





DID YOU JUST  
SAW THAT MAN  
IN HALF!?

HE'S NOT  
REALLY A  
"MAN". KIND OF  
AN ALIEN, BUG...  
THING...  
MAN-LIKE...



IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY,  
THOMAS. LITTLE BOYS SHOULD  
BE OUT PLAYING INSTEAD OF  
STAYING COOPED UP IN THE  
HOUSE PLAYING VIOLENT  
VIDEO GAMES.




BUT THAT'S THE  
BEAUTIFUL THING  
ABOUT VIDEO  
GAMES.

NO MATTER  
WHAT THE  
WEATHER IS LIKE  
OUTSIDE, IT'S  
ALWAYS A GOOD  
DAY TO PLAY  
THEM.








GO OUT AND  
SOCIALIZE AND PLAY WITH  
OTHERS. IT'S FAR BETTER FOR  
YOU THAN BEING EXPOSED TO  
ALL THAT VIOLENCE.

I'LL CALL  
YOU IN FOR  
DINNER.




SIGH.



PUH.  
VIOLENCE.

AIEEE!



HEY, THOMAS.  
I'VE ALWAYS  
WANTED A PSP.  
GIVE ME YOURS.

UM...  
NO?



WHO DID THIS?

DARREN BLALOCK. AN ELEVEN YEAR OLD WITH A THICK NECK AND MUSCLES LIKE A TEENAGER.



TELL ME AGAIN, WHY I CAN'T LEARN MARTIAL ARTS!?

ABIGAIL GETS TO!



BECAUSE ABIGAIL IS A SWEET LITTLE GIRL WHO HAS TROUBLE FOCUSING. MARTIAL ARTS HELPS.

YOU'RE A RAMBUNCTIOUS LITTLE BOY.



I'LL TALK TO MRS. BLALOCK ABOUT DARREN, AND I'LL GET YOUR VIDEO GAME THING BACK.

STOP SQUIRMING

NOOOOO, MOM!  
I'LL LOOK WEAK.



TOO LATE!

SHUT UP!

JANIE!

ABBY! I NEED YOUR HELP.

MOM WON'T LET ME TAKE MARTIAL ARTS TO LEARN TO DEFEND MYSELF AGAINST DARREN BLALOCK.



I NEED YOU TO TRAIN ME. I NEED YOU TO KEEP ME ON MY TOES, JUST LIKE CATO FONG DID FOR INSPECTOR CLOUSEAU.



AT RANDOM TIMES DURING THE DAY, YOU HAVE TO ATTACK ME AND TEACH ME THAT I SHOULD BE ON GUARD WHEN I LEAST EXPECT IT.

AND FURTHERMORE-

**HYA!**

**HRROOF!!**

**AUUUUUGH!  
NOT YET!**

DEATH DOES NOT WAIT FOR YOU TO BE READY!

**SMACK!**

**SMACK!**

**SMACK!**

**SMACK!**







ABIGAIL?


I KNOW YOU'RE  
IN MY ROOM READY  
TO AMBUSH ME. I  
WANT YOU TO KNOW  
THAT I DON'T THINK  
THIS TRAINING IS  
WORKING.

THE ONLY THING  
I'M LEARNING IS  
HOW TO GET MY  
BUTT KICKED.



I WANT YOU TO  
TEACH ME AS AN INSTRUCTOR  
INSTEAD OF AN ADVERSARY.  
TRAIN ME IN *EVERYTHING*  
YOU KNOW. SO, WHEN I  
COME IN, DON'T ATTACK  
ME, OKAY?


ABBY?



Is anybody there?...

OH  
SHOOT.





WE'VE BEEN STUDYING YOUR ENEMY.

WE'RE LOOKING AT A STANDARD *CLASS 3* BULLY WITH A SUPERIORITY COMPLEX AND A LACK OF BOUNDARIES AS A RESULT OF THE EARLY ONSET OF PUBERTY.

WE?

THE NORMAL METHOD OF BATTLING THIS KIND OF BULLY INVOLVES THE EMPLOYMENT OF ABSOLUTE MORAL CERTAINTY AND SUPERIOR *INTELLECT*.

BUT IN *YOUR* CASE, SIMPLE ANGER WILL HAVE TO DO.

HEY!



THAT'S  
RIGHT. YOU  
SHOULD BE  
ANGRY!

EVERY LAWN YOU  
MOWED AND EVERY  
CHORE YOU DID BEYOND  
YOUR ORDINARY DUTIES  
IS TIME OUT OF YOUR  
LIFE SPENT EARNING  
YOUR PROPERTY!


THOSE WHO USE  
BRUTE FORCE TO  
TAKE PART OF YOUR  
LIFE *DESERVE* TO  
BE ANSWERED WITH  
THEIR OWN  
CODE!

HUFF  
HUFF  
HUFF




YES...  
YES...

EMBRACE YOUR  
PASSION FOR  
*JUSTICE!* FOR  
THE RIGHTEOUS  
RETRIBUTION  
YOU'LL BE  
DELIVERING!



A JEDI CAN  
FEEL THE FORCE  
FLOWING THROUGH  
HIM.

FEEL THE  
ANGER PUMPING  
THROUGH YOUR  
VEINS, MAKING  
YOU *POWERFUL!*




NOW YOU  
JUST SOUND  
STUPID.

HEE.  
MAYBE A  
LITTLE.




PUT ON THESE  
PUNCH GLOVES  
FOR THOMAS.



AW, IS  
THOMAS TRYING  
TO GET TOUGH?  
THAT'S CUTE!




PLEASE. THIS  
IS SERIOUS.



REMEMBER YOUR  
TRAINING. I WANT  
TO SEE GOOD  
FOOTWORK AND  
SOLID, ACCURATE  
JABS.


GO.



C'MON, LITTLE  
GUY! GIVE IT YOUR  
BEST SHOT!



WOW.



YOU ARE  
READY.



YOU  
LITTLE  
JERK!



THERE HE IS,  
PLAYING YOUR  
VIDEO GAMES.

PROBABLY  
OVERWRITING MY  
SAVE GAMES,  
TOO!

THE BASTARD!



BE SURE TO ASK  
FOR IT *FIRST*. BE  
STERN. BE  
SERIOUS.

RIGHT!



THOMAS,  
WAIT!

WHAT?



CHANGE OUT  
OF YOUR SCHOOL  
CLOTHES FIRST, OR  
MOM WILL KILL  
YOU.

OH, DAMN.

✖! @ ⚡

A character with dark fur and a white chest patch lies on the ground. Above them are symbols: a crossed-hatch mark, an exclamation mark, a target, and a lightning bolt. A speech bubble from the character on the right is partially visible in this panel.

BLALOCK, YOU  
MAGNIFICENT  
BASTARD...

I READ  
YOUR  
BOOK!

ABIGAIL,  
WHAT'S  
THOMAS  
DOING!?

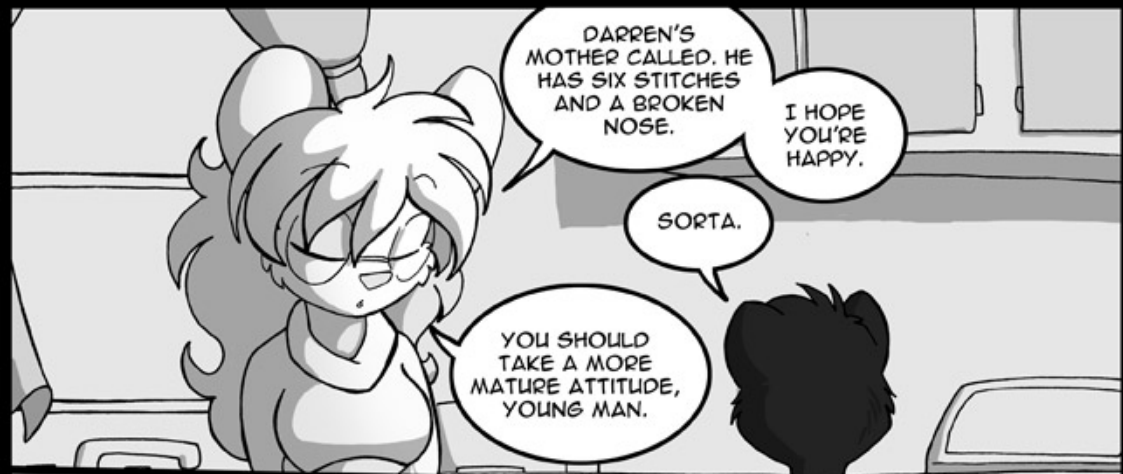
HE IS IN THE  
MORTAL THROES  
OF BATTLE.

THOMAS HAS  
BECOME THE  
RIGHTEOUS  
MAN!

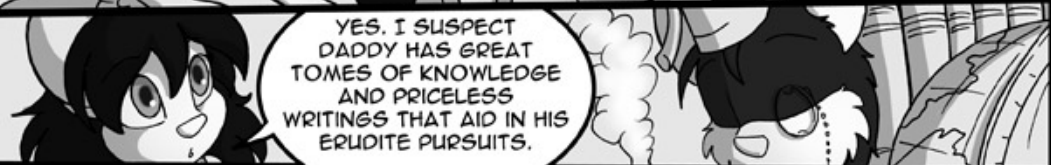
SQUARING OFF  
AGAINST THE  
BRUTE, UNTHINKING  
**SAVAGE**, IN THE  
ONLY WAY ONE  
CAN.

IT'S  
NOTHING  
SHORT OF  
WAR.

GOD HELP  
ME, I LOVE  
IT SO.







WHEW.

HELLO,  
SON.

HAVE A  
SEAT.

THANK  
YOU, SIR.

I'VE INVITED YOU  
INTO THE DEN, SO  
WE CAN DISCUSS  
THINGS AS MEN.

APPLE  
JUICE

DID YOU **REALLY** KICK  
DARREN BLALOCK'S  
ASS?

HELL  
YES!

SO, I WAS SAYING,  
"GIVE IT BACK" AND HE WAS  
ALL, "YOU DIDN'T LEARN  
YOUR LESSON THE FIRST  
TIME" AND THEN I SAID,  
"COME ON. THE LIGHT'S  
*GREEN!*"

I'D LIKE  
TO HAVE SEEN  
THE LOOK ON  
HIS FACE.

HOWEVER...!

I *CANNOT*, IN GOOD  
CONSCIENCE, *PUNISH*  
YOU FOR DEFENDING  
YOURSELF AND YOUR  
THINGS.

BUT YOU *WILL*  
HAVE TO PAY FOR  
DISOBEYING YOUR  
MOTHER.

AW  
MAN!

AND IT LOOKS  
LIKE WE HAVE A  
LOT OF YARD  
WORK TO DO  
THIS WEEKEND.



THAT NEW RIDING  
MOWER LOOKS  
REALLY AWESOME,  
DAD!

IT IS.

CAN I MOW  
THE REST OF  
THE YARD?

SURE  
THING,  
SON!



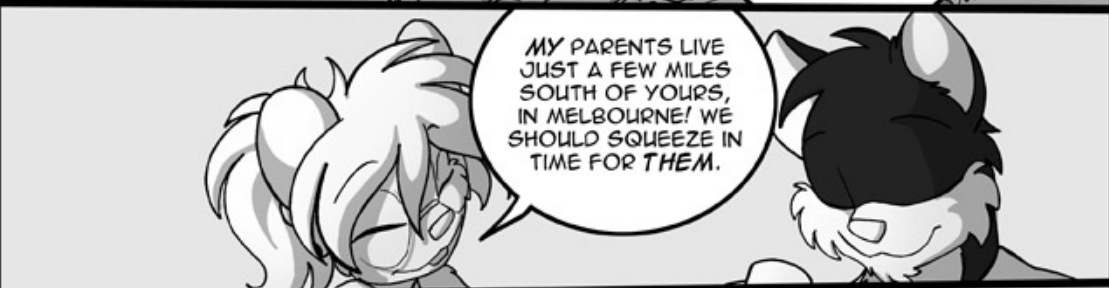
YOU HAVE  
THREE WEEKS  
OFF?

PENDING  
WORLD WAR  
THREE, YES.

WE  
SHOULD DO  
SOMETHING.

**ACTUALLY,**  
LUCY'S BEEN BUGGING  
US TO VISIT THEM IN  
FLORIDA. IT'D BE A  
GOOD TIME TO HIT  
THE BEACH AND  
RELAX.

MAYBE VISIT  
MY FOLKS. THEY'RE  
ALMOST IN THE  
SAME TOWN.



MY PARENTS LIVE  
JUST A FEW MILES  
SOUTH OF YOURS,  
IN MELBOURNE! WE  
SHOULD SQUEEZE IN  
TIME FOR THEM.



HONEY, WE  
TALKED ABOUT  
THIS.

TALKING  
ABOUT IT WAS  
THE EASY  
PART.

OH, HONEY, YOU *KNOW* HOW KIDS ARE LIKE NEW LITTLE PEOPLE AS THEY GROW OLDER! MOTHER WANTS TO MEET THEM, *AGAIN!*

SHE WANTS TO TELL THEM STORIES...

...AND TAKE THEM OUT ON THE BOAT...

...AND MAYBE TAKE THEM TO TEMPLE...

WAIT, WHAT? WHAT WAS THAT?

SHE WANTS TO TAKE THEM TO TEMPLE.

TEMPLE!?

WAIT, DOESN'T SHE KNOW WE'RE ATHEISTS?

TECHNICALLY...

... I MAY NOT HAVE TOLD HER THAT YET.

CLINK\*





DO YOU LIKE HOW IT FITS?

UH HUH.

PUT IT IN THE BASKET.

MOM, NONE OF THESE SWIMSUITS FIT! THEY'RE ALL TOO SHORT!

GIRLS  
SWIMS



THAT'S BECAUSE YOUR BODY'S GROWING TOO LONG! LOOK AT YOU, JANIE!

YOU'RE SPROUTING LIKE A WEED!

YOU GET THAT FROM YOUR FATHER, YOU KNOW!



KEEP LOOKING. YOU'LL FIND SOMETHING THAT FITS.

WELL, IN THAT CASE...



... HEL-LO TWO-PIECE!

PUT THAT BACK!



I SAW GIRLS  
YOUNGER THAN ME  
WEARING TWO-  
PIECES THE LAST  
TIME WE WENT TO  
FLORIDA!

NOT **EVERY** GIRL  
HAS A BRILLIANTLY  
AWESOME MOTHER  
LIKE YOU DO!

RRRR!!

IF WE CAN'T  
FIND ANYTHING  
THAT FITS, WE'LL  
SEE IF YOUR  
FATHER WILL  
ALLOW YOU TO  
GET THAT.

I BET DAD  
DOESN'T PITCH A  
FUSS ABOUT  
THINGS **THOMAS**  
WANTS TO BUY.

WELL?

THEY'RE  
SUFFICIENTLY  
SWIM-TRUNK-  
LIKE.

GET AND  
GO?

YOU  
GOT IT.



SLEEP  
WELL?

OOOF. WHAT  
A GOOD NAP!



THAT SOUND  
ALWAYS PUTS  
ME TO SLEEP.



THE ENGINE?

NO, LOOK.



THE SOUND  
OF *QUIET*  
CHILDREN.





ARE YOU READY TO GO TO AUNT LUCY'S?

IF LEO'S GOING TO BE THERE, I'D RATHER GO TO THE RESORT BEACH, **HERE**.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOUR COUSIN LEO?

83



ARE YOU KIDDING? HE'S A **NERDY MUTANT GEEK!**

HE GOES OUT OF HIS WAY TO BE **GROSS!**

LOOK, JANIE! A **SEA SLUG!**

IT'S **GUTS** ARE COMING OUT! **LOOK!**

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!



SPLISH SPLISH

SPLISH



IT'S BEEN FOUR YEARS SINCE WE'VE SEEN THEM. GET YOUR THINGS.

**RRRR!** WHERE'S THE JUSTICE?

I KNOW!  
IT'S NAZI GERMANY ALL OVER AGAIN.



HEY! WELCOME TO FLORIDA!



TOM IS STILL AT WORK. HE SHOULD BE HOME IN A FEW HOURS.



LEO!

COME OUT AND SAY HI TO YOUR COUSINS!

SURE, MOM.



HEY! YOU GUYS WANNA LEARN HOW TO SURF?

YES!



W-WHAT THE HELL!?

HE'S NOT ALLOWED TO HAVE GOTTEN COOL ALL OF A SUDDEN!





HA HA

HA HA



WHOA!

WHAT?



I CAN'T SEE MY FEET THROUGH THIS WATER.

THERE COULD BE ANYTHING DOWN THERE.



'SUP.

TURTLE!




EEEEEEEE

KICK




ABIGAIL...




YEARS OF STRUGGLE. IT'S BEEN YEARS OF SETTING INTO STONE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PEOPLE LIKE ME, AND PEOPLE LIKE HIM.

I DON'T KNOW IF OUR WORLD CAN SURVIVE THE CASUAL STRIPPING AWAY OF THESE VITAL BOUNDARIES.



THIS IS A CHANGE BEYOND CONSCIOUS EFFORT. THIS IS SOMETHING *ORGANIC*.

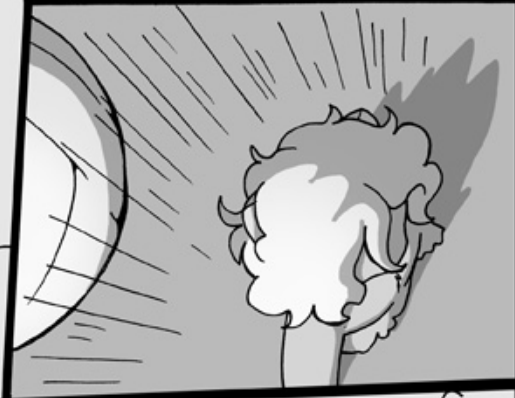
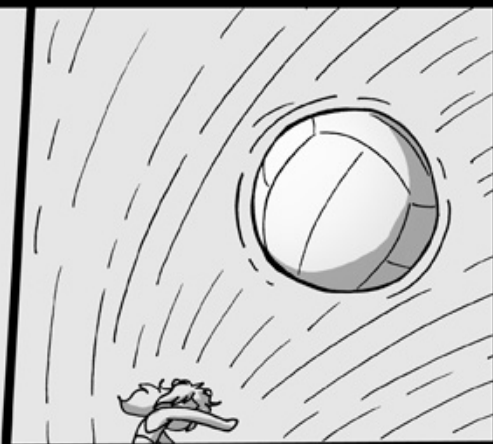
I SENSE AN AIR OF INEVITABILITY WITH MANY REALIZATIONS I AM ABOUT TO MAKE REGARDING THE NATURE OF HOW I PERCEIVE SUCH THINGS.



BETWEEN EMBRACING AND BATTLING, I FIND THERE IS ONLY ONE *PROPER* CHOICE TO ME.



I MUST DESTROY HIM.



FLICK  
FLICK

DUDE.  
SHE'S CALLING  
YOU OUT.

MMM.

HA!

CATCH!

I GUESS SURF LESSONS WILL HAVE TO WAIT.

DON'T DO IT!

YOU DON'T KNOW MY SISTER LIKE I DO!

SHE HAS TROPHIES IN EVERY SPORT BUT FOOTBALL!

SHE'S LIKE A JOCK WITH PIGTAILS! MORE LIKE A MACHINE THAN A GIRL!

SHE WILL NOT STOP UNTIL SHE WINS!

SHE ALWAYS WINS!

AND SHE'LL GRIND IT IN YOUR FACE! I'VE SEEN HER MAKE OLDER BOYS CRY!

THE GREATER THE CHALLENGE, THE GREATER THE VICTORY!

DUDE! SHE'S LIKE THE TERMINATOR!



HOW LONG  
HAVE THEY  
BEEN  
GOING AT  
IT?

JANIE'S VERY  
COMPETITIVE...

WE  
MADE  
IT!

WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?

HELLO,  
SHEILA.

LEO AND JANIE  
ARE IN A VOLLEY-  
BALL MATCH TO  
THE DEATH!

OHHH!

PIFF

PAP

PAP

PIFF

GAME  
WINNING  
POINT!

PAP

HE MUST  
NOT WIN!

EEEK!

POW!

FACE!

HA HA!

YES!

IN  
YOUR  
FACE!

AW  
CRAP.

GOOD GAME, LEO, BUT IT JUST WASN'T IN THE CARDS.

WHY?

WHY?

BECAUSE I'M AWESOME, THAT'S WHY!

HOW'S IT FEEL TO KNOW YOU'LL NEVER RUN ME OFF THIS BEACH AGAIN?

I'M SORRY. DID YOU THINK YOU COULD STEP INTO MY WORLD AND NOT HAVE TO GO TO SCHOOL, FIRST?

JANIE, WE HAVE TO EAT.

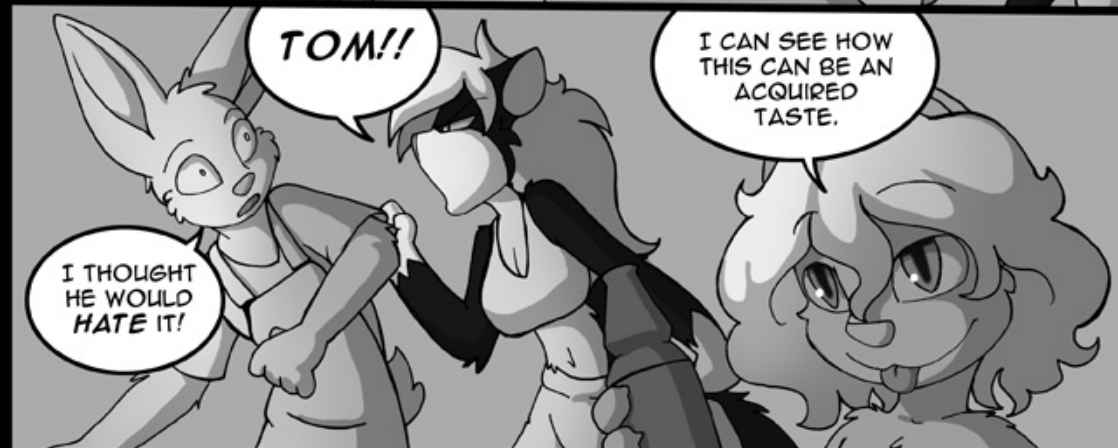
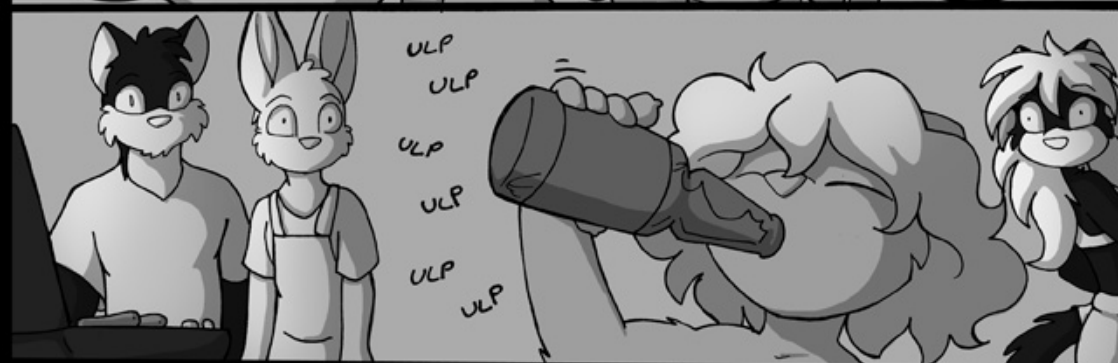
DON'T CRY, OKAY?

IT WOULD BREAK MY HEART.

COME ON, JANIE.

B-BUT, I'M NOT FINISHED GLOATING!







LEO'S TURNING  
INTO A FINE YOUNG  
MAN.


YES, WE'RE  
VERY HAPPY  
WITH HIM.

SO, YOU'RE  
GOING TO STOP  
THERE?

YEAH, I'M  
PRETTY SURE  
JUST ONE IS  
ENOUGH.

I TOLD TOM WE'D MAKE  
SUCH *WONDERFUL*  
CHILDREN, WITH HIS BRAINS  
AND MY LOOKS.


SO, WE'RE GOING TO  
STOP, NOW, IN CASE OUR  
NEXT CHILD HAS *MY* BRAINS  
AND *HIS* LOOKS.



HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT MOM TAKING THE KIDS TO TEMPLE WHEN WE SEE HER TOMORROW?


YEAH. I'M NOT REALLY COMFORTABLE WITH THAT.

SHE'S GOING TO BE UPSET.




I'M NOT THINKING ABOUT YOUR MOTHER. I'M THINKING ABOUT THE KIDS.

IF THEY WANT TO EXPLORE SOMETHING AS HUGE AS RELIGION ON THEIR OWN, THAT'S FINE.




BUT I DON'T WANT THEM TAKEN SOMEWHERE LIKE THAT BY AN ADULT IN AUTHORITY, FOR THE SAME REASON I WOULDN'T TAKE THEM TO A POLITICAL RALLY OR SOMETHING.

THEY'RE JUST KIDS.



I CAN'T THINK OF A KID BELONGING TO A RELIGION ANY MORE THAN I CAN THINK OF THEM AS BELONGING TO A POLITICAL PARTY.

THEY AREN'T GROWN ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER.



EXCEPT MAYBE ABIGAIL, WHO DISPROVED THE EXISTENCE OF SANTA CLAUS WHEN SHE WAS FIVE.

JUST LET ME DO THE TALKING. I CAN HANDLE MY OWN MOTHER.

NO PROBLEM.

HM. IT'S PROBABLY BEST YOU NOT BE IN THE ROOM, BECAUSE SHE'D JUST DIRECT HER IRE TOWARD YOU AND DISTRACT FROM THE POINT.

NO PROBLEM.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST GO HANG OUT ON THE PORCH AND SMOKE CIGARS WITH DADDY, WHILE I DO THIS.

NO PROBLEM!

WE **SHOULDN'T** DENY THEM THEIR HERITAGE. THEY ARE **JEWISH** AFTER ALL.

IT'S NOT ABOUT THEIR HERITAGE.

IT'S ABOUT **RELIGION**, AND YOU KNOW THAT.

BUT YOU DON'T GO TO TEMPLE OR CHURCH OR **ANYTHING!**

WHAT RELIGION ARE THEY?

MA...

YOU'RE NOT **BAPTISTS**, ARE YOU?

WHAT?  
NO!

OH, THANK **GOD**. I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN TAKE ALL THAT **CASSEROLE!**

WHAT!?

WHAT ARE MOM AND GRANDMA FIGHTING ABOUT?

GRANDMA WACHSMAN WANTS US TO GO TO TEMPLE OR SOMETHING.

I THINK SHE'S UPSET THAT MOM AND DAD AREN'T RELIGIOUS.

SHOULD WE BE?

I DON'T KNOW.

SOMETIMES I WONDER ABOUT THAT.

I LOOK AT THE BIG WORLD AND WONDER IF THERE ISN'T SOME BIG PLAN BEHIND IT.

crack!

SPLASH!

THEN I REALIZE HOW MUCH HAS TO BE THE RESULT OF PURE, STUPID CHANCE.





COME HERE,  
MOTHER.

LOOK AT MY  
CHILDREN  
PLAYING  
OUTSIDE.



SHINK  
⚡



THEY'RE REASONABLY  
WELL BEHAVED AS  
CHILDREN GO.

THEY'RE  
HAPPY.

THEY DON'T SHOW  
ANY SIGNS OF DANGEROUS  
HATE, AND THEY HAVE A GRASP  
OF RIGHT AND WRONG.



SMACK  
SMACK  
SMACK  
SMACK  
SMACK  
SMACK



THOMAS  
DOESN'T COUNT.  
HE'S A BOY.



SHINK  
⚡








PREPARE THE TELEPORTATION POD FOR ME!

ARE WE SURE IT'S READY FOR TESTING?



DON'T ARGUE WITH ME, MR. BONK! I'M CERTAIN IT'S READY!

YES, MA'AM!



I'M GOING IN.

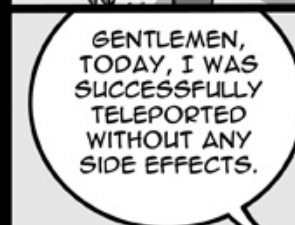
NO PEEKIES.



TELEPORT NOW.



WIRRRR





SOMETHING MUST HAVE OCCURRED IN THE TELEPORTATION PROCESS TO INDUCE THIS.

I HAVE ISOLATED ALL PROBABLE FACTORS DOWN TO ONE LIKELY...

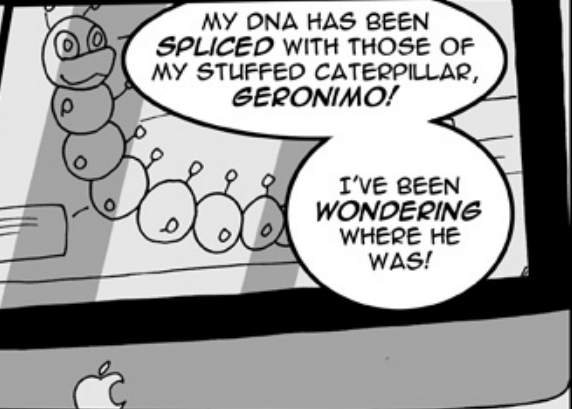


TAP

CLICK



OH DEAR...




MY DNA HAS BEEN **SPliced** WITH THOSE OF MY STUFFED CATERPILLAR, **GERONIMO!**

I'VE BEEN **WONDERING** WHERE HE WAS!



SO, THAT IS WHY I'M GIVING YOU MY COMPUTER. I WILL HAVE **NO** USE FOR IT, SOON.



YOU'RE NOT  
TURNING INTO A  
CATERPILLAR!  
YOU'RE JUST  
LOSING YOUR  
BABY TEETH!

BABY  
TEETH?



I LOST  
MINE AT  
YOUR AGE.  
SO DID  
THOMAS!



SEE, YOU'RE  
JUST AS  
PRETTY AND  
PUFFLY AS  
EVER!



SO, I'M NOT  
TURNING INTO  
A GIGANTIC  
CATERPILLAR  
MONSTER.



PRETTY  
SURE!



DARN.

HEY, YOU'RE CUTTING INTO VALUABLE UNCHARTED & PLAYING TIME!

YOU KNOW, A REAL GAME?

ARE YOU LISTENING?



IS THIS EVEN ROCK? ROCK ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE THIS SLOW AND BORING!

WHAT ARE YOU? TEN GOING ON SEVENTY!?

THAT GAME SHOULD COME WITH A HIT OF ACID TO COMPLETE YOUR ROCK EXPERIENCE!

IT MIGHT EVEN MAKE THE MUSIC INTERESTING!



DAD, HOW CAN THE BEATLES STILL BE POPULAR?

I DON'T KNOW, SON.









COULD YOU DISTRIBUTE  
THE MAIL FOR ME,  
SWEETIE? IT'S BEEN  
PILING UP A LITTLE.

SURE!

PUT DADDY'S MAIL IN  
HIS DEN, PUT THE JUNK  
MAIL ON THE HALLWAY  
OFFICE TABLE, AND  
TAKE JANIE'S LETTER  
UP TO HER ROOM.

JANIE'S  
LETTER?

THIS IS A  
LOVE  
LETTER!

MOM, THIS COULD  
BE FESTOONED  
WITH COOTIES!

I CAN'T BE  
HANDLING THIS  
SORT OF  
STUFF!

IF IT WEREN'T FOR  
COOTIES, NONE OF YOU  
WOULD BE HERE.

WHAT'S THAT  
SUPPOSED  
TO MEAN!?

JUST  
GO.

THUNK  
THUNK

DELIVERY.

WHAT'S WITH  
THE GET-UP?  
WEIRDO.

COOTIES.

SERIOUSLY?

THAT'S A LOVE  
LETTER. OBVIOUSLY  
WRITTEN BY A POOR  
BOY RIDDLED WITH  
COOTIES.

YOU MUST  
HAVE GIVEN HIM A  
PRETTY BAD  
CASE, WHATEV-

**GRAB!**

SMEAR  
SMEAR  
SMEAR

**OH  
GOD!  
HELP!**

I'VE SUMMONED YOU ALL FOR A GAME OF FOOTBALL.

IT'S COLD AS **BALLS**. CAN'T WE JUST PLAY MADDEN ON THE XBOX?

NO.

I NEED OUTDOOR CONTACT SPORTS.

I CAME IN CONTACT WITH A **COOTIE-INFESTED** LOVE LETTER FOR MY SISTER.

WHOA! SERIOUS?

WHO WROTE JANIE A LOVE LETTER?!

WHO CARES?! SOME POOR DELUSIONAL WEIRD-ASS WHO DOESN'T REALIZE SHE'S A **DEMON** IN TRACK SHOES!

IF I DON'T **ROUGH-HOUSE**, I COULD END UP JUST LIKE HIM!

WOW. TAKES **BALLS** TO WRITE **HER** A LOVE LETTER.

SHE **IS** KIND OF PRETTY WHEN SHE'S NOT KICKING SOMEONE'S ASS.

HEY! NOT COOL!

IF ANY OF YOU  
WROTE THAT  
LETTER, I'D HAVE  
TO PUNCH YOU IN  
THE SCROTE!

NAH. I  
ALMOST  
ASKED JANIE  
TO THE  
WINTER  
DANCE,  
ONCE.

HH  
HH  
HH

HEY,  
JANIE!

WAIT  
UP!

HH  
HH  
HH

I WAS WONDERING  
IF... \*WHEW\*...

\*GASP\*...  
WANTED...  
DANCE...  
\*HUFF\*

\*PANT\*...  
WITH...  
\*OH GOD\*

PUFF

WHEEZ

HH  
HH  
HH

AND?

I REALIZED  
SHE WASN'T  
MY TYPE.

YAWN

COME ON, BUDDY! IT'S TIME TO SUIT UP FOR PRACTICE!

AW, DAD! WE'RE ABOUT TO START A GAME HERE!

YOU WON'T MAKE IT TO THE NFL PLAYING IN THE YARD WITH YOUR FRIENDS. COACH GREEN IS WAITING.

SORRY DUDE. IF YOU WANT A QUARTERBACK, YOU CAN ASK MY SIS.

CHARLIE?

SHE'S THE LEAST COOTIE-INFECTED GIRL IN THE WHOLE WORLD.

AND SHE HAS A GOOD ARM.

I LOVE FOOTBALL.

WELL, YOU CAN'T CARRY COOTIES IN THREADS LIKE THAT.

YEAH. I GUESS YOU CAN PLAY.

YOU'RE PRACTICALLY A BOY, ANYWAY, CHARLIE.

AW, THANKS.





I DIDN'T HIT HIM THAT HARD!

... GREEN EYES...

...LONG WHISKERS...

ARE YOU OKAY, THOMAS?

HE'S GOT THE COOTIES BAD.

MIKO WAVED AT HIM AND THAT'S WHAT DID IT.

MIKO IS SO PRETTY.

DUDE, I AINT TOUCHIN' HIM!

I HAD COOTIES ONCE AND THAT SHIT'S NO JOKE!

WE SHOULD HELP HIM.

TAP  
TAP  
TAP

**ABBY!** WE NEED TO HELP YOUR BROTHER!  
HE'S GOT THE COOTIES SO BAD,  
HE'S JUST BABBLING  
**NONSENSE!**

COOTIES?  
HOW?

JANIE RUBBED A LOVE LETTER ON HIM, AND THEN MIKO WAVED AT HIM AND THEY SEEM TO HAVE...  
**ACTIVATED.**

ACUTE COOTIES COMBINED WITH A CASE OF ASIAN FEVER.

I DON'T THINK I CAN HELP HIM.

BUT HE CAN!

BRING HIM TO THE TREE HOUSE IN  
**FIFTEEN MINUTES!**

A TEDDY BEAR?



HOW IS HE?

HE'S STABLE.



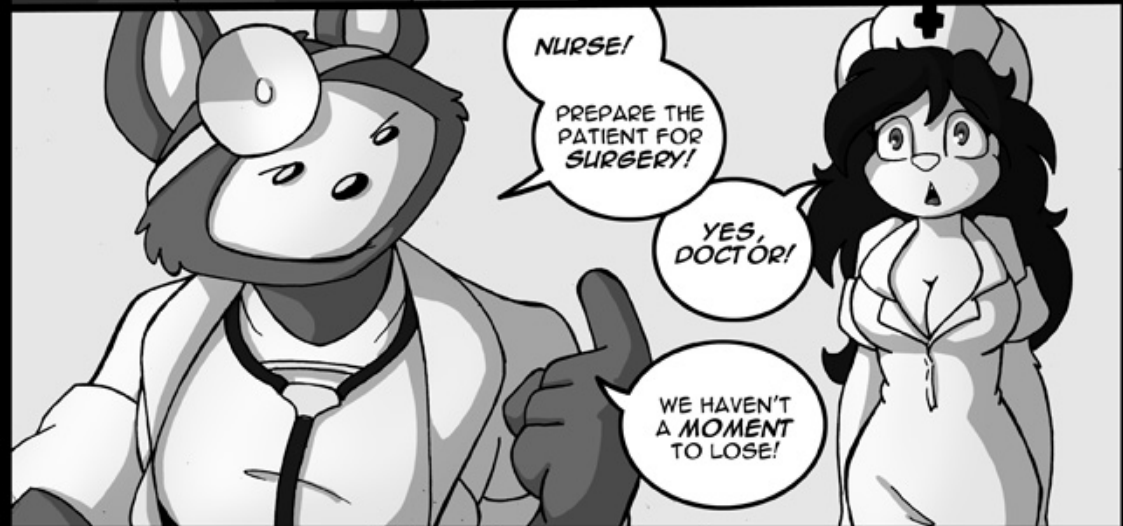
FEVER?

NEGATIVE.



BLOOD PRESSURE?

NORMAL.



**NURSE!**

**PREPARE THE PATIENT FOR SURGERY!**

**YES, DOCTOR!**

**WE HAVEN'T A MOMENT TO LOSE!**

SCISSORS.

SCISSORS.

RIBBON.

RIBBON.

I'VE NEVER  
SEEN A CASE  
SO BAD.

HANG IN  
THERE,  
YOUNG  
MAN.

I'VE DONE  
ALL I CAN.

NOW, ALL WE  
CAN DO IS  
HOPE.

MIRROR...  
GIVE ME A  
MIRROR.

YOU **HAVE** TO  
UNDERSTAND  
THERE WAS  
**EXTENSIVE**  
DAMAGE.

YOU **SEE**  
WHAT I HAD  
TO WORK  
WITH!

WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME!?

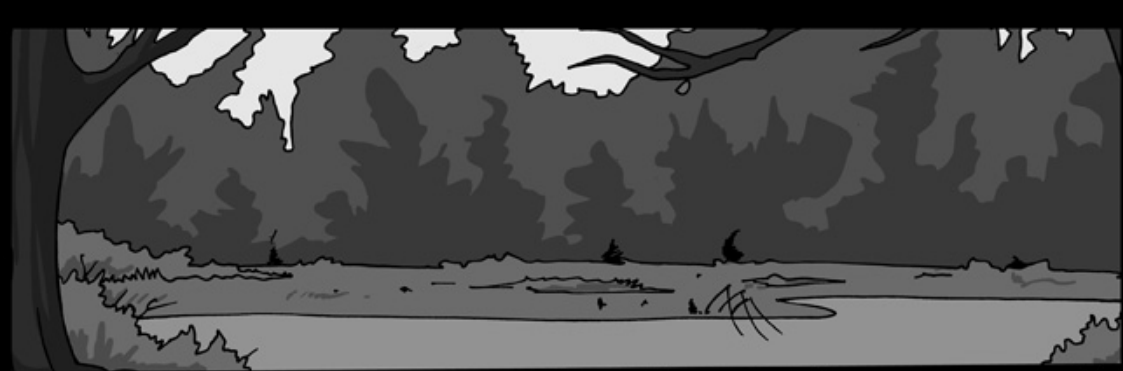
THIS SHOULD COUNTERACT THE-

GET AWAY FROM ME!

I DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO DO WITH ANYTHING GIRLY EVER AGAIN!

WHAT DID YOU DO TO HIM!?

WE CURED HIM!



AS A SINGLE MAN, EVERY LADY WHO REPRESENTS A POSSIBLE RELATIONSHIP IS LIKE A LINE IN THE WATER.

AIN'T SAYIN' THAT MEN USE **BAIT** AND WOMEN ARE BEIN' HOOKED AGAINST THEIR **WILL**.

BUT WHEN IT COMES TO READIN' WOMEN, THIS IS A MAN'S PERSPECTIVE.

A LADY CAN GIVE YOU A SIGNAL.

SOMETHIN' LIKE A **WAVE** OR A **SMILE**, OR A TOUCH ON THE ARM.

AND **THIS** IS A WIGGLE ON THE LINE.

SOMETIME'S LADIES DON'T KNOW THEY'RE PUTTIN' OFF SIGNALS.

BUT YOU **STARE** AT THE LINE A LITTLE HARDER, AND LOOK FOR MORE SIGNS.

YOU CAN **PLAY** THE LINE A LITTLE, SEEN' IF YOU CAN HOOK HER, BUT A WOMAN WILL **ONLY** HOOK HERSELF TO YOU BY HER OWN WILL.

SO, YOU REEL HER IN?

NOT SO SIMPLE. A WOMAN WON'T ALWAYS **TELL** YOU WHEN SHE'S HOOKED, OR JUST **PLAYIN'**.

YOU GOTTA DEVELOP A **SENSE** ABOUT IT!

IF YOU YANK THE LINE WHEN SHE AINT QUITE HOOKED, SHE'LL BREAK FREE AND SWIM AWAY!

BUT IF YOU REEL HER IN AT **JUST** THE RIGHT TIME...

GIRLS ARE COMPLICATED. I THINK I'D RATHER JUST FISH.



**BING**

**BONG!**



OH!  
ANGELICA!  
ARE YOU  
HERE TO SEE  
JANIE?



NOT TODAY,  
MRS. BLACK.



I'M COLLECTING  
CONTRIBUTIONS  
ON BEHALF OF  
YOUTH AWARE,  
TO HELP ROLL  
BACK THE CAUSE  
AND EFFECTS OF  
GLOBAL  
WARMING.



**SLAM**





ABBY! I HAVE A  
LITTLE *MYSTERY*  
FOR YOU TO  
SOLVE!

CAN YOU  
INVESTIGATE  
AND FIND OUT  
WHO WROTE  
THIS LETTER?

NOT  
NOW.

MR. BONK IS IN  
CRITICAL CONDITION  
AFTER A DRYER  
ACCIDENT.

HE'S SUFFERING  
FROM SEVERE  
THREAD FATIGUE  
AND HE'S LOST A  
LOT OF FLUFF.

I THINK I CAN USE  
THE PARTS I HAVE  
TO BRING HIM TO A  
FULL RECOVERY.

DID YOU MAKE  
ALL THIS OUT OF  
*LEGOS*?

HEY!



I ADDED STRONGER THREAD.




I GAVE HIM MORE EXPRESSION.



AND BEHOLD...

...THE NEW MR. BONK!



I HAD TO STRETCH WHAT WAS LEFT, AND ADD A FEW THINGS TO MAKE HIM WHOLE, AGAIN.



BUT OVERALL, I'M PRETTY PLEASED.



DID YOU RIP OUT THE EYES FROM YOUR POWERPUFF GIRL DOLL, FOR HIM?

WELL, SHE WAS KIND OF BEING A BITCH TO THE OTHER TOYS...

WHO'S THE  
NEW GUY?

THAT'S  
BONK! HE  
GOT  
RE-SEWED!

YEAH, HE'S  
ABIGAIL'S  
FAVORITE,  
ALL RIGHT.

WHAT I WOULDN'T  
GIVE TO BE ABIGAIL'S  
FAVORITE.

MAYBE HE  
WON'T BE HER  
FAVORITE IF WE  
RIP HIS EARS  
OFF!

I WANT HIS  
HANDS. I'M TIRED  
OF JUST HAVING  
TENTACLES!

MY  
EYES!

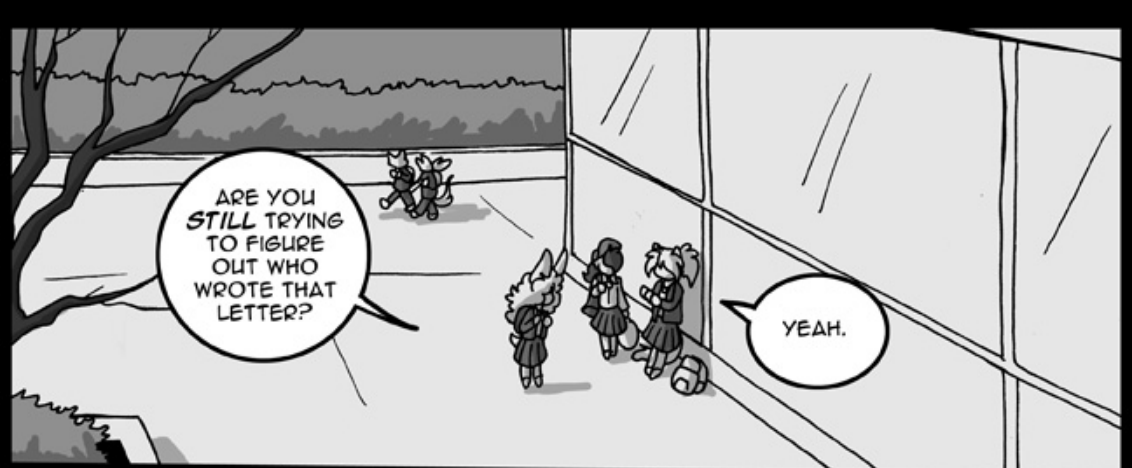
HE SO CUTE, I  
WANT TO LIGHT  
HIM ON FIRE!

LET'S PUT HIM  
ON A SPIT AND  
COOK 'IM!

NOT  
BEFORE I  
GET THOSE  
HANDS!


DIBS ON  
THE WINGS!






ARE YOU STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHO WROTE THAT LETTER?

YEAH.




NO ONE'S ACTING DIFFERENTLY TOWARDS ME.

WELL, THERE MAY BE ONE WAY...



WHEN SOMEONE CREATES SOMETHING WITH SUCH **STRONG** EMOTION, THEY LEAVE BEHIND A STRONG SPIRITUAL MARK.



EVERYONE HAS THEIR OWN VIBRATION. IF YOU'RE IN TUNE WITH IT, YOU CAN SOMETIMES TELL...



BULLSHIT VIBRATES? REALLY?

GOSH! WOW!

YOU'RE SUCH A SMARMY ASS, JANIE!

YOU FOCUS TOO MUCH ON THE **PHYSICAL** WORLD.

THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN WHAT YOU **SEE** AND **TOUCH**.

A WHOLE **REALITY** EXISTS THAT WE DON'T EVEN KNOW!

WHAT WE **THINK** IS REAL IS JUST AN IMAGE IN OUR **MINDS**, FED TO US BY OUR **SENSES**.

WE DON'T **REALLY** KNOW WHAT THE WORLD LOOKS LIKE, JUST WHAT OUR BRAIN TRANSLATES FROM SIGNALS!

THERE'S A WHOLE **REALITY** THAT WE CAN ONLY SENSE IF WE'RE MENTALLY OPEN TO IT...

FROM SOMEONE WHO SPENDS OVER AN HOUR EVERY MORNING FIXING UP THE **MENTAL FIGMENT** KNOWN AS **YOUR HAIR**.

PRETTIEST IN THE SCHOOL!






ARE YOU READY,  
SWEETHEART?

YEAH, IN A  
MINUTE.



MOM, I DON'T WANT  
TO GO SEE JANIE  
FLIP AROUND LIKE A  
RETARD.

DESPITE THE  
*SLIGHT* CHANCE OF  
SEEING HER FALL ON  
HER FACE, I THINK  
I'LL OTHERWISE BE  
BORED OUT OF MY  
MIND.



WELL, I  
WOULDN'T  
MAKE YOU GO,  
NORMALLY.

BUT YOUR FATHER  
SAID IF HE GOT BACK  
FROM HIS TRIP IN TIME,  
HE'D MEET US THERE.  
I'M SURE HE'D LIKE TO  
SEE ALL OF YOU.

OHOO.





EXCELLENT  
JOB!

NOW WHAT  
ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
DO?

CELEBRATE!

HEY, FISK! COME  
ON, WE'RE  
GOING TO GO  
KILL A FEW  
BEERS!

I HAVE TO  
HIT THE  
HIGHWAY. I  
HAVE A  
DATE WITH  
THE FAMILY.

WE JUST TOOK DOWN  
THE CELL LEADER  
WE'VE BEEN TRACKING  
FOR *SIX MONTHS*,  
AND YOU'RE NOT  
GOING TO  
CELEBRATE!?

I AM!  
IN MY  
OWN WAY.

FUCK.

STILL  
WORKING ON  
HIM *ELEVEN*  
YEARS  
LATER?

SHUT  
UP.

GIVE IT UP,  
RED.

HE STOPPED HIS  
THING WITH YOU  
WHEN HE GOT  
ENGAGED. WHAT  
MAKES YOU  
THINK HE'S GOING  
TO SUDDENLY  
PICK IT BACK UP,  
NOW?

ALL THE TIME  
WE SPEND ALONE  
ON ASSIGNMENT.  
WEEKS AWAY  
FROM HOME.

A MAN  
SHOULD ONLY  
BE ABLE TO  
TAKE SO MUCH  
TEMPTATION.

IS THAT WHAT YOU  
WANT? HIS BEING  
WITH YOU AS JUST  
A SYMPTOM OF HIS  
WEAKNESS?

I NEVER  
THOUGHT  
OF IT THAT  
WAY.

I JUST WANT  
TO REMIND HIM  
OF WHAT HE  
GAVE UP.

WELL,  
YOU HAVE  
AN UPHILL  
BATTLE.

HE'S MARRIED  
TO A NICE JEWISH  
WOMAN. WE HAVE  
TALENTS, YOU  
KNOW.

OH,  
WHATEVER!



JANIE, YOU'RE MY STAR, THIS YEAR.

IZABELLE



THE REST OF THE GIRLS DON'T LOOK UP TO SPEED, AGAIN. YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO CARRY THE LOT.

I KNOW YOU CAN DO IT.

AND IF YOU DO WELL ENOUGH, I'LL FINALLY HAVE BEATEN THOSE VISITING FRENCHY SCRUFFS FROM LEON'S CLASS!

GOD I HATE HIM!



NO PRESSURE, 'KAY?!

KNOCK 'EM DEAD, KIDDO!

FACE!



JANIE'S BEEN ASKING ME QUESTIONS ABOUT WHY WE DON'T GO TO CHURCH, WHILE MOST OF HER FRIENDS DO.

HMM. WANT ME TO TALK TO HER?

UH, PROBABLY NOT.

WHY?

I'M HER FATHER, AFTER ALL.

REMEMBER WHEN I WAS PREGNANT WITH ABIGAIL, AND JANIE CAME TO YOU WITH QUESTIONS?

DADDY, WHERE DOES THE BABY IN MOMMY'S TUMMY COME FROM?

WAL-MART.

WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO TELL HER? THE TRUTH!?

YOU CAN LET THOMAS GROW UP DERANGED, BUT MY GIRLS ARE GOING TO BE NORMAL!

WELL, IN THAT CASE, I WOULDN'T WORRY TOO MUCH ABOUT IT.

SHE'S CURIOUS. LET HER EXPLORE.

MAYBE I SHOULD TALK TO HER, THEN.

WELL, IF SHE WERE RAISED RELIGIOUS, YOU MIGHT HAVE SOME CONCERN. BUT FROM THE OUTSIDE, ALL THOSE BELIEFS SOUND SILLY.

LET HER FIND OUT.

BUT IF SHE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT IT WITH ME, WHO WILL SHE BE TALKING TO?

I'M SO GLAD YOU DECIDED TO EXPLORE YOUR SPIRITUAL SIDE, JANIE.

DO I HAVE TO SIT LIKE THIS?

THE KEY IS TO QUIET YOUR MIND'S HABIT OF ANALYZING THE INFORMATION IT RECEIVES.

IF YOU QUIET THAT, YOU CAN JUST *BE*, AS A SPIRIT.

THAT'S *NOISY*. IT'S AN *ILLUSION*.

HOW DO I KNOW WHAT I'M EXPERIENCING WITHOUT *ANALYZING* IT?

YOU JUST *DO*.

IF YOU *THINK*, YOU END UP CREATING YOUR OWN WORLD. TO EXPERIENCE THE *REAL* WORLD, YOU HAVE TO QUIET YOUR MIND.

IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN. YOU JUST *KNOW*.

HOW DO I *KNOW* ANYTHING WITHOUT USING MY *MIND*?

YOU'RE ASKING  
TOO MANY  
QUESTIONS.

YOU CAN'T LET  
GO OF YOUR  
REFERENCES IN  
THIS WORLD. YOU  
THINK TOO  
MUCH!

NO ONE'S  
EVER TOLD  
ME THAT  
BEFORE.

YOU EXCEL IN  
THE MATERIAL  
WORLD.

YOU'RE ATHLETIC.  
YOU ACCOMPLISH  
AWESOME  
PHYSICAL THINGS,  
RIGHT?

YEAH.

BUT YOU  
ARE LOST,  
**SPIRITUALLY.**  
THAT IS WHERE I  
EXCEL.

IF I WANTED TO  
LEARN HOW TO  
RUN FAST, I  
WOULD LISTEN  
TO YOU.

