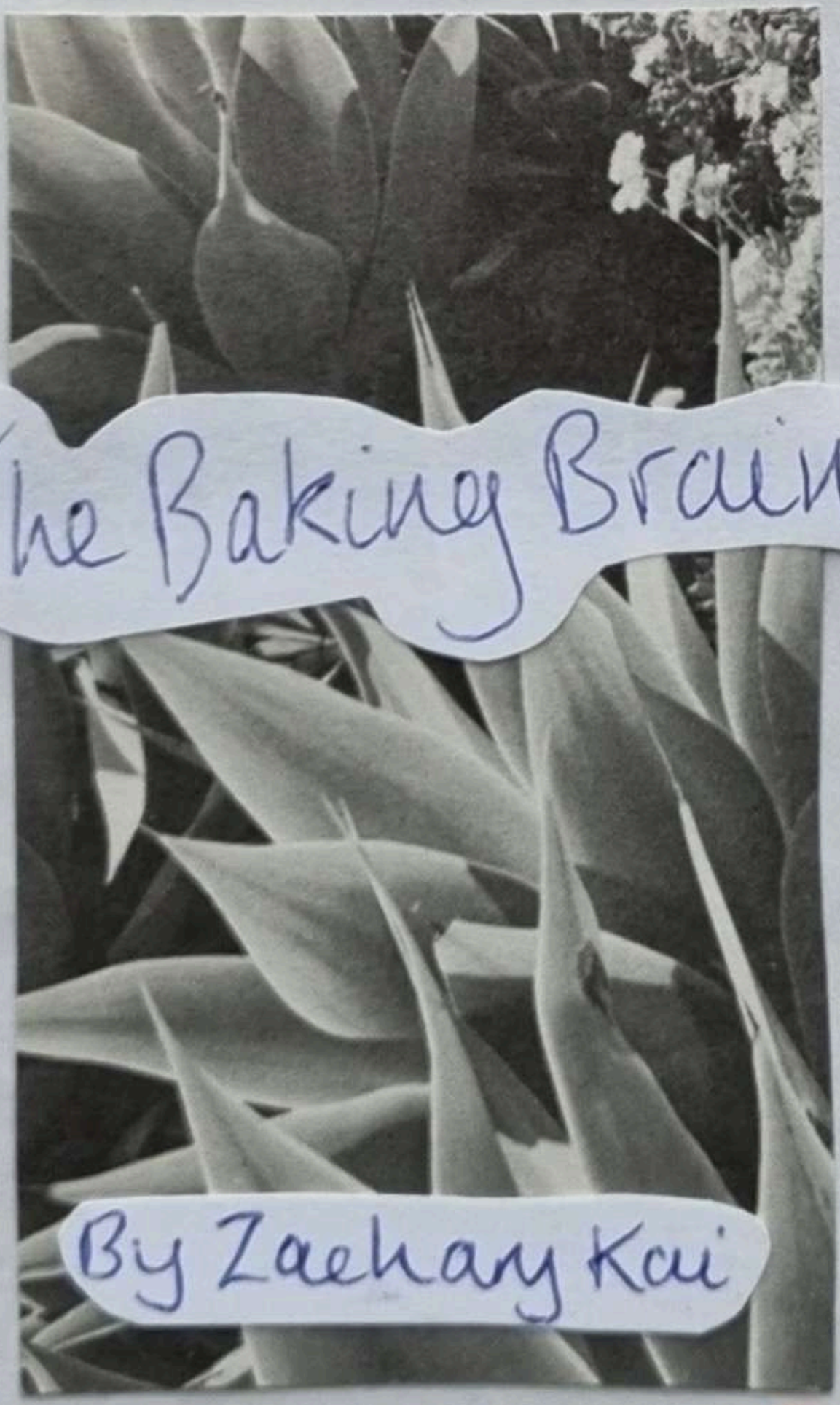

The Baking Brain

By Zachary Kai

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I spent a lifetime telling
myself I didn't like cooking
and how hard it was, so
of course, learning to bake
was pointless. It would
be even more difficult,
and everything I made
would be a failure. So,
those fears became real,
and I avoided the oven
at all costs. It was a
vengeful creature, after
all, and if I
so much as

looked at it, why, I'd
burn down the kitchen,
perhaps even the house!
Except... what if that
wasn't true? What then?
I woke up one day
with the conviction
that the oven would
scare me no longer.
I would show it I
could bake!
Of course...

I've had a few failures
Biscuits that almost
didn't cook because the
dough was too short,
a banana cake I took
out of the pan too soon
to cool on a wire rack
which collapsed in on
itself and became
banana crumble...
And each time it happened
I was ready
to quit.

But I was a big boy
now, and I would never
surrender! Since then
I've made biscuits,
carrotcakes with
frosting, roasted
veggies, and more.
And I continue to
learn. Who knew baking
could teach me so
much about life
itself?

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