

Gilbert Hernandez

OFELIA

A LOVE AND ROCKETS BOOK



Gilbert
Hernandez

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FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

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OFELIA:
THE LOVE AND ROCKETS LIBRARY Vol. 11

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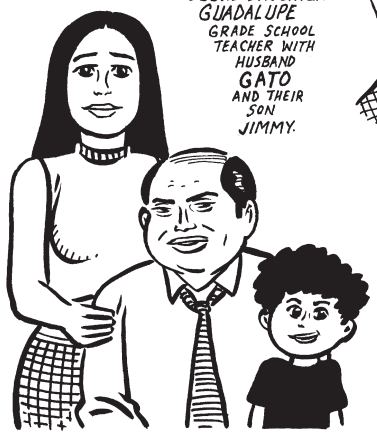
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OFELIA

LUBA'S FAMILY
AND SUPPORTING CAST



• LUBA'S COUSIN
OFELIA
HAS SHARED IN MOST OF LUBA'S ADVENTURES.



• LUBA'S DAUGHTER
GUADALUPE
GRADE SCHOOL TEACHER WITH HUSBAND
GATO
AND THEIR SON
JIMMY.



• LUBA'S DAUGHTER
MARICELA.

• LUBA'S HUSBAND
KHAMO
BURNED WHILE TRYING TO SAVE A GIRL, HE IS A POLICE INFORMER.



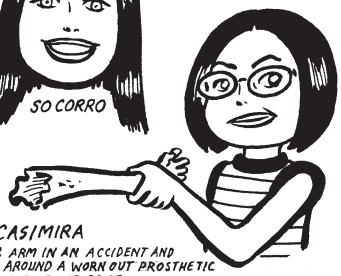
• LUBA'S DAUGHTER
DORALIS
STAR OF KIDDIE T.V. SHOW, ANNOUNCED TO PUBLIC SHE IS A LESBIAN.



• LUBA'S LITTLE ONES



SOCORRO



CASIMIRA
LOST HER ARM IN AN ACCIDENT AND CARRIES AROUND A WORN OUT PROSTHETIC AS A SYMBOL OF HER PRIDE.

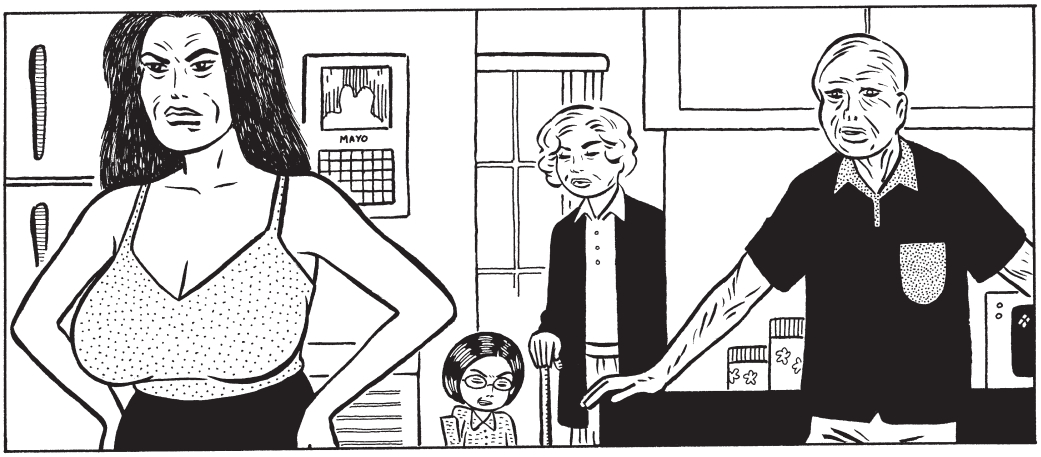


JOSELITO



CONCHITA


PIPO
T.V. PRODUCER OF DORALIS'S KIDDIE SHOW, FRITZ'S AND IGOR'S GIRLFRIEND.
'FRITZ'
LUBA'S SISTER, A PSYCHOTHERAPIST, DATES PIPO AND PIPO'S SON.
PETRA
LUBA'S SISTER, A MEDICAL TECHNICIAN, AND DAUGHTERS VENUS AND MARIE.
SERGIO
PIPO'S SON, WORLD CLASS SOCCER CHAMPION.
FORTUNATO
MYSTERIOUS LOVER FROM LUBA'S RECENT PAST.
IGOR
PIPO'S LOVER AND MUSICIAN ON HER TV SHOW, GUADALUPE'S FRIEND.


MAYO


〈GO OUTSIDE AND PLAY, CASIMIRA. YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRANSLATE FOR YOUR MAMA WHEN IT'S LIKE THIS, HONEY.〉


Remember Me


FIGHTING.
FLIGHTING.
BLIGHTING.
SHUT UP, JOSELITO.


BUH-BUH-BLOODY FUCKER FIGHTING, FUCKEY BLOODER FLIGHTING...
YOU BETTER SHUT UP, JOSELITO, OR A BIRD'S GONNA COME DOWN AND STEAL YOUR EYEBALL RIGHT OUT OF YOUR HEAD ALL BLOODY!


YOW!
NO, IT WON'T, SOCORRO! NO, IT WON'T!
YES, IT WILL! YES, IT WILL!

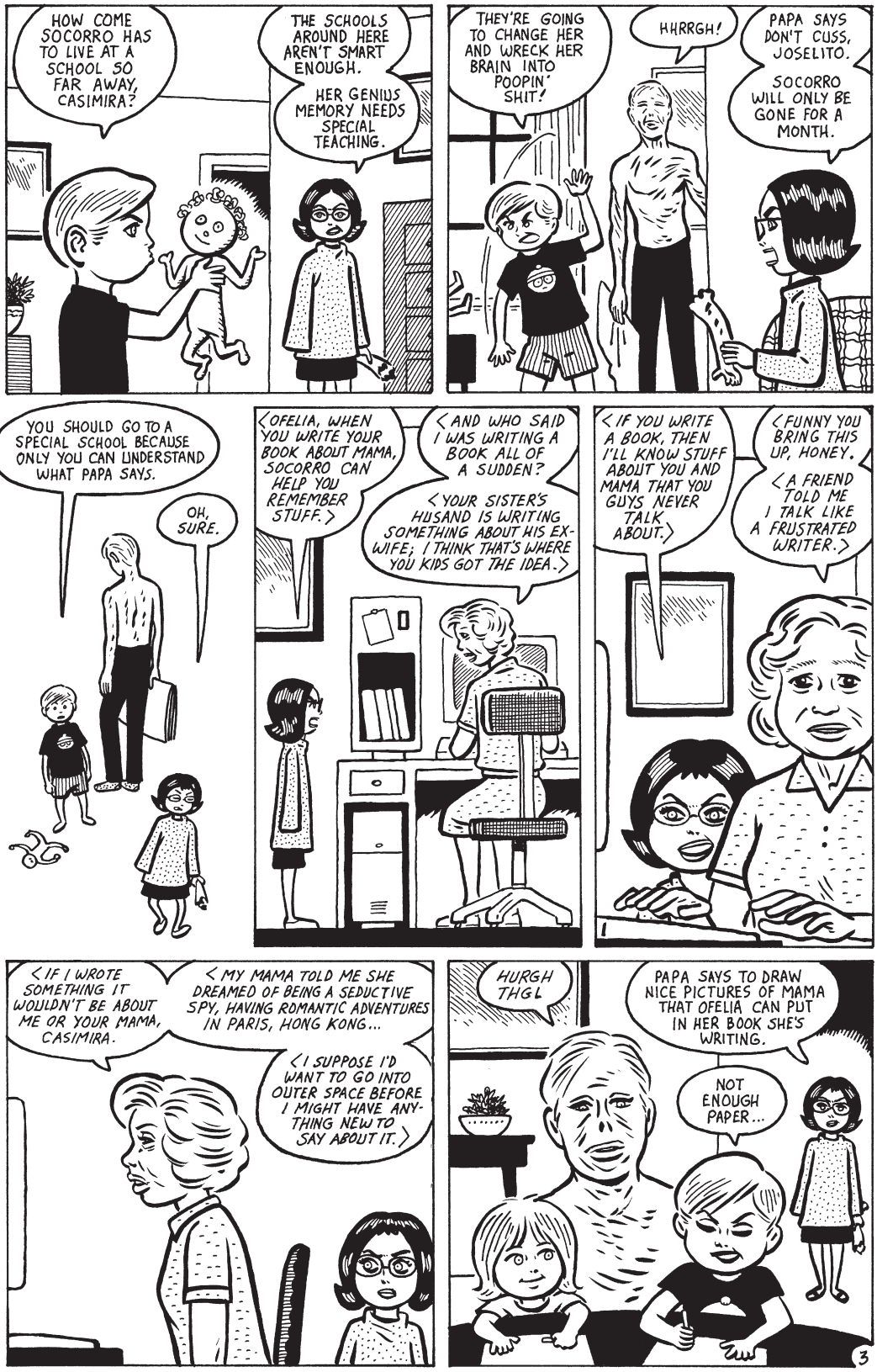

YOU AND JOSELITO REMEMBER WHEN THAT BIRD STOLE BRUNO GOYA'S EYEBALL RIGHT FROM OUT OF HIS HEAD, SOCORRO? YOU WERE PRETTY LITTLE.
I REMEMBER IT EXACTLY!
JOSELITO DOESN'T REALLY REMEMBER, BUT I TELL IT TO HIM LIKE A SCARY STORY.
YOU GET SPECIALLY TESTED IN SCHOOL BECAUSE YOU REMEMBER EVERYTHING.
I REMEMBER ENGLISH, MATH, WHAT HOT DOGS ARE MADE OF, WHEN WE WEREN'T AMERICAN YET, WHEN MAMA GOT FAT, GOT SKINNY AGAIN, ZUMM ZUMM...
BUT I'M SCARED TO REMEMBER EVERYTHING.
I REMEMBER PEOPLE TELLING ME THAT PAPA ISN'T MY PAPA, JUST YOURS AND DORALISS AND JOSELITO'S AND CONCHITA'S...
MY REAL PAPA IS A KILLER IN JAIL.
I REMEMBER EVERYTHING SO GOOD BECAUSE MY REAL PAPA REMEMBERED HOW TO HIDE THAT HE WAS A KILLER, PEOPLE SAID. / REMEMBER LIKE MY PAPA DOES...
THOSE PEOPLE WHO SAID THAT ARE FUCKER LIARS!
FUCKER LIARS...!
THEY ARE LIARS, SOCORRO.
YOU BELONG TO MAMA AND PAPA FOR REAL.
<SOCORRO.
<COME HERE.>
DORALIS
2


(I GOT ANOTHER NOTE FROM YOUR NEW TEACHER, SOCORRO.)
(A-ANOTHER NOTE..?)
(HE SAYS YOU'RE ALREADY FAR AND AWAY THE TOP OF YOUR NEW CLASS. HE SAYS YOU'LL BE SKIPPING ANOTHER GRADE NEXT YEAR EASY.)
(I JUST REMEMBER THINGS GOOD...)
(IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE SCARY IF IT DIDN'T HAPPEN TO YOUR PAPA AS WELL, SOCORRO.
(YEAH, HE WAS SO SMART HIS FOLKS KEPT HIM CHANGING SCHOOLS, HE LOST FRIENDS...)
CONCHITA!
(THING IS, WHEN HE GOT OLDER, RIGHT BEFORE HE WAS A TEEN-AGER, IT ALL STOPPED. LEARNING BEGAN TO GET HARDER AND HARDER. SUDDENLY MOST OF THE OTHER KIDS WERE PASSING HIM BY.
(YOUR PAPA NEVER GOT IT BACK.)
(HAPPENS A LOT TO KID ACTORS, I HEAR. ONCE THEY GO THROUGH PUBERTY THEY LOSE THAT NATURAL TALENT.
PTCHOON.
CONCHITA!
(SO THERE YOUR PAPA LIES, ASLEEP ON THE COUCH, DREAMING OF REMEMBERING.)
MY P...
(YEAH, YOU'RE GROWING UP PRETTY FAST, SOCORRO.
(THERE YOU ARE, JUNGLE GIRL!)
CONCHITA!
BETO '98


LUBA AND THE LITTLE ONES
BETO '06
< MAMA, I HAVE TO TALK TO PAPA! >
< HE WON'T BE HOME UNTIL TOMORROW, JOSELITO. >
< YOU GUYS NEVER TALK TO ME ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS. >
< THE KIDS AT SCHOOL CALL ME SISSY BOOTS! >
< WELL, CLIMBING INTO BED WITH ME ISN'T GOING TO MAKE YOU LOOK EXACTLY MACHO, SWEETHEART. >
< JUST BECAUSE I HATE PLAYING SPORTS AND I'D RATHER PLAY DRESS UP WITH GIRLS! >
< THEY CALL ME TARZAN AT SCHOOL JUST BECAUSE I LIKE TO WRESTLE WITH BOYS INSTEAD OF PLAY HOPSCOTCH! >
< THEY CALL ME CONAN. >
< SOME PACK I'M RAISING. >
< COME IN THEN. >
< I DON'T NEED TO HEAR ANY MORE. CLIMB INTO THE LOVE FORTRESS. >
< YAY! NOBODY'S MEAN TO US IN THE FORTRESS OF LOVE! >


SOCORRO...
<SOCORRO, COME HERE!>
<DO YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'VE DONE?>
<SOCORRO, YOUR GENIUS MEMORY JUST GOT YOU IN ONE OF THE HIGHEST SPECIAL SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY, HONEY!
<YOU AND SOCORRO SHOULD GET ON THAT PLANE RIGHT AWAY, LUBA.>
<AAH, SOCORRO SAID THE TESTS WERE EASY, OFELIA.
<SO, WE'RE SUPPOSED TO GO ALL THAT WAY JUST TO BE TOLD OOPS, THEY MADE A MISTAKE?>
<SPANISH>
BETO/00


〈GOD, HOW CAN ANYONE LIVE IN THIS FREEZING SHIT?!〉
SNIFF
〈AND HOW CAN ANYBODY FIND ANYPLACE? IT ALL LOOKS THE SAME!〉
〈THE BUILDING WE'RE LOOKING FOR IS WAY OVER THERE EIGHT AND THREE-SEVENTHS BLOCKS AWAY, MAMA.〉
〈WE WERE HERE ONLY ONCE IN THE SUMMER, AND YOU REMEMBER EXACTLY WHERE IT IS EVEN WITH ALL THE SNOW.〉
SNIFF
〈YES, MAMA.
〈YOU WORE YOUR BLUE DRESS WITH EIGHTY-SIX LITTLE RED AND YELLOW FLOWERS AND YOUR LOW HEEL BLACK SHOES. THE LEFT ONE SQUEAKS BECAUSE YOU THREW IT AT A HOWLING CAT.〉
SNIFF
〈I WISH I KNEW A MAN WHO COULD REMEMBER LIKE THAT.〉
〈THREE YEARS, FOUR MONTHS AND TWO DAYS AGO YOU MET A MAN WHO REMEMBERED.
〈WE WERE IN A BUS STATION AND HE WAS HOMELESS AND YOU GAVE HIM A DOLLAR.
〈HE CRIED AND SAID IN ENGLISH WE REMINDED HIM OF HIS WIFE AND DAUGHTER, MAMA.〉
4
〈ENOUGH WITH THE DRAMATIC PAUSE, OK?
〈WHATEVER YOU WANT TO SAY TO ME ABOUT HER YOU CAN SAY IT TO BOTH OF US.〉
SNIFF
〈I'M AFRAID WE CAN'T ACCEPT SOCORRO HERE AFTER ALL, SEÑORA DE LOS SANTOS.
〈SHE BELONGS IN A MORE ADVANCED SCHOOL.
〈I'LL SEND HER PAPERS ON.〉
2


HOW COME SOCORRO HAS TO LIVE AT A SCHOOL SO FAR AWAY, CASIMIRA?
THE SCHOOLS AROUND HERE AREN'T SMART ENOUGH.
HER GENIUS MEMORY NEEDS SPECIAL TEACHING.
THEY'RE GOING TO CHANGE HER AND WRECK HER BRAIN INTO POOPIN' SHIT!
HHRRGH!
PAPA SAYS DON'T CUSS, JOSELITO.
SOCORRO WILL ONLY BE GONE FOR A MONTH.
YOU SHOULD GO TO A SPECIAL SCHOOL BECAUSE ONLY YOU CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT PAPA SAYS.
OH, SURE.
<OFELIA, WHEN YOU WRITE YOUR BOOK ABOUT MAMA, SOCORRO CAN HELP YOU REMEMBER STUFF.>
<AND WHO SAID I WAS WRITING A BOOK ALL OF A SUDDEN?
<YOUR SISTER'S HUSAND IS WRITING SOMETHING ABOUT HIS EX-WIFE; I THINK THAT'S WHERE YOU KIDS GOT THE IDEA.>
<IF YOU WRITE A BOOK, THEN I'LL KNOW STUFF ABOUT YOU AND MAMA THAT YOU GUYS NEVER TALK ABOUT.>
<FUNNY YOU BRING THIS UP, HONEY.
<A FRIEND TOLD ME I TALK LIKE A FRUSTRATED WRITER.>
<IF I WROTE SOMETHING IT WOULDN'T BE ABOUT ME OR YOUR MAMA, CASIMIRA.
<MY MAMA TOLD ME SHE DREAMED OF BEING A SEDUCTIVE SPY, HAVING ROMANTIC ADVENTURES IN PARIS, HONG KONG...
<I SUPPOSE I'D WANT TO GO INTO OUTER SPACE BEFORE I MIGHT HAVE ANYTHING NEW TO SAY ABOUT IT.>
HURGH THGL
PAPA SAYS TO DRAW NICE PICTURES OF MAMA THAT OFELIA CAN PUT IN HER BOOK SHE'S WRITING.
NOT ENOUGH PAPER...
3

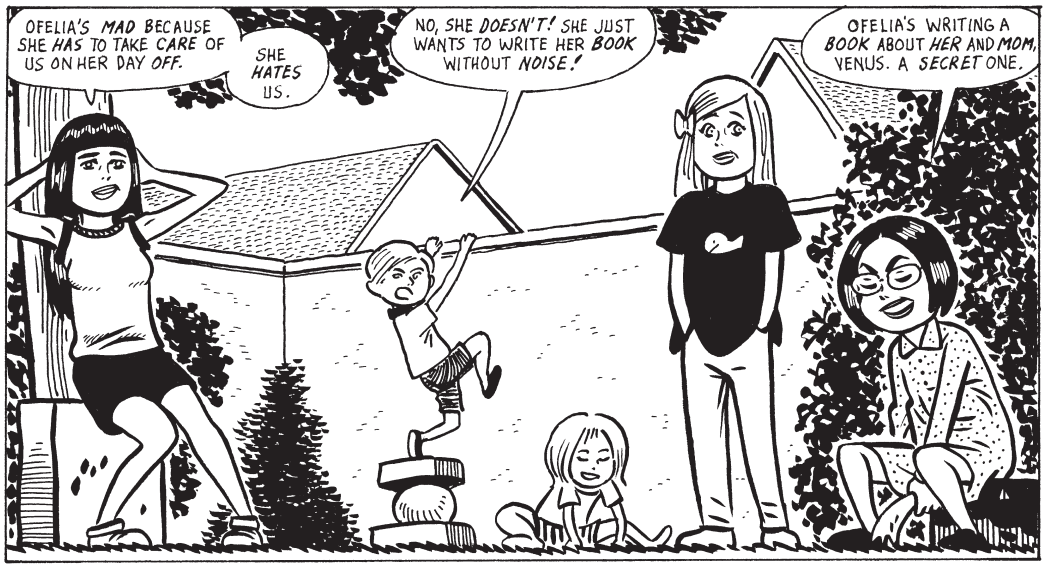

< WITH YOUR GAY SISTERS MAKING ME LOOK FOOLISH, LIKE TRASH, YOU'RE MY HOPE, SOCORRO.>
SNIFF
< YOU'RE THE ONE TO MAKE MY FAMILY SOMETHING TO BE PROUD OF, TO SHOW THE WORLD, TO SHOW EVERYBODY WHO'S GIVEN ME SHIT...>
SNIFF
HOTEL
< I WON'T LET THEM DO ANYTHING MEAN TO YOU, SWEETHEART. IF YOU TELL ME SOMEBODY'S TREATING YOU BAD, I'LL MAKE THEM SO SORRY.>
SNIFF
AT FIRST I WAS GOING TO FAIL MY NEW TESTS ON PURPOSE SO I COULD COME HOME, BUT THEN THEY'D JUST MAKE ME DO MORE AND MORE.
NOW I'M GOING TO PASS THEM SO I COULD COME HOME SOONER.
< YOU'D BETTER BE SERIOUS ABOUT PASSING THOSE TESTS, GIRL!>
< HUH. YOU KIDS STILL THINK I DON'T UNDERSTAND ENGLISH.>
UURRR
RRURRRRHH..
BUMP
BUMP
BUMP
4


YES, EVERY NIGHT, OFELIA!
EVERY NIGHT THE SAME WAY OR HE CAN'T SLEEP!
WELL, IF I CAN HEAR HIM, THE KIDS CAN, LUBA.
TAXES
THEN TELL THEM HE'S HAVING NIGHTMARES!
YES, EVERY NIGHT!
LOOK AT IT THIS WAY. YOU CAN USE IT IN YOUR BOOK ABOUT ME.
I'M SURE YOU'VE GOT PLENTY TO SAY ABOUT ME.
CEL-PHONE
YEAH, THE KIDS TOLD ME ABOUT THIS-THIS BOOK YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE WRITING, OFELIA! ABOUT ME!
WELL, YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT HAVING PLENTY OF MATERIAL FOR ONE, THAT'S TRUE.
WHAT. WHAT MATERIAL?
WHAT COULD YOU HAVE TO SAY ABOUT ME?
BUNCH OF MADE UP SHIT, I'M SURE!
LIES!
YOU DON'T KNOW ME WELL ENOUGH TO SAY ANYTHING!
IMMIGRATION
BEEPER
OH, BUT I KNOW YOU!
I COULD WRITE A BOOK ABOUT YOU!
I'M GOING TO WRITE A BOOK ABOUT YOU!!
YOU TELLING MY KIDS IT'S ALL RIGHT TO BE GAY, AS IF THEY COULD LIVE IN THE WORLD WITHOUT BEING HATED!
SURE, GO AHEAD, PEOPLE WRITE ANYTHING THEY WANT TO NOWADAYS.
WRITE... ABOUT HOW MY DAUGHTER'S A GENIUS.

The Book of OFELIA




OH.
OK.
< ALL OF A SUDDEN MY KIDS ARE A TERRIBLE BURDEN TO YOU.>
< DON'T YOU SAY THAT, GIRL! YOU WATCH IT!!>
< KHAMO'S PICKING ME UP IN A CAB.
< DON'T BOTHER CALLING ME THERE. I'LL BE TOO BUSY TO ANSWER.>
< SO WHO CARES?>
OFELIA.
< WE'LL TALK WHEN I GET BACK.>
< THAT'S IF I'M STILL HERE.>
LUBA.
< EVER SINCE SHE'S BEEN WRITING THAT BOOK...
< KHAMO, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO CHANGE OUR PLANS TODAY.
< I'VE GOT A LOT OF WORK TO DO AT THE OFFICE.>
!
LUBA
BY
OFELIA
BELKNAP


OFELIA'S MAD BECAUSE SHE HAS TO TAKE CARE OF US ON HER DAY OFF.
SHE HATES US.
NO, SHE DOESN'T! SHE JUST WANTS TO WRITE HER BOOK WITHOUT NOISE!
OFELIA'S WRITING A BOOK ABOUT HER AND MOM, VENUS. A SECRET ONE.

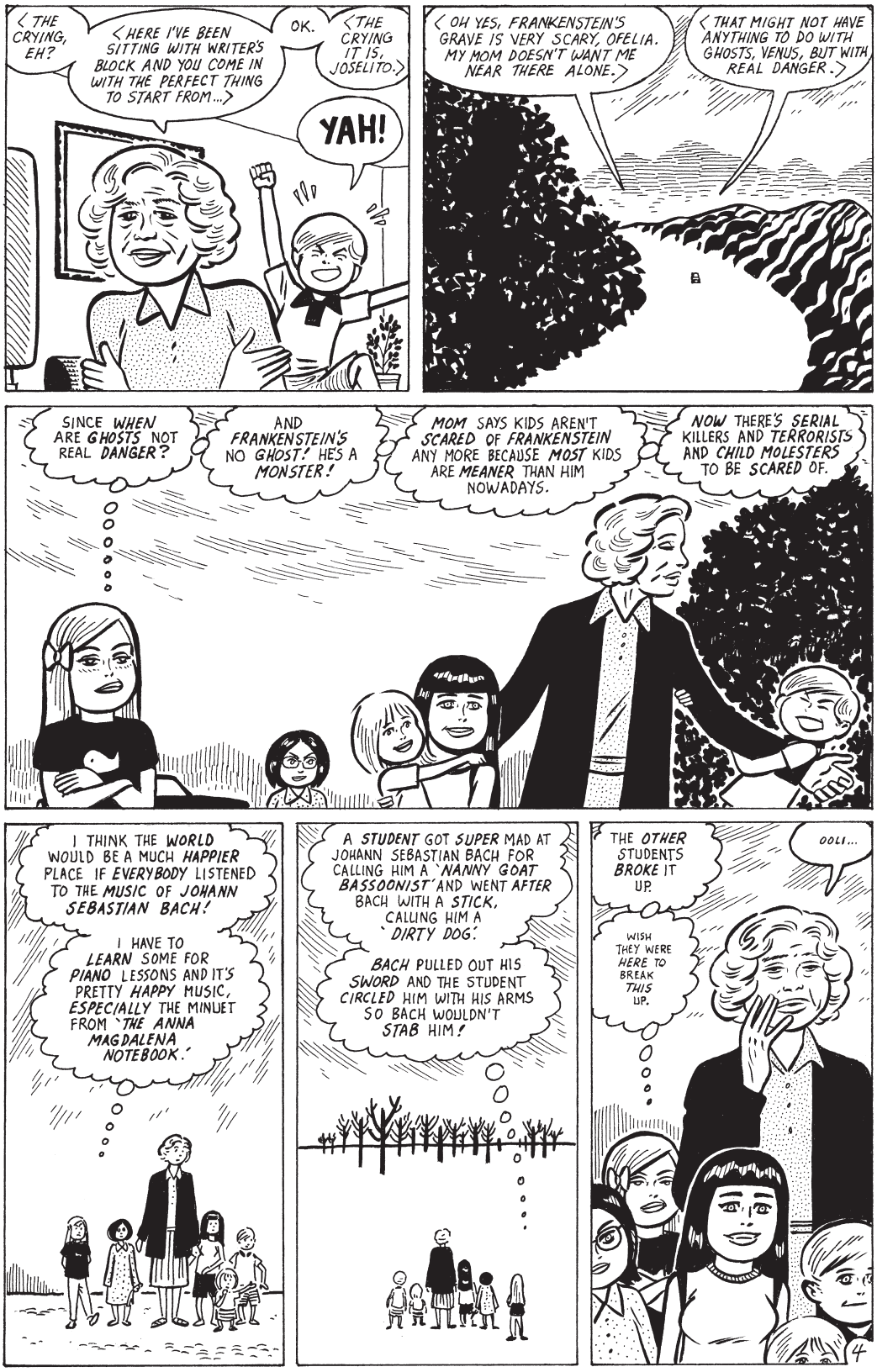

IS IT SECRET BECAUSE IT MIGHT BE SCARY TO KIDS?
NO, IT'S JUST ABOUT HER AND MY MOM, AND, I DON'T KNOW, KILLERS AND GHOSTS AND STUFF LIKE THAT.


OFELIA USED TO TELL US SCARY GHOST STORIES FROM WHEN SHE WAS LITTLE.
THERE'S A SCARY PLACE WHERE I LIVE CALLED FRANKENSTEIN'S GRAVE.


ONE OF DR. FRANKENSTEIN'S GREAT GRANDSONS CAME TO AMERICA TO HIDE THE FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER AND HE HID HIM IN THE WOODS AT THE PARK NEAR MY HOUSE. PEOPLE THINK THAT SOMEBODY JUST WROTE FRANKENSTEIN ON SOME CEMENT, BUT IT'S REALLY THE MONSTER'S GRAVE.
THEY SAY HE COMES OUT AT NIGHT LOOKING FOR CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH.

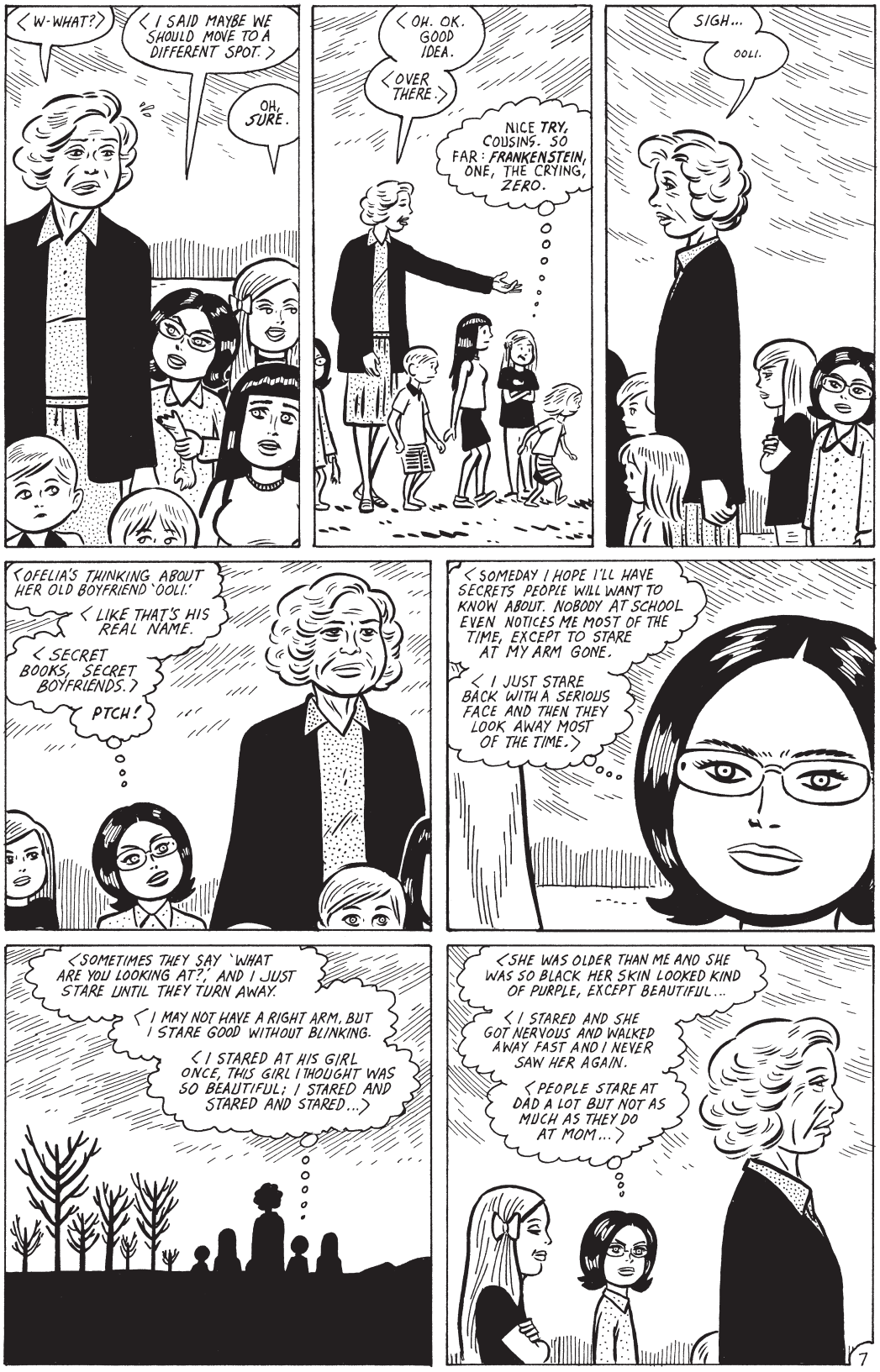

WE HAVE A BETTER SCARY THING.
THE CRYING.
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF IT'S REAL, JOSELITO.


IT'S TRUE! OFELIA SAID IT'S A TRUE THING! SHE'LL TELL YOU!
JOSELITO, DON'T BOTHER HER!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT KID.
3


< THE CRYING, EH?
< HERE I'VE BEEN SITTING WITH WRITER'S BLOCK AND YOU COME IN WITH THE PERFECT THING TO START FROM... >
OK.
< THE CRYING IT IS, JOSELITO. >
YAH!
< OH YES, FRANKENSTEIN'S GRAVE IS VERY SCARY, OFELIA. MY MOM DOESN'T WANT ME NEAR THERE ALONE. >
< THAT MIGHT NOT HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH GHOSTS, VENUS, BUT WITH REAL DANGER. >
SINCE WHEN ARE GHOSTS NOT REAL DANGER?
AND FRANKENSTEIN'S NO GHOST! HE'S A MONSTER!
MOM SAYS KIDS AREN'T SCARED OF FRANKENSTEIN ANY MORE BECAUSE MOST KIDS ARE MEANER THAN HIM NOWADAYS.
NOW THERE'S SERIAL KILLERS AND TERRORISTS AND CHILD MOLESTERS TO BE SCARED OF.
I THINK THE WORLD WOULD BE A MUCH HAPPIER PLACE IF EVERYBODY LISTENED TO THE MUSIC OF JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH!
I HAVE TO LEARN SOME FOR PIANO LESSONS AND IT'S PRETTY HAPPY MUSIC, ESPECIALLY THE MINUET FROM `THE ANNA MAGDALENA NOTEBOOK.'
A STUDENT GOT SUPER MAD AT JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH FOR CALLING HIM A `NANNY GOAT BASSOONIST' AND WENT AFTER BACH WITH A STICK, CALLING HIM A `DIRTY DOG.'
BACH PULLED OUT HIS SWORD AND THE STUDENT CIRCLED HIM WITH HIS ARMS SO BACH WOULDN'T STAB HIM!
THE OTHER STUDENTS BROKE IT UP.
OOLI...
WISH THEY WERE HERE TO BREAK THIS UP.
4


HA!
LUBA!
<HOW DID YOU GET OUT HERE!?>
<YOUR COUSIN SNEAKED OUT INTO THE NIGHT CONSUMED WITH STUDYING THE STARS.>
<NIGHT NIGHT!>
<DON'T ENCOURAGE HER, RICO!>
<I THINK LUBA'S A LOT SMARTER THAN YOU GIVE HER CREDIT FOR, OFELIA.>
<CLEVER AS AN ORGAN GRINDER'S MONKEY, SURE!>
<WE'RE HAVING PROBLEMS WITH STRANGE PROWLERS LATELY, RICO. I'M HOPING TO SAVE THEM THE EMBARRASSMENT OF BEING REJECTED WHEN THEY TRY TO SELL LUBA BACK TO THE GYPSYS.>
<CALL ME OOLI.>
<BUT, FLOR...!>
<I TELL YOU HE'S BEEN HERE BEFORE! WITH OTHERS!>
<FLOR AND HER PEEPING TOMS.
<WHICH MOVIE STAR DID HE LOOK LIKE THIS TIME?>
<NO, NO, SHE'S NOT IMAGINING THINGS. WE CHASED SOMEBODY INTO THE WOODS, THEN:>
PTCHOON!
<HE WAS GONE.>
<THESE ARE STRANGE LOOKING TRACKS.>
5


PTCH.
<JUST SOME KIDS FOOLING AROUND.>
<HEY! LET'S GET ZUMAYA HERE!>
<NO KID CAN MOVE AS FAST AS THE GUY WE CHASED..
<I'VE SEEN THEM MYSELF! SOMETIMES TWO, THREE AT A TIME: COLD, HAIRLESS SKIN, EYES LIKE COALS...>
<FROSTY THE FRIENDLY GHOST, EH?>
<LIKE THIS?>
<WELL, A LITTLE MORE..>
<THERE!
<NOW ARE YOU FATHEADS SATISFIED ENOUGH TO LET ME GET SOME SLEEP?!>
<HM. ZUMAYA'S PRINTS ARE SMALLER THAN FLOR'S DREAM BURGLAR'S.>
<MAYBE I OUGHT TO BE A POLICE SKETCH ARTIST, RICO.>
<THEN MEN WILL COMMIT CRIMES JUST TO BE IMMORTALIZED BY YOUR LOVELY HAND, BEAUTY.>
<THAT'S HIM! THAT'S THE GUY WE CHASED!>
<RECOGNIZE THIS GUY AT ALL, FLOR?>
<CASE CLOSED!>
<INNOCENT OF THE CRIME OF PEEPING, ZUMAYA CELEBRATES HIS VICTORY AT THE BAR!>
OOLI...
6

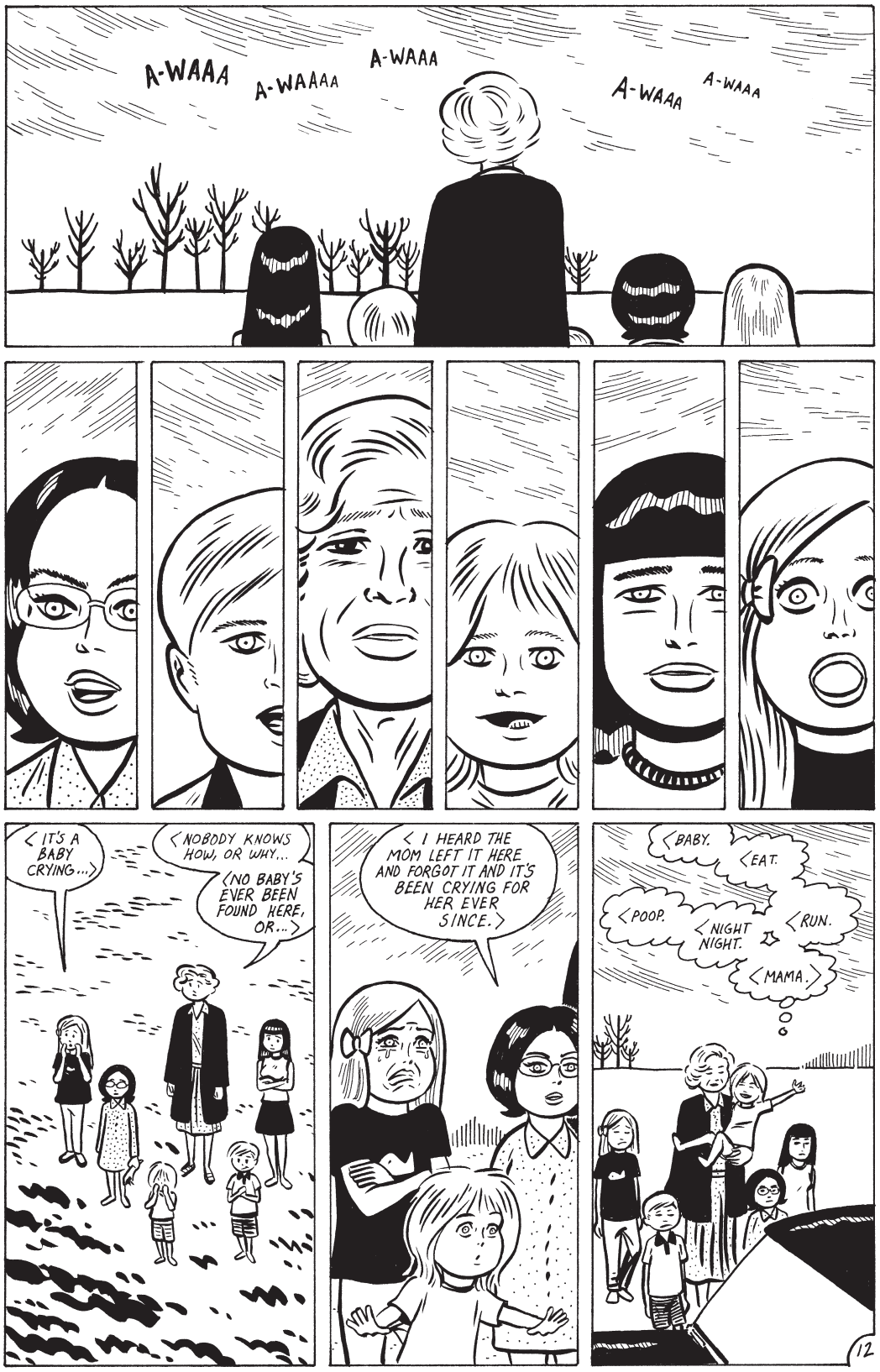

W-WHAT?
I SAID MAYBE WE SHOULD MOVE TO A DIFFERENT SPOT.
OH, SURE.
OH. OK. GOOD IDEA.
OVER THERE.
NICE TRY, COUSINS. SO FAR: FRANKENSTEIN, ONE, THE CRYING, ZERO.
SIGH...
OOLI.
OFELIA'S THINKING ABOUT HER OLD BOYFRIEND 'OOLI.'
LIKE THAT'S HIS REAL NAME.
SECRET BOOKS, SECRET BOYFRIENDS.
PTCH!
SOMEDAY I HOPE I'LL HAVE SECRETS PEOPLE WILL WANT TO KNOW ABOUT. NOBODY AT SCHOOL EVEN NOTICES ME MOST OF THE TIME, EXCEPT TO STARE AT MY ARM GONE.
I JUST STARE BACK WITH A SERIOUS FACE AND THEN THEY LOOK AWAY MOST OF THE TIME.
SOMETIMES THEY SAY 'WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT?,' AND I JUST STARE UNTIL THEY TURN AWAY.
I MAY NOT HAVE A RIGHT ARM, BUT I STARE GOOD WITHOUT BLINKING.
I STARED AT HIS GIRL ONCE, THIS GIRL I THOUGHT WAS SO BEAUTIFUL; I STARED AND STARED AND STARED...
SHE WAS OLDER THAN ME AND SHE WAS SO BLACK HER SKIN LOOKED KIND OF PURPLE, EXCEPT BEAUTIFUL...
I STARED AND SHE GOT NERVOUS AND WALKED AWAY FAST AND I NEVER SAW HER AGAIN.
PEOPLE STARE AT DAD A LOT BUT NOT AS MUCH AS THEY DO AT MOM...
7


< WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THIS BEFORE, LUBA.>
< I'M GOING INTO TOWN TONIGHT AND YOU'RE TAKING CARE OF MY BABY, OFELIA.
< ANYTHING YOU'D LIKE TO DISCUSS WE'LL DO WHEN I GET BACK.
< JUST LIKE LAST TIME AND EVERYTIME.>
8


< YOUR DAUGHTER MIGHT RECOGNIZE YOU WHEN SHE WAKES UP, I GUESS.>
< AT LEAST I GOT AWAY WITH SOME COVERING THIS TIME.>
< THE BOOTS ARE A PRETTY GOOD FIT. I COULDN'T TELL YOU WHAT HAPPENED TO MY SHOES AND DRESS, THOUGH.>
< NEVERMIND.
< I WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT THE MOVIE YOU WENT TO SEE.>
UH...
< AH, THERE'S MY SWEET DREAMING BABYGIRL...>
< WELL, EH, HE DIDN'T WANT TO GO TO A MOVIE. I INSISTED, BUT YOU KNOW HOW RUGBY PLAYERS ARE.>
< HE FINALLY FELL ASLEEP AND HE DIDN'T EVEN STIR WHEN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT CAME TO BLAST OPEN THE BANK VAULT DOOR TO LET ME OUT.>
< OUR DEAL IS IF YOU SEE A MOVIE YOU HAVE TO TELL ME EVERY DETAIL ABOUT IT!>
< OFELIA, IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT HERE YOU CAN LEAVE.>
< I STAY BECAUSE I AM GOING TO SEE THAT YOUR LITTLE GIRL ISN'T NEGLECTED OR.. WORSE..! >
< AND IF I WAS TO LEAVE, WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITHOUT ME?
< WHO WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU?>
FEH.
9


〈WHAT.〉
〈I SUPPOSE IT WOULDN'T BE RIGHT IF I SOLD TICKETS.〉
SIGH..
〈SO TELL ME IN DETAIL ABOUT YOUR DATE WITH THE RUGBY PLAYER THEN...〉
〈WELL...
〈YOU KNOW HOW THEY DON'T ALWAYS HAVE ALL THEIR FRONT TEETH?
〈WELL...!〉
10


LISTEN!
OH, JUST A BIRD.
THEY ALL HATE ME.
THEY HATE ME BECAUSE I'M GOING TO A SPECIAL SCHOOL FOR EXTRA SMART KIDS. THEY THINK I THINK I'M SO BIG GOING TO THAT SCHOOL, BUT I DON'T! I'M SCARED!
I'M SCARED ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS, LIKE THIS STUPID THING WE'RE AT RIGHT NOW: THE CRYING!
I WISH WE WOULD GET OUT OF HERE, BUT I'M TOO SCARED TO SAY ANYTHING BECAUSE THEY'LL JUST GET MAD OR LAUGH AT ME.
WHENEVER I ARGUE WITH PEOPLE I GET TOO MAD AND CRY AND I ALWAYS LOSE EVERY ARGUMENT.
THAT'S WHY I DON'T TELL ANYBODY I'M SCARED ABOUT GOING TO THAT DUMB SCHOOL. I'LL JUST LOSE.
I WISH WE COULD GET OUT OF HERE.
CONCHITA'S GETTING TIRED.
JUST A FEW MORE MINUTES, OFELIA!
PLEASE?
OFELIA WANTS US TO GO WHEN SHE'S THE ONE WHO TOLD US ABOUT THIS.
WE HAVE TO SHOW VENUS OUR SCARY THING IS BETTER THAN HERS!
THAT WOULD BE SO AWESOME IF GODZILLA CAME OUT OF THE GROUND RIGHT NOW.
HE WOULD GET UP AND SWING HIS TAIL SMASHING THE GROUND AND DIRT AND ROCKS WOULD FLY AND HE WOULD MAKE THAT GIANT SOUND HE MAKES!
BRREE
EEEASSH..!
THEN FRANKENSTEIN WOULD COME, BUT HE WOULD GET STOMPED BY GODZILLA ALL SMASHED AND EVERYTHING AND ME AND GODZILLA WOULD LAUGH.

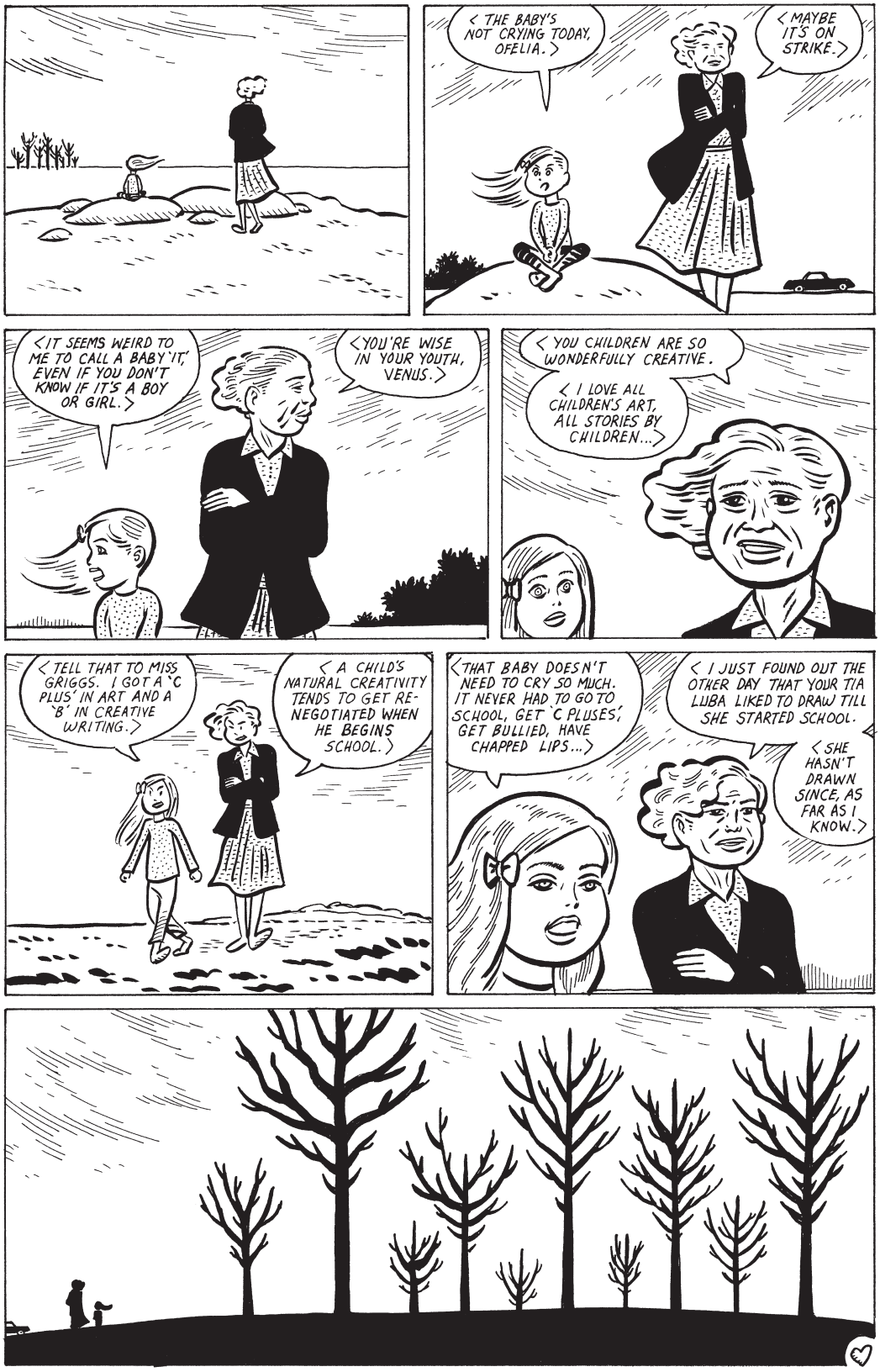

A-WAAA
A-WAAAA
A-WAAA
A-WAAA
A-WAAA
<IT'S A BABY CRYING...>
<NOBODY KNOWS HOW, OR WHY...
<NO BABY'S EVER BEEN FOUND HERE, OR...>
<I HEARD THE MOM LEFT IT HERE AND FORGOT IT AND IT'S BEEN CRYING FOR HER EVER SINCE.>
<BABY.
<EAT.
<POOP.
<NIGHT NIGHT.
<RUN.
<MAMA.>
12


BWAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
<DIDN'T I TELL YOU?
<DIDN'T I TELL YOU WHAT WOULD HAPPEN? HUH?!>
WAAAAAAAA
<DON'T YOU RUN FROM ME! DON'T YOU--!
WAAAAAAAAAAAAAA
AAAAAAAAAAAAAAA..
<GOT AN EXTRA?>
<THOSE KIDS NEVER LEARN! THEY CONTINUE WITH THEIR BULLSHIT AND NEVER LEARN NO MATTER HOW MUCH I SET THEM STRAIGHT!
<GET CLOSER. THE WIND KEEPS PUTTING IT OUT.>


< AND VENUS, REMEMBER THAT WHEN YOU GUYS BURY YOUR UNCLE IN THE WOODS, LEAVE HIM SOMETHING TO READ. >
The BOOK OF OFELIA 2
IMMIGRATION · TAXES
CEL-PHONES · BEEPERS · CA
< KHAMO'S THE LAST PERSON I'D EVER IMAGINE WOULD BE A GOOD FATHER. >
< TOO BAD YOU CAN'T SAY THE SAME FOR THE MOTHER. >
TAXE
"< ALL RIGHT, SOURPUSS! EVER SINCE YOU'VE BEEN WRITING THIS STUPID BOOK OF YOURS" >
< TRUE. BECAUSE RE-THINKING THE DETAILS OF PAST EMBARRASSMENTS CAN STIR UP ROTTEN FEELINGS OF NAGGING REGRET. >
PHONE
< AND MY GREATEST EMBARRASSING REGRET IS OF NOT STANDING UP TO YOUR ARROGANT, ABUSIVE BULLSHIT, LUBA! >
< JEALOUS BITCH.
< JUST BECAUSE SHE COULD NEVER ENJOY THE KIND OF LIFE I'VE HAD"
< GOD, EVER SINCE SHE'S BEEN WRITING THAT BOOK... >
14

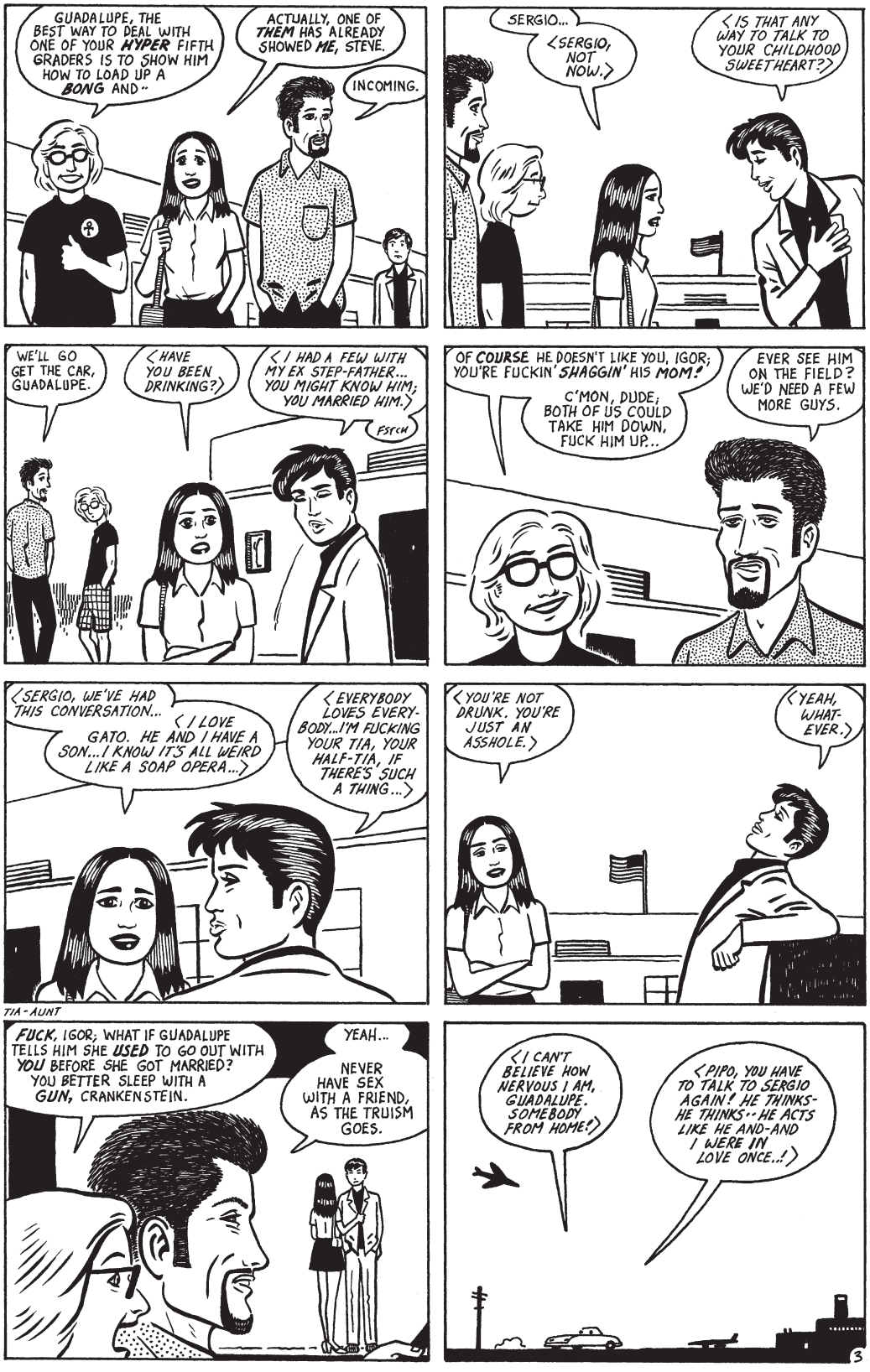

< DRESSED LIKE THAT YOU'LL BE ARRESTED AS A PUBLIC NUISANCE!
< YOU'RE VAIN AND IMMATURE!
< OH, LOOK AT YOU! YOU'RE FILTHY AS A PIG! YOU BELONG WITH PIGS!
< HE DIDN'T LEAVE YOU! YOU DROVE HIM AWAY!
< YOU DON'T DESERVE YOUR CHILDREN'S LOVE!>
< HEH, I COULDN'T SLEEP EITHER.
< SO MANY MEMORIES COMING BACK TO ME LATELY AND THE FUNNY ONES KEEP ME UP LAUGHING.>
< BEEN THINKING ABOUT OLD LOVERS, TOO. THE ONE THAT STAYS IN MY MIND IS MY 'OOLI'. YOU WERE TOO YOUNG TO REMEMBER HIM. HE WAS ONLY A SEWER WORKER, BUT OH BOY...>
HM.
< YOU WERE A CURIOUS CHILD, LUBA. STRANGELY CREATIVE.>
< DO YOU REMEMBER I USED TO LIKE TO DRAW WHEN I WAS LITTLE? NOT GOOD, BUT--
< I STOPPED COLD WHEN I STARTED SCHOOL. SOMEBODY TOLD ME I WAS DOING IT WRONG AND THAT WAS IT.
< WEIRD.>
15


LUBA!
< RICO, WHERE'S THE GOD DAMN BLANKET?>
< OFELIA, SHE DOESN'T KNOW.>
< THAT'S A KNOWING LOOK IN HER EYE IF I EVER SAW ONE!>
< SHE'S PROBABLY WONDERING WHICH OF OUR BODIES HERS WILL LOOK LIKE ONE DAY.>
< DON'T TALK DIRTY!
< SHE MAY VERY WELL BE DOING THAT!
< GIRL IS TOO SMART.>
< IF SUCH A THING COULD BE BAD.>
< SHE WAS DRAWING ALL OVER THE WALL YESTERDAY AND I GAVE HER THE SPANKING OF HER LIFE!>
< SHE'S IMITATING YOU WHEN YOU DRAW, OFELIA.>
< WELL, SHE'S GOING TO HAVE TO IMITATE ME WRITING INSTEAD.
< THE MOST RESPECTED CREATIVE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD ARE WRITERS, RICO. RESPECTED AND FEARED.
< A PAINTER CAN ONLY INFLUENCE THE SEEING, A MUSICIAN THE HEARING, BUT A WRITER? ANYONE WHO CAN THINK!>
BAB!
< HEH, IT'S NOT LIKELY LUBA WILL EVER GROW UP TO STRIKE FEAR IN ANYONE, RICO.>
< CALL ME, 'OOLI.'>
16


< THE BABY'S NOT CRYING TODAY, OFELIA. >
< MAYBE IT'S ON STRIKE. >
< IT SEEMS WEIRD TO ME TO CALL A BABY 'IT,' EVEN IF YOU DON'T KNOW IF IT'S A BOY OR GIRL. >
< YOU'RE WISE IN YOUR YOUTH, VENUS. >
< YOU CHILDREN ARE SO WONDERFULLY CREATIVE.
< I LOVE ALL CHILDREN'S ART, ALL STORIES BY CHILDREN... >
< TELL THAT TO MISS GRIGGS. I GOT A 'C PLUS' IN ART AND A 'B' IN CREATIVE WRITING. >
< A CHILD'S NATURAL CREATIVITY TENDS TO GET RE-NEGOTIATED WHEN HE BEGINS SCHOOL. >
< THAT BABY DOESN'T NEED TO CRY SO MUCH. IT NEVER HAD TO GO TO SCHOOL, GET 'C PLUSES', GET BULLIED, HAVE CHAPPED LIPS... >
< I JUST FOUND OUT THE OTHER DAY THAT YOUR TIA LUBA LIKED TO DRAW TILL SHE STARTED SCHOOL.
< SHE HASN'T DRAWN SINCE, AS FAR AS I KNOW. >


