# THE FIRST WEEKEND IN JUNE

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#### Written and illustrated by Matilda Ruta

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Production: Zellout, Uppsala, 2021 ISBN: 978-91-978448-3-3 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.







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



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



#### The music changed to slow beat.













Sorry Sara, but I can't be with you. I couldn't do that to Jimmy. But I like you. I can tell but he'll get really pissed off, and I can't handle that.



But we're meeting for drinks at his place tomorrow. Can't you and Denise come?

Maybe.

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





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?





Oh yeah?

You and Jimmy of course! Come

on Sara, everyone could see the

way you were looking at him.







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

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

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





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.



God knows what Denise and Kevin were up to.

They were just too embarrassing for words.



## Jimmy kept following me around.

## Do you like Håkan Hellström?



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## l thought l might as well.

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





#### 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.







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





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

I tried to kick and 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 perople in crisis. We can also give you advice on where you can get help locally.

We are always open, 24 hours a day, all year round. The call is free of charge and will not appear on your phone bill.

You can only call Kvinnofridslinjen from Sweden.

Kvinnofridslinjen: 020-50 50 50

www.kvinnofridslinjen.se

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