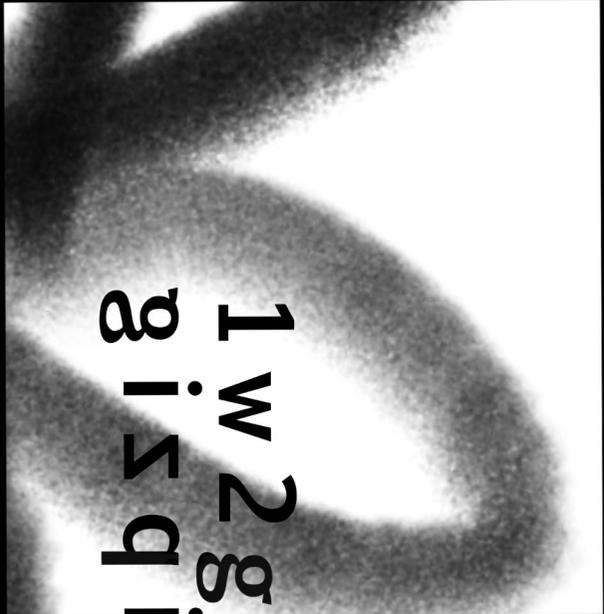


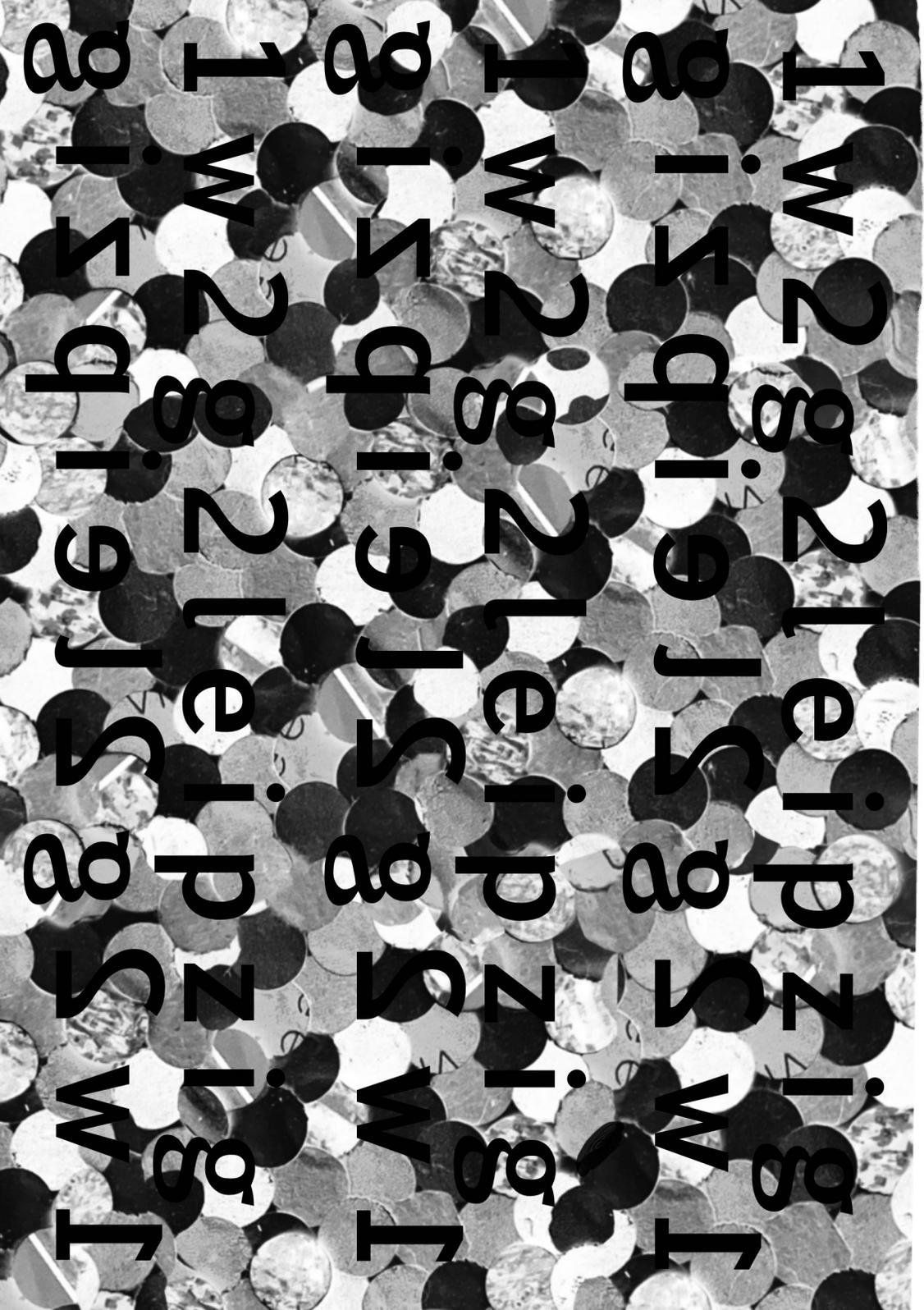
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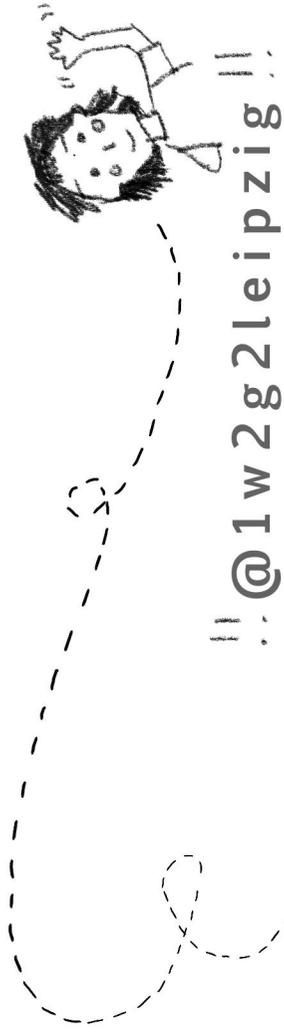
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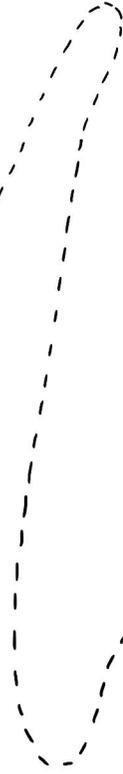
one way to get to leipzig



