

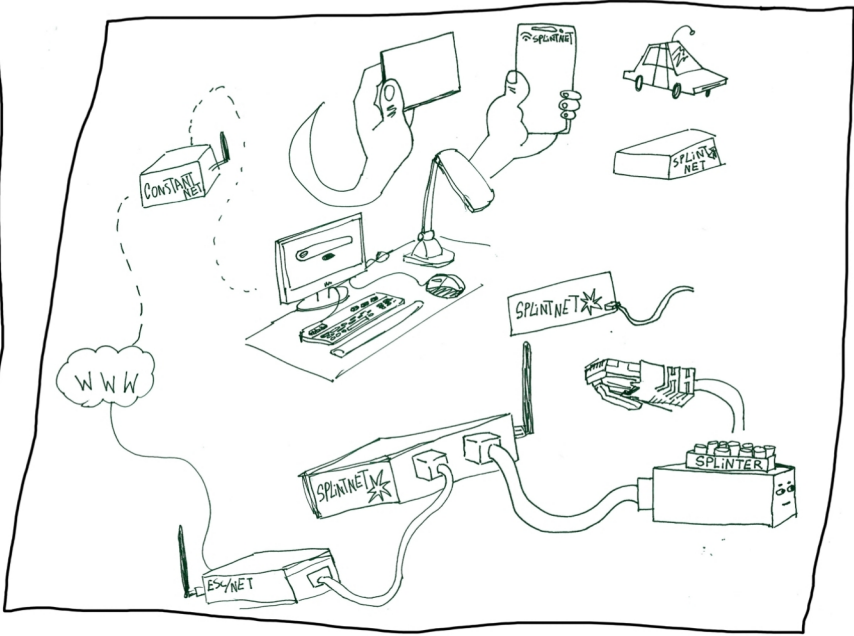
## CONTEXT

CONSTANT IS AN ART ASSOCIATION THAT ORGANISES EXPERIMENTAL SITUATIONS OF COLLECTIVE CREATION LEARNING FROM FEMINISM(S) AND FREE SOFTWARE COMMUNITIES

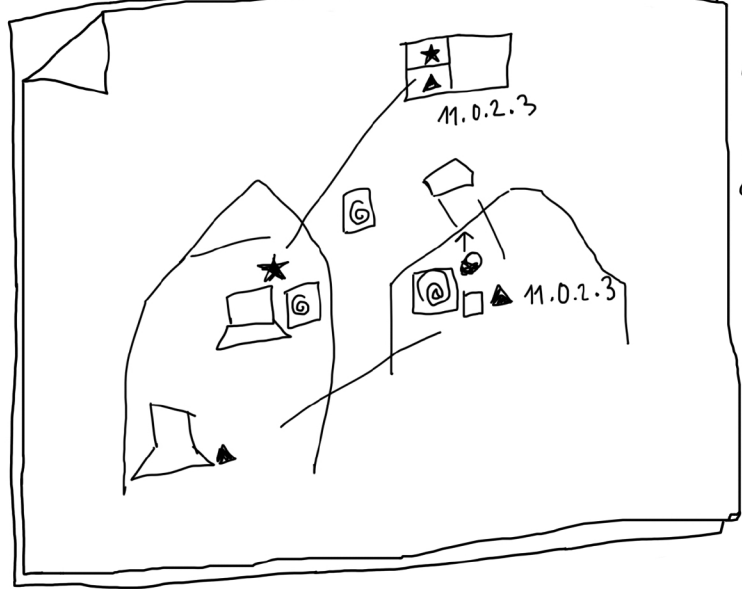
TO SUPPORT THESE SITUATIONS, CONSTANT USES SPLINTER AS A TOOL, A LOCAL SERVER TO PUT TOGETHER NOTES AND MATERIALS ON THE SPOT, WITHOUT RELYING ON CLOUDS AND BIG TECH CORPORATIONS.

