



**The Sewol Ferry
Disaster**



And After



This book was created through the collective efforts of
writers and illustrators of children's books.

In so doing, it is our hope
that the truth of the Sewol Disaster will be revealed



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8:15 p.m. April 15, 2014

The fog cleared. 325 students of Danwon High school were relieved of their worries about the school trip being cancelled. They sent text messages to their families. "We'll have a great trip!"



8:45 p.m. April 15, 2014

All 475 passengers, including the ferry's crew, embarked. Industrial machinery, including excavators, trucks, and containers, were also loaded. When the last freight boarded the Sewol, the ship's weight allowance doubled.



9 p.m. April 15, 2014

The ferry departed from Incheon to Jeju island. The passengers enjoyed watching fireworks and playing limbo games on the deck. No emergency preparation was provided to the passengers.



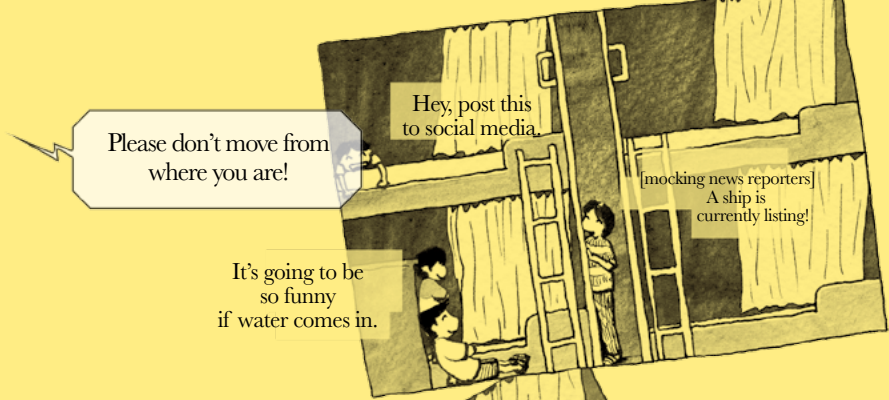
8:49 a.m. April 16, 2014

In the morning,
as the passengers were finishing breakfast,
the ferry began to list to one side.
Many lost their balance and fell down.



8:52 a.m. April 16, 2014

Deokha Choi, a second year student at Danwon high school, made the first emergency call to 911. Three minutes later, crewmembers aboard the Sewol also reported distress. They called the marine control center at Jeju Island, rather than the one at Jindo Island, which was closer to their location at the time.

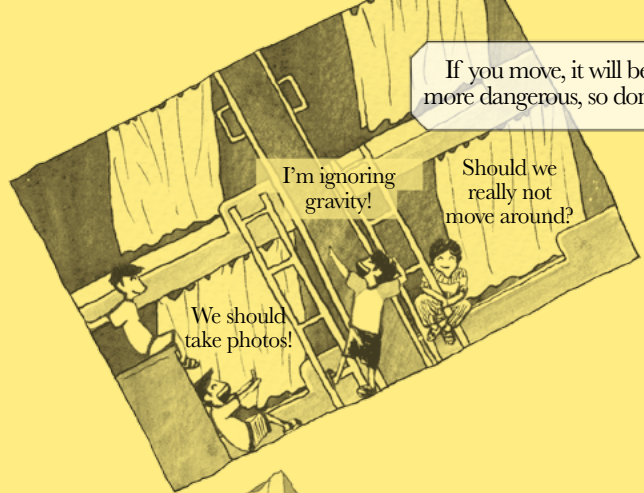


Please don't move from where you are!

Hey, post this to social media.

[mocking news reporters] A ship is currently listing!

It's going to be so funny if water comes in.



If you move, it will become more dangerous, so don't move!

I'm ignoring gravity!

Should we really not move around?

We should take photos!



Don't move, stay inside!

We need one more life vest here!

Are we really sinking?

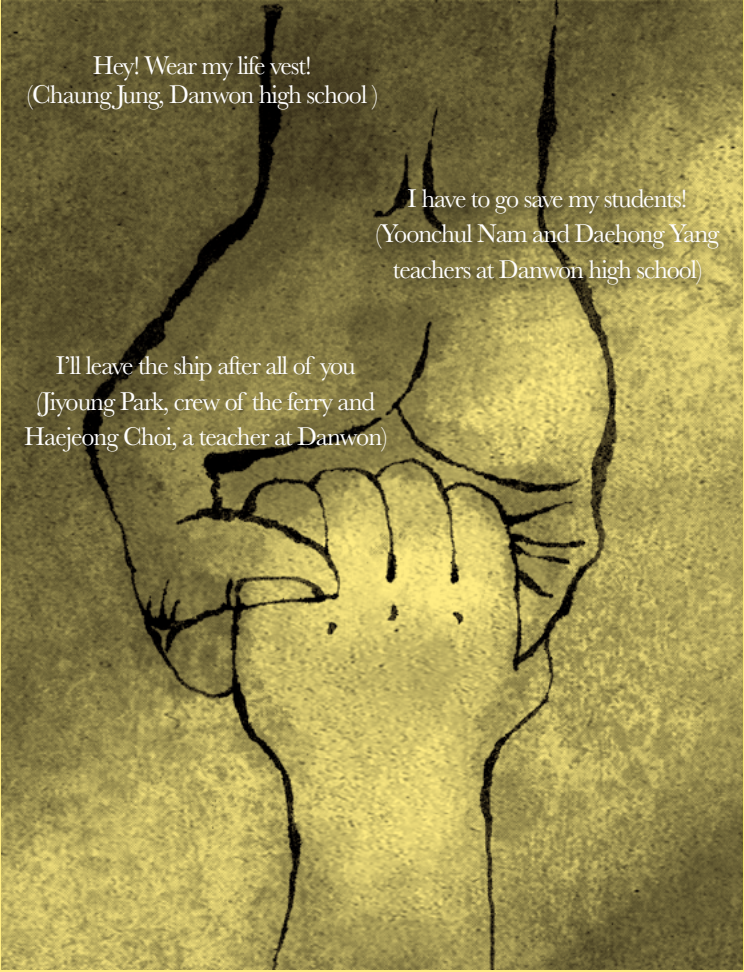
No! There are so many anime that I haven't seen yet!

Mine is for a child!

9:09 a.m. April 16, 2014
The ship's crew tell the passengers to stay still.



9:32 a.m. April 16, 2014
The marine police arrive at the scene. The captain and crew of the Sewol jump into lifeboats. They escape the ship.



Hey! Wear my life vest!
(Chaung Jung, Danwon high school)

I have to go save my students!
(Yoonchul Nam and Daehong Yang
teachers at Danwon high school)

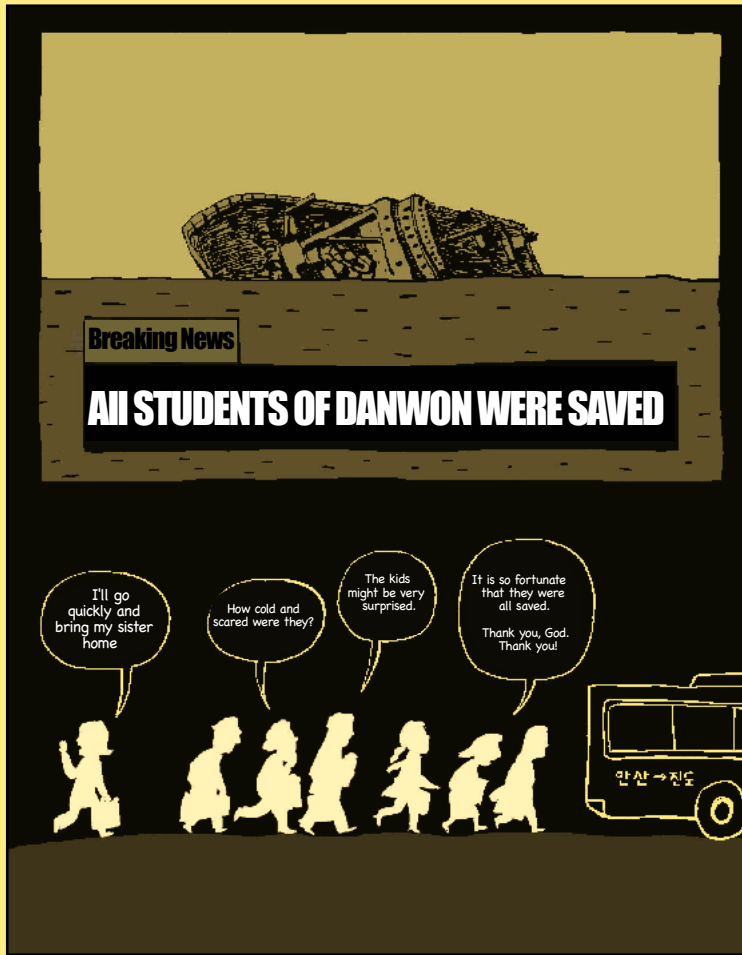
I'll leave the ship after all of you
(Jiyoung Park, crew of the ferry and
Hacjong Choi, a teacher at Danwon)

The passengers help each other while waiting to be rescued.



9:50 a.m. April 16, 2014

Although the marine police have a microphone, they do not use it to inform the passengers about the need to escape the sinking ship. They only save the passengers that are already outside.



