

No. 5 \$2.00:(\$2.60 Canada)

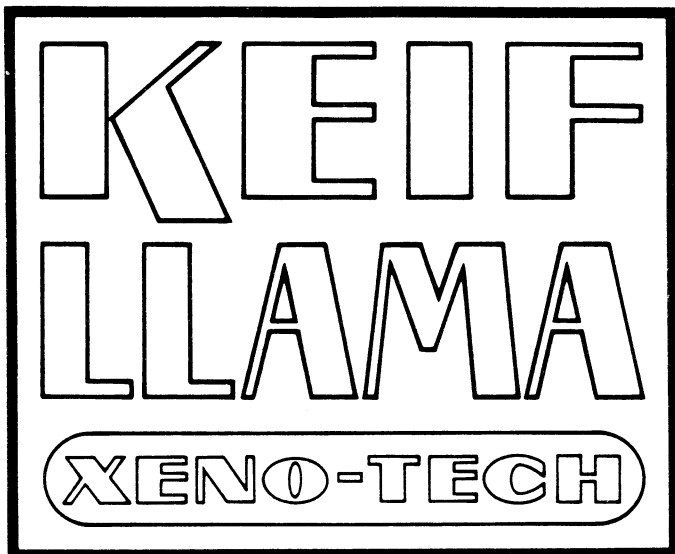
# KEIF LLAMA

**XENO-TECH**

BY MATT HOWARTH



**FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS**



Story and Art  
**MATT HOWARTH**

Editor  
**GARY GROTH**

Logo  
**VINCE LETTERIO**

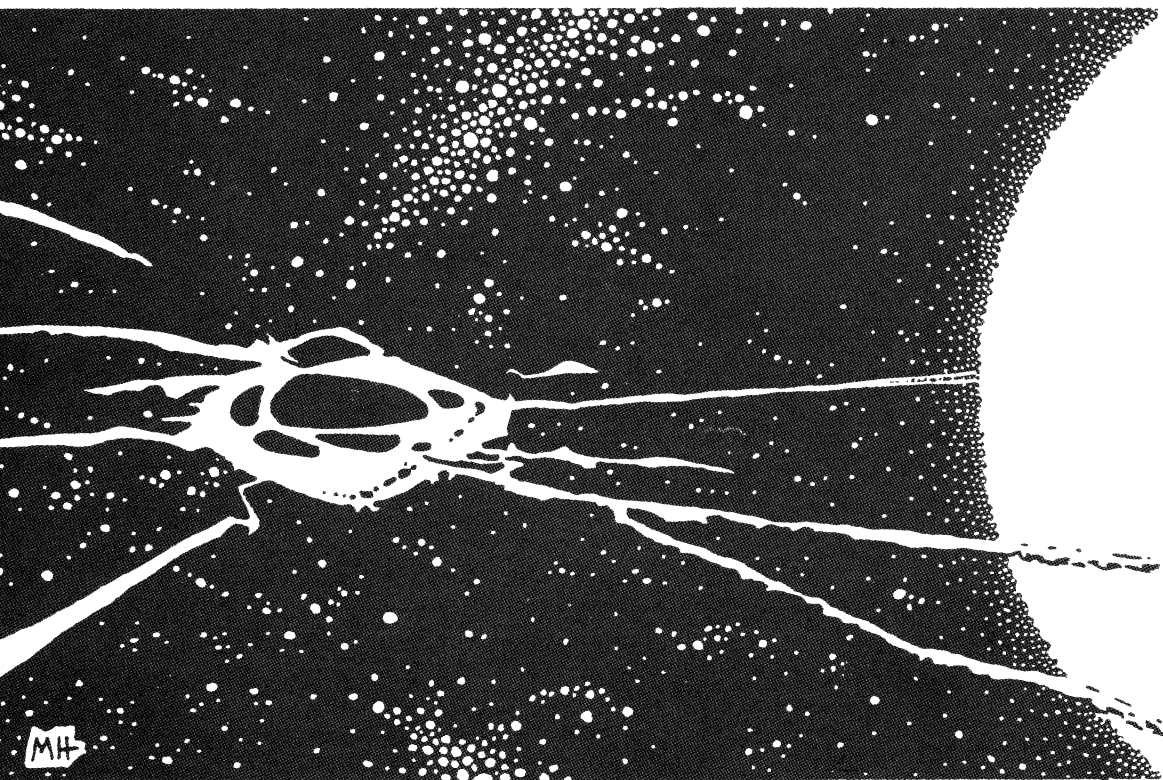
Production  
**MARK THOMPSON**

Production Manager  
**KIM THOMPSON**

Circulation  
**RACHEL ENGER**

Promotion  
**J. COLLIER**

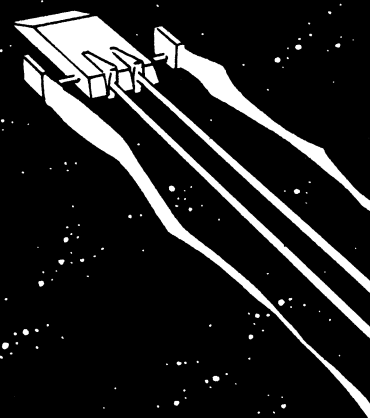
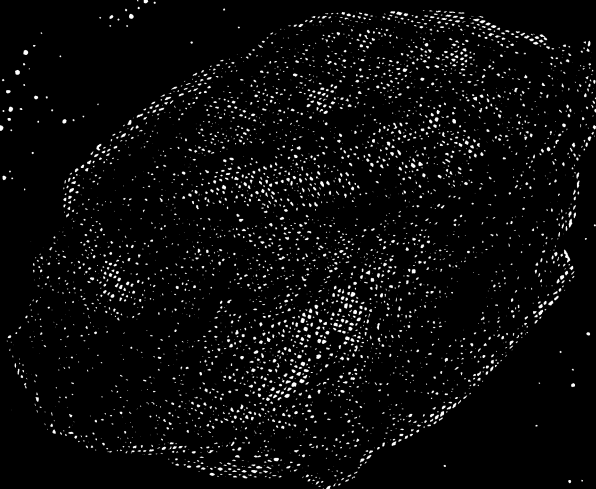
Printed at  
**PORT PUBLICATIONS**



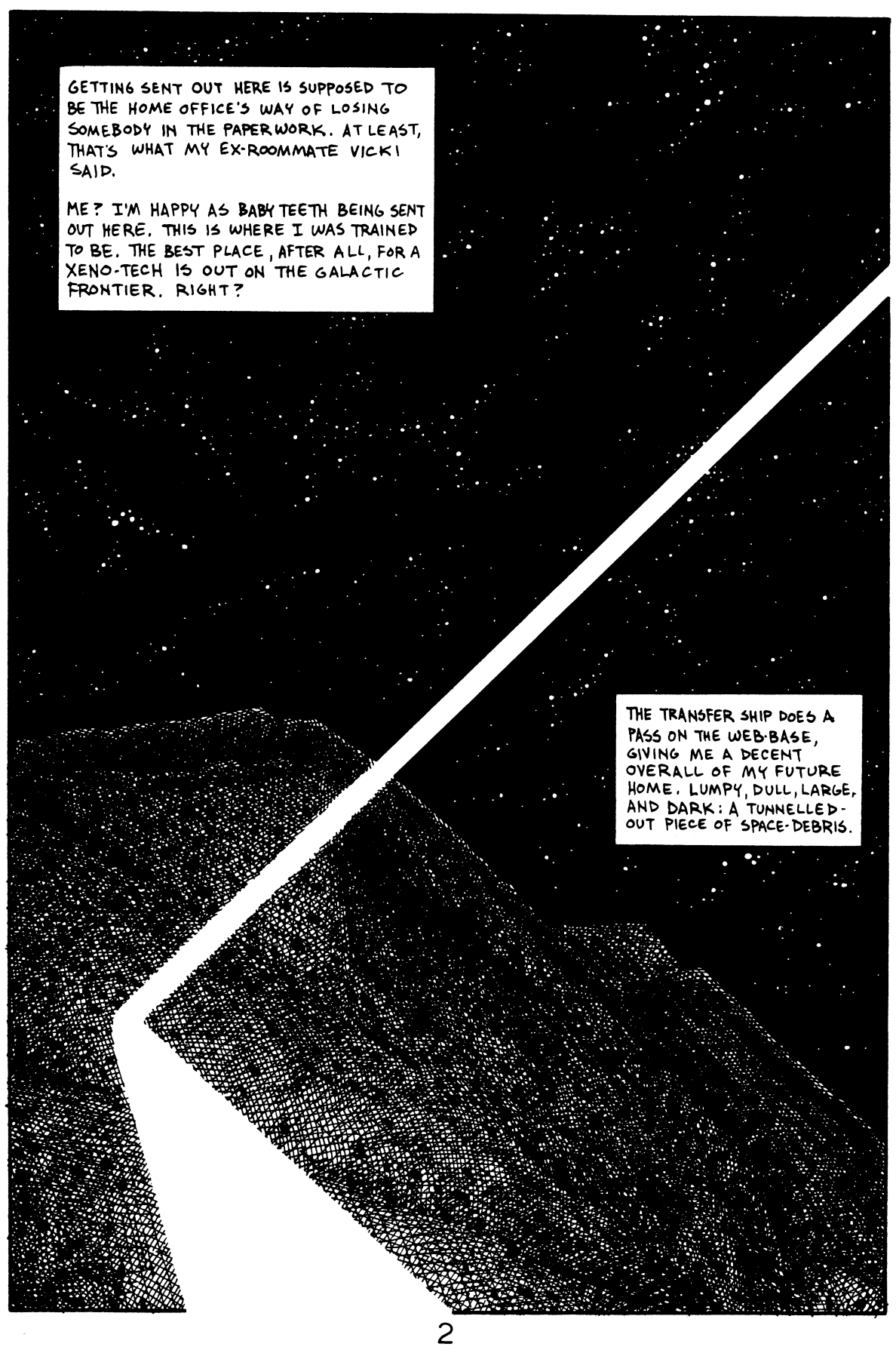
**Keif Llama** — *Xeno-Tech* #5, January, 1989. *Keif Llama* is published monthly by Fantagraphics Books, Inc., and is copyright © 1988 Fantagraphics Books, Inc. "Keif Llama" story and all characters therein are © 1988 Matt Howarth. No part of this magazine may be reproduced without written permission from Fantagraphics Books or Matt Howarth. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and institutions in *Keif Llama* and those of any living or dead persons or aliens is intended, and any such similarity that may exist is purely coincidental. Letters to *Keif Llama* become the property of the magazine and are assumed intended for publication in whole or in part, and may therefore be used for those purposes. First printing: September, 1988. Available from the publisher for \$2.00 + 50¢ postage and handling: Fantagraphics Books, 1800 Bridgegate Street Suite #101, Westlake Village, CA 91361.

# DOWN AND OUT THERE

© MATT HOWARTH



THEY RUSHED ME OUT OF BELEWE LIKE I WAS THE  
PLAGUE. FAST-DUMPED INTO THE FIRST OUTBOUND  
TRANSFER SHIP, I WAS DISPATCHED IN THE DIRECTION  
OF THE GALACTIC RIM, WHERE LAY MY DESTINATION:  
WEB-BASE EDISON-BLUE.



GETTING SENT OUT HERE IS SUPPOSED TO BE THE HOME OFFICE'S WAY OF LOSING SOMEBODY IN THE PAPERWORK. AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT MY EX-ROOMMATE VICKI SAID.

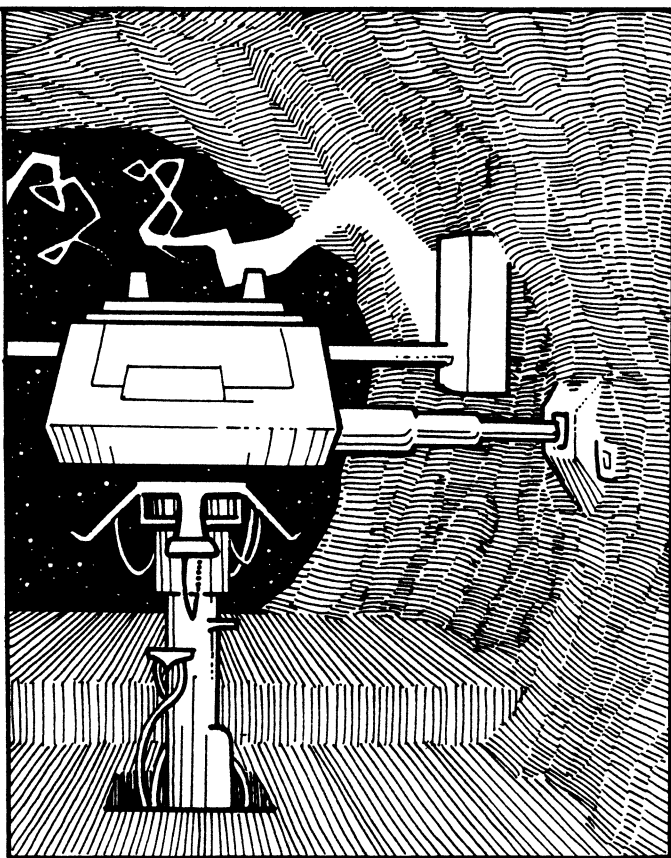
ME? I'M HAPPY AS BABY TEETH BEING SENT OUT HERE. THIS IS WHERE I WAS TRAINED TO BE. THE BEST PLACE, AFTER ALL, FOR A XENO-TECH IS OUT ON THE GALACTIC FRONTIER. RIGHT?

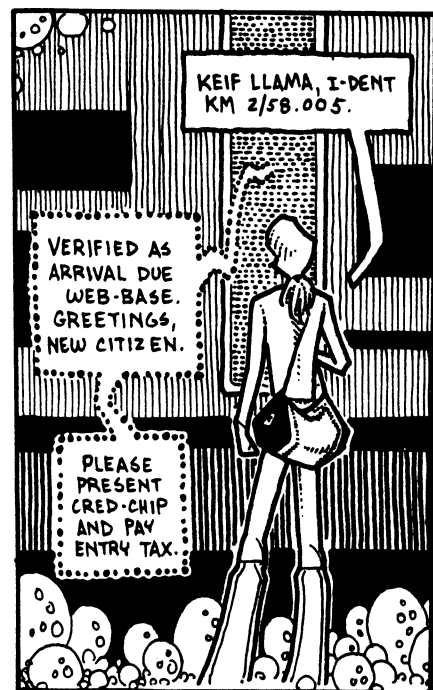
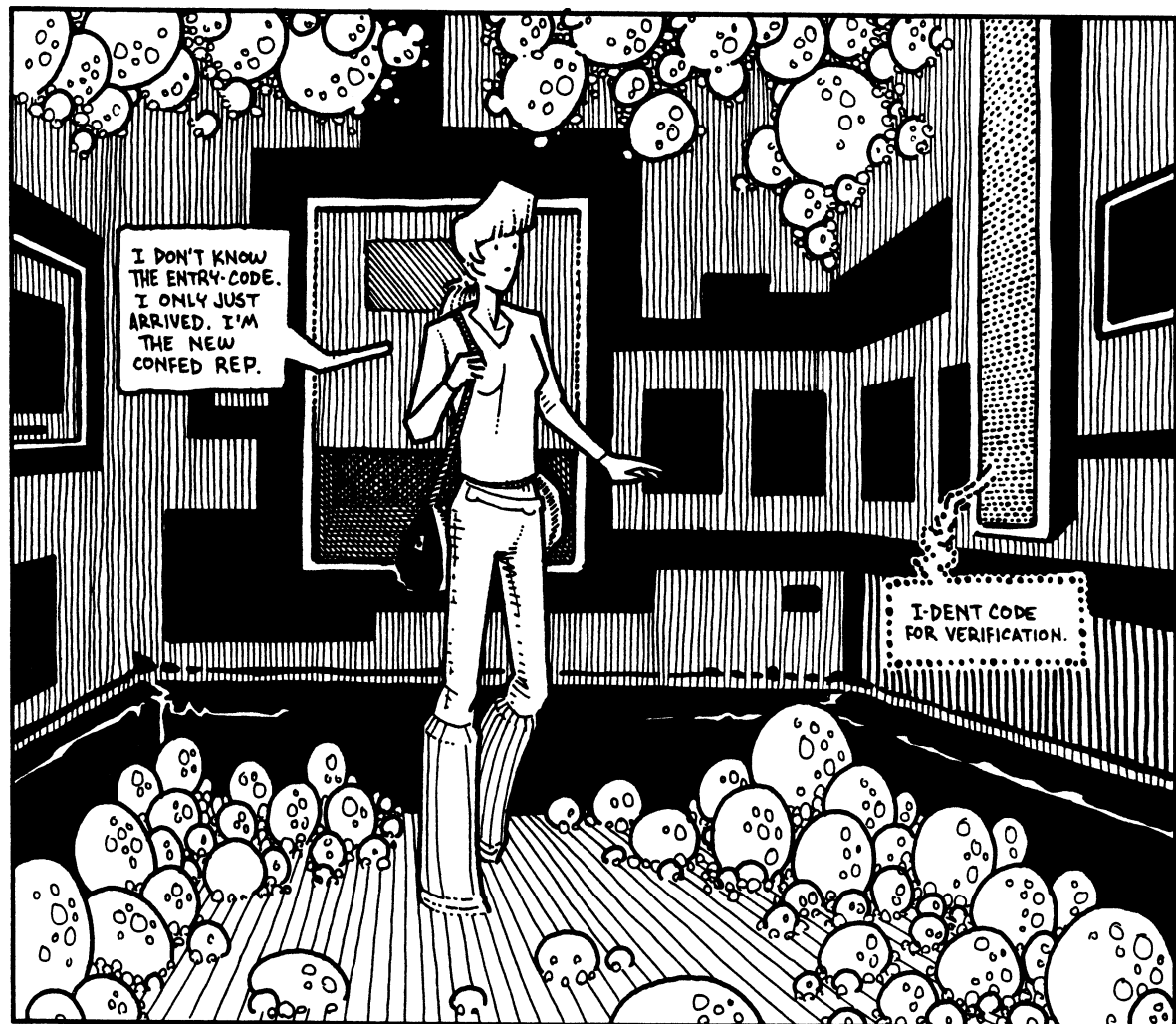
THE TRANSFER SHIP DOES A PASS ON THE WEB-BASE, GIVING ME A DECENT OVERALL OF MY FUTURE HOME. LUMPY, DULL, LARGE, AND DARK: A TUNNELLED-OUT PIECE OF SPACE-DEBRIS.



