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ANTHOLOGY

INSIDE:

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

FURRLOUGH



© M. SHAW '94

ANTARCTIC BLAST

MARCH 1995

... no pickles, though

Two bundles of joy were recently delivered to us here at the Antarctic Press. The first, **Ashley Elizabeth Dunn**, arrived on February 8, making proud parents of our big boss **Joe Dunn** and his wife, **Teresa Johnson**. In spite of taking after her father in looks, she's a beautiful child, and everyone who sees her is immediately smitten by her charms.

The second bundle showed up February 15, an offspring of our accountant: the 1994 financial statements of Antarctic Press. They gave ample cause for enthusiasm. Our 1994 sales revenues were up over **250%** from 1993, showing just how quickly we've been growing. While expenses have gone up at the same time (or else I'd be asking for a 250% salary increase!), the overall direction of the company was strongly up, in a year fraught with trouble for many other publishers, including several major publishing demises. We must be doing something right.

If we continue to prosper as a company, Ashley Elizabeth will grow up surrounded by comic books. She'll be constantly exposed to their bright colors, fanciful stories and imaginative art ... not to mention knowing first-hand all the fascinating people it takes to run an enterprise like this. I sure hope it doesn't warp her too much.



Herb Mallette

Editor in Chief

WARNING : SHAMELESS PLUG ZONE!

**THIS IS A COMMERCIAL VENTURE:
ALL SENSITIVE-TYPES STAY AWAY.
PREPARE FOR IMMEDIATE
BOMBARDMENT OF
A HYPE-KIND.**

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.



-Private Beach: Fun and Perils in the Trudyverse is this year's Sleeper Hit Comic...

AP Waseguy

"...and, when is the neighborhood, pick up a copy of **Carole Curtis' Katmandu**... with gorgeous art by Terrie Smith and Mark Burnard..."



GOLD DIGGER

... simply the most fun comic since you were a kid. Bar none."

**CHECK
OUT
ANTARCTIC
PRESS'
other
releases***

*subject to change

Gold Digger Trade Paperback Vol.1
Gold Digger Trade Paperback Vol.2
Gold Digger Magazine Special
F-111 Bandit #2
Private Beach #2
Ninja High School #45
Dodekain #5

Mangazine #38
Nightmare #5
Katmandu #4
Konny and Coo #4
Shanda #5
Tigers of Terra #9
Furrlough #27

Hibisc: Geobanner #8
Battle Binder Plus #5 (Venus)
Cheeta Pop #4 (Venus)
Genas #11 (Venus)
Bondage Fairies #6 (Venus, 2nd)
A-Bomb #6 (Venus)

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FURRLOUGH

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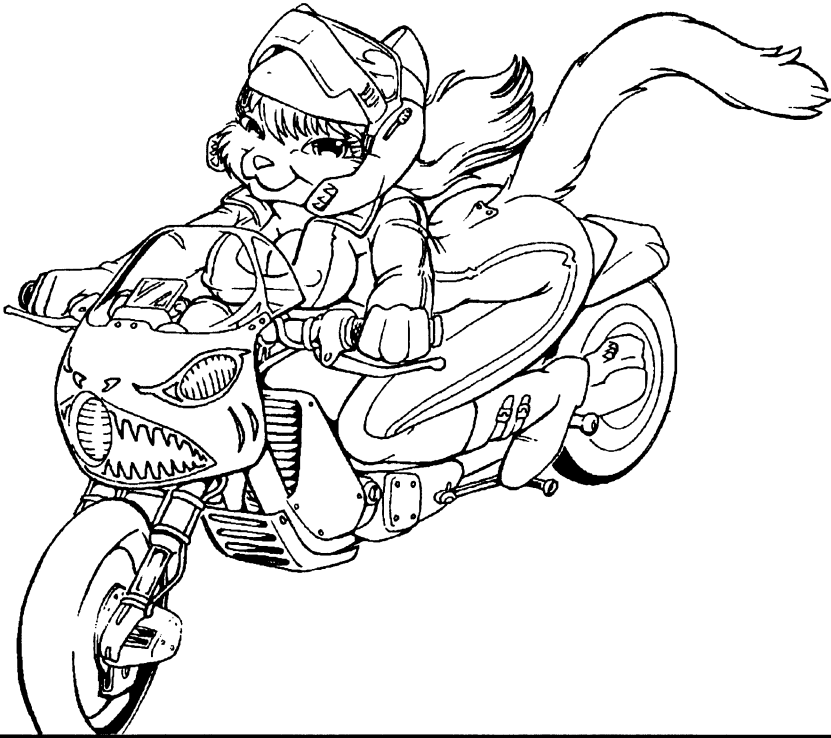


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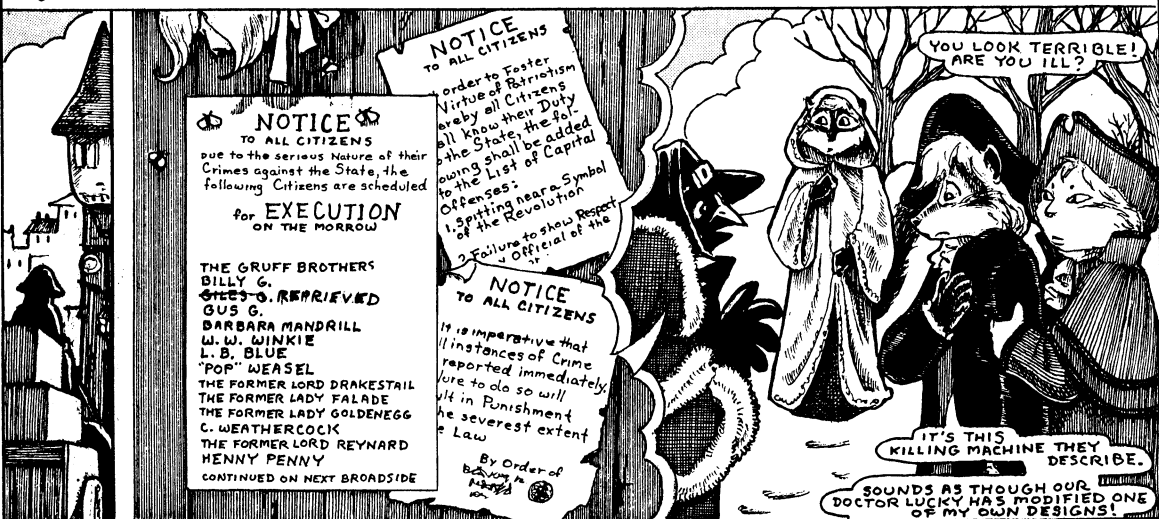
Publishers • Ben & Joe Dunn Editor • Elin Winkler

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Special Furry Consultant • Cog, the Ninja Kitty

Here Comes a Candle Part II by Mary Hanson-Roberts

THUS, THE STOUT CAPTAIN OF THE BOBBY SHAFTOE FINDS MANY OCCASIONS TO VISIT CLOUD ISLAND. AS ACCOUNTS FROM THE HOMELAND BECOME EVER MORE SINISTER, EVEN TINKER'S FAITH IS SHAKEN, AND NEDWIN FINDS HIS APPREHENSIONS GROWING UNENDURABLE.



ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?--

-- OH!

AND NOW, PRAY YOU, SHOULD I SHAKE HER-- AH!

NOT AGAIN!

YOU SHOULD NOT HAVE DONE THAT. BEULAH IS MY WIFE, TOO, AFTER ALL!

HOLD STILL, MY LOVE, AND I'LL HAVE IT BACK ON IN A MOMENT.

IF WE HAD A WIDER RIBBON--!

YOU HATE IT, DON'T YOU?

NO! NO, I LOVE YOU THIS WAY! AND IT'S SO FASHIONABLE NOW!

AND NOW I FIND YOU WITH THIS HUSSY!

LISETTE, YOU MUSTN'T SHAKE HER SO--

IDIOTS-- ANYTHING TO BE IN STYLE.

DON'T GO TO PIECES, MY LOVE--

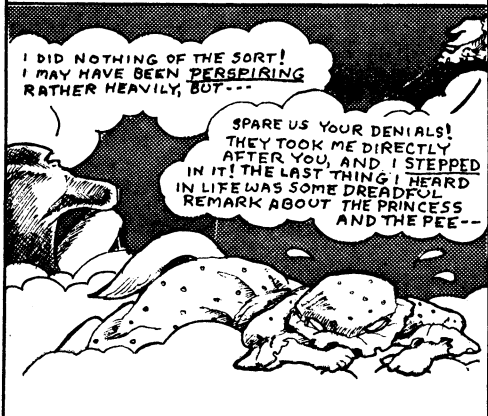
GRACIOUS! SOMEONE GOT UP ON THE WRONG SIDE OF HER SARCOPHAGUS! I SUPPOSE SOME OF US CAN WEAR THE NEW LOOK AND SOME OF US CANNOT. RIGHT, LADY BOUFFANT?

OH, YOU NEEDN'T GIVE YOURSELF AIRS--- YOU WEREN'T VERY COURAGEOUS ON THE BLOCK, YOU KNOW.

WELL, DID YOU SEE WHERE THEY EXPECTED ME TO PUT MY NECK? IT WAS ACTUALLY STICKY! I BELIEVE I DIED OF DISGUST BEFORE THE BLADE EVEN FELL.

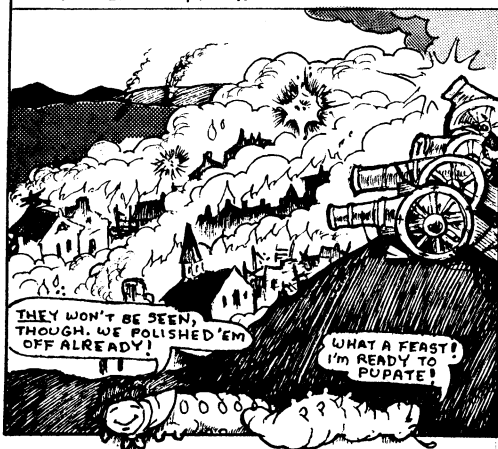
OF FRIGHT, DON'T YOU MEAN. AS I RECALL, YOU WET YOURSELF!

THUS, LISETTE'S ATTENTION IS ELSEWHERE AT A CRITICAL TIME FOR HER SONS.



TIME PASSES SWIFTLY FOR THE LIVING. THE CAPITAL IS GROWN SO VIRTUOUS NOW, THERE ARE SOME WHO SPECULATE THAT THE ONLY COURSE OPEN TO THOSE IN CHARGE, IS TO BEGIN PURIFYING ONE ANOTHER.

IN THE COUNTRY SIDE, THERE REMAIN ROYALIST ENCLAVES, AND COMMUNITIES DISENCHANTED WITH THE DIRECTION THE REVOLUTION HAS TAKEN. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THESE BE TAUGHT THE ERROR OF THEIR WAYS! THE HAPLESS EXTRAS OF PAGE 107 SHALL NOT HAVE DIED FOR THE CAUSE IN VAIN! TO THAT END, A FEW THOUSAND MORE ARE DISPATCHED INTO THE AFTERLIFE, TO KEEP THEM COMPANY.



A MORE WORRISOME HINDRANCE IS THEIR SUPERANNUATED MAYOR, HUBBARD, AT A LOSS TO COMPREHEND THE NEW SYSTEM, IS UNWILLING TO CHANGE HIS TRADITIONAL WAYS.



