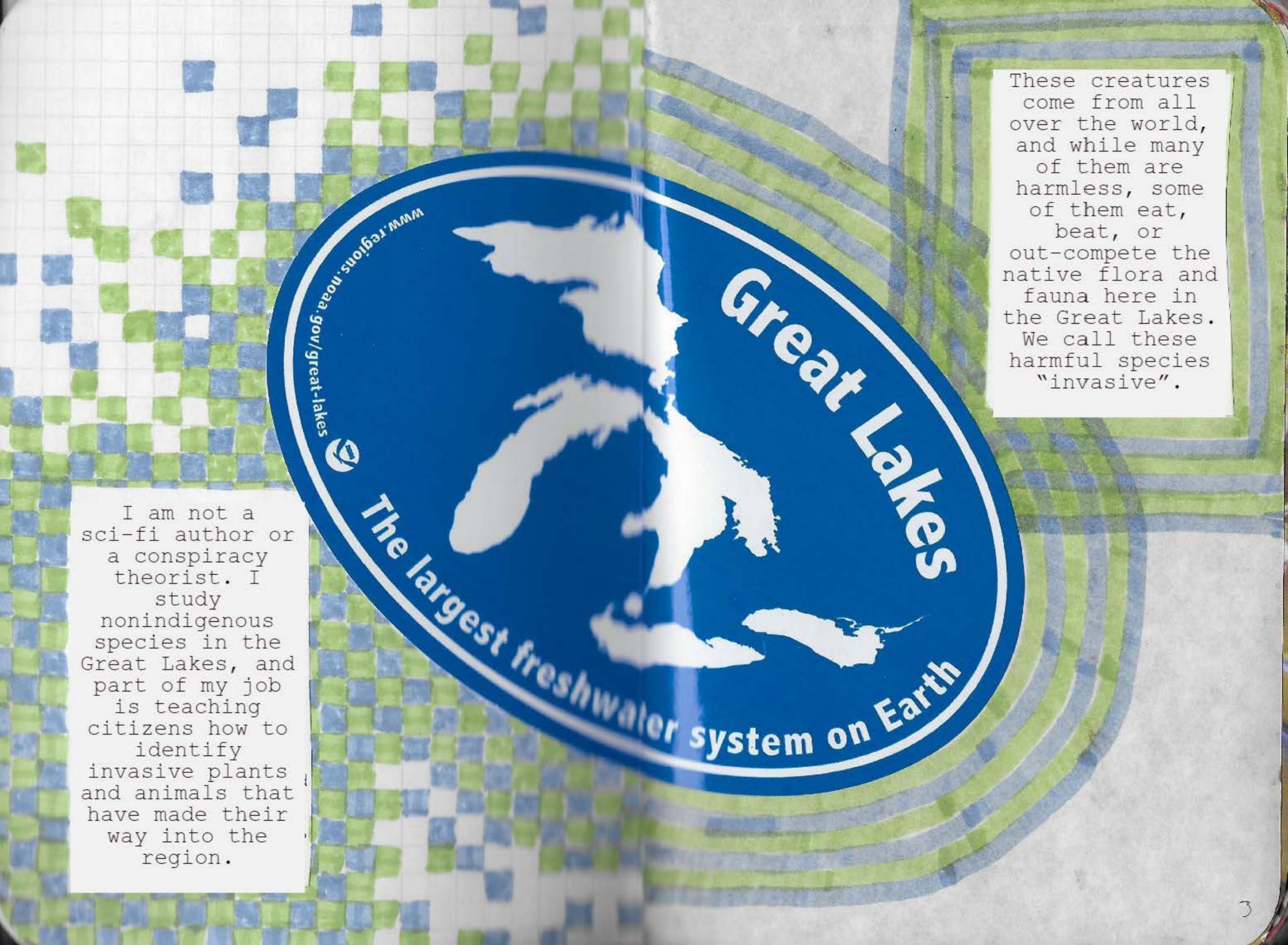
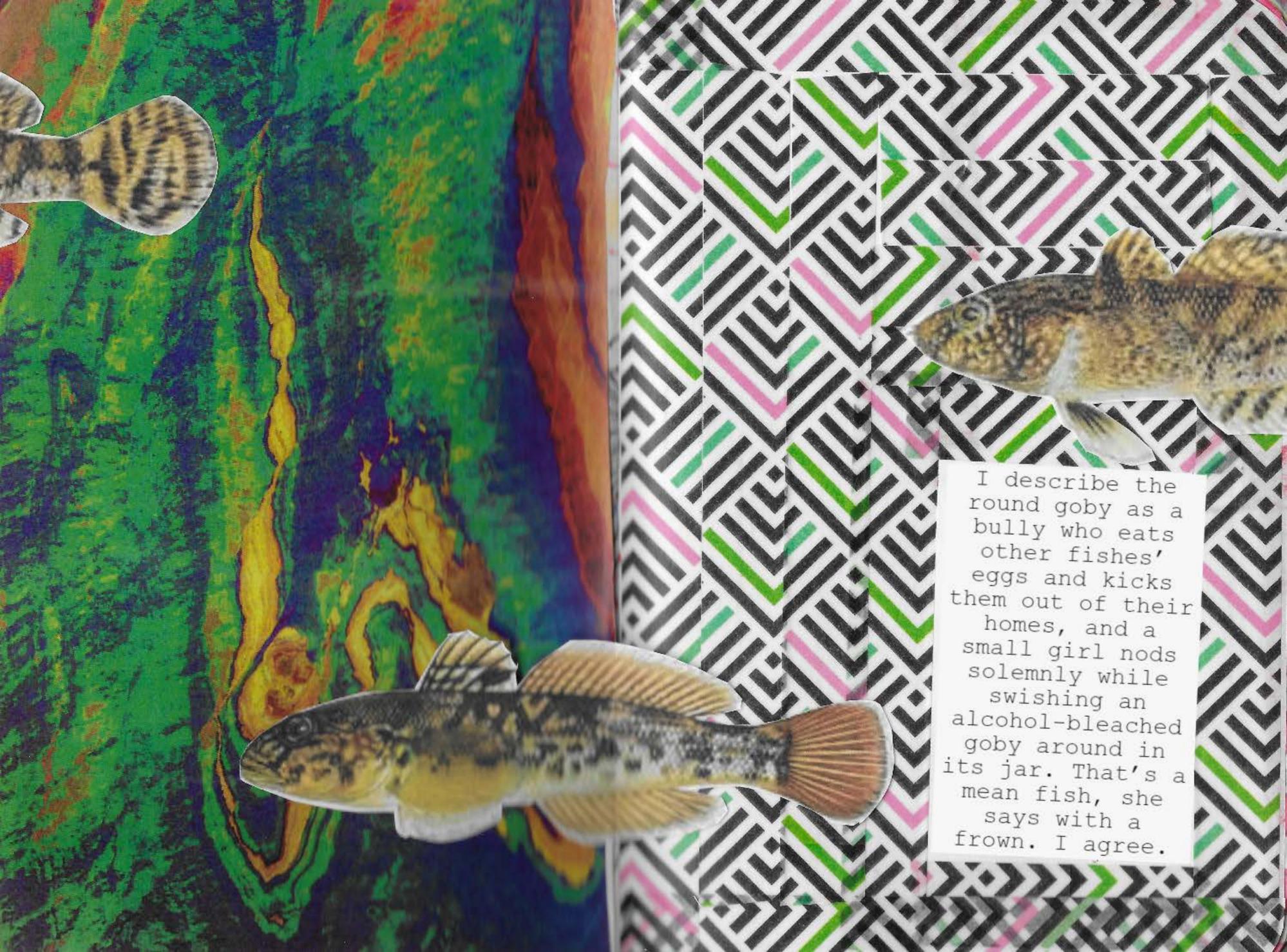
A ZINE ABOUT ECOLOGICAL RHETORIC









A pair of boys attempt to duel each other with my wooden lamprey model after I tell them that it's a vampire that sucks the blood of other fish like Dracula, then bolt off to see the real live lampreys in the tank that Fish and Wildlife have set up across the aisle.



















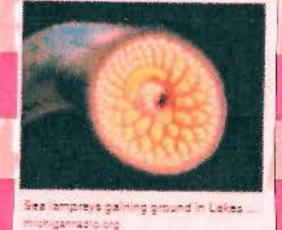




















great assessed one

Researcher studies vamping a ver lamprey

The lampreys whip around their tank before latching onto the glass to rest, toothy suction cup mouths looking like something out of a horror film.







The kids and their parents alike let out theatrical eeeeeews.

