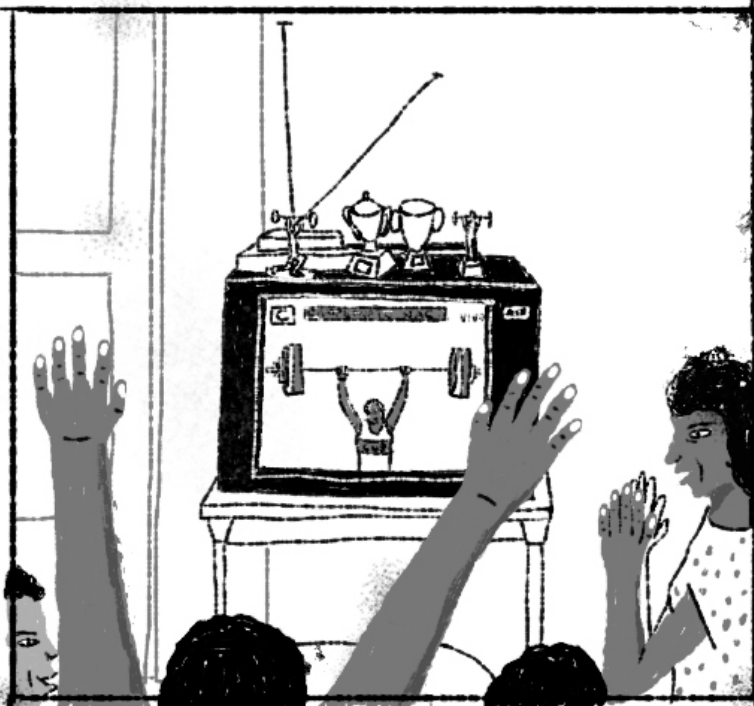




GRACIELA

HAVANA, CUBA • 2017



HOW DO CUBANS LIVE THESE DAYS?



GRACIELA WAS A WEIGHTLIFTING CHAMPION.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY A FEW WORDS?



MY SUCCESS



THANKS TO MY FAMILY



MY EFFORT



I DO NOT OWE THEM ANYTHING

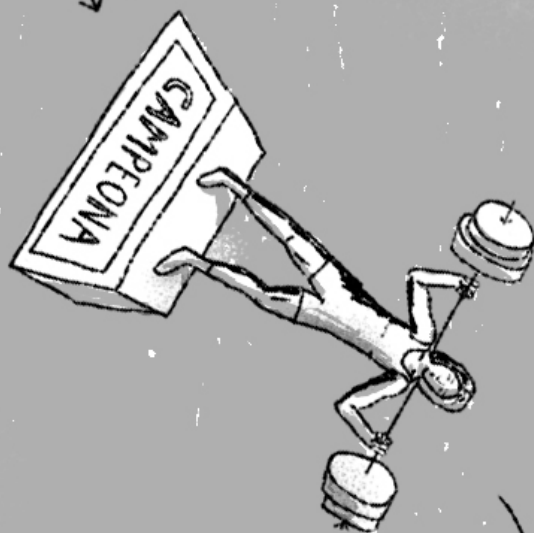
AFTER A COMPETITION, SHE WAS INTERVIEWED BY THE STATE-OWNED TELEVISION CHANNEL.

GRACIELA CRITICIZED HER COUNTRY'S GOVERNMENT FOR THE LACK OF SUPPORT TO HER CAREER. THE INTERVIEW NEVER AIRD.



GRACIELA WAS LABELLED
A COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARY.