11:00 a.m. April 16, 2014

Breaking news reports that “All Students from Danwon Were Saved.” Many people are relieved. Parents bring food and clothes for their children to change into, and leave for Jindo island.



11:18 a.m. April 16, 2014

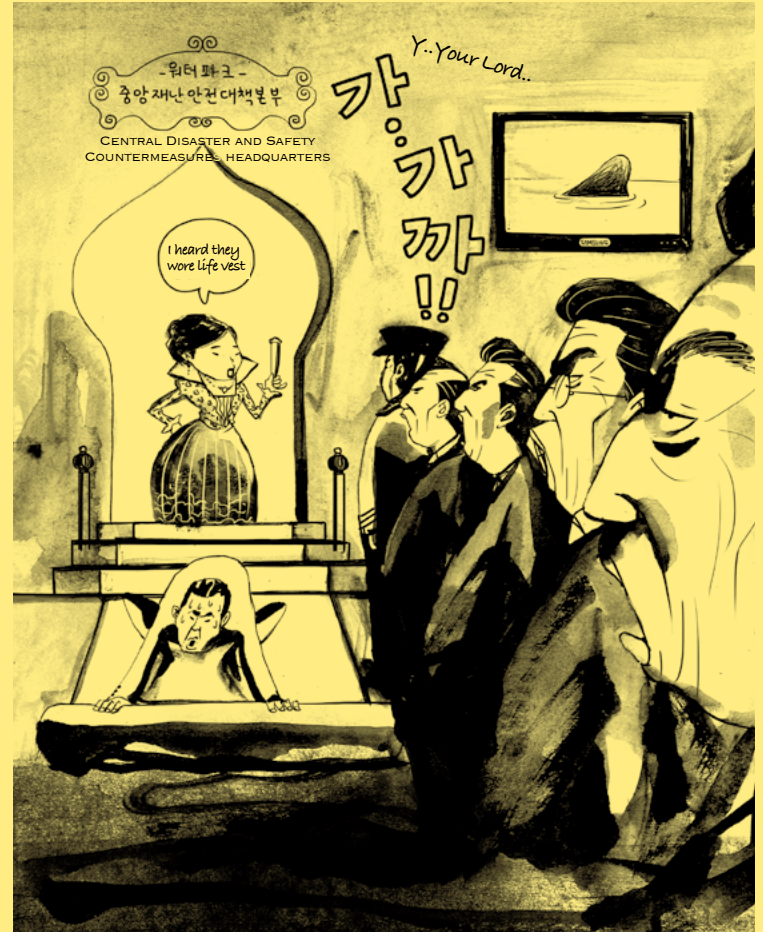
The Sewol ferry is nearly submerged, with only its prow remaining above the water.



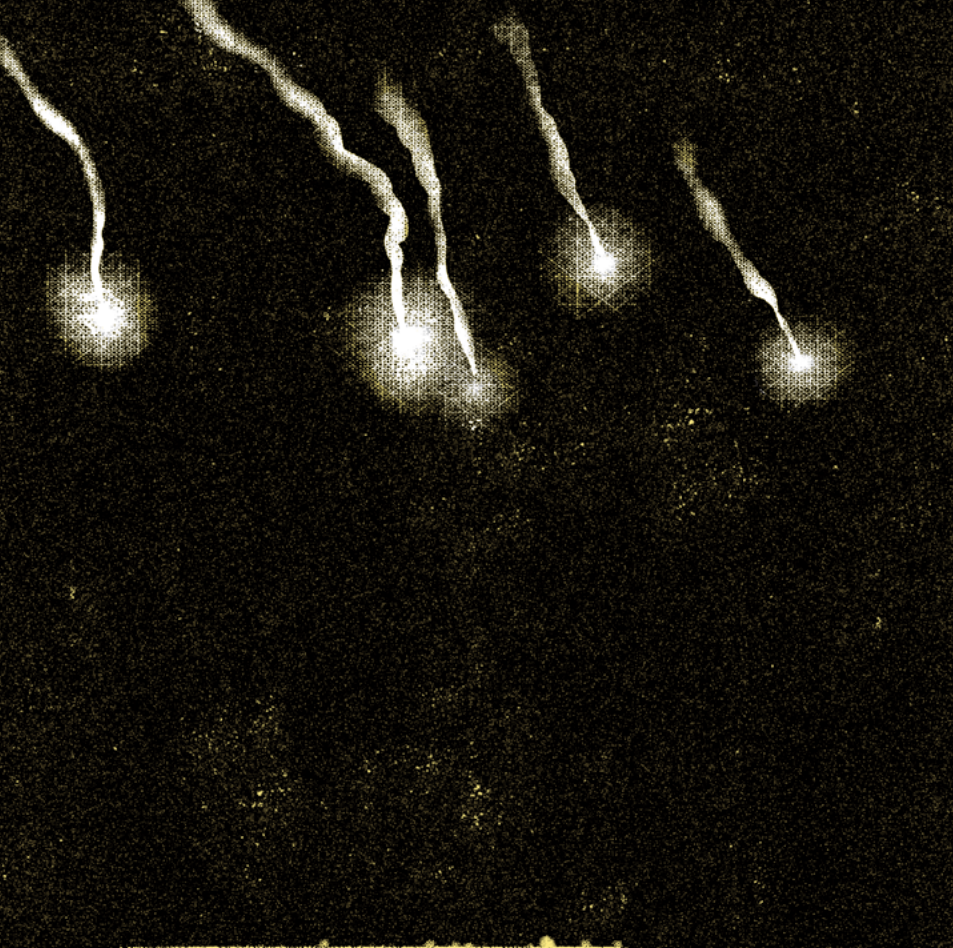
The reporters begin to gather at Paengmok harbor. Broadcasting stations, newspapers, and even foreign press aim their cameras at the scene. The entire country waits anxiously for the passengers of the Sewol to be rescued.



The parents arrive at Jindo.
Previous news stories about everyone being saved proves to be false.
The situation room is filled with sounds of parents weeping.



5:15 p.m. April 16, 2014
President Park Geun-hae visits the Disaster and Safety Management office in Seoul. "Why haven't the victims been found if they wore life vests?"



11:59 p.m. April 16, 2014

The government announces that 178 divers are contributing to the search operation. However, only two search operations were actually conducted, with just 24 divers. Five are reported dead, and 299 missing



April 17, 2014

The victim's families board barges in order to move closer to the scene of the accident. They soon realize that the marine police are preventing private divers from getting involved in the rescue operation. It becomes apparent that many boats and divers were not able to participate in the process at all.



April 17, 2014

President Park visits Jindo gymnasium where the victim's families are staying. They protest. "Why don't you do anything to rescue the children?" "Why did you prevent the private divers from getting involved?" Security guards surrounded the families, and block them from getting close to the president.



The marine police protect the escaped captain, Lee Junseok, at an apartment, instead of investigating him at the police station. The recording from the security camera at the apartment is missing



WE WILL REMEMBER YOU!

1 Disregard, Miscommunication	2 Distortion, Fabrication, Dawdle	3 Distortion, Fabrication, Dawdle
 PRESIDENT PARK	 PRESS	 PRESS
박근혜 대통령 피해자 가족들의 요청을 외면, 언론과 방송의 왜곡 보도를 방관	YTN 4월 18일 오전 11시 20분쯤 구조 작업을 벌이고 있는 해경이 선체에 진입했다고 왜곡 보도	KBS 4월 18일 오후 4시 30분 선내 영격있는 시신이 다수 발견되었다고 왜곡 보도
4 Distortion, Absurdness	5 Delinquency of Duties	6 Apathy
 PRESS	 MARINE POLICE	 PRIME MINISTER
MBC 단짠고 함삼삼 전원관리관 오보, 화민하지 않고 방송	해경 사고 당일 문항일지 일부를 찢고 다른 내용을 적음	정홍원 국무총리 아이들이 차가운 바닷속에 있는데 진도에 고압 환옥 펜션에서 숙박함

7 Apathy	8 Cutting off the nose to spite the face	9 Delinquency of Duties
THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION 	SON OF JEONG MONGJUN, MEMBER OF CONGRESS 	HANSIK YO, CANDIDATE RAN FOR MAYOR OF SEJONG CITY
서남수 교육부장관 구조된 승객들을 응급치료하던 자리에서 만수풍을 달치고 라면 먹음	정몽준 의원 아들 정 아무개 페이스북에 세월호 사태 관련 "국민 정서 자체가 굉장히 미개"라고 남김	유관식 세종시장 후보 세종시당 청년당원, 세종시 교육감 출마자와 폭탄주 먹자리
10 Theft	11 Cursing	12 Fraud
 GOVERNMENT PRESS	 CONSERVATIVE ELDERLY GROUP	 SWINDLER
기자들, 정부 관료 정부와 경찰, 언론이 건도국악원 독차지, 유가족은 폐목향라 멀리 떨어진 건도 체육관으로 보냄	엄마 부대 봉사단 "세월호 때문에 국민들 생업이 죽었고, 국가 경제도 죽었다!!" 광화문에서 소리침	스미싱 사기단 세월호 사고를 틈타 악성 코드 유포, 소액결제 사기를 치
13 Fabrication	14 Slander	15 Selfishness
 ANONYMOUS MR.A	 ANONYMOUS MR.B	 ME
A 씨 군 장교부들이 밤과 새벽을 이용해 시체를 뱃속에서 몰래 꺼내 바닷속으로 던져 버렸다고 리위사설의 글로 게재	B 군 세월호 사고로 인해 수락여행은 못간다고, 희생자 유가족을 원망하는 욕설 게재	나 "문송으로 처벌" 책이 세월호 여파로 안 팔릴 것 같다고 하소연함. 깊이 반성합니다.