FINDING THEMSELVES IN DIFFICULTY WHEN SHARING INSIGHTS INTO THE TECHNICAL COMPLEXITIES THAT MAKE SPLINTER POSSIBLE, BUT STUBBORNLY DEDICATED TO DEMISTIFY THE TECHNOLOGIES WE USE TOGETHER, AT CONSTANT THEY DECIDED TO PRODUCE A COMIC THAT WILL TOTALLY 'SPLAIN IT ALL...

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SHOW YOU SOME SNIPPETS OF US TRYING TO VISUALIZE HOW SPLINTER WORKS.

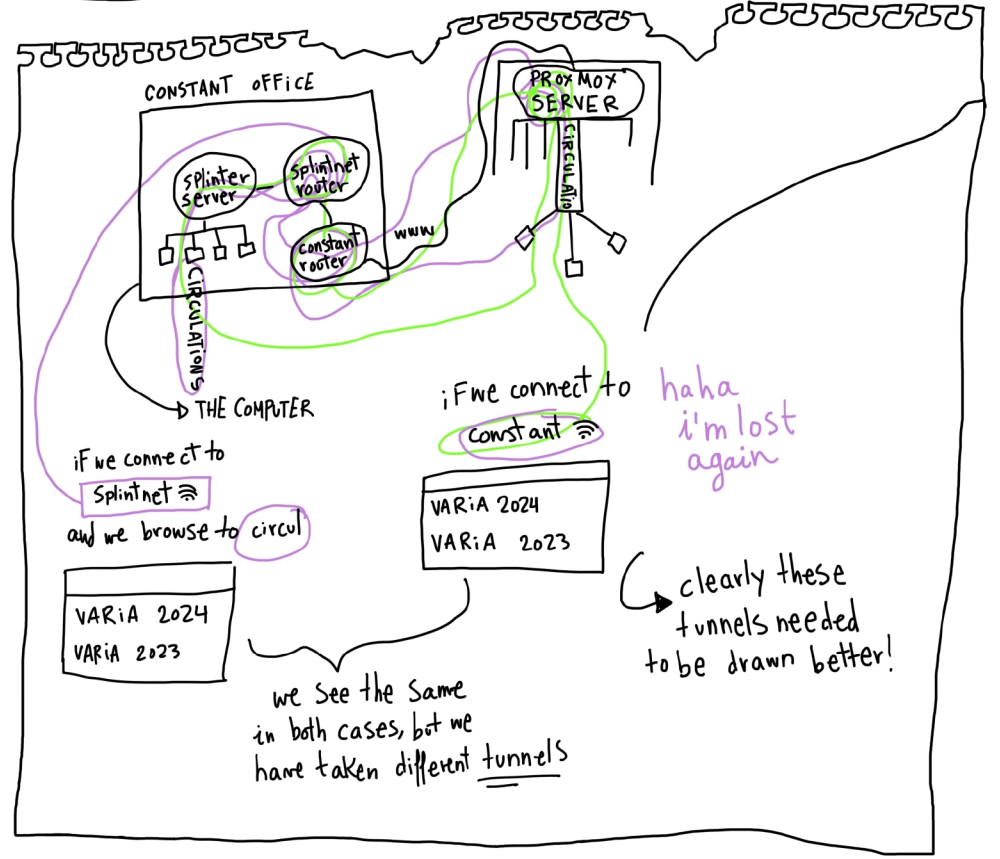
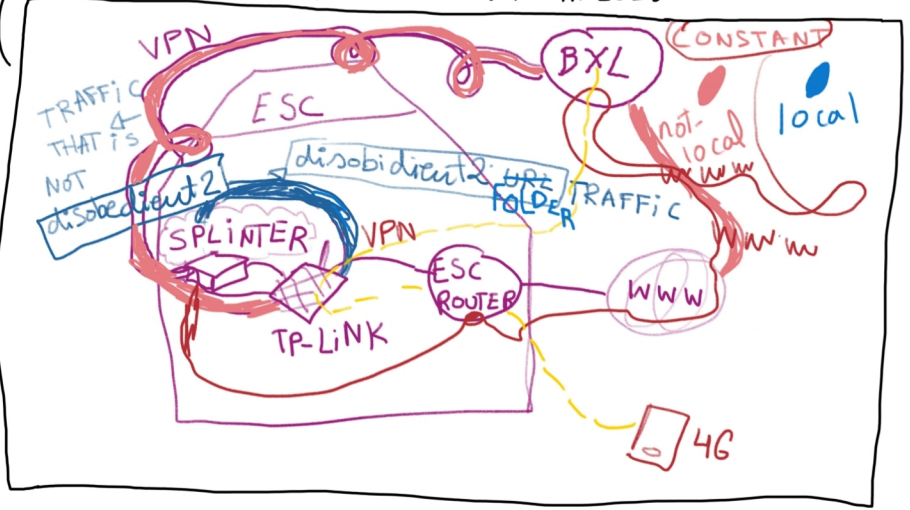


