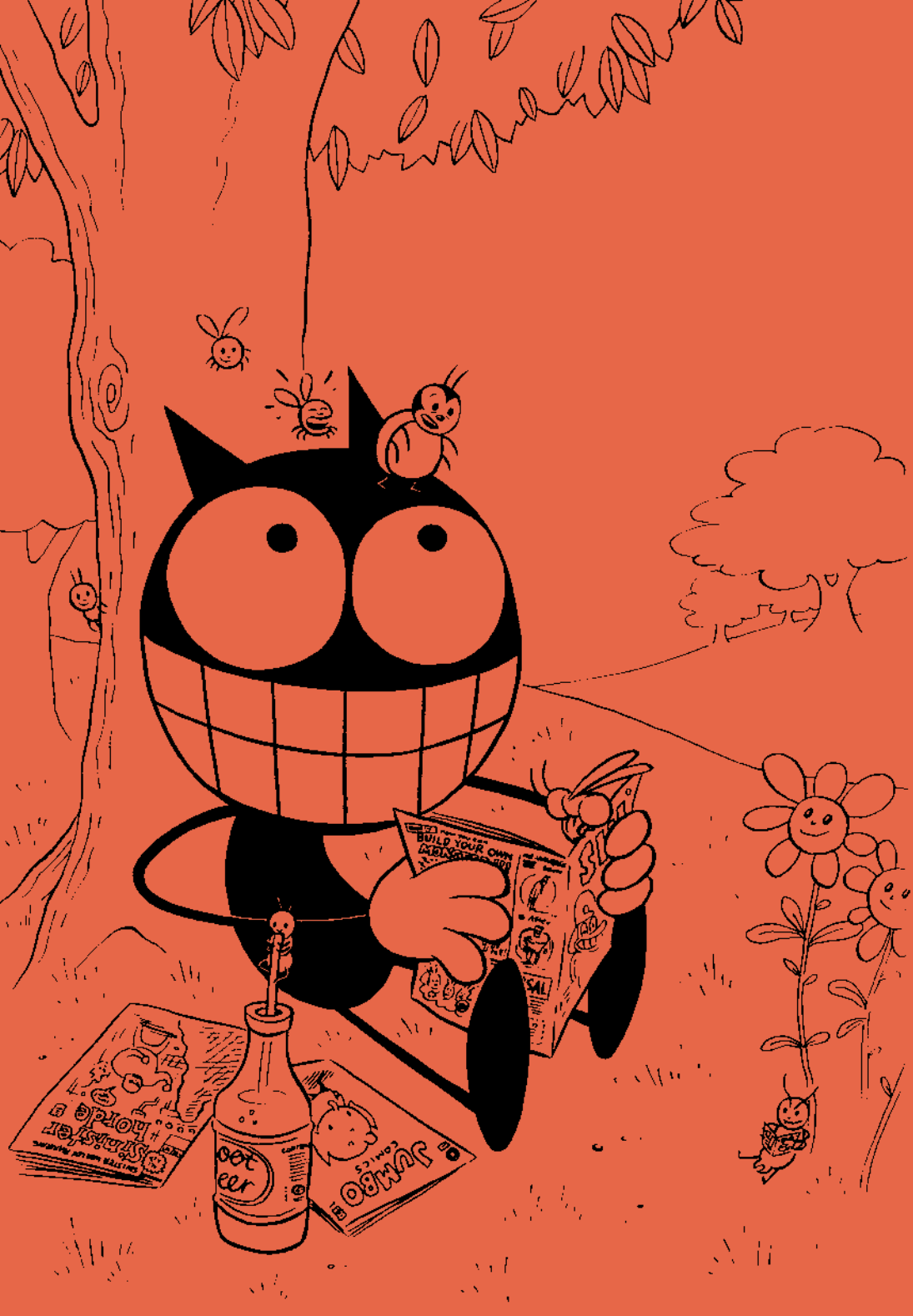


THE LAND OF NOD.



by Jay
Stephens





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This collection reprints work from the 1990s as originally drawn, but presented here in a new full-colour format. The content of this collection reflects the cultural attitudes and humour of the 1990s that may be offensive or insensitive by contemporary standards. This is not an endorsement of those views, but a preservation of the work as it was created.

Some material originally published in black and white in *Sin* 1–5 (Tragedy Strikes Press, June 1992–February 1993), *The Land of Nod Treasury* (Black Eye Productions, 1994; Oni Press, 2001), and *Sin Comics* 1, 2 (Black Eye Productions, Dec. 1993, March 1994).

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Jay Stephens



Black Eye Books





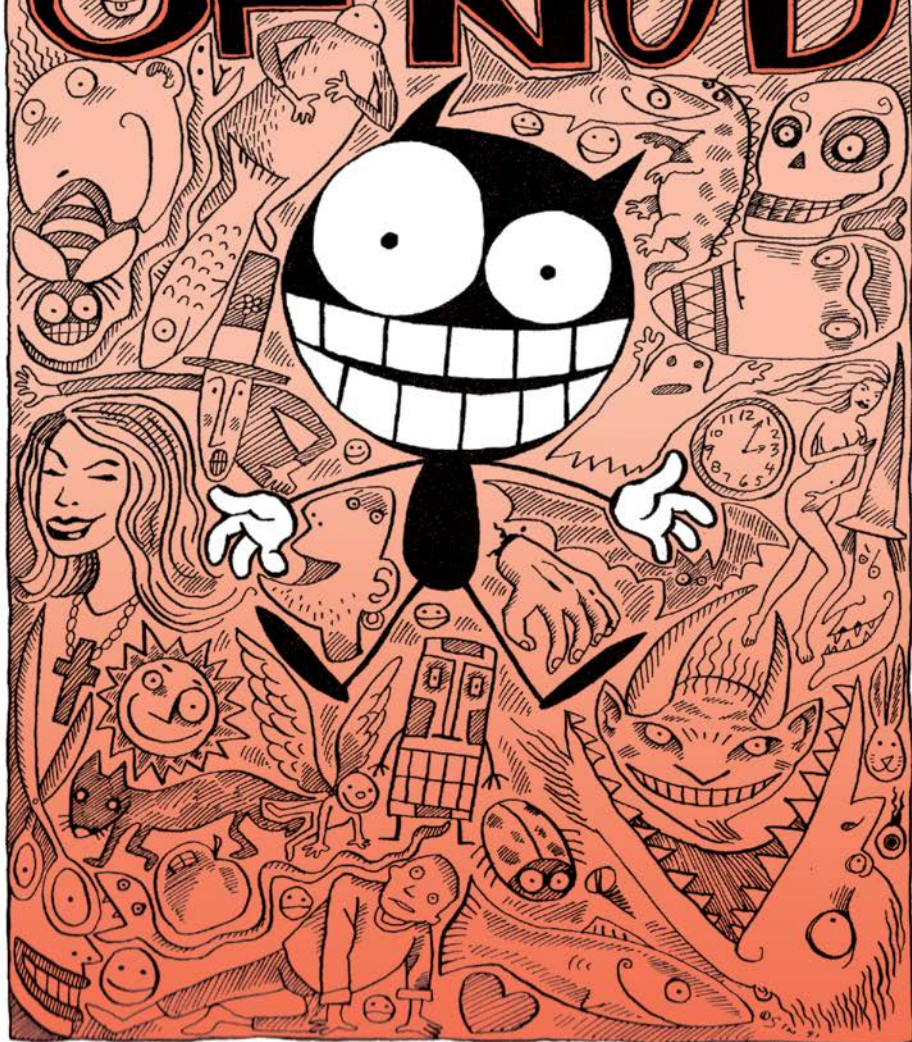
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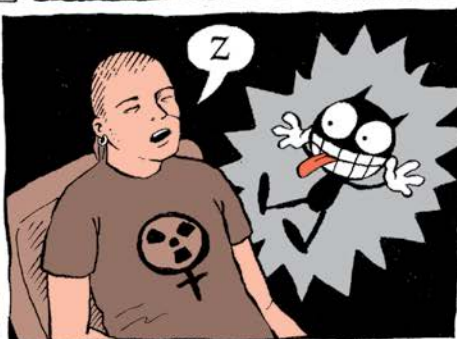
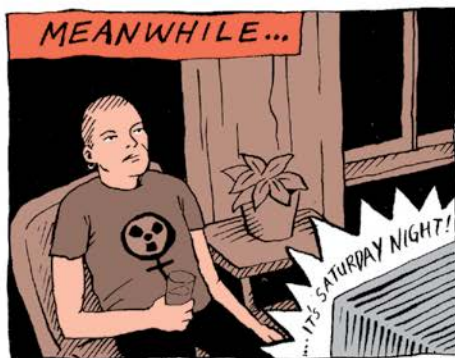
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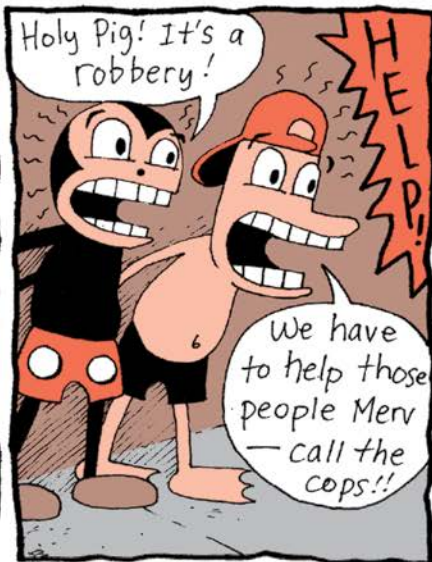
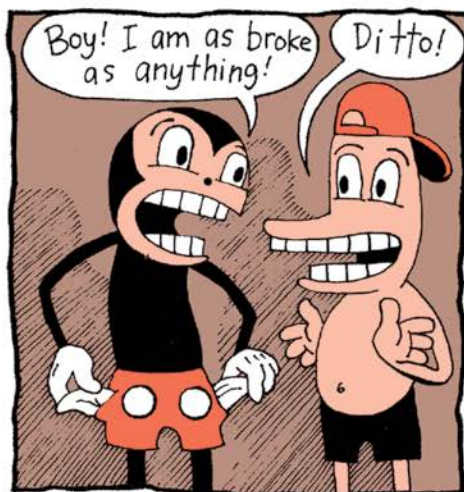
Welcome to
**THE LAND
OF NOD**





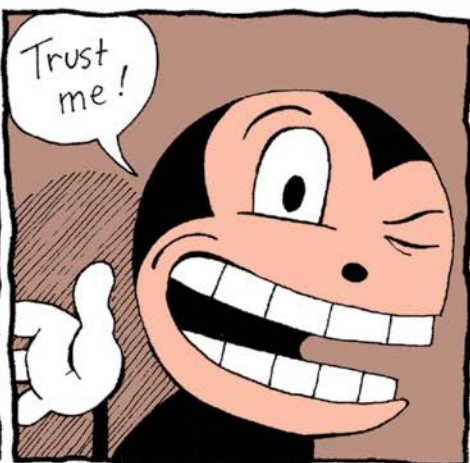
merv and dave

IN "Easy Money"

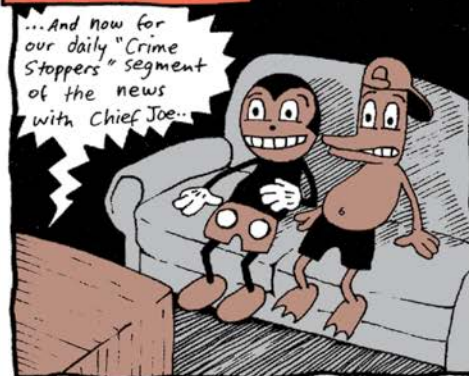


MORE THRILLS ON

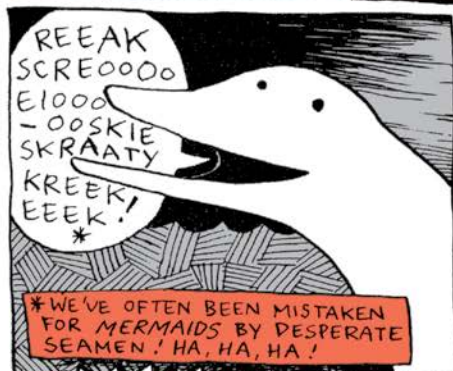
THE VERY NEXT PAGE! →



LATER ON...



-SIN- MY DOLPHIN .1991.



COMING SOON!

CAPTAIN U.N.

THAT'S RIGHT! BATTLING THE EVIL OF IRAQ ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ENGLAND, FRANCE, and some other countries, CAPTAIN UNITED NATIONS GOES HEAD-TO-HEAD AGAINST THE POWER OF SCUDMAN!

WHAT HORRIBLE PAYLOAD DOES HE CARRY? WILL THE CAPTAIN BE ABLE TO PENETRATE SCUDMAN'S ARMOUR OF PURE SADDAMTIUM???

STAY TUNED !!!

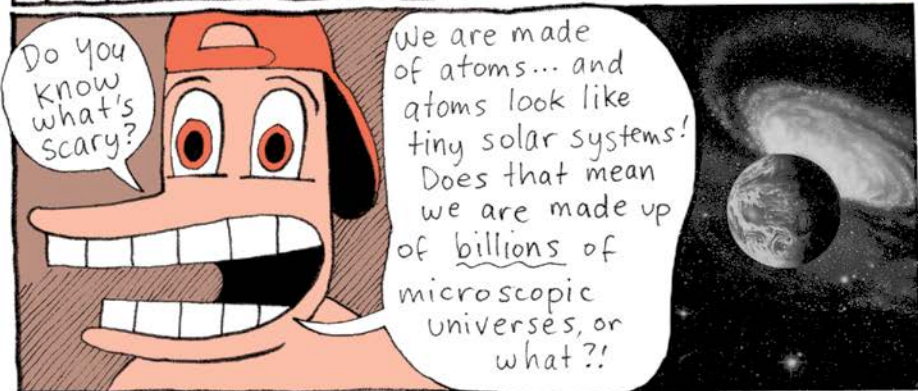
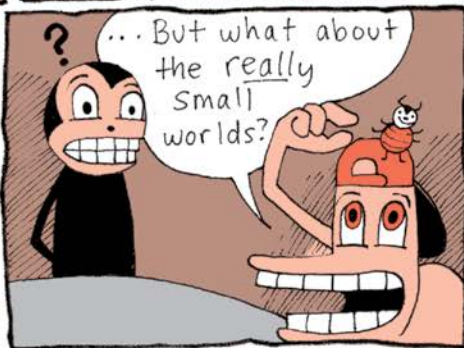
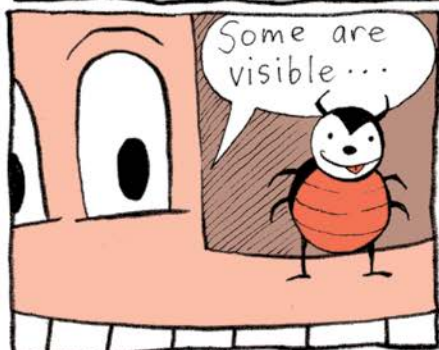
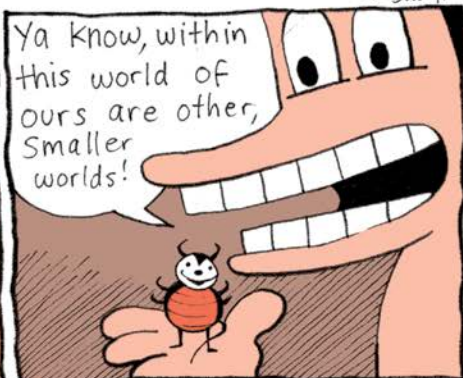
INTRODUCING...

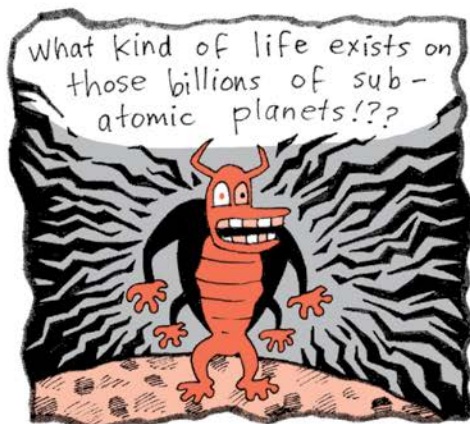
COALITION KID!

merv and dave

IN "The Microverse"

~ Sin 91 ~





Chapter One

DAVE in the BOX

— sin 1991 —

So...

Who is in this box? Is it Dave maybe?

Go far away, Nod!

Dave in the box! Ha Ha Ha Ha!

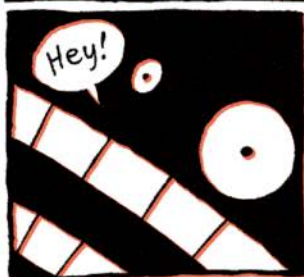
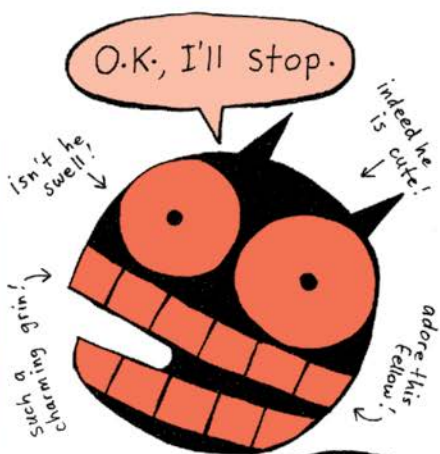
Don't tell!

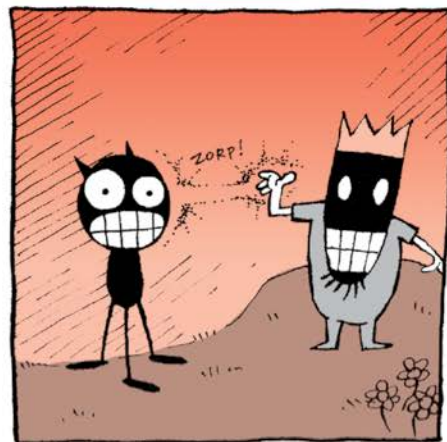
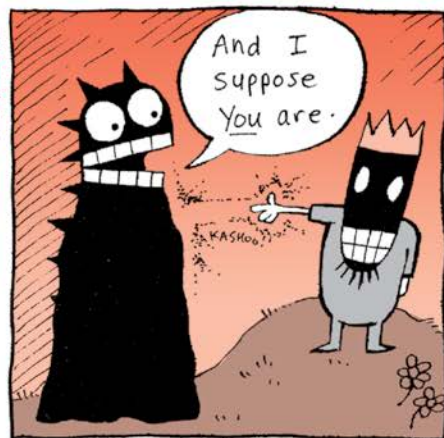
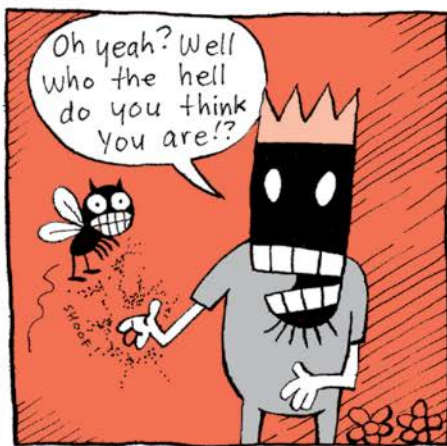
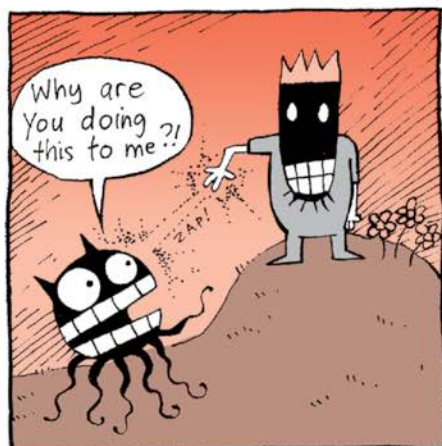
What's the idea with the box and everything?

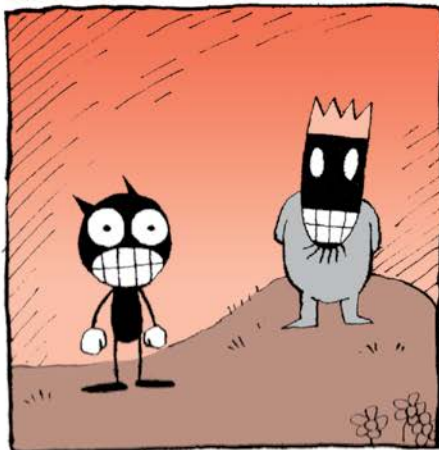
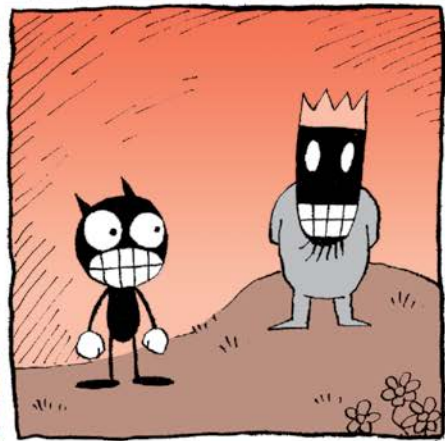
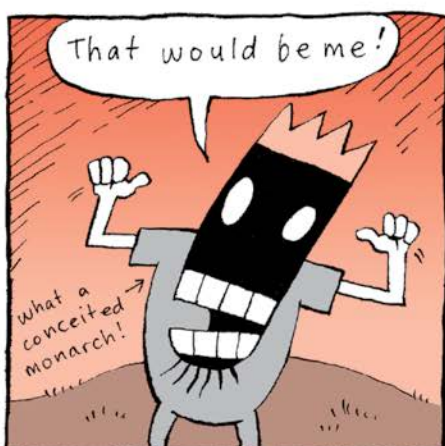
I'm hiding.

Merv was mean to me so I'm going to live in this box.

That is so sad and tragic! Boo hoo!



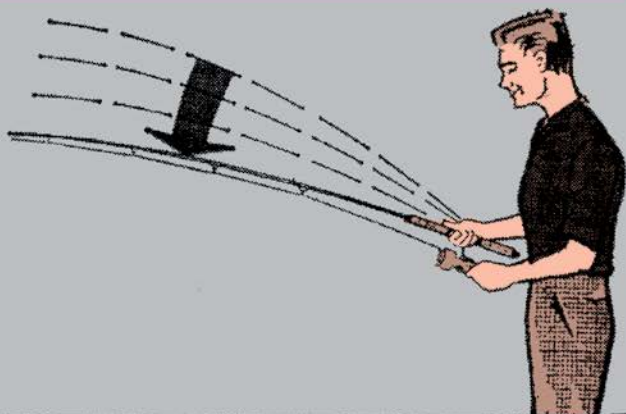




EXPLICIT

FISHING

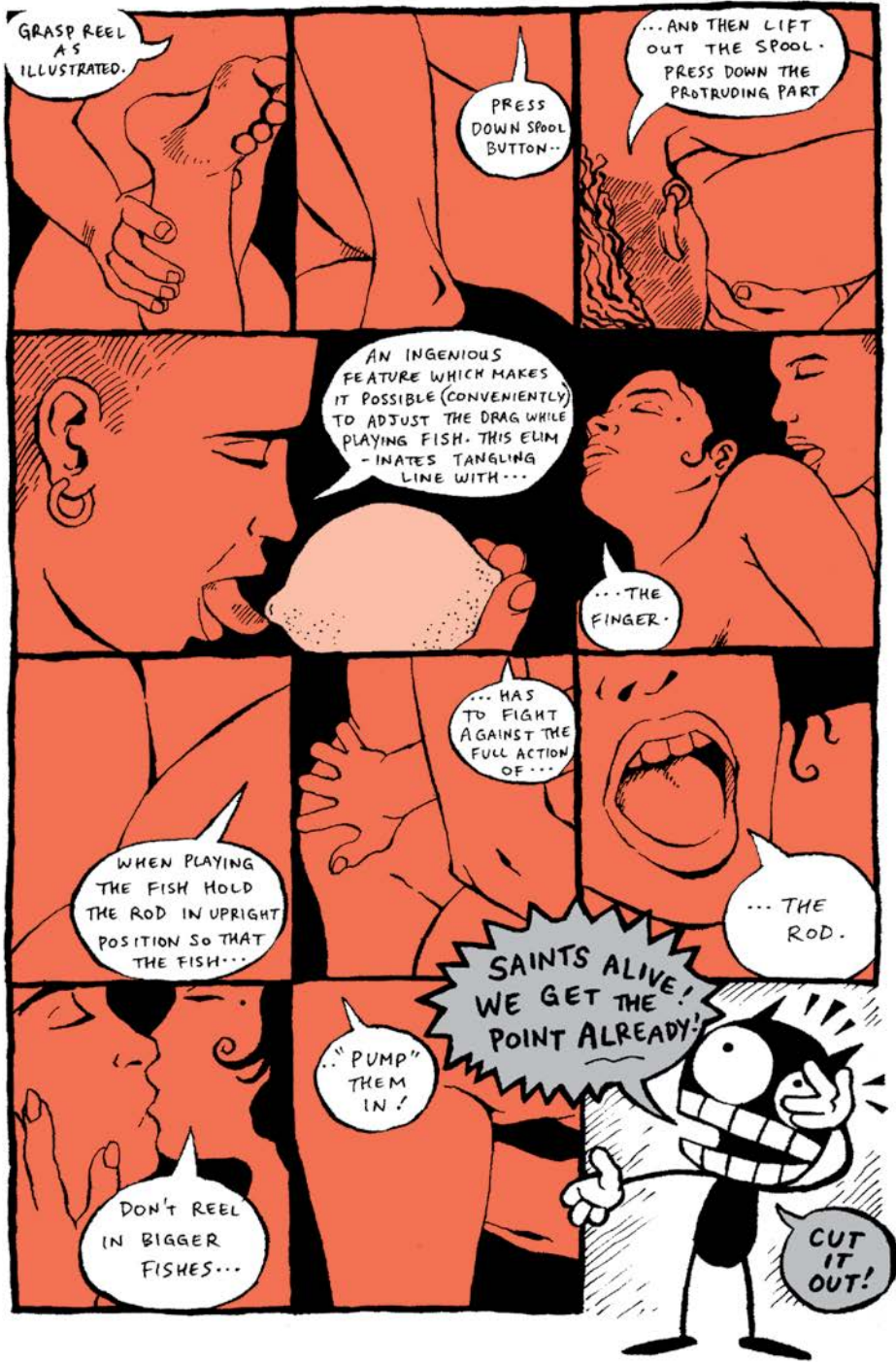
instructions



Please Note:

The following tips on fishing may be unsuitable for viewing by some young fish. Viewer discretion is advised.





GRASP REEL
AS
ILLUSTRATED.

PRESS
DOWN SPOOL
BUTTON--

...AND THEN LIFT
OUT THE SPOOL.
PRESS DOWN THE
PROTRUDING PART

AN INGENUOUS
FEATURE WHICH MAKES
IT POSSIBLE (CONVENIENTLY)
TO ADJUST THE DRAG WHILE
PLAYING FISH. THIS ELIM-
INATES TANGLING
LINE WITH...

...THE
FINGER.

... HAS
TO FIGHT
AGAINST THE
FULL ACTION
OF ...

WHEN PLAYING
THE FISH HOLD
THE ROD IN UPRIGHT
POSITION SO THAT
THE FISH...

... THE
ROD.

SAINTS ALIVE!
WE GET THE
POINT ALREADY!

"PUMP"
THEM
IN!

DON'T REEL
IN BIGGER
FISHES...

CUT
IT
OUT!

BADMAN

ON THURSDAY...



MILD MANNERED JAY STEPHENS CAN'T FIND A JOB. SUDDENLY, MILK SPILLS!

IT'S OK, IT WAS A PLASTIC CUP.

AND SO...

Sulk. Brood. Pout.



JAY BOLTS INTO THE BACK ROOM OF HIS APARTMENT WHICH IS ACTUALLY THE HALL OF BROODING!

SLIPPING INTO HIS COSTUME, BADMAN SITS UPON A CHEST!

← HE ALSO HAS GAS.

THE HALL OF BROODING IS UNHEATED IN THE WINTER AND HAS VERY SMALL WINDOWS!

BADMAN IS VERY UPTIGHT BUT IS SOON ASLEEP BECAUSE HE WAS BORED AND COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING TO DO! THIS IS HIS ETERNAL CURSE!



THE BADMAN SUIT.

- A Black T-shirt with skull sewn on! Hood is made from T-shirt parts and also has skull!
- B Scarf!
- C Gray long-johns of the full-body, non-chaffing
- D Black belt, shorts, gloves, and boots! (not shown.)

AND IN THE DREAM...



BADMAN IS VICTORIOUS!
HOORAY FOR HIM!

IT IS A GOOD DREAM...



... NOW IT IS A NIGHTMARE!

ATTACKED FROM
BEHIND BY THE
'MILK
MEISTER'!!



KILL KILL
KILL KILL
KILL KILL

He is
very
evil.

VROOM!

OH NO!
IT'S A
REDUCING
RAY !!!



Hot Damn!

HELP PH
AND CALL
1-800-66



BADMAN SHRINKS
VERY QUICKLY.

BADMAN.

DUST BALL



NEXT WE SEE HIM SITTING
ON A MOLECULE !!!

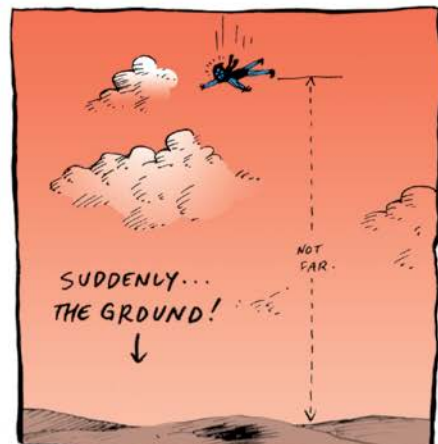


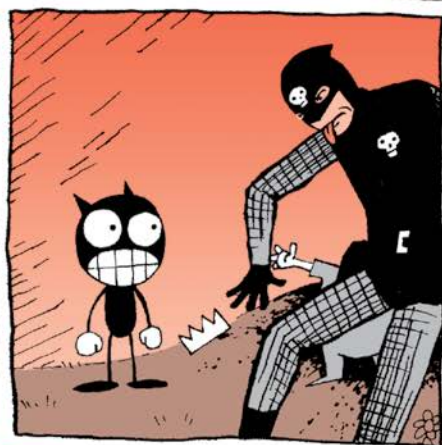
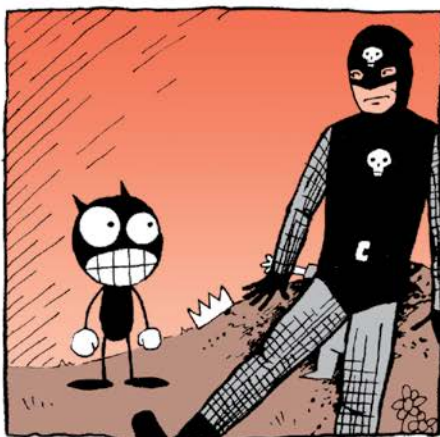
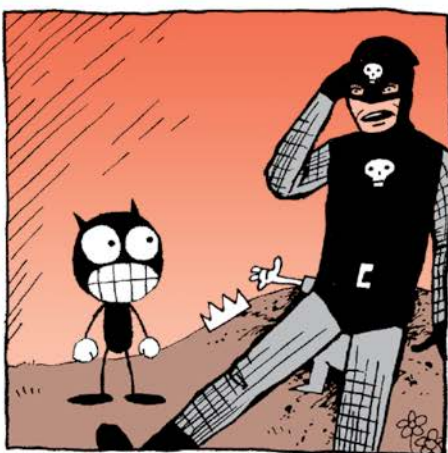
BUT NOW THE MOLECULE IS A
PLANET! BADMAN PLUMMETS
IN THE NEWFOUND GRAVITY!

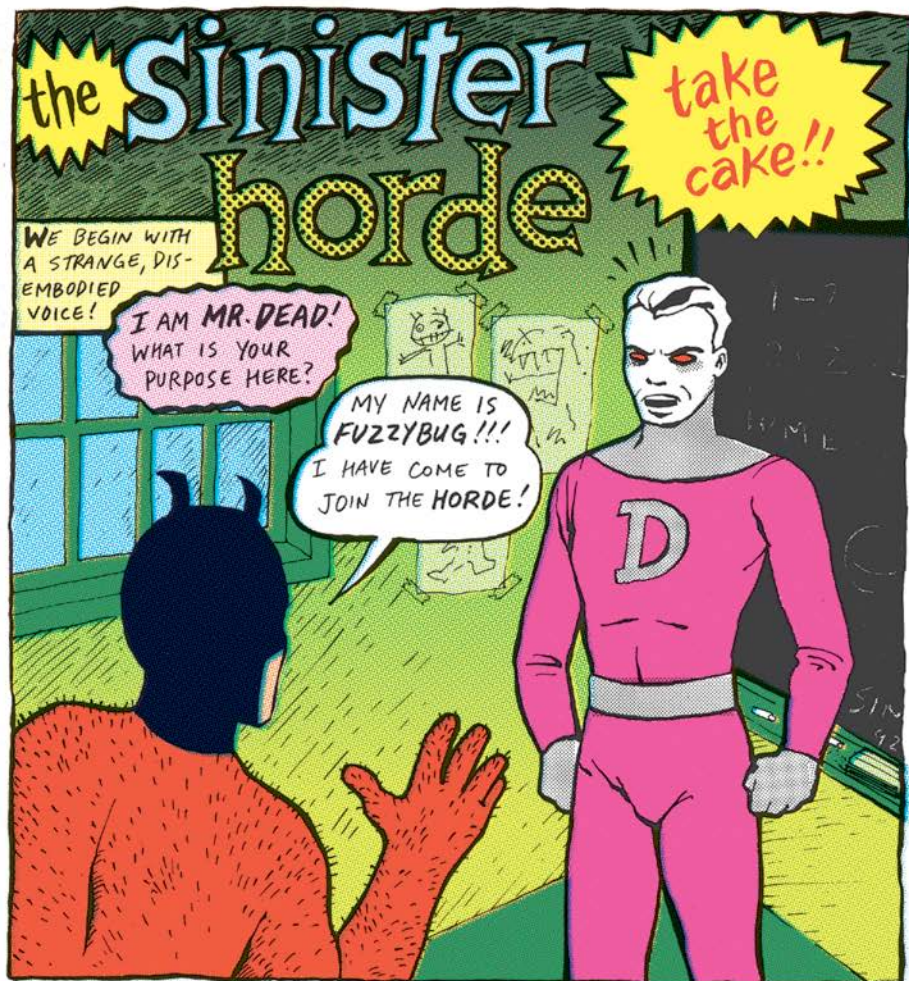
AH!

He always
dreams of
falling. THIS
IS HIS ETERNAL
CURSE.



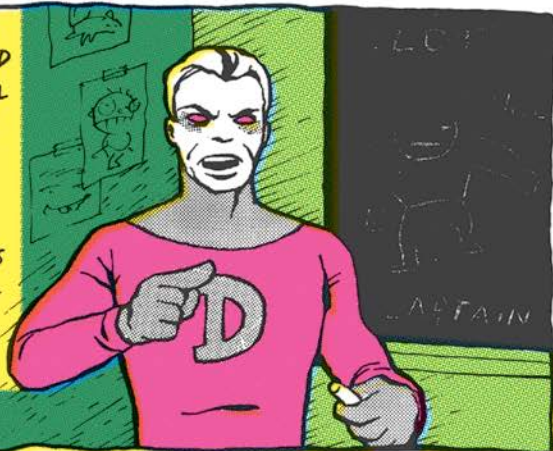




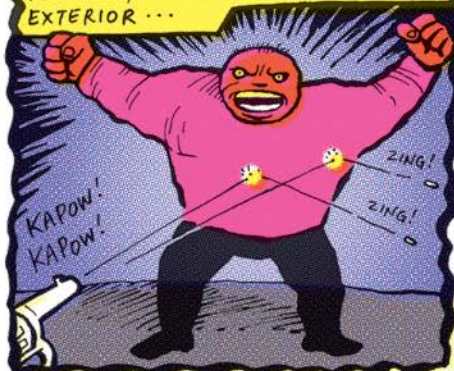


MR. DEAD BEGINS TO EXPLAIN HIMSELF! HE USES THE OLD BLACKBOARD OF THE SCHOOL THAT HE HAD CHOSEN FOR A MEETING PLACE - AND DRAWS DIAGRAMS!

FUZZYBUG IS FORCED TO SUBDUDE HIS EAGERNESS AS HE BRAVELY LISTENS TO MR. D'S ASTOUNDING WORDS!



HE EXPLAINS THAT THE CLOT, A HORDE MEMBER, HAS AN ABNORMALLY TUFF EXTERIOR ...



... DUE TO HIS BLOATED, BLOOD-SWOLLEN, (DRIED) AND HARDENED SKIN!!!

* NOTE:
THE CLOT IS
SO SWOLLEN
HE CAN
BARELY
GRIN!



