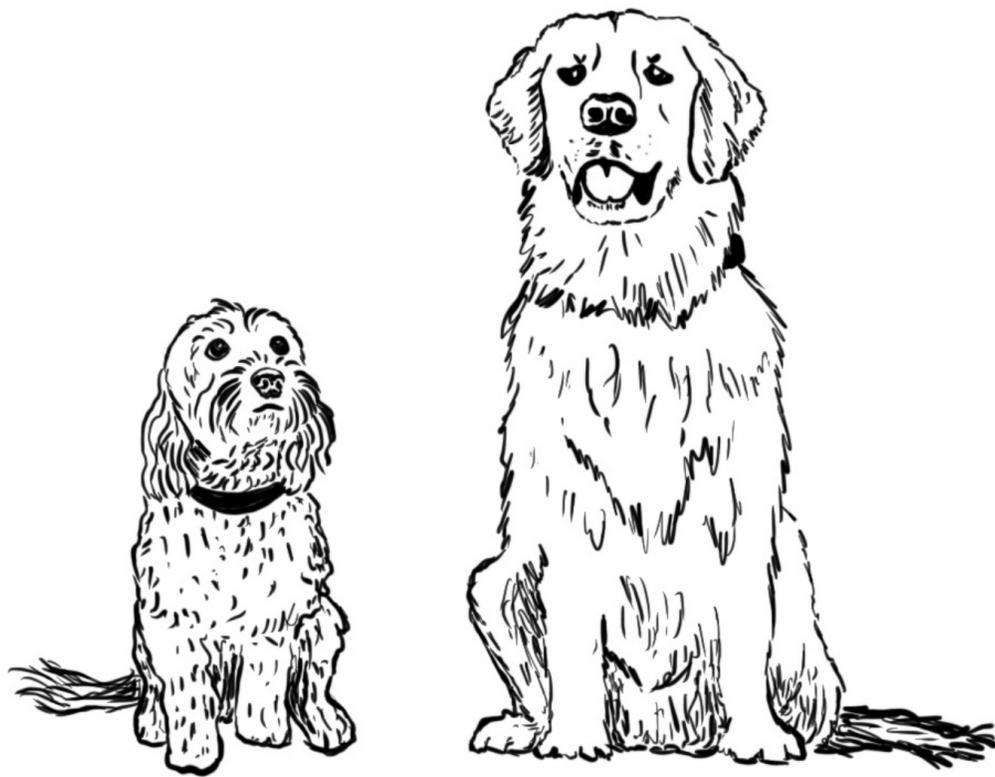


Dog' xploding

A Short Film



- The Idea -



Two companionable dogs have a discussion as they stare into the gathering night beyond the kitchen door. Turns out there's a good reason why dogs don't like fireworks.

- Script -

Dog' xploding

by

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v1.0 - fit for human consumption

v1.1 - post-Steve edit

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FADE IN:

INT. FAMILY HOME - NIGHT

Two DOGS sit side by side looking through glass doors at the garden. Inside is well lit. Outside is blackness.

BEAR is a small cute sort of female dog. A little nervy and quick in movements.

TEXAS is a large dignified sort of male dog. Stronger looking, calm and slow moving.

(Every now and then, we see glimpses of their human OWNER calmly busying around in the background.)

Bear makes fidgety, anxious movements.

BEAR
I'm so worried.

Texas regards her calmly.

TEXAS
No worries.

BEAR
So worried.

TEXAS
No worries.

BEAR
(with emphasis)
So worried.

Texas rolls his eyes and sighs.

TEXAS
Why worry?

BEAR
I'm so scared. Shaking.

TEXAS
Scared?

BEAR
Shaking.

TEXAS
You are shaking.

BEAR
Shaking.

TEXAS

What's troubling you, little dog?

BEAR

I know what tonight is.

Texas regards Bear. Both dogs sit quietly for a moment, facing out towards the garden.

Outside, a firework goes BOOM CRACKLE CRACKLE.

Both dogs are startled.

BEAR

(terribly frightened)

It's dogs - 'xploding.

TEXAS

(worried now)

Dogs... 'xploding?

Another bang outside.

TEXAS

(suddenly gets it)

Dog 'xplodin' !!?!?!??

BEAR

That's what happens, big dog.