YOU WANT TO  
LEARN ABOUT  
SPIRITUALITY,  
SO YOU LISTEN  
TO ME.

I JUST-

YOU HAVE TO  
HAVE FAITH IN  
WHAT I SAY, AND  
NOT THINK ABOUT  
IT SO MUCH!

SORRY. I'M  
NOT USED TO  
HOW RELIGION  
WORKS.

"SPIRITUALITY!"

RIGHT!



THAT NEW AGE  
STUFF WON'T HELP  
YOU MUCH.

HERE'S  
SOMETHING  
REAL.

JESUS CAN  
GIVE YOU  
MEANING.

WASN'T HE  
BORN TO A  
"VIRGIN"?

YES!

AND HER  
HUSBAND  
BOUGHT  
IT?

WHAT DO  
YOU MEAN  
HE "BOUGHT  
IT"?

HAHA!

HEYYYY, WHAT  
ARE YOU  
GETTING AT?

SIGH. I  
DON'T THINK  
I CAN DO  
THIS.

YOU SHOULDN'T ASK AMANDA ABOUT ANYTHING HEAVY. SHE'S TOO MUCH LIKE HER MOTHER.

THEY BOTH DEVELOPED TOO EARLY, AND THEY'VE NEVER HAD TO USE THEIR BRAINS.

HUH?

SHE'S FIFTEEN WITH A BODY GOING ON TWENTY-FIVE.

GIRLS LIKE THAT GET ALL THE BREAKS. THEY GET THEIR WAY PAVED BY EVERYONE WHO WANTS THEIR ATTENTION.

YOU CAN'T EXPECT SOMEONE WHO'S HAD IT SO EASY TO THINK THEIR WAY THROUGH ANYTHING.


THE BIGGER THE BOOBS, THE WEAKER THE BRAINS, AS A RULE.

YOU BETTER WATCH OUT.

WHY?


YOUR MOTHER HAS PRETTY BIG CANS. YOU BETTER HOPE YOU GOT YOUR DADDY'S BRAINS.

HEY!




I THINK I WANT YOU TO TALK TO JANIE ABOUT ALL THE RELIGIOUS QUESTIONS SHE HAS.

CHANGED YOUR MIND?



I THINK IT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR YOU TO HAVE GOOD BONDS WITH THE CHILDREN WHEN YOU'RE HOME.




I HEAR THAT GIRLS WHO *DON'T* DEVELOP GOOD TIES WITH THEIR FATHERS WILL SEEK ACCEPTANCE FROM OTHER MALE FIGURES WHEN THEY BECOME TEENAGERS.

AH.



ON THE INTERNET.



GOING TO TRY  
TO KEEP UP  
WITH YOUR OLD  
MAN, THIS  
MORNING?

DON'T GET  
YOUR FEELINGS  
HURT WHEN I  
PASS YOU.

HAH!

YOUR  
MOTHER'S A  
SMART  
WOMAN.

ACTUALLY, IT  
WAS MOM'S  
IDEA.

SHE THINKS  
IT'S A LOT  
SAFER IF I  
JOG WITH YOU  
IN THE  
MORNING.

STACY HARDY  
SAYS SHE CAN'T  
BE THAT SMART,  
SINCE SHE HAS  
SUCH A BIG  
CHEST.




HOW DOES YOUR QUEST FOR SPIRITUAL FULFILLMENT?




NOT GOOD.


I CAN'T SEEM TO FIND A SPIRITUAL BELIEF THAT MAKES A LICK OF SENSE.



I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD HAVE **SOMETHING ELSE** IN MY LIFE, BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN BUY INTO THESE OTHER BELIEFS.




THEY'RE ALWAYS CONTRADICTING EACH OTHER. THEY'RE ALWAYS ASKING ME TO ACCEPT THINGS **BLINDLY**, FIRST.




NO ONE CAN DEMONSTRATE THAT **THEIR BELIEF SYSTEM IS RIGHT** AND **SOMEONE ELSE'S BELIEF IS WRONGS**.




THERE'S **NO WAY** TO REASON ANY OF IT OUT BETWEEN THEM!



THIS IS WHY YOUR MOTHER AND I DON'T MAKE YOU PRACTICE A RELIGION AS A CHILD.



IF YOU WANT TO EXPLORE SPIRITUAL BELIEFS, YOU CAN DO IT FROM A MORE OBJECTIVE PERSPECTIVE.



THERE'S **NOTHING** WRONG WITH BEING UNCERTAIN, JANIE.

THERE'S SOMETHING **VERY** WRONG WITH BEING **SO CERTAIN** ABOUT SOMETHING, JUST BECAUSE IT MAKES YOU **FEEL** BETTER.




TOO MANY  
PEOPLE GET  
WRAPPED UP IN A  
FANTASY.

WE LIVE HERE,  
IN *THIS* WORLD,  
NOW.



WE ENJOY THE  
AIR. THE GRASS. WE  
LIKE THE SUN ON OUR  
FUR. WE CAN SMELL  
THE FLOWERS. WE CAN  
HUG OUR FRIENDS.

WE CAN LOVE  
OUR EXISTENCE FOR  
WHAT WE ACTUALLY  
EXPERIENCE AND  
ENJOY. NOT THE  
FANTASIES WE  
CRAVE.



AND I WORK  
VERY HARD SO  
YOU CAN HAVE  
THE SAME  
THING.

NO MATTER  
WHAT YOU END UP  
BELIEVING, DON'T  
DISREGARD YOUR  
NEED TO BE HAPPY  
IN *THIS* WORLD.



THANKS,  
DAD.

THAT'S A LOT  
SMARTER THAN  
TELLING ME YOU  
BOUGHT ABIGAIL  
AT WAL-MART.



YES!



I'M A  
GENIUS!



WHAT?



AN EASY  
BODYGUARD  
JOB IN  
MEXICO.



WE DEBRIEF  
LOCALLY AFTER  
THE JOB, AND  
WE FLY BACK  
AFTER A WEEK  
ON THE  
BEACH.



A WEEK  
ON THE  
BEACH IN  
BAJA!

HE CAN'T  
RESIST *THAT*  
LONG...

A PIECE OF  
CAKE, BUT I  
CAN TAKE ONE  
OTHER PERSON  
WITH ME IF I  
FEEL I NEED TO.



YOU'RE  
AN EVIL  
WOMAN.

SIGH.

I KNOW.

**RED!** HE HAS A FAMILY!

I'M NOT TRYING TO DRIVE HIM FROM HIS WIFE.

I JUST WANT HIM TO HAVE A GOOD TIME WHEN HE CAN'T BE AROUND HER.

WHAT ABOUT HIS KIDS?!

ANY CHANCE OF THEM FINDING OUT-

**HEY!**

**FUCK OFF!**

YOUR IDEA OF SOME *PERFECT* HAPPY FAMILY DOESN'T EXIST!

**EVERYONE** HAS SKELETONS! IT'S ONLY *NORMAL*. GET USED TO IT, AND LEAVE US ALONE!

NOT EVERYONE HAS A SHITTY FAMILY LIFE, LIKE YOU DID.





I SUPPOSE  
YOU CAN  
GO.

DO YOU  
NEED ANY  
BREAD?

WELL,  
*SINCE* YOU  
BROUGHT IT  
UP...

HERE'S  
FIFTY  
BUCKS.

THANKS,  
DAD!

YOU'RE THE  
BEST!

YEAH. I  
KNOW.

RED! I  
DIDN'T KNOW  
YOU'D BE  
HERE SO  
EARLY!

SO, WHAT'S  
THIS ABOUT  
A JOB?

UH...




THE JOB IS OPTIONAL.

I REALLY DON'T NEED SOMEONE ELSE ON IT. I THOUGHT I'D LET YOU KNOW.

YOU DROVE ALL THE WAY OUT HERE TO TELL ME?

YOU COULD HAVE JUST CALLED.





WHY CAN'T I  
HAVE MASS  
EFFECT 2?

BECAUSE IT'S  
NOT FOR LITTLE  
BOYS.



YOU LET ME  
HAVE RATED  
"M" GAMES,  
SOMETIMES!

THAT'S ONE KIND  
OF "M". THIS IS A  
DIFFERENT KIND  
OF "M".



GO FIND  
SOMETHING  
ELSE.

AW  
MAN...



MASS  
EFFECT 2



WILL YOU LET ME USE MY POWERS TO KILL SOMEONE JUST ONCE!?

HEY, GANDALF.  
THIS IS SCIENCE FICTION.  
USE YOUR SUN.





WHO IS THAT?

ALIEN WOMAN.

I'M GOING TO MAKE HER MY MASS EFFECT 2 GIRLFRIEND.



YOU SEE, ALONG WITH SAVING THE GALAXY, I CAN PURSUE RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE VARIOUS MEMBERS OF MY CREW.

OKAY, HONEY.

I THINK IT'S TIME TO GO TO BED, NOW.

HOLD ON. I'M ALMOST DONE SEDUCING HER...

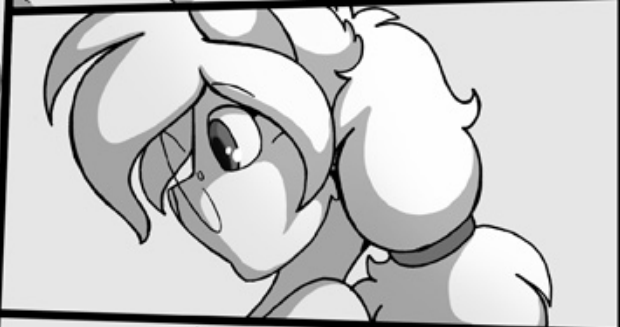


HEY... BED, NOW!

BUT...

THESE TITS ARE REAL!

BUT...







MOM SAID WE CAN HAVE THESE FANCY CHOCOLATES.

BUT WE MUST BE CAREFUL.



WE HAVE TO CAREFULLY ANALYZE EACH ONE.

WEIGHT.

CONSISTENCY.

THESE FANCY CHOCOLATES ARE A MYSTERY.

WE HAVE TO DETERMINE WHICH ARE FILLED WITH GOOD THINGS.

AND WHICH ARE FILLED WITH CHERRY-FLAVORED SNOT.



POKE



AND THEN-HEY!



FOOD?

YES.

YOUR MOTHER'S FEELING A LITTLE SICK, SO I TOOK CARE OF THE GROCERY SHOPPING FOR HER.

BAKED POTATO CHIPS?!

MOM NEVER BUYS BAKED POTATO CHIPS!

NATURAL PEANUT BUTTER?

UNFROSTED POP TARTS?!

ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!

WE CAN'T EAT THIS!

WE'RE GONNA ST ARVE!

BLOOD... SUGAR... DWINOLING... !!!

MAYBE WE CAN EAT DADDY INSTEAD!

GRR!  
\*BITE!

HEY!






HELLO,  
PUDDIN'.

PUDDING?


PUDDIN'.

PUDDING  
HAS A "G"  
IN IT.



I COULD GO  
EXTRA SOUTHERN  
AND CALL YOU  
"PUDD'NIN".

PUDD'NIN'?



BECAUSE I'M  
ALWAYS PUDDIN-  
IT-IN-YA...

COME'ERE!

GAH! YOU'RE  
TERRIBLE!

NO!



HONEY, I'VE  
RESOLVED TO  
HAVE A  
VACATION.

OH, WELL,  
THE KIDS  
HAVE ALWAYS  
WANTED TO-

WITHOUT  
THE KIDS.



WELL, IF YOU WANT  
A DAY OR TWO  
AWAY, I COULD  
WATCH AFTER THE  
KIDS.

LAST TIME  
YOU DID, YOU  
BROUGHT HOME  
THE WRONG  
FOOD AND  
ABIGAIL TRIED  
TO EAT YOUR  
HEAD.

AH, MY  
LITTLE  
SCAMP.



BESIDES, I'D  
WANT YOU TO  
COME WITH  
ME.

OH WELL  
THEN!  
PERSUADE  
ME!



WHAT ABOUT OTHER PARENTS WATCHING THE KIDS?

LIKE WHO?



THE SWANSONS?

UH, NO.



WE SOMETIMES WATCH ANGELICA FOR THE KEYNES.

YES, EVEN PLANTS HAVE SOULS.

SO ALWAYS APOLOGIZE WHEN YOU EAT.

OH HH.

NO WAY.



WHAT ABOUT THE HARDIES?

DO YOU WANT OUR KIDS TO BE HUGE?

HONEY!





DOES *SHE*  
HAVE KIDS,  
TOO?

YOU SHOULD ASK MY  
NIECE! SHE'S VISITING  
FROM FLORIDA WHILE  
TAKING A BREAK  
FROM COLLEGE.

SHE COULD  
STAND TO LIVE  
OUTSIDE OUR  
CROWDED  
HOUSE FOR A  
FEW DAYS,  
TOO!

OH  
NO!

SHE'S STILL  
IN COLLEGE,  
AFTER ALL.

AND UH... SHE  
ISN'T STARTING  
NEARLY AS  
EARLY AS I  
DID.

AHHH  
YES.



HEY,  
FREAK  
SHOW!

WHAT DO  
YOU WANT,  
JACKBALL?

MOM'S HIRED  
JESSICA'S NIECE  
TO BABYSIT US  
WHILE THEY GO OFF  
FOR A FEW DAYS.

HAH!

I'D LIKE  
TO SEE  
YOU TRY!

I'M DUTY BOUND  
TO INFORM YOU THAT  
IF YOU GIVE HER A  
HARD TIME, I'M  
ALLOWED TO KICK  
YOUR ASS AROUND  
THE BLOCK FOR  
DRILL.


DON'T MAKE US  
LOOK LIKE A BUNCH  
OF ANIMALS IN  
FRONT OF TRIXIE!

AS LONG AS  
MOM ISN'T  
HERE, SHE'S  
MOM TO YOU!

SHE  
IS?

WILL SHE  
HAVE DINNER  
READY BY  
SEVEN?

GOODNESS,  
I HOPE SO.



HEY, TRIxie.  
YOU LIVE IN  
FLORIDA,  
RIGHT?

I LOVE  
VISITING  
FLORIDA.  
WHAT'S IT LIKE  
TO LIVE  
THERE?

YEP!

OH, IT'S LIKE  
LIVING  
ANYWHERE  
ELSE,  
REALLY...

YEAH?

EXCEPT IT'S  
TOTALLY  
AWESOME!

I  
KNEW  
IT!

EVERYONE'S  
OLD AND  
SWEET OR  
YOUNG AND  
HOT!

THERE'S  
HARDLY ANY  
WINTER!

IF YOU GET  
TOO HOT, YOU  
JUST WAIT A  
COUPLE MINUTES  
FOR RAIN!

YOU'RE  
NEVER MORE  
THAN AN HOUR  
FROM A  
BEACH!



HON, WHERE DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS PLACE WE'RE GOING?



OHNNNNH,  
THAT'S  
WHY...


THAT'S  
WHY  
WHAT?

JESSICA TOLD  
ME ABOUT IT. HER  
AND ROBERT  
USED TO GO  
THERE A LOT  
WHEN THEY WERE  
IN THE SAVANNAH  
AREA.



DID YOU *NOT*  
NOTICE IT'S A  
"CLOTHING  
OPTIONAL"  
PLACE?

WHAT!?



HON, IT EVEN HAS  
A LINK THAT SAYS  
NOT TO CLICK IT  
IF YOU'RE  
OFFENDED BY  
NUDITY!

WELL YEAH!  
THAT'S WHY I  
DIDN'T CLICK  
IT!



OH, WILL YOU RELAX, HONEY.

IT'S CLOTHING OPTIONAL. I'M SURE NOT EVERYONE IS NUDED UP!



HI.


SQUEAK!



HM. NOT MUCH OF A PENIS AT THIS POINT.

MORE LIKE A KNOTHOLE.

LET'S GOOO...



AHH, THIS  
ISN'T SO  
BAD.



MMM.




I WONDER  
HOW THE  
KIDS ARE  
DOING?




**THOMAS!**  
GET OFF THE  
ROOF RIGHT  
NOW!

YOU CAN'T  
FLY WITH  
**STYROFOAM**  
**COOLER**  
LIDS!






YOU COULD HAVE **REALLY** HURT YOURSELF!



SICK OF ADULTS ALWAYS TELLING ME I CAN HURT MYSELF...

... SICK OF THEM TELLING ME **EVERYTHING** I CAN'T DO!

WHAT WOULD YOUR PARENTS DO IF YOU DID?



ADULTS MAKE RULES BECAUSE THEY KNOW MORE.

IF YOU DON'T FOLLOW THEM, YOU'LL END UP LIKE **SAMMY THOMPSON!**

WHO?



SAMMY THOMPSON WAS A LITTLE BOY WHO WAS TIRED OF ADULT RULES. SO HE RAN AWAY INTO THE WOODS WHERE HE COULD BE WITH **OTHER** RUNAWAY KIDS AND LIVE BY THEIR OWN **KID-RULES**.

AND THEN HE **DIED!**



DIED OF **WHAT?**

HE WAS EITHER **RIPPED TO SHREDS** BY WILD BOARS, OR HE DIED OF A BURST APPENDIX.

I HEARD  
WHAT  
THOMAS  
DID.

CAN I  
KICK HIS  
BUTT?

NO, THAT'S  
OKAY,  
JANIE.

I SENT HIM  
TO HIS ROOM  
HE'S JUST  
BEING A BOY,  
AFTER ALL.

BOYS *HAVE*  
TO BE WILD.  
IT'S IN THEIR  
NATURE.

THEN THEY  
GROW UP TO BE  
HEADSTRONG  
*REBELS* AND  
DASHING  
*HEROES!*

RIGHT NOW,  
THOMAS IS A  
REBEL, BUT *AGE*  
WILL MAKE HIM  
*DASHING!*

ARE  
YOU  
SURE?

UH  
HUH!

MAN, I  
*NEVER* GET  
TO HAVE  
ANY FUN.

MMM, I  
KNOW.



IT'S 8:30, ABIGAIL. IT'S TIME FOR YOU TO GO TO BED.

CAN YOU READ TO ME FIRST, LIKE MOM DOES?

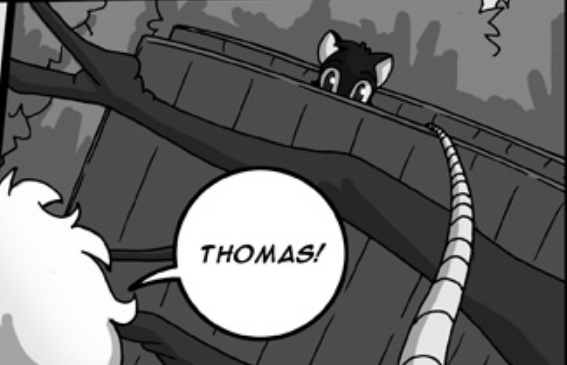
SURE!

ARE THESE YOUR BOOKS?

YES. WE'RE WORKING THROUGH THE ONE TURNED SIDWAYS ON THE MIDDLE SHELF.


"INTERVENTIONISM, AN ECONOMIC ANALYSIS," BY LUDWIG VON MISES.







OMMMMMW!



YOU'RE IN  
A LOT OF  
TROUBLE,  
YOU BRAT!



SHOULD I  
TEXT  
SOMEONE?



MAYBE I  
SHOULD MAKE  
A TWEET OR  
TWO.



OHHHHH,  
PHOTO  
GALLERY!



DON'T YOU KNOW  
A DOWN-ANGLE  
SHOT OF YOUR  
FACE AND  
CLEAVAGE IS  
FACEBOOK FOR  
"HI, I'M FAT?"



I'M  
NOT  
FAT!

WELL?

NOT SO FAST.

I STILL HAVE A PLAN!

SWAP

MALES OF ALL AGES HAVE A SIMILAR WEAKNESS.

SMART WOMEN CAN EXPLOIT IT WITHOUT USING VIOLENCE.

WEAKNESS?



OHhhh, NICE!

GO GET A FAN SO WE CAN BLOW MORE OF THE SMELL TOWARD THE TREE HOUSE.

SSSSSSSS SSSS



OH MAN,  
THAT GRILLIN'  
SMELLS  
GOOD!



DON'T  
FALL FOR  
IT.



!?

WHO  
ARE  
YOU!?



HMP.



THUMP!


WHOA!  
SERIOUS?



SAMMY  
THOMPSON,  
AT YOUR  
SERVICE.







CELL PHONE.  
VIDEO GAMES. ALL  
THIS JUNK YOU  
DON'T NEED. THIS IS  
ALL FROM THE  
WORLD OF  
ADULTS.

BUT I LIKE  
THESE  
THINGS!

ADULTS  
MAKE THE RULES  
YOU DON'T LIKE  
BASED ON THEIR  
UNDERSTANDING  
OF THE  
WORLD.

THOSE TOYS,  
THOSE THINGS NO  
KID  
COULD MAKE, ARE  
ALSO THE RESULT OF  
AN ADULT  
UNDERSTANDING.  
THEY WON'T WORK  
WHERE WE'RE  
GOING.

OH...

ADULTS  
MANIPULATE  
THE WORLD.  
WE GENERATE  
WORLDS IN  
OUR MINDS!

YOU DON'T NEED  
GAMES ADULTS  
GIVE YOU WHEN  
EVERY DAY IS A  
GAME!

LIFE  
WITHOUT  
RULES  
SOUNDS  
FUN!

THE ADULT  
IMAGINATION IS  
LIMITED TO  
REALITY. THE  
WORLD OF  
CHILDREN IS SO  
MUCH MORE  
THAN THAT!

YOU'RE  
GONNA  
LOVE IT.

I  
PROMISE!






WELCOME TO  
KID-OPOLIS!



WHERE YOU  
NEVER HAVE  
TO TAKE A  
BATH!



AND YOU  
CAN EAT  
WHATEVER  
YOU FIND!

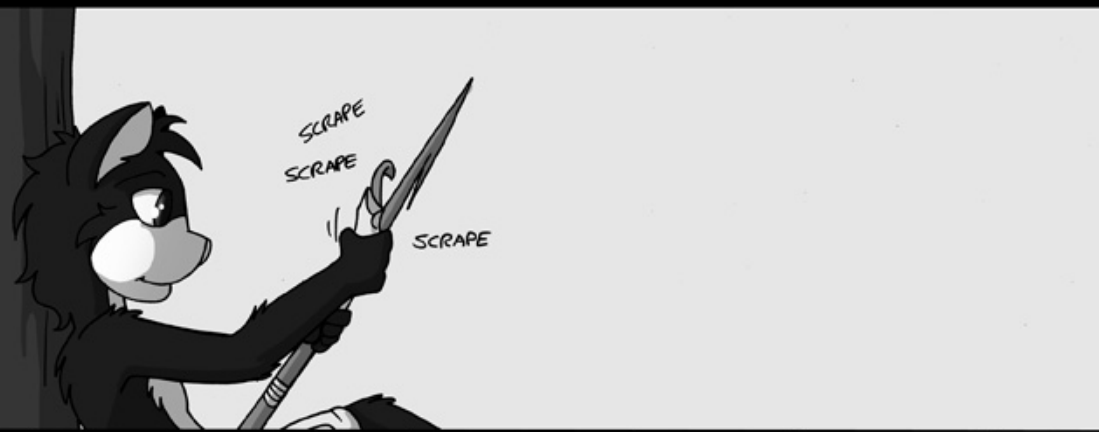
NO  
VEGGIES!



GO BUILD A  
SHELTER AND  
START LIVING  
THE GOOD  
LIFE!

A  
KID'S  
LIFE!

AH...



SCRAPE  
SCRAPE  
SCRAPE



WHAT DO YOU HAVE THERE?

I MADE A BETTER SPEAR SO I DON'T HAVE TO EAT BUGS.

LET ME SEE?



AHH VERY WELL DONE!

IT'S GOT GREAT BALANCE. VERY AWESOME.

I MAY CALL THIS.

CALL IT WHAT?



I CALLED IT. BY KID RULES THAT MEANS IT'S MINE.

HEY!

**BUT I MADE IT!**

**AND I CALLED IT.**

**YOU DIDN'T EARN IT!**

**EARN IS AN ADULT CONCEPT. KIDS JUST DO.**

**BUT I MADE IT WITH MY HANDS.**

**I USED MY MIND TO THINK OF IT.**

**IT WAS MY TIME THAT WAS SPENT!**

**WITHOUT MY TIME, IT WOULDN'T EVEN EXIST!**

**WELL, I GUESS YOU COULD FIGHT ME FOR IT.**

**I SHOULDN'T HAVE TO!**

**IT'S MINE BY RIGHT!**



HE'S **STILL**  
NOT  
COMING  
DOWN.

N'YARM



YOUR  
BROTHER IS  
TOUGHER  
THAN HE  
LOOKS!

WHAT A  
**HERO!**  
WHAT **WILL**  
**POWER!**



HE'S GOING TO  
GROW UP TO  
BE SUCH AN  
**AWESOME**  
GUY!



THERE'S A LADDER  
IN THE GARAGE  
THAT CAN REACH  
THE TREEHOUSE,  
YOU KNOW.

WELL  
**HELL!**  
LET'S GO  
GET IT!

YOU WANT  
IT SO  
BADLY!?

CATCH!



AH!



WHEW.  
JUST A  
DREAM.

YEAH,  
WELL, I'M  
NOT!

OH  
BALLS.





YOU WERE ASLEEP?

YEAH. I DREAMT ABOUT SAMMY THOMPSON!

OH?

WE WERE GOING TO LIVE BY KID RULES. BUT HE TOOK SOMETHING I MADE FROM ME BECAUSE HE "CALLED" IT.

THEN I TOLD HIM HE PROMISED I'D BE HAPPY, BUT HE SAID HE HAD HIS **FINGERS CROSSED!**

SO I SAID I WAS LEAVING, AND HE SAID I COULDN'T BECAUSE I'D TELL OTHERS AND I PROMISED NOT TO!

SO I CALLED "TAKE-BACKS" ON MY PROMISE.

THEN HE TRIED TO KILL ME, AND I WOKE UP.

HERE'S YOUR PHONE BACK.

IT WAS WRONG FOR ME TO TAKE YOUR STUFF NO MATTER HOW **FUN** IT WAS.

JANIE, BECAUSE YOU'VE BEEN SUCH A GOOD GIRL, YOUR MOTHER AND I HAVE DECIDED TO LET YOU HAVE AN IPHONE 4.

THIS IS A *BIG* RESPONSIBILITY.



YOU HAVE TO AGREE TO LET US SEE IT WHENEVER WE WANT, JUST LIKE YOUR COMPUTER.

YES!

#CRINKLE\*

iPhone

AND LIMIT YOUR APP PURCHASES TO \$20 A MONTH.

OKAY!

#SOULY OPEN\*

iPhone

Hop Hop Hop Hop Hop Hop Hop Hop

YOU MUST BE VERY CAREFUL WITH IT.

I KNOW!  
I KNOW!

Hop Hop Hop Hop

WE'RE TRUSTING YOU WITH AN EXPENSIVE THING...

I UNDERSTAND, ALREADY!

#PEEL\*



HHN!

JUST GIVE HER THE PHONE!



JANIE'S FATHER LET HER HAVE AN **IPHONE 4!** WHY DON'T WE HAVE THOSE, DAD?

OH, WE DON'T BUY APPLE PRODUCTS ANYMORE, SWEETHEART.

HOW COME?

APPLE USED TO BE A SMALL "COOL" COMPANY.

NOW THEY'RE ENORMOUS AND SUCCESSFUL! THAT MAKES THEM **VERY DANGEROUS AND DESTRUCTIVE.**

THEIR PRODUCTS ARE MADE BY **EXPLOITED CHINESE LABOR!**

DON'T CHINESE PEOPLE NEED JOBS, TOO?

YES, BUT **NOT THOSE** KINDS OF JOBS.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLE NEED WHOLESOME INDIGENOUS WORK.

LIKE FARMING **EVERYTHING** THEY EAT. AND FENDING OFF DISEASE WITH **HOLISTIC, SPIRITUAL METHODS.**

THAT'S WHY WE ONLY GET PHONES FROM SMALLER, LESS SUCCESSFUL COMPANIES.

COME ON. MAYBE WE'LL BUY YOU A **WINDOWS PHONE!**

AWW.





**Janie Black**

Justin Bieber's not hot at all. He looks like a sissy who needs to do more pushups.



**Angelica Keynes**

@shygrl He does not!



**Shy Girl**

Justin Bieber looks like a girl. Why do girls like him?



AND NOW WE CAN  
SEE MY STUPID  
BROTHER DOING  
STUPID THINGS IN  
GLORIOUS HD.



BUILDING A  
SWIMMING POOL  
IN THE BACK  
YARD *ISN'T*  
STUPID!



AND WHEN IT'S A  
*MILLION DEGREES*  
OUTSIDE AND YOU  
WANT TO SWIM, YOU'LL  
HAVE TO WALK ALL THE  
WAY DOWN TO THE  
LAKE!

BECAUSE  
YOU AINT  
SWIMMIN' IN  
MY POOL!



IN PART TWO, WE'LL  
SEE MY BROTHER  
GETTING HIS ASS  
BEATEN WHEN MOM  
AND DAD FIND OUT HE  
DUG A *MUD PIT* IN  
THE BACK YARD!

I HATE  
YOU.





**THOMAS!!**

**MY  
KITCHEN!!**

**DON'T TRACK  
MUD IN MY  
HOUSE! WHAT  
HAVE YOU BEEN  
DOING!?**

**POOL!?  
WHAT  
POOL!?**

**GO GET  
CLEANED UP!  
NO NOT  
UPSTAIRS!  
GET OFF THE  
RUG!**



**WAIT UNTIL  
YOUR  
FATHER  
SEES THIS!!**



DAD...

WHY ARE YOU  
STARING OUT  
THE WINDOW AT  
NIGHT WITH A  
DRINK IN YOUR  
HAND?

I'M  
THINKING.



LOOK AT  
THIS BACK  
YARD. IT'S  
IMMENSE.  
I LOVE IT.

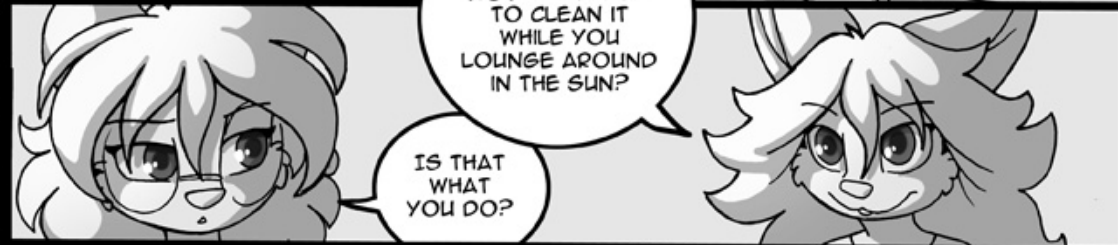
BUT I  
COULD  
LOVE IT  
MORE.

YOUR  
BROTHER IS  
RIGHT.

WE  
NEED A  
POOL.

GEEZ.  
YOU'RE  
RIGHT.

USUALLY  
AM.





DAD. I'VE  
COME UP WITH  
THE DESIGN FOR  
THE ENTIRE  
POOL AREA.



THE MAIN  
DRAWING  
SHOWS  
EVERYTHING.

I HOOKED THE  
FILTER SYSTEM TO  
RECYCLE THE  
WATER INTO A  
WATERFALL, WHICH  
CAN ALSO BE USED  
FOR CLIFF  
DIVING.

THERE'S A  
FLOAT UP BAR  
AND A MODERN  
SHOWER  
HOUSE.

FIRE PITS  
ARE HERE, HERE,  
AND HERE,  
LARGE ENOUGH  
FOR ANY NORTH  
AMERICAN  
BISON.



AWWWW.

HOW AM I  
TO AFFORD  
ALL THIS?

I ACCEPT  
THIN MINTS.






HEY KID!  
WHAT ARE  
YOU  
DOING?!

MAKING  
CHANGES.

WHAT!?



THE  
CHLORINATED  
WATER NEEDS  
TO STAY AWAY  
FROM THE FISH  
POND.

WE CAN'T  
BUILD THIS  
STUFF! IT'LL  
BUST YOUR  
PARENT'S  
BUDGET!

IF YOU LOOK BELOW,  
I'VE COME UP WITH A  
NEW METHOD FOR  
ROUTING THE PLUMBING.  
THE SAVINGS SHOULD  
MAKE UP *MOST* OF IT.

I ALSO HAVE  
SOME IDEAS  
ABOUT THE  
CONCRETE.



PLUNK





THE POOL WILL BE SO NICE. IT'LL BE GREAT TO SWIM WHENEVER WE WANT.

AND HAVE FRIENDS OVER FOR PARTIES.




MY FRIENDS...



... OVER...



GOD DAMMIT.



LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT THIS TRUCK. YOU KNOW I KNOW WHAT'S **MANLY** BECAUSE I SOUND LIKE I SMOKE SIX PACKS A DAY AND HAVE A VAGUELY SOUTHERN ACCENT.

THIS TRUCK IS HUGE AND POWERFUL. IT'LL MAKE YOU A **FUCKING MAN!**

IF YOU DON'T DRIVE THIS TRUCK, YOUR PENIS IS ONLY AN INCH LONG. ALL OTHER TRUCKS ARE FOR SLACK JAWED **FAGGOTS**.

LOOK AT THIS MOTHERFUCKING TRUCK TOW SHIT! **GOD DAMN!** YOU'D FEEL **HONORED** TO HAVE YOUR WIFE **SLEEP** WITH THIS TRUCK!

YOU SHOULD BUY THIS TRUCK AND STOP BEING SUCH A **PANTY-DROPPING FAGGOT SISSY...**

ARE YOU WATCHING FOOTBALL?

YUP.

NOW, BACK TO FOX SPORTS...

POOL,  
POND, ALL  
UP TO  
SPEC.

SECURITY  
SYSTEMS,  
CHECK.

THE FIRE  
SYSTEMS ARE  
UP AND  
RUNNING.

**FWOOMP**

I CAN'T HELP  
BUT THINK I'M  
FORGETTING  
SOMETHING.

OH YES. PEE-  
SEEKING  
PIRANHAS.

WHAT?



**GUYS! I NEED TO CHECK MY MATH HOMEWORK AGAINST YOURS!**

**WHY?**

**MY EYES ARE IN *SOME* KIND OF DISHARMONY. DISTANT OBJECTS ARE BLURRY.**

**I COULDN'T SEE THE BOARD IN CLASS VERY WELL.**

**I HAVE TO CHECK THAT MY INTUITIONS ABOUT THE LESSON WERE CORRECT.**

**MAYBE YOU NEED GLASSES?**

**PRETTY PEOPLE DON'T WEAR GLASSES.**

**OH, I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.**

**HOW MANY FINGERS AM I HOLDING UP?**

**WAIT. DON'T TELL ME.**

SO, THE INVALIDATION OF THE SENSES AND COGNITION AS A MEANS OF KNOWING REALITY IS A COMMON THREAD THROUGH EASTERN MYSTICISM AND PLATONIC PHILOSOPHY.

WE WILL STUDY THE RESURGENCE OF THESE IDEAS WITHIN SECULAR WESTERN PHILOSOPHIES...

STARTING WITH KANT'S EXPLANATION OF HOW IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO KNOW THINGS "AS THEY ARE" VERSUS THINGS AS THEY ARE WITHIN THE BOUNDS OF OUR MINDS.

SEE YOU ON MONDAY.

BEEP BEEP BEEP

YES?

HONEY, ANGELICA IS HAVING TROUBLE WITH HER VISION. I'M GOING TO USE SOME OF THE RAINY DAY ACCOUNT TO TAKE HER TO THE OPTOMETRIST.

HAHAH! ACTUALLY, VISION IS MERELY A SENSE THAT SUPPLIES THE MIND WITH PERCEPTIONS, INTERPRETING WITH ALL BIASES AND FORMING ONLY-

HONEY.

OH. YES DEAR.

GO AHEAD.



MOM, I  
REALLY DON'T  
WANT TO HAVE  
TO WEAR  
GLASSES.

WHY NOT,  
SWEETIE?




THEY'RE  
DORKY!

I'VE CULTIVATED  
THIS AWESOME  
FACE *WITHOUT*  
CONSIDERING  
GLASSES! ALL MY  
WORK WILL BE FOR  
*NOTHING!*

I'LL BE MISS  
BUTTERFACE  
DORKULUS!

NO  
GLASSES  
LOOK  
GOOD!



UNLESS THEIR  
LENSES ARE SO  
SMALL AS TO BE  
ALMOST USELESS,  
LIKE YOURS.

THANK  
YOU.





I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING.

CONTACT LENSES BURN. I'M TOO YOUNG FOR LASER SURGERY.

I HAVE TO TURN TO MORE UNCONVENTIONAL METHODS. *MIND* OVER *MATTER*.

I HAVEN'T TRANCED IN SO LONG, I...

DO NOT WORRY, LITTLE GIRL.

BEAUTY COMES IN *MANY* FORMS.

*GRACE.*

*INTELLIGENCE.*

*POWER.*

WHAT SPIRIT ARE YOU?


I AM THE EMBODIMENT OF FEMININE CONFIDENCE!

BEHOLD!

BLINK

GRACE JONES?

WHO'D YOU EXPECT?



ARE YOU  
READY TO  
RECEIVE A  
REVELATION?


YES!



GIRLS WITH  
GLASSES ARE  
CUTE *EVEN* IF  
THEY DON'T  
THINK THEY  
ARE.

...  
THAT'S  
IT?

YES.




NOTHING  
ABOUT "INNER  
BEAUTY"...

NOPE.

... FINDING  
YOURSELF ...

NOPE

... HUH...



I GUESS IF I CAN  
THINK OF ALL  
THAT, I CAN  
TEACH IT TO  
*MYSELF.*

A VERY  
MATURE  
ATTITUDE!



YOU'LL NEED IT  
WHEN YOU GET  
**BRACES** IN A  
COUPLE OF  
YEARS!

WHAT?!

BYE!

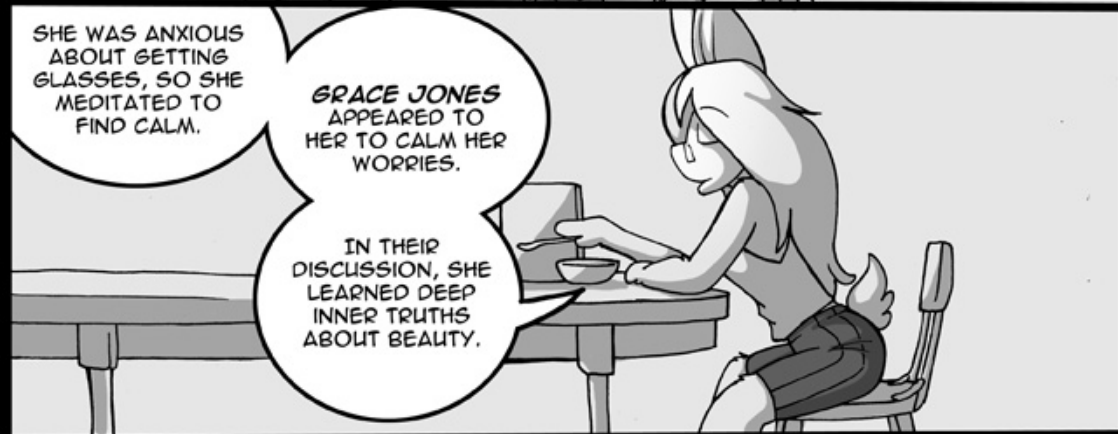
WAIT!!



SHE WAS ANXIOUS ABOUT GETTING GLASSES, SO SHE MEDITATED TO FIND CALM.

*GRACE JONES* APPEARED TO HER TO CALM HER WORRIES.

IN THEIR DISCUSSION, SHE LEARNED DEEP INNER TRUTHS ABOUT BEAUTY.



SINCE WHEN IS *GRACE JONES* A SPIRITUAL ICON?

NOW, DON'T BE JUDGMENTAL.



YOUR  
GLASSES  
ARE CUTE.

I DON'T  
KNOW...

YOU LOOK  
THE SAME,  
EXCEPT WITH  
GLASSES.

YYYEAH...

THERE GOES  
CHEERLEADING  
FOR THIS  
YEAR.

I CAN'T DO  
THAT WITH  
GLASSES.

ARE YOU  
DOING ANY  
EXTRA  
CURRICULAR  
THINGS?

SCHOOL  
NEWSPAPER.

SINCE I  
LOOK SMART,  
I MIGHT AS  
WELL ACT  
SMART.

EXTRA  
CURRICULAR  
SIGN UP!

SHIT! I  
KNEW I  
FORGOT  
SOMETHING!

HURRY UP OR  
YOU'LL BE  
STUCK WITH  
THE CHESS  
CLUB!

SHUT  
UP!

THE TRACK  
TEAM IS  
FULL!

SOFTBALL  
IS FULL!

EVERYTHING  
I WANT IS  
FULL!

WHY DO YOU  
NEED TO DO  
ANYTHING  
AFTER  
SCHOOL?



WHEN  
SCHOOL'S  
OVER, I HAVE  
AN HOUR AND  
A HALF BEFORE  
GYMNASTICS.

THAT'S AN  
HOUR AND A  
HALF I HAVE  
TO FILL WITH  
SOMETHING!

I CAN'T JUST  
SIT AROUND  
DOING  
NOTHING!

GOOD  
NEWS!

MY CHEERLEADER  
SPOT IS STILL  
OPEN. YOU  
COULD BE A  
CHEERLEADER,  
JANIE!

YOU'D BE SO  
PRETTEEEEEEE  
EEEEEE!!!



HEY.

BRO.

I NEED TO  
ASK YOU  
SOMETHING.

YOU NEVER  
TAKE EXTRA  
CURRICULARS.

HOW DO YOU  
FILL THE TIME  
AFTER  
SCHOOL?

PFF. ALL DAY AT  
SCHOOL I CAN'T  
WAIT TO GET  
OUT.

WHY WOULD I  
WANT TO PACK  
MY DAY WITH  
MORE  
SCHOOL?



I HATE IT  
WHEN  
PEOPLE TELL  
ME WHAT TO  
DO.

TAKE THE  
TIME YOU  
HAVE TO DO  
WHAT YOU  
WANT, FOR  
ONCE.

WHAT I  
WANT TO  
DO?



HOW DO  
I FIND OUT  
WHAT I  
WANT TO  
DO?

A girl with spiky hair in two ponytails, wearing a school uniform, stands with her eyes closed and a bored expression. A speech bubble above her contains the text "BORED BORED BORED...".

BORED  
BORED  
BORED...

The girl with pigtails is sitting on a couch, smiling and playing a video game with a controller. A speech bubble next to her contains the text "WAR. WAR NEVER CHANGES."

WAR.

WAR NEVER  
CHANGES.

SHFFF

SHFFF

SHFFF

HUFF

HH

HAHH

HUFF  
HUFF

YAT!

A WANDERING  
TRADER!  
I NEED TO SELL!  
HOW MANY CAPS  
YA GOT?

MOO

UH...


TWITCH

1

DRAG

DRAG






HA! LOOK  
WHAT WE  
HAVE HERE.

ANOTHER  
LITTLE GIRL WHO  
THINKS SHE CAN  
ROLL WITH THE  
**BIG GUN**  
RUNNERS!



WE DEAL  
GUNS TO  
PEOPLE WHO  
**KNOW** WHAT  
THEY'RE  
DOING.


THIS ISN'T  
**AMATEUR**  
**HOUR**,  
LITTLE GIRL.



HOW CAN I TELL YOU  
KNOW **ANYTHING**  
ABOUT THE KINDS OF  
FIREPOWER WE'RE  
DEALING WITH HERE?



ARE YOU  
RETARDED?



IS THIS WHAT YOU'RE DOING INSTEAD OF CHEERLEADING?

YES.


WHAT IS THIS?




FALLOUT:  
NEW VEGAS.

IT'S A 1950'S VISION OF THE FAR FUTURE AFTER A NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST.

I HAVE TO WANDER, AND SURVIVE.



RIGHT NOW I'M KINDA DEALING WITH A WAR BETWEEN REGULATION-HAPPY CALIFORNIANS, INSULAR TECHNOPHILE XENOPHOBES, AND SLAVE OWNING, SKIRT WEARING HOMOSEXUALS.



HOW IS THIS *LESS* SILLY THAN CHEERLEADING?

UH...



GO JACK!

GO JACK!

B!

L!

R!

T!

O!

N!

JACK BURTON  
ACADEMY IS  
ON THEIR WAY  
TO WIN!

OKAY ALL YOU  
CUTE LITTLE  
MUFFINS!

LINE  
UP!

CLAP  
CLAP

JANIE'S  
OUR NEW  
GIRL!

EVERYONE GIVE HER  
A BIG JACK BURTON  
CHEERLEADER  
WELCOME!

HMMM

OH  
MAN...

HAVE YOU EVER DONE CHEERLEADING BEFORE, JANIE?

NO.

I'VE DONE A LOT OF GYMNASTICS, THOUGH.

THAT'S GOOD.

YOU'RE BEING GIVEN A SHOT BECAUSE ANGELICA VOUCHES FOR YOU.

SHE WAS REALLY GOOD AND WE MISS HER A LOT.

IT'S NOT JUST PHYSICAL. IT'S ATTITUDE AND SPIRIT.

GIVEN A SHOT?

YOU WON'T MAKE IT PAST TRY OUTS WITHOUT THE RIGHT ENTHUSIASM.

TRY OUTS!?

YOU MEAN WE'RE COMPETING TO BE CHEERLEADERS?!

UH, YEAH.

THIS AINT NO SURE THING.

I THOUGHT YOU DIDN'T **CARE** ABOUT BEING A CHEERLEADER.

NOW YOU WANT TO BE THE **BEST**?

NOW THAT IT'S A COMPETITION! **YEAH!**

I **HAVE** TO.

WHEN SOMEONE LAYS DOWN A **CHALLENGE**, YOU JUST DON'T **COAST** YOUR WAY TO THE FINISH LINE.

YOU LEAVE EVERYONE IN THE **DUST!**

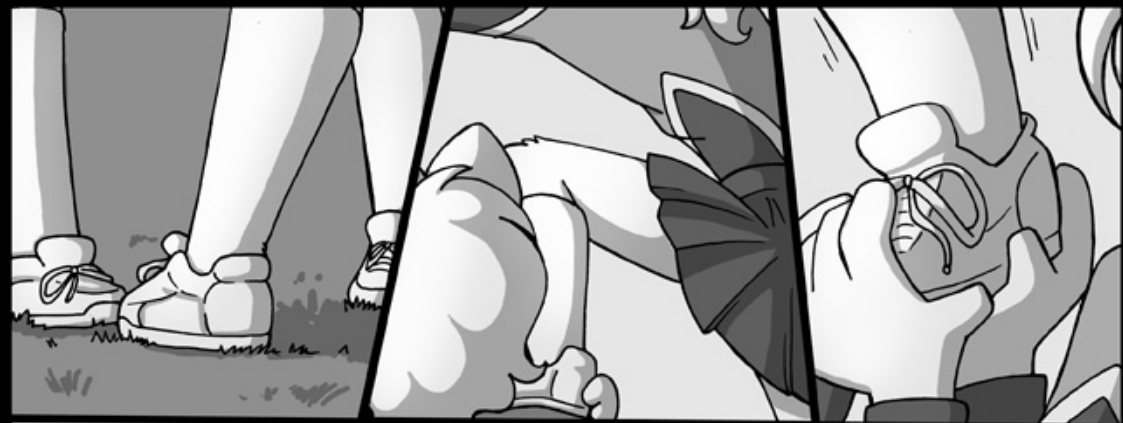
WHY DO YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE **COMPETING** TO HAVE A GOOD TIME?

YOU SOUND LIKE MY BROTHER.

HUFF

THOMAS IS COOL.

LITTLE BROTHERS ARE **NEVER** COOL.







HELLO?

MRS.  
BLACK?

YES?

THIS IS LEON  
SCHAEFER FROM  
JACK BURTON  
ACADEMY. I  
COORDINATE THE  
CHEERLEADING  
EVENTS.

I'M CALLING  
TO LET YOU  
KNOW THAT  
JANIE BROKE  
HER ARM  
TODAY.

BROKE  
HER ARM?  
HOW?

FELL...

SHE  
FELL...

YES. FROM A HEIGHT  
OF ABOUT... THREE  
TEN YEAR OLDS...  
ONTO A FEW OTHER  
TEN YEAR OLDS.

WHAT  
HOSPITAL IS  
SHE BEING  
TAKEN TO?

WELL, WE  
WERE GOING TO  
ASK YOU THAT,  
SINCE WE CAN'T  
GET HER INTO  
THE AMBULANCE  
YET.

WHY  
NOT?

SHE WENT  
RUNNING DOWN  
THE HALLWAY  
DRAGGING  
HER BROKEN  
ARM, SWEARING  
TO KICK  
ANGELICA'S  
ASS.

I SEE.

I DIDN'T MEAN TO BLOW UP LIKE THAT.

I JUST HATE BEING CRIPPLED.

THERE'S SO MUCH I CAN'T DO.

IT'S OKAY!

WILL YOU LET ME SIGN YOUR CAST?

SURE, WHATEVER.

GO NUTS.

IT'S OKAY IF YOU CAN'T PLAY SPORTS FOR A WHILE.


WE CAN HANG OUT AFTER SCHOOL MORE AND DO THINGS YOU CAN DO.

WELL, I CAN STILL RUN AND STUFF.

MAYBE IT'LL BE COOL TO-

WHAT THE- !?

WAIT, I'M NOT FINISHED!



LET ME FIX  
THAT FOR  
YOU, JANIE.




I'LL DO YOUR  
HAIR. DON'T  
WORRY.



LET ME  
BUTTON THAT  
UP FOR YOU,  
SWEETIE.

NFF



NOW LET ME  
TIE YOUR  
LITTLE SHOES  
FOR YOU!

GRRR!



AH, IT FEELS  
GOOD TO BE  
ABLE TO BE A  
MOTHER!



HUFF!

IF YOU'RE HAVING TROUBLE WRITING YOU CAN TAKE THAT ASSIGNMENT HOME FOR HOMEWORK, JANIE.

UH, OKAY.

AW POOR DEAR! HAVE ANOTHER HELPIN' OF DESSERT!

UM...

CAN I HELP YOU CARRY YOUR BOOKS, JANIE?

UH, NO?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

TYING YOUR SHOES IS HARDER WHEN THERE'S A CAST HALFWAY UP YOUR HAND.

HA! WHATEVER.

YOU'LL FIGURE IT OUT. YOU ALWAYS DO.

MM.



THOMAS, CAN I TELL YOU SOMETHING?

NO.

TOO BAD.

GODDAMMIT.

BEFORE I BROKE MY ARM AND WHEN I WAS GOOD AT EVERYTHING, A LOT OF PEOPLE RESENTED ME.



THE GIRLS AT TRACK BEGAN TO IGNORE MY RUN TIMES AND ONLY COMPETED AGAINST EACH OTHER.



SOME EVEN CALLED ME A NEEDLESS SHOW OFF.

THEY'D GET ON MY CASE FOR RUNNING UP THE GOALS IN SOCCER, EVEN AFTER THEY STOPPED KEEPING SCORE.



IT WAS LIKE THEY WANTED ME TO BE JUST AVERAGE.



MAYBE THEY JUST HATE YOU BECAUSE YOU'RE UGLY.



BUT THEN I BROKE MY ARM. EVERYONE BEGAN TO TREAT ME DIFFERENTLY.

EXCEPT YOU.

BUT WHEN I BROKE MY ARM, PEOPLE WHO DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE ME BEGAN TO BE NICE TO ME!

THEY OFFERED ME HELP I DIDN'T EVEN NEED, SOMETIMES!

THEY HAD BIG SMILES! LIKE THEY WERE ONLY HAPPY WHEN SOMEONE NEEDED THEM!

I WASN'T SHIT TO THEM WHEN I WAS CAPABLE AND KICKING ASS!

NOW PEOPLE GO OUT OF THEIR WAY TO BE DEFERENTIAL BECAUSE I'M HURT!

THEY MAKE INCAPABILITY SO... TEMPTING.

I DON'T KNOW IF I LIKE THAT.

JANIE, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU, YOU'LL ALWAYS BE THE BIG SISTER I CAN'T STAND.

AW THANKS. THAT MEANS A LOT TO ME.

NOW, GO AWAY.

HE'S BEEN TEACHING  
ME THE ART OF  
SELFLESSNESS.

IT'S ALL  
ABOUT  
REMOVING  
YOURSELF  
FROM THE  
EQUATION.

BY READING  
NIETZSCHE?

I THINK I  
HAVE IT  
MASTERED!

KSSSSSSSH!

TINK!

TINK!

PJ Ingle  
Chris Stamey

**Green Screen Studio Production Crew:**

Operation Manager of the TAT Studio:  
Chris Carpenter

Technicians:  
Cody Baker  
Frederick Warren  
Brennan Tiffany

WHAAAAAT?

SHE WAS  
TRUE TO  
HER  
NON-SELF.

I  
DON'T  
GET IT.

A MAN'S GENIUS TAKES  
SHAPE, MOTIVATED BY  
HIS DESIRE TO PRODUCE  
AND CREATE.

THE ELEMENTS ARE  
THERE FOR HIM TO  
UNDERSTAND, AND  
THEREFORE  
COMMAND.



THE NATURAL WORLD  
IS NOT ENOUGH FOR  
THE CREATIVE MAN. HE  
FORGES IT TO HIS  
NEEDS.

