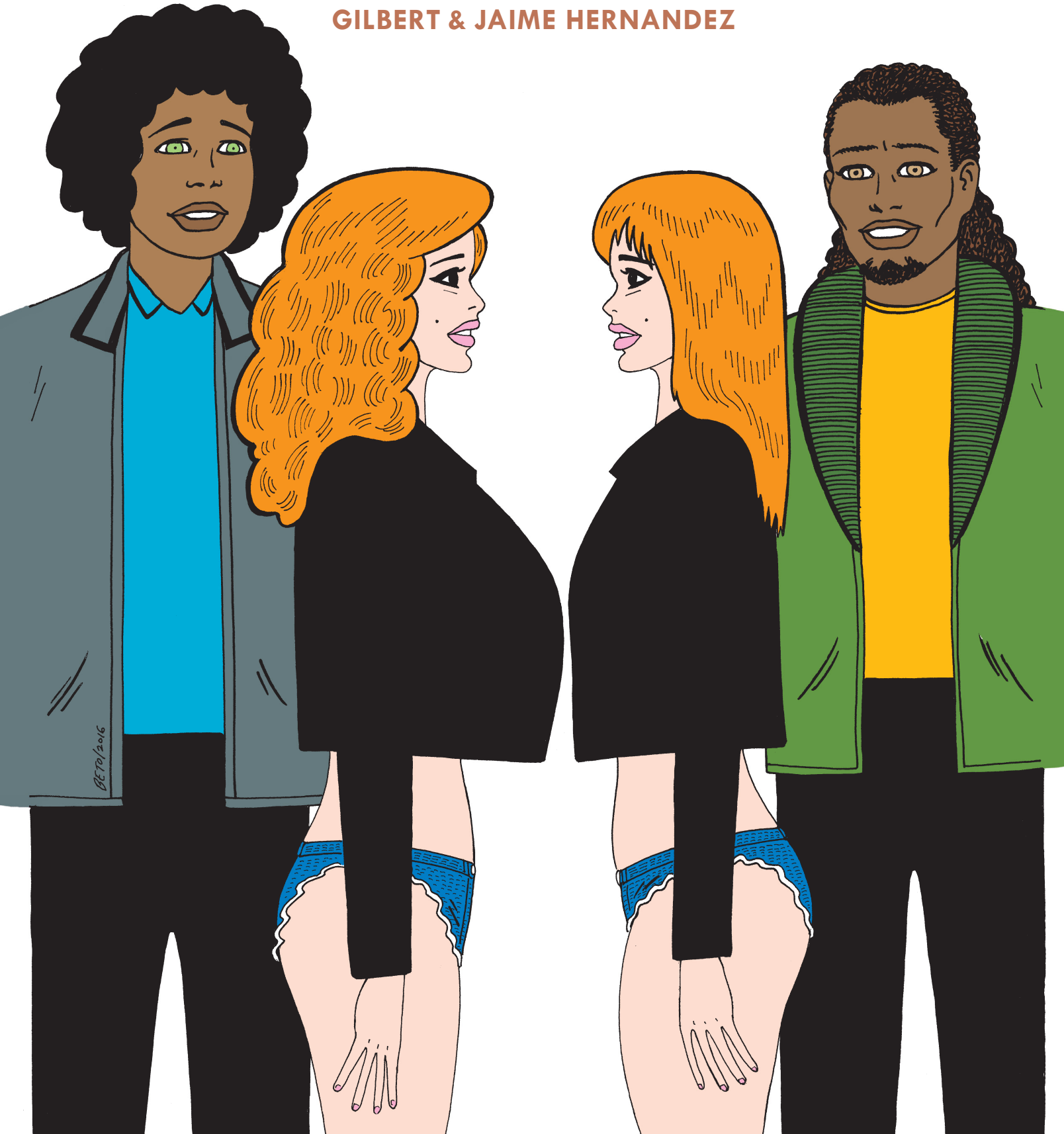


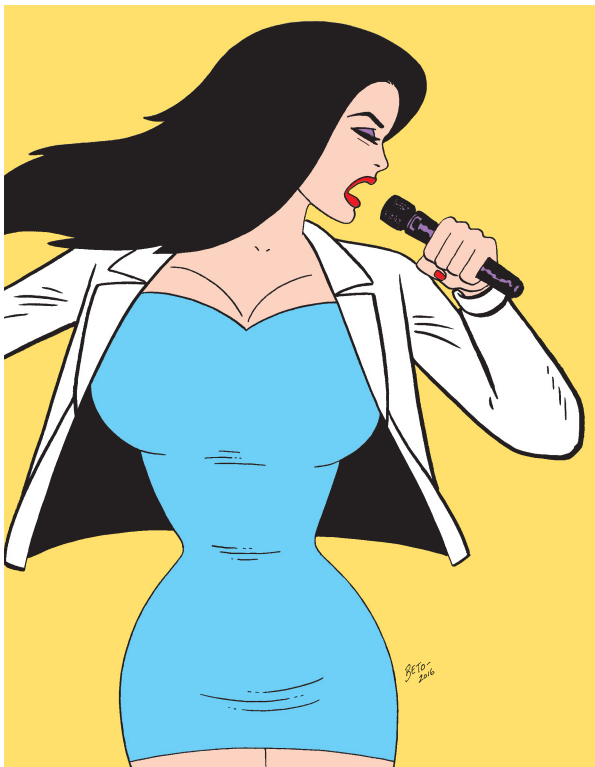
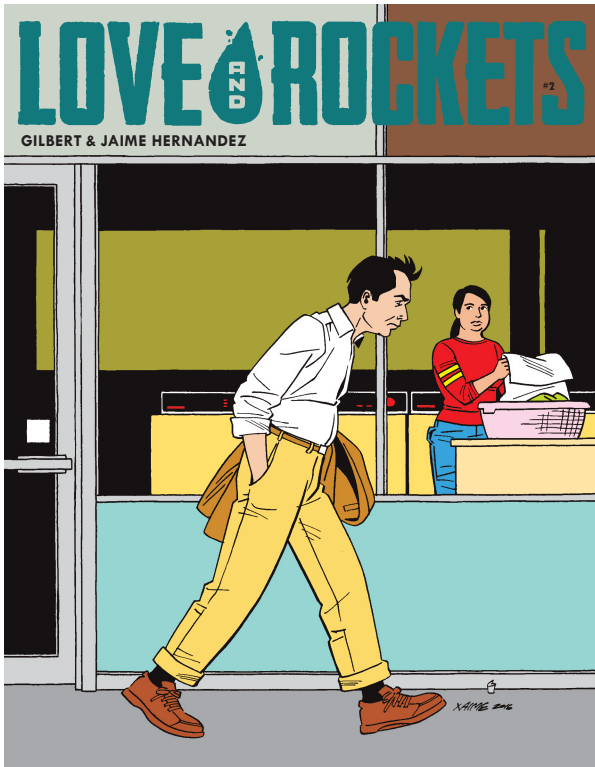
# LOVE AND ROCKETS #2

GILBERT & JAIME HERNANDEZ



BETH/2016

In addition to the regular edition, don't miss this exclusive variant cover, available from [www.fantagraphics.com](http://www.fantagraphics.com).

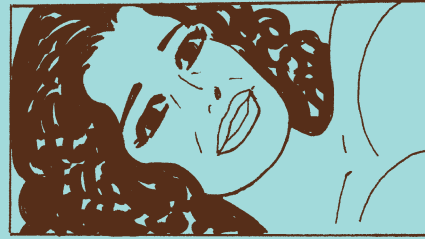


LOVE AND ROCKETS Vol. IV #2 by Gilbert and Jaime Hernandez.  
Published by Fantagraphics Books, 7563 Lake City Way NE, Seattle, WA 98115.

Editor and Associate Publisher: Eric Reynolds. Production: Paul Baresh. Design: Jacob Covey. All contents © 2017 Gilbert and Jaime Hernandez. This edition © 2017 Fantagraphics Books Inc. All rights reserved. Permission to reproduce material must be obtained from the author(s) or publisher. First Fantagraphics Books edition: March 2017. Printed in Canada.

**FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS**

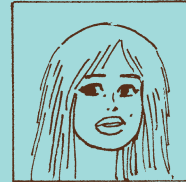
# BETO'S WORLD



ROSALBA  
'FRITZ'  
MARTINEZ  
INTERNATIONAL  
CULT MOVIE AND  
TV STAR



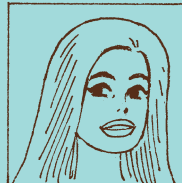
BABY  
FRITZ'S DAUGHTER BORN  
THROUGH A SURROGATE



ROSARIO  
BABY'S TWIN SISTER



PIPO  
FRITZ'S LONG TIME FILM  
PRODUCER AND WIFE.



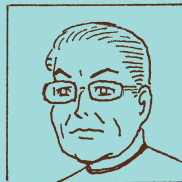
CORAZON  
PIPO'S NOT SO SECRET  
LOVER



DANNY  
FRITZ'S BOYFRIEND AND  
MANAGER/PRODUCER



BEVERLY  
SURROGATE CHILD  
BEARER FOR FRITZ'S  
TWIN'S BABY AND ROSARIO



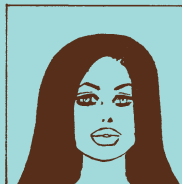
ENRIQUE  
BABY AND ROSARIO'S  
BIOLOGICAL FATHER



ZANDER, CLAIRE AND VIC  
SPOUSES OF BEVERLY,  
ENRIQUE AND PETRA.



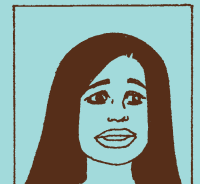
PETRA  
FRITZ'S SISTER



KILLER  
TEEN MOVIE / TV ACTRESS  
AND ASPIRING POP SINGER



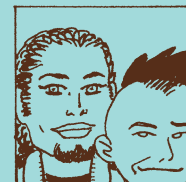
JIMMY  
KILLER'S HALF-BROTHER



GUADALUPE  
FRITZ'S NIECE, MOTHER  
OF KILLER AND JIMMY



TIKITIK  
CORAZON AND PIPO'S NOT  
SO SECRET LOVER.



ANDRES AND SCOOTER  
ROSARIO'S CHILDHOOD  
CLOSE FRIENDS



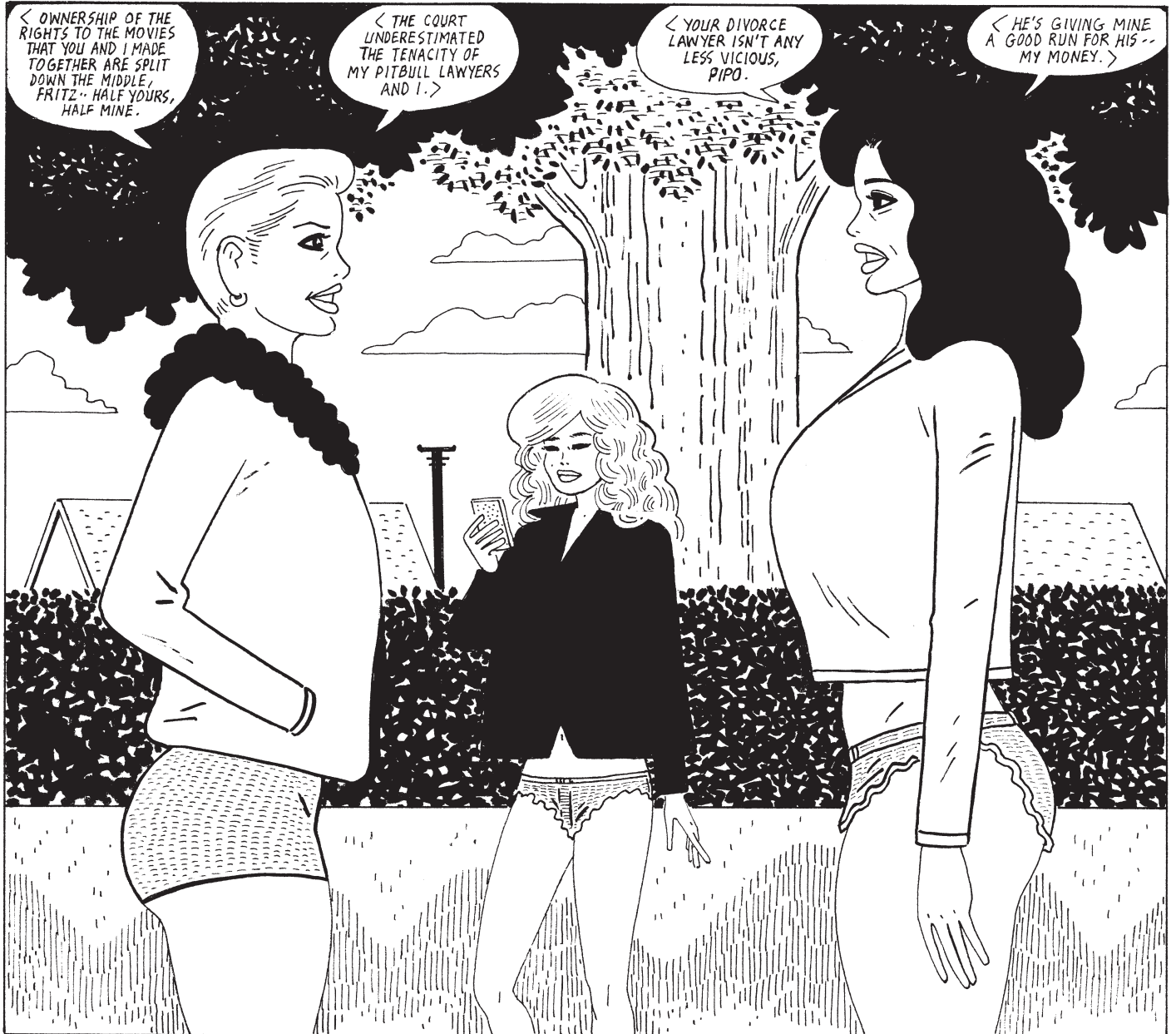
CHINO  
KILLER'S SCHOOLMATE  
AND BABY'S CONFIDANT

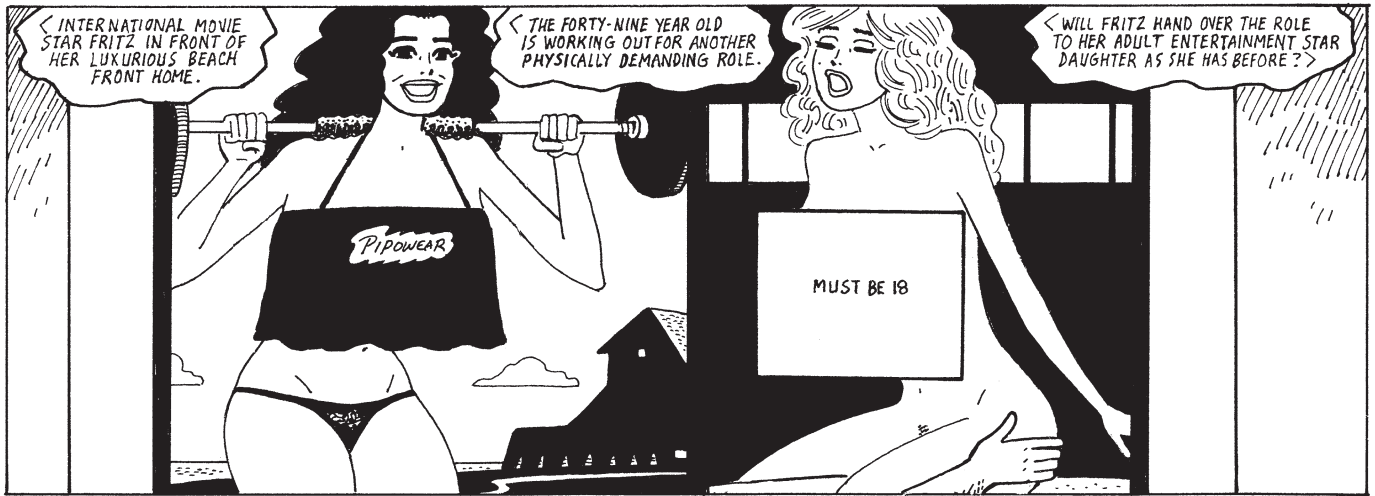
## OUR STORY SO FAR:

FRITZ HAD A SURROGATE CARRY HER BABY, BUT THE SURROGATE BEVERLY NEVER TOLD FRITZ OR ENRIQUE THAT SHE HAD TWINS. BEVERLY HANDED OVER ONE CHILD (LATER NAMED BABY) TO FRITZ AND ENRIQUE AND KEPT THE OTHER IN SECRET, NAMING HER ROSARIO. NOW A TEEN, ROSARIO WANTS TO MEET HER TWIN AND BIOLOGICAL MOTHER.

# FRITZ HATERS WILL JUST HAVE TO BE PATIENT

BETO-2017





< INTERNATIONAL MOVIE STAR FRITZ IN FRONT OF HER LUXURIOUS BEACH FRONT HOME. >

< THE FORTY-NINE YEAR OLD IS WORKING OUT FOR ANOTHER PHYSICALLY DEMANDING ROLE. >

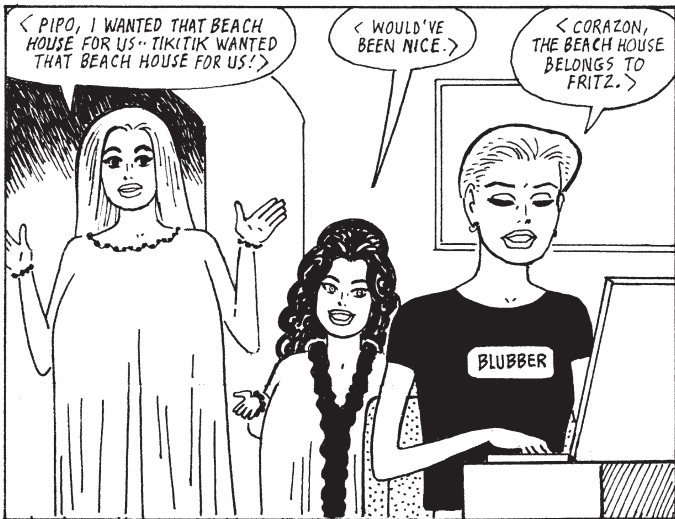
< WILL FRITZ HAND OVER THE ROLE TO HER ADULT ENTERTAINMENT STAR DAUGHTER AS SHE HAS BEFORE? >

PIPOWEAR

MUST BE 18



PIPO'S APARTMENT.

