

I don't want to give up on you, Alberta

We've lost some dreams, but we can't lose hope.

BY SAM HESTER
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IT'S JANUARY,
COVID DAY
THREE HUNDRED &
FORTY-SOMETHING.



DARK DAYS
BEHIND,
DARK DAYS
AHEAD.

THE NIGHT BEFORE JOE
BIDEN'S INAUGURATION,
I LISTENED TO BOB
DYLAN'S (LONG!) POEM,
**"LAST THOUGHTS
ON WOODY GUTHRIE"**

"YOU NEED SOMETHING SPECIAL, ALL RIGHT.
YOU NEED SOMETHING SPECIAL TO GIVE
YOU **HOPE**"



WHEN i WAS
YOUNGER,
i FELT SO
HOPEFUL!

MAYBE i WAS
JUST DUMB?!

i REMEMBER ALL THE ROAD TRIPS
i TOOK ... AND HOW THE **OPEN ROAD**
LOOKED TO ME, BACK THEN ...





ALL THIS KNOWLEDGE & EXPERIENCE
SHOULD BE **EMPOWERING**...
RIGHT??



HOW COME IT MAKES ME FEEL LIKE
I JUST SEE THE **PROBLEMS**?

I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE FEELING
PESSIMISTIC.



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
POLITICAL SCIENTIST
JARED WESLEY

"OVER HALF OF
ALBERTANS FEEL LIKE
THE PROVINCE'S **BEST**
DAYS ARE BEHIND IT."

↑
SPEAKING ABOUT HIS
RESEARCH FOR A CBC
CALGARY ARTICLE
(NOV. 3RD 2020)

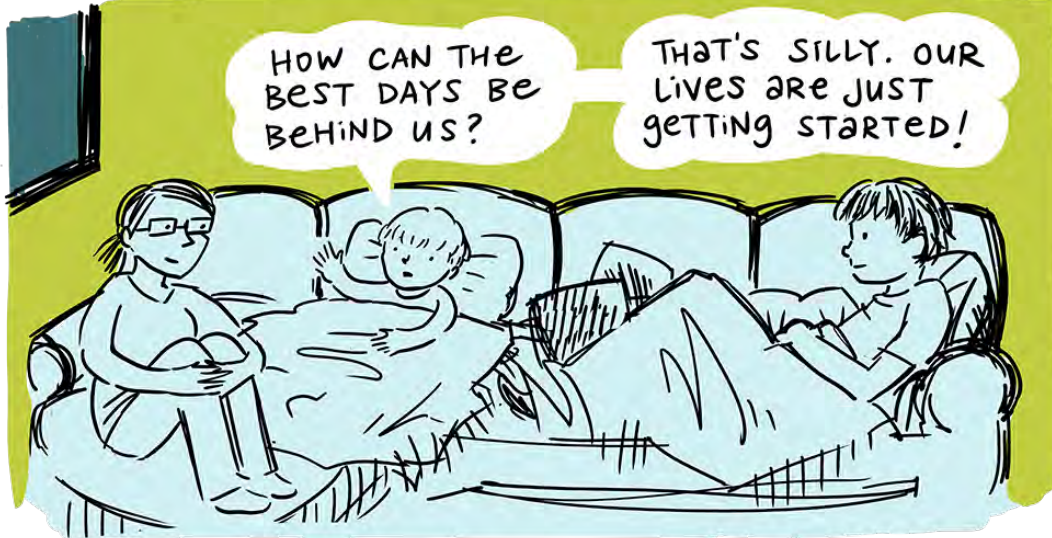


i DON'T KNOW, BUT i CAN TELL YOU THIS...
i KNOW i CAN'T WALK FORWARDS
if i'M LOOKING BACKWARDS.



HOW CAN THE
BEST DAYS BE
BEHIND US?

THAT'S SILLY. OUR
LIVES ARE JUST
GETTING STARTED!







Sam Hester is a Calgary-based graphic recorder and longtime indie comics creator.