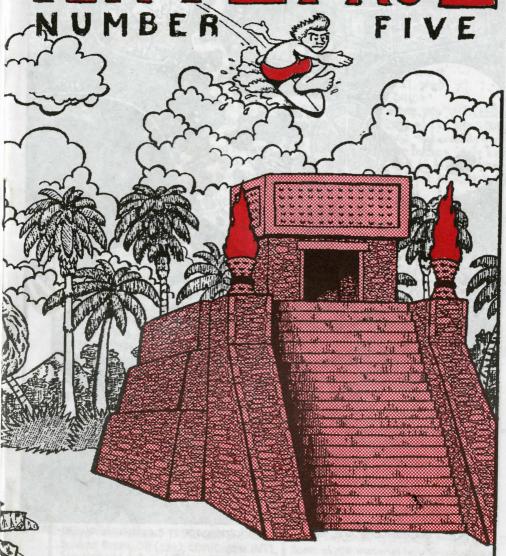
TEH-FOT-RUE



ONE

DOLLAR



Mr. Rosa encounters the New Martian Landscape

the call-up

Hello, y'all, and welcome to TEN FOOT RULE number 5. Yep, I realize it's been almost a year since no 4, and I sort of said it wouldn't take that long, but you can't always get these things done as fast as you want to. I hope this issue's been worth the wait. And please quit nagging me about it!

There's some big news here at TFR World HQ. I've decided to form TFR INDUSTRIES to better serve the public for this new century. Many other comicbooks and like publications have been going into the "multi-media" jazz. We here at TFR INDUSTRIES think that's o.k. but we also believe that's not the true route to the expansion of the artform. What we're getting into instead is much more useful to all of us: PLASTICS. So TFR INDUSTRIES will be all about the best in comics and plastic technology. Can't you just taste the excitement?

Bu't d'on't you worry, we ain't flagging on the comix front. Being released simultaneously with this periodical you are reading is not one, but TWO new TFR INDUSTRIES comics! First is LEFT OF THE DIAL: TFR SPECIAL, a comic commemorating the ALTERNATIVE PRESS EXPO in San Francisco on Sat. Feb. 5, 2000. And all the comics in it are about MUSIC. Price is only 50¢ plus a stamp. And last is MODERN INDUSTRY, a fat anthology filled with short stories by ten great cartoonists. Price is \$2.00 plus a stamp.

Just a small reminder: I do all sorts of freelance illustration for people and organizations. If you like my stuff, and need zine art/LP covers/sticker designs/flyers/T-shirt designs/etc. please contact me. My rates are VERY economical.

If yer interested in seeing the TFR INDUSTRIES travelling road show, here's places we should be stopping at in the future: BEANTOWN ZINETOWN, Boston (Mar), MOTOR CITY CON, Detroit (May), UNDERGROUND PRESS CONFERENCE, Bowling Green, OH (Jule), COMIC-CON INT'L, San Diego, (July), and SMALL PRESS EXPO, Bethesda, MD (Sept). Contact me if

yer interested in seeing me at 'em in advance, because I don't know for sure which ones I'll definitely be at.

And look at the fine contributors I've lined up for this issue!

*SARAH OLEKSYK provides "OLD MEN OVERHEARD." A recent Parsons grad, Sarah's left the small-town charm of NYC for the bright lights of Portland, her home town. Check out her great comic ROADSIDE, one of my faves of '99. Send \$2.00 for the latest.

439 CONGRESS ST. #401
PORTLAND, ME 04101

*RICARDO ROSA wrote the "UNTITLED"
poem. A confident to TFR INDUSTRIES
since the beginning, he's usually my
travelling compadre to cons, where he
ends up smokin' a lot of KOOLS. He's
also the chap to the left. Contact him at
92 WESTMINSTER ST.
HAMDEN, CT 06518

Finally, thank to all the usual suspects, especially those that gave me crash space on my various trips. Take care folks and LIVE THE ROCK AND ROLL LIFESTYLE! — Shawn Granton

merch: Send all orders to the address below and wait 2-4 weeks

*COMIX: TFR 1, 2, 21/2, 3, and 4 are all still available! All are \$1.00 each, plus a stamp.

