

SONDER



by KATIE ACKERMAN

[press] is a student organization that allows student artists to publish their original artwork of any kind, from poems to paintings to short stories to photo journals, with the help of a team transform their art into something that can be shared. We brainstorm media forms, design a project on publishing software, and fully fund the printing of hundreds of copies. Our goal is to work with artists and writers to put together a wonderful print product available to all Grinnellians, as well as enjoy the artwork ourselves.

S O N D E R

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by Katie Ackerman

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To my grandmother, aunt, and mother, the strongest women I know and who I aspire to be

Our hands help us eat and cook, indulge, find joy in our hobbies and our work, and of course, help us connect with others. Each hand in this series is meant to provide (an introductory introspection) about who the person is, what they are doing, and what their story might be.

While I didn't realize it at the time, my project started last April. A few weeks before my grandmother passed away, I photographed her hands on a quilt she finished not long before she was diagnosed with cancer. She always found hands revealing about people. Each scratch, scar, or sunspot can be seen as evidence for all the things a person has done. For each hand I imagined what story the person might tell. So this project is for her as much as it is for me. I reveled in the sonder in creating this collection and I hope I evoked some in you too.

~ ~ ~

In a lifetime, a single individual will meet more than 10,000 people. Most of them you will shake hands with, others you will hug, some you will fall in love with, and some you will never remember. We believe that our own lives are the most complicated and confusing, but there are 7.4 billion people in the world who all think the same thing. Every individual has their own aspirations and disappointments, their own love and heartbreak, and their own passions and chores. We will never know another person's life, but our hands begin the tell the story of our past, the things we've done and of who we are.





“Some people read palms to tell your future,
but I read hands to tell your past. Each
scar makes a story worth telling. Each
callused palm, each cracked knuckle is a
missed punch or years in a factory.”

