

FAME

PRIDE ACTIVISTS



VOLUME TWO

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Dolly Parton



I DON'T REGRET
ANYTHING I'VE DONE.

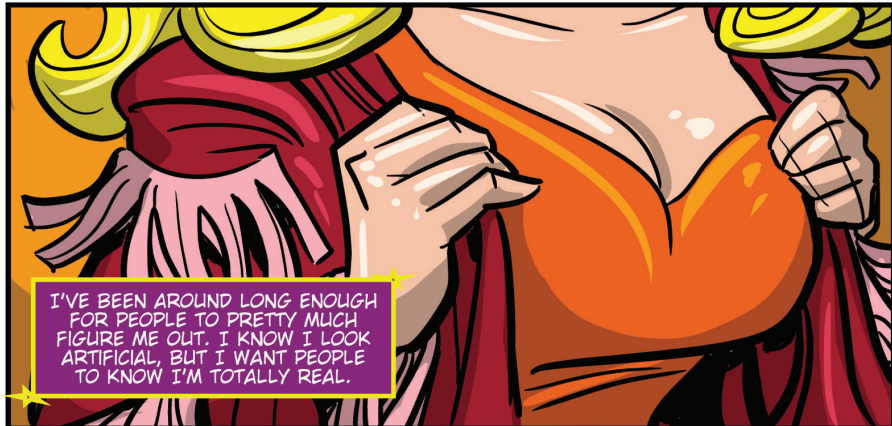


I MAY REGRET HAVING
BEEN CAUGHT DOING IT,

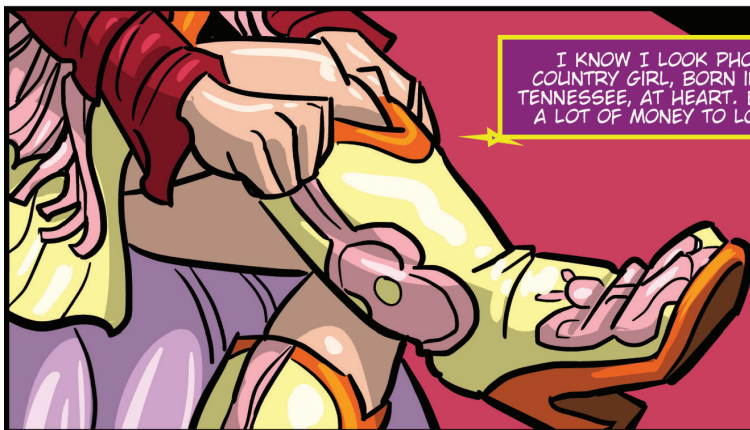
BUT I DON'T REGRET
ANYTHING; OTHERWISE,
I WOULDN'T HAVE DONE IT.



I'VE BEEN AROUND LONG ENOUGH
FOR PEOPLE TO PRETTY MUCH
FIGURE ME OUT. I KNOW I LOOK
ARTIFICIAL, BUT I WANT PEOPLE
TO KNOW I'M TOTALLY REAL.



I KNOW I LOOK PHONY, BUT I'M A
COUNTRY GIRL, BORN IN LOCUST RIDGE,
TENNESSEE, AT HEART. BESIDES, IT COSTS
A LOT OF MONEY TO LOOK THIS CHEAP.



(FORGIVE THE CRAZY BOOTS.
I'M SHORT. IN ORDER TO GET
TO MY CABINETS, I'VE GOTTA
WEAR MY HIGH HEELS).

THERE ARE LOTS OF PEOPLE
MORE TALENTED THAN ME,
BUT I'VE ALWAYS HAD
MORE GUTS THAN TALENT.

