

ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODIES



ADULT READERS ONLY

ISSUE FIVE
\$3.50

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OVER HALFWAY THERE

Time flies when you're having fun. Or something. We're over halfway through to the end of *Associated Student Bodies*' intended storyline. As much fun as it's been, we'd be lying if we said we weren't looking forward to a break.

And here we thought we knew what we were letting ourselves in for...

THE MORNING AFTER

In this issue, we have two parts to the main story. The first is a glimpse into the home life of Our Hero, Daniel. The second part is definitely silly, with a goodly dose of fantasy. Is it "realistic"? Could something like that actually happen? (Go read it, you'll understand.)

Yes, but... things are never as simple as they seem.

It's a type of magic. It can't be manufactured at will, and like all things magical, there is always subtle peril waiting. Standard disclaimer: don't try this at home, unless you've really thought it through... and even then, don't think you've thought of every possible consequence.

As writers of fiction, we get to bend the rules a little. Indulge us, and realize the difference between comic book and fact. After all, there

aren't any super-heroes in *Associated Student Bodies*. Just don't tell Timmy or David that.

OOOH, FORESHADOWING

Issue six will be a serious challenge. One big story, one major problem. Wraparound cover by Baron Engel, all interior art by Chris McKinley. Don't miss it. 'Nuff said.

IF WE HAD A DOT-COM, WOULD OUR STOCK BE WORTH \$300 A SHARE?

Can't wait for issue 6? There's stuff to be had at:

<http://www.arclight.net/asb>

See you in 90!



Lance Rund
Chris McKinley

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>Front Cover</i>	"Santa Was Good To Me!"	art by Nakira
1	"Homecoming"	art by Chris McKinley written by Lance Rund
11	"Leather and Steel"	art by Zjonne written by Lance Rund
18	"The Adventures of QueerMan"	art by Chuck Davies written by Lance Rund
19	"Richter Scale Males"	art by Chris McKinley written by Lance Rund
21	"Auld Lang Something"	art by Chris McKinley written by Lance Rund
<i>Back cover</i>	"Mister David"	art by Jareth

Associated
Student
Bodies

"Homecoming"

story by Lance Rund
art by Chris McKinley



AREN'T YOU GOING HOME
FOR CHRISTMAS?

NO, THERE'S
NOTHING FOR ME TO
GO HOME TO.

I WISH I COULD STAY
HERE FOREVER WITH YOU!

YOU'VE GOT A
FAMILY. YOU SHOULD
BE WITH THEM.

DON'T WORRY, I'LL BE HERE
WHEN YOU GET BACK.

KEEP THE BED
WARM FOR ME!







DO YOU HAVE IT? I'M OLDER THAN YOU. I'M PRIVILEGED.

YOU'RE NOT THAT MUCH OLDER!

SEVEN YEARS, KIDDO.

AREN'T YOU TURNING INTO THE CHARMER!

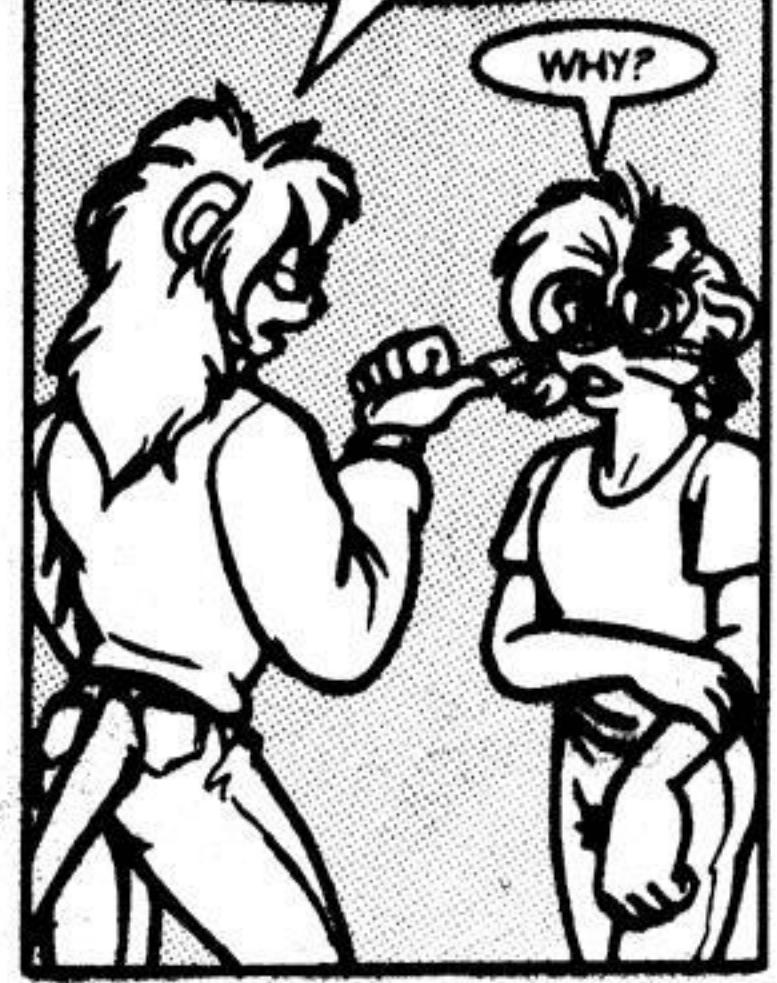


TELL ME ABOUT ALL THE GIRLS YOU'RE DATING, ROMEO!

NOT ONE GIRL?

UM, NOT REALLY... I MEAN, ALLISON AND I ARE JUST FRIENDS...

OH, BY THE WAY, YOU'D BETTER DIG YOUR SUNDAY BEST OUT OF THE CLOSET.



OH, I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT!

DAD'S GETTING ALL REPUBLICAN AGAIN. HE WANTS US TO GO TO SERVICES TONIGHT.

MICHAEL'S BEEN GETTING IN TROUBLE AGAIN. DAD THINKS CHURCH WILL STRAIGHTEN HIM OUT.

GREAT... IT'S ALWAYS LIKE A PUNISHMENT.



YEAH, BUT DON'T LET HIM HEAR YOU SAY THAT. HE'D GO BALLISTIC.



FAT CHANCE.

WHEN OUR LORD SENT HIS SON INTO THIS WORLD, HE COULD HAVE SENT HIM AS A MAN. YET HE CHOSE TO PLACE HIM IN A FAMILY, TO GROW UP WITH A MORTAL MOTHER, DAUGHTER OF EVE, AND A MORTAL FATHER, SON OF ADAM. SO IMPORTANT, SO PRECIOUS IS THE BONDS OF A MORTAL FAMILY, THAT OUR LORD CHOSE THIS ABOVE ALL THINGS AS THE PLACE FOR HIS VERY OWN SON.

THIS TIME OF YEAR, WHEN WE CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF OUR SAVIOR, IS A TIME FOR FAMILY. REFLECT ON THIS AS WE SING.

UNDER HIS GUIDING LOVING HAND,
SAFE WITHIN OUR LORD'S COMMANDS
CHILDREN OBEDIENT TO HIM
WE LIVE FOREVER, FREE OF SIN

WITHIN HIS LAW WE ALL LIVE FREE
SAVED FOR ALL ETERNITY
HEAVEN WAITS FOR ALL WHO TRUST
OUR FATHER'S WORD IS TRUE AND JUST

AMEN.

I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'VE BEEN GOING TO CHURCH, DANIEL?

