



BIG TIME ATTIC
AND PRESENT

A LONG JOURNEY A CAVE



Journey along field line



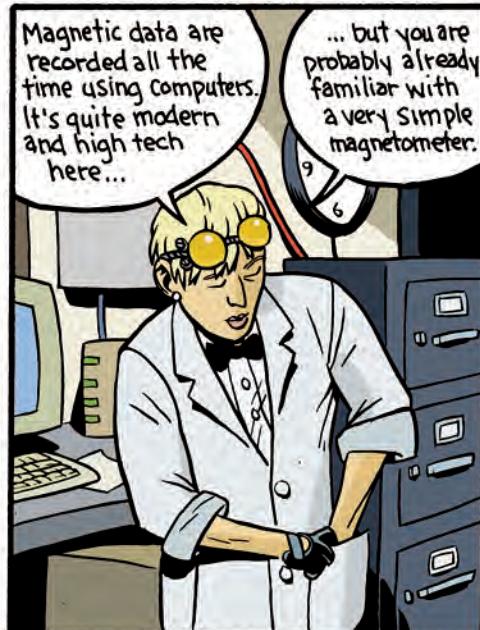
Written and produced by BIG TIME ATTIC
and Jeffrey J. Love of the
US GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.

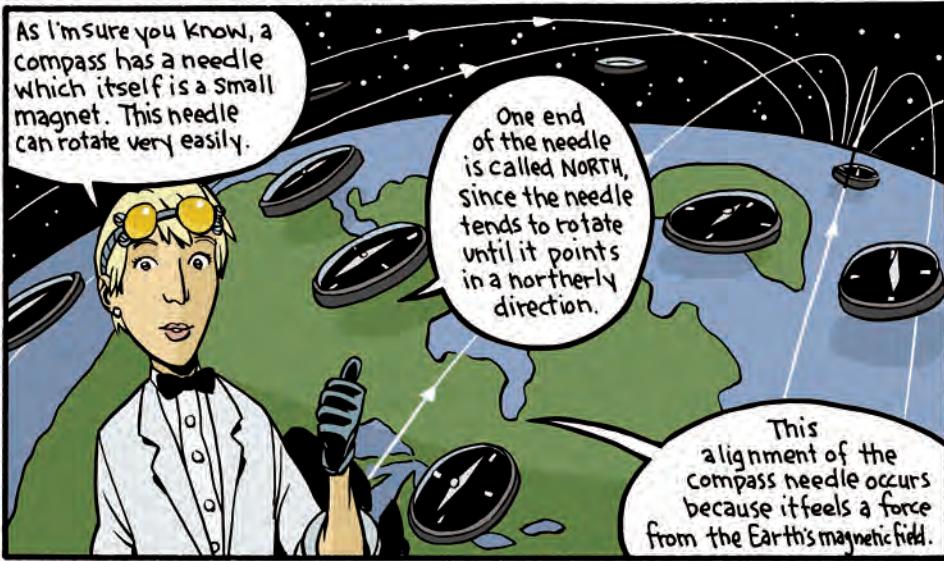
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At the US Geological Survey's
MAGNETIC OBSERVATORY
in
BOULDER, COLORADO





Let's have a quick look at the Earth's magnetic field. At the Earth's surface, the field has two poles, called North and South magnetic dip poles, where the magnetic field is concentrated.

NORTH DIP POLE



SOUTH DIP POLE

The magnetic field of the Earth points outward at the South dip pole and INWARD at the NORTH dip pole.

But the magnetic poles are not perfectly aligned with the geographic poles of the Earth. And almost anywhere you go on Earth's surface, you will find that the compass doesn't point exactly NORTH. This has caused problems for navigators over the centuries.

Here in BOULDER, the compass points about ten degrees EAST of true north.

Also, the magnetic field CHANGES over time!

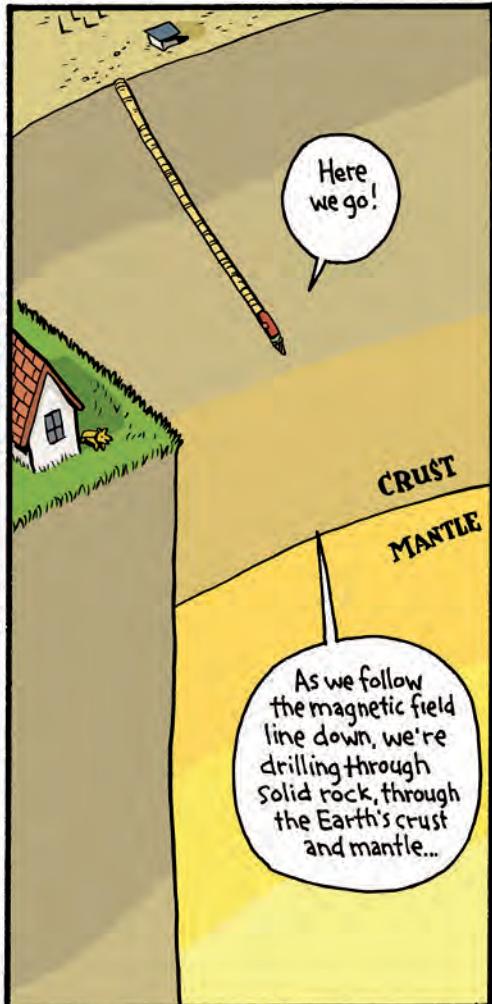
This is caused by surprising things going on inside the Earth...

