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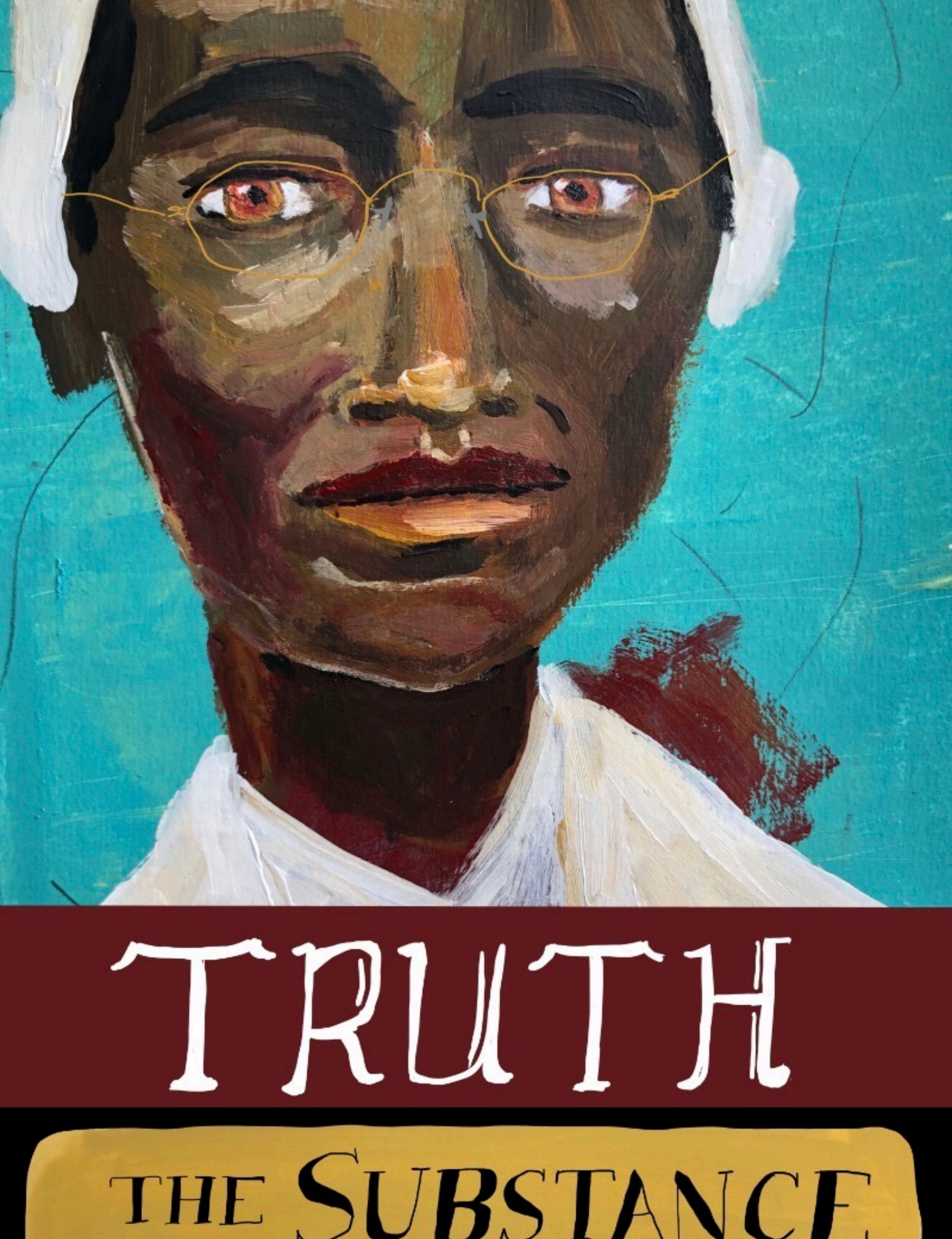
The Substance and the Shadow (Sojourner Truth)

Ervick, Kelcey

To cite this comic//graphic nonfiction: Ervick, Kelcey. “The Substance and the Shadow (Sojourner Truth).” *The Rumpus* September 15, 2020.