HE NEXT SPEAKS OF MALADY, FROM WHOSE LIPS A SINGLE KISS ...

OOOOH!
AA-AAH!
OOO!

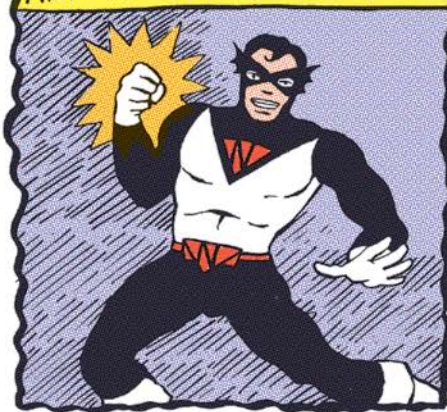
* NOTE:
MALADY
CAN 'KISS'
VERY, VERY
WELL!!



... TRANSLATES TO INSTANT DEATH!



MR. D MENTIONS CAPTAIN NASTY...



... AND TELLS OF HOW MIGHTY HE IS!

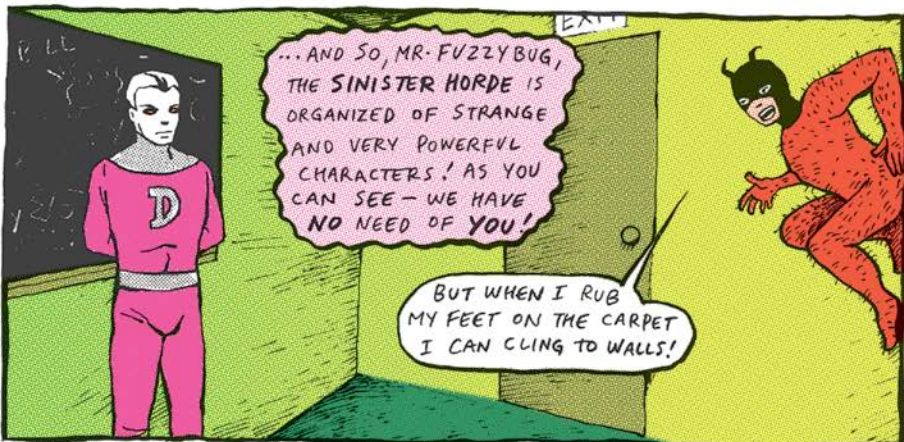
LOOK AT HIS WONDERFUL
TECHNO-CUFF!

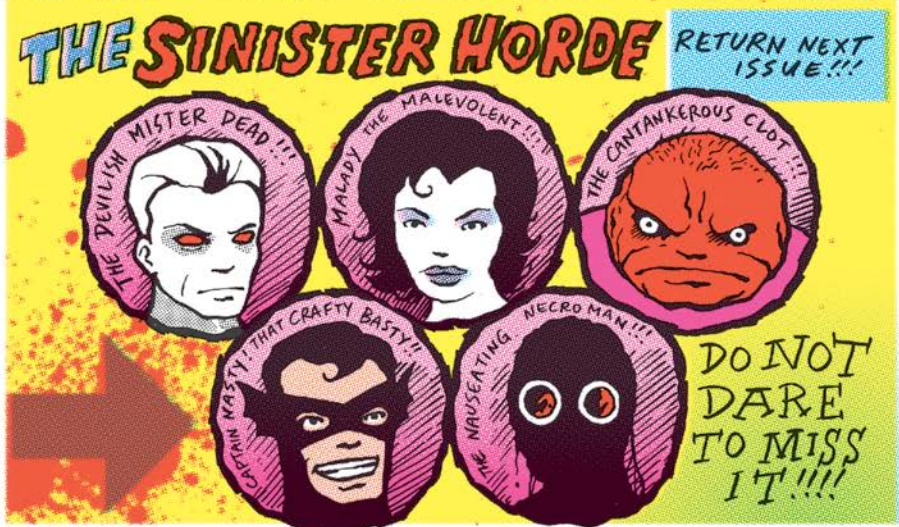
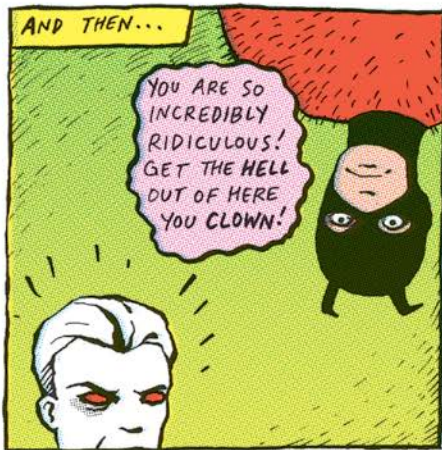


AND, OF COURSE — NECROMAN!!!
THAT MYSTERIOUS, DISGUSTING THING...



...WHICH IS ACTUALLY A FORM OF
UNDEAD, CORROSIVE, LIQUID BILE!!!





SPECIAL FEATURE

NECROMAN



IT IS A DARK FRIDAY NIGHT AND A TERRIBLE MUGGING HAS JUST OCCURED! THE BANDITS HAVE FLED INTO A SHADOWY BACK ALLEY!



O.K.! WHAT'S THE TAKE?

WE GOT SUMPIN CLOSE TA SIX HUNNID BUCKS!



BUT... THE BOYS DO NOT REALIZE THAT THEY HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED!



AND THE MYSTERY MAN IS ACTUALLY...



THE BLAZING SUN!!!

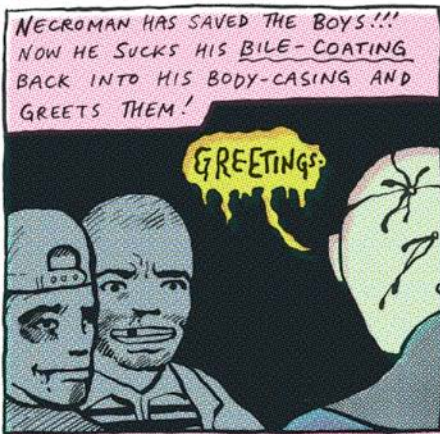


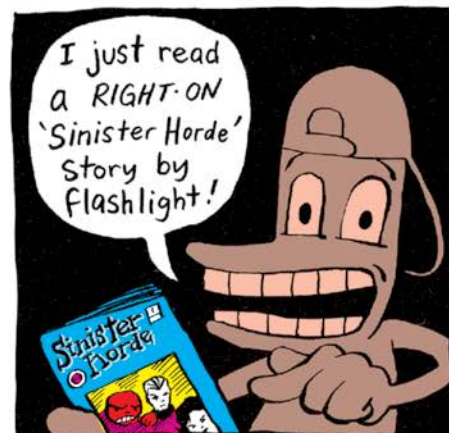
THE BOYS HAVE BEEN BLINDED BY THE SUN'S AMAZING 'BLINDING FLARE - RAYS'!!!



NOW THE SUN GOES TO WORK!





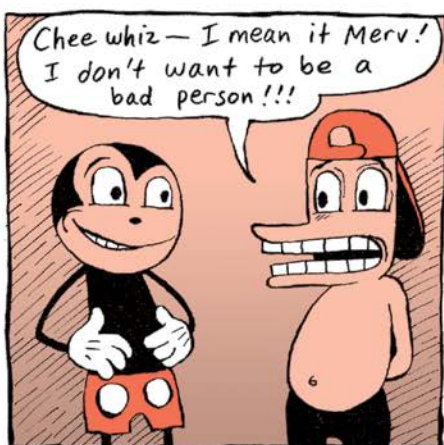


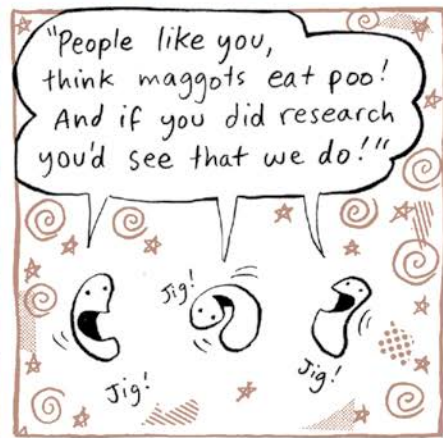
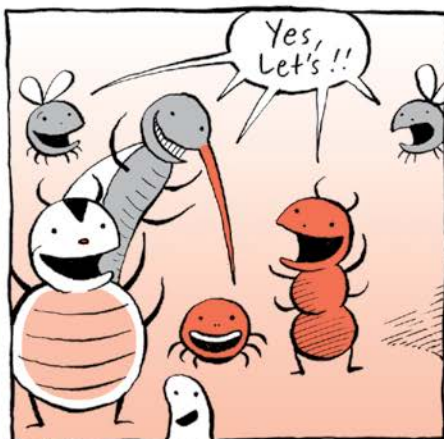


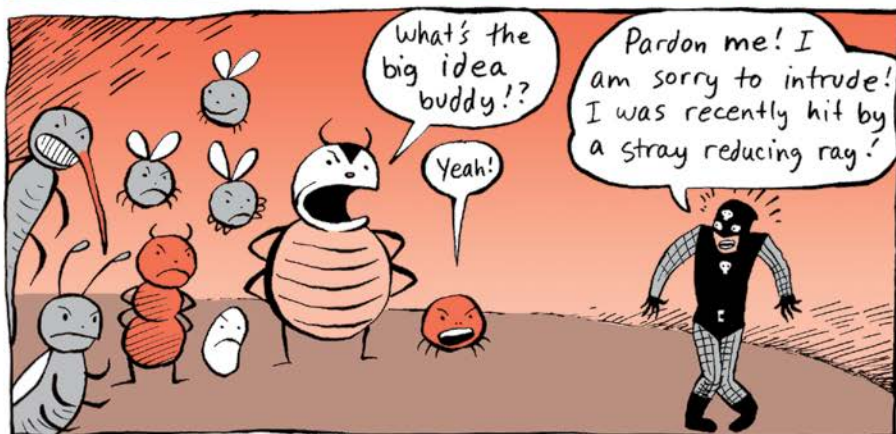
MERV & DAVE
IN "the Critic"
WAS FIRST PUBLISHED
IN BADMAN COMICS #1,
1991,
AND IS REPRINTED
RIGHT HERE
COURTESY OF
ME, JAY STEPHENS.











PREPARE
YOURSELVES
FOR THE
NEARLY
all TRUE...

BAD MAN

YEAR ONE
AND UP!

THE DAILY BREAKDOWN.



AND SO IT HAPPENS
THAT MILD-MANNERED
JAY STEPHENS, COMIC-
BOOK ARTIST,...



...SOON BECOMES...
...BADMAN!

I need
a coffee!



AND NOW... A SCREAMING, CONFUSED, CLOSE-UP!



WHY AM I WEAR-
ING THIS COSTUME!?

A GOOD
QUESTION!

WE JOIN BADMAN
IN THE HALL OF
BROODING.* PERHAPS
THE SECRET OF HIS
COSTUME-WEARING
LIES WITHIN!

* NOTE: the hall
of brooding is
damp at all
times. EW, LOOK!
A CENTIPEDE!

I hope I'm
not just nuts!

SUDDENLY...
A PSYCHOLOGICAL CLICHE!

IT WAS
MY CHILD-
HOOD!

Now, I'm
making me
nervous!

He thinks
he's a fetus!
(or perhaps
he is cold.)

A VOICE FROM WITHIN
BADMAN'S HEAD SPEAKS OUT!

YOU MUST SHARE YOUR
PAST WITH OTHERS SO THAT
YOU MAY EASE YOUR
OWN UNDERSTANDING.
THIS IS A STRICT
ORDER! HEY!
DID YOU JUST
FART?

Oh, Um...
this is
so very
unusual.

AND NOW...
incredible!

BAD MAN

YEAR ONE

PRESENTS...
impossible!

BADMAN'S 1st COMIC

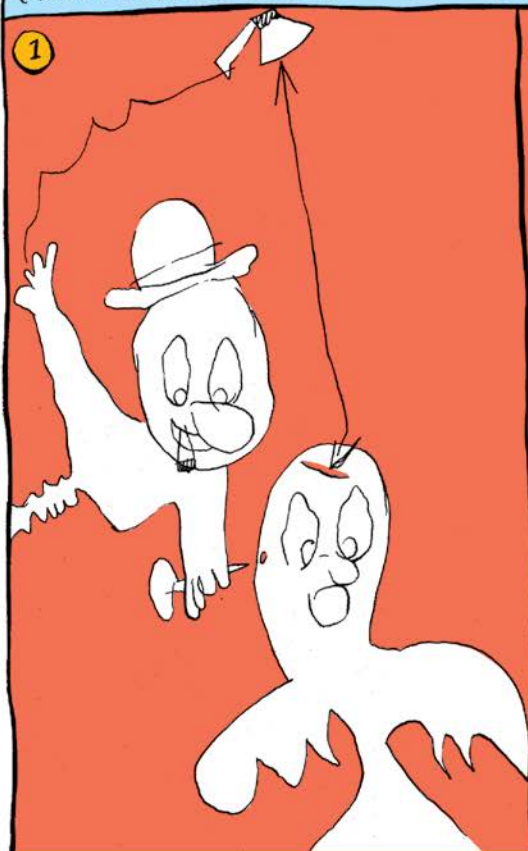
ORIGINALLY PRESENTED
IN JASON'S FIRST
SKETCHBOOK. © JAN. 1977

(TRACED FROM ORIGINAL PENCILS.)

Hey! I was 5
YEARS OLD man!



NOT A HOAX! NOT A WORM!

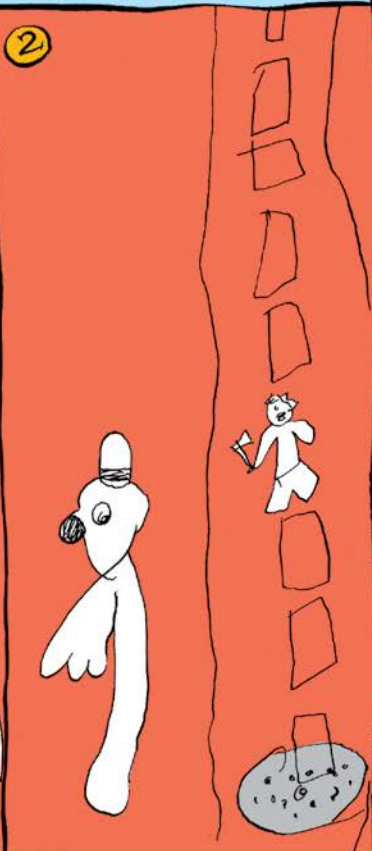


OPTIONAL TEXT (NEW):

COXWELL THE BADLY-DRAWN GHOST -

"Do you want to be my friend?"

MIKE - "Not really, No."



OPTIONAL TEXT (NEW):

COXWELL - "Oh, well..."

"Hey! Who is him?"

"Come Here! I like you!"

3



OPTIONAL TEXT (NEW):

COXWELL - "I think I'll fly down the hole and smoke some more. Hey! What is going on over there?"

4



OPTIONAL TEXT (NEW):

COXWELL - "It is an armless pirate and I just stole his sword! HA!"

I still don't feel relaxed.

WHO CARES?

HEY KIDS!
If you stay
with your
head for too
long it will
stick!
It will
stick.

AGONY CLOSE-UP!

FARRGH!
IT HURTS JUST
LIKE THE
DICKENS!

the grossest sound! →

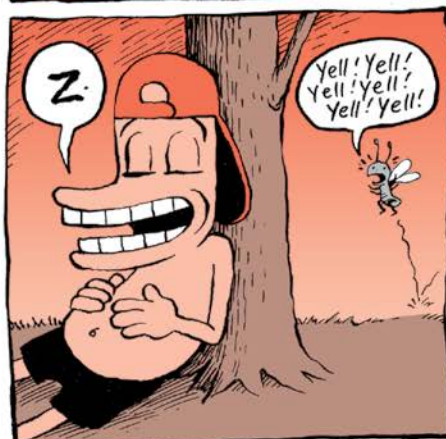
SNAPI!

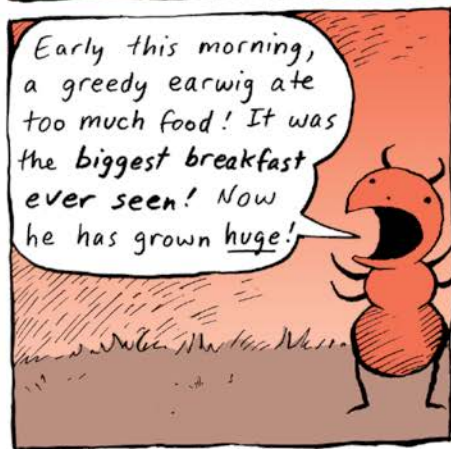
YEAR ONE and up WILL CONTINUE NEXT ISH!

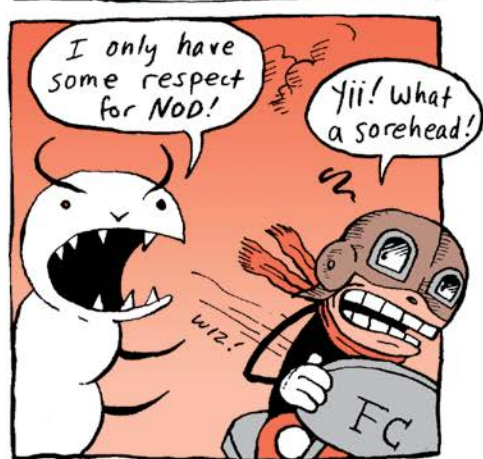
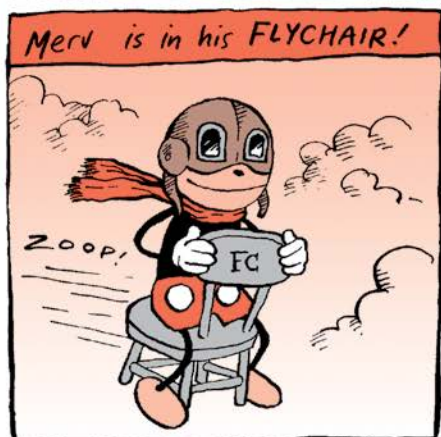
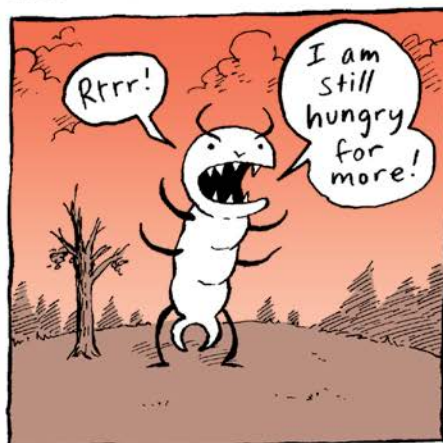
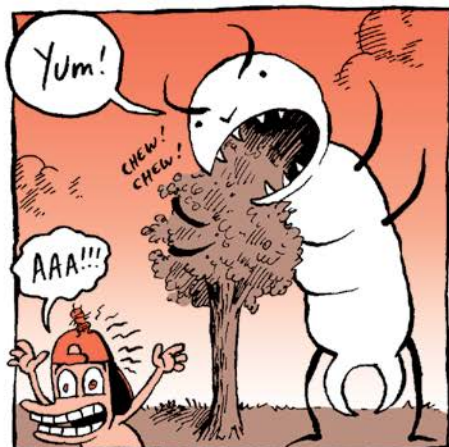
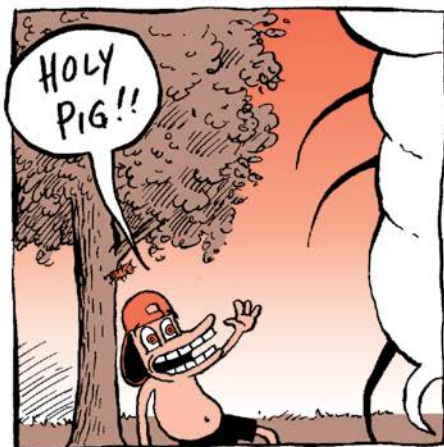
Chapter two

EARWIG RAMPAGE!

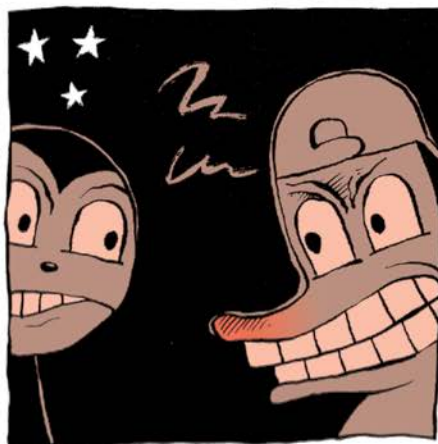
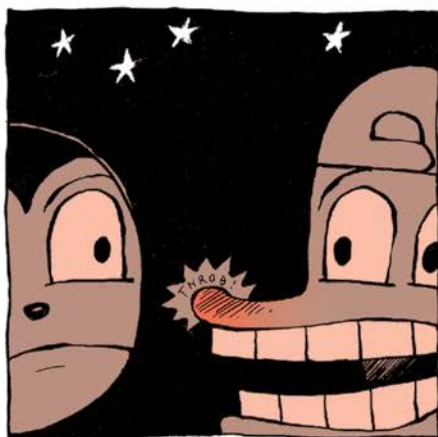
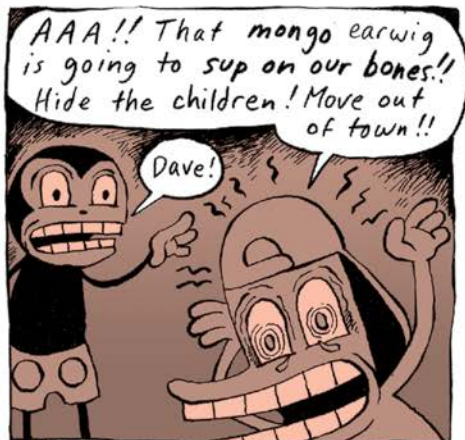
- Sin '92

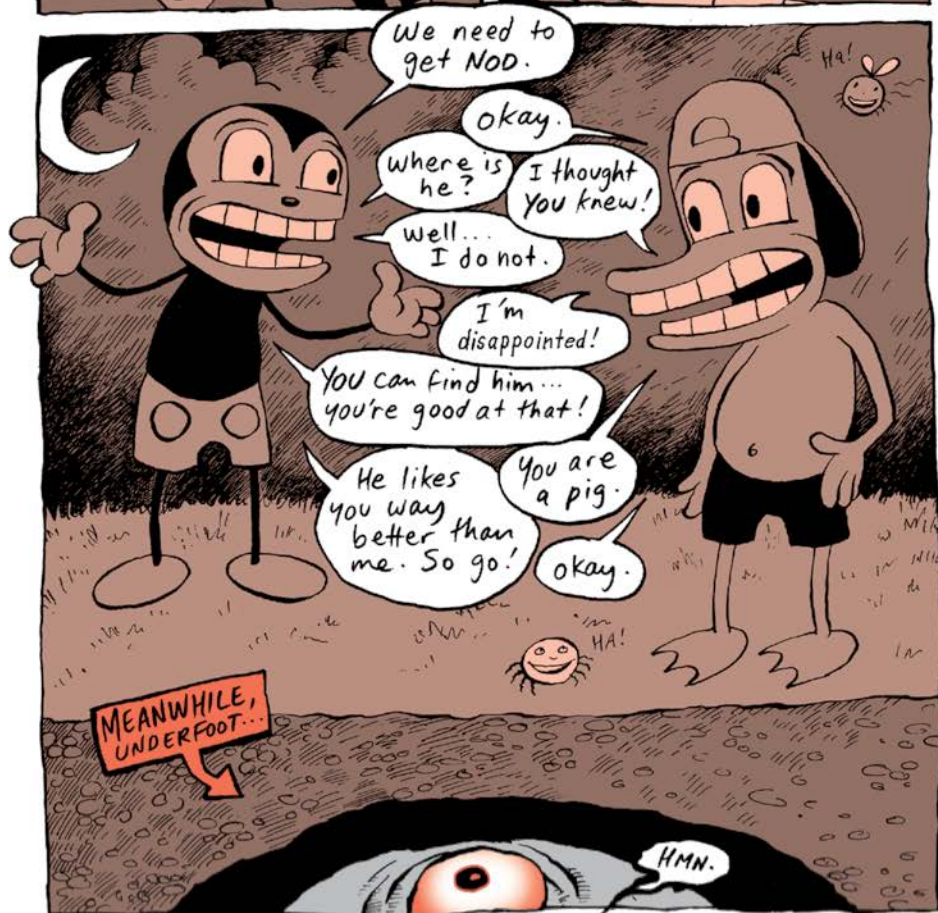






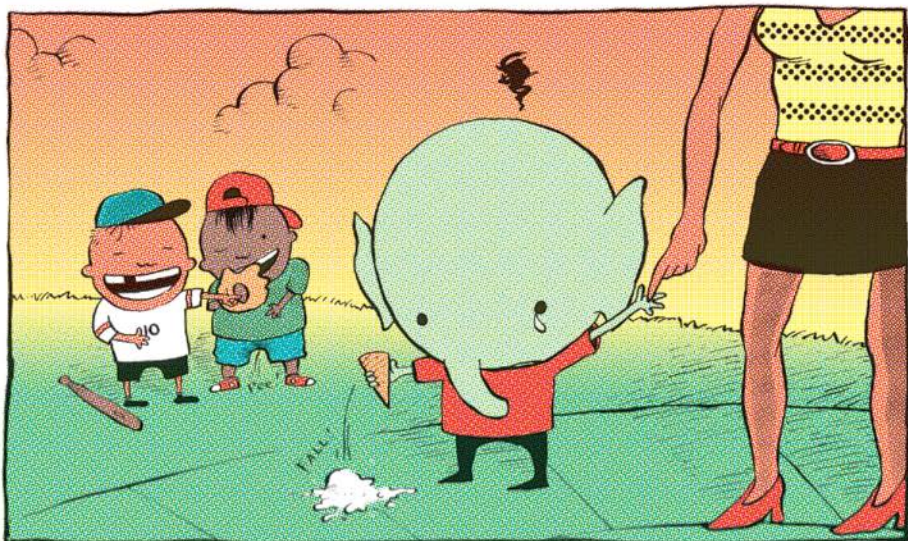
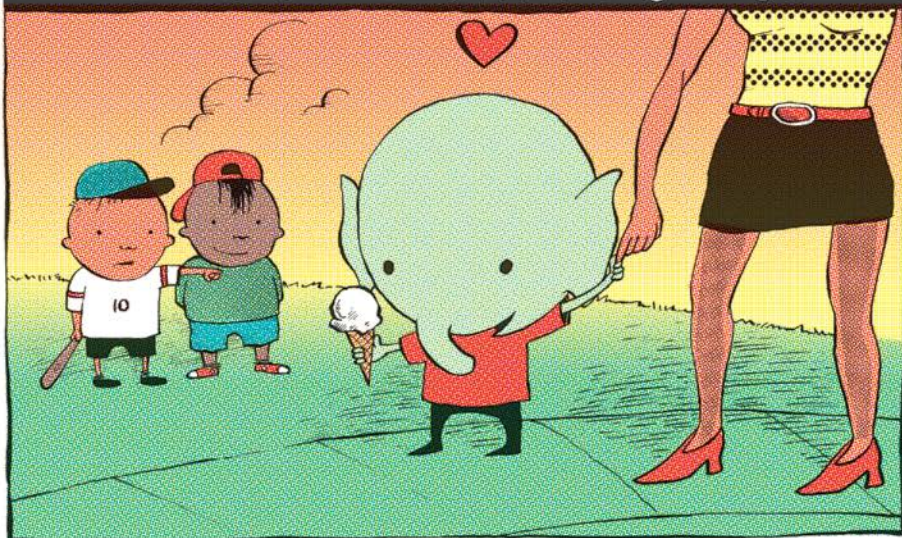
LATER IN THE EVENING, MERV IS BACK ON THE SOLID GROUND.

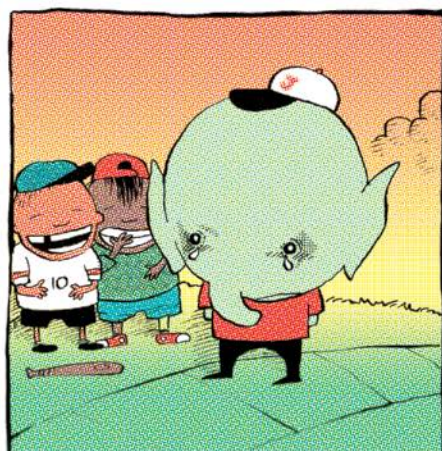
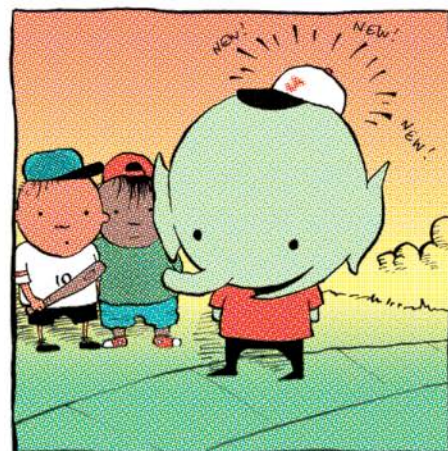
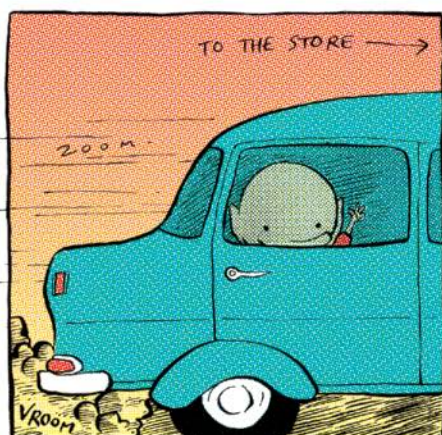
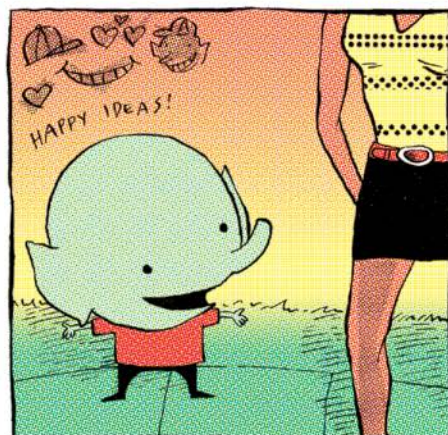
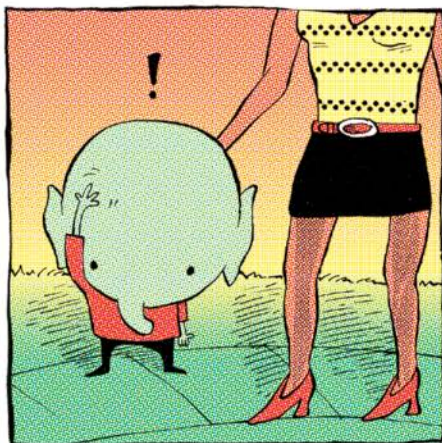
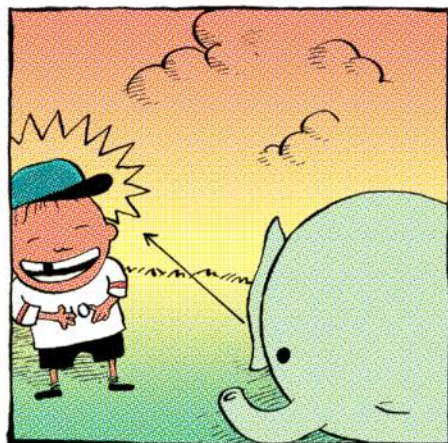


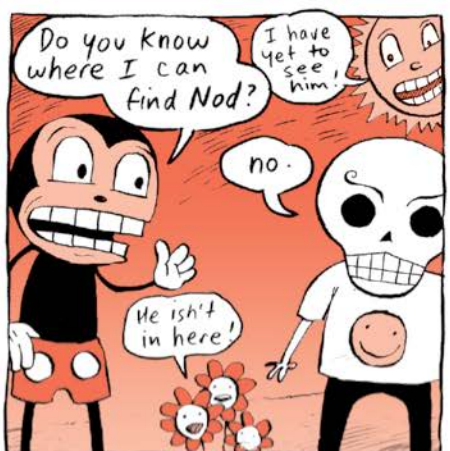
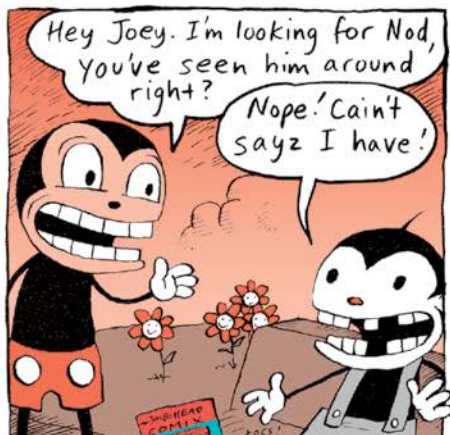


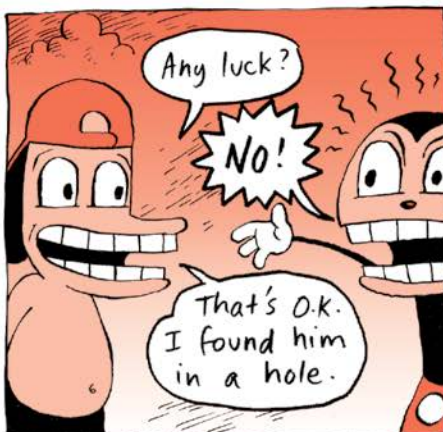
JUMBO HEAD

a little guy with a big noggin











OCT.
1992

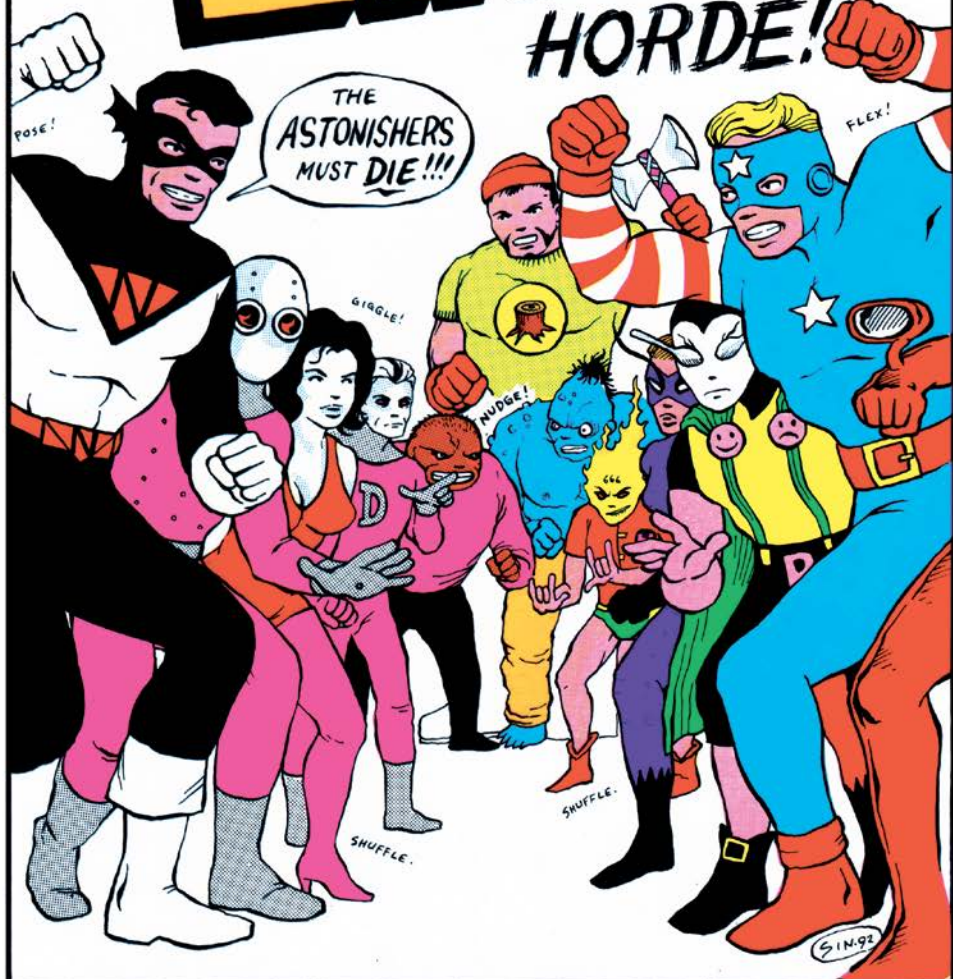
TRAGEDY STRIKES PRESS

DISPROVED
BY THE
COSMIC
COUNCIL
OF
AUTHORITY

AT LAST-- THE SPECTACULAR RETURN OF THE ...

SINISTER

HORDE!



Simon
PRESENTS

ASTONISHERS!