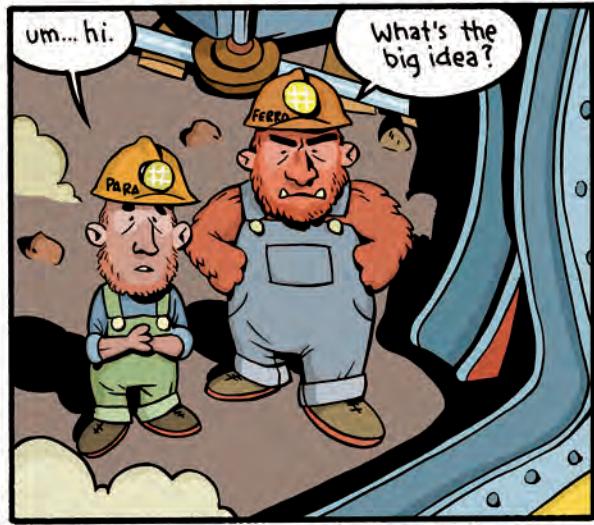
...and in SPACE.

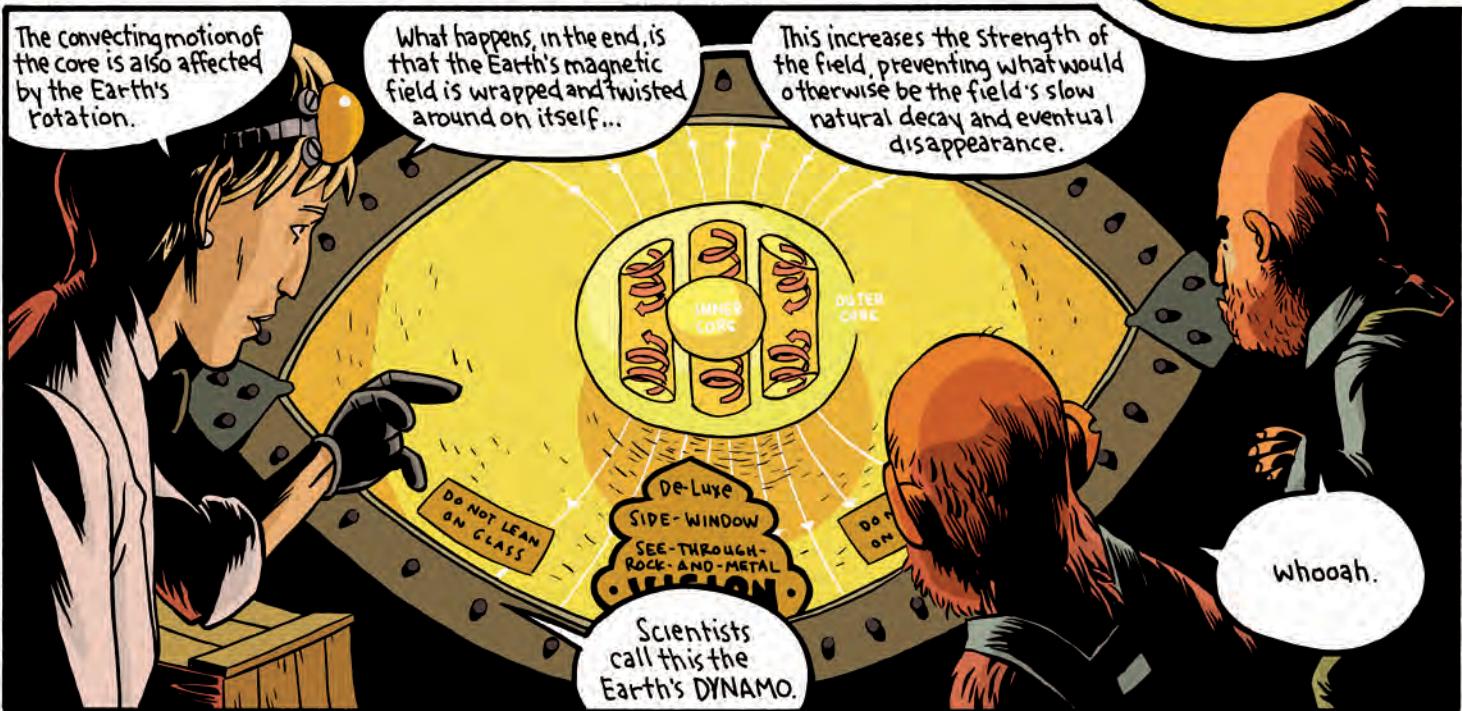
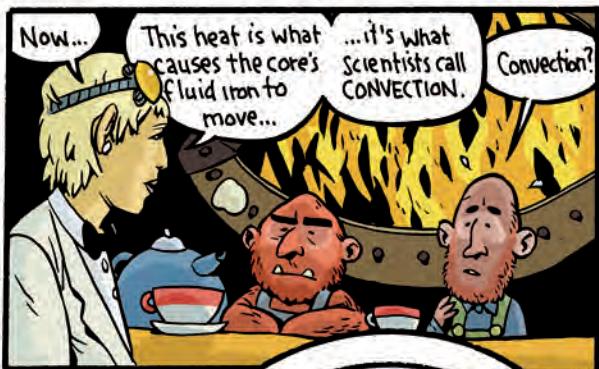
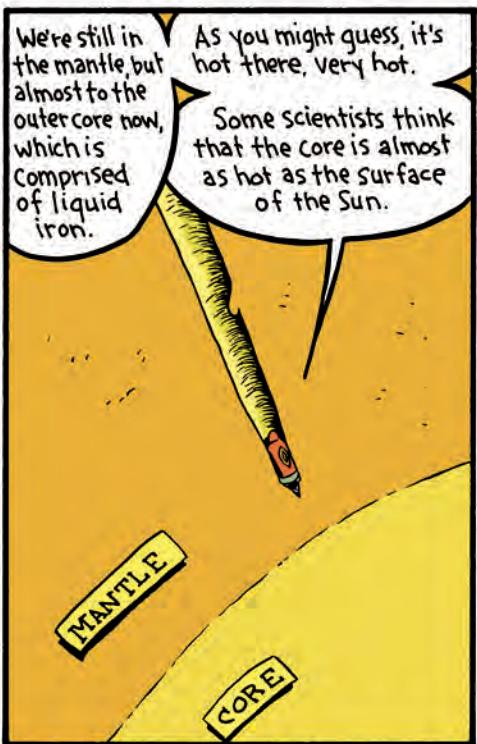


