THE BOOZER BASH

The First Pour

How Boozer, Stinky and Slushy came to be



STARRING

Boozer · Stinky · Slushy

An origin story, told in eight panels

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The First Pour



It started the way most bad ideas do: at Red Stone Ranch, on the night of the first snow. The crew rolled three balls of snow, stacked them up, set a full bottle of Maker's on top like a bar table, and went inside to warm up.



Then the wind kicked up. The bottle tipped, and a whole lot of Maker's ran down into the snow. Two coal eyes popped open, and Boozer said his very first words: "First of all..." Nobody has heard the rest of that sentence yet.

The First Pour



The crew had just enough snow left for one more. Stinky got the leftovers, a hat from the lost-and-found, and the spare carrot. It did not go on his face. He was not impressed. He still isn't.



Then a little penguin came sledding onto the ranch, took one look at Boozer, and found his hero. From that moment on, Slushy's eyes never left him.

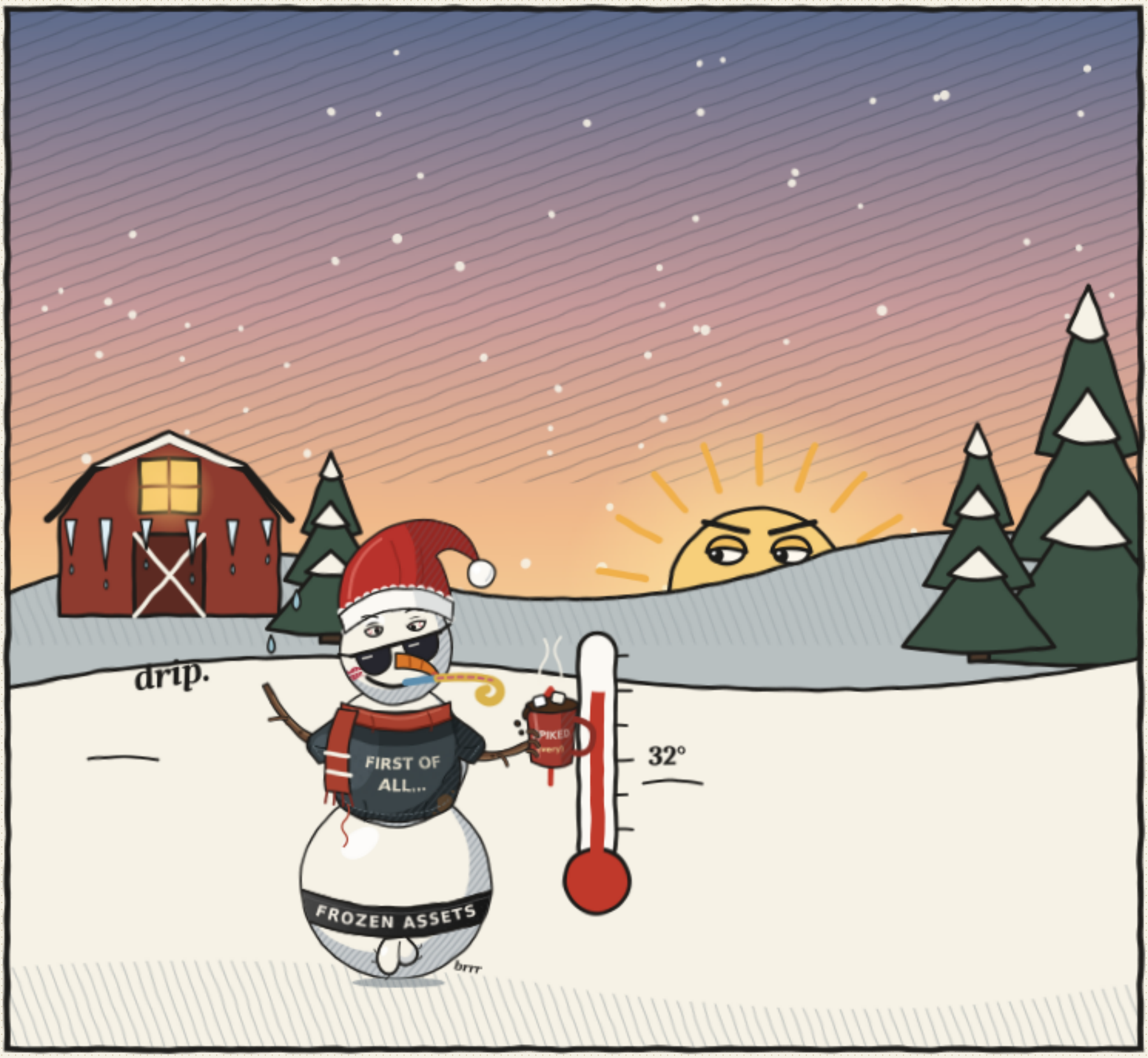


By nightfall, the crew threw the ranch its very first party. They dressed the guest of honor in a Santa hat, a scarf, and a shirt that said exactly what he'd been trying to say, plus some tape, for decency. Far too much Maker's. Slushy took the keys. Somebody had to.



Somewhere in the night, somebody left her mark on Boozer, then a red glove in the snow, and a trail of tiny heel prints. Nobody saw who. Nobody ever does.

The First Pour



As the sun came up, something warm peeked over the hill and took a long look at Boozer. Boozer didn't notice. He never does. That was The Thaw. It comes back every spring.



The next morning, Boozer was found passed out in the bathtub: fully clothed, Santa hat on, no water, still sipping. Stinky took the first photo for his album. Slushy brought water. And a tradition was born.

THE END...

of the beginning.