IT'S NOT THE  
PLEASURE OF *REST*  
THAT MOTIVATES  
HIM.



THE FIRES OF INDUSTRY  
BURN UNDER THE DIRECTION  
OF HIS PLANS.

IT IS THE  
PLEASURE OF  
*DOING*.

CRUNCH!



AND THE SUBLIME *THRILL*  
OF ACCOMPLISHMENT.

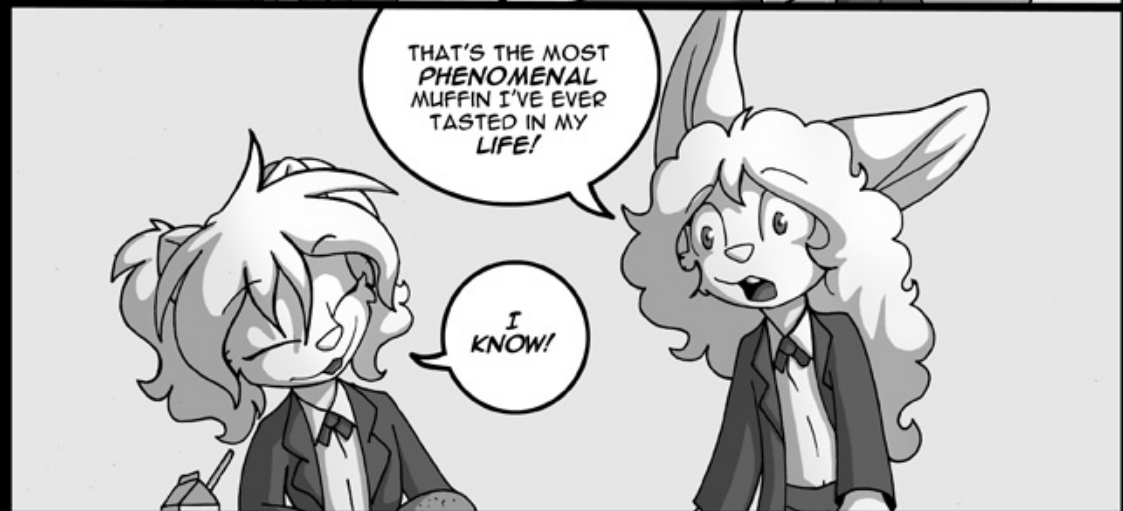
IT SITS IN HIS HAND  
AS A MANIFESTATION  
OF HIS VISION. THE  
CULMINATION OF  
HOURS OF MENTAL  
AND PHYSICAL  
INVESTMENT.

IT IS THE POURING  
OF ONE'S *LIFE* INTO  
A SINGLE CREATION  
OF VALUE.



IT IS THE MOST  
DELICIOUS  
MUFFIN EVER  
PRODUCED BY  
MANKIND.





JEFFERY, ARE YOU STILL SELLING MUFFINS?

UH...

DIDN'T YOU WRITE IN THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER THAT SCHOOL SHOULD BE FREE FROM THE EVIL FORCES OF COMMERCIALISM?

UHM...


DID YOU ALSO WRITE A STORY THAT SAID OVERWEIGHT KIDS LIKE *ME* WERE INDICATORS OF A SOCIETY MIRED IN THE EVILS OF EXCESS?

ER...

I SELL OUT OF MUFFINS EVERY DAY...

I'D LOVE TO MAKE MORE. BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD DO THAT FOR YOU.

IT'S JUST A MUFFIN.



I'D LOVE TO DO A STORY ABOUT THOSE MUFFINS IN THE SCHOOL PAPER, BUT I'D HAVE TO **HAVE** ONE FIRST!

NO THANK YOU.



DIDN'T YOU EVER LEARN TO **SHARE**?

SHARING IS A CHOICE. I WON'T BE BULLIED INTO IT.



YOU KNOW, IT'D BE TERRIBLE IF YOU GOT A LOT OF **BAD** PRESS OVER THIS.



**HEY!** I'M NO STRANGER TO BEING PUSHED AROUND!

I'M NOT **ATHLETIC** OR **HANDSOME!** I'M THE **FAT** KID!

I'M AN **EASY** TARGET, OKAY?



BUT ONE THING I DO WELL IS **COOK**.

**THIS** IS WHAT I'M GOOD AT. AND **NO ONE'S** GOING TO PUSH ME AROUND OVER THIS.

NOT YOU. NOT ANYBODY.

IT'S UNFATHOMABLE.

A BUSINESSMAN SHOULDN'T *CHOOSE* WHO HE DOES AND DOESN'T DO BUSINESS WITH. HE'S IN THE PUBLIC.

THE *SERVICE* OF THE PUBLIC.

A MARKETPLACE SHOULDN'T BE THE SCENE OF A VINDICTIVE GRUDGE. ALSO-

WELL WELL. LOOK WHO'S HEADING THIS WAY.

E EK!  
BULLIES!

RELAX.  
WE'RE ON THE SAME SIDE, YOU AND I.

WE SAW YOU WITH *JEFFERY* OVER THERE A MINUTE AGO.

WE BOTH HAVE THE SAME PROBLEM.

A PROBLEM CONCERNING *MUFFINS*.

WE ARE?

HOW CAN YOU  
HAVE THE SAME  
PROBLEM AS  
ME?

YOU'RE  
BULLIES!

IF YOU WANT  
THE FOOD, YOU  
JUST TAKE  
THE FOOD.

THAT WAS  
PLAN A.

BUT SOME CRAZY  
SUPERHERO KID  
WAS PROTECTING HIM!

AND TOOK ME OUT  
WITH ONE WELL  
TIMED PUNCH!

HE HIT BILLY WITH A  
FLYING TITTY  
TWISTER!

HIS MOVES WERE  
AMAZING!

HE CLAIMED  
TO BE A  
GUARDIAN  
AGAINST  
BULLIES.

HE CALLED  
HIMSELF THE  
JUSTICE  
DEFENDER!

THE INDIAN  
BURN HE GAVE  
ME STILL  
HURTS.

MY  
HEART  
BLEEDS.

CAN I  
GO  
NOW?

NOT JUST YET.

THE JUSTICE DEFENDER WAS APPARENTLY INSPIRED BY AN ARTICLE YOU WROTE ABOUT HOW BULLYING WAS EVIL.

OH GOD...

WHY DOES IT ALWAYS COME BACK TO SOMETHING I WROTE!?

THAT'S NOT A BAD THING!

WE *BULLY*. BUT YOU *PERSUADE*. HOW DIFFERENT ARE WE REALLY?

YOU CAN ACTUALLY BE MORE COMPELLING THAN THE BIGGEST SET OF MUSCLES.


YOU CAN CHANGE MINDS!

YOU CAN CREATE HEROES!

AND IF I CAN CREATE A HERO...

I CAN CONTROL A HERO?


JUST KEEP THINKING ABOUT THOSE MUFFINS.



THE DEFINITION  
OF A HERO.


THE RISE OF HEROIC CHARACTERS IN OUR SCHOOL HAS LEAD TO GREAT WORKS OF JUSTICE. BUT JUST WHAT DEFINES A HERO? REMOVING HIMSELF FROM THE CONFINES OF HIS CURRENT IDENTITY, HE DONS A NEW ONE, SEPARATE FROM HIS FAILINGS AS JUST AN INDIVIDUAL PERSON. HE BECOMES A SYMBOL OF WHAT HE STANDS FOR.

HE BECOMES A MORAL CODE. HE BECOMES A PRINCIPLE. HE BECOMES THE NEEDS OF THE BEST AND LEAST AMONG US IN HIS QUEST FOR HEROISM. HE EXPERIENCES THE CLARITY OF PURPOSE THAT COMES FROM A DEDICATION TO SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST HIMSELF.



HEROISM HAS NO PLACE FOR SELFISH PLAYERS. DOES *SUPERMAN* TAKE A PAYCHECK FOR STOPPING A RUNAWAY TRAIN? NO. IT'S HEROISM THAT MAKES *SPIDERMAN* DELIVER PIZZAS TO PAY HIS RENT, WHILE HIS GREATEST SKILLS ARE USED TO SELFLESSLY HELP PEOPLE WITHOUT CHARGE.

HEROISM ISN'T ABOUT THE HERO. THE HERO IS A SMALL THING COMPARED TO THE IDEA HE STANDS FOR - AN IDEA LIKE COMPASSION, CHARITY, OR *JUSTICE*.



BOYS LIKE THE *JUSTICE DEFENDER* CAN PROUDLY TAKE THE STAGE AS A NEW HERO, DEDICATING HIS SKILLS TO THE AID OF THE BULLIED. TONIGHT, WHEN YOU LOOK BACK ON YOUR DAY, WHAT WILL YOU BE THE MOST HAPPY ABOUT? YOUR GRADES? A NEW TOY? A YUMMY TREAT? OR WILL YOU HAVE SATISFIED A NEED THAT'S MUCH GREATER THAN YOUR OWN?

WILL *YOU* BE A  
HERO TODAY?

SHE WROTE ABOUT ME.

SHE MENTIONED ME SPECIFICALLY.

HUH? OH, YEAH.

WHATEVER.

THAT'S PRETTY GOOD!

IT'S PRESS!

I SUPPOSE.

HERE'S YOUR TAKE FOR YOUR WORK IN KEEPING THE MUFFINS SAFE, JUST LIKE WE AGREED.



WHAT'S WRONG?

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S RIGHT TO TAKE MONEY FOR HERO WORK.

WELL, I GUESS IT'S GOOD TO HAVE IDEALS.

BUT I HAVE MY OWN. I DON'T LIKE TO HAVE A GUY DO WORK FOR ME WITHOUT PAYING FOR HIS TIME.

SO IF YOU DON'T TAKE THE MONEY FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, TAKE IT FOR MINE.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?

I THOUGHT WE HAD AN UNDERSTANDING!

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

SWISH SWISH

YOUR ARTICLE DIDN'T MAKE HIM STOP DEFENDING JEFFERY'S MUFFINS!

NOW HE'S INSISTING ON DOING IT FOR FREE!

\*SIGH\*

YOU'RE SUCH A SIMPLE MINDED BRUTE, DAREN.

APPLE JUICE →

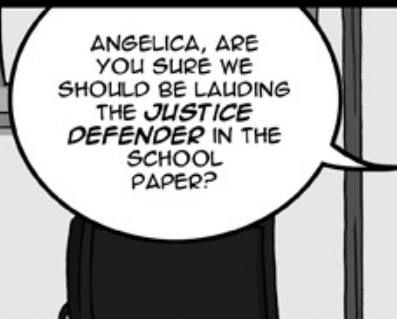
I'M NOT MUSCLING SOME LITTLE KID OUT OF HIS LUNCH MONEY.

I'M JUST *STARTING* A PROCESS THAT WILL CONTROL THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF OUR HEROES. IT'S PROBABLY FAR BEYOND YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

YOU DEAL WITH A KID'S FEAR OF PHYSICAL PAIN. I DEAL WITH A FEAR THAT GOES DOWN TO A PERSON'S VERY *SOUL*.

DON'T EVER BARGE IN HERE AND BARK AT ME AGAIN.


WHEN I NEED YOU AND YOUR GANG'S BRUTE STRENGTH, I'LL CALL FOR YOU.




ANGELICA, ARE YOU SURE WE SHOULD BE LAUDING THE *JUSTICE DEFENDER* IN THE SCHOOL PAPER?



WHY YES.



THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION WANTS TO FIND OUT WHO HE IS AND *SUSPEND* HIM FOR *FIGHTING!*




ADAM, THE ADULTS HERE DON'T READ OUR PAPER OTHER THAN TO *GLANCE* AT IT.


EVERY MORNING, THEY'VE GOT THEIR NOSE BURIED IN THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, OR THE DRUGS REPORT.



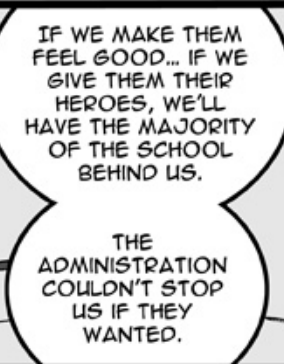
OUR READERS ARE THE KIDS. THE *COMMON* KIDS.



THEY AREN'T THE STAR ATHLETES. THEY AREN'T THE MOST HANDSOME OR THE PRETTIEST.



THEY'RE THE *MASSSES*. THEY'RE THE OVERLOOKED *ORDINARY* PEOPLE.



IF WE MAKE THEM FEEL GOOD... IF WE GIVE THEM THEIR HEROES, WE'LL HAVE THE MAJORITY OF THE SCHOOL BEHIND US.

THE ADMINISTRATION COULDN'T STOP US IF THEY WANTED.

WHEN I WAS AN EVEN YOUNGER BUN, **ALMOST** AS CUTE AS I AM TODAY, MY GRANDMOTHER GAVE ME A BATCH OF COOKIES AND TOLD ME TO SHARE THEM WITH MY FRIENDS.

THIS WOULD SHOW ME TO BE A GOOD LITTLE GIRL.

SO, I TOOK MY COOKIES TO SCHOOL.



BUT I ONLY HAD ENOUGH FOR MY **FRIENDS**.

THE TEACHER WOULD NOT LET ME PASS THEM OUT TO MY FRIENDS UNLESS I COULD BRING ENOUGH FOR THE ENTIRE CLASS. IT WAS ONLY FAIR.



OTHERS KIDS DIDN'T HAVE COOKIES, OR A FRIEND WITH COOKIES...

... OR MAYBE EVEN **GRANDMOTHERS!**

I WAS SUCH AN INCONSIDERATE PERSON TO SUBJECT THEM TO WITNESSING MY GOOD FORTUNE.



THE WISE LESSONS WE LEARNED AS CHILDREN CARRY US THROUGH OUR PRESENT DAY.

HOW FAIR IS SOMEONE WHO ONLY SELLS HIS FORTUNATE TALENTS FOR PROFIT, AND ONLY TO THOSE HE WISHES?

HOW HEROIC IS THE BOY WHO MAKES HIS INCREDIBLE ABILITIES AVAILABLE TO ALL WHO NEED THEM, WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION, JUDGMENT OR PREJUDICE?



THE ENDLESS FIGHT.

THE TIRELESS STRUGGLE.

ONE BOY AGAINST A  
PLAGUE OF *BULLIES*.

ONE BOY AGAINST  
*EXPLOITATION*.

ONE BOY AGAINST  
*INEQUALITY*.

WITH ONLY THE ENDLESS GRATITUDE OF THE  
PEOPLE TO COMPENSATE HIS TIRELESS HEROISM!

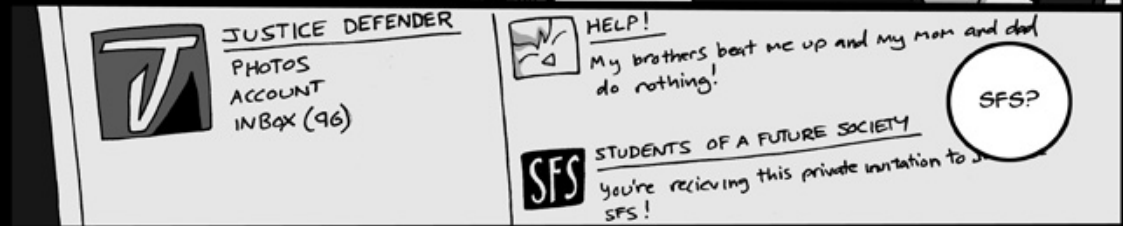
WHAT DOES IT SAY ABOUT OUR  
SOCIETY THAT SUCH A PILLAR OF  
MORAL IDEALS HAS TO ACT UNDER  
THE GUISE OF *ANONYMITY*?

"WHEW"



FACEBOOK  
LOGIN:  
JUSTICE  
DEFENDER

96 NEW  
MESSAGES?  
HOLY CRAP!



JUSTICE DEFENDER  
PHOTOS  
ACCOUNT  
INBOX (96)



HELP!  
My brothers beat me up and my mom and dad  
do nothing!

SFS?



STUDENTS OF A FUTURE SOCIETY

You're receiving this private invitation to a  
SFS!



**STUDENTS FOR A FUTURE SOCIETY** IS A JACK BURTON ACADEMY STUDENT ORGANIZATION COMPRISED OF THE STUDENTS MAKING TOMORROW'S WORLD BY THEIR INSPIRED VISION, TODAY! AS A VALUABLE MEMBER OF OUR STUDENT BODY, SFS ORGANIZER ANGELICA KEYNES INVITES YOU TO OUR FIRST MEETING AT HER HOUSE, SATURDAY EVENING.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE AND COUNT YOU AMONG THE RANKS OF SFS MEMBERS!  
  
SINCERELY,  
  
ANGELICA KEYNES

HMM.

IT'S **BULLSHIT** THAT JAMIE GETS TO DO THE BACKDROPS FOR THE SCHOOL PLAY!

WHO ARE THE TEACHERS TO JUDGE **HER** STUFF BETTER THAN **MINE?** OR ANYONE ELSE'S?

ART IS MORE THAN A SET OF DEFINED TERMS!

IT'S MORE THAN ANATOMY AND COMPOSITION. IT'S **EXPRESSION.**

WHEN YOU REALIZE THAT, YOU KNOW THAT NO ONE PERSON'S **BETTER** AT IT THAN **ANOTHER.**

WE ALL CAN BE ARTISTS.

A VALID POINT.

YOU THINK SO?

I KNOW IT.

GOOD. MAYBE IT'S WORTH WRITING ABOUT.

I THINK SO.

JAMIE HANSON DOESN'T EVEN SUFFER. SHE'S **SMILING** ALL THE TIME.

YOU CAN'T REALLY BE CREATIVE AND BE THAT HAPPY.

YOU'RE SUCH A **DRAMA QUEEN,** ALLEN!

IS IT YOUR LOVE OF SUFFERING THAT MADE YOU ASK OUT JANIE BLACK THAT ONE TIME?

I THOUGHT SHE WAS PRETTY. I THOUGHT I COULD PULL OUT THE PRETTINESS SHE HAD *INSIDE* AS WELL.

AND SHE WAS JUST MEAN.

SHE'S SHAMELESS AND CRUEL! SHE THINKS SHE'S SO GOOD AT *EVERYTHING!*

SHE SMOKES *EVERYONE* AT TRACK AND DOESN'T GIVE ANYONE ELSE A CHANCE TO WIN!

SHE'S SO UNFAIR.

HOW CAN YOU BE FRIENDS WITH A GIRL LIKE THAT, ANGEL?

I'M FRIENDS WITH A LOT OF PEOPLE, CASSY.

ANGELICA IS EXACTLY THE KIND OF FRIEND JANIE NEEDS.

THE SICK PEOPLE NEED THE DOCTORS.

THE BLIND PEOPLE NEED THOSE WHO SEE.

JANIE COULD CHANGE OVER TIME WITH ANGELICA AROUND.

SHE HAS ATHEIST PARENTS. SHE HASN'T BEEN EXPOSED TO THE IMPORTANCE OF HER *SPIRITUAL* SIDE.

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU EXPECT FROM SOMEONE WHO GROWS UP WITHOUT SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE?

EVERY RELIGION TEACHES THE VALUE OF HUMILITY AND DEFERENCE TO OTHERS, IN SOME WAY.

SHE COULD BE A *SELFISH* PERSON HER ENTIRE LIFE WITHOUT PEOPLE LIKE *US* AROUND HER.

AM I LATE?

TAP  
TAP

JUSTICE  
DEFENDER!

I'M SO GLAD  
YOU COULD  
SHOW UP TO  
OUR FIRST  
MEETING!

COME ON IN  
AND MEET  
EVERYONE.

WOW, IT'S  
SO COOL  
TO SEE YOU  
UP CLOSE.

A REAL  
HERO FOR  
A MORAL  
CAUSE!

I DON'T  
KNOW IF  
YOU'RE  
THAT  
HEROIC.

WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN?



WELL, I HAVE FRIENDS WHO GET ROLLED FOR THEIR LUNCH MONEY EVERY MORNING, BECAUSE BULLIES *KNOW* YOU'RE NOT AROUND.

YOU'RE DEFENDING JEFFERY'S MUFFINS.

THEY HIT THE MOST VULNERABLE KIDS RIGHT WHEN THEY KNOW YOU'RE TOO BUSY TO HELP.

IT'S ONLY WHEN YOU'RE *DONE* WATCHING OVER JEFFERY THAT THEY GO AWAY.

HE'S RIGHT.

YOUR EFFORTS SHOULD GO TO THOSE WHO NEED YOU THE *MOST*.

THE WEAKER KIDS *NEED* YOU. NOT THE TALENTED *GREEDY* KIDS WHO ARE ALREADY SITTING ON PILES OF MONEY.

HOW SAGE.



SO, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO WORK FOR ME. NOT EVEN FOR FREE.

SORRY. IT'S JUST NOT *FAIR* TO EVERYONE ELSE.

I SEE.



YOU'VE BEEN READING THE SCHOOL PAPER.

I KNOW YOU DIDN'T COME TO THIS CONCLUSION BY YOURSELF.

IT'S NOT AS IF ANGELICA IS *WRONG*.



YOU KNOW...

... JUST BECAUSE SOMEONE'S CAPABLE OF SOMETHING GREAT, DOESN'T MEAN HE HAS AN OBLIGATION TO *GIVE* IT AWAY.



NO ONE'S *ASKING* YOU TO GIVE AWAY YOUR MUFFINS.



I WASN'T TALKING ABOUT *ME*.

WELL, THIS IS YOUR PAYDAY, DARREN.

JEFFERY IS WITHOUT THE **JUSTICE DEFENDER'S** PROTECTION IN THE MORNINGS.

YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.

PREFERABLY EARLY.

AND **NOT** IN FRONT OF OTHERS.

MMMM.

WANT US TO BRING YOU A FEW MUFFINS?

HUH?

OH!

NO THANK YOU.

IT'S NOT ABOUT MUFFINS, TO ME, ANYMORE.



THERE  
HE IS.

EARLY AS  
USUAL.



GO GET  
THOSE MUFFINS.  
LET HIM KNOW  
WHAT THE  
SCORE IS,  
NOW.



OFFER HIM A  
CHANCE TO  
HAND THEM  
OVER, *FIRST*.

REMEMBER  
WHAT  
ANGELICA  
SAID ABOUT  
BEING *CIVIL*.



AND TELL HIM  
WE'LL EXPECT  
MUFFINS *EVERY  
MORNING*.

GOT IT,  
BOSS.

THINK OF IT AS... *PUBLIC SERVICE.*

WE'RE FULFILLING THE WISHES OF THE PEOPLE WHO WANT WHAT YOU CAN PROVIDE.

AND THE PUBLIC DOESN'T TAKE "NO" FOR AN ANSWER.

THEY CAN GET PRETTY ROWDY.

YOU OVERLOOKED ONE FACTOR.

OH YEAH?

WHAT'S THAT?

ME.





WHAT THE-



HOLY SHIT!



WHO-  
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?



JUST A GHOST.

WAIT A MINUTE!

HEY, WE CAN TALK ABOUT THIS.



I DIDN'T GET ALL *DRESSED UP* JUST TO HAVE A *CHAT*!



GOOD MORNING, ANGELICA!

GOOD MORNING!



NICE ARTICLE YESTERDAY, ANGELICA!



THANK YOU, MRS. SMARMINGTON!




ALISM



E EK



SLAM



HE CHOSE  
A CODE  
OF  
ETHICS  
AND I GRANTED  
HIM HIS  
CHOICE







I'M BACK.

HEY!



YOUR TAKE FOR THIS WEEK.

OH! THE MUFFIN BUSINESS IS BOOMING!



JAMIE ALSO HIRED ME TO PROTECT HER MURALS FROM VANDALISM.



SOMEONE ATTACKED THEM WITH A *SPRAY CAN*.



WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON, NOW?

SPITBALL CANNON.

I WANT ONE!



WHEN IT'S DONE.

BUT FOR NOW, YOU HAVE A VISITOR.

HMP?



OH! HI, THOMAS!

HEY, MIKO.



ARE YOU DROPPING BY TO TALK ME OUT OF THIS?

WHY SHOULDN'T I?

I MEAN, I DO HAVE TO WONDER WHY YOU'D WASTE YOUR TIME ON HELPING OTHER KIDS.

I'M NOT. I'M HELPING ME.

I LIVE HERE, TOO, YOU KNOW.



NO.  
THAT'S  
**NOT**  
RIGHT.

I GO TO  
SCHOOL  
BECAUSE I  
**HAVE** TO.

BUT I DO MY  
LIVING **HERE**,  
AWAY FROM  
OTHERS, WHERE I  
CAN BE **FREE**.

IF THEY  
WANT TO PISS  
IN THEIR OWN  
CEREAL, **LET**  
**THEM**.

IF THEY WANT  
TO LET  
**ANGELICA**  
DETERMINE THEIR  
OPINIONS, **LET**  
**THEM**.

IF THEY WANT TO  
MAKE A WORLD WHERE  
PEOPLE LIKE **JEFFERY**  
CAN'T CREATE  
AWESOME THINGS TO  
SELL TO THEM, MAKE  
THEM **LIVE** IN THAT  
WORLD.

IF THE  
**JUSTICE**  
**DEFENDER** IS  
TOO STUPID TO  
KNOW BETTER,  
**LET HIM BE**  
**STUPID**.

WHY  
SHOULD IT  
AFFECT ME?  
OR **US**?

LET THEM  
HAVE **THEIR**  
SHITTY  
WORLD AT  
SCHOOL.

OUT HERE,  
IDIOTS LIKE  
**ANGELICA**  
DON'T MATTER!  
THEY DON'T  
**HAVE** TO!

VALUES DON'T CHANGE JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE IN A DIFFERENT PLACE.

I HAVE TO FIGHT FOR MINE NO MATTER WHERE I AM.

I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ELSE.

YOU DON'T GET IT.

THEY'LL TEAR DOWN THE JUSTICE DEFENDER.

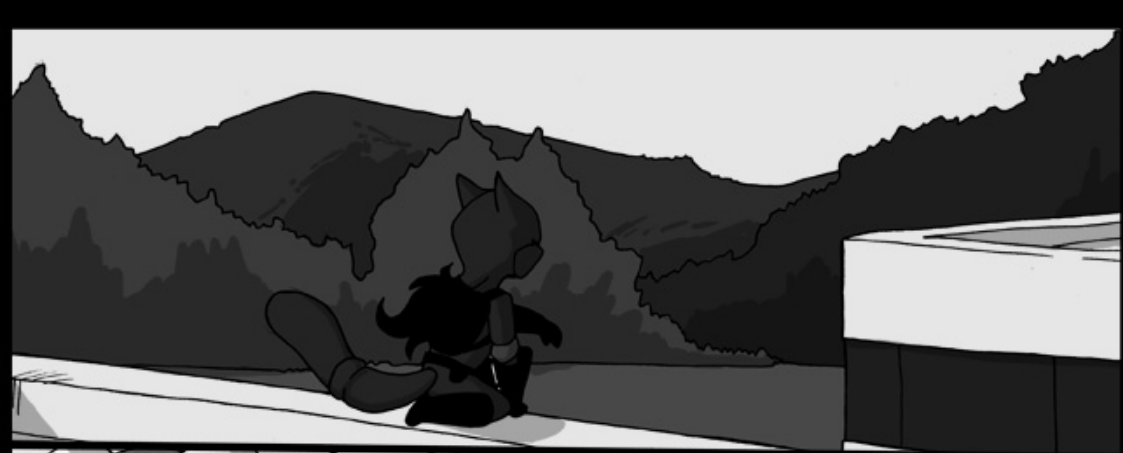
THEY'LL RIP JEFFERY AND HIS MUFFINS TO SHREDS.

BUT YOU...

... YOU'RE TOO GOOD. THEY DON'T DESERVE EVEN A CHANCE TO DESTROY YOU.

IF I DON'T FIGHT, THEY'VE DESTROYED ME BY DEFAULT.

I'M GOING TO SHOW THEM HOW MUCH POWER THEY DON'T HAVE.



I DON'T HAVE ABILITIES LIKE YOU! OR ANYTHING TO OFFER!

HEROES ARE SUPPOSED TO BE SELFLESS!

NOT ME.

AND YOUR NEEDS AREN'T A CLAIM TO MY ABILITIES.

THAT'S VERY COLD.

HOW COLD IS IT OF YOU?

YOU WANT TO BENEFIT FROM MY EFFORT, MY RISK, MY TIME, MY LIFE... FOR NO COST OF YOUR OWN?

WHAT AM I TO YOU?

HEARTLESS.

HAVE YOUR OPINION. JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.

SIGH...

ROOF ACCESS →

IT DIDN'T WORK.

MMM. WHAT A SHAME.

AS I WRITE, DEAR READERS, THE MUFFIN DILEMMA HAS DIVIDED OUR STUDENT

WE ARE TORN BETWEEN THOSE WHO ENJOY MUFFINS AND THOSE WHO CANNOT. IT IS A GROTESQUE INEQUITY THAT FLIES IN THE FACE OF OUR VALUES AS A SCHOOL, AND AS A *SOCIETY*.

DENIAL BREEDS WANT.  
WANT BREEDS SUFFERING.  
SUFFERING BREEDS  
*ANGER*.

MUST BE NICE TO BE ALLOWED TO GET A MUFFIN!

TRY TO NOT BE SUCH A WHINY BITCH!

IT COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

YOU CANT TALK TO HIM THAT WAY!

SHOULD WE REMOVE THE PRODUCT OF CONTENTION FOR THE SAKE OF STUDENT UNITY?

THOSE MUFFINS ARE THE PROBLEM!

I SAY WE TAKE 'EM!

ANYONE ELSE WANT TO STEAL A MUFFIN, TODAY?

GAH!  
HANN!  
EWWW!



ONE GREEDY SOUL STANDS IN THE WAY OF THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE.

ONE STUDENT PITS HERSELF AGAINST EQUALITY.

OWEH!

SHE'S NO HERO. SHE'S A VILE MERCENARY.

ENOUGH!

?

THE JUSTICE DEFENDER!

YEAH!

GO GET 'EM!

JEFFERY, THIS HAS TO END.

I AGREE.

BUT YOUR OLD JOB'S BEEN FILLED.



I'M NOT  
HERE FOR  
MY OLD  
JOB.

I'M HERE TO  
STOP YOU  
FROM SELLING  
MUFFINS AND  
DISRUPTING  
SCHOOL.

ME!?

WHO'S  
SIDE ARE  
YOU ON?



THE SIDE  
OF THE  
PEOPLE!



YOU MEAN  
JUST *SOME*  
PEOPLE.



I'M ASKING  
YOU TO  
PLEASE  
STOP  
NICELY.



YOU'RE  
CREATING A  
*MAJOR* SOCIAL  
PROBLEM IN  
SCHOOL.

DON'T MAKE  
US TAKE  
THIS TO THE  
NEXT LEVEL.

I DON'T  
KNOW IF I  
CAN HOLD  
OFF SUCH A  
BIG CROWD.



YOU  
SHOULD  
RUN.

*NOW.*



PAP PAP  
PAP



WHAT THE  
HELL  
HAPPENED  
TO YOU!?

I FOUND OUT  
WHAT BEING  
A HERO  
MEANS!

TEARING DOWN  
SOMETHING  
GREAT?

FOR THE  
SAKE OF AN  
ENVIIOUS  
MOB!?

CLICK



QUICK!  
GET THE  
MUFFINS!



YOU GOT  
YOUR WISH  
TODAY!

GOODBYE,  
JUSTICE  
DEFENDER!



HEY!  
GHOST!

DON'T YOU  
DARE JUDGE  
ME!

YOU COULD  
BE LIKE  
ME, YOU  
KNOW!

YOU COULD BE A  
REAL HERO! A  
HERO FOR THE  
PEOPLE, NOT JUST  
FOR PROFIT!

THE MASSES  
EXIST! THERE'S  
NO GETTING  
AROUND THEM!

WHY ELSE  
WOULD WE  
DO WHAT WE  
DO!?

YOU CAN'T IGNORE  
THE MASSES! YOU  
EITHER RIDE ON  
THEIR SHOULDERS  
OR GET TRAMPLED  
UNDER THEIR FEET!

THERE'S  
NO WAY!

CAN YOU  
HEAR  
ME!?

NO  
OTHER  
WAY!





AHH, THE AIR  
SMELLS  
SWEETER  
THIS  
MORNING!



THE  
SHOWER  
FEELS  
WARMER.



THE BLOW  
DRIER IS BLOW  
DRIERER.

WRRRRRRR



NO MORE OF  
JEFFERY'S  
MUFFINS.

NO MORE OF  
GHOST'S MORAL  
CONFIDENCE.



TWO SOULS  
IN THE  
POCKET.



UH  
OH.





DO YOU KNOW  
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO  
BE A SPIRITUAL  
PERSON?

TO MEDITATE, TO  
STUDY, TO READ  
ABOUT EVERY  
AUTHOR AND GURU  
HAVING PROFOUND  
SPIRITUAL  
EXPERIENCES...

IT  
*NEVER*  
COMES.


NO SPIRITUAL  
VISIONS. NO  
ALIEN CONTACT.  
NO PERSONAL  
MESSAGE  
FROM GOD.

NOTHING BUT  
AN OCCASIONAL  
DREAM THAT JUST  
TELLS YOU WHAT  
YOU ALREADY  
KNOW OR WANT.

YOU DON'T  
KNOW WHAT  
THIS IS LIKE.  
YOUR WHOLE  
LIFE IS  
*MATERIAL.*

... AND  
WAITING  
PATIENTLY  
FOR YOUR  
OWN.

YOU FULFILL YOUR  
MATERIAL AMBITIONS  
BY JUST GOING OUT  
AND *DOING* THEM,  
BECAUSE THE  
MATERIAL WORLD IS  
RIGHT IN FRONT OF  
YOUR FACE.




BUT, I FINALLY LEARNED  
WHAT SECULAR PEOPLE  
MEAN BY "SPIRIT". IT'S NOT  
A GHOST. IT'S EVERYTHING  
THAT MAKES A PERSON  
WHAT THEY ARE. IT'S WHAT  
MOTIVATES THEM DOWN TO  
THEIR *CORE.*

THERE'S  
SATISFACTION IN  
CONTROLLING  
*THAT.*

BUT YOU CAN'T  
CONTROL THE TRULY  
*GREAT* SPIRITS. YOU  
CAN ONLY TEAR  
THEM DOWN BY THE  
LITTLE THOUGHTLESS  
SPIRITS YOU CAN  
*CONTROL.*

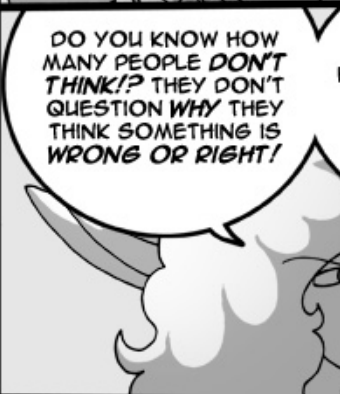




DIRECT PHYSICAL  
WORLD RESULTS ARE  
VERY FULFILLING.  
IT'S INTOXICATING,  
ALMOST  
ADDICTING!

THE *JUSTICE  
DEFENDER* COULD  
COME UP WITH HIS  
OWN MOTIVES. HE  
COULD SNAP ME LIKE  
A TWIG WITHOUT  
BREAKING A  
SWEAT.

BUT AS LONG AS  
HE ACCEPTS,  
BLINDLY, MY  
MORALS AND  
MOTIVES, I CAN  
CONTROL HIM  
COMPLETELY!



DO YOU KNOW HOW  
MANY PEOPLE *DON'T  
THINK!*? THEY DON'T  
QUESTION *WHY* THEY  
THINK SOMETHING IS  
*WRONG OR RIGHT!*

DO YOU KNOW  
HOW MUCH POWER  
THAT GIVES  
SOMEONE WHO  
*DOES* THINK!?

I CAN FILL THEIR  
MINDS WITH  
*ANYTHING*, SO  
LONG AS I DON'T  
CHALLENGE THEIR  
MEDIOCRITY!




UH...

THEY DON'T  
*THINK* ABOUT  
WHAT I'M  
SAYING! THEY  
JUST *FEEL* IT'S  
RIGHT!

THE MIND GIVES WAY  
*COMPLETELY* TO  
EMOTIONS AND  
FEELINGS!

EVERYONE'S  
FEEDING OFF  
EVERYONE ELSE'S  
OPINIONS INSTEAD  
OF FORMING THEM  
ON THEIR OWN! IT'S  
LIKE THEY'RE  
BECOMING *ONE*  
SPIRIT.



I WAS STUPID TO  
THINK THAT A  
SPIRITUAL  
EPIPHANY WAS  
SUPPOSED TO BE  
AN *INDIVIDUAL*  
EXPERIENCE!



I DON'T KNOW  
WHAT SHE'S  
TALKING  
ABOUT MOST  
OF THE TIME.



I THINK  
I DO.

I AIM TO *DO*  
SOMETHING  
ABOUT IT.



SHE'S RIGHT  
ABOUT ONE  
THING.

I WANT TO MAKE  
SOMETHING  
HAPPEN, I JUST  
GO OUT AND  
*MAKE* IT  
HAPPEN.




JEFFERY CAN  
FAIL BECAUSE  
SOMEONE  
OFFERED A  
BETTER  
MUFFIN...

BUT I WON'T  
LET HIM FAIL TO  
A *NOTHING!* A  
*ZERO!*

HER WORDS  
ONLY MEAN  
SOMETHING IF  
WE LET THEM  
DEFEAT US!

A WHOLE  
WORLD OF PETTY  
NOTHING'S  
SHOULDN'T HAVE  
THAT KIND OF  
POWER!




WILL YOU  
HELP ME!?

YES!



JEFFERY CAME  
BACK WITH MORE  
MUFFINS THIS  
MORNING.



REALLY?  
HOW BOLD.

IT'S NOT LIKE  
ANYONE WILL  
HAVE THE *NERVE*  
TO BUY THEM,  
NOW.



MAYBE YOU  
SHOULD  
COME TAKE  
A LOOK.



WHAT?



WHAT  
THE...

WHAT THE  
HECK IS  
WRONG WITH  
THOSE  
KIDS!?

WHA-

WHAT THE  
HECK IS  
WRONG WITH  
THESE  
KIDS!?

HEY, IT'S THE  
**JUSTICE  
DEFENDER.**

I DIDN'T  
RECOGNIZE  
HIM WITHOUT  
THE **ANGRY  
MOB**  
BACKING HIM  
UP.

DON'T YOU  
KNOW **WHY**  
THOSE  
MUFFINS ARE  
BAD?

WE'RE  
NOT  
HURTING  
ANYONE!

WE'RE NOT  
**PICKING  
FIGHTS!**  
WE'RE NOT  
WORKING UP  
**MOBS!**

WE JUST  
**LIKE**  
THESE!

WE LIKE WHAT  
JEFFERY DOES AND  
YOU'RE NOT GOING  
TO BE ABLE TO  
STOP US FROM  
SUPPORTING HIM!

**EVER!**

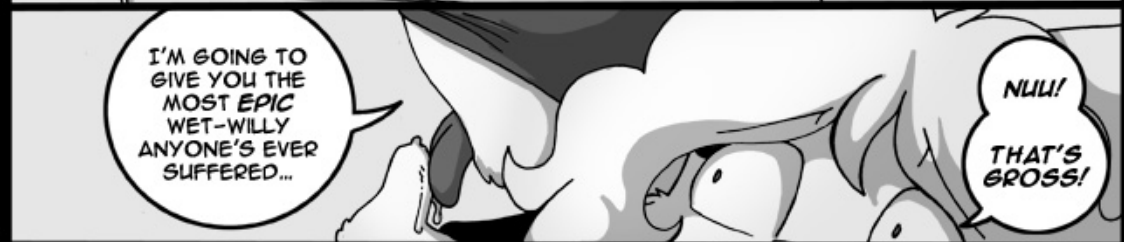
IF YOU DON'T LIKE  
IT, YOU NEED TO  
REALLY THINK  
ABOUT **WHY**, AND  
**GET OVER IT!**

THE ONLY PEOPLE  
WHO CONSIDER  
YOU A HERO ARE  
THE PEOPLE WHO  
CAN **USE** YOU.

USE YOU TO  
FIGHT THEIR  
PERSONAL  
BATTLES, AND  
SETTLE THEIR  
PETTY GRUDGES.

EVEN A  
**GOON** GETS  
PAID. YOU'RE  
MORE LIKE A  
**SLAVE.**

NIBBLE



**YOU WERE RIGHT!**

**I NEVER ACTUALLY THOUGHT ABOUT HOW SHE DEFINED A HERO!**

**I JUST ACCEPTED IT! AND SHE TURNED ME INTO A SLAVE!**

**I DID HORRIBLE THINGS! FOR HER APPROVAL!**

**SHE JUST WROTE THE WORDS.**

**YOU DECIDED TO ACT ON THEM.**

**YOU OF ALL PEOPLE SHOULD UNDERSTAND!**

**SHE TRIED TO DESTROY YOU!**

**SHE FAILED.**

**DO YOU WANT TO BE A HERO AGAIN? OR DO YOU JUST WANT REVENGE?**

**IT IS...**

**... TOO LATE FOR ME, NOW.**

**SMEEER**

**EEEEEEEEEE!!**





ARE YOU SURE NO ONE SAW US?

YES. I USE THIS WAY TO DISAPPEAR, A LOT.



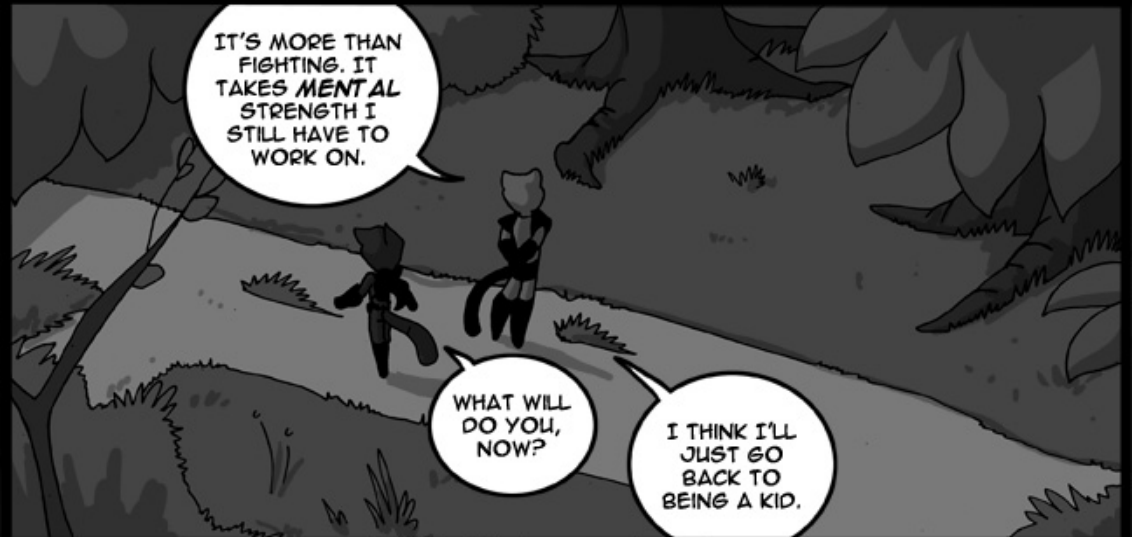
DAMN.

SO MUCH FOR *THAT* LITTLE EXERCISE.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

BEING A HERO.



IT'S MORE THAN FIGHTING. IT TAKES *MENTAL* STRENGTH I STILL HAVE TO WORK ON.

WHAT WILL DO YOU, NOW?

I THINK I'LL JUST GO BACK TO BEING A KID.





DAMMIT.

GO AWAY,  
MORNING  
WOOD.



I HAVE TO  
PISS LIKE A  
WATERLOGGED  
MULE.

ELIZABETH  
WILL *FREAK* IF  
SHE CATCHES  
ME GOING IN  
THE SINK  
AGAIN.

THINK OF  
UNSEXY  
THINGS.

NURSING  
HOMES.

SMART  
CARS.

STEVE  
BUSCEMI.



NO  
NO  
NO!

BACK  
OFF,  
WOMAN!

OH, HEY,  
WHAT'S THIS?  
MMMM.

LIVING ON THE BEACH IS GREAT. BUT TODAY, SOMETHING CHANGED.

THE BEACH WAS THE SAME AS IT HAD ALWAYS BEEN. IT HAD THE SAME KINDS OF PEOPLE, THE SAME ATMOSPHERE, AND THE SAME HOT SUN AND SWEET OCEAN BREEZE.

SOMETHING HAD CHANGED WITH ME.

THINGS I'D ALWAYS SEEN BEFORE...


... NOW WERE DIFFERENT TO MY MIND.

IT WAS AN INEXPLICABLE *SHOT* OF FEELING, BROUGHT UPON ME BY THE SIGHT OF A WOMAN'S BOTTOM IN FULL STRIDE.

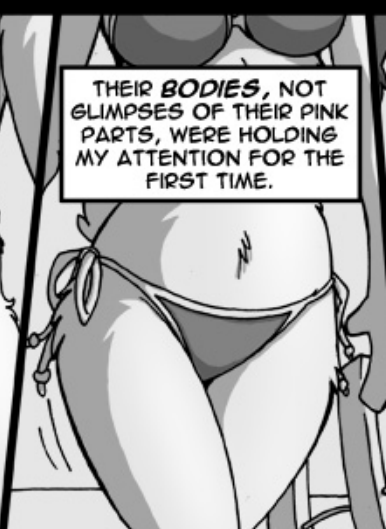
IT WAS LIKE BEING STRUCK WITH LIGHTNING AND FALLING IN LOVE AT THE SAME TIME.

IT WAS A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR *SHAPE* COMBINED WITH *MOTION*.

IT WAS AN APPRECIATION SO SEVERE, I WAS BOTH TRANSFIXED AND OVERWHELMED.



IT WAS MUCH DIFFERENT THAN THE CHILDISH "THRILL" OF SEEING A WOMAN NAKED.




THEIR *BODIES*, NOT GLIMPSES OF THEIR PINK PARTS, WERE HOLDING MY ATTENTION FOR THE FIRST TIME.



THEY WEREN'T NAKED.

IT WAS A FEELING OF ENTICEMENT I CAN'T MEASURE WITH WORDS.



THE SHAPE OF THEIR HIPS, THEIR BOTTOMS, THE MOVEMENT OF THEIR LOWER BODIES WHEN WALKING... THEY ETCHED THEMSELVES INTO MY THOUGHTS FROM THAT DAY FORWARD.

I NEVER WANTED TO LOOK AWAY. I WANTED TO BE AROUND THEM.

IT WAS THE BITTERSWEET TORMENT OF A HUNGER THAT WOULD NEVER BE FULLY SATISFIED.

AND I *LIKED* IT.



HEY, LEO!  
WE'RE GOING TO GO CATCH TURTLES DOWN BY THE ROCKS!

WANT TO COME?



MMMMM NOPE.

I COULDN'T BELIEVE  
IT. I ALWAYS LOVED  
TO CATCH TURTLES.

NOW, ALL I WANTED  
TO DO WAS THINK  
ABOUT WOMEN. I  
COULDN'T BRING MY  
MIND TO FOCUS ON  
ANYTHING ELSE.

IT WAS THEN I  
REALIZED I'D  
WANDERED  
FARTHER THAN I  
WAS ALLOWED.

I THEN  
REALIZED  
**WHY** I  
WASN'T  
ALLOWED.

### WARNING

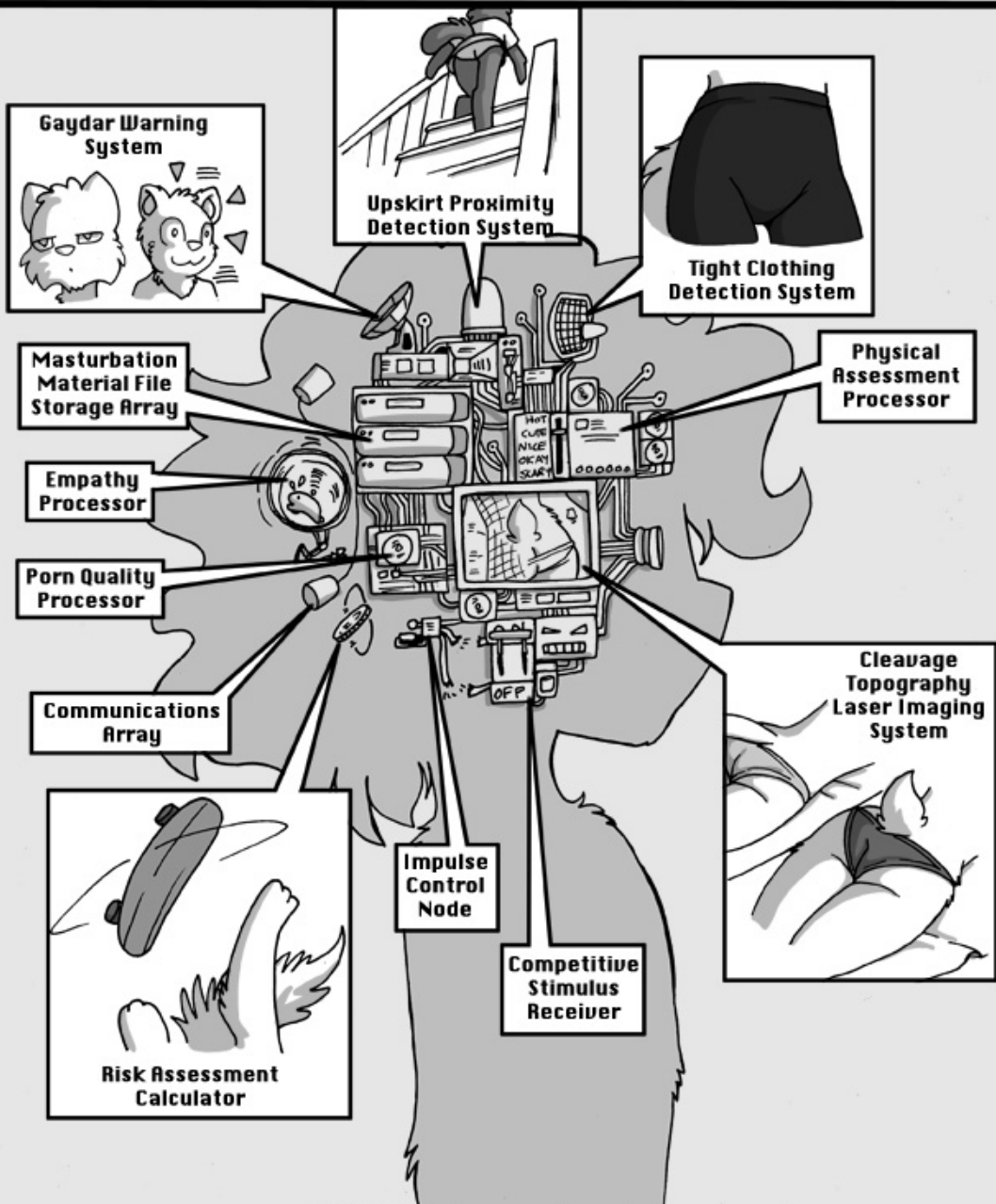
YOU MAY ENCOUNTER  
NUDE BEACH-GOERS  
BEYOND THIS POINT.


NO PHOTOGRAPHY  
NO CHILDREN

I REALIZED  
THIS COULD  
BE MY BIG  
PAYDAY.

THEN I REALIZED MOST  
NUDISTS **AREN'T** THE  
KINDS OF PEOPLE YOU  
WANT TO SEE NAKED.

# The Young Boy Brain Adolescent Hardware Upgrades





I NOTICED LEO CHECKING OUT WOMEN AT THE BEACH, TODAY.

OH?

I NOTICED **WHERE** HE WAS LOOKING.

HE HAS **THE GENE.**

THE GENE?

THE **ASS-MAN GENE!**

IT HAS BEEN PASSED TO MY **SON!**

OH FOR-

THE **GREATEST MEN** HAVE ALWAYS BEEN **ASS-MEN...**

... SINCE WE'VE **ROAMED THE EARTH** LO THESE MANY CENTURIES...



YOU ARE  
SUCH A  
NERD!

YOU  
MOCK!  
BUT  
BEHOLD:

100,000 B.C.



AN ASS MAN  
CREATES THE  
FIRST RELIABLE  
FORM OF BIRTH  
CONTROL STILL  
PRACTICED WELL  
INTO MODERNITY!

7,500 B.C.



WHILE MEDITATING ON THE  
SENSUAL ROLLING MOTION OF A  
WOMAN'S BOTTOM WHILE SHE  
WAS GRINDING GRAIN...

... AN ASS-MAN  
INVENTS THE WHEEL!

THE ASS-MAN'S CONTRIBUTIONS  
TO THE WESTERN ALPHABET  
PERSIST TO THIS DAY!

RENAISSANCE  
ASS-MEN  
RESURRECTED  
THE GREEK  
TRADITION OF  
REALISTIC  
SCULPTURE!



COLUMBUS CONVINCED ISABELLA  
HE WAS SAILING TO INDIA FOR  
TRADE. BUT IN REALITY, HE'D  
HEARD A PREMONITION OF  
TRIBESWOMEN WITH BACKLESS  
LOINCLOTHS IN THE NEW WORLD!



EVERY MAN WHO  
WALKED ON THE MOON  
WAS A WELL KNOWN  
AND DOCUMENTED  
ASS-MAN.