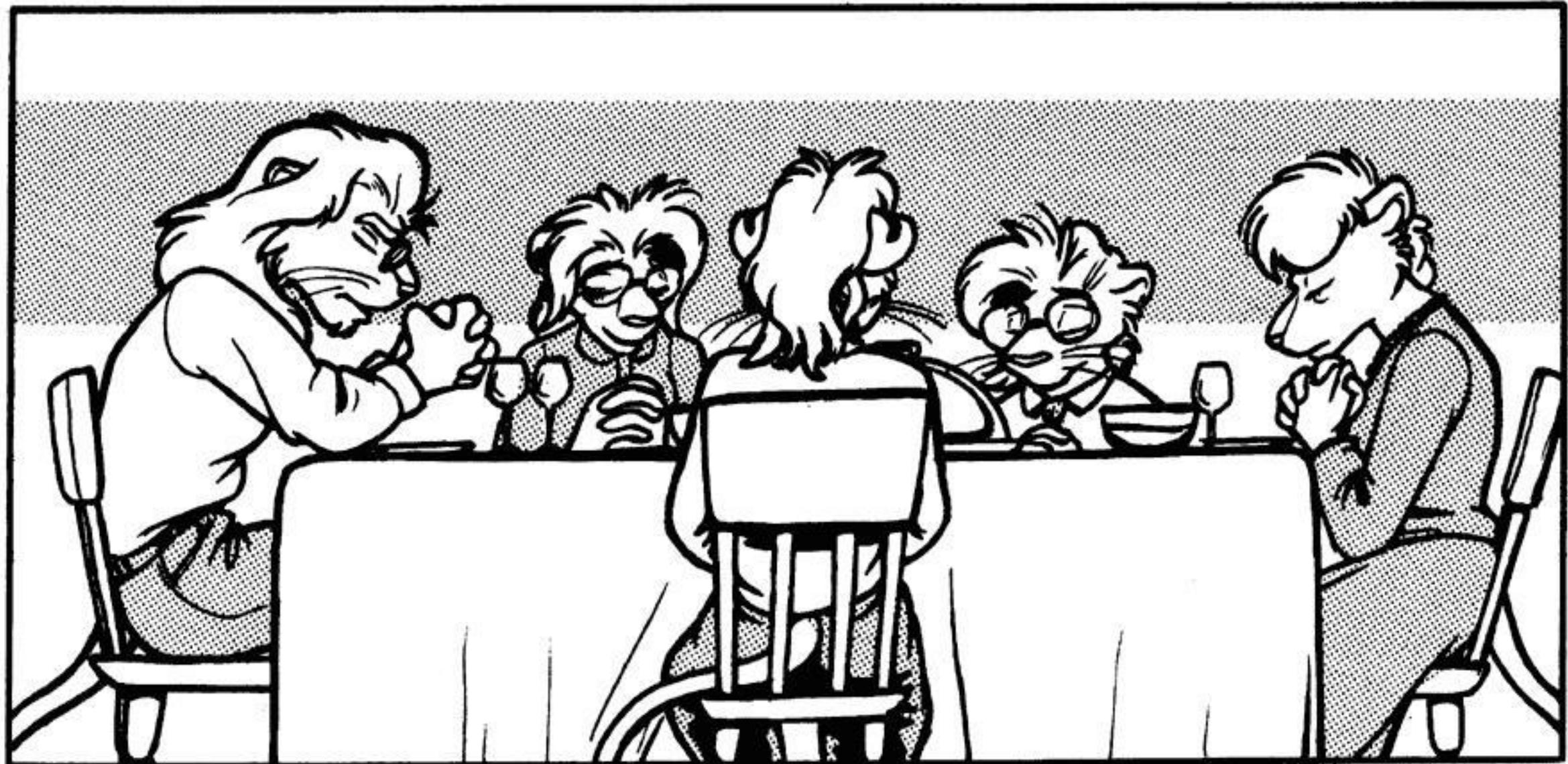
UM, NOT REALLY... I'VE BEEN SO BUSY.

REMEMBER YOUR PRIORITIES.

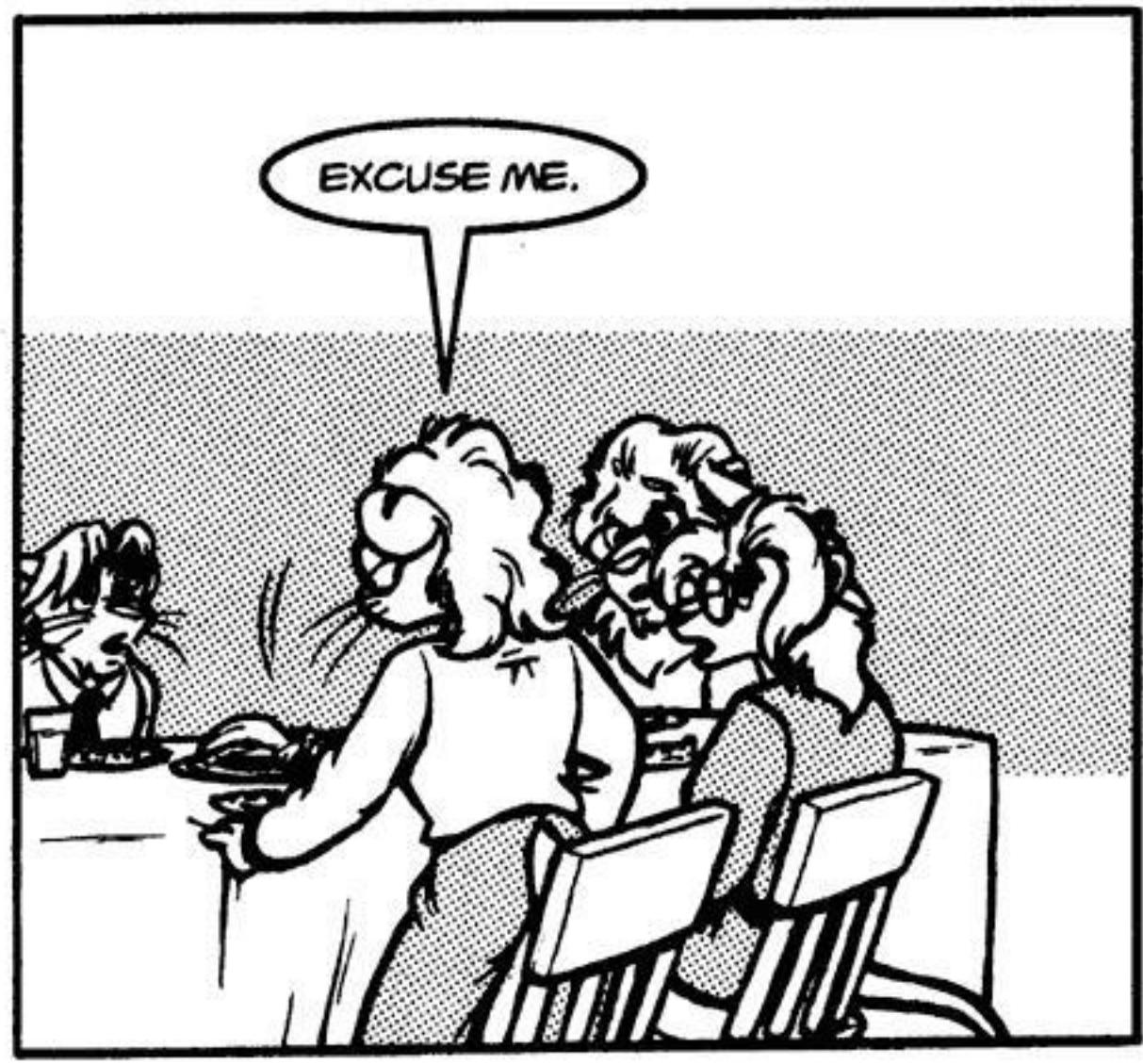
I'M SURE THERE'S SOME STUDENT FAITH GROUPS!

