

# TONTA

JAIME HERNANDEZ



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# TONTA

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# TONTA



WHAT IS IT?

YOUR EYELASH. YOU BLOW IT AWAY AND MAKE A WISH...

...BUT DON'T TELL ME WHAT IT IS.



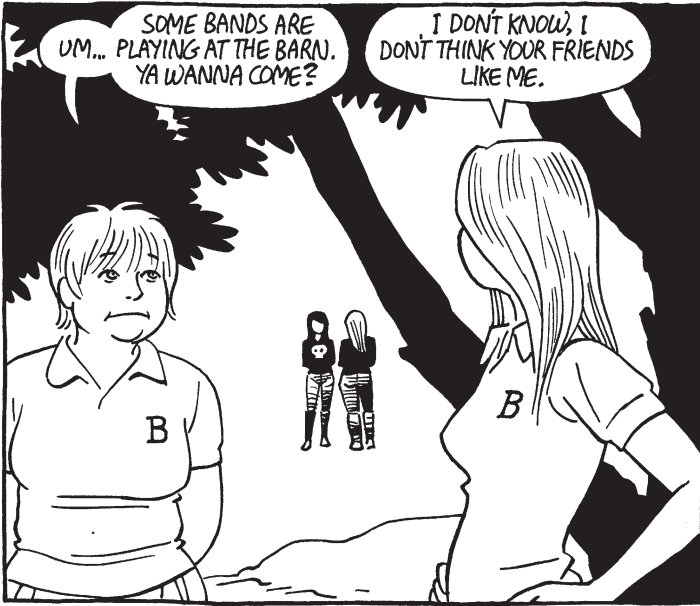
NO, THAT'S OK. I THINK I'LL PASS.

ISN'T THERE ANYTHING YOU'D WANT TO CHANGE TO MAKE THIS WORLD BETTER?



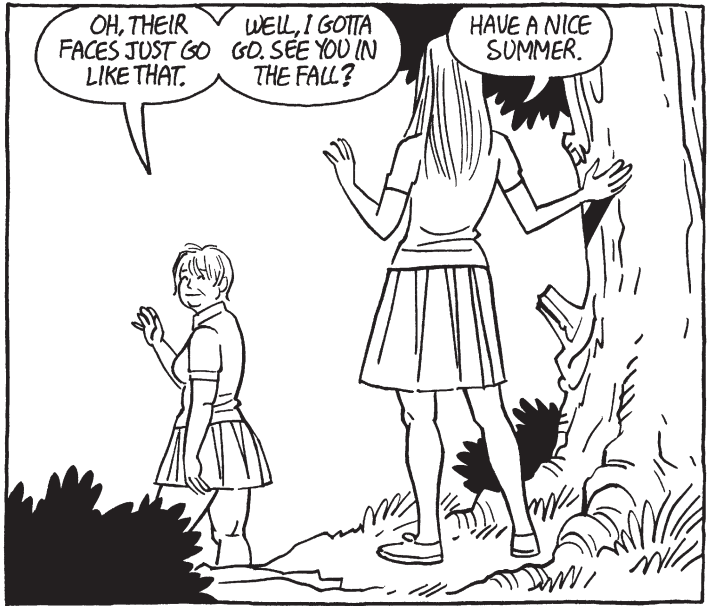
NO, I'D RATHER LET IT CONTINUE SUCKING. THAT WAY I DON'T COME OFF SO BAD.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SURVIVE THINKING THAT WAY, TONTA.



SOME BANDS ARE UM... PLAYING AT THE BARN. YA WANNA COME?

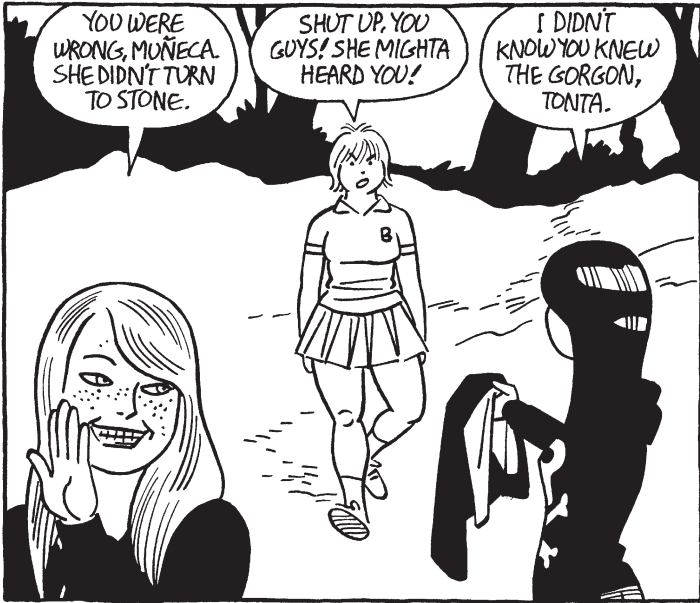
I DONT KNOW, I DONT THINK YOUR FRIENDS LIKE ME.



OH, THEIR FACES JUST GO LIKE THAT.

WELL, I GOTTA GO. SEE YOU IN THE FALL?

HAVE A NICE SUMMER.



YOU WERE WRONG, MUÑECA. SHE DIDNT TURN TO STONE.

SHUT UP, YOU GUYS! SHE MIGHTA HEARD YOU!

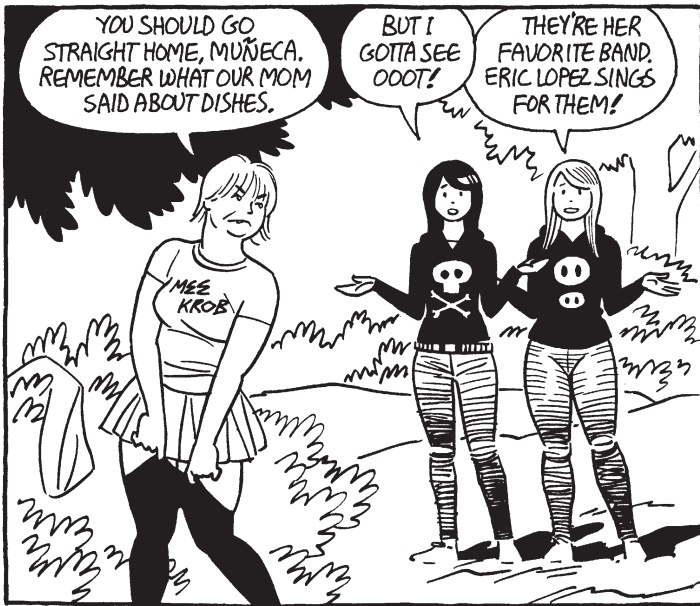
I DIDNT KNOW YOU KNEW THE GORGON, TONTA.



SHE TUTORED ME IN ENGLISH. SHE'S NICE! NOT LIKE YOU GUYS!

SORRY, TONTA.

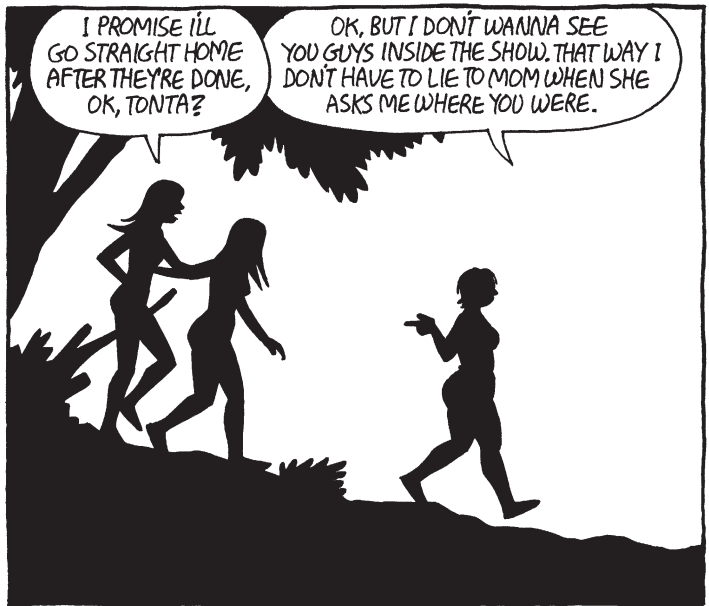
YEAH, CAN WE GO TO THE BARN SHOW NOW?



YOU SHOULD GO STRAIGHT HOME, MUÑECA. REMEMBER WHAT OUR MOM SAID ABOUT DISHES.

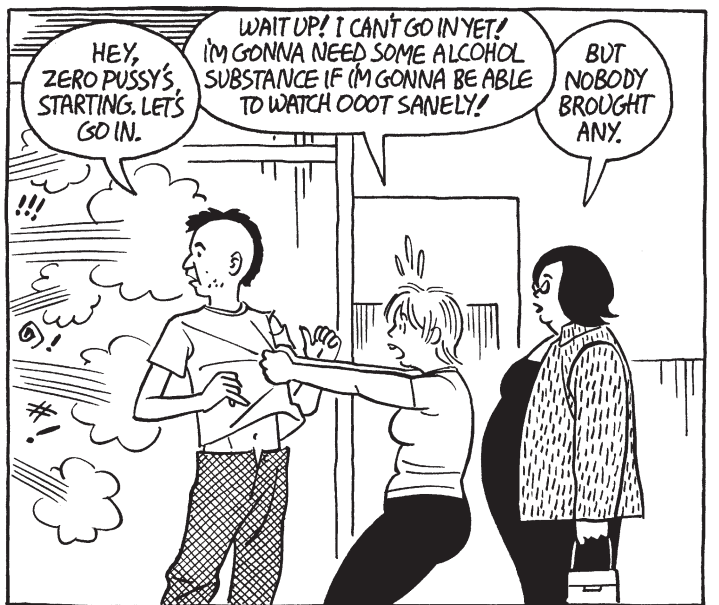
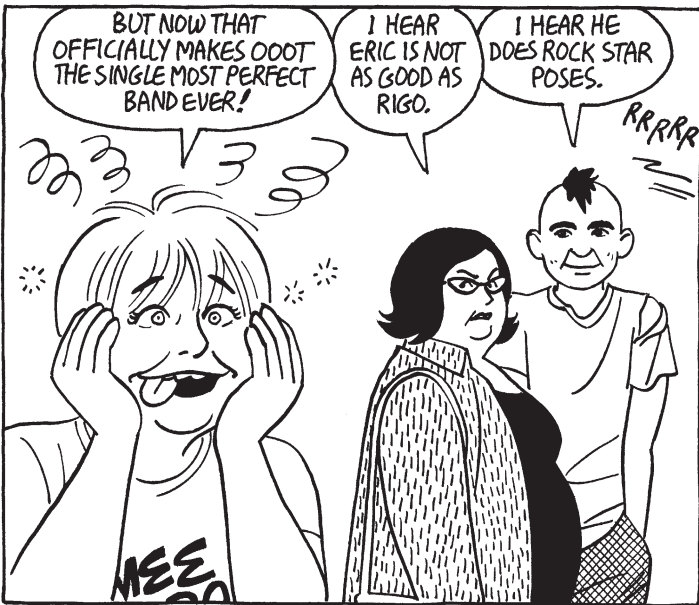
BUT I GOTTA SEE OOOT!

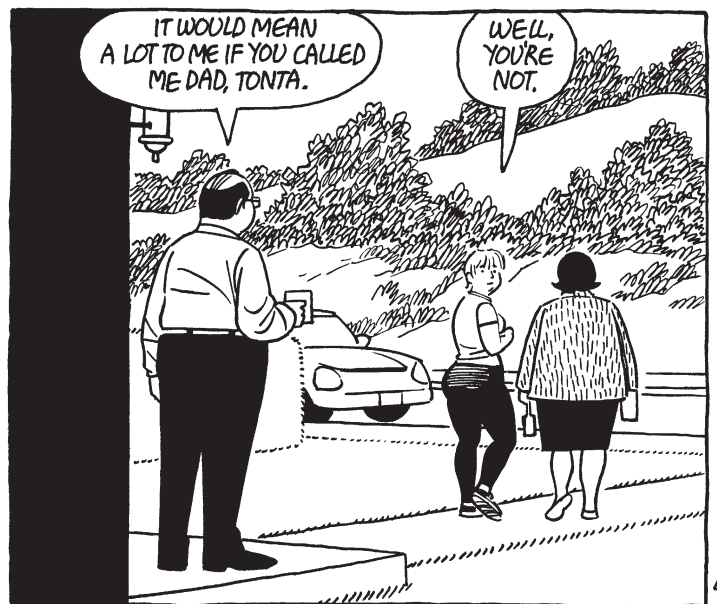
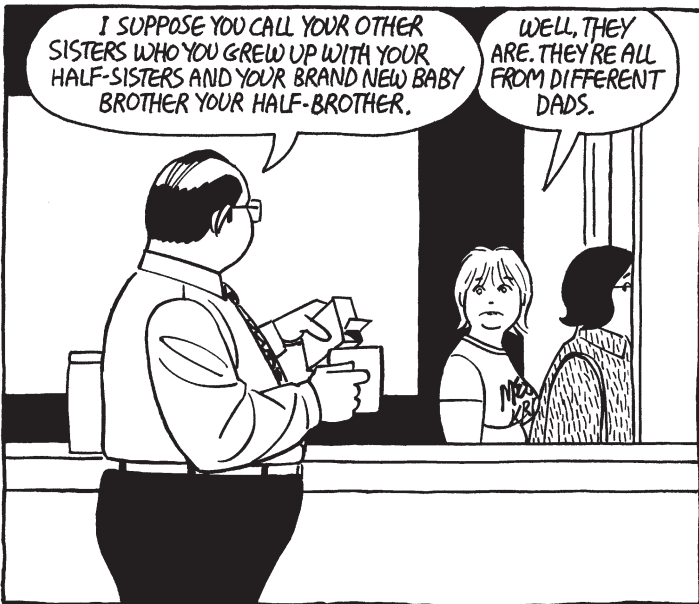
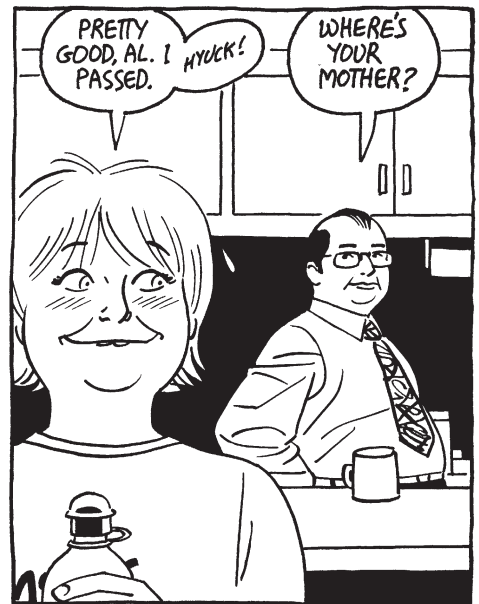
THEY'RE HER FAVORITE BAND. ERIC LOPEZ SINGS FOR THEM!

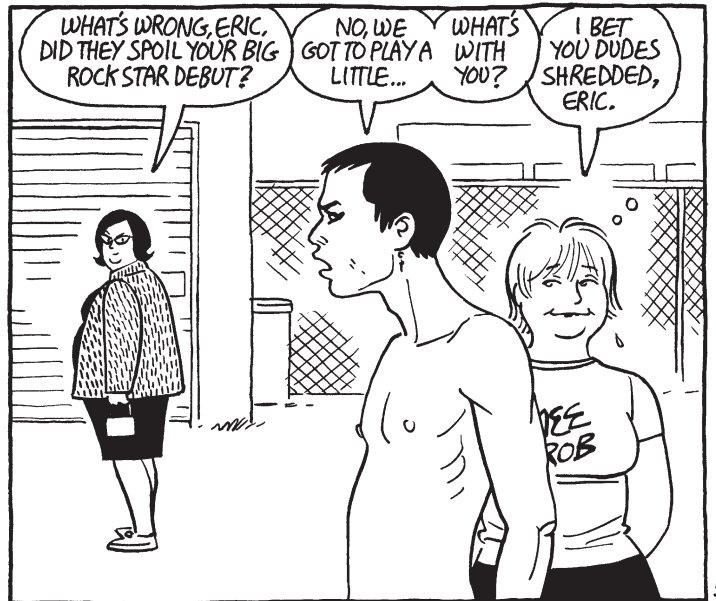
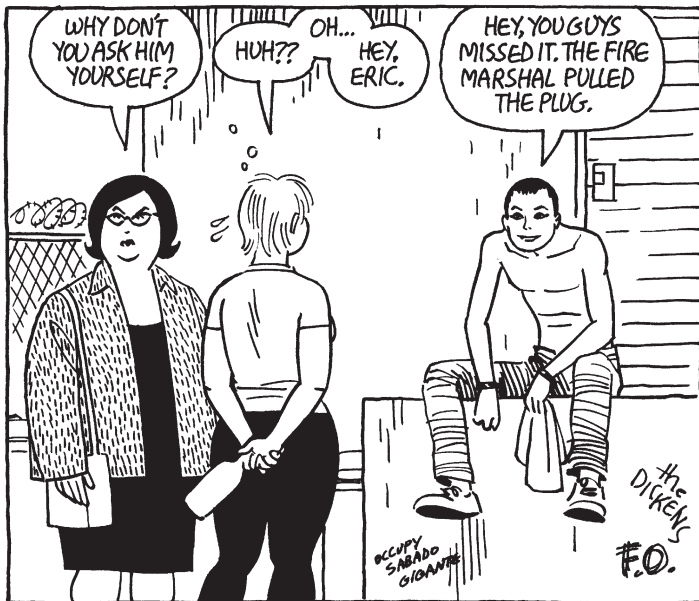
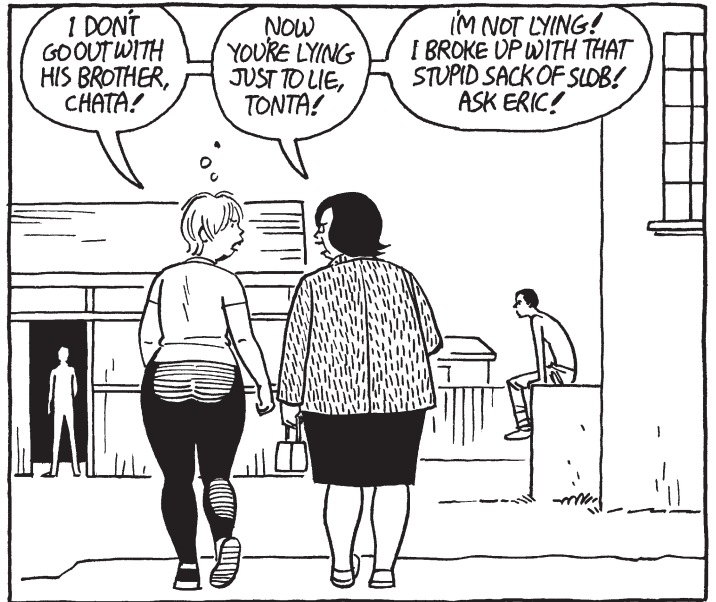


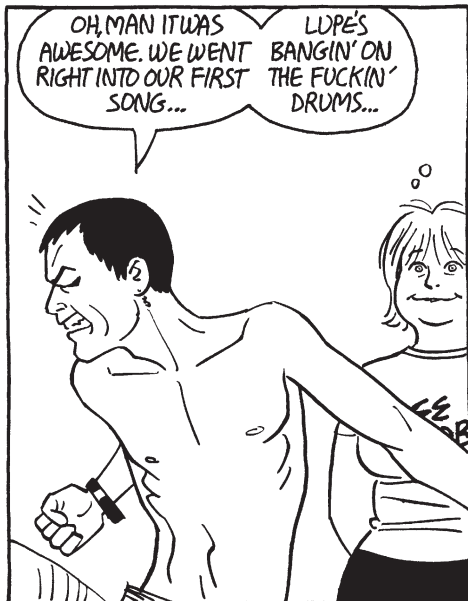
I PROMISE I'LL GO STRAIGHT HOME AFTER THEY'RE DONE, OK, TONTA?

OK, BUT I DONT WANNA SEE YOU GUYS INSIDE THE SHOW. THAT WAY I DONT HAVE TO LIE TO MOM WHEN SHE ASKS ME WHERE YOU WERE.









OH, MAN IT WAS AWESOME. WE WENT RIGHT INTO OUR FIRST SONG...

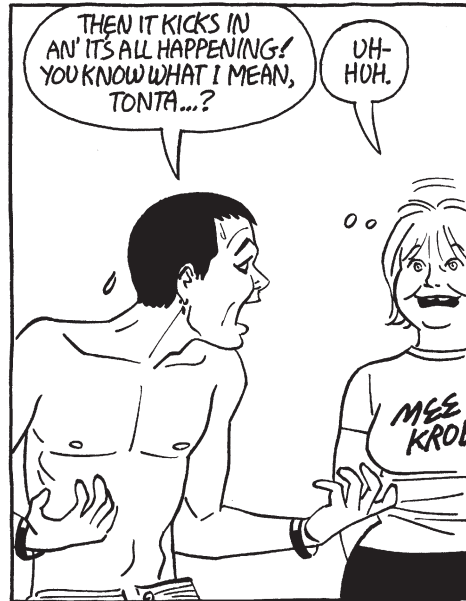
LDPE'S BANGIN' ON THE FUCKIN' DRUMS...



THEN I CAME IN GOING...

ON OUR OWN TERMS!

ON OUR OWN TERMS!



THEN IT KICKS IN AN' IT'S ALL HAPPENING! YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN, TONTA...?

UH-HUH.



AN' THE PIT'S FUCKIN' JAMMIN' AN' SHIT...

UH-HUH.

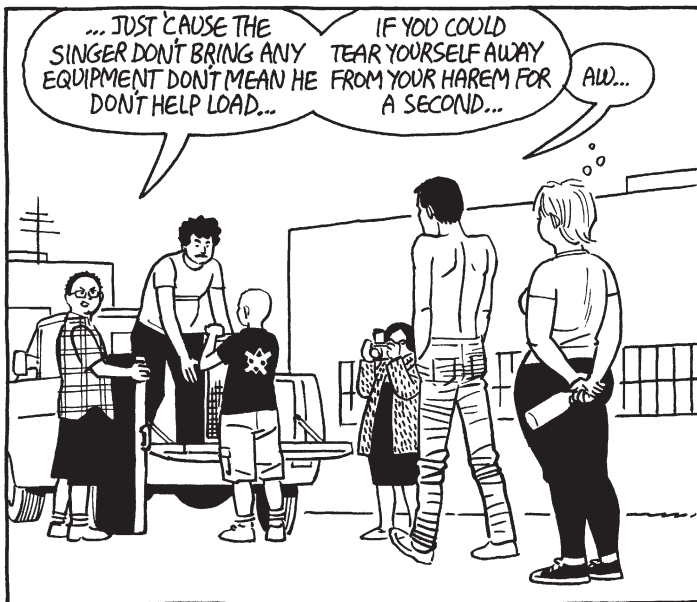
THEN BOOM! THE POWER GOES OUT...

UH-HUH.

...THEN DEAD SILENCE.

WOO!

HEY! DICK-WAD!



... JUST 'CAUSE THE SINGER DONT BRING ANY EQUIPMENT DONT MEAN HE DONT HELP LOAD...

IF YOU COULD TEAR YOURSELF AWAY FROM YOUR HAREM FOR A SECOND...

AW...

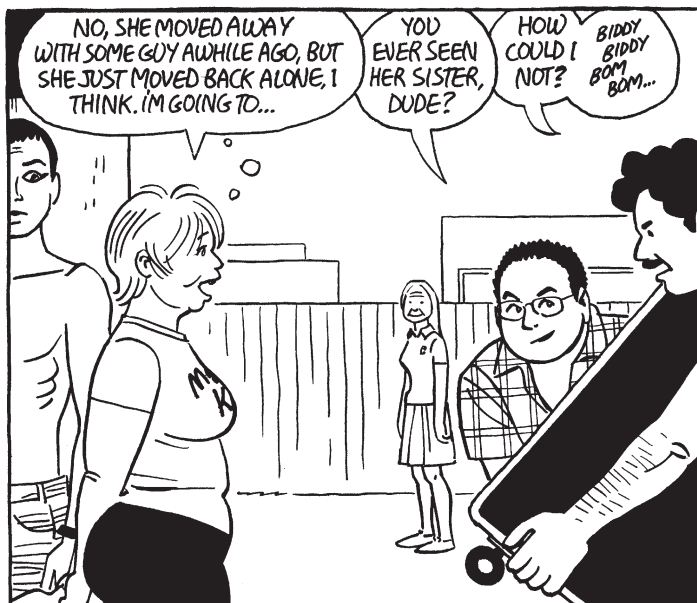


BE COOL, DUDE. THIS IS VIVIAN SOLISS'S SISTER.

HALF SISTER. HEH!

NO SHIT? OH, SORRY, DUDE.

HOW COME WE HAVEN'T SEEN HER? SHE GET HERSELF HITCHED, OR SOMETHING?

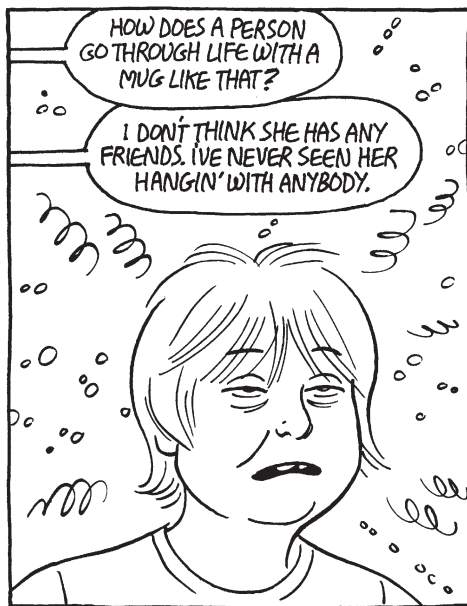
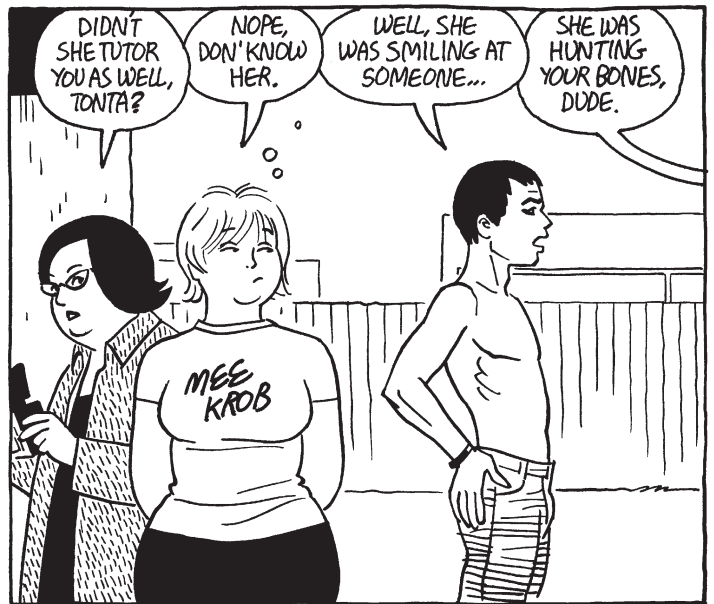
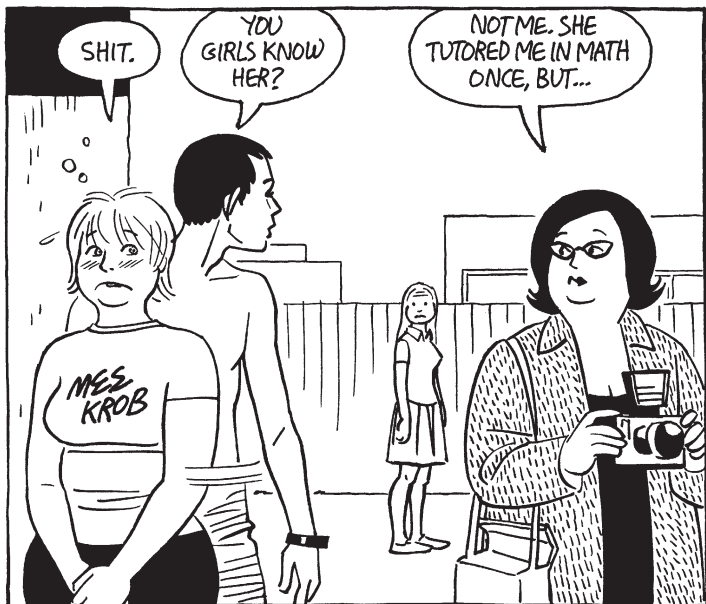


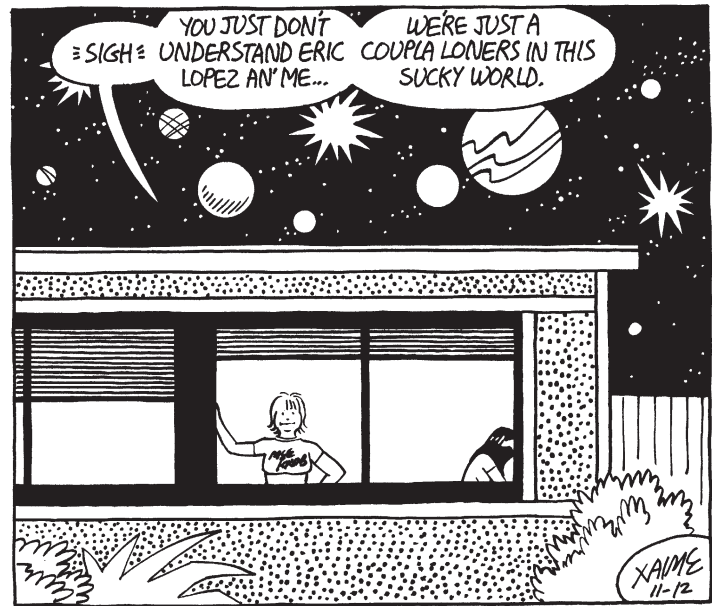
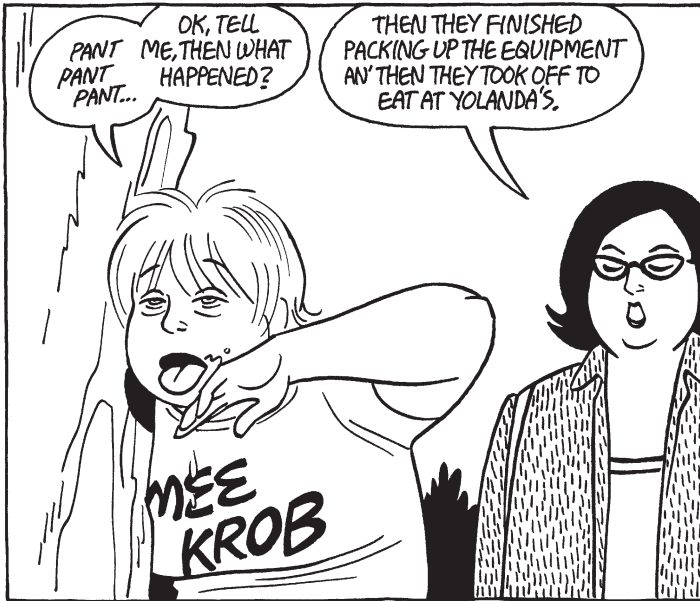
NO, SHE MOVED AWAY WITH SOME GUY AWHILE AGO, BUT SHE JUST MOVED BACK ALONE. I THINK. I'M GOING TO...

YOU EVER SEEN HER SISTER, DUDE?

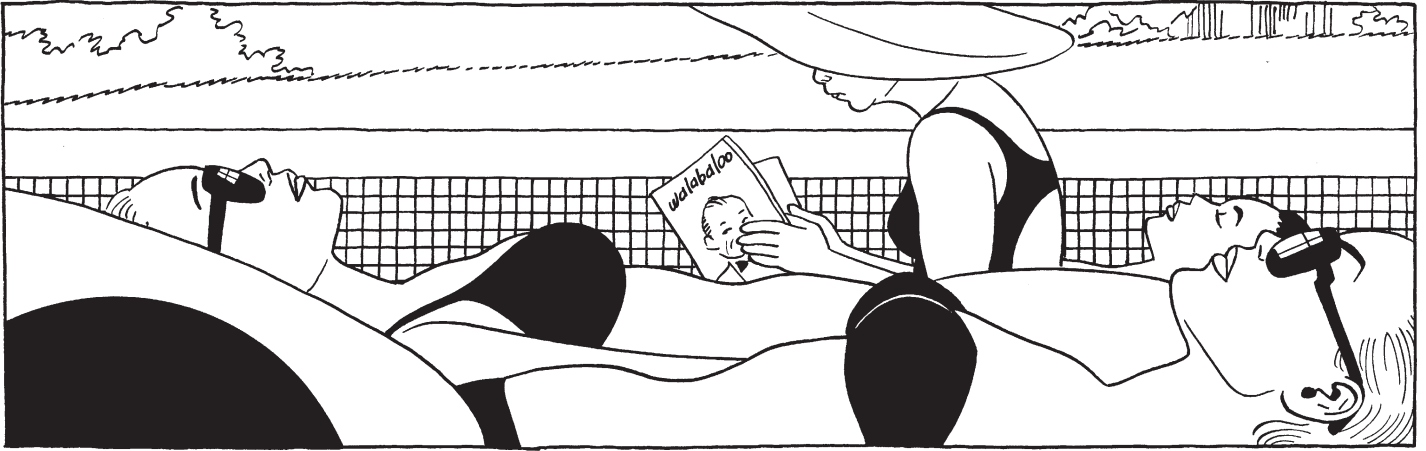
HOW COULD I NOT?

BIDDY BIDDY BOM BOM...

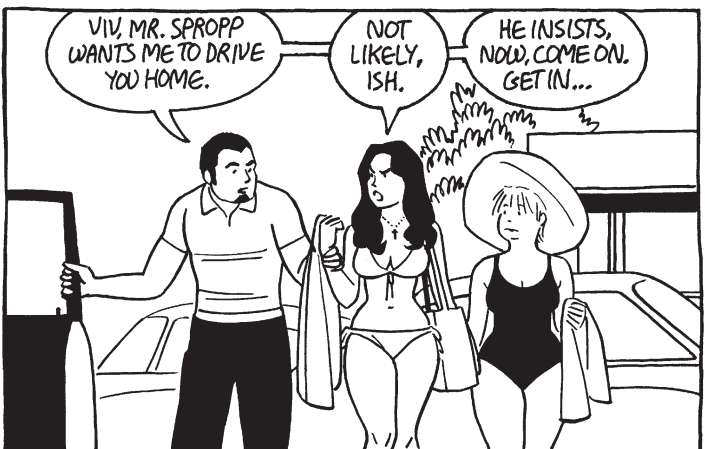
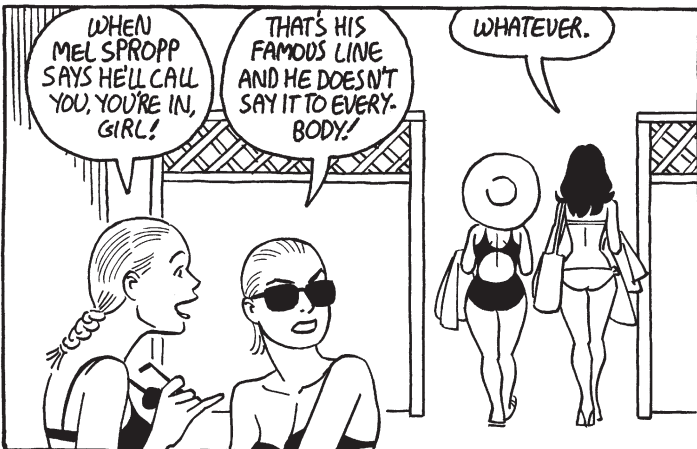
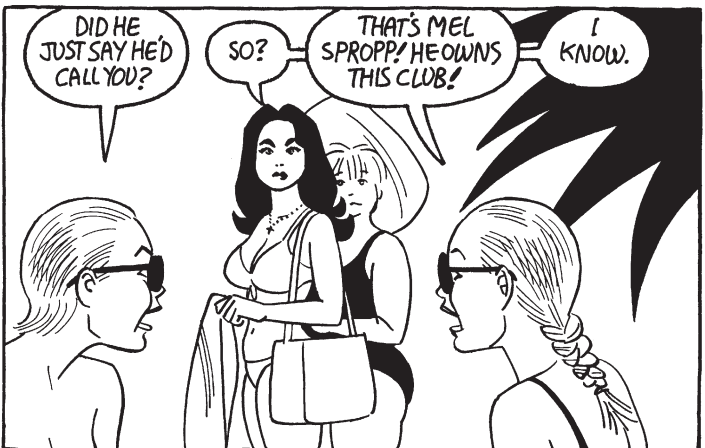
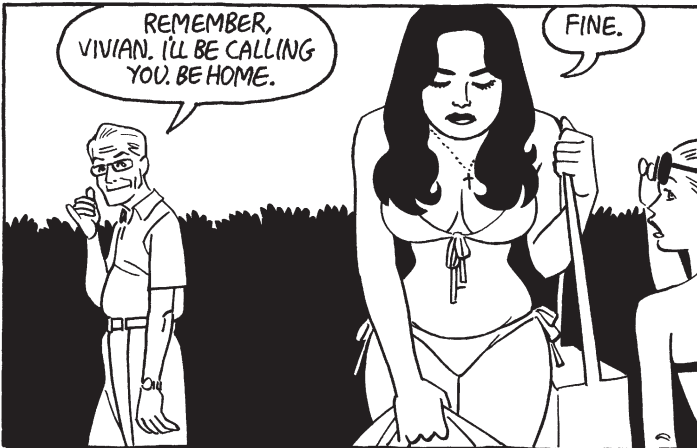
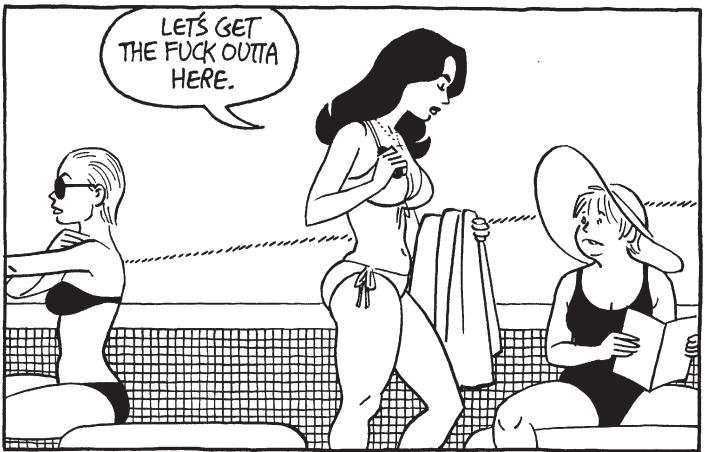
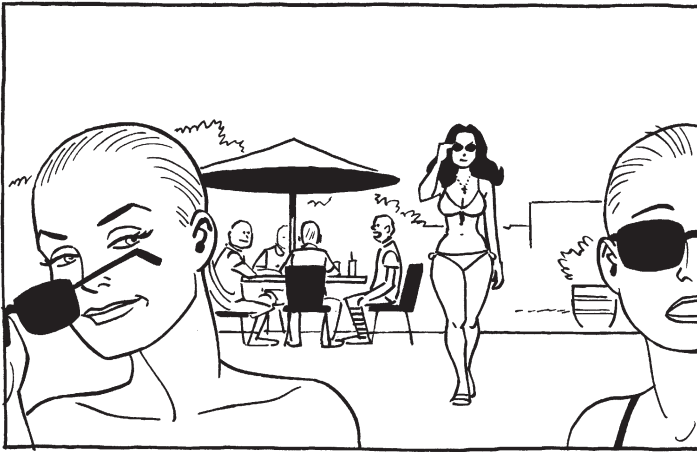


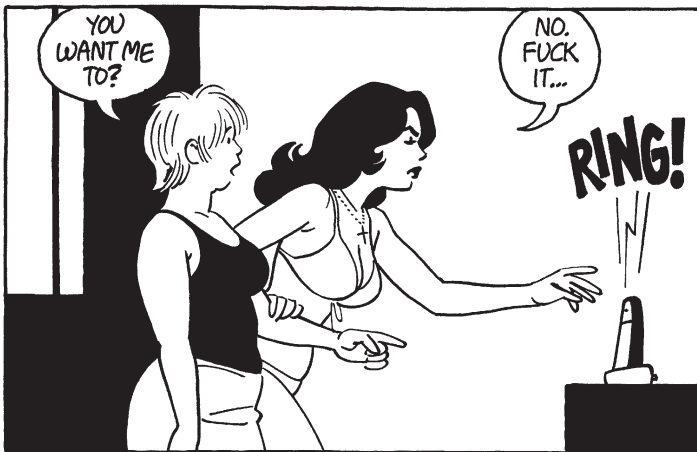
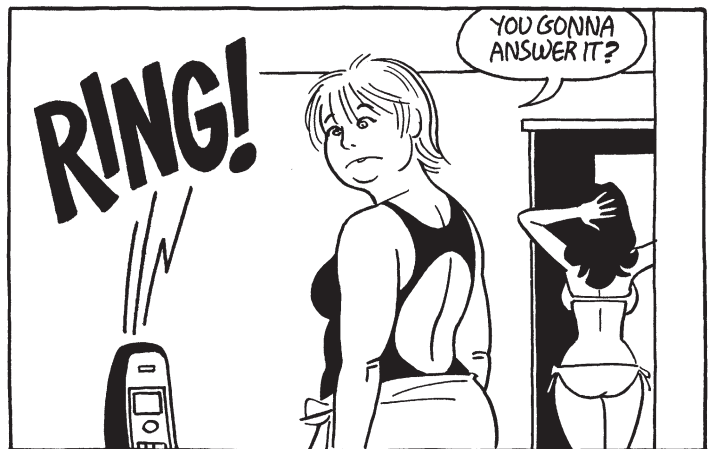
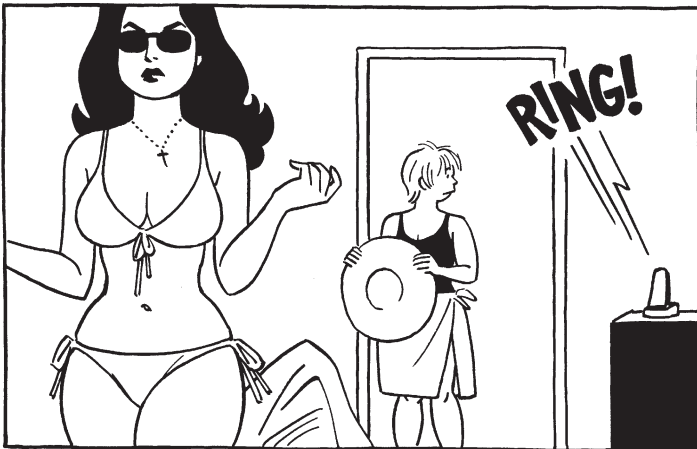
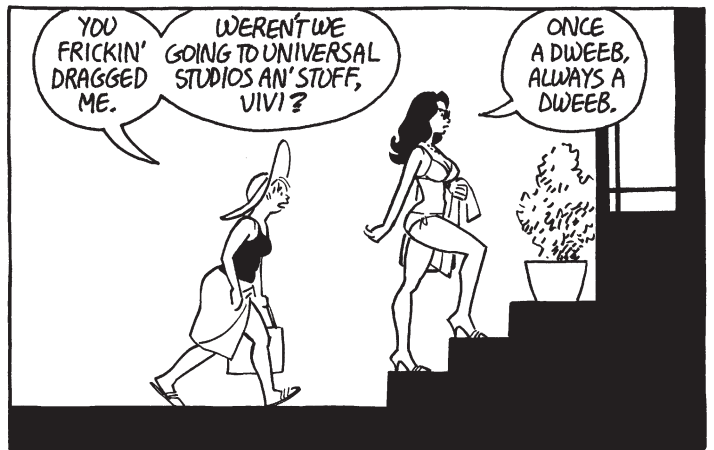
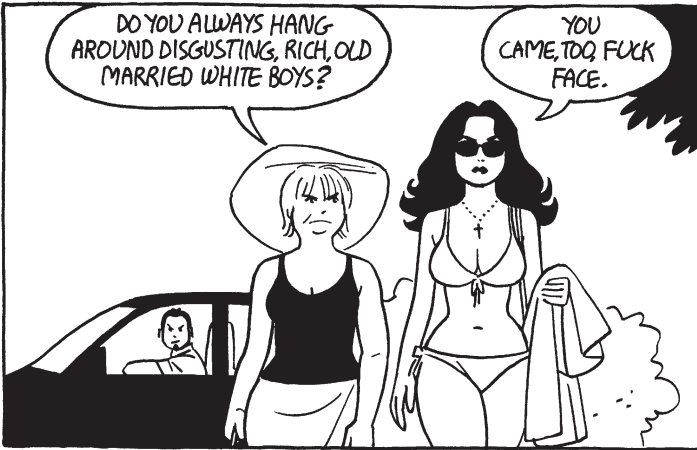
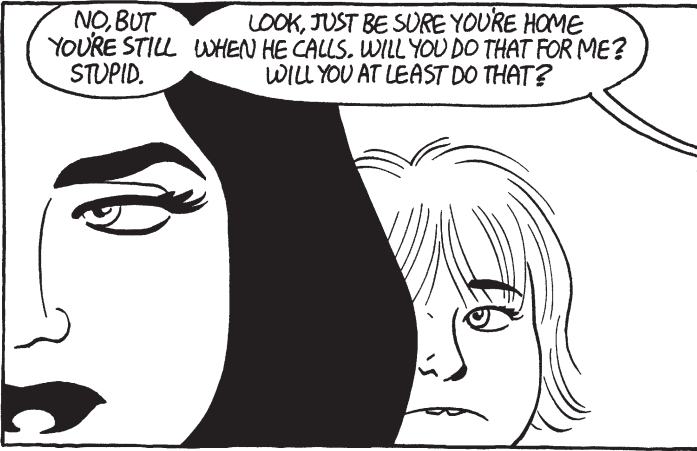


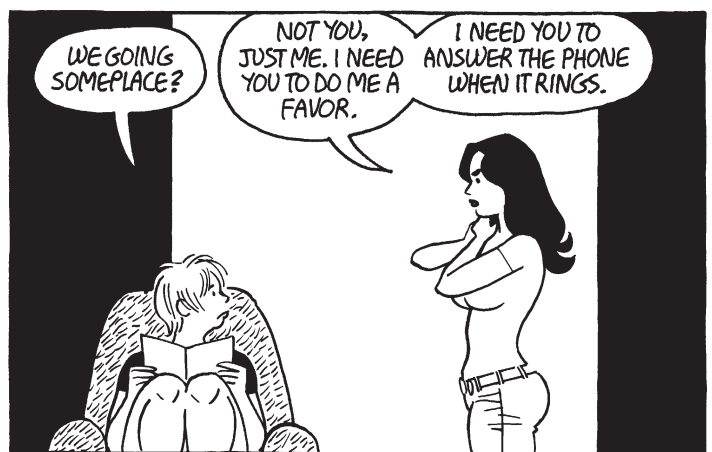
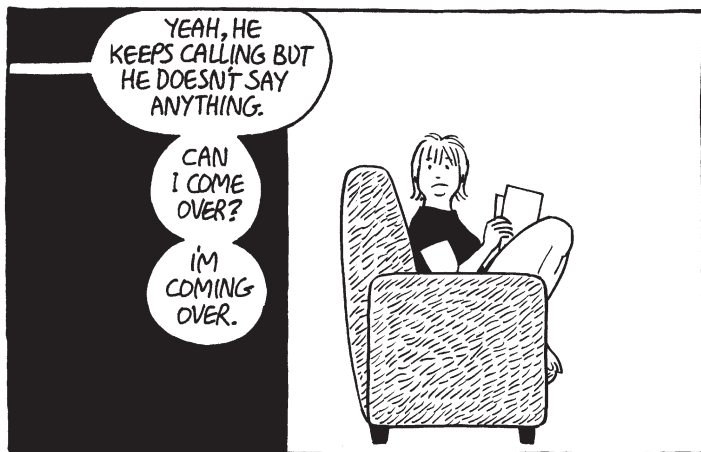
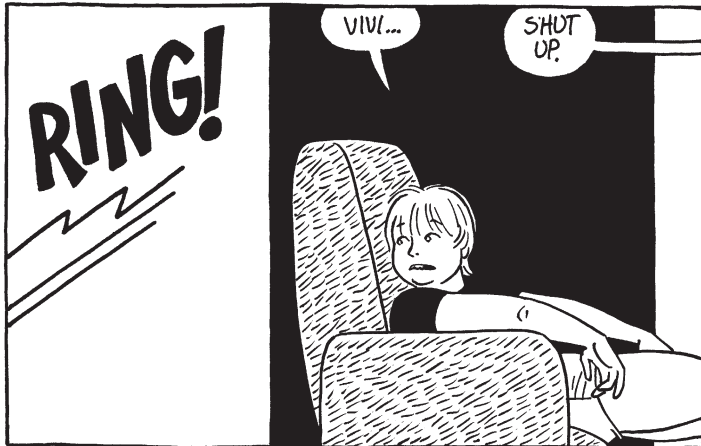
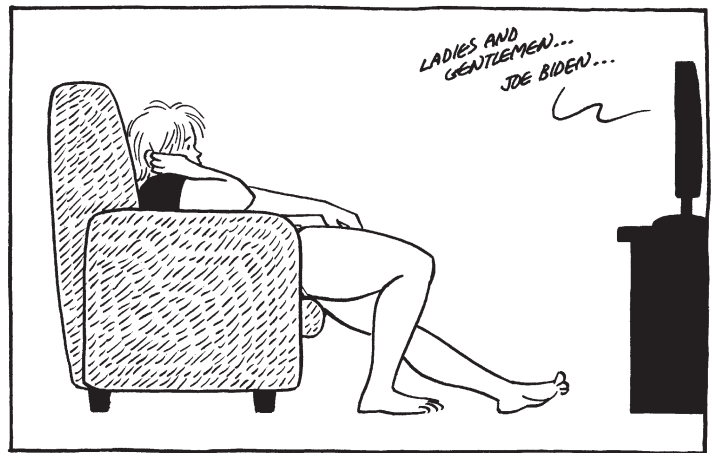
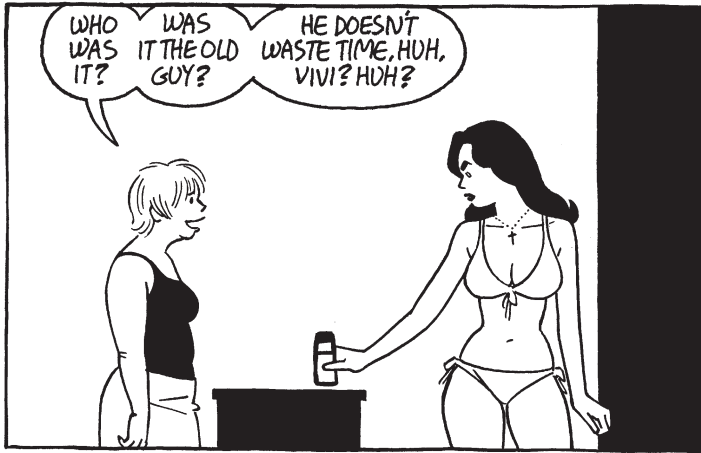
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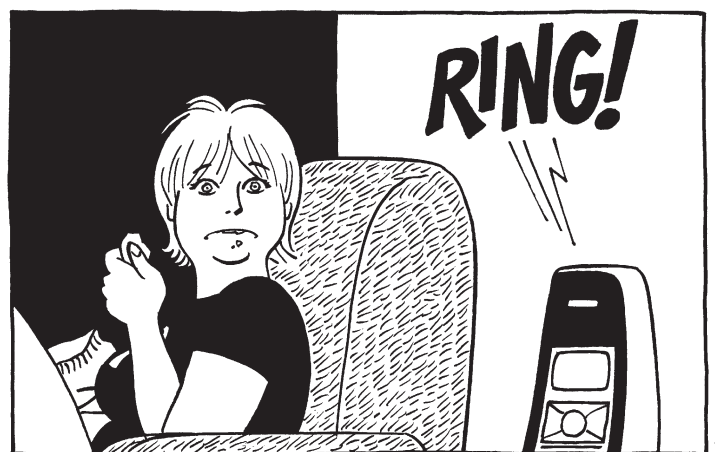
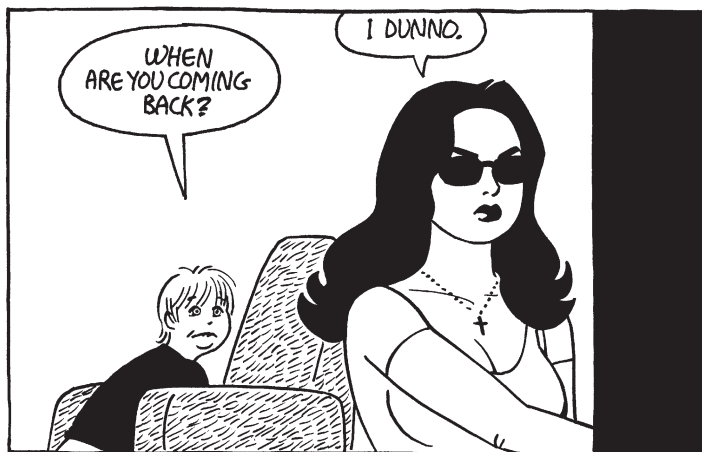
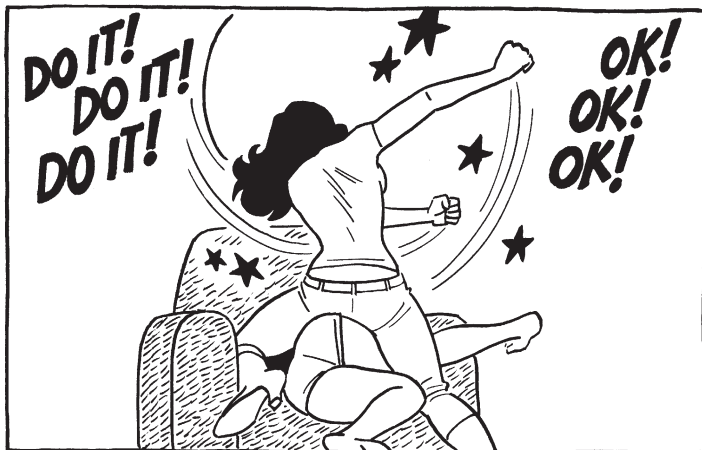
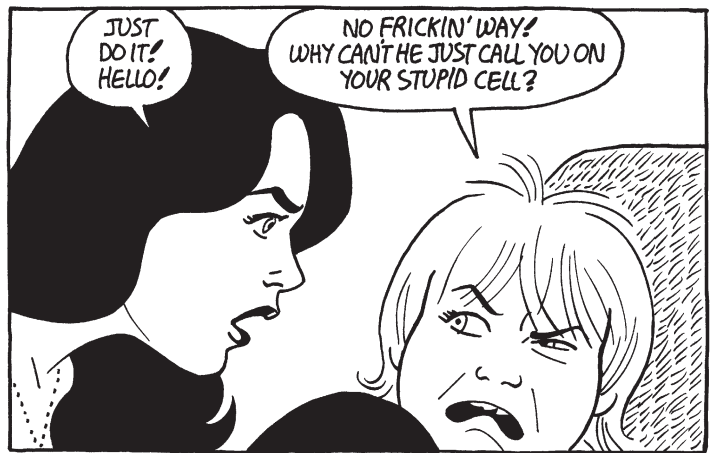
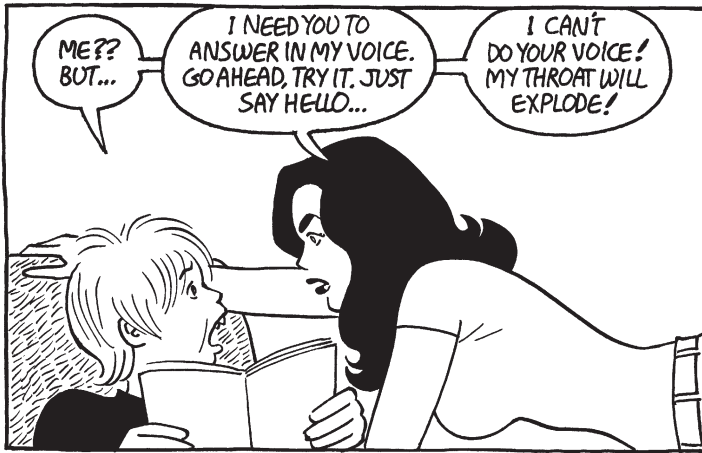


