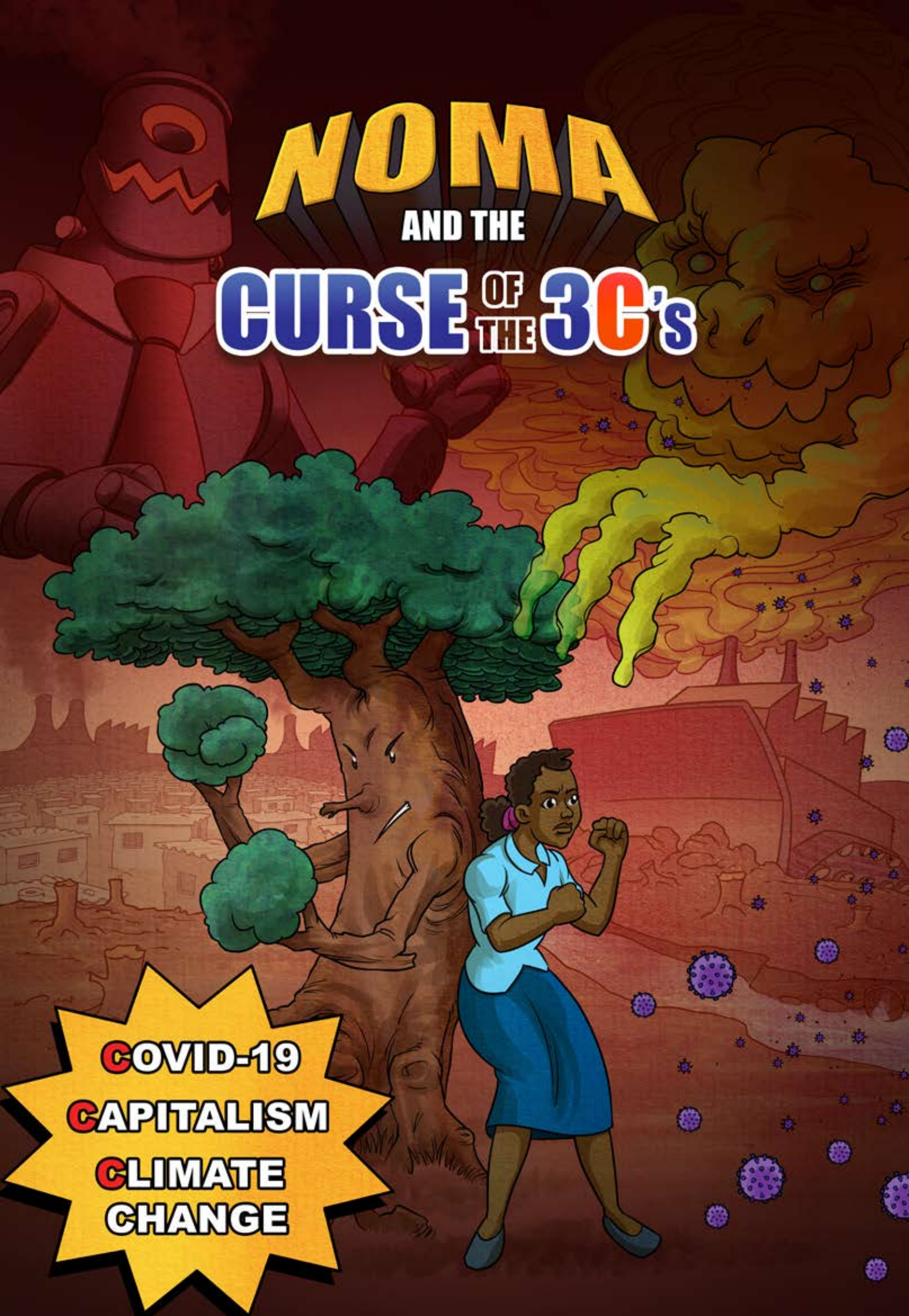


# NOMA


AND THE

# CURSE OF THE 30's

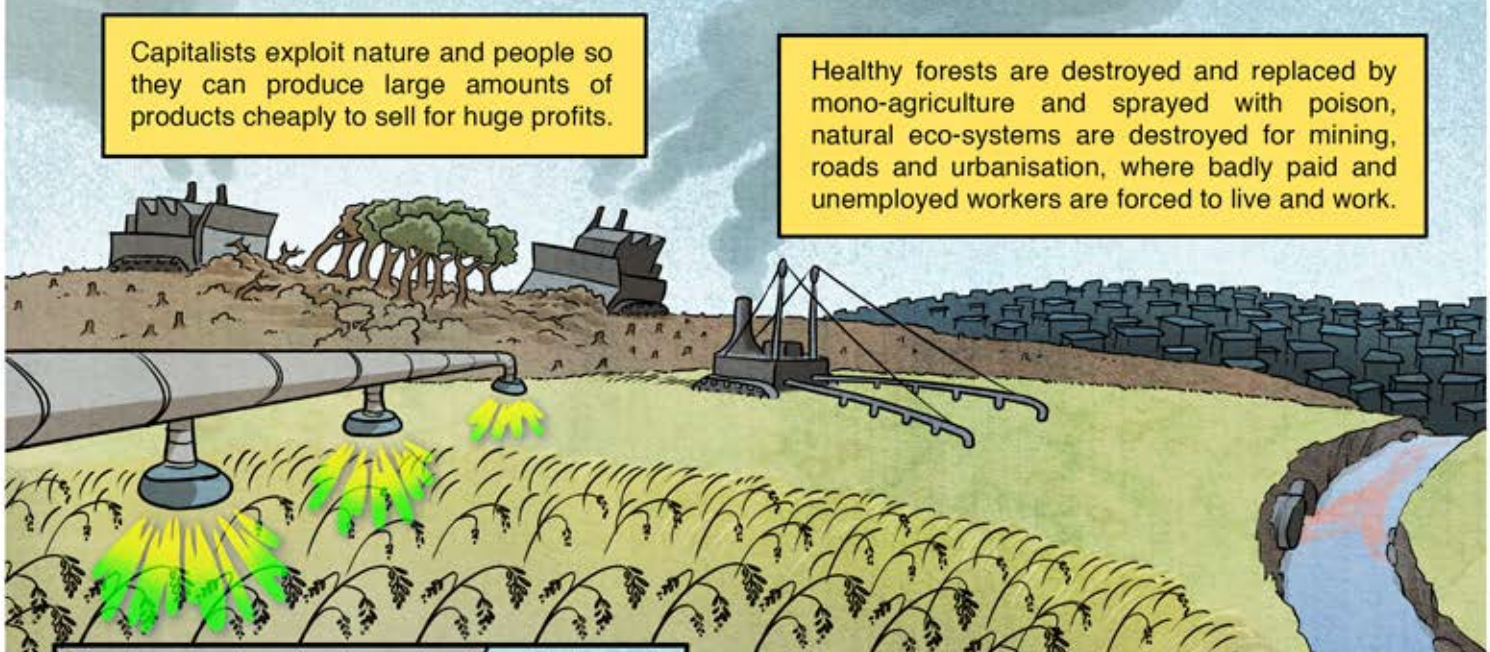


**COVID-19**  
**CAPITALISM**  
**CLIMATE**  
**CHANGE**





Governments across the world are helping big business exploit the earth and destroy nature. BUT Nature has been protecting us from what hides in the dark ...




Capitalists exploit nature and people so they can produce large amounts of products cheaply to sell for huge profits.

Healthy forests are destroyed and replaced by mono-agriculture and sprayed with poison, natural eco-systems are destroyed for mining, roads and urbanisation, where badly paid and unemployed workers are forced to live and work.

