

Ruins



Debbie Harman



(POLONNARUWA)



PERHAPS
BECAUSE WITH
OUR OWN FEET AND
EYES WE COME

ACROSS THESE
WORN SOFT EDGES.

TUMBLING DOWN

SPECKLED

AND

ALIVE

WITH

MOSS

AND

LICHEN.

WE TOUCH THE PAST
IN THE SUN-DAPPLED SPACES BETWEEN
THE CREEPING GREENERY.

I FELL DOWN AND THEN I WAS
SCAFFOLDED.



THERE IS A PERSON ON THE
ROOF WITHOUT A SAFETY BARRIER.
IT REMINDED ME OF RECORDS OF HOW
MANY PEOPLE DIED MAKING GREAT
BUILDINGS.

(POLONNARUWA)

I THINK
THAT
SOMETIMES
THE
TREES
SAY: "BY
THE WAY,
I'VE BEEN
HERE MUCH
LONGER,



I COULD
TELL YOU
EVERYTHING!"

THERE'S
MANY A
ROAD TO
RUIN!

DAY 1 ANGKOR WATT BIKE ADVENTURE



⑪ Headed back
to bike shop
but it was dark
before we arrived at 7pm

⑩ Prasat
Ta keo

⑨ Ta
Prohm
(tomb
raider)

⑧ Prasat
pre
rup

⑦ Back
trails
to find
Bat chum

⑥ Sras
Srang

⑤ Bateay
Kdei

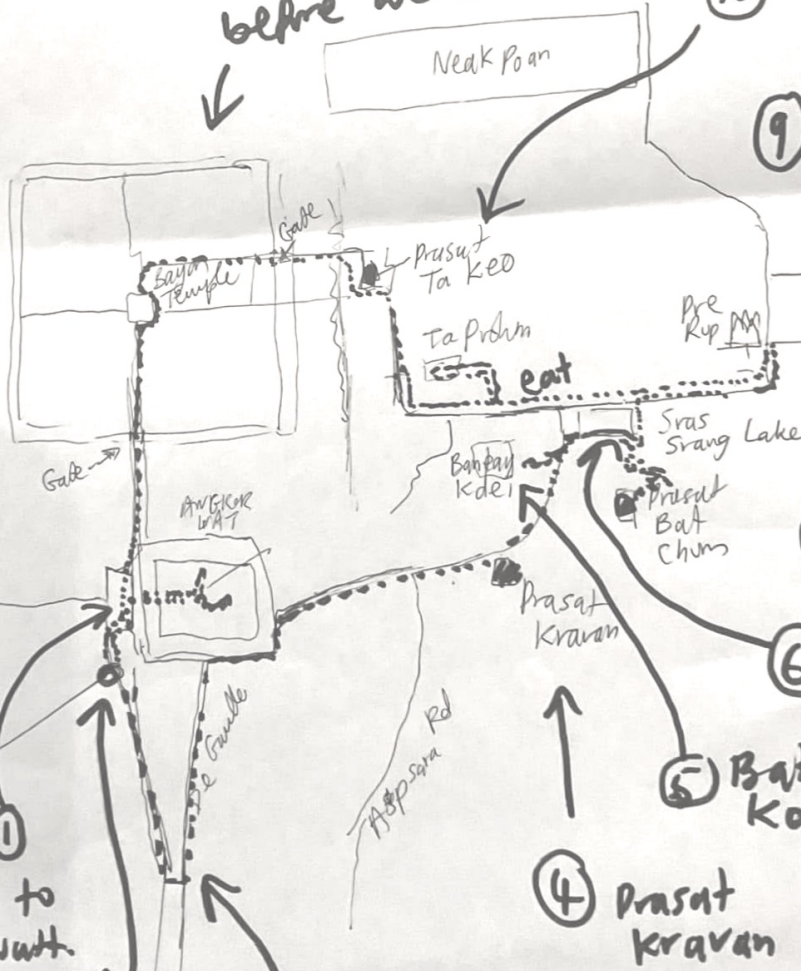
④ Prasat
kravan

③ Got lost
& went
wrong way.