* STICKERS: black white viny, only 50¢ each, or 5 for \$2.00

*PINS: bew, one inch diam. only 50 ¢ each, or 5 for \$ 2.00

★ T-SHIRTS: 100% cotton, black design on white, sizes M,L,XL, only \$10.00

TEN FOOT RULE no 5, March 2000. Price \$1.00. Published by TFR INDUSTRIES, 170 BEAVER ST, ANSONIA, CT 06401. "Old Men Overheard "OSarah Oleksyk 1999. Words to "Untitled" O Ricardo Rosa 1999. All other contents O Shawn Granton 1999—2000. All unauthorized reproduction of these contents is STRICTLY PROHIBITED. Some of the material here originally appeared in TFR no 5 PROTOTYPE.





WHY ARE THERE SO MANY GOTHS IN CALIFORNIA?



WHATEVER HAPPENED TO SCOTT BAID? HE SHOWED SO MUCH PROMISE! LOOK AT HIS BODY OF WORK: HAPPY DAYS, CHARLES IN CHARGE, uh, THE MOVIE ZAPPED, er ...



HOW CAN SO MANY PEOPLE I KNOW GET BY ON NOT WORKING OR WORKING VERY LITTLE FOR EXTENDED PERIODS OF TIME? I CAN'T EVEN GET BY ON WORKING FULL TIME!



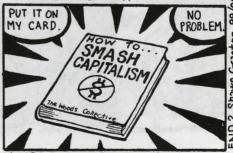
WHY DO SO MANY COLLEGE DJ'S HAVE SUCH CRAPPY PSEUDO-ALTERNATIVE MUSIC TASTES?



AT WORK, WHY IS IT THAT BIG JOCKS AND OTHER PEOPLE I'M INCLINED TO HATE ARE THE ONES THAT GIVE ME BIG TIPS?



WHY WOULD SOMEONE USE A CREDIT CARD AT A PUNK/ANARCHIST STORE? AND WHY WOULD THE STORE HAVE THE ABILITY TO PROCESS A CREDIT CARD TRANSACTION?



MAYBE WONDER TOO MUCH 00/66 -canton

this guy i knew ...

A FEW YEARS BACK, I WORKED WITH THIS ODD KID, BURT, AT "THE STORE."



BURT LIKED COMICS, SO-WE HUNG OUT A FEW TIMES. HE SEEMED OKAY, BUT THERE WERE INSTANCES WHERE HE SHOWED HIS DARKER, FUCKED UP SIDE.



ONE TIME WHILE I WAS STANDING ON A CONVEYOR BELT IN THE STOCKROOM, TRYING TO REACH SOMETHING, BURT CAME ALONG AND TURNED IT ON.



I FREAKED AND YELLED TO HIM, "DON'T FUCKING DO THAT AGAIN!" ALL HE RESPONDED WITH WAS A GOOFY GRIN.



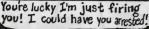
NOT LONG AFTER THAT, I CAME TO WORK ONE DAY AND MY BOSS SAID:



BURT WAS CAUGHT TRYING TO STEAL A RIFLE FROM SPORTING GOODS. HIS PLAN WAS TO HIDE THE GUN IN A RIFLE CASE AND STICK IT IN BACK. THE NEXT DAY BURT WOULD "BUY" THE CASE



WHEN BURT WAS CONFRONTED, HE
DENIED IT ALL. THEN MY BOSS
PLAYED THE TAPE SHOWING BURT
DOING THE DEED. HE HAD NO
OPTION OTHER THAN ADMITTANCE,





I TRIED TO CALL BURT'S HOUSE TWICE THE NEXT DAY, BUT I NEVER GOT TO HIM. THAT WAS THE LAST I HEARD OF HIM.