SIGH...THE PLACE WASN'T EVEN BLUE. -NO! EVEN IF VICKI'S HORROR STORIES TURN OUT TO BE TRUE, I AM DETERMINED TO MAKE THE BEST OF THE SITUATION! I'M FINALLY WHERE I BELONG AS A CONFED XENO-TECH — WHERE THE ALIENS ARE.

I MIGHT EASILY BE THE ONLY HUMAN IN THIS SECTOR.





ALL CITIZENS ARE REQUIRED  
TO PAY THEIR TAXES.  
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES  
ARE NOT EXEMPT.

!OKAY!

OKAY.

WELCOME,  
BEING LLAMA.  
I AM  
GREEN WIND  
BLINKING.

I AM THE  
WEB-BASE'S  
SECOND-IN-  
COMMAND.

I HOPE YOU WILL  
FULFILL A USEFUL  
FUNCTION, BEING LLAMA,  
FOR WE LOOK DIMLY  
UPON THOSE WHO  
CANNOT CONTRIBUTE  
TO LIFE HERE ON  
EDISON-BLUE.

IF YOU CANNOT  
CONTRIBUTE, OR FAIL  
TO PAY YOUR TAXES,  
YOU WILL LOSE YOUR  
WEB-BASE CITIZENSHIP.

CITIZEN OSMAR!  
YOU WILL SHOW NEW  
ARRIVAL LLAMA TO  
THE PERSONNEL DECKS  
AND ASSIST IN HIS  
ORIENTATION.

ACTUALLY,  
SIR, I'M A  
FEMALE.

MY RACE HAS ONLY ONE SEX, BEING LLAMA.  
YOU CITIZENS ARE ALL **MALE** TO ME.

AS YOU  
SAY.

(I HAD TO TAKE  
A SECOND JOB  
TO AFFORD MY  
ASTHMA.)

(TOUGH  
BREAK.)

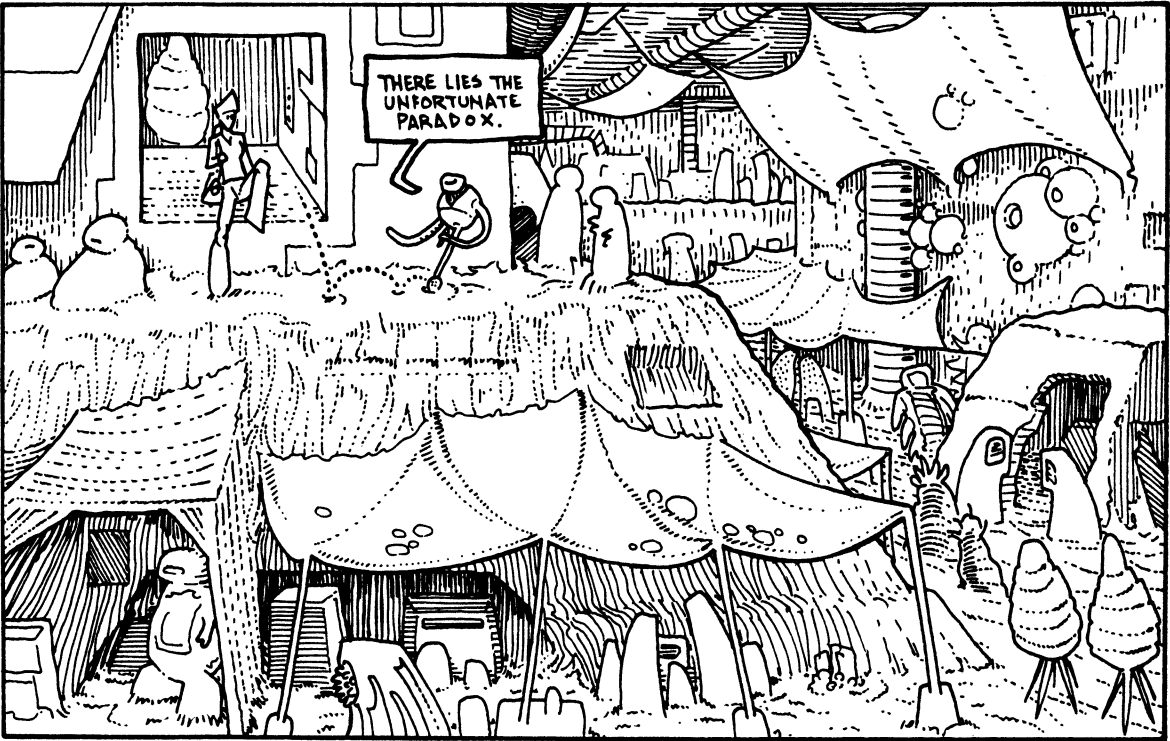
DONOT LET **GREEN WIND**  
**BLINKING** WORRY YOU. SHE  
IS FOREVER REMINDING  
US CITIZENS OF OUR  
DUTY. SHE IS A  
REGULATION-JUNKIE.

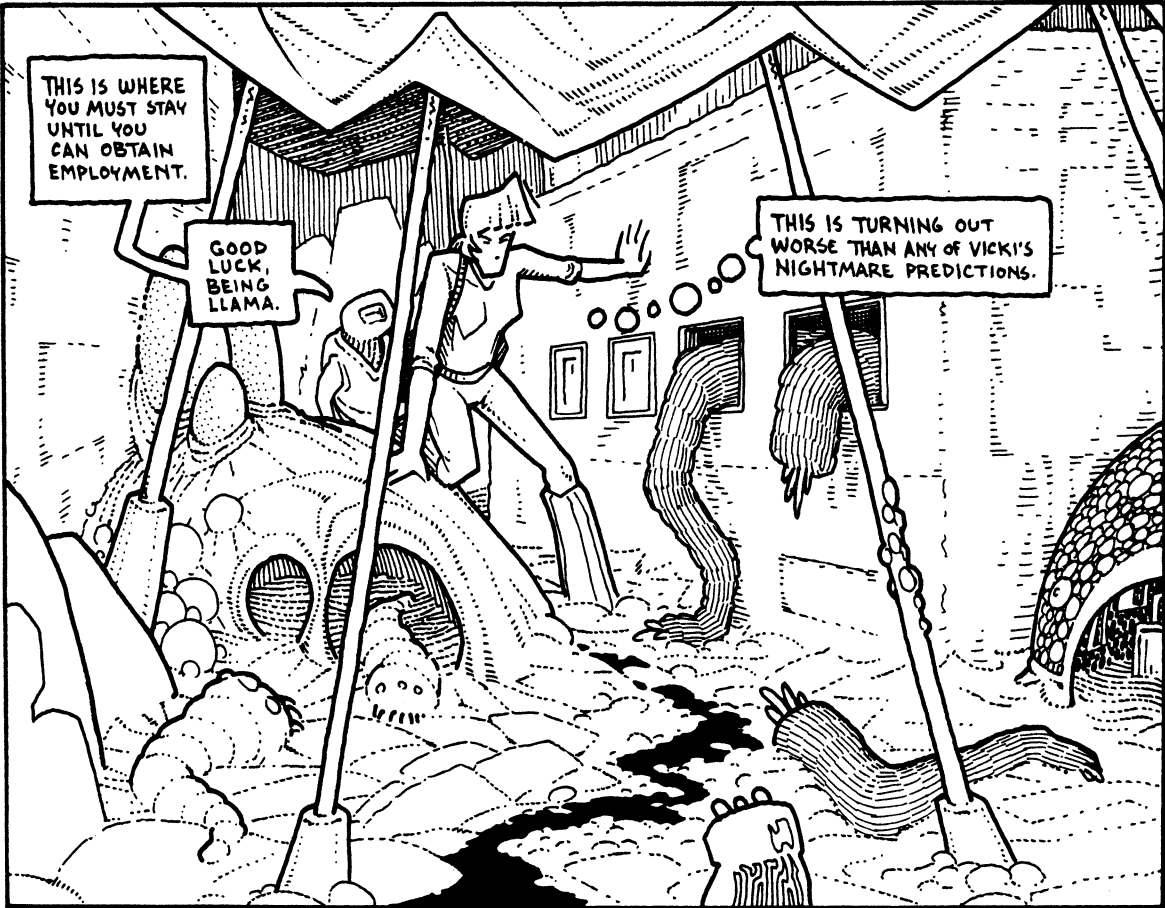
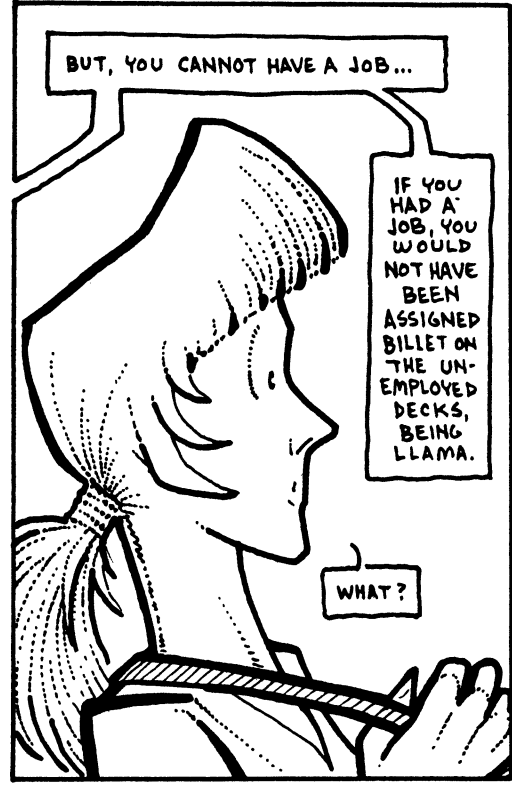
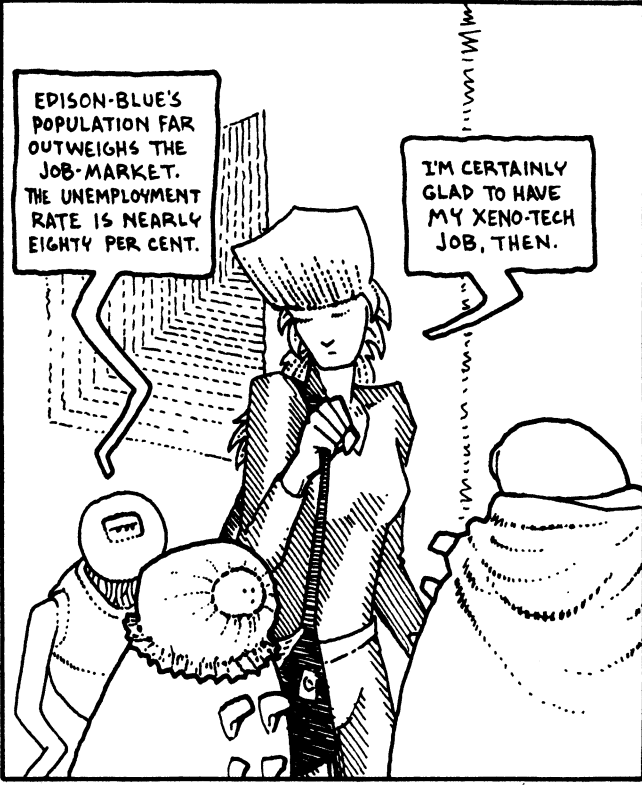
AS LONG AS YOU KEEP PAYING YOUR  
AIR-TAX, YOU WILL BE OKAY.  
AND YOUR HEAT-TAX... AND  
YOUR RESIDENCE-TAX... AND  
YOUR DIETARY-TAXES... NOT TO  
FORGET YOUR DAILY INCOME TAX.

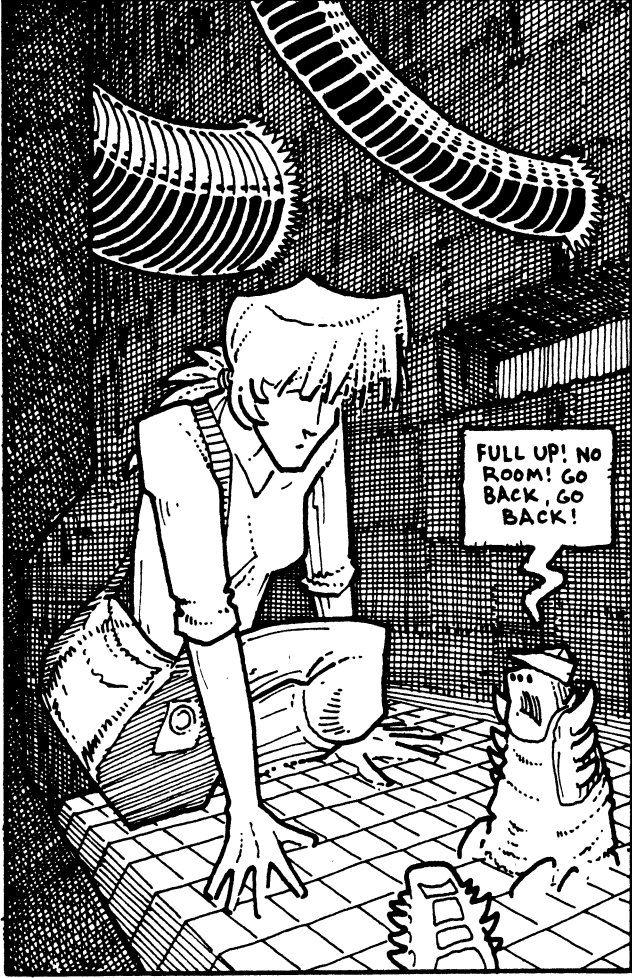
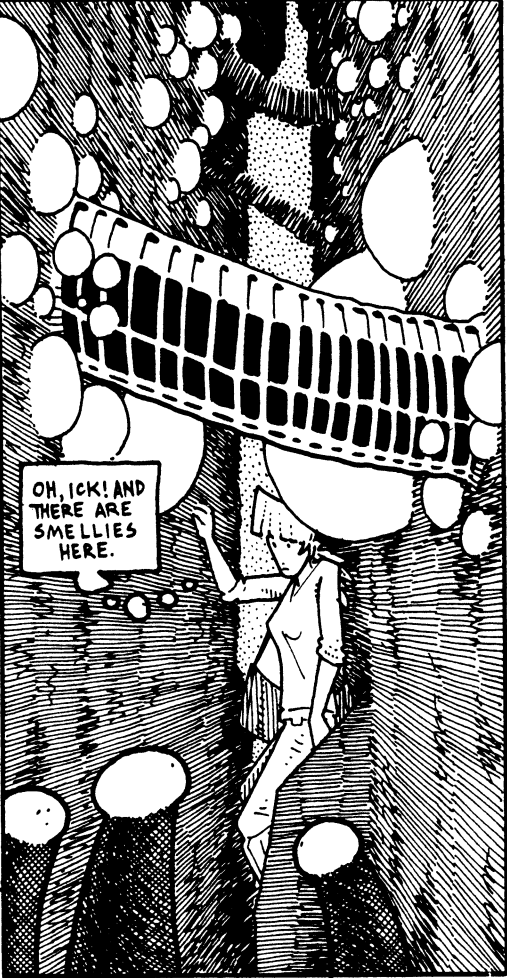
WHAT?

YOU MUST BE JOKING.  
THERE CAN'T BE THAT  
MUCH TAXATION.  
"HEAT-TAX" - HUFF!  
WHOEVER HEARD  
OF SUCH A THING.

