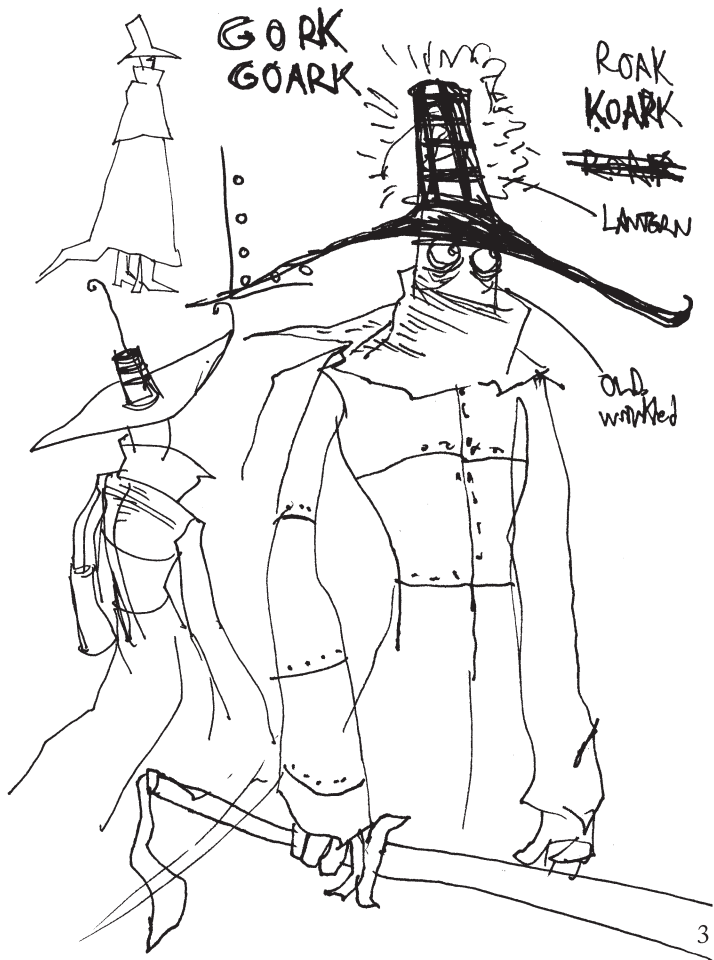


FIRST ED.

