



BOOK POP!

GROWN-UP GEEK GUIDE

Establish your shop or library as a not-so-secret headquarters for the geeky members of your community! Adult attendees will be thrilled to have found a spot that lets them be a Whovian, Trekkie, Browncoat, or just a fan of sci-fi, superheroes, horror, video games, fantasy, and all other things pop culture. Create weekly meetups or host a yearly mini convention—this guide will help you create activities that encourage new friendships, fun conversations, and a welcoming space to totally geek out. With movie nights, trivia contests, and dramatic readings, it's easy and affordable to create a go-to spot for nerds in need.

ACTIVITY IDEAS

My Best Friend's Exorcism by Grady Hendrix

A heartwarming story of friendship and demonic possession set in 1988. High school sophomores Abby and Gretchen have been best friends since fourth grade. But after an evening of skinny-dipping goes disastrously wrong, Gretchen begins to act . . . different. She's moody. She's irritable. And bizarre incidents keep happening whenever she's nearby. Abby's investigation leads her to some startling discoveries—and by the time their story reaches its terrifying conclusion, the fate of Abby and Gretchen will be determined by a single question: *Is their friendship powerful enough to beat the devil?* Like an unholy hybrid of *Beaches* and *The Exorcist*, *My Best Friend's Exorcism* blends teen angst, adolescent drama, unspeakable horrors, and a mix of '80s pop songs into a pulse-pounding supernatural thriller.

Movie Night

Difficulty: Easy

Estimated Cost: Cost of movies and refreshments

[Click here](#) for a list of movies that inspired *My Best Friend's Exorcism* and host your own movie marathon. Whether a midnight showing or a Saturday matinee, your audience is sure to have a great time.

Name That '80s Movie

Difficulty: Easy

Estimated Cost: Free!

Use our [printable trivia cards](#) to see how many '80s movies your participants can guess from their descriptions. This is a perfect activity for intermission at your movie night.

My Best Friend's Exorcism Colouring Pages

Difficulty: Easy

Estimated Cost: Free!

Put a new spin on the adult colouring trend. [Click here](#) for *My Best Friend's Exorcism* colouring pages.

The League of Regrettable Superheroes and *The Legion of Regrettable Supervillains* by Jon Morris

The League of Regrettable Superheroes is a fun, funny, and affectionate look at the strangest superheroes to ever appear in comics, some so hilariously odd that it's hard to believe they were ever published. The book features vintage comic book art and equally colourful commentary from a die-hard comic book blogger and cartoonist.

From banjo-playing Nazis to gangster gorillas, superhero comics have featured some of the weirdest antagonists ever published. *The Legion of Regrettable Supervillains* presents the most regrettable no-goodniks of all, complete with vintage art, publication details, and hilarious commentary from author Jon Morris.

Regrettable Trivia Contest

Difficulty: Easy

Estimated Cost: Free!

Put your comics knowledge to the ultimate test by hosting a trivia night using our [printable trivia cards](#), created by author and oddball-comics-history expert Jon Morris!

Ten Dead Comedians by Fred Van Lente

This hilarious pastiche of Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None* embraces all the classic conventions of the Golden Age of Mystery—with a thoroughly contemporary cast of characters. After starring in a hit comedy TV show and a string of blockbuster movies, Dustin Walker was one of the biggest names in Hollywood—until one day he simply walked away from it all. A decade later, he invites nine comedians to his private island retreat for a weekend of comedic brainstorming. But within hours of arriving, these funny men and women learn there is more to Dustin's invitation than meets the eye—and soon the murders begin. This hilarious homage brings the classic tropes of the world's most famous mystery novel into the twenty-first century. It's also a fascinating look at the twisted psychology of stand-up. On sale July 11, 2017.

Murder Mystery Scavenger Hunt

Difficulty: Medium

Estimated Cost: Free

This printable scavenger hunt sends amateur sleuths in search of answers to riddles that will help them solve the mystery by process of elimination. For even more fun, have volunteers dispense the answers in character, or partner with local businesses to spread the game throughout your town. [See full instructions by clicking here.](#)

Pride and Prejudice and Zombies by Seth Grahame-Smith

Complete with romance, heartbreak, swordfights, cannibalism, and thousands of rotting corpses, *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* is an audacious retelling of English literature's most enduring novel. This expanded edition of the beloved Jane Austen novel featuring all-new scenes of bone-crunching zombie mayhem begins when a mysterious plague falls upon the quiet English village of Meryton—and the dead are returning to life. Feisty heroine Elizabeth Bennet is determined to wipe out the zombie menace, but she's soon distracted by the arrival of the haughty and arrogant Mr. Darcy. What ensues is a delightful comedy of manners with plenty of civilized sparring between the two young lovers—and even more violent sparring on the blood-soaked battlefield. It's the perfect read for literature lovers, zombie fans, and anyone who loves a reanimated Austen.

Bloody Good Calligraphy

Difficulty: Medium

Estimated Cost: £20+ for supplies

Explore the super-trendy calligraphy revival with *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* [calligraphy traces](#). Place a piece of vellum over the printable quotes available on the assets page and practice your letters.

Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children by Ransom Riggs

A mysterious island. An abandoned orphanage. A strange collection of peculiar photographs. It all waits to be discovered in *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*, an unforgettable novel that mixes fiction and photography in a thrilling reading experience.

Make Your Own Vintage Photos

Difficulty: Hard

Estimated Cost: £15

Attendees can bring their own printed photos to give them the *Miss Peregrine* treatment using everyday household items. For full instructions, [click here.](#)

William Shakespeare's *Star Wars* series by Ian Doescher

Full of feuding royalty, family melodrama, comical fools, and fantastic creatures, *Star Wars* has always been the most Shakespearean of Hollywood blockbusters. Now it's presented in a manner that Shakespeare himself would recognize—in traditional iambic pentameter and Elizabethan-style stage directions.

Dramatic Reading

Difficulty: Easy

Estimated cost: Free

The easiest way to understand Shakespeare is to read it aloud—gather a group, assign roles, and challenge yourself to your best Darth Vader impression in iambic pentameter! [**Click here for a ready-to-read script and other great activities!**](#)

OTHER BOOKS TO INCLUDE IN AND INSPIRE YOUR BOOK POP CELEBRATION

***The Last Policeman* by Ben Winters**

(ISBN 978-1-59474-674-1, £12.99)

This mystery—which *Slate* called “sharp, funny, and deeply wise”—tells a story that you’ve never heard before: a police procedural set on the brink of an apocalypse. What’s the point in solving murders when we’re all going to die soon, anyway?

***Horrorstör* by Grady Hendrix**

(ISBN 978-1-59474-526-3, £11.99)

Something strange is happening at the Orsk furniture superstore in Cleveland, Ohio. Every morning, employees arrive to find broken Kjerring wardrobes, shattered Bräcken glassware, and vandalized Liripip sofas—clearly, someone or something is up to no good. To unravel the mystery, five young employees volunteer for a long dusk-till-dawn shift—and they encounter horrors that defy imagination. Along the way, author Grady Hendrix infuses sly social commentary on the nature of work in the new twenty-first-century economy.

***Last Call at the Nightshade Lounge* by Paul Krueger**

(ISBN 978-1-59474-779-3, £11.99)

In this sharp and funny urban fantasy novel, booze is magic, demons are real, and Millennial Bailey Chen joins a band of monster-fighting Chicago bartenders instead of finding a “real” post-college job.

***The Resurrectionist* by E. B. Hudspeth**

(ISBN 978-1-59474-616-1, £18.99)

One-third fictional biography, two-thirds coffee-table art book, and one hundred percent bizarre, *The Resurrectionist* pairs dazzling black-and-white anatomical drawings with a bizarre fantasy narrative set in late-nineteenth-century Philadelphia.