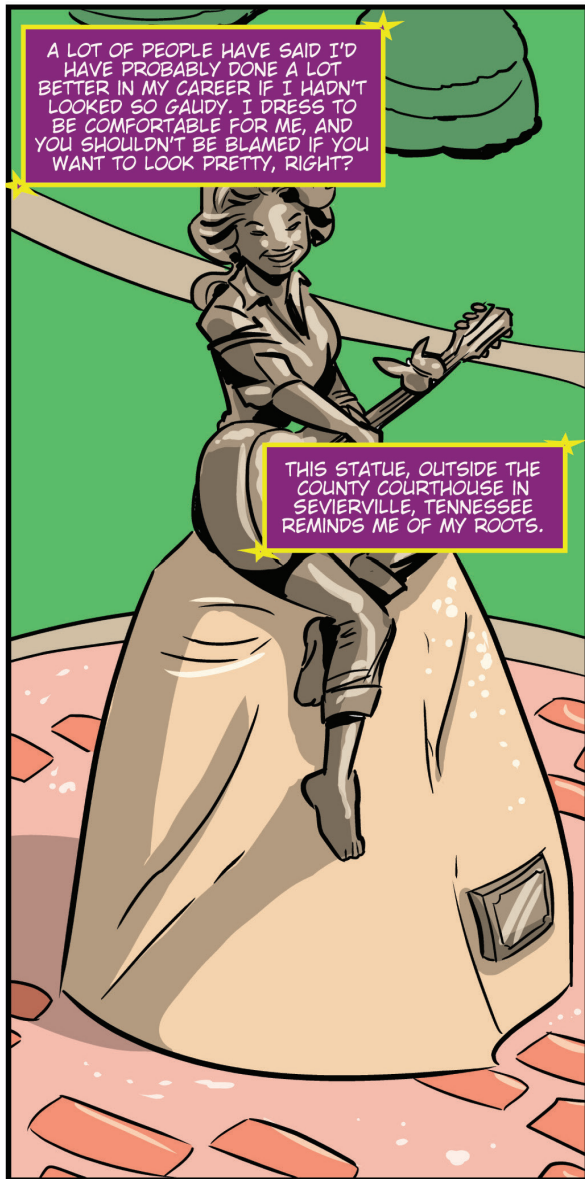
WHO KNOWS WHY WE'RE
REALLY HERE AND WHO KNOWS
WHERE WE'RE REALLY GOING.

AND NOW...
DOLLY PARTON!

HOW
YA'LL
DOIN'?

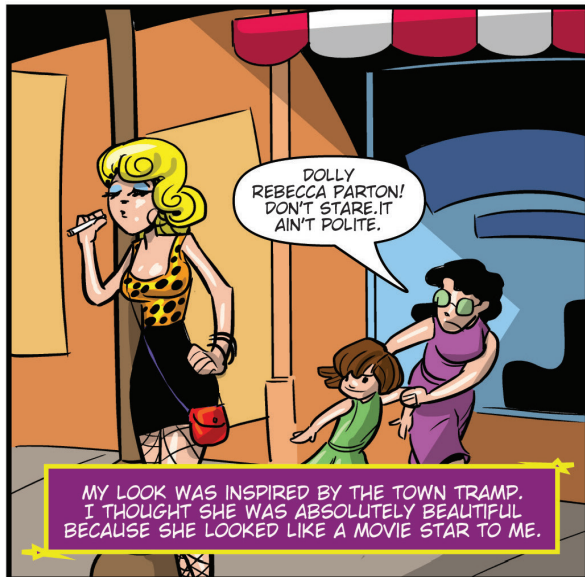
LET'S MAKE THE MOST
OF IT WHILE WE CAN.





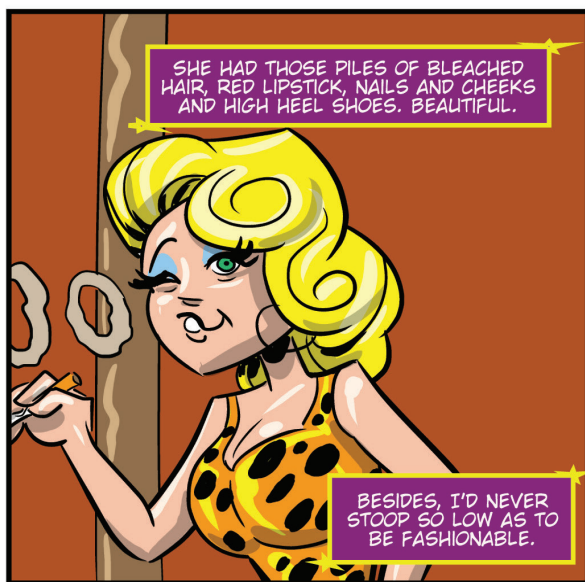
A LOT OF PEOPLE HAVE SAID I'D HAVE PROBABLY DONE A LOT BETTER IN MY CAREER IF I HADN'T LOOKED SO GAUDY. I DRESS TO BE COMFORTABLE FOR ME, AND YOU SHOULDN'T BE BLAMED IF YOU WANT TO LOOK PRETTY, RIGHT?