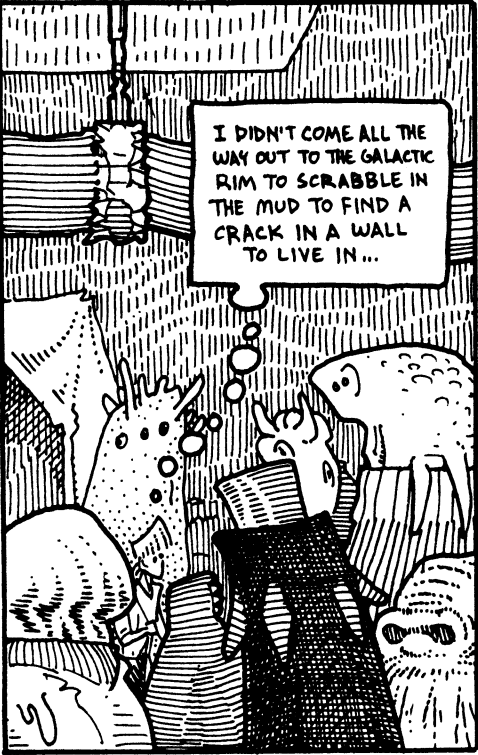
THERE ARE A LOT OF CITIZENS ON EDISON-  
BLUE, BEING LLAMA. STRICTLY SPEAKING,  
THAT IS BOUND TO CREATE QUITE A  
HEAT-BUILDUP IN THE WEB-BASE.  
WITHOUT PROPER COOLING, EVERYONE  
WOULD BOIL TO DEATH (WELL, NEARLY  
EVERYONE). EACH CITIZEN'S HEAT-TAX  
CONTRIBUTES TO THE  
REFRIGERATION OF THE WEB-BASE.













NEEDMERS ARE INVARIABLY OVERPOLITE. IT MARKS YOU AS AN EASY TARGET. YOU WOULD BE WISE TO ADD "SURLY" TO YOUR MOOD REPERTOIRE. I AM KNOWN AS IVO GUNTERFRASER. YOU?

MY NAME IS KEIF LLAMA. I'M A CONFED XENO-TECH. I'LL GET TO "SURLY" WHEN THE SHOCK OF BEING DUMPED INTO THIS DISMAL PLACE HAS WORN OFF.

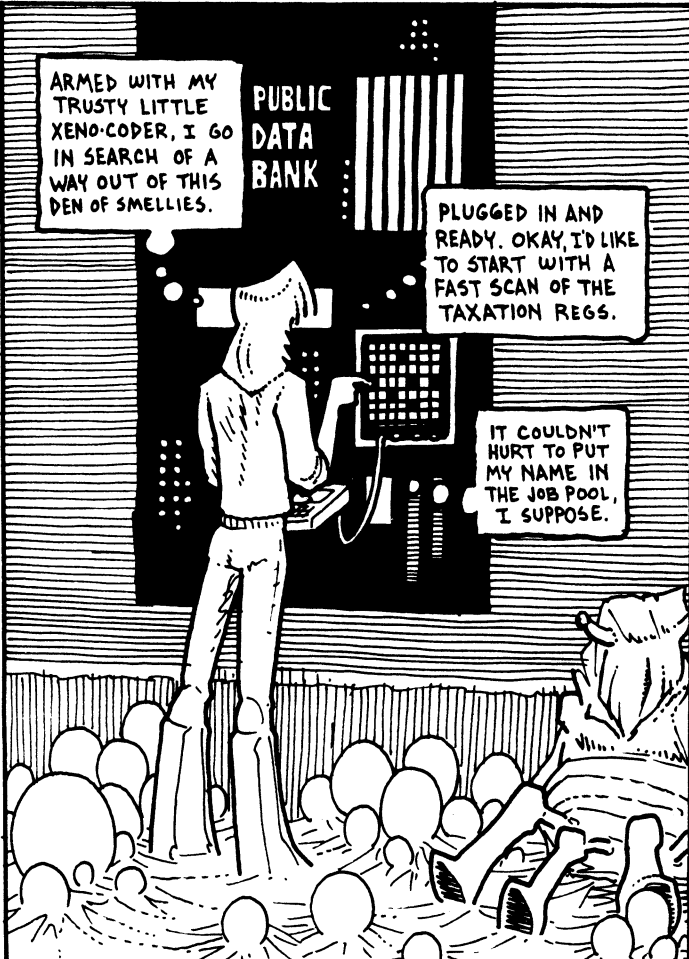
IN ALL FAIRNESS, BEING LLAMA, ONLY 78.7 PER CENT OF EDISON-BLUE'S DENIZENS ARE IN THIS DISMAL STATE. THOSE WHO HAVE JOBS AND PAY THEIR TAXES LIVE IN REASONABLE COMFORT DOWN IN THE WEB-BASE'S CORE DECKS.

THE TAXES MUST BE PRETTY HIGH, WITH SO MANY BEINGS ON THE DOLE.

WHAT DOLE?

NO FREE LUNCH... OKAY.

LUNCH IS CHEAP, BEING LLAMA. AIR IS EXPENSIVE.



ARMED WITH MY TRUSTY LITTLE XENO-CODER, I GO IN SEARCH OF A WAY OUT OF THIS DEN OF SMELLIES.

PUBLIC DATA BANK

PLUGGED IN AND READY. OKAY, I'D LIKE TO START WITH A FAST SCAN OF THE TAXATION REGS.

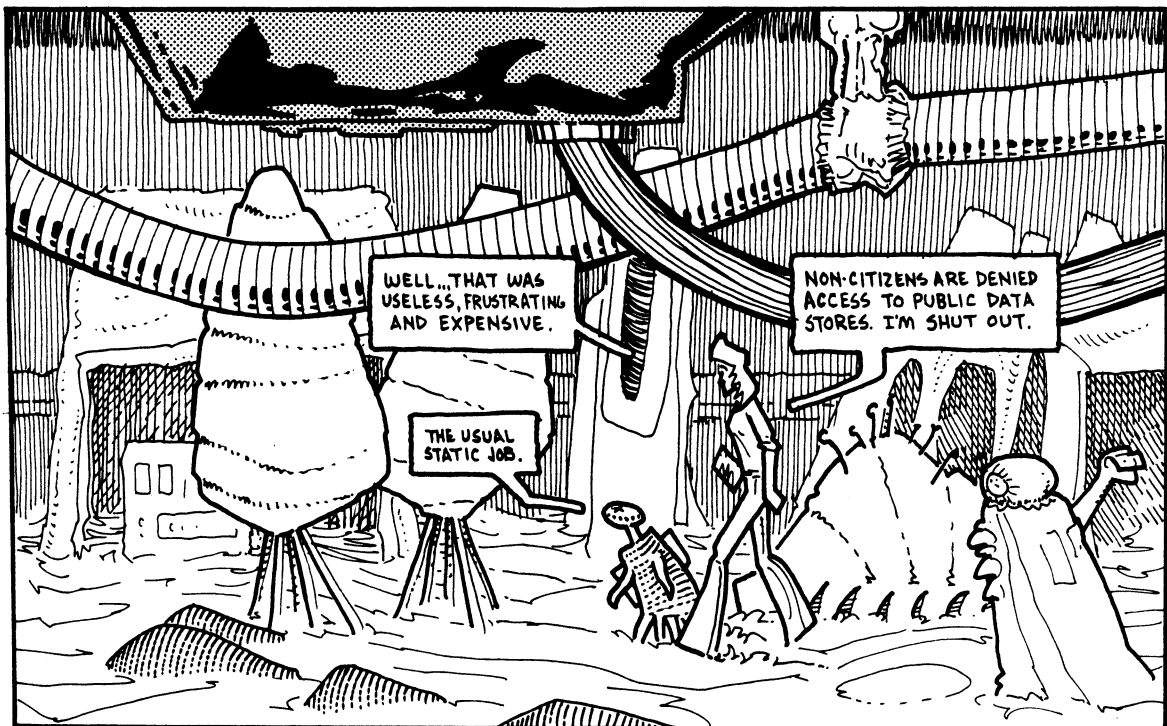
IT COULDN'T HURT TO PUT MY NAME IN THE JOB POOL, I SUPPOSE.



WE ARE SORRY, BUT WE CANNOT COMPLETE YOUR DATA WITHDRAWAL AS REQUESTED. YOUR I-DENT IS NOT IN OUR DATA STORE AS AN EMPLOYED CITIZEN.

SAY WHAT ?!

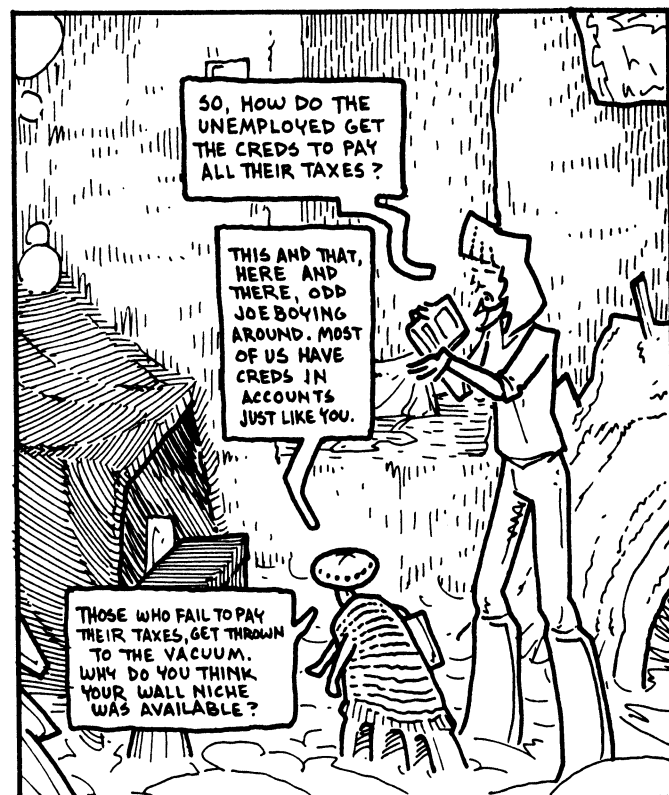
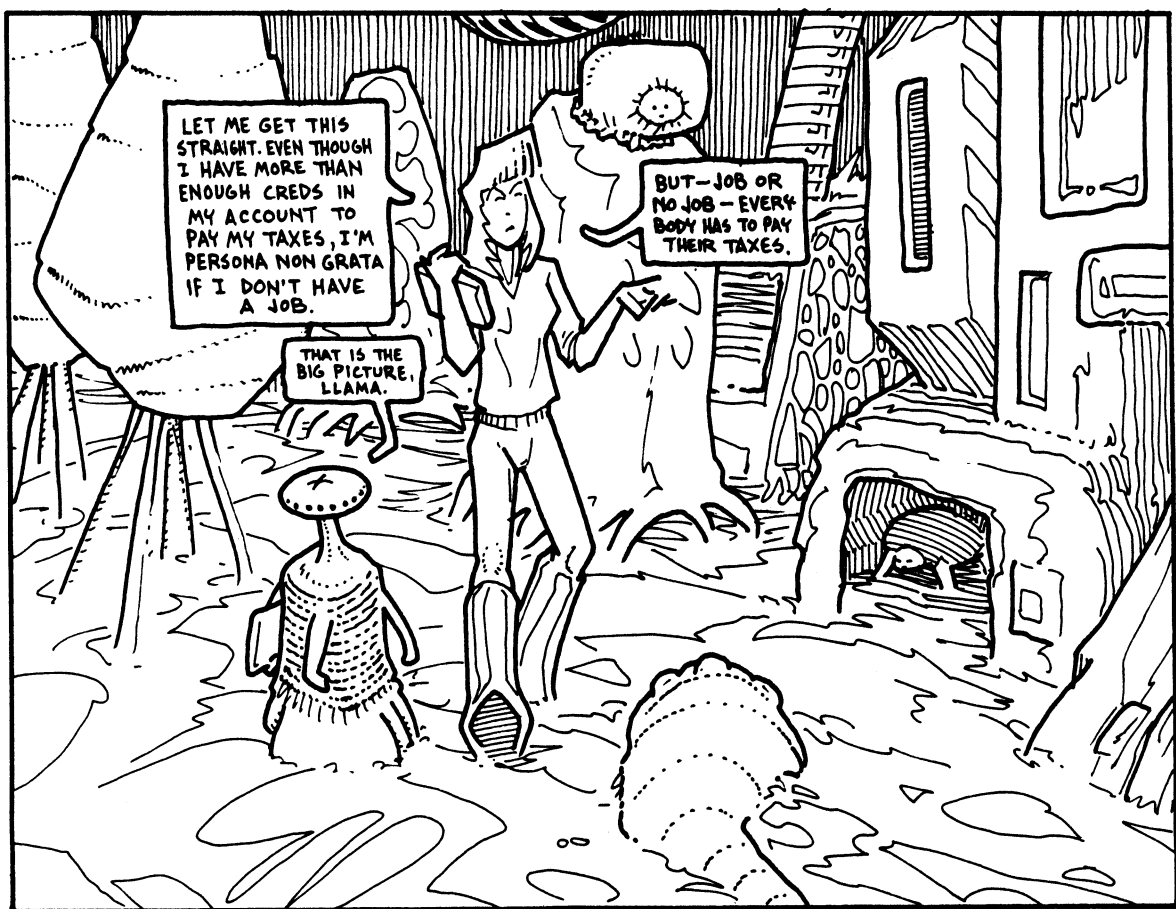
YOUR I-DENT HAS BEEN CHARGED FOR THIS INCOMPLETE TRANSACTION.




WELL...THAT WAS USELESS, FRUSTRATING AND EXPENSIVE.

THE USUAL STATIC JOB.


NON-CITIZENS ARE DENIED ACCESS TO PUBLIC DATA STORES. I'M SHUT OUT.





...SELL LOW ON THE  
RIPOS OPTIONS. USE  
THE GROSS TO GAIN  
CONTROL OF THE REST  
OF THE SHARES AN EH?

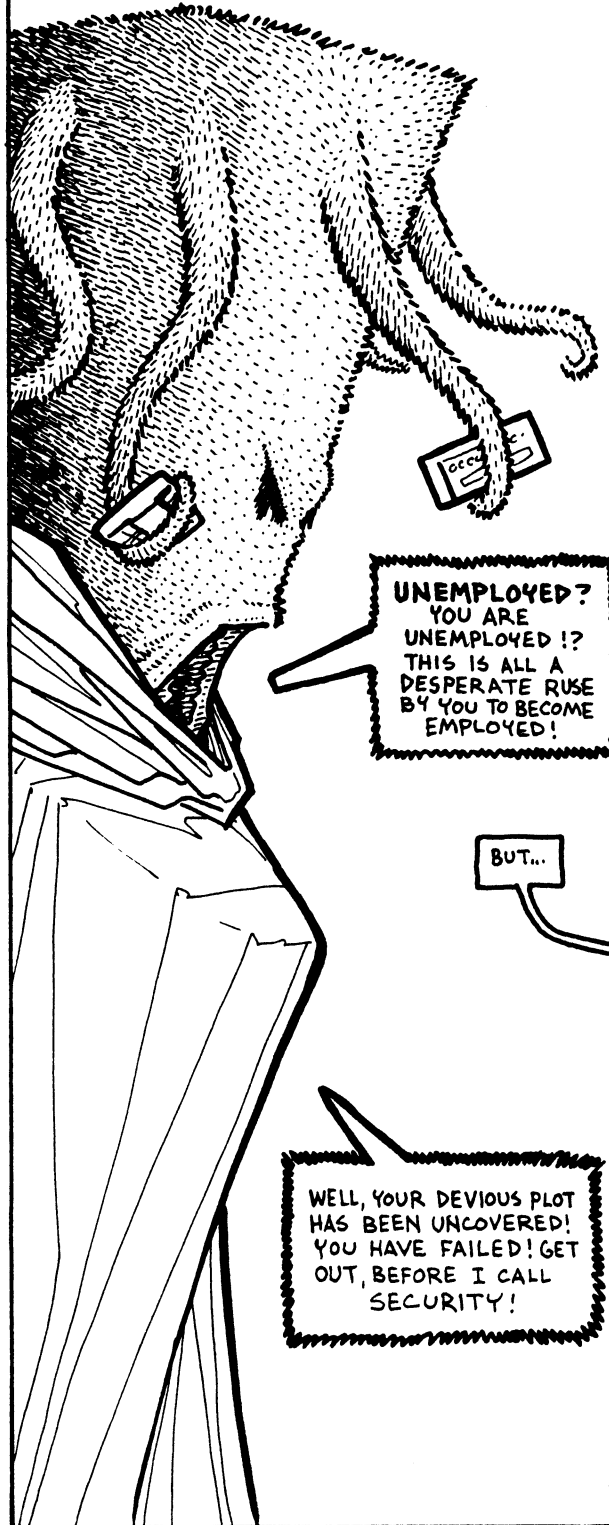
MAY I HAVE A FEW  
MOMENTS OF YOUR  
TIME, SECOND-IN-  
COMMAND?

