

ISSUE 4
SUMMER 2020

FREE!

THE COLUMBUS Scribbler

CELEBRATING
THE COMICS, CARTOONS
AND CREATORS OF
CENTRAL OHIO



COVER ILLUSTRATION BY BRIAN CANINI

THE COLUMBUS Scribbler

COLUMBUSSCRIBBLER.COM

Cover Illustration by **Brian Canini**
instagram.com/briancanini

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We'd like to acknowledge the passing of Tom Spurgeon, Executive Director of Cartoon Crossroads Columbus (CXC). We are incredibly grateful and humbled for the support Tom supplied the Scribbler but, even more than that, we're grateful for Tom's steadfast support of comics.



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MASKS AREN'T JUST FOR SUPERHEROES



We at the Columbus Scribbler would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the essential workers that are continuing to work selflessly for others. We've all been affected by the Coronavirus in some form or another. The US has lost a staggering 100,000¹ people due to the virus. Over 30 million people² have filed unemployment claims. Many people have risked their lives to maintain essential services to keep us fed and to keep us healthy. The rest of us have been cooped up in our homes waiting for some sense of normalcy for what feels like a decade. Summer expectations have been extinguished due to the cancellation of traditional annual events throughout the country.

This virus has even affected our entertainment. Sporting events have all been put on hold. Late-night talk shows and even our news broadcasts have started taking place from inside people's homes. Comics are no different.

Our conventions have moved online. San Diego Comic-Con has been canceled for the first time in its fifty-year history. Ohio based Gem City Comics Expo, Small Press & Alternative Comics Expo (S.P.A.C.E), and Cartoons Crossroads Columbus (CXC) have all moved to an online format, holding panels via video chat. This strikes a tremendous blow to both the organizers and the independent creators whose income is made almost entirely through these events.

Comic shops are also working through an equally challenging time just to stay afloat. Like most small businesses, the governor's order to temporarily close non-essential businesses has led to layoffs and, in

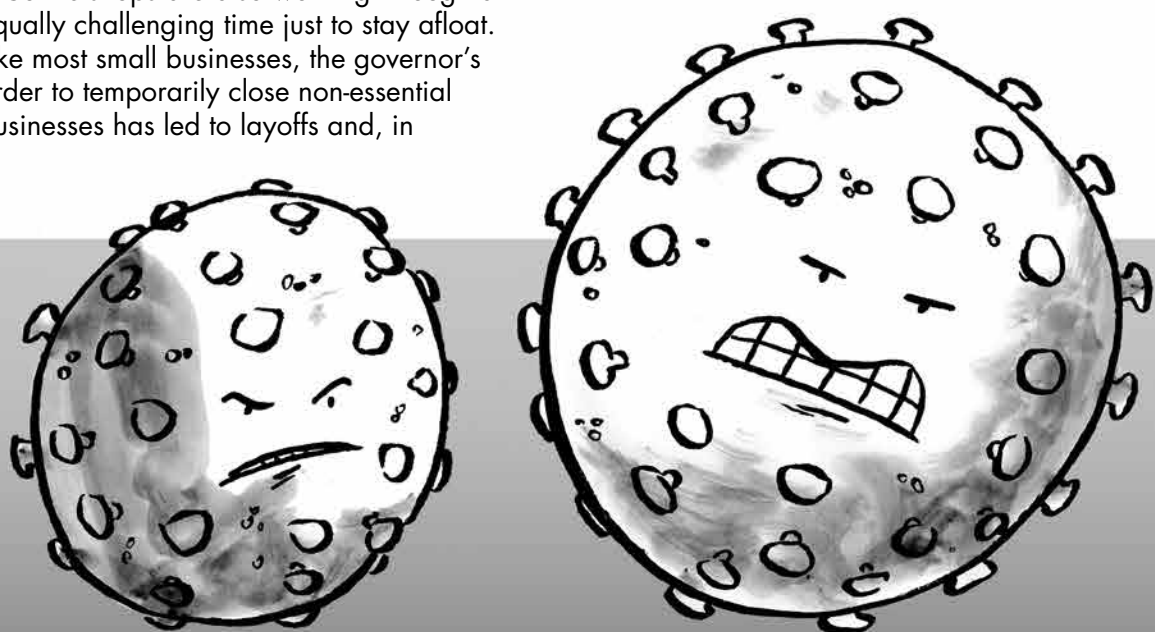
some cases, permanent closures. The closing of libraries cut off access to materials we often take for granted.

Here's the good news. Things are getting better. Comic shops are adding safety protocols to help you shop safely. Libraries have started allowing pick up at specific locations. Creators are displaying their craft through tutorials on Youtube. YOU now have more time on your hands than you know what to do with. This is a perfect opportunity for you to watch a panel from the comfort of your home. A chance to pick up your first graphic novel from the comic shops that desperately need your support. A perfect time to start supporting all the artists in your community by backing their Kickstarter or Patreon account. An excuse to take a break from your hectic life, pick up a pencil and, perhaps, scribble.

We miss you. We hope you're safe. We hope you're reading comics.

Jack Wallace
The Columbus
Scribbler, LLC

GLOVE
UP!



¹CDC, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov>

²NPR, <https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/04/30/848021681/a-staggering-toll-30-million-have-filed-for-unemployment>



10 QUESTIONS WITH VICTOR DANDRIDGE

Victor Dandridge Jr. created Vantage:Inhouse Productions in 2011. Since then, he's created a list of thought provoking and engaging properties including "The Samaritan," "Origins Unknown," "The Trouble w/Love," as well as the novella series, "8 Mins." and the writer for the all ages friendly "Wonder Care Presents: The Kinder Guardians." Vantage:Inhouse Productions is also aiming to educate, encourage, and inspire future creators through its U Cre-8 Comics brand, an education-based line of products and programming designed to bridge comics with classroom fundamentals. As if that wasn't enough, Victor freelances as host/moderator at comic and pop-culture conventions meeting celebrities of all varieties. He also hosts a youtube channel where he critiques comics with Comic Town Owner, Ryan Seymore, called "Black, White, and Read All Over." Did we mention he also has a fiancé and five kids?

1. What inspired you to get into making comics in the first place?

I might have one of the most comic-booky origin stories of all time. For anyone who has ever caught my U Cre-8 Comics presentations, you know I usually start by admitting that I didn't like to read as a kid. The "Death of Superman" series changed all that with the support of my mom, who worked at City Center Mall (c.1989 - c.2009), picking up books for me from the 5th floor of Lazarus.

What I don't go into, is that with my new interest in comics, I learned that my father was a long-time comic fan, and that three of my uncles could draw. With something we all could get into, it kind of reinvigorated my relationship with the men on my father's side of the family, most notably, my uncle Mark Rossi Dandridge. He was incredibly encouraging for me to explore, not only the comic medium, but its potential as a career.

In 1993, barely a year after I started reading comics, daring to dabble in creating my own characters and stories, my uncle was killed — murdered, by three teens that lived in his neighborhood.

Devastated by his death, and at only 10 years old, I made vow by candlelight, promising that in his honor, I would make a name for myself in the comic book industry. And fast forward a few decades and here I am the "Hardest Working Man in Comics..."

2. Why was creating something like "U Cre-8 Comics" or "The Kinder Guardians" important for you?

U Cre-8 Comics is INCREDIBLY important to me, because it's my way of giving back to the industry. Building tools to make the exploration of comics easier AND fun for the next generation of creators, ensures that the medium continues and

grows. I've said for a while that kids who MAKE comics, will read comics, and kids who read comics, can read ANYTHING!

Ironically, I co-created Wonder Care Presents: The Kinder Guardians BECAUSE of the U Cre-8 Comics line. Having launched three years prior, the only comics in my library were all self-rated for teen audiences or higher, so if schools wanted samples of my work, I could only provide titles that weren't really age-appropriate. Having the Kinder Guardians gave me something all-ages friendly that not only was acceptable to share, but also showed my personal ideas for school behaviors and dynamics!

3. What do you hope that children are able to achieve using the U Cre-8 Comics?

When first created, I would've said an appreciation for comics. But it's now grown to be a LOT deeper. What I truly hope kids get out of it, is an understanding that turning your passion into your profession can be a sustaining venture. I make entrepreneurship a talking point in all of my presentations now, putting the focus on finding something you love and truly dedicating yourself to it. So, if kids walk away hearing my love and passion for comics, and they apply it to whatever they like to do for fun, then I would say that it's an overwhelming success.

4. You and Ryan have over 300 episodes critiquing comics. What lessons have you learned about what makes a good comic?

If I had to pick top five lessons, they would be:

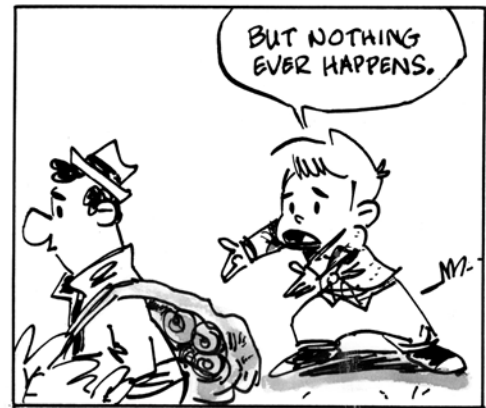
1. What makes a good comic is NOT universal or formulaic. You can love an issue or title, and the next person can totally hate it!



A selection of comics published by Vantage:Inhouse Productions, Victor's creator-owned imprint.

From Top to Bottom: Wonder Care Presents: The Kinder Guardians, Origins Unknown, and The Samaritan

FINE YOUNG FOLKS



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Coffee House and Bar

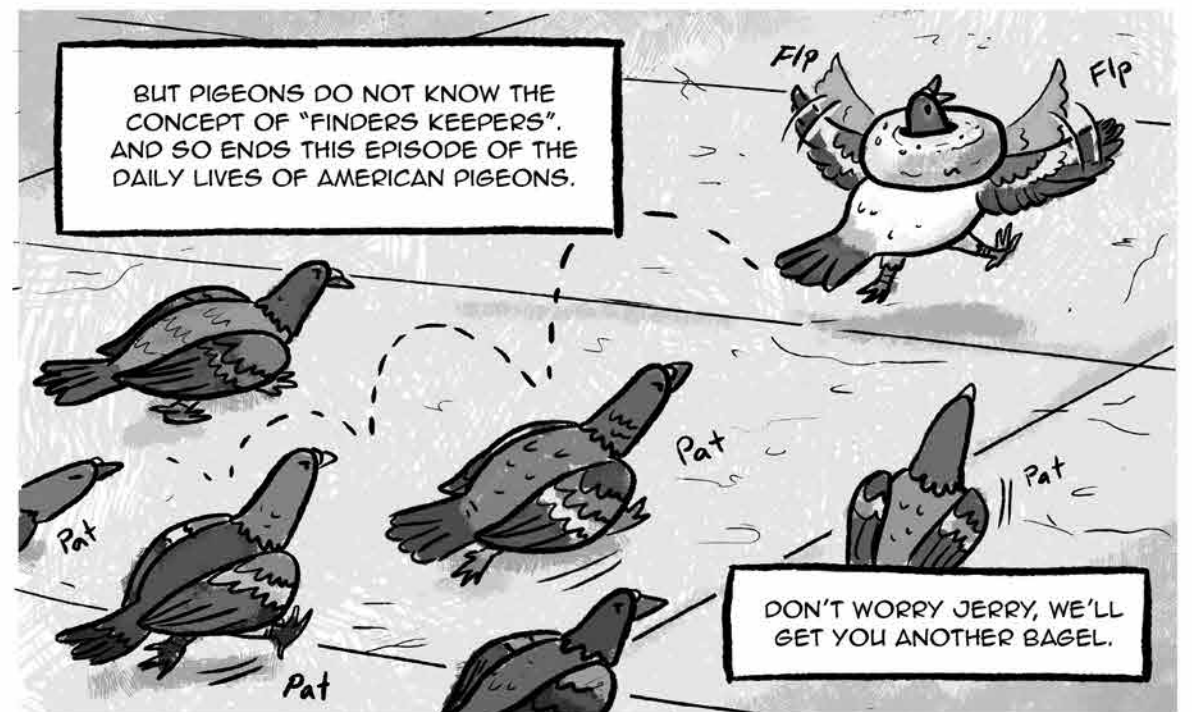
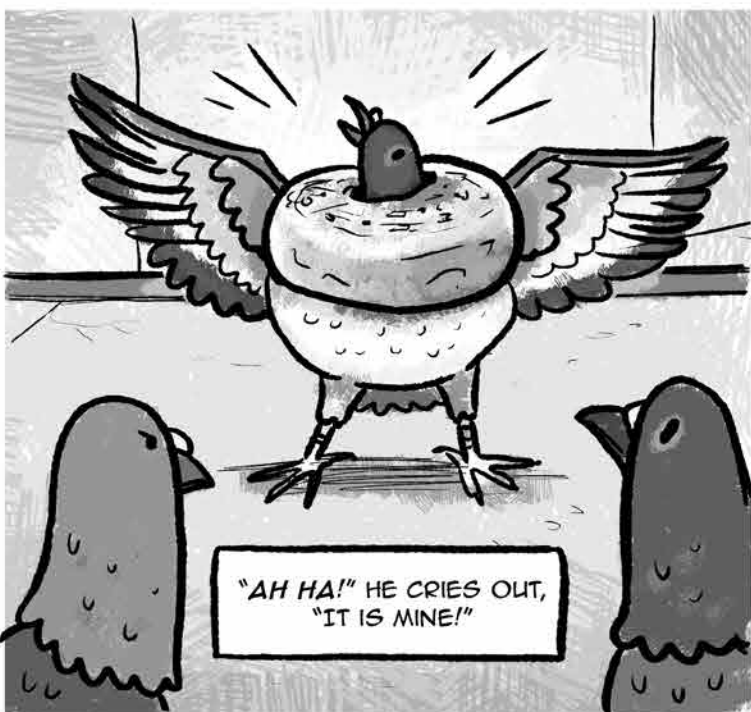
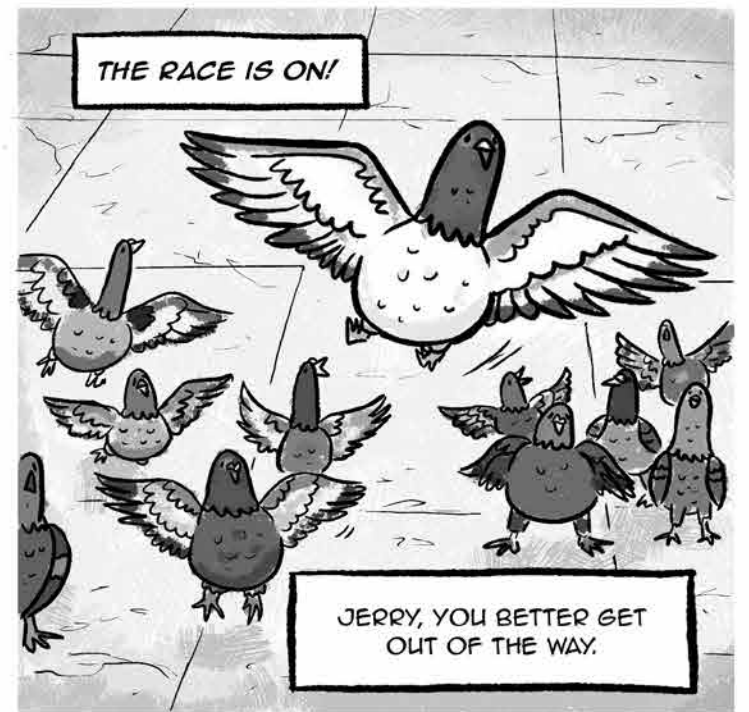
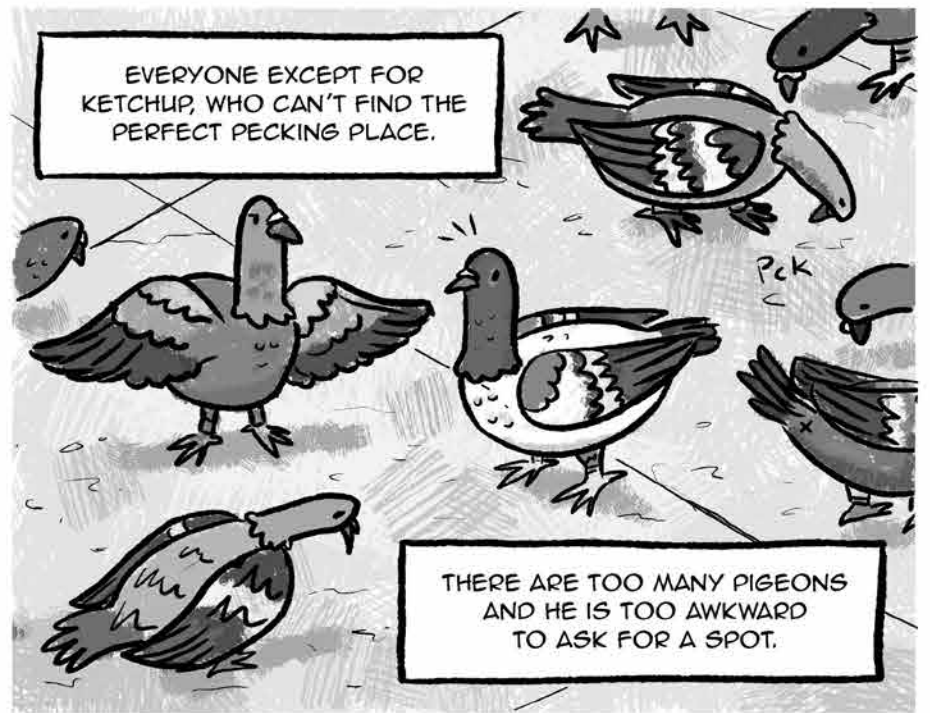
**A PLACE THAT LOVES ART
 IN ALL ITS FORMS.**

