

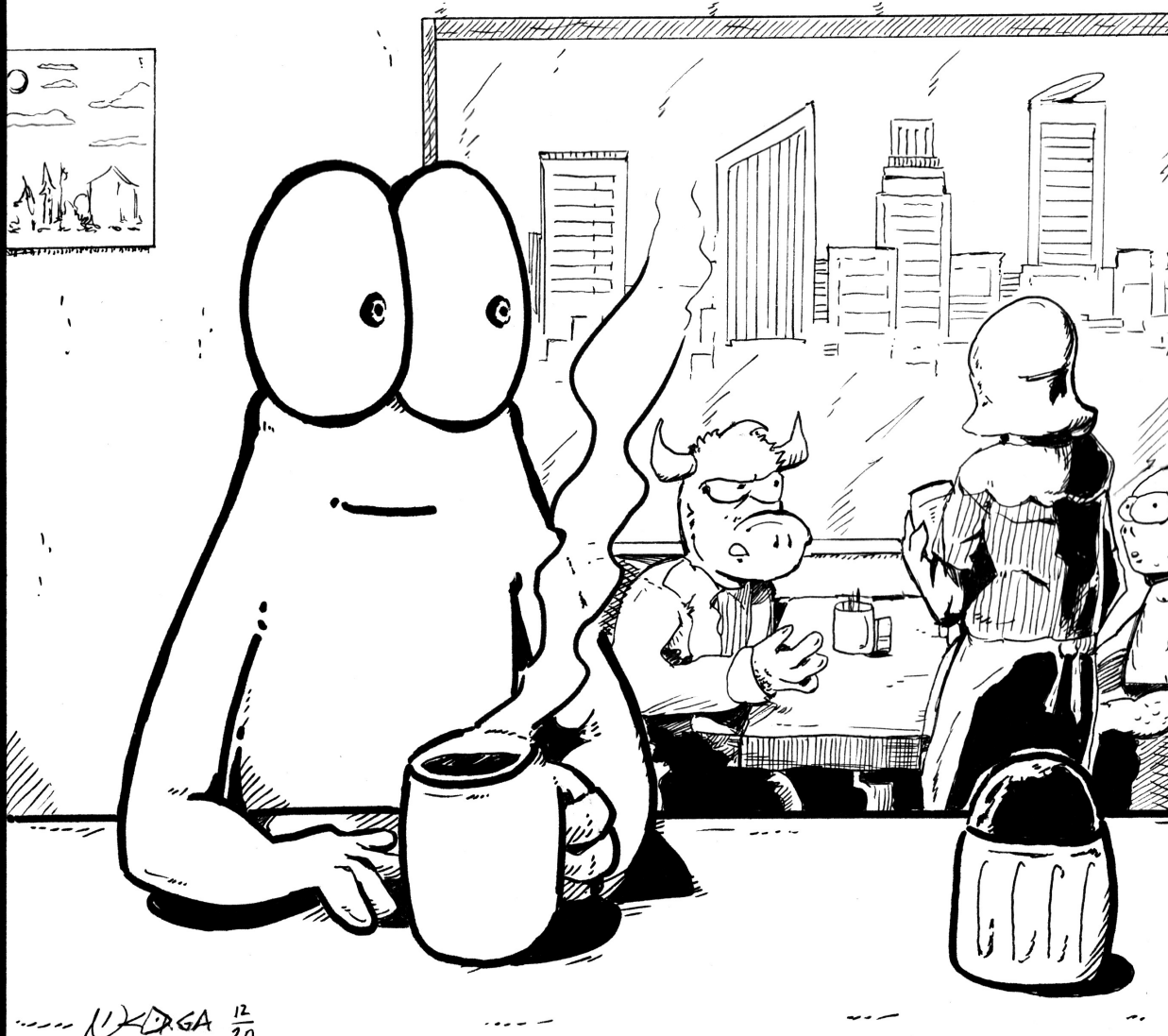
PROTOPLASM PRESS • 1990-2020 • 30 YEARS

28

DEC 20

# AMOEBIA

## ADVENTURES



KURGA 12/20



# The Slimeball Speaks

email: [dirganik@gmail.com](mailto:dirganik@gmail.com) • [amoebaadventures.com](http://amoebaadventures.com)

**W**ell, this isn't something I imagined would happen a year ago. This is the first issue of Amoeba Adventures since 1998, reprinting the two new stories I've done this year and adding a brief third one for good measure.

The peculiar, tense world that is 2020 had one weird blessing for me - after many years, during lockdown I found the time to finally revisit and republish my 27 previous issues of Amoeba Adventures as free digital downloads. I'd left Amoeba Adventures behind for years now - I never really meant to, but life happens.

My small press comics days were the better part of a lifetime ago now, started with scribbles of Prometheus when I was just 15 or so during boring school classes, and mushrooming into a fairly successful small press comic that had a few hundred very kind fans. Since then, I got married, had a kid, did a lot of journalism and moved to the other side of the world.

I don't know if I appreciated it enough then as the amazing experience it all was, but I do now. Along the way, I realised that what I'd been telling myself for years - that I'd finished the story - wasn't anywhere close to true. I realised there's plenty more to tell about Prometheus and friends.

I don't know how productive I'll be - I don't quite have the stamina or the insane productivity in 2020 that I did years ago to publish something like 40 comics in 8 years - but I'm inspired to create again.

Somehow, I've cobbled together enough new material to make a 28th issue of Amoeba Adventures at long last. (I thought about starting over from #1, but y'know, it's a legacy by now.) About those stories:

- "Tempus Fugit" is the all-new story I did for the Amoeba Adventures Archive earlier this year, a digital book collecting all kinds of nifty odds 'n' ends and rare stuff from my 1990s work. It's a fun "what if" kind of tale that picks up Prometheus' story far, far in the future, admittedly full of deep cuts for longtime readers.

- "Prometheus Drinks Coffee" is based on a germ of an idea I had going way back when for a possible story. Mr. 100 has been floating about for ages as well (he made an appearance in a single strip of my comic "Chiaroscuro," but that's about it). It's now more of a short tone poem, but I rather like it.

- The new Ninja Ant short was partially to make the page count hit 24 pages, and also is just because I kind of missed the goofy guy, who might've been my favourite character to write back in the days.

I'm not too hung up on "canon" from my 25-year-old comics but basically there's plenty of room to tell stories about what happened after Amoeba Adventures #27 way back in 1998, and quite a few tales about the moments in between those earlier adventures as well. And if you've never read an Amoeba Adventures story at all before, I'll do my best to make them easy to jump into.

My thanks to those folks who've had kind things to say about my "return" to comics after so long away, every one of those comments was very much appreciated.

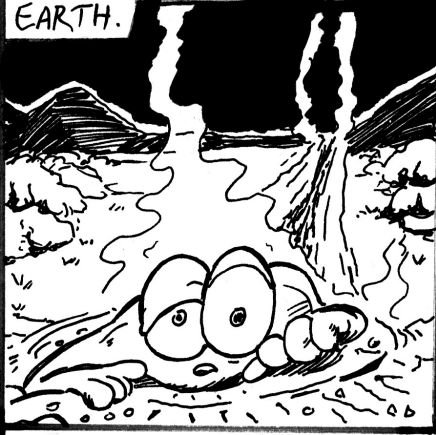
Because this ain't 1998 any more, you can also go "online" on the "computer" and "read" all the previous existing Amoeba Adventures tales at [www.amoebaadventures.com](http://www.amoebaadventures.com), and give a "like" to the Amoeba Adventures Facebook page.

Next: It's still in embryonic status at this point, but look out for another Amoeba Adventures issue in 2021!

- Nik Dirga, December 2020

**Amoeba Adventures #28, December 2020.** Published well, somewhere between every 22 years and every once in a while by Protoplasm Press, 262 Konini Road, Titirangi, Auckland, New Zealand 0604. Visit [www.amoebaadventures.com](http://www.amoebaadventures.com) and look for the link to download all 27 previous issues and much more, or 'like' on [Facebook.com/amoebaadventures](https://www.facebook.com/amoebaadventures). Amoeba Adventures, Prometheus and Ninja Ant are all (C-) 2020 Nik Dirga. All rights reserved. Good to be back.

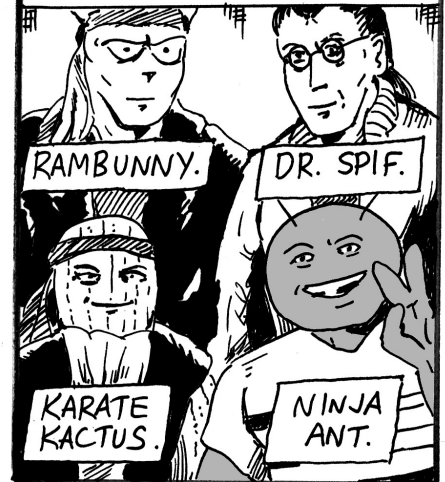
ONCE UPON A TIME, AN AMOEBA NAMED PROMETHEUS FELL FROM THE STARS TO EARTH.



EARTH-SPONGY, THAT IS, IN A UNIVERSE A BIT ASKEW TO OUR OWN.



PROMETHEUS SOON FOUND FRIENDS AND ALLIES.



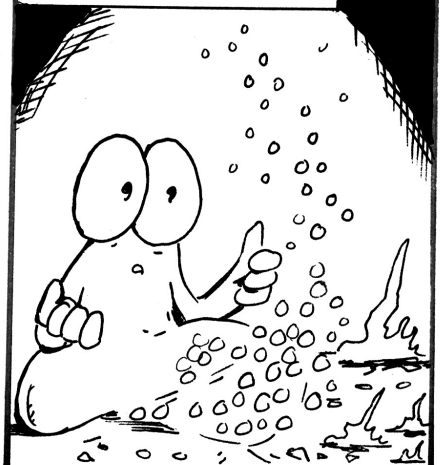
THEY FORMED A SUPERHERO TEAM, THE ALL-SPONGY SQUADRON... AS YOU DO.



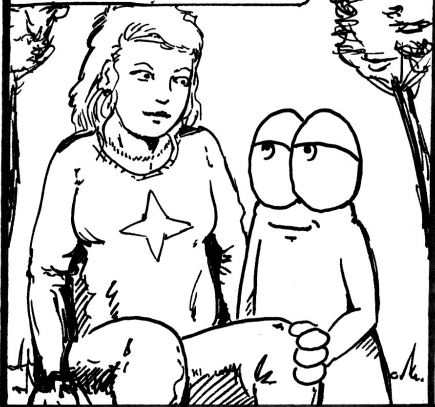
THEY MADE ENEMIES, MORE FRIENDS, AND HAD GRAND ADVENTURES.



ALONG THE WAY, PROMETHEUS LEARNED HE WAS APPARENTLY IMMORTAL.



HE FELL IN LOVE WITH DAWN, A HUMAN WHO HE ACCIDENTALLY GAVE POWERS TO... AS YOU DO.

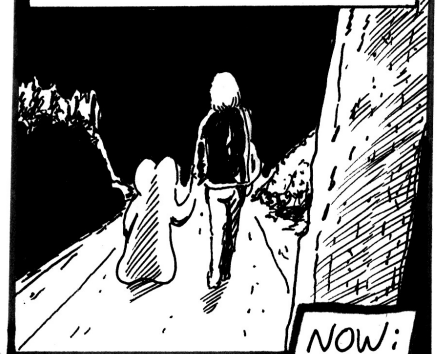


BUT THEN CAME THE DARK ONE, A FRIEND TURNED ENEMY WHO SYSTEMATICALLY ATTACKED THE TEAM.