# 1w2g2leipzig



!!@1w2g2leipzig!!



this is the story of how i got to leipzig. specifically the last leg. although the entire journey is documented on this page to give the reader some context and biography.

when i was in glasgow about three months ago, i went to a zine library in govanhill. once inside i was offered a cup of tea, and spent a while choosing what to read off the shelves. it was such a kind, queer space. also, shout out to category is books down the road and violette and co in paris. these three places, and the hours of time i've had to day dream and think over the past 150 days, have inspired me to start making something. if you are reading this it means i finished it whattt.

i hope you enjoy my little story and pls dm me to be included in the next edition! - nina



i was at anna's house, somewhere near gare du nord station in paris. to end my backpacking stint here had been the best idea i'd had in a while. as it turns out, living out of an osprey and not knowing where i was going to sleep at night was deeply stressful for me, so actually the warm embrace of the city of love was exactly what i needed to end it on a high. lol. i just had to get my shit from paris to \*leipzig and chill out for a while.



we were hanging out in the loft. amidst a conversation with her agent, anna asked, 'so why are you getting the bus?'. i would question it too, anna. why make a short journey (judging by australian standards) into a twenty four hour one? if she wasn't busy at the time i would have given her this comprehensive list:

#1 sitting in a bus (especially overnight) for such long periods is the closest you will get to that feeling when your parents are driving you home from your marnie and dida's place at night and you never want it to end