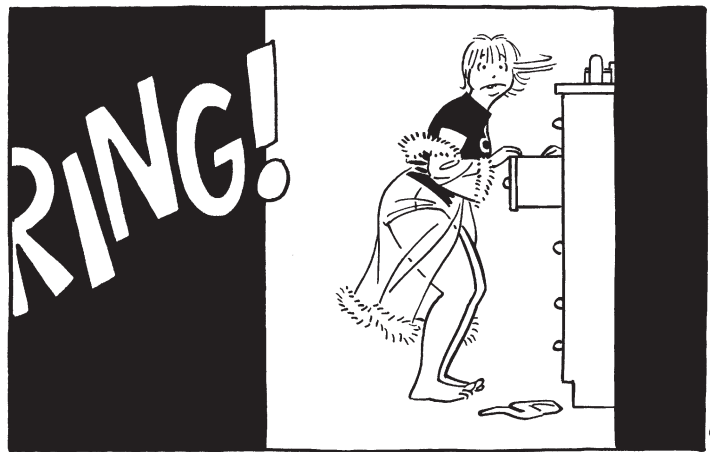
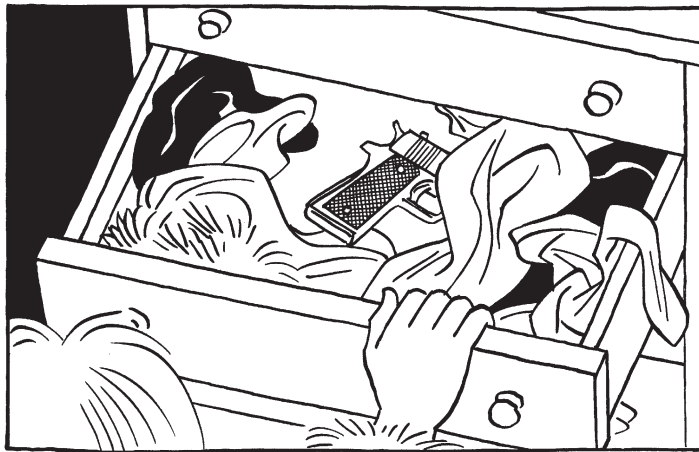
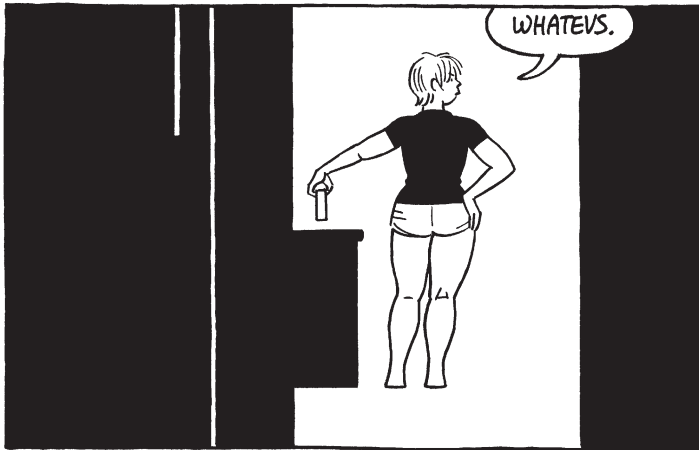
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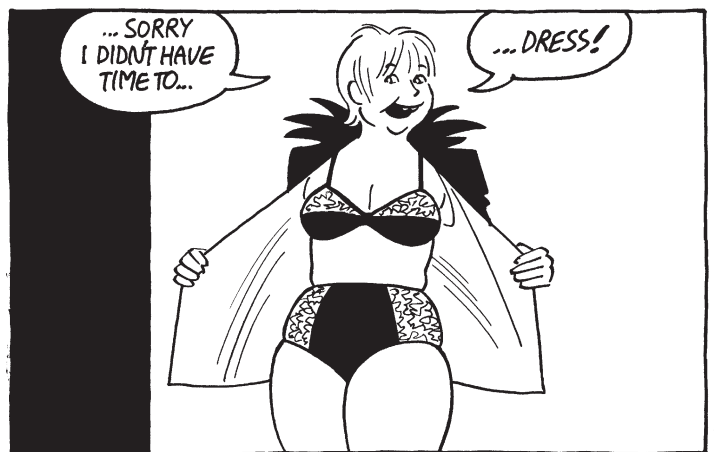
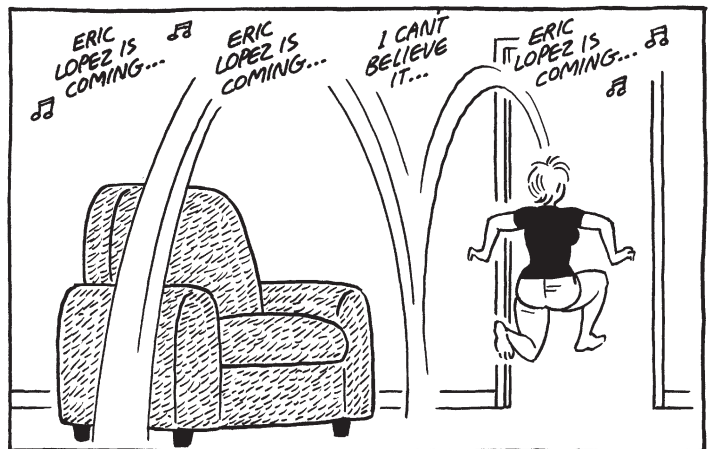
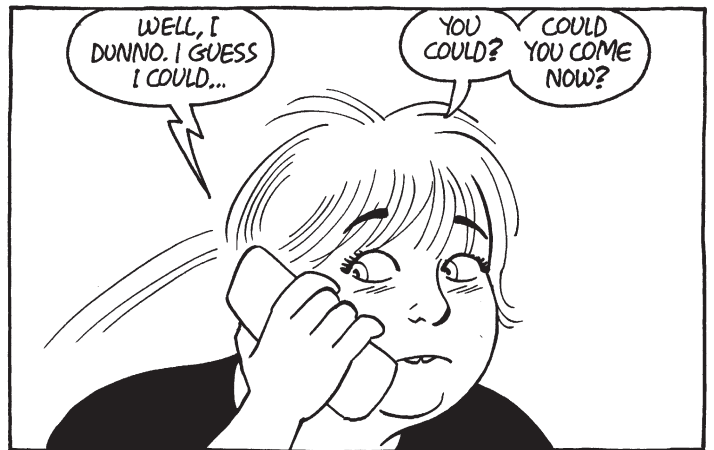
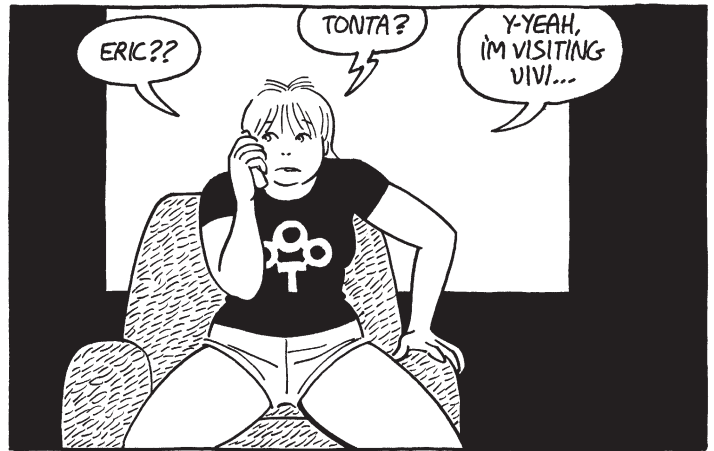


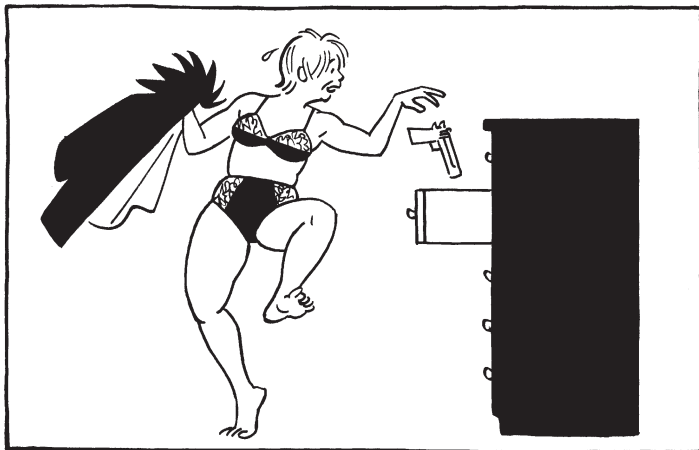
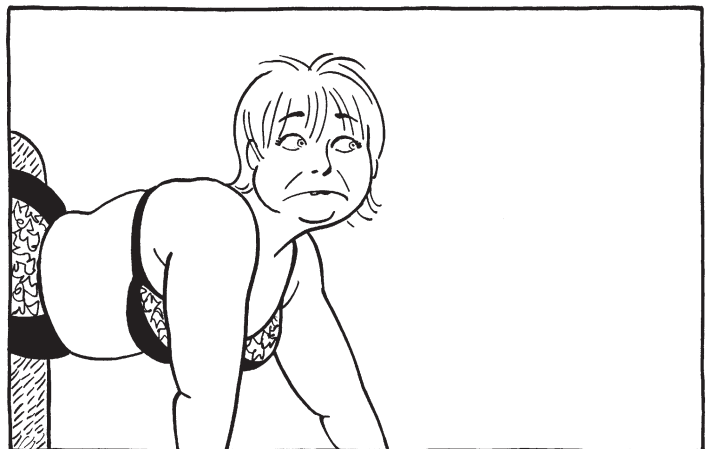
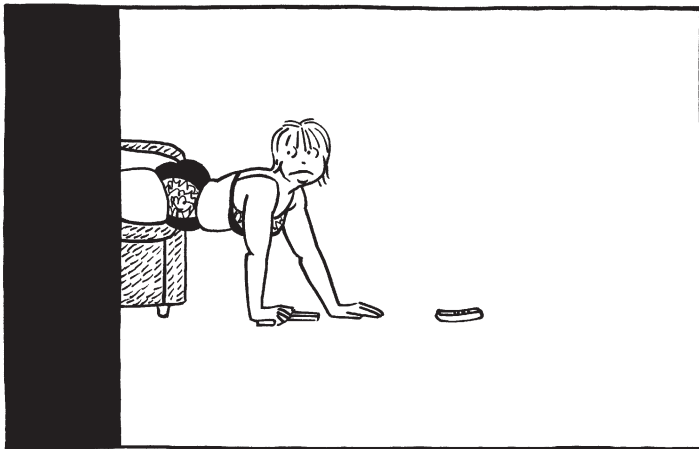
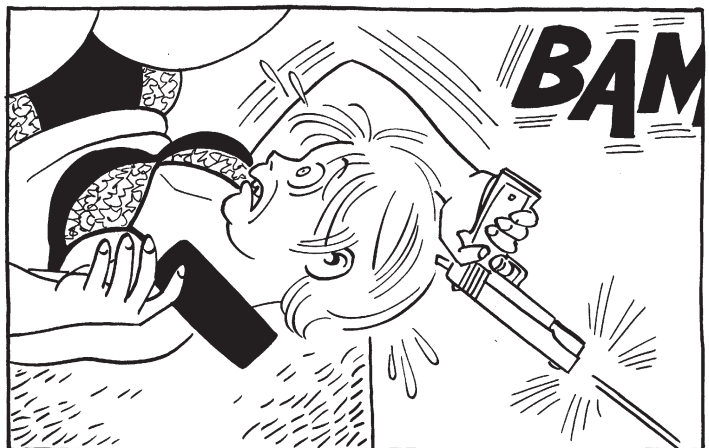
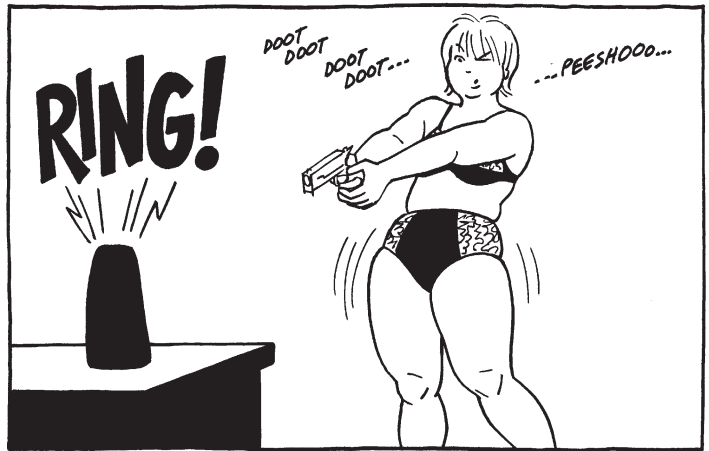
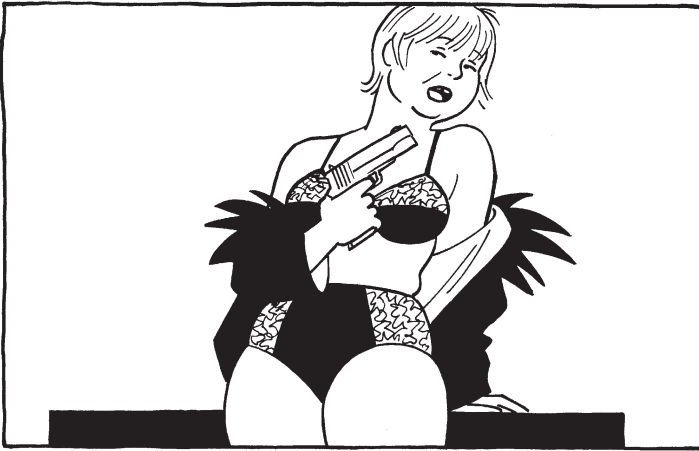


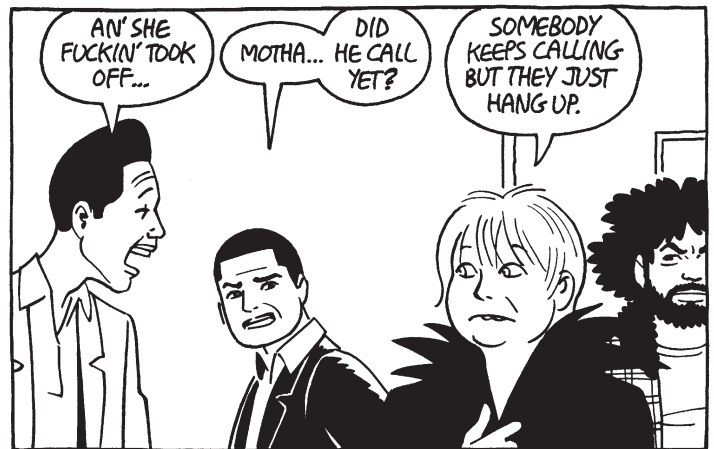
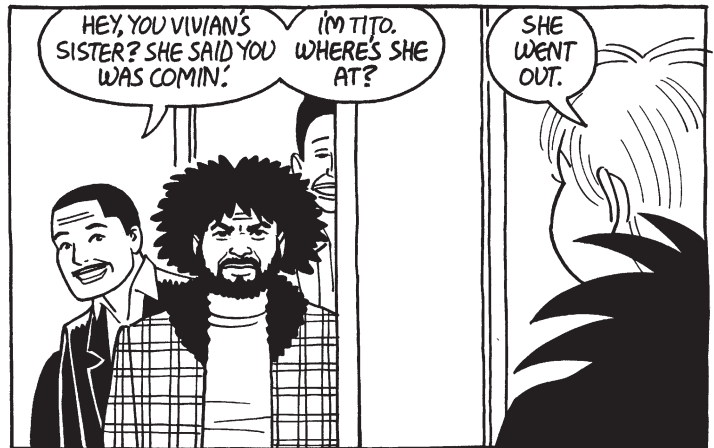
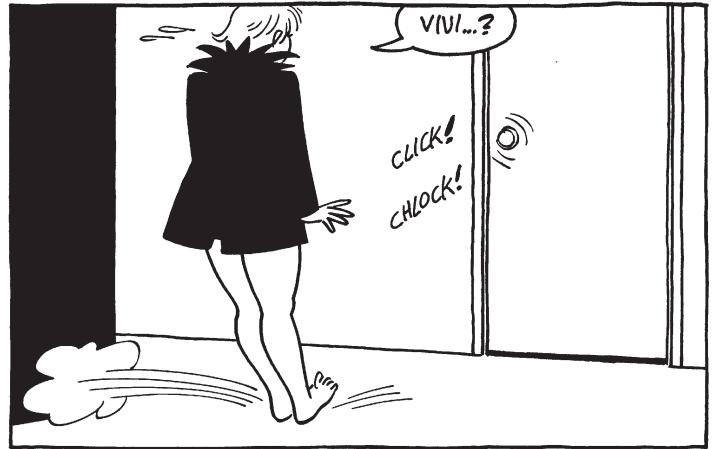
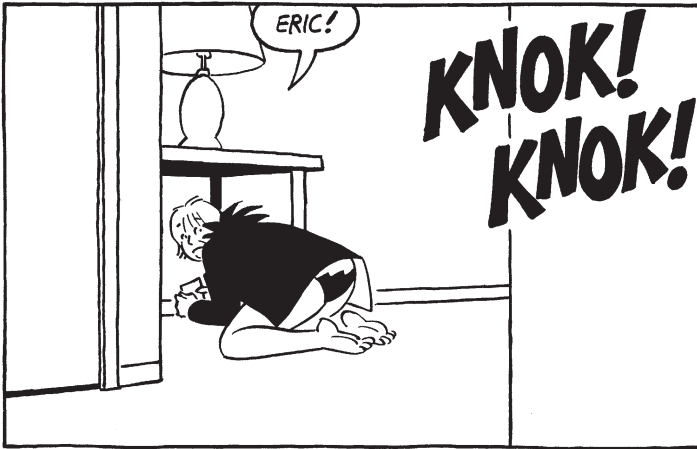


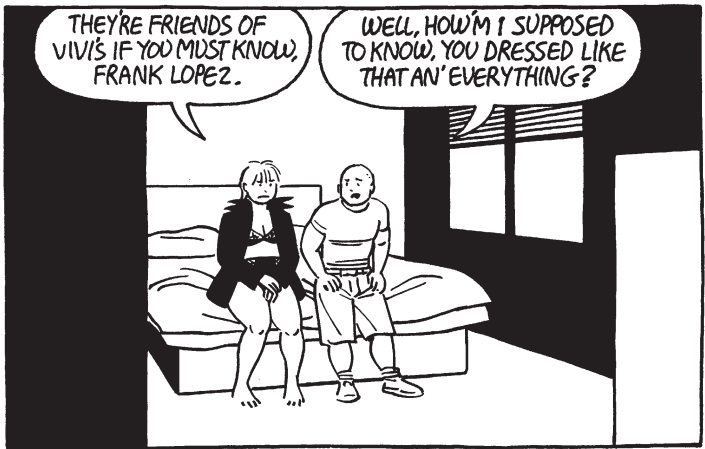
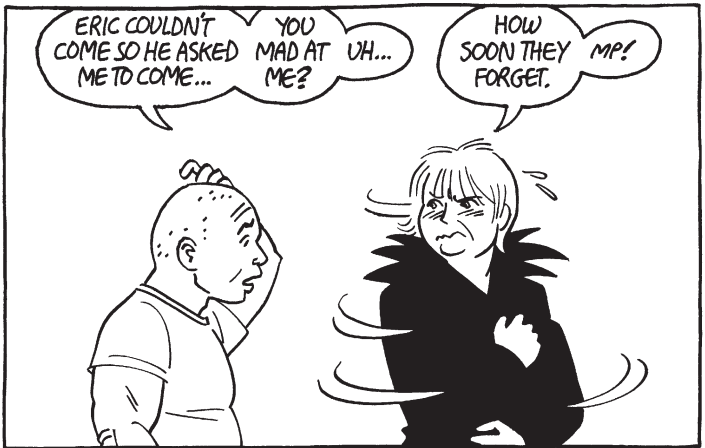
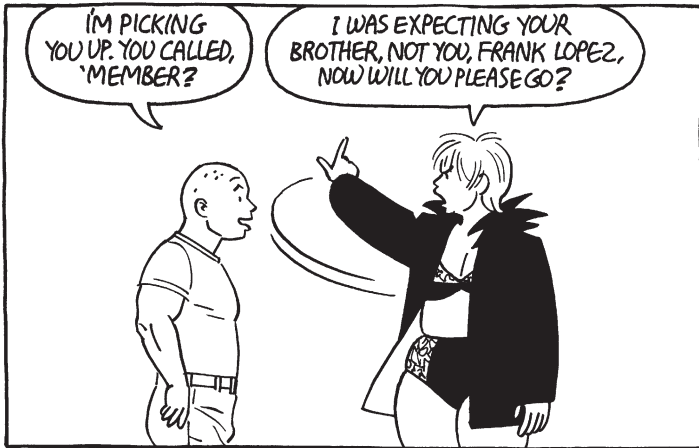
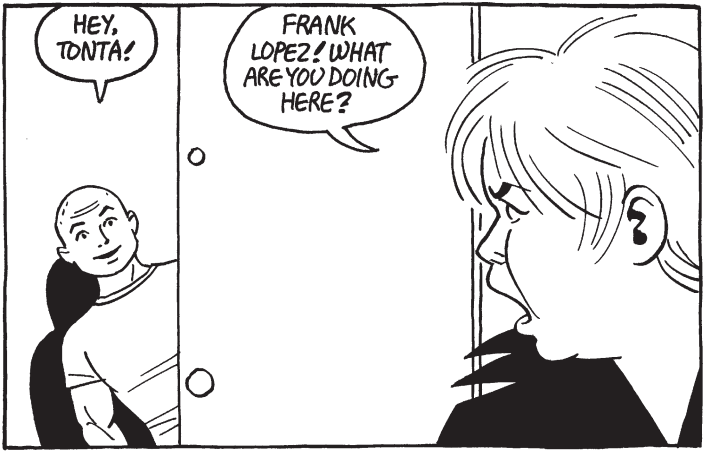


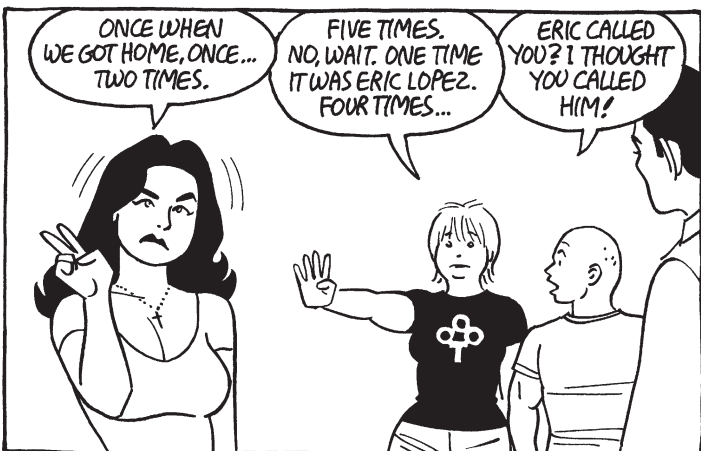
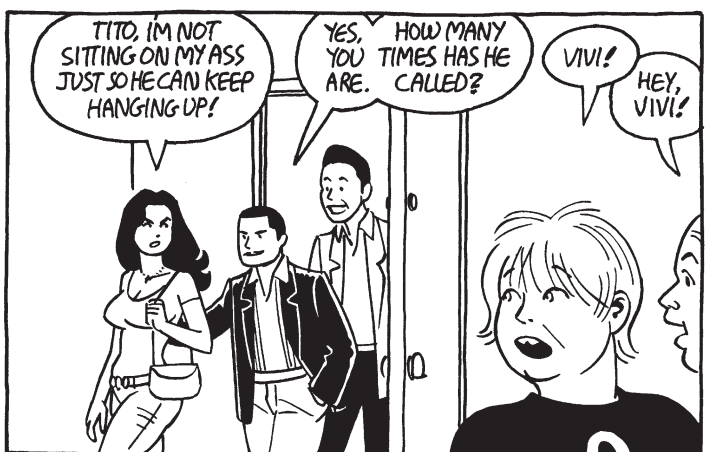
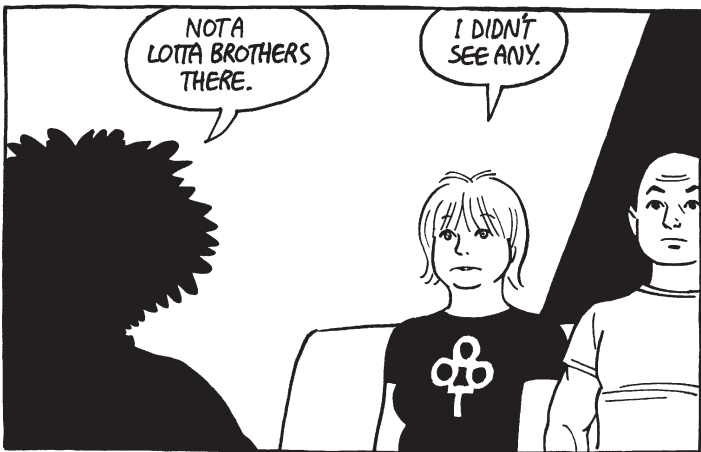
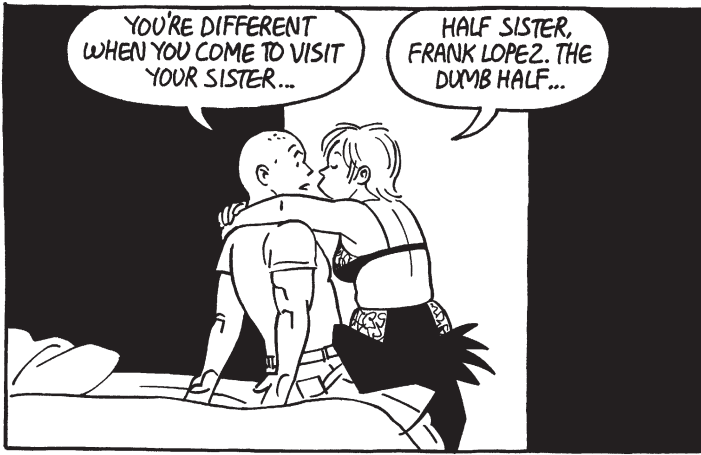


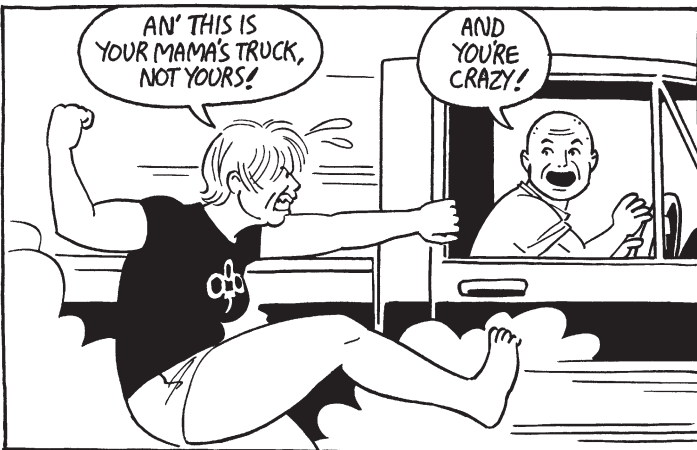
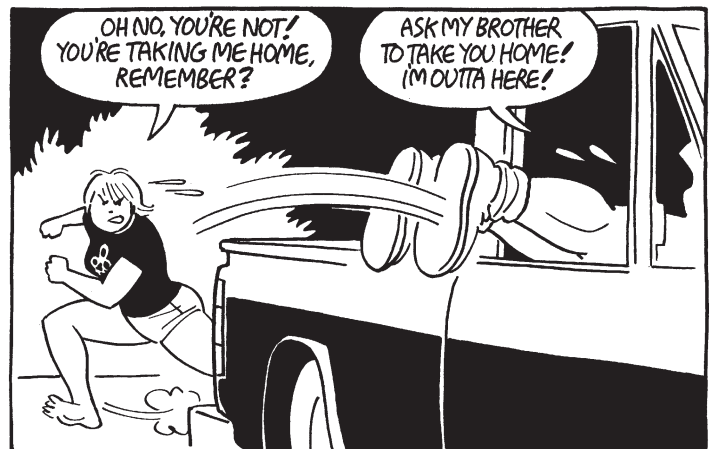
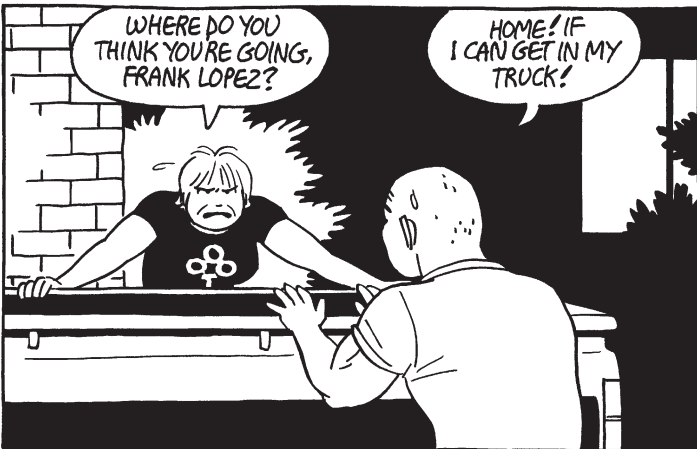
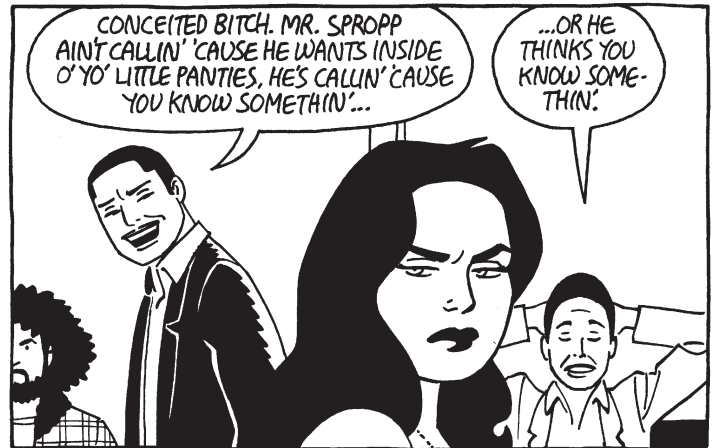
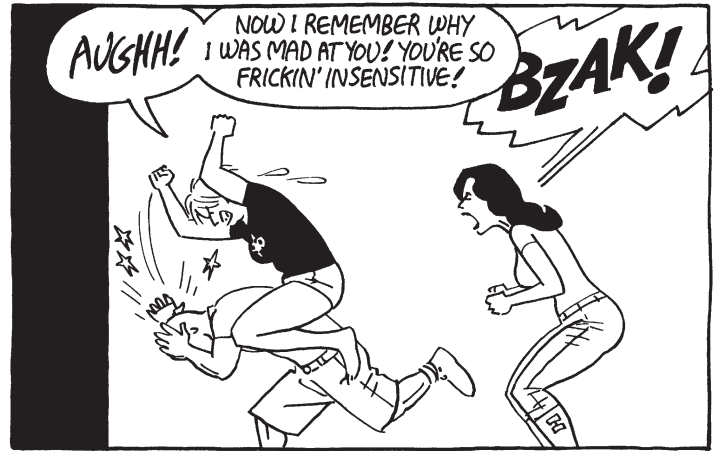
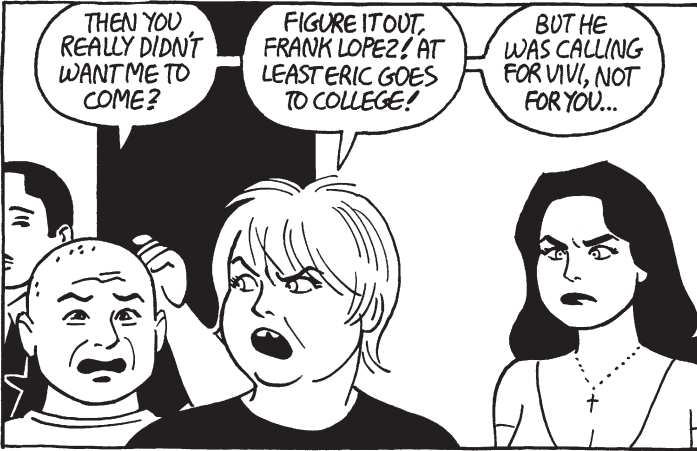


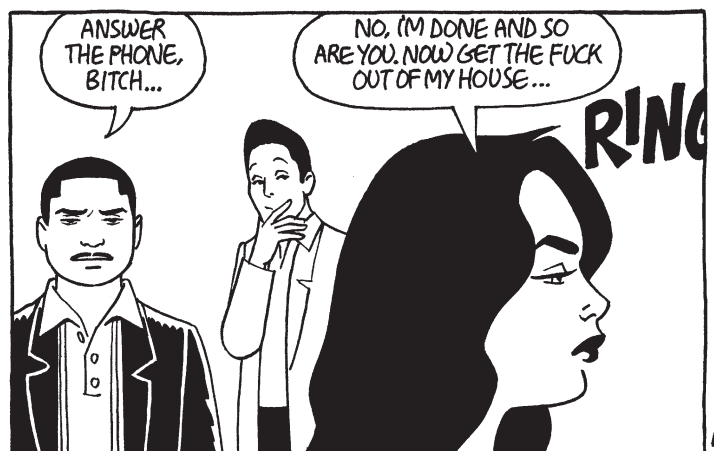
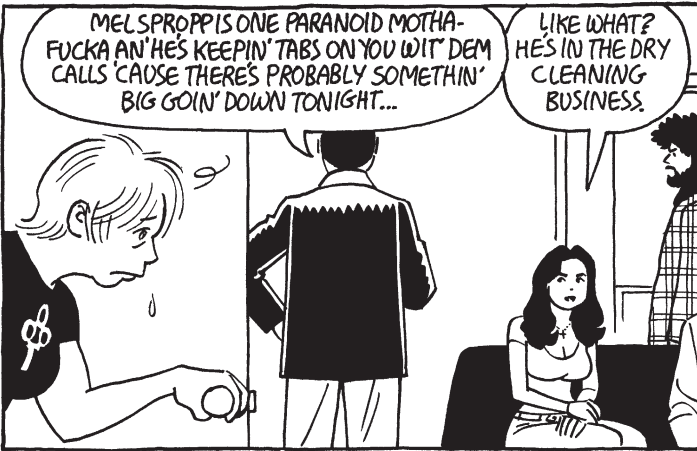


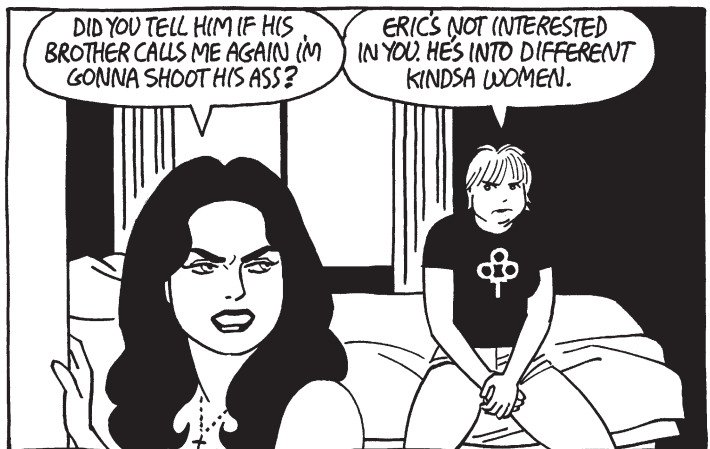
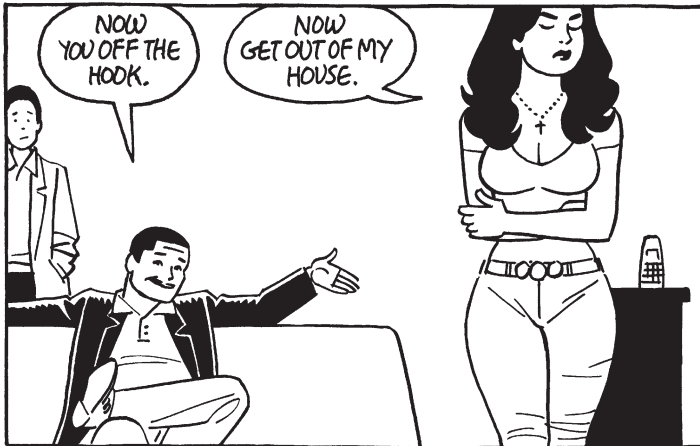


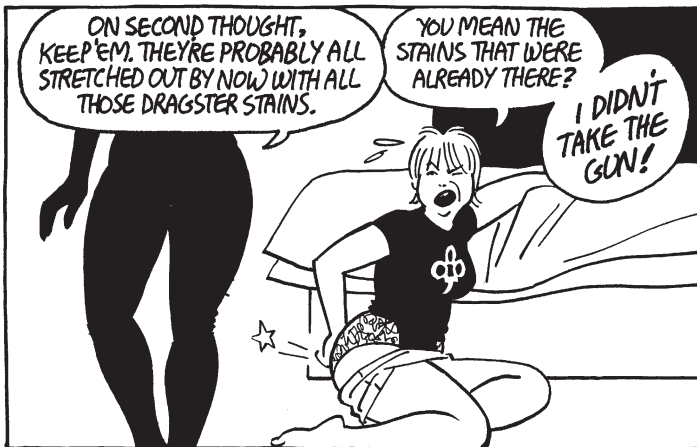
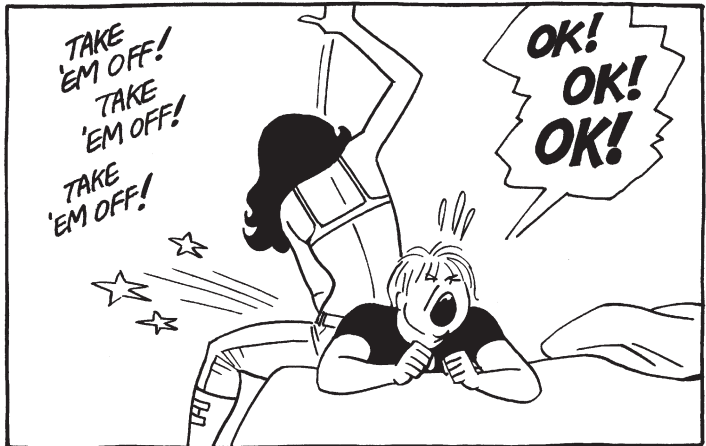
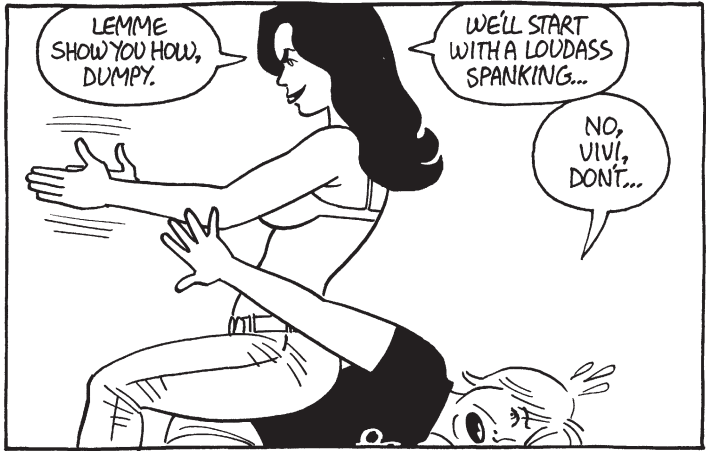


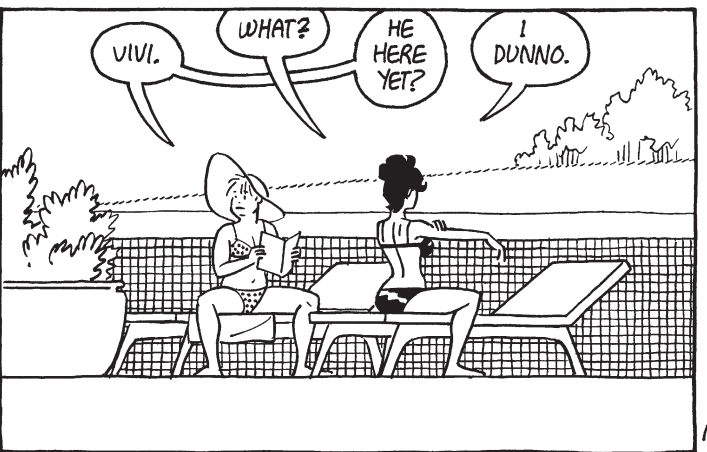
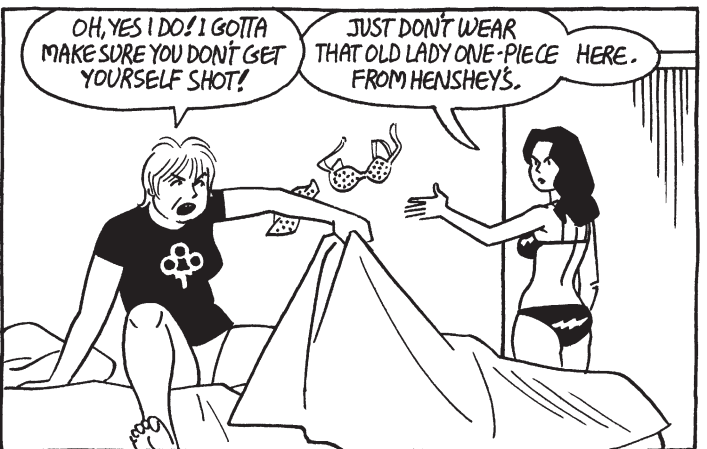
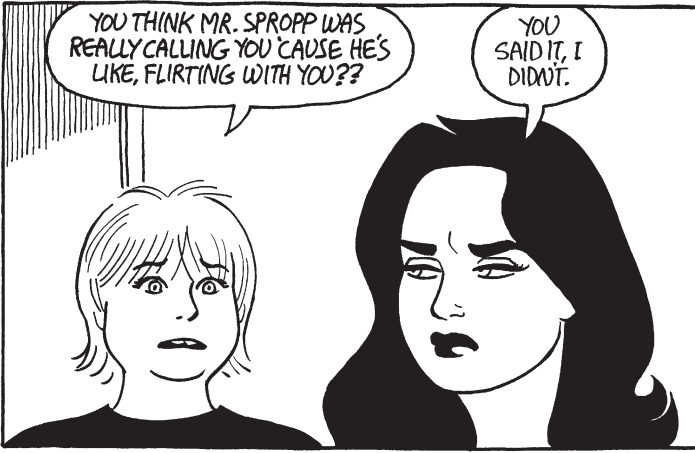


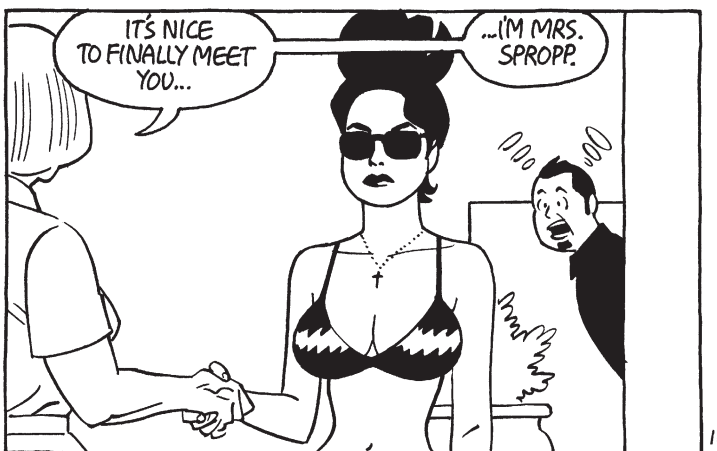
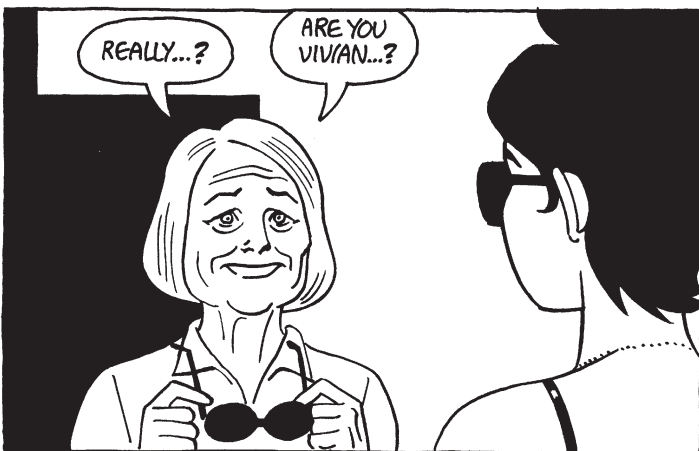
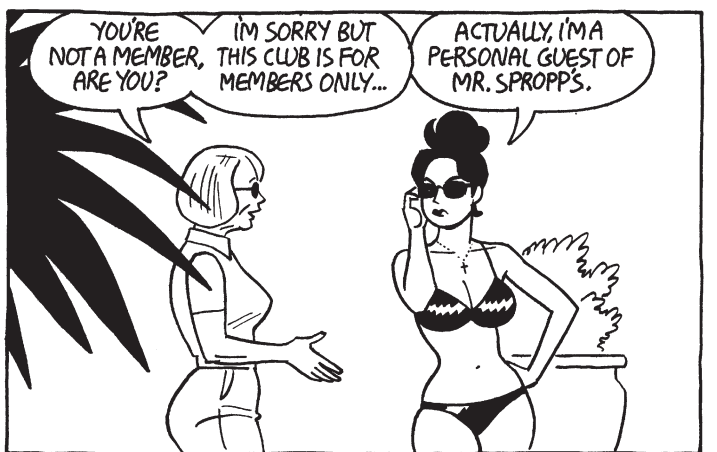
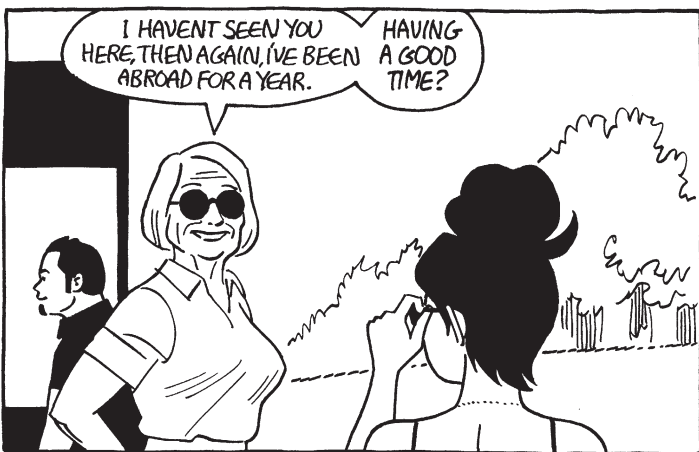
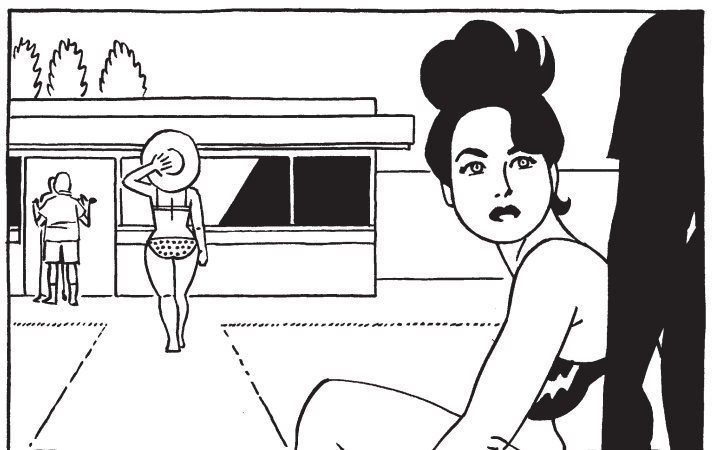
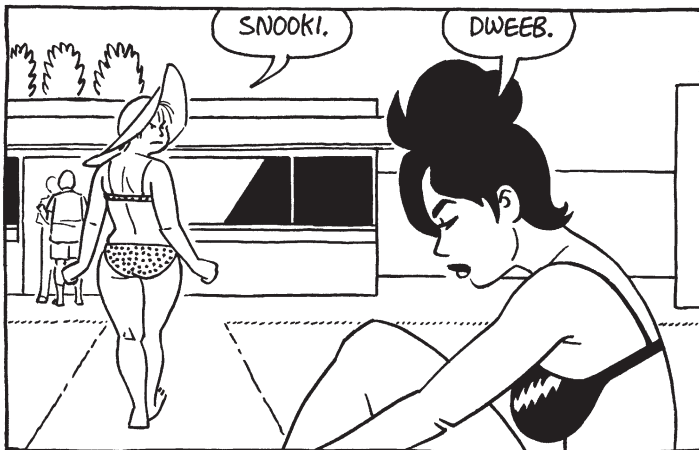
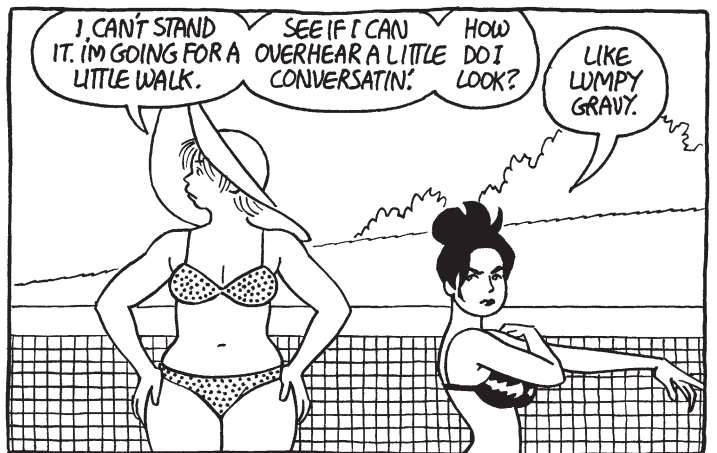
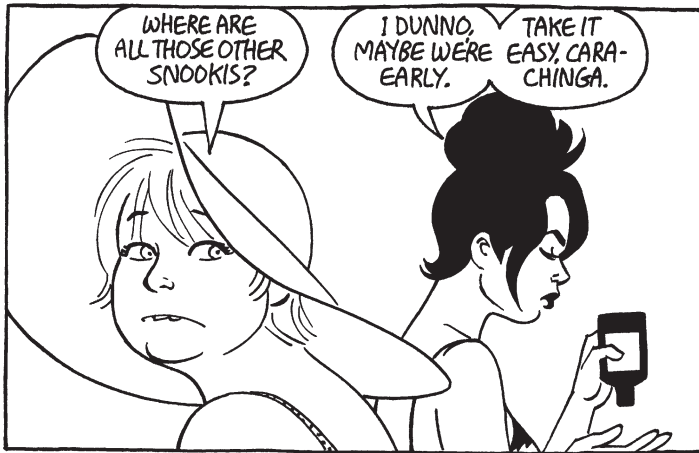


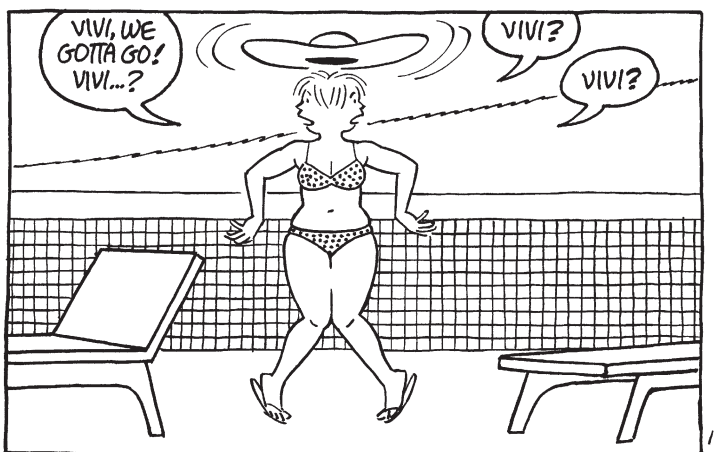
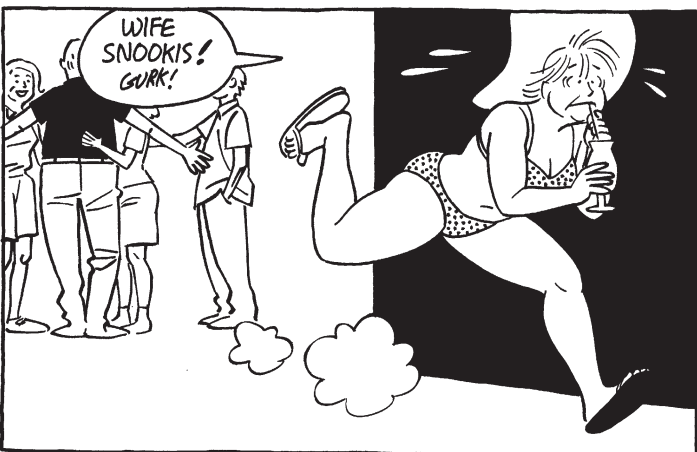
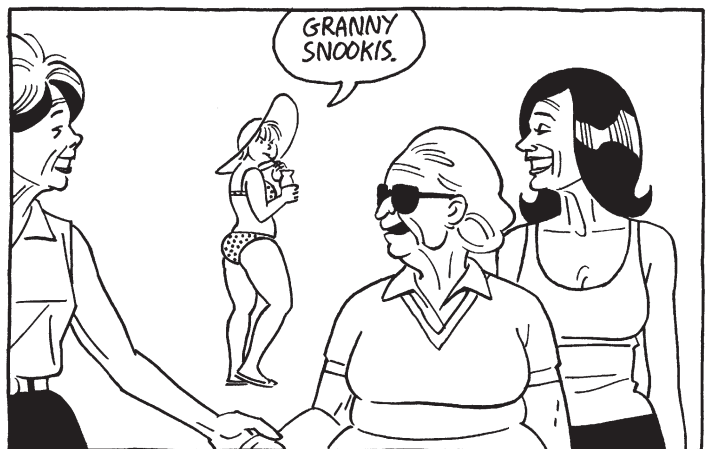
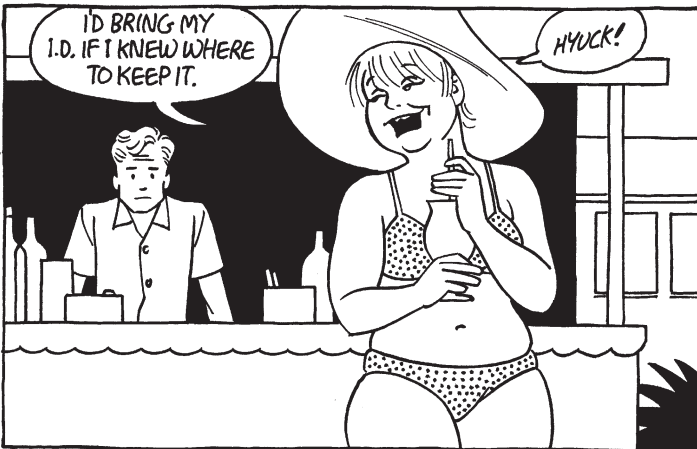
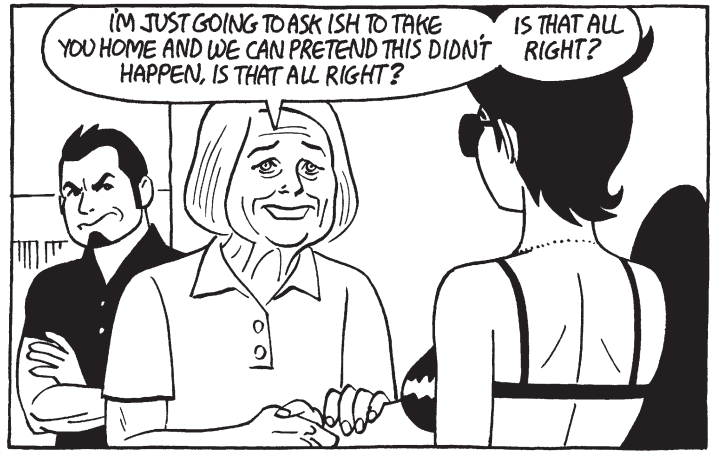
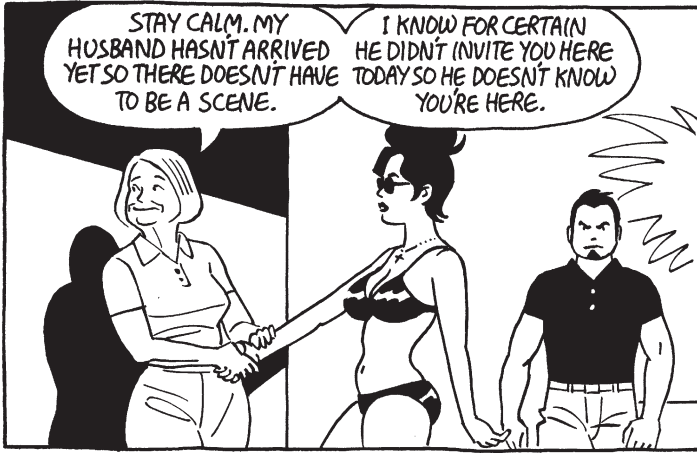


