

FUSION

GET
LOST

KEN MACKIN
1987

NO ALIENS

ADS
GO HOME



the ECLIPSE PENUMBRA

WRITE TO: ECLIPSE COMICS - P.O. BOX 1099 - FORESTVILLE - CALIFORNIA - 95436

ON THE RACKS

A indicates an *Airboy* title.

4W indicates a 4Winds production.

AIRBOY no. 37 A

Airboy and Skywolf face death on the gallows, while the Iron Ace and Hirota fight to save their lives.

FUSION no. 8

Expecting a pleasure resort planet, the Tsunami crew instead finds a puritanical population!

KAMUI nos. 20 & 21

Have Utsuse and Koyota found Koyota's long lost father—only to lose him to crucifixion?

XENON nos. 7 & 8

The Bloody Sea will stop at nothing to destroy Xenon, even if it means unleashing the Demon Three.

ZOT! no. 17

Life goes smoothly for our heroes until they're plunged into the turbulent mind of the mad cyborg, Dekko!

SCOUT: WAR SHAMAN no. 1

New Series! 4W

Timothy Truman—and Emanuel Santana—return with the second phase of the best-selling *Scout* saga! This first issue is painted in full color by Truman, and takes place fifteen years after the events in *Scout #24*.

AREA 88 nos. 20 & 21

Kanzaki joins forces with the mafia to have Shin assassinated.

MAI THE PSYCHIC GIRL nos. 20 & 21

The battle of the century begins in the skies over Tokyo as Turm and Mai face off—psychic against psychic!

STRIKE! VERSUS SGT. STRIKE

SPECIAL no. 1 4W

Find out where America's Secret Weapon has been all these years when he meets the new owner of the power-harness. This special leads directly into *Total Eclipse*.

R.O.B.O.T. BATTALION 2050

When all nuclear material on earth is used up, the arms race continues...with robots? Cover by Bill Sienkiewicz.

REVENGE OF PROWLER no. 2 4W

This special issue contains *The Second 4Winds Flexidisc*, with the Prowler WWII booster song by Michael Price and the 1980s Prowler theme song by Timothy Truman.

AIRFIGHTERS CLASSICS no. 3 A

Learn the secrets of Birdie in this facsimile reprint of *Airfighters Comics Vol. 1, #4*.

HAND OF FATE no. 2

Artemus Fate encounters murder victims who are either drained of blood or skinned alive!

POWER COMICS no. 1

Eclipse International and Acme Press bring you an exciting super hero series originally published in 1975 in Nigeria. Art by Dave Gibbons and Brian Bolland!

XYR New Title!

The world's first alternate ending comic! Help Xyr choose which path to follow to find the missing *August Shiller*!

SKYWOLF no. 1 New Series! A

Continuing his story from his back-up in *Airboy*, Skywolf and the Bald Eagle go on a treasure hunt in Viet Nam.

VALKYRIE: PRISONER OF THE PAST

The sell-out limited-series is now available in a signed & limited hardback collection.

WE HAVE A WINNER: The winner of the **LEN WEIN EARTHQUAKE ARTIFACT SWEEPSTAKES** is **W. C. ("LUCKY") KRAMER** of Omaha, Nebraska! This fortunate person wins a two-pound chunk of writer Len Wein's garden wall, which was broken off during the "Pasadena Earthquake," on October 1st, 1987. The piece of wall was autographed by Len and comes complete with a certificate of authenticity. **WOW!**

FREE COMICS FOR ECLIPSE WATCHERS: Our most recent free comics promotion (the WPA Post Office Mural Survey) netted us so many replies that we're doing it again. This time you'll get a free comic book for each Eclipse Watcher Store Survey you turn in, and your store will receive a specially matted art print by Timothy Truman signifying their co-operation in the Eclipse Watchers program.

Here are the rules:

Buy a pre-stamped postcard (no letter entries will be accepted), grab a pen, and go to your local comic book shop. You will have to ask the clerk or manager for some of this information, so try to do it during a quiet time, when there aren't a lot of customers around.

On the postcard, write down the following information:

The name and address of this comic book shop is _____.

The owner's name is _____.

The shop is _____ square feet in size.

The owner buys comics from (name(s) of distributor(s)).

The comics in this shop are displayed (on spinners) (on racks) (in piles all over the place) (other system: please describe).

The comics are racked (alphabetically by title) (by publisher, then alphabetically by title) (by shipping date) (in random order) (other system: please describe).

This store (does) (does not) offer a "comic saver" subscription service.

This store (did) (did not) display Eclipse posters on the walls or in windows in 1987. (Posters sent free to stores in 1987 included *Xenon*, *Mai*,

Area 88, *Sisterhood of Steel*, *California Girls*, *Detectives Inc.*, *4Winds*, and *Kamui*.)

The owner tells me that the best selling Eclipse title in this store is (name of title).

This store sells about (number) copies of this title every issue.

This store (does) (does not) give out the *Eclipse Extra!* to customers.