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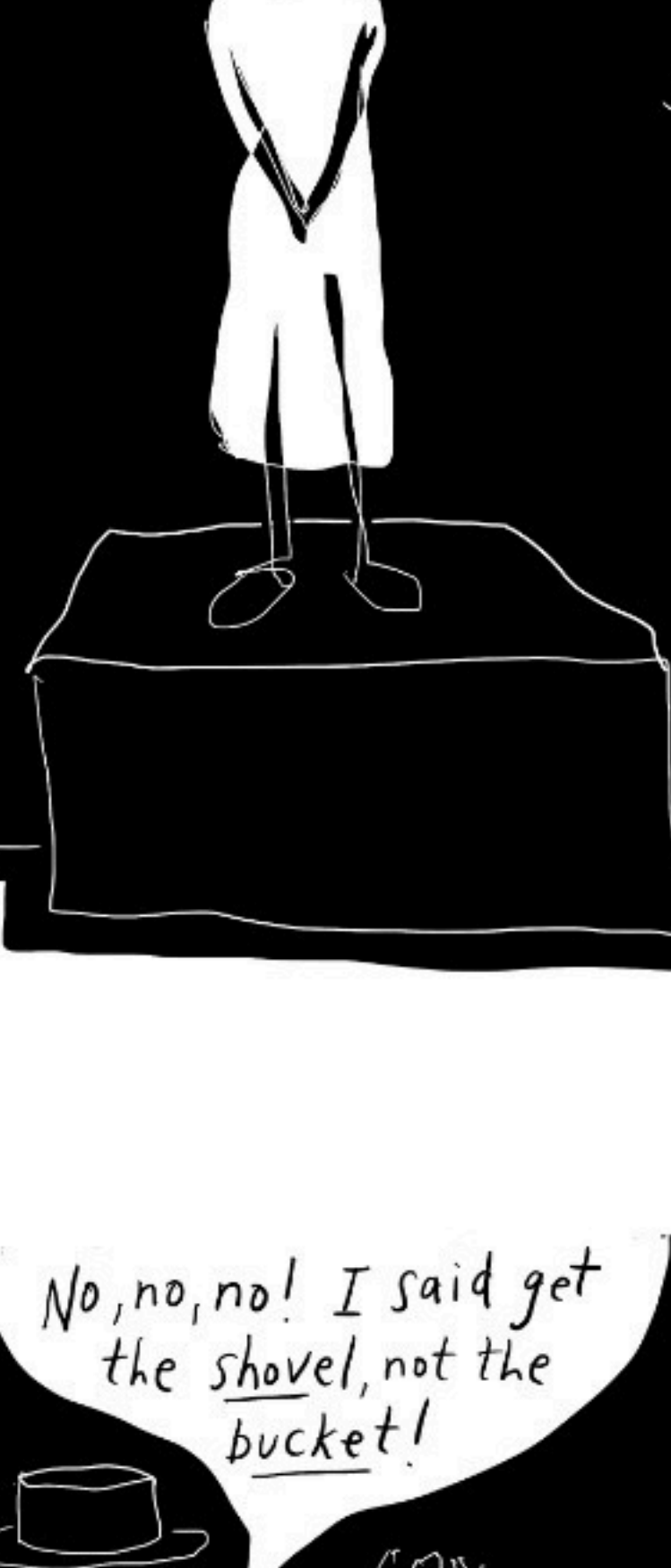
SOJOURNER



