

`SCRIPT V.2 Feb 3, 2018

Title: Dr. Leary Was On To Something
Story by: Doug Latino
Art by: Gideon Kendall

Synopsis: A story about Doug's experience with eating mushrooms.

Panel 1

Story title panel, with writer and artist names.

Panel 2

CAP: This story take place about 15 years after Dr. Timothy Leary had become well known for popularizing LSD with the phrase, "turn on, tune in, drop out," and spreading the idea LSD and psilocybin heightened suggestibility,
IMAGE: Dr. Leary giving a peace sign.

Panel 3

CAP: Illicit drugs were everywhere and easy to get in my teens. Pot use peaked in 1979, the year I graduated from high school. I did my part to add to the stats.
IMAGE: Time magazine cover and/or Crumb's Mr. Natural.
(if you have another thought on the image here I'm open)

Panel 4

CAP: Gainesville, FL. was the wrong place to go to college. Off-campus apartment Supers had side hustles dealing drugs.
IMAGE: Shaggy Super, squinty eyes, with backpack standing at the open front door.
MR. FIXIT MAN: "Hey, what's up? I've got six different kinds of weed today, you guys in need?"

Panel 5

CAP: Before I moved to Gainesville I mostly just drank beer and smoked pot. After it was whiskey, hash, and speed. And Quaaludes. And Coke. Abused scripts. And Crystal Meth.
IMAGE: Tic-tack toe grid with the 9 things above, one in each box.

Panel 6

CAP: I fell in with a group of guys, I'll be kind here, none of whom had very high I.Q.'s or drive to succeed in our studies. We'd talked for months about mushrooms until a friend of a friend scored some.
IMAGE: Hand with palm-full of mushrooms.

Panel 7

MIKE: "You gonna do 'em? "
DOUG: "Yeah, I'll do 'em."
IMAGE: Doug and Mike, speaking to each other with shit eating grins.

Panel 8

CAP: Leary's message was LSD opens a person to more interpersonal interactions, external stimuli, and new realizations. He was a doctor, right?
IMAGE: Timothy Leary in a lab coat.

Panel 9

CAP: Mushroom use dates back thousands of years. Archeologists attribute cave paintings to artists who were high. Who was I to argue?

IMAGE: Cave drawings

Panel 10

CAP: Psilocybin converts to psilocin which acts on the serotonin receptors in the brain creating mind-altering effects similar to LSD or mescaline.

IMAGE: Headshot of Doug with very large black pupils and Dennis Eichhorn swirly eyes.

Panel 11

CAP: There were five of us that night. The musky, foul, fungi was passed around, gobbled up and, as was de rigeur then, washed down with beer and bong hits.

IMAGE: Small circle of five guys eating mushrooms with scrunched up faces from the bad taste.

Panel 12

Mike: They're nasty. Shit's stuck in my teeth.

Doug: Hope something happens.

Mike: Let's stay inside.

Doug: We gotta keep our shit together.

Image: Doug with sour face, talking with Mike.

Panel 13

CAP: After about 45 minutes they started to kick in. I quickly become withdrawn and locked into the mirror, like seeing myself for the first time, EVER. Or, I thought, maybe my dilated eyes just made me look like someone else.

IMAGE: Doug looking a little freaked, eyes dilated, from behind, staring into the mirror.

Panel 14

CAP: Unlike drinking or smoking pot, mushrooms made things unpredictable.

IMAGE: Split panel, left is labeled "one minute" with Doug sitting watching TV, right is labeled "the next minute, down the block," with Doug looking up staring at bugs buzzing around a street light.

Panel 15

CAP: Soon we were all out of the apartment and down the block.

IMAGE: Four from the group sitting on the curb, all in a row, slacked jawed, looking stoned.

Panel 16

Doug: Where's Jay?

Mike: Look at those lights! Ahhhh.

Doug: He was just here a minute ago.

IMAGE: The group again, this time staring up at bugs buzzing around the street light with Doug and Mike speaking

Panel 17

IMAGE: The group stunned at the sight, cracking up, as Jay, naked, rides his bike up to the group as everyone is laughing and on the ground holding their stomachs.

Panel 18

CAP: Seeing Jay naked on a bike was funny but then came the other effects; like hearing light and seeing sounds.

IMAGE: Close up of the street light with a SFX of “Rooaarr” coming from it.

Panel 19

CAP: I had no control of my impulses and didn't like it. My senses were all fucked up too. Most profoundly, I felt an acute sense of being apart from my friends and completely alone in the universe.

IMAGE: Doug depicted very small (1/20th or less of the space of the panel) sitting all alone in a big flat field...

Panel 20

CAP: I was changed forever. And came to believe, intensely so, that ultimately we really are all alone in the end. A short time later I stopped using drugs. More importantly I soon met the woman I would spend my life with. I'm very fortunate to have a supportive family who stuck with me. But my revelation that night never left.

IMAGE: Doug, back at the mirror staring at himself like earlier in the story. Maybe depicted older now?? Doug today??

Panel 21

CAP: What did leave me that night was my dinner. The high ultimately wore off and made me sick.

IMAGE: Doug bent over throwing up.