/100

DEVELOPING KOARK

A SKETCHBOOK BY EVAN DAHM



KDARK THE
WRITER

Leaf, almost



Magic lamp hat

Dark gray
skin

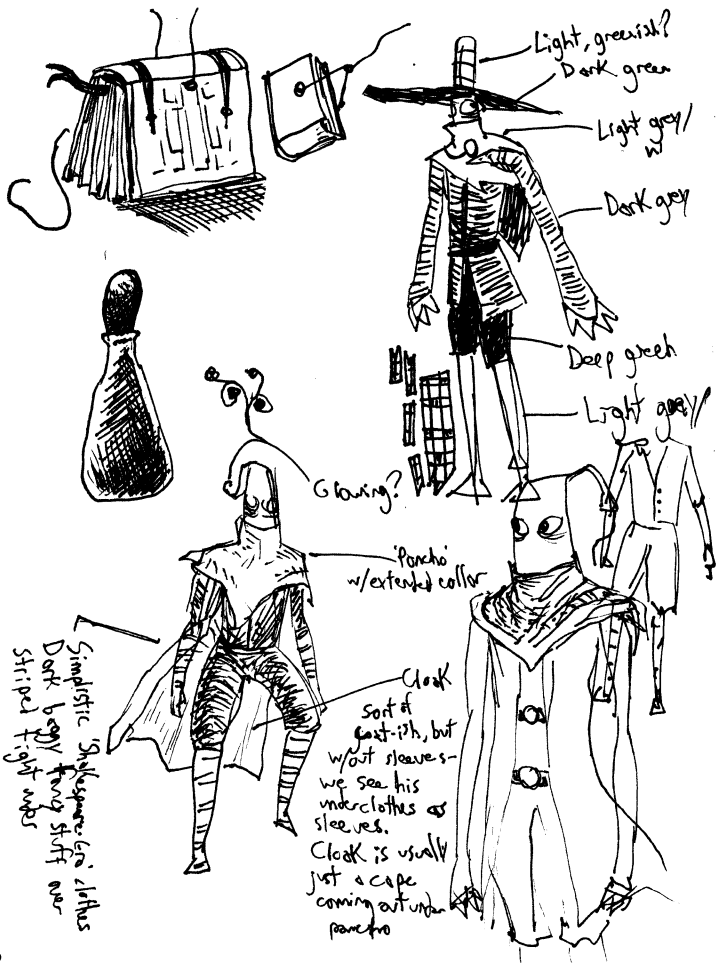


Strange
symbols on
trim

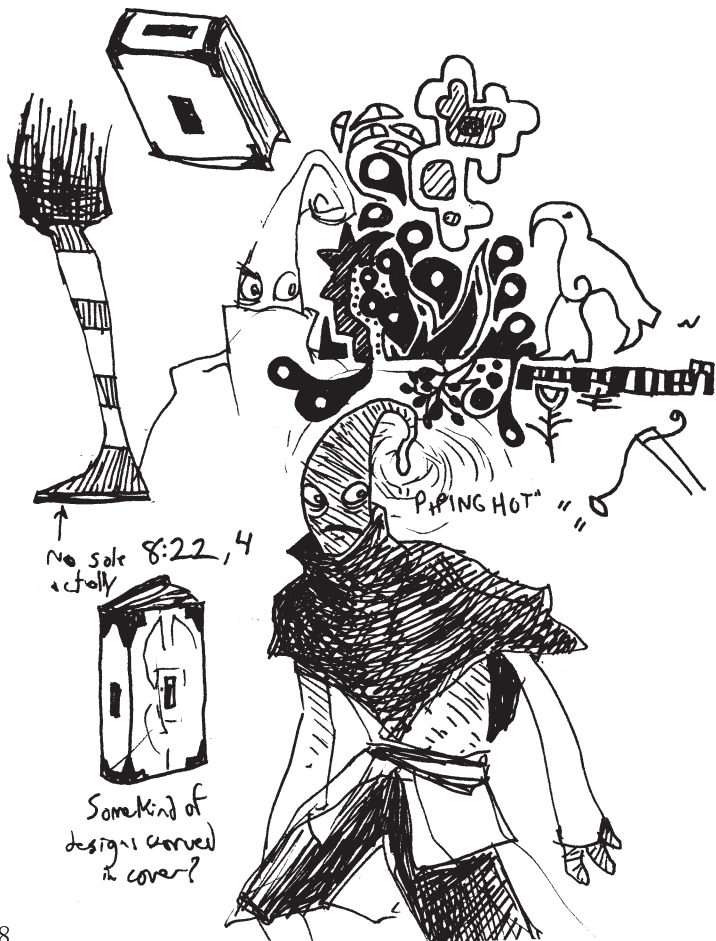
Toes out
of clothing





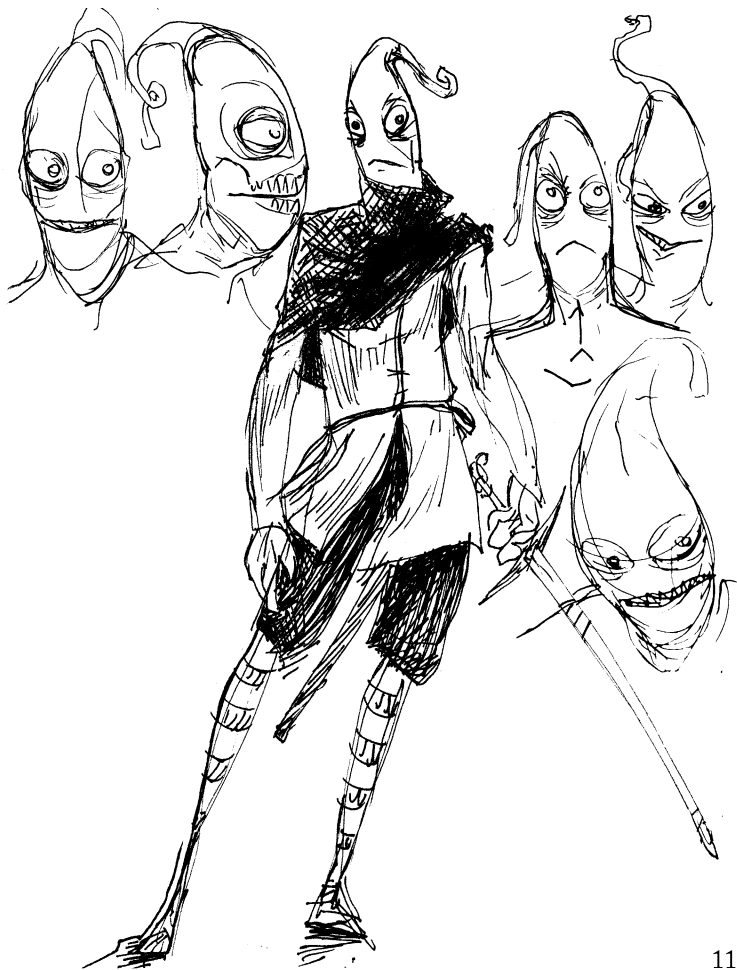


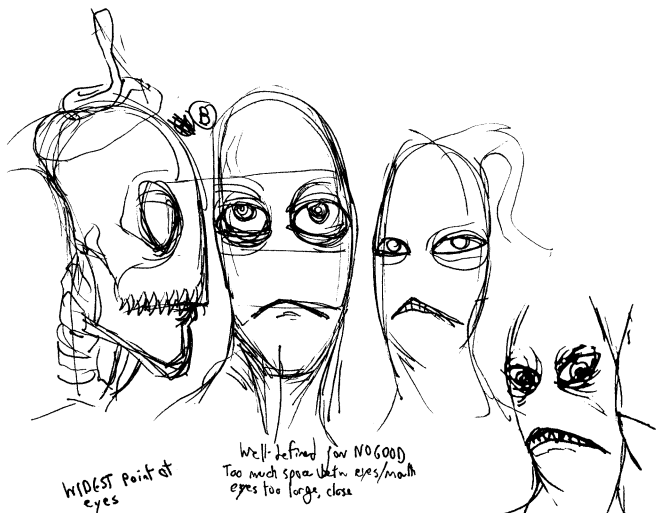


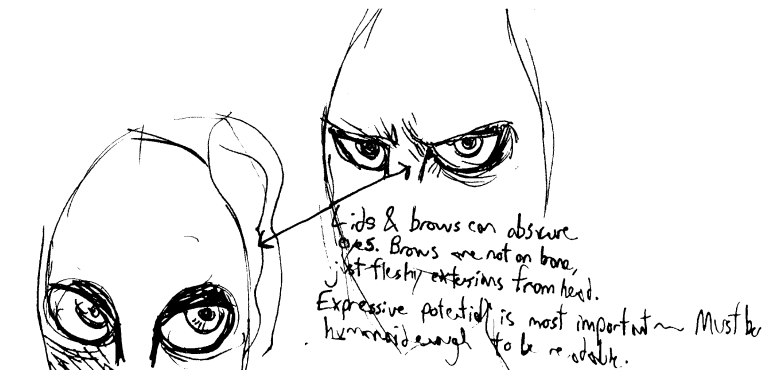












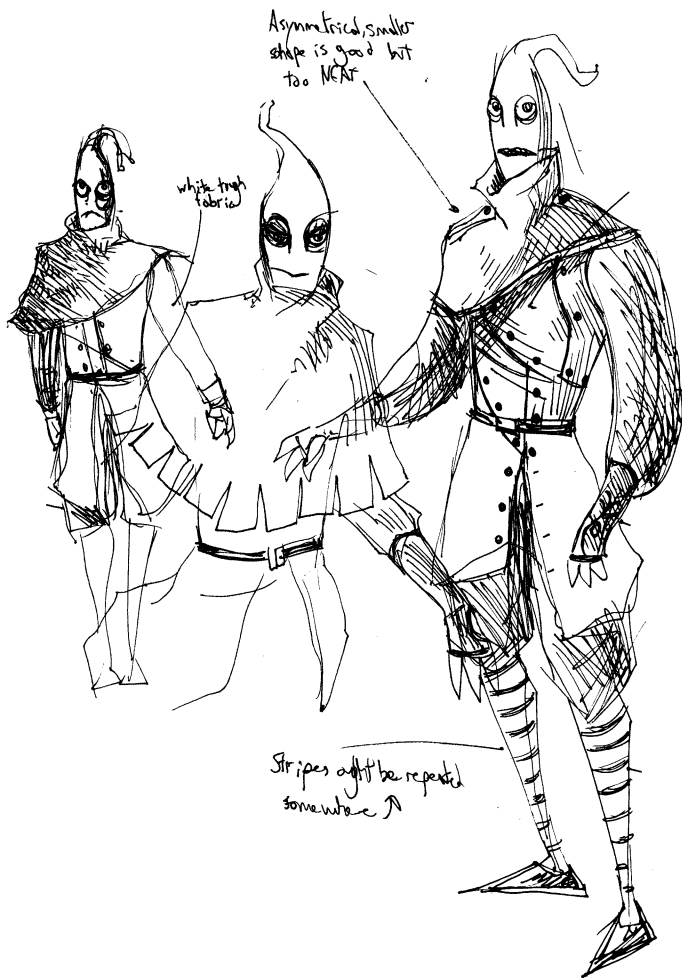
eyes lidded in
 black w/ central
 extensions

Mouth often has
 point in middle,
 up or down

No visible
 chin





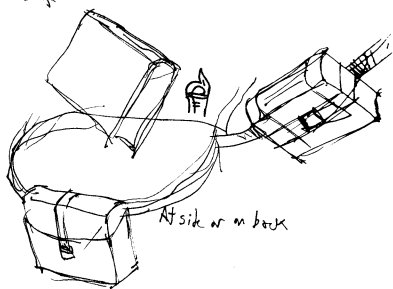






Nerdy metrosexual bard/jester/fencer
Masks social problems with theatrics





Ideally, two layers of fabric.
A solid dark layer and a
lighter layer w/ slits cut





NOTES

Koark is the main character of *Order of Tales*, and I started thinking about the character and the story at the same time. Both were modified to fit the other. Koark's final design is something I'm really pleased with, and which I think suggests a lot of his story up to the beginning of *Order of Tales*. There is a rough, dark, melodramatic slant in his costume, which is offset by some remnants of his more cheerful childhood clothing.

