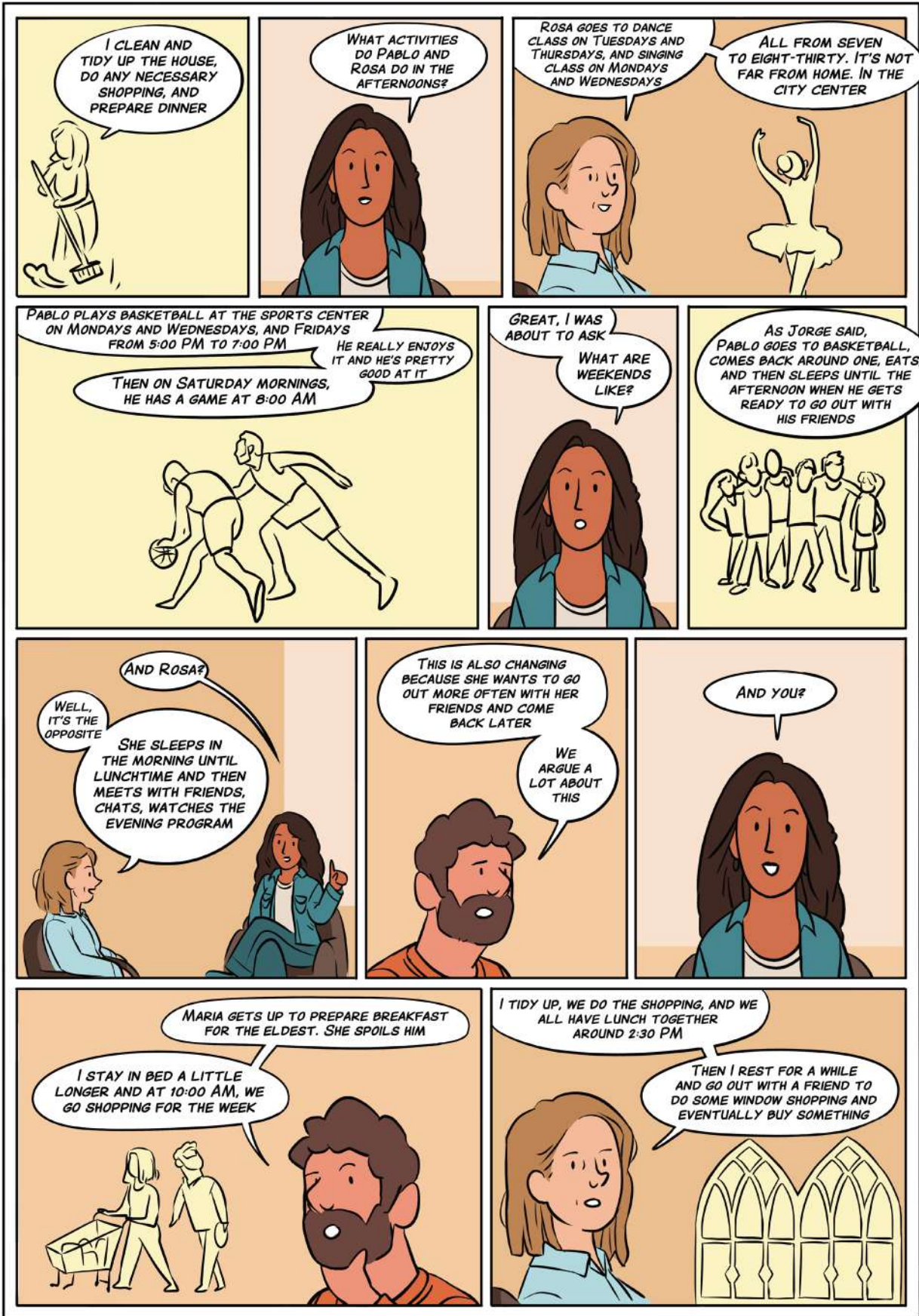
BOTH AGREE THEY WANT TO DIVORCE

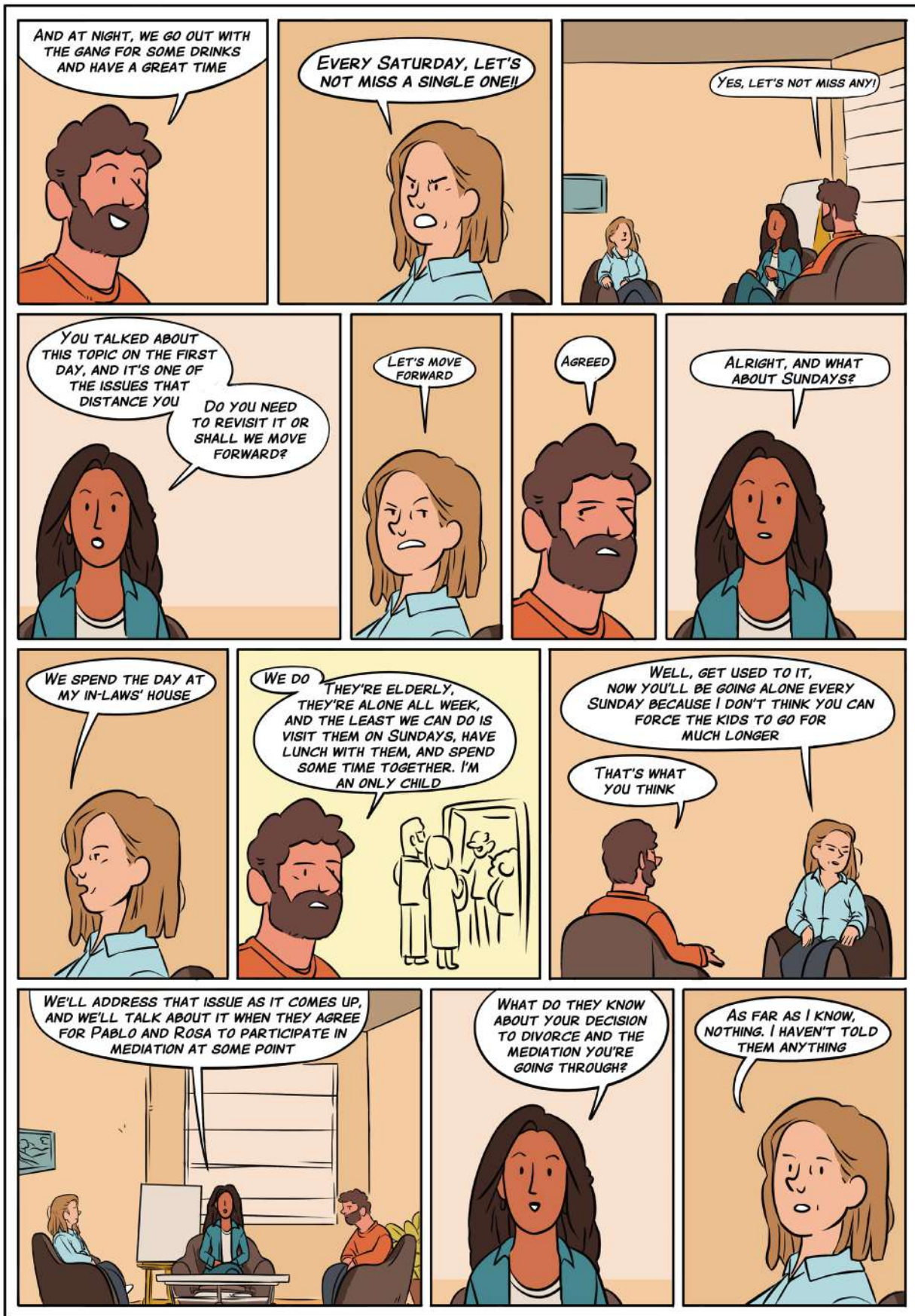


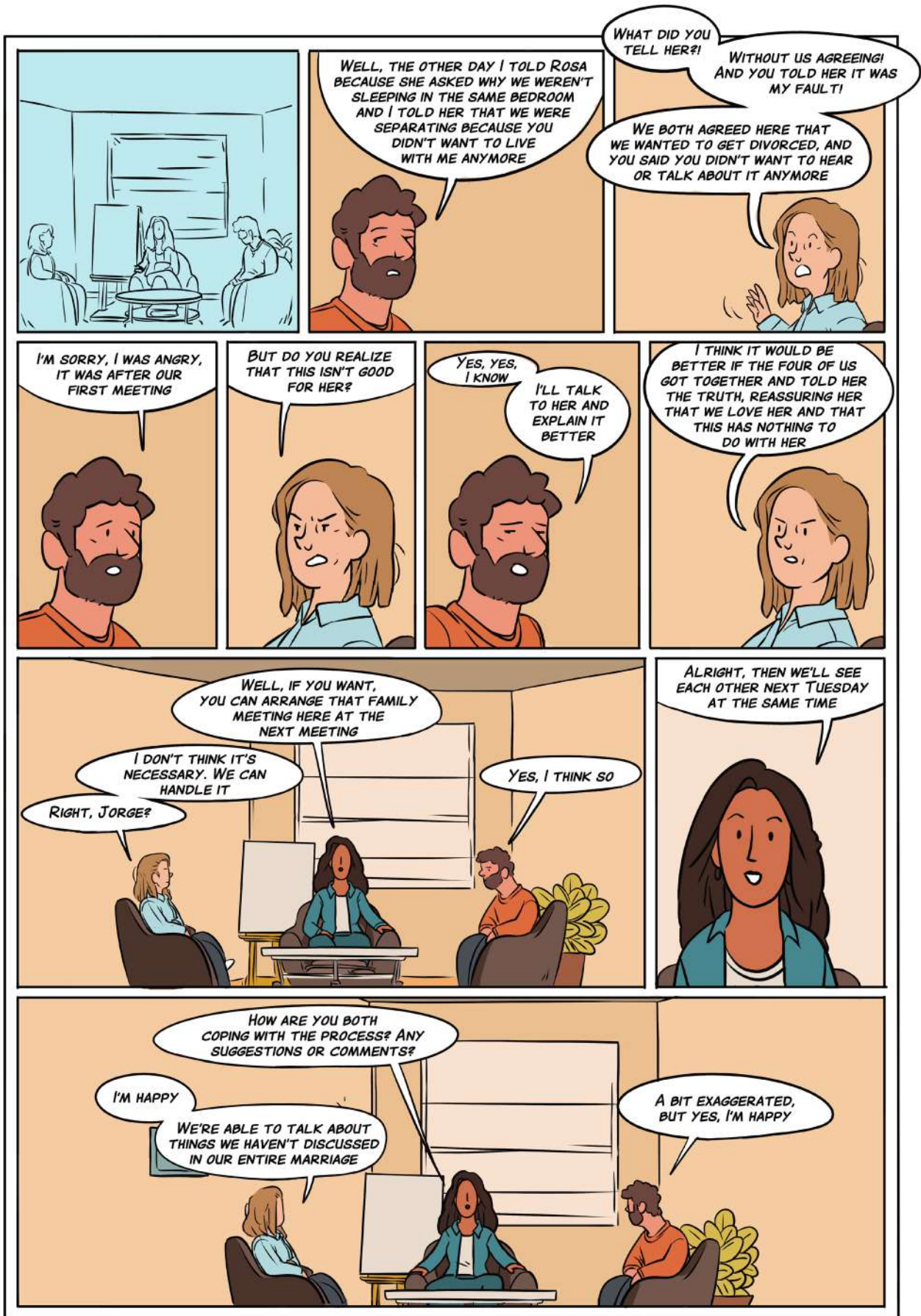












WELL, THE OTHER DAY I TOLD ROSA BECAUSE SHE ASKED WHY WE WEREN'T SLEEPING IN THE SAME BEDROOM AND I TOLD HER THAT WE WERE SEPARATING BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T WANT TO LIVE WITH ME ANYMORE

WHAT DID YOU TELL HER?!

WITHOUT US AGREEING! AND YOU TOLD HER IT WAS MY FAULT!

WE BOTH AGREED HERE THAT WE WANTED TO GET DIVORCED, AND YOU SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT TO HEAR OR TALK ABOUT IT ANYMORE

I'M SORRY, I WAS ANGRY, IT WAS AFTER OUR FIRST MEETING