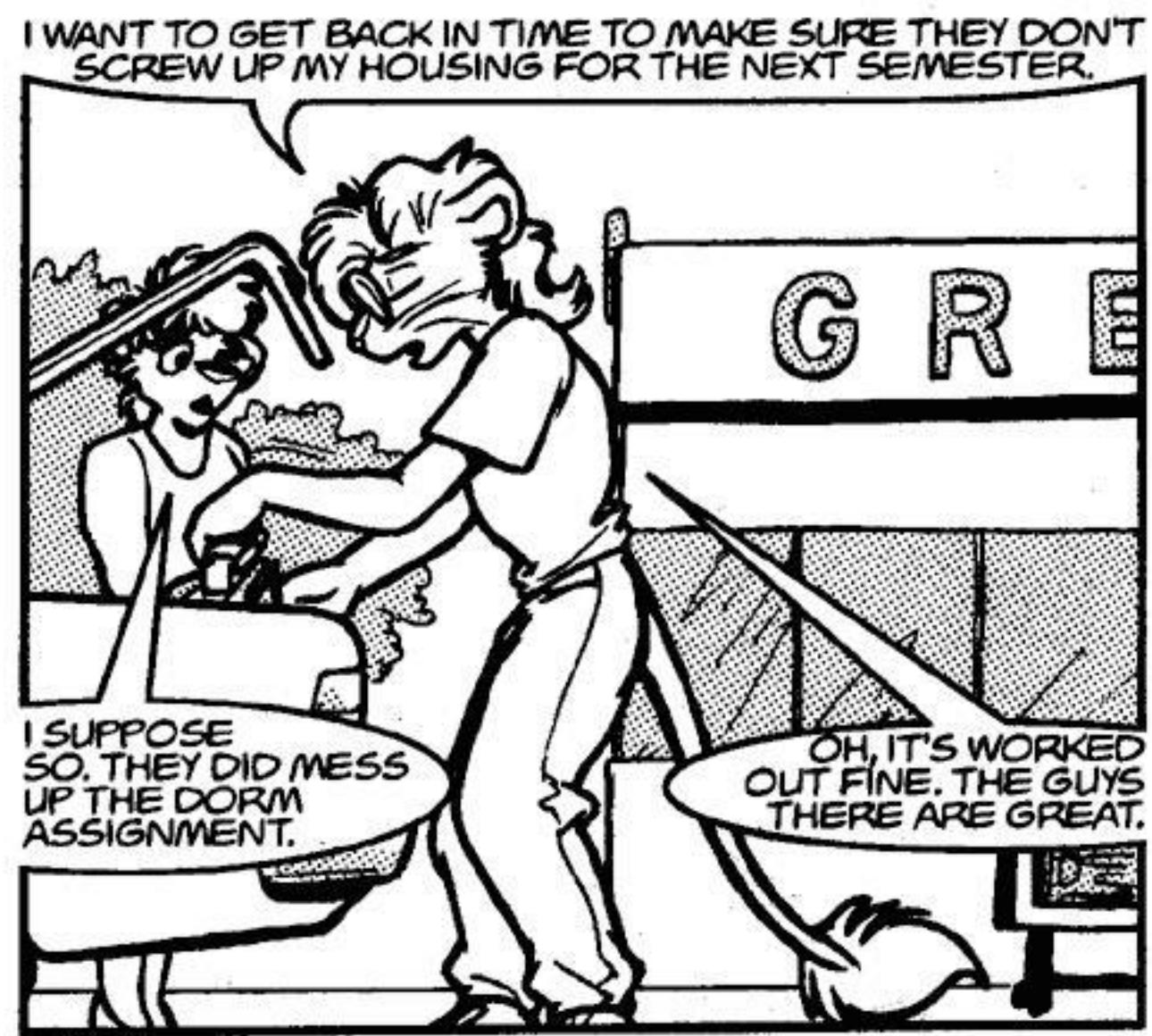
LAME...











LEATHER AND STEEL

ART BY ZUONNI

STORY BY LANCE RUND



HEY, DAVID, IS THAT
THE BIKE YOU'RE ALWAYS
TALKING ABOUT?

YEAH. BEAUTIFUL,
AIN'T SHE?

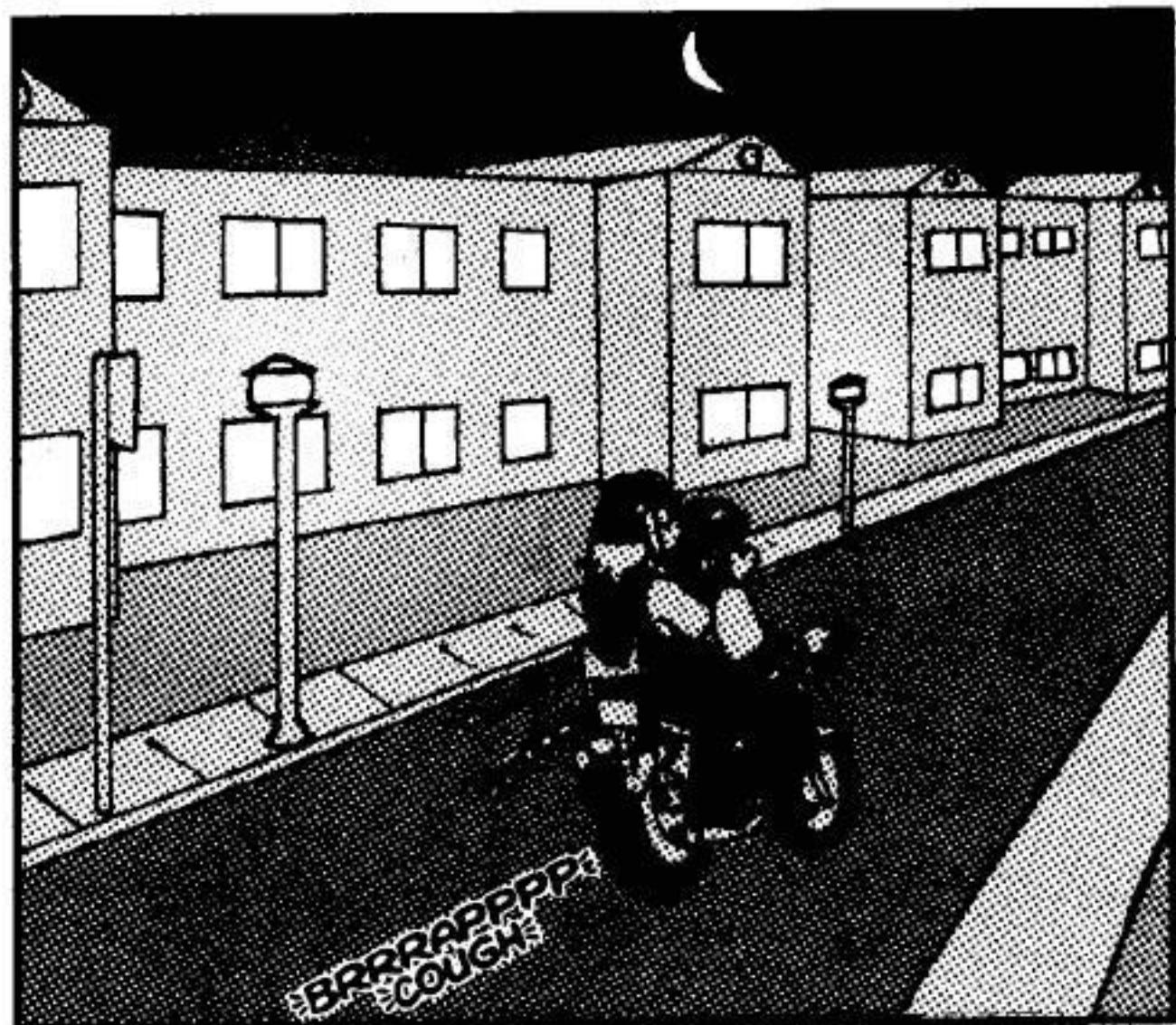
OOH, IT'S
SO BIG!

IT'S FALLING
APART!

AWW, WHAT DO YOU
KNOW, PANTY-BOY? IT'S
GOT CHARACTER!