ONE QUESTION BURNS IN MY HEAD TO THIS DAY: WHAT THE HELL WAS HE GOING TO DO WITH THAT GUN?



END * Shawn Granton * 1/200

Ric-o embodies disorder, randomness, and formlessness. or wishes to Here is a lamb who doesn't give a damn about killers, krazy kats Watch him leap out his window A disassembler, A deceiver into the deep cosmos pulling the light into recognizable rhythms that live only here (an ink surfer)

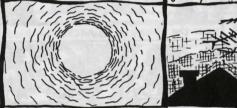
ROSA . drawerings . SHAWN GRANTON . 8/1999

· words + RICARDO



Over these two days, it got so fucking hot out, in the mid to upper 90°s. It got to 98° in Hartford, which broke the old record.

While it's not uncommon for the air temp to reach 90°F in Connecticut, it is rare for it to get this hot this early. After a cool May, it was a sharp reminder that summer was here. The humidity made the air hazy, gently whiting out objects in the distance.



Driving around in this kind of weather is hell. I don't use my ak 'cause I fear it would make my fragile radiator overheat.

I made the mistake of buying ice cream in a cone. As soon as I got outside, it started melting so fast. I looked damn silly trying to eat it. It was a losing battle to lick the ice cream up before it got all over me.





One thing that always gets to me about this weather (and I don't know why it bothers me so) is the people who dress like it's NOT hot (long pants, jackets, etc.) I can understand if it's required by your job, or if you're goth, but for the others? Are you "defying" the heat? Are you thinking cool? Are you looking cool? Do you have a/c in your clothes? Do you have poor circulation? Are you just old? Are you from the desert and this is cold to you? Are you just punishing yourself? Yet here I am, in t-shirt and shorts, sweating my balls off.



As the day rolls on towards night, the ever present haze transforms into a cloud cover. The sky now looks threatening. Will it rain? Maybe, maybe not. Mother Nature can be a tease. I wish the sky would open up. Nothing would be more comforting than a good summer thunderstorm. All the humid tension in the air gets released in an orgasmic explosion. And what a show nature puts on!



Speaking of storms, I haven't seen any of nature's other lightning yet, the lightning bug (a.k.a. the firefly). It's probably too early for them. Nothing says summer like cicadas, crickets, and

Call me crazy, but I like this type of weather I love summer. Whenever I think of this season, I think of the good memories: camping trips, amusement parks, the beach, road trips down the coast, and no school.





That heat and humidity gets deep inside my brain. and gives me urges. I can't stay still, I have to get moving. My wanderlust kicks into high gear. I have to see other things, other people, other places. For instance, I was driving up the Wilbur Cross Parkway around 8 p.m. It was twilight, and the sky had that deep blue tone to it, a backdrop to the black silhouette of leafy trees that line the highway-side. I love summer evenings, the electricity and anticipation in the air, the possibility that anything can happen. It makes me feel so alive. I wanted to keep on driving and driving to some unknown destination without stopping...



SHAWN GRANTON @ 1999 drawn 6/27 - 7/27

OLD Men over-HeArd

@1999 S.K.OLEKSYK













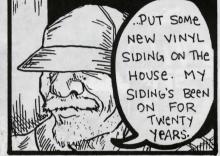














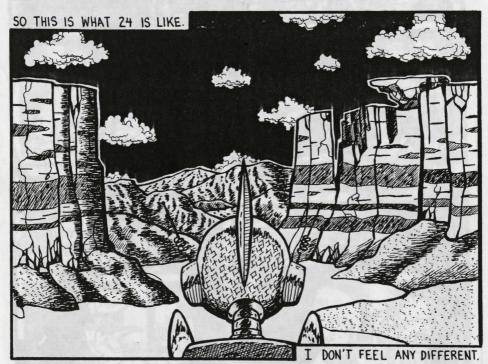


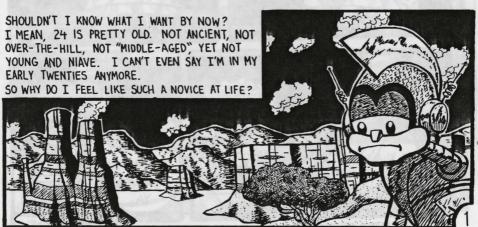




*THIS CONVERSATION RECORDED VERBATIM ON JULY 21, 1998!

