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ANTHROPOMORPHIC

FURRLOUGH





OCTOBER 1994

STARRY-EYED DREAMERS

While browsing in my local comics shop lately, I've come across a number of first issues from brand-new companies. I usually glance over these to see if they're any good, because I'm always looking for new comics to add to the very small list of non-AP books I read. More often than not (much more often), I end up putting these comics back because they're poorly drawn or written, lack originality, or simply don't intrigue me. But I always try to read the effusive editorials that blare forth from the inside front or back covers.

You see, good or bad, new companies almost always gleam with a certain lustre of happy optimism. They've just come on the scene, their dream of being in comicdom is at hand, and this, their first issue, represents an unprecedented opportunity to speak to the masses — to let everyone in on their grand plans. They rarely hesitate to do so.

When I read these beaming expositions on Big Ideas, New And Different Comics, A Dedication To Quality, and Making Comics Fun Again, I sometimes shake my head ruefully. More often than not, the aspirations of these new companies are completely out of sync with their level of effort. It's difficult not to see their editorials as badly written puffery, totally blind to the woeful lack of ability their attached comics display. It's difficult not to scoff at and even resent the dreck that finds its way to the shelves just because some sap has a few thousand dollars to invest in color separations and a meager print run.

But usually, something in these bombasts of ambition touches a certain spot in me and makes me sympathize with their writers.

It hasn't been all that many years since the Antarctic Press started up, nor since I first became editor of *MangaZone*. In those early days (and, some would probably say, even in recent months), these fingers typed their share of goofy editorials whose themes spoke grandly of things much greater than our talent pool at the time could produce. I'm certainly not in any position to cast the first stone at tiny

companies trying desperately to turn their dreams into four-color reality.

This medium is a medium of fantasy. It's a medium built upon visions of other worlds, and dreams of creating something worthwhile. One could argue that many of these small companies could use a dose of harsh reality, that their bubbles need bursting. But I find it unfair to begrudge them their hopes. The market will perform that function for me — it will bestow on them weak and dwindling sales, the headaches of printing deadlines, the crunch of cash-flow troubles and distributors who may drop them if their circulation falls too low. So they don't need me wishing them ill.

I give them their due. I read their editorials, written in that shining moment of glory as they ready their first book for publication. I look over their books. And if I see potential in their work, something intriguing, substance that shows at least the promise of worth, then I give them my \$2.50, or \$2.95, and hope that when I get home, their book will bring me the few minutes of diversion and entertainment they've worked so hard to deliver.

That's what this industry is about, and that's what I think allowed our company to survive past those years when we had more potential than we did polish — the willingness to indulge someone else's dreams.

If we ever lose that willingness — if retailers feel they've been burned once too often by crappy independents, if distributors make their policies too restrictive for fledgling companies... or even if readers just don't make the effort to look over everything that's on the shelves — it will be a sad day for the comics industry.

Editor in Chief

Look, Kiki! I came in comics to find, exciting and profitable! Just ask Joe Wright, creator of *Darklight X*, after a recent store signing.



SPAM SPAM SPAM

This month has been, by my recollection, the most exciting month in memory. I spent two weeks at Image Comics working for Top Cow helping them color and assemble *Godname: Strike Force*, *Cyber Force* and the *Cyber Force Sourcebook*. I'd like to thank all my friends at Top Cow, especially Marc & Cynthia, Brian, Tyson, Nick and Glen for their patience and their invaluable guidance.

By the time I got back, so much had happened at Antarctic Press that I scarcely recognized the schedule. The up and coming *Warrior Nun: Azeala Ashcan* (written and drawn by Ben Dunn) came back from the printer and looks hot! Azeala is a member of a small group of elite nuns who protect the faith from the wicked with more than just harsh words. When a rash of demonic killings target New York churches, Azeala and Magic Priest stand up to purge Satan's hellish minions. *Warrior Nun: Azeala* ships in December.

Anime fans rejoice! Kuni Kimura, our intrepid manga-maniac, has informed me that we've secured the rights to bring a series called *Gojin* to the U.S. According to Kuni, the story is something like "Ultraman in feudal Japan." Sounds cool. It's written and drawn by Yutaka Kaido, and will be coming sometime next year.

A warm welcome to Kris Overstreet, who's joined the AP staff this month. He'll be helping Ray Elliot in the ever-burgeoning mail-order department to bring you your back issue orders in a timely manner. Also, Pat Kelly, production guy and touch-up wizard, reports us after a brief absence. Seems like he was off training to be an officer in the Army. When he got back I swore I heard him say, "Those Army drill sergeants were as tough as wet spaghetti compared to the whip-cracking, slave-driving tinkermasters at AP." Of course, I could be mistaken.

CHECK OUT ANTARCTIC PRESS' other releases

RELEASE DATES SUBJECT TO CHANGE

- ☐ Magazine #15 (relist)
- ☐ NHS Swimsuit 1993 (relist)
- ☐ Tomorrow Man/Knight Hunter #2
- ☐ Albino v3 #2
- ☐ Vanity Angel #2 (Venus)

- ☐ Bondage Fairies #2 (2nd) (Venus)
- ☐ Gold Digger Graphic Novel
- ☐ Silbuster #5
- ☐ Furlough #22
- ☐ Emblem #5 (Venus)

- ☐ NHS Yearbook 1994
- ☐ Gold Digger #16
- ☐ Wild Life #9
- ☐ Velvet Panic #8
- ☐ Velvet Touch #5 (Venus)

STAFF

Publisher • Ben Dunn
Chief Operating Officer • Joe Dunn
Editor in Chief • Herb Mallette
Editorial Staff • Elvin Winkler, Kuni Kimura
Promotions, Sales & Office Management • Matt High
Mail Order • Ray Elliott & Kris Overstreet

Assistant Office Manager • Katie Blackwell
Production Manager & Creative Director • Pat Duke
Art Director • n/a
Assistant Art Directors • ARNIE, Pat Kelley, Shon Howell
Head Translator • Kuni Kimura
Assistant Translator • Dong Dini

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Assistant Editors • Pat Kelley & Brian Sutton Production • mpc & mew

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Here Comes a Candle



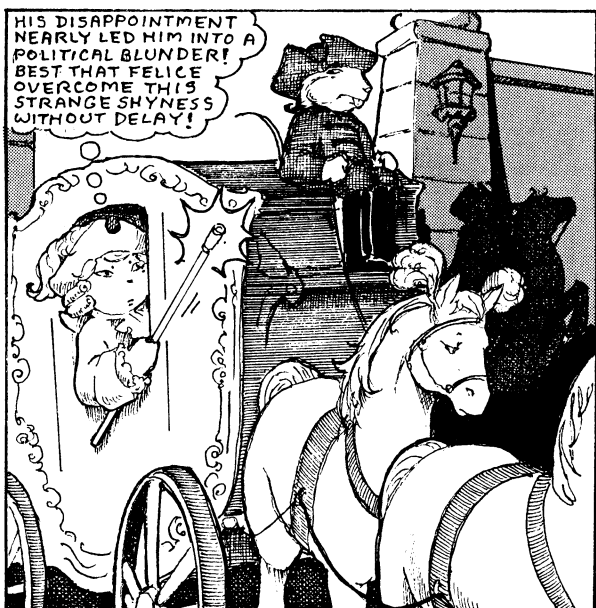
THE RUMORS SERVE THOMAS IN TWO RESPECTS: HIS NOW-FORMIDABLE REPUTATION DISCOURAGES THE YOUNGER LORDS' INCLINATIONS TO TEST THEIR PROWESS AT HIS EXPENSE.



LOOK, A ROYAL AUDIENCE FOR OUR SON! SPLENDID, IS IT NOT?