HAHA!

"MOON."

WAIT A  
MINUTE...

... HOW DID  
COLUMBUS KNOW  
ABOUT THE  
BACKLESS  
LOINCLOTHS IF  
HE'D NEVER BEEN  
THERE?

ASS-MAN  
INTUITION!

IT'S LIKE  
THE  
FORCE.

THE ASS-  
FORCE.

GO TO  
BED,  
HONEY.





BOTTLE TIME!



WALK WITH ME, SON.

WE MUST SPEAK, AS MEN.

YES, FATHER.



WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE, NO ONE REALLY HAD ANYTHING USEFUL TO SAY TO ME ABOUT GROWING UP.



IT WAS ALL ANATOMY AND PLUMBING.

WHEN WE HAD SERIOUS QUESTIONS ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS, WE JUST HAD A BIBLE THRUST BEFORE US.



I PROMISED MYSELF IF I EVER HAD A SON, I WOULD CONVEY TO HIM WHAT MATTERS MOST, WHEN THE TIME WAS RIGHT.

THAT TIME IS NOW.




WOMEN ARE GREAT TO LOOK AT. WE'RE WIRED TO DO SO.

WHETHER OR NOT THEY'LL EVER GROW TO UNDERSTAND THIS ABOUT YOUNG MEN, IT IS JUST THE WAY OF THINGS.



WHILE LOOKING IS GREAT, **NEVER** FALL INTO THE TRAP OF OBJECTIFYING OTHERS.


IT INSULATES YOU FROM SOMEONE'S **TRUE** VALUE.




IT PUSHES AWAY HOW VALUABLE SOMEONE CAN BE TO YOUR LONG-TERM HAPPINESS, NOT JUST YOUR SHORT-TERM URGES.

A WOMAN IS BEAUTIFUL. NEVER HIDE THAT FACT FROM YOURSELF. BUT ALWAYS REMEMBER: SHE'S ALSO A PERSON.

SHE DESERVES THE **FULL** AWARENESS OF THE REALITY OF YOUR INTENTIONS.



IF YOU **LIE** TO WOMEN TO GET WHAT YOU WANT, YOU'LL NEVER BE TRULY SATISFIED WITH WHAT YOU GET.



IT WON'T BE **YOU** GETTING THEIR AFFECTION. IT'LL BE **THE LIE**. NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON REALITY FOR A SHORT TERM BENEFIT, SON.


BEING HONEST IS **MUCH** MORE REWARDING.



NEVER TAKE A GIRL'S AFFECTION FOR GRANTED, AND NEVER LET YOURS BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED BY A GIRL.


AT THE SAME TIME, DON'T BECOME ADDICTED TO RELATIONSHIPS.

DON'T EVER THINK OF A GIRL AS YOUR "OTHER HALF". BE A HAPPY, EMOTIONALLY GROUNDED **WHOLE INDIVIDUAL**, THEN FIND A GIRL WHO'S THE SAME WAY.



DON'T MAKE SOMEONE ELSE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR TOTAL HAPPINESS AS A PERSON. AND DON'T LET ANYONE ELSE SADDLE YOU WITH THE SAME THING.

BEING HAPPY ALONE WILL LET YOU GET OUT OF A RELATIONSHIP IF IT TURNS OUT TO BE VERY BAD.



AND NEVER GET A GIRL PREGNANT BEFORE YOU'RE READY TO MARRY HER. SHE'LL OWN YOU FOR EIGHTEEN YEARS!

NOW GO, BE A KID!

THANKS, DAD.



DID YOU TELL HIM IF HE WANTS TO MASTURBATE, TO NOT USE MY GOOD TOWELS?

NO HONEY, IT SLIPPED MY MIND.



HAHA!

HEY!



I WIN!

YOU ALWAYS WIN!

FLOP



AHP?



CHARLIE...



GET UP, OR YOU'LL BE LATE FOR CHURCH.

BLINK!



NO! MY DREAM!

I WANT IT BACK!

GET UP,  
SLEEPY  
HEAD!

YOUR  
BROTHER'S  
DONE WITH THE  
SHOWER, SO GO  
TAKE YOURS,  
QUICKLY.

IF YOU DON'T  
MOVE IT, YOU'LL  
END UP JUST  
WEARING YOUR  
**SLEEP  
CLOTHES** TO  
CHURCH!

REALLY?

NO.

YOU'LL  
WEAR THE  
DRESS  
GRANDMA  
GAVE YOU.

AW, I  
HATE  
THAT  
DRESS.

IT'S  
SO  
GIRLY.

NEWS  
FLASH,  
CHARLENE:  
YOU ARE A  
GIRL.

PUH.







A NEW FOOTBALL?



YEAH. I NEED TO GO GIRLS' TOYS FOR A SECOND.

GIRLS' TOYS?



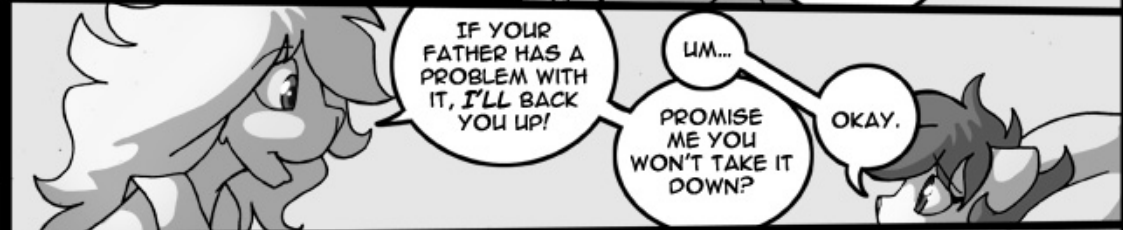
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE INTO MY LITTLE PONIES.



WELL, I LIKE RAINBOW DASH.









DO YOU EVER WORRY ABOUT YOUR DAUGHTER BECOMING A LESBIAN?

UH... NOT REALLY.



REALLY?

HAS JANIE STARTED SHOWING AN INTEREST IN BOYS?

UHM

I HEARD RANDY HARRINGTON HAS A CRUSH ON YOU!



OF COURSE HE DOES.

I'M AWESOME.

I THINK SO.

IN HER OWN STRANGE WAY.



THIS ISN'T FUNNY! WE HAVE TO FIND WAYS TO RELATE TO OUR DAUGHTERS!

I'M NOT LAUGHING ABOUT THAT.



I WAS JUST IMAGINING CHARLIE TALKING TO HER FRIENDS:

"DO YOU EVER WORRY THAT YOUR MOTHER IS AN UNFAITHFUL SEX ADDICT?"

HEY! THAT'S A REAL CONDITION! I'M IN THERAPY!



YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES LIFE DEALS US A BAD HAND AND WE HAVE TO WORK THROUGH IT.

THAT'S WHAT I'M TRYING TO DO WITH MY ISSUES.

I'M JUST SAYING, I'D RATHER MY DAUGHTER BE A HAPPY, WELL-ADJUSTED LESBIAN, THAN... YOU KNOW.

YOU DON'T  
EVEN KNOW IF  
SHE WILL BE A  
LESBIAN.

SHE MAY  
JUST BE A  
TOMBOY.

DO YOU  
THINK IT'S A  
BORN THING,  
OR LIKE... JUST  
A FAVORITE  
FOOD?

ALICE!

YES,  
ABIGAIL.

WHAT'S A  
"LESBIAN"?

IN COMMON USE: A FEMALE  
HOMOSEXUAL. HOMOSEXUAL - A  
PERSON SEXUALLY ATTRACTED  
TO THE SAME SEX IN CONTRAST  
TO THOSE ATTRACTED TO THE  
OPPOSITE SEX.

WHY THE  
SPECULATIVE  
NATURE IN ADULTS  
TOWARD A CHILD  
BECOMING  
ONE?

THEORY: HETEROSEXUALITY IS THE  
COMMON STATE IN SEXUALLY  
MATURING AND MATURED PEOPLE.  
PARENTS WANT THEIR CHILDREN TO  
BE COMMON FOR MAXIMUM SOCIAL  
ADVANTAGE.

SPECULATION  
IS WASTEFUL.

IF WE WANT TO  
KNOW SOMETHING,  
WE SHOULD JUST  
FIND A WAY TO  
DISCOVER IT.

SHALL I  
POWER UP THE  
RESEARCH  
LAB?

YES.

BEEP

OPEN THE  
MEDIA  
ARCHIVE.

CATALOG TRAITS  
OF KNOWN  
HETERO  
AND  
HOMOSEXUAL  
PEOPLE.

PROCESSING...

TAP  
TAP

CORRELATE  
MANNERISM,  
ATTITUDE, VOICE  
PITCH, AND ANY  
OTHER NOTICEABLE  
ATTRIBUTES OF ALL  
OF THEM.

A SLIDING SCALE OF  
DEGREE EXISTS,  
AND THESE TRAITS  
DON'T ALWAYS  
ACCOUNT FOR  
BEHAVIOR.

HMM.

MAKE A SEPARATE  
RANGE OF DEGREES  
FOR TYPES OF HOMO  
AND HETEROSEXUAL,  
AS WELL AS THOSE  
WHO ARE BOTH.

WE'LL DO  
A *GRAPH*  
INSTEAD OF  
A SCALE.

I'LL  
CALL IT THE  
*ANDY DICK*  
VARIABLE.

WHO?

DID YOU GET THE LIST OF THE AVAILABLE HARDWARE?

YES.

PROTOTYPE DESIGN COMPLETE.

LET'S SEE IT.

A SIMPLE TABLET DESIGN WITH A WIRELESS CAMERA WILL SUFFICE FOR THIS TASK.

VERY WELL.

IT IS BOTH DISCREET AND EFFECTIVE.

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE TO BUILD?

IF YOUR DAD LETS US USE HIS POWER TOOLS, LESS THAN A DAY.



WHAT'S THAT?

A SCREW-DRIVER.

NOT THAT.

THAT.

THE RECEIVER TO A HOMOSEXUAL PROBABILITY DETECTION SYSTEM.

UH. A *SAYDAR*?

THAT'S A *GOOD* NAME FOR IT.

ISN'T THAT KIND OF LIKE....

... AN *INVASION OF PRIVACY*?

HMMM. NOT *REALLY*.

IT'S JUST *PASSIVELY* SCANNING.

YOU COULD DO THE *SAME* THING WITH YOUR EYES AND MIND.

IF YOUR MIND WAS AS FAST AS A MODERN QUAD CORE PROCESSOR.



HEY,  
ABIGAIL.

DOES THAT  
**GAYDAR**  
THING REALLY  
WORK?

BECAUSE IT'D BE  
REAL NICE TO  
KNOW WHO WAS  
A LITTLE SCREWY  
IN OUR CLASSES.

THERE'S THIS  
**GUY** I WANT  
TO ASK OUT,  
BUT THERE  
ARE RUMORS  
HE MIGHT BE...

... YOU  
KNOW.

CAN I USE  
YOUR  
GAYDAR?

ARE YOU  
THE GIRL  
BUILDING  
THE  
GAYDAR?

WE HAVE A,  
AH...  
**"VESTED  
INTEREST"**  
IN USING IT.

PSST.  
ABIGAIL.

EEK!



I'M  
**CHARLIE'S**  
MOTHER!

YOUR MOM  
AND I ARE  
GOOD  
FRIENDS.

YES, I  
KNOW.

YOU HAVE A  
LITTLE THING  
THAT CAN TELL  
IF PEOPLE ARE  
A LITTLE  
DIFFERENT?

MAY I  
USE IT  
PLEASE?

I'M NOT  
SURE IF I'LL  
CONTINUE  
THE  
PROJECT.

WHY  
NOT?

I'M NOT  
SURE ABOUT  
THE KINDS OF  
PEOPLE WHO  
SEEM **SO**  
INTERESTED  
IN THE DATA.



AND THEN  
SISSY SAID  
ABIGAIL WAS  
RUDE TO  
HER!




BECAUSE SHE  
WOULDN'T  
HELP HER FIND  
OUT WHETHER  
CHARLIE MIGHT  
BE...

... YOU  
KNOW.



SHE ALREADY  
BLEW UP AT ME  
ONCE FOR  
SUGGESTING  
CHARLIE'S  
BETTER OFF  
THAT WAY, THAN  
LIKE HER  
MOTHER.



BUT I GUESS  
IT'S NOT ABOUT  
TRUTH. IT'S  
ABOUT IMAGE.

CHARLIE  
WEARS IT ON  
HER SLEEVE.



WHAT DO  
YOU THINK,  
HONEY?



I THINK  
I REALLY  
LIKE THIS  
CIGAR.

I HEARD YOU GOT INTO A LITTLE HOT WATER WITH YOUR LATEST SCIENCE PROJECT.

IT'S OKAY. I DESTROYED IT.

WHY'S THAT?


ONE MEASURE OF PROGRESS FOR A SOCIETY IS AN INDIVIDUAL'S LEVEL OF PRIVACY.

**SAVAGES** WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE, TO FORM GANGS AND EXPRESS THEIR PRIMAL URGE TO EXERT **POWER**.

I DON'T WANT TO HELP SAVAGES.

I HAVE TO GO WATCH CARTOONS, NOW.

WHAT KIND OF **BEDTIME STORIES** ARE YOU READING TO ABIGAIL AT NIGHT?



ABBY! CAN YOU  
USE YOUR CUTEY  
SCIENCE TO FIND  
OUT WHO'S BEEN  
WRITING ME THESE  
LETTERS?

I REALLY  
SHOULDN'T.




WHY  
NOT?

IT'S  
AGAINST  
MY ETHICS.



ETHICS?

WHAT'S  
ETHICS GOT  
TO DO WITH  
IT?



THE PERSON WHO  
WROTE THAT  
OBVIOUSLY  
WANTS TO  
EXPRESS  
FEELINGS, BUT  
REMAIN  
HIDDEN.

IF THE AUTHOR  
DIDN'T WANT TO  
BE ANONYMOUS,  
SHE WOULD HAVE  
SIGNED IT.



OKAY  
OKAY...



"SHE"!?



CATCHING MUCH?

NOT REALLY.



MMMM.



JANIE.

HAS YOUR MOTHER EVER TRIED REALLY HARD TO **CHANGE** ANYTHING ABOUT YOU?

UHM...

NOT REALLY.



WHY WOULD SHE WANT TO **CHANGE PERFECTION?**

I GUESS THAT'S TRUE.

DID YOU EVER GET ABIGAIL TO FIND OUT ABOUT THOSE LETTERS?

SHE WON'T DO IT. BUT IT'S ALL RIGHT.

I THINK I KNOW WHO AUTHORED THEM.

REALLY?

YEAH, BUT I SHOULDN'T SAY.

I'M GOING TO RESPECT THEIR DESIRE TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

OH.

THAT'S COOL.

SOCCER IS SUCH  
A WONDERFUL  
NON-VIOLENT  
ATHLETIC  
ALTERNATIVE!

UH  
HUH.

PAP

HAH!

POW!

YAH!

EEE!

**PLAYING  
TOO  
HARD!?**

**NO COACH  
HAS EVER  
TOLD ME  
THAT  
BEFORE.**

**SOCCER'S NOT  
REALLY ABOUT  
COMPETITION.**

**IT'S JUST  
ABOUT KIDS  
HAVING  
FUN.**

**AREN'T WE  
SUPPOSED  
TO TRY TO  
BE GOOD AT  
IT?!**

**WHAT'S  
WRONG WITH  
BEING THE  
BEST?!**

**JANIE, IT  
WAS ONLY  
PRACTICE.**

**I WAS  
PRACTICING!**

**BEING  
AWESOME!**





BOY, WOMEN  
REALLY HAVE IT  
GOOD WHEN IT  
COMES TO  
SEX.

HOW'S  
THAT?

THEY GET TO  
CUT LOOSE AND  
HAVE SEX WITH  
**BOTH** MEN AND  
WOMEN.

THEY'VE  
GOT ALL THE  
OPPORTUNITY.

AND UNLIKE  
WITH MEN, IT'S  
SOCIALY  
**COOL.**

YOU WANT TO  
HAVE SEX WITH  
**BOTH** MEN AND  
WOMEN?

**NO!**

I MEAN,  
AS IT IS  
FOR  
**WOMEN.**

SO, YOU WANT  
TO BE A **WOMAN**  
WHO HAS SEX  
WITH **BOTH** MEN  
AND WOMEN.

**NO!**

LISTEN,  
YOU...



CABINS  
ARE  
CLEAR.

EVERYONE  
ELSE IS  
BAGGED.



IS THIS  
THE  
GUY?

YEP.

SWEET!

I'LL SET A  
COURSE  
FOR  
KENYA!

GN GN GN GN GLANK\*

THE  
ENGINE  
STOPPED.

DID WE  
MISS  
SOMEONE?

NO  
WAY.

IT'S NOT  
SABOTAGE.

IT'S JUST  
A FUCKED  
ENGINE.

WE'RE  
STUCK?

DEAD IN  
THE  
WATER.

WE HAVE THE  
EMERGENCY  
RADIO.

BUT THAT  
MAY BE A  
LAST  
RESORT.

YEAH. WE  
DON'T WANT  
TO ANSWER  
TO SOME  
NAVY SHIP  
ABOUT  
WHAT WE'RE  
DOING ON A  
PRIVATE  
RUSSIAN  
YACHT.

WE COULD  
TRY TO  
MAKE IT  
THE  
WAY WE  
CAME.

WE'D BE  
**PADDLING**  
BEFORE WE  
EVEN GOT  
TO  
KENYA.

IF WE  
COULD  
EVEN  
GET  
THERE.

WE'D BE  
DRINKING  
OUR  
OWN  
PISS,  
BY  
THEN,  
TOO.

NOT THE  
**LAST**  
EXPERIENCE  
I  
WANT  
BEFORE  
BEING  
PICKED  
UP  
BY  
THE  
SOMALIAN  
COAST  
GUARD.

LAST  
ONE.



HEAVE!



I GUESS  
WE HAVE A  
LOT OF  
WAITING TO  
DO.



HEY,  
FISK.

WHAT'S IT  
LIKE TO HAVE  
EVERYTHING?

WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN?

YOU  
KNOW.

LOVING  
WIFE, BIG  
FAMILY, A  
HOUSE WITH  
LAND.

EVERYTHING.



MARRIAGE AND KIDS  
BRINGS A WHOLE  
NEW ARRAY OF  
COMPLICATIONS.

DON'T STRESS  
YOURSELF  
THAT YOU  
AREN'T THERE.

LIKE A  
LACK OF  
FREEDOM?

SORT  
OF.

JUST ALL  
THE OTHER  
CONSIDERATIONS.

LIKE HOW I  
HAD TO GIVE UP  
MY AWESOME  
COMFORTABLE  
BACHELOR  
COUCH.

THE *BIG*  
COZY  
COUCH?

THE COUCH  
WHERE I...

... WHERE  
WE... ?

YOU AND  
*SO* MANY  
OTHERS.

YOU  
SHOULD  
HAVE GIVEN  
IT TO *ME!*

11 YEARS EARLIER...

IF WE'RE GOING TO START A FAMILY, WE NEED MORE FURNITURE FOR THE LIVING ROOM.

ALL RIGHT. WE'LL GO SHOPPING.

WE COULD JUST TAKE THE BIG COUCH IN YOUR DEN AND USE IT FOR THE FAMILY ROOM.

1991 - 1993

AH!

1993 - 1994

HH! HH! HH! HH!

1994 - 1997

THUMP THUMP THUMP THUMP

1997 - 2000

MNM! AH!

NO! THAT IS NOT A "FAMILY ROOM" COUCH.

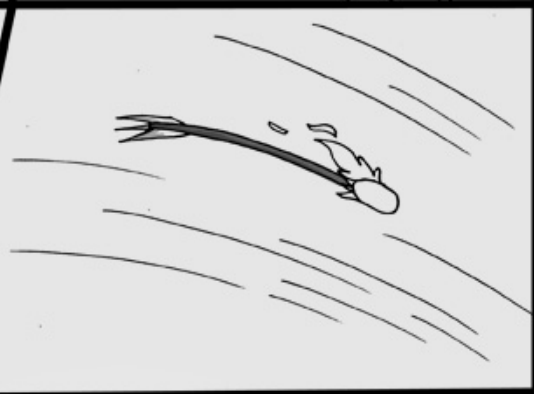
IT'S PERFECT! SO BIG AND COMFO-

NO.

FINE.  
GIVE IT TO  
**GOODWILL**  
OR  
SOMETHING.

**NO!**

IT  
MUST BE  
**RETIRED.**  
**PROPERLY.**







GONNA  
MAKE  
BABIEEEES...



I DON'T  
NEED  
THESE,  
ANYMORE!



PREPARING  
THE  
NEST---



DO YOU HAVE  
ANY IDEA  
WHAT YOU'RE  
GETTING  
INTO!?





WHO'S A CUTIE!?

I HAVEN'T SLEPT SINCE SHE WAS BORN.



MY FACE IS A MESS. MY TITS HURT.

I USED TO HAVE THE BODY OF A JOGGER.



NOW MY ASS IS SO BIG, I HAVE TO WEAR YOGA PANTS ALL THE TIME.



MOTHERHOOD IS ONE OF THE RINGS OF HELL.

OF THIS I AM CERTAIN.



I WON'T EVEN GO INTO THE TEARING.

IT TEARS?

AS YOUR BABY CLAWS ITS WAY INTO THE WORLD.

EVEN IF YOUR HUSBAND **LIKES** YOUR NEW BODY, YOUR SEX DRIVE HAS CRASHED.

IF **ANYONE** CAN GET OVER THAT, **YOU** CAN!

HAR HAR.

MOTHER NATURE IS DEVIOUS, REALLY.

SHE AROUSES US TO HAVE CHILDREN. SHE MAKES THEIR CREATION SO TEMPTING.

THEN SHE **KILLS** US WITH THE CONSEQUENCES.

SO, NO MORE BABIES FOR YOU?

ARE YOU **KIDDING?**

I'M A CREATURE OF **HABIT!**

HEY,  
DOC!

YEAH! WE'RE  
STILL ON FOR  
THE GAME ON  
SUNDAY.

COME  
ON  
OVER.

I HEAR YOU  
AND ELIZABETH  
HAVE DECIDED  
TO HAVE A  
BABY!

CONGRATULATIONS!

THANKS!


HAS SHE  
HAD A CHANGE IN  
BEHAVIOR SINCE  
GOING OFF THE  
PILL?

A  
LITTLE...

MY MAN'S  
UNDER THESE  
CLOTHES  
SOMEWHERE!

SHRED!

I CAN  
SMELL  
HIM!



IT SAYS THE BEST POSITION TO BE IN FOR THE **BEST** CHANCE TO GET PREGNANT...

... IS ON MY BACK WITH MY LEGS IN THE AIR.




THIS ISN'T A LAB EXPERIMENT.

SHOULD WE BE TAKING POSITION CUES FROM A BOOK?

BUT IF I'M **TWICE** AS LIKELY TO GET PREGNANT LIKE THIS...

... INSTEAD OF HAVING SEX LIKE...

...**BEASTS**.



WELL, WE CAN HAVE SEX LIKE **BEASTS TWICE** AND EVEN IT OUT!





WHAT?  
I CAN'T HAVE  
A DRINK JUST  
BECAUSE YOU  
CAN'T?



**OH  
NO!**  
YOU CAN  
DRINK **ALL**  
YOU WANT!



YOU JUST  
HAVE TO  
FEEL **VERY**  
**GUILTY**  
ABOUT IT.



IT'S  
BEGINNING.

WHAT?

THE GREAT  
FATTENING.

OH  
WHATEVER.

STRETCH

YAWN

PREGNANT  
WOMEN  
ARE HOT.

GUYS JUST  
SAY THAT TO  
THEIR WIVES.

MAYBE I  
SHOULDN'T  
USE  
WORDS.

POKE

POKE





MAN.

I DON'T THINK  
I'D **EVER** WANT  
TO WRECK MY  
BODY WITH A  
PREGNANCY.

IT'S NOT  
BAD. THE  
BODY  
RECOVERS.

TRUST  
ME.



I ALSO  
LOVE MY  
FREEDOM.

AND MY  
MONEY.

KIDS?  
**NO**  
THANKS.



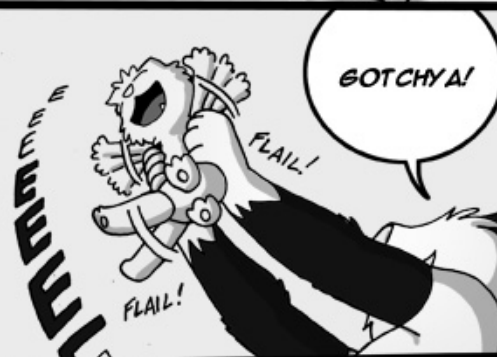
I CAN  
RESPECT  
THAT.



SO, AS A  
FATHER,  
WHAT'S THE  
APPEAL?

YOU GET  
IMPRESSIONABLE  
MINIATURE  
VERSIONS OF  
**YOU** THAT YOU  
CAN **WARP** AS  
THEY GROW.

NINE YEARS AGO



GOTCHYA!



IT'S **NOT** IN  
MY FUTURE AT  
THIS RATE, MY  
CHOICE OR  
NOT!

MEN ARE  
ALWAYS  
DISAPPOINTING  
ME!

FOREVER  
ALONE...

DON'T  
SAY  
THAT.

WHAT ABOUT  
THAT JEREMY  
DUDE?

YOUR FUCK-  
FRIEND...  
THING... GUY...

EH, I  
SHOULDN'T  
HAVE USED  
HIM FOR  
FUN.

HE WANTED TO  
GET SERIOUS.  
BUT HE'S NOT  
WORTH  
SERIOUSNESS.

NO?

I THINK HE  
**ONLY** WANTED  
ME BECAUSE  
I'M IRISH AND  
HE IS TOO.

IT WAS WHEN  
HE STARTED  
SHAVING A  
**SHAMROCK**  
INTO HIS  
SHOULDER,  
THAT I KNEW...

**ETHNIC  
PRIDE** IS  
WHERE THE  
**DUMB** GO  
FOR SELF  
ESTEEM.

MAYBE I  
CAN FIND  
GREENER  
PASTURES.

I COULD PSYCH  
MYSELF UP TO  
LIKE *WOMEN*  
AND *LEZ OUT*  
FOR A WHILE!

YOU  
ALREADY  
HAVE THE  
HAIR.

YEAH!

IT'S LIKE A  
WHOLE NEW  
*FIELD OF*  
OPPORTUNITIES  
HAS OPENED  
UP!

YOU'RE  
SERIOUS?

LET ME  
SEE.

\*SNIFF\*

\*SNIFF\*

\*LIIIIICK\*

HMMM.

THIS IS  
GOING TO  
TAKE *MORE*  
PSYCHING UP  
THAN I  
ANTICIPATED.

WE'RE  
THREE DAYS  
OVERDUE,  
NOW.

THEY  
**SHOULD** BE  
LOOKING  
FOR US.



THEY'LL LOOK  
FOR THE BOAT,  
ASSUMING WE  
FAILED, AND CHECK  
OUT ITS PROJECTED  
COURSE.

THEY WON'T  
FIND US UNTIL  
THEY WIDEN  
THE SEARCH.

SO, BY PLANE  
FROM KENYA,  
WIDENING THE  
SEARCH, MAYBE  
FOUR DAYS?

ON YOUR NEXT  
WATCH, I'D LIKE  
TO SEE IF I CAN  
FIND THE  
GENERATORS.

MAYBE  
GET SOME  
POWER  
GOING.

NOT TO  
MENTION  
FOOD  
STORAGE.

MAYBE EVEN  
SOME **SATELLITE**  
TV TO CURB THE  
BOREDOM.

HOT  
WATER.

SHOWERS.

IT'S  
GOING TO  
BE A **LONG**  
WAIT.



FISK?

ARE YOU CHECKING OUT MY ASS?

GUILTY.



I CAN ALWAYS TELL WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING AT A WOMAN.

YOU GET VERY QUIET.



YOU'VE KNOWN ME TOO LONG.



YOU KNOW...

... THIS ISN'T REALLY AN INVITATION, BUT THERE'S NO WAY YOUR WIFE WOULD FIND OUT.

I KNOW.



IT MAY SOUND STRANGE, BUT **EVEN** IF SHE'D NEVER KNOW...



... **I'D** KNOW. AND SOMEHOW THAT'S ENOUGH TO STOP ME.





**DON'T  
TEMPT THE  
MALE SEX  
DRIVE.**

**YOU HAVE  
NO IDEA THE  
POWER OF  
THIS THING.**

**HERE  
COME THE  
THEATRICALS!**



**AFTER SEVERAL  
DAYS, THE  
MUSCLES  
GROW TENSE.**

**YOU FEEL LIGHT  
AND HEAVY AT  
THE SAME TIME.  
THE BODY HUMS  
WITH NEED IN A  
WAY THAT NO  
OTHER DESIRE  
DOES.**

**AFTER SEVERAL  
WEEKS, YOU'RE  
READY TO REVERT  
TO THE STATE OF  
YOUR SAVAGE  
ANCESTORS.**



**SLAYING ALL  
WHO GET THE  
WAY OF YOU AND  
GRATIFICATION.**

**IT'S ONLY BY  
OUR CIVILIZED  
NATURES THAT WE  
DON'T RELEASE  
PURE DESTRUCTION  
WITH OUR  
UNRELENTING  
RIGESCENCE  
AFTER SUCH  
DEPRIVATION!**



**POW!**

**HI HONEY**







IT'S STOPPED CIRCLING THE BOAT.

IS IT OUR RESCUE, OR THE RUSSIAN MOB?

FUNNY.



DO YOU HAVE THE DOOR IN SIGHT WHERE THEY STOPPED?



AFFIRM.



HAH!

IT'S MRS. CATADZE, FROM THE COMPANY!

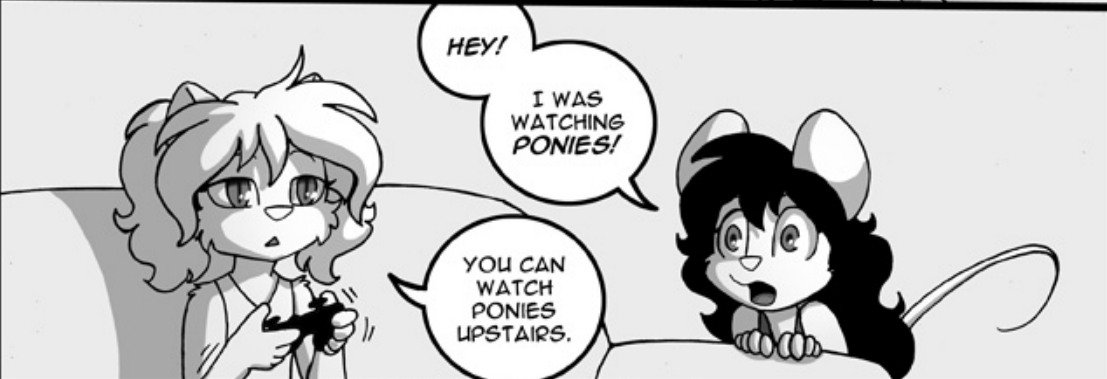
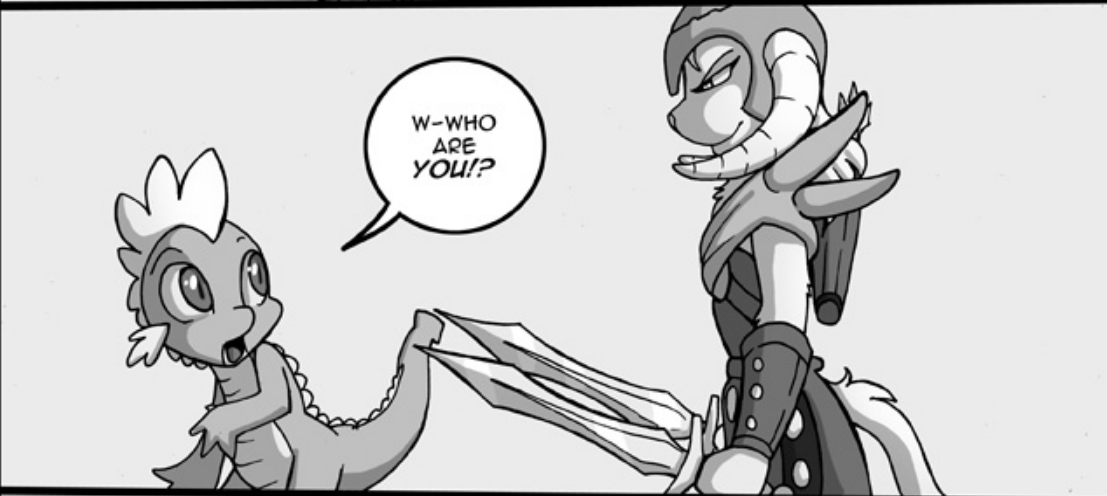
DON'T SHOOT HER.




SHE'S DRESSED LIKE A BLIND NAZI!




DON'T LET HER HEAR YOU SAY THAT OR SHE WON'T TAKE US HOME.






THE LEGEND OF THE  
DRAGONBORN HAS COME  
TO THE LAND OF SKYRIM.  
A DESTINY IS LAID OUT  
BEFORE THE LEGENDARY  
HERO. A DESTINY OF  
BATTLE AND HONOR,  
DRENCHED IN BLOOD.



EPIC QUESTS AWAIT. THE AWAKENING  
DRAGONS MUST BE SLAIN. MYSTERIES  
MUST BE UNCOVERED AND SOLVED.

YAAAHH!



BANAL SIDE  
QUESTS MUST BE  
PERFORMED FOR  
THE LAZIEST  
FUCKS IN ALL OF  
TAMRIEL.

HERE'S A LIST  
OF MUNDANE  
CRAP YOU  
SHOULD FIND  
FOR ME SO  
I'LL LIKE YOU!





IS THAT AN  
AMULET OF  
MARA!?

YOU  
WANT TO  
MARRY  
ME?

WHOA, I  
BARELY  
KNOW YOU!

I JUST  
DID YOU  
**ONE**  
FAVOR!



YOU DON'T  
HAVE TO  
ANSWER  
RIGHT  
AWAY!

ALL  
RIGHT...

HEY, IS  
THAT AN  
AMULET  
OF  
MARA!?



OH!  
AMULET OF  
MARA!

HEY!  
YOU'RE  
SINGLE!

LOOK AT  
YOU WITH AN  
AMULET  
OF MARA!



OH,  
HEY!

AN  
AMULET  
OF  
MARA!

YOU NEED TO  
LEARN HOW MUCH  
**BETTER** THESE  
GAMES ARE ON THE  
PC COMPARED TO  
THE CONSOLE.

YOU'RE NOT  
EXPERIENCING  
SKYRIM'S **FULL**  
POTENTIAL.

AT ONLY THREE  
TIMES THE COST OF  
THE AVERAGE  
CONSOLE, I CAN  
PLAY THE GAME  
WITH **MUCH** BETTER  
GRAPHICS.



I CAN ENJOY  
THE GAME AT A  
HIGHER SCREEN  
RESOLUTION.

BEST OF ALL, I  
HAVE ACCESS TO  
**AFTER MARKET  
GAME MODS!**

BETTER  
RENDERED  
FACES.

CUTER  
OUTFITS.

I CAN EVEN  
TURN ALL THE  
**DRAGONS**  
INTO **RANDY  
SAVAGE!**



**FARKAS  
IS  
NAKED!**

YEAH,  
THAT'S  
ANOTHER  
MOD.

YOU  
PROBABLY  
SHOULDN'T  
BE SEEING  
THIS.





ARE YOU HAVING A STEAK FOR LUNCH?

BY ITSELF!?

YOU SHOULD REALLY BALANCE YOUR MEALS WITH SIDE DISHES.

YOU'RE NEITHER AN ANIMAL, NOR IN COLLEGE.



REALLY, HON.





SOMETIMES  
I THINK I'M  
TOO FAT.

TOO FAT  
FOR  
WHAT?



UM, IN  
GENERAL?

THERE'S NO SUCH THING  
AS IN  
GENERAL.



IF YOU SAY,  
TOO FAT TO  
BE A FIGHTER  
PILOT,  
MAYBE.

TOO FAT TO  
WORK AN ICE  
CREAM  
CONCESSION  
STAND?

NO,  
YOU'RE  
PERFECT  
FOR THAT.



TOO FAT  
TO BE A  
FIGHTER  
PILOT?

YOU'VE  
SEEN  
STAR  
WARS.

THE FAT  
ONE DIES  
FIRST!






HEY  
CARL?

EVER  
WONDER  
IF WE'RE  
TOO FAT?

HELL  
NO.



MY MOMMA SAYS  
SOCIETY BUILDS  
ARTIFICIAL  
STANDARDS OF  
BEAUTY AND  
THERE'S REALLY  
NOTHING WRONG  
WITH BEING *HUSKY*  
AND *STRONG*.



IT'S NO  
DIFFERENT  
THAN BEING  
ANOTHER  
*RACE* OR  
WHATEVER.



YOUR  
MOM'S A  
250-POUND  
TYPE 2  
DIABETIC.

DON'T  
HATE.



WE'LL  
SETTLE  
THIS.

I  
WOULDN'T...



JANIE, DO  
YOU THINK  
JEFFERY AND  
I ARE TOO  
FAT?

YEAH.



HOW CAN  
YOU SAY  
THAT!?

YOU  
ASKED.

BUT  
WHY?



OH  
SORRY!

HERE: THE  
FATTER YOU  
GET, THE NICER  
YOU'LL LOOK  
AND THE  
HEALTHIER  
YOU'LL BE!

FEEL  
BETTER?

HAHA!



WHAT ARE THOSE TWO DOING, NOW?


THEY'VE BEEN OUT THERE ALL MORNING, EXERCISING.



SOME TEMPORARY EXERCISE ISN'T GOING TO CUT IT.

THEY NEED A LIFESTYLE OVERHAUL.

BETTER DIET. EVERYDAY ACTIVITY.



I THINK WITH MODERN SCIENCE WE CAN ALTER THE BODY'S BIOCHEMISTRY SUFFICIENTLY TO YIELD **GREATER** WEIGHT LOSS WITH MINIMAL LIFESTYLE CHANGE.



WANNA BET?

HMM!

SO, WHOEVER  
LOSES THE  
**MOST WEIGHT** IN  
THREE MONTHS  
WINS!

SO, WHICH ONE OF YOU  
WANTS TO TRY TO  
LOSE WEIGHT USING  
**WEIRD AND UNPROVEN**  
SCIENCE?

AND WHICH ONE  
WANTS TO WORK UP  
A **GOOD NATURAL**  
**SWEAT** AND HAVE  
**GUARANTEED**  
RESULTS?

AH,  
FEEL  
THAT?

ENDORPHINS  
ARE WHAT  
ADDICT **FIT**  
PEOPLE TO  
EXERCISE!

ARE THEY  
SUPPOSED  
TO **HURT**?

CAN I  
HAVE  
SOME OF  
THAT?

NO, YOU  
GET  
**WATER**.

AW,  
COME  
ON!

THERE'S  
YOUR  
GATORADE.

ON  
YOUR  
**BELLY!**

DUMPING A  
BUNCH OF  
GATORADE **SUGAR**  
IN YOUR BODY  
WILL KEEP YOU  
FROM **BURNING YOUR**  
**OWN** FOR  
ENERGY.

MAN, I  
SHOULD  
HAVE GONE  
WITH  
**ABIGAIL**.

RADIATION  
SHIELD

YOU  
MAY FEEL A  
SLIGHT  
PINCH.

I'D KILL FOR  
A SLICE OF  
THAT PIZZA.

WHY  
DON'T  
YOU HAVE  
SOME?

BECAUSE  
I CAN'T!

I'M ON A  
STRICT  
DIET.

I'VE HAD  
LEAN HAM FOR  
BREAKFAST  
FOR THE PAST  
FOUR DAYS!

I'VE BEEN  
DRINKING  
ONLY  
WATER!

NO BREAD! NO  
CHIPS! NOTHING  
BUT MEAT,  
VEGETABLES,  
AND VITAMINS!

DOESN'T THAT  
MAKE IT KIND OF  
WEIRD WHEN  
YOU GO TO THE  
BATHROOM?


I DON'T  
KNOW!

I HAVEN'T  
GONE  
SINCE I  
STARTED!



I'VE LOST  
TWO  
POUNDS!

OUTSTANDING.



YOU'VE EARNED  
A LITTLE *TREAT*  
TO BE WEAVED  
INTO YOUR DIET.

FINALLY!



HERE  
YOU GO!



AN  
APPLE!?

FRUIT IS  
NATURE'S  
CANDY.

SAVOR  
IT.

DAY 20



THE TEST SUBJECT HAS MADE REMARKABLE PROGRESS SINCE THE ACCELERATION OF HIS METABOLISM AND THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE WAY HIS BODY HANDLES SUGAR.



SIGNIFICANT WEIGHT LOSS HAS ALREADY OCCURRED, DESPITE A DIET OF HIGH CALORIE FOODS, SUGARS, AND OTHER COMPLEX CARBOHYDRATES. HE'S SHOWN A REMARKABLE RESPONSE TO THE ALTERATION HORMONES THAT HAVE CAUSED HIS BODY TO PROCESS ONLY A FRACTION OF THE SUGAR INGESTED, CONVERTING THE REST TO VARIOUS WASTE CHEMICALS.



ONE SIGNIFICANT BYPRODUCT HAS BEEN THE PRODUCTION OF MUSCLE GROWTH HORMONE AND TESTOSTERONE.



WHILE *MOST* OF THESE HORMONES ARE FLUSHED OUT, I ANTICIPATE AT LEAST *SLIGHT* GAINS IN STRENGTH AND ATHLETICISM AS THE EXPERIMENT PROGRESSES, WHICH SHOULD FURTHER EXACERBATE WEIGHT LOSS.





YOUR TRANSFORMATION HAS BEEN REMARKABLE!

BUT WE'VE GONE BEYOND THE BOUNDS OF THIS EXPERIMENT.



YOU WEIGH MORE THAN YOU DID WHEN WE STARTED DUE TO EXCESS MUSCLE DEVELOPMENT!

I COULD LOSE THIS BET ON A TECHNICALITY!



ALICE, PREPARE THE SUBJECT FOR SEDATION AND FURTHER STUDY.



THE SUBJECT HAS DEPARTED THE BOUNDS OF THE TESTING FACILITY.



OH NO...





MMM.



PUFF

PUFF



HRR HRR HRR HRR HRR HRR HRR HRR HRR



HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF HUFF



HRP

HUP

UH,  
STACY...

WHY IS YOUR  
LITTLE BROTHER  
STARING AT  
ME?

AND  
WHY IS  
HE SO...

... RIPPED?

MMMMMM...

EEEK!

HEY!

HRR

HRR

FEMALE

WHAT  
THE  
HELL!?

NO TIME  
TO  
EXPLAIN!

WHERE DO WE STAND ON THE BET, NOW?

LET'S SEE...

HUFF!

CARL'S LOST FIVE POUNDS SO FAR!

HE'S LOOKING MUCH BETTER. HE'S EATING BETTER. AND HE HAS WAY MORE ENERGY!

AND JEFFERY IS... WHAT?

AN OVER-MUSCLED MUT ANT?

SHUT UP.

HOW MANY TIMES DID YOU HAVE TO DART HIM TO KEEP HIM FROM KIDNAPPING AMANDA?

THIS ISN'T OVER.

I'M STILL NOT ABLE TO MITIGATE EXCESS TESTOSTERONE PRODUCTION OR THE CORRESPONDING DROP IN MENTAL ACTIVITY.

ALICE, WE NEED TO DESTROY THE REMAINING TREATMENT DOSES AND START OVER.

I'LL PREPARE THE INCINERATOR.

WHERE'D YOU GET THAT BODY?

I FABRICATED IT.

I THOUGHT I WOULD DOWNLOAD MYSELF INTO A FOXY ROBOT BODY.

IT WILL ASSIST MY INTERACTIONS WITH ORGANIC BEINGS.

GET BACK IN YOUR TABLET BODY BEFORE JEFFERY SEES YOU!

HE'S NOT A THREAT TO ME.




WHAT HAPPENED?

YOU REGRESSED TO A PRIMORDIAL MAN-STATE.

OH.


THEN YOU KIDNAPPED AMANDA AND HAD TO BE SEDATED.

COOL.



I'VE REVERSED THE AFFECTS OF THE TREATMENTS AND YOU SHOULD BE RETURNING TO A NORMAL MENTAL STATE.

FORTUNATELY, WE MAY STILL WIN THE BET, SINCE YOUR FAT RESERVES ARE NEARLY DEPLETED AND YOUR MUSCLE MASS IS RETURNING TO NORMAL FOR YOUR AGE.



WE ALSO REMOVED ABOUT FIVE POUNDS OF FUR AND SKIN AFTER YOUR MUSCLE REGRESSION.

DO YOU WANT IT?



WAS THE END  
OF MASS  
EFFECT 3  
REALLY THAT  
BAD?

WE'RE NOT  
TALKING  
ABOUT ONE  
GAME.

IT'S THE  
END OF A  
TRILOGY.



THE MASS EFFECT  
TRILOGY IS LIKE  
THE *SUPER HOT*  
GIRLFRIEND I  
ONCE HAD.

SOME OF THE  
*BEST* SEX OF  
MY LIFE. HOT,  
PASSIONATE.

BUILDING  
TOWARD THE  
END...



... AND SHE  
RUINS IT BY  
FARTING ON MY  
BALLS RIGHT  
BEFORE  
CLIMAX.



WHO DID  
THAT!?

RED!?

BETH!/?

AIN'T  
SAYIN'.

NO.

NOPE.









STACY, IF WE'RE GOING TO DATE, THERE ARE SOME THINGS WE SHOULD KNOW ABOUT EACH OTHER, FIRST.

COOL.



AS A MODERN YOUNG MAN, MY **ENTIRE** IMPRESSION OF SEXUALITY AND PHYSICAL STANDARDS HAS BEEN SHAPED BY **THE INTERNET**.


THE ABILITY TO COMPARE ANY **REAL** WOMAN TO ANY IMMEDIATELY **ACCESSIBLE IMAGE** HAS LEFT ME WITH **VERY HIGH STANDARDS**.



THEREFOR, YOU SHOULD KEEP YOUR PUBIC FUR TRIMMED TO A PRE-PUBESCENT LEVEL OF GROWTH.

I NEED TO KNOW IF YOU HAVE ANY PHYSICAL **ODDITIES**, LIKE IF ONE BREAST IS BIGGER THAN THE OTHER.

**ALL PARTS** OF YOUR BODY SHOULD SMELL AS CRISP AS A SPRING FLOWER, AT **ALL TIMES**.



AND TELL ME IF YOU HAVE THAT WEIRD STRETCH OF SKIN THAT MAKES IT LOOK LIKE YOUR **VULVA** IS GOING INTO YOUR **ANUS**.

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN DEAL WITH THAT.



GO DIE.

SO, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GO OUT WITH DARREN?

NOPE.

WHY NOT?

HE TURNED OUT TO BE A COMPLETE TOOLBAG.

WHAT ABOUT TREY?

DIDN'T HE LIKE YOU AT ONE POINT?

HE'S CUTE!

HE DIDN'T LIKE THAT I SMELLED LIKE CIGARETTES.

WELL, MAYBE YOU SHOULD QUIT.

YOU KNOW...

... WHILE YOU'RE STILL FOURTEEN.



I'M GOING TO HELP YOU THROUGH THIS BECAUSE I'M YOUR **FRIEND**.

THESE ARE HARD FOR YOU TO GET AT YOUR AGE, SO IT'S GOOD YOU GAVE THEM TO ME.



IF YOU **EVER** FEEL LIKE YOU NEED ONE OF THESE, YOU'LL HAVE TO TALK TO ME.

IT WON'T JUST BE AS **EASY** AS REACHING INTO YOUR **POCKET**.



GIVE ME THAT CIGARETTE BEFORE I CLAW YOUR **EYEBALLS** OUT.

SEE, THAT'S THE **ADDICTION** TALKING.



TAKE STACY'S  
CIGARETTES  
AND RUN!

SHE'S  
TRYING TO  
QUIT!

HEY!

YOU'RE  
TRYING TO  
QUIT?

THAT'S  
GREAT!

NOT  
YET!

OH  
COME  
ON!

THIS IS  
ONLY HALF  
SPEED!

WE'LL SEE  
HOW FAST YOU  
ARE WHEN YOUR  
TITS GROW IN,  
YOU LITTLE  
THIEF!

OKAY, WE'LL  
TIE YOU UP  
AND NOT LET  
YOU GO UNTIL  
THIS HABIT IS  
KICKED!

NO  
MATTER  
WHAT  
YOU SAY!

WHATEVER  
IT TAKES.

JANIE, YOUR  
MOTHER AND I  
WERE WON-

HI.

IT CAN  
WAIT.





IF I DON'T LEAVE THE BED, I'LL BE LESS TEMPTED TO WALK DOWN THE STREET...

... **FOUR MILES**...

... AND BRIBE THE **PUMP N' MUNCH** WORKER FOR A PACK OF **SMOKES**.

YOU CAN'T LEAVE ME.

**SHUT UP TOBACCO!**

OH, IT'S NOT **TOBACCO** YOU'RE TALKING TO.

IT'S **NICOTINE, DARLING!**

DO YOU THINK I'M **ANYTHING** LIKE THAT AGED, SUPPLE, SWEET LEAF IN YOUR FATHER'S CIGARS AND PIPE?

I'M **CHEMICALLY PRIMED FOR ADDICTION!**

SUCK ME STRAIGHT INTO YOUR **LUNGS**. I'M NOT ABOUT **FLAVOR**, AFTER ALL.

JUST THE DELIVERY OF WHAT YOU **NEED**, BABY.

COME ON...





I NEED  
TO STAY  
IN BED.

IS THAT  
*SELF*  
CONTROL!?

YOU FEEL  
HORRIBLE!

YOU *NEED*  
TO GO TO THE  
CONVENIENCE  
STORE!

I CAN  
CONTROL  
MYSELF.

STOP  
TORTURING  
YOURSELF!  
HAVE A  
SMOKE!

IF I DON'T  
MOVE MY  
MUSCLES...

... IF I  
DON'T  
STAND  
UP...

I  
CONTROL  
MY BODY.

I REFUSE  
TO MOVE.

I CAN  
DO THIS!

**GOOD  
MORNING  
SWEETIE CUTIE  
PUMPKIN PIE!**

MFPBGLFMFPFMWRM...

**BACON'S  
ON THE  
TABLE!**

**\*SNIFF\*  
\*SNIFF\***

**\*MUNCH\***

**OH MY  
GOD.**

**THIS  
BACON IS  
FANTASTIC!**

**IT'S LIKE IF  
CANDY WERE  
MADE OF  
MEAT!**

**OR IF MEAT  
WERE MADE  
OF CANDY!**

**IT'S THE  
SAME  
BACON I  
ALWAYS  
MAKE...**

AND SO, STACY  
TRADED ONE HABIT  
FOR ANOTHER.

STACY,  
ARE YOU  
EATING IN  
CLASS?

NO.

AND HER LUCK  
WITH THE BOYS  
IMPROVED.

SINCE YOU SMELL  
LIKE BACON ALL  
THE TIME, I THINK  
WE SHOULD GO  
OUT.

OKAY.

BUT THERE  
WAS TROUBLE  
IN PARADISE.

OH, *THAT'S*  
WHY THE BOYS  
LIKE YOU SO  
MUCH, NOW.

YOUR  
BOTTOM'S  
FILLING OUT  
NICELY!

WHA--?

OH  
NO!

THE  
BACON IS  
MAKING ME  
FAT!

YOU'VE  
GOT TO  
HELP ME  
KICK  
BACON!

THE GULF OF MEXICO

YES!

AH!

NMM!

GET  
THE  
TOWEL.

HH

HH

HEY,  
BETH?

I THINK WE  
SHOULD SAIL  
TO SHORE  
AND DO  
LAUNDRY.

OH?

JUST  
SAYIN'.

\*THUMP\*

EW!



IT'S YOUR  
TURN TO  
PICK A  
PORT.

UNLESS YOU  
JUST WANT TO  
GO TO **THE**  
KEYS AGAIN.



HERE  
WE GO.

**SOUTHHAVEN.**  
A TOWN SIZED  
COMMUNITY  
THAT'S  
COMPLETELY  
CLOTHING  
OPTIONAL.



DO **NAKED**  
HIPPIES EVEN  
HAVE LAUNDRY  
SERVICES?

OH COME  
ON. I'M SURE  
THEY HAVE  
**BEDDING!**



DON'T THOSE  
PEOPLE JUST  
SLEEP ON  
LEAVES AND  
HAY AND  
STUFF?

WORTH  
IT.

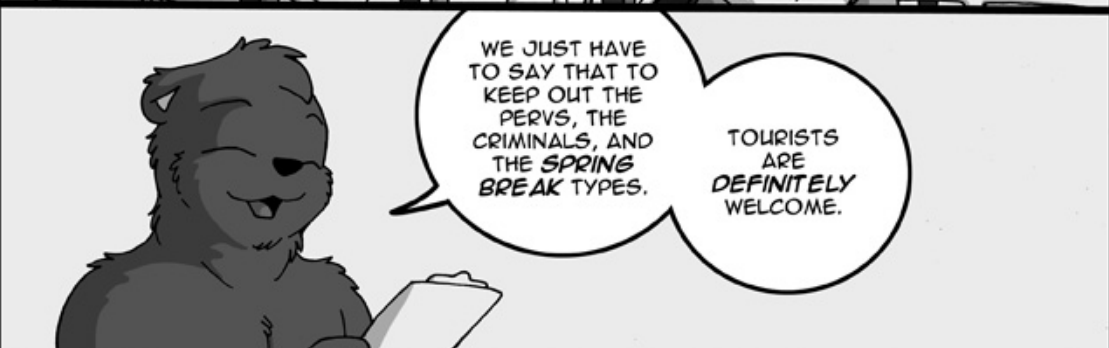


I'M  
**OVERDUE**  
FOR AN  
ADVENTURE.