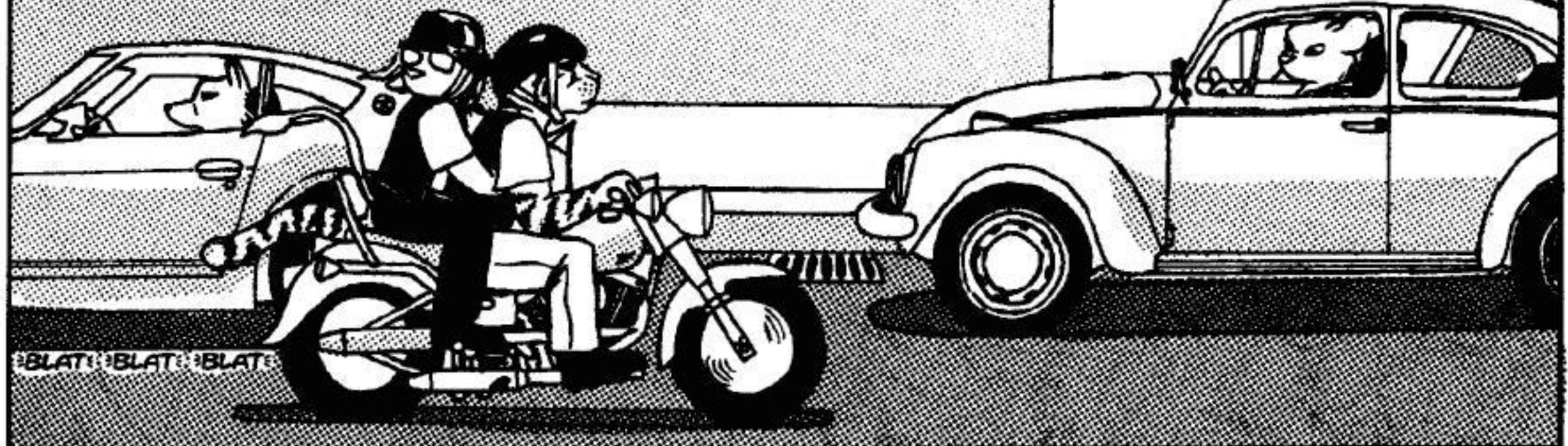






The Rusty Nail

PARKING IN REAR



WATCHA THINK? NICE BIKE, AINT IT?

MY BUTT'S NUMB.



WE'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT LATER.

UM.



C'MON, LET'S GO IN. I'M DRY.

NOW THESE ARE MY KIND OF GUYS.