WE TRIED TO SIMPLIFY THE ELEMENTS INTO A NICE DRAWING...



WE EVEN HAD OTHER COLLEAGUES TRY A MORE CRYPTIC APPROACH :D

OUR FIRST ATTEMPT OF MAKING A LIVE DIAGRAM DURING A WORKSESSION IN GRAZ IN 2023



So, To MAKE IT Nice, HERE STARTS THE COMIC-LIKE WAY OF UNDERSTANDING SPLINTER...

HAVE YOU MET SPLINTER?

HMM, I HEARD ABOUT IT BUT I DON'T GET IT...

LIKE, DOES IT HURT? CAN WE TOUCH IT? DO YOU KNOW? IS IT EDIBLE? WHAT IS IT MADE OF?

I THINK I CAN EXPLAIN. WE CAME UP WITH SOME SCENARIOS THAT CAN HELP, BUT FIRST, LET'S LOOK AT THE INFRASTRUCTURE THAT MAKES IT POSSIBLE

...HOWEVER, PART OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE INVOLVED, SITS OUTSIDE OF CONSTANT...

SPLINTER, two little boxes and a bunch of cables standing somewhere close to a power plug...

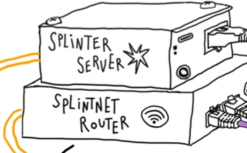
AT CONSTANT OFFICE

LOCAL NETWORK

INTERNET CONNECTION (WWW)

SPLINTER Local moving Server

This router connects Splinter to the internet that the Space is subscribed to.