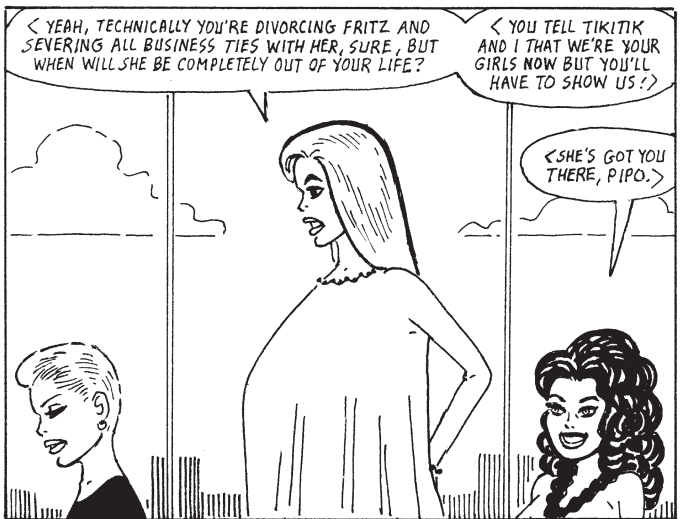


< PIPO, I WANTED THAT BEACH HOUSE FOR US..TIKITIK WANTED THAT BEACH HOUSE FOR US! >

< WOULD'VE BEEN NICE. >

< CORAZON, THE BEACH HOUSE BELONGS TO FRITZ. >

BLUBBER



< YEAH, TECHNICALLY YOU'RE DIVORCING FRITZ AND SEVERING ALL BUSINESS TIES WITH HER, SURE, BUT WHEN WILL SHE BE COMPLETELY OUT OF YOUR LIFE? >

< YOU TELL TIKITIK AND I THAT WE'RE YOUR GIRLS NOW BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOW US! >

< SHE'S GOT YOU THERE, PIPO. >



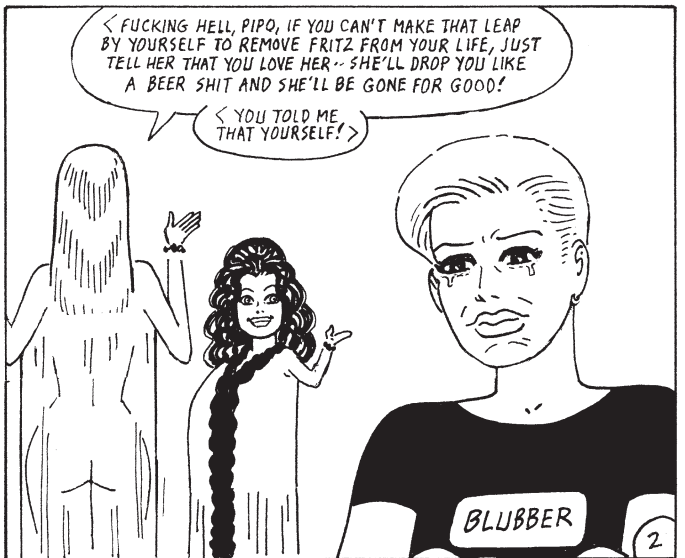
< SOCIAL MEDIA IS THE WORST THING TO HAPPEN TO FRITZ..SHE'S SO HATED! >

< NOW THERE'S AN OFFICIAL FRITZ-HATER WEBSITE...?? >

< AND HERE SHE'S NAMED THE UGLIEST ACTRESS EVER TO APPEAR IN MOVIES! >

< OH, MY ROSALBA.. >

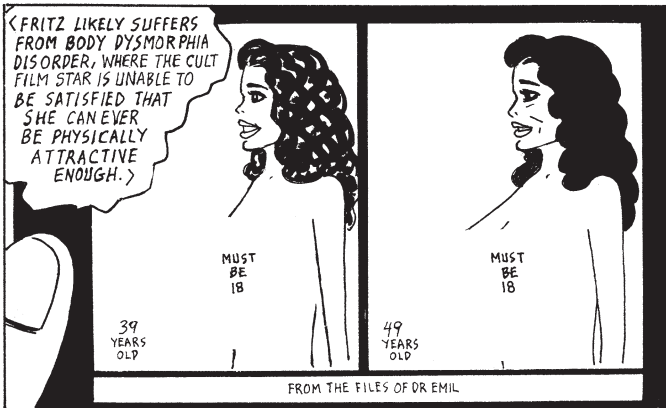
BLUBBER



< FUCKING HELL, PIPO, IF YOU CAN'T MAKE THAT LEAP BY YOURSELF TO REMOVE FRITZ FROM YOUR LIFE, JUST TELL HER THAT YOU LOVE HER.. SHE'LL DROP YOU LIKE A BEER SHIT AND SHE'LL BE GONE FOR GOOD! >

< YOU TOLD ME THAT YOURSELF! >

BLUBBER



< FRITZ LIKELY SUFFERS FROM BODY DYSPHORIA DISORDER, WHERE THE CULT FILM STAR IS UNABLE TO BE SATISFIED THAT SHE CAN EVER BE PHYSICALLY ATTRACTIVE ENOUGH. >

MUST BE 18

MUST BE 18

39 YEARS OLD

49 YEARS OLD

FROM THE FILES OF DR EMIL

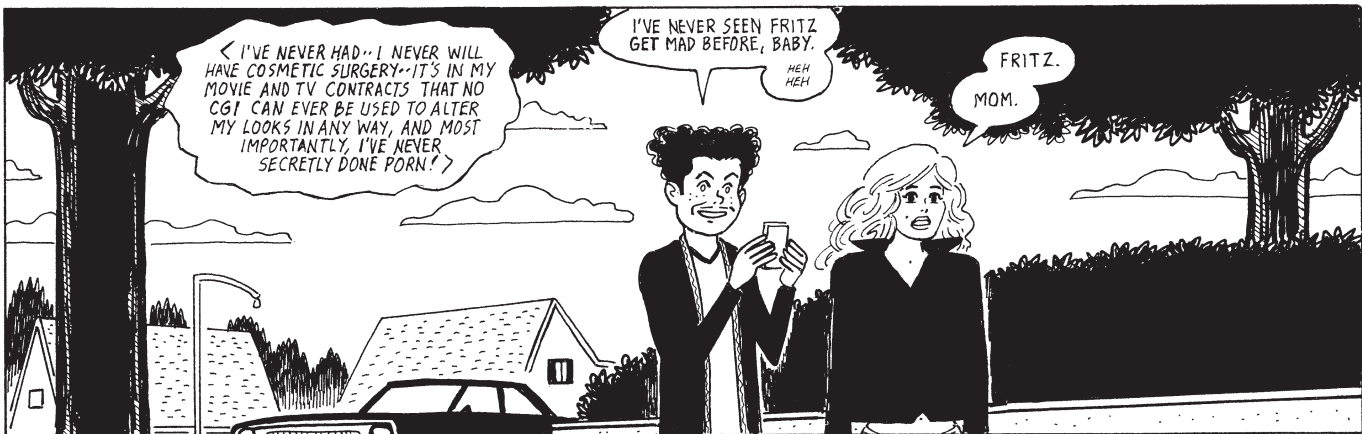


< FRITZ ADDRESSES THIS IN A RARE ON CAMERA INTERVIEW. >

< BODY DYSPHORIA...? >

H-HOW CAN I HAVE BODY DYSPHORIA?

I WAS.. I AM A FULLY LICENSED PSYCHOTHERAPIST.. HOW COULD I NOT KNOW IF I HAD SUCH A THING? >



< I'VE NEVER HAD.. I NEVER WILL HAVE COSMETIC SURGERY.. IT'S IN MY MOVIE AND TV CONTRACTS THAT NO CGI CAN EVER BE USED TO ALTER MY LOOKS IN ANY WAY, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, I'VE NEVER SECRETLY DONE PORN! >

I'VE NEVER SEEN FRITZ GET MAD BEFORE, BABY.

HEH HEH

FRITZ.

MOM.



IF FRITZ'S DONE PORN AT HER AGE, IT'S BECAUSE SHE CAN, CHINO.

SHE'S FORTY-NINE YEARS OLD AND SHE STILL LOOKS LIKE A GODDESS, SHE..

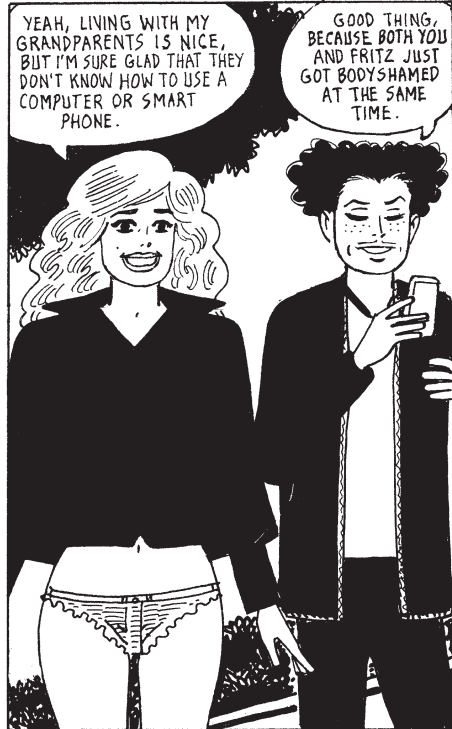
SHE JUST GOT BODYSHAMED AGAIN.



SHE TREATS ME LIKE I'M ONE OF HER COMPETITORS, LIKE I'M LOOKING TO TAKE HER PLACE!

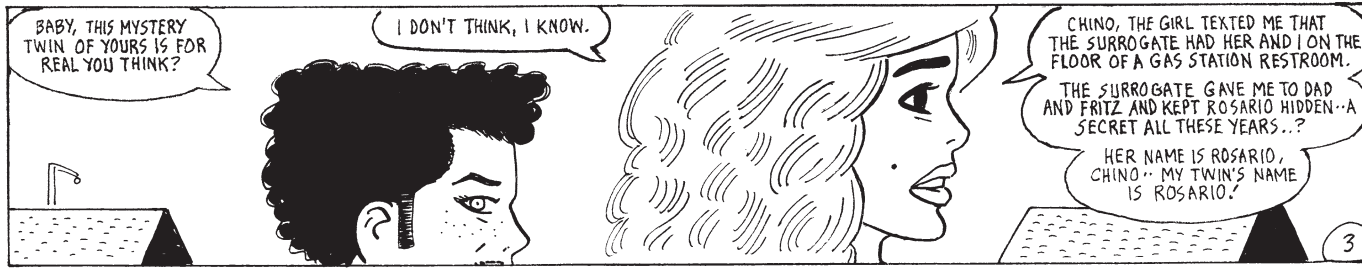
BABY, YOUR MOM'S JUST GETTING OLDER AND MORE COMPETITIVE AND..

C'MON, FRITZ IS A CONFIRMED EXHIBITIONIST AND YOU'RE EXACTLY LIKE HER, YOU FLAUNTING YOUR GOODS ONLINE.



YEAH, LIVING WITH MY GRANDPARENTS IS NICE, BUT I'M SURE GLAD THAT THEY DON'T KNOW HOW TO USE A COMPUTER OR SMART PHONE.

GOOD THING, BECAUSE BOTH YOU AND FRITZ JUST GOT BODYSHAMED AT THE SAME TIME.



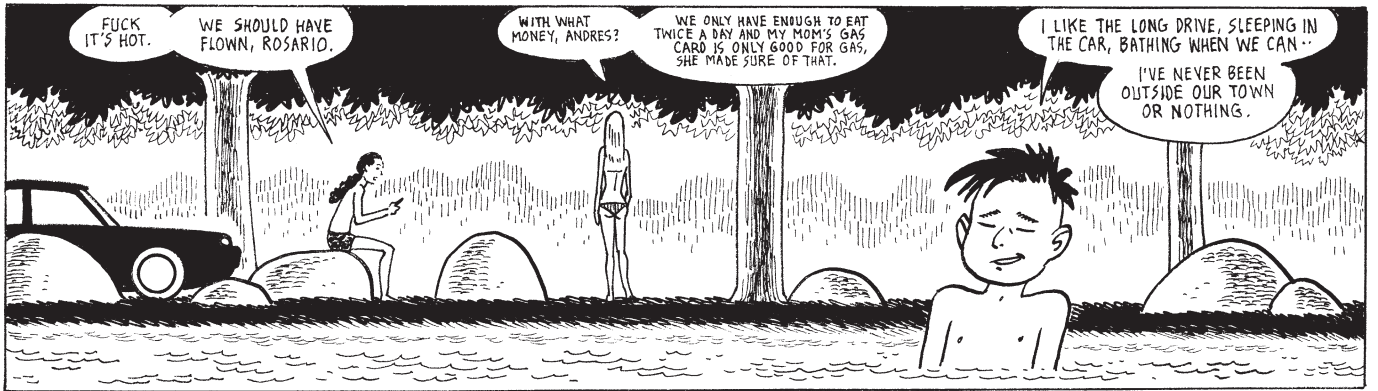
BABY, THIS MYSTERY TWIN OF YOURS IS FOR REAL YOU THINK?

I DON'T THINK, I KNOW.

CHINO, THE GIRL TEXTED ME THAT THE SURROGATE HAD HER AND I ON THE FLOOR OF A GAS STATION RESTROOM.

THE SURROGATE GAVE ME TO DAD AND FRITZ AND KEPT ROSARIO HIDDEN.. A SECRET ALL THESE YEARS..?

HER NAME IS ROSARIO, CHINO.. MY TWIN'S NAME IS ROSARIO.



FUCK IT'S HOT.

WE SHOULD HAVE FLOWN, ROSARIO.

WITH WHAT MONEY, ANDRES?

WE ONLY HAVE ENOUGH TO EAT TWICE A DAY AND MY MOM'S GAS CARD IS ONLY GOOD FOR GAS, SHE MADE SURE OF THAT.

I LIKE THE LONG DRIVE, SLEEPING IN THE CAR, BATHING WHEN WE CAN..

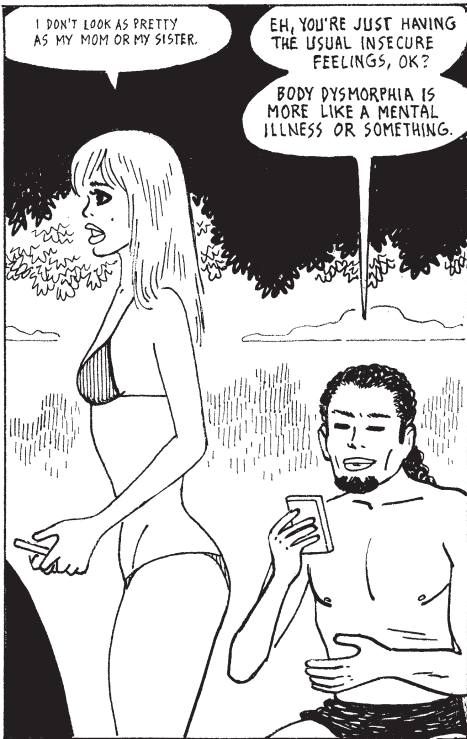
I'VE NEVER BEEN OUTSIDE OUR TOWN OR NOTHING.



ANDRES, MY BIOLOGICAL MOTHER SUPPOSEDLY SUFFERS FROM BODY DYSMORPHIA AND I THINK I DO TOO.

I DON'T SEE THAT WITH YOU, ROSARIO.

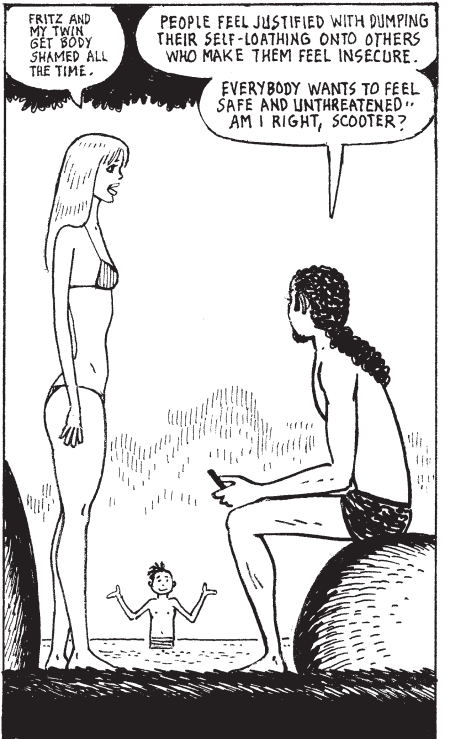
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU, YOUR TWIN OR YOUR BIOLOGICAL MOTHER ARE AT ALL SHY.



I DON'T LOOK AS PRETTY AS MY MOM OR MY SISTER.

EH, YOU'RE JUST HAVING THE USUAL INSECURE FEELINGS, OK?

BODY DYSMORPHIA IS MORE LIKE A MENTAL ILLNESS OR SOMETHING.



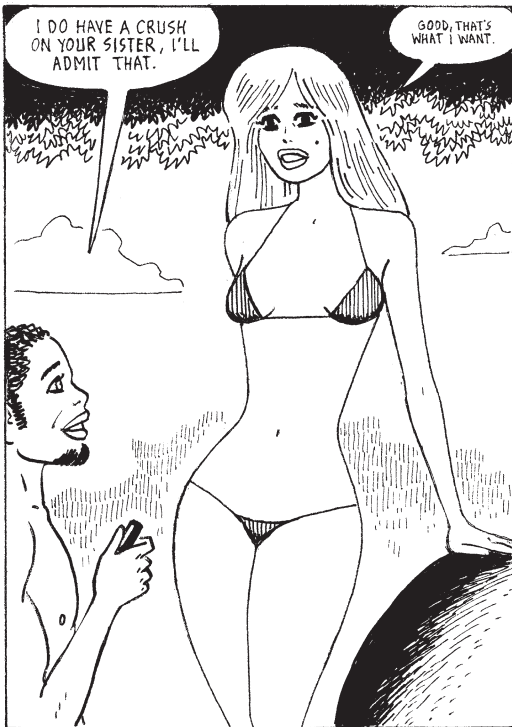
FRITZ AND MY TWIN GET BODY SHAMED ALL THE TIME.

PEOPLE FEEL JUSTIFIED WITH DUMPING THEIR SELF-LOATHING ONTO OTHERS WHO MAKE THEM FEEL INSECURE.

EVERYBODY WANTS TO FEEL SAFE AND UNTHREATENED.. AM I RIGHT, SCOOTER?

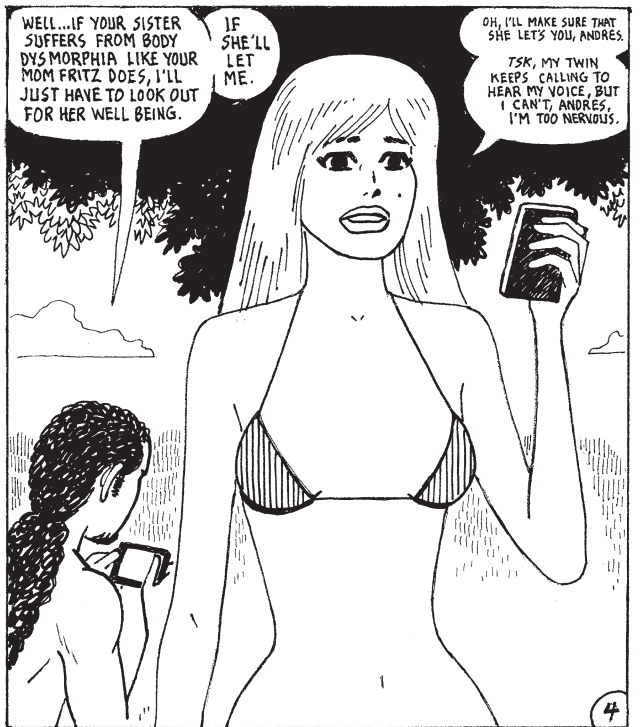


ROSARIO, FRITZ IS AN UNAPOLOGETIC FORTY-NINE YEAR OLD SEX BOMB AND YOUR TWIN POSTS NUDE SHOTS OF HERSELF ONLINE-- YOU'VE GOT TO EXPECT HOSTILITY.



I DO HAVE A CRUSH ON YOUR SISTER, I'LL ADMIT THAT.

GODD, THAT'S WHAT I WANT.

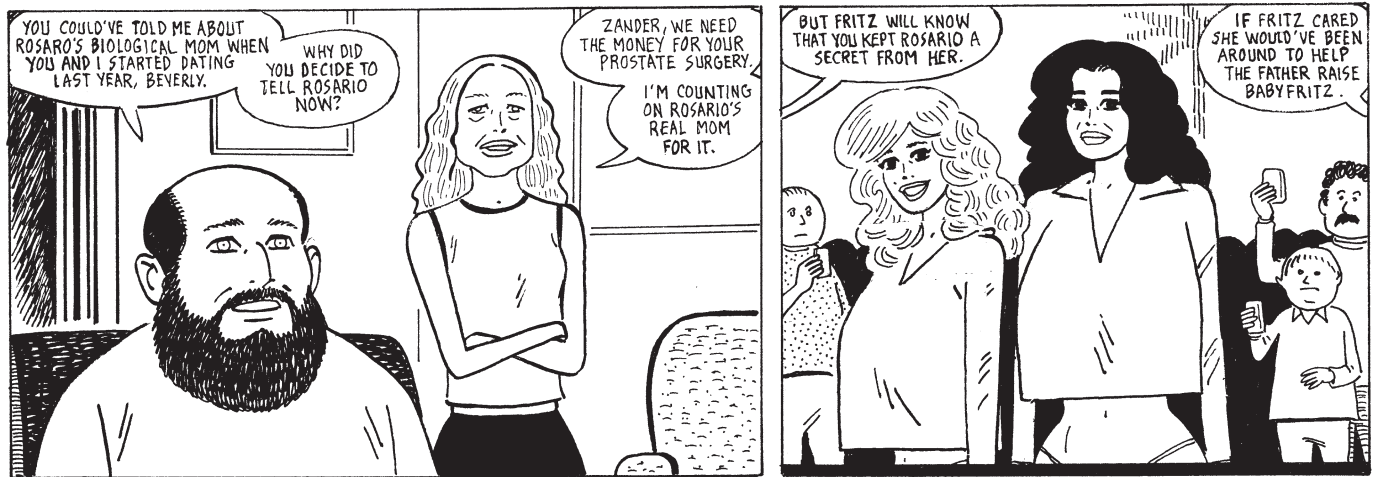


WELL...IF YOUR SISTER SUFFERS FROM BODY DYSMORPHIA LIKE YOUR MOM FRITZ DOES, I'LL JUST HAVE TO LOOK OUT FOR HER WELL BEING.