FIRST, HOWEVER, DUTY DEMANDS THEY TURN THEIR GAZE FARTHER AFIELD, WHERE POCKETS OF DISCONTENT STILL THREATEN THE COMMON GOOD---



WITH SUSPICION EVERYWHERE, THE OFFICIALS OF TUFFET-ON-THE-GREEN SEE THE NECESSITY OF PROVING THEIR DEDICATION ONCE AND FOR ALL. THEY HAVE ALREADY MUSTERED AND OUTFITED A LARGE NUMBER OF HOME-GUARDS, BUT THE GUARDS ARE EITHER TOO OLD OR TOO YOUNG FOR REGULAR MILITARY DUTY, AND HARDLY SHOW THE TOWN IN ITS BEST LIGHT.



WHILE HUBBARD DOES NOTHING BUT TALK, THE TOWN COULD BE PUT UNDER MARTIAL LAW--

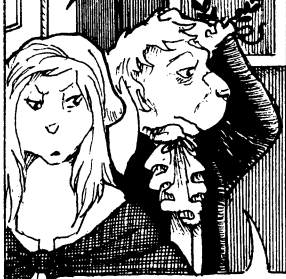


IN THE CAPITAL, THEY'RE BEGINNING TO DOUBT THE LOYALTY OF THIS TOWN!

WHY?



YOU'VE HAD NO SUBVERSIVES ARRESTED, AND YOUR EXECUTIONER IS ACTUALLY GROWING MOSS!



NO, NO, HE'S SUPPOSED TO BE GREEN. BESIDES, HE RETIRED YEARS AGO, AND WE SIMPLY HADN'T NEEDED TO HIRE ANOTHER.



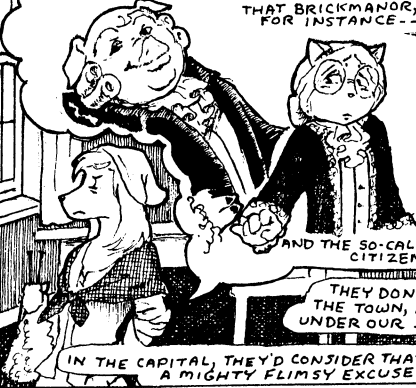
ALL THE SAME, IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE PROTECTING THE CRIMINALS.

THAT'S ABSURD! WE ALL SUPPORTED THE REVOLUTION, EVEN FOUGHT FOR THE CAUSE!



AND AS FOR CRIMINALS, WHAT HAVE WE? SOME PETTY THIEVES, A DRUNKEN BRAWLER OR TWO?

YOU'RE SHELTERING KNOWN OPPRESSORS AND THEIR LACKEYS:



THAT BRICKMANOR, FOR INSTANCE--

AND THE SO-CALLED CITIZEN THOMAS.

THEY DON'T LIVE IN THE TOWN, AND AREN'T UNDER OUR JURISDICTION!

IN THE CAPITAL, THEY'D CONSIDER THAT A MIGHTY FLIMSY EXCUSE!

SIGH I'LL CALL A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL.



WE COULD APPPOINT A COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE SITUATION.

Thus it came about that Hubbard, who had called this Meeting, was the only one unaware of its actual Purpose.

HUBBARD'S THROUGH. HE JUST DOESN'T KNOW IT YET.



JUST FOLLOW MY LEAD, AND YOU'LL HAVE HIM OUT DIRECTLY.

BUT TECHNICALLY, YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO BE HERE. YOU ARE NO MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL--

WELL, THE OLD GRAY MAYOR, HE AIN'T WHAT HE USED TO BE.

AND HE IS AN ELECTED OFFICIAL--

LET THIS CONVINCE YOU, DICKIE BIRD! IF SOMETHING HAPPENS TO THE MAYOR, WHO'S TO TAKE HIS PLACE?



THE HEAD OF THE TOWN COUNCIL--?

OH, THAT'S ME!

WELL! OUR DUTY TO THE PUBLIC DEMANDS WE OUST THAT OLD DO-NOTHING!



MY FRIENDS! ARE YOU TIRED OF HAVING THAT PESKY UPPER CLASS UNDERFOOT? BOTHERED BY THOSE DISSENTERS AND COUNTER-REVOLUTIONARIES? ENEMIES OF THE STATE GETTING YOU DOWN? WELL, SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR TROUBLES WHEN YOU SAY HELLO TO THE EVER-AFTER MACHINE! YES, FRIENDS, THIS ALL-PURPOSE CONTROL DEVICE IS THE ANSWER; IT SLICES, IT DICES, IT CHOPS, IT WHACKS THE NOGGIN' OFF YOUR PEENING FOP IN LESS THAN HALF THE TIME! AND SO SIMPLE, EVEN A CHILD CAN OPERATE IT! HOW MUCH WOULD YOU PAY FOR A GEM LIKE THIS? BUT WAIT-- BEFORE YOU ANSWER, THERE'S MORE!

IF YOU ORDER NOW, I'LL THROW IN, AT ABSOLUTELY NO EXTRA CHARGE, THIS FINELY-CRAFTED BASKET! IT'S GUARANTEED NOT TO SPILL OR TIP AND THAT MEANS NO MESS TO CLEAN UP LATER! BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE--

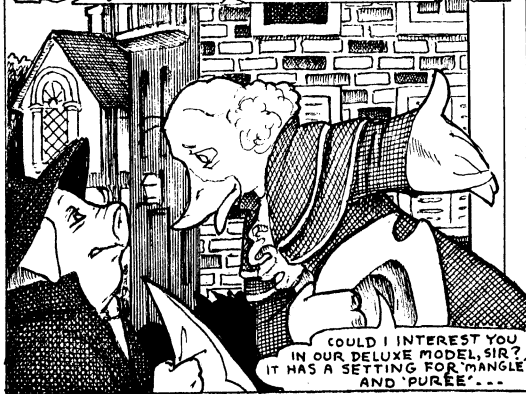
THAT'S RIGHT, DOCTOR LUCKY, AND DON'T FORGET, FOLKS, THIS AMAZING PRODUCT IS ALL THE RAGE IN THE CAPITAL.

Some Assembly Required





Citizen Twigshack was Dispatched to authorize the Purchase of the Device



COULD I INTEREST YOU IN OUR DELUXE MODEL, SIR? IT HAS A SETTING FOR 'MANGLE' AND 'PUREE'---

At which Time, Lawyer Hamelin arrived.

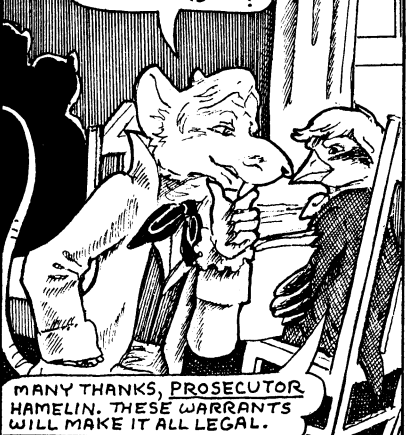


I JUST MET TWIGSHACK OUTSIDE-- HE TOLD ME OUR MAYOR'S BEEN ARRESTED! THIS IS AN OUTRAGE!

CHUT!-- HAMELIN, IT'S GOOD HE WAS ARRESTED!

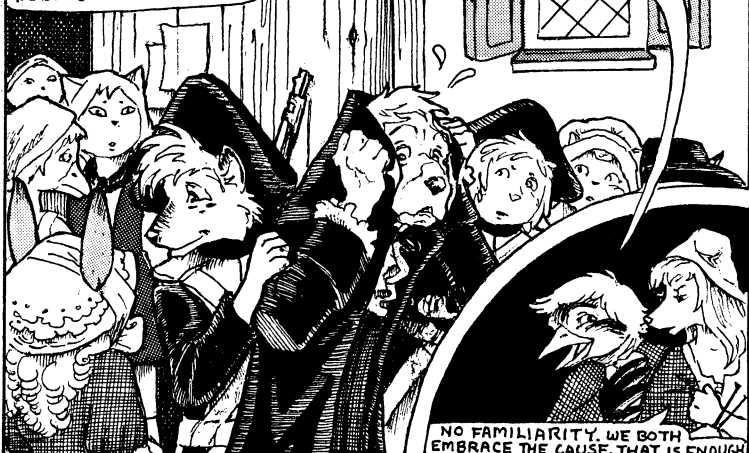


AS I WAS SAYING, IT'S AN OUTRAGE FOR THAT HANDLICKING DOTARD TO HAVE AVOIDED JUSTICE FOR SO LONG! MY CONGRATULATIONS--- MAYOR DICKYBIRD---



MANY THANKS, PROSECUTOR HAMELIN. THESE WARRANTS WILL MAKE IT ALL LEGAL.

LET OUR HOME-GUARDS MAKE THEMSELVES USEFUL, GATHERING UP THESE PUBLIC ENEMIES---



AND I PROMISE YOU, OUR FRIENDS IN THE CAPITAL WILL FIND NOTHING TO COMPLAIN OF, IN ME!

NO FAMILIARITY. WE BOTH EMBRACE THE CAUSE, THAT IS ENOUGH

I MEANT NO OFFENSE-- THE EXCITEMENT OF THE MOMENT.

YOU SEE, MY GREAT-GREAT GRANDPARENTS ARE VINDICATED AT LAST!

THEY WERE AMONG FOUR-AND-TWENTY MARTYRS, BAKED INTO A PIE!

---AND THAT, FOR A KING'S PLEASURE.

---TEACH THEE TO PICK OUR MAID'S NOSE, THOU NASTY THING!

PECKED! I DID BUT PECK-- SNIVEL



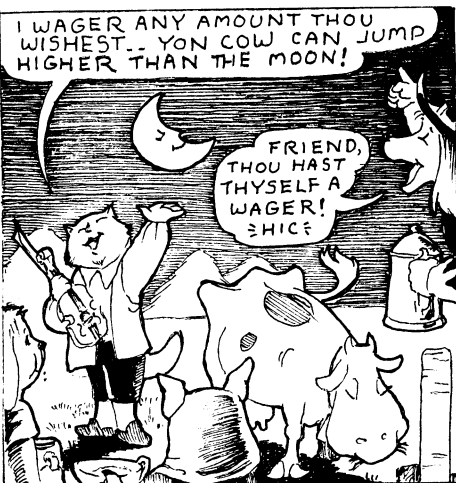
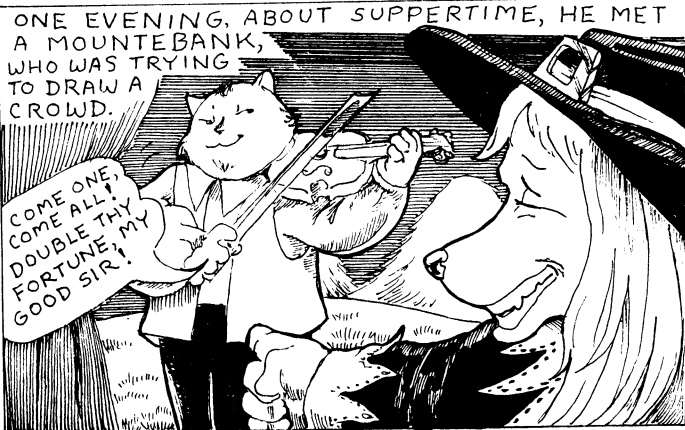
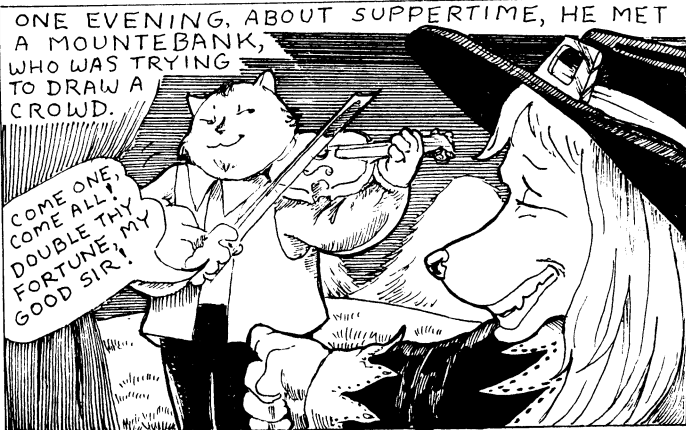
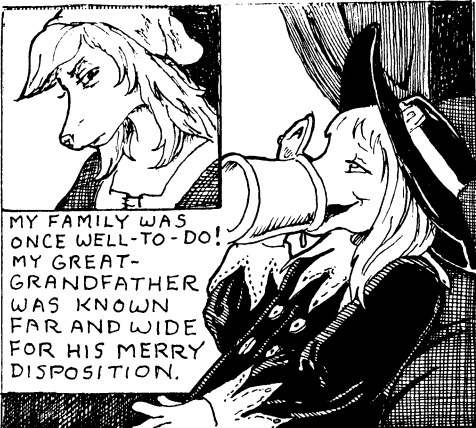
IN THEIR MEMORY, I'LL SOON SEE THE LAST SYMBOLS OF THAT EVIL OLD ORDER OBLITERATED!