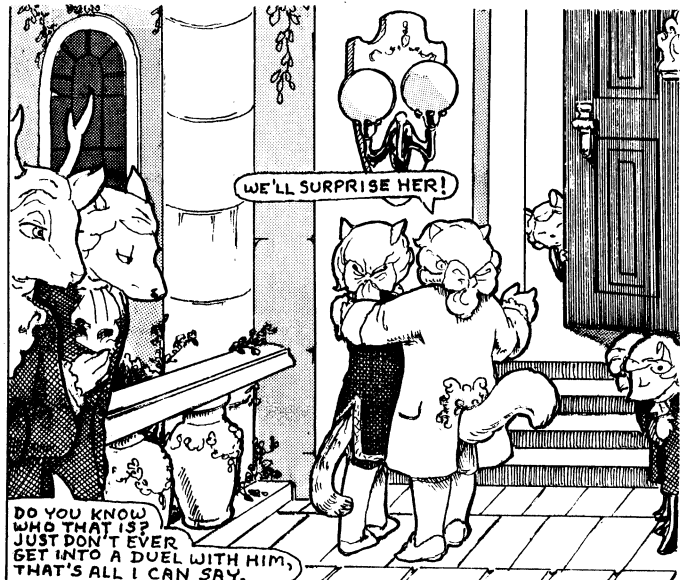
THE PRESENTATION-DAY IS A FRESH TRIUMPH, ALTHOUGH THOMAS IS PUZZLED BY THE KING'S INSISTENCE THAT HE MUST PROMISE TO ABSTAIN FROM DUELLING--





A PITY MY LADY WIFE IS NOT AT HOME TO MEET YOU. SHE TRAVELS, FOR HER HEALTH.

THIS IS AN UNEXPECTED HONOR, SIR. THE LADY FELICE WILL NOT BE UPSET BY MY ARRIVING UNANNOUNCED, I TRUST?



WE'LL SURPRISE HER!

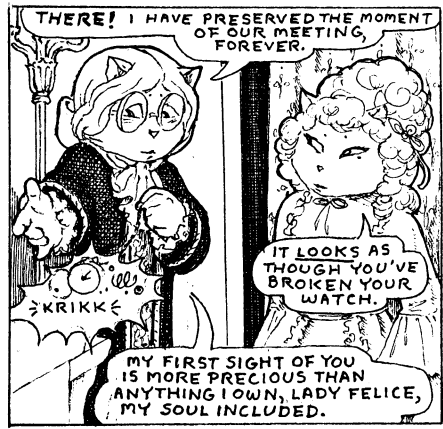
DO YOU KNOW WHO THAT IS? JUST DON'T EVER GET INTO A DUEL WITH HIM, THAT'S ALL I CAN SAY.



LOOK WHOM I HAVE BROUGHT HERE, CHILD!

THIS IS THOMAS, LORD PUSS-IN-BOOTS.

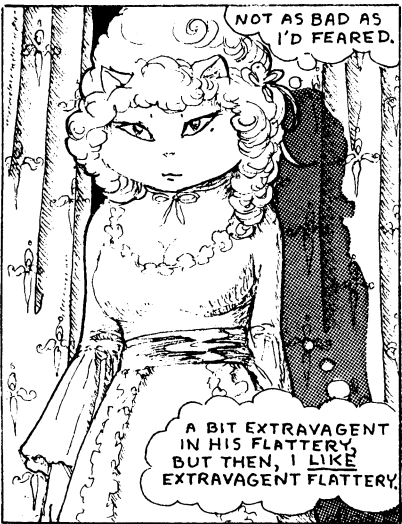
BY HEAVEN, I'D SWEAR THEY WERE MEANT FOR EACH OTHER!



THERE! I HAVE PRESERVED THE MOMENT OF OUR MEETING, FOREVER.

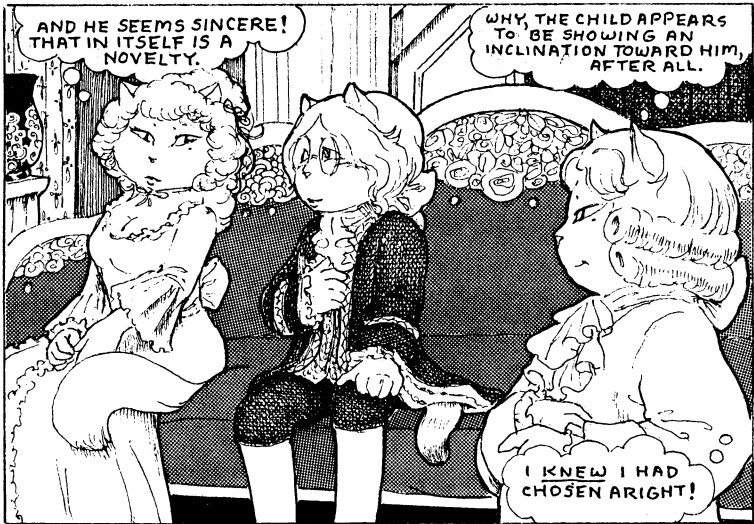
IT LOOKS AS THOUGH YOU'VE BROKEN YOUR WATCH.

MY FIRST SIGHT OF YOU IS MORE PRECIOUS THAN ANYTHING I OWN, LADY FELICE, MY SOUL INCLUDED.



NOT AS BAD AS I'D FEARED.

A BIT EXTRAVAGANT IN HIS FLATTERY, BUT THEN, I LIKE EXTRAVAGANT FLATTERY.

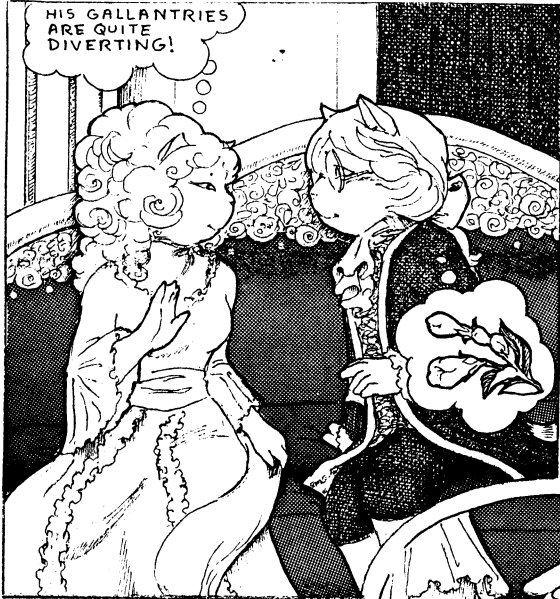


AND HE SEEMS SINCERE! THAT IN ITSELF IS A NOVELTY.

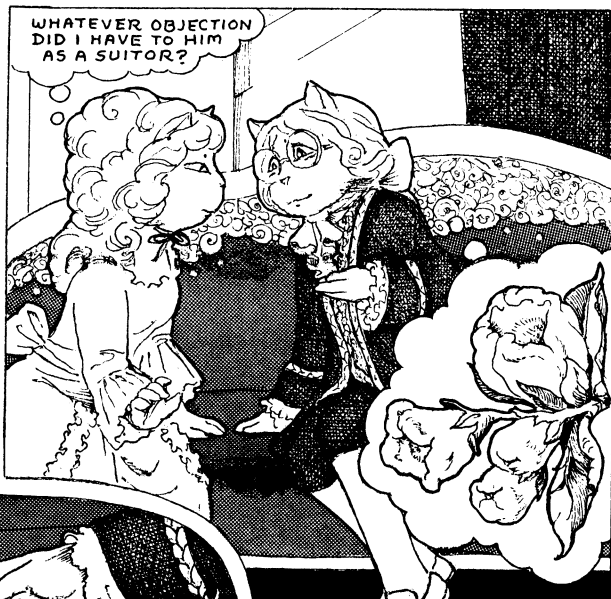
WHY, THE CHILD APPEARS TO BE SHOWING AN INCLINATION TOWARD HIM, AFTER ALL.

I KNEW I HAD CHOSEN ARIGHT!

HIS GALLANTRIES
ARE QUITE
DIVERTING!



WHATEVER OBJECTION
DID I HAVE TO HIM
AS A SUITOR?



CAN YOU BELIEVE,
LORD THOMAS, THAT MY
DAUGHTER ACTUALLY WISHED
TO SELECT HER OWN HUSBAND?

AS THOUGH THE
FEMININE GENDER HAD
ENOUGH SENSE TO BE TRUSTED
WITH SUCH A DECISION!

IF YOU WILL
EXCUSE ME, PLEASE,
I FEEL---
A CHILL.



NOW, WHERE CAN SHE BE
GOING? I THOUGHT
EVERYTHING WAS
PROCEEDING NICELY.

WHAT DID YOU DO
TO UPSET HER?



I-- DON'T
KNOW, SIR,
TRULY.
I'D NOT
MAKE HER
UNHAPPY FOR
ALL THE
WORLD!