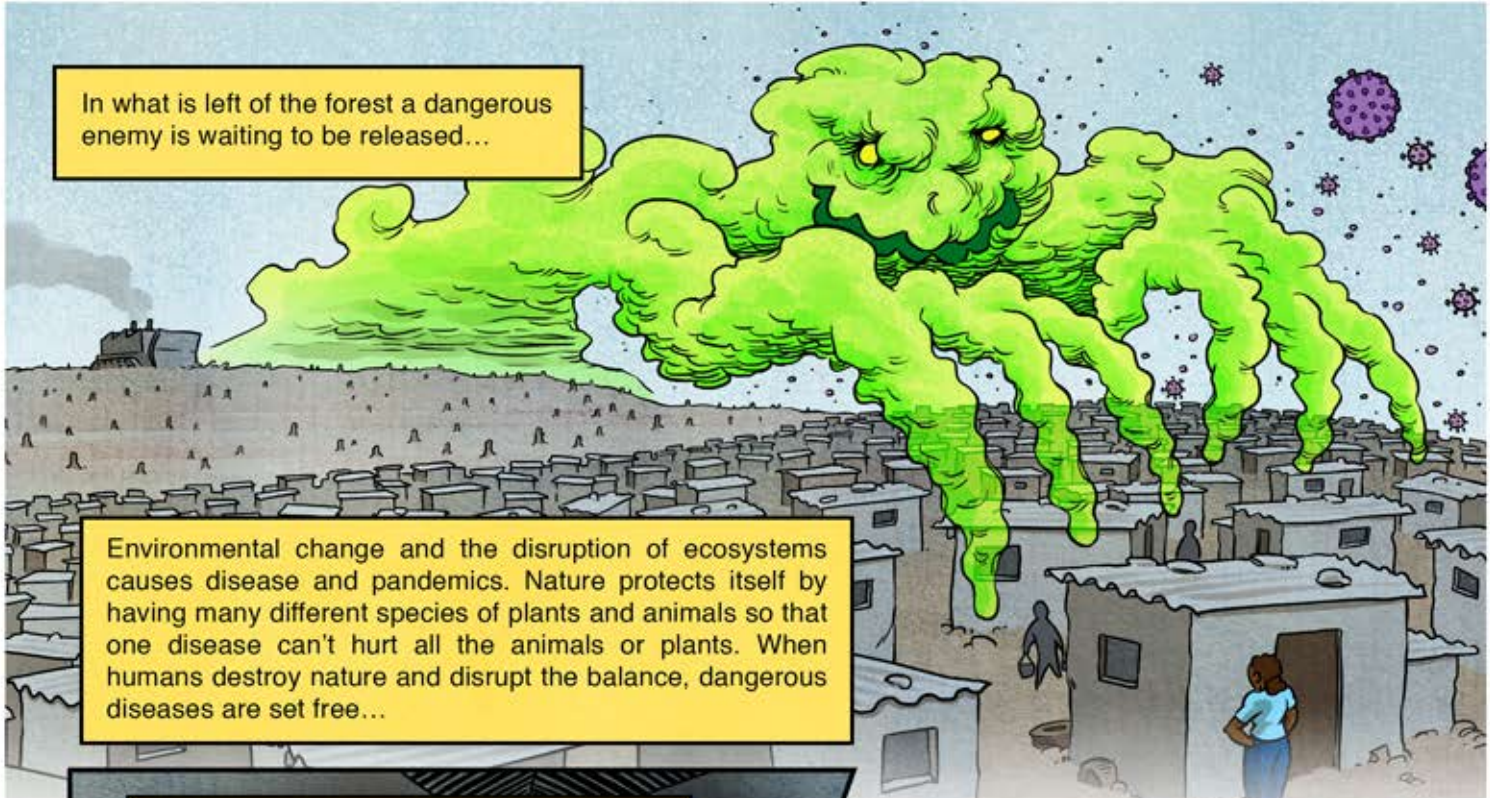
In league with the capitalists, governments develop laws that support capitalist production. Laws that ignore the value of nature. Plants and animals are seen as nothing more than endless resources to be exploited.

Big business destroys valuable natural resources and ecosystems, pollutes water and contributes to climate change.