This store (does) (does not) carry every Eclipse title published.

If answer to previous question was "does not", The owner (will) (will not) special order any Eclipse title for me from the distributor.

That's all there is to it. Just fill in the answers and send your postcard to **ECLIPSE WATCHERS STORE SURVEY, P.O. BOX 1099, FORESTVILLE, CALIFORNIA 95436**.

If you have complete runs of certain titles, tell us, and we'll make sure your free comic is something you don't already have.

Why are we running this survey? Well, in the last few months we have been getting more letters than usual from fans who buy our back issues by mail order and complain that "This issue never made it to my store" or, worse, "This title isn't available here."

We have a pretty good idea of the most often "unavailable" Eclipse titles (they are *Fusion*, *Zot!*, *Prowler*, *The Dreamery*, *Strike!*, *Tales of the Beanworld*, and *California Girls*) but we need to find out how widespread the problem is before we can correct it. If your store doesn't carry some or all the titles I just mentioned, try asking the owner why. Write down the answer if there's still room on the postcard.

And, yes, all you ambitious Eclipse Watchers: You CAN survey as many stores as you want, and you'll earn a free comic book for EACH postcard you send in. And every store you survey will get a free Tim Truman art print, too.

catherine yronwode
⊕

"SPRING ROLLS"

PART I

WRITTEN BY STEVE GALLACCI
ART BY STEVE GALLACCI & LELA DOWLING
LETTERER: MINDY EISMAN
EDITOR: LETITIA GLOZER
CONCEPTUAL EDITOR: LEX NAKASHIMA

LOOK AT THIS, TAN. THIS BROCHURE
SAYS THAT PAKTO-SHAKA HAS A STRONG
TRADITION OF GAMING AND GAMBLING.
IT'S A WAY OF LIFE THERE.

EY!
PLACE FOR
ME!

"...AND HERE WE
SEE THE WAITERS AT
THE TURGIDSON BAYSIDE
HOTEL DEALING HANDS OF
TRI-DRAW AGAINST THEIR
TIPS WITH THEIR
CUSTOMERS.

"...WINNING OR LOSING, THE PAKTO-SHAKENS
ARE COURTEOUS AND ENTHUSIASTIC GAMERS, AND
PROVIDE AMPLE SPORTING COMPETITION FOR ANY
RANDOM OR RANDOM MODIFIED GAME OF CHANCE.

IMAGINE THAT.
COULD OWN PLANET
IN A WEEK!

NOT
THE WAY YOU
PLAY.



HI, HO,
HAVEN, HOW'S
ALSHAIN?

YES,
HOW IS
SHE?

MUCH BETTER.
THE NAUSEA WILL TAKE
A WHILE TO SETTLE,
BUT SHE'S OKAY. WHAT'S
THE BROCHURE?



PAKTO-SHAKA
WELCOMES...

HAMMM.



I'VE HEARD ABOUT
PAKTO-SHAKA. I HAD AN
ACQUAINTANCE WHO DID SOME
TIME THERE. NOT BAD--THEY REALLY
DO GAMBLE ON ANYTHING. EVEN MORE
INTERESTING IS THAT THEY PLAY
STRAIGHT, EVERY ONE OF THEM.
BOY, DO THEY GO AFTER CHEATERS!



WHICH, OF COURSE,
MEANS THAT WE CAN'T LET
TAN OFF THE SHIP.

SAYS I
CHEAT?!



OH! OH!
I SEE!



ANYWAY, THERE SHOULD
BE PLENTY OF CONSUMER-
TECH MARKETS THERE. CONSIDERING
WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE ON HAND,
ALONG WITH WHAT WE'RE BOUND
TO PICK UP IN COMMISSIONS, WE
SHOULD DO WELL!

I SURE HOPE SO BECAUSE EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE A HALF-FULL HOOD...

-- HALF-EMPTY.

...WE'RE LOW ON FUEL. BY THE TIME WE GET TO PAKTO-SHAKA, WE WON'T HAVE ENOUGH FUEL TO GO ANY FURTHER.

HEY, WHAT ABOUT THE SOULSTARS?

WE CAN'T TURN ANY OF THEM OVER AROUND HERE, NOT SO SOON AFTER THE CIVIL WAR. BESIDES, LIKE I SAID, WE HAVE ENOUGH STOCK. IT'S IN THE BAG...

...WHAT EVER COULD GO WRONG?

WHAT!/?

CULTURAL QUARANTINE?!

YES, THE UNREVERENT OF GOD ALIENS ARE NOT ALLOWED FULL INTERCOURSE WITH THE MOST BLESSED OF PAKTO-SHAKA.

IF THE UNREVERENT OF GOD ALIENS DESIRE COMMERCE, GUARDIANS OF THE FAITH WILL INSPECT THE CARGO OF THE GODLESS AT THE QUARANTINE PORT.

WHAT IN THE WORLD--?

I'VE GOT A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS.