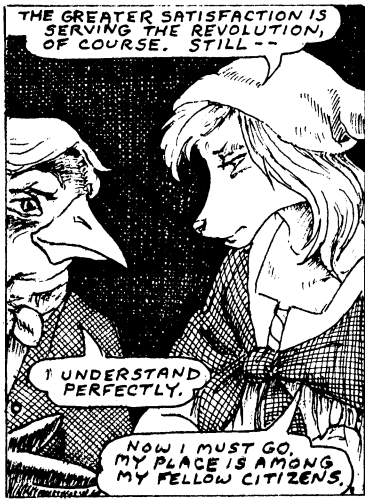
SURELY YOU CAN UNDERSTAND MY ELATION.



I CAN.

A HAPPY CIRCUMSTANCE LEADS RETRIBUTION TO THE DOOR OF AN OLD ENEMY OF MY OWN.





THE GREATER SATISFACTION IS SERVING THE REVOLUTION, OF COURSE. STILL --

I UNDERSTAND PERFECTLY.

NOW I MUST GO. MY PLACE IS AMONG MY FELLOW CITIZENS.



WHAT A PATRIOT!

-- NICE FIGURE, TOO.



THE CHARISMATIC REFORMER IS QUICKLY ABLE TO STIR A REACTION AMONG THE CROWD GATHERED OUTSIDE---

CITIZEN HUBBARD IS NO BETTER THAN A TRAITOR!

THE SAME FATE TO ALL WHO LACK THE ZEAL TO DEFEND THEIR COUNTRY!



SUCH A CROWD HAS ALREADY USED VIOLENCE TO GAIN ITS ENDS. NOT AS BLOODTHIRSTY AS THE MOB IN THE CAPITAL, THESE TOWNSFOLK, BUT FAST LEARNERS.

OUR OPPRESSORS ARE YET AMONG US, BUT WE ENDURE THIS NO LONGER! TODAY, WE DELIVER THEM TO JUSTICE!

AND ALL THAT LOOT IN THEIR MANSIONS WILL JUST BE CONFISCATED--- UNLESS WE GET THERE FIRST!

JUSTICE AND LOOT?

BRICKMANOR'S CLOSEST; WE CAN CLEAN IT OUT IN NO TIME!

ON TO BRICKMANOR!



TOLD YOU A CROWD'S HEADED FOR BRICKMANOR. WE HAS THE WARRANTS, WANT TO STOP 'EM?

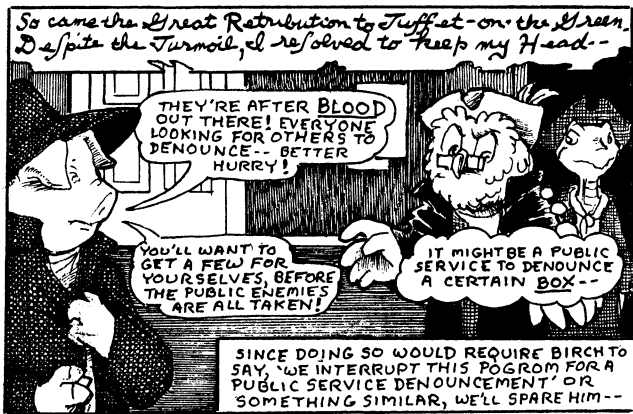
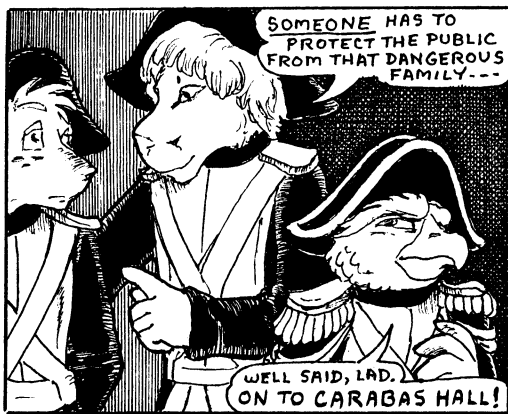
I THINK NOT. LET THEM DO SOME OF OUR WORK FOR US, WHILE WE MAKE FOR CARABAS HALL.

CARABAS HALL! AW, THAT'S MILES OFF. WE'LL BE WALKING ALL AFTERNOON!

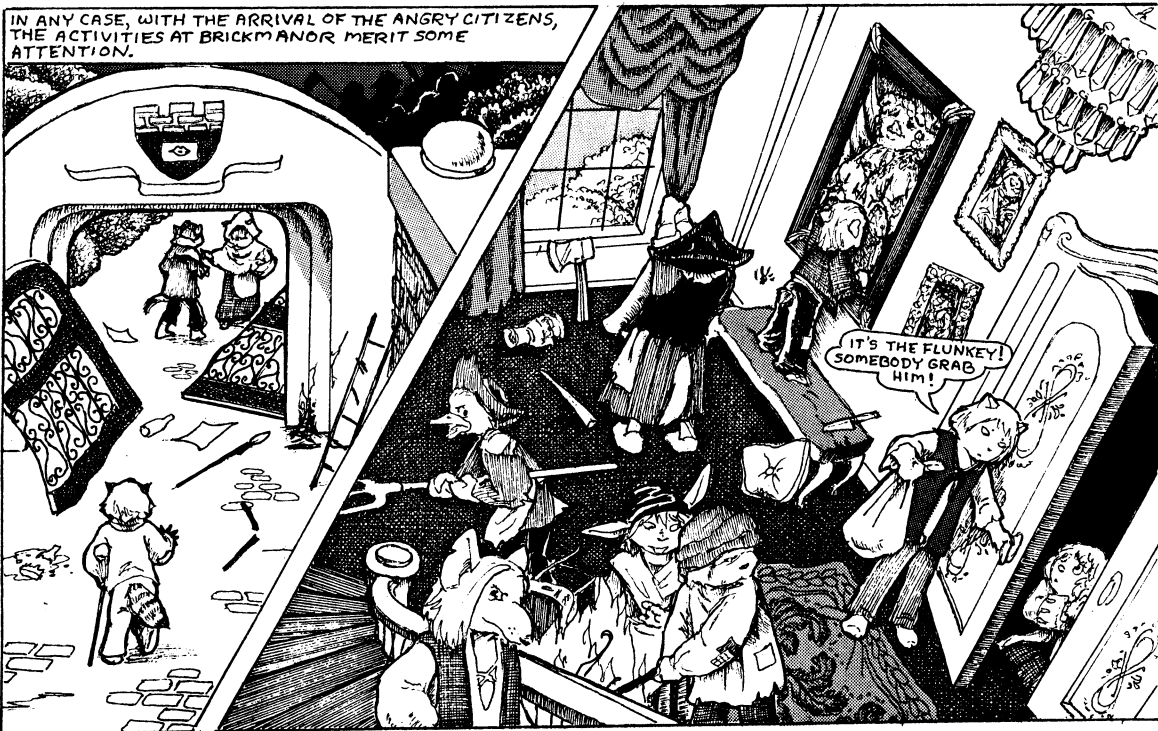
WHOSE FAULT IS THAT, WITH ALL THE HORSES DEAD OR WOUNDED?