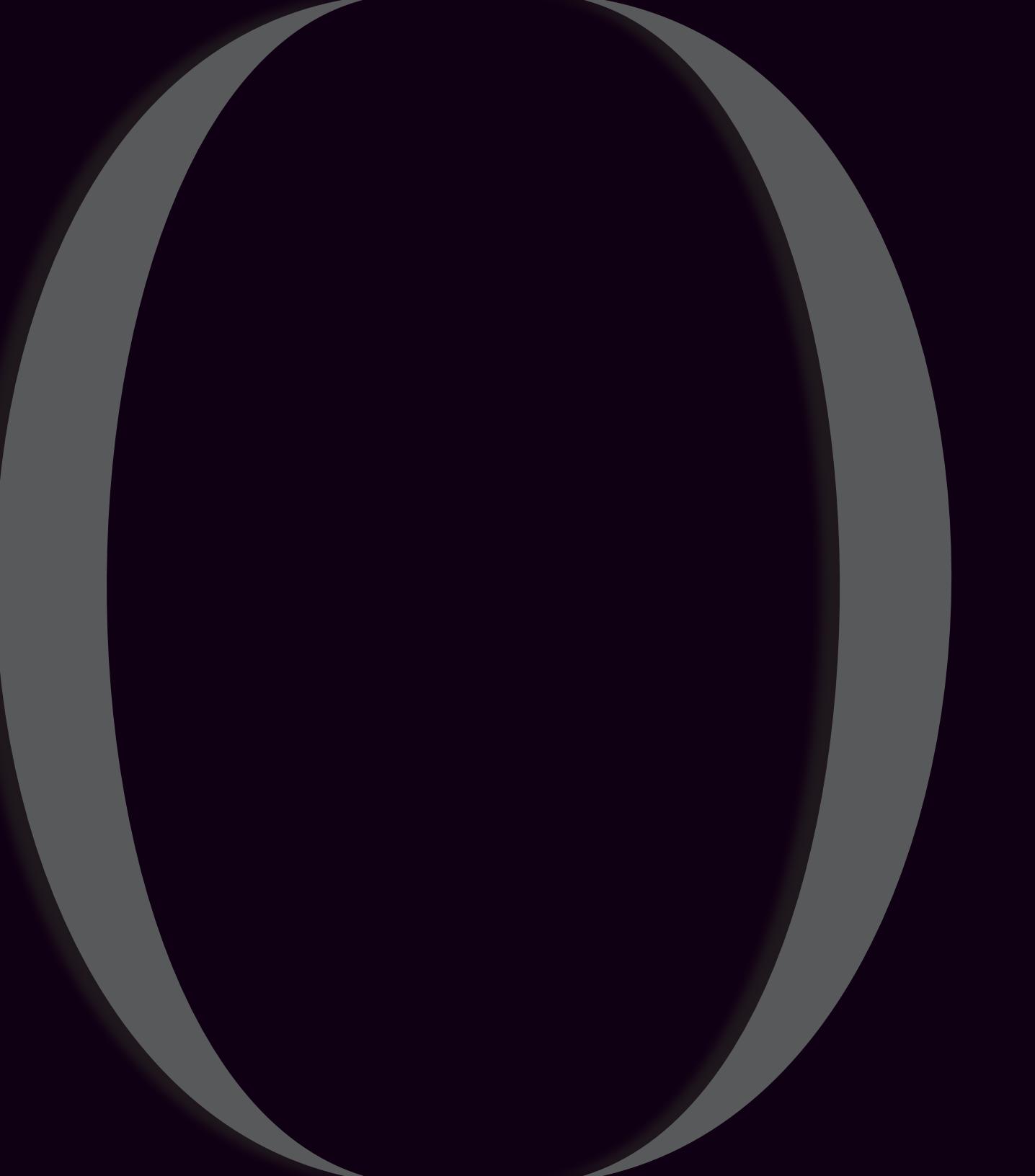
—Sarah Kay





“Sonder— the realization that
each random passerby is living a life as
vivid and complex as your own—populated with their own
ambitions, friends, routines, worries and inherited craziness—an epic story
that continues invisibly around you like an anthill sprawling deep underground,
with elaborate passageways to thousands of other lives that you’ll never know
existed”

