

# THE S HOMICIDAL LESBIAN TERRORIST



DIANE  
DIMASSA



HOthead

a fetish for  
book sensation

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This book is dedicated  
to all the women who are not afraid,  
and to all the women who are.

We are grateful to The All That Is, Karen Aiken, S. Bryn Austin, Jamie Bargas, Alison Bechdel, Nancy Boutillier, Doug Brantley, Elaine Brown, Marleen Cenotti, Sue Czark, Frédérique Delacoste, Laura Ernst Downey and Robert Downey, Fish, Lisa Frank, Eleanor Craig Green, Anne Griepenburg, Ann Grossman, Kris Kovick, The Lesbian Avengers, Jennie Livingston, Eileen McGuigan, Mom's one and only turkey, Felice Newman, Beryl Normand, Heather Pearl, Rachel Pepper, Sarah Pettit, Roxxie, Deb Schwartz, Carol Seajay, John Searles, Lauren Seeley, Iggy Sheehan and Frank Sheehan, Gail Simon, Victoria Starr, Franco Stevens, Roz Warren, Alice Winn, Jody Wheat, David Wilk and Steve Hargraves and the cowpokes of Dead Rat Head Canyon (Sheriff Owen, Deirdre, Jeanne, Suzy, Doug, Nancy, Dennis, Jay, Dave, Gary and Jared), who saw it all begin.

And, of course, to our families, whose support has never been taken for less than the grand thing that it is.

To all the people who threw *Hothead Paisan* in the garbage, then took it back out, then threw it back in, then ripped it up, then asked us for another copy...

To all our sister 'zinesters: keep it up, grrrls!

To all the women's studies, lesbian and gay studies, and cultural studies teachers who have seen a light in this work and have shared it, we bow, smile, and thank you.

To the nameless friends who found delight in *Hothead Paisan* and passed us on to friends, we bow and kiss your toes.

And, finally, to the great goddesses and gods of the feline purrsuasion: without you we are bored, unloved, and unable to exist.

## Introduction

**H**OTHEAD PAISAN is angry. Maybe she wouldn't be quite so furious if everybody took up equal amounts of space in the world. Hothead is a flaming mouthpiece for those who must remember to remember day after day that they are not less worthy, less deserving, less anything. Sadly, some people never come to believe this about themselves. This is most definitely planned: it is a set-up intended to keep people disempowered.

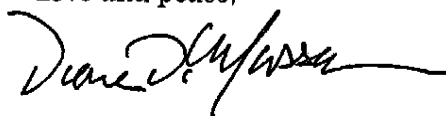
Hothead Paisan is, among other things, a battler for the right to take up a little space. She's a blend of childlike bewilderment—how could things have gotten so rotten?—and unapologetic reaction to the monsters around her. Autobiographical? Of course she is. Hothead Paisan was born in my journal, a personal vent, the result of my desperate search for a way to purge my own rage without getting injured. The disturbing images that I draw are just that—disturbing. These images are in my gut; it would be a disaster to pretend they're not. Anger sits like poison when ignored and grows into mutant proportions. None of us can afford that. By getting these images out into the light, where they can be examined, I can then move on.

So what began as my personal medicine has made its way into the world, thanks to Stacy Sheehan, who publishes *Hothead Paisan* four times a year in comic-zine form under the Giant Ass imprint. It was because of Stacy's urging and innate rainmaking sense that *Hothead Paisan* was developed, printed, distributed. She is the mechanic behind the workings, and is the reason that *Hothead Paisan*, the comic-zine, originally appeared in your store, your home, your hands. And the response has been...more than we ever dreamed. We receive letters from people of all descriptions (and I do mean ALL) who fight each day not to get backed into that little corner where they feel like they are insane, or completely alone, or freaks...They are family, and we're proud to be among them.