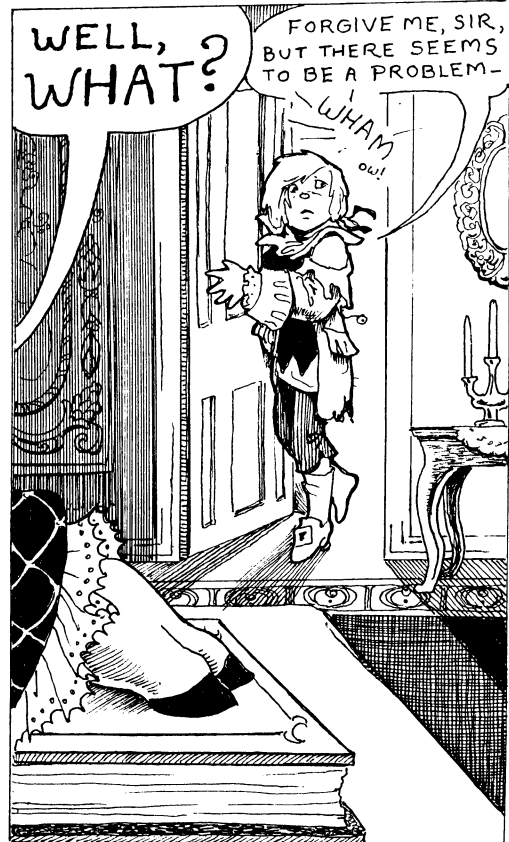
IT'S NOT A HARD CHOICE. WE CAN CONFRONT A GATHERING OF ANGRY CITIZENS--

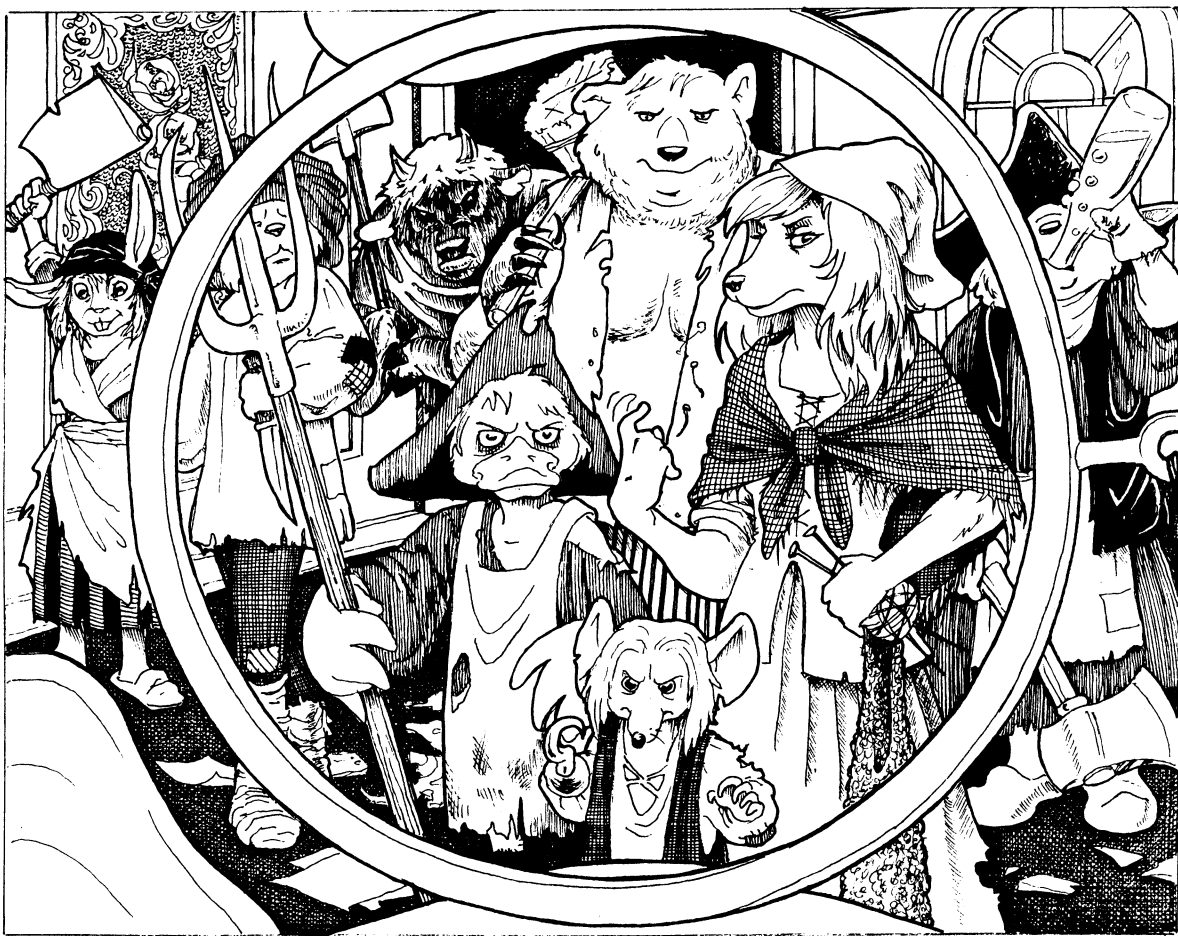
-- OR TAKE BY SURPRISE A SMALL FAMILY INSIDE THEIR HOME.



IN ANY CASE, WITH THE ARRIVAL OF THE ANGRY CITIZENS, THE ACTIVITIES AT BRICKMANOR MERIT SOME ATTENTION.



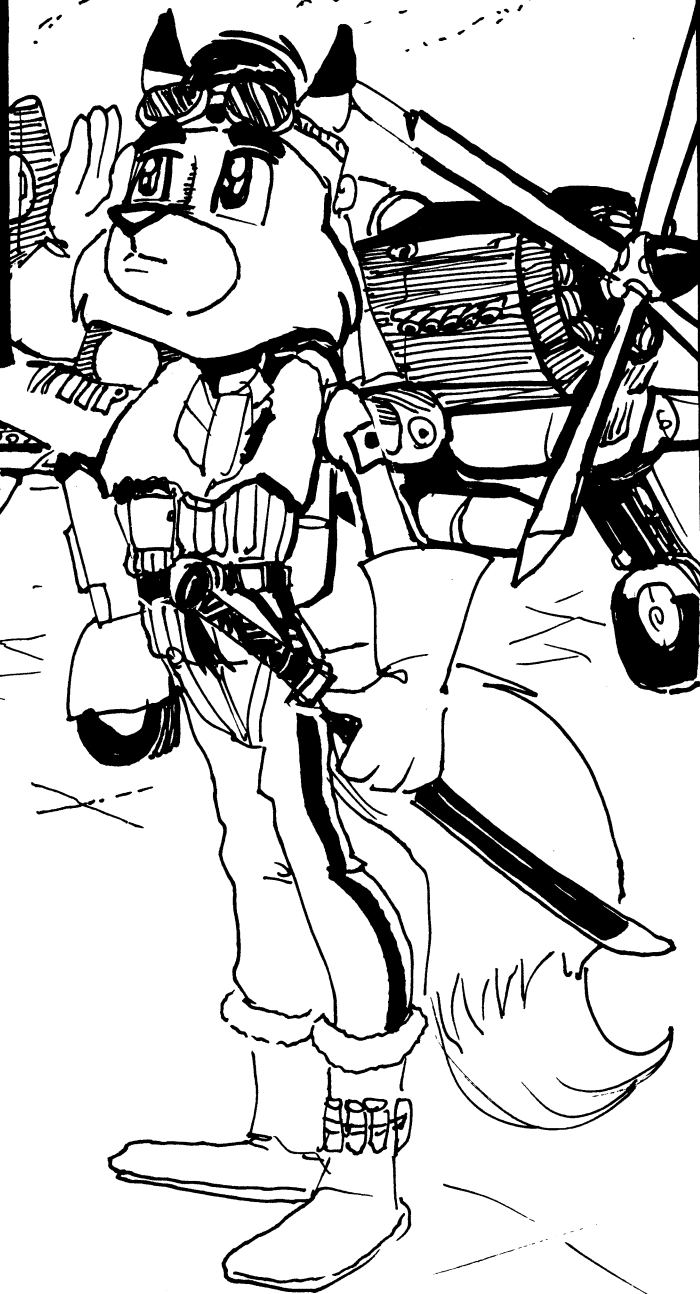




青報星期日

寫真週報

★
空軍
班長



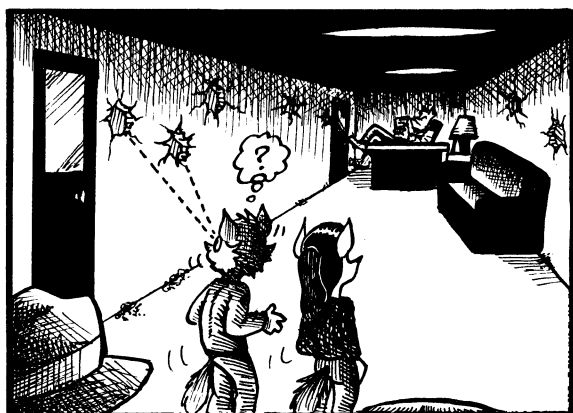
Walter Kitty BRONZE FUR

Chapter Two: The Cat of Bronze

SO, WHERE WAS I--? OH, YES...
HAMM BUTTS AND MUNK MAYDAY
WERE TAKING ROSE AND ME
TO DOC COUGARS HEADQUARTERS
IN DEPRESSION-ERA NEW YAWK'S
TALLEST SKYSCRAPER...



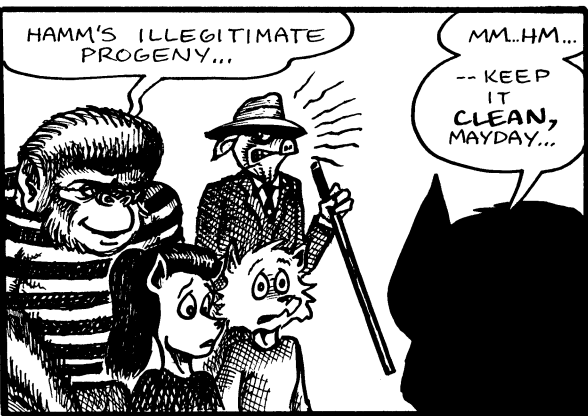
ON THE 86TH FLOOR...



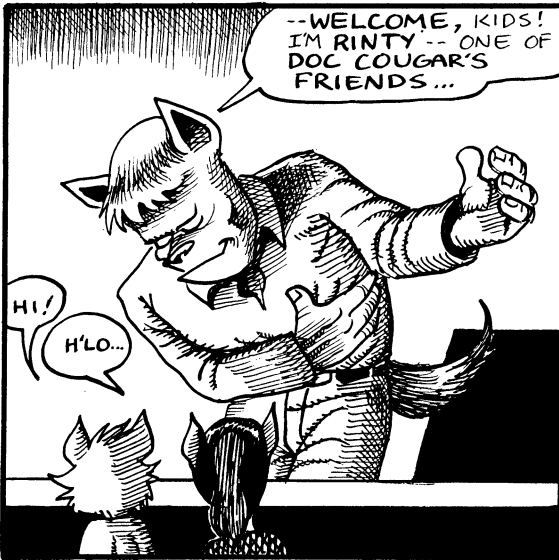
H'LO MUNK... HAMM...
WHO'RE THE KIDS?

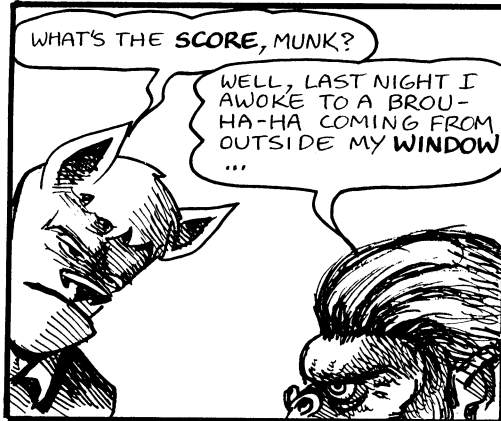


HAMM'S ILLEGITIMATE
PROGENY...



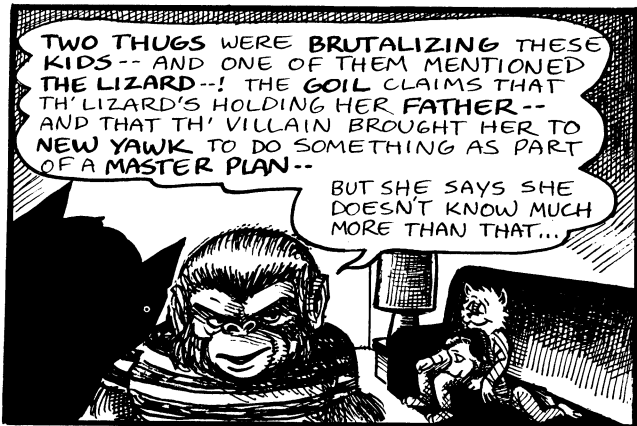
MM..HM...
-- KEEP
IT
CLEAN,
MAYDAY...





WHAT'S THE SCORE, MUNK?

WELL, LAST NIGHT I AWOKE TO A BROU-HA-HA COMING FROM OUTSIDE MY WINDOW ...



TWO THUGS WERE BRUTALIZING THESE KIDS-- AND ONE OF THEM MENTIONED THE LIZARD--! THE GOIL CLAIMS THAT TH' LIZARD'S HOLDING HER FATHER-- AND THAT TH' VILLAIN BROUGHT HER TO NEW YAWK TO DO SOMETHING AS PART OF A MASTER PLAN--

BUT SHE SAYS SHE DOESN'T KNOW MUCH MORE THAN THAT...



