

# COYOTE & OAK

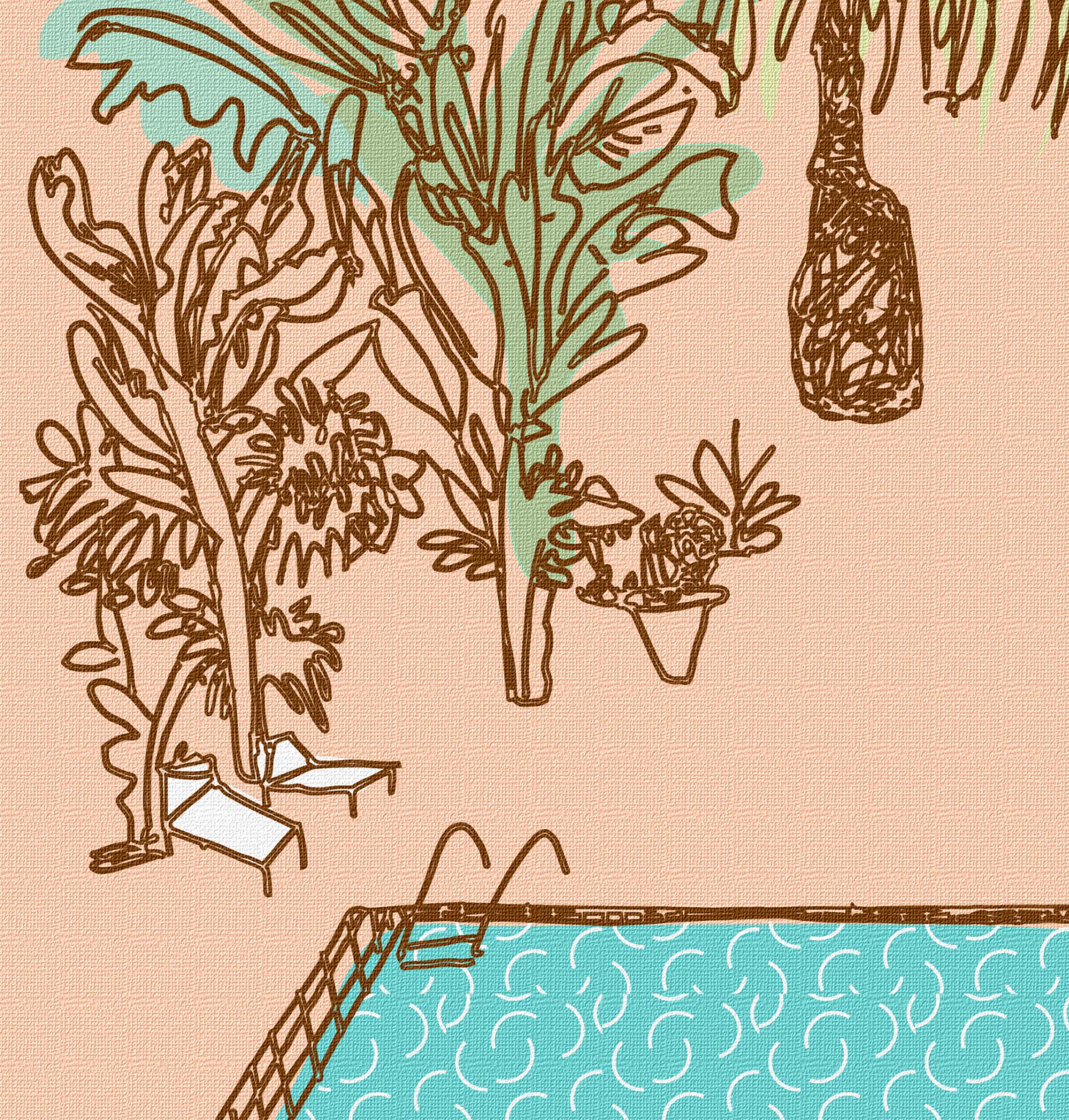
VOLUME XIII

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THE HISTORIC  
**Santa Maria Inn**  
SINCE 1917

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*EVERYONE KNOWS  
WHAT TO EXPECT  
OF LOS ANGELES,  
THE CITY OF LIGHTS,  
CAMERA, AND  
NON-STOP ACTION.*

And San Francisco is equally well-known for its culture, arts, bridges, and bays. But there are many miles of coastline and lots of history between the two cities. Some of the richest of that history is centrally located in hometown Santa Maria.

The landmark Santa Maria Inn stretches an entire city block in all its architectural splendor. Constructed in 1916 and owned by retired Union Sugar feeding and housing manager Frank McCoy until his passing in 1949, the historic inn opened its doors on May 16th, 1917 with 24 guest rooms, a kitchen, and a dining room. By the 1920s, the palatial hotel had attracted some of the biggest stars of the day and become a regular stop for celebrities traveling between Los Angeles and newspaper magnate William Randolph Hearst's famed San Simeon castle. Past guests include Charlie Chaplin, Marilyn Monroe, Bing Crosby, and Bette Davis, and their favorite rooms can be identified by the golden star-shaped nameplates that mark the doors of the original twenty-four-room inn.



Over the years the original structure has been preserved, updated and expanded to nearly 200 rooms and suites, complete with charming garden facing restaurant, outdoor pool, and cabanas. Renovations have included the addition of the six-story Tower Side of the inn, with five stories of guest rooms, one story of shops and executive offices, and a Wine Cellar and Martini Bar in the basement. On weekends live music plays in the Olde English Tap Room, built in 1941 and made famous by renowned bartenders “Gin & Bourbon” who were once featured in Ripley’s Believe It or Not. On warm summer nights, guests watch movies on the lawn, and dozens of brides and grooms celebrate their vows in the banquet halls and courtyards of the property each year.

Today, while much of the hotel has been refurbished with modern day amenities, offering a fresh luxury experience, the elegance and charm of McCoy’s early masterpiece haven’t been lost, nor can they go unnoticed. More than 100 years later, something indescribable still permeates the narrow halls, stained glass windows, and sparkling chandeliers; it follows you up the emerald green-carpeted stairs and into the favored guest rooms of the famous and the infamous; you can feel it the moment you push past the huge brass revolving bank doors and into the lobby. Some say the inn is haunted. By whom, perhaps we’ll never know. But one visit, and it’s easy to understand why whoever it is wouldn’t ever want to leave. 🍷

*Pay a visit to the Santa Maria Inn at 801 South Broadway in Santa Maria, California. Make a reservation at [www.santamariainn.com](http://www.santamariainn.com), or just stop by for dinner at The Century Room, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner.*

Frank McCoy was famous for his love of flowers. He created fresh floral arrangements for the hotel each day and the East wall of the Kent Room is made up of stained glass bouquets.

Regular guest Charlie Chaplin was so inspired by the inn that he decided to build the Montecito Inn which is now considered a Santa Barbara landmark.