

TALES OF MERE EXISTENCE II

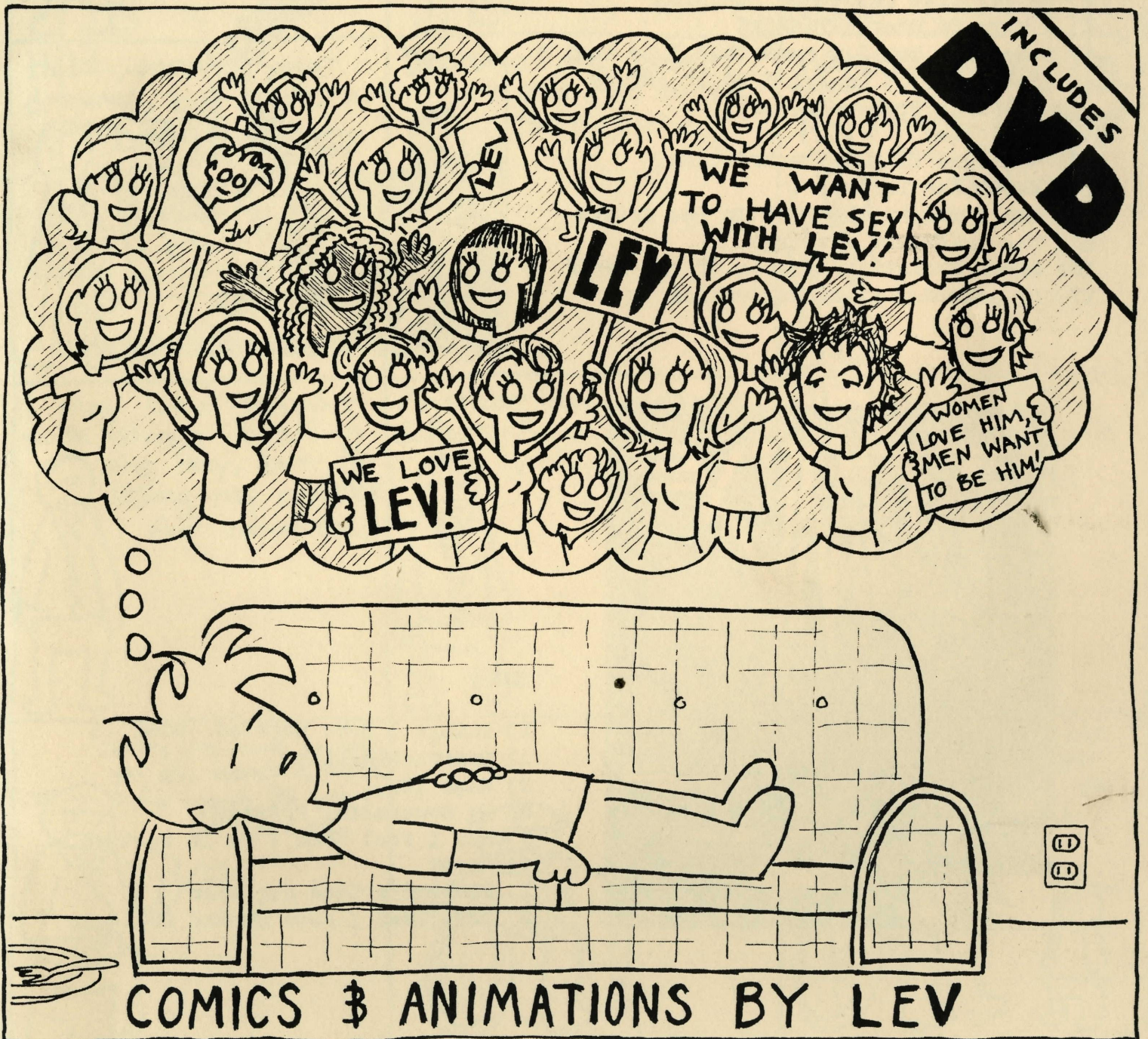
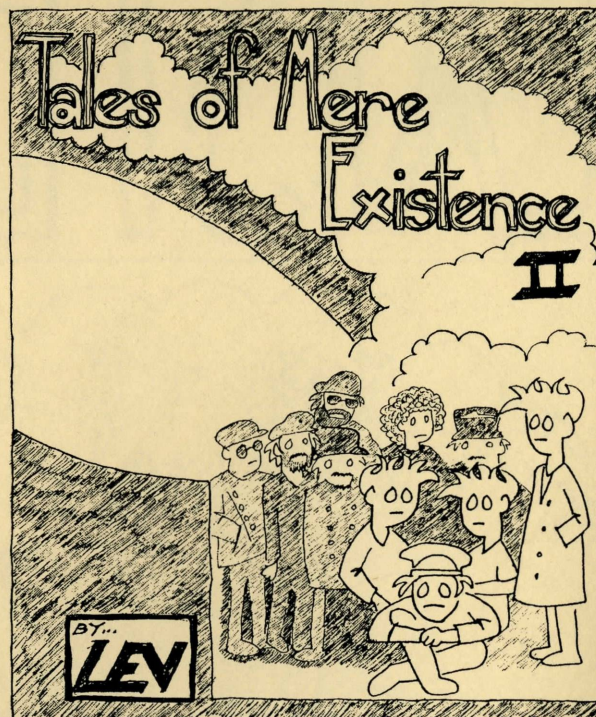


TABLE OF CONTENTS

(Book)

- 1) The Eternal Cycle Of Human Disposition
- 2) 12 Ways I Could Try To Seek Happiness
- 3) A Quick Guide To Benign Conversation
- 4) Easy Listening
- 5) Things That Would Be Neat
- 6) Last Night/This Morning
- 7) My Favorite Childhood Recipies
- 8) 9 Ways To Wear A T-Shirt
- 9) Something Totally Dumb That I Do That I Wish I Didn't Do But I Do It Anyway
- 10) Multiple Bombout Report
- 11) Isolation
- 12) 4 Stages Of Male Inebriation
- 13) Who I Was Today
- 14) Why I Bought The Food In The Fridge
- 15) The "MANWICH" Mix Tape
- 16) Great Holistic Fairness Of The World
- 17) My Saturday In Hieroglyphics



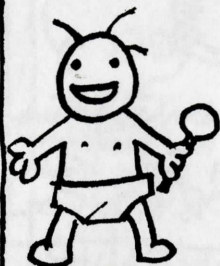
(DVD)

- 1) Things I Have Worried About
- 2) Procrastination
- 3) What If...
- 4) My Successful Friends
- 5) How I Feel When I Go To Parties
- 6) Horny
- 7) Richard's Cash Register
- 8) The Times I Have Smoked Pot

THE ETERNAL CYCLE

OF HUMAN DISPOSITION

I can be anything
I want!



I can be anything I
want outside of
fairy tales!



I can be anything
I want within
reason...



Hold on to your
dreams, but have a
backup plan.



Dreams are great,
but one has to be
Sensible.



There comes a time
when one has to stop
chasing rainbows
and embrace
reality.



I may have thought
such things back in
the day, but I'm
losing my patience
for nonsense.



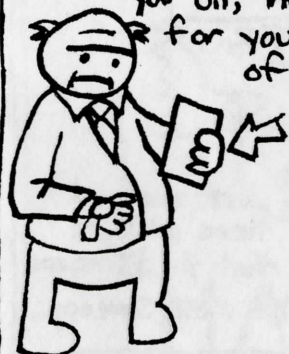
Another day, another
dollar. Same old same
old...



I'll have a philly
cheesteak, fries and
a coke...



"Sorry we have to lay
you off, here's a watch
for your 35 years
of service..."

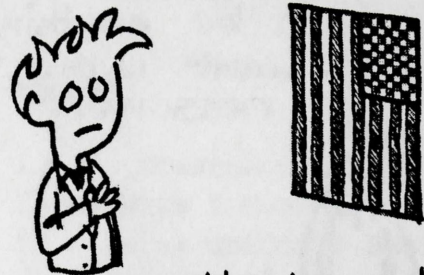


Don't make the same
mistakes I did, you
can be whatever you
want...



12 WAYS I COULD TRY TO SEEK HAPPINESS

1) BE A GOOD CITIZEN



...or I could get a real job, work hard, go to church, love my country and believe everything that I read...

2) MAKE BABIES



...or I could get married and have a baby. Then have another baby, and then have another baby...

3) BUY THINGS



...or I could go buy something. Even though the new Blender didn't make me feel better, maybe a new coffee maker is the answer...

4) BECOME EDUCATED



...or if I learn a whole bunch of random stuff, maybe I will feel superior to people who don't know random stuff...

5) SELF HELP TAPES



...or maybe in one of these tapes is a great new philosophy that will change my life forever...

6) BECOME A VIGILANTE



...or maybe my life will feel like it has purpose if at least I join an organization that has a purpose...

7) PROVE MY WORTH



...or if I feel like I'm not a good or worthwhile person, I can screw as many girls as possible and I'll know I'm terrific...