PERHAPS IT IS MERELY THAT
YOU'RE STILL A STRANGER TO HER.
WE SHALL GET YOU BETTER
ACQUAINTED.

IT IS CONTRIVED THAT THE BETROTHED
COUPLE SHOULD HAVE SOME TIME TOGETHER
--- SUITABLY CHAPERONED, OF COURSE.



HE HAS GIVEN ME TO
UNDERSTAND THAT---
YOU LIKE TO
DANCE?



I SHALL LOOK FORWARD TO
THAT HONOR WITH THE
MOST TENDER ANTICIPATION.

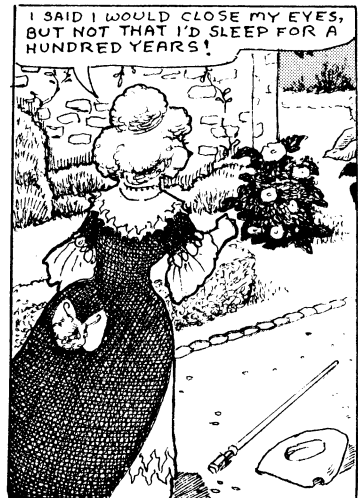


ONE CANNOT BE FORCED INTO
A CHOICE THAT ONE'S HEART
HAS MADE
ALREADY.

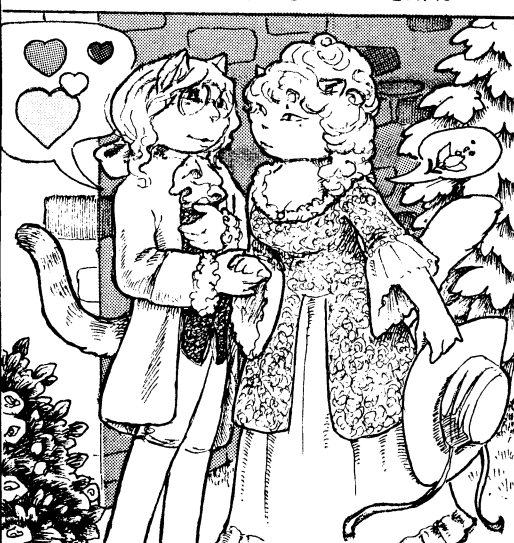


BUT ONLY IF YOU STOP SPEAKING
AS THOUGH YOU OWN ME
ALREADY.





IN THIS MANNER IS THOMAS INITIATED INTO THE WORLD HE WAS BRED TO INHERIT.



THE FIRST CRACKS IN ITS BRITTLE FACADE ARE NOT YET VISIBLE, SO WE'LL LEAVE THIS COUPLE TO ENJOY IT WHILE THEY CAN.

SINCE THEIR DISCOURSE WILL SHORTLY BECOME DOWNRIGHT SICKENING, IT'S AN OPPORTUNE TIME TO LOOK IN ON NEDWIN. HE'D THOUGHT HIMSELF QUITE IMMUNE FROM THE PHENOMENON OF LOVE-AT-FIRST-SIGHT, WHICH OCCURS SO COMMONLY IN THE OLD STORIES. HIS SEEMS TO HARK BACK TO AN AGE WHEN LIFESPANS WERE SHORTER, AND INDIVIDUALS UNABLE TO SEEK OUT THE IDEAL MATE AT THEIR LEISURE. IN SOME FAMILIES, THE TENDENCY RUNS VERY STRONG, AND NEDWIN, HAVING SEEN WHAT HAPPENED TO HIS FATHER AND ELDER BROTHER, SHOULD HAVE BEEN FORE WARNED.



YOU GOT TO PUT HIM ASHORE SOON, CAPTAIN. WE PASSED TWO GRAB ISLANDS ALREADY.



AYE, IF I WANTED THE NATIVES TO SACRIFICE 'IM TO A VOLCANO!

THOUGHT TO PUT IN AT ONE OF THE SETTLEMENTS WHERE WE TRADE.

IT'S THIS WAY. CREW THINKS YOU'RE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF A HELPLESS CAPTIVE.

THAT SUITS 'EM WELL ENOUGH, THEY ARE PIRATES AFTER ALL, BUT TRY KEEPING HIM LIKE A PET, AND THEY'LL KILL HIM. THEY GOT NO LOVE FOR GENTRY, AND HE CAN'T DO NOTHING ABOARD SHIP.



I CAN LEARN! I'LL BEGIN THIS MINUTE--- AT THE FRONT OF THE SHIP.

BOW, QUALITY, BOW!



VERY WELL, BUT WHY?

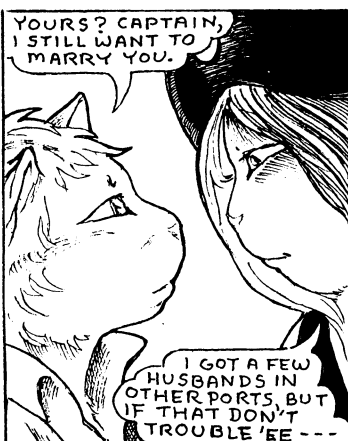
--- AND NEDWIN LEARNS.

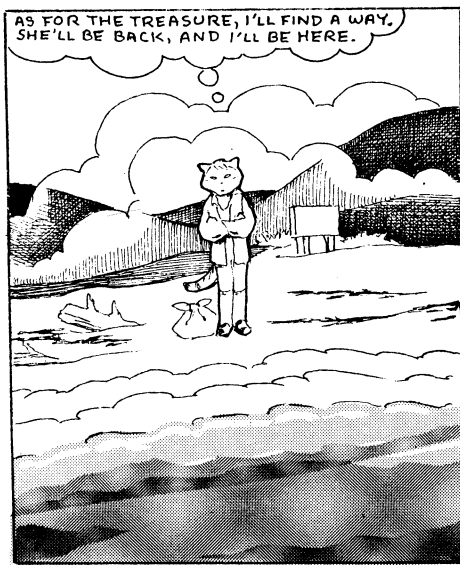


HE IS NOBLE-BORN, AND IN HIS HOME COUNTRY, INFLUENCE COULD SECURE HIM AN APPOINTMENT AS A SHIP'S OFFICER--

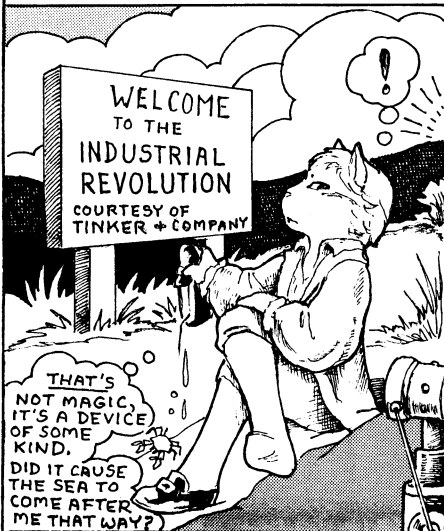


BUT HERE, HIS LINEAGE GRANTS HIM NEITHER APITUDE NOR COMPETENCE.





SUPERSTITIOUS SAILORS BELIEVE THAT CLOUD ISLAND HAS MAGICAL PROPERTIES. THERE ARE SEVERAL ODDITIES TO BE NOTICED---



THAT'S NOT MAGIC, IT'S A DEVICE OF SOME KIND. DID IT CAUSE THE SEA TO COME AFTER ME THAT WAY?

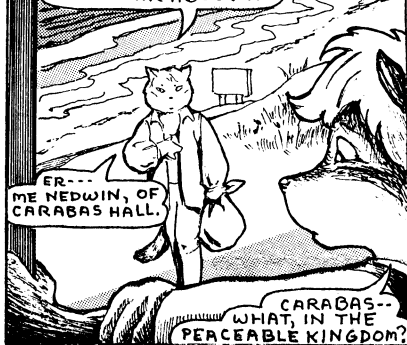
THE CLOUDS APPEAR TO HAVE A SOURCE



---AS DOES THAT NOISE. IT SOUNDS VERY LIKE I THINK I CAN--?

WHAT MANNER OF INHABITANTS ARE WITHIN?

OH! I THOUGHT THE PLACE HAD AN AIR ABOUT IT.



ER--- ME NEDWIN, OF CARABAS HALL.