April 19, 2014
Four days after the disaster, the private divers finally gain access to the ship. They do not find anyone alive.



We cannot wait like this again for the sun to rise.



Our children are waiting for us under the water.



Please help us, help us, help us.

April 20, 2014

The victim's families are still protesting at 1am. "Why didn't the government work faster to save the passengers?" They march from Jindo to the Blue House, requesting to meet the president. But their passage is blocked and they remain under police surveillance.

들어주세요
Please listen to us

만나주세요
Please meet us

들리시나요
Can you hear me



Seol

April 22, 2014

The families of survivors are angry.

They release a statement to the nation. They criticize the government and press because they continue to release false reports about the disaster.

Meanwhile, the death toll increases to 121. It becomes harder to identify the victims by face as their bodies continue to deteriorate.

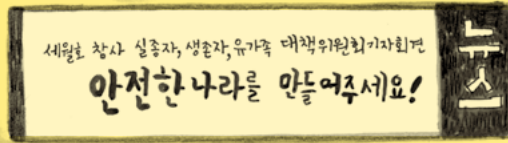


April 26, 2014

All fifteen crew members aboard the Sewol are arrested.

The death toll has reached 187. No one has been found alive.

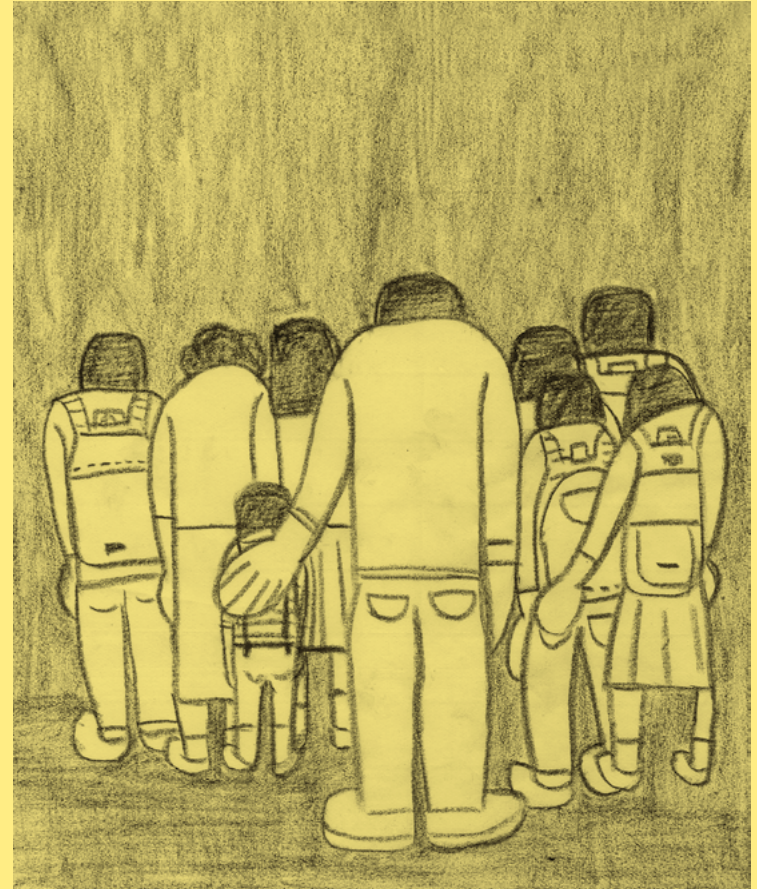
PRESS CONFERENCE FOR THE SURVIVORS
AND VICTIM'S FAMILIES OF THE SEWOL DISASTER



Please make our country safe!

May 7, 2014

The death toll is now at 269. The survivors and families hold a press conference. They plead for a thorough investigation, with the hope that they can receive answers about the accident and the delayed rescue efforts. They appeal to the country to help prevent this kind of disaster from happening again.



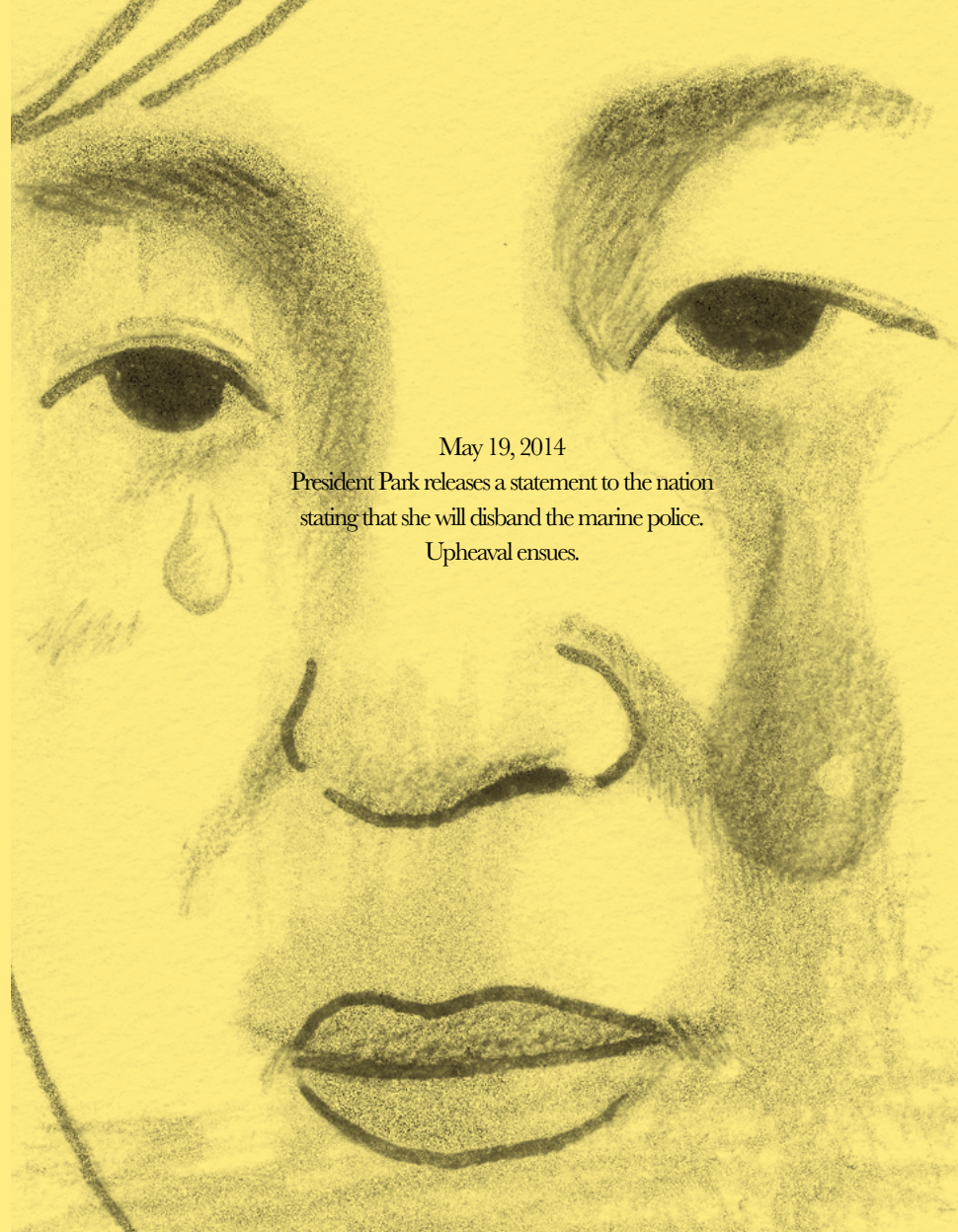
May 8, 2014

The report bureau chief of KBS, the public broadcasting system, states that the number of victims in the Sewol disaster is not as high as the number of people who die yearly from car accidents. The victim's families are insulted and again request a meeting with president, but are rebuked by the police. The families camp out on Chungun road in front of the Blue house, where the President lives.



May 16, 2014

One month after the disaster, President Park calls seventeen of the victims' family members to the Blue House. She promises that she will launch a full investigation, as the families wished. This is 20 days before the local election.



May 19, 2014

President Park releases a statement to the nation stating that she will disband the marine police. Upheaval ensues.



May 22, 2014

“Let's thoroughly investigate the reason for the Sewol disaster. Let's punish the people in charge, and let's protect the lives and safety of people in this country.”

From the “4.16 People's Committee,” which has been formed by the victim's families and supporters.



May 23, 2014

The People's Committee does not trust or depend on the government and police. The families continue to stay at Jindo island and observe the search operation. They are continually assured that all evidence and remains will be collected and safely delivered to the victim's families.



June 2, 2014

28 days after the disaster, “the special committee for the investigation of state administration in regards to the Sewol disaster” is launched by the government.