8) ACQUIRE POWER



...or I could move myself in a position of mild authority so I could feel important by scolding and disciplining people...

9) SURGERY



...or I could get a face-lift, chin cleft, nose job, tummy-tuck, buttock lift, pectoral-implant and penis-enlargement...

10) DON'T BOTHER



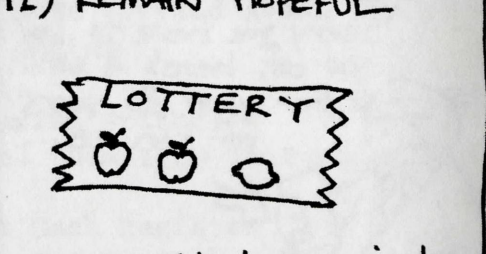
...or I could smoke tons of pot, work at the convenience store and not be bound by the oppressive expectations of society...

11) HATE EVERYTHING



...or I could indulge in Sartre, Nietzsche, Kafka and the collected works of Reznor and decide the world is a cesspool of despair...

12) REMAIN HOPEFUL



...or I could just remind myself that there still is the possibility that the \$3,000,000 jackpot could be mine someday...

A QUICK GUIDE TO...

BENIGN CONVERSATION

LESSON 1:

INTRODUCTORY PLEASANTRIES:



UPON MEETING ANOTHER, FIRE OFF ONE OF THESE QUESTIONS:

STANDARD QUEERIE:

- A) How are you?
- B) How's it going?
- C) What's up?



STANDARD RESPONSE:

- A) Fine! And you?
- B) Great! And you?
- C) Same old same old! And you?



CLEVER RESPONSE:

- A) I'm peachy! (Swell, Snappy, Dandy)
- B) Oh, it's going!
- C) The sky! Hahaha!

LESSON 2:

INOFFENSIVE IRONY:

WHEN THEY SAY...



"I have to do my taxes."

YOU SHOULD SAY...



"Oooh. Excitement."



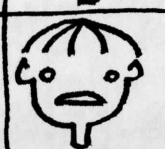
"I really need to wash my laundry"



"That sounds like fun."



"I'm going to the store to buy some milk."



"What an adventure. You're my hero."

LESSON 3:

HUMOR "LITE":



WHEN YOU'RE NOT SURE WHAT TO SAY, TRY ONE OF THESE LITTLE QUIPS EVERYONE CAN RELATE TO! HA HA HA!

- A) I'm not really here yet, I haven't had my coffee! Ha ha ha!
- B) Monday huh? Ha ha ha!
- C) I'm not thinking straight, I think I need a Martini! Ha ha ha!

HAVE A GOOD ONE!!!

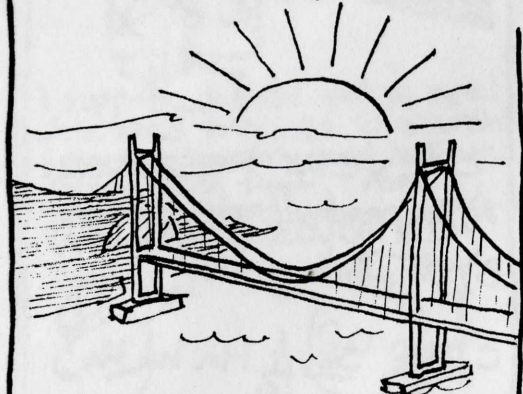


Oh my God, I'm so stressed out! Isn't there any music that can offer me relief from the fast-paced tizzy of modern life?

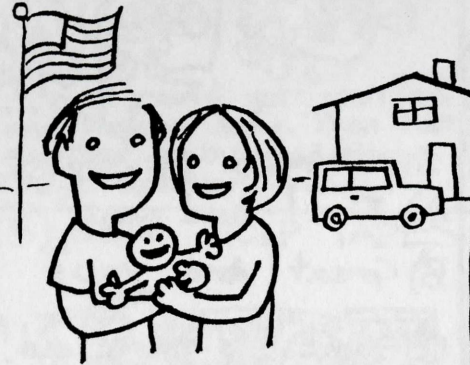
EASY LISTENING!

Music Guaranteed to offend Nobody, Anywhere on Earth.

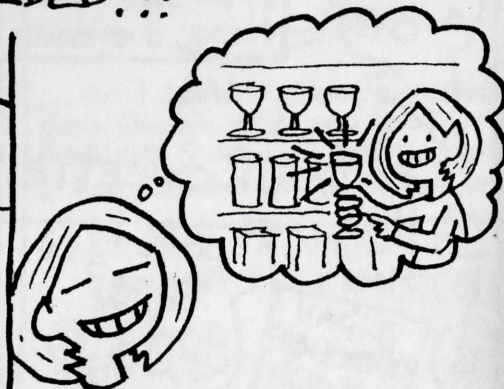
TUNE INTO THE EAST LISTENING STATION IN YOUR TOWN,
AND YOU WILL BE REWARDED!!!



YOU WILL SEE THIS
PICTURE IN YOUR MIND!

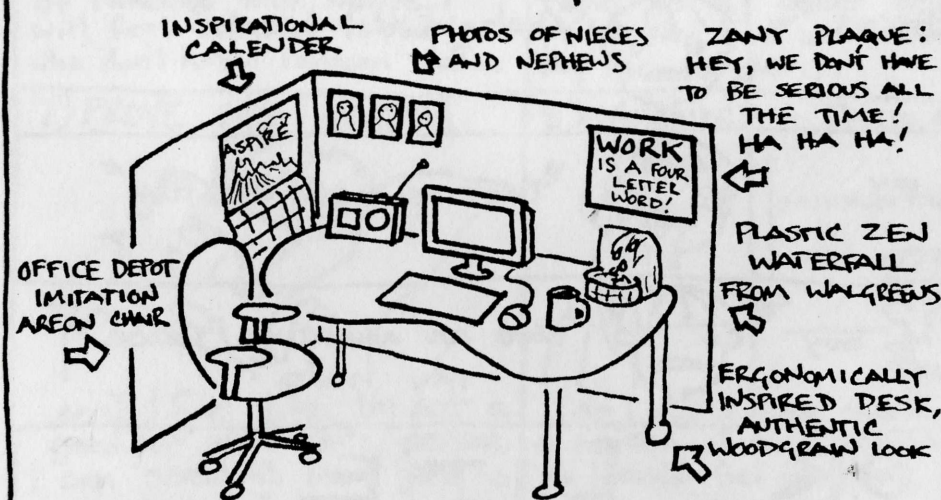


YOU WILL ACCEPT WHAT
IS IMPORTANT IN LIFE!

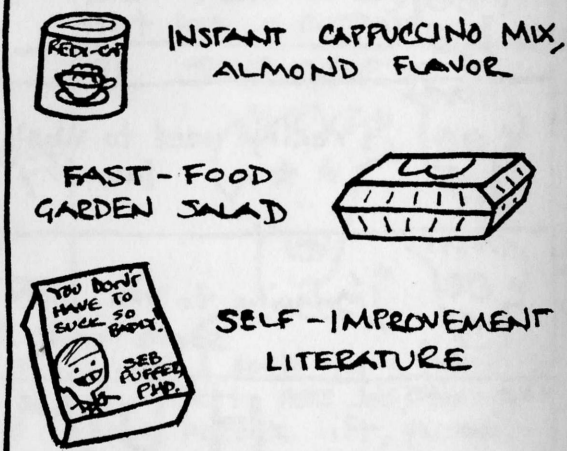


YOU WILL CLOSE YOUR EYES
AND PRETEND YOU'RE AT
POTTERY BARN!

THE EAST LISTENING WORK SPACE



ACCESSORIES OF EAST LISTENING CULTURE



EAST LISTENERS DREAM BIG!!



Someday I'll move up
to the corner office
and then people will
respect me!



Someday I'll heed
Dr. Phil and get
excited about my life!



Someday my wife
will come back to
the kids and me!

Someday I'll be
able to stick to
the Atkins Diet!



QUIK QUIZ:

Q WHAT IS THE "STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN" OF EAST LISTENING?

ANSWER: "FEELS SO GOOD" BY CHUCK MANDIONE

TODAY I WAS SITTING AROUND THINKING ABOUT SOME THINGS THAT WOULD BE NEAT



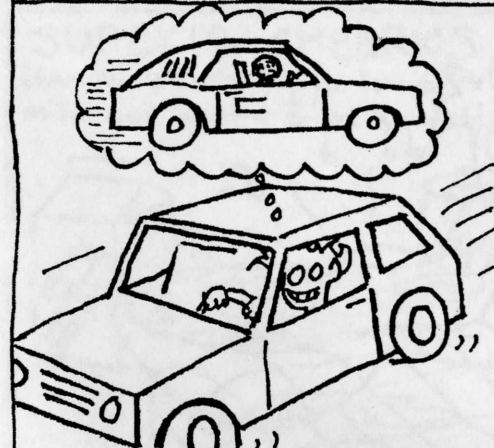
For starters, I think it would be
neat if good-looking girls would
randomly knock on my door now
and then to make out with me...