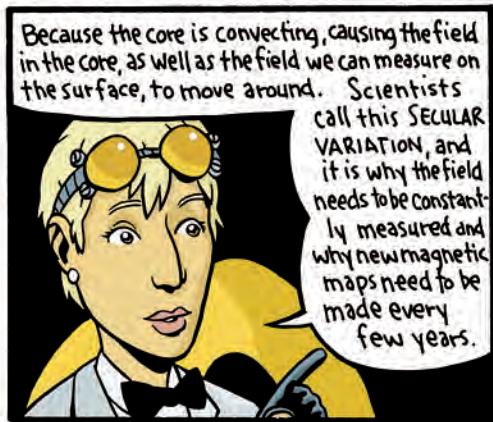
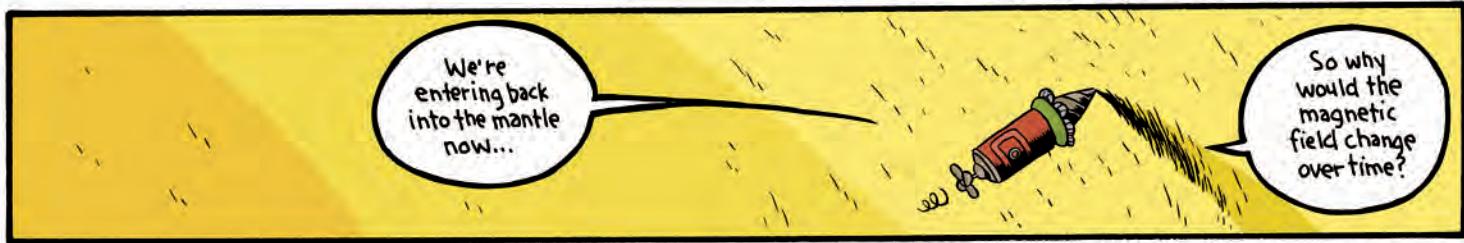
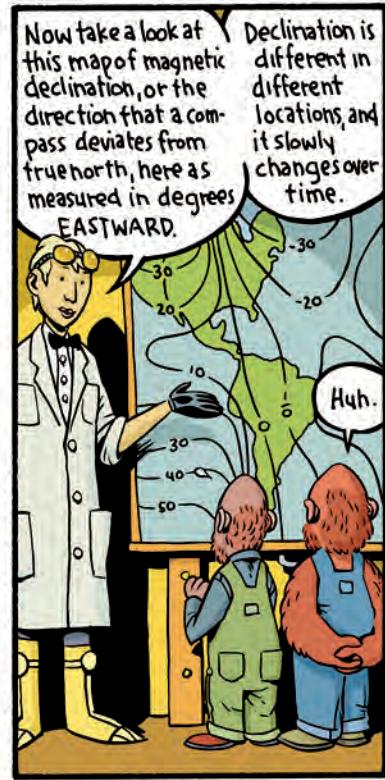
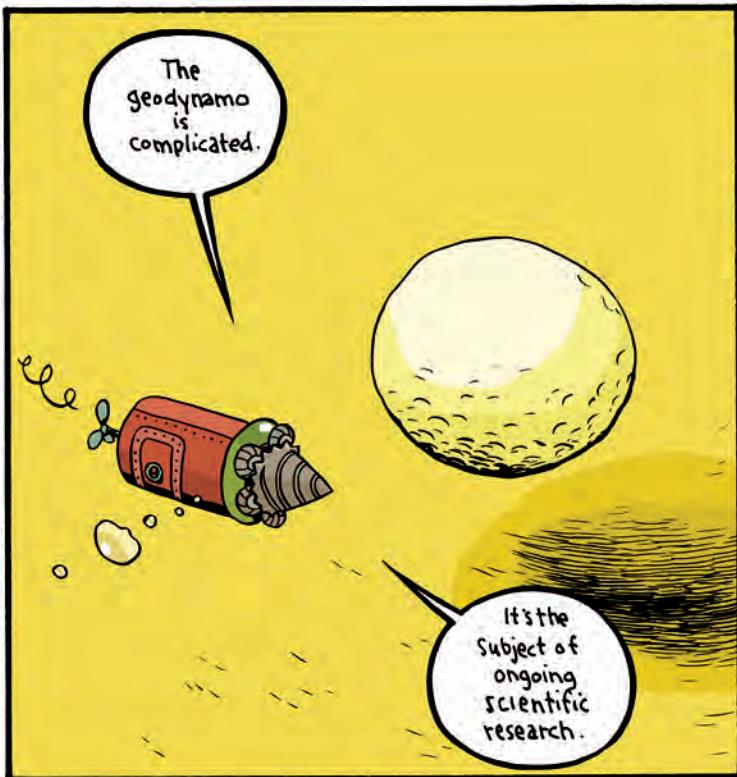
JOURNEY along a FIELD LINE