CUARKING SHE STABLE TO STABLE THE STABLE TO STABLE THE STABLE THE





MAYBE IF I SAW SOME SORT OF PROGRESS IN MY LIFE UP TO THIS POINT, I'D FEEL DIFFERENT. BUT I DON'T. I LOOK BACK AND SEE A SERIES OF FAILURES, A STRING OF "SHOULD HAVE DONES" AND "IF ONLY..."



I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO SAY!
"DON'T BE SO NEGATIVE! YOU CAN'T GO
BACK AND CHANGE THE PAST, CAN YOU?"
THAT'S EASY FOR YOU TO SAY!



YOU GOT YOUR DEGREE!



YOU WENT OFF TO THE CITY!



YOU JOINED A BAND THAT'S GAINING NOTORIETY!



YOU FOUND THE LOVE OF YOUR LIFE!











AND YOUR SKILLS WILL ONLY LEAD YOU TO A "CAREER" FILLED WITH MIND-NUMBING DRUDGERY AND LOW PAY?



Shawn granton * 9/1999





TO BE CONTINUED ...

and now, jake's room-mate, new yorker walter, a man who happens to be from new york.



THE SKYLINE HERE IS DECENT, BUT YOU JUST CAN'T COMPARE IT TO THAT OF THE BIG APPLE!



I GUESS THE CLUBS AND THE MUSIC SCENE IS HAPPENING HERE, BUT WHEN YOU COMPARE IT TO NEW YORK, IT LOOKS REAL DEAD!



Y'KNOW WHAT ELSE YA CAN'T GET HERE THAT YOU CAN GET IN NEW YORK? BAGELS. WELL THEY DO HAVE BAGELS HERE- IF YOU REALLY WANT TO CALL IT THAT



NEW YORK, NEW YORK, NEW FUCKING YORK! NOTHING IS AS GOOD AS NEW YORK TO YOU! AND YEAH, THAT MIGHT BE FUCKING TRUE, BUT IF IT IS, THEN WHY THE FIICK DID YOU LEAVE





reading list

FISH WITH LEGS. Great per-zine filled with Eric's bile-laden observations on the world. Much like me, he has no clue what to do with the rest of his life. Plus, decent fiction and tales of retail! (\$2) ERIC LYDEN, 224 MORAINE ST. BROCKTON, HA 02301

BOOK OF INSOMNIA. A fine collection of comis from Gabby. She writes of subjects that have an air of whimsy and dreaminess, and her art has a light, sketchy, yet refined feel to it. Cool stuff! (\$3) GABRIELLE BELL, P.O. BOX 217 3288 21st ST, SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94110

DRUNKEN MASTER. This one's not only a per-zine, but a comic too! The latest features his travel diary of NYC, and an encounter at a strip joint. The comix are very stylized and surreal. Dig it!
(\$1) KIYOSHI NAKAZAWA, 3324 ROWENA AV. #A LOS ANGELES, CA 90027

BOOTY. Anne provides this fine 117 personal comic detailing the trials of her life. Travel stories, work on her Ph D, all done with very raw, sparse, personable art. (\$1) ANNE THALHEIMER, 377 S. COLLEGE AVE. NEWARK, DE 19711

WISHBONE. A nice mix of personal, political, and bunnies. Bunnigerel writes about her school days, work daze, and social topics that interest or irritate her. And did I mention the burnies? (\$1) PMB 200, CAMMO CAPISTRANO A SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675