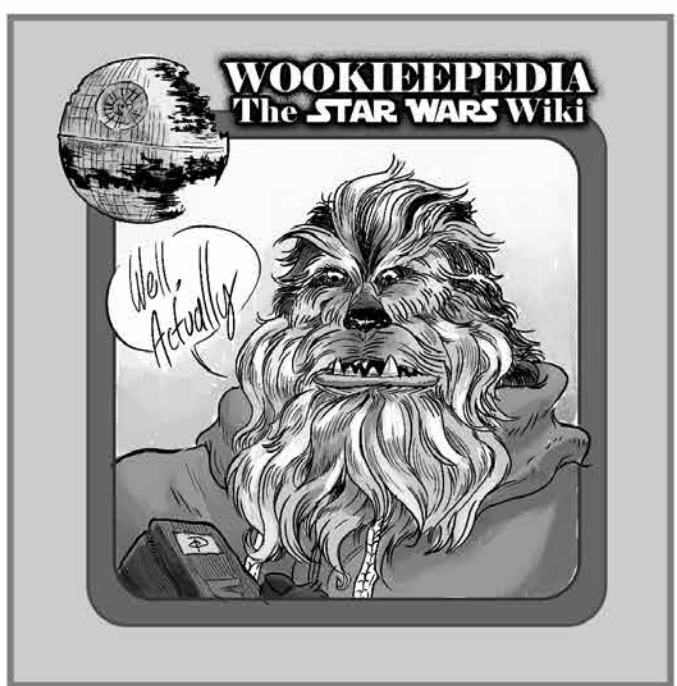
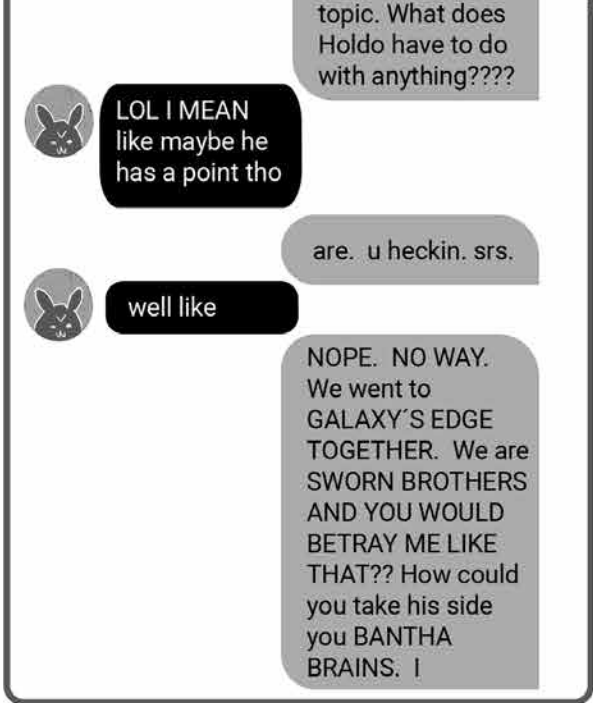
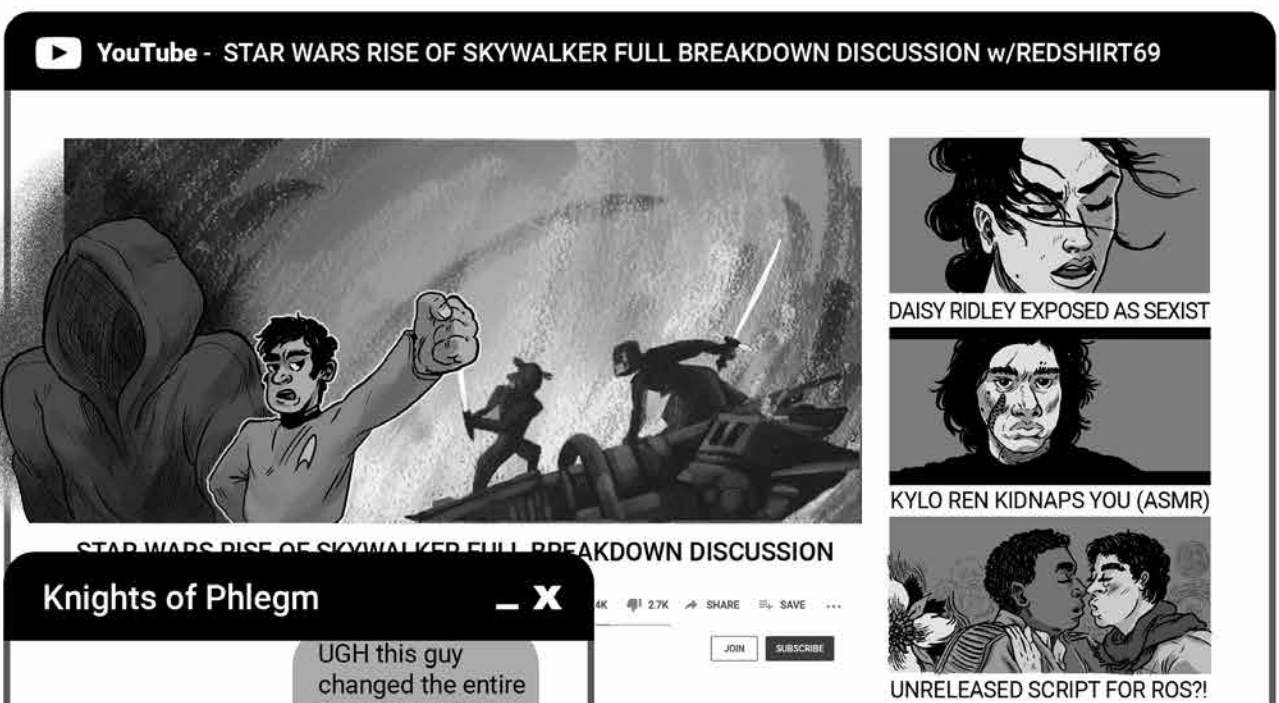
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We make it a point to stock local writers and comic book artists, along with hard to find small press items!

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 Sat: 10am-1am
 Sun: noon-12am





SPACE

SPACE 2020

Small Press & Alternative Comics Expo

Saturday, July 11 & Sunday, July 12, 2020

On-Line

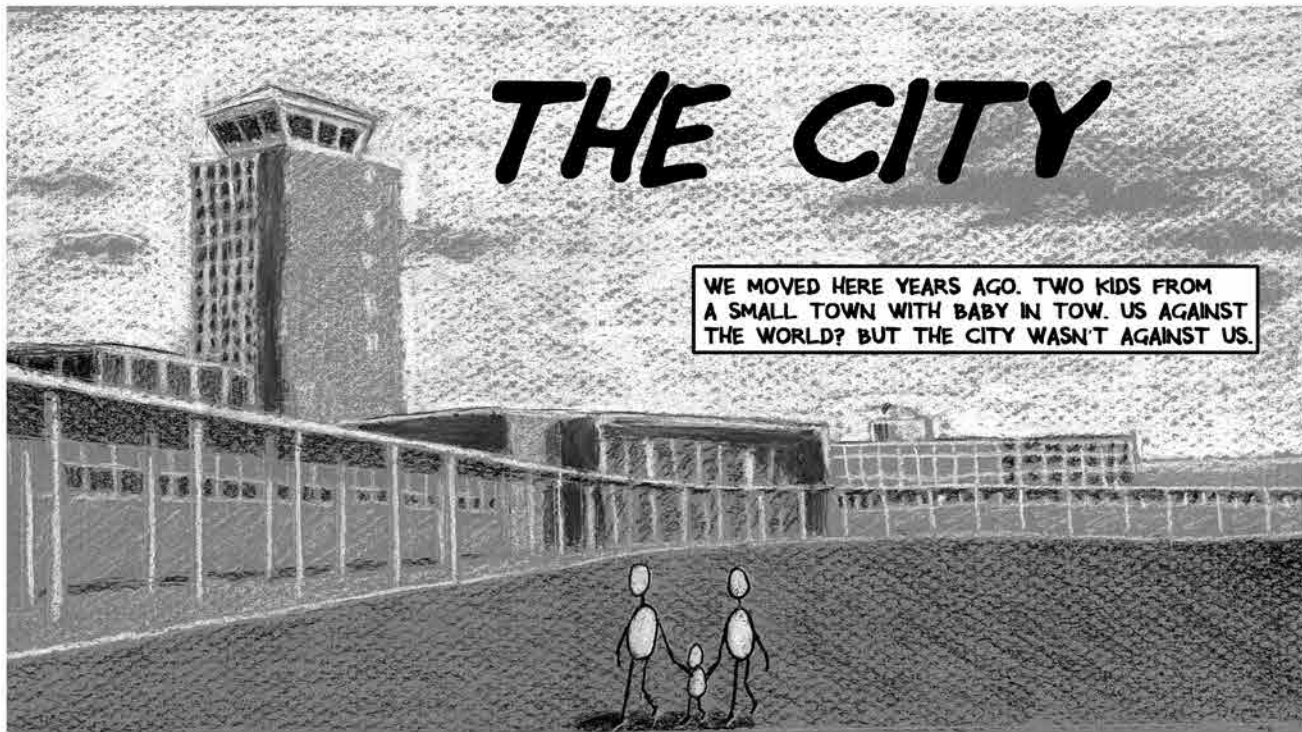
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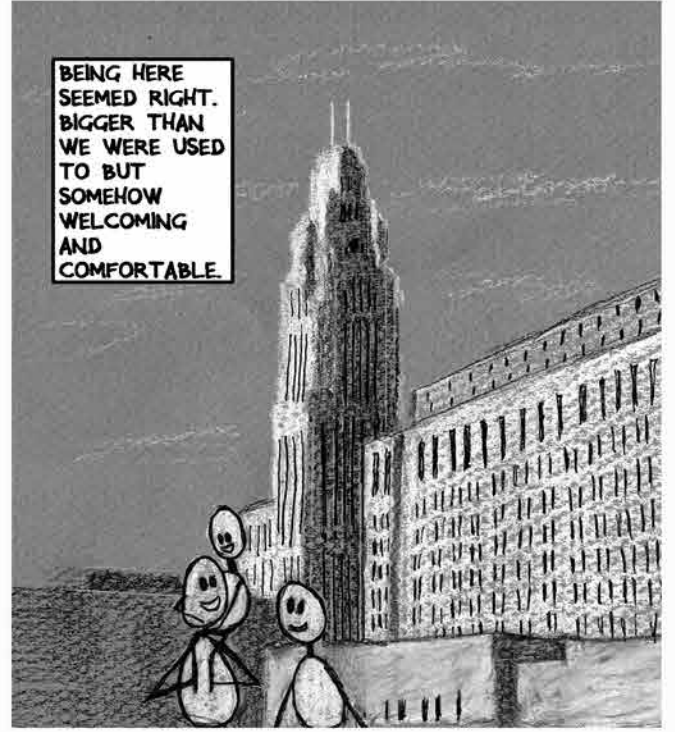
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THE CITY

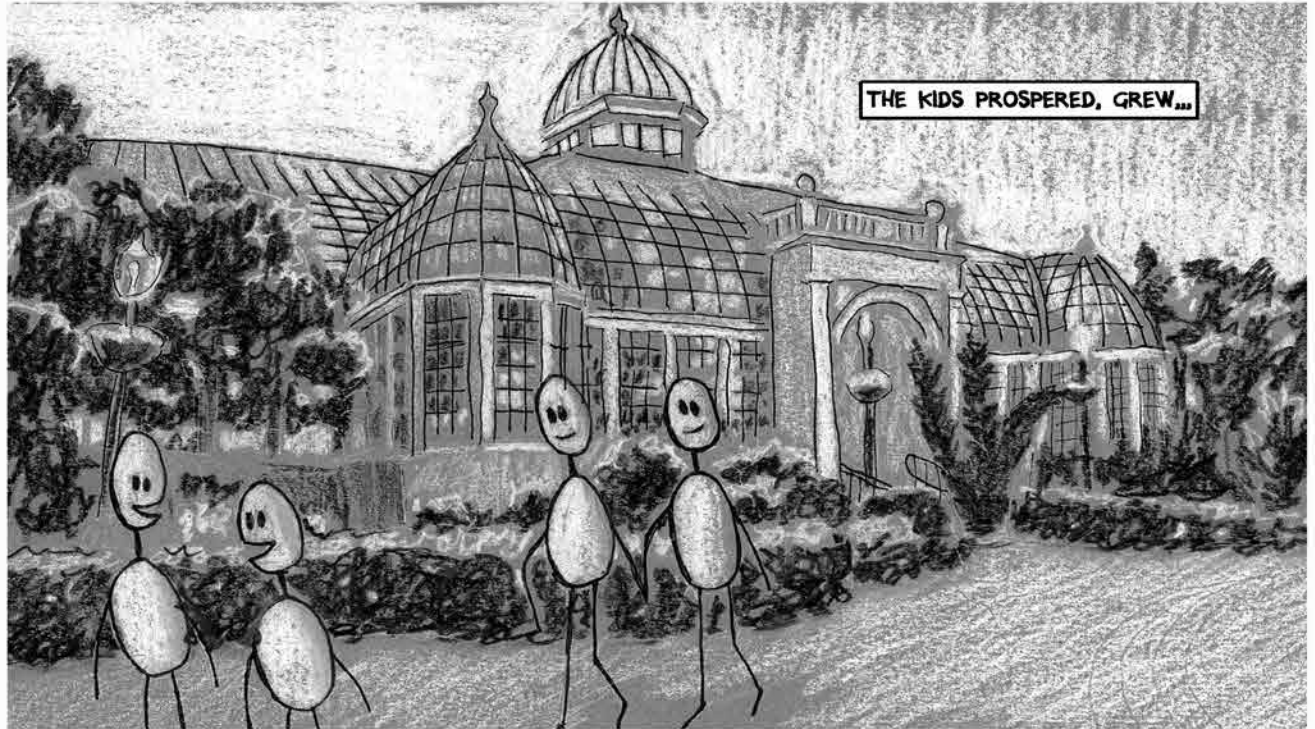
WE MOVED HERE YEARS AGO. TWO KIDS FROM A SMALL TOWN WITH BABY IN TOW. US AGAINST THE WORLD? BUT THE CITY WASN'T AGAINST US.



