

INSIDE:

Here Comes A Candle by Mary Hanson-Roberts and Bronze Fur by Mark Shaw

FURRILOUGH



AP

ANTARCTIC
PRESS

25

**JAN.
1995**

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ANTHROPOMORPHIC



ANTARCTIC BLAST

MEDICAL RECORDS

by JOE DUNN, M.D.

Ten years ago the world was a different place. A republican was occupying the White House, REVENGE OF THE NERDS was in the theaters, and the dollar was worth a lot more. The comic industry was also a different place. The face of the comics industry was changed by direct sales and the black and white glet. Why all the nostalgia all of a sudden? Well, ten years ago, Antarctic Press first started publishing.

Ten years ago Antarctic Press was a different place. The office was a converted carport and storage room. Our first computer was a \$2500 super computer called a Macintosh Plus. The first employee made \$50 a month. The first comic was made entirely from newspaper, cover and all. Ahh, the good old days. Things have certainly changed since then. We survived the gluts, the speculations, and the bankruptcies other companies seemed to fall prey to all too often. I could keep on talking about the past and what we did that allowed us to persevere, but I believe our actions speak louder than any words.

Instead, let's talk about the future. What do I see in the future?

At Antarctic Press I see an ever-growing company, striving for alternatives and seeking diversity. I see more recognition and acceptance from the fan press. I see improving quality and higher standards. I see better relations with our fans and retailers. Of course, I predicted the same things ten years ago and will predict the same thing ten years from now. If we do not continue to fulfill those prophecies, we will have failed as a company.

In the comics industry I see continued flux. The industry is still ill-defined and will

require time to feel itself out. The industry will continue to downsize to a few companies publishing a variety of works and expand to a hundred creator-owned companies, each publishing its one title once every month or two. I predict the continued exploitation of the finite comic book dollar where demand for one comic will cause the failure of another. The industry has for the most part failed to get more readers into the market. How many times have you seen a movie or driven a car or eaten at a restaurant that you fell in love with and recommended to a friend? Can the same thing be said about the comic book industry? How many times do you see people around a water cooler talk about how innovative, creative or thought-provoking a comic book was? Within the industry we talk among ourselves, putting ourselves on the back and handing out meaningless awards to each other showing how good we are. How many people outside the industry have heard of the Harvey, the Eisner, or a CBG award?

Is the industry an entertainment medium? If so, we have failed to show the same success and progress as music, movies, books and television. Is the industry a commodity, where you can make a quick buck? I don't think comics will replace gold or stocks or frozen concentrated orange juice as a viable commodity, and the speculation glut of the past certainly proves it. So where do we end up? My statements are not meant to insult the industry, for without it this company would not exist, but to show that my predictions are based on cold reality.

I wish I could predict what will happen in the world. I know that the republicans are in power, crime is getting worse, and I pay too much in taxes. All I can hope is that there won't be another REVENGE OF THE NERDS movie.

—Joe Dunn

HEY! WHO'S THIS "FRED PERRY" THAT'S DOIN' NHS???

by nps

That's right, the indomitable Fred Perry will be taking over *Ninja High School* for the next two issues (# 44 and 45). This time Ben Dunn took on his latest creation, *Warrior Nun Areala*, a full computer-color comic.

But just who is Fred Perry? Well, if you've been following Antarctic Press with any regularity, you know that Fred Perry is the creator/artist of *Gold Digger*, one of AP's coolest and most popular comic books. Fred's not only one of the nicest guys in comics, but he's also one of Antarctic Press' fastest artists. What's his secret? We really don't know, but if we found out we would all be rich!

Let's welcome Fred to NHS!



A long-suffering cartoonist photo. Really!

Fred Perry in a recent photograph taken at a comic book store signing right here in San Antonio, Texas. By the time the photographer focused and his feet went off, Fred had finished the sketch he started and six pages of *Gold Digger*. His last comment was... "Ahh be Baaaack."

CHECK OUT ANTARCTIC PRESS' other releases*
*subject to change

- ☐ *Ninja High School #44 (Fred Perry)*
- ☐ *Private Beach #1 (David Hahn)*
- ☐ *Mangazine #37 (in color!)*
- ☐ *F III Bandit #1 (Ippogai Bang)*
- ☐ *Konny and Czu #3 (a must buy!)*
- ☐ *Furlough #25*
- ☐ *Best of Furlough #1*

- ☐ *Tigers of Terra #8*
- ☐ *Shunda The Panda #7*
- ☐ *Dedekain #3*
- ☐ *Silvester #8*
- ☐ *Knightmare #4*
- ☐ *Nick Ryan, The Skull #2*
- ☐ *Battle Binder Plus #3 (Venus)*

- ☐ *Vanity Angel #5 (Venus)*
- ☐ *Velvet Touch #6 (Venus)*
- ☐ *Gemas #10 (Venus)*
- ☐ *Cheeta Pop #3 (Venus)*
- ☐ *Bondage Fairies #4 (Venus, relist)*
- ☐ *Mangazine #5 (relist)*

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Here Comes a Candle Part 9 by Mary Hanson-Roberts

LOUD AND SOMETIMES RIBALD, THE CELEBRATIONS CONTINUE THROUGH THE NIGHT.



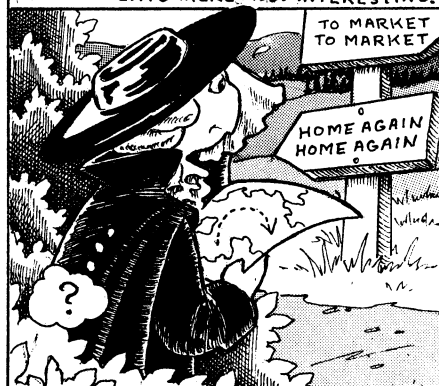
AND THE SEAFARERS' POWERS OF RECOLLECTION ARE NONE OF THE BEST AT THIS TIME---



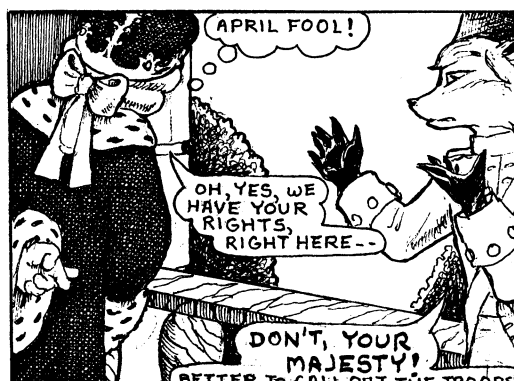
AND BY MORNING TINKER'S ARE NO BETTER. HE'LL RECOVER OF COURSE, AND EVENTUALLY FIND--



--THE NEWS WOULD BE WORTH THE HEARING. INDEED, IF GIOTTO THE SPY WERE NEAR THE CAPITAL AT THIS POINT, HE'D FIND THE DEVELOPMENTS THERE MOST INTERESTING.



DESPITE ROYAL ATTEMPTS TO STOP THEM, DELEGATES ELECTED BY THE COMMONFOLK HAVE BEEN ASSEMBLING IN THE CAPITAL. AMONG THEM IS SIMONSON, FROM TUFFET-ON-THE-GREEN. THEIR INTENT IS TO REFORM THE ANCIENT CODE OF LAWS.





SHOULD HIS MAJESTY CALL UPON US, WE'LL SOON TEACH THOSE STUPID COMMONERS THE ERROR OF THEIR WAYS!

YES! WE'LL TEACH THOSE STUPID COMMONERS A THING OR...



WAIT A MINUTE! WE'RE COMMONERS, OURSELVES!

WE COULD BE FIRING ON OUR OWN FAMILIES!

HM. I WOULDN'T MIND TAKING A POT-SHOT AT MY BROTHER-IN-LAW. STILL--

BUT THESE EVENTS HAVE TAKEN PLACE FAR AWAY, AND NEDWIN HAS OTHER CONCERNS.



THE WIND'S RIGHT. SOON, IT MUST BE.

TOO SOON! BUT YOU'LL BE BACK---

AYE.

SHE'S OFF AGAIN. SIGHT WELL, WHEN YOU MARRY A SAILOR---



HER CREW'S A LITTLE OFF TOO.

CAREFUL! THEY'RE MY KINDRED NOW.

AND YOUR OTHER FAMILY---



I HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN. INDEED, JUDGING FROM THE DATE ON SQUINT'S LETTER, CARABAS HALL'S NEW HEIR MAY ALREADY HAVE ARRIVED.