***Night of the Living Trekkies* by Kevin David Anderson and Sam Stall**

(ISBN 978-1-59474-463-1, £14.50)

Jim Pike was the world’s biggest Star Trek fan—until two tours of duty in Afghanistan destroyed his faith in the human race. Now he sleepwalks through life as the assistant manager of a small hotel in downtown Houston. But when hundreds of Trekkies arrive in his lobby for a science-fiction convention, Jim finds himself surrounded by costumed Klingons, Vulcans, and Ferengi—plus a strange virus that transforms its carriers into savage, flesh-eating zombies! As bloody corpses stumble to life and the planet teeters on the brink of total apocalypse, Jim must deliver a ragtag crew of fanboys and fangirls to safety. Dressed in homemade uniforms and armed with prop phasers, their prime directive is to survive. But how long can they last in the ultimate no-win scenario?

WAYS TO MAKE YOUR BOOK POP EVENT UNIQUE

- Partner with local businesses to offer snacks or swag.
- Take your event to go—partner with a local brewery to host a pub trivia night or a *Last Call at the Nightshade Lounge* booze-and-books party!
- Break the ice with geeky friend speed-dating: Give each couple four geeky questions to ask each other before they run out of time!
- Use our Book Pop swag as prizes for your Regrettable Trivia Contest or Murder Mystery Scavenger Hunt.

Share your event with us! Tag us on Twitter or Instagram @quirkbooks or use the hashtag #BookPop, or visit us on Facebook at Facebook.com/QuirkBooks!

ASSETS AND LINKS

Check out [*Quirk Books Throws You Five Awesome Parties*](#) for tons of great ideas for snacks and activities!

Additional ideas from the Quirk Books Blog

- [DIY Miss Peregrine Pocket Watch Chain](#)
Accessorize the peculiar way with this opulent accessory.
- [Garland of Undead Hearts](#)
This multitasking decoration is perfect for Halloween, Valentine's Day, or zombie parties.
- [DIY Miss Peregrine Coasters](#)
Adapt this guide to make coasters for your favourite fandom.

Be sure to check our [blog](#) and [Pinterest](#) page often for new geeky DIY ideas!

PRINTABLE ACTIVITY SUPPLIES

[My Best Friend's Exorcism Movie Guide](#)

[Name That '80s Movie Trivia Cards](#)

[My Best Friends Exorcism Colouring Pages](#)

[Legion of Regrettable Supervillains Trivia Cards](#)

[Ten Dead Comedians Murder Mystery Scavenger Hunt](#)

[Pride and Prejudice and Zombies Calligraphy Traces](#)

[Make Your Own "Vintage" Photos](#)

A *My Best Friend's Exorcism* FILM FESTIVAL

Curated by author Grady Hendrix

My Best Friend's Exorcism is one part *The Exorcist* and one part *Beaches*. If you haven't read either of those books, you should because they're both great. Because of that unholy blend, half the movies I recommend are female friendship flicks and the other half are exorcism pictures.

BEACHES (1988):

A little bit cheesy, a little bit easy, but it's still a weaponized tear jerker of mass Kleenex destruction, even today.

THE EXORCIST (1973):

This flick changed our culture and made horror movies legit, and it still works, even today. Just check out the original trailer [<https://youtu.be/6XuB8DJ0AI8>] and try not to let your skin crawl completely off your body. I prefer *Exorcist 3* (1990) but that's because I'm a weirdo.

THELMA AND LOUISE (1991):

This is the story of two friends whose love for each other transcends reason, laws, and logic, and they follow their devotion all the way through to its logical conclusion. If you want to see the junior version of this dynamic, check out Peter Jackson's *Heavenly Creatures* (1994).

THE LAST EXORCISM (2010):

Ignore the last five minutes and what you're left with is the smartest, savviest exorcism movie since 1973, a flick that portrays the exorcist as a real man, not a superhero, and that gives time to the demoniac, too.

HEART OF THE GAME (2005):

Someone told me high school girls would never act as bravely as they do in *My Best Friend's Exorcism*. After I smacked him, I made him watch this incredible documentary about a high school girls basketball team from Seattle. That shut him up.

BEETLEJUICE (1988):

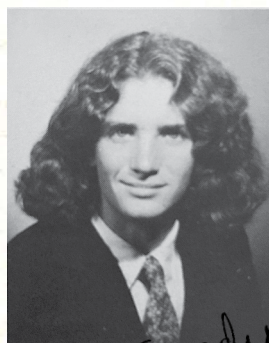
Set in the same year as *My Best Friend's Exorcism*, this flick gives you a young woman doing her own thing and saving everyone's life in the process. Also, it gives you giant black-and-white striped sandworms.

KAMIKAZE GIRLS (2006):

You can either read the translated novel or find the DVD of this female friendship story from Japan, and either way it's worth the hunt. It's about two girls who are total opposites, who hate each other, trapped in a going-nowhere town, who make their everyday lives heroic acts of resistance. I'm embarrassed at how much I stole from it for *My Best Friend's Exorcism*.

REQUIEM (2006):

Sometimes doing your own thing is a terrible idea, as shown in this quietly chilling movie based on the real-life Anneliese Michel story. Even telling you this is a horror movie is a spoiler alert. Go in with no preconceptions and it'll hit you like a hammer.




Grady Hendrix

NAME THAT '80S MOVIE TRIVIA CARDS


by Grady Hendrix

Correct answers in RED




1. Which ultra-violent, R-Rated '80s movie was NOT made into a Saturday morning cartoon for kids?

- A) Rambo: First Blood Part II (Rambo: The Force of Freedom)
- B) Robocop (Robocop: The Animated Series)
- C) **Lethal Weapon**
- D) Conan the Barbarian (Conan the Adventurer)




NAME THAT '80S MOVIE




2. Video games are totally awesome, but only one of these '80s movies features a video game that isn't bent on total death, destruction, and global thermonuclear war. It is:

- A) Tron (1982)
- B) Wargames (1983)
- C) EvilSpeak (1981)
- D) **The Last Starfighter (1984)**
(the video game in this movie merely seeks to recruit spaceship pilots to fight a war in a distant galaxy)




NAME THAT '80S MOVIE




3. Sylvester Stallone only starred in one movie about a truck-driving competitive arm-wrestler trying to bond with his estranged son on a cross-country trip in his eighteen-wheeler big rig. It is:

- A) Lock Up (1989)
- B) **Over the Top (1987)**
- C) Tango & Cash (1989)
- D) Cobra (1986)




NAME THAT '80S MOVIE




4. Which is NOT the title of an actual '80s movie?

- A) **The Garbage Pail Kids Do Aerobics**
- B) Hollywood Chainsaw Hookers
- C) Surf Nazis Must Die
- D) Killer Klowns from Outer Space




NAME THAT '80S MOVIE




5. Which '80s movie does NOT take place during Christmas?

- A) Die Hard (1988)
- B) Gremlins (1984)
- C) **Planes, Trains, and Automobiles (1987)**
(it's Thanksgiving)
- D) Trading Places (1983)




NAME THAT '80S MOVIE



6. Including reboots and remakes, which '80s horror movie franchise has the most installments? (Sorry, Halloween started in 1978.)

- A) Friday the 13th (1980)
(12 installments)
- B) **Witchcraft (1988)**
(16 installments)
- C) Nightmare on Elm Street (1984)
(9 installments)
- D) Children of the Corn (1984)
(9 installments)



NAME THAT '80S MOVIE

BE KIND PLEASE

10. Stephen King started the decade with a movie version of *The Shining* and ended with an adaptation of *Pet Sematary*. All told there were twelve movies made from his books in the '80s. Name them!

<i>The Shining</i> (1980)	<i>Cat's Eye</i> (1985)
<i>Creepshow</i> (1982)	<i>Silver Bullet</i> (1985)
<i>The Dead Zone</i> (1983)	<i>Stand by Me</i> (1986)
<i>Christine</i> (1983)	<i>Maximum Overdrive</i> (1986)
<i>Cujo</i> (1983)	<i>The Running Man</i> (1987)
<i>Firestarter</i> (1984)	<i>Pet Sematary</i> (1989)

NAME THAT '80S MOVIE

BE KIND PLEASE

BE KIND PLEASE

7. In what movie did the fictional metal band Sacrifyx, and their demon-summoning album, *The Dark Book*, appear?

A) *The Gate* (1987)
 B) *Black Roses* (1988)
 C) *Trick or Treat* (1986)
 D) *Rock 'n' Roll Nightmare* (1987)

NAME THAT '80S MOVIE

BE KIND PLEASE

BE KIND PLEASE

8. John Hughes, the man behind *The Breakfast Club*, *Pretty in Pink*, *Sixteen Candles*, and many more, is virtually his own movie genre. Which actor has appeared in his films the most?