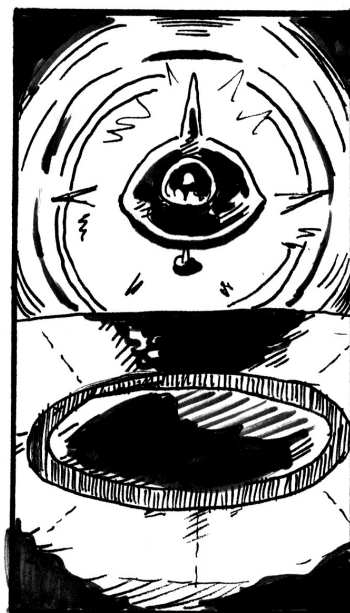
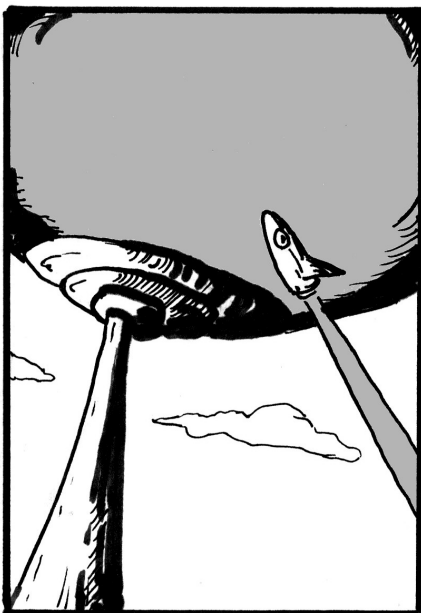
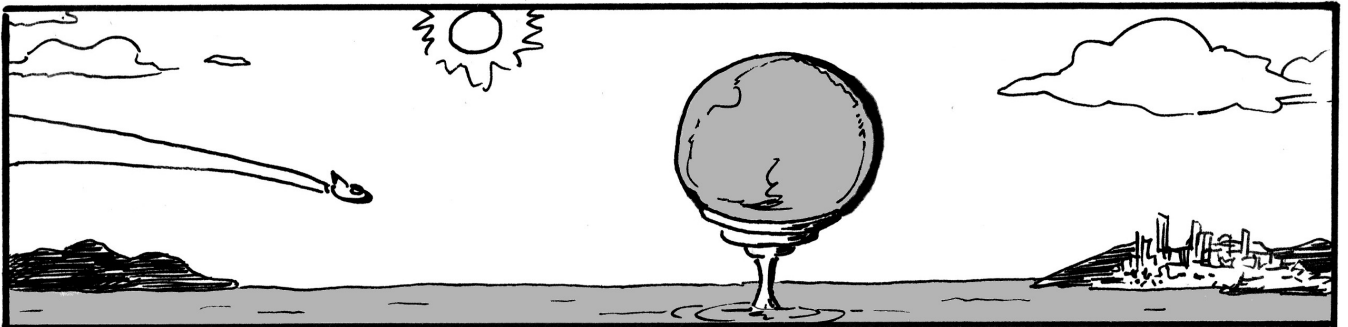
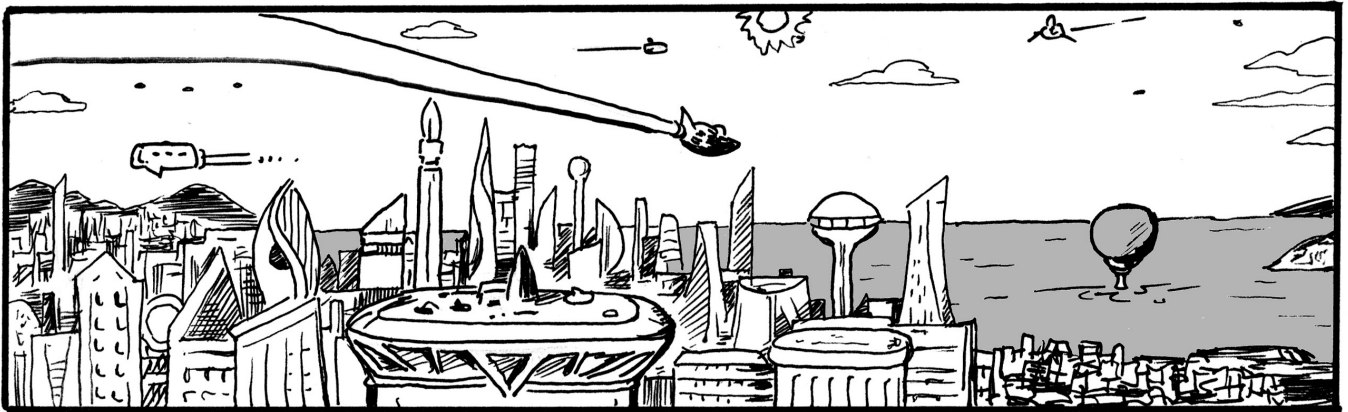
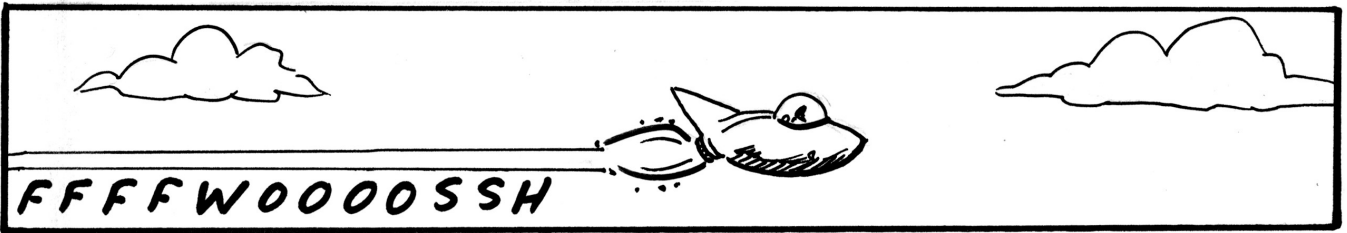


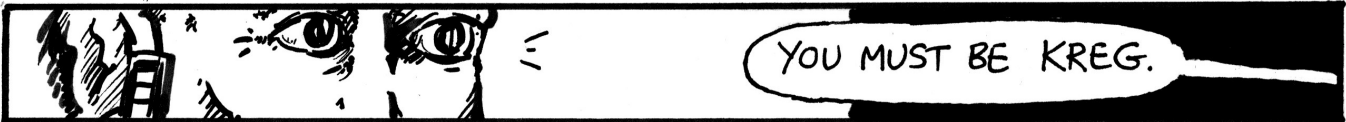
IT WAS THE END OF AN ERA.

THE SQUADRON WENT THEIR SEPERATE WAYS, AND PROMETHEUS AND DAWN LEFT TO START SOMETHING NEW.

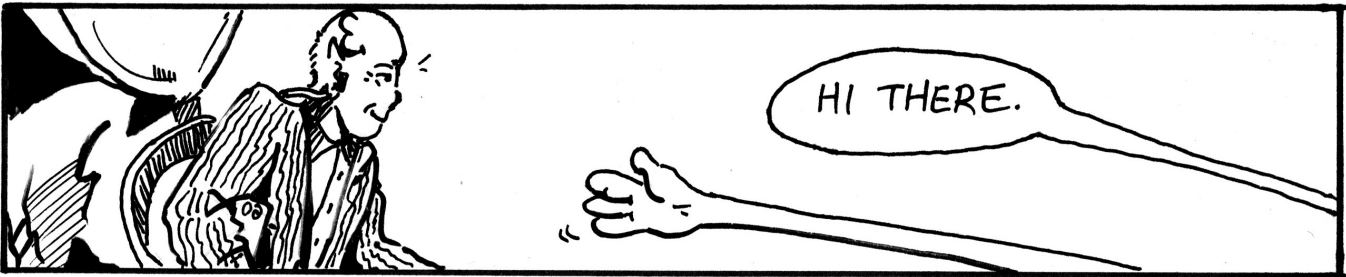


# NINETY YEARS LATER

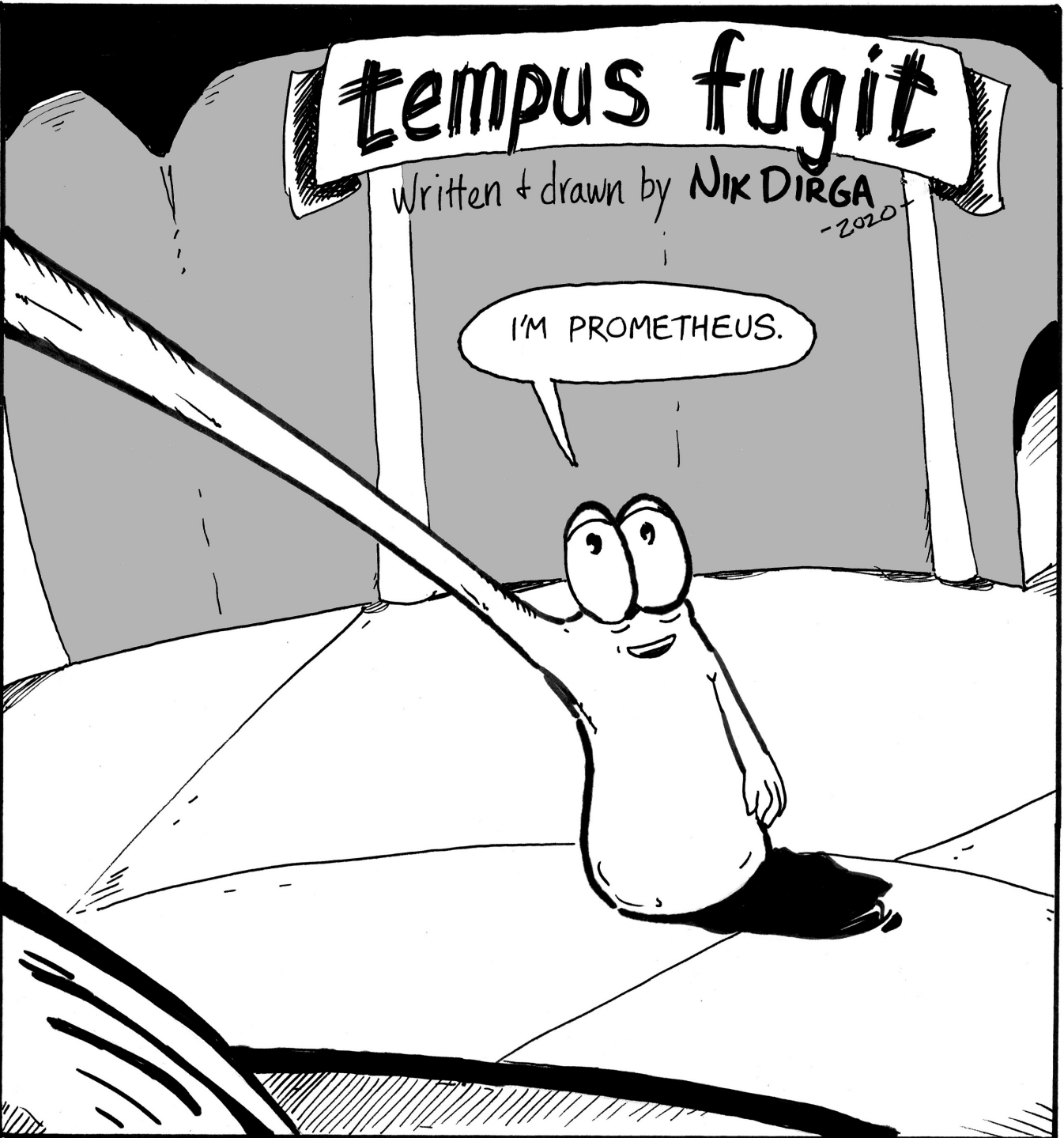




YOU MUST BE KREG.



HI THERE.



tempus fugit  
Written & drawn by NIK DIRGA  
-2020-

I'M PROMETHEUS.

GREAT TO MEET YOU - THANKS SO MUCH FOR INVITING ME HERE FOR THIS VIDZ!



NO PROBLEM! LET'S GO IN!

I KNOW YOU HAVEN'T DONE ONE OF THESE FOR A WHILE.



WELL, I'M FEELING NOSTALGIC, I GUESS.

--THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF YOUR ARRIVAL?

I'M NOT THRILLED SPONGOPOLIS IS MAKING A BIG THING OF IT, BUT SOMETIMES YOU JUST GO WITH THE FLOW.



WELL, WE REALLY APPREC-- ITZ! THIS PLACE IS AMAZING!

WHEN I CAME BACK TO EARTH, I NEEDED A HOME.

SO I GREW ONE.

IT WAS A BIT MESSY - I'LL SPARE YOU THE DETAILS - BUT GOOD FOR US NOW.



