

1st movement

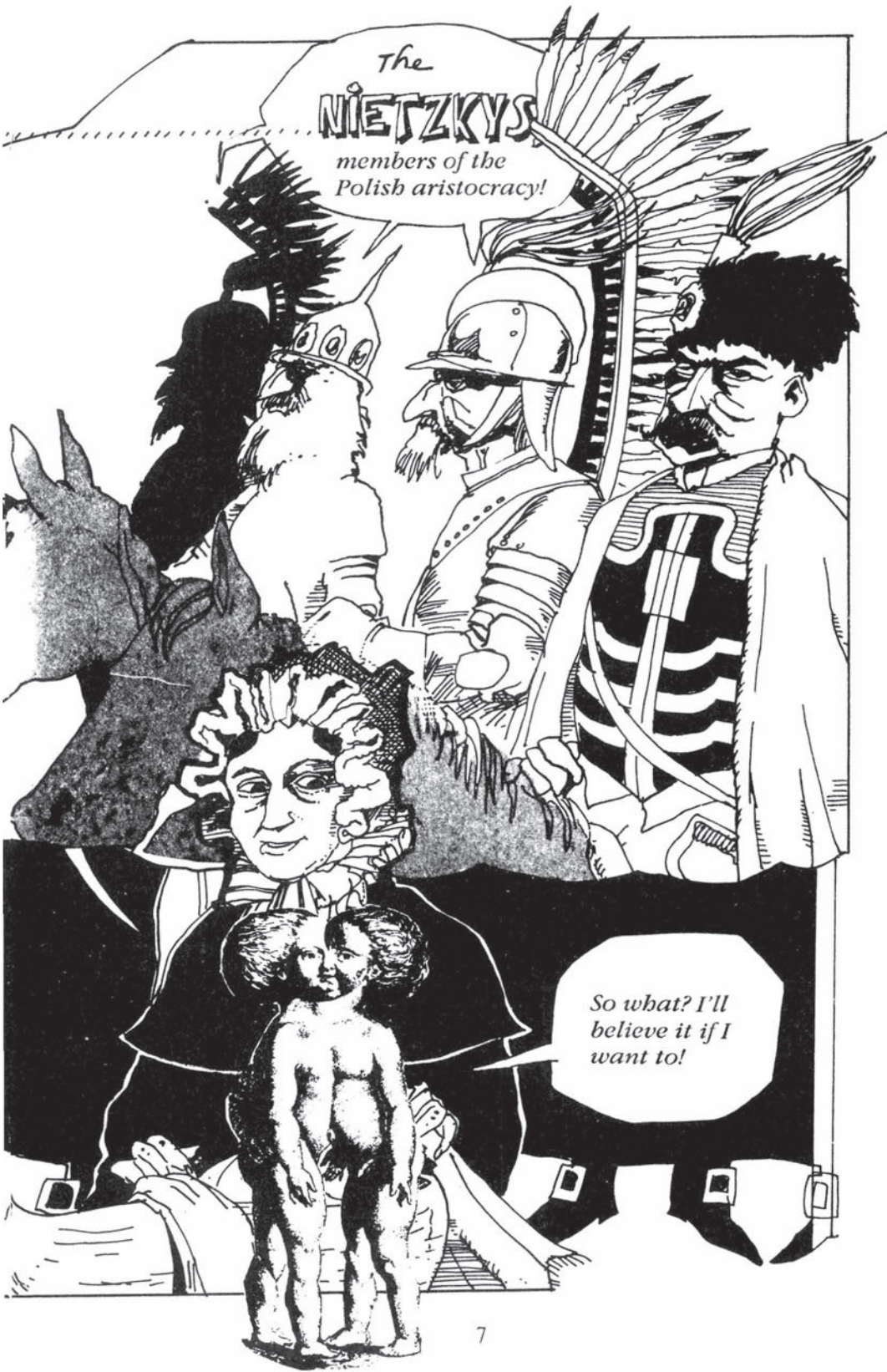


Friedrich Nietzsche was born in Röcken near Leipzig in Saxony on 15 October 1844.

If we are to believe his grandmother, the Nietzsches were descended from . . .