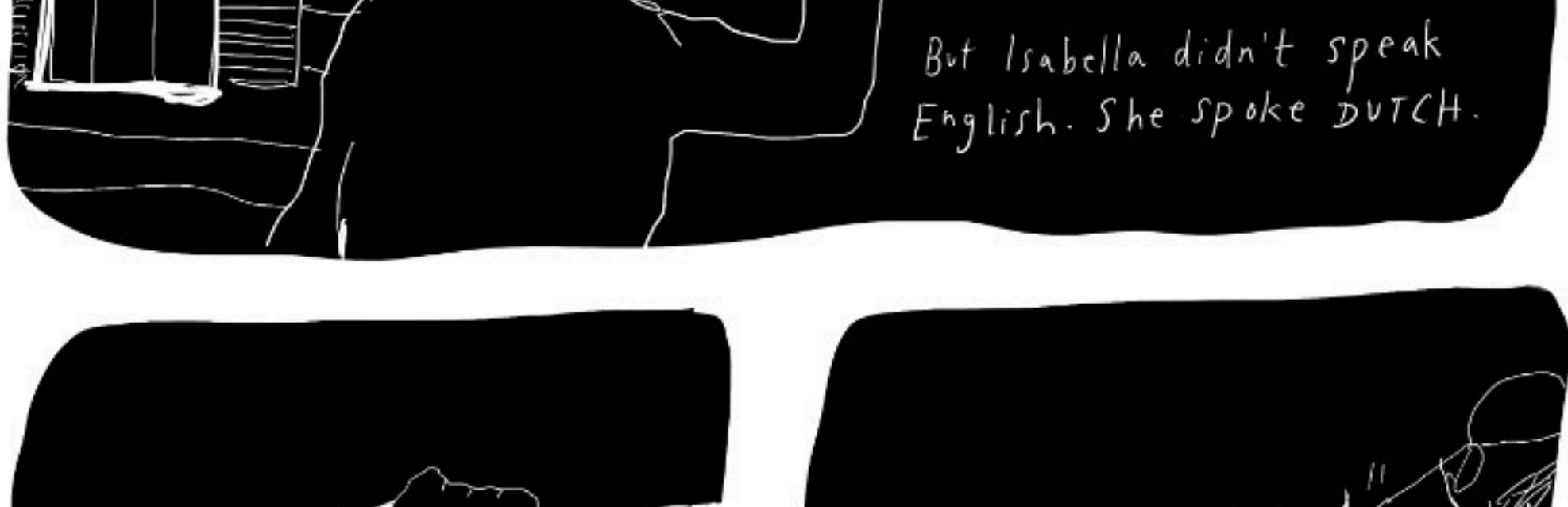
TRUTH

THE SUBSTANCE AND THE SHADOW

BY KELCEY ERVICK



Isabella
age 9
sold for \$100



But Isabella didn't speak English. She spoke DUTCH.



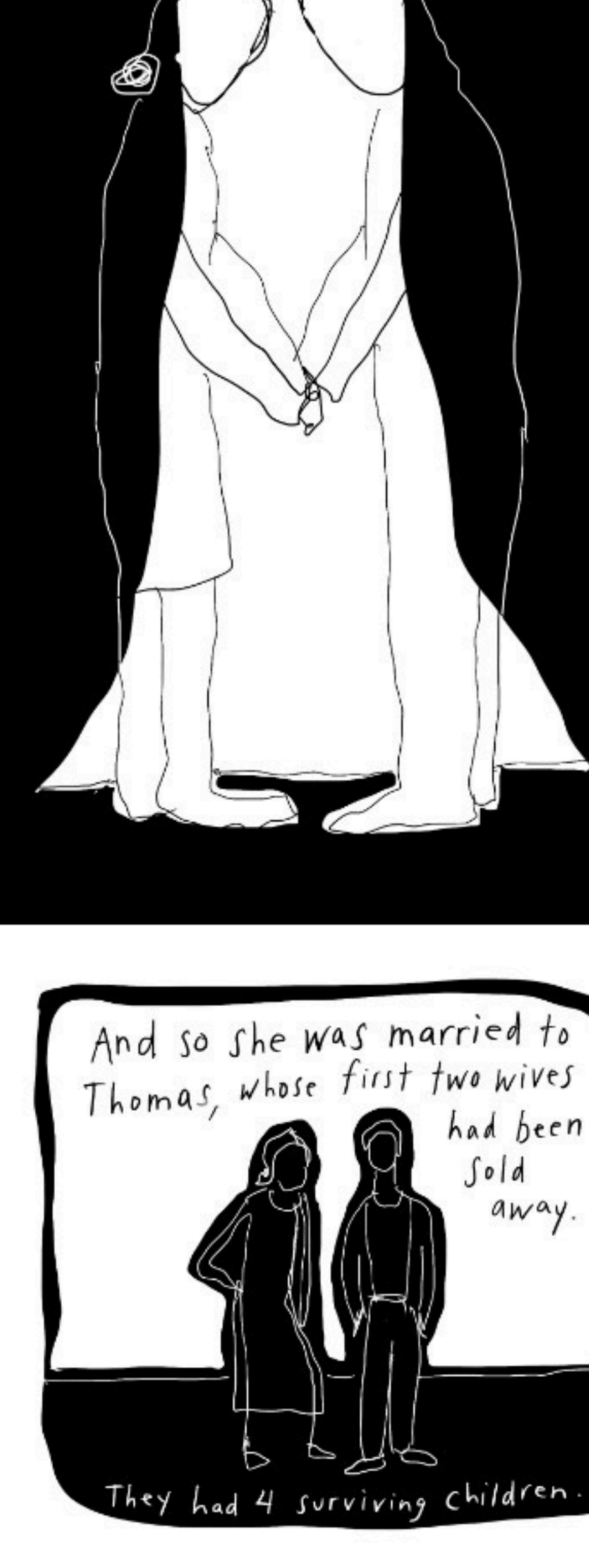
She learned a new form of communication.



Isabella grew tall and strong.