SPOT
MARKS
THE
EX
<HOLY HYPERTROPHY, PIPO; YOU'VE REALLY LET YOURSELF GO SINCE WE'VE BEEN DIVORCED. WHAT YOU LACK IS A TRUE SENSE OF PURPOSE.>
<GATO, I'M SERIOUS! MY BOOKS ARE A DISASTER! I HAVE TO GET SOMEBODY ELSE TO CLEAN UP THE MESS.>
<AH, THEN GO AHEAD, GET SOMEBODY ELSE. I'VE GOT MY OWN DEALS LINED UP THAT'LL MAKE YOURS LOOK LIKE-- HARUMF! ALWAYS FANCIED MYSELF A WRITER, Y'KNOW.>
<AND WHILE YOU'RE GETTING A NEW ACCOUNTANT, YOU SHOULD ALSO GET A PERSONAL TRAINER TO HELP DEFLATE THAT BALLOONING LOVEBUCKET.>
<WELL, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT ANYMORE, SEÑOR EX. MY BOYFRIEND LIKES ME JUST FINE.>
<YEAH, THIS MUSICIAN BOYFRIEND OF YOURS IS OLD ENOUGH TO BE YOUR SON, AT LEAST. WHAT'S HIS NAME? VLAD? GORKA? VOIVODE?>
<IGOR!
<AND YOUR WIFE'S OLD ENOUGH TO BE YOUR GRANDDAUGHTER! WHAT SHE SEES IN THAT SCENARIO...>
<SAME THING YOU SAW, GIRL. MY HARD, EIGHT(LENGTH) BY SEVEN (CIRCUMFERENCE) MEAT-MANSTER!>
<TCH, LET'S NOT COMPARE BANANAS WITH EGGPLANTS.
<SO...SO WHEN DID YOU START WRITING, GATO? I CAN'T IMAGINE WHERE SOMEBODY BEGINS WITH SOMETHING LIKE THAT.>
STUDIO B
<THE WRITER BEGINS WITH HIS LIFE, PIPO. THE JOURNEY THROUGH THE MIND AND SOUL TO UNDERSTAND WHO HE IS, THEN MOVES ON EVER TOWARD THOSE MYSTERIOUS CONCEPTS JUST BEYOND HIS REACH.>
<YOU BETTER TAKE COMFORTABLE SHOES.>
STU B


I KNOW YOU DATE MY GUADALUPE BEFORE SHE MARRY ME, IGOR.
I BELIEVE I CAN SEE IT, YOU KNOW.
MHM.
MHM.
WOW!
<YOU SHOULD GET MAD WITH YOUR EX MORE OFTEN, TARZAN!>
<I'VE PASSED OVER, GUADALUPE. REVENGE IS A THING OF THE PAST, NOW ONLY SOMETHING TO FILL A PAGE.>
<WE'LL SHOOT THE REST OF THE PROMO TOMORROW, SERGIO.>
<OK, MAMA.>
<MAMA DOESN'T SPEAK ENGLISH, HE DOESN'T SPEAK SPANISH. HOW THE HELL DO THEY RELATE?>
<THEY HAVE THEIR WAY.>
<GATO...YOU RAISED ME LIKE I WAS YOUR OWN SON...
<THE DAY I HIT YOU... YOU AND MAMA WERE SPLITTING UP...>
DIZZY
<OH OH, GIVE THIS GUY A COUPLE OF DRINKS...
<SERGIO, YOU WEREN'T YOURSELF.
<BUT DID YOU EVER THINK THAT MAYBE I LET YOU KNOCK ME DOWN?>
<YEAH, I'VE OFTEN WONDERED IF--YEAH, IN THE MIDDLE OF A TOUGH GAME I MIGHT BE GOING FOR THE GOAL OF MY LIFE AND I'LL THINK ABOUT IT--I'VE BLOWN A FEW GOALS THINKING ABOUT IT...>
<YOUR MAMA AND I ARE PROUD OF YOU, BOY. TRY TO THINK ABOUT THAT ABOVE ALL.>
<GUADALUPE TOO, BOY. SHE AND I WILL WATCH ONE OF YOUR GAMES ON THE T.V. AND WHETHER YOU BOYS WIN OR LOSE, SHE'LL CRY. YEAH, THAT'S MY GIRL.>
2

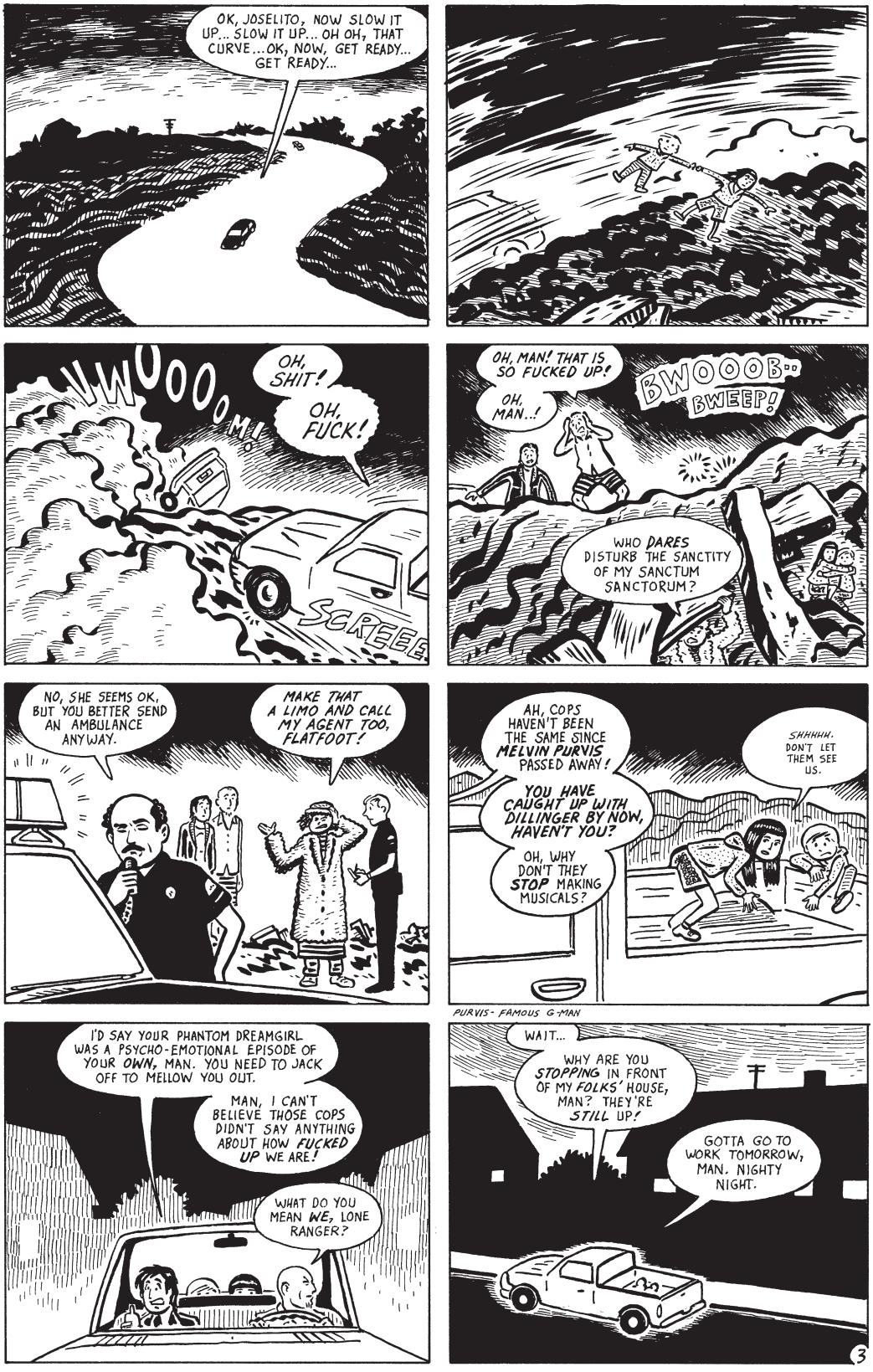

GUADALUPE, THE BEST WAY TO DEAL WITH ONE OF YOUR HYPER FIFTH GRADERS IS TO SHOW HIM HOW TO LOAD UP A BONG AND--
ACTUALLY, ONE OF THEM HAS ALREADY SHOWED ME, STEVE.
INCOMING.
SERGIO...
<SERGIO, NOT NOW.>
<IS THAT ANY WAY TO TALK TO YOUR CHILDHOOD SWEETHEART?>
WE'LL GO GET THE CAR, GUADALUPE.
<HAVE YOU BEEN DRINKING?>
<I HAD A FEW WITH MY EX STEP-FATHER... YOU MIGHT KNOW HIM; YOU MARRIED HIM.>
FSFCH
OF COURSE HE DOESN'T LIKE YOU, IGOR; YOU'RE FUCKIN' SHAGGIN' HIS MOM!
C'MON, DUDE; BOTH OF US COULD TAKE HIM DOWN, FUCK HIM UP...
EVER SEE HIM ON THE FIELD? WE'D NEED A FEW MORE GUYS.
<SERGIO, WE'VE HAD THIS CONVERSATION...
<I LOVE GATO. HE AND I HAVE A SON... I KNOW IT'S ALL WEIRD LIKE A SOAP OPERA...>
<EVERYBODY LOVES EVERYBODY...I'M FUCKING YOUR TIA, YOUR HALF-TIA, IF THERE'S SUCH A THING...>
TIA-AUNT
<YOU'RE NOT DRUNK. YOU'RE JUST AN ASSHOLE.>
<YEAH, WHATEVER.>
FUCK, IGOR; WHAT IF GUADALUPE TELLS HIM SHE USED TO GO OUT WITH YOU BEFORE SHE GOT MARRIED? YOU BETTER SLEEP WITH A GUN, CRANKENSTEIN.
YEAH...
NEVER HAVE SEX WITH A FRIEND, AS THE TRUISM GOES.
<I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW NERVOUS I AM, GUADALUPE. SOMEBODY FROM HOME!>
<PIPO, YOU HAVE TO TALK TO SERGIO AGAIN! HE THINKS-HE THINKS-- HE ACTS LIKE HE AND-AND I WERE IN LOVE ONCE..!>
3

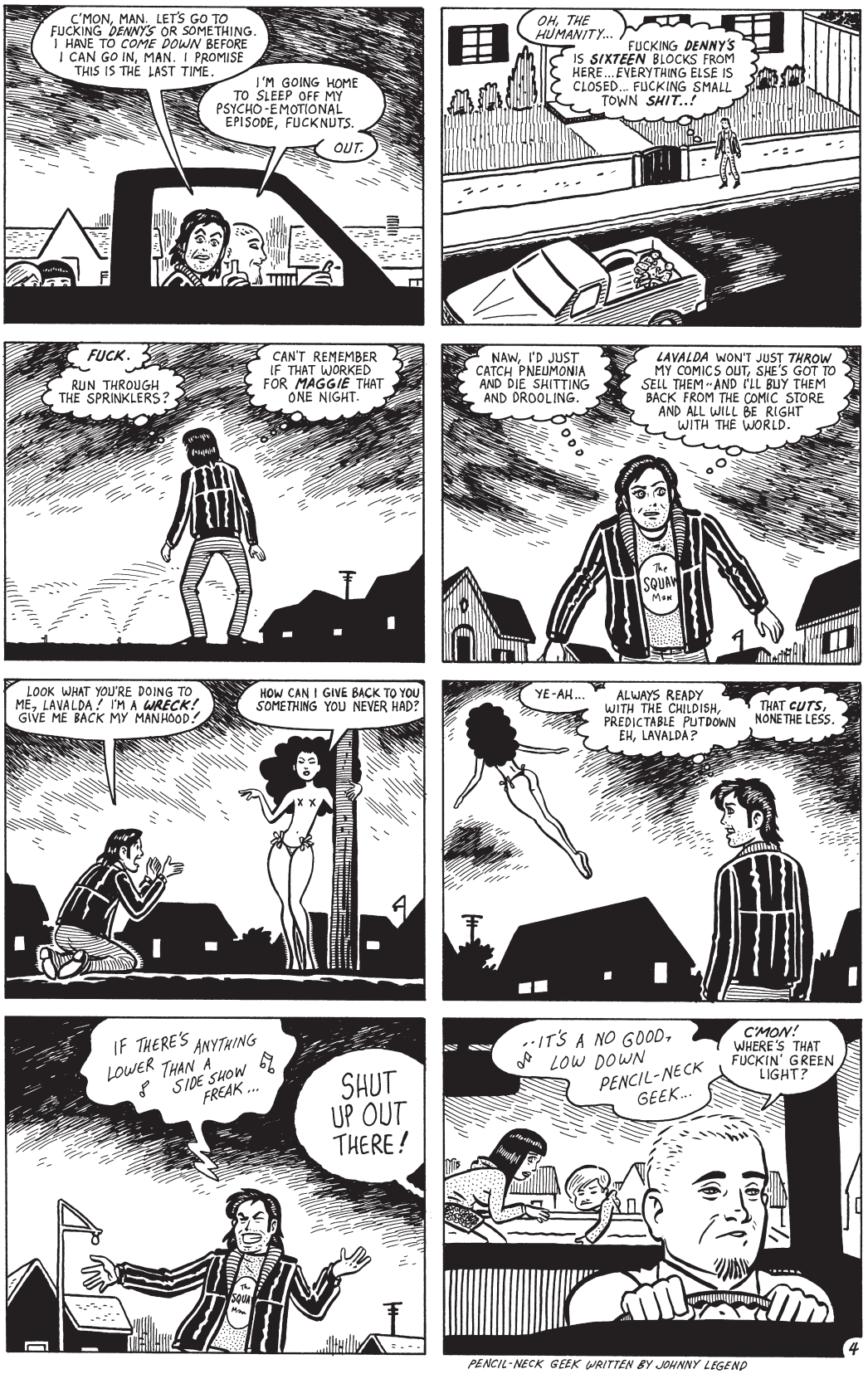

OH, SURE! IT MUST BE TRUE LOVE IF HE'S GOT A GIRL IN EVERY CITY HE'S BEEN TO, GUADALUPE.
WELL, YES, BUT.. I MEAN, HE'S YOUR SON, AND..REALLY? A GIRL IN EVERY..? HE'S PLAYED IN SO MANY CITIES, BUT I DON'T BELIEVE..
WELL, I'M NOT NAIVE! SERGIO'S VERY.. WELL, ANYBODY WHO'S YOUNG AND FAMOUS IS GOING TO ATTRACT.. OK, BUT IF HE FEELS I'VE REJECTED HIM.. A GIRL IN EVERY TOWN..?
GATE 36
AND THERE'S MY PIN-UP OF THE YEAR!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF AMERICA SO FAR, BOOTS?
XXX!
DRIVE THRU
COMIC BOOKS
TACOS
SAME.
BEER
CINEMA
BEFORE WE SHOW YOU AROUND AND GET YOU SETTLED IN, BOOTS, PLEASE TELL US ABOUT EVERYBODY BACK HOME!
THAT STUFF LATER, PIPO. I'M ALREADY FIGURING OUT HOW I'M GOING TO FIX YOUR BOOKS. STRAIGHT TO YOUR OFFICE AFTER LUNCH.
NO SMOKING, PLEASE.
SORRY.
I WANT TO THANK YOU AND GUADALUPE FOR LETTING ME STAY IN YOUR HOME, SEÑOR REYNA, ESPECIALLY WHEN I'M TAKING YOUR PLACE AS PIPO'S ACCOUNTANT.
I'VE OTHER CLIENTS, BOOTS. PIPO'S NEVER HOME AND WE COULDN'T LET YOU STAY IN A HOTEL ALONE.
A WRITER DOESN'T CHOOSE HIS SUBJECT, BOOTS. IT CHOOSES HIM.
I LIKE STORIES ABOUT SNAILS.
I SEARCH FOR TRUTH, BOOTS.
CAN LOVE BE FAR BEHIND?
BETO/98


EL SHOW SUPER DUPER SENSACIONAL FANTASTICO de DORALIS
<THE WORLD UNDER THE SEA IS VAST AND MYSTERIOUS AS THE HEAVENS ABOVE!>
CONSIDER THE LEGEND OF THE SEA PEOPLE. THE LEGGED ONES OF THE SEA HAD LIVED FOR CENTURIES WITHOUT THE SURFACE WORLD'S KNOWLEDGE.
THE RULERS OF THE SEA FEARED THE LEGGED ONES WOULD ONE DAY JOIN UP WITH THE SURFACE PEOPLE AND TAKE OVER THE SECRET OCEAN KINGDOM.
THE LEGGED ONES WERE BANISHED AND FORCED TO FIND A NEW HOME. EVERY WHERE THEY WENT THEY WERE NOT ACCEPTED, AND EVEN TORMENTED FOR THEIR DIFFERENCES.
LEFT WITH NO OTHER CHOICE, THEY FINALLY CAME TO THE SURFACE AND HAVE SINCE LIVED AMONG US IN RELATIVE PEACE, THOUGH MANY LONG TO RETURN TO THEIR BELOVED HOMELAND.
OTHERS PREFER LIFE ON TERRA FIRMA AND USE THEIR SKILLS OF DECEPTION TO TAKE FULL ADVANTAGE OF WHAT THE SURFACE WORLD HAS TO OFFER.
<IS THAT ONE SITTING NEXT TO YOU NOW?>
<IS SHE TRYING TO SAY YOU'RE A FISH PERSON IN SECRET, SOCORRO? LET'S SEE THEM FLIPPERS!>
<THEN YOU'RE A FISH PERSON'S MAMA!>
<WELL, THAT ISN'T THE WORST THING I'VE BEEN ACCUSED OF.>
TODAY'S SHOW IS DEDICATED TO MY SISTER SOCORRO WHO'S OFF TO A SCHOOL FOR GIFTED CHILDREN.
ZUMM
ZUMM


Snail Trail
<YOUR PAPA ISN'T GOING AWAY FOR REAL AGAIN, CASIMIRA.>
<I'M BRINGING HIM BACK IN CHAINS IF I HAVE TO.>
<DON'T STAY UP TOO LATE, KIDS.>
Z
<WE WON'T, OFELIA.>
WE HAVE TO CHECK IF MAMA'S ALL RIGHT, SOCORRO.
Z
OFELIA'S ASLEEP.
I KNOW A CAR WE CAN USE, JOSELITO.
Z
MR. LORENZANO HIDES A SECRET KEY UNDER HERE. I SAW HIM ONCE.
MR. LORENZANO SAID IN SECRET HIS FAVORITE DREAM IS ABOUT GETTING STUCK IN AN ELEVATOR WITH MAMA ALL DAY.

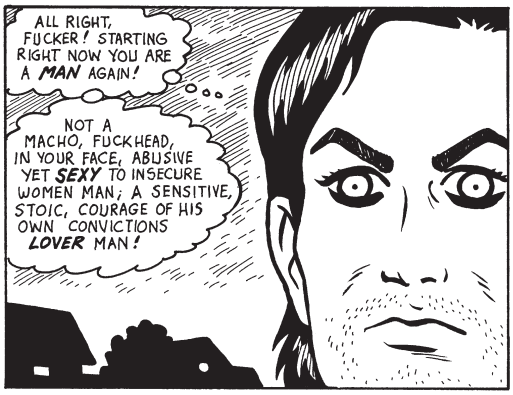

I'LL STEER AND YOU PUSH THE BRAKE AND GAS PEDALS, JOSELITO. I'LL TELL YOU WHICH IS WHICH.
OK!
VRUMM VRUMM
GOOD THING MR. LORENZANO'S DREAMS HAVE MAMA IN THEM BECAUSE THEN THEY COULD USE HER HAMMER TO BREAK OUT OF THE ELEVATOR, HUH?
DO YOU SEE THE TAXI MAMA'S IN YET, SOCORRO?
I SAW IT FOR A MINUTE BUT NOW I CAN'T.
WE BETTER GO HOME NOW, JOSELITO. I DON'T WANT TO GET LOST.
NO! KEEP GOING!
JOSELITO, THE POLICE COULD STOP US AND TAKE US AWAY FROM MAMA!
GO!
SO MY FIANCÉE THROWS ME OUT OF MY PLACE, OK? SAME PLACE I'VE HAD LONG BEFORE SHE MOVED IN, OK? SO NOW I'M STAYING WITH MY FOLKS, OK?
NOT OK, OK?
YOUR FIANCEE'S A STRIPPER, MAN. HER FUCKED UP CHILDHOOD GUARANTEES YOU BAFFLING PSYCHO-EMOTIONAL EPISODES AT NO EXTRA COST.
HEY...
SHE WON'T EVEN LET ME BACK IN THE APARTMENT TO GET MY COMICS AND PORN COLLECTIONS...
HEY, WHOA! WHAT'S YOUR HURRY?
DIDN'T YOU SEE HER, MAN?! SHE WANTS ME TO FOLLOW! SHE'S SEEN THE MAN OF HER DREAMS:
ME!
JOSELITO, GET UP! YOU'RE PUSHING ON THE GAS PEDAL! JOSELITO!
TEE HEE!
I ONLY SAW HER FOR A SPLIT SECOND AND MY LIFE IS FOREVER CHANGED, MAN! SHE'S THE ONE!
IF SHE TAPES OVER MY 'BUTT-SLAMMING SLOBS NUMBER SEVEN,' I'LL... I'LL...
2

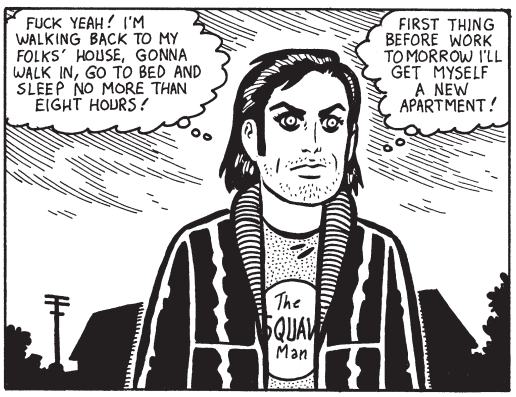

OK, JOSELITO, NOW SLOW IT UP... SLOW IT UP... OH OH, THAT CURVE...OK, NOW, GET READY... GET READY...
VWUOOOM!
OH, SHIT!
OH, FUCK!
SCREEE
OH, MAN! THAT IS SO FUCKED UP!
OH, MAN..!
BWOOOB.. BWEEP!
WHO DARES DISTURB THE SANCTITY OF MY SANCTUM SANCTORUM?
NO, SHE SEEMS OK, BUT YOU BETTER SEND AN AMBULANCE ANYWAY.
MAKE THAT A LIMO AND CALL MY AGENT TOO, FLATFOOT!
AH, COPS HAVEN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE MELVIN PURVIS PASSED AWAY!
YOU HAVE CAUGHT UP WITH DILLINGER BY NOW, HAVEN'T YOU?
OH, WHY DON'T THEY STOP MAKING MUSICALS?
SHHHHH. DON'T LET THEM SEE US.
PURVIS- FAMOUS G-MAN
I'D SAY YOUR PHANTOM DREAMGIRL WAS A PSYCHO-EMOTIONAL EPISODE OF YOUR OWN, MAN. YOU NEED TO JACK OFF TO MELLOW YOU OUT.
MAN, I CAN'T BELIEVE THOSE COPS DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT HOW FUCKED UP WE ARE!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN WE, LONE RANGER?
WAIT...
WHY ARE YOU STOPPING IN FRONT OF MY FOLKS' HOUSE, MAN? THEY'RE STILL UP!
GOTTA GO TO WORK TOMORROW, MAN. NIGHTY NIGHT.
3

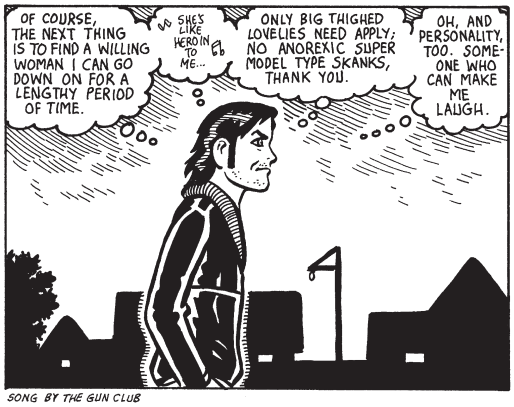


PENCIL-NECK GEEK WRITTEN BY JOHNNY LEGEND


ACTUALLY, I NEVER THOUGHT THERE'S EVER BEEN ANYTHING AIL THAT LOW ABOUT BEING A SIDE-SHOW 'FREAK', GOD BLESS 'EM.
HEY, THEY'VE GOT THE OLD STYLE LIGHTS ON THIS STREET.
"DESTINED TO NEVER QUITE FIND HIS WAY, AND DIE AS HAPPILY AS HE HAD LIVED."
I CAN NEVER REMEMBER WHAT MOVIE THAT'S FROM.
"AND DIE AS HAPPILY AS HE HAD LIVED."
LUCKY HIM.
MOVIE - 'THE CHEATERS' - 1945
OH, LAVALDA; I'LL MISS YOUR FULL, CREAMY THIGHS GENTLY SQUEEZING MY HEAD, MY FACE BURIED DEEP IN YOUR SWEET, WARM THING.
I SHOULD BE IN A SIDESHOW AS THE PUSSY LAPPIN' FOOL...
SO, IS ROCK AND ROLL TRULY FINISHED THIS TIME AROUND?
CHRISTMAS IS COMING...
AW MAN, YOU'LL PROBABLY GET SHMOOSHED BEFORE YOU CAN MAKE IT HOME.
BUT YOU CARRY YOUR HOME WITH YOU, HUH? OR IS IT JUST YOUR BED?
COLD, YET INNOCENT; REPULSIVE, YET INDISPENSIBLE.
NOBODY LIKES YOU, MAN, BUT YOU DON'T GIVE A SHIT, YOU JUST WANT TO EAT, SLEEP, SHIT AND FUCK.
TO SURVIVE.
FUCK; TALKING TO SNAILS NOW.
ALL RIGHT, MAN. MAY GOD GIVE YOU A LONG, HEALTHY LIFE.
RELATIVELY SPEAKING, OF COURSE.
KEEP AWAY FROM SALT AND YOU'LL DO OK.
5

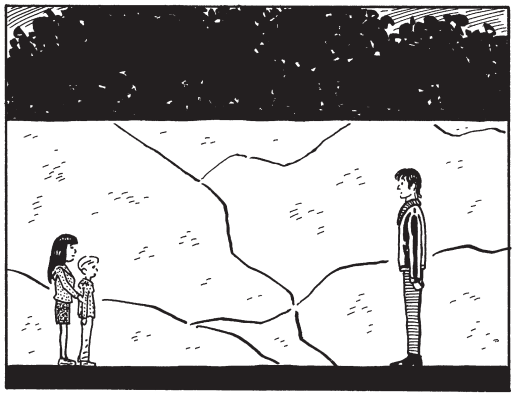






SONG BY THE GUN CLUB

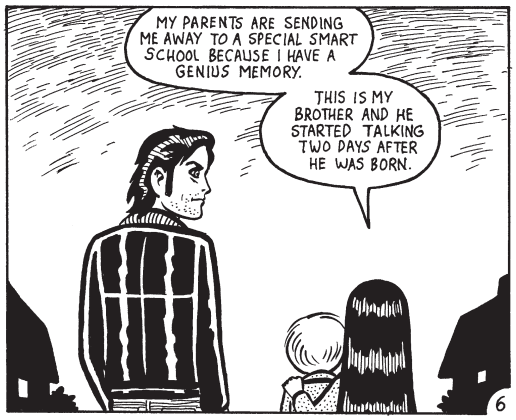




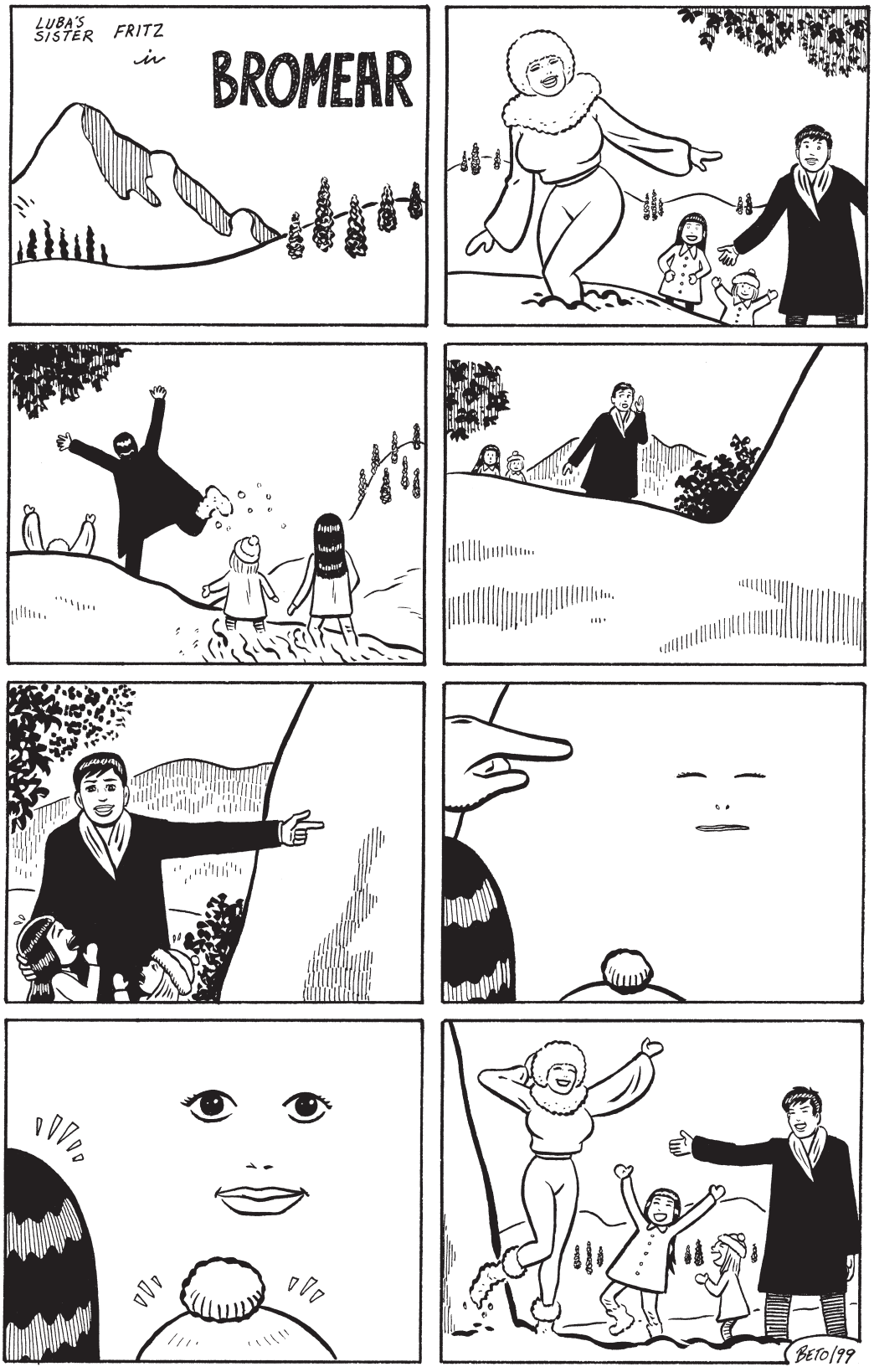




HUMVEE- OVERSIZED MILITARY JEEP-LIKE YUPPIE PIECE OF SHIT




I'M NOT SCARED OF YOU BECAUSE YOU WORK FOR WORLD EXPRESS AND YOU ONCE DELIVERED A PACKAGE TO MY HOUSE ON DECEMBER SIXTEENTH, AT THREE FORTY-FIVE P.M., FOURTEEN MONTHS AGO.
THE PACKAGE WAS BLACK HAIR DYE MY MOM DOESN'T USE ANY MORE.
YOU HAD A PIMPLE OVER YOUR RIGHT EYEBROW.
SIGH. I DO MISS THAT PIMPLE.
THIS IS OUR HOUSE. THANK YOU FOR WALKING US HOME, MISTER.
I BETTER TALK TO YOUR FOLKS AND EXPLAIN EVERYTHING.
NO, WE'LL GO IN ALONE. OUR FATHER WILL THINK YOU'RE A KIDNAPPER AND HE WILL KILL YOU. KILL YOU.
I MEAN IT.
The SQUAW Man
PENCIL-NECK GEEK, GRIT-EATIN' FREAK, SCUM-SUCKING PEA HEAD WITH A LOUSY PHYSIQUE, HE'S A ONE MAN, NO GOOD LOSING STREAK, NOTHING BUT A PENCIL-NECK GEEK..
WE HAVE TO SAVE OUR MONEY TO BUY MR. LORENZANO A NEW CAR, JOSELITO.
OK.
The End


LUBA'S SISTER FRITZ in BROMEAR
BETO/99


LOOK, SOCORRO!
JOSELITO, IT'S HIM!
OH, TIA FRITZ! HE SAVED US!
WILSON


MEETING CUTE, FUCKING CUTER
BETO '01
SAVE US!
SAVE US AGAIN!
SALE!
I DIDN'T DO IT!
I'VE BEEN FRAMED!


I'M INNOCENT, I TELL YOU! THERE I WAS, UP AGAINST THE WALL MINDING MY OWN BUSINESS, WHEN ALL OF A SUDDEN..
WHEN..
MY NIETHE AND NEPHEW THEEM TO KNOW YOU.
SAVE US!
BRAIN CAPERS


WAIT! IS THAT REAL?
WELL..YETH; THEY KEEP THAYING YOU THAVED THEM.
SAVE US!
YOUR LISP, I MEAN! IT'S INSPIRING!
O-OH..
WELL.

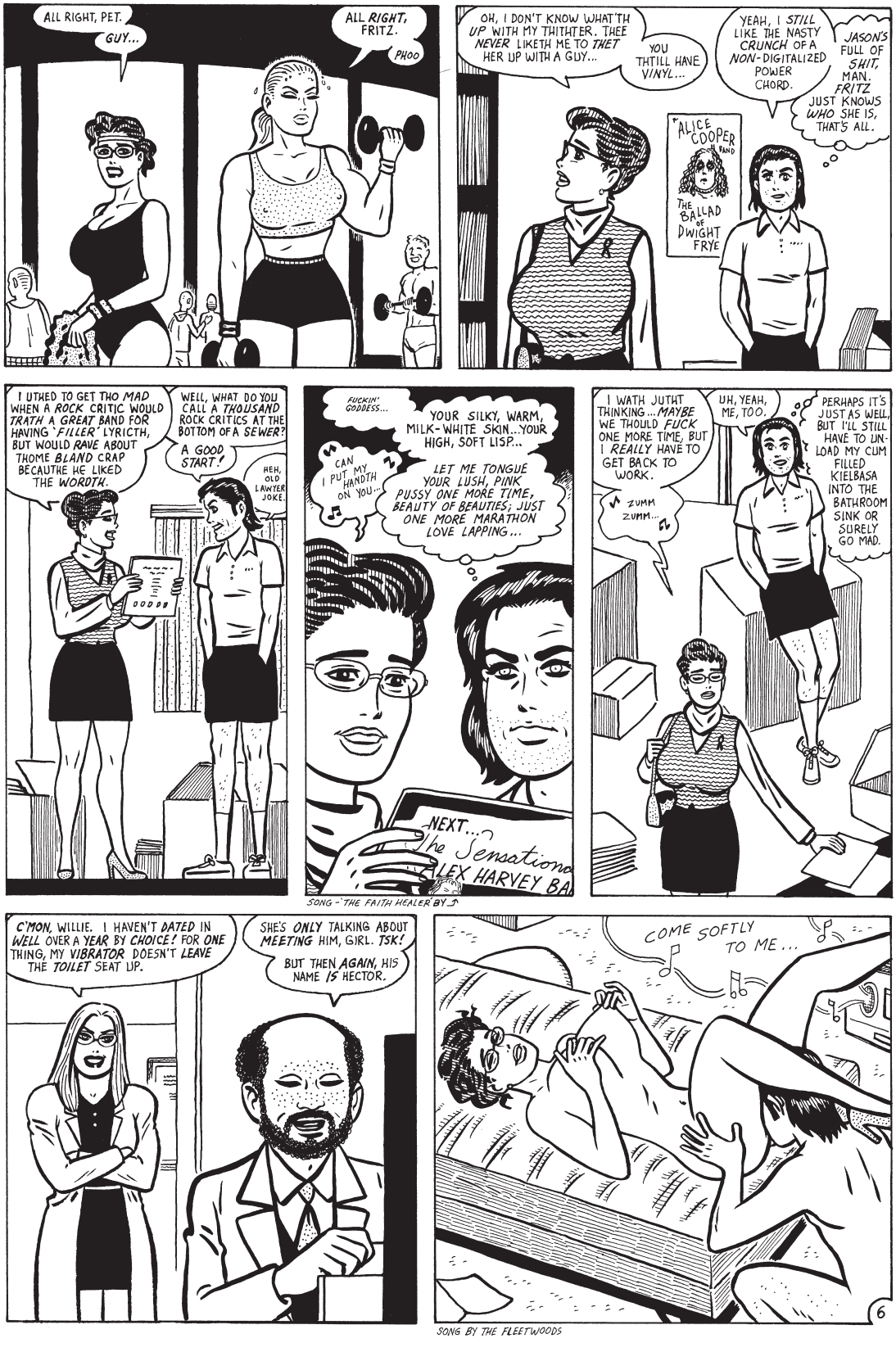

UM... DO YOU HAVE A THING FOR A GIRL WITH A LITHP?
THERE I WAS, UP AGAINST THE WALL, SLINGS AND ARROWS POISED AT ME, WHEN I HEARD THE HIGH, SOFT LISP OF-OF··
HEY, YOU SMELL GOOD!
SURE, SHE LOOKS LIKE A GADZILLION BUCKS, BLACKIE, BUT THE LOVELIES HECTOR MEETS ALWAYS TURN OUT TO BE MUCH MORE UNSTABLE THAN THE LAST.
AND HUGE FAKE RACK OR NOT, THIS WAX FIGURE HERE LOOKS LIKE NO EXCEPTION.
'TIS A CYNIC YOU ARE, JASON, MY MAN.
TO ME, THE PROMISES OF A NEW RELATIONSHIP ARE SWEET AND MYSTERIOUS, THE STUFF OF HOPE AND DRIVE.
WHAT KILLS ME IS HOW THEY PRACTICALLY FALL INTO HIS LAP! HE WORKS AT WORLD EXPRESS, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE! MAN, HECTOR DOES LIVE A CHARMED LIFE, JASON.
CURSED LIFE IS MORE LIKE IT.
GIVE ME A SIXER AND A FORTY-NINERS GAME ANY TIME.
AND KNOWING HIS LUCK, HER MUNIFICENT MAMMARIES ARE REAL.
DON'T DO IT, HEC. YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOWER EVERYDAY, SHE'LL MAKE YOU DUMP YOUR COMICS AND PORN...
SO, DON'T FORGET YOU PROMISED ME IF YOU EVER GOT RID OF 'FUCK ME IN THE FART BOX' NUMBER FIVE...
SHE'S INTO T.REX, THE DOLLS, SLADE...THE ORIGINAL STAR TREK... PREFERS SHEMP... HATES ANYTHING FRENCH...
I NEVER MET ANYBODY WHO SMELLED AS GOOD.
GAVE ME HER NUMBER...
OH RIGHT, LIKE SHE GAVE YOU HER REAL NUMBER!
BRAIN CAPERS
SCIENCE GONE TOO FAR, SCIENCE GONE TOO FAR
SPA FON!
SONG BY THE DICTATORS
IT WATH JUTHT NITHE TO MEET A NITHE, NORMAL GUY WITH A NORMAL JOB, PET. HE'TH REALLY THWEET, FUN TO BE WITH...
ANOTHER BOYFRIEND, TIA FRITZI!? THAT'S THREE, NOW! A CUTE SUPER MODEL, A SUPER CUTE SOCCER PLAYER, AND NOW WHAT?! A NORMAL HUMAN?! TIA, YOU DRIVE A MERCEDES?!
YEAH, WHEN YOUR TIA GOES FOR A GUY WHO ISN'T PRETTIER THAN HER, SOMETHING'S UP, VENUS.
OH, HE'TH PLENTY PRETTY.


OH, BUT HE'TH NOT MY NEW BOYFRIEND OR ANYTHING. I WANT YOU TO MEET HIM, PETRA.
IF HE'S SUPER CUTE SHE WON'T, TIA FRITZ! MOM DOESN'T LIKE ANY GUY WHO'S AS CUTE OR CUTER THAN HER!
OH WELL, YOU HEARD VENUS, SISTERGIRL. THANKS, BUT NO THANKS.
'EVEN A MAN WHO IS PURE AT HEART AND SAYS HIS PRAYERS BY NIGHT, MAY BECOME A WOLF WHEN THE WOLFSBANE BLOOMS AND THE AUTUMN MOON IS BRIGHT.'
WUFF.. SNARL..
LOVE ME
FROM THE MOVIE 'THE WOLFMAN' -1942
SO FRITZ IS A THERAPIST! THAT'S NOT SO FUCKIN' WEIRD, IS IT?
WHAT IS WEIRD IS I'M MASTURBATING TO FANTASIES ABOUT HAVING SEX WITH HER; BUT I AM HAVING SEX WITH HER!
OK, I'M WHIPPED ON THE LISP, BUT WHAT'S THAT?
JASON INSISTS THAT ANY HONEY THAT KILLER FINE WHO HAS SEX WITH ANYBODY LIKE ME HAS GOT TO HAVE HAD ONE FUCKED UP CHILDHOOD!
HE SAID SHE PROBABLY WOULD'VE BECOME A STRIPPER OR WORSE HAD SHE NOT FIGURED THAT BECOMING A THERAPIST IS A LEGIT, EVEN RESPECTABLE WAY TO OPENLY CONTROL AND MANIPULATE MEN AND WOMEN!
THEN AGAIN, JASON CAN BE PRETTY FUCKING DUMB.
BZING!
THE MAGIC WHISTLE
HI.
I-I'M THORRY I DIDN'T CALL FIRTHT, BUT I WATH IN THE AREA...
OH...
YOU...WANT ME TO... MEET YOUR SISTER...
HECTOR, I REALLY LIKE YOU, BUT I'VE GOT ENOUGH MEN IN MY LIFE TO HANDLE RIGHT NOW.
AT
SALE!
MODE
STORY OF MY LIFE: I MEET THE PERFECT WOMAN AND SHE USES ME LIKE SO MUCH BEEFCAKE.
OH, WOE IS THE LIFE OF A SENSITIVE STUD.
YOU'LL LIKE MY THITHTER; THEE'TH MUCH PRETTIER THAN ME IF THAT'TH WHAT YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT.
PRO WEAR!
3


NNGGGGG..
LOVING YOU... IS EASY 'CAUSE YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL..
NGGGGGG..
GOOOGF..
ATARAXIA!
GOOG.....
FRITZ, I JUST GOT BACK FROM TWO AND A HALF WEEKS OF A GRUELING MODELING ASSIGNMENT IN PRAGUE. YOU PROMISED ME WE'D SPEND A LOT MORE TIME TOGETHER.
DON'T BE A BABY, ENRIQUE. MY THITHTER NEEDTH ME!
SONG BY MINNIE RIPERTON
WHEN HECTOR THAID HITH FAVORITE MOVIE IT'TH "THE BRIDE OF FRANKENTHTEIN," I TOLD HIM IT'TH YOURTH TOO, PETRA.
AND HE KNOWTH A LOT ABOUT COMIC BOOKTH, BUT HE'TH NOT AT ALL A CREEPY NERD.
SOUNDS LIKE YOUR KIND OF GUY, FRITZ.
HANG IN THERE, BLUE-EYETH. I THINK THEE'TH THTARTING TO COME AROUND.
WELL, OK, BUT IN THE MEANTIME IF YOUR HOLY FLOWER'S GETTING TOO LONESOME FOR MY..
HELLO..?
THILLY.
OH, THANK YOU, HONEY.
I'M THO GLAD I COULD THEE YOU WHILE YOU'RE IN TOWN.
FORTUNATO..!
LOVING ME...
AAHW..! AHW..! AHW..!
4
SONG BY ABBA



SONG BY MARVIN GAYE



SONG - "THE FAITH HEALER" BY J

SONG BY THE FLEETWOODS



ROSALBA IS FRITZ'S REAL NAME


THERGIO, YOU KNOW I'M HAPPY TO THEE YOU, BUT..
I HAVE TO TELL YOU I'VE GOT A DATE TONIGHT...
IT ISN'T TONIGHT YET.
I'M WALKIN' ON SUNSHINE...
SONG BY KATRINA AND THE WAVES
HI...! I-I LOTHT TRACK OF TIME AND I'LL NEED YOU TO PICK ME UP AT MY OFFITHE.
NO, I DON'T HAVE TO GO HOME. I'VE GOT A CHANGE OF CLOTHE HERE. YEAH.
HALF-HOUR.
OK.
I'LL CALL YOU WHEN I GET TO MILAN.
OH, THAT WATH THERGIO YOU HEARD. HE HAD TO HURRY AND CATCH A PLANE.
A FEW MONTHTH AGO HITH MOTHER AND I DOUBLE-TEAMED A GUY WITH TWO DICKTH! THE THINGTH YOU THEE WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE A CAMERA!
GIRL TOOK BOTH DICKTH IN HER MOUTHE AND MADE HIM COME TWITHE AT ONTHE!
AND THEN HE DID HER FROM BEHIND WITHING BOTH, ONE IN HER LOVELY, THE OTHER IN..
ITH THITH YOUR FOLKTH' CAR? WHEN I CALLED YOU I'D FORGOTTEN YOU DON'T HAVE ONE.
UH, YOU LOOK PRETTY TIRED. I COULD TAKE YOU HOME AND DEEP-TONGUE YOUR SWEET THING FOR A COUPLE OF HOURS TO HELP YOU RELAX.
I'M GOING TO MEET MY DATE AT MY THITHTER'TH.
YOU'VE GOT THE THCREAMERTH ON TAPE.
YOU MEAN ALL THE MUFF DIVING, ALL THE CHOAD CHOMPING, ALL THAT DOGGY STYLING MEANT NOTHING, FRITZ?
THTARTING NOW YOU AND ME HAVE NEVER HAD THEXTH, OK?
OH... LOOKTH LIKE PETRA'TH INVITED ALL HER FRIENDTH FROM THE GYM.
FUCK!
THEE MUTHT BE PRETTY NERVOUTH TO MEET YOU.
HIGH SCHOOL HELL NEVER ENDS! DRUNK JOCKS, BODY BUILDERS, AND ISN'T THAT THE COP WHO HARASSED ME IN FRONT OF MY DATE IN THE PARKING LOT OF RAY'S LIQUOR?
OK, SAY HI TO FRITZ'S SISTER AND GET THE HELL OUT!
8


AW, FUCK; WOULDN'T YOU KNOW IT? SHE'S A FUCKIN' DREAM GODDESS, TOO! MAN, HER EYES, THEY'RE... AND SHE SMELLS AS GOOD AS HER SISTER! I'M BESET BY BEAUTY, PULVERIZED BY PULCHRITUDE!
PETRA, THITH ITH HECTOR RIVERA.
DID FRITZI TELL YOU OUR FATHER'S NAME IS HECTOR?
OK, SO IT'S PRETTY WEIRD THAT FRITZ WAS SO ANXIOUS TO SET ME AND HER SISTER UP AFTER... WELL, IT'S A PRETTY WEIRD WORLD, I GUESS.
JESUS CHRIST, HER BICEPS ARE AS BIG AS MY HEAD!
LOOK AT 'EM; TWO DREAM GODDESSES... ONE ME...
YOU SICK FUCK, CAN'T YOU CURB YOUR CRO-MAGNON LIBIDO FOR A MINUTE?
ONE THOUSAND ONE, ONE THOUSAND TWO...
GOD HAS ALWAYS BEEN VERY KIND WHEN IT COMES TO MEETING YOUR TYPE OF WOMAN, HECTOR, SO DON'T FUCK THIS UP, ASSHOLE!
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO SAY GOODBYE TO YOUR SISTER?
THEE'TH BUTHY. I'LL CALL HER LATER.
RESTROOM IS SECOND DOOR TO THE LEFT.
THANKS.
YOU LOOK TIRED.
TOO MANY 'DATES' IN TOWN AT THE SAME TIME?
MAYBE I AM PRETTY TIRED, ENRIQUE.
WILL YOU TAKE ME HOME NOW?
I GUESS PETRA WAS A LOW-RIDER BABE GROWING UP, LISTENING TO SOUL AND OLDIES, MOSTLY. CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN I'VE MET A GAL MY AGE WHO DIDN'T LIKE LED ZEPPELIN.
HEY!
SANCTUARY! PETRA'S KID IS READING A COMIC BOOK!
FLOOSH!
FUNNY COMICS
WHAT COMIC BOOK ARE YOU READING?
NOTHING.
N'SYN
OH... HEY, THAT'S A GOOD COMIC!
REALLY! GREAT DRAWINGS AND EVERYTHING!
YOU LIKE OLD COMIC BOOKS? I THOUGHT BOYS ONLY LIKED NEW STUPOR HERO AWFUL DRAWING TERRIBLE COMICS!
MY MOM GAVE ME HER COMICS THAT SHE SAVED FROM WHEN SHE WAS LITTLE, AND I'VE LOVED COMICS FROM THEN ON!
FUNNY COMICS


OH, I LIKE ALL KINDS OF COMICS, BUT THE OLD ONES ARE SPECIAL TO ME. LIKE, THIS...
WOW! SOMEBODY MUST'VE GIVEN THESE TO YOUR MOM BECAUSE THEY'RE WAY BEFORE HER TIME EVEN.
GRAMPA GAVE THEM TO HER. YES, LOVING COMICS RUNS IN OUR FAMILY.
EXCEPT FOR AUNT FRITZ!
SWEET LOVE
FUNNY COMICS
AUNT FRITZ DOES'NT LIKE COMIC BOOKS AT ALL! SHE ONLY LIKES SCI-FI!
FRITZ WHO?
AT LEAST WHEN SHE TAKES ME TO SCI-FI CONVENTIONS THEY SELL OLD COMICS THERE.
THEY BETTER!
NOTHING COMPARES TO YOU...
HHHHH...
Z
I LOVE YOU WITH ALL MY HEART, ROSALBA FRITZI MARTINEZ.
SONG BY PRINCE
FUCK. JASON AND BLACKIE SHOOTIN' DAGGERS AT ME BECAUSE PETRA SAID YES TO GOING ON A DATE WITH ME.
IT'S NOT ENOUGH I GAVE YOU MY PORN FOR INDEFINITE 'SAFE KEEPING;' EH, JASON STERLING?
BANANA OIL
AND YOU, BLACKIE OKAMOTO! WE WENT TO SCHOOL TOGETHER FROM SECOND TO TWELFTH GRADE!
WE HAD DETENTION TOGETHER, FLUNKED OUT OF CREATIVE WRITING TOGETHER, SPENT THE NIGHT IN THE TANK TOGETHER...
YOU'D THINK YOU GUYS MIGHT BACK ME UP A LITTLE ON THIS.
WORLD EXPRESS
PIPO WEAR
10


OK, SO FRITZ'S GOT WEIRD SHIT FLIPPING AROUND IN HER HEAD...
LIKE YOU DON'T, JASON? BLACKIE? HELL, I PROBABLY HAVE THE WEIRDEST SHIT OF ALL INSIDE MY SKULL.
'INTRUSIVE THOUGHTS,' THEY CALL THEM... THINKING OF FUCKING AWFUL SHIT HAPPENING TO PEOPLE EVEN THOUGH I WOULDN'T IN A MILLION YEARS WANT THAT SHIT TO HAPPEN...
RALPH'S COMIC CORNER
2379 E MAIN ST. VENTURA, CA 93003
WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC BOOK STORE
I SUPPOSE I HAVE AN EXCUSE FOR MY ANGER TO AN EXTENT...
GETTING MUGGED CAN BRING OUT SOME CRAZY BURIED SHIT IN A PERSON...
JUMPED BY A FUCKING HUSBAND AND WIFE TEAM, OF ALL THE...
THE BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN, MY ALL-TIME FAVORITE MOVIE.
OK, I LEAVE THE ARTHOUSE THEATER ALONE, CUT THE CORNER TO THE CAR, KEYS IN HAND AND BOOM! I'M ON THE GROUND, MY HEAD BETWEEN HARD GRAVEL AND A DOC MARTIN PUSHING DOWN...
KEYS STILL IN MY HAND...
I DON'T KNOW WHERE I GOT THE BALLS TO GET UP AND GRAB THE FUCKER, BUT SHE'S SCREAMING AND PUNCHING TO MAKE ME LET HIM GO, AND...
SHE STOPS WHEN I GET MY P.O. BOX KEY INTO HER LEFT TEMPLE AND I'M NOT LETTING UP...
OH NO, I AM NOT LETTING UP...
GUY BEGS ME TO DRIVE THEM TO THE HOSPITAL AND, I DON'T KNOW, I JUST START LAUGHING!
I GET IN THE CAR LEAVING THEM BEHIND AND LAUGH ALL THE WAY HOME. CAN'T SLEEP THAT NIGHT BECAUSE I KEEP WAKING UP FUCKING LAUGHING...
NEXT TIME I GO TO MY P.O. BOX I NOTICE HALF THE KEY IS BROKEN OFF! DID I LEAVE IT IN THAT WOMAN'S HEAD?
I FUCKING CRIED ON THE SPOT, LIKE A... LIKE A...
OK, SO FRITZ IS FUCKING WEIRD. SO WHAT?
THERE'S A LOT OF SHIT IN LIFE THAT CAN MAKE PEOPLE WEIRD; I DUNNO.
BRIDE OF FRANKENSTEIN'S SUCH A GREAT MOVIE.
IT'S ON DVD NOW SO THAT GIVES ME AN EXCUSE TO BUY A DVD PLAYER.
PETRA SEEMS REALLY COOL...
JASON CAN KEEP THE PORN...


BUEN VIAJE, SOCORRO
BON VOYAGE, SOCORRO
CONGRATULATIONS SOCORRO, GIRL GENIUS
1,000
2,000
3,000
2+2=8
ABZX
-72
-89
403
KAT
!
BETO '01


< LUBA, IF YOUR HUSBAND CAN BE GONE FOR DAYS AT A TIME, YOU CAN COME OUT WITH US THIS ONE NIGHT.>
< YOUR AVERAGE DOWN-TOWN BAR, LUBA, BUT WE'LL BE GOING UNDERNEATH THE BUILDING.>
BAEX
CAFE

Luba

BETO '04


< NO, YOU CAN'T HAVE YOUR COAT BACK UNTIL WE LEAVE, LUBA.>
< PIPO, IS FRITZ STILL MAKING YOU NERVOUS?>
< PLEASE, FRITZ; USE AN 'S' OR I'LL RUN SCREAMING INTO THE STREET..!>


< PIPO, CONGRATULATHIONTH AGAIN ON YOUR RAPIDLY ETHCALATING THTOCK OPTHIONTH PUTTING YOU IN A HIGHER TAXTH BRACKET.>
<BETTER?>
< THAT'S MUSIC TO MY FILTHY-RICH EARS, SWEET YOUNG THING.>
THE FASHION INDUSTRY IS RUN MOSTLY BY GAY MEN AND SELF-LOATHING WOMEN.
YOU FLAUNT IT, GIRL!
< DON'T TALK TO ANYBODY HERE YOU DON'T KNOW, LUBA! LET THEM STARE ALL THEY WANT, BUT DON'T GET INVOLVED.>
<SERGIO?
<DOES YOUR MAMA KNOW YOU'RE HERE?
<SHAME!>
<AH; I'M HERE TO KEEP MY EYE ON HER. I'M SURPRISED YOU WERE TALKED INTO COMING TO THIS IDIOT DUMP.>
< I'VE BEEN TO A LOT WORSE PLACES THAN THIS WHEN I WAS YOUR AGE.>
< TALK TO MY MAMA, LUBA, HUH? SHE NEEDS AN ADULT TO STRAIGHTEN HER OUT. SHE'S LOSING HER SENSE OF BOUNDARIES AND IT'S GOING TO GET WORSE NOW THAT HER T.V. SHOW'S IN TROUBLE.>
< YOU THOUND LIKE A THERAPITHT.>
< WE PROMITHED NO TALK OF YOUR MOTHER'TH T.V. THOW TONIGHT, OK, THERGIO? LET'TH JUTHT LET IT THLIP AWAY IN PEATHE.>
< LUBA, SERGIO SAID YOU WANTED TO TALK TO ME! WHAT? WHAT?>
<YOU'RE NOT SAD TO SEE MY MAMA'S SHOW GO, FRITZ?>
<NOW THEE'LL HAVE MORE TIME FOR UTH.>
2


YOUR APPROVAL MEANS SO MUCH TO ME! YOU'RE MY GREATEST INSPIRATION, LUBA! I WOULDN'T HAVE THE GREAT FINANCIAL SUCCESS I DO WITHOUT YOUR INFLUENCE!
WHAT..?
GIRL, YOU MUST BE DRUNK.
AND, LIKE YOU, I MADE IT WITHOUT KNOWING A WORD OF STUPID ENGLISH! AND ISN'T IT IRONIC THAT BOTH YOU AND I HAVE LOVERS WHERE WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND A THING THEY'RE SAYING?
MY HUSBAND'S VOCAL CHORDS WERE SCORCHED IN THE FIRE, PIPO, BUT YOUR BOYFRIEND SIMPLY DOESN'T SPEAK SPANISH.
PIPO, I HAVEN'T LEARNED ENGLISH BECAUSE I JUST DON'T GET IT! I CAN'T PRONOUNCE ANYTHING RIGHT OR REMEMBER WHAT MEANS WHAT.
I'M NOT PROUD OF THAT.
NOT PROUD... UH...HUH...
FRITZ, YOU'RE BOTH TOO OLD FOR THIS - THIS NONSENSE ANYMORE. MAMA WITH HER BUTT HANGING OUT AND EVERYTHING...
WHY DON'T YOU TWO GROW UP AND STOP RUNNING AWAY FROM YOURSELVES?
UH HM.
C'MON, FRITZ. PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO TALK ABOUT YOU AND MY MAMA SLEEPING WITH EACH OTHER!
FRITZ..?
UH... HUH...
LIKE SHEEP TO THE SLAUGHTER.
ET TU, LUBA?


FORTUNATO...!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT MY HUSBAND.. MY FAMILY...!
I WANT YOU!
GO TO THEM, LUBA. THEY NEED YOU.
YOU AND ME...WE'LL MEET AGAIN.
YEAH, WHO DOESN'T KNOW WHO FORTUNATO IS, LUBA? IT'S NOT LIKE ANYBODY CAN AVOID HIM.
I JUST KNOW WHEN HE'S IN TOWN I WON'T SEE FRITZ AT ALL.
NOR MAMA.
SERGIO,.. THERE'S A RUMOR...
THAT YOU AND YOUR MAMA BOTH DATE FRITZ..?
HA HA.
ONLY A SILLY RUMOR, LUBA...
SILLY RUMOR..
TSK, OH... YOU CAN'T SLEEP, HUH, BABY?
OK...
NNGRL.


THE FORTUNATO FILES
FORTUNATO...
BETO '04
< THE MAN THAT NO WOMAN CAN RESIST.
< SURE... I KNOW HIS STORY, BOOTS...>
< HE TOLD IT TO ME ONE COOL, SUMMER NIGHT...>
FORTUNATO WAS FISHED OFF THE COAST OF S_____.
HE WAS RAISED BY A LOVING FAMILY. AT AN EARLY AGE HE WAS ALREADY AWARE OF HIS APPEAL TO WOMEN.
A LOCAL BUSINESSMAN SAW THIS IN HIM AND OFFERED THE POOR FOSTER PARENTS A LARGE SUM OF CASH FOR CUSTODY OF FORTUNATO.
ON THE SURFACE GALGO WAS A MODEL CITIZEN, BUT INSIDE HE CARRIED A DEEP HOSTILITY FOR BEAUTIFUL WOMEN. FORTUNATO WAS TO BE ONE OF HIS CRUEL INSTRUMENTS FOR REVENGE.