CARABAS-- WHAT, IN THE PEACEABLE KINGDOM?



YOU SPEAK PAX?

COMPATRIOT?

I SAW YOUR SIGNBOARD-- YOU MUST BE TINKER.

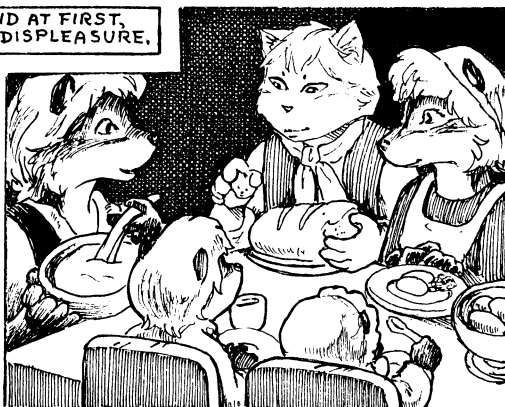
TINKER HARBORS SUSPICION AGAINST NEDWIN'S BACKGROUND AT FIRST, BEING HIMSELF A REFUGEE FROM A WEALTHY LANGLORD'S DISPLEASURE.



WE HAVE NO OVERLORDS HERE. YOU'LL HAVE TO EARN YOUR KEEP OR BE ON YOUR WAY.

I'M QUITE WILLING, IF YOU PROMISE NOT TO SHOOT AT ME OR THROW THINGS WHEN I MAKE A MISTAKE.

NEDWIN IS ABLE TO OVERCOME THESE MISGIVINGS IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOW, WITH THE HONESTY OF HIS EFFORTS.



IN THE EVENINGS, THEIR TALES MAKE GOOD TELLING. THEY DISCOVER THAT THEY HAVE AN ACQUAINTANCE IN COMMON, FOR THE TINKERS' FLIGHT HAD TAKEN THEM PAST CARABAS VILLAGE ---



WHERE EVEN NOW, THE FORM OF ONE OF TINKER'S CREATIONS IS BEING ADAPTED TO SUIT AN UNKNOWN PURPOSE.

AS THE WEEKS BECOME MONTHS, NEDWIN MAKES HIMSELF USEFUL IN THE INVENTOR'S WORKSHOP WITH TIME AT HIS DISPOSAL, AND NO CURSES OR MISSILES TO DODGE, HE LEARNS WELL, STIRRED BY HIS FASCINATION FOR THE CURIOUS DEVICES.

THIS ONE'S MY FAVORITE, IT LOOKS AS IF IT WOULD WORK, SO WHY DON'T WE BUILD IT?

~SIGH~
WE LACK THE METAL IT REQUIRES.

METAL, AND A SMITH'S WORK. THEY'RE TOO EXPENSIVE.

WHAT WE NEED IS AN INVESTOR---

THAT'S IT!
FOLKS WOULD PAY WELL FOR THE WORK THESE MACHINES CAN DO. WE COULD BECOME-- NO OFFENSE--
STINKING RICH!
NO OFFENSE, YOU'RE PRACTICALLY FAMILY, BUT--

THE ALLOWANCE MY FATHER LEFT ME--- IT'S IN MY BROTHER'S KEEPING, BUT I'LL SEND FOR IT. IT'S TIME OUR FRIENDS AT THE SETTLEMENT HAD A REAL BANK, ANYWAY.

AN ARISTOCRAT'S MONEY HELPING COMMONERS-- A SWEET THOUGHT.

YOU'RE NOT LIKE THE REST, BUT YOUR BROTHER-- BEING A LORD AND ALL-- YOU EXPECT HIS ASSISTANCE?

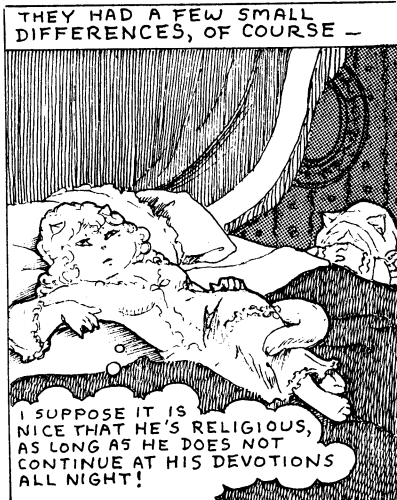
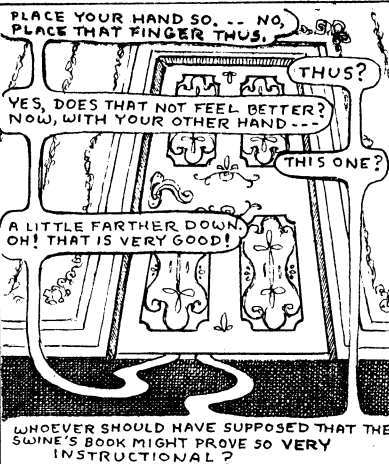
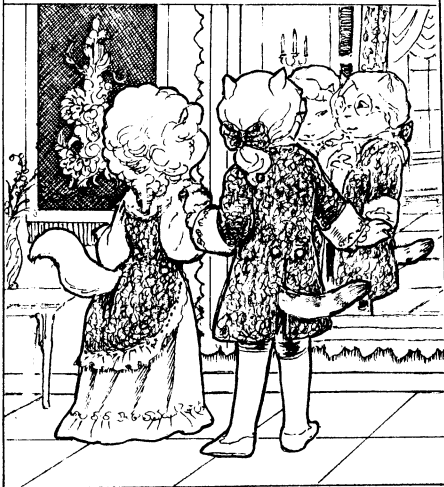
IT'S JUST THAT-- IN THE OLD TALES, THE YOUNGER BROTHER, SO OFTEN OUTDOES THE ELDER, I'D ASSUMED YOU WEREN'T ON THE BEST TERMS-- POSSIBLY HIS JEALOUSY HAD FORCED YOU FROM YOUR HOME.

QUITE THE CONTRARY, MY BROTHER IS VERY DEAR TO ME. AS FOR JEALOUSY, HE HAS NO CAUSE; BY NOW, HE'S MARRIED THE LADY OF HIS HEART, AND IS LIVING HAPPILY EVER AFTER.



NEDWIN IS PARTLY RIGHT, FOR NONE WOULD QUARREL WITH 'HAPPILY'---

IT IS A HAPPY UNION,
THIS MARRIAGE OF THEIRS.



To Be Continued...

THERE WAS AN ADDRESS. NOBODY WAS THERE, OF COURSE.
THAT LEFT THE UNDERCITY.

WHEN THE CORPORATIONS BUILT THEIR
ARCOLOGIES, THERE WERE PLACES THE GOVS
WOULDN'T LET THEM BULLDOZE.

SO THEY BUILT
OVER THEM.

EVER SEE A ROCK? EVER LOOKED
UNDER ONE?

IMAGINE THAT A MILLION TIMES
BIGGER, AND YOU'LL HAVE THE
UNDERCITY.

BUT I NEEDED ANSWERS, AND THIS WAS AS GOOD
A PLACE AS ANY TO START LOOKING FOR THEM.



I COULD FEEL THE OLD
EXCITEMENT COMING
BACK.

THE THRILL OF THE CHASE.
THE PIECING TOGETHER OF
THE PUZZLE.

I COULD ALMOST FORGET WHO I
WAS AFTER.

THE BODY HAD BEEN FOUND IN
THIS ALLEY.



METROPOL HAD ALREADY BEEN OVER
THE AREA.

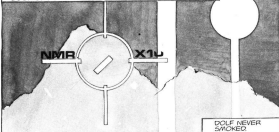
BUT METROPOL DIDN'T HAVE
THE EDGE.



IN THE SUITS, THE KILLER ALWAYS LEFT A TELLTALE
BOOK OF MATCHES.

NMR

X10



DOLF NEVER
SMOKED.

AND THE SUIT USED A
LIGHTER, SO MUCH FOR
THAT.



NOW WHAT'S A PRETTY THING LIKE YOU DOING IN
OUR NASTY OLD GARBAGE?



RATS!

THE RATS CONTROLLED THE UNDERCITY, AT LEAST THOSE PARTS THE CORPORATIONS COULDN'T BE BOTHERED WITH. IF YOU WERE SMART, YOU DIDN'T MESS WITH THEM.