AHOY, TSUNAMI.

UH-OH, NO GAMING, EH?

URK.

HI, TREMAINE, SORRY TO SEE YOU SUCKERED IN HERE, TOO.

WALLY, IS THAT YOU?

SURE, KID. I TAKE IT YOU NEVER HEARD ABOUT THE REVOLUTION.

REVOLUTION?

YEAH, THE FUNDAMENTALIST REVOLUTION. YOU PROBABLY HEARD ABOUT THE LOCALS' ENTHUSIASM FOR GAMBLING?

YES--

WELL, IT SEEMS THAT THERE'S A RELIGIOUS CONTEXT. THEY FIGURE THERE'S NO TRUE RANDOMNESS, THAT GOD CHOOSES THE OUTCOME OF EVERY EVENT.

FOR A LOT OF THEM, GAMES OF CHANCE JUST REAFFIRM GOD'S PRESENCE.

BUT FOR THE HARD-CORE, CALLING ON GOD'S WILL IS AWFULLY SERIOUS, AND NOT TO BE TRIVIALIZED.

OKAY, BUT WHAT'S THIS ABOUT QUARANTINES AND INSPECTIONS?

YOU KNOW, PLAYING CARDS, ROULETTE WHEELS, GAMBLING MACHINES, SMART COMPS, QUANTUM DEVICES, DICE, ESPECIALLY DICE. GET CAUGHT WITH ANY AND THEY'LL HAVE A FIT.

NOT MY LUCKY DICE!

FEH! WE ALL KNOW THEY'RE WIRED DICE. 3 GUURUM=

WIRED?

WIRED! TAN,--

ALSHAIN, YOU PROMISED...

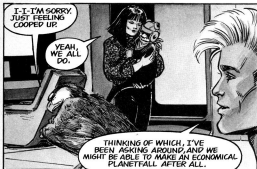
WHAT!? YOU'VE BEEN WIRED--ALL THOSE--!?

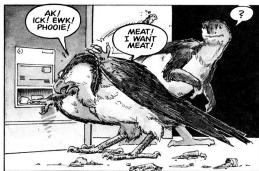
HAVEN,...

HAVEN! YOU'RE HURTING!

AAWK!

HAVEN? WHAT'S WRONG?







WELCOME,
GODLESS BUT
CHOSEN BY
GOD.



OH,
BOY!

MOST
CURIOUS.

COIN TOSS?
BIZ ON COIN
TOSS?



WELL,
LET'S FIND
OUT IF THERE'S
ANYTHING
INTERESTING
ON PLANET,
EH?

YEAH!
SPACER
SLUMS!



I
WOULDN'T
CALL 'EM
THAT.

PAH! POOP
SHEET SAY THIS
HOPPING PLACE!



NOW, CAN'T
MINGLE WITH
LOCALS, KEPT
SEGREGATED.
BAH!

IT'S
THEIR PLANET,
TAN.



AND IT LOOKS
LIKE THERE'S NO
ONE WE'D WANT
TO SEE LISTED
IN THE PORT
ENTRY LOG.
OH, WELL.

PHOOIE.
GONNA
TAKE
NAP.



NOT A
BAD IDEA. I'LL
HAVE ALSHAIN
AND BEO TAKE
WATCH.

'SHAIN
STILL
SICK.



HEY, HOW'S
IT GOING? DONE
MALINGERING?

I AM NOT
MALINGERING.



SORRY,
ALSHAIN,
I DIDN'T
MEAN--

SURE--
SURP? 300P?
AOURUGHH!



WE'RE
IN HERE.

ANYONE
HOME?



SITTING UP WITH SICK FRIENDS. HOW SWEET. DIDN'T YOU GO OUT?

NAH, NO ONE WE KNOW OR WANT TO KNOW IS ON PLANET RIGHT NOW.



HOW WAS YOUR DAY?

NOT BAD. WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE ENOUGH TO KEEP US GOING. HOW'S SHE BEEN?



BITCHY. BUT I THINK SHE'S ACTUALLY DOING BETTER.

AND WHERE'S EVERYONE ELSE?



HUH? BEO'S ON WATCH.

RIGHT.

AND EDDY'S STILL ASLEEP UNTIL HIS SHIFT.

CHECK.

AND HAVEN AND CARZ ARE ON PERSONAL TIME IN THEIR QUARTERS.



OH, YEAH?

BEO, DID EITHER HAVEN OR CARZ LEAVE THE SHIP?

BOTH DID, OF COURSE.

BEO SAID THEY CLEARED IT WITH YOU.

UH-OH.



I DON'T KNOW ABOUT HAVEN, BUT DO YOU THINK CARZ HAS GONE, ER, LOOKING?

YOU MEAN HIS RUT? WHAT DO YOU THINK?

WELL, THERE AREN'T ANY PANTHERAFORMS OR ANALOGUES REGISTERED ON PLANET, AND HE STILL NEEDS PHEROMONES I TO, AH, OH, NEVER MIND.