MONTAGE - FIREWORKS IN THE NIGHT SKY

Each firework gets a comment from Bear.

A) A small rocket squeals into the sky and explodes with a single pop.

BEAR

That was a dachshund.

B) Three screamers fly up, with three bangs and sparkles.

BEAR

Three... terriers.

C) Two rockets fly high, followed by two huge bangs and a shower of golden sparkles.

BEAR

(mournfully)

A pair of labradoodles.

END MONTAGE

Bear and Texas are huddled up together. One or both of them are shaking with fright.

TEXAS
 (anxious)
 I gotta pee.

BEAR
 No!

TEXAS
 Bursting.

BEAR
 Do it on the mat. Please!

Texas starts to grope at the door handle, signing to his owners that he wants to go out.

TEXAS
 Too... Well... Trained.

The Owner unlocks the door and let's Texas out.

BEAR
 Nooooo!!!!

TEXAS
 When it's your time little dog...

Texas leaves. The door closes.

Bear is left sitting alone on the matt.

A single point of light rises into the night sky...

... Cut to Bear's face as she watches.

The single point of light goes up and up...

... Reflected in Bear's widening eyes.

A huge singular firework explodes in the sky.

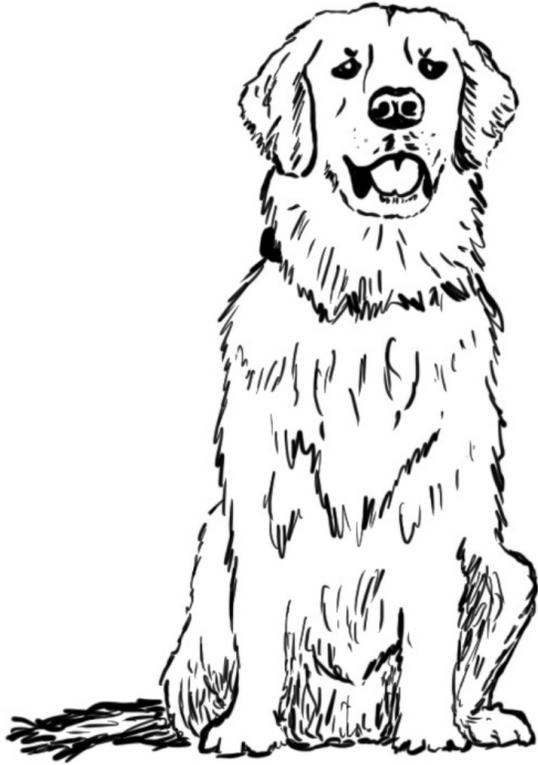
Kaaaa-boooooommmmm!!! Brr-appp br-app br-aappp.

THE END

Production Notes



- Cast -



Texas

A dignified (if slightly simple) larger male dog.

Relaxed, calm and slow moving, Texas is generally unworried, taking life in his easy-going stride...

... Until Bear startles him with revelations about fireworks, making him as anxious as her.

Preferred breed: Golden Retriever or similar

Bear

A small, cuddly female dog.

Bear is a little nervy. Perhaps she thinks too much. Or at least, she worries too much. When she's really worried, she shakes and shivers all over.

She's a good companion to Texas. The brains of the operation.