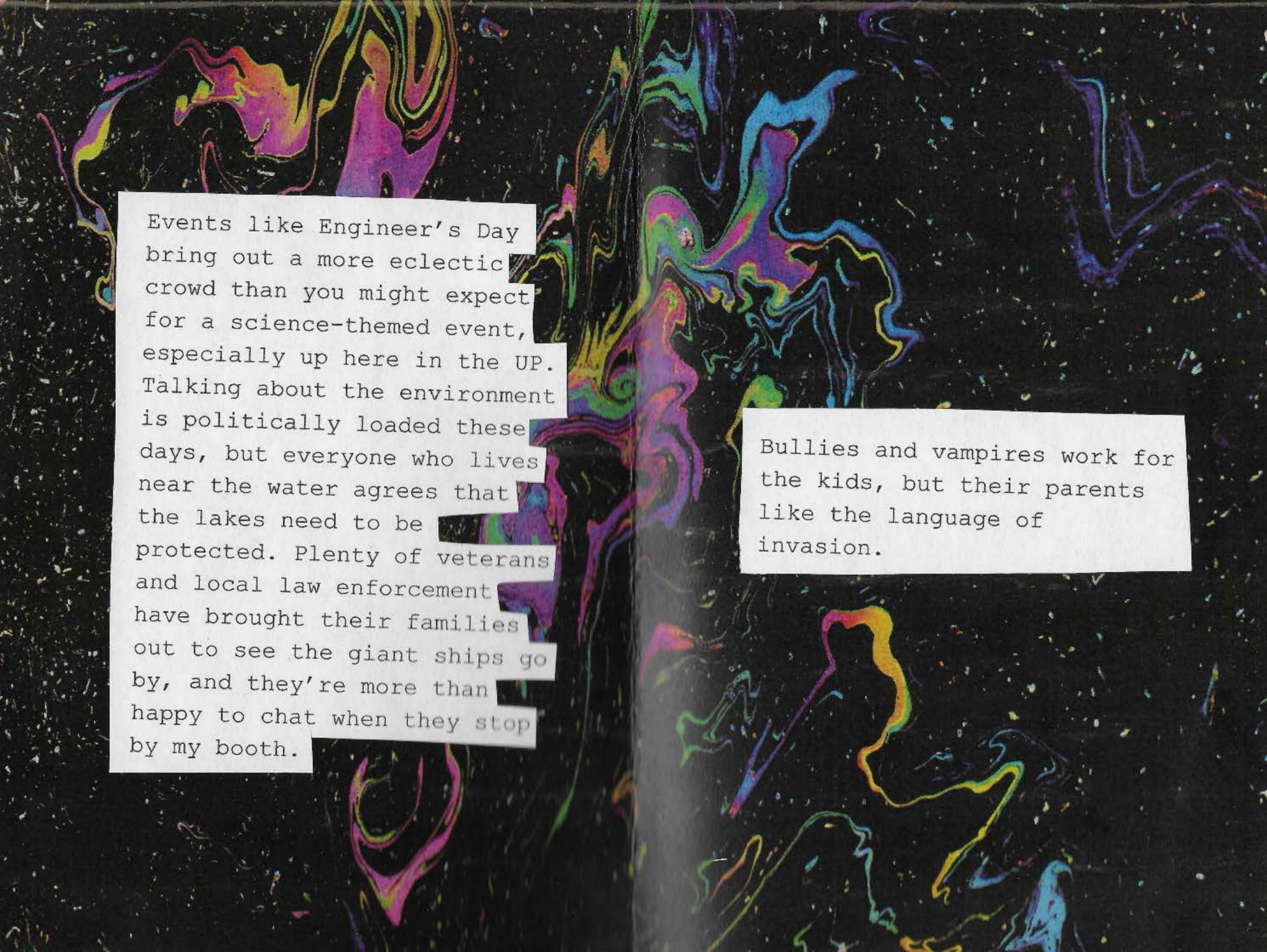




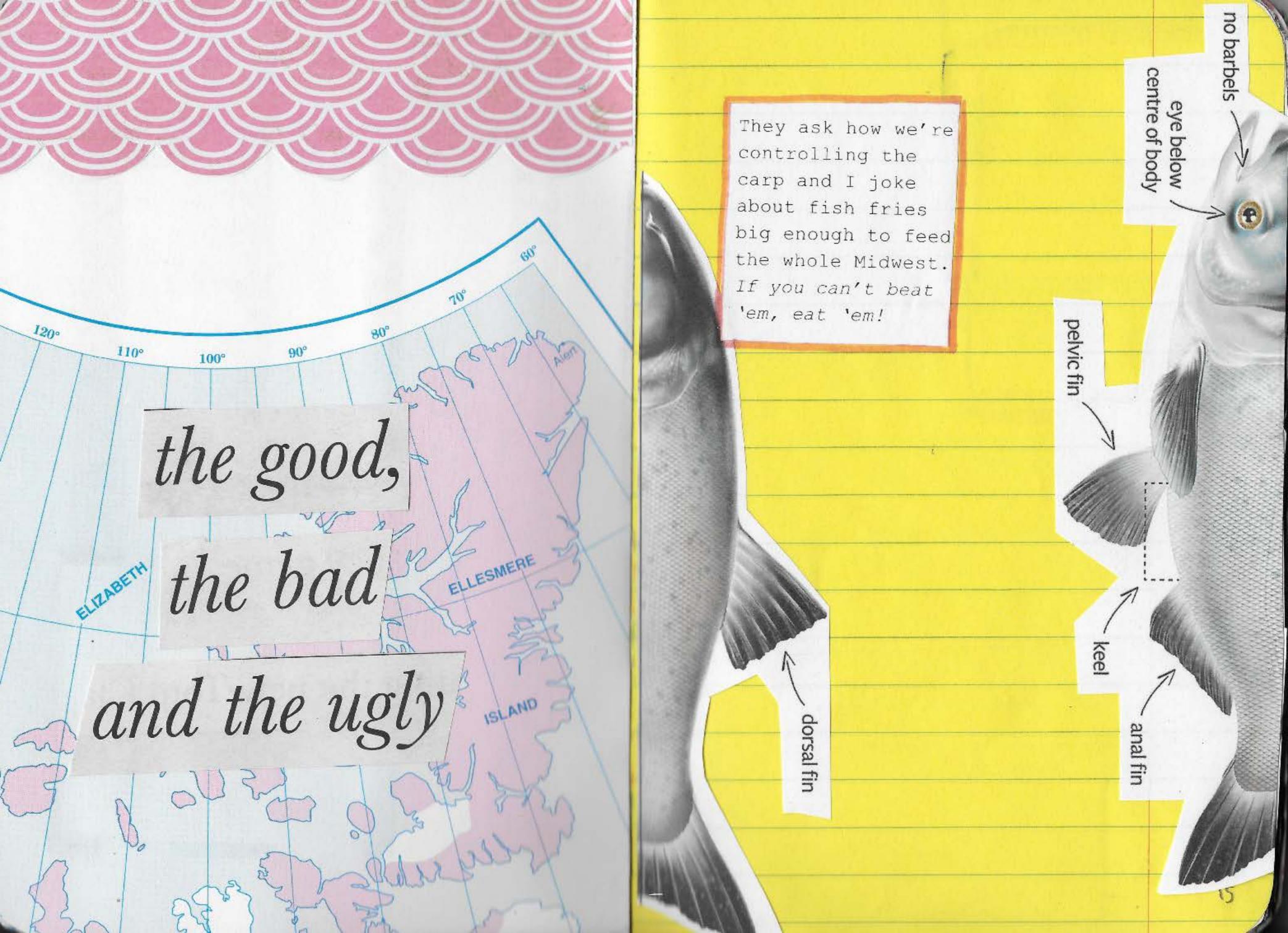


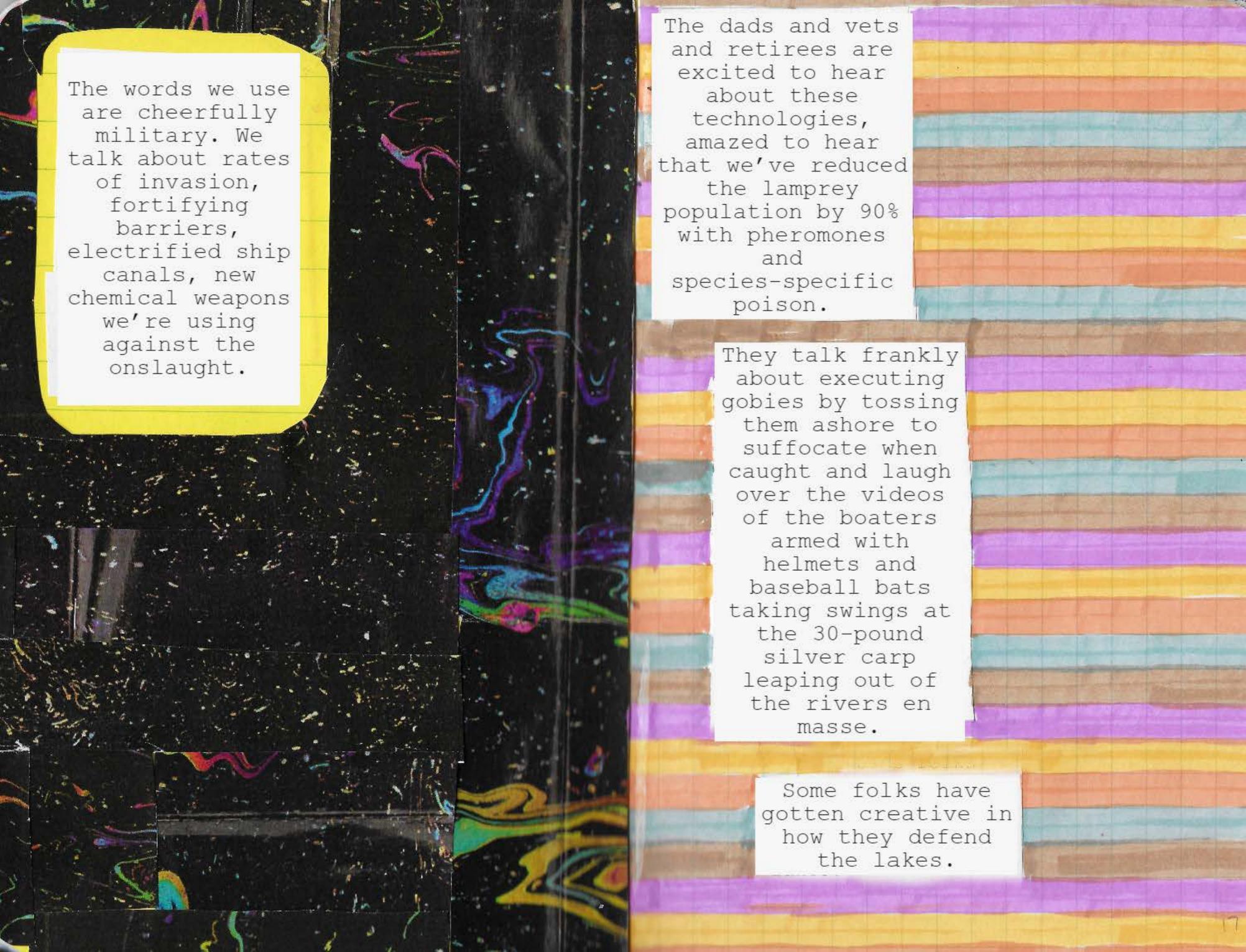




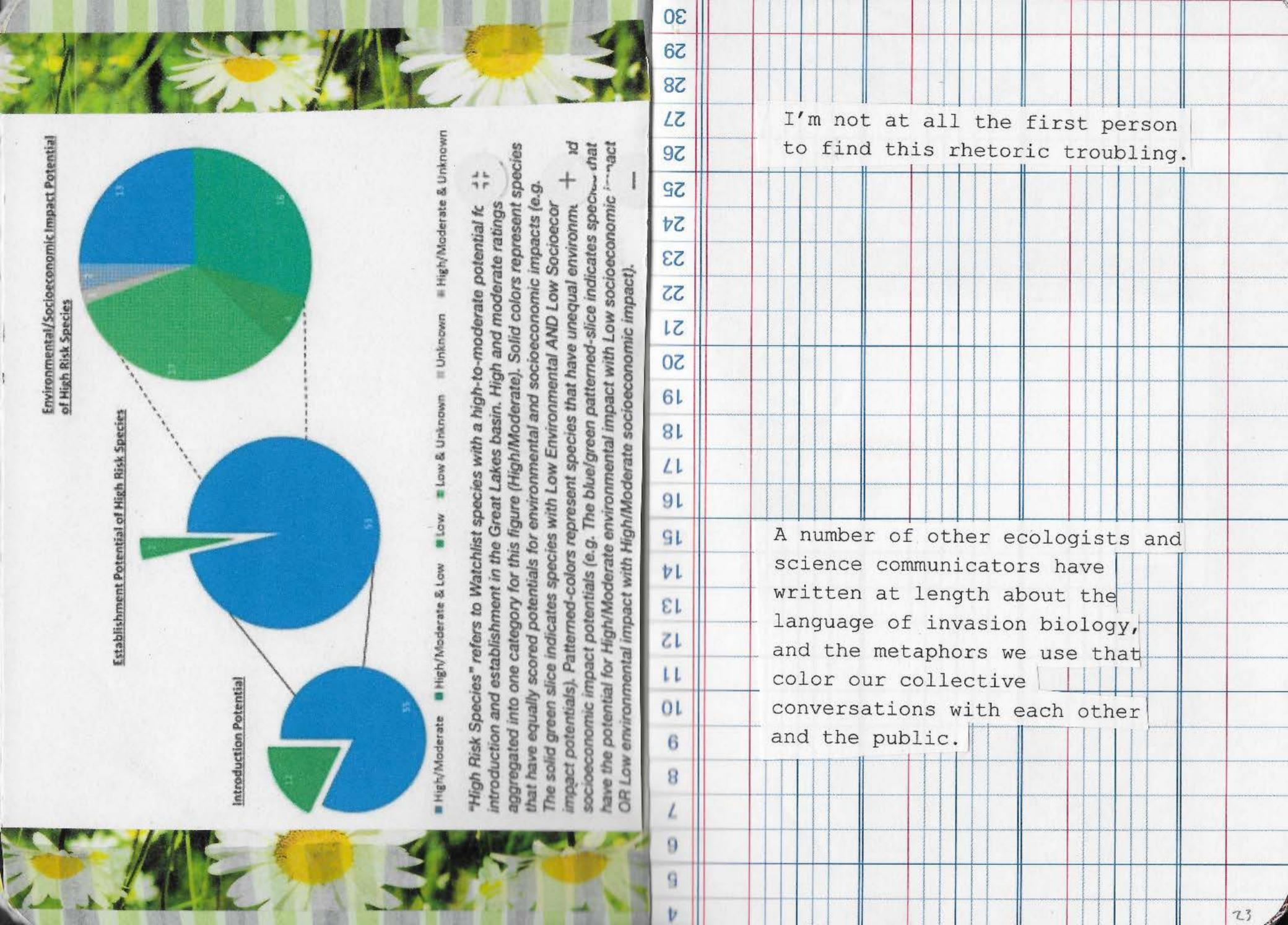






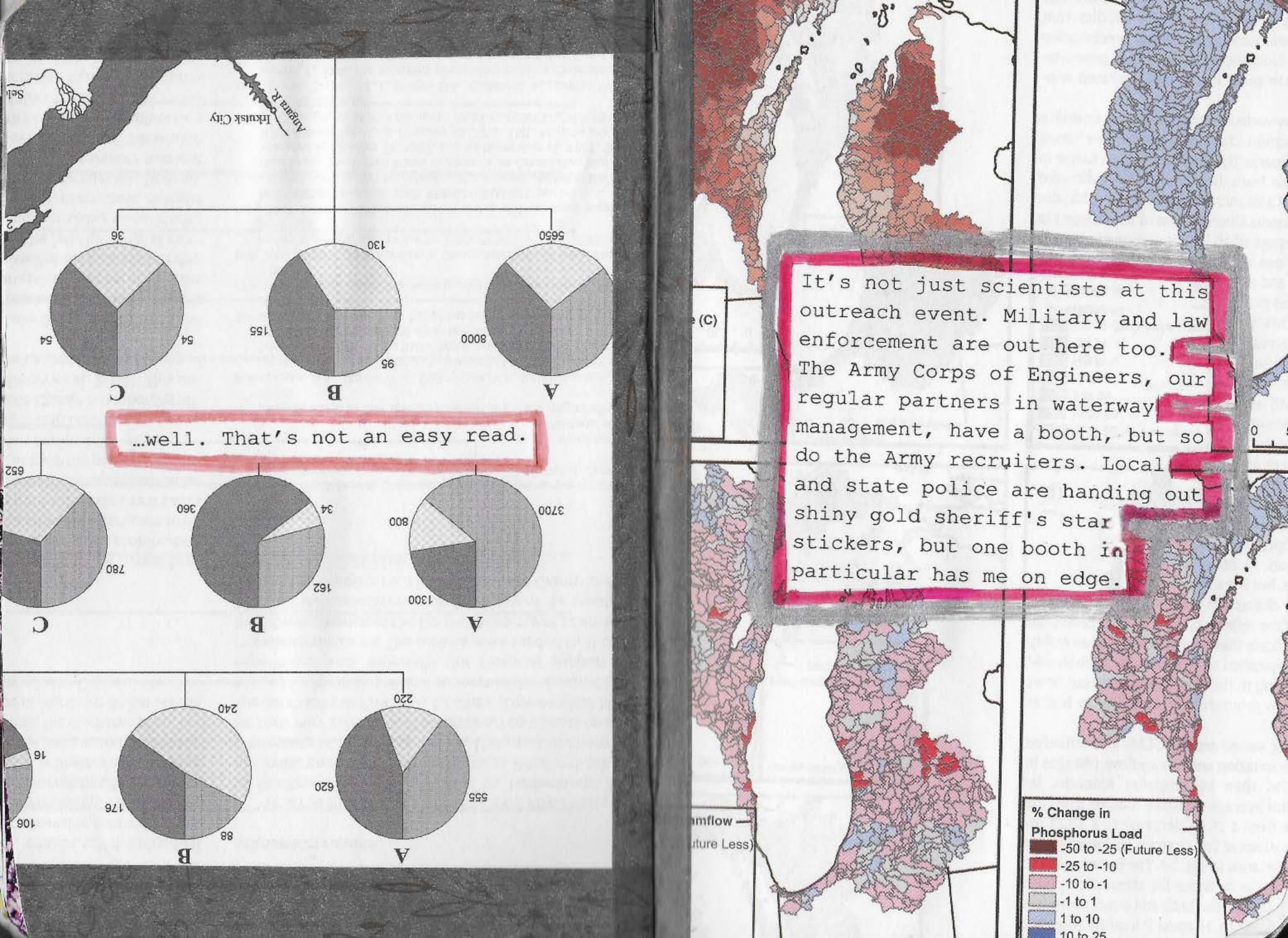


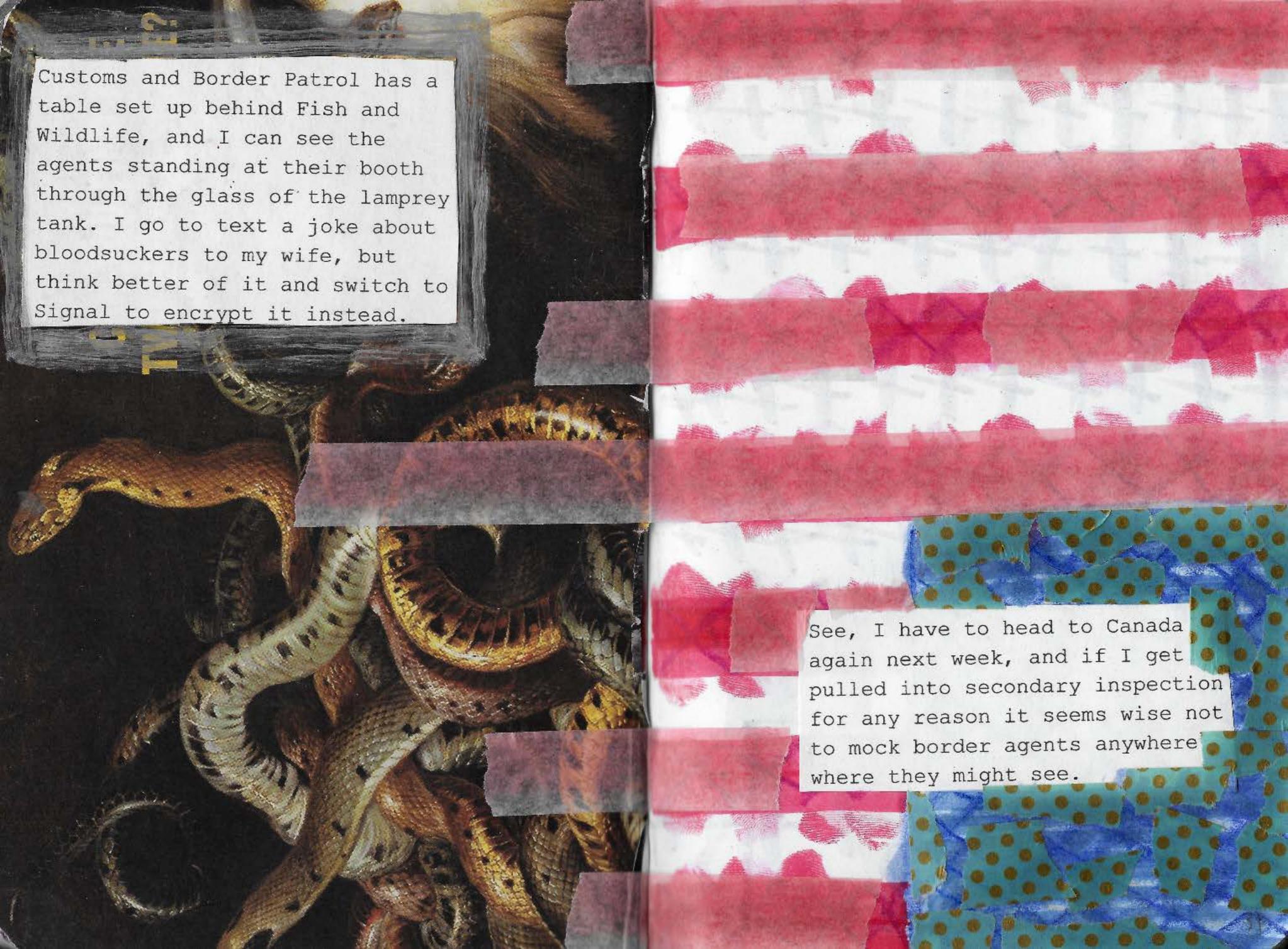




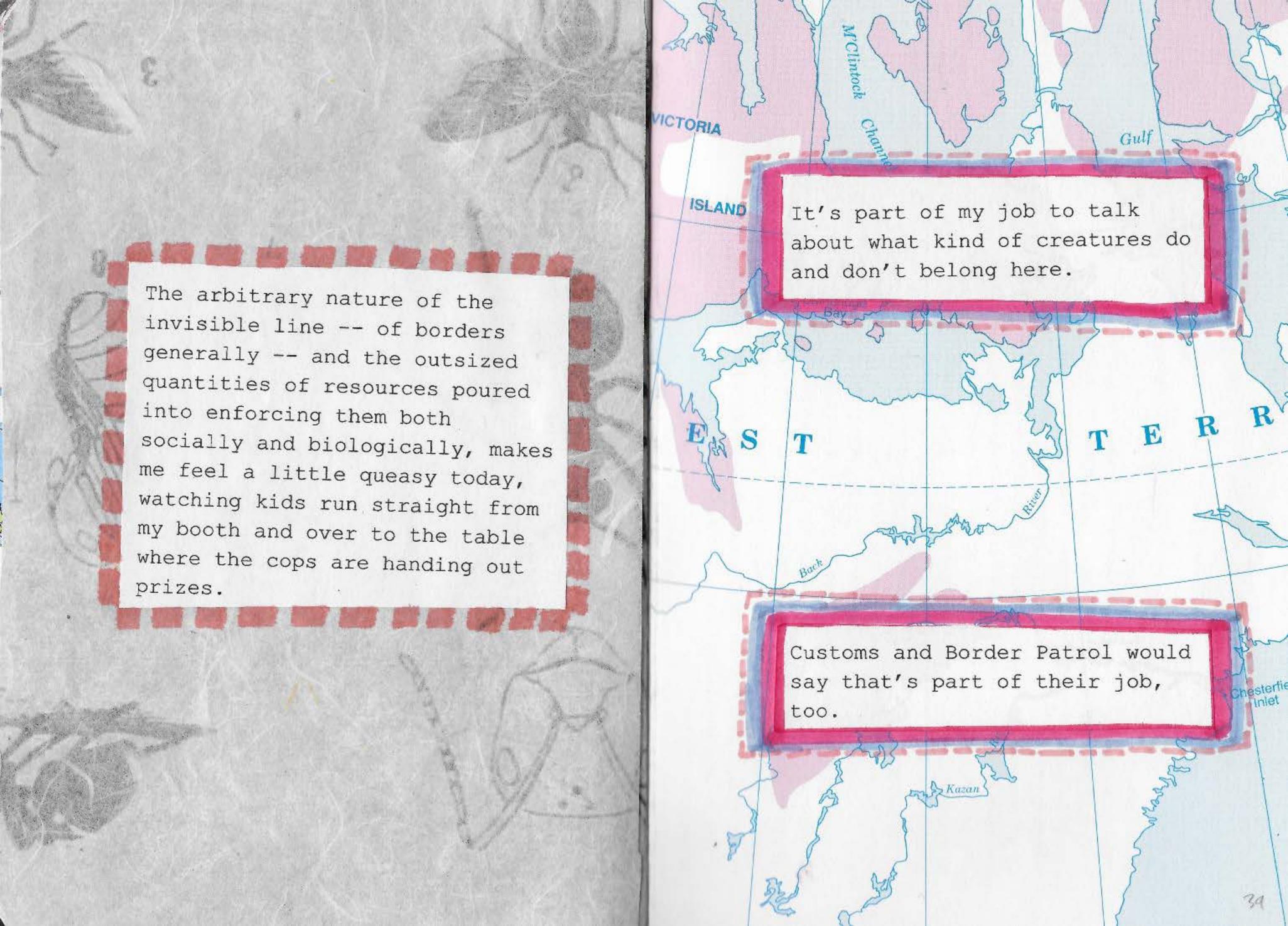
	30	
Some citations are in order:	58	
	82	
	72	
From The War of the Roses: Demilitarizing Invasion Biology (Larson 2005):	56	
	52	
	24	
	23	
	52	
Every metaphor harbors inaccuracies, yet by attending to these we are better able to understand	12	There are two fundamental problems with using
how particular metaphors engender certain ways of	50	militaristic metaphors to describe our interaction with invasive species. First, a war requires two opposing
conceptualizing a situation, often by blinding us to alternative ways of relating to them and acting (Schön	61	sides, but it is misleading to believe that we can pit
1993). Militaristic metaphors harbor inaccuracies that contribute to public misunderstanding of invasive	18	ourselves against invasive species. We are inextricably entangled with these species since their
species and even to misperception by		invasions originate from our consumptive activities and global movement patterns (Bright 1999).
conservationists themselves. These metaphors also invoke militaristic ways of thinking that are	ZI	