IF SHE'LL LET ME.

OH, I'LL MAKE SURE THAT SHE LETS YOU, ANDRES.

TSK, MY TWIN KEEPS CALLING TO HEAR MY VOICE, BUT I CAN'T, ANDRES, I'M TOO NERVOUS.





< WELL..OK, MY TWIN TEXTED THAT SHE'S TOO SHY TO TALK TO ME AND FRITZ YET, AND I BELIEVE HER BECAUSE THIS IS STILL PRETTY SHOCKING NEWS FOR US ALL.>

< THE SURROGATE HAS A LOT TO ANSWER FOR.. CAN YOU IMAGINE HER HIDING YOUR TWIN'S EXISTENCE FOR ALL THESE YEARS?>



< MY TWIN TEXTED ME THAT THE SURROGATE..HER MOTHER RAISED HER WITH A LOT OF LOVE, PIPD.>

TSK



YOU FLYING OUT TO MEET WITH THE SURROGATE?

I FINALLY TRACKED HER DOWN, DANNY.

DANNY, I DO UNDERSTAND WHY MY..ROSARIO IS AFRAID TO TALK TO BABY AND I ON THE PHONE...



THE SURROGATE'S ONLY BROUGHT THIS TO YOUR ATTENTION BECAUSE ALL SHE'S LOOKING FOR IS MONEY FROM YOU, FRITZ.

SEND HER TO PRISON, FRITZ.. SHE HID YOUR DAUGHTER FROM YOU, FROM YOUR TWIN..

NO, NO.. I HAVE TO KNOW THE WHOLE STORY FIRST.



SHE PLANNED IT, ROSALBA.. SHE SHOWED YOU THE WRONG ULTRA-SOUND PHOTOS ON PURPOSE.

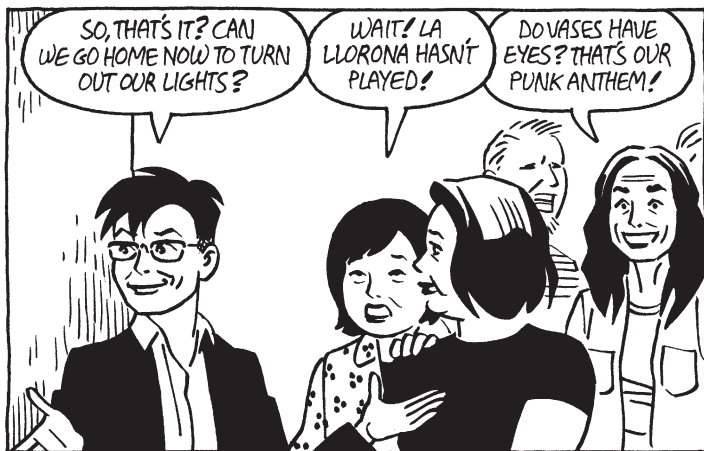
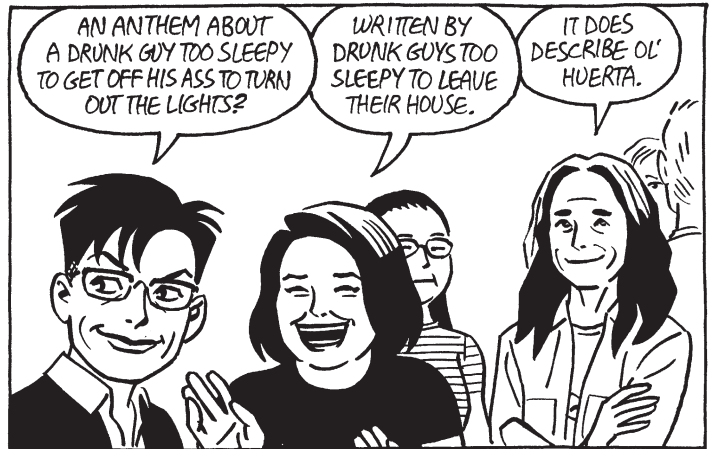
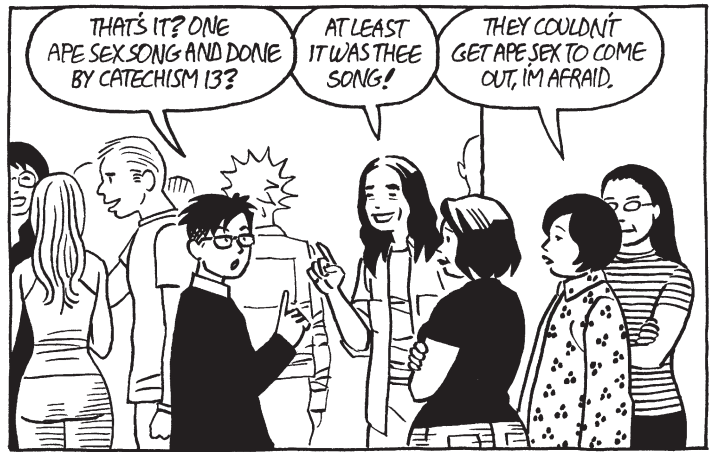
THERE IS THAT. THE ULTRA-SOUND PHOTOS HAD THE DATES TORN OFF. SIGH

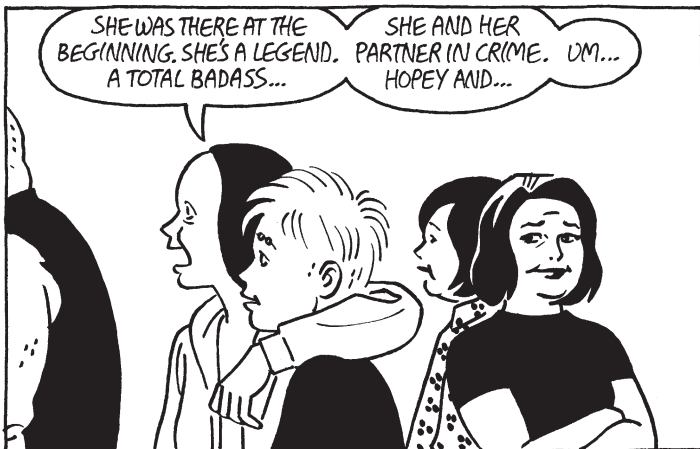
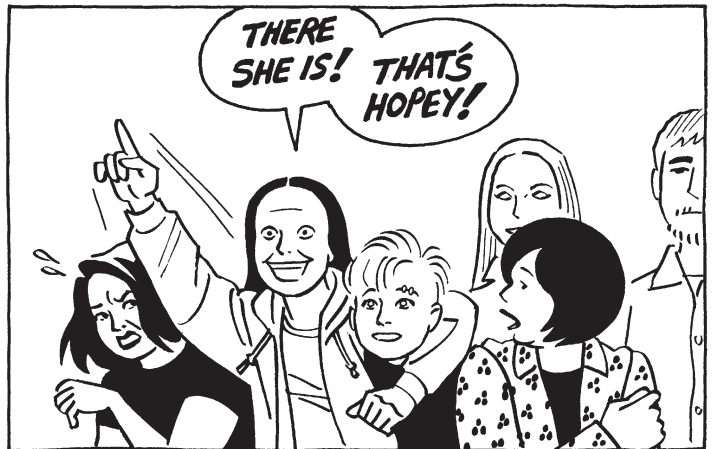
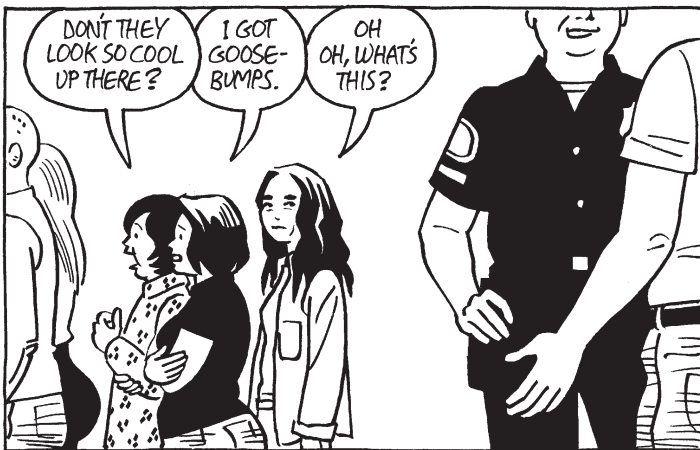
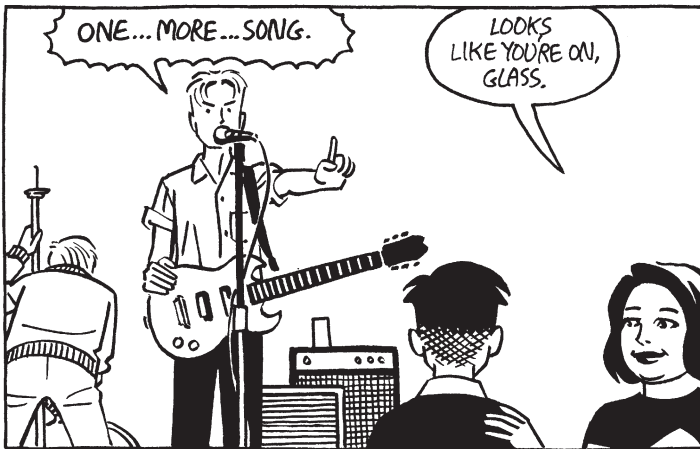


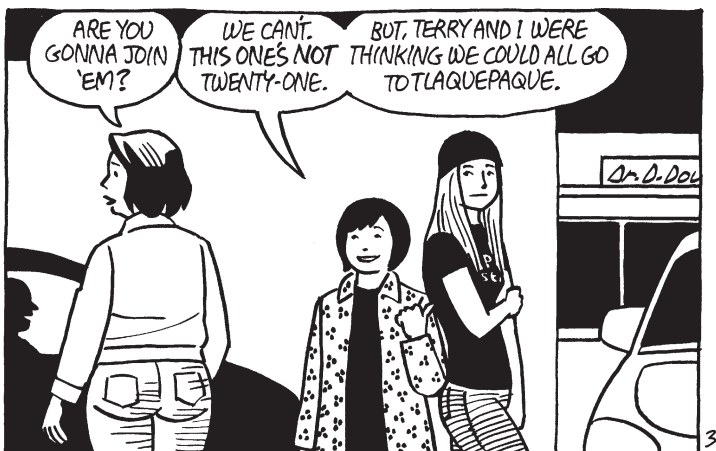
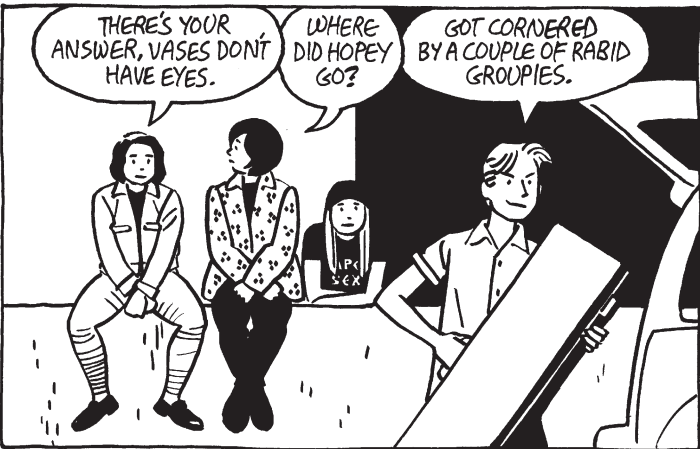
I'M NOT WEARING PANTIES.

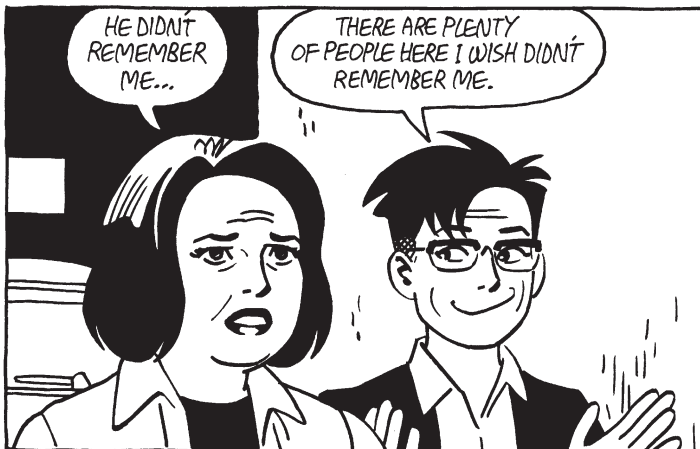
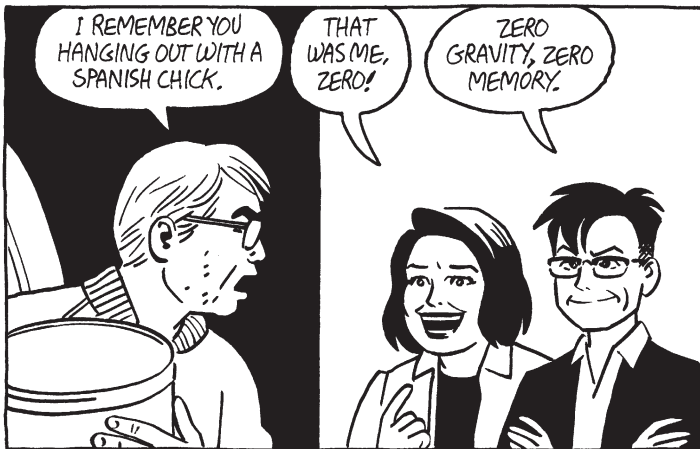
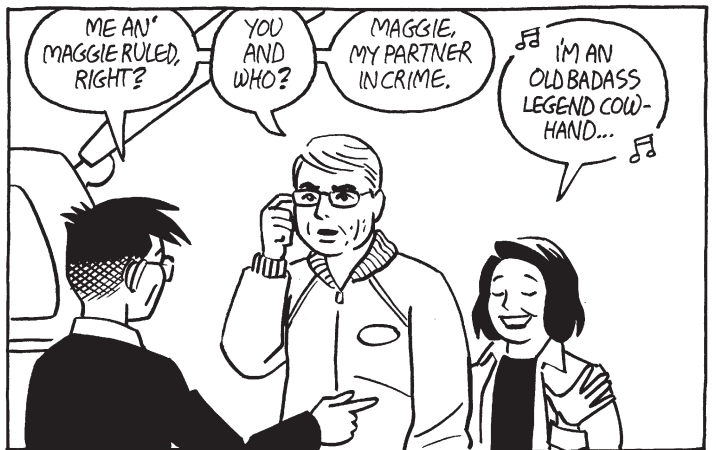
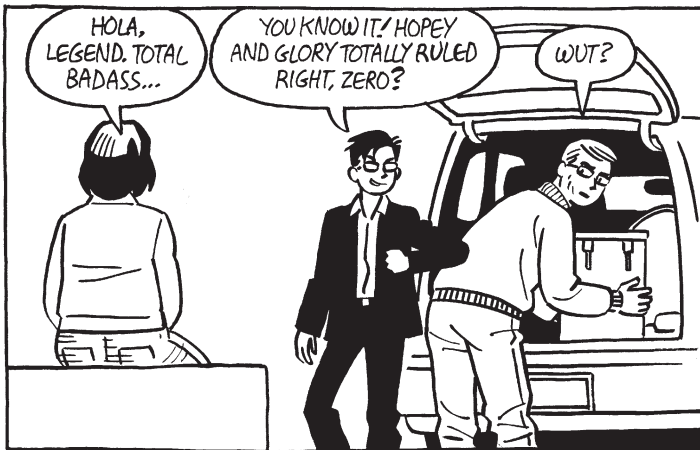
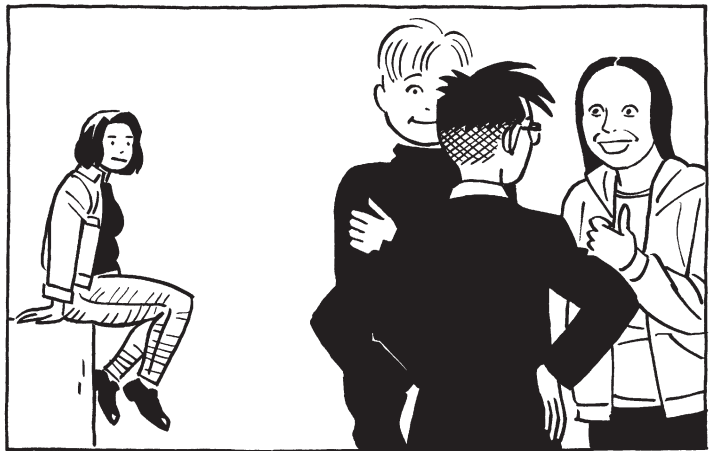