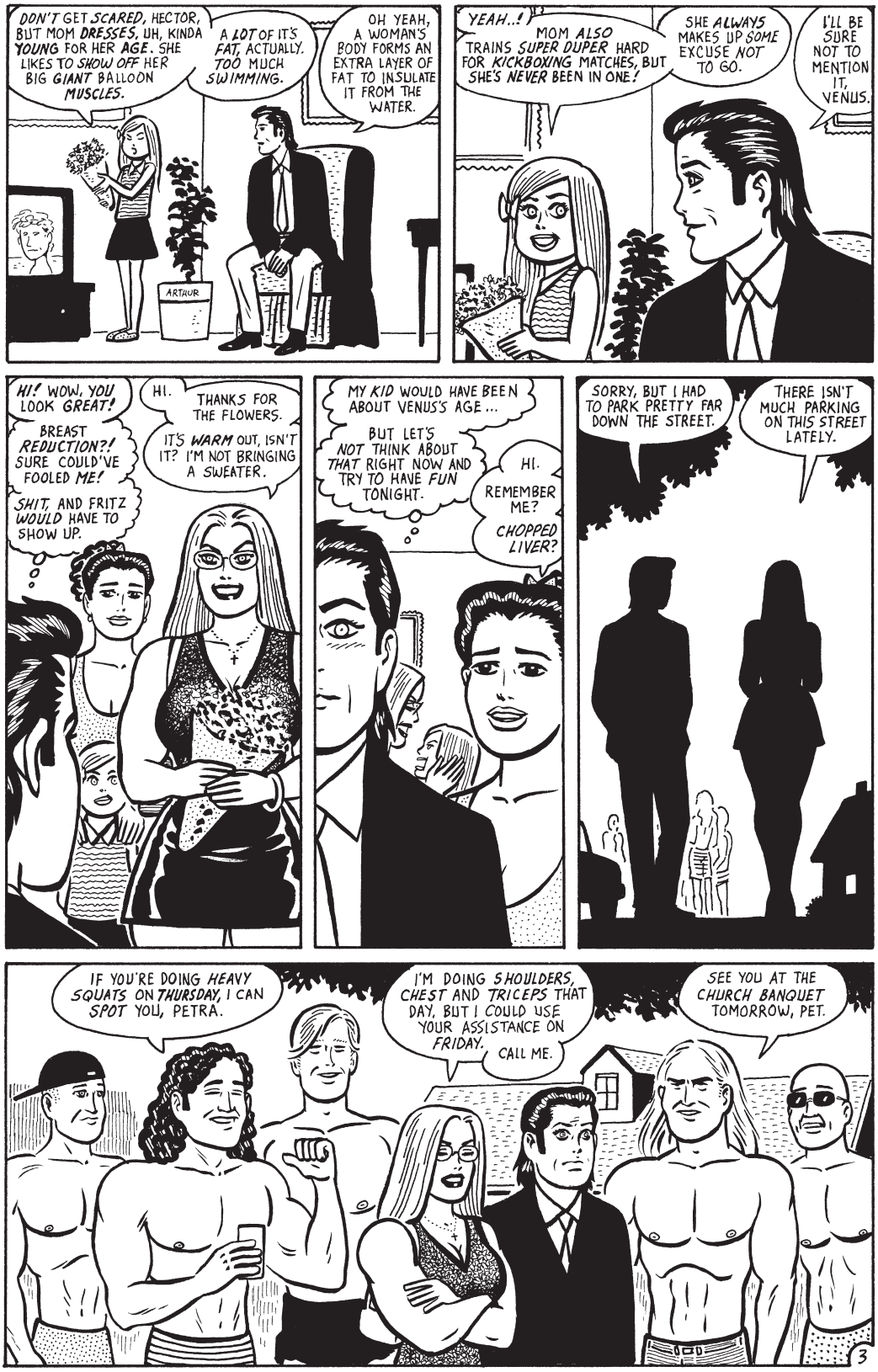

GALGO BROUGHT TWO MORE BOYS TO LIVE WITH THEM. HE WOULD TRAIN THE THREE BOYS TO SEDUCE WOMEN FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF BREAKING GIRLS' HEARTS. THE BOYS WOULD BE READY IN FIVE YEARS.
ZANTO WAS THE FIRST TO GO OUT INTO THE WORLD. HE RETURNED TO BOAST HE BROKE THE HEARTS OF TWO GIRLS THAT DAY.
ZANTO COULD INFLUENCE WOMEN TO FIGHT OVER HIM AND GALGO REJOICED IN THE DETAILS OF THOSE SCRAPES.
DIEGO WAS THE NEXT TO BE SENT OUT TO SEARCH AND DESTROY, BUT SOMETHING WENT WRONG.
DIEGO FELL IN LOVE WITH THE FIRST GIRL HE SEDUCED. NEITHER WAS HEARD FROM AGAIN.
THIS INFURIATED GALGO AND HE WORKED FORTUNATO EVER HARDER TO MAKE SURE IT NEVER HAPPENED AGAIN.
FORTUNATO WAS MORE SUCCESSFUL AT SEDUCTION THAN ZANTO EVEN, BUT UNLIKE HIS RIVAL, FORTUNATO DIDN'T PURPOSEFULLY BREAK GIRLS' HEARTS: THE LOVING HE RECEIVED FROM WOMEN WAS TOO SWEET TO BETRAY.
2


GALGO WENT CRAZY BUT ZANTO INTERVENED IN TIME TO SAVE FORTUNATO'S LIFE.
IT TOOK GALGO TWO AND A HALF HOURS TO DIE AND THE BOYS WEPT INTO THE NIGHT.
ZANTO EXPRESSED REMORSE FOR HIS PAST CRUELTY. HE WOULD LOOK FOR A WOMAN TO MARRY AND START A FAMILY.
FORTUNATO DECIDED TO COME TO AMERICA.
BUS
TERMINA A
FORTUNATO MADE A DECENT LIVING BY PARLAYING HIS TALENT FOR SEDUCTION INTO BECOMING A SUCCESSFUL STREET ILLUSIONIST.
ODDLY ENOUGH, MOST MEN ARE ACCEPTING, EVEN FORGIVING OF HIS ENVIABLE CALLING, AS THOUGH HE HAS A PECULIAR HYPNOTIC INFLUENCE ON THEM AS WELL.
FORTUNATO NO LONGER SEDUCED WOMEN: THEY CAME TO HIM, YOUNG AND OLD, AND HE WAS POWERLESS TO RESIST. HAPPILY MARRIED WOMEN RISKED IT ALL FOR ONE NIGHT WITH HIM, UNDERAGE GIRLS NEVER SAID A WORD FOR FEAR HE WOULD GET ARRESTED, ETC. ETC...
3


SOMETIMES FORTUNATO WILL SNORT AND ADMIT HIS BACK STORY IS A LIE, JUST MORE COLOR TO HELP HIM GAIN SYMPATHY.
TRUE OR NOT, DOES IT REALLY MAKE ANY DIFFERENCE IN THE END..?
< WELL, THERE YOU HAVE FORTUNATO'S STORY FROM SOMEBODY WHO SUPPOSEDLY KNOWS.
< AND WHAT ABOUT THESE TWO SELF-PROCLAIMED PLAYGIRLS? THESE TWO OH, SO CUTESY-POO BI-SEXUAL CHIC BIMBOS? WHAT'S THEIR STORY? >
< FRANKLY, WHO CARES?
< OUT, YOU AGING, OVERSTUFFED HAGS!
< YOU'RE A DISGRACE TO CLASSY WHORES!
<OUT!>
< OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THOSE SLUTS! THEY DON'T HAVE ANY REAL FEELINGS TO HURT!
<I, BOOTS, ON THE OTHER HAND, HAVE SENSITIVITY TO SPARE!>
< I'M NOT AFRAID TO ADMIT I'M NO SUPERMODEL, BUT I'VE GOT WHAT COUNTS! I'M ALL WOMAN HERE!
< HIGH, ROUND BUTTOCKS, GREAT VOLUMINOUS BREASTS, TEENY-TINY WAISTS..? TIME AND GRAVITY ARE NOT ON THEIR SIDE, MY FRIENDS!>
< MY APPEAL IS INFINITE!>
♡


THIS IS THE MOST PATHETIC MAIL SERVICE I'VE EVER USED!
YES, MA'AM.
WORLD EXPRESS
AND THAT UNSHAVEN LOOK IS PASSÉ; BUT EVEN WORSE IS YOUR 'MULLET' HAIR-STYLE!
YES, MA'AM.
WORLD EXPRESS
TELL ME IT AIN'T SO.
YOU...HAVE A DATE...WITH ONE OF THE MARTINEZ SISTERS..?
GOOD LORD, MAN! THE HAVOC THE MARTINEZ GODDESSES DID WREAK ON MEN'S SOULS IN JUNIOR AND HIGH SCHOOL!
WHICH...
WHICH ONE..?
DEAR GOD, HECTOR...
DOES IT MATTER?
THE MARTINEZ SISTERS ARE LEGEND, HECTOR. DATING ONE OF THEM IS AS EASY AS WINNING A BILLION DOLLAR LOTTERY.
ORDINARY MEN HAVE TRIED AND FAILED, MY MAN. EXCEPT YOU, SIR MAY-SOON-TO-HAVE-HAPPY-DICK.
EXCEPT YOU...
The Goddess and The Goof
DAD...
STEP-DAD...
EX-STEP-DAD-- DAVID'S GETTING MARRIED, MOM!
THE INVITATION IS TO ME, MOM! HE WANTS ME TO GO TO THIS WEDDING, MOM, NOT YOU!
PIPO WEAR
THAT SON OF A-- THE NERVE OF HIM RUBBING HIS GETTING MARRIED IN OUR FACES!


FORGET IT, MOM. EX-WIVES AREN'T SUPPOSED TO GO TO NEW WIVE'S WEDDINGS, ANY WAY.
WELL, THAT'S..
...
DIPOWEAR
PETRA, YOU WEREN'T INVITED, OK?
SO WHO WANTS TO GO, FRITZ?
THUNK!
HAH?!
PETRA MARTINEZ? WELL, SHE USED TO BE HOT.
EVER SINCE HER BREAST REDUCTION, HER GENDER IS IN QUESTION.
C'MON, MAN; SHE'S TOO FAT!
ASSHOLES.
FIRST OF ALL, I'M NOT A BIG TIT MAN; SECOND, THE PERSON I ASKED OUT LOOKS ALL WOMAN TO ME.
AND THIRD, FUCK YOU.
SHE'S A BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN!
SO WHAT?
I ALMOST MARRIED A LAWYER.
AS FOR MY 'MULLET HAIR-STYLE', YOU OLD BITCH HAG, I WEAR A CLASSIC ROCK AND ROLL 'DO AND MY SOMETIMES UNSHAVEN LOOK IS LAZINESS, NOT SOME..
ARRGH, MY PATH TO POTENTIAL PARADISE IS THICK WITH HIMBOS!
YEAH, YEAH...
'SCUSE ME...
ALPHA MALE LOAD.
'SCUSE ME...
ROCK AND ROLL FANTASY..
2
SONG BY BAD CO


DON'T GET SCARED, HECTOR, BUT MOM DRESSES, UH, KINDA YOUNG FOR HER AGE. SHE LIKES TO SHOW OFF HER BIG GIANT BALLOON MUSCLES.
A LOT OF IT'S FAT, ACTUALLY. TOO MUCH SWIMMING.
OH YEAH, A WOMAN'S BODY FORMS AN EXTRA LAYER OF FAT TO INSULATE IT FROM THE WATER.
ARTAUR
YEAH..!
MOM ALSO TRAINS SUPER DUPER HARD FOR KICKBOXING MATCHES, BUT SHE'S NEVER BEEN IN ONE!
SHE ALWAYS MAKES UP SOME EXCUSE NOT TO GO.
I'LL BE SURE NOT TO MENTION IT, VENUS.
HI! WOW, YOU LOOK GREAT!
BREAST REDUCTION?! SURE COULD'VE FOOLED ME!
SHIT, AND FRITZ WOULD HAVE TO SHOW UP.
HI.
THANKS FOR THE FLOWERS.
IT'S WARM OUT, ISN'T IT? I'M NOT BRINGING A SWEATER.
MY KID WOULD HAVE BEEN ABOUT VENUS'S AGE...
BUT LET'S NOT THINK ABOUT THAT RIGHT NOW AND TRY TO HAVE FUN TONIGHT.
HI. REMEMBER ME? CHOPPED LIVER?
SORRY, BUT I HAD TO PARK PRETTY FAR DOWN THE STREET.
THERE ISN'T MUCH PARKING ON THIS STREET LATELY.
IF YOU'RE DOING HEAVY SQUATS ON THURSDAY, I CAN SPOT YOU, PETRA.
I'M DOING SHOULDERS, CHEST AND TRICEPS THAT DAY, BUT I COULD USE YOUR ASSISTANCE ON FRIDAY. CALL ME.
SEE YOU AT THE CHURCH BANQUET TOMORROW, PET.
3


YEAH, I'VE DATED A COUPLE OF THOSE GUYS.
WHY?
OH, NOTHING. NOTHING.
SHE'S OFF AND ON PRETTY QUICK WITH HER SMILE...
HOPE IT'S ONLY FIRST DATE JITTERS AND NOT BECAUSE I'M TOO HANDSOME.
I HOPE SHE'S NOT NERVOUS BECAUSE SHE'S HAVING SECOND THOUGHTS AND SHE'D PREFER ROOT CANAL TO THIS OUTING.
WHAT? NO S.U.V?
MY LEGS ARE NATURALLY REALLY BIG, SO I BUILT UP MY UPPER BODY, ESPECIALLY MY ARMS, TO BALANCE MYSELF OUT, Y'KNOW?
THE WINE'S REALLY GOOD.
MY DAUGHTER VENUS SAYS I'M TOO MUSCULAR BUT I TELL HER IT'S MOSTLY GENETIC.
AND THE SIGHT DOES HELP TO RATTLE MY KICKBOXING OPPONENTS.
MAN, SHE TALKS ABOUT HERSELF MORE'N ANY STRIPPER I'VE EVER DATED, BUT, I DON'T KNOW, I DON'T MIND WITH HER SO MUCH.
NICE TEETH...
THAT'S IT, BEAUTIFUL; LET'S SEE THAT BIG, GLORIOUS SMILE...
WONDER WHICH OF THOSE KNUCKLE DRAGGING TWITS YOU DATED TOOK YOU FOR GRANTED, SCHEHERAZADE?
YOU ARE A GODDESS AND A GODDESS IN THAT ORDER.
YOU ACTUALLY LOOK THE TYPE TO BE A COP, BUT THERE'S A PARTICULAR SWINISH MENTALITY WITH THAT KIND OF PERSON AND I DON'T SENSE THAT WITH YOU AT ALL.
A LOT OF PEOPLE CONSIDER LAWYERS ANOTHER KIND OF, WELL, SWINE, BUT LIKE CRITICS, LAWYERS ARE A NECESSARY NUISANCE.
OOP, THERE GOES THE SMILE AGAIN...
YOU'RE THINKING OF WHAT A MISTAKE IT WAS TO DATE ANY OF THOSE JOCK CRETINS.
4



SHITTY SONG BY BILLY IDOL


I HAD A GOOD TIME TONIGHT.
CALL ME.
OK.
FUCK. I LIKE HER.
THOP!
HERTZ
NO MAN, REALLY. IT'S ADDRESSED TO YOU; FROM SEÑORITA PETRA BATTLE-SHIP HIPS.
ONLY ONE DATE AND ALREADY A DEAR JOHN LETTER.
A PLANE TICKET!
SHEE-IT!
A ROMANTIC GET-AWAY WITH SHE-WHOSE-FULL-BABY-SMOOTH-THIGHS-ARE-ROUND-AND-HARD-LIKE-WARM-FLESH-COVERED-MARBLE?
THEN GO MEET HER AND HAVE FUN, HECTOR.
WHAT'TH THE PROBLEM?
6


IT JUST FEELS KIND OF...WRONG, FRITZ...I DON'T KNOW...
IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR GUILT RELIEF, HECTOR, YOU'LL JUTHT HAVE TO CONTHULT A THPIRITUAL ADVITHOR.
THEY'RE READY, TIA FRITZI.
ZOIIIIING!
CHICA CHING
SOME HOTEL SUITE.
I DIDN'T KNOW A MEDICAL TECHNICIAN COULD AFFORD SUCH A LAYOUT, PETRA.
THIS IS A SPECIAL OCCASION! WE'RE CELEBRATING OUR SECOND DATE!
WHOO!
HEY, YOU CAN SEE A WEDDING GOING ON FROM HERE.
I THINK THEY CAN SEE US, TOO.
DID I TELL YOU I ALMOST MARRIED A LAWYER?
UH, DIDN'T YOUR EX-HUSBAND USED TO WORK AT THE SAME HOSPITAL YOU DID?
C'MON, FUCKER! TELL HER ABOUT YOU AND FRITZ! START THIS OUT WITH A CLEAN, GUILT-FREE SLATE!
7


OK, SO WOMAN WONDER INSISTED WE DO IT IN FRONT OF THE WINDOW, DRAPES OPEN AND ALL.
I'M SURE THAT WEDDING PARTY CAUGHT A FEW NICE ANGLES, ALL RIGHT.
OK. SHE WANTS THINGS HONEST AND OUT IN THE OPEN. OK. TELL HER ABOUT YOU AND FRITZ.
AND RISK FUCKING THIS UP?!
WEIGH THE SURE WITH THE UNSURE, DORK!
MY TIRED DEPRESSION LIFTS IN HER EXQUISITE, AMAZONIC PRESENCE.
JEEZ, I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER GUILT-TRIPPED THIS BADLY OVER ANYTHING BEFORE IN MY LIFE, AND GOD SURELY KNOWS I'VE INDULGED IN A LOT WORSE SEXUAL ESCAPADES WITH LITTLE REGRET.
AAH, SHE'S A CHRISTIAN AND MY FUCKED UP CATHOLIC UPBRINGING IS RISING TO THE SURFACE.
BUT THAT HERETIC DR. FREUD DID BELIEVE GUILT MAKES US CIVILIZED.
TOMORROW.
DEAR GOD!
I'LL TELL HER TOMORROW.
LOW SCUM EX-BOYFRIEND JEALOUS SHIT HOLE TRASH GOT OUT AFTER ONLY THREE YEARS! HE'S OUT THERE SOMEWHERE...!
HE PROBABLY WORKS AT A HOMELESS SHELTER OR AT A PRO-CHOICE CLINIC; NOW A MODEL CITIZEN, I'M SURE.
I NEVER THINK OF FRITZ ANY MORE WHEN I'M WITH YOU, TONDELAYO.
I'M ONLY DOING SO NOW BECAUSE DURING DESSERT YOU MENTIONED FRITZ'S CHILDHOOD FEARS OF NEEDLES AND CATCHER'S MITTS.
IF I PROMISE MYSELF EVERYDAY I'LL TELL YOU TOMORROW, I CAN KEEP POSTPONING THE END OF THIS SWEET DREAM FOREVER.
BETO -01-


El Baile
-BETO-00

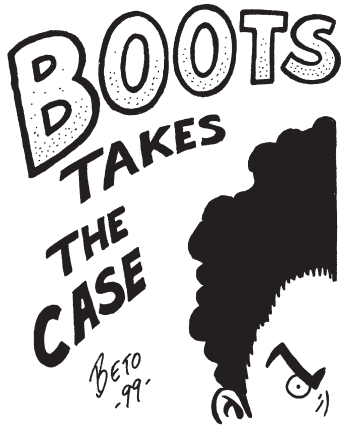

The GLAMOROUS LIFE
BETO 04
HEH, I'D BE TOO NERVOUS TO KEEP MY DIARY ON COMPUTER, DORALIS.
WHY, VENUS? IT'S EASIER.
EL SHOW DE DORALIS
BECAUSE IF MY COMPUTER EVER CRASHED, I MIGHT LOSE EVERYTHING, OR WORSE, MY MOM MIGHT GET TO IT! SHE'D FIND IT IF I PUT IT ON A DISC, TOO!
MY MOM DOESN'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO PROGRAM A VCR YET, SO I'M SAFE.
ARE YOU WRITING A BOOK ABOUT YOUR LIFE LIKE COUSIN OFELIA IS WRITING ABOUT HER LIFE, DORALIS?
OR LIKE MY BROTHER IN LAW IS ABOUT HIS? SEEMS LIKE A TREND IN THE FAMILY, HUH?


I HAVE BEEN KEEPING NOTES AND WRITING DOWN MY FEELINGS ABOUT MY T.V. SHOW SINCE I WAS CHOSEN TO STAR ON IT, VENUS.
I'VE GOT ENOUGH FOR A WHOLE BOOK NOW.
WHO KNOWS? I MAY BECOME A WRITER AFTER THE SHOW'S OVER SOME DAY.
I REMEMBER WHEN OUR GRANDMOTHER SAID THAT YOU WERE A BORN SUPERSTAR AND IT MADE HER SO PROUD.
THEY WANT ME TO STAR IN MOVIES NEXT, BUT I THINK I'M TIRED OF BEING IN FRONT OF THE CAMERA. SO BORING...
I'M MORE INTERESTED IN WRITING MOVIES.
HO!
NO, REALLY. EVERYTIME I WATCH A MOVIE, I KNOW I COULD WRITE ONE TOO!
FFFT FFFT
AH, STUPID NOSE BLEED AGAIN.
FFFT FFFT
THERE ARE SO MANY STORIES I WANT TO TELL, LIKE, WELL, ABOUT OUR GRANDMOTHER'S LIFE, VENUS.
THE AUDIENCE WILL THINK THEY'RE WATCHING A SCI-FI GANGSTER MOVIE INSTEAD OF A TRUE STORY.
SNIFF
YEAH, MOM'S TOLD ME A LOT OF STORIES OF GRANDMA'S GLAMOROUS ADVENTURE LIFE. I THINK YOU SHOULD PLAY HER IN A MOVIE, DORALIS.
AND I COULD PLAY HER AS A KID!
HA!
OH SURE, MAYBE IF I WASN'T SUCH A TERRIBLE ACTOR.
YOU COULDN'T BE ANY WORSE THAN ME.
SNIFF
2


I CAN'T WRITE, I CAN'T DRAW, I CAN'T ACT, BUT I WANT TO TELL STORIES.
HELP!
I THOUGHT IT WAS YOU!
IN THE FLESH!
MY COUSIN AND I WERE TALKING ABOUT WHAT WE WERE GOING TO DO WHEN WE GROW UP.
BUT YOU'VE ALREADY DONE SO MUCH WITH YOUR T.V. SHOW!
BUT I DO UNDERSTAND.
WHAT TO DO AFTER YOU'VE DONE JUST ABOUT IT ALL IN YOUR YOUTH.
AND WHEN OTHERS ARE SO DEPENDENT ON WHAT YOU DECIDE TO DO.
CAN I BUY YOU A COFFEE?
THAT WOULD BE GREAT.
DECAF FOR ME.
THE SEGMENTS OF YOUR SHOW ABOUT PURSUING YOUR DREAMS AGAINST THE ODDS INSPIRE ME GREATLY.
LIFE'S TOO SHORT TO LIVE SOMEBODY ELSE'S LIFE.
I'VE FOUND THAT MY OWN PEOPLE, MY OWN PEOPLE WILL DISAPPROVE OF WHAT PROGRESS I WANT TO MAKE.
AS IF I'M BETRAYING THEM, LEAVING THEM BEHIND SOMEHOW.
HAVE YOU HAD TO FACE ANY..?
AT FIRST I GOT OPPOSITION FOR BEING TOO FAT, THEN TOO SEXY, NOW TOO GAY...
FOR ME TO BACK DOWN ON ADMITTING I'M GAY WOULD DESTROY ME.
YOU'VE GOT TO BE TRUE TO YOURSELF NO MATTER HOW MANY FEELINGS GET HURT: YOURS, THEIRS...
I BELIEVE PEOPLE EVENTUALLY COME AROUND AND ACCEPT YOU IF YOU STAND FAST IN YOUR POSITIVE BELIEFS.
3

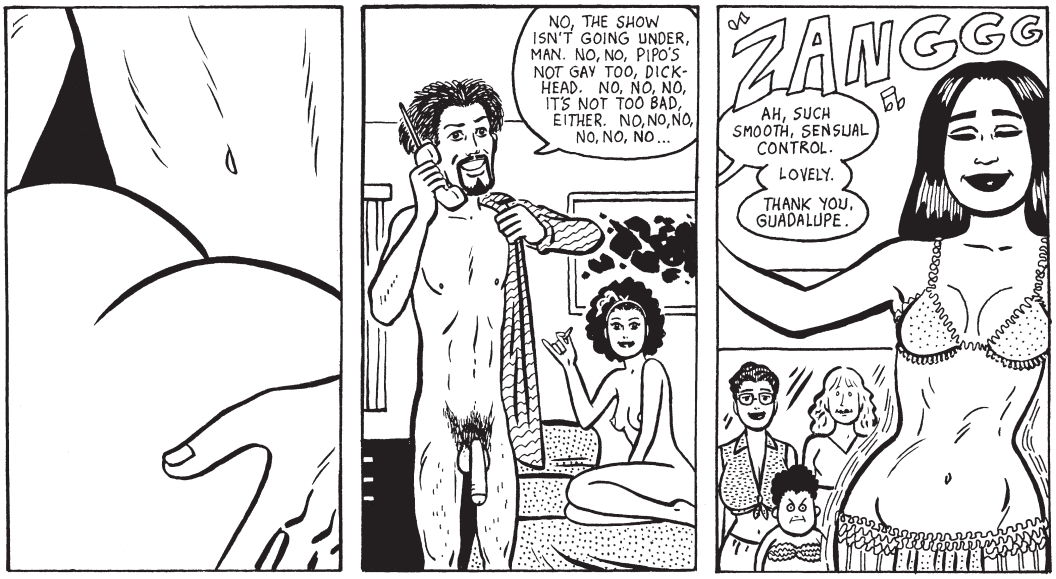

GOD BE WITH YOU.
AND ALSO WITH YOU.
HE WAS NICE.
AT FIRST I THOUGHT YOU KNEW HIM ALREADY.
NEVER SAW HIM BEFORE.
<MAYBE DORALIS COULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE, TIA LUBA!>
<JUST AN IDEA, MAMA.>
<THE ATOM BOMB WAS JUST AN IDEA TOO, DORALIS.>
MOM TOLD ME TIA LUBA'S LIFE WAS PROBABLY AS INTERESTING AS GRANDMA'S: VERY GLAMOROUS ADVENTURES AND EVERYTHING!
NOW TIA LUBA'S JUST A MOM WHO WORKS IN AN OFFICE.
SIGH.
I'D LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT TIA LUBA'S GLAMOROUS ADVENTURE LIFE, BUT THE BEST WAY I'LL KNOW IS IF DORALIS MADE A MOVIE ABOUT IT.
TIA LUBA DOESN'T WANT ANY MOVIE ABOUT HER SO DORALIS SHOULD JUST DO ONE ABOUT HER OWN SELF. SHE'S GOT HER OWN INTERESTING LIFE.
IMMIGRATI
DOES EVERYBODY HAVE AN INTERESTING, GLAMOROUS LIFE EXCEPT ME?
SIGH...


< WELL, BOOTS, THE LATINO TABLOIDS TEND TO GO OVER THE TOP WITH THEIR TWISTING OF THE TRUTH.>
<IT DOESN'T SAY YOU'RE A LESBIAN TOO, PIPO; EVEN THOUGH I KNOW YOU LOVE YOUR SON'S GIRLFRIEND.>
LESBIAN
CHISMES

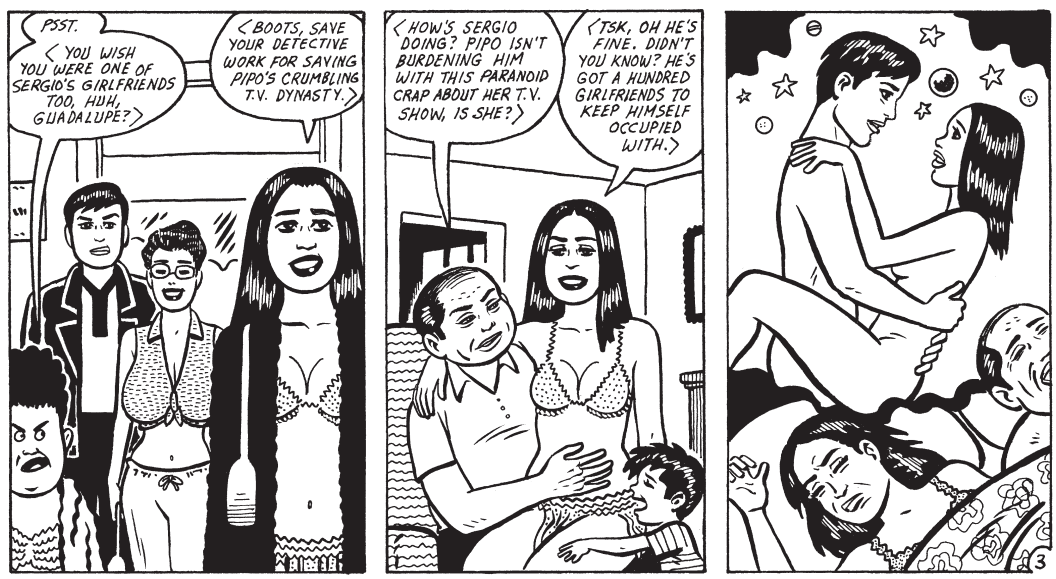

BOOTS TAKES THE CASE
BETO '99'


< OH, IT'S TRUE, BOOTS; I'M NOT QUEER IN THE LEAST. BUT I AM SO VERY MUCH IN LOVE WITH FRITZ.
< WITH THAT BODY, ANY WAY. >
< ONE NIGHT, ALL I ASK IS FOR ONE NIGHT WITH HER, BOOTS, JUST..>
SIGH...
< YOU HAVE TO ASK YOUR SON, PIPO.>
< I'M THE ONE WHO GOT THEM TOGETHER, BOOTS. I THOUGHT IT WOULD CURE ME OF MY..
< THAT BEAUTIFUL, HIGH, SOFT LISP...>
< YEAH... ASK MY SON...>
Z
Z
Z


MAMA, I GET TRASHED IN THE PAPERS ALL THE TIME. THEY CAN'T WAIT TO SEE ME GO DOWN. IT SELLS PAPERS. SO WHAT?
THEY CAN'T HURT YOU OR YOUR SHOW UNLESS YOU LET THEM.
NO DIVING
I DON'T KNOW WHEN YOU BEGAN TO LOSE YOUR FIGHT, SERGIO, BUT I'LL BET YOUR FOOLING AROUND WITH-WITH FRITZ HAS EVERYTHING TO DO WITH IT..!
MY MAMA DUG THIS UP, EH?
YOU OUGHT TO WEAR THOSE BOWS AGAIN.
NOT A BAD HAIR-DO YOURSELF.
NOW, DOES SHE REALLY THINK MY SEEING YOUR TIA FRITZ IS HURTING MY CAREER, GUADALUPE? MAMA'S ALWAYS BEEN FOND OF HER. I DON'T KNOW...
YOUR MAMA'S JUST ANXIOUS LATELY WITH WHAT'S GOING ON WITH THE T.V. SHOW AND ALL, SERGIO.
OH... I-I'M SO SORRY FRITZ, I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING -- I'M NOT A LESBIAN, I JUST- I --
PIPO, I'M FLATTERED, HONEY; REALLY!
AND IF I EVER DETHIDE TO GO BI, YOU'RE THE FIRTHT GIRL I'LL CALL.
TIA - AUNT
PLEASE DON'T TEASE ME, FRITZ. I FEEL FOOLISH ENOUGH AS IT IS.
WE WON'T THAY A WORD TO YOUR THON ABOUT IT.
WE'D ALL BE BETTER OFF IF WE DEALT WITH THE REALITY OF THINGS, GUADALUPE.
SERGIO, DON'T START.
I LOVE YOU.
STOP IT.!
THE MORE SILLY AND MIXED UP THIS GETS, THE MORE IMPORTANT IT IS FOR ME TO UN-MIX IT UP.!

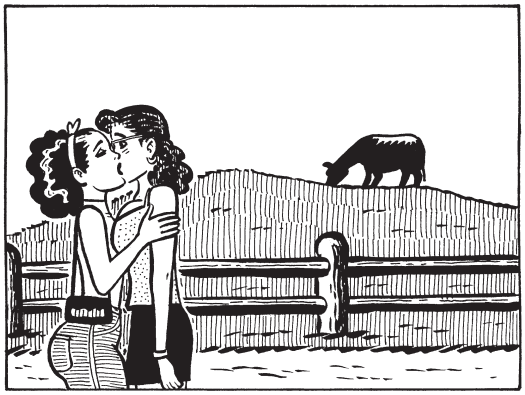

NO, THE SHOW ISN'T GOING UNDER, MAN. NO, NO, PIPO'S NOT GAY TOO, DICK-HEAD. NO, NO, NO, IT'S NOT TOO BAD, EITHER. NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO...
ZANGGG
AH, SUCH SMOOTH, SENSUAL CONTROL.
LOVELY.
THANK YOU, GUADALUPE.


FOR OUR BEGINNERS, REMEMBER:
SPELL YOUR NAME WITH YOUR NAVEL, THEN ERASE IT.
WELL, IT JUST SEEMS SERGIO'S A LITTLE **LOST** THESE DAYS, TIA. IT WAS **HIS** IDEA THAT YOU AND HE HAVE AN **OPEN** RELATIONSHIP, RIGHT?
IT WATH **BOTH** OUR IDEA, GUADALUPE. HE'TH ALWAYTH OUT OF THE COUNTRY; HOW **ELTHE** COULD IT WORK?
<SORRY I'M LATE, BUT I COULDN'T REMEMBER WHICH OF MY HUNDREDS OF GIRLFRIENDS I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE PICKING UP.>
<THERGIO, DON'T.
<GUADALUPE JUTHT WANT'TH YOU AND ME TO BE HAPPY TOGETHER.>


PSST.
<YOU WISH YOU WERE ONE OF SERGIO'S GIRLFRIENDS TOO, HUH, GUADALUPE?>
<BOOTS, SAVE YOUR DETECTIVE WORK FOR SAVING PIPO'S CRUMBLING T.V. DYNASTY.>
<HOW'S SERGIO DOING? PIPO ISN'T BURDENING HIM WITH THIS PARANOID CRAP ABOUT HER T.V. SHOW, IS SHE?>
<TSK, OH HE'S FINE. DIDN'T YOU KNOW? HE'S GOT A HUNDRED GIRLFRIENDS TO KEEP HIMSELF OCCUPIED WITH.>
3

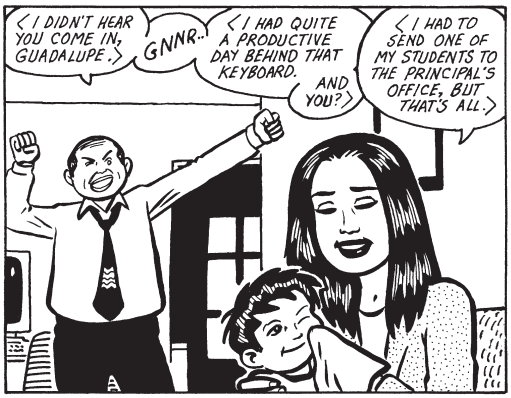

I'M HELPING PIPO FIND OUT WHO THE RAT IS THAT'S SELLING TOP SECRET INFORMATION FROM HER T.V. SHOW TO THE DUMB GOSSIP PAPERS, SEÑOR GATO.
BOOTS, YOUR JOB IS TO KEEP PIPO'S BOOKS. DON'T GET INVOLVED WITH STUDIO POLITICS.
I WANT TO BE A WRITER LIKE YOU SOMEDAY, SEÑOR GATO. I THINK INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING IS A GOOD START.
EXIT
INVESTIGATING THE INVESTIGATORS, EH?
MY HEART IS IN THE MORE ROMANTIC AREAS OF LITERATURE, BOOTS, BUT I WISH YOU LUCK ALL THE SAME.
GATO IS GUADALUPE'S HUSBAND AND PIPO'S EX
STUD B
I UPDATED THE LIST OF PERSONAL THINGS ABOUT THE MEANEST CRITICS OF YOUR SHOW SO THAT IF THEY SAY MORE AGAINST YOU OR YOUR SHOW WE CAN EXPOSE THEM WORSE, PIPO.
WHEN DO YOU THINK YOU'LL KNOW WHO THE CUR IS TRYING TO RUIN ME?
PRETTY SOON, BUT I WANT TO BE SURE.
I'LL EXPECT MY NEXT PAYCHECK TO BE DOUBLE, Y'KNOW.
BLIMP-ASSED WHORE. YOU'RE GAINING SO MUCH WEIGHT THE FAT'S GOING TO YOUR HEAD.
HA! BOOTS IS TAKING CARE OF THINGS FOR ME THE WAY YOU NEVER DID!
NO AMOUNT OF STRESS IS AN EXCUSE FOR PIPO'S DELUSIONS, GUADALUPE.
BUT WE'VE SEEN IT IN THE PAPERS, GATO. SOMEBODY'S GIVING SOMEBODY GOSSIP.
IT'S ALL PUBLICITY. I'M NOT SURE PIPO'S NOT CALLING THE PAPERS HERSELF.
4






YOU FUCKER...! DON'T YOU EVER TOUCH ME AGAIN! DON'T YOU EVER FUCKING COME NEAR ME AGAIN!!
GUADALUPE YOU'RE OVER-REACTING..


IT WAS A JOKE, FRITZ, OK? COME ON! YOU JOKED ABOUT IT BEFORE..!
FORGET IT.


I DIDN'T HEAR YOU COME IN, GUADALUPE.
GNNR..
I HAD QUITE A PRODUCTIVE DAY BEHIND THAT KEYBOARD.
AND YOU?
I HAD TO SEND ONE OF MY STUDENTS TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE, BUT THAT'S ALL.


YES, I SAW IT IN THE PAPER, LUBA!! I'M DEALING WITH IT, ALL RIGHT?!!
GET OFF MY BACK!!
ORAL LESBIA


NO, NOTHING GOING ON WITH ME. YOU..?
NO. NOTHING.
PRETTY DAY.


5


SIGH...
<GOD...
<OK, BOOTS... GOOD JOB. IT'S EVERYTHING I NEEDED TO KNOW.>
< MY EX-HUSBAND SHOULD BE HERE SHORTLY. >
< HERE'S A COPY OF THE TAPE OF EVERYTHING I JUST SAID TO YOU, GIRL.
< THE FLIPSIDE HAS ALL THE INFORMATION I GOT ON YOU, JUST IN CASE YOU'RE STILL NOT SURE WHY YOU'RE BEING FIRED.
<SEE? TAPE?
<GET IT TRANSLATED TO ENGLISH AT YOUR LEISURE.>
SOMEBODY ELSE WILL ONLY TAKE MY PLACE.
<FUCK YOU AND YOUR WORTHLESS GIBBERISH, BITCH.>
<SERGIO, I NEED TO TALK TO GATO ALONE NOW.>
<I'LL TAKE BOOTS HOME, MAMA.>
<SIT DOWN, GATO.>
6


< THAT GIRL...
< HER FATHER WAS MY HARSHEST CRITIC; A REAL SHIT. INSULTING A PERSON'S LOOKS WAS AMONG HIS IDEAS OF INSIGHTFUL CRITICISM.
< I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN I'D HIRED HIS DAUGHTER TO BE ON THE SHOW.>
< YEAH, I HIRED HER JUST TO SPITE HIM, BUT HE DIED BEFORE HE COULD KNOW ABOUT IT.
< SHE MUST'VE TOLD YOU ALL THIS WHEN YOU TWO GOT TOGETHER.>
MMM?
< NONE OF THIS CHANGES ANYTHING.
< I'M PERFECTLY IN THE RIGHT TO CONTINUE...>
< DO YOUR WORST.>
< GATO WAS A GOOD STEP-FATHER TO ME... DIDN'T MATTER I WASN'T HIS; HE··
< WHY WOULD HE WANT TO DO THAT TO MAMA? I DON'T··>
EXIT
< SHE GOT SUCCESSFUL AND HE DIDN'T.
< YOUR THERAPIST GIRLFRIEND COULD EXPLAIN IT TO YOU, I BET.>
DADDY WON'T BE COMING HOME TILL LATE, MI HIJO.
MI HIJO - MY SON
EVERYTHING OK, GUADALUPE?
YEAH...
SOUNDS FUNNY WHEN YOU DON'T USE AN 'S', TIA.
The End


AND SO...
MY PAPER ONLY PRINTED WHAT YOU GAVE US, GATO. YOU'RE THE ONE PIPO SHOULD BE SUING.
I ONLY GIVED TO YOU A LITTLE BIT ABOUT LESBIANS. YOU MADE IT DIRTY YOURSELF.
MY FATHER'S REVIEWS OF THE SHOW WERE PUFF PIECES COMPARED TO WHAT YOU DID TO PIPO, GATO.
YOUR FATHER WAS A GREAT JOURNALIST. WHEN HE DIED SO SUDDENLY...
MY FATHER WAS A SADISTIC S.O.B. ON PAPER, BUT HELL IF I WAS GOING TO SIT BACK AND LET PIPO DUMP ON HIM AFTER HIS DEATH.
I DO AGREE WITH GATO ABOUT YOUR BULLSHIT SLEAZY SPIN, THOUGH. YOU ARE RATHER A SCUMHOLE.
GATO, PIPO WON'T WIN HER LAWSUIT AGAINST THE PAPER. SHE'LL RUN OUT OF PATIENCE AND SHE'LL SETTLE OUT OF COURT AND WE'LL PRESS ON.
MAUREEN O'HARA VS CONFIDENTIAL MAGAZINE: NINETEEN-FORTY SOMETHING, FIFTY SOMETHING..?
AND STILL NO NEW ISSUE OF CONFIDENTIAL TO APPEAR SINCE..?
YOU'VE DONE YOUR HOMEWORK, BUT THAT WON'T BE HAPPENING TO US. WE'RE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING.
PIPO IS A MUCH BIGGER FIGHTER THAN SHE LOOKS TO YOU.
ALL THIS IS BEHIND ME, YOU GUYS. THERE'S MORE TO LIFE THAN BEING PETTY AND VINDICTIVE.
ISN'T THERE?
POOR PIPO.
ALL SHE'S GOT LEFT IS HER SPORTSWEAR LINE, HER PARTNERSHIP WITH HER HEALTHCLUBS, HER CRESCENT STOCK INVESTMENTS...
AT LEAST WE'VE GOT OUR PRIDE, HUH, GATO?



KISSES for PIPO

I'M BOOTS.

I HANDLE THE BOOKS FOR PIPO'S T.V. SHOW AND CLOTHING LINE. NEITHER DOES EXCEPTIONALLY WELL, BUT ENOUGH TO KEEP PIPO OPTIMISTIC OF THE FUTURE.

ON MY OWN TIME I KEEP A DIARY OF MY OBSERVATIONS REGARDING THE 'BEHIND THE SCENES' OF THE SHOW. PETTY RIVALRY, SCANDAL, BACK STABBING; ALL ARE COMMON IN THIS KIND OF BUSINESS.

I'M USUALLY MORE CONCERNED WITH THE CRISS-CROSSING OF BACKSTAGE RELATIONSHIPS AND HOW THEY AFFECT THE SHOW'S PROCEEDINGS, BUT THERE ARE MORE URGENT DEVELOPMENTS AT HAND.

DORALIS, THE STAR OF THE KID'S SHOW, HAS DECIDED TO ANNOUNCE SHE IS A LESBIAN, SENDING THE SPONSORS INTO A PANIC.

THE COMPROMISE IS TO CHANGE THE KID'S SHOW TO A NIGHT-TIME ONE FOR ADULTS. SAME FORMAT, SAME CONTENT MOSTLY, JUST A DIFFERENT TIME SLOT WITH NO KIDS IN SIGHT.

THE BOSS'S SON

THE STAR'S AUNT

THE BOSS

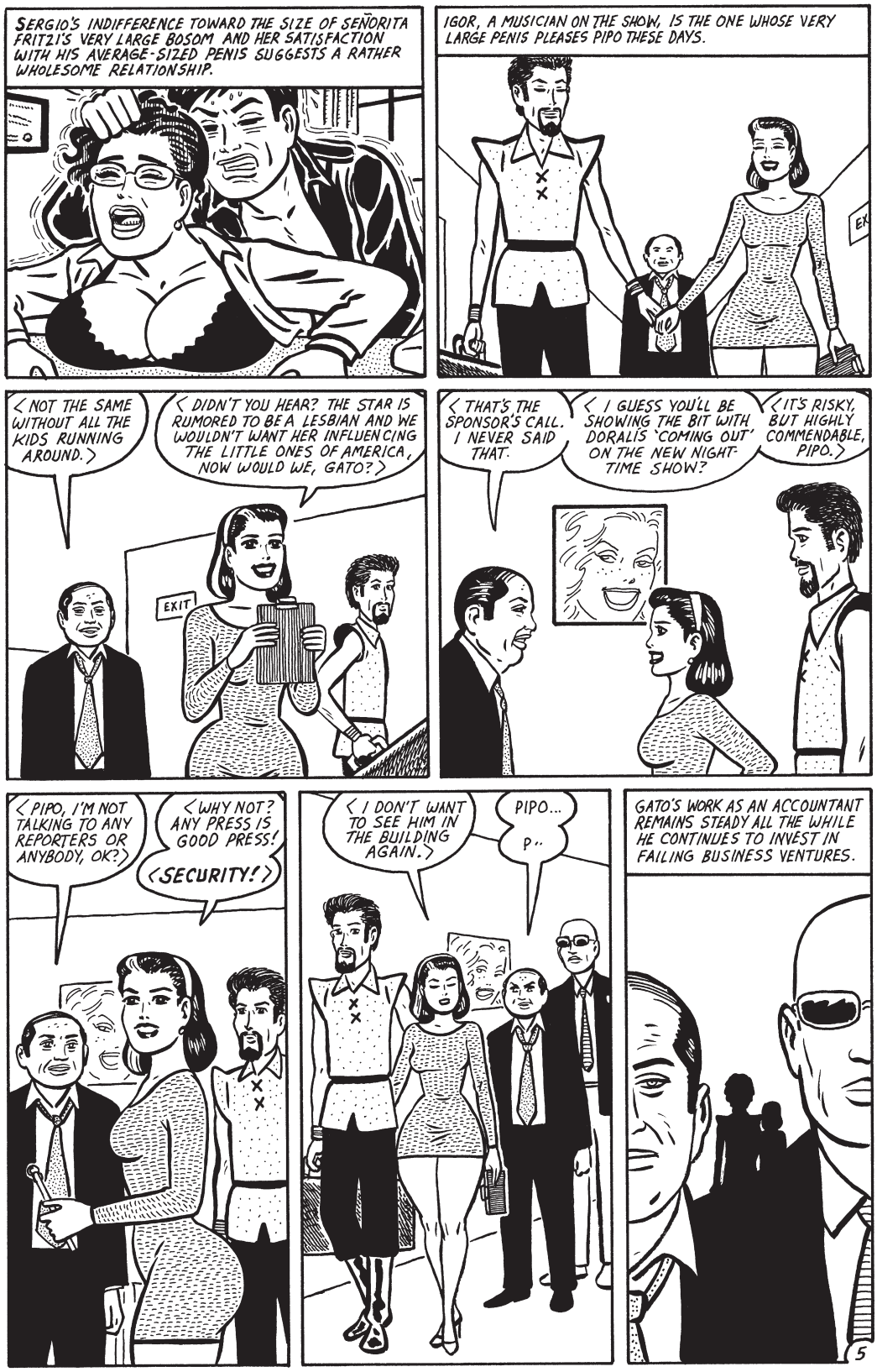
THE STAR

THE STAR'S SISTER


FOO! <I'M SORRY THIS PHOTO SHOOT IS TAKING SO LONG, HONEY.>
<PRETTY QUIET WITHOUT ALL THE KIDS RUNNING AROUND, MAMA.>
37
I'M SURPRISED AT HOW QUICKLY YOU GAVE IN TO THE COMPROMISE, DORALIS.
THOUGHT YOU'D GIVE 'EM MORE OF A FIGHT.
WHO SAID I WAS DONE FIGHTING, GUADALUPE?
GOTTA RUN.
<OH FRITZ, BEFORE YOU GO, I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT-
<OH, DON'T GIVE ME THAT FACE...!>
<I LOVE YOU.>
STUDIO B
<DO NOT TOUCH ME AGAIN, SERGIO, OR I'LL LET EVERYBODY KNOW YOU'VE BEEN SECRETLY COMING ON TO ME, OK?>
PIPO...
<OH SURE, GO ON PRETENDING YOU DON'T LIKE IT.>
<NOW GO CHECK UP ON MY BOY.
<REMEMBER: OUR LITTLE SECRET.>
2


PIPO WAS SEVENTEEN WHEN SHE FIRST CAME TO THE U.S.. IT WAS GATO'S AND SERGIO'S FIRST VISIT AS WELL. PIPO AND GATO HAD ALREADY BEEN MARRIED THREE YEARS.
<SOME HOLIDAY WITH YOU DAYDREAMING ALL THE TIME, GATO.>
<I WAS IMAGINING WHAT IT TAKES TO PRODUCE SUCH AN UNDERTAKING.>
<IT'S ALWAYS SOME SCHEME WITH YOU. TO ME, THIS IS JUST A PLACE TO BRING SERGIO.>
<BUT THIS IS AMERICA, PIPO. SOMEHOW I FEEL... I COULD DO SO MUCH MORE HERE FOR YOU AND OUR BOY.>
THE BOY IS NOT GATO'S REAL SON. SERGIO'S REAL FATHER WAS KILLED BY A JEALOUS LOVER BEFORE SERGIO WAS BORN. GATO SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY, MARRIED THE PREGNANT PIPO AND HELPED RAISE THE BOY AS HIS OWN.
PIPO HAS SAID SHE DIDN'T MARRY GATO OUT OF DESPERATION; SHE WAS DRAWN TO HIS ENERGY, HIS CONSISTENT, ENTHUSIASTIC TALK OF OBTAINABLE DREAMS.
MARRYING 'THE GIRL MOST MEN CAN'T HAVE' MADE GATO FEEL TRIUMPHANT, AND HER ABILITY TO DEEP-THROAT HIS VERY LARGE PENIS GAVE HIM GREAT PLEASURE.
GATO'S VERY LARGE PENIS GAVE PIPO GREAT PLEASURE DURING INTERCOURSE. ORGASMS FOR THEM BOTH WERE FREQUENT AND SATISFYING.
3


AFTER THE FAILURE OF HIS MARRIAGE TO PIPO, GATO'S SPIRIT WAS REVITALIZED WHEN HE MET GUADALUPE, HAD A SON WITH HER AND MARRIED HER DESPITE DISAPPROVAL FROM FAMILY AND FRIENDS. THE AGE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO IS AT LEAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.
<OK, YOU SAID YOU AREN'T GOING TO GIVE THAT TABLOID ANY MORE TRASH ABOUT YOU AND PIPO...!
<NOW YOU'RE WRITING A-A TELL ALL BOOK OR WHATEVER?>
<IT'S NOT TRASH!
< PIPO'S WORK AS A LATINA T.V. PRODUCER MAKES HER A ROLE MODEL FOR YOUNG ASPIRING CAREERWOMEN, GUADALUPE.>
<GOING INTO DETAIL ABOUT HOW PIPO COULD SWALLOW YOUR HUGE COCK WHOLE IS PERTINENT INFORMATION, I'M SURE.>
< THAT'S RIGHT. IN FRONT OF OUR BOY. TEACH HIM SUCH DIGNIFIED LANGUAGE.>
< THEN YOU WRITE ALL THE TRUTH, GATO! YOU WRITE ABOUT HOW SHE EXPLOITS HER SON, HOW SHE LEFT YOU RIGHT AFTER YOU GOT HER STARTED IN HER BUSINESS.. ALL THE TRUTH, GATO!>
< I WON'T HAVE TO MAKE ANYTHING UP.>
<THAT'S FOR SURE! SHE..
<YOU'LL...BE GOING INTO DETAIL ABOUT SERGIO, I GUESS.>
< HIS MOTHER'S MADE HIM THE MAN HE IS TODAY.
<YOU'RE IN IT, TOO.>
< ME?
< HOW?>
< IN ONLY THE MOST GLOWING LIGHT, LUPE. ONLY THE RAPTUROUS TRUTH.>
GUADALUPE TOLD ME SHE LOVES GATO FOR MANY REASONS, BUT MOSTLY FOR HIS LOVING DEVOTION TO HER AND THEIR BOY AND FOR HIS ALMOST ELOQUENT BULLSHITTING SKILLS.
GATO'S VERY LARGE PENIS BRINGS GUADALUPE GREAT PLEASURE, AS HER LOVELY YOUTH PLEASES GATO. ORGASMS FOR THEM BOTH ARE FREQUENT AND SATISFYING.
4


SERGIO'S INDIFFERENCE TOWARD THE SIZE OF SEÑORITA FRITZI'S VERY LARGE BOSOM AND HER SATISFACTION WITH HIS AVERAGE-SIZED PENIS SUGGESTS A RATHER WHOLESOME RELATIONSHIP.
IGOR, A MUSICIAN ON THE SHOW, IS THE ONE WHOSE VERY LARGE PENIS PLEASES PIPO THESE DAYS.
EXIT
< NOT THE SAME WITHOUT ALL THE KIDS RUNNING AROUND. >
< DIDN'T YOU HEAR? THE STAR IS RUMORED TO BE A LESBIAN AND WE WOULDN'T WANT HER INFLUENCING THE LITTLE ONES OF AMERICA, NOW WOULD WE, GATO? >
< THAT'S THE SPONSOR'S CALL. I NEVER SAID THAT.
< I GUESS YOU'LL BE SHOWING THE BIT WITH DORALÍS 'COMING OUT' ON THE NEW NIGHT-TIME SHOW?
< IT'S RISKY, BUT HIGHLY COMMENDABLE, PIPO. >
< PIPO, I'M NOT TALKING TO ANY REPORTERS OR ANYBODY, OK? >
< WHY NOT? ANY PRESS IS GOOD PRESS!
<SECURITY!>
< I DON'T WANT TO SEE HIM IN THE BUILDING AGAIN. >
PIPO...
P..
GATO'S WORK AS AN ACCOUNTANT REMAINS STEADY ALL THE WHILE HE CONTINUES TO INVEST IN FAILING BUSINESS VENTURES.
5


PIPO'S FIRST BUSINESS VENTURE WAS TO OPEN A BOUTIQUE IN AMERICA.
DOINK
<I THINK IT WAS PANCHO VILLA, WHEN HE SAW THE OCEAN FOR THE FIRST TIME, WHO SAID: `IT IS STILL NOT ENOUGH TO QUENCH MY THIRST'!>
BLIVITZ
<I JUST WANT TO LOOK AROUND AND GET A FEEL OF THE AREA. I'VE NEVER BEEN ON MY OWN HERE.>
<ALONE WITH HOW MANY BORDERLINE PSYCHOTIC AMERICANS, MAMA?>
<SERGIO, STOP. GO PICK UP GATO AND I'LL MEET YOU BACK HERE AT FOUR.>
<THREE. WE'LL MEET YOU BACK HERE IN TWO HOURS.>
SALE
¿HABLAS ESPAÑOL?
PARLEZ VOUS FRANCAIS?
I'M SORRY?
UH..?
20% SALE
6


¿CAN I HELP, SEÑORITA?
I JUST REMEMBERED MY MONEY DOESN'T SPEAK ENGLISH, EITHER.
$3
THIS IS ONLY FACTORY-MADE JUNK ANY WAY, SEÑORITA.
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO SAY THAT VERY SAME THING!
OH. & HELLO.
I AM... FORTUNATO.
I'M PIPO. THAT'S SHORT FOR PIPO...
I KNOW OUR TRIAL SEPARATION IS HARD ON YOU, SERGIO. YOUR MOTHER AND I JUST NEED TO WORK THINGS OUT.
YOU SOUND LIKE A T.V. SHOW, GATO.
HA! THAT'S THE BOY I RAISED!
NO TIME FOR SELF-PITY, JUST LIKE YOUR MOTHER.
SHE'S TOO BUSY GETTING HER NEW BOUTIQUE RUNNING.
YOUR MOTHER'S GOT A REAL HEAD FOR BUSINESS ON HER SHOULDERS.
THAT GLAMOR PUSS OF HERS DOESN'T HURT, EITHER.
PRETTIEST GIRL YOU EVER SAW; YEAH, I HEARD, I HEARD.
AH, BUT SHE'S SO MUCH MORE THAN JUST THAT, SERGIO.
I'VE EVEN SUGGESTED POLITICS TO HER, BUT SHE FEELS IT'S ALL TOO FAR GONE TO BOTHER PURSUING.
SHE WASN'T BORN IN THE U.S.; SHE WOULDN'T GET AS FAR AS SHE'D LIKE, ANYWAY.
7

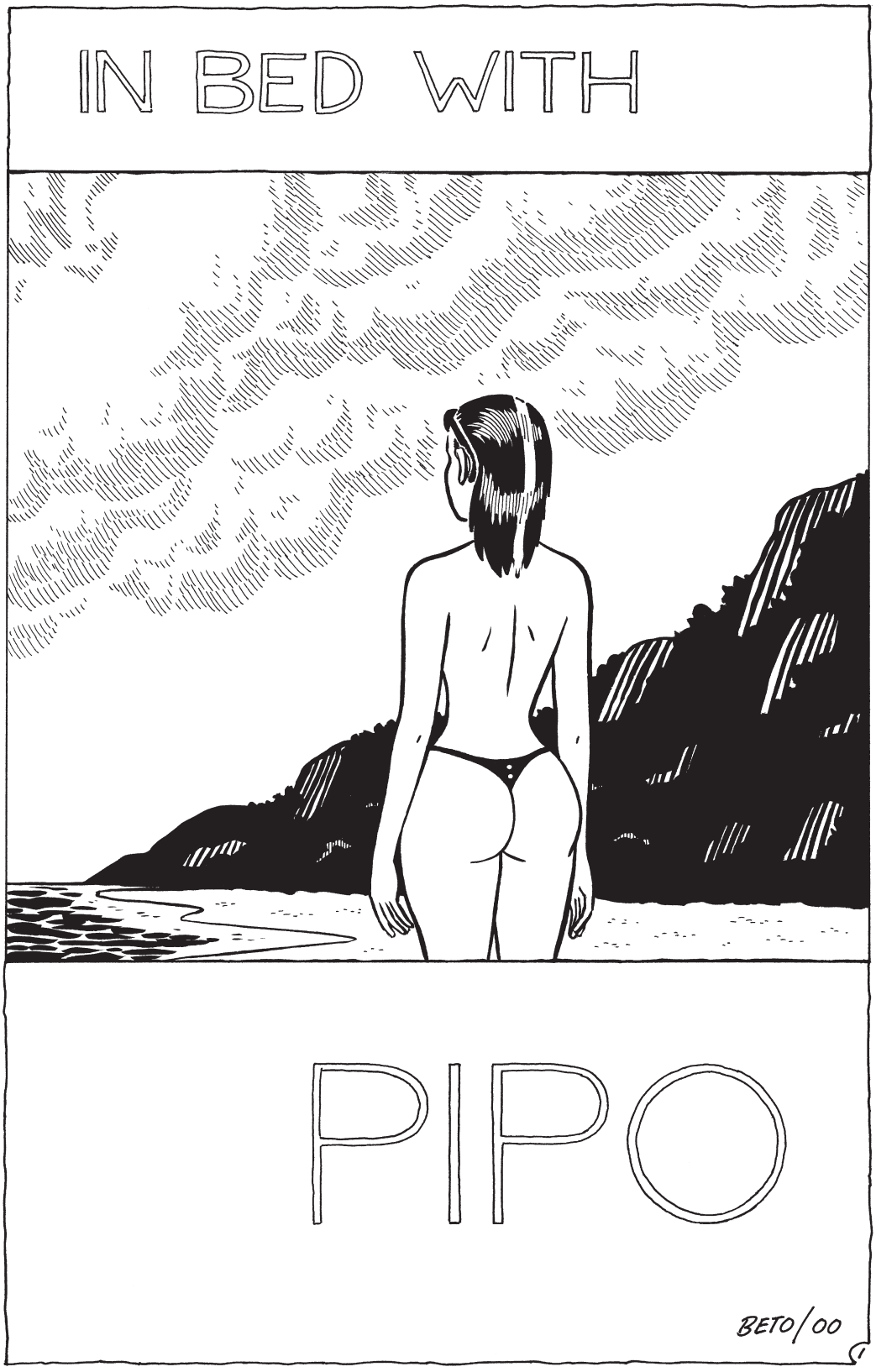

< YOU MEAN TO SAY YOU COME FROM BY THE SEA! YOUR SPANISH ISN'T WHAT YOU THINK IT IS.>
< NO, FROM THE SEA. I WAS FISHED OFF THE COAST OF SICILY. THEY NAMED ME AFTER MY AND THEIR GOOD FORTUNE.>
< LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT FORTUNE!
< I WAS DROPPED ON MY HEAD WHEN I WAS BORN AND NOTHING HAPPENED, ALTHOUGH IT MIGHT BE WHY I CAN'T LEARN ENGLISH.>
BASTARD!
AY!
< LET HER GO. SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S DOING.>
< OH, MY GOD. OH, GOD...>
< ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?>
< IT WAS ALL SO-SO FAST, SO V-VIOLENT...>
< MY PLACE IS CLOSE BY.>
< I'M SUCH A GIRL...>
< HA HA, SHE STORMED OUT OF THE OFFICE LEAVING THE JUDGE STANDING THERE SOAKING, PANTS SHREDDED AROUND HIS ANKLES!>
< HUH. SHE NEVER TOLD ME ABOUT THAT.>
< YOUR SUCCESS ON THE SOCCER FIELD IS THE DIRECT RESULT OF YOUR MOTHER'S LOVING INFLUENCE, BOY. I WAS THERE ALL THE WAY.>
< THEN CUT THE BULLSHIT AND GET BACK TOGETHER.>
8