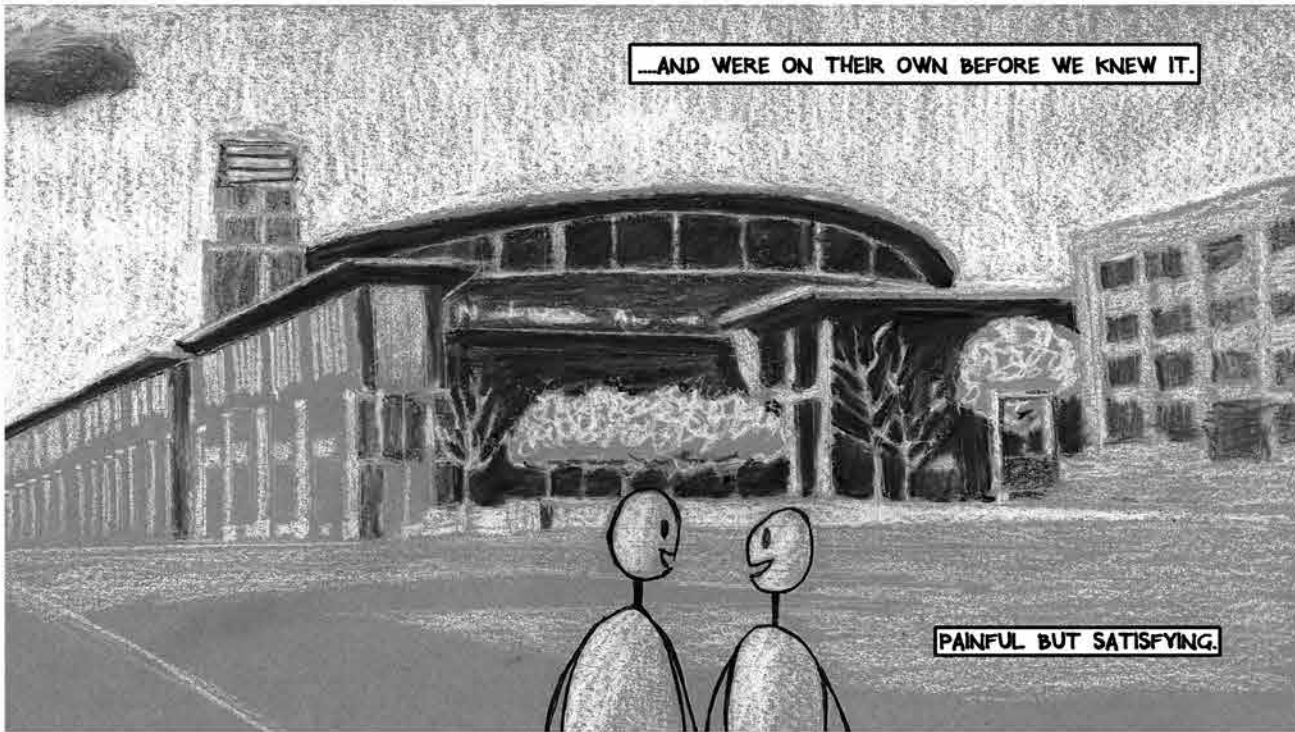
BEING HERE SEEMED RIGHT. BIGGER THAN WE WERE USED TO BUT SOMEHOW WELCOMING AND COMFORTABLE.



WE GREW WITH THIS CITY IN LOVE AND NUMBERS.

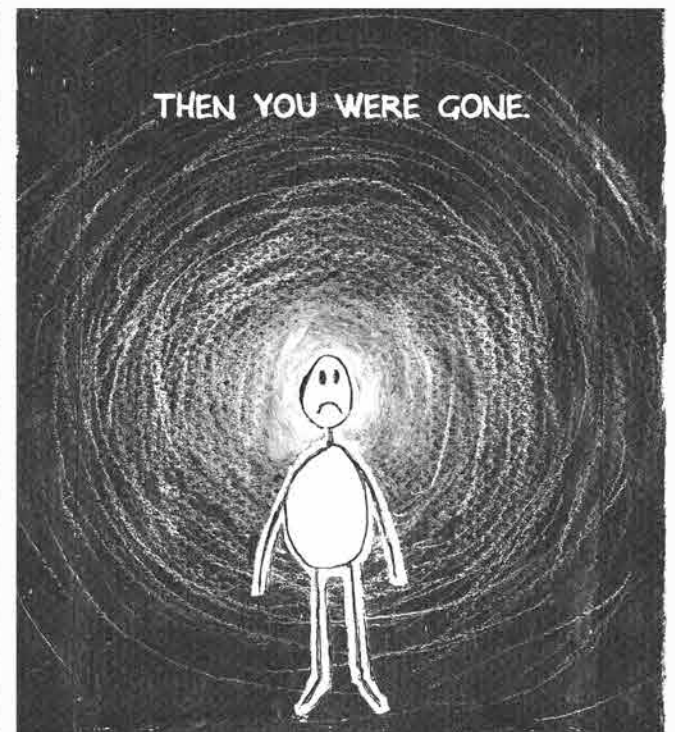


THE KIDS PROSPERED, GREW...

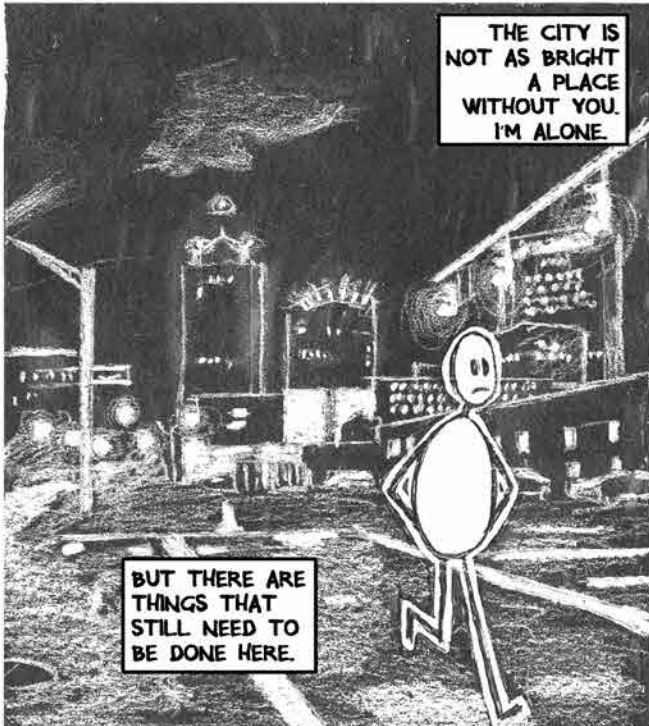


...AND WERE ON THEIR OWN BEFORE WE KNEW IT.

PAINFUL BUT SATISFYING.

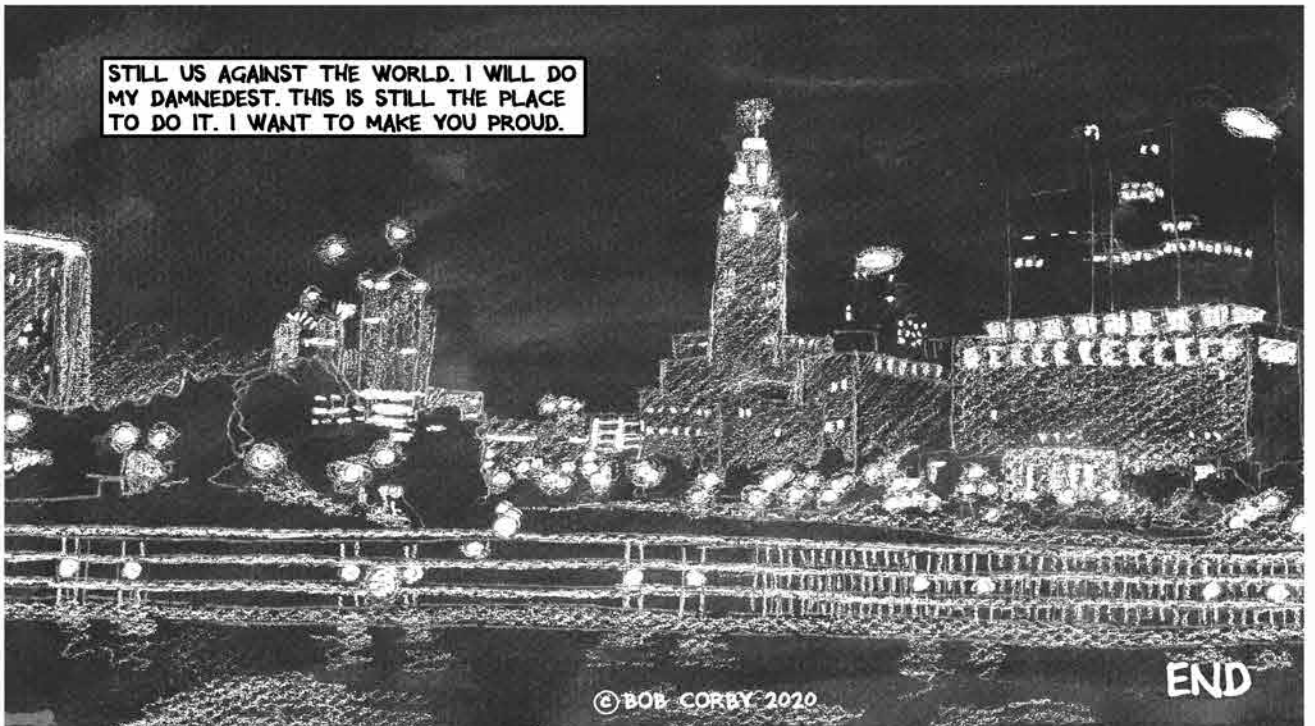


THEN YOU WERE GONE.

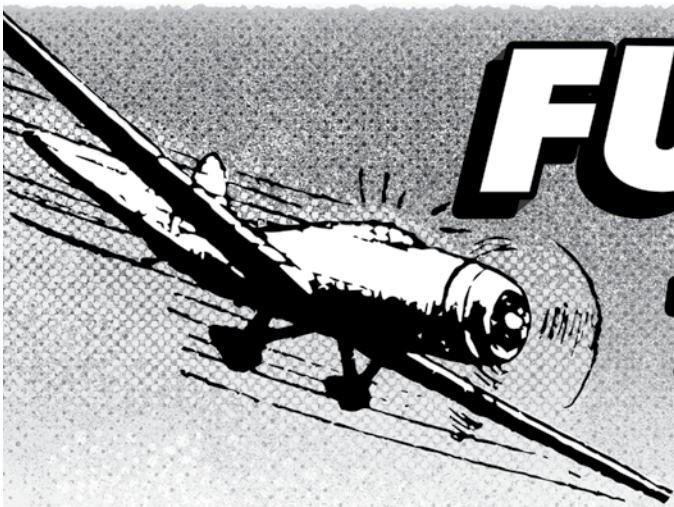


THE CITY IS NOT AS BRIGHT A PLACE WITHOUT YOU. I'M ALONE.

BUT THERE ARE THINGS THAT STILL NEED TO BE DONE HERE.



STILL US AGAINST THE WORLD. I WILL DO MY DANNEDEST. THIS IS STILL THE PLACE TO DO IT. I WANT TO MAKE YOU PROUD.



FURY IN THE SKIES



A BRIEF HISTORY OF TARPÉ MILLS AND MISS FURY

By Brian Canini

High above the clouds a B24 bomber flies over the hills of Germany streaked across the nose is a woman, brunette hair flowing behind her and the words "Miss Fury" written above. This is not a one-off occurrence in World War II, a number of bomber noses are adorned with this woman of mystery. The woman chosen to strike fear into the hearts of the Axis power was, in fact, the first major female comic adventurer to see the printed page, beating Wonder Woman to the presses by over six months. Her name was Miss Fury and, while her likeness was soaring above the clouds, her adventures were being published in newspapers around the world.

June Mills was born in 1912 in Brooklyn, New York. She grew up in the home of her widowed mother who worked in a beauty parlor in order to support June and the orphaned children of her sister, who died of pneumonia. To help support the family, Mills found work as a model.

Mills managed to squirrel enough away to pay for her tuition to study art at Pratt Institute, where she initially studied sculpture until one disastrous job made her change her career path. She soon found herself studying fashion illustration, a shift that would soon bear fruit in 1938 when Mills went looking for work in the burgeoning world of comic books.

Working on such titles as *Daredevil Barry Finn*, *Catman*, and *The Purple Zombie*, Mills adopted the sexually ambiguous name Tarpé, which was her middle name, a French-sounding version of her Irish grandmother's maiden name, Tarpey. When later asked for her reasoning behind the name change Mills would often quip, "It would have been a major let-down to the kids if they found out the author of such virile and awesome characters was a gal."

It wasn't long before Mills landed a comic strip deal, signing with the Bell Syndicate in 1941. *Miss Fury* soon followed, debuting on April 6, 1941. When Marla Drake, a young socialite, first donned the black leopard skin outfit her uncle had brought back from his exploits in Africa, it was simply because she had no other costume to wear to that evening's masquerade ball. Nothing could have prepared her for what the evening actually had in store for her. And nothing could have

prepared the general public for the escapades Mills had in store for them.

Enrapturing her readers every day with plots of conspiracy, danger, and intrigue in exotic locations like Brazil, Mills populated her strip with powerful women and attractive men. So engaging were Mills' characters, in fact, that it wasn't long before *Miss Fury* was competing for facetime in her own strip.

Few were more captivating than *Miss Fury's* nemesis, the Baroness Erica Von Kampf, a ruthless adventuress who lived solely for material gain with platinum blonde bangs cut into a V-shape to cover the swastika that was branded on her forehead. She even, at one point, pulled in more fan mail than the heroine according to Mills.

Using her experience as a fashion illustrator, Mills designed outfits and wardrobes for her characters that, over the course of the strip, would make it read like a fashion history textbook. Garbing her women in satin and lace evening gowns and Joan Crawford-style shoulder-padded dresses, the strip was not just fashionable but, also peppered with lacy lingerie and other risque outfits. This may have, in part, been the reason why on November 6, 1945, *Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune* released an article titled "Catholic School Pupils to Burn 'Undesirable' Comics" which listed *Miss Fury* as a condemned comic that should be used as fuel for bonfires during Catholic Book week.

On December 22, 1946, Mills outdid herself when she portrayed her character, Era, dancing in a nightclub dressed as Eve in a bikini made of leaves. This upset the *Boston Sunday Globe* so much that it printed the strip with an ugly red band that obscured the dancer's body. Thirty-seven other papers simply refused to print the strip that day.

Miss Fury also contained a host of brutally handsome male characters right out of a romantic fantasy like Albino Joe, the Harvard-educated albino Brazilian Indian, and General Bruno, a Rommel-esque figure who is a German patriot, but plots to overthrow the Nazi party.

Thanks to *Miss Fury's* eclectic cast and pulse-pounding adventures, the comic became so popular that, starting in the Winter of 1942, Timely Comics (who would one day become Marvel Comics) began releasing annual reprints of the Sunday strips as comic books which

sold over a million copies

an issue. On January 4, 1943, *Time* magazine even featured an article about Mills and *Miss Fury* entitled "Comic-Strip Generals" which compared real-life German General Gunther Niedenfuhr, then military attaché in Brazil, with Mills' fictional one-armed, bald General Bruno who, in the strip, was attempting to open the way in Brazil for an Axis invasion.

Toward the end of the 1940s, due to health concerns, Mills began to rely on ghost artists and writers to help her meet deadlines. This became more and more frequent until the strip ended mid-story on December 23, 1951. Mills would spend the rest of her professional life working in the commercial art field only making a few brief attempts to return to comics. The latter part of her life was spent working on a never-to-be-finished graphic novel about her *Miss Fury* character, Albino Joe. Though both *Miss Fury* and Mills have faded from the public eye, their legends still soar above the clouds.

References:

- TarpeMills.com
- *Miss Fury Sensational Sundays: 1941-1944* by Tarpé Mills, introduction by Trina Robbins
- *Miss Fury Sensational Sundays: 1944-1949* by Tarpé Mills, introduction by Trina Robbins
- Tarpé Mills dies, *Comic Buyer's Guide* obituary article by Trina Robbins
- *Miss Fury*, introduction by Tom Fagan
- *Pretty in Ink: Women Cartoonists 1896-2013* by Trina Robbins
- The Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum

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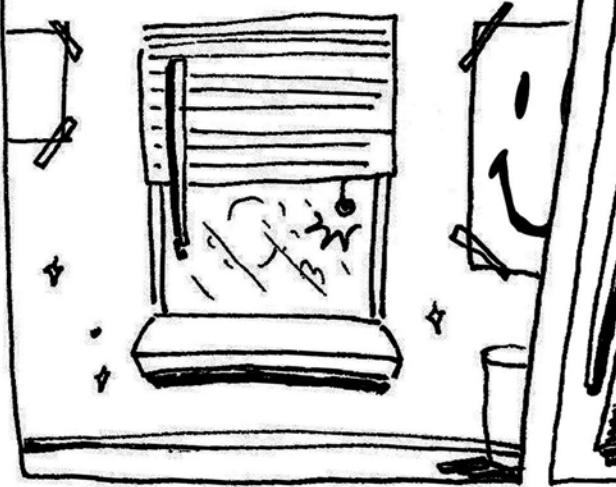
WEST 8TH AVENUE

AN ODE TO THOSE ON THEIR DAILY COMMUTE

#1



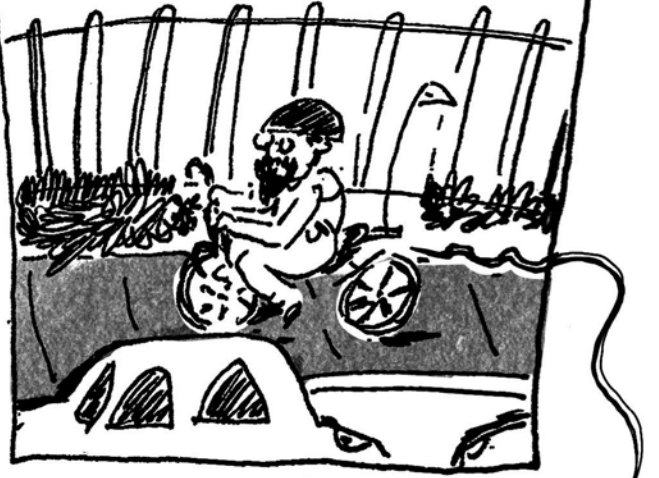
EVERY MORNING, I SIT AT MY DESK AND LOOK OUT OF THIS WINDOW.