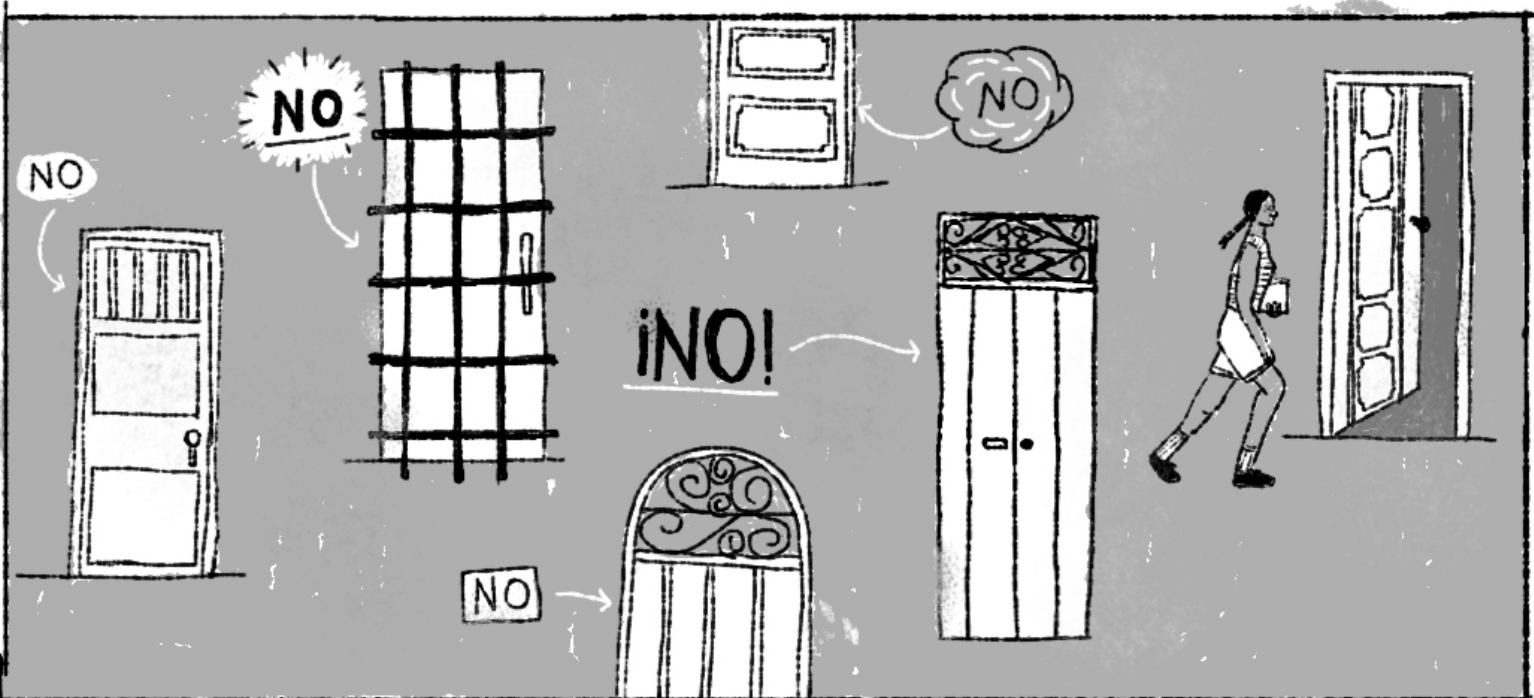
SHE WAS BANNED
FROM HER SPORT.



AND FIRED
FROM HER
GOVERNMENT JOB.

SHE WAS GIVEN 20 DAYS
TO FIND A NEW JOB.
IF SHE REMAINED UNEMPLOYED,
SHE COULD BE CHARGED
WITH "DANGEROUSNESS"
BE TREATED AS A CRIMINAL
AND CONSIDERED A SUSPECT
CAPABLE OF COMMITTING A CRIME.