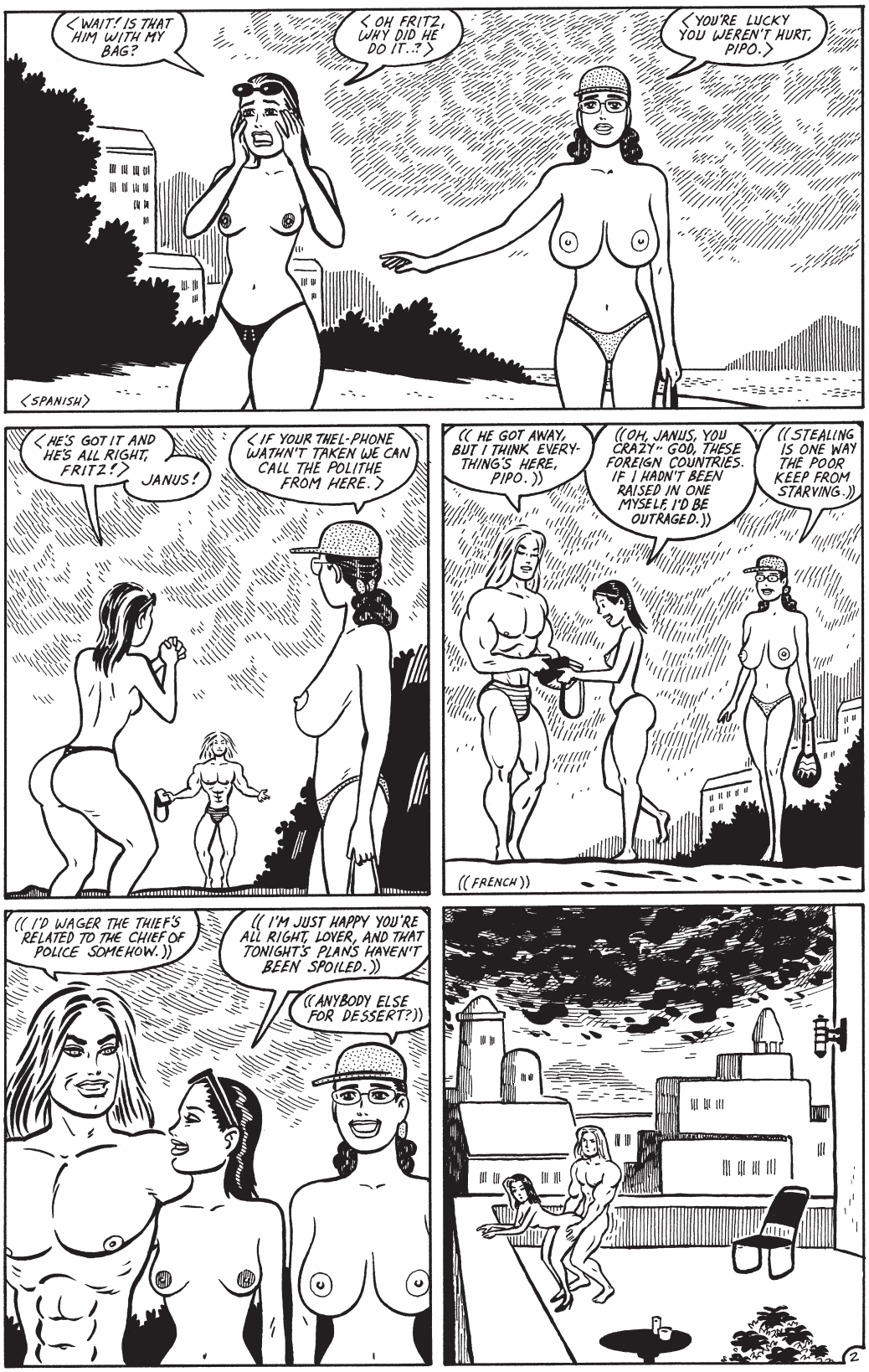

YOU'RE AN ARTIST. I KNEW IT.
NO, I AM COMPLETELY TALENTLESS.
NO ONE IS COMPLETELY TALENTLESS.
I AM. THE PAINTINGS WERE ALREADY HERE WHEN I MOVED IN.
I HAVE TO CLEAN THIS UP. IF THE PHONE RINGS, LET IT GO.
NUDES.
TYPICAL.
BRING
F-FORTUNATO... SOB I'M SORRY.. SOB I WON'T BOTHER YOU AGAIN SOB ...G-GOOD-BYE...
ALL WOMEN, OF COURSE.
OH, AND OF COURSE, MOST WITH HUGE BOOBS..!
HO, LOOK AT THE SIZE OF..!
OF..
LUBA..!
THIS PAINTING, IT.. I KNOW HER! SHE LOOKS OLDER HERE, BUT IT IS LUBA..!
I'VE NEVER MET HER OR ANY OF THE OTHERS BUT I FEEL SOMEHOW I WILL SOMEDAY.
9


< IF THIS IS LUBA IN THE FUTURE, SHE'S STILL BEAUTIFUL...
< I DO LOVE HER SO MUCH...>
< I-I-I-I-I WON'T TAKE MY EYES FROM THE PAINTING...>
< BACK...
< BACK ONTO THE SOFA...
< BACK...>
LUBA...
FOOFH..
< WELL, YOU JUST LOOK A LITTLE FLUSHED, MAMA. YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT YOU CAN CATCH HERE.>
< THE ANTICIPATION OF STARTING A NEW ENTERPRISE CAN GET THE BLOOD REALLY FLOWING, SERGIO.>
< IT'S LIKE WHEN YOU'RE ON THE FIELD, HEADING FOR THAT DIFFICULT GOAL, THE ROARING CROWD INSPIRING YOUR EVERY STEP.>
10


< THE KICK, THE BALL HURTLING AS IF IN SLOW MOTION, HURTLING TOWARD INCENDIARY VICTORY. >
< I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF IT'S EVER LIKE THAT. >
THE DURABILITY OF PIPO'S SKULL HADN'T BEEN TESTED AS DRAMATICALLY SINCE SHE WAS BORN AND PROMPTLY DROPPED HEAD FIRST ONTO THE CONCRETE FLOOR.
A TWO HOUR SLIGHT HEADACHE WAS THE RESULT OF THE FLOWERPOT MATTER. WHO KNOWS WHAT COMPLEXITIES THE POST-BIRTH FUMBLE MAY HAVE CAUSED PIPO OR HER SON IN THE LONG RUN?
SERGIO'S QUICK TEMPER? OR HIS REFUSAL TO HAVE ANY EMOTIONAL INVOLVEMENT WITH A WOMAN EXCEPT HIS MOTHER...? QUESTIONS BEST LEFT FOR A SPECIALIST TO ANSWER.
THAT YEAR PIPO AND GATO DIVORCED AND SERGIO PLAYED HIS BEST SEASON ON THE FIELD, SUSTAINING AS MANY INJURIES AS HE MADE GOALS, WHICH WERE A LOT. THE CONNECTION'S CLEAR.
BUT I'M HERE ONLY TO DOCUMENT, NOT BOAST UNINFORMED OPINIONS.
< I LAUGHED SO HARD WHEN LUBA WAS BONKED WITH THAT BABY SKULL AND THEN WITH THE HUGE BOOK...!
< SO, NATURALLY I DREADED THE DAY WHEN LUBA MIGHT HEAR ABOUT ME AND THE FLOWERPOT. >


< TCH! WELL, THE DIFFERENCE IS MAMA DIDN'T LAUGH AT PIPO ABOUT HER ACCIDENT; SHE SHOWED ONLY CONCERN!>
< YOU'RE MAD AT PIPO FOR SHUTTING GATO OUT, HUH?
< HE'S THE ONE WRITING THINGS ABOUT HER, GUADALUPE.>
EXIT
< WELL, MAYBE SHE DESERVES IT, BOOTS! AND MAYBE I'M HELPING HIM!
< OH, WHY DOESN'T EVERYBODY FUCKING JUST GROW UP?!
<GROW UP!!!>
OK!
OK.
OK...
< WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME I HAD THAT DREAM?!
< OK, GIVE UP EATING FISH.>
FORTUNATO..!
The End

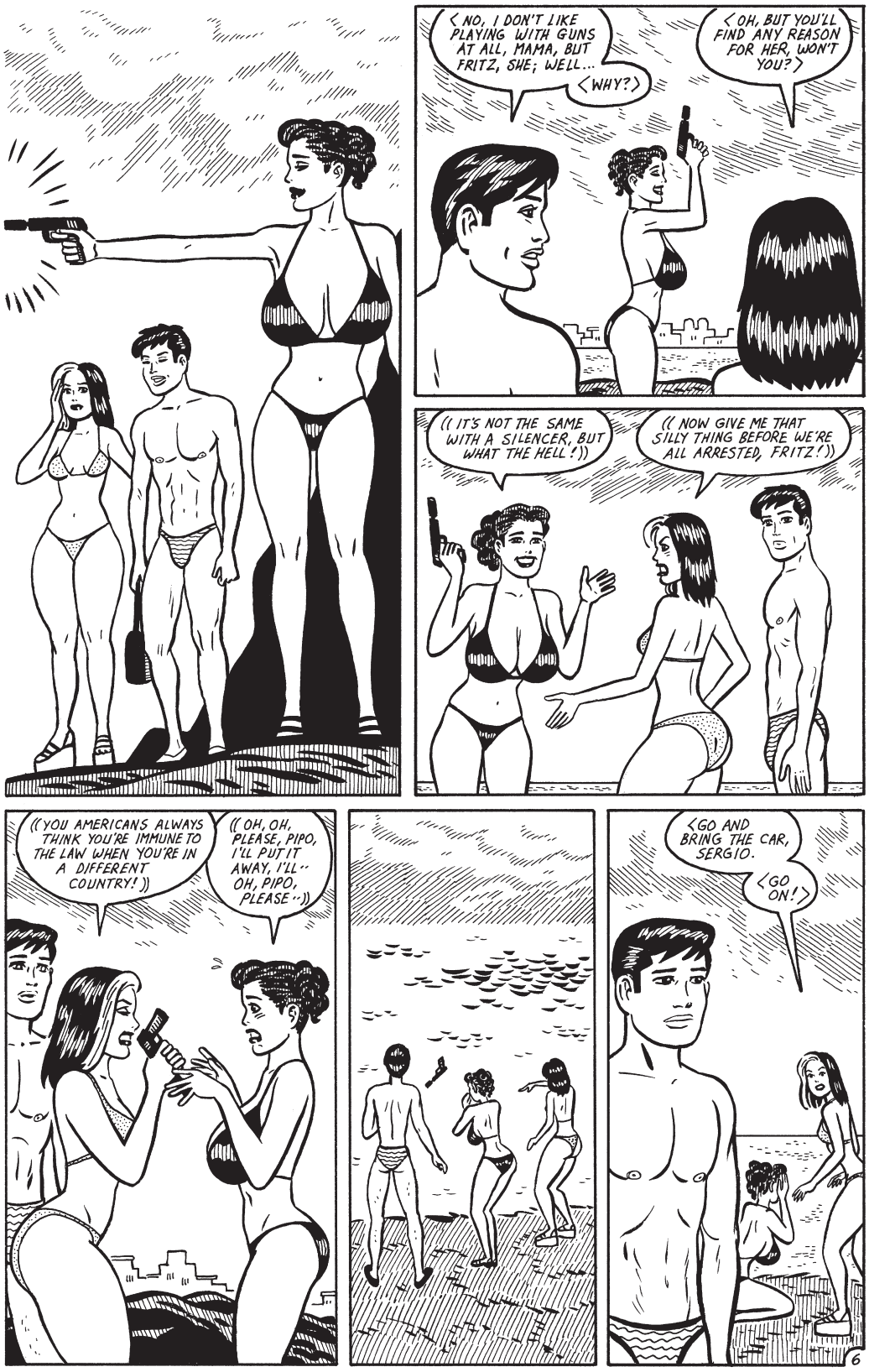

IN BED WITH
PIPO
BETO/00


< WAIT! IS THAT HIM WITH MY BAG?
< OH FRITZ, WHY DID HE DO IT..? >
< YOU'RE LUCKY YOU WEREN'T HURT, PIPO. >
< SPANISH >
< HE'S GOT IT AND HE'S ALL RIGHT, FRITZ! >
JANUS!
< IF YOUR THEL-PHONE WATHN'T TAKEN WE CAN CALL THE POLITHE FROM HERE. >
((HE GOT AWAY, BUT I THINK EVERY-THING'S HERE, PIPO.))
((OH, JANUS, YOU CRAZY~ GOD, THESE FOREIGN COUNTRIES. IF I HADN'T BEEN RAISED IN ONE MYSELF, I'D BE OUTRAGED.))
((STEALING IS ONE WAY THE POOR KEEP FROM STARVING.))
((FRENCH))
((I'D WAGER THE THIEF'S RELATED TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE SOMEHOW.))
((I'M JUST HAPPY YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, LOVER, AND THAT TONIGHT'S PLANS HAVEN'T BEEN SPOILED.))
((ANYBODY ELSE FOR DESSERT?))
2


< YOU SAY HE LOOKS MUCH TOO BIG BUT HOW COULD YOU KNOW FOR SURE IF YOU WON'T TRY?>
< PIPO, JANUTH ITH VERY NITHE, OK?
< I'VE HAD BIG DICKTH BEFORE AND I DIDN'T CARE FOR IT, THAT'TH ALL>
< FUNNY YOU DON'T HAVE A LISP WITH FRENCH, FRITZ.>
((ENGLISH, ITALIAN, SPANISH, YES; FRENCH, JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN, NO.))
< WELL, EACH MAN IS LIKE A DIFFERENT LANGUAGE AND YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MIGHT ENJOY UNLESS YOU UNDERSTAND HOW IT WORKS...>
< I KNOW WHAT I LIKE, PIPO.>
< ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT, MORE FOR ME, THEN.
< FRITZ, I'M JUST FEELING YOU OUT BECAUSE SERGIO'S FLYING IN TOMORROW.>
< PIPO, YOUR THON ITH MORE THAN ENOUGH MAN FOR ME.>
< GOOD. NOW LET'S SEE IF THOSE BALLOONS CAN GET US ANY MORE FREE DRINKS.>
PIPOWEAR
OH, AND THE FOOD HERE ITH WONDERFUL!
< YEAH, THE FOOD HERE IS AWFUL.>
3


< NO, WE'RE NOT GOING TO USE COMPUTER ANIMATION ON MY SHOW AGAIN.
< WE'RE PAINTING A REAL ELEPHANT BLUE AND WE'VE GOT A SHOW.>
< WE DID USE COMPUTER ANIMATION ON ONE SHOW. WE ALMOST LOST OUR SHIRTS.
< LOST OUR SHIRTS. IT'S AN AMERICAN SAYING. YOU'RE AMERICAN AND YOU'VE NEVER HEARD··
< WELL, IT MEANS NO MORE COMPUTER ANIMATION, OK?>
< OH, YOU HAVE? FUNNY. I'VE NEVER SEEN A COMPUTER ANIMATED ELEPHANT THAT LOOKED AS GOOD AS A REAL ONE. NO. YOU MUST HAVE BEEN DRINKING.
< I DON'T CARE IF A COMPUTER ANIMATED ONE DOESN'T SHIT··
< OH. MY SON'S HERE. I'LL CALL YOU LATER.>
< I'M NOT COMING BACK TO THE STATES EARLY JUST TO CONVINCE YOU, ALL RIGHT?!
< PAINT THE FUCKING ELEPHANT BLUE!!>
SERGIO..?
4


< MY PLANE WAS TWO HOURS EARLY AND WHEN I GOT OFF, FRITZI WAS THERE! CAN YOU IMAGINE?>
< WE COULDN'T FIND YOU AND I FORGOT MY TELEPHONE, THO WE WENT OFF ON OUR OWN.>
< TOMORROW WE CAN SPEND THE WHOLE AFTERNOON TOGETHER, MAMA. HAVE YOU BEEN TO THE RUINS YET?>
5

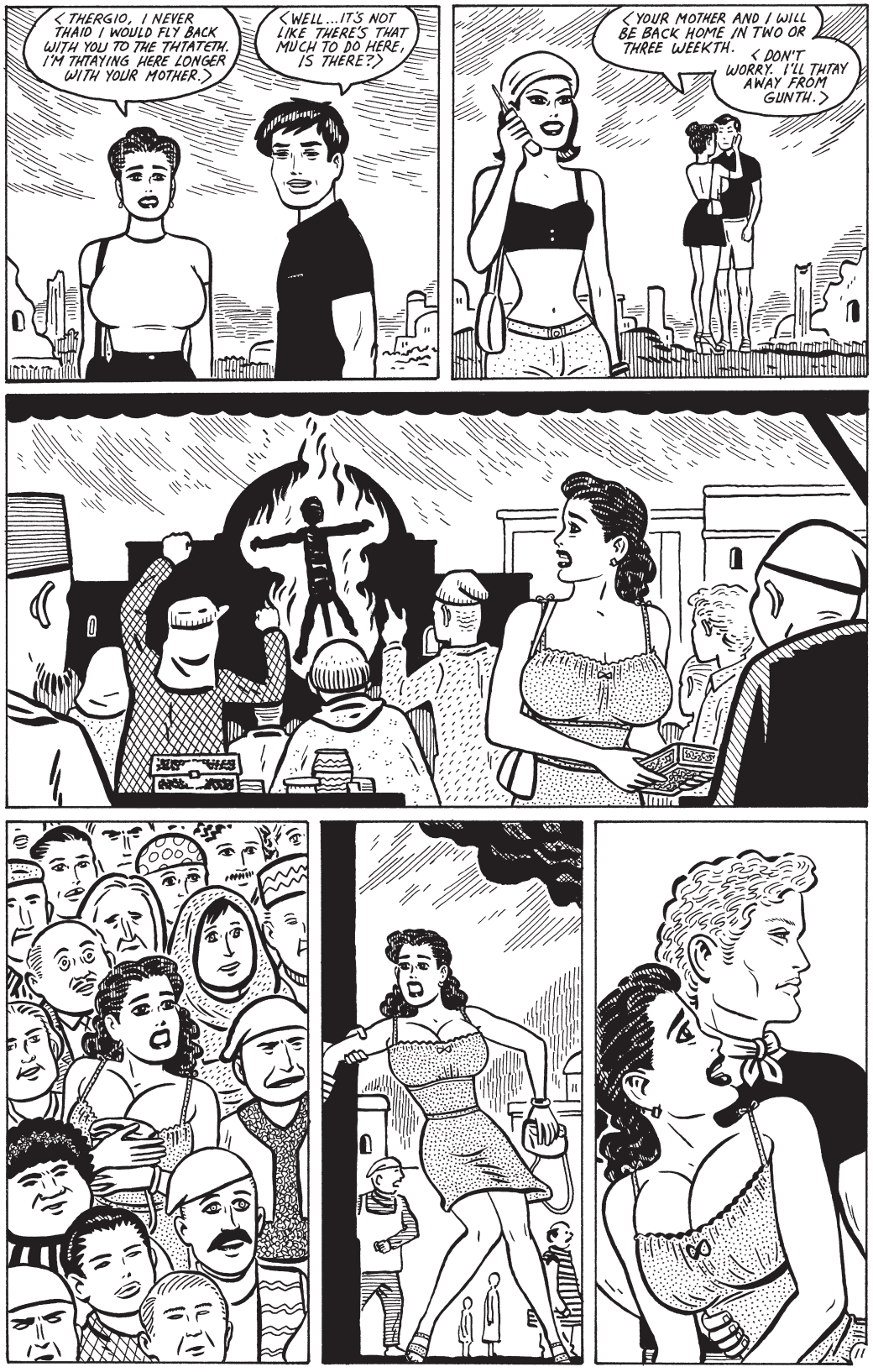

< NO, I DON'T LIKE PLAYING WITH GUNS AT ALL, MAMA, BUT FRITZ, SHE; WELL...
< WHY?>
< OH, BUT YOU'LL FIND ANY REASON FOR HER, WON'T YOU?>
((IT'S NOT THE SAME WITH A SILENCER, BUT WHAT THE HELL!))
((NOW GIVE ME THAT SILLY THING BEFORE WE'RE ALL ARRESTED, FRITZ!))
((YOU AMERICANS ALWAYS THINK YOU'RE IMMUNE TO THE LAW WHEN YOU'RE IN A DIFFERENT COUNTRY!))
((OH, OH, PLEASE, PIPO, I'LL PUT IT AWAY, I'LL.. OH, PIPO, PLEASE..))
< GO AND BRING THE CAR, SERGIO.
< GO ON!>
6


((OH NO, I WOULD NEVER HAVE SEX WITH A GUY AND A LOADED GUN, PIPO.
((WHAT WOULD MAKE YOU THINK THAT?))
((I HAD A CLIENT ONCE..
((I DON'T CALL THEM PATIENTS.
((WELL, A YEAR AFTER WE WERE DONE WITH HER THERAPY SESSIONS, SHE CAME BACK TO SEE ME.))
((SHE SHOWED ME SHE WAS CARRYING A GUN AND SAID SHE WAS GOING TO KILL HER HUSBAND, BUT WANTED TO BRAG TO ME FIRST.))
WAIT, ITH THAT..?
NO...
((OF COURSE, SHE ONLY WANTED ME TO TALK HER OUT OF IT.))
((I TALKED HER INTO GIVING ME THE GUN AND..))
AH...!
((AND CONVINCED HER TO CHECK HERSELF INTO A MENTAL HEALTHCARE FACILITY AND DIVORCE HER HUSBAND.))
MUA!
((I KEPT THE GUN AND HERE IT IS.))
< MAKES ME NERVOUS WHEN YOU USE 'S', FRITZ. >
7


((FOR YOUR PENANCE SAY THREE OUR FATHERS AND THREE HAIL MARYS.))
((FATHER, WHY ISN'T THERE A REAL CHURCH IN THIS TOWN?))
((EVERY TIME SOMEBODY BUILDS ONE, IT'S BURNED TO THE GROUND.))
((A FEW HUNDRED YEARS AGO CATHOLIC SOLDIERS CAME AND KILLED OR IMPRISONED HUNDREDS OF THE LOCALS.
((IT'S THE ANNIVERSARY OF THAT NIGHTMARE.))
((CAN ANYONE BLAME THEM FOR THEIR ANGER AGAINST THE CHURCH?
((THE BLOODLINES OF DOZENS OF FAMILIES WERE ENDED...
((EVIL CARRIED OUT IN THE NAME OF GOD.))
((MY WORK HERE IS TO CLEAR THE LORD'S NAME.
((TELL YOUR SON AND GIRLFRIEND TO COME IN FOR CONFESSION.
((CAN'T HURT TO HAVE A LITTLE INSURANCE.))
FOZZY
CHINKA CHING
CHINKA CHING
CHINKA CHING
CHINKA CHING
8

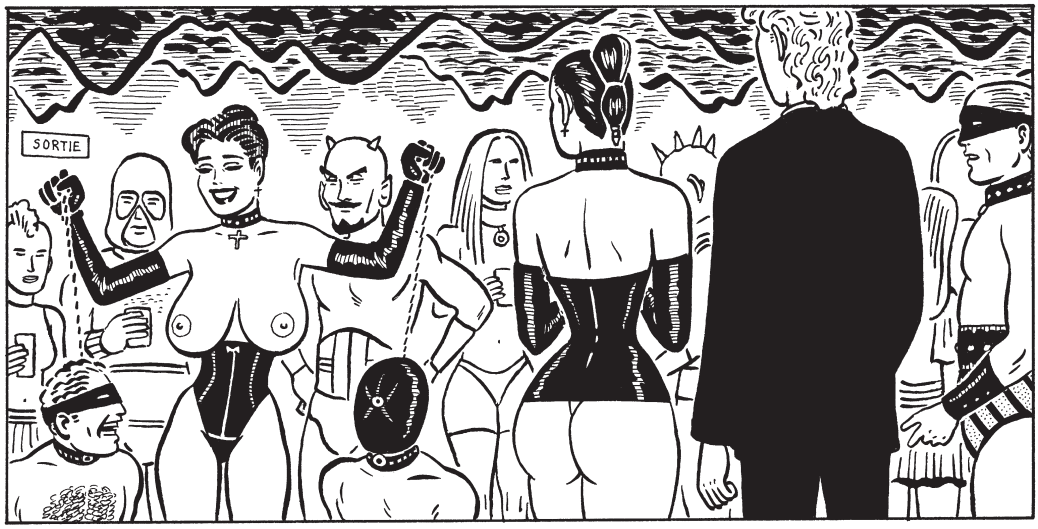

< FRITZI AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO MAKE IT TO YOUR GAME, SERGIO. OH BABY, I'LL SEE IT ON TAPE... TSK, I'M REALLY SORRY, BABY.
< YEAH, I'M STILL FIGHTING WITH THEM BACK HOME OVER PAINTING THAT ELEPHANT BLUE.
< ALLERGIC REACTION. YEAH, YOU WOULDN'T THINK SO WITH THAT THICK SKIN.
< I KNOW! ASIANS PAINT THEM ALL THE TIME! >
< OH, YEAH: FRITZ PUT THE GUN AWAY AS SHE PROMISED, BABY.
< OK, YOU TAKE CARE. AND GOOD LUCK.
< SEE YOU BACK HERE IN A WEEK.
< I LOVE YOU, TOO. >
((MLLE. PIPO. I'M DOCTOR EMIL.))
((OH...YES, DOCTOR; OF COURSE.))
((YOUR FRENCH IS VERY GOOD.))
((IT WAS MUCH EASIER TO LEARN THAN ENGLISH.
((I THINK YOU'LL LIKE MY GIRLFRIEND. SHE'S VERY PRETTY AND HER BREASTS ARE ENORMOUS.
((YOU DID SAY YOU'RE BELGIAN?))
((SHE SPEAKS FRENCH, BUT SHE DOESN'T LIKE FRENCH PEOPLE. ESPECIALLY FRENCH MEN. SHE LOATHES THEM. SHE'S A THERAPIST WHO HATES!))
((MY MOTHER USED TO SAY PARIS IS THE BEST EXCUSE FOR THE NEUTRON BOMB.))
9



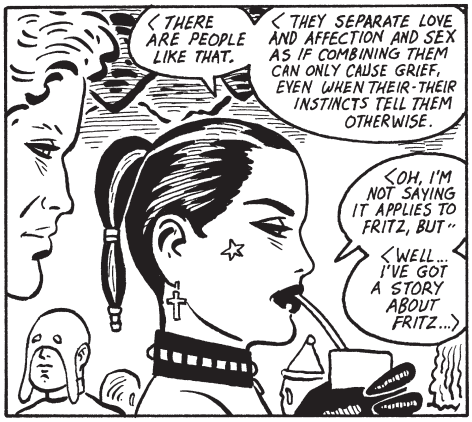

< THERGIO, I NEVER THAID I WOULD FLY BACK WITH YOU TO THE THTATETH. I'M THTAYING HERE LONGER WITH YOUR MOTHER.>
<WELL...IT'S NOT LIKE THERE'S THAT MUCH TO DO HERE, IS THERE?>
< YOUR MOTHER AND I WILL BE BACK HOME IN TWO OR THREE WEEKTH.
< DON'T WORRY. I'LL THTAY AWAY FROM GUNTH.>


((KEEP ALL CROSSES OR CATHOLIC IMAGERY IN YOUR BAG, MADAM.
((TELL YOUR LADY FRIEND TO DO THE SAME.))
((I'M GLAD NOBODY WAS HURT IN THE PROTEST.))
((YOU AND YOUR LADY FRIEND ARE NICE PEOPLE FOR CATHOLICS.))
((I HAVEN'T SEEN MY BEAUTY SINCE YESTERDAY MORNING...))
:OHHHHHHH...:
FRITZ?
((WHY HAVEN'T YOU RETURNED MY CALLS?!
((WHAT DO YOU MEAN 'WHAT DAY IS IT.?'))
((FRITZ, I WAS WORRIED; ALL THE FUSS WITH THE ANNIVERSARY.))
((I-I'M ALL RIGHT, PIPO ... SOMETHING, UH, CAME UP...))
FORTUNATO
12


PIPO...
<FORTUNATO WANTS US TO...>
O-OK.
<OK, THTOP.>
<FRITZ, IT'S ALL RIGHT... I'M NOT A LESBIAN...>
NO.
<IT'S ALL RIGHT. SHE'S YOUNG. THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME.>
13







〈WHEN SHE WAS A SCHOOLGIRL HER MOTHER WAS FRIENDS WITH A COP AND HE WAS ALWAYS HANGING AROUND THE HOUSE. FRITZ FIGURED HE HAD A SPECIAL INTEREST IN HER, SO SHE PLAYED INNOCENT, AS A GIRL WILL DO.〉



〈SHE ASKED HIM ABOUT HIS GUN AND HE LET HER PLAY WITH IT, BUT ONLY AFTER HE REMOVED THE BULLETS. HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN IN SERIOUS TROUBLE HAD HE BEEN CAUGHT. FRITZ MADE A MENTAL NOTE OF THAT, IN CASE SHE MIGHT NEED IT.〉



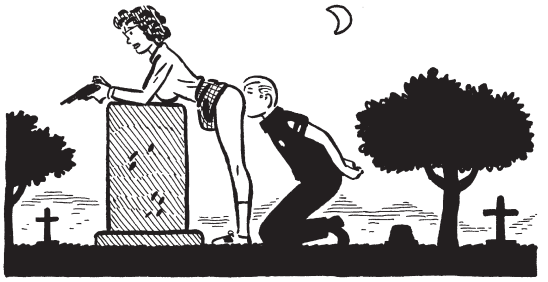
〈HE TOOK HER OUT SHOOTING AND IT THRILLED HER LIKE NOTHING ELSE. SHE NO LONGER CARED THAT HE ONLY WANTED IN HER PANTIES, AS LONG AS SHE HAD HER HANDS ON THAT PISTOL.〉



<SHE KNEW WHAT WAS COMING NEXT. SHE LIED AND TOLD HIM SHE WAS A VIRGIN. HE PROMISED HER SHE WOULD REMAIN ONE AS LONG AS SHE WISHED AND TOLD HER HE LOVED HER. FRITZ ONCE SAID TO ME THERE ARE TWO THINGS SHE CAN'T STAND TO HEAR FROM A MAN: THAT HE LOVES HER OR AN APOLOGY.>



<SHE LET HIM DO HIS THING AND SHE FONDLED HIS PISTOL. AT FIRST IT WAS EVERY FEW WEEKS, THEN IT BECAME A ONCE A WEEK AFFAIR. SHE DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIS HOME LIFE AND DIDN'T CARE. THAT GUN WAS IN HER HANDS.>



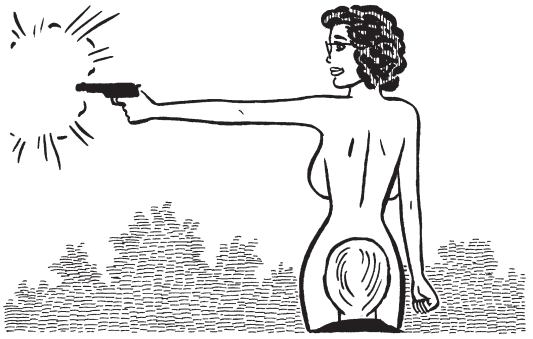
<FRITZ FELT ASHAMED WHEN SHE BEGAN TO HAVE INTENSE ORGASMS. TO ALLEVIATE HER GUILTY FEELINGS SHE CONCENTRATED ON FANTASIZING ABOUT THE CUTE BOYS SHE LIKED IN SCHOOL.>



<SHE QUICKLY GREW TO BE LESS SHY TOWARD BOYS HER OWN AGE. HER HUMBERT HUMBERT COP GOT JEALOUS, OF COURSE, BUT RESPECTED THE FACT THE SITUATION WAS WHAT IT WAS.>



<I LOST MY VIRGINITY AT THIRTEEN TO A MAN IN EXCHANGE FOR A BEAUTIFUL PINK DRESS I WANTED SO BADLY. HEH, I COULD STILL SQUEEZE INTO THAT DRESS UP UNTIL THREE YEARS AGO.>



<FRITZ'S COP BOUGHT HER THINGS FOR FEAR SHE MIGHT START GETTING BORED: RECORDS, PERFUME, EARRINGS; BUT WHAT SHE LIKED THE MOST WAS THAT SHE COULD HAVE AS MANY FASHION MAGAZINES AS SHE WANTED.>



<NOW AND AGAIN SHE'D TRY TO STOP WHAT WAS GOING ON. WELL, ANYTIME SHE SAW HIM SHE COULDN'T GIVE HERSELF A GOOD REASON TO END IT. WHEN SHE STARTED CONSIDERING SHE MIGHT ACTUALLY LIKE HIM A LITTLE, SHE WOULD IMMEDIATELY REMIND HERSELF THAT HE TOLD HER HE LOVED HER. BLAAAPT! POTENTIAL FEELINGS GONE! NEXT!>



<GOD, TELLING THIS STORY ONLY REMINDS ME NEVER TO TELL FRITZ HOW MUCH I LOVE HER.>



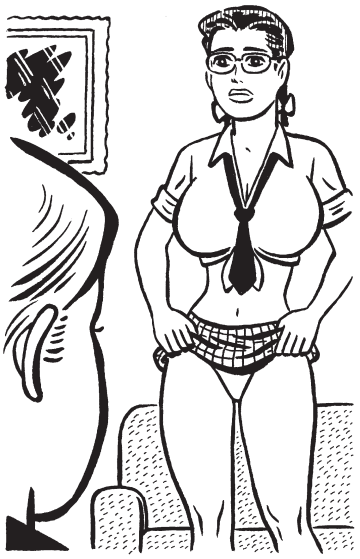
< AT THE END OF THE THIRD YEAR, I GUESS HE COULDN'T STAND IT ANY LONGER AND HE STOOD UP AND SLIPPED HIMSELF INTO HER. IN, OUT, IN, OUT, SHE WAS SHOCKED YET DIDN'T STOP HIM OR SAY A WORD. SURPRISE. SHE LIKED IT. AFTER HE WAS DONE, HE TOOK HER HOME AND THE WHOLE TIME NEITHER LOOKED THE OTHER IN THE EYE.>



< A COUPLE OF DAYS LATER HE CAME INTO HER WORK. HE SORT OF GAVE AN APOLOGY AND PROMISED HE WOULDN'T DO IT AGAIN. HE WANTED TO START ALL OVER, LIKE IT NEVER HAPPENED. FRITZ AGREED. >



< THEY CONTINUED WITH THEIR NAUGHTINESS. HE KEPT HIS PROMISE AND FRITZ NEVER BROUGHT UP THE INCIDENT. ONE SESSION, THOUGH HIS LIPS AND TONGUE WERE BUSY, FRITZ WAS SURE SHE HEARD HIM MUMBLING WHAT SOUNDED LIKE AN APOLOGY.>



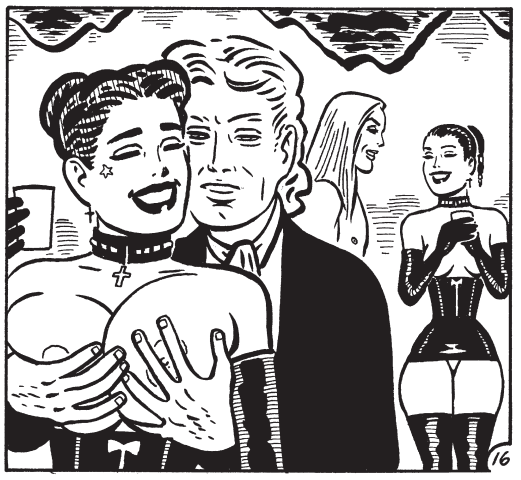
< ELEVEN MONTHS LATER WHEN HER COP WAS ENJOYING HIMSELF AS USUAL, SHE UNLOADED HER JUNK FOOD DINNER ALL OVER HIS FACE AND INTO HIS MOUTH. HE STOPPED, STOOD UP AND CALMLY WALKED INTO THE RESTROOM TO CLEAN UP. HE LEFT WITHOUT LOOKING HER IN THE EYE.>



< HE DROVE OFF IN HIS POLICE CAR AND FRITZ SAID SHE NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN. HER MOTHER DIDN'T SEEM TO MISS HIM MUCH BECAUSE SHE NEVER SAID ANYTHING ABOUT HIM NOT COMING AROUND ANYMORE.>



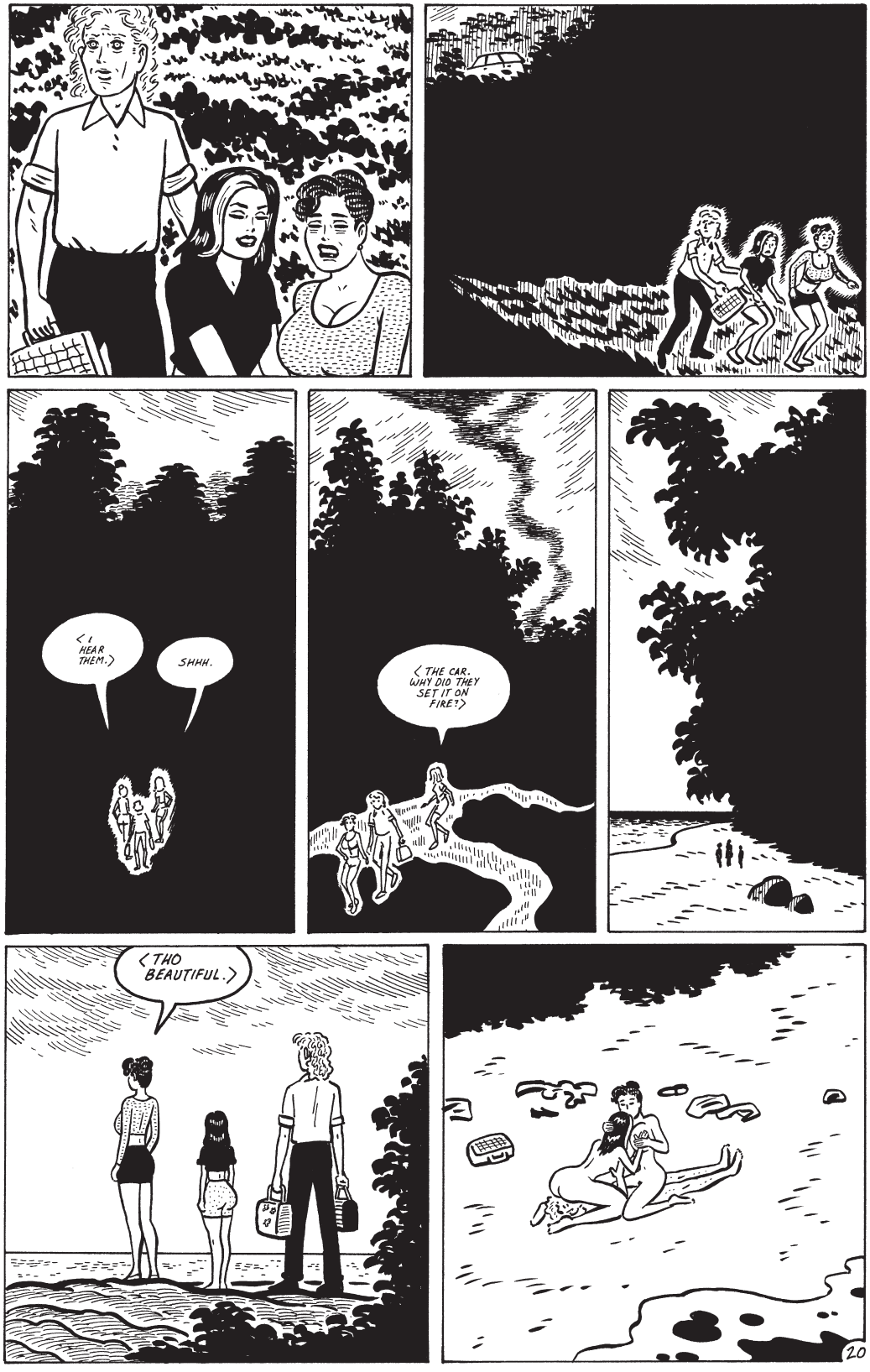





< YOU AGREED TO WHAT THIS TRIP WAS ABOUT BEFORE WE LEFT THE STATES, FRITZ.>
< PIPO, IT'TH DIFFERENT WITH-- WITH YOU.
< I THEE YOUR THON, PIPO...>
< LET-LET'TH NOT TALK ABOUT THITH IN FRONT OF FORTUNATO.>
< WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? HE'S NOT A FUCKING CHILD.>
< PIPO, NO--!>
< WHAT IS IT? LET ME SEE.>
< OH...!>
< FRITZ, DON'T--!>
< WHAT? WHAT?>
<GRAB AS MANY THINGS YOU CAN CARRY IN YOUR BAGS.>
< HE TOLD YOU NOT TO LOOK, FRITZ!>
17


< SO-SO-SO, IT'S A MORAL QUESTION WITH YOU, FRITZ? SOMEWHERE THERE'S A-A HIDDEN SIN IN THE MIX..? >
PANG
PANG
PANG
< THITH ONE'TH OPEN!>
< WE'LL BE EXTHECUTED IF WE'RE CAUGHT FOR THTEALING THITH CAR.>
< WE COULD STAY BEHIND AND TAKE OUR CHANCES, FRITZ!>
AH.
BRRVVM
FRITZ..!
< WHAT DO YOU MEAN YOU GOT RID OF THE GUN?!?
< FRITZ, WE NEED IT..!>
< YOU WANTED ME TO, PIPO!>
18


DON'T THLOW DOWN UNTIL WE'RE WELL OUT OF THE THITY LIMITH!
DON'T YOU EVER STOP WITH THE FUCKING LISP?
FORTUNATO DOETHN'T MIND, PIPO...
YOU'LL FUCK HIM AND LET HIM AT YOUR HUGE PRECIOUS FUCKING TITS AND SUCK HIS COCK, BUT NOT ME, I'M NOT GOOD ENOUGH TO TOUCH YOU.
YOU CAN FUCK MY SON·· AFTER I ALLOWED IT··AND YOU CAN FUCK A GUY IN FRONT OF ME AND GET NAKED IN FRONT OF ME AND LEAD ME ON··
YOU'RE THE CRUELEST, MOST CONTROLLING··PHONY BITCH I'VE EVER MET, FRITZ!
19


(I HEAR THEM.)
SHHH.
(THE CAR. WHY DID THEY SET IT ON FIRE?)
(THO BEAUTIFUL.)
20

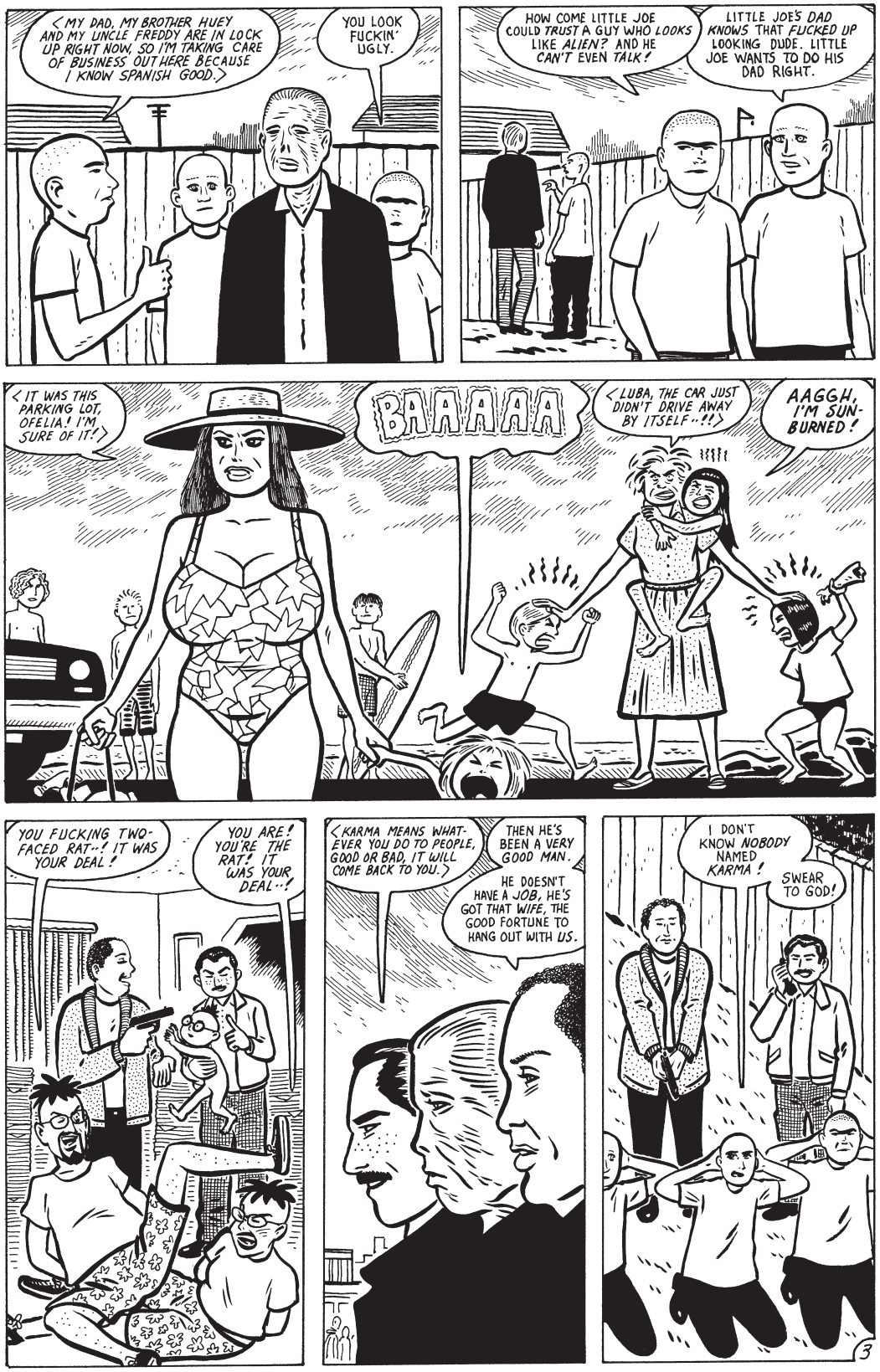

< EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED ON THITH TRIP THTAYTH HERE, PIPO.>
< I KNOW THE PLAN.>
·INRI·
FLY JAMAICA
HONDURAS
((SEVENTEEN LOOTERS WERE EXECUTED TODAY, RAISING THE DEATH TOLL TO THIRTY-TWO.))
((IN SPORTS NEWS, SOCCER STAR SERGIO JIMENEZ WAS SUSPENDED FOR ALLEGEDLY COLLIDING INTO A REFEREE ON PURPOSE, BREAKING THAT OFFICIAL'S NECK.))
21


XIT
<THE BLUE ELEPHANT SEQUENCE WENT OFF WITHOUT ANY PROBLEMS, HONEY.>
<THAT REFERREE ALREADY HAD NECK PROBLEMS, MAMA.
<THE NEWS ALWAYS BLOWS THESE THINGS UP.>
<LIKE YOU SAY, MAMA: THE BEST WAY TO BEAT YOUR CRITICS--'>
<--IS TO CONTINUE DOING WHATEVER IT IS THEY DON'T LIKE YOU DOING.>
<LUBA, NEXT TIME YOU'LL HAVE TO JOIN MAMA, FRITZ AND ME ON ONE OF OUR HOLIDAYS.>
<AS LONG AS MY 'THITHTER' LEAVES THE GUN AT HOME AND I GET TO CHOOSE YOUR BATHING SUITS, BEAUTIFUL.>
STUDIO B
22


HO!
SERGIO'S TAKIN' 'EM TO THE CUP!
<SOUNDS LIKE YOU'RE OVER YOUR COLD.
<OH...YOU'RE GOING OUT? OH, WITH ENRIQUE...>
UH HUH...
<UM...DID YOU GET MY..
< THIS AFTERNOON?
<WHY DIDN'T YOU CALL ME WHEN IT CAME..?
<YES, IT'S YOURS FOR REAL, SILLY.>
((PIPO, I CAN'T ACCEPT IT! IT'S TOO.. OH, PIPO!))
((THAT'S IT, GIRL. GIVE IT TO ME IN FRENCH.))
The End

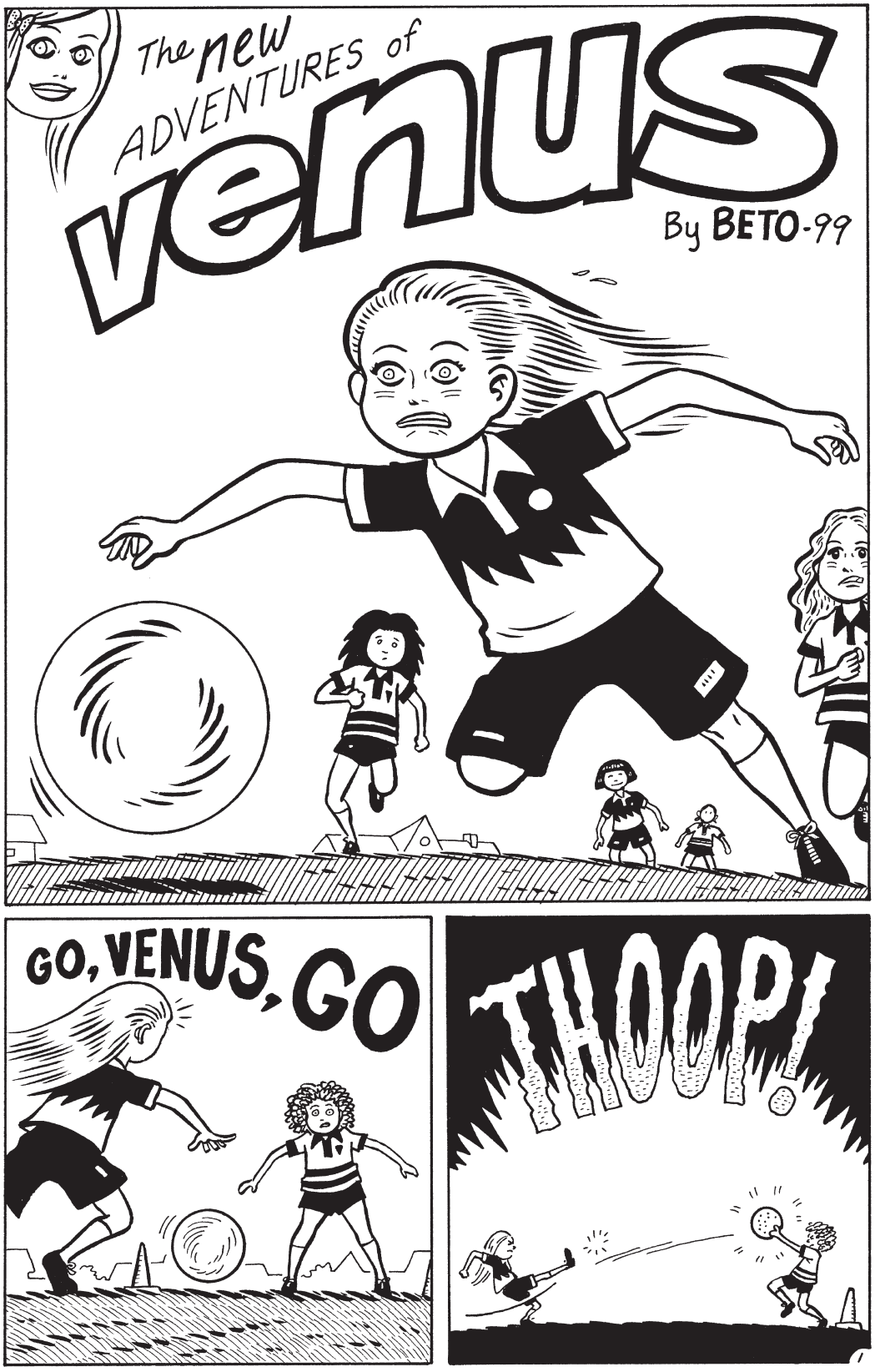

LUBA
by BETO 2001
THAT MUST HAVE HURT LIKE A SON OF A BITCH.
GOING UP IN FLAMES LIKE A--A MATCH.
WISH I COULD THINK OF SOMETHING PHILOSOPHICAL TO SAY ABOUT IT.
NO, ALL I CAN COME UP WITH IS PAIN.
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH YOU? LIGHTING UP IN FRONT OF HIM! HAVE SOME SENSITIVITY!
C'MON, HE'S SMOKING!
WONDER WHAT YOU LOOKED LIKE BEFORE? I MEAN, TO BE ABLE TO SCORE THAT WIFE OF YOURS.
HAS TO BE KARMA. GAIN SOMETHING, LOSE SOMETHING.
THAT'S NOT KARMA!
LET'S ROLL.


< OH NO, MAMA'S COOKING TODAY.!>
BLAAAAAAH!
SHUT UP..!!
< WELL, I LIKE THAT. >
< SOCORRO, NO RUNNING OR YELLING IN THE HOUSE!>
< I HAVE TO WRITE THIS FOR YOUR ADMISSION TO YOUR NEW SCHOOL!>
BAAA
KHARMA...
IT'S WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING GOOD, IT COMES BACK TO YOU.
AND TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-THOUSAND DOLLARS SOUNDS AWFUL FUCKIN' GOOD TO ME.
THAT'S NOT KARMA! KARMA'S ONLY WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING BAD THAT IT COMES BACK TO YOU.
YOU'RE THINKING OF SERENDIPITY.
TELL YOU WHAT. I'LL TAKE THE MONEY AND YOU TAKE THE PHILOSOPHY.
THIS IS MY DEAL, NOT YOURS! AND THE FIRST THING WE'RE GETTING IS NEW COUCHES!
NOW YOU'LL GIVE HIM BACK THAT OLD PICTURE OF HIM AND HIS WIFE.
NOW.
KARMA...
<PAPA'S BUSY HELPING THE POLICE CATCH DRUG DEALERS, JOSELITO.
< NOW COME DOWN...>
NO!
SPLOOPT!
BWAA
2


< MY DAD, MY BROTHER HUEY AND MY UNCLE FREDDY ARE IN LOCK UP RIGHT NOW, SO I'M TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS OUT HERE BECAUSE I KNOW SPANISH GOOD.>
YOU LOOK FUCKIN' UGLY.
HOW COME LITTLE JOE COULD TRUST A GUY WHO LOOKS LIKE ALIEN? AND HE CAN'T EVEN TALK!
LITTLE JOE'S DAD KNOWS THAT FUCKED UP LOOKING DUDE. LITTLE JOE WANTS TO DO HIS DAD RIGHT.
< IT WAS THIS PARKING LOT, OFELIA! I'M SURE OF IT!>
BAAAAAA
< LUBA, THE CAR JUST DIDN'T DRIVE AWAY BY ITSELF..!!>
AAGGH, I'M SUN-BURNED!
YOU FUCKING TWO-FACED RAT..! IT WAS YOUR DEAL!
YOU ARE! YOU'RE THE RAT! IT WAS YOUR DEAL..!
< KARMA MEANS WHAT-EVER YOU DO TO PEOPLE, GOOD OR BAD, IT WILL COME BACK TO YOU.>
THEN HE'S BEEN A VERY GOOD MAN.
HE DOESN'T HAVE A JOB, HE'S GOT THAT WIFE, THE GOOD FORTUNE TO HANG OUT WITH US.
I DON'T KNOW NOBODY NAMED KARMA!
SWEAR TO GOD!
3


< LOOK AT WHAT THEY THINK OF OUR DAUGHTER NOW, KHAMO.
< ONE DAUGHTER WITH AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE IN SHOW-BIZ AND ANOTHER ON HER WAY TO A BRIGHT ONE IN EDUCATION. >
FUCK YOU.
KIDDIE PORN
< THINGS WORK THEMSELVES OUT FOR US EVEN WHEN IT SEEMS SO BLEAK, HUH? < SOMETIMES BEFORE I DROP OFF TO SLEEP AT NIGHT, I GET SO SCARED WE'LL WIND UP IN THE STREET OR IN JAIL SOMEHOW.
< I THINK ABOUT MONEY ALL THE TIME. >
< IN MY FIRST MARRIAGE WE HAD LOTS OF MONEY; SO MUCH I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH IT. I RARELY NOTICED IT AT ALL...
< WHEN IT WAS GONE, I SURE AS HELL NOTICED! >
< NOW THAT WE'RE IN-BETWEEN HAVING MONEY AND NOT HAVING IT, I FEEL ANXIOUS A LOT. >
TV
< THE SILLY THING IS: IF WE HAD A LOT OF MONEY, I'D PROBABLY WORRY ALL THE TIME THAT WE MIGHT LOSE IT! >
SNORT!
< TOO BAD THE COPS ARE WATCHING YOU SO CLOSELY...
< ALL THAT DRUG MONEY PASSING RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU... IF YOU COULD GET PAST THE COPS JUST ONE TRANSACTION AND HIDE IT, WE COULD BE SET FOR LIFE...!
< JUST ONE... >
< THINGS WORK THEMSELVES OUT FOR US EVENTUALLY...
< I JUST HOPE IT'S BEFORE WE'RE TOO OLD TO ENJOY IT. >
BWAHAHAHAHA
< YOU LET THEM KEEP THINKING WE'RE COPS AND WE'LL DO THE REST.
< WE PROMISED TO LEAVE YOU ALONE WHEN THIS IS OVER AND THAT STILL STANDS. >
LEAVING YOUR WIFE ALONE IS ANOTHER MATTER ALTOGETHER.