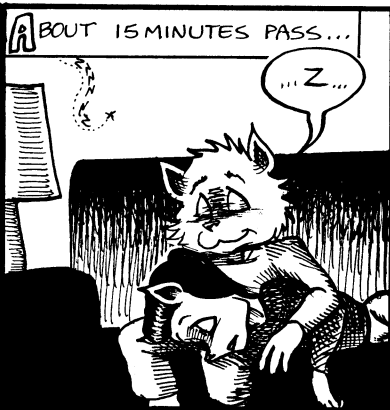
C'MON-- SO IS THEIR BOSS A BIG LIZARD, OR WHAT?!

COULD BE!



ANYWAY, I THOUGHT DOC SHOULD QUESTION HER...

GOOD IDEA... HE'LL BE BACK SOON...

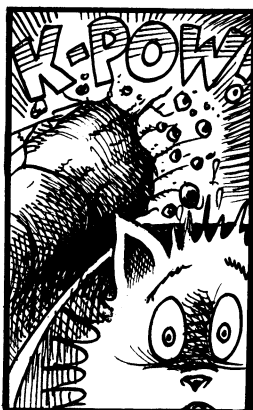


ABOUT 15 MINUTES PASS...

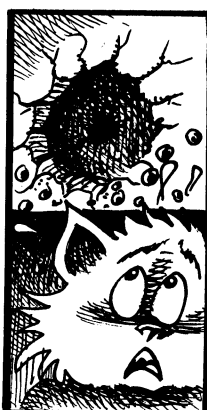
...Z...



Z...



K-POW



SORRY, KID-- MOSQUITOS-- I HATE EM!



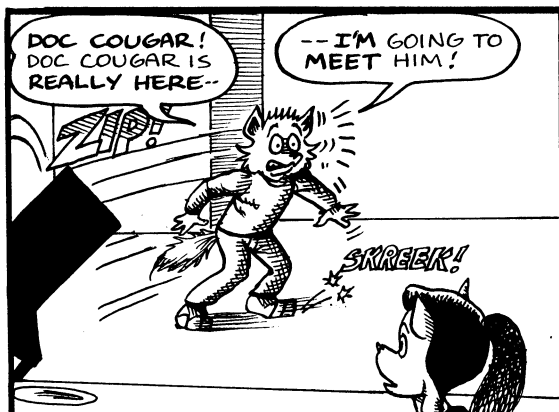
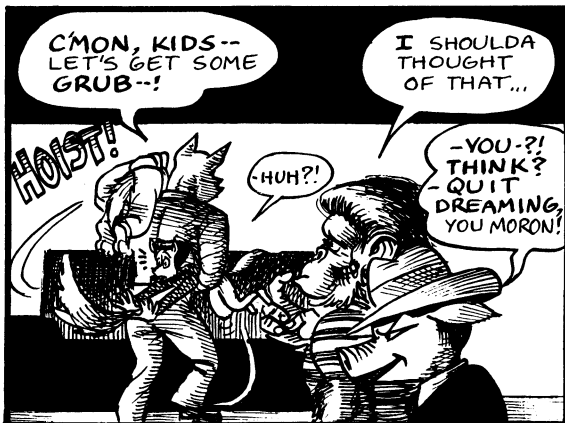
KID! KID! ARE YOU O.K.? I DIDN'T MEAN TO SCARE YA!

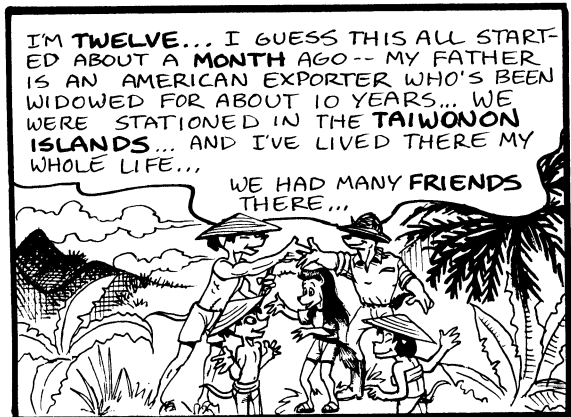
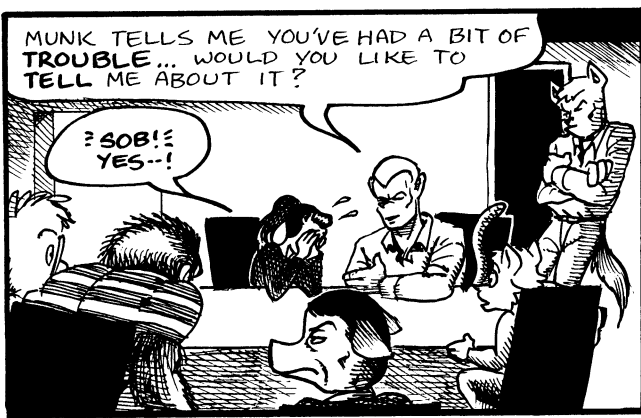
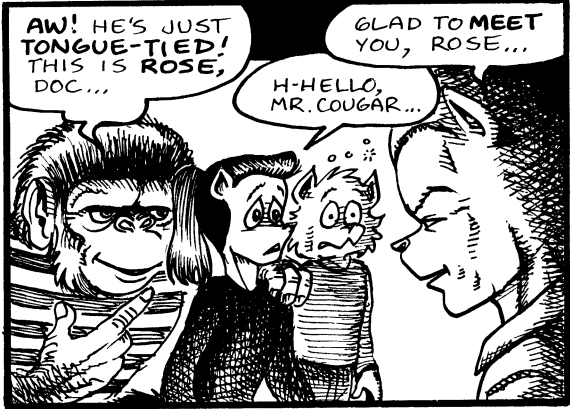
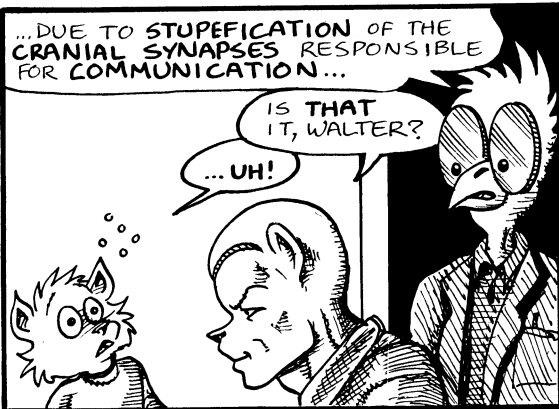
-WAY TO GO, RINTY--!



...Y'KNOW... FLY-SWATTERS ARE CHEAP-- AND THEY DON'T LEAVE BIG HOLES IN THE WALLS--!

AW, I THINK THESE KIDS ARE JUST MALNOURISHED! THEY'RE WEAK FROM HUNGER!

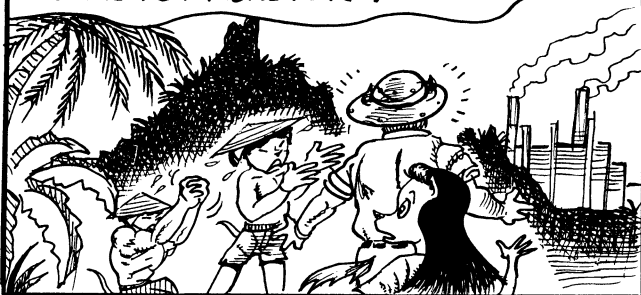




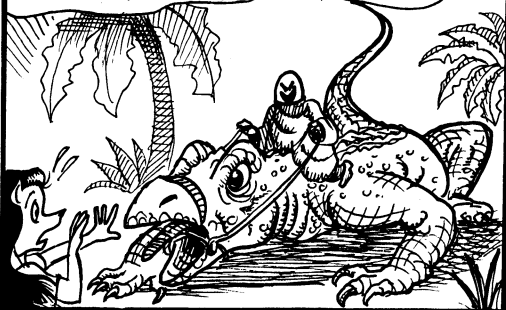
BUT HE DECIDED TO CHECK IT OUT ANYWAY... AND I INSISTED ON GOING TOO... -- I WISH WE HAD MINDED OUR OWN BUSINESS--!



WE FOUND A STRANGE FACTORY ON THE ISLAND, --AND THE NATIVES WERE ENSLAVED-- BUT IT GOT EVEN WEIRDER WHEN WE WERE DISCOVERED BY THE ISLAND'S MASTER-- AND HIS PET MONSTER--!



IT WAS A GIGANTIC LIZARD-- AS BIG AS A BOAT! AND RIDING ATOP IT WAS A MAN WEARING A HOOD...!



HE CALLED HIMSELF THE "SQUEAKING LIZARD"--! HE WAS AN EVIL, HORRIBLE MAN! HE THREW US BOTH INTO A CELL AND THREATENED US WITH A PAINFUL, POISONOUS DEATH--!

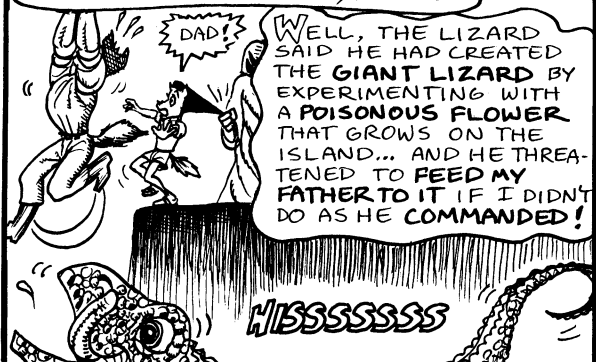


A GIANT LIZARD?! A FACTORY? WHAT IN BLAZES IS THIS LEADING TO?!

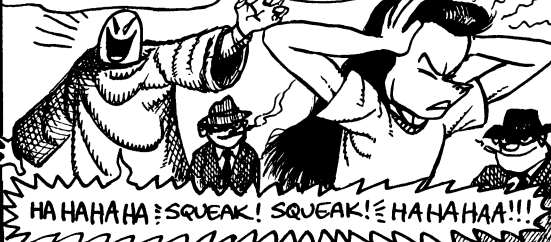
QUIET, MUNK!



THEN WHAT HAPPENED, ROSE?



SO THE LIZARD BROUGHT ME TO NEW YAWK WITH HIM! HE HAS A PLAN TO DESTROY SOMEONE HERE-- BUT HE NEVER REVEALED WHO--! AND THOSE SQUEAKING LIZARD MURDERS... THEY'RE PART OF HIS PLAN-- BUT THAT'S REALLY ALL I KNOW...



ROSE!--WAIT! AREN'T YOU AFRAID THAT NOW THAT YOU'VE ESCAPED FROM THE LIZARD'S CLUTCHES -- THAT HE'LL KILL YOUR FATHER IN REVENGE--?!

OH, NO, WALTER...





--BECAUSE I'M DOING EXACTLY WHAT HE TOLD ME TO DO--!

HUH?

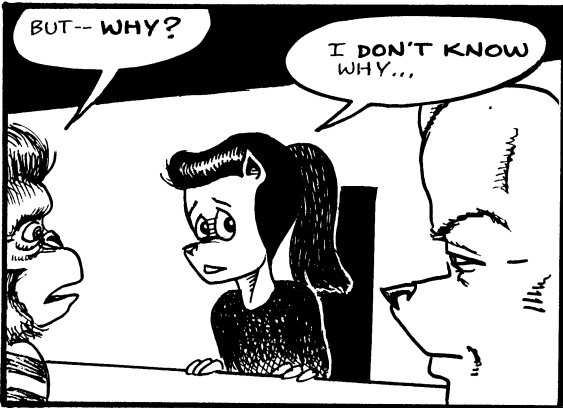
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, GOIL?