WHATEVER IS IT, MY RADIANCE? MORE RAMPION? I COULD--

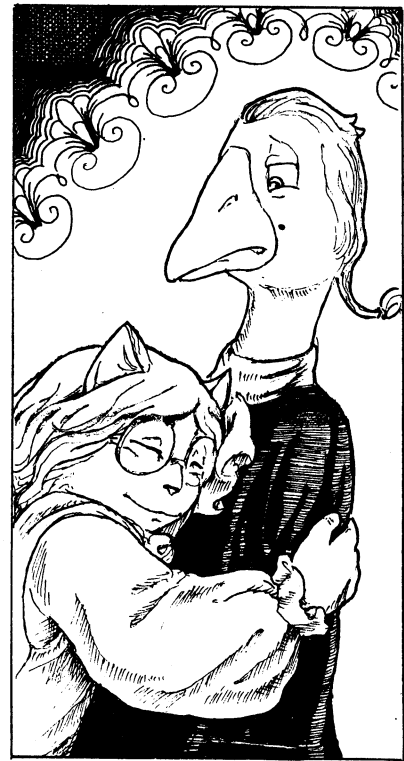
NO MORE RAMPION! THOMAS, I THINK--
GASP--
I THINK IT'S MY TIME!

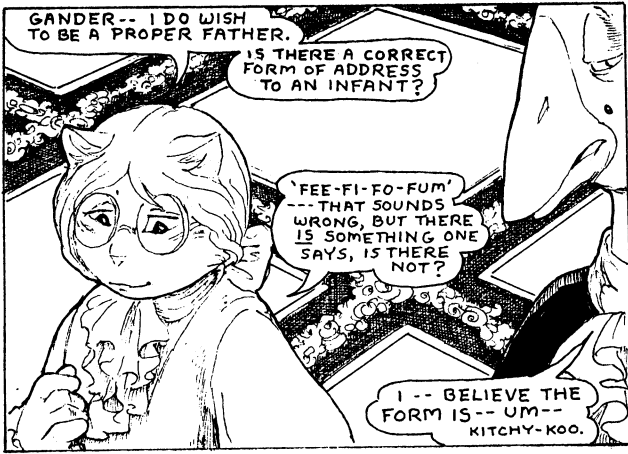
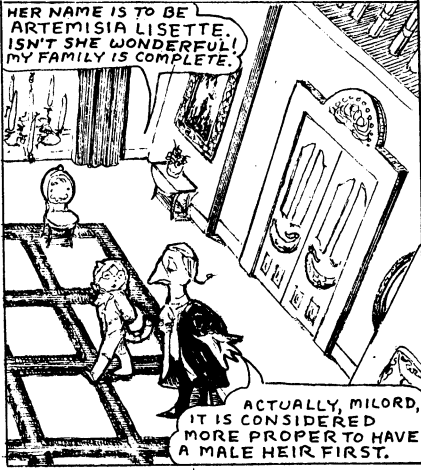
OH! OH! YOU MUST BE ATTENDED! I--- I'LL RING FOR SOMEONE-- ALL WILL BE WELL, I PROMISE--

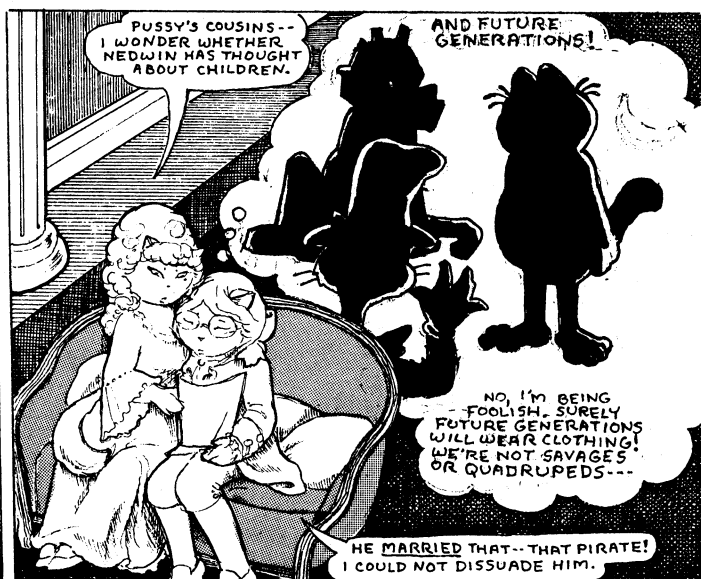


WHAT A TIME FOR THE BELL-CORD TO MISFUNCTION! COURAGE, DEAREST-- OH! WHY DOESN'T IT RING?

MILADY IS IN GOOD HANDS NOW, SIR. PLEASE TO RELEASE THE CURTAIN- PULL--







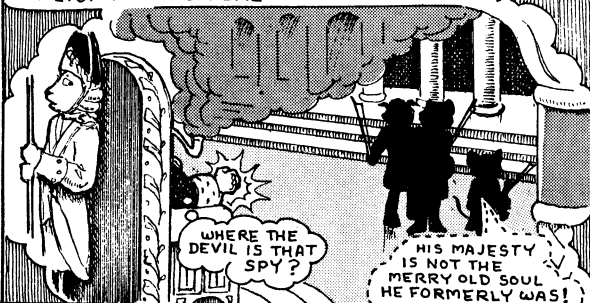
PLUNGING INTO FAMILY RESPONSIBILITY WITH A PASSION THEY USUALLY LAVISH UPON A NEW STYLE OF HAT, THOMAS AND FELICE ARE UNAWARE THAT THIS SUGAR-CANDY WORLD OF THEIRS IS ALREADY QUITE DOOMED.



We Provincials regarded our new Situation warily. We had a Constitution now, and certain Rights, and we of the Reform Spoke more freely than hitherto.



WE ARE UNDER THE EYES OF FOREIGN POWERS HERE---



---AND IF OUR KING SHOULD APPEAL TO THESE POWERS FOR AID, IT IS NEAR THIS TOWN THEIR FORCES MUST PASS.



We soon determined to Rally in the Support of those who had shown the Way.



THE CRUELITIES OF THE PAST ARE FRESH IN OUR MINDS. NONE WOULD WILLINGLY RETURN TO SUCH A STATE!



OUR PETITIONS HAVE MET WITH CONTEMPT---



OUR PROTESTS HAVE GONE UNHEARD.

WHAT WERE THOSE TOWNFOLK DOING ALL OVER THE PLACE?



-- AND OUR EVERY EFFORT TO GAIN ATTENTION FOR OUR CAUSE HAS BROUGHT DISASTER!





THE WORD GOES OUT, AND IS RECEIVED WITH ENTHUSIASM BY CERTAIN RESIDENTS OF CARABAS VILLAGE.

WHITHER AWAY, NEIGHBOR?

AND YOU CAN JUST SHRIVEL UP TOO. ME, I'M OFF TO JOIN THE REBELLION. YOU CAN COME IF YOU LIKE.

REBELLION? I GOT NO OTHER PLANS---- DIDN'T EVEN THINK THE RENAISSANCE HAD GOT HERE

I'LL GO ASK.

DOCTOR LUCKY!! I WANT TO GO OUT WITH MY FRIENDS - WILL YOU SAVE MY JOB FOR ME?

AND WHERE MIGHT YOU BE GOING?

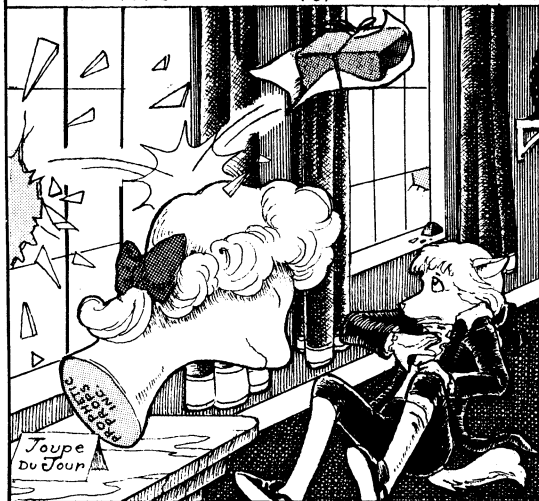
YOU'RE GOING TO A METAPHOR FESTIVAL?

JUST DON'T BE
ALL DAY ABOUT
IT.

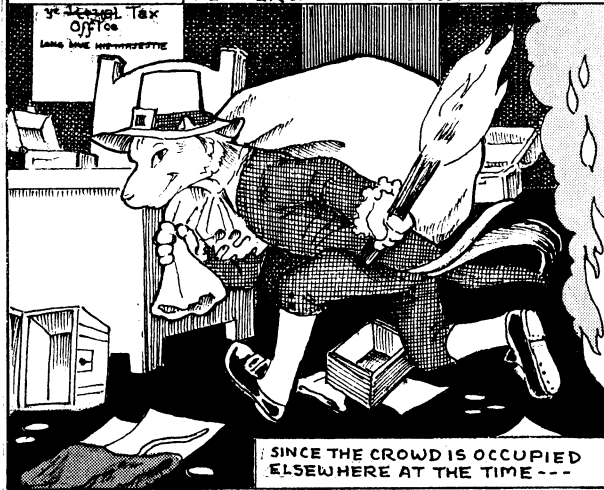
THE CHAOS IN THE TOWN OF TUFFET-ON-THE-GREEN CONTRIBUTES BUT LITTLE TO THE COURSE OF EVENTS, BEING ONLY ONE AMONG MANY POPULAR UPRISINGS THROUGHOUT THE LAND. IT ALLOWS THE ANGRY CITIZENS TO VENT THEIR FRUSTRATIONS, AND TO FEEL THEY ARE PARTICIPANTS IN A REVOLUTION WHICH IS ALREADY WELL UNDER WAY. THERE ARE CASUALTIES, HOWEVER, ONE BEING THE ROYAL STATUE IN THE PARK--



A NUMBER OF SHOP-WINDOWS PAY THE PRICE FOR THEIR PROPRIETORS' ANTI-POPULIST LEANINGS--



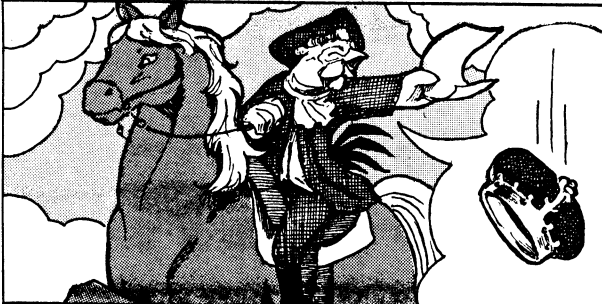
---AND WHILE NONE WILL MOURN THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TAX OFFICE AND THE ADMINISTRATOR'S SUDDEN DISAPPEARANCE, NEITHER WILL ANYONE OWN TO THE DEED



---WAYLAYING SOME UNLUCKY SERVANTS OF THE BRICKMANOR ESTATE.