ALL OF SOUTHAVEN IS PRIVATE PROPERTY.

SO, KEEP IN MIND ANY **INAPPROPRIATE** BEHAVIOR OR RUDENESS CAN HAVE YOU KICKED OUT.



WE JUST HAVE TO SAY THAT TO KEEP OUT THE PERVS, THE CRIMINALS, AND THE **SPRING BREAK** TYPES.

TOURISTS ARE **DEFINITELY** WELCOME.



YEAH, WE'RE NOT REALLY NUDISTS.

WE'RE JUST HERE TO-

THE HELL YOU SAY!



...

THIS IS...

... ODDLY NORMAL.

YOU SHOULD NUDE UP, BETH.

IT FEELS AWESOME.

NO, THANKS.

WE SHOULD ASK SOMEONE ABOUT A PLACE WITH A LAUNDRY.

HMM!

NO.

MM, EH...

AH-HAH!

WE SHOULD ASK HER.

SHE LOOKS VERY KNOWLEDGABLE.



HELLO,  
EXCUSE  
US.

OH,  
HELLO.

WE'VE NEVER  
BEEN HERE  
BEFORE, AND WE  
WERE WONDERING  
IF THERE'S A  
LAUNDRY  
AROUND?



OH,  
MMM.

OUTSIDE OF  
OUR PERSONAL  
UNITS, I DON'T  
REALLY  
KNOW.

YOU  
*MIGHT* HAVE  
BETTER LUCK  
OUT-

- I MEAN,  
IF YOU...



UH,  
YEAH.

UHM...

FIRST  
TIME AT A  
CLOTHING  
OPTIONAL  
PLACE?

WHAT?



DON'T WORRY.

AFTER A WHILE, YOU GET USED TO IT AND DON'T EVEN NOTICE NAKEDNESS!

YOU LIVE HERE?

LIKE, LIVE HERE, LIVE HERE?

WHEN NOT IN SCHOOL, OF COURSE!

LOTS OF PEOPLE LIVE HERE.

I WAS BORN AND RAISED HERE!

REALLY?

YEAH! THERE'S MY PARENTS!

HI GUYS!

HELLO, MUFFIN!

NAKED PARENTS...

ALL GONE!

YEAH, YOU GET USED TO THAT, TOO.

THE HISTORY OF SOUTHHAVEN!

IT ALL STARTED IN 1921 WHEN GERMAN PHYSICIAN, OTTO VON PUPPENSCHLAMMER, IMMIGRATED TO THE UNITED STATES.



HE HAD SOME PRETTY UNIQUE IDEAS ABOUT HEALTH AND WELLNESS!

A HEALTHY BODY IS NOT ENOUGH.

A HEALTHY STATE OF MIND, FREE OF ARTIFICIALLY IMPOSED DEBILITATIONS, IS REQUIRED FOR A MAN TO BE TRULY HEALTHY.



HE HAD SOME PRETTY UNIQUE SUGGESTIONS FOR HIS PATIENTS, TOO.

ON TOP OF YOUR TREATMENT, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO SCHTRIP YOUR CLOTHES AND TAKE AN AIR-BATH FOR AN HOUR, AT LEAST VONCE A WEEK.

UH, OKAY.



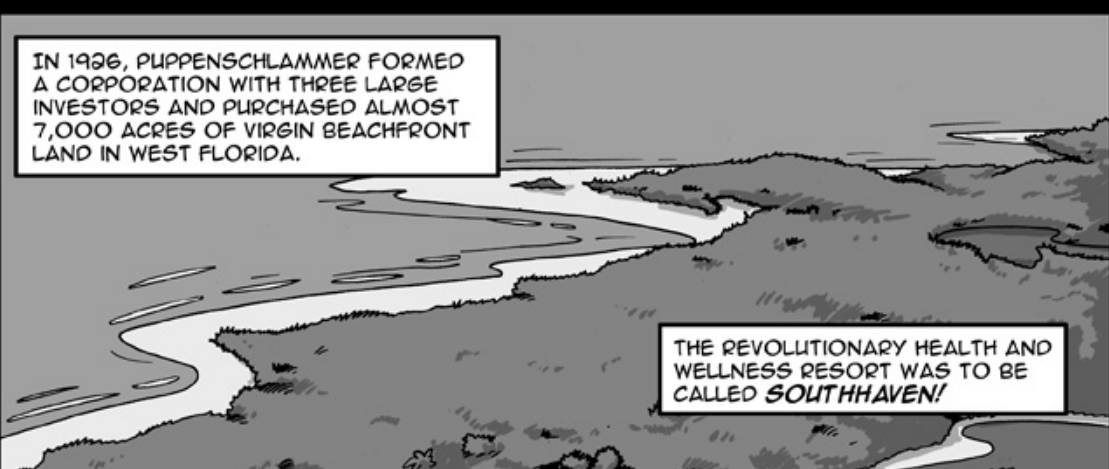
PUPPENSCHLAMMER BELIEVED **NUDITY** MADE ONE MORE AWARE OF ONE'S BODY, AND THEREFOR MORE CONSCIOUS OF ONE'S HEALTH AND FITNESS!

HE ALSO NOTED THE ADDED BENEFIT OF FEELING **FREE** AND **UNINHIBITED**, ADDING TO THE MENTAL HEALTH HE EMPHASIZED.




FEELS GOOD, YA.





IN 1936, PUPPENSCHLAMMER FORMED A CORPORATION WITH THREE LARGE INVESTORS AND PURCHASED ALMOST 7,000 ACRES OF VIRGIN BEACHFRONT LAND IN WEST FLORIDA.

THE REVOLUTIONARY HEALTH AND WELLNESS RESORT WAS TO BE CALLED **SOUTHHAVEN!**



IN A FEW YEARS, THE SMALL RESORT WAS GROWING. LOTS WERE LEASED TO DEVELOPERS AND BUSINESSES ALIKE, AND SOUTHHAVEN BEGAN TO SEE ITS FIRST SEMI-PERMANENT RESIDENTS.


ASIDE FROM PEOPLE INTERESTED IN PUPPENSCHLAMMER'S UNIQUE HEALTH PHILOSOPHIES, PEOPLE BEGAN TO SHOW UP JUST FOR **VACATION!**



SOME PEOPLE LEASED SECOND HOMES. OTHERS STARTED BUSINESSES.


BULLY!

ARTISANS AND **BOHEMIANS** LOOKING TO GET AWAY FROM STRICTER CLIMATES MADE UP A LARGE PORTION OF SOUTHHAVEN'S RESIDENTS IN THE 20S AND 30S!




BY THE 50S, THE MEDICAL ASPECT OF SOUTHAVEN ONLY BROUGHT IN A TINY PERCENT OF THE COMPANY'S REVENUE.

MOST OF IT CAME FROM PROPERTY LEASING. SOUTHAVEN WAS A REAL TOWN!



THEY HAD TO REPEL A MOVEMENT BY **EVICTED HIPPIES** WHO WANTED TO TURN SOUTHAVEN INTO A COMMUNE IN THE 60S!



TODAY, SOUTHAVEN HAS **THOUSANDS** OF PERMANENT RESIDENTS, AND MANY MORE SEASONAL ONES!

IT'S JUST LIKE A REAL TOWN, EXCEPT NO ONE CARES HOW MUCH CLOTHING YOU WEAR!



I WONDER HOW MUCH AN APARTMENT COSTS.

WE'VE ONLY BEEN HERE A DAY, ARON.

WHY WOULDN'T YOU WANT TO LIVE HERE!?

IT'S WARM, EVERYONE'S NICE, WE CAN AFFORD IT...

I.

I CAN AFFORD IT, YOU MEAN.

YOU JUST WANT TO SETTLE DOWN WHERE YOU CAN SEE NAKED PEOPLE.

SO? I LIKE BEING NAKED, TOO.

I'M JUST NOT THE PARTIER I USED TO BE, I GUESS.

OBVIOUSLY.

THERE ARE SOME THINGS I LIKE TO HAVE KEPT SPECIAL, NOW.

NAKEDNESS IS ONE OF THEM.



DON'T YOU EVER WANT TO SETTLE DOWN, THOUGH? AREN'T YOU TIRED OF SAILING?

I WAS THINKING OF BUYING A BIGGER BOAT, ACTUALLY.

REALLY?



I'M NOT DONE TRAVELING.

I WANT TO BE ABLE TO SAIL OUT FARTHER. MAYBE EVEN GO TO EUROPE.

WHAT IF I DON'T WANT TO GO TO EUROPE?



WELL...

... I'D LIKE YOU TO COME WITH ME WHEREVER I GO.

BUT I'VE NEVER THOUGHT OF YOU AS A KEPT MAN, ARON.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO.



HM.  
WHAT A  
CHOICE.

I DON'T KNOW  
IF I WANT TO  
SAIL ACROSS  
THE ATLANTIC.

AND I  
LIKE IT  
HERE.



**NINE  
YEARS**  
WE'VE BEEN  
TOGETHER.

SHE SEEMS  
HAPPY TO KEEP  
THINGS THE  
WAY THINGS  
ARE, BUT...

... AM  
I?



WELL,  
WE'RE HERE  
FOR A FEW  
MORE  
DAYS.

PLENTY  
OF TIME  
TO THINK.



ABOUT...

GOOD  
MORNING!

WELL,  
HELLO!

NICE  
HAIR!

I'M ZOE.

I'M ARON,  
WITH ONE  
"A".

WHAT  
BRINGS YOU  
THIS FAR  
DOWN THE  
BEACH SO  
EARLY?

WELL, MY  
GIRLFRIEND  
IS OUT  
JOGGING.

AND I HATE  
JOGGING,  
SO I WENT  
FOR A WALK.

IF YOU  
WANT SOMETHING  
SOFTER, *YOGA*  
MAY BE MORE  
YOUR SPEED.

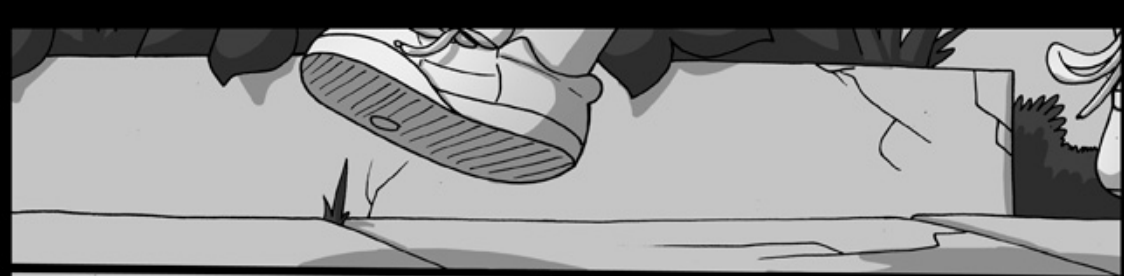
IT'S GOOD  
TO STRETCH  
AND KEEP  
LIMBER.

IT'S ALSO  
A *GREAT* WAY  
TO WAKE UP.  
BETTER THAN  
A CUP OF  
*COFFEE!*

ALSO, SOME  
*FOCUSED*  
MEDITATION CAN  
HELP YOU KEEP  
YOUR MIND OFF OF  
THAT BURGEONING  
ERECTION.

AW,  
DAMMIT!





\*HUFF\*

HEY,  
BETH!



WOULD YOU  
LIKE A  
JOGGING  
PARTNER?

SURE.



YOU SEEM  
A LITTLE  
MOROSE.

DO YOU  
NOT LIKE IT  
HERE?



IT'S  
OKAY.

MY BOYFRIEND  
WANTS TO GET  
A PLACE, BUT  
I'M NOT DONE  
TRAVELING

I THINK I  
MAY HAVE  
FUCKED UP BY  
IMPLYING I  
DIDN'T CARE IF  
HE CAME WITH  
ME.

YOU SEEM TO GET ALONG OKAY.

WE DO.

I LOVE HIM A LOT.

BUT HE'S A *SIMPLE* GUY. OUR RELATIONSHIP IS JUST SORT OF...

... *PHYSICAL.*

I'D LIKE HIM TO COME WITH ME. BUT WOULD I BE SUPER UPSET IF HE DIDN'T?

IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE IT WOULD HURT ME AS BADLY AS IT SHOULD.

HAVE I JUST BEEN *USING* HIS BODY FOR THE LAST NINE YEARS?

NOT THAT HE *MINDED*, I'LL BET.

HELL NO.



I HAVE A BOYFRIEND, BUT HE'S AT SCHOOL RIGHT NOW.

SO WHAT ABOUT YOU?

WELL, SORT OF A BOY-FRIEND.

WE DON'T REALLY GO INTO FORMALITIES.

I ONCE HAD TWO BOY-FRIENDS!

BEEN THERE.

HARD TO KEEP THEM FROM COMPETING, THOUGH.

ONE WANTS TO BE "YOUR FAVORITE" AND YOU DON'T ALWAYS HAVE TIME FOR BOTH...

BEEN THERE, TOO.

MY LEGS ARE GOING TO KILL ME.

I HAVEN'T JOGGED IN A WHILE.

HEY!

I CAN TAKE YOU TO ZOE'S PLACE!

SHE HAS A GREAT SPA!





ZOE'S A  
PROFESSIONAL  
MASSEUSE!

YEAH,  
LOOK, I THINK  
I'M JUST GOING  
TO GO KILL A  
FEW DRINKS,  
INSTEAD.



BETH,  
WAIT.

I WANT-

I...

OH  
GOD.

TOO  
MUCH  
MASSAGE.



zzz





AH, GOOD  
AFTERNOON,  
MR. BALVENIE.



HEY,  
BETH?

THERE'S  
NO REAL  
REASON  
TO BE  
JEALOUS.




I KNOW.  
THAT'S  
WHY I'M  
CONCERNED.



I  
SHOULDN'T  
BE. BUT I  
FELT A PANG  
OF IT.

ARON FITS IN  
HERE *SO* WELL.  
WHO THE HELL  
AM I TO HOLD  
HIM BACK?



I FEEL BAD  
FOR FEELING  
LIKE I SHOULD  
OWN HIM. LIKE  
HE'S MINE AND  
NOT HIS OWN.

JUST  
FOR A  
SECOND.



WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DRINKING?

SCOTCH.

WANT  
SOME?





WHA-  
WHAT  
HAPPENED?



YOU  
PASSED  
OUT.

WHERE'S  
BETH?

SHE  
WENT  
OUT TO  
DRINK.



I'VE  
BEEN  
TEXTING  
TRIXIE.

IT  
SOUNDS LIKE  
THEY'RE BOTH  
COMPLETELY  
BLOTTO.



YOU  
HAVE...



... SO  
MUCH  
HAIR.



AH!



ALL RIGHT.  
I THINK THIS  
IS HER  
PLACE.

WELL...

EEHEE!

YOU LET  
HER TRY TO GO  
DRINK FOR  
DRINK WITH  
YOU?

THAT'LL  
TEACH  
HER.

I  
THINK IT'S  
UNLOCKED.

BETH,  
YOU'RE SO  
MATURE.

AND  
WISE.

AND  
SMART.

UNLOCKED  
DOORS. THIS  
PLACE REALLY  
IS SPECIAL!

IF YOU  
WERE A  
MAN...

... I'D  
TOTALLY  
LICK YOUR  
PUSSY.

AND IT  
GETS MORE  
SPECIAL  
BY THE  
MINUTE!



SHE'LL  
BE  
OKAY.

WHUF

WF!

ZMZMMMZ



SO,  
YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
STAY,  
RIGHT?

I'D LOVE  
FOR YOU  
TO STAY  
WITH ME,  
BETH.



HEH.

BUT  
REGARDLESS  
OF WHAT I  
CHOOSE,  
YOU'RE  
STAYING.

YEAH.



ZOE'S  
ACTUALLY  
OFFERED  
ME A  
JOB.

HER SPA  
NEEDS MORE  
HANDS,  
ESPECIALLY  
WHEN  
TOURISTS  
SHOW UP.

THAT'S  
KIND OF  
COOL.

YOU'LL  
LIKE  
INDEPENDENCE.



YEAH. MY  
OWN *MONEY*.  
MY OWN  
*STUFF!*

SO, ARE  
YOU GOING  
TO KICK OFF  
SO SOON?



I'LL BE  
AROUND A  
BIT MORE.

I'M GOING  
TO AT LEAST  
LOOK AFTER  
TRIXIE FOR  
TODAY.

I FEEL AT  
LEAST A *LITTLE*  
RESPONSIBLE  
FOR HER  
IMPENDING  
HANGOVER.

WELL  
GOOD  
MORNING!

I GUESS  
1 A.M.  
COUNTS.

I MADE  
SOME OF  
YOUR COFFEE  
FOR YOU.

AW,  
THANK  
YOU.

I HAD  
SOME SO I  
COULD STAY  
UP AND MAKE  
SURE YOU  
WERE ALL  
RIGHT.

\*SMAT\*  
\*SMAT\*

THAT'S  
TOTALLY  
FINE.

CAN I  
CRASH  
HERE,  
TONIGHT?

SURE.

HELP  
YOURSELF.

COULD I GET  
A SHOWER AND  
A CHANGE OF  
CLOTHES WHEN  
I WAKE UP?



DO YOU MIND IF I READ YOUR BOOKS?

PLEASE DO.

CAN I PLAY YOUR PLAYSTATION?

BY ALL MEANS.

CAN I WEAR THIS SHIRT FOR BED?


OF COURSE.



HEY, IS  
ZOE  
AROUND?

SHE'S  
INSIDE. WE'RE  
NOT OPEN FOR  
ANOTHER FIVE  
MINUTES.

THAT'S  
OKAY. I'M  
A FRIEND.



HEY, ZOE.  
WHO'S THE  
NEW GUY  
OUTSIDE?


THAT'S  
ARON, A  
NEW HIRE.

I'LL HAVE HIM  
TRAINED AND  
LICENSED  
BEFORE THE  
TOURIST  
SEASON HITS.



I HAD MY  
HANDS FULL  
LAST  
SEASON.

AND BESIDES,  
A CUTE, EXOTIC  
LOOKING ASIAN  
GUY CAN'T HURT  
WITH THE OLD  
LADIES.



YOU LIKE  
HIM, HUH?

I'VE ONLY  
KNOWN HIM  
A FEW  
DAYS,  
KAVEK.

BESIDES,  
WHAT'S IT  
TO YOU,  
ANYMORE?

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU WERE CONTENT WITH OUR LITTLE AFFAIR.

WHAT'S SO DIFFERENT, NOW?

I WASN'T CONTENT TO HAVE AN AFFAIR FOREVER.

I WAS BETTER THAN HER! YOU SAID IT YOURSELF!

EITHER IT'S TRUE, OR YOU LIED.

I WANTED TO BE MORE THAN A PIT-STOP!

ZOE...

YOU PROPOSED TO REBECCA AND I'M SUPPOSED TO STILL BE THERE ON THE SIDE?

I WANT SOMETHING MORE, KAVEK!

IF I'D KNOWN YOU WANTED ME TO LEAVE REBECCA...

I KNOW. MAYBE IT'S MY MISTAKE.

ALLOW ME TO CORRECT IT, OKAY?



IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TO JUST *LEAVE* SOMEONE!

RELATIONSHIPS HAVE LIKE...

... *MOMENTUM!*



YOU'RE FULL OF SHIT.

FOR A GUY WHO'S SO STRONG, YOU SURE ARE *WEAK* WHEN IT COMES TO MAKING A CHOICE.

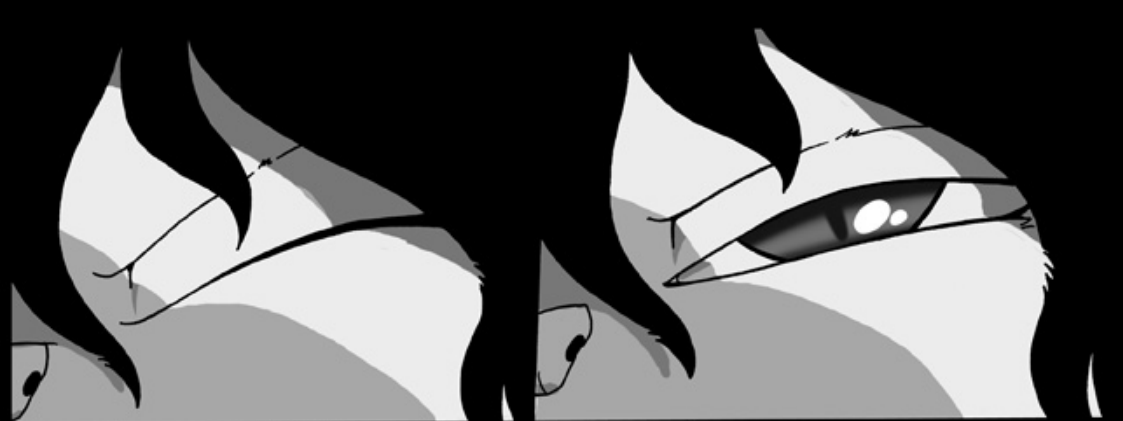


I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE LIKE THIS.

KAVEK, I KNOW *EVERY* PRESSURE POINT IN YOUR BODY.

IF YOU DON'T LEAVE, YOU'RE GOING TO LEARN WHERE THEY ARE, TOO.

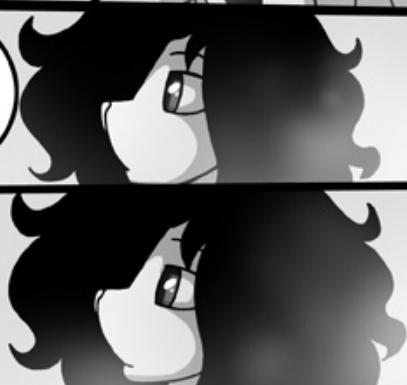




\*SIGH\*



WHAT THE HELL.





THIS MUST BE  
WHAT *GUYS*  
FEEL LIKE,  
AFTERWARDS.

THE ONUS OF  
PERFORMANCE.

EXPECTATION.

AND THE  
SATISFACTION  
OF DELIVERING.



IT'S MORE  
THAN A PLEASURE.  
IT'S AN  
*ACCOMPLISHMENT.*



MY LEGS  
ARE *STILL*  
SHAKING!

YEAH. I  
FUCKED  
YOUR SHIT  
UP.



I'LL VISIT.



I'LL VISIT YOU TOO.



YAY!



WHOA!

YOU HAVE TO GET THAT UNDER CONTROL BEFORE YOU COME BACK TO WORK.



OH, COME ON!



"LICK"



YOUR SALIVA'S ON ME.

IT'S A GIFT!



MM.

A GIFT LIKE THAT IS BEST APPLIED TO ANOTHER BODY PART.



IT'LL BE A "SAB GIFT".

BAD JOKES WILL NOT GET YOU LAID.



DAD SAYS  
YOU'RE COOKING  
CHICKEN BREASTS  
FOR DINNER.

YES, I  
AM.

DID YOU  
CUT THE  
NIPPLES  
OFF?

OR DO THEY  
DO THAT  
FOR YOU AT  
THE STORE?

DAD, MOM SAYS CHICKENS DON'T HAVE NIPPLES TO BEGIN WITH.

THAT'S A COMMON MISCONCEPTION THAT A LOT OF AMERICANS HAVE.

THEY'VE NEVER BEEN TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES WHERE CHICKENS ARE TRADITIONALLY SERVED *WHOLE*, WITH THE NIPPLES STILL ON.

REALLY?!

MMHM.

I THOUGHT MOMS KNEW *EVERYTHING*.

WELL, YOU'LL NEVER MAKE *THAT* MISTAKE AGAIN.

DEAR!



WHAT'S THAT STUFF UNDER YOUR EYES?

IT'S CALLED "EYE BLACK".

WHAT'S IT DO?

IT BLACKENS THE AREA UNDER YOUR EYES.

DUH!



BUT WHAT'S IT FOR?!

IT'S FOR PUTTING BLACK BARS ON THE LIGHT COLORED FUR UNDER YOUR EYES.



BUT WHY DO YOU PUT IT ON!


WELL, I CAN'T HAVE BLACK BARS UNDER MY EYES IF I DON'T!








SO, I PULLED  
JANIE OUT OF  
GYMNASTICS.



TO GET MUCH  
FURTHER AT HER  
AGE, SHE PRETTY  
MUCH HAS TO  
PRACTICE IT  
EXCLUSIVELY.



AND UNDER  
THE HARSHNESS  
OF A DRILL  
INSTRUCTOR.




IT'S  
ALMOST  
CHILD  
ABUSE.



**CRACK**



**WHAP**



MAYBE I'LL  
ENCOURAGE HER  
TO TAKE UP  
SWIMMING,  
INSTEAD.



SAVED THE  
WORLD FROM  
ALDUIN.  
COMPLETED  
EVERY MAJOR  
QUEST.

COMPLETED  
A ZILLION SIDE  
QUESTS.

DISCOVERED  
EVERY LOCATION  
IN SKYRIM.

NOW  
WHAT?



HEARTHFIRE  
DOWNLOADABLE  
CONTENT?

BUILD YOUR  
CUSTOMIZABLE  
ESTATE?

LIVE OFF THE  
FAT OF YOUR  
CHARACTER'S  
ACCOMPLISHED  
OPULENCE!?



FUCK  
YEAH.

THE  
MEANING?

WELL,  
"MEANING"  
REFERS TO  
PURPOSE?

THE QUESTION  
PRESUPPOSES A  
PURPOSE OR  
MEANING *PRIOR* TO  
THE EXISTENCE OF  
LIFE, FOR WHICH  
LIFE WAS MADE.

BUT ONLY  
LIVING THINGS  
HAVE VALUES,  
PASSIONS,  
AND GOALS.

ONLY *LIVING*  
THINGS CAN  
DETERMINE  
THEIR PURPOSE  
OR MEANING. A  
NON-LIVING  
THING *CAN'T*.

SO, LIFE COMES  
*FIRST*, THEN THE  
MEANING OF IT IS  
DETERMINED BY  
LIVING THINGS. NOT  
THE OTHER WAY  
AROUND.

SO, IF LIFE HAS  
"MEANING", IT IS  
WHAT WE CHOOSE  
FOR OURSELVES.  
WHATEVER OUR  
GOALS, PASSIONS,  
AND VALUES ARE.

I  
SEE.

WHEN I ASKED  
MOM, SHE  
JUST SAID  
"*HAPPINESS*".

YEAH,  
WELL...

SAME  
THING.



**EAT IT! EAT IT! EAT IT! EAT IT! EAT IT!**



**DANG!  
I CUT  
MYSELF.**

**JUST HOLD IT  
IN YOUR MOUTH  
UNTIL I COME  
BACK WITH A  
BAND-AID.**



**AH  
AH!**

**WASH  
THOSE  
HANDS  
FIRST,  
YOUNG  
MAN!**



MEET THE CITIZENS OF THE INTERNET!

WHAT DO YOU DO, SIR?

I PLAY MULTI-PLAYER GAMES IN ORDER TO MAKE THEM AS INSUFFERABLE AS POSSIBLE TO NEW PLAYERS.

GAMES AREN'T ABOUT STORIES, BUT PLAYER STATS AND EXPLOITS.

AND YOU?

I'M MAKING COPIES OF THIS VIDEO GAME TO PROTEST THE STUDIO'S INCONVENIENT DRM MEASURES.

SO WITHOUT DRM, YOU'D PAY FOR THE GAME?

WELLLL...

I'M DEALING WITH MY INSECURITIES BY BEING HYPER-CRITICAL OVER THE PHYSICAL IMPERFECTIONS OF WOMEN ON THE INTERNET.

YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR US ALL.

YES.

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU?

WHEN I'M NOT GIBBLING OVER .GIFS AND MEMES THAT TRIVIALIZE THE HOLOCAUST AND WORLD TRADE CENTER ATTACKS, I'M RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT THE DANGERS OF SCIENTOLOGY.

YOU'RE A RISK TAKING PIONEER.

HELLO, MISS.

I DO MY BEST TO CREATE ORIGINAL CONTENT AND ADD MY OWN EXPRESSIVE CORNER TO THE-

HOW DULL.

WHAT?

NEXT!

I'M TRYING TO COERCE THE GIRL IN THE LAST FRAME TO DRAW FOR *FREE*, UNDER THE PRETEXT THAT NO ONE REALLY "OWNS" ART.

FREEDOM FOR CONCEPTS, NOT PEOPLE?

EXACTLY.

DAD?

HELLO,  
PUMPKIN.

CAN I  
HAVE SOME  
MONEY?

FOR  
WHAT?

I NEED APPROXIMATELY  
5.9 MILLION DOLLARS  
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION  
OF A SUBTERRANEAN  
LABORATORY.

I REQUIRE  
BIOHAZARD  
CONTAINMENT  
FACILITIES AND A  
SUPERCOMPUTER. A  
PARTICLE COLLIDER  
WOULDN'T HURT,  
EITHER.

HAHA!

HERE'S  
FORTY  
BUCKS.

SEE IF  
YOUR  
MOTHER  
CAN TAKE  
YOU TO THE  
MALL.

I GOT  
FORTY  
DOLLARS.


WELL, IT  
WAS WORTH  
A SHOT.




WE HAVE  
TO RAISE  
MONEY.

WE ARE BEING  
RESTRAINED BY  
THE LIMITATIONS  
OF OUR  
CURRENT  
FACILITIES.

MY ROOM  
SIMPLY WILL  
NOT DO,  
ANYMORE.



WHAT DO KIDS  
NORMALLY DO TO  
RAISE MONEY  
WITHOUT THEIR  
PARENTS'  
INVOLVEMENT?



WHILE THE WEATHER  
IS STILL WARM,  
CHILDREN OFTEN  
SELL HOMEMADE  
BEVERAGES, SUCH  
AS LEMONADE, BY  
THE ROAD.

I CAN DO  
A LITTLE  
BETTER  
THAN THAT.



LEMONADE+

VITAMIN  
FORTIFIED

ENERGY! ELECTROLYTES!

FREE SAMPLE?

IS THIS THE ONE?

MMMMM.

NO SINKS.

NO SANITATION GRADE.

DO YOU HAVE A TEMPORARY VENDOR BUSINESS PERMIT?

A WHAT?

YOU CAN APPLY FOR A TEMPORARY VENDOR PERMIT AT THE COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

I'M SIX!

\$100 APPLICATION FEE, ALONG WITH A \$50 PROCESSING FEE.

THIS IS A \$300 CITATION FOR RUNNING AN UNLICENSED BUSINESS.

PLEASE GIVE IT TO ONE OF YOUR PARENTS OR A LEGAL GUARDIAN.





MOM?

HI, MUFFIN!

CAN I ASK YOU SOMETHING?

SURE!



IN PRINCIPLE, HOW ARE THE ARBITRARY LICENSING STANDARDS LEVELED AT BUSINESSES BY A GOVERNMENT, AND THEIR PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE, SIGNIFICANTLY *DIFFERENT* FROM THE EXTORTION SCHEMES PRACTICED BY THE *MAFIA*?



WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN *DOING* ALL AFTERNOON!?

JUST BEAR IN MIND WHAT I SAID WHEN YOU READ THIS CITATION.



EXCUSE ME, LITTLE GIRL?

WHAT?

ARE YOU THE ONE WHO MADE THE DRUG THAT TURNS FAT INTO MUSCLE?

UH, YEAH?

I'D LIKE TO USE IT.

WELL, THERE ARE SIDE EFFECTS-

I DON'T CARE.

WELL, I CAN'T JUST SELL IT.

IT COULD TAKE YEARS TO GET FDA APPROVAL.

THIS REQUIRES EXPERIMENTATION AND PUBLISHING, AND EVEN THEN IT ISN'T A SURE THING...

I'LL PAY YOU \$500 PER TREATMENT AND I WON'T TELL THE GOVERNMENT.

OH...

ALICE, WE'RE PUTTING ITEM D458 INTO PRODUCTION.

RETOOL THE FACILITIES.

THE FITNESS HORMONE YOU TRIED ON JEFFERY?

YES.

HOW'D YOU GET APPROVAL TO SELL SUCH A TREATMENT?

I DIDN'T, BUT DEMAND IS HIGH.

THE GOVERNMENT CAN EAT IT ON THIS ONE. WE'LL SELL IN SECRET.


SECRET SELLING?

EVADING THE GOVERNMENT?

SOUNDS DANGEROUS.

SCREW THEM.

I AM THE DANGER.



YOU WANT ME TO  
HELP YOU SELL  
THESE TREATMENTS  
THAT TURNED MY  
LITTLE BROTHER INTO  
A HYPER MASCULINE  
FREAK?

YOU'LL  
GET A  
CUT.

ALL  
RIGHT.

BUT I  
HAVE NO  
IDEA WHERE  
TO START.



GO TO  
WHERE MAN  
IS AT HIS  
LOWEST.

WHERE HE  
HAS LOST ALL  
HOPE OF EVER  
FEELING  
GOOD ABOUT  
HIS BODY.

GO TO WHERE  
MANKIND HAS LOST  
ALL CONTROL, AND  
DWELLS IN BOTH THE  
PLEASURES OF THE  
MOMENT AND A  
DEEPLY REPRESSED  
HATRED OF HIMSELF  
FOR DOING SO.

OFFER  
HIM  
HOPE.



*Krispy Kreme*  
DOUGHNUTS

DOUGHNUTS

COFFEE

DAY 1

Kruspy Krema

HFF

HUF

GRUNT

DAY 8

Kruspy Krema

HRRP

HRR

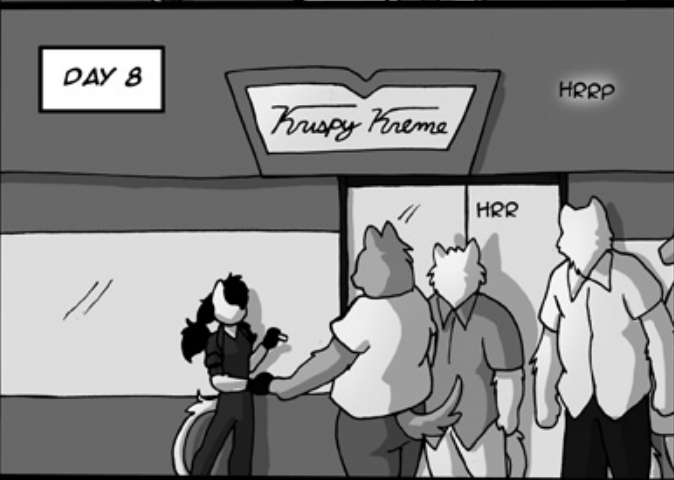
DAY 34

Kruspy Krema

HRR

HRR  
HRR

HRR



WOW.

WHO KNEW  
MEN WERE AS  
OBSESSED  
WITH BODY  
IMAGE AS  
WOMEN?

OUR  
CUSTOMERS,  
IT SEEMS.

DO YOU  
FEEL A  
LITTLE *BAD*,  
THOUGH?

WHY?

MEN ARE  
TURNING  
THEMSELVES INTO  
*LUMBERING*  
*MORONS* JUST  
TO HAVE A  
SHREDDED  
BODY!

IF A MAN  
SELLS HIS MIND  
FOR A FAST  
TRACK TO A NICE  
BODY, HOW  
VALUABLE WAS  
HIS MIND TO HIM  
IN THE FIRST  
PLACE?

ENJOY  
YOUR  
CUT.



CHANNEL 6 HAS A REPORT ON A NEW POWERFUL FITNESS DRUG THAT'S SWEEPING THE STREETS!

IT'S BEING CALLED RIP JUICE, FERRIGNO FLUID, AND MONGO MUSCLE MARGARITA.

IT ALLOWS MEN TO EAT AS MUCH JUNK FOOD AS THEY WANT AND CONVERT WHAT WOULD NORMALLY BECOME FAT, INTO MUSCLE!

BUT IT COMES WITH MANY RISKS, SOME DOCTORS SAY.

THE USER SUFFERS FROM A REMARKABLE SPIKE IN TESTOSTERONE, AND IS PRONE TO DISTRACTION AND A DECREASE IN INTELLECTUAL ABILITY.

THE BENEFIT OF FITNESS IS ILLUSORY, AND WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT THE LONG TERM EFFECTS OF THIS DRUG ARE.

DR. SCHVANTZEN, MD

ONE MAN TELLS OF HIS DEVASTATING EXPERIENCE:

I WAS AN OVERWEIGHT COMPUTER PROGRAMMER MAKING SIX FIGURES A YEAR.

BUT AFTER USING FERRIGNO FLUID, MY LIFE SPIRALED OUT OF CONTROL.

EVERY DAY IS AN AVALANCHE OF DEGRADING SEX AND DEBAUCHERY.

DEA HQ,  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA.

... AND  
IT'S USE.

WE'VE ALREADY  
SEEN UNEMPLOYMENT  
RESULTING FROM A  
DROP IN INTELLECT  
FROM THE USERS OF  
FERRIGNO FLUID.

THERE ARE  
HOSPITAL CASES  
RESULTING FROM  
EXTREME DECLINES IN  
FLEXIBILITY DUE TO THE  
INCREASED MUSCLE  
TISSUE.

THESE COMBINED  
FACTORS ARE  
COSTING THE  
TAXPAYERS  
BILLIONS.

THEREFOR, WE  
MUST SPEND  
MORE OF THEIR  
BILLIONS TRYING  
TO STOP IT.


BUT ISN'T  
THAT THE  
**REAL**  
PROBLEM?

IF WE DIDN'T  
**MAKE** THEM PAY  
FOR OTHER  
PEOPLE'S BAD  
DECISIONS, WE  
WOULDN'T **HAVE**  
THIS ARGUMENT.

AHEM


**KSHHH**





SO, IT'S OFFICIALLY ILLEGAL AS A **SUBSTANCE**, NOT JUST A BUSINESS.

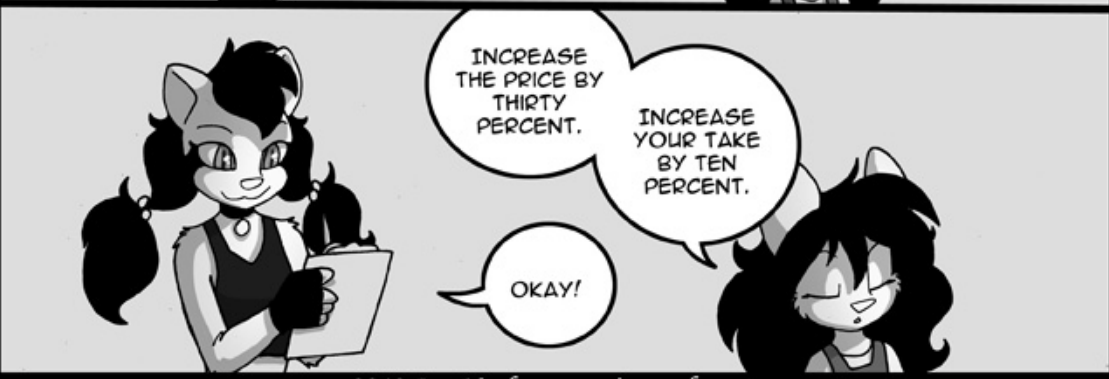
WHAT'S THE SITUATION ON THE STREET?



MOVING THE PRODUCT IS HARDER. THE COPS ARE LOOKING FOR GUYS WHO ARE RIPPED.

WE HAVE TO HIDE OUR TRANSACTIONS, JUMP THROUGH HOOPS, CHANGE LOCATIONS...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?



INCREASE THE PRICE BY THIRTY PERCENT.

INCREASE YOUR TAKE BY TEN PERCENT.

OKAY!



DAD, I HAVE SOMETHING FOR YOU.

I LOVE THOSE PICTURES YOU MAKE OUT OF MACARONI GLUED TO PAPER.

THANK YOU, BUT...



THIS IS A **HAND CRAFTED** PIPE FROM THE ESTATE OF MASTER CRAFTSMAN **SAN SUAPO**.

NOTICE THE PERFECTLY UNIFORM WOOD GRAIN ALONG THE BOWL AND THE TIGHT WOOD EYES ALONG THE RIM.

IT'S ENTIRELY CUSTOM.



THIS HAD TO HAVE COST **THOUSANDS!**

IF YOU LIKE WHERE THAT CAME FROM, YOU CAN IGNORE THE CONSTRUCTION NOISES COMING FROM THE BASEMENT OVER THE NEXT FEW WEEKS.



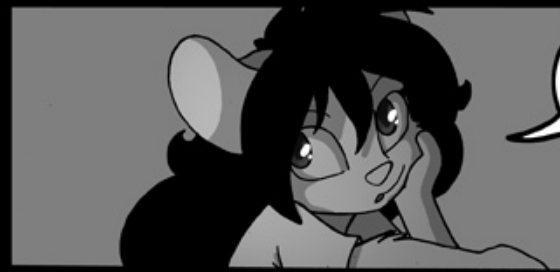




WHERE'S MY DROP??

I CAN'T MAKE ANY MORE. SORRY.

WHY??



MY DAD FOUND OUT.

I GOT **GROUND**ED FOR CREATING AND RUNNING AN ILLEGAL DRUG EMPIRE.



HE'S NOT **DUMB** LIKE ALL THE DADS ON TV!



YOU CAN ELUDE THE GOVERNMENT BUT NOT YOUR **DAD?**

AS THE SUPPLY DRIES UP, THE MUSCLY ADDICTS GROW BEWILDERED AND CONCERNED.

WRR..



WIRR?



EACH HAS HIS OWN APPROACH TO THE CRISIS.



I'M GOING TO SEE HOW MUCH OF THIS BODY I CAN KEEP WITHOUT DRUGS!

I GUESS I'M JUST DESTINED TO BE FAT AGAIN.



FOR SOME, LIFE COULD ONLY GET BETTER.



WANNA GET A DOZEN KRISPY KREMES?

SHOW SOME RESTRAINT, SIR.





LEO,  
SWEETIE,  
WHERE ARE  
YOU GOING?

JIM  
FOUND A  
BEACHED  
DOLPHIN!

ALL  
RIGHT. BE  
CAREFUL.



LEO, BRING  
THAT GRILL  
BACK HERE,  
*RIGHT*  
*NOW!*





IT'S 70 DEGREES IN FLORIDA, DAD!

WHY DON'T WE LIVE THERE?

IT'S A COMPROMISE I MADE WITH YOUR MOTHER LONG AGO.

SHE LIKES IT COOL. I LIKE IT WARM. SO WE LIVE HERE.

HOW COULD SHE!?

WE COULD BE WEARING SHORTS IN DECEMBER!

WELL, MOST MOTHERS HAVE A TOUCH OF INSANITY.

REALLY?

YEAH. SHE'S THE ONE WHO WANTED THREE K- AHH...

THREE WHAT?

CARS.

WE ONLY REALLY NEED TWO, BUT...

AH OKAY. YEAH, I CAN SEE THAT.



AND THEN I  
SAW THOMAS  
AND MIKO  
KISSING  
BEHIND THE  
GYM.

AWW!

WHAT'S  
WRONG  
WITH  
THAT?

HOW DOES IT  
MAKE SENSE  
THAT MY LITTLE  
BROTHER GETS  
HIS FIRST KISS  
BEFORE I DO?

WHAT'S  
WRONG  
WITH ME?

WELL,  
YOU'RE  
PRETTY, BUT  
YOU CAN  
BE KINDA  
SCARY.

SCARY?

I THINK  
BOYS CAN BE  
INTIMIDATED  
BY YOU.

HOW AM I  
INTIMIDATING!?

EEE!  
DON'T HURT  
ME!



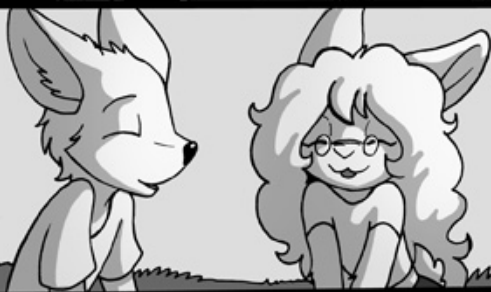
I  
REMEMBER  
MY FIRST  
KISS:

*ASPEN  
SMITTBERRY.*

MY PARENTS  
WOULD DROP ME  
OFF AT HIS HOUSE  
WHEN THEY WENT  
TO PRIMAL SCREAM  
THERAPY.

HE'S SO  
SMALL  
AND SWEET  
AND **NON-  
THREATENING!**

ONE THING  
LEAD TO  
ANOTHER.



THE  
HARDEST  
PART AT  
FIRST IS  
**AIM.**

IN MY FIRST  
ATTEMPT, I LIP-  
LOCKED HIS  
NOSTRIL ON  
ACCIDENT.





YOU'RE SMILING.



I KISSED  
A BOY,  
ONCE.

OH  
REALLY.



TREVOR  
SWINTON  
DIDN'T WANT  
TO PLAY  
FOOTBALL  
WITH GIRLS.



BUT HIS  
MOTHER  
MADE HIM  
PLAY WITH  
ME.



I KEPT TAKING  
HIM DOWN AT  
THE LINE OF  
SCRIMMAGE.

GRR!

HE  
WOULD  
GET SO  
MAD.



SO AFTER  
A TACKLE, I  
GAVE HIM A  
BIG LINGERING  
KISS IN FRONT  
OF ALL HIS  
FRIENDS!

MMMMMWA!



THEY ALL  
LAUGHED AT  
HIM AND  
CALLED HIM  
GAY.

IT WAS  
NICE.



YEP,  
THERE  
THEY ARE.

NOT EVEN  
COMING UP  
FOR AIR!



I WONDER IF  
WE CAN FIND  
SOMEONE  
APPROPRIATE  
FOR JANIE.

JUST TO  
MAKE HER  
FEEL  
BETTER.

I'LL  
KISS  
HER IF IT  
HELPS.



YOU'RE  
SO  
BRAVE!

BUT IT  
ONLY REALLY  
**COUNTS** IF  
IT'S WITH A  
**BOY!**

I  
FORGOT.

IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO FIND A GUY INTERESTED IN JANIE.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT KIND OF GUY SHE LIKES.

MAYBE WE SHOULD ASK HER.

I HAVE A LIST BUT...

THIS ONE'S TOO NERDY.

TOO FAT.


TOO WEENY.

TOO DORKY.

MAYBE WE SHOULD ASK HER.

NO NO.

IT'S NOT ENOUGH THAT SHE LIKE HIM. HER FRIENDS HAVE TO LIKE HER AND HIM TOGETHER.



OKAY, YOU  
TWO ARE HERE  
BECAUSE YOU'RE  
ATHLETIC, DECENT  
LOOKING, AND THE  
RIGHT AGE.



MY FRIEND  
HASN'T HAD  
HER FIRST  
KISS.

THIS IS A  
VITAL FIRST  
TIME LIFE  
EXPERIENCE.

ENTICE HER.  
WOO HER. OR  
JUST PLANT  
ONE ON HER.



EASY  
ENOUGH.  
WHO'S THE  
LUCKY  
GIRL?

JANIE  
BLACK.

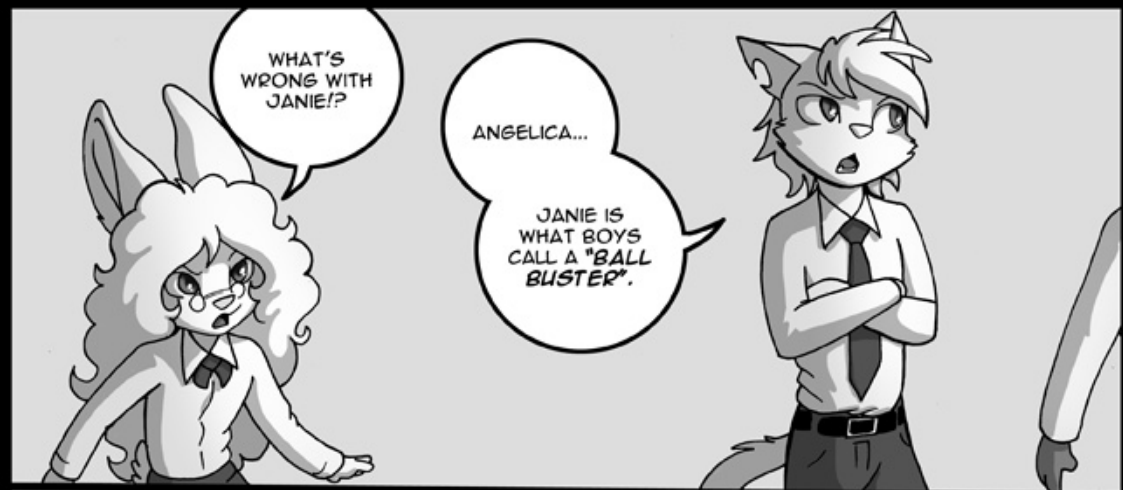


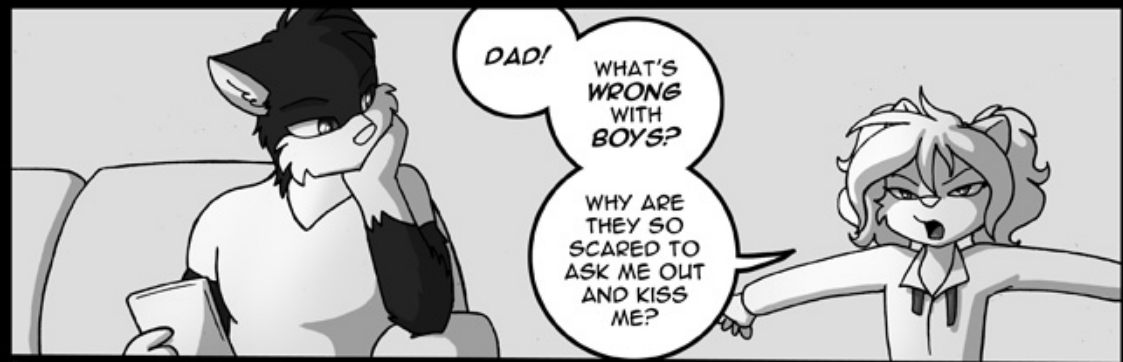
OH...!  
AHH...

COME  
ON! I'LL  
PAY YOU  
GUYS!

OH  
GOSH...







THERE SHE IS.

OKAY. DOIN' THIS FOR THE MONEY...

BE STRONG.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO SAY?

IT'S NOT IMPORTANT WHAT I SAY.

GIRLS JUST LOVE THAT YOU'RE TALKING TO THEM!

HEY, JANIE.

AH...

SO, YOU REALLY LIKE SWIMMING?

DARN.

I WAS HOPING NO ONE WOULD NOTICE.

\*SPLASH\*

HA-HA!




SHE'S NEVER BEEN KISSED.

SHE'S NOT FULLY OPENED TO YOUR CHARM BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW NICE KISSING REALLY FEELS.

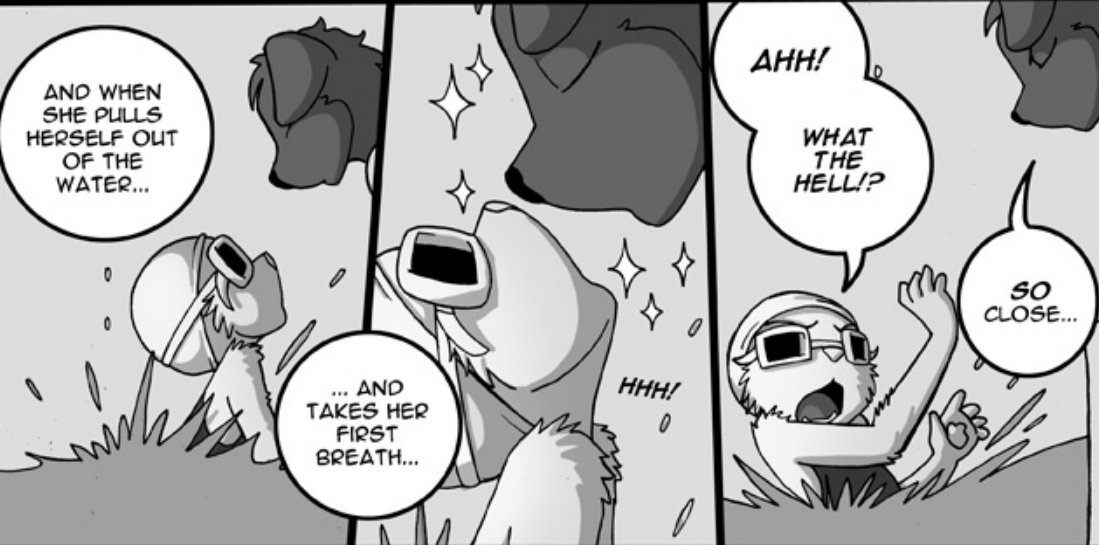


SOME GIRLS NEED TO HAVE IT HAPPEN ALMOST BY ACCIDENT.

THEN THEY WARM UP TO THOSE FEELINGS.



IT COULD BE AS EASY AS BEING AT THE END OF HER SWIMMING LANE.