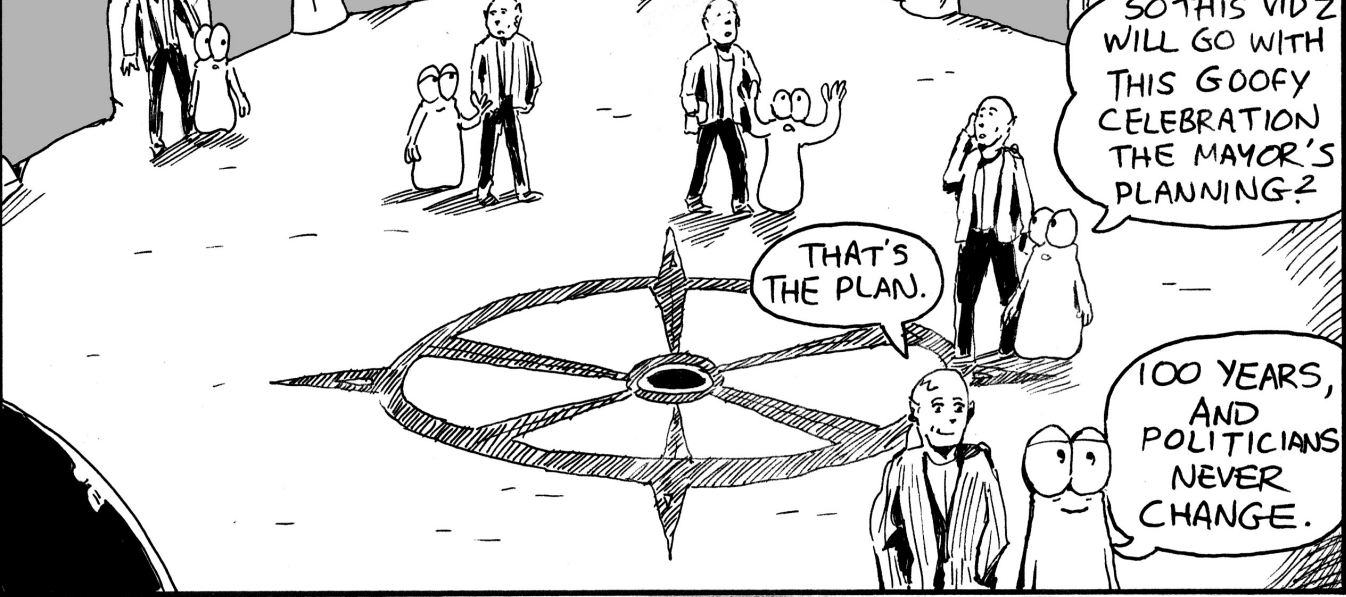
OK TO VIDZ IT?

GO FOR IT.

SO THIS VIDZ WILL GO WITH THIS GOOFY CELEBRATION THE MAYOR'S PLANNING?

THAT'S THE PLAN.

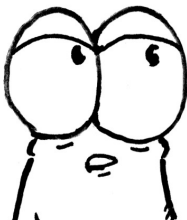
100 YEARS, AND POLITICIANS NEVER CHANGE.



WELL, I HAVEN'T BEEN AROUND AS LONG AS YOU.

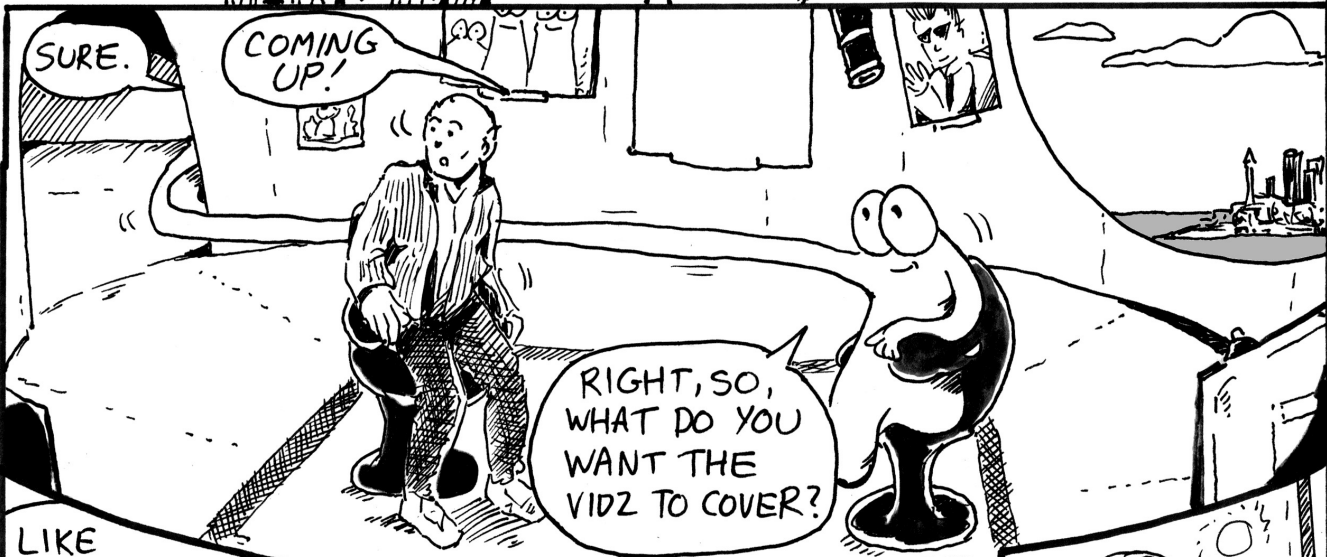


FEW HAVE.



... STEP INTO MY OFFICE.

YOU WANT SOME TEA?



SURE.

COMING UP!

RIGHT, SO, WHAT DO YOU WANT THE VIDZ TO COVER?

LIKE WE SAID, 100 YEARS - YOU'VE HAD A MASSIVE IMPACT ON SOCIETY.



THE FIRST ALL-SPONGY SQUADRON ..THE DENIER CRISIS.



..THE MANIPULATOR INVASION..

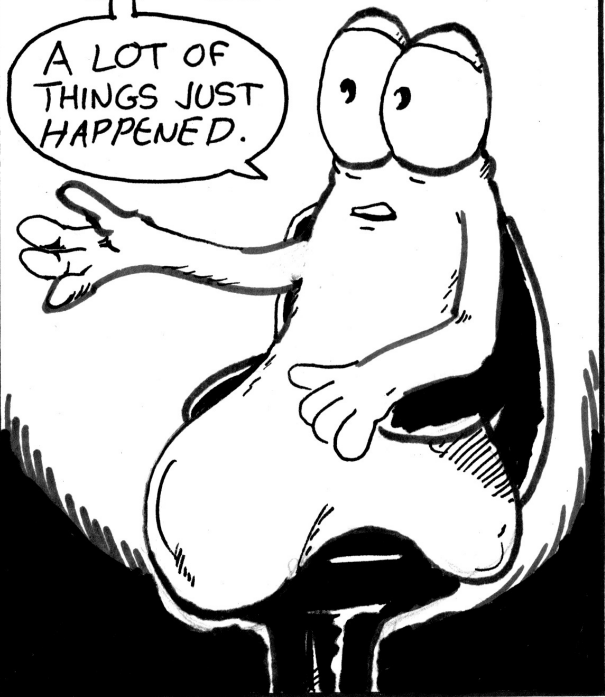
HERE YOU GO!

T-THANKS!

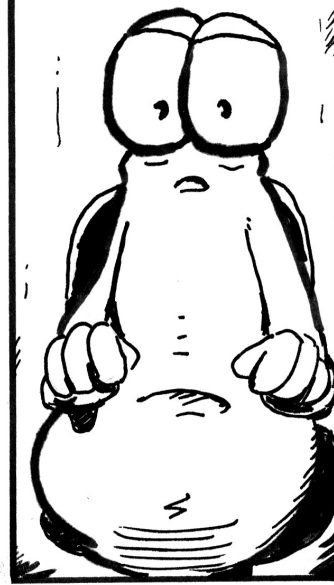


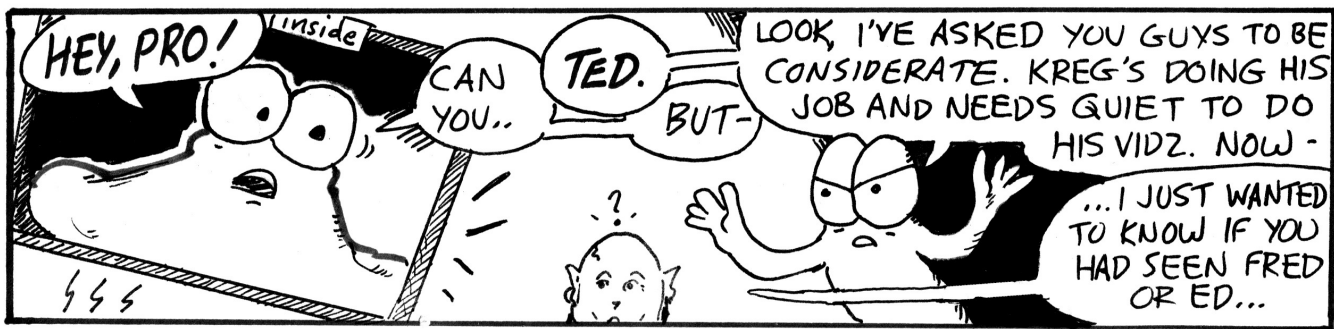
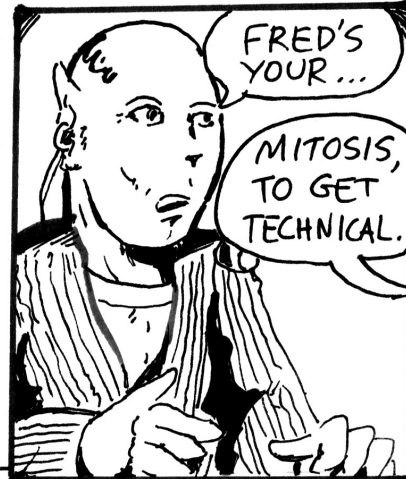
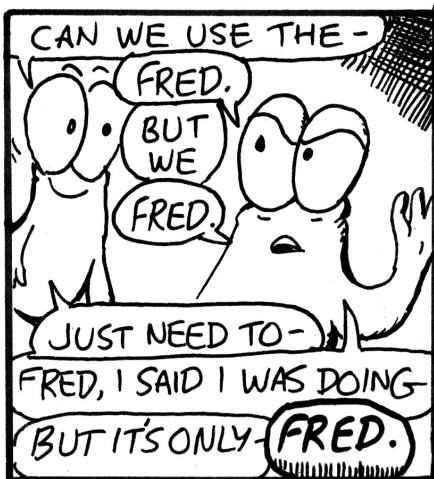
MMM - WHERE TO START? I NEVER MEANT TO "IMPACT SOCIETY" WHEN I LANDED.

A LOT OF THINGS JUST HAPPENED.