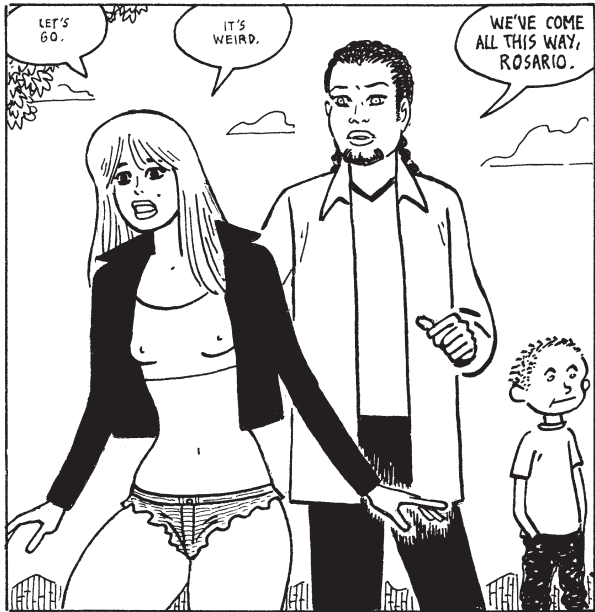




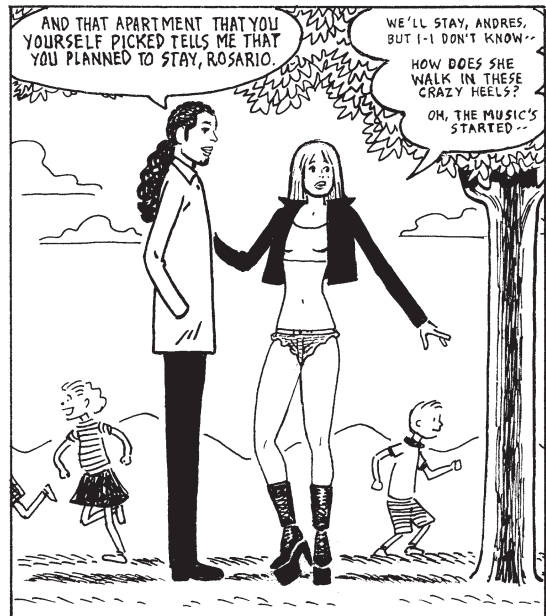




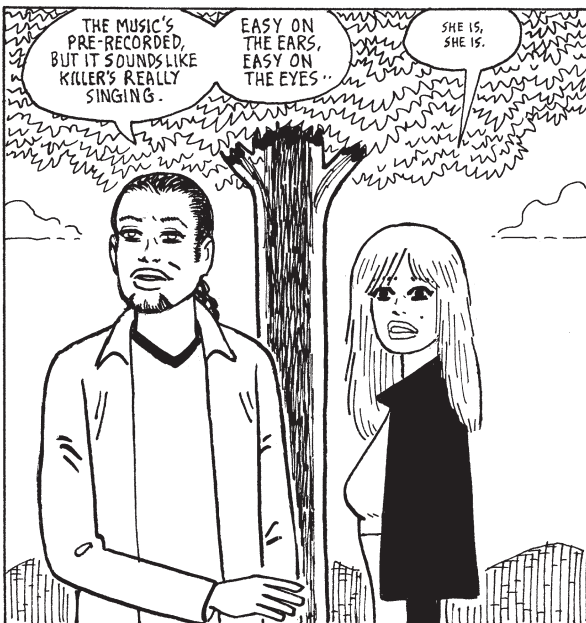


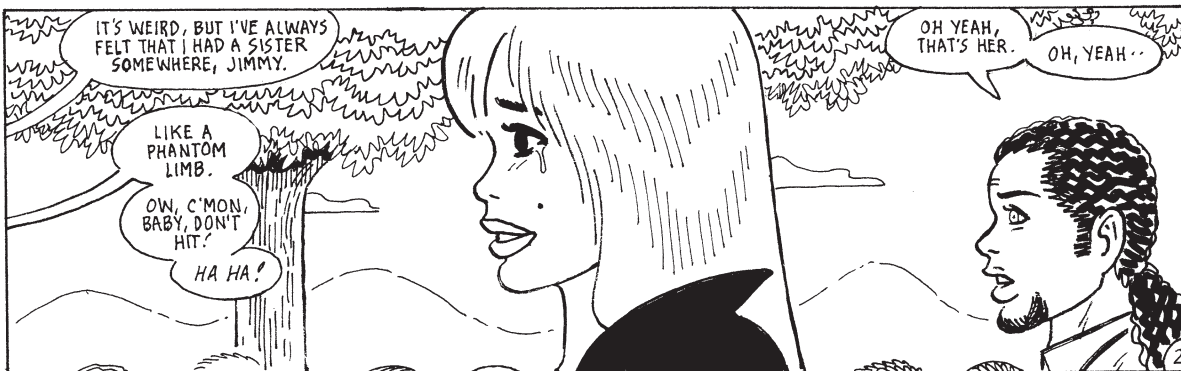
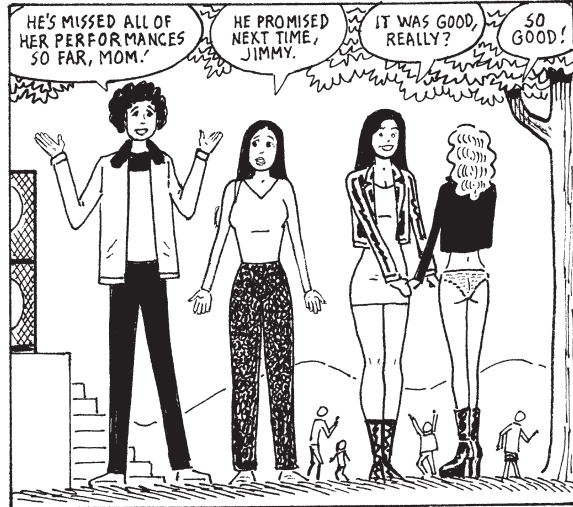
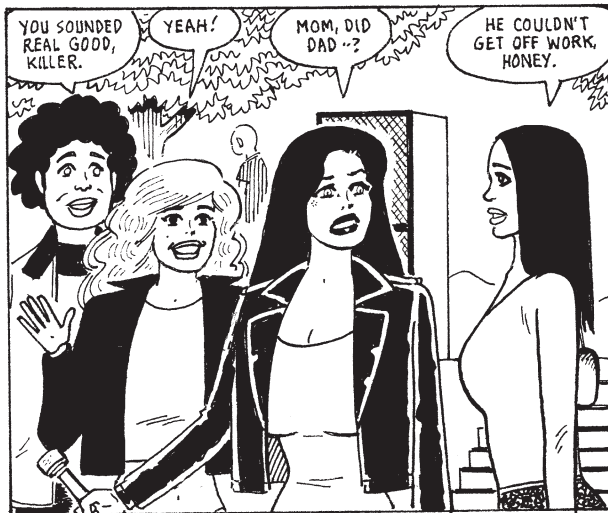
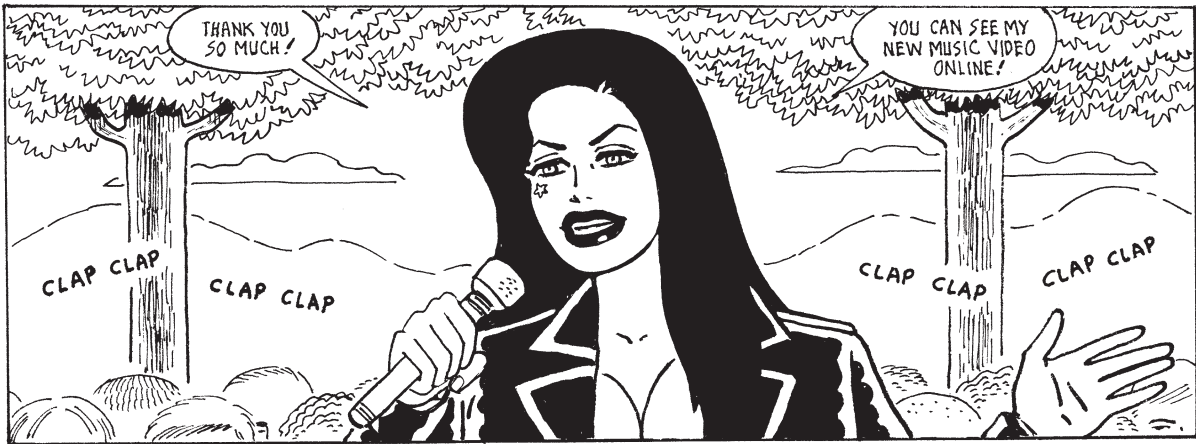


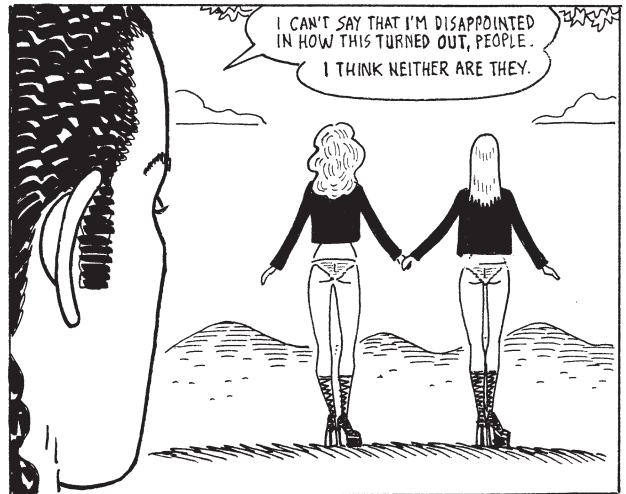
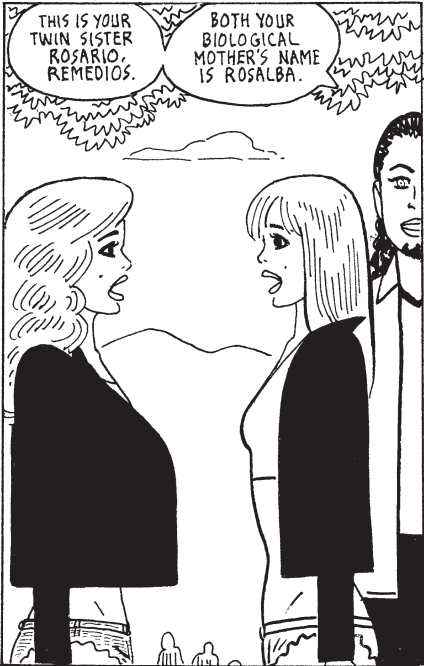
MORE FOR THE HATERS

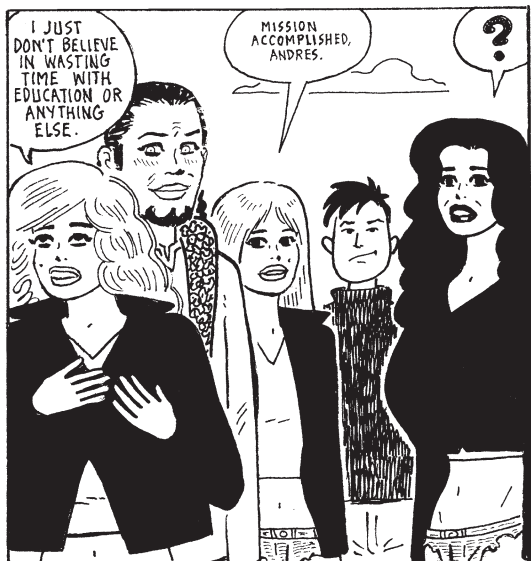
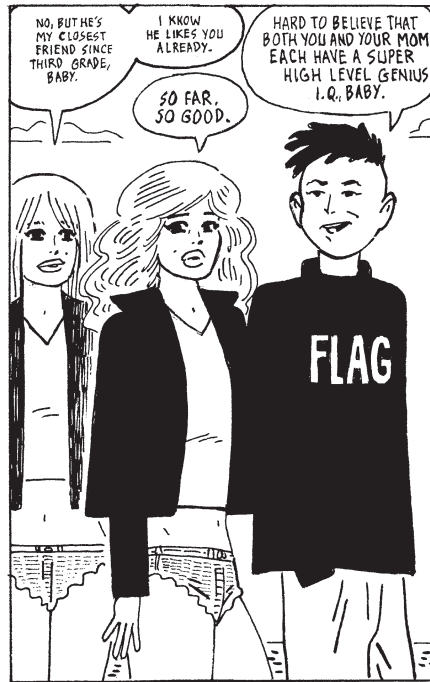


BETO 2017





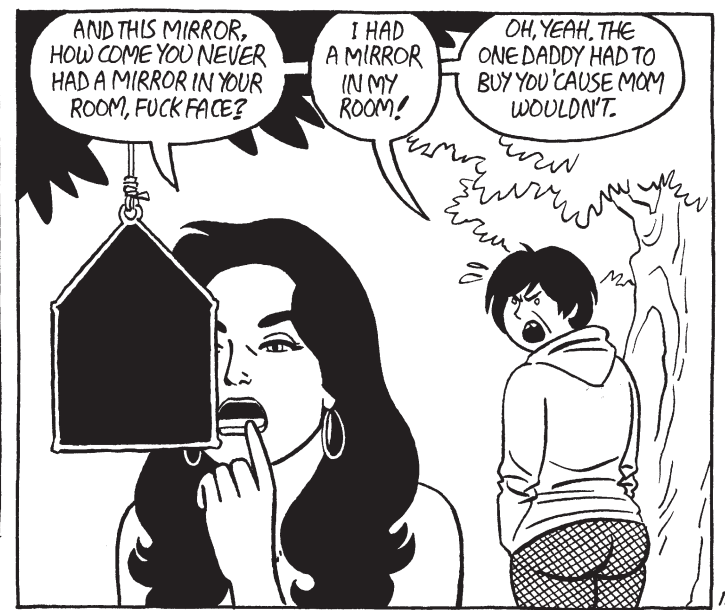


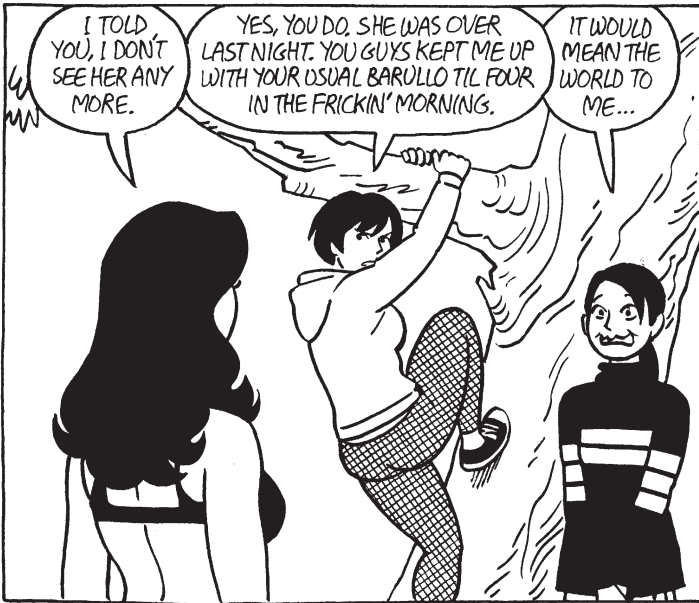
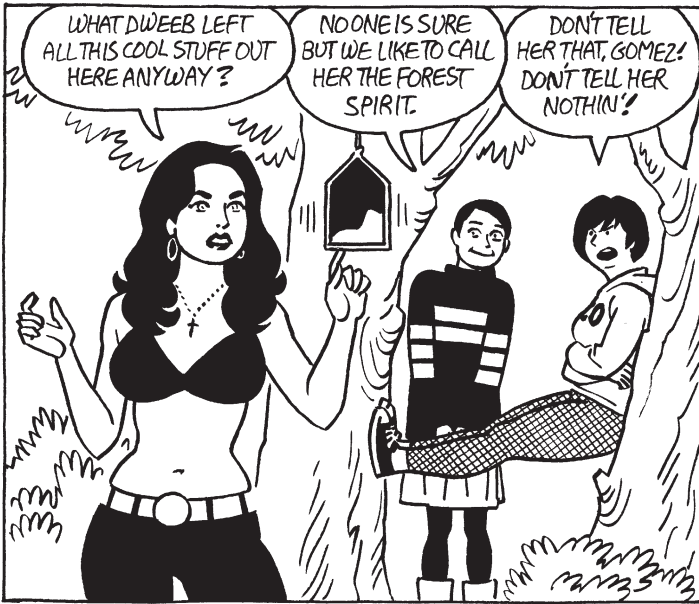


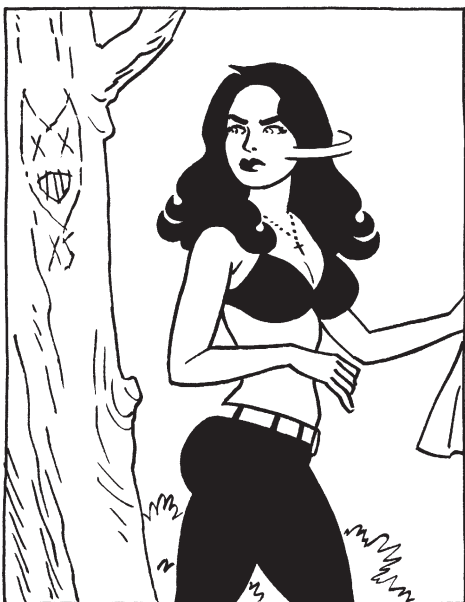


# FOREST SPIRITS

by XAIMS 165/17









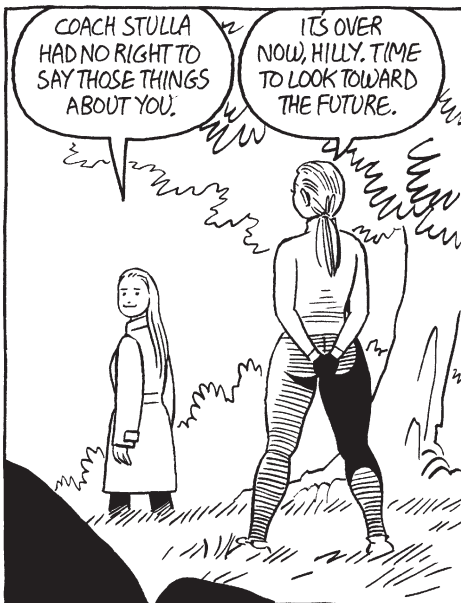
THAT'S FANTASTIC, HILLY! A FULL-RIDE SCHOLARSHIP IS NOTHING TO SNEEZE AT!

THANK YOU, MISS RIVERA. I OWE IT ALL TO YOU.



GIVE YOURSELF A LITTLE CREDIT. YOU TOTALLY EARNED IT.

I'M GLAD YOU'RE NOT ANGRY THAT I WANTED TO TELL YOU IN PERSON.

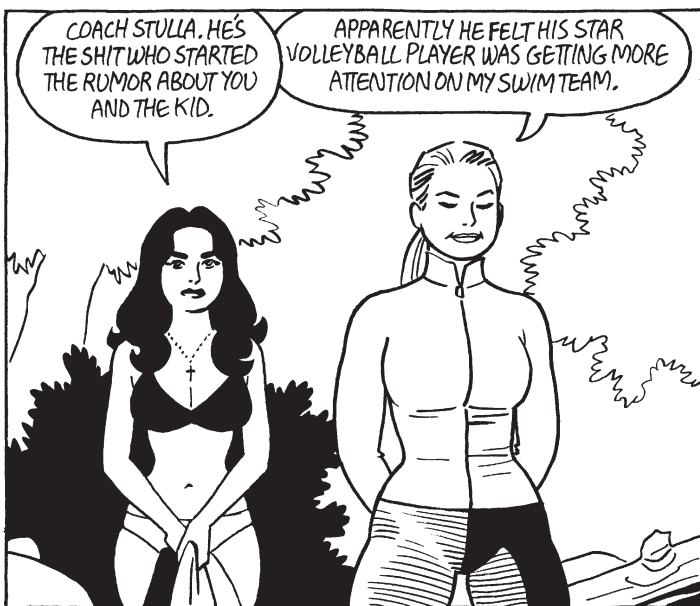


COACH STULLA HAD NO RIGHT TO SAY THOSE THINGS ABOUT YOU.

IT'S OVER NOW, HILLY. TIME TO LOOK TOWARD THE FUTURE.

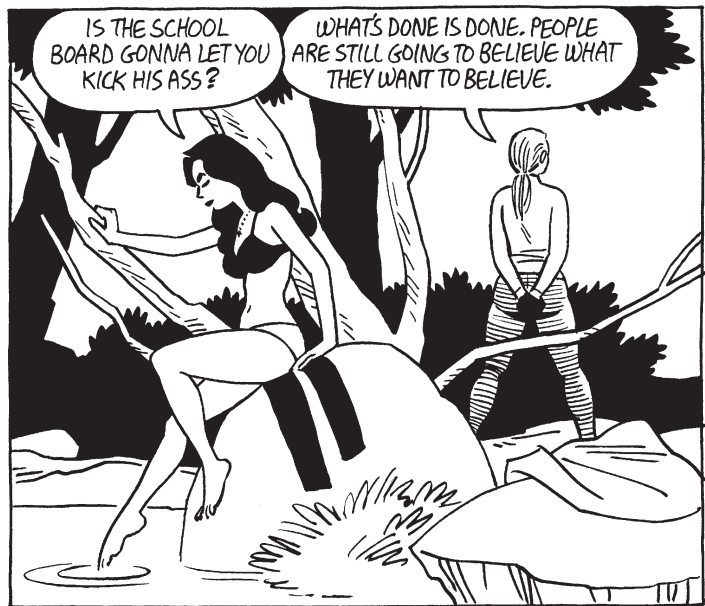


VIVIAN.



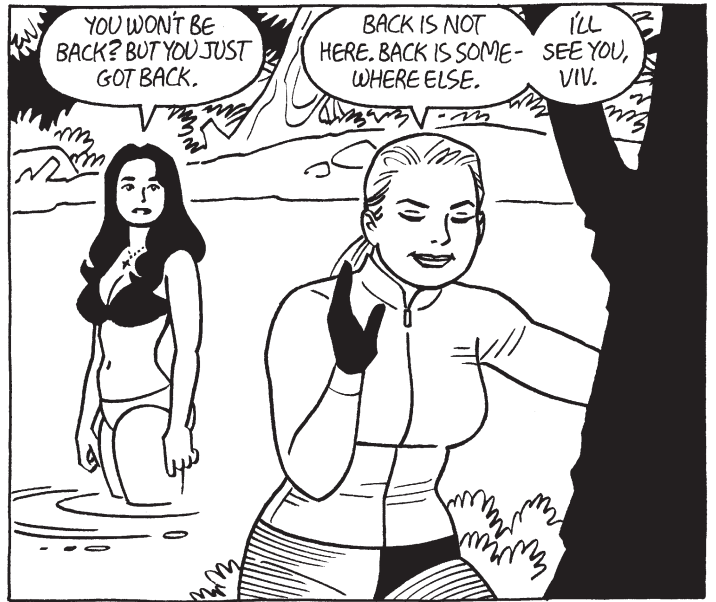
COACH STULLA. HE'S THE SHIT WHO STARTED THE RUMOR ABOUT YOU AND THE KID.