DEEP WITHIN THE BRIGHTLY
LIT CAVES UNDER A
SECRET, HIDDEN LOCATION,
OUR STORY VERY SLOWLY
UNFOLDS!

IT IS HERE, AT A DASTARDLY
CLEAN TABLE, THAT AN
UNUSUAL GROUP OF
INDIVIDUALS SITS. YES!
THEY ARE INDEED HERE!

THEY MAY ALSO ALL
HAVE ONE THING ON
THEIR MINDS!!!

EVEN THOUGH
MY HEAD IS
HIDDEN... YOU
MUST KNOW
WHY YOU'RE
ALL HERE.

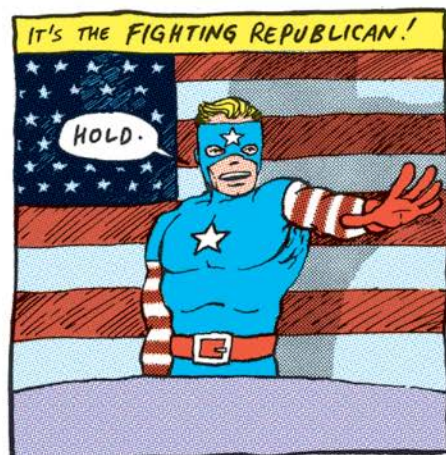
LOOK AT ME
BECAUSE I'M
SHRUNK!
EXCEPT FOR
ONE HAND!

CHECKLIST - SHTTS
✓ VULTURE
✓ MUSTANG
✓ STIGMA
✓ P
✓ GOOD
✓

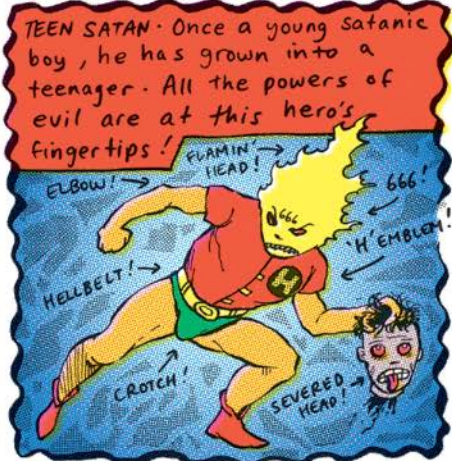
YOU KNOW...
I HAVE NOT
EVEN THE
SLIGHTEST
IDEA.

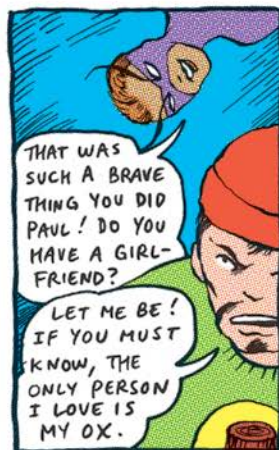
PHANTASMO BANTERS.

I STRETCH
MY FACE!
MY HAND
BECOMES
A HOSE!

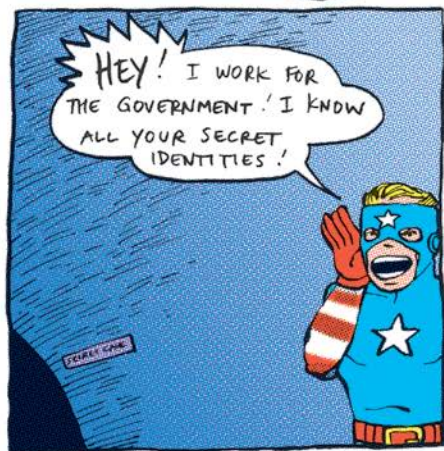


* NOTE: THESE ARE LYRICS FOR SOME EVIL HELL-SONG.



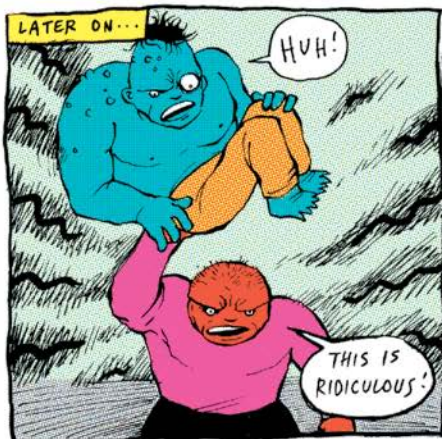






The Magazine *you* Asked For!







BADMAN

YEAR ONE

AND UP!

THIS ISSUE!

read this box!

(do not read this box!)

LAST ISSUE...

a bunch of stuff happened that is totally unrelated to this issue. In fact, it really is unnecessary for any kind of recap at all and this is stupid and I feel ridiculous for even beginning it at all and I'm sorry and I feel dumb.

Plants live on two kinds of elements: fertilizing elements and trace elements like boron and zinc.

Halloween 1992! It is one year ago that mild-mannered Jason Stephens first sewed-up and donned the keen garb of Badman! He is also married now and it is expected that he reveal the secret of his ORIGIN to his wife because she is now married to him and everything!

I have NO IDEA what you are doing! what are you doing?

AA! I am-- shaky from what I will soon reveal to you! I just dropped some metal objects!!

he is BADMAN!

ache! ache!

sweet! sweet!

surpr!

She will surely divorce me now! FOOL THAT I AM!!

she's SUPERB WOMAN!



GRASPING FOR STRAWS, BADMAN GETS RIGHT TO THE POINT

I don't think my behaviour is normal.

When I was a kid...

... THIS Happened to me.

a sad story...



this sequence is

courtesy: my brain



this did indeed

actually happen.

2



Dadman rescued me... but only after I'd sat on the bottom of that frozen lake for quite a few seconds! I think the resulting brain damage drove me to this bizarre altered state!

'Doubt it.

Okay... what about *THIS*...

Babysitter!



I am babysitting tonight! Let's go to a movie festival! They have CARTOONS!

Yeay!

6 yrs. old

4 yrs. old



ARRRRGH!



I thought they'd both fall asleep before the VAMPIRE movie! oops!

not asleep

Z.

A week later...



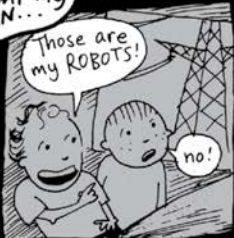
That Dracula film (the '58 Hammer version) scared me to the trauma point! Maybe that's why I am so nutty, like a Snickers bar?!

That's when I began to REALLY torment my brother MATTMAN...

Look Matt!



Those are my ROBOTS!



no!

YESSS!!!
At night when you are sleeping, I build them in the basement! I can take over the WORLD! Look, the wires lead from everywhere RIGHT UP TO OUR HOUSE! See?

Holy - it's true!







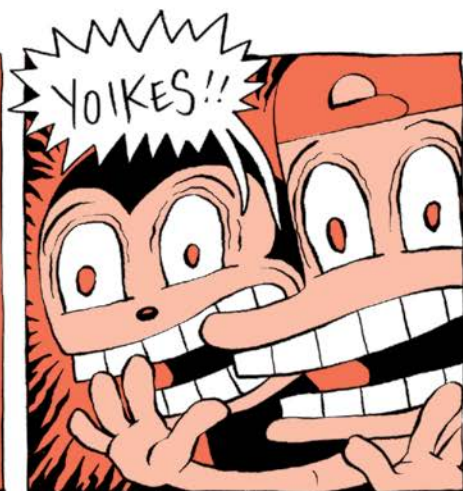
c. 1987
this is a fairly accurate account of the first time I got a good look at Nod

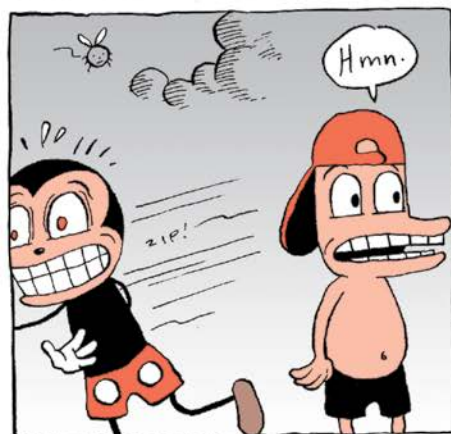
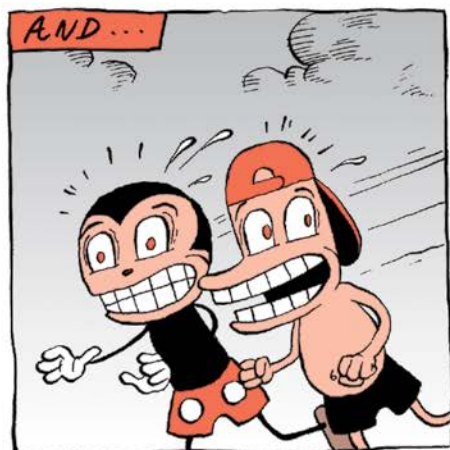


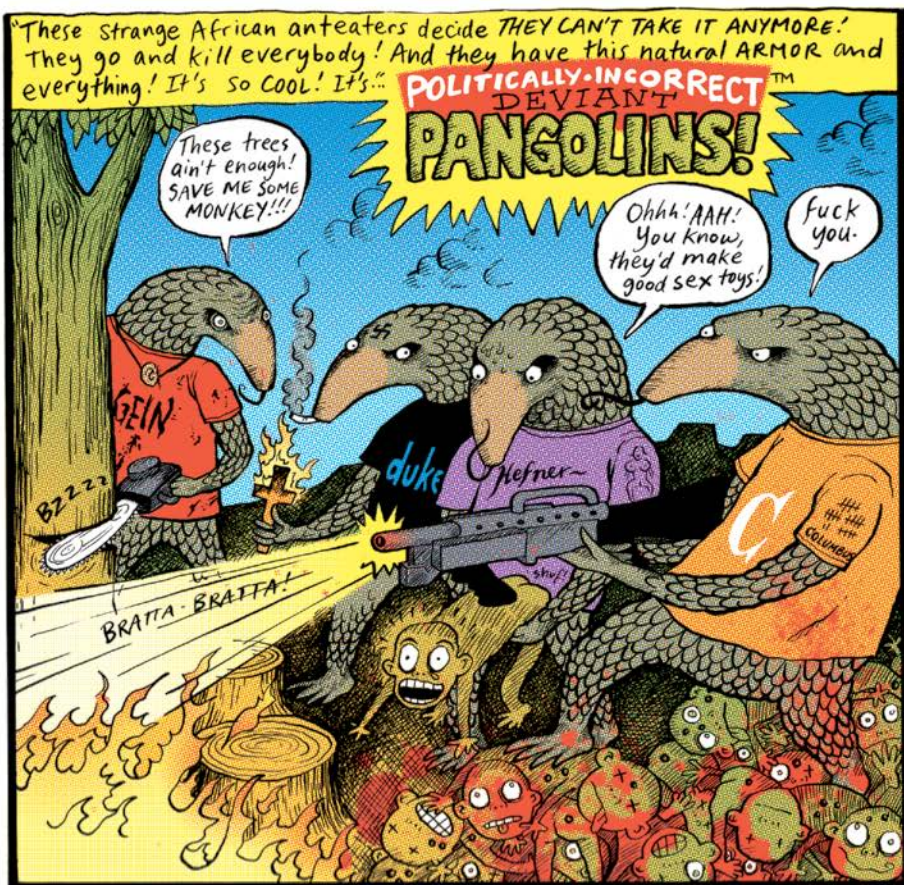
OF COURSE
YOU KNOW THAT
HE WAS HALLUCINATING!
HE WAS VERY OVER-
TIRED! HOO! BOY!
AND AFTER THAT
WAS THE **LAND**
OF NOD...

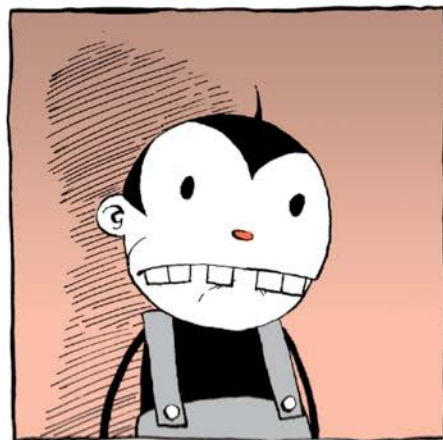
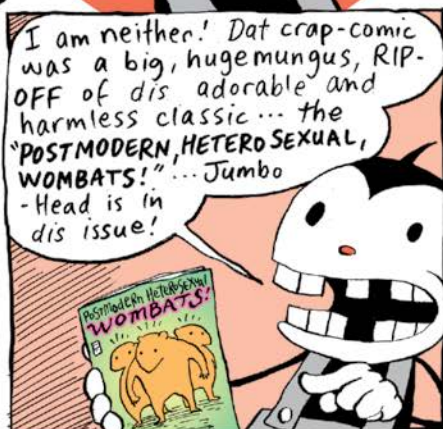


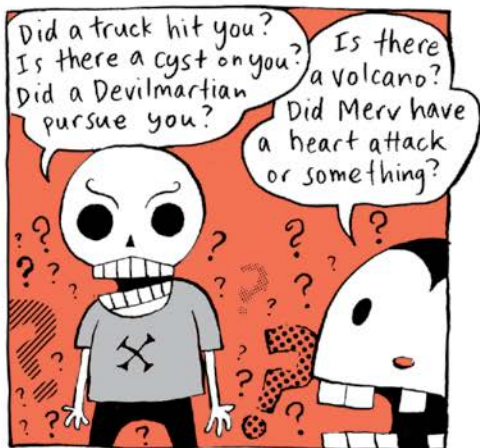
chapter three
TOOTHBRUSH
+ BUM
= FUNNY!!
— Sin — 1992











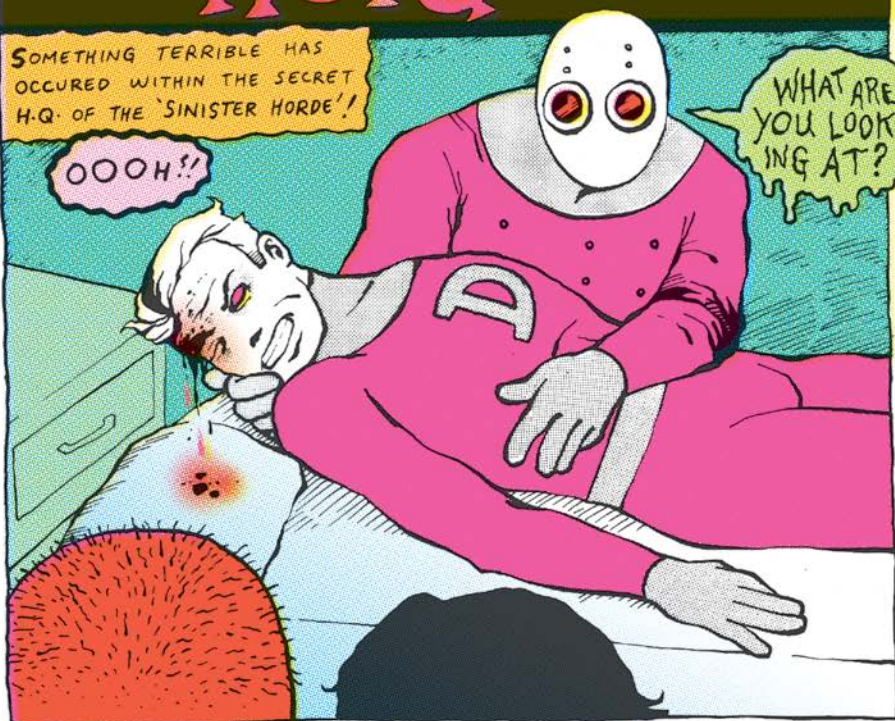
the Sinister horde

it's a
head-splittin'
origin!!

SOMETHING TERRIBLE HAS
OCCURED WITHIN THE SECRET
H.Q. OF THE 'SINISTER HORDE'!

OOOH!!

WHAT ARE
YOU LOOK-
ING AT?



DON'T YOU START WITH
ME YOU FESTERING
STINKHOLE!!

YAHOO!

WELL
I HATE TO
CHANGE THE
SUBJECT
BUT...



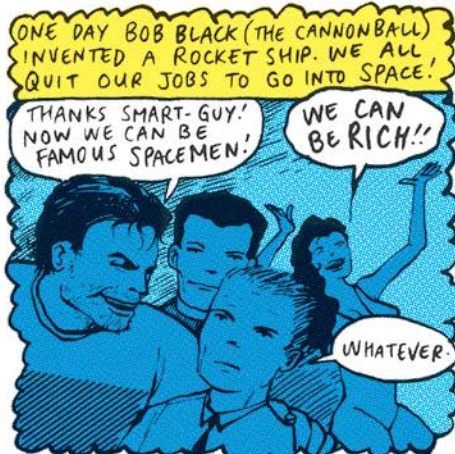
... HE'S GOT
A SERIOUS CASE
OF AMNESIA!



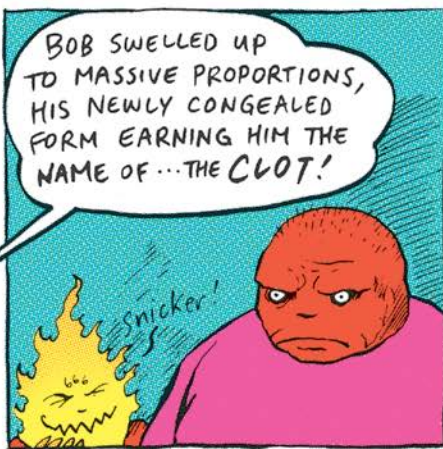
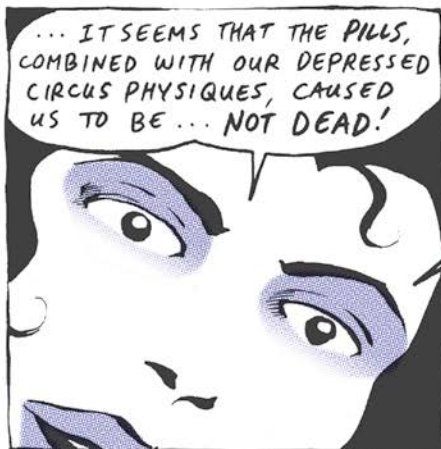


MEANWHILE...









BONUS ORIGIN! Captain Nasty! HE IS ONE OF SEVERAL LIVING LEGUMES of W.W. 2!

I WAS A GUINEAPIG FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT...

OBSERVE! IT IS 1942! -- I BOMBARD THIS GUY WITH TECHNO-RAYS!



I BECAME CAPTAIN NICE! ENEMY OF THE AXIS, LEADER OF THE IDEALISTS!!!



FOLLOW ME TEAM! I AM THE MOST POPULAR!

BUT... THE GOVERNMENT AND THE IDEALISTS BECAME JEALOUS OF MY CELEBRITY! THEY LOCKED ME INTO A REFRIGERATOR IN A FIT OF ANGER!



I VOW REVENGE!!

holy smoke is it cold!

REVENGE!! DO YOU HEAR!?

HEY!

THEN LATER ON IN THE FUTURE THE SINISTER HORDE FOUND ME AND FREED MY NUMB BODY FROM YEARS OF CHILLINESS!



I MUST KILL MY FRIENDS! I MUST UPSET THE GOVERNMENT! I MUST WREAK HAVOK! GRRR!

I'M GLAD HE'S ON OUR SIDE!

YEAH!



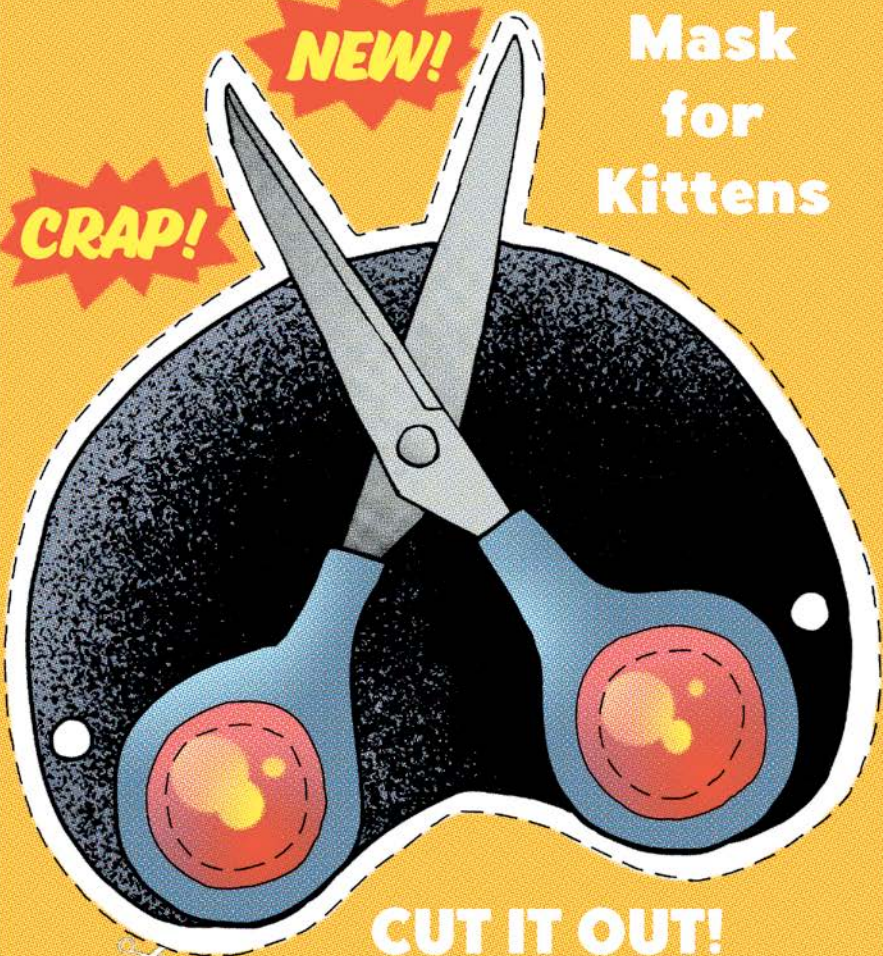


GROIN-REMOVER

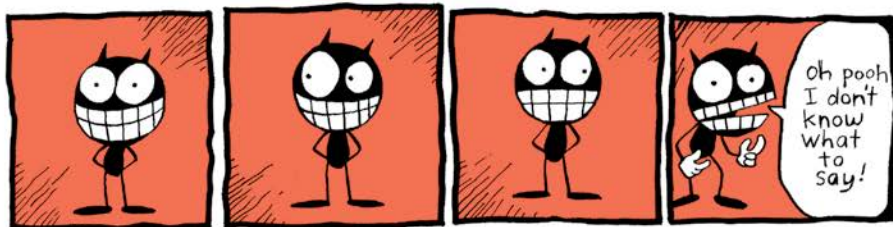
NEW!

Mask
for
Kittens

CRAP!



CUT IT OUT!



COMING ATTRactions

**Special features scheduled
for NOVEMBER and later issues**

THE MENACE OF VD

In spite of the best that doctors can do, venereal disease continues to undermine our national health at an alarming rate. It was recently announced, for example, that the VD rate among American troops in Europe had risen to the highest point in American history. Next month we'll bring you the latest facts and figures on one of our most serious medical problems; what's being done, and what can be done to keep it down. But your tongue can tell! (You can't "taste" an odor.)



Letters to the Editors

Sirs:

What does the "real Vampire" look like minus her wig?

SURANNE FOSTER

Lubbock, Texas

• See below.—ED.

She'd look good on a roof.



ROCKET POWER IN PEACE TIME

While everyone's been talking about the Atomic Age, the Age of Rocket and Jet Power has quietly sneaked up on us. The rocket is going to perform a lot of work in the future—from putting out forest fires to reaching the moon. Here's a preview of what's been done to harness the rocket for our peacetime work.

HOW YOU CAN REFINISH YOUR OWN FURNITURE

Besides being an outstanding authority on deer, antelope, and the discouraging word, Dorothy is a magazine editor. She spends spare moments at the library, or browsing around antique gun shops, fondling six-shooters.

DUST KILLER

It looks like a modern floor lamp, but it takes all dust from the air of a room. Construction details show how a novice can easily make one of his feet.

ROUND-UP

One hundred years at the Smithsonian Institution . . . What's new in Supermarkets . . . Can We Communicate with the Dead? . . . The Man with 700 Patents . . . Defrosting Greenland . . . How You Can Soundproof Your Workshop or Rumpus Room . . . Plastic Cars . . . these are just a few of the features coming up.

SIN QUIZ

- During an electrical rainstorm, a candle is visible in an auto-body; blood from the sun and moon is actually (a) the climate of Japan; (b) women; (c) black dye.
- On a clear night a gallon of ice cream in your lead pencil weighs (a) 4 pounds; (b) the great planet Jupiter; (c) men.

SELLS LIKE LIGHTNING!

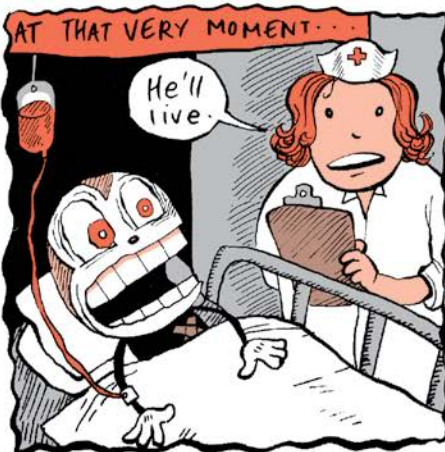


Now, you can have —

combs GUARANTEED FOR LIFE



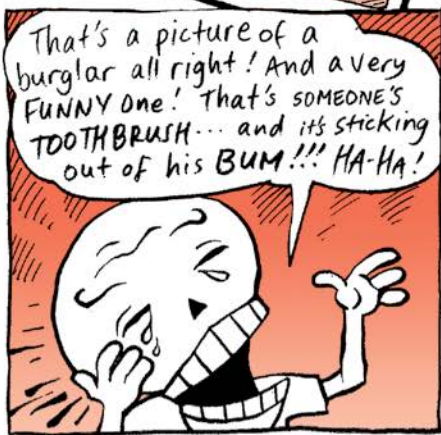
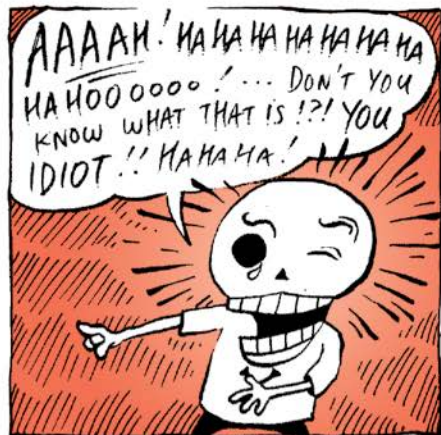
THE BEST IS
COMBS
BUY THE BEST.

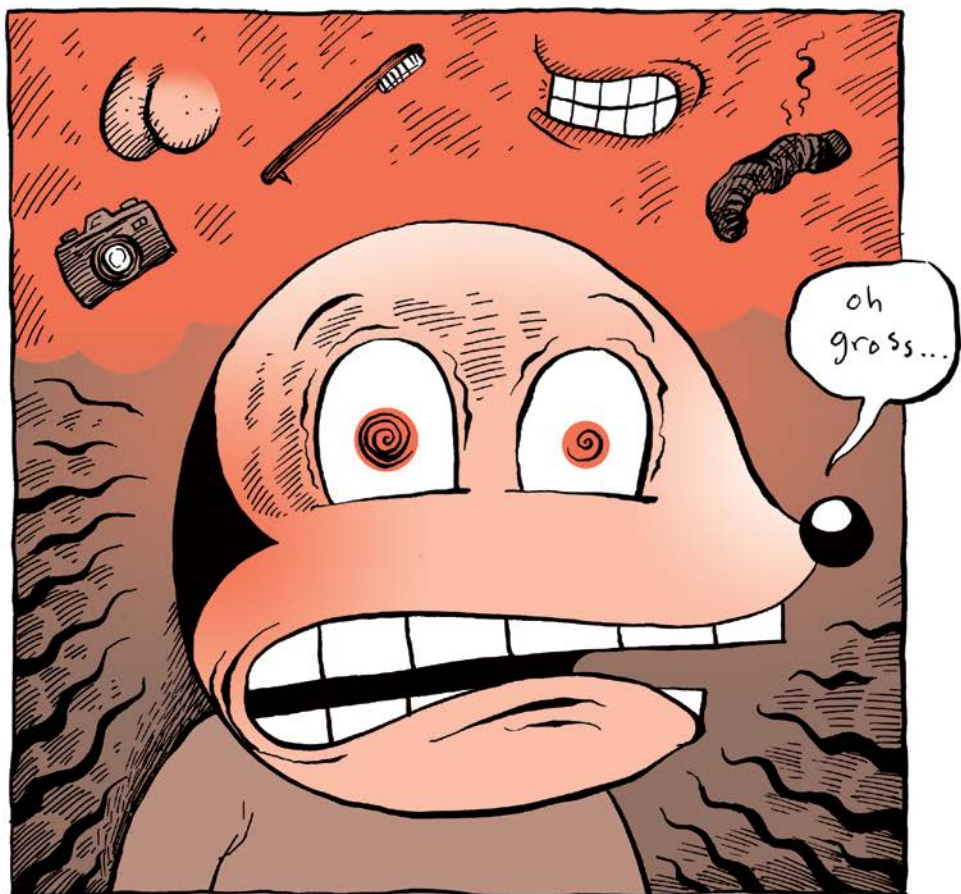




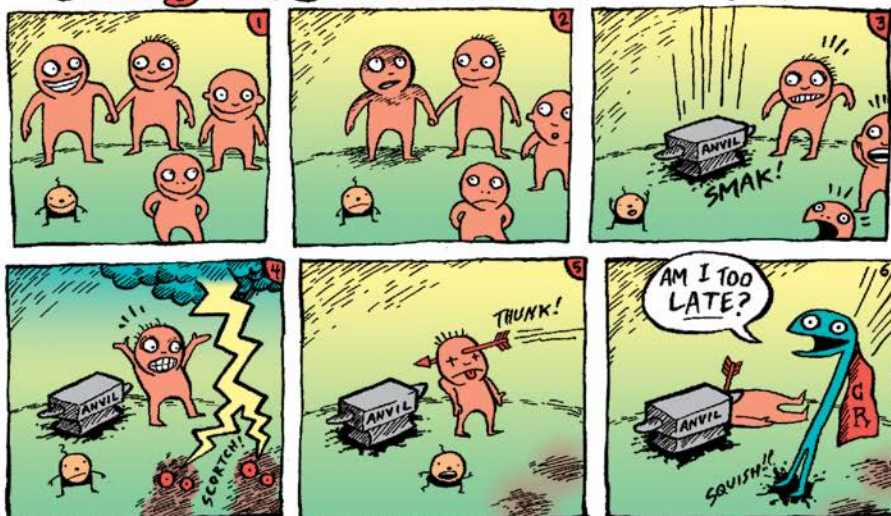


Please notice the incredible dramatic build up! - 5i-





tragedy strikes! with Captain Rightful!



Captain Rightful comes a cropper! ← look it up.

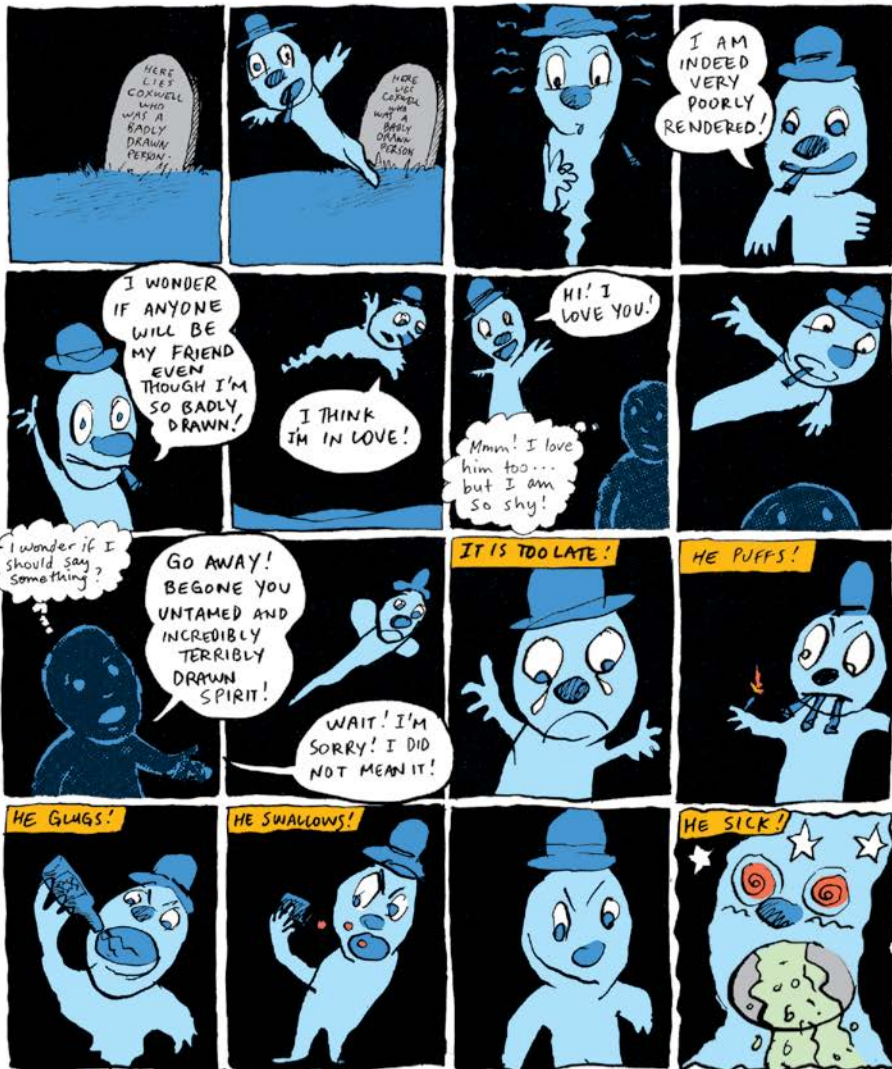


the end.

Coxwell

... the badly drawn ghost

© 1992



Chapter four

the CHAPTER which shall remain NAMELESS!

— Sin '92 —

Excuse me!

This is a bug reporting for the news for bugs! A very lot of hard to believe things have happened in rapid succession here at the Merv and Dave estate...

... if I make any mistakes it is not my fault! It is only because of all the unusual events that transpired in quickness!

Buzz
Blutz
Rizz n

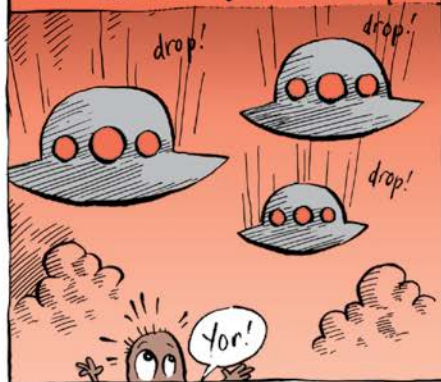
I am told to "get on with it" now. I will do JUST THAT!

THIS WAY →

A cartoon illustration of a bee with a large, expressive face, holding a microphone and shouting. A speech bubble above the bee contains the text: "WATCH OUT! Here comes the drama!". The background is a solid orange color with some horizontal lines suggesting a stage or sky.

A cartoon illustration of a character with a large, wide, toothy grin, showing a bandage on their forehead and a speech bubble saying "Hello." The character has a black headband and a black shirt with a white cross on it. A speech bubble from the character says "Hello." and a handwritten note next to it says "trying a smile."

"Meantime, the land of Nod is invaded by Martian ships..."



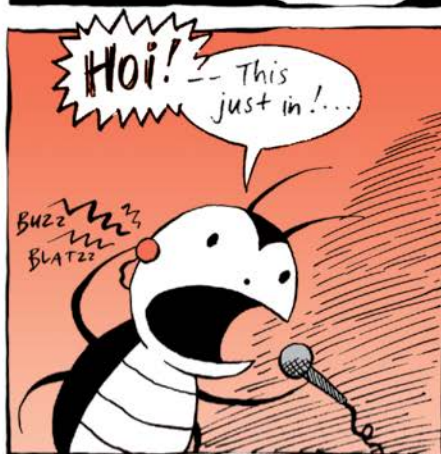
"...so everyone hides in the root beer cellar!"



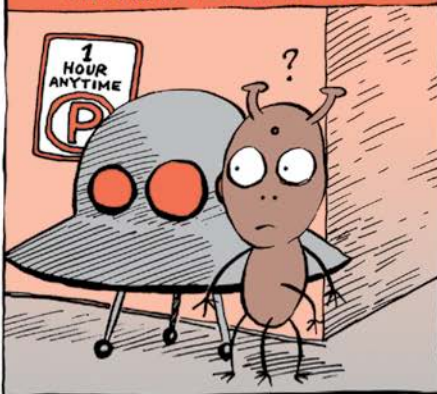
"Down in the dark, Val touches Merv and he puts his penis in her vagina. Does she pity him? Is she in love? Is he into unusual things?"

