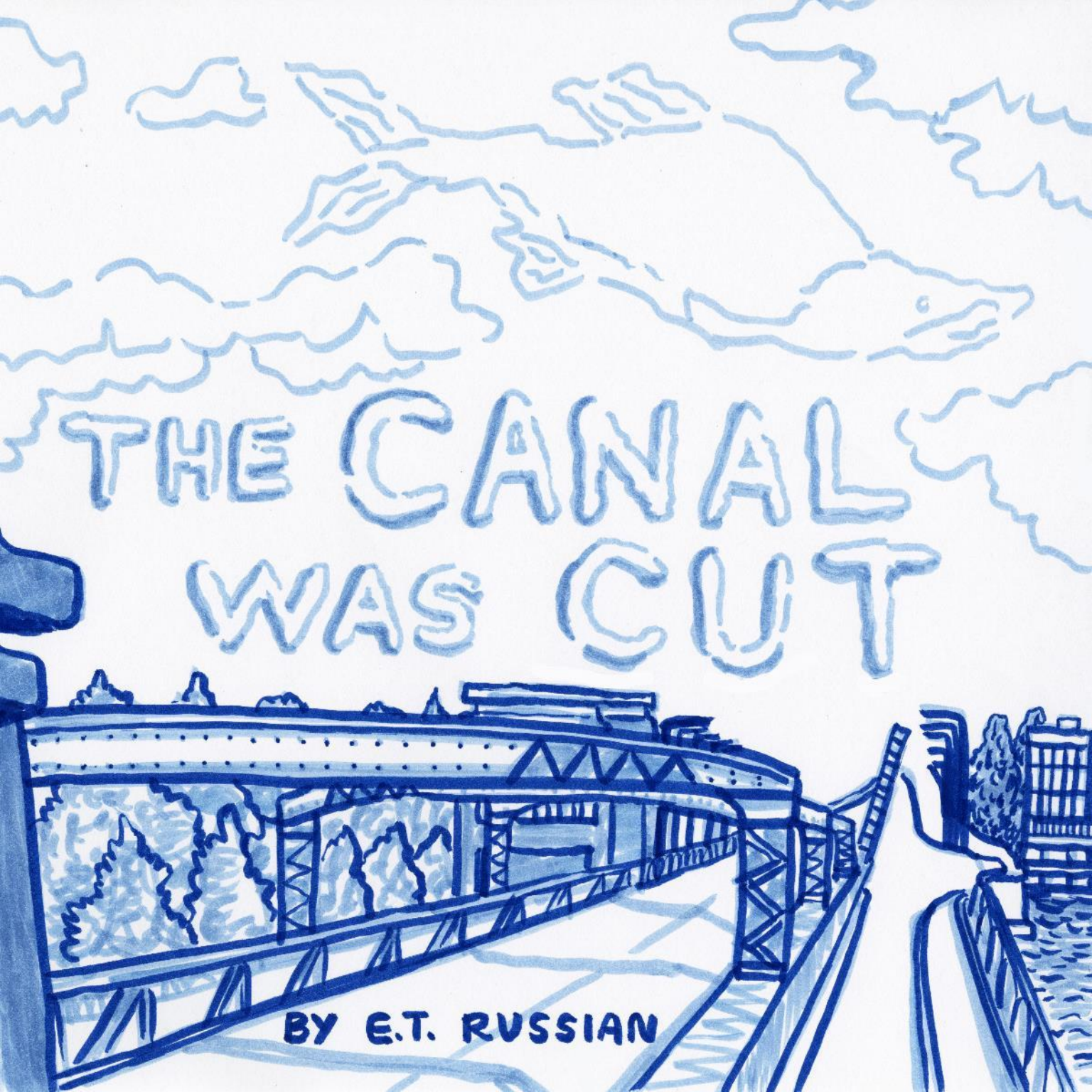