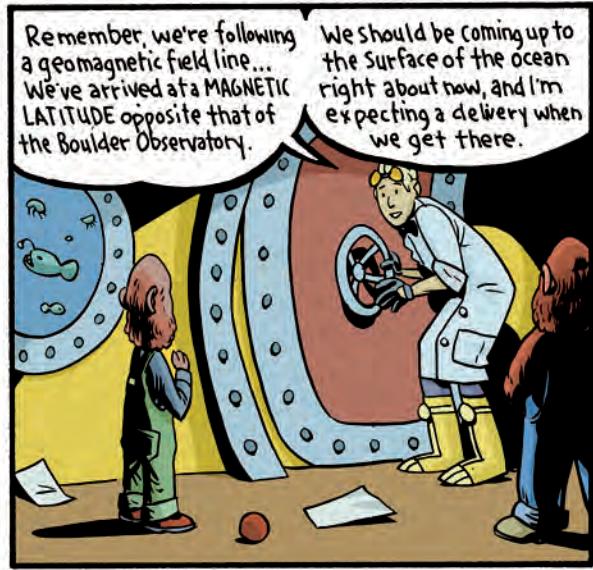
Hop on in;
there's plenty
of room!

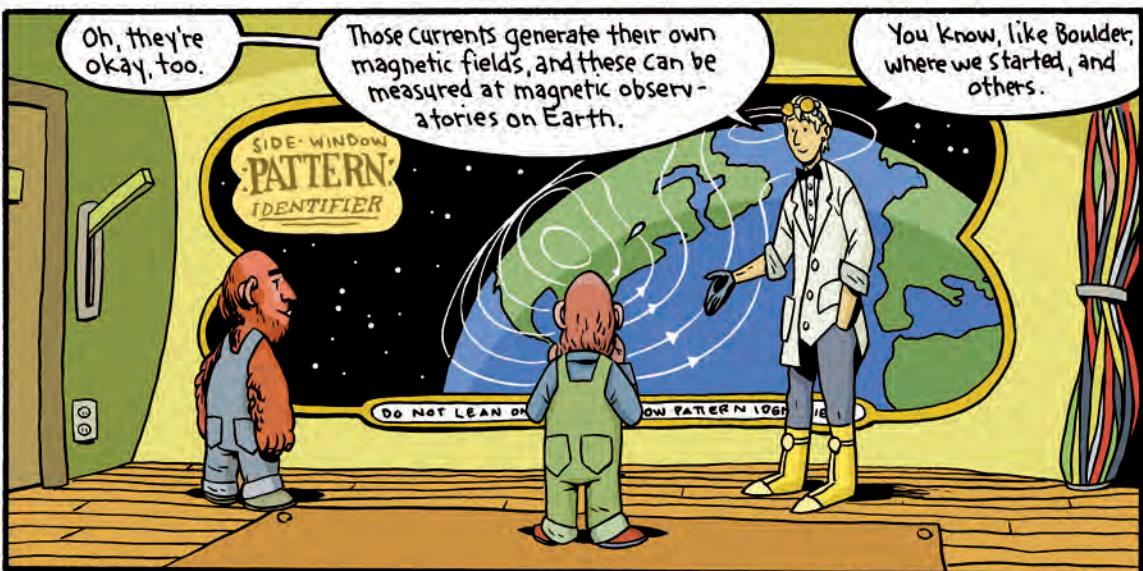
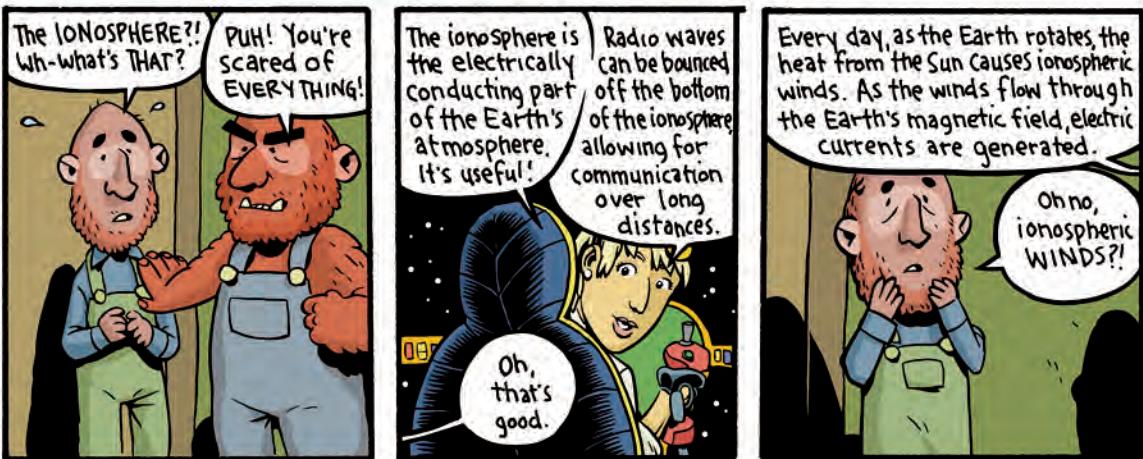