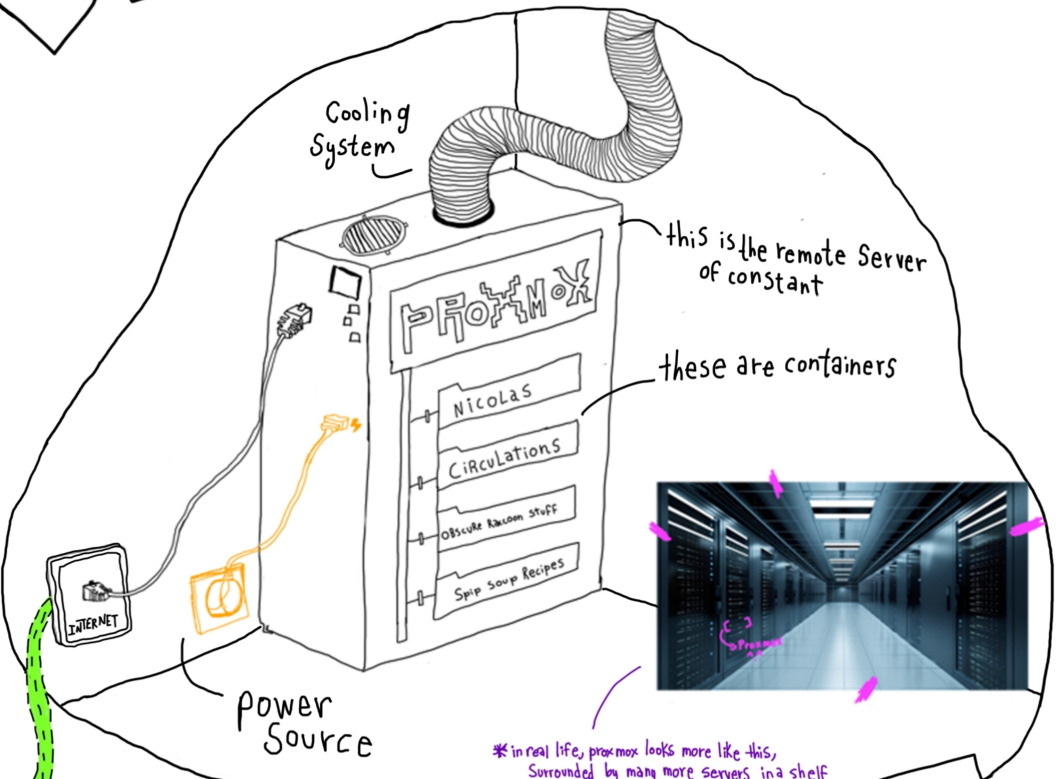


Local wifi network, you can connect to it if you find yourself close to it.

This connects the internet of the space to the world wide web

Let's not forget that all devices are connected to a power source

...SOMEWHERE IN THE BRUSSELS REGION, CONSTANT HAS A SERVER...



\*in real life, proximax looks more like this, surrounded by many more servers in a shelf

Data center, BE

Via "the internet" SPLINTER is always in close communication with circulations. One of the containers running inside Constant's server.

WHO MANAGES THESE CONTAINERS?

WELL... LET'S CALL THEM PROXIMOX FOR NOW...

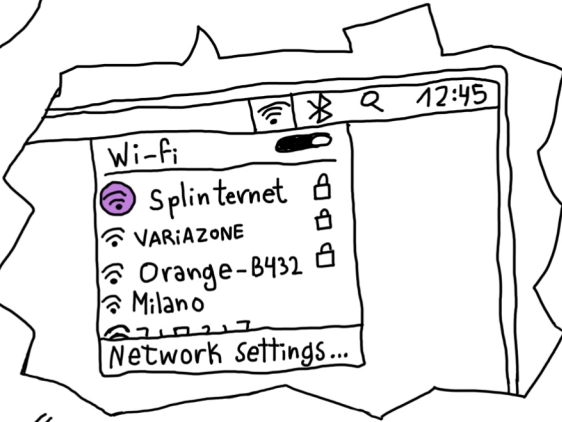


OK, LOOK AT HOW WE ACTUALLY USE SPLINTER. IN THIS CASE, CONSTANT IS HOSTING A SESSION AT VARIA\*

AH! I KNOW VARIA, IT IS A SPACE FOR DEVELOPING COLLECTIVE APPROACHES TO EVERYDAY TECHNOLOGIES!

COOL!

**DURING THE SESSION...**  
THE PARTICIPANTS ARE ASKED TO USE SPLINTER TO DOCUMENT THEIR PROCESS, TAKE NOTES TOGETHER, UPLOAD MEDIA, ETC.