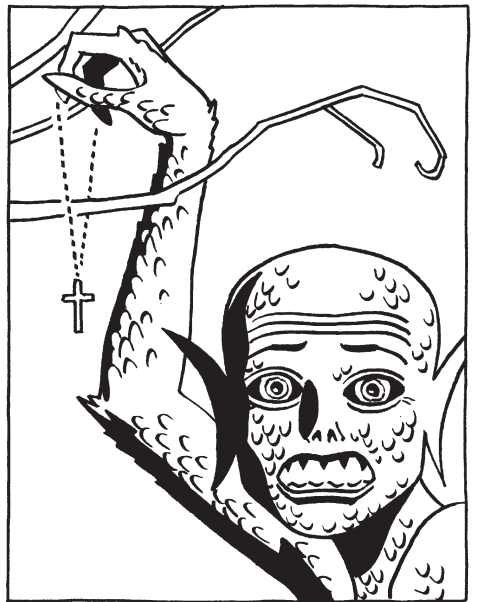
APPARENTLY HE FELT HIS STAR VOLLEYBALL PLAYER WAS GETTING MORE ATTENTION ON MY SWIM TEAM.



IS THE SCHOOL BOARD GONNA LET YOU KICK HIS ASS?

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE. PEOPLE ARE STILL GOING TO BELIEVE WHAT THEY WANT TO BELIEVE.





YOU WERE SO RIGHT, TONTA! I'M NOT GOING TO GO AWAY!!

YOU SHOULD GOMEZ! YOU'RE SO SMART...

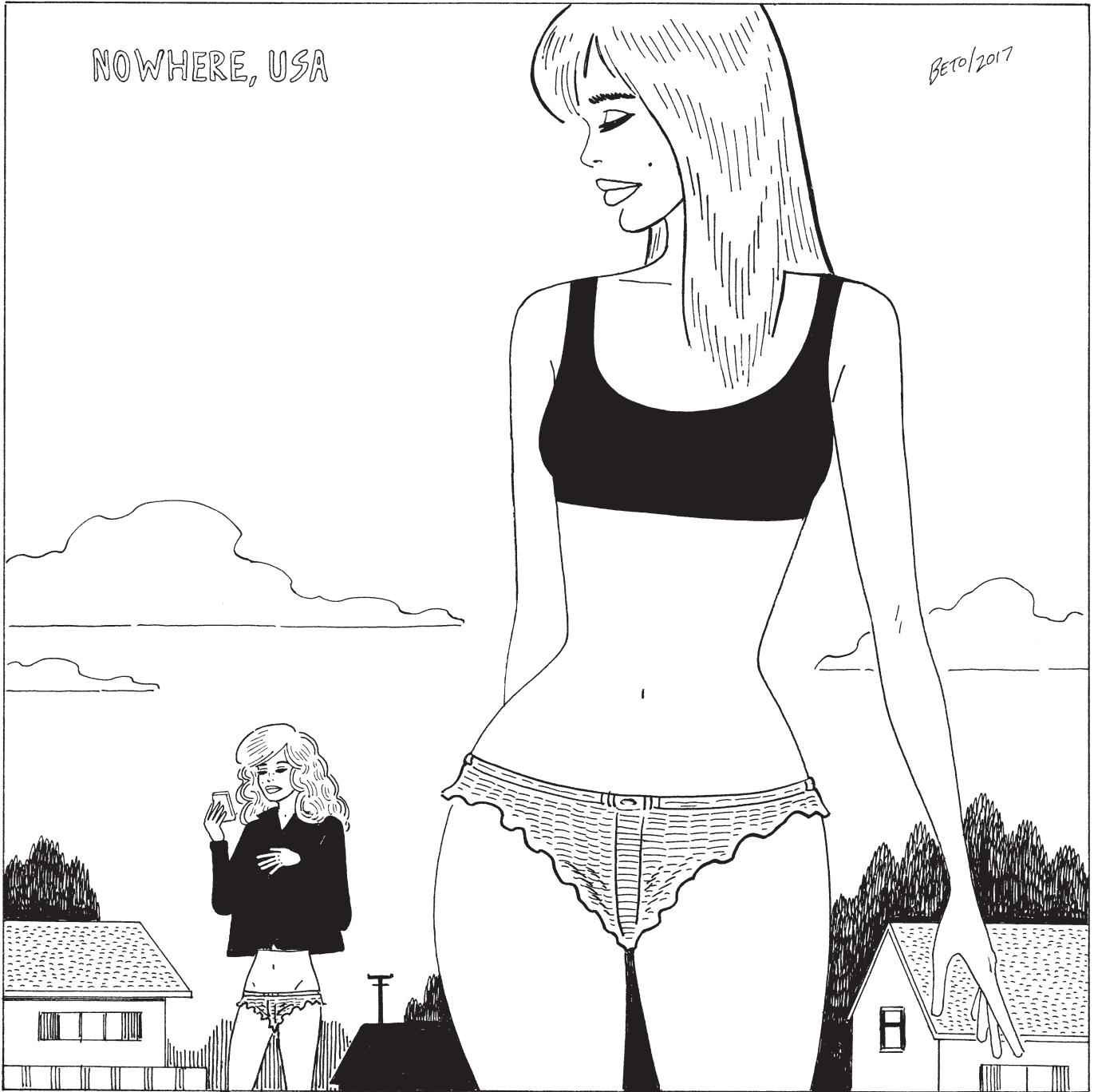


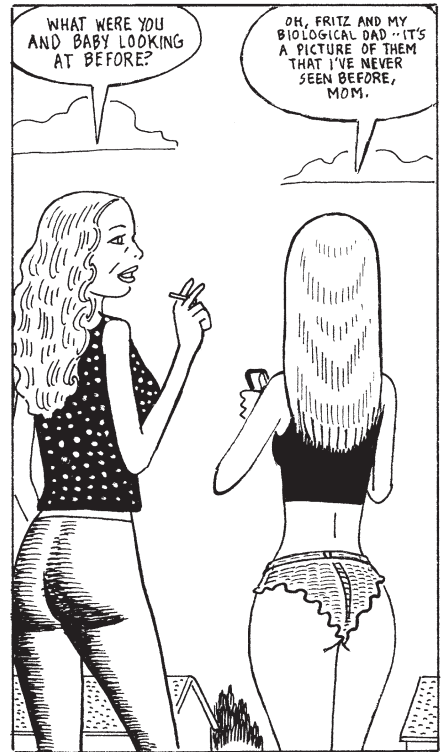
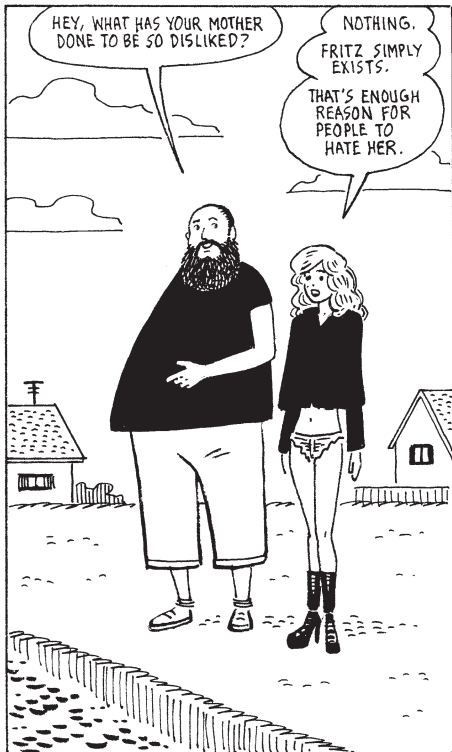
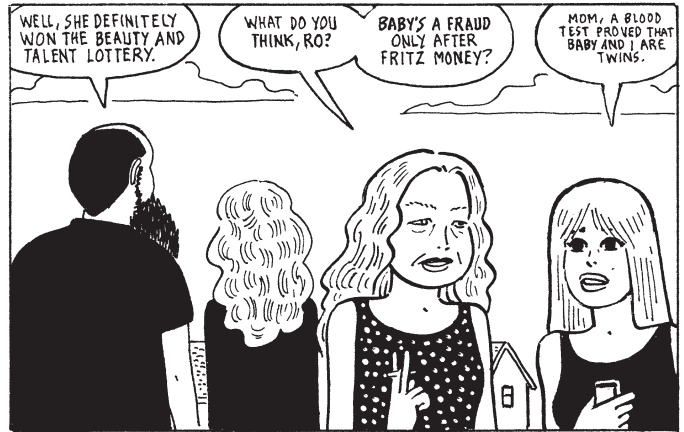
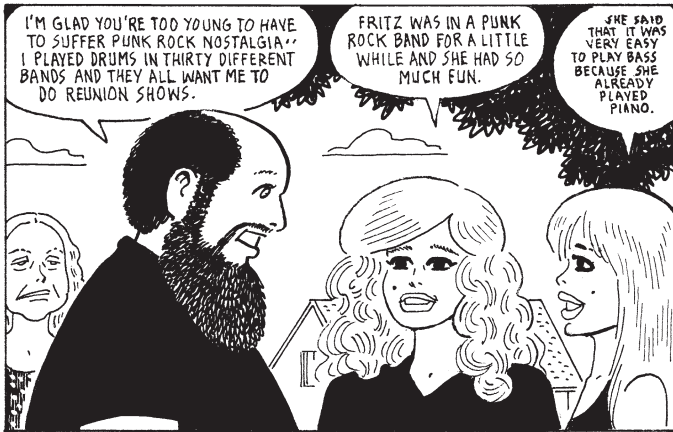
I SHOULD BE THE FOREST SPIRIT.

X-NAME 16-17

NOWHERE, USA

BETO/2017

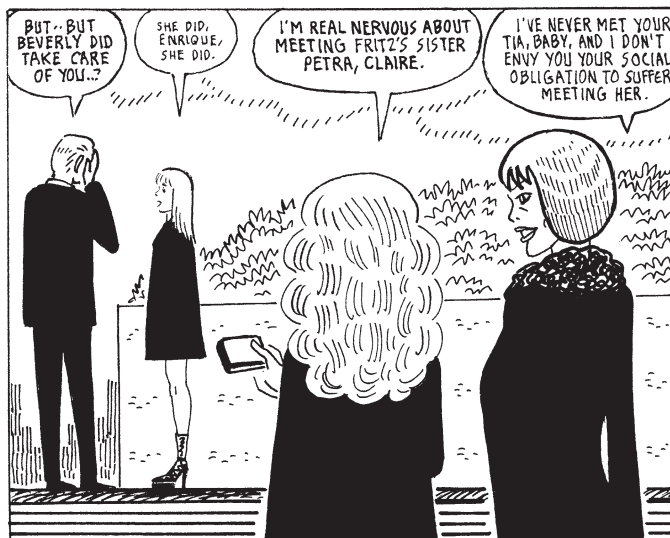
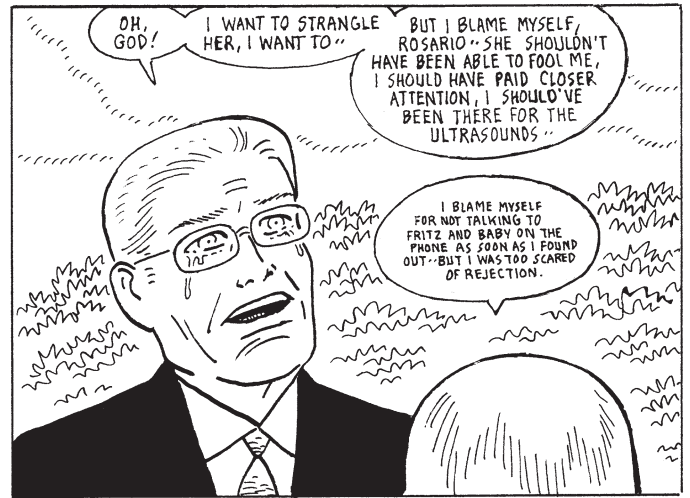
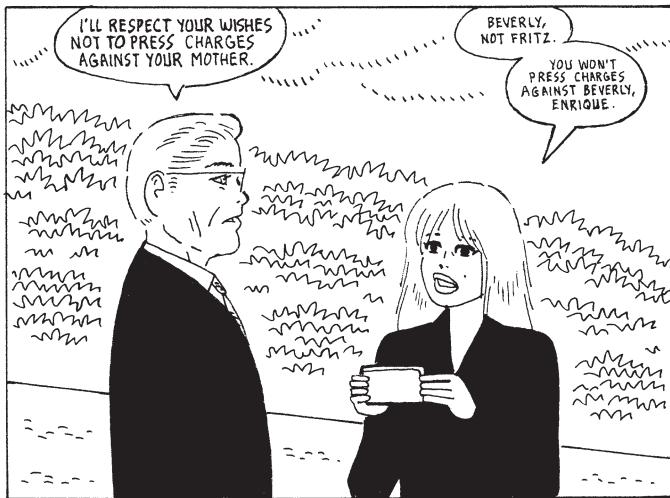
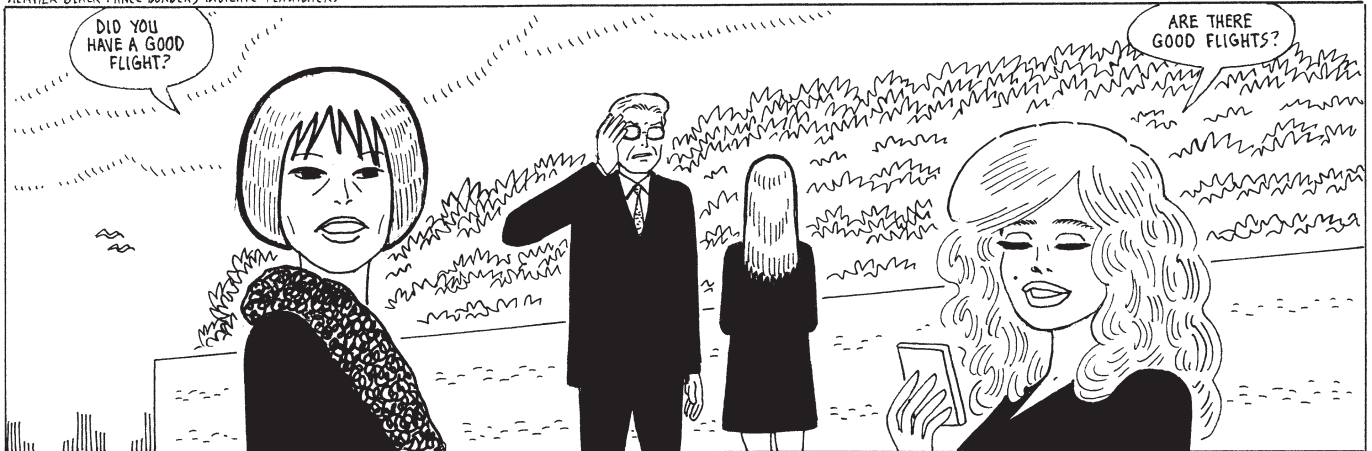








HEAVIER BLACK PANEL BORDERS INDICATE FLASHBACKS

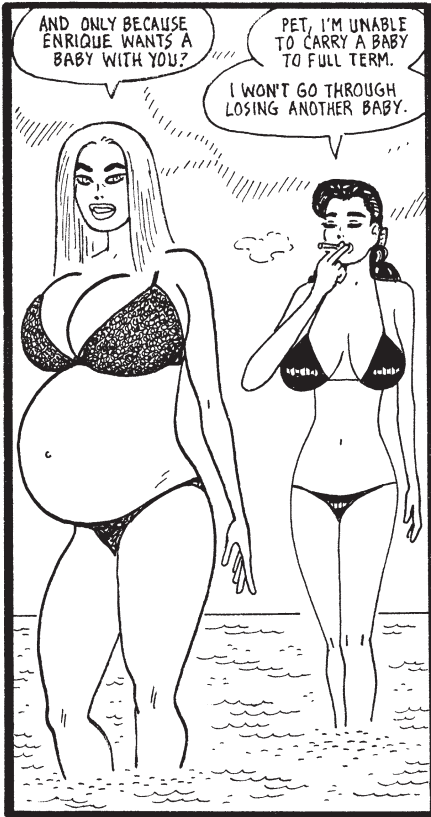




YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A SURROGATE CARRY YOUR BABY?

YEAH...

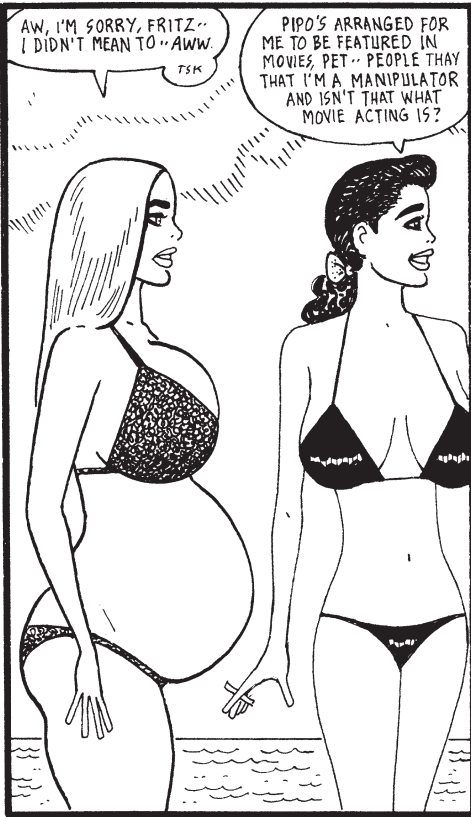
IT 'TH BETH THAT WAY.



AND ONLY BECAUSE ENRIQUE WANTS A BABY WITH YOU?

PET, I'M UNABLE TO CARRY A BABY TO FULL TERM.

I WON'T GO THROUGH LOSING ANOTHER BABY.



AW, I'M SORRY, FRITZ.. I DIDN'T MEAN TO.. AWW.

TSK

PIPO'S ARRANGED FOR ME TO BE FEATURED IN MOVIES, PET.. PEOPLE THAY THAT I'M A MANIPULATOR AND ISN'T THAT WHAT MOVIE ACTING IS?



PEOPLE DON'T LIKE ME. I'VE KNOWN IT FOR A LONG TIME, BUT I..

MAYBE WITH PIPO'S HELP THAT COULD CHANGE.



PEOPLE DON'T LIKE ME EITHER, FRITZ.

SOMETHING ABOUT US RUBS PEOPLE THE WRONG WAY.

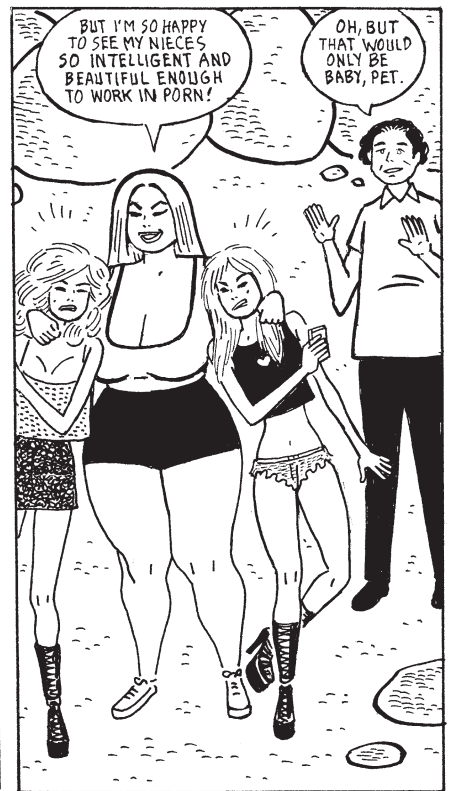
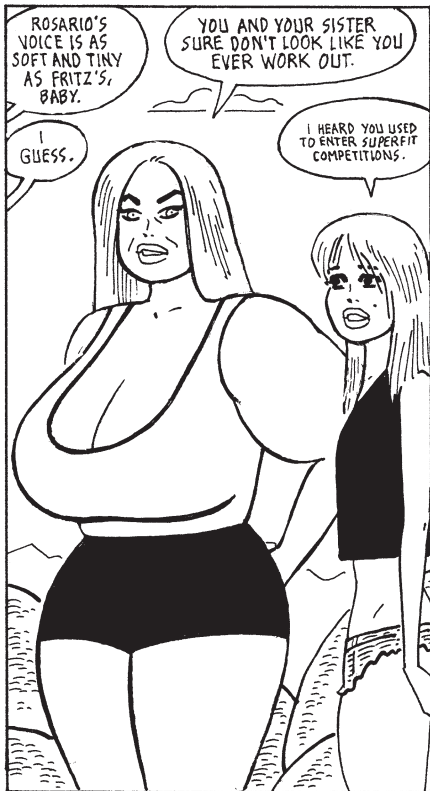
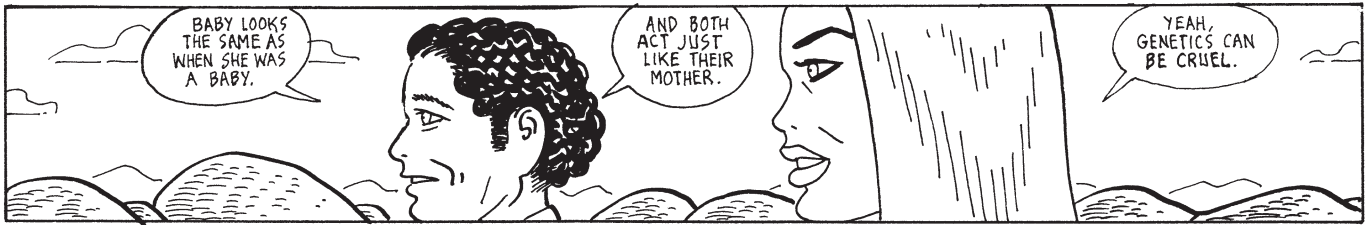
FUCK IT.