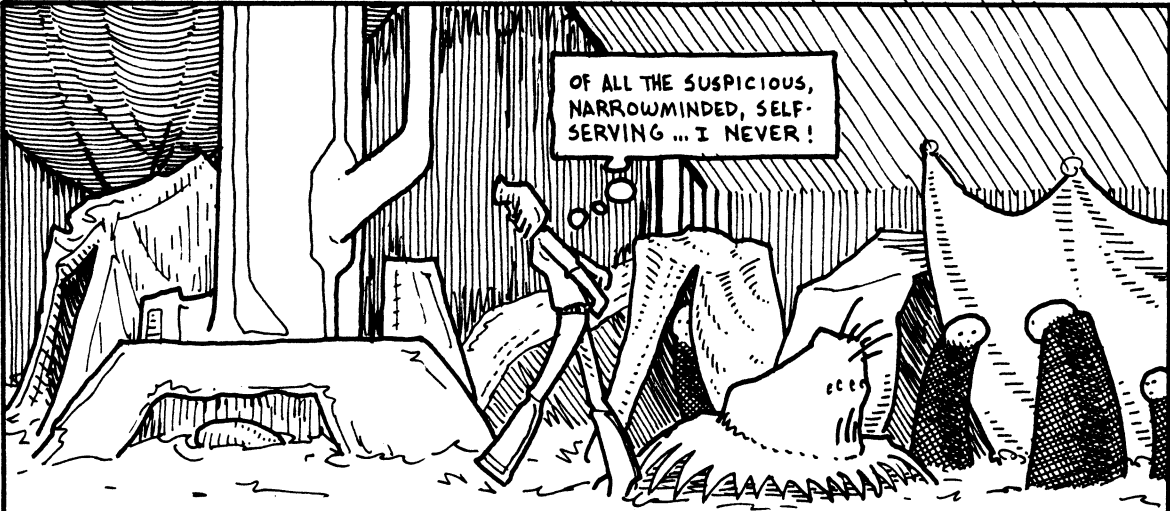


I'VE BEEN LOOKING AT  
THE SIMPLY AWFUL  
PROBLEM OF THE  
JOBLESS HERE ON  
EDISON-BLUE, AND I  
BELIEVE I HAVE  
UNCOVERED THE  
DILEMA'S CAUSE.

BASICALLY, EDISON-BLUE HAS SO HIGH AN  
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE BECAUSE THE JOB  
POOL IS ONLY ACCESSIBLE TO CITIZENS,  
BUT THE DATABANKS DEFINE A  
"CITIZEN" AS "ONE WHO IS ALREADY  
EMPLOYED. SO, THE JOBLESS REMAIN  
JOBLESS.

THE UNEMPLOYED ARE HOPELESS  
VERMIN: SNEAKY, DIRTY, SHIFTLESS.  
THIS IS REPEATEDLY DOCUMENTED  
THROUGHOUT THE DATA BANKS.  
HOW CAN YOU DISPUTE THIS?





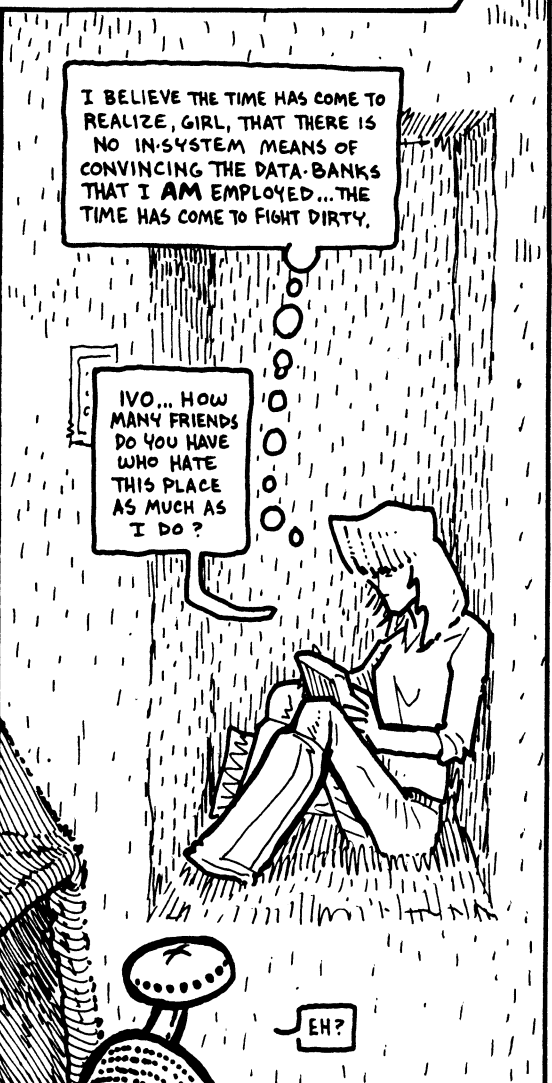
OF ALL THE SUSPICIOUS,  
NARROWMINDED, SELF-  
SERVING ... I NEVER!



ANYWAY—I'M EMPLOYED BY  
CONFED — I DO TOO HAVE A  
JOB! FAT GOB OF GOOD IT DOES  
ME ... MORE THAN HALF THE JOBLESS  
BEINGS HERE ON EDISON-BLUE WERE  
(AND PROBABLY STILL ARE) IN THE  
EMPLOY OF OFF-BASE AGENCIES.

I KNOW I'M STILL DRAWING  
A PAY CHIT ... BUT AS A NON-  
CITIZEN, ALL I CAN DO WITH  
IT IS PAY THE TAXES...

TWO WEEKS PASS. I GOT PAID ONCE; I PAID THE TAXES  
FOUR TIMES. MY PATIENCE IS BEGINNING TO  
WEAR AS THIN AS MY CRED-ACCOUNT.

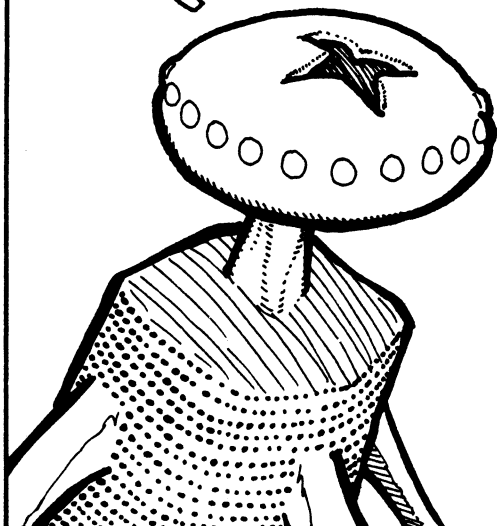


I BELIEVE THE TIME HAS COME TO  
REALIZE, GIRL, THAT THERE IS  
NO IN-SYSTEM MEANS OF  
CONVINCING THE DATA-BANKS  
THAT I AM EMPLOYED ... THE  
TIME HAS COME TO FIGHT DIRTY.

IVO ... HOW  
MANY FRIENDS  
DO YOU HAVE  
WHO HATE  
THIS PLACE  
AS MUCH AS  
I DO ?

EH?

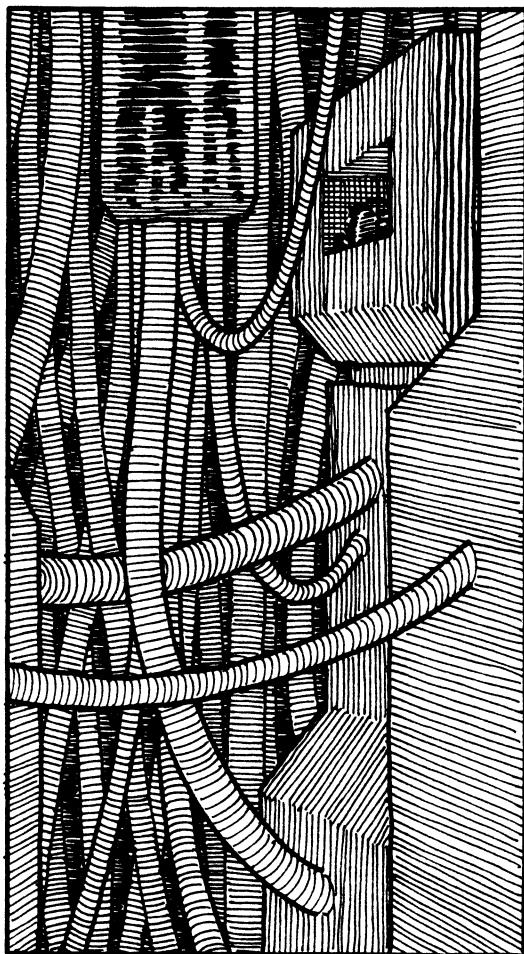
I DO NOT WANT TO MAKE TROUBLE, LLAMA,  
BUT I AM AFRAID MOST OF MY  
FRIENDS HATE "THIS PLACE" (AS  
YOU PUT IT) FAR MORE THAN YOU DO.



BETTER THAN  
PERFECT. CAN  
YOU ARRANGE  
A CLANDESTINE  
MEETING?

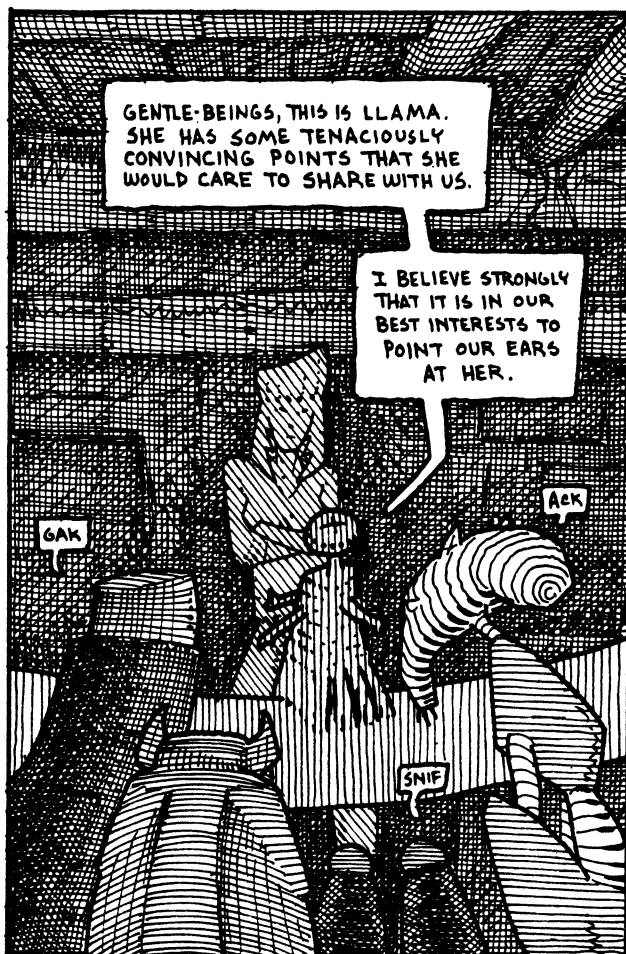


CONVINCE  
ME.



GENTLE-BEINGS, THIS IS LLAMA.  
SHE HAS SOME TENACIOUSLY  
CONVINCING POINTS THAT SHE  
WOULD CARE TO SHARE WITH US.

I BELIEVE STRONGLY  
THAT IT IS IN OUR  
BEST INTERESTS TO  
POINT OUR EARS  
AT HER.

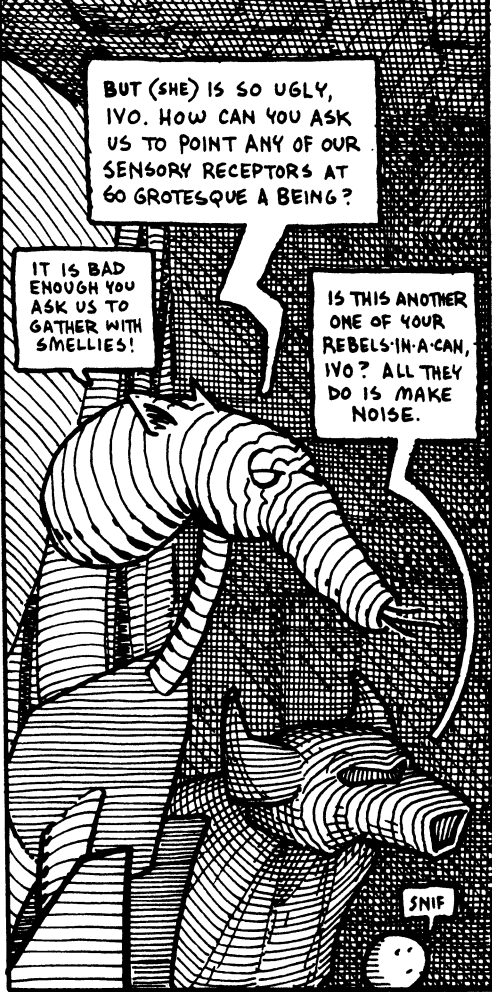


GAK

ACK

SNIF






BUT (SHE) IS SO UGLY, IVO. HOW CAN YOU ASK US TO POINT ANY OF OUR SENSORY RECEPTORS AT SO GROTESQUE A BEING?

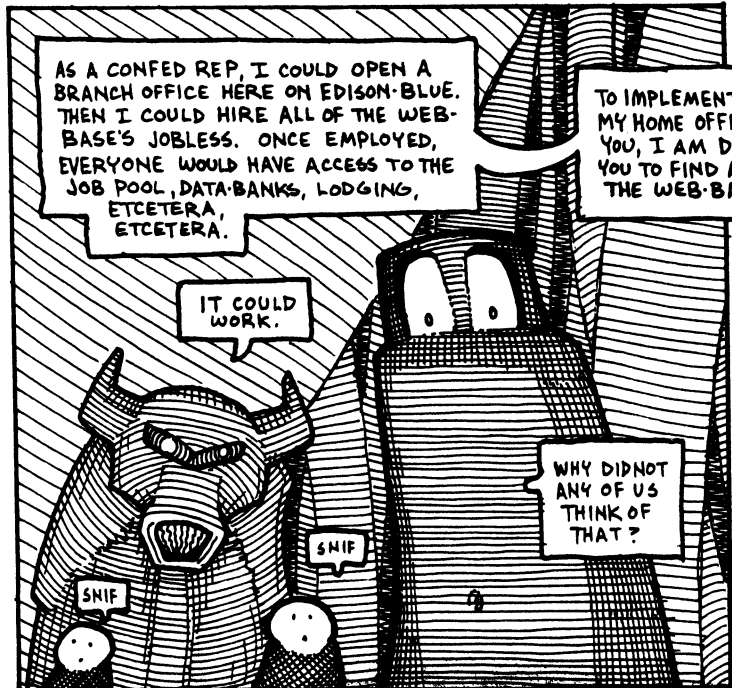
IT IS BAD ENOUGH YOU ASK US TO GATHER WITH SMELLIES!

IS THIS ANOTHER ONE OF YOUR REBELS-IN-A-CAN, IVO? ALL THEY DO IS MAKE NOISE.

SNIF



NO NO, I'M NO REBEL. IN FACT, I'M EDISON-BLUE'S NEW GOVERNMENT FIELD REP. AND I'D ADVISE AGAINST A REVOLT. THERE'S A MUCH SIMPLER WAY OF RESOLVING THIS WEB-BASE'S JOBLESS CRISIS.




AS A CONFED REP, I COULD OPEN A BRANCH OFFICE HERE ON EDISON-BLUE. THEN I COULD HIRE ALL OF THE WEB-BASE'S JOBLESS. ONCE EMPLOYED, EVERYONE WOULD HAVE ACCESS TO THE JOB POOL, DATA-BANKS, LODGING, ETCETERA, ETCETERA.

IT COULD WORK.

SNIF

SNIF

WHY DIDNOT ANY OF US THINK OF THAT?

