

GUY DELISLE PYONGYANG

모든 승리의 조직자이며 지도자인 조선로동당 만세!



PYONGYANG

A JOURNEY IN NORTH KOREA

GUY DELISLE

Translated by Helge Dascher



DRAWN & QUARTERLY

Other books by Guy Delisle :

Hostage

Factory Summers

Shenzhen: A Travelogue From China

Jerusalem: Chronicles from the Holy City

The Handbook to Lazy Parenting

A User's Guide to Neglectful Parenting

Even More Bad Parenting Advice

The Owner's Manual to Terrible Parenting Advice

Aline and the Others

Albert and the Others

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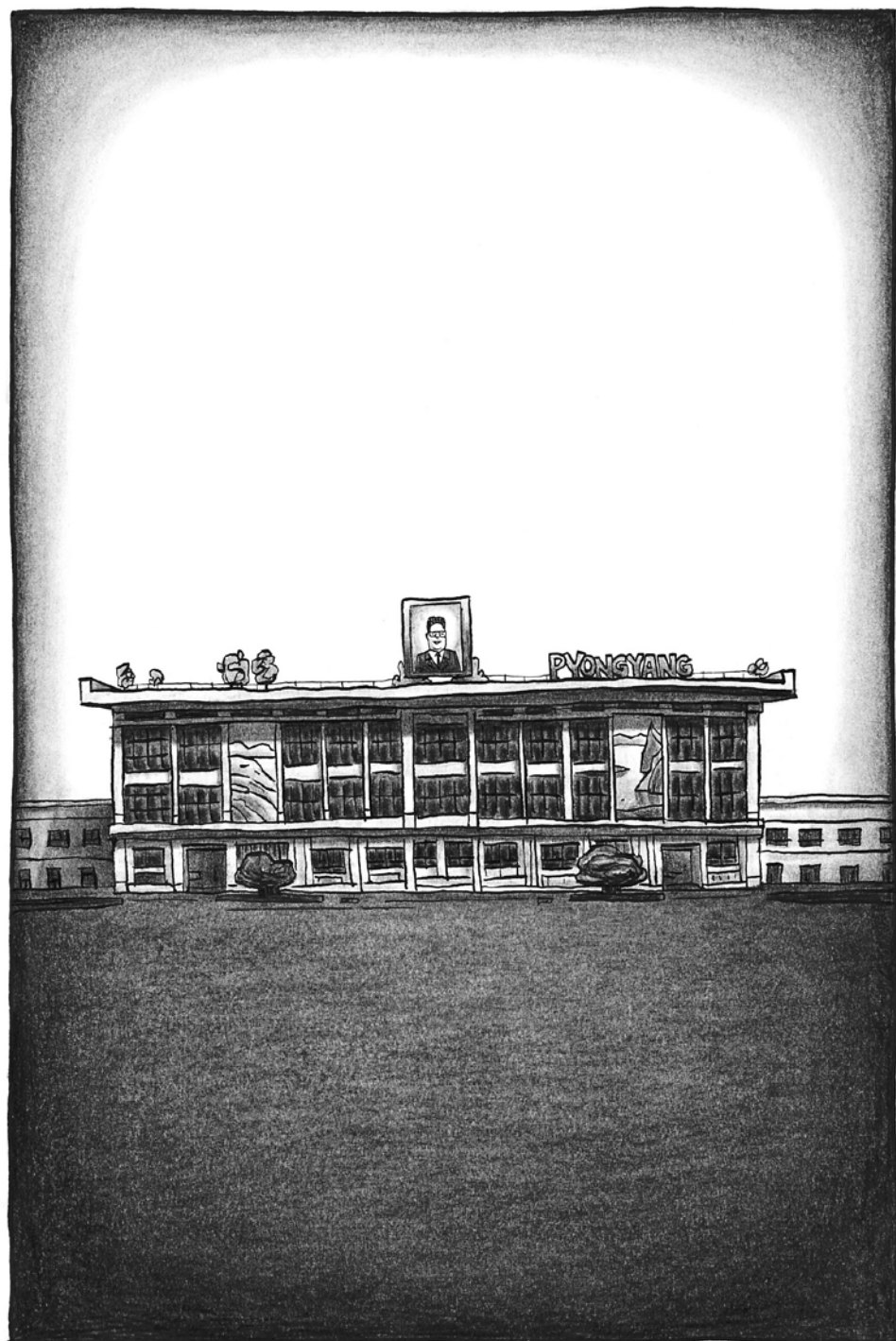
INTRODUCTION