RULE NUMBER ONE. NOBODY TAKES OUR GARBAGE WITHOUT OUR SAY SO. HAND IT OVER, AND MAYBE YOU GET TO STAY PRETTY.

THREATENING A CYBORG WASN'T TOO SMART EITHER.

IT'S JUST A LIGHTER. WHY DO YOU WANT IT?

SOMEBODY THOUGHT IT WAS WORTH KILLING FOR, PRETTY ONE. MAYBE WE THINK SO TOO.





YOU'VE GOT TO TELL ME
WHAT YOU KNOW ABOUT
THIS.

THERE'S ABOUT A
DOZEN OF THEM.



RULE NUMBER TWO. I ASK THE
QUESTIONS HERE, MAYBE A FEW HOLES
IN YOUR PRETTY HIDE WILL LEARN YOU
BETTER.

ABOUT HALF
HAVE GUNS.



THE REST HAVE
KNIVES AND CLUBS.

ME, I'M ALONE, AND I
HAVE A HANDFUL OF
ROCKS.



I ALMOST FEEL SORRY
FOR THEM.



ALMOST.



THERE'S A DETACHED FEELING TO FIGHTING WITH
HARDWIRED REFLEXES, KIND OF LIKE WATCHING
A SW, BUT THE CHOREOGRAPHY ISN'T AS GOOD.



RUN FOR YOUR LIVES!
SHE'S A CYBORG!



SHW, YOU SMEGHEAD! YOU
NEARLY GOT US ALL KILLED!

YEAH, LIKE SHE HAD A SIGN ON HER HEAD

RULE NUMBER ONE...

THOU SHALT NOT ANNOY
THE CORPORATION.

IF I DONT FIND THE SUIT-KILLER, THE
CORPORATION MIGHT JUST DECIDE ITS
SIMPLER TO SEND IN THE TROOPS
AND MAKE A EXAMPLE OF YOU ALL.

SO UNLESS YOU LOVE THE SMELL OF
NAPALM IN THE MORNING, YOU'D
BETTER START TALKING.

OKAY! OKAY!

"I JUST CAUGHT THE END OF IT.
IT SOUNDED LIKE THEY KNEW
EACH OTHER."

HE TAKES OUT THE SUIT'S BODYGUARDS. HE'S NOT EVEN BREATHING HARD. THE SUIT TRIES TO RUN. HE DOESN'T GET FAR.



HE TAKES THE BODY INTO THE ALLEY...

HE LEAVES A FEW MINUTES LATER. THAT'S THE LAST I SEE OF HIM.

THAT'S IT?

THAT'S ALL I SWEAR!

HERE'S MY NUMBER. CALL ME IF YOU SEE HIM AGAIN.

NO PROBLEM, PRETTY ONE.

CALL ME THAT AGAIN, AND I BREAK BOTH YOUR ARMS.

KILLER CYBORGS, CORPORATE TROOPERS. THIS USED TO BE A SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD.

HELLO, SHIN...

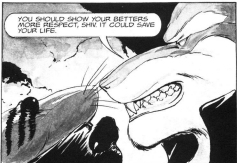


OH SWEET, NOT AGAIN.

I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.



JEEZ, WHAT IS THIS, THE BORG SECRET HANDSHAKE?



YOU SHOULD SHOW YOUR BETTERS MORE RESPECT, SHIV. IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE.



THEY KNOW YOU OFFED THE SUIT, DOLF.

AND THEY SENT HER TO BRING ME IN. THE GOOS DO ENJOY A JOKE AT OUR EXPENSE, DON'T THEY, SHIV?

YOU KNOW EACH OTHER? IT FIGURES.



I DIDN'T TELL HER NOTHING, DOLF.

TRY AGAIN, SHIV.

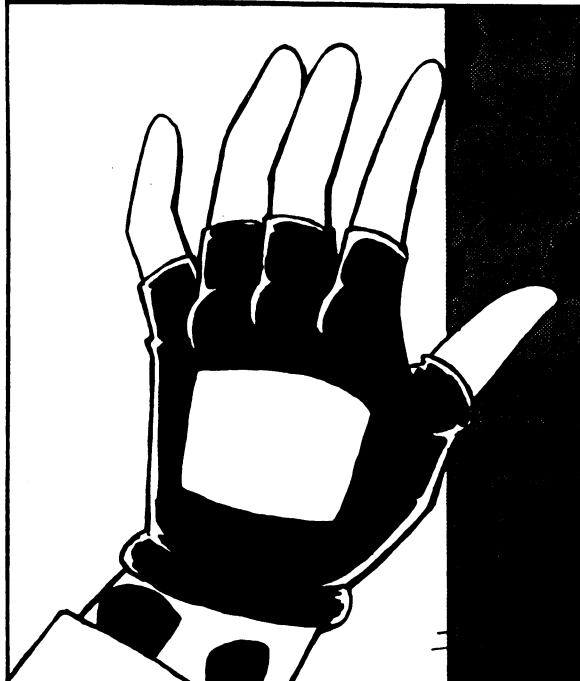
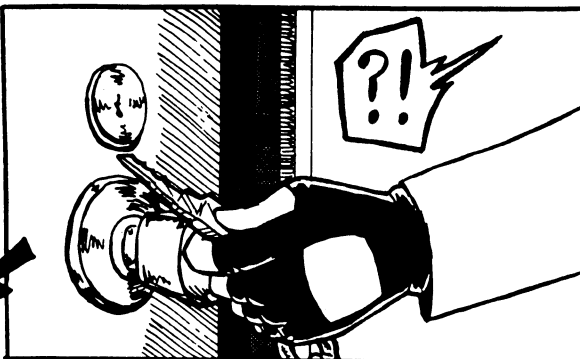
SHE SAID THEY'D SEND IN TROOPS, DOLF...

SHE'S JUST TRYING TO FRIGHTEN YOU. NOW YOU'RE GOING TO CALL HER, AND THIS IS WHAT YOU'LL TELL HER, AND SHIV?

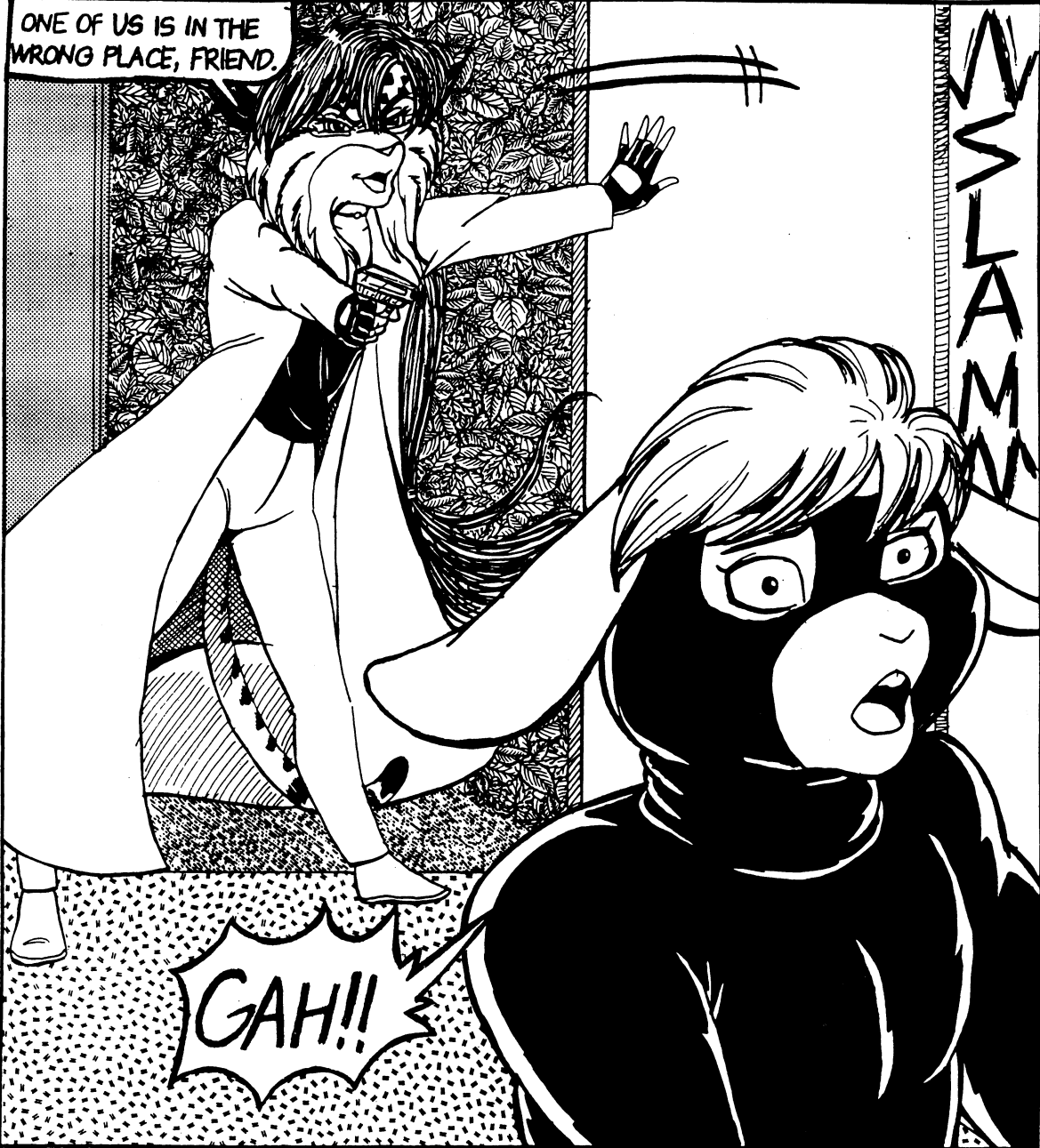
YES, DOLF?