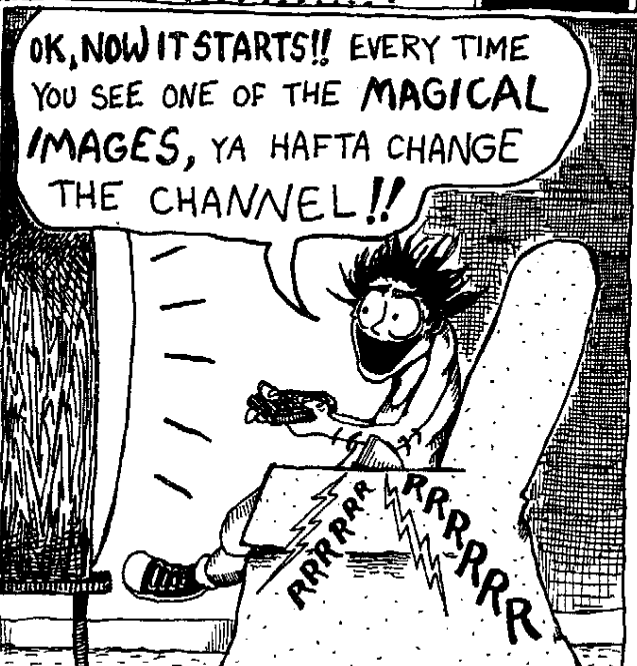
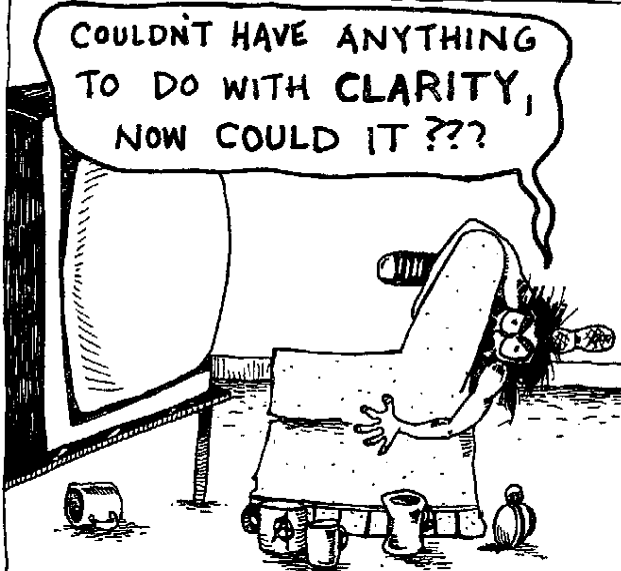
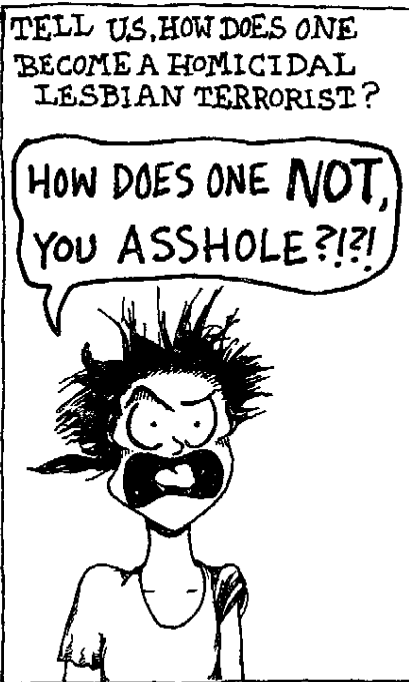
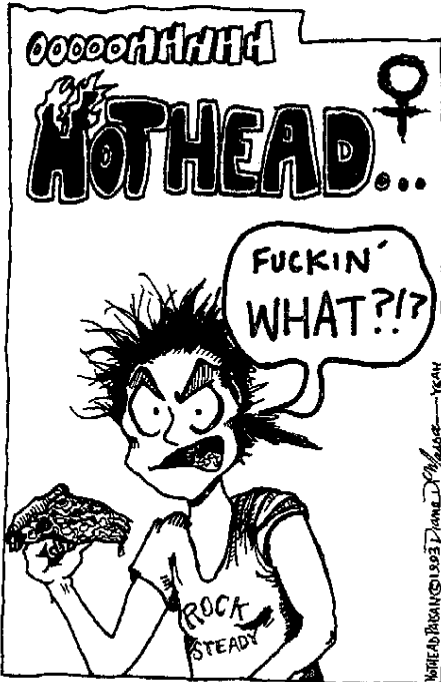
People ask me if Hothead will ever calm down. I feel that she only reflects what is going on "out there," so I don't see her changing very soon. The magic is that Hothead's behavior allows ME to be a calmer person. I hope for the day when she *can* calm down! But for now, Hothead will continue to act out the fantasies that we would never really carry out ourselves, even though we're thinking them.

Considering the constant onslaught of hostility and hate and frightening levels of intolerance we are subject to every day, if Hothead serves to remind you that you are wonderful and not alone, then what more can this Paisan ask? May the spirit of Hothead always walk with you and slay all your dragons.