Preferred breed: Cockapoo or similar

Notes on dog handling

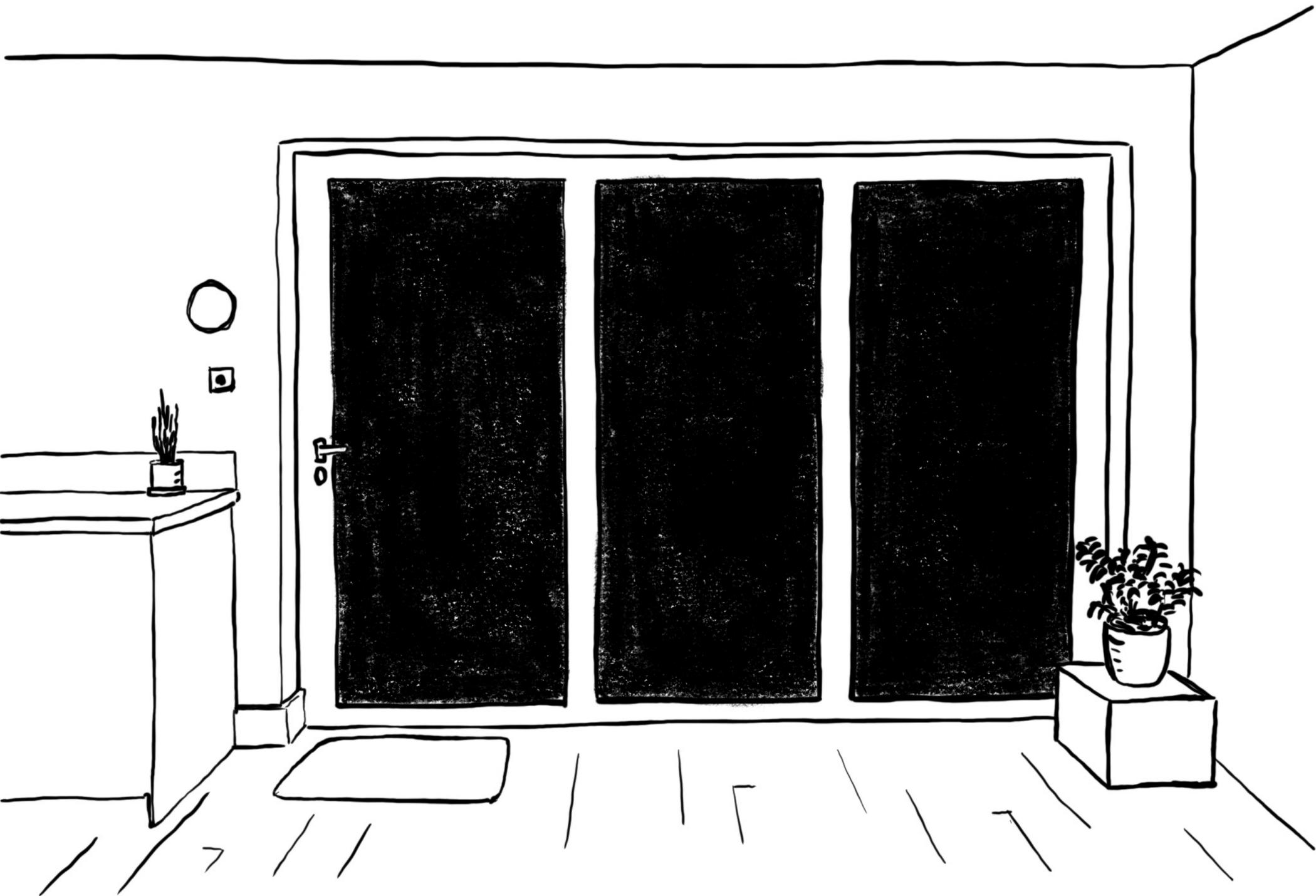
We will use a handler and/or owner to help direct and manage the dogs.

Our two dogs will mostly need to sit calmly side by side while we film around them. Ideally we would use dogs that are comfortable and familiar with each other, as we will encourage them to look at each other.

They will need to give basic reactions to some simple stimuli (e.g. calls, knocks, etc.), in order for us to capture some interesting moments. We may also need to lightly startle them a few times, to get mild but sudden reactions.

Our film does not require lip-syncing or any complicated techniques. When the dogs 'speak' (with human voices), it will be as if they communicate by telepathy.

- Location -



Sole location: large modern kitchen

Our location is a nice, modern kitchen with large full length glass doors looking out to darkness beyond - preferably at least two panels of glass (e.g. bifold doors). The dogs will spend most of their screen time sat in front of the glass doors, gazing out at whatever's beyond.

Our main focus will be the glass doors. Other than that, we want a simple uncluttered environment. We may need to temporarily darken the glass to ensure the exterior is not visible.

Time of filming: after dark

We will film from dusk onwards for one (or possibly two) evening sessions. Our intention is to limit filming time to four hours per session, with a break.

There will be no fireworks or other distractions. These will be added later, as VFX.

- Filming Equipment & Technology -



Main camera

Panasonic EVA1

Cinematic EF-mount prime lens set

Helix steadicam + tripods

Filmed in Apple ProRes RAW 10-bit Log-encoded 4K up to 48 fps (frame rate at multiples of 24)

Our aim is to deliver 2k (or 4k) finished output.