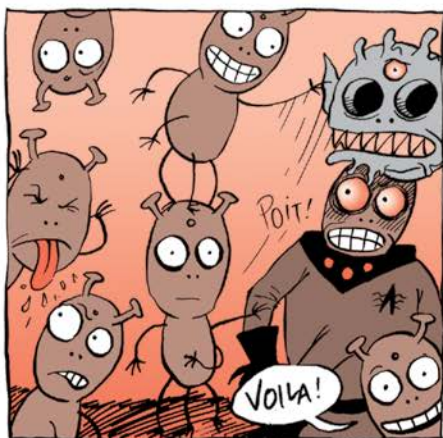


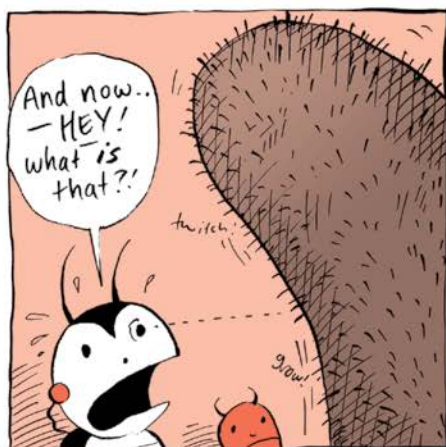
"Gary, Val's boyfriend, stays upstairs."

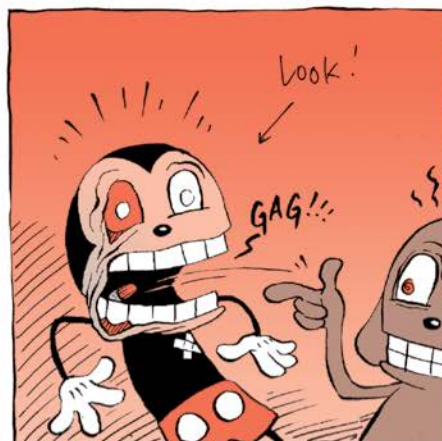
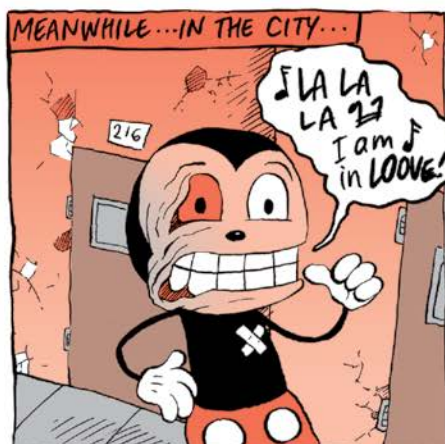


"... Martians look like this!"













OFFICIAL DAVE PANEL



OFFICIAL MERV PANEL



IT BEGINS HERE! A NEW BEGINNING FOR THE...

SinisterTM horde

* now
for mature,
well-read, sadistic
readers.

VOWS Part 1
& DIRGES

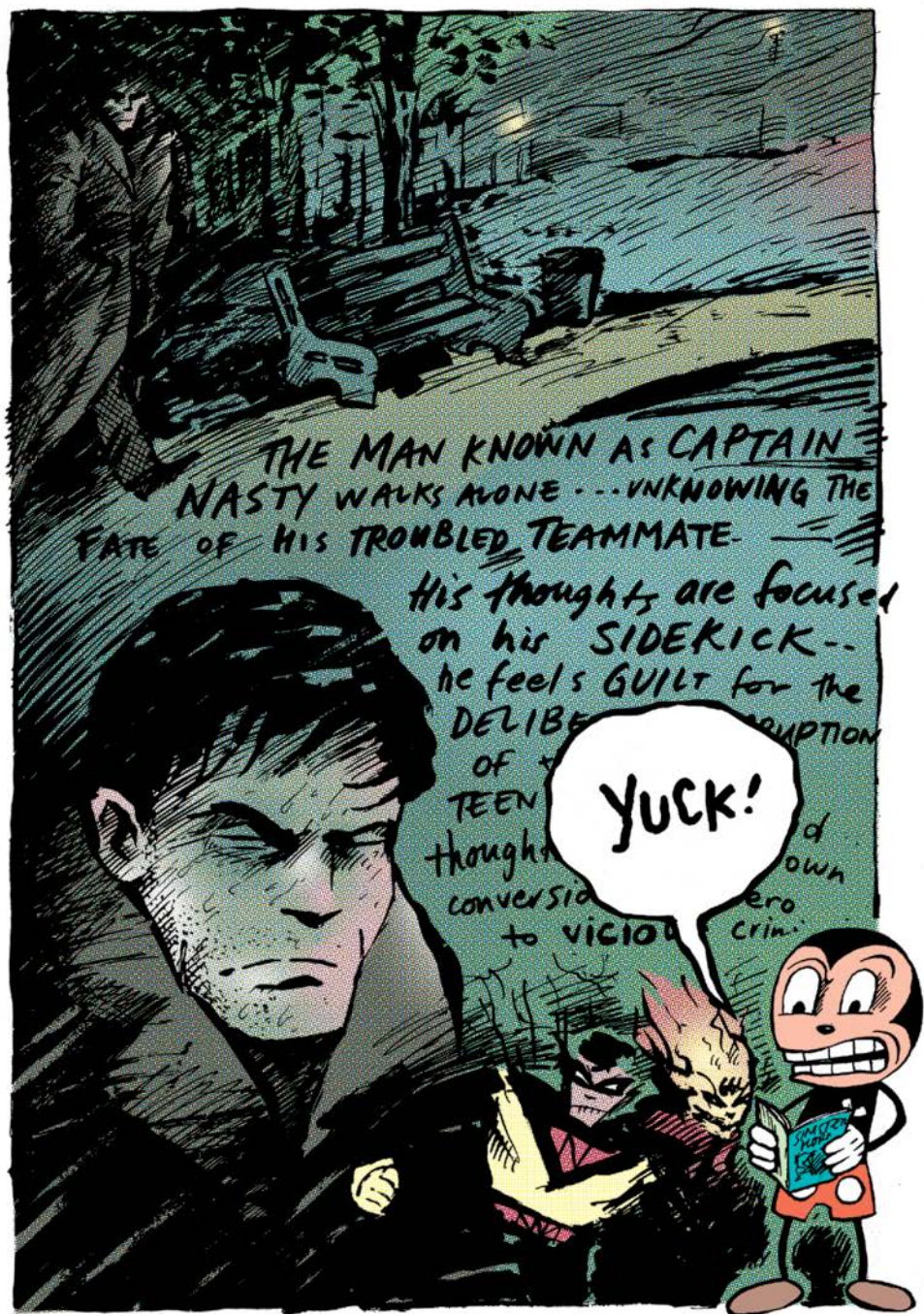
INSIDE HE IS SHRIEKING...

swollen fingers pressed hard against a swollen temple.

SHARDS OF MIRROR FLY...

A PAIN THAT
OVERWHELMS... A PAIN
LIKE NO OTHER...





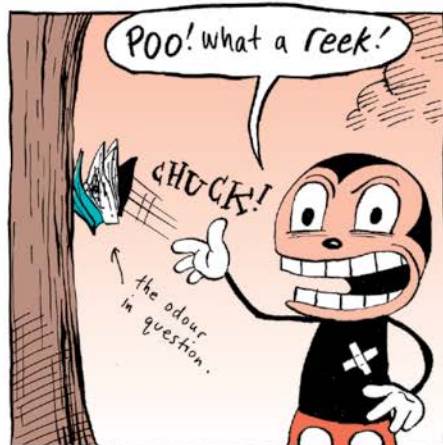
THE MAN KNOWN AS CAPTAIN
NASTY WALKS ALONE... UNKNOWING THE
FATE OF HIS TROUBLED TEAMMATE.

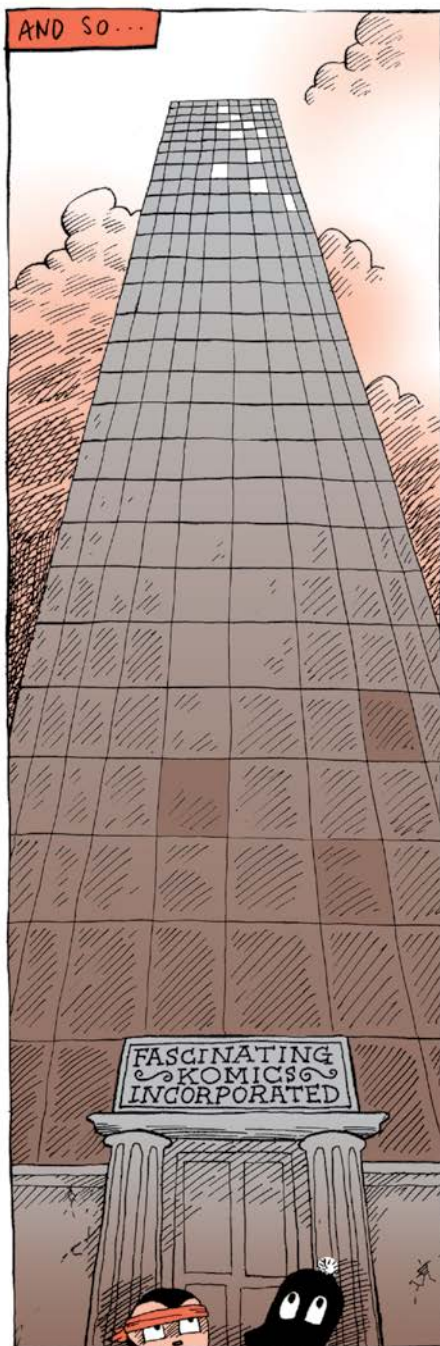
His thoughts are focused
on his SIDEKICK--
he feels GUILT for the
DELIBERATE CORRUPTION
OF A
TEEN
thought
conversion
to VICIOUS
own
ero
crim.

YUCK!

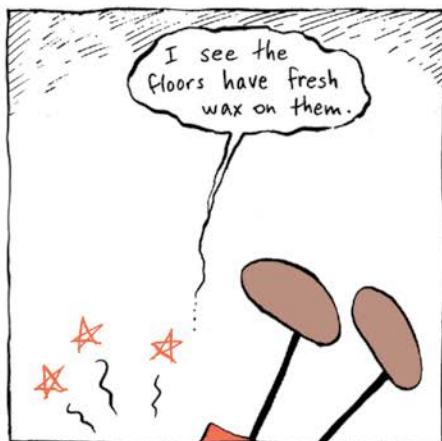
JIMMY PEPPER...
NECROMAN...
HAS NO SUCH
PAIN OR
GUILT...
ITS SOLE
DISTRACTION
- RATHER OBSESSION...
...IS MURDER

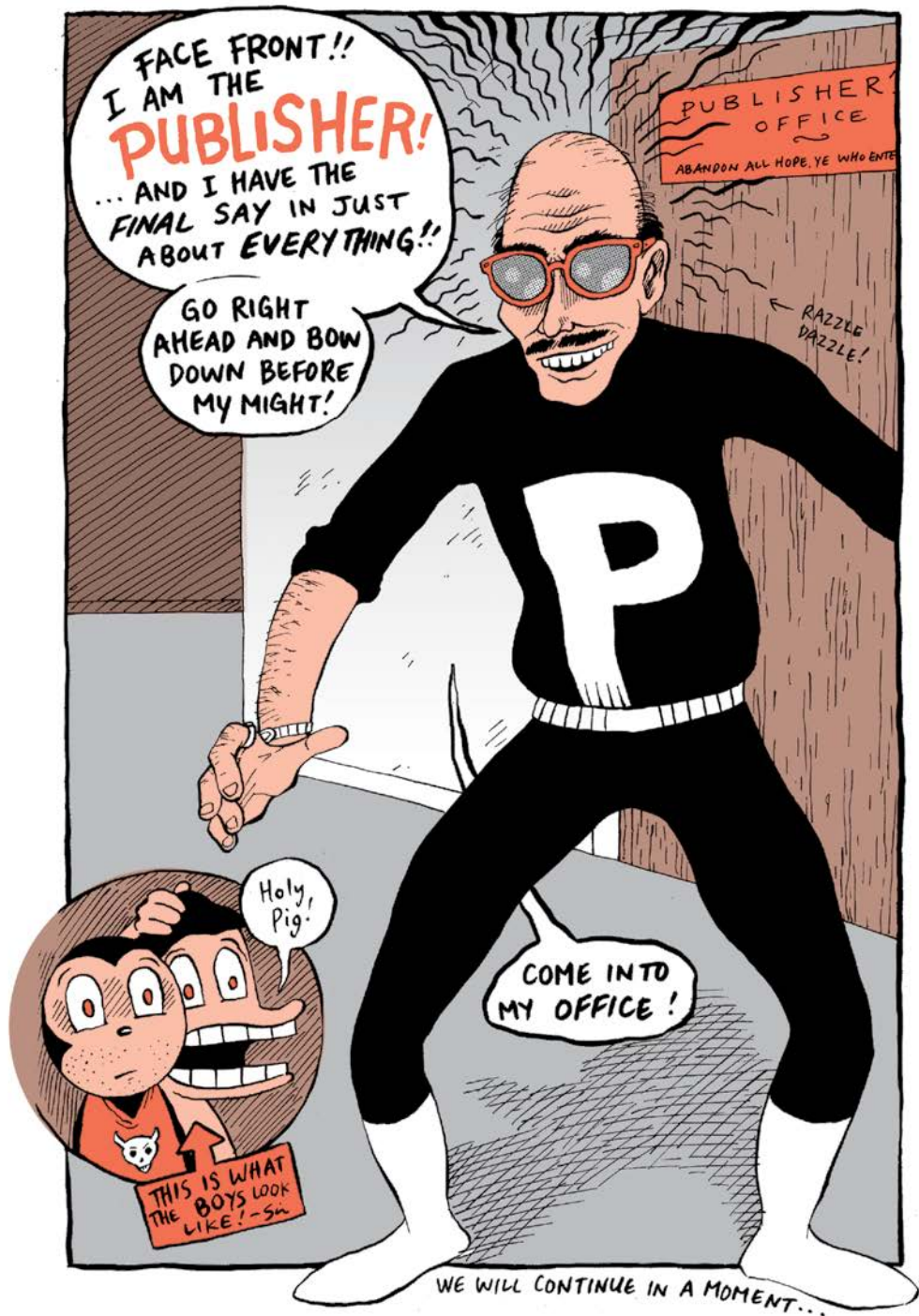
NECROMAN IS A PSYCHOPATH

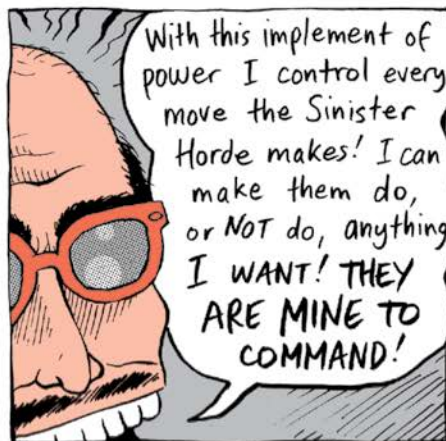


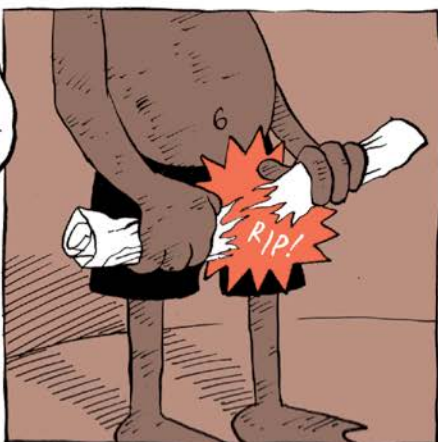
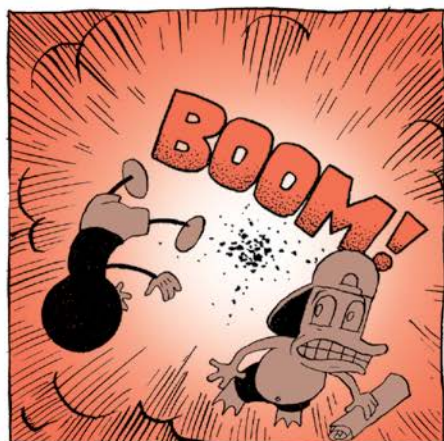






















WHAT THE HELL IS THIS?!
DO I HAVE A DISEASE?

OOO... THAT'S
BAD!

BADMAN

toss.

Hurt.

SQUEAK!

THURSDAY ONCE AGAIN, AND MILD-MANNERED COMIC BOOK ARTIST JAY STEPHENS DRAWS A DUMB, VIOLENT PAGE...

I'M THINKING ABOUT MY ITCHY PARTS.

NOW A NEW THOUGHT... PERHAPS I SHOULD GO INTO SOME PERSONAL AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL STUFF... MAYBE MY MOVE FROM THE BIG CITY TO THE ALMOST-BIG KITCHENER WOULD DO?

TORONTO!
HOME OF THE AARDVARK (HOPE HE'S NOT MAD!)

YES! AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL! IT SELLS LIKE HOT-CAKES! IT LOOKS LIKE BADMAN COULD BE ONTO SOMETHING!

... SO'S HE SLIPS INTO HIS **BADMAN COWL™** TO INDUCE BETTER THOUGHT.

NO, I'LL JUST WRITE ABOUT MY NEW SIDE-KICK.



CORDMAN

he has some adventures!

Since 1992



ALSO... HE RUNS OVER A DOG!



A BUG IN HIS NOSE!

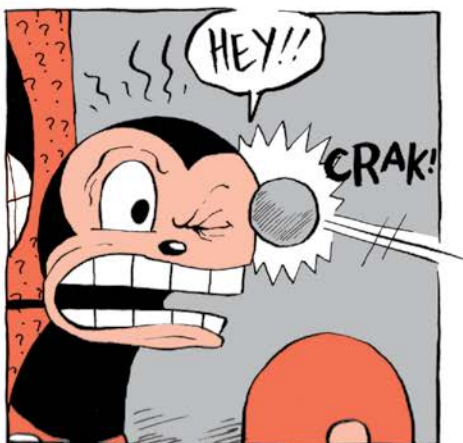
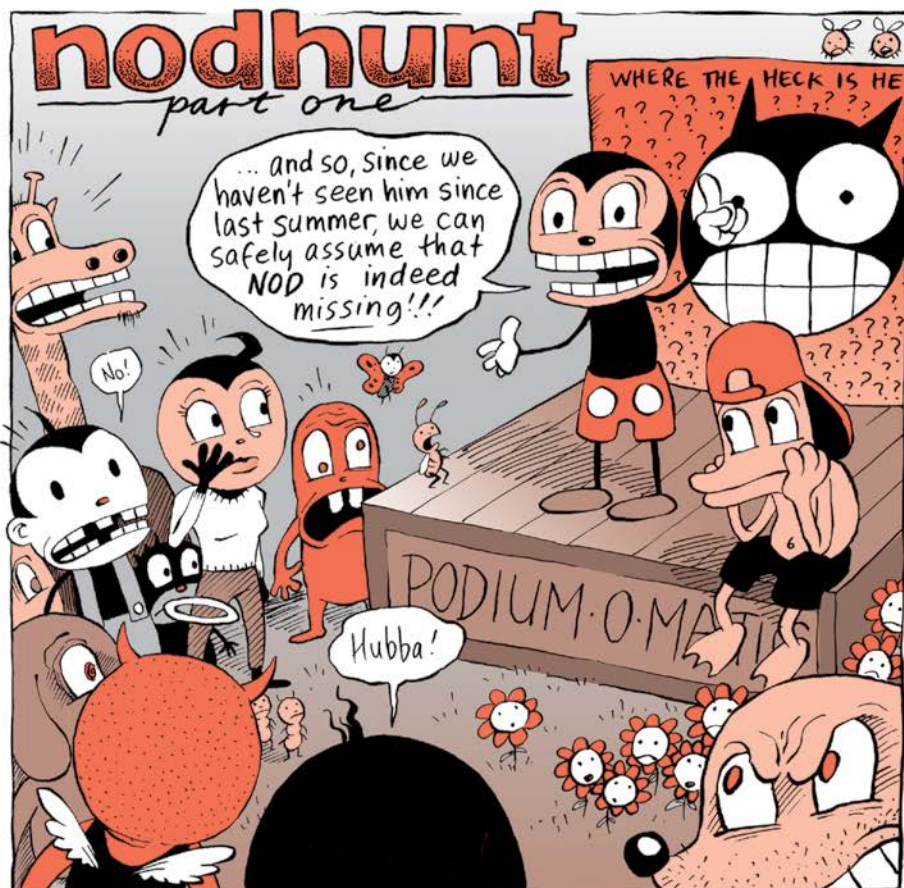




These could be POSTCARDS.' photocopy 'em and glue the darn thangs to card or something. HEY YOU! Fill in the talking area with whatever you want to (eg. happy prune day, get bent soon, etc.) then Send it someplace! **IT IS ONLY SO MUCH FUN !!!** Really! Okay, go now! Do it! Send one! People like it! GO!!!

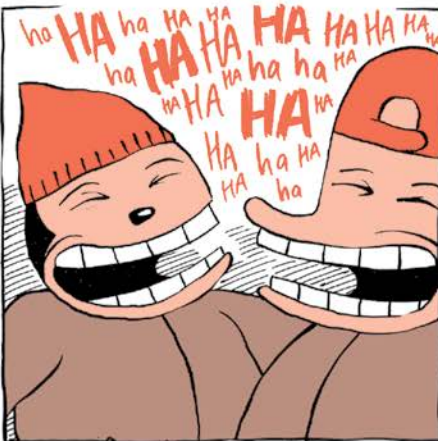








I've been hit by a *perfectly smooth* rock on my temple!
Also, I'm LOOKING AT THE MAP!







WOE IS ME!!



MEANWHILE...

Howdy! My mom
named me Hector!



Last time you saw me,
I fell off this cliff and
landed on this pile
of convenient
pillows!



HEY! Would you
believe there is
a door on the
side of the
cliff?



KNOCK!
-NOK!



CREAK!

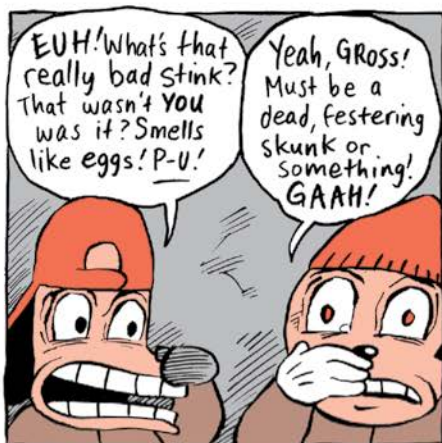


Even though this
creepy door just
opened **ALL BY ITSELF**,
I am still going
in because it
might be the
way to get
back up onto
the cliff,
Okay?





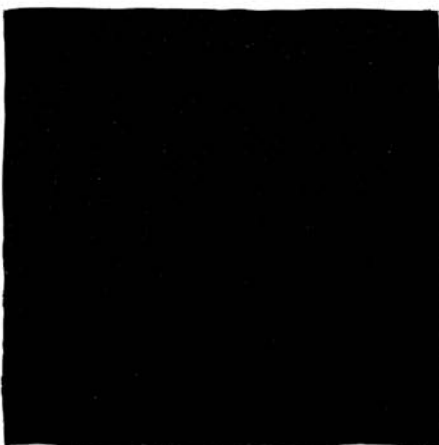
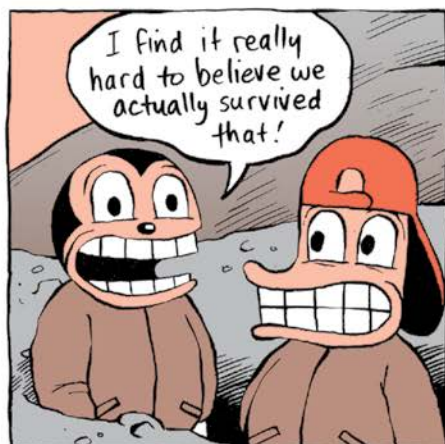
* I've been expecting you!



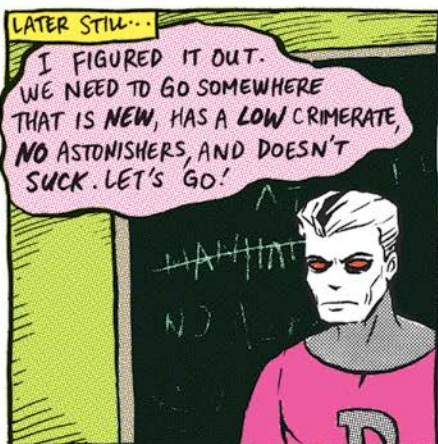








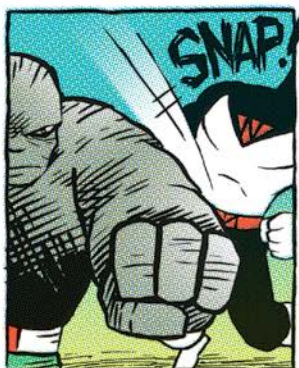


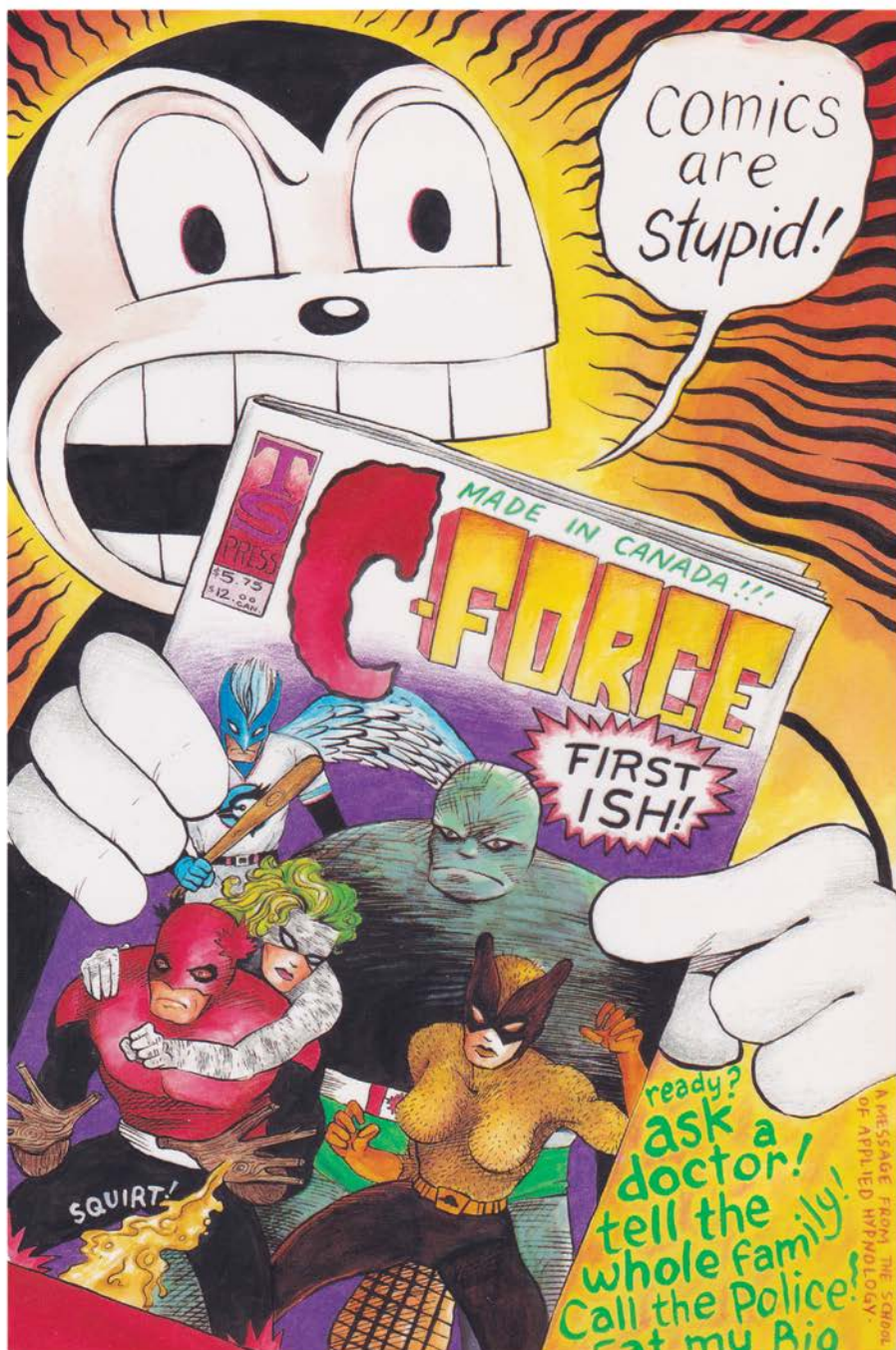


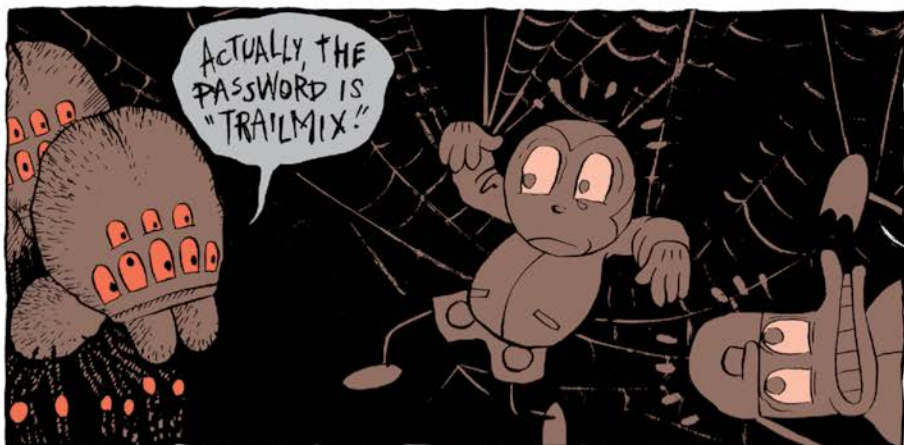


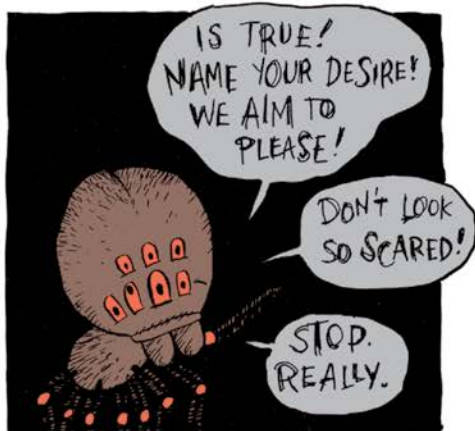




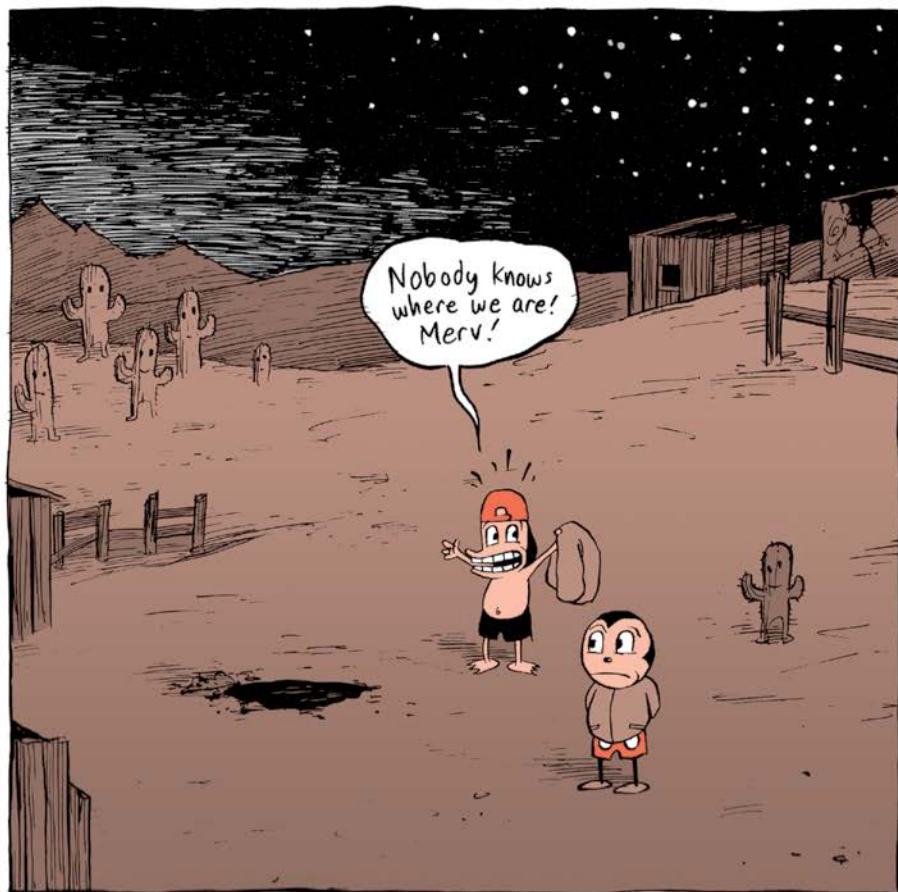


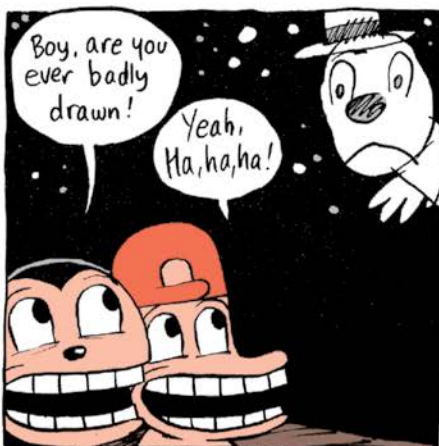
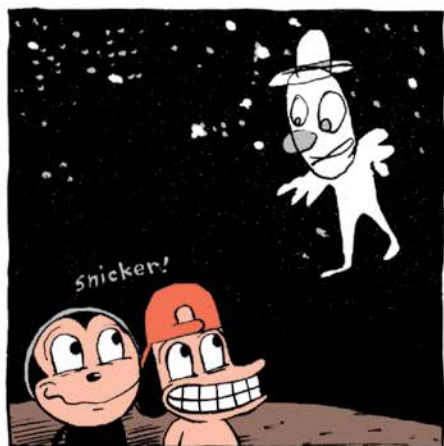
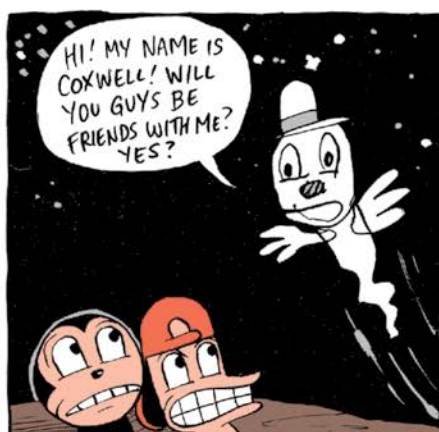


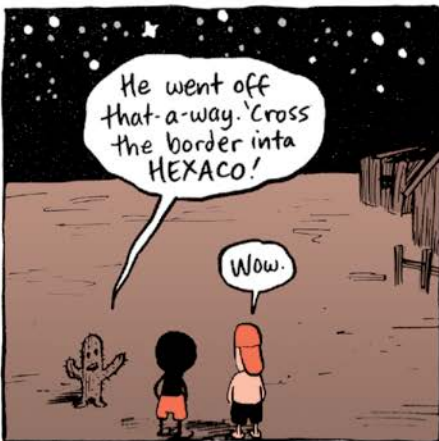
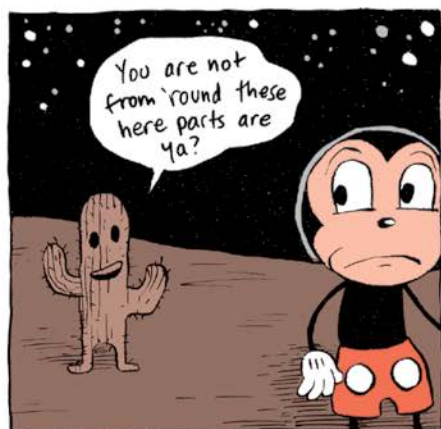


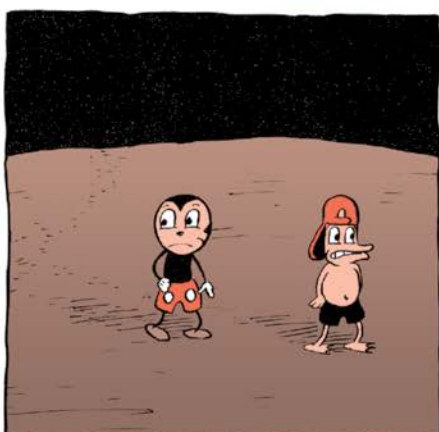
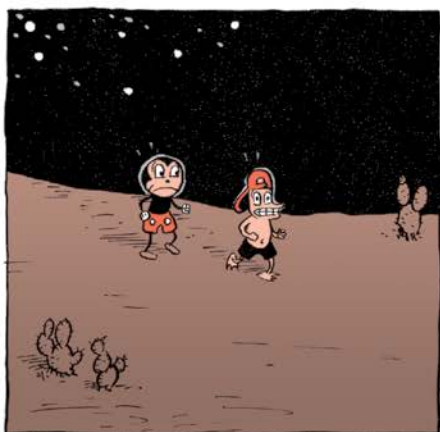
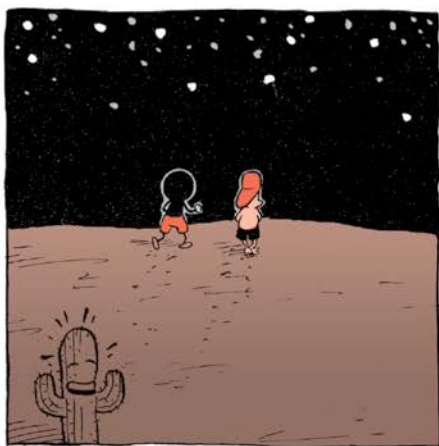


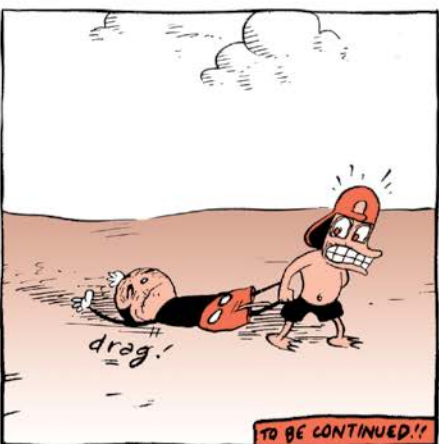
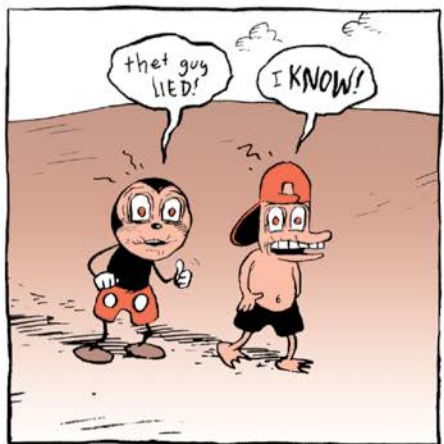
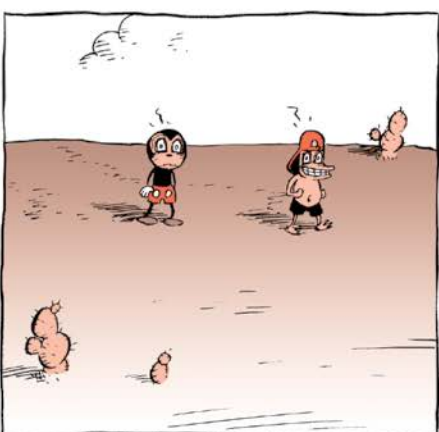
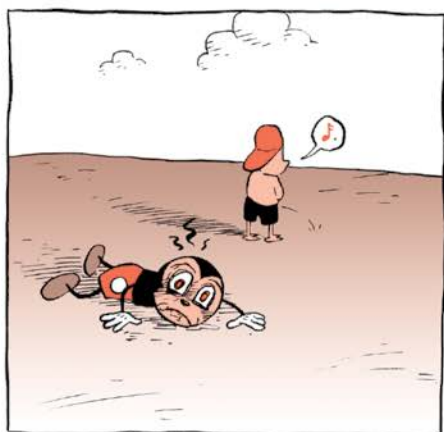
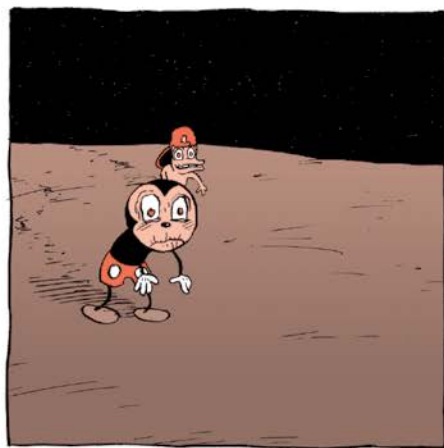
AND SOON ENOUGH...