...and it would also be neat if
modern science proved that Pizza
and burgers were really healthy
and should be eaten daily...



...I also wouldn't mind re-living
my childhood with my current
brain so I could be the coolest,
smartest kid in school...



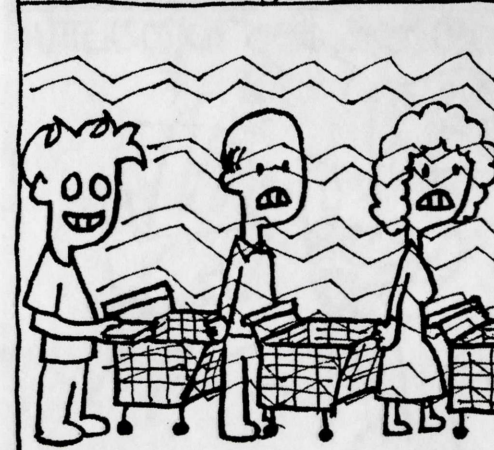
...or if I looked as cool driving
my Toyota Corolla around town
as Steve McQueen did driving
his Ford Mustang in "Bullit"...



...and if I could give people I
don't like bad dreams in which
I am King Kong so they'd be
sorry they ever messed with me...



...I'm also kind of sick of worrying
about money, so it would be neat
if someone with some extra just
sort of gave it to me...



...or if I had a remote control for
time so I could fast-forward over
waiting in line & rewind when I
say something really stupid...

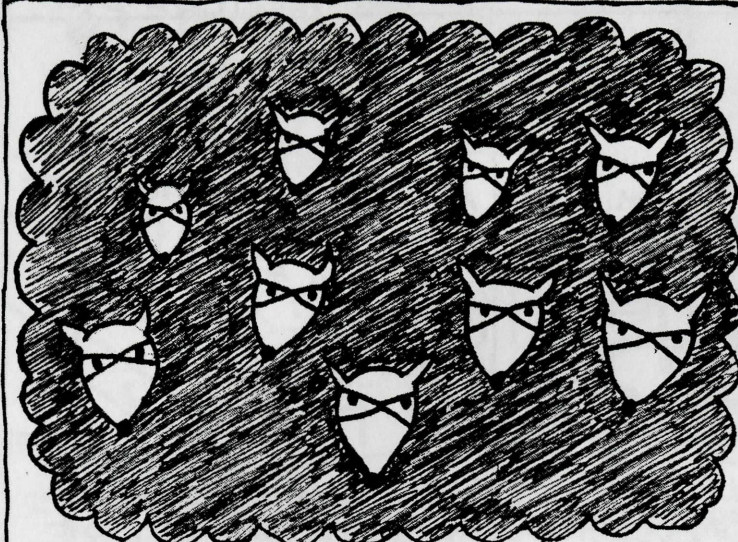


...and if I had a kindly, elderly
neighbor who wanted to sell me
the 1974 Dodge Dart she had
in storage for 30 years...

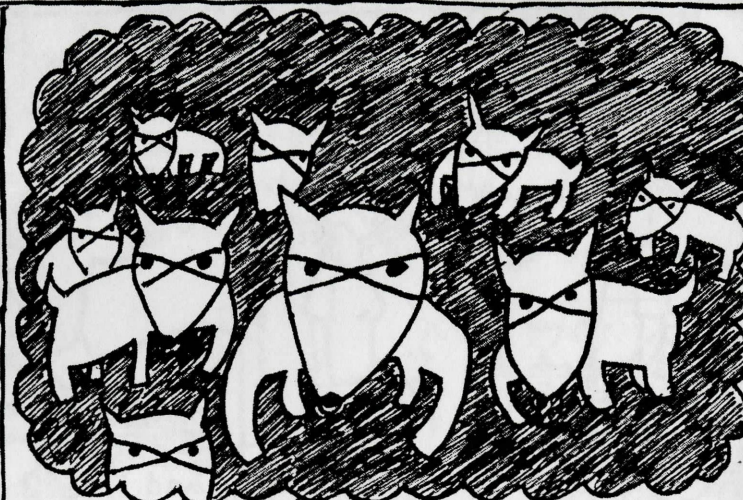


...and lastly, if everybody threw
a big party for me because
they decided I'm the swellest
guy in the world. I know it's not
likely, but it still would be neat.

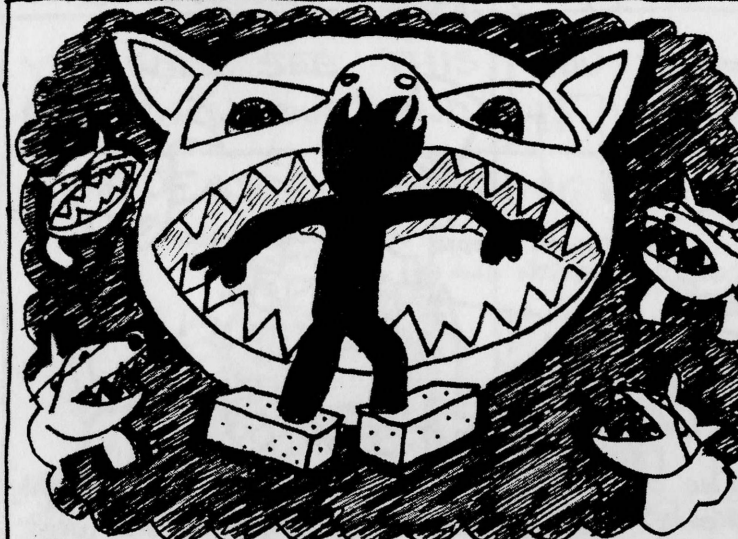
LAST NIGHT THIS MORNING



I had that dream again last night...



...This pack of big mean dogs was coming after me...



...and I was wearing cement shoes.



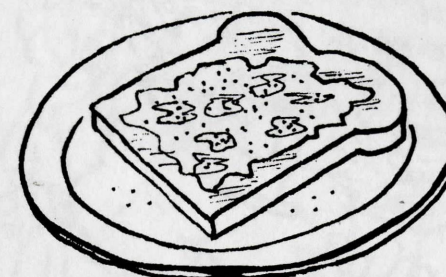
So I got up and started dancing to the music on my clock radio.



I was Mick Jagger.

MY FAVORITE CHILDHOOD RECIPIES

CANDIED BREAD



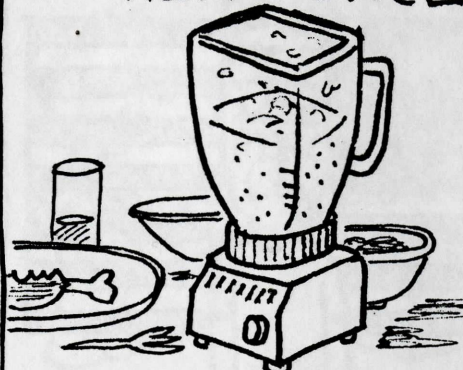
Lightly toast slice of white bread in Toaster Oven. Add 1/4 stick of butter, melt. Remove from toaster, top with 3 Tbs granulated sugar. Enjoy.

CHOC-GLUT-MILK



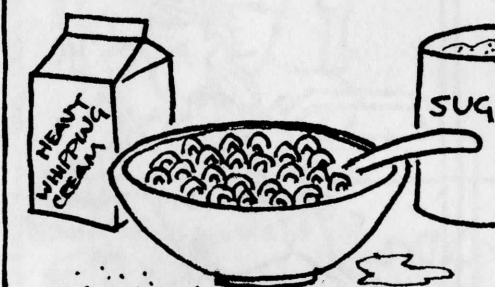
Fill 12oz glass with cold milk. Add 1.5 cups Nestle's Quik. Mix thoroughly. For additional amusement, attempt to drink with straw.

DINNER JUICE



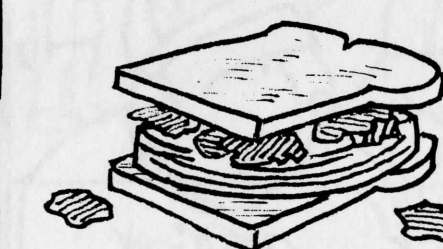
Following evening meal, place leftovers of meat, milk, vegetables, bread & salad into blender. liquify. Allow to settle. Do not drink.

SUPERIO CHEERIOS (for those cursed with low-fat milk and healthy cereal households)



Combine cheerios & milk with sugar and heavy whipping cream. Eat 5 bowls in a row while watching Bugs Bunny cartoons.

BALONEY CRUNCH



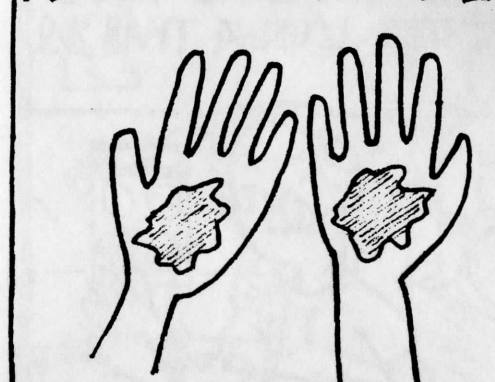
In schoolyard, remove top slice of bread from baloney & cheese sandwich. Add layer of lightly crumbled potato chips. Top with ketchup, replace bread & enjoy.