UNO
DOS
TRES
?
BETO=07

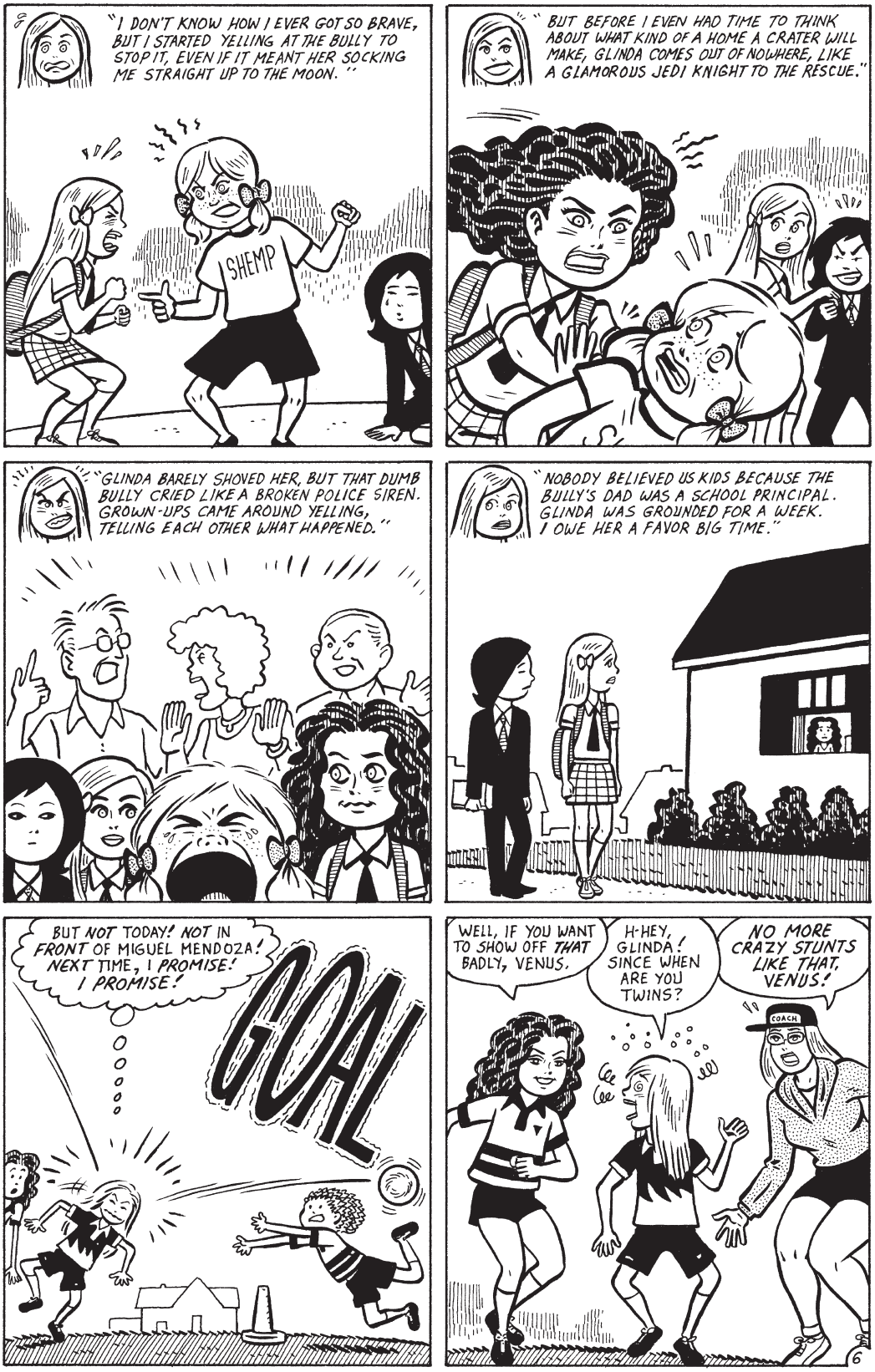

The new ADVENTURES of
venus
By BETO-99
GO, VENUS, GO
THOOP!


FOOMPT!
BAW!
REF
OH, VENUS! OH, HONEY, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
MOM..? IS THAT YOU? WHERE AM I? AM I STANDING UP? ANYBODY OUT THERE WATCHING WITH GREAT CONCERN FOR ME?
OH! IT'S MIGUEL MENDOZA, THE CUTEST BOY IN MY CLASS!
Venus
OH MOTHER, YOU MUSN'T FUSS. PEOPLE WILL THINK I'M A CHILD!
OK HONEY, BUT YOU'D BETTER SIT OUT THE GAME FOR NOW.
COACH
ALL RIGHT, KOLOR KITTENS! LET'S SHOW THOSE SPIKE GIRLS HOW SOCCER IS REALLY PLAYED, HUH?!
OH, VENUS! YOU'RE SO BRAVE!
IT WAS NOTHING, YOSHIO.
I CAN FEEL MIGUEL'S EYES STARING AT THE BACK OF MY HEAD!
YEAH!
I DO HOPE HIS BURNING GAZE DOESN'T SET FIRE TO MY SILKY NATURALLY BLONDE HAIR.
THERE I WAS, YOSHIO, SURROUNDED BY THE OTHER TEAM, WHEN..
2


WAIT A SECOND.. IS MIGUEL STARING AT.. AT GLINDA GONZALEZ..?
HOW DARE HE..?!
WELL, I'LL FIX THAT!!
Venus
PUT ME BACK IN THE GAME, COACH! I'M READY TO KICK SOME SERIOUS BALL!!!
THAT'S MY GIRL! I ONLY WISH YOU COULD BE AS EXCITED ABOUT DOING YOUR HOMEWORK.
COACH
GO, KOLOR KITTENS!
YEOWCH!
WHY IS THE BOTTOM OF MY FOOT ITCHING NOW OF ALL TIMES!?
FOCUS, VENUS, FOCUS!
GO, SPIKE GIRLS!
FWEET!
THIS IS THE ONE TIME I WISH I HAD SUPER DUPER LEG MUSCLES LIKE MOM!
yeah!
REF
GO, GO, GO
OH NO, YOU DON'T, GLINDA!
3

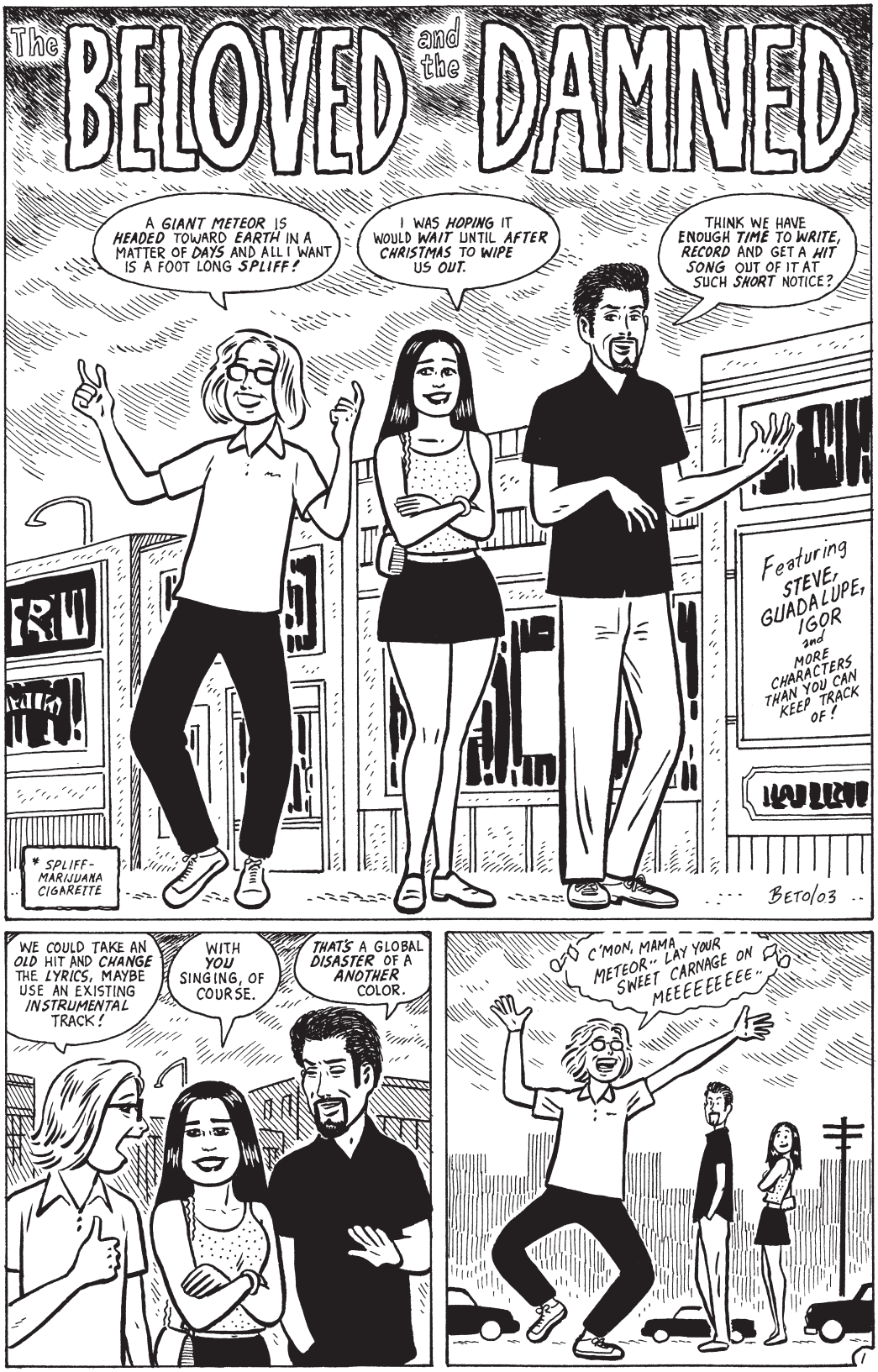

SORRY, GLINDA, BUT GLAMOROUSNESS ALONE ISN'T ENOUGH TO WIN A TOURNAMENT!
GO VENUS
COACH
Venus
GO
AND A QUICK STEAL BY TOMOKO ITO! WELL, HER DAD JUST GOT OUT OF THE HOSPITAL SO SHE DESERVES TO HAVE SOME GLORY.
WHOA
GO, TOMOKO
NOW GLINDA'S GOT IT! AW, LET HER HAVE A LITTLE GLORY OF HER OWN.
GO GO GLINDA
COACH
OK, SHE GOT HER GLORY..
NOW HERE COMES ME!
4


GLINDA GONZALEZ, YOU ARE GETTING SLEEPY...KEEP STARING AT THE BALL... SLEEPY... YOU WILL MISS THE BALL WHEN IT COMES DOWN, GLINDA... SLEEPY...
"ME AND GLINDA HAVE KNOWN EACH OTHER SINCE WE WERE LITTLE. WE PLAYED GAMES TOGETHER, WATCHED CARTOONS TOGETHER, READ COMIC BOOKS TOGETHER... WELL, WE TORE THEM UP AT FIRST, THEN READ THEM WHEN WE LEARNED HOW TO READ, HEH."
"THINGS WERE GREAT UP TILL GLINDA GREW UP TALLER THAN ME AND SAID SHE DIDN'T LIKE COMIC BOOKS ANYMORE! ANYBODY WHO DOESN'T LIKE COMIC BOOKS HAS GOT VERY SERIOUS EMOTIONAL PROBLEMS, I SAY."
"SO I'M WALKING HOME FROM SCHOOL THINKING OF FRIED CHICKEN WHEN I SEE A TERRIBLE BULLY PICKING ON MY VERY BEST FRIEND YOSHIO YOSHIKI! WELL, NOBODY, BUT NOBODY PICKS ON MY YOSHIO! NOBODY!"
SHEMP
4
5


"I DON'T KNOW HOW I EVER GOT SO BRAVE, BUT I STARTED YELLING AT THE BULLY TO STOP IT, EVEN IF IT MEANT HER SOCKING ME STRAIGHT UP TO THE MOON."
SHEMP
"BUT BEFORE I EVEN HAD TIME TO THINK ABOUT WHAT KIND OF A HOME A CRATER WILL MAKE, GLINDA COMES OUT OF NOWHERE, LIKE A GLAMOROUS JEDI KNIGHT TO THE RESCUE."
"GLINDA BARELY SHOVED HER, BUT THAT DUMB BULLY CRIED LIKE A BROKEN POLICE SIREN. GROWN-UPS CAME AROUND YELLING, TELLING EACH OTHER WHAT HAPPENED."
"NOBODY BELIEVED US KIDS BECAUSE THE BULLY'S DAD WAS A SCHOOL PRINCIPAL. GLINDA WAS GROUNDED FOR A WEEK. I OWE HER A FAVOR BIG TIME."
BUT NOT TODAY! NOT IN FRONT OF MIGUEL MENDOZA! NEXT TIME, I PROMISE! I PROMISE!
GOAL
WELL, IF YOU WANT TO SHOW OFF THAT BADLY, VENUS.
H-HEY, GLINDA! SINCE WHEN ARE YOU TWINS?
NO MORE CRAZY STUNTS LIKE THAT, VENUS!
COACH
6


ISN'T VENUS THE MOST EXCITING ATHELETE YOU'VE EVER SEEN?
AW, VENUS ONLY PROVES THAT SOCCER'S A GAME FOR GIRLS!
Venus
TIME OUT FOR A CELEBRITY BREAK!
¡BUENAS DIAS, JOVENES!
COACH
SPANISH
WHO'S THAT WITH YOUR AUNT, VENUS?
IT'S HER BOYFRIEND SOCCER SUPERSTAR SERGIO JIMENEZ!
¡VENUS, MI AMOR!
HI, TIA!
COACH
TIA - AUNT
HUH! SOME SOCCER PLAYER NOBODY'S EVER HEARD OF!
SO WHO'S HEARD OF YOU?
GREAT! SOUNDS LIKE LIKE MIGUEL'S JEALOUS!
C'MON, MARTINEZ! IS IT FAIR YOU'VE GOT SOME TEEN IDOL GIVING YOUR TEAM SUPPORT?
YOU THINK MY TEAM CAN'T BEAT THE CURLS OUT OF YOUR TEAM ON THEIR OWN?
HA!
YOW!
I MAY OWE YOU A FAVOR, GLINDA, BUT MIGUEL IS NOT IT!
7


ALL RIGHT, GIRLS! LET'S GET THIS GAME OVER WITH! I'VE STILL GOT TO GET HOME AND MAKE DINNER FOR MY OWN KIDS, Y'KNOW!
C'MON, KOLOR KITTENS!
REF
OK, SPIKE GIRLS!
COACH
COACH
OK, GLINDA. I'LL PAY YOU BACK YOUR FAVOR AFTER THIS GAME!
REF
Fweet!
REF
THAT'S IT.
GAME OVER!
REF
HEY, VENUS... DO ME A FAVOR...
ANYTHING, GLINDA...
COACH
COACH
COULD YOU SWITCH TO BASEBALL..?
IF VENUS PLAYS BASEBALL LIKE SHE PLAYS SOCCER, I HOPE SHE NEVER PLAYS AGAINST MY TEAM.
VENUS
CH
The End


The BELOVED and the DAMNED
A GIANT METEOR IS HEADED TOWARD EARTH IN A MATTER OF DAYS AND ALL I WANT IS A FOOT LONG SPLIFF!
I WAS HOPING IT WOULD WAIT UNTIL AFTER CHRISTMAS TO WIPE US OUT.
THINK WE HAVE ENOUGH TIME TO WRITE, RECORD AND GET A HIT SONG OUT OF IT AT SUCH SHORT NOTICE?
Featuring STEVE, GUADALUPE, IGOR and MORE CHARACTERS THAN YOU CAN KEEP TRACK OF!
* SPLIFF- MARIJUANA CIGARETTE
BETO/03
WE COULD TAKE AN OLD HIT AND CHANGE THE LYRICS, MAYBE USE AN EXISTING INSTRUMENTAL TRACK!
WITH YOU SINGING, OF COURSE.
THAT'S A GLOBAL DISASTER OF A ANOTHER COLOR.
C'MON, MAMA METEOR.. LAY YOUR SWEET CARNAGE ON MEEEEEEEE..

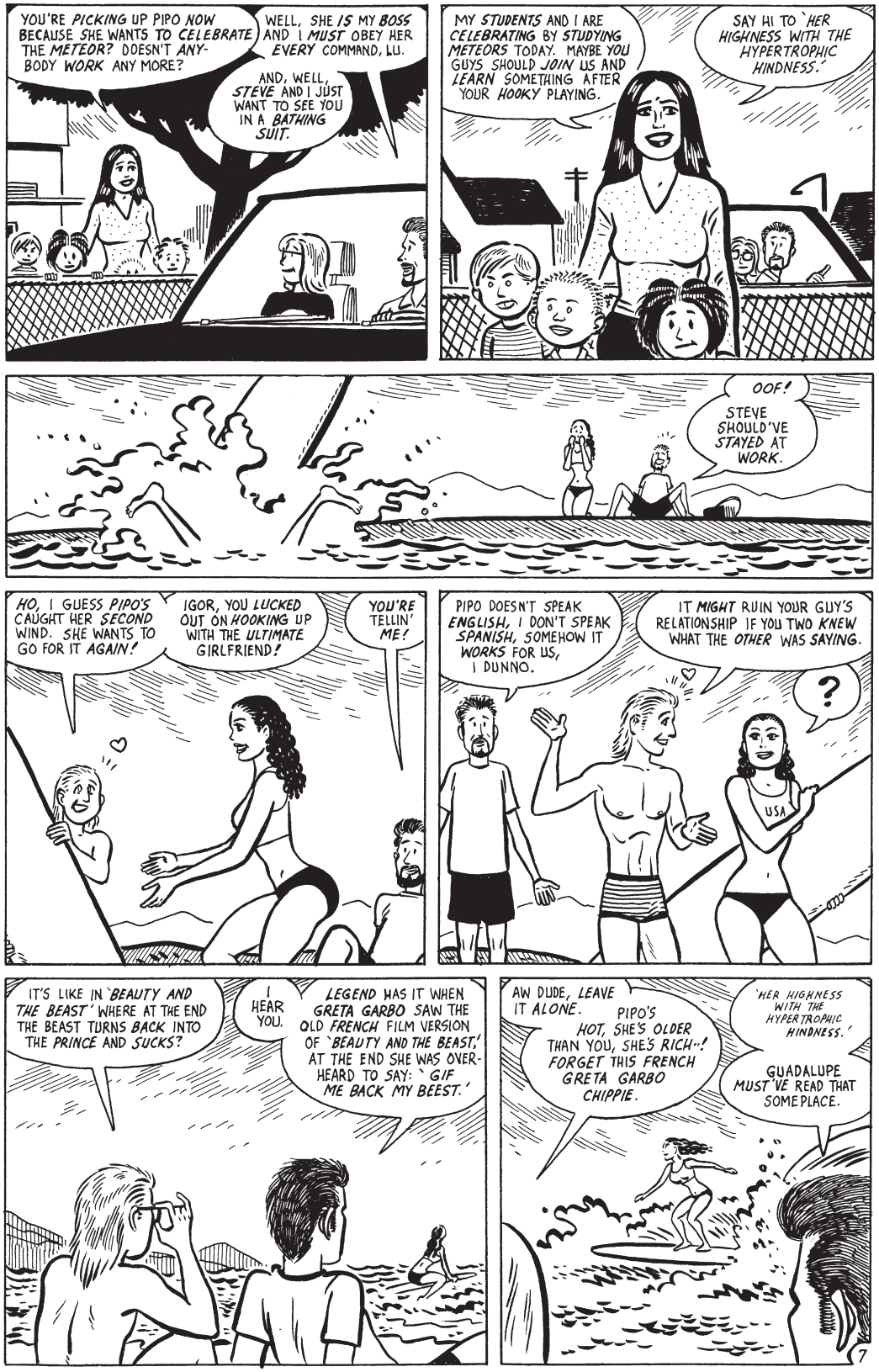

STEVE!
THE TIME FOR RETURNING BIG FAVORS IS AT HAND!
AW, SCOTT! ANOTHER FAVOR? HOW MANY DO I OWE YOU GUYS?
I ONLY ROLLED THE EQUIPMENT VAN ONCE!
STEVE, FRITZ WON'T TALK TO ME, WON'T RETURN MY CALLS--IS THAT ANY WAY FOR HER TO TREAT HER LOVING EX-HUSBAND?
YOU DO SCOTT AND SEAN FAVOR, OR BUNDOLO!
RAK!
AW, I DON'T KNOW FRITZ THAT WELL, GUYS.
I GOTTA GET BACK TO WORK ANY WAY...
BUNDOLO-KILL
THAT WAS MY FAVORITE GUITAR CRUSHED BY THE BASS AMP, TARMANGANI.
LAST FAVOR, STEVE, I PROMISE.
SHE'S OVER AT THE GYM WITH HER FAT, UGLY SISTER.
LAST TIME. PROMISE.
LAST FAVOR UNTIL NEXT ONE, EH, BWANA?
GOTTA GET WHAT WE CAN BEFORE THE METEOR DROPS, SEAN.
AND FOR ME, AT LEAST ONE MORE IN-OUT, IN-OUT WITH MY EX.
PIPO
GYM
TARMANGANI-WHITE MAN
SCOTT JUST WANTS TO TALK TO YOU, FRITZ, I DUNNO...
I AM THORRY HITH BAND ITH HAVING MONEY TROUBLE, THTEVE, BUT I'M NOT ALLOWED TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT ANYTHING.
AND I'M THE ONE NOT ALLOWING HER, UNDERSTAND?
HEY, HO; HOW ABOUT THAT METEOR, HUH?
OH, PETRA. THTEVE'TH ONLY THE METHENGER.
2


YOU TELL THAT FAT FUCKING WORTHLESS SLUG TO STAY THE FUCK AWAY FROM MY LITTLE SISTER.
WHATEVER YOU SAY, YOUR WORSHIPNESS.
I DON'T WANT YOU TALKING TO YOUR EX FOR ANY REASON, FRITZ. HE'S HURT YOU ENOUGH.
MAY A GIANT METEOR ANNIHILATE THE EARTH IF I DO, PETRA.
STRANSKY!
JR. BROOKS AND TYRONE BONE ON THE LOOSE!
WHAT ARE YOU BROTHERS DOING HERE IN HONKY MO'FO' LAND?
WE'VE COME FOR YOUR DAUGHTERS AND YOUR MOTHERS.
ME AND BONE ARE LOOKING UP THE LOCAL ART GALLERIES AND SHIT.
YEAH, HOW'S THE ANIMATION WORK DOING?
IT'S DOING, BUT ME AND JR. HAVE OUR OWN SHIT TO EXPRESS.
ME AND BONE HAVE COLLABORATED ON SOME FINE ART PIECES. WE PAINT WHAT WE SEE.
THIS IS THE SHIT!
UH, WELL, SHIT, LOOKS GOOD TO ME, DUDES.
YOU KNOW THE BROTHER WHO RUNS THAT PUNK ROCK ART CLUB POLKA PARADE!
HE HAS ART SHOWS SOME TIMES. TALK TO HIM FOR US, STRANSKY!
MOTHERFUCKER WON'T TALK TO US, WON'T RETURN OUR CALLS...
HUH. IT'S NOT LIKE HE DOESN'T SHOW POLITICAL ART THERE.
OK, I'M ON IT, DUDES.
GOOD MAN!
3


C'MON, FRITZ! SCOTT'S HEARTBROKEN OVER THIS!
THTEVE, PLEATHE. IF I'M LATE FOR MY LUNCH DATE I'LL BE LATE GETTING BACK TO WORK.
LUNCH!
LUNCH SOUNDS GREAT, FRITZ! WE CAN CATCH UP ON THINGS!
THCOTT, I CAN'T.. WELL...WELL, IF IT'TH THAT IMPORTANT...
OK...
PAID BACK IN FULL, GENTLEMEN!
OK...THE ART'S GOOD, BUT WHO'S GOING TO COME SEE IT?
THEIR GANG HOMIES!
AW, JR. AND TYRONE AREN'T GANG BANGERS!
TYRONE, MAKE NOTE: DO INVITE AS MANY ANGRY BROTHERS TO SHOW AS SPACE PERMITS.
AW, C'MON JAXON! YOU'VE BOOKED SKINHEAD BANDS HERE BEFORE AND THAT TOY PORN SHOW WHERE THE COPS CAME..!
YEAH, BUT THIS IS DIFF.. IS THIS PIECE ABOUT THE METEOR COMING?
SHIT, YEAH, FORGOT THAT WAS IN THERE. HAD EXTRA PAINT...
OK. YOU CAN HAVE YOUR URBAN ANGST ART SHOW, ONLY IF THE METEOR PIECE IS IN IT, TOO.
FUCKIN' NICE...
WHAT WOULD THAT FUCKED-UP AYN RAND DO IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS, JR?
OK, BUT THE TITLE OF THE METEOR PAINTING STAYS THE SAME:
`THE METEOR LOVES US ALL EQUALLY.'
4


WELL... WITH THE METEOR AND ALL...
I LEAVE YOU THREE TO THE FINAL DETAILS, GENTLEMEN!
-- MIGHTY HERCULES LEAPS OFF THE TOWERING CLIFF AND TRIUMPHANTLY CRIES OUT --
OLYMPIAAA
WHERE DID YOU BROS DIG UP STEVE?
I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU THE SAME THING.
HEY!
OK, HOLD ON; I'LL GET MY STUFF.
THEE, IT'TH THIMPLE.
IGOR... I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT BE WITH THCOTT...
SCOTT? AW, FRITZ! YOU'RE NOT LETTING HIM PUSH YOU AROUND STILL, ARE YOU?
WELL, I-- I DO FEEL A THERTAIN OBLIGATHION... WE WERE MARRIED... WE WERE IN LOVE...
YOU WERE IN LOVE WITH HIM, AND HE WITH HIMSELF!
FRITZ, DON'T DO THIS TO YOURSELF ANY MORE.
5


O-OK, IGOR, I WON'T-- OK, YOU'RE RIGHT.
BUT HATH HE THAID ANYTHING TO YOU ABOUT ME..?
FRITZ.
MY AUNT'S GOT EX-TROUBLE AGAIN, HUH?
YYYEAH...YOU'D THINK A THERAPIST WOULD KNOW BETTER.
YOU'VE HEARD THAT A GIRL ONLY GIVES HER HEART AWAY ONCE..?
SCOTT BURNED HIS OUT YEARS AGO AND NOW USES HERS WHEN HE NEEDS ONE.
OOH, DID I REALLY JUST SAY THAT?
WELL... I GUESS IF YOU'RE GOING TO GET YELLED AT, IT MAY AS WELL BE BY FRITZ'S SISTER IN A MINI SKIRT.
THUMP!
THUMP!
6


YOU'RE PICKING UP PIPO NOW BECAUSE SHE WANTS TO CELEBRATE THE METEOR? DOESN'T ANYBODY WORK ANY MORE?
WELL, SHE IS MY BOSS AND I MUST OBEY HER EVERY COMMAND, LU.
AND, WELL, STEVE AND I JUST WANT TO SEE YOU IN A BATHING SUIT.
MY STUDENTS AND I ARE CELEBRATING BY STUDYING METEORS TODAY. MAYBE YOU GUYS SHOULD JOIN US AND LEARN SOMETHING AFTER YOUR HOOKY PLAYING.
SAY HI TO `HER HIGHNESS WITH THE HYPERTROPHIC HINDNESS.'
OOF! STEVE SHOULD'VE STAYED AT WORK.
HO, I GUESS PIPO'S CAUGHT HER SECOND WIND. SHE WANTS TO GO FOR IT AGAIN!
IGOR, YOU LUCKED OUT ON HOOKING UP WITH THE ULTIMATE GIRLFRIEND!
YOU'RE TELLIN' ME!
PIPO DOESN'T SPEAK ENGLISH, I DON'T SPEAK SPANISH, SOMEHOW IT WORKS FOR US, I DUNNO.
IT MIGHT RUIN YOUR GUY'S RELATIONSHIP IF YOU TWO KNEW WHAT THE OTHER WAS SAYING.
?
USA
IT'S LIKE IN `BEAUTY AND THE BEAST' WHERE AT THE END THE BEAST TURNS BACK INTO THE PRINCE AND SUCKS?
I HEAR YOU.
LEGEND HAS IT WHEN GRETA GARBO SAW THE OLD FRENCH FILM VERSION OF `BEAUTY AND THE BEAST,' AT THE END SHE WAS OVERHEARD TO SAY: ` GIF ME BACK MY BEEST.'
AW DUDE, LEAVE IT ALONE. PIPO'S HOT, SHE'S OLDER THAN YOU, SHE'S RICH..! FORGET THIS FRENCH GRETA GARBO CHIPPIE.
`HER HIGHNESS WITH THE HYPERTROPHIC HINDNESS.'
GUADALUPE MUST'VE READ THAT SOMEPLACE.
7


YOU KNOW, LIKE IN THE FANTASTIC FOUR COMICS WHERE THE BLIND GIRL LOVES THE MONSTER-LIKE 'THING,' BUT WHEN HE REVERTS BACK TO HUMAN SHE DOESN'T LIKE HIM THAT WAY?
EARTH CALLING STEVE!
ME AND SEAN'RE CRASHING THAT PARTY COME HELL OR HIGH WATER!
20% OFF BUD 12 PAK
THE BLIND GIRL THINKS HE'LL DUMP HER WHEN HE'S HUMAN. SHE THINKS SHE DOESN'T DESERVE HIM.
'GIVE ME BACK MY BEAST.'
I GUESS THIS GRETA GARBO CHICK SPENT SOME QUALITY TIME WITH IGOR'S MONSTROUS CHOAD.
SPEAKING OF THE MULATTO DEBBIL.
LET'S KICK IT, SEÑOR HONKY HODAD!
LOOKS LIKE FRITZ'S FIRST HUSBAND'S WANNA BE GANGSTER CONNECTIONS, DUDE.
TCH.
THEY DON'T SCARE ME!
NICE PARTY, FRITZ. LOOKS LIKE EVERY TRENDY SHALLOW PIN-HEAD IN TOWN MADE IT TONIGHT.
THCOTT, WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
PLEATHE EXTHCUTHE ME, BOB.
THCOTT...
JUST CHECKING TO SEE IF YOU INVITED MY OLD ROOM MATES FOR ANOTHER ALL-NIGHTER OF YOU FUCKING THE SHIT OUT OF THEM BEHIND MY BACK, HONEYBUNCH.
THCOTT, DON'T..
OK OK, WE CAN TALK IN PRIVATE.


CLAP CLAP CLAP
CLAP CLAP CLAP
GOD, I WAS SO NERVOUS.. I NEVER DANCED WITHOUT MY AUNT BEFORE..!
YOU WERE BEAUTIFUL, GUADALUPE.
NOTHIN' LIKE FLYIN' SOLO.
TONIG
BELLY
DANCI
OH, YOU'RE MY SWEET GOOD LUCK CHARM, ANGEL. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD DO WITHOUT YOU IN MY LIFE. THE METEOR DOESN'T HAVE A CHANCE WITH YOU AROUND.
NOW I HAVE TO CALL MY HUSBAND AND WARN HIM I'M COMING HOME AND FEELING EXTRA FRISKY!
OH, UH, YEAH, OK... MAKES SENSE I GUESS...
SURE.
RULE NUMBER ONE, STEVE: NEVER FALL IN LOVE WITH A MARRIED WOMAN.
RULE NUMBER TWO, IGOR: IGNORE RULE NUMBER ONE.
THCOTT, WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME... THERE'TH NOTHING I CAN DO...
LOOK AT YOU! DRUNK AS SHIT, ALL WHORED OUT, PRACTICALLY ADVERTISING YOU WERE SEXUALLY ABUSED AS A KID..!
OK. YOU CAME HERE TO MAKE FUN OF ME. OK. ARE YOU DONE NOW?
AHH, FRITZ. YOU DON'T KNOW HOW IT IS OUT THERE IN THE REAL WORLD...
WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE LEFT BEHIND...
ALL ALONE...
9

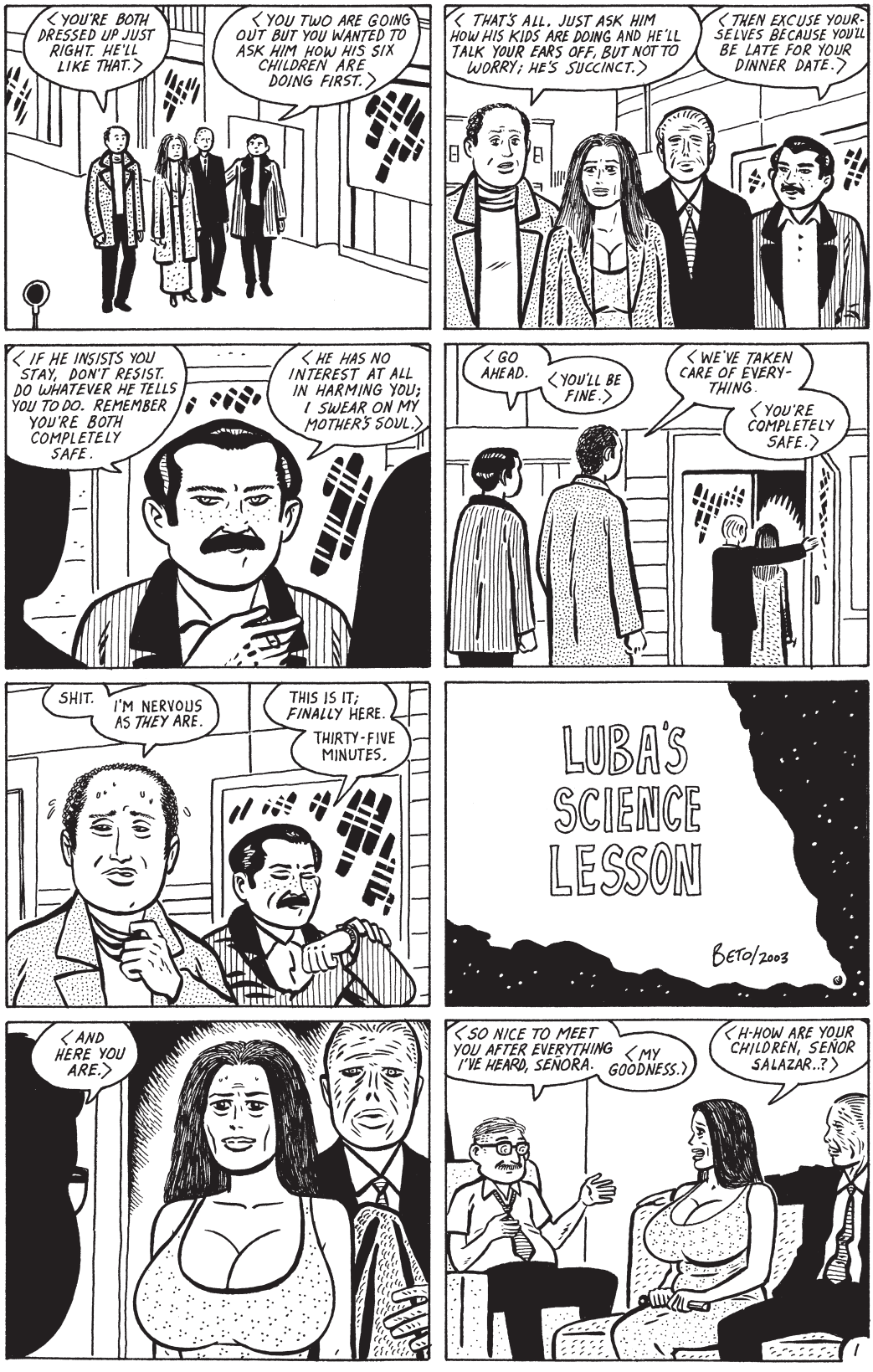


KREE-GAH = LOOK OUT


YOU.. PAID.. HIM.. FRITZ?!
PETRA, HE NEEDTH IT. I'M HELPING HIM GET BACK ON HITH FEET. TIMETH ARE HARD FOR TRUE TALENTH.
YOU BEING A BORN-AGAIN CHRITHTIAN THOULD UNDERTHTAND BETTER THAN ANY-ONE ABOUT FORGIVING.
WHAT-EVER.
THOP!
POW
BLAM!
HAUGH!
GIVE BACK FRITZ'S MONEY.
KRUMK!
AAIIEEEA
GIVE BACK FRITZ'S MONEY.
HUAAGH...
FAUH...
AUH..


WHY?
BECAUSE I'M SUCH A NICE GUY, FRITZ.
TELL YOUR FIRST HUSBAND'S 'HOMEBOYS' THAT FACT, HUH?
THEN KEEP THE MONEY FOR YOUR MEDICAL BILLTH, THCOTT!
THTEVE! THCOTT GAVE ME BACK THE MONEY! DID HITH BAD THKATEBOARD THPILL DAMAGE HITH BRAIN, TOO?
I GUESS, FRITZ, EXCEPT I'VE NEVER HEARD OF HIM EVER EVEN BEING ON A SKATEBOARD BEFORE.
HE'TH LIVING ON THE EDGE! IT'TH THAT FUCKING METEOR! HE NEEDTH ME! OH, WHY DID I DIVORTHE HIM?
WELL, IF YOU'RE EVER LOOKING TO LIVE ON THE EDGE YOURSELF, ESPECIALLY SEXUALLY, BEER HELPS!
POOR FRITZ.
MAYBE SHE REALLY IS KIND OF RETARDED LIKE THEY SAY.
WANTED: MORE RETARDS LIKE FRITZ MARTINEZ.
THE ONLY COMPLIMENTARY DRINKS FOR THE GUESTS OF HONOR IS BEER, STRANSKY?
AW DUDES, THE NECTAR OF THE GODS TO BE SURE!
HEY! YOU MADE IT!
MY BELLY-DANCING CLASS ENDED EARLY.
THE ARTWORK IS REALLY PROVOCATIVE, STEVE. AND YOU PICKED IT OUT YOURSELF?
OH, WELL, YEAH! I MEAN, I WAS THERE WHEN--
JUNIOR, THAT'S MY DAUGHTER'S TEACHER!
12


THAT'S MY AND BONE'S ART UP ON THE WALL, HONEY. LET US EXPLAIN THE COSMIC SIGNIFIGANCE.
NICE TURN-OUT, STEVE. THE ART'S GOOD.
GUADALUPE CALLED ME THE HUMAN-BEING-GOOD-LUCK-CHARM, IGOR! I'M JUST SPREADING IT HERE AND THERE WHERE I CAN!
SAVE SOME FOR DEFLECTING THE METEOR.
OH, SURE, FRITZ; PEOPLE CAN CHANGE, AND IT DOESN'T TAKE THE THREAT OF A GIANT METEOR TO DO IT.
SIMPLY GOOD OLD HUMAN SELF-AWARENESS.
YOU REALLY THINK THCOTT'TH CHANGED?
OH, PETRA, IF THAT'TH TRUE I OWE IT ALL TO THTEVE!
AH, STRANSKY!
YOU'VE DONE IT AGAIN!
ZIP


(YOU'RE BOTH DRESSED UP JUST RIGHT. HE'LL LIKE THAT.)
(YOU TWO ARE GOING OUT BUT YOU WANTED TO ASK HIM HOW HIS SIX CHILDREN ARE DOING FIRST.)
(THAT'S ALL. JUST ASK HIM HOW HIS KIDS ARE DOING AND HE'LL TALK YOUR EARS OFF, BUT NOT TO WORRY; HE'S SUCCINCT.)
(THEN EXCUSE YOURSELVES BECAUSE YOU'LL BE LATE FOR YOUR DINNER DATE.)
(IF HE INSISTS YOU STAY, DON'T RESIST. DO WHATEVER HE TELLS YOU TO DO. REMEMBER YOU'RE BOTH COMPLETELY SAFE.
(HE HAS NO INTEREST AT ALL IN HARMING YOU; I SWEAR ON MY MOTHER'S SOUL.)
(GO AHEAD.
(YOU'LL BE FINE.)
(WE'VE TAKEN CARE OF EVERYTHING.
(YOU'RE COMPLETELY SAFE.)
SHIT.
I'M NERVOUS AS THEY ARE.
THIS IS IT; FINALLY HERE.
THIRTY-FIVE MINUTES.
LUBA'S SCIENCE LESSON
BETO/2003
(AND HERE YOU ARE.)
(SO NICE TO MEET YOU AFTER EVERYTHING I'VE HEARD, SEÑORA.
(MY GOODNESS.)
(H-HOW ARE YOUR CHILDREN, SEÑOR SALAZAR..?)


< WE'LL HAVE TO LEAVE FOR A LITTLE WHILE. TWENTY-FIVE MINUTES.>
< PLEASE MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME.
< I INSIST.>
< OH. MY CHILDREN ARE FINE, SEÑORA DE LOS SANTOS.
< THANK YOU FOR ASKING.
< I PROMISE YOU'LL BE IN TIME FOR YOUR EVENING PLANS.>
CLICK..
< THE COPS'LL BE HERE THE SAME TIME THE DEALERS COME BACK!>
< WHAT DO WE DO, KHAMO? I DON'T WANT TO BE HERE!>
< SIT..?
< WELL...YOU KNOW THESE PEOPLE...
< IF YOU THINK IT'S ALL RIGHT.>
< I DON'T REMEMBER DRUG DEALING BEING SUCH A NERVE-WRACKING BUSINESS.
< YOUR COP FRIENDS SEEM AS JITTERY AS I AM.>
2


〈WELL, WE'VE DONE THE COPS THEIR FAVOR AND NOW WE'LL GO HOME FREE OF THIS SHIT, HONEY; RIGHT?
〈THAT'S WHAT THEY PROMISED, RIGHT?
〈OH, YOUR HANDS ARE SO SWEATY.〉
TSK.
〈YOU'RE SO NERVOUS.〉
TSK, OH...
UH, OK...
〈BUT ONLY FOR A MINUTE. THEY'LL BE BACK IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.〉
〈I KNOW A LOT OF PEOPLE THINK I LOOK AWFUL.
〈BUT WHEN I SEE MY REFLECTION IN YOUR EYES...〉
〈THOSE GOD DAMNED COPS SHOULD PAY YOU FOR THIS, KHAMO.
〈GOD, I'M NERVOUS!
〈STUPID METEOR.〉
〈BUT IF THIS MEETING IS GOING TO CLEAR YOUR RECORD IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, ALL RIGHT.
〈WHAT?〉
AH..!
〈DON'T STOP TALKING.
〈THEY KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING.〉
〈KEEP DOING WHAT YOU WERE DOING.
〈KEEP TALKING.
〈DO AS I SAY!〉
〈OH, GOD.〉
3


< WE ARE GETTING THE FUCK OUT OF HERE!
< UM, I DO HOPE HIS KIDS ARE WELL!>
<NICE.
< LISTEN, NOW.
< WE MUST MOVE SWIFTLY BUT QUIETLY.>
< YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE OFF ALL OF YOUR CLOTHES.
< DON'T ASK WHY. JUST DO IT.>
K-KHAMO!
< NOT HER.
<YOU.>
< HE'S NOT GOING TO BE HURT.
< WAIT FOR HIM OUTSIDE THE BUILDING. HE'LL BE OUT IN A LITTLE WHILE.
<UN-HARMED.>
< YEAH...
< I KNEW YOU WOULDN'T BE BURNED EVERYWHERE...>
< AH... SHE OF THE EPIC HEAVE AND BILLOW APPEARS UNSCATHED.>
SEÑORA!
4


IT'S STRANGE, IT'S CONFUSING, I KNOW.
AND YOUR HUSBAND?
HE'S...IN THERE WITH...SOMEBODY.
OH... RIGHT.
OK, DON'T WORRY ABOUT HIM. HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
I GUARANTEE YOU HE'S NOT BEING HURT.
WHAT MAKES A GIANT METEOR HEADED FOR EARTH MORE FRIGHTENING THAN, SAY, THREAT OF A NUCLEAR WAR IS THAT A WAR CAN BE NEGOTIATED UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE, WHEREAS A METEOR -- WELL...
THERE HE IS!
KHAMO!
ALL RIGHT, YOU TWO TAKE CARE AND DON'T WORRY ABOUT A THING.
KEEP YOUR NOSES CLEAN AND YOU WON'T SEE ANY OF US AGAIN.
AND FROM THAT DAY FORWARD LUBA AND HER HUSBAND NEVER SAW THOSE MEN AGAIN.
The End



MULLET- SHORT HAIR FRONT AND SIDES, LONG IN BACK


YOU HARDLY TALK TO ME IN FRONT OF PETRA, YOU KEEP AVERTING YOUR EYES...
LOOK, MY BOOBTH ARE EXTHTRA LARGE BECAUTHE I'M ON THE PILL, OK?
BUT I'M THTILL QUITE BEAUTIFUL, THO YOU'VE NO EXTHCUTHE.
JEEZ, FRITZ..!
YOU TWO WILL HAVE TO WHISPER QUIETER IF YOU'RE GOING TO PLAN MY SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY.
SHALL WE, HECTOR?
FUCKIN' FRITZ!
SHE HOOKED ME UP WITH PETRA IN THE FIRST PLACE AND NOW SHE'S ACTING JEALOUS!
WHY DO I BRING OUT THE PSYCHO IN A WOMAN?
MY BABY SISTER'S A LITTLE WEIRD AS YOU'VE ALREADY NOTICED, I'M SURE.
WELL, FRITZ IS A LOT WEIRD WITH YOU BECAUSE YOU TEND TO BRING OUT THE PSYCHO IN A WOMAN.
EXCEPT FOR ME, OF COURSE.
TRUE, I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY NUTTY BEHAVIOR FROM PETRA SINCE WE'VE BEEN DATING. COULD IT BE BECAUSE OF SOMETHING AS BANAL AS SHE BEING A BORN-AGAIN CHRISTIAN?
PETRA MAY BE THE MOST STABLE WOMAN I'VE EVER PUT TONGUE TO PUSSY.
CAN IT BE, LORD? CAN I TRULY BE IN PSYCHO-FREE PUSSY EATIN' HEAVEN?
I'LL BE RIGHT HERE, LOVE.
SO HERE I AM IN COURT BECAUSE MY EX-GIRLFRIEND'S TRYING TO SLAP A RESTRAINING ORDER ON ME.
I FUCKING NEVER TOUCHED HER!
SHE'S THE MANIAC WHO THREW THE TOASTER AT ME!
I ONLY DEFLECTED IT WHEN IT ENDED UP LANDING ON HER TOE!

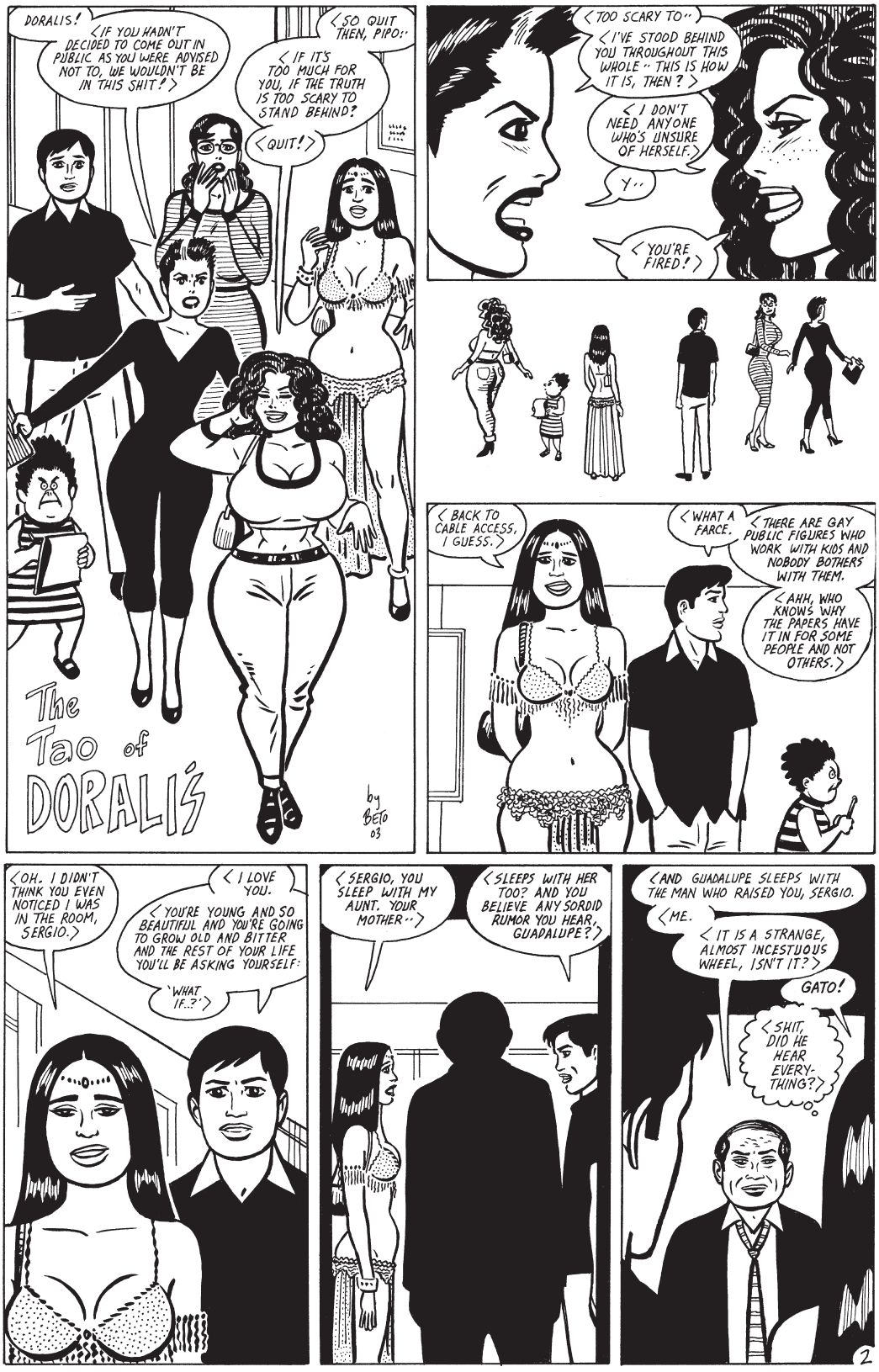

THERE SHE IS.
SHE'S DRESSED UP LIKE A SOCCER MOM FLIGHT ATTENDANT, NOT THE PSYCHO HORROR TWIT STRIPPER SHE REALLY IS.
YEAH, WELL, LIKE I'M SOME FUCKIN' PRIZE.
STILL... JUST WHEN YOU THINK YOU KNOW A PERSON...
CAN'T READ THE JUDGE TOO WELL. COULD BE A MAN-HATER. SHE'S PROBABLY PRETTY JADED WITH CASES LIKE THIS ONE.
AND THAT'S THE THING! THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF REAL CASES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN BEING PUSHED BACK BECAUSE OF THIS HORSESHIT TODAY!
STANDING TO SPEW YOUR LIES HUH, BIG T.V. COURTROOM DRAMA ACTRESS JERK?
GO WOW 'EM. YOUR DAY JOB IS TO PRETEND TO LIKE GUYS WHEN YOU TAKE THEIR MONEY, RIGHT?
GO AHEAD. PRETEND TO TELL THE TRUTH TO GET YOUR WAY, YOU FUCKIN' BRAT!
ALTHOUGH...
WORLD'S GREATEST TITS, AFFECTIONATE LOVER, NICE TO MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS...
DID I HAVE A BLACK-OUT THAT DAY..? WHAT IF I DID THROW THE TOASTER AT HER TOE AND I'VE JUST BLOTTED IT OUT..?
SHIT, MY TURN. I'M SO NERVOUS AND CONFUSED.
RELAX, RELAX...
THINK OF THE BLAND FAKE WOOD DECOR IN THIS COURTROOM...
THINK OF... THINK OF...
GOTTA ADMIT, FRITZ WAS ONE SERIOUS PARTY IN THE SACK! I DIDN'T CARE IF IT WAS ALL AFFECTED, WITH THE QUIVERING AND BARELY AUDIBLE WHIMPERING; SHE FUCKIN' ROCKED!
USED TO DAYDREAM ABOUT SEX IN CHURCH WHEN I WAS A KID TOO AND IT NEVER FAILED: AS SOON AS I'D HAVE TO GET UP TO RECEIVE COMMUNION, I'D GET A BONER OUT OF NOWHERE!
WELL, OK, OK, IDIOT! ENOUGH WITH THE REMINISCING!
CONCENTRATE ON TODAY'S PROCEEDINGS, HUH?
PETRA PRETTY MUCH JUST LAYS THERE, UNTIL I GIVE HER ORAL: THEN COMES THE SLOW, INTENSE MUSCULAR WRITHING, THE LOW, HEAVY PURRING...
3


OK, I DID THE BEST I COULD FOR MYSELF.
ALWAYS WONDERED WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TAKING IT UP THE ASS FROM A LARGE, ANGRY PRISON INMATE.
AND THE VERDICT? I HAVE TO KEEP AT LEAST A HUNDRED FEET AWAY FROM PSYCHO AT ALL TIMES.
WHY, I'LL CRY MYSELF TO SLEEP EVERY NIGHT, JUDGE.
AW, I CONSIDER IT A VICTORY, PET. AT LEAST SHE WON'T BE HARASSING ME ON THE PHONE ANY MORE.
IT'S ON YOUR RECORD THAT YOU HAVE ABUSED A WOMAN, HECTOR.
THE BITCH!
I KNOW YOU TO BE A LOVER ONLY AND I WANT THAT ON RECORD!
....
THOP
FUCKING B..
THWAP..
C'MON, HECTOR!
WE WON'T TELL PETRA.
THUMP..
MM.
Fart Sack
4

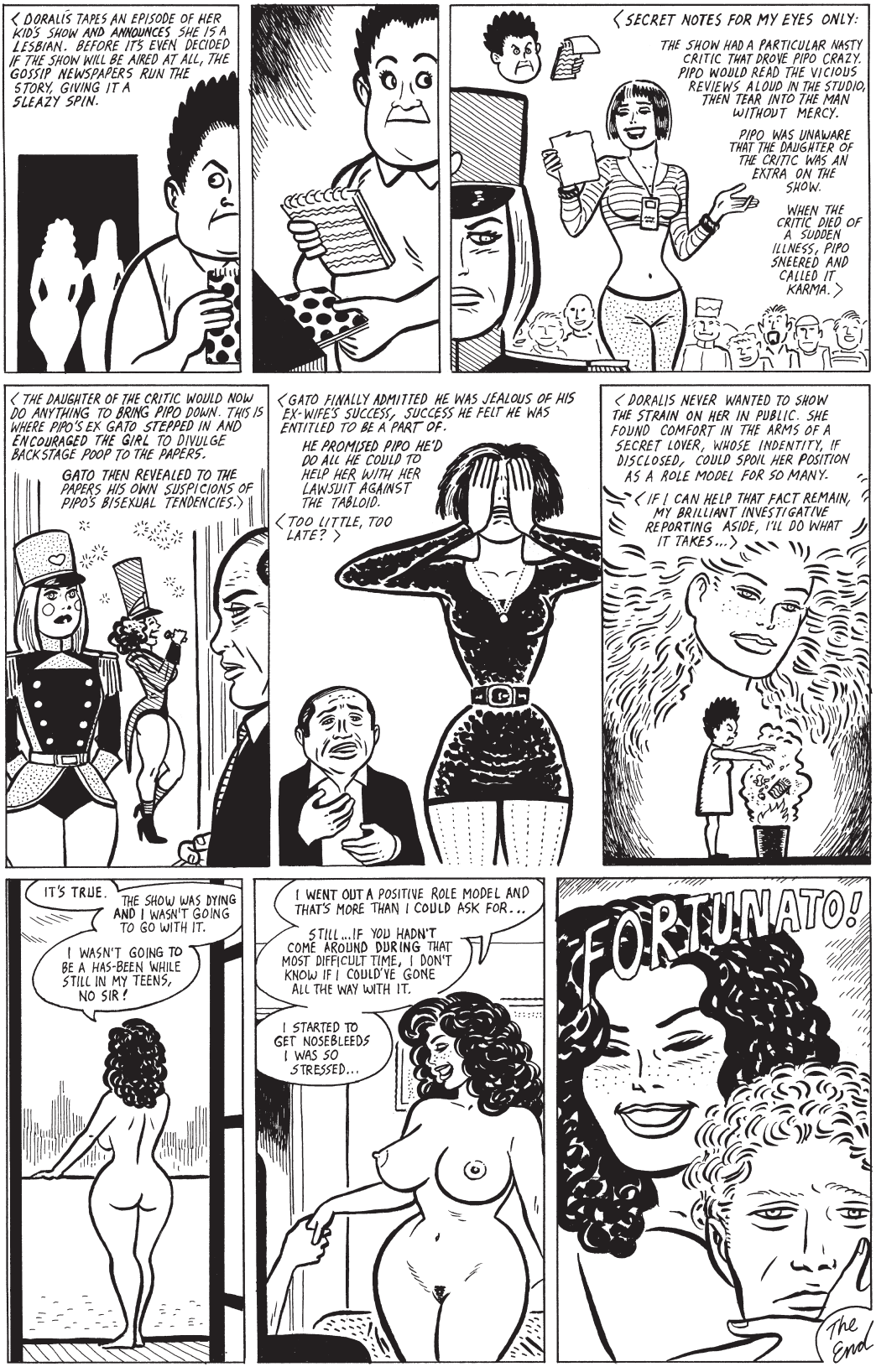

YEAH, YEAH, YOU FORGAVE HER, OK, BUT NOW TELL US WHAT YOU'RE REALLY THINKING, MR. PASSIVE-AGGRESSIVE.
BLACKIE, IT'S OVER, IT'S ALL BEHIND ME NOW, FINISHED.
BESIDES, WE HAVE TO HAVE GOOD, CLEAN THOUGHTS UP TILL THE METEOR FRIES US ALL TO OBLIVION.
WOOP!
GOTTA RUN, GUYS. DEMON WITH A CELLPHONE'S BACK.
EXIT. STAGE LEFT.
POLICE?
OOF!
I LIKE THAT YOU WANT TO CARESS MY THIGH ALL NIGHT, HECTOR, BUT ARE YOU GOING TO SPEAK AT ALL?
THE ROCK-SOLID-YET-OH-SO-CREAMY ASPECT OF IT HELPS ME TO DEAL.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO THINK OF HER WHILE YOU'RE FONDLING ME, I'D SAY WE'VE GOT A PROBLEM!
THERE'S STILL HOPE. IT'S POSSIBLE TO SHOOT A PERSON EFFECTIVELY FROM A HUNDRED FEET AWAY.
OH, BUT I FORGET, YOU'VE FORGIVEN HER.
SHE'S BEEN FOLLOWING YOU AROUND SO SHE CAN CALL THE COPS, ADDING TO YOUR RECORD EACH TIME, AND YOU FORGIVE HER.
OR WAS IT A PARANOID ILLUSION YOU SAW AT THE FARTSACK' TONIGHT?
SHUT THE FUCK UP AND BEND OVER.
WELL, I WAS ABOUT TO CONFESS I'VE HOUNDED A FEW GIRLS WHO'D DUMPED ME IN MY TIME, BUT A PROFOUND LOVE-TONGUE-LASHING DEEP BETWEEN YOUR GALVANIC GLUTES SIMPLY SEEMED MORE URGENT.
MM.
I'M CRAVING A MOCHA LATTE. WANT ANYTHING FROM KOFFEE KLOWN?
NAW, BABE. JUST WAKE ME WHEN THE METEOR ENTERS THE ATMOSPHERE, HUH?
5


MOM, I KNOW WHAT I'M DOING!
HE KNOWS WHY I'M DOING IT, IT'S OUR SECRET UNDERSTANDING.
N-NO, I HAVEN'T TOLD HIM WHY I'M DOING IT! I DON'T NEED TO, MOM, HE UNDERSTANDS!
PARKING FOR The FART SACK ONLY
THUMP THUMP THUMP
SHE SAID IT WASN'T ME AND THEN APOLOGIZED FOR FUCKING WITH ME, PETRA...
MAN, DO I FEEL SHITTY...
I GUESS THE METEOR'S GOT EVERYBODY FEELING HONEST THESE DAYS.
OLICE
OK, YOU THINK MY BOOBTH ARE TOO BIG FOR MY BODY, OK, BUT YOU HAVE TO ADMIT I'VE A TIMELETH BEAUTY...
AH, LIKE THE METEOR THAT JUST PASSED THE EARTH BY A COUPLE TRILLION MILES, THIS TOO SHALL PASS.