BUT DO YOU REALIZE THAT THIS ISN'T GOOD FOR HER?

YES, YES, I KNOW
I'LL TALK TO HER AND EXPLAIN IT BETTER

I THINK IT WOULD BE BETTER IF THE FOUR OF US GOT TOGETHER AND TOLD HER THE TRUTH, REASSURING HER THAT WE LOVE HER AND THAT THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HER

WELL, IF YOU WANT, YOU CAN ARRANGE THAT FAMILY MEETING HERE AT THE NEXT MEETING

I DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARY. WE CAN HANDLE IT

RIGHT, JORGE?

YES, I THINK SO

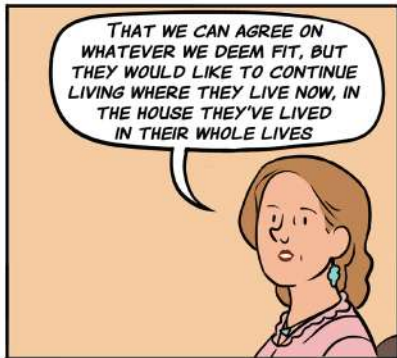
ALRIGHT, THEN WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER NEXT TUESDAY AT THE SAME TIME

HOW ARE YOU BOTH COPING WITH THE PROCESS? ANY SUGGESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

I'M HAPPY

WE'RE ABLE TO TALK ABOUT THINGS WE HAVEN'T DISCUSSED IN OUR ENTIRE MARRIAGE

A BIT EXAGGERATED, BUT YES, I'M HAPPY



FAMILY SCHEDULES AND ACTIVITIES FOR A TYPICAL WEEK

FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY: MARIA: WAKES UP AT 7:00 AM
PREPARES BREAKFAST FOR EVERYONE AND LEAVES LUNCH READY
LEAVES AT 8:45 AM AND WORKS FROM 9:00 AM TO 3:30 PM

JORGE: ALSO WAKES UP AT 7:00 AM TO GET THE KIDS UP, USUALLY GOES BACK TO BED UNTIL 10:00 AM SINCE HE STARTS WORK AT 12:00 PM

PABLO: STARTS AT 8:00 AM UNTIL 2:00 PM. EATS AT HOME
ROSA: STARTS AT 9:00 AM UNTIL 5:00 PM. EATS OUT.

MARIA'S MOTHER (PAULA): ARRIVES AROUND 11:00 AM AND STAYS UNTIL 5:00 PM.

TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS: ROSA GOES TO DANCE CLASS FROM 7:00 PM TO 8:30 PM.
MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS: ROSA GOES TO SINGING CLASS FROM 7:00 PM TO 8:30 PM.
MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, AND FRIDAYS: PABLO PLAYS BASKETBALL FROM 5:00 PM TO 7:00 PM.

SATURDAYS: PABLO: BASKETBALL GAME FROM 8:00 AM TO 1:00 PM
ROSA: SLEEPS IN THE MORNINGS AND THEN WATCHES HER PROGRAMS.
MARIA AND JORGE: TIDY UP, DO SHOPPING IN THE MORNING.
MARIA GOES OUT WITH HER FRIENDS IN THE AFTERNOON.
IN THE EVENING, PABLO AND ROSA GO OUT WITH THEIR FRIENDS, AND MARIA AND JORGE WITH THEIR GANG.

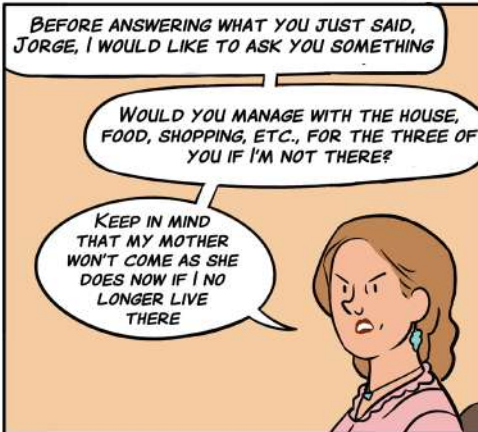
SUNDAY: THE WHOLE FAMILY GOES TO JORGE'S PARENTS' HOUSE.

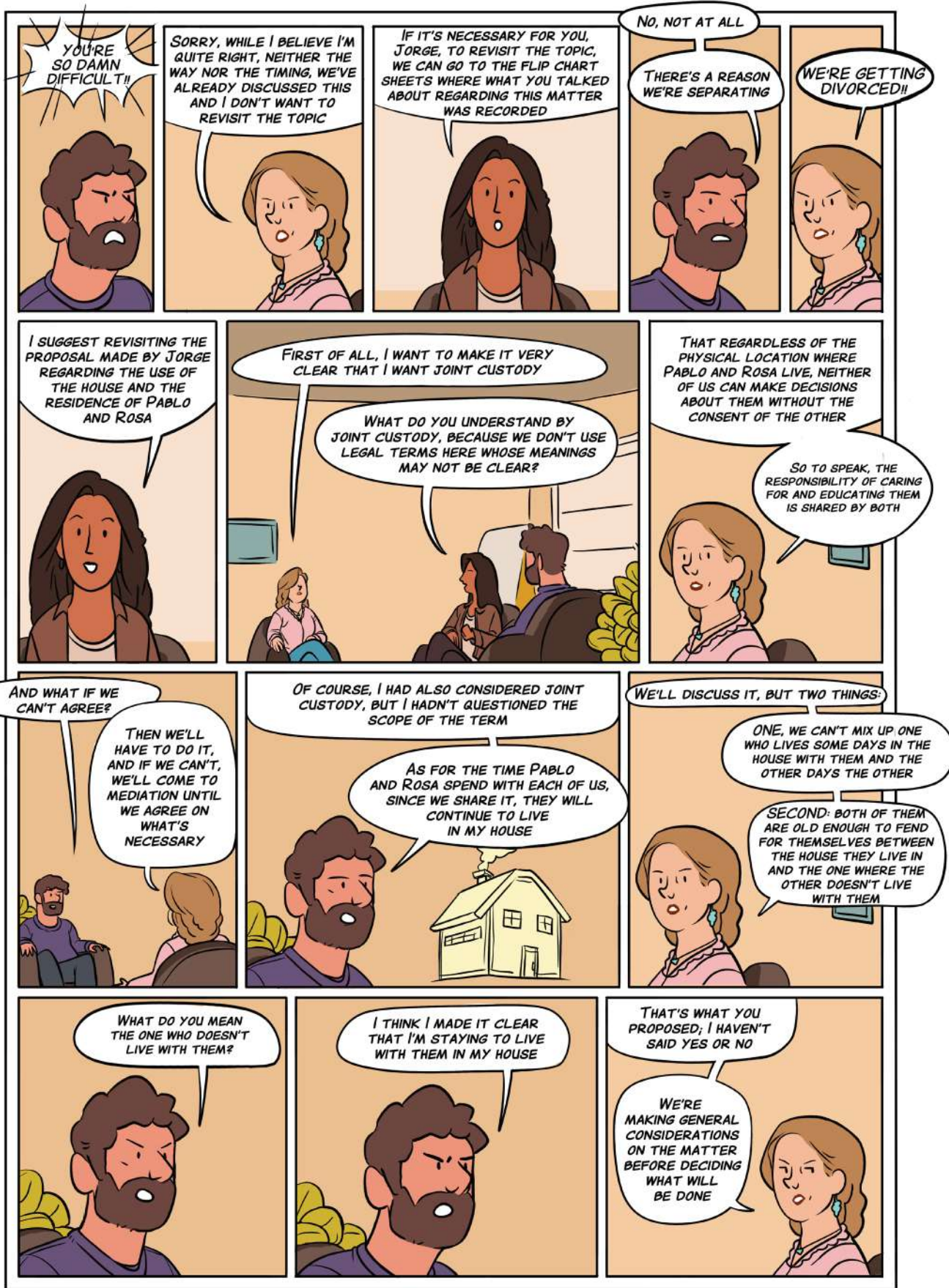
THEY AGREED TO TALK TO PABLO AND ROSA ABOUT THE DIVORCE AND MEDIATION PROCESS.