TREAT HER WITH RESPECT, OR I'LL BREAK BOTH YOUR ARMS.

YES I KNEW HER, BUT THAT WAS LONG AGO. WHAT DID YOU TELL HER?



ONE OF US IS IN THE
WRONG PLACE, FRIEND.



GUARDIAN KNIGHTS

PENCILS/INKS/LETTERS

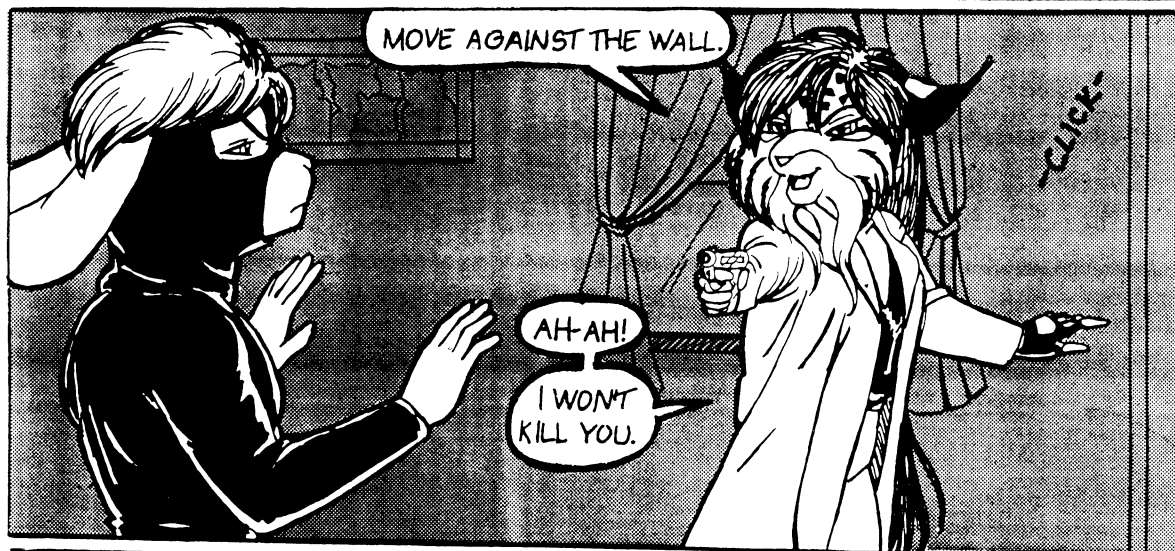
TYGGER

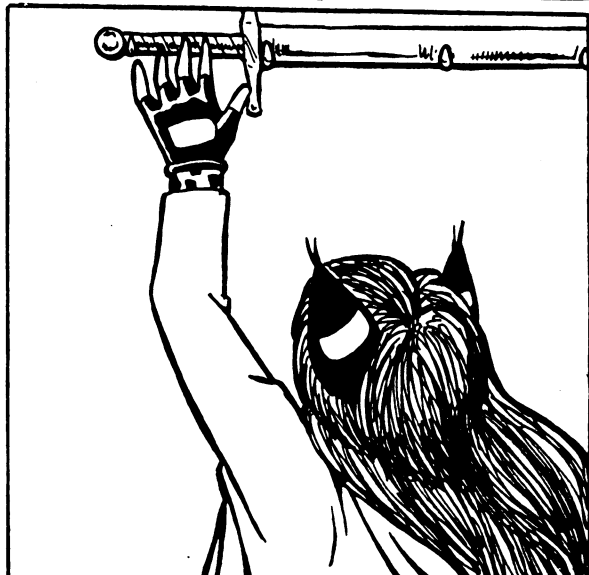
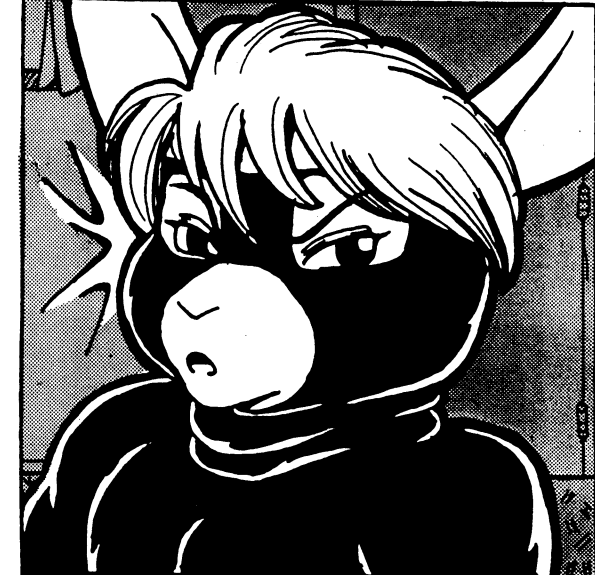
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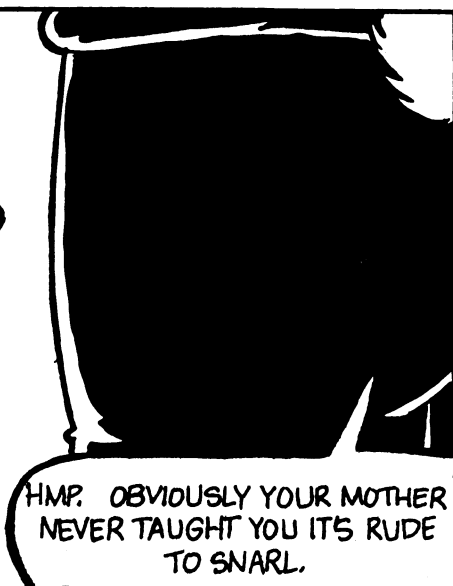
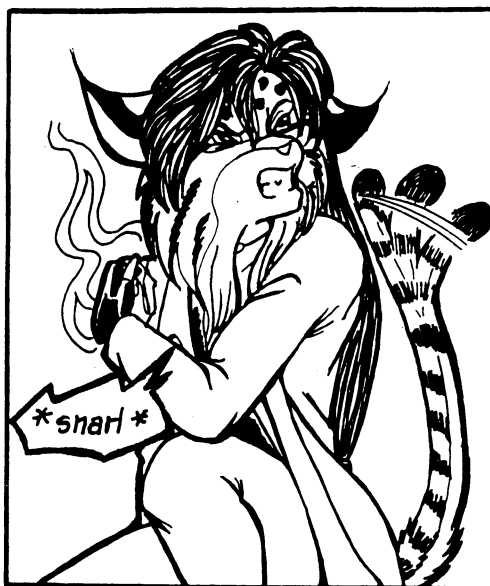
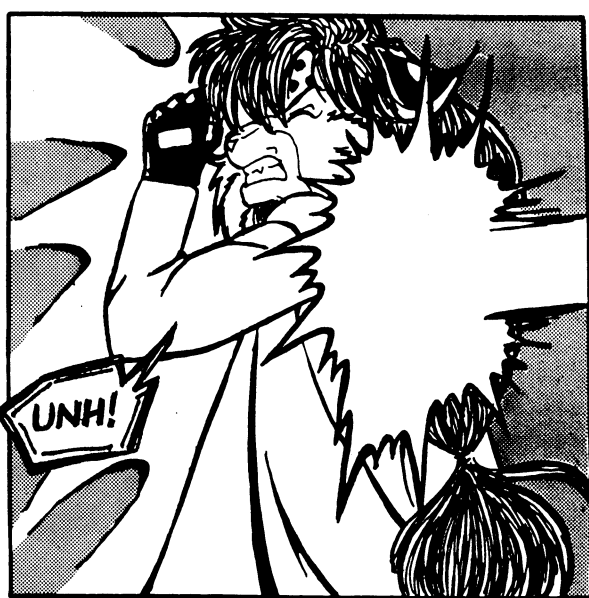
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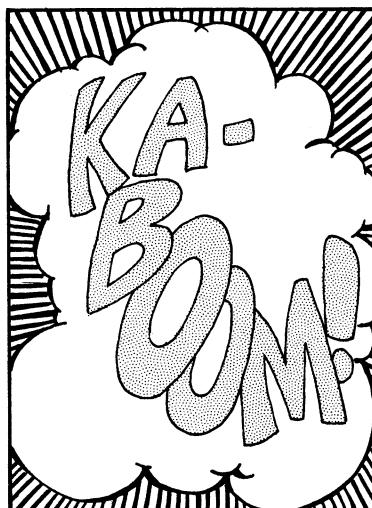
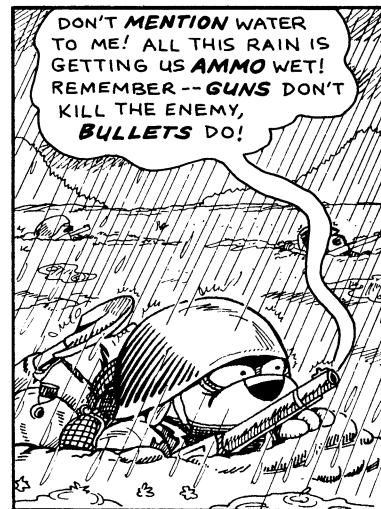
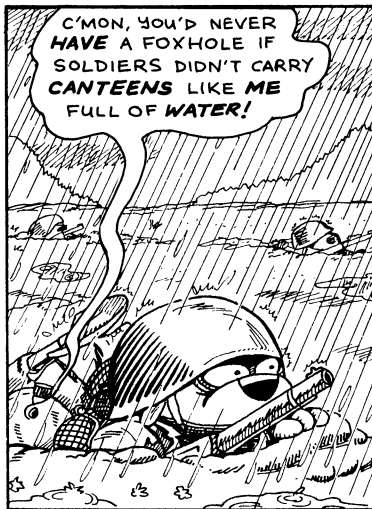