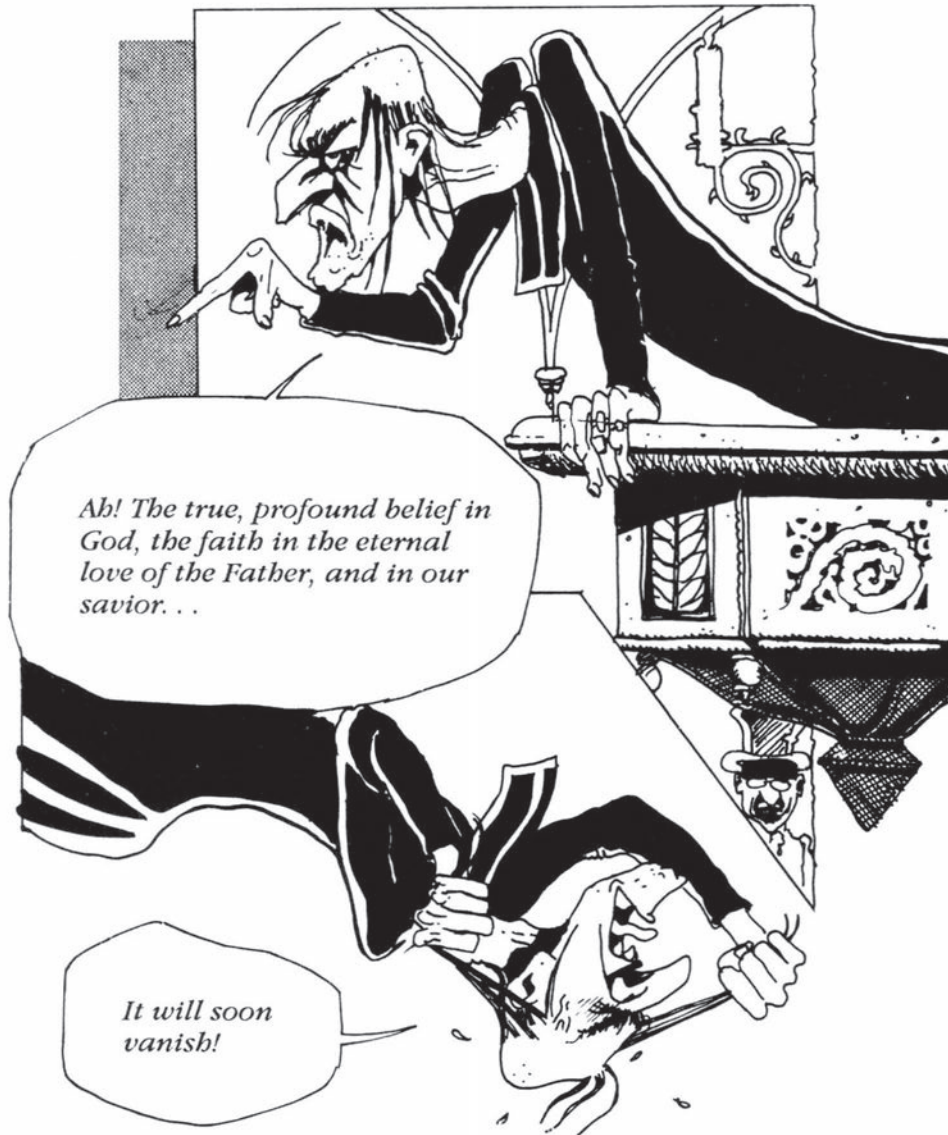
What we *do* know is that five generations of Nietzsche's family produced 20 clergymen!



The
NIETZKYS
members of the
Polish aristocracy!

So what? I'll
believe it if I
want to!

His paternal grandfather, Friedrich August Ludwig (1756–1826), was an outstanding preacher . . .



In 1796 Nietzsche's grandfather was granted an honorary doctorate by the University of Königsberg for his defence of Christianity (*Gamaliel*), written in an attempt to calm the spiritual unrest caused by the French Revolution.