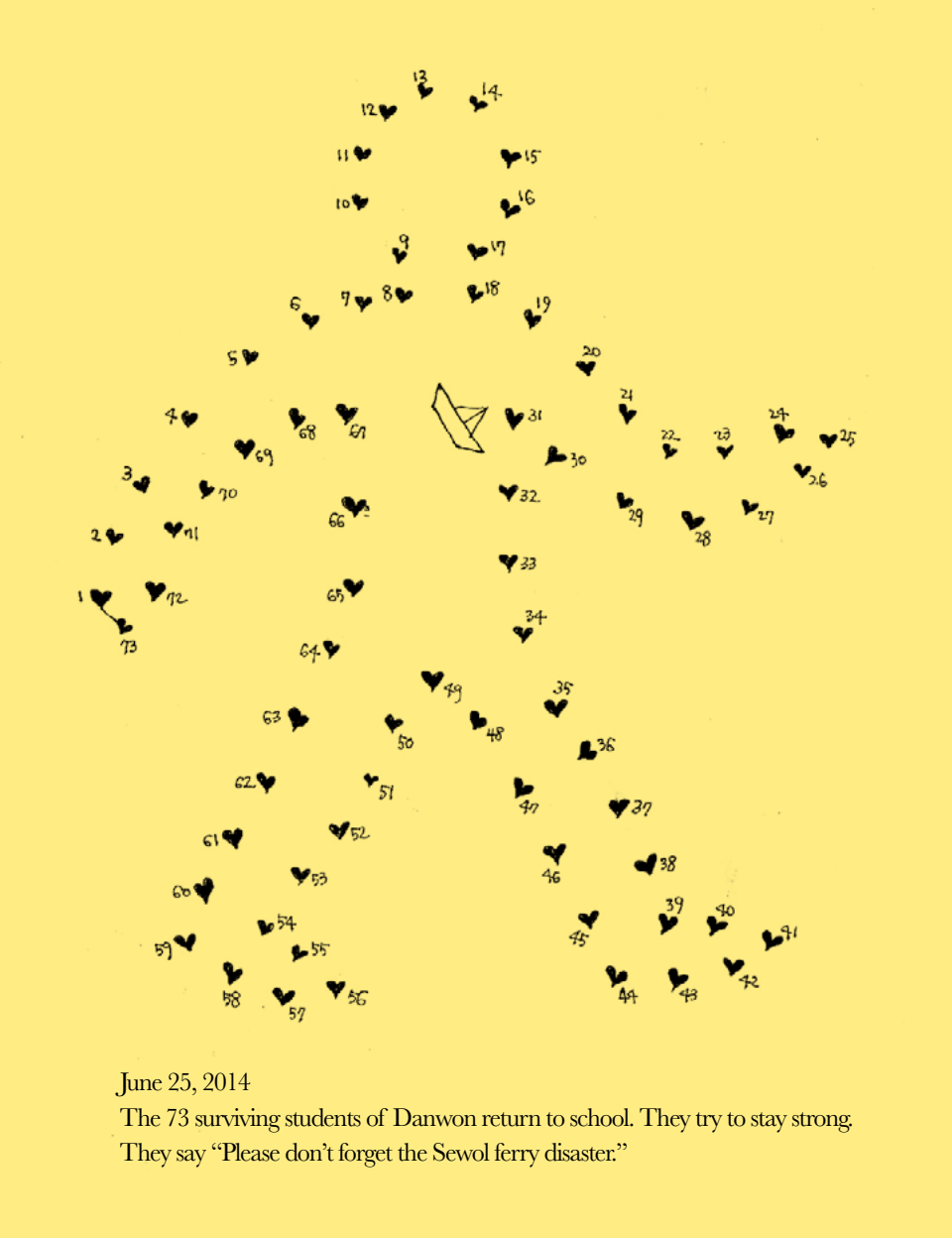
June 8, 2014

Neena Yoo, a teacher at Danwon high school who stayed on the ship during the accident to help the students, is found dead. Her body is extremely decomposed. The Special Committee promised the People’s Committee they would find all of the victims and that they would include the People’s Committee in the investigation.



June 12, 2014

The investigation by the state administration continues to break down. The People's Committee cannot trust them anymore. They go to court and the National Assembly by themselves. They ask to preserve the evidence, document, and videotape everything regarding the disaster.



June 25, 2014

The 73 surviving students of Danwon return to school. They try to stay strong. They say "Please don't forget the Sewol ferry disaster."



Be quiet if you are a
victim's family member

Security!

July 8, 2014

During the investigation by the state
administration, some members of
Congress ridicule and admonish the families.

July 2, 2014

The People's Committee agree upon the enactment of a special law which gives
authority over the investigation to the committee. They campaign all over the
country and gather people's signatures.



PLEASE
JOIN OUR
SIGNATURE
CAMPAIGN

TRUTH AND JUSTICE
FOR SEWOL

SECURE THE RIGHT FOR
ACCUSATION AND INVESTIGATION



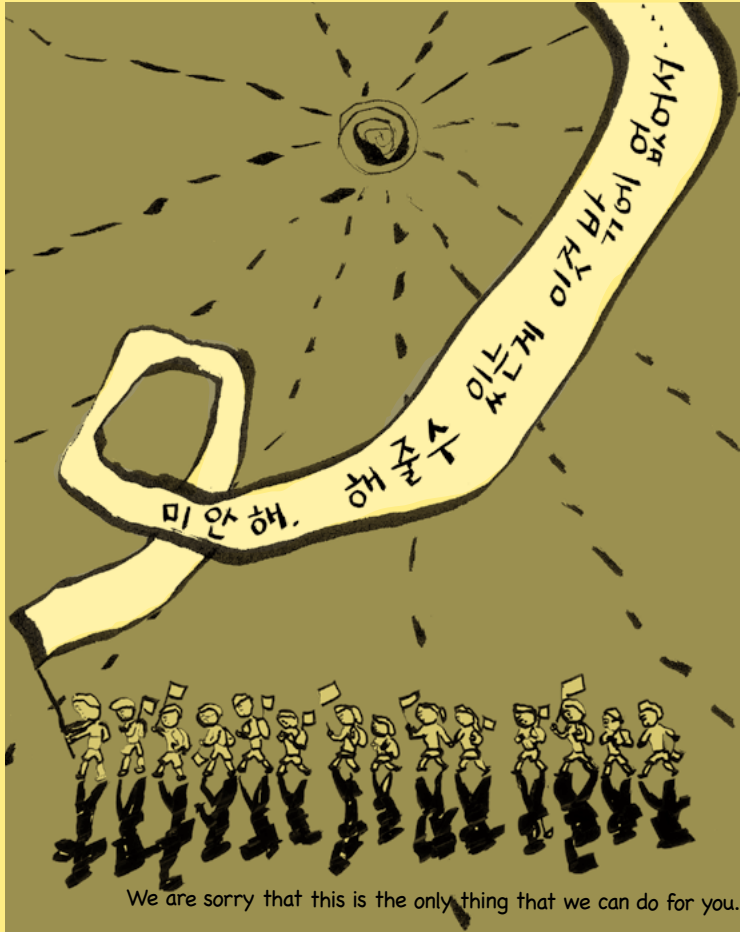
July 14, 2014

Even after signatures are accumulated, the government does not keep their promises to the families. They do not make the special law. Fifteen family members, including Yeong-oh Kim, father of deceased student Yoomin Kim, begin a hunger strike.



July 14, 2014

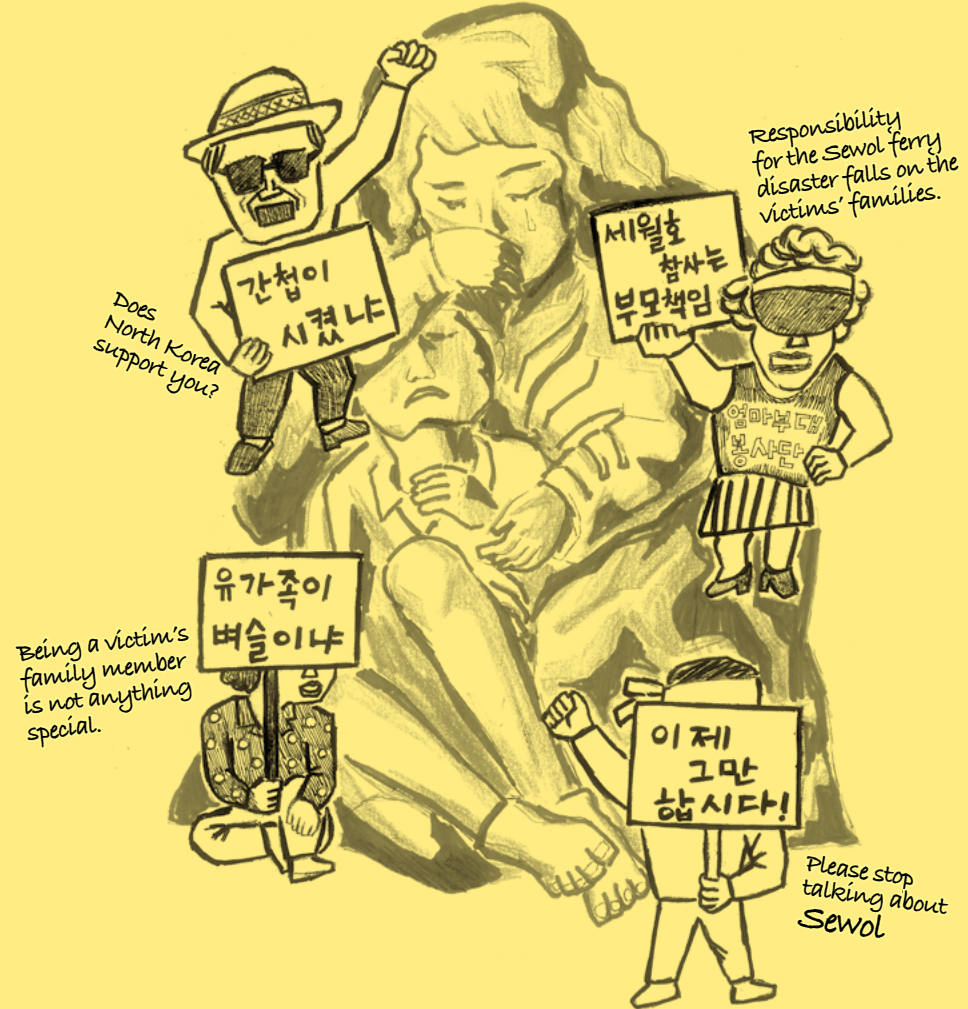
The victim's families continue to be slandered across social media and the internet. These fabrications are accepted by the populace.