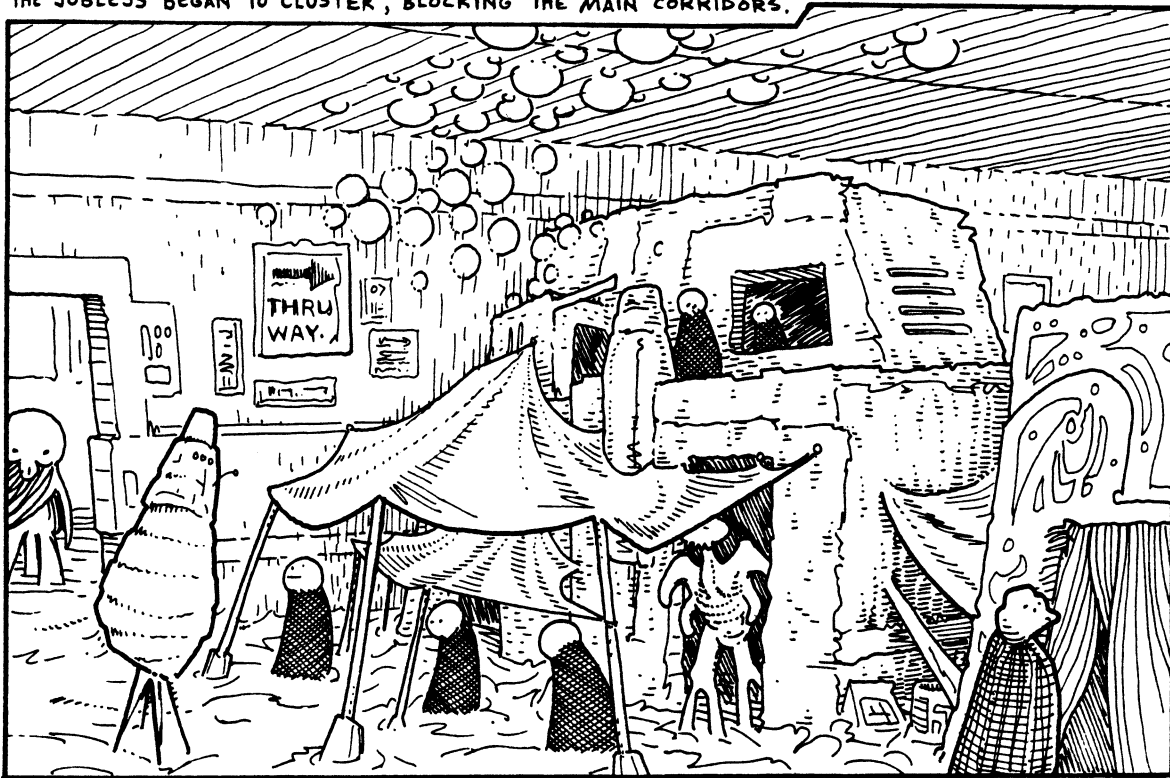


TO IMPLEMENT THIS PLAN, I NEED TO CONTACT MY HOME OFFICE. BUT, AS A NON-CITIZEN LIKE YOU, I AM DENIED COMM USE. I'M ASKING YOU TO FIND A WAY TO GAIN ME ACCESS TO THE WEB-BASE'S OUT-LINE COMM LINK.

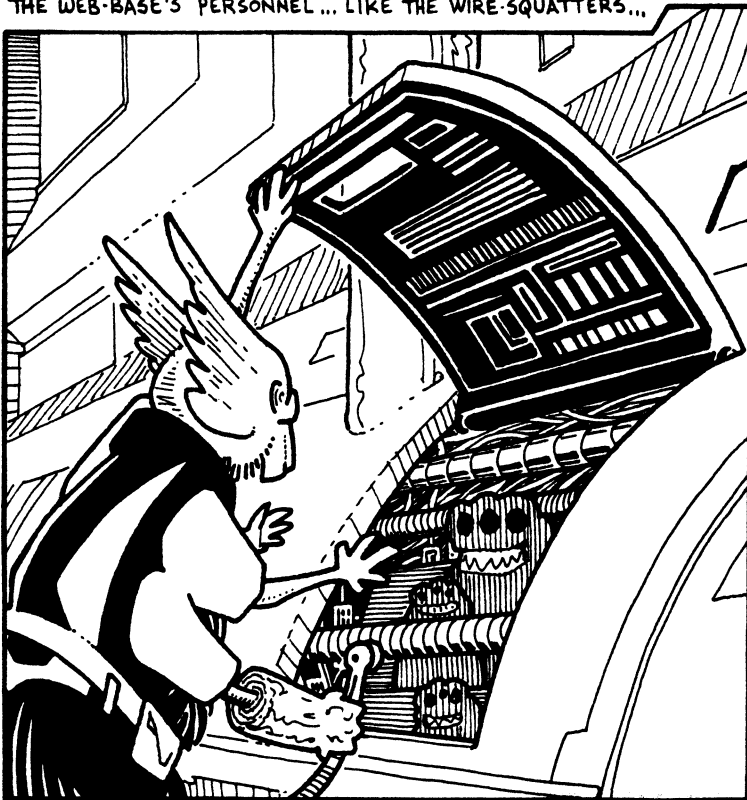
GET ME THAT FAR, AND I'LL GET US ALL EMPLOYMENT.



IVO'S FRIENDS BRAINSTORMED FAR INTO THE NIGHT-SHIFT. WHEN I PACKED IT IN, THEY WERE STILL SCHEMING STRONG. SLOWLY, OVER THE NEXT WEEK, THINGS BEGAN TO HAPPEN. THE MAKESHIFT HOUSING OF THE JOBLESS BEGAN TO CLUSTER, BLOCKING THE MAIN CORRIDORS.

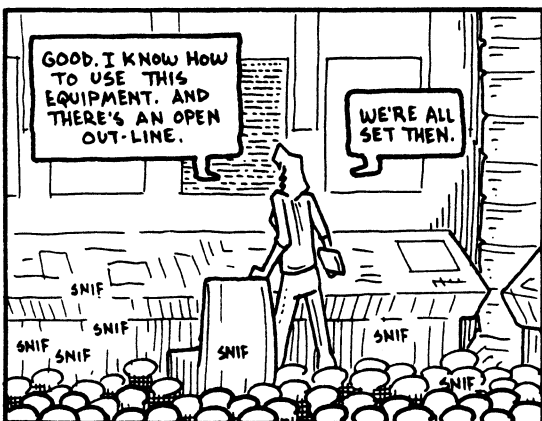
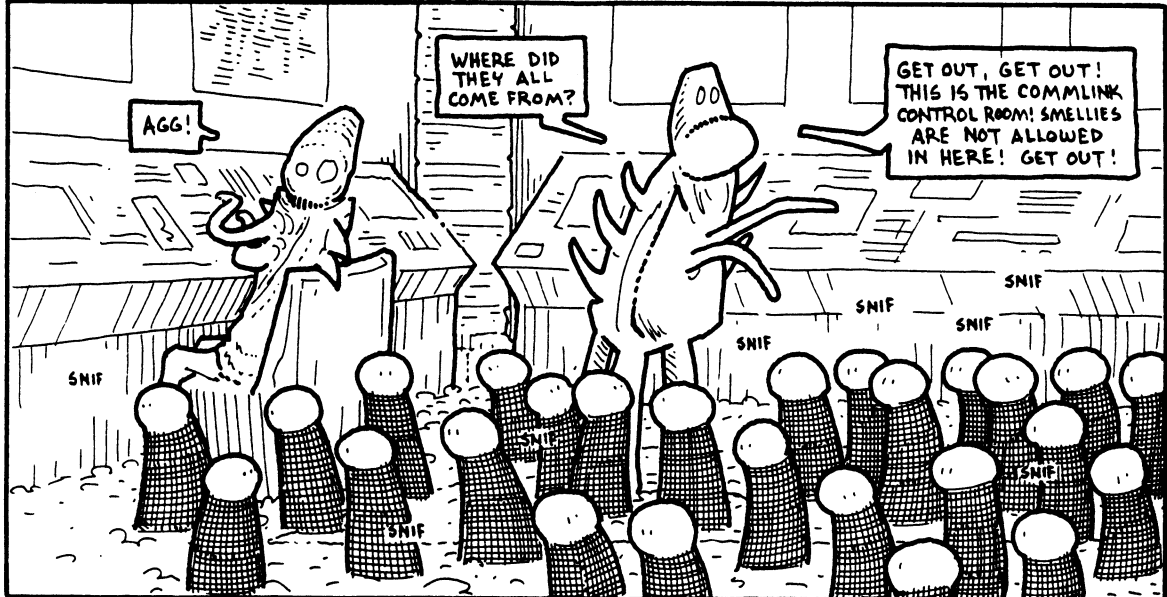


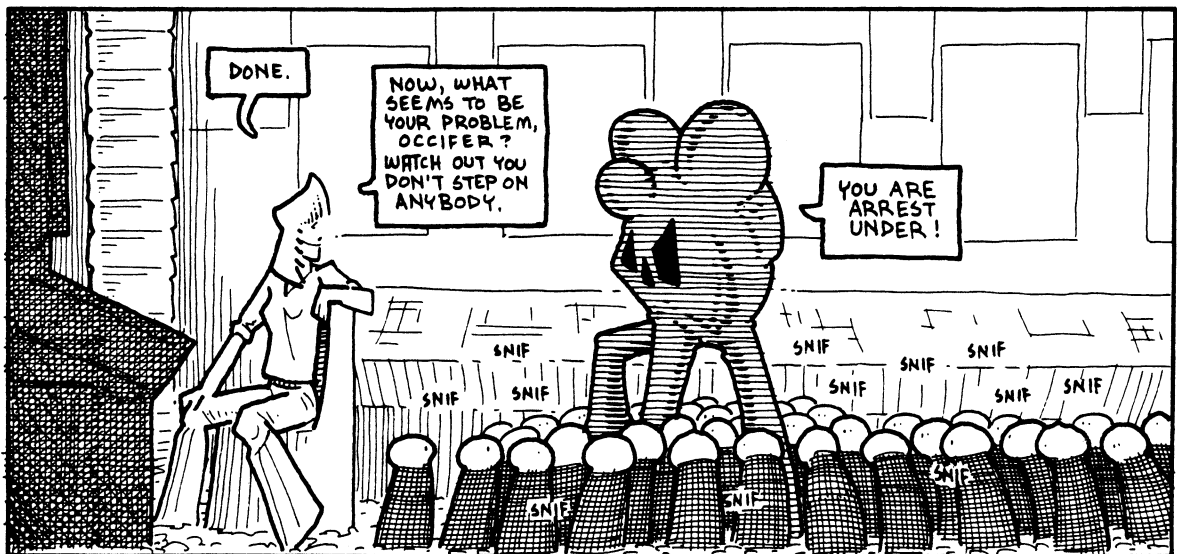
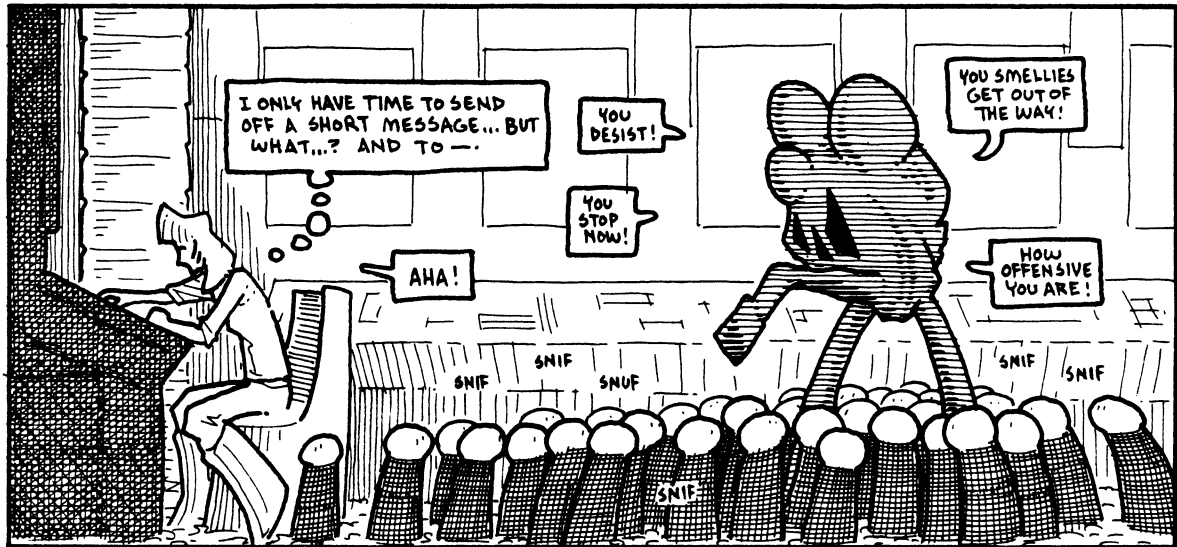
WHILE OTHERS FOUND ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO ANNOY AND CONFUSE THE WEB-BASE'S PERSONNEL ... LIKE THE WIRE-SQUATTERS...



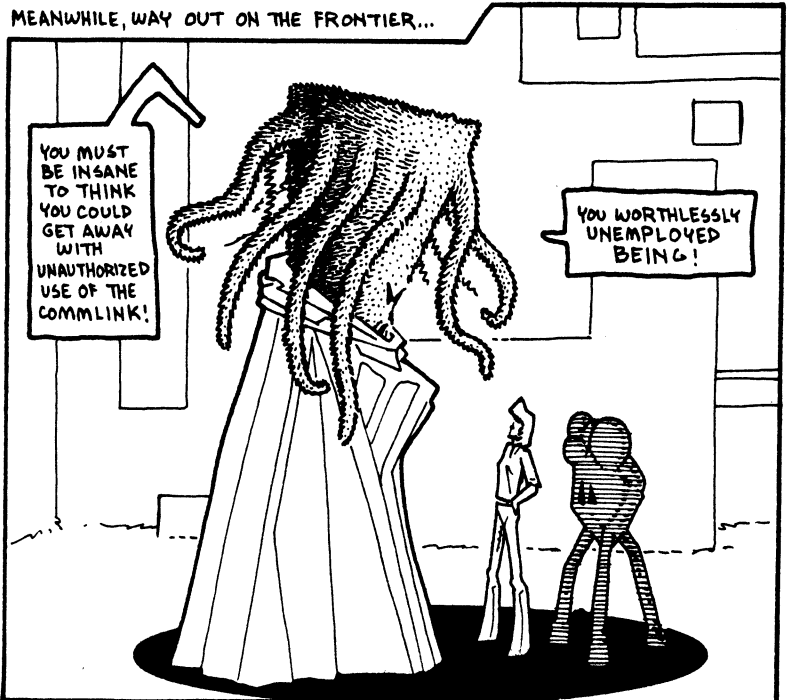
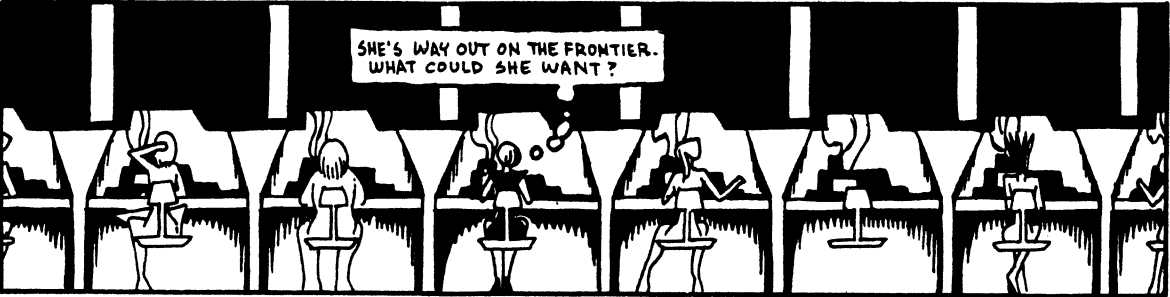
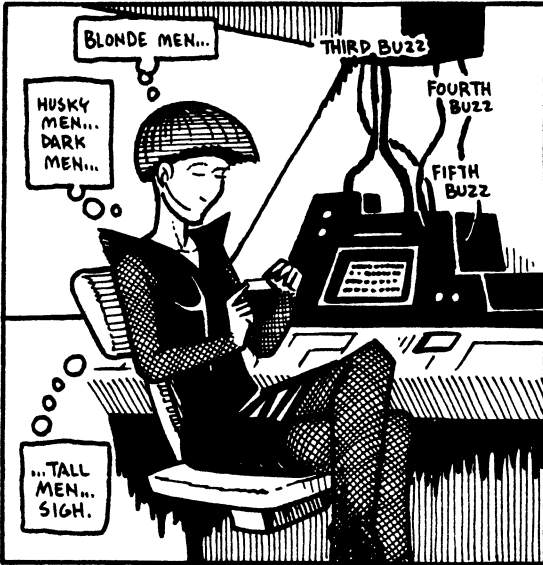
... AND THE ROAMING PACKS OF SMELLIES.