A) Molly Ringwald (3 movies)
 B) *John Candy* (7 movies)
 C) Macaulay Culkin (3 movies)
 D) Anthony Michael Hall (4 movies)

NAME THAT '80S MOVIE

BE KIND PLEASE

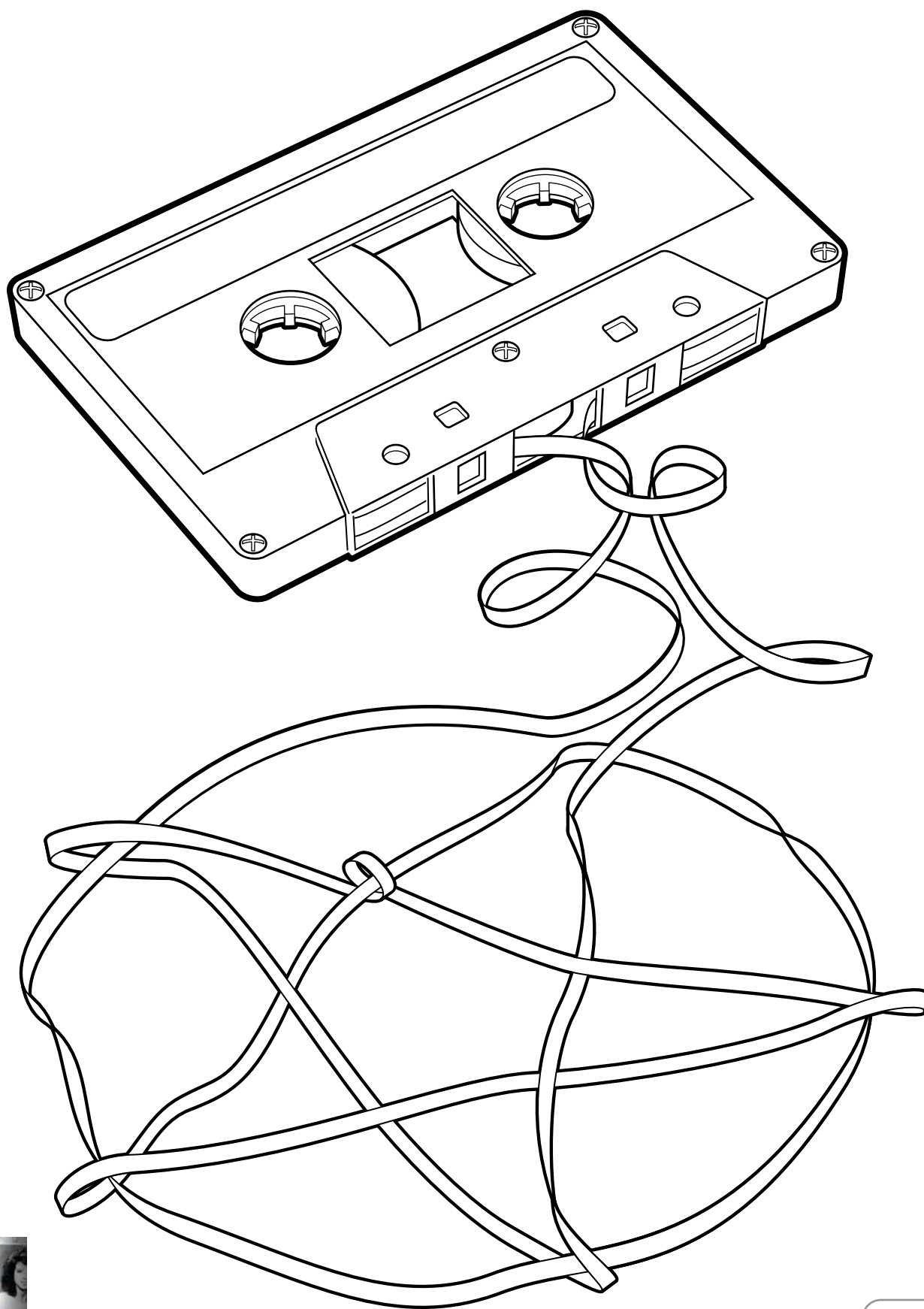
BE KIND PLEASE

9. On March 24, 1984, in Shermer, Illinois, Claire, Andy, Brian, John, and Allison reported for the worst Saturday ever with Assistant Principal Vernon in what movie?

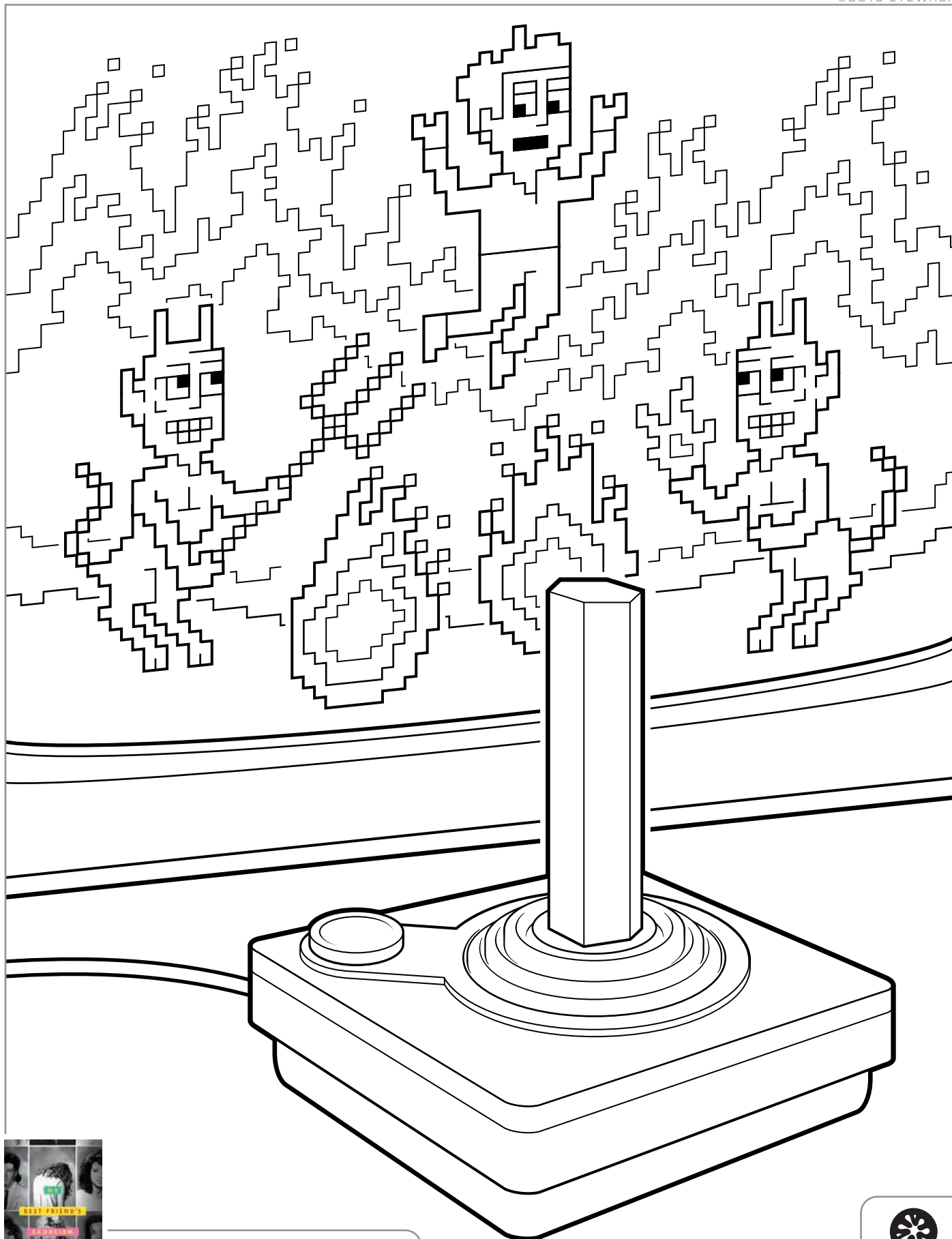
A) *Fast Times at Ridgemont High*
 B) *The Breakfast Club*
 C) *Stand by Me*
 D) *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*