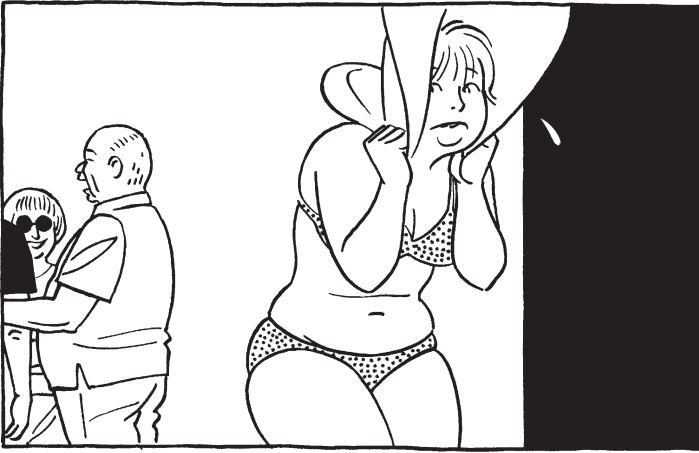


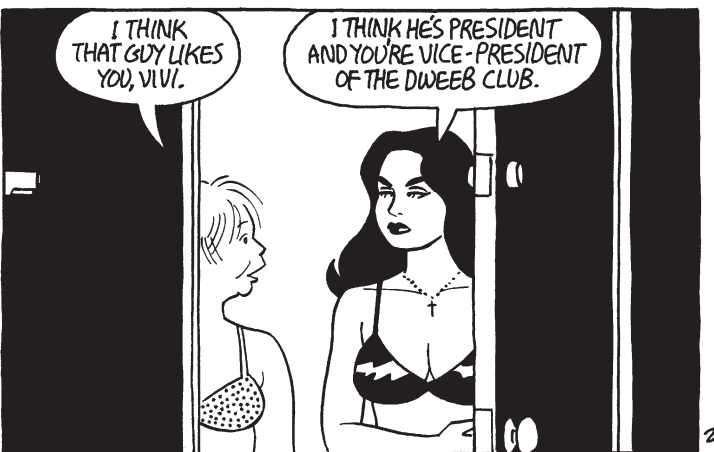
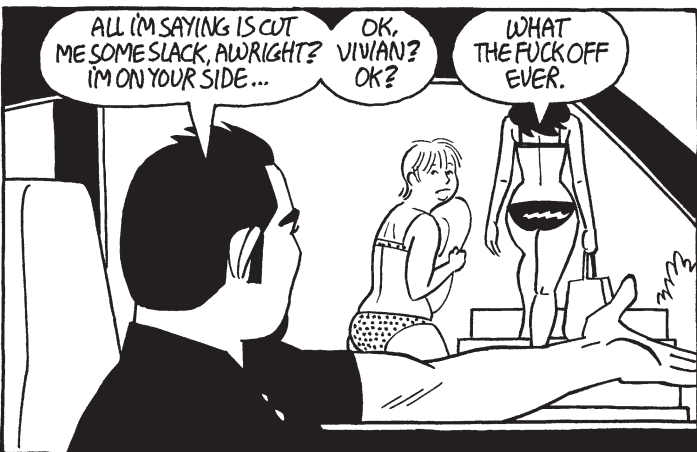


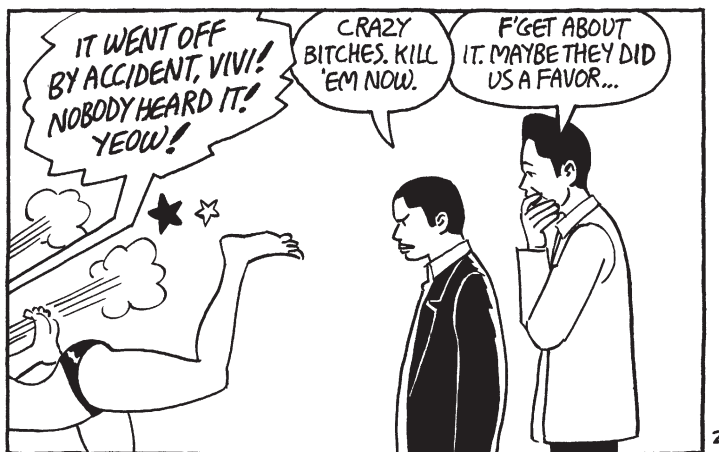
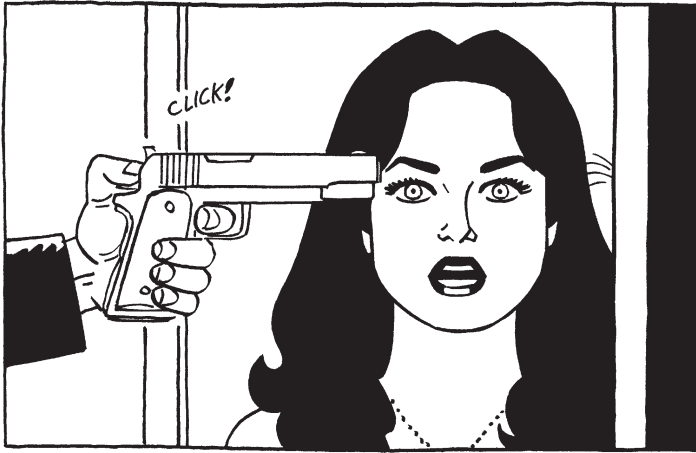


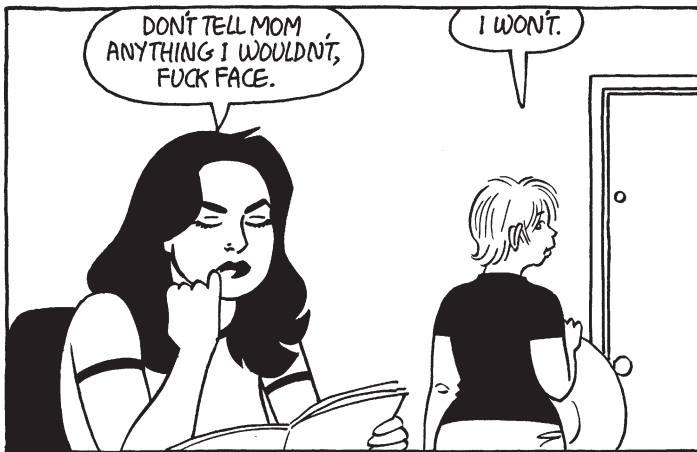
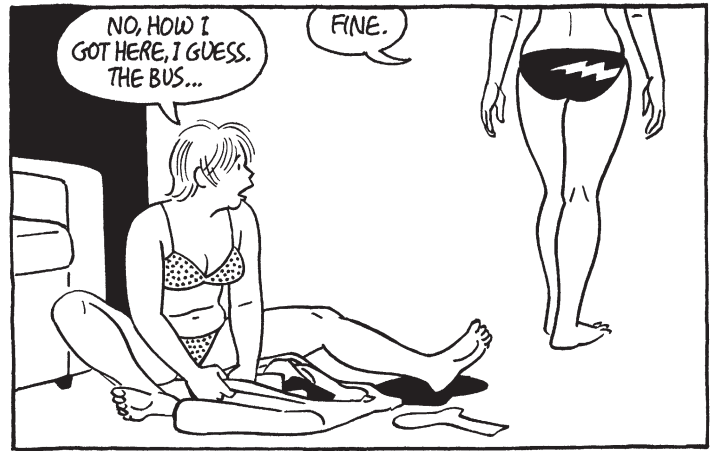
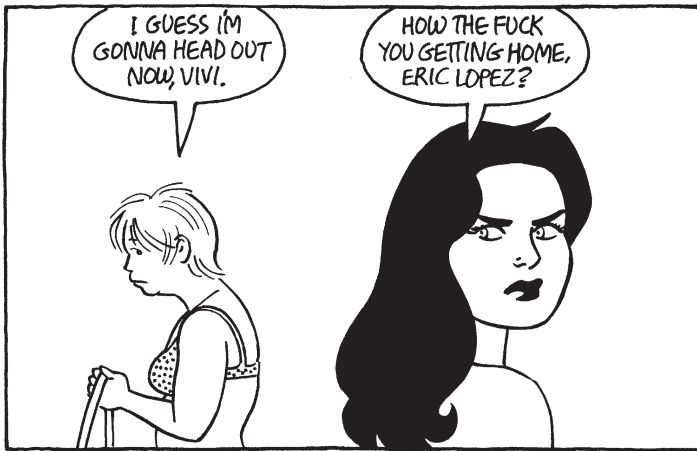
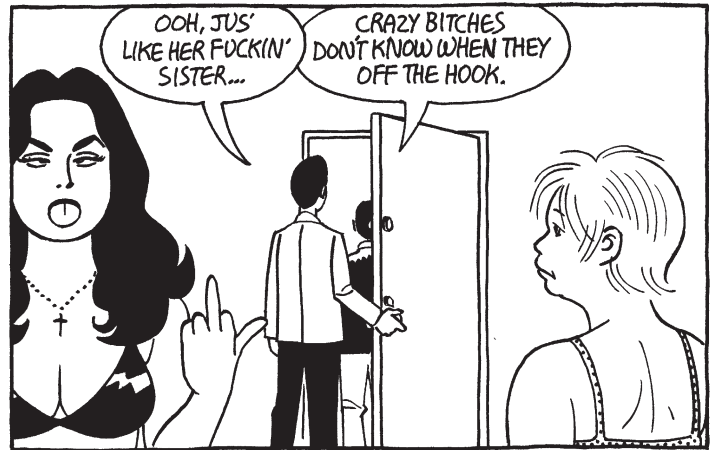
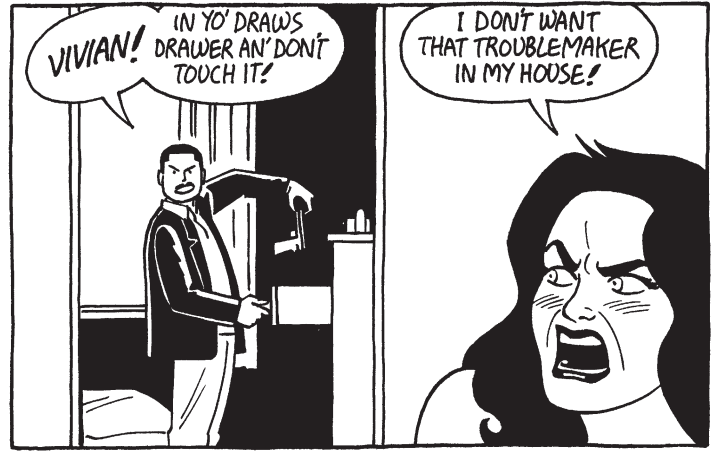
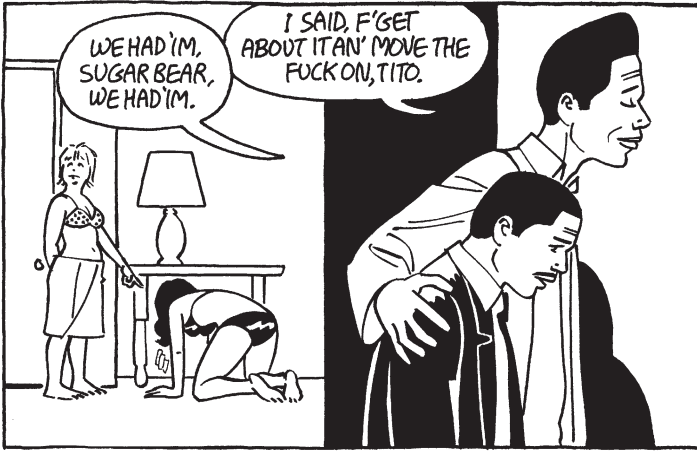


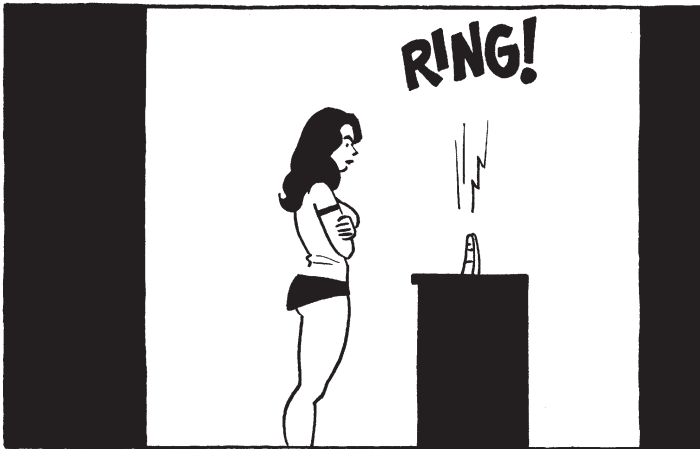
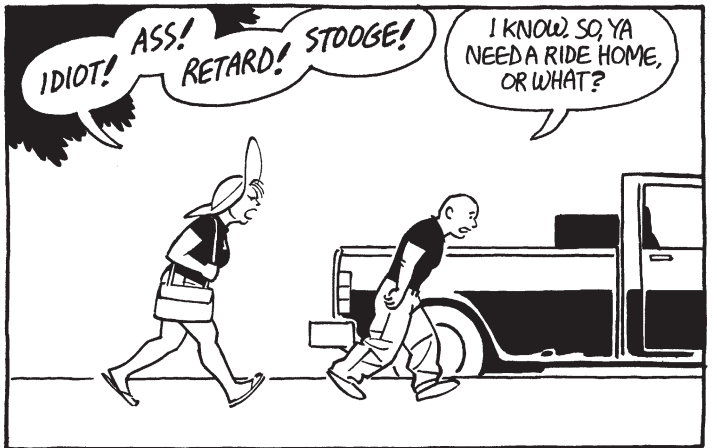
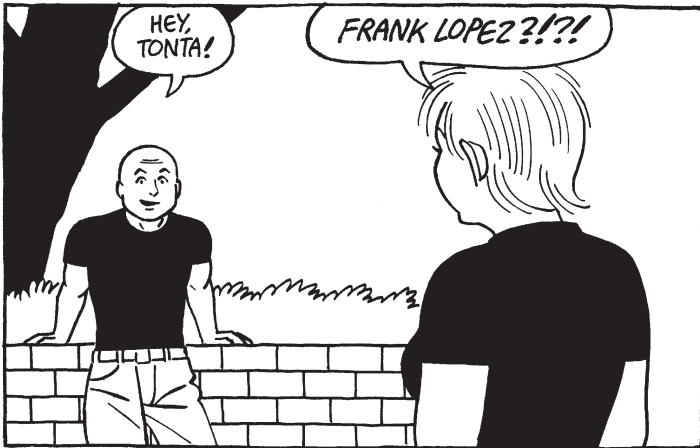
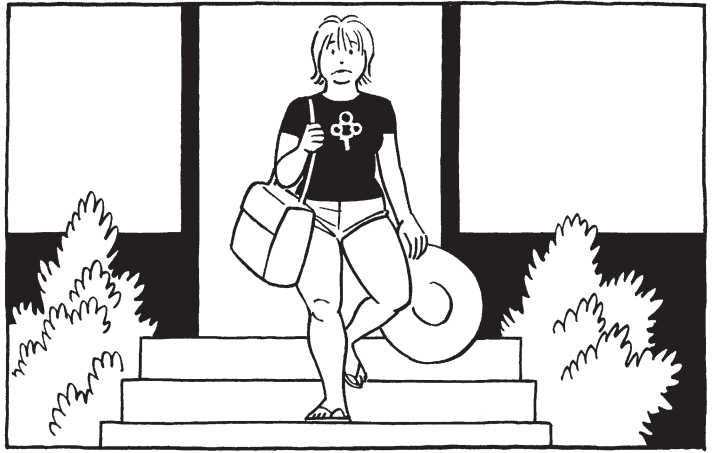
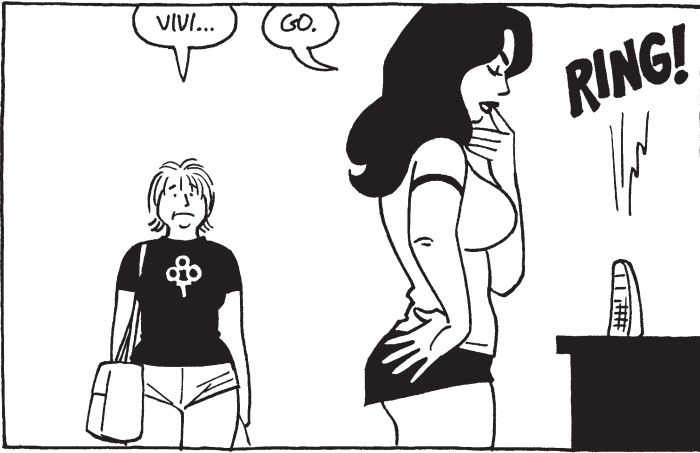


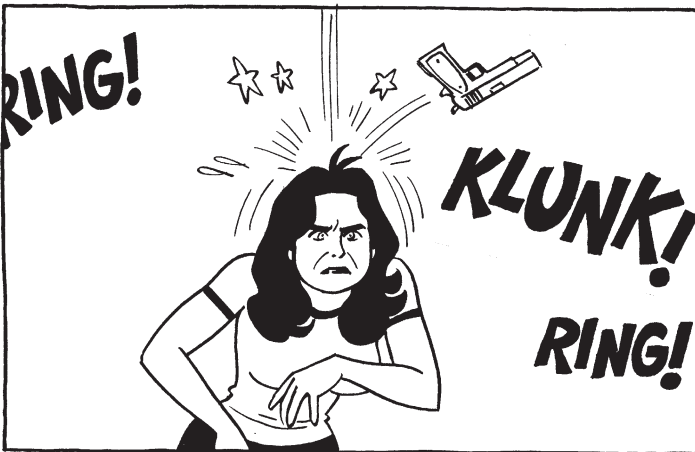
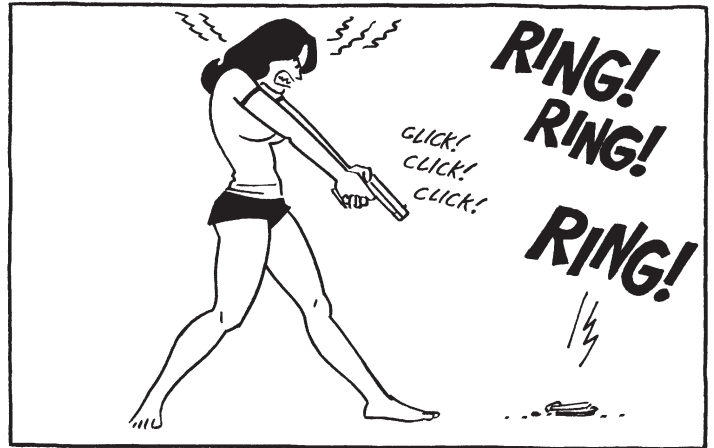
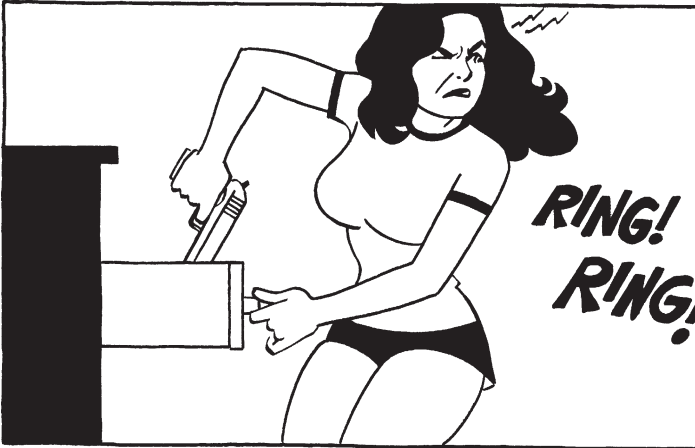
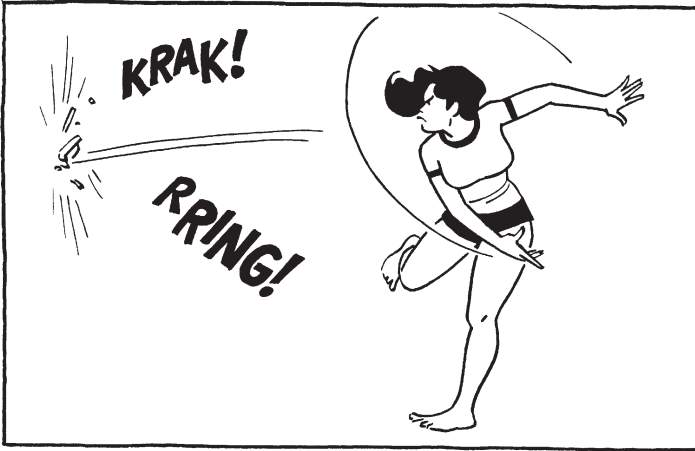












XAIMS  
11/12 24

UH... OH, YEAH...

SO, DOYLE AND I WERE HANGING OUT AT HIS PLACE THE OTHER DAY CATCHING UP ON THINGS, TALKING ABOUT THE WEATHER, OLD TIMES, OLD FRIENDS, OUR FAILING HEALTH, LIKE A COUPLE OF OLD TIMERS, 50 GOING ON 80.

SEEMS LIKE YESTERDAY WHEN I FIRST KNEW HIM, THIRD GRADE. HE WAS ONE OF THOSE TRASHY WHITE KIDS FROM THE NAVY PROJECTS NOT FAR FROM MY TRASHY MEXICAN NEIGHBORHOOD. THE KIND THAT WAS YOUR BEST FRIEND ONE DAY AND A BULLY THE NEXT.

THE CITY TORCHED THOSE FILTHY PROJECTS AND DOYLE MOVED AWAY. I DIDN'T SEE HIM TILL JUNIOR HIGH. HE HUNG AROUND THE MEANEST MOTHERS, THE KIND YOU SAW AT SCHOOL BUT NEVER IN A CLASS. HE DIDN'T ACKNOWLEDGE ME THE WHOLE TWO YEARS.

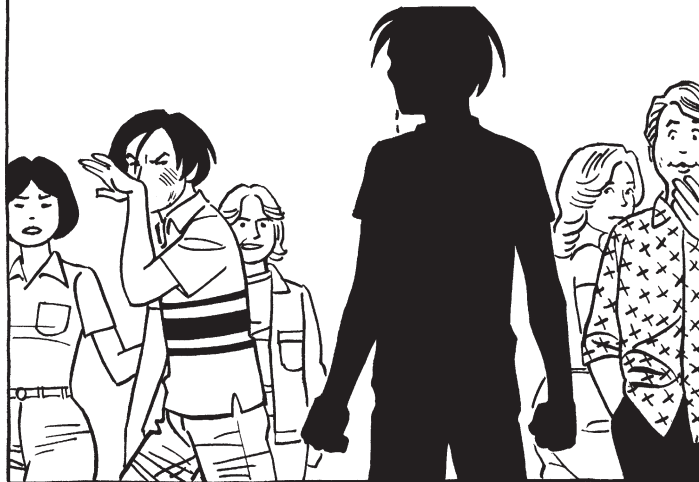
IN HIGH SCHOOL WE HAD AN ART CLASS TOGETHER. ONE DAY, OUT OF THE BLUE, HE REMINDED ME HOW HE WAS ALWAYS AMAZED BY MY DRAWING ABILITY. SOMEHOW THAT PUT ME ON EQUAL GROUND WITH HIM AND WE BECAME GOOD FRIENDS. IN SCHOOL, ANYWAY.

ONE NIGHT IN OUR JUNIOR YEAR ME AND SOME SCHOOL PALS GOT UP THE COURAGE TO GO TO SANDY TRAN'S PARTY. OUT FRONT WE RAN INTO DOYLE AND HIS RATS. THEY LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE OUT LOOKING FOR FIGHTS AND WE HAPPENED TO BE IN THEIR WAY.

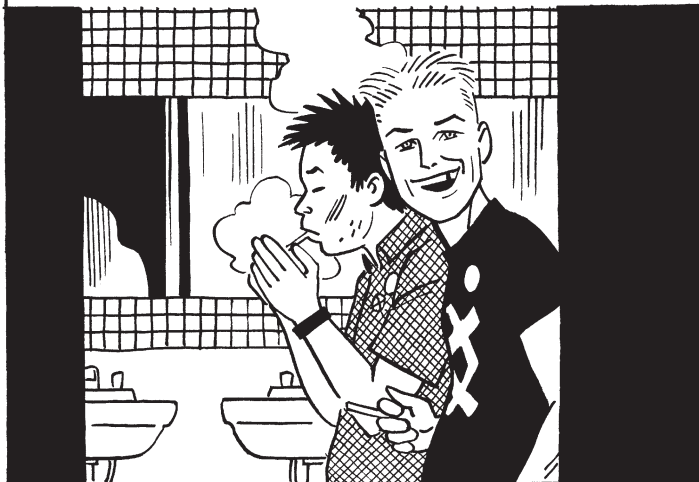
I TRIED TO CHUM UP WITH HIM, BEING HIS SCHOOL BUDDY AND ALL THAT BUT THIS WAS A DIFFERENT DOYLE. HIS EYES BURNED INTO ME, KINDA LIKE HE DIDN'T KNOW ME, KINDA LIKE I SHOULD RESPECT THE RULES OF THE GAME AND PREPARE TO HAVE MY FACE SMASHED IN.



IT'S FUZZY HOW BUT IT ENDED UP ONLY DOYLE AND SANDY'S BROTHER MIKE GOING TOE TO TOE. TO EVERYONE'S SURPRISE MIKE HELD HIS OWN AND DOYLE ENDED UP BLOODIER. HE DIDN'T SHOW UP THE NEXT SCHOOL DAY OR ANY SCHOOL DAY FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR.



THE NEXT TIME I SAW HIM WAS THE FIRST DAY OF SENIOR YEAR. HE WAS HANGING WITH MIKE TRAN OF ALL PEOPLE. THEY GOT INTO THE PUNK THING. HE WAS STILL THE SAME DOYLE I KNEW, BUT IN A LESS THREATENING WAY. HE SEEMED GENUINELY THRILLED TO SEE ME.



EVEN HANGING WITH HIM ALONE WAS DIFFERENT. HE OPENED UP TO ME MORE. HE HAD FRIENDS AND PUSSY COMING OUT OF HIS EARS BUT I GOT THE FEELING I WAS THE ONLY PERSON ON EARTH WHO KNEW THE REAL DOYLE IN THOSE DAYS, OR WAS ALLOWED TO KNOW.



WHOEVER THAT IS... HEH...



SO THE DOOR KNOCKS AND WHO WALKS IN BUT VIV THE FROGMOUTH HERSELF. EVEN THOUGH HER EARLIER CALL WAS A WARNING, I HAD A SICK FEELING WHEN SHE CAME IN, LIKE A TIME BOMB WAS ABOUT TO GO OFF. NATURALLY, SHE ACTED LIKE I WASN'T THERE.



SHE GOES STRAIGHT INTO THIS TIRADE ABOUT HOW SHE'S IN TROUBLE AND SOME CREEP IS STALKING HER ON THE PHONE, YATATA, YATATA. I WASN'T SURPRISED TO HEAR IT. YEARS LATER SHE STILL LOOKED LIKE DYNAMITE SO I FIGURED HER LIFE MUST STILL HAVE DYNAMITE IN IT.



DOYLE SHUT HER UP PRETTY QUICK AND PUT HER IN THE KITCHEN AND MADE A FEW PHONE CALLS. BETWEEN THE CALLS AND DOYLE AND VIU'S YACKING, I GOT THE IDEA THAT SHE JUST MOVED BACK FROM SOMEWHERE BECAUSE OF SOME LOVE TRIANGLE DISASTER OR SOMETHING.



THEN SOME GUYS I REMEMBER FROM DOYLE AND VIU'S WORLD DROP BY BUT THERE'S ONE MISSING. RENO BANKS USED TO BE PART OF THIS TRIO. WAS HE PART OF THE DISASTROUS LOVE TRIANGLE? AH, WHO CARES? MAGGIE ALWAYS LIKED HIM BUT HE WAS ALWAYS A DICK TO ME.



AS I'M SIZING UP THESE GUYS I FAIL TO NOTICE VIU IS GIVING ME A MAJOR DOSE OF STINKEYE, FAR DEADLIER THAN DOYLE'S AT SANDY TRAN'S PARTY THAT ONE NIGHT. I WANTED TO DO SOMETHING NASTY WITH HER RIGHT THERE BUT SHE SHORTLY LEFT WITH THE GUYS.

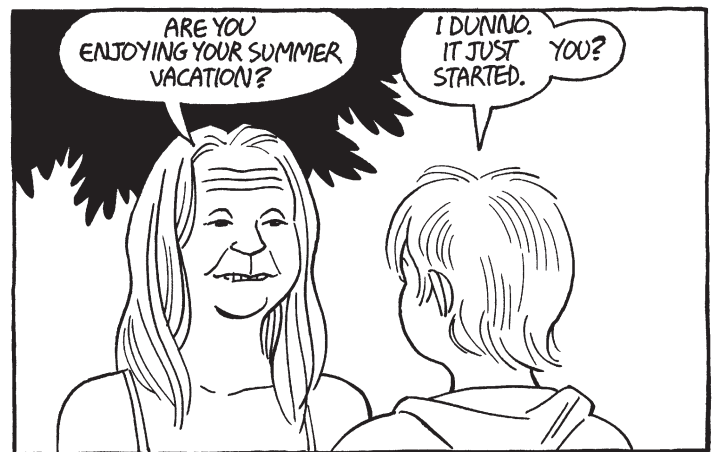
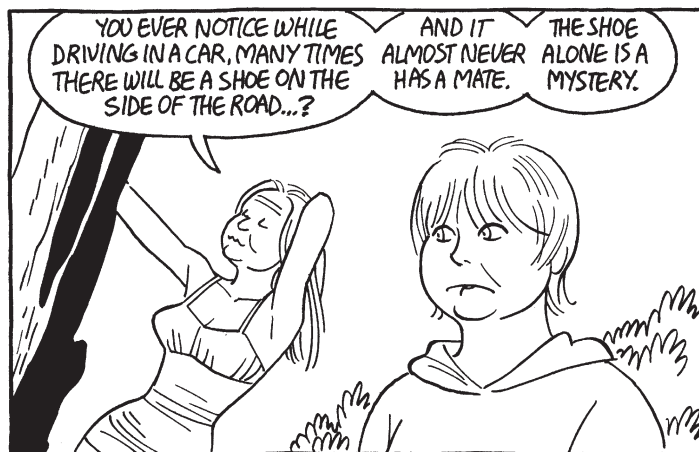
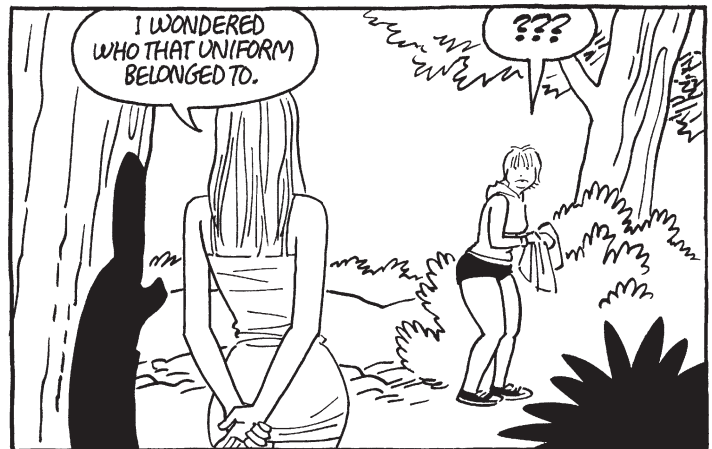
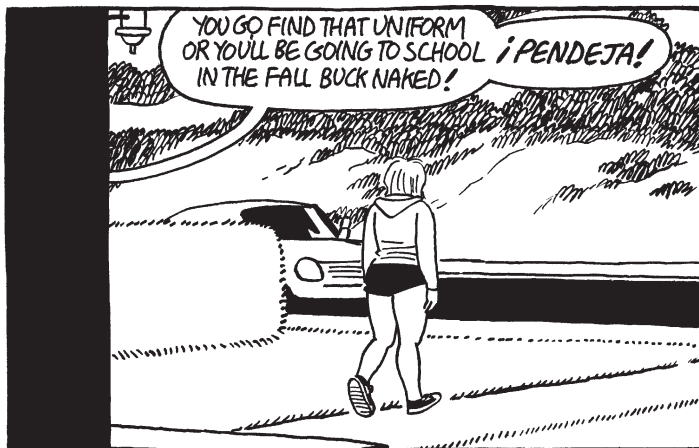


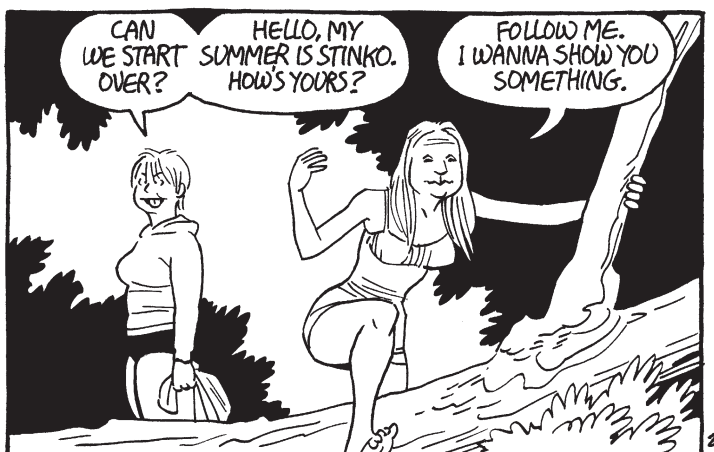
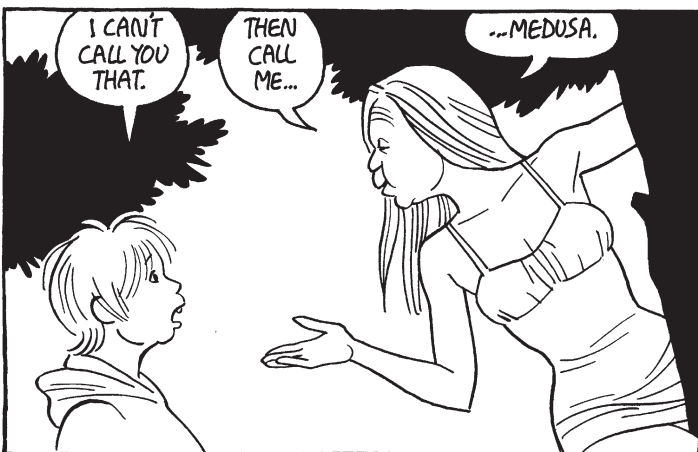
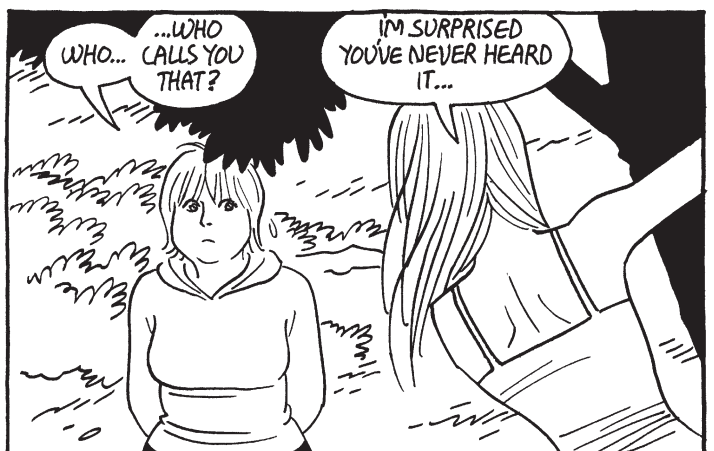
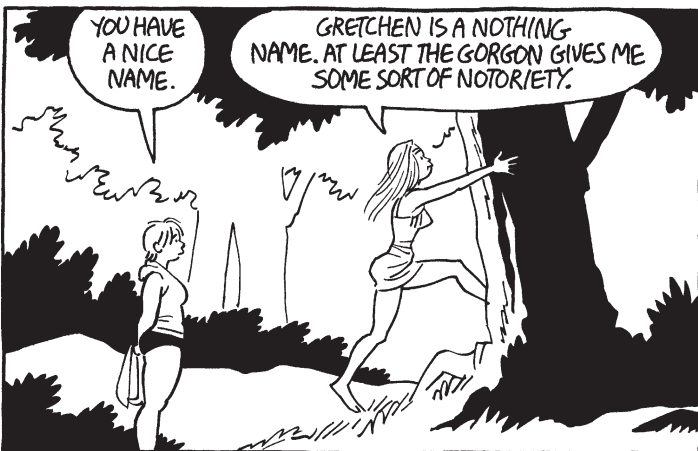
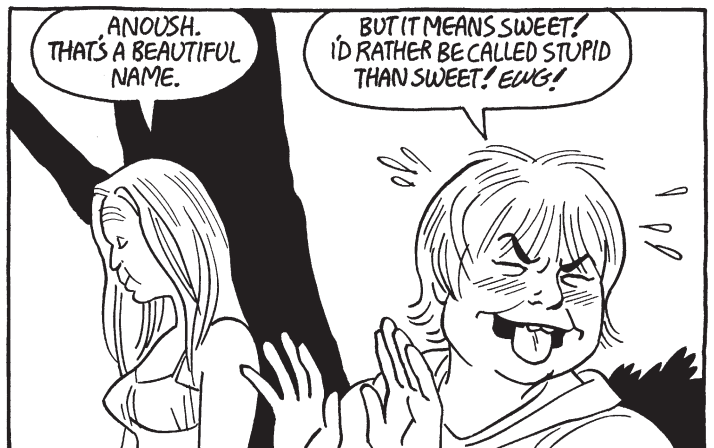
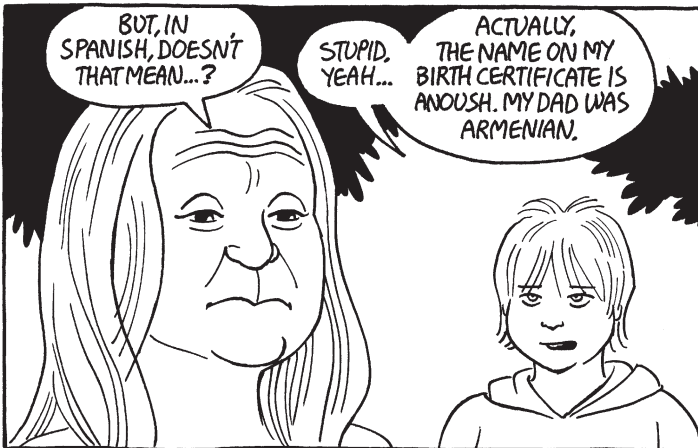
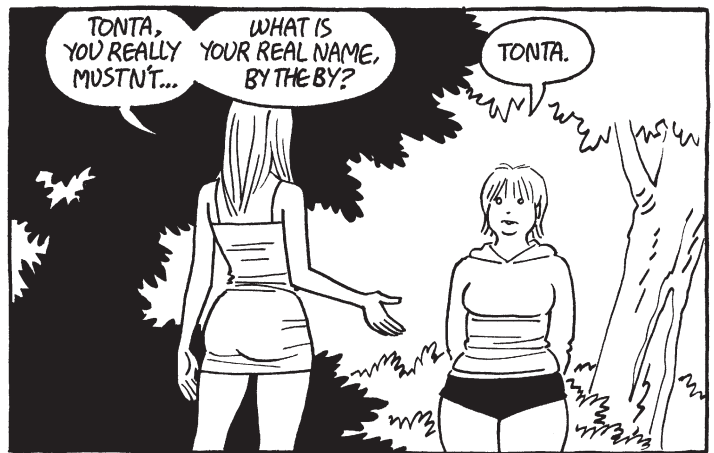
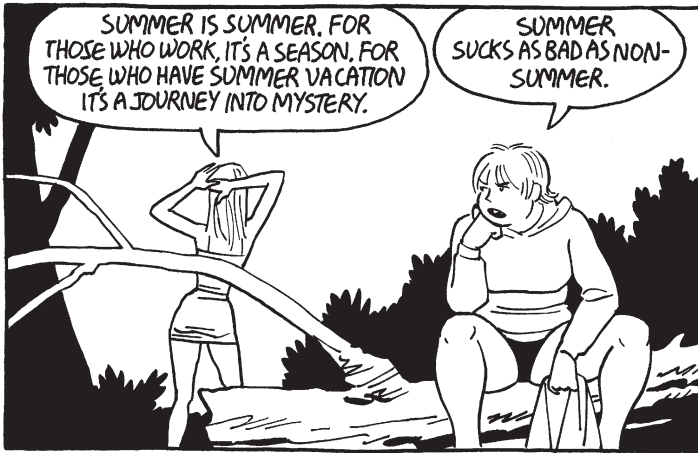
YEAH... LIKE I WAS GONNA... UH... YEAH...

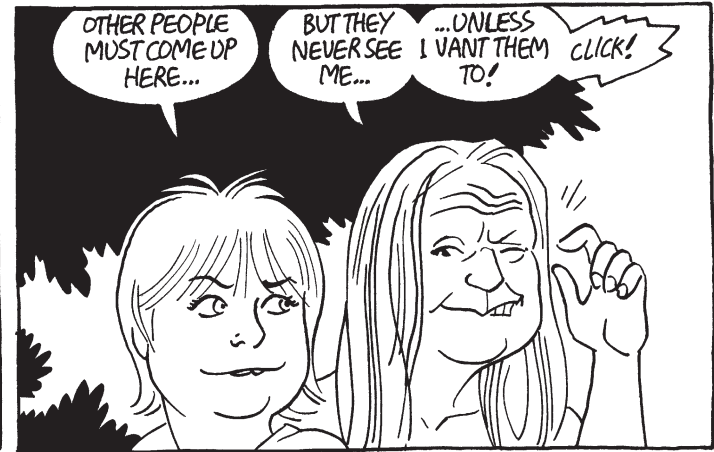
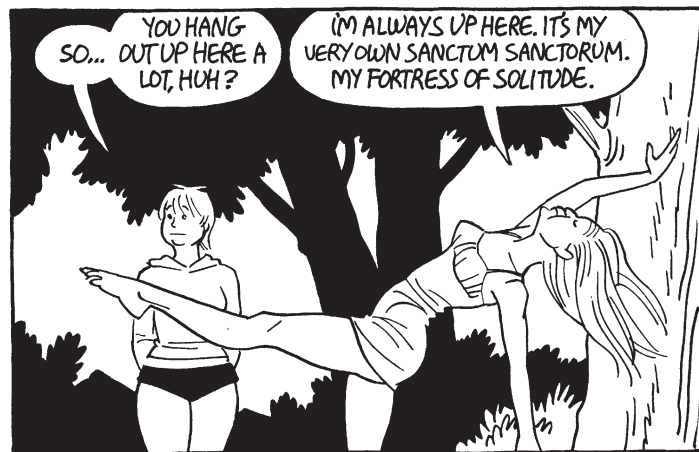
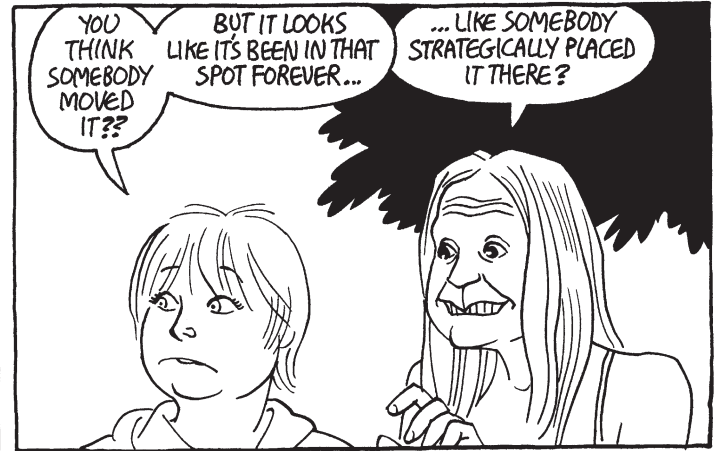
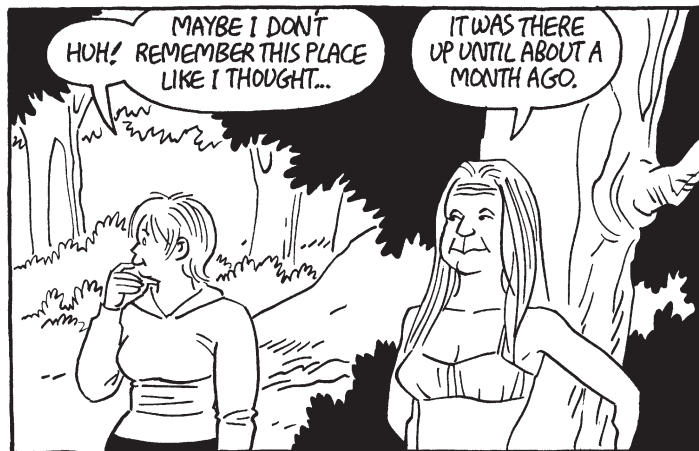
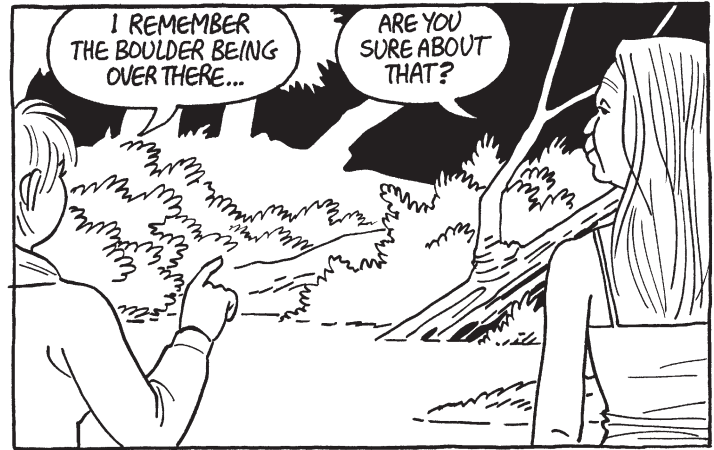
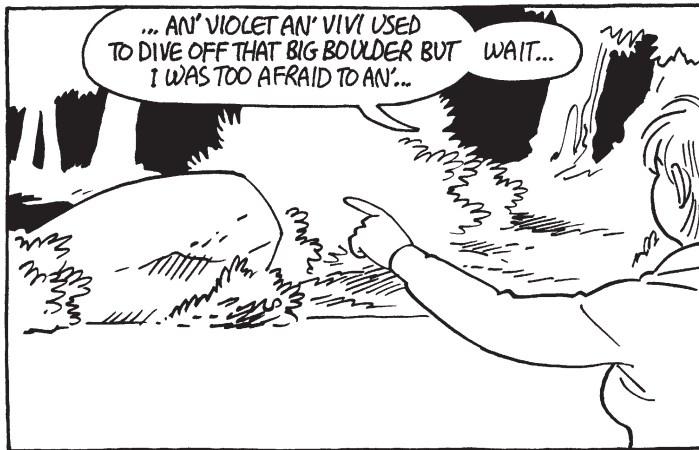
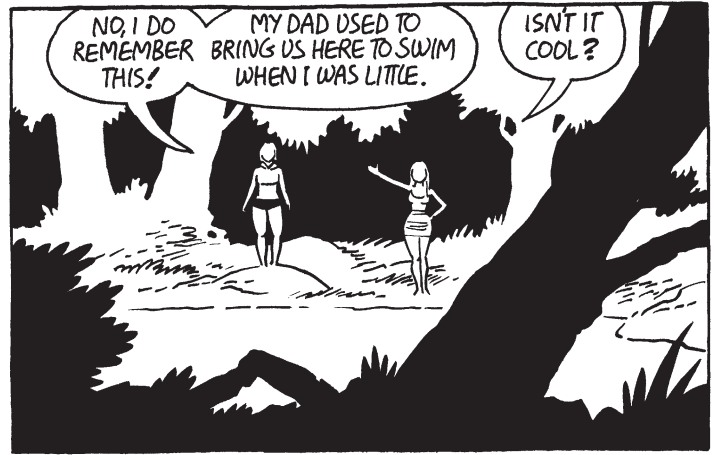


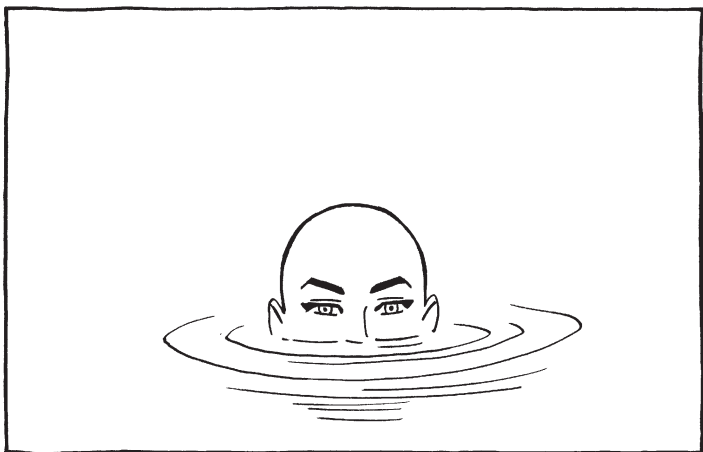
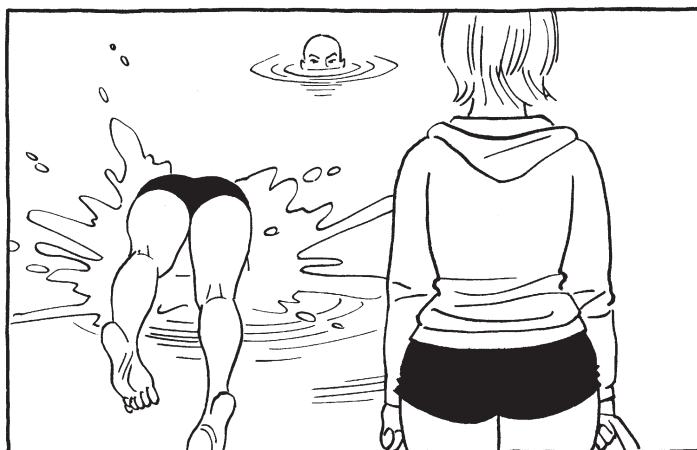
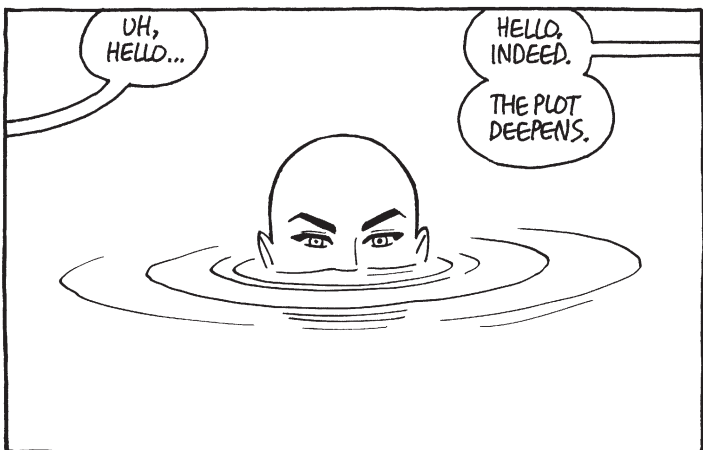
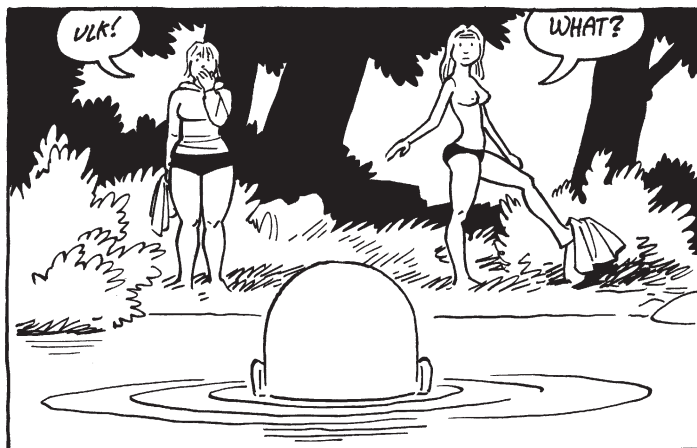
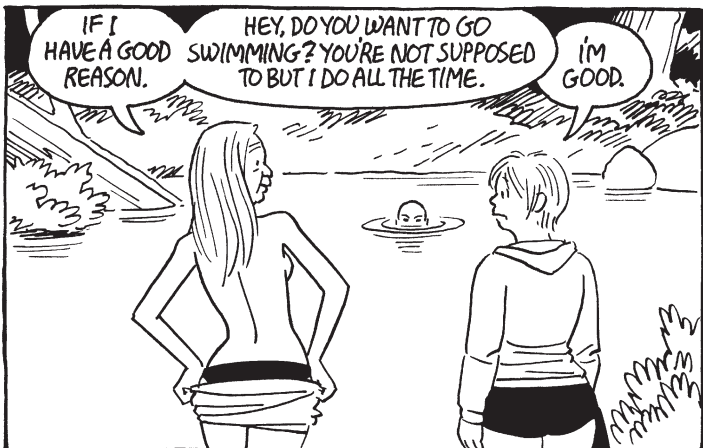
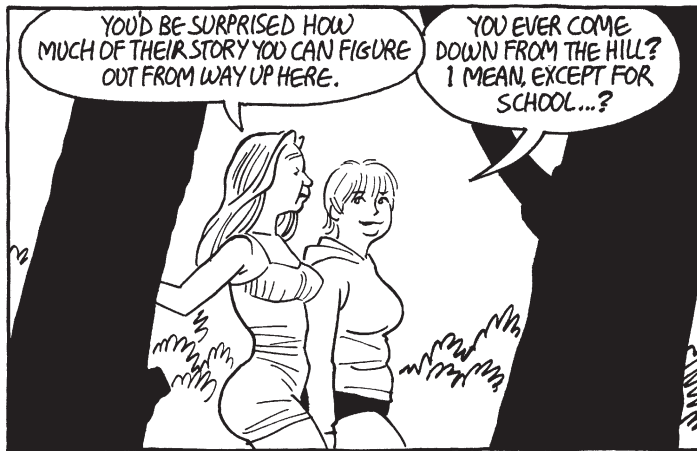
SO, MAGGIE COMES TO PICK ME UP LIKE THE MOTHER HEN SHE IS. WE ARGUE ABOUT RENO BANKS ON THE WAY HOME LIKE WE OFTEN DO. "BUT HE WAS ALWAYS SO NICE" SHE MODESTLY PLEADS. "GUYS TREAT GIRLS DIFFERENTLY THAN THEY TREAT GUYS" I UGLYLY REPLY.

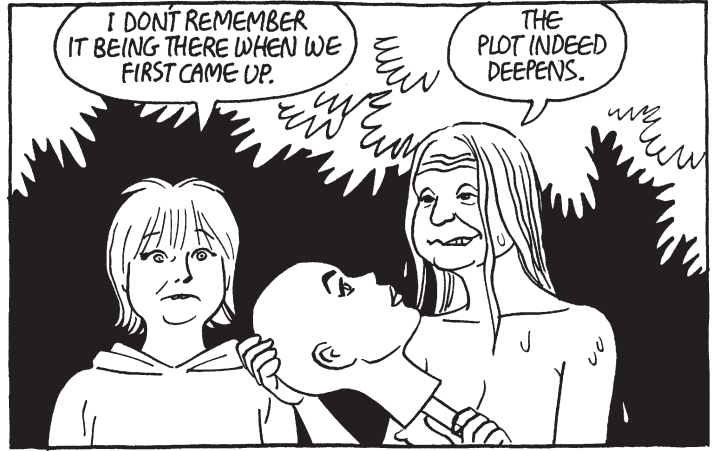
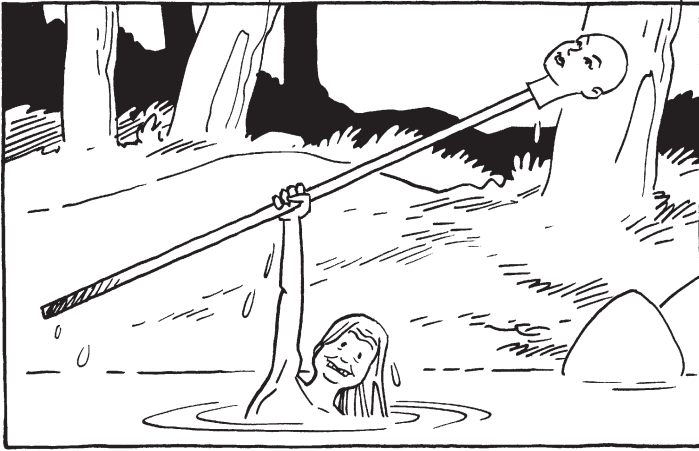






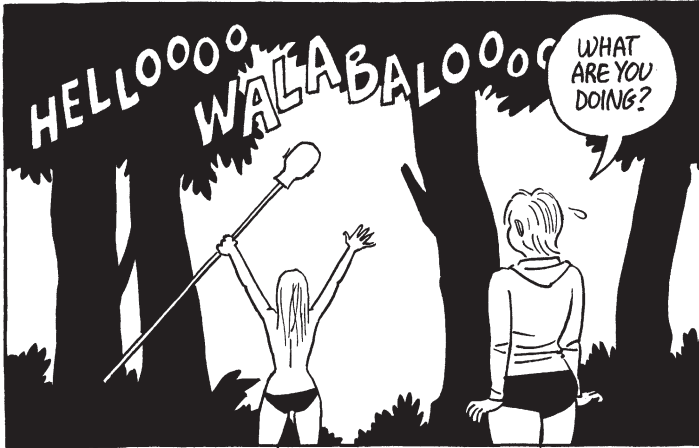






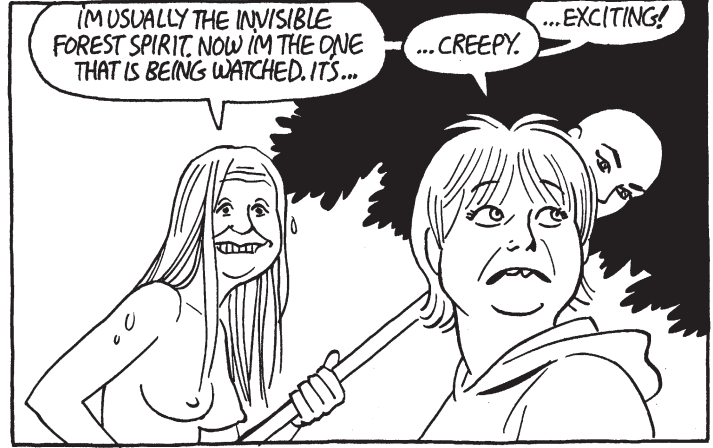
I DON'T REMEMBER IT BEING THERE WHEN WE FIRST CAME UP.