July 15, 2014

“Please reveal the truth of our friends’ wrongful death.”

46 surviving students walk 25 miles for 22 hours from Danwon high school to the National Assembly building. They plead for the establishment of a special law that the victims’ families previously asked for.



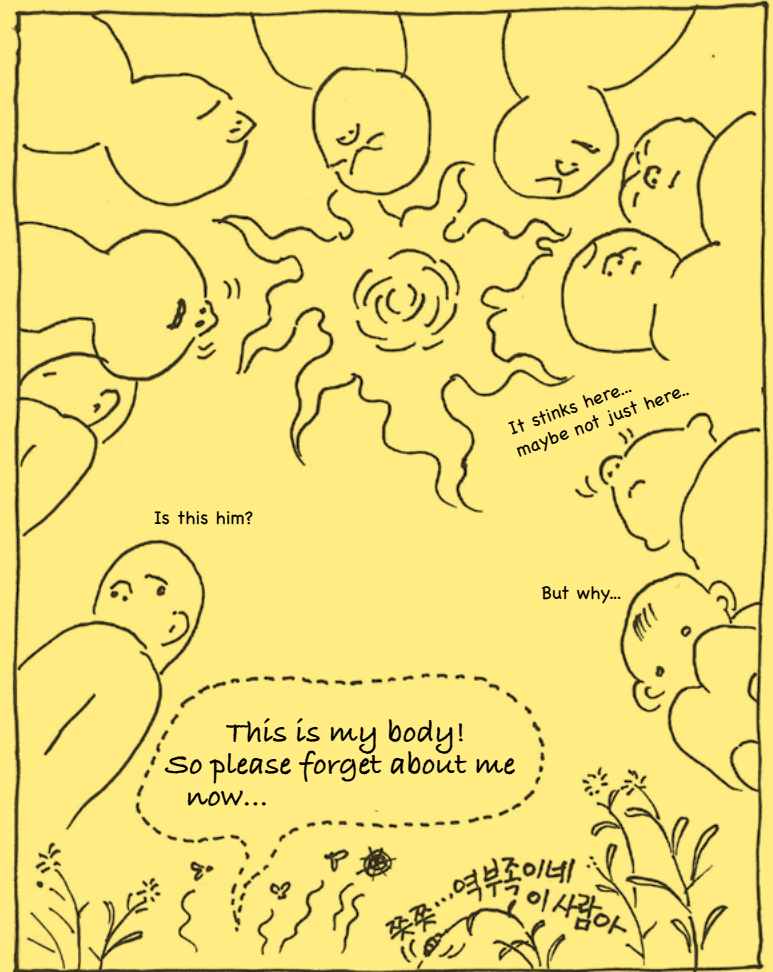
July 17, 2014

The Parent’s Union (a conservative right-wing political group that consists mostly of senior citizens) goes on a rampage at the Gwanghwamun Plaza, criticizing the families.



July 18, 2014

Even after many months and the change of the season, nothing has become any clearer about the disaster. The special law was never established and the number of deaths has reached 294.



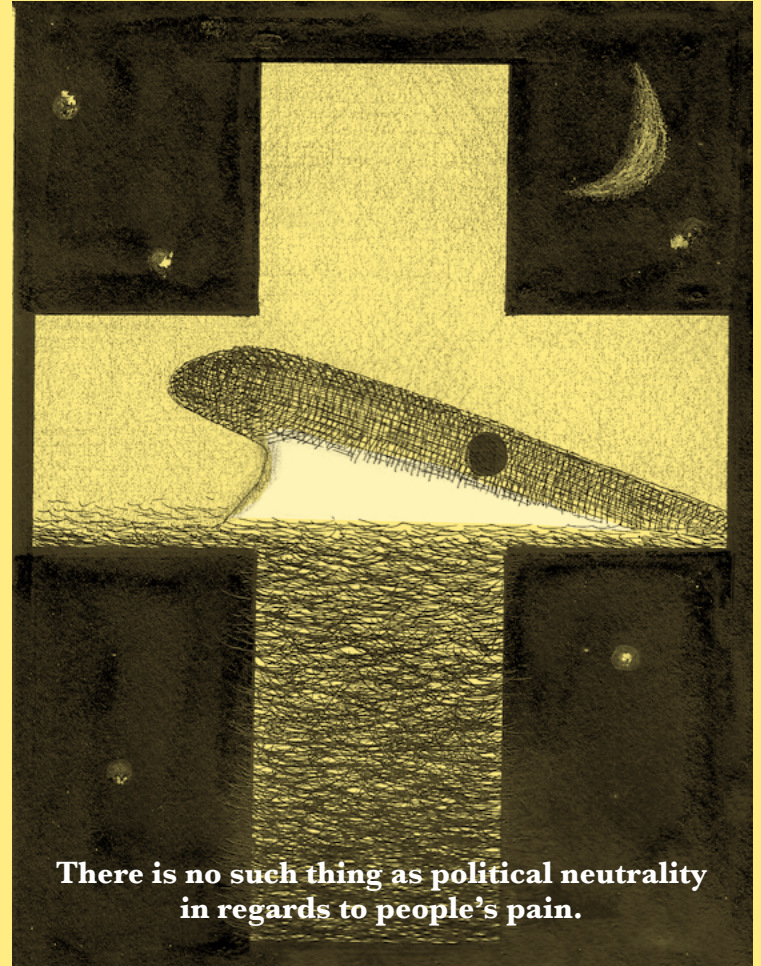
July 21, 2014

Byeong-eun Yoo, president of the Semo Group and owner of the company that managed the Sewol Ferry (many believe he knows the truth about the accident), is found dead. His sudden death arouses suspicion.



July 25, 2014

The business laptop used aboard the Sewol is restored. One hundred documents titled “List of Indications from NIS (the Korean equivalent of the CIA)” are found. What is the relationship between the Sewol ferry and NIS?



**There is no such thing as political neutrality
in regards to people's pain.**

August 16, 2014

Pope Francis meets the victim's families during his mass at Gwanghwamun Plaza. The families are consoled by a foreign leader, but not by their own government.



August 22, 2014

“President, Keep Your Promise! Government, Make the Special Law!”

The victim’s families continue their protest on the Chungun road in front of the Blue house.

