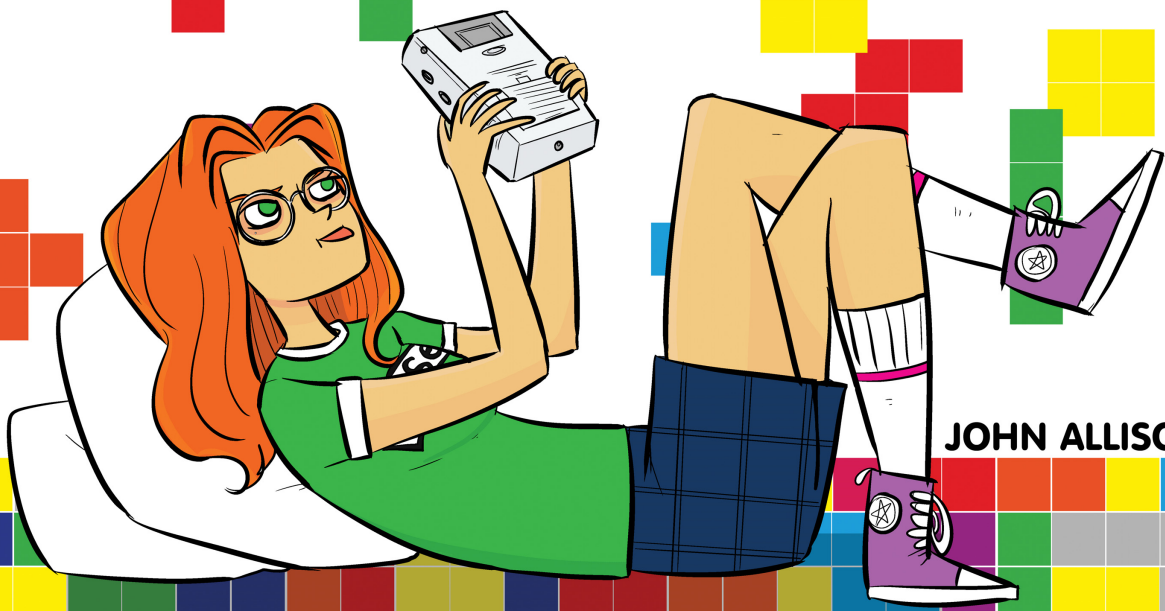




EXPECTING TO FLY

\$4.50 US
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1 OF 2
ISSUES
odyssey 7
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JOHN ALLISON

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TAKE THE OLD ROMAN ROAD NORTH OF SHIBDEN, MALHAM AND BOSSTHWAITE, AND YOU'LL FIND THE CITY OF TACKLEFORD. AVOID THE A59, THERE ARE TEMPORARY TRAFFIC LIGHTS AT SHEMLEY.

HUFF
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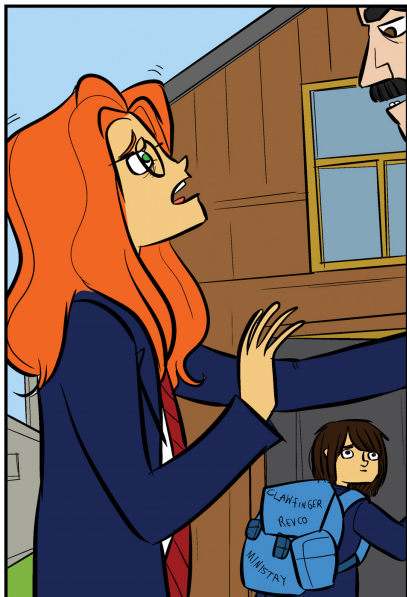
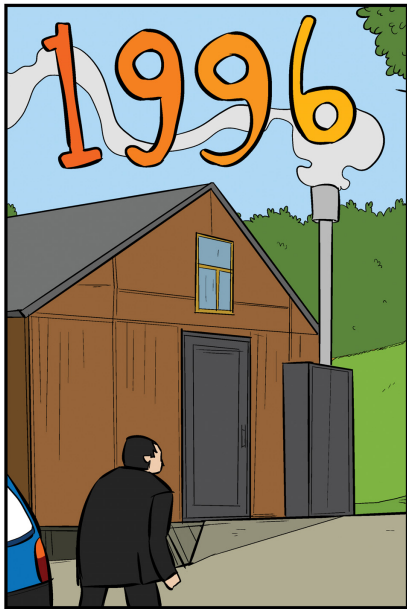


EXPECTING TO FLY

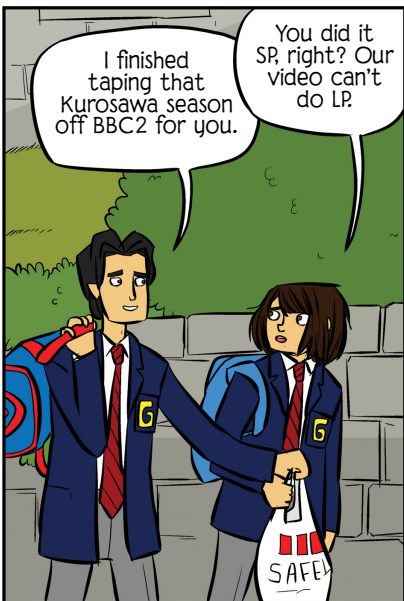
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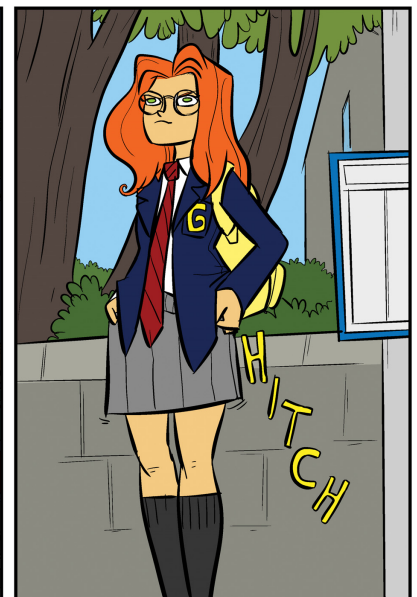
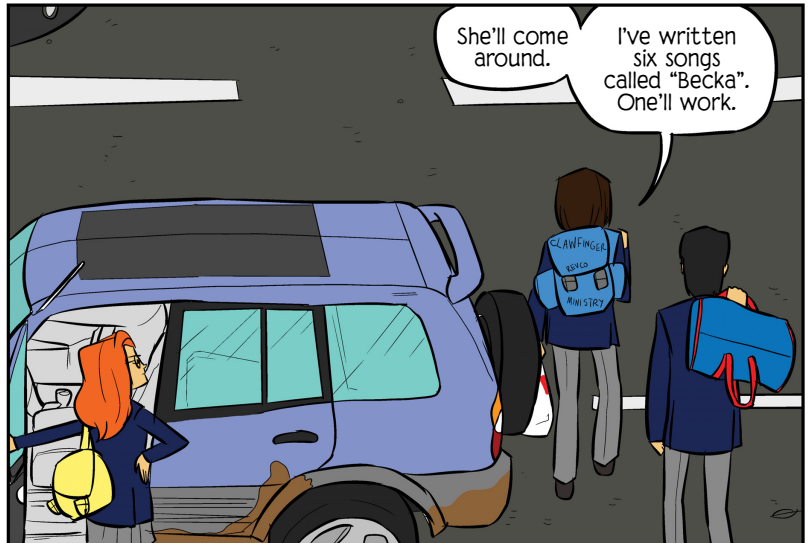
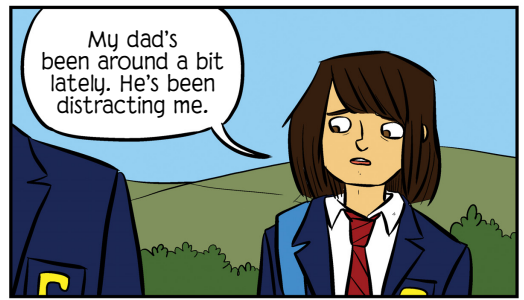
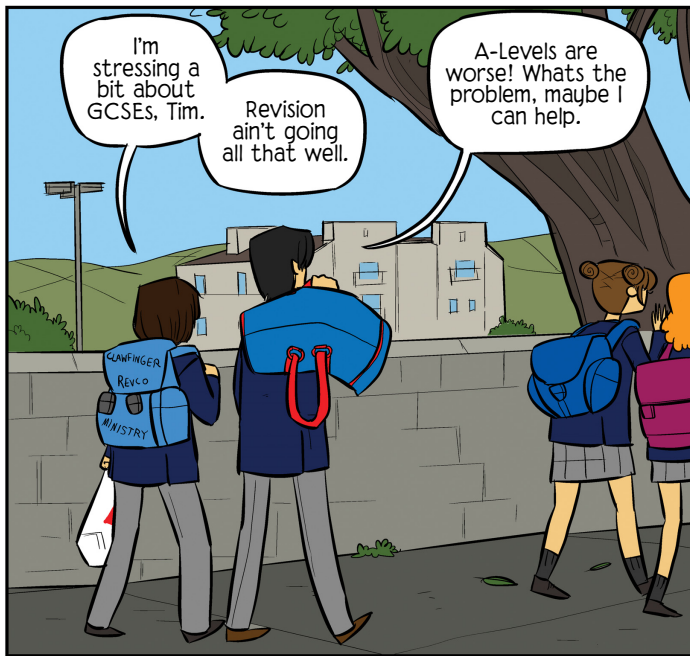
PART 1