PAGE 3. These are the first drawings of Koark. Working out name and general appearance quickly.

PAGE 4. I wanted him to be mostly covered in heavy, dark clothing. His hat was originally a lamp, or something. The idea of a book, and his role as a writer or storyteller, were in my head from the start.

PAGES 5 - 6. Trying to work out less cumbersome clothing arrangement, while still preserving the high collar and torso covering.

PAGE 7. Pretty much fully-developed first design...

PAGE 8. ...but I decided he should have a mouth, and the long coat was too pompous.

PAGE 9. Thinking about his sword. Costume a little closer to the final.

PAGE 10. Really did not like that head shape. Thought his book might look better black, if the comic is in black and white.

PAGES 11 - 12. Endless head-shape experimenting. The chin was a bad idea; these are all way too heavily-worked. Really weird to look at these.

PAGE 13. Roughly the final eye configuration. I was really happy with this... The lines coming down towards the middle of his face tie the face together but aren't as completely anthropomorphic as a nose.

PAGE 14. Further poncho/collar work. I thought it was important. These are taken from a book of old engravings of period clothing.

PAGE 15. Big puffy sleeves to offset the melodrama of the whole collar-thing, I think. Playing with asymmetry.

PAGE 16. I had known for a while that the lightbulb-hat wasn't going to work; here is something better.

PAGE 17. Based on a fencer's jacket, with an extra covering for the sword-hand. Also it has the asymmetry I like. Playing with belt ornamentation that is just way too tiny to ever appear in the comic.

PAGES 18 - 19. Big drawing working out pretty much everything I was unhappy with.

PAGES 20 - 21. Model sheet, which I've deviated from slightly in the comic. Koark and Potok.

Notes from 2015:

This book was originally published in a hand-bound edition in 2009. The cover was green cardstock, with a original drawing of Koark in the blank space. The book was bound with waxed linen and small green glass beads.

Order of Tales and other comics can be read online at rice-boy.com