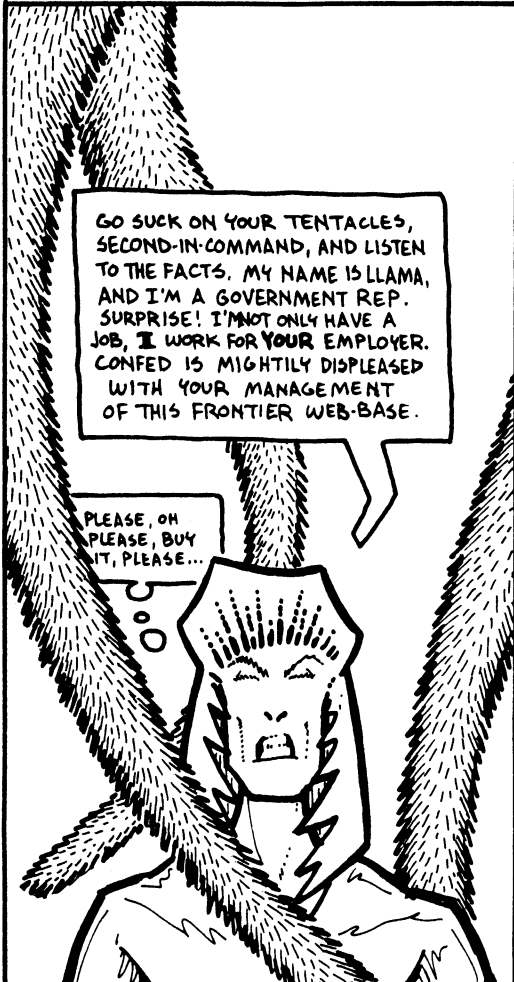






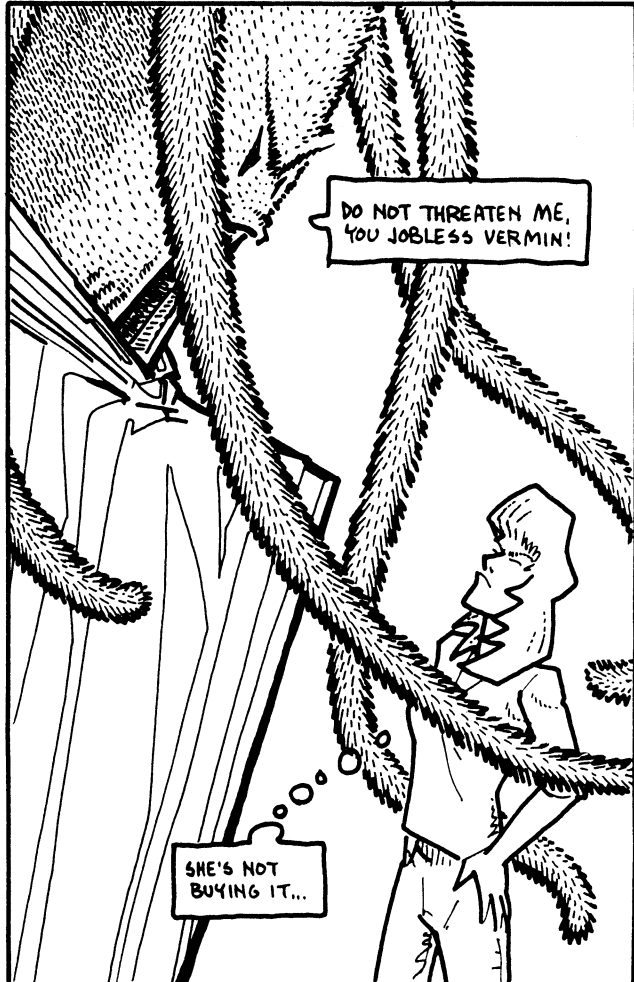
BUT, EVEN AS SECURITY IS HAULING ME OFF, MY MESSAGE IS DUCKING INTO HYPERSPACE, BOUND FOR CONFED'S HOME OFFICE...WHERE I HOPE MY EX-ROOMMATE STILL HAS THE SAME WORK SCHEDULE AS WHEN I LEFT.





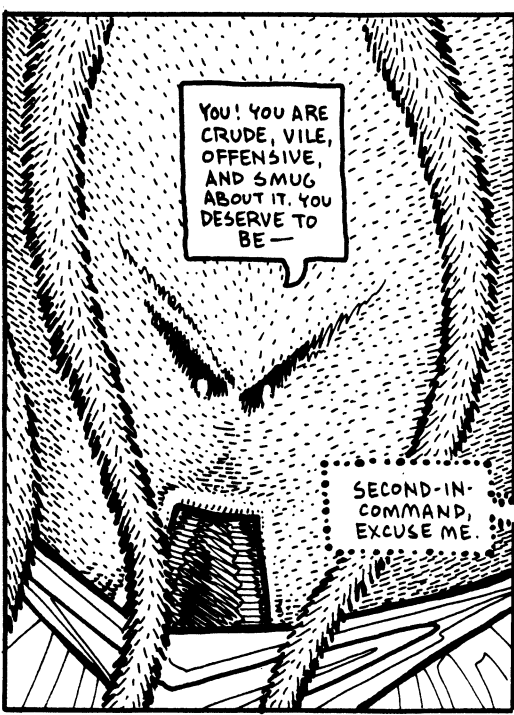
GO SUCK ON YOUR TENTACLES,  
SECOND-IN-COMMAND, AND LISTEN  
TO THE FACTS. MY NAME IS LLAMA,  
AND I'M A GOVERNMENT REP.  
SURPRISE! I'M NOT ONLY HAVE A  
JOB, I WORK FOR YOUR EMPLOYER.  
CONFED IS MIGHTILY DISPLEASED  
WITH YOUR MANAGEMENT  
OF THIS FRONTIER WEB-BASE.

PLEASE, OH  
PLEASE, BUY  
IT, PLEASE...



DO NOT THREATEN ME,  
YOU JOBLESS VERMIN!

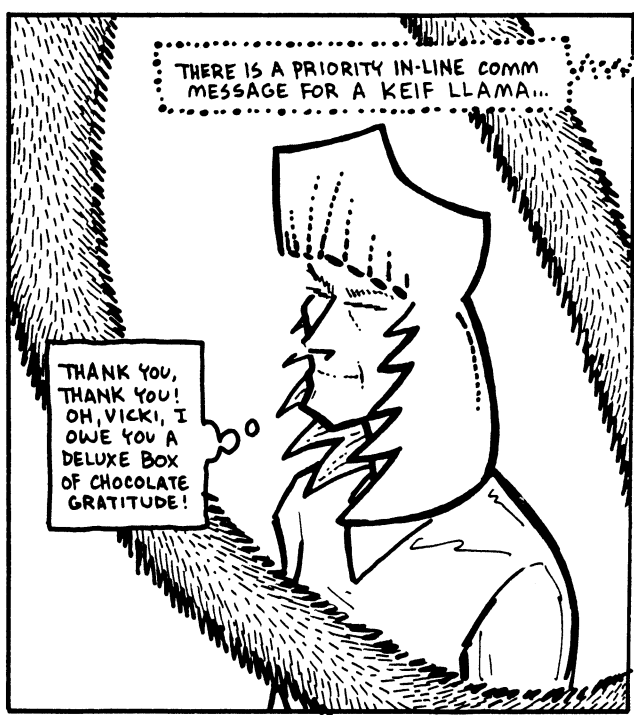
SHE'S NOT  
BUYING IT...



YOU! YOU ARE  
CRUDE, VILE,  
OFFENSIVE,  
AND SMUG  
ABOUT IT. YOU  
DESERVE TO  
BE —

SECOND-IN-  
COMMAND,  
EXCUSE ME.

.....  
THERE IS A PRIORITY IN-LINE COMM  
MESSAGE FOR A KEIF LLAMA...  
.....



THANK YOU,  
THANK YOU!  
OH, VICKI, I  
OWE YOU A  
DELUXE BOX  
OF CHOCOLATE  
GRATITUDE!

SIR, THIS IS AN OFFICIAL  
COMM FROM CONFed FOR  
THIS LLAMA BEING - BUT I  
AM UNABLE TO FIND A LLAMA  
IN OUR DATA BANKS. WHAT  
SHOULD I DO, SECOND-IN-COMMAND?

(SPUTTER) HOLD-  
HOLD ON THE LINE-

YOU-YOU DID THIS! YOU  
ARRANGED THIS, DID YOU  
NOT? YOU INCORRIGIBLE  
JOBLESS NON-CITIZEN!

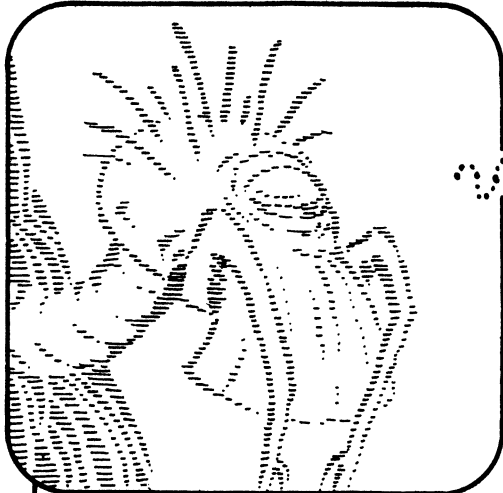
WE ALL KNOW WHAT  
YOU SHOULD DO,  
SECOND-IN-COMMAND.  
THE QUESTION IS:  
WHAT ARE YOU  
GOING TO DO?

SIR, A COMM LIKE THIS  
REQUIRES AN  
IMMEDIATE VISUAL  
CONFIRMATION BY  
THIS LLAMA BEING.

WHAT AM I TO  
DO, SECOND-IN-  
COMMAND?

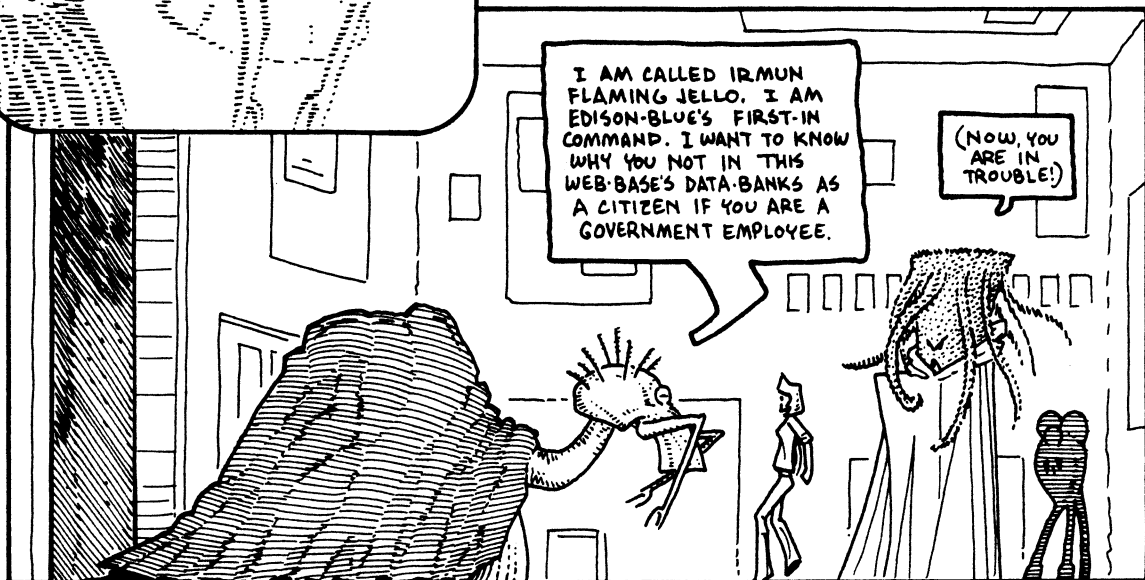
(SPUT-SPUT!) I TOLD YOU TO  
HOLD THE LINE! CONNECT ME  
WITH FIRST-IN-COMMAND.

I AM ALREADY  
ON-LINE, GREEN  
WIND, AND AWARE  
OF THE PROBLEM.



INSTRUCT THE COMMLINK CONTROL ROOM TO STALL WITH COMPLAINTS OF MESSAGE BREAKUP. HAVE THEM ASK FOR A REPEAT TRANSMISSION.

HAVE THIS NON-CITIZEN LLAMA STAND BY, I WILL ARRIVE IN YOUR CABIN MOMENTARILY, AND WE WILL SETTLE THIS IN THE FLESH.



I AM CALLED IRMUN FLAMING JELLO. I AM EDISON-BLUE'S FIRST-IN COMMAND. I WANT TO KNOW WHY YOU NOT IN THIS WEB-BASE'S DATA-BANKS AS A CITIZEN IF YOU ARE A GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE.

(NOW, YOU ARE IN TROUBLE!)

I'LL TELL YOU WHY—BECAUSE YOUR DATA-BANKS ONLY ACKNOWLEDGE WEB-BASE EMPLOYMENT AS DEFINITION OF CITIZENSHIP.

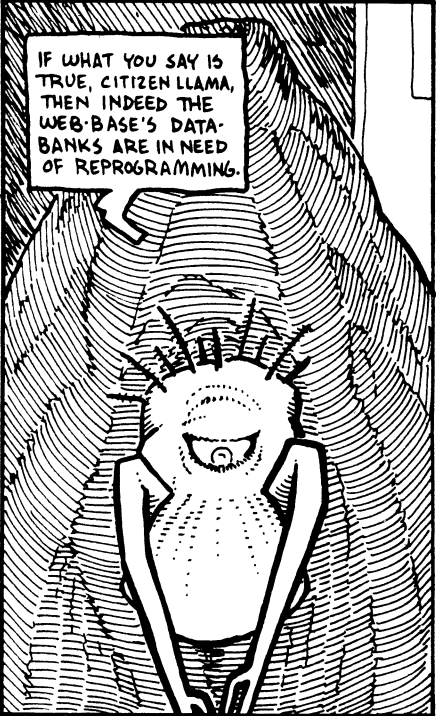


YOUR DATA-BANK'S COMPLETELY SHUT OUT THE SO-CALLED "JOBLESS", REFUSING THEM FOOD, LODGING, MEDICAL ATTENTION, COMMLINK, AND ACCESS TO THE JOB POOL.

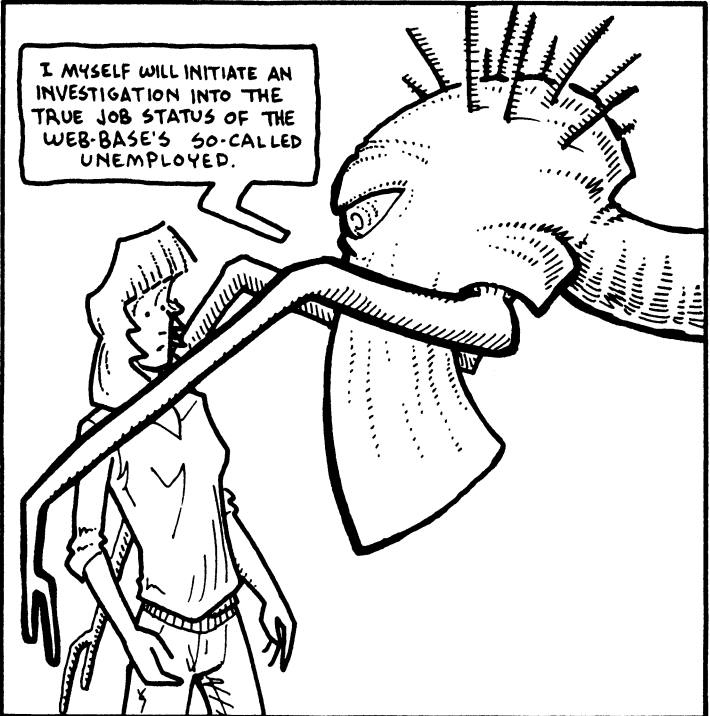
BUT...

YOUR DATA-BANKS ABSOLUTELY REQUIRE THE SO-CALLED JOBLESS TO PAY RIDICULOUSLY STACKED LIFE SUPPORT TAXES, OR ELSE.