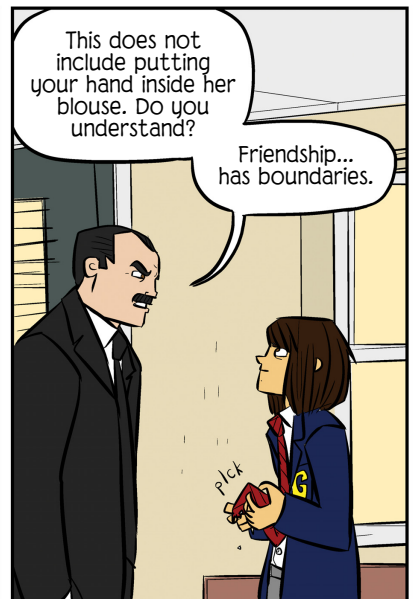
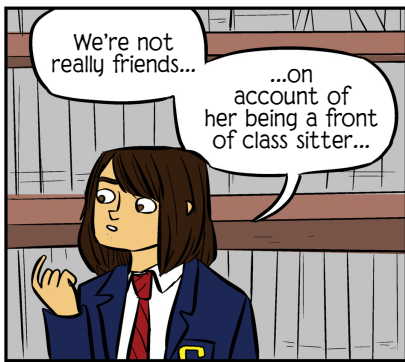
WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY JOHN ALLISON

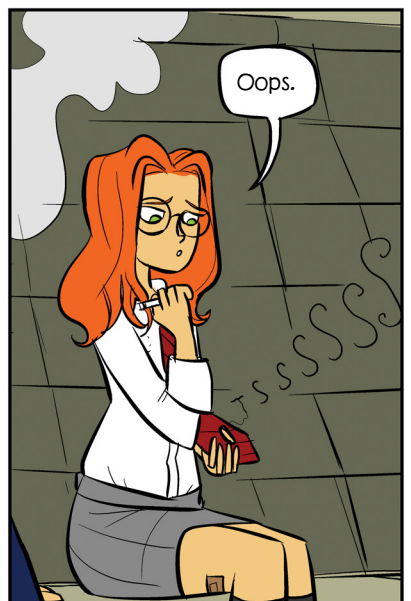
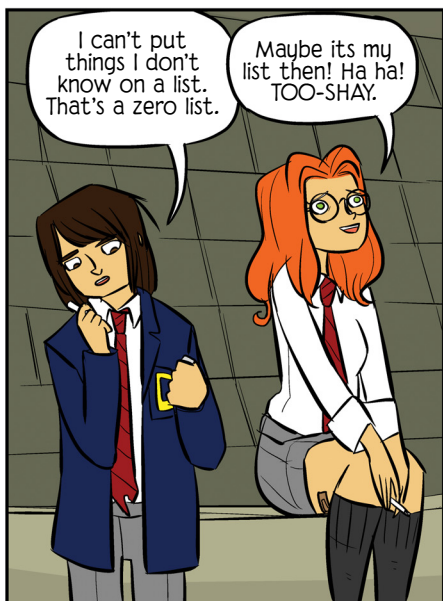
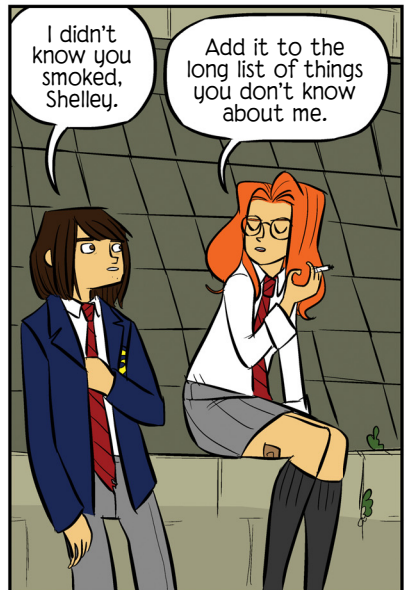
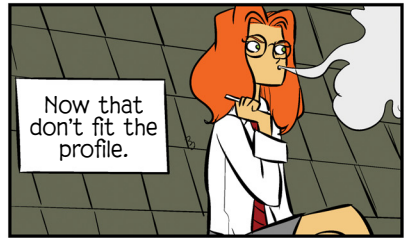
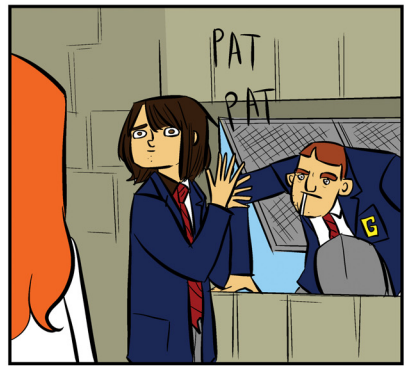
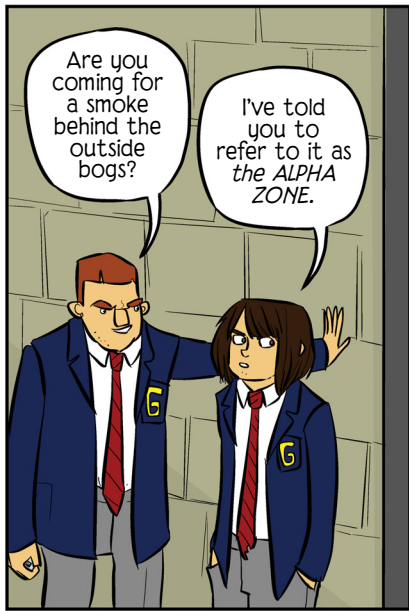