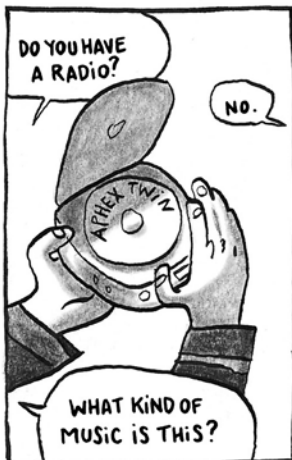
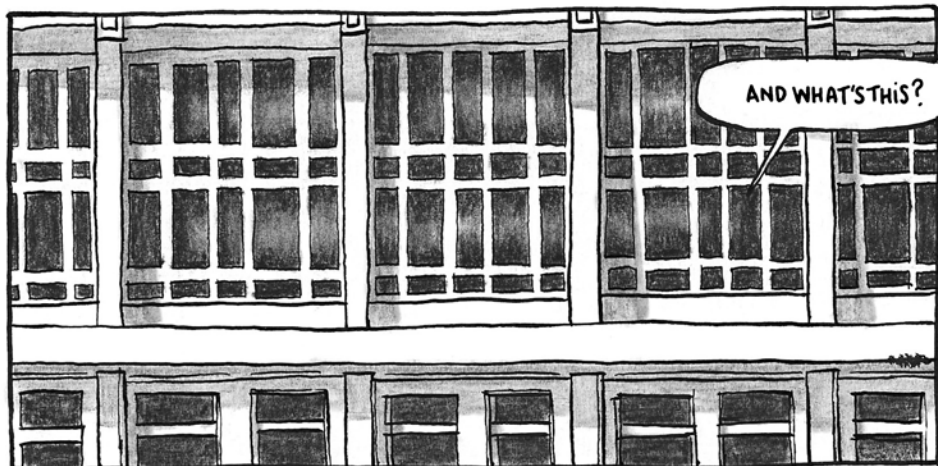
BY GORE VERBINSKY

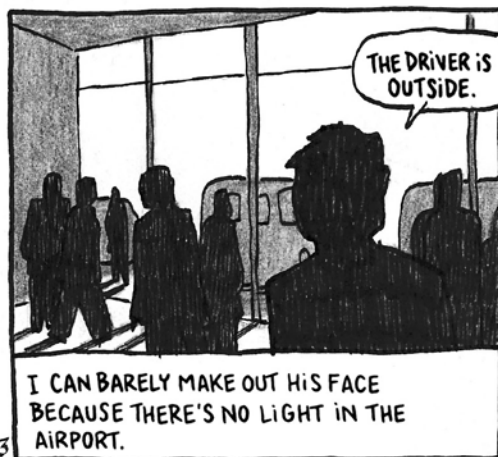
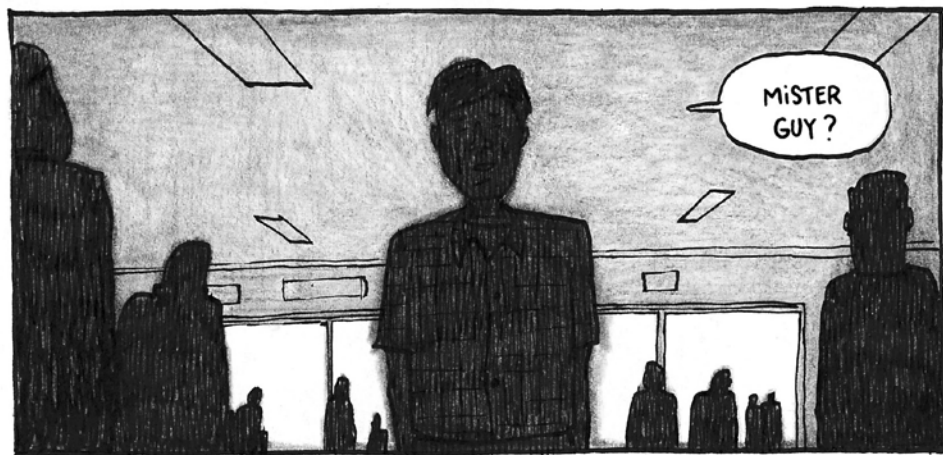