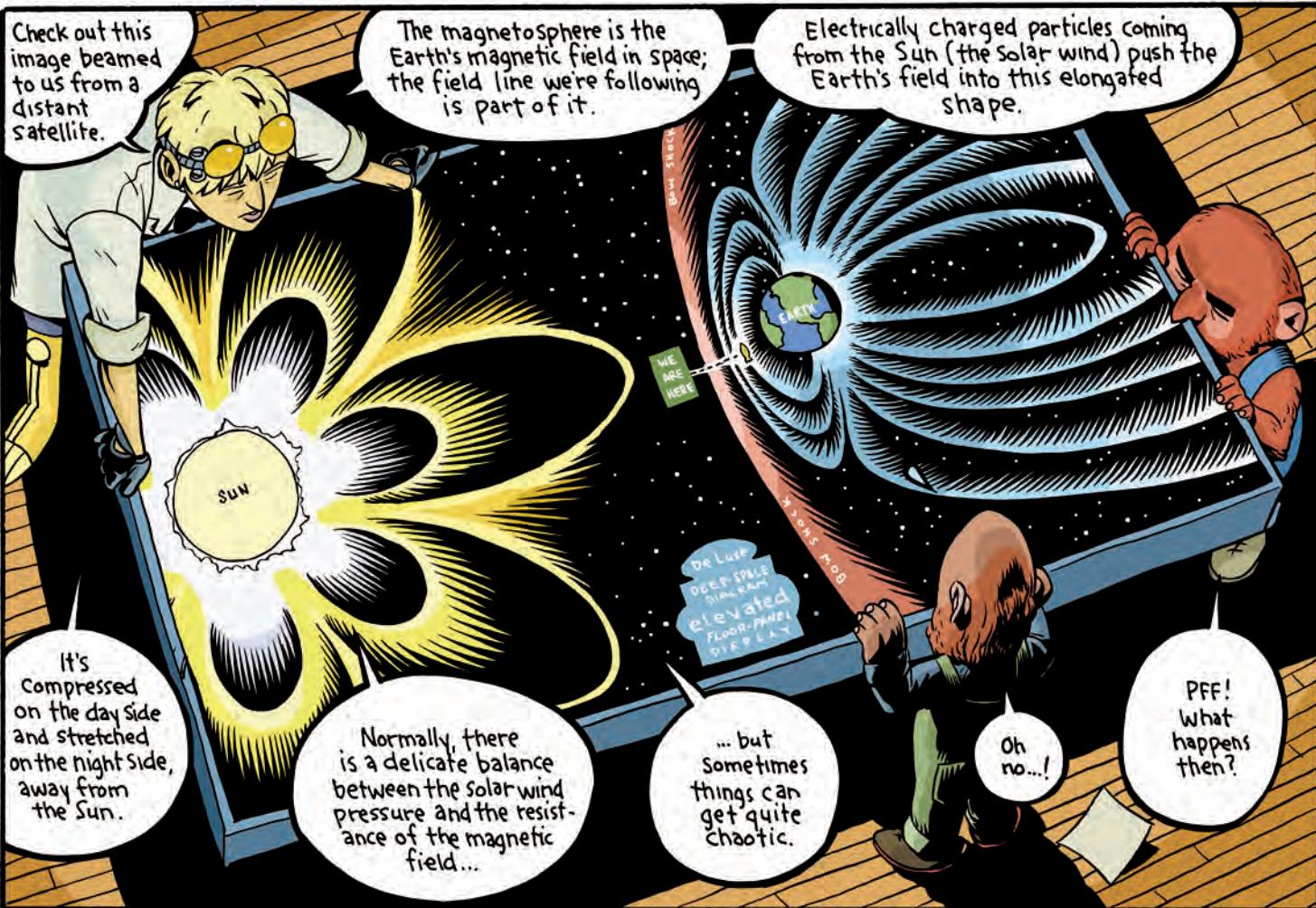


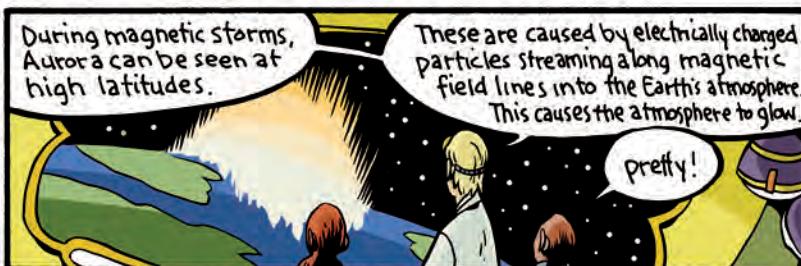