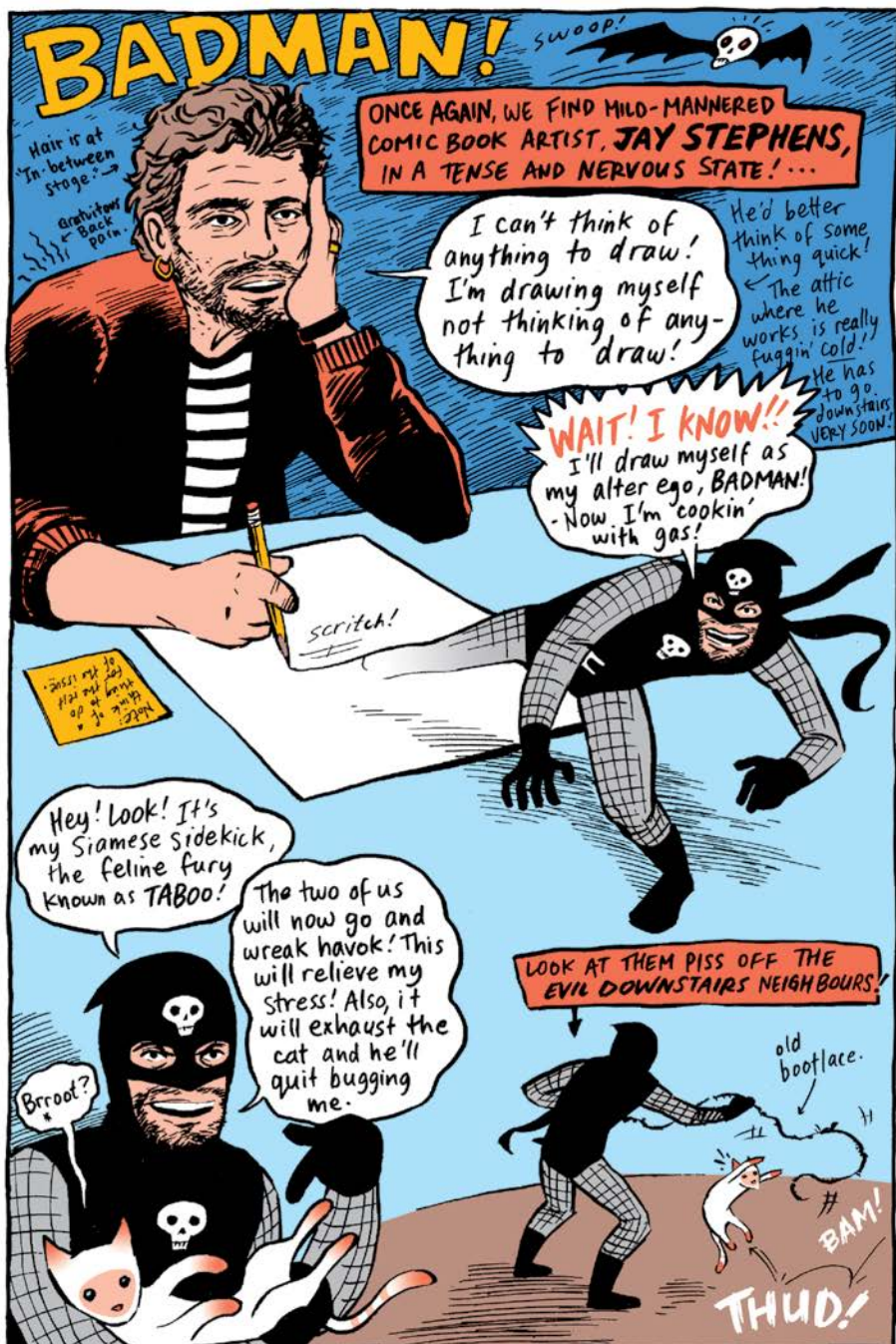




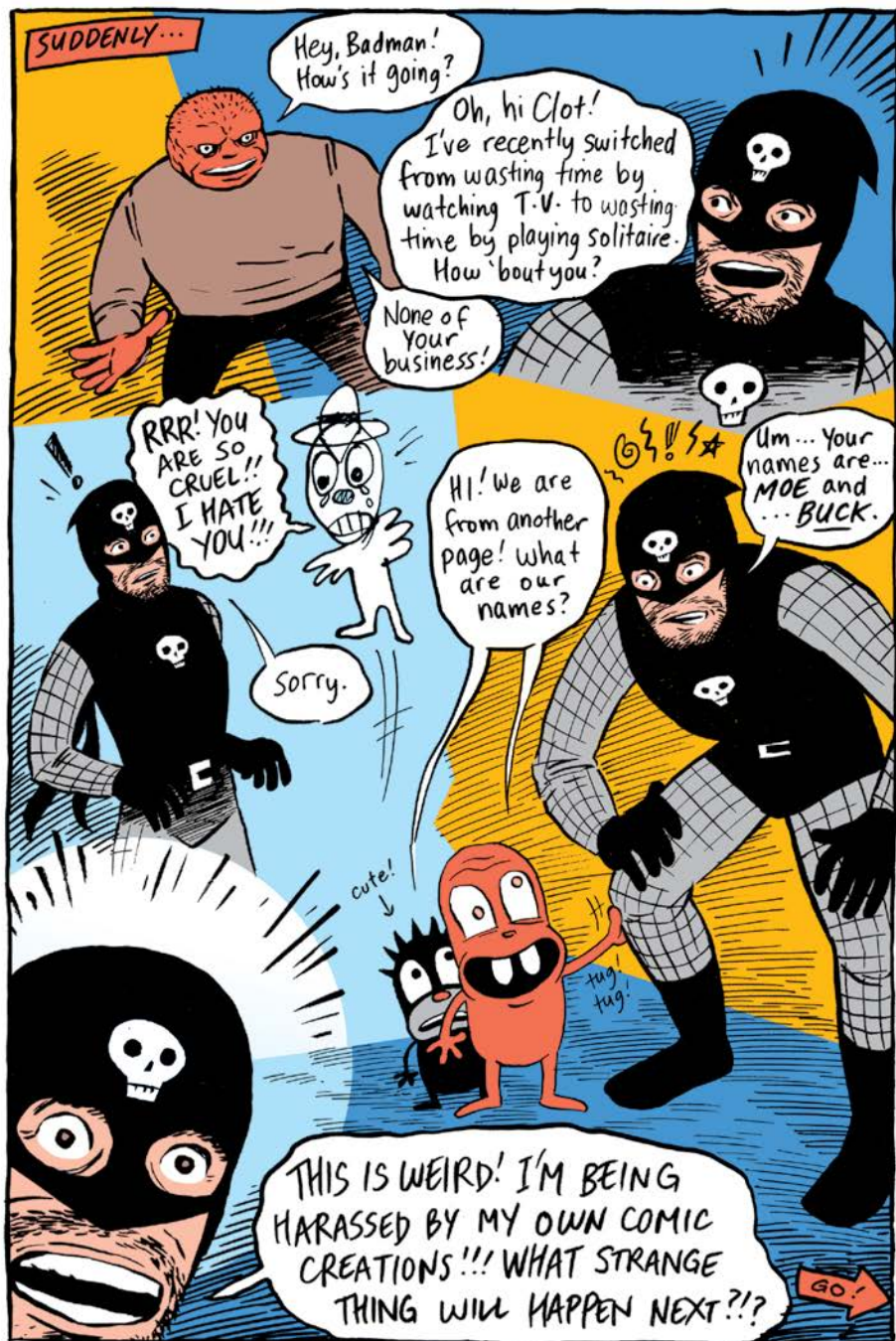




TO BE CONTINUED!!



* I'm afraid of squirrels, o.k.?





From breakfast on
through all the day
At home among
my friends I stay;
But every night
I go abroad
Afar into the land

of Nod.
All by myself I have to go,

All alone beside the streams
And up the mountain-sides

The strangest
things are
there for
me,

Both
things to
eat and
things to
see,

And many
frightening
sights abroad
Till morning in
the land of
Nod.

Try as I
like to find
the way,
I never
can get
back by
day,
Nor can
remember

WHAT?



plain and clear
The curious music
that I hear.

Sim
"The Land of Nod" by Robert Louis Stevenson.

SOMEWHERE DEEP IN A CAVE...

SKREEAK-SCROOWAK!
SSKKAK-saak KAK!
RAAAK-SKAT.



What do you mean "The
Land of Nod is doomed!"?!
what do you mean by that?
why'd you say it to me?
How do you
know?



skeek!
Assk!

All dolphins who die in
captivity become Super-
psychic voodoogurus?!?
Is that true?
Really?



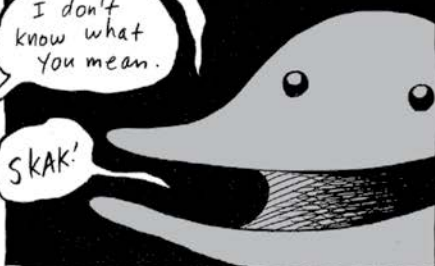
hold on a
second...

ARE YOU DEAD?

SKREET-POLIEEK.
RAAAK-RAAC-REET!
SKAAKk!!

I don't
know what
you mean.

SKAK!



Omens? Those were
omens? That giant earwig?
The Devil Martian was one?
Merv's stroke? Omens are
BAD right? HOLY!
You also said
something about YETI?

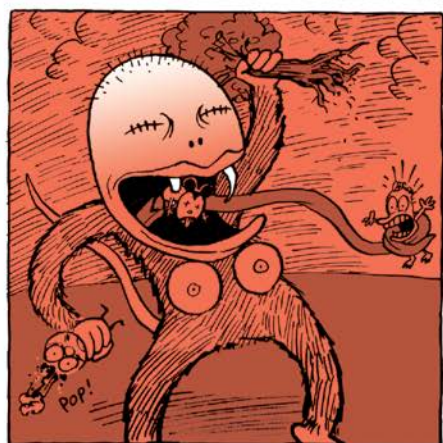
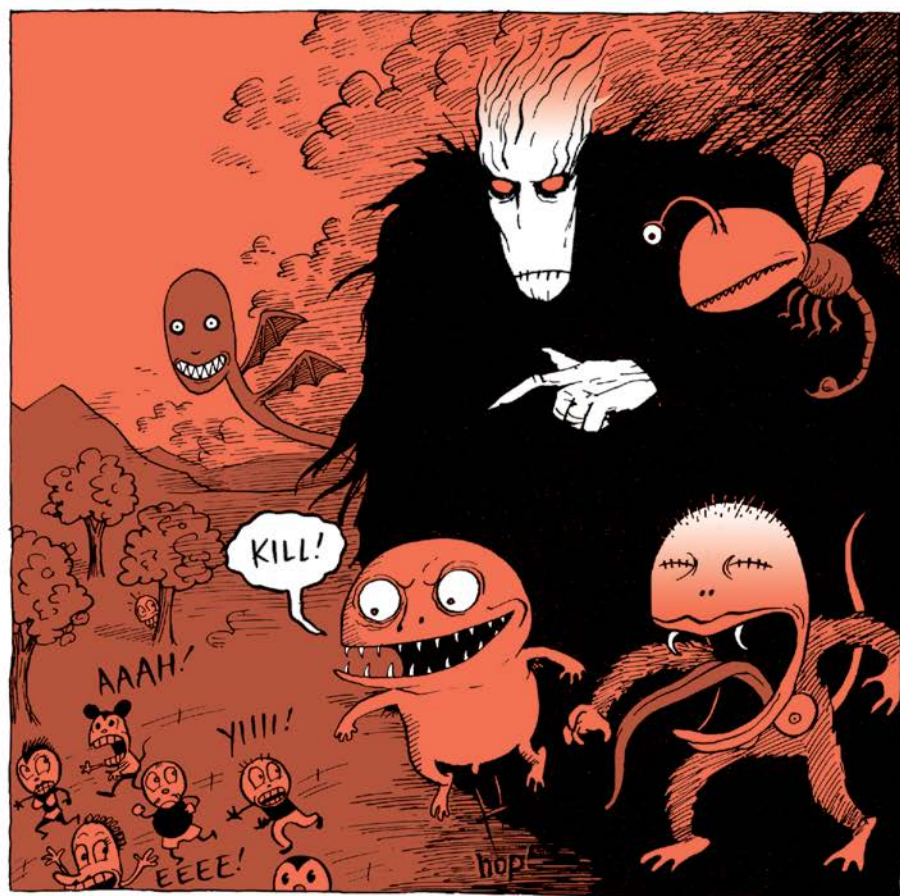


SKRAK-
skeek!

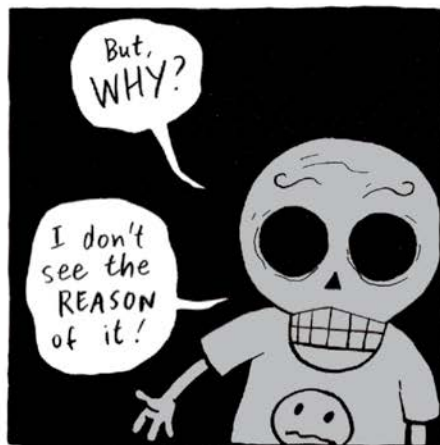
WHO WOULD
DO IT? WHO
WOULD DOOM
THE LAND OF
NOD?!?
YIKE!



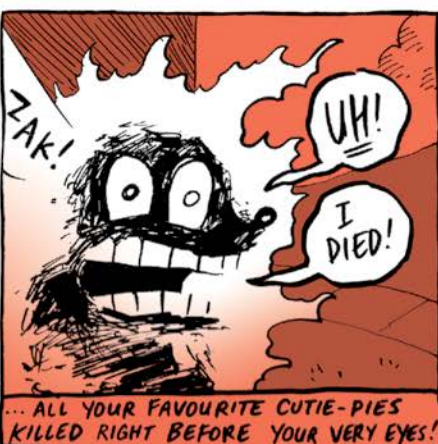
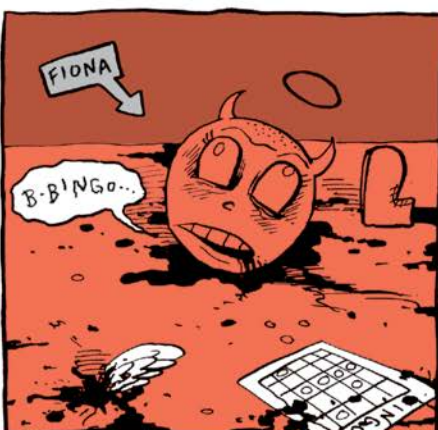
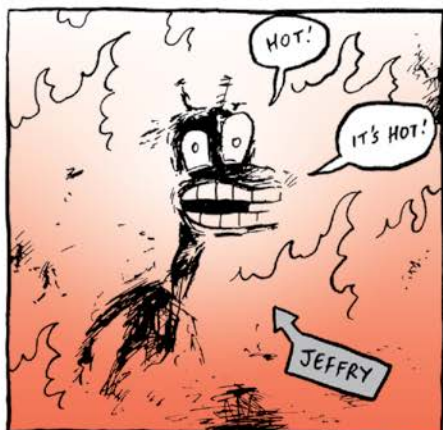
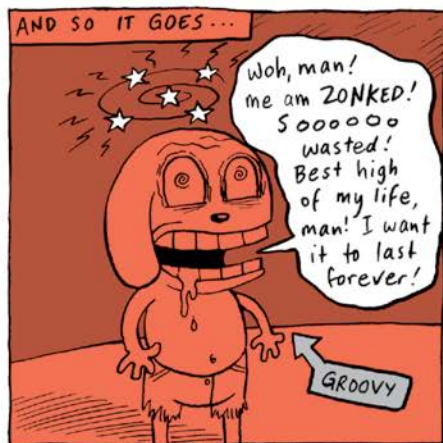
He's
Hector

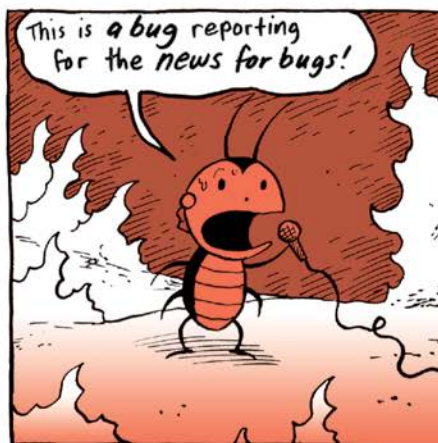


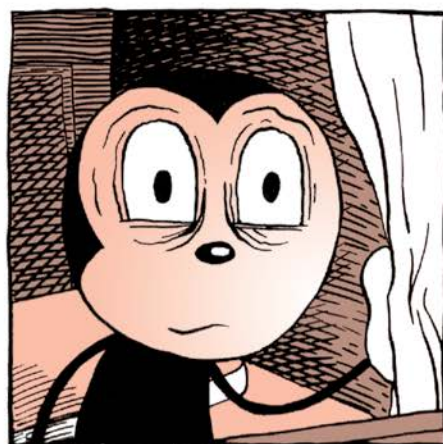
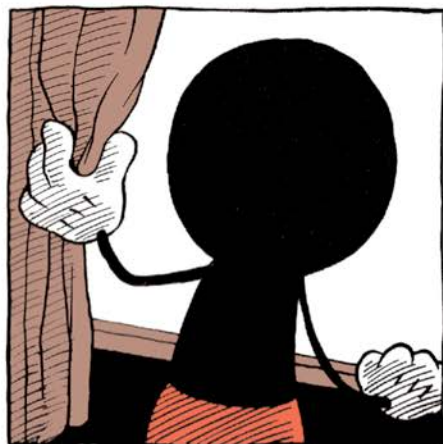
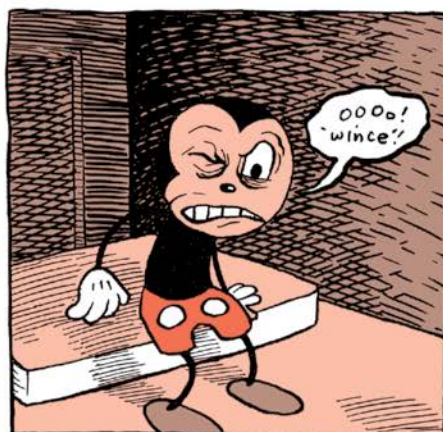
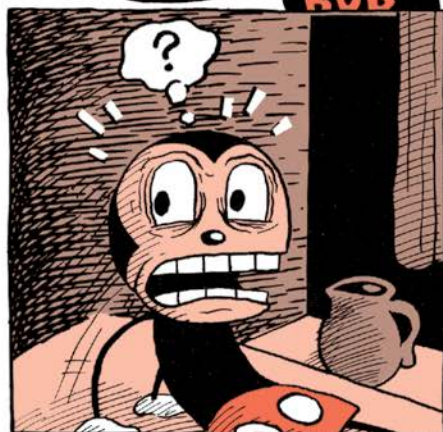




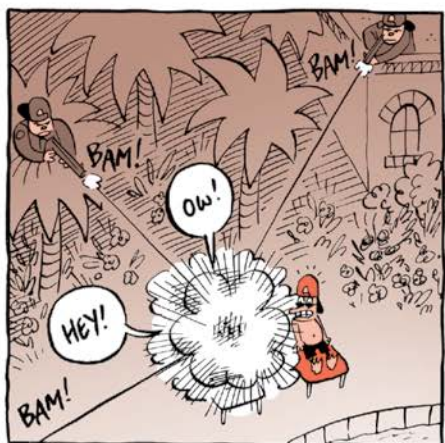


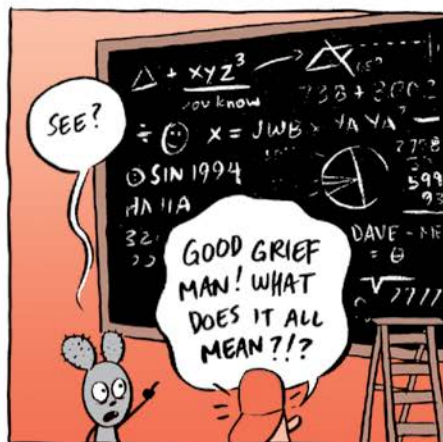
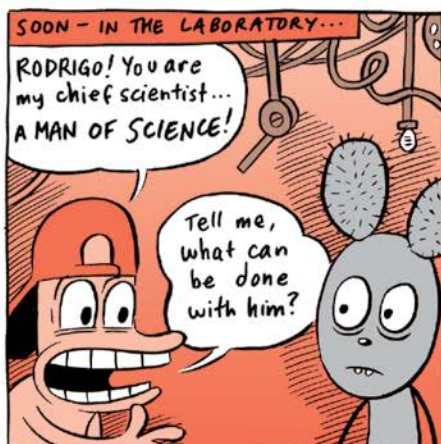


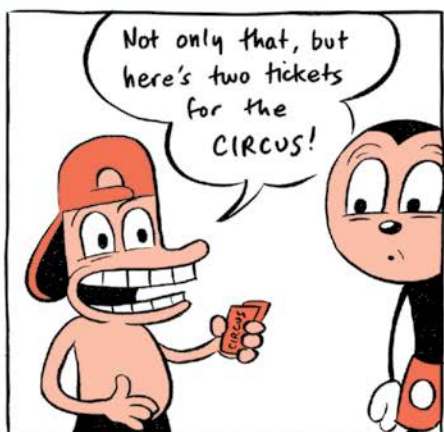
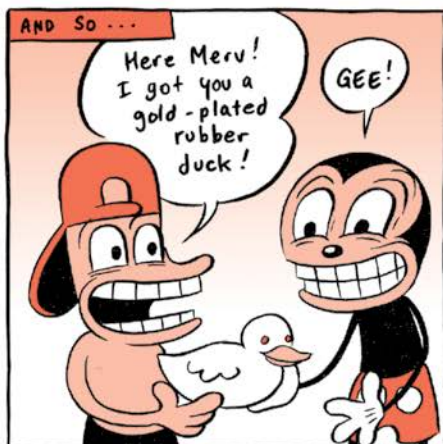


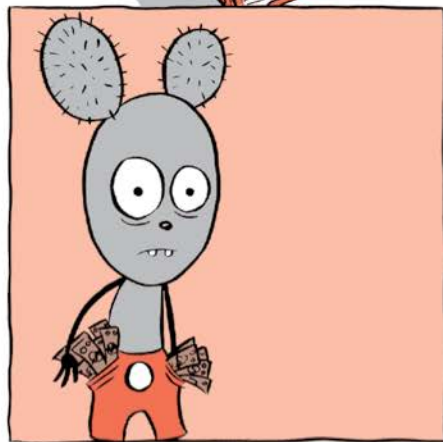
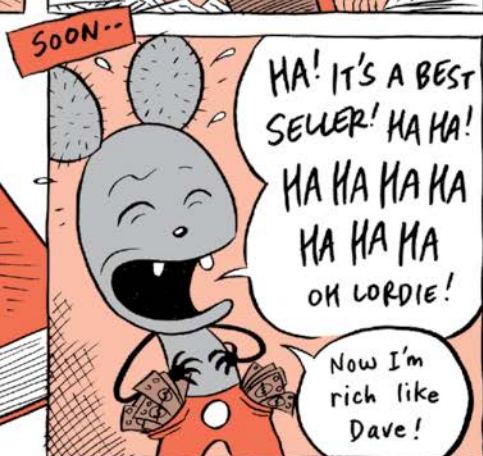
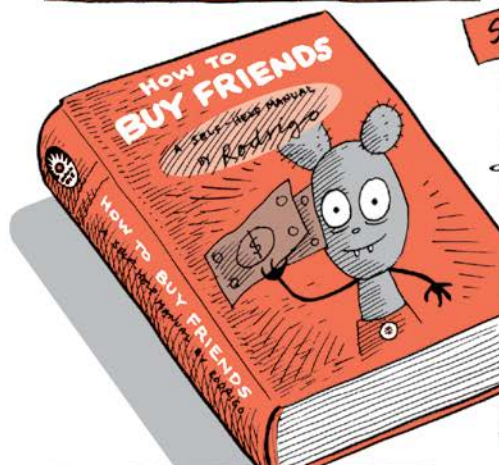
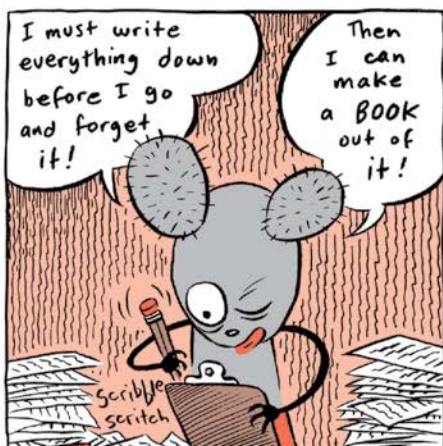
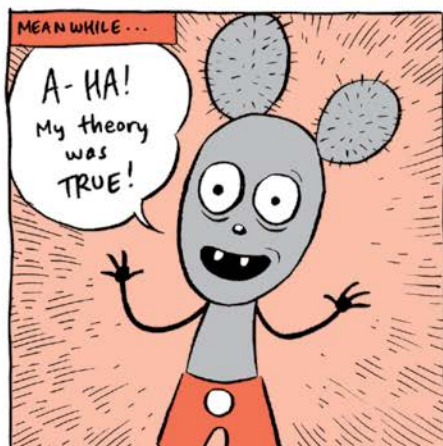


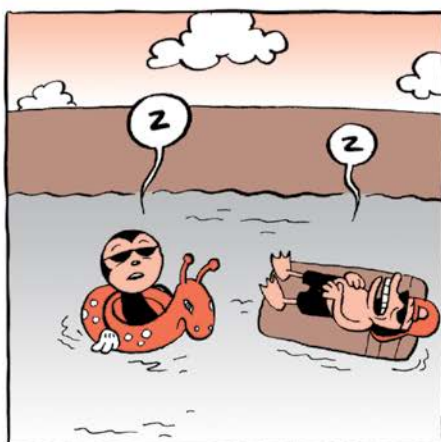


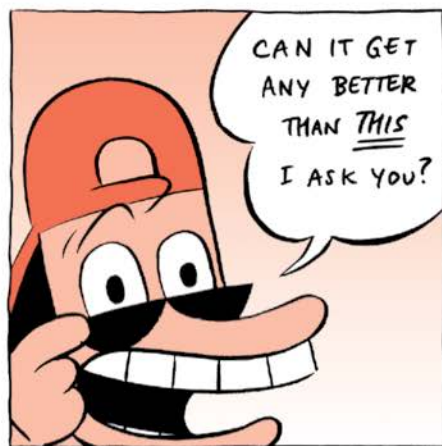
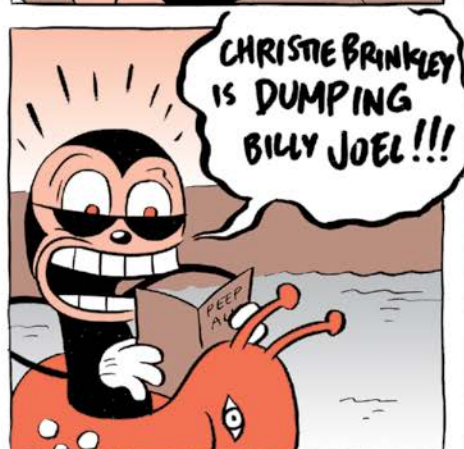


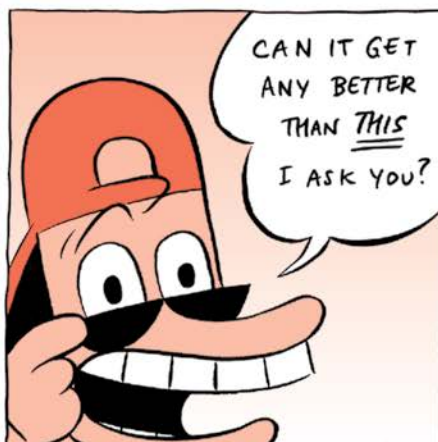


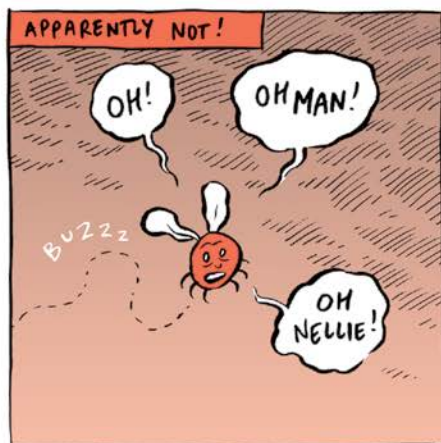


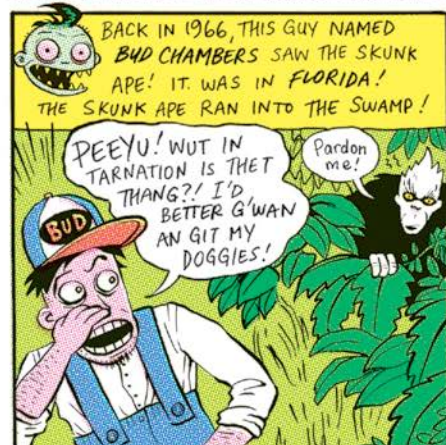
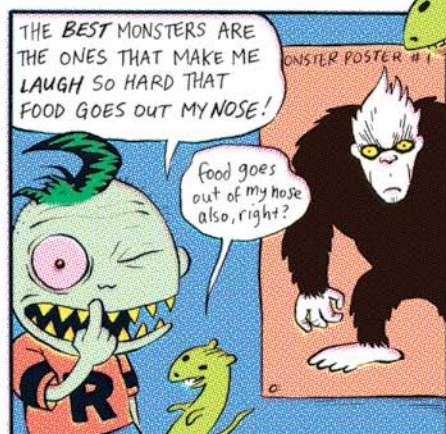
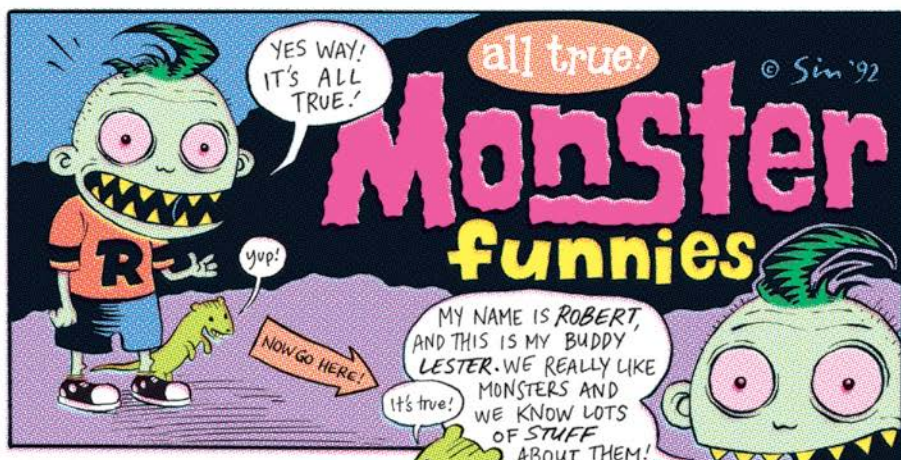


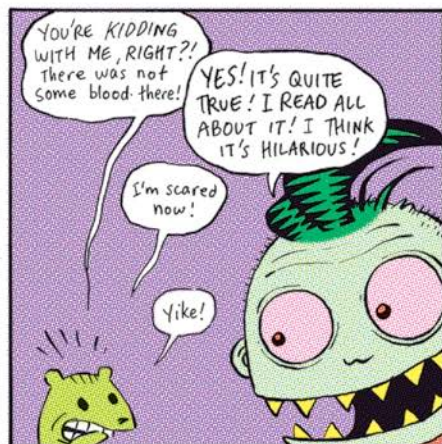
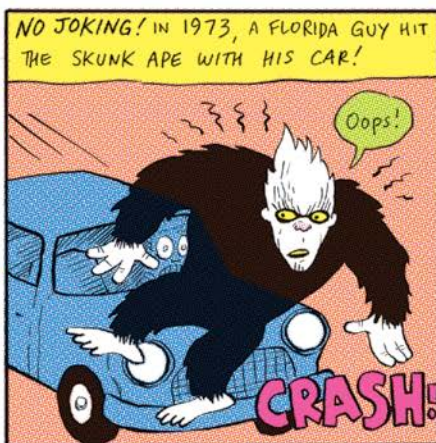
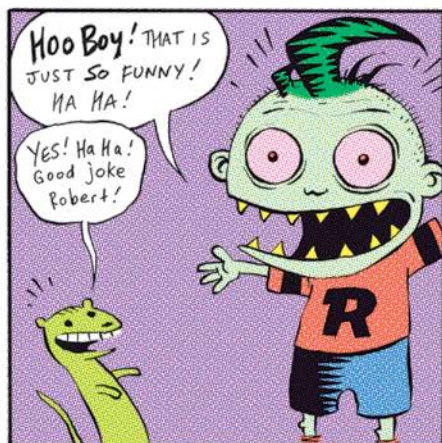












THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER-CADAVERS!