In 2001 Guy Delisle was allowed into North Korea to work on an animated cartoon. As an animator, Guy has a unique talent to “see” things as an assembly of moments or frames, manufacturing motion and emotion on a strange cellular level. “Key frames” may be the instances in life where things happen: the events and memories, the highlights reel if you will. But as Guy’s writing continues to show us, that is not how life actually works. We exist, in the “in-betweens.” Observing the human condition in a strange land with a skill set uniquely suited to convey the absurdity of the mundane, Guy reduces the amplitude to get underneath the narrative and break down a belief system into something infinitely relatable. He deceptively penetrates that impenetrable interior, and brings us a hypnotic and unnerving look at the daily life of those who visit and exist in a bubble of fear. The mind is extraordinary, and belief systems, most of all, are what mold us over time. By taking us into the rabbit hole we see that contrast immediately, but by living there and existing, he is making us aware of the systems that shape us as well. During his two month stay in North Korea, Guy Delisle was caught in the “tweens”—drifting between beacons—and we are the beneficiaries. As he shares with us that experience through a granularity and point of view that continue to make his work so absolutely essential.











THE DRIVER HANDS ME FLOWERS THAT I KNOW AREN'T REALLY MEANT FOR ME.

TO HELP ME PREPARE FOR THIS TRIP, I WAS GIVEN A BOOKLET OF TRAVEL TIPS.

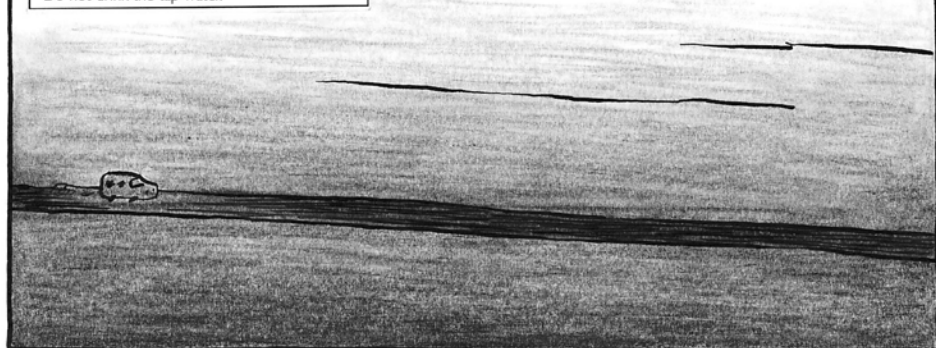


THANKS.

HOW NICE.

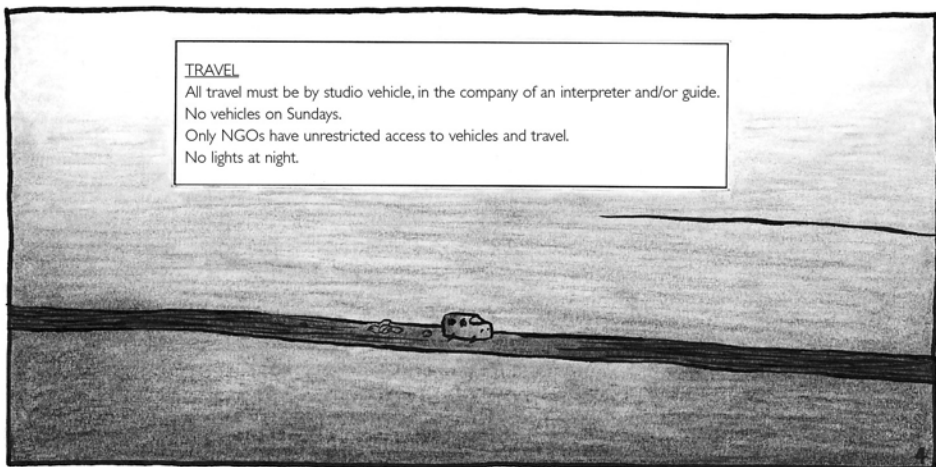
HYGIENE

Bring your own medication.
Do not drink the tap water.



TRAVEL

All travel must be by studio vehicle, in the company of an interpreter and/or guide.
No vehicles on Sundays.
Only NGOs have unrestricted access to vehicles and travel.
No lights at night.