inconsistent with a sustainable relation between	91	
humans and the natural world. Together, these factors may impair the efficacy of these metaphors in the long	15	
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From Confronting introduced species: a form of xenophobia? (Simberloff 2003):

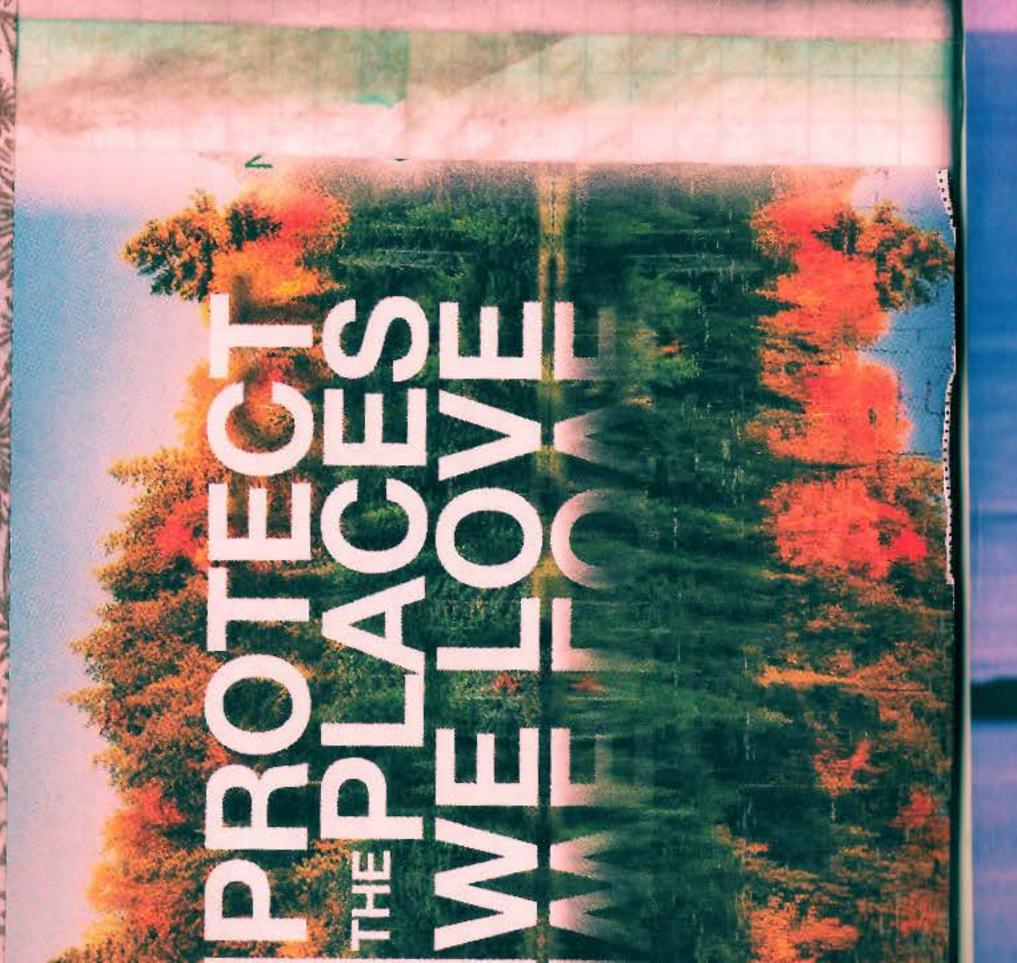
Several authors relate concern with introduced species to the evolution of immigration policy, especially in the United States. The historian Philip Pauly (1996a) sees early activity against introduced species in the United States as part of the nativism that pervaded this nation during the Progressive Era: 'attitudes towards foreign pests merged with ethnic prejudices: the gypsy moth and the oriental chestnut blight both took on and contributed to characteristics ascribed to their presumed human compatriots' (p. 54). Similarly, 'it should be clear that attitudes about foreign and native organisms were intimately linked, through both everyday experience and analogies of policy, to views on "alien" and "native" humans' (Pauly 1996a, p. 70).

Table 1. Regulations and laws relating to human immigration and introduced species in the United States.

Introduced species	Immigration
California state quarantine 1881	Chinese Exclusion Act 1882
California fruit pest law 1883	Beginning of Ellis Island restrictions 1901
Lacey Act 1900	National quotas 1921
Plant Quarantine Act 1912	Immigration Act 1924

It is noteworthy that each piece of legislation in Table confronting introduced species responded to specific damage. The California quarantine was imposed after pressure from growers devastated by a wave of introduced pest insect species that destroyed crops... [however], Pauly's evidence for these scientists' nativism rests on the approximate synchrony of anti-immigration regulations on the one hand and introduced species regulations on the other (Table 1). Xenophobia certainly played a major role in nativist rhetoric surrounding the increasingly restrictive immigration policies (Kraut 1994; Tomes 1998). There is, however, no direct evidence that the motivations of the pioneers of United States introduced species policy were other than what they stated them to be: concern for the damage caused by introduced species to native species and communities, and to agricultural and silvicultural ecosystems. Pauly (1996b, p. 677) admits as much with his implication that all individuals living at a particular time are tainted by the popular attitudes of that period: 'Scholars of the Progressive Era are well aware of the pervasiveness of prejudicial attitudes at all levels of American society during this period. Genteel scientists, however, seldom displayed their prejudices in print.'.