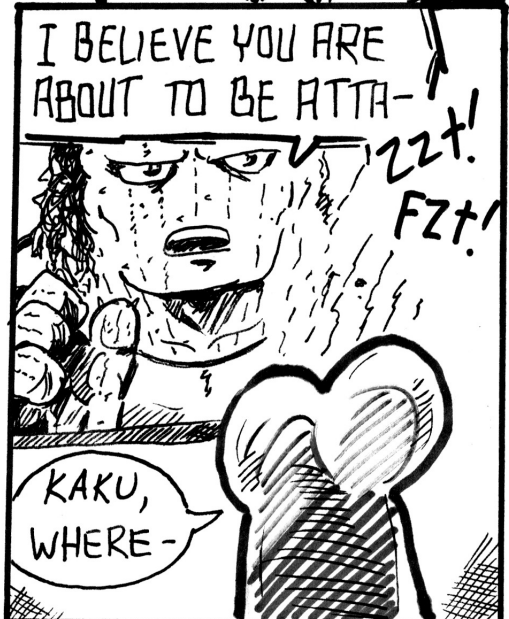
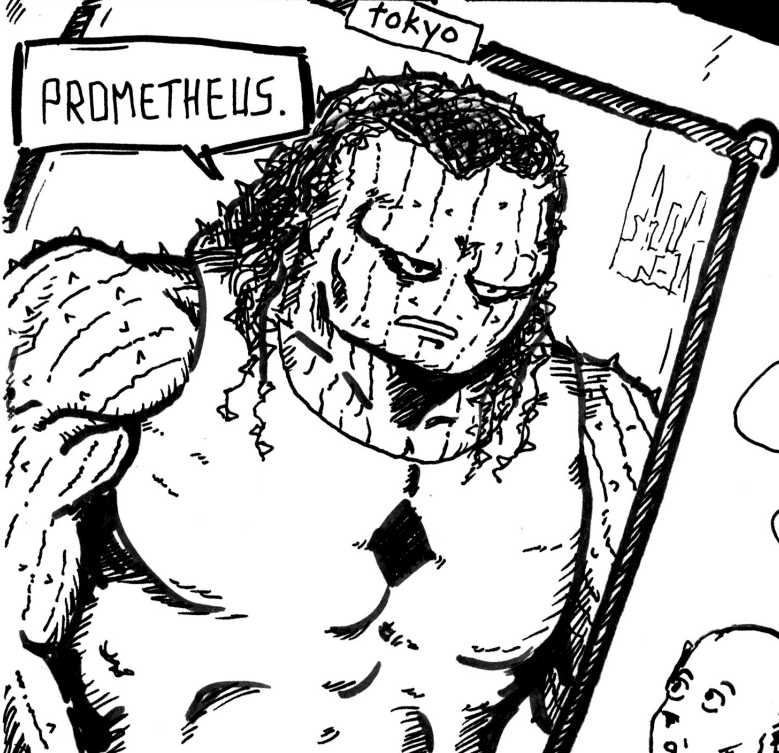


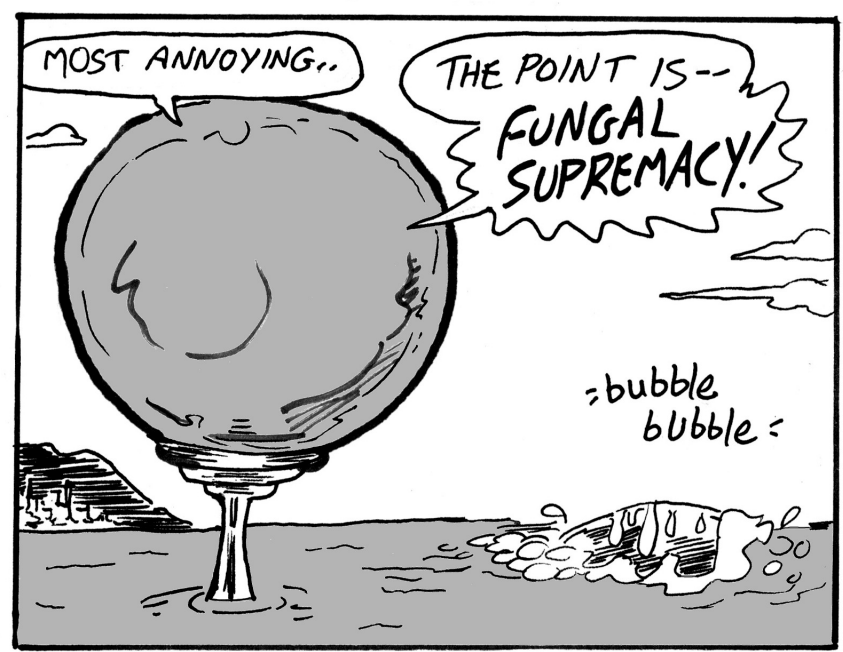
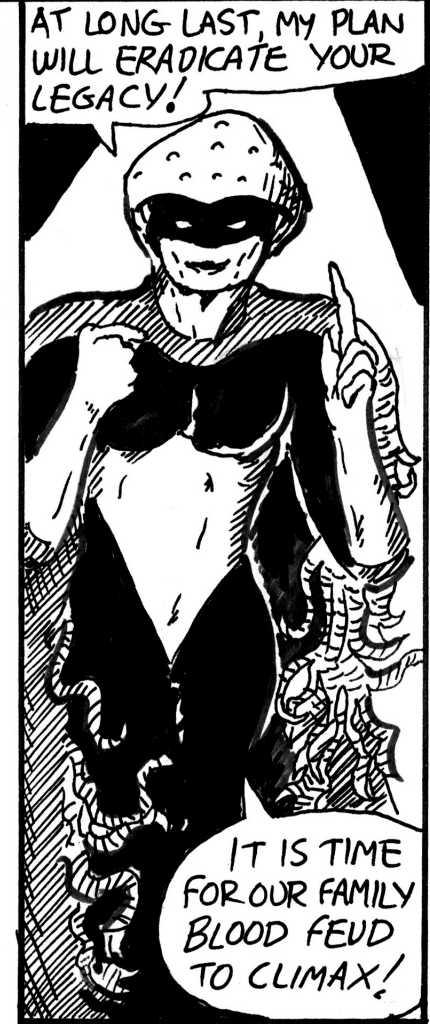
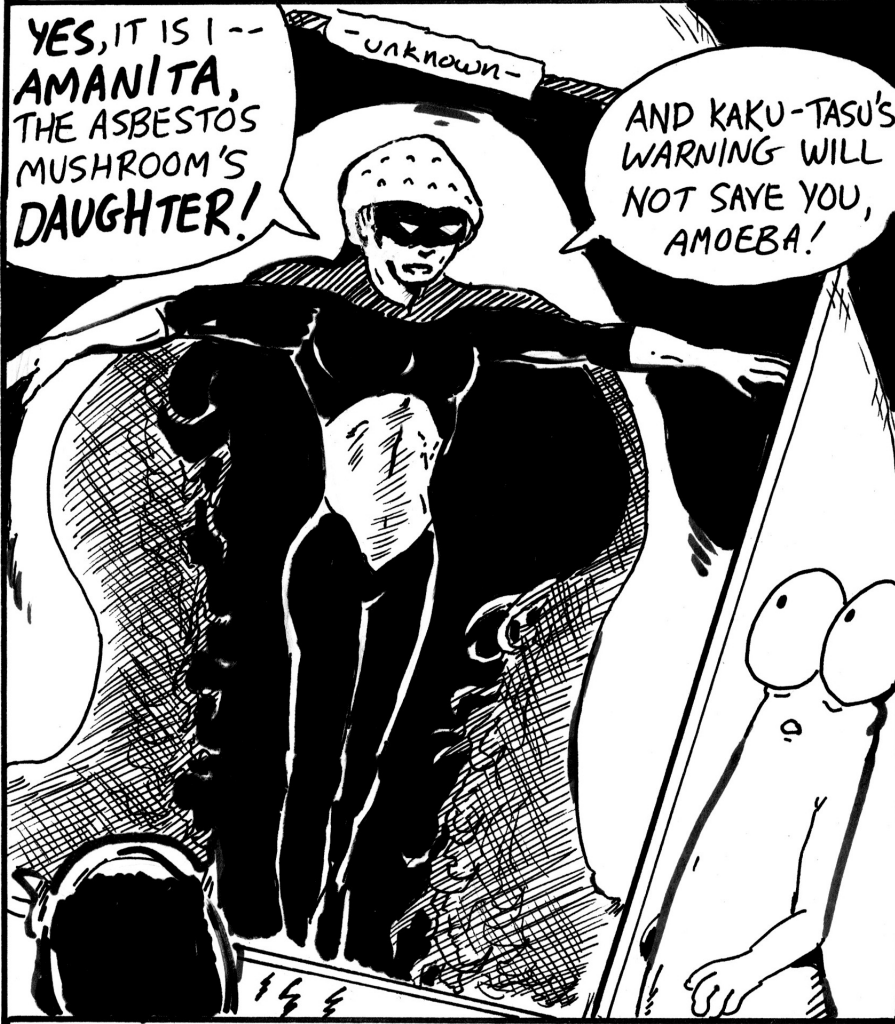
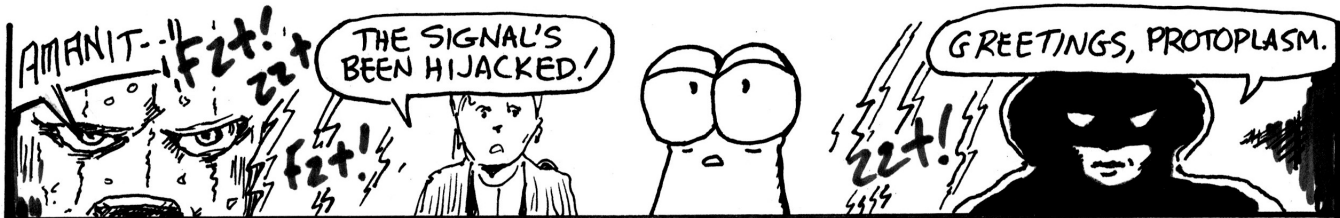
THE ONE CONSTANT IS TIME.

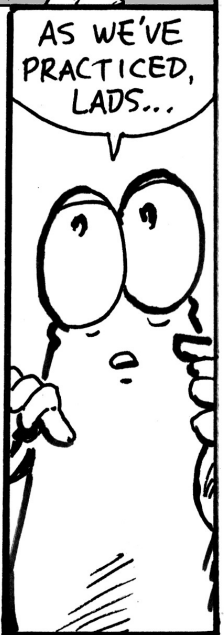
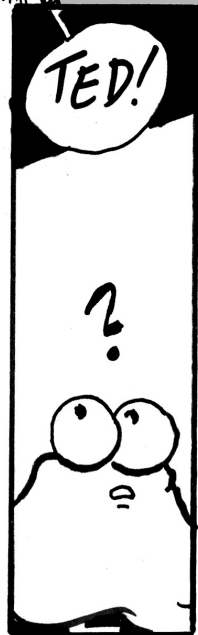
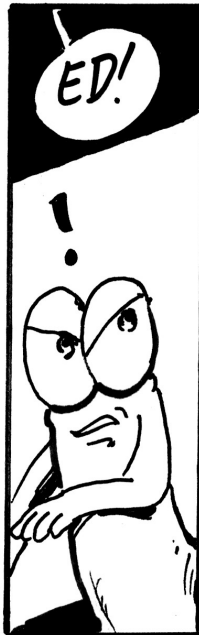
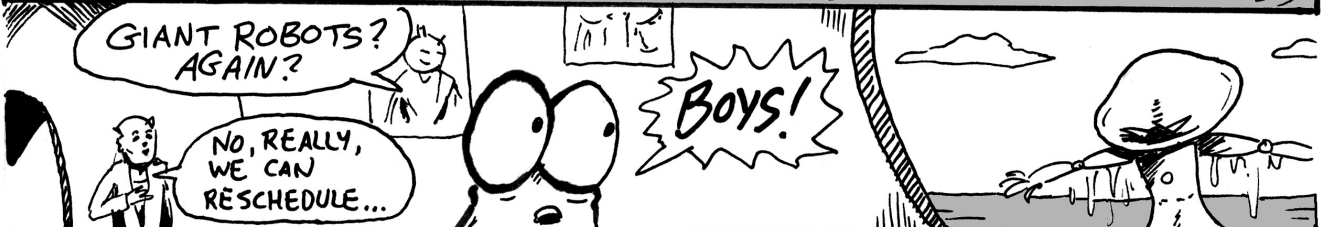
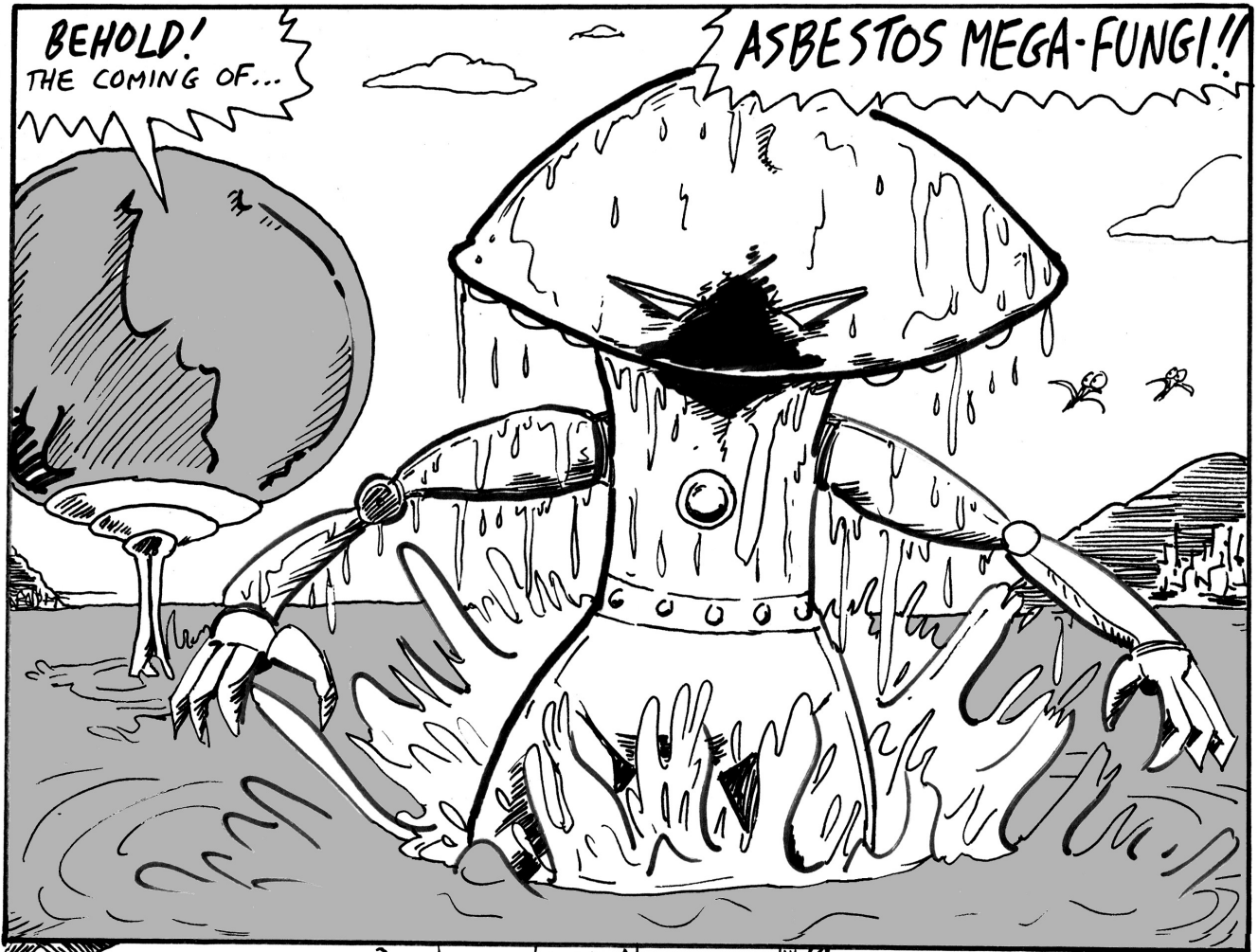