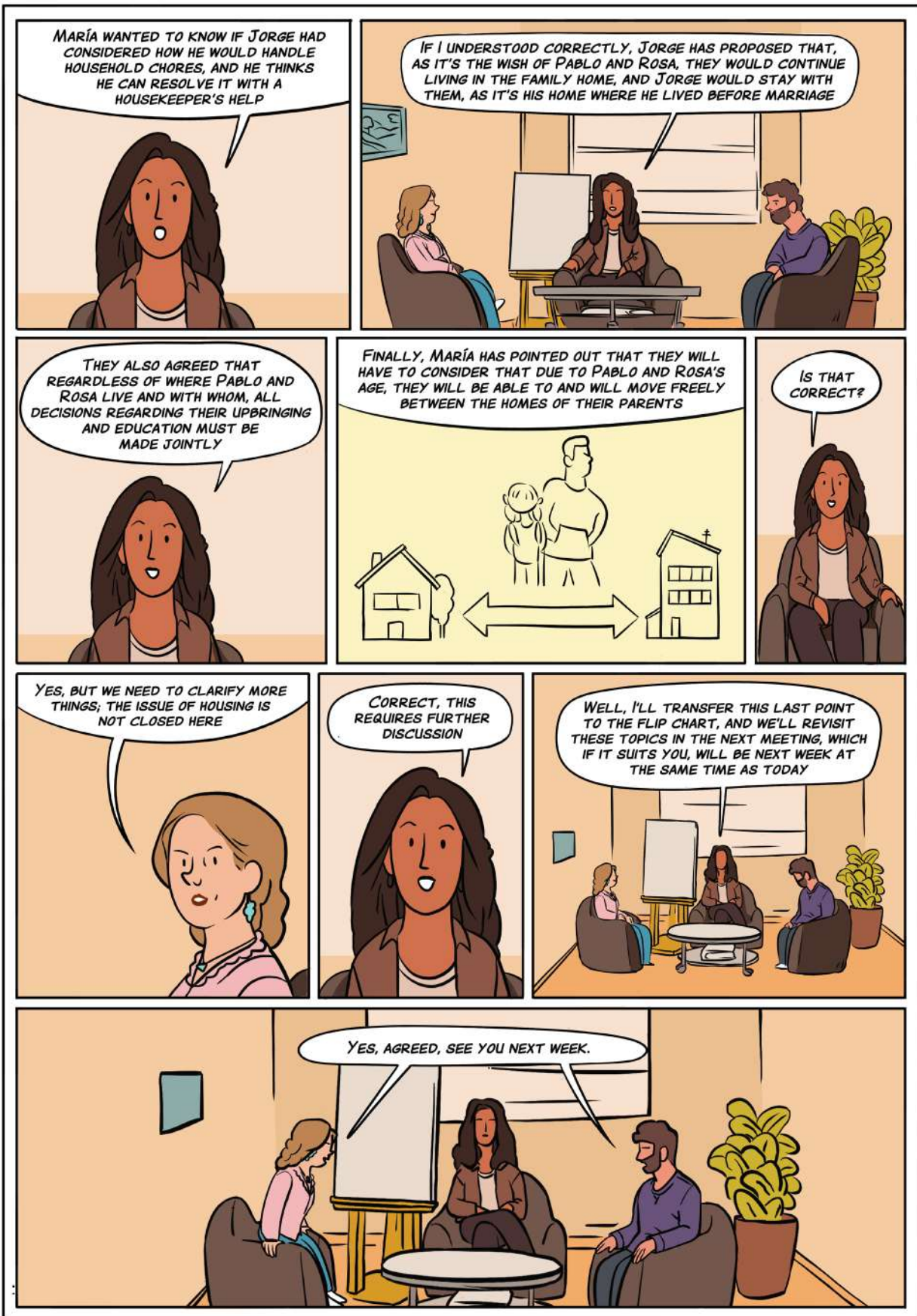


PABLO AND ROSA WERE AWARE OF THE SITUATION BETWEEN THEIR PARENTS AND WANT TWO THINGS:

1. TO CONTINUE LIVING IN THE CURRENT HOUSE.
2. THAT FINAL DECISIONS ARE NOT MADE WITHOUT CONSULTING THEM.









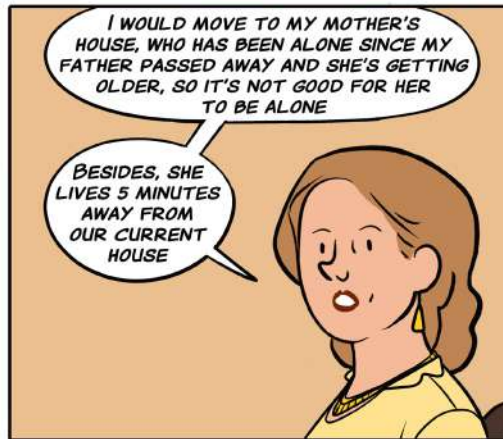
SUMMARY OF THE MOST RELEVANT ASPECTS OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

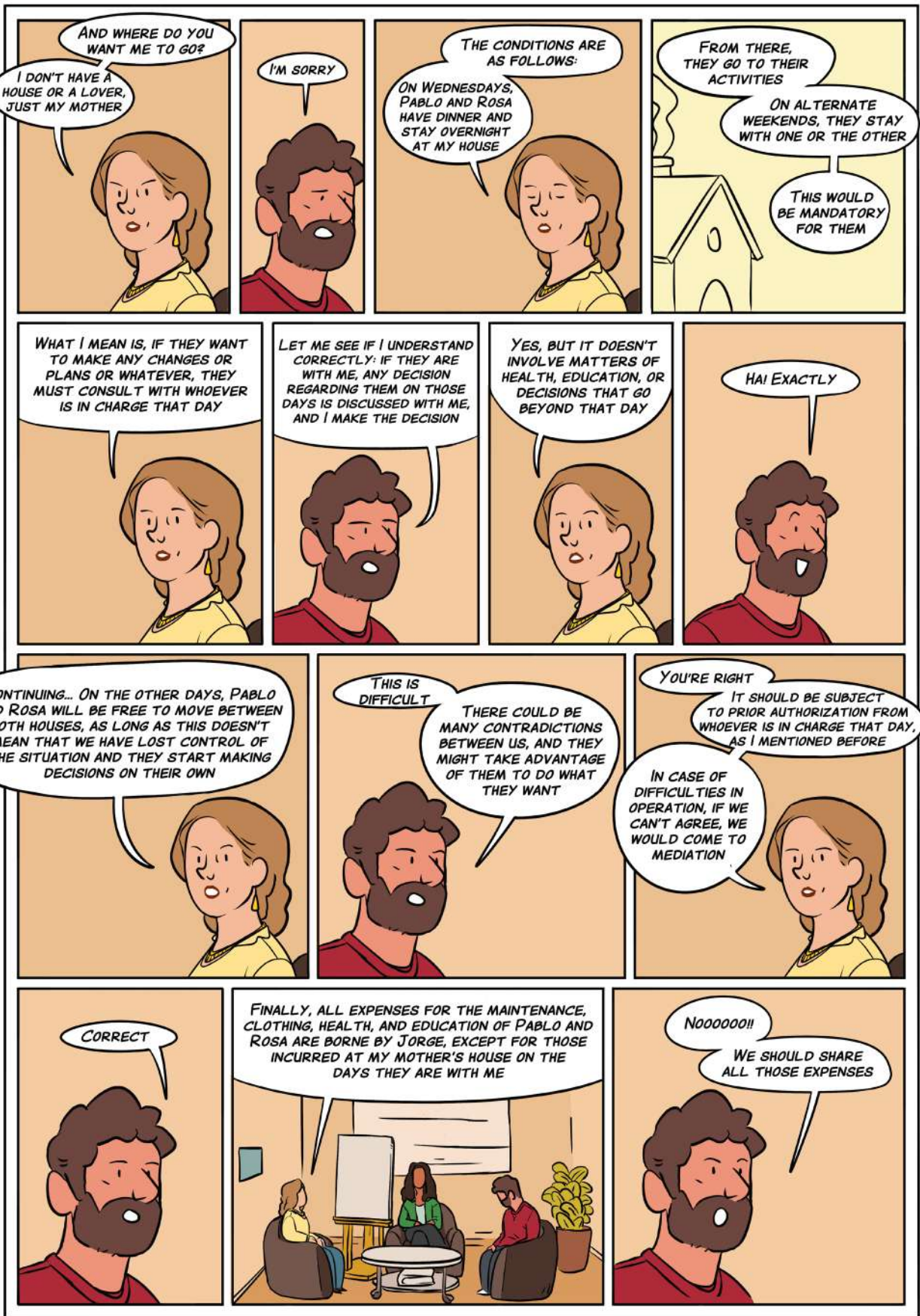
JORGE: PROPOSED THAT PABLO AND ROSA STAY TO LIVE WITH HIM IN HIS HOUSE, WHICH HAS BEEN THE FAMILY HOME UNTIL NOW.