NAME THAT '80S MOVIE

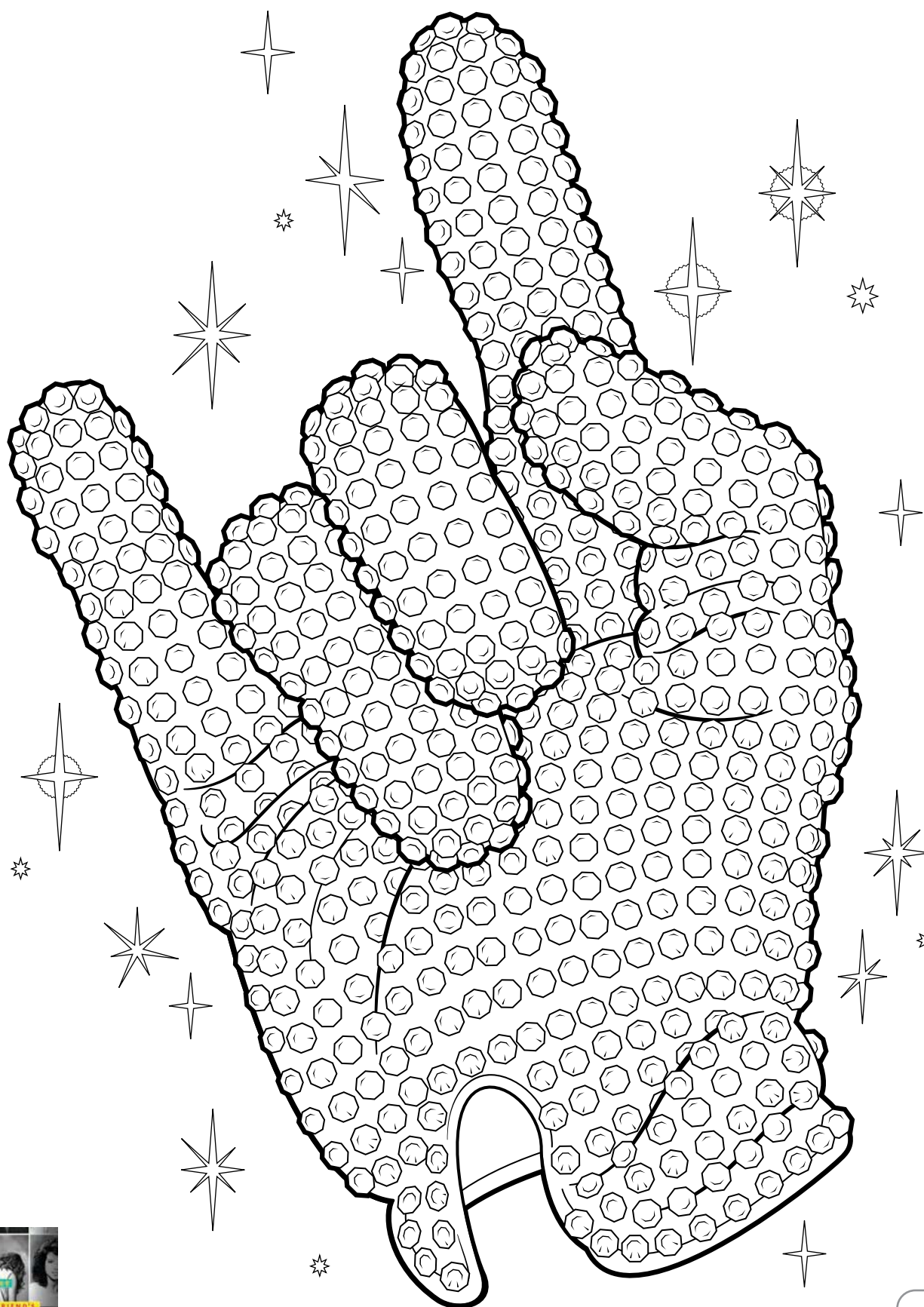
BE KIND PLEASE



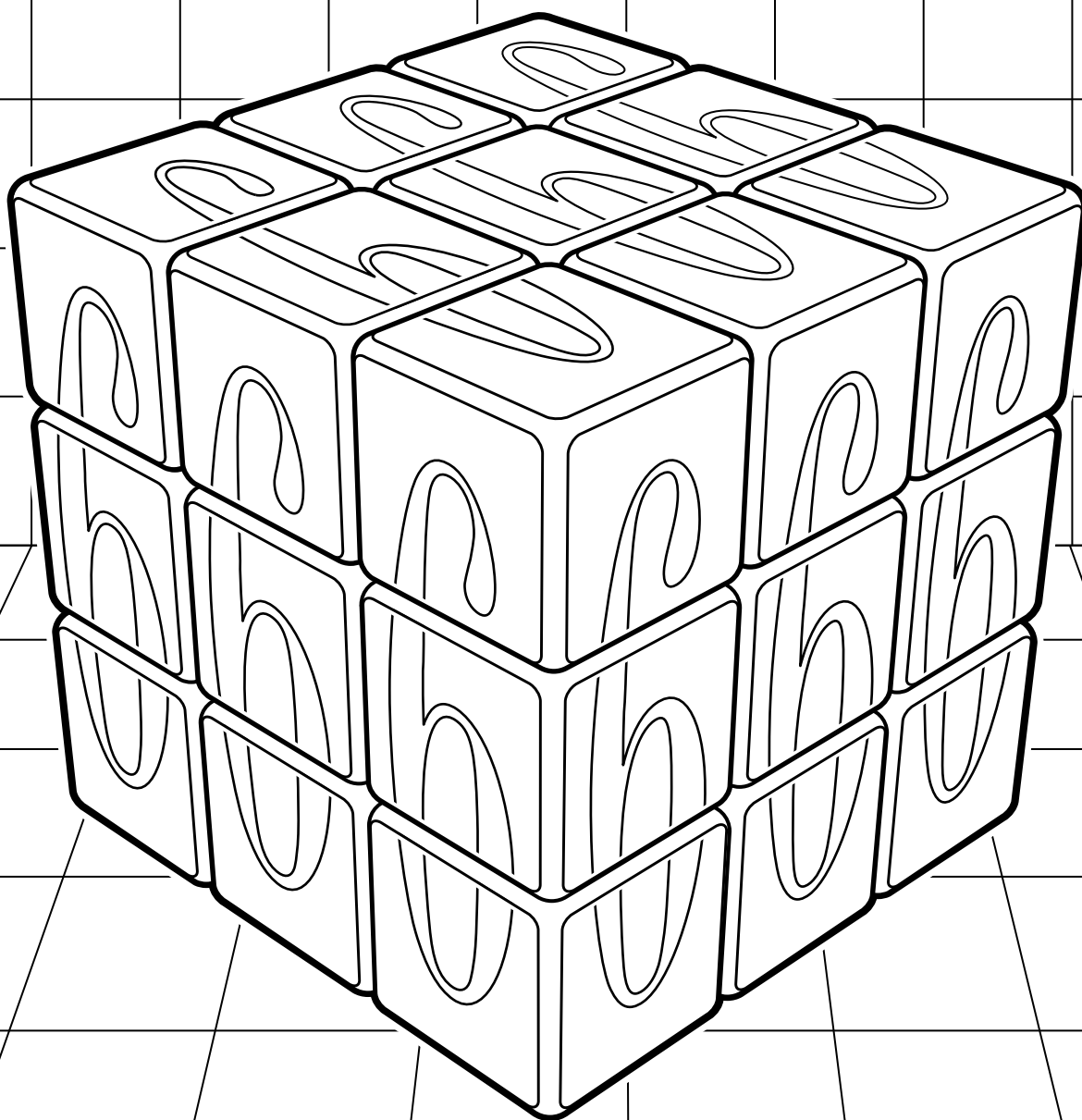
MY BEST FRIEND'S EXORCISM
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REGRETTABLE TRIVIA

by Jon Morris

CORRECT ANSWERS IN RED

1. The Red Bee was a Golden Age crimefighter who battled the forces of evil, aided only by a trained pet bee which lived in the hero's belt buckle. What was the name of this brave bee?