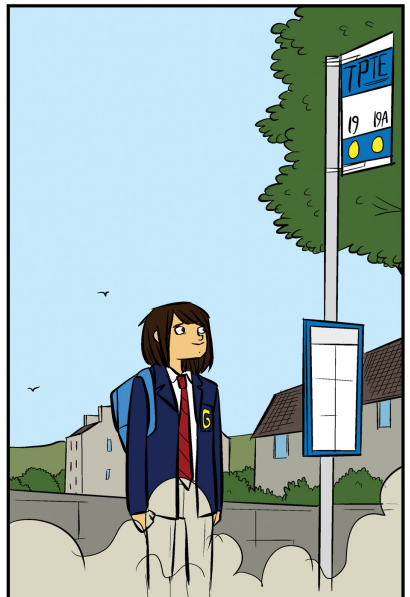
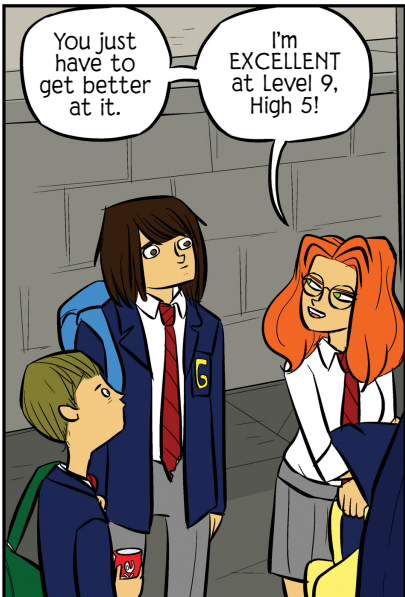
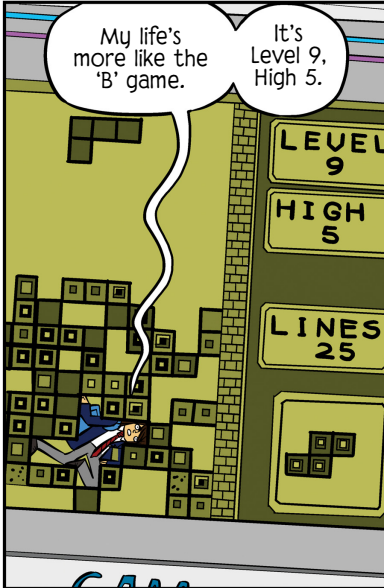
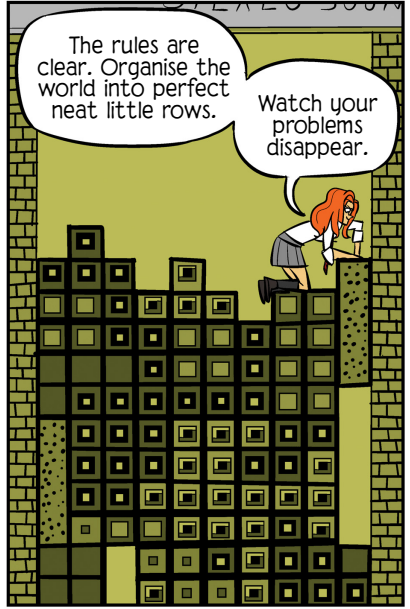
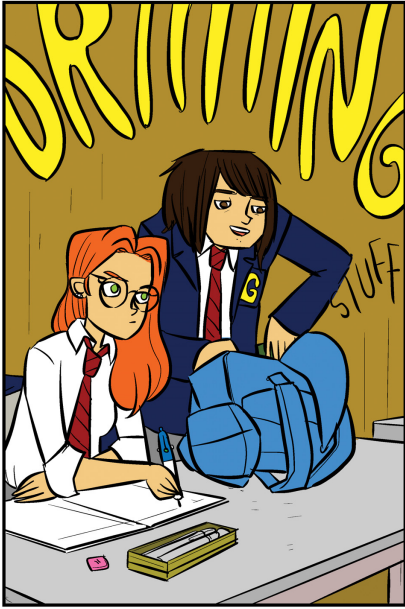
IT'S MAY

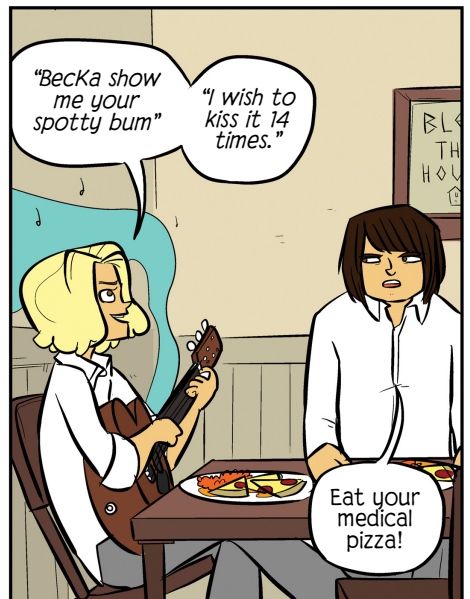


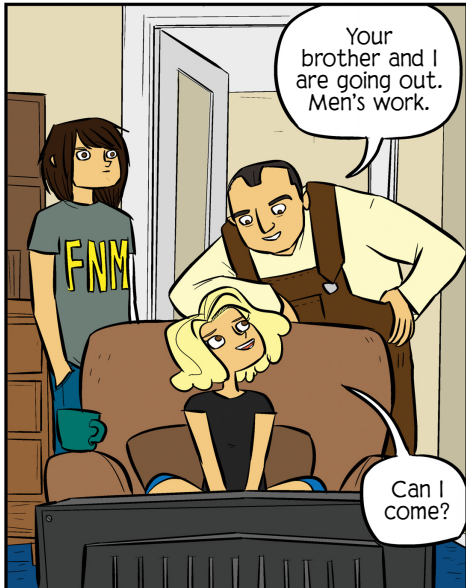
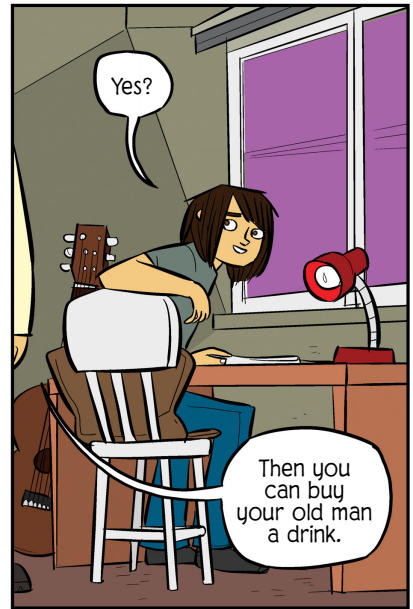


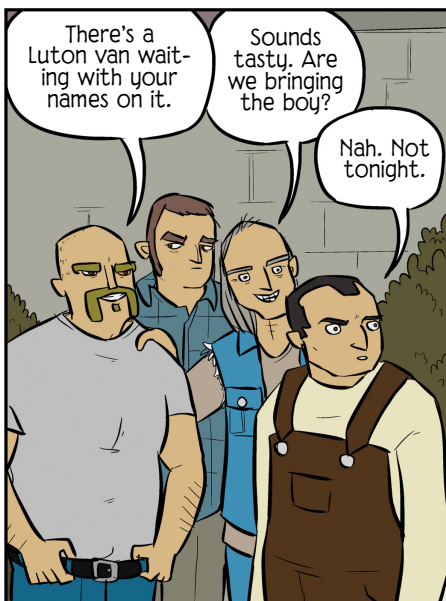






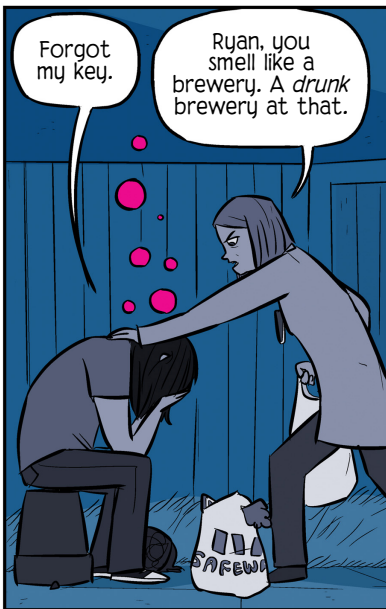








Son, what in the good Lord's name are you doing on the doorstep?