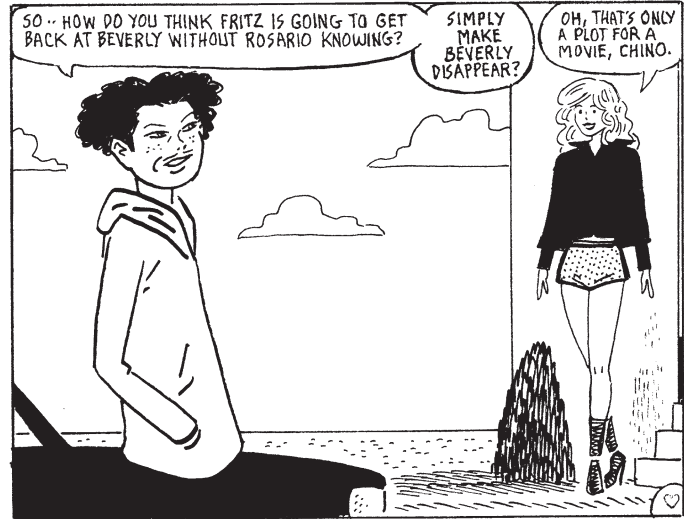
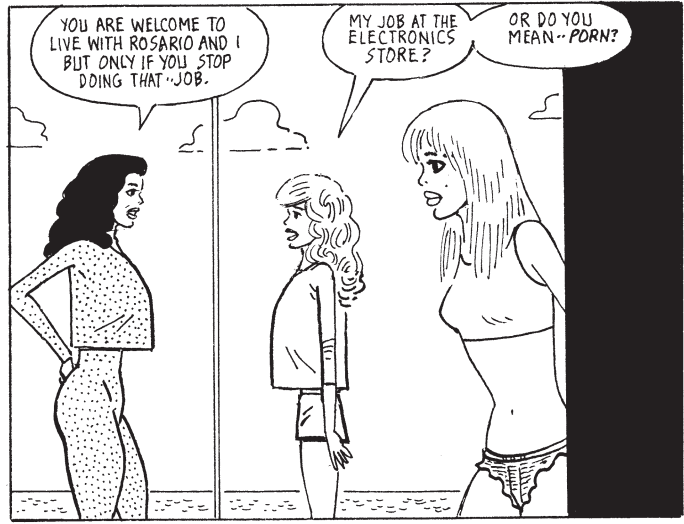
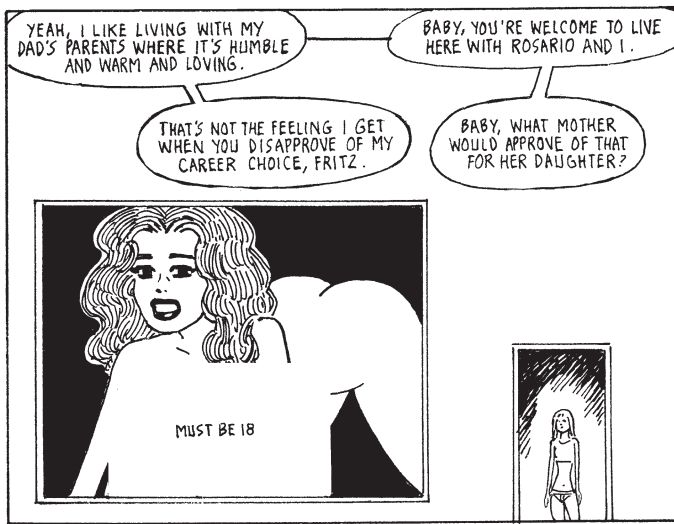
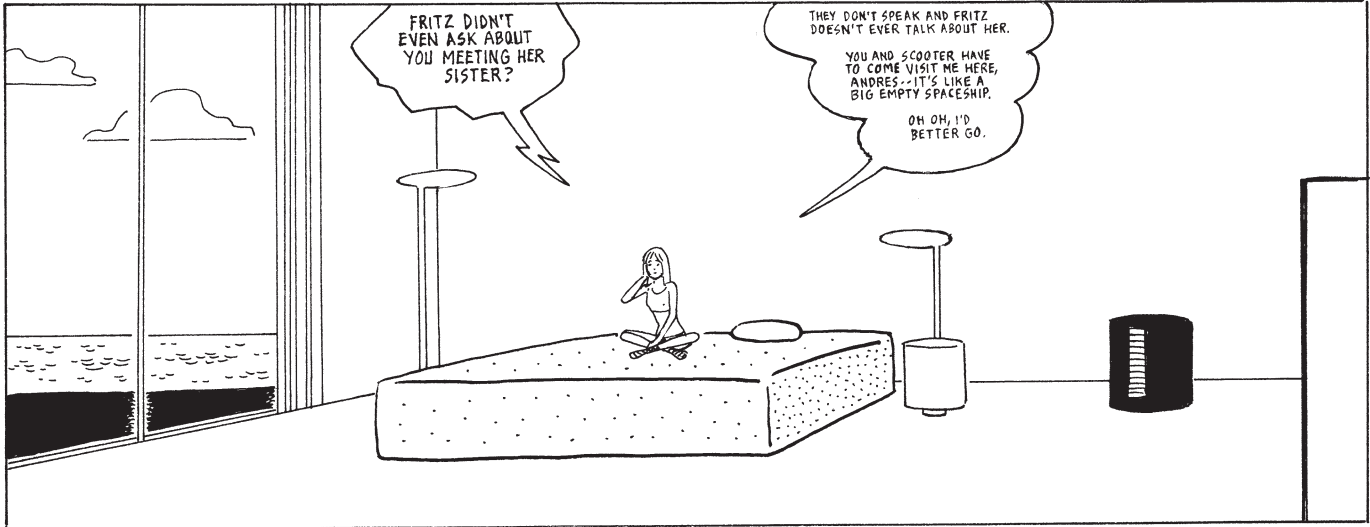
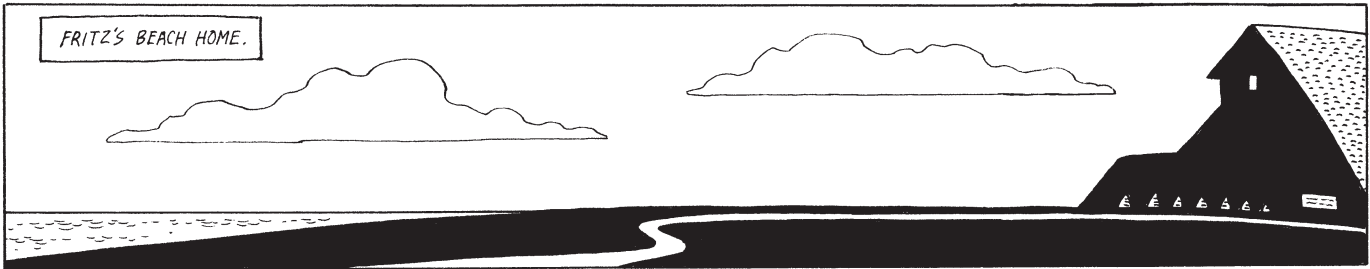


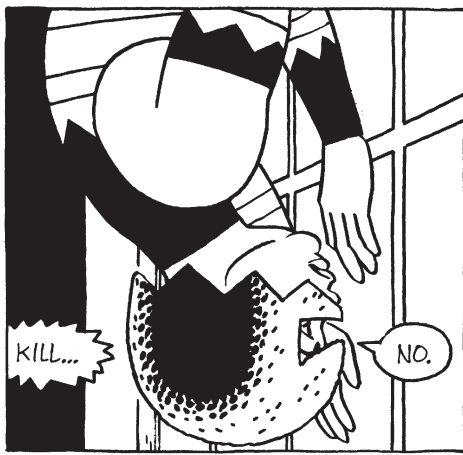
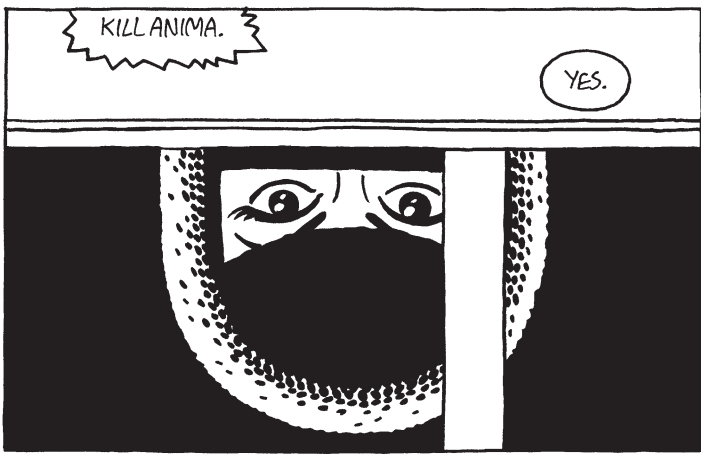
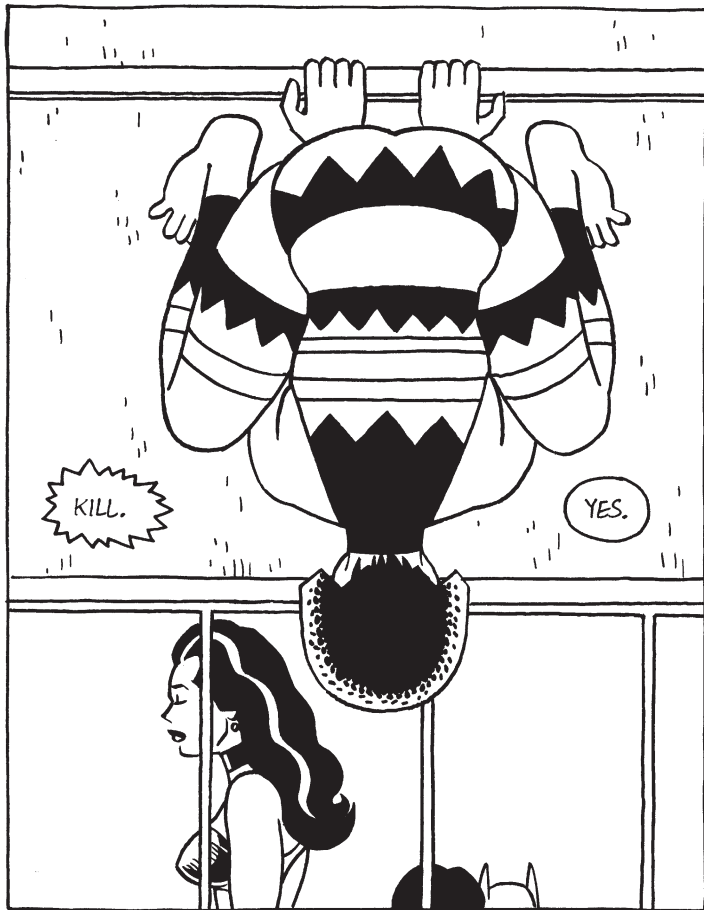
PETRA..

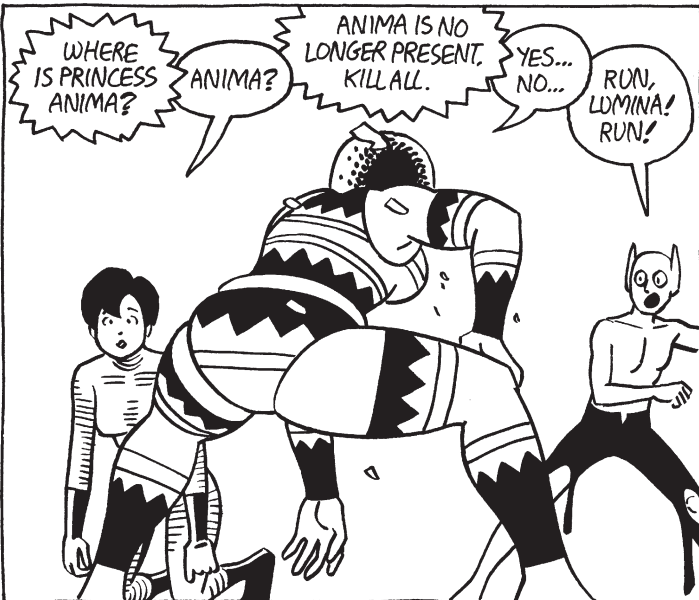
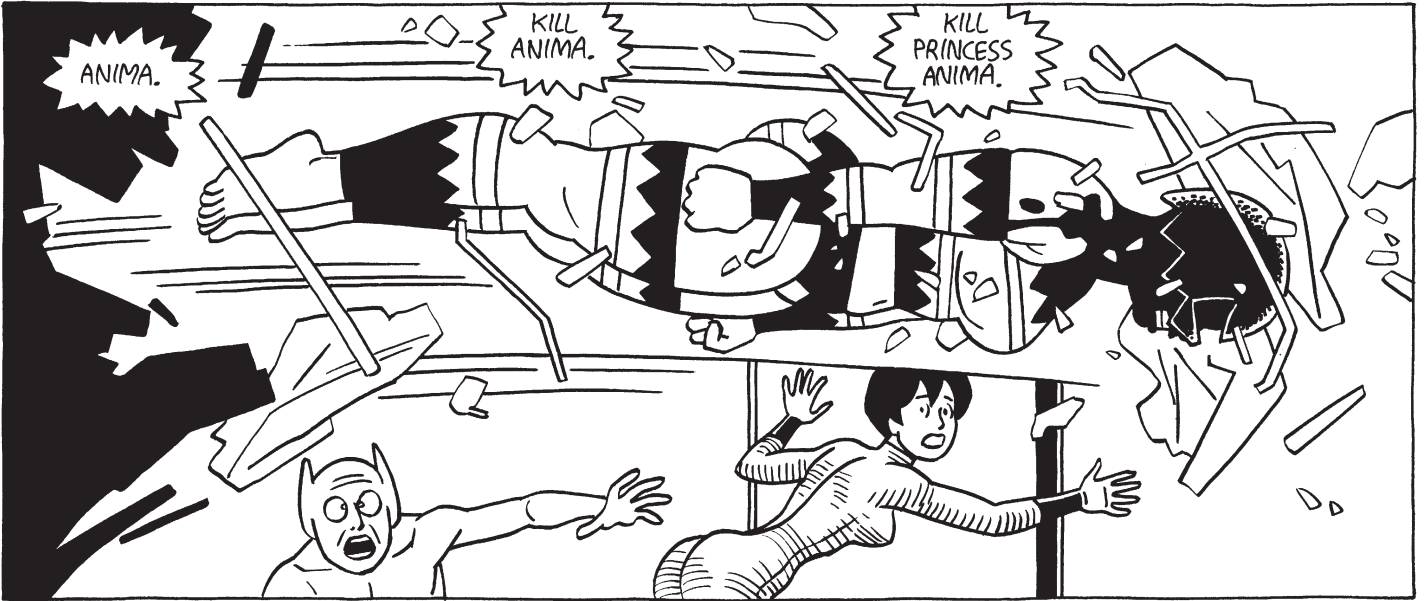
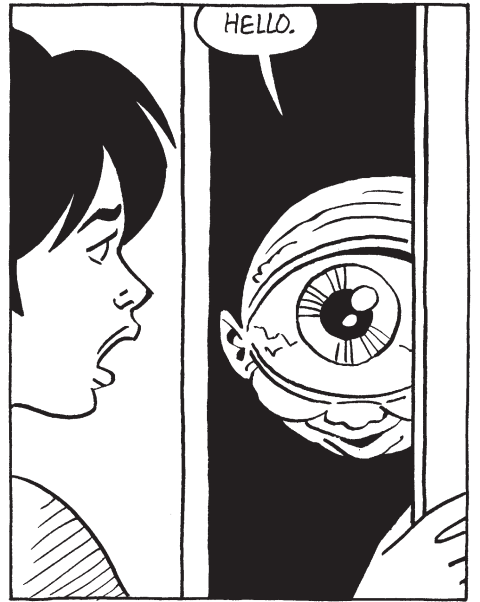
BUT I'M STILL HERE AND HATERS COME AND GO.