I SEE THE SAME THINGS EACH DAY. A BIG TREE, CARS, AND MORE APARTMENTS.



I SEE A MAN I NAMED MR. GREEN, HE ALWAYS WEARS GREEN CLOTHES AND RIDES A GREEN BIKE.



++ green! ++

I SEE A WOMAN ON A MOTORIZED WHEELCHAIR, WITH HER TINY DOG THAT RIDES BETWEEN HER FEET.



AND A YOUNGER STUDENT, WHO SPRINTS DOWN THE SIDEWALK. I ASSUME THEY ARE LATE FOR CLASS, OR MAYBE IT'S THE BUS.



I WONDER IF THESE PEOPLE SEE ME EACH MORNING, TOO.



IF NOT, THEN MAYBE THEY WILL READ THIS COMIC SOMEDAY.



SO HERE IS AN ODE TO YOU, NEXT TIME YOU TRAVEL DOWN WEST 8TH AVENUE...

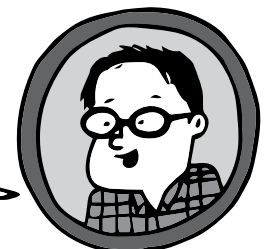


JUST LOOK UP AT MY WINDOW, AND WE CAN WISH EACH OTHER A GOOD MORNING.



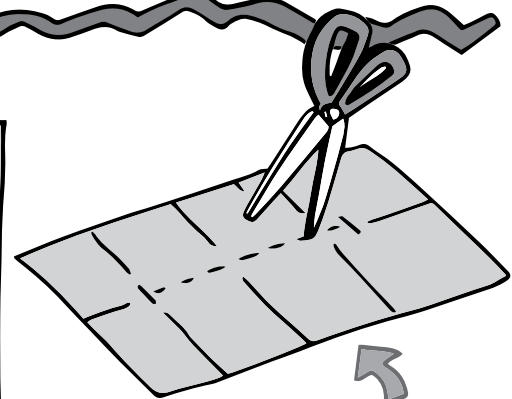
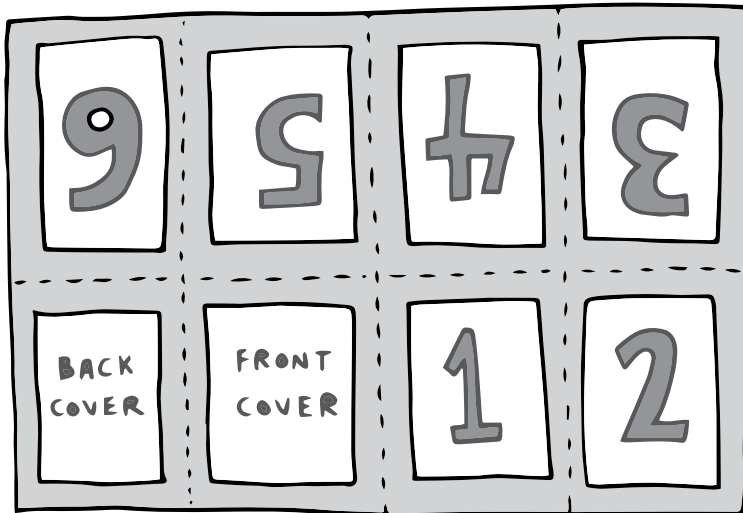
how to make a MINI COMIC

By Steve Steiner



AN 8.5" x 11" PIECE OF PAPER - THAT'S ALL IT TAKES TO MAKE YOUR OWN MINI COMIC.

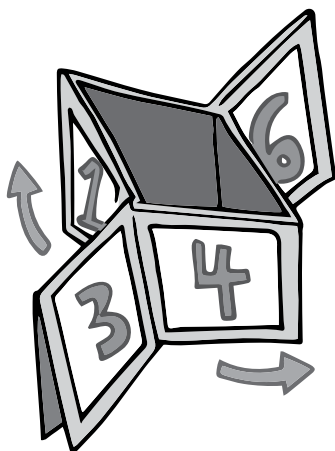
SET IT UP LIKE THE TEMPLATE SHOWN. YOU'LL NOTICE THAT THE TWO SIDES ARE REVERSED, YOUR FINAL DRAWINGS WILL APPEAR UPSIDE DOWN.



ONCE YOU HAVE DRAWN YOUR COMIC, USE A PAIR OF SCISSORS TO CUT ALONG THE DOTTED LINE.



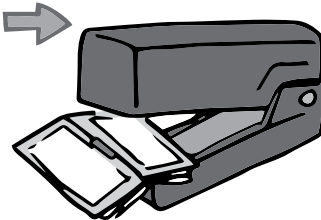
ONCE CUT, FOLD THE PAPER FIRST IN HALF, THEN IN QUARTERS ALONG THE PAGES.



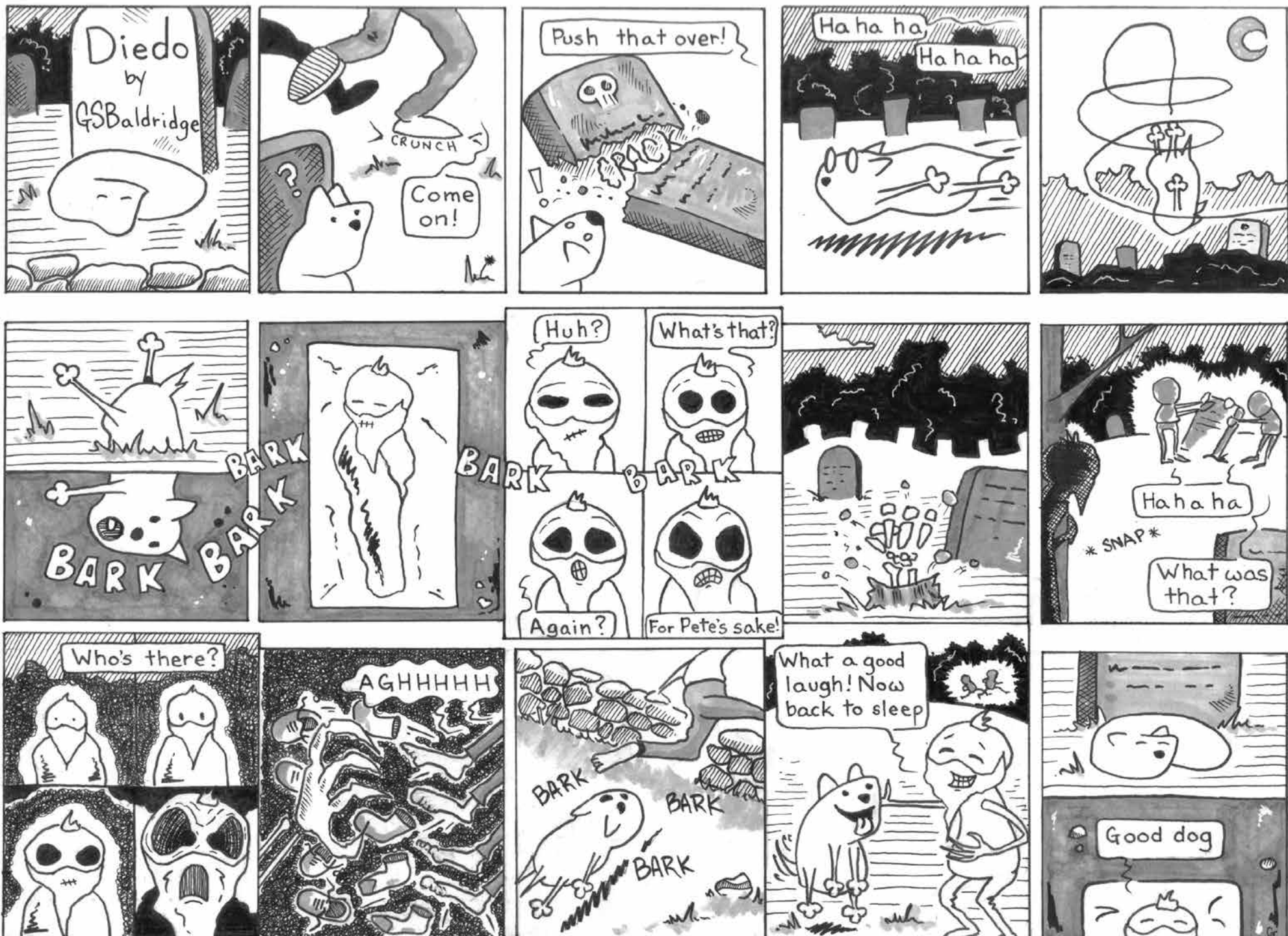
POP THE INTERIOR PAGES OUT LIKE AN ACCORDION.