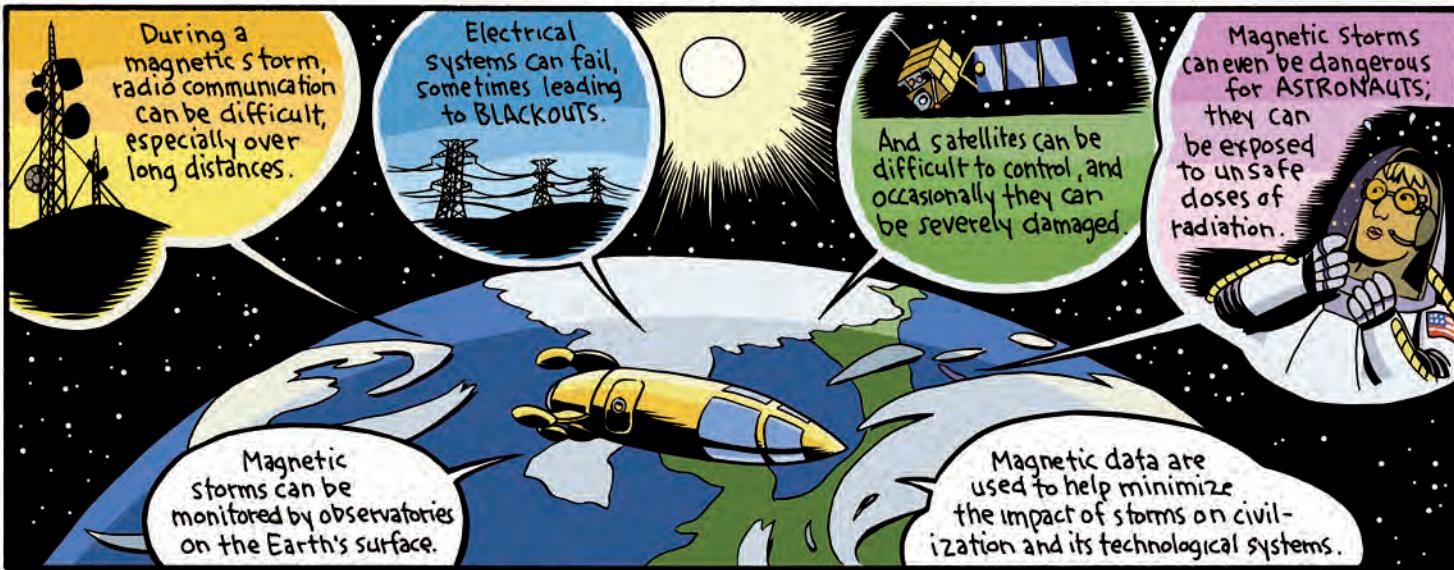
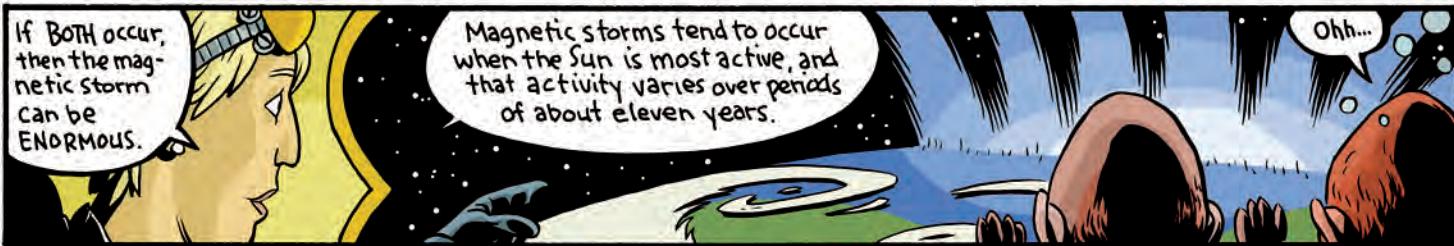
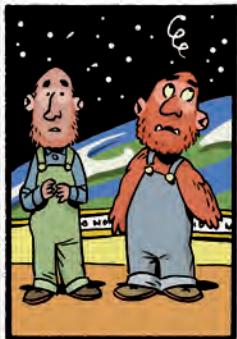