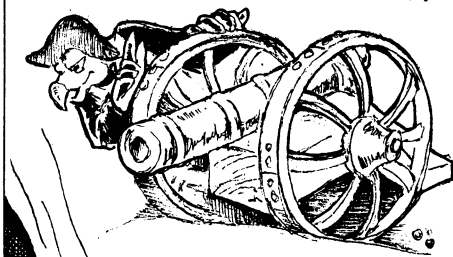


THERE, THE COMMONERS AND THEIR DELEGATES HAVE BEEN FORMING A NEW GOVERNMENT UNDER THE VERY NOSE OF THE KING. COMMENDABLY, MUCH OF THIS HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED WITHOUT BLOODSHED.



BUT IN A CONFLICT WHERE ONE SIDE IS SO ESTABLISHED AND THE OTHER SO AGGRIEVED, VIOLENCE SEEMS INEVITABLE ---

INCLUDING CERTAIN DREADFUL ENCOUNTERS, IN WHICH DOZENS OF HAPLESS EXTRAS ARE SLAUGHTERED WITHOUT MERCY!

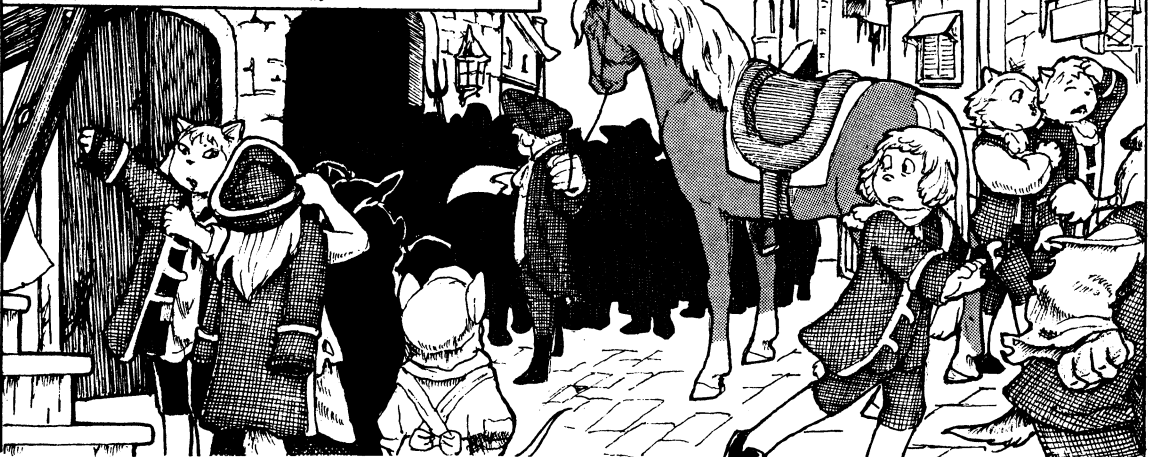


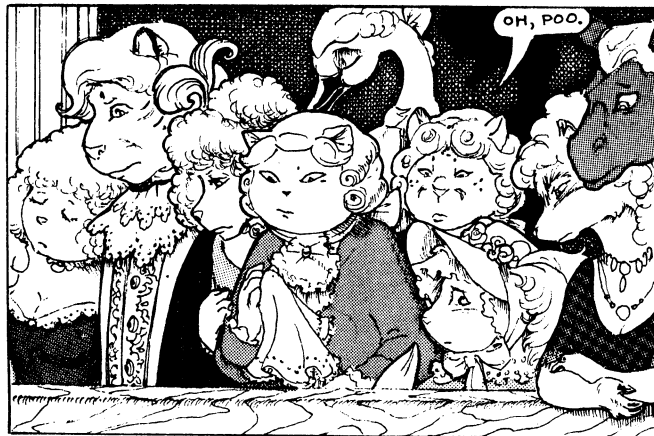
OHO, YOU WANT TO SEE THAT, DO YOU? HERE, THEN, AND MAY IT SPOIL YOUR DINNER!

IT IS MY DINNER.



ALTHOUGH THE VIOLENCE WOULD HAVE BECOME EVEN MORE GRAPHIC, THE MESSAGE CONCERNS ITSELF WITH THE OUTCOME.





THE ANCIENT GRANDSIRE
WOULD NOT AGREE
WITH YOU. LOOK!
THEY'RE FREEING THE
PRISONERS OF THE
OLD REGIME---

IT IS NOT MY WISH TO DASH THY HOPES, CHILD,
BUT YON 'PRISONERS' WERE THE INMATES
OF THE LUNATIC ASYLUM! THINKEST THOU
THIS BODES WELL FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT?

YOU ARE TOO CYNICAL, SIR,
BUT THEY HAVE AS MUCH RIGHT TO
GOVERN BADLY AS THE KING DID.

IN THE FIRST DAWNING OF
THE NEW ORDER, COMES
HOPE IN MANY FORMS
THROUGHOUT THE
COUNTRY.

A CHANCE TO
MAKE THINGS BETTER
FOR EVERYONE!

REASON WILL
RULE, INSTEAD
OF PRIVILEGE!

LOFTY SENTIMENTS,
BUT MY DUTY'S TO
THE OTHER SIDE.

'A GOOD LESSON FOR HIS MAJESTY. ONCE RESTORED TO POWER, HE'LL HANG ALL THESE REFORMERS!'

FREEDOM?

JUSTICE

SOMEONE
POWER WH
ACCOMPLIS
SOMETHIN

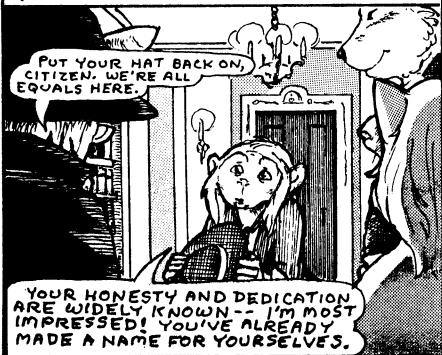
A NICE
LADY-FRIEND

PEACE!
BACK TO
MY HOME
AND MY JOB.

YOU'LL LOOK
DELICIOUS IN THE
NEW FASHIONS--- AND
SO SHALL I!

BREAD!

MOST OF ALL, IT'S A CHANCE FOR A NEW BEGINNING, GIVEN THE IDEALISM WHICH PREVAILS AT THE TIME. SMALL WONDER IF SIMONSON IN THE CAPITAL IS DRAWN TO A GROUP WHICH REPRESENTS THIS QUALITY MOST STRONGLY.



PUT YOUR HAT BACK ON, CITIZEN. WE'RE ALL EQUALS HERE.

YOUR HONESTY AND DEDICATION ARE WIDELY KNOWN-- I'M MOST IMPRESSED! YOU'VE ALREADY MADE A NAME FOR YOURSELVES.

IN ALL HONESTY WE'RE STILL TRYING TO COME UP WITH ONE. HOW DO YOU LIKE "VICTORY OVER MONARCHY'S IMMORAL TYRANNIES"?



SOCIETY TO UNITE PATRIOTS IN DEMOCRACY!

THAT'S STUPID.

WHAT?

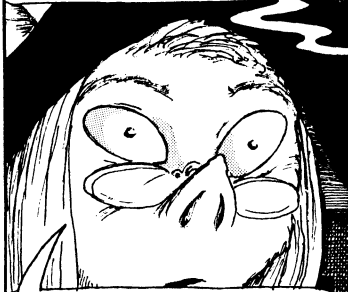
THE INITIALS-- YOU'LL HAVE TO WATCH THAT.

HE'S RIGHT. DETAILS ARE IMPORTANT. IT MUST BE PERFECT.