- A) Charley
- B) Lightning
- C) **Michael**
- D) Stripesy

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

2. What do the letters in MODOK—the huge hate-filled head who frequently fights Captain America, the Hulk, and Iron Man—stand for?

Answer: **MENTAL ORGANISM DESIGNED ONLY
FOR KILLING**

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

3. Bloor was the tyrannical leader of what distant planet?

- A) Mars
- B) Saturn
- C) Pluto
- D) **Uranus**

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

4. What was the unconventional means by which the Dark Archer used his arrows to kill?

Answer: **He stabbed his enemies with them directly and didn't use a bow.**

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

5. Bee-Man is possibly the most bee-obsessed superhero in history. Which of these terrible bee-related puns is not true of Bee-Man?

- A) **His motto is "I bee-lieve in myself!"**
- B) His initials—Barry E.Eames—spell B.E.E.
- C) His enemy is Queen Bea
- D) He is a member of the F-Bee-l

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

6. Where did espionage superhero Spyman keep his ultra-advanced espionage gadgets?

Answer: **In his cybernetic hand**

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

10. Glob Herman, Maggott, and Beak are all members of what comic book super-team?

- A) The Champions
- B) The Justice League of America
- C) The X-Men
- D) The Teen Titans

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

7. The villain who called himself the Mod Gorilla Boss was actually only two of those things. Which one was he not?

- A) A mod
- B) A gorilla
- C) A boss

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

8. Can you name any of the members of the Legion of Super-Pets?

Answers: Krypto, Beppo, Streaky, Comet, and Proty (II)

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA

9. How did the villainous Top, fast-spinning enemy of the Flash, die?

- A) He accidentally spun into a power line
- B) He spun so fast that he gave himself brain damage
- C) He tripped on a loose rug and broke his neck
- D) He got tangled up in the tow line of a hot-air balloon

REGRETTABLE
TRIVIA



HOST YOUR OWN TEN DEAD COMEDIANS MURDER MYSTERY

- Choose a comedian, weapon, and location from the attached answer list. Hand out copies of the attached answer and riddle sheet to your guests.
- Hang all the printable location answers except the correct one around your store or library (or collaborate with other local businesses and hang them around town!).
- At each location, have staff or volunteers tell guests the name of a comedian and a weapon, which guests mark off on their sheet along with the location.
- Guests can guess the murderer at any time or solve the mystery by visiting every location and using the process of elimination!



TEN DEAD COMEDIANS MURDER MYSTERY

RIDDLES

- I have twelve chairs but one hundred and eighteen different opinions.
- If I don't give you the slip, you'll never find me.
- I contain a thousand stories, but can't tell you any of them.
- You can play me, or play in me, but not play with me.
- I'm in the spotlight every night, but have never performed.
- I'm a row of heads, but without a single brain.

COMEDIANS

WEAPONS

LOCATIONS

RUBY NG

Alt-comedian with her own
deadpan agenda.

TALLBOY

When a 12-ounce buzz
just won't do.

WRITERS' ROOM

ORANGE BABY MAN

Prop comic with the act (and
mind) of a child.

LAND MINE

Watch your step, unless you want
to make an explosive entrance.

BOAT DOCK

TJ MARTINEZ

Late-night host in need of
sensitivity training.

MANY, MANY KNIVES

A little excessive, no matter
how you slice it.

LIBRARY

JANET KAHN

One-third insult comic,
two-thirds silicone.

SLEDGEHAMMER

Not the Peter Gabriel song.

POOL

GORDO GORDON

Is he an improv instructor?
Yes, and ...

ANNOYING LITTLE RAT DOG

It's called a Napoleon complex.