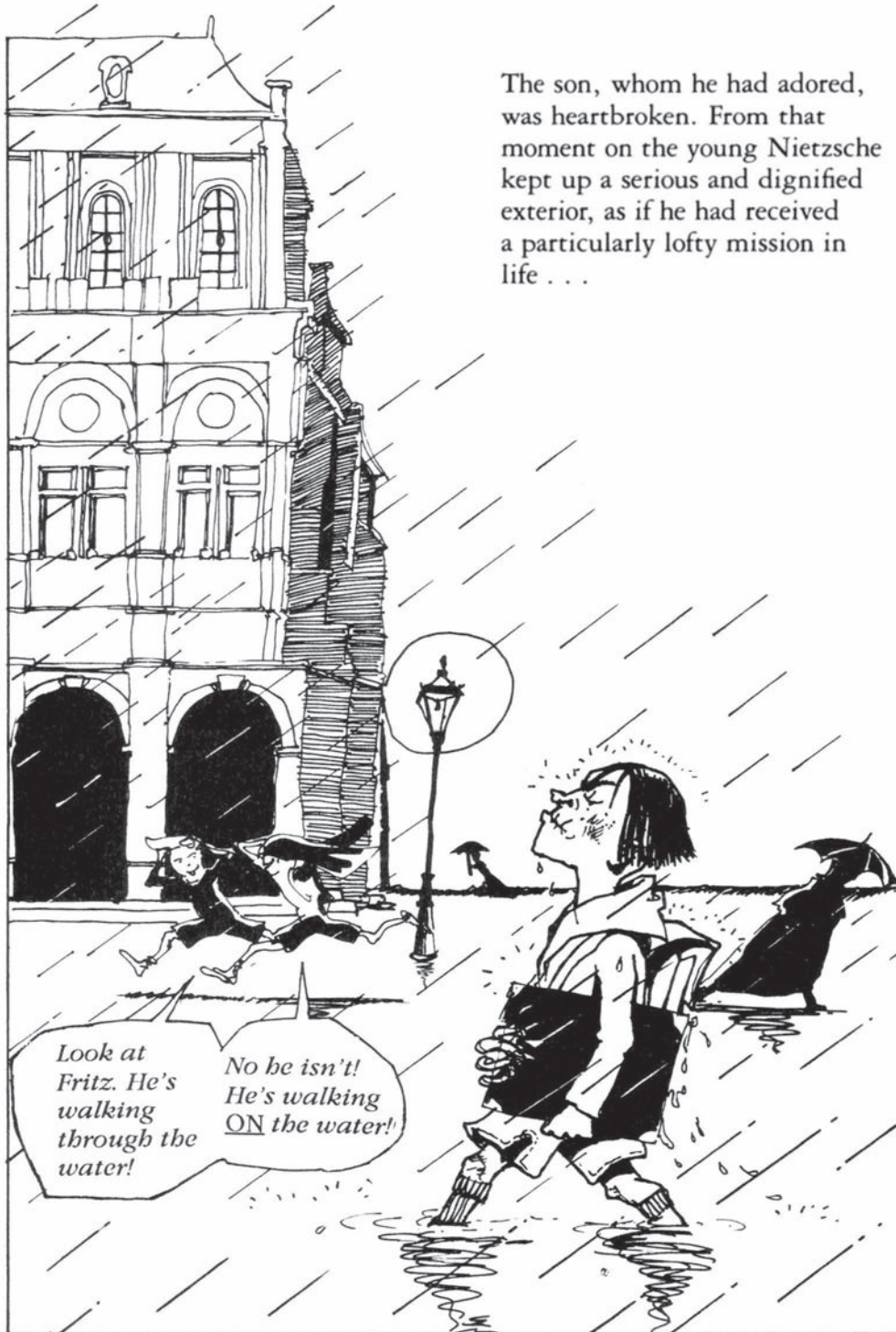


His father, Karl Ludwig (1813–1849), was also a pastor and tutor to the Duke of Saxony's daughters. His parish had been given to him by the King of Prussia, Friedrich Wilhelm IV himself. But, alas! . . .

My father was traumatized by the Revolution of 1848.

Was this trauma fatal? . . . He died a year later.