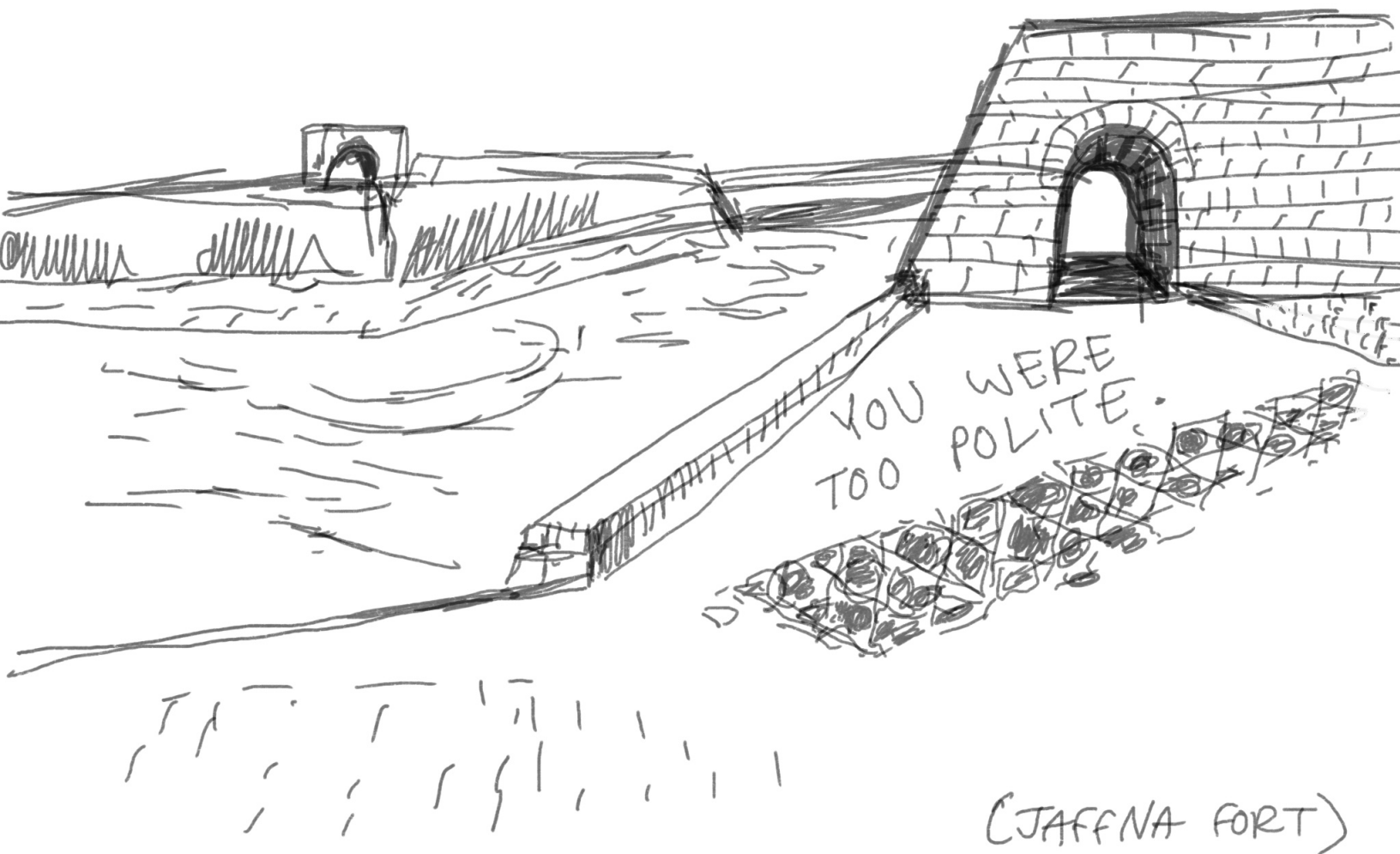
② Picked up
2 bikes

Tuk tuk to
Angkor Watt.
Watched sunrise.

①



YOUR SHELL WAS TOUGH
BUT IT HAD A HOLE IN IT
WHERE YOU FORGOT TO
CLOSE THE DOOR.