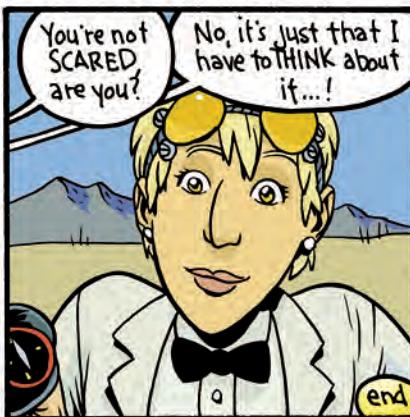
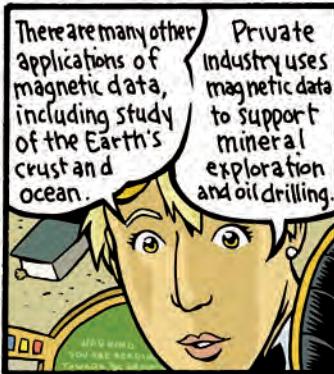
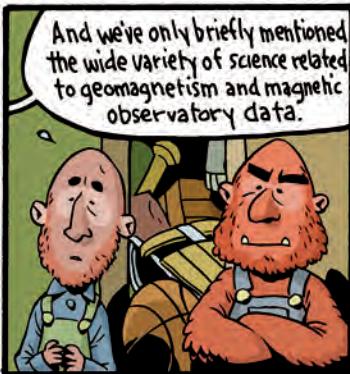
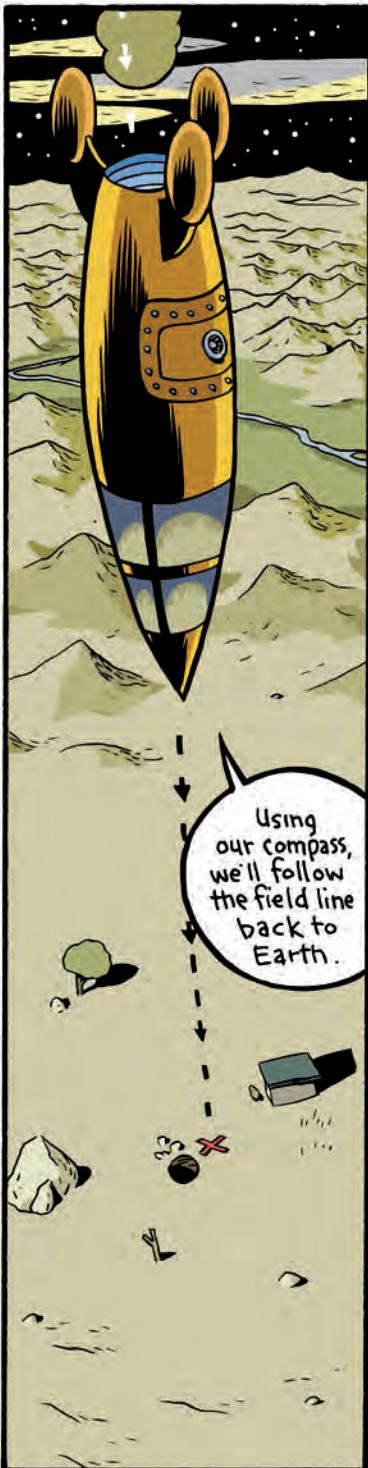