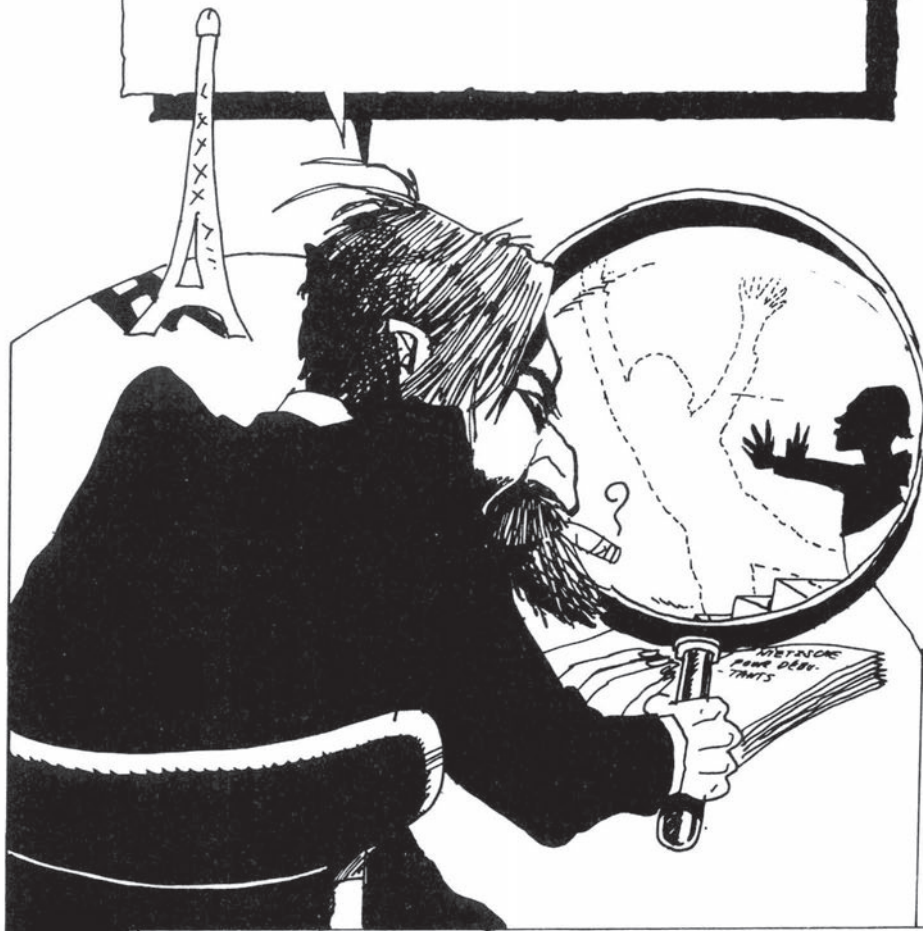
The son, whom he had adored, was heartbroken. From that moment on the young Nietzsche kept up a serious and dignified exterior, as if he had received a particularly lofty mission in life . . .



Look at Fritz. He's walking through the water!