SO I DON'T KNOW.

GRUMBLE WHY DON'T YOU GO FIND HIM?



HERE'S TAN'S TRANSLATOR. GET OUT AND LET ME DIE IN PEACE!



<WHAT! ARE YOU CRAZY?>

<THANK
YOU, YOUNG
LADY.>

I GUESS
THAT MEANS
NO.

HELLO, I'M LOOKING
FOR THIS FELLOW, HAVE
YOU SEEN HIM?

(MAY WE
INTEREST
YOU IN AN
INSURANCE
POLICY?)

GOSH, HE
MUST HAVE COME
THIS WAY.

AWK!

LAWK!

NOW, IF I WERE A
PANTHERAFORM ON THE PROWL,
WHERE WOULD
I GO?

HMM
WHAT'S
THAT?

OH.

CHEATER!!

SO WHERE WE
GOIN'? AND WHY
WE'RE NOT HASSLED
BY LOCALS?

IT IS SIMPLE,
FRIEND TAN, AS A
FEATHERED SAURIAN,
I AM LESS CONSPICUOUS,
EVEN FOR MY SIZE, THAN
ANY ANTHROFORM.

AS FOR OUR
DESTINATION, I'M
GOING ON A 'HUNCH'
THAT YOU MAY
APPRECIATE.

HUH?

A SPACER
RESTAURANT?
WE'RE HAVING
LUNCH?

NO, WE'RE
LOOKING FOR
HAVEN.

EAAAH!
CARNIVORIUM!

WITH AN EXCELLENT
SELECTION. MAYBE WE CAN
STAY FOR LUNCH.

ACK!
HORRIBLE!

THEY HAVE SEVERAL
SPECIES OF CRUSTACEAN
THAT YOU MAY BE
INTERESTED IN.

OH?

WHY DO YOU
THINK SHE WOULD
COME HERE?

THE
FRESH
MEAT.

HAVEN
WAS FRANTIC
FOR FRESH
MEAT.

SUCH MIGHT
EXPLAIN HER
BEHAVIOR.

NOT TO SOUND
TOO INQUISITIVE,
BUT IS HAVEN
IN ESTROUS?

HUH?

WELL GUESS
IS POSSIBLE. IF SO
HOPE NO INTERESTED
MALES 'ROUND, HEARD
AVIS GET REAL
SILLY-CRAZY.

<YES, IT'S A CONSIDERABLE
RELIEF NOT TO HAVE TO WORRY
ABOUT HIS COMING IN CONTACT WITH
SOME LOW CLASS FEMALE, HOT, AND
INTENDING TO SNARE HIM.>

<I TRUST
THE PRINCE
IS BEING KEPT
COMFORTABLE??>

DOW'S SURVEY OF
OTHER OFF-WORLD CREWS
HERE DOES NOT REVEAL ANY
MALE AVIFORMS, SO HAVEN
CANNOT COME IN CONTACT
WITH SUCH.

<YES, HAVING
CHECKED THE PASSENGER
LISTS, THERE ARE NO OTHER
AVIFORMS ON PLANET.>







THE CROWD'S ATTACK
DISPERSES THE SCENT
MORE, THUS LESSENING
CARZ'S ENTHUSIASM.



TEMPORARILY THWARTED, CARZ
SURGES ON, SEEKING MORE OF
THE TANTALIZING SCENT.



NOT
A SIGN OF
THEM.

YEAH,
BUT HAVE YOU
NOTICED THAT
WE'VE ACQUIRED
A FOLLOWING?



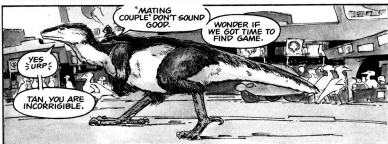
ANY
IDEAS?

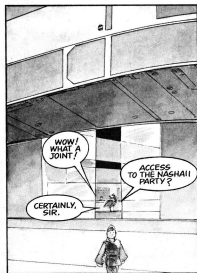
HHMM.
KEEP AN EYE
ON THEM.

I
WONDER
IF IT WAS
SOMETHING
I SAID,









LET'S TAKE
A LITTLE WALK
WHERE THE
DEAD MEN
ROAM

SCOUT:
WAR SHAMAN

COME ALONG ON THE
JOURNEY

WELCOME
TO
FUNKY
TOWN
POP. 1300 1200

 ECLIPSE
COMICS

FUSION

Reaction

Welcome to **FUSION** #8! Back in issue #6 we asked you to enter our reader survey; in this issue we have compiled the results, and we share them with you. Due to the sheer volume of the survey results, we probably will not get to any non-survey letters this issue. We will be back to a normal (if that is an appropriate term) letters column next issue.

