



THE
FIRST
WEEKEND
IN JUNE

Written and illustrated
by Matilda Ruta

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it was the first weekend in June...

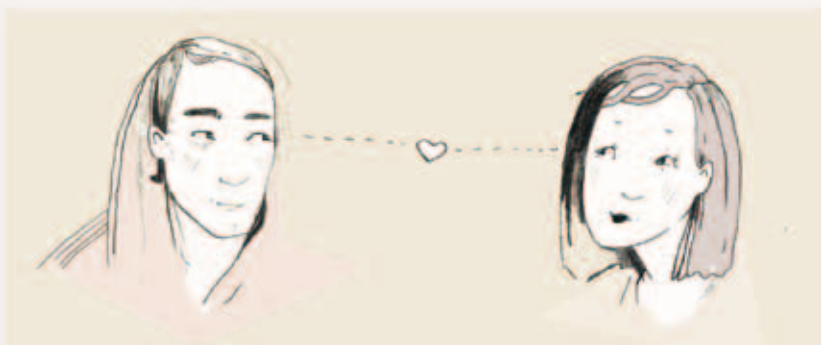
Me and Denise
were at the science
sixth-formers' party.

SARA, don't look now, but
those guys behind you
are really hot!



We were there to
meet new guys. Everyone
in our year was so
childish.

YEAH! YEAH!
YEAHH!



I recognised one of them
I'd had my eyes on him
for quite some time.



Denise can be pretty fearless.

OH-LA-LA-LA-LA!!



I'm going to
talk to them!



I can be too sometimes.
What bothers me is that she always
gets the cutest guys...

There's room for you here.
You're Sara, right?



...and I get to hang out with the boring friend.

Don't you want
to sit down?



Don't know.



Want to dance then?



Okay.



The music changed to slow beat.



But this time
I wasn't going
to give up.

What'd you call that?

The waltz.



Who's your friend?

What?



Who's the guy you
sat next to?

... I like you...



yeah, right.
But your friend...



you want
him, or
what?



Come on.
I was
just asking.

When I got back,
Denise was sleeping.



Your friend seems
a bit tired...
She just
passed out.



Yeah, she's probably
a bit drunk.

Sure.





I got so drunk last night!
Did I miss anything fun?



What...?
... no, I don't
think so.



Well, those strange guys,
they're having a party tonight
and want us
to come.



Strange?
Anyone could see that you like each other.
You'll make a
great couple.



What? Who?



You and Jimmy of course!
Come on Sara, everyone could see
the way you were looking at
him.



Nah. I don't think he's my type.



But he's the nicest guy in the world!
He's like in the Equal Rights Group!



And he plays
the guitar!

Oh yeah?



But can't we go to
the party anyway?
For me?



I really liked that Kevin.
I want to meet him again!



Come on, it'll be fun!

Okay then .

I wanted to
say something to
Denise about Kevin,
but she would just
get disappointed.



And , after all, Kevin had told me
that he couldn't be with me anyway .

When we got to the party, everything seemed kind of arranged.



Hi Denise!
Let me take your jacket!

God knows what Denise and Kevin were up to.

You're so damn gorgeous!

They were just too embarrassing for words.

Gimme your hat, so I can be as good-looking



HAHAHA



Sava! Hello!

Didn't you see me?
you just walked straight by.

Oops.
Sorry.



Jimmy kept following
me around.

Do you like Håkan Hellström?

I'll play the guitar!
come and listen!



I didn't like Jimmy, but everyone
else at the party seemed to think he was great.

I wish I was
ooh ooh!! special!!



I almost felt a bit sorry for him.
He tried so hard to get me to like him.



Sara, where are you going?

Out, to smoke.

Can I join you?

I didn't know anyone else at the party, so I might
as well hang out with him.

Uhm... sorry if
I'm bothering you...
you just seem
so nice.



It's okay. You don't
have to apologise.

...He was kind of
cute after all.
Maybe I was being too negative.



SARA and JIMMY!
MAKE OUT!!
WOOHOO!