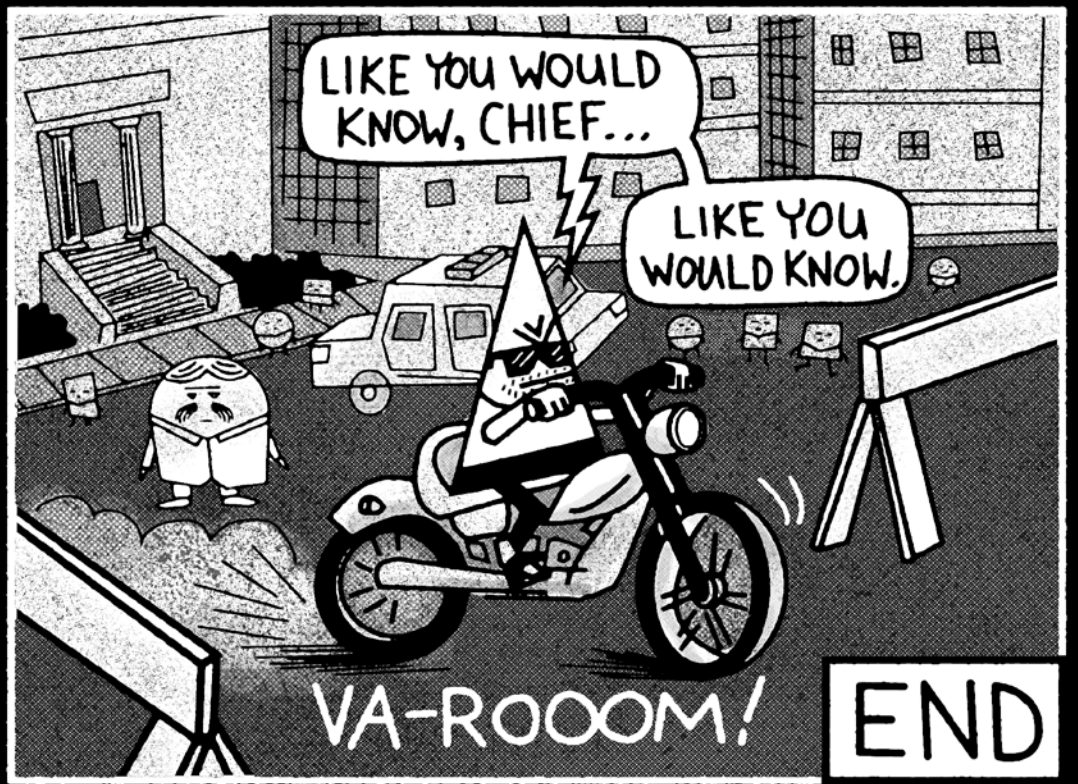
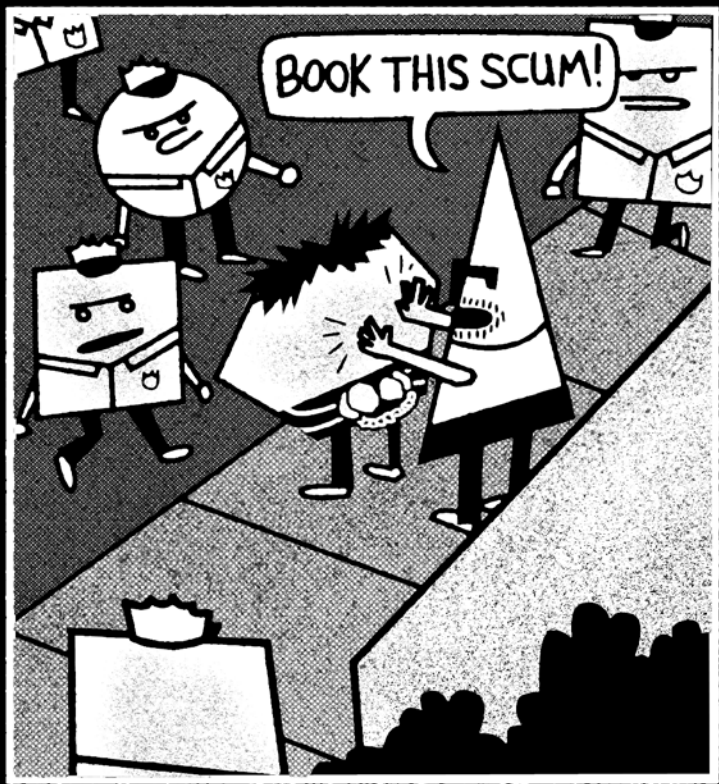
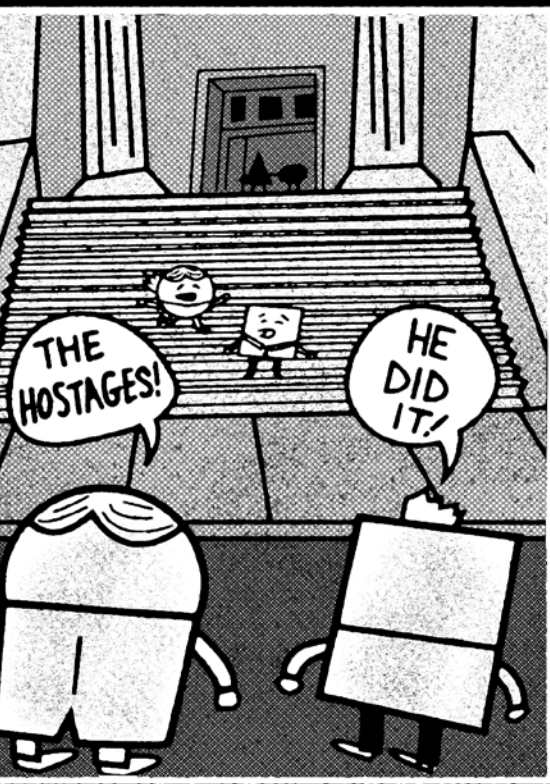
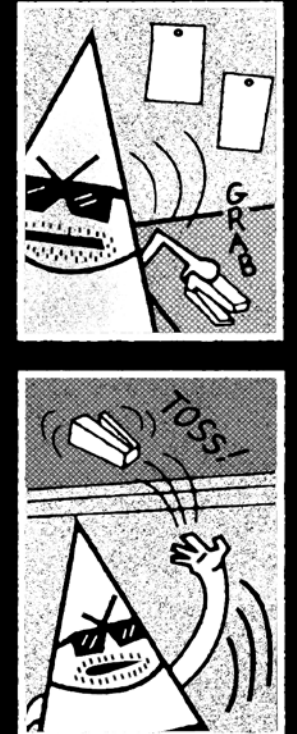
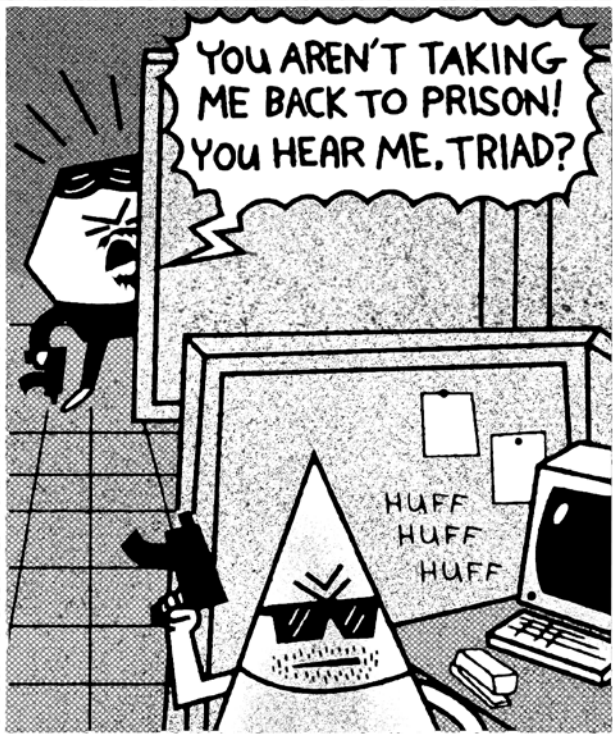
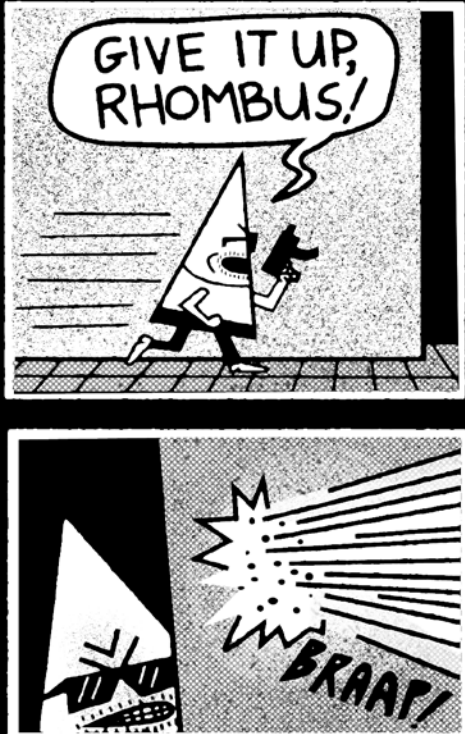
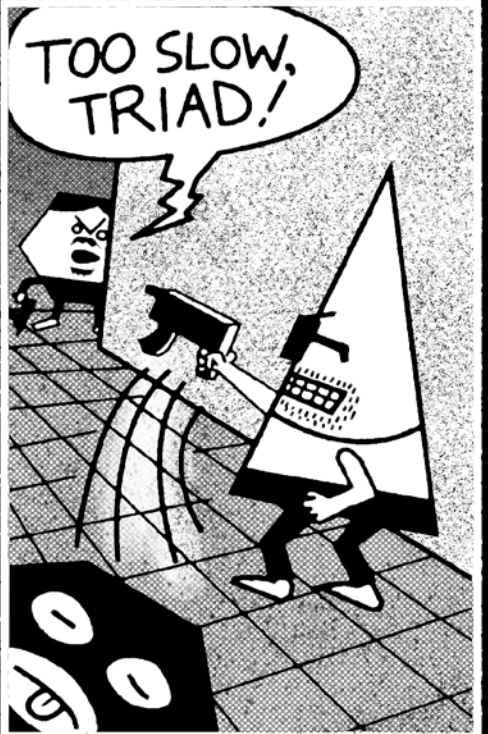
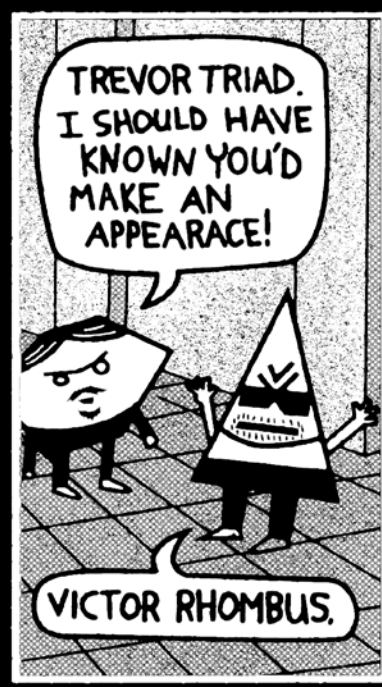
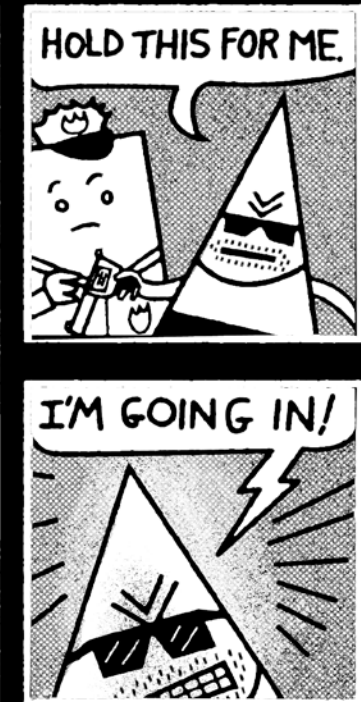
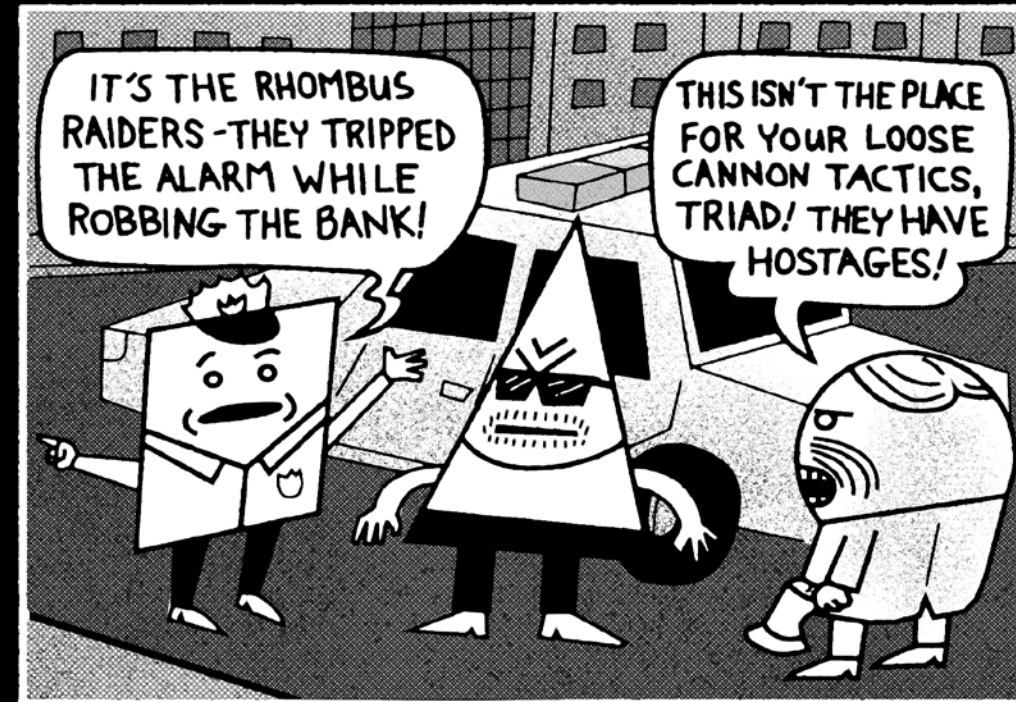
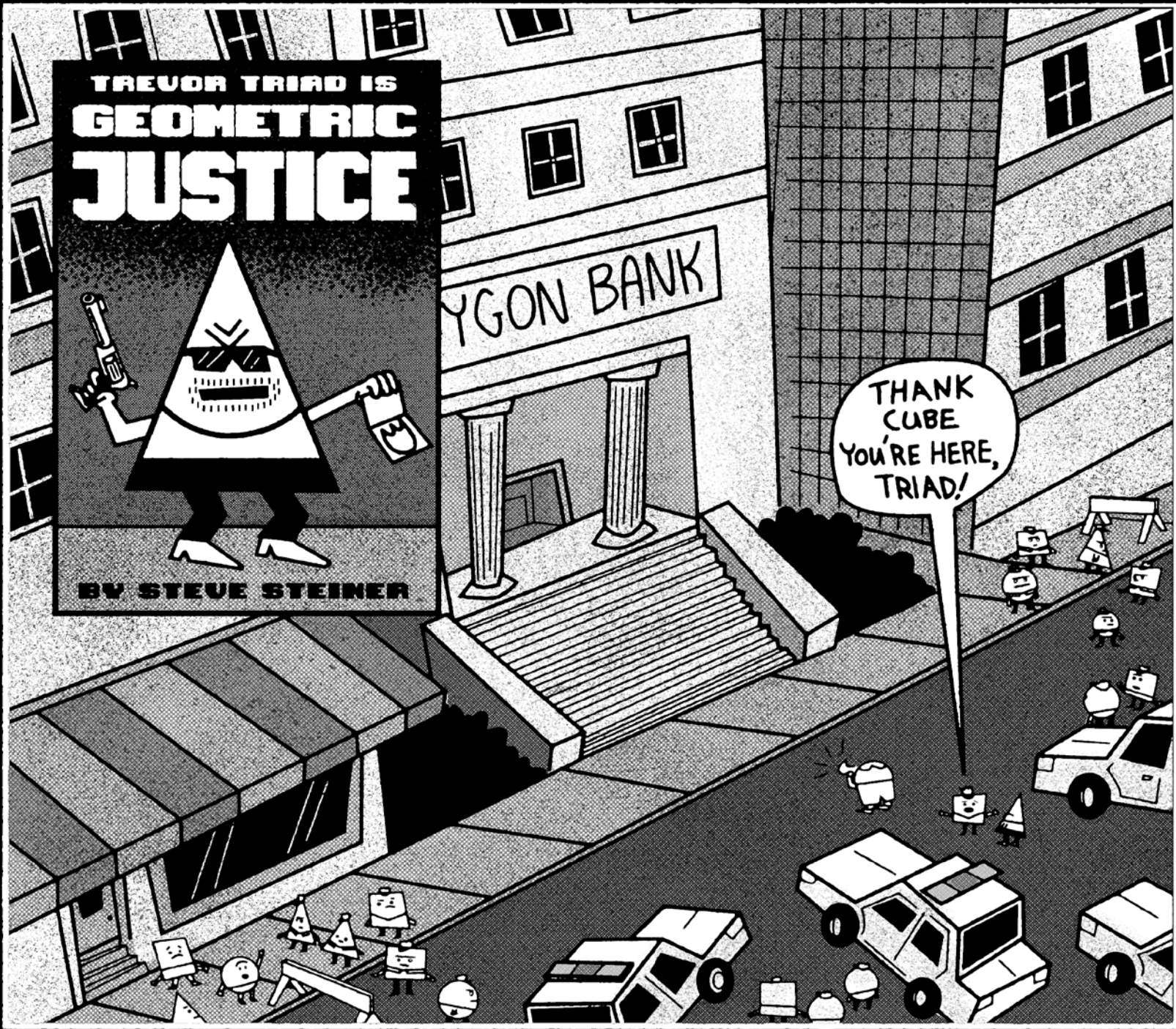
AND NOW YOUR MINI COMIC IS READY FOR OTHERS TO ENJOY!

INSERT A STAPLE TO MAKE IT STURDIER.

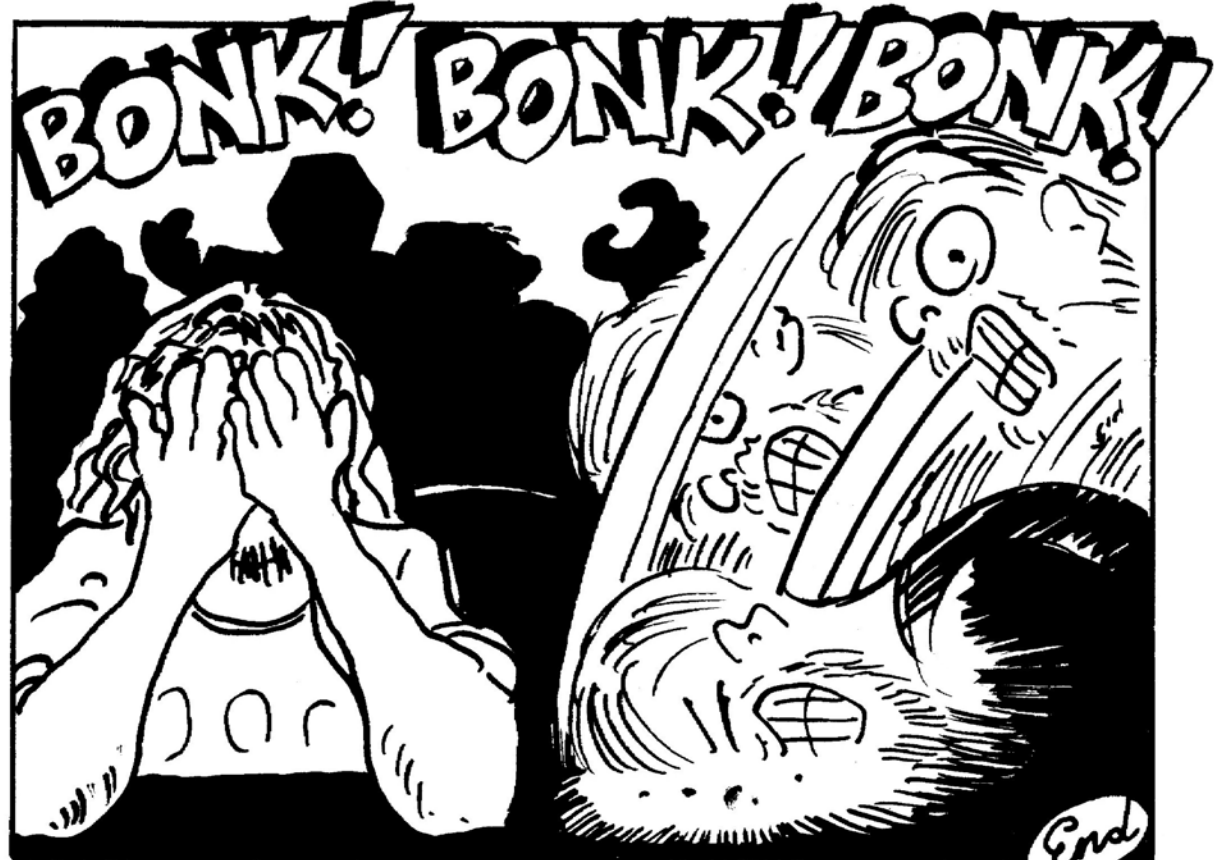


GREG BALDRIDGE





NOT SO FUNNIES TALES OF THE COMIC PEEPS



DEVIN



WHO IS THIS MYSTERIOUS ORDER OF PALO?