MR. PEABODY'S SOILED TROUSERS. Jay's a Native New Englander who moved to L.A. a few years back to pursue screenwriting. Now he's back in N.E., running his own record store. Read all about it here, done with his dry wit. (\$1) JAY KONU, P.O. BOX 22. WEST TOWNSEND, MA 01474

INDIGO. Normally, I don't go for goth or bondage zines, but this one I like. More a per-zine with the above elements added. Michelle writes about her topics with passion and knowledge, which keeps ya interested. (\$2) MICHELLE AIELLO, 8005 W. IRVING PK. CHICAGO, IL 60634

RETAIL HELL. Done by the SPAGHETTI folks, this zine has horror stories about-you goessed it-retail! I can sympathize. Unique cuz it deals from a management view. (\$1.50) FRANCES BISCOTTI, P.O. BOX 8782 ERIE, PA 16505

TWENTY BUS. This one's from THAT GIRL, it has aventures on-yep, that's right-the bus! If you ever had to sit with a gaggle of crazies in some metropolitan

bus line, you can relate. Check it out!
(204!) KELLI WILLIAMS, P.O.B. 170612 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94117

OBLIVIOSITER. Great auto-bio comic with simple, yet engaging artwork. Tim talks about his childhood, life in the army, living out of the city, more (\$1) TIM BROWN, P.O. BOX 115 BRADWELL, SK SOK OPO CANADA

MCHIHYOELECTROANALGESIA. Try pro-nouncing that! A per-zine dealing with archeological subjects (and it ain't bo-ring!), plus Seam's journeys through the Middle East.

(\$2) SEAN MELACHLAN, P.O. BOX 3734 TUCSON, AZ 85722-3734

EASY LIFE. As yall probably know, I'm guilty of liking the ska. The problem is. besides a lot of bad bands, there are few good ska zines. This is one of those few. Hery honest, subjective, and well written free of ass-kissin that litters this genre. (\$1) MEGAN GERRITY, P.O. BOX 1545 NEW YORK, NY 10276-1545

DISGRUNTLED POSTAL WORKER. Very raw, biting, sarcastic, "in-yo-face" comic /zine. Cool stylized artwork, and dadaesque moments.

(\$1) CHEYRNOBYL KID, 211 FAIRMOUNT W#3 MONTREAL, OC HZT ZMS CANADA

RED HOODED SWEATSHIRT. Newest zine from Marissa of /nothing/ fame. Personal stuff like school adventures, life in the city, craft projects, and low-top Cons. (\$1) MARISSA FALCO, P.O. BOX 15214 BOSTON, MA 02215

DIRTY HANDS. Well drawn comic, chock full of the personal. Old swimmin' holes, waxed dead bodies, UFO cults, more. (\$1)JERRY SIMS, P.O. BOX 1604 HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92647-1604

\$6.99/1b. Cool music zine, featuring a lot of artists I actually care about! Glen E. Friedman, Frank Black, Burning Airlines, Russell Simins, more. (\$3) MATT ALBANESE, P.O. BOX 843 WINCHESTER, MA 01890

REPORTER. Nest looking, clean artwork in this comic. Strange, eerie story about a young man (Ivar) arriving in a small town. What is he there for? Who are the other folks in town he bumps into? Hmm... (\$2) DYLAN WILLIAMS, P.O. BOX 10952 PORTLAND, OR 97296-0952

LINKA. Wierd li7 comic about a space probe filled with critters sent out to the nether-regions. Something goes wrong, the animals gain sentience, and ... you'll

have to find out yerself! (\$2) BRUCE ORR, 427 GREEN ST. PHILADELPHIA, PA 19123

ATTEMPTED NOT KNOWN. Surrealism is the platter du jour! Comics about dreams and dream-like situations, drawn in a polished, 60's style. Cool shat. (\$1) PETER CONRAD, P.O. BOX 64522 SUNNYVALE, CA 94088