SKYWALKER MILK (inspired by dinner scene on Tatooine)



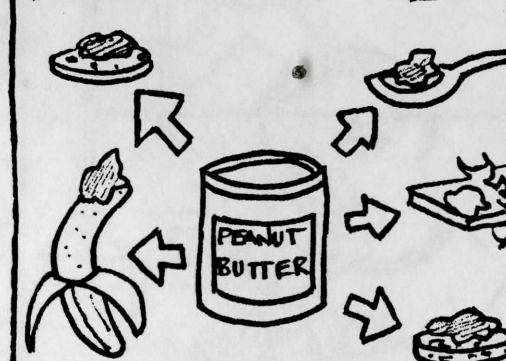
After viewing Star Wars numerous times, place 20 drops of blue food coloring in bottle of milk in fridge. Do not confess when questioned.

BUTTERSCOTCH HAND FONDUE



Place 20-25 butterscotch chips in between palms. Hold hands together until thoroughly melted. Lick off.

PEANUT BUTTER USES



Add copious amounts of Peanut Butter to: 1) chocolate chip cookies. 2) oatmeal cookies. 3) fruit. 4) chocolate bars. 5) spoon of butter.

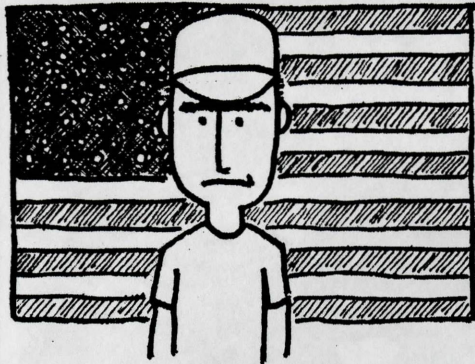
LAST RITES OF MIKEY



Place entire pack of Pop Rocks in mouth, chase with gulp of Coca-Cola. Swish around in mouth. (You will not die)

9 WAYS TO WEAR A T-SHIRT

MILITARY



The T-shirt is a standard garment for wearing under uniform and is also acceptable for exercise & M-16 cleaning.

SUAVE & SWANK



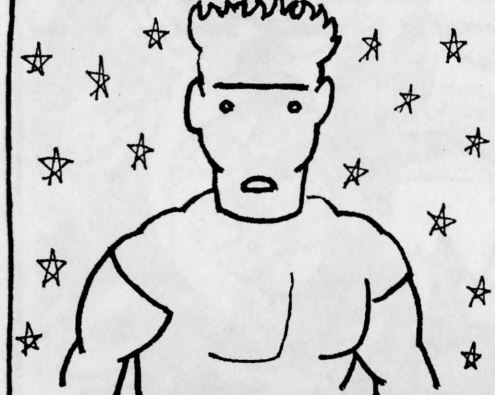
Ahh darling, I'm just going to loosen my tie and make us some drinks, mmm... you look lovely in your evening gown.

REBELLIOUS



Look here Meathead, I can't be no suit & tie yo-yo, it drives me bugs...

JEANS AD



I name Egon. I from Europe. I make career in America. I have muscle. I wear small shirt to show I have muscle.

WAL-MART CUSTOMER



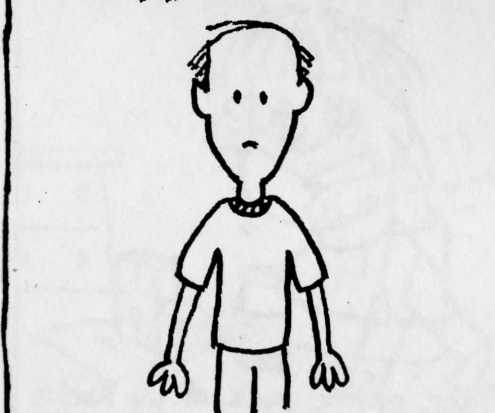
Whatever, I'm just here for toilet paper, refried beans and Cheez-Doodles...

DRUNK ON BUS



ZZZZZZZZZZ...
... ZZZZZZZZZZ...
ZZZ... ZZZZZZZ

MAN ABOUT TO SNAP



My wife hates me. My kids hate me. I hate my job. I hate my life. My gun is loaded.

DISHWASHER



Why are you asking about my shirt? Ask about my sneakers, they cost \$165.

GUY IN BAND WHO'S BETTER LOOKING THAN YOU

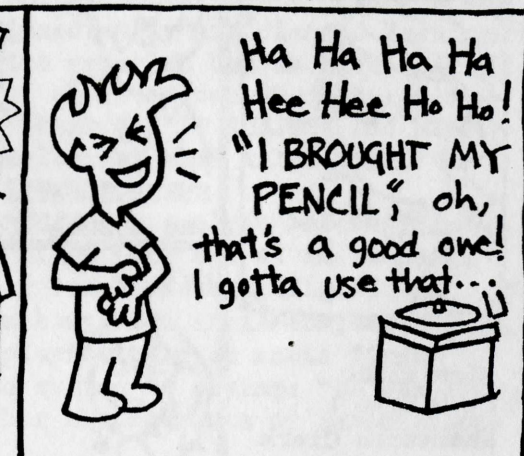
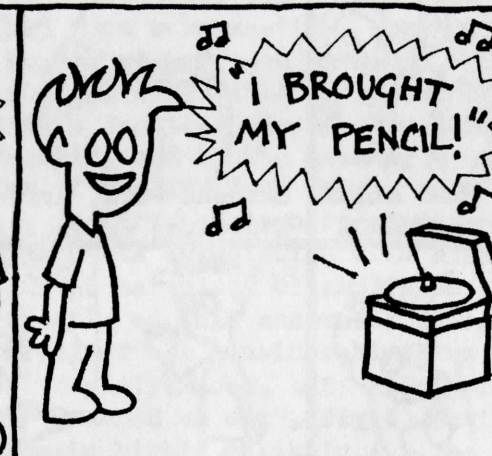


Sorry man, if I knew she was your girlfriend, I never would have done her.

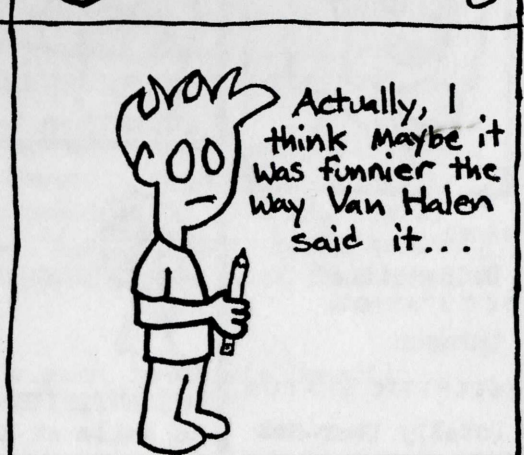
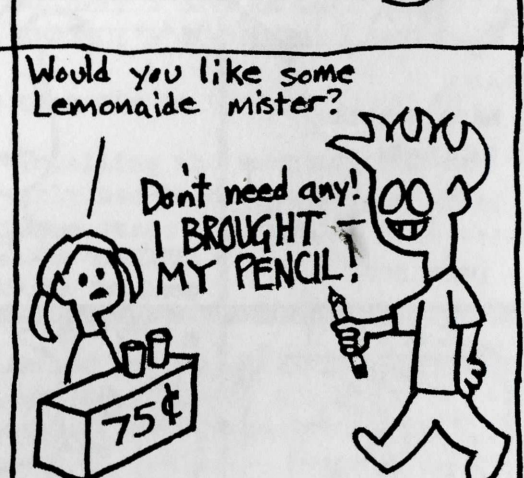
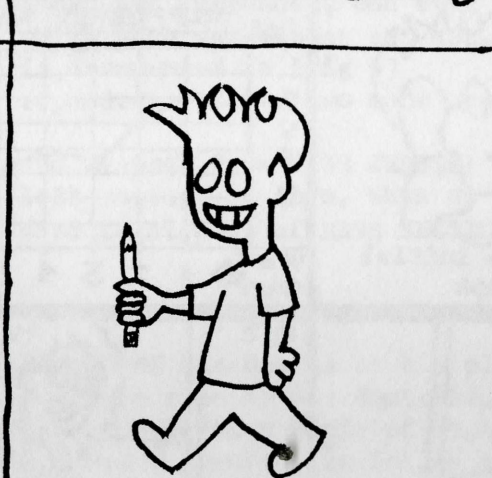
SOMETHING TOTALLY DUMB THAT I DO THAT I WISH I DIDN'T DO BUT I DO IT ANYWAY



(HOT FOR TEACHER BY VAN HALEN, 1984 ALBUM)