STAGE

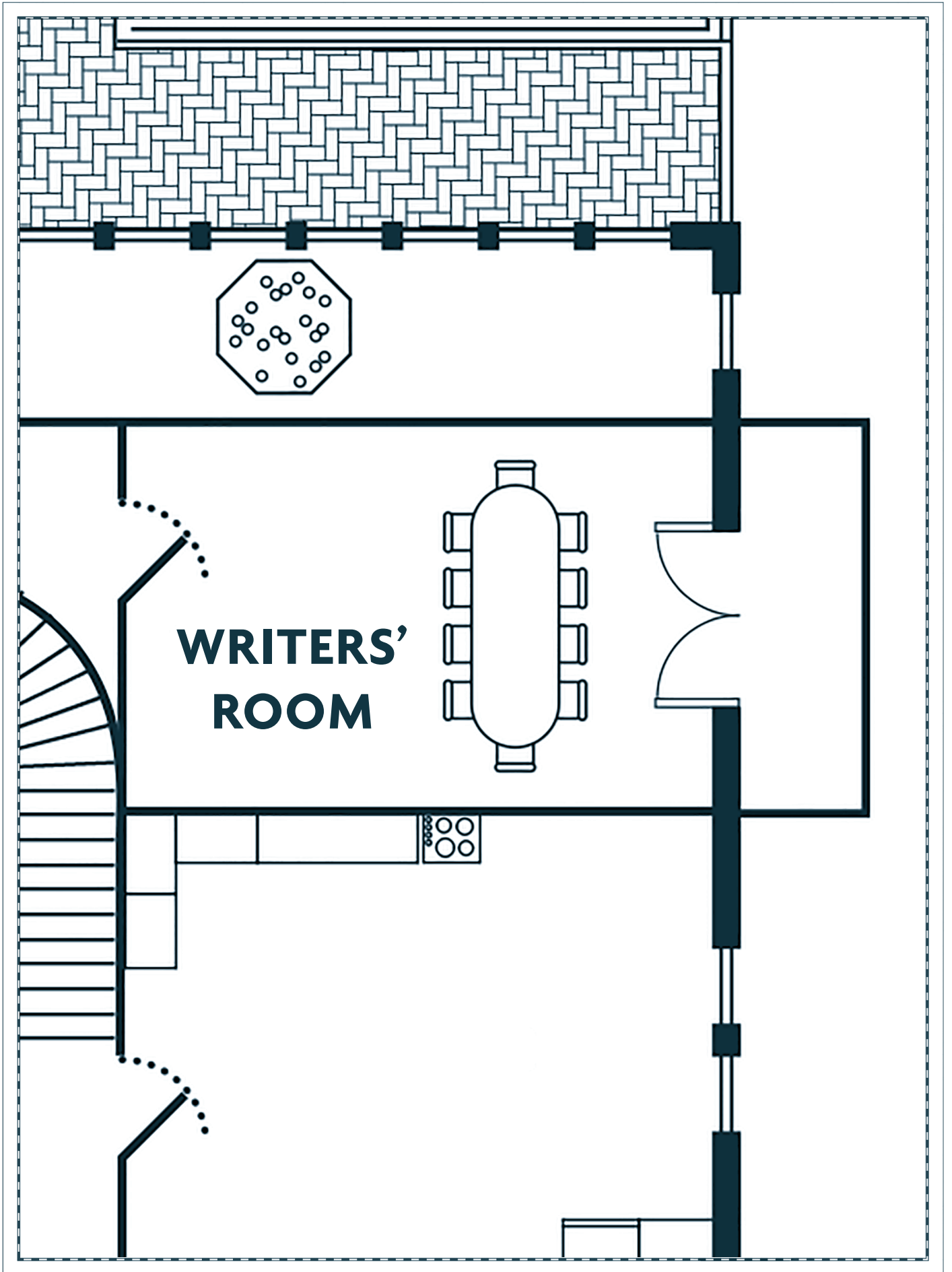
BILLY THE CONTRACTOR

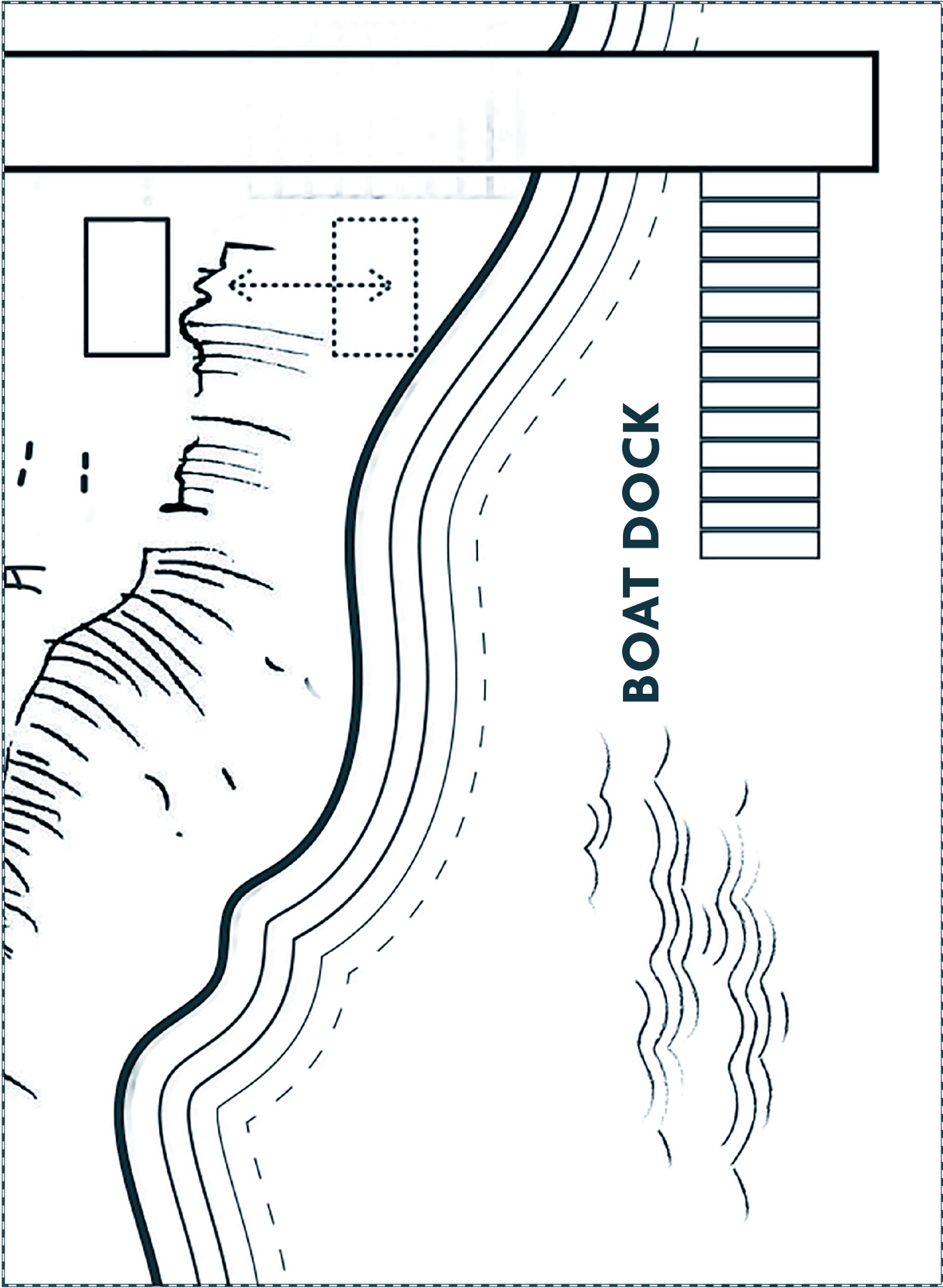
Multimillionaire
"Blue Collar Guy."

SHOTGUN

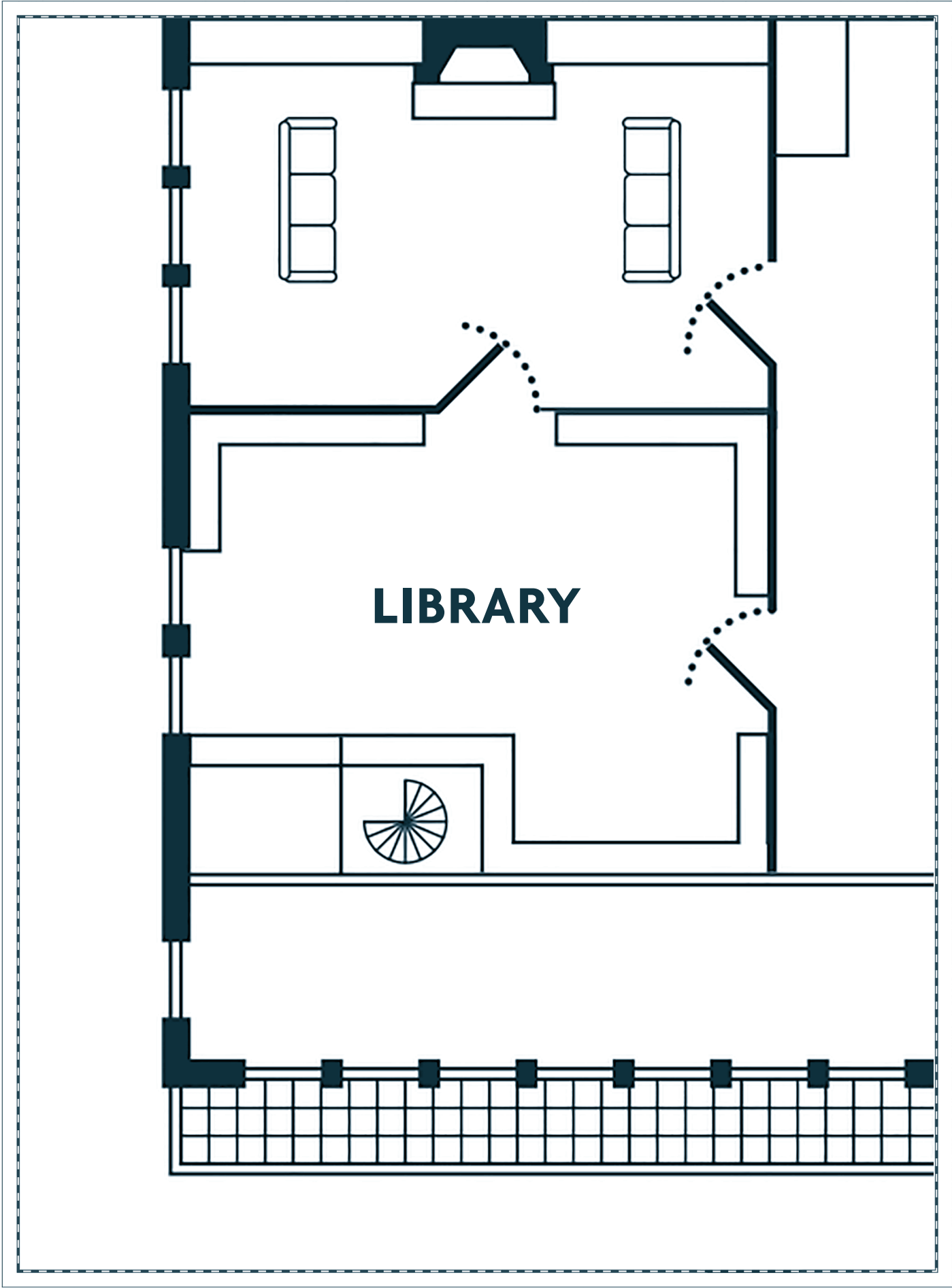
With realistic pump action!