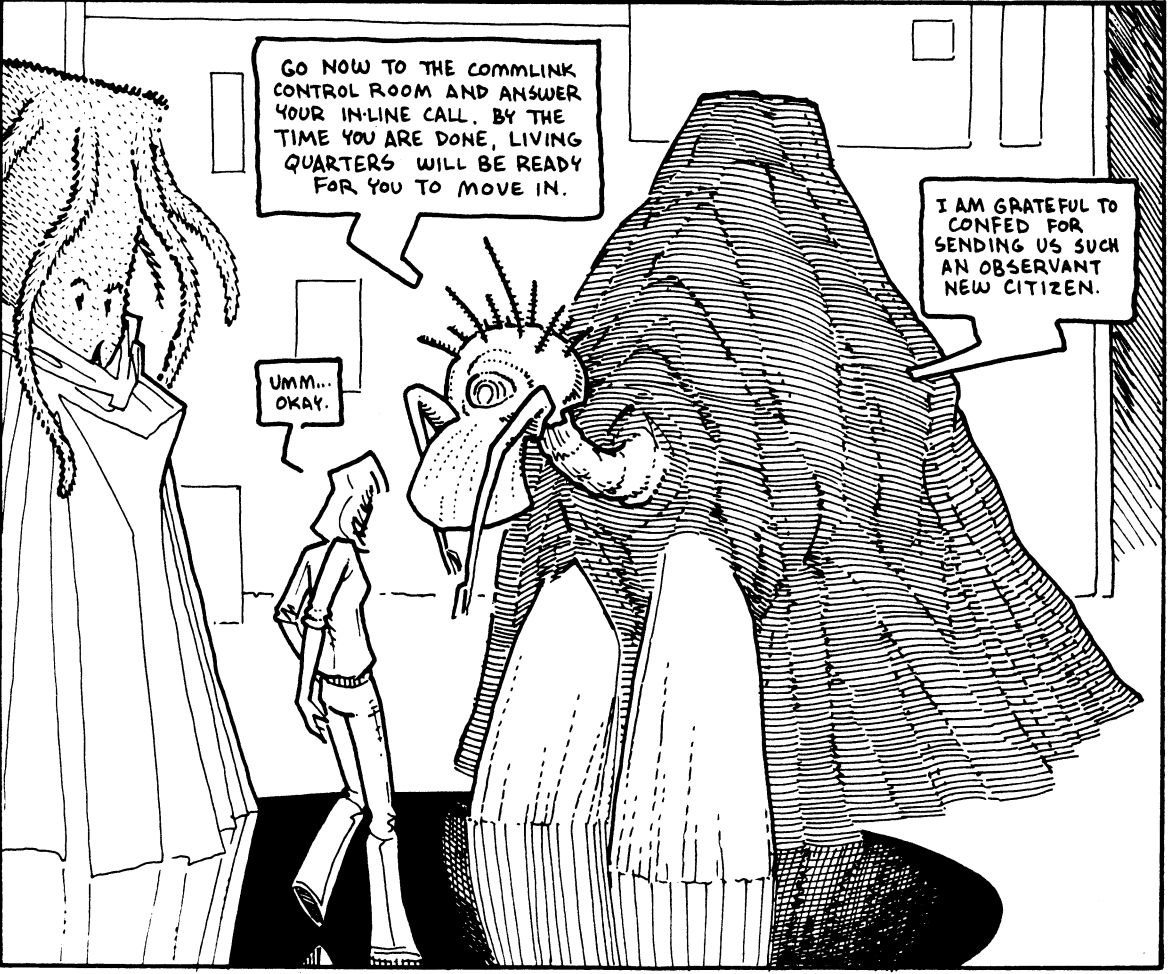




IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, CITIZEN LLAMA, THEN INDEED THE WEB-BASE'S DATA-BANKS ARE IN NEED OF REPROGRAMMING.



I MYSELF WILL INITIATE AN INVESTIGATION INTO THE TRUE JOB STATUS OF THE WEB-BASE'S SO-CALLED UNEMPLOYED.

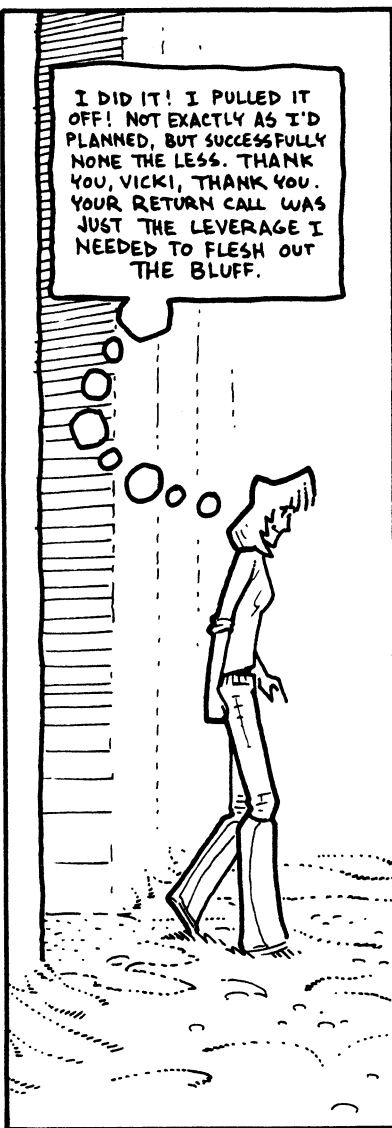


GO NOW TO THE COMMLINK CONTROL ROOM AND ANSWER YOUR IN-LINE CALL. BY THE TIME YOU ARE DONE, LIVING QUARTERS WILL BE READY FOR YOU TO MOVE IN.

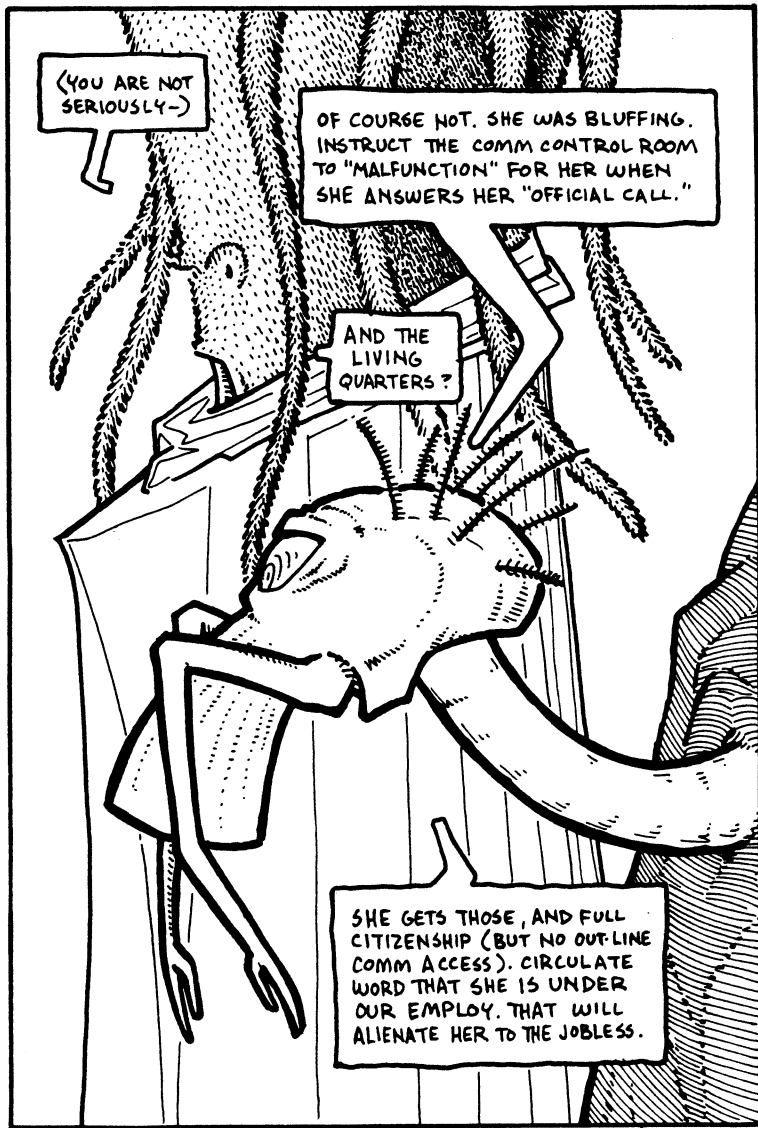
UMM...  
OKAY.

I AM GRATEFUL TO  
CONFED FOR  
SENDING US SUCH  
AN OBSERVANT  
NEW CITIZEN.





I DID IT! I PULLED IT OFF! NOT EXACTLY AS I'D PLANNED, BUT SUCCESSFULLY NONE THE LESS. THANK YOU, VICKI, THANK YOU. YOUR RETURN CALL WAS JUST THE LEVERAGE I NEEDED TO FLESH OUT THE BLUFF.



(YOU ARE NOT SERIOUSLY-)

OF COURSE NOT. SHE WAS BLUFFING. INSTRUCT THE COMM CONTROL ROOM TO "MALFUNCTION" FOR HER WHEN SHE ANSWERS HER "OFFICIAL CALL."

AND THE LIVING QUARTERS?

SHE GETS THOSE, AND FULL CITIZENSHIP (BUT NO OUT-LINE COMM ACCESS). CIRCULATE WORD THAT SHE IS UNDER OUR EMPLOY. THAT WILL ALIENATE HER TO THE JOBLESS.

THESE TINY REBELS THAT IVO KEEPS SENDING AGAINST US ARE BECOMING ANNOYING. WHY CAN WE NOT SIMPLY ELIMINATE HIM?

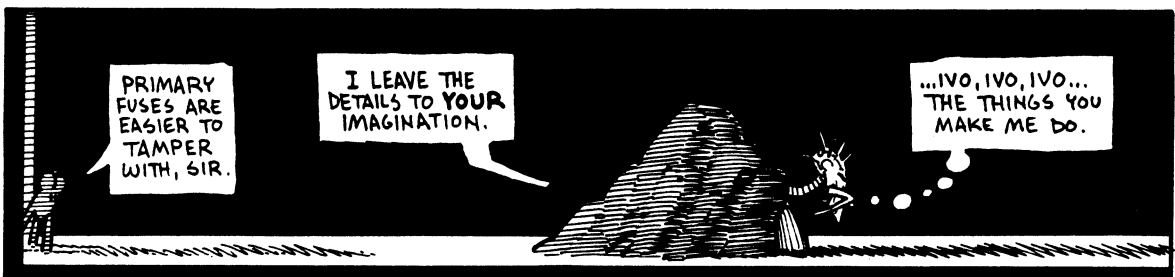


I HAVE MY REASONS, GREEN WIND.



I WANT THIS LLAMA ON THE FIRST OUTBOUND MISSION AVAILABLE. AND SEE TO IT THAT SHE DOES NOT HAVE ENOUGH FUEL TO GET WHERE YOU SEND HER.







**EVEN  
MORE  
COMICS BY  
MATT  
HOWARTH**

- |                              |        |                           |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|
| TEMPLE SNARE.....            | \$1.00 | } the FIRE SHRINE trilogy |
| THIS IS HEAT.....            | \$1.00 |                           |
| THE ANTI-CHAIR.....          | \$1.50 |                           |
| WRAB: PIRATE TELEVISION..... | \$3.95 |                           |
| THE M.I.A. TAPES.....        | \$2.00 |                           |
| THE HOوبي YAPS ARTIFACT..... | \$2.00 | — sequel to "CHANGES"     |
| AFTERNOON IN THE SUN.....    | .50¢   | — KONNY & CZU             |
|                              |        | — SCIENCE FICTION         |
- Please include \$1.50 (P&H) on all orders  
(\$2.00 outside the USA).  
Ask for full catalog of publications.

MATT HOWARTH  
Box L-804  
Langhorne, PA 19047

# Welcome to the Fantagraphics MENAGERIE

**Funny-animal comics galore from the beastliest publisher of them all!**

## ADVENTURES OF CAPT. JACK

**Adventures of Captain Jack #3:** Part 2 of "Sat. Night": Herman and Beezeleub visit the netherworld.

**Adventures of Captain Jack #4:** Maniacal astronauts and a batty back-up strip.



**Adventures of Captain Jack #5:** "Farmer Fred, I'm In Love With Your Daughter" Part 1: Arrival on Janet's planet. (Hey, gang: This is the one that drove all the distributors nuts around the country.)

**Adventures of Captain Jack #6:** Part 2: Herman and Janet decide to go away together.

**Adventures of Captain Jack #7:** Part 3: Beezeleub intrudes in Herman and Janet's relationship.

**Adventures of Captain Jack #8:** A daring escape, the Captain in drag, and more.

**Adventures of Captain Jack #9:** Pool hustling with Saturated Fats, and the conclusion of the storyline!

**Adventures of Captain Jack #10:** Jack and the crew return to Detroit and discover lots of unpaid bills.

**Adventures of Captain Jack #11:** Seeking a way out of his financial dilemma, Jack meets up with the mob.

**Adventures of Captain Jack #12:** The grand finale of the series, as Jack's crew splits up... for good!

## CRITTERS

**Critters #4:** *Gnuff* and *Birthingright* continue, *Lionheart* premieres, and the first Ken Macklin cover painting!

**Critters #5:** *Birthingright* continues, the first *Gnuff* novel concludes (with a cover), plus Stan Sakai's *Nilson Groundthumper*!

**Critters #6:** *Usagi Yojimbo* tale with cover, *Birthingright* concludes, and the first *Firecracker Jack* by Mark Armstrong!

**Critters #8:** *Jack Bunny* by cover artist Mark Armstrong, Templeton Kelly tribute, and *Lionheart* begins.

**Critters #9:** Hallowe'en issue with *Gnuff* behind a mask, *Lionheart*'s nightmare, and *Dog Boy*.

**Critters #10:** *Usagi Yojimbo* cover! story, plus *Gnuff* and *Lionheart*.

**Critters #11:** AVAILABLE AGAIN! Big 64-page Christmas issue, with Sakai, Milton, Armstrong, Stazer, Templeton, Kieth, and a cover by Macklin.

**Critters #12:** *Birthingright* returns, plus Waller/Worley's *SpeakingStone*, and Sam Kieth!

**Critters #13:** *Gnuff* cover, plus *Birthingright* and Mark Armstrong.

**Critters #14:** *Usagi Yojimbo* story and cover, plus *Birthingright* and *Gnuff*.

**Critters #15:** *Blue Beagle* and *Fission Chicken*, and *Birthingright* races on!

**Critters #16:** *Gnuff* ends, another *Nilson Groundthumper* story by Sakai, and *Birthingright*!

**Critters #17:** *Lionheart* returns, plus the conclusion of *Birthingright*.

**Critters #18:** *Leggo Lamb* by Jim Engel premieres. Also, the conclusion to *Lionheart*, and *Blue Beagle*.

**Critters #19:** *Gnuff* returns, plus Sam and Max, *Freelance Police*, *Lizards*, and *Fission Chicken*.

**Critters #20:** *SpeakingStone* by Waller/Worley, *Gnuff* and *Fission Chicken*.

**Critters #21:** More *Gnuff*, *Lizards*, *Fission Chicken*—32 pages worth—plus a Sam Kieth cover!

**Critters #22:** *Watchmen* cover parody for *Blue Beagle* story, plus *Gnuff*, *Fission Chicken*, and *Ambrose*. (Also available: non-cover-parody version.)

**Critters #23:** Christmas issue with *Gnuff*, *Lizards*, *Fission Chicken*, *Lionheart*, as well as strips by Marc Schirmeister, Sam Kieth, Tim Fuller, Mike

Kazaleh, Bob Conway, Ty Templeton and Anthony Van Bruggen—plus a flexidisc with songs performed by Templeton & Alan Moore!

**Critters #24:** *Gnuff* continues, plus *Lizards* and *Fission Chicken*.

**Critters #25:** The return of *Lionheart*, plus *Gnuff* and *Angst*.

**Critters #26:** *Angst* cover by Van Horn, plus *Gnuff* and *Lionheart*.

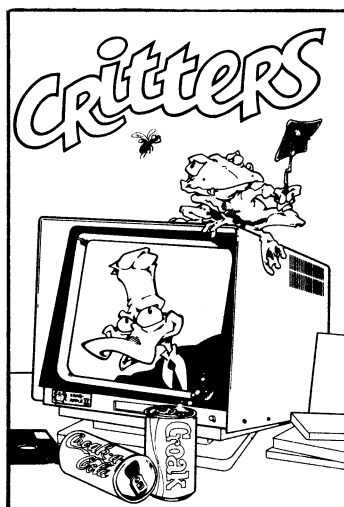
**Critters #27:** Stan Sakai cover and *Nilson Groundthumper* story, plus *Lionheart* and *Fission Chicken*.

**Critters #28:** *Blue Beagle* in "Miami Vice"/Coke parody, plus *Lionheart* and *Fission Chicken*.

**Critters #29:** The climax to *Lionheart*, plus *Lizards*, Volker Reiche, and a one-page *Captain Jack*.

**Critters #30:** Mark Martin cover and story, plus *Angst*, *Fission Chicken*, and *Gnuff* returns.

**Critters #31:** *Gnuff* cover featured, plus *Lizards*, *Blue Beagle*, and a Steve Bissette one-pager.



**Critters #32:** *Lizards* continues with a cover, *Gnuff*, and a new *Fission Chicken* story—plus DeStefano!

**Critters #33:** *Fission Chicken* "Chicken Duplicators" cover, *Gnuff* concludes, and *Angst*.

**Critters Special #1—Nilson Groundthumper and Hermie:** Both the *Albedo* stories, plus a new 10-page strip!

## DOG BOY

**Dog Boy #1:** Journey off into surreal experiences with "Werewolf Bikers" and more!

**Dog Boy #2:** Sir Isaac Newton guest stars as reality unravels.

**Dog Boy #3:** Dog Boy shows how to publish your own comic book.

**Dog Boy #4:** Dog Boy goes to Hell, plus Dog Girl invades the White House. Guest starring Reagan!

**Dog Boy #5:** An experiment misfires, and Dog Boy and Benb combine to form... Dog! Oh no!

**Dog Boy #6:** "Drinkin' Man's Blues," with a striking painted cover.

**Dog Boy #8:** Alfred Knoot starts a new newspaper, Dog Girl goes graffiti-crazy, and more!

**Dog Boy #9:** Dancing with the cats, Dog Girl in jail, Benb goes crazy!

**Dog Boy #10:** The epic conclusion of the saga! Breathtaking lunacy!

## HUGO

**Hugo #1:** Milton (*Midnite*) Knight's feline "Meets the Baron."

**Hugo #2:** Hugo becomes a cartoonist and gets into deep trouble.

**Hugo #3:** Hugo is abducted by mermaids and fights sharks.

## MYRON MOOSE

**Myron Moose Funnies #1:** Lots of goofy snot jokes, plus parodies of Dr. Seuss and Uncle Wiggly books.

**Myron Moose Funnies #2:** Parodies Batman, Mickey Mouse, Spirit, more.

**Myron Moose Funnies #3:** "Comic Book Fans," and more silly snot.

## USAGI YOJIMBO

**Usagi Yojimbo #1 (2nd printing):** Usagi journeys tells how he became a samurai. Plus: Dennis Fujitake!

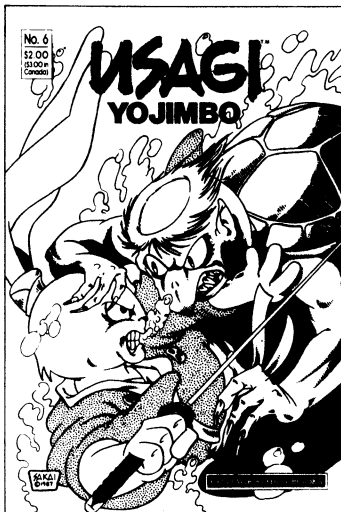
**Usagi Yojimbo #2:** Usagi goes into training and has his first duel.

