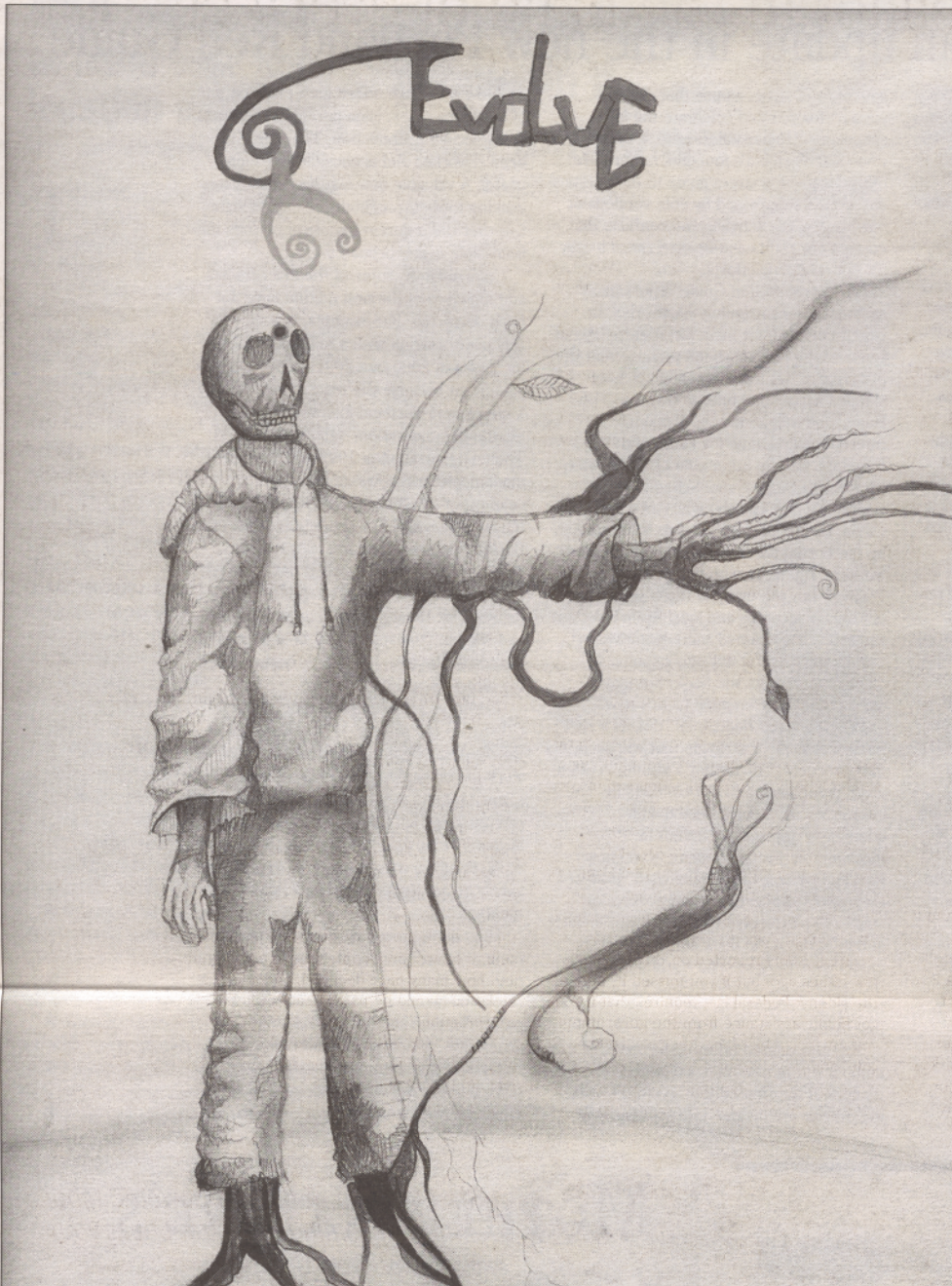




By Don Cornelison

Surgical Addiction

By Jay Thieme

the room was pure
and antiseptic. I sat there
waiting.
Shortly a man in a coat
entered
and held my chart
to conceal his eyes
He said
nothing in the way of
how may I help you?
I mean
that's what he said:
'how may I help you?'

Looking at his flat earth
chart
he prescribed something;
it was recorded
there beneath
his eyes
the same
prescribed, imposed
again

eyes like a parking lot
like a shield of plastic

he looked at me like
a parking lot
attendant
with his hand out
"How are you?
Please
sit down"
a sadist
on the road
a face
remembered
from being out there
or a parking lot
attendant

medicine for a poor man
medicine for a poor man
with money



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