WHAT? BUT--

THAT'S RIGHT!

I BELIEVE ROSE MEANS THAT THE LIZARD WANTED YOU TO COME TO HER RESCUE, MUNK-- IN ORDER TO HAVE YOU BRING HER TO ME!



BUT-- WHY?

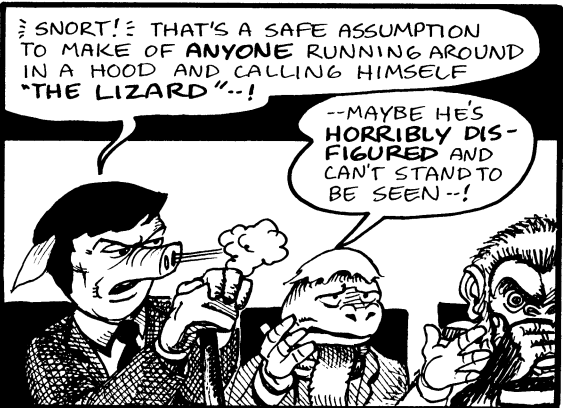
I DON'T KNOW WHY...



...HE JUST WANTED ME TO TELL YOU WHAT I KNEW -- EVERYTHING--!

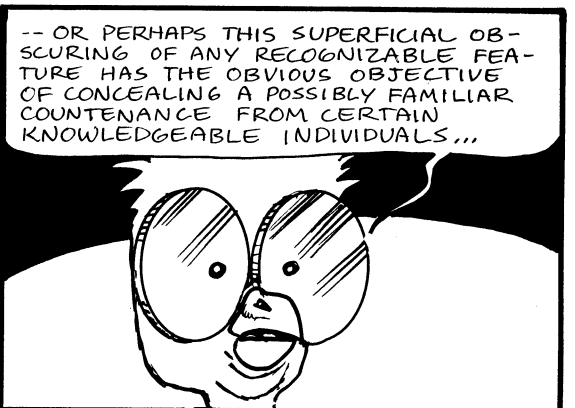
--IT'S PART OF THE LIZARD'S PLAN!

THIS GUY'S A RAVING MANIAC!



≡ SNORT! ≡ THAT'S A SAFE ASSUMPTION TO MAKE OF ANYONE RUNNING AROUND IN A HOOD AND CALLING HIMSELF "THE LIZARD"--!

--MAYBE HE'S HORRIBLY DIS-FIGURED AND CAN'T STAND TO BE SEEN--!



-- OR PERHAPS THIS SUPERFICIAL OB-SCURING OF ANY RECOGNIZABLE FEATURE HAS THE OBVIOUS OBJECTIVE OF CONCEALING A POSSIBLY FAMILIAR COUNTEenance FROM CERTAIN KNOWLEDGEABLE INDIVIDUALS...



... AND THIS IS JONNY...

JONATHAN HARKER LITTLEBEAK, AT YOUR SERVICE!

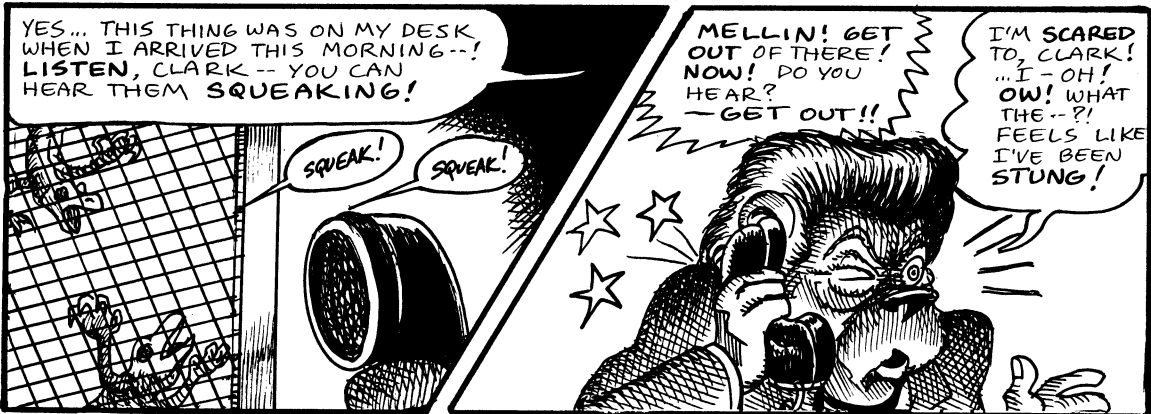
...UH, HI!

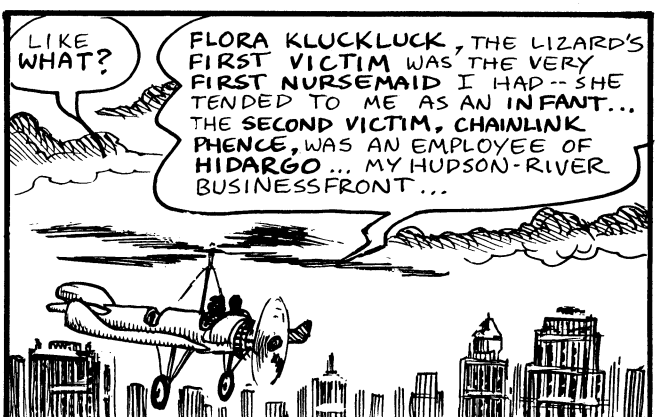
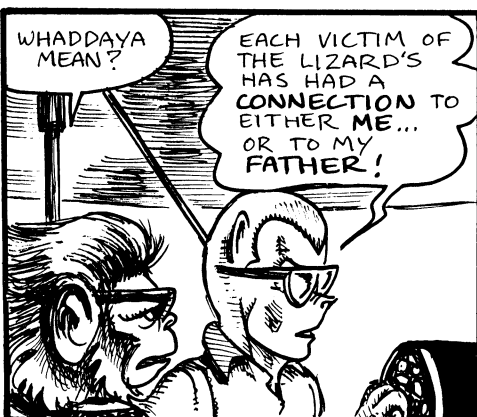
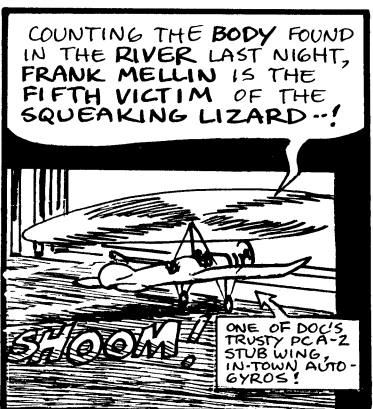
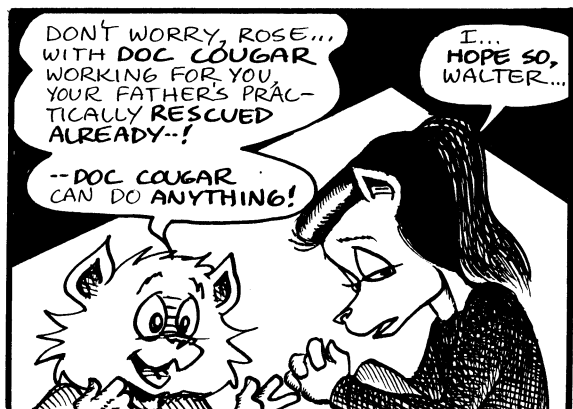
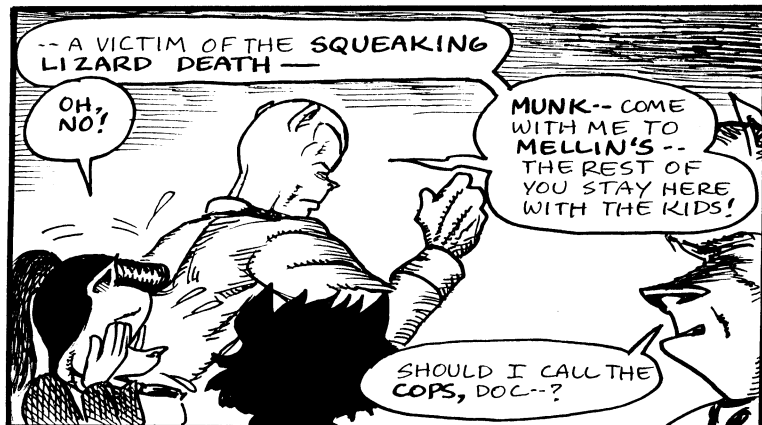


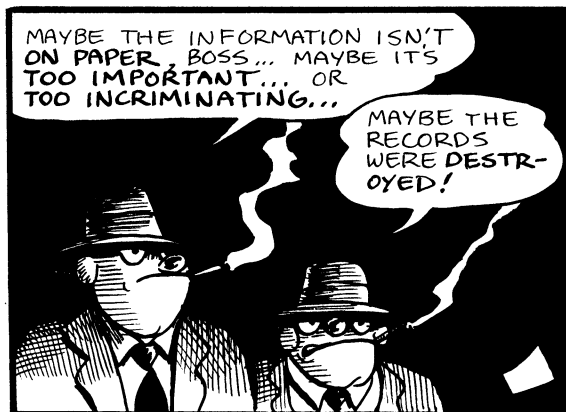
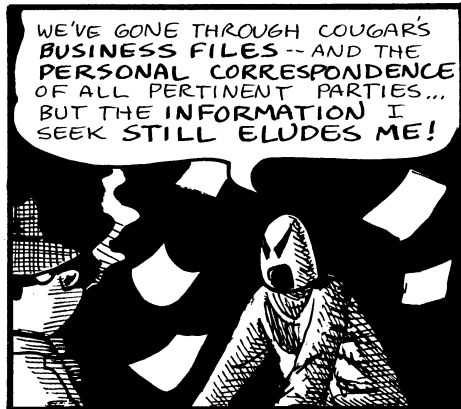
EXCUSE ME A MOMENT... I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH MR. MELLIN-- THAT I'M NOW... SIX MIN-UTES LATE FOR! I'D BETTER CALL HIM...

MR. MELLIN?

...TRUSTED OVERSEER OF DOC'S BUSINESS-ES...









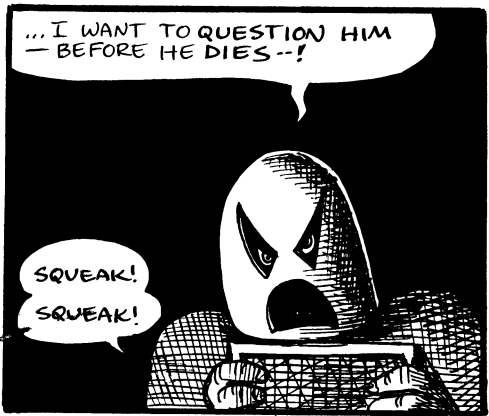
--GIRD YOURSELVES, BOYS... I HAVE ANOTHER DELIVERY FOR YOU TO MAKE...

:GULP:~

BUT THIS TIME I'M COMING, TOO!



... TO HIRAM SOWLES, CLARK COUGAR SENIORS' CLOSEST FRIEND AND ATTORNEY ... AND ALMOST A FATHER TO CLARK JUNIOR, NOW THAT THE OLD MAN IS GONE...



... I WANT TO QUESTION HIM -- BEFORE HE DIES --!