AND WHEN SHE PULLS HERSELF OUT OF THE WATER...

... AND TAKES HER FIRST BREATH...

AHH!

WHAT THE HELL!?

SO CLOSE...



IT WAS AN ACCIDENT, I SWEAR!

I'LL KILL YOU!

HMM...

HUMMMM...

THOMAS?

HI, CHARLIE.

TEACH ME HOW TO BE A BOY.

A PROPER BOY  
APPROACHES  
LIFE LIKE HE'S  
BUILDING A  
HOUSE.

TONE, ATTITUDE,  
LITTLE *MINUTIA*  
OF INFLECTION...  
... NONE OF IT  
MATTERS.

DO WHAT MUST  
BE DONE TO DO  
THINGS RIGHT,  
AND DISREGARD  
ALL  
BULLCRAP.

BOYS AREN'T  
COMPLICATED.  
AND THAT'S  
NOT AN INSULT.

GIRLS LACE  
THINGS WITH  
*SECRET*  
MEANINGS  
AND HEAD  
GAMES.

I WISH I  
COULD PEE  
STANDING UP,  
TOO.

*DICK ETIQUETTE:*  
YOU CAN PEE NEXT  
TO ANOTHER BOY,  
BUT DON'T LOOK  
AT HIS STUFF.

ANYTHING  
MORE THAN A  
BRIEF GLANCE  
IS JUST  
*WEIRD.*

I JUST  
WANT TO  
KNOW WHAT  
PRETTY  
GIRLS WANT.

SHAKE  
SHAKE

YEAH.  
BEING A  
BOY WON'T  
HELP YOU  
WITH THAT.



OKAY, SO  
YOU WANT TO  
LOOK LIKE A  
BOY?

YES,  
PLEASE.

THIS  
COULD BE  
FUN!



LET'S LOSE  
THE HAT AND  
THE PONY TAIL,  
FIRST...



FWOMP



WHAT?

ARE YOU  
SURE YOU  
WANT ME TO  
DO THIS?



ALL  
DONE!

SAY HI TO  
CHARLIE  
THE BOY!

WOW, SHE  
LOOKS LIKE A  
REAL  
DUDEBRO.

SO WHAT  
ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
DO AS A  
BOY?

GONNA GO  
MAKE OUT  
WITH YOUR  
SISTER.

AH-  
HEH

OOPS!

WHAT.

WHAT  
DID SHE  
SAY?



OKAY, SHE SAID SHE'D PAY US.

BUT IF YOU DO IT, WE'LL SPLIT THE MONEY!

YOU DON'T WANT TO GO ON TO HIGH SCHOOL KISSLESS...



AND-



WH-SM!



I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO DO THAT.

HEY!

POP  
☆

WHOA...

SORRY, JANIE.

SINCE BECOMING A BOY, I'M JUST BRIMMING WITH CONFIDENCE!

CHARLIE?

AWW! YOU DON'T NEED TO CHANGE YOURSELF, CHARLIE!

THE CONFIDENCE IS INSIDE YOU!

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT.





YOU  
LOOKED  
REALLY  
GOOD AS A  
BOY.

I LOVE YOU AS  
A FRIEND, BUT  
FOR SOMETHING  
ELSE, I'LL WANT  
A REAL BOY.

I'M NOT  
ENOUGH  
OF A  
BOY?



YOU'RE  
A GREAT  
BOY!

BUT I DON'T  
WANT TO JUST  
USE YOU UNTIL A  
REAL BOY  
COMES ALONG  
THAT I LIKE.

THAT'S  
NOT  
FAIR.



THAT'S  
NOT WHAT  
FRIENDS  
DO.



AND I WANT  
YOU TO  
STILL BE MY  
FRIEND.



I  
SHOULD  
GO HOME.

MY MOTHER  
GETS FUSSY  
WHEN I'M LATE  
FOR DINNER.

YEAH.

THANKS!

BYE!

SEE YOU  
AT SCHOOL  
TOMORROW!



SO, I  
BROKE UP  
WITH BRAD.

DIDN'T  
SEE  
THAT  
COMING.


BUT I  
STILL WANT  
TO BE HIS  
FRIEND.

FORGET IT.  
IMPOSSIBLE.


WHY?



WELL,  
HE COULD  
FAKE IT, I  
GUESS.



WHY CAN'T I  
STILL BE HIS  
FRIEND JUST  
BECAUSE I  
DON'T WANT TO  
DATE HIM?




BECAUSE YOUR  
CONSTANT PRESENCE  
WILL CONTINUOUSLY  
REMIND HIM OF  
EVERYTHING THAT  
WAS DISAPPOINTING  
ABOUT YOUR  
RELATIONSHIP?

GIVE HIM A FEW  
MONTHS, OR A  
COUPLE OF NEW  
GIRLFRIENDS.

THEN  
MAYBE.



YOU  
SOUND  
JUST LIKE  
BRAD!



STILL  
GOT HIS  
NUMBER?

I THINK-

WAIT,  
WHY?



HOW IS FISK ALWAYS SO CALM, NO MATTER HOW CHAOTIC YOUR HOUSE IS?

I DON'T KNOW.

HE'S JUST A SPECIAL GUY.



YOU RAN A COP OFF THE ROAD!

HE'LL LIVE.



THERE IS NO RED WIRE.

THERE'S A LIGHT SALMON WIRE, AND SORT OF A DARK HELICONIA...



THEY BLOCKED THE EXITS!

NOT THE WINDOWS!




FUUU-



AND HE WENT INTO MY ROOM AND MESSED WITH MY TROPHIES AND I KEPT TELLING HIM TO LEAVE MY STUFF ALONE AND HE'S SUCH A NOSEY BRAT!

BECAUSE SHE'S ALWAYS MESSING WITH MY STUFF BECAUSE SHE THINKS SHE OWNS THE HOUSE! BECAUSE HE'S ALWAYS LEAVING HIS STUFF IN MY WAY ON THE PORCH AND IN THE FOYER AND-

OH THE LIES!



DOES THE  
SIZE OF THE  
UNIVERSE  
EVER MAKE  
YOU FEEL  
INSIGNIFICANT?

NOT  
REALLY.




YOU'RE JUST  
TALKING  
ABOUT A HUGE  
ACCUMULATION  
OF *STUFF*.

LIFE IS  
WHAT'S  
REALLY  
AWESOME.


A STAR  
CAN'T BE  
HAPPY.

A NEBULA  
ISN'T AWARE  
OF ITS OWN  
EXISTENCE.



I MEANT  
IN TERMS  
OF *SIZE*.

ARE YOU  
*LESS*  
SIGNIFICANT  
BECAUSE  
YOU'RE *NOT*  
OBESE?



SINCE YOU SENT  
MY DEBTOR  
AWAY, I FIGURE  
YOU OWE ME THE  
MONEY, NOW.

ARE YOU  
SERIOUS?

LOOK  
AT ME.



I AM THE  
DRAGONBORN!

I'VE LEFT A  
TRAIL OF  
BODIES FROM  
HERE TO  
MARKARTH!

EVERYONE  
WHO ATTACKS  
ME DIES!



I HAVE  
SAVED  
WORLDS!

I HAVE  
SLAIN  
GODS!



IF YOU  
DON'T PAY,  
I'LL SEND  
GUYS AFTER  
YOU-

OH  
COME  
ON!!!



STAY IN BED. IT'S SUNDAY.

I CAN'T...

WE WERE UP UNTIL 7. SLEEP IN.

IF I DON'T GET THE KIDS' BREAKFAST, THEY'LL GO APE.

CRASH

A MOTHER'S RAGE IS STRONGER THAN ANY CUP OF COFFEE!


OO!  
YOU'RE IN TROUBLE!

UH-UH!  
IT WAS YOUR FAULT!

AW MAN



IT'S BOTH  
YOUR FAULTS  
BECAUSE  
YOU'RE  
RAMBLING  
LITTLE  
WEASELS!




GO TO YOUR  
ROOMS UNTIL I  
CLEAN THIS UP AND  
I CALL YOU FOR  
BREAKFAST!

GRR!




THEY'RE  
SO  
ROWDY.

THEY  
REALLY  
ARE THEIR  
FATHER'S  
KIDS.



YOU  
DON'T SEE MY  
WELL-BEHAVED  
GENES HASSLING  
HIM, DO  
YOU?



FATHER, I'M  
GROWING  
INCREASINGLY  
WORRIED ABOUT  
THE INEVITABLE  
COLD DEATH OF  
OUR INFINITELY  
EXPANDING  
UNIVERSE.



WHERE'S  
THE BEDTIME  
STORY  
BOOK?

I WROTE  
THIS STORY  
MYSELF!

OH.



ONCE  
UPON A TIME,  
THERE WAS A  
CUTE LITTLE  
GIRL.



SHE WAS  
THE *CUTEST*  
GIRL IN HER  
WHOLE  
VILLAGE!

ISN'T THAT  
SUBJECTIVE?



NO.


NOT WHEN  
YOU *LISTEN*  
TO YOUR  
MOTHER.



SHE WAS THE  
*CUTEST LITTLE*  
GIRL IN THE  
ENTIRE  
VILLAGE.

OKAY.





SHE HAD A  
VERY LOVING  
MOTHER WHO  
ONLY WANTED  
THE **BEST**  
FOR HER.

SHE TAUGHT  
HER TO **NEVER**  
COMPROMISE  
IN HAVING THE  
**BEST!**



SHE NEVER  
COMPROMISED  
ON TOYS!



SHE NEVER  
COMPROMISED  
ON FOOD!

\*BURP\*




BUT AS  
SHE GREW  
UP, SHE  
WASN'T  
HAPPY.

HARDLY  
ANYTHING  
LIVED UP TO HER  
**UNCOMPROMISING**  
**STANDARDS!**



BUT MOST OF ALL, NO ONE COULD LIVE UP TO HER STANDARDS IN ROMANCE!

WILL I EVER FIND THE PERFECT MAN?



LINGTHRED WAS A STRONG WARRIOR. PHYSICALLY, HE WAS PERFECT.


BUT HE LACKED INTELLIGENCE AND MANNERS.



DURR




WYLAND WAS AN INTELLIGENT POET, AS CHARMING AS ANY MAN SHE COULD EVER WANT!



BUT HIS LACK OF MASCULINITY MADE HER THINK OF HIM AS JUST ANOTHER WOMAN.




JORSEN WAS A WEALTHY MERCHANT WHO COULD OFFER HER UNLIMITED LUXURIES AND FINANCIAL STABILITY!



BUT HIS PHYSICAL PROWESS WAS LACKING.

AND HE WAS FAT AND SMELLY.



WANTING A SOLUTION TO HER PROBLEM, THE YOUNG MAIDEN SOUGHT OUT A WISE WITCH WHO LIVED IN THE FOREST.



THE WITCH LIKED THE YOUNG LADY, AND HAD A PLAN TO HELP!

I KNOW *JUST* WHAT YOU NEED!



INVITE ALL THREE SUITORS TO FOREST CLEARING JUST SOUTH OF THE OLD VILLAGE WELL.

*THERE*, I WILL MAKE YOUR PERFECT MAN A REALITY!


OH!



AND SO SHE TOLD THE THREE SUITORS, AND THEN WAITED.

DO WE **HAVE** TO BE HIDDEN?

YES.




THEY SHOWED UP AT THE SAME TIME, SURPRISED BY ONE ANOTHER'S PRESENCE!




WHO ARE YOU?



WHO ARE YOU?



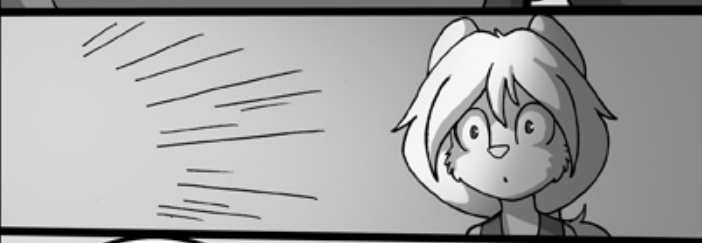
THE AIR WAS TENSE AS ALL THREE EYED ONE ANOTHER, WONDERING WHY THE YOUNG LADY THEY SO DESIRED WAS NOWHERE IN SIGHT!



WHEN THEY WERE ALL CLOSE TOGETHER, THE WITCH **LEAPT** UP AND CAST HER SPELL!



THE THREE SUITORS WERE ACCOSTED BY A WHORL OF MAGICAL FORCES!



THE YOUNG LADY WATCHED IN AMAZEMENT AS ALL THREE MEN WERE CONSUMED. THEN THE LIGHT RECEDED.



AND AFTER THE DESIRABLE QUALITIES OF ALL THREE WERE **MERGED TOGETHER**, BEFORE HER STOOD...

... THE **PERFECT MAN!**



THE YOUNG  
LADY RAN TO  
HER PERFECT  
MAN!



WHO  
PROCEEDED  
TO WALK  
RIGHT PAST  
HER!



AND  
INTO THE  
AFFECTIONS  
OF THE  
WITCH.

MISS?

OH!  
DON'T  
MIND IF I  
DO!

HEY!



I CAN'T HELP IT  
IF YOU WERE SO  
PRECISE IN WHAT  
YOU WOULD  
CHOOSE IN  
ANOTHER...

... THAT YOU  
FORGOT TO WORK  
ON WHAT WOULD  
CAUSE ANOTHER  
TO CHOOSE  
YOU.





AND THE YOUNG LADY DECIDED TO EMBARK ON A JOURNEY OF SELF IMPROVEMENT!

AND ONLY WHEN SHE WAS **READY**, WOULD SHE ENTERTAIN FINDING **TRUE LOVE**.



WELL!



I'LL FIND AN AUDIENCE THAT CAN STAY AWAKE FOR MY STORY...

AND SHE WAS THE **CUTEST** GIRL IN HER **WHOLE VILLAGE!**

ISN'T THAT SUBJECTIVE?



DAD, I CAN'T SLEEP.

I HAD A NIGHTMARE ABOUT TINKERBELL'S EXISTENCE.

SHE BELONGS TO A RACE OF PEOPLE WHOSE VERY EXISTENCE DEPENDS ON THE BELIEFS AND OPINIONS OF OTHERS.


BENEATH THE CHEERFUL EXTERIOR IS A HORRIFYING TERROR THAT YOU'LL FADE AND DIE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE... ON THE WHIMS OF CHILDREN!

IMAGINE THE DAILY NIGHTMARE OF A WORLD WHERE OTHER PEOPLE'S ARBITRARY OPINIONS DETERMINE THE QUALITY OF YOUR LIFE!

OR EVEN WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXIST!

WHY'D YOU TAKE HER TO THAT STUPID PLAY...

MMMF



A WOMAN  
ASKED ME IF I  
WAS SEEING  
ANYONE THE  
OTHER DAY.

I WASN'T  
SURE WHAT  
TO TELL  
HER.

SAY  
WHATEVER  
YOU LIKE.

HNM...

SORRY.

I KNOW  
IT SUCKS.

BUT THIS IS  
THE BEST  
RELATIONSHIP  
I CAN GIVE AT  
THE MOMENT.

IT'S  
OKAY.

BUT, I'VE  
LEARNED I'LL  
NEVER  
ADJUST.

BUT I  
CAN STOP  
BLAMING  
MYSELF.

MY DECISIONS  
DIDN'T GET THEM  
KILLED. IT WAS  
SOMETHING ANYONE  
IN COMMAND WOULD  
HAVE DONE.

THE THERAPY  
IS WORTH IT,  
AND IT'S **NOT**  
A WEAKNESS.


IT REALLY  
DOES HELP, AND  
IF ANYONE HASN'T  
BEEN, THEY  
SHOULD  
CONSIDER  
IT.

THANK  
YOU,  
NELSON.

BEFORE WE  
BREAK UP, DOES  
ANYONE HAVE  
ANYTHING ELSE  
TO SHARE?

I DON'T  
BELONG  
HERE.


I'M NOT QUITE  
LIKE THESE MEN.  
I'M A **MONSTER**.




NOTHING  
HAPPENED WHILE  
I WAS IN THE  
MARINE CORPS.

EVERYTHING  
STARTED WAY  
BEFORE THEN.


MY FATHER WAS A  
CORRUPT SHERIFF  
IN RURAL ALABAMA.  
A MAN LIKE THAT  
CAN GET AWAY  
WITH A LOT.




I REMEMBER WHEN  
MY MOTHER DIED,  
HE WAS HOLDING  
HIS FINGERS OVER  
HIS EYES SO NO  
ONE WOULD SEE  
HIM **NOT** CRYING.



YOU MIGHT  
ASSUME EVEN A  
**CROOKED** MAN  
WOULD LOVE HIS  
FAMILY.



BUT SOME  
ILLNESSES GO  
DEEPER THAN  
OTHERS.




A MAN WHO FORCES  
SEX ON HIS OWN  
DAUGHTER AFTER HIS  
WIFE DIES, CREATES  
THE MONSTER.

IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF  
WHETHER THAT MONSTER  
GOES ON TO ATTACK  
OTHERS, OR TURNS  
AROUND TO BITE HIM  
BACK.




NIGHT  
AFTER NIGHT.  
YOU DEVELOP  
WAYS TO  
COPE.

SHRINKS CALL IT  
"DISSOCIATION".  
YOU LIVE OUTSIDE  
YOUR SELF, AND  
EVERYTHING THAT'S  
HAPPENING AT THE  
MOMENT.



BUT MOMENTS  
OF CLARITY CAN  
BRING EVERYTHING  
BACK INTO  
FOCUS.

AND YOU  
REALIZE YOU  
CAN'T ESCAPE  
REALITY,  
FOREVER.



AND WHEN YOU  
FINALLY DON'T  
WANT TO BE  
TRAPPED ANYMORE,  
YOU HAVE ALL THE  
PATIENCE IN THE  
WORLD.

YOU PLAN.  
YOU THINK OF  
**EVERYTHING**.  
YOU KNOW THE  
RIGHT TIME TO  
EXECUTE.




THE  
BUGS.

THE DISSOCIATION  
YOU LEARN WHILE  
LAYING UNDER HIS  
DISGUSTING BODY,  
KEEPS YOU FROM  
NOTICING THE COLD  
AND THE RAIN.

THE  
MUD.

OR HOW  
BADLY YOU  
NEED TO  
PISS.



THE MARINES  
CONDITION YOU  
TO KILL BY  
REFLEX.


TARGETS POP UP AND DROP  
WHEN YOU SHOOT THEM.  
THEY WANT YOU TO BE ABLE  
TO DO IT EASILY WHEN IT'S  
THE REAL THING.



BUT WHEN  
YOU'RE UNTRAINED,  
**NOTHING** IS BY  
REFLEX.

YOU HAVE TO BE  
FULLY CONSCIOUS.  
YOU HAVE TIME TO  
WEIGH WHETHER IT'S  
ABSOLUTELY  
NECESSARY.

YOU REALIZE HOW  
MUCH HARDER IT IS  
THAN YOU EVER  
EXPECTED.



DESPITE WHAT A MONSTER  
YOUR TARGET IS, YOU HAVE  
TO OVERCOME FEAR, AND  
EVERYTHING THAT TELLS  
YOU THIS IS REPUGNANT.



BUT I AM MY  
FATHER'S  
DAUGHTER.





A SWITCH IS THROWN  
AND I TURN INTO  
SOMETHING SCARY THAT  
I BARELY RECOGNIZE.



THE MONSTER.



GO THROUGH  
THE CHECKLIST.

HIDE EVIDENCE,  
ACCORDING TO  
THE PLAN.


MAKE SURE *NOTHING* CAN  
BE TRACED BACK TO A  
FRIGHTENED, UNTRAINED,  
SIXTEEN YEAR OLD GIRL.

LUCKILY FOR ME, A  
CROOKED SHERIFF HAS  
A LOT OF ENEMIES.

AFTERWARDS,  
YOU REALIZE  
WHAT YOU'VE  
DONE.

FULL CLARITY  
ADDS SO MUCH  
PAIN, BUT ALSO  
UNCERTAINTY.

WAS I ABLE TO KILL MY  
FATHER BECAUSE I  
WAS *STRONG*? OR DID  
NOT STOPPING MYSELF  
MEAN I WAS *WEAK*?



THEN IT WAS A BARRAGE OF COUNSELORS AND INVESTIGATORS AT THE SAME TIME.


I COULD HEAR IN EVERYONE'S SUBTLE TONE: "YOUR FATHER WAS A HORRIBLE MAN, BUT YOU SHOULD STILL FEEL BAD THAT HE'S DEAD."



AT ONE POINT I WAS A SUSPECT.

FORTUNATELY, I COULD SMELL OUT A POLICE STRATEGY TO WORM OUT A CONFESSION IN LIEU OF EVIDENCE.

THE INVESTIGATION WAS EVENTUALLY DROPPED.




BUT I DIDN'T FEEL BAD THAT MY FATHER WAS DEAD.

I FELT ANGRY.


SCHOOLWORK WAS EASY. BUT MUSTERING EVERY OUNCE OF YOUR MENTAL ABILITY TO BE THE MONSTER WHO GETS AWAY WITH IT?

VERY HARD.

I WAS ANGRY THAT HE FORCED ME INTO THIS.



I NEVER HAD TO  
KILL ANYBODY IN  
THE MARINES,  
MOSTLY THROUGH  
A COMBINATION OF  
LUCK AND MY  
GENDER.




NOTHING I HAD TO  
ENDURE THERE  
COMPARED TO  
WHAT I'D ALREADY  
BEEN THROUGH.




WHEN MY  
ENLISTMENT WAS  
ALMOST UP, I GOT  
A JOB OFFER.

I COULD SEE IT  
ON THEIR FACES  
AS THEY PITCHED  
THE JOB TO ME:




I WASN'T THEIR  
CHOICE *JUST*  
BECAUSE I  
WAS A MARINE.




WHY DO YOU  
THINK I'D BE  
CUT OUT  
FOR THIS?

WE *USUALLY*  
HAVE A GOOD  
SENSE ABOUT  
WHO IS.

THEY  
*KNEW.*




I FOUND OUT  
WHAT THEY DID  
KNOW BY BEING  
A SNEAKY  
BITCH.



SHE'S AN  
UNDER-  
ACHIEVER  
WITH A HIGH  
IQ.



SHE THINKS  
THINGS  
THROUGH,  
OBVIOUSLY.



YOU'RE BASING  
THAT ON THE  
PRESUMPTION  
SHE KILLED HER  
FATHER.




I'VE READ  
THE CASE.  
I'M PRETTY  
CERTAIN SHE  
DID.



SO YOU WANT  
TO HIRE HER  
BECAUSE SHE  
*MURDERED*  
HER DAD?



NO, I WANT  
TO HIRE HER  
BECAUSE SHE  
*GOT AWAY*  
WITH IT.



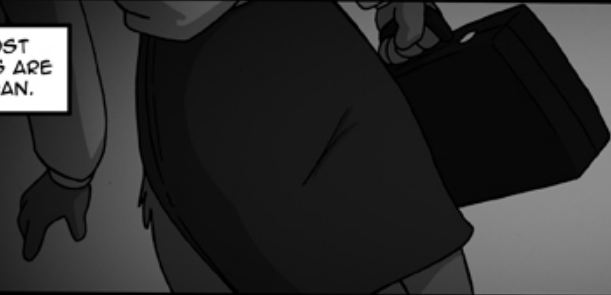
I TOOK THE JOB WITH AN INVESTMENT FIRM, WHICH FRONTS AS A PRIVATE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

MOST OF THE WORK TAKES PLACE IN OFFICES.



BUT INTELLIGENCE, JUST LIKE BUSINESS, STILL NEEDS PEOPLE ON THE GROUND.


WE'RE *INVESTMENT SCOUTS*, AND WE TRAVEL FREQUENTLY.



MOST JOBS ARE CLEAN.

YOU TAKE SOME PICTURES. YOU MANAGE A CONTACT. YOU LEAVE SOMETHING AT A DEAD DROP.

EASY.



BUT SOMETIMES THE JOB CALLS FOR BAD BEHAVIOR.



THE MAN I USUALLY  
TEAM UP WITH HAS  
TO DEAL WITH THE  
SAME ISSUES.

BUT HE HAS HIS  
OWN METHODS  
OF DOING SO.

INTELLECTUALIZE  
EVERYTHING,  
RED.

THESE MEN  
CHOSE THEIR  
ETHICS.


THEY WANTED  
TO DEAL WITH  
THE WORLD BY  
POINTING A GUN  
AT IT.

WE GRANT  
THEM  
THAT.



WE'RE THE  
PART OF THE  
WORLD THAT  
SHOOTS  
BACK.






YOU COULD  
BE BACK IN  
THE MARINES.

YOU COULD  
END UP IN A  
WAR ZONE.

YOU COULD BE  
POINTING YOUR GUN  
AT SOME POOR  
CONSCRIPTED SLOB  
WHO WAS JUST  
BORN IN THE WRONG  
COUNTRY.



SOME SHITTY  
DICTATOR  
DOESN'T *GIVE*  
HIM A CHOICE.

BUT  
*THESE*  
MEN HAD  
OPTIONS.

THEY *CHOSE*  
TO CROSS  
SWORDS WITH  
EVERYTHING  
GOOD.



THEY  
DESERVED  
TO DIE.



HOW FAR  
REMOVED  
FROM THOSE  
MEN WAS I?

DID THEY COME  
FROM SHITTY  
FAMILIES?

HOW *CLOSE*  
DID I COME  
TO BECOMING  
LIKE THEM?



HOW DID  
*THEY* END UP  
BAD, WHILE I  
ENDED UP-

MALLORY?

RED?

YOU  
SEEM  
PENSIVE.

WOULD  
YOU LIKE  
TO SHARE?

OH.

NO,  
NOT  
YET.

THANK  
YOU.







I CAN'T  
SHARE WHAT I  
DO WITHOUT  
LOSING MY  
CLEARANCE.

BUT I HAVE A  
CLEANSING  
PROCESS.

I HAVE AN APARTMENT  
IN THE CITY. A PLACE  
WHERE I CAN JUST BE  
THE KIND OF PERSON I  
*MIGHT* HAVE BEEN.

THE OUTSIDE  
WORLD DOESN'T  
HAVE TO EXIST  
HERE.

I CAN RELAX  
WITHOUT IT.

I CAN LOVE  
WITHOUT IT.

I CAN LEAVE  
THE WORLD IN  
ORDER TO CLEAN  
MY SOUL.



UNTIL I HAVE  
TO GO BE THE  
MONSTER,  
AGAIN.

**HOW TO MAKE  
BREAKFAST  
WITHOUT WAKING  
UP YOUR WIFE.**

**STEP 1: ASSEMBLE INGREDIENTS  
FOR A DELICIOUS OMELETTE.**



**STEP 2: WHISK THE  
EGGS WITH A FORK  
LIKE YOU DID WHEN  
YOU WERE SINGLE.**



**STEP 3: POUR  
BEATEN EGG JUICE  
INTO A NON-STICK  
PAN ON MEDIUM  
HEAT.**



**STEP 4: ADD  
ANCILLARY  
INGREDIENTS.**

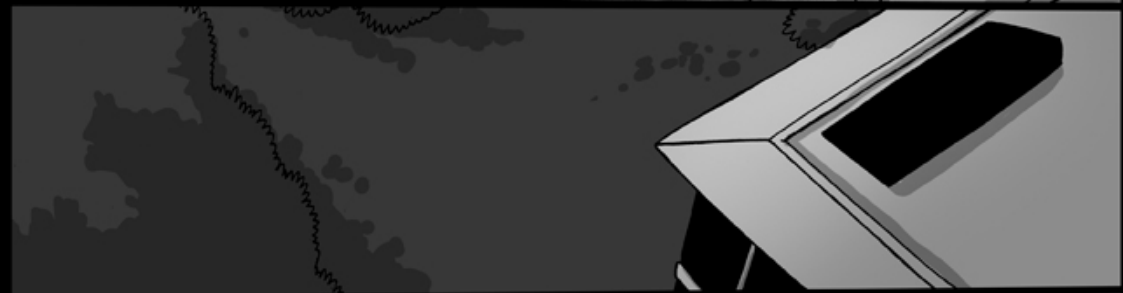


**STEP 5:  
EXECUTE THE  
PERFECT FLIP.**



**STEP 6: ENJOY AS  
SCRAMBLED EGGS.**











HOW  
CAN THIS  
HAPPEN?

A BOY SUDDENLY  
TURNS INTO A  
**SIGANTIC VERMIN**  
AND THE PEOPLE  
AROUND HIM CAN  
ONLY RESPOND  
WITHIN THE **LIMITED**  
RANGE OF THEIR  
PERSONAL  
PERSPECTIVES.

NO CONCERN.  
NO CURIOSITY.



THERE'S A FEELING  
OF PROFOUND  
ALIENATION, BUT  
NOT A NEW ONE.  
JUST A GREATER  
AWARENESS OF  
WHAT'S ALWAYS  
BEEN.



BUT STILL, BY  
WHAT **TWIST** OF  
SCIENCE COULD THIS  
TRANSFORMATION  
BE **POSSIBLE?**



WELL,  
**DON'T**  
LOOK AT  
ME!

I'VE LOST HOPE THAT ANYONE WILL CARE.

HEY!  
WATCH THE  
ANTENNA!

SORRY.

I DON'T HAVE MY UNIFORM BECAUSE I TURNED INTO A BUG.

WELL, I'LL SEND YOU HOME WITH A NOTE, THEN.

RULES HAVE REPLACED JUDGEMENT. A LIMITED PERCEPTION CLOUDS A GREATER CURIOSITY.

NOBODY CARES ABOUT SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY UNTIL IT AFFECTS THEIR PERSONAL ROUTINE.

WHEREVER I GO, I FIND THE SAME THING.

I'VE SOUGHT A PLACE WHERE THE EXTRAORDINARY DOESN'T HAVE TO BOTHER ANYBODY.

WHERE I'M NO LONGER PERPLEXED AND DISAPPOINTED.

I HAVE FOUND MY OWN DEMISE.

IT COULD BE A  
STORY ABOUT THE  
WORLD'S HORROR  
AT A MAN'S  
UNAVOIDABLE  
TRAGEDY.

BUT THE PROPER  
TAKE IS THE  
WORLD'S  
INDIFFERENCE!

BEHIND THEIR  
HORROR LIES THE  
SAME INABILITY TO  
SEE THROUGH  
THEIR OWN  
THOUGHTLESS  
REACTIONS!

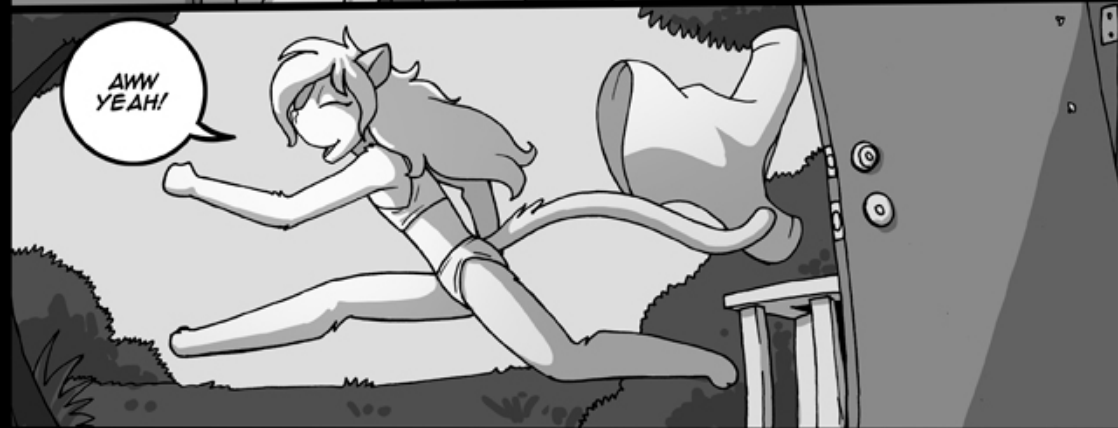
WHAT'S  
THE POINT?

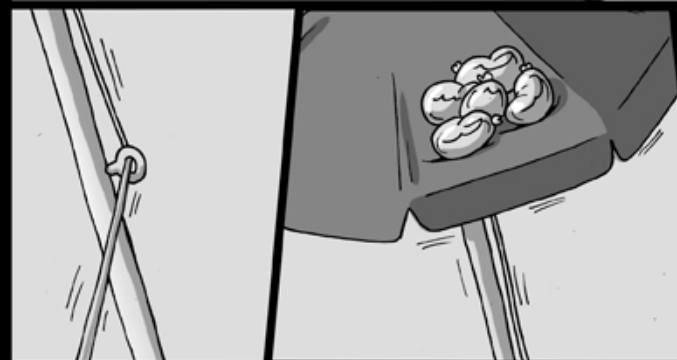
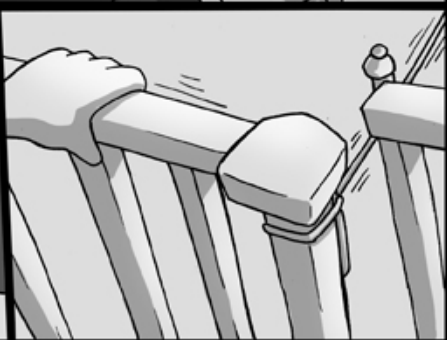
IN IMAGINING THIS  
ABSURDITY, CAN WE SEE  
OUR OWN BLINNESS  
TO DEVASTATING,  
REAL-WORLD  
PROBLEMS?

YOU WERE  
SUPPOSED TO  
WRITE YOUR BOOK  
REPORT ON  
"BEHOLDING  
BEE".

BUT THAT  
BOOK  
SUCKED!









WHY ARE YOU KEEPING YOUR SISTER AWAY FROM THE POOL?



BECAUSE SHE HOGS IT WITH HER SUPER-FAST LANE SWIMMING!

AND SHE WANTS TO BE A LIFEGUARD WHEN SHE'S OLDER, SO SHE'LL PRACTICE DRAGGING ME TO THE SHALLOW END, AGAINST MY WILL!

LET ME GO!



KEEP STRUGGLING! JUST LIKE THAT!

MOM ALWAYS BRINGS OUT A WATERMELON IN THE AFTERNOON, WHEN WE'VE BEEN PLAYING ALL DAY.



JANIE ATTACKS IT LIKE A BEAST AND THERE'S HARDLY ANY LEFT FOR ME!

SNARM!



WATERMELON SOUNDS REALLY GOOD, RIGHT NOW.



THEN GRAB A SUN.



ALL RIGHT,  
YOU LITTLE  
FUCKER.



HI,  
JANIE!



HELLO,  
VICTOR.



WOW, THAT'S  
A LOT OF  
WATER  
BALLOONS.



I HAVE TO  
USE THEM TO  
ATTACK MY  
*STUPID* LITTLE  
BROTHER.



LIKE  
THIS?

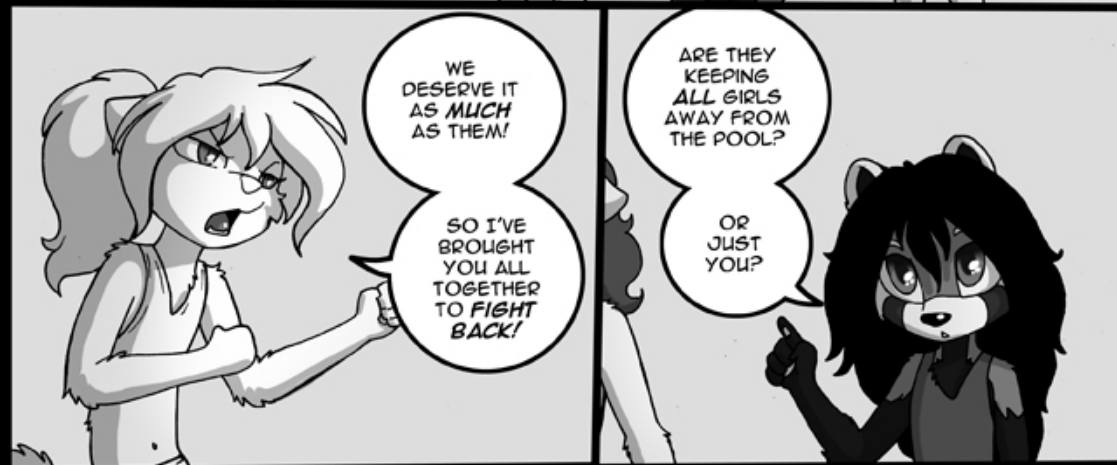


I'LL  
KILL YOU  
BOTH!



I'VE BEEN  
ATTACKED  
THREE  
TIMES!

THE BOYS  
ARE KEEPING  
US AWAY  
FROM THE  
POOL!



WE  
DESERVE IT  
AS MUCH  
AS THEM!

SO I'VE  
BROUGHT  
YOU ALL  
TOGETHER  
TO FIGHT  
BACK!

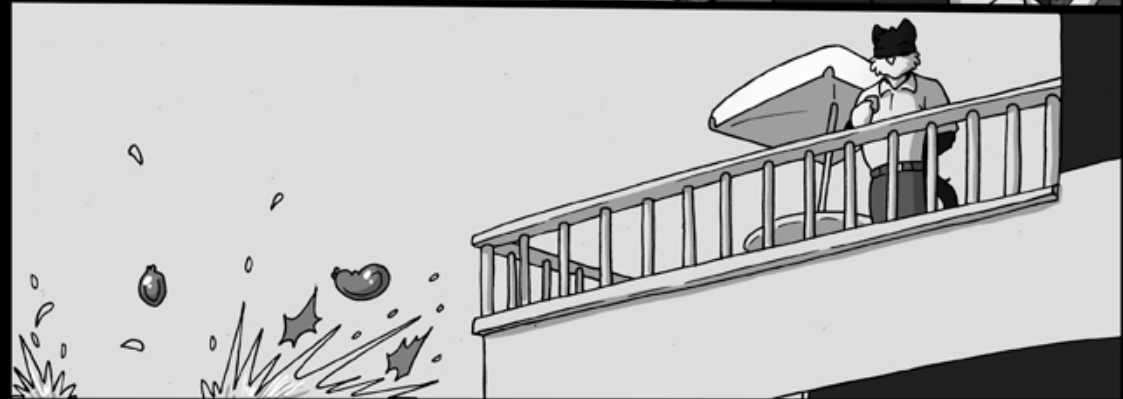
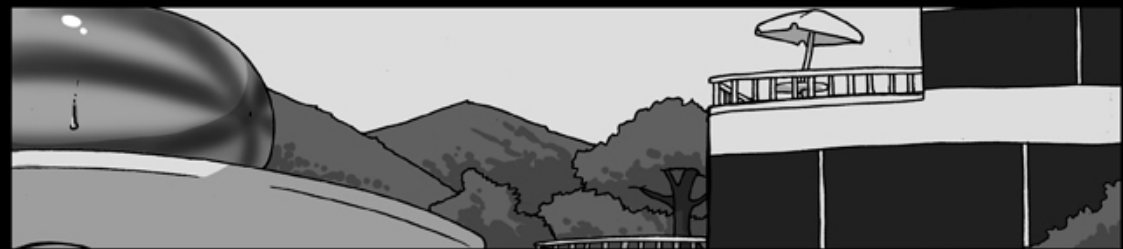
ARE THEY  
KEEPING  
ALL GIRLS  
AWAY FROM  
THE POOL?

OR  
JUST YOU?



WHEN THEY  
ATTACK ONE  
GIRL, THEY  
ATTACK THEM  
ALL!

AH...



WHAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE!?

GRAB A DRINK, HONEY.

IT'S GETTING GOOD.





CHARLIE'S  
GONE OVER  
TO THE OTHER  
SIDE!

SOMETHING  
DRASTIC HAS TO  
BE DONE!



I HAVE TO  
GO ON A VERY  
DANGEROUS  
MISSION.

YOU  
MUST STAY  
HERE.

NO  
PROBLEM.



**4 FT.**

I HAVE TO WAIT  
UNTIL TONIGHT.  
AND THEN I'LL  
HEAD UP RIVER.

YOU  
MEAN "LIP  
POOL"?

WHATEVER.





I EXPECTED YOU. SOMEONE LIKE YOU.

ARE YOU AN ASSASSIN?

I'M A SOLDIER.

YOU'RE NEITHER.

YOU'RE AN ERRAND GIRL...


SENT BY GROCERY CLERKS...

TO COLLECT A BILL.

"WE ARE THE HOLLOW MEN,  
WE ARE THE STUFFED MEN..."

"LEANING TOGETHER,  
HEADPIECE FILLED WITH STRAW. ALAS..."

"OUR DRIED VOICES, WHEN WE WHISPER TOGETHER..."



WE OVERTHINK.  
WE FIND MEANING  
WHERE THERE IS  
NONE.

MY BROTHER SAID  
SOMETHING ONCE.  
I ASKED HIM WHAT  
HE MEANT.

HE LOOKED  
CONFUSED. HE  
SAID: "EXACTLY  
WHAT I SAID."

THEN IT  
STRUCK ME.  
LIKE I WAS  
SHOT.

WITH A  
DIAMOND.

THE MALE  
MIND WAS  
SIMPLER,  
TRUER...

... PURE ...

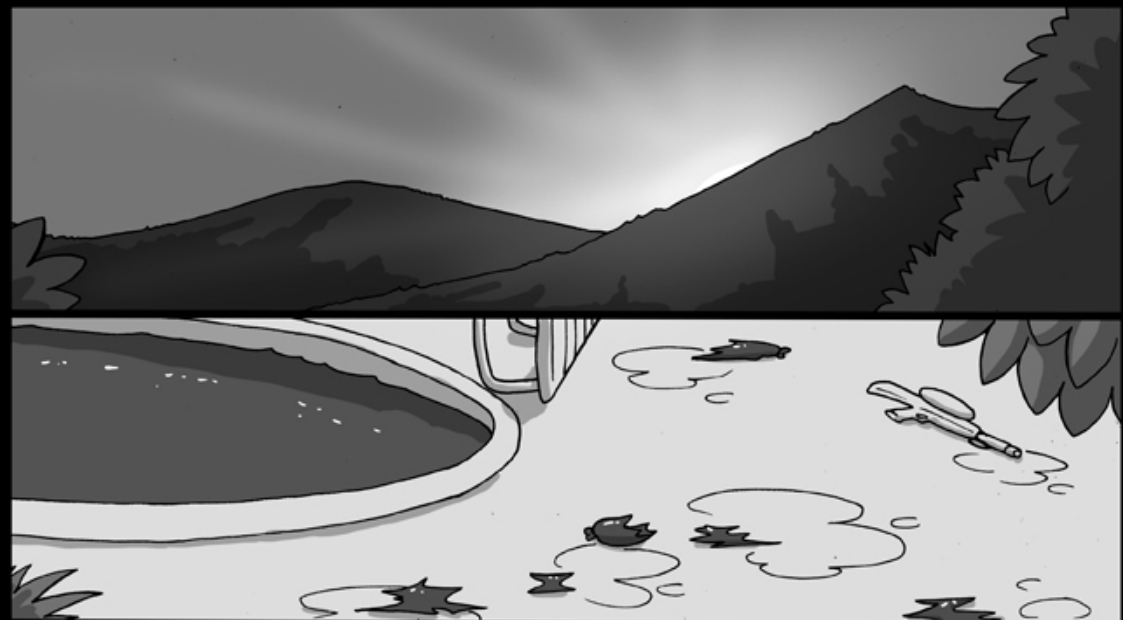
... CRYST ALLINE ...

THEY ARE  
MOLLIFIED  
BY OUR  
INFLUENCE.

BUT LEFT  
ALONE, THEY  
ARE THE PURITY  
OF INTENT ...

... THOUGHT ...

... ACTION.



MEANWHILE, IN FLORIDA...



SOMEONE ON  
THE INTERNET  
CALLED YOU AN  
ASSHOLE.





WHAT?

WHAT?

YOU  
HAVE THAT  
LOOK.

WHAT  
LOOK?




THAT LOOK  
WHERE YOU  
WANT TO ASK ME  
SOMETHING, AND  
YOU KNOW I  
WON'T LIKE IT.







WELL, YOU  
KNOW HOW  
**SUMMER** AND I  
HAVE BECOME  
GOOD FRIENDS...




... AND WE WERE  
THINKING HOW NICE  
THE **STONEHAVEN**  
**COUPLE'S**  
**BONDING RETREAT**  
WOULD BE...



... BUT, THEY'VE  
NEVER REALLY  
HAD ANOTHER  
COUPLE TO GO  
WITH...



... AND SHE THINKS  
IT MIGHT BE A LOT  
OF FUN, SINCE  
THEY CAN BE  
OUT-DOORSY  
TYPES...



... IT'D BE A FUN  
OPPORTUNITY FOR  
YOU AND DANIEL  
TO ACTUALLY GET  
TO **KNOW** EACH  
OTHER...



... AND FORM A  
**FRIENDSHIP!**



YOU WANT ME  
TO TRY TO BE  
FRIENDS WITH  
THAT DOPEY,  
BEDWETTING,  
HIPSTER...



... KNUCKLE  
DRAGGING  
NEANDERTHAL,  
**SIMPLETON!**

LET ME TELL YOU WHAT IT'S GOING TO BE LIKE.

YOU LADIES WILL GO OFF AND HAVE EVERYTHING ABOUT YOURSELVES REAFFIRMED.

US MEN WILL BE THROWN TOGETHER AND EXPECTED TO HUG AND CRY AND CHANGE WHO WE ARE.

AND THE WHOLE TIME I'LL BE LISTENING TO A SHORT GUY WITH A PONYTAIL WHO CLAIMS TO BE HALF **NATIVE AMERICAN**, TELLING ME WHAT IT REALLY MEANS TO BE A **MAN**.

EVERYONE WILL FEEL VERY STRANGE ABOUT IT, BUT THEY'LL ALL PRETEND TO BE PROFOUNDLY AFFECTED.

SO, WILL YOU GO?

FINE.

I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE BACK IN GEORGIA FOR NOW, TRIxie.

HAHA, YAY!

ABIGAIL HAS KARATE AT FOUR.

JANIE HAS SWIMMING TOMORROW AT TWO, AND GYMNASTICS AT SEVEN.

AND REMEMBER ANGELICA IS A VEGETARIAN.

NO MEAT. OKAY.

DOES THOMAS HAVE A SCHEDULE?

NO...

THOMAS IS JUST A FREE RANGE KID.





IT SOUNDS LIKE  
ST. ANSELM IS  
SAYING THAT GOD  
HAS TO EXIST,  
BECAUSE TO  
IMAGINE A  
PERFECT BEING  
ISN'T ENOUGH.

IF THAT BEING  
DIDN'T EXIST, IT  
WOULDN'T BE  
PERFECT.



SO, EITHER  
CONCEPTS HAVE  
TO BE **THINGS**  
THAT EXIST?

OR MAYBE  
THE SINGLE  
MOST **PERFECT**  
BEING THAT  
EXISTS, IS  
GOD?

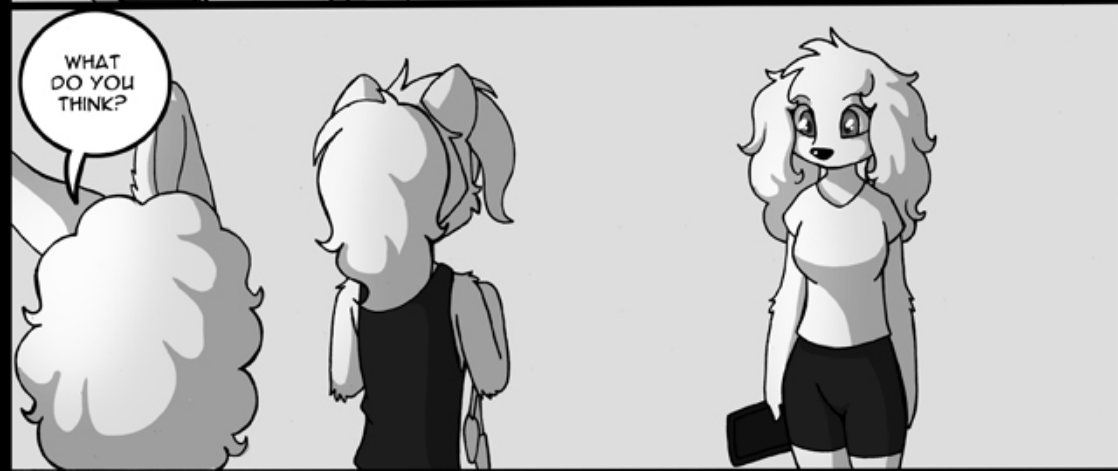
I CAN'T  
TELL.



SO, DOLPH  
LUNDGREN  
IS GOD.

UMM...





WHY'D DAD  
HAVE TO GO  
OFF TO SOME  
**STUPID** ADULT  
RETREAT  
THING?

HE'S NOT  
HOME HALF  
THE TIME, AS  
IT IS,  
ALREADY!

EVEN PARENTS  
HAVE TO GO  
AWAY AND DO  
FUN THINGS  
FOR  
THEMSELVES,  
SOMETIMES.

HE'LL BE  
BACK.

FUN  
THINGS  
FOR  
PARENTS?

DRINKING  
GROSS  
LIQUORS AND  
STAYING UP ALL  
NIGHT?

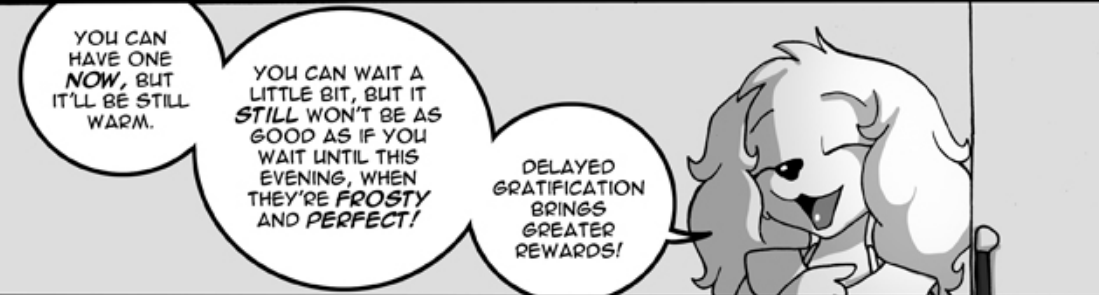
LET'S ALL NOW  
DISCUSS WHAT IT  
**REALLY** MEANS  
TO BE A MAN.



ALL THOSE  
**NUMMY ROOT  
BEERS** I BOUGHT  
FOR YOU  
GUYS...



IT'S IMPORTANT  
TO LEARN THE  
VIRTUE OF  
**PATIENCE.**



YOU CAN  
HAVE ONE  
**NOW**, BUT  
IT'LL BE STILL  
WARM.

YOU CAN WAIT A  
LITTLE BIT, BUT IT  
**STILL** WON'T BE AS  
GOOD AS IF YOU  
WAIT UNTIL THIS  
EVENING, WHEN  
THEY'RE **FROSTY**  
AND **PERFECT!**

**DELAYED  
GRATIFICATION  
BRINGS  
GREATER  
REWARDS!**



**burrrrrrrrrp!**



BUT BEING  
**FUNNY RIGHT  
NOW** IS ITS  
OWN REWARD.

**THOMAS!**

THAT  
WAS  
**GROSS!**

EWWW-W-W-W...

WHAT ARE WE DOING, TODAY?

I DON'T KNOW!

LET'S ASK TRIxie!

EEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!!!!

SLIP

AHHH!!!


OOF!

OUCH!


IS IT GONE?

YOU'RE SUCH A TARD.

OHGOD



BEING IN NATURE IS ONE OF THE MOST THERAPEUTIC AND CENTERING THINGS.



EXPERIENCE THE PLEASURE OF *BEING*, AND ALL THAT IS AROUND YOU WHICH ALSO NATURALLY EXISTS.

FEEL IT WITH *EVERY SENSE*.

BE CONSCIOUS OF THE *NOW*.



WHAT?

WHY ARE YOU BACKING UP?




**ROAR!**



THIS ISN'T NORMAL!

I'VE NEVER SEEN A BEAR SO AGGRESSIVE!



MAYBE HER CUBS ARE NEARBY.

MAYBE SHE HAS RABIES.



NO SERVICE.



WHAT NOW?

\*BEAR NOISES\*

WE JUST WAIT.



OKAY,  
CUTIES!

I'M GOING  
TO TAKE A  
PICTURE TO  
SEND TO YOUR  
PARENTS!



SMILE  
NICE!



DON'T  
WORRY.  
WE'RE HERE  
TO HELP.



I THOUGHT  
I SMELLED A  
POOL PARTY  
ABOUT TO  
HAPPEN.



OH! I GOT A BAR OF SIGNAL!

CALL FOR HELP.

OH LOOK.

TRIXIE SENT A CUTE PICTURE OF THE KIDS HAVING FUN!

WOW, EVERYONE'S AT OUR POOL!

YOUR GRILL IS GETTING A REAL WORKOUT!

WOOPS.

SIGNAL'S GONE.

MANHOOD  
IS DEAD.

LOOK AT US.  
COWERING IN A  
TREE FROM A  
KODIAK BEAR.

WE KID OURSELVES  
ABOUT OUR VALUE  
IN THE COUPLING  
RELATIONSHIP, BUT  
HOW REPLACEABLE  
ARE WE, REALLY?

MY VALUE IS  
COMPLETELY  
BEHOLDEN TO  
MY WIFE'S  
APPROVAL  
OF ME.