Love and peace,



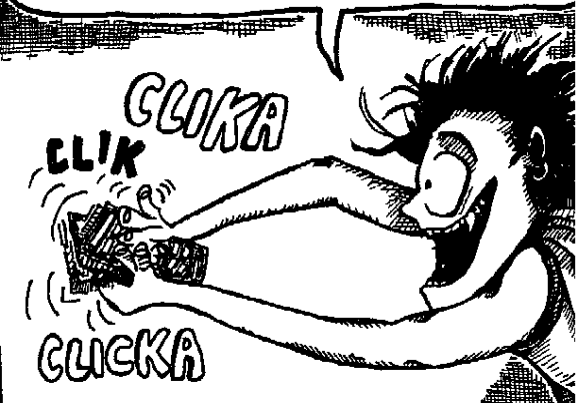
August 1993



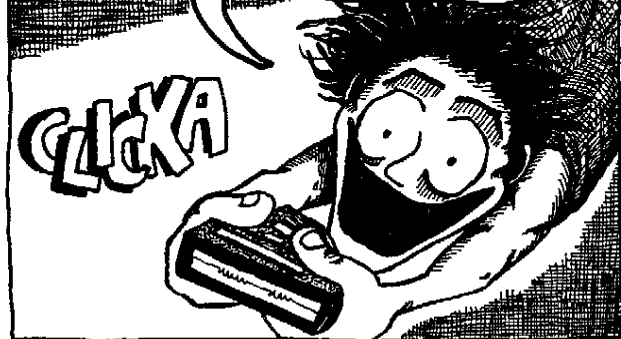
AN' THE MAGICAL IMAGES ARE:  
A MAN WITH A GUN,  
A WOMAN CLEANING, or  
A WHITE PERSON BUYING  
SOMETHING EXPENSIVE!!



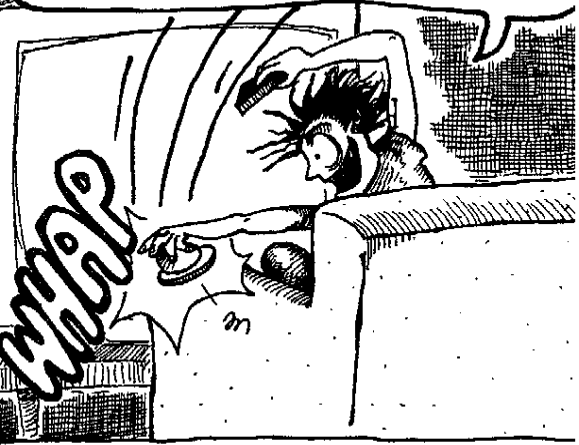
YOU CAN MAKE UP YOUR OWN!!  
ANY SHOW STARRING A WHITE GUY...  
BIMBO BIKINI BEER-CAN BABES..  
GROTESQUE ROCK STARS...



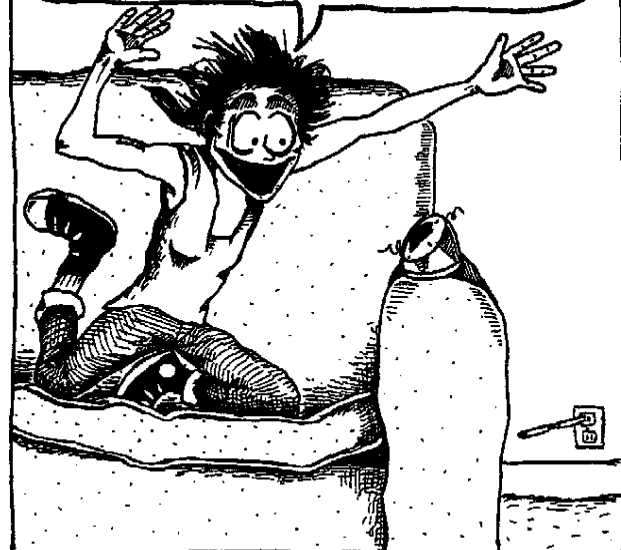
A WOMAN BEING CHASED!!!  
A WOMAN BEING STUPID!!!  
A HET KISSING SCENE!!!



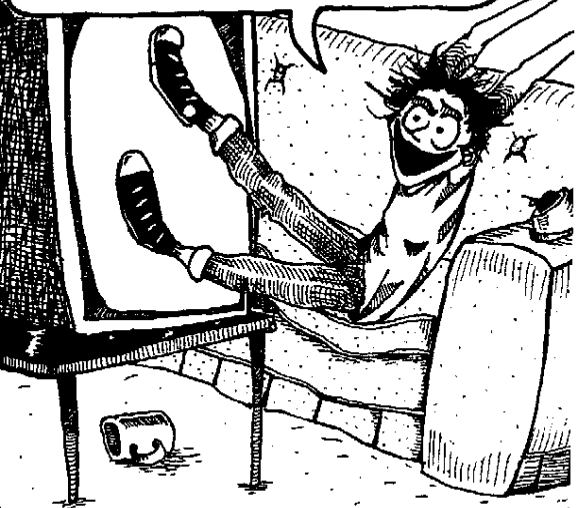
SEE HOW LONG IT TAKES TO GO  
THROUGH ALL THE STATIONS!!



IT'S A WORLD RECORD!!  
52 CHANNELS IN 18 SECONDS!!