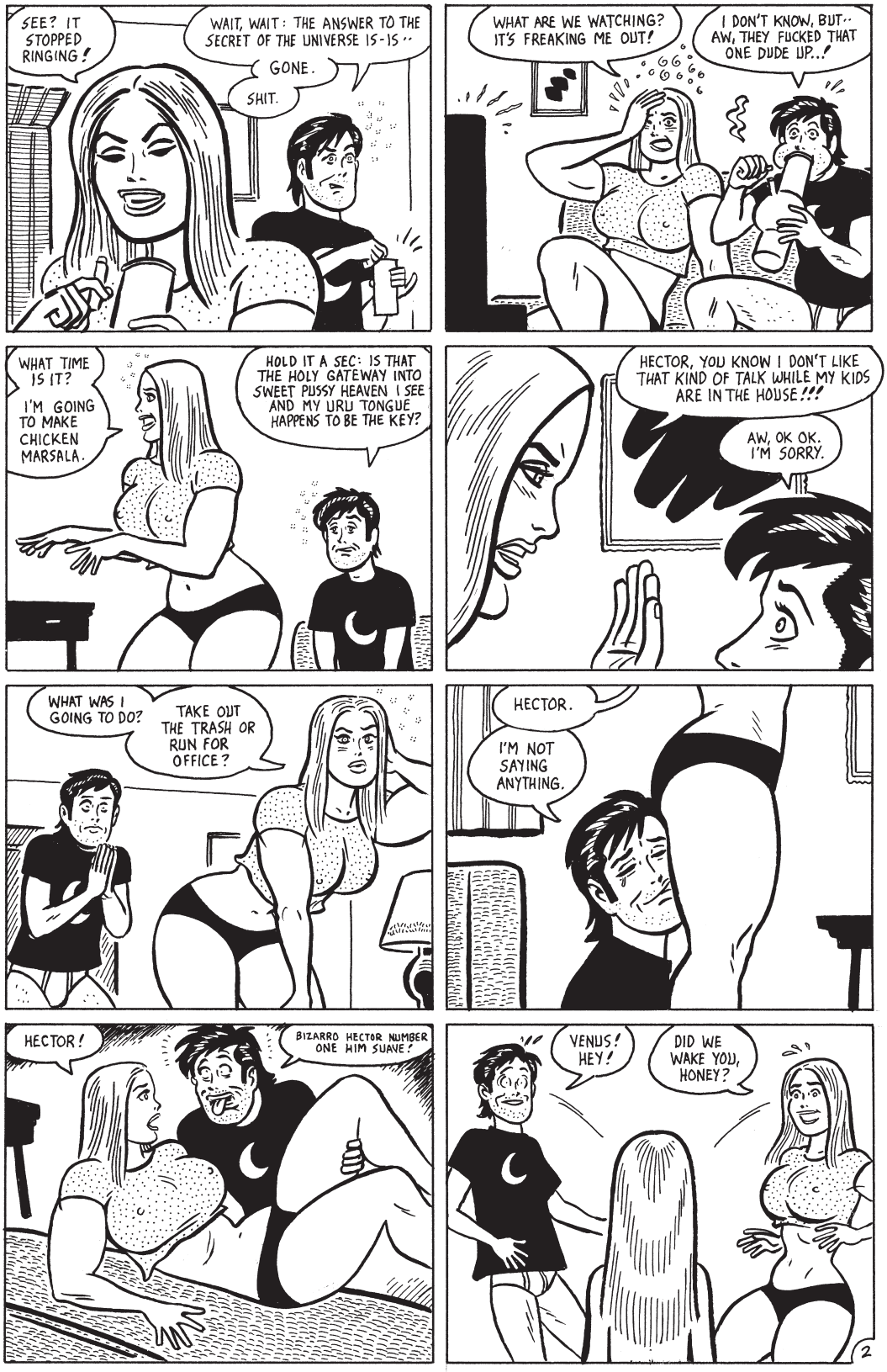

< OF COURSE THE RATINGS ARE DOWN! THE SHOW IS NO LONGER GEARED FOR KIDS! IT DID FINE AS A KID'S SHOW! >
< THE SHOW WAS NEVER TOP RATED AND IT ALWAYS LOST MONEY, PIPO. THE BAD PRESS GAVE IT A NEEDED MERCY KILLING. >
SPONSOR'S SPOKESPEOPLE
T.V. SHOW PRODUCER
NO COMMENT!
SAYS SOCCER SUPERSTAR SERGIO JIMENEZ, SON OF CONTROVERSIAL T.V. SHOW CREATOR
VERDA'D
SUMMER $3.95
A LESBIAN HAS NO BUSINESS SPREADING HER GODLESS INFLUENCE ON OUR CHILDREN.
CHILDREN'S TELEVISION STAR
DORALIS ADMITS SHE IS A DYKE
FANS
CONCERNED AMERICANS
PAGE 2
MAMA MIA!
DORALIS'S MOTHER AND HER ALL NATURAL(?) WONDERS ON THE TOWN
CANDID PHOTOS! PAGE 11
DORALIS'S 'PERFECT 10' PRODUCER IS PIPO DATING HER OWN SON'S GIRLFRIEND: DORALIS'S AUNT?
PAGE 30
THE CHILDREN LOVED HER. IT WAS BAD ENOUGH WHEN THE SHOW WAS RE-SCHEDULED TO A NIGHTTIME SLOT, BUT NOW THAT IT'S CANCELLED?
TSK!
DORALIS IS A FINE ROLE MODEL FOR BOTH GAYS AND STRAIGHTS.
POLITICAL GROUP
SO I ADMITTED I'M A LESBIAN. SO WHAT?
OUR STAR
1

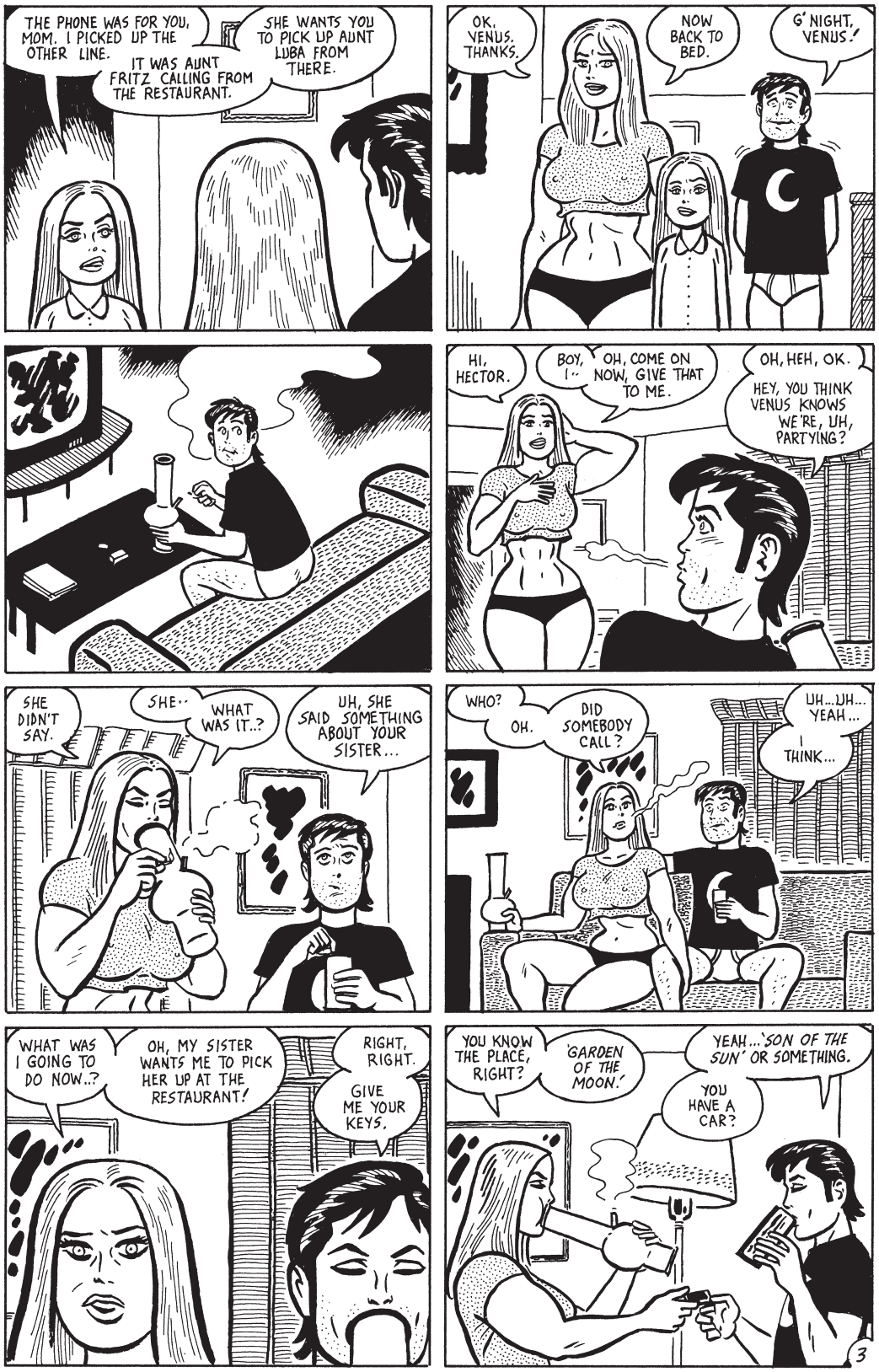

DORALIS!
<IF YOU HADN'T DECIDED TO COME OUT IN PUBLIC AS YOU WERE ADVISED NOT TO, WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS SHIT!>
<SO QUIT THEN, PIPO:·
<IF IT'S TOO MUCH FOR YOU, IF THE TRUTH IS TOO SCARY TO STAND BEHIND?
<QUIT!>
The Tao of DORALIS
by BETO 03
<TOO SCARY TO··
<I'VE STOOD BEHIND YOU THROUGHOUT THIS WHOLE·· THIS IS HOW IT IS, THEN?>
<I DON'T NEED ANYONE WHO'S UNSURE OF HERSELF.>
Y··
<YOU'RE FIRED!>
<BACK TO CABLE ACCESS, I GUESS.>
<WHAT A FARCE.
<THERE ARE GAY PUBLIC FIGURES WHO WORK WITH KIDS AND NOBODY BOTHERS WITH THEM.
<AHH, WHO KNOWS WHY THE PAPERS HAVE IT IN FOR SOME PEOPLE AND NOT OTHERS.>
<OH. I DIDN'T THINK YOU EVEN NOTICED I WAS IN THE ROOM, SERGIO.>
<I LOVE YOU.
<YOU'RE YOUNG AND SO BEAUTIFUL AND YOU'RE GOING TO GROW OLD AND BITTER AND THE REST OF YOUR LIFE YOU'LL BE ASKING YOURSELF: 'WHAT IF..?'>
<SERGIO, YOU SLEEP WITH MY AUNT. YOUR MOTHER··>
<SLEEPS WITH HER TOO? AND YOU BELIEVE ANY SORDID RUMOR YOU HEAR, GUADALUPE?>
<AND GUADALUPE SLEEPS WITH THE MAN WHO RAISED YOU, SERGIO.
<ME.
<IT IS A STRANGE, ALMOST INCESTUOUS WHEEL, ISN'T IT?>
GATO!
<SHIT, DID HE HEAR EVERY-THING?>
2


< YOU MISSED ALL THE EXCITEMENT! DORALIS AND PIPO JUST FIRED EACH OTHER! LOOKS LIKE PIPO'S OUT IN THE COLD!>
< OH... WELL, PIPO'S VERY RESOURCEFUL... SHE'LL FIGURE OUT SOMETHING QUICK, I'M SURE.>
< OK. I DUMPED ON YOUR MOTHER RIGHT IN FRONT OF YOU, SERGIO. STILL LOVE ME NOW?>
< YOUR MOTHER'S GOING TO NEED ALL OF OUR LOVE AND SUPPORT NOW, SERGIO. TELL HER I'M READY TO HELP WITH ANYTHING SHE'LL NEED TO STAY IN BUSINESS.>
< WHAT THE FUCK MAKES YOU THINK SHE OR I WANT... ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU?
<NOW, YOU'LL WANT TO REMOVE YOUR HAND FROM MY SHOULDER, OR··>
DORALI'S
< THERE. GATO WANTS TO BE FRIENDS, BUT YOU WON'T HAVE IT. ALL RIGHT, SERGIO. YOU AND GATO WILL NEVER SPEAK TO ONE ANOTHER AGAIN; IF THAT'S HOW YOU WANT IT, I'LL SEE TO IT.!
<OH, I'M YOUNG AND SO BEAUTIFUL, EH, SERGIO? IS THAT WHAT YOU TOLD MY TIA FRITZI AND ALL YOUR OTHER VICTIMS? HUH?!>
< BEFORE YOU COME OUT FROM HIDING, BOOTS, YOU'D BETTER MAKE SURE YOU HAVEN'T WRITTEN ANYTHING DOWN JUST NOW THAT MIGHT MAKE ME MAD. >
< I'M YOUNG AND SO BEAUTIFUL.
< AM I SUPPOSED TO FALL FOR THAT?!
<GOD, AM I FULL OF IT. READY TO SNAP SERGIO'S HEAD OFF BECAUSE HE SAYS HE LOVES ME. IF HE SAID HE HATED ME I'D PROBABLY FOLLOW HIM LIKE A PUPPY. OH, I'M SO MATURE.>
<SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?
<I'LL STAR IN ANOTHER SHOW.
<OR RETIRE AND BECOME A NUN.
<WHO GIVES A CARE?>
< THESE NOTES YOU'VE BEEN KEEPING TELL MY STORY PRETTY CLEARLY, BOOTS.
< MAYBE A REAL NEWSPAPER WILL PRINT IT SOMEDAY.
<OR MAYBE NOT.
< WHO GIVES A CARE?>
< I'M GOING TO TAKE A NICE VACATION FAR AWAY FROM HERE FOR WHO KNOWS HOW LONG?
<MAYBE I'LL FAKE MY OWN DEATH IF IT'LL GIVE ME MORE FREEDOM.>
HA HA!
3


DORALIS TAPES AN EPISODE OF HER KID'S SHOW AND ANNOUNCES SHE IS A LESBIAN. BEFORE IT'S EVEN DECIDED IF THE SHOW WILL BE AIRED AT ALL, THE GOSSIP NEWSPAPERS RUN THE STORY, GIVING IT A SLEAZY SPIN.
SECRET NOTES FOR MY EYES ONLY:
THE SHOW HAD A PARTICULAR NASTY CRITIC THAT DROVE PIPO CRAZY. PIPO WOULD READ THE VICIOUS REVIEWS ALOUD IN THE STUDIO, THEN TEAR INTO THE MAN WITHOUT MERCY.
PIPO WAS UNAWARE THAT THE DAUGHTER OF THE CRITIC WAS AN EXTRA ON THE SHOW.
WHEN THE CRITIC DIED OF A SUDDEN ILLNESS, PIPO SNEERED AND CALLED IT KARMA.
THE DAUGHTER OF THE CRITIC WOULD NOW DO ANYTHING TO BRING PIPO DOWN. THIS IS WHERE PIPO'S EX GATO STEPPED IN AND ENCOURAGED THE GIRL TO DIVULGE BACKSTAGE POOP TO THE PAPERS.
GATO THEN REVEALED TO THE PAPERS HIS OWN SUSPICIONS OF PIPO'S BISEXUAL TENDENCIES.
GATO FINALLY ADMITTED HE WAS JEALOUS OF HIS EX-WIFE'S SUCCESS, SUCCESS HE FELT HE WAS ENTITLED TO BE A PART OF.
HE PROMISED PIPO HE'D DO ALL HE COULD TO HELP HER WITH HER LAWSUIT AGAINST THE TABLOID.
TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE?
DORALIS NEVER WANTED TO SHOW THE STRAIN ON HER IN PUBLIC. SHE FOUND COMFORT IN THE ARMS OF A SECRET LOVER, WHOSE INDENTITY, IF DISCLOSED, COULD SPOIL HER POSITION AS A ROLE MODEL FOR SO MANY.
IF I CAN HELP THAT FACT REMAIN, MY BRILLIANT INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING ASIDE, I'LL DO WHAT IT TAKES...
IT'S TRUE. THE SHOW WAS DYING AND I WASN'T GOING TO GO WITH IT.
I WASN'T GOING TO BE A HAS-BEEN WHILE STILL IN MY TEENS, NO SIR!
I WENT OUT A POSITIVE ROLE MODEL AND THAT'S MORE THAN I COULD ASK FOR...
STILL...IF YOU HADN'T COME AROUND DURING THAT MOST DIFFICULT TIME, I DON'T KNOW IF I COULD'VE GONE ALL THE WAY WITH IT.
I STARTED TO GET NOSEBLEEDS I WAS SO STRESSED...
FORTUNATO!
The End


HECTOR
by BETO =04=
BRI-I-ING-!
WHO..?!
WHA..?!
DON'T WORRY...
IT'S ONLY THE PHONE...
RELAXXX...
PETRA, IT'LL WAKE UP THE GIRLS!
BRING!
THEY SLEEP LIKE LOGS, HECTOR. LEAVE THE PHONE AND TAKE ANOTHER HIT.
YOU'RE RIGHT, BABE. I COULDN'T TALK TO ANYBODY RIGHT NOW, ANYWAY.
BRING!
I NEVER ANSWER THE PHONE THIS LATE.
THE ANSWER IS ALWAYS RIGHT THERE, AT THE TIP OF THE TONGUE, THEN:
PHOOF.
GONE.


SEE? IT STOPPED RINGING!
WAIT, WAIT: THE ANSWER TO THE SECRET OF THE UNIVERSE IS-IS··
GONE.
SHIT.
WHAT ARE WE WATCHING? IT'S FREAKING ME OUT!
I DON'T KNOW, BUT·· AW, THEY FUCKED THAT ONE DUDE UP..!
WHAT TIME IS IT?
I'M GOING TO MAKE CHICKEN MARSALA.
HOLD IT A SEC: IS THAT THE HOLY GATEWAY INTO SWEET PUSSY HEAVEN I SEE AND MY URU TONGUE HAPPENS TO BE THE KEY?
HECTOR, YOU KNOW I DON'T LIKE THAT KIND OF TALK WHILE MY KIDS ARE IN THE HOUSE!!!
AW, OK OK. I'M SORRY.
WHAT WAS I GOING TO DO?
TAKE OUT THE TRASH OR RUN FOR OFFICE?
HECTOR.
I'M NOT SAYING ANYTHING.
HECTOR!
BIZARRO HECTOR NUMBER ONE HIM SUAVE!
VENUS! HEY!
DID WE WAKE YOU, HONEY?
2


THE PHONE WAS FOR YOU, MOM. I PICKED UP THE OTHER LINE.
IT WAS AUNT FRITZ CALLING FROM THE RESTAURANT.
SHE WANTS YOU TO PICK UP AUNT LUBA FROM THERE.
OK, VENUS. THANKS.
NOW BACK TO BED.
G'NIGHT, VENUS.!
HI, HECTOR.
BOY, I··
OH, COME ON NOW, GIVE THAT TO ME.
OH, HEH, OK.
HEY, YOU THINK VENUS KNOWS WE'RE, UH, PARTYING?
SHE DIDN'T SAY.
SHE··
WHAT WAS IT..?
UH, SHE SAID SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR SISTER...
WHO?
OH.
DID SOMEBODY CALL?
UH...UH... YEAH... I THINK...
WHAT WAS I GOING TO DO NOW..?
OH, MY SISTER WANTS ME TO PICK HER UP AT THE RESTAURANT!
RIGHT, RIGHT.
GIVE ME YOUR KEYS.
YOU KNOW THE PLACE, RIGHT?
'GARDEN OF THE MOON.'
YEAH...'SON OF THE SUN' OR SOMETHING.
YOU HAVE A CAR?
3


HEY, YOU CAN'T DRIVE!
I'LL GO!
I'M COOL. ONLY HAD A COUPLE OF BEERS.
HURRY BACK SAFELY AND REMIND ME WHICH OF MY SISTERS YOU PICKED UP.
I'M GOING TO PICK UP YOUR SISTER? WHAT'S SHE WEIGH? ONE TWENTY? ONE TWENTY-FIVE?
WHAT WAS I GOING TO DO?
I NEED TO WORK OUT!
GETTING FLABBY!
VOOMP!
FUCK! I CAN'T DRIVE..!
CAN'T SEE, CAN'T..!
FOCUS, FOCUS...
WHAT WAS I THINKING..?
MY COUSIN LANA GOT KILLED BY A DRUNK DRIVER...
OK...
PULL OVER...
STEADY...
OK...
OK...
UH, PET? UH, SINCE YOU DON'T ANSWER THE PHONE THIS LATE, I, UH, WELL, I FORGOT...
WHERE WAS I GOING..?
YOU HAVE THE WRONG NUMBER.
OH...OH, SORRY.
HEE HEE
WELL, SEE, I DIDN'T BRING PET'S CELL PHONE NUMBER WITH ME, AND..
CLICK..
HEE HEE..
OK, OK.
SIX.. SEVEN.. NINE...
UH... SIX.. EIGHT...
SIX..
SHIT.
4

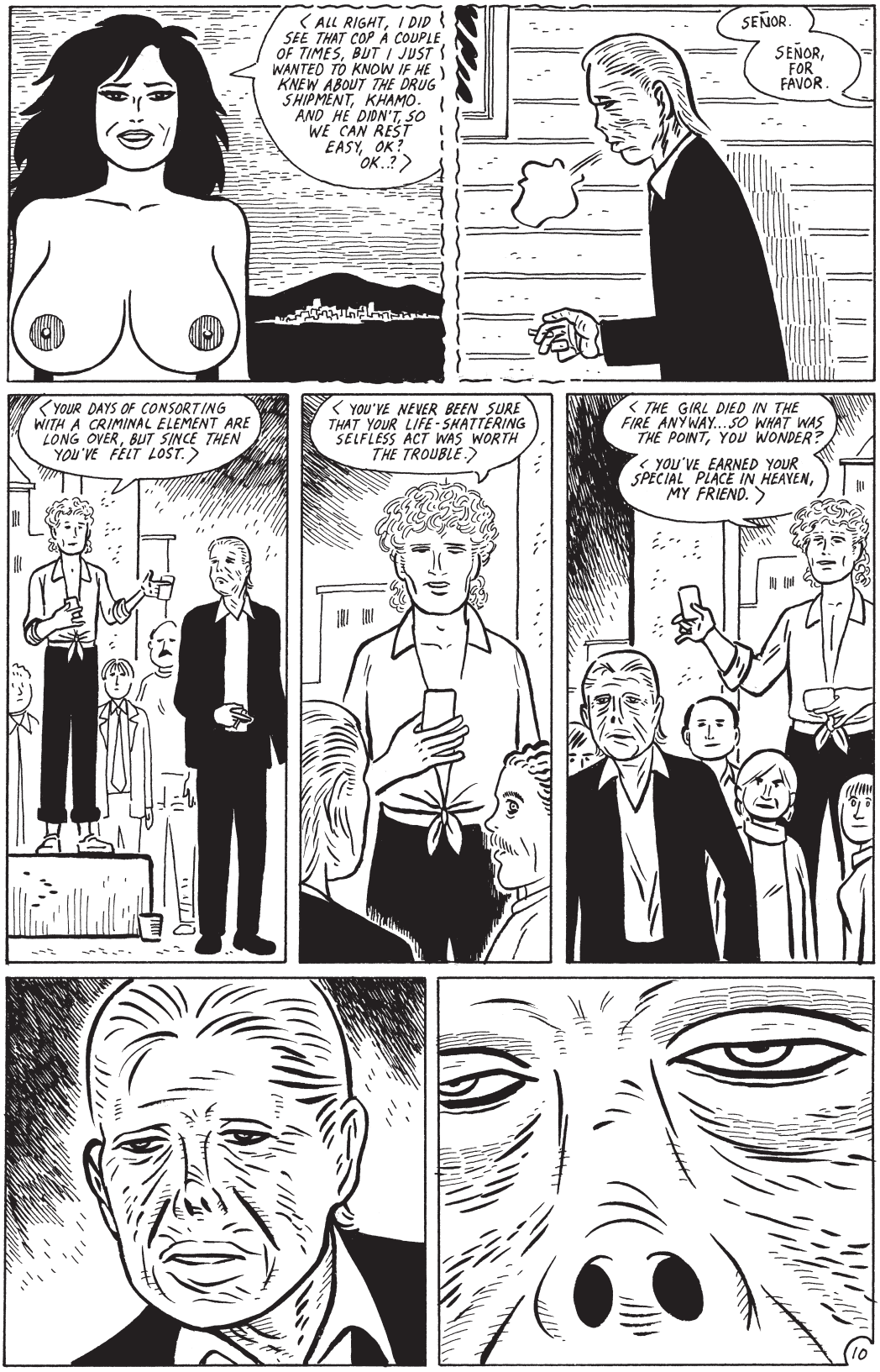

PETRA'S GOING TO KILL ME FOR NOT REMEMBERING HER CELL PHONE NUMBER.
I KNOW! I'LL JUST CALL HER SISTER'S CELL PHONE. THE NUMBER'S RIGHT HE--
FUCK.
NEITHER NUMBER'S HERE.
ALL RIGHT, THEN. JUST BACKTRACK.
WHERE'S THE FUCKING CAR?!
NOW I'M DEAD FOR SURE!
WEEEEEEEE-OOOOOO
OOOEEEEEEEE
SO CLOSE THE DOOR ALREADY!
DON'T TELL ME.
BEER.
UH... OK.
BUD?
<OK, WE CAN GO NOW.>
5


OH, YEAH.
YEAH!
<YOU'RE PET'S SISTER!>
MM.
<DO YOU MIND PAYING THE MAN?
<I'M SHORT.>
<OH, NO, SURE.
<MAN, I LOVE YOUR SPANISH. SWEET AND CLEAR AS A BELL.
<MINE SOUNDS LIKE A GARBAGE DISPOSAL, I'M SURE.>
<WHAT DID FRITZ! SAY?
<I TOLD HER...
<AH, NEVER MIND.>
THREE-FIFTY.
PANK!
OH. YEAH. OK.
BWAH!
<OK, GET YOUR COAT.>
PANK!
<I LEFT IT AT THE RESTAURANT.>
MAN, SHE'S GOT BALLS TO WEAR THAT DRESS.
EXIT
PETRA WARNED ME THAT HER SISTERS ARE A BIT ECCENTRIC AND A LITTLE MORE THAN VAIN.
PETRA'S NOT, OF COURSE.
PTCH!
<YEAH, UH, I PARKED THE CAR PRETTY FAR, EH, BECAUSE, UM...
<YEAH, SURE.>
FUCK.
NOW WHAT?
I STILL DON'T REMEMBER WHAT I DID WITH PETRA'S CAR!
HELP!!!
6


KHAMO
HUSH.
< WHO CARES?
< PEOPLE STARE AT ME ALL THE TIME.>
7


< THAT WAS SO GREAT HOW YOU HANDLED THOSE DUMB COPS TODAY, KHAMO.! >
< THAT SHIPMENT'LL GET THROUGH WITH NO PROBLEM NOW. >
TEEE!
< HIGHER? >
HUFF HUFF.
< OK, BUT CAN WE STOP BEFORE WE PASS MARS?
HUFF.
< KHAMO, I WAS ONLY TALKING TO THAT GUY. I DIDN'T KNOW HE WAS A COP. I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING TO HIM ABOUT THE DRUG SHIPMENT, I SWEAR. >
8


< AS GOOD A SPOT AS ANY TO SHOVE AN INFORMER OFF A CLIFF, HUH?>
< WELL, IF YOU'RE GOING TO PUSH ME OVER, YOU CAN AT LEAST GRANT ME ONE LAST REQUEST. >
< I GUESS MIND READING COMES WITH YOUR ALREADY PERFECT BEAUTY... >
9


< ALL RIGHT, I DID SEE THAT COP A COUPLE OF TIMES, BUT I JUST WANTED TO KNOW IF HE KNEW ABOUT THE DRUG SHIPMENT, KHAMO. AND HE DIDN'T, SO WE CAN REST EASY, OK? OK..? >
SEÑOR.
SEÑOR, FOR FAVOR.
< YOUR DAYS OF CONSORTING WITH A CRIMINAL ELEMENT ARE LONG OVER, BUT SINCE THEN YOU'VE FELT LOST. >
< YOU'VE NEVER BEEN SURE THAT YOUR LIFE-SHATTERING SELFLESS ACT WAS WORTH THE TROUBLE. >
< THE GIRL DIED IN THE FIRE ANYWAY...SO WHAT WAS THE POINT, YOU WONDER?
< YOU'VE EARNED YOUR SPECIAL PLACE IN HEAVEN, MY FRIEND. >
10


HECTOR
UH, WELL, WE WERE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, BLACKIE, AND UH, YOUR LIGHT WAS ON...
DID YOU NOTICE THE PLAY OF HIS MUSCLES? MUSICAL, SIMPLY MUSICAL.
YOU KNOW IT'S ALWAYS COOL, DADDIO. YOU DON'T WANT TO BE WALKING AROUND IN THIS PART OF TOWN AT NIGHT.
PLEASE EXCUSE US, UH, BUT HECTOR AND I NEED TO TALK IN PRIVATE, OK?
YOU DON'T MEAN TO SAY HIS JOINTS SQUEAK?
WELL, HE COULD CRACK A COCONUT WITH THOSE KNEES...
IF HE COULD GET THEM TOGETHER.
MOVIE ON TV- 'THE WOMEN'- 1939


NO! YOU ARE NOT DUMPING HER HERE, HECTOR. NO!
WHAT..? WHEN HAVE I EVER DONE THAT, BLACKIE? OK, OK, THAT ONE TIME WHEN.. OK, THAT OTHER TIME...
NO!
NO!
NO!
FUCK...TREATING ME LIKE SOME FUCKING ARCH CRIMINAL OR WHAT...
SORRY, SEÑOR DINGLEBERRY, AND I'M NOT LETTING YOU BORROW MY CAR, EITHER!
A FINE THING, A FINE THING; ALL THOSE TIMES I COVERED FOR YOUR ASS...
ELEVENTH GRADE, MISS TIPPY'S FIFTH PERIOD HOME EC. I DO INDEED REMEMBER IT WELL, LOTHARIO.
WITH MY LIPS SHUT TIGHT, I VALIANTLY ENDURED THE SHIT STORM MEANT FOR YOU.
AH YES, WHAT A HORROR IT MUST'VE BEEN TO SUFFER ALL THAT TEASING WHEN IT GOT OUT THAT YOU GOT THE BLOWJOB FROM MISS TIPPY INSTEAD OF ME IN THE BACK OF THE CLASSROOM.
SO I OWE YOU A BLOW JOB.
<C'MON, LUBA.>
SURE YOU HELPED ME OUT, HECTOR. I DON'T HAVE ANY GUILT ABOUT MISS TIPPY GETTING FIRED.
<HEY, LOOK.
<STREET MAGICIAN.
<FUCKING HATE STREET MAGICIANS.>
<YOUR UNION TONIGHT IS ONLY THE BEGINNING OF YOUR JOURNEY TOGETHER FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIVES.>
<WE'D BETTER LEAVE THAT BOMB STEWING IN THE VAGUE DEPARTMENT.>
AH, MISS TIPPY. WHERE DO YOU SLEEP TONIGHT..?
12


FORTUNATO
IT WAS THE RUMOR OF THE ORAL DEED THAT GOT THE GOOD MISS TIPPY FIRED.
SHE COULD NOT BE ARRESTED BECAUSE BOTH SHE AND THE BOY DENIED IT EVER HAPPENED.
BRING TO ME THE MISS TIPPYS OF THE WORLD AND I WILL GIVE THEM THE LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING THEY SEEK.
13

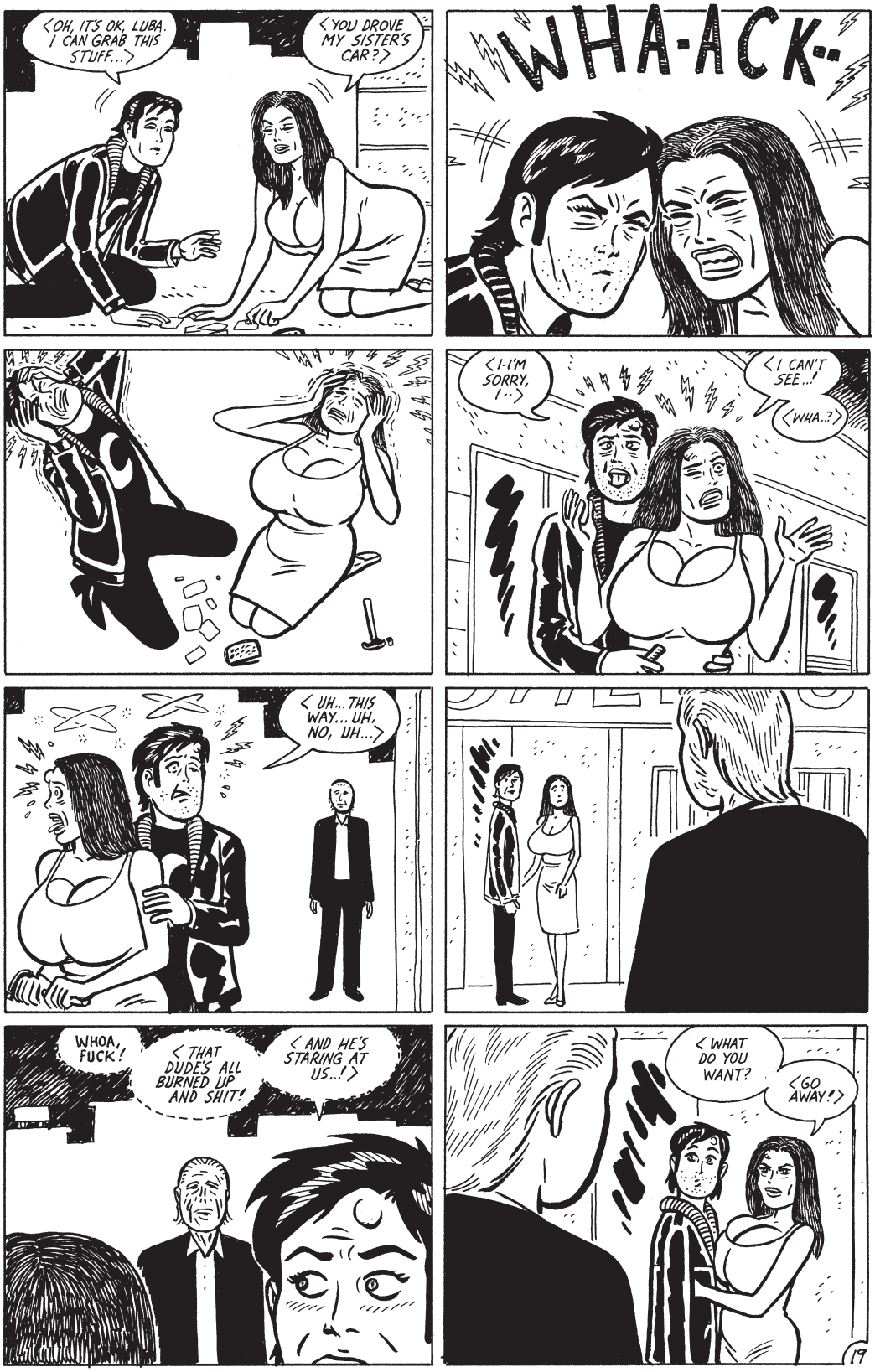

AS THE GODDESS OF THE UNIVERSE GUIDES US TO TRUE PEACE OF THE SOUL.
AS THE GODDESS OF THE UNIVERSE RISES FROM THE FLAMES OF CREATION.
14


SHE CAME.
SHE SAW.
SHE NEEDS TRAVEL FARE TO RETURN TO HER COSMIC RESERVATION.
< I DON'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I SAW YOU IN REGULAR CLOTHES, FRITZ. >
< MAKE MY EXCUTHETH TO FORTUNATO, HUH, LUBA? >
< I'M ALREADY LATE FOR WORK. >
< YOUR LITTLE SISTER COULDN'T STAY FOR THE ADULATION? >
< WHY DO YOU CARE SO MUCH IF SHE'S AROUND, FORTUNATO?
< I'M HERE! >
< ENOUGH WITH YOUR GIRLY GIRLS AND SPEND SOME TIME WITH A WOMAN RIPE WITH EXPERIENCE. >
< OH... YOU THINK I'M DIRTY. YOU THINK I'M TRASH; YOU DO? >
< I THINK YOU'RE NO MORE MATURE THAN THE YOUNGER WOMEN YOU RESENT. >
15


< IF THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A COMPLIMENT...>
<WAIT.>
< ALL WOMEN ARE EQUAL IN MY EYES, LUBA, AND I'M NOT GREEDY. WHATEVER I GIVE AWAY I CAN GET BACK.>
< THAT MAN WAS BOTHERING ME, KHAMO. HE'S TRASH. YOU SHOULD TEACH HIM A LESSON.>
< EMBARRASSING ME...!>
16


HECTOR
< WHO DO YOU CALL TO REPORT A MISSING CAR? I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S A REAL EMERGENCY OR ANYTHING. WOULDN'T WANT TO TIE UP THE EMERGENCY OPERATOR...>
RIGHT! AND ADMIT I'M A HALF-BRAIN-DEAD PIN-HEAD LOSER TO A TOTAL STRANGER?!
FAH!
WHAM!
< ALL RIGHT! I'LL CALL PETRA AND TELL HER I LOST HER CAR! SO WHAT?!?>
DAW, SHIT!
17


HYA-A-AGH!!
STAY ON THE FUCKING GROUND THEN!!!
WHAT THE FUCK?! WHO THE FUCK CARES?! WHAT'S IT FUCKING MATTER?!
FWAAAH..
< RISE ABOVE! TAKE THE HIGH ROAD! LIVE YOUR LIFE AS IF YOU'RE BEING FILMED! LIVE CLEAN AND YOU'LL BE CLEAN! >
< THE WORLD IS FILLED WITH SORROW AND MISERY AND TRULY WRETCHED SUFFERING AND I WEEP FOR MY OWN SHORTCOMINGS IN MY LIFE. >
< MY TEARS ARE FOR MYSELF ONLY. I DESERVE WHATEVER SELF-INFLICTED PAIN I SUFFER. I AM SELF-IMPORTANCE PERSONIFIED. >
MM.
< I-I'M SORRY... I KIND OF LOST IT THERE FOR A MINUTE, I... UH... I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY... >
< BUT I DO UNDERSTAND. >
< YOU DO..? >
< MY COUSIN ALWAYS SAYS THAT THE REASON GOD ALLOWS LIFE TO BE HARD FOR MOST PEOPLE IS SO WE WON'T FEEL TOO BAD KNOWING WE ALL HAVE TO DIE ONE DAY. >
OH...
< OK, WELL... I'D BETTER PICK MY LIFE UP OFF THE GROUND NOW, HUH..? >
18

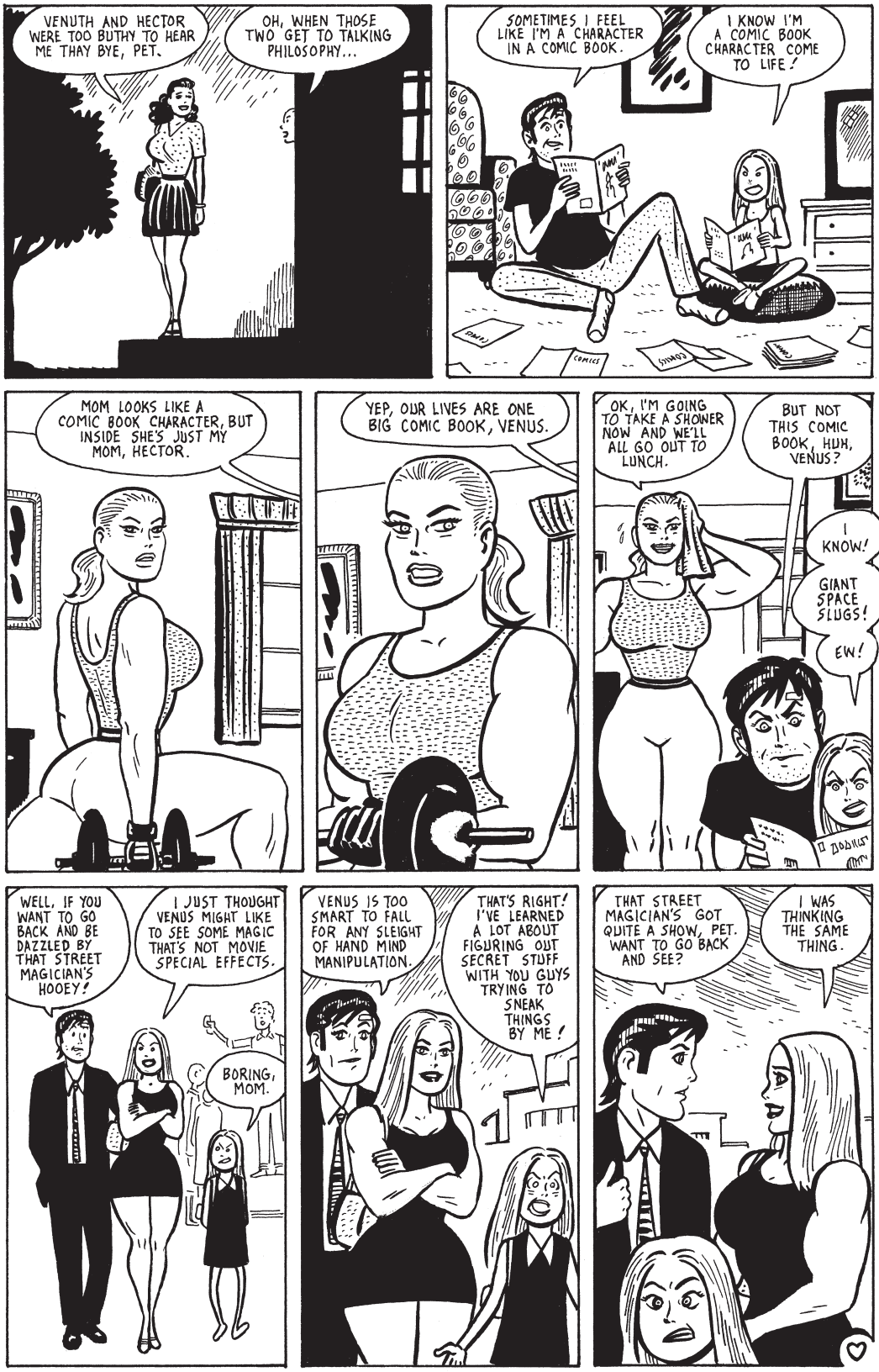

OH, IT'S OK, LUBA. I CAN GRAB THIS STUFF...
YOU DROVE MY SISTER'S CAR?
WHA-ACK..
I-I'M SORRY, I...
I CAN'T SEE...!
WHA..?
UH... THIS WAY... UH, NO, UH...
WHOA, FUCK!
THAT DUDE'S ALL BURNED UP AND SHIT!
AND HE'S STARING AT US...!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
GO AWAY!
19


< WE MUST'VE KONKED OUR HEAD'S HARDER THAN I THOUGHT...
< DID WE JUST SEE A BURNED UP GUY?>
< THAT WAS MY HUSBAND.
< I'M GLAD HE SAW YOU HOLDING ME.>
< HE WAS YOUR..?>
HOLY FUCKING SHIT.
I'M TOAST.
< HE AND I HAD A FIGHT IN THE RESTAURANT.
< WHERE I LEFT MY COAT.>
<OK, YOU LEFT YOUR COAT AT THE RESTAURANT. OK, WE'LL GET YOUR COAT. WHAT RESTAURANT?>
< THE ONE NEXT DOOR TO THE BAR YOU PICKED ME UP FROM.>
<ISN'T THAT MY SISTER'S CAR?>
GARDE
OF THE
SUN
< I'M GOING TO SEE IF MY OTHER SISTER AND MY DAUGHTER ARE DANCING INSIDE.>
FUCK, I FORGOT PETRA TOLD ME LUBA'S HUSBAND WAS BURNED UP TRYING TO SAVE A GIRL'S LIFE.
DO I HAVE A SHIT MEMORY OR WHAT?
OH..?
LUBA'S DAUGHTER...
HUH...
20


FORTUNATO! YOU FOUND MY COAT. YOU'RE A DOLL.
I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE, AMERICAN.
IF KHAMO SHOWS UP, TELL HIM FORTUNATO TOOK ME HOME, GUADALUPE.
OK, MAMA. I CAN GET A RIDE WITH TIA FRITZ.
YOU'LL LEARN TO ACTHEPT THAT WHEN FORTUNATO'TH IN TOWN IT'TH HITH WORLD AND WE ALL JUTHT LIVE IN IT.
YEAH, I'M GETTING THAT.
AND THE REAL ZINGER IS THAT I REALLY HAD A GOOD TIME HANGING OUT WITH LUBA TONIGHT. NO SHIT.
I WISH I COULD SPEND ONE PLATONIC NIGHT JUST HANGING OUT WITH MISS TIPPY...
DID YOU SEE THE KNOT ON MY MOM'S HEAD?
HOW'S HE DOING?
COULD YOU GET A DAMP CLOTH, HONEY?
THANKTH.
FOR A SECOND AFTER LUBA AND I WACKED HEADS, I SAW THE ANSWER TO IT ALL... BUT IT WAS GONE JUST AS QUICKLY, OF COURSE.
I UTHUALLY GET THAT IF I THMOKE POT.
THE ANSWERS TO THE UNIVERSE ARE IN THE QUESTIONS.
I KNOW. THE FUN ITH IN THE WONDERING.
21


LOVERS and HECTOR
ELVIS WAS GOOD/BAD, BUT NOT EVIL, BUT JERRY LEE LEWIS WAS JUST PLAIN TROUBLE.
OH, I LOVE THE 'NUTTY PROFESSOR'.
I DIG ELVIS JUST FINE, BUT THE FIRST TRUE ROCK AND ROLL RECORD FOR ME IS 'ROCKET EIGHTY-EIGHT,' WRITTEN BY IKE TURNER.
HAVE YOU HEARD 'CONTACT HIGH' BY IKE AND TINA TURNER? IT'TH AMAZTHING!
I'TH ON THEIR ALBUM 'COME TOGETHER'. IT'TH ALTHO THE B-THIDE OF THEIR COVER OF 'I WANT TO TAKE YOU HIGHER'.
WORLD EXPRESS
HECTOR, YOU TOLD US YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S SISTER WAS HALF A PSYCHO!
SHE'S TOTALLY COOL, FAG!
ALL A MATTER OF PERCEPTION ONCE AGAIN, JASON.
HECTOR'S TWISTED PERCEPTION!
WORLD EXPRESS
SAME OLD HECTOR, BLACKIE. HE GETS IT WRONG, FINDS OUT HE WAS WRONG, BUT ONLY WHEN IT'S TOO LATE.
HE STOLE THAT ELVIS GOOD/BAD LINE FROM SOMETHING HE READ.
22


OK, SO YOU GUYS FOUND ME OUT! I'M TOO FUCKED UP IN THE HEAD TO KNOW HOW GREAT MY LIFE IS!
UM BUDDA BEE BY BO!
HOW DID IT TURN OUT THIS WAY? ALL I EVER WANTED TO DO WAS DANCE!
THAT TIME HECTOR FUCKED THAT BURRITO AND THE JALAPEÑOS BURNED THE TIP OF HIS DICK.
THEN SOME HOLLYWOOD TEEN MOVIE USED THE SAME IDEA, BUT WITH A PIE AND SOMEBODY MADE MONEY!
BUT NOT ME, NO SIR!
WELL... OK.
A TRUE HAPPY ENDING, OR MORE FALSE HOPE..?
I'LL GO WITH THE FORMER FOR TODAY, GUYS.
IN THAT FRAME OF MIND.
YOU SENTIMENTAL SLOB, YOU. WHY DON'T WE GO GRAB SOME BURRITOS AND HAVE A BURRITO FUCK FEST TO FINISH OFF OUR DAY.
HEH...
I GOT THE LOVE OF THE UNIVERSE PULSING THROUGH ME, GUYS.
EXCUSE ME WHILE I BELIEVE IN SOMETHING.
FOR AS LONG AS IT LASTS...
GOD BLESS YOU, MISS TIPPY, WHERE EVER YOU ARE.
23


VENUTH AND HECTOR WERE TOO BUTHY TO HEAR ME THAY BYE, PET.
OH, WHEN THOSE TWO GET TO TALKING PHILOSOPHY...
SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE I'M A CHARACTER IN A COMIC BOOK.
I KNOW I'M A COMIC BOOK CHARACTER COME TO LIFE!
COMICS
MOM LOOKS LIKE A COMIC BOOK CHARACTER, BUT INSIDE SHE'S JUST MY MOM, HECTOR.
YEP, OUR LIVES ARE ONE BIG COMIC BOOK, VENUS.
OK, I'M GOING TO TAKE A SHOWER NOW AND WE'LL ALL GO OUT TO LUNCH.
BUT NOT THIS COMIC BOOK, HUH, VENUS?
I KNOW!
GIANT SPACE SLUGS!
EW!
WELL, IF YOU WANT TO GO BACK AND BE DAZZLED BY THAT STREET MAGICIAN'S HOOEY!
I JUST THOUGHT VENUS MIGHT LIKE TO SEE SOME MAGIC THAT'S NOT MOVIE SPECIAL EFFECTS.
BORING, MOM.
VENUS IS TOO SMART TO FALL FOR ANY SLEIGHT OF HAND MIND MANIPULATION.
THAT'S RIGHT! I'VE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT FIGURING OUT SECRET STUFF WITH YOU GUYS TRYING TO SNEAK THINGS BY ME!
THAT STREET MAGICIAN'S GOT QUITE A SHOW, PET. WANT TO GO BACK AND SEE?
I WAS THINKING THE SAME THING.


SERGIO ROCKS
<GUADALUPE, LOOK AT SERGIO TAKE IT HOME!>
YAH!
<I DIDN'T DO SO BAD A JOB RAISING THAT BOY! HIS MOTHER'S SKILLS AND MY BRAINS!>
YAH!
<THE PAPERS ARE CRAZY SAYING SERGIO'S BEST DAYS ARE BEHIND HIM!>
YAH!
YAH!




STAY OFF THAT KNEE OR START LOOKING FOR A NEW CAREER.
IS THAT A PROMISE OR A THREAT?
SERGIO!


THANK YOU, DOCTOR.
DON'T THANK ME, PIPO. MY MONEY'S ON THE OTHER TEAM.


SERGIO, YOU ARE NOT FINISHED IN FUTBOL! THE PAPERS ARE FULL OF SHIT, YOU KNOW THAT!
I HATE THAT DOCTOR. I HATE THAT DOCTOR WITH A VENGEANCE.
FUT'BOL- SOCCER


FORTUNATO!


I'M GOING TO HEAD OUT TO THE AIRPORT NOW, MAMA. I'LL CALL YOU WHEN I GET TO COMPRACHICO.
OH, BUT IT'S EARLY, SERGIO!
WELL, OK. THE LINES FOR OVERSEAS FLIGHTS DO GET LONG.
OK, HONEY.


I'M NOT INSULTED, PIPO. I'M USED TO IT.
FORTUNATO, I'M THINKING THE PAPERS MIGHT BE RIGHT THAT MY BOY SHOULD QUIT THE GAME.
BEFORE THE WORST HAPPENS!
2


GOAL!!!
<ONCE THE CHAMPIONSHIP IS OURS, YOU CAN PUT THAT KNEE OUT OF ITS MISERY!>
<MY KNEE WILL OUTLAST ALL YOUR KNEES AND ELBOWS, ALL YOUR HALF-LIMP DICKS!>
SERGIO!
SERGIO!
SERGIO!
<I'VE GOT ENOUGH CHAMPIONSHIP TROPHIES TO FILL A MUSEUM, I'VE GOT AN ENDORSEMENT DEAL IN JAPAN IN THE MILLIONS: WHAT'S YOUR HUSBAND GOT?>
<ME, MAMBO LIPS!>
ALA BI ALA BOW ALA BIM BOM BAM!
<YOUR CAREER IS OVER, SERGIO! YOUR TEAM WILL LOSE THE TOURNAMENT IF YOU PLAY!>
<GET HIM!>
MARZIPAN
¡BLIK!
THUNKKK!
WHY MEEEE?!
THUNK
AAAAAA
3


WRONG KNEE, PUSSIES!
NICE BACK UP, GANG!
WE'D BETTER GET YOU TO A DOCTOR.
I WANT TO PARTY!
FUCK THE DOCTOR! I DON'T WANT THIS ON THE NEWS! BESIDES, SHE WANTS TO PARTY!
VROOOM!
GGNNGG..
PANT PANT
GHAG..
WHEN YOU'VE STOPPED CRYING ABOUT YOUR KNEES, YOU CAN TAKE ME BACK!
GO, THEN!
TAKE YOUR SCRAWNY, BULIMIC LITTLE BOY'S BODY AND GO!
USELESS FAGGOT!
COKE WHORE TRASH!
4


BVROOoo...
<SHIT!
<I DIDN'T LEAVE MY KEYS IN THE CAR, DID I..?!
<YOU FUCKING BITCH!>
<ALL WOMEN ARE FULL OF SHIT EXCEPT FOR MAMA AND GUADALUPE!>
NNGGG..
OOWWWW
..MMAMA!
<FUCKED UP...
<FUCKED UP SHIT, MAMA...
<BOTH OF US SLEEPING WITH FRITZ... WHAT KIND OF DEPRAVED SHIT IS THAT, MAMA..?
<FUCKED UP TWISTED SHIT...>
KOOOF..!
AH.FUCK..
GUADALUPE!
<GUADALUPE...I LOVE YOU, I... I LOVE YOU SO MUCH... I'M NOT DEPRAVED... I'M A GOOD PERSON... I'M DECENT, REALLY... I LOVE YOU, GUADALUPE...
<I LOVE YOU...>
<THAT'S WHY YOU WON'T LET ME IN, ISN'T IT, GUADALUPE? HOW COULD YOU LOVE SOMEONE WHO'S ALLOWED SUCH AN EMBARRASSMENT..?
<SUCH GARBAGE..?>
5


YOU DID THIS, MAMA.
YOU MADE IT THIS WAY AND I LET IT HAPPEN.
I'LL FIX IT, GUADALUPE...
I'LL END THIS TWISTED HORSESHIT FOR GOOD...
FOR GOOD...
GIVE THEM HELL, MAESTRO.
EVERYBODY RUNNING AROUND LIKE BRAINLESS IDIOTS...
ALL LOST...
LOST.
AND DESPITE TWO KNEE INJURIES SERGIO TAKES IT HOME!
SERGIO
SERGIO
EAT SHIT, PUSSIES!
SERGIO
SERGIO
SERGIO?
NOTHING.
NOTHING.
OH...OH, WELL, YOU MADE IT SOUND LIKE YOU WANTED TO TELL US SOMETHING SCARY IMPORTANT, SERGIO.
OK, THEN IF THAT'S ALL, FRITZ AND I ARE LATE FOR OUR DATE.


GUADALUPE
PETRA
I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT AN IMMATURE, HOSTILE TWIT I WAS.
I HAD SO LITTLE SELF-CONTROL, I WAS A SHRIEKING, OVERLY EMOTIONAL BRAT.
STUDIO B
I BELIEVED MY OWN INSECURE PARANOID BULLSHIT, LIKE I KNEW WHAT WAS REALLY GOING ON, AND I WAS GOING TO SET THE WORLD STRAIGHT.
OF COURSE, IT ONLY SERVED TO ALIENATE PEOPLE AND TO LOSE THEIR FAITH IN ME.
CAN'T BLAME THEM. I WAS HORRIBLE.
IS IT TOO LATE FOR ME?
I'VE MATURED SINCE MY SON WAS BORN, BUT PEOPLE STILL TREAT ME AS IF I'M ABOUT READY TO GO OFF LIKE A BOMB!
THEN AGAIN, THE MORE AGGRESIVELY UNWAVERING YOU ARE WITH YOUR OPINIONS, HOWEVER HALF-BAKED, THE MORE MOST PEOPLE LISTEN.
SURE, MOST PEOPLE HATE YOU, BUT JUST THE SAME THEY'RE CAREFUL, ALMOST FEARFUL ABOUT WHAT THEY SAY TO YOU.
IT'S A KIND OF RESPECT.
SOME PEOPLE THRIVE ON HAVING THAT KIND OF SKEWED RESPECT, BUT NOT ME.
I'M NOT SAYING I NEED EVERY-BODY TO LOVE ME, JUST··
WELL, I WOULDN'T TURN MY NOSE AT THE WORLD IF THEY DID.
I WOULD CURTSY AND THANK EACH AND EVERY PERSON.
I WOULD ASK HOW THEIR FAMILIES ARE AND OFFER ANY HELP SHOULD ANYONE NEED IT.
I WOULD TAKE GOOD CARE OF ALL THE CHILDREN.
WELL, WHY DID YOU HAVE TO GO AND COME OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE?
WE HAD IT SO GOOD BEFORE AND NOW LOOK.
MAYBE EVERYBODY WOULD'VE FOUND OUT ANY WAY LIKE YOU SAID, I DUNNO.
I JUST KNOW IT WAS NICE WHILE IT WAS PRIVATE.
I ALREADY GOT ANOTHER JOB, BUT WHAT WILL YOU DO..?
I WOULD BE BEST FRIEND AND LOVER TO ALL WOMEN AND MEN, THEN WAVE GOODBYE, UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN.


< I'M SUPPOSED TO STAY HERE WITH YOUR KIDS WHILE YOU GO OUT AGAIN, LUBA?
< WE'LL SEE! >
< ONE DAY YOU'LL COME BACK AND YOUR KIDS WILL BE ALONE! YOU'LL CALL THE POLICE BUT YOU'LL NEVER FIND ME! >
< I MEAN IT, LUBA!
< DON'T GO OUT TONIGHT! I WON'T BE HERE WHEN YOU GET BACK! >
LUBA!