WHILE I'M A  
SLAVE TO MY  
DESIRE FOR  
HER. A DESIRE  
THAT WILL  
NEVER DIE.

WHEN YOUR WIFE  
*EXERCISES* AND  
*DIETS* TO KEEP  
HERSELF PLEASING  
TO *YOU*, WHAT DO  
YOU CALL THAT?

THE ASSERTION  
OF UNFAIR  
STANDARDS OF  
BEAUTY PUSHED  
BY PATRIARCHAL  
AESTHETICAL  
NORMS?

YOU  
WONDER  
WHY WE  
NEVER  
TALK.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WITH THAT?

TAKE ON THE BEAR, YOURSELF?

NO.

IT'S NOT WHAT I'M GOING TO DO WITH THIS.

IT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO WITH THESE.

THAT BEAR MAY WANDER OFF, OR GO TO SLEEP AT OUR FEET.

AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO SNEAK OUT OF THIS TREE.

IF IT COMES BACK OR WAKES UP, WE BETTER BE ABLE TO DRIVE IT OFF.

AS A TEAM.



QUIETLY.

THE BEAR  
MAY COME  
BACK.



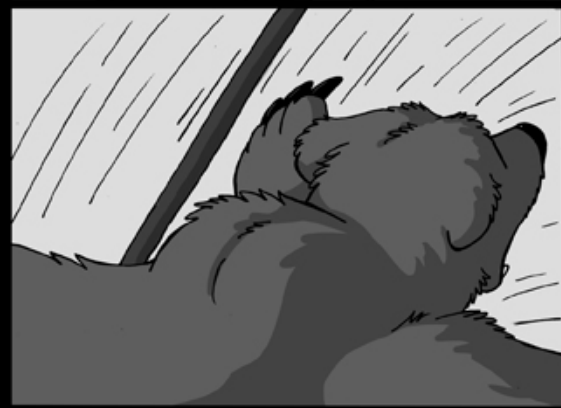
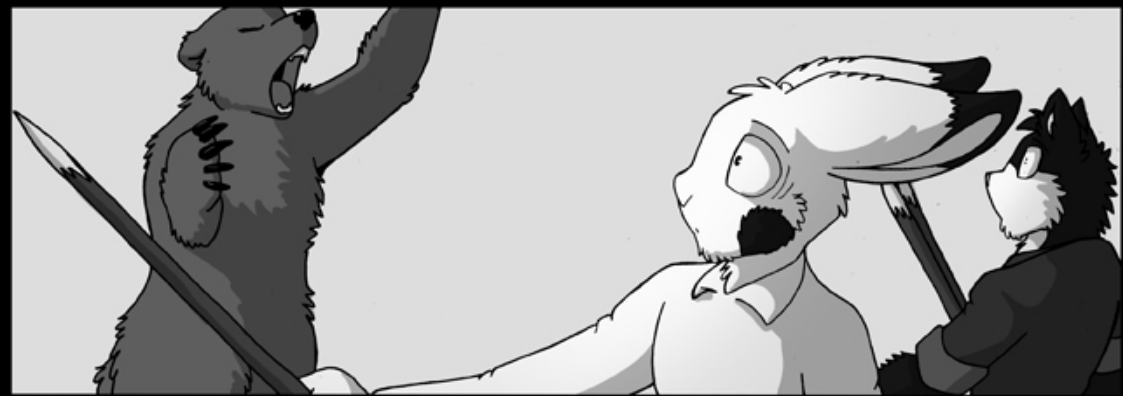
OKAY,  
MOVE BACK  
TO THE  
LODGE.

NO  
RUNNING.



I'M GLAD  
WE DIDN'T  
HAVE TO USE  
THESE.

YEAH.



**THHP**

**THHP**

"BEAR  
NOISES" !!

YEAH,  
THAT'S  
RIGHT,  
BEAR!

YOU RUN  
AWAY LIKE A  
PUSSY!

I'LL FUCK  
YOUR SHIT  
UP!

I'LL MAKE A  
RUG OUT OF  
YOU AND  
FUCK MY WIFE  
ON IT!

WHOA,  
DUDE.

IT'S  
OKAY, IT'S  
GONE.



GOOD  
MORNING,  
PROFESSOR.

HELLO.

ARISTOTLE?  
I THOUGHT WE  
ALREADY  
COVERED HIM.

HE REQUIRES  
MORE COVERAGE  
THAN I  
PREVIOUSLY  
ALLOWED.

DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT  
ARISTOTELIAN PHILOSOPHIES  
WERE UNIMAGINATIVE,  
INSULAR, SOUL-CRUSHING  
THOUGHT SYSTEMS,  
RESPONSIBLE FOR  
EVERYTHING *OPPRESSIVE*  
AND *WRONG* IN THE  
UNIVERSE?

THAT WAS BEFORE  
I DROVE OFF A  
GRIZZLY BEAR WITH  
NOTHING BUT A  
WOODEN SPEAR  
AND MY MANLY  
DETERMINATION.

NOW,  
GO SIT  
DOWN.



DID YOU  
READ THIS  
REPORT?

PROPERTY  
DAMAGE AND  
EXCESSIVE  
FORCE!

THE MAYOR  
WILL HAVE MY  
ASS FOR THIS,  
BLACK!

YOU THINK THE  
BERTOLLI GANG  
CARES ABOUT  
YOUR REPORT!

I GET  
RESULTS!

IF THE  
MAYOR  
DOESN'T LIKE THAT ...

... YOU CAN  
TELL HER TO  
GO TO  
HELL!

BLINK

PRINCIPAL  
VASQUEZ

GONNA BE  
ANOTHER ONE  
OF THOSE  
SEMESTERS.

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

I GOT A B!

A B IN HISTORY!

REPORT CARD

SO?

I CAN'T TAKE THIS HOME!

LOOK AT IT. ONE B ALONE THERE AMID ALL THOSE A'S.

STANDING OUT. REMINDING ME OF MY FAILURE!

I GOT A B IN HISTORY, TOO!

IT'S MY BEST GRADE!

YOUR PARENTS ALREADY HAVE LOW EXPECTATIONS OF YOU!

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

YOUR FOLKS WILL TELL YOU TO TRY HARDER. SO WHAT?

YOU DON'T HAVE MY MOTHER!

SHE'S NOT MEAN. SHE DOESN'T GET UPSET. IT'S WORSE.

SHE JUST QUIETLY JUDGES.

WELL, AS LONG AS THIS ISN'T A TREND.

LITTLE MIKO.

I ONCE CAME HOME WITH A 92 IN MATH, INSTEAD OF THE 99 I HAD LAST SEMESTER.

HER QUIET DISAPPOINTMENT IS THE WORST THING ANYONE WILL EVER HAVE TO ENDURE!

YOU COULD BLAME YOUR GRADE ON EURO-CENTRIC TESTING STANDARDS.

IS THAT WHAT YOU DO?

NO, I GOT AN A IN HISTORY.



SCHOOL STANDARDS OF "PASSING" ARE CRAP. I BELIEVE IN SECOND CHANCES.

SO, I'VE ACQUIRED A BUNCH OF BLANK REPORT CARDS.



IT LOOKS JUST LIKE THE REAL ONE.

YEP.

YOU HAVE YOUR PARENTS SIGN THE FAKE ONE, AND BRING IT BACK TO ME.

I'LL REPLICATE THE SIGNATURE AND PUT IT ON THE REAL ONE, WHICH YOU TAKE BACK TO SCHOOL.



THIS FEELS KINDA...

SCARY.



WHAT ARE YOU MORE SCARED OF?

UPSETTING YOUR PARENTS, OR OWING ME TWENTY BUCKS?



HELLO,  
LITTLE  
CUTIE-  
PANTS!

WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING  
HERE?

DID YOU  
GET A "B" IN  
HISTORY OR  
SOMETHING?



THERE ARE  
KIDS WITH *REAL*  
PROBLEMS IN  
LINE BEHIND  
YOU.


BUT...






HELLO,  
SON.

I'M  
CALLING  
ABOUT  
YOUR LITTLE  
SISTER.



HER GRADES ARE  
SLIPPING, AND IF IT'S  
NOT TOO MUCH  
TROUBLE, IT'D BE NICE  
IF YOU COULD COME  
HOME ONCE IN A WHILE  
AND HELP HER OUT.

SHE  
COULD  
USE A  
TUTOR.



I'D LOVE TO,  
MOM, BUT I'M  
PRETTY WRAPPED  
UP IN SCHOOL  
WORK, THESE  
DAYS.

GIANT ROBOT CRA

LAND  
OF  
DUNGEONS

ON LINE



LITTLE MIKO,  
THIS IS JON,  
FROM THE  
WING FAMILY.

HE'S AN  
EXCELLENT  
STUDENT, AND  
HE WILL BE  
HELPING YOU  
STUDY.



NICE TO  
MEET  
YOU.

YOU  
TOO.

I'LL LET YOU  
STUDY. LET  
ME KNOW IF  
YOU NEED  
ANYTHING.

SO,  
WHAT'D  
YOU DO?

GET AN  
"A-" IN  
HISTORY?

\*SNAP\*



SO,  
MIKO'S INSIDE  
BECAUSE  
SHE'S WITH  
HER TUTOR?



YEAH.



THAT GUY  
SHE'S WITH  
EVERY DAY  
AFTER  
SCHOOL,  
NOW?



STUDYING  
TOGETHER.

SITTING  
CLOSE  
TOGETHER.



SPENDING  
TIME WITH  
HIM INSTEAD  
OF YOU...



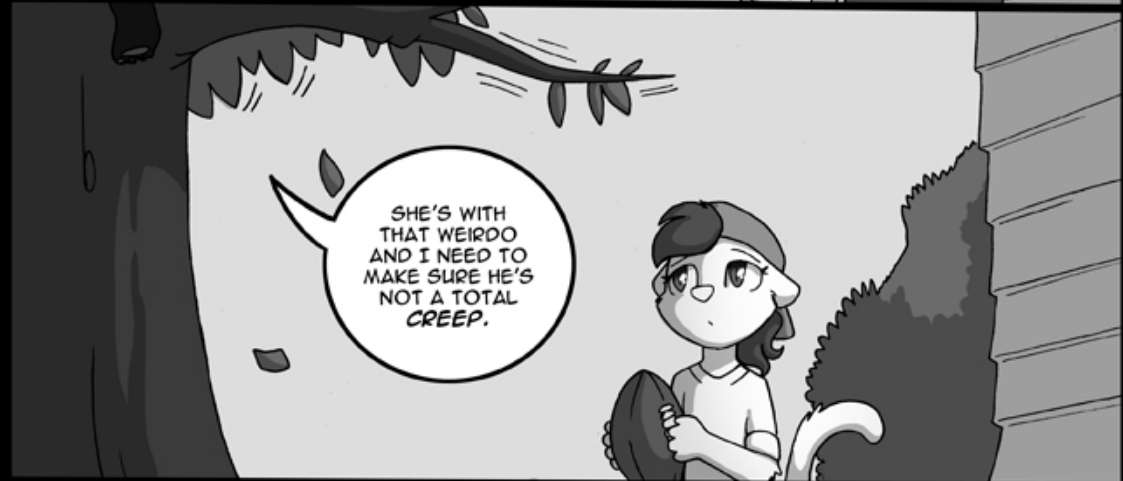
STOP  
IT!





WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING?

CLIMBING  
THIS TREE  
TO LOOK  
INTO MIKO'S  
WINDOW.



SHE'S WITH  
THAT WEIRDO  
AND I NEED TO  
MAKE SURE HE'S  
NOT A TOTAL  
CREEP.



I'M GLAD I  
DON'T KNOW  
WHAT THAT  
MEANS.

YOU HAVE  
NO SENSE  
OF IRONY,  
DO YOU?

IT'S IMPORTANT  
TO REMOVE  
UNNECESSARY  
DISTRACTIONS  
WHILE STUDYING.

CLICK

TV, RADIO,  
EVEN OPEN  
WINDOWS CAN PULL  
OUR MINDS FROM  
OUR EDUCATIONAL  
TASKS.

MIKO!  
WE MISS  
YOU!

WE NEED  
ANOTHER  
FOOTBALL  
PLAYER!

THOUGH,  
SOMETIMES AN  
OPEN WINDOW CAN  
SHED LIGHT INTO  
AN UNDERLYING  
PROBLEM...

HEY!

YOUR  
FACE IS AN  
UNDERLYING  
PROBLEM!

ABIGAIL! I NEED YOUR HELP!

OH NO...

I NEED TO KEEP MIKO INTERESTED IN ME, AND UNINTERESTED IN THIS NEW BOY!

JUST TALK TO HER.

A LITTLE COMMUNICATION AND UNDERSTANDING CAN REVEAL *TRUE* FEELINGS THAT WILL HELP YOU BOTH MAKE ENLIGHTENED DECISIONS.

CAN'T YOU JUST GIVE ME A *POTION* OR SOMETHING ELSE REALLY EASY?

NO!

I ALWAYS GET IN TROUBLE WHEN I DO THAT!

NOT *EVERYTHING* IN LIFE HAS AN *EASY CHEMICAL SOLUTION!*

BUT YOU HAVE AN ENTIRE SET OF SHELVES DEVOTED TO THEM.

DARN IT.

EASY SOLUTIONS TO LIFE'S PROBLEMS

SUPPLIMENTS

ADDITIVES

INHALANTS

WELL, I CAN'T SEEM TO FIND THE LOVE CHEMICAL I HAD IN STORE FOR JUST SUCH A WEIRD OCCASION.

I HAVE A SUBSTANCE THAT WILL MAKE YOU SMARTER.

IF THAT'S WHAT SHE WANTS.

I DON'T KNOW. SHE KIND OF LIKED ME WHEN I WAS STUPID.

I STILL WONDER WHERE MY OXYTOCIN STIMULATOR WENT...

I'LL GET IT.

ANYONE WANT TO GET US MORE POPCORN?

I WAS ON THE WAY!

LET ME.



SHE LIKED YOU WHEN SHE MET YOU.

GO BE THAT BOY AND LEAVE ME ALONE.

OKAY!



KIDS...



EXCUSE ME, LITTLE GIRL.

"TAP"  
"TAP"

I HEARD YOU HAD POTIONS THAT CAN MAKE ME ATHLETIC, TO KEEP THE ATTENTIONS OF A GIRL AND...

WHAT?  
NO!

GO AWAY!

YAY!

I FINALLY  
GOT OUT  
OF THE  
HOUSE!

HOW'S  
YOUR NEW  
BOYFRIEND?

JON WILL  
NEVER BE MY  
BOYFRIEND,  
NO MATTER  
HOW MUCH HE  
TRIES.

HOW  
COME?

BECAUSE  
MY MOTHER  
LIKES HIM A  
LOT.

AND  
SHE **HATES**  
YOU.

DO YOU HAVE  
ANY IDEA HOW  
**ATTRACTIVE**  
THAT MAKES  
YOU?

GIRLS  
ARE  
WEIRD.









MEANWHILE, IN SOUTHAHAVEN...

TRIXIE!

TRIXIE,  
ARE YOU  
HOME?

ARON?

DO YOU  
KNOW WHAT  
TIME IT IS?

YEAH.

IT'S  
2PM.

OH.

YEAH...




I NEED YOUR HELP.

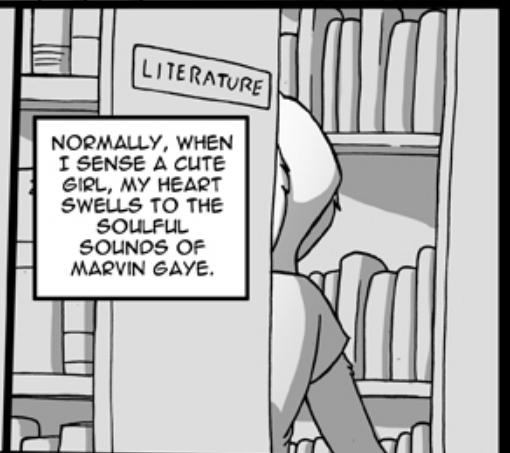
I MET A GIRL...

YOU ALWAYS MEET GIRLS.

... BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT.




I WAS IN THE CITY AT A BOOK STORE, BEING TRENDY AND HIP, WHEN I FELT HER BEFORE I SAW HER.



LITERATURE

NORMALLY, WHEN I SENSE A CUTE GIRL, MY HEART SWELLS TO THE SOULFUL SOUNDS OF MARVIN GAYE.



BUT AS I APPROACHED HER FROM BEHIND...

OF COURSE.

... MY HEAD WAS GUIDED BY MOZART'S DUETTINO SULL'ARIA.

WHAT.

WHEN SHE  
TURNED TO LOOK  
AT ME, I WAS  
STOPPED IN MY  
TRACKS.



NORMALLY,  
I HAVE NO  
PROBLEM  
FINDING WHAT  
TO SAY.



IT TOOK *HER*  
TO BREAK  
THROUGH IT.



WE SPENT THE  
AFTERNOON  
TALKING ABOUT  
VIDEO GAMES.

I'VE NEVER MET  
A WOMAN WHO  
CONNECTED WITH MY  
GEEKY HOBBIES  
LIKE HER.



SUDDENLY, I WAS OVERTAKEN BY A HULKING SHADOW.

A WOMAN WHO LOOKED LIKE SHE COULD BENCH PRESS *JEEPS* LOOMED OVER US.



AUDREY. WE MUST LEAVE NOW IF WE ARE TO MAKE THE MIDNIGHT TEMPLE CITY LESBIAN BARHOP FESTIVAL.

WHERE NO BOYS ARE ALLOWED, EVER.

OH OKAY. THANKS MARY!



SO, YOU HAVE A CRUSH ON A LESBIAN.

I CAN'T HELP YOU WITH THAT.

BUT AS SHE LEFT, SHE LOOKED BACK AT ME FOR A LONG TIME.

THE LOOK IN HER EYES SAID "I LIKE GUYS, TOO." I SWEAR IT!





I NEED YOU TO  
HELP GET ME INTO  
THE TEMPLE  
LESBIAN THING BAR  
WHATEVER THE  
HELL.

HOW  
WOULD I  
MANAGE  
THAT?

YOU CAN MAKE  
ME UP TO LOOK  
*JUST* LIKE A  
*HOT BABE!*

WHY  
DIDN'T  
YOU SAY  
SO! ♡

OHGOD

ALL THAT  
GORGEOUS  
BOY HAIR!

YAY!

DAH  
DEE  
DEE ♪

MM  
HUM  
MM ♪

HEYYYY...


I'M  
CHANGING  
MY MIND.



THE IMPORTANT  
THING IS TO  
HAVE YOU  
LOOKING LIKE A  
**NATURAL  
GIRL.**

IT'S  
TRICKY!

OTHERWISE,  
YOU COULD  
END UP  
LOOKING  
**OVER-  
STYLED!**



WE DON'T WANT  
JUST HIDE YOUR  
MASCULINITY UNDER  
**GLOBS** OF FASHION.  
THEN YOU'LL LOOK  
LIKE A **CARTOON  
VERSION** OF A  
WOMAN, INSTEAD OF  
A **REGULAR GIRL.**

WE JUST NEED  
TO TRIM AWAY  
AND **SMOOTH  
DOWN** YOUR  
MASCULINITY.

IT SHOULD  
BE EASY,  
BECAUSE  
YOU'RE  
ASIAN.



WHAT'S  
**THAT**  
SUPPOSED  
TO MEAN?

HOLD  
STILL.

THERE!

NOW LET'S  
GET YOU IN  
SOME  
WOMEN'S  
CLOTHES!

I'M  
THINKING  
SIMPLE BUT  
CUTE.

POSSIBLY A  
LOOSE SKIRT,  
SO YOU DON'T  
HAVE TO  
WORRY ABOUT  
TUCKING.

AND A  
BRA WITH  
PADDING.

NO  
PANTIES?

NO.

ANYONE WHO  
SEES YOU IN  
PANTIES WILL  
KNOW YOU HAVE  
A DONG.

YEAH, BUT  
I'M KIND OF AN  
IMMERSION  
METHOD  
ACTOR.

YOU'RE NOT  
WEARING MY  
UNDERWEAR,  
ARON!



WOW, LOOK AT ALL THESE WOMEN.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO FIND THIS DREAM GIRL OF YOURS?

JUST KEEP LOOKING.

WELL, AT LEAST WE CAN HAVE A GOOD TIME, REGARDLESS!

THIS IS FUN!

HOW MANY OF THOSE HAVE YOU HAD?

UM.. I FORGET.

WOMEN KEPT BUYING THEM FOR ME.

WE WERE GOING TO STAY SOBER SO WE COULD LOOK.

AW JUST LET ME WET MY BEAK! IT'S NOT LIKE I'M IN DANGER!

THERE ISN'T A PENIS AROUND FOR MILES!

EXCEPT FOR YOUR PENIS OF COURSE MFWFF MFFM M.



THERE SHE IS!

OKAY, I GOTTA DO THIS COOL-LIKE.



SHE LOOKS LIKE A TOMBOY.



I KNOW!

TOMBOYS HAVE THEIR OWN KIND OF SPECIAL HOTNESS.



OOF!



OH HI.

I LIKE YOUR HAIR.

IT'S REALLY CUTE.



ANGELA,  
IS IT?

MY  
GIRLFRIEND  
AND I ARE  
VERY OPEN.

I'D LIKE  
YOU TO  
MEET HER.

I THINK YOU  
TWO WOULD  
GET ALONG  
VERY WELL.

OH, I DIDN'T  
KNOW YOU  
HAD A  
GIRLFRIEND.

CAN I BUY  
HER A DRINK,  
TOO?

WHO'S YOUR  
NEW FRIEND,  
ANGELA!?

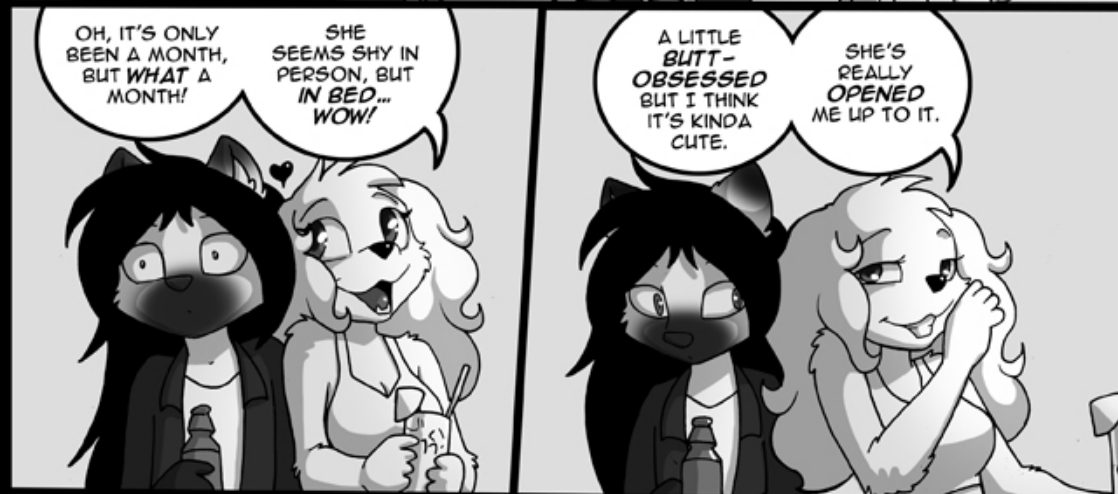
NO.

YES!



WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR SIX MONTHS, NOW!

HOW ABOUT YOU TWO?



OH, IT'S ONLY BEEN A MONTH, BUT **WHAT** A MONTH!

SHE SEEMS SHY IN PERSON, BUT **IN BED...** WOW!

A LITTLE **BUTT-OBSESSED** BUT I THINK IT'S KINDA CUTE.

SHE'S REALLY **OPENED** ME UP TO IT.



OH<sup>HH</sup>

WE GET ALONG BECAUSE I JUST **LOVE** BOISTEROUS **DRUNKS**.

AND HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SUCH A CUTE LADY WITH SUCH **BIG** HANDS?

KNOW WHAT I MEAN?



ARON? I  
KNOW IT'S  
YOU.



OH...  
AH...

LOOK, I  
DIDN'T GET  
YOUR  
NUMBER  
LAST TIME.



AND THIS  
WAS THE  
ONLY  
WAY...



IT'S  
OKAY.

NO ONE'S  
EVER GONE  
TO THESE  
LENGTHS TO  
GET CLOSE TO  
ME, BEFORE!

YOU WERE CUTE  
AS A GUY WITH A  
*GIRLISH*  
EDGE,  
AND NOW YOU'RE  
CUTE AS A GIRL  
WITH A *BOYISH*  
EDGE.



OH, I-  
*GIRLISH!*?





YOU  
KISS  
NICELY.



SO  
DO  
YOU.

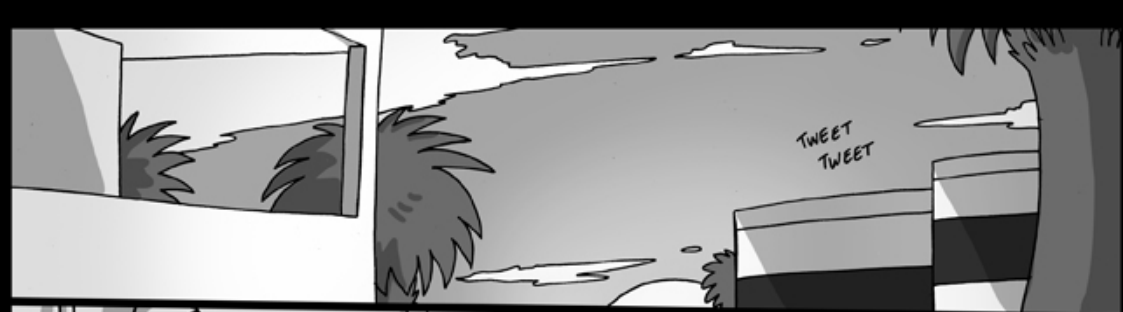
HEY.

YOU'RE  
GETTING A  
BONER.



SO ARE  
YOU-





DO YOU NOT WANT TO DATE A GIRL WITH A PENIS?

IT'S NOT THAT.

I JUST...

JUST WATER

YOU EVER GRABBED A CAN OF SODA THINKING GOSH, I COULD REALLY USE A SODA?

AND THEN YOU TAKE A DRINK FROM IT AND SUDDENLY YOUR TASTE BUDS TELL YOU IT'S CHERRY SODA.

YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING AGAINST CHERRY SODA. YOU JUST WEREN'T EXPECTING CHERRY SODA.

SO YOU HAVE TO GO THROUGH A BRIEF MENTAL ADJUSTMENT.

YOU WERE A PRETTY CLUTE CHERRY SODA, YOURSELF, YESTERDAY.

YEAH YEAH.

THE IRONY ISN'T LOST ON ME.



SHOULD I TEXT AUDREY?

I DON'T WANT TO SOUND DESPERATE.

LET ME TEXT HER FOR YOU!

IT'LL BREAK THE INITIAL TENSION YOU HAVE ABOUT MESSAGING!

HUH, NOT A BAD IDEA.

JUST A SIMPLE "HI".

YEAH!

"AUDREY, I CAN'T GET THE SHAPE OF YOUR PERKY LITTLE ASS OFF OF MY MIND."

"I NEED TO FEEL YOUR SHOULDERS ON MY CHEST AND YOUR SLENDER NECK IN MY MOUTH."

"I WON'T FEEL AT ALL THREATENED IF OUR BALLS HAPPEN TO TOUCH..."

GIMME  
THAT!

RELAX!

I WASN'T  
GOING TO  
SEND IT!

YOU  
SHOULDN'T  
EVEN JOKE  
ABOUT-

CLICK

FWOOP

SENT

WHY DID  
YOU HAVE IT  
ALL TYPED  
IN!?

I DIDN'T  
KNOW YOU'D  
ACCIDENTALLY  
SEND IT.

AAH!

... IF OUR BALLS  
HAPPEN TO TOUCH

I'M SO SORRY! TRIXIE GOT  
AHOLD OF MY PHONE AND  
ACCIDENTALLY SENT THAT  
BECAUSE SHE'S A JERK.

SRSLY, HE DOES  
LIKE YOU THO

TRIXIE KEEPS TAKING MY PHONE,  
I'M SORRY. I MEAN, I DO LIKE  
YOU, I MEAN, JUST NOT IN A  
CRASS WAY. BUT LIKE, A DATING  
WAY...

WHEN BOYS LIK YOU THEY DO  
TEND TO WANT TO POUND YOUR  
ASS LIKE A TENT PEG, THO

I'M GOING TO GO POUND TRIXIE'S  
ASS WITH A BELT. BRB.

ARON AND  
TRIXIE ARE  
FUNNY. WE  
SHOULD HANG  
OUT WITH THEM  
MORE.

CAN YOU  
GET ARON TO  
WEAR THAT  
SKIRT, AGAIN?

YAY!

YOU GONNA?

AUDREY WANTS TO SEE ME AGAIN.

YEAH.

I THINK I'D BE STUPID NOT TO.

SHE'S STILL THE SAME PERSON I REALLY LOVED HANGING OUT WITH. AND SHE'S STILL ATTRACTIVE.

ALL CUTE AND CHARMING.

WHAT IF SHE'S LIKE...

... HUGE.

WHAT IF SHE'S BIGGER THAN YOU?

WOULD THAT BE WEIRD?

YOU LIVE IN  
SOUTHHAVEN?

WHAT DO  
YOU DO FOR  
WORK?

I GOT MY  
MASSAGE  
THERAPY  
LICENSE LAST  
MONTH.



REALLY?

MMHM!

OH-

YOU  
WERE  
GOING TO  
ASK FOR  
ONE.


I DON'T  
WANT TO  
SOUND  
ENTITLED!

IT'S ALL  
RIGHT!

WITH YOU  
IT WON'T  
FEEL LIKE  
WORK.



I HAVE A  
TABLE HERE  
THAT I USE  
TO PRACTICE,  
SOMETIMES.



THE FACILITIES  
AREN'T AS  
ELABORATE AS  
THEY ARE AT  
WORK. BUT IT'S  
NICE ANYWAYS.

FEEL  
FREE TO  
LAY OUT.



MOST OF  
MY CLIENTS  
ARE NAKED,  
OBVIOUSLY.

BUT  
YOU CAN  
LEAVE YOUR  
SHORTS ON  
IF YOU  
WANT.

YOU  
STAYED  
OVER?

AWESOME!

YOU TWO  
LOOK SO  
CUTE!

GOTTA  
GO START  
MY DAY!

BYE!

YEAH...

I'D POUND  
THAT BARE  
ASS LIKE A  
TENT PEG.

AH, WHAT A  
BEAUTIFUL  
DAY!

PERFECT DAY  
TO WORK WITH  
THE WINDOW  
OPEN.

NOTHING  
LIKE ARTING  
WITH THE  
FRESH AIR-

**BWAAAAA**

**WAAAAA**





OKAY,  
LET'S DO A  
COMMISSION.


LET'S SEE  
WHO'S NEXT  
ON THE  
COMMISSIONER  
LIST.




OH, THIS  
GUY HAS SOME  
REALLY CUTE  
STUFF IN HIS  
COMMISSION  
GALLERY.

CUTE,  
SIMPLE,  
ADORABLE  
CHARACTERS.  
LET'S SEE WHAT  
HE WANTS ME  
TO DO.

\*CLICK\*



HI, I LOVE YOUR WORK SO MUCH. OK  
SO THE IDEA I HAD WAS TO USE YOUR  
TALENT TO ILLUSTRATE MY BRAND NEW  
**EXPERIMENTAL CHARACTER**. SHI IS  
A HERMAPHRODITIC DRAGON-DOLPHIN  
HYBRID WITH HETEROCHROMATIC  
NIPPLES (THE RIGHT NIPPLE IS THE  
SAME PURPLE COLOR AS HIR ANUS AND  
THE LEFT NIPPLE MATCHES THE NEON  
GREEN HUE OF HIR INNER LABIA - I  
HAVE INCLUDED A COLOR PALLETTE).



WHY ME...

HIR PENIS IS BIFURCATED, OK, WITH  
THE LEFT SIDE LIKE A DOLPHIN'S PENIS,  
AND THE RIGHT SIDE LIKE A DRAGON'S  
(REFERENCE PHOTO LINKS HERE...) HIR  
LOVER IS A VERY YOUNG LOOKING  
DEMONETTE, OK. I KNOW YOU DON'T  
DRAW NAKED KIDS, BUT SHE ONLY  
LOOKS LIKE SHE IS TEN, BUT REALLY  
SHE IS OVER 3,000 YEARS OLD  
(DEMONS, RIGHT? LOL) OK, SO IT'S  
OKAY TO DRAW HER NAKED AND...




THERE IT IS.  
WHAT DO  
YOU THINK?

WOW, IT  
LOOKS  
GREAT!


MAYBE IT  
COULD BE  
A LITTLE  
MORE...

... DYNAMIC?



HE'S SHOOTING  
A *SUN* AND  
*SURFING*, WITH  
THE VIEWING  
ANGLE FORE-  
SHORTENED FROM  
HIS *FOOT*.

HOW DO YOU  
SUGGEST IT  
BE MORE  
"DYNAMIC"?



IT'S HARD  
TO SAY.

MAYBE DO A  
FEW EXTRA  
VERSIONS AND  
WE'LL CHOOSE?



HOW ABOUT I  
*ANIMATE* IT AND PUT  
IN A *CUSTOM ACTION*  
*SOUNDTRACK*  
BEFORE LUNCH?

OH, WOW!  
THAT'D BE  
*GREAT!*  
THANKS!



WHERE'S YOUR SISTER?

SHE HAD TO DRAW ALL DAY FOR WORK AND NOW SHE'S IN HER ROOM DRAWING FOR HERSELF.

SHE'S SUCH AN OUT-THERE FREAK.

I WONDER WHAT KIND OF THINGS SHE DRAWS FOR HERSELF.

I'M GOING TO GO PEEK.

I WOULDN'T.

GET

**OUT!**



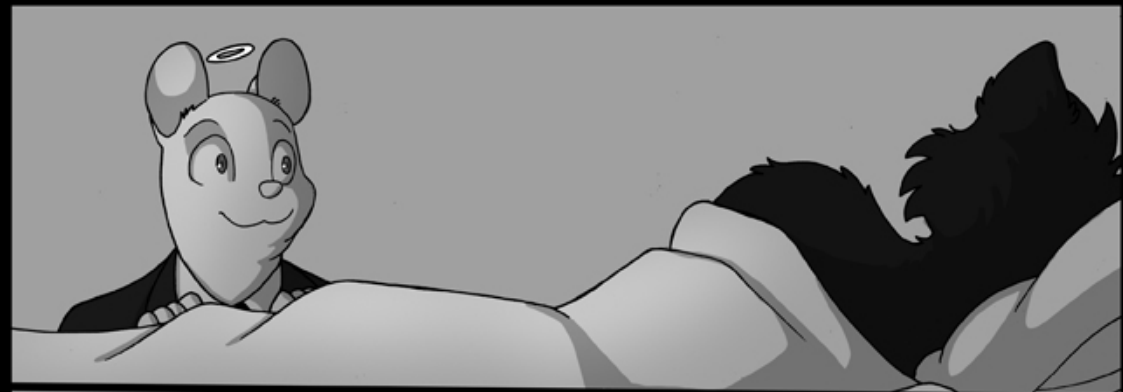
DO YOU EVER  
HAVE TROUBLE  
SLEEPING,  
WONDERING IF  
WE'RE DOING OUR  
BEST AS  
PARENTS?



NONE OF  
OUR KIDS  
WATCH PRO  
WRESTLING,  
HONEY.



OH...



**GUARDIAN ANGEL? WHAT THE HELL WERE YOU DOING?**

I WAS GOING FOR THE WHOLE "HE APPEARED AT THE FOOT OF MY BED" THING.

I DON'T EVEN BELIEVE IN ANGELS.

THIS IS JUST SOME STUPID DREAM!

AND WHY IS MY GUARDIAN ANGEL A WEIRD LOOKING FAT GUY?!

IS THIS BETTER?

IS THIS MORE YOUR SPEED?

YES.



I BET YOU WERE WONDERING WHY I HAVE A HALO AND NO WINGS.




NO.



BECAUSE I HAVE TO EARN THOSE WINGS!

YEAH!



CAN YOU EARN THEM BY HAVING ME WAKE UP?



I'M HERE TO SHOW YOU WHY YOU SHOULD BE GLAD TO BE ALIVE!



BUT I ALREADY LOVE MY LIFE.



LOOK.

I GET ONE SHOT AT THIS, AND YOU'RE NOT GOING TO RUIN IT!



YOU START BEING AN UNGRATEFUL FUCK, RIGHT NOW!



AND THERE'S THE LOVELY WIFE!

WHOA!



YEAH, SHE WENT THROUGH A ROUGH PATCH AFTER DAVID CHEATED ON HER.

BUT SHE'S BETTER NOW.



HAPPY, AT LEAST.



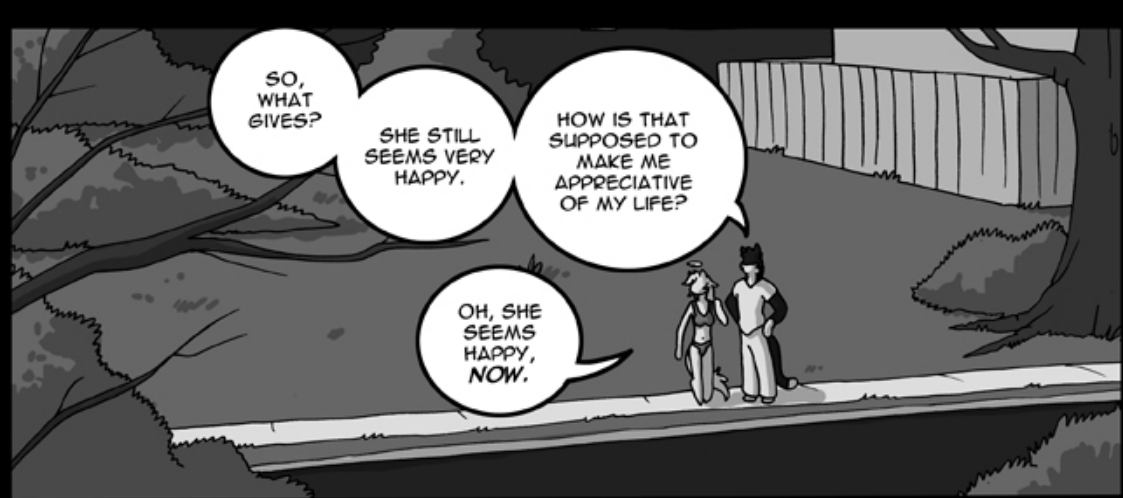
HOW'D SHE GET SO... BIG?



OH, HER CURRENT HUSBAND DOESN'T CARE HOW BIG SHE GETS.

HEY!





SO,  
WHAT  
GIVES?

SHE STILL  
SEEMS VERY  
HAPPY.

HOW IS THAT  
SUPPOSED TO  
MAKE ME  
APPRECIATIVE  
OF MY LIFE?

OH, SHE  
SEEMS  
HAPPY,  
NOW.



UNTIL THE  
*DIABETES*  
SETS IN.

AND SHE  
LOSES HER  
HUSBAND TO A  
HEART ATTACK  
IN THREE  
YEARS.

HM.

THIS DOESN'T  
LOOK LIKE OUR  
NEIGHBORHOOD.

WHERE  
DO THEY  
LIVE?



OHIO!

I SAVED  
HER FROM  
OHIO?



JANIE  
LOOKS  
NORMAL.

SHE ONLY  
DRESSES LIKE  
AN ATHLETE  
BECAUSE SHE'S  
LAZY.

BUT ALL  
SHE DOES IS  
PLAY VIDEO  
GAMES.

ENDLESS  
VIDEO  
GAMES.



THEY AREN'T  
*GAMES* TO  
HER ANYMORE.  
THEY'RE  
STATISTICS.

THEY'RE  
*KILLS-TO-  
DEATHS*  
RATIOS.

SHE'S A  
MULTIPLAYER  
SCOURGE. A  
LORE-DESTROYING  
MONSTER, FUELED  
BY MOUNTAIN  
DEW.



SHE'S  
A LAZY  
*DOUCHEBAG!*

MOVING  
ON!

INSTEAD OF BEING LET OUT TO EXPEL EXCESS ENERGY, THOMAS AND ABIGAIL HAVE HAD THEIR HYPERACTIVITY QUELLED WITH **DRUGS!**

THEY ARE JUST THE MOST PERFECTLY WELL BEHAVED **BORING** CHILDREN!

JUICE

I HAVE DONE THIS ILLUSTRATION TO ACCOMPANY THE STORY YOU'RE WRITING FOR MOTHER.

THAT LOOKS WONDERFUL, ABIGAIL.

IT WILL GO PERFECTLY WITH THE THIRD CHAPTER.

THOSE AREN'T **KIDS!**

BILLY BROKE HIS LEG, YESTERDAY.

NOT **YOUR** KIDS, ANYWAY!

THAT'S WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU RUN AROUND.

BETH NEVER DID LEARN TO FORM TRUSTING BONDS WITH OTHER PEOPLE.

SHE'S A COMPLETE ANTI-SOCIAL NIHILIST.

HER MOOD IS AS DARK AS HER WARDROBE.

ALL OF HER ARTISTIC TALENT IS CHANNLED INTO GROTESQUE, MISANTHROPIC WORKS!

SHE HATES MEN.

SHE HATES OTHER WOMEN.

SHE HATES HERSELF.

SIGH...

AND WHEN SHE'S NOT PAINTING, SHE'S WORKING ON HER LATEST WEBCOMIC!

OH GOD!



LOOK, I  
ALREADY LIKE  
MY LIFE,  
BECAUSE I  
LIKE *LIVING*  
IT!

I'M GRATEFUL  
FOR MY HARD  
WORK AND  
EVERYTHING I  
DO TO LIVE  
WELL!

I DON'T  
NEED YOU  
TO DRAG ME  
AROUND!

I DON'T NEED  
YOU TO TELL ME  
MY LIFE IS  
WORTH LIVING  
BASED ON HOW  
*OTHERS* ARE  
DOING.

BESIDES, I  
DON'T EVEN  
KNOW IF I  
*BELIEVE*  
YOU.

WHY ARE WE  
SUDDENLY IN  
A CEMETERY?

I'LL  
SHOW  
YOU.

REMEMBER  
CARLOS?

SOMEONE ELSE  
SAVED HIS LIFE ON  
THE FIELD, BUT IT  
WAS ANOTHER FRIEND  
OF HIS WHO *DID* GIVE  
HIM THE GUN TO KILL  
HIMSELF.

BUT IN THE  
WORLD WHERE  
YOU LIVE, HE  
DECIDED TO  
TOUGH IT OUT.

HE WENT  
THROUGH  
PHYSICAL  
THERAPY FOR  
YEARS.



HE WALKS  
WITH A CANE,  
NOW.

BUT  
WITHOUT  
YOU...



WOULD YOU BE  
ALL RIGHT  
KNOWING YOU  
GAVE YOUR  
FRIEND THE GUN  
HE USED TO KILL  
HIMSELF?

WHAT I DID  
WAS AS *MUCH*  
FOR ME AS IT  
WAS FOR HIM.

AND YOU  
*DONT* HAVE  
THE *RIGHT*  
TO TALK TO  
ME ABOUT IT.



GOOD  
MORNING,  
STEVE.



THANKS,  
BILL.

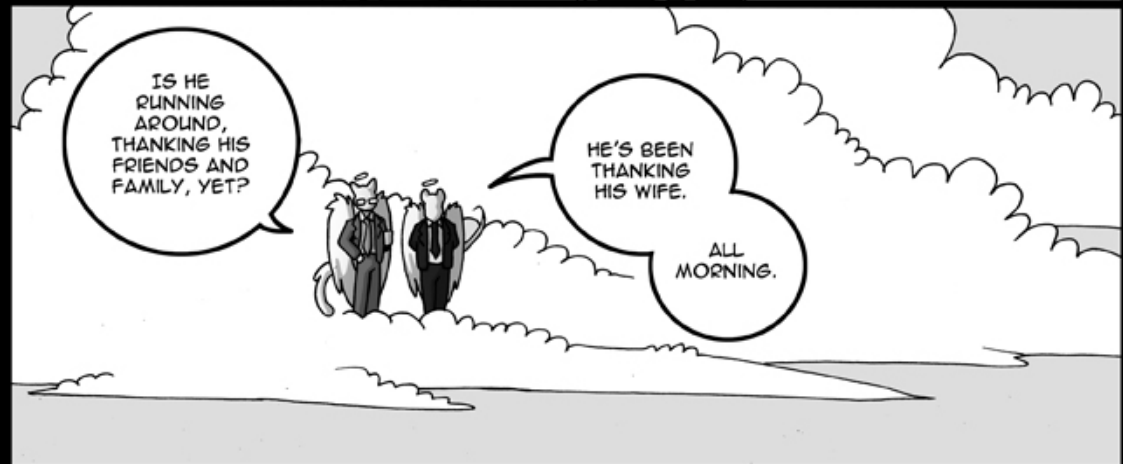
NICE  
WINGS.

FINALLY GOT  
HIM TO BE  
GRATEFUL  
FOR HIS LIFE?



WELL, HE  
ALREADY  
WAS.

I JUST  
ACCENTUATED  
IT BY KEEPING  
HIM AWAY  
FROM IT.



IS HE  
RUNNING  
AROUND,  
THANKING HIS  
FRIENDS AND  
FAMILY, YET?

HE'S BEEN  
THANKING  
HIS WIFE.

ALL  
MORNING.





GOOD MORNING, STEVE.



THANKS, BILL.

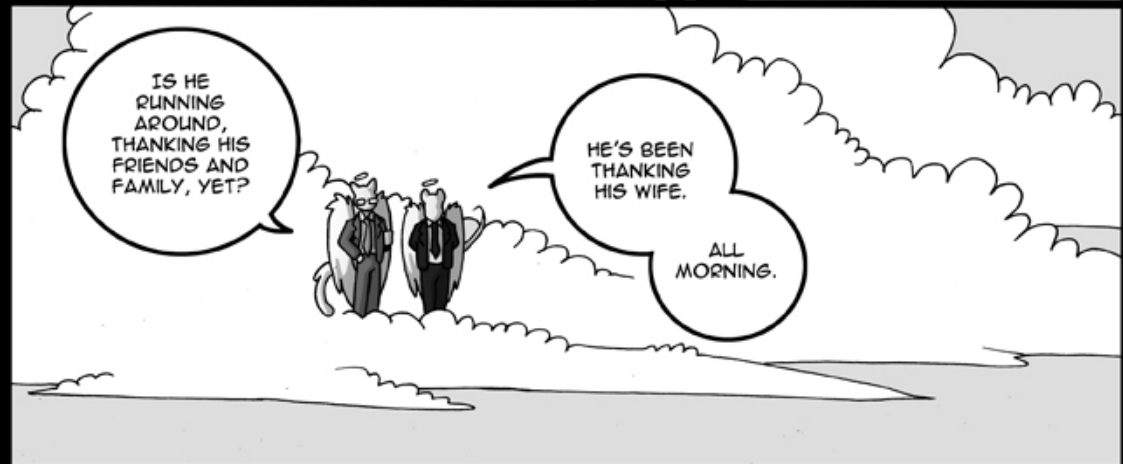
NICE WINGS.

FINALLY GOT HIM TO BE GRATEFUL FOR HIS LIFE?



WELL, HE ALREADY WAS.

I JUST ACCENTUATED IT BY KEEPING HIM AWAY FROM IT.



IS HE RUNNING AROUND, THANKING HIS FRIENDS AND FAMILY, YET?

HE'S BEEN THANKING HIS WIFE.

ALL MORNING.



IS THAT THE ELDER SCROLLS ONLINE?

YEP.

YEAH, I THOUGHT SO.

I THOUGHT YOU LIKED THE ELDER SCROLLS GAMES.

SURE.

THE MAJESTIC LANDSCAPES. EXPLORING A HUGE MAP.

REVEALING NEW AREAS OF A RICH AND DETAILED UNIVERSE METICULOUSLY CONSTRUCTED BY PEOPLE WHO OBVIOUSLY LOVE WHAT THEY DO.

WHY WOULD YOU SUBJECT THAT GLORIOUS SETTING TO EVERY JACKASS ON THE INTERNET, SO THEY CAN BREAK LORE AND GENERALLY PEE ALL OVER IT?

AH.

WHAT'S YOUR CHARACTER'S NAME?

UH...

\*QUEENGOOTH SPARKLEBITCH\*.

TELL ME!

SEE!!!



MAYBE  
JANIE IS  
RIGHT.



SURE I'M  
HAVING FUN.  
BUT ONLY BY  
SHUTTING OUT  
EVERYONE  
ELSE.




THEIR  
STUPID  
BOUNCING.

THEIR  
INTRUSIVE  
UGLY  
PETS.



HUFF

SNORT

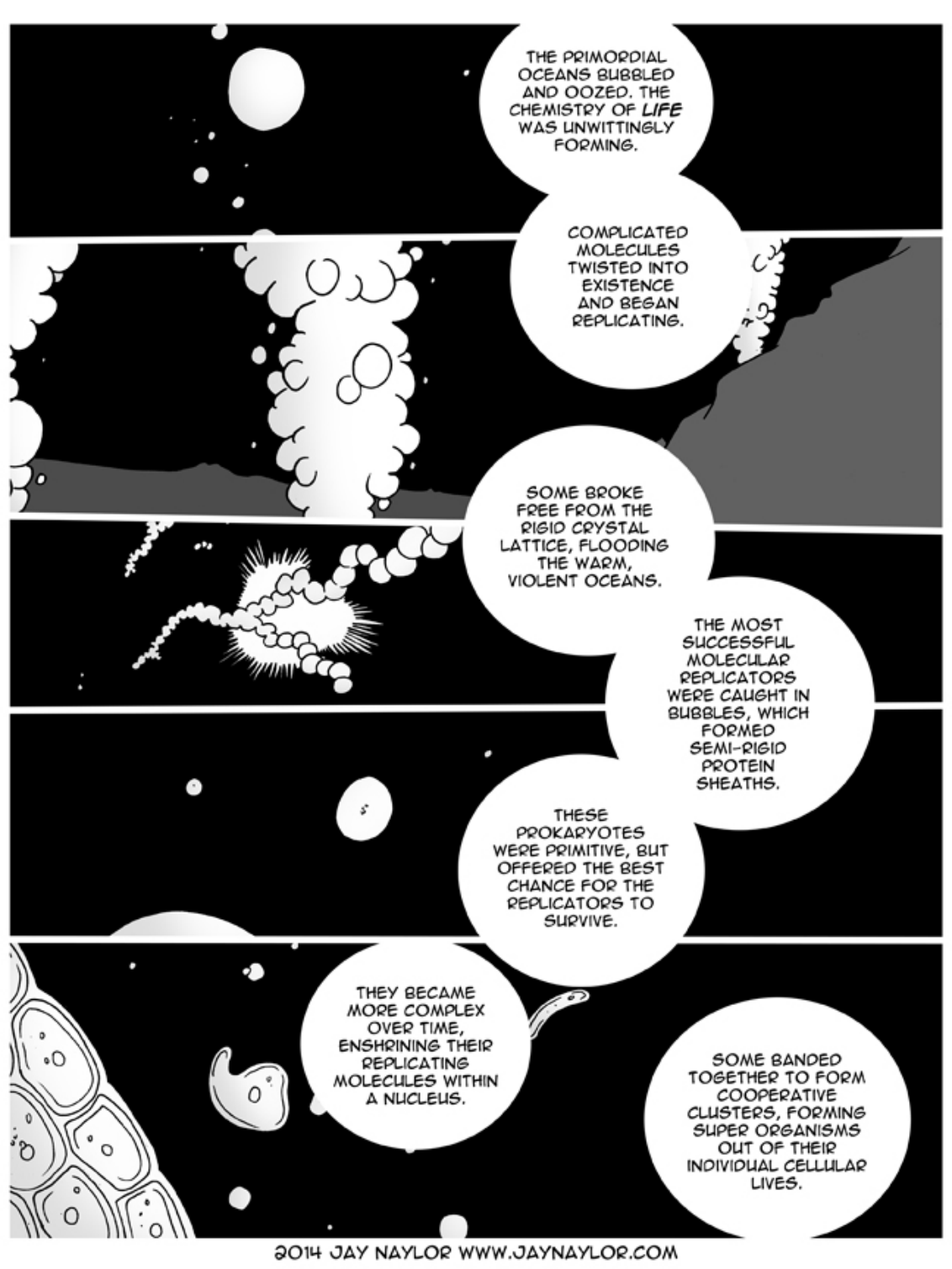


AROUND  
EVERY  
CORNER,  
I'M BEING  
PULLED FROM  
THE SETTING BY  
THE PRESENCE  
OF OTHERS.

AND WHEN I SEE TWO  
PLAYERS TAKING OFF  
THEIR CLOTHES AND  
SIMULATING SEX WITH  
THE "PLAY DEAD" AND  
"PUSHUPS" EMOTES,  
IN THE MIDDLE OF TOWN...

... THE FIRST  
THING THAT  
CROSSES MY  
MIND...

... IS IF  
WEREN'T FOR  
THIS SHIT,  
WE  
MIGHT BE  
PLAYING  
FALLOUT 4,  
BY NOW.



THE PRIMORDIAL OCEANS BUBBLED AND OOEZED. THE CHEMISTRY OF LIFE WAS UNWITTINGLY FORMING.