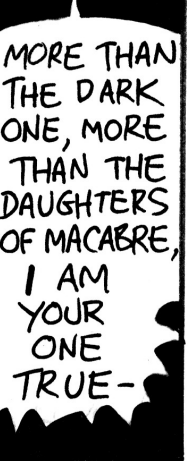
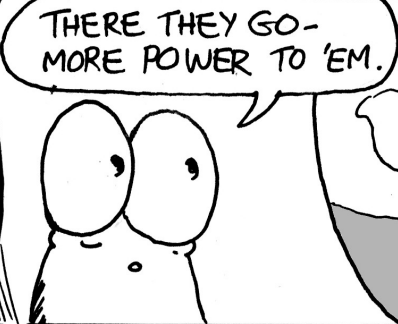
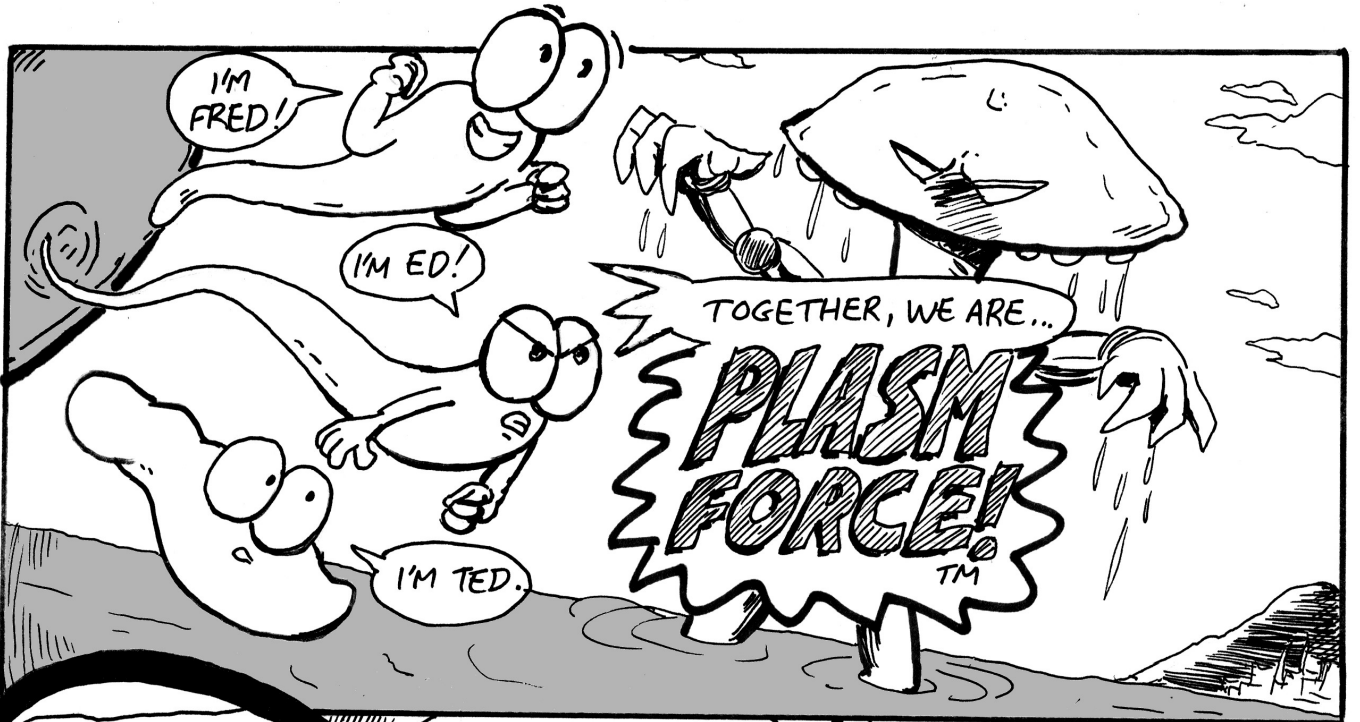


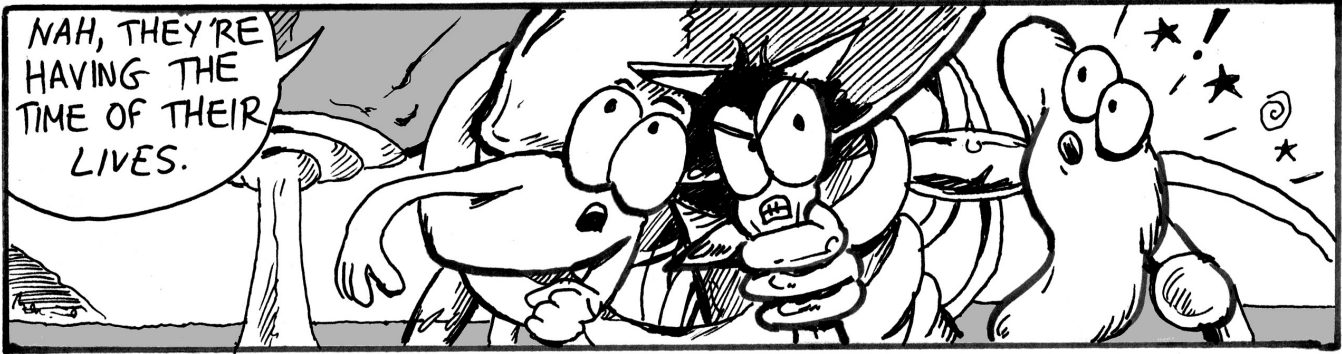




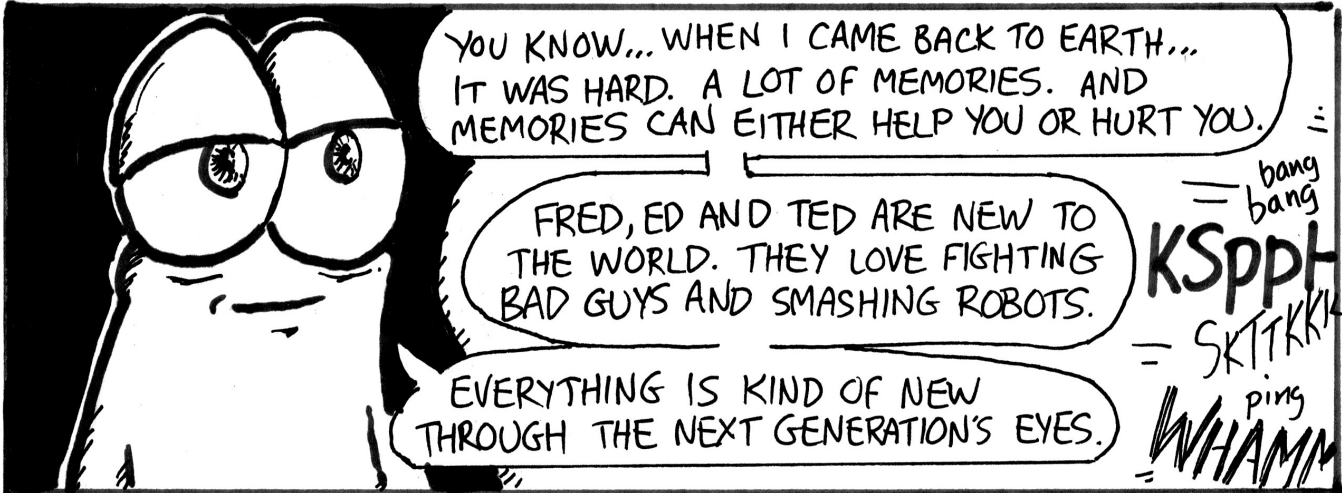








NAH, THEY'RE HAVING THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES.

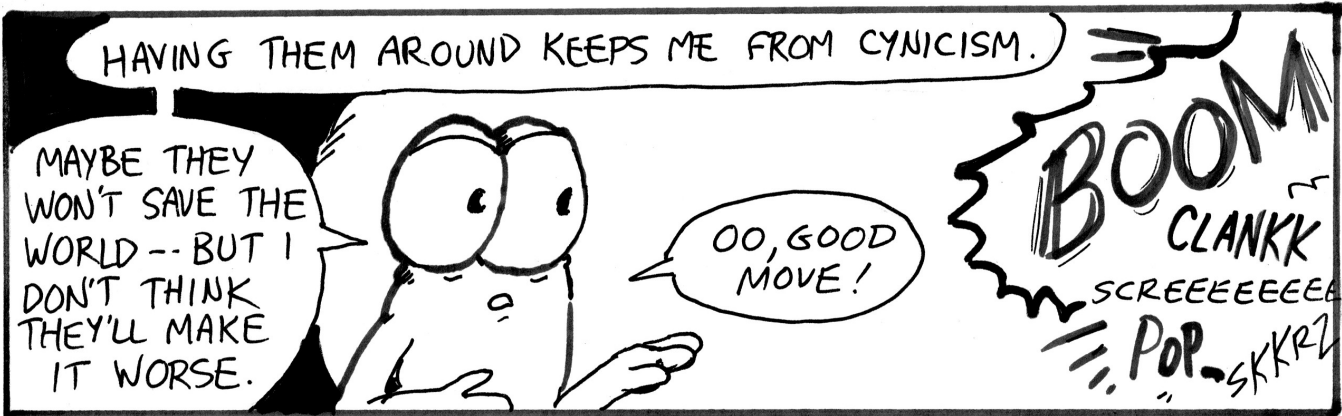


YOU KNOW... WHEN I CAME BACK TO EARTH... IT WAS HARD. A LOT OF MEMORIES. AND MEMORIES CAN EITHER HELP YOU OR HURT YOU.