THE ADVENTURES OF QUEERMAN™

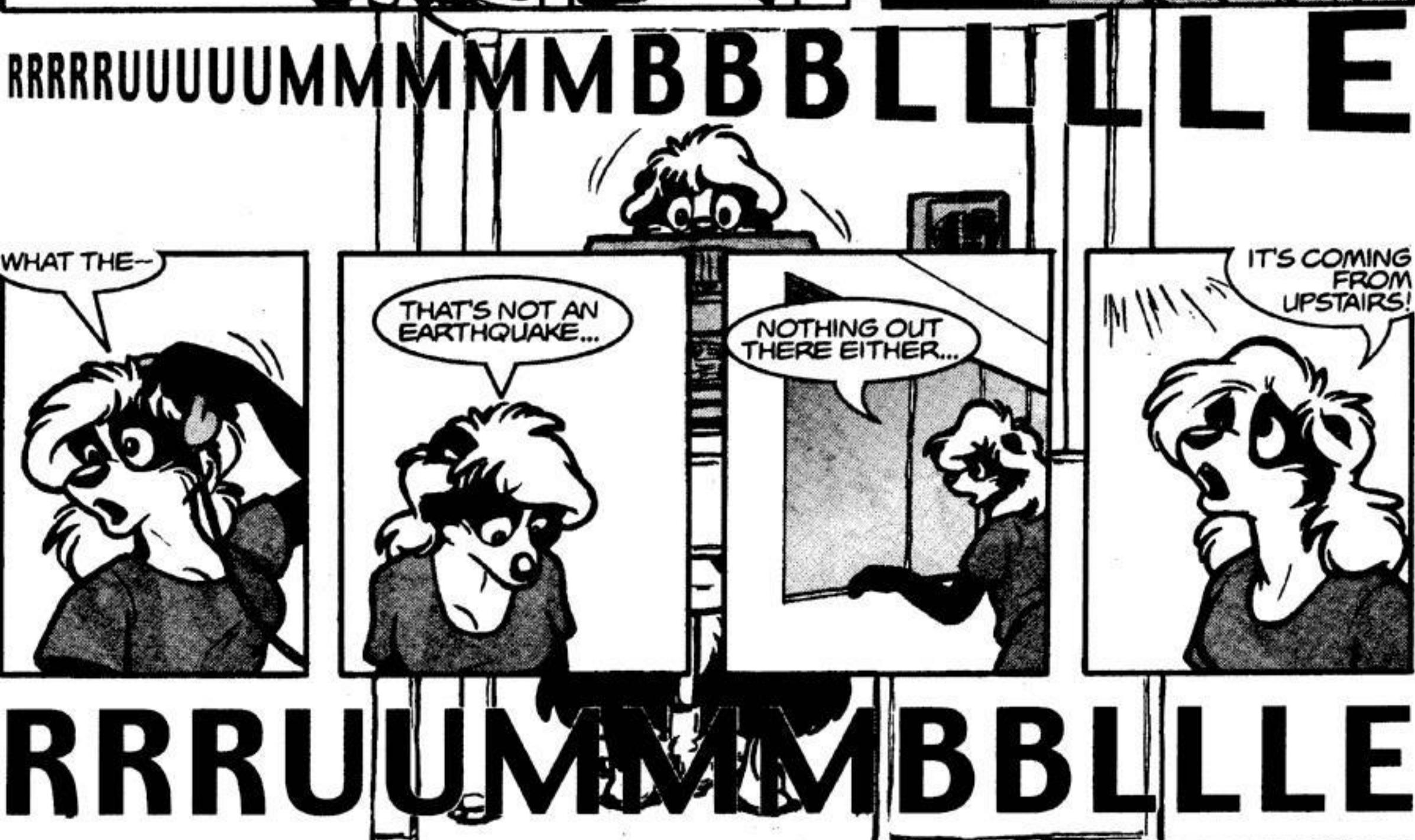
STARRING TIMOTHY MONTGOMERY
STORY BY LANCE RUND - ART BY CHUCK DAVIES

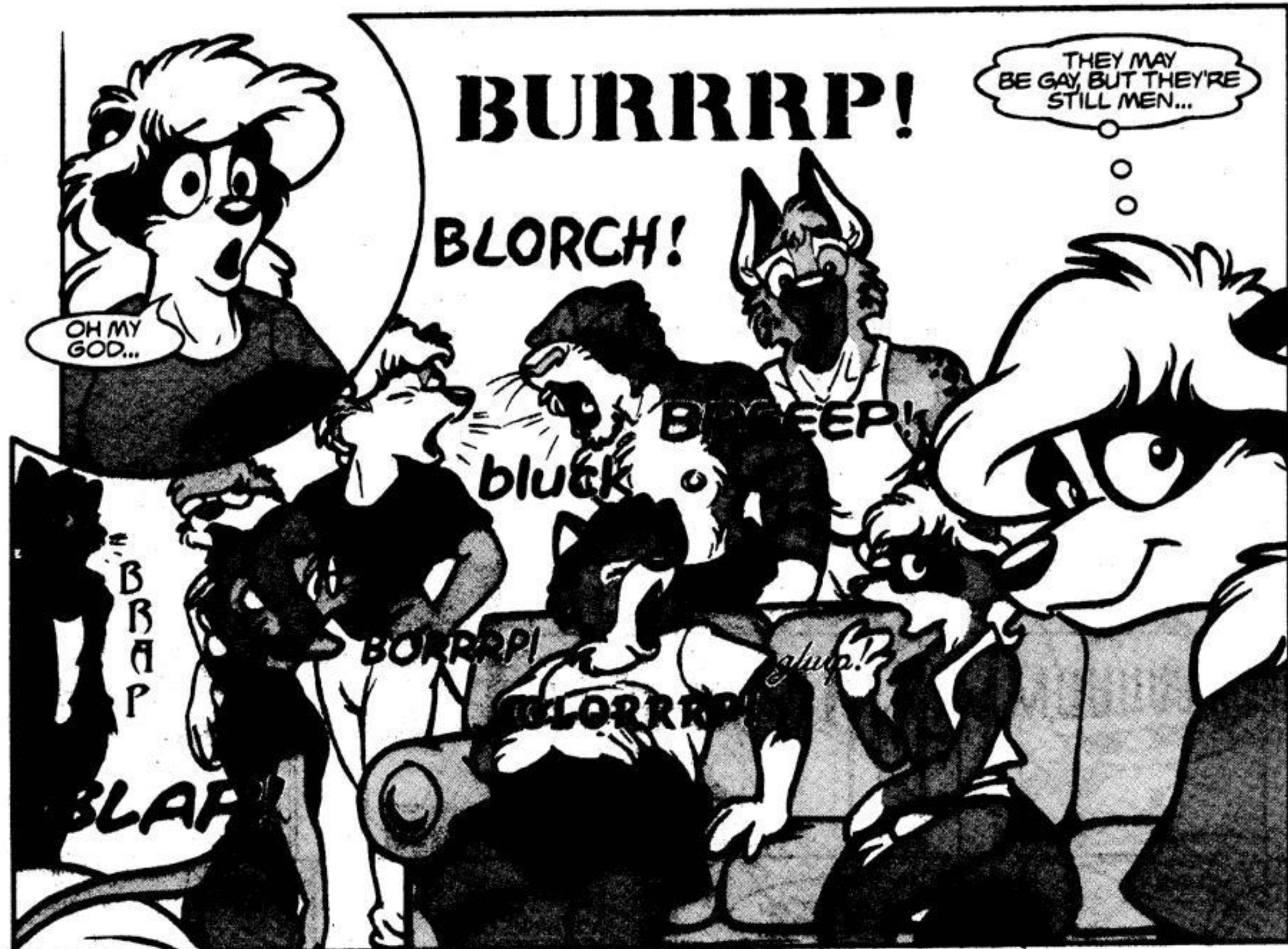


RICHTER SCALE MALES

ART BY CHRIS MCKINLEY

WRITTEN BY LANCE RUND

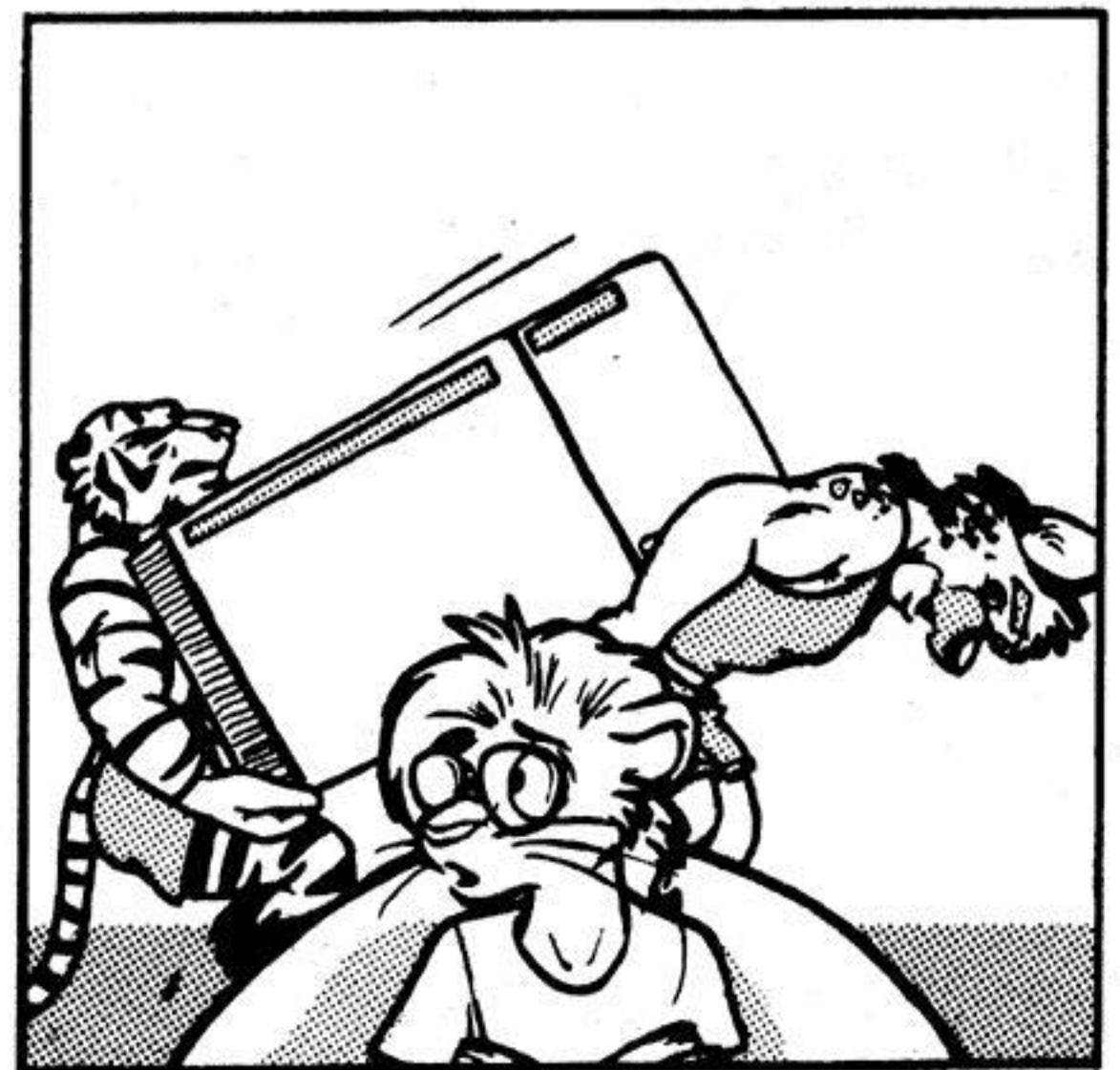
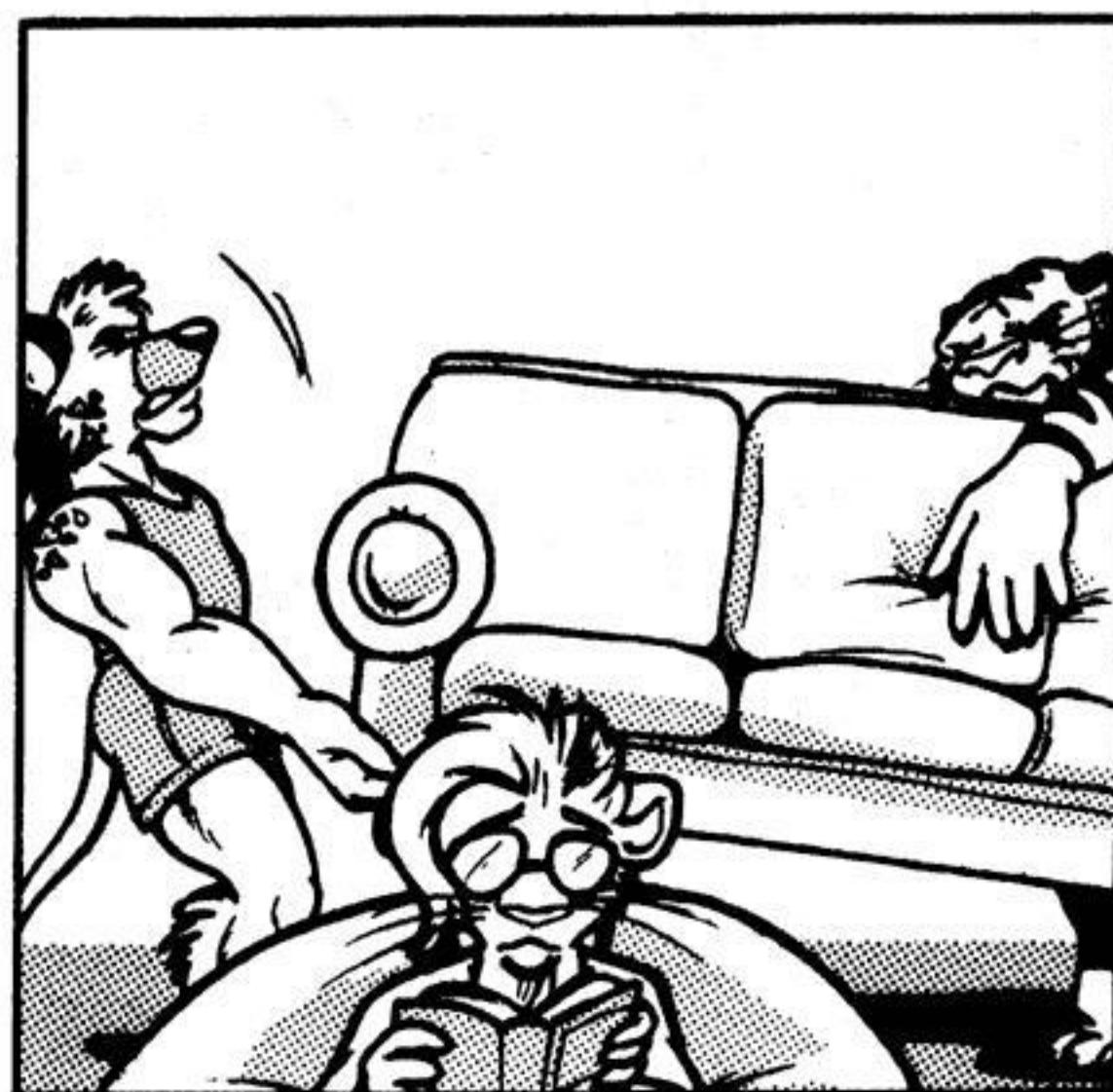