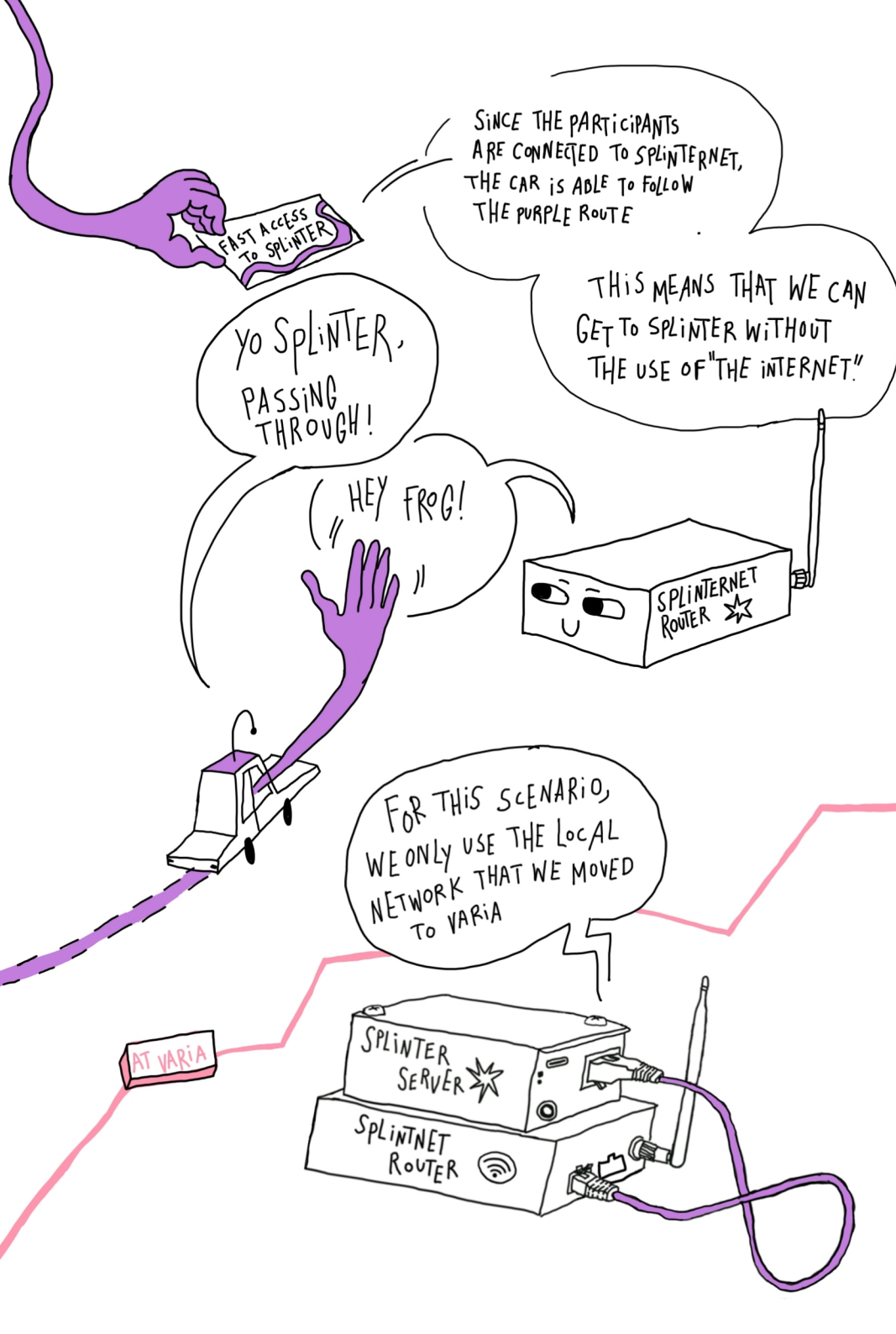
TO BE ABLE TO ACCESS SPLINTER, THEY CAN CONNECT TO THE LOCAL NETWORK WE HAVE SET UP FOR SPLINTER

THEN, TO ACCESS THE SPLINTER WEBSITE, VIA THE WEB, THEY TRY TO GET TO CIRCULATIONS



<https://circulations.org/varia-sesh>

ONCE THEY HIT ENTER, A REQUEST GETS SENT THROUGH THE NETWORK TO GET THE WEB PAGE

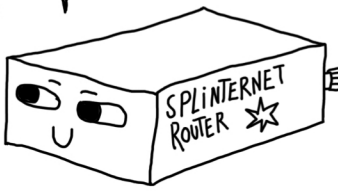


SINCE THE PARTICIPANTS ARE CONNECTED TO SPLINTERNET, THE CAR IS ABLE TO FOLLOW THE PURPLE ROUTE

THIS MEANS THAT WE CAN GET TO SPLINTER WITHOUT THE USE OF "THE INTERNET!"