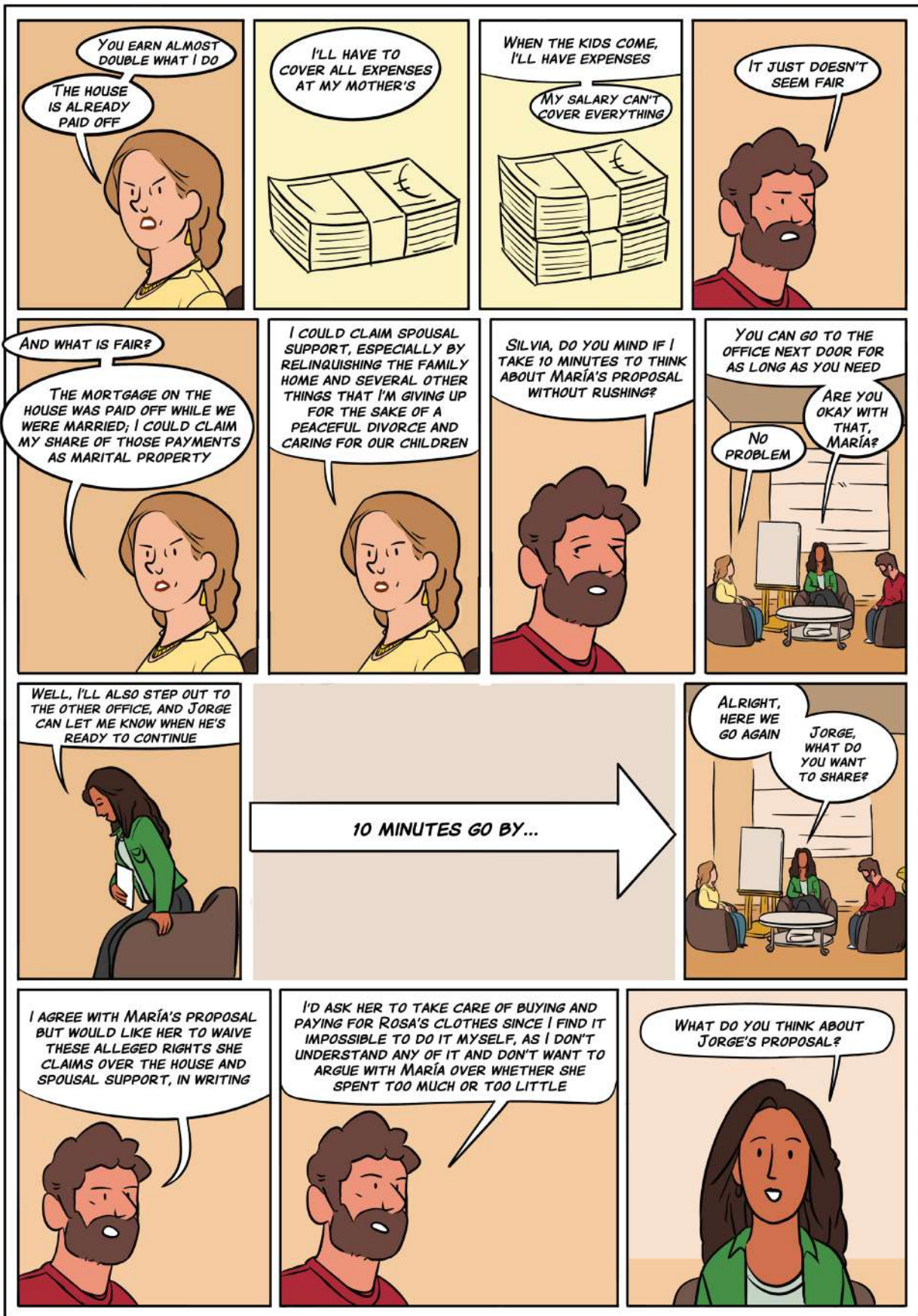
IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION FROM MARÍA, JORGE PROPOSED THAT FOR THE NECESSARY HOUSEHOLD TASKS RELATED TO CLEANING, LAUNDRY, AND MEALS, HE WOULD HIRE A HOUSEKEEPER TO MAKE HIS PROPOSAL VIABLE.