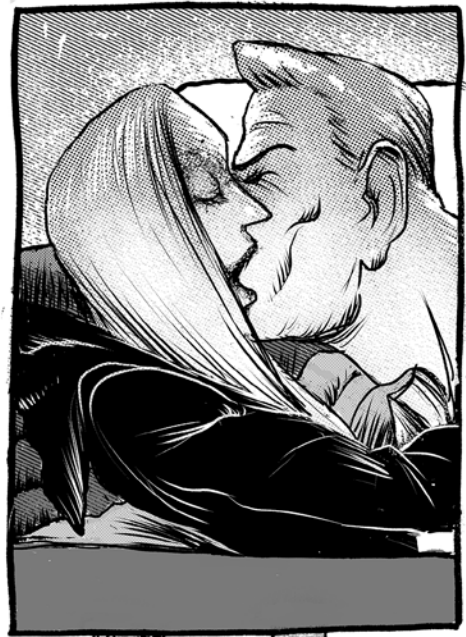
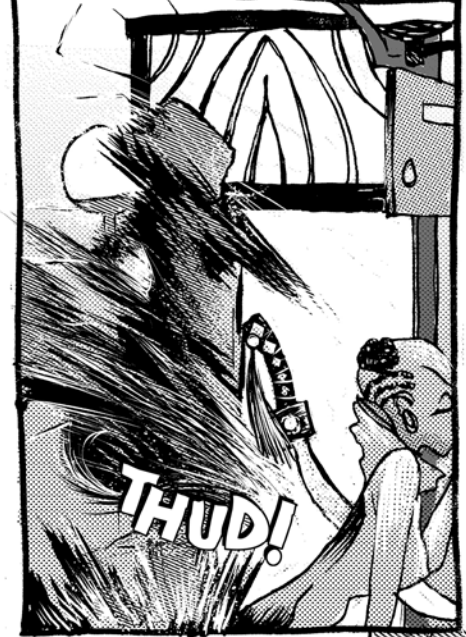
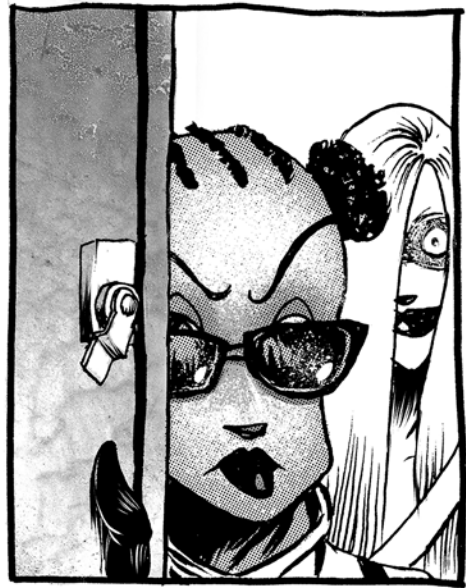
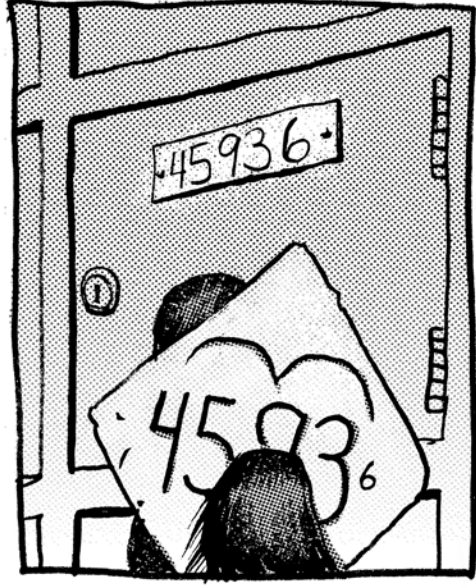
ROYAL



FLUSHED

CHA-CHA

DEATH FOLLOWS THIS WOMAN OF MYSTERY



by Tom Williams

MEET THE PEOPLE OF COLUMBUS: Catie Randazzo and Matthew Heaggans

IN 1992, MATT HEAGGANS WOULD MOVE TO COLUMBUS WITH HIS FAMILY FROM NORTH CAROLINA. HE STARTED HIS FIRST JOB AT FOURTEEN AT **CHUCK E. CHEESE** ON MCNAUGHTEN ROAD.



HE WAS USUALLY CHUCKIE.

IN 1997, CATIE RANDAZZO, A COLUMBUS NATIVE, STARTED HER FIRST JOB AT THE **DAIRY QUEEN** WORKING AT THE FRONT END. SHE WOULD LATER MOVE TO THE KITCHEN, WHERE SHE WOULD CREATE NEW CONCOCTIONS FOR HER COWORKERS TO TRY.



BEHOLD. CHILI CHEESE FRIES TOPPED WITH FRITOS.

THROUGH THE COMING YEARS, CATIE WOULD WORK HER WAY THROUGH A SERIES OF CHAIN RESTAURANTS INCLUDING **DON PABLO'S**, **JOE'S CRAB SHACK**, AND BECOMING A MANAGER AT **ARBYS**.



ORDER UP. BUCKET OF SHRIMP FOR TABLE NINE.

MATT WORKED IN A FEW RESTAURANTS INCLUDING **RUBY TUESDAY** ON BRICE ROAD AND **ELEMENTAL**. THEN WENT TO WORK FOR **AT&T** WHERE HE WORKED FOR EIGHT YEARS AND EVENTUALLY BECAME A MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR.



IN 2010, CATIE DECIDED TO EXPAND HER CULINARY KNOWLEDGE BY ATTENDING THE COLUMBUS CULINARY INSTITUTE...



...WHILE MATT CREDITS HIS COOKING KNOWLEDGE TO READING A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT AND TO EMERIL LAGASSE.



TAKE A LITTLE BASIL AND BAM!

IN THE SAME YEAR, MATT DECIDED TO LEAVE COLUMBUS TO WORK IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

HE WORKED AT THREE FINE DINING RESTAURANTS AND A FOURTH JOB AS A BARTENDER AT A DIVE BAR. HE STARTED WORK AT **INOX**, A FOUR MILLION DOLLAR RESTAURANT.



WE'LL START YOU OFF AS THE CHEF GARDE MANGER.

AFTER WORKING A SHORT TIME AT THE FORMER **JURY ROOM** IN 2011, CATIE DECIDED IT WAS ALSO TIME TO BRANCH OUT AND WAS GRANTED AN INTERNSHIP AT **NOSTRANA** IN PORTLAND, OREGON. SHE WORKED WITH CATHY WHIMS, A SIX-TIME JAMES BEARD NOMINATED CHEF.



HELLO, I'M CATHY. NICE TO MEET YOU.

I LOVED YOUR LETTER AND THANKS FOR COMING ALL THE WAY TO PORTLAND.

IN 2012, CATIE CONTINUED HER PILGRIMAGE THROUGH THE FINE DINING WORLD, BY MOVING TO BROOKLYN, NEW YORK WHERE SHE LIVED FOR OVER A YEAR WORKING AT **ALLSWELL**, AN AMERICAN PUB.



I HAVE A PINT LEFT.

YOU MEAN A QUART?

YES, CHEF. SORRY.

IN THAT SAME YEAR, AFTER A HEALTH SCARE WITH HIS MOTHER, MATT DECIDED TO MOVE BACK TO COLUMBUS. HE DROVE THE WINDY HILLS OF VIRGINIA IN A USED TRUCK THAT HE HAD ACQUIRED.



THE TRUCK WOULD SOON BECOME **SWOOP**, SERVING SLIDERS, MINI BURGERS, AND TATER TOTS TO COLUMBUS.

IN 2013, CATIE HAD ALSO RETURNED TO COLUMBUS. SHE'D DECIDED TO OPEN A FOOD TRUCK AFTER FALLING IN LOVE WITH THEM IN PORTLAND. INSPIRED BY HER RELATIONSHIP WITH HER GIRLFRIEND AND THE JEWISH NEIGHBORHOODS SHE WORKED NEXT TO, SHE OPENED **CHALLAH!** SERVING JEWISH INSPIRED COMFORT FOOD.

HERE'S YOUR SMOKED SALMON SANDWICH.

THE TWO MET AT A DINING HALL WHEN CATIE WAS LOOKING FOR OTHER FOOD TRUCKS THAT HAD SIMILAR IDEALS.

HI, MY NAME'S CATIE. I'M OPENING A FOOD TRUCK, WE SHOULD COLLABORATE TOGETHER AND BE FRIENDS.

CHEFS DON'T SUPPORT EACH OTHER HERE. I DON'T TRUST HER.

THE TWO WORKED OUT OF THE SAME COMMISSARY CALLED THE **FOOD FORT** FOR MONTHS. EVENTUALLY, HEAD NODDING TURNED INTO CONVERSATIONS AND TIPS.

YOU SHOULD JUST USE STORE BOUGHT MAYONNAISE.

BUT IT'S ABOUT THE INTEGRITY OF THE DISH.

HE'S RIGHT. THIS IS TAKING WAY TOO LONG.

IN 2013, CATIE CHALLENGED MATT TO A "KNIFE FIGHT", A BATTLE OF CULINARY WIT. THEY BROUGHT IN A THIRD PARTY JUDGE, SHOPPED TOGETHER, AND MADE MEALS WITH MYSTERY INGREDIENTS. THE KNIFE FIGHTS WERE A BIG HIT AND WERE HELD QUARTERLY FOR OVER A YEAR.

IN 2015, MATT DECIDED TO CLOSE **SWOOP** AND HAD TAKEN A JOB AT THE **FLAT IRON**. THEN STARTED AT THE **ROSSI** JUST A YEAR LATER.

TAKE CARE OF HER FOR ME.

IN 2017, CATIE HAD LEARNED FROM FOLKS AT SEVENTH SON THAT A LOCATION ON THE SOUTH SIDE WAS GOING UP FOR SALE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

THIS COULD BE GREAT, BUT ALSO A HUGE AMOUNT OF WORK.

SHE HAD A CONCEPT, ACQUIRED FUNDING, AND ASKED MATT TO JOIN HER TO HELP SHARE THE TREMENDOUS WORKLOAD.

DURING CONSTRUCTION IN 2018, THE TWO OPENED A SERIES OF POP-UPS. THE SECOND WAS **PRESTON'S BURGERS**, NAMED AFTER MATT'S GRANDFATHER.

THE BURGER BECAME SO POPULAR THAT THEY OPENED SIMILAR POP-UPS IN **THREE SHEETS**, **WOODLANDS BACKYARD**, AND NOW HAS ITS OWN FOOD TRUCK.

I'M TELLING YOU, THE LETTUCE SHOULD BE UNDER THE MEAT.

THE TWO OF THEM WENT TO NEW YORK FOR AN "EAT AROUND" AND TALKED FOR MONTHS ABOUT THE SERVICE THEY WANTED TO PROVIDE BEFORE THEY EVER DISCUSSED THE MENU.

I CAN'T BELIEVE THE SERVICE HERE.

SERVICE IS IMPORTANT, BUT HOW ARE WE GOING TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STAFF?

NAMED AFTER CATIE'S GRANDPARENTS, **AMBROSE AND EVE** OPENED IN NOVEMBER OF 2018. THEY'VE CELEBRATED THEIR FIRST ANNIVERSARY AND HAVE BEEN PROVIDING WORLD CLASS CUISINE TO OUR CITY EVER SINCE.



COMIC STORE PROFILE

THE LAUGHING OGRE

Located at 4258 N. High Street, Columbus, The Laughing Ogre has been a fixture for area comic fans for over two decades. They stock a wide variety of comics, graphic novels, and collectibles. Learn a little bit more about the store's origins and the store's founder, Gib Bickel.



1). What was the first comic you remember buying?

Amazing Spider-Man #149 - Two Spider-Men!

2). Where did you get your comics growing up and what made you want to run your own comic shop?

I walked on Broadway in Greenville, Ohio from Bonfiglio's Pharmacy to Sir Walter's Pipe Shop to Marsh's Grocery. Three stops at three spinner racks. As a kid, I wanted to retire with a used book store full of my favorite books to recommend to buyers daily. Now, I do that very thing with comic books.

3). How did you choose the name of the shop?

We wanted a character to represent the store and chose the Ogre. Daryn Guarino made up the name as an inn in a fantasy roleplaying world where our characters adventured.

4). What is the most interesting part of owning a comic shop?

Talking to customers. Suggesting books based on what they're interested in.

5). What is the prized comic of your collection? Is there a comic you would love to own, but don't?

When we opened the store I had 60 boxes of comics, and I kept 4 books. Amazing Spider-Man #149, Bone #1, Groo #1 and Secret Origins #10 (The Phantom Stranger). Bone #1 is probably my most prized. I would love to own Amazing Fantasy #15.

6). What changes have you seen in the comics world over the years, both on the production and fan side of things?

The biggest change from 1994 until now is the prevalence of collected editions, or graphic novels. In 1994, there were so few collections, everyone had to find back issues to read a favorite story.

7) Who are some of your favorite national artists? Local artists?

My favorite comic artists are Mike Mignola, Charles Vess, P. Craig Russel and Mike Kaluta. All but one of which have been to our incredible local convention, Cartoon Crossroads Columbus! As have my favorite cartoonists (someone who

writes and draws their own book) Jeff Smith and Terry Moore. I enjoy all the local work. Every book has a voice, and Columbus is blessed with a multitude of those voices.

8). Who is your favorite character?

Spider-Man, Captain America, Wolverine and Aunt Petunia's favorite nephew, the ever lovin' blue-eyed Thing!

9) What comic series/graphic novel/etc would you recommend to someone who was just starting to get into comics and why?

Bone is probably my go-to book for new readers. Action, humor and great illustrations make it highly recommendable. Jeff describes it as mix of Looney Tunes and Lord of the Rings.

10). What has you most excited about the future of comics?

The great wealth of new creators telling their own stories. More than just super heroes, we have great sci-fi, horror, adventure, every genre is represented. Although I'd like to see more westerns!

KID'S KORNER

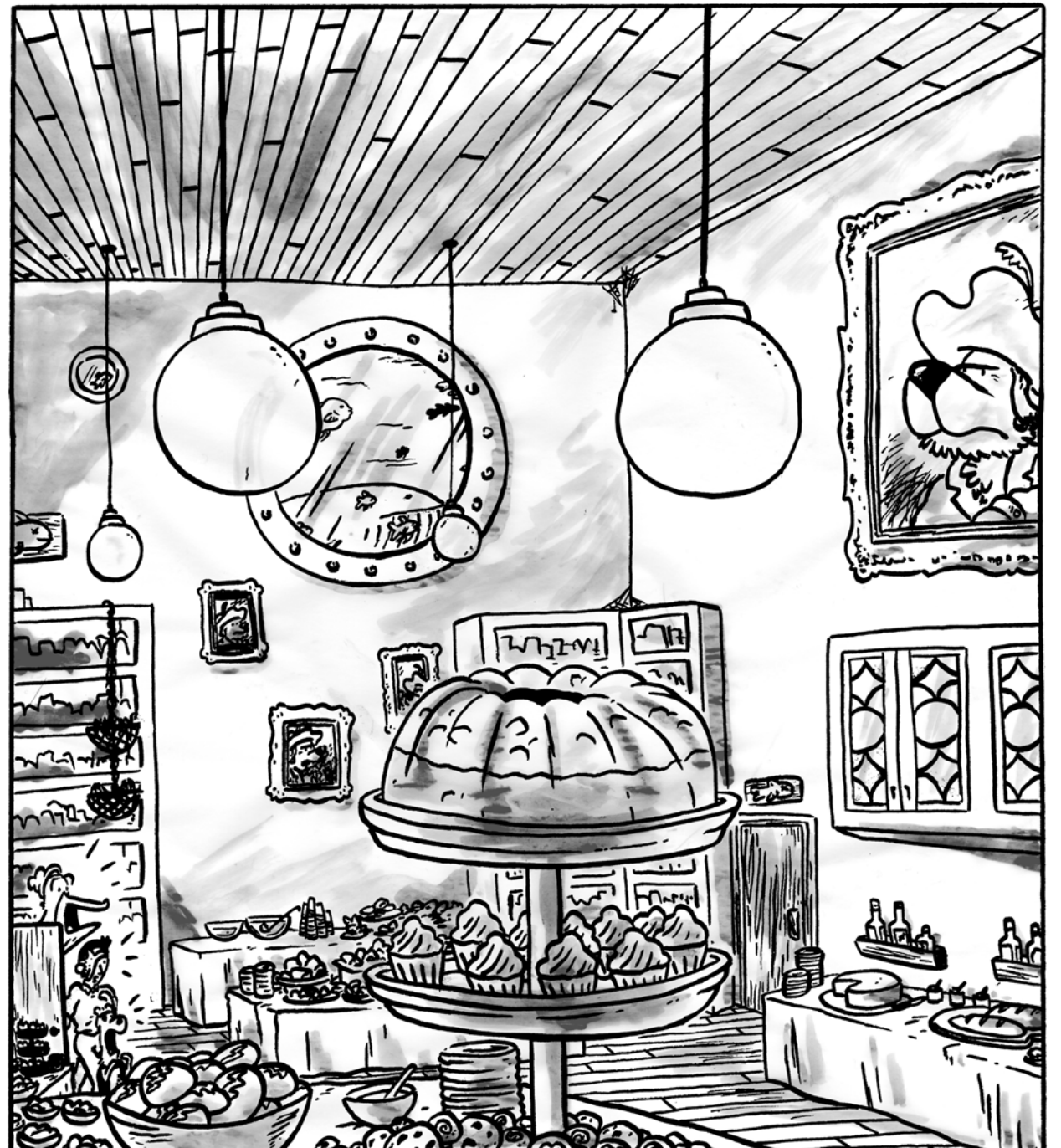
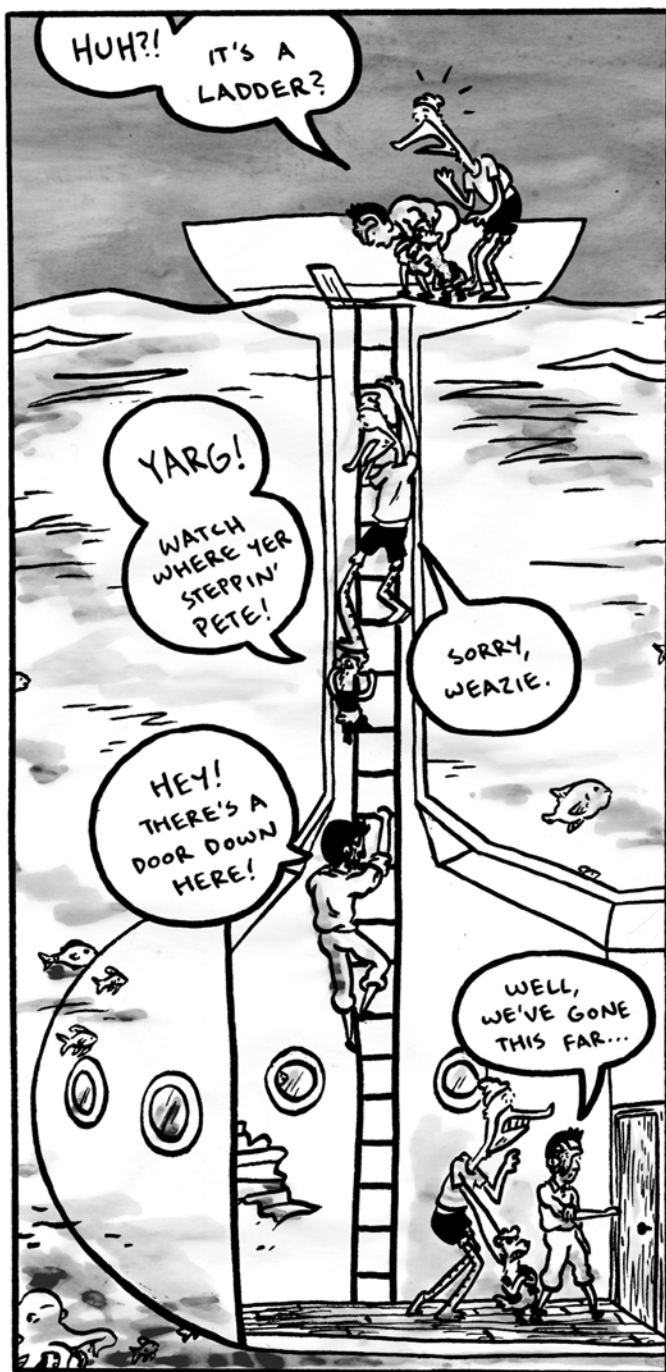
Hey kids! Do you like to draw comics?