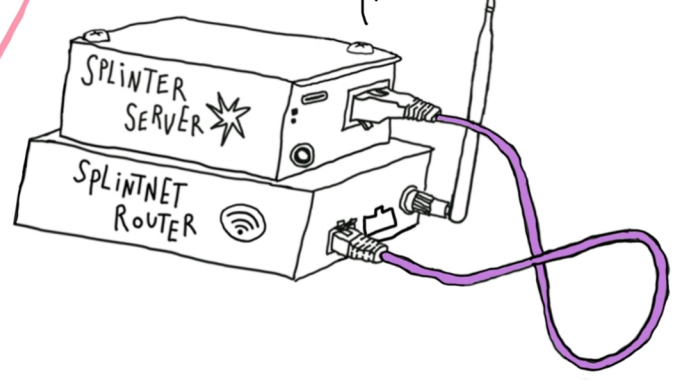
YO SPLINTER, PASSING THROUGH!

HEY FROG!



FOR THIS SCENARIO, WE ONLY USE THE LOCAL NETWORK THAT WE MOVED TO VARIA

AT VARIA





LATER AT HOME...

...AKO WANTS TO UPLOAD A PHOTO ON SPLINTER THAT THEY FORGOT TO UPLOAD...

SINCE SPLINTER IS STILL CONNECTED AT VARIA, THEY CAN STILL DO SO THANK TO OUR + DNS DETOUR MAGIC +

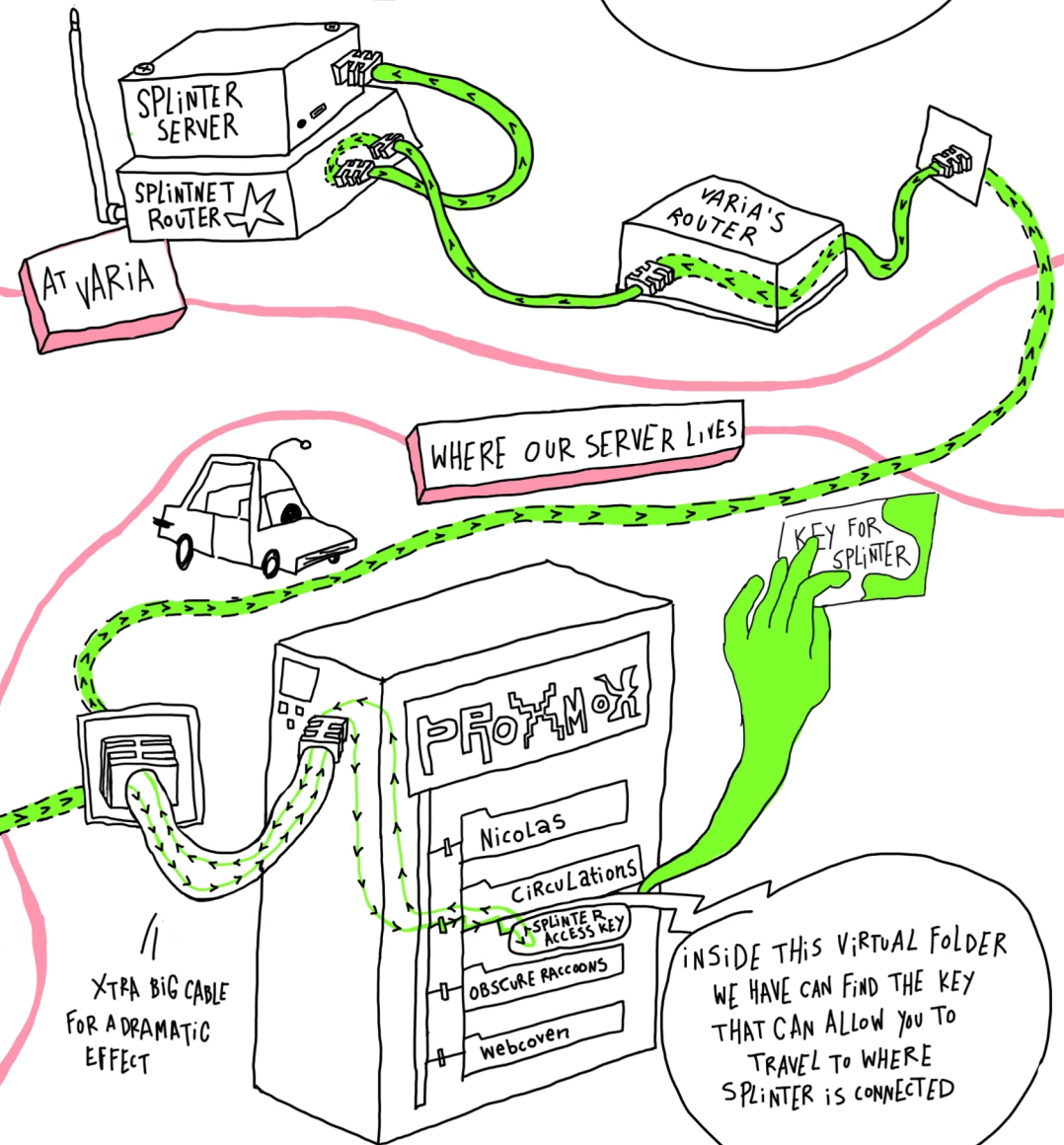
NOTICE HOW ON THEIR LAPTOP, THEY ARE CONNECTED TO THEIR OWN WIFI THAT IS NOT SPLINTER

HMM... GUESS THIS SHOULD WORK?

IN THIS CASE, AKO CAN STILL ACCESS SPLINTER VIA THE SAME URL. BUT THE ROUTE THAT THE FROG TAKES IS MORE COMPLICATED AND LONG.

HERE IS WHERE THE COMPLEXITY GROWS, SPLINTER IS NOT PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE VIA THE INTERNET. HOWEVER, WE HAVE STORED A SPECIAL KEY\* THAT ALLOWS US TO GET TO IT VIA CONSTANT'S SERVER WHICH IS CONNECTED TO THE INTERNET

THE ROAD TO GET TO SPLINTER IS LONGER AND REQUIRES THE FROG TO TRAVEL THROUGH MANY MORE ELEMENTS TO GET TO SPLINTER



\*THIS KEY IS ACTUALLY A MAGIC DNS DETOUR MADE POSSIBLE WITH TINC



Some more context if you will ©  
(from imane)

This little comic would not have happened if Martino and Wendy didn't fully endorse my spirals so,

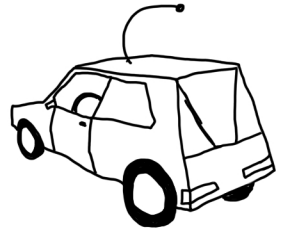
♥ Thank you ♥

No fonts were used as everything has been written with a wacom tablet; bought in 2013

I used Krita to digitize the drawings  
I used Scribus (with pain) to make the spreads and pdf.

I used a script that Martino wrote with pdffjam and other funky stuff to rearrange the pages into a booklet.

Text was written, re-written and looked at many times with Martino and Wendy



Thank you Michael for the little sketches and brainstorm!

and a final thank you to constant for financial support ☆