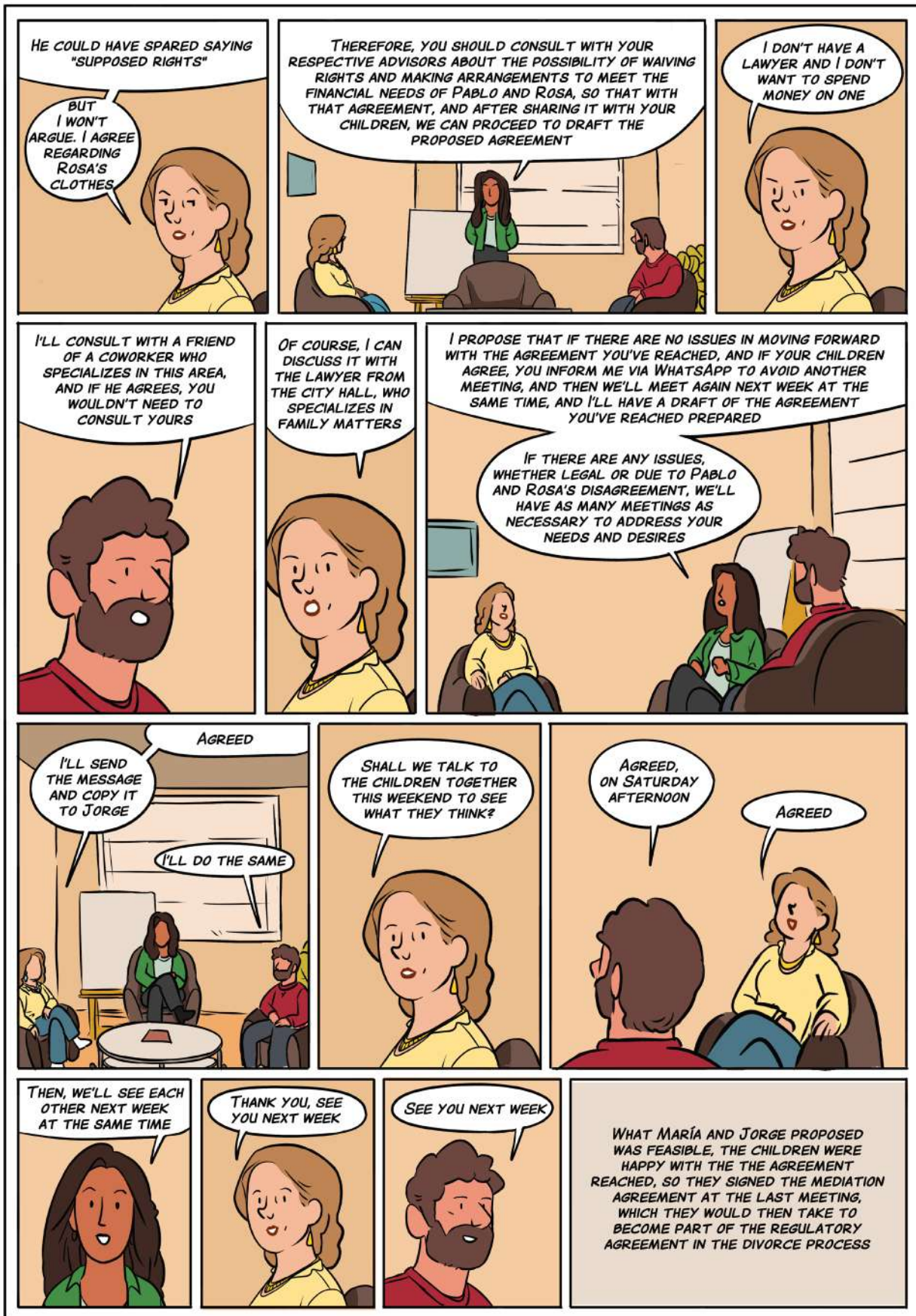
MARÍA SUGGESTED THAT CONSIDERING PABLO AND ROSA'S AGE, WHATEVER DECISION IS MADE, THEY SHOULD HAVE THE FREEDOM TO MOVE BETWEEN THE HOUSES WHERE THEIR PARENTS LIVE.

PABLO AND ROSA REQUESTED TO BE CONSULTED ON ANY FINAL AGREEMENT.









First of all, I would like to thank CEMIN for the work and effort they put into spreading these useful topics through comics. Thank you for inviting me to collaborate.

I have endeavored to show that family mediation is a safe space for expression and listening. Safe because time is given for whatever needs to be said to be said. The times for speaking are individual to each person.

Furthermore, the mediator refrains from judging what they hear because they know nothing about the participants and are nobody to judge them. Finally, it is a safe place because respect and care are essential values of mediation.

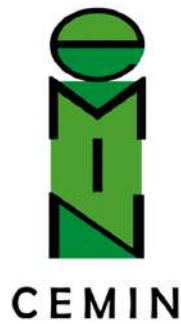
Speaking and being heard, listening to oneself speak and listening to others, is what makes the difference. I hope to have been able to contribute to CEMIN's noble task and to have entertained those who access this comic.

Daniel J. Bustelo Eliçabe-Urriol
Madrid, October 2021

Reproduction of this work, in whole or in part,
is prohibited without the written consent of CEMIN,
regardless of the medium, electronic or mechanical.

**Free copy.
Sale prohibited.**

This comic was completed
in January 2022.



ABIE
Asociación para el Bienestar
de la Infancia y su Entorno



CEMIN
CONFEDERACIÓN POR EL MEJOR INTERÉS DE LA INFANCIA
(Confederation for the Best Interests of Children)

Calle Casado del Alisal, nº 4-5º - Dcha.
28014 MADRID, SPAIN

Registered in the National Registry of Associations
of Spain with the number 607.829

<http://cemin.org>
contact: administracion@cemin.org