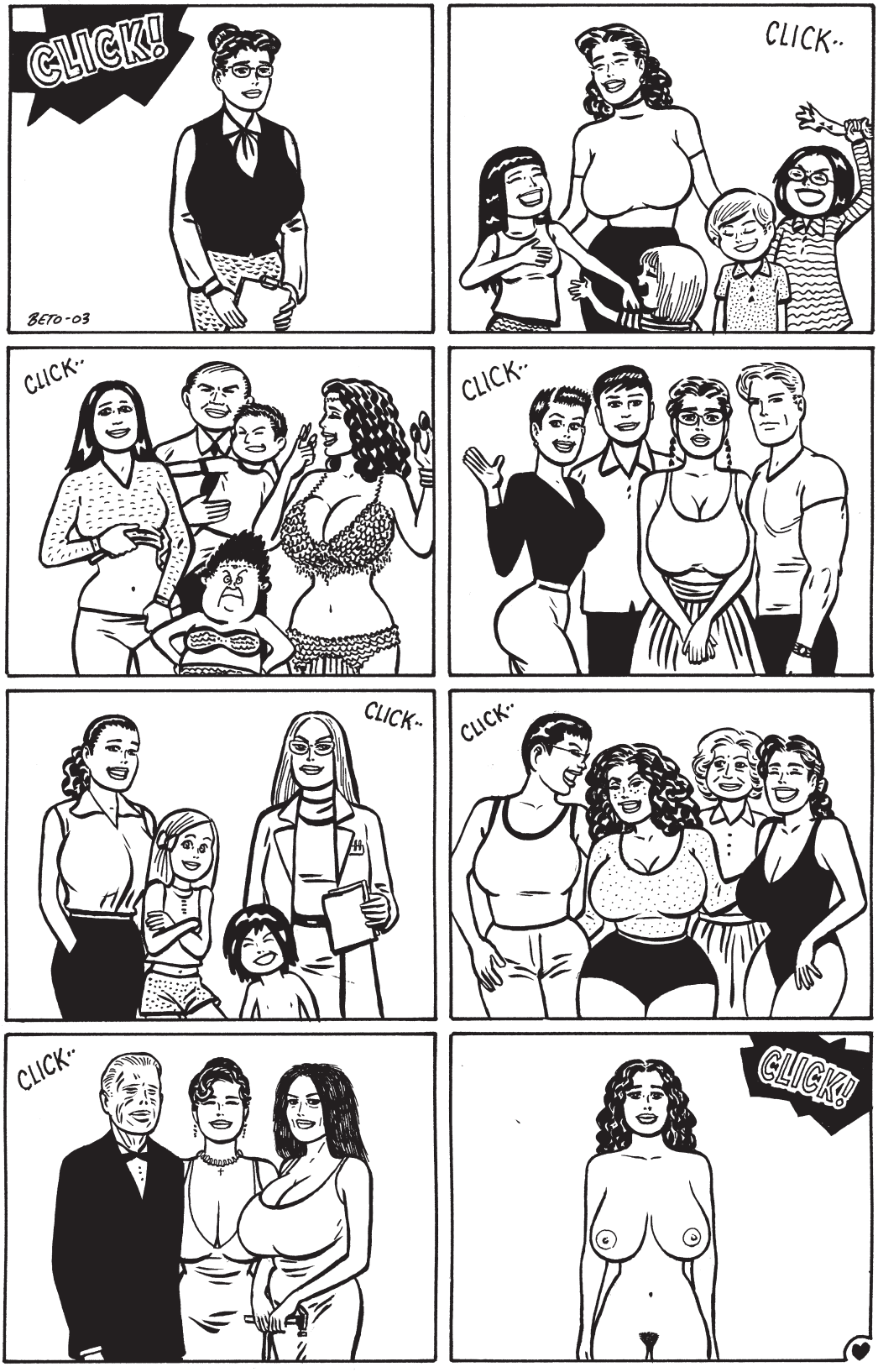
Luba again

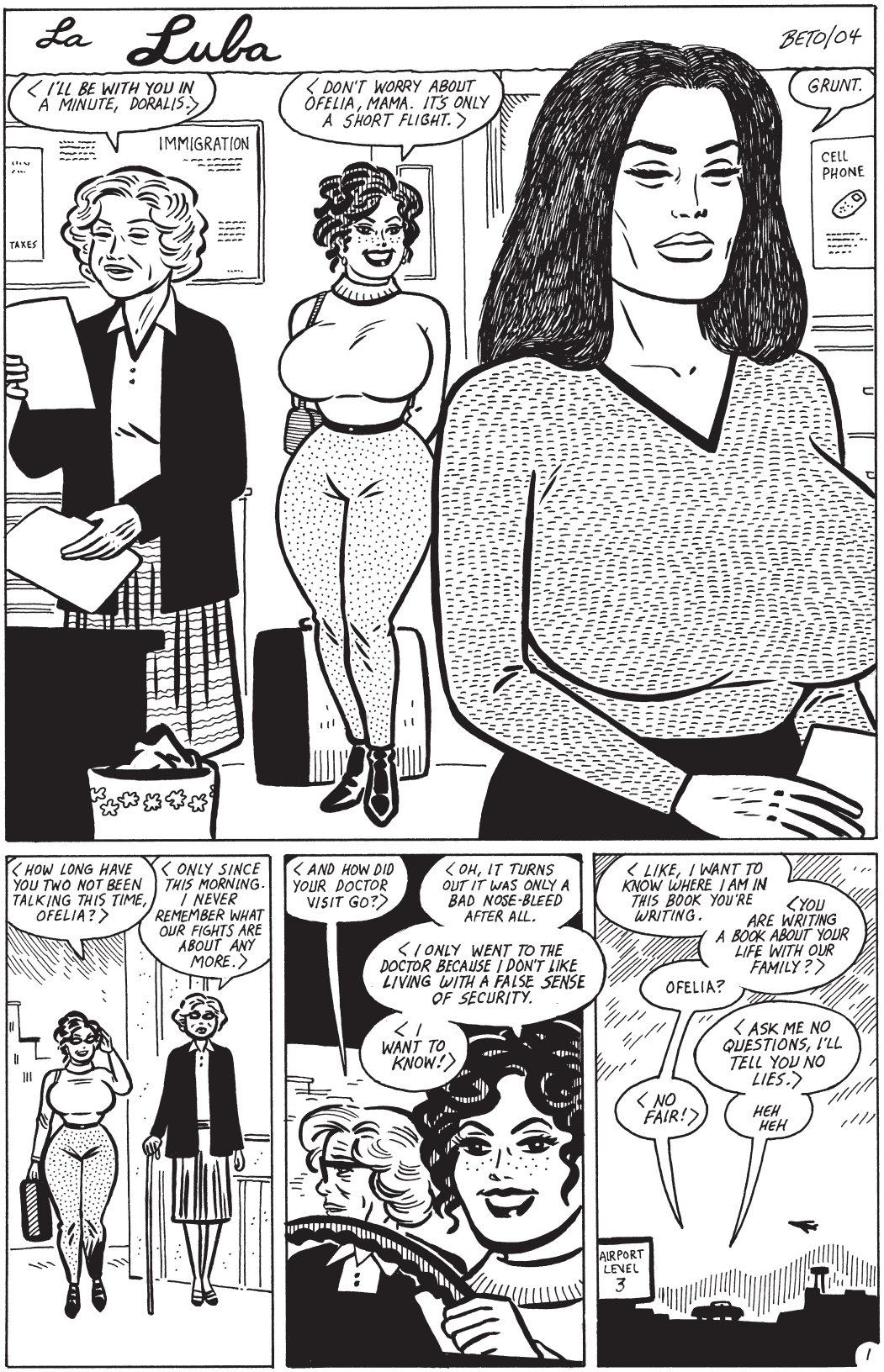

< LITTLE BOY LOST...
< THE KIND MAMA LIKES... >
< AH, ENRIQUE? IT'S LUBA? FRITZ'S SISTER?
< IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR FRITZ, I DON'T THINK SHE'S COMING. >
< FRITZ IS THE ONE WHO TALKED ME INTO DOING THIS SHOW. >
< THAT··PIPO CONVINCED FRITZ NOT TO COME TONIGHT, I KNOW IT! THEY'RE OUT WITH THAT·· FORTUNATO DOING GOD KNOWS WHAT! >
< I'M HERE CELEBRATING THE DEMISE OF MY DAUGHTER'S SILLY T.V. SHOW.
< ALONE. >


< HOW ABOUT THIS DRESS, ENRIQUE? PIPO AND FRITZ CONSTRUCTED IT FOR ME. IT'S CALLED 'SMOKE AND MIRRORS.' >
< FORTUNATO IS ONE THING BUT THIS LIPSTICK LESBIAN FARCE PIPO'S GOT FRITZ DOING IS RIDICULOUS. >
< FRITZ IS ALL WOMAN AND PIPO CAN'T TAKE THAT AWAY FROM HER, LUBA! FRITZ IS MY -- WELL, SHE'S SPECIAL... >
< ER, AREN'T YOU GOING TO BE LATE TO CATCH UP ON YOUR BEAUTY SLEEP, FLASH? >
< WHY DON'T YOU GO HOME AND BABY-SIT YOUR MAMA, JOCKSTRAP? >
< FUCK YOU. >
< NO, FUCK YOU.
< FRITZ WON'T MARRY ME BECAUSE OF YOU.
< FUCK YOU. >
< EXCUSE ME, BOYS, BUT I NEED TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY MEN LEFT IN THE WORLD WHO'LL NOTICE ME. >
< I THINK YOU WERE REFERRING TO ME, SENORA DE LOS SANTOS? >
< NO, I WAS REFERRING TO MY HUSBAND...
< BUT, HERE YOU ARE... >
< PATTERNS REPEAT THEMSELVES, LITTLE TO NO CHANGE IN THEIR ACTIONS, NO LESSONS LEARNED.
< THIS IS WHERE WE CAME IN. >
2


3


I THINK KHAMO MIGHT LIKE THIS NUMBER.
ANOTHER PIPO/FRITZ CREATION.
MAYBE IF HE'S BLINDFOLDED.
IS ALL YOU CAN BE NOWADAYS IS INSULTING, OFELIA?!
IS ALL YOU CAN BE IS VAIN AND EMBARRASSING, LUBA?!
F..
....
FUCK YOU!
FUCK YOU!!!
GOD.
LUBA...
HEH, OK.
PANT
OK, LET ME GO, KHAMO.
WHAT'S THE BIG THING?
PANT


CLICK!
BETO-03
CLICK..
CLICK..
CLICK..
CLICK..
CLICK..
CLICK..
CLICK!


La Luba
BETO/04
< I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE, DORALIS.>
IMMIGRATION
TAXES
< DON'T WORRY ABOUT OFELIA, MAMA. IT'S ONLY A SHORT FLIGHT. >
GRUNT.
CELL PHONE
< HOW LONG HAVE YOU TWO NOT BEEN TALKING THIS TIME, OFELIA? >
< ONLY SINCE THIS MORNING. I NEVER REMEMBER WHAT OUR FIGHTS ARE ABOUT ANY MORE.>
< AND HOW DID YOUR DOCTOR VISIT GO?>
< OH, IT TURNS OUT IT WAS ONLY A BAD NOSE-BLEED AFTER ALL.
< I ONLY WENT TO THE DOCTOR BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE LIVING WITH A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY.
< I WANT TO KNOW!>
< LIKE, I WANT TO KNOW WHERE I AM IN THIS BOOK YOU'RE WRITING.
<YOU ARE WRITING A BOOK ABOUT YOUR LIFE WITH OUR FAMILY?>
OFELIA?
< ASK ME NO QUESTIONS, I'LL TELL YOU NO LIES.>
< NO FAIR!>
HEH HEH
AIRPORT LEVEL 3

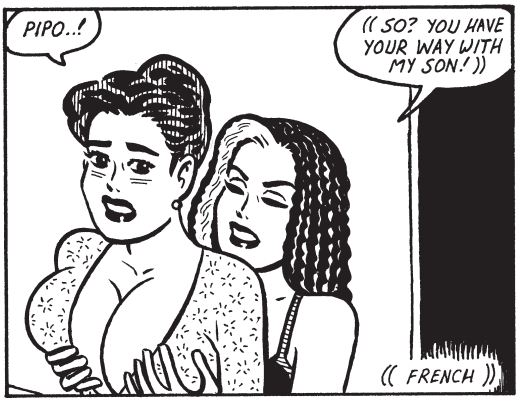

WHAT IS THE OLECRANON AND WHERE IS IT LOCATED?
SPELL: 'EFFERVESCENT.'
THE AIR DISTANCE OF FOUR THOUSAND-FIVE STATUTE MILES IS FROM ST. PETERSBURG TO WHAT CANADIAN CITY?
THE APOTHECARIES' WEIGHT OF THREE SCRUPLES EQUALS HOW MANY DRAMS?
ALL RIGHT, CHILDREN. PUT DOWN YOUR PENCILS. YOU WILL HAVE AN HOUR BREAK.
< ARE THEY PRETTY STRICT WITH YOU KIDS HERE, SOCORRO? >
< YES, OFELIA, BECAUSE A LOT OF THE OTHER KIDS GO CRAZY RUNNING AROUND.
< EXCEPT WHEN WE HAVE A TEST, THEN EVERYBODY'S CALM AND SERIOUS. >
< WHAT IS THAUMATURGY? EASY: THE WORKINGS OF WONDER OR MIRACLES; MAGIC.
< WHO WROTE BEN-HUR? HARD: LEW WALLACE WROTE BEN-HUR.
< WHAT DOES YOUR MOTHER LOOK LIKE NAKED? EASY: I TELL THEM I DON'T REMEMBER BECAUSE I WAS TOO LITTLE. >
< THAT LAST QUESTION WAS PRETTY SILLY. DID A MALE INSTRUCTOR ASK YOU THAT ONE? >
< NO. A LADY.
< MEN INSTRUCTORS ACT SERIOUS AROUND MAMA WHEN SHE VISITS AND THE LADY ONES TALK TO HER LIKE SHE'S DUMB. >
< SOCORRO, YOU AND ME KNOW TOO WELL YOUR MOTHER IS ANYTHING BUT DUMB. >
< YEAH, SHE'S WHERE I GOT MY SUPER BRAIN POWER FROM. >
< WISH I WAS DUMB SO I COULD COME HOME. >
2


IMMIGRATION
TAXES
BEEPERS
CELLPHO
LUBA
IMMIGRATION · TAXES · CELL PHONES


BURNING FOR YOU
< YOU MIGHT NOT REMEMBER ME, BUT I KNOW YOUR WIFE. HER NAME IS LUBA.
< I'M HER DAUGHTER MARICELA.>
< I DON'T KNOW WHO MY FATHER WAS, EXCEPT THAT HE WAS A SOLDIER.
< LUBA AND I DON'T SPEAK. I GOT ENOUGH OF HER ABUSE AND I RAN AWAY.>
< I'VE GOT BUMPS AND SCARS THAT REMIND ME OF HER EVERY TIME I LOOK AT THEM.
< GETTING MY ARM SPRAINED IS THE CLASSIC, THOUGH.>
< HARD TO TELL IF YOU KNOW ALL THIS ALREADY.
< I MEAN, WITH YOUR VOICE GONE.>
< I KNEW THAT GIRL YOU TRIED TO SAVE FROM BURNING. IT WAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING I'D EVER HEARD: YOU TRYING TO SAVE HER...
< LUBA SURE THE HELL DOESN'T DESERVE YOU.>
WEIRD THAT YOU RAN INTO HIM IN FRONT OF A FIRE.
WEIRD THAT I RAN INTO HIM AT ALL.
SEEING HIM ALMOST MADE ME GIVE A SHIT ABOUT MY MOTHER FOR A SECOND.

PIPO'S BURDEN

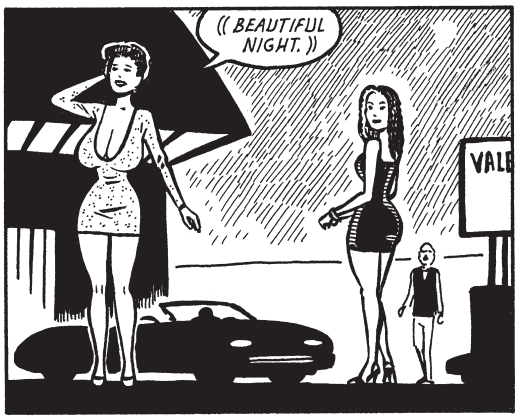








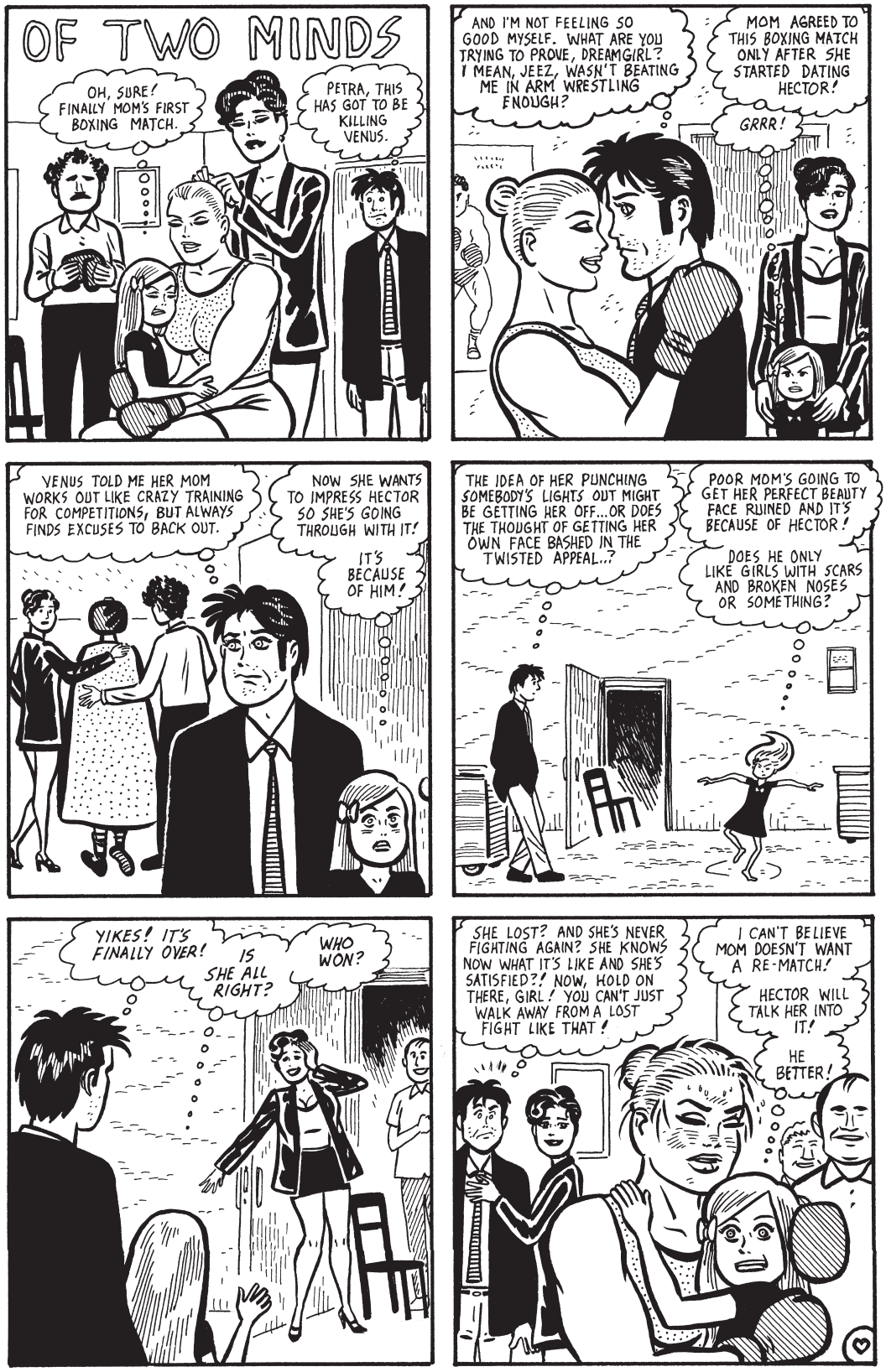


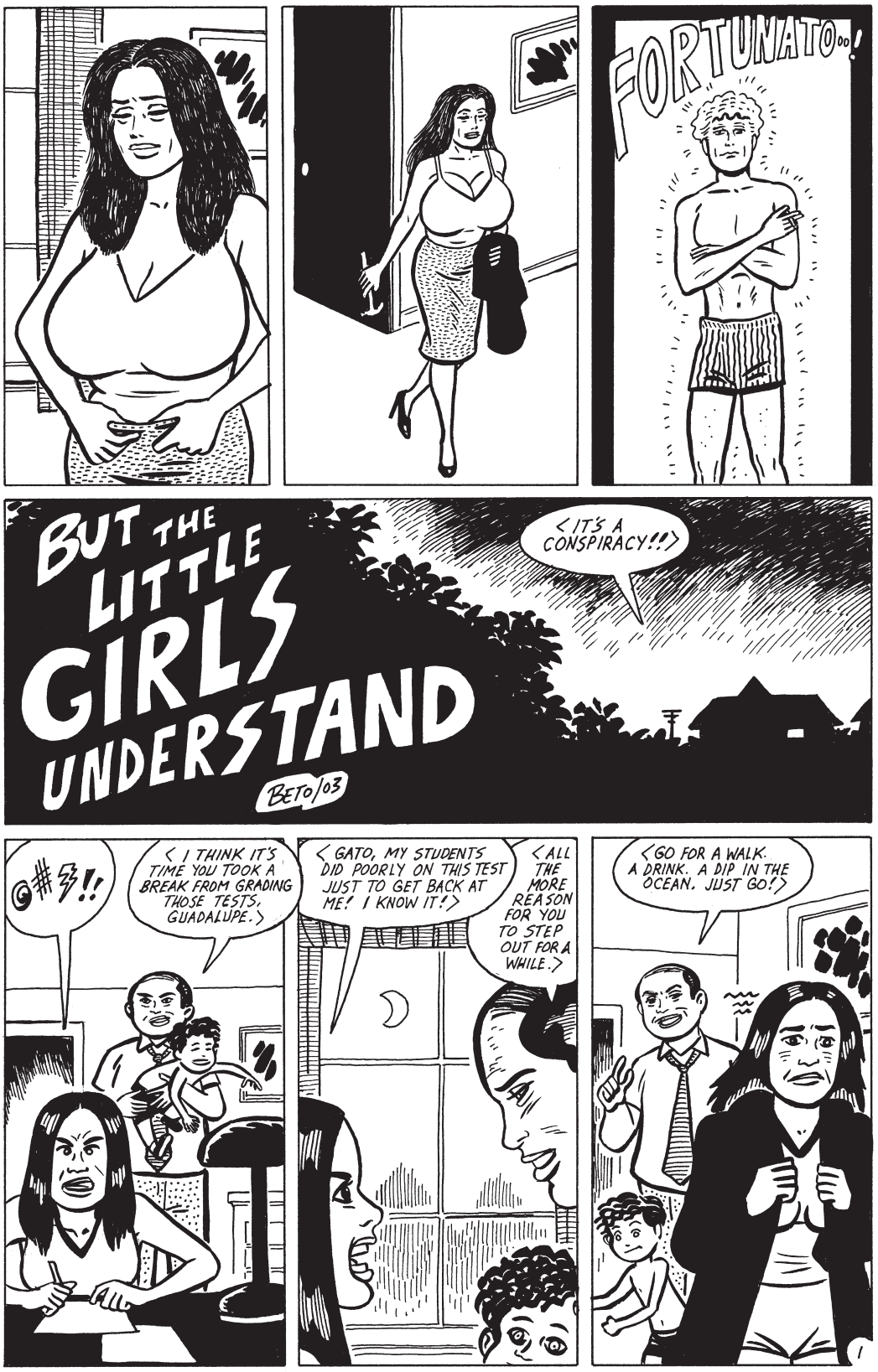


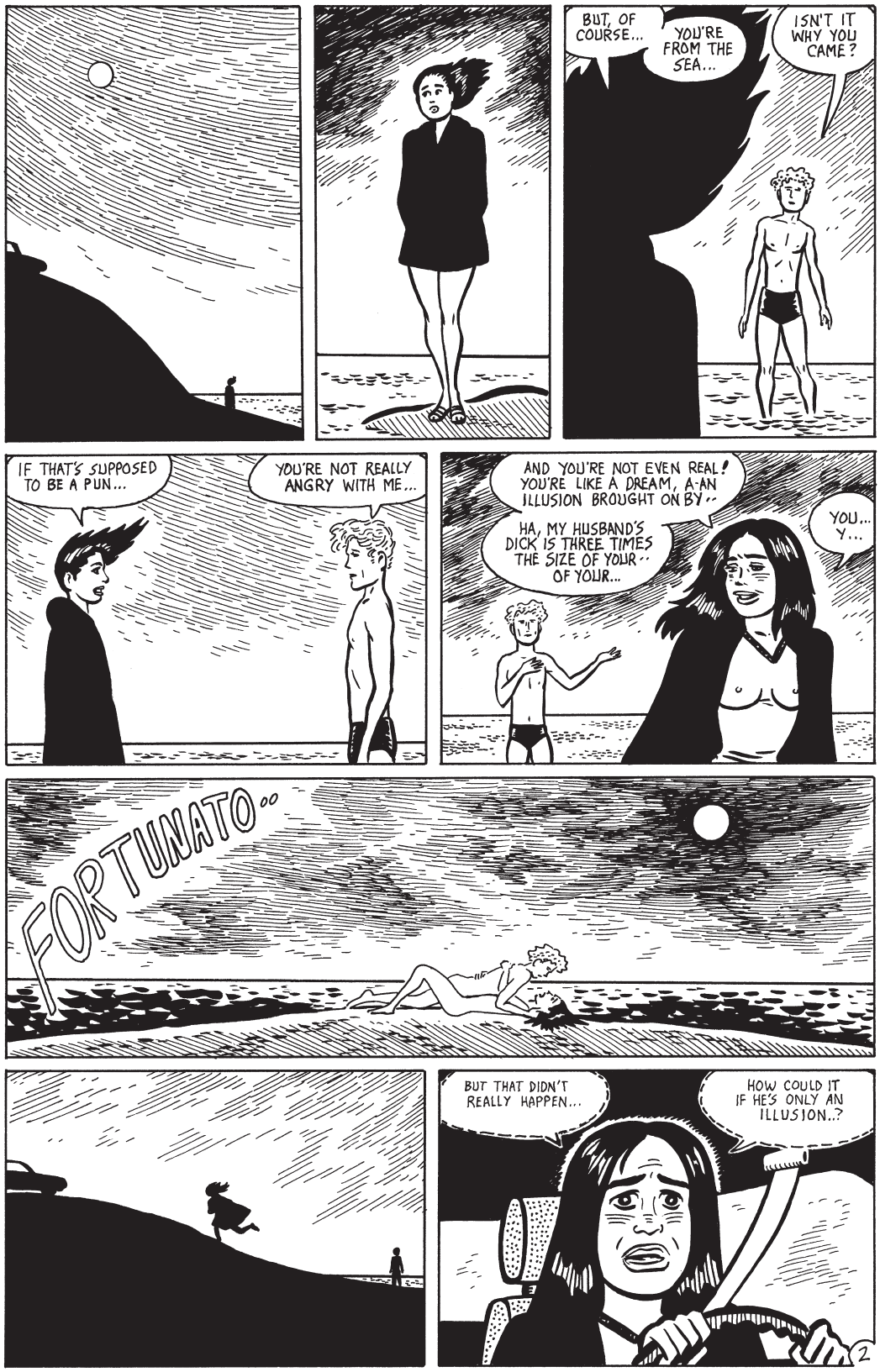



((LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT 'EM.
((COME ON.))
PIPO...
((GO ON...))
((DO YOU WANT ME TO BE NAKED?))
((NO...
((YEAH... YEAH, THAT WOULD BE...
((NO...
((NO, COME HERE.))
((I HAVE PRETTY LEGS, BUT YOU'LL NEVER NOTICE.))
((YOU'RE PRETTY EVERYWHERE.
((YOU'VE PUT ON SOME WEIGHT, THOUGH.))
((I'M, UH, THINKING OF BREAKING UP WITH IGOR, FRITZ.))
((OH... BUT YOU LOVE HIS HUGE DICK SO MUCH!))
2

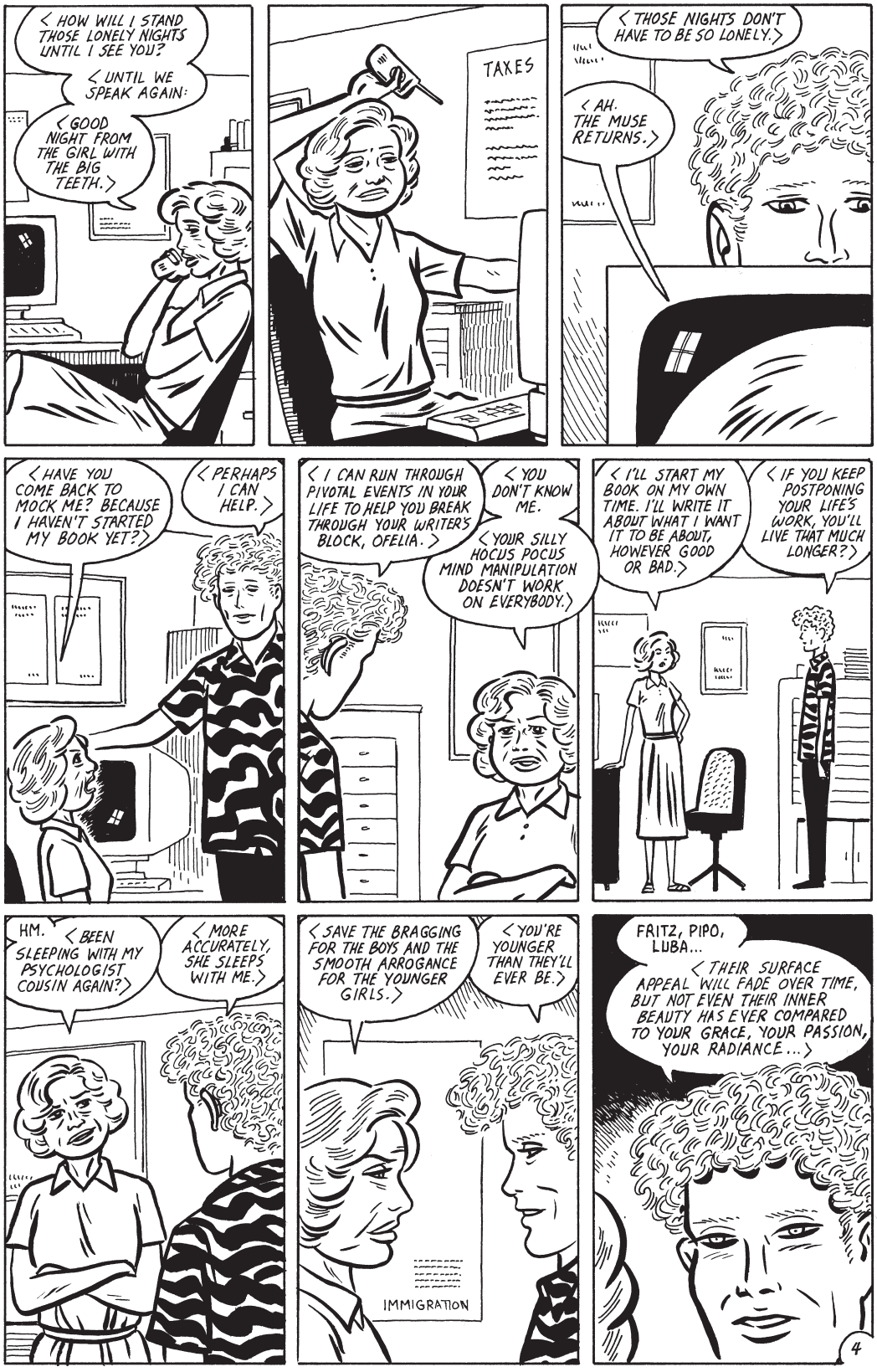

((MY FATHER, SERGIO'S FATHER BOTH DEAD, BOTH MURDERED BECAUSE OF ME IN THEIR LIVES. TWO OF THE MOST IMPORTANT MEN IN MY LIFE...))
((IF THAT STUPID, DRUNK DOCTOR HADN'T DROPPED ME WHEN I WAS BORN, MY PAPA WOULDN'T HAVE KILLED HIM...
((PAPA WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN SENT TO PRISON, WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN KILLED IN A FIGHT OVER A CIGARETTE LIGHTER...))
((IF I HADN'T HAD AFFAIRS WITH BOTH SERGIO'S FATHER AND HIS BEST FRIEND, THE BEST FRIEND WOULDN'T HAVE KILLED MY BEAUTIFUL SWEET MANUEL...))
((YOU WERE FOURTEEN. YOUR FATHER.. WELL, LEFT YOU AND YOU" IT DOESN'T TAKE A THERAPIST TO FIGURE THAT ONE OUT.))
((THEN IF IGOR'S OUT OF MY LIFE HE'LL BE SAFE... FROM...))
((YOU?
((YOUR WORST CONDITIONED FEARS WILL SURFACE WHEN TRUE CHANGES ARE IMMINENT, PIPO.))
((ALL THIS POOP ABOUT YOUR T.V. SHOW'S GOT YOU CRAZY CONFUSED, GIRL. THAT'S ALL.))
((I'M GLAD THE SHOW'S OVER. I'VE GOT PLANS...))
((YOU'RE RIGHT. I DO LOVE IGOR'S BIG DICK SO.))
((I THINK THERE'S A LOT YOU LOVE.. LIKE ABOUT IGOR AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE..
((WELL.))
((CAN YOU DRIVE?))
((OK.))


OF TWO MINDS
OH, SURE! FINALLY MOM'S FIRST BOXING MATCH.
PETRA, THIS HAS GOT TO BE KILLING VENUS.
AND I'M NOT FEELING SO GOOD MYSELF. WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO PROVE, DREAMGIRL? I MEAN, JEEZ, WASN'T BEATING ME IN ARM WRESTLING ENOUGH?
MOM AGREED TO THIS BOXING MATCH ONLY AFTER SHE STARTED DATING HECTOR!
GRRR!
VENUS TOLD ME HER MOM WORKS OUT LIKE CRAZY TRAINING FOR COMPETITIONS, BUT ALWAYS FINDS EXCUSES TO BACK OUT.
NOW SHE WANTS TO IMPRESS HECTOR SO SHE'S GOING THROUGH WITH IT!
IT'S BECAUSE OF HIM!
THE IDEA OF HER PUNCHING SOMEBODY'S LIGHTS OUT MIGHT BE GETTING HER OFF...OR DOES THE THOUGHT OF GETTING HER OWN FACE BASHED IN THE TWISTED APPEAL...?
POOR MOM'S GOING TO GET HER PERFECT BEAUTY FACE RUINED AND IT'S BECAUSE OF HECTOR!
DOES HE ONLY LIKE GIRLS WITH SCARS AND BROKEN NOSES OR SOMETHING?
YIKES! IT'S FINALLY OVER!
IS SHE ALL RIGHT?
WHO WON?
SHE LOST? AND SHE'S NEVER FIGHTING AGAIN? SHE KNOWS NOW WHAT IT'S LIKE AND SHE'S SATISFIED?! NOW, HOLD ON THERE, GIRL! YOU CAN'T JUST WALK AWAY FROM A LOST FIGHT LIKE THAT!
I CAN'T BELIEVE MOM DOESN'T WANT A RE-MATCH!
HECTOR WILL TALK HER INTO IT!
HE BETTER!

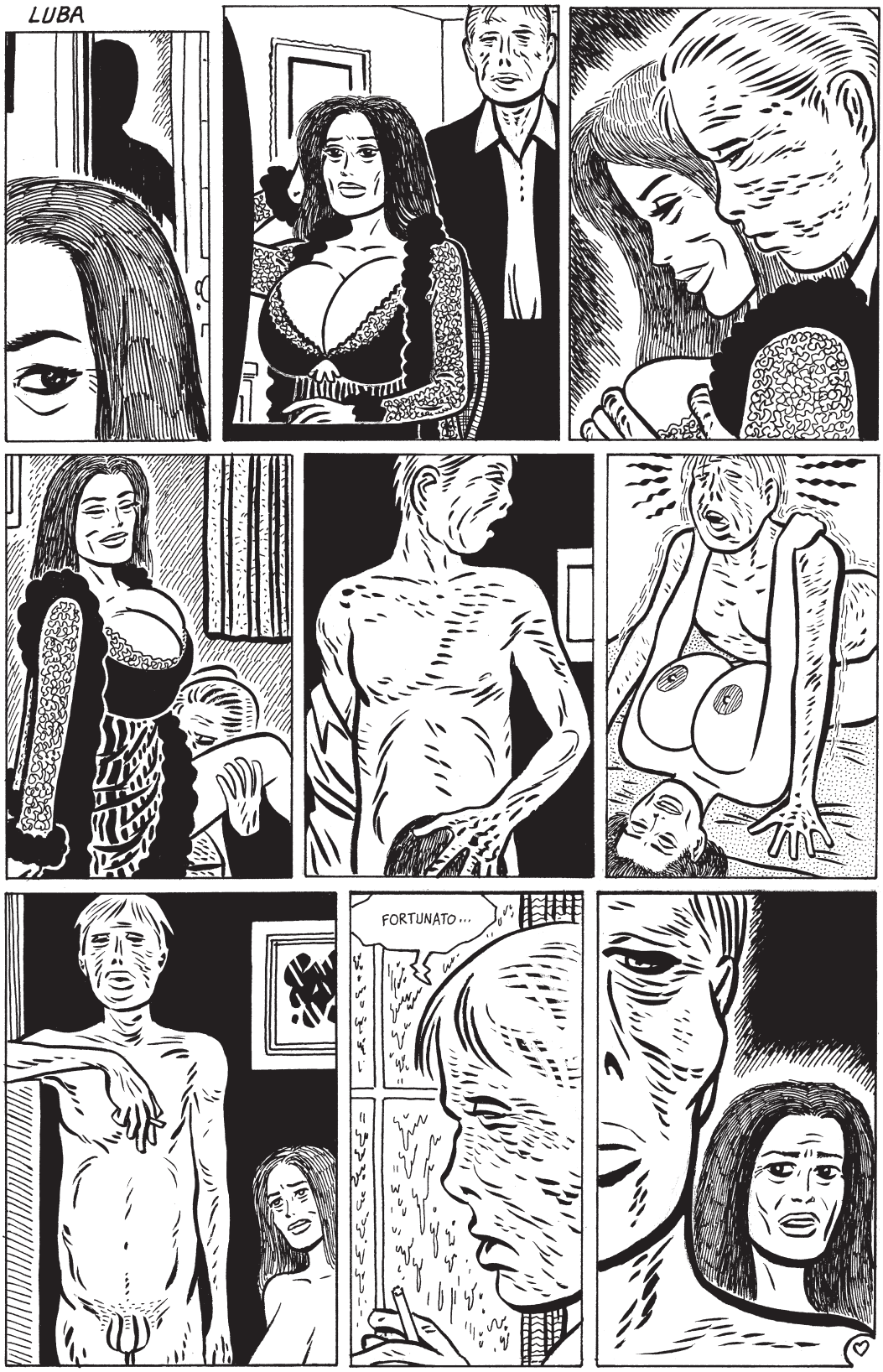

FORTUNATOOO!
BUT THE LITTLE GIRLS UNDERSTAND
BETO/03
<IT'S A CONSPIRACY!!>
@#$%!!
<I THINK IT'S TIME YOU TOOK A BREAK FROM GRADING THOSE TESTS, GUADALUPE.>
<GATO, MY STUDENTS DID POORLY ON THIS TEST JUST TO GET BACK AT ME! I KNOW IT!>
<ALL THE MORE REASON FOR YOU TO STEP OUT FOR A WHILE.>
<GO FOR A WALK. A DRINK. A DIP IN THE OCEAN. JUST GO!>


BUT, OF COURSE...
YOU'RE FROM THE SEA...
ISN'T IT WHY YOU CAME?
IF THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A PUN...
YOU'RE NOT REALLY ANGRY WITH ME...
AND YOU'RE NOT EVEN REAL! YOU'RE LIKE A DREAM, A-AN ILLUSION BROUGHT ON BY..
HA, MY HUSBAND'S DICK IS THREE TIMES THE SIZE OF YOUR.. OF YOUR...
YOU... Y...
FORTUNATO..
BUT THAT DIDN'T REALLY HAPPEN...
HOW COULD IT IF HE'S ONLY AN ILLUSION..?


UNCLEAN!
UNCLEAN!
DILLY'S
MY THEN GIRLFRIEND AND I WANTED A BABY THE NATURAL WAY SO BADLY, WE'D DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING TO GET IT DONE!
SNORT!
BUT EVEN SLEEP WITH GUYS, MARICELA? THAT YOU WERE JUST A TEENAGER IS NO EXCUSE!
UNCLEAN!
ONLY TWO GUYS; DUMBEST THING I'VE EVER.. NEVER AGAIN, DON'T WORRY. TCH. DIDN'T EVEN GET CLOSE TO PREGNANT!
JAPANESE GUY AND.. AND..
FORTUNATO...!
AND NOBODY.
ANOTHER ROUND?
< HEARING YOUR VOICE AGAIN IS LIKE A MIRACLE...
< IT HASN'T CHANGED...>
LUBA
3

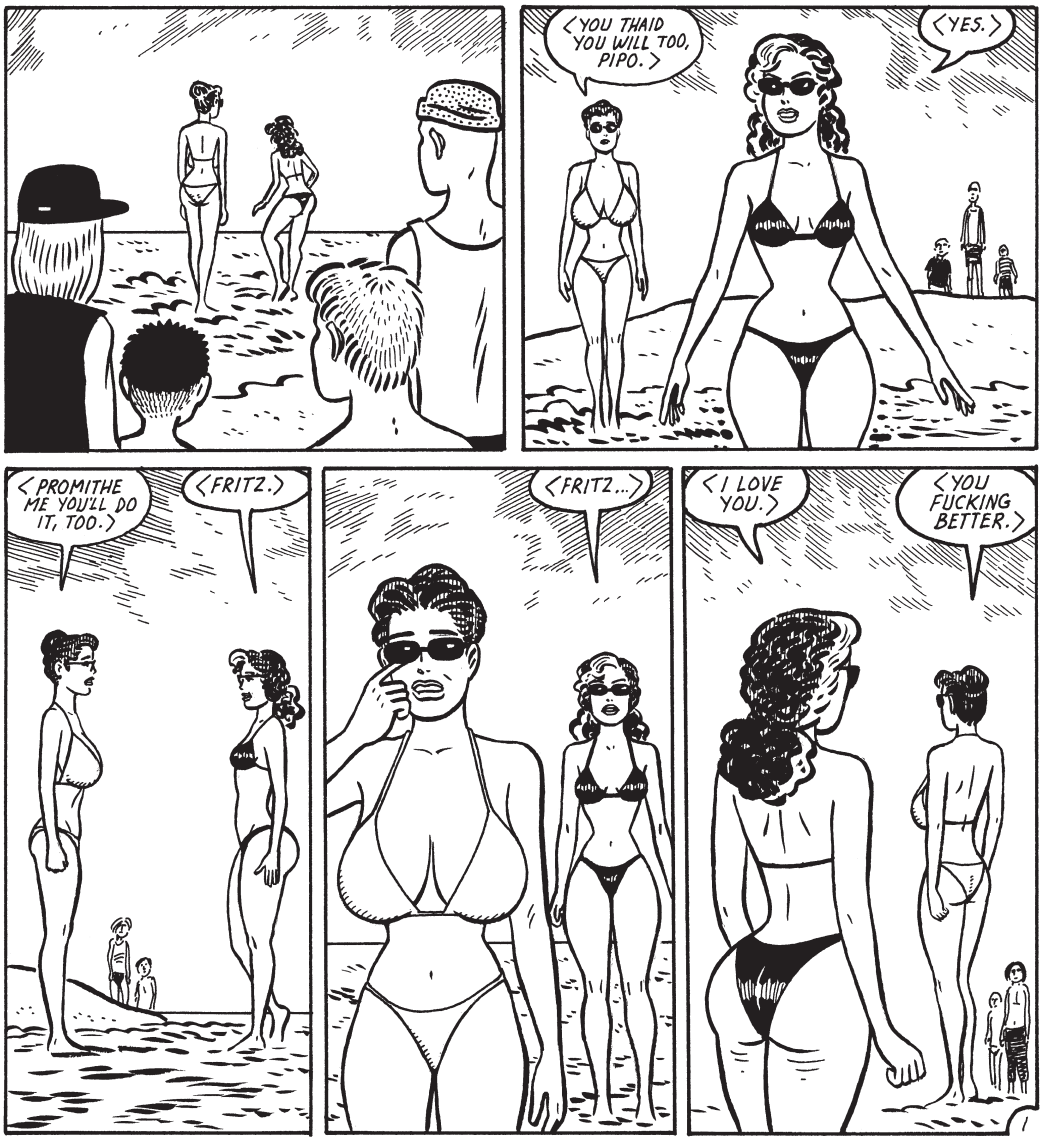

< HOW WILL I STAND THOSE LONELY NIGHTS UNTIL I SEE YOU?
< UNTIL WE SPEAK AGAIN:
< GOOD NIGHT FROM THE GIRL WITH THE BIG TEETH.>
TAXES
< THOSE NIGHTS DON'T HAVE TO BE SO LONELY.>
< AH. THE MUSE RETURNS.>
< HAVE YOU COME BACK TO MOCK ME? BECAUSE I HAVEN'T STARTED MY BOOK YET?>
< PERHAPS I CAN HELP.>
< I CAN RUN THROUGH PIVOTAL EVENTS IN YOUR LIFE TO HELP YOU BREAK THROUGH YOUR WRITER'S BLOCK, OFELIA.>
< YOU DON'T KNOW ME.
< YOUR SILLY HOCUS POCUS MIND MANIPULATION DOESN'T WORK ON EVERYBODY.>
< I'LL START MY BOOK ON MY OWN TIME. I'LL WRITE IT ABOUT WHAT I WANT IT TO BE ABOUT, HOWEVER GOOD OR BAD.>
< IF YOU KEEP POSTPONING YOUR LIFE'S WORK, YOU'LL LIVE THAT MUCH LONGER?>
HM. < BEEN SLEEPING WITH MY PSYCHOLOGIST COUSIN AGAIN?>
< MORE ACCURATELY, SHE SLEEPS WITH ME.>
< SAVE THE BRAGGING FOR THE BOYS AND THE SMOOTH ARROGANCE FOR THE YOUNGER GIRLS.>
< YOU'RE YOUNGER THAN THEY'LL EVER BE.>
IMMIGRATION
FRITZ, PIPO, LUBA...
< THEIR SURFACE APPEAL WILL FADE OVER TIME, BUT NOT EVEN THEIR INNER BEAUTY HAS EVER COMPARED TO YOUR GRACE, YOUR PASSION, YOUR RADIANCE...>
4


< NICE COMPLIMENT, BUT PIPO HASN'T AGED SINCE SHE WAS EIGHTEEN. YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH MAGIC IN YOUR VEINS.>
< AND YOU HAVE IT IN MIND AND SOUL.
< BEAUTIFUL, INSPIRING, AGELESS.>
FORTUNATO...
< YOU'RE THE ONE THAT TOLD ME A LITTLE MAGIC REALISM GOES A LONG WAY.>
LUBA..?
< I DIDN'T KNOW WHETHER TO GET RED OR WHITE.>
AY!
< MARICELA, YOU AND YOUR SISTERS SOUND SO MUCH LIKE YOUR MOTHER.>
HA!
< YOU KNOW WHEN MAMA ISN'T TALKING TO YOU, SHE WON'T BE THE FIRST TO SPEAK.>
< I WAS JUST CAUGHT UP IN E-MAILING OLD FRIENDS I HAVEN'T HEARD FROM IN AGES, GIRLS.
< IT IS AMAZING WHO YOU CAN GET IN TOUCH WITH AGAIN, HUH? >
<OLD GHOSTS FROM THE PAST.
<GIVE ME NEW GHOSTS ANY DAY!>
< SO SWEET...>
< DORALIS, IF YOU'RE REFERRING TO FORTUNATO AS A GHOST...>
< NO, I WOULD ONLY THINK OF HIM AS A DREAM...>
END


LUBA
FORTUNATO...



FRITZ and PIPO, SITTIN' IN a TREE...




PIPO
SERGIO
PETRA
IGOR
FRITZ
ENRIQUE
GUADALUPE
SIGH.
OK.
< I'VE ONLY GOT A MINUTE, SERGIO. MY STUDENTS...>
< ME, TOO. I'M TRYING TO GET IN TOUCH WITH YOUR TIA FRITZ, BUT SHE'S PLAYING HARD TO GET, GUADALUPE.>
< HOW WILL YOU EVER PULL HER FROM YOUR MAMA'S LOVING ARMS?>
< DON'T START!>
< I-I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU...!
< ANYTHING YOU ASK...
< JUST... COME AWAY WITH ME!>
< M-MY TIA IS EXPECTING YOU...>
<HAVE A FUCKING BACKBONE FOR ONCE IN YOUR LIFE!!!>
2


IT'S A SHAME...
IT'S SO LIMITED WHAT PASSES FOR SCIENCE FICTION THESE DAYS.
AT LEAST THE OLD 'B' MOVIES WEREN'T SO SELF-CONSCIOUS.
E-ENRIQUE...
ENRIQUE, I WON'T BE THEEING THERGIO ANY MORE.
I'M..
CERTAINLY OK WITH THAT.
WHY DON'T THEY EVER MAKE A ROMANTIC SCIENCE FICTION MOVIE?
VAMPIRO
BRING!
DOOM CULT
BRI!..
PIPO.
HI.
< I'LL TELL HIM.>
WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING WITH YOUR LIFE, FRITZ?! YOU'RE A THERAPIST..!
PIPO TREATS YOU LIKE DOG SHIT!
PIPO LOVETH ME ME, PETRA.
YOU DON'T KNOW HER.
BZZING!
DON'T ANSWER IT, FRITZ!
DON'T..
PETRA, IT'TH ONLY A CLIENT...
PIPO?
< I-I'M TELLING HIM TODAY, PIPO, I.. >
PIPO...
3


〈BECAUSE MY MOTHER DISAPPROVES OF OUR RELATIONSHIP, IS THAT IT?〉
〈YOU DATE YOUR BLOND AIRHEAD AND ME AND··
〈WHAT IF I TOLD YOU THERE WAS NO ME AND? ONLY ME AND YOU?
〈NO NOTHING, NOBODY ON THE SIDE, ONLY YOU?〉
〈THERGIO, I-I'VE MADE UP MY MIND; PLEATHE...〉
PIPOWEAR
〈THEN, THIS·· THIS MODEL? THIS BLOND?
〈HIM?〉
〈HHOKAY, WHY NOT?
〈YEAH, ENRIQUE'LL MARRY ME IF ··IF··〉
〈MARRY YOU.〉
〈MARRY YOU.〉
〈MARRY YOU!〉
〈THERGIO, DON'T.〉
〈THEN MARRY HIM.
〈HE TOLD ME YOU WOULDN'T MARRY HIM BECAUSE OF ME.
〈NICE.〉
〈HE DID?
〈WHEN?〉
BRI-ING
BRI-ING
4


'ENGLISH? UH... INGLES?'
YOU'VE LEARNED SOME ENGLISH TO TELL ME SOMETHING?
I LORN LEETLE BEET.
THAT'S THE CUTEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD.
OF COURSE, UNTIL YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED, THEN *THAT'LL* BE THE CUTEST.
IGOR, I...
OH... RIGHT. I THINK I GOT IT.
YEAH. OK. I'M, HOW YOU SAY: *DUMPED.*
BRI-ING
BRI-ING
5


'OH, BY THE WAY...'
<HOW'S MY SISTER?>
<YOU TALKED TO FRITZ? WHEN?>
<SHE AND I ALWAYS TALK. WE'RE AN ANOMALY. WE GET ALONG. WE SHARE THINGS.>
<SERGIO, IT'S CUTE, IT REALLY IS, BUT YOU'RE FULL OF SHIT, OK?>
<I'VE GOT A LOVER, THANK YOU. DO I LOOK LIKE ONE OF YOUR LOVESICK GROUPIES?>
<IS THAT HOW YOU THINK OF YOUR SISTER?
<NICE.>
<FUCK YOU!
<I OPENED UP TO YOU AND YOU PUSHED ME AWAY!
<SO HOW'S IT FEEL?>
<I'LL TELL FRITZ>
<NO, YOU WON'T! BESIDES, IT WAS BEFORE YOU TWO WENT OUT, BOY.
<ANY WAY, FRITZ'LL JUST SAY I DID IT BECAUSE MY MARRIAGE WAS BREAKING UP AT THE TIME, BLAH BLAH...>
<YOU LOOK LIKE A FUCKING MAN.>
<YOU LOOK LIKE A FUCKING GIRL.>
FRITZ..?
WHAT'S THE MATTER? WHY ARE YOU CRYING?
WHAT DID PIPO DO TO YOU..
OH...
OH, YOU BROKE UP WITH SERGIO...
OHHH...
6


'SERGIO...
TURN AROUND, SERGIO. I'M ASKING YOU TO TAKE ME WITH YOU.
TAKE ME.
DAMN YOU.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?
< I DID GET SOME WORK DONE WHILE YOU WERE OUT, BELIEVE IT OR NOT.
< THE BABY'S HAVING A NAP. >
7


'YOU FUCKING BETTER.' <SO NOW YOU'VE TURNED MEAN ALREADY? YOU'VE NEVER SAID ANYTHING LIKE THAT TO ME BEFORE!>
<I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING TO BE HAPPY.>
<OH...! MORE SASS, MISSY BAZOOMBAS?>
<WE'LL THTAY TOGETHER AND DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, PIPO, BUT I'M GOING TO MARRY ENRIQUE.>
<IN SHOW BIZ HE'LL BE WHAT'S KNOWN AS A 'BEARD'.
<WELL, IF THAT'S HOW I'M GOING TO KEEP YOU.>
<IT'TH HOW YOU'LL KEEP ME.>
<YOUR BLOND. HE ASK YOU ALREADY?>
NO.
ZOOLY


GOD WILLING
BEFORE OFELIA SIGNS HER NAME, SHE ALWAYS WRITES: "FROM THE GIRL WITH THE BIG TEETH."
BUT I THINK HER TEETH ARE NORMAL, EXCEPT I'M NOT SURE THEY'RE HERS, HECTOR.
I KNEW A GIRL WHO HAD SEVEN MORE TEETH THAN BURT LANCASTER.
HER BOYFRIEND HAD A NECK LIKE A STACK OF DIMES...
I THINK TEETH CAN TELL YOU A LOT ABOUT A PERSON, VENUS. I DON'T MEAN DENTAL CARE OR COLORATION, OR--BUT HOW THEY FIT A PERSON'S FACE...
MY MOM'S GOT NICE TEETH AND I BET SHE REALLY QUIT BOXING TO KEEP 'EM THAT WAY.
<OFELIA, HAVE YOU BEEN WRITING YOUR BOOK OR HAVE YOU BEEN SPENDING THAT TIME E-MAILING YOUR SECRET BOYFRIEND?>
<ARE YOU SURE IT'S ONLY ONE, VENUS?>
TAXES
<NICE TO HAVE MET YOU, OFELIA.>
<WE'LL HAVE TO CONTINUE OUR TALK ABOUT TEETH SOME OTHER TIME, HECTOR.>
<VENUS, SAY GOODBYE TO OFELIA.>
<BYE, OFELIA! DON'T HURT YOURSELF WRITING YOUR BOOK TOO HARD!>
IMMIGRATION

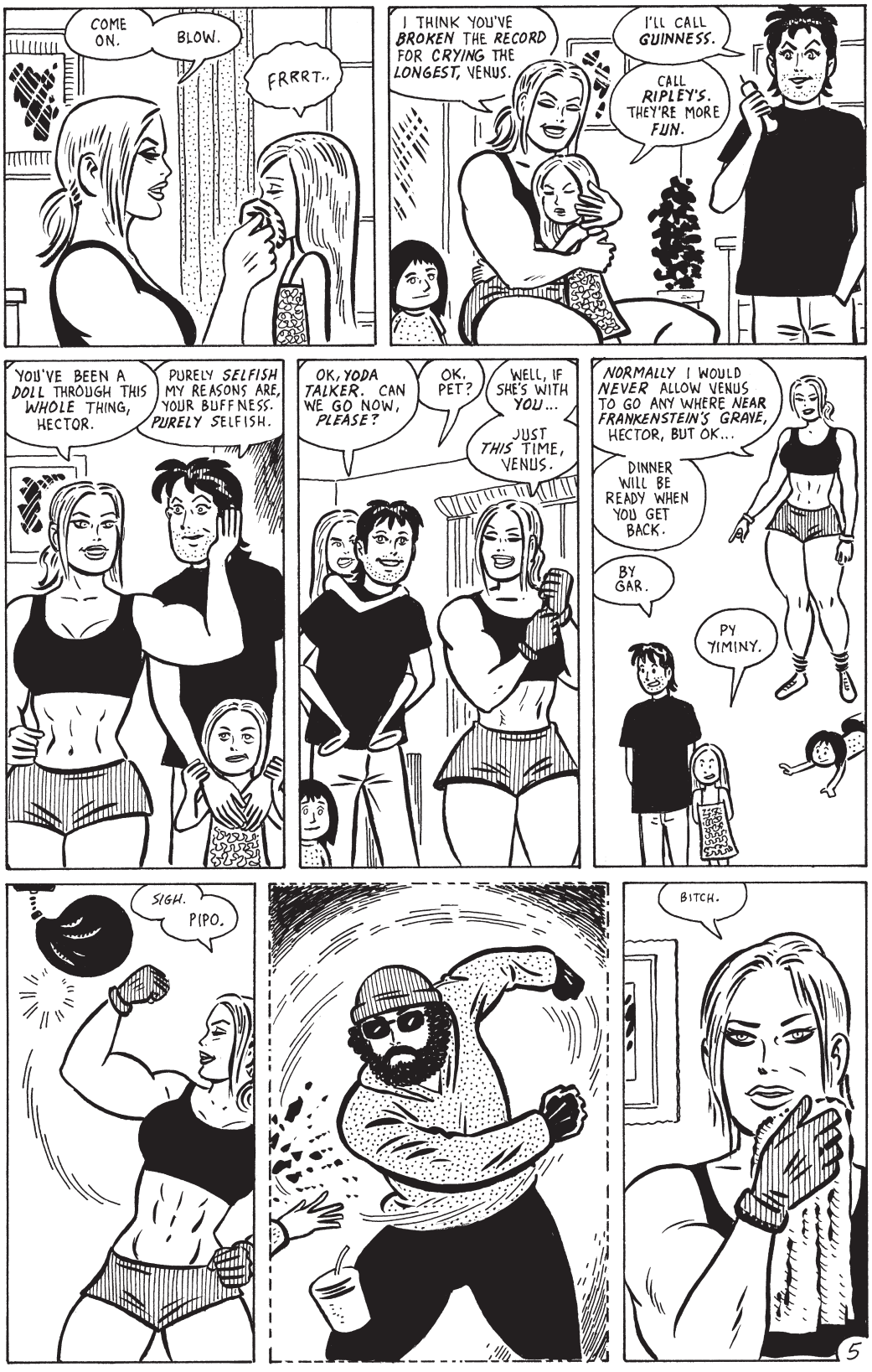

OFELIA AND A MYSTERY BOYFRIEND; THAT'S SWEET.
C'MON, VENUS.
HMM.
<E-MAIL SECRET BOYFRIEND OR START MY DAMN BOOK ALREADY?>
CELL PHONE
CLICKETY
CLICKETY
CLICKETY
ACHK...
LUBA BY OFELIA BELTRAN
TAXES
LUBA
MY GOD, FRITZ, AND YOU WERE JUST TALKING TO PIPO NOT TEN MINUTES BEFORE--IT'S HORRIBLE! AND IT'S SUCH A NICE NEIGHBORHOOD! AND NOBODY SAW WHO DID IT? OH, FRITZ...
OFELIA?
YEAH, WHY? I JUST SAW OFELIA TODAY...
H-HEART ATTACK..?!
BUT...
OH, NO...
OH, GOD...
BETO '04


LUBA
by GILBERT 'BETO' HERNANDEZ


SNIFF.
<STOP CRYING, HONEY. IT'S NOT GOOD FOR YOU.>
<I-I WAS THE ONE WHO MADE OFELIA HAVE A HEART ATTACK, TÍA LUBA... I TOLD HER TO WORK HARD AND WRITE HER BOOK!>
SNIFF.
<HOW COULD SHE HURT HERSELF THAT WAY, VENUS? SHE NEVER GOT PAST THE TITLE.>
<AND PIPO!>
<WHAT HAPPENED TO PIPO ISN'T YOUR FAULT EITHER, VENUS. YOU DIDN'T MAKE THOSE PEOPLE TRY TO ROB HER. THEY'RE JUST BAD PEOPLE.>
BAW!
<GOODNESS, LUBA: WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITHOUT ME?>
2


< I DON'T REMEMBER TOO MUCH, EXCEPT I WAS ON THE GROUND AND MY FACE FELT WARM AND NUMB AND IT TINGLED, LIKE WHEN YOUR ARM FALLS ASLEEP?
< I JUST LAID THERE ON THE GROUND NOT MOVING, AND HE JUST KEPT PUNCHING AND PUNCHING AND..>
< HE DID PAUSE FOR AIR, I THINK, AND I TRIED TO LOOK UP TO SEE WHO IT WAS, BUT MY EYES WERE ALMOST SWOLLEN SHUT WITH BLOOD POURING INTO THEM.>
< LET'S... NOT TALK ABOUT IT ANY MORE, PIPO.>
< OH, BUT I LIKE TALKING ABOUT IT, LUBA!
< I'M GLAD THE FOOL DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT MY LEGENDARY INDESTRUCTABLE SKULL, OR I MIGHT NOT..
< GOD, YOU'RE SUCH AN INSPIRATION!>
< WHAT?>
< YOU'RE THE REASON I DO SO WELL IN THE STOCK MARKET, HAD A T.V. SHOW AND ALL!
< YOU'VE INSPIRED ME SINCE I WAS A TEEN-AGER; YOUR STRENGTH OF SPIRIT, YOUR GREAT BEAUTY...
< AND WHEN YOU BECAME MAYOR..!>
< YOU SOUND LIKE FORTUNATO, GIRL.
< PIPO, I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING AS MAYOR, NOT REALLY.
< OFELIA AND SHERIFF CHELO DID ALMOST ALL OF IT.
< AND YOU.>
< ME?>
PHEH!
< YOU RISKED A LOT HELPING MY KIDS GET INTO THE COUNTRY BEFORE I COULD COME, PIPO, AND I'LL ALWAYS APPRECIATE THAT.>
< TCH, I'VE GOT PEOPLE IN IMMIGRATION IN MY PALM, LUBA.
< IF I WERE A MAN I'D BE AFTER YOUR TAIL LIKE A SWARM ON HONEY...>
< BUT WITH YOUR LITTLE SISTER AROUND, I'M DOING JUST FINE.>
PIPO..!
3