ALLOWED

Audio cassettes.

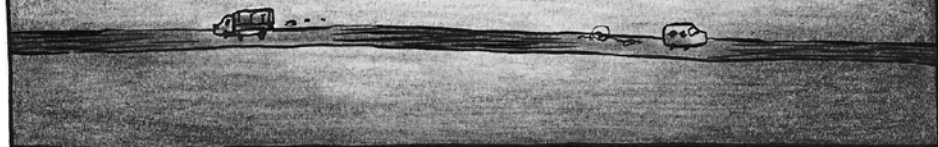
CD player and CDs.

Portable computer and printer.

Cameras and film, camcorder. Not everything can be photographed.

Food: mustard, ketchup, etc.

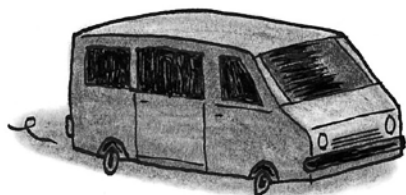
Books to give to interpreter at the end of the trip.



PROHIBITED

Mobile phone (confiscated at airport and returned on departure.)

Pornography.



INCREDIBLE! HE'S SMOKING
IN AN AIR-CONDITIONED CAR
WITH CLOSED WINDOWS!



GREAT.



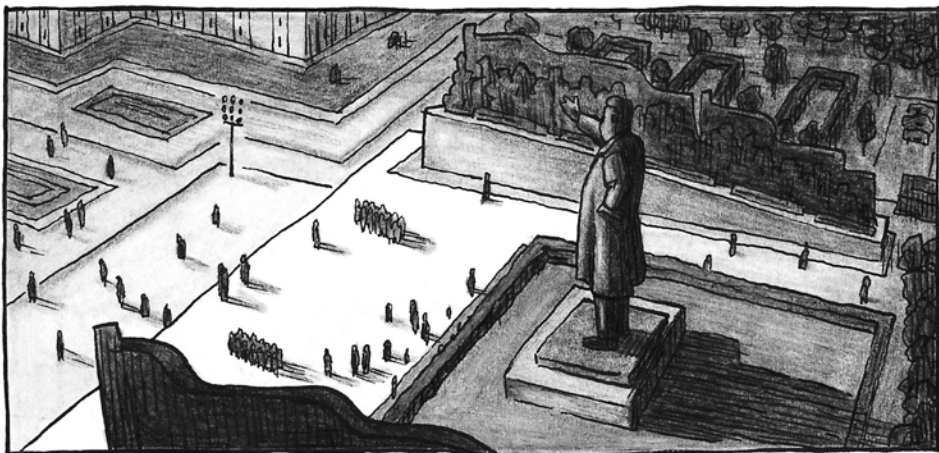
I CAN'T BREATHE
AND I'M COLD.

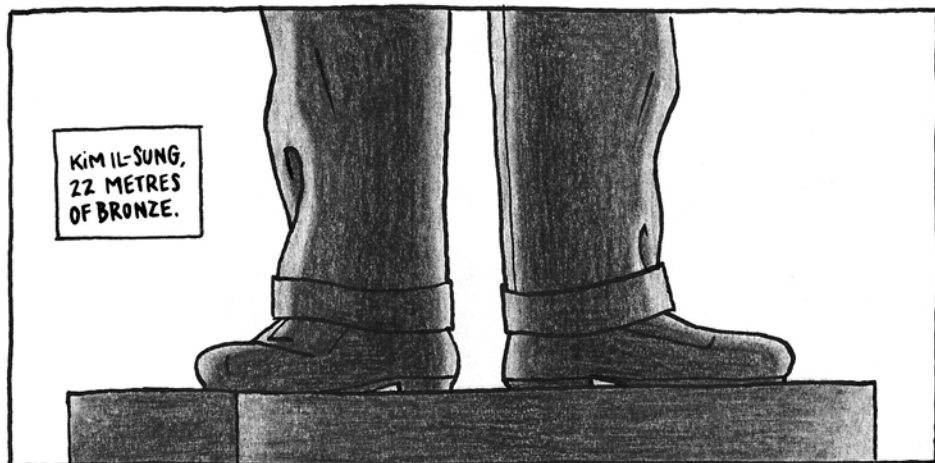


MY GUIDE SUGGESTS WE VISIT THE HIGHEST
POINT IN THE CITY TO ADMIRE THE VIEW
BEFORE GOING TO THE HOTEL.