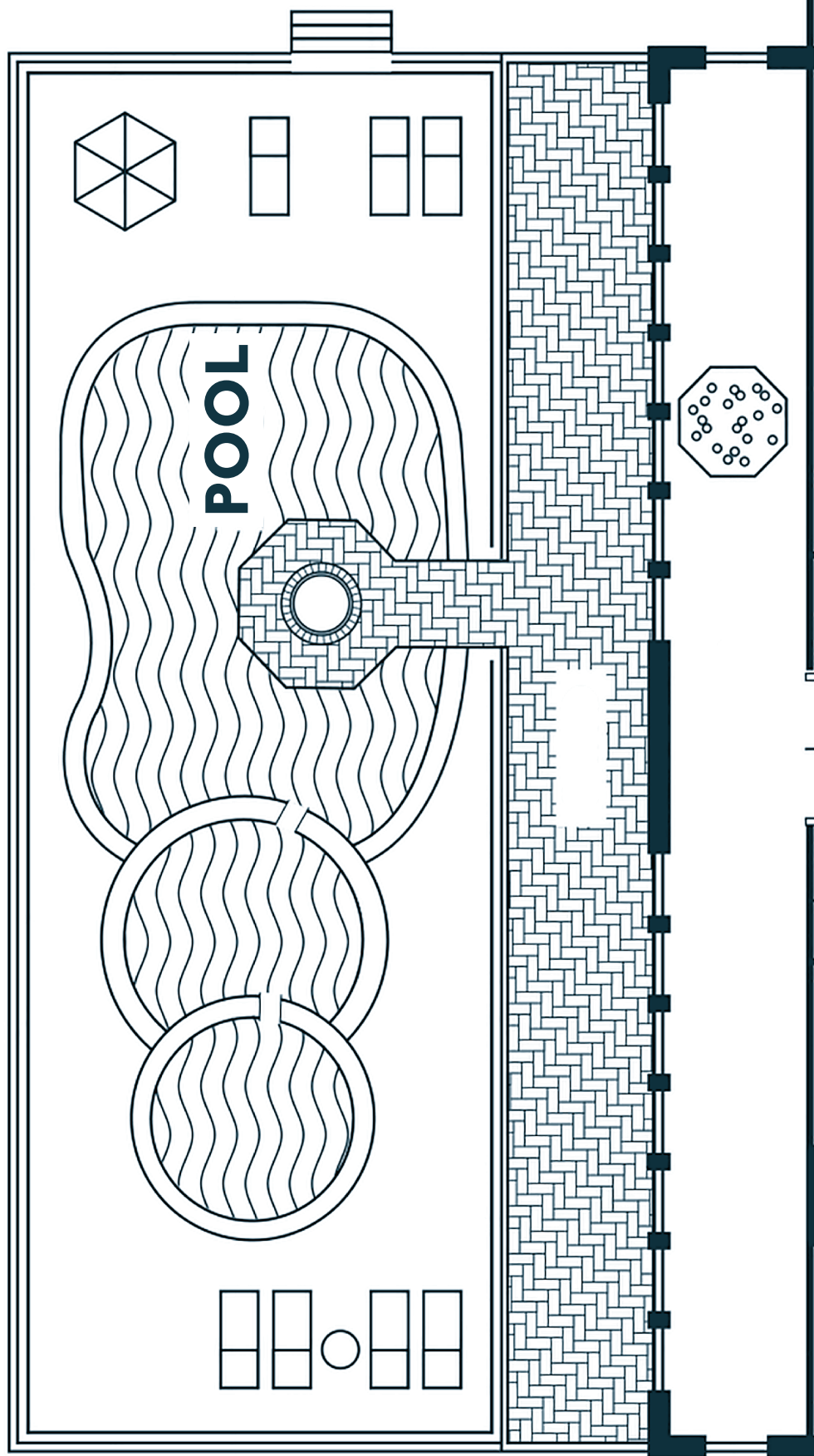
HEADSHOT HALLWAY

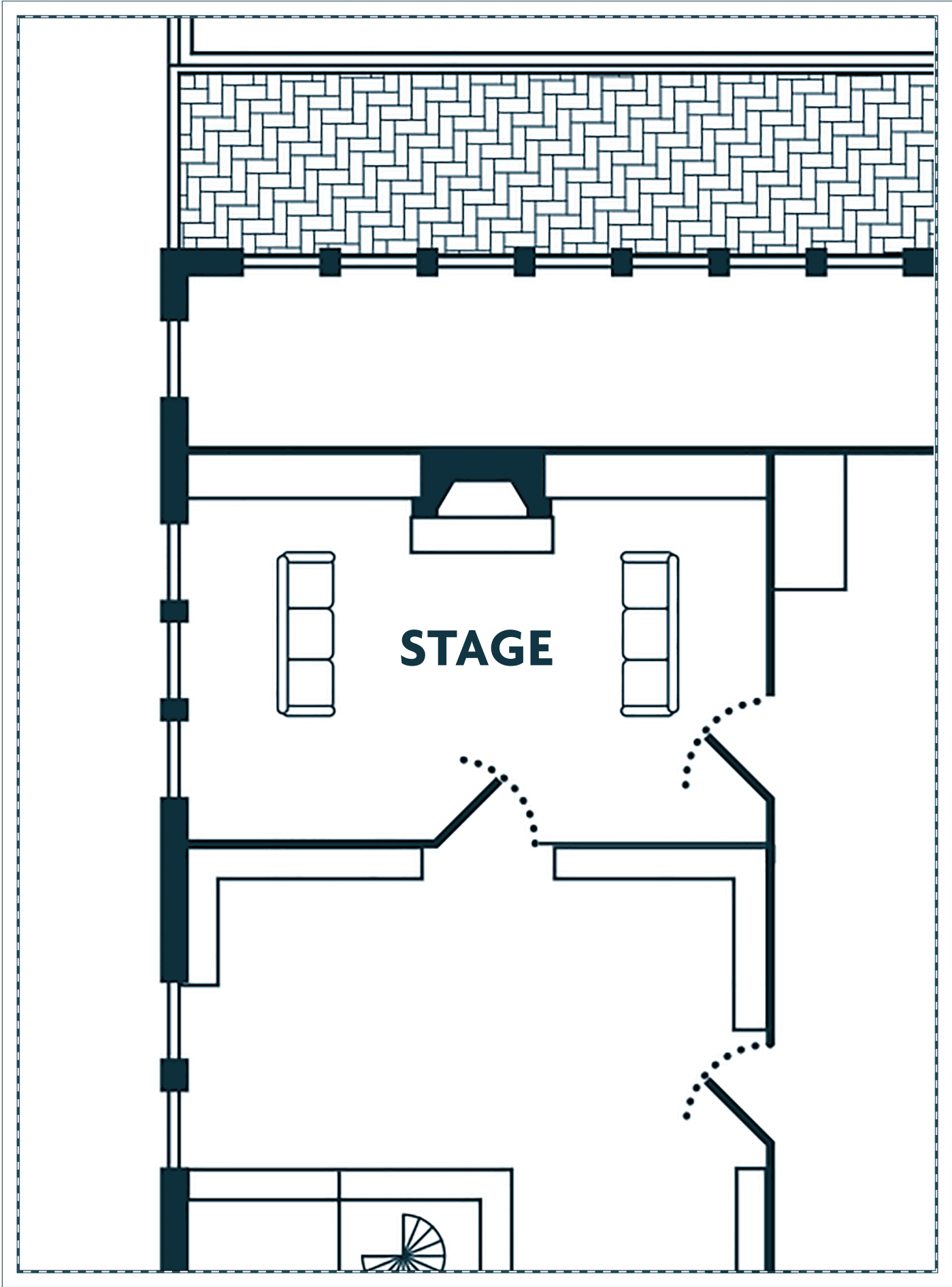


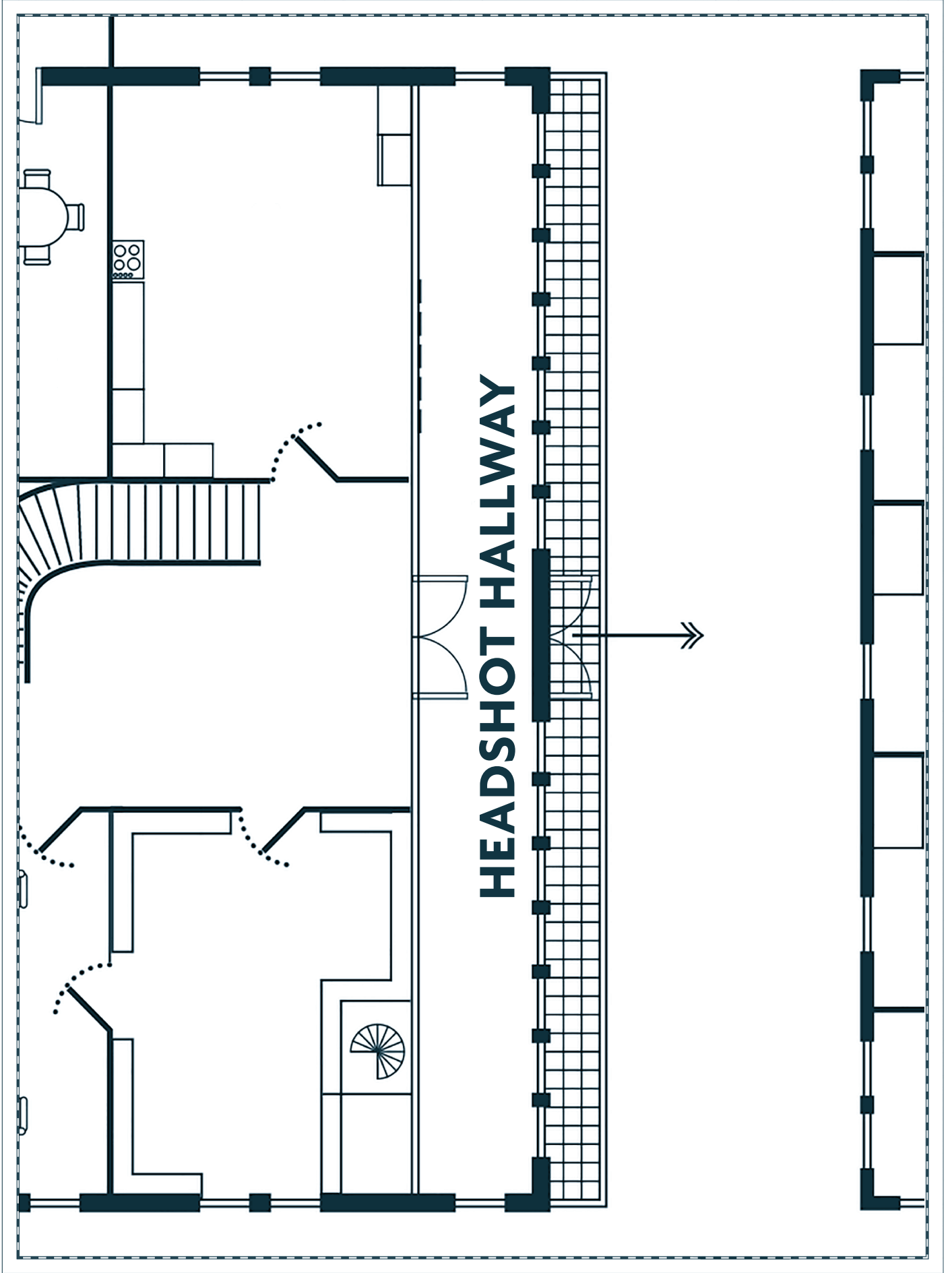


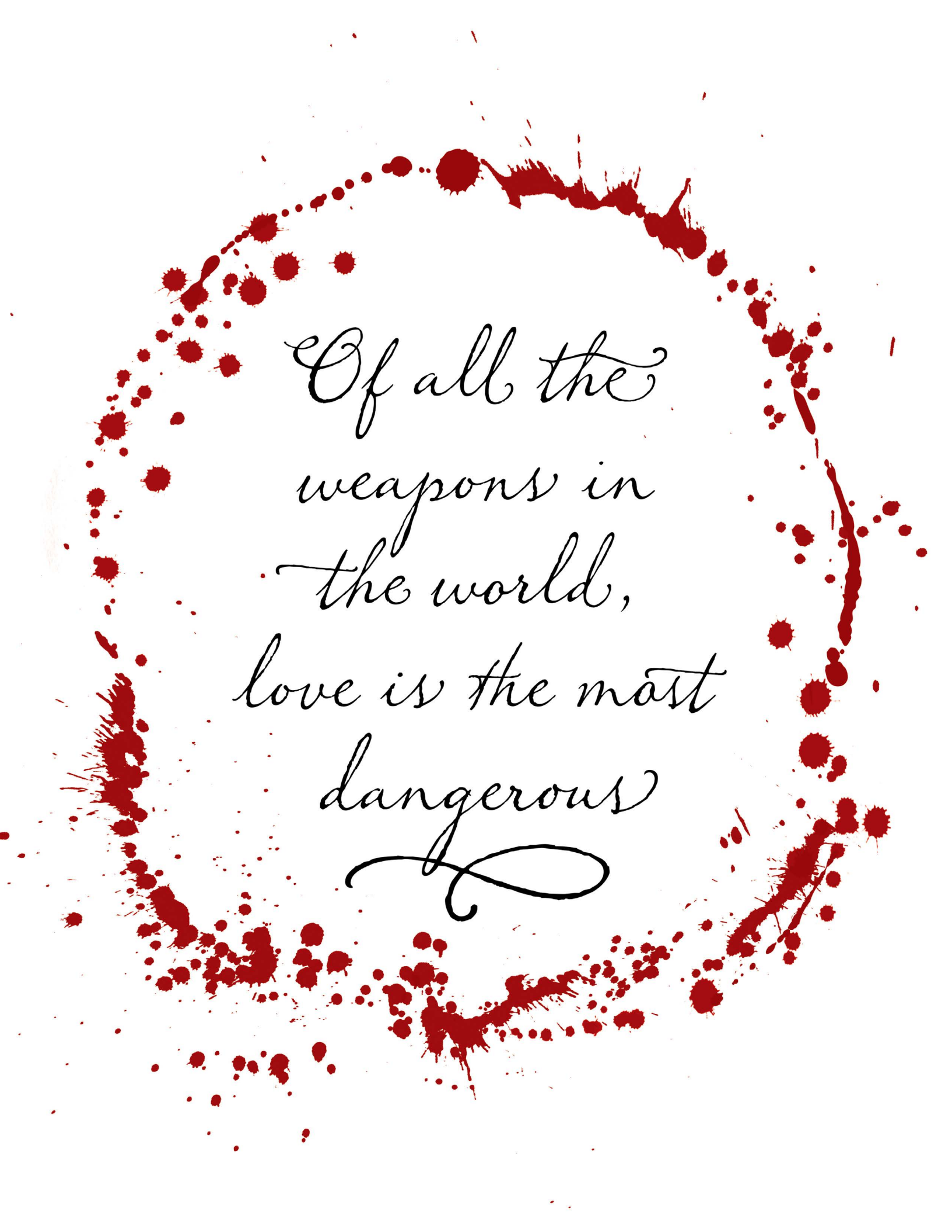
BOAT DOCK










A circular border made of red ink splatters and dots surrounds the text. The splatters vary in size and density, creating a textured, hand-drawn effect.

Of all the
weapons in
the world,
love is the most
dangerous

A circular border made of red ink splatters and dots surrounds the text. The splatters vary in size and density, creating a textured, organic frame.

Perfectly
content being
the bride of
death





MAKE YOUR OWN "VINTAGE" PHOTOS

You'll need:

- Non-glossy paper (the thicker the stock, the better)
- Protective spray paper varnish
- Cold coffee or tea
- Cotton balls

Method:

1. Print your photograph out on printer paper. Print a few copies to allow for mistakes.
2. Spray the paper with 1 or 2 coats of varnish, allowing it to dry between each coat. Be sure to spray in a well-ventilated area and protect your mouth and nose!
3. Crumple or fold the paper in your hands until lines appear (careful not to rip it!)
4. Techniques for "aging" your paper:
 - Fill a spray bottle with cold coffee or tea, and spray the paper until you see color start to appear.
 - Soak a cotton ball in coffee or tea and dab lightly over the paper.
5. Lay the paper out flat, weigh down the corners, and let air dry.

Tips:

- Color will show up best in creases and folds.
- Ink will run during this process, so only write on your photos after they're dry.
- Not interested in using the varnish? Follow all the other instructions on a blank piece of paper to create vintage notepaper that you can write on!