No he isn't! He's walking ON the water!

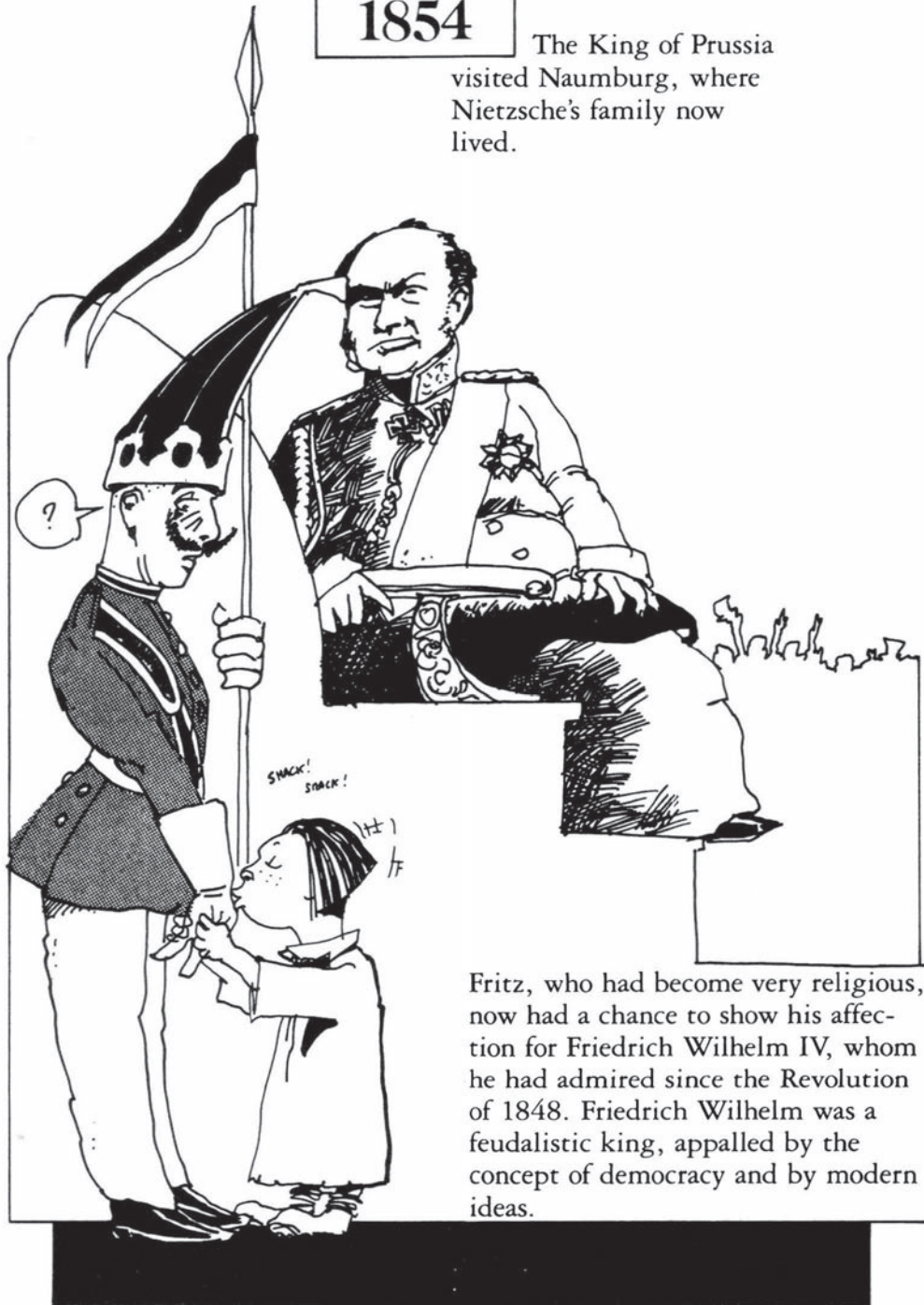
Hmm! Let me suggest a possible explanation for this behaviour! Wouldn't you say that the little boy may have felt somehow. . . responsible? Responsible for what? For the death of his father, of course.