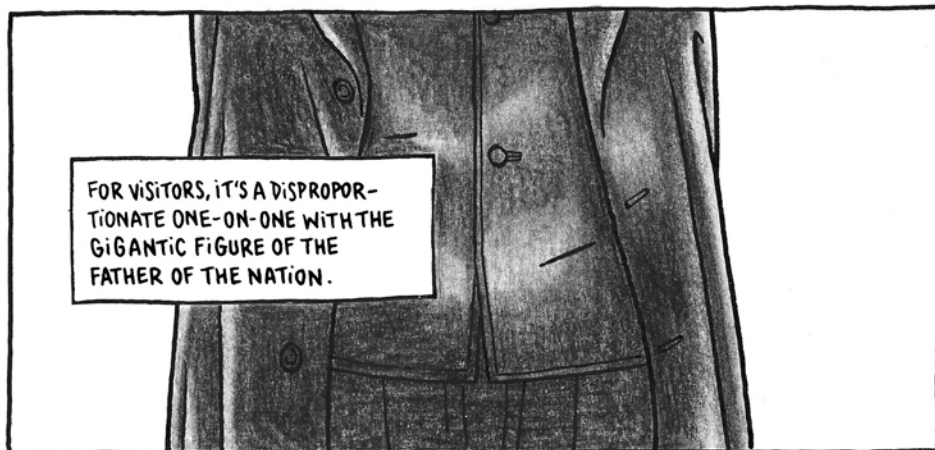


AN ELEGANT WAY OF SLIPPING IN A
STOP THAT'S REQUIRED FOR EVERY
NEW VISITOR.





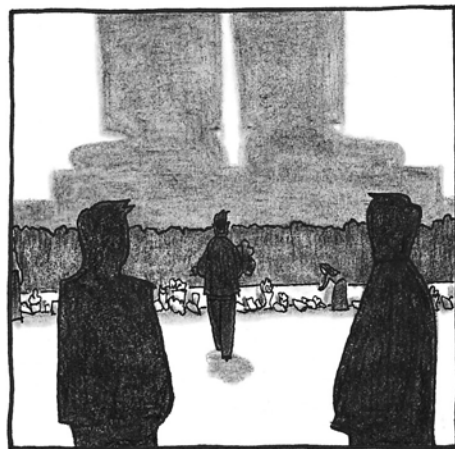
KIM IL-SUNG,
22 METRES
OF BRONZE.



FOR VISITORS, IT'S A DISPROPOR-
TIONATE ONE-ON-ONE WITH THE
GIGANTIC FIGURE OF THE
FATHER OF THE NATION.



WHO, ALTHOUGH
DEAD (1912-1994), IS
STILL PRESIDENT.



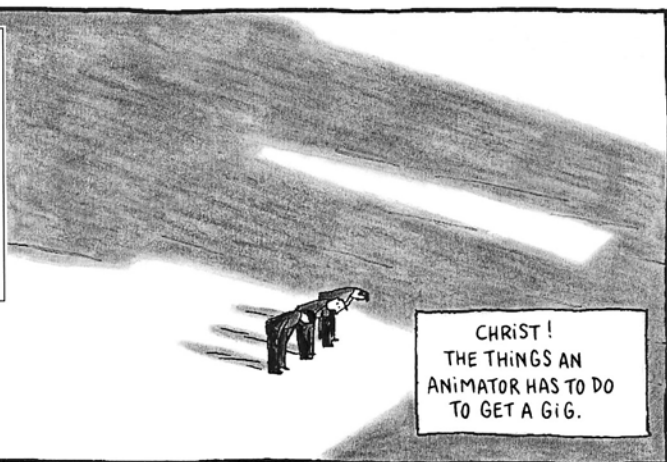
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MISCELLANEOUS

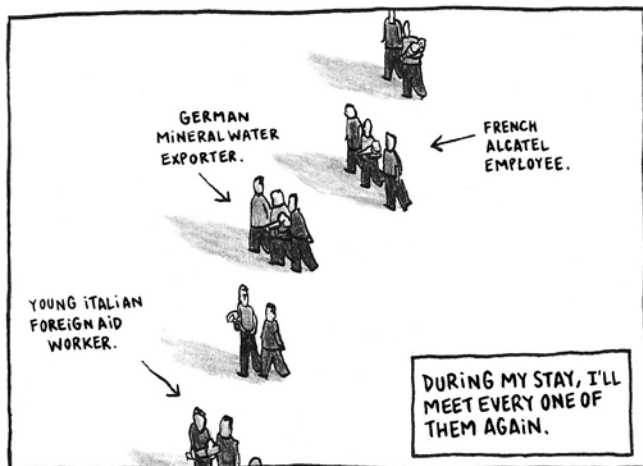
Do not do anything on your own.
Refer to your guide or interpreter
for advice in all circumstances.