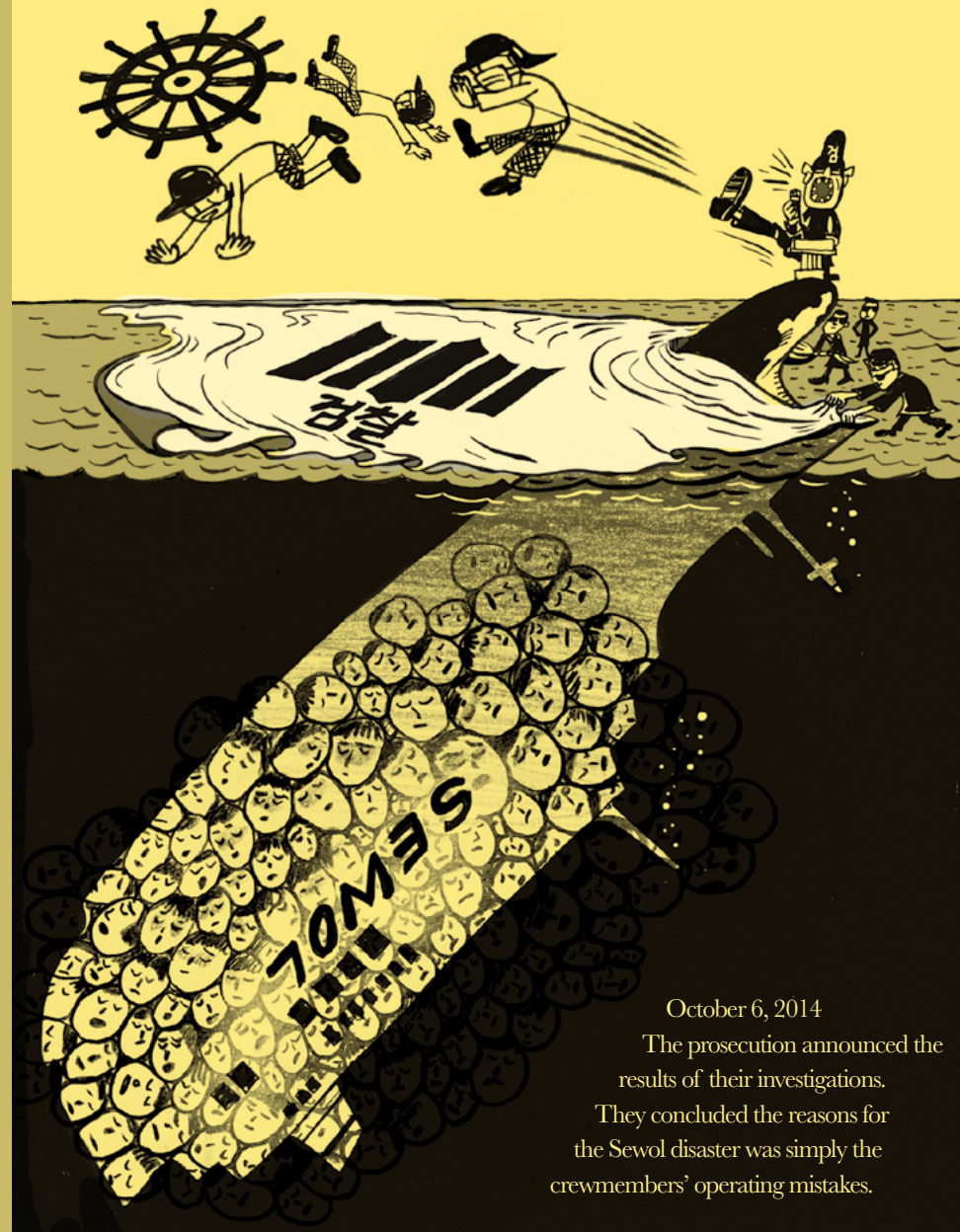


Dad, Be Strong

August 28, 2014

“Survive first and reveal the truth together.” Responding to pleas from families and supporters, Yeong-oh Kim, the father of deceased Yoomin Kim, ends his hunger strike. Eating thin rice gruel after 46 days of fasting, he states: “I will prepare for the long fight.”

August 30, 2014
The 90 days investigation by the state administration is over.
There were no hearings and no new information has been revealed.



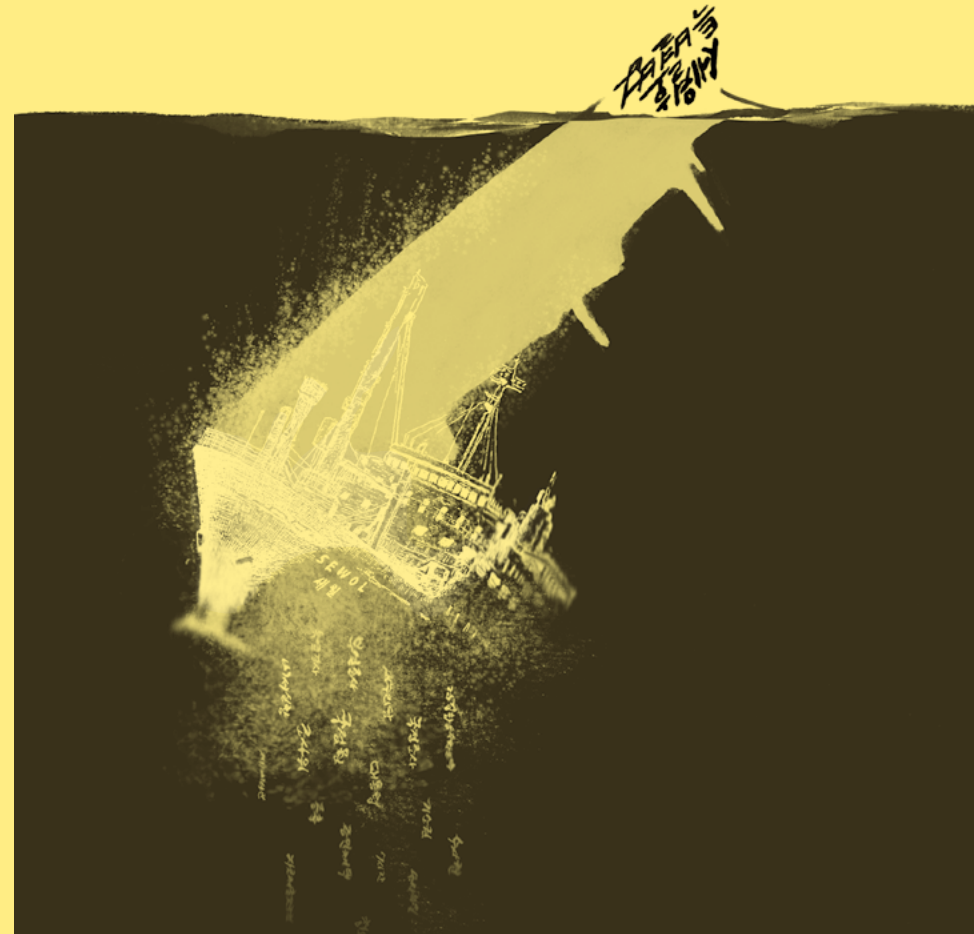
October 6, 2014
The prosecution announced the results of their investigations.
They concluded the reasons for the Sewol disaster was simply the crewmembers' operating mistakes.



Height: 5.4ft, Foot size: 5 1/2
 Wearing long sleeve t-shirt printed with
 the number 24, blue leggings
 Eighteen Years Old Today, Happy Birthday, My Daughter

October 29, 2014

197 days after the disaster, and 102 days after finding the last victim,
 student Jeehyun Hwang's body is found.
 She was the 295th victim, and was found on her birthday.



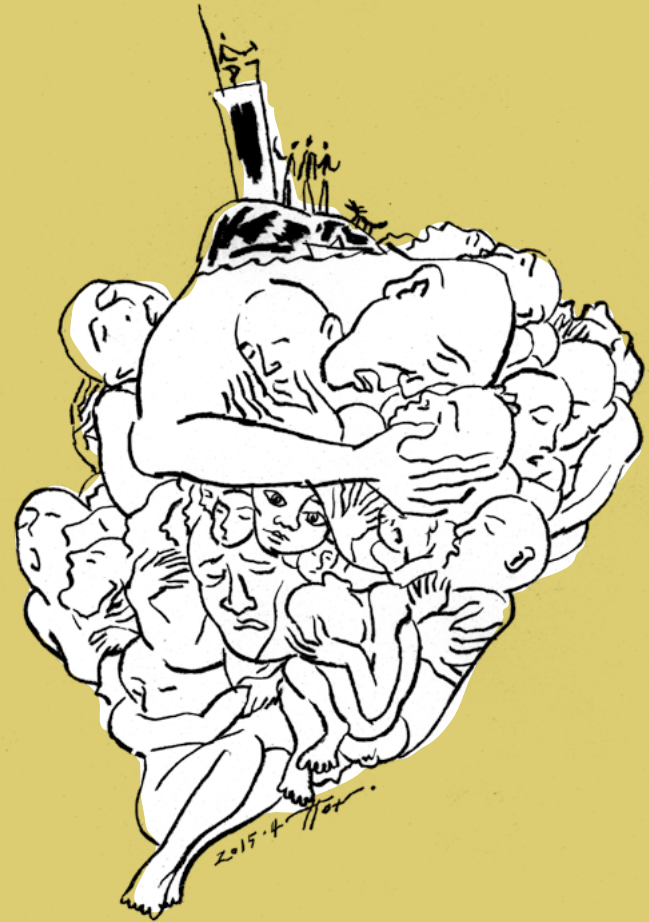
November 6, 2014

The special law for the Sewol disaster is finally approved without the consent of the
 victim's families. The government did not keep their promise to consult with the
 families during the process.