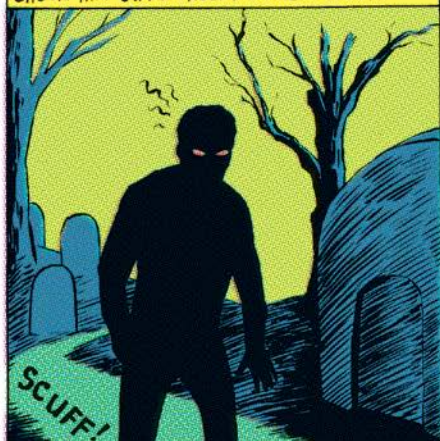
CHOCK-FULL OF DEPRESSION AFTER HAVING THEIR ROCKET STOLEN—THESE FORMER CIRCUS PERFORMERS MADE A HORRIBLE SUICIDE PACT! FAR FROM SUCCEEDING IN THEIR MUTUAL DEATH WISH, THEY BECAME TRANSFORMED... AND THEN THEY MET SOME OTHER GUYS AND THEY BECAME:

the **Sinister** horde

BEHOLD! HE SHAMBLES SILENTLY THROUGH THE GRAYING MISTS OF AN ABANDONED GRAVEYARD! CREEP-O-RAMA!

HEY! GUESS WHAT YOU LUCKY DOG? RARE!!! AND YET... LOOK! HERE THEY ARE! WHAT A MIRACLE!

CHECK HIM OUT! CREEPY ZOMBIE GUY!!



HE'S MR. DEAD! THE LEADER OF THE VILLAINOUS SINISTER HORDE!





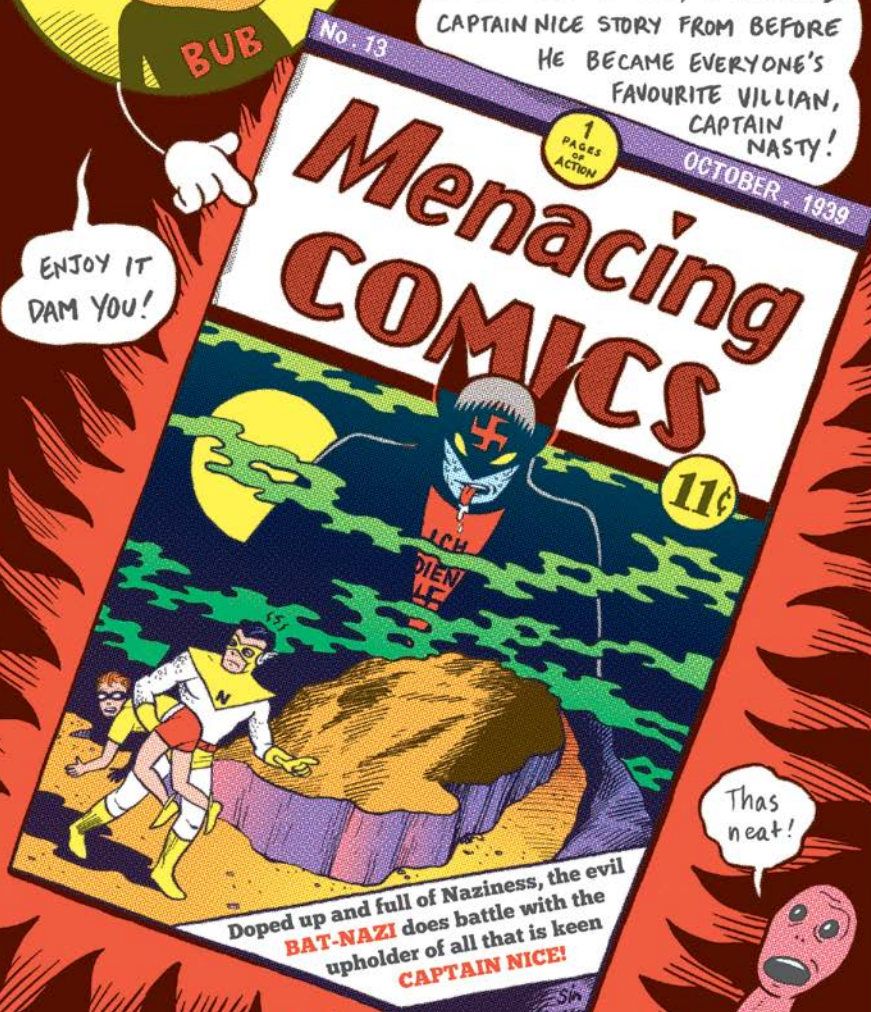
HEY! THERE'S STILL SOME MORE PAGES
LEFT IN THIS COMIC! OKAY THEN.
I HAVE DECIDED TO HAVE A

RETROPRINT

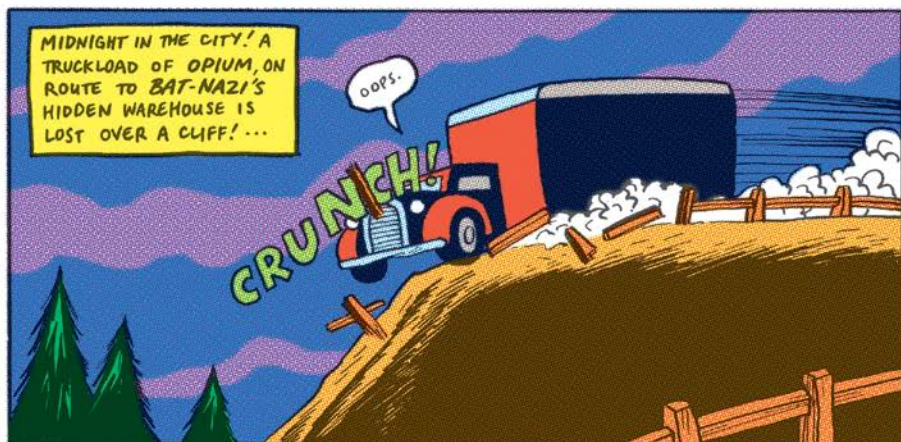
SECTION TO TAKE UP SPACE!

I PRESENT TO YOU, A VERY OLD
CAPTAIN NICE STORY FROM BEFORE
HE BECAME EVERYONE'S
FAVOURITE VILLIAN,
CAPTAIN
NASTY!

ENJOY IT
DAM YOU!



Thas
neat!



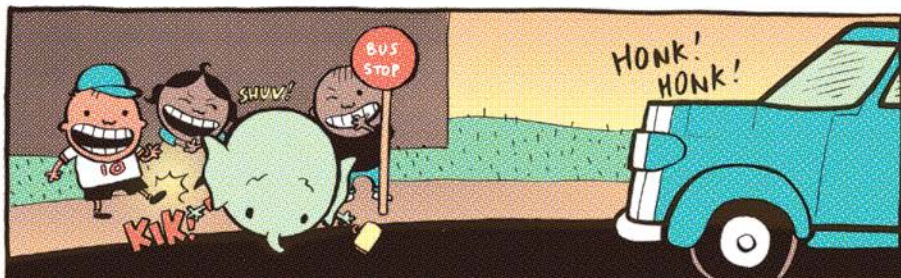
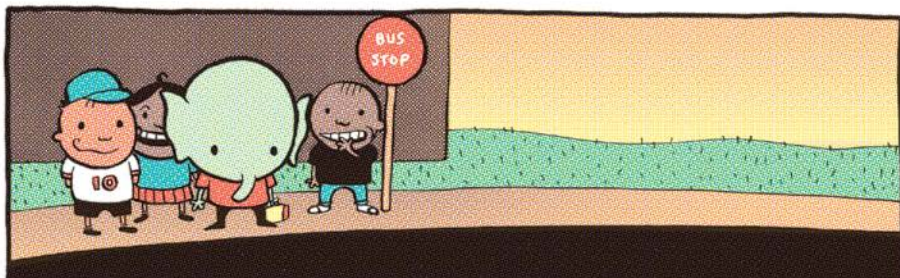
NOT CONTINUED!!

The Magazine *you*
Asked Fer!

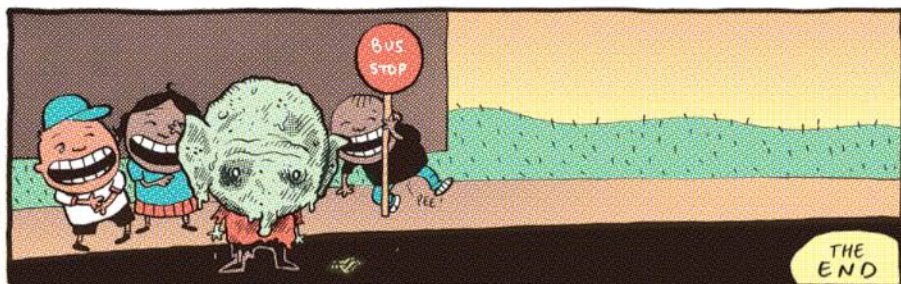


JUMBO HEAD

IN: BUS STOP SHENANIGAN!



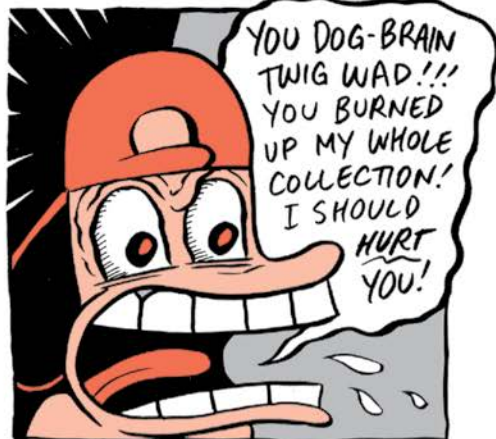
WHAMMO!



THE
END

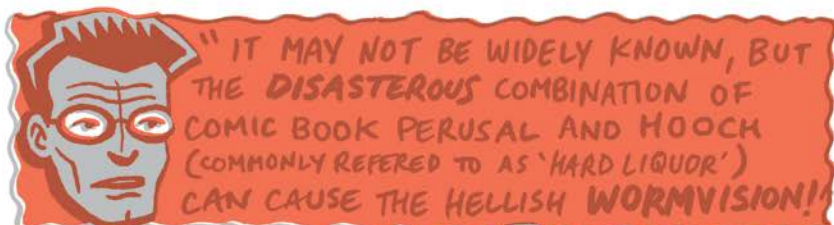














THE END.



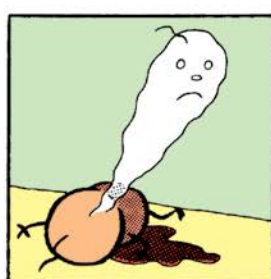
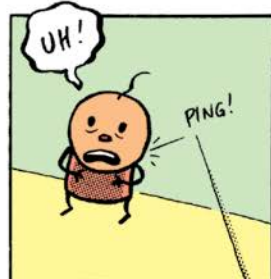
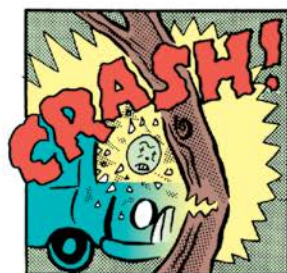


Coxwell

the badly drawn ghost



CAPTAIN RIGHTFUL



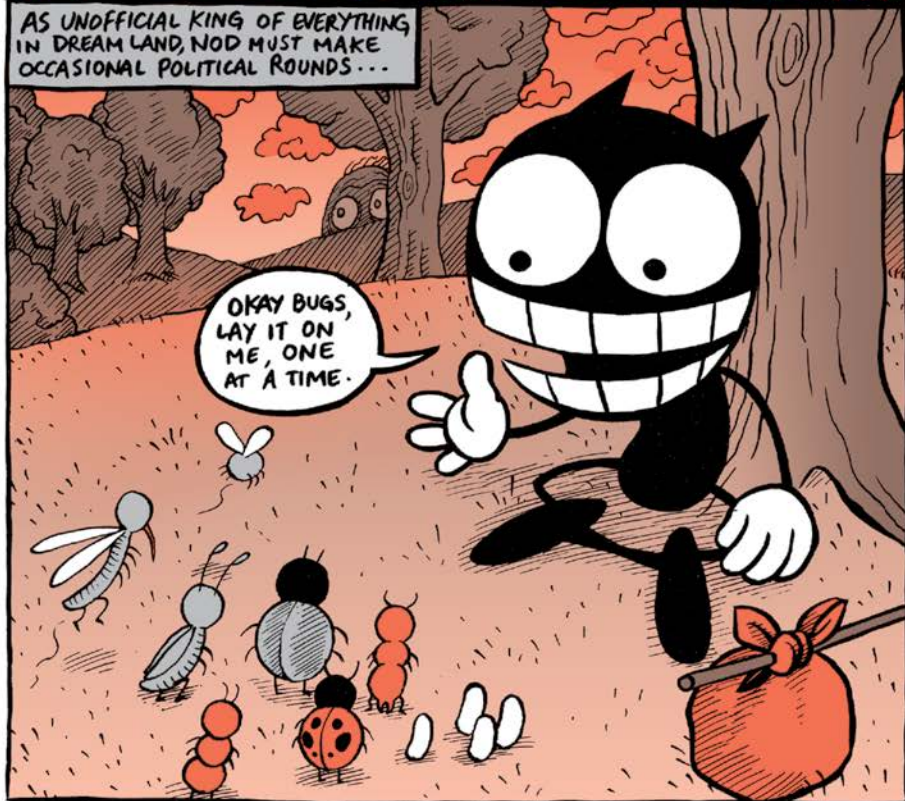
START
HERE
NOW

2nd LAST

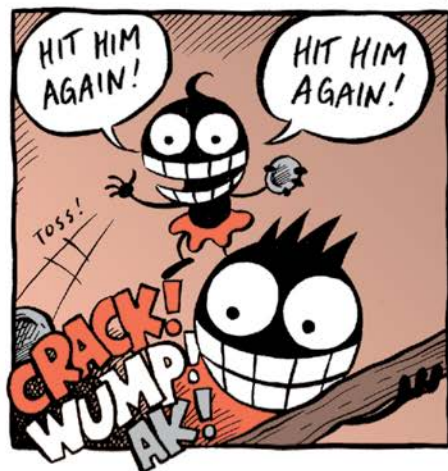
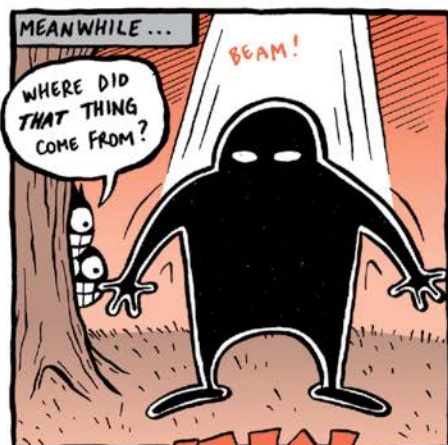
THE LAND OF NOD

STORY

AS UNOFFICIAL KING OF EVERYTHING
IN DREAM LAND, NOD MUST MAKE
OCCASIONAL POLITICAL ROUNDS...





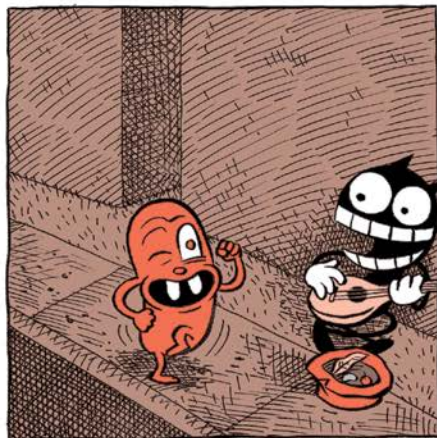
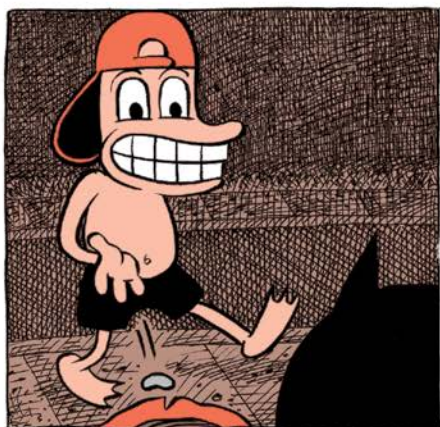


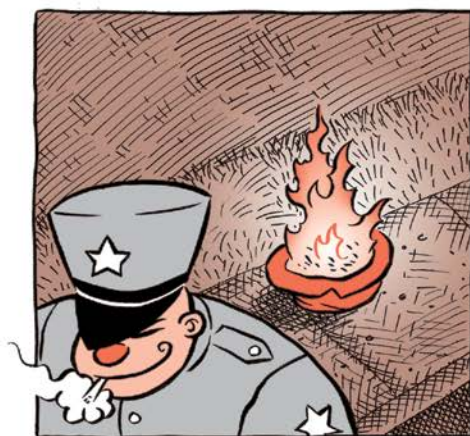


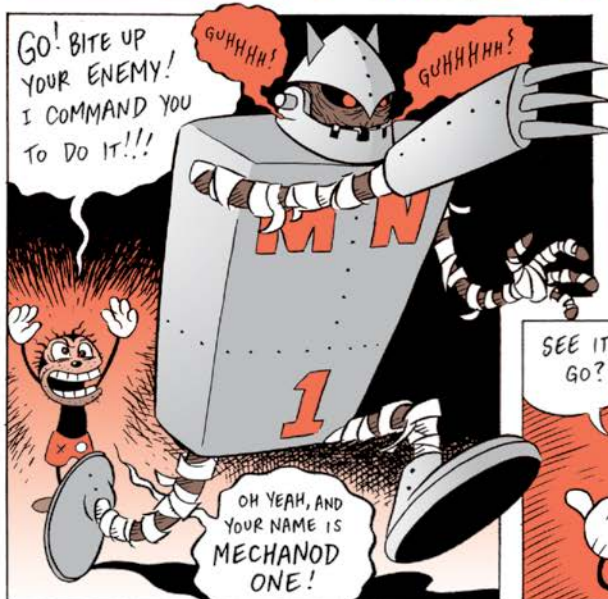
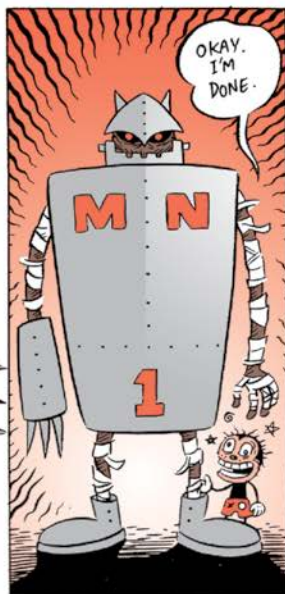


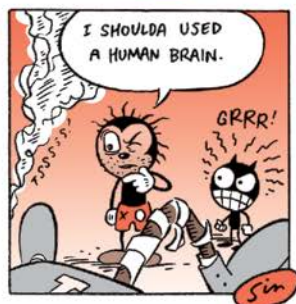
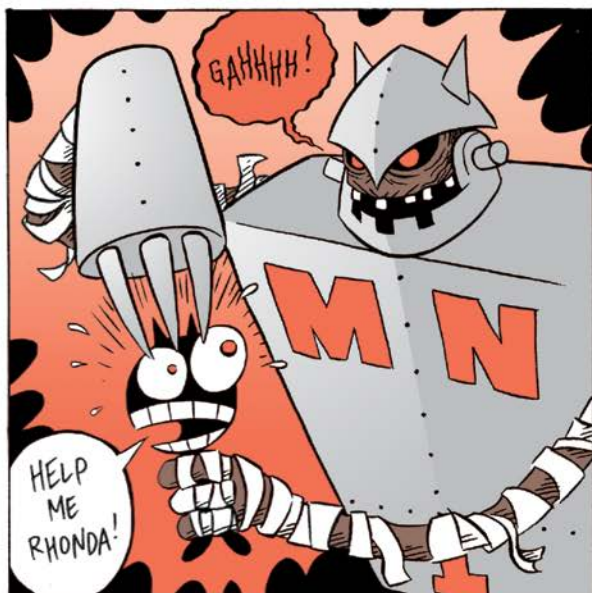












ONE
TWO
THREE
GO!

the
VERY LAST

Land of Nod

STORY

SEP 1973



"... AS HER EYES SLOWLY ADJUSTED TO THE MURK OF THE DIMLY MOONLIT FOYER, CYNTHIA FOCUSED ON A STRANGE OBJECT SITTING AT THE BASE OF THE STAIRWELL. COULD THIS BE THE CAUSE OF THE WEIRD, UNSETTLING THUMPING FROM ONLY MOMENTS BEFORE? SUDDENLY REALIZATION HIT HER LIKE A RUSH OF FEVER! NOW SHE SAW THE TRUE HORROR... AT HER FEET..."

"... RICHARD'S
SEVERED
HEAD!!!"

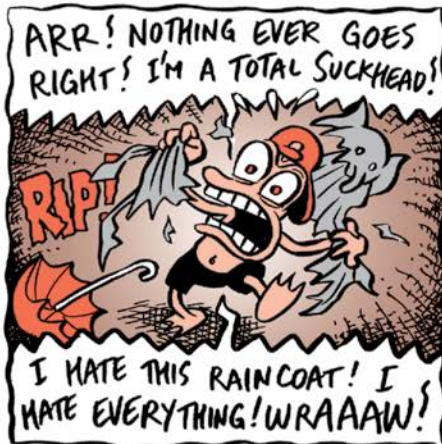
HOLY SHIT!

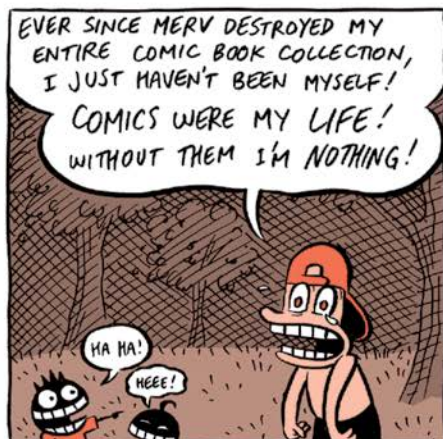


NICE MOVE YOUNG MAN! YOU JUST EARNED YOURSELF ANOTHER NIGHT OF TERROR! IF YOU KEEP UP THIS BAD STREAK, YOU KIDS WILL KNOW ENOUGH GHOST STORIES TO START YOUR OWN DAMN SUMMER CAMP!

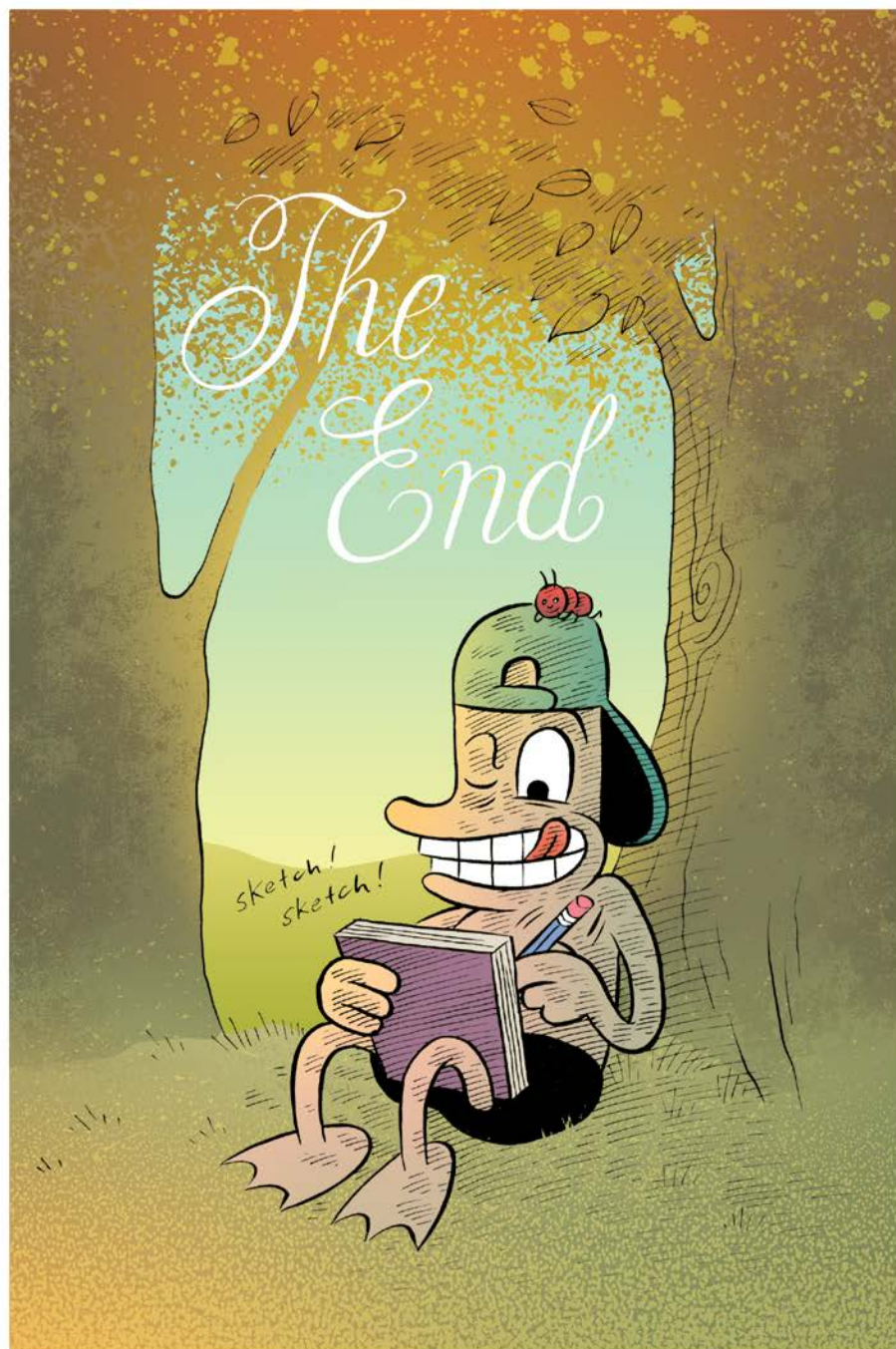
YOU JUST
SAID 'DAMN'
DAD.











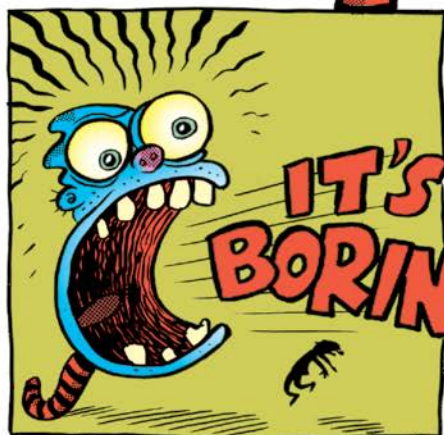
AND NOW: MR. JAY STEPHENS ~ COMIC BOOK 'ARTIST' ...



GUELPH IS A GORGEOUS RIVER-VALLEY UNIVERSITY TOWN IN SOUTHERN ONTARIO (THAT'S BETWEEN DETROIT AND BUFFALO FOR YOU GEOGRAPHICALLY-CHALLENGED AMERICANS!) WITH LOTS OF TREES, HILLS, OLD BUILDINGS, HIP PEOPLE, GOOD SHOPS, AND A GIANT OLD CHURCH!







the END

AFTERWORD

Revisiting this work was... challenging. I was a very different person 35 years ago. The world was a very different place. Reacquainting myself with The Land of Nod often felt like editing the comics of a total stranger whose memories you bizarrely find yourself sharing on occasion.

The vista of years has given me a new perspective on these early efforts. I always thought of these comics as irreverent and, well, kind of irrelevant. When I started making them, it was a careeningly casual and free-wheeling process... no mindful purpose or serious consideration given. A stream of consciousness mash-up of snotty takes on the old comic books I'd grown up with crossed with some post-pubescent observations on the then-current state of 'mainstream' superhero comics and the rise of trendy autobiographical indie comics.

When I realized people out there were actually reading the stuff, I gradually began to take the act of making comics more seriously without taking myself too seriously. You can see for yourself how the art and storytelling here improve over a four year span. I quit my band and dropped out of art school to make a real go at it.

And that's what I see now. A document of myself at that time... a young person on the threshold between the comic book reading joys of youth and the comic book making responsibilities of adulthood. The Badman bits are a misleading bluff. Dave's journey in The Land of Nod is my journey.

I believed at the time that I was poking fun at autobiography, and attempting to reintroduce some cartoonish whimsy into alternative comic books, but I was letting my id onto the page and it revealed the truth behind my back. All art is autobiography to some extent. And for better or worse, this is who I was at the time.

Thanks for indulging him.

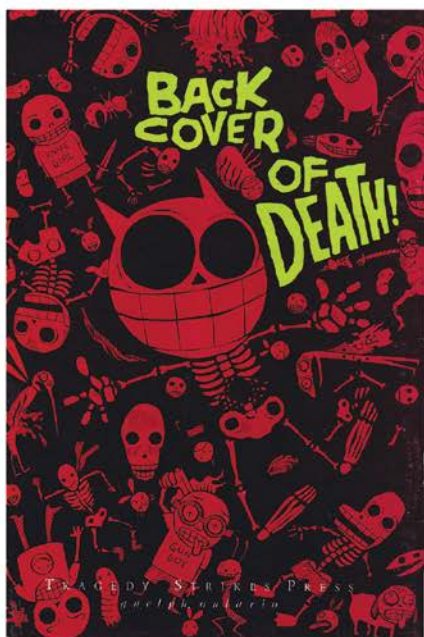
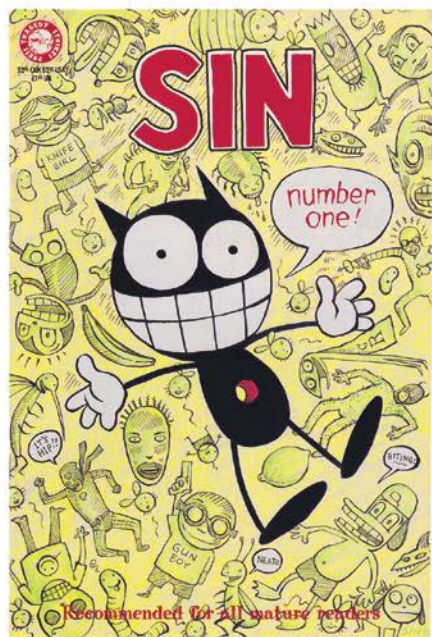
A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "JAY STEPHENS". The letters are slightly slanted and connected, with a casual, personal feel.

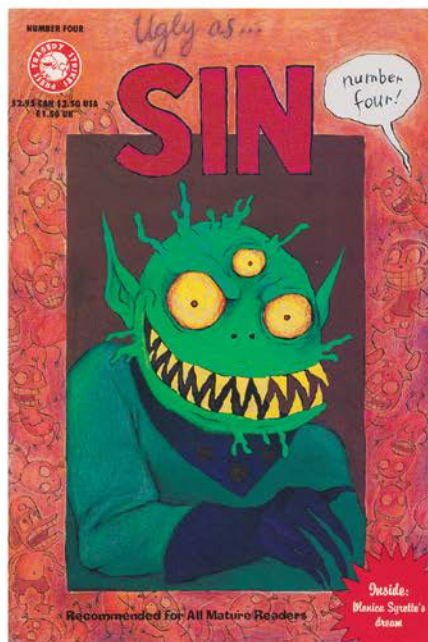
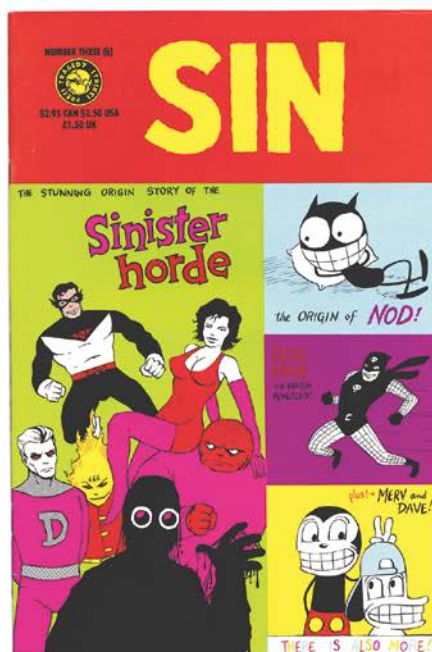
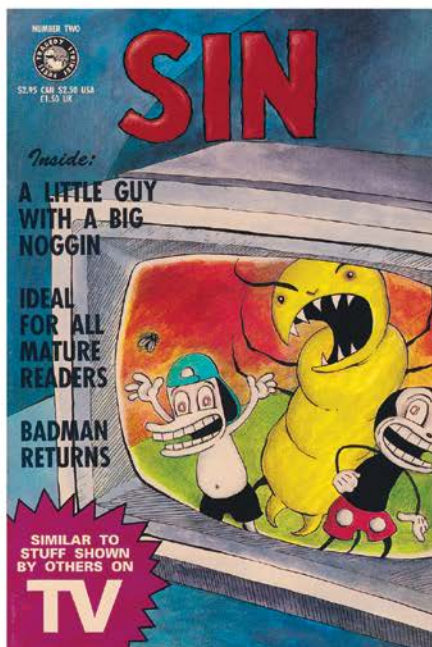
Jay Stephens, July 2026

SCRAPBOOK



SN COMICS





Sinful start for comic artist



ing superhero named Badman and a toxic waste
nger known as Necro Man. It's also given
phens the opportunity to lampoon the censorship
is currently stalking comics of Sin's ilk.
nd, oh yes, Sin is also violent, graphic and actual
ute funny. Which is what Stephens had hoped.
"I've always been into comedy," he says. Alas h
e of humor has mostly leaned toward Gar
n's Far Side. He's also collected comic book
he was 6-years-old. "Comics are so remove
but there's still a story (for readers)

Magic a



Special Offer!
Order 10 copies of SIN #2,
and receive a signed copy
of SIN #1, FREE!
details inside

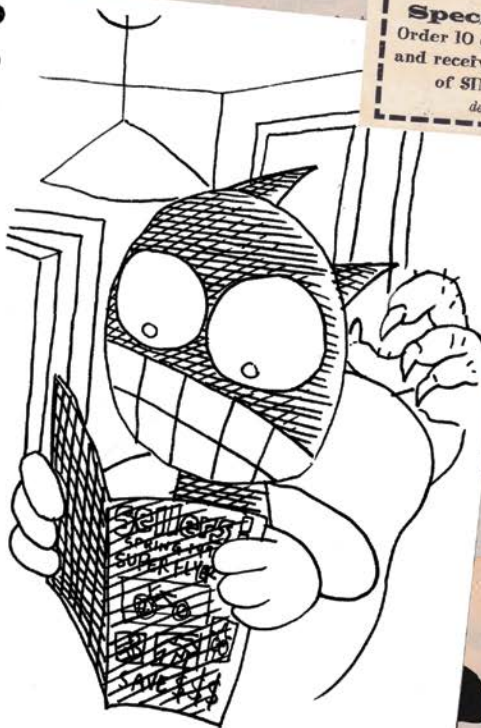


410 & 7 CENTRE CINEMA
(150 West Dr., 979-3456)

A LEAGUE OF THEIR OWN — Tom Hanks coaches, an
Geena Davis and Madonna play for a team in this romantic
at the All
FAR
romantic



© Sin '92



ren of all ages c
y and lots of au
o.
a will be at Cyril
all from 1-2 p.m.
Creek's second
room from 3-4 p
day, he's at the

is first
saturday
month at
se. 840-

UP —
portraits
al artists.
July 15 at

1) C
DeNiro sta
former att
2) JF

Manager

15 August 1993

Volume 2 Number 44



come
to the



Land of Nod

Weee!

Ha!



COMIC BOOK RELEASE PARTY

starring:

King Cobb Steelie

CRANK!
CRANK!
CRANK!

Heee!

Saturday Jan. 14th
at the

ALBION

ONLY 4 BUCKS!

you
could win
a PRIZE!!!

more
fun
than
a
wind-
up toy!



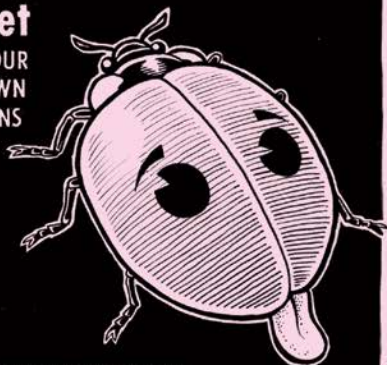
10¢ A HANDY ROLL let the reader just imagine CANTHUS © 1993 T. STEPHENS / ART: ICK FROSTBITE

10¢
PER COPY
FREE

Magic Pamphlet.



Get
YOUR
OWN
SINS



the original formula. BEST FOR CATS.