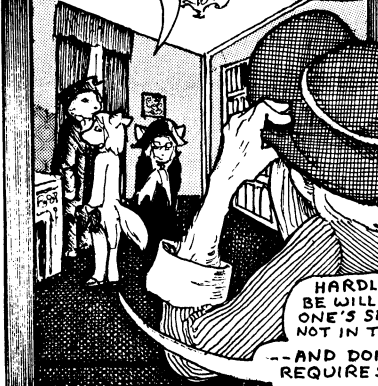
AN INCOMPARABLE OPPORTUNITY IS BEFORE THE CITIZENRY, IF IT CAN BE SEIZED!

THAT WON'T BE EASY. EVERY FACTION IN THE CITY IS JOCKEYING FOR POWER--



THIS ISN'T FOR POWER! THE OBJECTIVE IS PERFECTION, NOTHING LESS! CAN YOU NOT SEE THE VISION?

A SOCIETY OF PERFECT VIRTUE-- DEDICATED TO THE COMMON GOOD!



I HOPE WE MAY WORK TOGETHER. I HAVE ALWAYS BELIEVED IN THE REFORM. IF NECESSARY, I'D SACRIFICE MY LIFE FOR THE CAUSE.

HARDLY SUFFICIENT! ONE MUST BE WILLING TO SACRIFICE NOT ONLY ONE'S SELF, BUT EVERYBODY ELSE. NOT IN THAT ORDER, TO BE SURE-- --AND DON'T BOW! ONLY ARISTOCRATS REQUIRE SUCH HOLLOW COURTESIES.

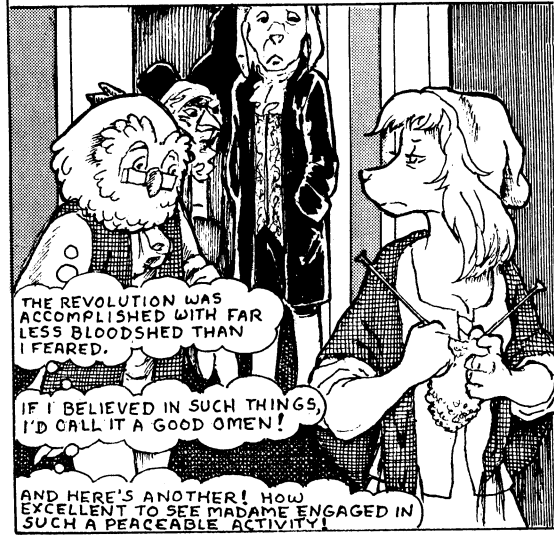
ATTRACTED BY THE SCRUPULOUS, IF SOMEWHAT FRIGHTENING SINCERITY OF THE STILL-NAMELESS FACTION, THE HIGH-PRINCIPLED SIMONSON OFFERS SUPPORT WHICH WILL BE INSTRUMENTAL IN THEIR RISE.



Jack A. Dappley's ANTI-ROYALIST Sweets!

A RETURN TO THE DELEGATE'S HOMETOWN WILL SHOW THE REVOLUTION ALREADY BRINGING CHANGES INTO THE LIVES OF SOME--

FOR IN TUFFET-ON-THE-GREEN, THE ENTIRE TOWN COUNCIL NOW CONSISTS OF MEMBERS OF THE REFORM; INCLUDING AMONG THEIR NUMBER, A CITIZEN GALEN BIRCH.



THE REVOLUTION WAS ACCOMPLISHED WITH FAR LESS BLOODSHED THAN I FEARED.

IF I BELIEVED IN SUCH THINGS, I'D CALL IT A GOOD OMEN!

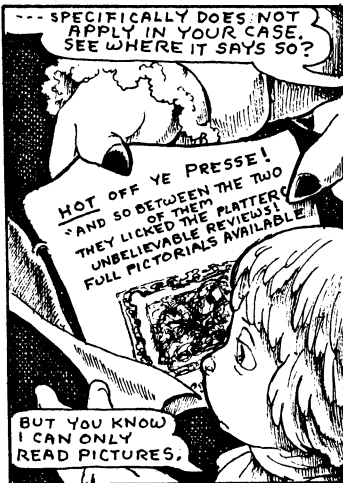
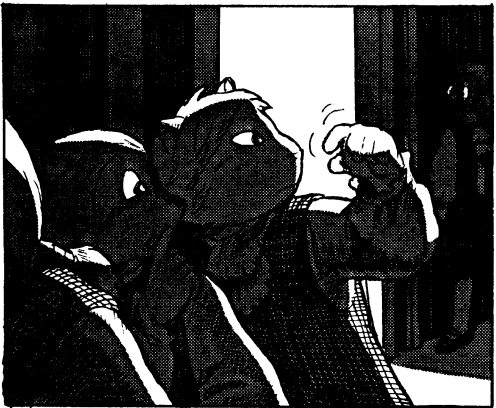
AND HERE'S ANOTHER! HOW EXCELLENT TO SEE MADAME ENGAGED IN SUCH A PEACEABLE ACTIVITY!

NOW I MUST BE THE BUTT OF EVERY CHEEKY WAG IN TOWN!

Tail Sale!!
Half Price!
Pieces of Tails:
No Reasonable
Offer Refused!
Please to
Buy something

TO HAVE
NO HANG

A black and white illustration of a cat sitting in a large, ornate chair, reading a book. The cat is wearing a nightgown and has a small, decorative headpiece. A candelabra with three lit candles sits on a small table next to the chair. The cat is looking down at the book with a focused expression. The background shows a window with vertical blinds and a patterned curtain. The style is a detailed line drawing with cross-hatching for shading.





Walter Kitty BRONZE FUR

Chapter One: The Squeaking Lizard

THESE BOOKS ARE RARE COLLECTOR'S ITEMS, GRAMPS! YOU COULD GET A FORTUNE FOR THIS ONE ALONE!

I COULDN'T GET ENOUGH TO MAKE IT WORTH SELLING IT, THOUGH, WALTER...

...THESE OLD THINGS MEAN MORE TO ME THAN MONEY...

...THESE THINGS TIE ME WITH THE PAST-- THEY REPRESENT MY LIFE-- MINE AND YOUR GRANDMOTHERS...

3 SIGH!... LIFE'S JUST NOT THE SAME WITHOUT HER...

IT'S BEEN ALMOST TWENTY YEARS SINCE SHE DIED... AND I MISS HER AS MUCH AS EVER...

YOUR MOTHER WAS THE SPITTIN' IMAGE OF HER... 3 SIGH & SHE WAS SO BEAUTIFUL...

... I NEVER MET GRANDMA WILDER, GRAMPS... I WISH I COULD HAVE KNOWN HER...

ME TOO, BOY... ME TOO...

MOM WAS NAMED FOR HER, WASN'T SHE...?

THAT'S RIGHT... AND YOU WERE NAMED AFTER ME! YOUR FATHER WANTED TO NAME YOU "TODD", BUT YOUR MOTHER -- GOD BLESS HER -- INSISTED ON NAMING YOU WALTER...

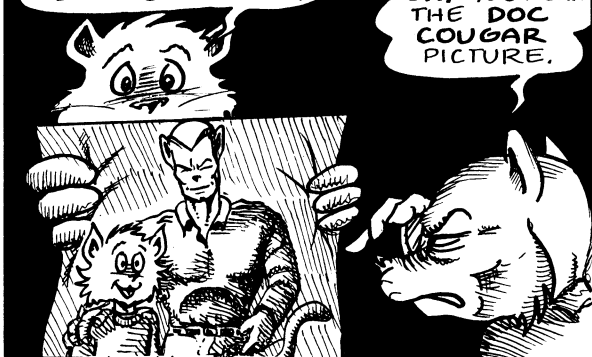
"TODD KITTY" --ECCH!

- GRAMPS! -- WHAT'S THIS ?



WHAT?

-- THIS PICTURE!
TELL ME I'M
SEEING THINGS--!



WHAT IS IT?!
OH! YOU MEAN
THE DOC
COUGAR
PICTURE.

-- IT REALLY IS
DOC COUGAR?!

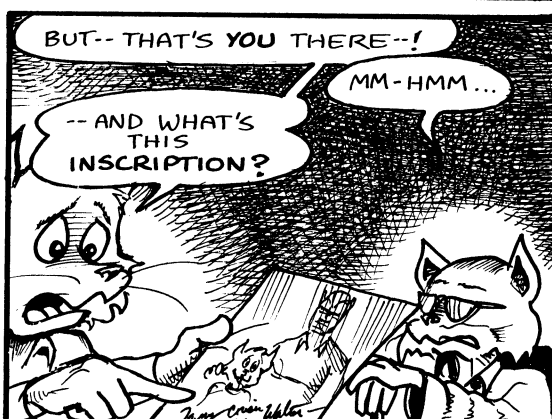
WHAT'RE YOU
SO EXCITED
ABOUT, BOY?



BUT-- THAT'S YOU THERE--!

MM-HMM...

-- AND WHAT'S
THIS
INSCRIPTION?



...TO MY COUSIN WALTER --
A COMPANION IN ADVENTURE --
-- CLARK COUGAR, JR. --

-- COUSIN--?

THAT'S RIGHT--
OUR FAMIL-
IES ARE
RELATED...