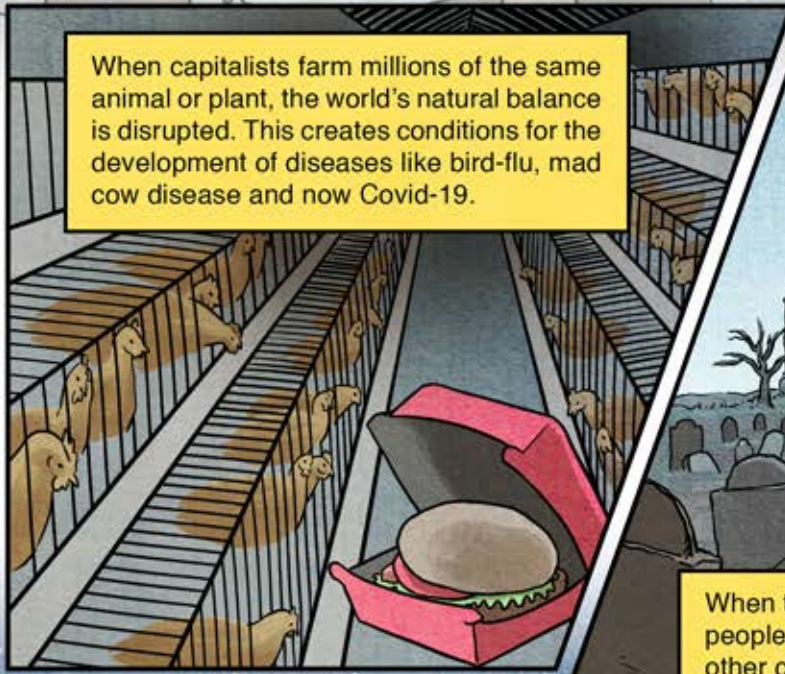
Companies don't pay for the destruction they cause, they pay workers poverty wages and move to the next money-making venture, leaving affected communities to suffer the devastating consequences.






In what is left of the forest a dangerous enemy is waiting to be released...

Environmental change and the disruption of ecosystems causes disease and pandemics. Nature protects itself by having many different species of plants and animals so that one disease can't hurt all the animals or plants. When humans destroy nature and disrupt the balance, dangerous diseases are set free...