FRED, ED AND TED ARE NEW TO THE WORLD. THEY LOVE FIGHTING BAD GUYS AND SMASHING ROBOTS.

EVERYTHING IS KIND OF NEW THROUGH THE NEXT GENERATION'S EYES.

bang  
bang  
KSPPH  
SKTKK  
ping  
WHAMM



HAVING THEM AROUND KEEPS ME FROM CYNICISM.

MAYBE THEY WON'T SAVE THE WORLD -- BUT I DON'T THINK THEY'LL MAKE IT WORSE.

OO, GOOD MOVE!

BOOM  
CLANK  
SCREEEEEEEE  
POP-SKRR



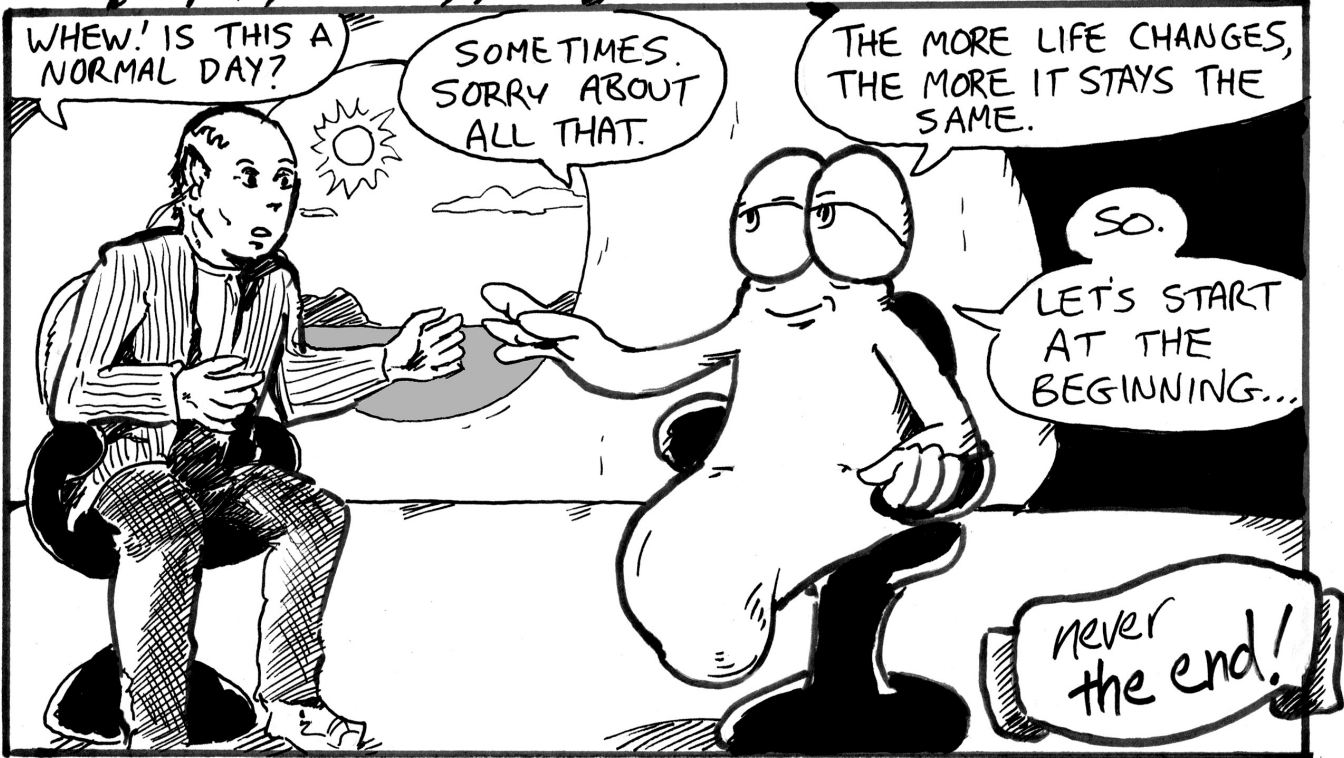
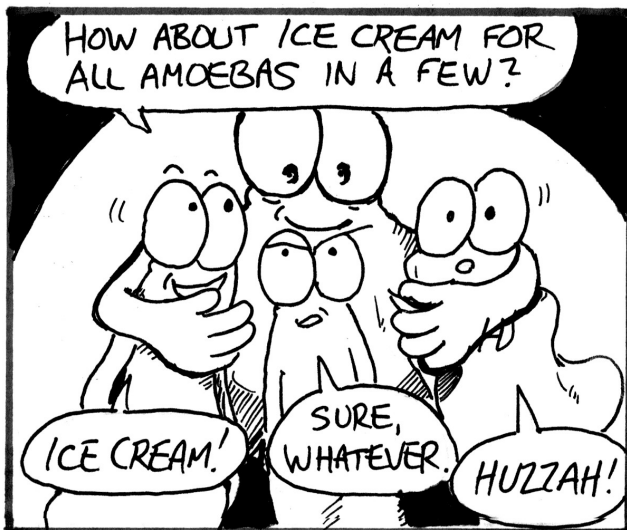
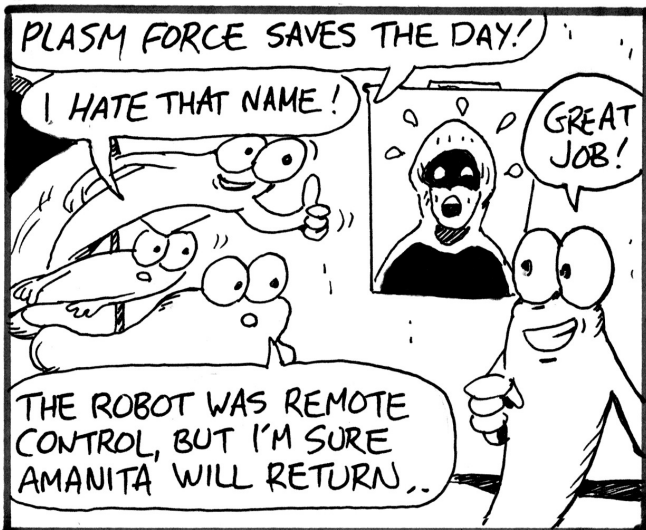
ANYWAY. I SPENT YEARS TRYING TO GET CONTROL OF MY LIFE.

AND YOU KNOW, YOU CAN NEVER REALLY HAVE CONTROL.

BUT YOU CAN TRY TO STEER THE WHEEL THE BEST YOU CAN.

POW  
CRINK  
GLRRK  
SPL000T



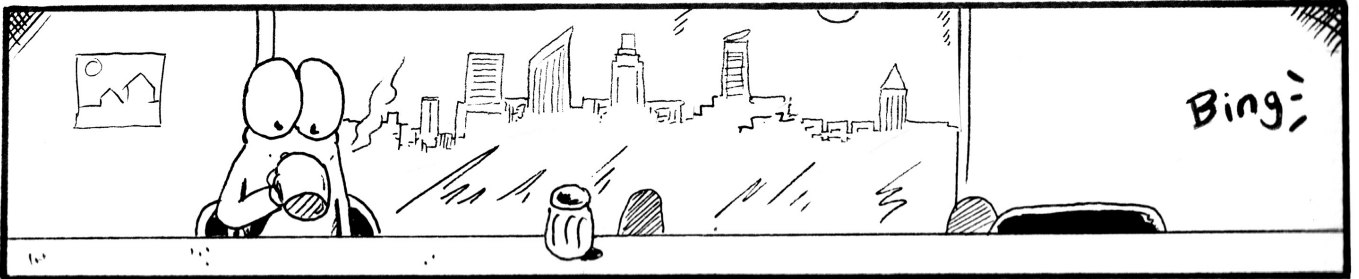




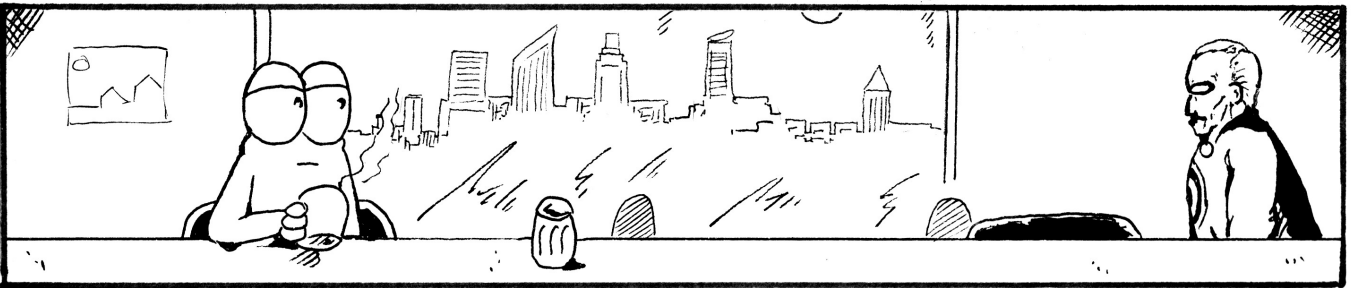
AN AMOEBA ADVENTURES TALE  
By NIK DIRGA ~'20



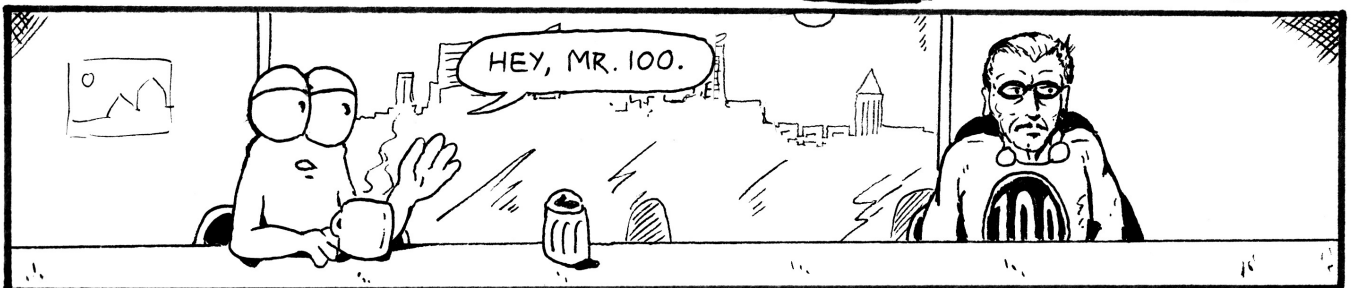
PROMETHEUS



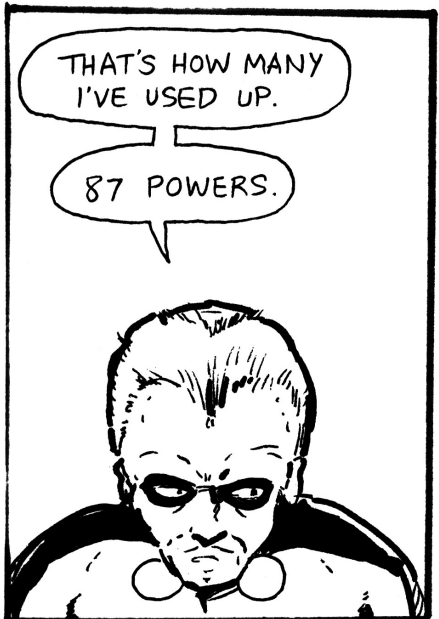
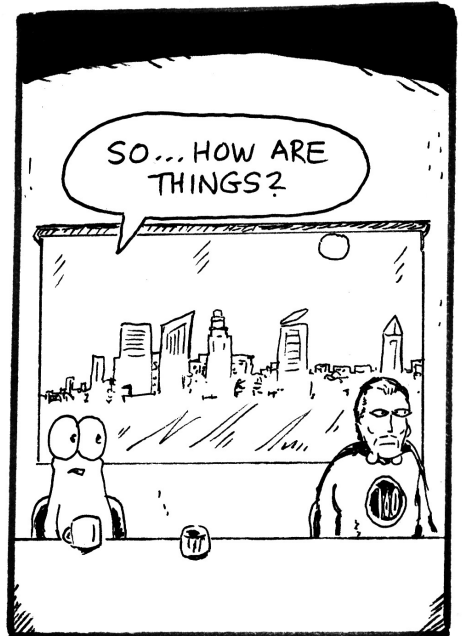
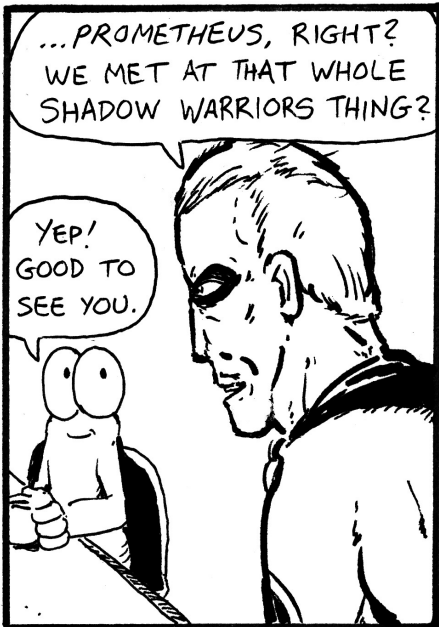
DRINKS