MAKE OUT!!!



What are you
laughing at?

They're just
kidding around,
that's all.

What the hell,
Kevin, shut up!

Haha.



You think?

I don't know
why I kissed him.



I thought I might as well.

I wanted a boyfriend after all,
and Jimmy seemed all right.

But I mean, how long
can a kiss last?



We sat outside for
a while, but I really
wanted to go home.

But my conscience
started to play up.
Like I should be grateful
for him liking me.

When we got back inside, everyone had left.



I'll be off too,
I'm really tired.



Yeah. You do whatever you feel like.
But you've heard about
the rapist haven't you?
I read in the paper
that he attacked some
girl again.



Oh that. That's nothing
to worry about.



But the trains have stopped running,
it's like three in the morning. I think you
should stay here. I'm just thinking of you.

I'd be really worried if you
were out there alone.



You don't have to worry.
I usually walk home alone.



But he raped
a girl last week.
Really scary.



It's better if you
sleep here.

Okay I'll stay then.



Here's an extra cover.

You can sleep in my bed.

We can lay head to foot
if you like.



Goodnight.

Goodnight.



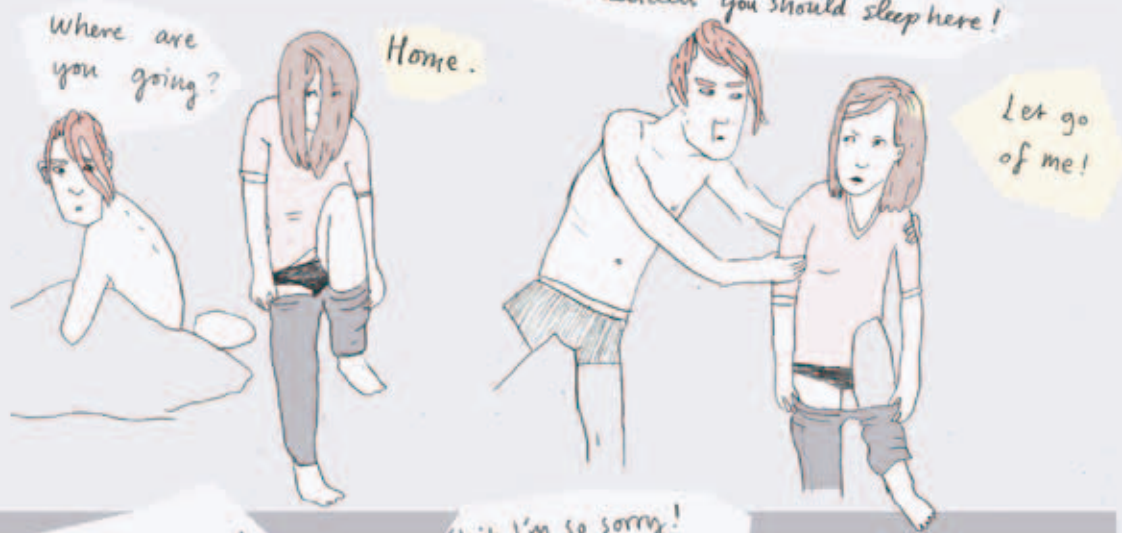
Hey, you...

Yes?

No goodnight kiss?

Listen...
can't we just be friends?
you're great Jimmy,
but I'm not looking
for anything
more.





This is so screwed up!
Sorry Sara! Shit.
Sorry!
Why am I being like this
towards you?
I'm so stupid!



Come on.
You're drunk.



I'm just so much
in love with you!
Have been ever
since you came
to our school.



I thought he was a jerk. But he was also very sad,
like a little kid.

I never get any girls!
No one likes me!
I'm just bad and ugly!



No, it's
not like
that.

Cause it is!



Jimmy, please.
Stop crying.
I can stay.
It's okay.
Sorry,
I didn't
know.



Sara, can you hold me?

Yes. Now go to sleep.



May I kiss you?

No. Get a grip Jimmy. I've already told you I don't want to.