THE PLOT INDEED DEEPENS.



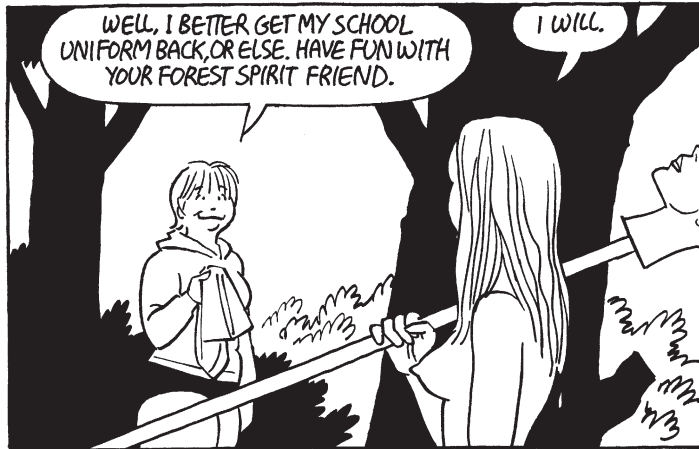
HELLOOOO WALABALOOOO

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



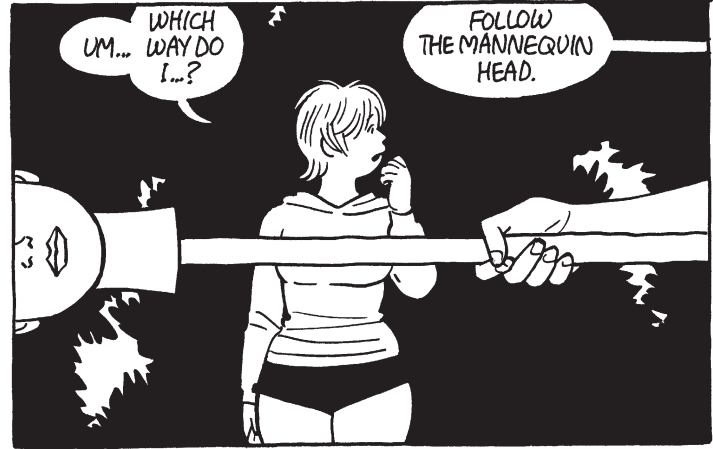
I'M USUALLY THE INVISIBLE FOREST SPIRIT, NOW I'M THE ONE THAT IS BEING WATCHED. IT'S...

...EXCITING! ...CREEPY.



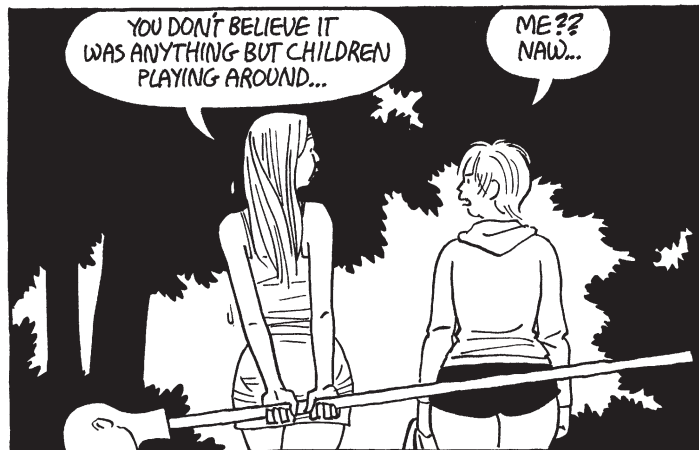
WELL, I BETTER GET MY SCHOOL UNIFORM BACK, OR ELSE. HAVE FUN WITH YOUR FOREST SPIRIT FRIEND.

I WILL.



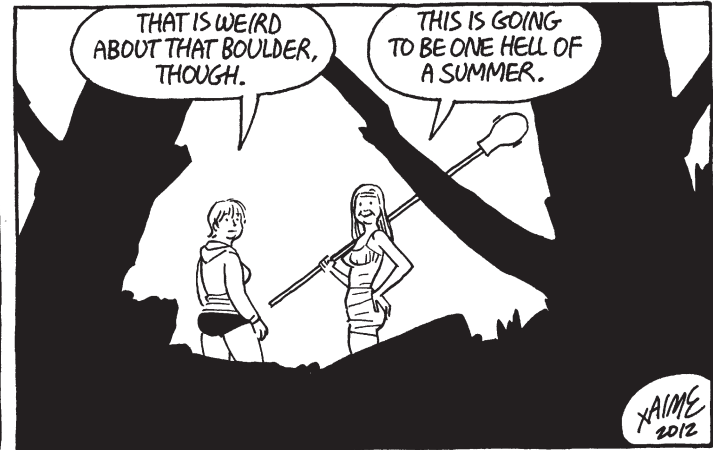
UM... WHICH WAY DO I...?

FOLLOW THE MANNEQUIN HEAD.



YOU DON'T BELIEVE IT WAS ANYTHING BUT CHILDREN PLAYING AROUND...

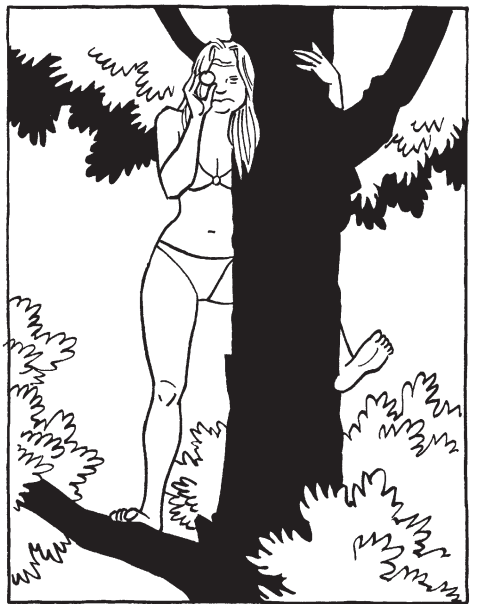
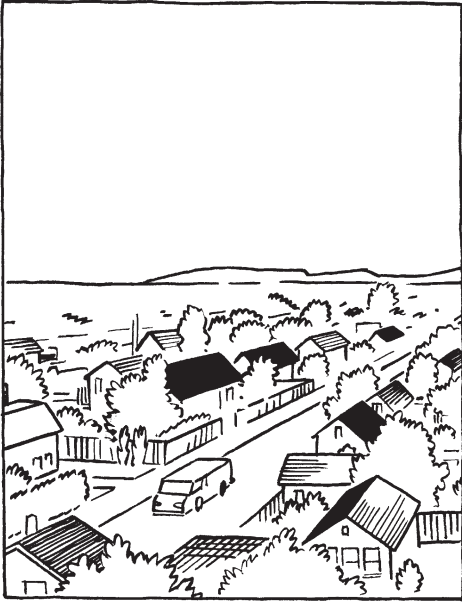
ME?? NAW...



THAT IS WEIRD ABOUT THAT BOULDER, THOUGH.

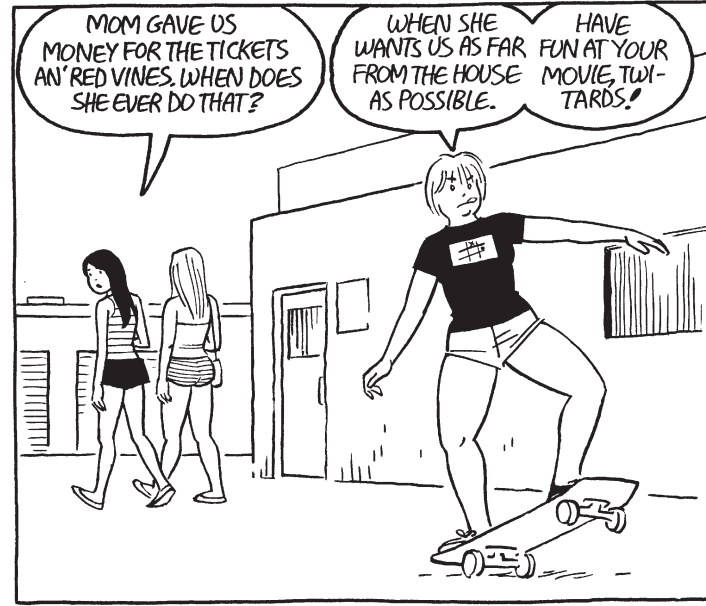
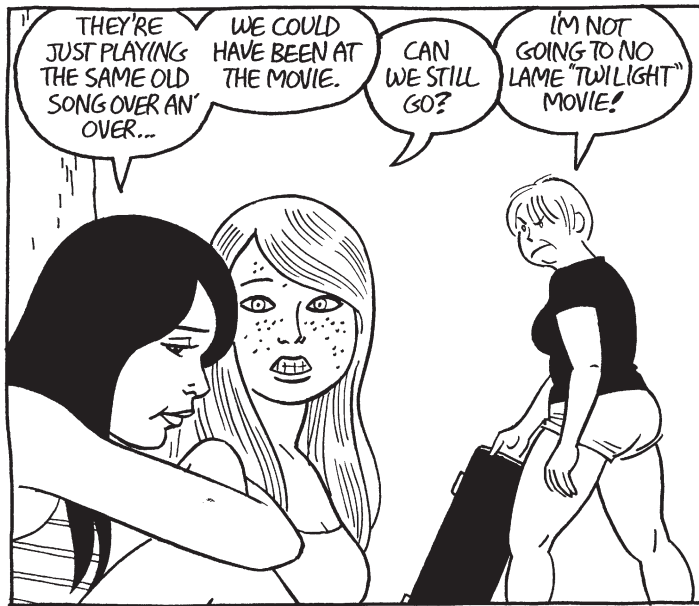
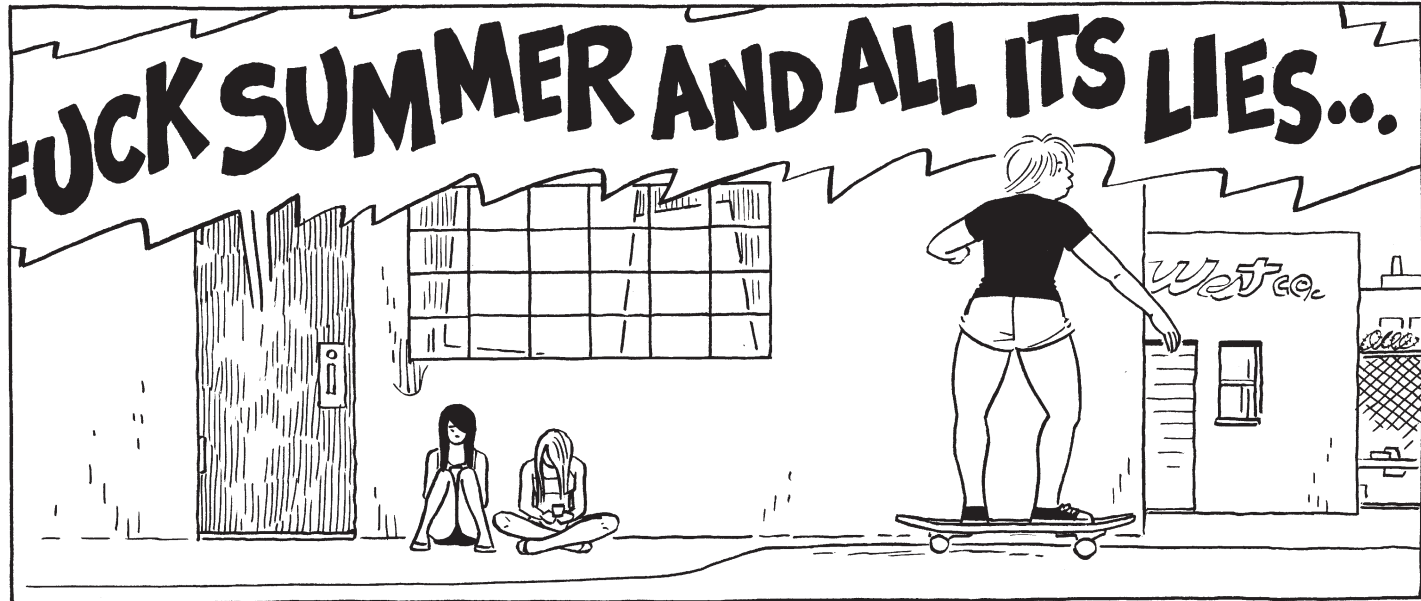
THIS IS GOING TO BE ONE HELL OF A SUMMER.

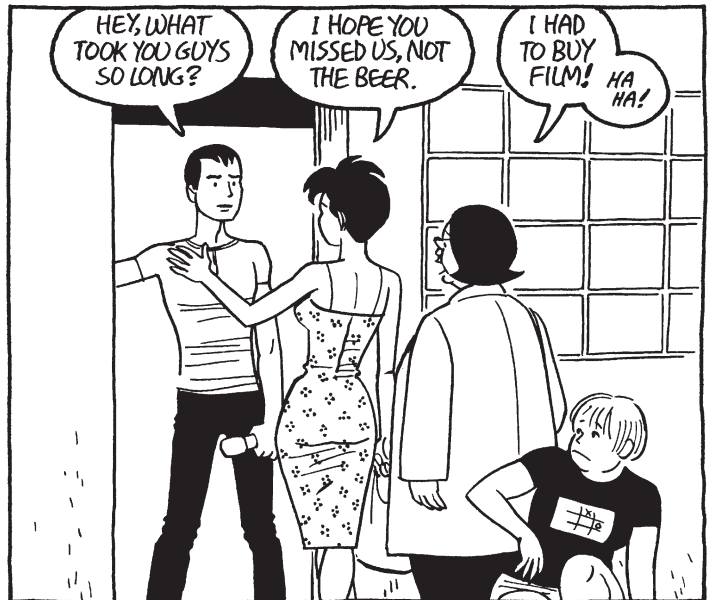
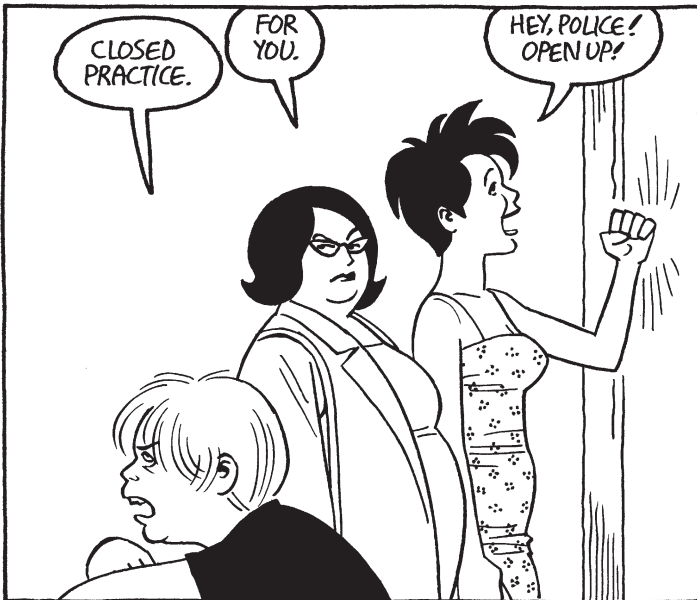
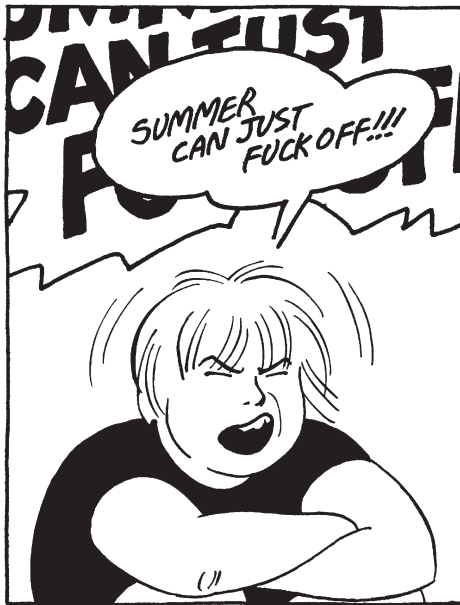
XAIME 2012 5.



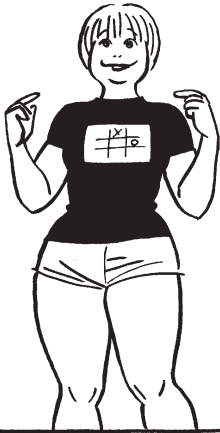
--FUCK--  
SUMMER

XNIME 13

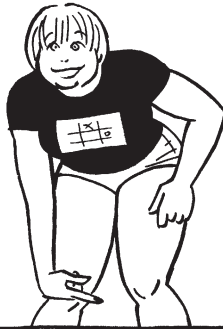




YEAH, IT TOTALLY BITES. AT SCHOOL WE GOTTA WEAR THIS UNIFORM...



IT'S LIKE, THIS POLO SHIRT AND THIS SKIRT AND THE SKIRTS ARE LIKE, DOWN TO HERE LIKE, SOMEBODY'S GRANDMA MADE 'EM, SO EVERYBODY OF COURSE LIKE, HEMS 'EM...



SOME, LIKE MINE ARE UP TO HERE BUT SOME GIRLS HEM 'EM WAY UP TO HERE LIKE A CHEERLEADER AND YOU CAN SEE THEIR BUTT-CHEEKS SOMETIMES, Y'KNOW...



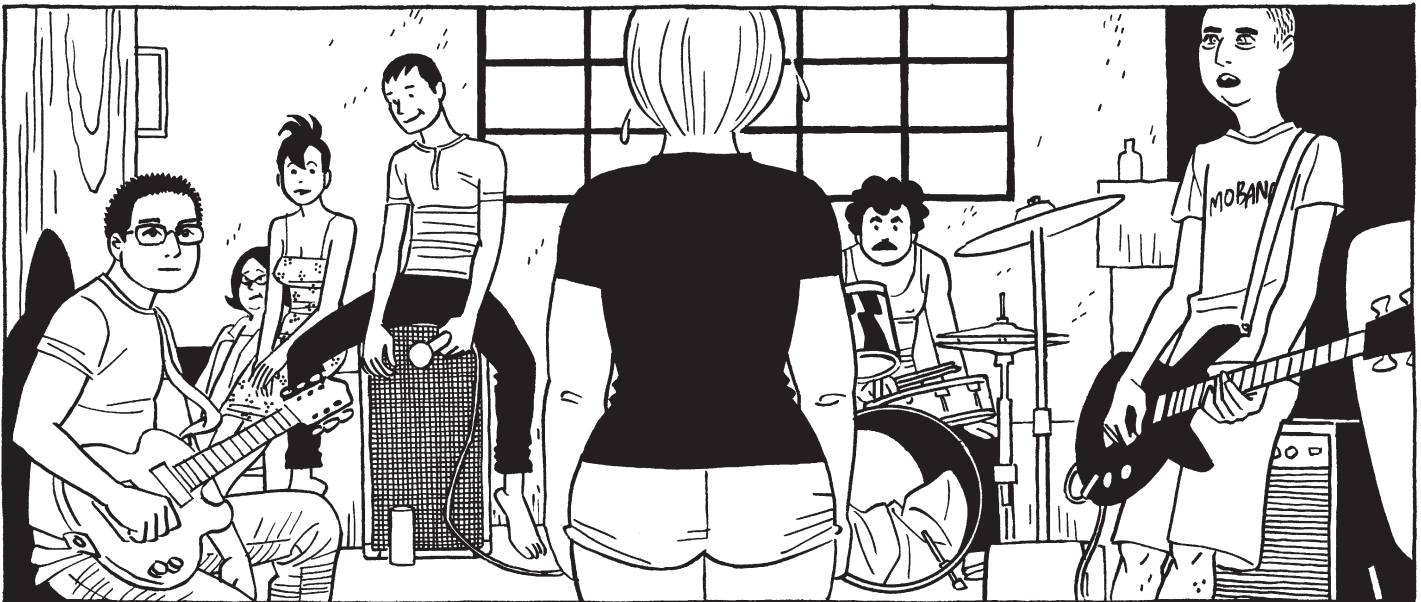
BUT THEN MOST GIRLS WEAR SHORTS UNDERNEATH. I THINK THERE'S ONLY ONE GIRL IN MY WHOLE SCHOOL THAT DOESN'T HEM HER SKIRT, BUT SHE'S JUST WEIRD ANYWAY...

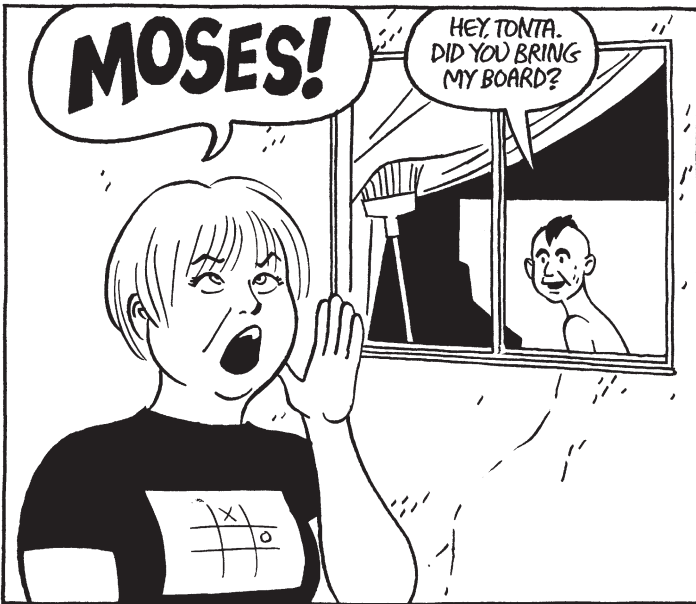
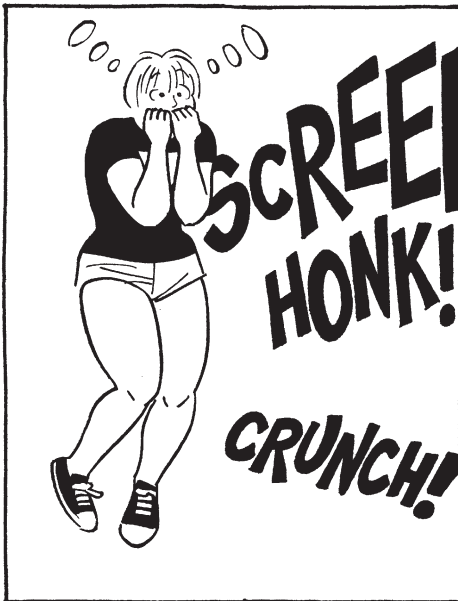
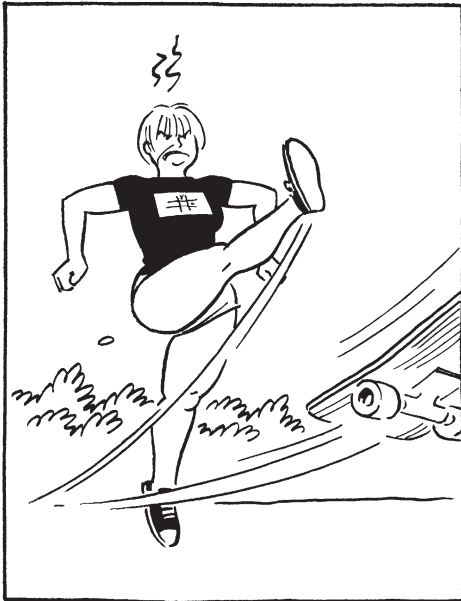
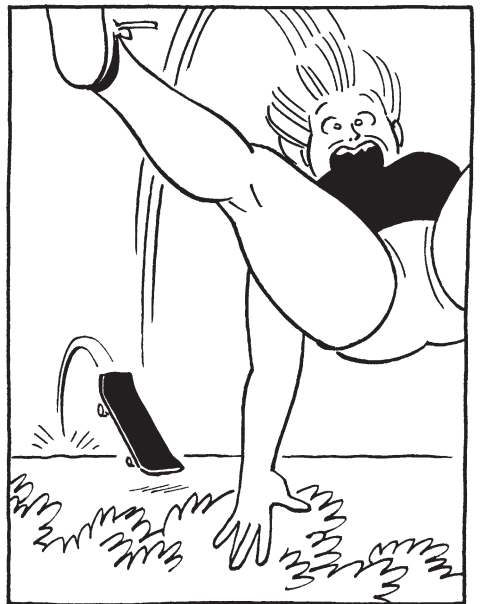
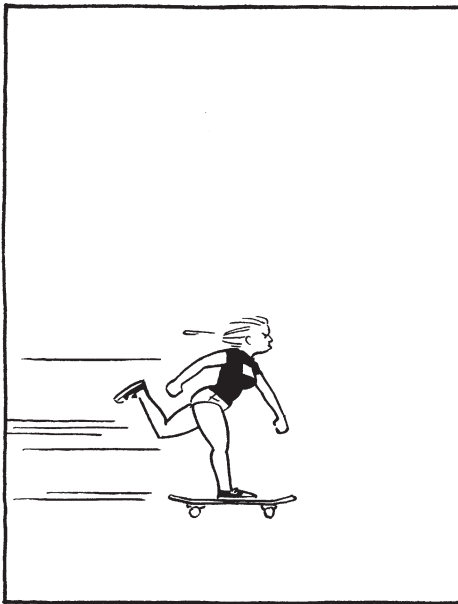


SOMEBODY SAID THAT SHE DOESN'T WEAR ANYTHING UNDER THERE BUT (I'M LIKE, WHO GIVES A SHIT? TO EACH HIS OWN, Y'KNOW? IT'S COOL, WHATEVS...

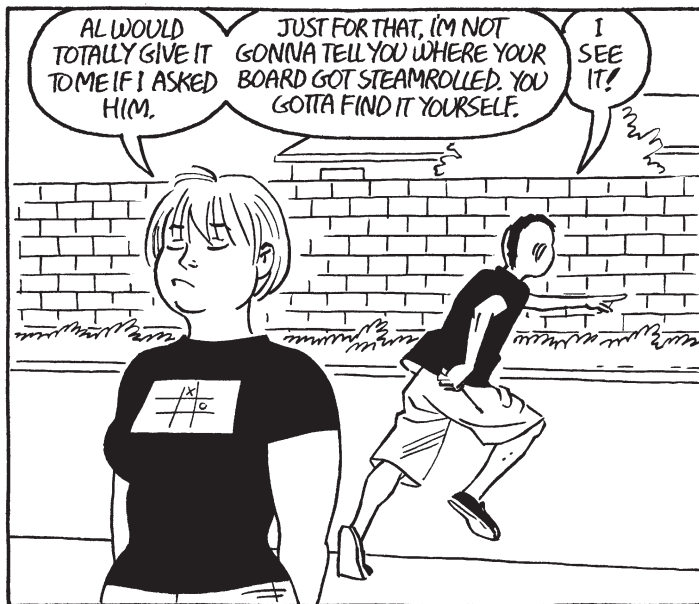
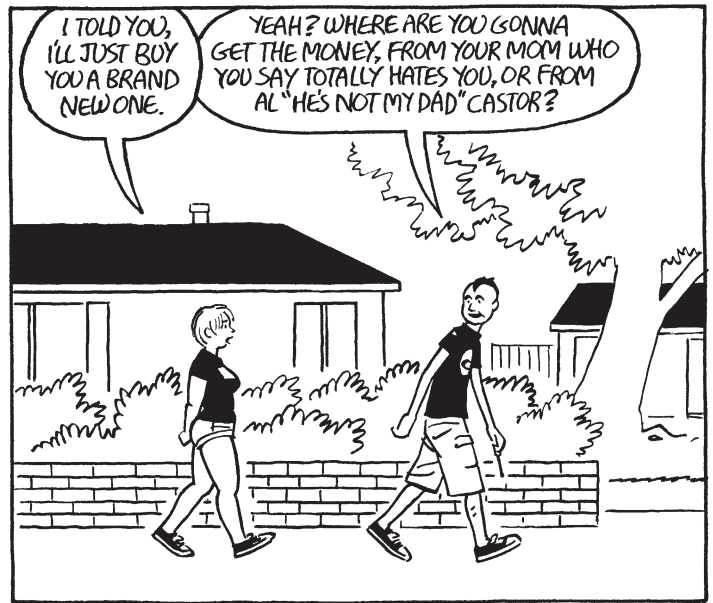


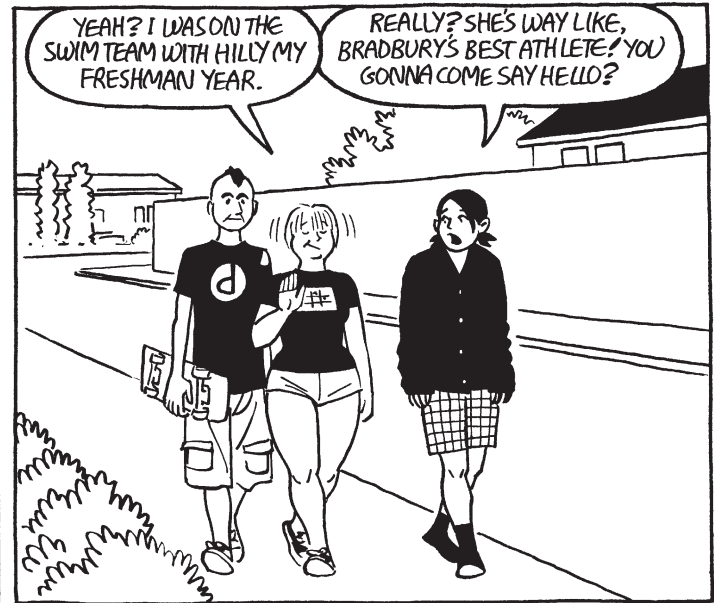
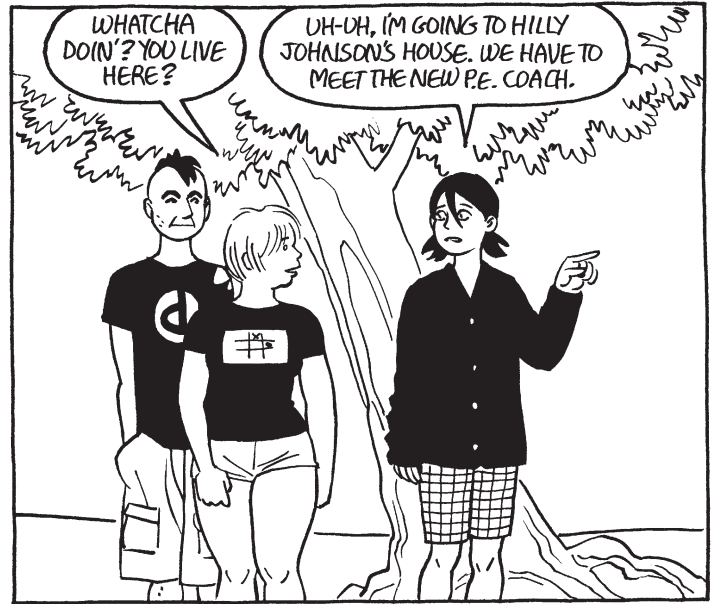
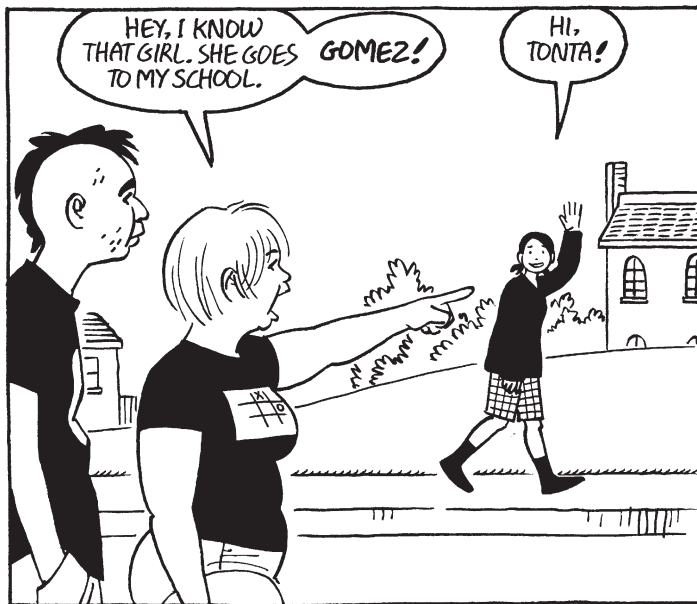
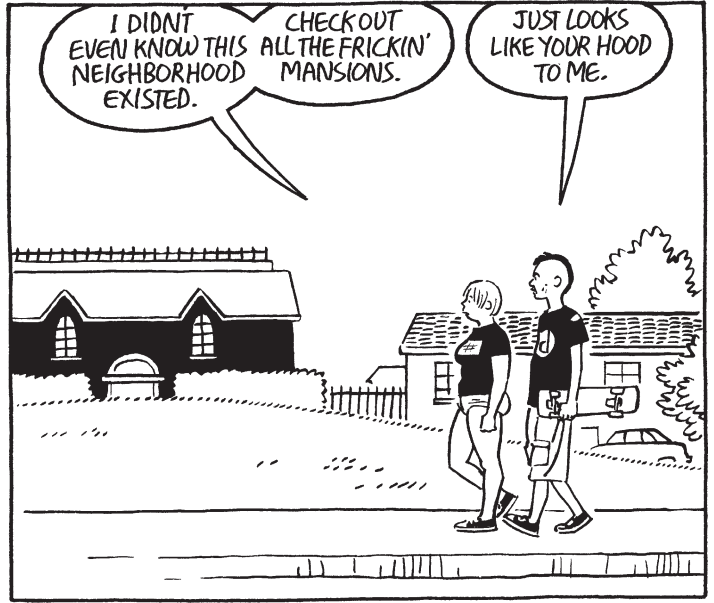
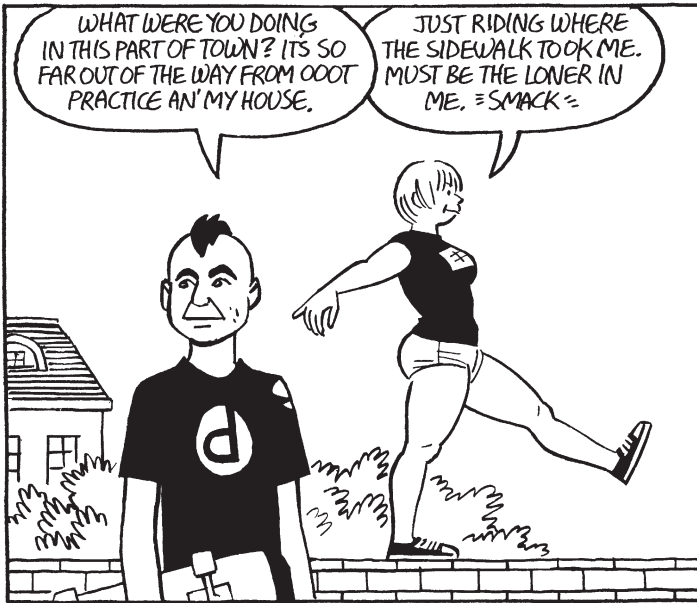
I MEAN... UH...

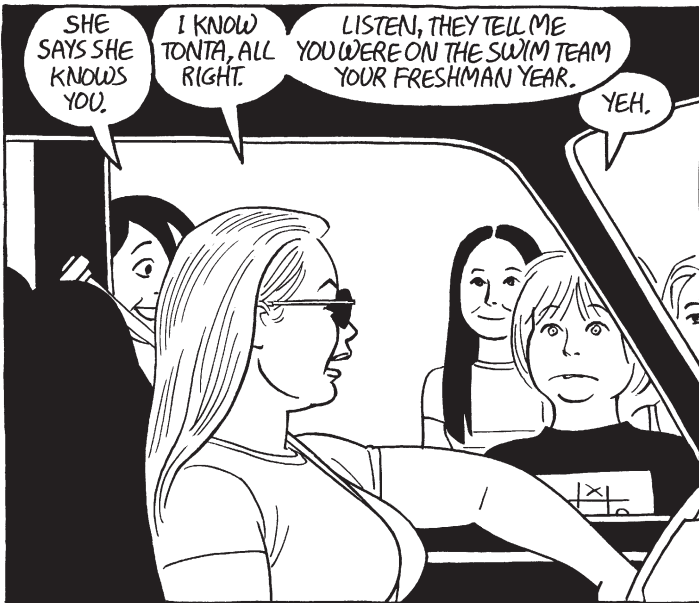
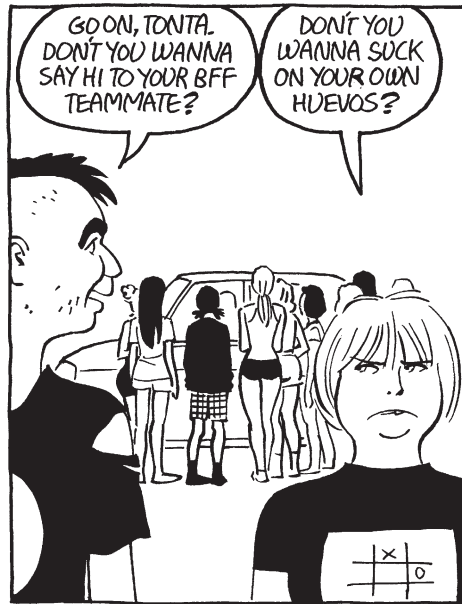


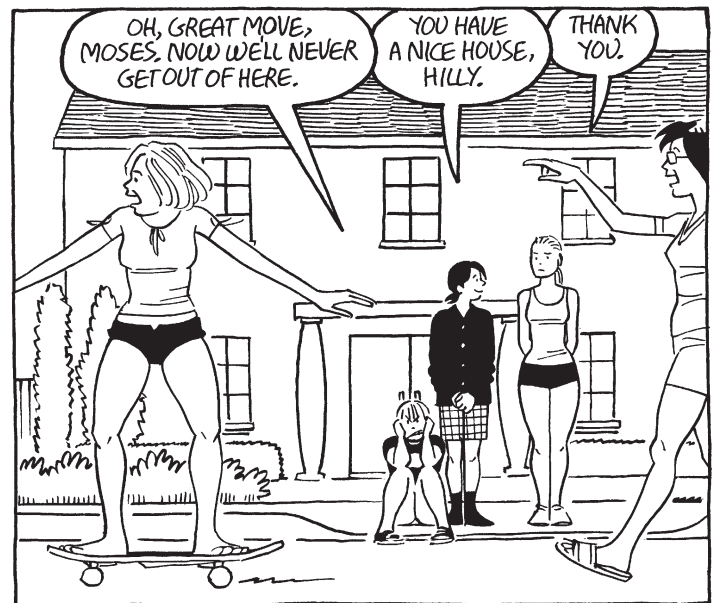
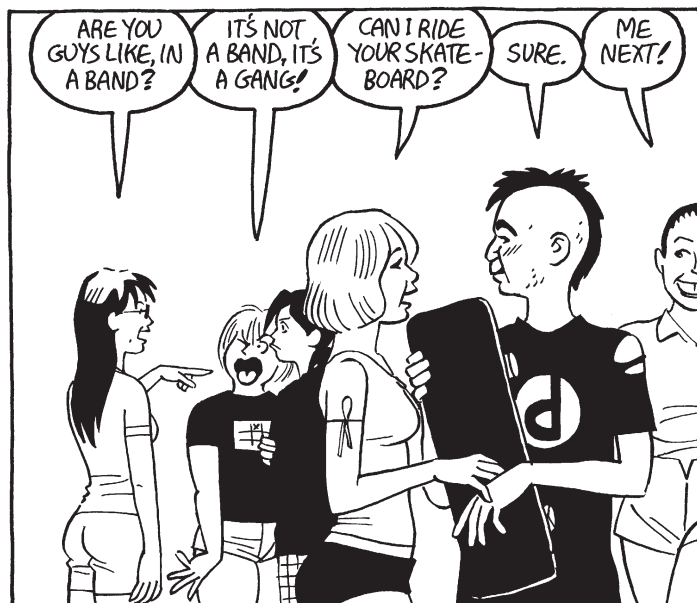
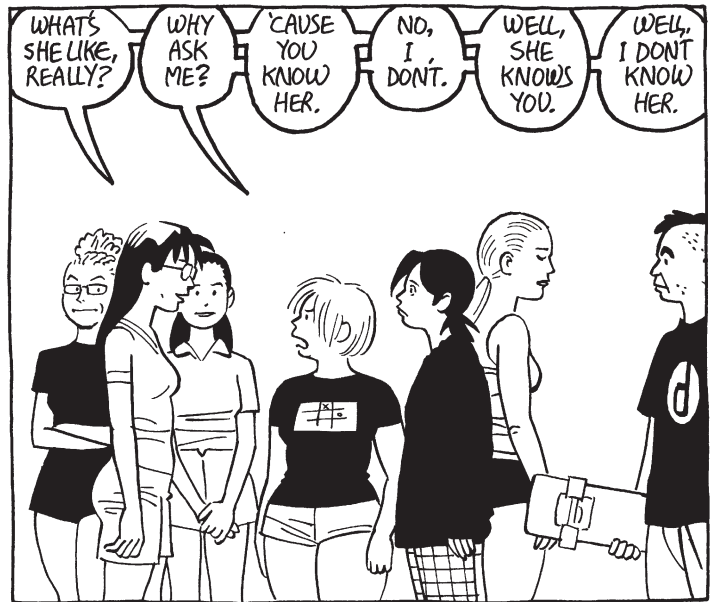
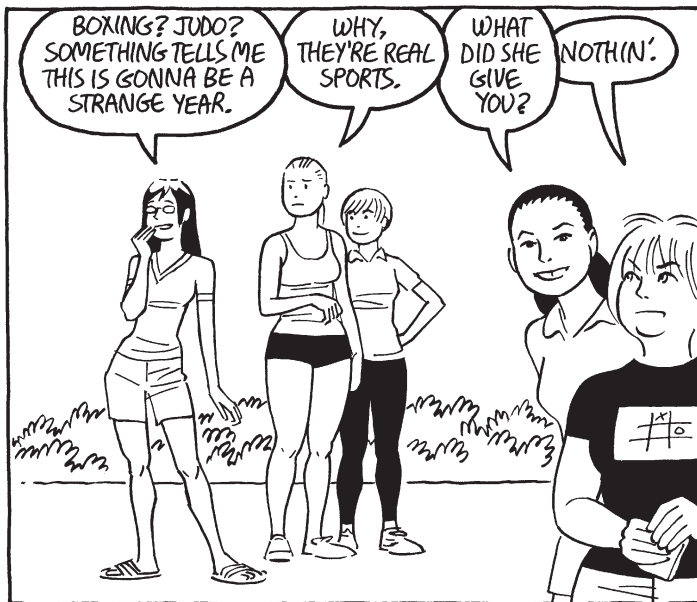
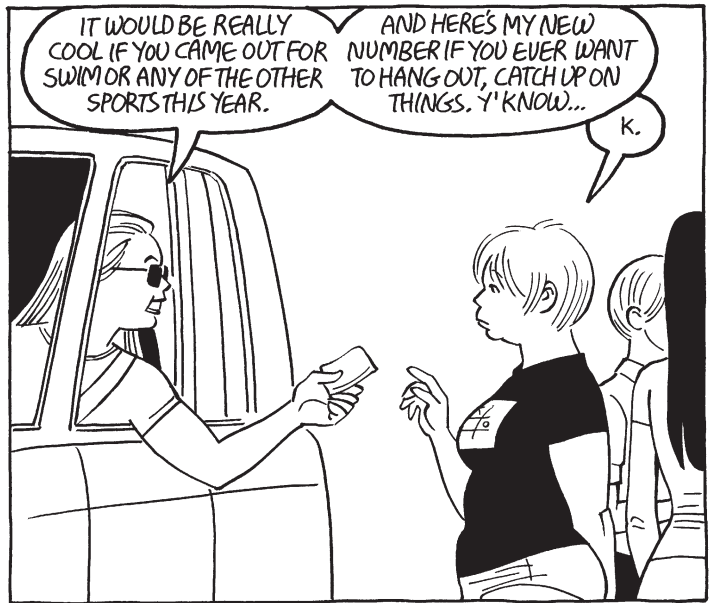
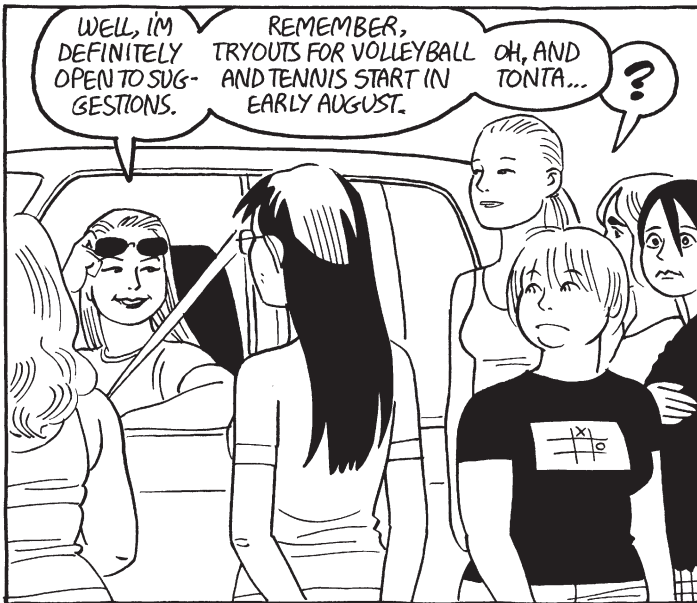


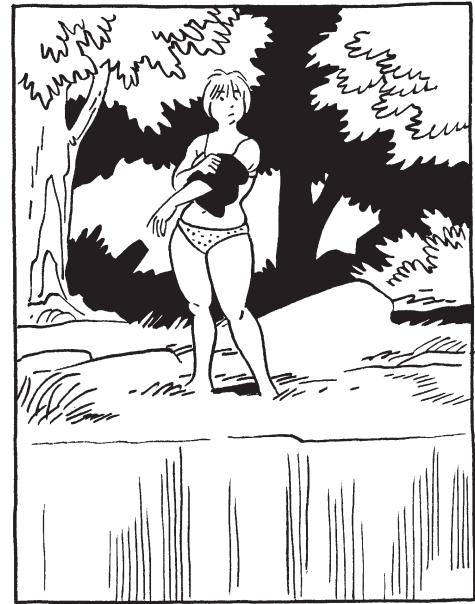
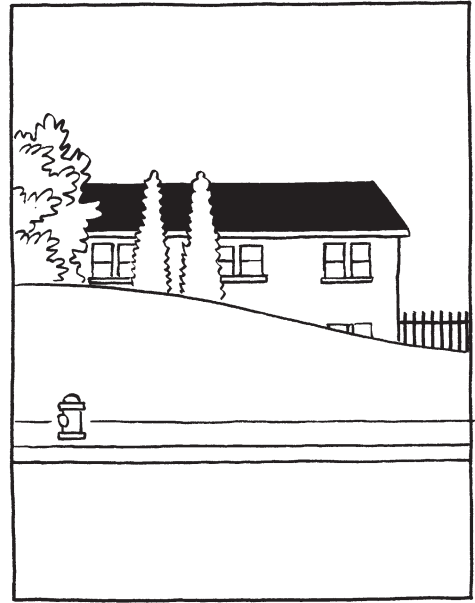
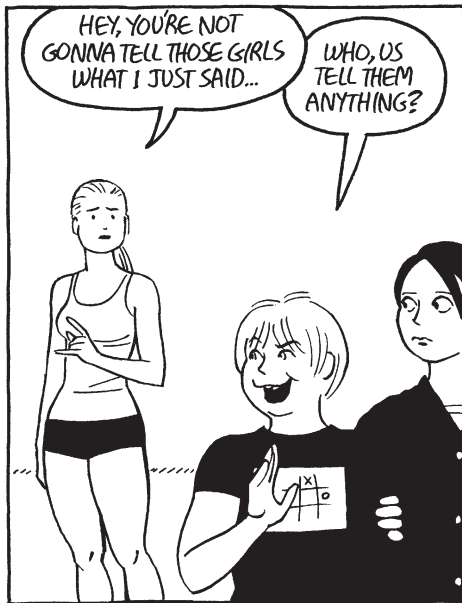
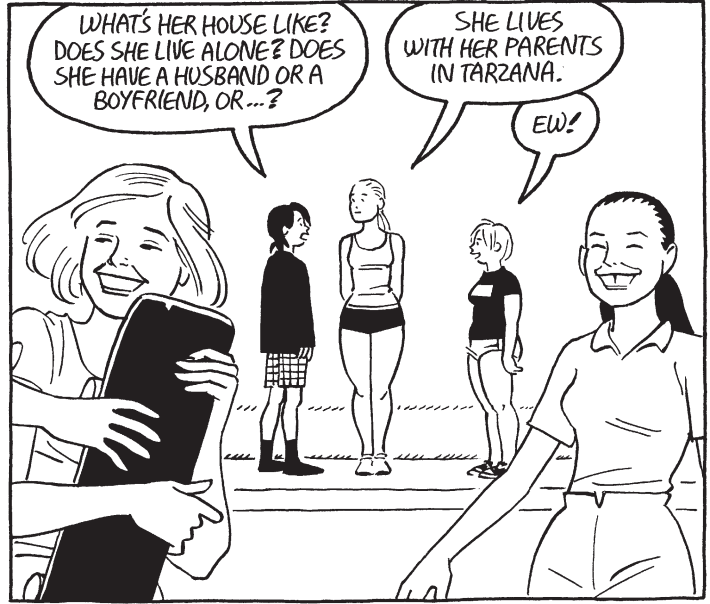
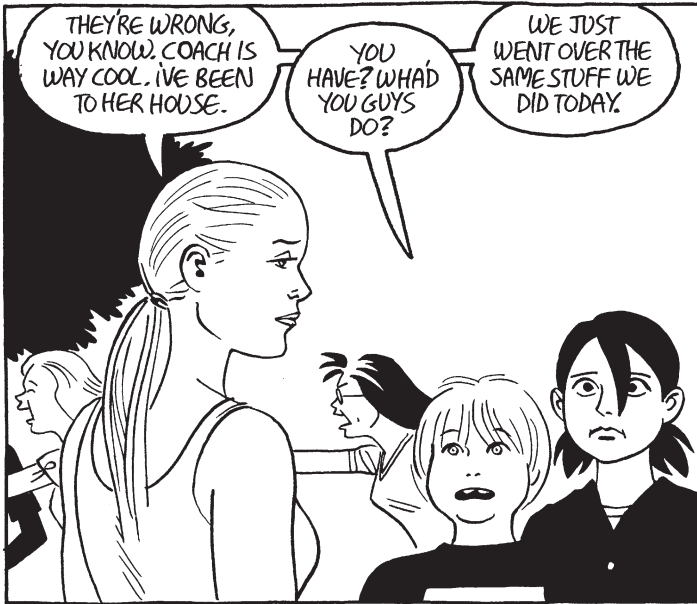
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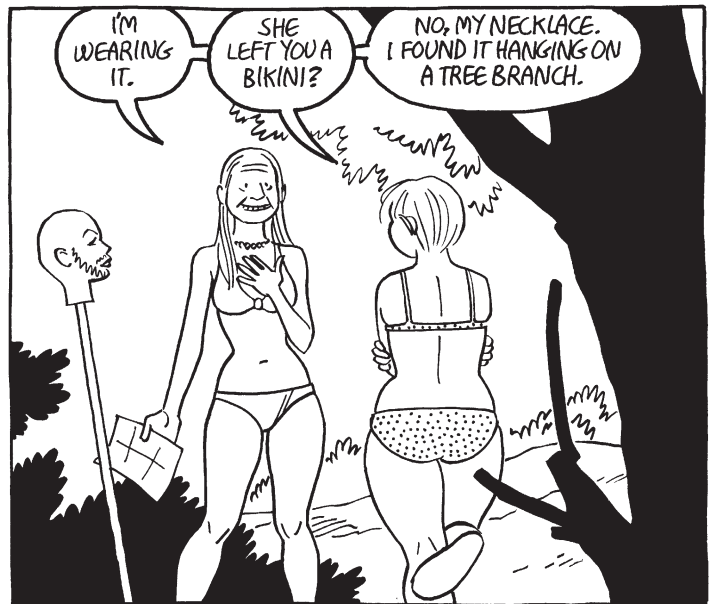
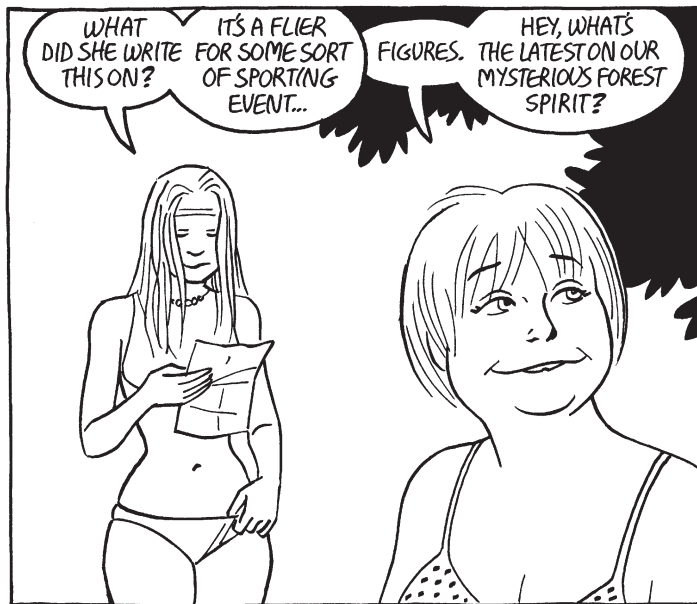
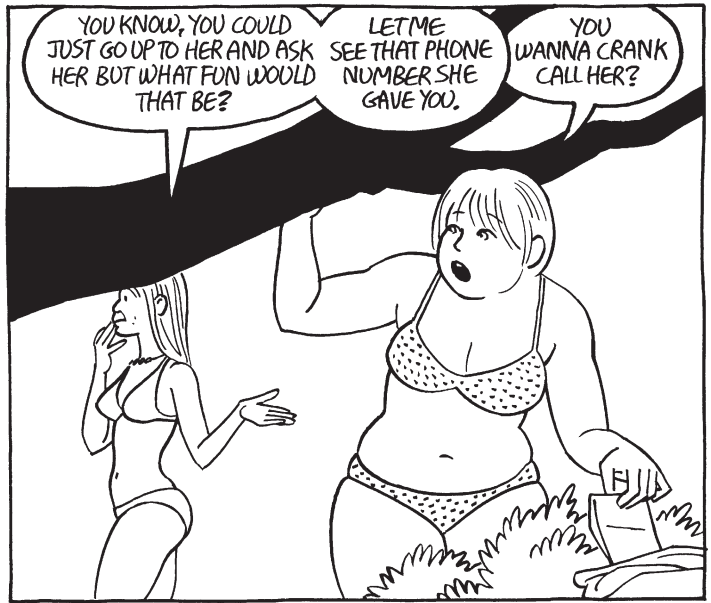
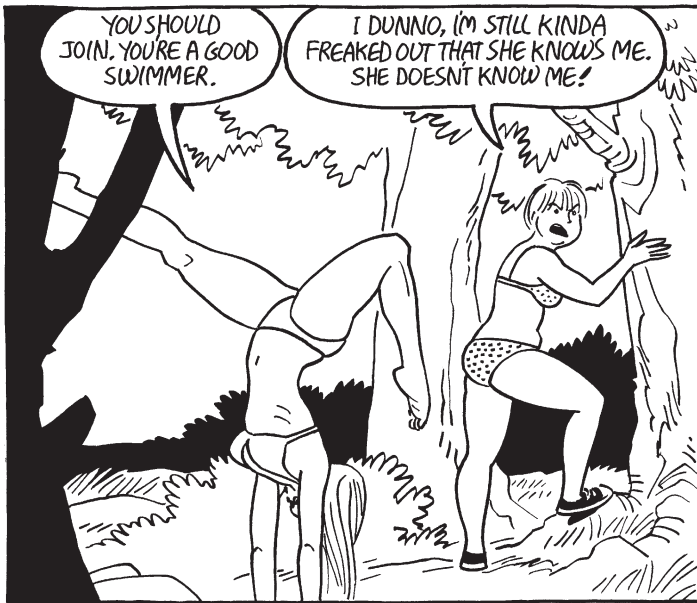