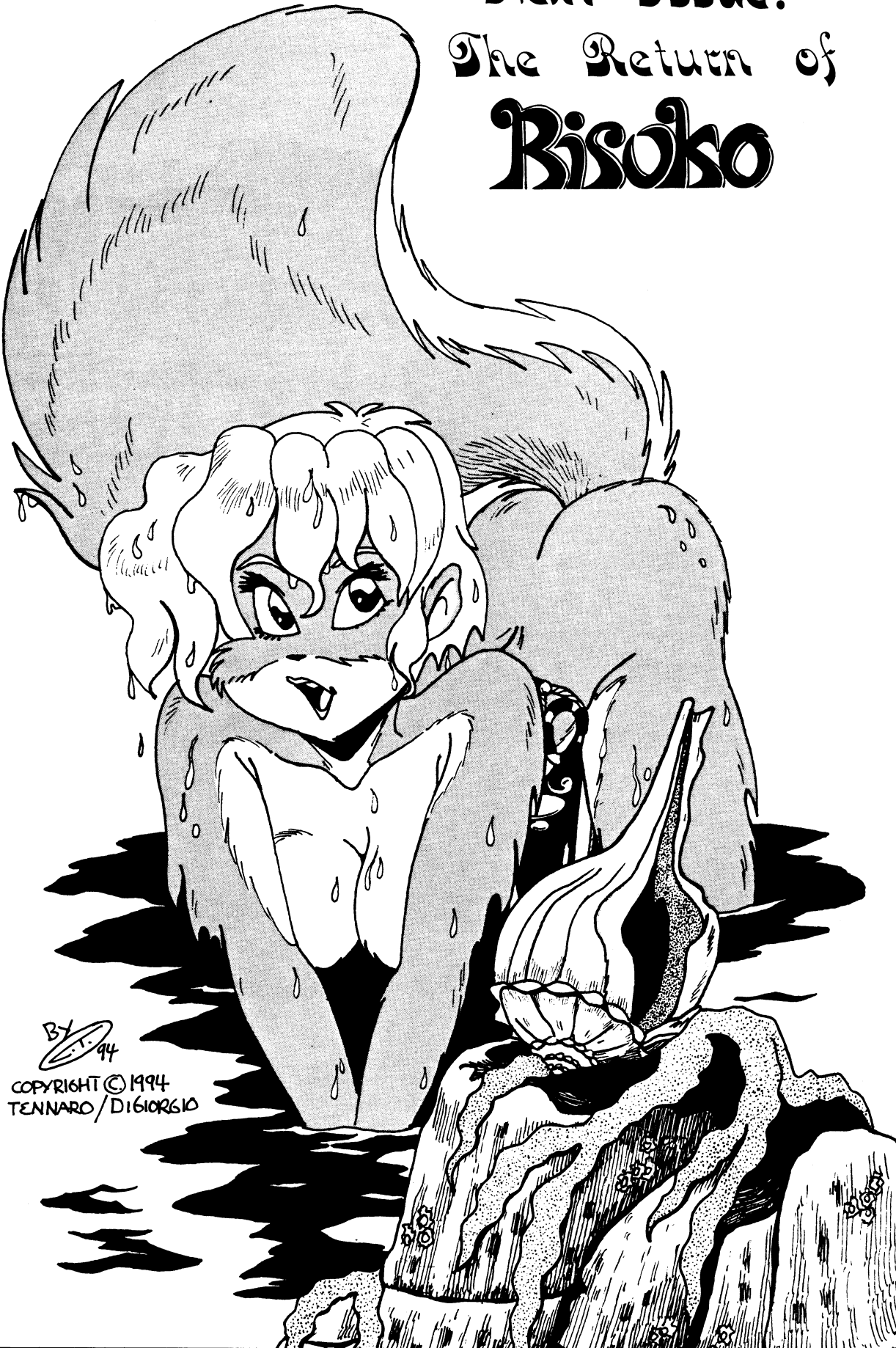
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Next Issue!
The Return of
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D.T. 94

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DEER JOHN

LETTERS TO FURRLOUGH
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Dear Penguins,

Another step on the road to becoming #1 Antarctic anthropomorphic letterhack (anyone can be a big frog by defining a small enough pond).

FurrloUGH #17: Interesting cover. I wonder what's going on? Even after I noticed the title, I wasn't any wiser; been a long time since I read *Dune*. "Here Comes a Candle" is off to a rousing start, with fine drawing, a good Elizabethan milieu, and a big, interesting cast. The fairy-tale beginning is perfect, the frontispiece beautiful. Lots of good jokes, like the table of the elements on p.6. The story is just silly enough that the argument over who is to be the narrator is not intrusive. (Self-reference can be deadly if not kept in line.)

"The Sound and the Furry" - see above, except that I also want to compliment Eric Oppen on getting the German in this episode mostly correct as well as funny. I hope that even monolinguals can understand "*licht auf das Ende des Tunnel sehen*". (That's "*am Ende des Tunnels*".) "Samurai Mice" is a deliciously funny dessert. And after that, another intelligent and enlightening letter column. I feel stupid not having seen the "penal Australia" connection of "Watering Hole" until Jason Gaffney pointed it out.