... ALTHOUGH... NEITHER OF US
KNEW THAT UNTIL AFTER WE
HAD ALREADY MET... AND
HAD THE MOST AMAZING
EXPERIENCES...



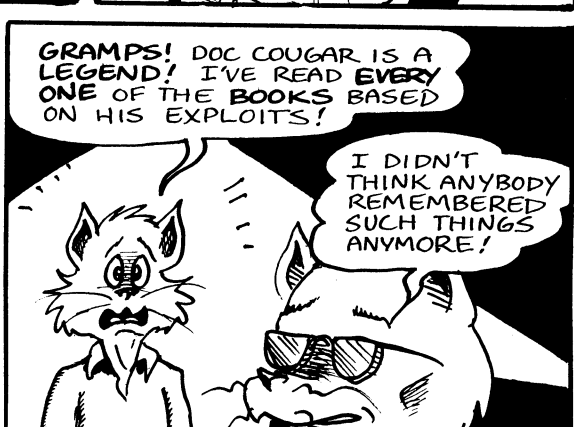
-- LIKE WHAT--?!

WELL... OH, YOU
DON'T WANT TO
HEAR THIS,
WALTER... IT'S
A LONG STORY...



GRAMPS! DOC COUGAR IS A
LEGEND! I'VE READ EVERY
ONE OF THE BOOKS BASED
ON HIS EXPLOITS!

I DIDN'T
THINK ANYBODY
REMEMBERED
SUCH THINGS
ANYMORE!



DOC COUGAR WAS MY HERO,
GRAMPS--! I USED TO
DREAM THAT I WAS HIM--!

HA HA! YOU DID?
I DID TOO,
WHEN I WAS
A KID!

... I'D READ ALL ABOUT THE FAMOUS
AMERICAN ADVENTURER WHEN I WAS
GROWING UP IN ENGLAND... MY MUM
AND DAD RAISED ME IN CORNEYWALL.
WE CAME TO AMERICA WHEN I WAS
BUT ELEVEN YEARS OLD...

... BUT THEY BOTH
CONTRACTED INFLUEN-
ZA SHORTLY AFTER
WE ARRIVED IN
NEW YAWK... AND
I WAS ORPHANED--

I HAD NO KNOWN RELATIVES OR FRIENDS...
--I WAS ALONE-- AND THIS WAS IN
THE MIDST OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION...
--AND IT WAS DEPRESSING!

NEW YAWK WAS A COLD
GREY CITY-- CRIME AND
THE AFFLUENT WALKED
HAND IN HAND...
... AND POVERTY SHOWED
ITS BLEAK COUNTENANCE
AT EVERY TURN...

LUCKILY FOR ME, IT WASN'T WINTER-
TIME--OR I'D NEVER HAVE SURVIVED!
AS IT WAS, I SLEPT IN ALLEYWAYS
AND LIVED ON THE STREETS...
I DID ODD JOBS FOR MEALS AND
LEARNED TO PANHANDLE STRANGERS
FOR CHANGE...

EVENTUALLY I MADE FRIENDS WITH
AN OLD GENT WHO MANAGED A
TENEMENT--I GUESS HE FIGURED
I NEEDED A FOSTER DAD...

ANYWAY, HE FED AND CLOTHED ME ... AND LET ME SLEEP IN THE CELLAR NEXT TO THE GREAT FURNACE... THIS WENT ON FOR ABOUT A YEAR...



THEN... ONE DAY-- I REMEMBER IT VIVIDLY--
ONE OF THE BUILDING'S TENANTS ... VANISHED!
THERE WAS A LOT OF TALK ABOUT IT-- SPECULATION
ABOUNDED THAT HE WAS A VICTIM OF THE
SQUEAKING LIZARD--!

THE SQUEAKING LIZARD MURDERS HAD BEEN THE TALK OF THE CITY FOR OVER A WEEK... SO FAR, THREE PEOPLE HAD BEEN FOUND DEAD IN HORRIBLY CONTORTED POSITIONS... FEATURES BLOATED AND OBSCENELY DEFORMED...

THE BODIES COVERED WITH LIZARDS...

... SQUEAKING LIZARDS!

SQUEAK!

SQUEAK!

SQUEAK!

[illegible]

☐ The New Times

STRANGE DEATH Baffles Police

By [unclear] Staff Writer

It was a quiet night in the city of [unclear] when a man was found dead in his apartment. The police are baffled by the circumstances surrounding the death.

The victim, a 35-year-old man, was found in his apartment on [unclear] Street. He was found by a neighbor who noticed a light was on at midnight. The police arrived and found the man lying on the floor, apparently dead.

The police are currently investigating the case, but they have not yet determined the cause of death. The man's family is currently in shock and is waiting for the results of the autopsy.

The police are asking anyone who has information about the case to contact them at [unclear] or to call the tip line at [unclear].

SQUEAK!

[illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible][illegible]

THE POLICE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO MAKE OF IT... AND THE NEWSPAPERS PLAYED THE MYSTERY TO THE HILT!

[illegible]

BUT FOR WE OF THE **POOR-ER CLASSES**, EVERYDAY LIFE WAS STILL A **STRUGGLE...**

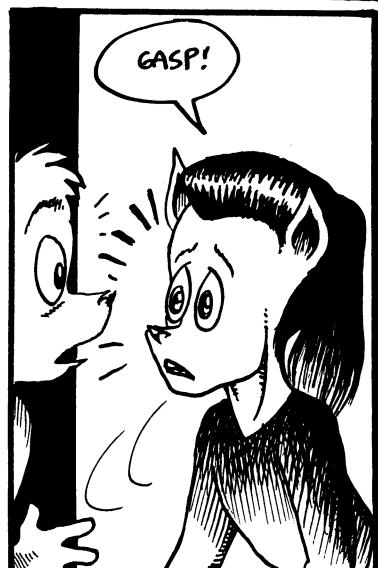
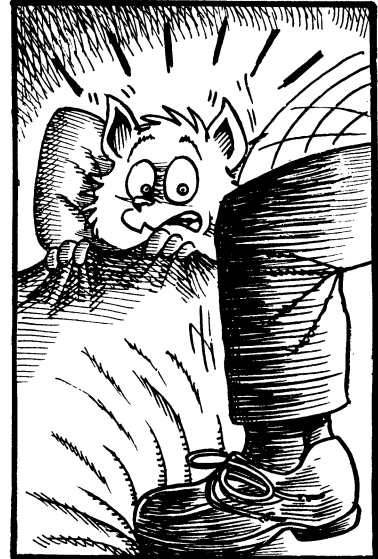
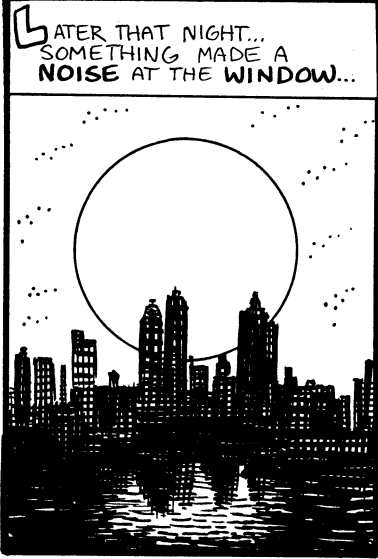
TO ME, A MISSING TENANT
MEANT AN **EMPTY ROOM**,
AND A NICE SOFT **EMPTY**
BED! SO I MANAGED
TO KIPE THE **KEY...** AND
THAT NIGHT I SNEAKED
INTO THE TOP FLOOR
APARTMENT OF THE OLD
BUILDING 6...

I HAD NO IDEA OF THE
FANTASTIC EVENTS
I WAS ABOUT TO BE
CAUGHT UP IN--!

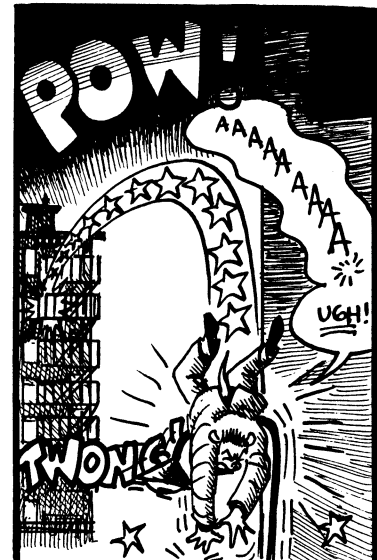
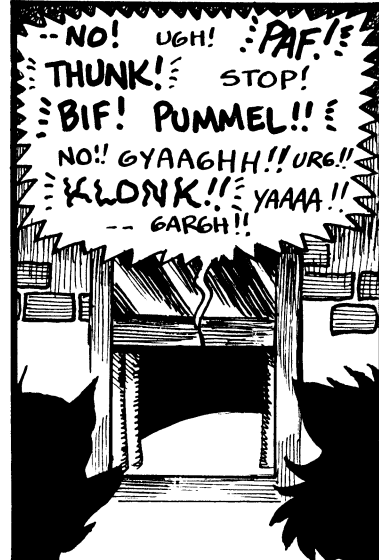
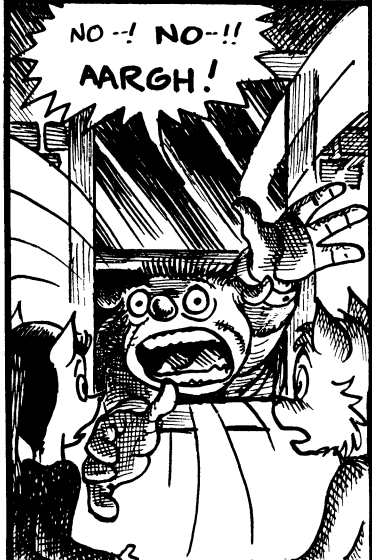
MM... NICE,
WARM...
... COMFY...