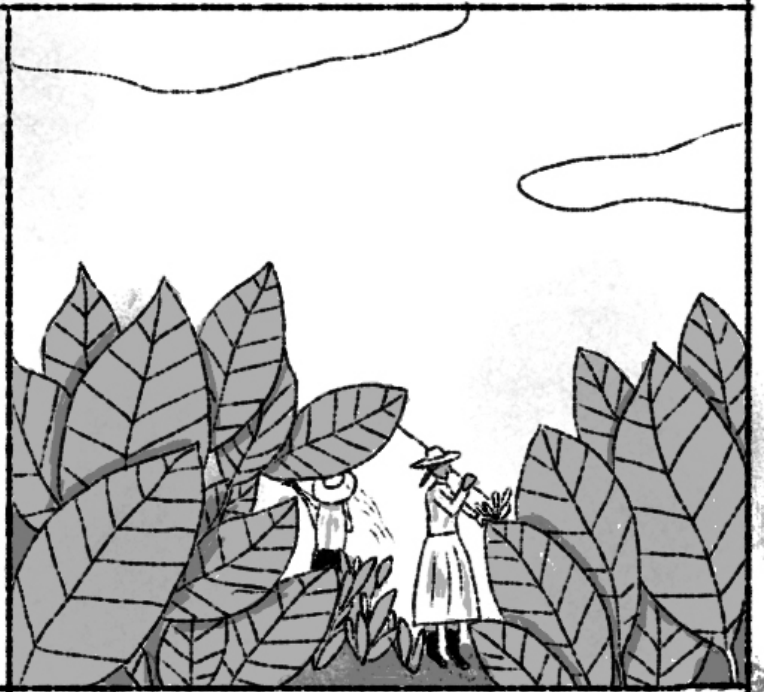
HER REBEL STATUS MADE IT DIFFICULT TO FIND WORK
AND HER OPPORTUNITIES WERE LIMITED.



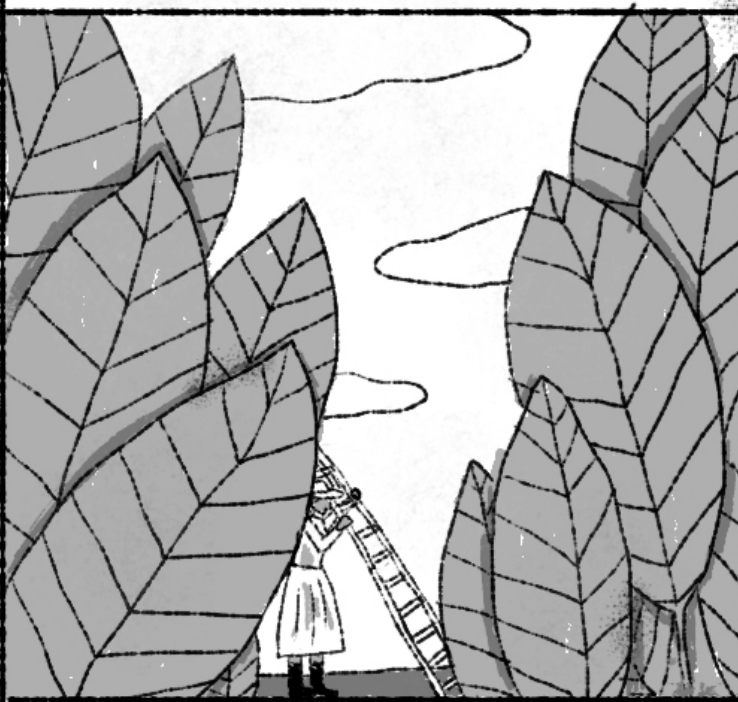
THE ONLY JOB OPPORTUNITY THAT THEY OFFERED HER
WAS TO GO AND WORK IN THE FIELDS.



THE WORK WAS TEDIOUS.