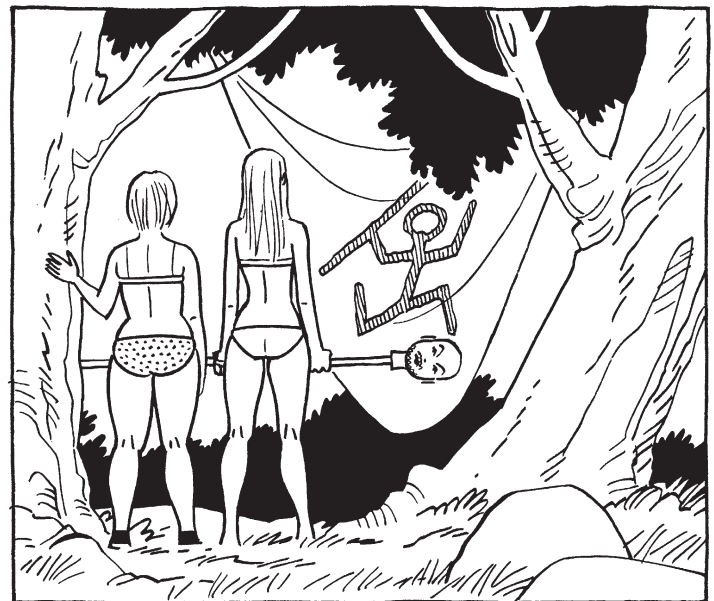
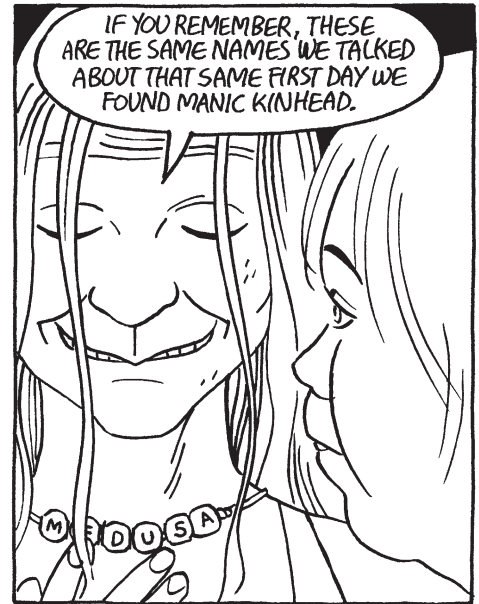
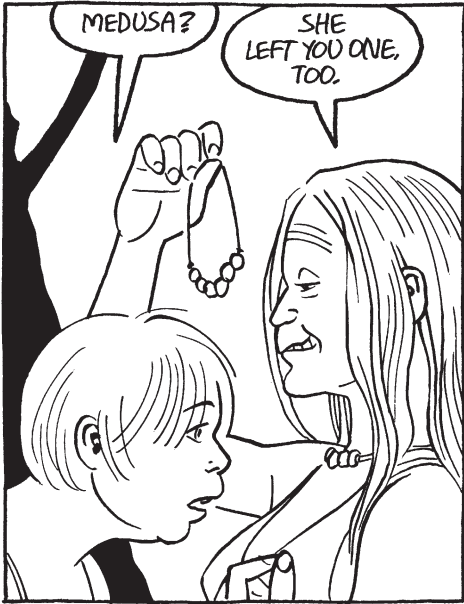


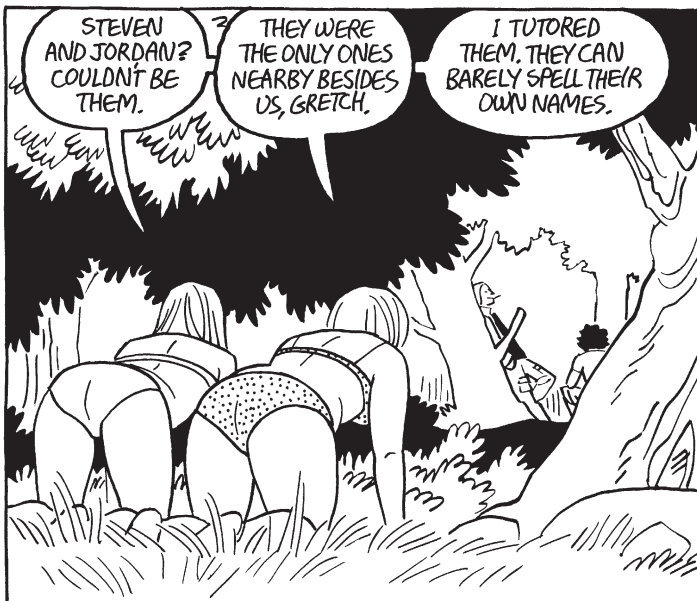
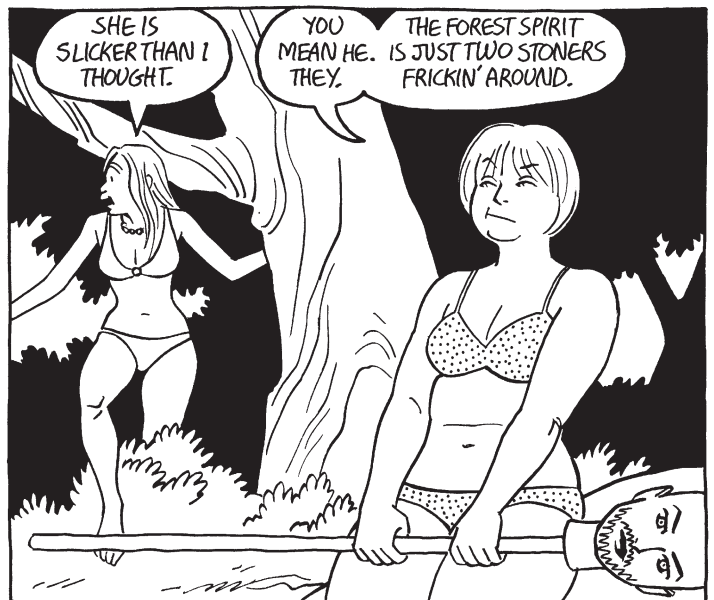
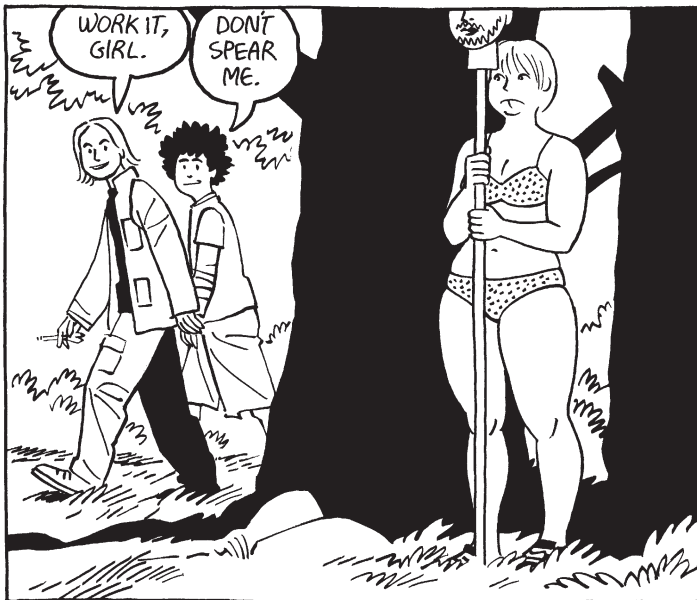
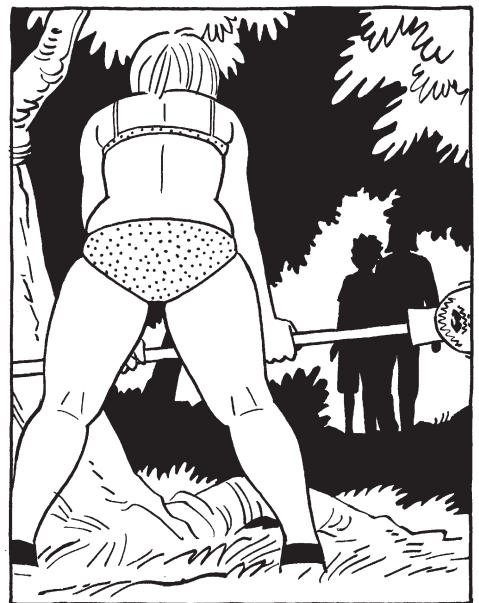




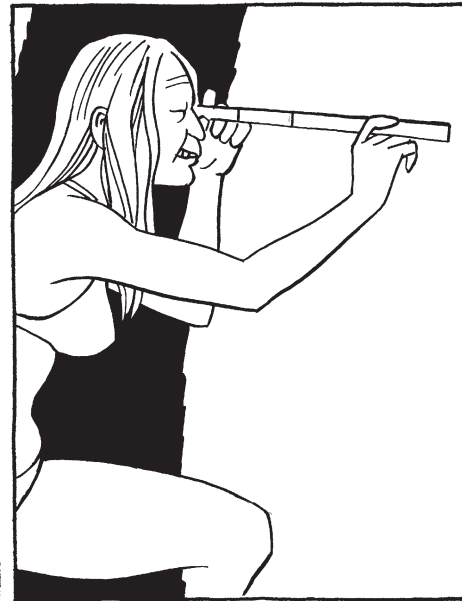
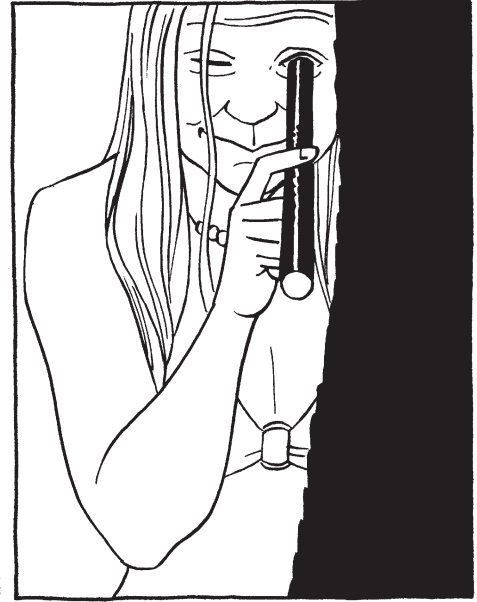
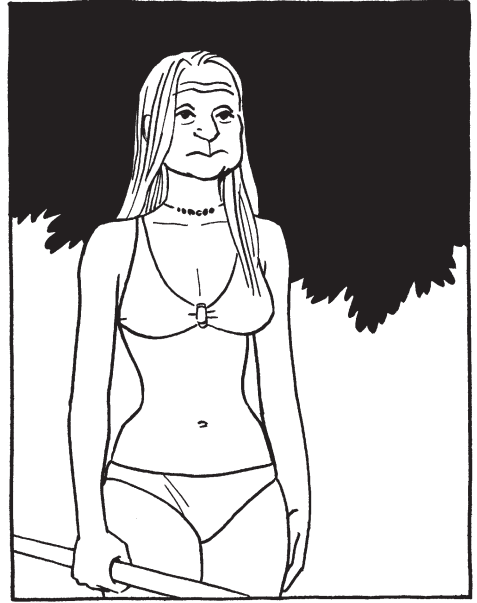
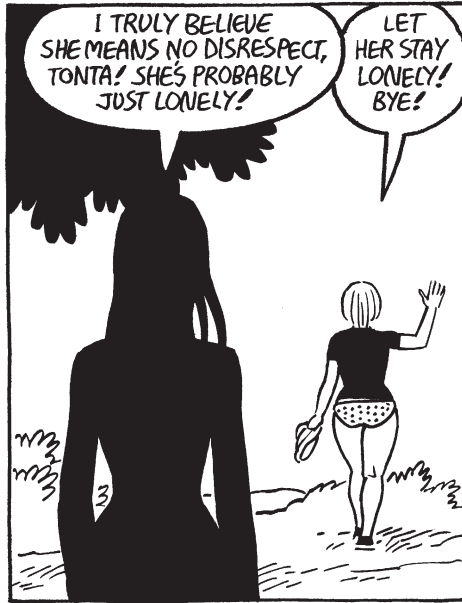
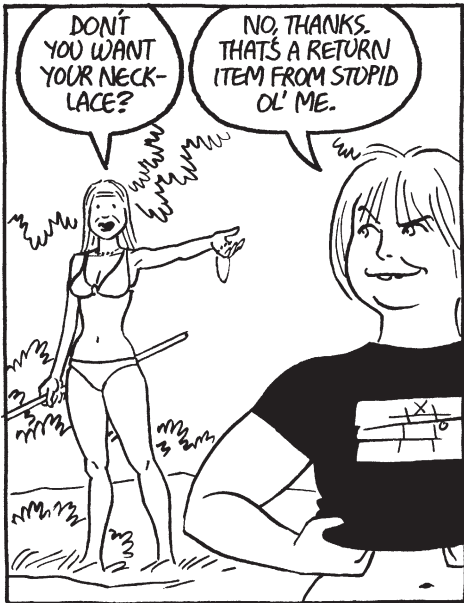


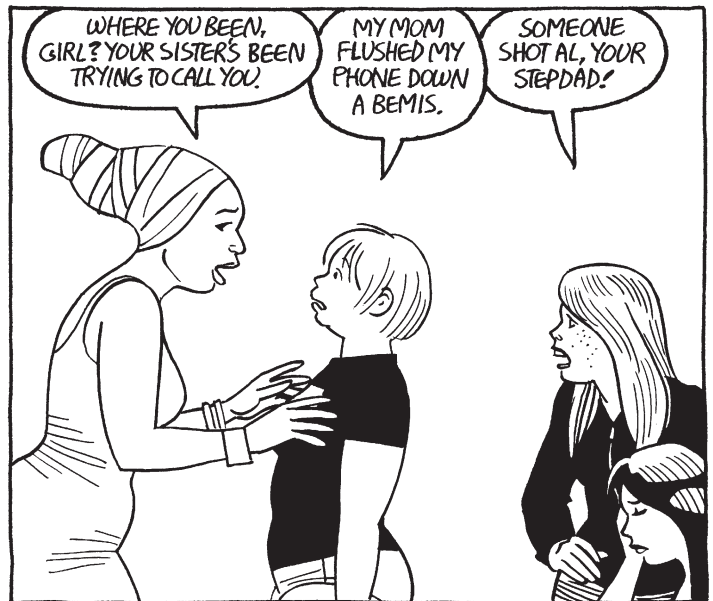
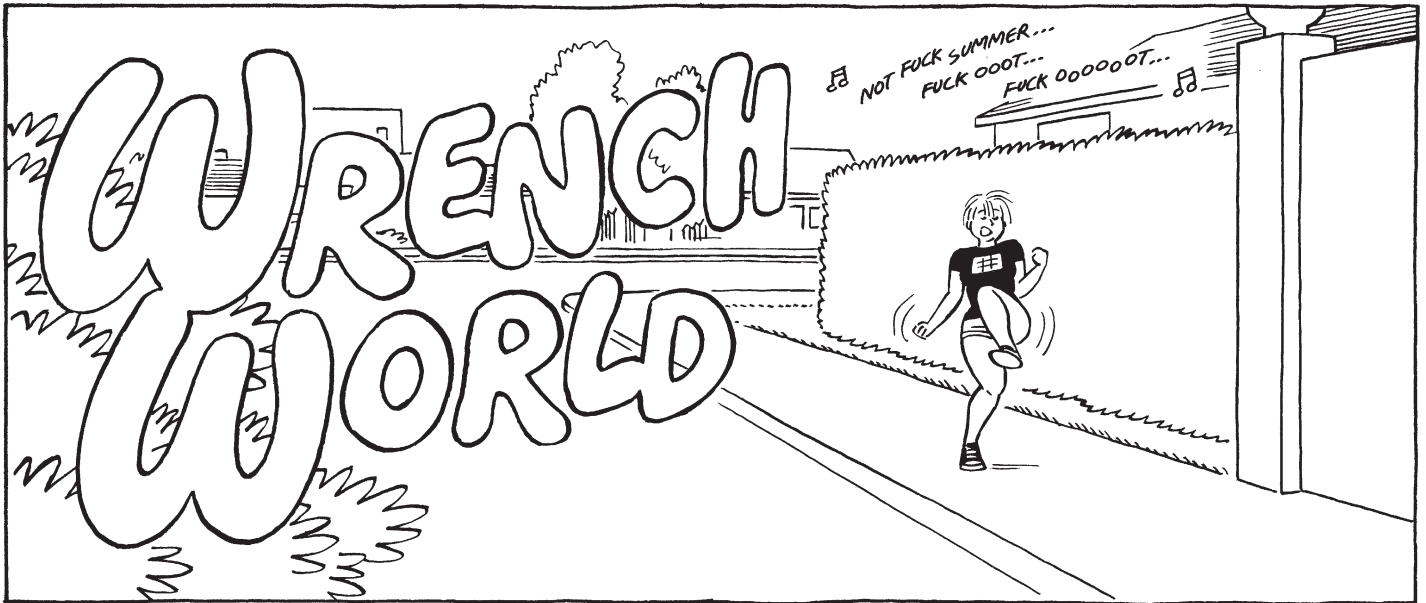






13.



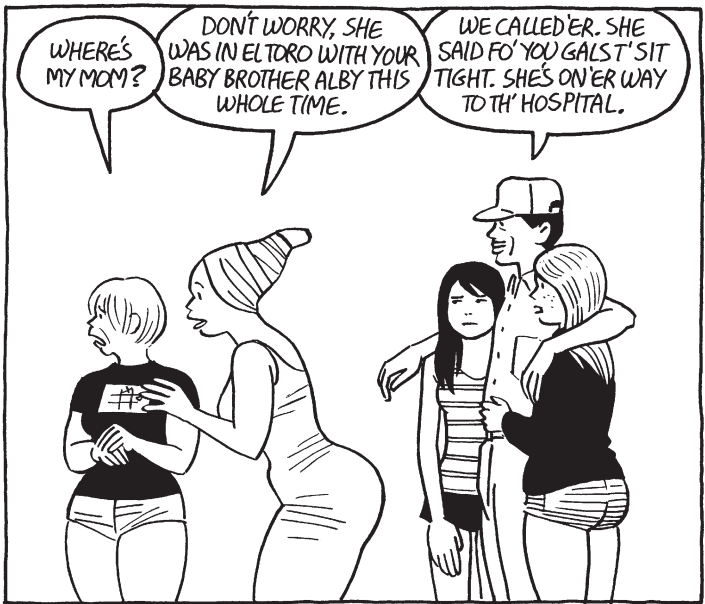




HUH??

HE DIDN'T DIE BUT HE HAD TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL.

LOOKS LIKE A BURGLAR BROKE INTO YO' HOUSE AN' YO' DADDY SURPRISED HIM.



WHERE'S MY MOM?

DON'T WORRY, SHE WAS IN ELDORO WITH YOUR BABY BROTHER ALBY THIS WHOLE TIME.

WE CALLED 'ER. SHE SAID FO' YOU GALST' SIT TIGHT. SHE'S ON 'ER WAY TO TH' HOSPITAL.

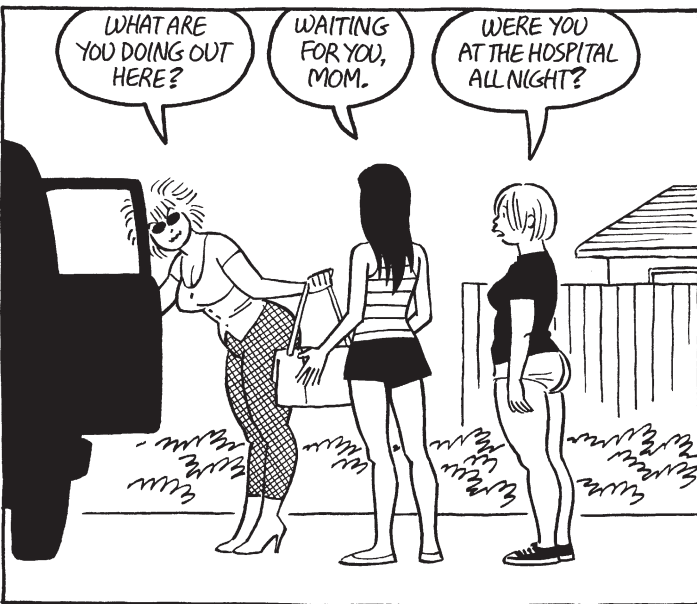
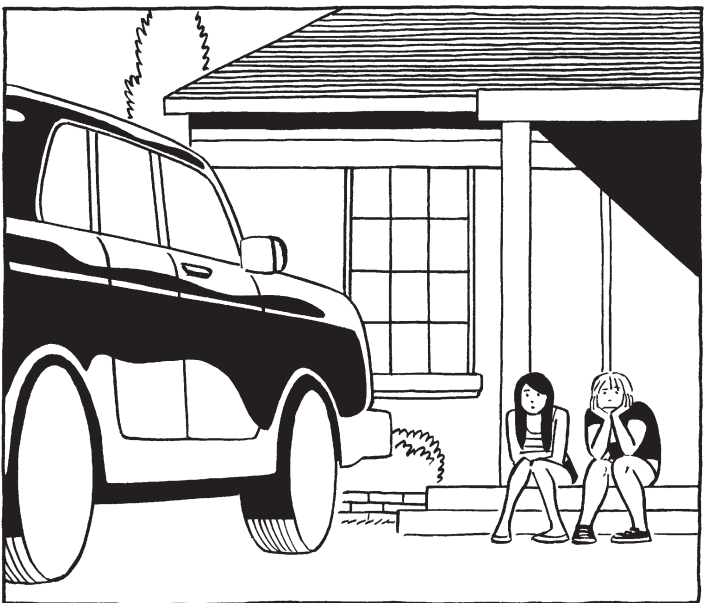


DON'T LET 'EM WAIT IN THEIR HOUSE, MOMMA.

OF COURSE NOT. YOU GIRLS COME WAIT AT OUR HOUSE.

IT WAS AL'S DAY OFF. HE WAS GONNA WATCH THE DODGERS.

THEY GOT A GOOD CHANCE THIS YEAR.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING OUT HERE?

WAITING FOR YOU, MOM.

WERE YOU AT THE HOSPITAL ALL NIGHT?



NO, I DECIDED TO GET A HOTEL ROOM. HAVE YOU HAD BREAKFAST?

NO.

NO.

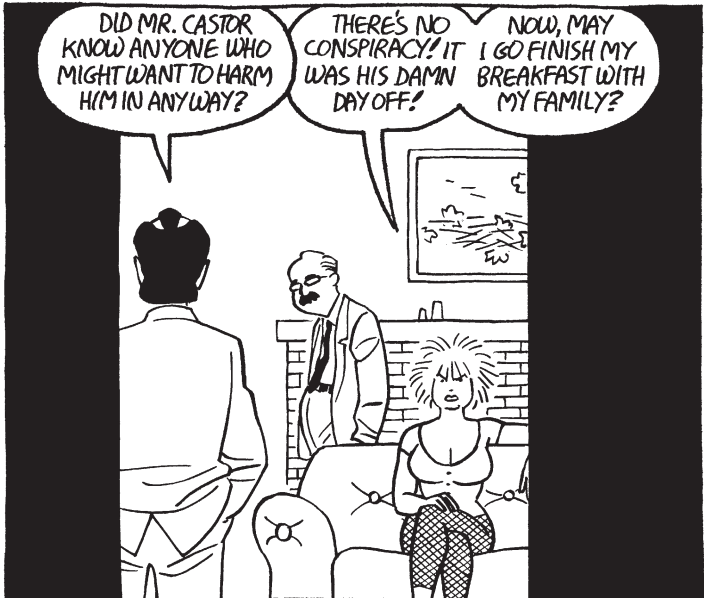


YOU TWO LOOK HMP. LIKE A COUPLE OF STREET URCHINS.



MRS. CASTOR, IF I MAY ASK YOU JUST A FEW MORE QUESTIONS.

I TOLD YOU, I WAS IN EL TORO VISITING A FRIEND. WHAT ELSE IS THERE TO KNOW?



DID MR. CASTOR KNOW ANYONE WHO MIGHT WANT TO HARM HIM IN ANYWAY?

THERE'S NO CONSPIRACY! IT WAS HIS DAMN DAY OFF!

NOW, MAY I GO FINISH MY BREAKFAST WITH MY FAMILY?



WE'LL BE IN TOUCH.

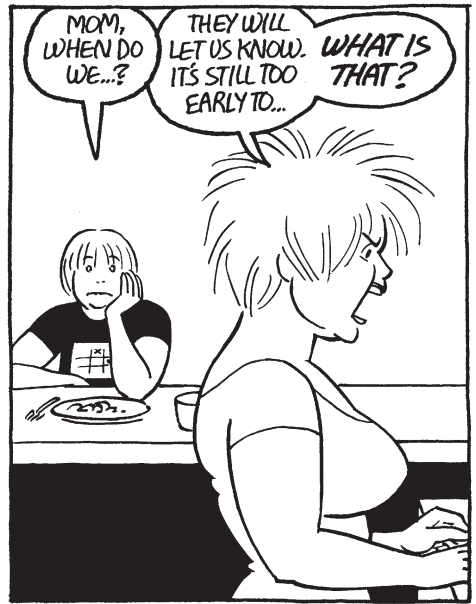
NEXT TIME SEND DETECTIVE SLOBINSKI. HE KNOWS HOW TO TREAT PEOPLE LIKE HUMAN BEINGS.



AND NEXT TIME YOU TELL ME WHO'S AT THE DOOR BEFORE YOU GODDAMN ANSWER IT.

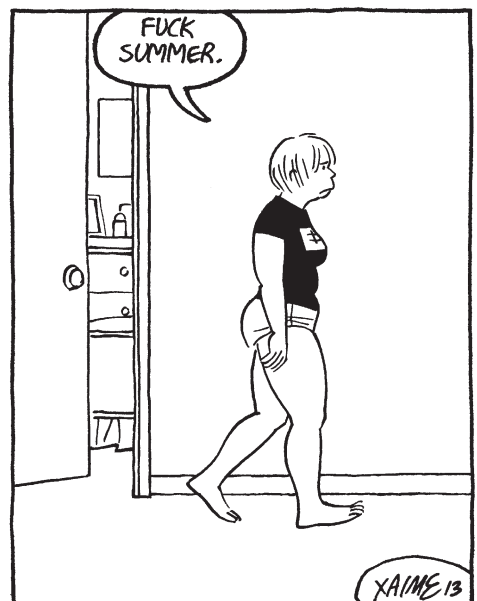
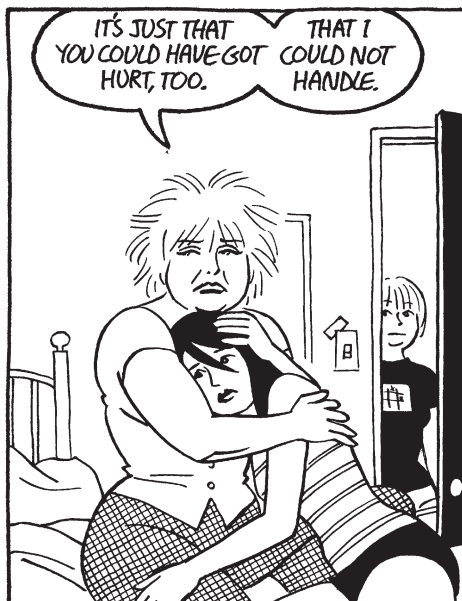
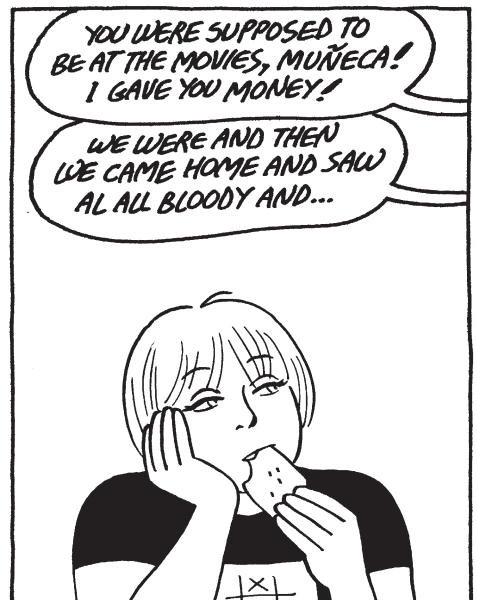


WHEN DO WE GET TO VISIT AL?

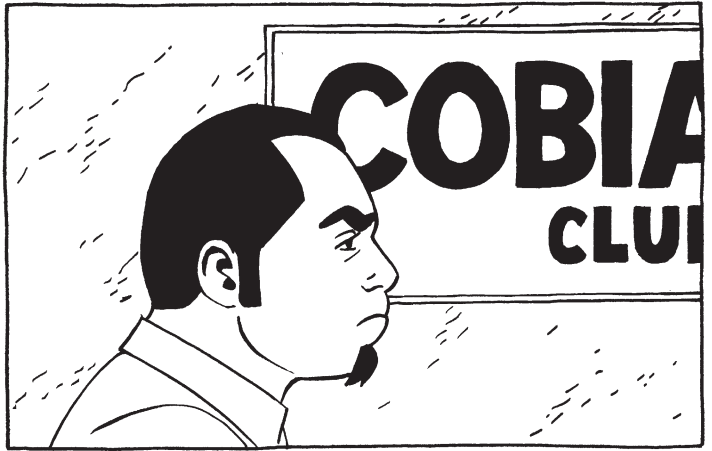


MOM, WHEN DO WE...?

THEY WILL LET US KNOW. IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO... WHAT IS THAT?

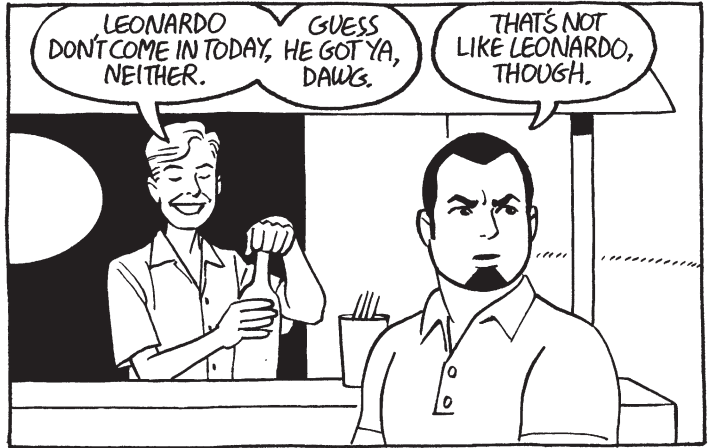


# CRIMEN UNO



ISH, WHAT'RE YA DOIN' HERE? AIN'T IT YER DAY OFF?

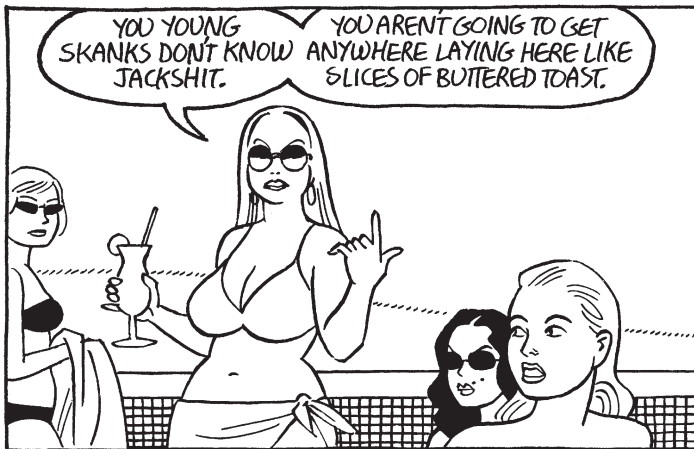
LEONARDO CALLED, SAID YOU NEEDED ME.



LEONARDO DON'T COME IN TODAY, HE GOT YA, NEITHER.

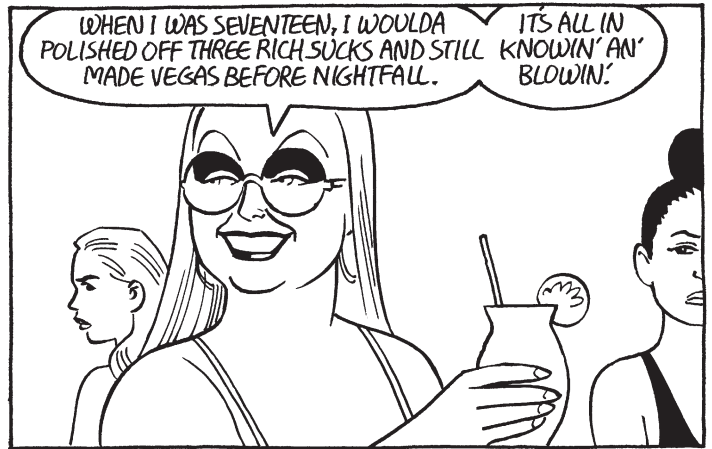
GUESS DON'T COME IN TODAY, HE GOT YA, DAWG.

THAT'S NOT LIKE LEONARDO, THOUGH.



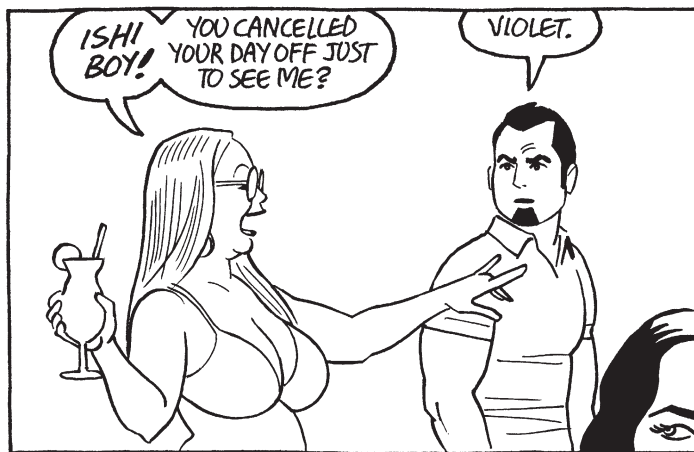
YOU YOUNG SKANKS DONT KNOW JACKSHIT.

YOU ARENT GOING TO GET ANYWHERE LAYING HERE LIKE 5 SLICES OF BUTTERED TOAST.



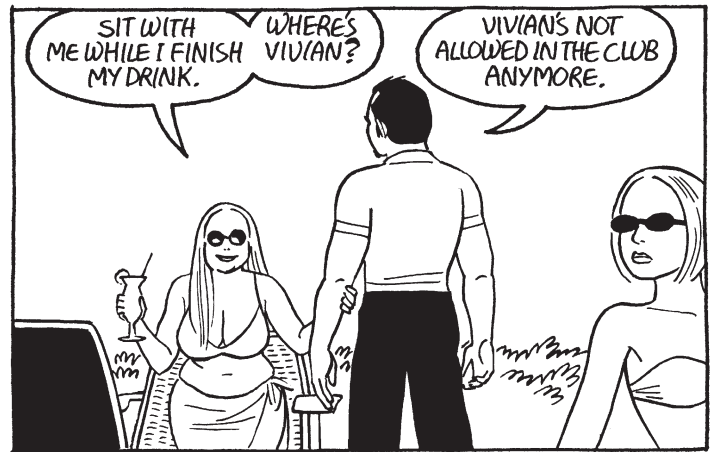
WHEN I WAS SEVENTEEN, I WOULD POLISHED OFF THREE RICH SUCKS AND STILL MADE VEGAS BEFORE NIGHTFALL.

IT'S ALL IN KNOWIN' AN' BLOWIN'!



ISHI BOY! YOU CANCELLED YOUR DAY OFF JUST TO SEE ME?

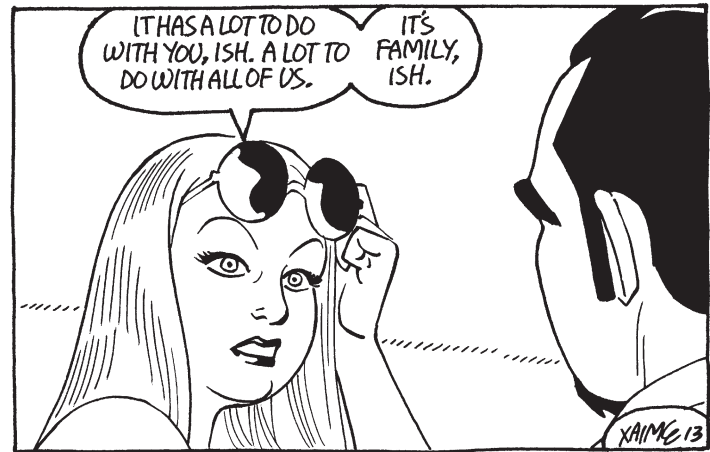
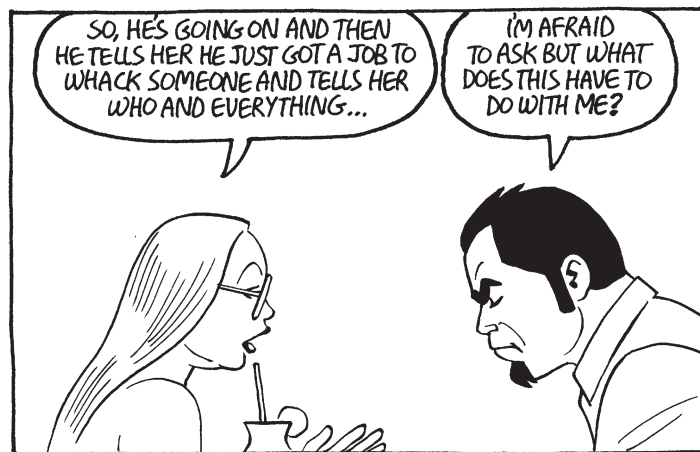
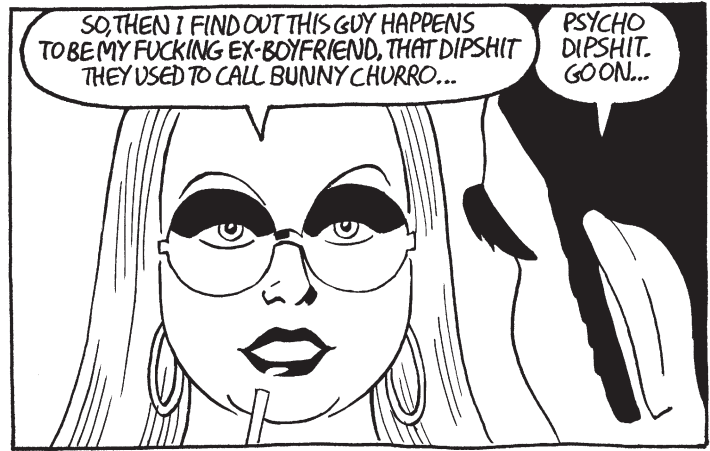
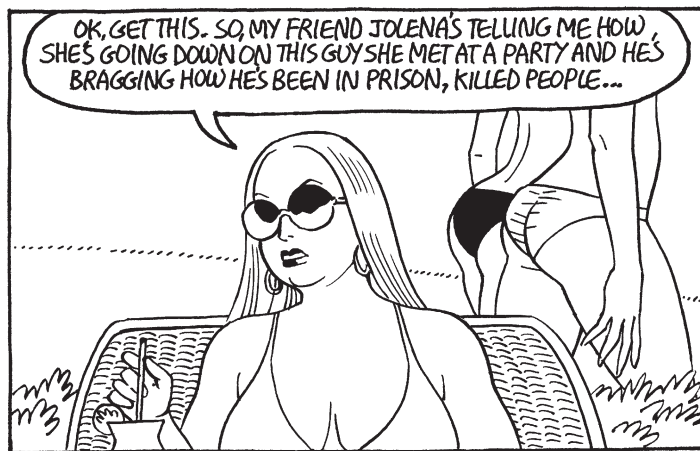
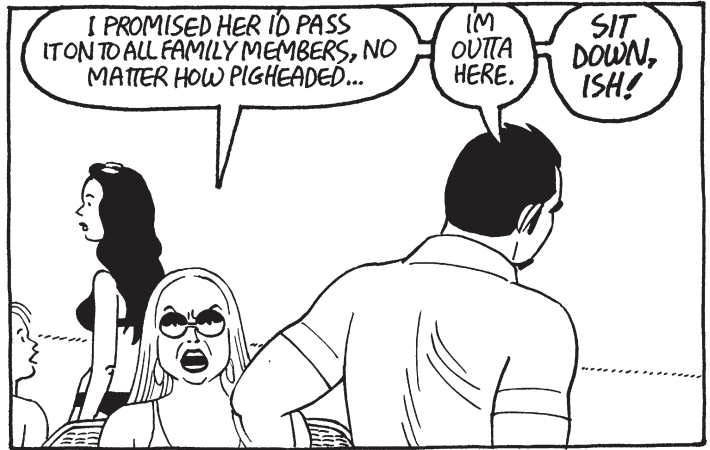
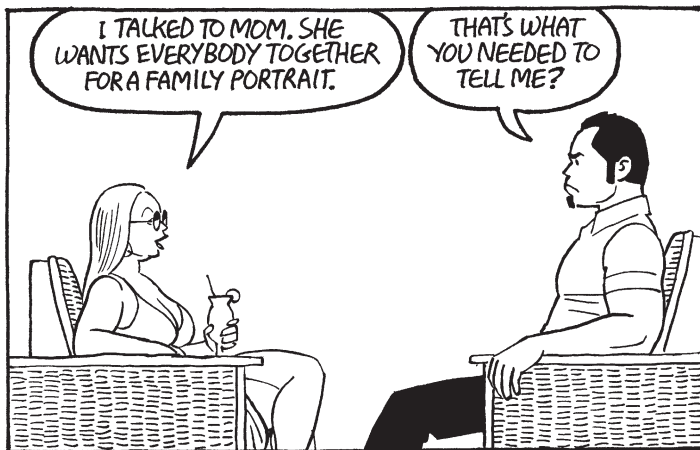
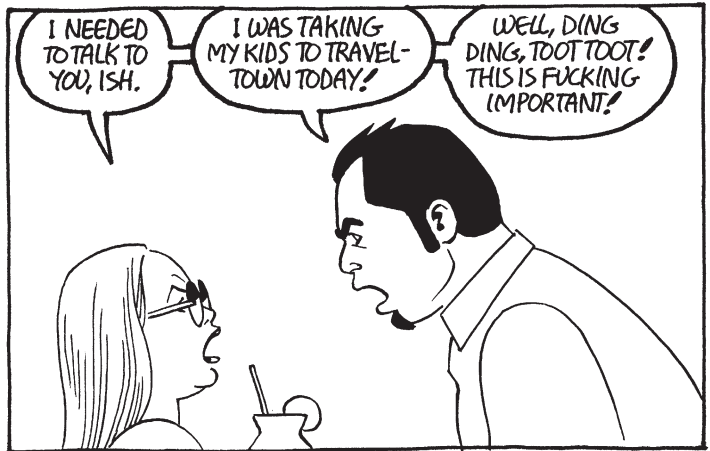
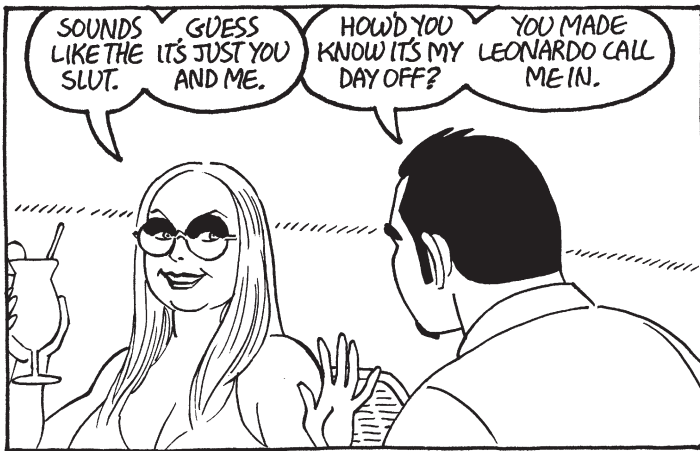
VIOLET.



SIT WITH ME WHILE I FINISH MY DRINK.

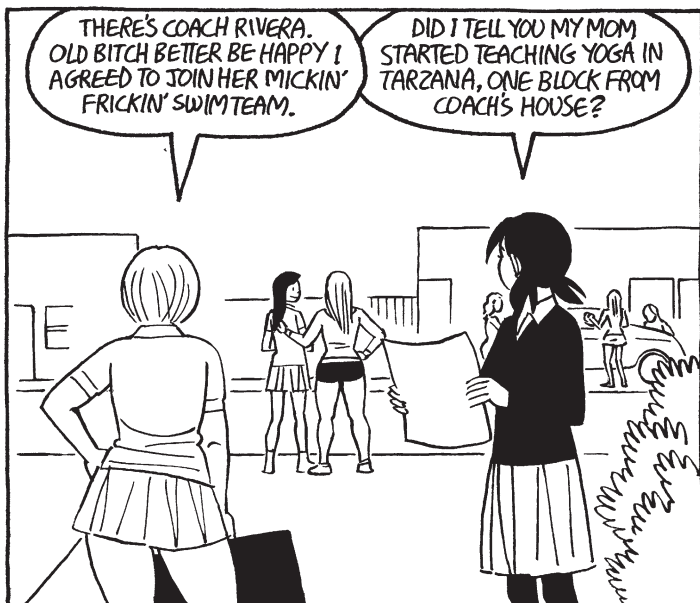
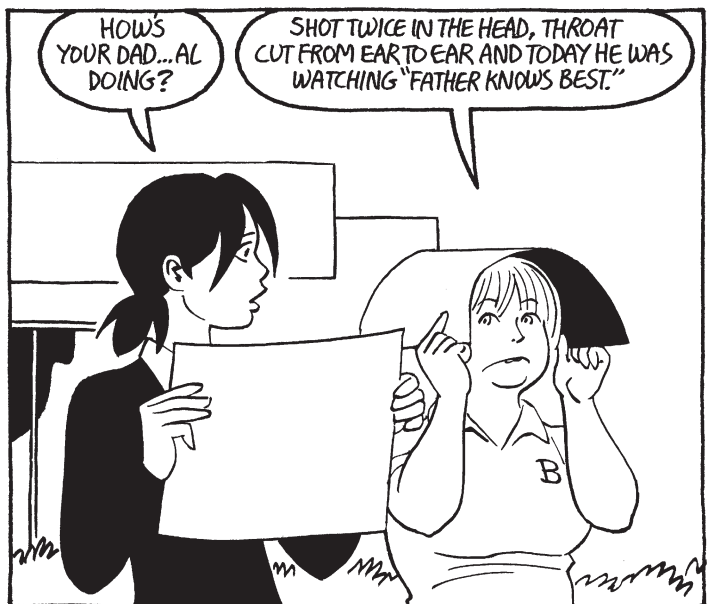
WHERE'S VIVIAN?

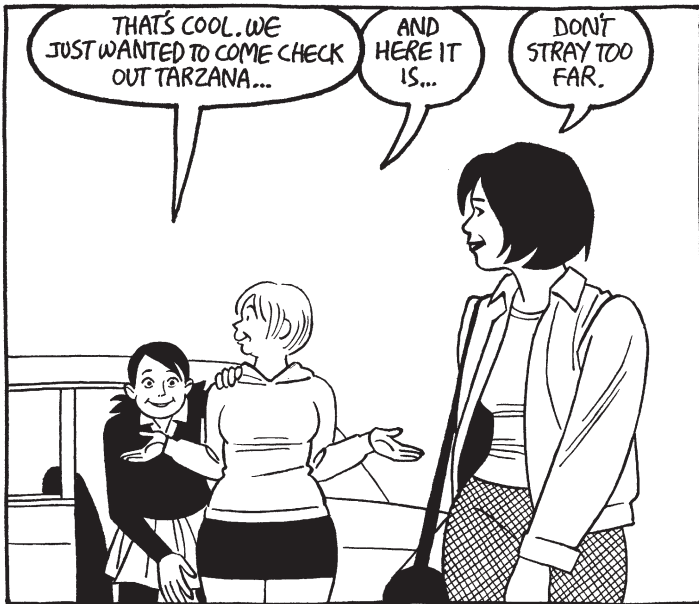
VIVIAN'S NOT ALLOWED IN THE CLUB ANYMORE.



# Tarzana

## ADVENTURES

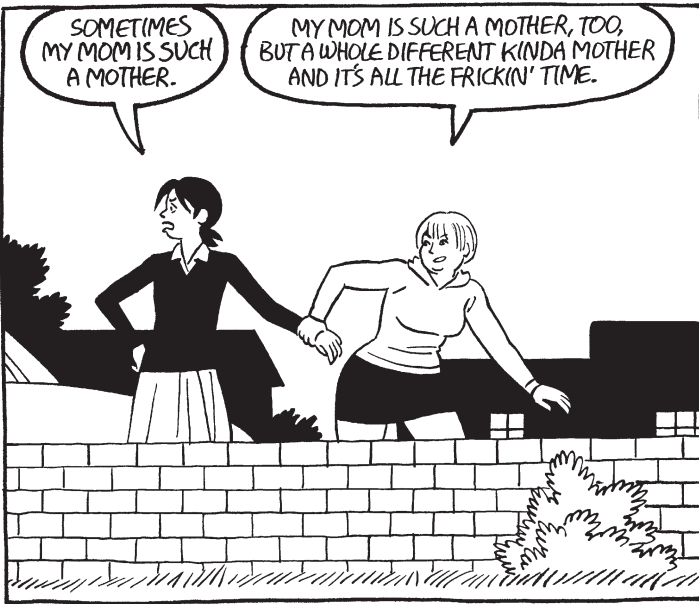




THAT'S COOL. WE JUST WANTED TO COME CHECK OUT TARZANA...

AND HERE IT IS...

DON'T STRAY TOO FAR.



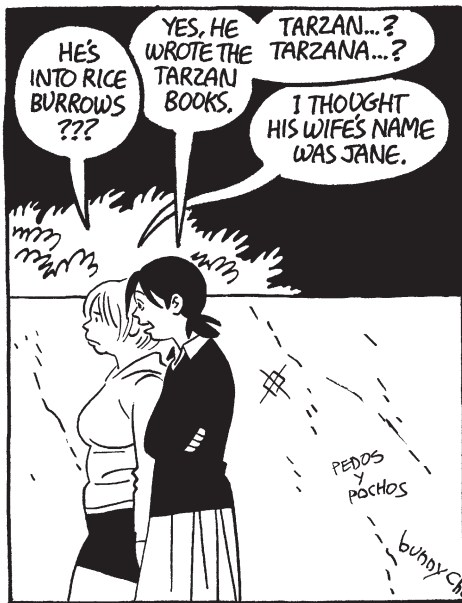
SOMETIMES MY MOM IS SUCH A MOTHER, BUT A WHOLE DIFFERENT KINDA MOTHER.

MY MOM IS SUCH A MOTHER, TOO, BUT A WHOLE DIFFERENT KINDA MOTHER AND IT'S ALL THE FRICKIN' TIME.



TARZANA JUST LOOKS LIKE THE REST OF THE STUPID FRICKIN' VALLEY.

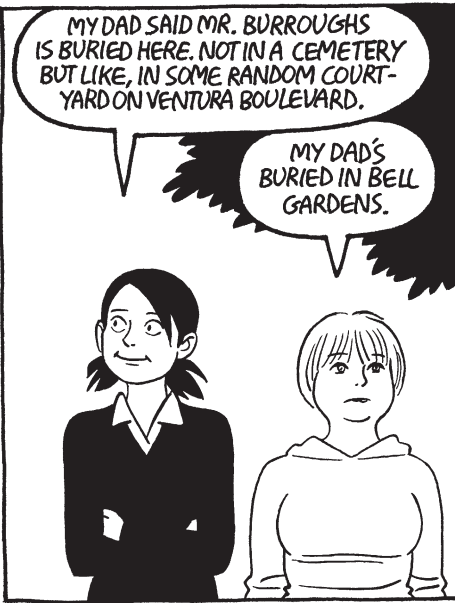
I KNOW, MY DAD MADE IT SOUND MUCH MORE SPECIAL 'CAUSE HE'S INTO EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS.



HE'S INTO RICE BURROUGHS ???

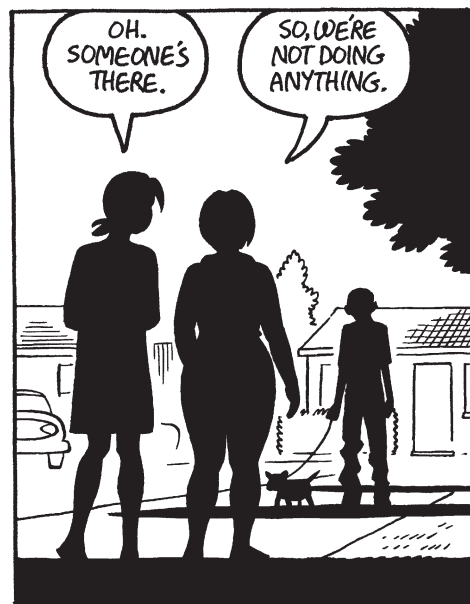
YES, HE WROTE THE TARZAN BOOKS.

TARZAN...? TARZANA...? I THOUGHT HIS WIFE'S NAME WAS JANE.



MY DAD SAID MR. BURROUGHS IS BURIED HERE. NOT IN A CEMETERY BUT LIKE, IN SOME RANDOM COURTYARD ON VENTURA BOULEVARD.

MY DAD'S BURIED IN BELL GARDENS.



OH. SOMEONE'S THERE.

SO, WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING.

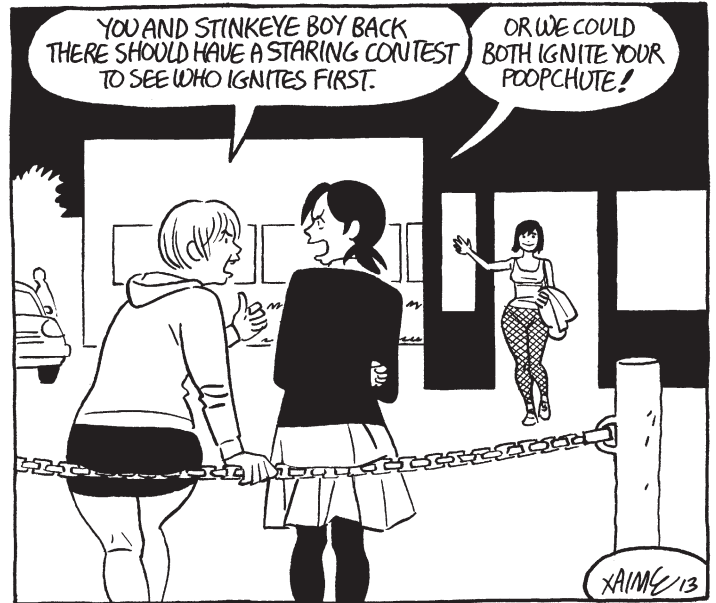
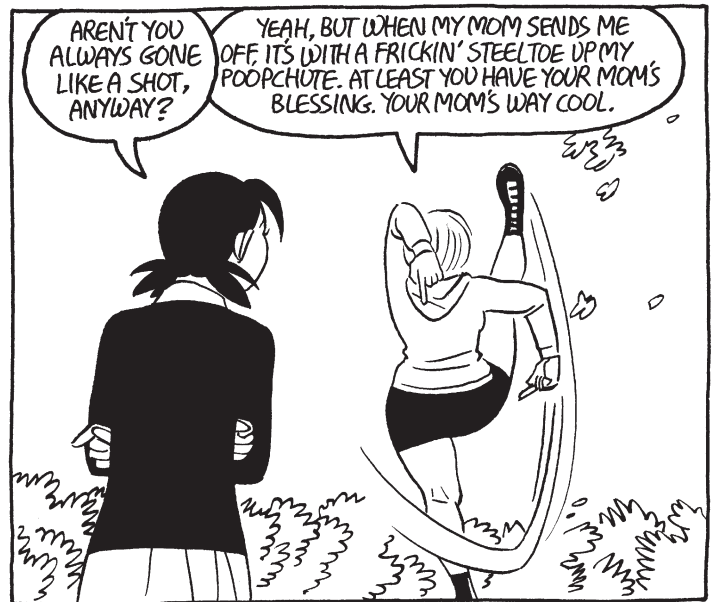
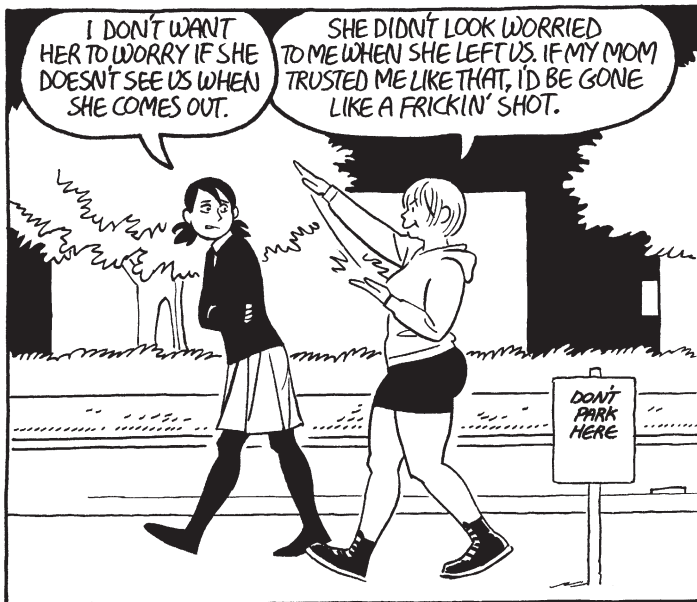
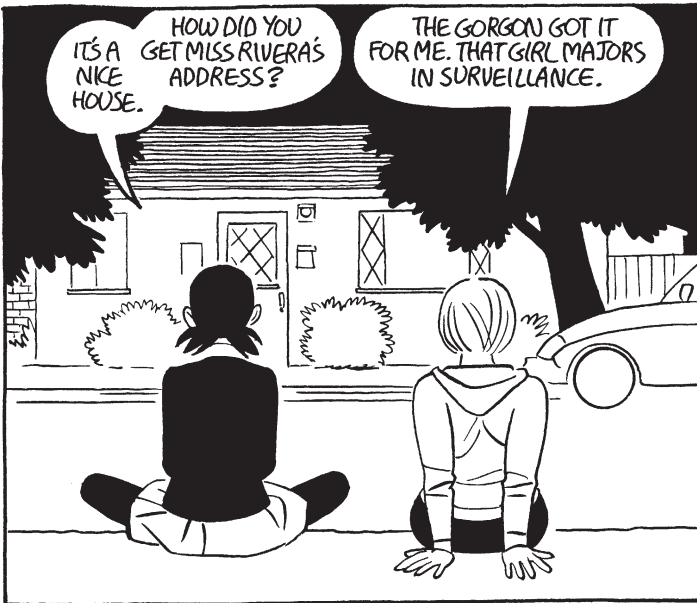


STARE ANY HARDER, WE'RE GONNA DISINTEGRATE.