VFX & stock footage

Some stock footage for fireworks sequences.

There will be no fireworks during main filming. We will use VFX to incorporate fireworks into our shots during post production.

There will be some light effects used during filming to emulate the glow of fireworks reflected on the dogs' faces.

Storyboard



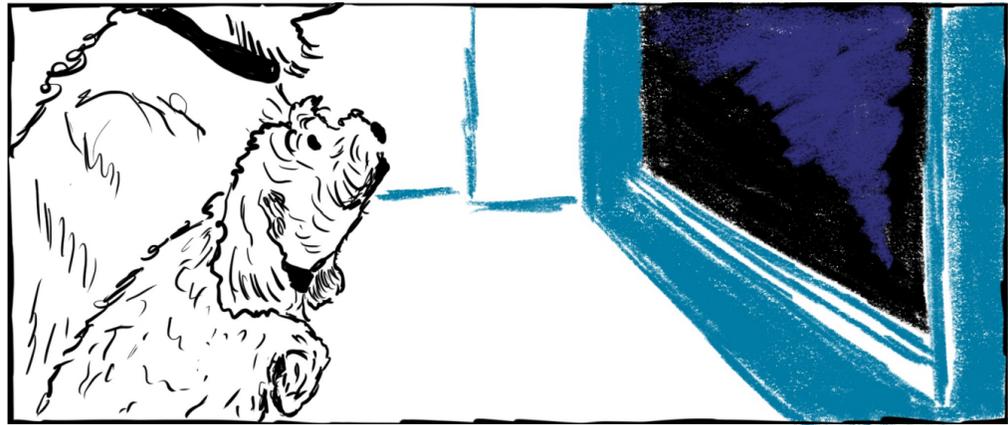
- Storyboard -

1.



Two dogs look through glass doors into the black night.

2.



"I'm so worried," Bear tells Texas.
"No worries," says Texas.

3.



Bear is shaking with fear.
She says, "I know what tonight is."

4.



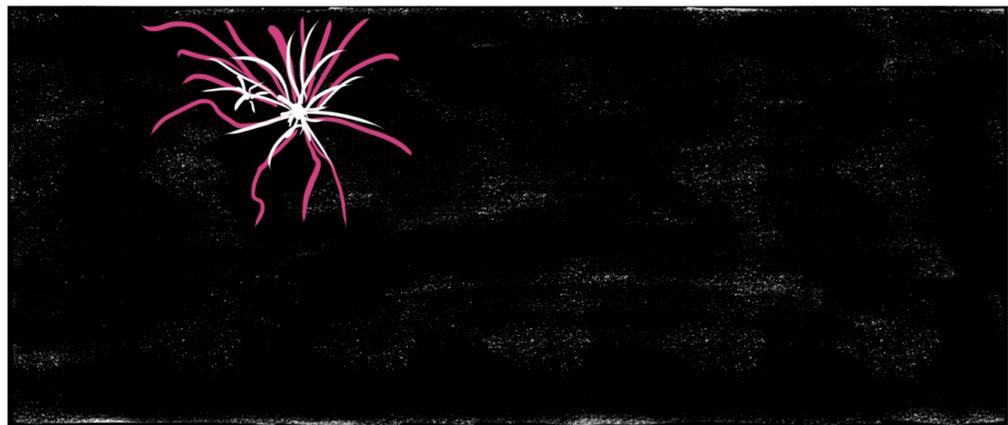
Bear tells Texas what the noises mean:
"It's dogs - 'xploding."

5.