**Usagi Yojimbo #3:** "Samurai" continues, plus Dougherty's "Croakers."

**Usagi Yojimbo #4:** The conclusion to Usagi's origin, and the first half of a penguin strip by Gary Kato.

**Usagi Yojimbo #5:** A one-issue tale of silk, treachery, and greed, and the end of the penguin tale by Kato.

**Usagi Yojimbo #6:** Usagi battles a water elemental, plus two more tales in this all-Usagi issue!



**Usagi Yojimbo #7:** Usagi makes a friend, plus Phil Yeh!

**Usagi Yojimbo #8:** A difficult assignment for Usagi, plus Tom Luth's "Rockhoppers."

**Usagi Yojimbo #9:** The return of the Blind Swordspig, plus a tale by Todd Kurosawa.

**Usagi Yojimbo #10:** "Blade of the Gods," plus a Usagi/Leonardo the T-M-N-Turtle tale by Peter Laird!

**Usagi Yojimbo #11:** Saga of a tea cup, plus a "Catnippon" back-up by Sergio Aragones.

**Usagi Yojimbo #12:** "The Shogun's Gift," plus Tom Stazer's "Lionheart" in an eight-page hostage story.

**Usagi Yojimbo #13:** First chapter of "Dragon Bellow Conspiracy," plus

Shaw! & Evanian's "Digger Duckbill!"

**USAGI YOJIMBO SIGNED AND NUMBERED PRINT:** Only 200 copies available of this spectacular five-color silkscreen signed and numbered by Stan Sakai! Mailed in a sturdy tube.

## BOOKS, MAGAZINES, AND OTHER STUFF

**Usagi Yojimbo Book One:** Every *Usagi Yojimbo* story before *Usagi #1* collected in one handy 160-page volume, with a new Stan Sakai cover.

**Amazing Heroes #9:** Behind the scenes of DC's *Captain Carrot* comic with Scott Shaw! and Roy Thomas. Plus a funny-animal pictorial.

**Amazing Heroes #42:** Funny-animal issue with Joshua Quagmire cover and interview. Plus: Arn Saba on *Neil the Horse* and Dave Sim on *Cerebus*!

**Amazing Heroes #111:** Ty Templeton (of *Critters*) interviewed. It's funny.

**Amazing Heroes #129:** Interviews with Steven A. Gallacci and Freddy Milton, "Why I Draw Funny Animals" by various, the new *Mighty Mouse* show, plus more!

**The Comics Journal #73:** Carl Barks featured, with long retrospective.

**The Comics Journal #82-83:** Mammoth interview with Dave (*Cerebus the Aardvark*) Sim.

**The Comics Journal #99:** Big interview with Arn (*Neil the Horse*) Saba.

**The Comics Journal #120:** Disney issue; interviews with Floyd Gottfredson, Ward Kimball, and Art Babbitt.

**Doomsday Squad #5:** Features a spectacular full-color Captain Jack story by Mike Kazaleh!

**Anything Goes! #3:** Featuring a full-color Captain Jack story by Mike Kazaleh, *Cerebus* vignette by Dave Sim, and *Cerebus* cover by Neal Adams.

**Anything Goes! #6:** Cover painting by Stan Sakai of *Usagi Yojimbo*, worth the cover price.

**NEMO #21:** 28 pages of Jack Kent's classic *King Aroo* strip—a treat for classic funny-animal lovers!

PLEASE SEND ME THE FOLLOWING BACK ISSUES.

All are \$2.25 apiece unless otherwise indicated.

Capt. Jack: ☐ #3 ☐ #4 ☐ #5 ☐ #6 ☐ #7 ☐ #8 ☐ #9 ☐ #10 ☐ #11 ☐ #12

Critters: ☐ #4 ☐ #5 ☐ #6 ☐ #8 ☐ #9 ☐ #10 ☐ #11 (\$3.50) ☐ #12 ☐ #13  
☐ #14 ☐ #15 ☐ #16 ☐ #17 ☐ #18 ☐ #19 ☐ #20 ☐ #21 ☐ #22 (parody)  
☐ #22 (regular) ☐ #23 (\$4.25) ☐ #24 ☐ #25 ☐ #26 ☐ #27 ☐ #28 ☐ #29  
☐ #30 ☐ #31 ☐ #32 ☐ #33 ☐ #34 ☐ #35 12-issue subscription: \$17.00

Critters Special w/ Nilson Groundthumper: ☐ #1 Hugo: ☐ #1 ☐ #2 ☐ #3

Dog Boy (\$2.00): ☐ #1 ☐ #2 ☐ #3 ☐ #4 ☐ #5 ☐ #6 ☐ #8 ☐ #9 ☐ #10

Myron Moose (\$2.00): ☐ #1 ☐ #2 ☐ #3

Usagi Yojimbo: ☐ #1 ☐ #2 ☐ #3 ☐ #4 ☐ #5 ☐ #6 ☐ #7 ☐ #8 ☐ #9  
☐ #10 ☐ #11 ☐ #12 ☐ #13 ☐ Book One: \$11.00 6-issue sub: \$9.00  
☐ Usagi Yojimbo Signed and Numbered Silkscreen: \$25.00

Amazing Heroes (\$3.00): ☐ #9 ☐ #42 ☐ #111 ☐ #129 12-issue sub: \$25.00

Comics Journal (\$3.50): ☐ #73 ☐ #82 ☐ #83 ☐ #99

Anything Goes: ☐ #3 ☐ #6 NEMO (\$4.00): ☐ #21 Doomsday Squad: ☐ #5

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_

zip \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: You must be 18 years or older to order Captain Jack, Dog Boy, Hugo, or Myron Moose.

Send all orders to Fantagraphics Books, 1800 Bridgegate Road, Suite 101, Westlake Village, CA 91361. Outside U.S. and Canada, please add 15% to cover additional postage.

ONCE UPON A TIME, THREE LOW-LIFE MUTANTS AND A BIRD OF QUESTIONABLE ORIGINS HELPED A YOUNG MAN CONQUER AN EMPIRE.

THEY FOUGHT OFF ONE-EYED CATS, TRIBES OF BUSSTOADS, IMPERIAL SQUADRONS, AND THE EVIL LORD GEKKUS ONLY TO COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH

## THE CURSE OF THE BLOATED TOAD!

FROM THE PAGES OF **THREAT!** COMES THE MOST UNLIKELY TRIO TO EVER SAVE THE UNIVERSE. THEY'RE NUTTY, THEY'RE WACKY, YA GOTTA LOVE 'EM.

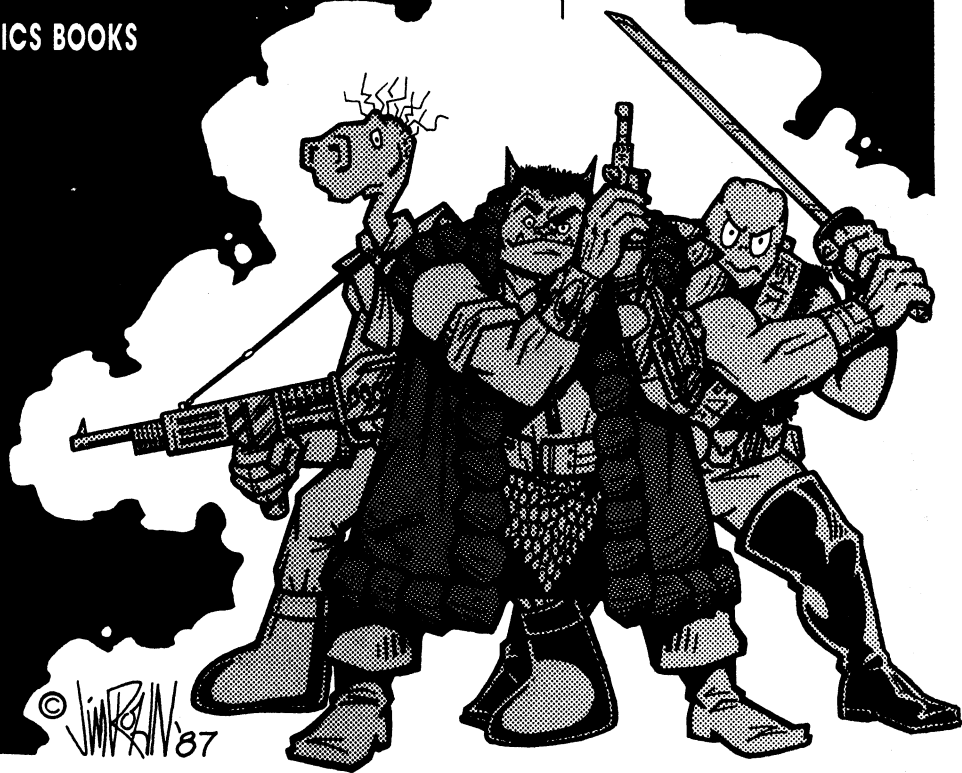
# The HOLLO. Brothers

**CATCH THEIR ACT!**

**by Jim Rohn**

**from**

**FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS**



© Jim Rohn '87

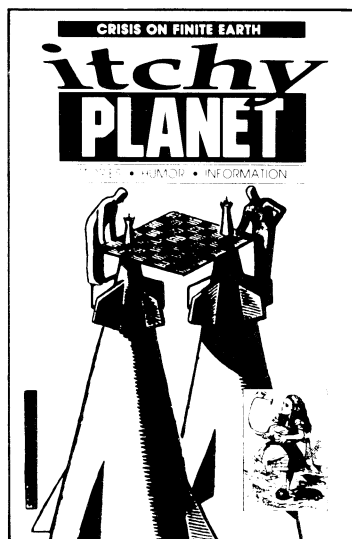
# THERE'S NOTHING WORSE THAN HAVING AN ITCH YOU CAN'T SCRATCH...

Pollution, famine, terrorism, disinformation, racism, corruption, censorship—as we careen into the 1990s, it often seems as if the world is spinning out of control.

Cause for fear? Certainly. But no fear is worse than that anxiety you feel when you know something horrible is going on, but have no idea what it is or how to deal with it.

*itchy PLANET* gives you a chance to scratch that itch—to learn about the real problems of the world, to understand their causes and their effects, and to gather information on how to deal with them—how to participate in making this a better world for you and your children.

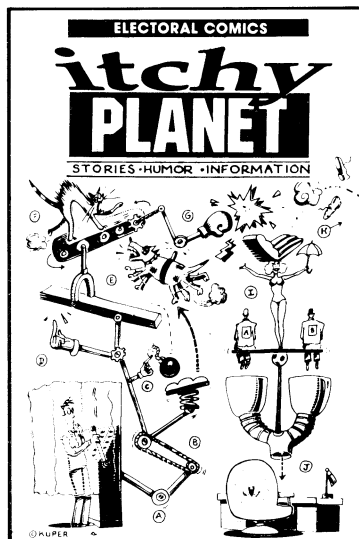
A lot of comic books claim to be realistic. *itchy PLANET* is one of the few that's real.



© 1988 David Suter



© 1988 Norman Dog



© 1988 Peter Kuper

*itchy PLANET* #1: special nuclear issue, with work by Larry (Cartoon History of the Universe) Gonick, Jerry Gold, Neil Postman, Norman Dog, Michael Dougan, and Leonard Rifas. Plus a survey of AIDS comics.

*itchy PLANET* #2: "Comics Warp Our Vision" issue. Censorship, corporate piggishness, racism, sexism, and addiction: Joyce Farmer, Mary Fleener, Steve Lafler, Dennis Worden, Mark Campos, Nick Thorkelson dissect your favorite medium.

*itchy PLANET* #3: special timely Election issue, with strips by R. Diggs, Larry Gonick, Joyce Brabner and Stephen DeStefano, Leonard Rifas, Scott Bieser, Seth Tobocman, and Spain—plus a cover by Peter Kuper.

Please send me the following:

\_\_\_\_ copies of *itchy PLANET* #1 at \$2.25 each.

\_\_\_\_ copies of *itchy PLANET* #2 at \$2.25 each.

\_\_\_\_ copies of *itchy PLANET* #3 at \$2.25 each.

Please add 50 cents postage when ordering one comic; \$1.00 when ordering two or more. Outside of U.S., 75 cents for single copies, 25 cents for each additional comic.

name \_\_\_\_\_

address \_\_\_\_\_

city \_\_\_\_\_

state \_\_\_\_\_

zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send order to: **Fantagraphics Books, 1800 Bridgegate Street #101, Westlake Village, CA 91361.**



**If you think  
excellence in  
comics means  
more than just a  
nicely rendered  
issue of THE  
UNCANNY X-MEN,  
then THE COMICS  
JOURNAL might be  
precisely the  
magazine you've  
been waiting for.**

The last decade has been the most exciting in the history of comics—a seemingly endless parade of new publishers, new creators, new formats, and new approaches.

It's in times like these that you need a magazine like **The Comics Journal** to help you make sense of the field.

For 11 years now, **The Comics Journal** has been the watchdog of the comic-book industry—an eclectic, literate, muckraking periodical that has striven to give some much-needed dignity to this field.

If you want an idea of the kind of material we think is publishing, just look at the contents of every issue:

**News:** Scrupulously-researched, far-ranging, and tough (no publicity handouts here), the Journal's acclaimed "News-watch" section covers new projects and new publishers, crises and clashes, trends and events—both here and abroad.

**Interviews:** No one can match the Journal's extended, in-depth conversations with the men who make the comics—past and present. In just the three issues pictured above, we've featured Alan Moore, Frank Miller, Dave Gibbons, Russ Heath, Mort Walker, Jean "Moebius" Giraud, and Dave Stevens. They talk to the Journal because they know we'll ask the intelligent questions—and we'll grant them the space to give the intelligent replies.

**Reviews:** In a field brimming with professional fanboys, lowbrows, and shills, the Journal's critics stand alone in offering literate, insightful commentary (and they won't hesitate to make ground beef out of a few sacred cows, either). Articulate, witty, and omnivorous, the reviews column is a thought-provoking, often blisteringly opinionated stroll through the current scene.

**Plus Special Features:** Moore & Miller; Ratings and censorship... Garry Trudeau on why he fought to increase *Doonerbury's* size... Berke Breathed vs. Pat Oliphant Alan Moore on writing... Jerome Charyn in comics... State of the Art: France '87... Sketchbook sections on Steve Rude and Charles Burns... and more!

**The Comics Journal.** It's been called irresponsible, venomous, too negative... arrogant, biased, elitist... and just about every other adjective in the book; it's been thrown off newsstands by enraged comic store owners; it's lived through (and won) three libel lawsuits; and it's buried half a dozen more timid competitors over the years.

If you think a magazine about comics has to be dull... if you think a magazine about comics has to be subliterary... if you think excellence and comic books can never co-exist... then you've never read **The Comics Journal**.

We think it might be time for you to give it a try.

Send me the following issues of *The Comics Journal*. I've enclosed \$3.95 for each copy ordered (foreign: \$4.50).

- ☐ #116: Moore, Gibbons, Mort Walker.  
☐ #117: Dave Stevens, Russ Heath.  
☐ #118: Moebius, Miller, Moore.  
☐ #121: The definitive R. Crumb interview.  
☐ #122: British issue, Bolland cover.  
☐ #123: Kim Deitch interview, Harvey Pekar article.  
☐ #124: The Jules Feiffer interview, plus *Breathed*.

☐ Send me the next 6 issues of *The Comics Journal*, beginning with #\_\_\_\_\_. I've enclosed \$18.00.

Send to: FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS, 1800 Bridgegate St., #101, Westlake Village, CA 91361.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_