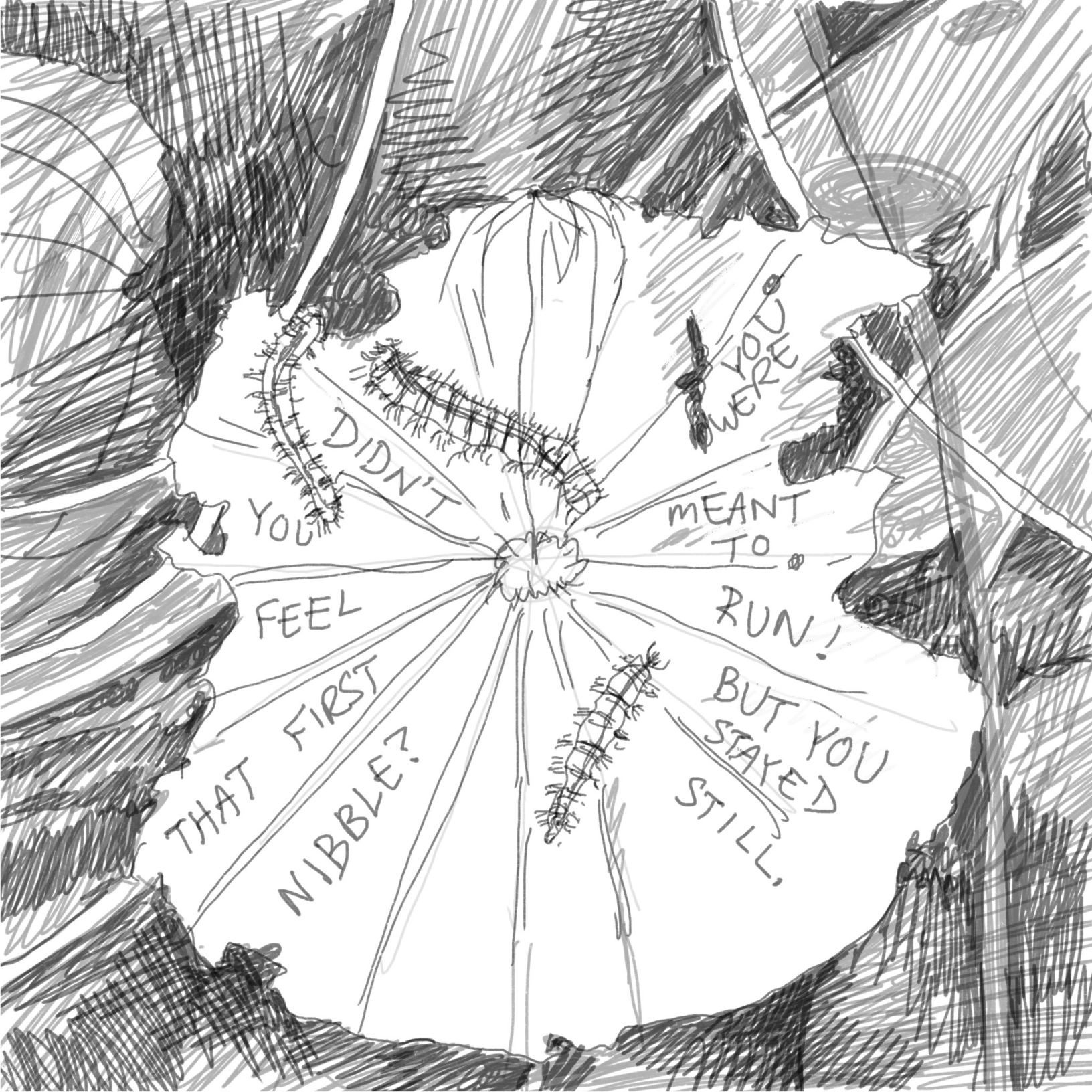


(JAFFNA FORT)

YOU DIDN'T READ THE
WRITING ON THE WALL?



POLONNARUWA



YOU DIDN'T
FEEL

THAT FIRST
NIBBLE?