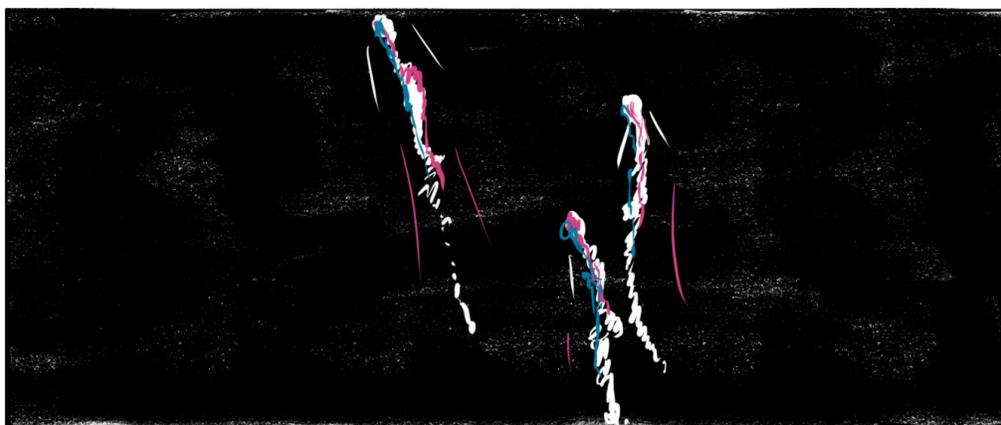
Texas suddenly gets it.
"Dog'xplodin'!!!!!!?"

6.



Bear says, "That was a dachshund."

7.



"Three... terriers."

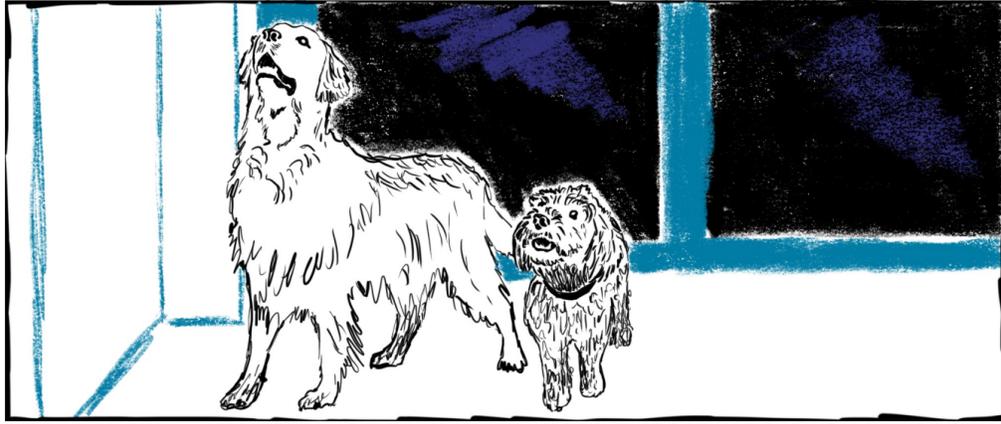
8.



"A pair of labradoodles."

- Storyboard -

9.



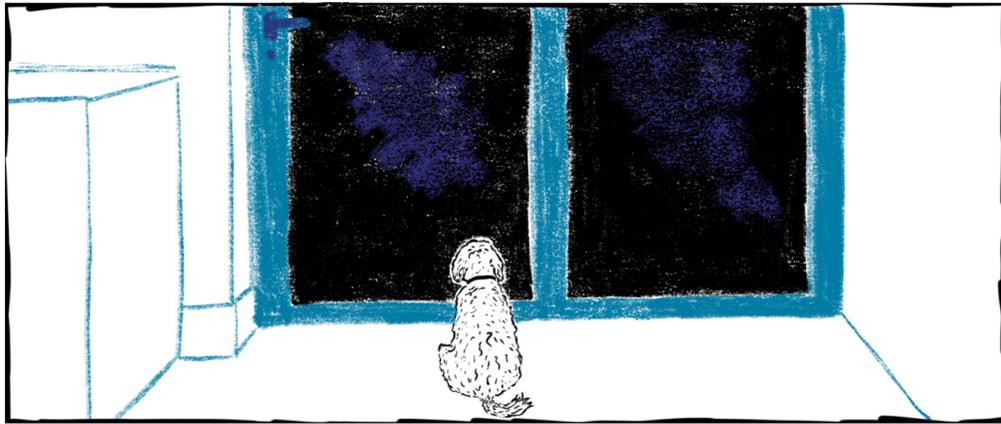
Now Texas is scared as Bear. "I gotta pee," he says.

10.



"No! Do it on the mat," pleads Bear. But Texas can't. "Too... Well... Trained." Out he goes.

11.



Bear is all alone.

12.



A huge singular firework explodes in the sky. Kaaaa-boooooommm!!!

THE END