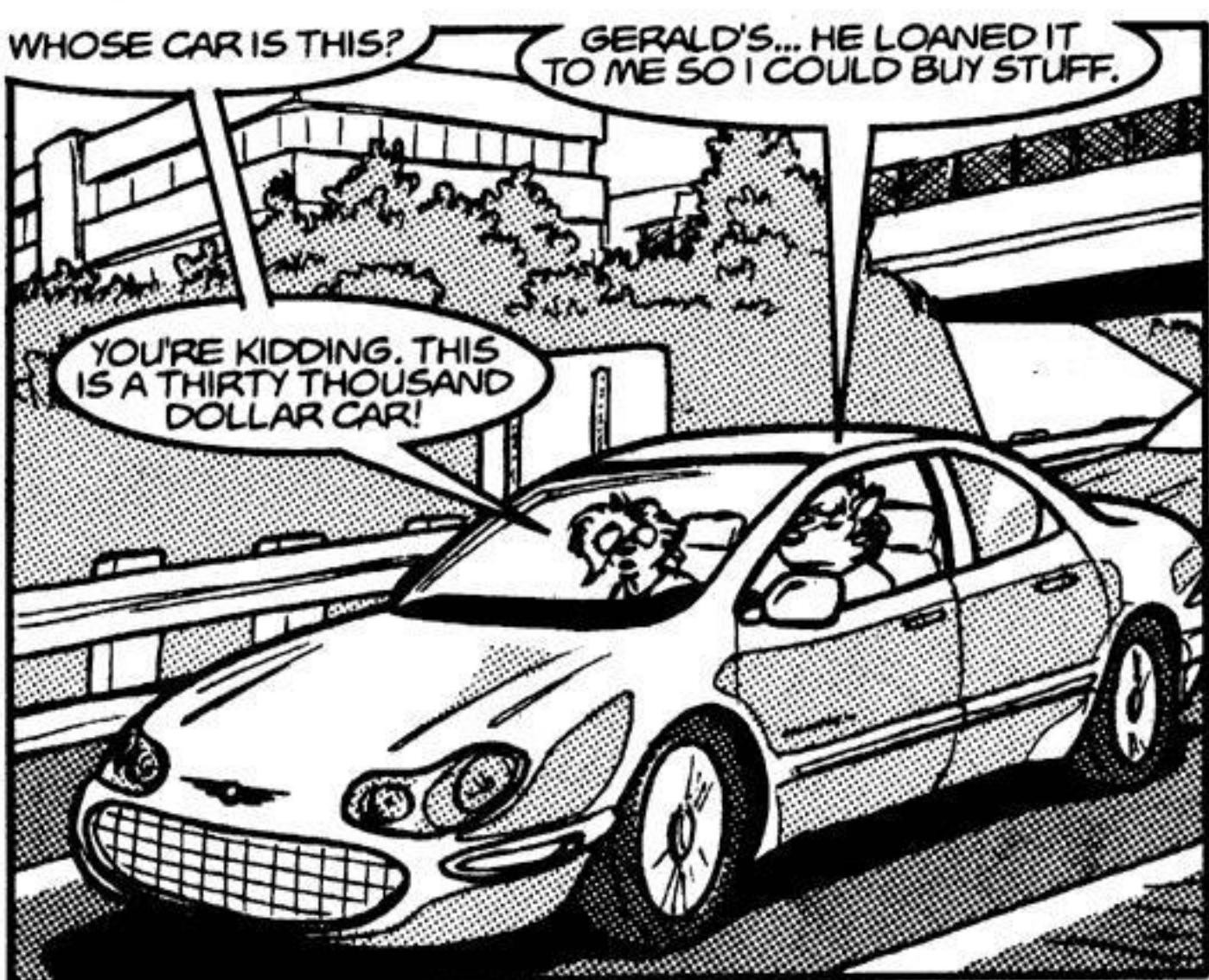


Auld Lang Something

STORY BY LANCE RUND

ART BY CHRIS MCKINLEY





THIS WAS A WEIRD YEAR.

WASN'T IT, THOUGH...

SO WHERE'S THE REST OF THE GUYS?

DOING THINGS...

WHAT KIND OF THINGS?

AIN'T GONNA TELL YA.

NOT YOU TOO... THIS IS A CONSPIRACY!

blah blah blah IT IS MY HONOR blah blah blah THIS GREAT INSTITUTION blah blah blah HALLOWED TRADITION blah blah blah SAY GOODBYE TO 1998, LELAND!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

1999

LELAND U. STUDENT ACTIVITIES

HERE COMES THE LAST BIG WIND OF THE YEAR...

5... 4... 3... 2... 1... HAPPY NEW YEAR!





MAY I TAKE YOUR JACKET AND PANTS, MISTER WOLF?

IT'S A LITTLE TRADITION WE HAVE FOR NEW YEAR'S.

TONIGHT WE RELAX AND JUST... ENJOY EACH OTHER. TO HELL WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD, TO HELL WITH ARGUMENTS WE MIGHT HAVE HAD.

WHAT... WHAT...

QUITE HEALING, I THINK.

ARE YOU COMFORTABLE WITH THIS?

SURE, I MEAN, GO AHEAD I'LL JUST WATCH FOR NOW.

TAKE NOTES.

WHAT'CHA DRINKING, KID?

UM, I DON'T CARE FOR MUCH BESIDES WINE...

GOT JUST THE THING FOR YA. IT'LL HELP YOU RELAX.