—The Dictionary of Obscure Sorrows





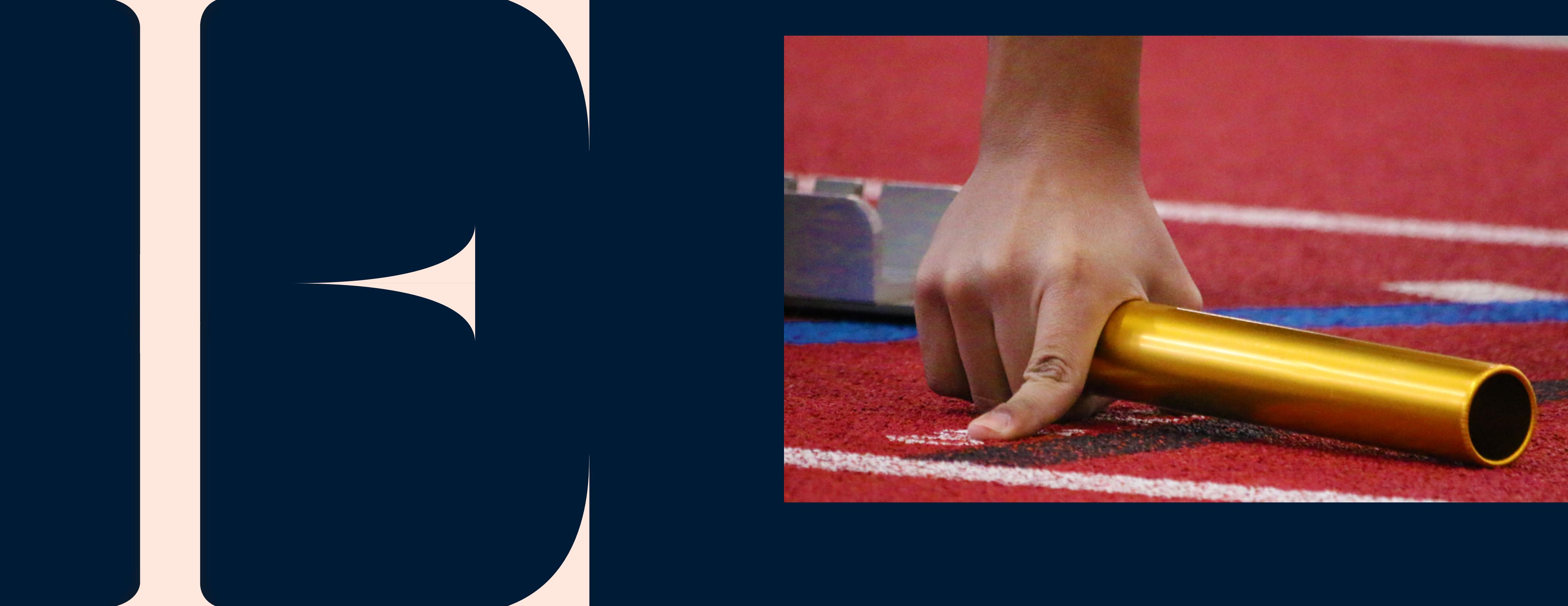






Strandlyst
efjorden
d af Danmark





"What the hell are flautas?"
you'll be happier," Richard said. He
but water. He'd put on some weight.
team sports and he was trying to work.

ed tortilla things with stuff inside them,"
, they sound like they have something to
liked to keep the jokes going when he was
them.
"tortillas, huh."

"Fartas, huh."

"With beans, please."

of them laughed like fools. "Another i

hard remarked. He was glad he hadn't br

ong, although everyone might have behaved be

me.

at his menu down. "What I really wan

use idea was it to come

"They have steak here? Whose idea was it to come to this
anyway?"

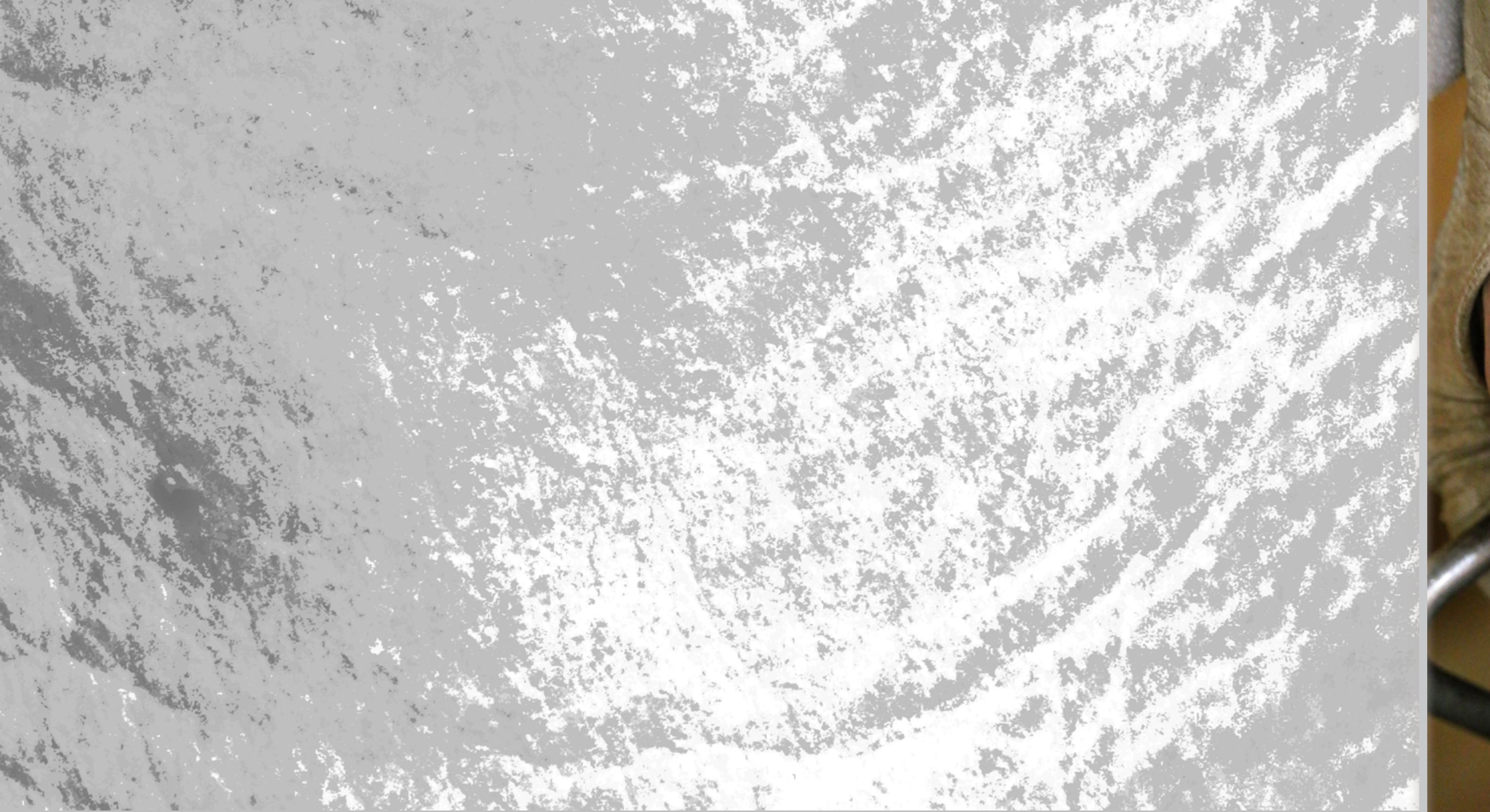
"Mine," Tim said. "I bet they have steak, Dad. We can ask the
waiter put his menu down. "What I really want is a
long, although every
me.