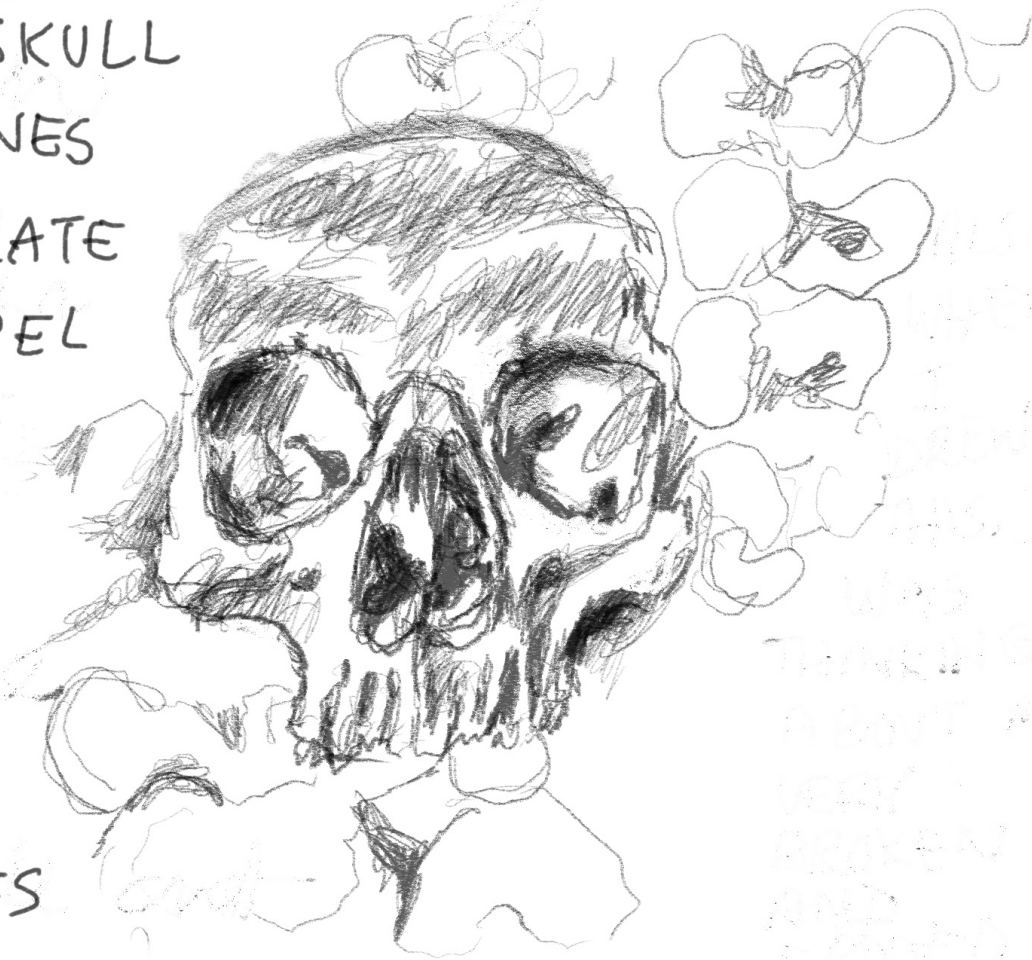
YOU
WERE

MEANT
TO

RUN!