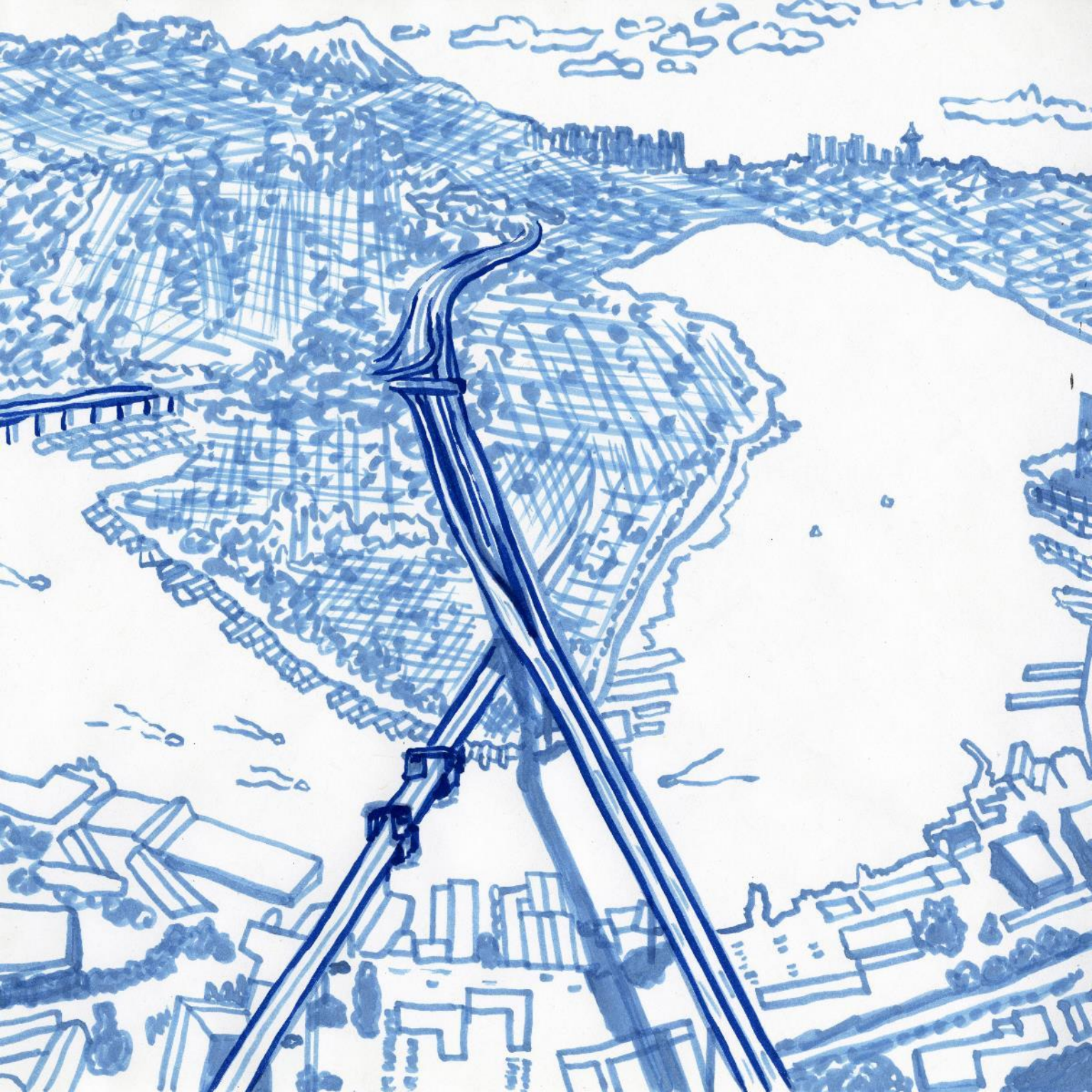