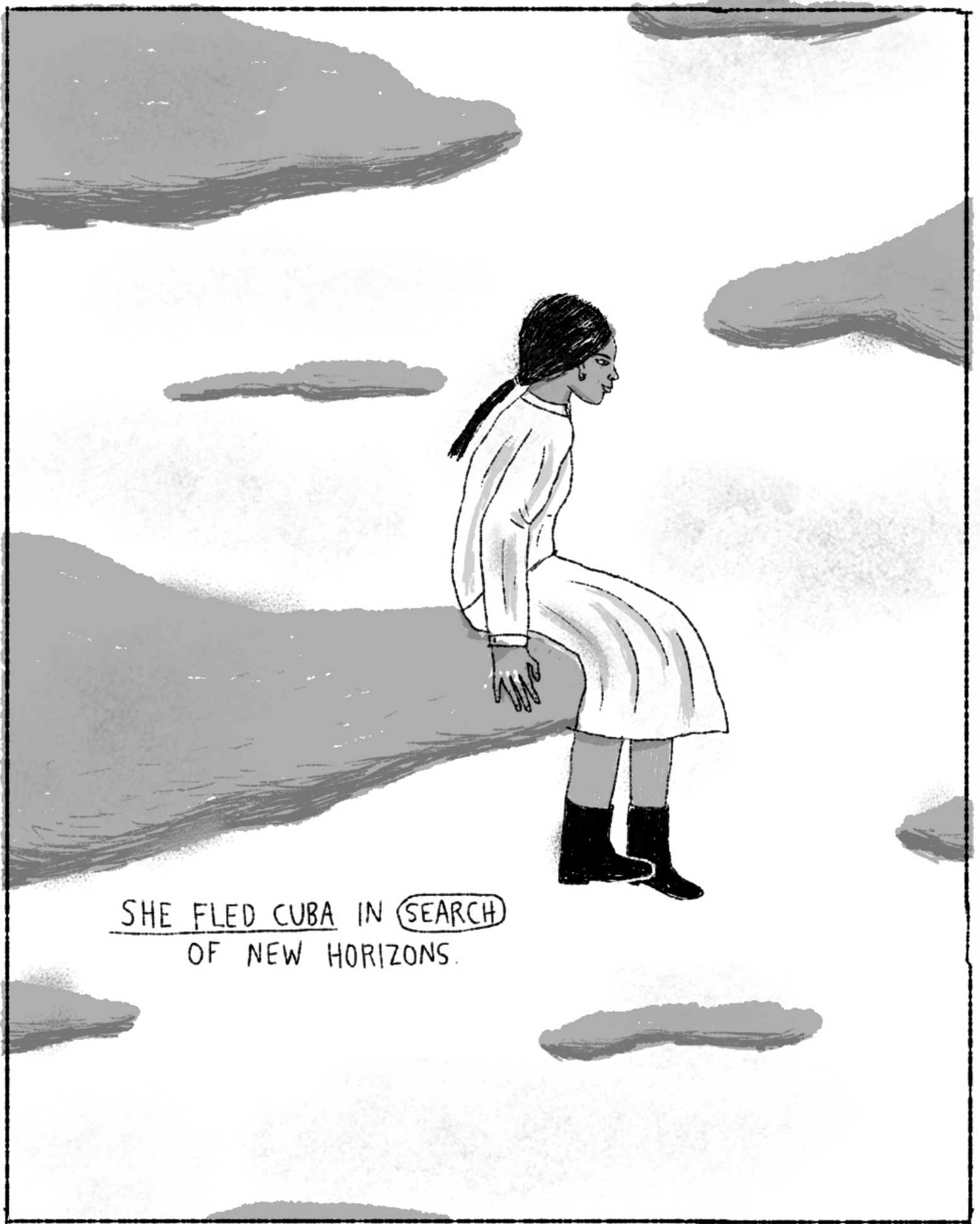
SHE FELT WORRIED.



IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO LOOK
AFTER HER FAMILY WITH THE
SALARY THAT SHE RECEIVED.



SO IT WAS TIME TO MAKE
ANOTHER DECISION.



SHE FLED CUBA IN (SEARCH)
OF NEW HORIZONS.