MILEPOST 111. Christmas elves with shotguns, dogs "doin" it, diggin for the devil, a box with her dad's possessions. Very good mix o' comix here. Nice art. (\$2) BARRIE LYNN. P.O. BOX 297 RENO, NV 89504

ANGRY YOUTH COMIX. See the likes of Loady McGee and other assorted losers get in to hilarious, un-PC situations. John has contempt for most of the human race, and takes it out on us here. Funny stuff, but not for the easily pissed off or offended. AGE STATEMENT REQ D. (\$2) JOHNNY RYAN, 3624 CONN. AVE, NW #5, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

Soundtrack

SGT SCAGNETTI - Detonate (but o'course) · PIETASTERS - Awesome Mix Tape #6 · JETS TO BRAZIL-Orange Rhyming Dictionary

· WILCO - Summer teeth

. TOM WAITS - Mule Variations

THE DONNAS - Get Skintight
 PAUL WESTERBERG - Suicaine Gratification

·MU330-8/t

· PAVEMENT-Terror Twilight ·BETH ORTON-Central Reservation

· BIM SKALA BIM-The One that Got Away · DJ SHADOW-Endtroducing

·FISHBONE - Truth and Soul

· THE SMOOTHS - No Brakes · WYCI - 91.7 FM, Danbury, Conn.

· MADNESS @ Irving Plaza, NYC, 4/30/99 · FRANK BLACK @ Toads, New Haven, 7/99

contest

Guess nobody pays attention to my intro text pages, cuz no-one responded to the contest I announced in IFR #3. So I'm gonna run it AGAIN! Okay, if anyone can correctly name the retailer I worked for, and depicted in earlier stories, you will get an artifact from that retail chain, while supplies last. ONE GUESS PER PERSON, AND YOU'RE DISGUALIFIED IF I'VE ALREADY TOLD YOU. → And now another one! In TFR#3, the name of the "Jake"story is a song by a band. Correctly name it and you'll get TFR #6 free (when it comes out) plus other goodies. ROB SMENTEK NOT ELIGIBLE. ONE GUESS PER PERSON. → Bonus: First two correct quessers in each category get a SKETCH of a TFR character of your choice! BOTH CONTESTS END 3/15/2000.

Retail Hell Theatre presents:

IN GRANTON-CHROME

BOSS IS IT OKAY IF I COME IN AN HOUR LATE TOMORROW? MY DAD NEEDS A RIDE TO THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE, AND THERE'S NO ONE ELSE WHO CAN DRIVE



BUT-IT'LL BE BUSY HERE! AND YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN RUN LAYAWAY AND THE PAINT MIXER! WE NEED YOU HERE TO COVER FOR PEOPLE! SORRY. BUT MAYBE NEXT TIME.



BOSS, CAN I LEAVE A LI'L EARLY TONIGHT? I HAVE TO PICK UP MY BROTHER AT THE TRAIN STATION AND I WANT TO MAKE SURE I'M THERE ON TIME.



BUT THE NEW KID IS ON IN THE MORNING! WE NEED YOU HERE TO TRAIN HIM! SORRY. TO TAKE THE BUS.



BOSS, I DO TOO MANY THINGS HERE YET I DON'T GET ANY RESPECT. AND I BARELY MAKE HERE. I CAN GET ANYBODY ABOVE MINIMUM WAGE! IF YOU DON'T GIVE ME A RAISE, I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO LEAVE



BUT-BUT IF YOU LEAVE. WHO WILL FINISH UP ORDER-ING? WE NEED YOU! SORRY BUT YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO PICK HIM UP LATE.



CAN I GET NEXT WEEKEND OFF? I'VE WORKED THE LAST TWO WEEKENDS HERE, AND I BUT YOUR FATHER WILL HAVE COULD REALLY USE A BREAK PLUS, MY FRIENDS WANT TO TAKE ME CAMPING.



FINE. SEE IF I CARE. WE DON'T REALLY NEED YOU TO DO YOUR JOB.