Tips: forbidden.

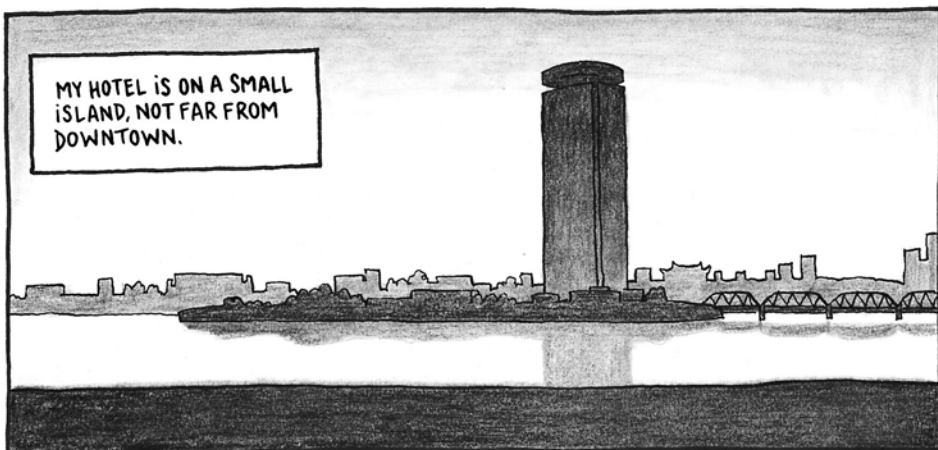
Never make jokes about the
Great Leader or the Dear Leader.
Show respect.



BACK IN THE PARKING LOT, I COME ACROSS ALL THE OTHER FOREIGNERS WHO WERE ON THE FLIGHT, ALONG WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE GUIDES.

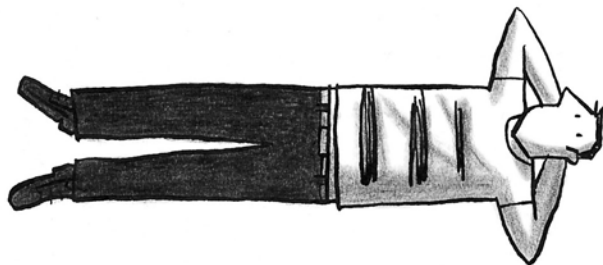


MY HOTEL IS ON A SMALL ISLAND, NOT FAR FROM DOWNTOWN.



IT'S GOT THOSE GOOD OLD STANDARD ROOMS—COLD AND IMPERSONAL, JUST LIKE THEY LIKE THEM IN ASIA.

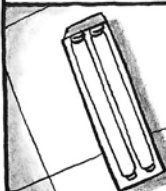
NORTH KOREA IS THE WORLD'S MOST ISOLATED COUNTRY. FOREIGNERS TRICKLE IN. THERE'S NO INTERNET. THERE ARE NO CAFÉS. IN FACT, THERE'S NO ENTERTAINMENT. IT'S HARD TO EVEN LEAVE THE HOTEL, AND MEETING KOREANS IS NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE.



LUCKILY I'VE HAD PRACTICE BEING ALONE BECAUSE THIS WON'T BE A FUNHOUSE.



WELL, THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, BUT I WAS WRONG - WHICH JUST GOES TO SHOW THAT YOU'VE GOT TO BE READY FOR ANYTHING WHEN YOU TRAVEL.



KNOCK KNOCK

MISTER GUY?
READY TO GO TO
THE STUDIO?

HEY, ISN'T THAT
KARL UP THERE?

YOU
KNOW MARX?
VERY
GOOD.

A BIT... DOESN'T
EVERYBODY?

OH NO, MOST
CAPITALISTS
DON'T.

REALLY.