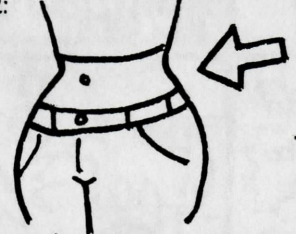

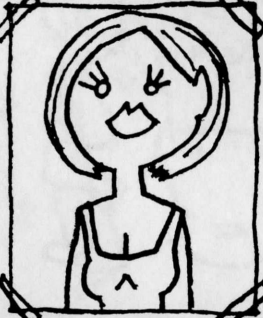

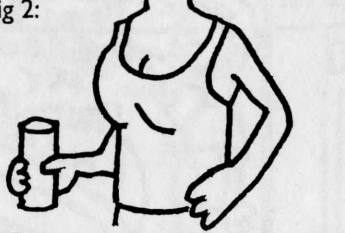




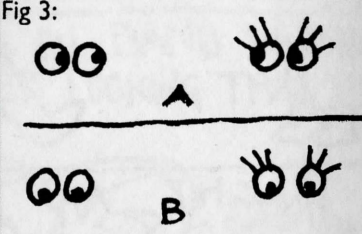


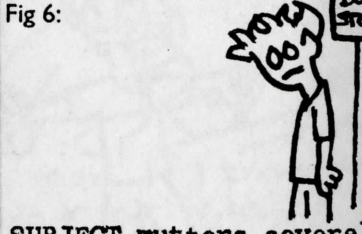
(LATER THAT DAY...)



MULTIPLE

BOMB-OUT

REPORT

<p>CASE 1</p>  <p>NAME: Miss Alice OCCUPATION: Shoestore Clerk AESTHETIC STATUS: Pretty Hot</p>	<p>Fig 1:</p>  <p>SUBJECT meets MISS ALICE and MUTUAL ACQUAINTANCE</p>	<p>Fig 2:</p>  <p>Garment worn, arrow indicates arousal focus</p>	<p>Fig 3: KARAOKE TONIGHT</p>  <p>SUBJECT performs song entitled "SUGAR, SUGAR"</p>
<p>CASE 2</p>  <p>NAME: Miss Jessica OCCUPATION: Radio Sta. Intern AESTHETIC STATUS: Damn Hot</p>	<p>Fig 1:</p>  <p>SUBJECT introduces self to MISS JESSICA</p>	<p>Fig 2:</p>  <p>MISS JESSICA'S notable mammaric display</p>	<p>Fig 3:</p>  <p>SUBJECT is granted MISS JESSICA'S contact info</p>
<p>CASE 3</p>  <p>NAME: Unidentified OCCUPATION: Unknown AESTHETIC STATUS: Totally Uber-Hot</p>	<p>Fig 1:</p>  <p>SUBJECT on board 38 Bus</p>	<p>Fig 2:</p>  <p>View of UNIDENTIFIED from SUBJECT'S position</p>	<p>Fig 3:</p>  <p>Game of optic glances played by SUBJ, UNIDT.</p>
	<p>Fig 4:</p>  <p>UNIDENTIFIED continues to smile at SUBJECT</p>	<p>Fig 5:</p>  <p>SUBJECT contemplates approach methods</p>	<p>Fig 6:</p>  <p>SUBJECT mutters severely self-deprecating phrases</p>

APRIL 6, 9:03PM: SUBJECT first encountered MISS ALICE with MUTUAL ACQUAINTANCE during a so-called "Night on the town".(fig 1) Upon this meeting, SUBJECT immediately experienced feelings of want, stirred by the visual impact of her worn garments, which revealed her abdomen.(fig 2) SUBJECT, MISS ALICE and MUTUAL ACQUAINTANCE gathered at a social club and consumed numerous intoxicating beverages and sang to a Japanese "Empty Orchestra" box.(fig 3) SUBJECT and MISS ALICE proceeded to converse agreeably, and at the evening's conclusion, MISS ALICE inquired about the current romantic status of SUBJECT from MUTUAL ACQUAINTANCE.

APRIL 9, 11:58AM: MISS ALICE'S inquiry had been relayed to SUBJECT the night before.(fig 4) and SUBJECT began a quest to augment his association with MISS ALICE into one of an amorous nature. SUBJECT visited MISS ALICE at her place of employ on her luncheon-hour.(fig 5) and suggested the two take a walk. Details of this encounter remain hazy, but it is suspected that due to the lack of intoxicants, SUBJECT was considerably less playful than at their first meeting and MISS ALICE'S interest rapidly waned. MISS ALICE was quoted as saying: "He was like, all serious and stuff. He totally creeped me out".(fig 6) Further advancements or associations between SUBJECT and MISS ALICE remain highly unlikely.

APRIL 24, 10:17PM: SUBJECT first approached MISS JESSICA at a large ceremonial gathering. Initial interest was also of a visual nature(fig 1), although MISS JESSICA'S proportions differed from MISS ALICE'S, a similar appreciation in anatomic geometry was noted.(fig 2) SUBJECT enjoyed a degree of success in laughter inducement from MISS JESSICA, with a notable display of witty banter. Conversation continued for 25 minutes, at which time SUBJECT requested and was granted MISS JESSICA'S telephonic contact information.(fig 3)

APRIL 27, 3:44PM: SUBJECT made attempt to contact MISS JESSICA, who did not answer. SUBJECT requested a return call on her automated message-recording device.(fig 4)

APRIL 28, 1:32PM: MISS JESSICA had not responded, and over the next 3 days SUBJECT made several more efforts of contact. With each subsequent attempt, SUBJECT'S disposition became markedly less glee-oriented and is documented in (fig 5)

MAY 1, 6:47PM: MISS JESSICA responded, and the two made arrangements to meet at 11:00 AM the following morning.

MAY 2, 10:35AM: SUBJECT recieved message from MISS JESSICA cancelling the meeting. SUBJECT made attempt to return call and left message in turn. When no reply had been made from MISS JESSICA by 3:04PM, SUBJECT proceeded to dispose of MISS JESSICA'S contact information in a ceramic waste transportal unit.

MAY 5, 3:10PM: Upon being relieved of his duties at his place of employ, SUBJECT boarded the 38 Geary bus and begun the 25 minute ride to his domicile. Due to fatigue, SUBJECT'S cerebral impulses were unfocused on any singular topic of contemplation or foment.(fig 1) 10 minutes into the journey, SUBJECT chose to review his fellow bus passengers and became fixated upon UNIDENTIFIED, who occupied a seat by the bus door.(fig 2) UNIDENTIFIED became aware of SUBJECT'S attention, and the two began to exchange a series of playful glances.(fig 3) This pattern continued unabated until the announcement of bus arrival to the 6th Avenue stop, and the two proceeded to exit the vessel.

3:28PM: UNIDENTIFIED began to journey North on Geary Blvd, turning the occasional glance behind her to view the whereabouts of SUBJECT.(fig 4) SUBJECT however, stood dormant at the bus stop debating effective introductory sentences and did not immediately proceed.(fig 5)

3:29PM: Upon conclusion that the commonplace phrase "Hi, what's your name?" would suffice, UNIDENTIFIED had already travelled 2 blocks North on Geary and SUBJECT concluded that the appropriate timeframe for action had more than likely expired.

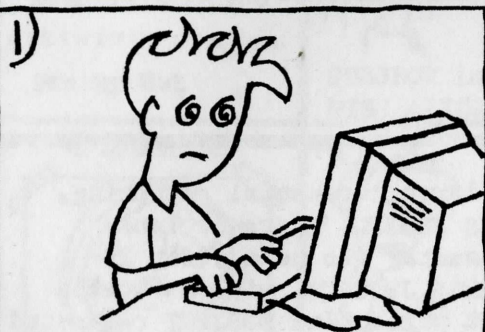
Upon review of the above case, Dr. Nick Cohen of the National Bombout Anaylasis Council concluded: "Jesus, this guy can be kind of a pussy sometimes."

ISOLATION

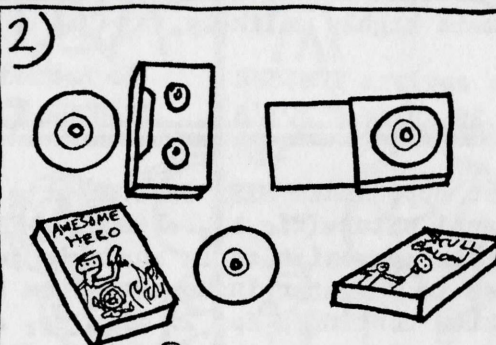
SO HOW DID YOU GET ISOLATED?