THE CANAL WAS CUT
BY E.T. RUSSIAN



I GREW UP
IN A PLACE
WITH A LOT OF BRIDGES
I ALWAYS WONDERED WHY
EACH DRAWBRIDGE
HAD TWO TOWERS
ONE WAS FOR THE OPERATOR
BUT WHAT WAS THE OTHER ONE FOR?

APPARENTLY THE CITY WONDERED
THE SAME THING
THEY TURNED THE TOWERS INTO
ART RESIDENCIES

Covid's hard

AS ESSENTIAL WORKERS
IN A HOSPITAL
WE DO THE WORK OF
HEALING

THAT DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN
PEOPLE GO BACK
TO THE WAY THEY WERE
BEFORE

"CAN YOU HEAR ME?"
I ASK
WHEN WE CONNECT
THROUGH A SCREEN

YOU TELL ME ABOUT
YOUR DAD'S CANCER
YOUR MOM'S DEMENTIA
AND YOUR NECK PAIN

MAKING ART
DURING A PANDEMIC
IS LIKE TRYING TO WRING WATER
FROM A STONE

I FEEL LIKE
SOMETHING
THAT LANDED
WITH A THUD

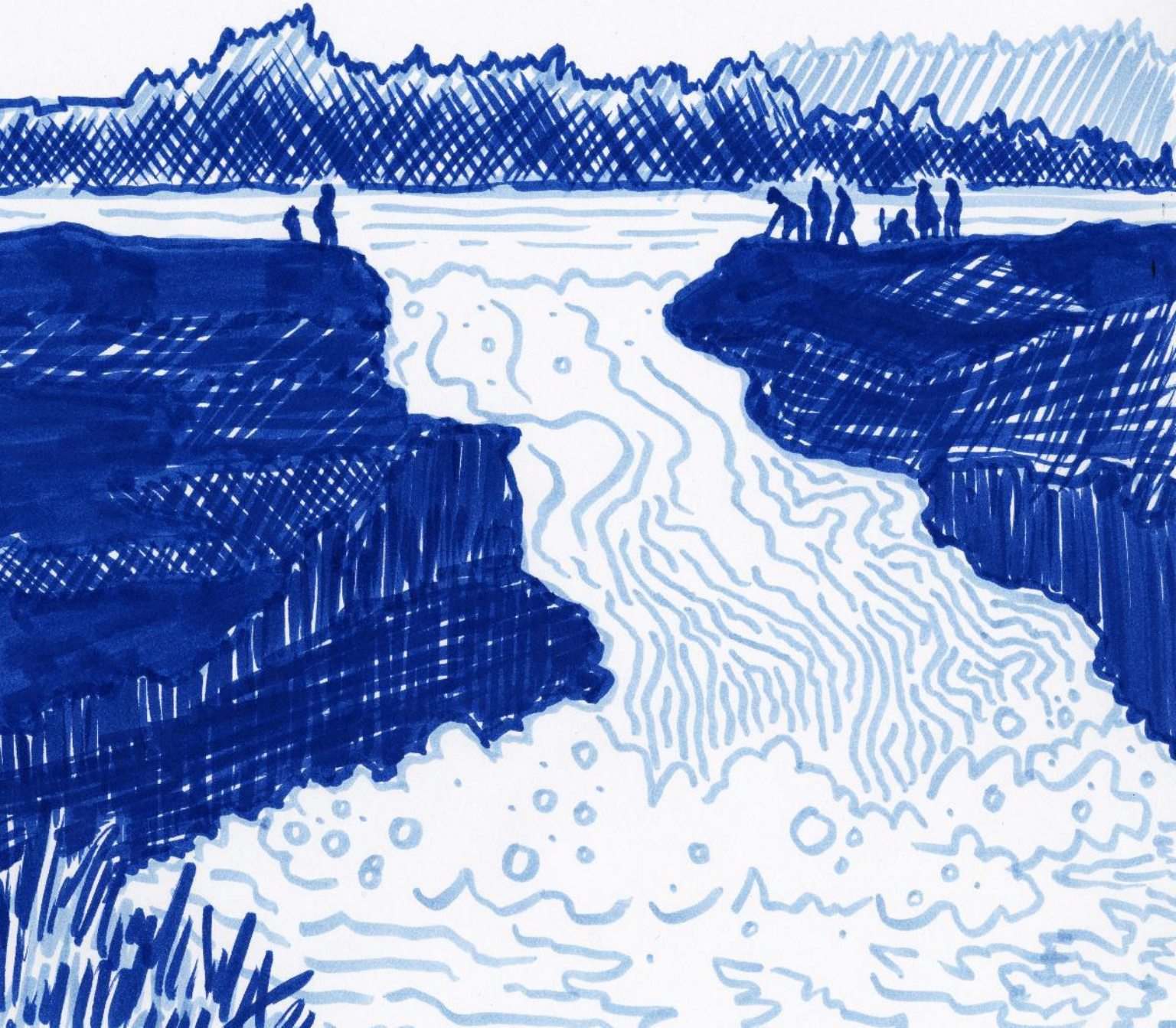
THEY WAVE AT ME

AND I WAVE BACK

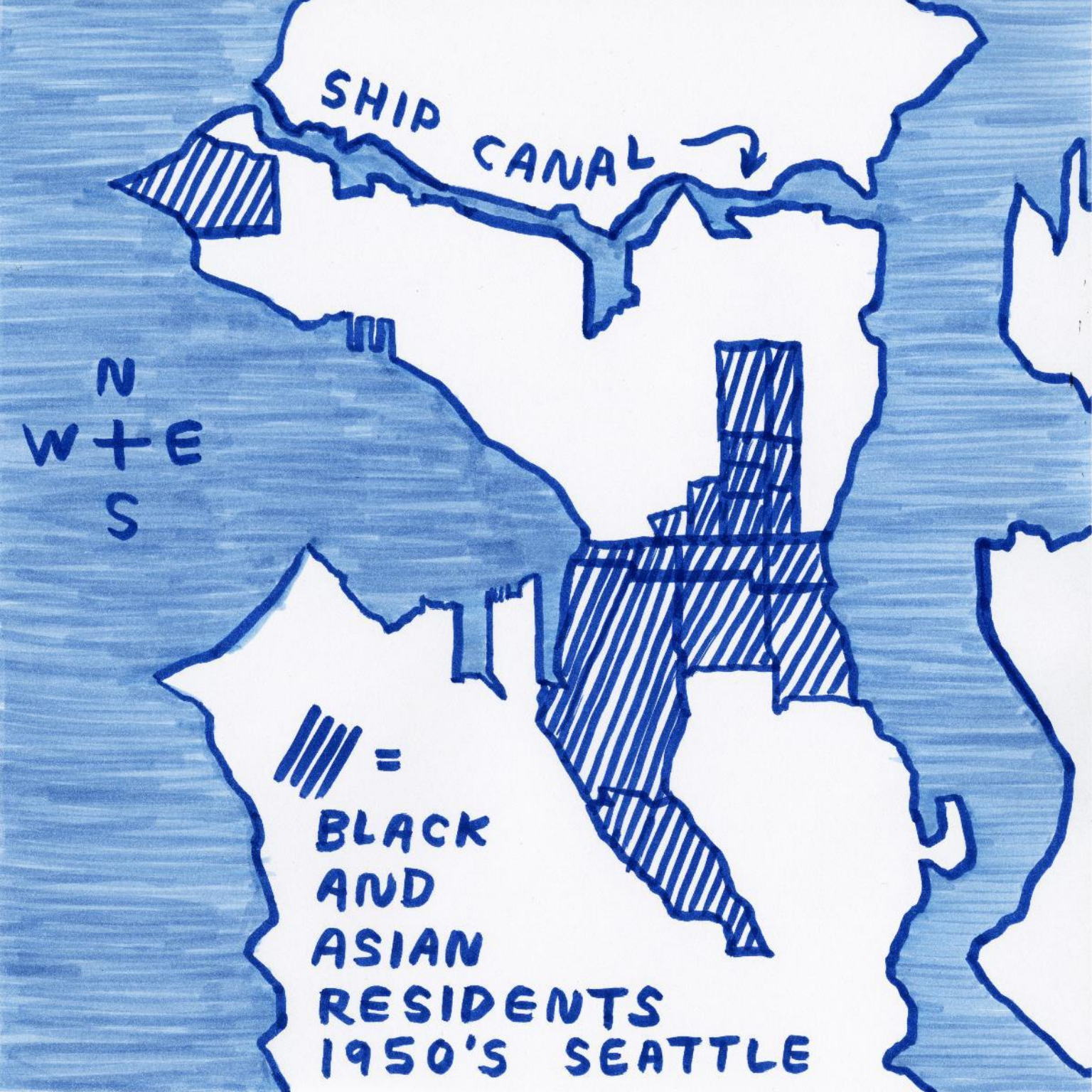
IT FEELS LIKE

TAKE A MOMENT
TO TUNE IN
TURN TOWARDS
TO LISTEN

I LIVE IN SOUTH SEATTLE
WHERE PRITCHARD ISLAND
IS NO LONGER AN ISLAND
BECAUSE LAKE WASHINGTON
DROPPED NINE FEET
IN DEPTH
WHEN THE LAND
WAS CUT
BY DEVELOPERS