... COMFY...

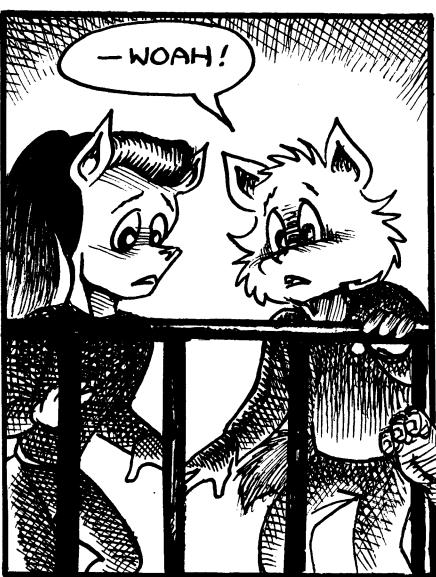
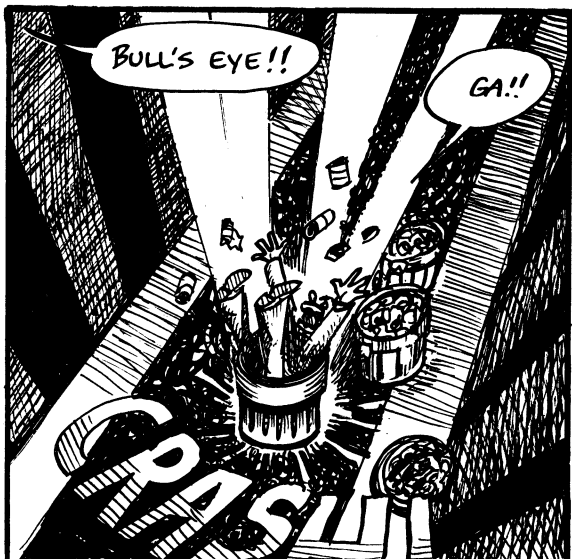
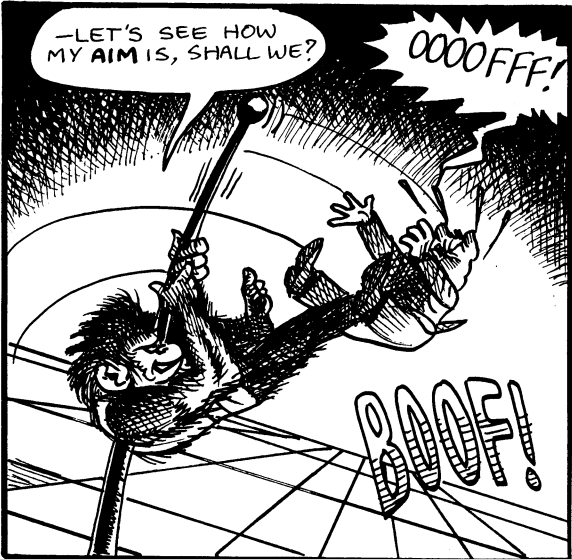
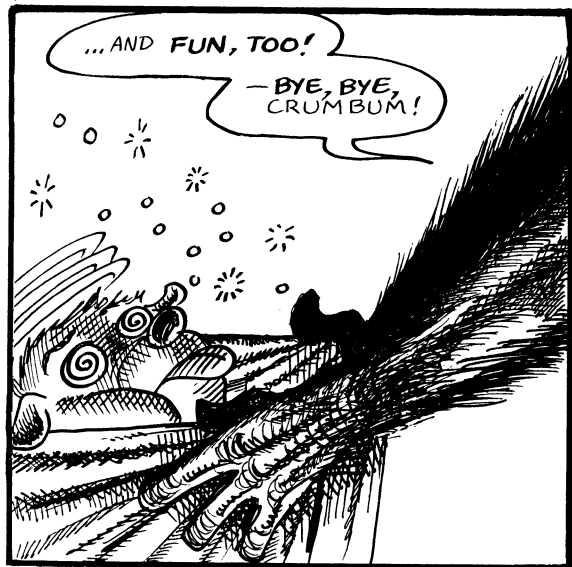
... COMFY...

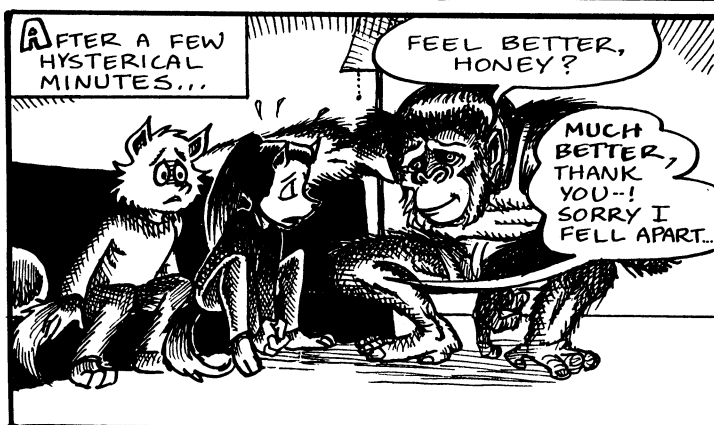
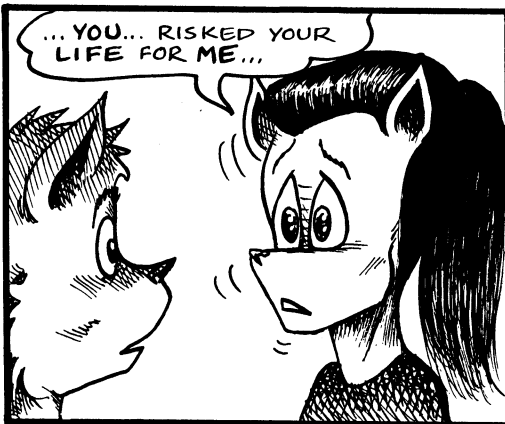
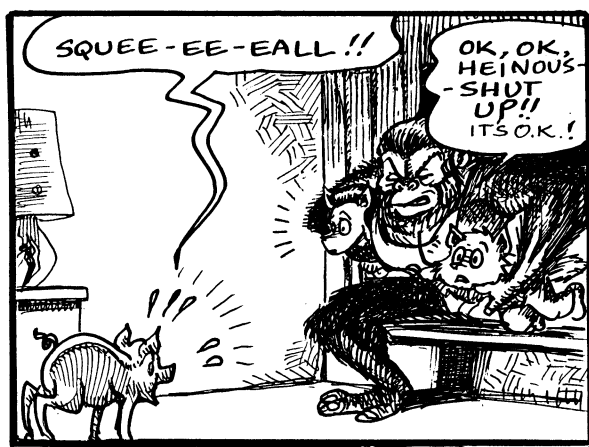












WELL... HE BROUGHT ME HERE FROM TAIWONON ... WHERE HE'S HOLDING MY FATHER PRISONER! ... HE WAS GOING TO USE ME IN SOME PLAN HE HAS... BUT I DON'T KNOW MUCH MORE THAN THAT...

HM.

-- I SHOULD'VE GONE RIGHT OUT AND DEEP-SIXED THOSE GOONS -- THEY'RE GONE NOW -- AND I GUESS WE KNOW WHO THEY'RE REPORTING TO...

SO... WHAT'RE YOUR NAMES, KIDS?

OH! I'M ROSE... ROSE BUDD!

I'M WALTER WILDER!

"ROSE BUDD," HUH?

-- BOY, SOME PARENTS SURE CAN BE CUTE... OR CRUEL -- DEPENDING ON HOW YOU LOOK AT IT...

BUT I WONDER HOW THE LIZARD WAS PLANNIN' TO USE A LITTLE GOIL... --AND WHAT ALL THIS HAS TO DO WITH THE SQUEAKIN' LIZARD MOIDAS -- ?

LOOK, KIDS -- THIS IS MORE THAN I CAN FIGGER OUT... BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO PROBABLY CAN... WILL YOU TRUST ME TO KNOW WHAT'S BEST FOR YOU RIGHT NOW?

I... I GUESS SO...

...UH, OK.

I'M CALLIN' SOMEONE TO PICK US UP... THEN WE'LL HEAD OVER TO FIFTH AVENUE...

ON A BIT...

HERE'S OUR RIDE, KIDS...

PREPARE FOR AN EXPLOSION--!