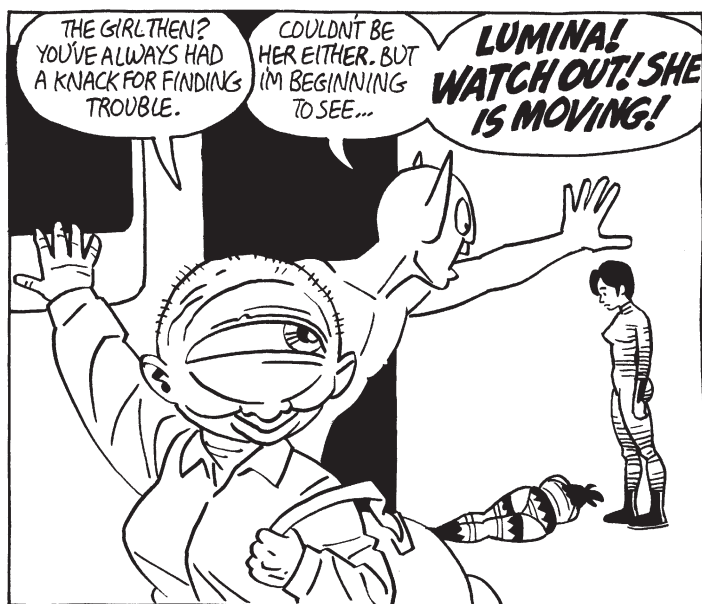
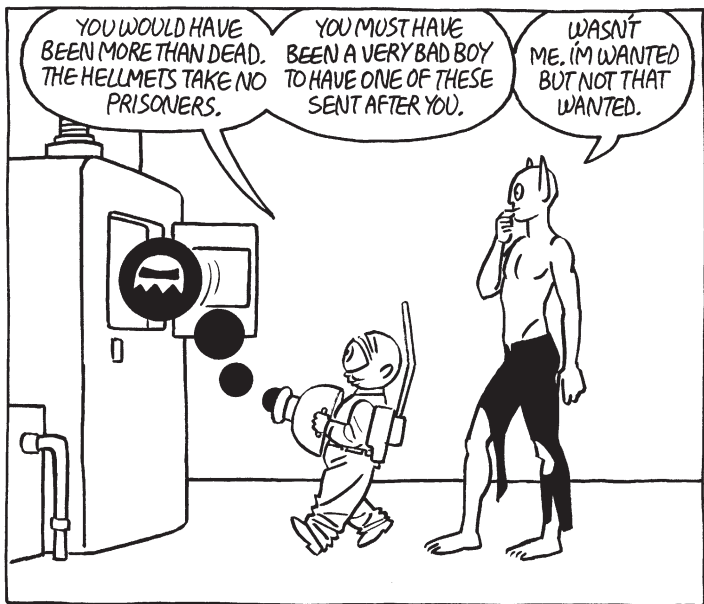
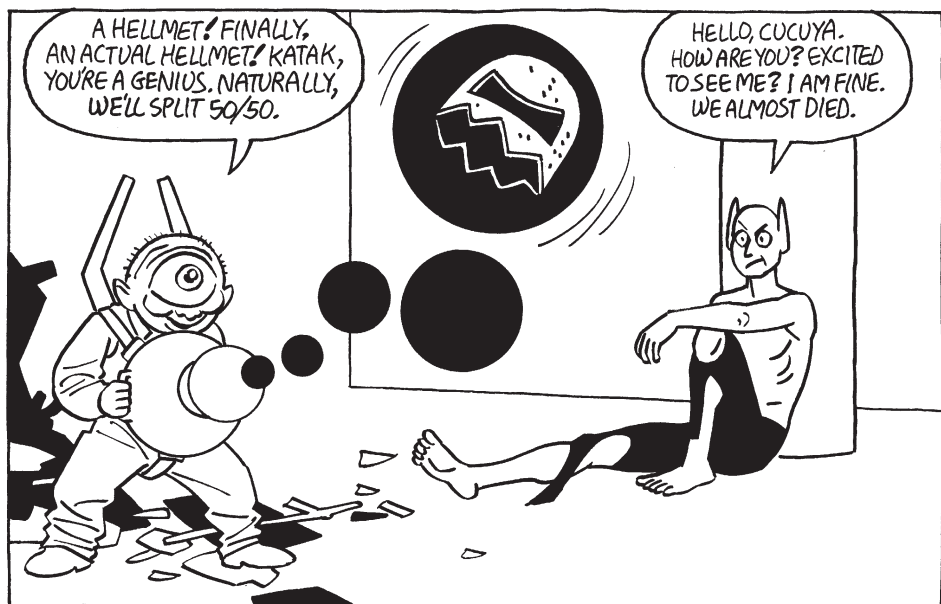
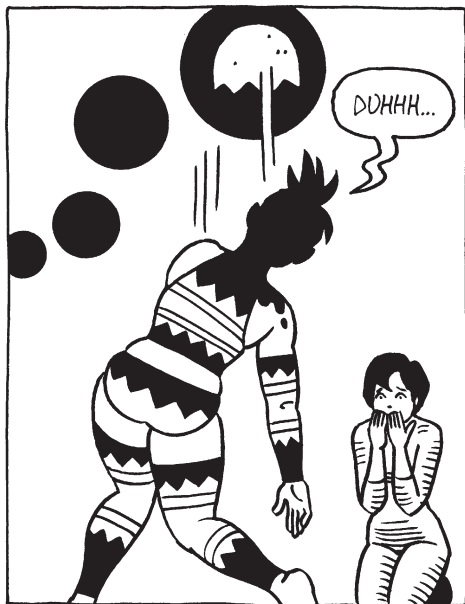
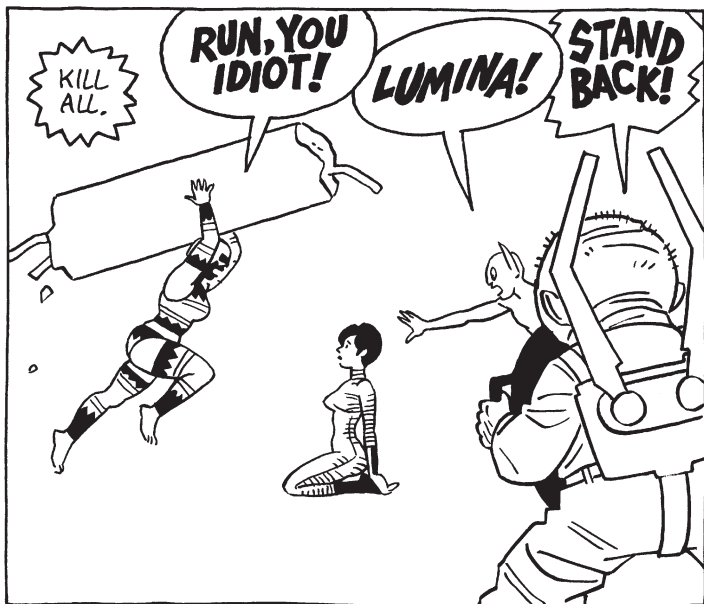
FUCK THEM.

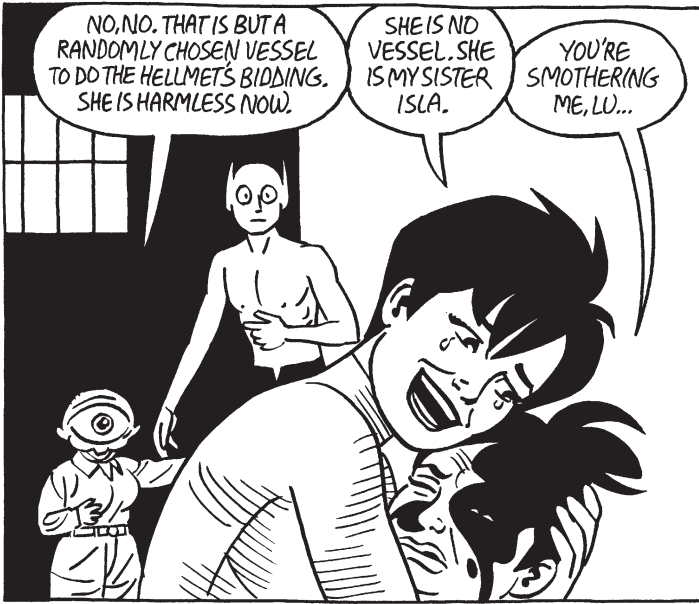








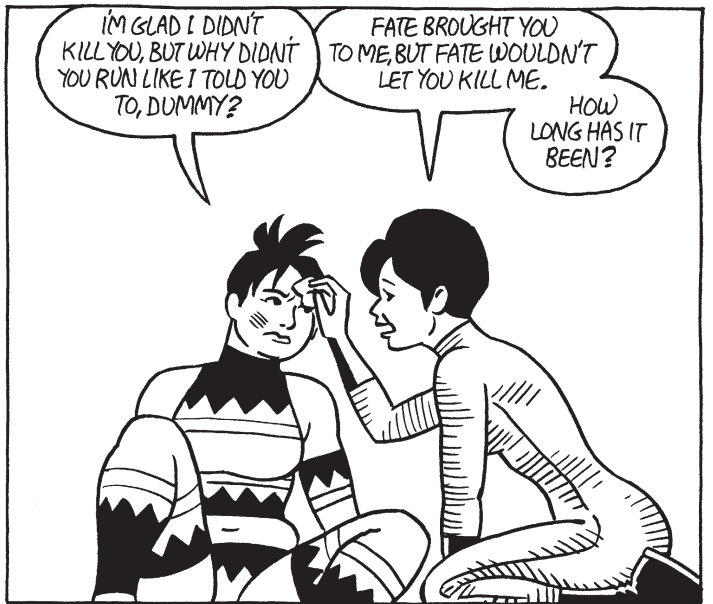




NO, NO. THAT IS BUT A RANDOMLY CHOSEN VESSEL TO DO THE HELLMET'S BIDDING. SHE IS HARMLESS NOW.

SHE IS NO VESSEL. SHE IS MY SISTER ISLA.

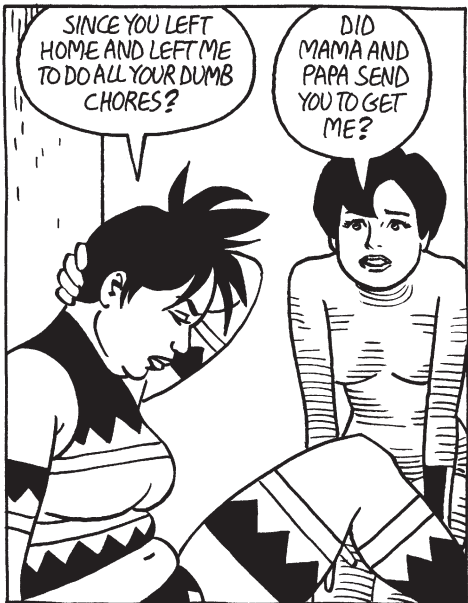
YOU'RE SMOTHERING ME, LU...



I'M GLAD I DIDN'T KILL YOU, BUT WHY DIDN'T YOU RUN LIKE I TOLD YOU TO, DUMMY?

FATE BROUGHT YOU TO ME, BUT FATE WOULDN'T LET YOU KILL ME.

HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN?



SINCE YOU LEFT HOME AND LEFT ME TO DO ALL YOUR DUMB CHORES?

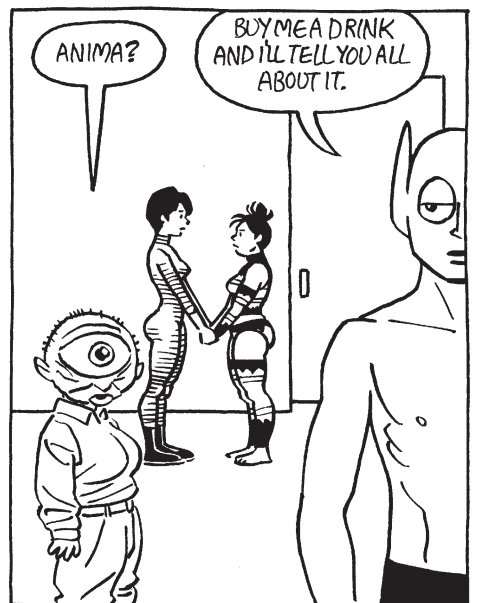
DID MAMA AND PAPA SEND YOU TO GET ME?



THAT HELLMET SENT ME TO GET SOMEONE.

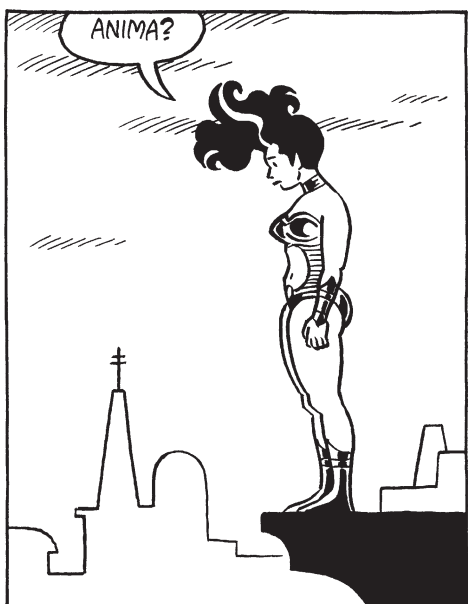
WHO'S ANIMA?

ANIMA?



ANIMA?

BUY ME A DRINK AND I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT.



ANIMA?

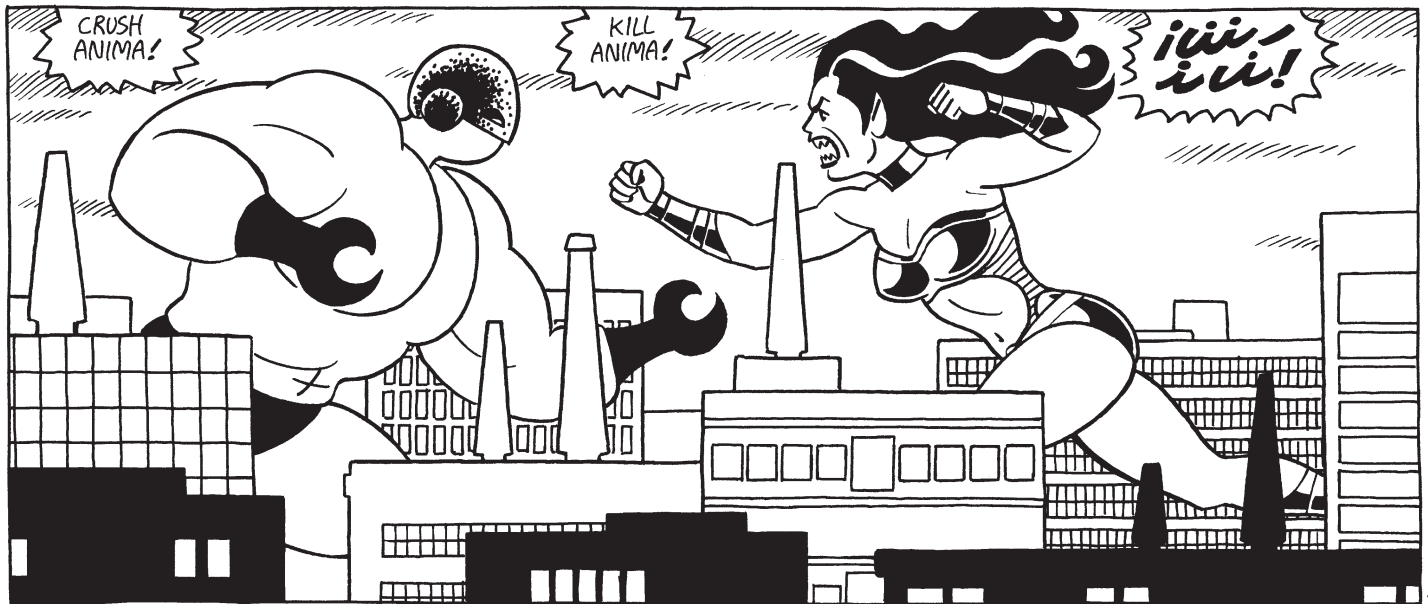
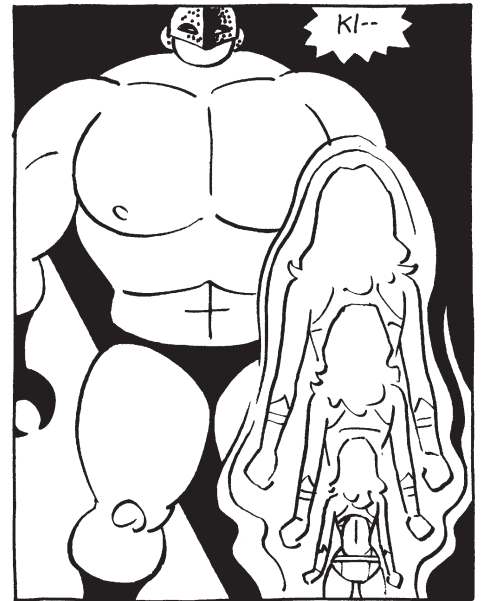
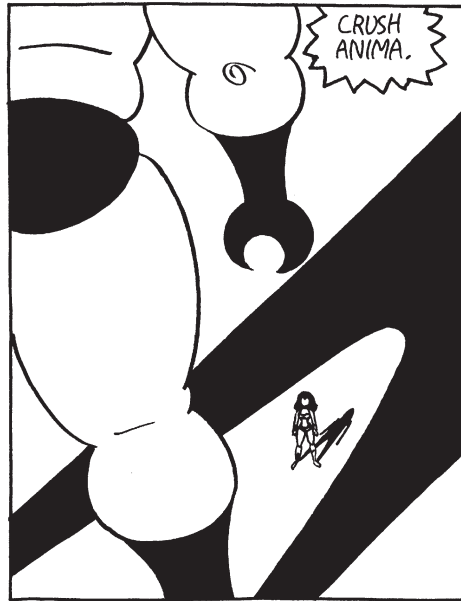
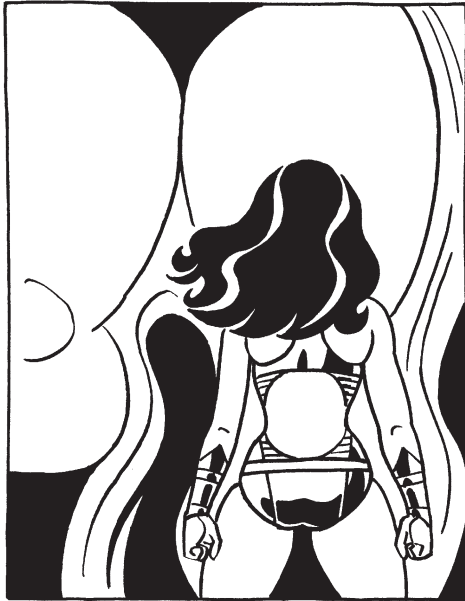
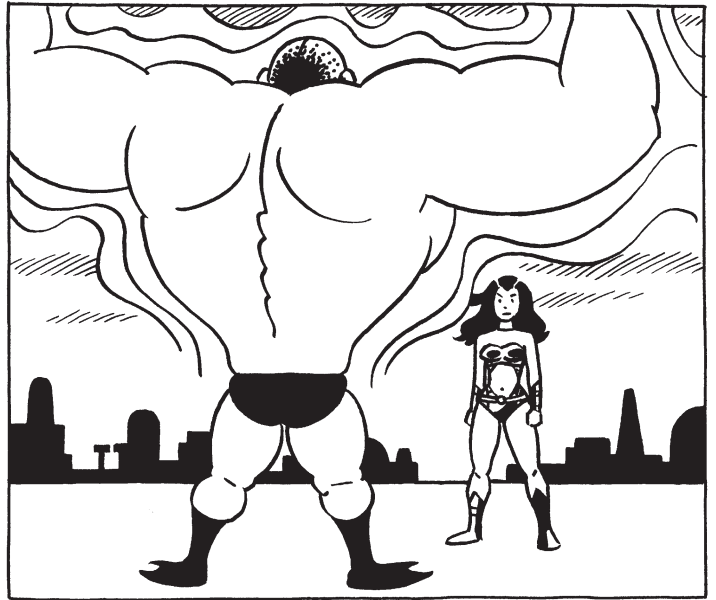
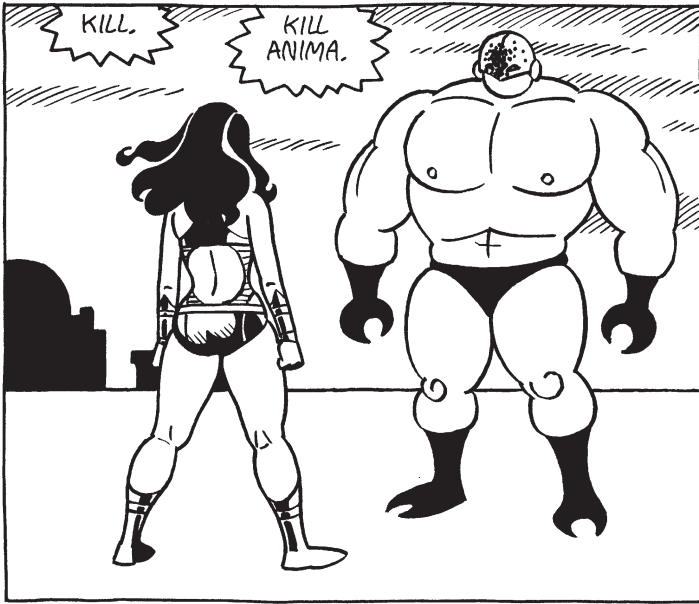


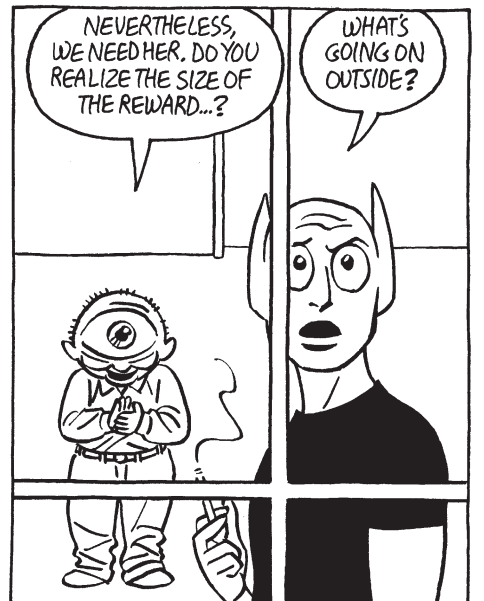
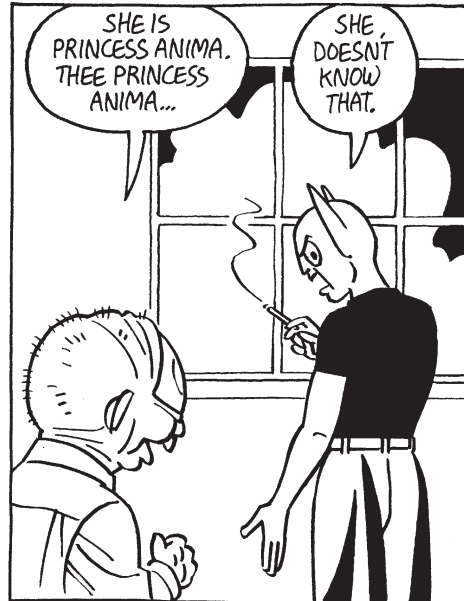
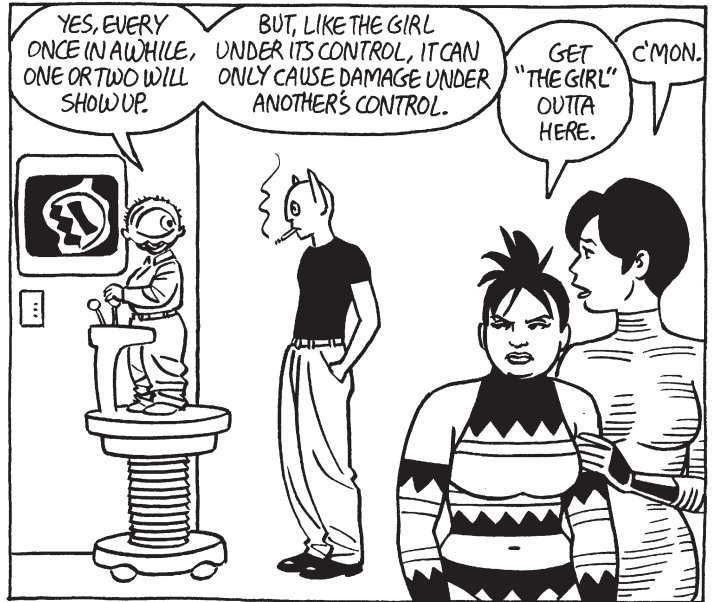
ANIMA.