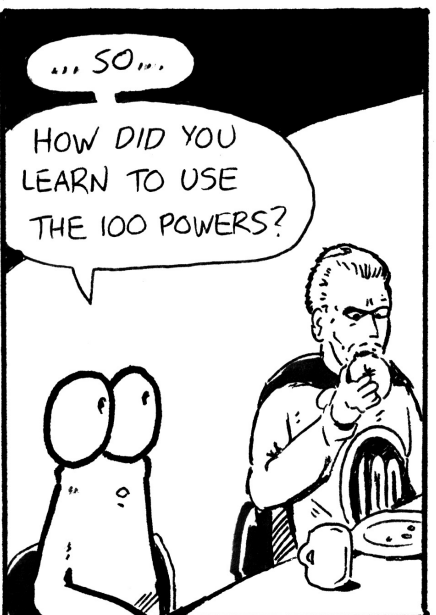
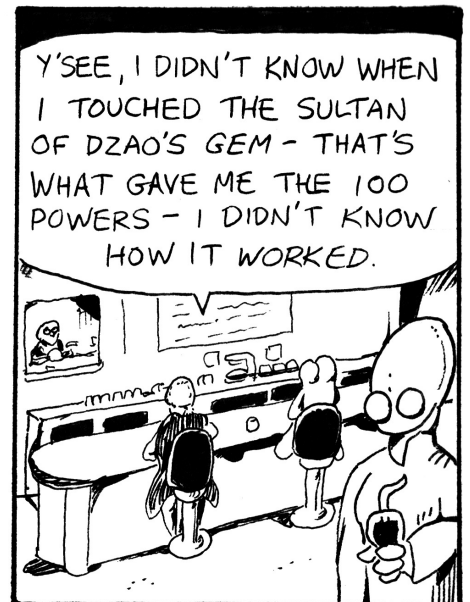
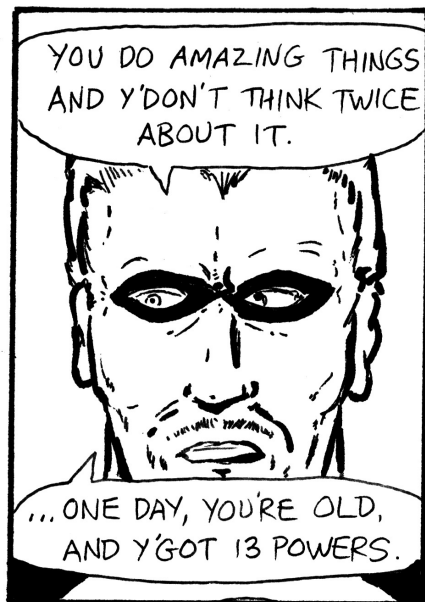


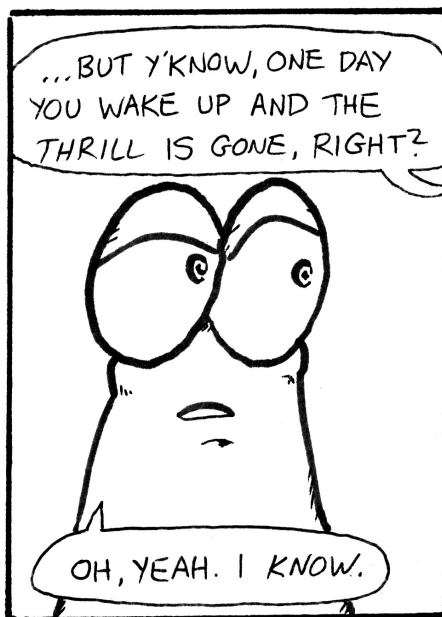
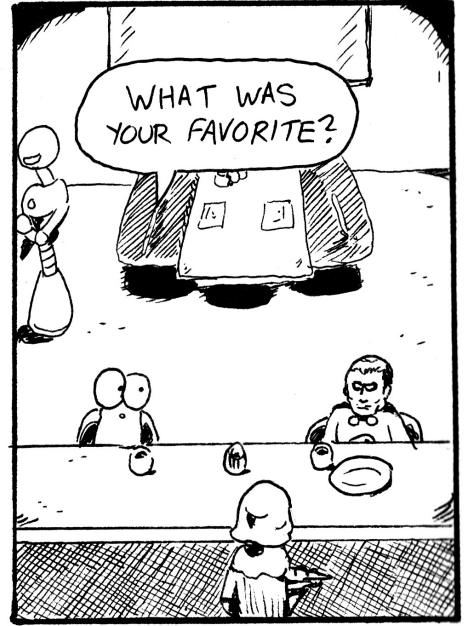
COFFEE.

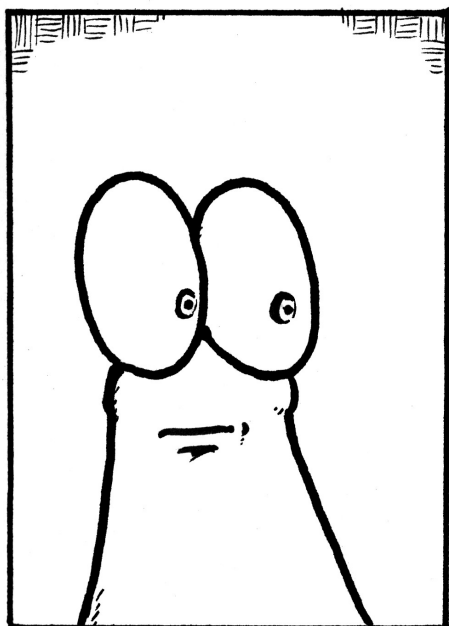
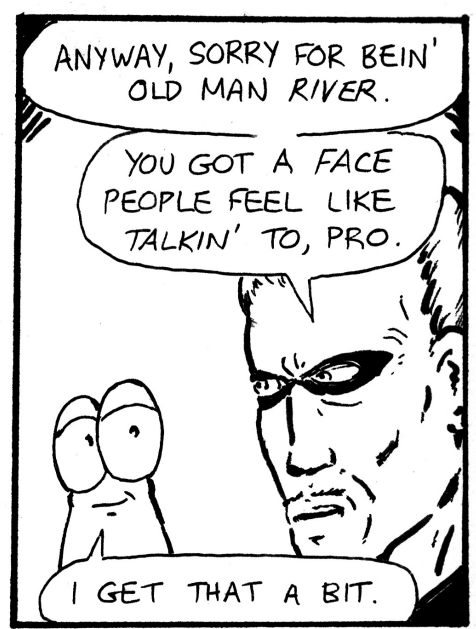


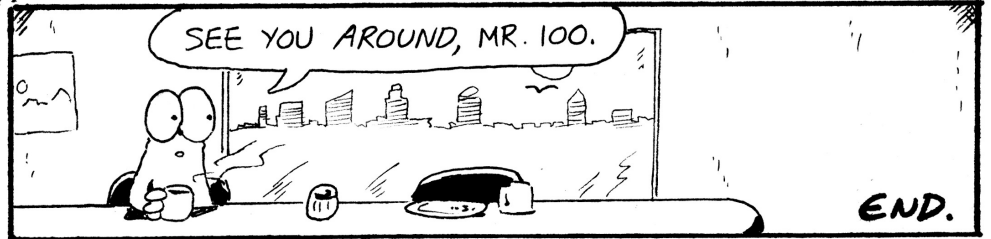
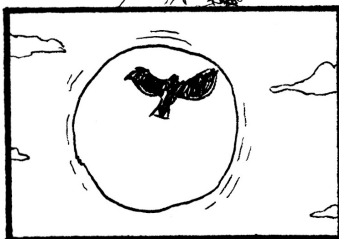
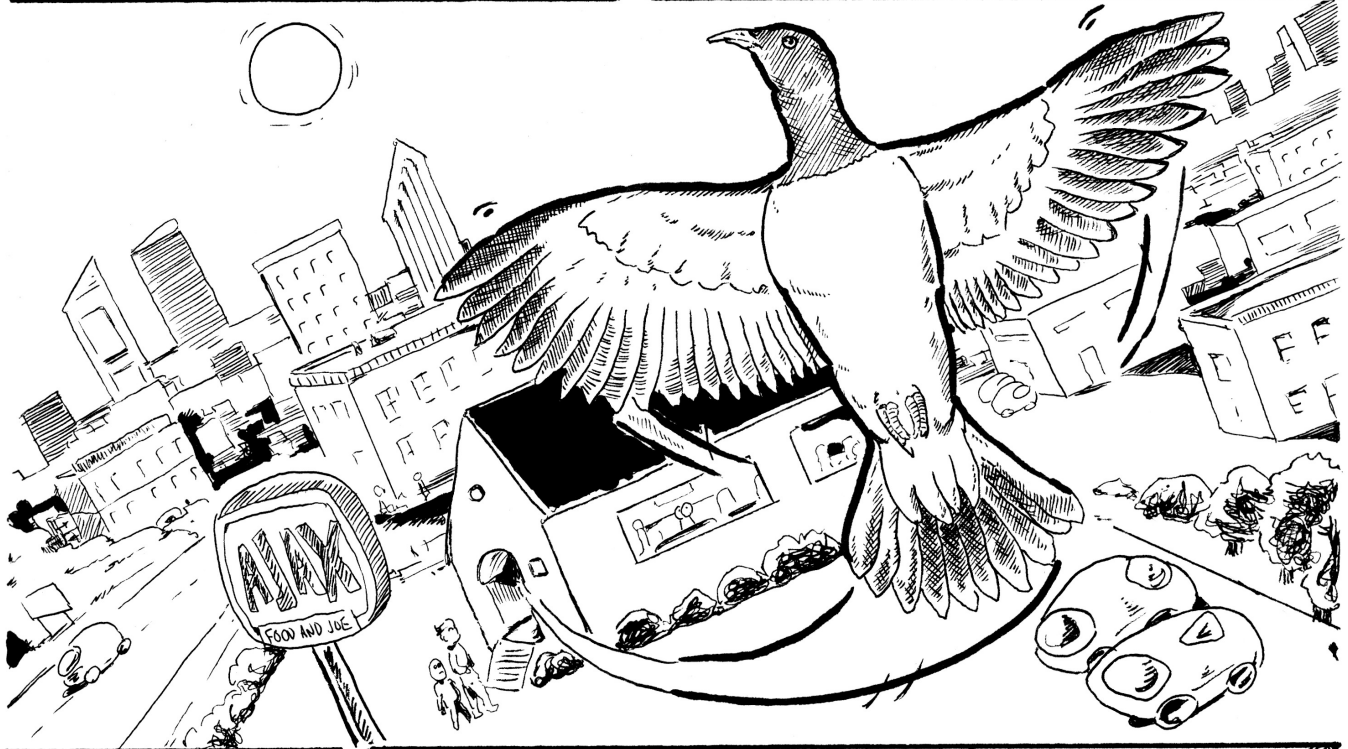
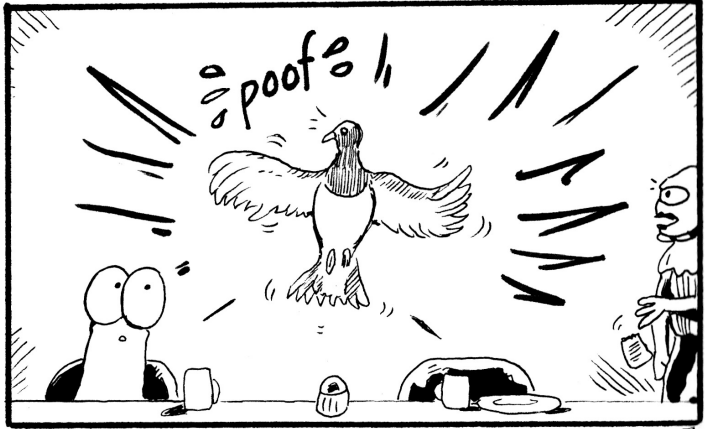