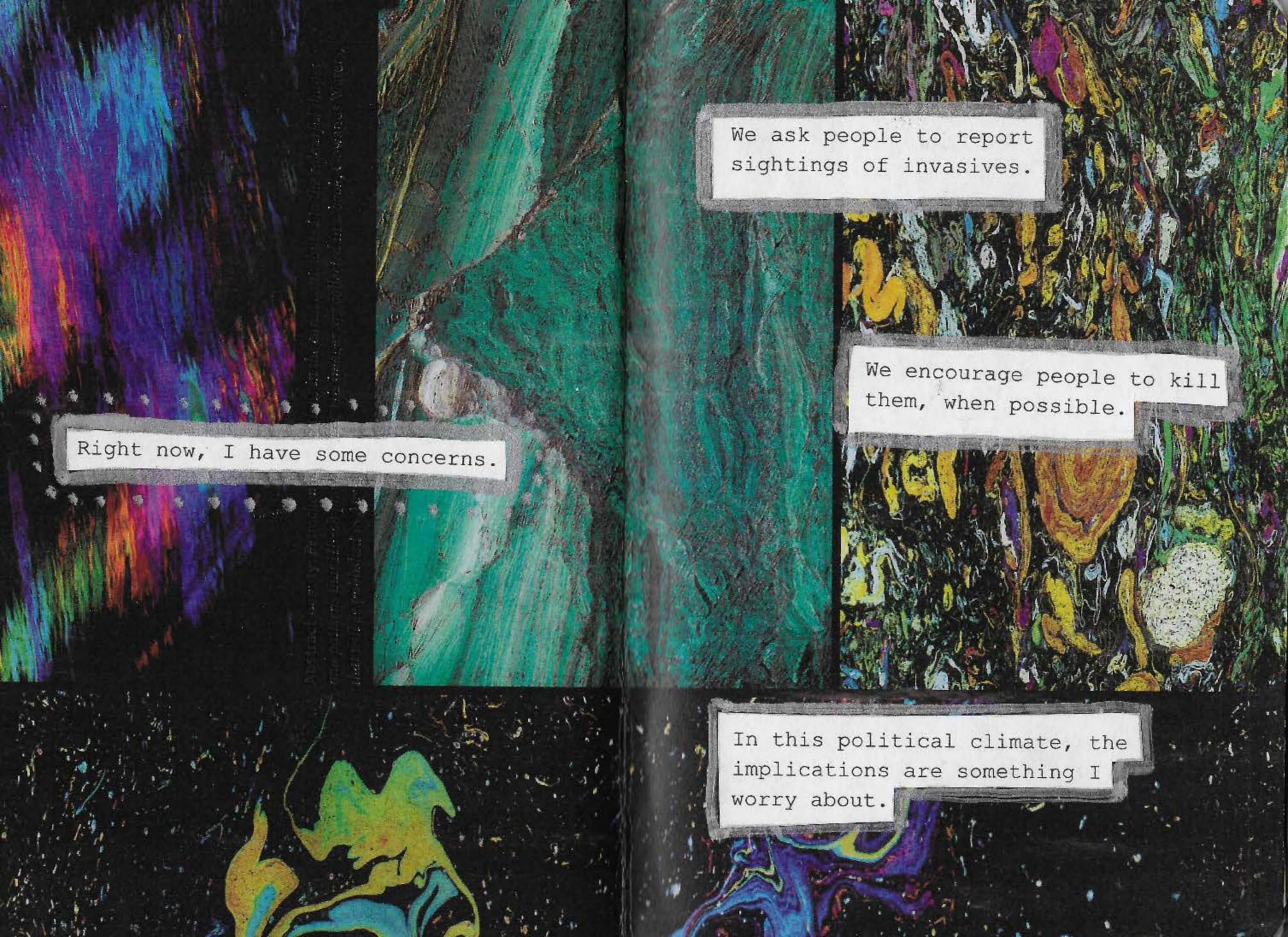
I love the Great Lakes, and the animals and plants that live within them, and I want to work with others to protect the astonishing diversity of life in the region, much of it found nowhere else on earth.



I believe very strongly in the work that I do. But I'm not immune to the rhetoric of invasion myself. How do we, as science communicators, make sure that the metaphors and rhetoric we're using to talk about invasive species don't unwittingly reinforce a fear and hatred of the unfamiliar and the foreign?

Of the foreigners themselves?

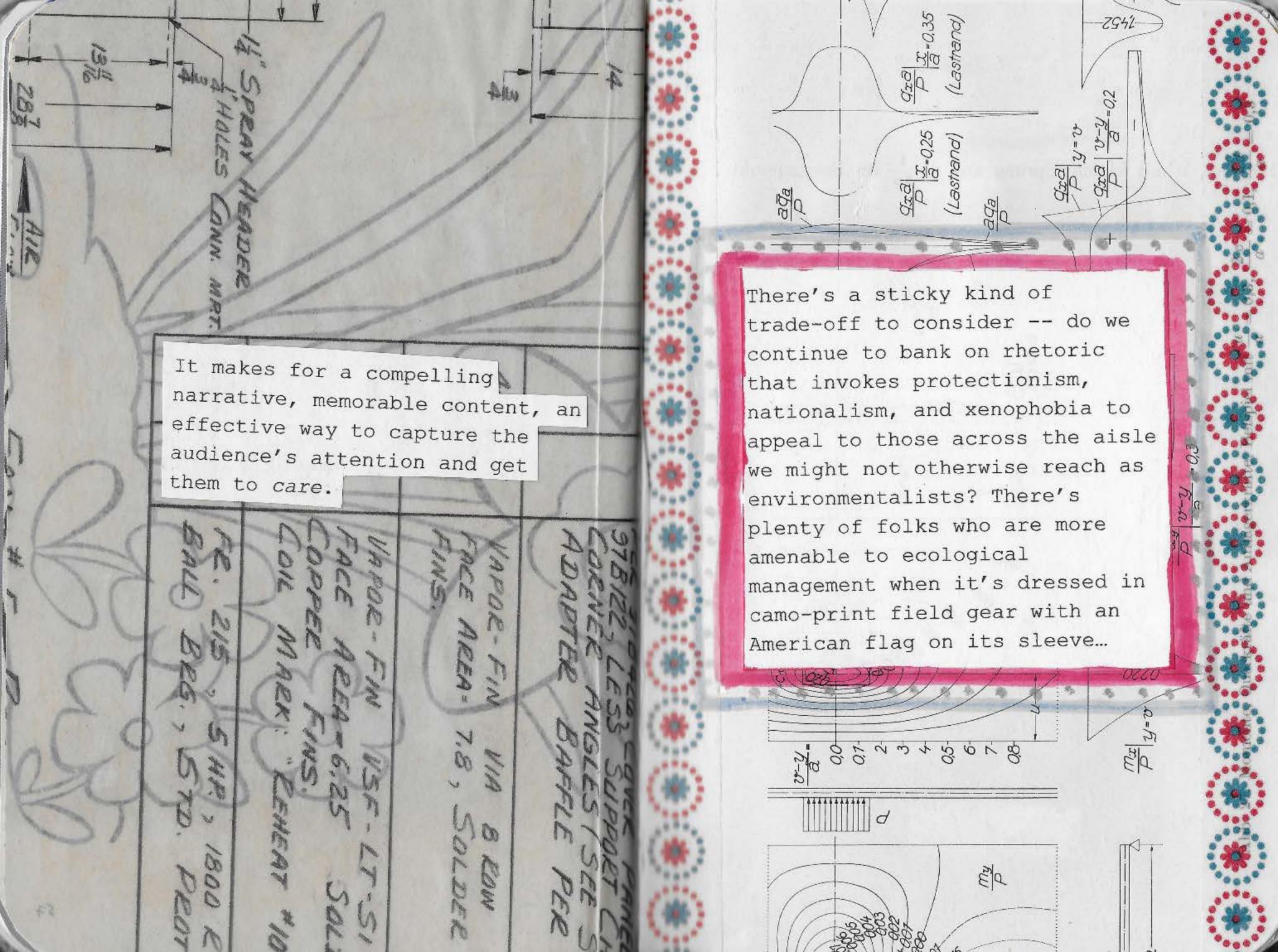




they're mean, and they may be taking (Cheater 1992); Aliens Reeking Havoc Soil Snatchers (Stewart 2001); Natiw Biologica (Bright 1998); Wild Immigrants 1999); Stemming the tide of (Bright Verrengia 1999a); 10 Creepy strangle can't handl News 1998); Bio-invasions spark concerns (C Pathogens of Globalization. Inreatens (McDonald 1999); (Brinckman Alien 1996); Invasive Species: least-wanted Woodland rk or preserve near you They're green, ide of immigrants species (Kaiser al Invaders ter 2000); Oregon's vasion: nvaded asion invading **Biologic**; Invaders The Inv. Researc species roday's Weiner climbs (666

Unfortunately, it makes for catchy headlines.

Alien Invasion: They're green, they're mean, and they may be taking over a park or preserve near you (Cheater 1992); Aliens Reeking Havoc; The Invasion of the Woodland Soil Snatchers (Stewart 2001); Native species invaded (ABC News 1998); Bio-invasions spark concerns (CQ Researcher 2000); It's a Cancer (Verrengia 1999a); ¹⁰ Creepy strangler climbs Oregon's least-wanted list (Brinckman 2001); Biological Invaders Threaten U.S. Ecology (McDonald 1999); U.S. can't handle today's tide of immigrants (Yeh 1995); Alien Threat (Bright 1998); Biological Invaders Sweep In (Enserink 1999); Stemming the tide of invading species (Kaiser 1999); Congress Threatens Wild Immigrants (Weiner 1996); Invasive Species: Pathogens of Globalization. (Bright 1999)



$$\left[\frac{3\sin\pi\frac{u}{a}}{\cos\pi\frac{v-y}{a}-\cos\pi\frac{u}{a}}-\pi\frac{v-y}{a}\sin\pi\frac{v-y}{a}\frac{\sin\pi\frac{u}{a}}{\left(\cos\pi\frac{v-y}{a}-\cos\pi\frac{u}{a}\right)^{2}}\right]$$

v = y gilt:

afl $m_{xys}=0$ mit einem Sprung auf $\pm \frac{1}{4\pi}$ im Bezugspunkt

Einfl
$$q_s = \frac{1}{2a} \cot g \, \pi \, \frac{u}{2a}$$
, (s -

Einfl
$$\bar{q}_s = \frac{3}{4 a} \cot g \pi \frac{u}{2 a} = \frac{3}{2}$$
Einfl q_s . (8)