ANIMA.









Dear Jaime,

First, I should admit that I don't particularly like punk or comics. I really just like (adore) *Love and Rockets* and have for the last 27 years.

I grew up as an awkward Mexican-White girl in Wisconsin, of all places. When I was 6, I discovered a huge stash of my uncle's comics being stored at our place. There were dozens and dozens of all sorts of comics in there, but the only one I was drawn to was the *Love and Rockets* cover. I can't remember which edition it was, I just remember being entranced by a badass (and also awkward) Mexican-American mechanic named Maggie.

(To be fair, my parents had no idea I was reading what I was reading. One time I read the word "orgasm" and asked my mom what it meant. It almost blew my cover! So yes, some of the mature content went over my head until I reread it much later on.)

Maggie in particular was someone I saw myself in growing up, like so many of your other fans have noted. At first it was fun to, as a child, read about her going on super-fantastical missions with Penny Century and fighting monsters while navigating her crush Rand Race... Later, in my young adulthood, it meant so much to me to see Latino characters like these, not just in graphic novels, but in *any* media at all. You showed me that there is a world of different Latino-ness, and identity in general, beyond my limited scope of knowledge at the time. Seeing Maggie navigating so many different worlds and relationships and challenges was like having a big sister break the mold before me. And she was never made into a character that was above it all. I also credit her shapeliness/normality in helping me not have body issues, and her biculturalism in helping me appreciate my own.

In the last several years, I have also loved, like many other readers, that Maggie ages like me, gets curvier and more settled, like me. Obviously I know I am not a character in a graphic novel. But after 27 years, I wanted you to know that you helped an awkward, half-Mexican girl in Wisconsin navigate her identity growing up, by telling her Latina women are beautiful badasses, just like Maggie.

I also want to thank your parents for creating such an amazing brood of humble and ultra-talented storytellers. I've really enjoyed "New Stories" over the past few years and anxiously await more.

Sincerely,  
Selene Escalera  
Houston, TX

Dear Hernandez brothers,

Forgive me for the rambling that follows, but this is a letter I've been meaning to write for a long time. I grew up in a small town in Tennessee (still live there), and spent my time reading comics from everyone. DC, Marvel, Charlton, Gold Key, Atlas, Harvey, etc. My friends and I traded comics, made our own comics, and spent much time on the floor surrounded by piles of them.

In 1983, I was a senior in high school, and I discovered my first comic shop. This was when I found new comics by my favorite creators... [Howard] Chaykin's *American Flagg!* and [Mike] Grell's *Jon Sable, Freelance*, to name two. DC released *Camelot 3000* and *Thriller*, and new companies like First and Pacific were entering the ring. It was a true Renaissance.

In the Fall, I went away to college, made new friends, and discovered a comic series that blew my small-town, sheltered, naive little mind. Your comics. Even during the early years, with the sci-fi elements, the characters were so real. And they weren't like people I knew... it's hard to explain the impact it had. I must admit that I was initially a bigger fan of the Maggie & Hopey stories, but I've grown to love all the characters and stories by all of you. I love how I can re-read and get so much enjoyment. I love the way you all tell a story... things aren't always spelled out... definitely not cookie cutter, spoon fed, tales. I love how the characters have been allowed to age; we've grown up together! I'm always left wanting more.

I'm so glad that *Love and Rockets* is still part of my life. I've tried to turn other people onto it, with some success, and my oldest daughter has been reading from my collection over the last year; she now has the fever.

Thank you for sharing your talent, for opening my mind, and most of all, for Vivian the Frogmouth. I wish you all the best, and hope to continue reading your work for many years to come.

Sincerely,  
Phil Parkerson

*Thank you all very kindly for sticking with Love and Rockets all this time. To you new readers: See what satisfying pleasures await you?*  
- Ed.

Hi,

I just wanted to say I can't remember the last time I was as excited for a floppy comic as I was the new *Love and Rockets* #1! I was familiar with the series' reputation, but had never read any of it and I have to say it was great stuff — my goal this past summer was to read all of the pre-*New Stories* material and I managed to do so.

I just had a few questions: Are there any plans to release the *New Stories* books in collected editions like you did with the *Love Bunglers*? Also, is there any chance you'll make your way to Toronto in 2017 for any of the conventions/festivals?

Many thanks and I look forward to seeing what's next.

Regards,  
Chris Zeichman

*We're glad you asked, Chris. We do plan to release individual storylines from Love and Rockets as standalone graphic novels like The Love Bunglers, when the material warrants it. In addition, everything that appears in Love and Rockets also eventually finds a permanent home in our ongoing series of Love and Rockets trade paperbacks (see the last page of this issue), which currently collect everything up to (but not including) Love and Rockets: New Stories (a.k.a. Love and Rockets Vol. III, 2008-2016). We will begin collecting the material from New Stories into the trade paperback series next year.*

*Meanwhile, although neither Jaime or Gilbert have any plans to visit Toronto in 2017, with an event as excellent as the annual Toronto Comic Arts Festival [TCAF], I'm sure they'll be back soon enough. — Ed.*

Hi Jaime,

Seeing as how the latest *Love and Rockets* has included an email for you it seemed rude not to write a gushing, fanboy-type email. I picked up *Love and Rockets* Vol. I #1 when it first came out on the basis of the beautiful cover and having previously seen some of your spot illos in *The Comics Journal*. I loved it immediately and I still buy everything you draw to this day. You're one of the very finest comic artists of the past 40 years and your strips are the things I most look forward to in the world of comics, whenever or wherever they appear. I've been drawing comics myself since '86 here in the UK and in America, and whenever I chat with my fellow artists your name comes up as one of the artists we most enjoy.

There's an elite group of creators that we all seem to gravitate to as having that something special — Breccia, Toth, Moebius, Battaglia, Toppi, and others from the past — and people like [Jose Luis] Garcia Lopez, John Paul Leon, and yourself as creators with that spark of genius that perhaps the general public don't appreciate as much as they should.

A couple of months back I re-read all your strips from the end of *Love and Rockets* Vol. 1 through the various miniseries and format changes right up to date and it was extraordinary to immerse myself so fully in the world you've been creating. There is a wonderful coherence and subtlety to the way the stories evolve and wind around each other that isn't always apparent reading them in small chunks. Nothing in contemporary comics fascinates me quite the way your work does, and of course artistically you are absolutely peerless.

I could go on but I think you get my drift — I'm a fan!

I've been lucky enough to pick up a few of your originals from Heritage and it's been so interesting getting an insight into your working methods, not least the fact that your pages are so small. I've just drawn a strip for *2000 AD* #2000 where I knew I was going to be sharing the comic with people like Brian Bolland, Dave Gibbons, Glenn Fabry, and Kevin O'Neill. I worked at A2 size — more than double the usual U.S. comic page size — to give myself a chance of getting some decent drawing in there. And yet you produce exquisite artwork at such a tiny size, I just don't know how you do it. It's interesting to see the decisions you make about composition and the placing of blacks. Like Toth, there are quite a few instances of you having drawn lots of details only to cover them up with a giant shadow — which invariably improves the balance of the page. As I say, I've got a few of your pages, but no covers and I was wondering if you'd consider selling any? I'd really love to own the cover of the latest issue, but there have been so many iconic shots over the years that would be an honor to own any of them. So if you would be prepared to part with any maybe you could let me know?

I think I've taken up enough of your time, I'm already looking forward to the next issue!

Bye,  
David Roach

*Jaime currently sells any of his originals exclusively through Heritage Auctions, so you should keep your eyes peeled over there. Anyone interested in purchasing artwork from Gilbert should send inquiries directly to the email provided on this page. — Ed.*



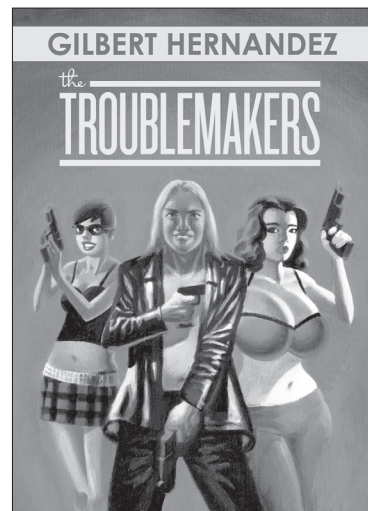
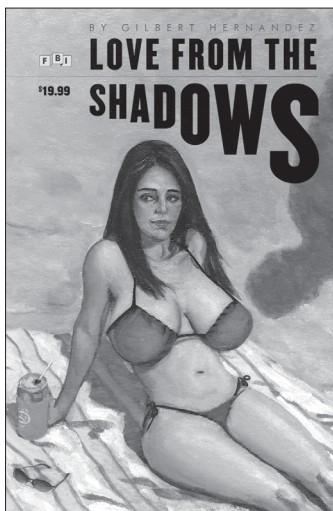
LETTERS TO LOVE AND ROCKETS!

Editor's Note: Keep those cards and letters coming! Send us your thoughts, along with fan art, cosplay pics, and cash donations to:

GILBERT: betomess@yahoo.com  
JAIME: hernandezbro@gmail.com  
THE PUBLISHER: fbicomix@fantagraphics.com

# LOVE & ROCKETS FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

## READ THESE STAND ALONE GRAPHIC NOVELS BY THE HERNANDEZ BROTHERS



### BY GILBERT

**GARDEN OF THE FLESH** \$12.99, MAY161521  
Just released! An all-new, sexually explicit retelling of the story of Adam and Eve up to Noah's Ark!

**LOVE FROM THE SHADOWS** \$19.99, NOV100921  
"Gilbert Hernandez is one of the great craftsmen of modern comics... *Love from the Shadows* is as bracing as a slug of bottom-shelf rotgut." — *The New York Times Book Review*

**THE TROUBLEMAKERS** \$19.99, APR083834  
"The outlandish plot piles double-crosses upon double-crosses, leading up to an over-the-top, apocalyptic denouement. Pulpy fun." — *Booklist*

[WWW.FANTAGRAPHICS.COM/SERIES/LOVEANDROCKETS](http://WWW.FANTAGRAPHICS.COM/SERIES/LOVEANDROCKETS)

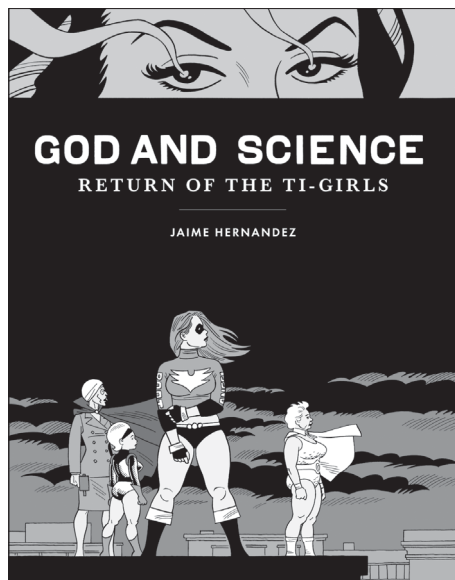
### BY JAIME

**GOD AND SCIENCE** \$19.99, MAR121061  
"Jaime plus superheroines for 134 wonderful pages? Yes, please!" — *Paste*

**THE LOVE BUNGLERS** \$19.99, FEB141277  
"*The Love Bunglers* completely knocked me out... Concise, moving, and incredibly bold, it's like a cartooning master class." — *Adrian Tomine*

### BY GILBERT AND JAIME

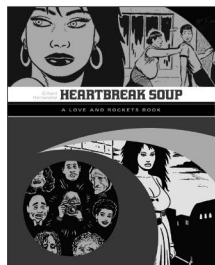
**LOVE & ROCKETS: THE COVERS** \$35.00, FEB131021  
"*Love and Rockets* #1 is marvelous. I hope one day to attain the level of the cover drawing myself... it is a perfect drawing." — *Moebius*



# THE UNABRIDGED LOVE AND ROCKETS, 1982-2007

Collecting the entire, legendary *Love and Rockets* saga in a series  
of 12 ridiculously affordable paperbacks!

## GILBERT HERNANDEZ / Palomar



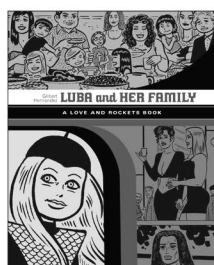
Vol. 1: **HEARTBREAK SOUP**  
The first half of Gilbert's acclaimed magical-realist tales of Palomar, the Central American hamlet, and its memorable inhabitants.  
\$18.99 | DEC141512



Vol. 2: **HUMAN DIASTROPHISM**  
Palomar's idyll is broken by a serial killer, the modern world's intrusions, and a shocking death.  
\$19.99 | MAY073453



Vol. 3: **BEYOND PALOMAR**  
Collects two acclaimed graphic novels: "Poison River" (Luba's life story) and "Love and Rockets X" (an Altman-esque story set in L.A.).  
\$16.95 | SEP073627



Vol. 4: **LUBA AND HER FAMILY**  
After leaving Palomar, Luba and her clan move to America, where they become more and more intertwined with Luba's sisters (bodybuilder Petra and therapist/film star Fritz) and their families.  
Plus: Venus! \$18.99 | MAY141405



Vol. 5: **OFELIA**  
The sisters, the kids, and the cousins are all settled comfortably in California after leaving Palomar in *Luba and Her Family*. \$18.99 | OCT141485

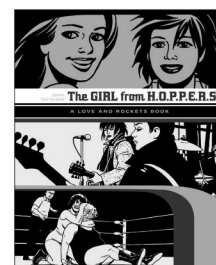


Vol. 6: **COMICS DEMENTIA**  
Collecting all of Gilbert's unexpected short treasures, oddities, and rarities from the outposts of *Love and Rockets*. Saints, sinners, Roy, and so much more!  
\$19.99 | NOV151393

## JAIME HERNANDEZ / Locas



**MAGGIE THE MECHANIC**  
The ground zero stories of spunky Maggie, her brash best friend and sometimes lover Hopey, and their friends.  
\$18.99 | JAN141209



**THE GIRL FROM H.O.P.P.E.R.S.**  
Centered on "The Death of Speedy," one of *L&R's* peaks, with wrestling action and the love triangle of Maggie, Hopey, and Ray Dominguez.  
\$18.99 | APR141213



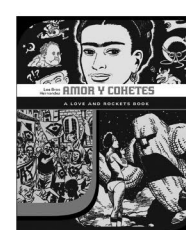
**PERLA LA LOCA**  
Jaime drops a narrative bomb on Hopey (and us) in "Wigwam Bam"; Maggie contends with her inner demons and... marriage?  
\$16.95 | OCT141487



**PENNY CENTURY**  
In "Whoa, Nellie!," Maggie settles in with her pro-wrestler aunt for a while, then it's back to chills and spills with the old gang. \$18.99 | DEC090868

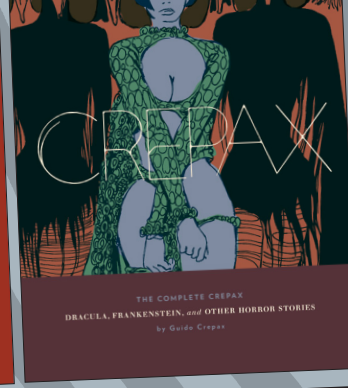
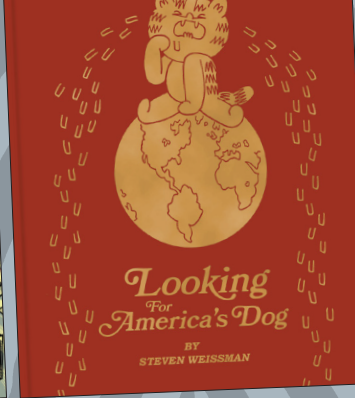


**ESPERANZA**  
An older and wiser Maggie faces down her demons, Hopey becomes a teacher, and Ray tussles with the volatile Vivian.  
\$18.99 | APR111032

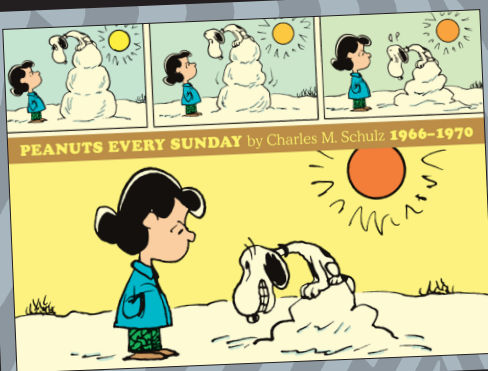


**AMOR Y COHETES**  
All of the stand-alone, non-"Locas" and non-"Palomar" stories from the original *Love and Rockets* series (1982-1996).  
\$16.99 | MAR083713

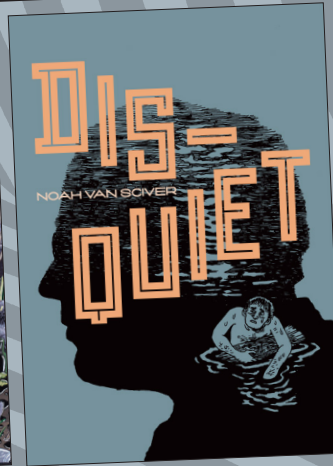
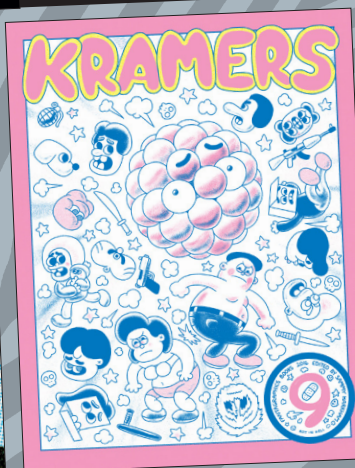
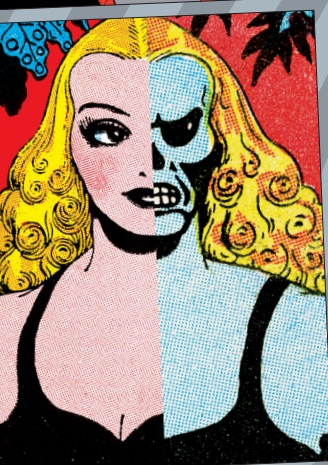
## GILBERT, JAIME & MARIO HERNANDEZ



# FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS



Publisher of the



World's Greatest Cartoonists