You may get your work published in the Scribbler!

Here's what you do:

1. Draw your comic 8.5" x 11" (the size of a piece of regular copy paper on its side).
2. Scan your comic in at at least 200 dpi.
3. Send your comic to cbusscribbler@gmail.com
4. Please include your name, age, and e-mail address.





COMIC REVIEWS BY DEREK BAXTER

THEY CALLED US ENEMY

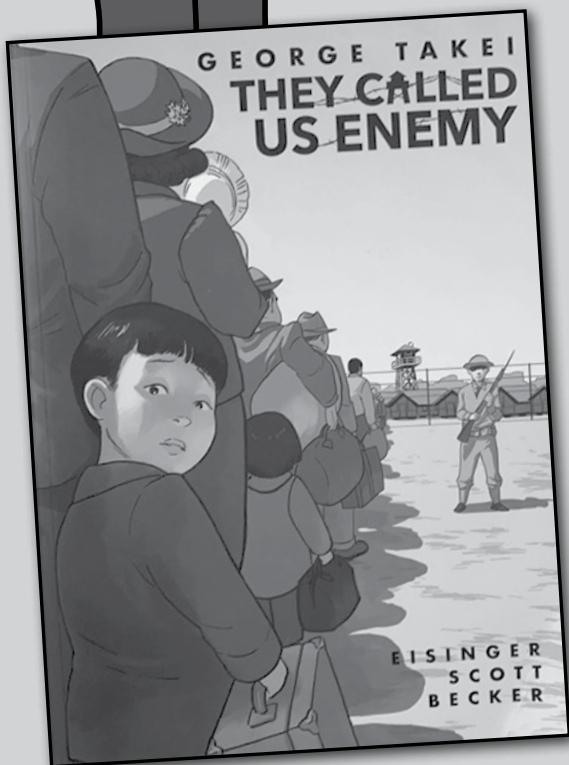
by George Takei (Author), Justin Eisinger (Author), Steven Scott (Author), Harmony Becker (Illustrator)

When studying World War II in high school, I vaguely remember brief mentions of Japanese internment camps, but it was never really more than a footnote in a larger discussion of America's history. With that tragic oversight in mind, I am glad we have the graphic novel *They Called Us Enemy*. The book is an insightful look at the events of WWII from someone whose experience was different than those of the people who were in power and those who fought on the front lines.

Published by Top Shelf Productions in July of 2019, *They Called Us Enemy* is an informative and important work. Written by George Takei, Justin Eisinger and Steven Scott and drawn by Columbus resident Harmony Becker, the memoir of George Takei (pronounced like "okay") tells of the incarceration of Japanese Americans shortly after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941. Becker's style of drawing compliments the mood of the story, which is told from Takei's point of view as a small child. Her classic manga style helps establish a sense of innocence and wonder, while never shying away from the iniquities that are occurring.

In viewing internment camps through the eyes of a child, Takei's story offers moments of true understanding and inspiration along with genuine humor amongst the horrifying atrocities that were committed against an entire race of people. The story is all the more compelling in that Takei's father never loses his faith in democracy and his mother never stops believing in doing what she feels is right for her family. Takei includes his personal struggles between his father's indifference toward the treatment of his own family. Developing insight into the strained relationships and struggling conflicts the story develops a more rounded perspective of growing up experiencing racism. Anecdotes both of past and current day events help to summarize the overall themes of the story, one of connectedness and how small the world actually is, despite seeming large and overwhelming at times.

Throughout the book, Takei points out the dangers of not learning from our past and includes examples of ways that we already see it being repeated today, cautioning just how quickly the levers of government can be moved when acting out of fear and how dangerous these results can be. Through his use of humor and compassion, Takei makes a case for an America that includes all people and works towards a place of understanding, not fear. In the America Takei sees, the one that seemed to offer his parents so much promise and opportunity, all are welcomed.



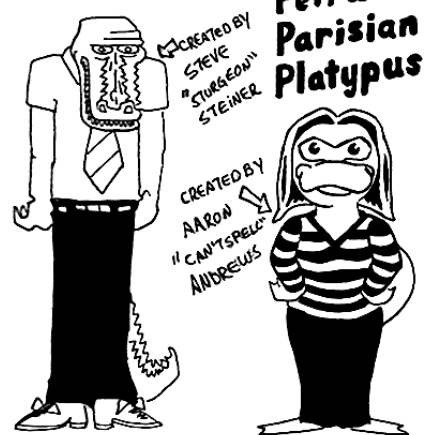
AARON ANDREWS

CRABDILE MAN Meets

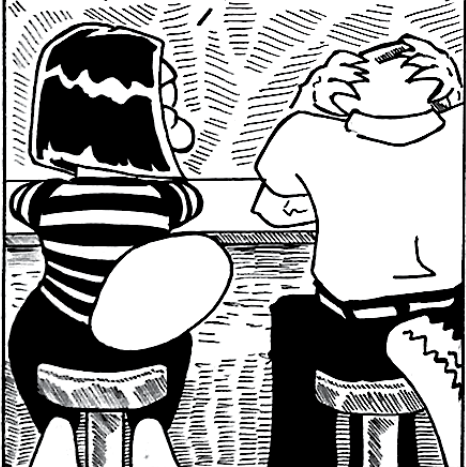
Petrale
Parisian
Platypus

CREATED BY
STEVE
"STURGEON"
STEINER

CREATED BY
AARON
"CAMP SPEL"
ANDREWS



I BET YOU WORK AT A BORING JOB AND
DON'T RELATE TO YOUR CO-WORKERS.



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2



▲ **U Cre-8 Comics is Victor's innovative bridge connecting sequential art and the classroom. It is designed to encourage education fundamentals and is currently being used by students throughout Columbus. Learn more at UCre8Comics.com**

2. Tell the story YOU intend to tell! Yes, the point is to sell issues and you have to think of your audience, but you shouldn't be so keen on checking off their ideas of what your story should be like, over being true to your own voice and vision.
3. Some stories SUCK in monthly installments! Especially if there's too much time between issues.
4. When the creators LOVE what they're putting on the page, it shows.
5. Never write a creator off — you may hate one project and adore another. Be open to revisits and reconsiderations!

5. You've met countless famous people as part of your work as a host moderator. Who were some of your favorites?

My favorites are those folks that I've developed relationships with beyond just sharing the stage. I don't wanna name drop, but I would say I'm truly friends with a few celebs, and we check up on each other when we haven't seen one another for a while. Those guys are definitely my favorites!

6. "The Samaritan," "The Trouble with Love," and "Kinder Guardians" are all based on the superhero genre. What do you think those stories add to the genre?

I won't claim I tried to reinvent the genre or anything, but I definitely tried to approach superheroes in an unfamiliar way. *The Samaritan* isn't really ABOUT the guy with powers, but rather the people he affects with his powers. *The Trouble w/Love* isn't a "fights & tights" story — it's more about a broken father/son relationship, infidelity and forgiveness. And with *The Kinder Guardians*, they are JUST kids dealing with the things kids go through (insecurities, bullies, being the new kid, not wanting to take a nap!)... they just happen to have superpowers!

7. You've been to countless conventions. What would be the one thing you could change about conventions in general, if you could?

I would change what people understand conventions are for — cons really should be about trying something new! There's so much that conventions have to offer, from programming, to creatives, to even the different things you can buy, that I would implore people to go, not with intent of going for one thing or the next, but to literally try out as many new things as they can reasonably enjoy!

8. How do you go about finding artists and can you describe your processes in working with them?

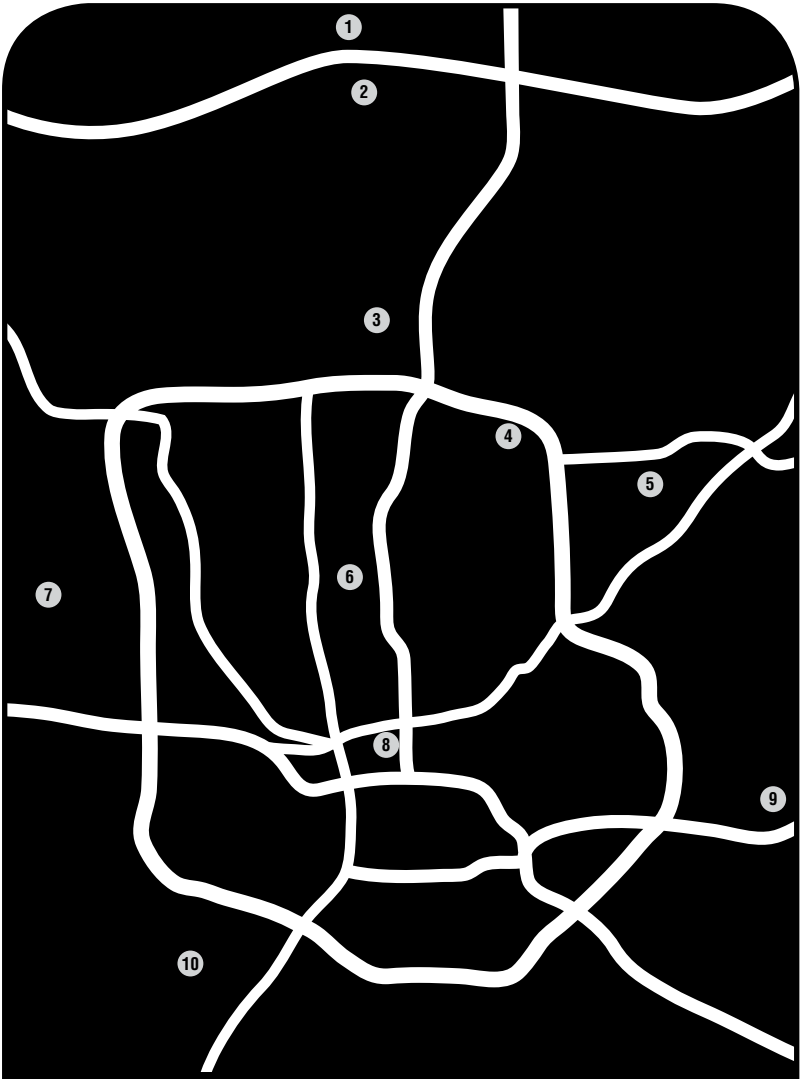
While a lot of people scour social media platforms to find new creators to work with, I've actually favored reaching out to people whose work I've encountered and enjoyed. More often than not, it's yielded some of my BEST partnerships, not only making it an easy team up, but creating some of the BEST work as well! So, if you're an artist that might want to add to the V:IP library, send me some of your published work!

9. How do you think being a father has changed you as a creator?

I definitely work harder. Not only am I trying to provide a comfortable lifestyle for my kids, I'm trying to instill in them that same statement of passion and professions. That if you commit to truly becoming good at something — no matter how naturally talented you might be — you can become someone noteworthy, respected and applauded, for what you do!

10. How do you think cosplay has changed conventions and how many Deadpools would you estimate you've seen?

Cosplay has definitely opened up more conversations about behavior and etiquette than almost anything! Admittedly, it's hasn't always brought out the best in people (that we even have to SAY cosplay is not consent, is a shame), but at the same time, the sense of community its fostered amongst people all over the world...that's truly beautiful. And how many Deadpools...that's easy. Over 9000!



LOCAL COMIC BOOK STORES

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 SECRET IDENTITY COMICS | 6 LAUGHING OGRE |
| 2 FLYING MONKEY COMICS AND GAMES | 7 PACKRAT COMICS |
| 3 COMIC TOWN | 8 HEROES AND GAMES |
| 4 WORLD'S GREATEST COMICS | 9 CAPITAL CITY COMICS |
| 5 KRAZZY COMICS | 10 SKYLARK TOYS AND COMICS |

UPCOMING EVENTS

COVID-19 HAS CAUSED THE CANCELLATION OF MANY COMIC SHOWS FOR THE DURATION OF 2019, THOUGH MANY WILL HOLD EVENTS IN AN ONLINE FORMAT

TINY PAPERS 2020

Saturday, June 13 & Sunday, June 14
An Online Comic & Zine Fest!
Follow Tiny Papers on Instagram for stories, posts, and for me to share your work!
[instagram.com/TinyPapers2020/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/TinyPapers2020/?hl=en)

Anyone can be a part of Tiny Papers, not just Columbus based artists! So make sure to share with and promote others from all over!