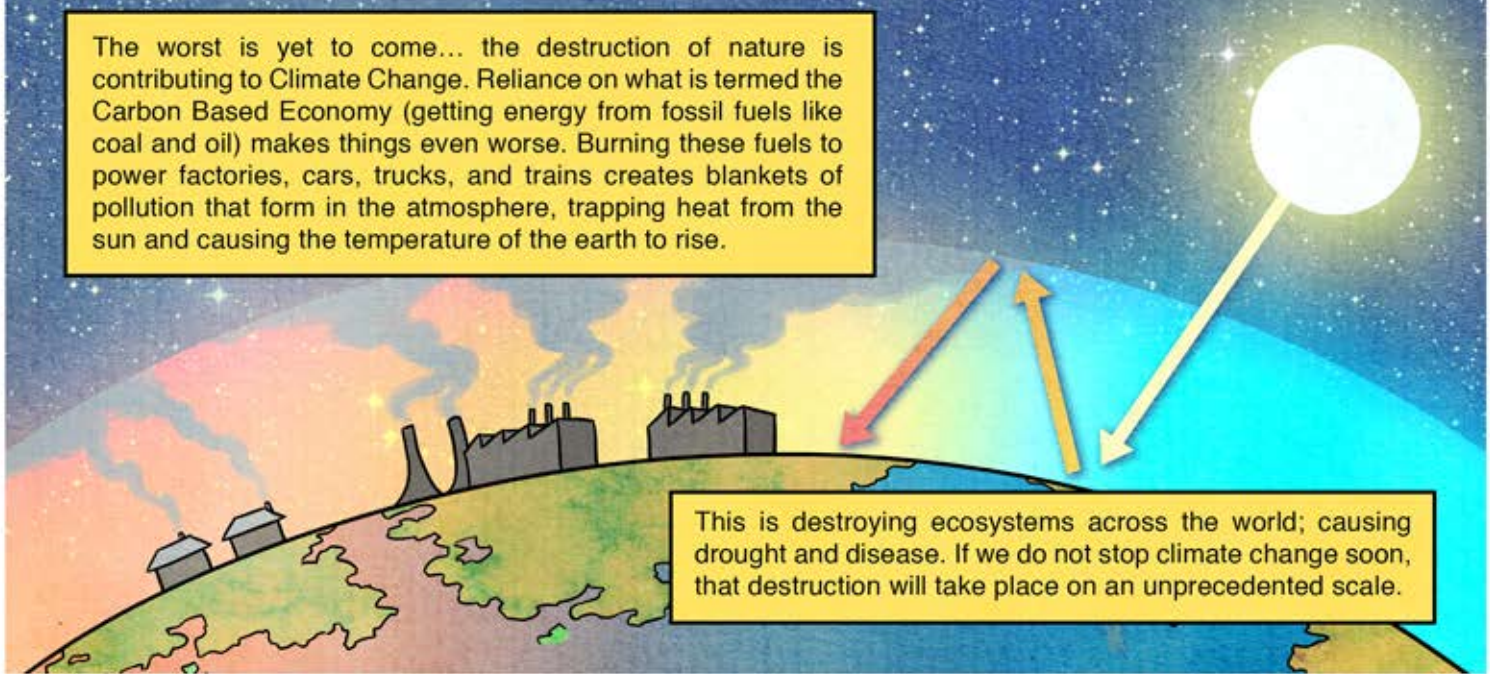


When capitalists farm millions of the same animal or plant, the world's natural balance is disrupted. This creates conditions for the development of diseases like bird-flu, mad cow disease and now Covid-19.



In Ireland the great potato famine was caused by British landlords forcing farmers to plant one type of potato.

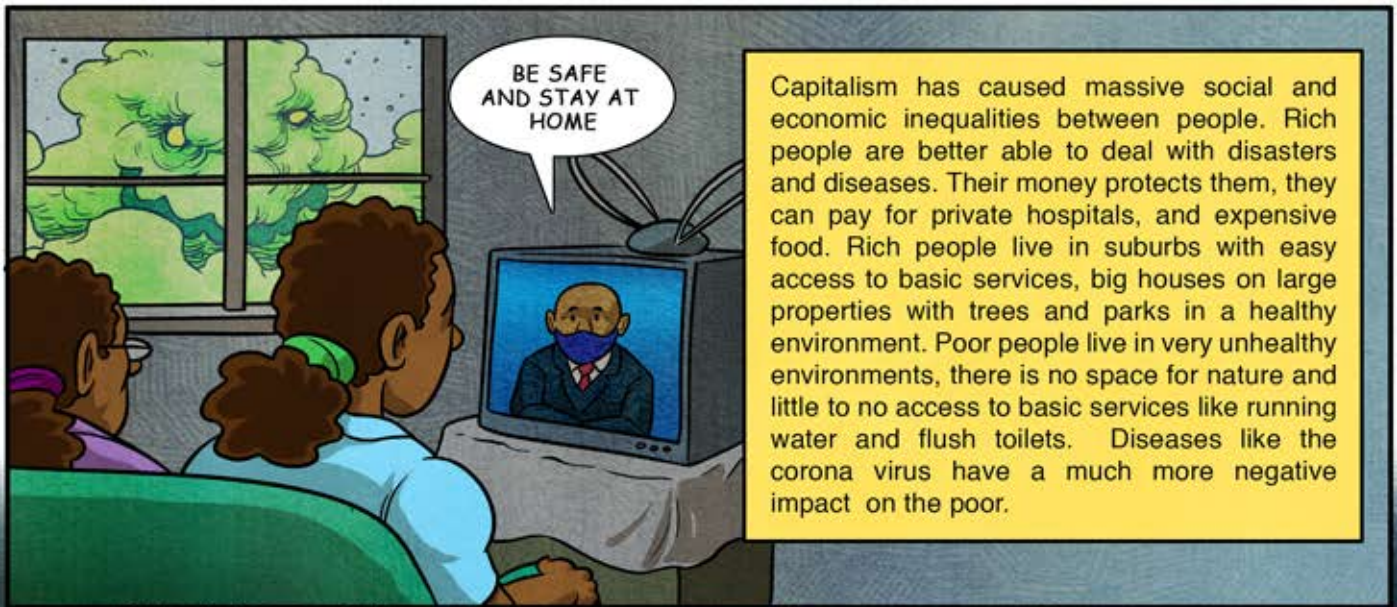
When the potato strain got diseased 1 million people died of hunger because there were no other crops to feed them.