Before I get into the official survey results, I want to thank the readers who responded to the survey. Thanks to Kjartan Arnorsson, Ed Baker, Dave Bennett, Kurt "Thumper" Blumer, Malcolm Bourne, Scott Davis, Darren Gross, David, Jon, Ben & Catherine Hills, Jo. Jacovino, Loren Jensen, Steve Kerry, Bill Kieffer, Andy Kythreotis, Douglas Lent, Paul Lester, Matt Levin, Robbie Lewis, David Logan, Steve Longenecker, Jed Martinez, Dan Orlych, Jeffrey Powell, John Henry Sain, Noel Tominack, Scott Watson, Arthur Yee, and Douglas C. Zerby.

Survey Results:

(In the interest of brevity, the survey responses are summarized and abridged.)

Question 1: What do you like best about *FUSION*? You like the artwork and the artists, the richness of the storytelling and the humor in the book. You like space opera, and are glad that there are no superheroes in *FUSION*. We got some comments from folks who like *FUSION* because it is black-and-white. And you also like both "Dr. Watchstop" and the "Weasel Patrol"! To quote Ed Baker, "...the best thing about *FUSION* is the 'past the page' atmosphere you've managed to set up in only six issues. We can believe that the universe exists outside the lives of these people and that it would keep on going if they were all to vanish."

Question 2: What would you most like to see in future issues? You want to see more background on the crew, including the story of how the crew got together. Also, you want the mechanics of the starship drives, more information on the GeneTech wars, and more of Indio's body. We also got requests for more Ken Macklin material, more Larry Dixon material, and more "Weasel Patrol." Douglas Lent wants to see "...an incredible accident with vanilla pudding in zero gravity..." John Henry Sain requests "Ken Macklin's 'Pete Delrograde,' and a sound sheet of the Weasel Patrol doing Del Shannon's 'Runaway.'" Matt Levin wants to see "...hard-wrought crew relationships forming and resolving."

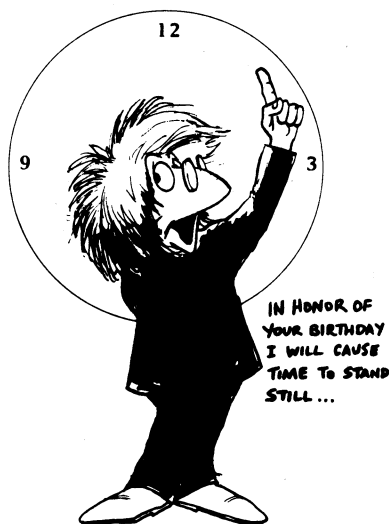
Question 3: What sets *FUSION* apart? The artwork, the integrated society with many different species of humans and animals, the black-and-white toning, and the friendly, conversational letters pages. (Aw, gee, shucks.) According to Bill Kieffer, "except in the worst situations, somebody always seems to be enjoying themselves in the book." Scott Davis adds: "A sense of

fun, of camaraderie, that comes through in the story and letters page." Jo. Jacovino isn't sure: "...I just know I like it and it's held my interest for more than four issues, which is something."

Question 4: Should the stories be serious, funny, or both? You want both. As Douglas Lent says, "I think that *FUSION* stories would do best to maintain a bit of both seriousness and humor, with neither Unrelenting Angst nor Rampaging Silliness." Loren Jensen adds, "The humor will come naturally, especially given such screwballs as Tan and Alshain."

Question 5: How long should the stories be? Most of you want longer, more involved stories than can fit into a single issue. Ed Baker comments, "Long running stories are always great, so long as they're not too convoluted to follow. But then again *FUSION* is bi-monthly, so maybe you might want to think about a one-shot every now and then to keep the plot at a level where we can follow it. I mean, look at *Fish Police*. Every issue is great, but I couldn't tell you what in the hell is going on." Jo. Jacovino adds, "Whatever it takes to bring the plot to a satisfying conclusion. What's the use of rushing a story so it'll fit in one issue if it looks and reads rushed. Or having a long story when a shorter one would do."

Question 6: Should we keep doing contests? In a word, yes. (Although you would prefer no more contests like the "zero-g toilet.") Arthur Yee writes, "I'm kicking myself for not entering the last one and being 'Way Cool.' Arrgh! Maybe I can be 'Halfway Cool' and say that my local comic shop is Comics and Da'Kind in San



Francisco." Okay, Arthur, we've discussed it, and you're cool! Loren Jensen cautions us "...don't let common sense take over. The wilder, the better."

Question 7: Do you have comments for the artists?

Yes, you do. Ed Baker says, "Well, I love Lela's artwork. Indio's cheekbones are a bit sharp, but the rest of her is really nice! It'd be nice to have more full backgrounds, too." According to Steve Kerry, "It's good to see a comic where the artists enjoy what they're doing." Artist Kjartan Arnorsson suggests, "Strive for clarity. Your average comic reader hates to take time to figure out cryptic panels." And finally, John Henry Sain advises, "Be nice to the writers."

Question 8: Do you have any comments for the writers?