I know. Sorry. I thought you might change your mind.



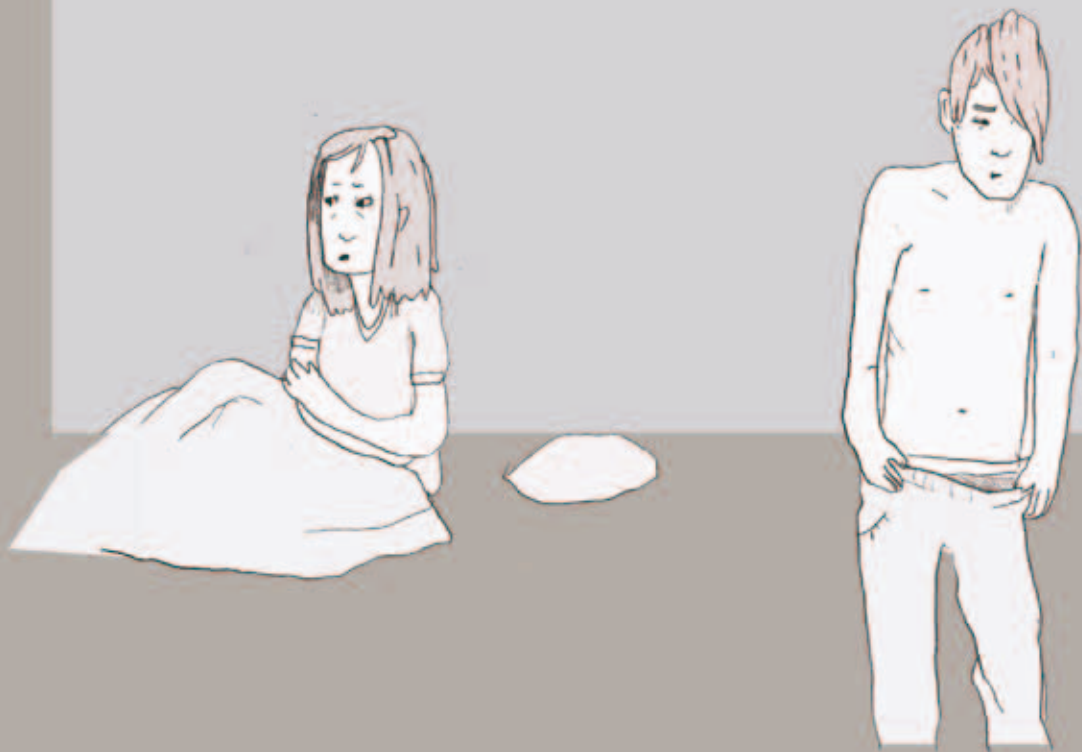
We fell asleep.

I woke up from him holding me. We had sex. Or rather, he had sex. He was different. He was like a complete stranger.

I tried to kick and scream but he was too strong. Or I don't know how much I really tried.

I always thought that rape is something that happens to others. Drunk girls with revealing clothes that get attacked on their way home by dirty old men.

I also thought that I would kill anyone that did anything like that to me. Now I was too afraid to even speak.



IF YOU HAVE BEEN FORCED TO HAVE SEX, IT'S GOOD TO HAVE SOMEONE TO TALK TO ABOUT IT. THE REACTIONS THAT FOLLOW FORCED SEX CAN BE VERY DIFFERENT FOR DIFFERENT PERSONS, BUT IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT HELP IS AVAILABLE.

YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME TO CALL KVINNOFRIDSLINJEN, SWEDEN'S NATIONAL TELEPHONE HELPLINE FOR WOMEN WHO HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO PHYSICAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL OR SEXUAL VIOLENCE. RELATIVES AND FRIENDS ARE ALSO WELCOME TO CALL US. WE ARE SOCIAL WORKERS AND NURSES USED TO DEALING WITH PEOPLE IN CRISIS. WE CAN ALSO GIVE YOU ADVICE ON WHERE YOU CAN GET HELP LOCALLY.

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