The worst is yet to come... the destruction of nature is contributing to Climate Change. Reliance on what is termed the Carbon Based Economy (getting energy from fossil fuels like coal and oil) makes things even worse. Burning these fuels to power factories, cars, trucks, and trains creates blankets of pollution that form in the atmosphere, trapping heat from the sun and causing the temperature of the earth to rise.

This is destroying ecosystems across the world; causing drought and disease. If we do not stop climate change soon, that destruction will take place on an unprecedented scale.





Capitalism has caused massive social and economic inequalities between people. Rich people are better able to deal with disasters and diseases. Their money protects them, they can pay for private hospitals, and expensive food. Rich people live in suburbs with easy access to basic services, big houses on large properties with trees and parks in a healthy environment. Poor people live in very unhealthy environments, there is no space for nature and little to no access to basic services like running water and flush toilets. Diseases like the corona virus have a much more negative impact on the poor.



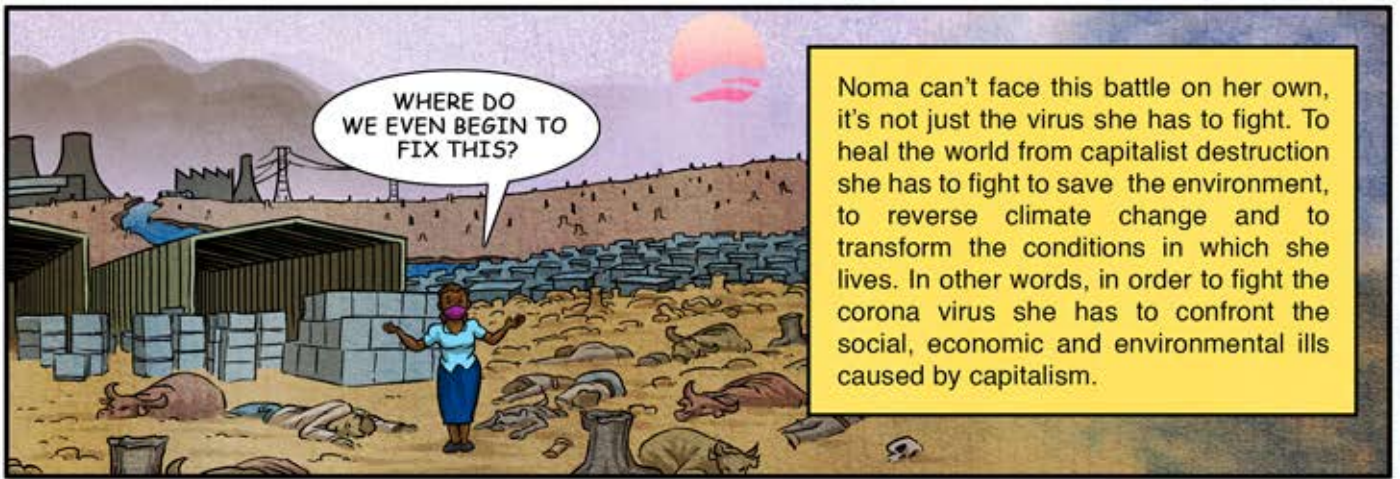
In order to slow down the Covid- 19 pandemic government says we must:  
1. Stay at home  
2. Maintain social distance  
3. Wear a mask  
But most of us can't afford fancy homes in nice areas. There are massive job losses and many jobs don't even pay enough to feed families, let alone live in a decent home. The choices for the poor majority are terrible: the cost of a cheap mask is the same as a litre of milk.