THE CUTTING
OF THE LAKE WASHINGTON SHIP CANAL
FOREVER CHANGED
THE LAKES
THE BLACK RIVER
THE SPAWNING OF THE SALMON

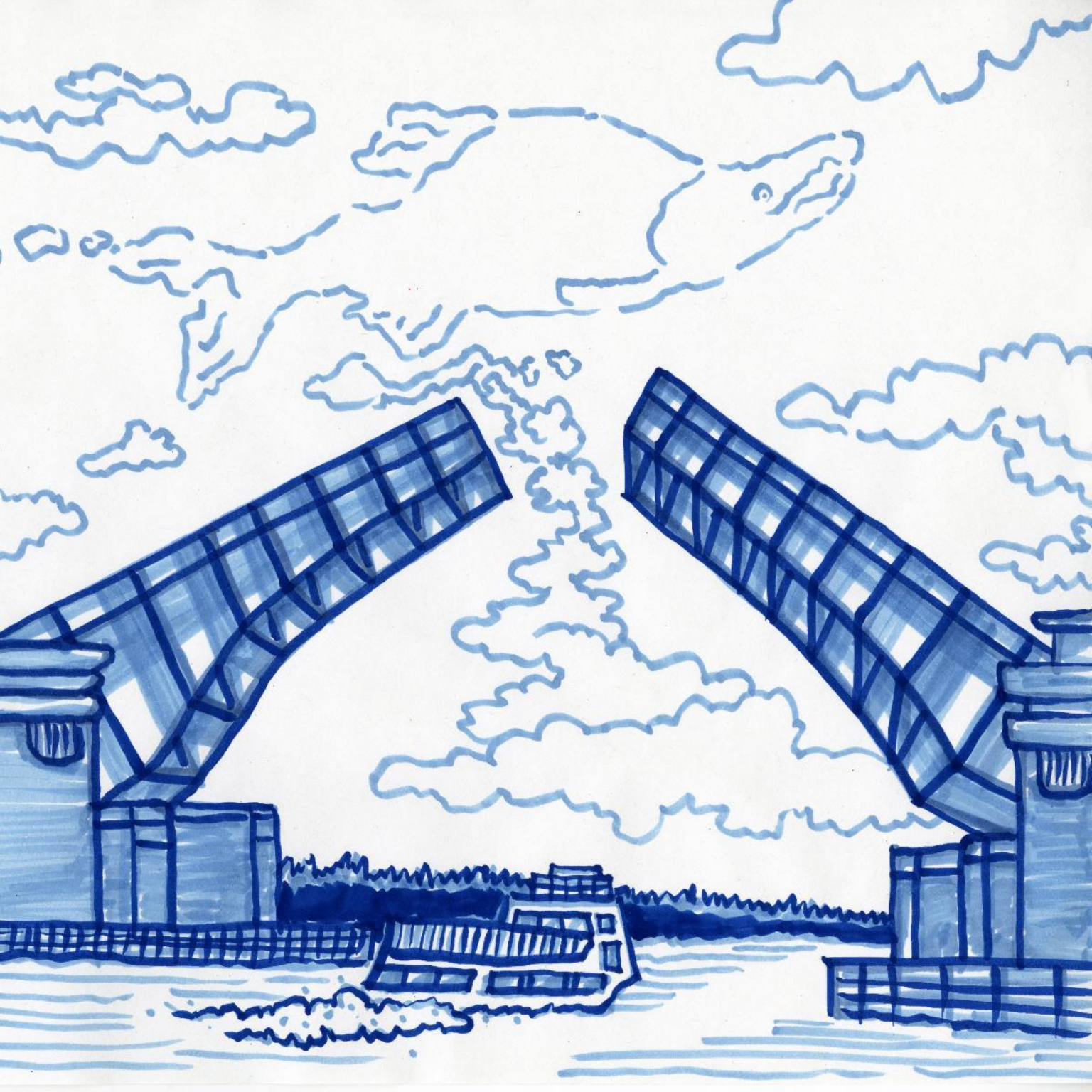

SHIP CANAL
N
W E
S
= BLACK AND ASIAN RESIDENTS 1950'S SEATTLE

THE SHIP CANAL
IS A LANDMARK
OF REDLINING IN SEATTLE
OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
IN LAND AND HOME OWNING
THIS BRIDGE IS BUILT
ON THAT CHASM

DURING MY RESIDENCY A NEW PARK OPENED ON THE WATERFRONT NEAR THE BRIDGE. THEY MOVED A POLICE STATION TO BUILD IT. TOOK OUT THE BULKHEAD AND SLOPED SOIL DOWN INTO THE LAKE WATERS. AN EFFORT TO REBUILD THE SHORELINE.

CAN A SHORELINE BE
REPAIRED?
LIKE A RELATIONSHIP
CAN BE REPAIRED?

HOW DO WE
ARRIVE
FOR THE HARM
WE'VE CAUSED



SOAR FISH
SWIM HIGH ABOVE
OVER YOUR WATERS
DO YOU RECOGNIZE THEM?

DIVE BIRD
FLOAT UNDER SURFACE
BENEATH YOUR SKIES
SING A SING OF HOME

WHEN WE REFLECT ON A PLACE
AND RECOGNIZE ITS BEAUTY
WE ARE CALLED
TO CARE FOR IT

THIS COMIC WAS MADE ON THE UNCEDED ANCESTRAL LAND OF THE FIRST PEOPLE OF SEATTLE, THE DUWAMISH - A PEOPLE THAT ARE STILL HERE TODAY.

THANK YOU TO GENEVIÈVE, FREDDIE, CLIO, CHELSEA, ALL THE UNIVERSITY BRIDGE OPERATORS, THE CITY OF SEATTLE OFFICE OF ARTS & CULTURE AND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR YOUR SUPPORT ON THIS PROJECT AND TO THE LAND, WATERS AND SKY FOR THE GIFT OF BEING AND LEARNING HERE

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