THIS STATUE, OUTSIDE THE COUNTY COURTHOUSE IN SEVIERVILLE, TENNESSEE REMINDS ME OF MY ROOTS.



DOLLY REBECCA PARTON! DON'T STARE. IT AIN'T POLITE.

MY LOOK WAS INSPIRED BY THE TOWN TRAMP. I THOUGHT SHE WAS ABSOLUTELY BEAUTIFUL BECAUSE SHE LOOKED LIKE A MOVIE STAR TO ME.



SHE HAD THOSE PILES OF BLEACHED HAIR, RED LIPSTICK, NAILS AND CHEEKS AND HIGH HEEL SHOES. BEAUTIFUL.

BESIDES, I'D NEVER STOOP SO LOW AS TO BE FASHIONABLE.



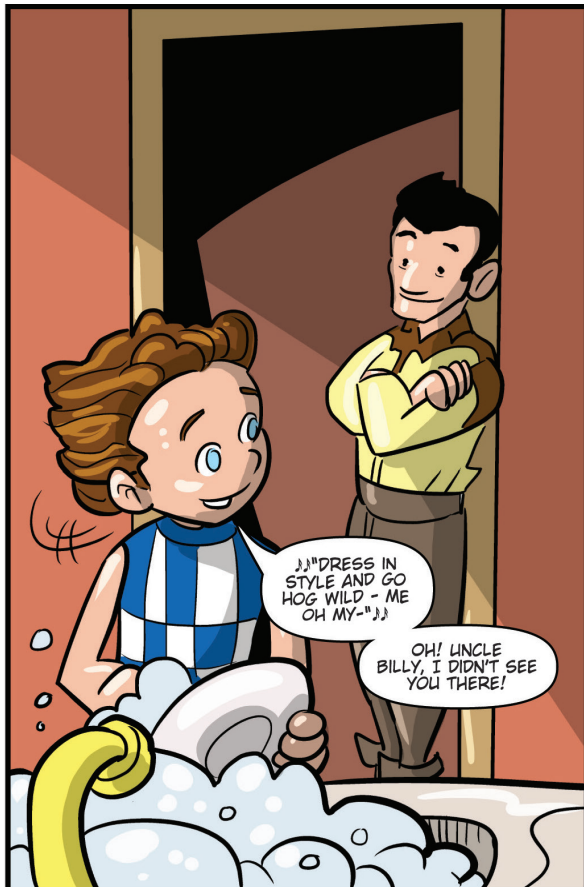
IT'S HARD TO BE A DIAMOND IN A RHINESTONE WORLD.



I'VE ALWAYS LOVED GOOD, OL' FASHIONED COUNTRY MUSIC.

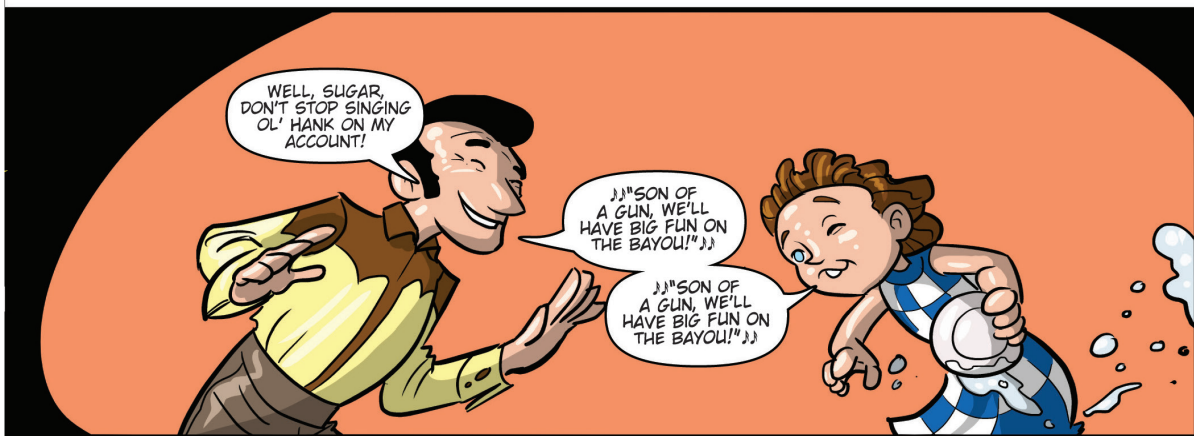
LOOK, IF YOU TALK BAD ABOUT COUNTRY MUSIC, IT'S LIKE SAYING BAD THINGS ABOUT MY MOMMA. THEM'S FIGHTIN' WORDS.