- ☐ Girlfriend/Boyfriend dumped me
- ☐ Got a bag of primo weed
- ☐ Lost my Job/Working from home
- ☐ Decided to forsake Deity
- ☐ Nobody likes me because I'm depressed all the time
- ☐ Nobody likes me because I'm happy all the time

SYMPTOMS OF ISOLATION:



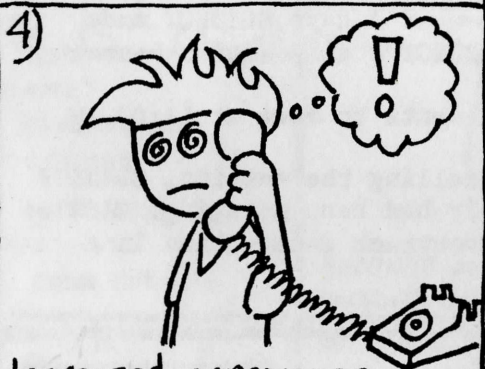
Checking Email 15x Per day
(Respond to none of them)



Dissatisfaction with every
CD and movie owned



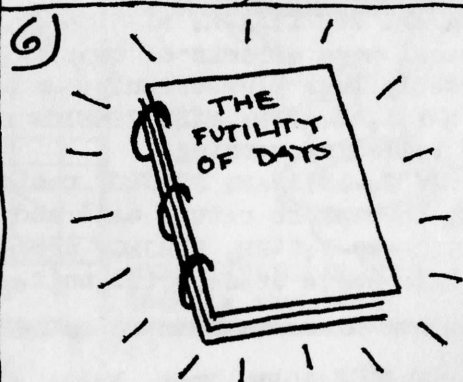
Changing clothes 4 times
before walking to mailbox



Increased annoyance
at telemarketing calls



Resentment of laughter
heard outside window



Desire to write screenplay

BURNING ISOLATION QUESTIONS:

- How the hell did it get to be 1 PM?
- Did I just eat all those crackers?
- When is The Simpsons on again?
- I wonder which of my Exes was the love of my life?
- should I do the laundry today or tomorrow?
- Didn't I masturbate twice already today?

MAYBE YOU SHOULD

CALL HOME...




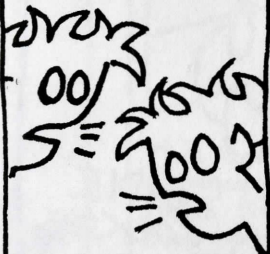
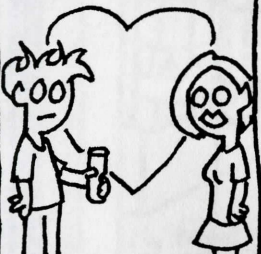
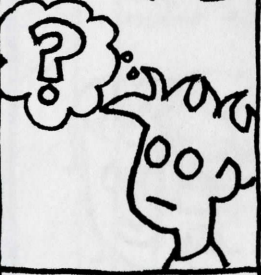

- "Make sure you get plenty of Fiber."
- "Maybe you should take a class."
- "You should call Mrs. Gleason's son, he's a lawyer. Weren't you once interested in being a lawyer?"



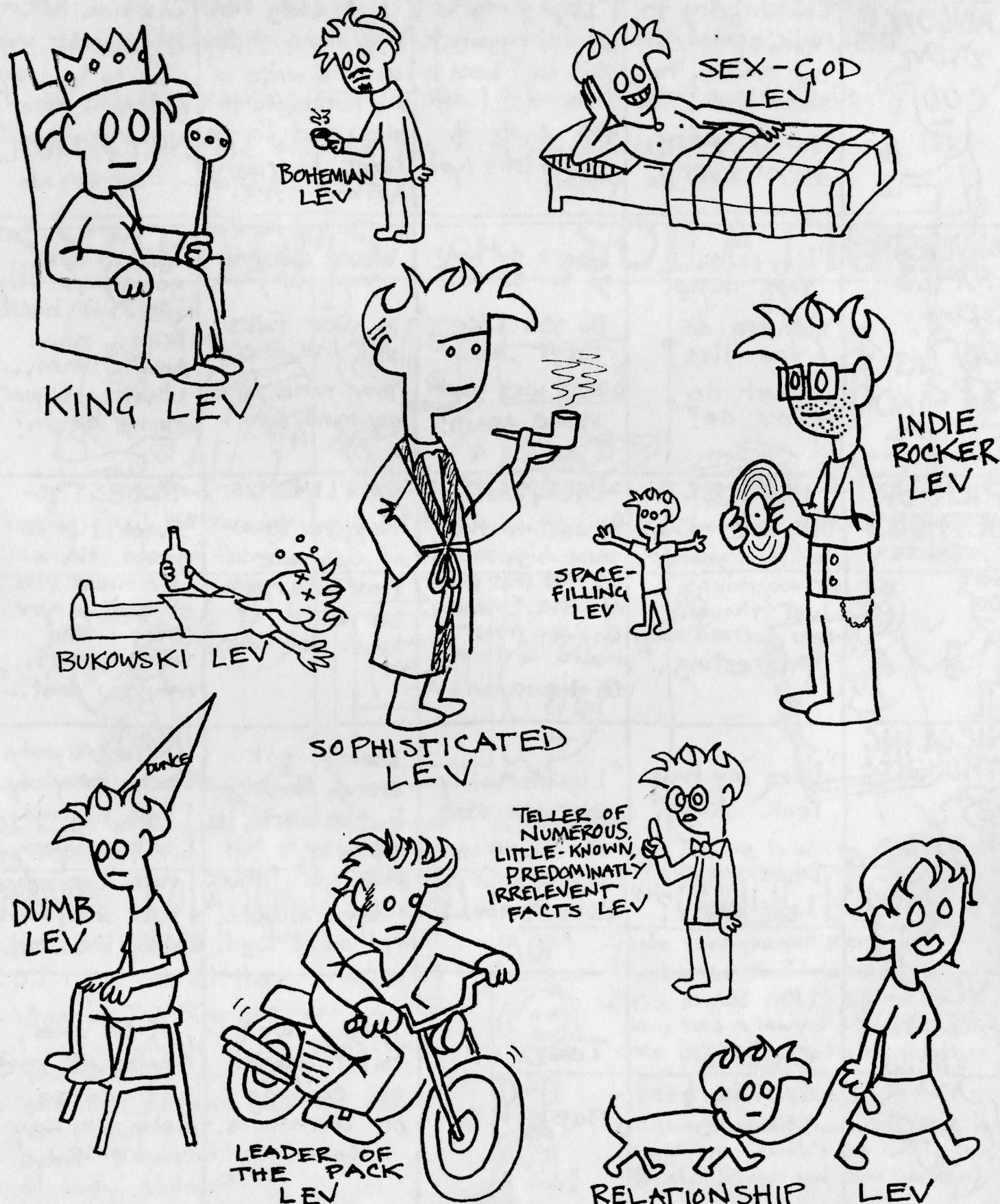
- "Keep your chin up."
- (Within a week however, he will send you books by Bill Gates, Donald Trump and Sam Walton)

4 STAGES OF MALE INEBRIATION

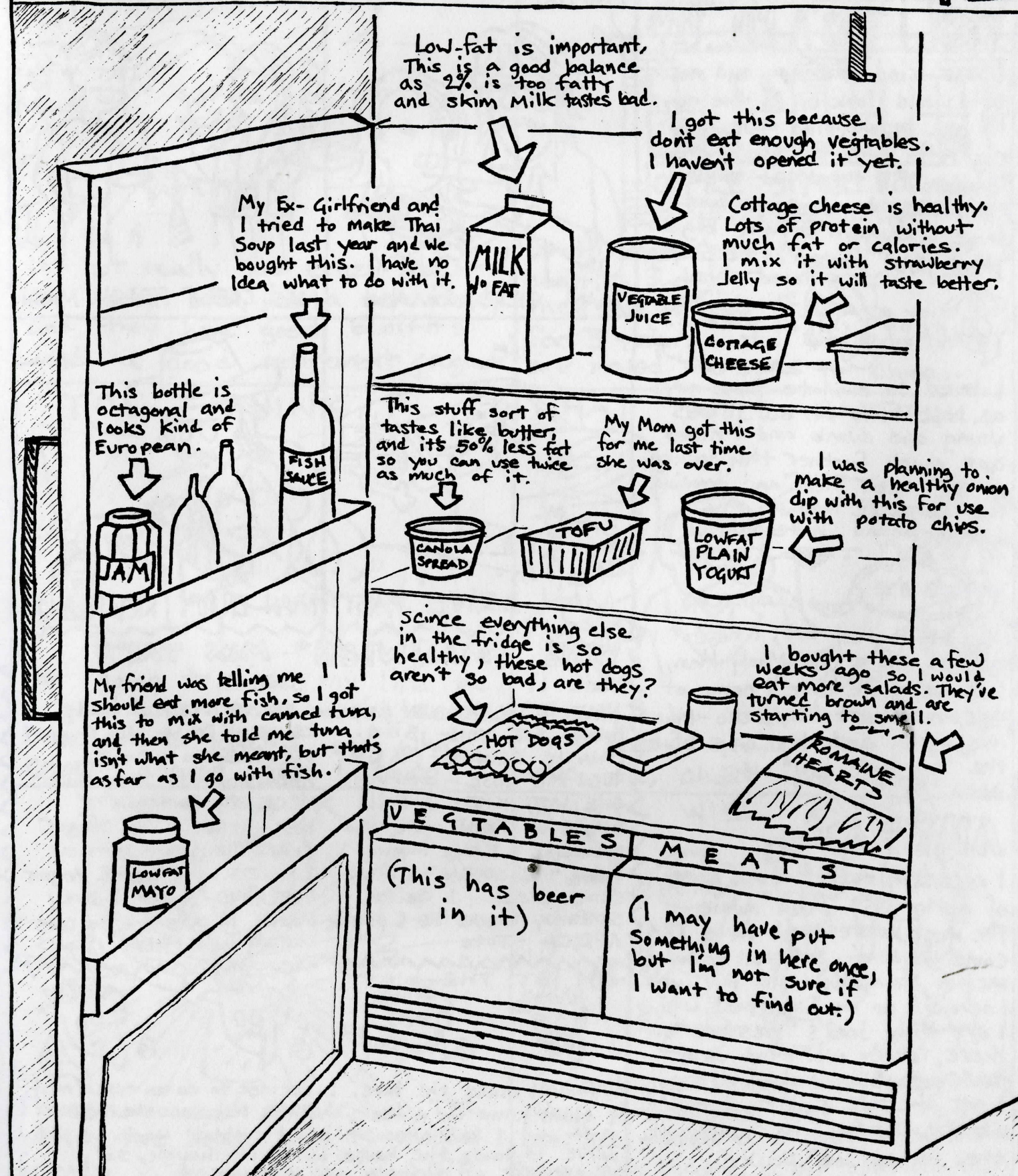
1-2 DRINKS · 3-4 DRINKS · 5-6 DRINKS · 7-8 DRINKS