MUNK--!! --HOW DARE YOU GET ME UP AT SUCH AN UNGODLY HOUR!! -- THIS BETTER BE IMPORTANT!

SLAM!

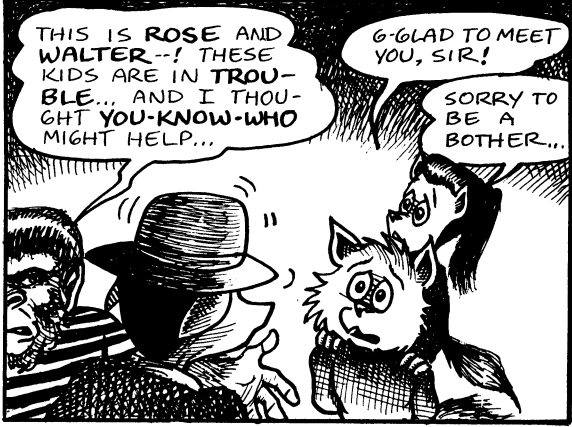
AW, PIPE DOWN, YA PORK FASHION PLATE! IT WON'T HURT YA TO MISS A LITTLE OF YOUR PRECIOUS BEAUTY SLEEP--!



YOU SURE COULDN'T GET ANY UGLIER-- COULD HE, KIDS?

I'M NOT IN ANY MOOD TO--

AW, CAN IT, SHYSTER



THIS IS ROSE AND WALTER--! THESE KIDS ARE IN TROUBLE... AND I THOUGHT YOU-KNOW-WHO MIGHT HELP...

G-G-LAD TO MEET YOU, SIR!

SORRY TO BE A BOTHER...



WELL... I'M SORRY I SHOUTED, KIDS... IT'S NO BOTHER...

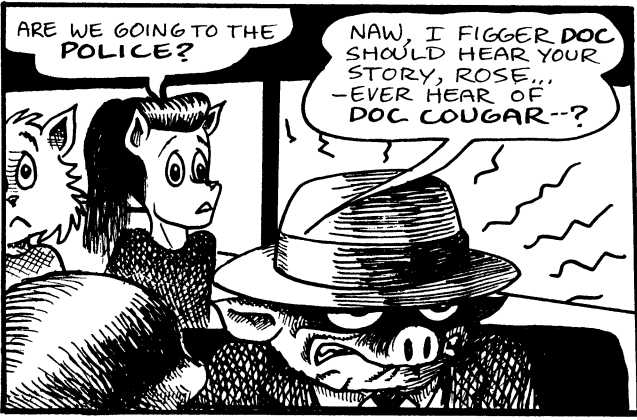
THIS IS "HAMM", GUYS--AS IN BIG, PINK AND OINKY--!



-- MY NAME IS BRIGADIER GENERAL THEODORE MARLEE BUTTS!

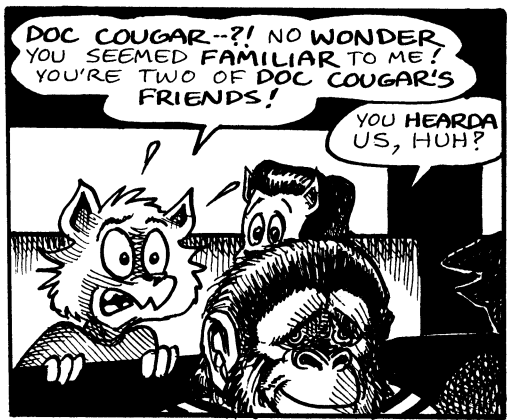
--BUT CALL HIM HAMM! I'M LT. COL. ANDREW BLUDGEON MAYDAY-- BUT YOU CAN CALL ME "MUNK"--!

-- GET IN, KIDS!



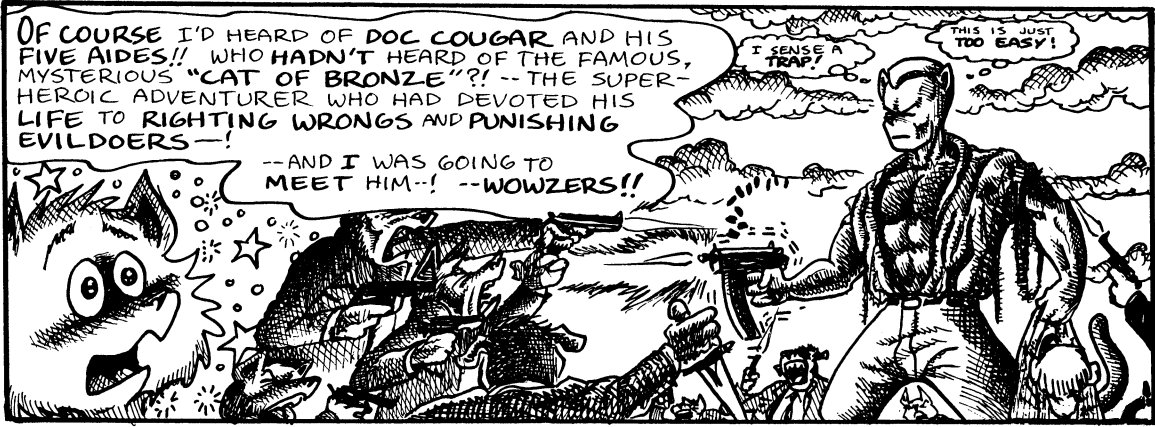
ARE WE GOING TO THE POLICE?

NAW, I FIGGER DOC SHOULD HEAR YOUR STORY, ROSE... --EVER HEAR OF DOC COUGAR--?



DOC COUGAR--?! NO WONDER YOU SEEMED FAMILIAR TO ME! YOU'RE TWO OF DOC COUGAR'S FRIENDS!

YOU HEARDA US, HUH?



OF COURSE I'D HEARD OF DOC COUGAR AND HIS FIVE AIDES!! WHO HADN'T HEARD OF THE FAMOUS, MYSTERIOUS "CAT OF BRONZE"?! --THE SUPER-HEROIC ADVENTURER WHO HAD DEVOTED HIS LIFE TO RIGHTING WRONGS AND PUNISHING EVILDOERS--!

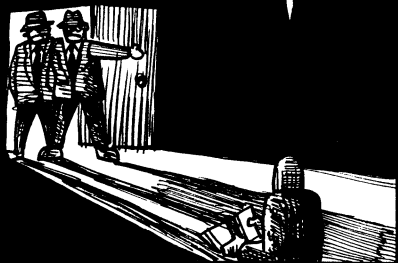
--AND I WAS GOING TO MEET HIM--! --WOWZERS!!

I SENSE A TRAP!

THIS IS JUST TOO EASY!

BUT... AT THAT MOMENT...

WELL, DID YOU ACCOMPLISH YOUR MISSION...?



YES... THE GIRL WAS TAKEN IN BY "MUNK" MAYDAY... WE ASSUME HE'S TAKING HER TO COUGAR!

EXCELLENT!



-I SEE MAYDAY THRASHED YOU...! I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO LET ROSE APPROACH HIM BY HERSELF--!

WE WERE...



... BUT THIS WILDCAT OF A KID WAS IN THE ROOM ABOVE MAYDAY'S WHEN WE BROKE IN...

YOU TOLD US THE APARTMENT WAS GONNA BE EMPTY...



YEAH! WHAT ABOUT THAT?!

I TOOK CARE OF THE TENANT WHO LIVED THERE LAST NIGHT... HIS BODY WILL TURN UP IN THE RIVER... --NOW, WHAT ABOUT THIS KID--?



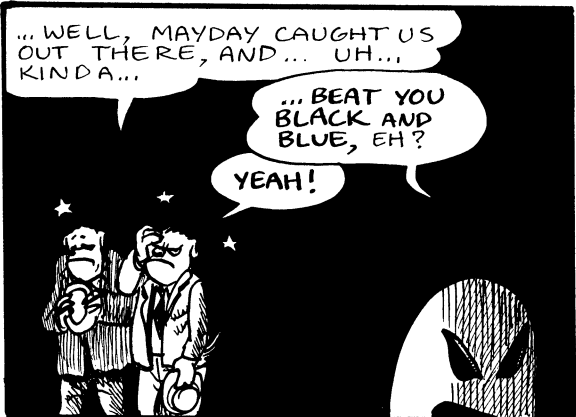
THE KID WAS OBVIOUSLY AN INTRUDER-- ANYWAY, HE GRABBED ROSE AND RAN-- AND WE HADDA CHASE HIM DOWN THE FIRE ESCAPE... AND...



... WELL, MAYDAY CAUGHT US OUT THERE, AND ... UH... KINDA...

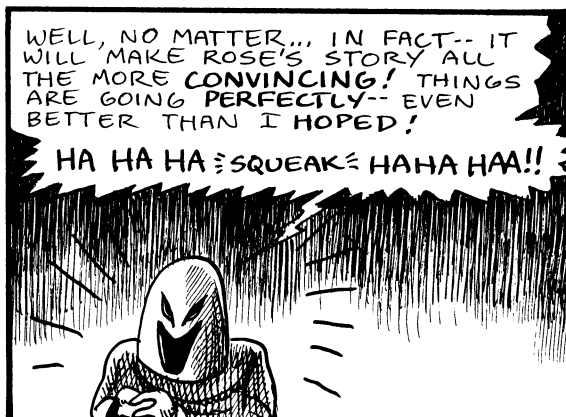
... BEAT YOU BLACK AND BLUE, EH?