♪♪"THIBODAUX FONTAINEAUX THE PLACE IS BUZZIN'. KINFOLK COME TO SEE YVONNE BY THE DOZEN."♪♪



♪♪"DRESS IN STYLE AND GO HOG WILD - ME OH MY-"♪♪

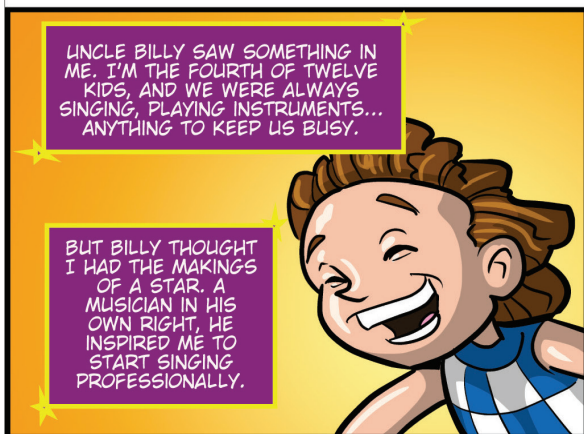
OH! UNCLE BILLY, I DIDN'T SEE YOU THERE!



WELL, SUGAR, DON'T STOP SINGING OL' HANK ON MY ACCOUNT!

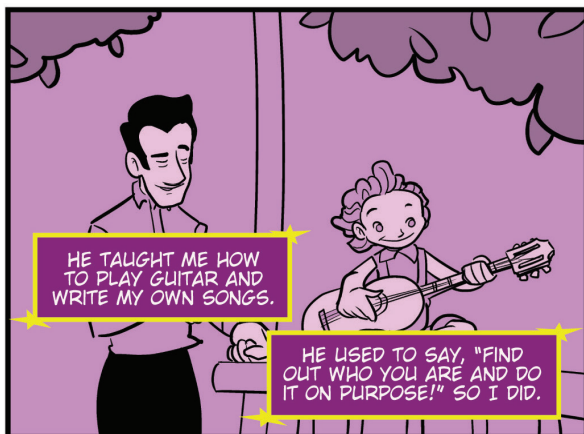
♪♪"SON OF A GUN, WE'LL HAVE BIG FUN ON THE BAYOU!"♪♪

♪♪"SON OF A GUN, WE'LL HAVE BIG FUN ON THE BAYOU!"♪♪



UNCLE BILLY SAW SOMETHING IN ME. I'M THE FOURTH OF TWELVE KIDS, AND WE WERE ALWAYS SINGING, PLAYING INSTRUMENTS... ANYTHING TO KEEP US BUSY.

BUT BILLY THOUGHT I HAD THE MAKINGS OF A STAR. A MUSICIAN IN HIS OWN RIGHT, HE INSPIRED ME TO START SINGING PROFESSIONALLY.



HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO PLAY GUITAR AND WRITE MY OWN SONGS.

HE USED TO SAY, "FIND OUT WHO YOU ARE AND DO IT ON PURPOSE!" SO I DID.



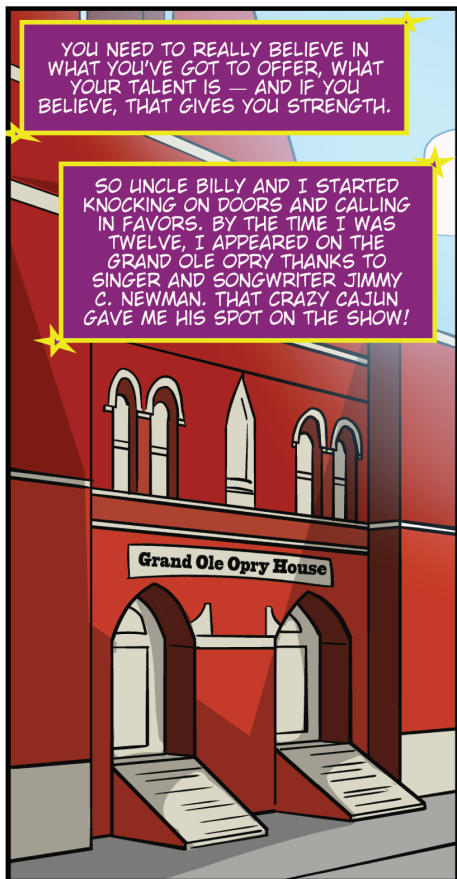
IN 1956, WHEN I WAS ONLY TEN YEARS OLD, HE PUT ME IN FRONT OF CAS WALKER. GOOD OLE' CAS OWNED A CHAIN OF GROCERY STORES AND USED A RADIO PROGRAM TO PROMOTE THEM.

BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS SINGING IN FRONT OF A REAL LIVE AUDIENCE IN KNOXVILLE. THEY CHEERED.

AT THAT MOMENT, I FELL IN LOVE WITH THE PUBLIC. THIS WAS WHAT I HAD ALWAYS WANTED - NO, THAT'S NOT RIGHT. THIS IS WHAT I ALWAYS NEEDED. PERIOD.



IT WAS THE ATTENTION I HAD LONGED FOR. I KNEW WHAT THEY WERE GIVING TO ME. NOW I HAD CONFIDENCE IN WHAT I HAD TO GIVE TO THEM.



YOU NEED TO REALLY BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU'VE GOT TO OFFER, WHAT YOUR TALENT IS — AND IF YOU BELIEVE, THAT GIVES YOU STRENGTH.

SO UNCLE BILLY AND I STARTED KNOCKING ON DOORS AND CALLING IN FAVORS. BY THE TIME I WAS TWELVE, I APPEARED ON THE GRAND OLE OPYR THANKS TO SINGER AND SONGWRITER JIMMY C. NEWMAN. THAT CRAZY CAJUN GAVE ME HIS SPOT ON THE SHOW!



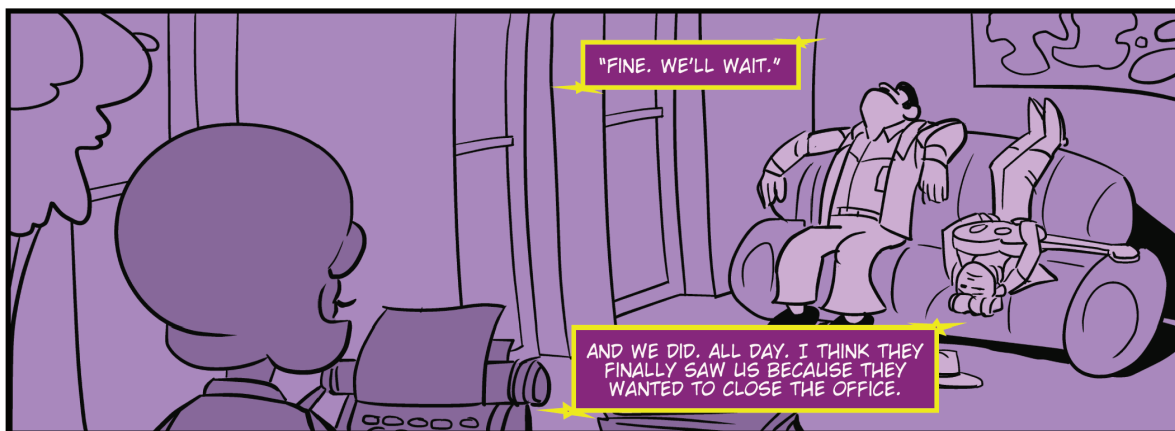
BUT I WANTED MORE. WHEN I WAS SIXTEEN, UNCLE BILLY BROUGHT ME TO THE OFFICES OF TREE PUBLISHING.

WE'RE HERE TO SEE YOUR —

HE'S OUT.

NOW, WHO DID YOU THINK I —

YOU DON'T HAVE AN APPOINTMENT.



"FINE. WE'LL WAIT."

AND WE DID. ALL DAY. I THINK THEY FINALLY SAW US BECAUSE THEY WANTED TO CLOSE THE OFFICE.



THAT EVENING, UNCLE BILLY AND I SIGNED A DEAL WITH MERCURY RECORDS AND I RECORDED "IT MAY NOT KILL ME (BUT IT'S SURE GONNA HURT)" AND "I WASTED MY TEARS (WHEN I CRIED OVER YOU.)"

IF YOU HAVEN'T HAD THIS EXPERIENCE, LET ME TELL YA, IT'S A WARM FEELIN' TO HEAR YOUR MUSIC ON THE RADIO.