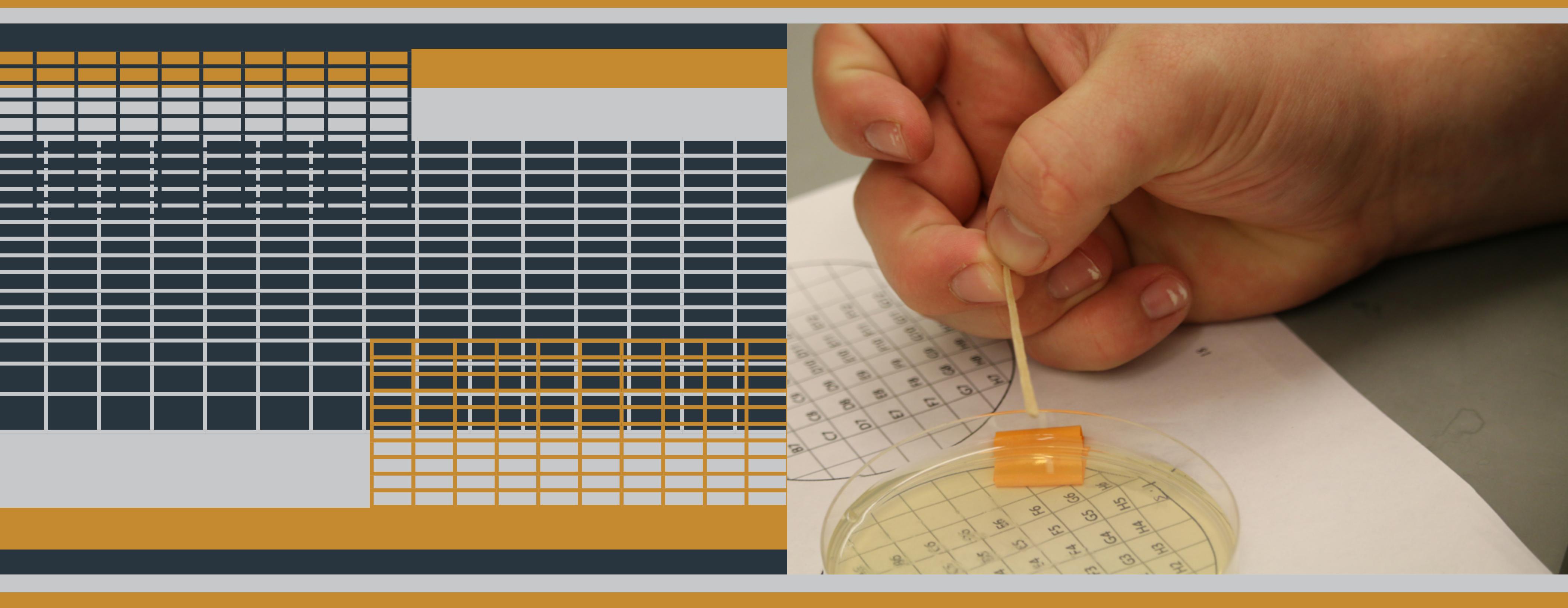
"Mine," Tim said. "I bet they have steak, Dad. We can ask the
waitress. Or you could get steak fajitas."

"Mine," Tim said. "I bet they have steak, Dad. We can ask the
waitress. Or you could get steak fajitas."









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