Yes again. Douglas Zerby says, "Tan is great; how about developing Alshain more?" Dan Orlych adds, "I'd like to see some complex plots, not that they aren't complex now, but with more twists." But Andy Kythreotis disagrees, saying, "...keep the stories dramatic and to the point, avoiding complicated and overly drawn-out plots." Dave Bennett adds, "simplify." Jo. Jacovino explains it with, "There are times when I feel like continuity between scenes is too abrupt, like an extra explanatory panel should have been inserted here or there, before we shift to different action."

Question 9: How old are you?

Zowie! What variety! Our youngest survey writer is fourteen, the oldest thirty-nine. The average age is twenty-two. What else is there to say? You can't pick your age, you can only observe it and wish it was something else.

Question 10: How many comics do you buy every month?

From a low of five comics per month, to a high of 200-300 comics per month, FUSION readers are a mixed bunch. You buy an average of thirty-seven comics per month, better than one per day. The only thing I wonder about is whether or not there's a copy of our sister comic, **The Dreamery**, in that thirty-seven.

Conclusions: After a great deal of reading, tabulating, procrastinating, computing, watching television and calculating, I have reached the conclusion that readers of FUSION are the best comic readers there are!

Contest Winner:

Randomly chosen from all of the entrants is this issue's winner, Dave Bennett of Van Nuys, CA. His first three answers: "Ken Macklin," "Ken Macklin," "Ken Macklin." I'm pleased and amused to mention that his prize is a drawing by Steve Gallacci! Congratulations, Dave!

Contest Follow-Up:

In issue #2, we held a design contest for a zero-g toilet. Jed Martinez won the contest, and was promised "something really weird" as a prize. Well, we spent months trying to think up a suitable prize, and Lela Dowling has finally come up with something appropriate. Lela will be doing a drawing of the FUSION crew in squid ink. No, the crew won't be in squid ink, the drawing will be done with it. We expect it to become a national trend.

Next Issue:

The "Spring Rolls" embarrassment concludes. Dow, Carz and Indio are befriended by a sympathetic local, and finally realize that their translator is causing them problems. The Prince promises Haven that she will be

his royal consort, egging her on to great misadventures. Additionally, artists Joe Pearson and Dave Simons make their FUSION debut with a two-page Guest Artist Spread. Also, the Weasel Patrol returns, filling in for Dr. Watchstop. Read it all in FUSION #9, on sale in May, 1988.

New Contest:

For a change of pace from the essay questions that we've been doing, this month's contest is fill-in-the-blanks. Imagine yourself a busy comic book creator, working hard to put together and tune the various elements that will come together as FUSION #8. Your writer has come up with a great Monty-Pythonesque gag with a phony language translator, but a couple of the original lines are too nasty to use. So you have to fill in the translated text. It has to be funny, original, mostly nonoffensive, and funny. Did I mention funny?

Look at the bottom panel on page 15 of this book. The line about grandparents works well enough, but it isn't really exciting enough. So, you tell us, what does the wacked-out translator *really* say? Send your entries, clearly hand-printed or typed, to us at FUSION Contest, Eclipse Comics, P.O. Box 1099, Forestville, CA 95436. All entries should be received by April 30, 1988. One clever, twisted winner will be chosen to receive a can of Hershey's syrup the approximate size of a bowling ball. (We don't recommend bowling with it, though.)

Guest Artist Page:

This month we welcome Monika Livingston and her drawing of Tan trying to eradicate a few bugs down in engineering. Monika is a talented artist living in Portland, Oregon; she made an earlier appearance in issue #6, inking "Station Break." She has also done the cover and cover story for **The Dreamery** #7, and is currently working on Zell #2 for Steve Gallacci. Monika is a regular at most West Coast conventions, painting away furiously in the dealers room. Thanks, Monika!

FUSION Featured Dealer:

Starting with this issue, every issue will feature one comic dealer recommended to us by our friends, our readers. This issue's featured dealer is **K-otic Komix** at 220 Pier Avenue in Santa Monica, California. Ski Mark Ford, the owner, is a way cool guy, and he goes out of his way to make sure that he has plenty of copies of FUSION and **The Dreamery** on hand. If you're in the area, give him a call at (213) 396-7005, or just drop on by! (He's around the corner from The Oar House.) Way to go, Ski!