N.B. This analysis is entirely the work of the author. It was not even dreamt of by Freud!

1854

The King of Prussia visited Naumburg, where Nietzsche's family now lived.

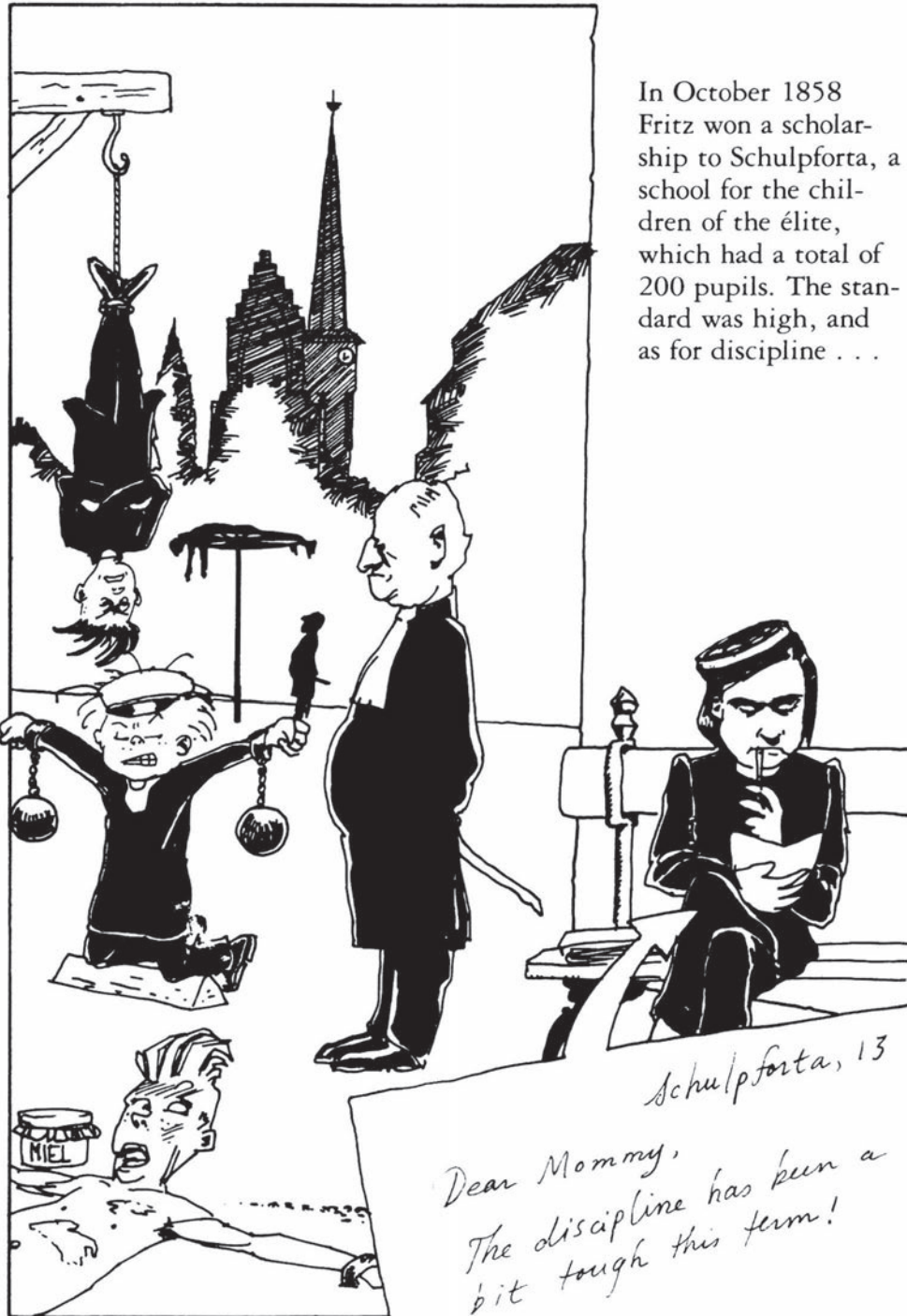


Fritz, who had become very religious, now had a chance to show his affection for Friedrich Wilhelm IV, whom he had admired since the Revolution of 1848. Friedrich Wilhelm was a feudalistic king, appalled by the concept of democracy and by modern ideas.

1855 The Tsar of Russia had plans for conquering Constantinople, the upshot of which was the Crimean War. The Russians were besieged at Sebastopol by the French and the English, who came to the aid of the Turks.

At college, Fritz developed a political consciousness.





In October 1858
Fritz won a scholarship to Schulpforta, a school for the children of the élite, which had a total of 200 pupils. The standard was high, and as for discipline . . .

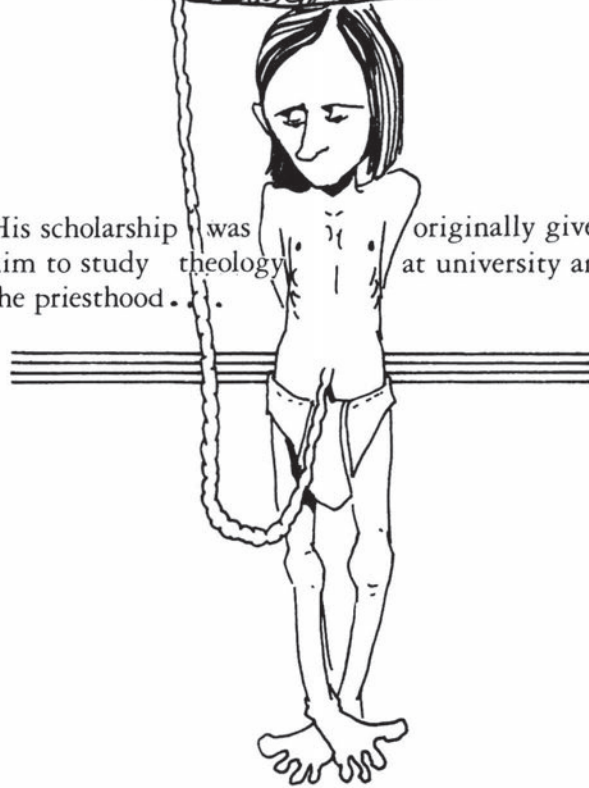
Schulpforta, 13

*Dear Mommy,
The discipline has been a
bit tough this term!*

The young Nietzsche worked hard and got good results . . .



His scholarship was originally given to him for
him to study theology at university and train for
the priesthood . . .



. . . after his school-
leaving exams.



Friedrich's certain to be a priest! . . .

Like his father and grandfather. . .

And my uncles!

It was the path chosen for him by his young, pretty and very religious mother, Franziska, an exceptionally strong-willed woman, and by his younger sister, Elisabeth, known as 'Lama.'