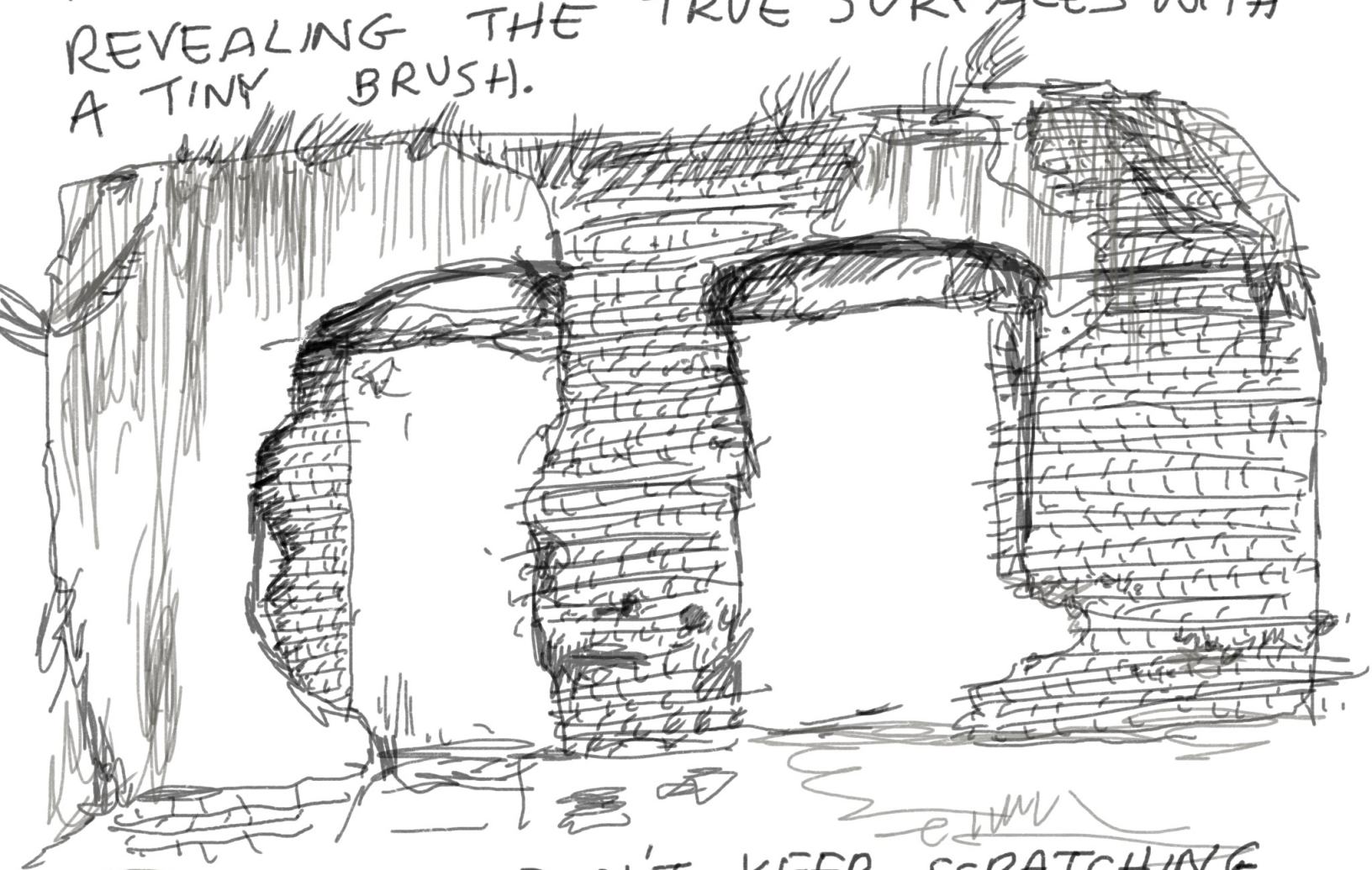
BUT YOU
STAYED
STILL,

A MONK RE-USED
YOUR SKULL
AND BONES
TO DECORATE
A CHAPEL
AND
YOU
WERE
FOR
SOME
DECADES
TORTURED



BY THE TOURISTS WHO CAME
TO STARE AND PHOTOGRAPH. MILLIONS
OF PHOTOS LIKE ANTS EVERYWHERE

YOU CAN EXCAVATE
THE PAST, CAREFULLY
DIGGING AROUND THE EDGES AND
REVEALING THE TRUE SURFACES WITH
A TINY BRUSH.



BUT IF YOU DON'T KEEP SCRATCHING
THE GRASS WILL GROW BACK.

JAFFNA FORT

YOU FORGOT HOW SMALL
WE ARE IN THE SCHEME OF
THINGS;

TIME
AND
SPACE.

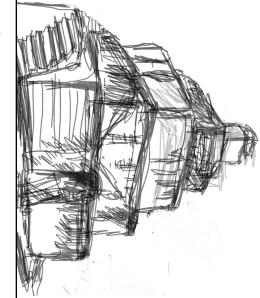
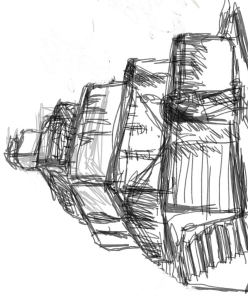
EMPIRES
RISE

AND
FALL

ANTS CARRY
ON.

(ANGKOR WATT)





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