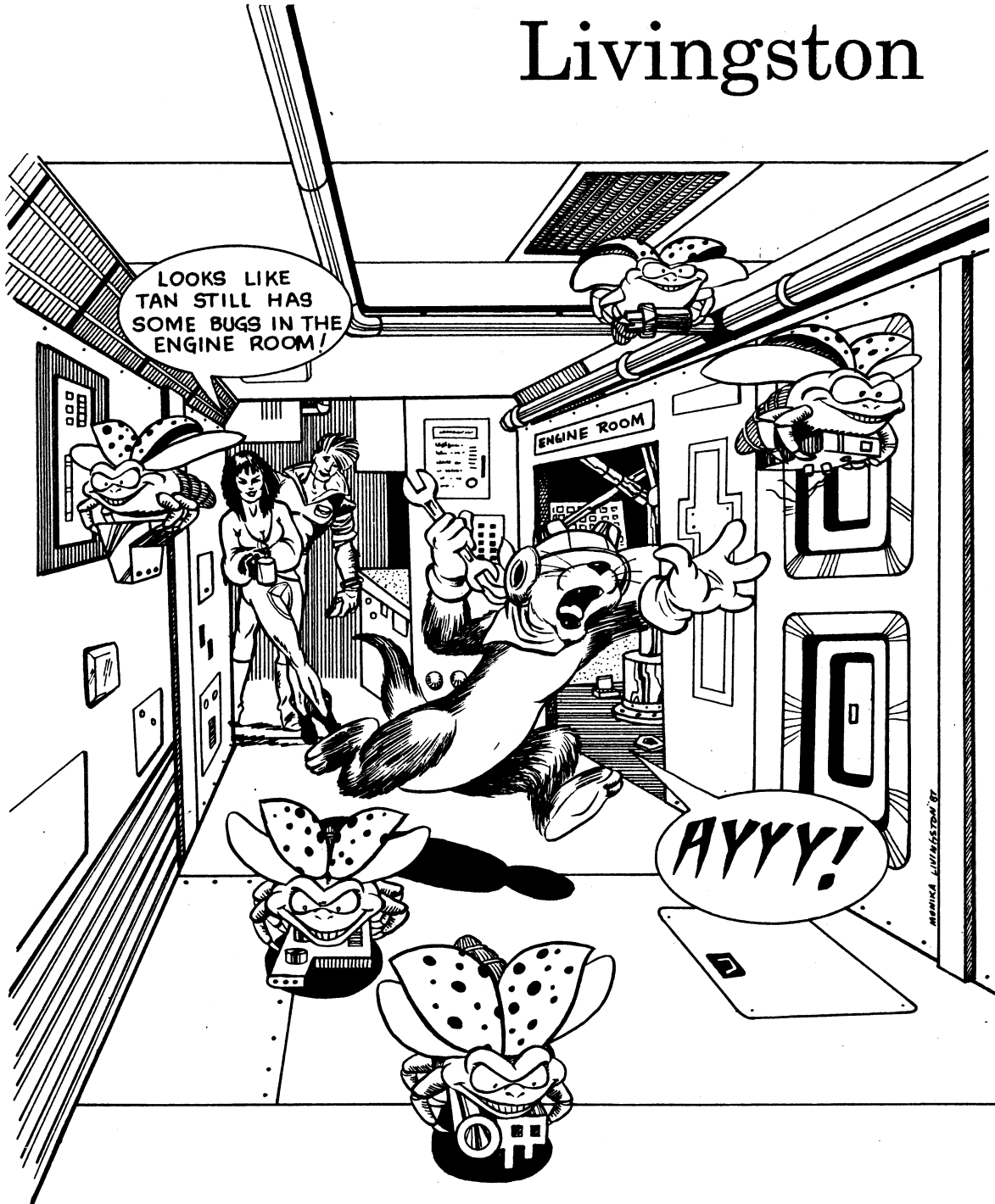
That's it for this issue! Thanks to Ken and Lela for the fillos. Until next time, make a do!

Gordon Garb
Production Manager



Guest Artist Page

Monika
Livingston



Enter the Enemy



Mai
THE PSYCHIC GIRL™

Faces Her
Deadliest
Opponent.

 **VIZ COMICS**
TM

 **ECLIPSE**
INTERNATIONAL®

THE CITY NIGHT IS DISTURBED BY THE
CRY OF ANOTHER CRIME VICTIM...

HELP! Oh, FOR
GOODNESS SAKE,
HELP!

SURRENDER,
MISCREANT,
YOUR CRIMINAL
SEEDS HAVE
BORN BIGGER
LOOT...er, I
MEAN, BITTER
FRUIT!

Huh?
WHAZZAT?!

WHAT
DID HE
SAY?

ONCE YOU KNEW ME AS LEROY, BUT NOW I AM
THE RIGHTEOUS WEASEL OF DISTRIBUTION...uh,
RETRIBUTION! BUT YOU CAN CALL ME...

ROBOWEASEL!

STORY & ART: KEN MACKLIN, LELA DOWLING
LETTERING: L. LOIS BUHALIS EDITOR: LETITIA GLOZER
CONCEPTUAL EDITOR: LEX NAKASHIMA

LOOK,
GUYS! IT'S
ROBOWEASEL!

A CREDIT TO
THE FORCE,
HE IS.

YEAH, WE
DON'T HAVE TO
TO RUN AWAY
ANY MORE.

I GUESS NO
ONE NEEDS THE
WEASEL PATROL
NOW.

YEAH. LET'S GO
BACK TO THE OFFICE
AND SHUFFLE
PAPERS.