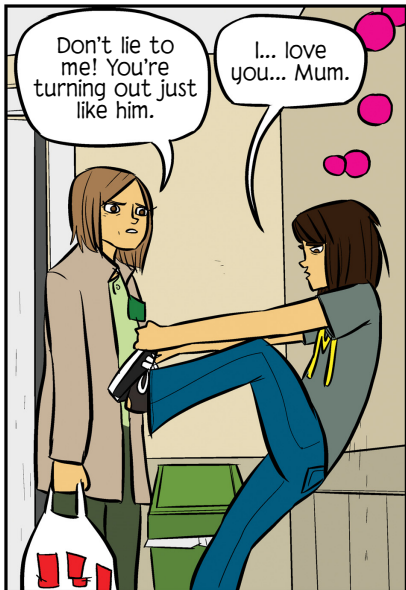
Forgot my key.

Ryan, you smell like a brewery. A drunk brewery at that.



Is this your father's work?

No... no... I was just thirsty.



Don't lie to me! You're turning out just like him.

I... love you... Mum.



There! And you sound just like him!

Heh!

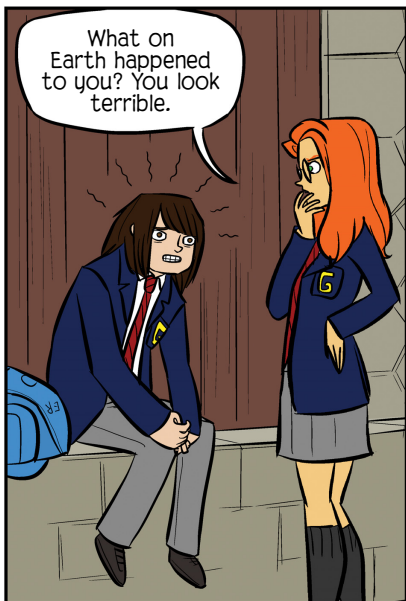


Sorry Mum.

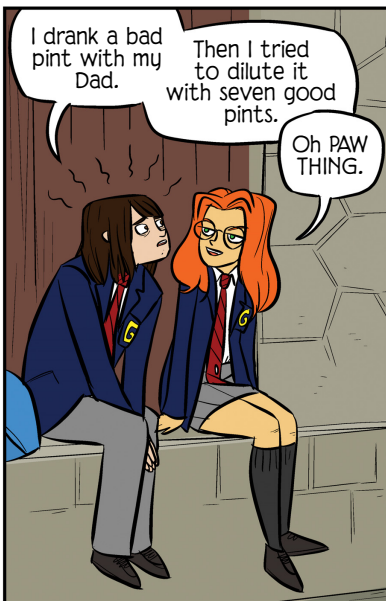
I made Riley her pizza.

Sorry I made the room spin.

Sorry.



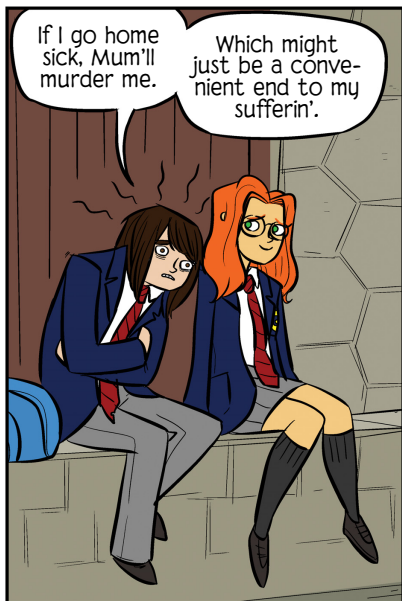
What on Earth happened to you? You look terrible.



I drank a bad pint with my Dad.

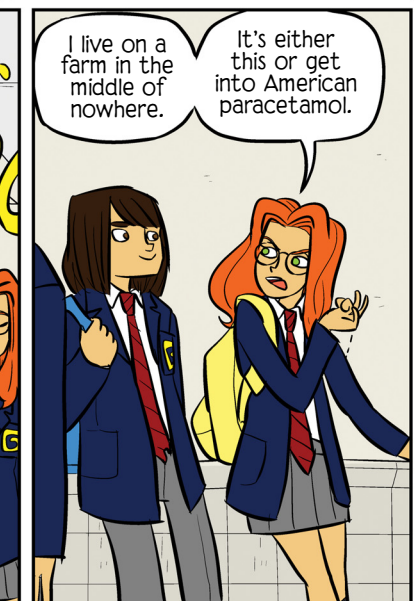
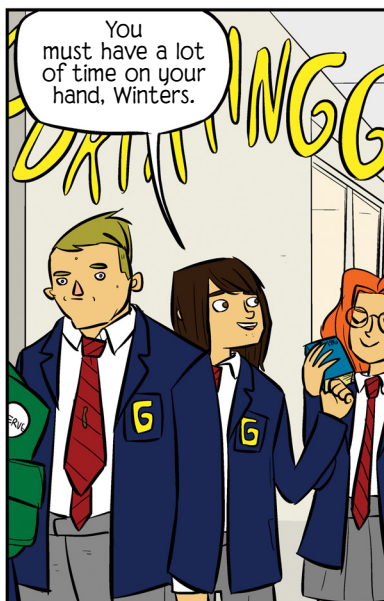
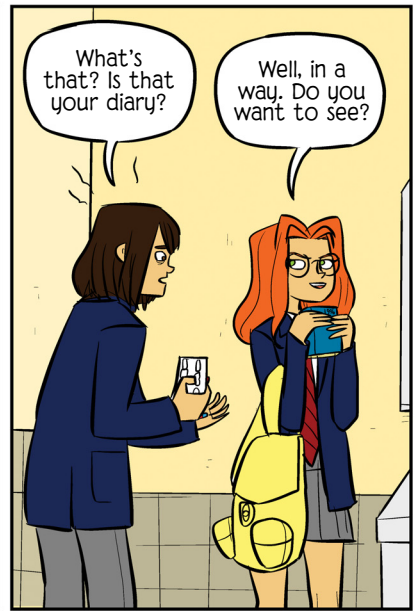
Then I tried to dilute it with seven good pints.

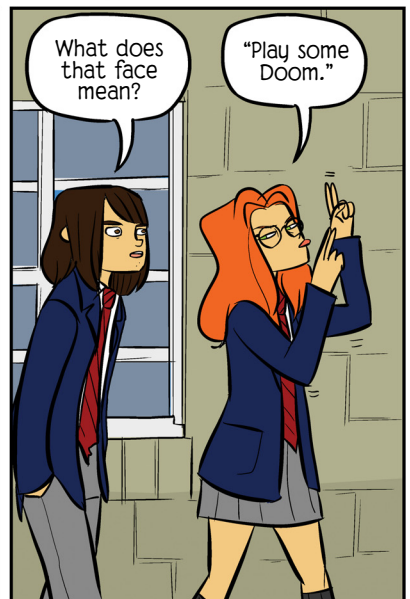
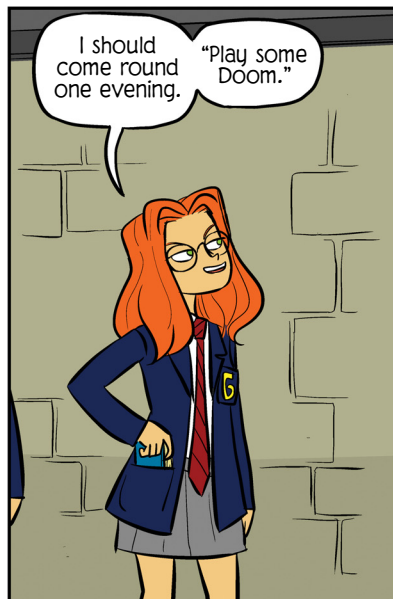
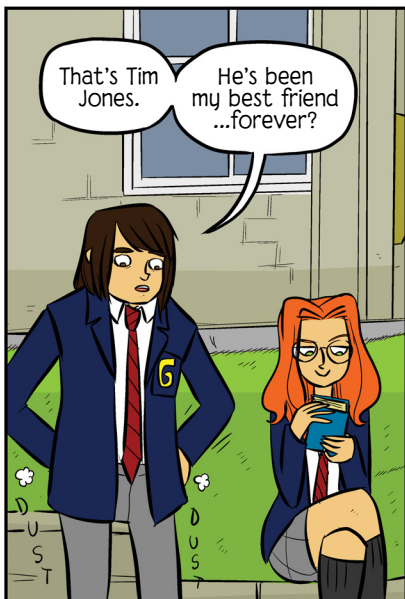
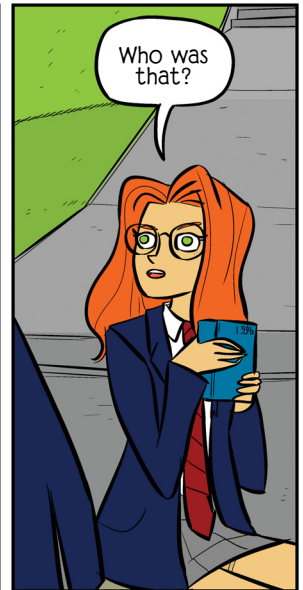
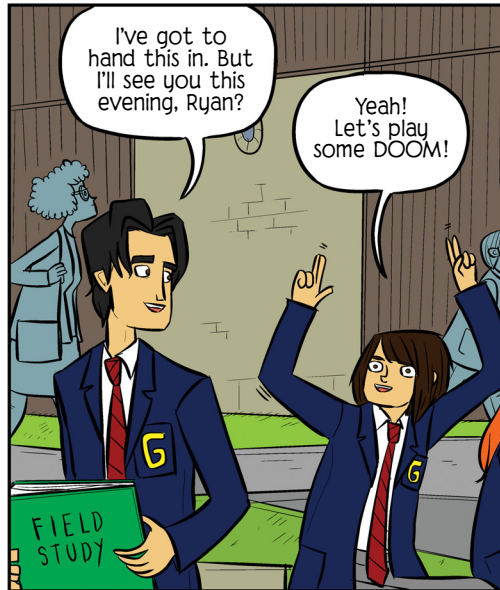
Oh PAW THING.