on eini biele von Einflußfläche

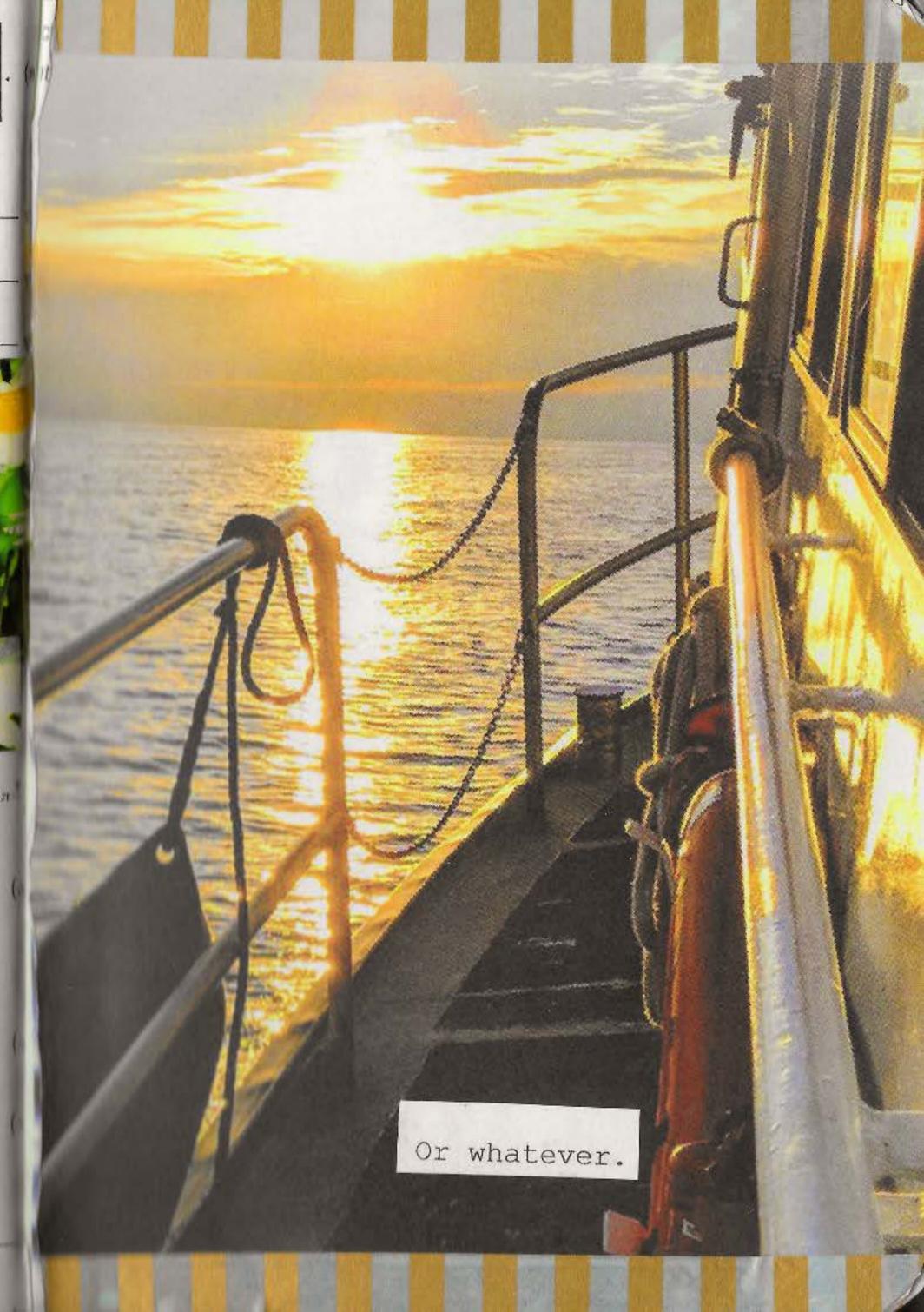
....not some bleeding-heart liberal hippie bullshit about saving some obscure species of useless fish or whatever.

 $\sin j \, \pi \, \frac{x}{a} \sin j \, \pi \, \frac{u}{a} \, \frac{\sin j \, \pi \, \frac{c}{a}}{j \, \pi \, \frac{c}{a}} \, \frac{\sin j \, \pi \, \frac{d}{a}}{j \, \pi \, \frac{d}{a}} \, \frac{1}{2 \, j^3 \, \pi^3} \bigg[\Big(2 - j \, \pi \, \frac{d}{a} \, \operatorname{Cotg} j \, \pi \, \frac{d}{a} \Big) \, e^{-j\pi} + j \, \pi \, \frac{v - y}{a} \, e^{-j\pi} \frac{v - y}{a} \bigg],$

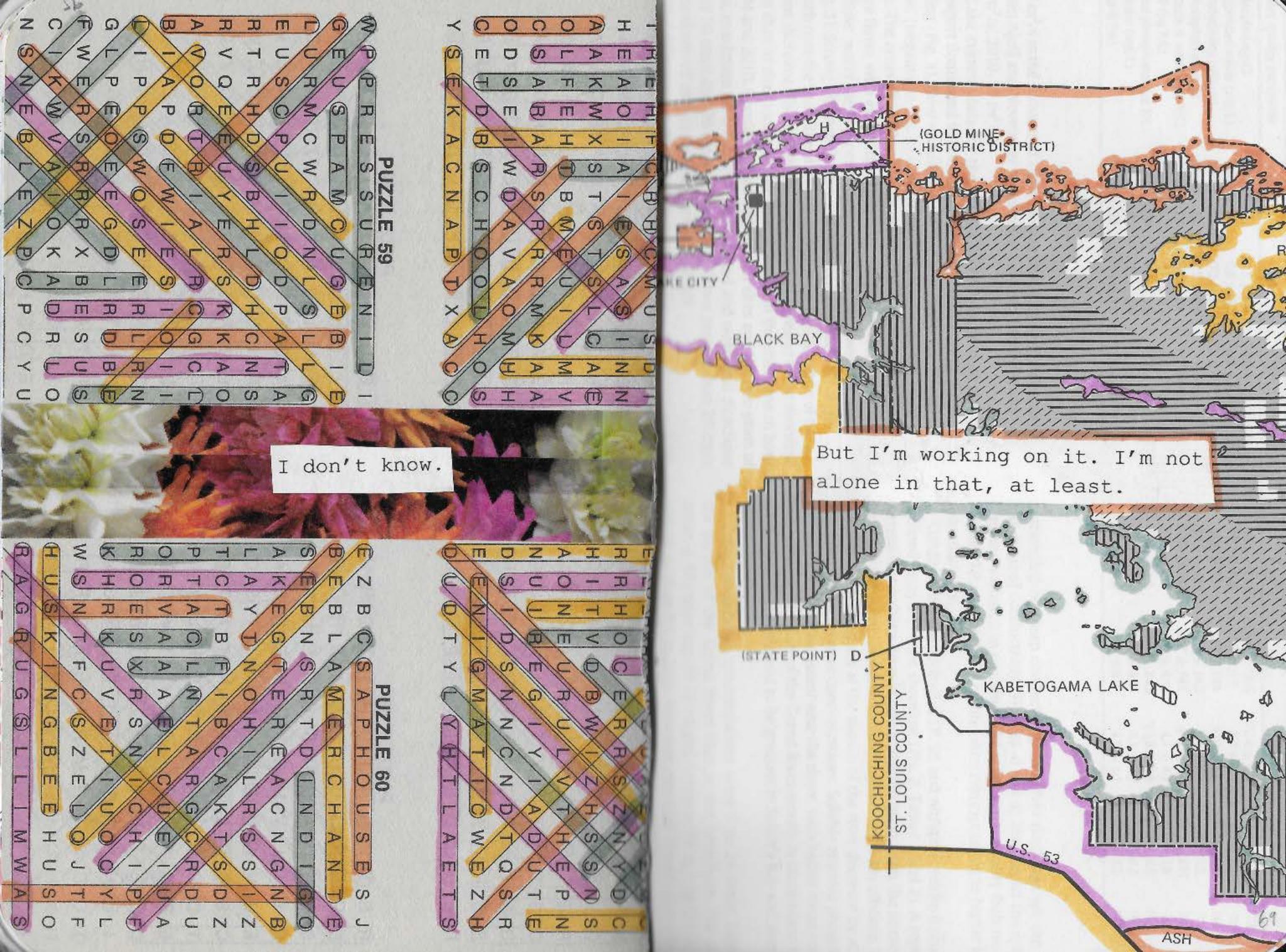
 $\sin j \pi \frac{x}{a} \sin j \pi \frac{u}{a} = \frac{\sin j \pi \frac{c}{a}}{j \pi \frac{c}{a}} = \frac{\sin j \pi \frac{d}{a}}{j \pi \frac{d}{a}} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{d}{a} \operatorname{Cotg} j \pi \frac{d}{a} e^{-j\pi \frac{v-y}{a}} - \frac{v-y}{a} e^{-j\pi \frac{v-y}{a}} \right],$