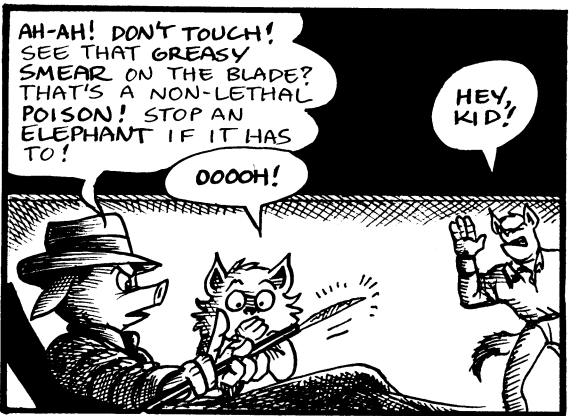
SQUEAK!
SQUEAK!



MEANWHILE, BACK AT DOC'S H.Q. ...

... AND I JUST PRESS THIS STUD AND PRESTO!

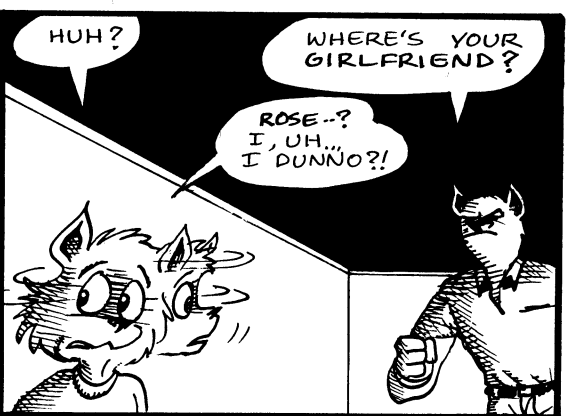
OOH! A SWORD CANE!



AH-AH! DON'T TOUCH! SEE THAT GREASY SMEAR ON THE BLADE? THAT'S A NON-LETHAL POISON! STOP AN ELEPHANT IF IT HAS TO!

HEY, KID!

OOOOH!



HUH?

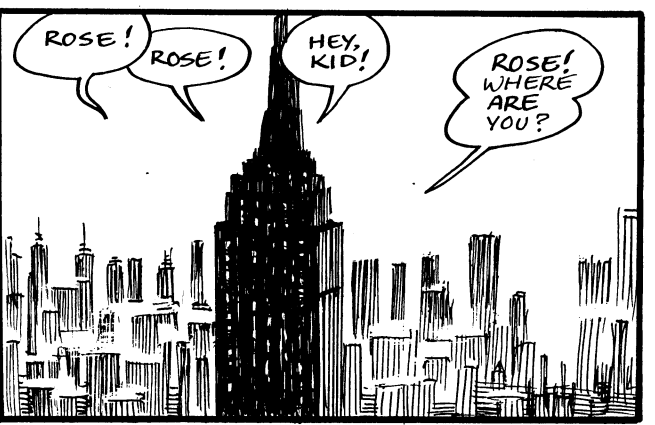
WHERE'S YOUR GIRLFRIEND?

ROSE--?
I, UH... I DUNNO?!



GA!!#?!#?!#?! WELL, LET'S FIND HER!

SHE'S IMPORTANT TO THIS CASE-- IF SHE'S GONE ... !

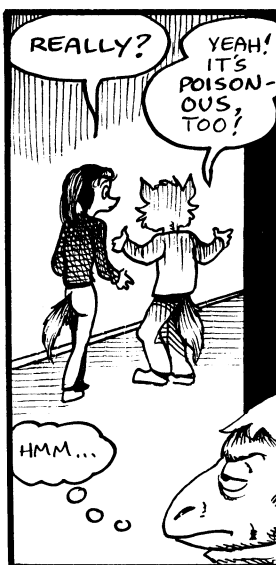
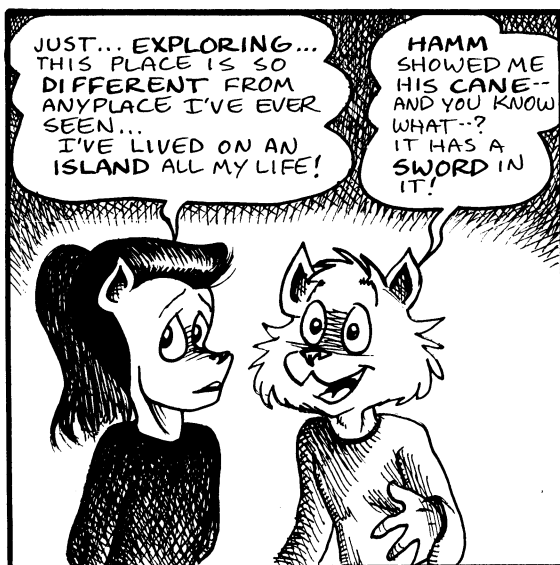
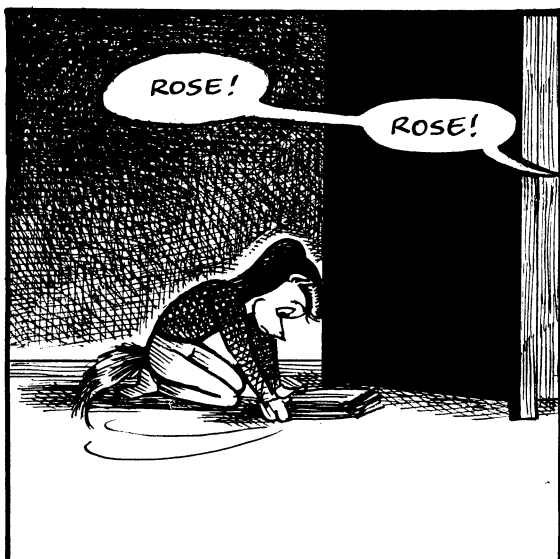
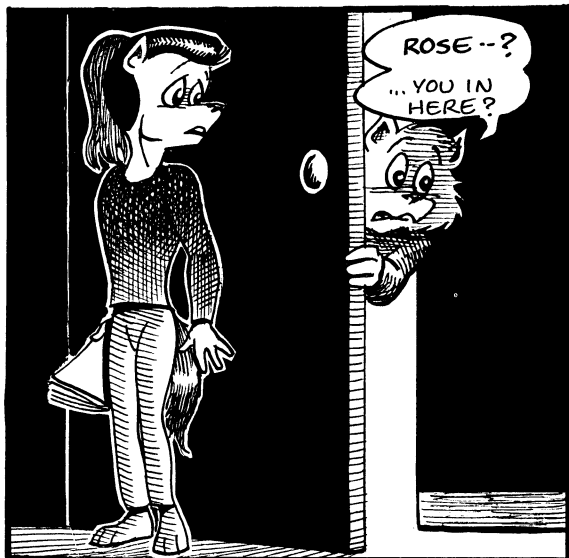
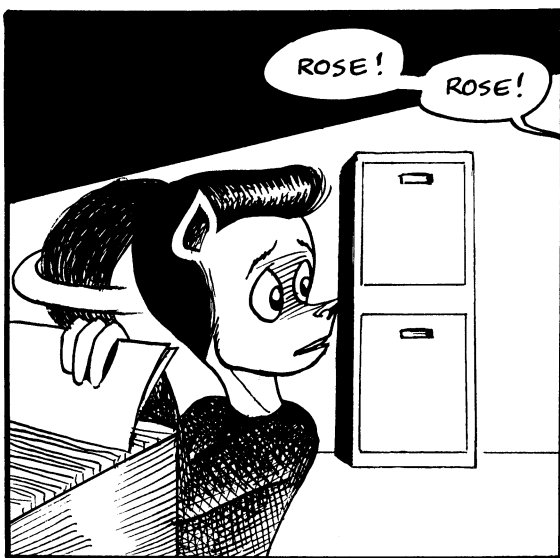


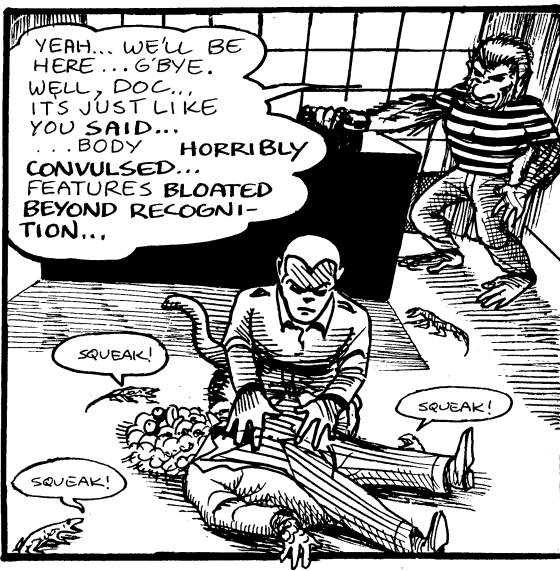
ROSE!

ROSE!

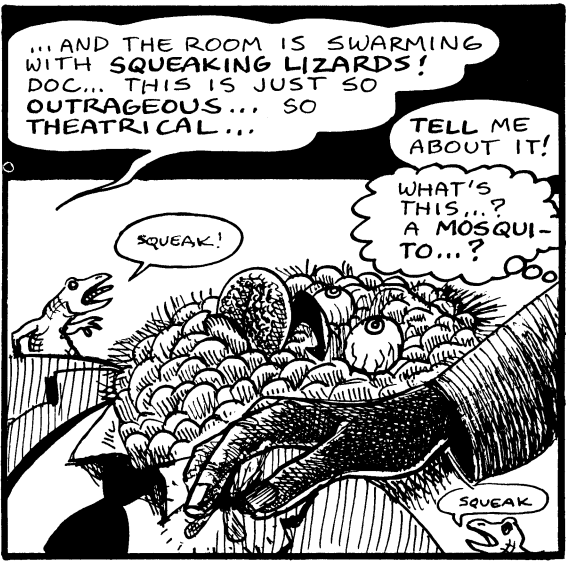
HEY, KID!

ROSE! WHERE ARE YOU?





YEAH... WE'LL BE HERE... G'BYE. WELL, DOC... IT'S JUST LIKE YOU SAID...
...BODY HORRIBLY CONVULSED... FEATURES BLOATED BEYOND RECOGNITION...



...AND THE ROOM IS SWARMING WITH SQUEAKING LIZARDS! DOC... THIS IS JUST SO OUTRAGEOUS... SO THEATRICAL...

TELL ME ABOUT IT!

WHAT'S THIS...? A MOSQUITO...?



IT'S AS IF THE LIZARD IS BEING DELIBERATELY FLAMBOYANT-- TO CATCH OUR ATTENTION, PERHAPS...?

--AND IT'S ALL AIMED AT ME FOR SOME REASON...



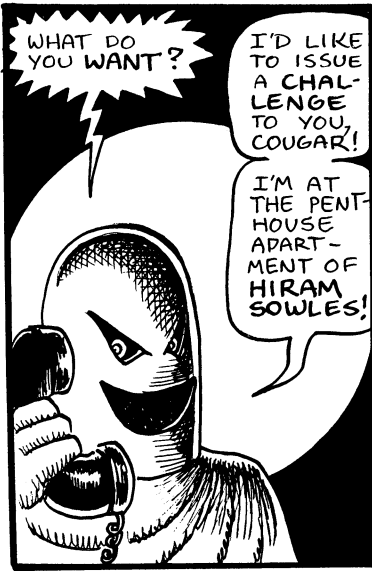
YES?

IS THIS CLARK COUGAR, JR.?



YES... WHO'S THIS?