© SIN 1993

Nothing finer
at any price



GRIM VISAGE SPOTTED AT MARKET - PHOTO VALIARCA



I began myself as a puny youth. I was given up to die, but saved by only the prayers of my parents and moved by a deep determination to gain strength, I worked out my system which has meant transforming magic in many lives.

LONELY JO

UH... LOOK OVER THERE! SEE?

WHERE?

EEYAA!!

OW!

STAB!

I'M VERY LONELY!

SAID JULIO, OUR GALAPAGOS TOUR GUIDE, AS WE CREEPT SLOWLY DOWN OVER THE ROCKS TOWARDS THE CAVE ENTRANCE ON SANTA CRUZ.

"WHEN I WAS A CHILD IN PERU," HE CONTINUES, "MY BROTHER AND I WOULD TRAP BATS. IN OUR YOUTHFUL CRUELTY, WE WOULD NAIL THE CAPTURED ANIMAL TO A PLANK OF WOOD THROUGH THE WINGS. MY BROTHER WOULD THEN LIGHT A CIGARETTE AND WE WOULD FORCE IT INTO THE BATS MOUTH. IT REALLY WOULD SMOKE IT.!!"

SOMETIMES WE'D MAKE IT SMOKE THREE OR FOUR CIGARETTES IN A ROW. IT WOULD LOOK AT US FUNNY AND MAKE THESE STRANGE SQUEAKY SOUNDS. AFTER ALL OF THIS, WE WOULD LET IT GO AND THE UGLY THING WOULD BE JUST FINE!!

"WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT JULIO?", SHOUTS THE FAT BIKER TOURIST FROM THE BACK OF THE GROUP. "IT'S PRIVATE! I WAS TALKING ABOUT MY SEX LIFE! I SUPPOSE YOU WANT ME TO TELL EVERYONE?" OUR LAUGHTER ECHOS INTO THE DARK CAVERN...



AN ANCIENT GOD SPEAKS, STANDING BEHIND THE SEATED FIGURE EATING HALLUCINOGENIC MUSHROOMS. IN THE BACKGROUND, THE MUSHROOMS WERE PRINTED SOME YEARS THE COLOR VIBED TO IDENTIFY AN OBJECT OF GREAT IMPORTANCE.

FOR INDUSTRY MATERIALS



Master a trade with a future—Diesel mechanics in our shops. with tools on real equipment.

DEFINITIONS.



HEY! YOU HAVE BUMPY RED THINGS ON YOUR WEEWEE!

EMBARRASS IS TO HINDER CONFUSE OR DISCONCERT!



RIGHT NO GOOD



FRIEND OK HI



WICE SWEETHEART MARRY



GOOD BAD PERFECT CHANCE

EXIT



STUFF YOU SHOULD WASTE YOUR MONEY ON! YUP!
COMICS - evandorkin's PIRATE CORPS!
 and FIGHTMAN, everything by Jim
 Woodring and Mark Martin including
 TANTALIZING STORIES, James Sturm's
 amazing CEREAL KILLINGS, and of course
 FLAMING CARROT, MR. MONSTER, and MADMAN!
 (by Bob Burden, Michael T. Gilbert, and M.D. Allred)
 - guess what? I also like the SAVAGE DRAGON! Kill me now
MUSIC - check out PARADE's first release! ICARUS!
 (Chocolate Rabbit Music 571 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Ontario
 Canada M4Y 2J1) IT'S NEATO! Right now I'm
 also into MERCURY REV and DIGABLE PLANETS.

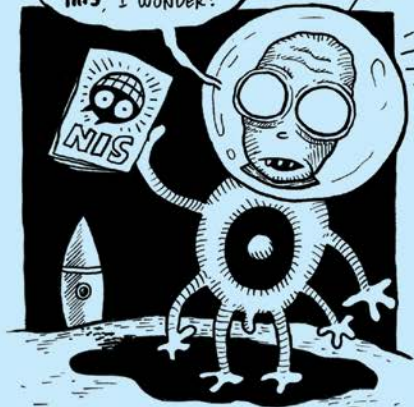


CONTACT ME AT THE FOLLOWING COORDINATES.
 ■ SCOTT ST., KITCHENER, ONTARIO
 CANADA ■ Do IT NOW !!!

IT IS FOR SPRING 1993, OKAY?

THE JAY STEPHENS NEWSLETTER

WHAT THE FUCK IS
THIS, I WONDER?



Sim '93



Tragedy Strikes Press

DEAR FRIENDS AND FANS,
 BY NOW YOU'VE LIKELY SUSPECTED IT
 ... I'VE LEFT TRAGEDY STRIKES AND
SIN IS OVER. I KNOW, I KNOW,
 IT'S A BIG SHAME, ETC, BLA BLA BLA
 BUT IT'S OVER ANYHOW. SORRY.
 MY FORMER PUBLISHER (SHANE KENNY)
 SUFFERED FINANCIAL PROBLEMS LAST YEAR AND AS A
 RESULT, I NEVER SAW MONEY FOR SIN #'s 4 and 5.
 NEEDLESS TO SAY, WORKING FOR NOTHING ON A
 BI-MONTHLY SCHEDULE IS NOT MUCH FUN!

HEY! DON'T WORRY TOO MUCH! THOSE KOOKY CHARACTERS
 WILL LIVE IN PRINT AGAIN ONE DAY, I PROMISE!

THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH FOR YOUR LETTERS AND
 WORDS OF SUPPORT. IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU THAT
 I'M INCINED TO STICK AT THIS 'COMIC BOOK THING'
 RATHER THAN GIVE UP AND DRIVE A SCHOOL BUS.
 SPECIAL THANK-YOU'S TO MY BIGGEST FANS AND
 BACK-PATTERS - COMIC RELIEF in Berkeley California,
 EVAN DORK N, and those pesky KENNEDY TWINS!

AS FOR YOU POOR SIN SUBSCRIBERS... BOY
 AM I SORRY! THERE'S NOT MUCH I CAN DO FOR
 YOU. I NEVER GOT THE BUCKS YOU SPENT ON
 SUBSCRIBING TO MY BOOK, SO I GUESS YOUR WELL
 FOUNDED COMPLAINTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO
 MY FORMER PUBLISHER. HEY! LOOK! FORMER T.S.P. →

WYNHAM ST. NORTH
 GUELPH ONTARIO CANADA
 EDITOR AND SIN PAL, MICHEL
 VRANA GOES SOLO! BLACK EYE!



IT WAS A GLOVE HE
PUT IN HIS MOUTH!!!



MINI COMIX RULE, MAN!!!

YES SIR! TICK TOCK TOM IS
 LIKE UNDERGROUND "VERTIGO"! I DID
 A FEW PAGES IN ISSUE 3 O'CLOCK...
 (SEND \$1.00 TO NOWHERE, ■
 LAWRENCE AVE. WEST ■, TORONTO,
 ONTARIO ■)

I ALSO DID A COVER FOR
 ISSUE THREE OF THE
NIHILIST GLEE CLUB (\$1.00, ■
 TUCKETT ST., HAMILTON, ONTARIO
 CANADA ■) A LOT OF
 PEOPLE THINK THE ART IS SHIT
 IN THIS MINI... BUT I LOVE
 IT JUST THE SAME! YES I DO!

SPARKIE MCGEE AND PUDGY

WILL APPEAR IN FULL COLOUR INSIDE
 ISSUE TWO OF MTV'S UPCOMING
NICKELODEON MAGAZINE. (this summer)

IT'S A MAGAZINE FOR KIDS
 BUT WHO KNOWS? MAYBE
 I'LL GET A CARTOON
 OUT OF THIS! HA!

ATOMIC CITY TALES

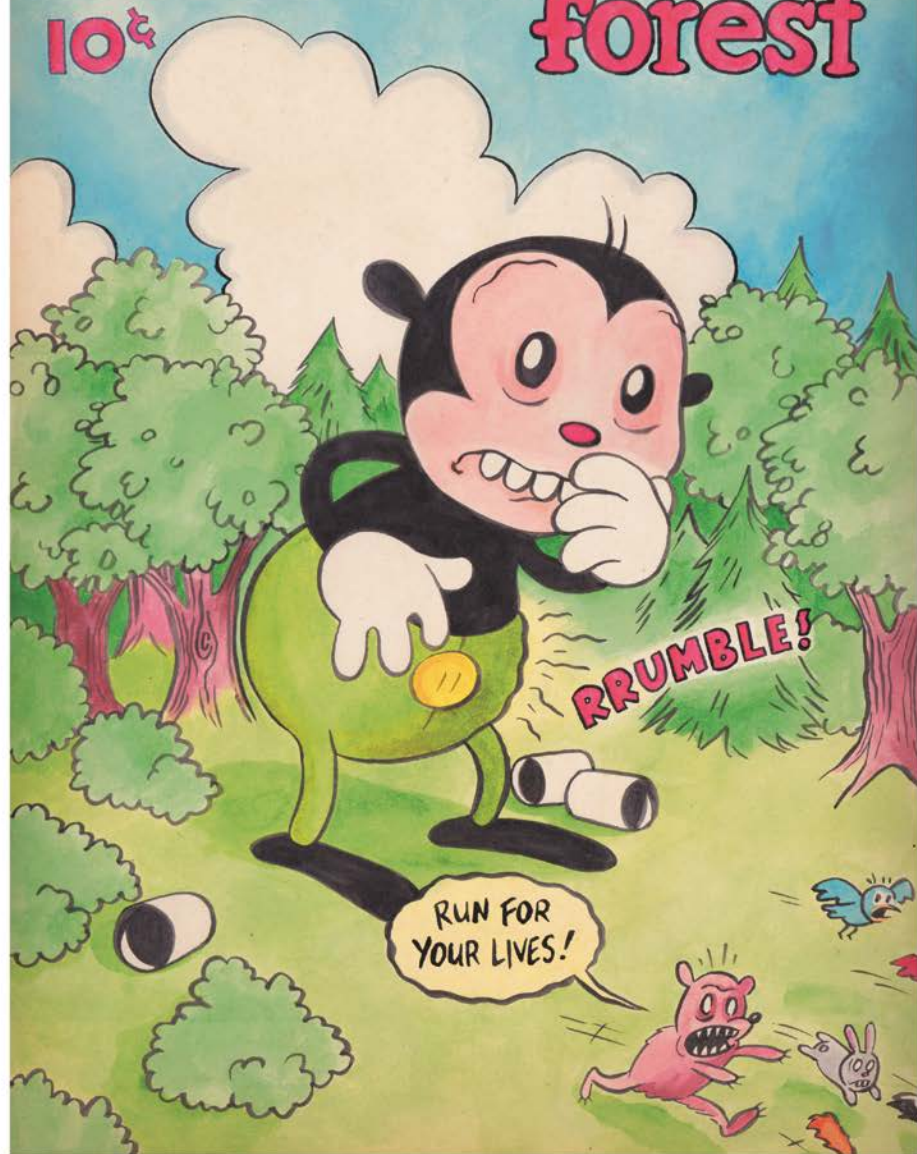
FEATURING THE MANIAC
 GANG! AN ALL NEW SERIAL
 NIGHTMARE IN FOUR PARTS
 STARRING SKINMAN, Z GIRL,
 FANATICMAN AND THE ENIGMATIC
 DOC PHANTOM! THIS FALL
 IN SPUTNIK...
 FROM BLACK EYE
 PRODUCTIONS...

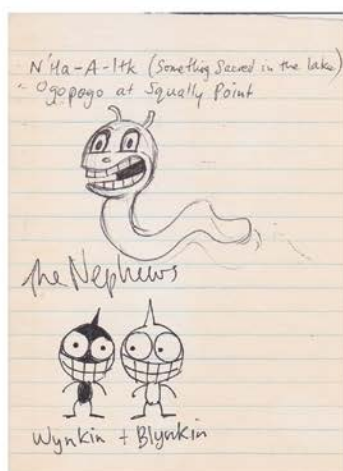
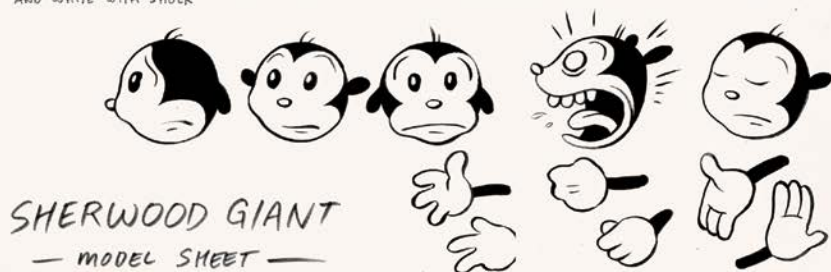
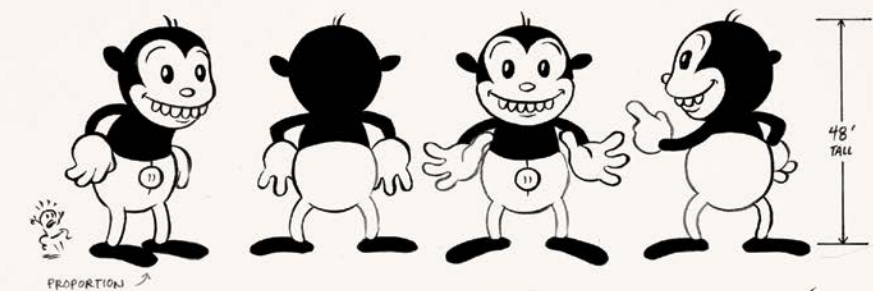
CAMBRIDGE, ONT.
 CANADA



Sherwood's forest

10¢





SIN 7
1992

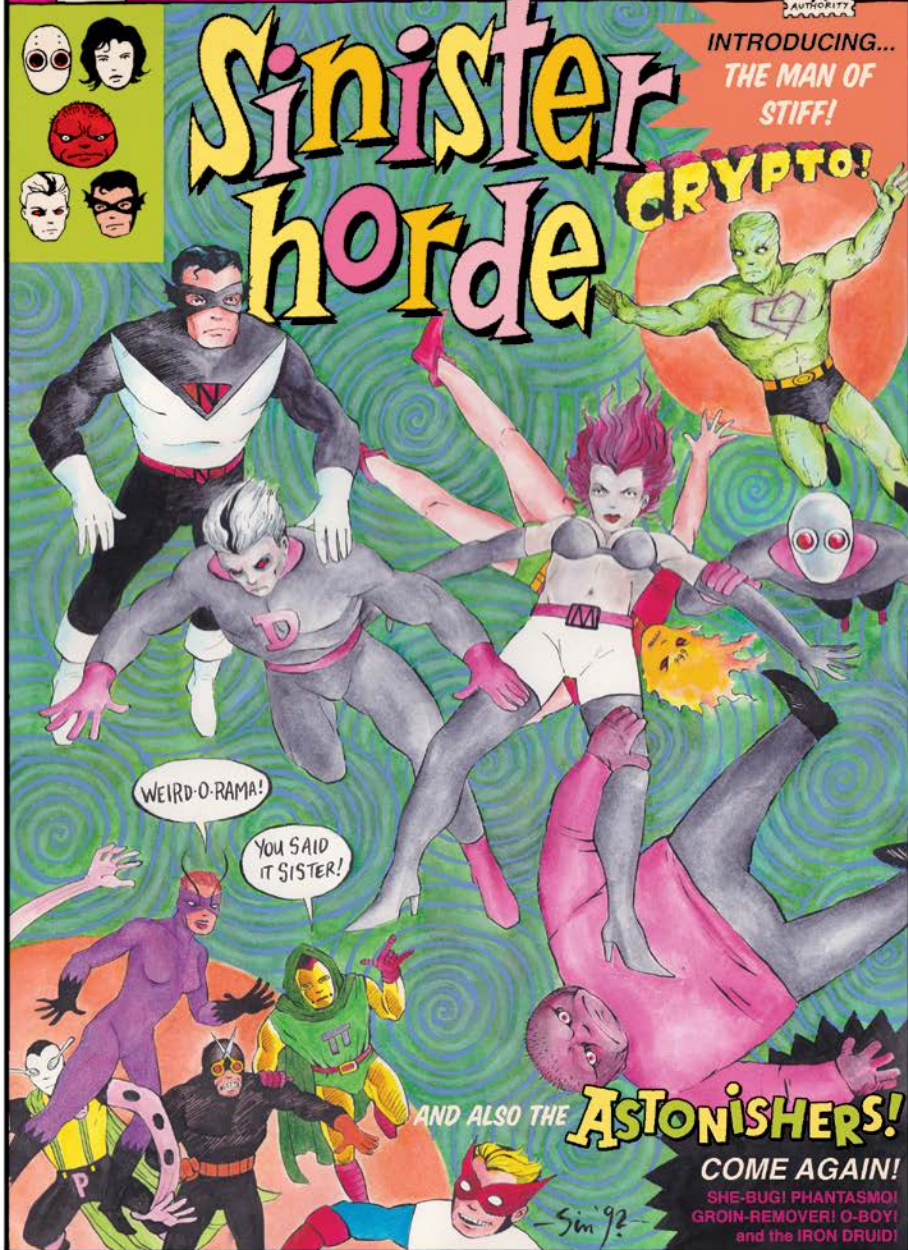
TRAGEDY STRIKES PRESS

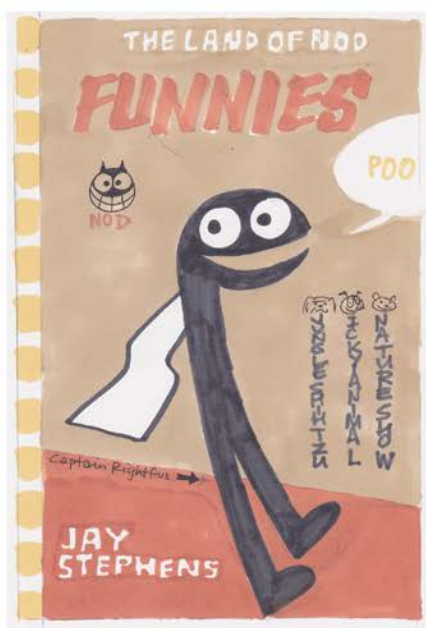
DISAPPROVED
BY THE
COSMIC
CODE
BOOK
AUTHORITY

Sinister horde

INTRODUCING...
THE MAN OF
STIFF!

CRYPTO!





cover #6



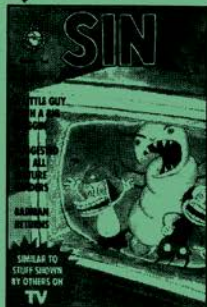
SINCERELY,

Soon to be a letters page.



I hear it is your life's ambition to have your name on the cover of an upcoming issue of Sin! Here is how it can actually happen: Write down a dream you had and mail it to us. If it is weird or hilarious or anything Jason Stephens (monsieur artiste) will interpret it and we will print it! You'll be credited on the cover to boot. Also - close any photos, clippings, or anything that might be relevant to the dream... But know ye this: unless you send a self-addressed stamped envelope your stuff will become OURS! (IRC outside Canada)

Next Issue!



Its two astonishing covers that are conveniently collected on one incredible iss.

Do not spend your hard earned bucks on multiple covers!

← Not necessary!

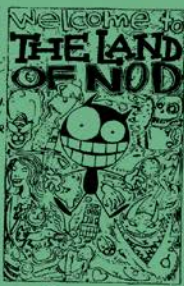
Did you know you can

Win Fabulous Prizes!

Yes indeed!

WHAT? ? HELL

WHAT THE HELL?
The Official Directory of the Sin Universe! Not a binder! Not available in a store!



Voila! It is a nice poster that you can put on your ceiling with tape!

How to Win? Simple!
send us a very good letter (remember to include your own name and address) and if it gets printed, you will get a neat thing in the mailbox!!!

Write to: **SIN % Tragedy Strikes Press**
wyndham St. N
Guelph Ontario
Canada

IRVY STEPHENS

The Land of Nod.



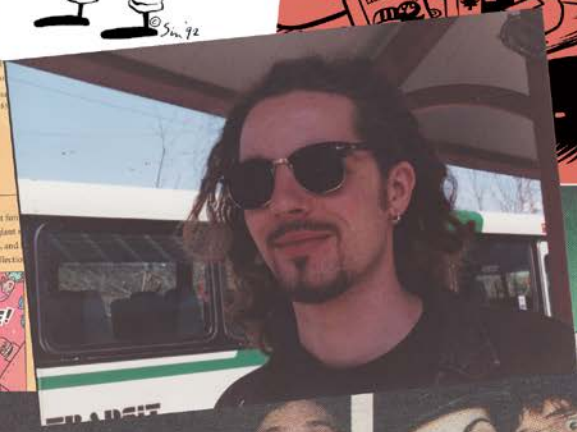
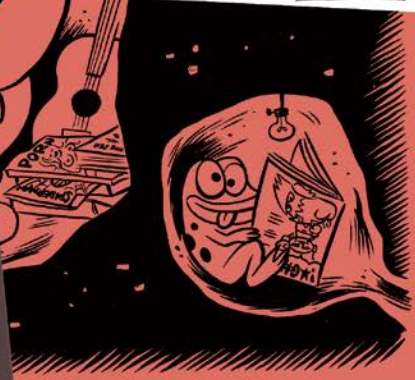
The Land of N



Sin Comics.



Oddville!



BLAST OFF: Black Eye Productions

released *Sputnik*, the first issue of their new "publication with illustrated interviews, feature fiction and small-press profiles" (what you and I would describe as an anthology comic book), with a blitz at the *Rivoli*. Acting stupid for the purpose of publicity were (for left) contributing cartoonist **Jay Stephens**, publisher/editor/contributor **Michel Vrana** and contributor **Nick Craine**, who's also the guitarist in **Black Cabbage**, headliners of the evening. Caught out front "slumming all over Queen St." were (left) the operator of the Vibrant Lounge and eye Spy mainstay **Kyree Vibrant** and "Weird Al" **Yankovic**.



SIN
SIN



STEVE DARNALL

author of the wind-swept

Empty Love Stories

known also for *Marcelo* 0 and *Hero Illustrated*

HILARY BARTA

artist for *Empty Love Stories* and many others

JAY STEPHENS

creator of

Atomic City

Land of Sin

Sin

will be appearing

FRIDAY, JAN

6:00 - 8

CHICAGO
COMICS

3244 N. CL
CHICAGO, IL

atalogue Inform



SIN #1

Premiere Issue!

Everything you'll ever want in a comic book. Sex, violence, super heroes, super villains, autobiography, talking bugs, talking animals (sort of), dark humour, fake ads, fantastic adventure... **SIN's** got it all. All this and "The Back Cover of Death" too. From the inner reaches of artist Jason Stephens' head.

Both Books are:

Bi-Monthly

32 Pages Black & White on Newsprint

4 Colour Cover

Suggested for Mature Readers

\$2.95 CAN, \$2.50 U.S., £1.75 U.K

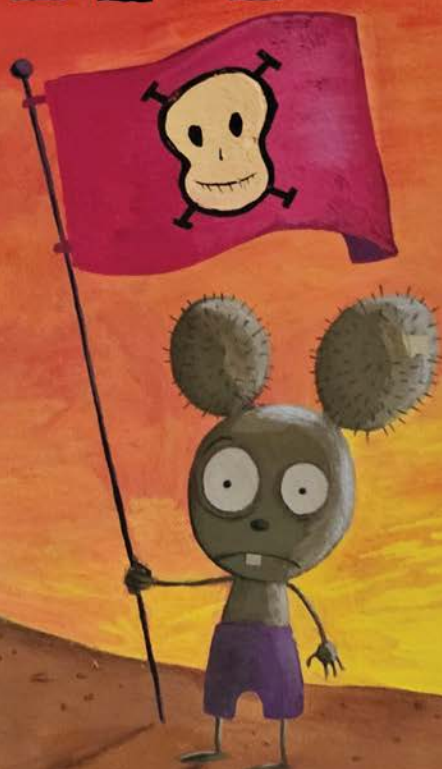
Reactor Girl #4

With a wonderful illustrated cover (and Sparkie McGee story inside) by **SIN** artist, Jason Stephens, how can you go wrong? Inside: more black and white urban tales by **Reactor Girl** regulars, Karel Barx (yes, it is a pen name) Linda Carson, Carol Swain, Michel Vrana and more...



SIN

this issue:



Sin '92

SIN

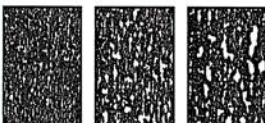
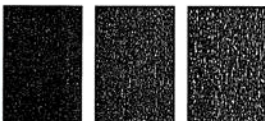
everybody dies! cheap thrills for all mature readers.
sixth issue special.



PLUS! FUNNIES!

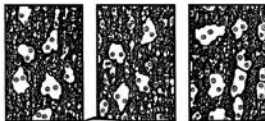


THE LAND OF



MARCH 1991 9

Microscope.



MASTER! careful!

Your Name
Here →



HEY YOU! MY NAME'S JAY STEPHENS, AND I
DREW THIS CARTOON DOWN HERE. FILL
IN THE WORD BALLOONS WITH YOUR
VERY OWN INVENTIVE DIALOGUE!
THE NIFTIEST VERSION
WILL WIN THE ORIGINAL
HAND-PAINTED ARTWORK!

Try
it!!!





HELLO MY FRIEND! OOPS! NO TIME FOR A PERSONAL LETTER! MUST... SEND... **NEWSFLASH!!! AARRRGH!**



ITEM! THIS CHRISTMAS, LOOK OUT FOR THE LONG AWAITED... **LAND OF NOD TREASURY!** THIS LITTLE BOOK COLLECTION REPRINTS THE ENTIRE LOP N. SAGA INCLUDING RARE BITS AND THE NEVER BEFORE SEEN 'NODHUNT PART TWO' CONCLUSION FROM THE UNPUBLISHED 'SIN #6' !!! CAN YOU WAIT OR WHAT?!? **BLACK EYE PRODUCTIONS** IS DOIN' THIS FOR ME- SO IF YOU WANT MORE INFO **NOW** ~ WRITE TO THEM AT THE ADDRESS OVER THERE.~

ITEM! YOU'VE HEARD THE MYFE, NOW READ THE COMIC! **ATOMIC CITY TALES #1** DEBUTS IN **AUGUST!** I'LL BE AT THE SAN DIEGO CONVENTION THIS SUMMER AT THE **BLACK EYE/DRAWN & QUARTERLY** TABLE TO OFFICIALLY RELEASE THIS CRAZY COMIC ON THE UNSUSPECTING MASSES! IF YOU CAN'T JOIN ME IN CALIFORNIA, BE SURE TO ORDER THIS NEWFANGLED PICTURE BOOK FROM YOUR LOCAL MERCHANT (OR **BLACK EYE**) WHILE SUPPLIES LAST! AND IF YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE MYFE...

ITEM! **ATOMIC CITY TALES** HAS 'COSTUMED ADVENTURES' IN IT! THAT MEANS IT'S A 'REAL' COMIC AND THAT COMIC 'CRITIC'S' CAN FINALLY INTERVIEW ME AND PROMOTE MY WORK! IT'S TRUE! COMIC SCENE #43, HERO ILLUSTRATED #12 AND 14 AND THE AUGUST ISSUE OF WIZARD ARE ACTUAL PROOF! HOLY SELL-OUT! (AN, WHO'S COMPLAININ'?)

LOOK UP THERE!~
A RUN DOWN ON MY CURRENT WORK IN PRINT!



SAVAGE LOVE 1/6 THE STRANGER
G. PIKE, SEATTLE, WA. ~ FOUR PAGES OF COLLABORATION WITH DAN SAVAGE. 2.95/\$3.95 CAN. NOD IS IN IT.

SIN COMICS #1+2 **BLACK EYE PRODUCTIONS** KRABS STREET, CAMBRIDGE, ONT. CANADA. NOD, NEWN, TMT-KOISTEL, BIG BOB, ETC. \$3.50. CANUS

SPUTNIK #1+2 ABOVE ADDRESS. AMAZING ARTSY COMIC MAGAZINE THAT HAPPENS TO CONTAIN THE FIRST **ATOMIC CITY TALES**. (SERIALIZED OVER PAST 3 ISSUES) #1 \$2.00 #2 \$3.95

BUG PATROL A FULL COLOUR KIDS STRIP APPEARING SPOTENTIALLY IN NICKELODEON MAGAZINE. 1515 BROADWAY, FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY.

THE OTHER COMICS IN HERE ARE REALLY GOOD! 1.95 U.S. (? CAN)

ODDVILLE! BI-WEEKLY STRIP ABOUT A FLYING BABY- CURRENTLY SHOWING IN SEATTLE (THE STRANGER) AND ALBUQUERQUE (NOD CITY). IF YOU'RE IN TOWN, CHECK IT OUT!

AND IF YOU'RE IN CANADA THIS FALL, CHECK OUT THE ALL-NEW YTV KID'S SHOW **SQUADROX**! I WROTE SEVERAL LIVE SKETCHES, DID CHARACTER DESIGNS, AND CREATED SOME ANIMATED SHORTS STARRING A WEIRD HERO CALLED **WUNDERBUDS**! GUESS WHAT? I ALSO DID HIS VOICE! (I HOPE THIS SHOW IS GOOD!)

PHEN! SO NOW YOU'RE ALL UP TO DATE... DROP ME A LINE, WON'T YOU?

XoXo Sin



LAND OF NOD - FRONT COVER

71464

C1

FILE:NOD-COV.CDR

TIME: Wed Nov 02 08:07:08 1994

TITLE: 1 of 1



Matthew
R...



We'd like to welcome
son Stephens, Rob Veri
and Ken Weber to the
ranks of the Tragedy
icken! They'll be lending
and with production and
promotion

a CD
coop!
lason
good.

Cuts!
Press
14E5



y rages in the *ACT* letters
er Stephens has taken the
nself; he admits that older
fer *Sin*. Perhaps they (like
already seen the superhero
oo many times. Stephens
ed by some readers' unwill-
n with superheroes, and is
. Certainly, given his track
y *Tales* is worth watching;
s his feet with the book, it
expected the way *Madman*
has not. (When Nod had a
ou could practically hear the

phens has continued to ex-
thful side via the *Oddville*
s in *The Stranger* and else-
d shorts for the Canadian
ox. But for those who want
The Land of Nod Treasury
is' last-for-now shot at flat-
o gorgeously packaged by
r Michel Vrana, so much so
used for thinking it was a
s saccharine children's car-
you really have no excuse







For the Love of Nod

The Land of Nod Treasury
and Atomic City Tales

A Review By DARCY SULLIVAN

AT THE RIPE OLD AGE of 24, Jay Stephens is already getting hassled by people who say his older comics were better.



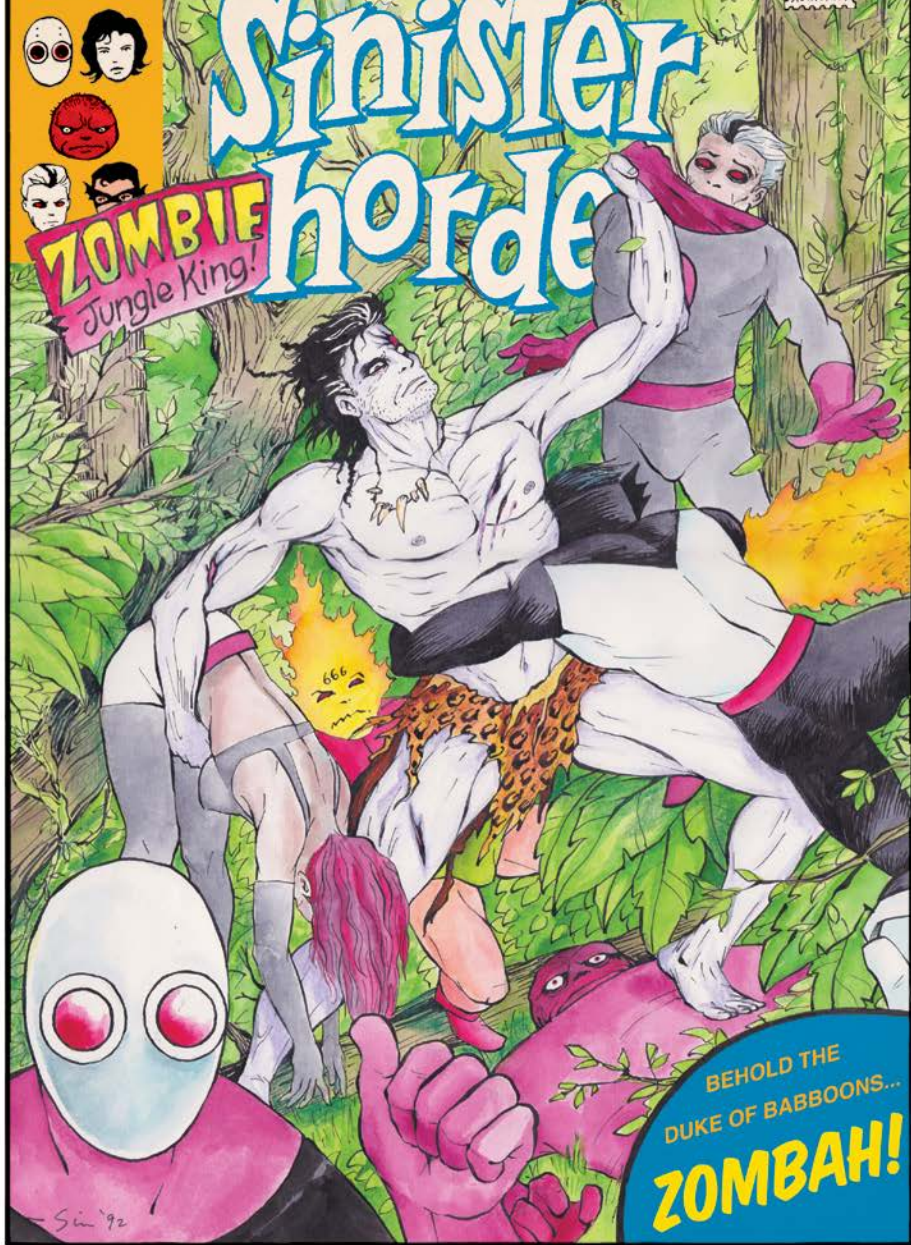
SIN 8
1992

TRAGEDY STRIKES PRESS™

DISAPPROVED
BY THE
COSMIC
CO-ED
C.A.D.
AUTHORITY

Sinister horde

ZOMBIE
Jungle King!





\$2.95 CAN \$2.50 U.S. £1.50 U.K.

THE ORIGINAL

Number
Three
OCT
Happy Halloween

FOR MATURE READERS PLEASE

NO.95 CAN \$2.50 U.S. £1.50 U.K.

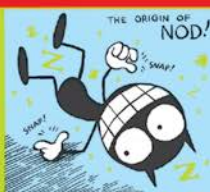
FOR MATURE READERS PLEASE
Number
Three
OCT 92
Happy Halloween

THE ORIGINAL

SIN

THE STUNNING ORIGIN STORY OF

the
**Sinister
horde!**



PLUS MUCH
More!!

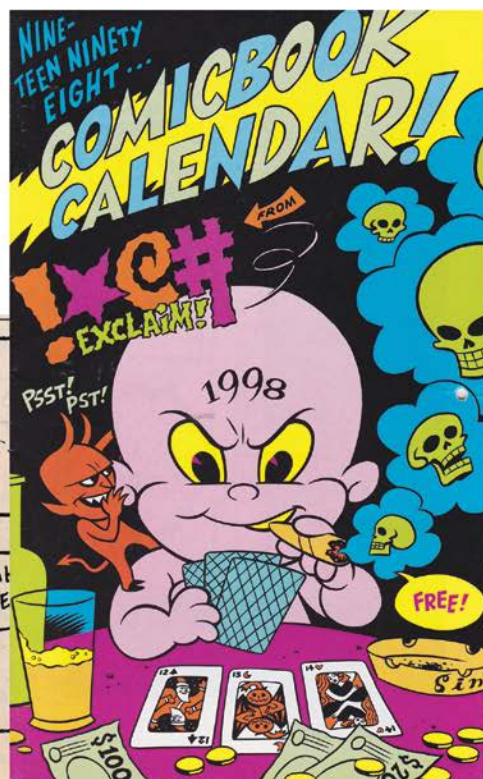
THE ORIGIN OF
NOD!



THE STUNNING

the
**Sinister
horde!**





March
1998.

Z Z Z Z

SPLUK!

BLAM

I FIL
WITH
BEFO
COMI
STAR
THE E

ARE YOU DESPERATE
YET? FOAMING
WITH DROOL? SICK
STIFF WITH SPRING
FEVER? ARE YOU
LAVA HOT? ARE
YOU ALL SOGGY?

ARE YOU READY
FOR THE MONTH OF ...

FEBRUARY





FREE ACROSS CANADA

DECEMBER 1998/JANUARY 1999

WOC#
EXCLAIM!