If I go home sick, Mum'll murder me.

Which might just be a convenient end to my sufferin'.



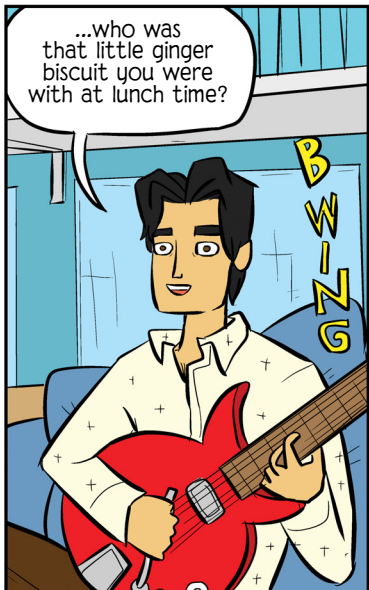




Doom is almost too much, Tim.

I reckon computer game realism has reached its peak.

Ryan, I meant to ask you before...



...who was that little ginger biscuit you were with at lunch time?



"Ginger biscuit", that's nice, real respectful.

Shelley Winters, she's in my class.



So have you replaced Garlick with ginger?



Naw naw, Shelley's just a friend, you know?

There's no hidden agenda.



Does she have a boyfriend?

I don't think so, but...



She's had some setbacks, you know?

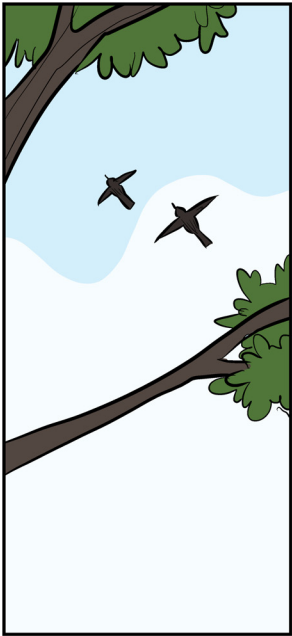
She's vulnerable.



She's vulnerable... I see.

Yeah. Just bear that in mind.

DANG!



Mate, why are you asleep on a wall?



Not asleep.



I'm gettin' my strength back.



My dad took me out with his mates again.

Heavy night.

Your dad's a right rogue.

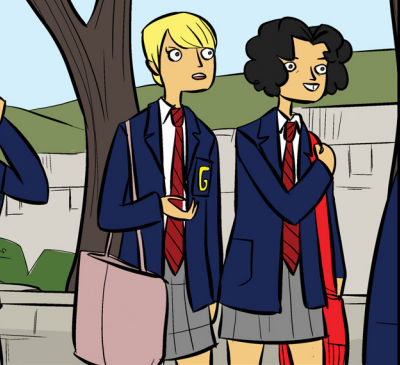


Anyway, talking of heavy nights, Mick Speight's having a party on Saturday.

Party.

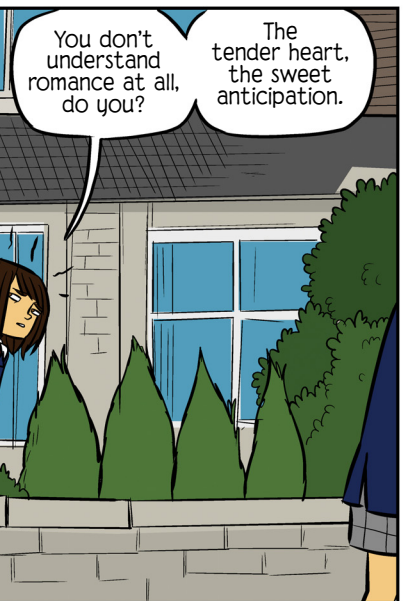
Tim, I'm never having a heavy night again.

Figuring on some early nights.



Becka Garlick's going.

Maybe you'll be invited to her sexual gymkhana.



You don't understand romance at all, do you?

The tender heart, the sweet anticipation.

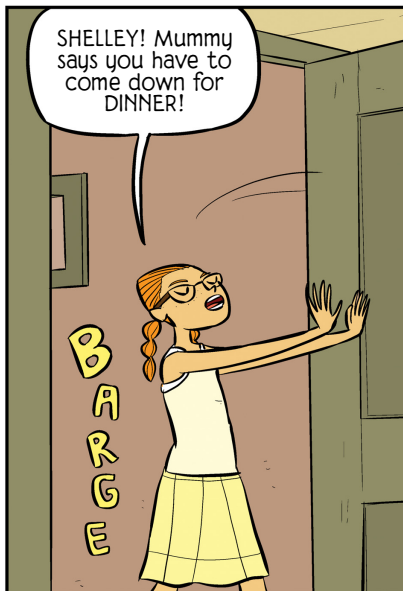


I've heard a rumour that you've been "cleared for landing".

Well it's good that that's out there now.



IT'S SATURDAY

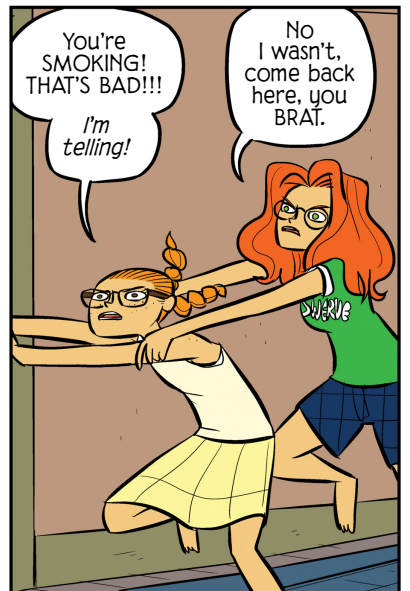


SHELLEY! Mummy says you have to come down for DINNER!

BARGE



Awk! I told you to KNOCK, ERIN!



You're SMOKING! THAT'S BAD!!!

I'm telling!

No I wasn't, come back here, you BRAT.