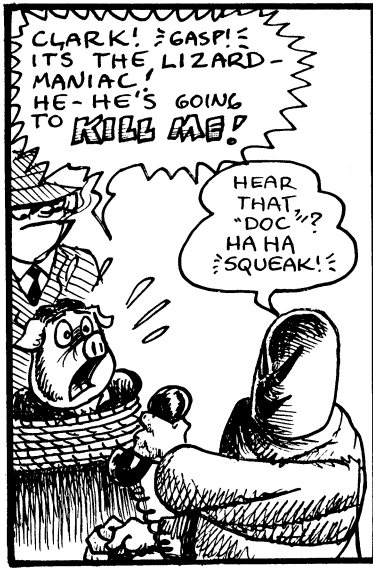
HA HA HA SQUEAK! CAN'T YOU GUESS, COUGAR?



WHAT DO YOU WANT?

I'D LIKE TO ISSUE A CHALLENGE TO YOU, COUGAR!

I'M AT THE PENTHOUSE APARTMENT OF HIRAM SOWLES!

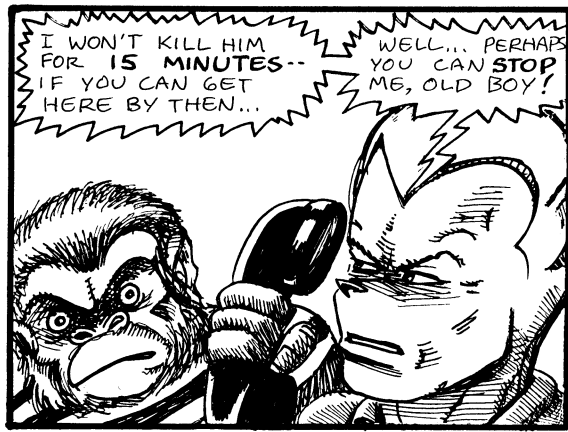


CLARK! GASP! IT'S THE LIZARD-MANIAC! HE-HE'S GOING TO KILL ME!

HEAR THAT, "DOC"? HA HA SQUEAK!



HE'S RIGHT, YOU KNOW... I AM GOING TO KILL HIM! — BUT I'LL BE SPORTING ABOUT IT --!



I WON'T KILL HIM
FOR 15 MINUTES--
IF YOU CAN GET
HERE BY THEN...

WELL... PERHAPS
YOU CAN STOP
ME, OLD BOY!



HA HA HA
≡SQUEAK≡
HA HA HA
≡CLICK≡

MUNK! TO
THE ROOF!
QUICKLY!!

SLAM!



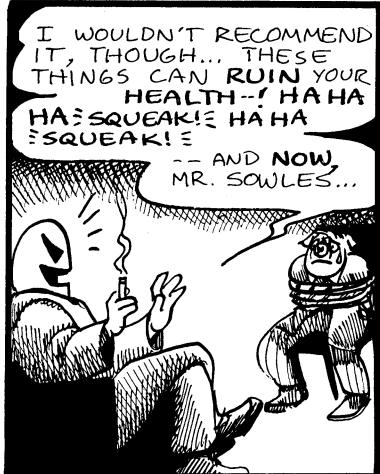
WE MUST REACH HIRAM
SOWLES' APARTMENT
BEFORE FIFTEEN MINUTES
ELAPSE --



I PRAY TO GOD
WE'RE IN TIME--!!

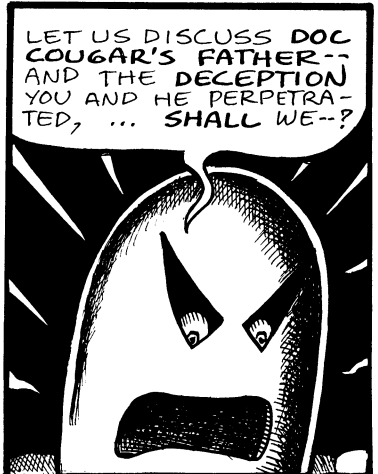


WELL, MR. SOWLES... WE
HAVE ROUGHLY FIFTEEN
MINUTES... WOULD YOU
LIKE A CIGARETTE
WHILE WE WAIT--?



I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND
IT, THOUGH... THESE
THINGS CAN RUIN YOUR
HEALTH--! HA HA
HA ≡SQUEAK!≡ HA HA
≡SQUEAK!≡

-- AND NOW,
MR. SOWLES...



LET US DISCUSS DOC
COUGAR'S FATHER--
AND THE DECEPTION
YOU AND HE PERPETRA-
TED, ... SHALL WE--?

--TO BE CONTINUED...



DEER JOHN

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

Dear EW,

You wanted letters of comment, so here's one for **Furrlough** #24.

"Zaibatsu Tears" was a good story, but the ending wherein the protagonist is hesitant to blow away the bad guy, then does it anyway because it's "the right thing to do" is somewhat clichéd. The inclusion of first person narration, however, does help to keep the story flowing smoothly. For once though I wouldn't mind a story where a character *does* give in to temptation and takes the antagonist's offer. By the way, was it me or did Pi's eyes suddenly enlarge on the first panel of the second page? Despite all that, I wouldn't mind seeing further stories featuring Pi, although I doubt the corporation has set her completely free. If today's record companies can manipulate the public into buying millions of copies of albums by Garth Brooks, Whitney Houston, Michael Bolton, etc., then it should be a cinch for a future corporation to keep tabs on a cybernetic furry. "Once a slave to the corporation, always a slave to the corporation" says no one in particular.

"Iron Panther"- Furry space bounty hunters? I like it so far and it has nicely flowing first person narration. Awaiting part two.

One suggestion I'd like to make to the creators of the two stories I've mentioned above (and to everyone else out there) is if they want to see some really tough, gritty first person narration, then pick up any book by Andrew Vachss. Particularly his book *Shella* which has one of the most disturbing opening paragraphs I've ever read. Be forewarned - his books are populated with characters with very little (if any) redeeming social values. Oh, I forget I mentioned it. Ignore me- everybody else does. Back to the comment.

Part one of "Guardian Knights" was a bit confusing. Part two was an incomprehensible mess. I'll give it one final chance but I already feel you should dump this story.

"Here Comes a Candle" continues to be my favorite story in **Furrlough**. What more needs to be said? I'd like to ask one question: if and when "Candle" reaches its conclusion, will AP publish a collected edition of this exceptional tale?

Time to close for now until **Furrlough** #25.

David Tapia,
Dinuba, CA

We are discussing reprinting "HCaC" when it concludes, but nothing is definite yet. As for "Guardian Knights" part 2, the printer got two of the pages out of order. Apologies to Tygger about that! "Guardian Knights" will not be continuing in Furrlough, because it will be coming out as its own book from Rip Off Press some time in the future. --EW

Dear **Furrlough** creators and editors:

I've been buying this book for years, so it's high time that I wrote in to tell you how much I enjoy **Furrlough** and all AP's anthropomorphic titles. Issue #24 is especially worthy of comment, so here we go!

"Zaibatsu Tears": It's a tribute to Richard Bartrop's storytelling skills that I enjoyed this so much, even though the ending was a foregone conclusion. I hope Bartrop isn't finished with Pi and her world yet, because there's a lot of potential for future stories here. Pi's narration points out one unresolved plotline: 'I never did find out what the suit was doing in the undercity, or why Dolf killed him'. I'd also like to see Pi take action against the corporation whose policies have cost her so much.

"Here Comes a Candle": What compliment can I give Mary Hanson-Roberts that the readers of **Furrlough** haven't already given her? Part 8 is one of the funnier chapters ('Let us hope Sir Jack is a wise ass', indeed). After this storyline is over, I hope that both Hanson-Roberts and AP will consider giving "Candle" its own title.

"The Iron Panther": Milton Teruel and Randy Zimmerman (which is the writer and which is the artist?) have produced a solid, entertaining piece of work here. S'mballa is more likable than I would expect a hard-bitten bounty hunter to be. Oddity: Gore says to his potential victim, 'Say goodnight, Gracie'. Burns & Allen fans show up in the strangest places!

"Guardian Knights": First, I should say that Tygger's cover art is very impressive. Second, I'm sorry but this is the most frustrating item in **Furrlough**. The first two parts of the story have been published, but they're so fragmented that I can't evaluate "Knights" any more than John DiGiorgio could in #24's letter column. (Only one character has even been named so far!) It's too bad, because "Knights" looks like exactly the kind of story I'd enjoy if Tygger and Dean Graf would give me a chance. I've heard that "Guardian Knights" might get its own title from another publisher; I hope Graf and Tygger do a longer, more substantial story for **Furrlough** before they move on.

That's all for now; I look forward to future issues of **Furrlough**. Later!

Tale Spin and SWAT Kats rule!

Mark Lungo,
Middleburg Heights, OH

To Whoever is Stuck Reading This:

First off, congratulations on creating a thoroughly entertaining anthropomorphic comic book. I have been reading **Furrlough** for some time now. Just recently, my favorite not-so-local comic shops have started carrying both **Genus** and **Wild Life** also. While these are

entertaining, I am still very much into

Furrlough. My problem is the fact that both shops have sporadic delivery schedules, and I am having a hard time following plotlines. Commuting between shops in two cities is an interesting challenge, and it is increasingly difficult to get my anthropomorphic "fix" from them. My favorite has just now received its first issue of **Genus**, and while I was waiting for issue #2 to come out, I found the latest **Furrlough** offering #5-8.

More importantly, I have tried to follow "Zaibatsu Tears", but I managed to get my grubby lil' paws on just issues #22 & 24. Did I miss part of it in #23? What issue did it begin in? Also, what issues have Pat Kelley's "Watering Hole" appeared in? I've only managed to find issues #14 & 16. These two stories are by far the best anthropomorphic series I've ever seen. Keep it coming!

Lastly, Herb mentioned not finding any non-AP books of interest, (issue #22). If he hasn't already, have him look for an issue of **Tall Tails** from Golden Realm Unlimited. Daphne Lage is a great artist, and her continuing anthropomorphic odyssey is well worth looking into.

Lake Central High School's
Most Hated Cartoonist,
Ben Aceff,
Schererville, IN

"Zaibatsu Tears" didn't appear in Furrlough #23, and it began in Furrlough #21. "Watering Hole" has appeared in Furrlough #13, 14, 16, and 26. --EW

Hello Fellow Anthropomorphics,

After finding a bookstore that can order AP comics, I began receiving **Furrlough**, **Genus**, **Albedo**, **Gold Digger** and now **Wild Life**, adding as my budget allows.

My first issue, **Furrlough** #21 was very enjoyable, convincing me to quickly order some back issues. I was not disappointed, and I will order more each time I get money.

I was surprised to find out in issue #23 that "Mandala" from issue #21 was not part of a series. Mr. Peregrine's story was the one that caught my attention the most in that issue.

The plot elements he introduced intrigued me as a fan of sword & sorcery and anthropomorphics. How did Stacy get there? Why is she a unicorn? Pursuers... what pursuers? Etc. These and other parts of the story are simply too big for a one-shot story. I ask that Mr. Peregrine make a series for **Furrlough** of this one, as I feel it deserves a beginning and an end. (Several episodes each.)

Keep producing great 'morphic comics, Antarctic, and I'll be a happy customer.

Furies Forever,
Scott A. Teel,
Hector, AR

Katmandu

A Woman of Honor



A
Romantic
Fantasy
Adventure
written by
Carole Curtis
with art by
Terrie Smith
and Mark
Barnard.

Additional stories by
Michele Light

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