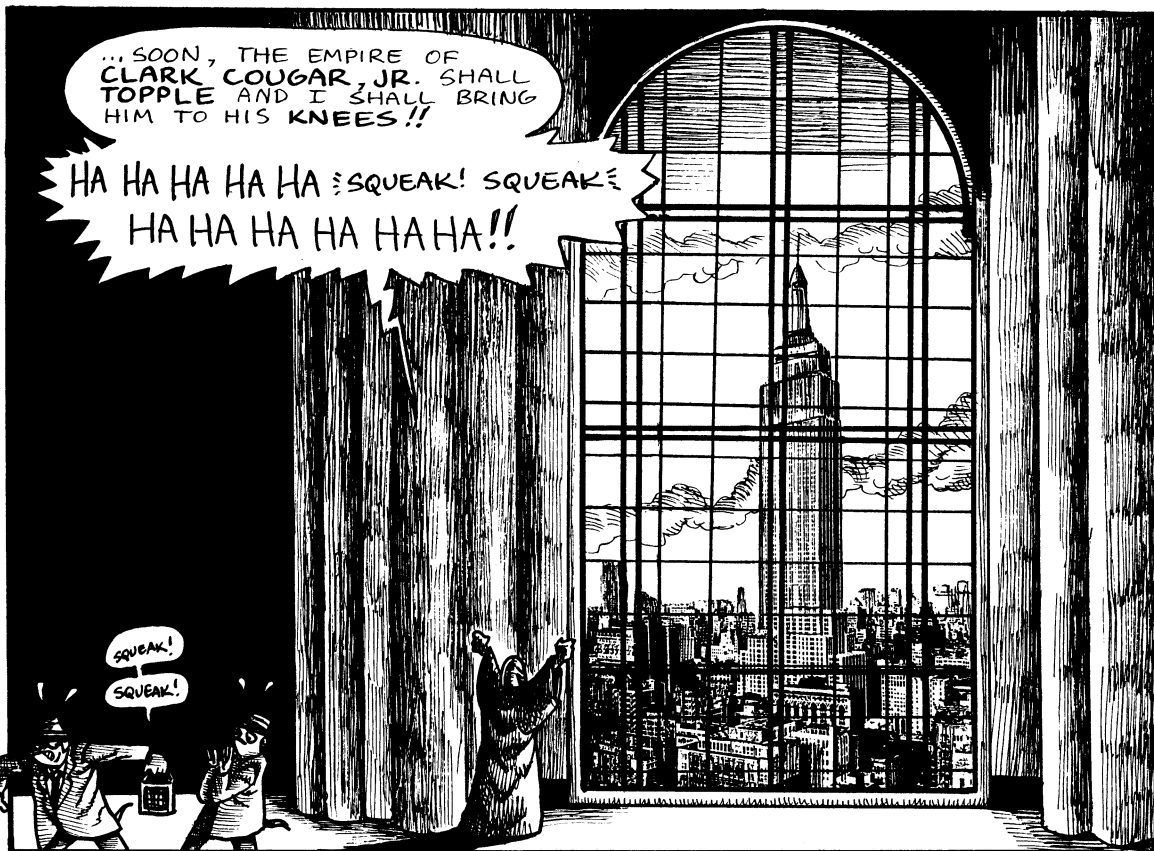
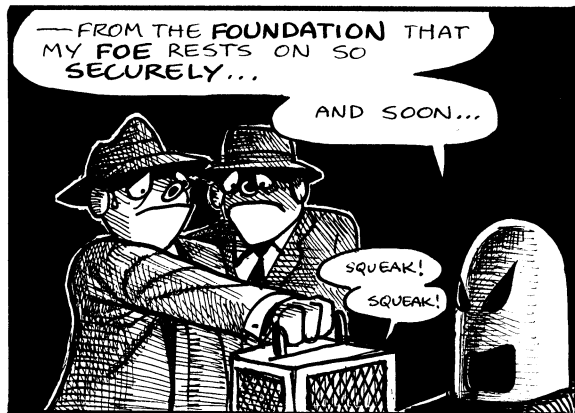
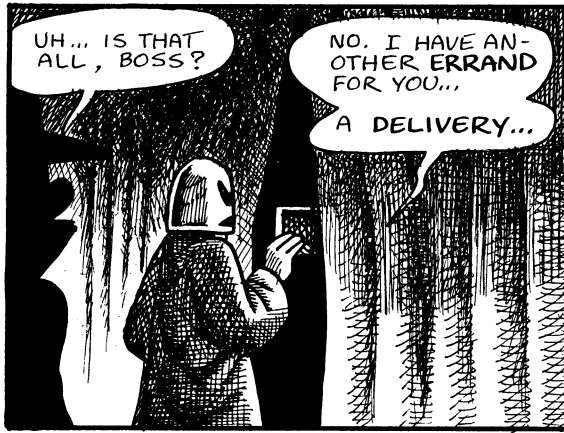
YEAH!



WELL, NO MATTER... IN FACT-- IT WILL MAKE ROSE'S STORY ALL THE MORE CONVINCING! THINGS ARE GOING PERFECTLY-- EVEN BETTER THAN I HOPED!

HA HA HA SQUEAK HAA HAA!!







DEER JOHN

LETTERS TO FURRLOUGH
7272 WURZBACH SUITE 204
SAN ANTONIO, TX, 78240

Dear AP:

I would like to start out by berating my fellow anthropomorphic fans out there for not writing to one of the #1 furry comic books in the industry - anthropomorphic fans are hard to find and publishing companies that cater to us are even harder to find. All of you fans out there deserve a kick in your collective butts (tails?) for not letting the publishers and staff of your favorite rabbits, foxes, skunks, etc. know how you feel and what a great job they are doing.

Now that that is out of the way, I can get down to some serious praising. I first discovered the anthropomorphic comic industry about two years ago when I picked up a copy of **Beauty of the Beasts**. I liked what I saw and eventually discovered titles like **Wild Life**, **Furrlough**, and **Genus** in an issue of **Previews**. I finally got around to ordering a few, as well as discovering a back copy or two in my local comic shop and I've been hooked ever since.

While I missed out on the first run of **Tank Vixens** and **Aztec Anthropomorphic Amazons**, I've heard enough good things about them to give 'em a try when the opportunity arises. I was able to catch **StarJacks** when it came out and I must disagree with Mr. Cohen entirely - the artwork was fine, the story was better than many movies I've seen and as for the skunk's

accent, it was just as good as Pepe Le Pew's and people have been loving him for 50 years.

In regards to **Furrlough** itself, I am really enjoying "Here Comes a Candle". The fairy-"tail" references are the most original storyline I have ever seen and the story itself is quite entertaining. "Zaibatsu Tears" also deserves mention - the artwork is fantastic and the plot and characters are straight out of a **Shadowrun** or **Cyberpunk** adventure. What has to be the best offering of **Furrlough**, though, is the little 1 to 3 page one-shot military comics - they never fail to give me and my ROTC buddies a good laugh.

As a side note, I noticed an ad in the back of **Furrlough** #22 dealing with someone named "Risuko". I don't know who this Risuko character is, but if the squirrel in the ad is returning as well, then I'm all for her return too.

Skunks have feelings too,
Sean A. Foltz
Linwood, PA

Dear **Furrlough**:

I just picked up **Furrlough** #23, the third anniversary issue. As an issue of **Furrlough** it was great as usual, as an anniversary issue I'm afraid it was lacking. All of the **Furrlough** regulars were good as usual, but that was all - #23 was simply a double sized **Furrlough**.

I enjoyed Shon Howell's

illustrations, the stories were as enjoyable as ever and the index of **Furrlough**'s past was a good idea. But since it was advertised as a special issue, I was hoping for more pinups and more of those one-shot stories like "One Rainy Night in a Foxhole", "Recoilless" etc.

Of the new features, I enjoyed John DiGiorgio and Chris Tennaro's "Risuko" the most - I even intend to ask for a **Furrlough** #9 in my next order from Mailbox Books. One thing about "Risuko" - and mond you, this is *not* a complaint, don't change a thing - but wouldn't her attire be more suitable for **Genus**? Do John and Chris have any independent works or material out on the market?

Skunks have feelings too,
Sean A. Foltz,
Linwood, PA

*Thanks for writing in, Sean!
It's always great to hear from our readers. In answer to your question, yes, John and Chris will be having a story in **Genus** #13, with another to follow in a later issue. Keep your eyes peeled for those, since they promise to be fun!*

And for the rest of you, keep those letters of comment coming! We always look forward to hearing our fans comments!

Next Issue: "Watering Hole" by Pat Kelley, "Here Comes a Candle" by Mary Hanson Roberts, and "Iron Panther" by Zimmerman and Teruel. See ya in 30!

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