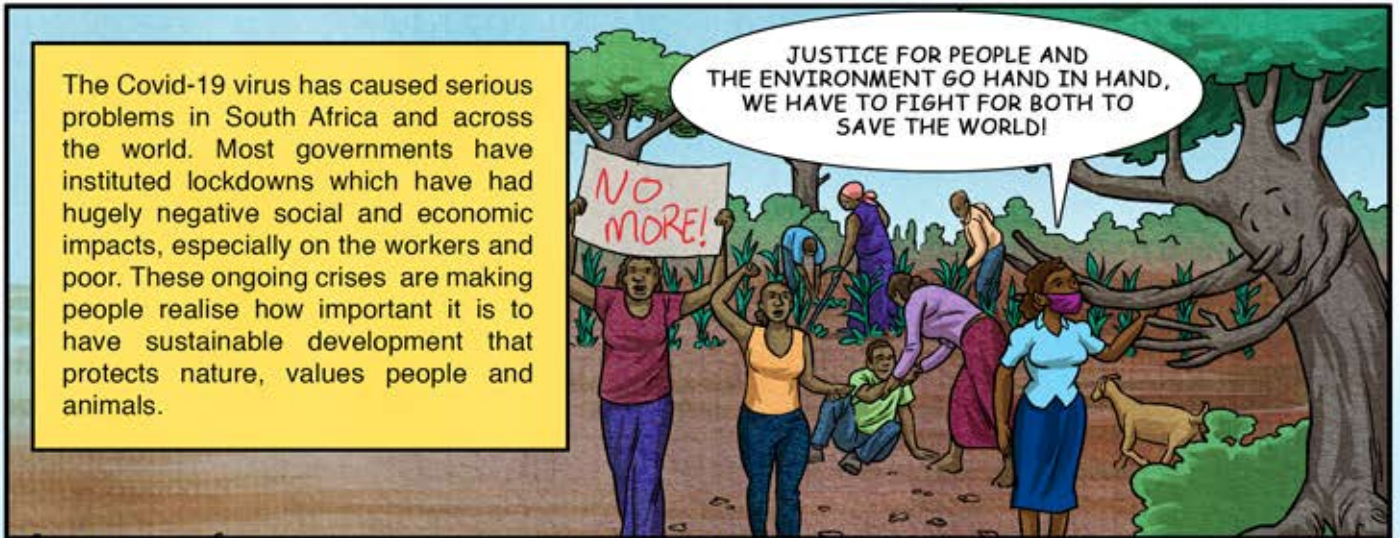
Government says our best protection from the corona virus is to wash our hands, keep surfaces clean and use sanitiser if we don't have water. But Noma gets her water from a communal tap 300 meters from her shack used by many other families in the community.

In poor communities across South Africa there is limited access to good quality water and sanitation; toilets are shared with many people. These conditions pose a health risk, and are especially dangerous for women and children at night.





Noma can't face this battle on her own, it's not just the virus she has to fight. To heal the world from capitalist destruction she has to fight to save the environment, to reverse climate change and to transform the conditions in which she lives. In other words, in order to fight the corona virus she has to confront the social, economic and environmental ills caused by capitalism.



The Covid-19 virus has caused serious problems in South Africa and across the world. Most governments have instituted lockdowns which have had hugely negative social and economic impacts, especially on the workers and poor. These ongoing crises are making people realise how important it is to have sustainable development that protects nature, values people and animals.

When our natural world is healthy, everything can work together to support all life. We have to fight for an economy that, respects nature and uses natural resources with care. We have to ensure the economy produces for people not profit, and that income and wealth are distributed equitably.



We need to establish governance systems that we run ourselves and build a society that supports people and the planet not capitalists and elite politicians.





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