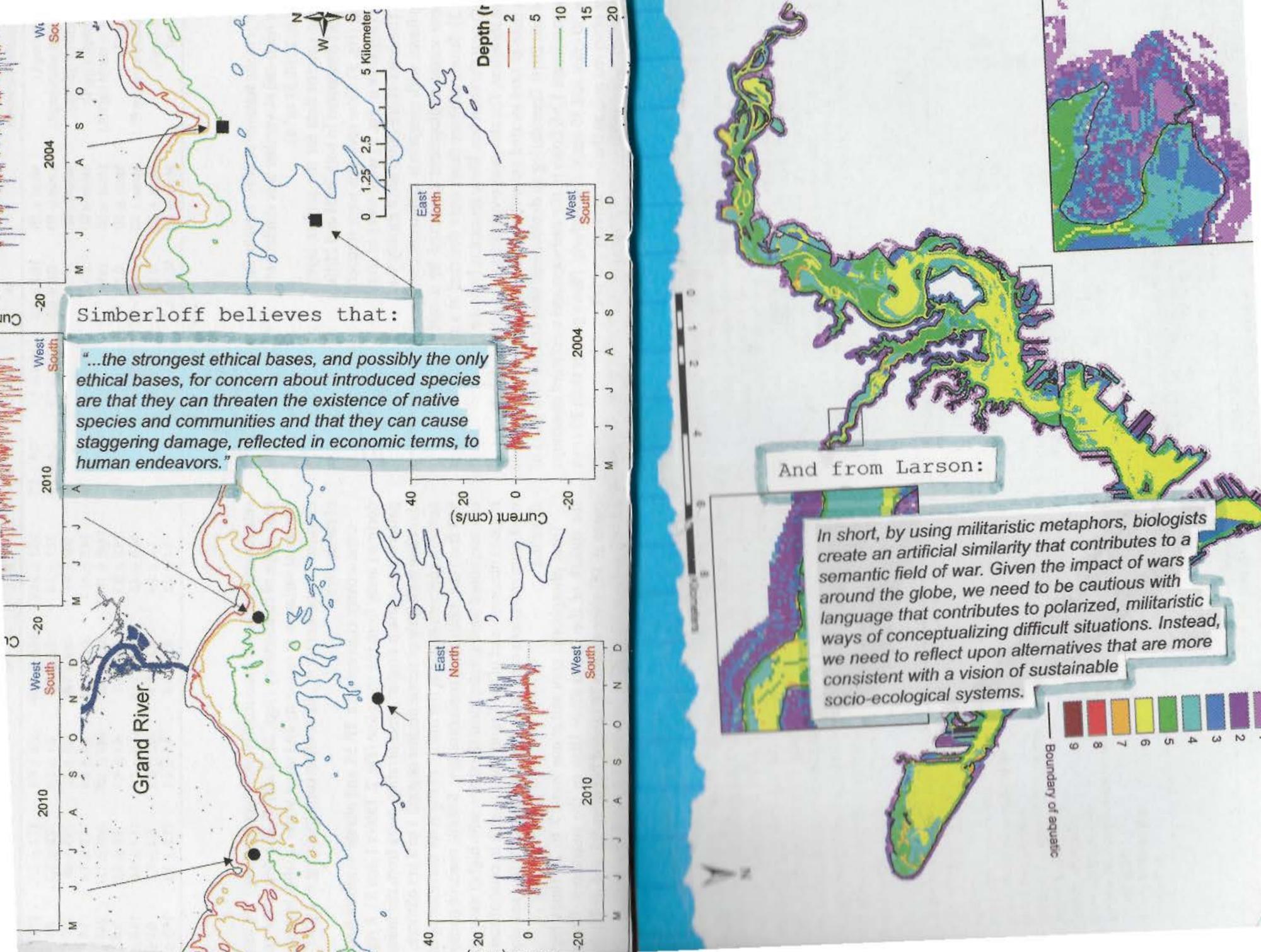
 $\cos j\pi \frac{x}{a} \sin j\pi \frac{u}{a} \frac{\sin j\pi \frac{c}{a}}{j\pi \frac{c}{a}} \frac{\sin j\pi \frac{d}{a}}{j\pi \frac{d}{a}} e^{-j\pi \frac{v-y}{a}},$

 $\cos j \, \pi \, \frac{x}{a} \sin j \, \pi \, \frac{u}{a} \, \frac{\sin j \, \pi \, \frac{c}{a}}{j \, \pi \, \frac{c}{a}} \, \frac{\sin j \, \pi \, \frac{d}{a}}{j \, \pi \, \frac{d}{a}} \left[\left(1 + \frac{j \, \pi}{2} \, \frac{d}{a} \, \operatorname{Cotg} j \, \pi \, \frac{d}{a} \right) e^{-j \pi \frac{v - y}{a}} \right]$