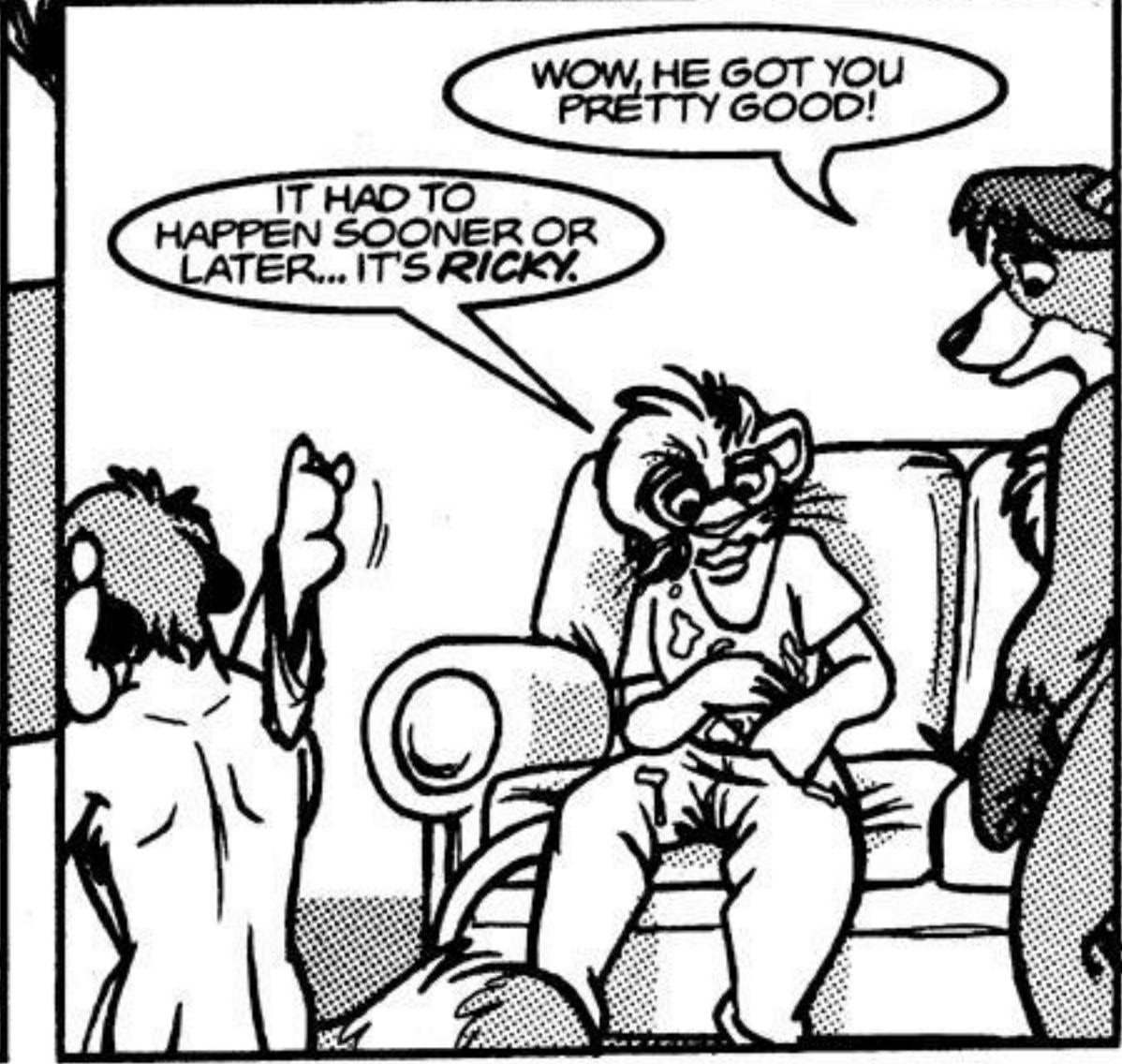
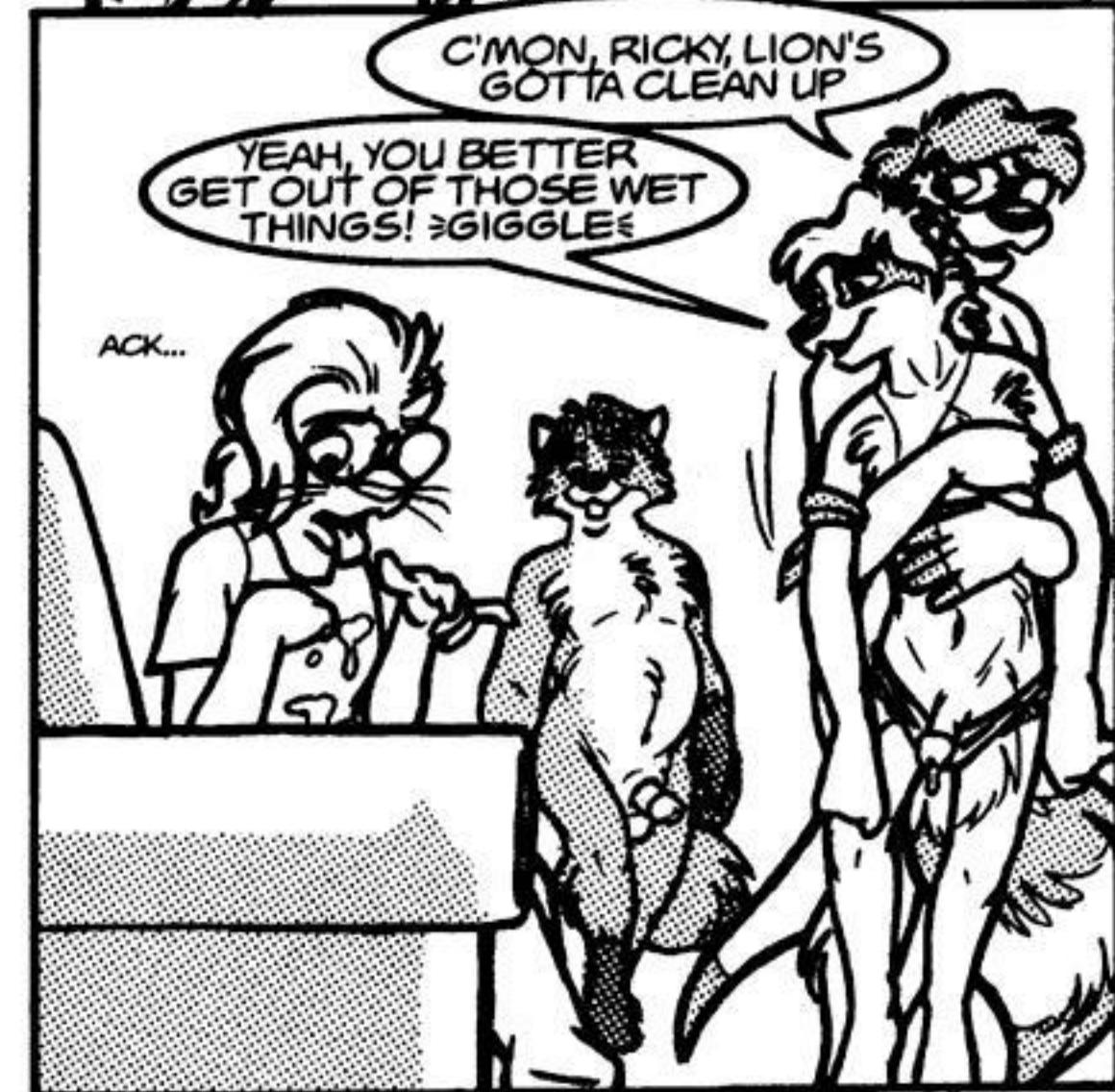
HEY, THIS IS GOOD. WHAT IS IT?

LONG ISLAND ICED TEA. BOTTOMS UP! TELL ME WHEN YOU WANT A RELOAD.

YES, JUST LIKE THAT!

I'M SO GLAD MARCUS AND NIGEL ARE GETTING ALONG...

OUTCAST AN UNWANTED SOUL... GET LAID, GERALD.





SO, YOU GONNA JUST SIT HERE AND WATCH
EVERYONE ELSE HAVE FUN?

NONE OF THIS IS
EASY FOR ME.

Y KNOW, WHEN YOU FIRST GOT
HERE, I FIGURED YOU FOR JUST
ANOTHER PRETTY BOY. I WAS
WRONG. YOU GOT WHAT IT TAKES
TO BE A MAN. MOST OF
THESE GUYS DON'T.

NOT MY MACHO BULL-
SHIT. THE IMPORTANT
STUFF. YOU KEEP YOUR
WORD. YOU HAVE BACK-
BONE. YOU CARE
ABOUT DOING
THE RIGHT
THING.

AIN'T
SUPPOSED
TO BE.

WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?



WHAT'S THAT FOR?

FOR TELLING ME WHAT
I NEEDED TO HEAR.
I OWE YOU.

THOMAS, ABOUT
WHAT YOU SAID
EARLIER...

I'LL
COLLECT.