BODY LANGUAGE 	<p>"I am going to walk around the bar smiling to show that I am the friendly, Jovial type"</p>	<p>"I am going to slouch against this wall here to show that I am the dark & mysterious type"</p>	<p>"I am going to sit alone at the bar and write in my notebook to show that I'm the Great American Author type."</p>	<p>"...gonna put my hand under my chin to hold my goddamn head up... yeah..."</p>
CONVERSATION TOPICS 	<p>"Hi, what's your name? Where do you live? What do you do?"</p>	<p>"Where did you go to school? Do you like your job? What was your name again?"</p>	<p>"Where did you grow up? Do your folks still live there? Your name slipped my mind, what was it?"</p>	<p>"Uhhh... don't go away... I'll be right back Dina... no... Amy... umm... What was your name again?"</p>
PICK-UP METHODS 	<p>-INDIRECT- "I'm not trying to pick you up or anything, I just thought you looked really interesting..."</p>	<p>-BRAGGART- "I went to the same high school as the Bass player of The Extreme. Oh... you never heard of them? Oh. Never mind."</p>	<p>-COMPLIMENTS- "Hey, you know if you were a prostitute, you'd be worth at least 300 bucks."</p>	<p>-MODESTY- "Mmph... I'm no good... I'm a worthless piece of crap... you really wanna talk to me... nah, you don't..."</p>
NIGGLING THOUGHTS 	<p>"Does my hair look okay? Does my shirt look okay?"</p>	<p>"I wonder why everyone else is having a better time than I am..."</p>	<p>"There's not enough honesty in the world, it's my duty to tell people if I think they're stupid..."</p>	<p>I hate everybody. I hate everybody. I hate everybody. I hate everybody. I hate everybody. I hate everybody. Nobody likes me.</p>
VENT AGRESSION VIA... 	<p>Chew on cocktail straws</p>	<p>Tear up bar napkins</p>	<p>Throw wet toilet paper on ceiling of bathroom.</p>	<p>Kick over newspaper boxes and curse self on way home.</p>

WHO I WAS TODAY



WHY I BOUGHT THE FOOD IN THE FRIDGE



EARLY 80'S MANWICH MIX TAPE

WHEN I WAS A KID...

I was kind of wimpy and nerdy, so I would look up to the guys I'd see in shopping malls and cigarette ads, the Macho-Man Magnum P.I. type that smoked Marlboros, drank coors beer & drove a camaro with a big "NUKE IRAN" sticker on the bumper.



I tried to emulate those guys as best I could, but I was young and dumb and I never got much further than dousing myself with BRUT and drawing the Corvette logo on my spiral-bound notebooks.



As it turned out, I never got to be a Mr. Manly-Man, because by the time I came of age, the era of the Macho-Man was over and the days of the "sensitive guy" were upon us.

ANYWAY...

I recently made a mix tape of early 80's "MAN" music. The most heterosexual tunes I could think of, stuff that reminded me of Naugahyde and Paneling. I screwed up the first pass when I put Billy Joel's "pressure" on there, nobody ever beat up a Preppy to Billy Joel. 2nd try, I got the tape right. I called it "MANWICH", in honor of the sloppy Joe sauce.



MAN GET WOMAN



MAN GREET FELLOW MAN



MAN DRIVE FAST



MAN ENJOY RICH FLAVOR

THE "MANWICH" MIX TAPE

Side 1:

HEAT OF THE MOMENT - Asia
BURNIN' FOR YOU - B.O.C.
LUNATIC FRINGE - Red Rider
TURN ME LOOSE - Loverboy
ONE LAST KISS - J. Geils
EMINENCE FRONT - The Who
SHAKIN' - Eddie Money
ROCK THE CASBAH - Clash
COME BACK - J. Geils
SOMETHING TO GRAB FOR - R. Deaseck
AFRICA - Toto

Side 2:

LOVE STINKS - J. Geils
CRUMBLIN' DOWN - John Cougar
MR. ROBOT - Stryx
ABRACADABRA - Steve Miller
URGENT - Foreigner
HER STRUT - Bob Seger
CHAIN REACTION - Journey
2 TICKETS TO PARADISE - E. Money
FREE ME - Roger Daltrey
MOVING IN STEREO - The Cars
WAITING ON A FRIEND - Stones

OH BY THE WAY...



After I made the tape, I decided to do an experiment: I didn't shave for a week, and then I showed the beard part and I had a moustache. I couldn't work up the nerve to leave the house with it though, so I shaved it off after an hour or so.

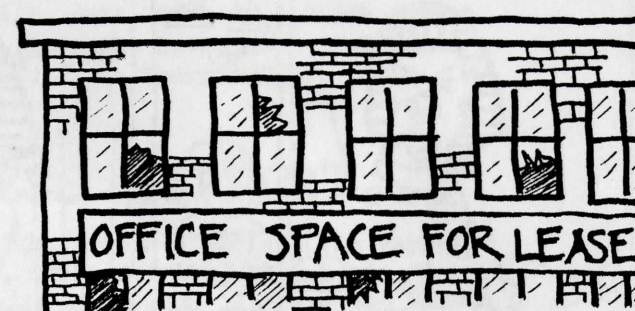
THE GREAT HOLISTIC FAIRNESS OF THE WORLD

YOU THINK...



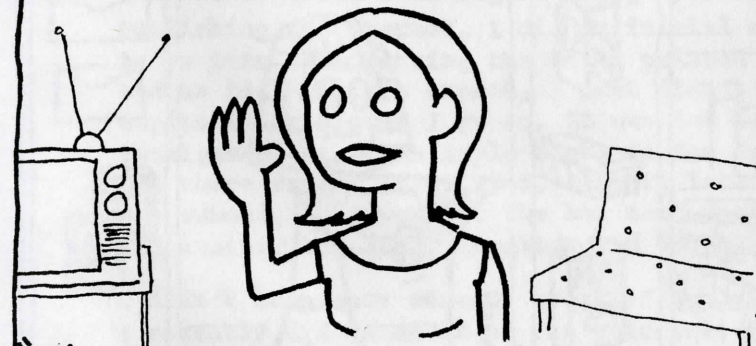
"I'm not really too crazy about my job, but it's a safe field, and they have great benefits and a good retirement program!"

WHAT WILL HAPPEN...



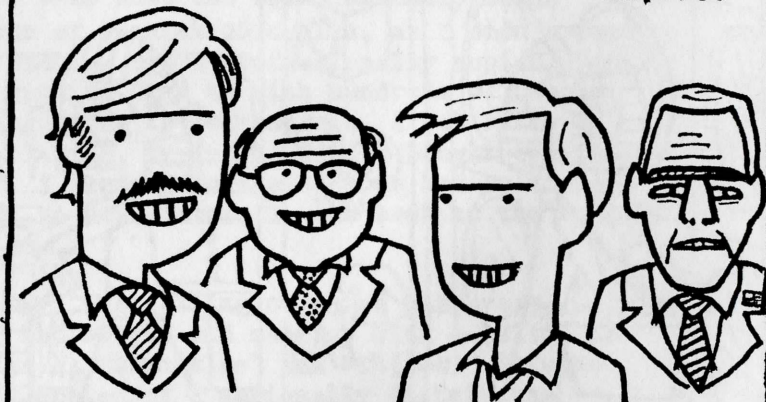
First, your company will slash benefits & hold layoffs. You will then live in fear of losing your job for 3 years until all operations are moved overseas to China.