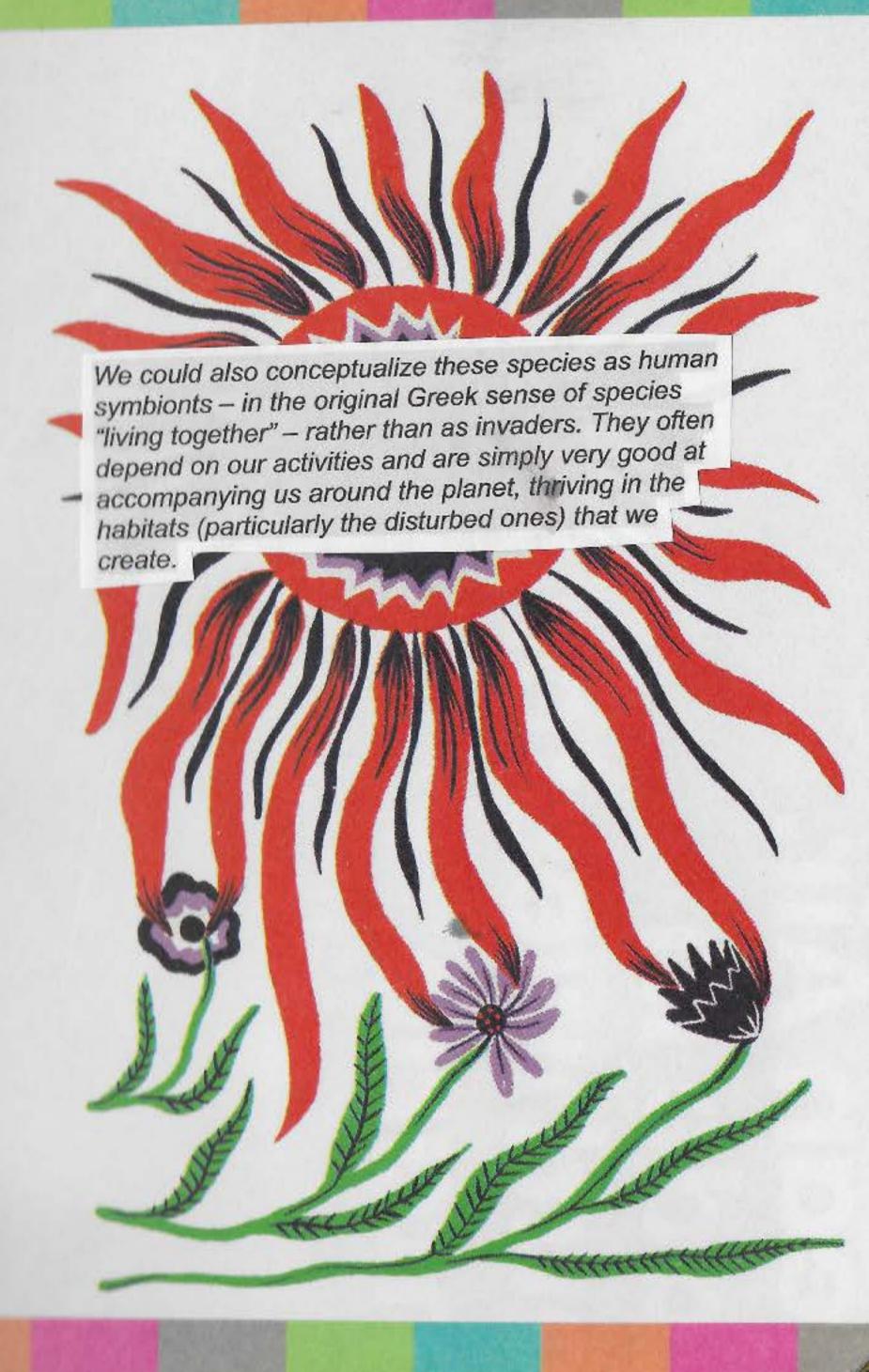






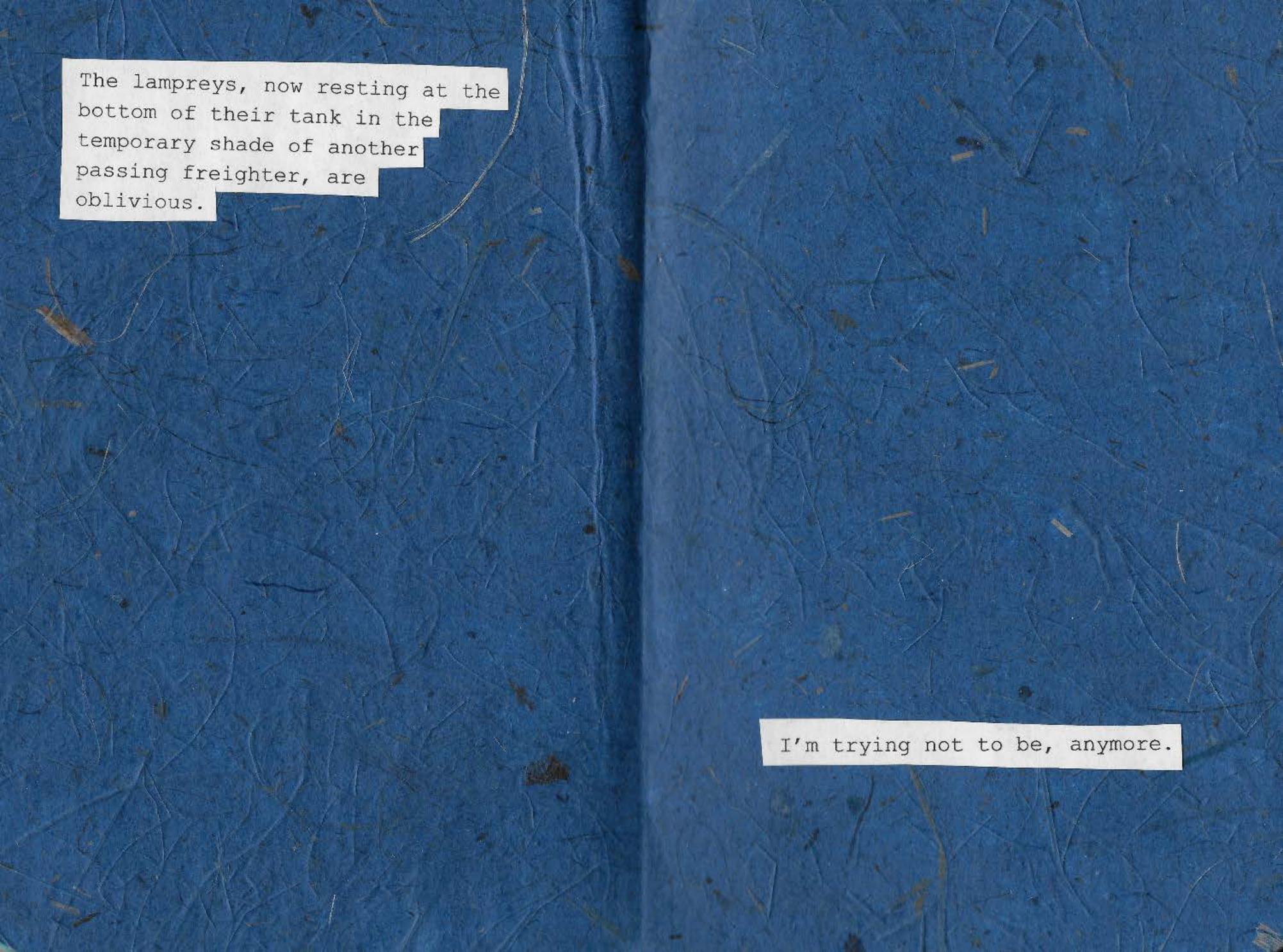


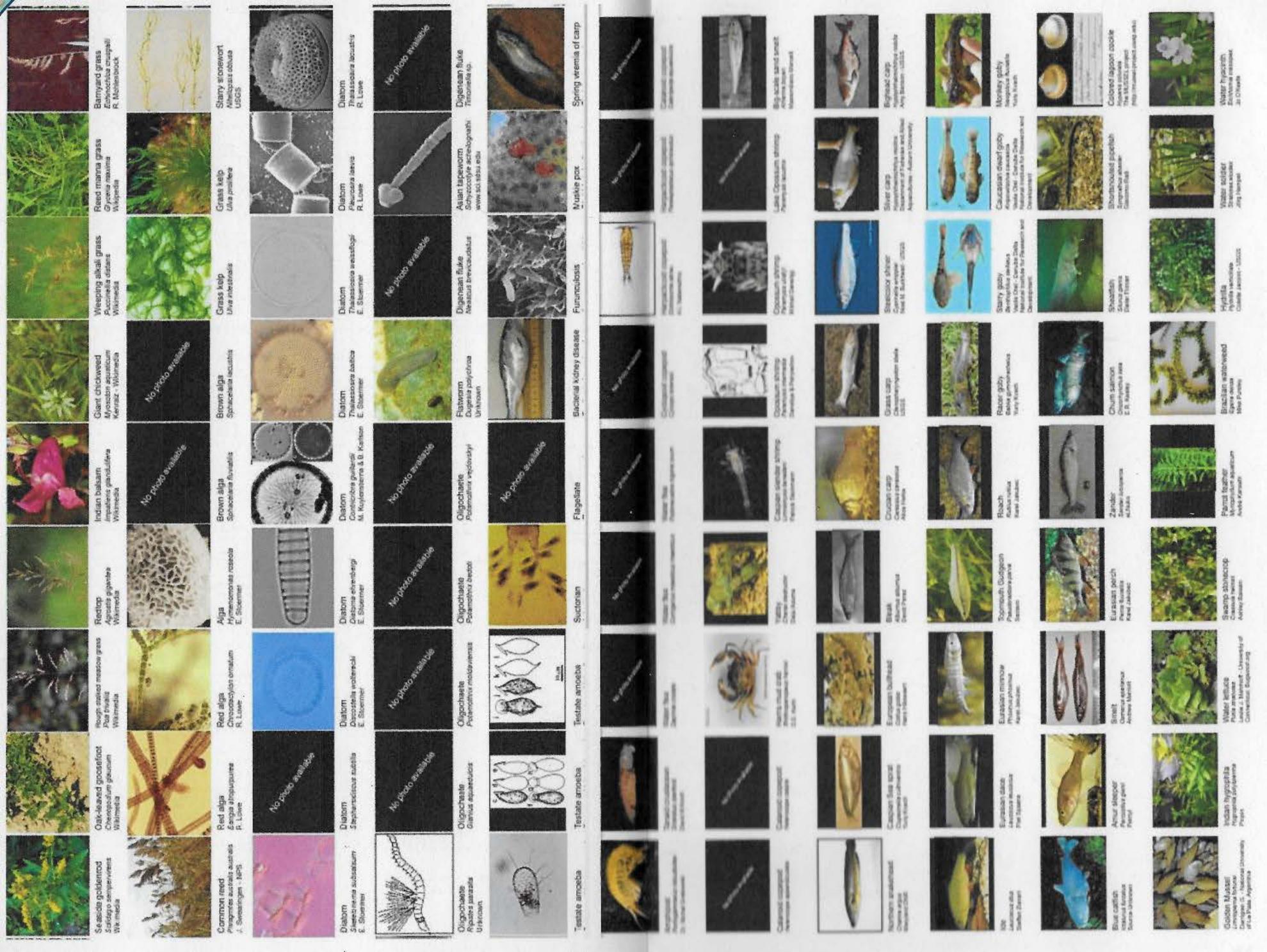
We might emphasize metaphors that are relevant to their origins rather than just to the species themselves, directing us more towards prevention and acceptance rather than opposition. Invasive species are often conceptualized as a disease (Baskin 2002), for example, and by analogy they weaken ecosystem health just as pathogens weaken bodily health. Unfortunately, our response to disease is often militaristic too, but we can draw upon alternative medical models. Traditional Chinese medicine conceptualizes disease with metaphors of balance, energy, and weather - sometimes even emphasizing "kindness to tumors", whereas conventional Western medicine draws upon militaristic imagery and the metaphor that "curing illness is a fight" (Stibbe 1996). The latter metaphor is particularly misleading for terminal illnesses, and to the extent that invasive species are a "terminal" disease we may need to adopt language that focuses on improving "quality of life".

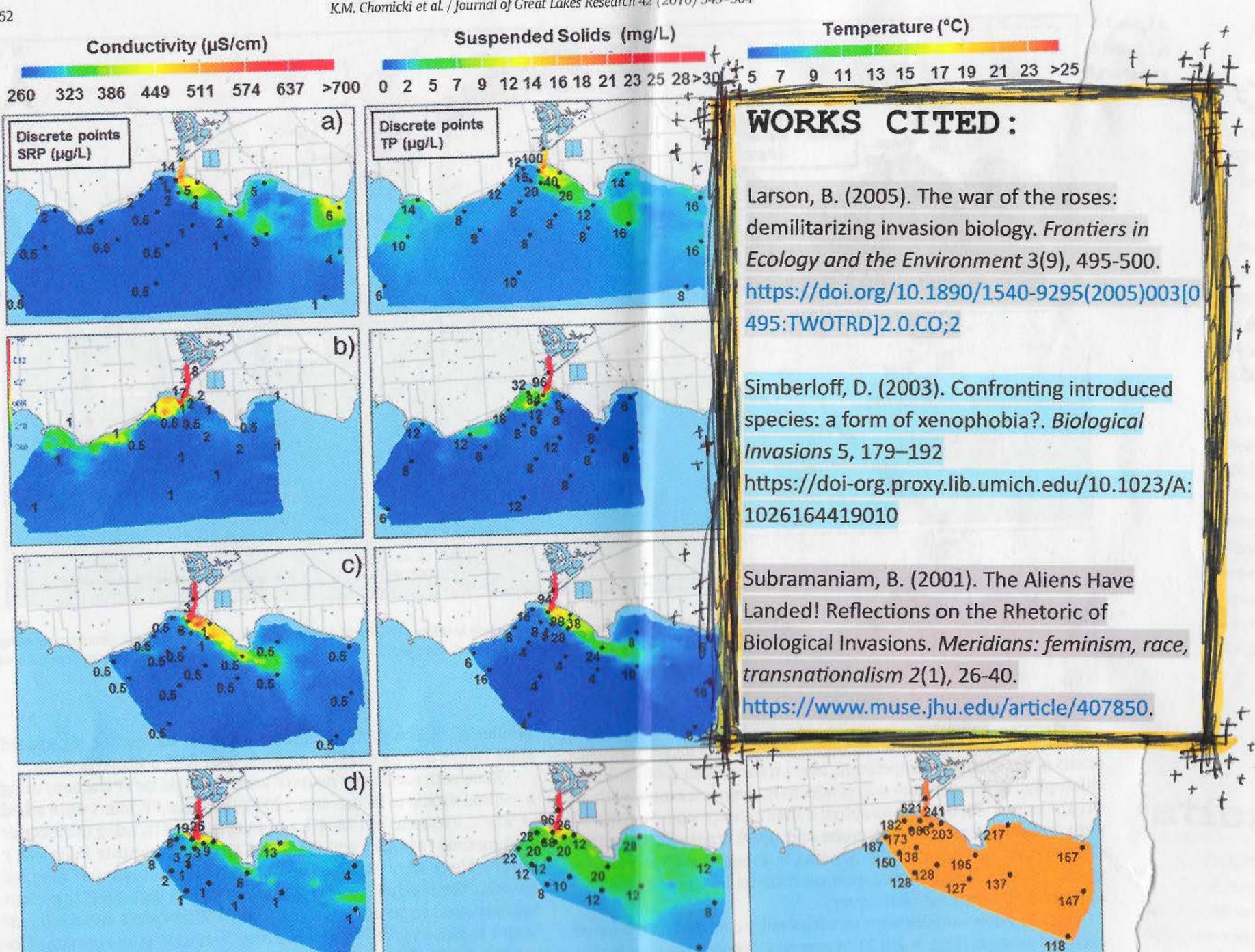


This metaphor more directly implicates us in their creation; we must therefore take appropriate responsibility. By conceptualizing these species as co-conspirators with us in our urge to consume, to progress, to spread and to travel, we would raise uncomfortable questions, but perhaps ones that more directly confront the complexity of how we are changing the planet. Rather than maintaining our illusory separateness from a natural world "out there", we would be acknowledging our role in changing it.

These alternatives point us in the direction of acceptance, a difficult compromise given the biological effects and economic harmfulness of many of these species. We preclude acceptance with caricatures of a general struggle between ourselves and invasive species. Such species are part of a system that includes humans, and we will only "solve" the invasive species problem with reference to this greater context. While the changes wrought by invasive species are painful for biologists familiar with the former state of ecosystems, we will neither sensitize others to this issue nor bring back the past by rhetorical might and martial action alone. When we discuss invasive species and even when we remove them, we can perhaps do so with greater appreciation for how they are an expression of ourselves.







El Green is a science communicator in the Great Lakes region. When not researching aquatic invasive species, they can be found hunting mushrooms, making soup, and taking notes for future zines.

* * *

Special thanks to Levigator
Press, who made the
mixed-paper notebook that the
analog version of this work
was created in, and to
everyone who encouraged this
narrative along the way.

"Stand Up for Great Lakes

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