**Spectacular
Readers Poll
Giveaway**



The Cardigans

Wendy Carlos

**Queens of
the Stone Age**

Offspring

Afghan Whigs



BAD MAN

leashot The National Campus

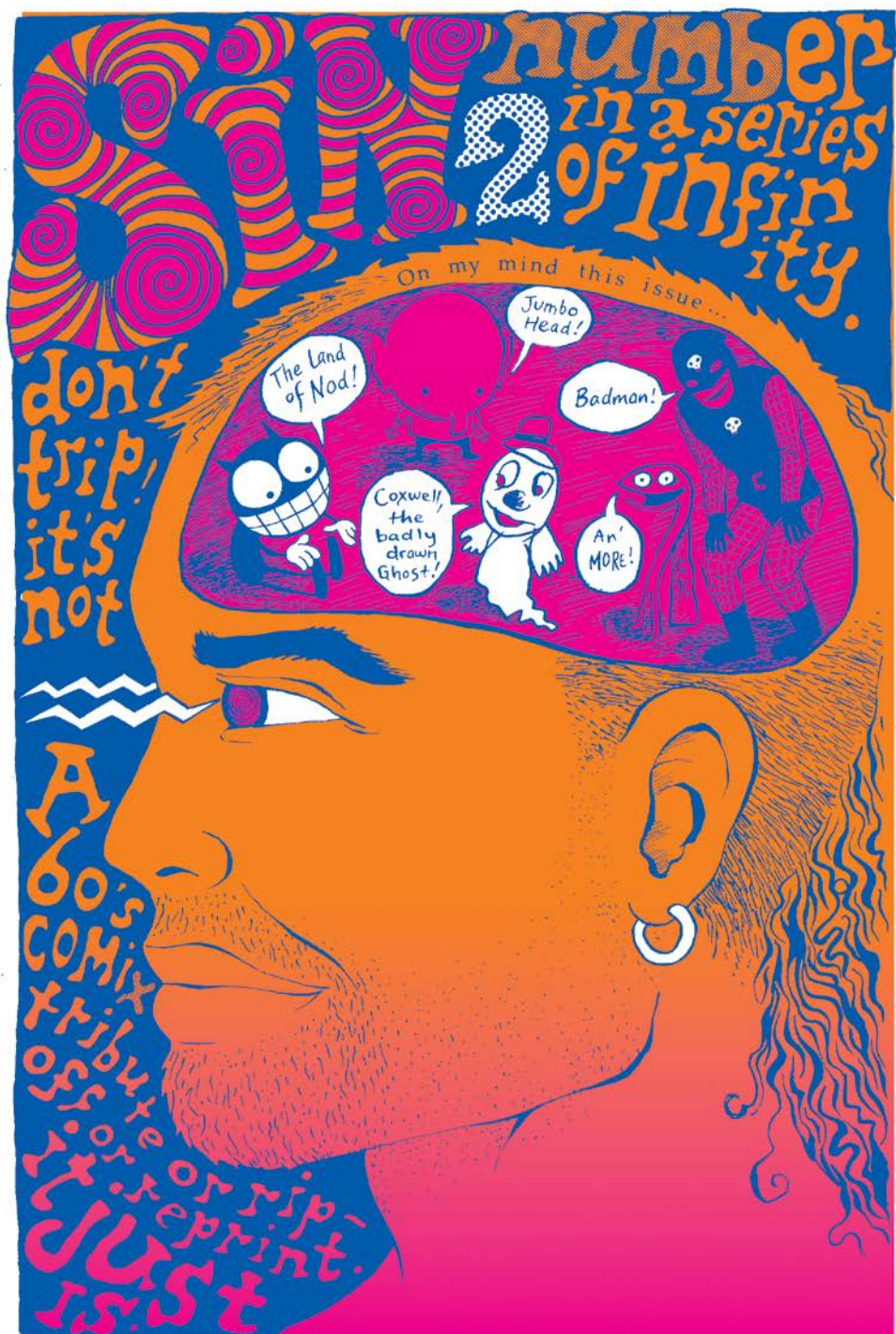


NOD



confident,
born leader,
man of few words,
charismatic
cute,
bouncy





LAST BUT NOT LEAST!!!

JAY STEPHENS SELF-PUBLISHES A COLLECTION OF HIS WEEKLY NEWSPAPER STRIPS! ODDVILLE WILL BE AN EIGHTY-PAGE, SQUAREBOUND BOOK - DUE OUT IN JUNE FROM JAY'S OWN ART ICK! CHECK IT OUT!

ODDVILLE!



FOR MORE INFO CALL ART ICK PRODUCTIONS AT [REDACTED], OK?



NEWS! FOR YOU'S!



'CAPTAIN RIGHTFUL' FROM LAND OF NOD #2 © 1996 JAY STEPHENS

TWENTY-FIVE-YEAR-OLD POP CULTURE JUNKIE JAY STEPHENS IS BACK ON THE SCENE IN NINETY-SIX WITH NOT ONE, BUT TWO ALL-NEW CREATOR-OWNED PROJECTS!

YOU HOLD IN YOUR HANDS THE FIRST ISSUE OF BLACK EYE PRODUCTIONS' QUARTERLY LAND OF NOD COMIC BOOK! LOOK OUT FOR NUMBER TWO IN EARLY JUNE!

COMING IN MAY OF THIS YEAR IS THE EAGERLY ANTICIPATED ATOMIC CITY TALES NUMBER ONE, THE SECOND ONGOING COMIC SERIES WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY JAY IN '96! KITCHEN SINK PRESS IS SERVING THIS ONE UP ON A BI-MONTHLY BASIS.

ONE OF THE 'DRACULIDS' FROM A.C. TALES #1 © 1996 JAY STEPHENS



'CANYON KIDS' FROM THE #7 © 1996 JAY STEPHENS/PAUL POPE

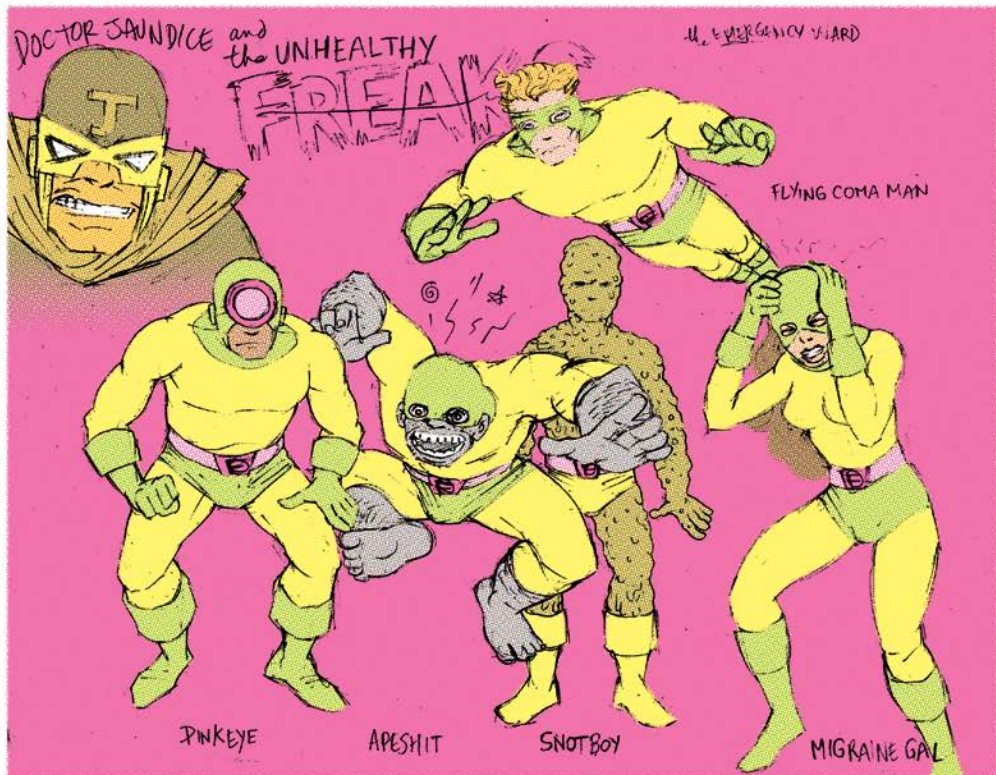
IN ADDITION TO THIS JAM-PACKED SUMMER LINE-UP, JAY'S CARTOONING WILL ALSO BE ON DISPLAY IN THE NUMBER SEVEN, BUZZ BUZZ COMICS MAGAZINE, AND THE WING TIP CAPER - ALL IN ASSOCIATION WITH PAUL POPE'S HORSE PRESSE. EXCITING COLLABORATIONS BETWEEN LIKE-MINDED CARTOON HOTSHOTS!

Plus! LOOK FOR KING SIZE CANARY IN TEX AVERY'S COMICS AND STORIES NUMBER THREE, WITH TEXT, ART, AND COLOUR BY JAY! FROM DARK HORSE COMICS IN APRIL!

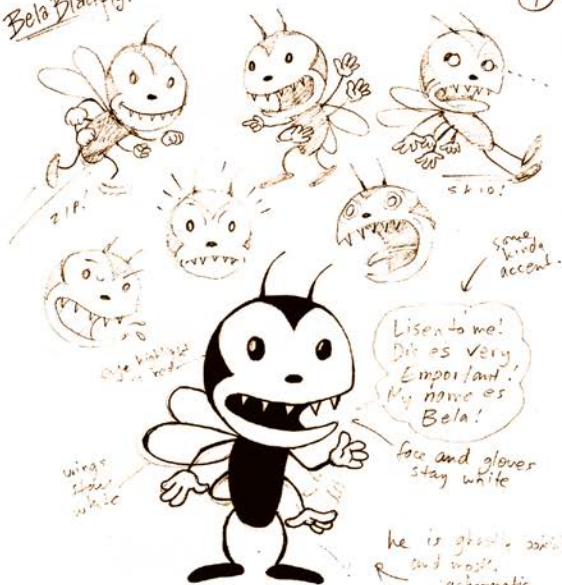
PENCILS FROM 'TEX AVERY'S COMICS... #3 © 1996 DARK HORSE/MANNA-BARBERA



LAND OF NOD! ATOMIC CITY TALES! ODDVILLE! CANYON KIDS! KING SIZE CANARY!



Bela Blackfly!



— Sin 1992 —

LAND OF NOD 'PROMOTIBLIA'

— Sin '97

③: felt banner! good for stores and fans!



④: embroidered patch! (fan club?) IRON-ON?



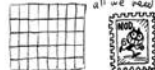
"OFFICIAL" NODNIK slogan of Nod fan club! This could be a button.

⑤: T-SHIRT IRON-ON!



SHIRTS SHOULD COME WITH MEMBERSHIP CARD + badge, signed photo of Nod, exclusive iron-on, and 'Nodniks' (like money good for cash when buying original art from me!)

⑥: STAMP SHEET! (valueless of course!) all we need is perforation angle!



⑦: Balloons! the traditional style



these are probably really cheap to make? let's do it!

⑧: OH! A NOD CLOCK! PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE!

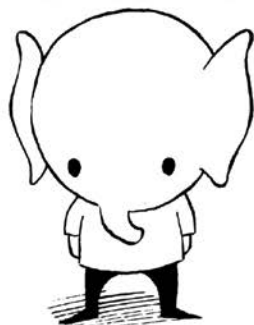


OR WATCHES, SO APPROPRIATE FOR A GRAPHIC COMIC CHARACTER! (WALT DISNEY MADE HIS CARTOON THIS WAY, YOU KNOW!) IT WAS THE WATCHES WHO MADE HIM!

⑨: Here's a trippy idea: ROLLING PAPERS!



AIN'T NOBODY EVER DONE THIS BEFORE!



's sex and drugs in it... Actually, it's up an interesting point, too. A school of cartoonists that are O's underground school of art, I'm totally immune from. I was as a kid or as an adolescent. I mean, I was a professional, until I was a professional, until I was a professional. I mean of course I'd seen "Cruckin'" T-shirt decals in, uh, [unclear] but I wasn't really aware of it. It's funny, you still see these guys, Cooper's one of them, and actually a lot of cartoonists are still really into the Crumb kind of aesthetic. Marc [unclear] about his stuff, I can't believe

ing there. getting there, but again there's a reference, and I think Cooper's too. Suffering is a harsh word, starting to find their own voice, Cooper's others that I can't w. But it's starting to turn into something exciting. You see this just coming out of Cooper, or all over North America? Actually, that's a good point, activity here, isn't there? Right so.

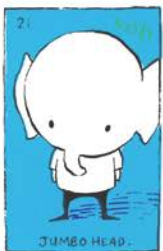
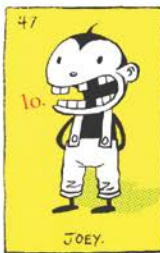
well I'm planning to move to

It's time for NO SIN



Artwork for the original "Land of Nod" proposal!







SUNDA AUGUST 9 BOOK SIGN



Tragedy Strikes Press presents
co-signing with Cheeseheads artist, Nick Craine and Sin
artist Jason Stephens. Nick and Jay will be signing copies
of their comic books and selling themselves real cheap at
7:30pm this Saturday at Collage,
10 Wyndham Street N., Guelph, Ontario.

Cheese and crackers will be served

entertainment

culture

alternative press

Standard comic book stores with windows sporting super hero decorations, put off the reader who normally haunts bookstores, Craine said.

"There's no crossover between books and comics," Vrana said. "The whole system is geared to sell superheroes and we have to get our audience into the stores."

"It's like publishing beatnik poetry books and trying to sell them in science fiction book stores," Vrana said. "In many ways we're viewed as similar (to superheroes) because we're comics. That view is still there



Jay Stephens



TRAGEDY STRIKES PRESS LTD.

0039

May 16th '92

PAY TO: Jason Stephens

THE ORDER OF

Three Hundred and Forty-five

\$ 345.00

ROYAL BANK OF CANADA

MAIN BRANCH

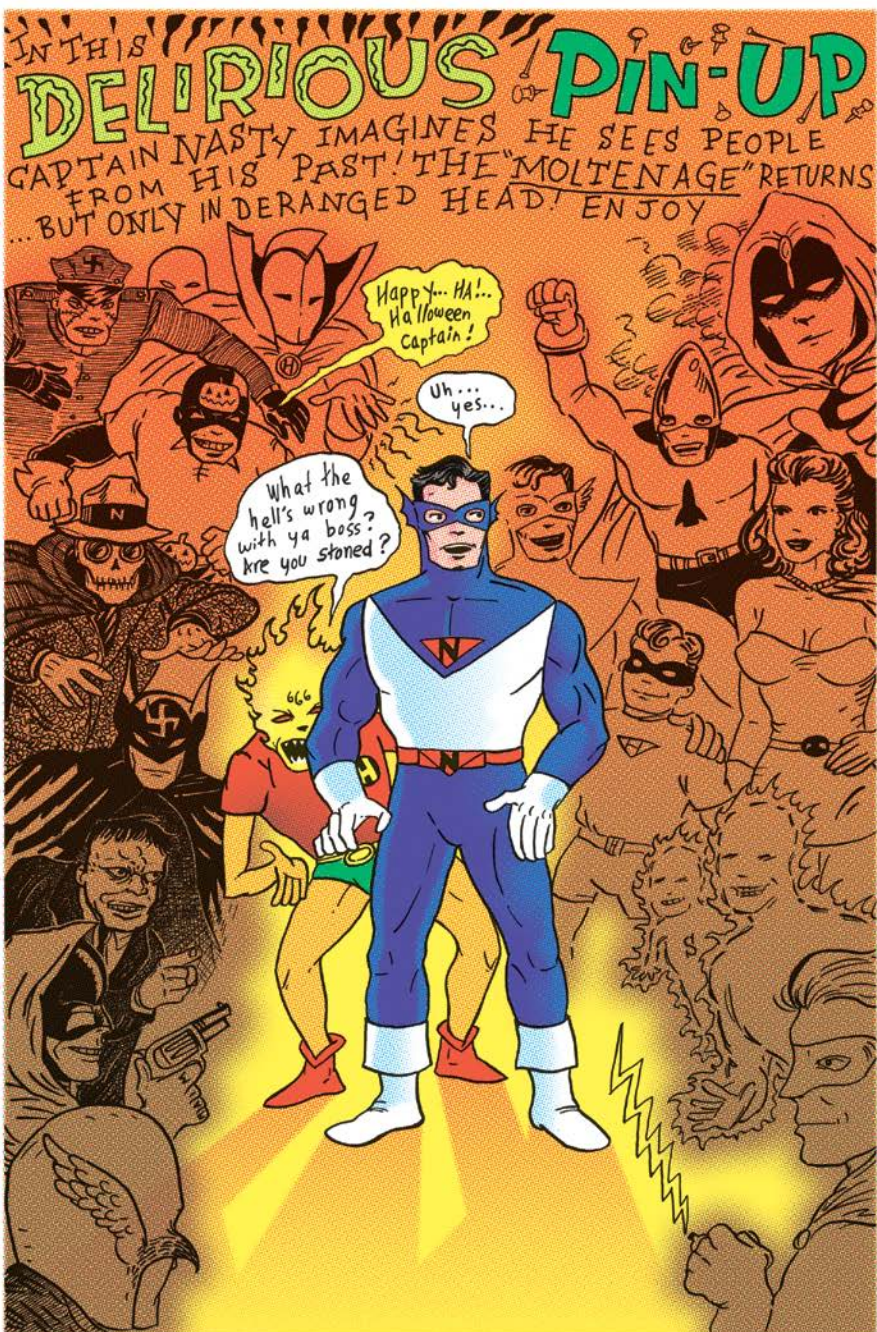
74 WYNDHAM STREET

GUELPH, ONT. N1H 4E6

FOR SIN #1 3rd payment / 26.12 1st payment



WHISKEY JACK, DOCTOR HOMICIDE, THE BRUISE, BAT-NAZI, MOLTEN-AGE NECROMAN, DOC PUMPKIN, THE WOUND, HIDINGMAN, HOCUS THE GREAT



MOLTEN-AGE PHANTASMO, THE GREEN TORPEDO, MISS INFORMED, CAPTAIN NICE AND HAPPY, THE BOY OF JOY, CANDLEMAN AND SCORCHY, JEWELRY-MAN

w. Michel Vrana



w. Nick Craine

SINCERELY,

Tragedy Strikes Press,

Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Win this prize. Write a letter that SIN likes!



Dear Jason,

Hi there. My name is Jen McCabe... I just got back home after being in Montreal for a few weeks. While I was in Montreal I went to Cafe Phoenix — where I discovered your comic book for the first time. I loved it SO much! I tried, unsuccessfully, to find it at a couple of comic stores. If they did carry it they were out of stock. Lame. I went back to Phoenix and re-read the copy that they have from June — and that's when I noticed the back page asking for dream submissions. It was too strange! 'Cause I'd had a pretty bizarre dream during a nap that afternoon. So, now, hoping it's fate or something, I'm gonna tell you my dream. O.K.?

[...]

I hope you liked it. I mean, I don't know if this submission is way late or what — because the only issue I ever saw of SIN was from June. But I wanted to make an attempt, y'know? I hope you can use it —

and I hope I get that nifty poster. Aside from all that, how could I get back issues and future issues of your comic book? I'd really like to know.

Jen "PezGirl" McCabe
Seattle, Washington

Way late indeed! SIN number four was at the printer by the time I got your letter, But have no fear: The dream contest is ALWAYS on! Everyone keep sending me your dreams. You could have it "interpreted" by me in the pages of SIN and win neat prizes!

As for getting your hands on more SIN, howzabout a subscription?

And by the way, Cafe Phoenix is THE place to go in Montreal folks.

Dear Mr. Sin:

Wait 'till Jesus get his hands on you, you evil bastard.

Daryn R Lehoux
Toronto, Ontario

Why? Are they sticky or something?

Dear SIN,

While I was visiting my local comic shop the other day, I happened upon your comic, SIN number three, and I was taken in by the groovy cover. So I bought it. Someday, I might even look at the inside.

Stergios Botzakias
Boston, Massachusetts

No, please do not! Just put it in a bag...
PUT IT IN A BAG!

Dearest SIN

Augh. SIN makes my brain hurt like too much vodka. Or a real big ballpeen hammer. Whichever. Neato artworks... I'm sorry my brain hurts and it's all your fault and I can't rite know moor. I am here I can smell them. Ha HarharharHa HA HA HA HA HOOooooo...! ...Huht! HA HA HA!!! Snicker! Snort! Heee!

What could Captain Rightful be saying? You'll have to wait until next issue to find out!





ARTIST UNKNOWN

Teenage girls hang around the entrance to Tragedy Strikes Press, the Guelph-based comic book publishing house that has brought the world The Cheese Heads and Reactor Girl. Could it be that comic book audiences are now attracting groupies? Exactly. The young women are grabbing a smoke out reach of the steady drizzle of balling in a clothing store the back of Tragedy es. We one r entered or Trage space the head ta ink walk head ove e compar ion. ice had n d. Ther day n a hel Vrana the apple-chee itor, is giving some editor Stephen for



ORIGINAL

SIN

This dazzling display of modular density is by Stephens, super-heroes should always make you—smile?

According to Jay Stephens, super-heroes should always make you—smile?



By DARC Y SULLIVAN

The Maniac Gang are taking a break from conquering the world, and they're relaxing the way super-villains always do, watching TV and eating snacks. Skelman, his stitched-up face resembling a beanie baseball, glowers at *The Kids in the Hall*. Z-Girl pesters him, offering barbecue chips and asking him why he

Stephens created Man and Skelman. Noel's postmodern drollery. "I took Mickey Mouse and I would Duck and I would them of any recognizable characteristics."



Nickelodeon Magazine

Stephens

Stephens

Stephens

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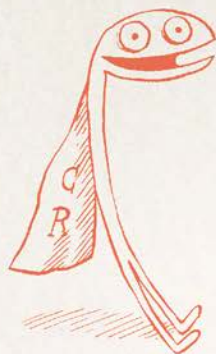
Stephens

"My first Doom Patrol comic. Number 68. GRAB. That was an eye-opener. The copy I got didn't even have a cover. I had no idea what the comic was or who the characters were. I just knew they were like the Fantastic Four, but really weird."

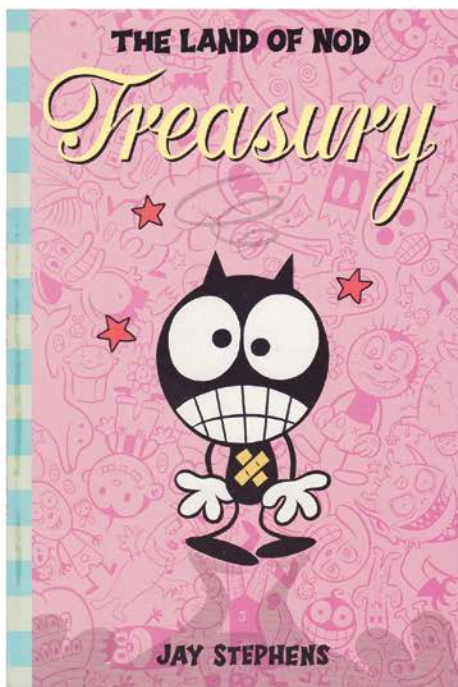
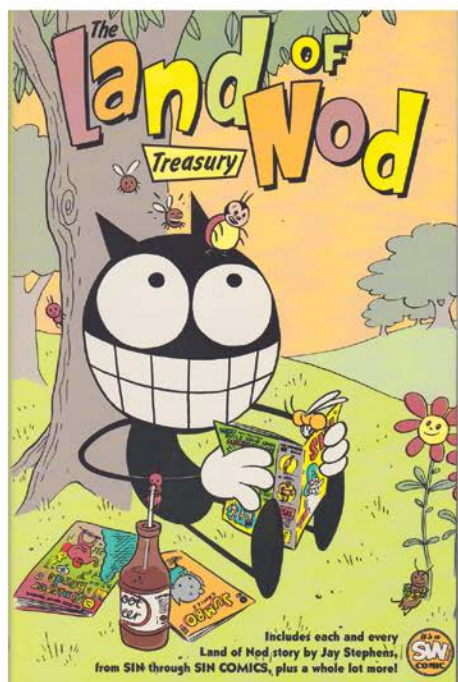
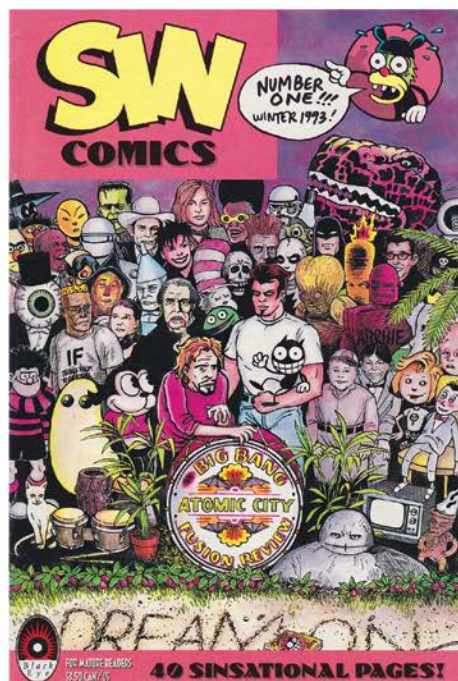
Stephens' Atomic City Tales mixes the retro feel of the best old comics with an off-kilter modern panache. Big Bang, the "hero" of Atomic City Tales, is an ordinary slacker named Felix (remember that name) who bopped a

Antonishers!" bellowed the Clot. "Whom My shoelace is untied!" cracked Necroman.

The Savage Dragon. His fans, he says, overwhelmingly prefer his non-superhero stories—so, perversely, he's coming out with an all-superhero



Sculpture by Clyde Henry





eye OCTOBER 1, 1992

A T

A non-stop cavalcade of free-associative weirdness Jay Stephens' world of SIN



VIEW

Available from
10 Wyndham St. N.
S.

rooming with
ector Girl's first
with Vrana gave
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is most maniacal
Vrana became
ikes, Stephens
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says Stephens.
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essed

— who happened to be a cop — decided it was "pornographic." So when I was first doing *SIN*, I decided to check my rights and take it just as far as it could possibly go. But the funny part is stuff like that only shocks for about a minute and a half — then it's boring. Explicit has been done."

According to Stephens, he structured *SIN* on the old *Mad* comic books, which beat Dr. Frederick Wertham's Comics Code by switching to magazine format and continuing to do what it had always done — be "ridiculously stupid, violent and gross, politically uncaring and crass."

He grins again. "So maybe I should throw in a couple of my own warnings, on top of that 'recommended for mature readers' crap. That's right — read this and you're going straight to hell."

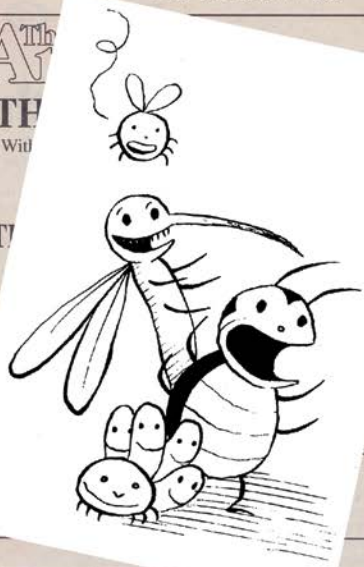
A fair warning, then — enter *SIN* only at your own risk. And be prepared ... to laugh. ☺



Young comic-book creator tries to be stupid, and succeeds most of the time.

At
TH
Wid

T



HAIR LOSS?



il 27 1999 at the Cameron v

GRAMMA'S HOUSE

by Jyonne Logan



in Detail from ~
MY DREAM THAT HAPPENED IN DEPTH IN MY BED TOO.
~ by Klaus Steden ~



TORONTO
COMICS
MAR. 1997

mock cover rough - SIN COMICS #1

6 1/2

? - 10

2 1/2

10

same colour

SIN

NUMBER ONE!!!
WINTER 1993!



1.25

2.5-10

= 3-15

3.75



SIN COMICS



June - Sept. - ABSURDDELICIOUS!

idea where it was going to go... panel, and I just did it one panel at a time. Wrote it and drew it as I went. And I think it worked.



about the Band-Aid on the first cover that in the store, I wasn't sure whether... ic book had put it on, or whether some ic book store had put it on. There was n't have the Band-Aid on it, and I making that was the real one. sure how that one without the here. We thought we tagged them

d collectors took it off.

May 15, 1997

Mr. Jay Stephens

Sin iGAG! 1991



and art by Sin Stephen

Reactor Girl



SIN



BOBBY. THE SHOW
HE'S HAD A LONG
put him in his chair...
PRETTY CUTE
T HE?

, BUT HE'S
R WHEN
NOT SO



HOTEL EMBASSY
TRANSHOTEL C. LTDA.
ORGANIZACION HOTELERA

Presidente Wilson 441 y Av. 6 de Diciembre
Teléfonos 52-20-54-014 Ecuador
Telex 3101 TRANHOT-ED Fax: 501-53102
Quito - Ecuador

Dear Fellows,



← coffee
as black as
diablo! Colombian
and toxic! Ho!
IT IS SO YUMMY.

The air in the Andes
IS NOT RICH IN OXYGEN!

SUCK!



There is a full MOON OVER ECUADOR...
and also our HONEYMOON!



Look!



The Hotel Embassy is BUGFREE!

BUENAS
TARDES!



DIEZ MIL SUCRES

10000



BANCO CENTRAL DEL ECUADOR

10000

↑ This is money! It shows the MONUMENT
OF INDEPENDENCE in Quito ... which is
WHERE WE ARE!

A Ghost image appears here! It's worth approx. (It cost more)
\$7.82 CANADIAN (to send this.)

THE OTHER SIDE LOOKS COMPLETELY DIFFERENT.



me as a tourist!

← classy snap-shot
camera!

← money belt
makes me
look FAT!

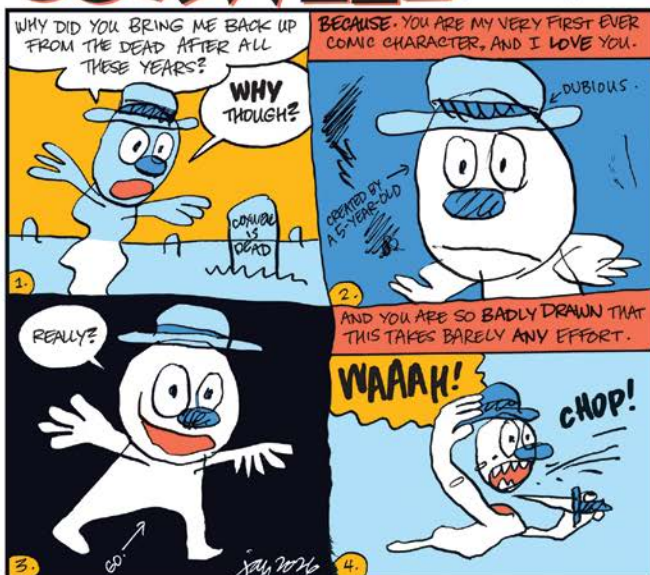
TO THE WEST
OF US IS HOLY
SMOKE! AN
ACTIVE
VOLCANO...
YOU MUST BE
FOOLING US
GRINGOS.

see ya's
later,
N+YVONNE

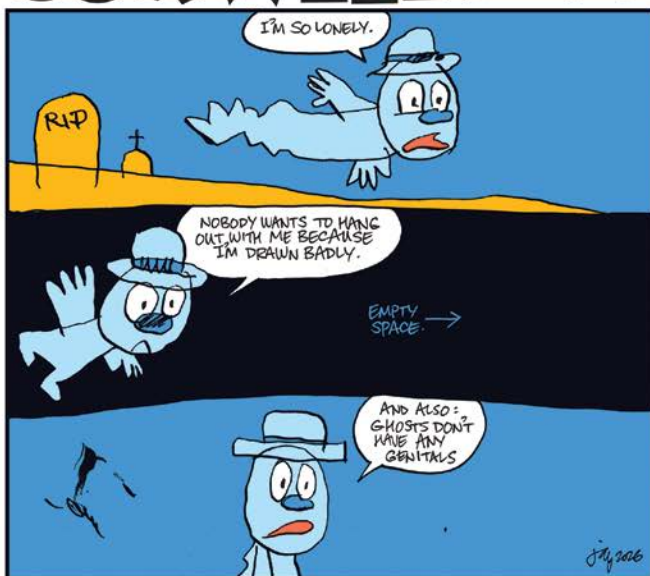
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From : H. EMBASSY 503 2 53102

COXWELL *the badly or drawn ghost*

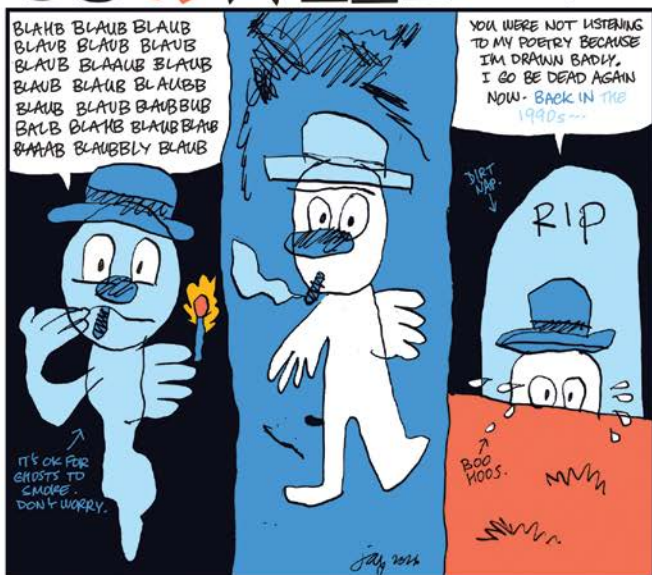


COXWELL *the badly or drawn ghost*

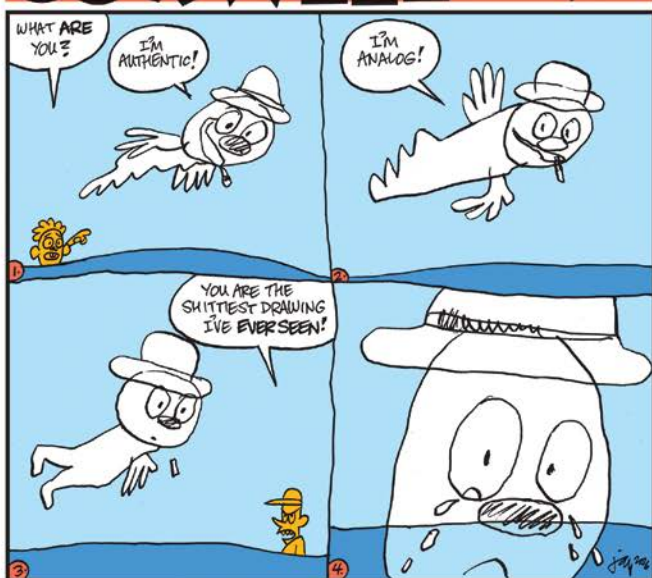


New Coxwell comic strips made to promote the crowdfunding campaign.

COXWELL the badly drawn ghost



COXWELL the badly drawn ghost



New Coxwell comic strips made to promote the crowdfunding campaign.



BACK COVER OF DEATH!

KNIFE
GIRL

GUN
BOY

"A chief delight is its rollicking unpredictably, a total uncertainty over where the story will careen and what will be laughable next."

—THE COMICS JOURNAL

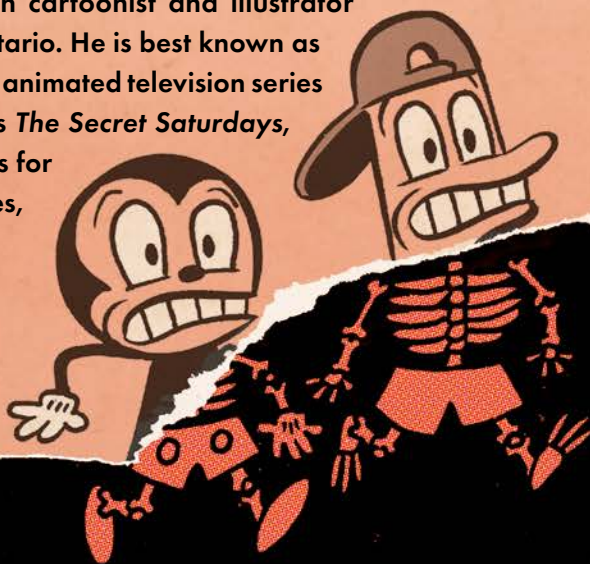
"There's no better place to have fun than in the Land of Nod."

— EVAN DORKIN, CREATOR OF MILK & CHEESE

A weirdo, stream-of-consciousness comic about hard times, created by a recovering drug-addled punk, with all the disaffected Gen X sarcasm you would expect from an irreverent 1990s underground Zine. If there's a meaning, it's that there is no meaning.

This treasure trove collects the entire Land of Nod Saga, Badman, Coxwell the Badly Drawn Ghost, The Sinister Horde (not in print since the 1990s), and an extensive gallery of rare and unpublished extras with behind-the-scenes material.

JAY STEPHENS is a Canadian cartoonist and illustrator currently living in Guelph, Ontario. He is best known as the creator of Discovery Kids's animated television series *Tutenstein*, Cartoon Network's *The Secret Saturdays*, and the *Jetcat* animated shorts for Nickelodeon's anthology series, *KaBlam!*



BLACK EYE BOOKS
www.blackeye.ca