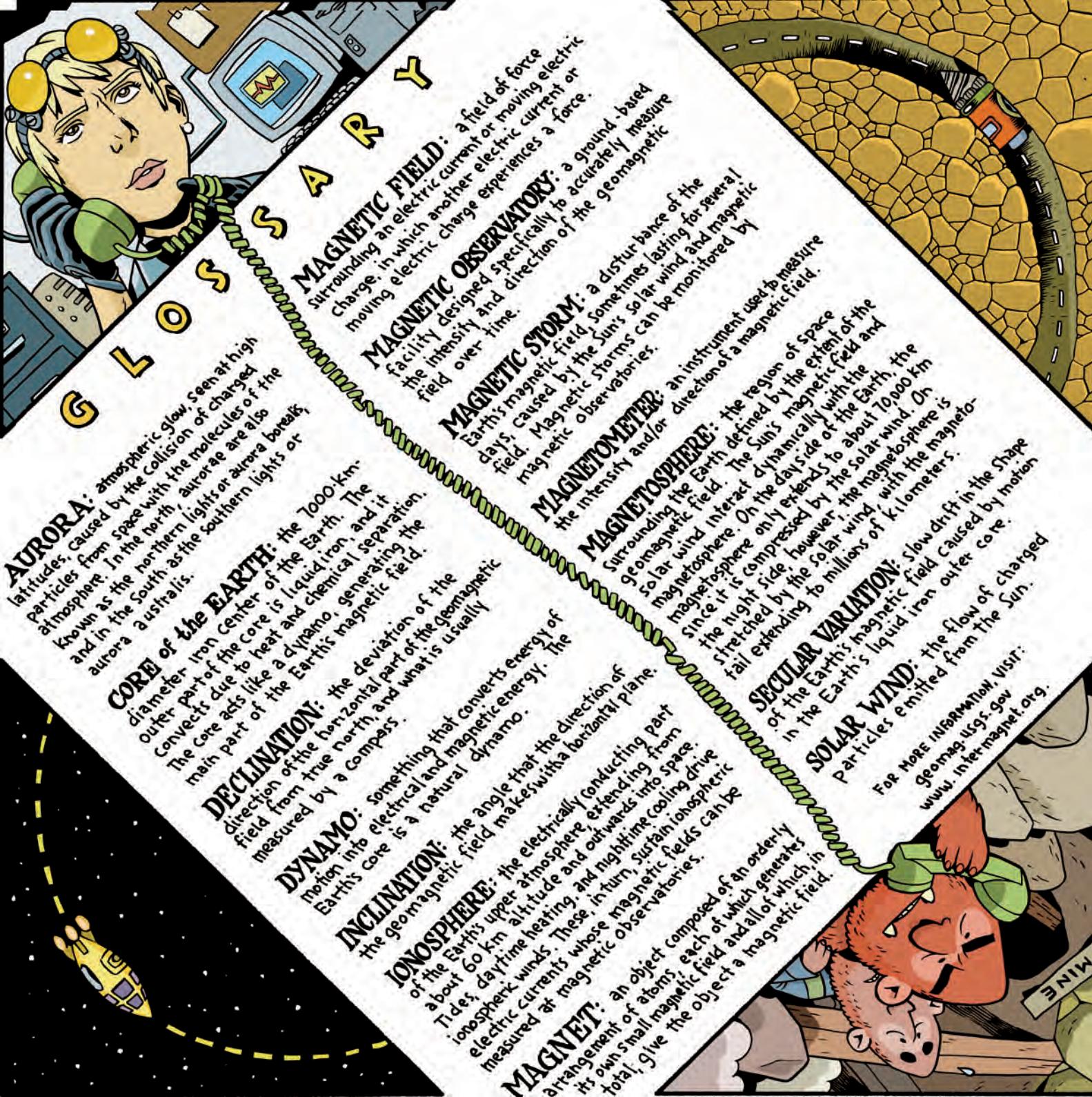


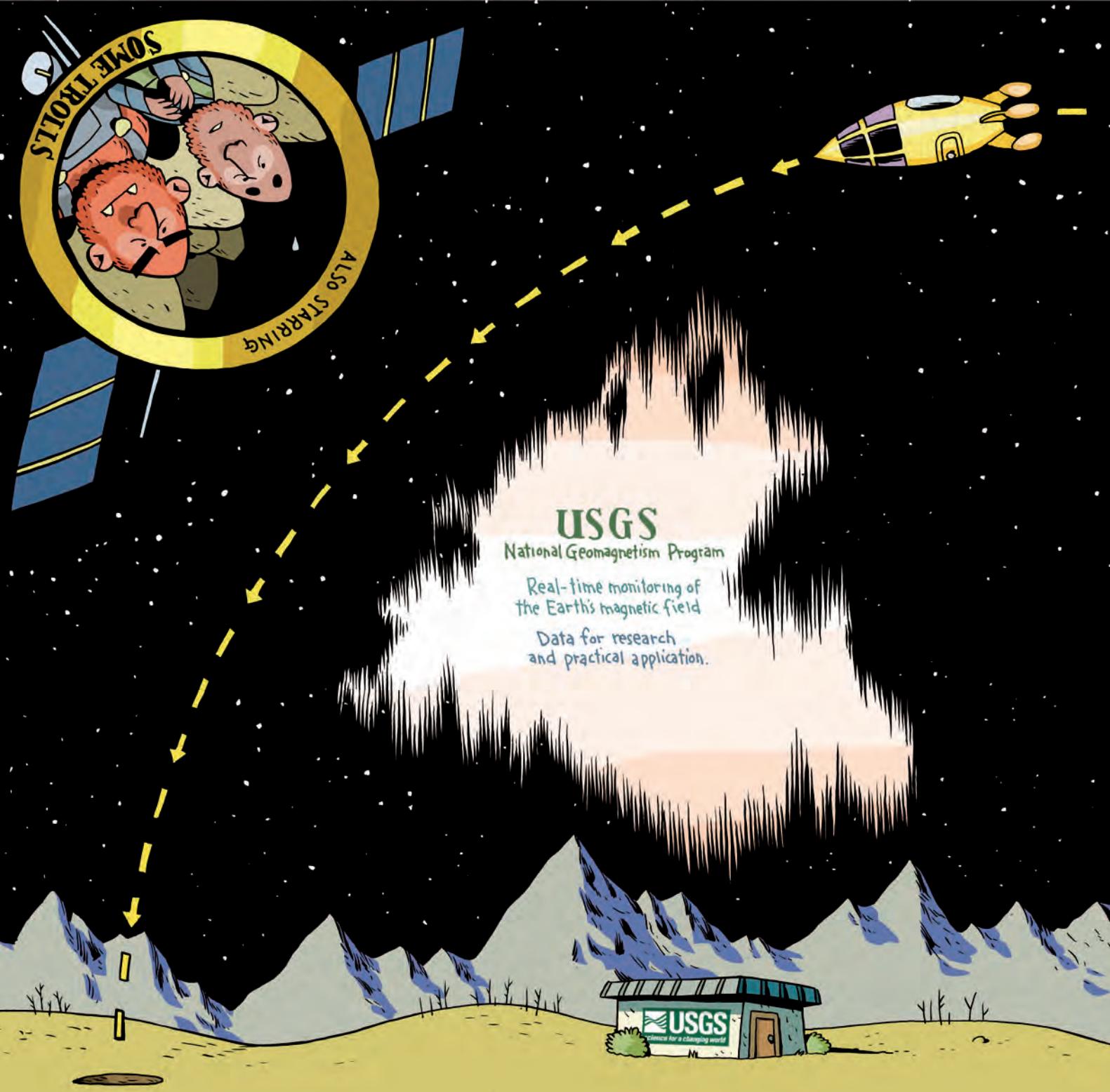












USGS
National Geomagnetism Program

Real-time monitoring of
the Earth's magnetic field

Data for research
and practical application.