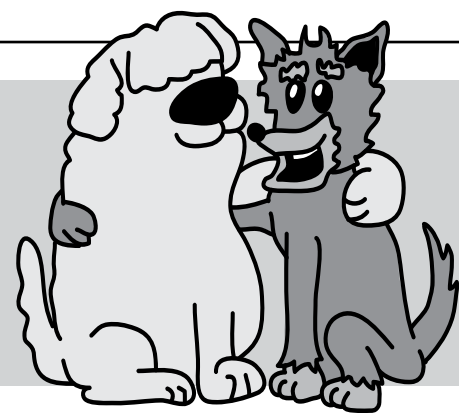
S.P.A.C.E. (SMALL PRESS & ALTERNATIVE COMICS EXPO)

Saturday, July 11 & Sunday, June 12
Go to backporchcomics.com for more information

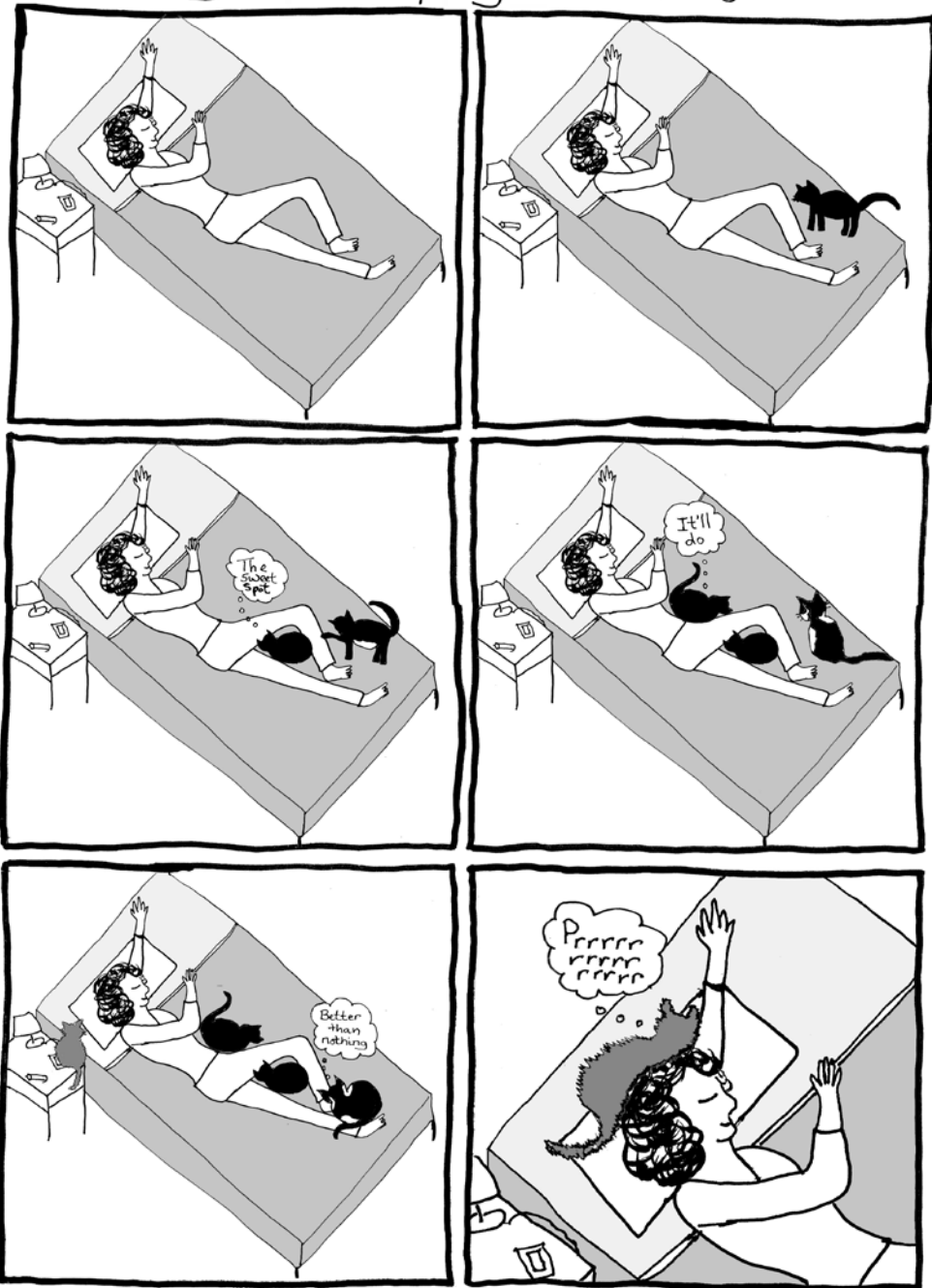
CXC (CARTOON CROSSROADS COLUMBUS)

Thursday, October 1 through Sunday, October 4
Go to cartooncrossroadscolumbus.com for more information

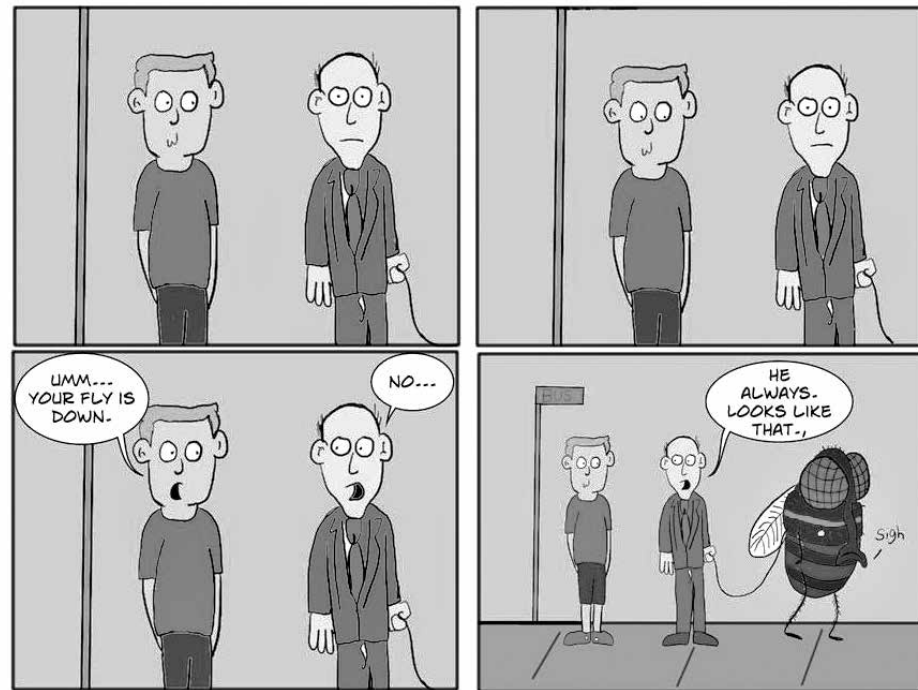
The Funnies



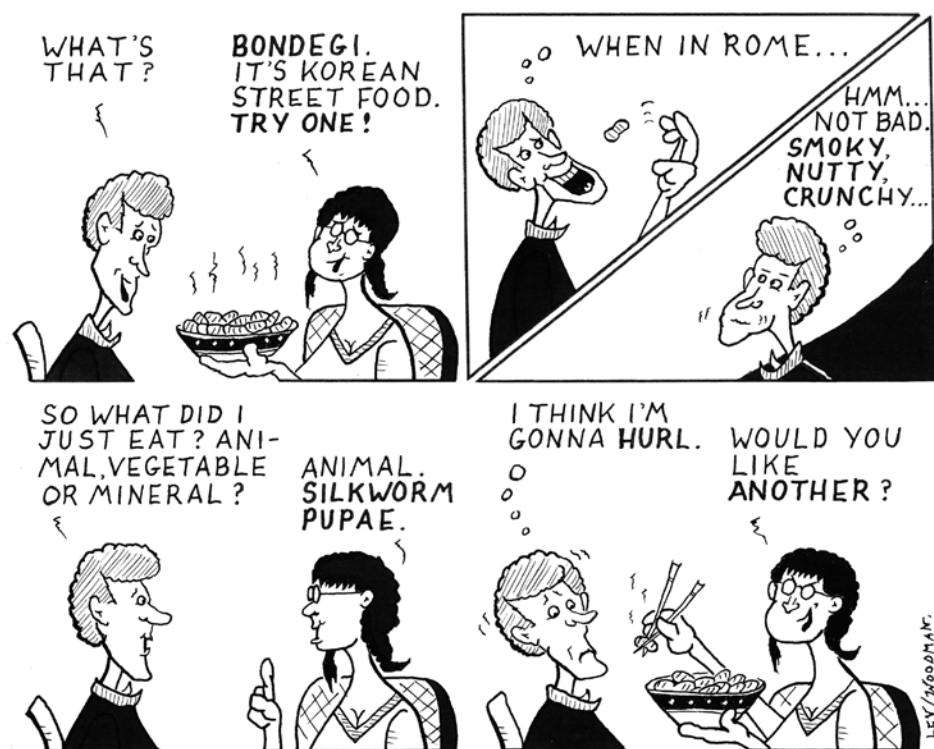
Anatomy of a Sleeping Human by Canada Keck



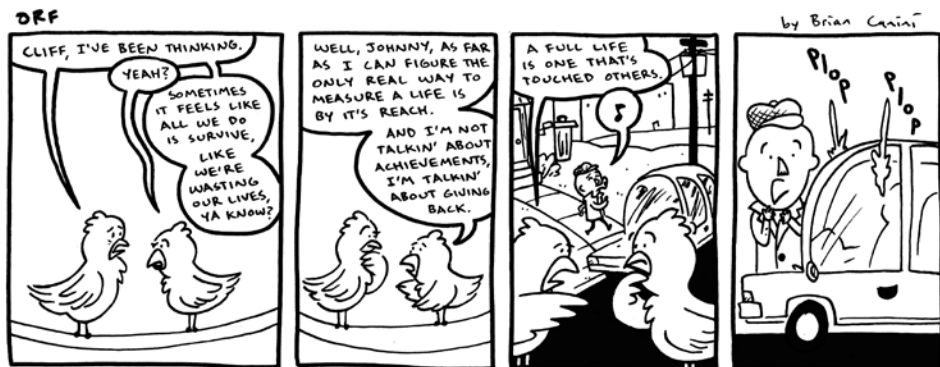
DEREK BAXTER



THAD WOODMAN



BRIAN CANINI



MICHAEL FEHSKENS



Spreading Your Wings

by Brian Canini



the HAIRSTYLES of MICROBES

S. Steiner



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

We hope that you've enjoyed this issue of the Columbus Scribbler! There have been many changes since our last issue. Comic-related events, festivals, conventions, distribution, and stores have closed down across Ohio and the United States in the wake of COVID-19. Fortunately, the comics community has stayed strong through this crisis with fundraisers to help support comic shops and creators.

Our goal at The Scribbler has always been to help foster a love and appreciation for comics. With a wide array of cartoonists and storytellers scattered throughout this incredible city, we couldn't be more pleased with the windfall of submissions we received this issue. We hope you've enjoyed the creators that have been showcased. And don't forget, now that comic shops are open again in Ohio, you can explore many new and different comic creators. Check out our locator map on page 19 to see which shops are closest to you.

In our efforts to continue to grow the Columbus Scribbler, we're excited to announce that we've officially started a Patreon account. For those of you not aware, Patreon is a platform that allows fans to support their favorite creators by paying a monthly amount of their choosing. This means that now you can directly impact the Scribbler as well as the lives of local cartoonists and artists across Central Ohio. Every patron will help us to continue to grow our print runs, pay our contributors, and spread the love of comics across the city and beyond. With the help of your monthly contribution, you would be allowing us to continue our efforts to introduce and educate our community about comics as a vibrant form of expression and art.

Through this challenging time, we are all experiencing our own stories. One story has the power to change a life. So take a chance and change the world around you by sharing your stories and become a part of one of the greatest mediums. Grab a pencil and paper and start scribbling!

- Brian Canini



Contribute to Comics!

ACTIVELY SUPPORT THE ARTS!



For only \$1 a month, you can support local cartoonists and central Ohio's only free comics newspaper. As a gift for your support, you'll receive future issues of the Scribbler through the mail.

SIGN UP TODAY AT
[PATREON.COM/CBUSSCRIBBLER](https://www.patreon.com/cbusscribbler)

THE MINDS BEHIND THE COLUMBUS SCRIBBLER



STEVE STEINER mulletturtle.com

Steve Steiner is the man behind Mullet Turtle Comics – a publisher of weird humor zines and comics. He lives in Groveport, Ohio with his wife Jennifer.

JACK WALLACE disposablefictioncomics.com

Jack Wallace is a writer who grew up in Columbus and is happily married and lives on the South Side. Disposable Fiction Comics started as a group of short stories and metamorphosed, into a book, a webcomic, and, finally, a company creating fiction spanning a variety of genres.

BRIAN CANINI drunkencatcomics.com

Born and raised in Columbus, Brian Canini has been cartooning and creating stories ever since he took hold of his first crayon. Through his efforts in self-publishing, he has created the award-winning autobio graphic novel *Fear of Flying*, the critically-acclaimed crime comic *Ruffians*, and is one half of the team duo that produces the award-winning webcomic *Drunken Cat*.

DEREK BAXTER drunkencatcomics.com

Derek Baxter draws, works and lives in Columbus, Ohio. He has been part of the Drunken Cat Comics duo since 2001, when he and Brian Canini teamed up to write and draw comics as high schoolers. He does a weekly webcomic on the Drunken Cat Comics website and occasionally writes and draws minicomics, such as *The Life and Death of Mr. Burger* and *Gomibako*.

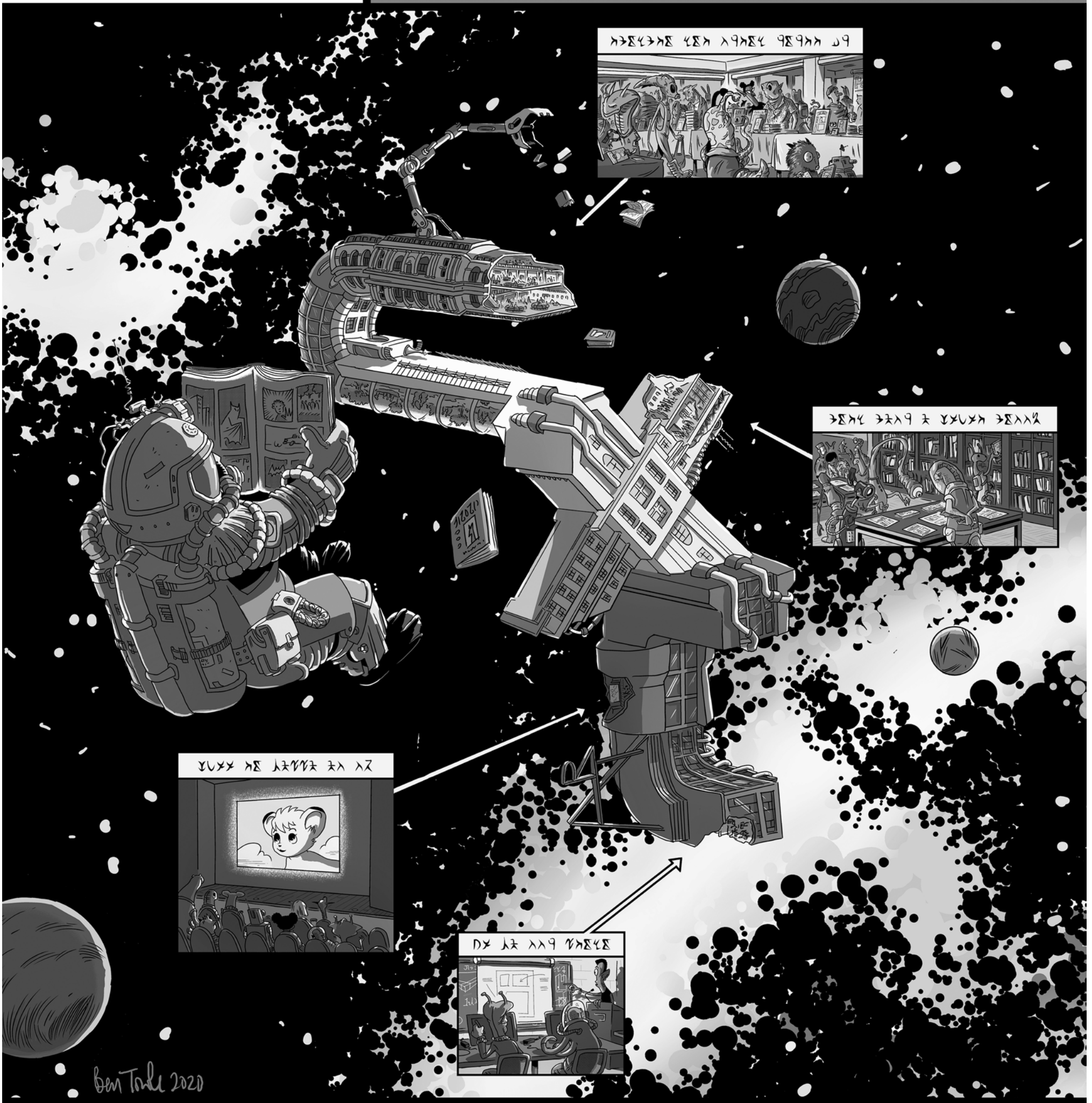
CXC

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CARTOON CROSSROADS COLUMBUS

A COMICS, ART, & ANIMATION FESTIVAL

■ OCT 1-4



A FREE four-day festival held throughout Columbus, Ohio, with events at:

- Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum
- Columbus College of Art & Design
- Columbus Metropolitan Library Main
- Columbus Museum Of Art
- The Wexner Center For The Arts
- Gateway Film Center

>

KEEP UP TO DATE ON CXC NEWS:

cartooncrossroadscolumbus.org

Facebook: [cartooncrossroadscolumbus](https://www.facebook.com/cartooncrossroadscolumbus)

Twitter: [cxcfestival](https://twitter.com/cxcfestival)

Instagram: [cartooncrossroads](https://www.instagram.com/cartooncrossroads)

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