YOU THINK...



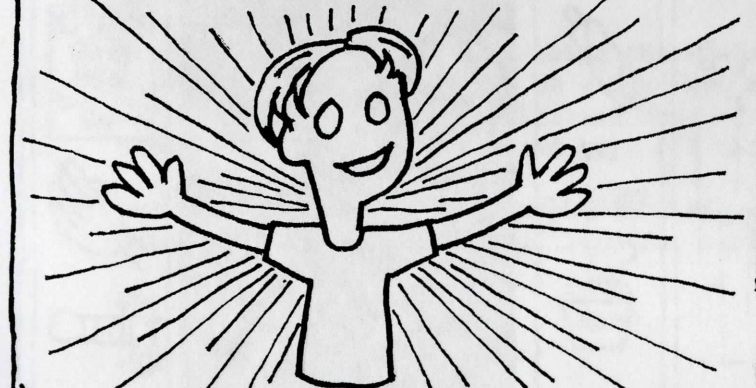
"I'm going to live my life as a good and honest person because I believe in karma and what comes around goes around!"

WHAT WILL HAPPEN...



You will be stepped on, crushed, and brushed aside by people who lie, cheat and steal.

YOU THINK...



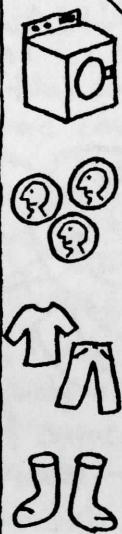
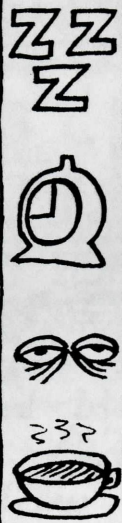
"There's so much phoniness in the world, the best way to make friends is to just be myself!"

WHAT WILL HAPPEN...



You will discover that people prefer other's phony personalities over your real one, and there's a slight passing chance you may become a bit bitter about it.

MY SATURDAY IN HIEROGLYPHS



SPECIAL THANKS TO...

Tricia Sherres, Emre Yilmaz, Colin Fern, Everybody at VAAM: Chief, Chris Rudden, Christine Bagnall, Pia & Eric, Amy Miller, Kevin Maher & Jay Stern of 1st Sundays, Antonio Botello, Megan Miller, Barret Neville, Davy Rothbart & Jason Bitner of FOUNDED Magazine, Erin & Richie at the 540, Myleen, Shannon, Dave, John & Alfred at Green Apple Books, Benn at New England Comics, and James from ISOTOPE

THANKS FOR YOUR ENDLESS SUPPORT...

Linnea Forsythe & Heiko Greb, Paul Madonna, Keith Knight, Peaches Christ, Tim Harrod, Sean Kilpatrick, Jim Potter, Tranh Pham, Carl Willat, Scott Kravitz, BZ Petroff, Amie Bailey, GA Lindsay, Anisha Kumra, Lisa the Suicide Girl, M&P, Lisa Cortese, Xan and the omnipotent George Fifield

Welcome to the second issue of Tales Of Mere Existence.

I finished Issue 1 in August 2003, my first step into the world of independent publishing and whatnot. I did an initial run of I think 25 copies, as I didn't want to go into debt getting the thing printed and the DVD's professionally copied when I had no idea what to expect. I just didn't want to wind up with hundreds of unsold copies in my closet I guess. It was too depressing to contemplate. I put a few on consignment at Green Apple Books in San Francisco, my friend Linnea bought the first one there to get it started. A month later, I dropped in and no more had sold and I got bummed, so I went to the bar next door. An hour later, I went back to the bookstore and another had gone, somebody had bought one.

I didn't keep very careful track of how many I was selling over the past year, but I recently did an audit of the materials I had bought and came up with a tally. My new friend Keith Knight who draws the comics "K Chronicles" and "Th(ink)" informed me that I have sold roughly $\frac{1}{4}$ the number of copies of a nationally distributed comic book, a freakishly large number for what is essentially still a DIY project.

A huge amount of this I owe to the ViV and a movie people, who have let me screen stuff at their shows every Monday Night at the Red Devil Lounge. Chief, Chris & Christine have probably seen the movies as much as I have, and I thank them for not getting sick of me yet.

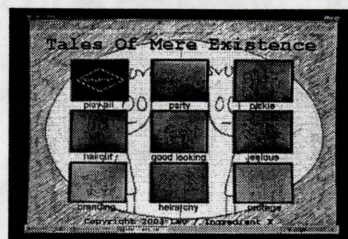
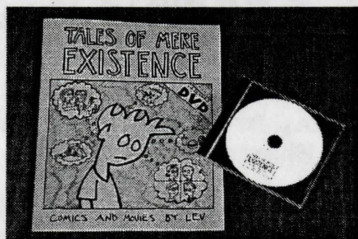
The really big news is something that hasn't 100% hit me yet: Barring any unforeseen didasters, 'Tales' will be on a new show on Comedy Central in the fall. The show is called "Jump Cuts", a compilation show of comedy shorts from knowns like Plympton, Aardman & Don Hertzfeldt, and guys off the turnip truck like me.

But anyway, about the new book: It's bigger, the movies are longer, and I really hope you dig it. Thanks a million for tuning in, thank you, thank you & thank you.

Cheerio,

-Lav

GET "TALES OF MERE EXISTENCE 1"



Own issue 1 of "Tales", the one that got this all started. It includes comics like "How The Hell Should I Dress" and "12 Reasons To Get Drunk Tonight" as well as the animations "Good Looking" and the award-winning "Hairarchy"

\$9.00 plus \$1.50 shipping in the U.S.

Go to www.paypal.com and send \$10.50 (In U.S.) to illeverent@yahoo.com

DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND SHIPPING ADDRESS IN THE EMAIL

ALSO AVAILABLE AT THESE STORES:

SAN FRANCISCO

Green Apple Books- 506 Clement @ 6th
City Lights Books- 261 Columbus @ Bway
Le Video- 1231 9th Ave @ Lincoln
Naked Eye Video- 607 Haight @ Steiner
Clean, Well lighted Place- 601 Van Ness
Isotope- 1653 Noriega @ 24th
Needles & Pens- 483 14th @ Gurrero

NEW YORK

St. Mark's Bookshop- 31 3rd Avenue, NYC
BOSTON
Million Year Picnic- 99 Mt. Auburn, Cambridge
New England Comics- 316 Harvard St, Brookline
New England Comics- 131 Harvard Ave, Allston
CHICAGO
Quimby's- 1854 W North Ave, Chicago

check my website www.ingredientx.com for store updates

GET YOURSELF A LEV T-SHIRT!!!

Celebrate the spirit of Lev with one of these new Lev T-Shirts.

100% Cotton and adorned with either a "Kung Fu" or "Hearthrob" design, you can induce conversation wherever you go because people will ask you: "Who the hell is that on your shirt?"

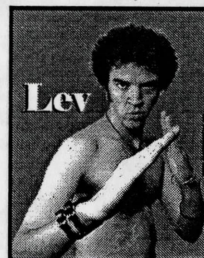
TO ORDER VIA PAYPAL:

Go to www.paypal.com and send \$7.50 (In U.S.) for each shirt desired to illeverent@yahoo.com
DON'T FORGET TO SPECIFY WHICH SHIRT YOU WANT & INCLUDE YOUR NAME AND SHIPPING ADDRESS IN THE EMAIL.

\$6 plus \$1.50 shipping in the U.S.



For Guys



Size L, Crew Neck

For Dolls



Size S, V-Neck

DVD LAYOUT DESIGN BY LEV
ENGINEERED BY ANTONIO BOTELLO



For show dates, new comics, book ordering
& store list, check out

www.ingredientx.com

Email Lev at illeverent@yahoo.com

TALES OF MERE EXISTENCE II

...stuff you think about but don't talk about

"LEV GOES FOR LAUGHS IN FEARLESS WAYS THAT SHOCK.
YOU EVEN AS YOU QUIETLY NOD YOUR HEAD IN RECOGNITION"

TAYLOR JESSEN, ANIMATION WORLD NETWORK



FILM THREAT

"SELF-OBSESSION HAS NEVER BEEN SO ELOQUENTLY
EXPRESSED WITH SO LITTLE INK"

TIM HARROD, THE ONION

"FU**ING HILARIOUS"

MAXIMUM ROCK AND ROLL

"DEMENTED, SELF-OBSSESSED AND INSECURE, "TALES" HAD
PEOPLE CHOKING DOWN THEIR LAUGHTER SO THEY WOULDN'T
MISS THE NEXT LINE"

KATHERINE MIESZKOWSKI, SF BAY GUARDIAN

LOOK FOR 'TALES' ON THE NEW COMEDY CENTRAL
SHOW "JUMP CUTS" COMING FALL 2004



Copyright 2004 Lev/Ingredient X

www.ingredientx.com