COMPLICATED MOLECULES TWISTED INTO EXISTENCE AND BEGAN REPLICATING.


SOME BROKE FREE FROM THE RIGID CRYSTAL LATTICE, FLOODING THE WARM, VIOLENT OCEANS.

THE MOST SUCCESSFUL MOLECULAR REPLICATORS WERE CAUGHT IN BUBBLES, WHICH FORMED SEMI-RIGID PROTEIN SHEATHS.

THESE PROKARYOTES WERE PRIMITIVE, BUT OFFERED THE BEST CHANCE FOR THE REPLICATORS TO SURVIVE.

THEY BECAME MORE COMPLEX OVER TIME, ENSHRINING THEIR REPLICATING MOLECULES WITHIN A NUCLEUS.

SOME BANDED TOGETHER TO FORM COOPERATIVE CLUSTERS, FORMING SUPER ORGANISMS OUT OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL CELLULAR LIVES.



CELL CLUSTERS  
SPECIALIZED IN  
CERTAIN ROLES  
WITH OTHER CELLS,  
FORMING ORGANS  
WHICH MADE UP A  
VARIETY OF  
**DISTINCT**  
ORGANISMS.


SOON, THE  
REPLICATION OF GENETIC  
MOLECULES WAS THE  
DUTY OF ONLY SPECIFIC  
SPECIALIZED ORGANS  
WITHIN THE BODIES OF  
LARGER COMPLEX  
ORGANISMS.

AS GENETIC  
STRUCTURES  
SHUFFLED AND  
COMBINED IN  
DIFFERENT WAYS,  
LIFE FLOURISHED,  
CHANGED, AND  
**DIVERSIFIED.**


WITHOUT ANY  
CONSCIOUS  
INTENT, LIFE  
SPREAD OVER  
THE EARTH.

DIVERSE  
SURVIVAL  
STRATEGIES  
WERE  
EMPLOYED.

SOME  
CREATURES GREW  
ENORMOUS AND  
PHYSICALLY  
POWERFUL...




... WHILE OTHERS  
WOULD ADAPT  
INGENIOUS SKILL  
SPECIALIZATIONS  
FOR THEIR  
SURVIVAL.



AND SOME  
REPLICATING MOLECULES  
MAINTAINED THE  
ORIGINAL STRATEGY OF  
REPLICATING IN **HUGE**  
NUMBERS, DESPITE NOW  
BEING COMPLEX  
ORGANISMS.



AFTER  
MILLIONS OF  
YEARS, ONE  
COMPLEX  
ORGANISM  
EVOLVED IN A  
NEW DIRECTION.



STANDING UPRIGHT,  
AND EVOLVING A  
COMPLEX BRAIN,  
OUR  
OWN ANCESTORS  
WERE POISED TO  
SURVIVE IN THE  
WORLD BY  
**LEARNING**  
ABOUT IT.

MAN SHAPED THE WORLD TO HIS NEEDS.

BUT UNDER IT ALL, EVERY ADVANCE, EVERY ACHIEVEMENT, EVERYTHING GOOD WE HAVE TODAY...

... IS NOTHING MORE THAN THE EFFORT OF A MOLECULE PROGRAMED TO REPLICATE ITSELF IN PERPETUITY.

ARE THE PARAMETERS OF AN ARBITRARY *NINE O'CLOCK* BEDTIME THE RESULT OF ANYTHING MEASURED AGAINST A GREATER EXISTENCE?

OR JUST THE PRODUCT OF A SELF-ANIMATING PROTEIN SHELL FOR DNA PROGRAMED TO IMPOSE CONTROL OVER ITS HALF-REPLICANT?

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO READ *RICHARD DAWKINS* TO ABIGAIL ANYMORE.

SHE CALLED *CHARLOTTE'S WEB* "IDIOTIC".

I DON'T CARE!





ARE YOU **SURE** YOU DON'T NEED YOUR JACKETS?

IT'S 75 DEGREES, MOM!

I KNOW, BUT SOMETIMES THOSE CLASS-ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS CAN GET PRETTY **INTENSE!**



MOM'S BEEN ACTING **WEIRD**, LATELY.

MOM'S **ALWAYS** WEIRD.

YOU JUST DON'T USUALLY NOTICE BECAUSE YOU LIVE IN A **BOY-BUBBLE**, WHERE SUBTLER REALITIES CANNOT PENETRATE.



I DON'T.

I'M ACTUALLY VERY JEALOUS.

SINCE WHEN DO YOU THINK BOYS ARE STUPID?



MY LIFE'S  
FLIPPED  
UPSIDE DOWN,  
ELIZABETH.



OH?



MY KIDS ARE  
GETTING TOO  
OLD TO  
MOTHER.

I'M FEELING  
INCREASINGLY  
ALIENATED  
FROM MY  
FAMILY.

AND  
NOW...  
... THIS  
MORNING...



... BRICE  
ASKED ME  
FOR AN  
OPEN  
MARRIAGE.

WHAT?  
OH  
GOSH!



ARE YOU  
LAUGHING  
AT ME BEHIND  
YOUR MUG?

NOPE.  
ARE YOU  
LYING?  
YEP.





YOU HAVE TO ADMIT SOME LEVEL OF...  
... IRONY.

I KNOW I HAVE A PROBLEM!  
I'M IN THERAPY FOR IT!



BUT HIM?

SUDDENLY HE REALIZES HE'S IN A PASSIONLESS MARRIAGE?

SUDDENLY SOMEONE'S TIRED OF ME?

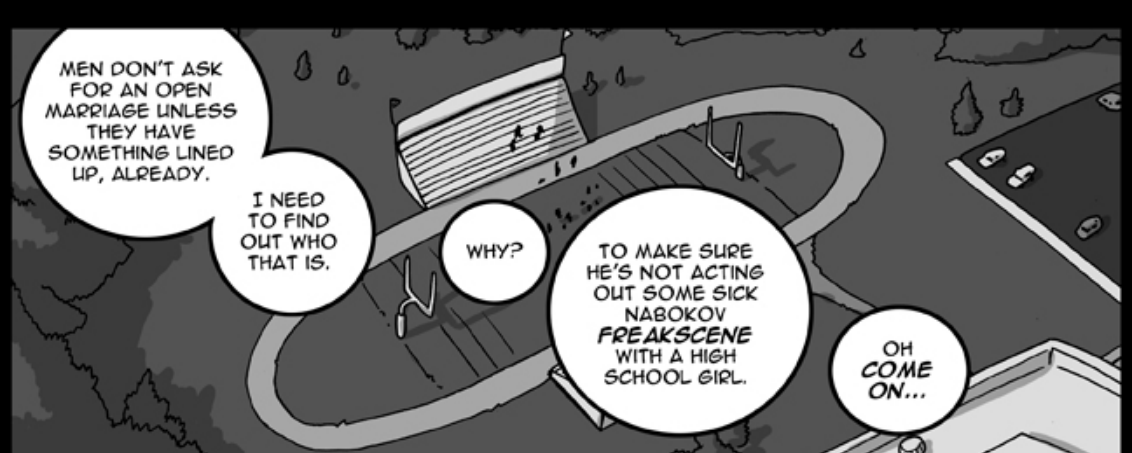


YOU WANT HIM MORE NOW THAN YOU EVER HAVE, DON'T YOU?



FUCK.  
YES.





MEN DON'T ASK FOR AN OPEN MARRIAGE UNLESS THEY HAVE SOMETHING LINED UP, ALREADY.

I NEED TO FIND OUT WHO THAT IS.

WHY?

TO MAKE SURE HE'S NOT ACTING OUT SOME SICK NABOKOV FREAKSCENE WITH A HIGH SCHOOL GIRL.

OH COME ON...




HE COACHES ALL DAY, ELIZABETH.

HE'S AROUND CHEERLEADERS..



AND VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS...



WHY DO YOU NEED SUPER TIGHT SHORTS TO PLAY VOLLEYBALL, ANYWAY?

THE HELL IS THAT...



MAYBE HE'S SEXING UP ONE OF HIS FOOTBALL PLAYERS?



YOU'RE NOT HELPING.

I CAN'T  
FIND A CLUE TO  
HIS *STUPID*  
MYSTERY LOVE  
INTEREST.

I'VE BEEN  
FUCKING HIS  
BRAINS OUT  
EVERY NIGHT,  
NOW.

EVEN WITH  
HIS NEW LOVER,  
HE STILL HAS  
THE STAMINA  
FOR ME.

HOW DOES  
AN OPEN  
MARRIAGE  
WORK?

AREN'T WE  
SUPPOSED  
TO ASK FOR  
PERMISSION TO  
TAKE ON NEW  
LOVERS?

HE  
HASN'T  
ASKED.

IS HE  
WAITING  
FOR ME  
TO?

WHO  
ARE YOU  
BALLING ON  
THE SIDE?

JUST  
GIVE ME  
A CLUE.

A  
HINT.

\*SNIFF\*

\*SNIFF\*



I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE TAKING THIS SO BADLY.

YOU'RE THE WOMAN WHO USED TO GIVE QUICKIES TO THE LIPS GUY.

YOU HAD AN AFFAIR IN THE BATHROOM OF A NIGHT CLUB, ONCE.

YOU'VE NEVER HAD TROUBLE FINDING MEN BEHIND YOUR HUSBAND'S BACK, WHEN YOU FELL OUT OF YOUR "THERAPY".

MY GOD!

YOU'RE RIGHT!

I SHOULD BE OUT THERE MAKING HIM JEALOUS!

I'VE GOT A WHOLE CONTACT LIST FULL OF BEAUTIFUL MEN!

AND I DON'T HAVE TO KEEP THEM SECRET, ANYMORE!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT AT ALL!



I THINK THIS OPEN MARRIAGE IS A GOOD IDEA!

I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO MY DATE!

YOU KNOW, WITH THAT **STRONG ITALIAN GUY** I MET AT THE HARDWARE STORE.



WITH THE **HUGE HANDS.**



WELL, I'M OFF!

DON'T WAIT UP!



HONEY, WAIT!



YES!



YOU FORGOT YOUR PURSE.

SO, YOU  
TOLD YOUR  
HUSBAND WE  
JUST MET?

WHEN  
WE'VE BEEN  
SLEEPING  
TOGETHER  
FOR OVER A  
YEAR?

WELL, I  
GUESS THIS  
WAY IS  
BETTER.

YOU WON'T  
HAVE TO SNEAK  
AROUND SO  
MUCH.

UNLESS  
SNEAKING  
AROUND IS  
WHAT YOU  
LIKED  
ABOUT IT  
ALL  
ALONG.

...





HE'S NOT  
SEEING  
ANYONE.

SO, SISSY'S  
BEEN DRIVING  
HERSELF CRAZY  
TRYING TO FIND  
OUT WHO BRICE  
IS SEEING ON  
THE SIDE.



WHAT?

HE JUST  
ASKED FOR  
AN OPEN  
MARRIAGE TO  
DRIVE HER  
NUTS.

IT ALL FLIES  
IN THE FACE  
OF HER  
PSYCHOSIS.



MEN CAN BE  
AS DEVOIS  
AS WOMEN?

THIS  
CHANGES  
EVERYTHING.

THE NEED  
FOR SEX  
BRINGS OUT  
OUR BEST.

AND  
OUR  
WORST.

STOP  
MOPING!  
YOU'LL  
NEVER BE  
SO AGAIN!

IT'S TIME  
TO BE A  
WIFE AND  
A MOM!

I AM A  
MOM.

A MOM  
ISN'T JUST  
SOME  
WOMAN  
WITH KIDS!

A MOM IS A  
FORCE OF  
NATURE!

KIDS TAKE  
FOOD FOR  
GRANTED.

WHY?

BECAUSE  
MOM!

HUSBANDS  
FIND  
EVERYTHING  
CLEAN AND IN  
ORDER.

BECAUSE  
WIFE!

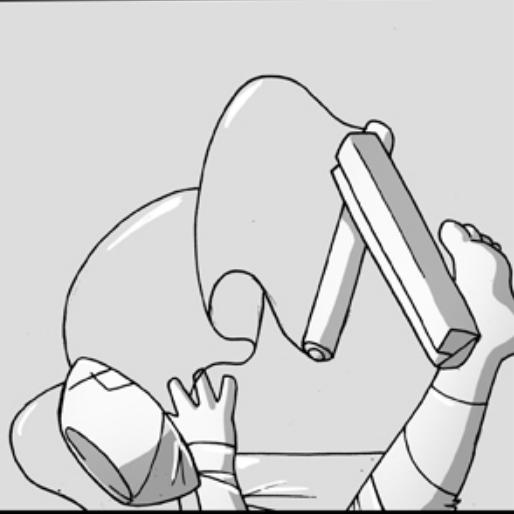
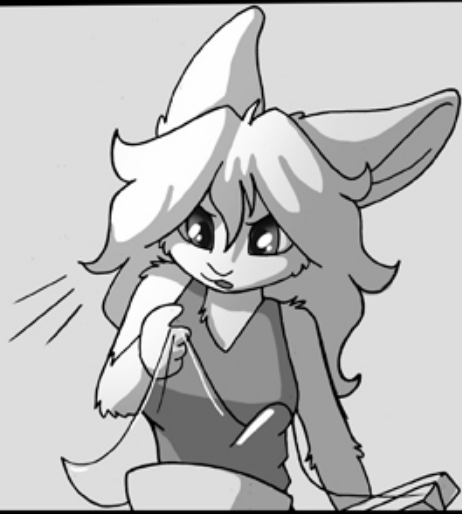
YOUR  
SARAN  
WRAP WILL  
BE TIGHT AS  
A DRUM!

HOW  
DID  
YOU...

YOU WILL  
BE AS A  
GOD!

ALL  
RIGHT.

SHOULD  
BE EASY  
ENOUGH.





HONEY,  
I'M  
HOME!



HONEY?



MM.

I LIKE THIS  
NEW SIDE OF  
YOU, DEAR.



!!!

HOW'D YOU GET LIKE THIS?

SARAN WRAP IS EVIL!

IT JUST...

MOVES ON ITS OWN!

I WAS TRYING TO BE A GOOD MOM.

I NEED TO STOP ACTING LIKE A TEENAGER AND BE THE MOTHER I AM!

SO YOU DONT WANT A SPONTANEOUS, SEMI-BOUND, HOT, KITCHEN FLOOR POUNDING?

AND-

NNF

THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT!

HHN...



THOMAS BLACK.

UNPARALLELED  
*MASTER* OF THE  
CHEAP PLASTIC  
RECORDER.

HIS RAPE LIVE  
PERFORMANCES ARE  
BREATHTAKING.

ALONE, ON  
STAGE, HE BRINGS  
THE AUDIENCE TO  
A HUSH.

COMPLETE SILENCE  
FILLS THE ROOM.

HE BRINGS THE  
RECORDER TO  
HIS LIPS...



\*INHALE\*





HEY  
GUYS.

I JUST WANT  
TO LET YOU  
KNOW THAT MY  
COUSIN WILL BE  
MOVING IN WITH  
ME TOMORROW.

OKAY.

I'M WARNING  
YOU BECAUSE  
SHE CAN BE A  
LITTLE...  
**ROUGH.**



WHAT  
DO YOU  
MEAN?

SHE'S  
FROM  
ATLANTA.

SO?

SHE'S NEVER  
REALLY BEEN  
TO A GOOD  
SCHOOL.



THERE'S  
SUCH A  
THING AS A  
**GOOD**  
SCHOOL?

WELL,  
SCHOOLS  
WITHOUT  
METAL  
DETECTORS.






WE'RE TURNING  
THE GUEST  
ROOM INTO  
YOUR ROOM.

MAYBE  
DON'T PLAY  
THE MUSIC  
SO LOUD.

MY FOLKS  
DON'T LIKE  
THAT.



AND ALSO  
MAYBE NOT  
CUSS SO  
MUCH.

WHATEV'.

YOUR  
SCHOOL  
UNIFORM IS  
ON THE BED.




A  
UNIFORM?

THIS  
SHIT IS  
SAY.



WELL,  
YOU RUN,  
RIGHT?

WE HAVE  
A GOOD  
TRACK  
TEAM.



LIKE THERE'S  
ANY SPORT IN  
SMOKIN' SOME  
4TH TIER  
SUBURBAN  
CATS AND  
DOGS.



HH

HH



HHH

HH!

HR!



WHO IS THIS GIRL!?

I'VE GOT IT!

I'VE GOT THE STORY THAT WILL BE OUR HEADLINE FOR WEEKS!

I GOT A COPY OF THE RECORDING OF YESTERDAY'S TRACK MEET.

THIS NEW GIRL IS AS FAST AS JANIE BLACK.

THEY CROSSED THE LINE AT EXACTLY THE SAME TIME.

STUDENT RIVALRIES RARELY COME IN A FORM AS EXCITING AS THIS.

PUSH ALL THE CHESS CLUB COVERAGE OFF OF PAGE ONE.

DIDN'T YOU ONCE SAY SPORTS JOURNALISM WAS THE INTELLECTUALLY CHALLENGED STEPCILD OF REAL JOURNALISM?

NOT WHEN I DO IT!

OUR BLOG IS THE MODEL FOR OUR PAPER.

"WHO'S THE FASTEST GIRL IN SCHOOL?"

PEOPLE LIKE THAT.

IT IMPLIES THE ANSWER IS IN THE ARTICLE.

UH..

PEOPLE WANT SENSATION.

THIS STORY HAS THE POTENTIAL FOR IT ALL.

RIVALRY, ATHLETICS, TENSION... UH...

RACE?

YOU SAID IT, NOT ME.

THE NEXT STORY WILL BE ABOUT A RACE-OFF IN TWO WEEKS.

IS THERE A RACE-OFF? ARE WE JUST CREATING NEWS?

IF IT HAPPENS BECAUSE WE CREATE IT, IT'S STILL NEWS, TY.

OH.





OKAY,  
OPEN THE  
STOP WATCH  
AND TIME ME  
TO THAT  
TREE.

OKAY.



ON  
YOUR  
MARK...



GET  
SET...

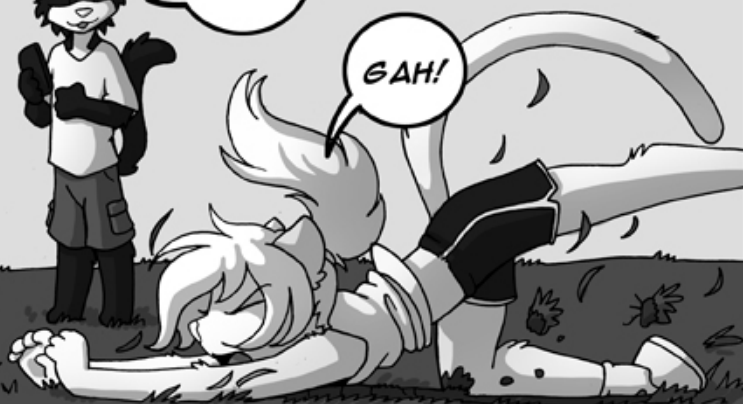


GET  
READY...



GAH!

**THOMAS!!**





ON  
YOUR  
MARK!

SHUT  
UP!

JANIE.

HEAR  
ME  
OUT.

YOU EAT  
RIGHT. YOU  
TAKE YOUR  
VITAMINS.

EVERYTHING  
YOU PUT IN YOUR  
BODY TO GIVE  
YOU AN EDGE  
COMES FROM A  
GROCERY  
STORE.

WHAT  
IF WE JUST  
SYNTHESIZED  
ALL OF THAT  
AND CHEMICALLY  
SUPERCHARGED  
IT?

IS THERE  
ANY ETHICAL  
DIFFERENCE?

YES!

CHANCES?

JANIE. WE  
NEED TO TALK  
ABOUT YOUR  
CHANCES IN  
THE RACE-OFF.

WELL, BASED  
ON THE PLACED  
BETS SO FAR,  
YOUR ODDS  
AREN'T GOOD.

YOU'RE  
TAKING  
BETS?

IT'S WHAT  
THE KIDS  
WANT, NOT  
ME.

WHY  
ARE MOST  
OF THEM  
BETTING ON  
CLARICE?

WELL...  
I  
MEAN,  
COME  
ON...

IF YOU SAY  
WHAT I *THINK*  
YOU'RE GOING  
TO SAY...

SO HELP  
ME...

I DIDN'T  
MAKE THE  
WORLD,  
JANIE!





CLARICE!

HEY,  
CLARICE!



SOME  
NEWS:

MOST  
PEOPLE ARE  
BETTING ON  
YOU TO  
WIN THE  
RACE-OFF.

OF  
COURSE!



I'M  
TOTALLY  
GOING TO  
SMOKE  
JANIE!

THE  
BETS ARE  
GETTING  
HIGH.



SOME HAVE  
THOUGHT ABOUT  
BETTING ON  
JANIE,  
IF THEY KNEW YOU  
WERE GOING TO,  
SAY...


... LOSE ON  
PURPOSE?  
BIGGER  
PAYOFF,  
MAYBE A CUT  
FOR YOU...



I DON'T  
TAKE A DIVE  
FOR NOBODY,  
NO-HOW!


I BEEN  
POOR MY  
WHOLE  
LIFE! I CAN  
DO WITHOUT  
A CUT!

I DIDN'T  
MAKE THE  
WORLD,  
CLARICE!




WHAT DID YOU FIND OUT?

WELL, I ANALYZED EVERYTHING ABOUT JANIE AND CLARICE TO DETERMINE, SCIENTIFICALLY, THE MOST LIKELY WINNER.




I TOOK INTO ACCOUNT THEIR EFFICIENCY OF MOTION, TRAINING REGIMEN, DIET, AND RATE OF IMPROVEMENT OVER THE LAST FEW DAYS.

I USED THE ASSEMBLED INFORMATION TO DEVELOP COMPUTER MODELS AND RUN RACES BETWEEN THE MOCK-UP RUNNERS.



OUT OF 25,742 SIMULATED RACES, WITH A VARIETY OF RANDOMIZED ENVIRONMENTAL VARIABLES, THE MAJORITY OF THE RACES ENDED IN ANOTHER TIE.



NO ONE'S BET ON THE ODDS OF ANOTHER TIE...



PUT ME DOWN FOR IT.



HEY  
YOU.

THAT STUPID  
RABBIT WANTS  
TO KNOW WHEN  
WE'RE GONNA  
RACE ON  
SATURDAY.



SO I TOLD  
HER ONE  
O'CLOCK.

I CAN'T DO  
IT IN THE  
AFTERNOON.

I HAVE A  
GYMNASTICS  
COMPETITION.



WHEN I'M NOT  
COMPETITIVELY  
SWIMMING.

YOU'RE A  
GYMNAST,  
TOO?



YOU'RE  
MAKING  
THAT UP!

ARE YOU  
SCARED?  
♥

NO!



YOU'RE NOT WATCHING THE RACE?

NO.

THE OUTCOME DOESN'T HINGE ON WHETHER OR NOT I WATCH IT.

BESIDES, I CAN SPEND MY TIME DOING OTHER THINGS.

LIKE WHAT?

SEARCHING FOR NAEGLERIA FOWLERI.

WHAT IS THAT?

BRAIN-EATING AMOEBAS.

WHAT?!

OH, I'M SURE YOU'RE SAFE.

HEY!



YA'LL ARE **CRAZY**, YOU KNOW THAT?

YOU SET UP A BET AGAINST YOUR FRIEND AND TRIED TO **RIG IT!**

WELL, MAYBE I **DO** KINDA MAKE THE WORLD.

JUST A LITTLE OONSY BIT...

HER BROTHER TRIED TO MESS UP HER WORKOUTS!

AND NOW YOU'RE ALL HANGIN' OUT LIKE **BEST FRIENDS!**

THERE'D A BEEN SOME **FIGHTS** WHERE I CAME FROM!

IT'S CALLED: "IT DOESN'T MATTER BECAUSE WE'RE JUST BEING KIDS."

YOU SHOULD TRY IT.

HUFF

WE HAVE A SPARE ROD IF YOU WANT.

"SIGH" I GUESS.



I'M  
FEELING  
DIRTY.

SAY  
BAD  
THINGS  
TO ME.

HMM.



WELL, YOUR  
LASAGNA IS A  
LITTLE BLAND.  
YOU COULD  
SEASON IT UP A  
LITTLE.



YOU SHOULD  
WORK MORE  
ON CLEANING  
YOUR CLAW  
LINT.

AND HAVE  
YOU EVER  
CONSIDERED  
LASER EYE  
SURGERY?



IS THIS  
DOING IT  
FOR YOU?

NO.



WHY DO YOU  
HAVE **TWO**  
DIARIES?

ONE IS FULL  
OF MUNDANE  
ORDINARY THINGS,  
LOOSELY HIDDEN,  
FOR YOUR  
PARENTS TO  
FIND.

YOU  
MEAN  
YOU  
**DONT?**

NO.

THE OTHER IS  
RICH WITH YOUR  
**ROMANTIC**  
**CONQUESTS**  
AND **TORRID**  
**AFFAIRS!**

AND  
HIDDEN  
MUCH  
MORE  
SECURELY.

EHH...

WHAT?

MY DAD  
HAS **TWO**  
**LAPTOPS.**

MMM!



**BLOGS  
ARE WHERE  
IT'S AT!**

**AND YOU CAN  
HAVE AS MUCH  
ANONYMITY AS  
YOU WANT!**

**BUT I LOVE  
THE FEEL  
AND SMELL  
OF REAL  
BOOKS...**

**I RUN TEN  
BLOGS FOR  
FUN.**

**MY FAVORITE IS  
ONE WHERE I  
PRETEND I'M A HUNKY  
GUY WHO POSTS PICS  
AND TALKS ABOUT HIS  
JERK-FACE SEXUAL  
ADVENTURES.**

**SO I GET  
MESSAGES FROM  
GUYS PRETENDING  
TO BE GIRLS  
PRETENDING TO  
BE INTERESTED IN  
THIS GUY!**

**THEN I POST  
THEIR TERRIBLE  
UN-GIRLISH  
PLEADINGS FOR  
E-SEX ON  
ANOTHER BLOG,  
AND-**

**ARE PEOPLE  
REALLY  
PEOPLE TO  
YOU?**

**OR JUST  
PLAYTHINGS?**

**NOT  
ON THE  
INTERNET...**

WHAT IS ALL THIS SHIT ON YOUR BLOG?

REBLOGS!

I EXPRESS MYSELF THROUGH OTHER PEOPLE'S WORK.

WHAT THE FUCK. YOU DON'T ACTUALLY MAKE ANYTHING, YOURSELF?

ANIMATED GIFS FROM TV SHOWS?

POLITICAL ISSUES BOILED DOWN TO BUMPER STICKER TRIPE?

PICTURES ARE WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS!

WHAT IF I WANT TO MAKE A BLOG FULL OF ORIGINAL THOUGHTS AND CONTENT?

WELL, NO ONE WILL NOTICE YOU OR REBLOG ANYTHING.

THEN HOW DID ALL THIS CRAP GET REBLOGGED IN THE FIRST PLACE?!

THE GREAT MYSTERY OF TUMBLR!

FUCK  
IT.

A BLOG IS  
FOR ME.  
NOT  
OTHERS.

I CAN  
EXPRESS  
MYSELF WITH  
ORIGINAL  
STUFF.

NOT THIS  
RECONSTITUTED  
SHIT REBLOGGED A  
MILLION TIMES AND  
SHOVED UP EVERY-  
ONE'S ASS UNTIL  
WE'RE DEAD.

MAN,  
THERE'S A  
LOT OF  
PORN ON  
TUMBLR.

REBLOGGED  
AT THE SPEED  
OF LIGHT, A  
MILLION  
TIMES.

WHO'S  
DOING  
THIS?

WHO CAN  
*POSSIBLY*  
KEEP UP WITH  
ALL THIS...?

YOU'VE  
BEEN GLUED  
TO YOUR  
PHONE.

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING?

BLOGGING.

THAT  
LOOKS  
LIKE...

... YOU'RE  
BROWSING  
PORN!

I'M  
SCOURING FOR  
VISUAL MATERIAL  
FOR MY HOT  
MARRIED  
ADULTERESS  
BLOG.

AND THE BLOG  
WHERE I'M A  
COLLEGE  
COED WITH A  
SPANKING  
FETISH.

AND THE BLOG  
WHERE I'M A HIGH  
SCHOOL SENIOR  
HAVING A *TORRID*  
AFFAIR WITH HER  
BEST FRIEND'S  
FATHER.

YOU...

... THAT BETTER  
NOT BE MY  
DAD YOU'RE  
THINKING  
ABOUT.

I  
DIDN'T SAY  
NOTHIN'.



YOU ARE  
ADDICTED.

BULLSHIT.



YOU  
REMEMBER  
MARLEY  
STRONGMAN?

HE GOT  
STRUNG OUT  
ON PORN WHILE  
WE WERE  
GOING OUT.

THE SEX  
PARTS OF HIS  
BRAIN GOT  
BURNED OUT.

HE NEEDED  
IT **FREAKIER**  
AND  
**FREAKIER.**

SOON, THERE  
WAS NOTHING  
LEFT THAT ANY  
**REAL** GIRL  
COULD PROVIDE.

**FANTASY**  
BECAME A  
DIMENSION OF  
BLISS THAT  
**REAL LIFE**  
COULDN'T  
COMPETE  
WITH.



HE'S THE  
**ONLY** GUY  
WHO EVER  
BROKE UP  
WITH **ME.**

**FOR  
THIS.**

YOU SURE IT  
WASN'T YOUR  
SPARKLING  
PERSONALITY??

FIRST  
CIGARETTES,  
THEN BACON,  
NOW PORN!

WHERE  
ARE WE  
GOING?

I'M TAKING  
YOU TO  
SEE WHAT  
HAPPENED TO  
MARLEY!

HOW DO  
YOU DATE  
ALL THESE  
GUYS?

GUYS  
COME TO  
ME. I  
DUNNO.

WHY DO THEY  
WANT YOU WHEN  
YOU'RE INTENT  
ON STAYING A  
VIRGIN, ANYWAY?

BING  
BONG

JUST  
BECAUSE I  
DON'T HAVE  
VAGINAL SEX  
DOESN'T MEAN  
I DON'T HAVE  
SEX.

OH GOD,  
AMANDA...

OH, THE GIRL WHO BROKE MY BOY'S HEART.

UM, HE BROKE UP WITH *ME*, MA'AM.

SURE HE DID.

STAR QUARTERBACK TURNED INTO A *HUSK* OF THE BOY HE ONCE WAS.

WHY ELSE?

ANYWAY, COME ON IN.

MAYBE YOU'LL RAISE HIS SPIRITS.

STAR QUARTERBACK?

~YES!

HIS DOOR'S OPEN!

GAH...

SMELLS LIKE A BLEACH FACTORY IN THERE.



OH,  
HELLO  
AMANDA.

YOU'RE  
LUCKY YOU  
CAUGHT ME  
IN MY  
REFRACTORY  
PERIOD.

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
UP TO?



I CAME TO  
INTRODUCE MY  
FRIEND STACY  
TO YOU!

AND SHOW  
HER THE  
DANGERS OF  
PORN  
ADDICTION!



HM.

NOT  
BAD IN A  
CREEPY  
GOTH  
WAY.

MAYBE ALL THAT  
EYE MAKEUP WILL  
HELP DISTRACT  
FROM HER SMALL  
BOOBS.

STILL, I CAN'T  
RENDER A FINAL  
ASSESSMENT  
UNTIL I SEE THAT  
ASS.




MARLEY HAS  
NO FILTER  
ANYMORE.

HE'S LIKE A  
REAL LIFE  
INTERNET  
COMMENT  
SECTION.


YOU ARE *NOT*  
COMPARING  
ME TO THIS  
SCHMUCK.





I'M BEYOND  
THE CHARMS  
OF ANY  
FEMALE,  
AMANDA.

REALITY IS A  
PALLID FARCE. I  
LIVE IN A REALM  
OF SEXUAL  
IDEALS,  
FLOWING TO ME  
AT 90MB/S.



THE THINGS  
FETISHIZED HEREIN  
WOULD TURN ME OFF,  
GROSS ME OUT, OR  
EVEN KILL ME IF I  
ENCOUNTERED THEM  
IN REAL LIFE.

BUT  
IN THE  
MIND...

... IT'S THE  
EXTREME I  
NEED TO BE  
AROUSED.

I CANNOT  
GO BACK.



SEE?

THIS IS  
WHY HE  
LEFT.

THAT, AND I  
CANNOT DATE  
SOMEONE WHO  
OWNS AN  
IPHONE.

I  
GET  
IT.

I'M GOING  
TO TURN INTO A  
DETACHED  
OBJECTIFYING  
JERK.

NOT IF  
YOU  
STOP.

SURE.

YOU GIRLS CAN  
STAY IF YOU  
WANT TO START  
MAKING OUT WITH  
EACH OTHER.

I'LL  
DELETE  
MY  
BLOGS.


I'LL GIVE  
YOU TWENTY  
DOLLARS IF  
YOU LET ME  
RECORD IT.

LET'S  
GO.



I NEED A  
GOOD  
**REBOUND**  
RELATIONSHIP!

"NEED"



I SAW  
**DWAYNE**  
**HENDRICKS**  
LOOKING AT  
MY REAR END  
THE OTHER  
DAY.

SO,  
MAYBE...



YEAH,  
DWAYNE'S  
PRETTY  
ALPHA.



I KNEW  
IT!

IT'S  
STARTED!

YOU'RE  
GOING FULL  
INTERNET  
RETARD!



W-WHAT'S  
HAPPENING  
TO ME!?

YES, I CAN HELP STACY KICK HER ADDICTION WITH MY PATENTED **AVERSION THERAPY.**

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE INTERNET, PER SE; IT'S ABOUT THE CONTENT SHE **USES** IT FOR.

WHETHER IT'S CUTE ANIMALS, DIRTY MOMMY AND DADDY PICTURES, FIGHTING ON THE INTERNET, OR JUST READING REALLY REALLY REALLY STUPID COMMENTS...

... THIS TREATMENT HAS PROVEN EFFECTIVE.

TIK TIKTIK TIK...

SHE'LL BE BACK TO A BEING A PRODUCTIVE AND SOCIALLY PROPER YOUNG LADY IN NO TIME.

\*SPLAT\*

I HEARD  
SCREAMS!

WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON!

IT'S  
PERFECTLY  
NORMAL.

HER MIND IS  
BEING DETOXED  
FROM ALL OF HER  
TERRIBLE  
INTERNET  
IMPULSES.

DON'T JUDGE  
THE *METHODS*  
UNTIL YOU SEE  
THE *RESULTS*.

THAT GUY'S  
COMMENTS ARE  
COMPLETELY  
*BASELESS!*

IF YOU  
LET ME  
GO, I  
THINK...

TWITCH  
TWITCH

"CRACKLE"

... I THINK  
I CAN  
*REASON*  
WITH HIM!



STACY IS  
SHOWING  
GOOD  
PROGRESS.

TODAY SHE WAS  
ABLE TO WRITE A  
TEN PAGE SHORT  
STORY ON AN  
INTERNET CAPABLE  
LAPTOP WITHOUT  
OPENING THE WEB  
BROWSER.



I WANT  
TO SLOWLY  
REINTRODUCE  
CHAT CLIENTS.

I HOPE MY  
CONFIDENCE IN  
HER ISN'T  
PREMATURE.



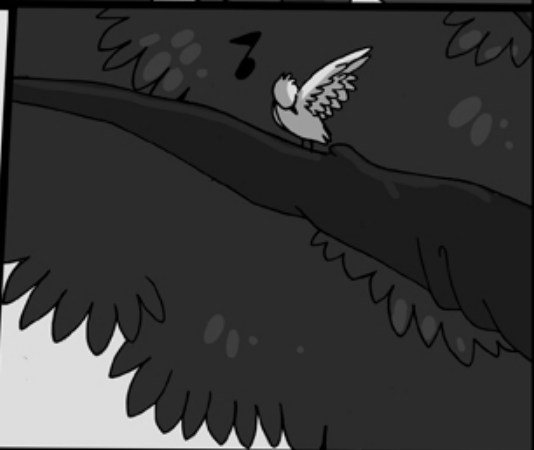
I SHOULD  
START A  
KICK ASS  
WEBCOMIC!!

CODE  
RED!

BRING  
THE  
STUNNERS!












WHEN I FELT  
THE SUN ON ME,  
AND HEARD THE  
BIRDS CHIRPING,  
AND THE KIDS  
PLAYING...

... SUDDENLY,  
WHAT SOMEONE  
WAS DOING ON  
THE INTERNET  
MATTERED A  
WHOLE LOT  
LESS.



THE WHOLE  
REAL WORLD  
WAS ALMOST  
LOST TO ME.



ARE YOU  
GOING TO  
DATE  
AGAIN?



AND COMPETE  
WITH GIRLS ON  
THE INTERNET?  
HELL NO.


I'LL WAIT  
UNTIL I  
GRADUATE FROM  
COLLEGE, THEN  
FIND A NICE  
FORTY YEAR  
OLD.



DO I  
HAVE TO  
FINISH MY  
BROCCOLI?

YES.

THERE ARE  
STARVING  
CHILDREN IN THE  
WORLD WHO  
CAN'T EVEN EAT  
BROCCOLI.



HOW WOULD  
ME EATING  
THIS BROCCOLI  
HELP THEM?



IT'S NOT  
ABOUT HELPING.  
IT'S ABOUT  
BEING GRATEFUL  
THAT YOU HAVE  
IT TO EAT.



I'LL GO STARVE  
MYSELF UNTIL  
I'M GRATEFUL  
FOR BROCCOLI.



SIT  
BACK  
DOWN!



WHY ARE YOU TWO ALL DONE UP FOR SCHOOL?



IT'S PICTURE DAY, STUPID.

PICTURE DAY!?



WHY DIDN'T MOM SAY ANYTHING?

WHY DIDN'T SHE MAKE SURE I LOOKED GOOD?



MPH..



BECAUSE SHE'S LEARNED IT'S A LOST CAUSE.

AHH, I'M READY!



I BROUGHT  
MY OWN  
BACKDROP.

KID, WHAT  
ARE YOU  
DOING?



SCHOOL  
PICTURES  
ARE  
USUALLY  
BORING.

MINE  
WON'T  
BE.



I'M NOT  
SURE IF I  
SHOULD GO  
WITH THE  
SMILING AND  
OBLIVIOUS  
LOOK.

OR THE  
OH GOD  
LOOK.

CLICK!



STOP  
LAUGHING!



HEH  
HEH  
HEH



IT'S THE WEEKEND!



IT'S CONVENTION WEEKEND!



HEY!



I'M NOT GOING TO THE CON WITH YOU IF YOU'RE GOING TO DRESS LIKE A DORK!

ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY WITH THE KIDS, BY YOURSELF, ALL WEEKEND?

SURE!

THEY'RE GOOD KIDS, AND I'M A GREAT DAD.

BESIDES, YOU NEED A BREAK.

ENJOY SOME TIME TO YOURSELF.

I GUESS IT'S HARD TO WHEN YOU'RE SO USED TO WORRYING.

BESIDES, IF ANYONE KIDNAPS THEM, REMEMBER:

"I DO HAVE A VERY PARTICULAR SET OF SKILLS..."

BRITISH ACCENT →

HAR HAR.

GO ON.

HEY, VAULT GIRL!  
**AWESOME**  
LOOKING LASER  
RIFLE!

THANKS. MY  
SISTER  
MADE IT  
FOR ME.

I JUST  
NEED TO  
PEACE  
BOND THAT  
FOR YOU.

WOW, IT'S  
**WEIGHTY!**  
LIKE A  
**REAL GUN-**

**ZWOP!**

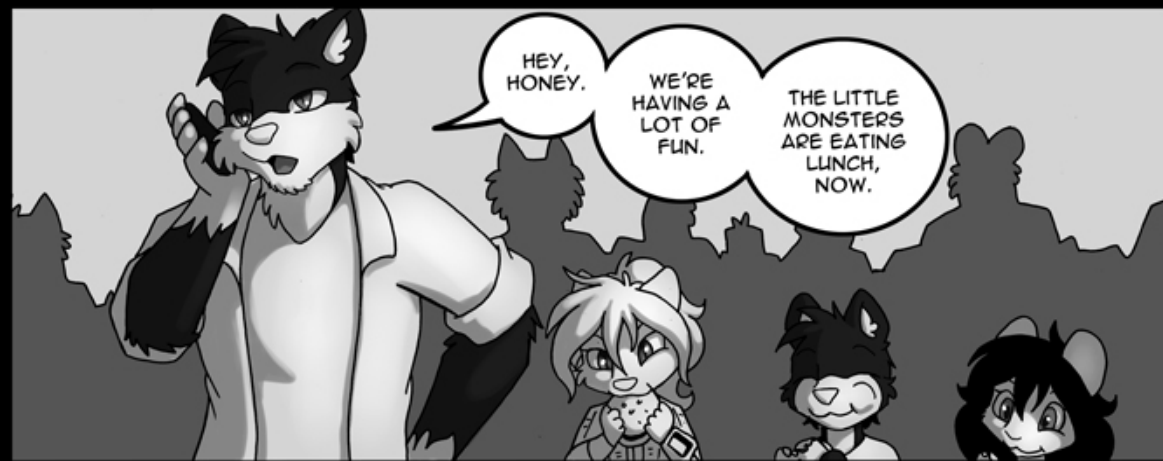


I HAD **NO**  
IDEA THAT  
WOULD  
HAPPEN!

I WILL  
TRADE  
YOU MY  
CAR FOR  
THIS GUN.

RIGHT  
**NOW.**





HEY,  
HONEY.

WE'RE  
HAVING A  
LOT OF  
FUN.

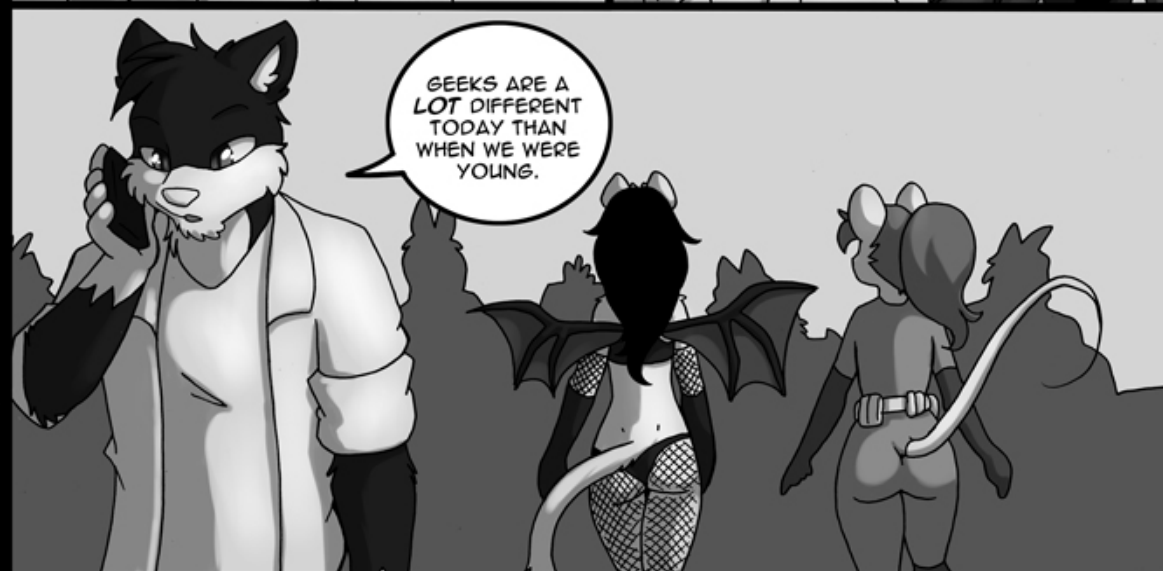
THE LITTLE  
MONSTERS  
ARE EATING  
LUNCH,  
NOW.



THIS PLACE  
IS PRETTY  
NEAT AND  
HARMLESS.

JUST GEEKS  
BEING GEEKS,  
PRETTY  
MUCH.

YEAH.



GEEKS ARE A  
LOT DIFFERENT  
TODAY THAN  
WHEN WE WERE  
YOUNG.



WHAT A DAY!



NOW I JUST WANT TO SIT IN THE HOTEL ROOM AND READ ALL THE CRAP I BOUGHT UNTIL I FALL ASLEEP!



WHICH BED DO YOU WANT?

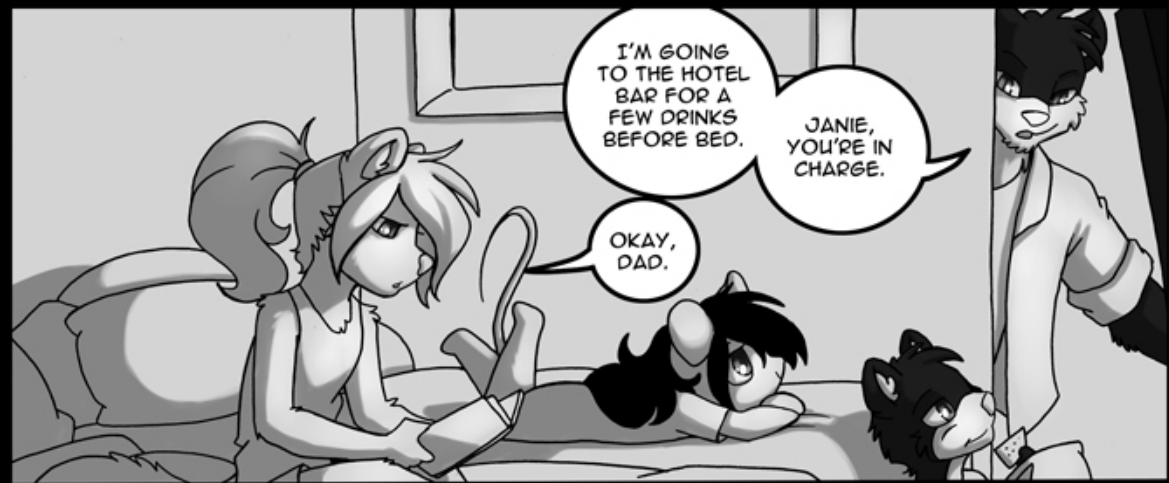


I'LL TAKE THIS ONE.

IT SEEMS TO HAVE FEWER PILLOWS.



SERIOUSLY?





BETH?

FISK.

WOW!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

KIDS ARE SLEEPING OFF THE CON UPSTAIRS.

GOSH, IT'S BEEN YEARS!

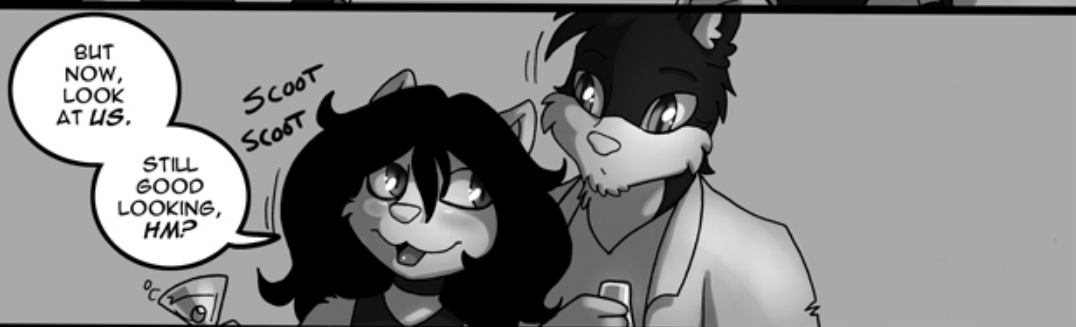
LET ME LOOK AT YOU.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I HAVE A FEW PIECES IN THE ART SHOW.

JUST LOOK FOR WHATEVER *ISN'T* A GIRL IN BIKINI ARMOR, OR A DRAGON HATCHING FROM AN EGG.

MMM...



C'MON.

YOU'RE DRUNK AND I'M MARRIED.

LET'S GET YOU TO BED.

YES.

NOT LIKE THAT.

YOUR ROOM IS DOWN HERE?

COME ON IN!

WE'RE NOT DONE TALKING

LET'S JUST TALK THROUGH YOUR ROOM DOOR.

WHY?

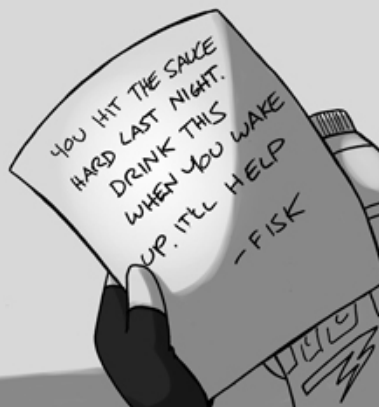
BECAUSE I HAVE A BONER THAT COULD KILL A MOOSE.

BUT...

THE NEXT MORNING

NNN...

FUCK.



AWW.

FUCK.



HOW  
ARE YOU  
FEELING?

AW  
HELL.

SORRY IF I  
WAS CRAZY  
LAST NIGHT.

IT'S ALL  
RIGHT.

YOU DID  
SEEM  
PRETTY  
RILED UP.

I'VE BEEN  
IN ALL KINDS  
OF CONFLICT  
SINCE ARON  
LEFT.

SOMETIMES  
I ACT OUT.

PRETTY HOT  
AND READY  
TO GO,  
ACTUALLY...

YOU WERE  
PRACTICALLY  
SLIDING OFF  
YOUR CHAIR.

I GET  
IT!



SINCE ARON LEFT, I'VE JUST PROWLED AROUND.

EVERYTHING'S EXCITING, BUT NOTHING'S FULFILLING.

HOW SO?

YOU FIND EXCITING PEOPLE, AND YOU DO EXCITING THINGS.

BUT YOU NEVER MAKE A **CONNECTION** WITH ANY OF THEM.

YOU'RE HAPPIER ABOUT THE THINGS YOU'RE DOING, THAN THE **PERSON** YOU'RE DOING THEM WITH.

AS YOU GET OLDER, YOU REALIZE YOUR LOVE LIFE HAS AN EXCITING FACADE, BUT IS **HOLLOW** INSIDE.

MAYBE THERE'S SOME WEIRD PART OF ME THAT HATES YOUR MARRIAGE.

LIKE, NOTHING THAT SEEMS THAT GOOD CAN **POSSIBLY** BE ABOVE CORRUPTION.



THAT'S SURPRISING.

AN ATTRACTIVE PERSON LIKE YOU SHOULD HAVE HER PICK.

PICK FROM WHAT?




IT'S NOT ABOUT FINDING SOMEONE WHO WANTS ME.

IT'S ABOUT FINDING SOMEONE I WANT.




I SEE GREAT COUPLES AND I GET JEALOUS.

I WONDER HOW THEY DO IT.



DO GREAT, STIMULATING, INTERESTING AVAILABLE PEOPLE REALLY HAVE TO BE THAT RARE?

IS IT JUST FUCK BUDDIES FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE?



IF THIS WERE A MOVIE, OR A COMIC, AN INTERESTING FELLOW I'D NEVER SUSPECT WOULD SHOW UP AS THE PERFECT ENDING.

BUT EXISTENCE ISN'T THAT CLEAN CUT!



THAT'S JUST A TRITE SENTENCE, FISK.

C'MON. THERE'S A LID FOR EVERY POT.

THERE ARE NO GUARANTEES IN LIFE!



I COULD SETTLE FOR ANOTHER MAN-CHILD IN MY LIFE.

BE SORTA OKAY...

... WONDER IF ANYTHING OUT THERE IS BETTER!



I'M GOING TO DRINK.

BETH...



NOPE!

DAD, WHY ARE YOU STILL UP?

HEY, PUMPKIN.

JUST THINKING ABOUT GROWN UP STUFF.

WHAT STUFF?


HMMM.

YOU LIVE LONG ENOUGH, YOU REALIZE YOU'VE MADE A LOT OF DECISIONS.

SOMETIMES YOU WONDER HOW LIFE WOULD HAVE BEEN IF YOU'D MADE A FEW OF THEM DIFFERENTLY.

OF COURSE IT DOES.

OH, WELL IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, THIS REMINDS ME OF THE INFINITE MULTIVERSE THEORY ...



THE THEORY GOES:  
EVERY DECISION  
YOU COULD HAVE  
MADE DIFFERENTLY  
WAS MADE IN AN  
*ALTERNATE*  
*UNIVERSE.*

THESE ARE  
PARALLEL TIME-  
LINES THAT  
BRANCH OFF  
EVERY TIME AN  
OPTION IS  
TAKEN.



SOMEWHERE,  
SOMEHOW, THERE  
EXISTS A PARALLEL  
UNIVERSE WHERE  
YOU *ZIBBED*  
INSTEAD OF  
*ZAGGED.*

*INFINITELY*  
EXPANDING,  
INCREASING IN  
NUMBER...



THAT'S  
ALL RIGHT,  
MUFFIN.



I DON'T  
WANT TO  
PONDER A  
UNIVERSE  
WHERE I DON'T  
HAVE YOU  
KIDS.



THIS  
LOOKS  
RAD.

WHAT  
IS IT?

DARK  
SOULS 3.



LET  
ME  
TRY!

OH SURE,  
LYNNE.

YOU'LL  
LOVE THIS  
GAME.

**TWO HOURS LATER...**



FUCK  
YOU.

I GOTTA  
LOOK  
PERFECT.

IF YOU EVER  
GET PAST THE  
CHARACTER  
CREATION  
SCREEN!