#2 the weight restrictions on a bus are way more chill than at the airport. the peace of mind this can give you is priceless

#3 i've never caught the bus from paris to berlin to leipzig before (always have to try things once)

#4 the scenery is a lot more accessible than in air. one can really see some cool stuff

#5 from a personal finance perspective, it's always a worthy choice

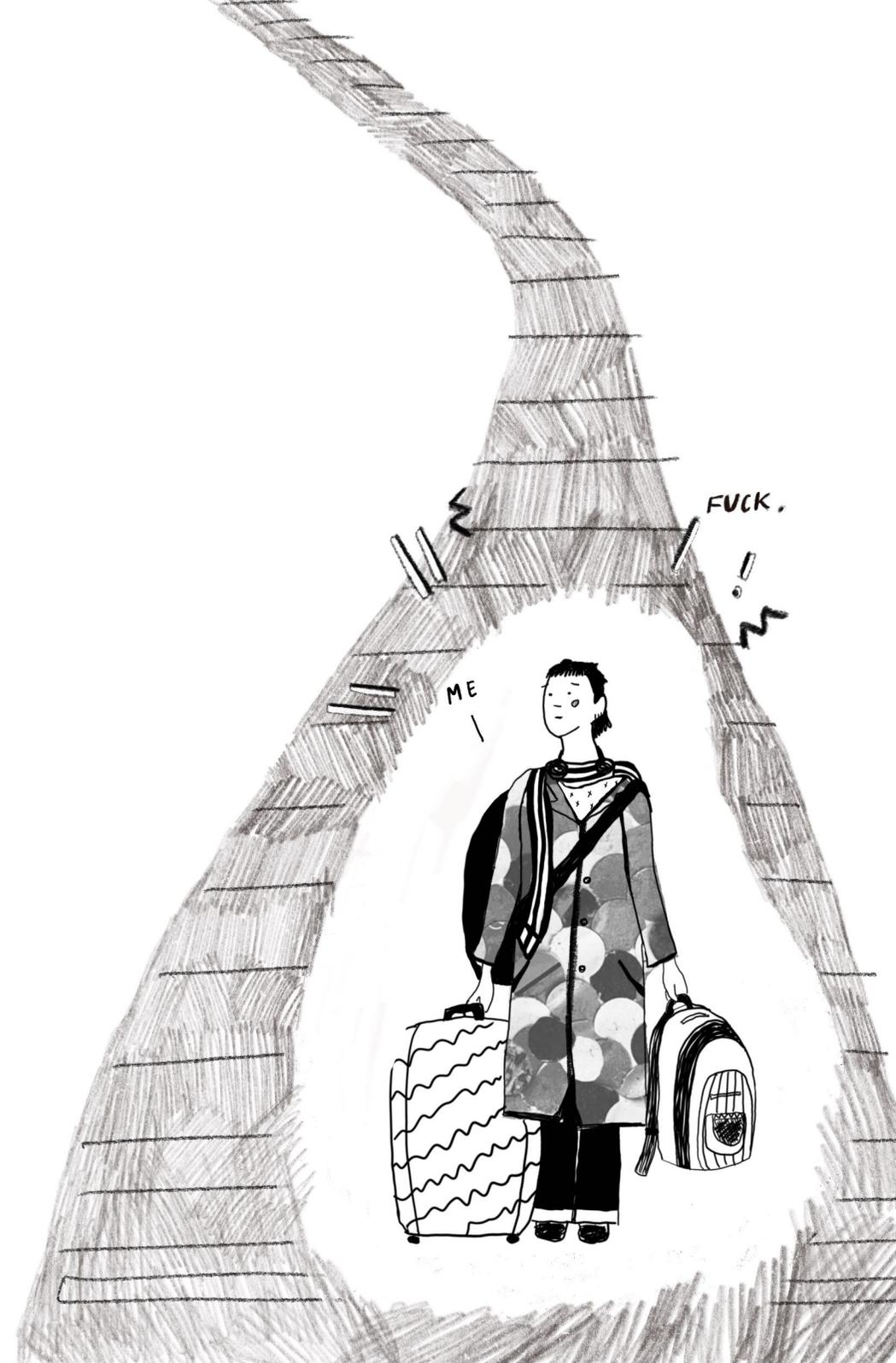
I stand by my choice and will always stand with those who travel europe by bus lol