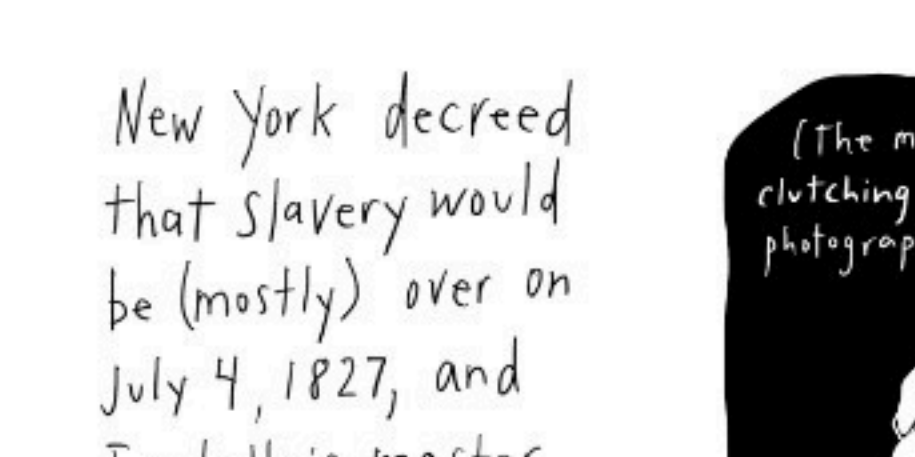
She fell in love.

His name was Robert.



But Robert was owned by a master who "commanded him to take a wife among his fellow servants" so that the master's property would be increased.

One day when Robert visited Isabella who was sick, Robert's master followed him and beat him with canes, "brusing and mangling his head and face in the most awful manner." His "only crime," she said years later, "was his affection for her." He never visited her again.



And so she was married to Thomas, whose first two wives had been sold away. They had 4 surviving children.

Diana
b. 1815

Peter
b. 1821

Elizabeth
b. 1825

Sophia
b. 1826

New York decreed that slavery would be (mostly) over on July 4, 1827, and Isabella's master promised to free her a year early. But she suffered from "a badly diseased hand" that slowed her work, and he reneged.