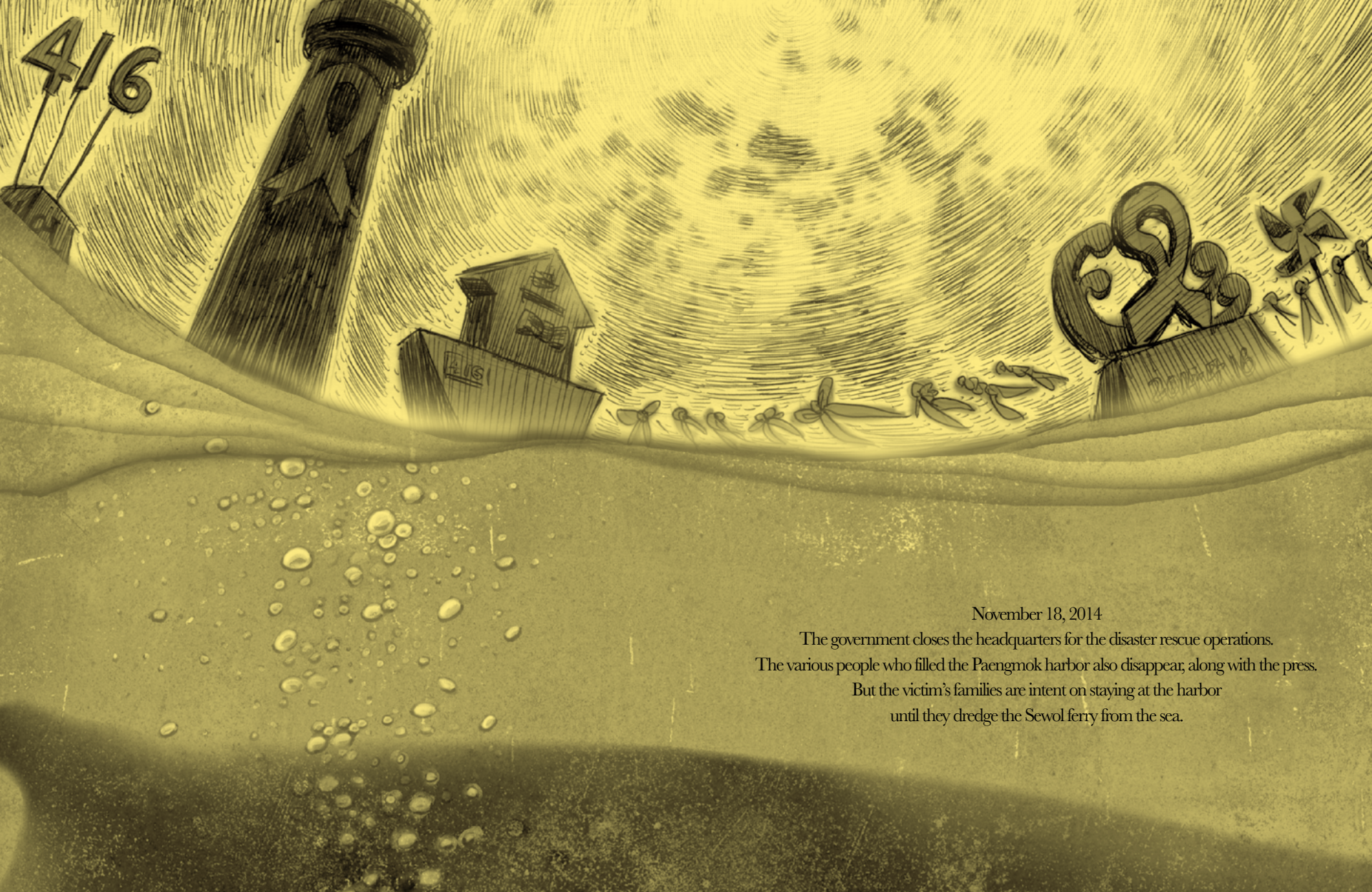


November 11, 2014

The government announces that they will stop searching for bodies. There are still people inside the ferry. The total number of missing people is nine.



The captain receives 36 years in prison, the chief engineer receives 30 years, and the crew members each receive between 5 and 20 years. Even after the legal judgements are delivered at the Gwangju District Court, the reason for the disaster is still unclear.



November 18, 2014

The government closes the headquarters for the disaster rescue operations.
The various people who filled the Paengmok harbor also disappear, along with the press.
But the victim's families are intent on staying at the harbor
until they dredge the Sewol ferry from the sea.



December 15, 2014

After the special law for Sewol ferry disaster is approved, the government begins to organize the court of inquiry. The court of inquiry is comprised of people who insulted the victims and families, corrupt prosecutors, and individuals who are preparing to run for election. The People's Committee holds a press conference to criticize the inquiry.

2015 begins ...

with the Sewol ferry and the truth
buried deep beneath the sea



January 22, 2015

Even before the beginning of the investigation, the court of inquiry repeatedly quarrels and make threats. Some members do not even follow the existing special law.



I want to feed her good food



I want to touch her



I want to talk to her



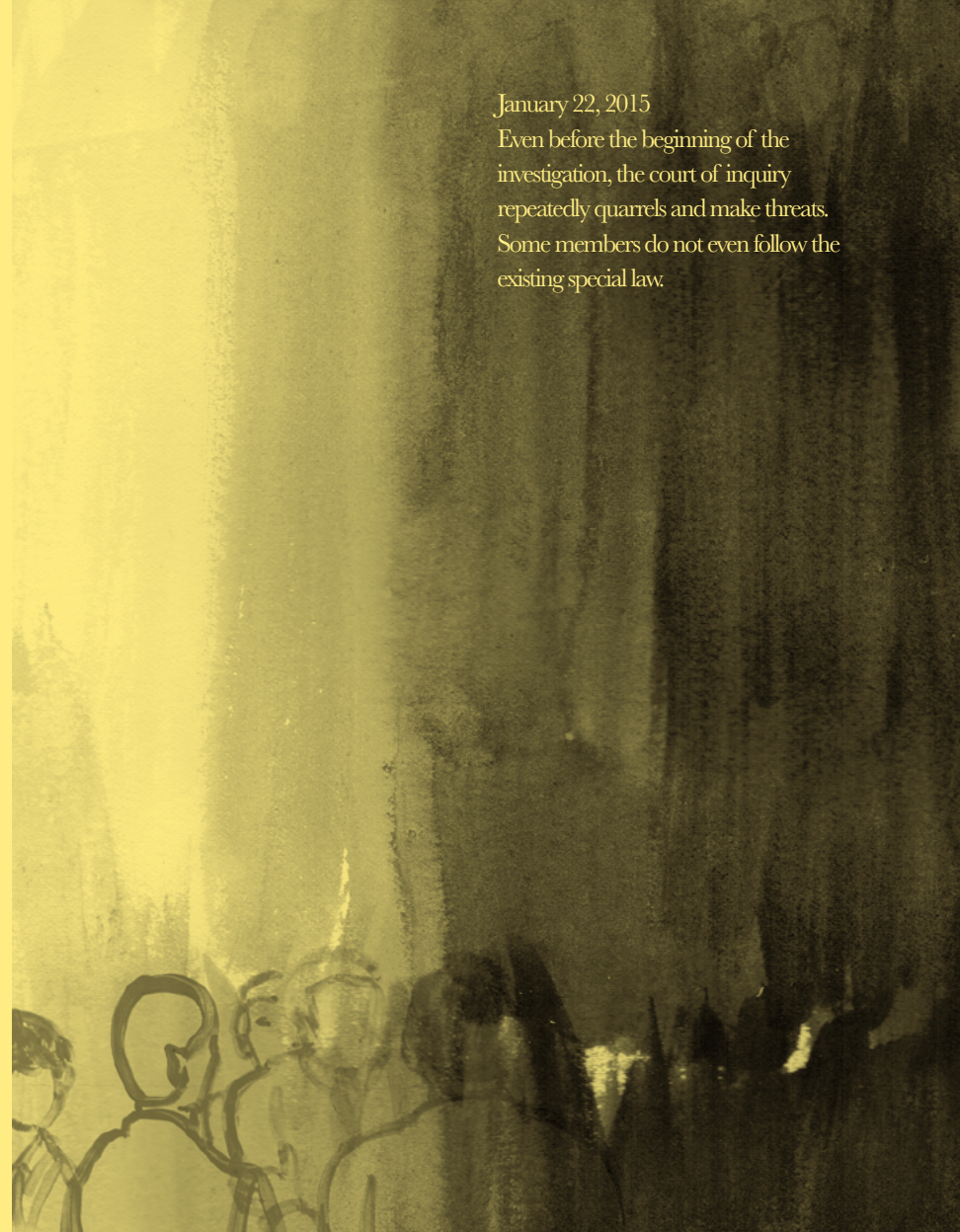
Please let me have even a small part of my child

and say good-bye to her.

January 16, 2015

The court of inquiry for the Sewol ferry disaster begins, with the unqualified members still included. They try to investigate reasons for the disaster, but the discussion about salvaging of the ferry is delayed.

The families of the missing people shed tears of anger.