I JUST NEEDED TO LEAVE ANNA'S AND GET TO THE "FLIX BUS STATION" VIA THE WORLD RENOWNED *paris metro*

\*for those who don't know this is the name of a city in east germany that i was moving to blindly. truly the randomest thing i have ever done.

so. the metro has soooo many stairs. like what's up with that? nothing could have prepared me for the emotional and physical toll of pulling all my worldly goods up and down the maze that lies just underneath paris. it's also quite hot down there. also i am very stubborn and help from others or apps such as uber are strictly against the rules.

it's times like these where you have to play a game with yourself, like any sort of distraction. i was probably singing musical theatre out loud or pretending i wasn't real.



Bagneux - Lucile Aubrac - Barbara - Mairie de Montrouge - Porte d'Orléans - Alesia - Mouton-Duvernet - Denfert-Rochereau - Raspail - Vavin - Montparnasse-Bienvenüe - Saint-Placide - Saint-Sulpice - Saint-Germain-des-Prés - Odéon - Saint-Michel - Cité - Châtelet - Les Halles - Étienne Marcel - Réaumur-Sébastopol - Strasbourg-Saint-Denis - Château d'Eau - Gare de l'Est - Gare du Nord - Barbès-Rochecouart - Château Rouge - Marcadet-Poissonniers - Simplon - Porte de Clignancourt



i made it to the bus station !! got a bit wet in the rain in the last leg but spirits were high. i had a look to find my stand, but as the minutes ticked by it became clear that my 20:05 to berlin wasn't listed. i moved to sit closer to the board and watched it for about an hour. to fill in the time, i'm going to give nina a visit from the future and try to get her to calm down a bit.



me - hi darling  
nina - omg hey  
me - are you okay ?  
nina - actually i'm really hot. it's so hot in here. you can take my scarf or my extra layer of thermals. i have to wear everything cos there's no space in my luggage  
me - aw thx. but i'm fine... i'm like perfect temperature  
nina - ...  
me - ok let me hold your bag and take your scarf for a bit. you look a bit frazzled doll  
nina - ... UHH yeah i feel frazzled!! thx the scarf was choking me so baddd  
me - omg i hate that.  
nina - ...  
me - so what's up?  
nina - well i think the bus is running late or cancelled cos it's not coming up on the board. but all the other buses are listed. i'm trying to google translate it all in case i missed it but-  
me - you ran out of data  
nina - yeahhh. i just feel like it's not happening. i might be stuck in paris. this is fucked  
me - hahahaha omg. i'm not trying to be that girl, but there are worse problems out there. like i would love to be in paris right now paris is the best  
nina - you are in paris right now  
me - i'm literally in the flix bus station. and this station sucks. it's not even giving station. like it's a car park and i think they can just call it that  
nina - yeah tbh you're right about that one.  
me - i thought the flix bus station would be fun and green and giving flix you know  
nina - rightttt? ..but yeah of course i love paris. i just really really want to get to germany. and sleep for a week maybe. i don't think i can take a deep breath til i get there  
me - i remember. well...i came here with a prophecy... and you'll be happy to know... the prophecy is... your bus IS gonna pull up. like right in front of us. i think there was just a glitch on the board. but you are so fine you don't have to stick around in paris for another night. oh my gosh you hate it hereee  
nina - girlll shut up. you know i love it here. but i'm just sooo tired and anxious like it's concerning. you looked concerned when you first saw me  
me - i mean yeah. it was giving this girl is not ok. but that's why i came with the prophecy!  
nina - appreciate you. best prophecy ever  
me - you're welcomeeee. do you want me to say something in german?  
nina - do you want to say something to me in german?  
me - ja!  
nina - okay then hahahah  
me - ok i learnt how to count to ten and THEN to twenty and THEN beyond to one hundred. sooo like... we are fünfundzwanzig years old  
nina - ok wait cuute  
me - i can count for you to pass the time. can i count for you ??  
nina - i would really love to support you on this cos this is HUGE but my bus is here as you predicted! you really did that  
me - ok true. yay, well happy i could hang out. love you darling. have a good time on the bus. you're going to try and sleep but you daydream the whole time hahaha  
nina - fml. but okay hahaha. and love you  
me - you can sleep in germany. reallyyyy don't worry. there is so much sleep in your future  
nina - okayyy. see u later  
me - i'll help you with the bags !!