I'M THO THORRY I'M LATE! BUT I'M WEARING A PRETTY DRETH FOR YOU!
OH PIPO..!
LET HER GET SOME REST, LITTLE SISTER.
GIVE ME SOME SUGAR.
OH, LUBA! I-I'LL CALL YOU WHEN--ITH JUTHT BEEN THO CRAZTHY BUTHY..
YEAH, BUSY PUTTIN' ON WEIGHT.
OOF!
THNIFF!
AND I'M WEARING YOUR FAVORITE PERFUME, TOO!
THNIFF!
THER-SERGIO, IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU NEED...
THANKS, LUBA.
GATO? WHY DON'T YOU GO IN?
UH, LATER. SHE'S BUSY.
OH, FRITZ, YOU'RE SMOTHERING ME! OK, JUST LET ME BREATHE FOR A SECOND...!
FRITZ, I MEAN IT..!
TEE HEE.
WHERE'S LUBA?
LEFT.
I'M READY.
ME, TOO.
I WANT TO STOP BY THE HOUSE SOME-TIME TODAY.
SERGIO?
FRITZ, DIDN'T I HEAR SERGIO WITH YOU?
4

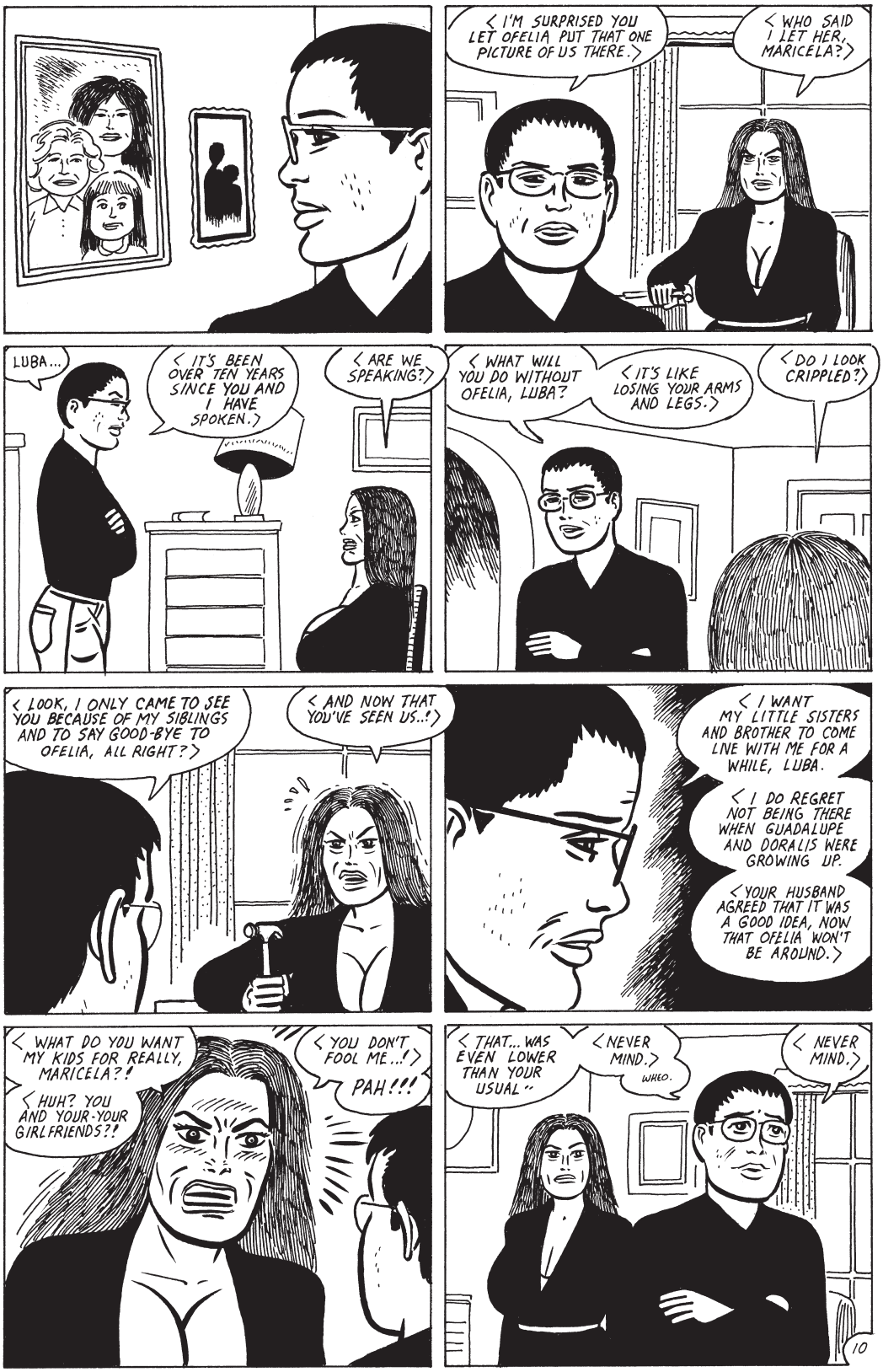

COME ON.
BLOW.
FRRRT..
I THINK YOU'VE BROKEN THE RECORD FOR CRYING THE LONGEST, VENUS.
I'LL CALL GUINNESS.
CALL RIPLEY'S. THEY'RE MORE FUN.
YOU'VE BEEN A DOLL THROUGH THIS WHOLE THING, HECTOR.
PURELY SELFISH MY REASONS ARE, YOUR BUFFNESS. PURELY SELFISH.
OK, YODA TALKER. CAN WE GO NOW, PLEASE?
OK, PET?
WELL, IF SHE'S WITH YOU...
JUST THIS TIME, VENUS.
NORMALLY I WOULD NEVER ALLOW VENUS TO GO ANY WHERE NEAR FRANKENSTEIN'S GRAVE, HECTOR, BUT OK...
DINNER WILL BE READY WHEN YOU GET BACK.
BY GAR.
PY YIMINY.
SIGH.
PIPO.
BITCH.
5


PARENTS DON'T WANT KIDS TO COME HERE BECAUSE THERE MIGHT BE WINOS OR DRUG ADDICTS IN THERE.
AND IT'S STILL CALLED FRANKENSTEIN'S GRAVE! MAN, ME AND THE GUYS USED TO DARE EACH OTHER TO MAKE IT THROUGH ALONE.
IT USED TO BE RELATIVELY SAFE HERE, I REMEMBER. IT'S A SHAME FUN STUFF LIKE THIS HAS TO GET SPOILED BY CREEPS.
YVONNE ROMAIN RAN INTO THERE TO PROVE SHE WASN'T SCARED AND SHE NEVER CAME OUT OF EITHER SIDE.
EVER.
YEAH... I'VE NEVER HEARD OF ANYBODY MAKING IT THROUGH ALL THE WAY, EITHER. THERE'S ALWAYS SOME EXCUSE: TOO DARK, TOO~
VENUS, I'VE GOT MY SWISS ARMY KNIFE WITH ME. HOW ABOUT WE...
YES!
WE CAN ALWAYS TURN BACK WHENEVER YOU WANT TO, VENUS.
OR WHENEVER YOU WANT TO, HECTOR.
HERE'S FRANKENSTEIN.
THAT MUST BE THE NAME OF THE COMPANY WHO MADE THIS BLOCK OF CEMENT, HUH?
OR IT'S FRANKENSTEIN'S GRAVE.
FRANKENSTEIN
I THINK WE'LL BE LATE FOR DINNER.
YEAH...WE'D BETTER GO BACK.
YOU LIKE MY MOM'S COOKING, HUH? YOU KNOW WHO'S A BETTER COOK? AUNT FRITZ! SHE'S GREAT AT IT BUT SHE HATES COOKING.
AND YOU KNOW WHO'S AN EVEN BETTER COOK? PIPO! SHE'S THE GREATEST COOK EVER EVER!
HAVE YOU HEARD OF HEARTBREAK SOUP?
MOM FEELS BAD THAT PIPO GOT HURT BUT SHE STILL HATES THE WAY PIPO TREATS AUNT FRITZ.
NOBODY BETTER TRY TO HURT ME OR MY SISTER OR AUNT FRITZ BECAUSE MOM COULD BEAT UP ANYBODY, I BET.
6


NO, YOU DIDN'T CONVERT ME OR MAKE ME SEE THE ERROR OF MY WAYS.
SILLY! HA HA!
YOU WERE JUST A CHILDISH WHIM, FORTUNATO. IT'S GIRLS EXCLUSIVELY FOR ME NOW.
AND ANYTHING FROM YOU ABOUT YOU AND ME AND YOU WILL END UP IN JAIL FOR STATUATORY RAPE, FORTUNATO.
THERE'S PLENTY OF GUYS IN JAIL WAITING TO GET THEIR HANDS ON YOUR ASS.
< YOU'LL PAY ME TO BED DORALIS A FEW TIMES?
< I'LL DO THAT FOR FREE. >
< I'VE SENT EVERYONE AWAY. I REALLY NEED TO REST. >
.... < YOU WANT ME TO GO TOO, PIPO? >
< NO, SILLY. THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT. >
FORTUNATO!
THIS IS DORALIS DE LOS SANTOS ON BEHALF OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN.
PLEASE HELP.
7


< ARE YOU SURE YOU WANT TO DO SOMETHING AS HARD AS THAT WITH MOST OF YOUR TIME AND MONEY, DORALIS? IT COULD GET AWFULLY DEPRESSING AFTER A BIT. >
< I'VE SHOWCASED THE PLIGHT OF THE POOR AND HOMELESS ON MY SHOW SEVERAL TIMES, MAMA.
< USING MY CELEBRITY TO GENERATE HELP ON THEIR BEHALF IS THE LEAST I CAN DO. >
< DO YOU THINK THEY'RE GOING TO LET AN ADMITTED LESBIAN NEAR HUNGRY CHILDREN, DORALIS? >
< PARENTS WHO HAVE KIDS BEING SAVED FROM STARVATION CAN BE VERY FORGIVING, MAMA. >
< DON'T YOU GET SMART, DORALIS!
< I JUST DON'T SEE WHY YOU HAVE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY FOR YOUR CHARITY WORK!
< YOUR FATHER'S UPSET ABOUT IT, TOO! >
< OFELIA ONCE TOLD ME THE GIRL THAT PAPA TRIED TO SAVE FROM BURNING FELT SHE HAD TO HELP PEOPLE, TOO.
< HER SPIRIT COMPELS ME, MAMA. >
< WELL, MAYBE THE SHOW WAS GOOD FOR SOMETHING, HUH? >
< OF COURSE IT WAS, PIPO. >
< ARE YOU GOING TO DRESS AS A SPACE SHOW GIRL, OR A SAMURAI RABBIT WHEN YOU HELP THE POOR KIDS, DORALIS? >
< SHE'S GOT SOMETHING THERE, PIPO. >
< THAT'S MY BOOTS. >
< HM. I WISH YOU'D RECONSIDER TURNING DOWN MY OFFER TO MAKE YOU A MOVIE STAR, DORALIS. >
HM.
8

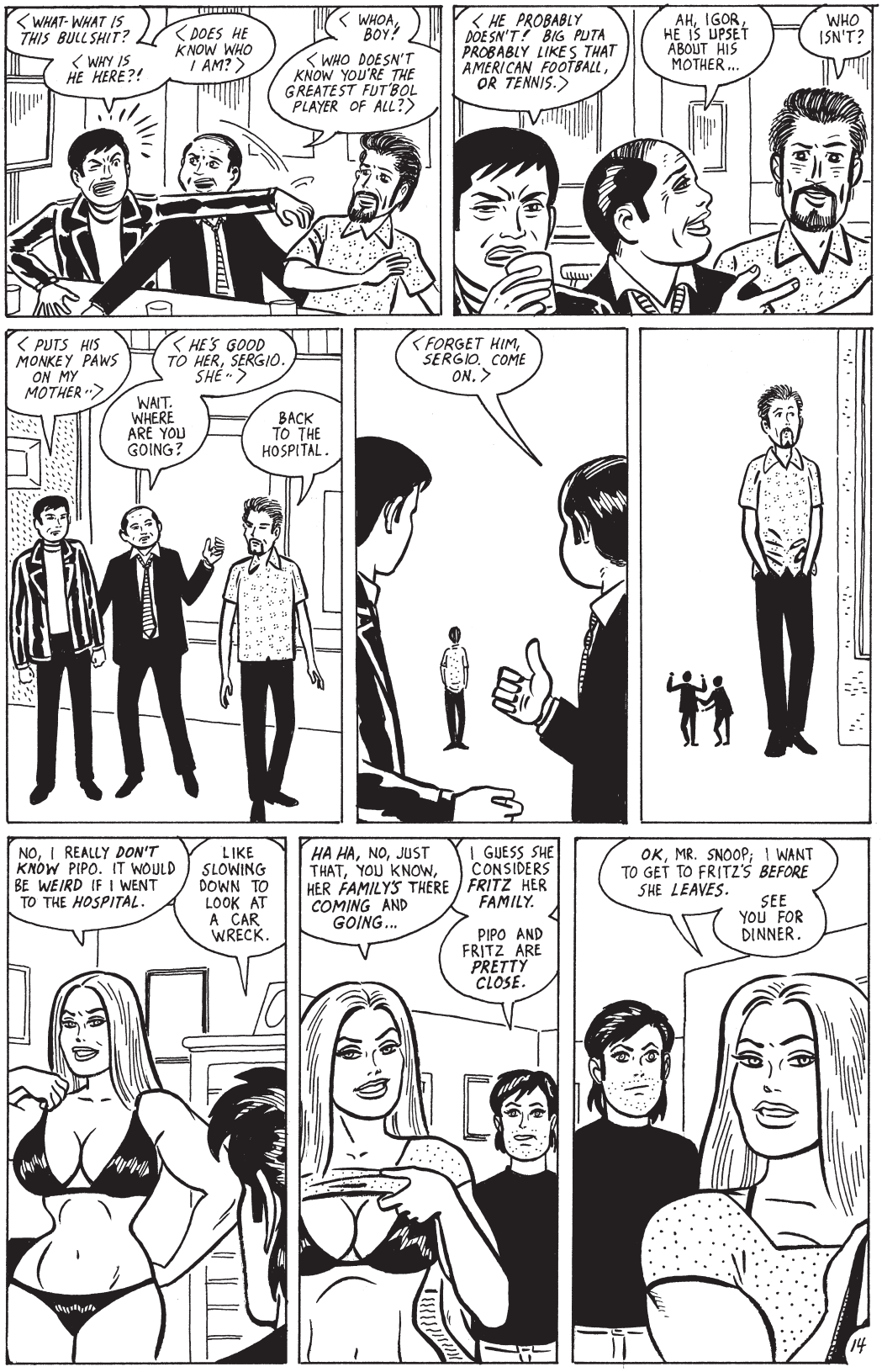

< YES, I TALKED TO TABLOID REPORTERS ABOUT YOUR MOTHER, BUT THEY TWISTED IT INTO MAKING HER LOOK LIKE A PERVERT. >
EXIT
< I DID TALK ABOUT HOW SHE HAD HER EYE ON A PRETTY GIRL NOW AND THEN, BUT NEVER THAT SHE ONLY PRODUCED A KIDDIE TV SHOW TO MEET YOUNG GIRLS! THAT WAS THEIR ANGLE. >
< YOUR MOTHER IS SUING THE PAPERS, THE PARENTS OF THE KIDS THAT APPEARED ON THE SHOW ARE SUING YOUR MOTHER..
< YOUR MOTHER IS INNOCENT OF ANY WRONG-DOING, SERGIO, BUT ONCE THE SEEDS OF DOUBT ARE PLANTED IN THE WEAK MINDS OF THE PUBLIC...
< THEN THE STAR OF THE SHOW DECIDED TO COME OUT..! >
< I HAD TO SOMEHOW MAKE IT KNOWN THAT DORALIS ONLY CALLED HERSELF A LESBIAN TO BOOST SAGGING RATINGS.
< I FOUND THE ONLY MAN WHO COULD EXPOSE DORALIS'S LESBIANISM FOR A LIE. >
< IT COULD HELP CLEAR PIPO'S REPUTATION IF YOU CO-OPERATED AND ANNOUNCED YOUR AFFAIR WITH DORALIS TO THE PUBLIC, FORTUNATO.
< BUT NO, YOU ONLY WANTED SEX WITH THE GIRL. >
< IT'S NOT IN MY NATURE TO PURPOSELY HARM ANY WOMAN FOR ANY REASON. >
< INTO THE TRUNK. >
< I'M ONLY GOING TO TELL LUBA WHAT SHE NEEDS TO HEAR, GUADALUPE. >
< MARICELA, CALL HER MOM, HUH? >
THIS IS DORALIS DE LOS SANTOS IN THE KID'S CANCER WARD AT ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL.
PLEASE GIVE.
A MARICELA NOW, GUADALUPE? HOW MANY SISTERS DO YOU HAVE?
I JUST MIGHT LOSE ONE BEFORE THE DAY'S OVER.

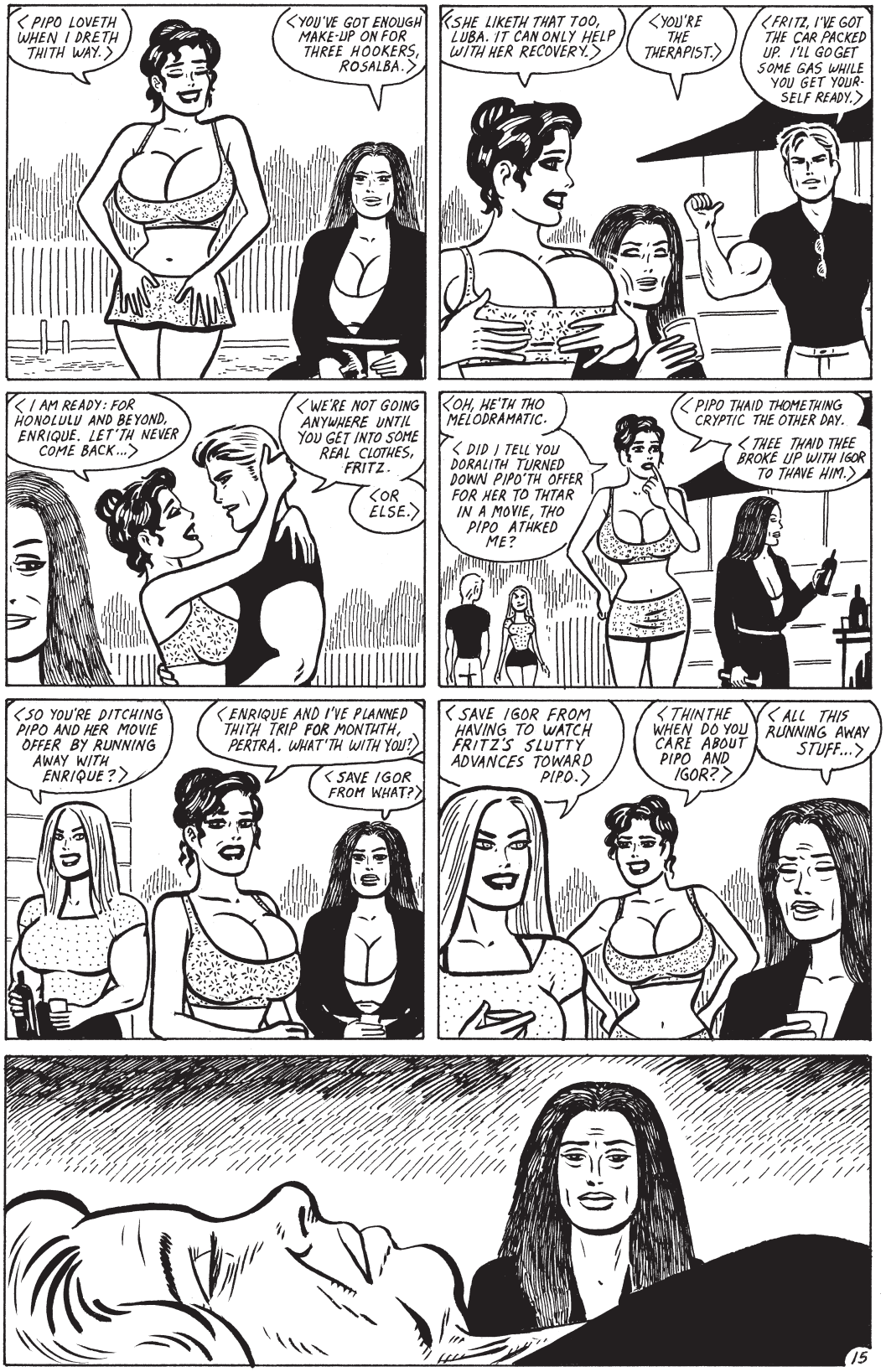

< I'M SURPRISED YOU LET OFELIA PUT THAT ONE PICTURE OF US THERE.>
< WHO SAID I LET HER, MARICELA?>
LUBA...
< IT'S BEEN OVER TEN YEARS SINCE YOU AND I HAVE SPOKEN.>
< ARE WE SPEAKING?>
< WHAT WILL YOU DO WITHOUT OFELIA, LUBA?
< IT'S LIKE LOSING YOUR ARMS AND LEGS.>
< DO I LOOK CRIPPLED?>
< LOOK, I ONLY CAME TO SEE YOU BECAUSE OF MY SIBLINGS AND TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO OFELIA, ALL RIGHT?>
< AND NOW THAT YOU'VE SEEN US..!>
< I WANT MY LITTLE SISTERS AND BROTHER TO COME LIVE WITH ME FOR A WHILE, LUBA.
< I DO REGRET NOT BEING THERE WHEN GUADALUPE AND DORALIS WERE GROWING UP.
< YOUR HUSBAND AGREED THAT IT WAS A GOOD IDEA, NOW THAT OFELIA WON'T BE AROUND.>
< WHAT DO YOU WANT MY KIDS FOR REALLY, MARICELA?!
< HUH? YOU AND YOUR-YOUR GIRLFRIENDS?!
< YOU DON'T FOOL ME...!>
PAH!!!
< THAT... WAS EVEN LOWER THAN YOUR USUAL"
< NEVER MIND.>
WHEO.
< NEVER MIND.>
10

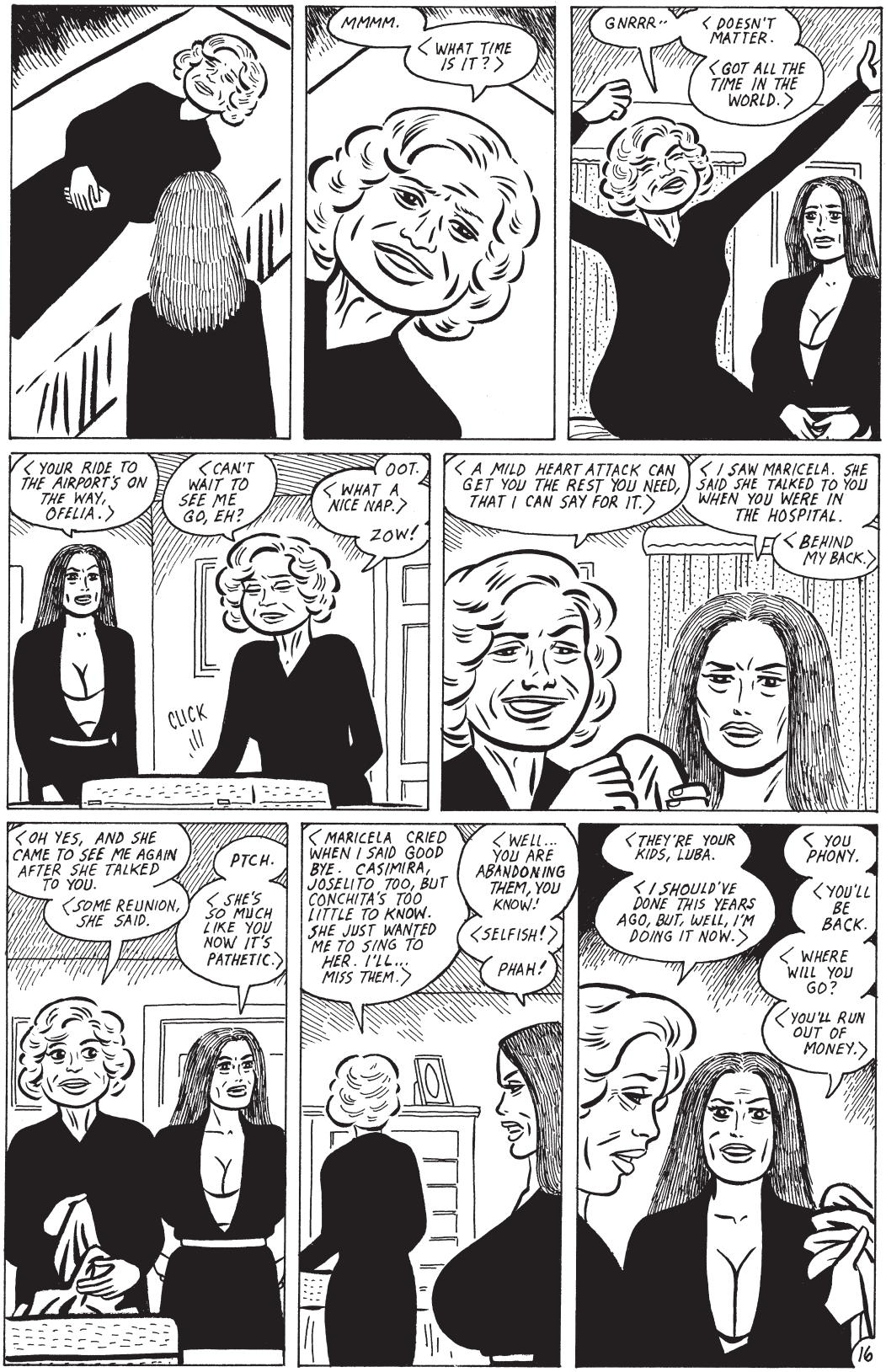

< I JUST WANTED TO CHECK SOMETHING ON THE COMPUTER, HONEY.
< I'LL TRY TO GET BACK HOME AS EARLY AS I CAN.>
< OH, GATO, AND I CAME HOME RIGHT AWAY.>
< I DON'T WANT YOU TWO GETTING DRUNK AND DRIVING A LOT, GATO.>
< SERGIO AND I WANT TO STOP BY THE POLICE STATION TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY DEVELOPMENTS.>
SERGIO.
< UH, I'LL TRY TO VISIT YOUR MAMA AT THE HOSPITAL IN THE MORNING.>
< OK, GUADALUPE.. SHE'LL LIKE THAT.>
< DRIVE CAREFULLY.>
< BYE, DAD.>
< WHY DON'T YOU JUST JUMP ON SERGIO, IT'S SO OBVIOUS, GUADALUPE?>
< NO, IT'S NOT! I..>
DORALIS...
< LOOK...>
GUADALUPE AND SERGIO
A LOVE STORY
BY GATO REYNA
< I DON'T HEAR HIM BACK THERE IN THE TRUNK ANYMORE.>
< MAYBE HE WAS GASSED TO DEATH BY HIS OWN FARTS.>
11

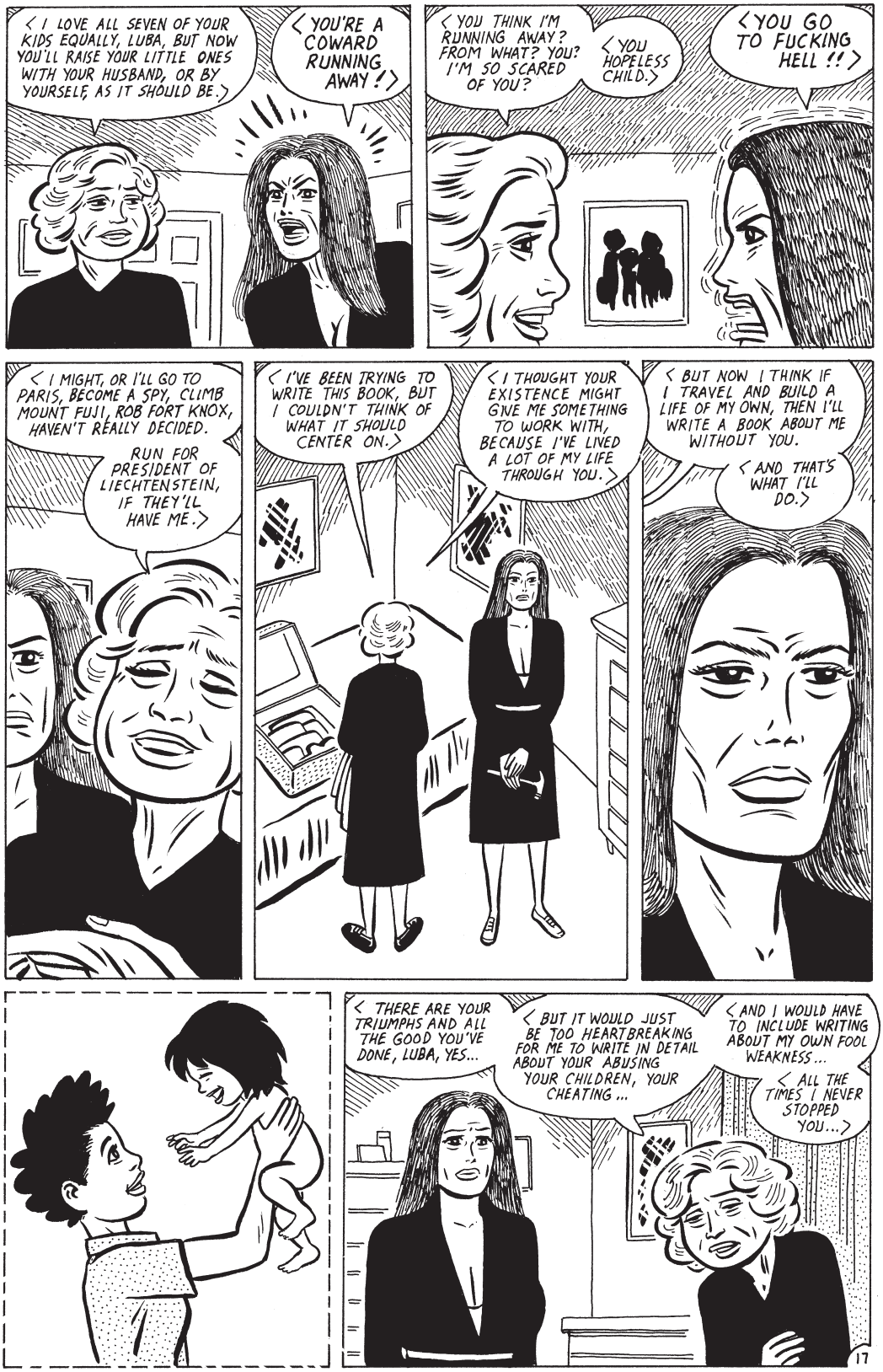

I'M STILL HERE, PIPO.
YOU CAN'T GET RID OF ME THAT EASILY.
Z
THEY DIDN'T HAVE DECAF, THO I GOT YOU A THEVEN-UP.
OK, THANKS, FRITZ.
I'M GOING TO GET GOING, I GUESS.
FRITZ, HOW DO YOU STAY IN THAT DRESS?
I DON'T. IGOR, THTAY! I'LL TRANTHLATE FOR YOU GUYTH WHEN THEE WAKETH UP!
NO... IT'S ALWAYS BEEN BETTER WHEN SHE AND I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT EACH OTHER WAS SAYING.
COME BACK THOON. I KNOW PIPO WILL WANT TO THEE YOU.
NOTHING COULD KEEP ME AWAY.
< HERE HE COMES.>
HOSPITAL
SERGIO AND I JUST THINK IT'S TIME WE GOT TO KNOW YOU BETTER, IGOR. PIPO IS VERY FOND OF YOU.
IF IT'LL PLEASE PIPO, I DON'T MIND BUYING YOU GUYS A DRINK, GATO.
12

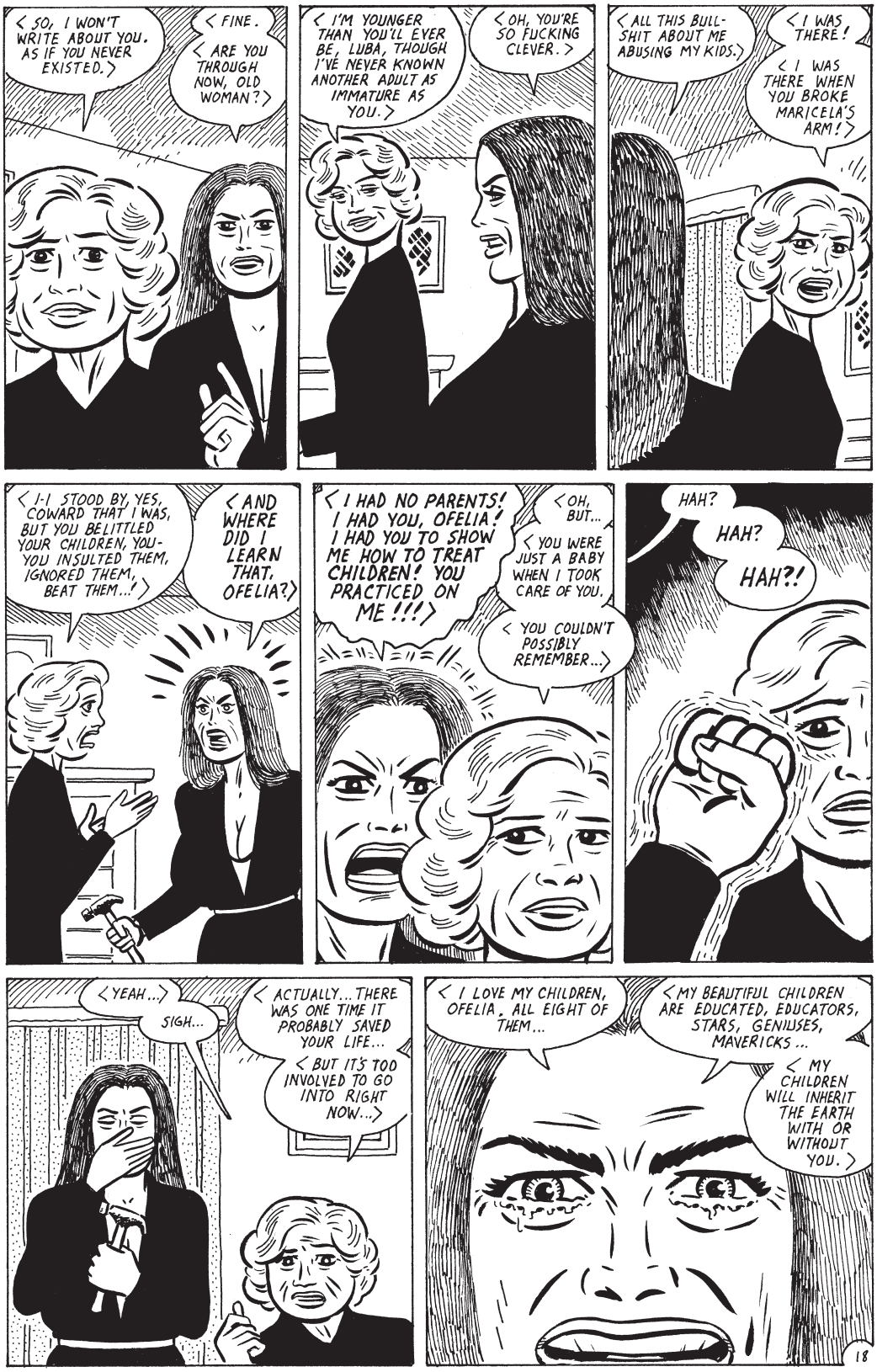

< OH, HONEY, I'M NOT CRYING. I'M JUST SO VERY HAPPY.
< YES, HONEY, I CAN'T WAIT FOR YOU TO COME HOME TOO.>
< IT'S FUN HERE SOMETIMES, MAMA.
< LAST WEEK SOME BIGGER STUDENTS DID GO CRAZY IN THE LUNCH AREA THROWING FOOD AND SOME TEACHERS TURNED ON FIRE HOSES AT THEM.
< OK, MOM, I WILL. BYE.>
< OH! KHAMO! YOU'RE HOME ALREADY. HEH, I'M NOT EVEN OUT OF MY SWIMSUIT YET.
< THAT WAS SOCORRO. I TOLD HER YOU SEND YOUR LOVE.
< THAT'S THREE TESTS IN A ROW SHE'S PASSED WITH PERFECT GRADES!>
GNNRRR NLLGGG...
< WHAT..?
< THAT WAS OUR DAUGHTER. >
SOCCORO.
< WHAT.>
< OH. YOU THINK IT WAS SOMEONE ELSE, KHAMO?
< WHO THEN?
< A MAN.>
< TELL ME, THEN.
< DON'T ACCUSE ME OF SEEING SOMEONE ELSE IF YOU'RE NOT GOING TO··
< I ONLY SLEEP WITH YOU!>
< WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO? LEAVE ..?
< WHERE WILL YOU GO? WHO··WHO WILL YOU GO TO?
< YOU'LL NEVER FIND ANYONE LIKE ME. THERE'S NOBODY ELSE LIKE ME!
< NOBODY ELSE WILL LOVE YOU LIKE I DO!>
< ALL RIGHT, LET'S JUST FORGET IT, OK?
< LET ME FIX YOU SOMETHING TO EAT.>
13


< WHAT- WHAT IS THIS BULLSHIT?
< WHY IS HE HERE?!
< DOES HE KNOW WHO I AM? >
< WHOA, BOY!
< WHO DOESN'T KNOW YOU'RE THE GREATEST FUT'BOL PLAYER OF ALL?>
< HE PROBABLY DOESN'T! BIG PUTA PROBABLY LIKES THAT AMERICAN FOOTBALL, OR TENNIS.>
AH, IGOR, HE IS UPSET ABOUT HIS MOTHER...
WHO ISN'T?
< PUTS HIS MONKEY PAWS ON MY MOTHER..>
< HE'S GOOD TO HER, SERGIO. SHE.. >
WAIT. WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
BACK TO THE HOSPITAL.
< FORGET HIM, SERGIO. COME ON. >
NO, I REALLY DON'T KNOW PIPO. IT WOULD BE WEIRD IF I WENT TO THE HOSPITAL.
LIKE SLOWING DOWN TO LOOK AT A CAR WRECK.
HA HA, NO, JUST THAT, YOU KNOW, HER FAMILY'S THERE COMING AND GOING...
I GUESS SHE CONSIDERS FRITZ HER FAMILY.
PIPO AND FRITZ ARE PRETTY CLOSE.
OK, MR. SNOOP; I WANT TO GET TO FRITZ'S BEFORE SHE LEAVES.
SEE YOU FOR DINNER.
14


PIPO LOVETH WHEN I DRETH THITH WAY.
YOU'VE GOT ENOUGH MAKE-UP ON FOR THREE HOOKERS, ROSALBA.
SHE LIKETH THAT TOO, LUBA. IT CAN ONLY HELP WITH HER RECOVERY.
YOU'RE THE THERAPIST.
FRITZ, I'VE GOT THE CAR PACKED UP. I'LL GO GET SOME GAS WHILE YOU GET YOURSELF READY.
I AM READY: FOR HONOLULU AND BEYOND, ENRIQUE. LET'TH NEVER COME BACK...
WE'RE NOT GOING ANYWHERE UNTIL YOU GET INTO SOME REAL CLOTHES, FRITZ.
OR ELSE.
OH, HE'TH THO MELODRAMATIC.
DID I TELL YOU DORALITH TURNED DOWN PIPO'TH OFFER FOR HER TO THTAR IN A MOVIE, THO PIPO ATHKED ME?
PIPO THAID THOMETHING CRYPTIC THE OTHER DAY.
THEE THAID THEE BROKE UP WITH IGOR TO THAVE HIM.
SO YOU'RE DITCHING PIPO AND HER MOVIE OFFER BY RUNNING AWAY WITH ENRIQUE?
ENRIQUE AND I'VE PLANNED THITH TRIP FOR MONTHTH, PERTRA. WHAT'TH WITH YOU?
SAVE IGOR FROM WHAT?
SAVE IGOR FROM HAVING TO WATCH FRITZ'S SLUTTY ADVANCES TOWARD PIPO.
THINTHE WHEN DO YOU CARE ABOUT PIPO AND IGOR?
ALL THIS RUNNING AWAY STUFF...
15


MMMM.
<WHAT TIME IS IT?>
GNRRR..
<DOESN'T MATTER.
<GOT ALL THE TIME IN THE WORLD.>
<YOUR RIDE TO THE AIRPORT'S ON THE WAY, OFELIA.>
<CAN'T WAIT TO SEE ME GO, EH?
OOT.
<WHAT A NICE NAP.>
ZOW!
CLICK !!!
<A MILD HEART ATTACK CAN GET YOU THE REST YOU NEED, THAT I CAN SAY FOR IT.>
<I SAW MARICELA. SHE SAID SHE TALKED TO YOU WHEN YOU WERE IN THE HOSPITAL.
<BEHIND MY BACK.>
<OH YES, AND SHE CAME TO SEE ME AGAIN AFTER SHE TALKED TO YOU.
<SOME REUNION, SHE SAID.
PTCH.
<SHE'S SO MUCH LIKE YOU NOW IT'S PATHETIC.>
<MARICELA CRIED WHEN I SAID GOOD BYE. CASIMIRA, JOSELITO TOO, BUT CONCHITA'S TOO LITTLE TO KNOW. SHE JUST WANTED ME TO SING TO HER. I'LL... MISS THEM.>
<WELL... YOU ARE ABANDONING THEM, YOU KNOW!
<SELFISH!>
PHAH!
<THEY'RE YOUR KIDS, LUBA.
<I SHOULD'VE DONE THIS YEARS AGO, BUT, WELL, I'M DOING IT NOW.>
<YOU PHONY.
<YOU'LL BE BACK.
<WHERE WILL YOU GO?
<YOU'LL RUN OUT OF MONEY.>
16


< I LOVE ALL SEVEN OF YOUR KIDS EQUALLY, LUBA, BUT NOW YOU'LL RAISE YOUR LITTLE ONES WITH YOUR HUSBAND, OR BY YOURSELF, AS IT SHOULD BE.>
< YOU'RE A COWARD RUNNING AWAY!>
< YOU THINK I'M RUNNING AWAY? FROM WHAT? YOU? I'M SO SCARED OF YOU?
< YOU HOPELESS CHILD.>
< YOU GO TO FUCKING HELL!!>
< I MIGHT, OR I'LL GO TO PARIS, BECOME A SPY, CLIMB MOUNT FUJI, ROB FORT KNOX, HAVEN'T REALLY DECIDED.
RUN FOR PRESIDENT OF LIECHTENSTEIN, IF THEY'LL HAVE ME.>
< I'VE BEEN TRYING TO WRITE THIS BOOK, BUT I COULDN'T THINK OF WHAT IT SHOULD CENTER ON.>
< I THOUGHT YOUR EXISTENCE MIGHT GIVE ME SOMETHING TO WORK WITH, BECAUSE I'VE LIVED A LOT OF MY LIFE THROUGH YOU.>
< BUT NOW I THINK IF I TRAVEL AND BUILD A LIFE OF MY OWN, THEN I'LL WRITE A BOOK ABOUT ME WITHOUT YOU.
< AND THAT'S WHAT I'LL DO.>
< THERE ARE YOUR TRIUMPHS AND ALL THE GOOD YOU'VE DONE, LUBA, YES...
< BUT IT WOULD JUST BE TOO HEARTBREAKING FOR ME TO WRITE IN DETAIL ABOUT YOUR ABUSING YOUR CHILDREN, YOUR CHEATING ...
< AND I WOULD HAVE TO INCLUDE WRITING ABOUT MY OWN FOOL WEAKNESS...
< ALL THE TIMES I NEVER STOPPED YOU...>
17

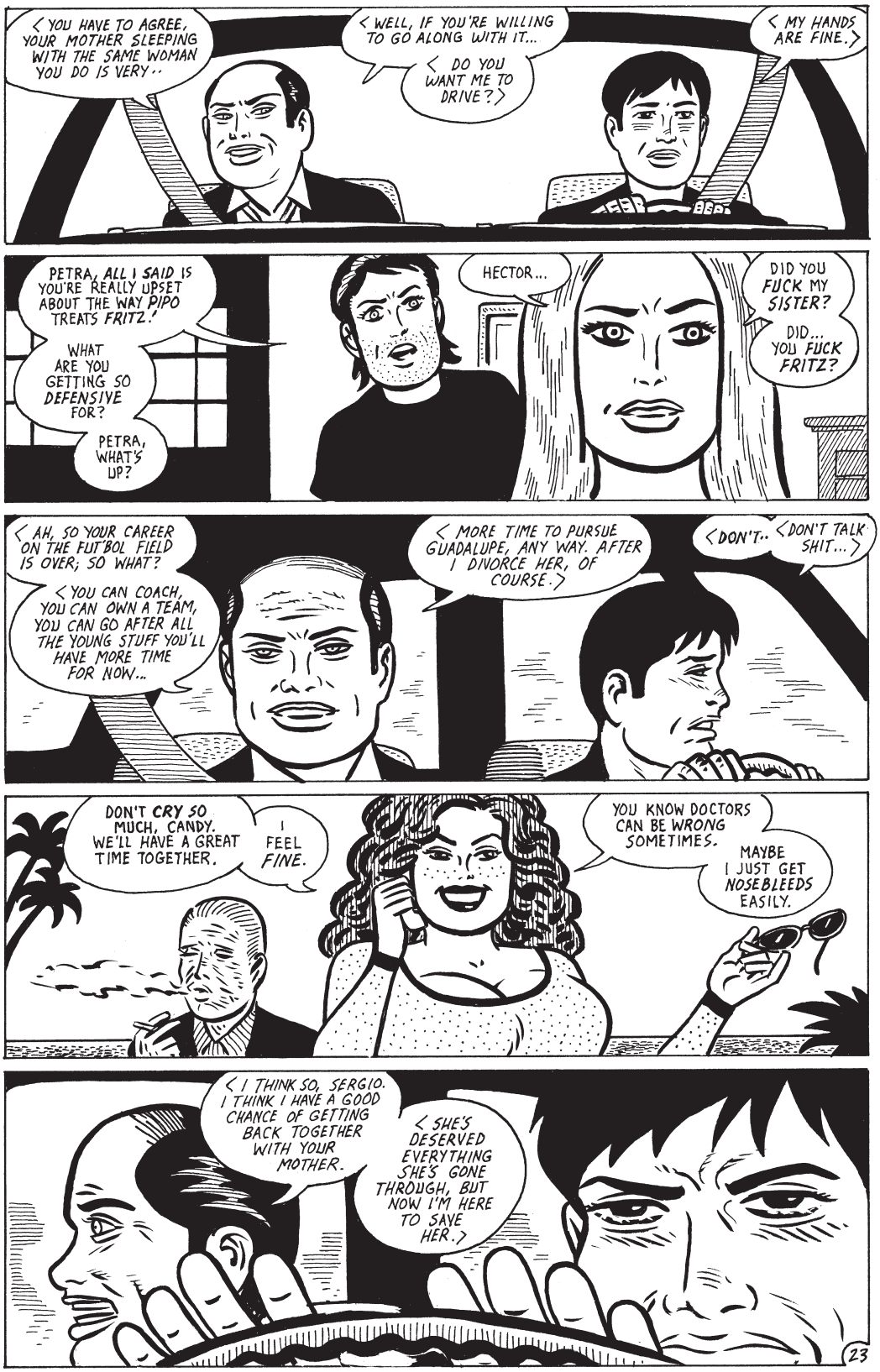

< SO, I WON'T WRITE ABOUT YOU. AS IF YOU NEVER EXISTED.>
< FINE.
< ARE YOU THROUGH NOW, OLD WOMAN?>
< I'M YOUNGER THAN YOU'LL EVER BE, LUBA, THOUGH I'VE NEVER KNOWN ANOTHER ADULT AS IMMATURE AS YOU.>
< OH, YOU'RE SO FUCKING CLEVER.>
< ALL THIS BULL-SHIT ABOUT ME ABUSING MY KIDS.>
< I WAS THERE!
< I WAS THERE WHEN YOU BROKE MARICELA'S ARM!>
< I-I STOOD BY, YES, COWARD THAT I WAS, BUT YOU BELITTLED YOUR CHILDREN, YOU-YOU INSULTED THEM, IGNORED THEM, BEAT THEM...!>
< AND WHERE DID I LEARN THAT, OFELIA?>
< I HAD NO PARENTS! I HAD YOU, OFELIA! I HAD YOU TO SHOW ME HOW TO TREAT CHILDREN! YOU PRACTICED ON ME !!!>
< OH, BUT...
< YOU WERE JUST A BABY WHEN I TOOK CARE OF YOU.
< YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY REMEMBER...>
HAH?
HAH?
HAH?!
< YEAH...>
SIGH...
< ACTUALLY... THERE WAS ONE TIME IT PROBABLY SAVED YOUR LIFE...
< BUT IT'S TOO INVOLVED TO GO INTO RIGHT NOW...>
< I LOVE MY CHILDREN, OFELIA. ALL EIGHT OF THEM...
< MY BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN ARE EDUCATED, EDUCATORS, STARS, GENIUSES, MAVERICKS...
< MY CHILDREN WILL INHERIT THE EARTH WITH OR WITHOUT YOU.>
18


< BUT MOSTLY WITHOUT YOU, I'M SURE.>
< TAXI TO THE AIRPORT IS ON THE WAY!>
< THIS GUY WHO'LL BE TRAVELING WITH HER. HE'S THE SAME ONE SHE'S BEEN WRITING TO ON THE COMPUTER? WHAT'S HE LIKE? WHAT'S HE DO?>
< THEY DIDN'T MEET ON THE NET. HE'S SOMEONE SHE KNEW FROM YEARS AGO. THEY'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR EACH OTHER FOR OVER FORTY YEARS. >
< I THINK THEY WERE LOVERS.>
HUSH!
SEE: 'POISON RIVER'
HUH.
< I WOULDN'T KNOW. I NEVER KNEW ABOUT HIM. >
< I THINK THEY WERE SECRETLY RE-UNITED ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO. >
<COME MEET MY COUSIN LUBA, RICO.>
<CALL ME 'OOLI'.>
LUBA.
< I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE YOU WERE TWO-THREE YEARS OLD.>
< HMM. THAT MUST HAVE BEEN, WHAT, TWENTY YEARS AGO?>
<I'M MEETING GUADALUPE IN PARIS AND THEN TOGETHER WE'RE GOING TO PALOMAR.
<WILL YOU STILL BE THERE WHEN WE ARRIVE, DORALIS?>
PALOMAR, FOREVER PALOMAR...
19


HUFF.
HUFF.
PTOO...
HEH
HEH...
HUFF.
HUFF.
KAFF
GURGLE...
20


< YOUR MOTHER... SUCKS DICK... SO MUCH BETTER THAN ANY OTHER WOMAN ALIVE... OH, YES... BUT... GUADALUPE IS... JUST PLAIN LOUSY AT IT... >
KAFF KAFF
PANT
< WELL. HE'S FUCKING DEAD. >
HUFF HUFF
< AND I WAS JUST GETTING WARMED UP. >
HUFF...
21


OFELIA ISN'T COMING BACK, GUADALUPE. SHE TOLD US.
SHE JUST MEANT NOT RIGHT AWAY, CASIMIRA.
<WHEN I GO TO PARIS AND MEET HER I'LL CHANGE HER MIND. IT'S SO SILLY, MAMA.
<AS IF SHE'S REALLY NEVER COMING BACK.>
<OFELIA WILL COME BACK.>
<OFELIA'S NOT COMING BACK IS SHE, MAMA?>
NO.
<I'M GOING TO KEEP WORKING ON LUBA ABOUT THE KIDS LIVING WITH ME FOR A WHILE.>
<YOU'RE GOING TO WORK ON MAMA, MARICELA.>
<WHATEVER. SHE'LL BE IN OVER HER HEAD NOW THAT HER HUSBAND'S LEAVING, TOO.>
AND DAD'S GOING TO HELP DORALIS.
I HATE EVERYBODY.
BLEAH!
22


< YOU HAVE TO AGREE, YOUR MOTHER SLEEPING WITH THE SAME WOMAN YOU DO IS VERY..
< WELL, IF YOU'RE WILLING TO GO ALONG WITH IT...
< DO YOU WANT ME TO DRIVE?>
< MY HANDS ARE FINE.>
PETRA, ALL I SAID IS YOU'RE REALLY UPSET ABOUT THE WAY PIPO TREATS FRITZ.'
WHAT ARE YOU GETTING SO DEFENSIVE FOR?
PETRA, WHAT'S UP?
HECTOR...
DID YOU FUCK MY SISTER?
DID... YOU FUCK FRITZ?
< AH, SO YOUR CAREER ON THE FUT'BOL FIELD IS OVER; SO WHAT?
< YOU CAN COACH, YOU CAN OWN A TEAM, YOU CAN GO AFTER ALL THE YOUNG STUFF YOU'LL HAVE MORE TIME FOR NOW...
< MORE TIME TO PURSUE GUADALUPE, ANY WAY. AFTER I DIVORCE HER, OF COURSE.>
<DON'T.. <DON'T TALK SHIT...>
DON'T CRY SO MUCH, CANDY. WE'LL HAVE A GREAT TIME TOGETHER.
I FEEL FINE.
YOU KNOW DOCTORS CAN BE WRONG SOMETIMES.
MAYBE I JUST GET NOSEBLEEDS EASILY.
< I THINK SO, SERGIO. I THINK I HAVE A GOOD CHANCE OF GETTING BACK TOGETHER WITH YOUR MOTHER.
< SHE'S DESERVED EVERYTHING SHE'S GONE THROUGH, BUT NOW I'M HERE TO SAVE HER.>
23


< YEAH, OFELIA AND I WILL COME TO SEE YOU AND CARMEN AND EVERYBODY THEN, PAPA.
< RIGHT NOW? JIMMY'S WATCHING CARTOONS, I'M MAKING DINNER FOR GATO...>
NOW I REMEMBER WHAT PIPO WANTED TO PROTECT IGOR FROM!
ENRIQUE?
WHAT ITH IT?
THEE THAID THAT THE MOTHT IMPORTANT MEN IN HER LIFE DIED BECAUTHE OF HER, THO THEE DUMPED IGOR.
GOD...
IT LOOKS LIKE A PRETTY BAD ACCIDENT UP AHEAD...
< I'M FEELING BETTER, CARMEN, BUT WHAT'S STILL ODD TO ME IS HEARING YOU OVER A PHONE.
< OH! THEY'RE JUST GOING TO SAY SOMETHING ABOUT SERGIO ON THE NEWS...>
The End

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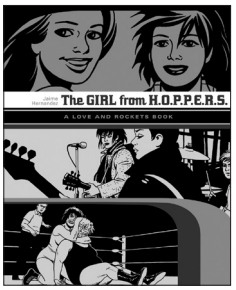
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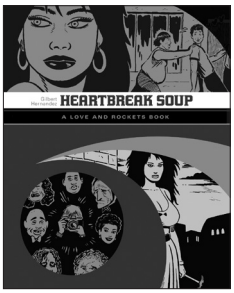
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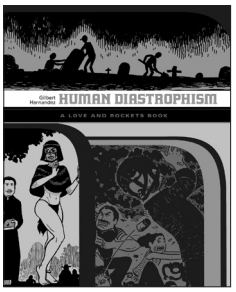
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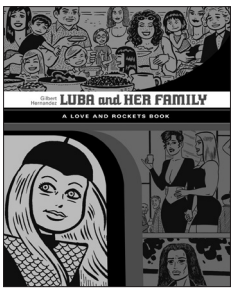
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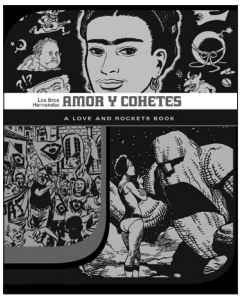


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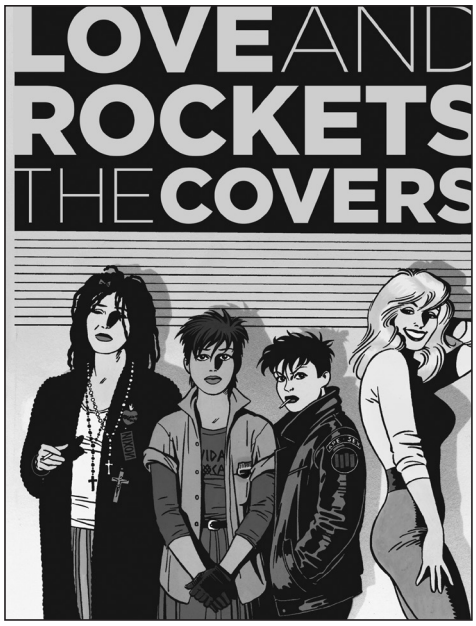


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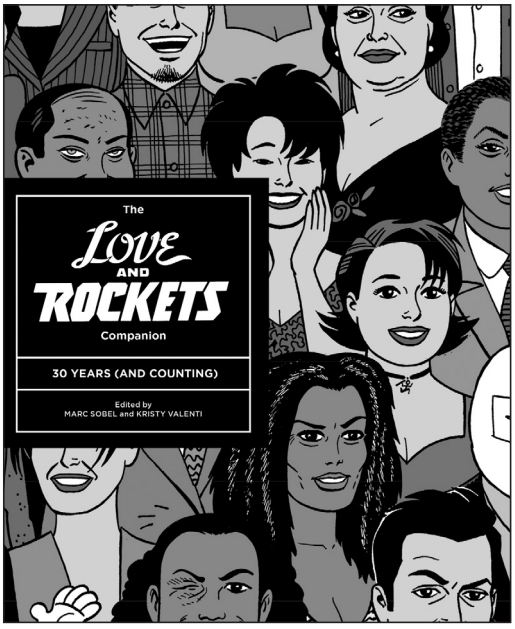


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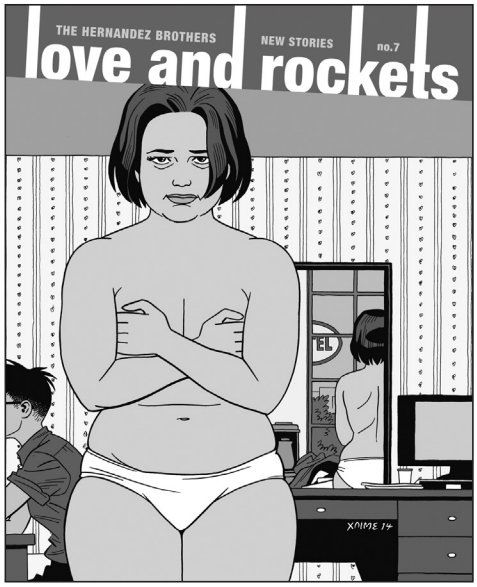
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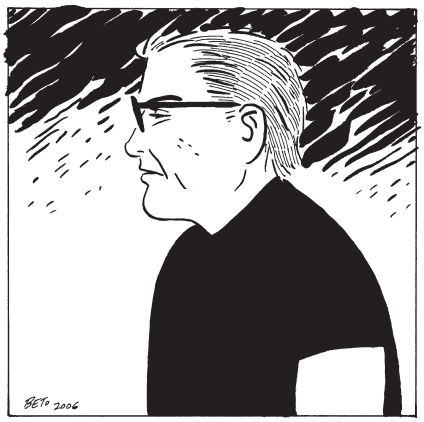
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GILBERT HERNANDEZ



Born in 1957, Gilbert Hernandez enjoyed a pleasant childhood in Oxnard, California, with four brothers and one sister. The siblings were, in Gilbert's words, "born into a world with comic books in the house" — Archie, Marvel, and *Dennis the Menace*. A further strain of comics DNA was added later when an older brother smuggled R. Crumb's *Zap* into the house.

Gilbert's childhood enthusiasm for comics was equaled only by his teenage appetite for rock and roll ('50s, '60s, '70s, punk). Both he and his brother Jaime created eye-catching poster art for local bands like the Angry Samoans, Agent Orange, Black Flag, and others through the early '80s.

Initiated by older brother Mario and bankrolled by younger brother Ismael, Gilbert and Jaime created *Love and Rockets* #1 in 1981. It may have been a very small, black-and-white affair, but almost a quarter of a century later, the series is regarded as a modern classic and the Hernandez brothers continue to create some of the most startling, original, and intelligent comic art to be seen since the '60s underground boom.

Ironically, the greatest mainstream exposure for Gilbert came when a British musical group appropriated the comic's name without permission in the 1980s. Years later, the name was symbolically reclaimed by Gilbert when he gave it to a fictional and exceptionally obnoxious garage band in the storyline "Love and Rockets X."

Gilbert lives in Las Vegas, Nevada, with his wife and daughter.