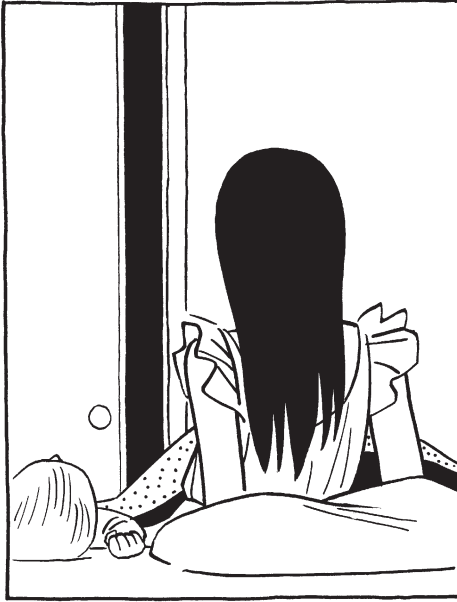


TARZANA'S WEIRD. CAN WE GO BACK TO THE CAR, TONTA?

JUST WHEN WE'RE ABOUT TO HIT OUR DESIGNATED TARGET?

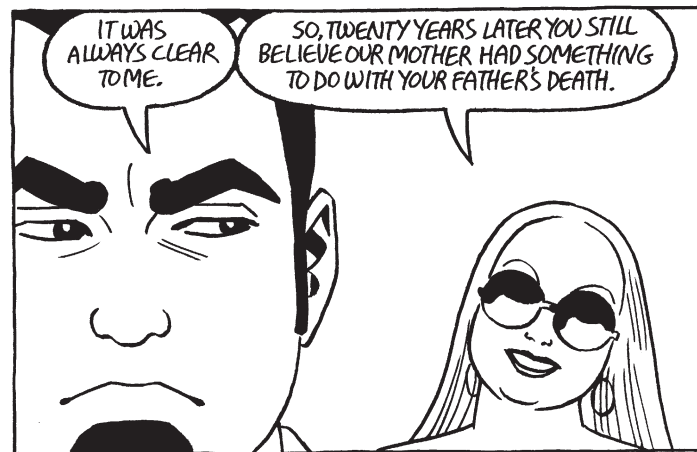
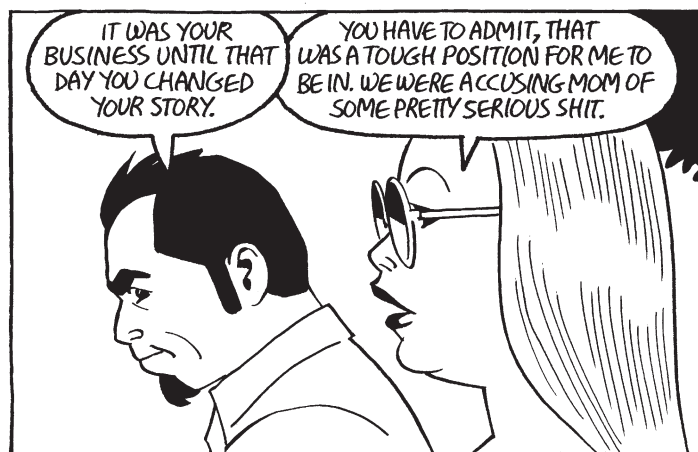
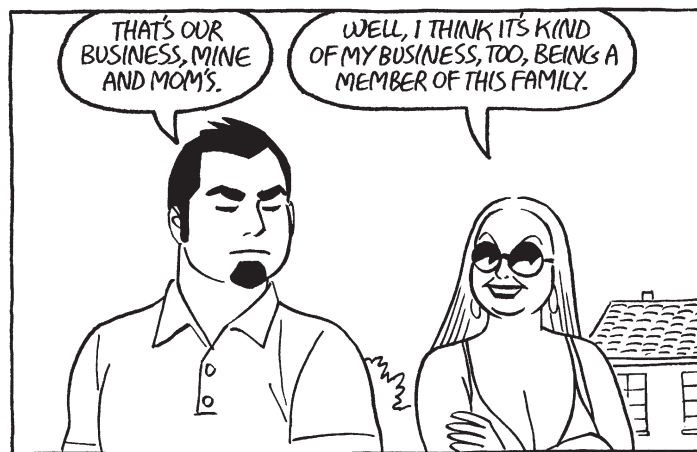
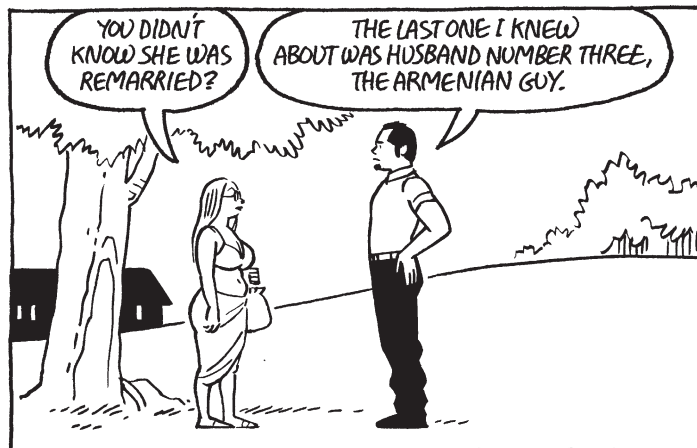
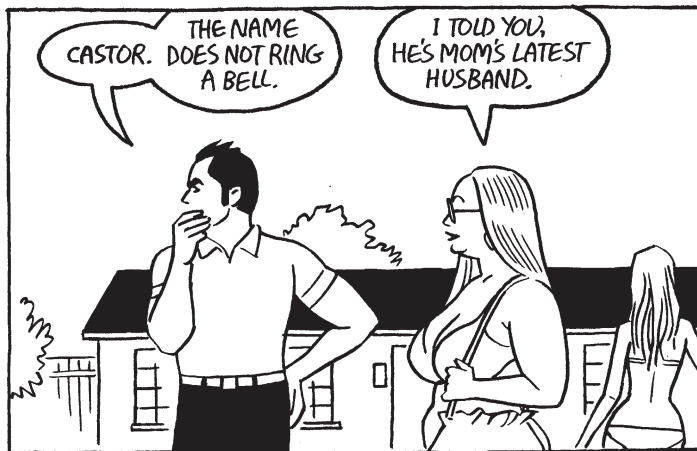


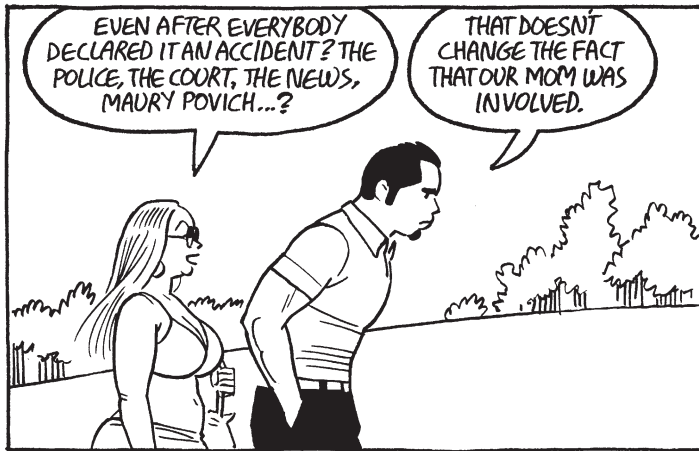
# URCHINS



XAIMC/13 1.

# CRIMEN DOS





EVEN AFTER EVERYBODY DECLARED IT AN ACCIDENT? THE POLICE, THE COURT, THE NEWS, MAURY POVICH...?

THAT DOESN'T CHANGE THE FACT THAT OUR MOM WAS INVOLVED.



BUT YOU DON'T THINK IT WAS AN ACCIDENT.

NEITHER DO YOU OR YOU WOULDN'T BE HERE.

SO, SAY IT AND GET IT OVER WITH...



I THINK WE CAN REALLY NAIL THE OLD BITCH THIS TIME.

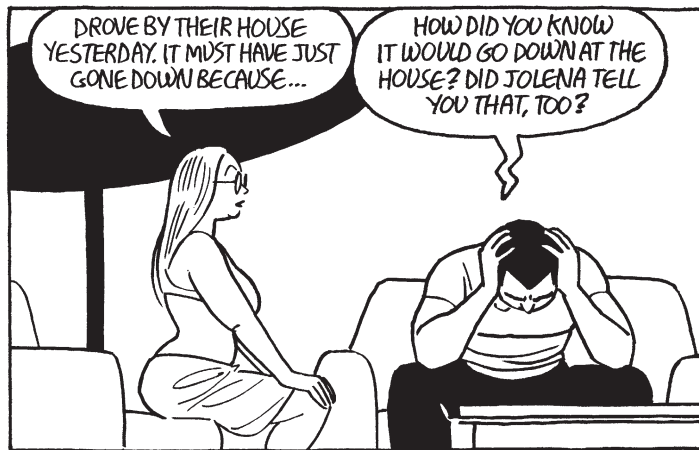
THIS TIME I'M WITH YOU ALL THE WAY.

OOF.



ISH, I'M SERIOUS.

I BELIEVE YOU, BUT ARE YOU FUCKIN' SHITTING ME?

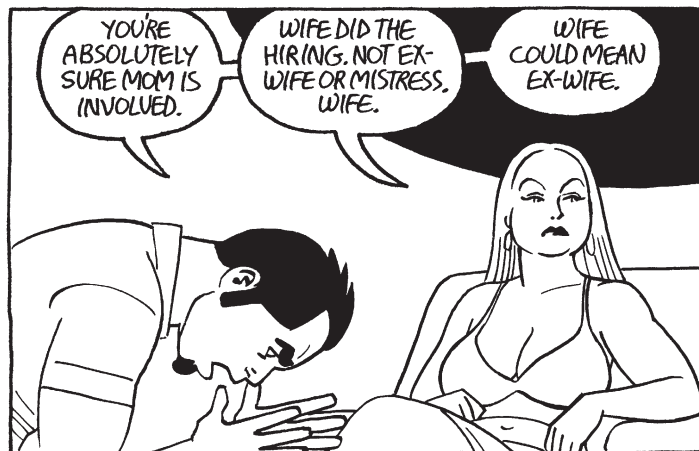


DROVE BY THEIR HOUSE YESTERDAY. IT MUST HAVE JUST GONE DOWN BECAUSE...

HOW DID YOU KNOW IT WOULD GO DOWN AT THE HOUSE? DID JOLENA TELL YOU THAT, TOO?



LOOK, IF YOU THINK I HAD SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS, SAY SO! I WANNA HELP YOU PUT MOM AWAY BUT I DIDN'T WANT THIS POOR SUCKER WHACKED TO HELP OUR CASE, EITHER!



YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY SURE MOM IS INVOLVED.

WIFE DID THE HIRING. NOT EX-WIFE OR MISTRESS, WIFE.

WIFE COULD MEAN EX-WIFE.



LOOK, WE CAN SIT ALL DAY AND PLAY DETECTIVE OR WE CAN LET REAL DETECTIVES DO IT.

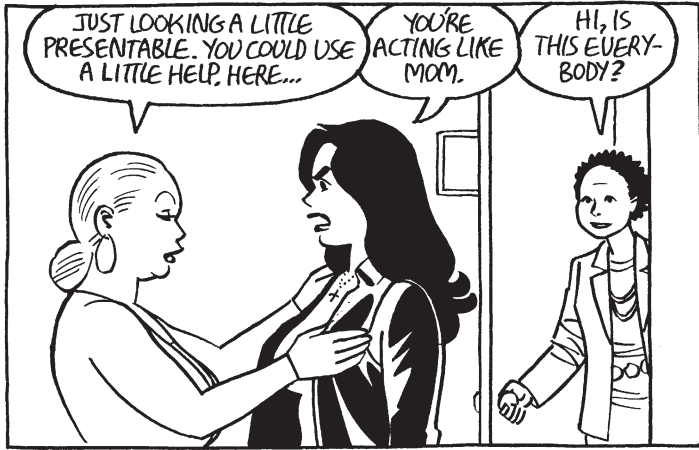
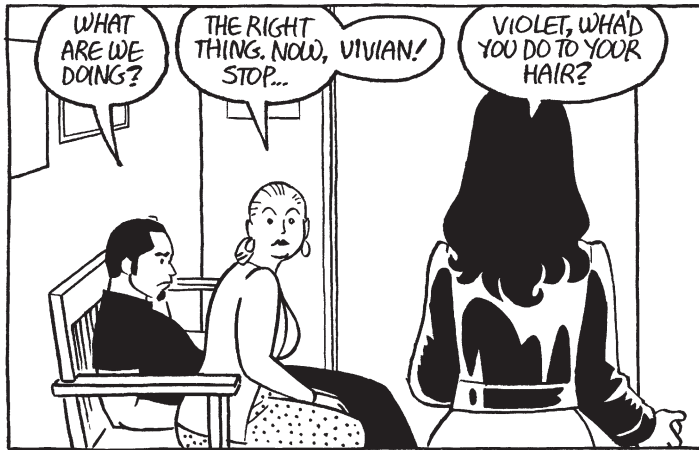
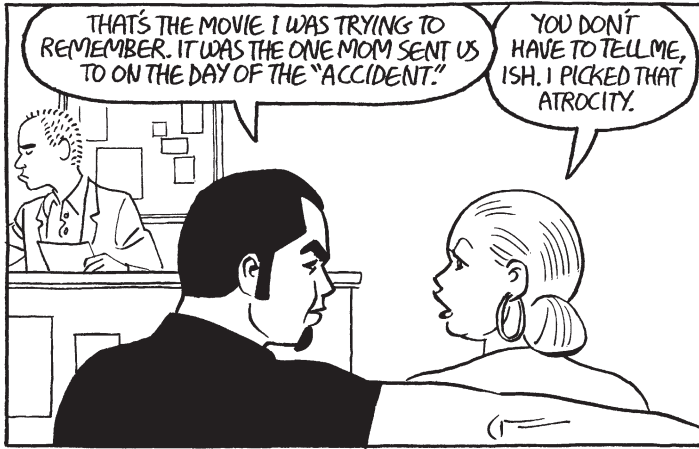
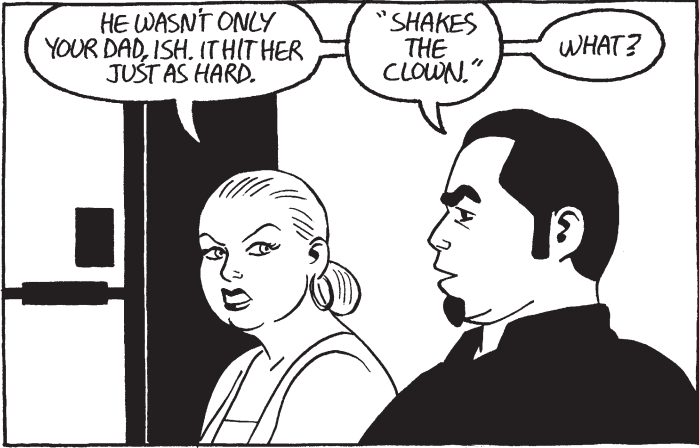
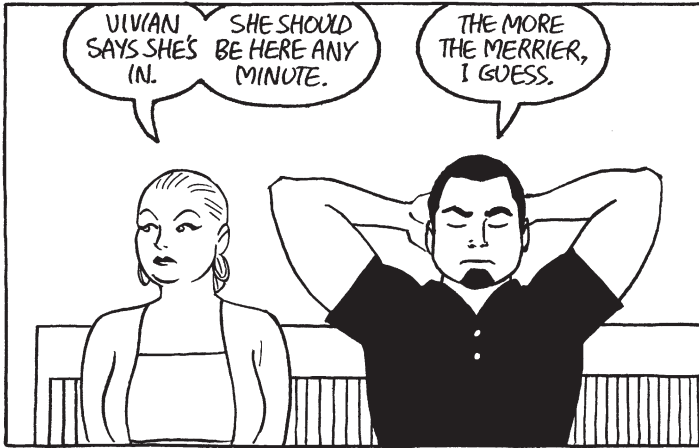
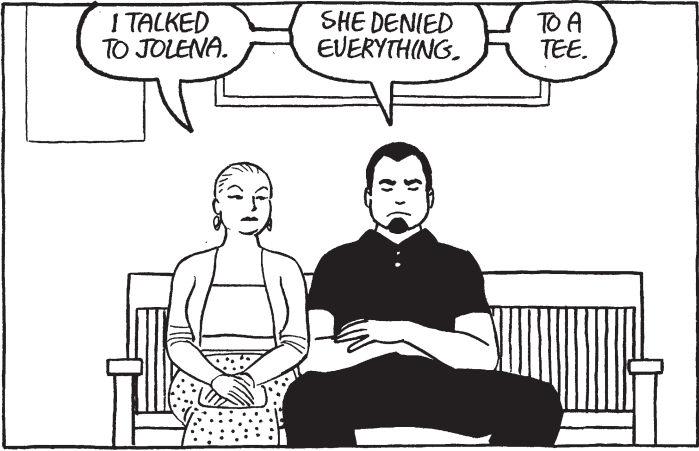
I'M WILLING TO TAKE THE CHANCE OF BEING CALLED CRAZY, AT LEAST FOR OLD A'S SAKE...

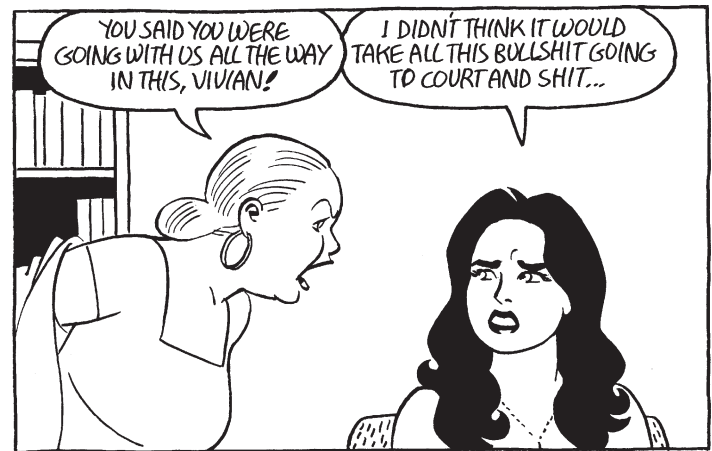
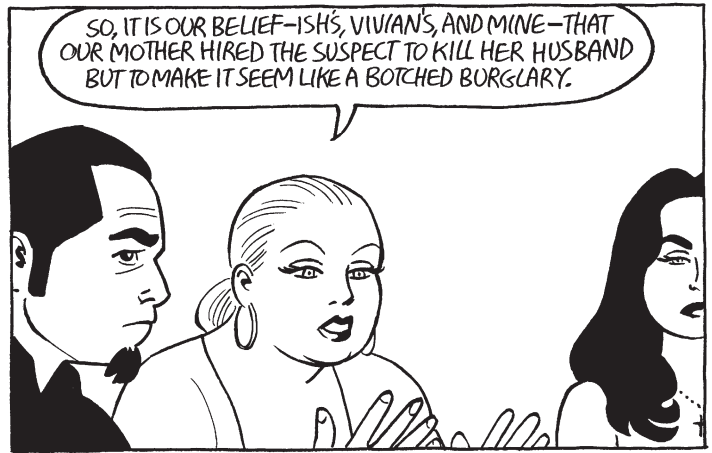
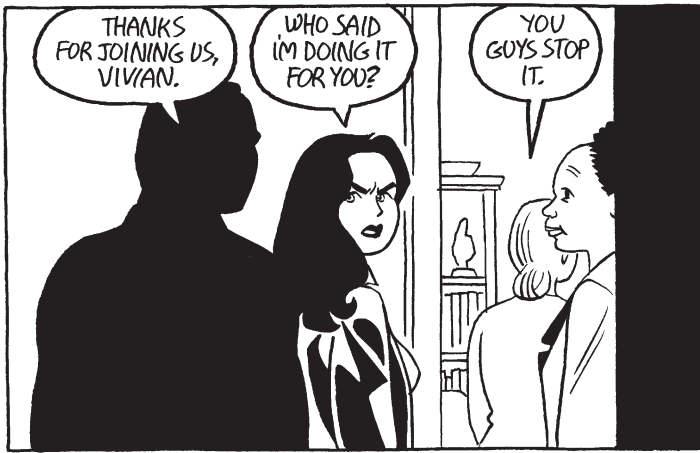
HOW ABOUT YOU, ISH?

XAINC13 2.

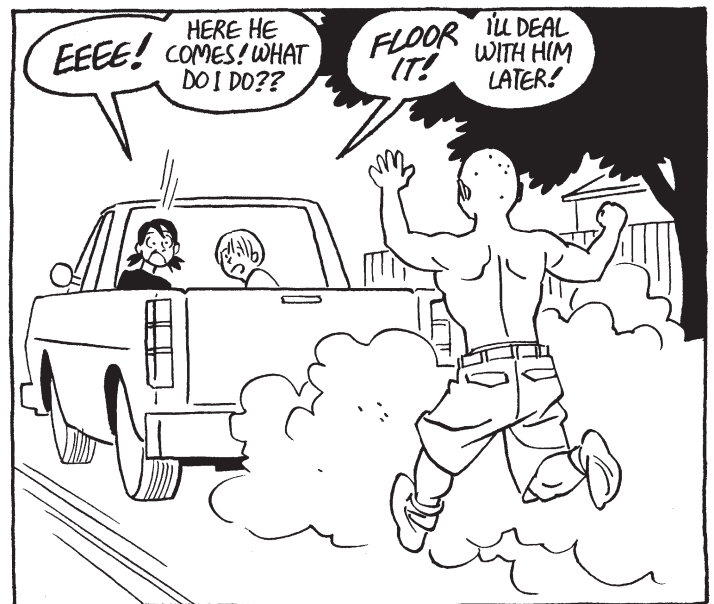
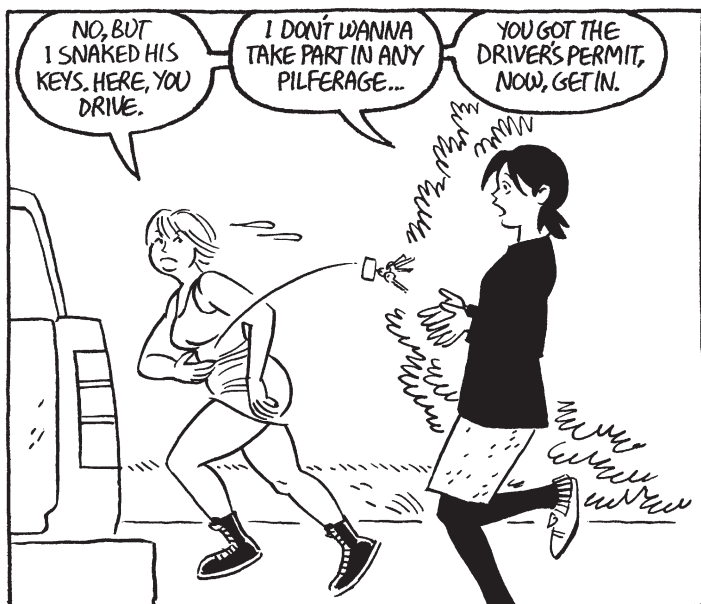
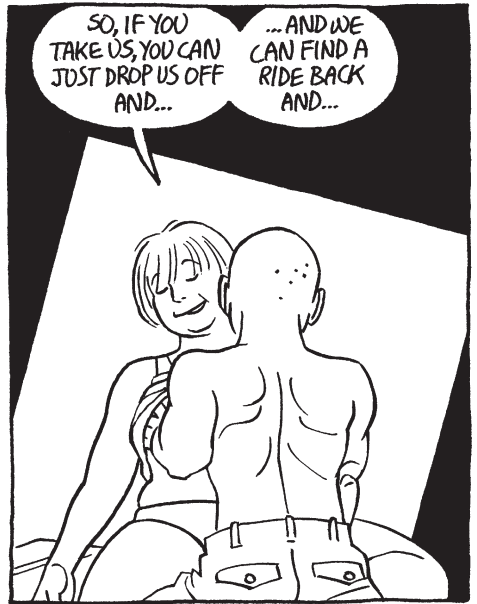
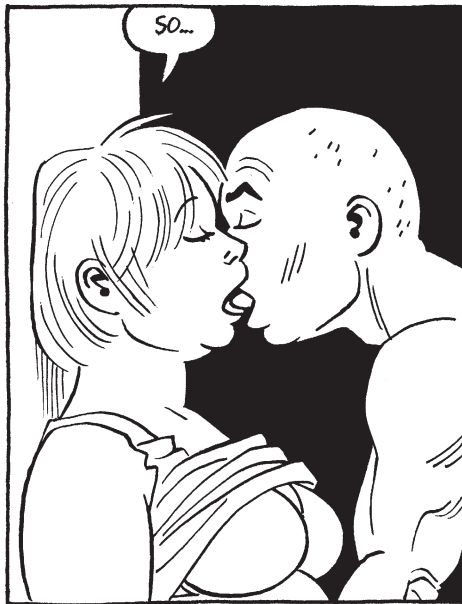
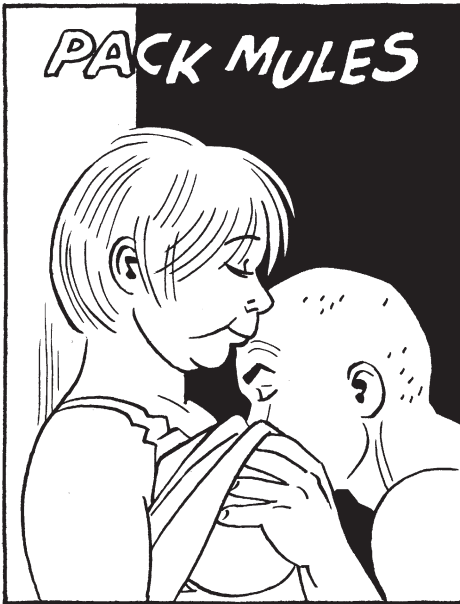
# CRIMEN

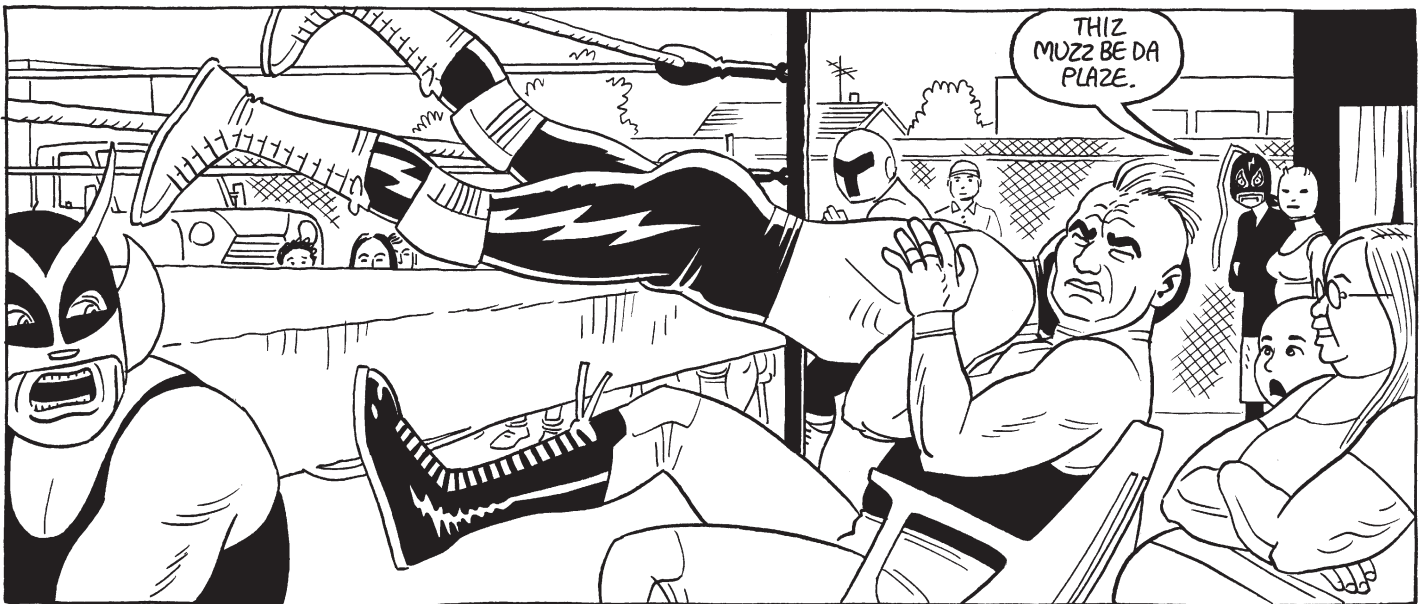
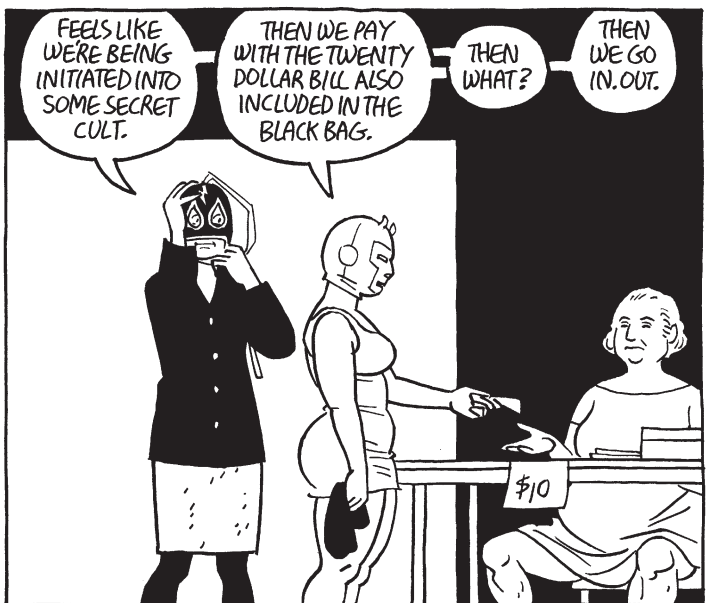
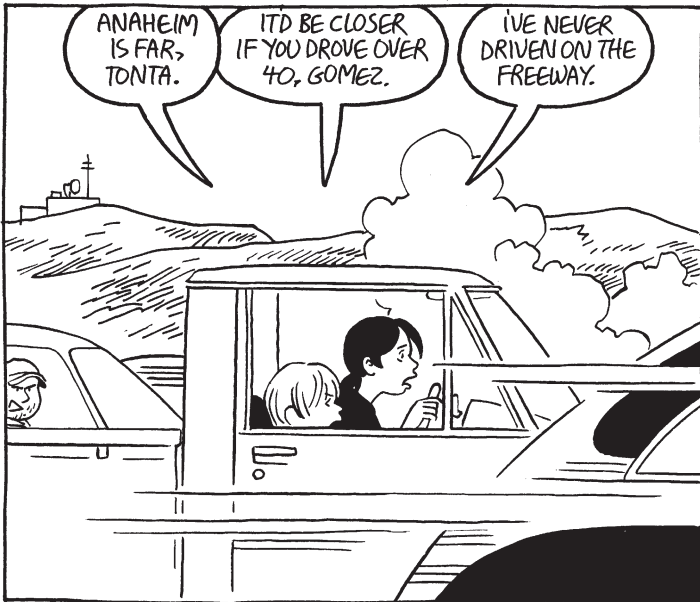
## TRES

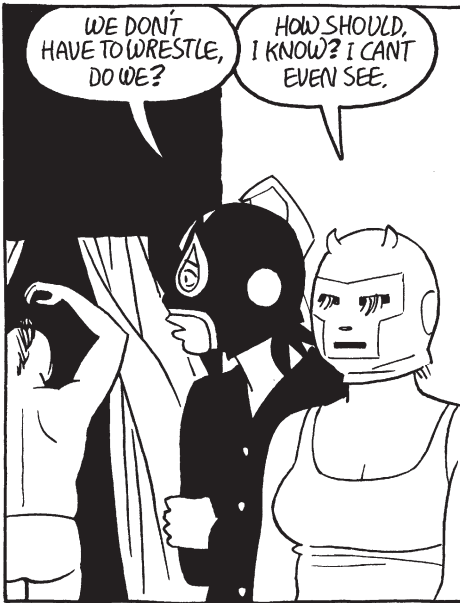




# PACK MULES







WE DON'T HAVE TO WRESTLE, DO WE?

HOW SHOULD I KNOW? I CAN'T EVEN SEE.



THAT MUST HAVE BEEN BOMBERO INFANTIL AND MINI ELVIS VERSUS BIGOTE AZUL AND MONSTER BOY.

OK, BUT WHERE IS...?



GRETCHEN?

"LA MEDUSA ARBOLADA" IF YOU PLEASE. SIT, YOU'RE JUST IN TIME.



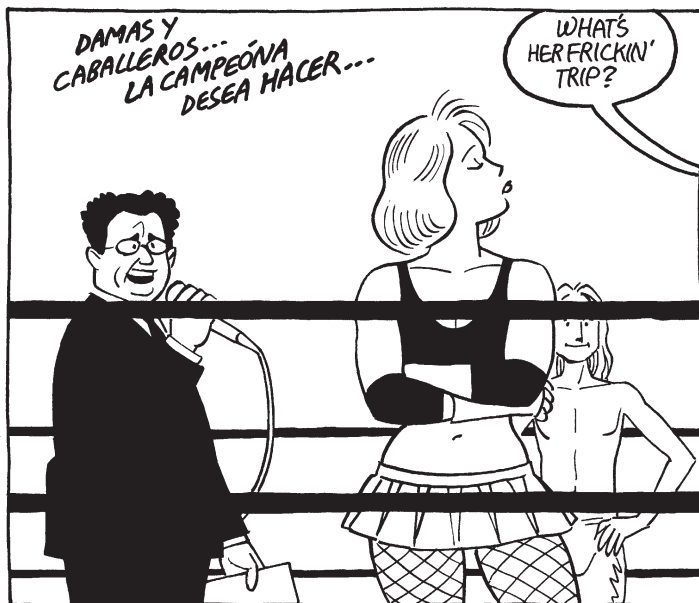
NICE TO MEET YOU AGAIN. YOU TUTORED ME ONCE.

I REMEMBER. YOU ASKED TONS OF QUESTIONS, HENCE YOUR LUCHADORA NAME, "LA INTERROGADORA INDOMABLE."



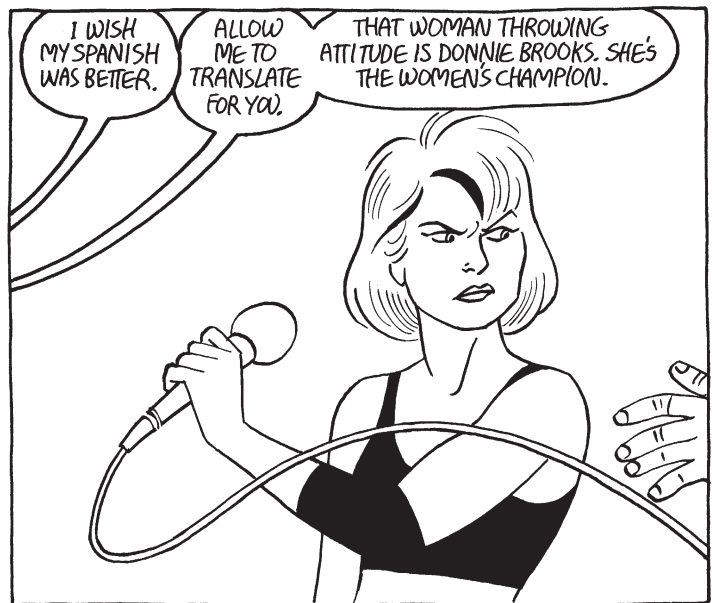
I CAN'T SEE. CAN I TAKE MINE OFF?

IT'S TOTALLY NECESSARY TO REMAIN INCOGNITO AT THIS TIME, "CIEGA NEGRA."



DAMAS Y CABALLEROS... LA CAMPEONA DESEA HACER...

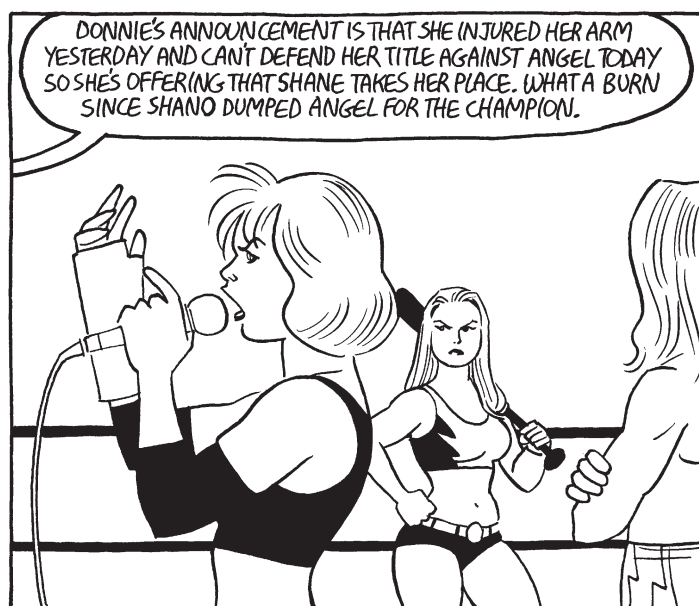
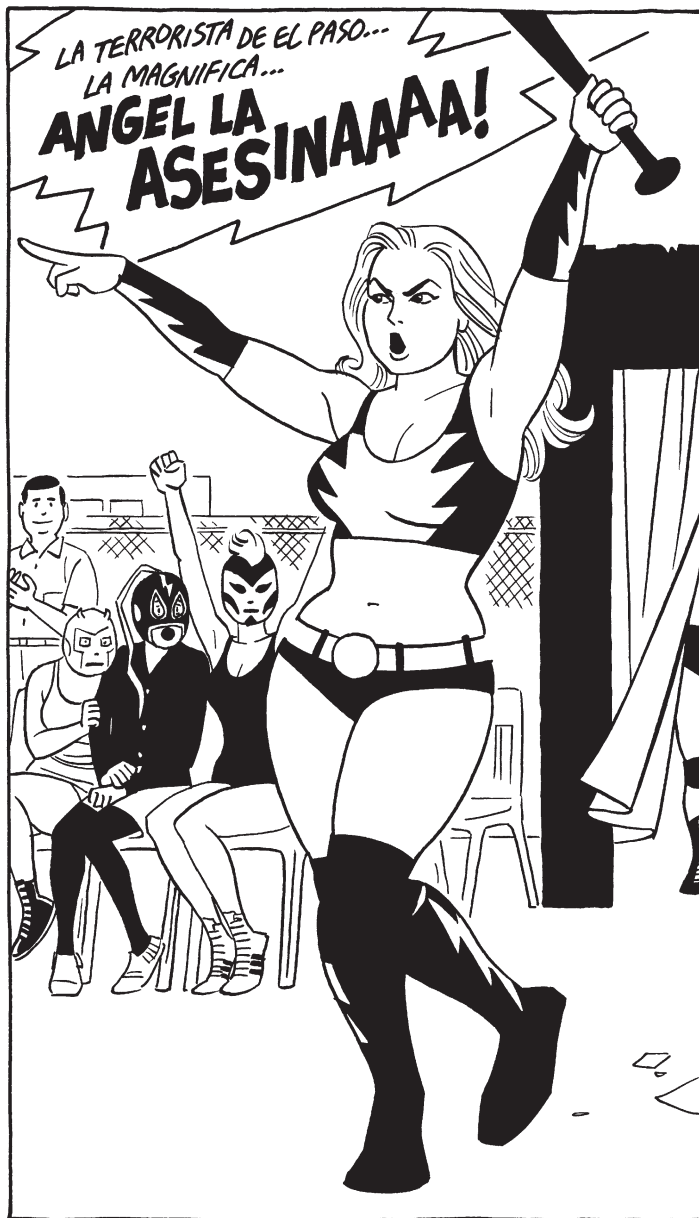
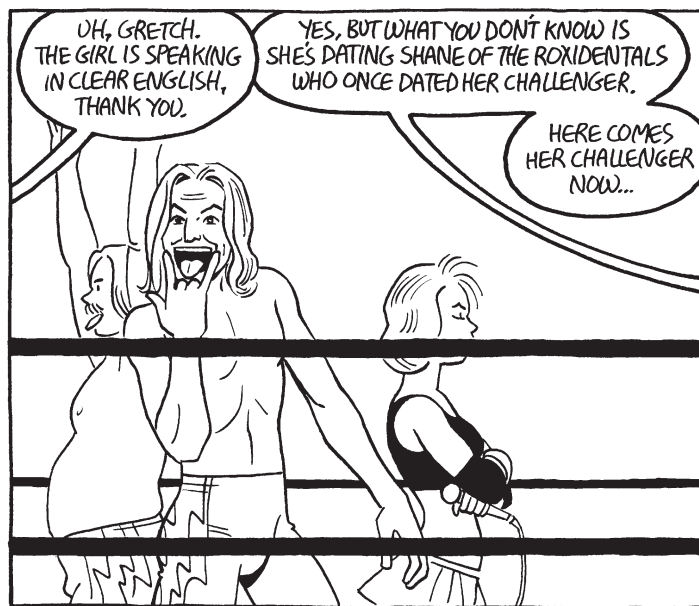
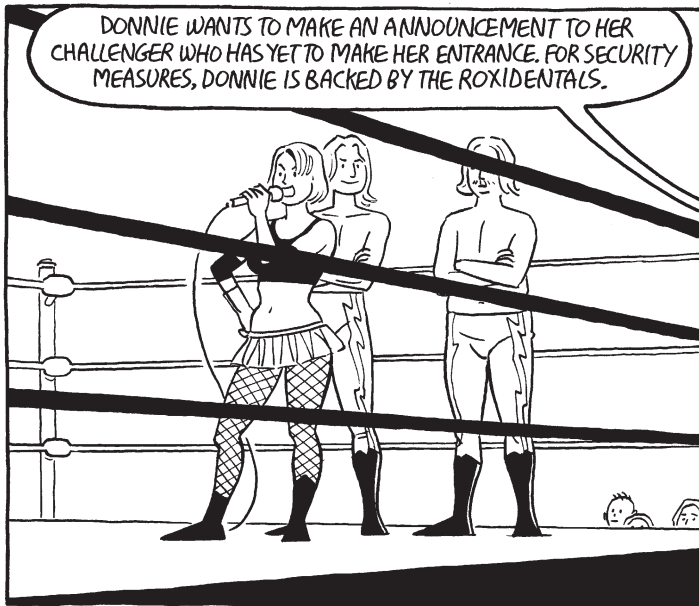
WHAT'S HER FRICKIN' TRIP?



I WISH MY SPANISH WAS BETTER.

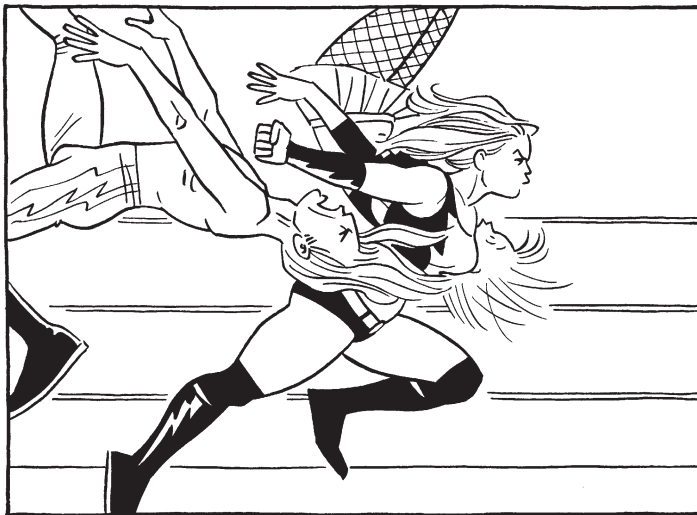
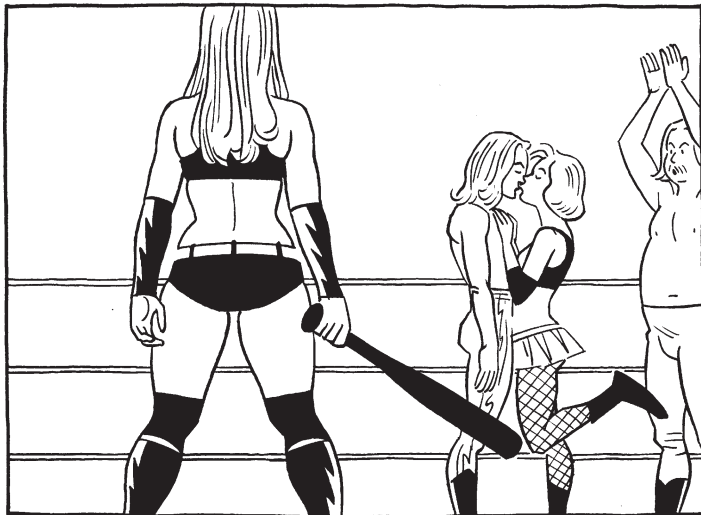
ALLOW ME TO TRANSLATE FOR YOU.

THAT WOMAN THROWING ATTITUDE IS DONNIE BROOKS. SHE'S THE WOMEN'S CHAMPION.



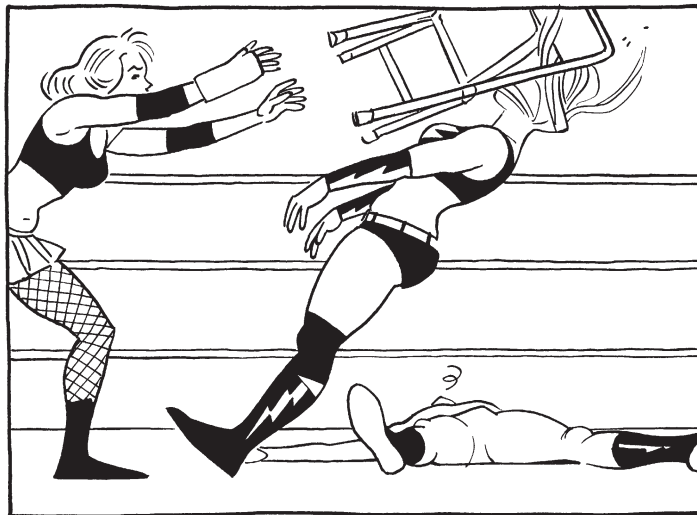
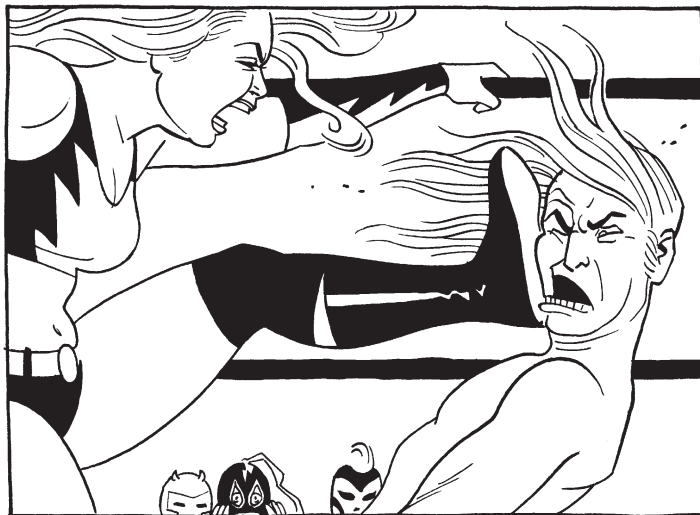
THE LAST FIVE OR SIX YEARS OF MY LIFE HAVE BEEN QUITE LIFE ALTERING. I WENT OFF TO SCHOOL IN TEXAS, BUT I WAS STILL STUCK ON MIKEY VARAN BACK HOME, AND BY SOME MIRACLE, I CONVINCED HIM TO FOLLOW ME.

I HAD NO IDEA WHAT I WAS DOING AND, I SUSPECT, NEITHER DID MIKEY. WE HAD THIS WEIRD NOT-GOING-ALL-THE-WAY-BOY/GIRLFRIEND-NOT-BOY/GIRLFRIEND RELATIONSHIP THAT SORT OF JUST FLOATED THERE IN LIMBO.



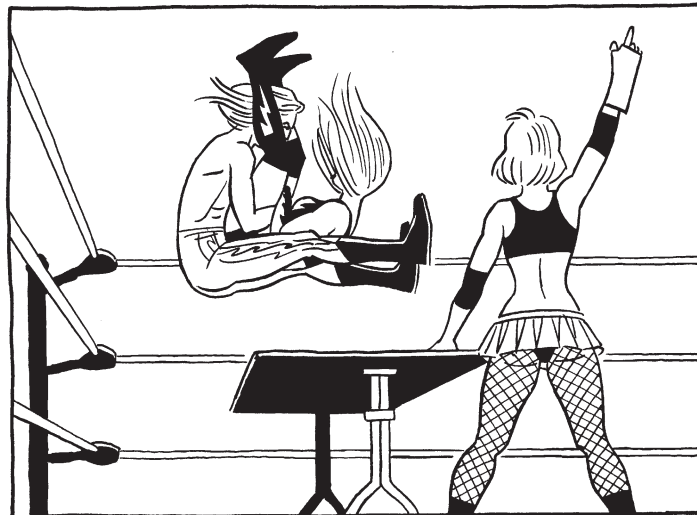
WHILE I DID MY SCHOOL THING, MIKEY GOT A JOB AT A MUSIC STORE AND JOINED A BAND. I WAS HAPPY THAT HE FOUND A REASON TO STICK AROUND THOUGH I WAS TOTALLY CLUELESS HOW TO FILL MY END.

HE STARTED TO GET CLOSE TO HIS LEAD SINGER. SHE WAS EVERYTHING I WASN'T. CONFIDENT, OUTGOING, EXPERIENCED. SHE STEPPED IN, STOLE MIKEY'S HEART AND STOMPED ON MINE. IT ALL HAPPENED SO FAST.



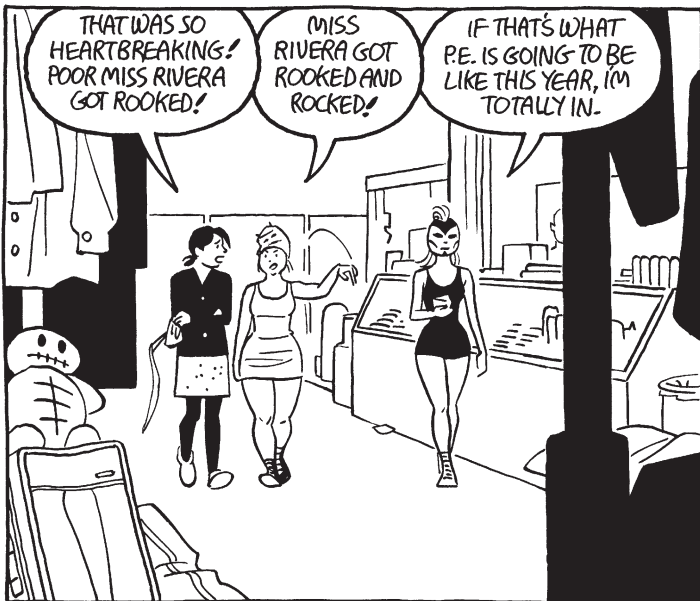
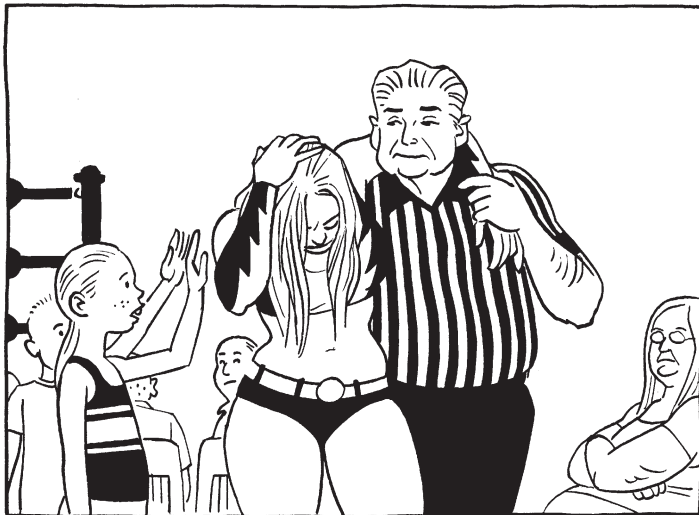
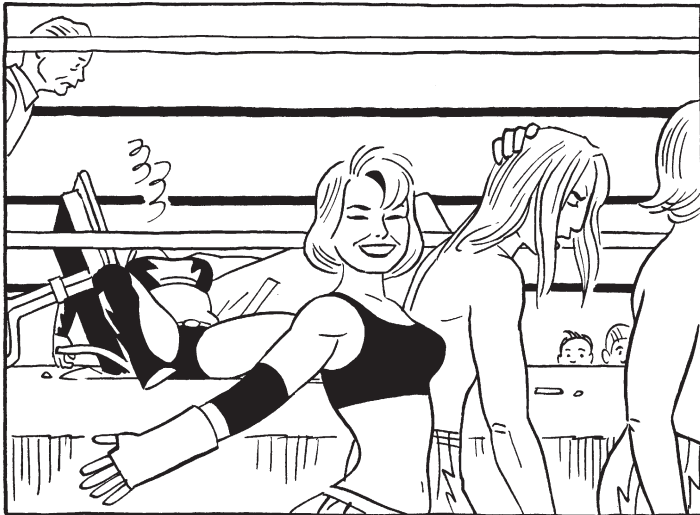
WHEN I TRIED TO FIGHT FOR WHAT I THOUGHT WAS MINE, MIKEY TURNED ON ME AND USED MY HALFWAY ROMANCING AS HIS REASON TO LEAVE. I WAS WAY TOO NAIVE TO REALIZE THAT SEX WOULD HAVE KEPT HIM HOME NIGHTS.

NOW WE BOTH KNOW WE SHOULD HAVE NEVER BEEN TOGETHER IN THE FIRST PLACE, BUT AT THE TIME I WAS FLOORED. I SUFFERED MY FIRST HEART-WRENCHING DUMPING WHERE MOST KIDS HAVE THEM YEARS EARLIER.



LUCKILY, MY FRIEND MAGGIE'S TEXAS RELATIVES AND FRIENDS WERE THERE TO CUSHION THE BLOW. THEY TOOK ME IN AS ONE OF THEIR OWN. INTRODUCED ME TO A WHOLE NEW TYPE OF RECREATIONAL ACTIVITY.

AFTER I GRADUATED I CAME HOME TO SO CAL. (I'M REUNITED WITH MY FAMILY AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO MY NEW JOB AS P.E. TEACHER AT BRADBURY GIRLS' SCHOOL. BEYOND THAT IS ANYONE'S GUESS.



THAT WAS SO HEARTBREAKING! POOR MISS RIVERA GOT ROOKED!

MISS RIVERA GOT ROOKED AND ROCKED!

IF THAT'S WHAT P.E. IS GOING TO BE LIKE THIS YEAR, I'M TOTALLY IN.



NOW, YOU GIRLS KNOW WE CAN'T TELL ANYONE AT SCHOOL ABOUT THIS.

WHY NOT?

THIS IS MISS RIVERA'S PRIVATE LIFE, WHERE SHE GETS TO MOONLIGHT UNDER A SECRET ALTER EGO.



WOULDN'T IT BE COOL TO LEAD A SECRET DOUBLE LIFE?

I WANTED TO BE BABY BOP WHEN I WAS LITTLE.



STUDENT BY DAY...

...FOREST SPIRIT BY NIGHT?

HEH HEH...