COULD BE PASSING  
BUT ITS A BIT  
SAD

THROUGH  
COS NO  
ONE  
BIG DEAL

LUXEMBOURG  
MADE A  
ABOUT IT



so, I know not much time at all has passed for you, but i was on hour seventeen, settled in my little spot on the bus. we'd been driving through germany for ages and berlin was getting closer on my little google map. it was all going to be over, soon. my feet would touch the grass. i still had to transfer by bus to leipzig from berlin, but it felt close enough. my new life. i could feel it getting closer and realer, the being on a bus for a full day thing was really adding to my suspense. it was really dramatic guys.

with the edge of the city in sight, our bus stopped on the autobahn. an abandoned car that was pulled up on the edge of the road was on fire. like right in front of us. the smoke was pretty intense, so i think it was a vision hazard for the road. we waited and watched for about thirty minutes, and soon the police and fire trucks let us go onwards. of course, i took this whole ordeal as a very bad omen...

we pulled into the station, and i made my second bus just on time. so all was well but the picture of that burning car wouldn't leave me alone. it followed me to leipzig and would reappear again and again when I thought about the life in australia I left behind. i would hear, 'remember the car?? it was a warning, for you specifically. it was a big red stop light blaring news just for nina: why are you here?? quick, turn around and run home! this is your sign!'