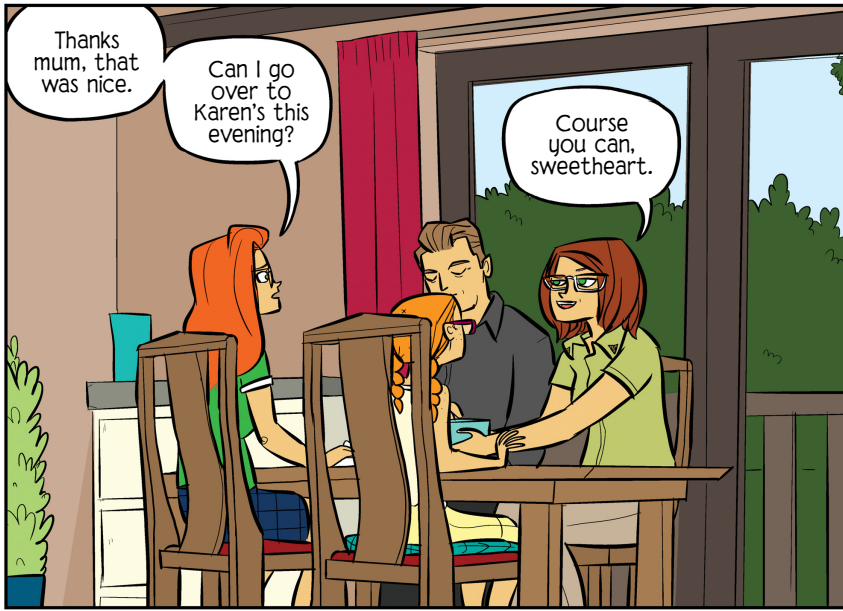
I hate you! Ever since MANDY died, you're HORRIBLE!

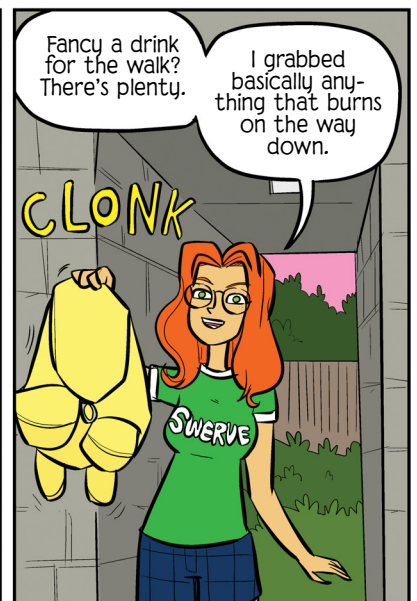
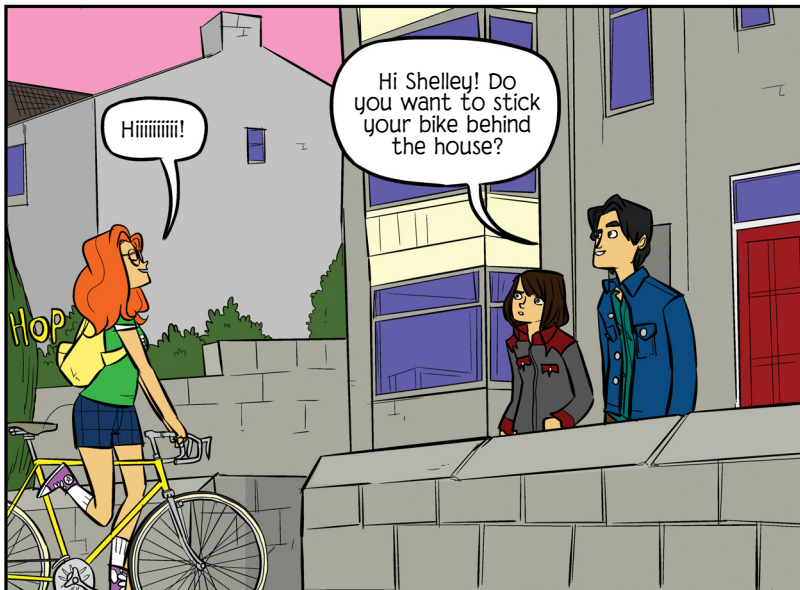
SHUT UP about things you don't UNDERSTAND.



If you tell mum and dad, I'll put a CURSE on you and you'll go to hell.







BLOVIATIONS

QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

"Put your clothes back on, Sensuala, we're bored by your constant nudity!"

— CAPTAIN BEEF, XXXXX #7

Pro file: JOHN ALLISON



Artist & writer on: EXPECTING TO FLY, BAD MACHINERY, BOBBINS, SCARY GO ROUND, MURDER SHE WRITES

My hobbies are: waterskiing, jetskiing, and skiing.

The single work I am most proud of is: GARY THE PLANETOID. I was so sad when Jim Shooter blew Gary up.

My pet peeves are: people who put their feet on the seats on public transport. They're not good people.

My place of birth is: Great Britain, UK.
My greatest accomplishment outside the comics field is: I can tell if a screw is a Phillips or a flat-head without looking at the top of it.

My oddest habit is: I sometimes go to policy think-tanks and make stuff up.
If there were making a movie of my life, I'd like to see my part played by: people say I look like Wally Purvis, but he always plays the bad guy, so I'd settle for Jason Darnall.

The reason I got into comics was: this was just where the Witness Protection Program put me. Wait, don't print that, whatever you do.

People who knew me in High School thought I was: endearing, but hiding something.

My favourite performers are: Mandy Patinkin, Elaine Stritch, Diamanda Galas, Beck.

The last good book I read was: THE DIGITAL CLOTH by Helen Pemm.

The last good movie I saw was: TIGERLILY WATUSI!

The biggest influences on my work include: Garfield and Snoopy. Not the cartoon strips, or their creators, but the animals themselves.

My greatest unfulfilled ambition in the comics field is: to ride Garfield like a big horse into San Diego Comic Con, with Snoopy marching behind.

The worst part of my job is: the perpetual fear of death.

When nobody's looking I like to: power drift in my buggy.

The one thing I really want the world to know about me is: I love whisking.

HYPE BOX

DOCTOR SNODDY #1 — Few comics have divided the audience like A La Carte - and that's just how we like it! Creators JUDY WINSLOW and PERCY ST JAMES served up a monthly mixture of magic, love, math and derring-do before handing over the reins to radical RON BANAL and wilful WALT KUKLISS early this year. But now Judy and Percy are back with Doctor Snoddy, the story of a man whose passion for medicine is only matched by his crippling agoraphobia (that's fear of the great outdoors, friends). So make an appointment to meet comics' *kookiest* new MD. And don't forget to bring a "sample"!

ROBERT COP #100 — They said it couldn't possibly work - the story of a policeman who is also a sad, sentient robot. But it turns out you LOVE Robert Cop, Harper Sharp, O'Halloran and Captain Chung more than we could ever have imagined. And now, to celebrate a hundred techno crime-packed issues from the Big Apple streets, Detective Sharp finally gets to the heart of the R.C. mystery in a special double-sized issue brought to you by RONNY RAMIREZ and DUXTON LAFONTAINE. Did we mention that arch-villain Waldo Aniston is back too? You don't want to miss this one!

EXPECTING TO FLY #1 — From the lightning-fast pen of Brit whizz JOHN ALLISON comes this coming of age tale from the streets of old Blighty. Crumpets, bad teeth and a "spot 'o tea" are doubtless all par for the course as we pay a visit to the olde towne of Tackleford and meet local urchins Ryan Beckwith, Shelley Winters and Tim Jones. Who knows what quaint, quirky things they'll get up to? These young hooligans are loose on the lanes and up to no good. It's a fresh slice of tiffin packed with whimsy, recommended for fans of stiff upper lips and driving on the wrong side of the road!