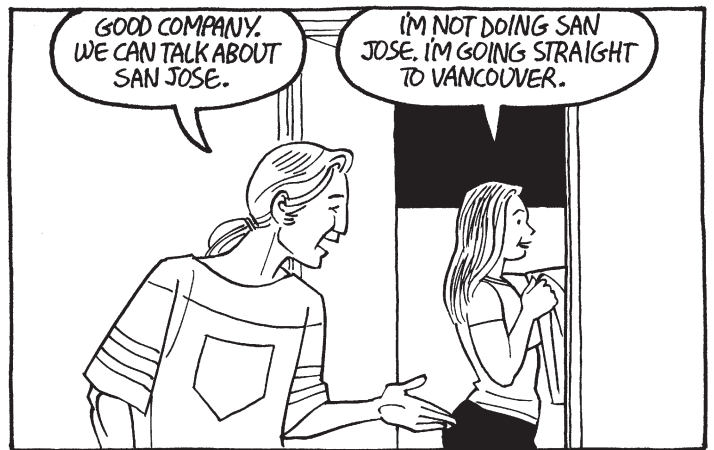
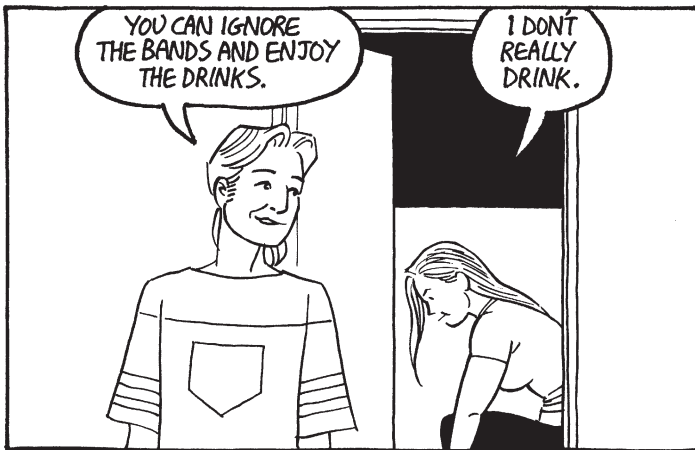
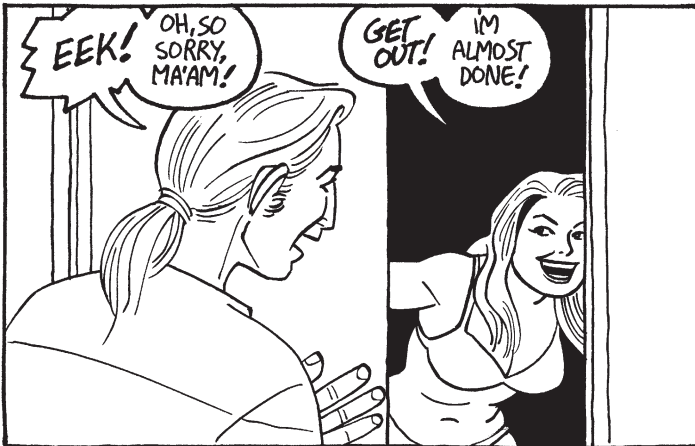
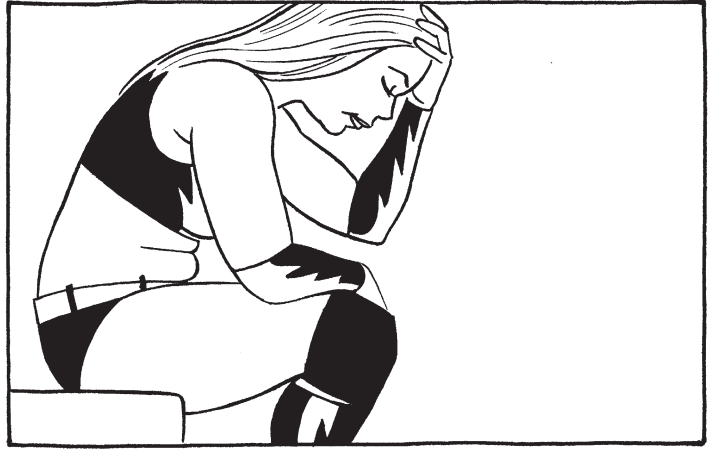


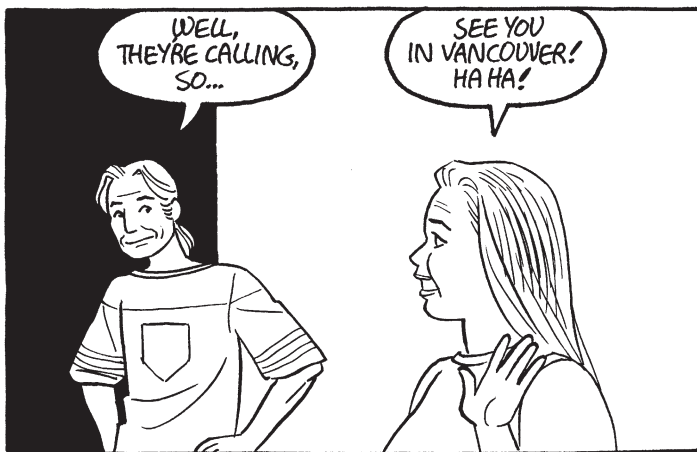
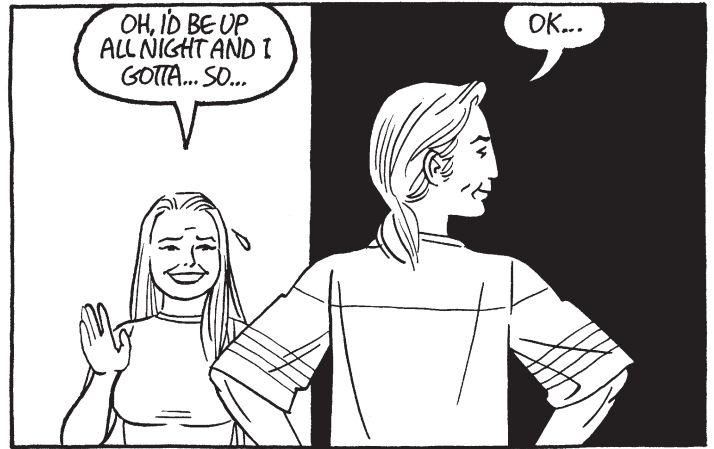
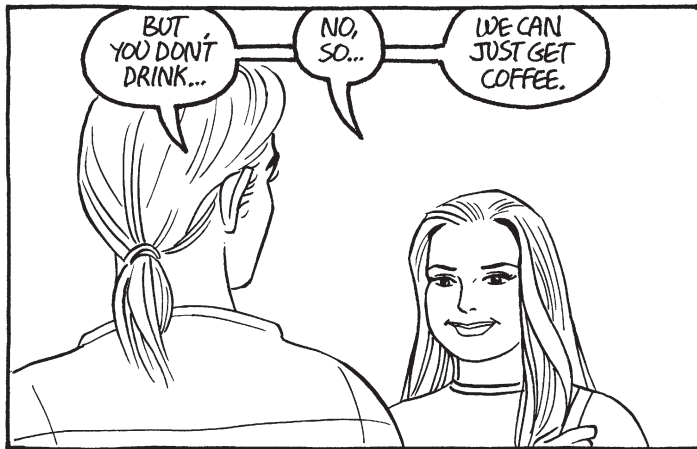
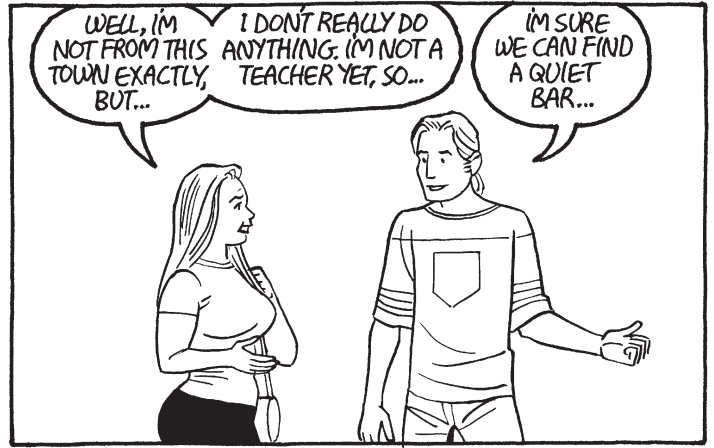
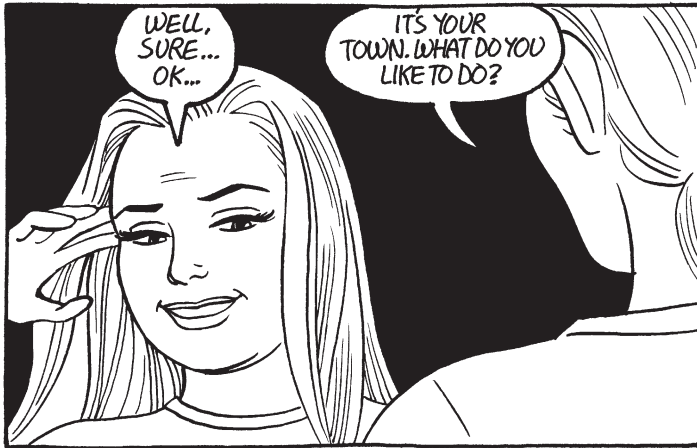
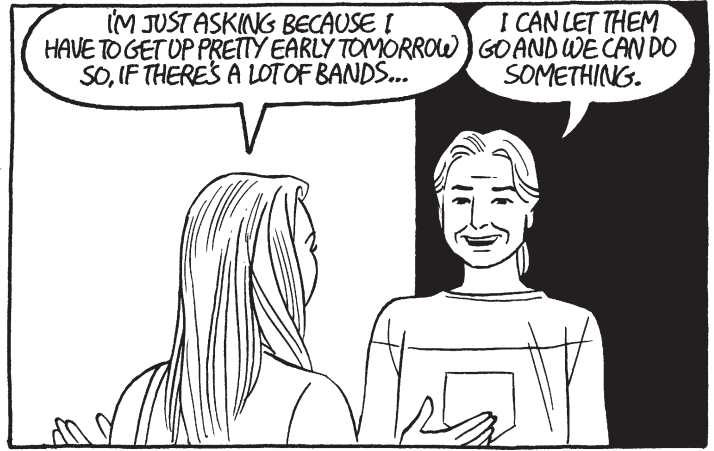
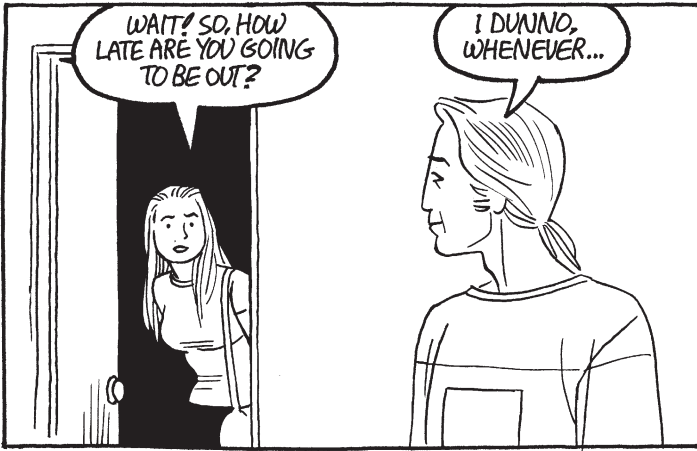
FOREST SPIRIT?

LA MEDUSA BLABLABABA WILL FILL YOU IN. I GOTTA GO PEE.

XAIMC13) 6.

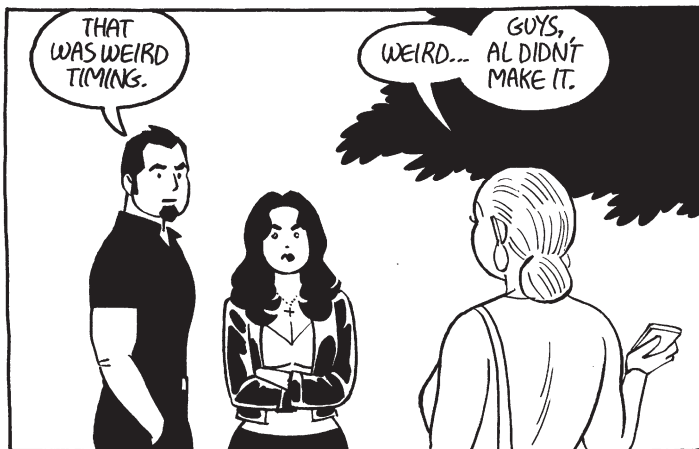
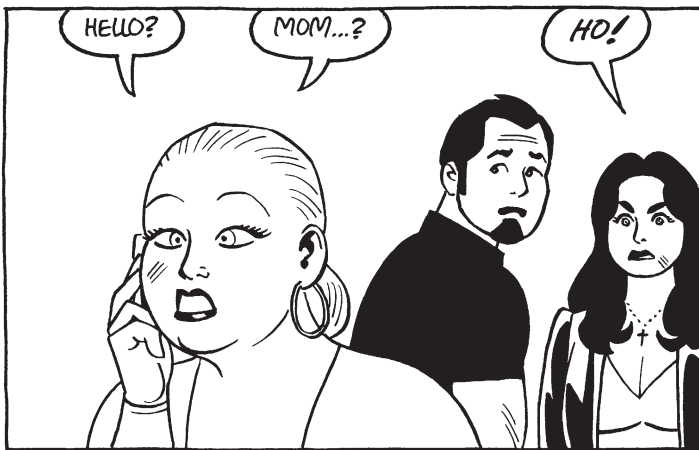
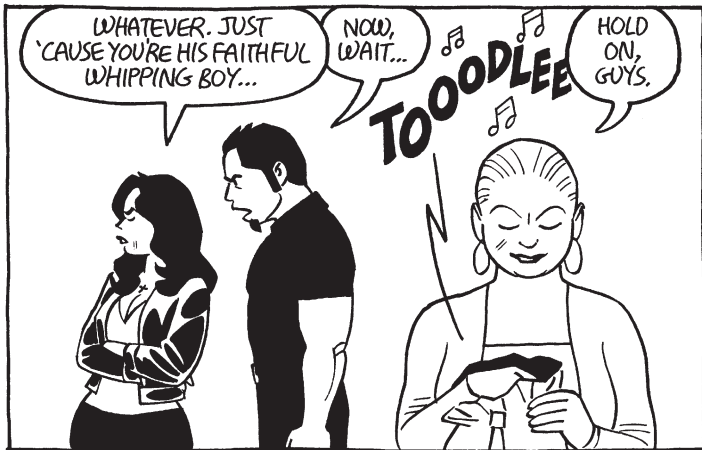
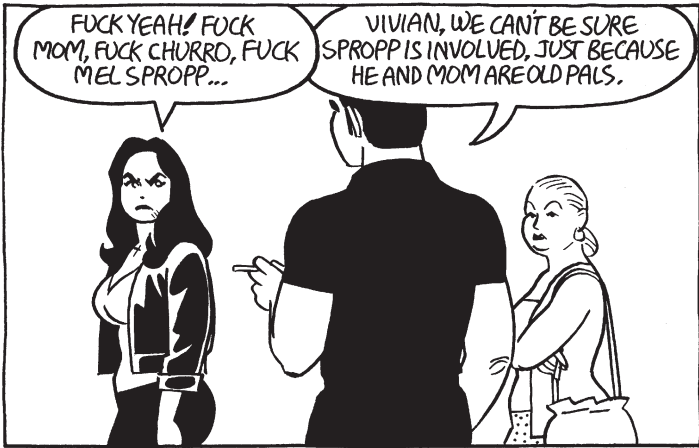
# CRESTFALLEN ANGEL

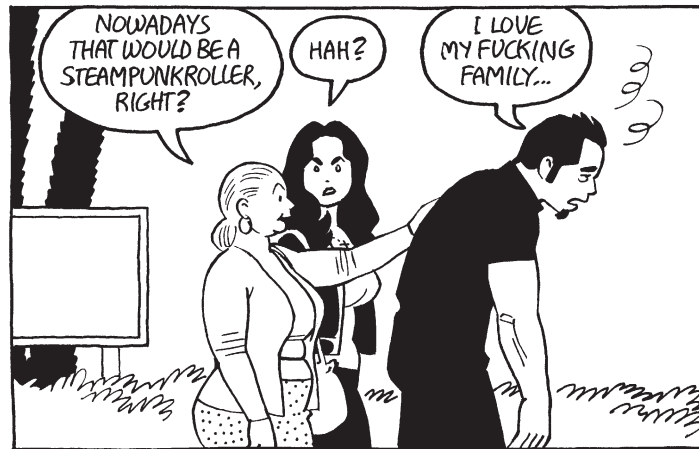
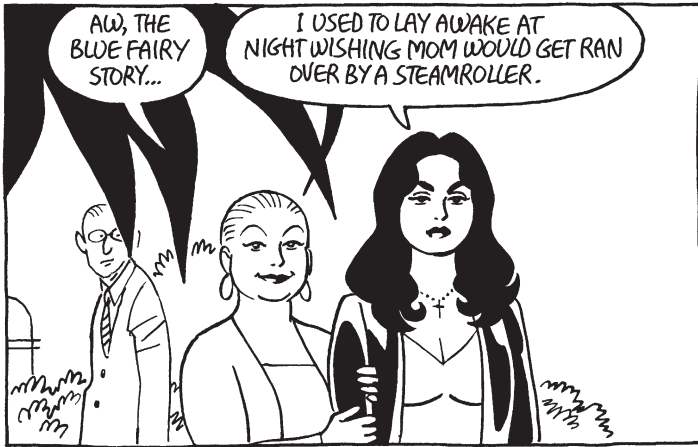
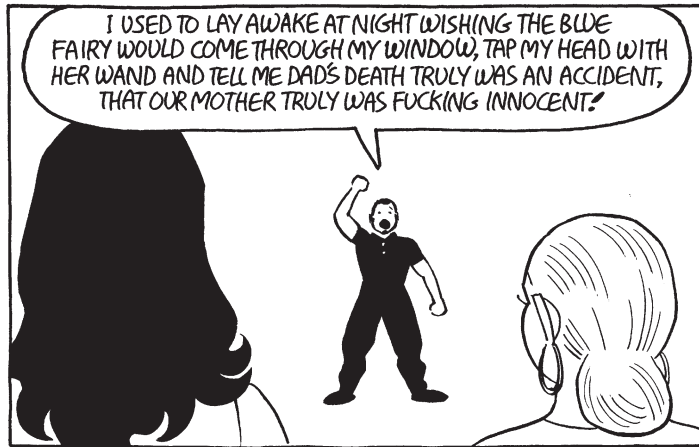




# CRIMEN

## CUATRO



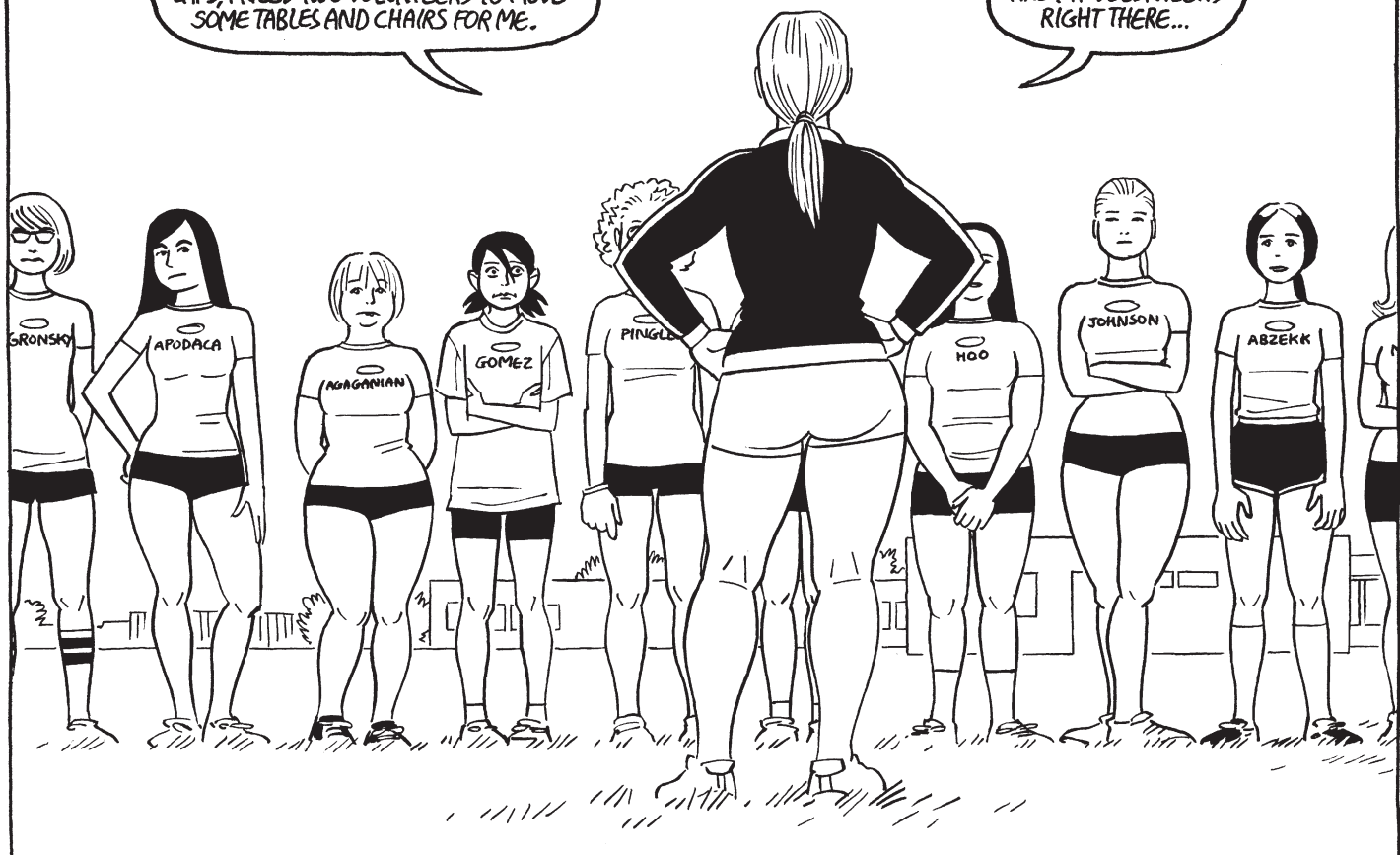


XALM/13 2.

# FAMILY LIMA F

OK, BEFORE YOU START YOUR FINAL LAPS, I NEED TWO VOLUNTEERS TO MOVE SOME TABLES AND CHAIRS FOR ME.

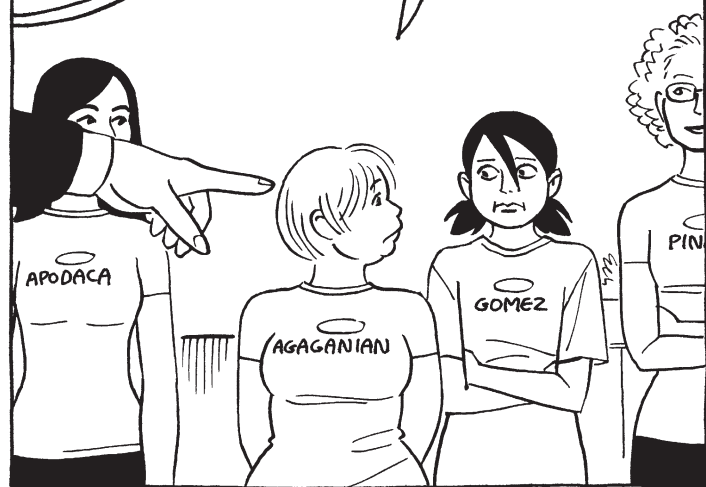
AND THERE ARE MY VOLUNTEERS RIGHT THERE...



... AGAGANIAN AND GOMEZ.

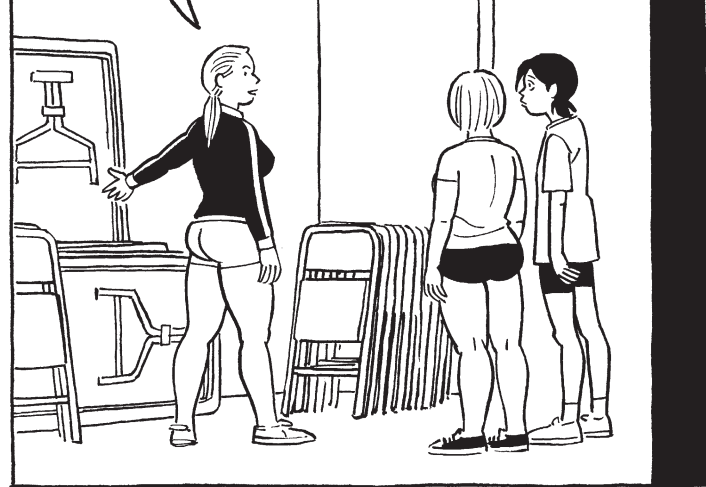
I DIDN'T RAISE MY HAND, DID YOU?

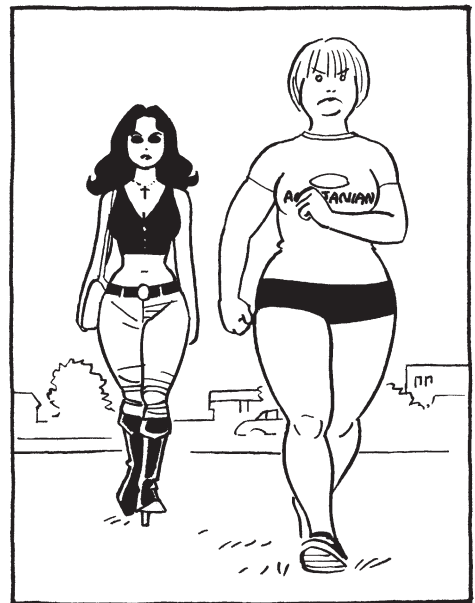
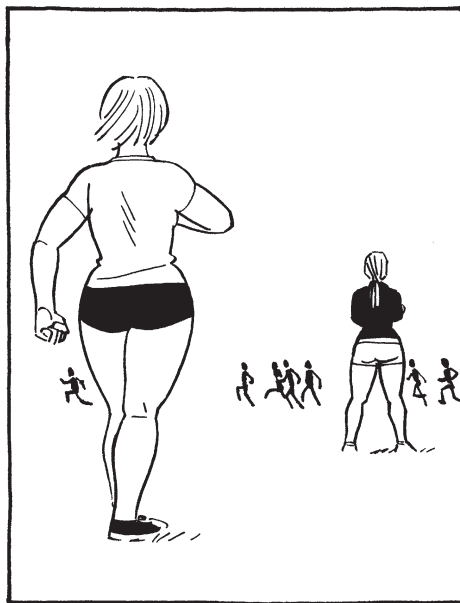
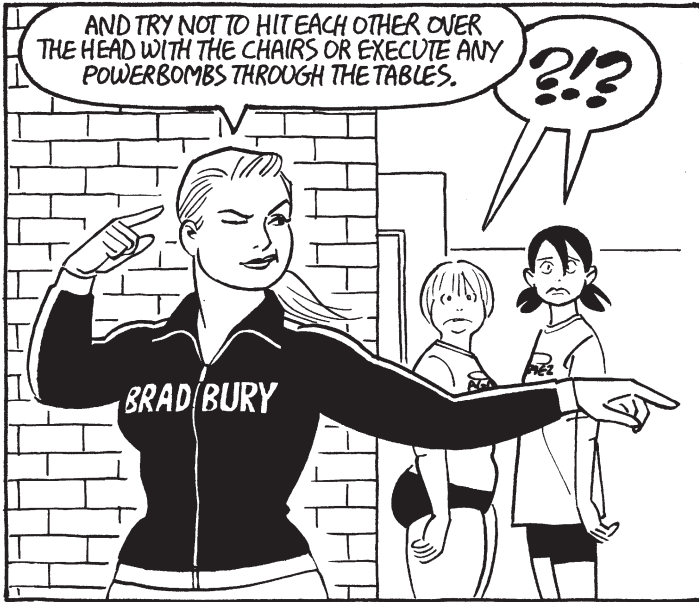
NOT ME.

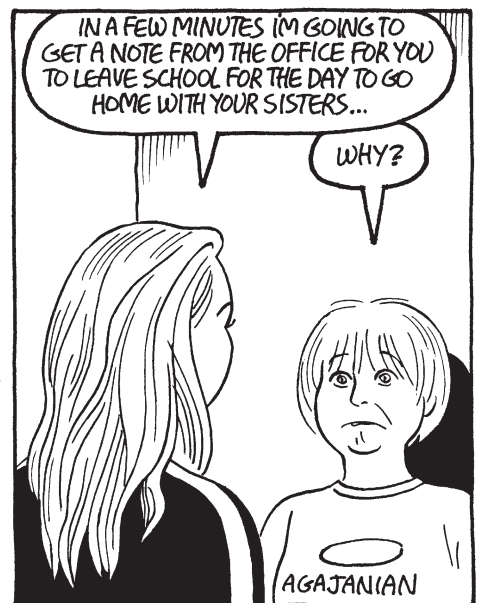
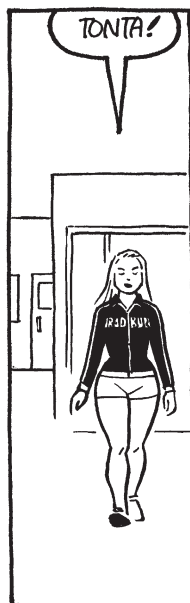
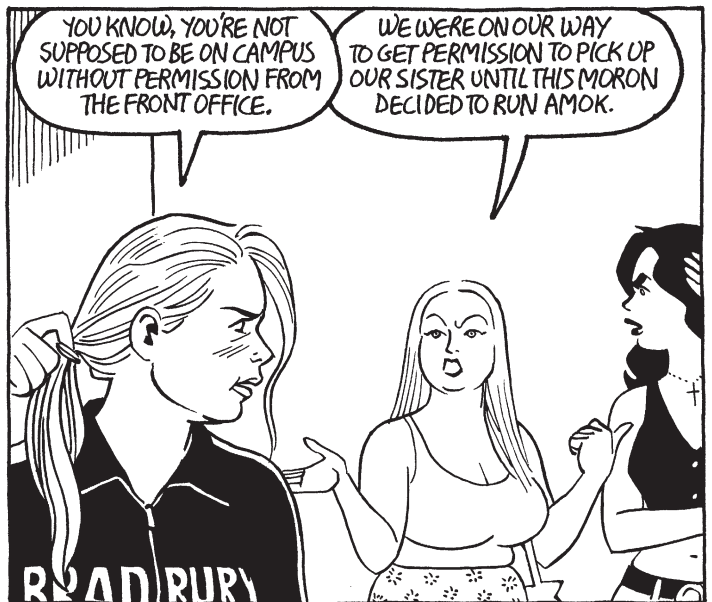
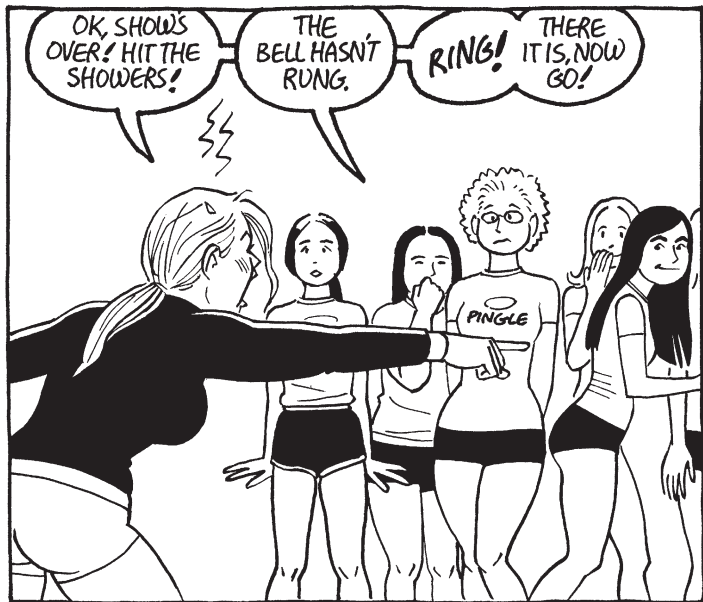
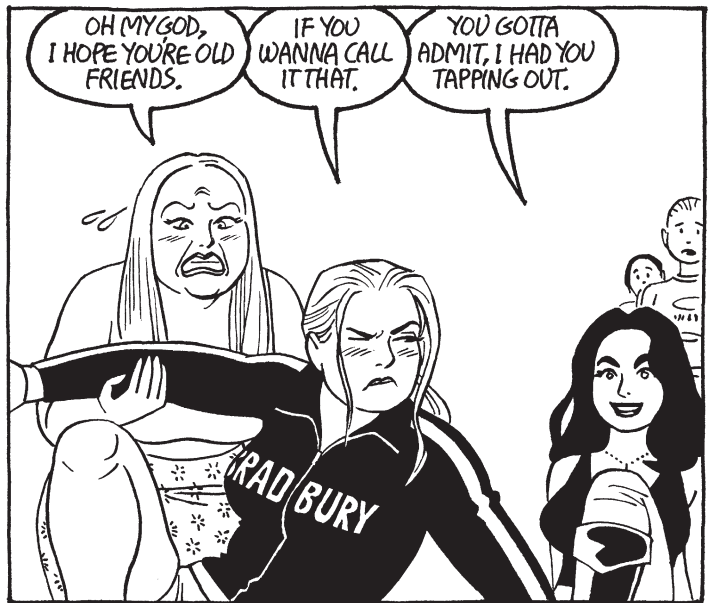
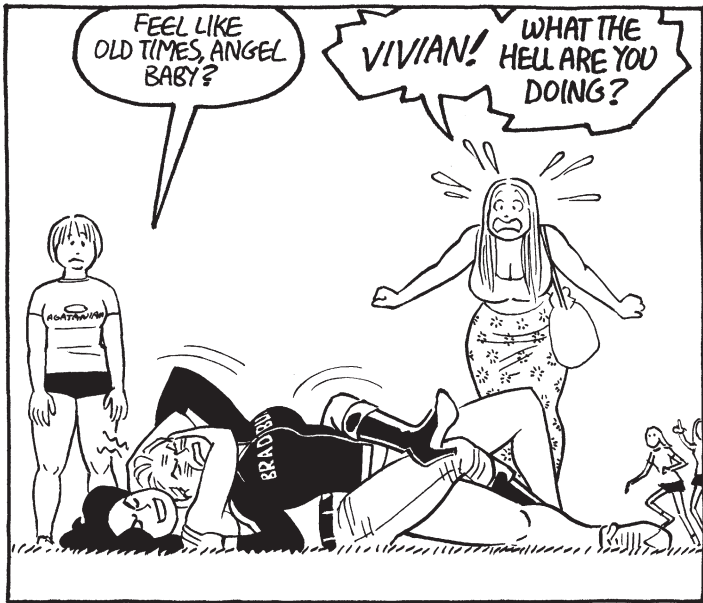


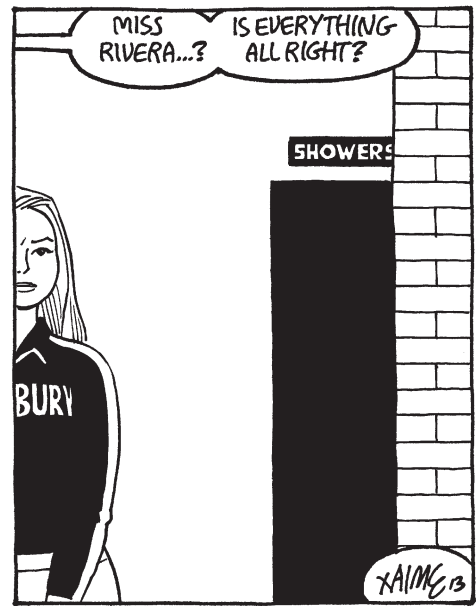
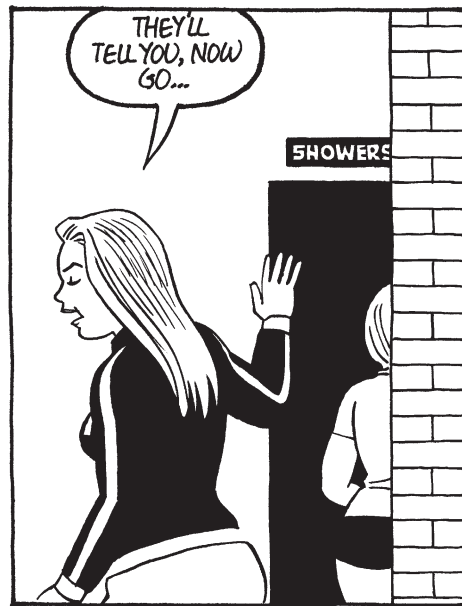
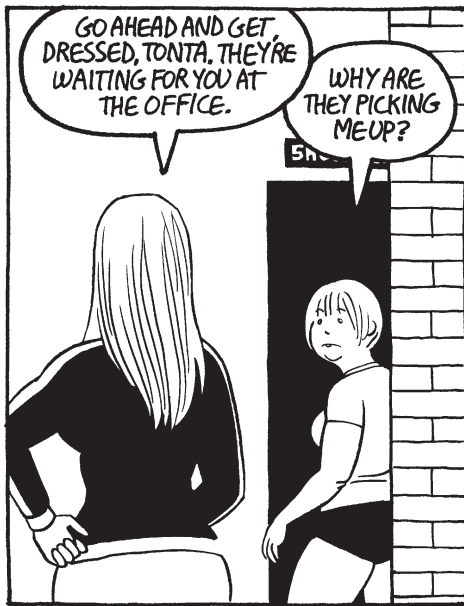
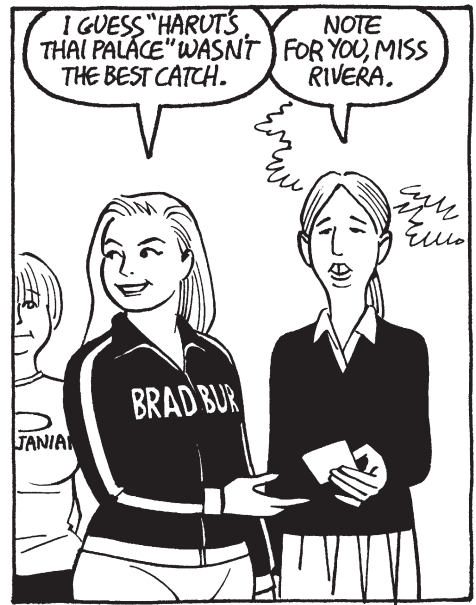
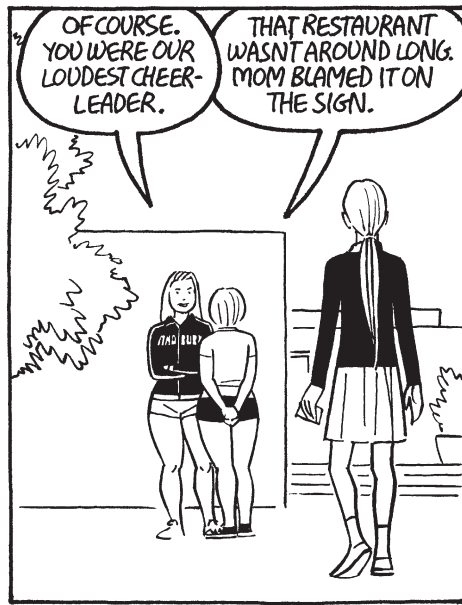
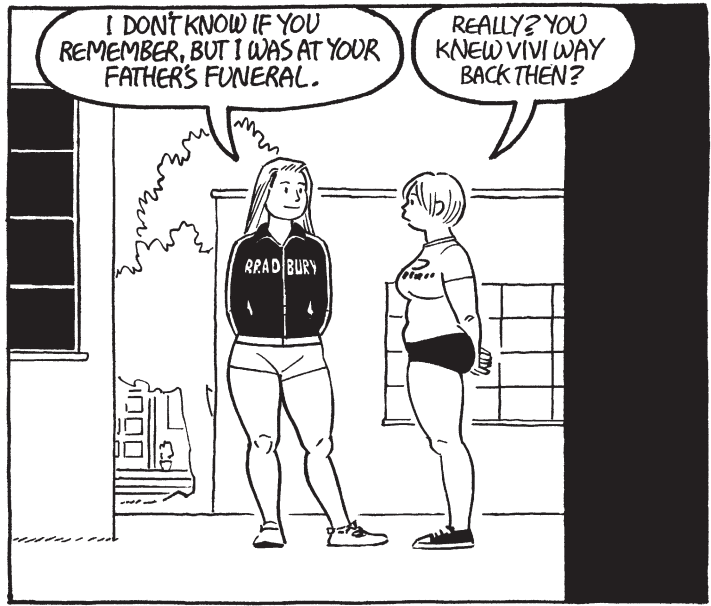
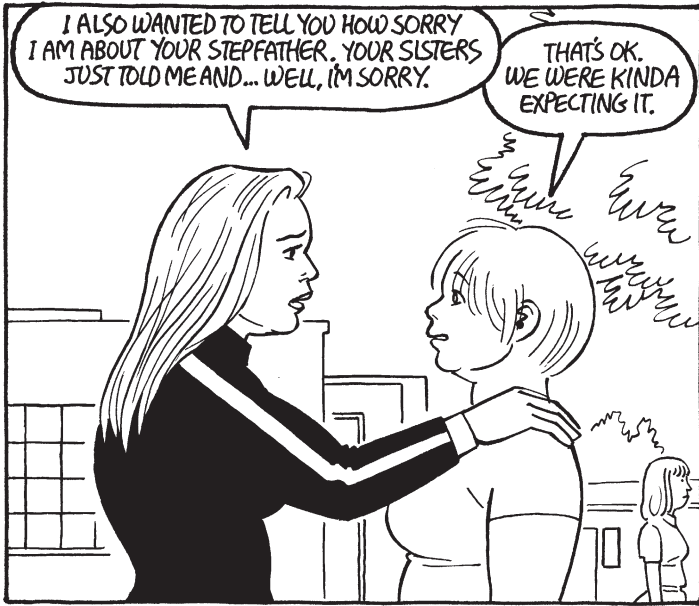
THERE THEY ARE. SEE IF YOU CAN GET 'EM ALL INTO THE GYM BEFORE THE SHOWER BELL RINGS.

MOAN...





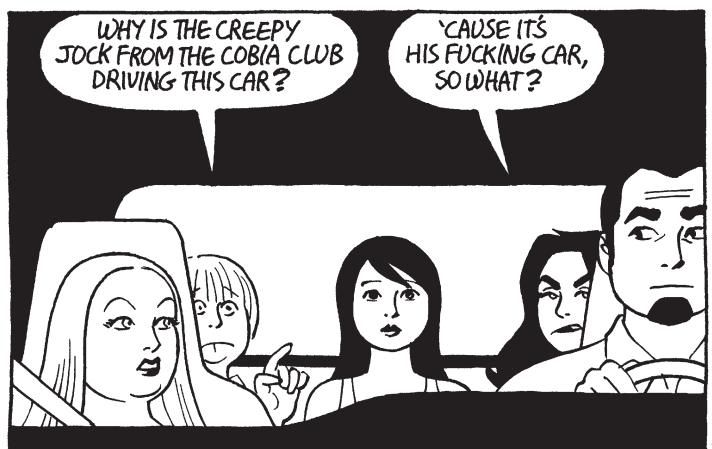
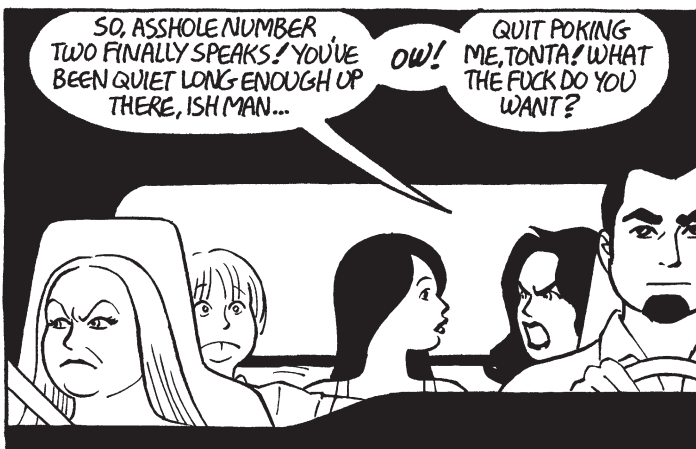
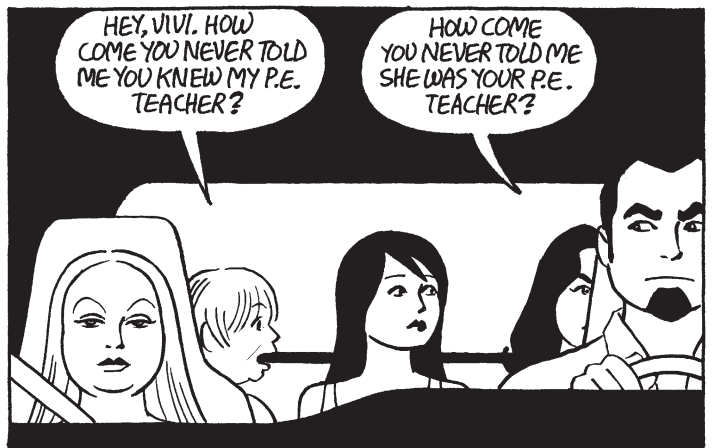
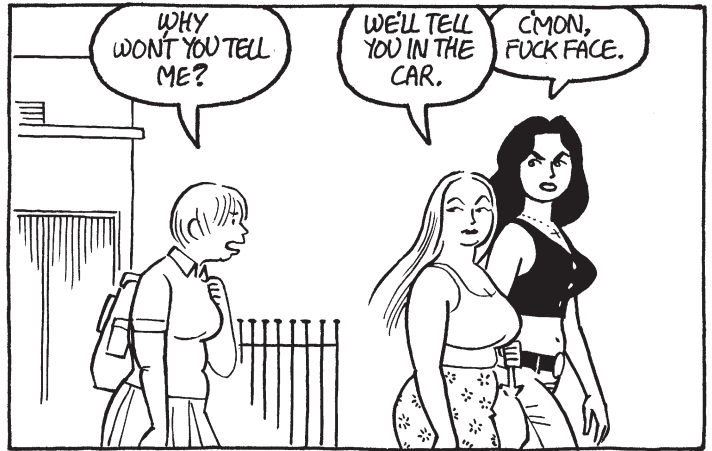


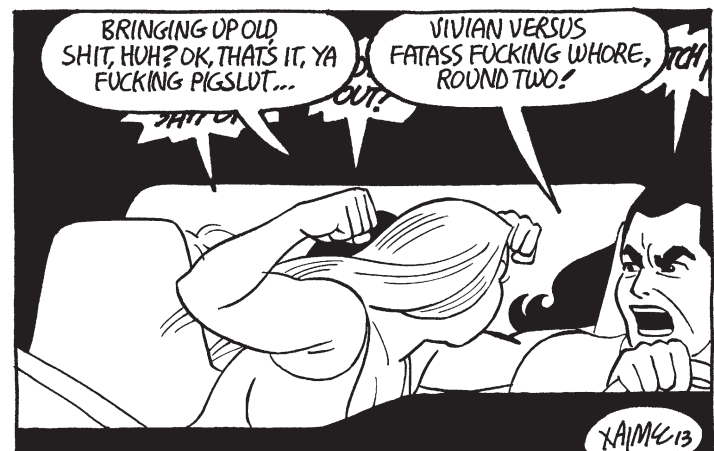
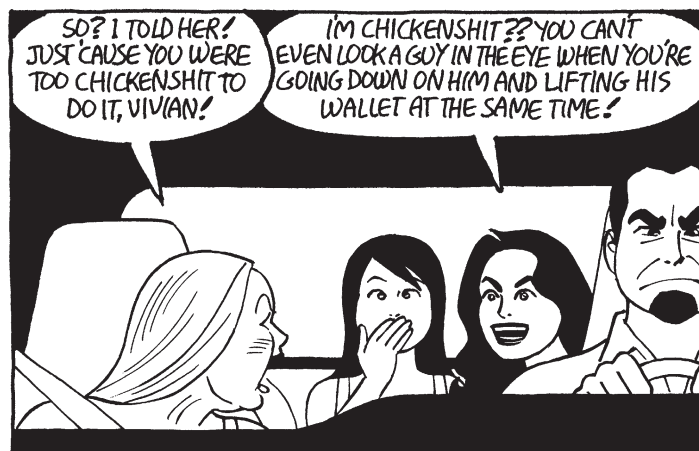
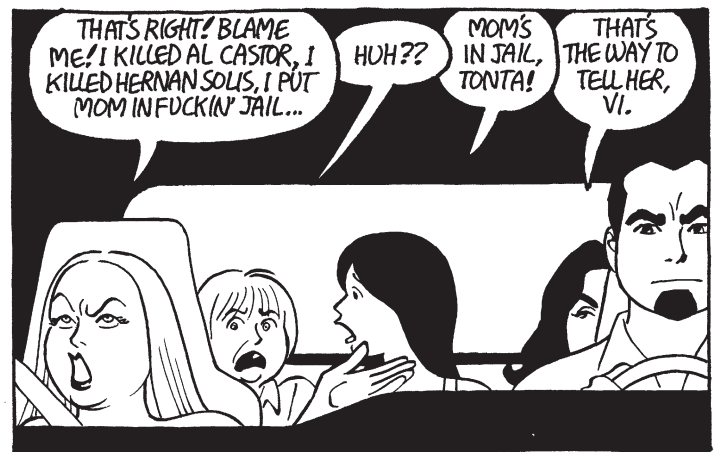
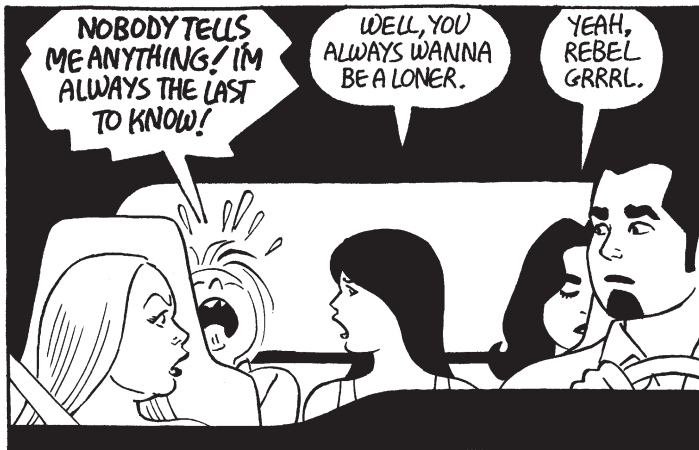
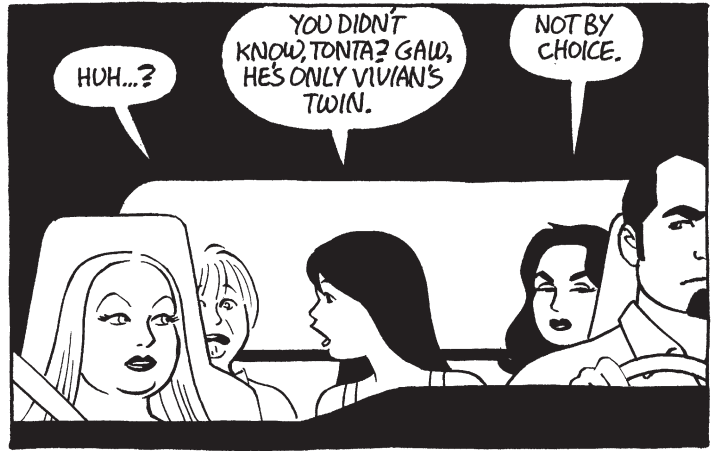


XAIMG13 4.

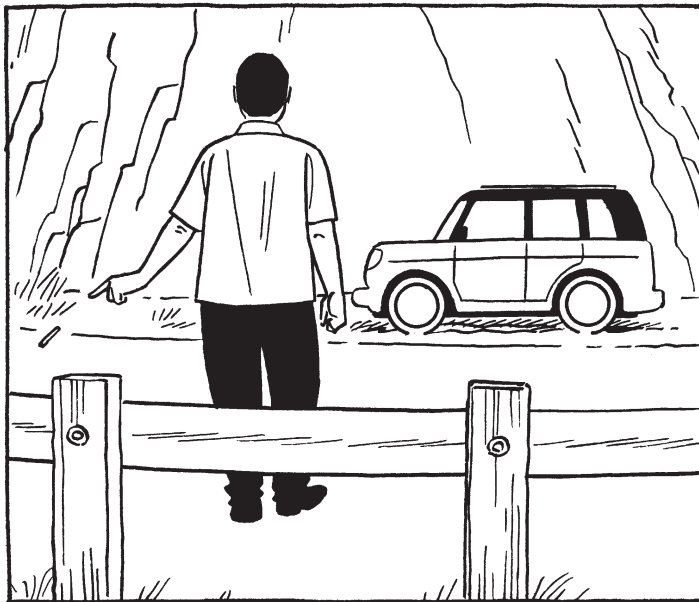
# CRIMEN

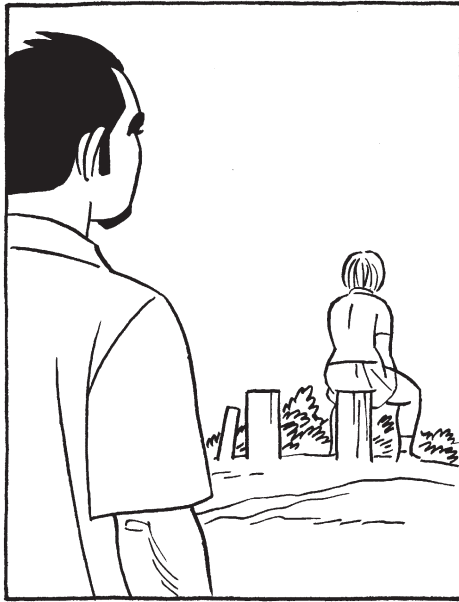
CINCO





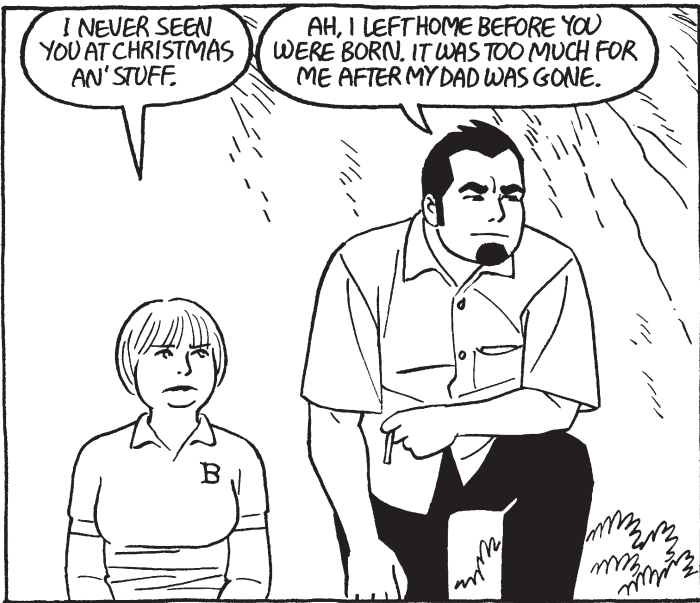
# DOGS FOLLOW DOGS





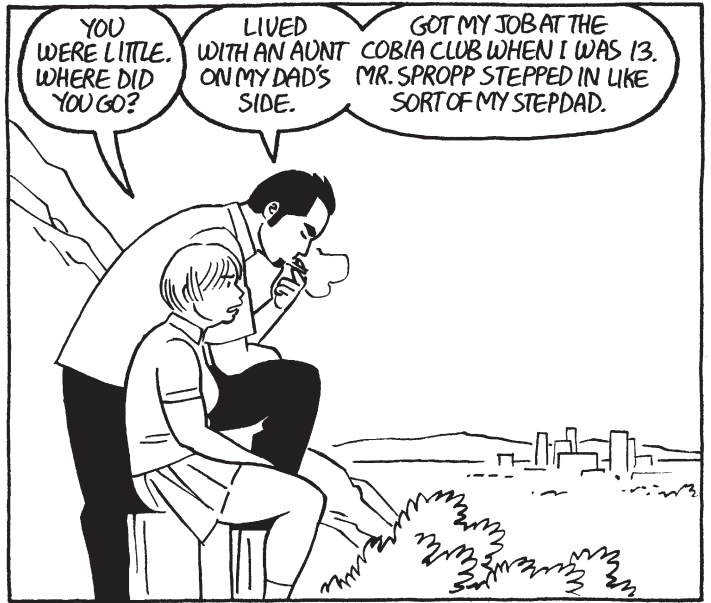
YOU'RE NOT MY BROTHER, ISH MAN.

SORRY TO DISAPPOINT YOU.



I NEVER SEEN YOU AT CHRISTMAS AN' STUFF.

AH, I LEFT HOME BEFORE YOU WERE BORN. IT WAS TOO MUCH FOR ME AFTER MY DAD WAS GONE.



YOU WERE LITTLE. WHERE DID YOU GO?

LIVED WITH AN AUNT ON MY DAD'S SIDE.

GOT MY JOB AT THE COBIA CLUB WHEN I WAS 13. MR. SPROPP STEPPED IN LIKE SORT OF MY STEPDAD.



VIVI THINKS MR. SPROPP HOOKED MOM UP WITH THE BURGLAR.

SHE'S ENTITLED TO BELIEVE THAT.