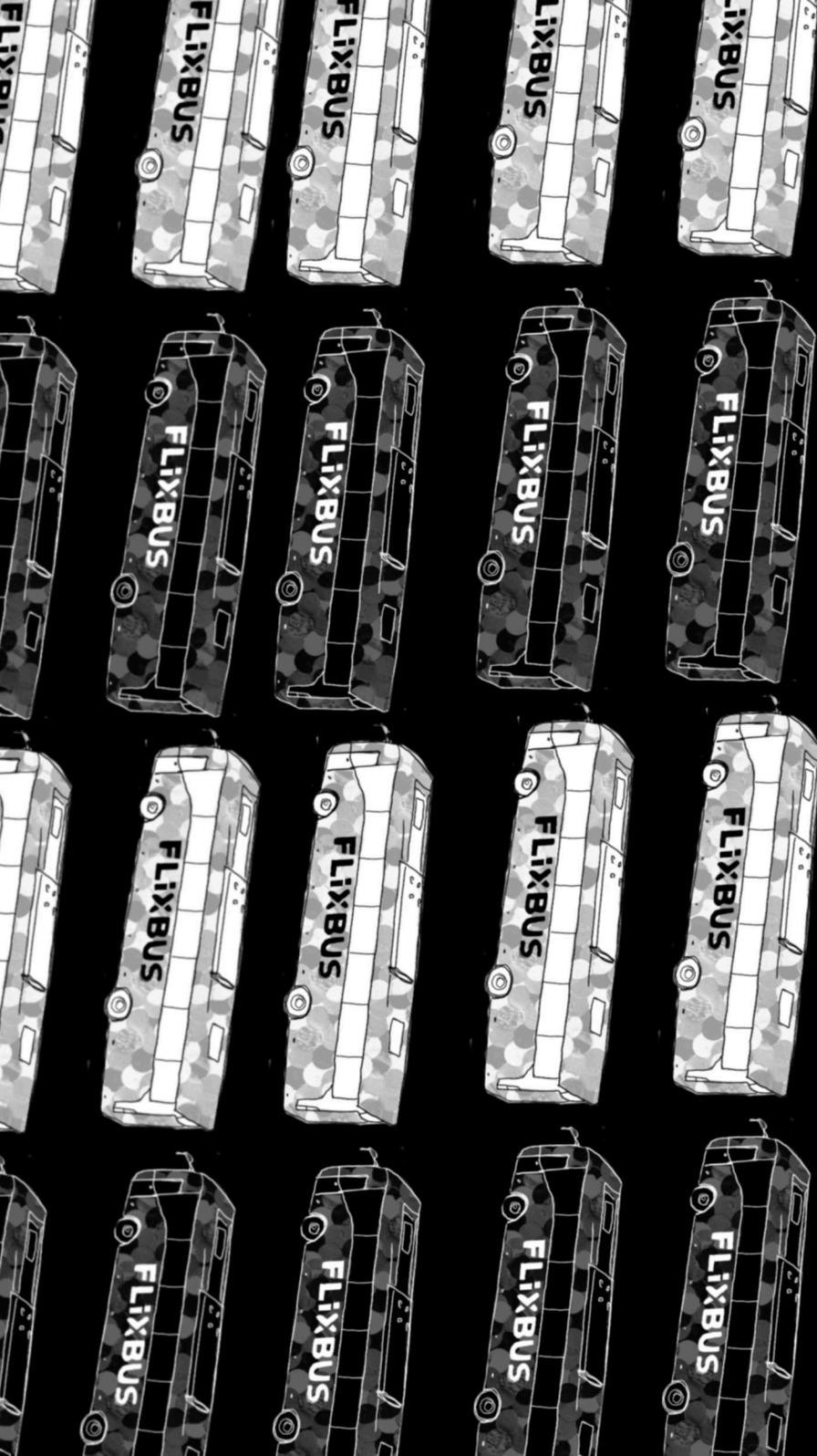


well. my journey came to an end.

near leipzig hbf i found a tram stop and waited for my number. i hopped off at a park and rolled through it with my bags to find my building. i took a lift one level up and was let into my flat and turned right to find my room. and that's where i've stayed. so far the whole car situation hasn't made me run home yettt, but i swear it maybe gave me some bad luck (is that bad to say) because boy this has been a rough winter!!

i'm trying to sum up this little story i made. not going to lie i just finished season two of buffy the vampire slayer for the first time so my brains a bit scattered. anyway! this was *one* way to get to leipzig. just one way. the whole journey, and the journey i took before that, and the time leading up to when i left- all of that was me just saying yes to some things and no to other things. i never could have predicted or planned any of it. i didn't know this city was here! not til a couple months ago. and there's so much i like about it. the cobblestone streets, the canals that have frozen, the yellow lights that come on when the sun sets, the mist, the snowy woods near my house, the way the supermarkets glow at night (lol), the way that evenings can go forever, and sometimes when you get a pretzel from the bäckerei they are warm and perfect.





are you following the metaphor? all of us are moving towards a city we've never heard of before. or we just arrived in one. and how we got there is complicated and interesting and unique every time. we're all on our own path and all that. righttttt. feeling better about this concept now i was struggling how to get it into some words. but yes. i hope to explore the lots of ways that my friends / readers have got to the random and beautiful places they are in today through drawings / words. starting with my next edition whenever that might come.

hope you enjoy the  
flixbus graphics. i've  
really found my niche.

the reason you are a farmer now, the way you ended up living in france, a realisation you had one day, how you came to have twelve children, why you quit finance once and for all, how you started your radio show, how you came to never leave fitzroy north, why you switched majors again, and how you became one of the game masters at the escape room. i could really explore unlimited themes with this guys. if you are reading this can i ask how you got to where you are today? in a small way or a big way.

@1w2g2leipzi&