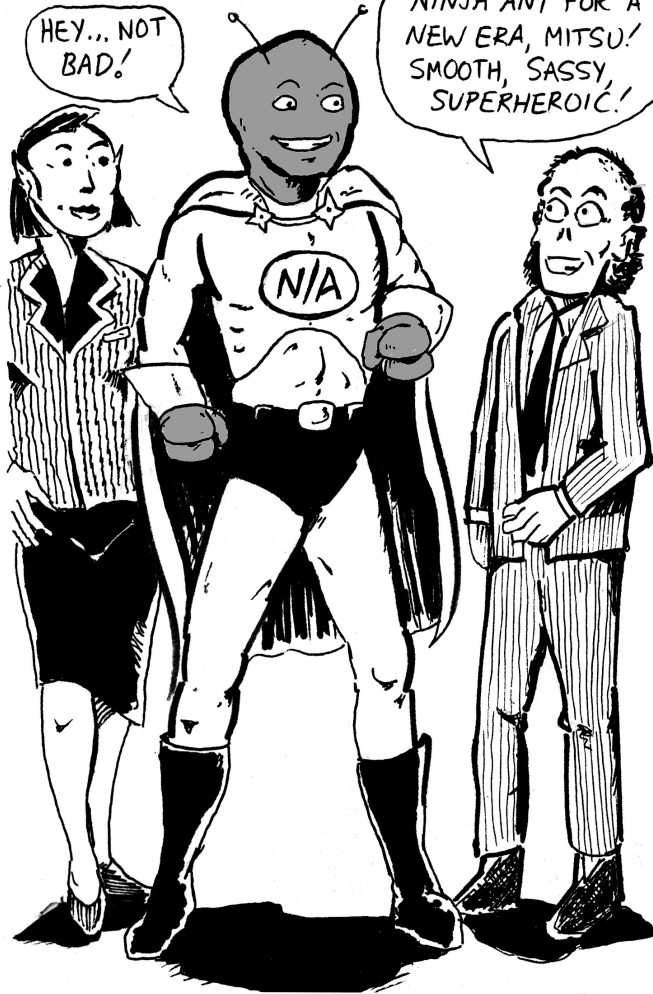






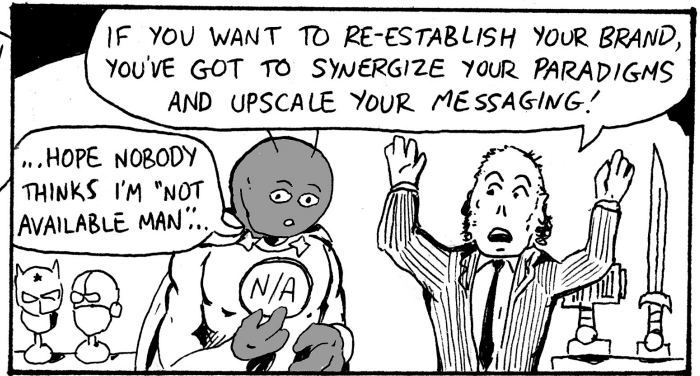


**Spongopolis Fashion District, 3:04pm.**



IT'S THE BOLD NEW NINJA ANT FOR A NEW ERA, MITSU! SMOOTH, SASSY, SUPERHEROIC!

HEY... NOT BAD!



IF YOU WANT TO RE-ESTABLISH YOUR BRAND, YOU'VE GOT TO SYNERGIZE YOUR PARADIGMS AND UPSCALE YOUR MESSAGING!

...HOPE NOBODY THINKS I'M "NOT AVAILABLE MAN"...



TODAY, YOUR PERSONA IS EVERYTHING! WE'LL DO A MULTI-CHANNEL LAUNCH TO LEVERAGE THE NINJA ANT EXPERIENCE!



THAT OLD CASUAL LOOK DIDN'T TEST WELL.

LET'S GET YOU TRENDING!



THAT'S WHY I HIRED YOU AS MY AGENT, PLONKO. ANTS HAVE TO MOVE WITH THE TIMES.

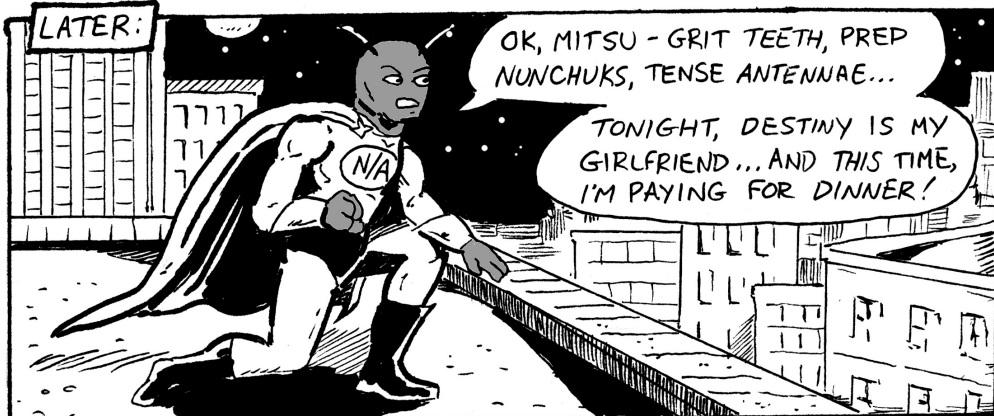
...MM, GOOD FLEX-I DIG THE SPANDEX JULES. STYLIN'!



TONIGHT, I'LL GIVE IT A TEST RUN...

..BY FIGHTING CRIMES!

DON'T FORGET TO HASHTAG!



LATER:

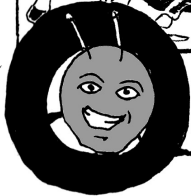
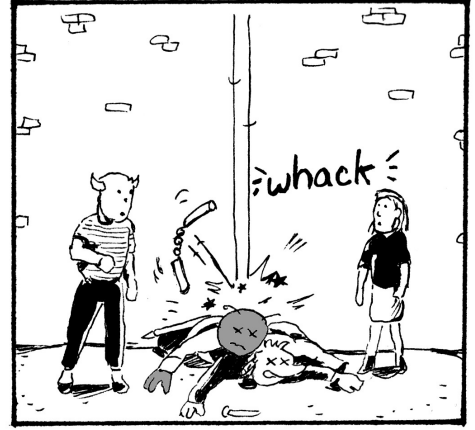
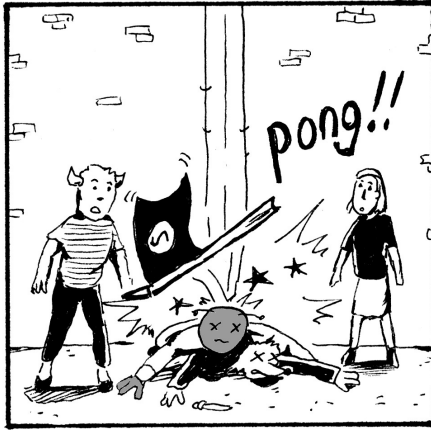
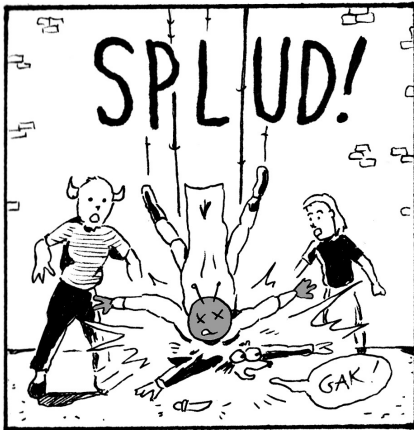
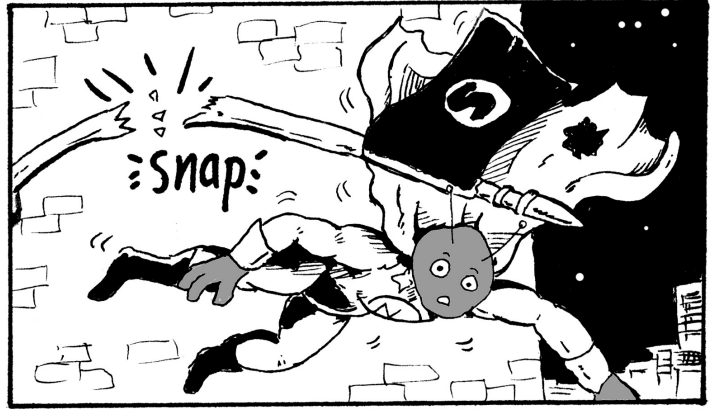
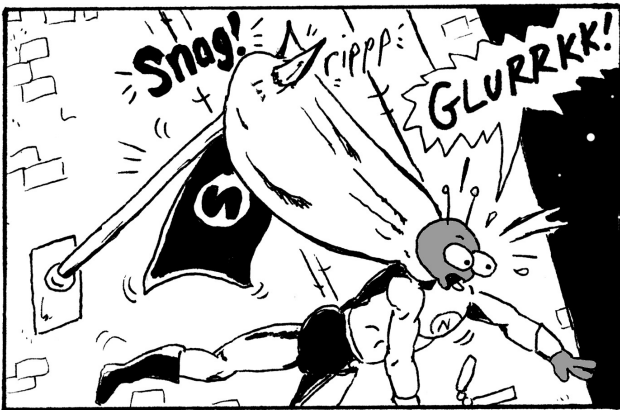
OK, MITSU - GRIT TEETH, PREP NUNCHUKS, TENSE ANTENNAE...

TONIGHT, DESTINY IS MY GIRLFRIEND... AND THIS TIME, I'M PAYING FOR DINNER!



HELP!!

HOO HA!!



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NINJAS DON'T WEAR CAPES.

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# What they said then:

**“Your work is imaginative and holds much promise” - Will Eisner**

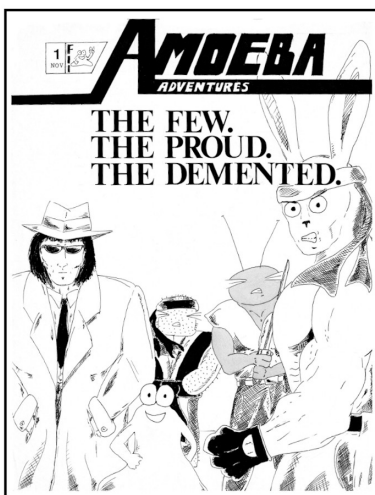
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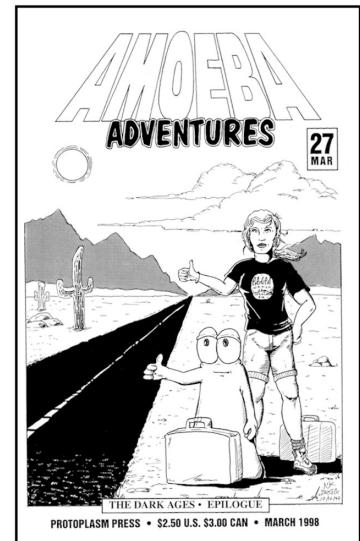
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