TURN THE
TUNNEL
222



ONCE, HE WAS A PATROL WEASEL. AFTER A TERRIBLE GARDENING ACCIDENT, SCIENTISTS REBUILT HIM INTO A MECHANIZED, INVINCIBLE, LAW ENFORCEMENT LEVIATHAN!



WE
SAVED HIS
BRAIN!

WE DON'T
WANT HIS BRAIN...
JUST HIS
LUCK!

BUT WE
DON'T HAVE HIS
SPEECH CIRCUITS
QUITE RIGHT
YET.

NOW ROBOWEASEL RELENTLESSLY
UPHOLDS JUSTICE, PROGRAMMED TO
PROTECT, SERVE, AND NOT RUN AWAY.



HERE I AM,
OUT ON PAROLE...I
MEAN PATROL.



HELP!!
HELP!!
ROBOWEASEL!
HELP!

REMAIN CALM!
THE INNOCENT WILL
NOT BE PUBLISHED...
uh, I MEAN
PUNISHED!

ROBOWEASEL!
ROBOWEASEL! THEY'RE
DESTROYING THE CITY!
WE'VE GOT TO RUN!



DON'T BE
FOOLISH... ROBO-
WEASEL IS NOT
PROGRAMMED FOR
FREE...uh, I MEAN
TO FLEE!

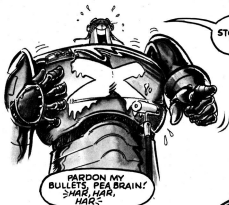




SO... IT'S YOU, REEFER RICK? THIS WANTON DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, MUST BE RECOMMENDED...er, uh, REPRIMANDED!



I SCOFF AT YOUR ALLEGED INVINCIBILITY, WEASEL HEAD.



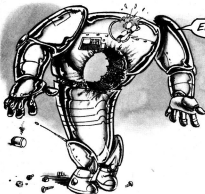
HA! YOU COULD NO MORE STOP ME THAN YOU COULD TOP YOUR TANK... uh, STOP A TANK, I MEAN.

PARDON MY BULLETS, PEA BRAIN!
HAR, HAR,
HAR~

SQUEEEET!



PHOOM!



EEEP!

AND NOT ONLY AM I TAKING
OVER THE TOWN, BUT I'M
MARRYING YOUR SWEET OLD
AUNT MABEL!

OH, RICKY
DEAR.



AND I'M MR.
JENKINS, YOUR FOURTH
GRADE TEACHER, AND I WANT
TO KNOW WHY YOU HAVEN'T
TURNED IN YOUR REPORT
ON VULCANIZED
RUBBER!



OH, NO, NO!
RUN AWAY! RUN AWAY!
RUN AWAY!

LEROY!
WHAT'S
WRONG?!



I THINK
IT'S TOO MUCH
LATE NIGHT T.V.
AND DIET
COKE.

AND
CHEEZIES!

RUN
AWAY!...

Uh... I DREAMED I
WAS A TURBO WEEDER...
uh, I MEAN A ROTO-
ROOTER, er, uh...



END

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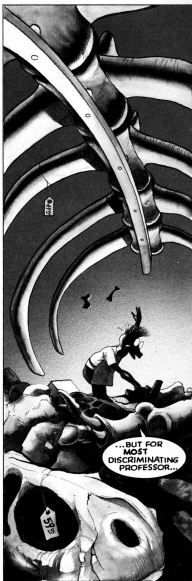
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...IS FOSSIL IMPRESSION
IN ANCIENT SEABED... BIG
HORNED LIZARD...
YOU SEE...?



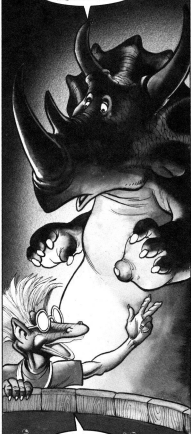
IS
GOOD,
YES?

IT IS A RATHER GOOD
IMPRESSION. THE ORIGINAL
TISSUE MUST HAVE BEEN
DISSOLVED BY PERCOLATING
MINERALS... IT LOOKS LIKE A
CRANIAL PROMINENCE FROM
CERAPHORUSUCHUS!

I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!
CERAPHOPASUCHUS HAS
BEEN EXTINCT FOR
MILLIONS OF YEARS AND
ONLY SIX FOSSILS ARE
KNOWN TO EXIST!



DO I HAVE TO
STICK MY HEAD IN THE
MUD AGAIN?



OKAY, OKAY,
THIS TIME I GIVE
YOU TWO EXTRA
CABBAGES FOR
SUPPER!

END

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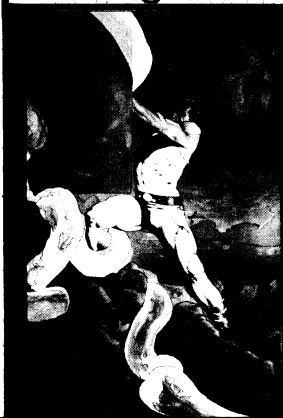
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