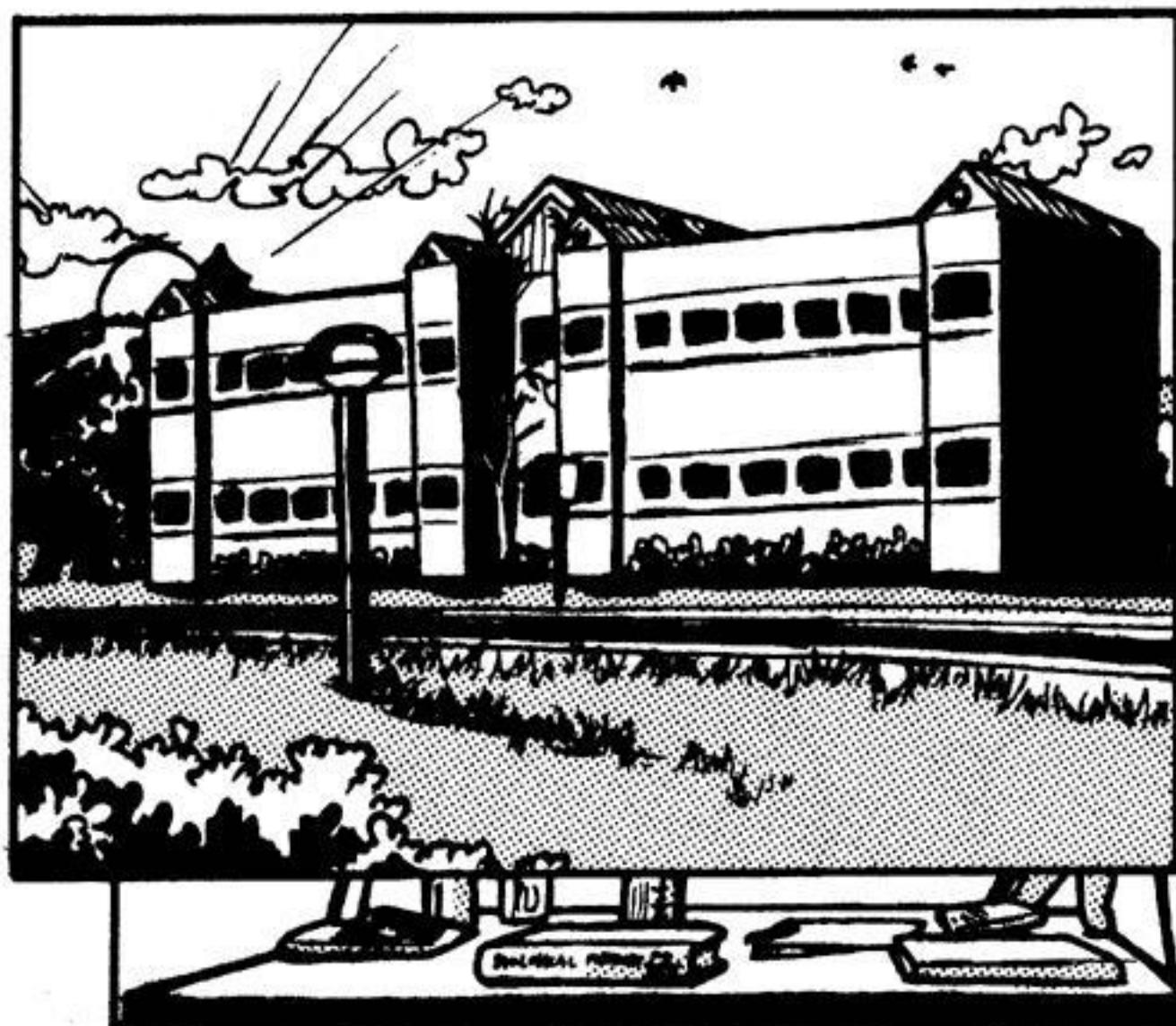
UHM,
YEAH?

YES!









LETTERS FROM HOME

Dear Mom, College is great! My roommate is weird. Could you send me some money?

And now, the small print.

Steven, our distressingly straight collie, has been the subject of quite a bit of speculation. Is he, or isn't he? Will he, or won't he? Why does he snarl almost as much as his dearest admirer, Ricky? Let's take a look at one such speculation, written by Robert "Four-Eyes" Parish, taken from the Associated Student Bodies mailing list (info for this is on our website at <http://www.arclight.net/asb>). Edited for brevity; our comments in [brackets]...

I think Steven is straight, and not a closeted gay man. Most straight guys I have met though seem to have a sense of hating their bodies; paying attention to such things as clothes and the way they look is considered by them unmanly. [Ever notice how mainstream male fashion, at least for the club scene, follows "queer" fashion?]

Steven doesn't have this self-hatred. I think that this self hatred isn't about being straight, it's about a fear of being gay. [/ "Scaredy-dog"! – Ricky] I don't think every straight guy should be fashion conscious, let alone dress in skimpy garb like Steven does. But I think the straight men would be happier if they didn't have this fear of gay men, and this fear of being gay or bi. I think they would be happier if being straight wasn't the "default" choice, but was instead something that they embraced as a positive choice, a celebration of who they are. I think it would be great if there were "Straight Pride" marches. If more straight people viewed their sexuality as a celebration of who they are, I can't help but think that they would view the sexuality of others in the same positive light. But then again, I can be incredibly naive sometimes, so I may be wrong. [/ *Like many things of this sort, different places can have different answers. A "straight pride" parade would be received differently in San Francisco versus Des Moines, for instance.*]

I think Steven lives with gay guys not to tease them, but because living there he's not teased like he may have been in another dorm. I experienced plenty of homophobia back when I dated only women, so I know how awful that can be for straight guy. I think Steven is sexy, and adorable. I think it's great he's straight, and I hope he finds happiness with a woman. I hope that he and her raise many children together. I think that his sensitivity and self acceptance would enable him to be an excellent father, who could love and nurture his children and raise them to be strong and healthy people. [/ *I agree. Steven will have a lot of high-quality love to give... when he gets over his fear of commitment!*] This is something sadly lacking in many straight men, because to nurture is considered to be weak. I'm curious if we'll get to see more of Daniel's father... he strikes me from what I can tell as rather cold and aloof. I guess we shall have to wait and see! [/ *guess you have your answer now!* – Lance]

*Ever read any of the sayings of Jack Handy? One of the ones that comes to mind is "It takes a strong man to cry... It takes an even stronger man to laugh at that man." Well, I think it takes the strongest man of all to kick that laughing man in the ass for being a callous jerk. I don't condone violence, but when Marcus did the body check of Nigel in number three for lashing out at Steven, I think that that was just as appropriate as him attacking those jocks to keep them from hurting Daniel. Heterophobia is just as wrong as homophobia. We gay folk should not tolerate the bashing of straight or bisexual people. [/ *I've always found it interesting... and distressing... how bisexuals find no more acceptance among gays than among straights. "Tolerance" means nothing if it isn't practiced both ways.*]*

I have a crush on Steven. I am also crazy about Ricky. I cried while reading issue number three when I saw Steven crying. [/ *I cried when I wrote it. Shhh. Don't tell anyone. My manly image and all...* – Lance] OTOH, I loved the final story of #4! It was like a dream come true! But I say this... if a future issue had Steven and Ricky fool around, I would have trouble with that, because that would go against everything I know so far about Steven. I would be the same issues if Allison and Tina fool around sexually with each other.

-Robert "Four-Eyes" Parish

Though we haven't seen Steven for a couple of issues (pre-med takes a lot of time!), he isn't forgotten. Steven's story isn't over yet. He has complex motives as to why he is the way he is, many of which he hasn't figured out for himself yet. There's quite a bit to come yet with our favorite collie. As for Allison and Tina... aside from both having a frustrated interest in Marcus (one "before" and one "after"), they don't have too much in common. We'll be seeing Allison again, though, and Tina's inseparable from the guys at Hillard East. She loves 'em all!

By the way, Steven and Ricky are our two favorites, too! – Lance and Chris



"THIRTY-SIX... THIRTY-SEVEN... THIRTY-EIGHT... FOURTEEN... FIFTEEN..."

**ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODIES P.O. BOX 1299 .
CUPERTINO, CA 95014-1299**

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Tiger, Tiger, burning bright
Riding boldly through the night
Scent of leather, glint of steel
Come alive in pale moonlight



AN ARCLIGHT PRESS PRODUCTION