Aztec Anthropomorphic Amazons #1: This was lots of fun; even the foreword was great. Kurt may be a little too apologetic about the title; after all, at least the cover is definitely Aztec. I would have liked to see the Shon Howell illo that inspired the book. All parts are good, but "Lights Out" is my favorite; funny nitwits, beautiful inks.

Tank Vixens #2: This issue devotes less time to satirizing fuversion and more to satisfying it, but it's still fun: the proverbial dropped soap and the echo of Shanda on p.4, the explanation of why SF soldiers are such bad shots, the dangers of nostalgia, the cameo by the droids, and especially Anastasia's bio. Good love scene; the dirty talk was less strained than last issue. This is one series I don't want to see more of, though; I don't think the joke would wear well. (Say, what does Paul Kidd think "I 'chayim' means? It's not a German greeting, it's a Yiddish/Hebrew toast.)

Always carry a grapefruit,
Philip M. Cohen
White Plains, NY

Dear Penguins,

A little faster on the LoC this time.

FurrloUGH #18 is an excellent issue. A good episode of "Stosstrupp", notably the first page. My sympathies are with Karl. The best thing in the issue is the beautifully drawn and written "Here Comes a Candle", with an even more

gorgeous splash panel than last time, a fine (and growing) cast of characters, and the first signs of how the title will become relevant. And "Girls Night Out" is a fine finish; beautifully done faces, funny cameo from *Gold Digger*, great last two pages. The best "Collars and Cuffs" yet.

Star Jacks #1 didn't do much for me, I'm afraid. It's decently drawn and adequately scripted, but no more, so details can spoil my pleasure. Scott's abominable attempt at a French accent me fait chier, and a couple of the women on the cover have such severe cases of alstonitis that it's hard to believe they can remain upright. The bodies are better inside, but the faces aren't so hot.

Spelling: "Stosstrupp" p.4, scavenge.

Always carry a grapefruit,
Philip M. Cohen
White Plains, NY

Dear Penguins,

FurrloUGH #19: A big guns cover, eh. But the story behind it is not bad at all. It has a *Varcel's Vixens* feel to it - bad girls in space - though it's in no way an imitation. The art is a little hard to follow at times but the storytelling is good. "Here Comes a Candle" has everything that made the first two installments so good except a splash panel, and I wonder if one was somehow lost. The story picks up with Nedwin already started on a journey of which there was hardly even a foreshadowing last time.

Hit the Beach 1994: I don't think this one is up to the 1993 edition, but it was still well worthwhile. It would have been hard to top the 1993 cover, but this one is quite attractive and interesting. Inside there are too many pinups for my taste, but many of the one-pagers have too much substance to just be called 'pinups'. That's a wonderful volleyball game in Pat Kelley's p.2, for example, and the tar oil is good too. What's that knife for? Rosales is excellent as always, beautiful and historically believable. And the Northern folks, Rovainen and Arnorsson, are snazzy and funny. Among the pure pinups I'd say my favorites are the Shanda section and the Nakagawas. "Beach and Moan" is a great confrontation done by two of the best Antarctic storytellers, the no-question top of the issue.

Always carry a grapefruit,
Philip M. Cohen
White Plains, NY

Dear Penguins,

I have very little to say about **FurrloUGH #20**; "Here Comes a Candle" continues to be superb - and a bit more comprehensible now that we've got part 3. Would that be plans for a guillotine in the chest? "The Sound and the Furry" comes to a satisfactory conclusion. And "Jack" - well,

I guess it's not too bad for a superhero story. Eh.

Always carry a grapefruit,
Philip M. Cohen
White Plains, NY

To the FurrloUGH Editors:

I am writing to you as a big fan of your wonderful comic book. I started off with #7 and just received #19. Most excellent story titled "The Adventure" by M.A. Lewis and Scott Brooks. Most impressive art by Brooks, buuut the bounty hunter Nabali threw me off guard a bit, a female warrior with a man's iron jaw as featured on pages 14, 17, and 20. Lewis's storytelling was real great except for a few lines on p. 18, panels 2 and 3. Panel 2: "Aggressive posture Alpha Komtu" ?? No idea what that meant, and in panel 3 "Rebut with preventive maneuver", the most mind-boggling words I ever heard of before. Still, all in all, excellent story. Plus a totally awesome front cover.

Question? What was the name of the captured black feline girl anyway? Hope to see more stories with Nabali and crew with Lewis & Brooks in the future.

Just a few weeks ago, I received back issues of **FurrloUGH #3,4, and #5** and the **Hit the Beach** issue. I loved every issue I received. What is breaking my heart is that issue #1 of **FurrloUGH** is sold out! ARRRGH!! Without #1 and #6, I am dead in the water to find out what happens with certain episodes of "Stosstrupp", "Why Desert Winds Howl!", "Empires" and others. I guess it's my fault for not responding when I had the chance.

Just out of curiosity, besides "Stosstrupp" and "Rainy Season", are there other stories or drawings from other comic book companies with men & women in the German (or other) military armies? It does not matter if it shows modern tanks or futuristic space craft, please send an updated shopping list, because every time I read or look at pinups of other artist's work, (for example: **FurrloUGH #3**, p.1, Briano's art; p.32, Joe Rosales's art; #4, p.2, Shon's art; p.29, Jerry Collins's art) I go absolutely crazy, insane, and fall in love with how they're drawn, and it just makes me turn into a howling, crazed but kind, lovable werewolf.

Well, time to go, said enough for now, can't wait for the next issue of **FurrloUGH**, the roaring twenties!

May FurrloUGH run on forever,
Brian Chad Hudson
Jacksonville, FL

Almost all our letters from one guy! C'mon, folks! Philip can't fill the whole letter column by himself every month! (Well, maybe, but it's a big responsibility!) Let's get some more letters in here! We reserve the right to edit letters for space or errors, but that's it! --EW.

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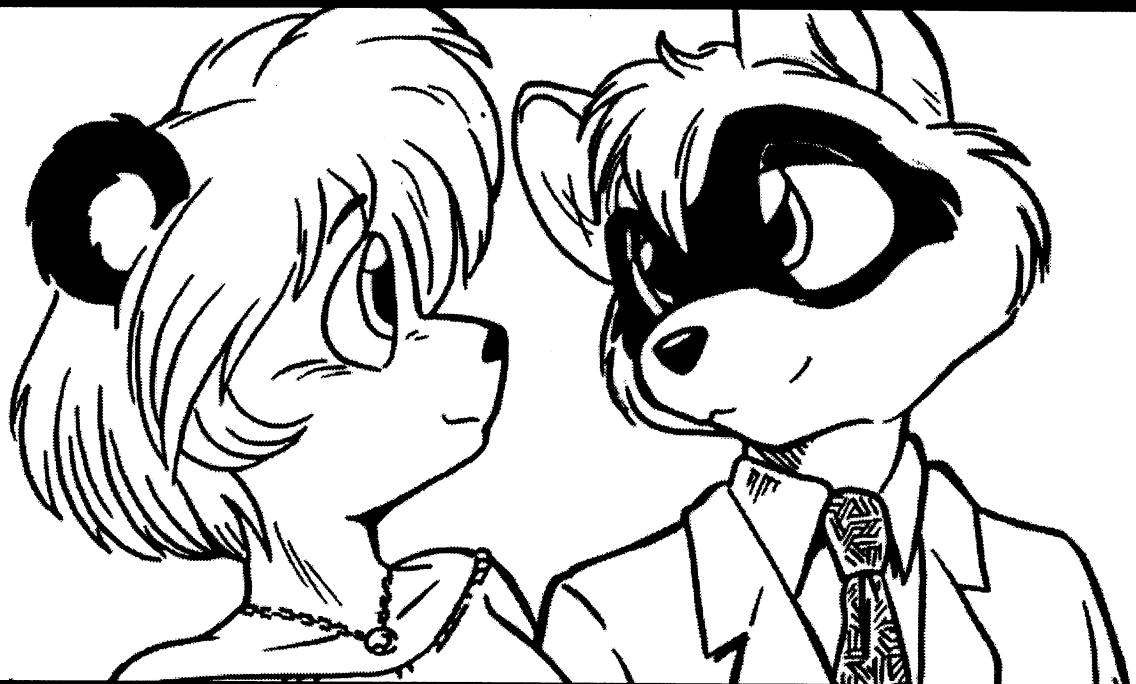
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