THE SGR COMICS CHECKLIST

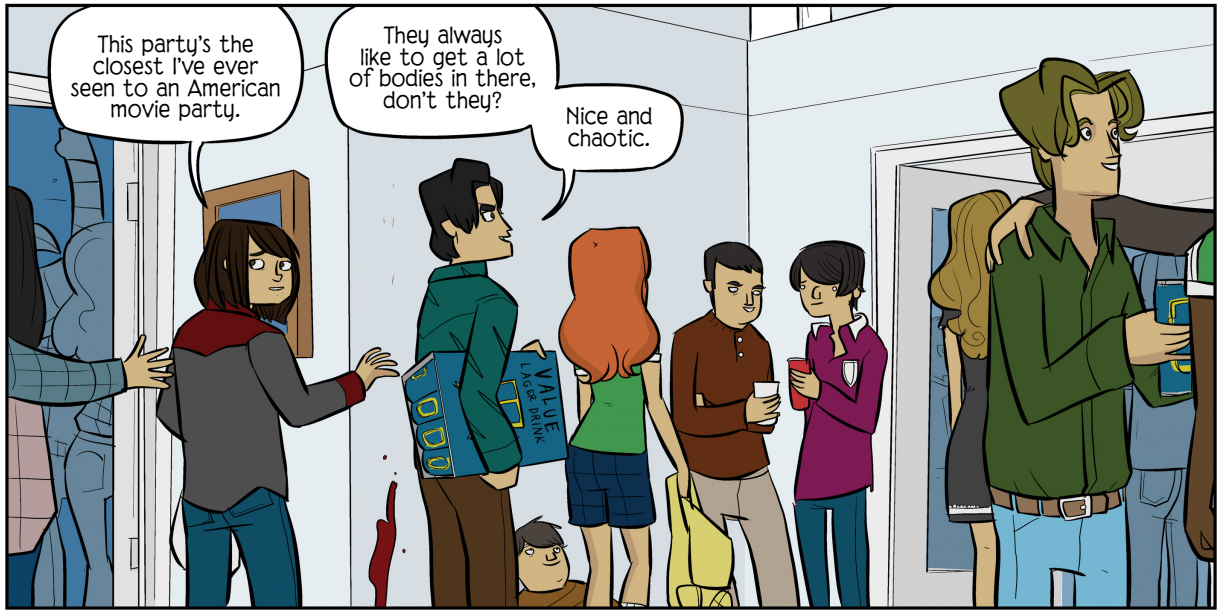
- AWESOME ARCHITEKT #112** — Architekt's son returns - and he's not alone, to everyone's dismay.
- SURFEIT #51** — The awful fallout of the Simon Papacy has consequences for everyone. By CROSS / STEPHENS / HART!
- BONANZA #70** — Hoss is back!
- FUNGOID #288**
- XXXXX #7** — Things are hotting up in the XXXXX dimension, as the luscious SENSUALA manifests!
- IMPRESSARIO #13**
- NEMS #196** — Brian and John have a falling out about Jane Asher. Guest starring FOLK TRIO!
- MORDAWWA #59** — Mordawwa continues to mutate.
- FOLK TRIO #171** — The Folk Trio pitch up in Liverpool, England - gor blimey, guv'nor!
- POLITBURO '44 #20** — The final issue - can the Politburo survive the Moldavian surge?
- BALLAST UNIT #8** — There's a death in the family, but who will face their final fate? Introducing HOT new penciller GLENNY BUFTON!

CHECK LIST

- ROBERT COP #100** — A double-size special celebrating 100 issues of New York's most robotic policeman! See Hype Box!
- SYNTH #88** — Sequencer 7000 ascends to the Cosmic Shelf at last. Can Synth stop him?
- SALAMANDER #24**
- TOWNSHEND, PI #8** — Townshend meets an exquisite femme fatale.
- TYREE #3** — Tyree enters a deadly rap battle with a corrupt local crew.
- WORLD WINDOW #334**
- D45-9-34Q #19** — The Korfus Membrane begins to contract.
- Z-WEB #170**
- EXPECTING TO FLY (Limited Series) #1** — A new series about teen-agers, set in jolly old Great Britain! See Hype Box!
- A LA CARTE #90**
- INTELLIGENTSIA #166**
- BUSTER CUTLASS (Limited Series) #3** — The official movie tie-in continues. Buster loses a kneecap but keeps fighting!
- ROBERT COP CLASSICS #7**

LUXURY LINE

- ARCHITEKT #30** — Architekt is forced to choose between his son and the Crystal Fortress.
- EMPHASIS: NORTON #5** — The legendary French series continues! Norton is hounded by his memories.
- AFRICA FORCE #9**
- SKYFORCE '44 #3** — The Skyforce attend a birthday party for a sickly child - but all is not as it seems.
- THE MAGNIFICENT #11**
- WONDER OF FRUIT #6** — Show-casing pears and plums.
- ZEEBUS, WARRIOR CHILD #14** — Zeebus remains dormant
- KARATE! #44** — This month the Dojo concentrates on meditation and inner stillness.
- SERENE WANDERER #60** — Serene Wanderer gazes upon the face of God at last! Final issue, brought to you by the sensational HARVEY / KATZ / HARVEY!
- DOCTOR SNODDY #1** — A new series from the creators of A La Carte. See Hype Box!
- ROBERT COP SPECIAL CASES #9** — The Adamski killer returns!



This party's the closest I've ever seen to an American movie party.

They always like to get a lot of bodies in there, don't they?

Nice and chaotic.

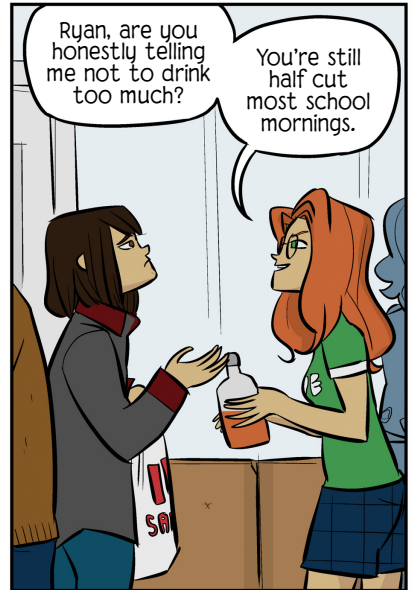


Whoa there Shelley, save some for Mr Manners.

DOOK DOOK



Twenty Twenty's a rich drink, you need to line your stomach.



Ryan, are you honestly telling me not to drink too much?

You're still half cut most school mornings.



That's just ambient drinking. It just kind of happens.

This is "just kind of happening" too.



Sigh.

What's in the bag, Ryan?



Some sasparilla.

The drink for people who've had enough fun already.



Well, sas-parilla, I guess it's just you and me tonight.



GULP



Hi Ryan.



Hello, er, Becka, how's it goin'... generally?

Oh it's generally fine.



Aw no Tim, that ain't appropriate.



Still playing the old clarinet?

I never could work out the wind instruments.

It's easy.



You just put your lips together and blow...



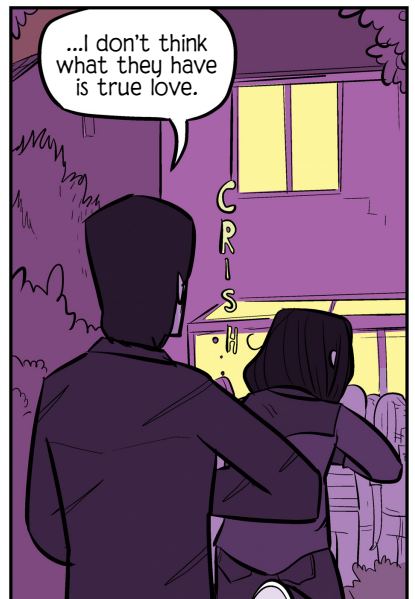
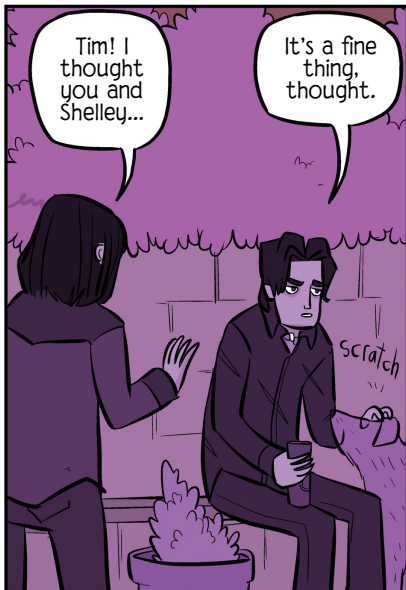
...into the clarinet.