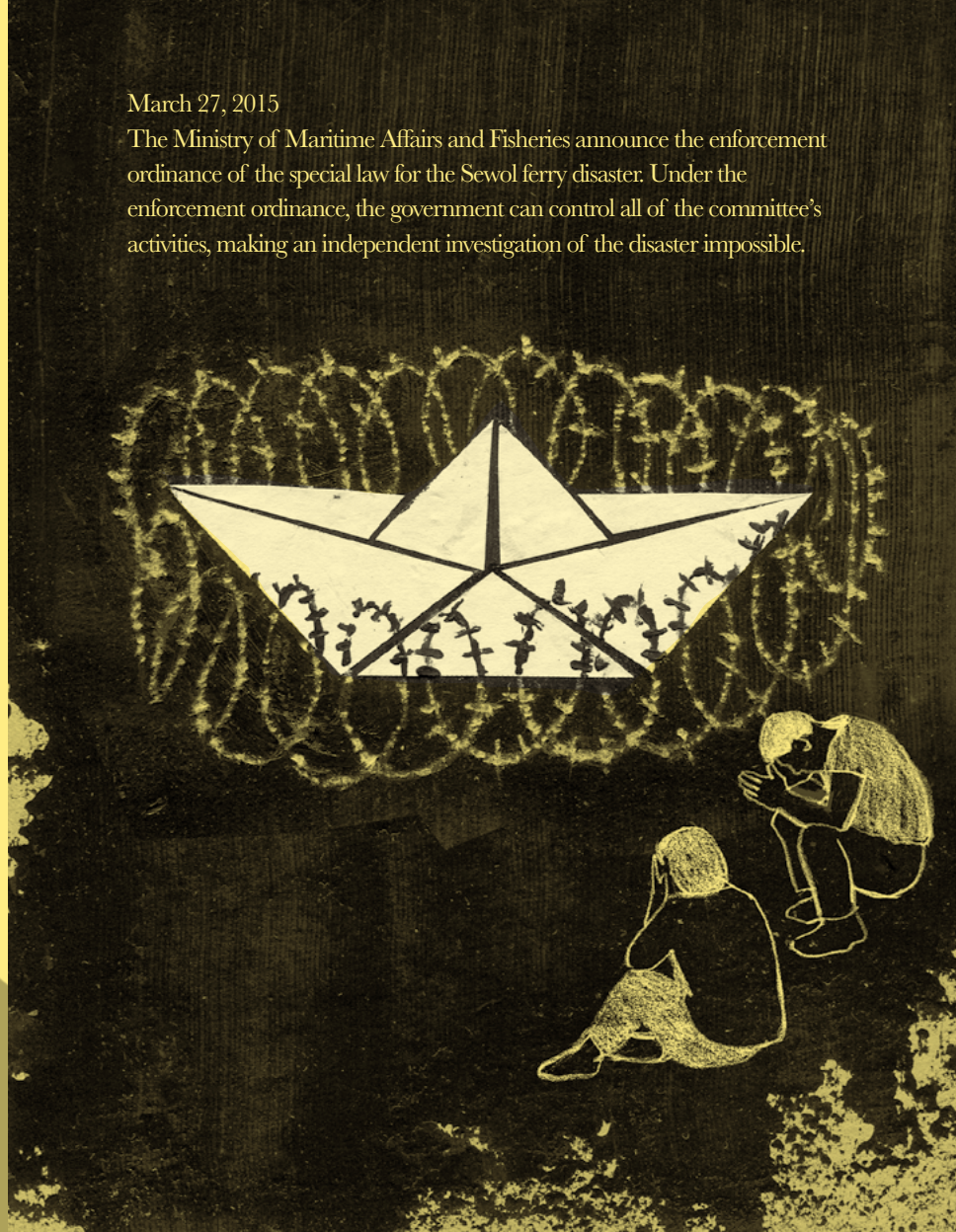
January 26 to February 15, 2015

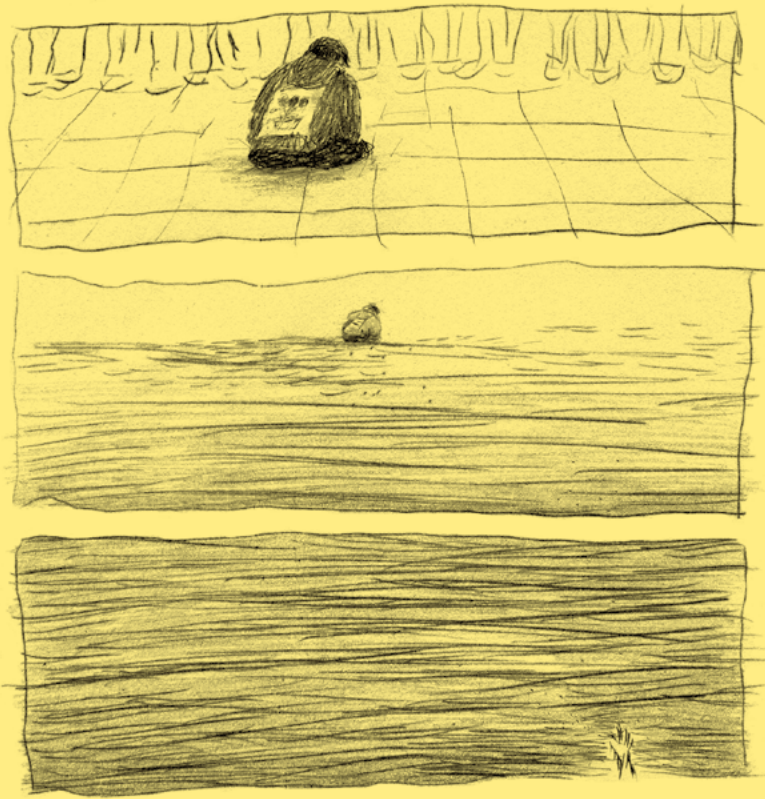
The victim's families walk for 20 days from Seoul to Jindo.

They continue their campaign to gain people's signatures while protesting and sleeping outside during the winter.

March 27, 2015

The Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries announce the enforcement ordinance of the special law for the Sewol ferry disaster. Under the enforcement ordinance, the government can control all of the committee's activities, making an independent investigation of the disaster impossible.





March 30, 2015

The victim's families gather in the streets of Gwanghwamun again. They are infuriated with the government and the enforcement ordinance. The families are blocked by the police, and fall down. Many are hurt as they fall down again, but they pick themselves up and continue on.

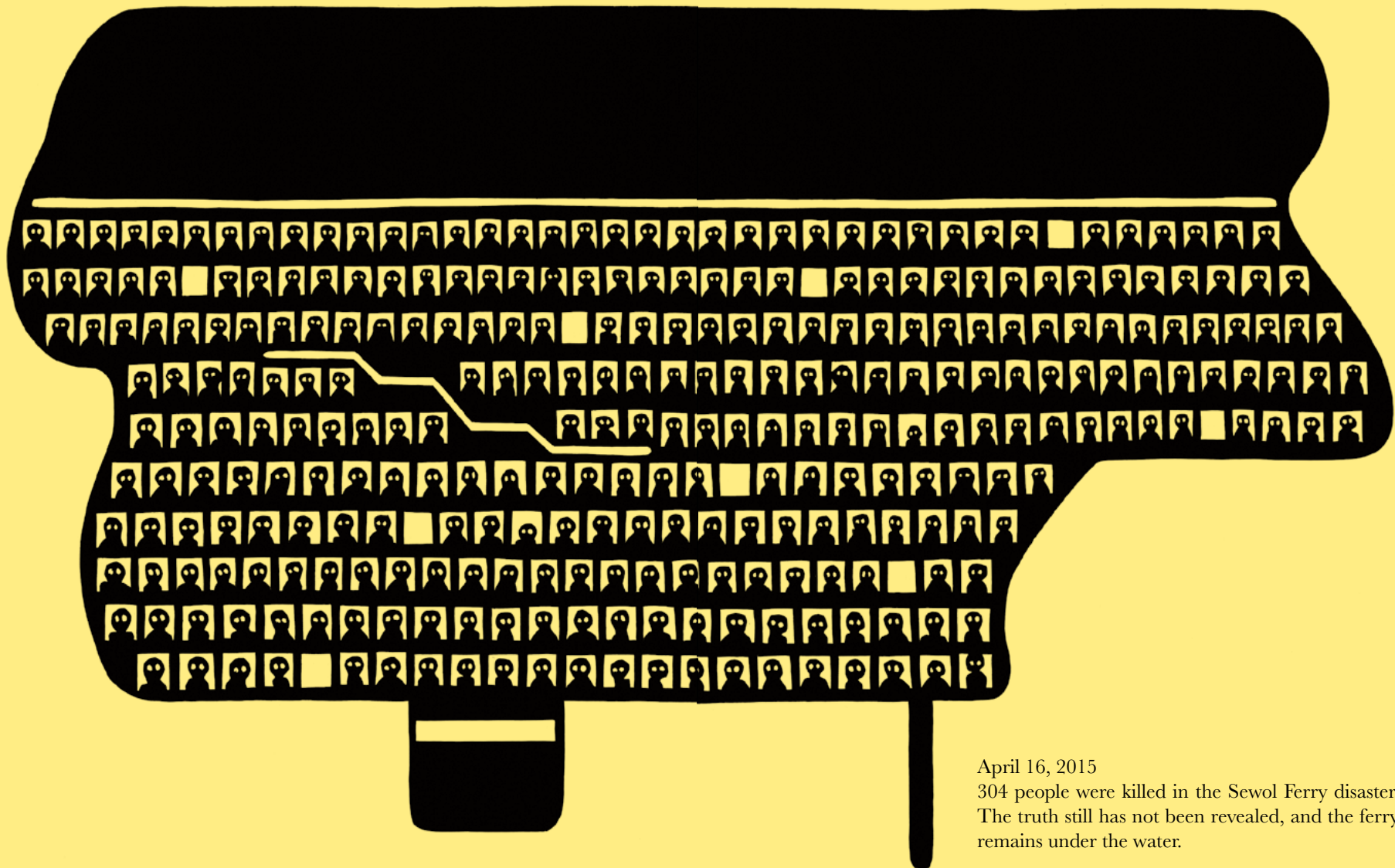


April 4, 5, 6, 7..., 2015.

As the families resist the enforcement ordinance, the government announces that the families will receive hundreds of millions of dollars in compensation. The press report that the families protest the amount and want to be rich.

The families cannot take it anymore. They shave their hair as a form of protest.

With photos of their deceased children hanging around their necks, the families walk overnight from Ansan to Seoul, and plead to the people. The families and their supporters protest against the government that insulted them, and walk together demanding that the Sewol ferry be salvaged and the ordinance be abolished. In offering compensation to the victims' families, the government also demands that they sign a contract forbidding the filing of grievances against the administration. The families stage another hunger strike.



April 16, 2015
304 people were killed in the Sewol Ferry disaster.
The truth still has not been revealed, and the ferry
remains under the water.



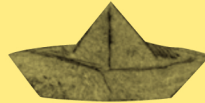
We have witnessed



The truth sink under the dark sea.

Conscience was entrapped by the chains of money.

The memories were washed away by the wave of the time.



The disaster on 4.16 compels us to ask,
Where is the truth?