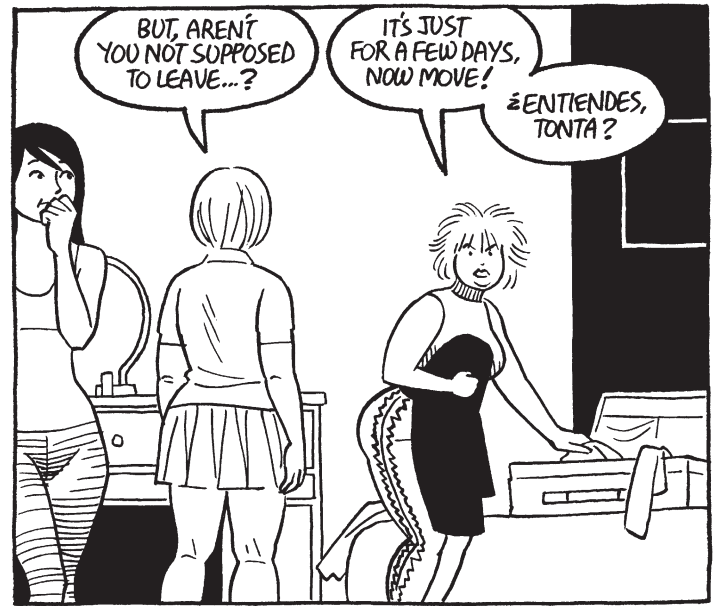
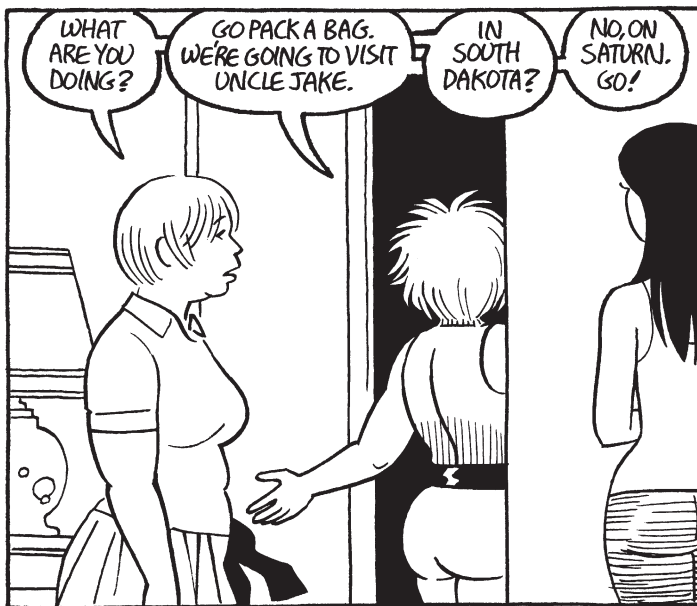
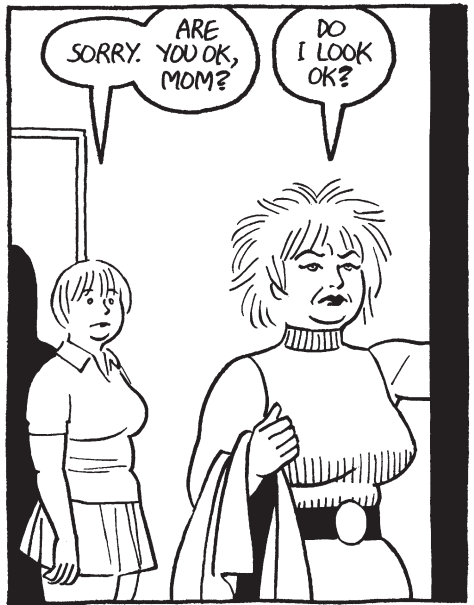
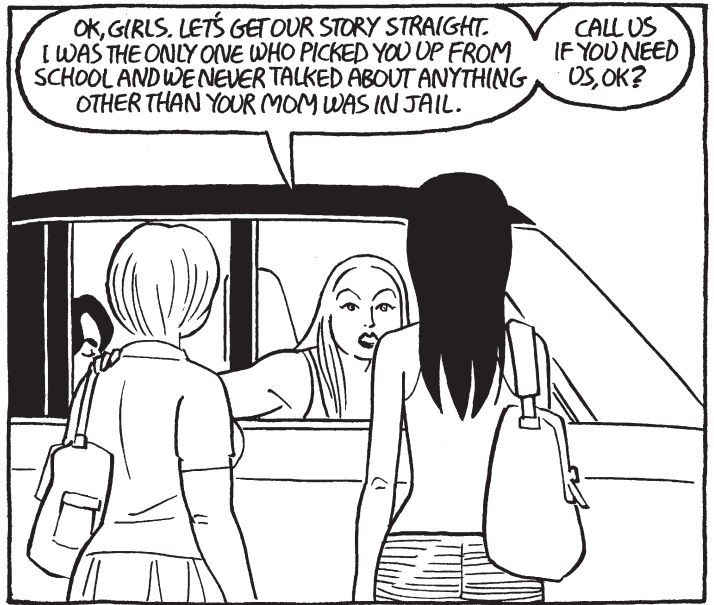
AM I ENTITLED TO BELIEVE MOM IS INNOCENT?

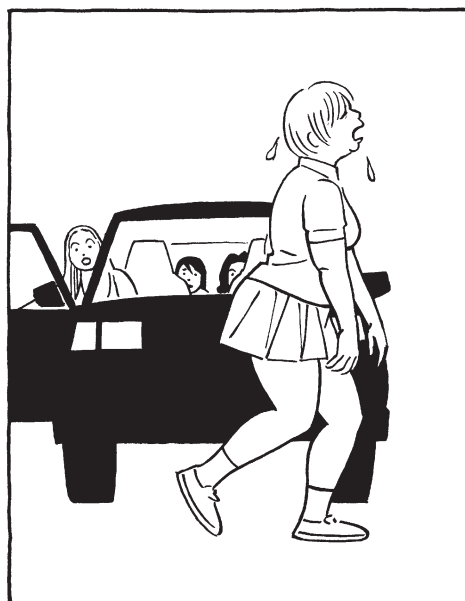
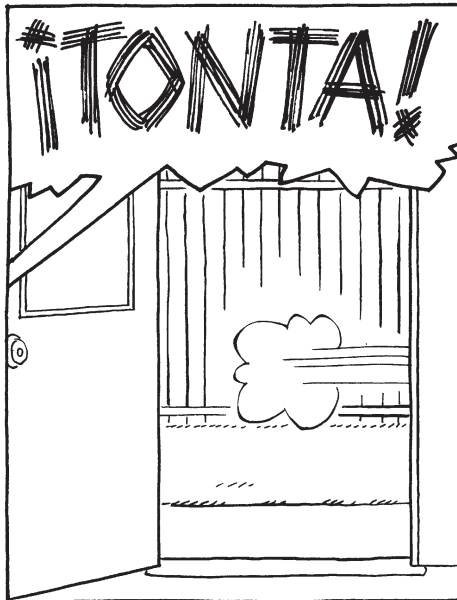
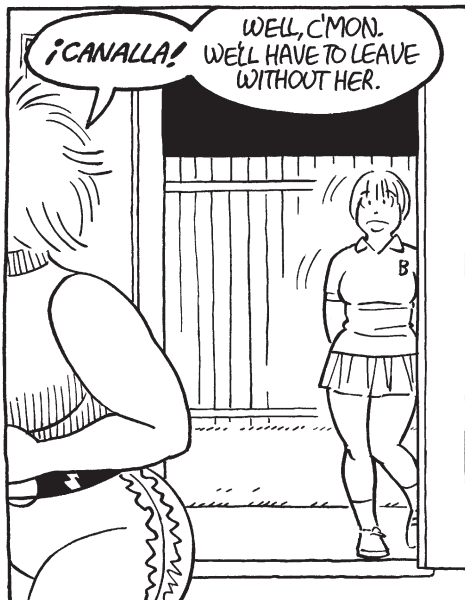
YEAH...



ISH! MOM GOT BAIL AND WANTS THE KIDS HOME!

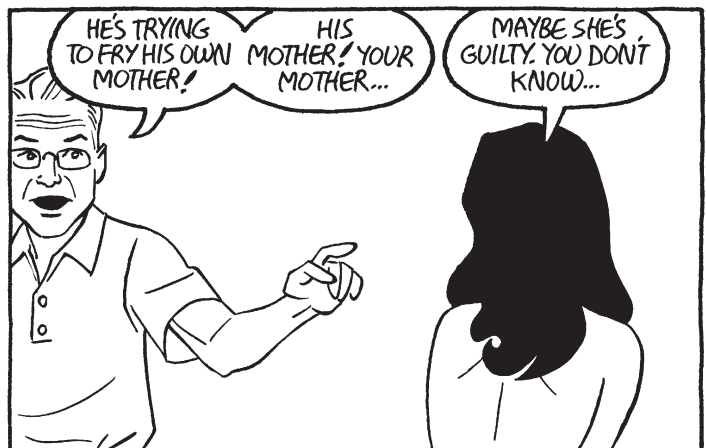
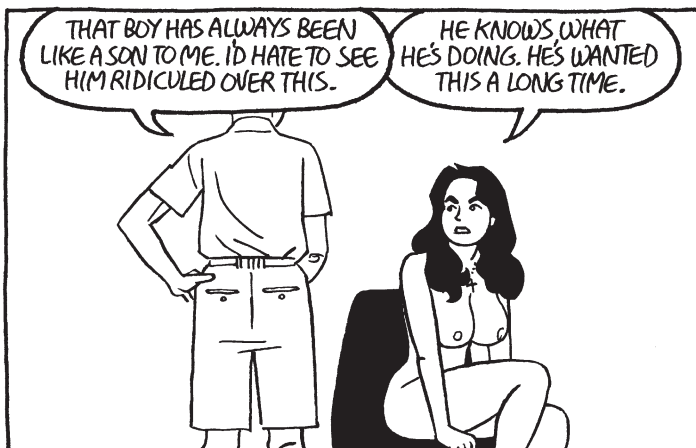
SHIT.

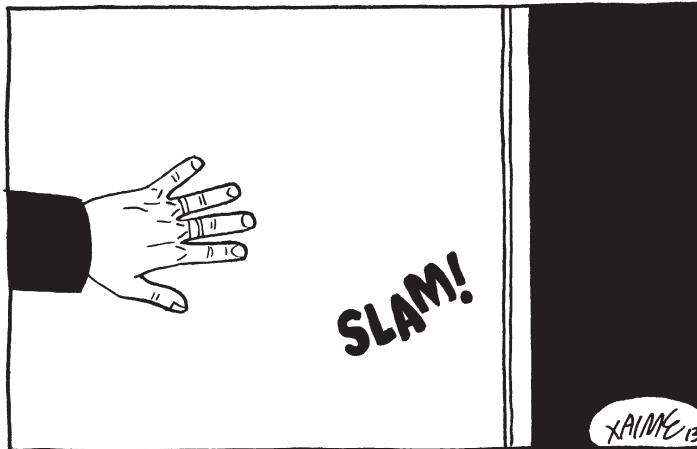
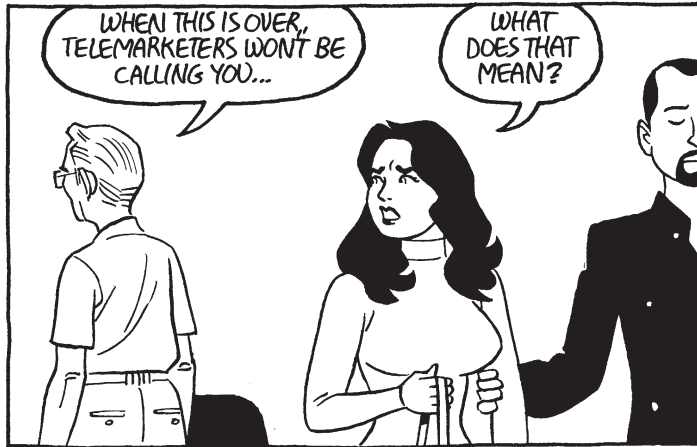
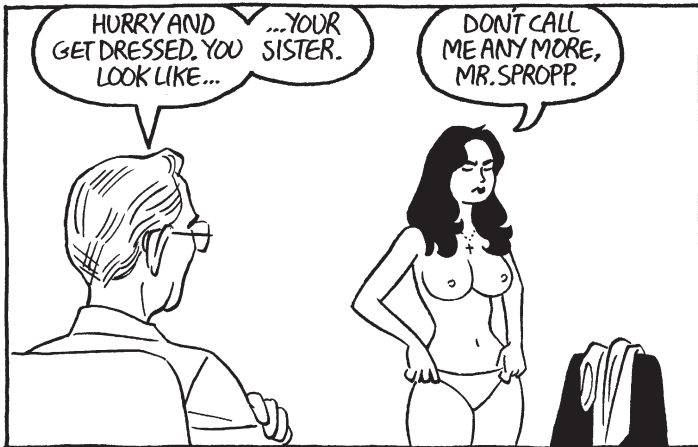
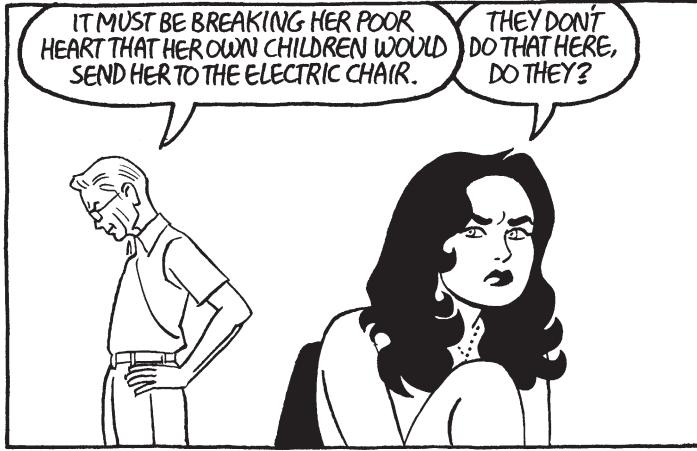
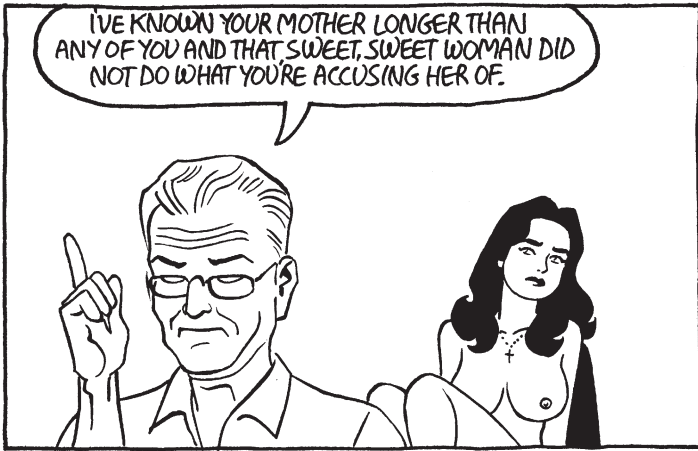


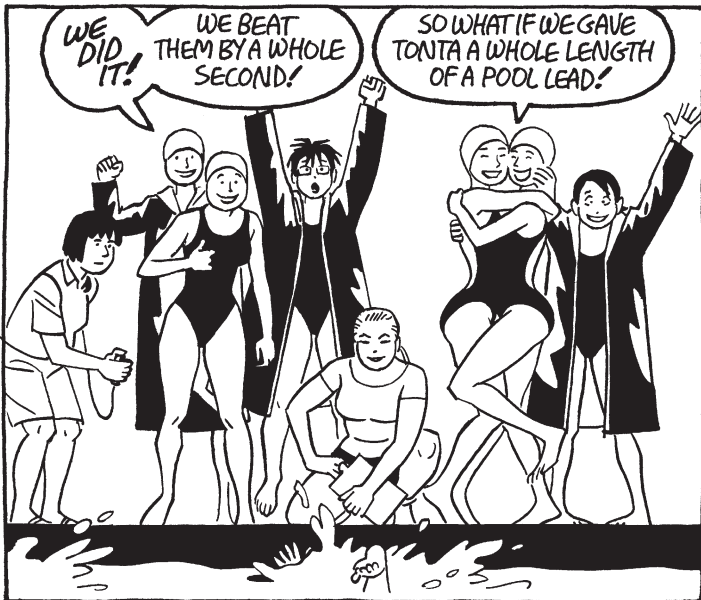


# CRIMEN

SEIS



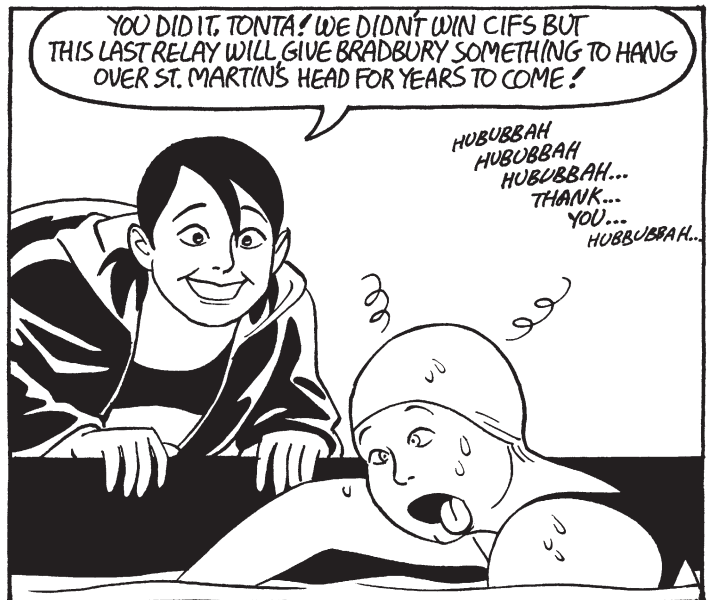




WE DID IT!

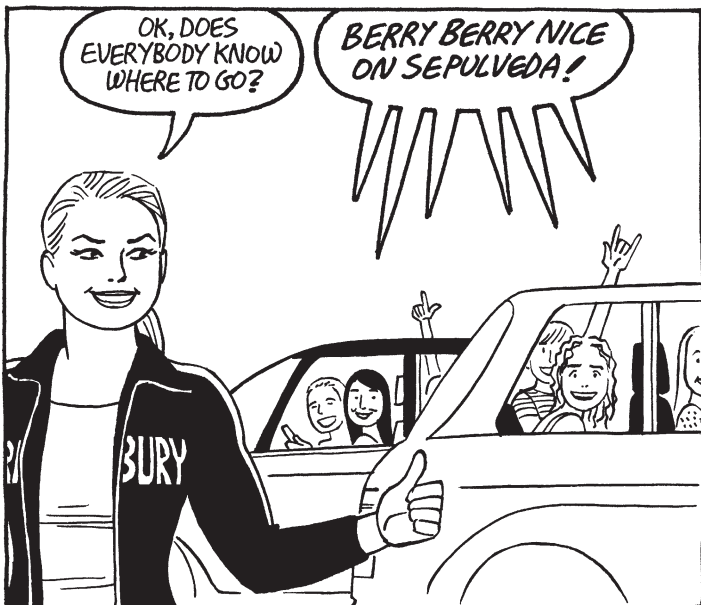
WE BEAT THEM BY A WHOLE SECOND!

SO WHAT IF WE GAVE TONTA A WHOLE LENGTH OF A POOL LEAD!



YOU DID IT, TONTA! WE DIDN'T WIN CIFS BUT THIS LAST RELAY WILL GIVE BRADBURY SOMETHING TO HANG OVER ST. MARTIN'S HEAD FOR YEARS TO COME!

HUBBBAH  
HUBBBAH  
HUBBBAH...  
THANK...  
YOU...  
HUBBBAH...



OK, DOES EVERYBODY KNOW WHERE TO GO?

BERRY BERRY NICE ON SEPULVEDA!

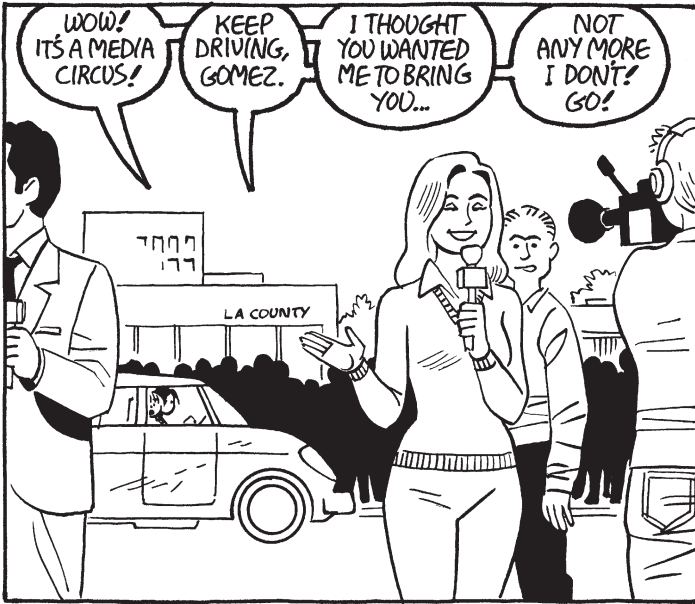


IS TONTA AND GOMEZ COMING WITH US OR WITH HILLY?

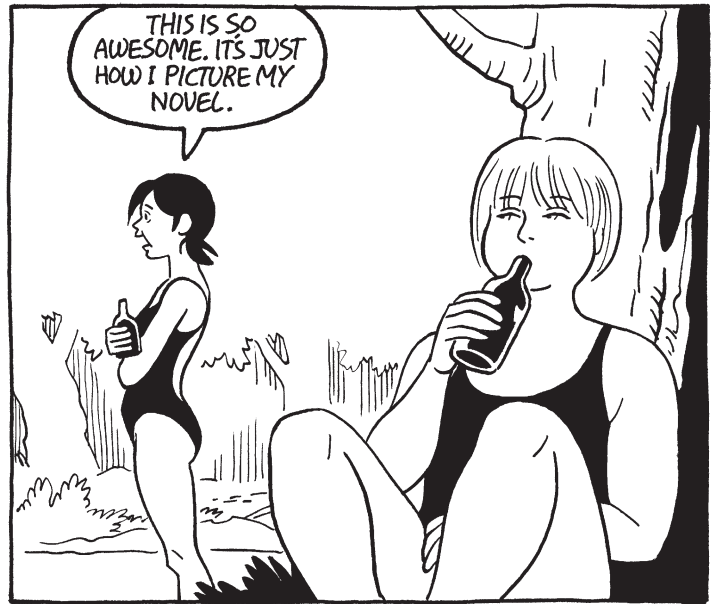
NEITHER. THEY WENT TO THE COURT-HOUSE.

IS THAT THING STILL GOING ON? WHY DON'T THEY CONVICT HER ALREADY?

BITCH.



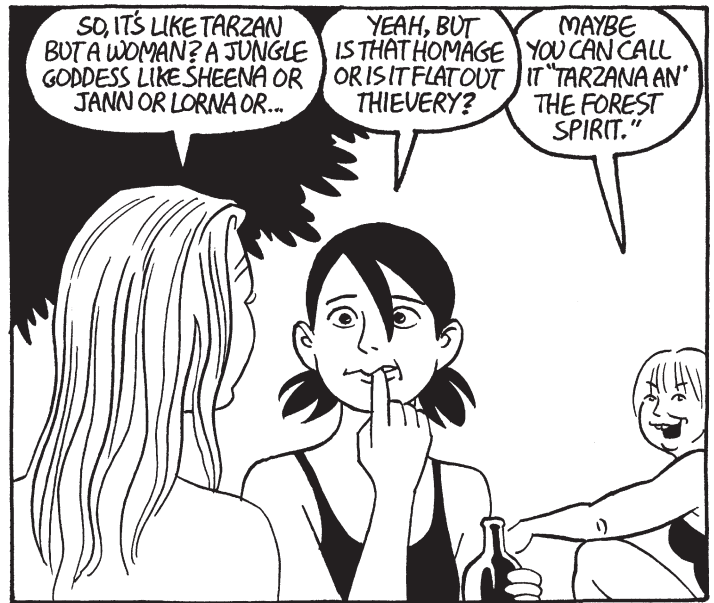
WOW! IT'S A MEDIA CIRCUS!  
 KEEP DRIVING, GOMEZ.  
 I THOUGHT YOU WANTED ME TO BRING YOU...  
 NOT ANY MORE I DON'T! GO!



THIS IS SO AWESOME. IT'S JUST HOW I PICTURE MY NOVEL.



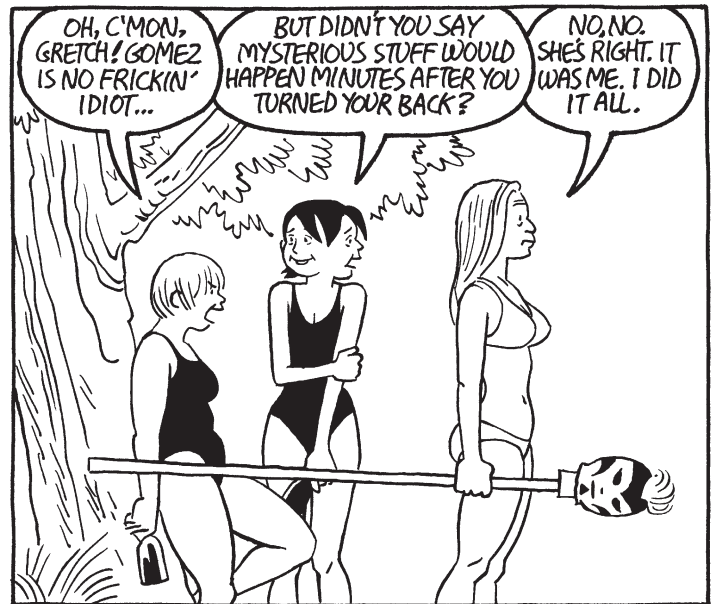
YOU'RE WRITING A NOVEL?  
 SORTA. I CAN'T DECIDE IF IT WILL BE A GRAPHIC NOVEL OR A NOVEL NOVEL.  
 I'M CALLING IT "TARZANA AND THE JEWELS OF MOPAR."



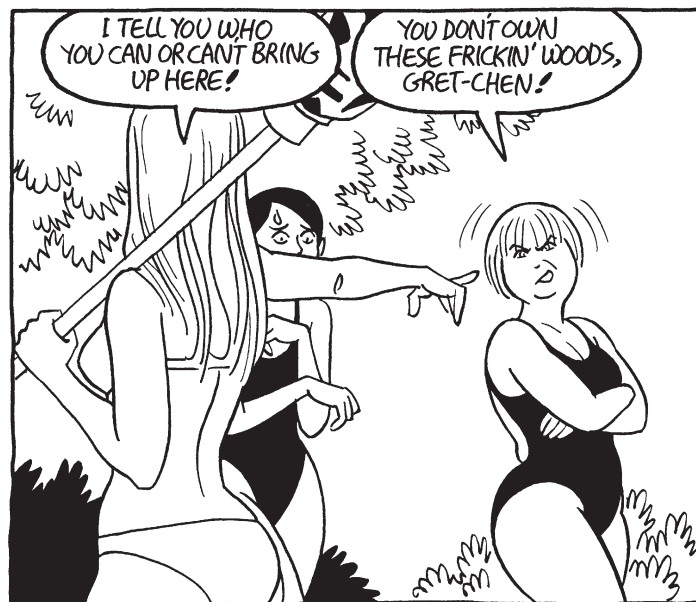
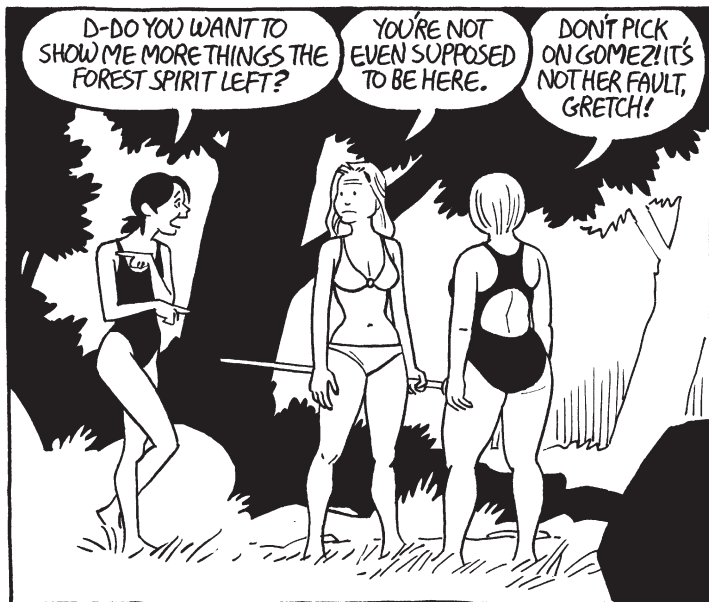
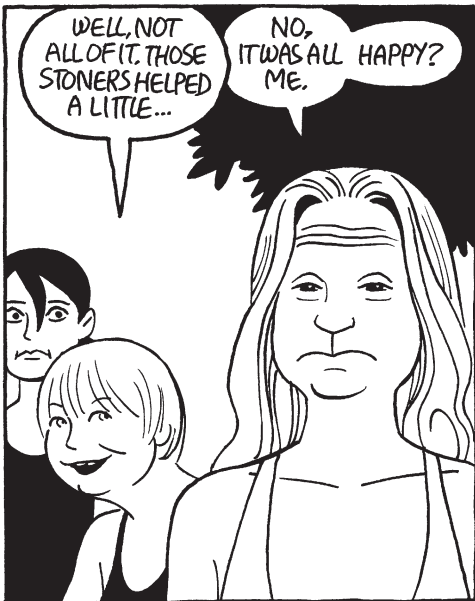
SO, IT'S LIKE TARZAN BUT A WOMAN? A JUNGLE GODDESS LIKE SHEENA OR JANN OR LORNA OR...  
 YEAH, BUT IS THAT HOMAGE OR IS IT FLAT OUT THIEVERY?  
 MAYBE YOU CAN CALL IT "TARZANA AN' THE FOREST SPIRIT."

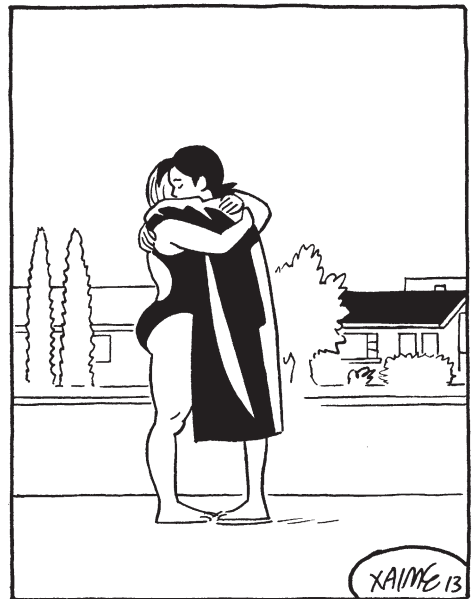
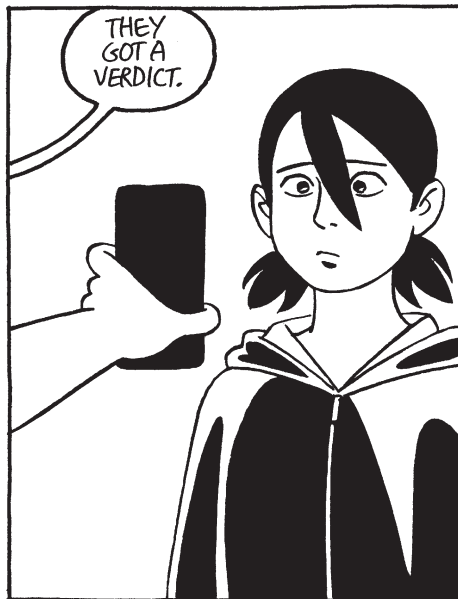
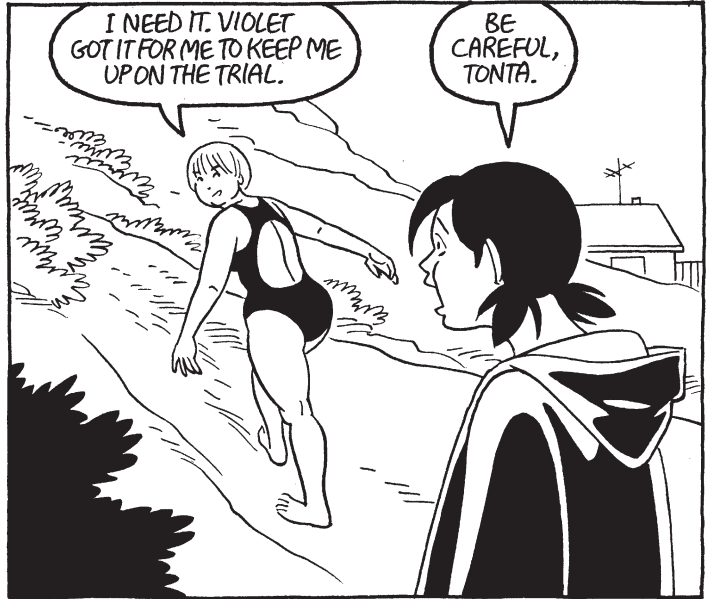
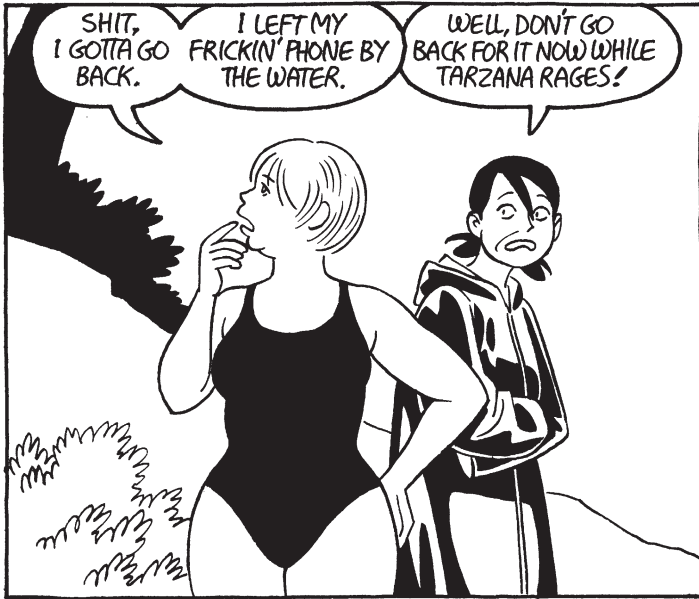


YEAH, I COULD, I GUESS.  
 AND AT THE END, TARZANA CAN GET CLOBBERED OVER THE HEAD AND REALIZE SHE WAS THE FOREST SPIRIT THE WHOLE TIME.  
 I'M NOT THE FOREST SPIRIT.

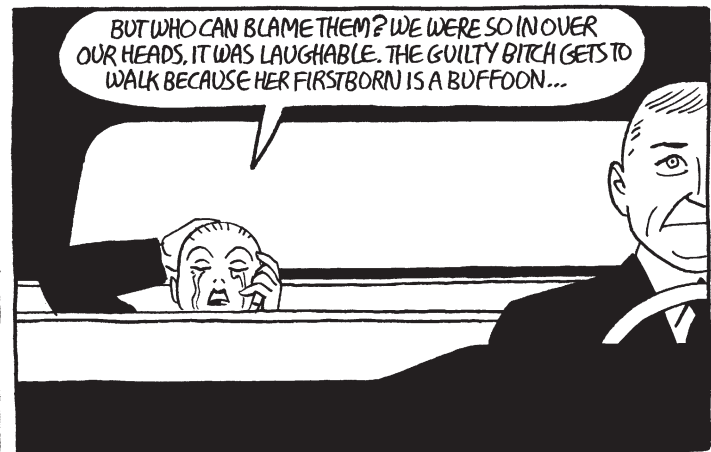
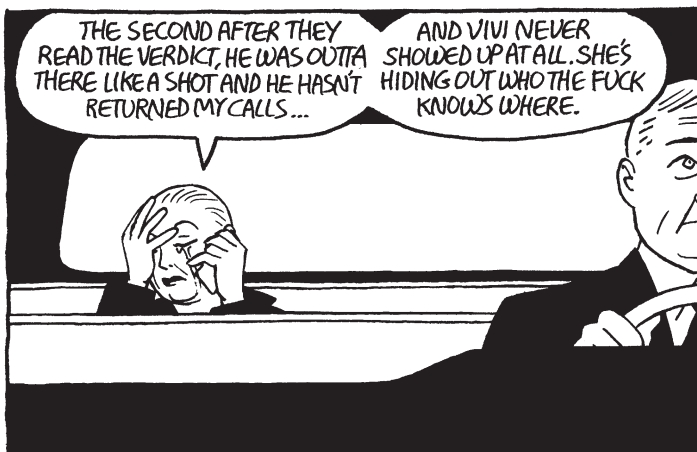
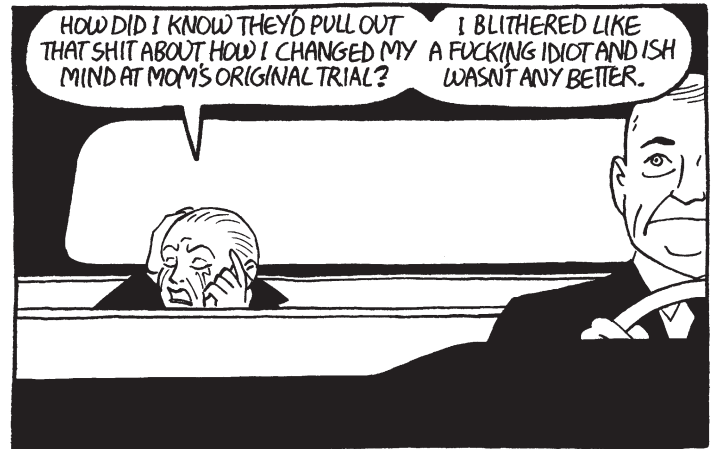
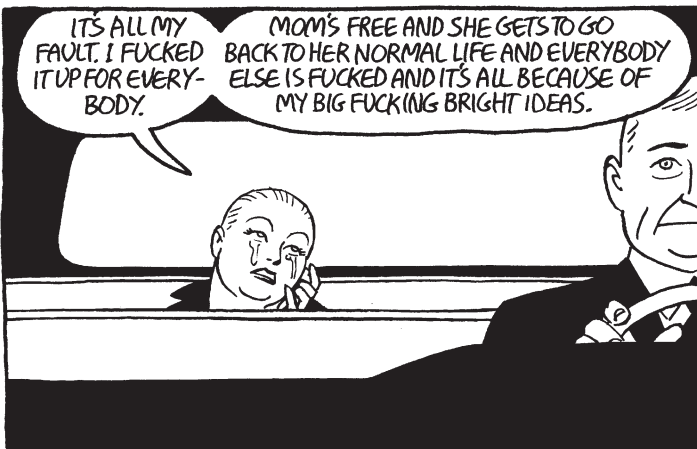
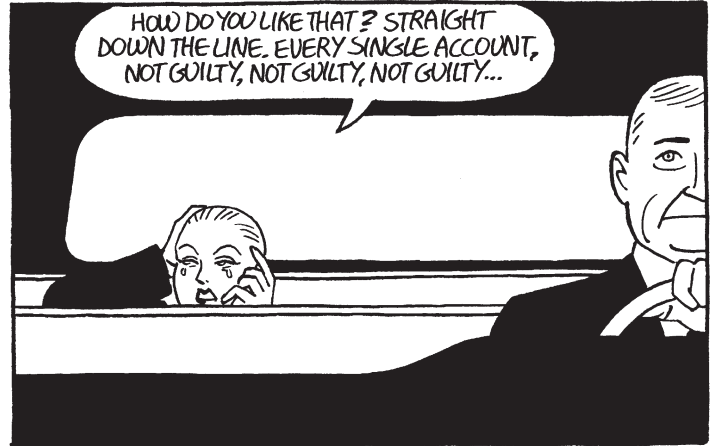


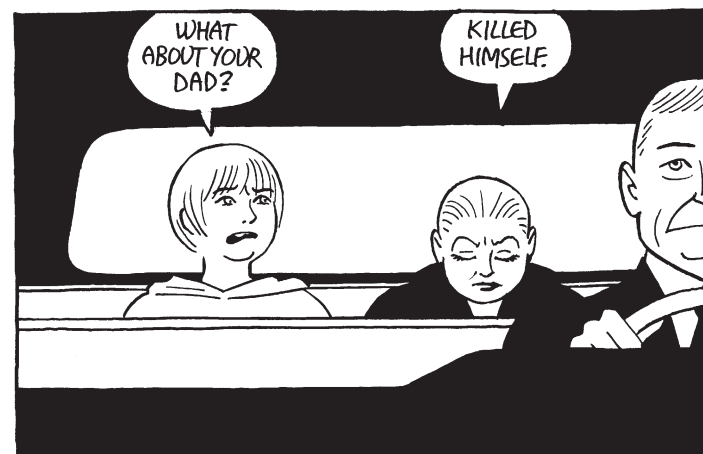
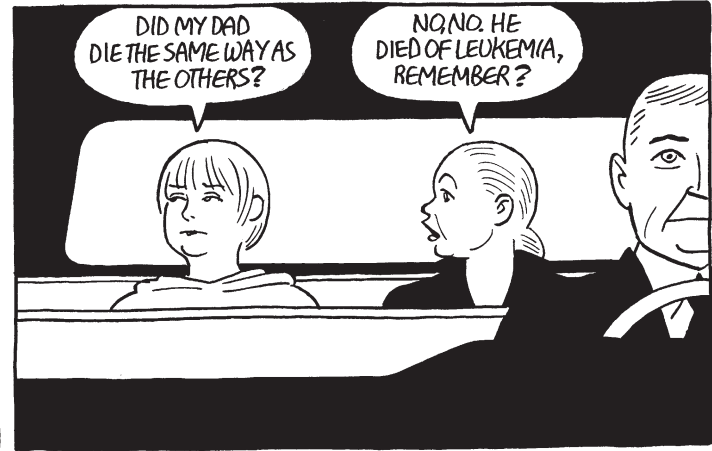
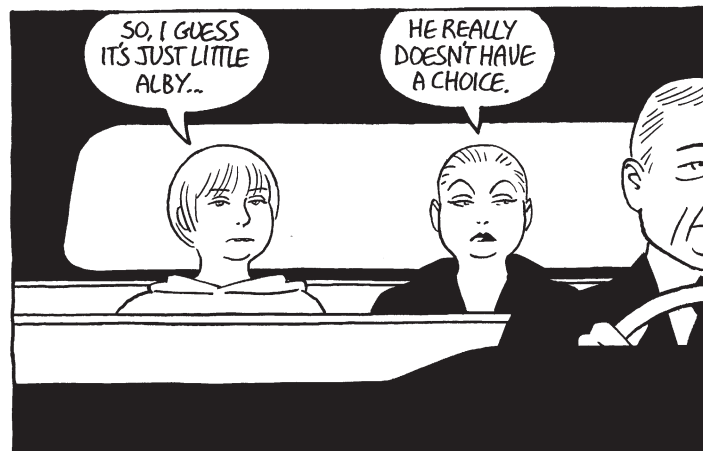
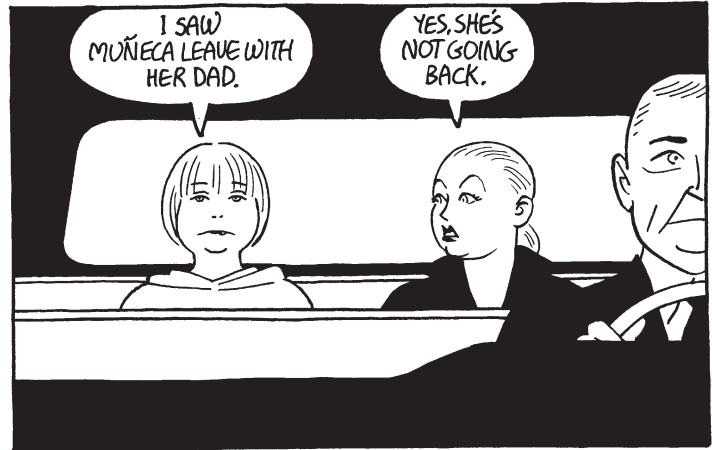
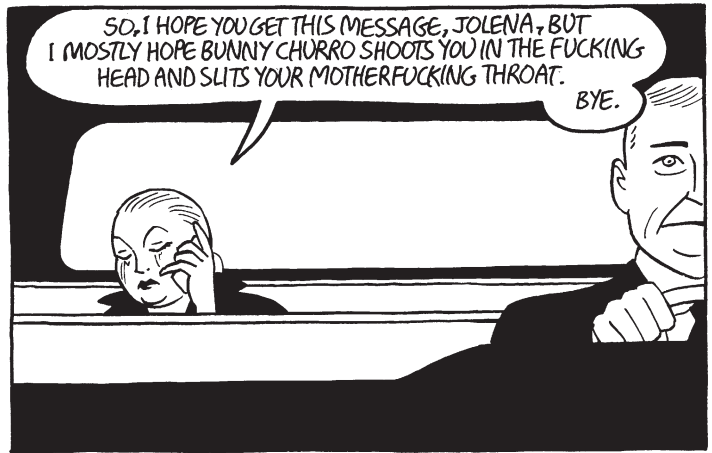
OH, C'MON, GRETCH! GOMEZ IS NO FRICKIN' IDIOT...  
 BUT DIDN'T YOU SAY MYSTERIOUS STUFF WOULD HAPPEN MINUTES AFTER YOU TURNED YOUR BACK?  
 NO, NO. SHE'S RIGHT. IT WAS ME. I DID IT ALL.



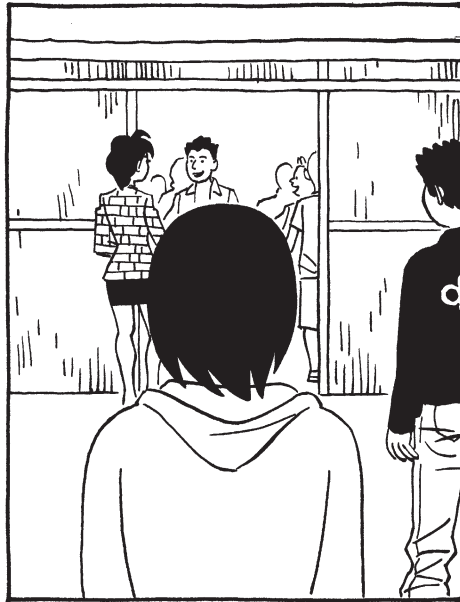


# CRIMEN FINAL





RRRREGRESAMOS..



HOW'S LIFE IN TEMECULA, TONTA?

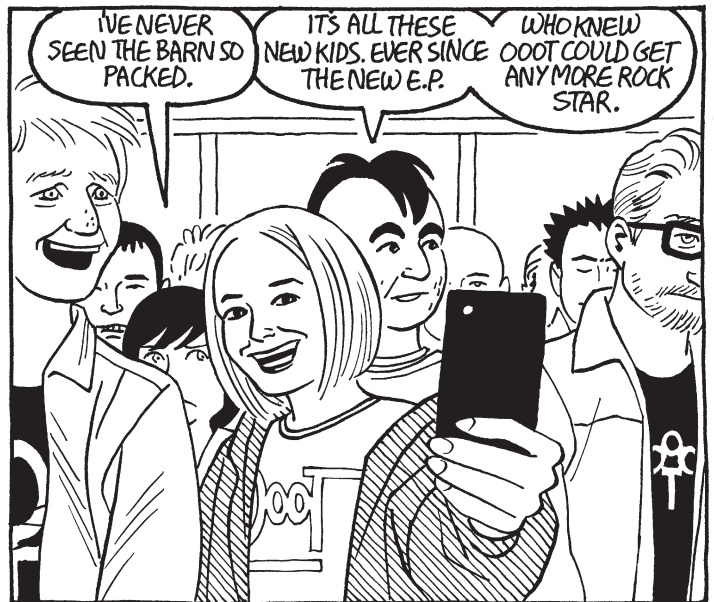
BESIDES LIVING WITH MY DEPRESSED, SUICIDAL, ALCOHOLIC, DRUG-TAKING SISTER? IT SUCKS.

WHAT'S WITH THE SNOOKIS, MOSES? GIVE UP ON JUSTINS?



THEY GO TO YOUR SCHOOL. REMEMBER THAT DAY YOU MET YOUR NEW P.E. TEACHER?

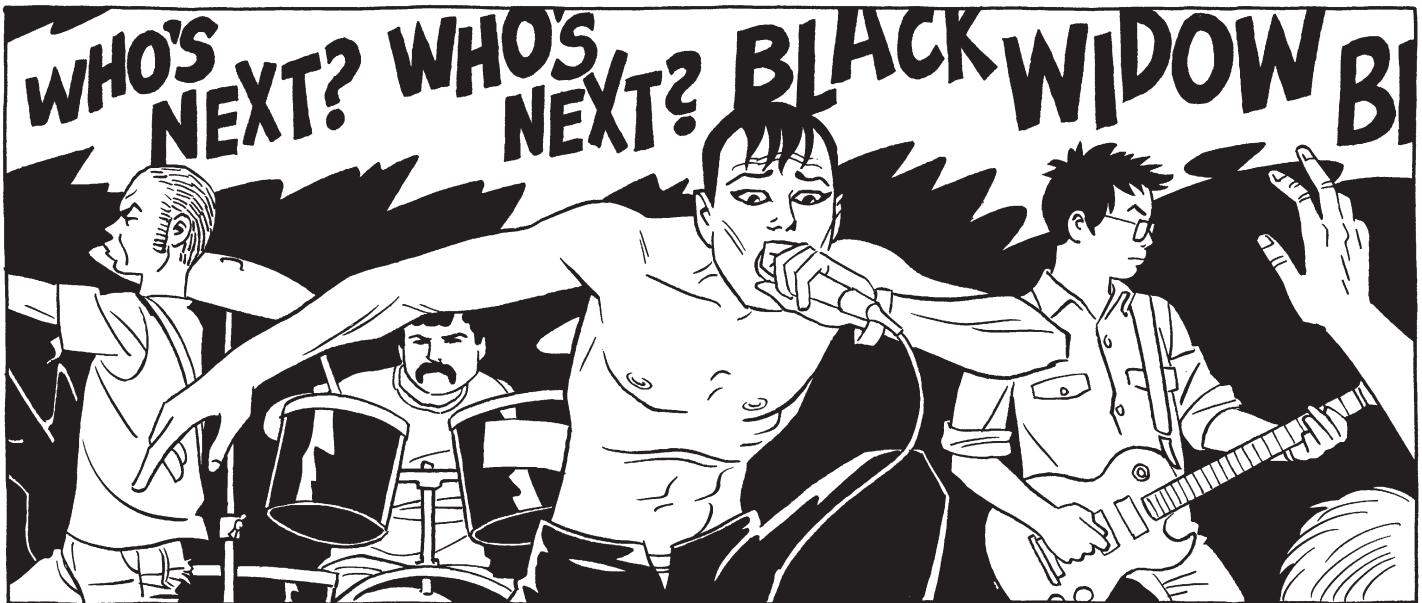
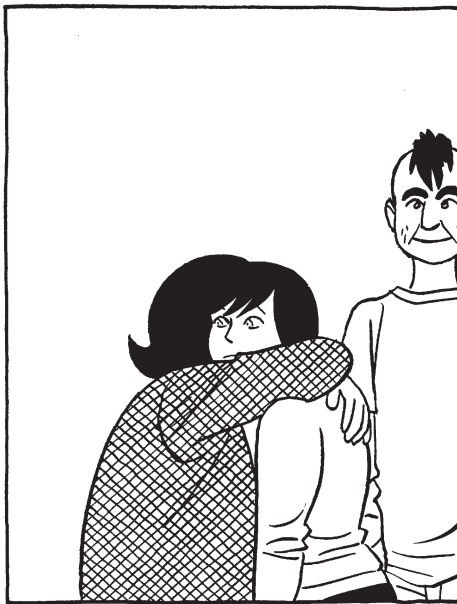
DID I TELL YOU MY NEW SCHOOL SUCKS, TOO? I GUESS THAT COVERS THE REST.

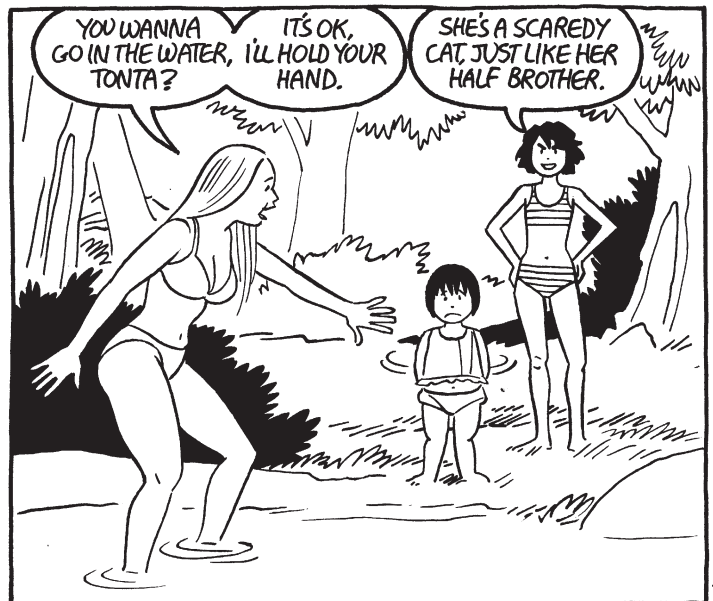


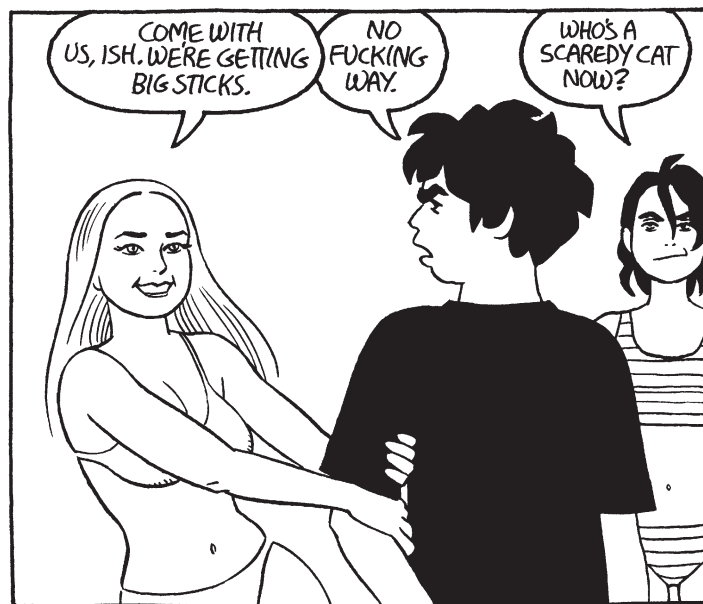
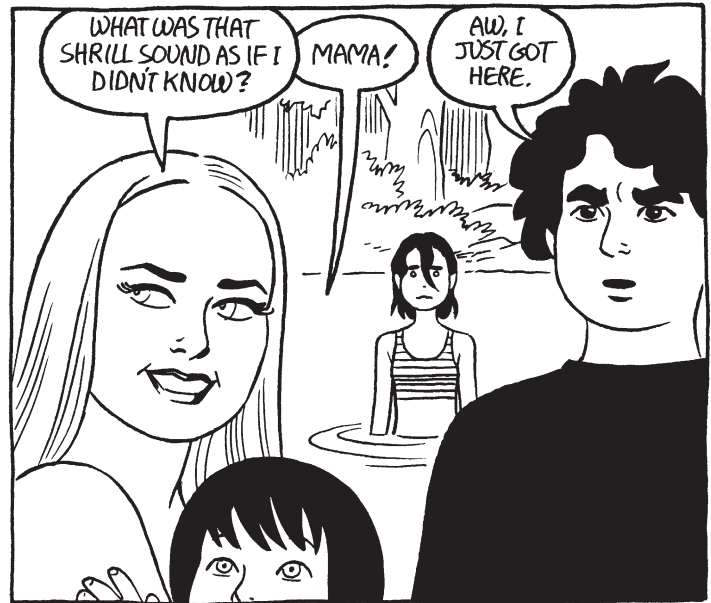
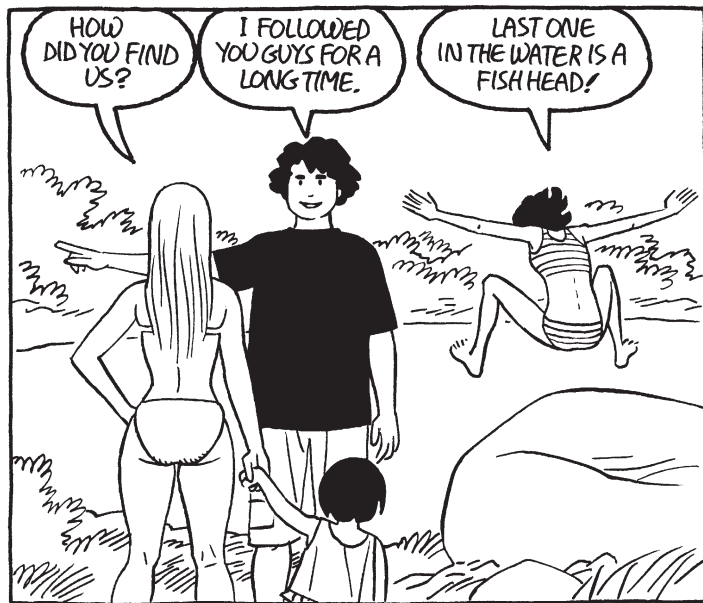
I'VE NEVER SEEN THE BARN SO PACKED.

IT'S ALL THESE NEW KIDS. EVER SINCE THE NEW E.P.

WHO KNEW OOOT COULD GET ANY MORE ROCK STAR.







XALME 13/4





**JAIME HERNANDEZ** was one of six siblings born and raised in Oxnard, California. His mother passed down a love of comics, which for Jaime became a passion rivaled only by his interest in the burgeoning punk rock scene of 1970s Southern California. Together with his brothers Gilbert and Mario, Jaime cocreated the ongoing comic book series *Love and Rockets* in 1981, which Gilbert and Jaime continue to this day. Jaime's work began as a perfect (if unlikely) synthesis of the anarchistic, do-it-yourself aesthetic of the punk scene and an elegant cartooning style that recalled masters such as Charles M. Schulz and Alex Toth. *Love and Rockets* has since evolved into one of the great bodies of American literary fiction, spanning four decades and countless high-water marks in the medium's history. In 2016, Hernandez won the prestigious *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for his graphic novel, *The Love Bunglers*. In 2017, he (along with Gilbert) was inducted into the Will Eisner Comic Book Hall of Fame, and, in 2018, he released his first children's book, the Aesop Book Prize-winning *The Dragon Slayer: Folktales from Latin America*. He lives in Altadena, California, with his wife, Meg.

**TORN FROM THE PAGES OF *LOVE AND ROCKETS*** comes this stand alone graphic novel that shines a light on the family tree of one of Hernandez's most memorable characters of recent memory, the teenaged Tonta. Though a self-styled loner, Tonta is forced to confront her dysfunctional family history after a weekend of punk rock, lucha libre, and hanging out by the pool with her self-absorbed half-sister, Vivian, is disrupted by a botched burglary that leads to the discovery of long-suppressed family secrets.



"Hernandez's characters are so convincing and his stories so compelling that it's easy to overlook the most economically handsome drawing style in comics."

— *Booklist*