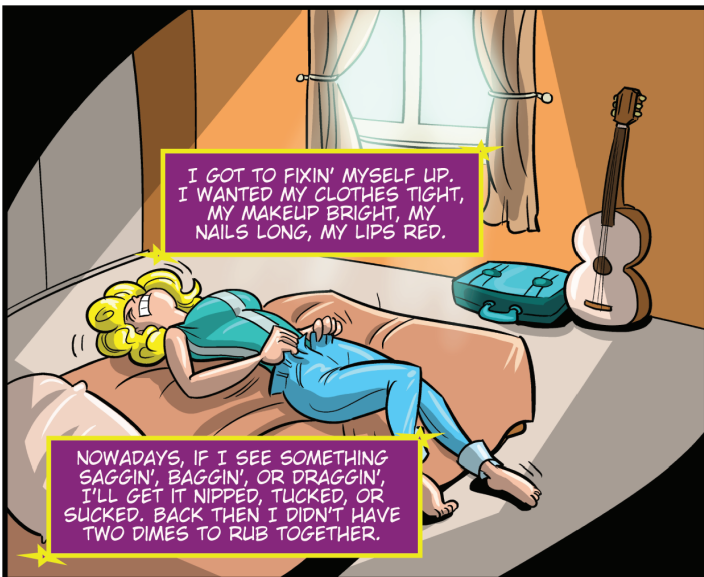
THAT'S ABOUT THE TIME I DECIDED THAT I NEEDED AN IMAGE MAKEOVER. A NEW LOOK. SOMETHING TO MAKE ME STAND OUT FROM THE CROWD.

I'M NO NATURAL BEAUTY. IF I'M GONNA HAVE ANY LOOKS AT ALL, I'M GONNA HAVE TO CREATE THEM.



I GOT TO FIXIN' MYSELF UP. I WANTED MY CLOTHES TIGHT, MY MAKEUP BRIGHT, MY NAILS LONG, MY LIPS RED.

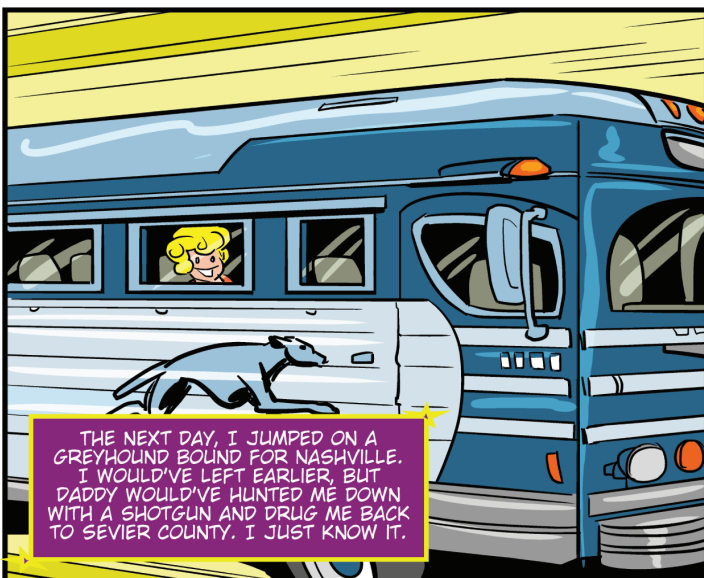
NOWADAYS, IF I SEE SOMETHING SAGGIN', BAGGIN', OR DRAGGIN', I'LL GET IT NIPPED, TUCKED, OR SUCKED. BACK THEN I DIDN'T HAVE TWO DIMES TO RUB TOGETHER.



I GRADUATED HIGH SCHOOL WHEN I WAS EIGHTEEN. I ASKED MY RELATIVES FOR MONEY INSTEAD OF GIFTS.



THE NEXT DAY, I JUMPED ON A GREYHOUND BOUND FOR NASHVILLE. I WOULD'VE LEFT EARLIER, BUT DADDY WOULD'VE HUNTED ME DOWN WITH A SHOTGUN AND DRUG ME BACK TO SEVIER COUNTY. I JUST KNOW IT.



I ENDED UP HERE, IN A SMALL APARTMENT ABOVE THE WISHY WASHY LAUNDROMAT.

ALL I HAD WERE MY DREAMS, MY OLD GUITAR, THE SONGS I HAD WRITTEN, AND THE REST OF MY BELONGINGS IN A SET OF MATCHING LUGGAGE—THREE PAPER BAGS FROM THE SAME GROCERY STORE.