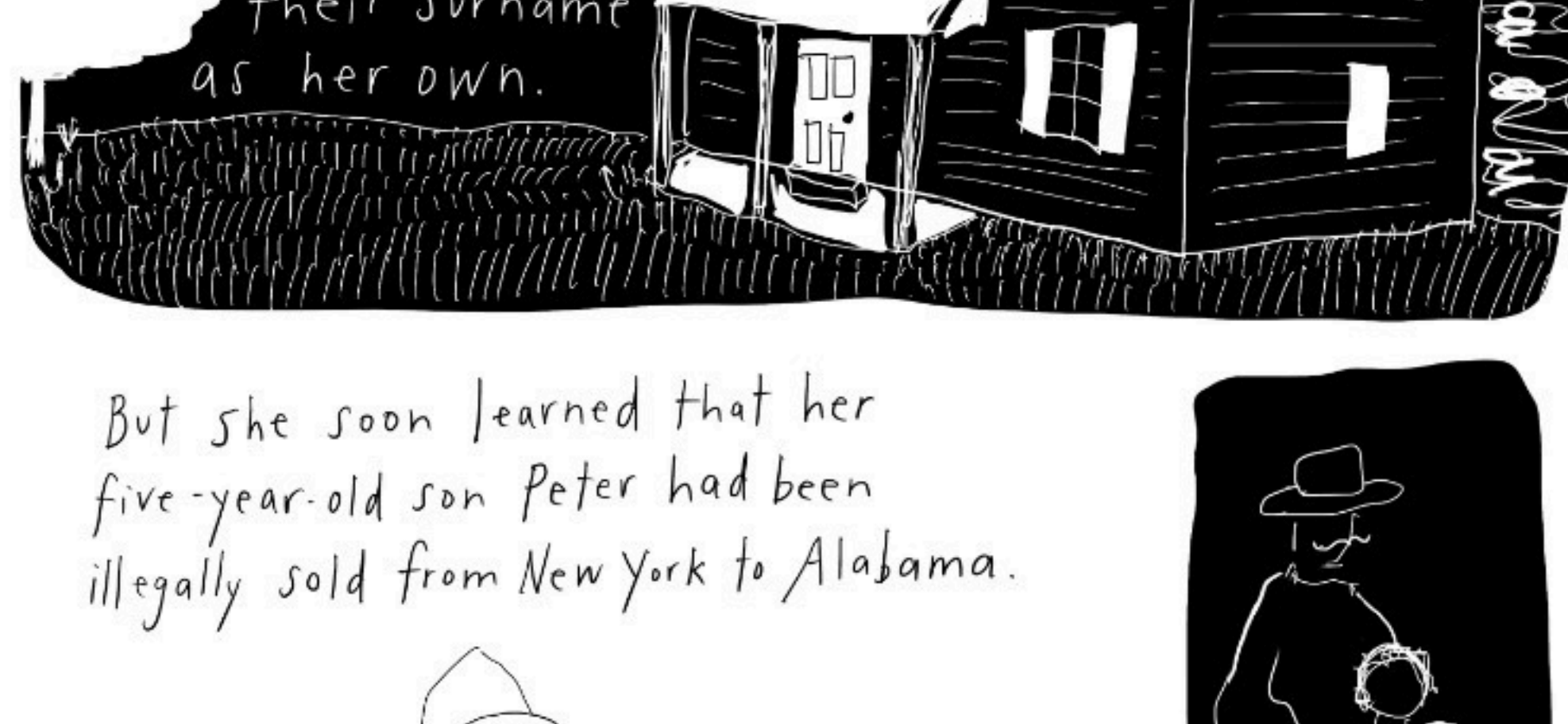


Isabella decided "to take her freedom into her own hands."

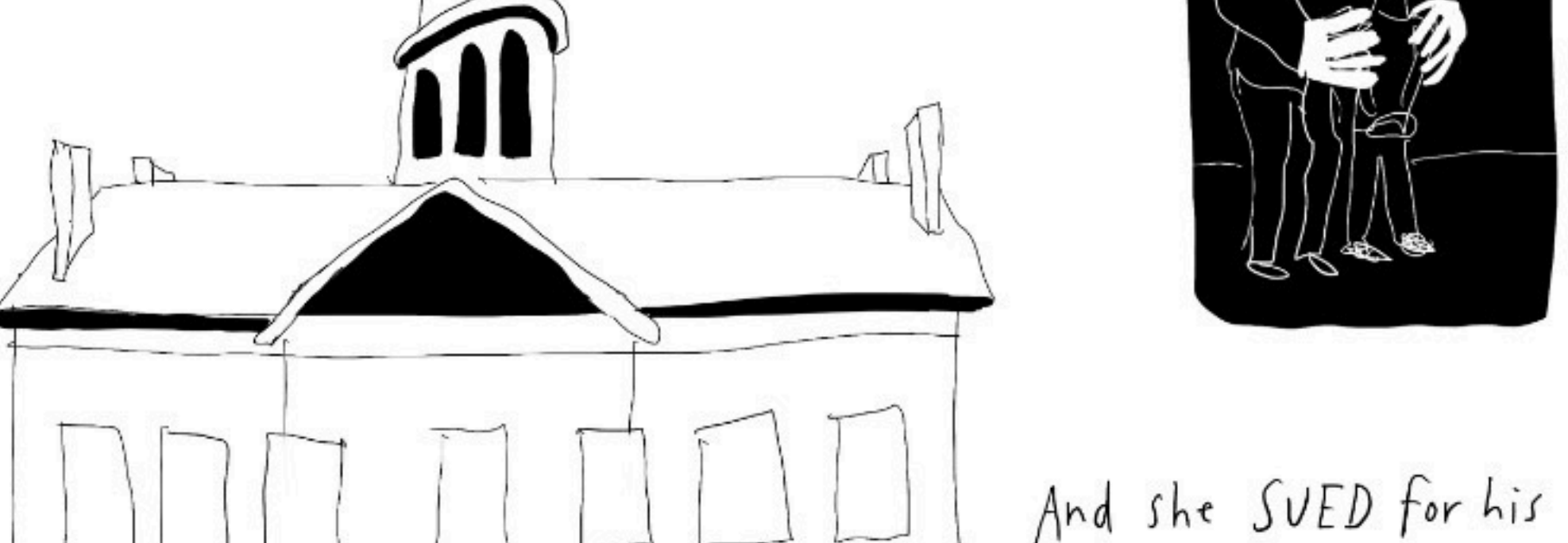
With her infant daughter Sophia, a cotton handkerchief of provisions, and the guidance of God, she left before daybreak.



At "the summit of a high hill... the sun offended her... in all his supreme splendor. She thought it was never so light before; indeed she thought it much too light."



Isabella was taken in by an abolitionist family - the Van Wegens - and she took their surname as her own.



But she soon learned that her five-year-old son Peter had been illegally sold from New York to Alabama.



And she SUEd for his return. And she Won.

Her husband died, and for 15 years, Isabella supported herself and her two free children.

Then, on June 1, 1843, she announced that "her name was no longer ISABELLA, but

SOJOURNER."

She would testify the

TRUTH.



The truth she testified was spiritual and personal.

Inspired by the success of Frederick Douglass's narrative, but unable to read or write, she dictated her story.



Self-published meant she could keep the profits

As time went on, the message of truth focused on more earthly matters: abolition and suffrage.