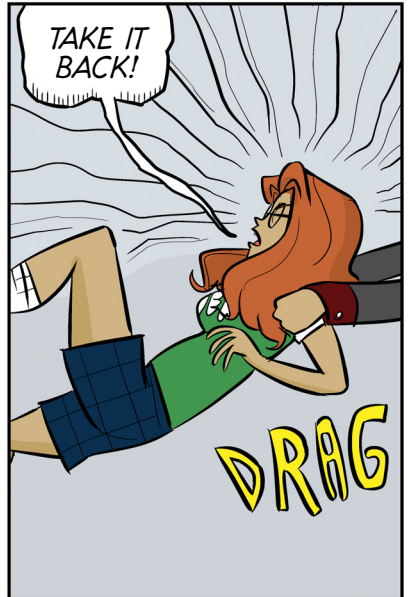
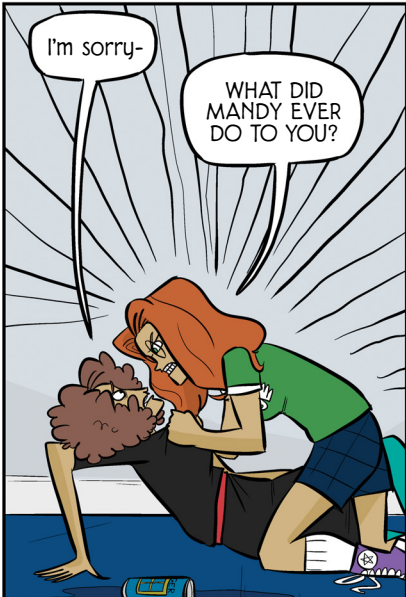
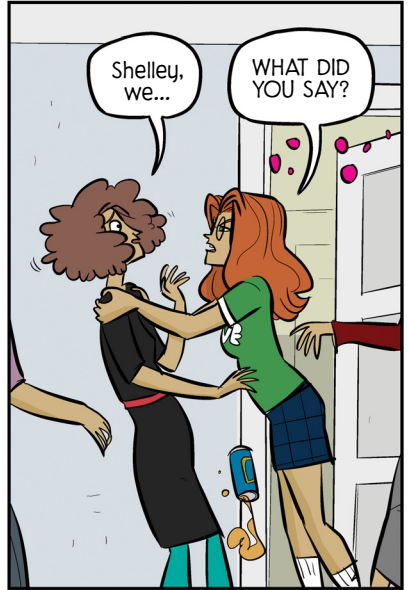
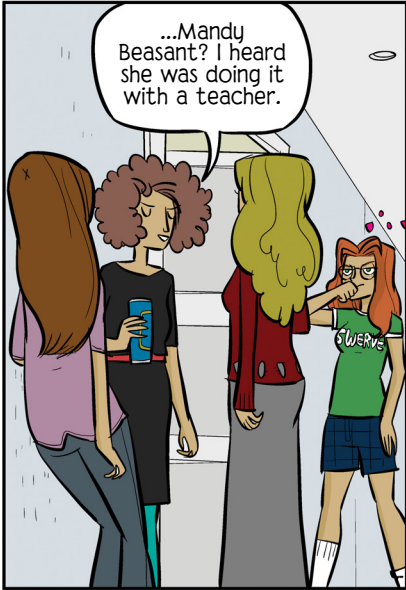
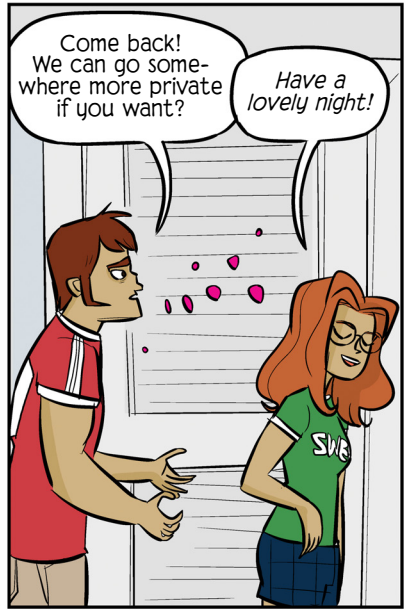
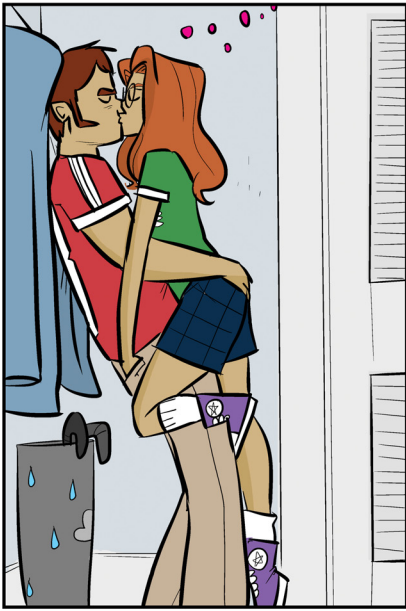


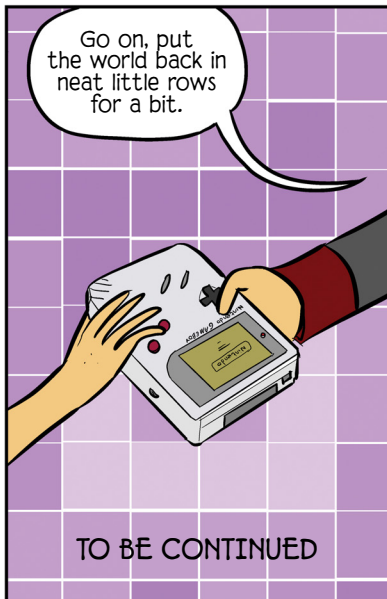
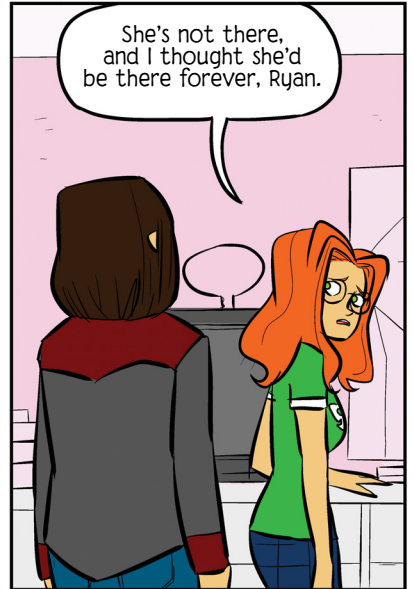
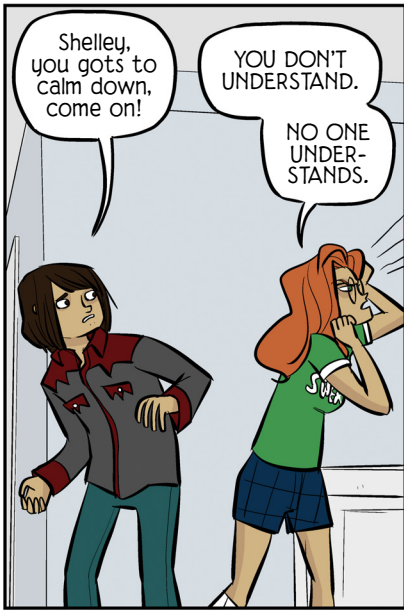
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Oh er sure, I guess!









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