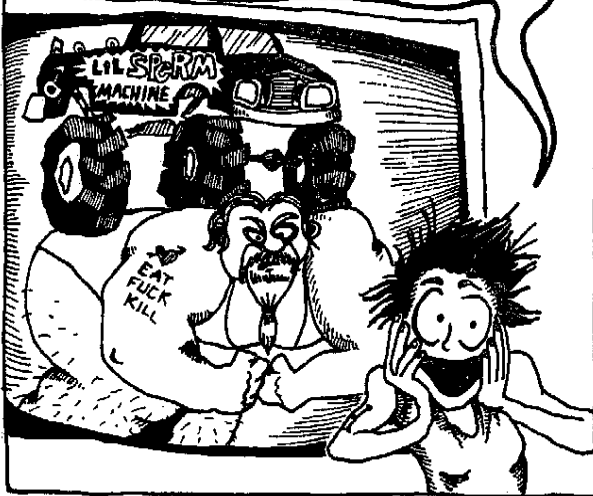


NOW WHERE ELSE ON EARTH CAN YOU  
BE OFFENDED SO MANY WAYS  
IN SO LITTLE TIME??

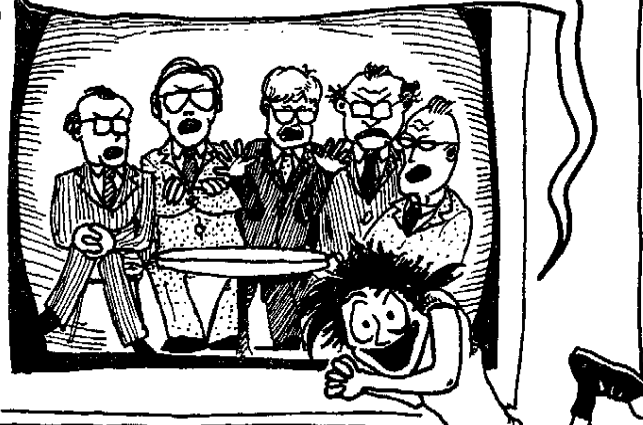




WHO CAN RESIST THE FASCINATION OF MONSTER TRUKS OR WRESTLING??



OR FIVE WHITE GUYS IN SUITS DECIDING THE FATE OF THE WORLD AS A RESULT OF THE CATASTROPHIES THEY CAUSED??



OR FOR THOSE REALLY BRAIN-DEAD DAYS, YOU CAN ALWAYS FIND A MACHO CAR CHASE OR SOME HELPLESS BROAD BEING RESCUED!



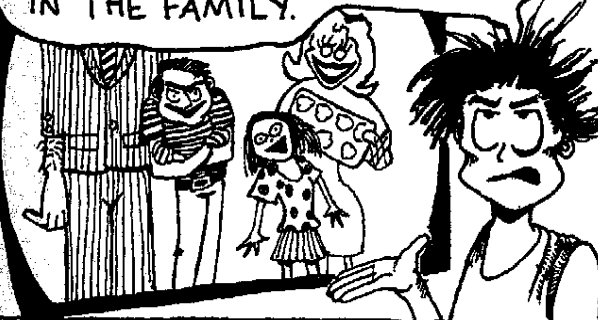
BECAUSE SHE JUST TRIPPED, OF COURSE!

AND MY PERSONAL FAV'RIT: AN ENTIRE SERIES ABOUT THE FIRST HORMONAL STIRRINGS OF A PRE-PUBESCENT YOU-KNOW-WHAT!!



GOD, THIS IS GREAT!!

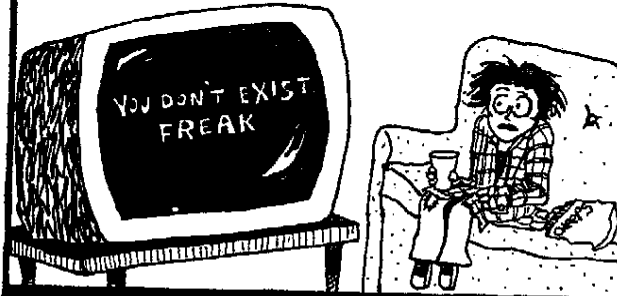
AND DONT LET'S FORGET THE FAMILY SITCOMS, WHERE THE BOYS FIX THE CARS AND THE GIRLS BAKE CAKES AND THE BOYS LAUGH AT THE GIRLS CAUSE THE GIRLS ARE JUST SILLY CAUSE THE MOTHER IS A MOM-BOT AND FATHER IS A DICK AND IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY.



OH YEH, AND THE NEWS, THE BIGGEST HORROR SHOW OF 'EM ALL.



WHILE SURROUNDED BY THE MAGICAL IMAGES, ONE CANNOT HELP BUT TO GROW UP CONFIDENT AND SELF-ASSURED!



ICK. IM NEVER DOING ANY OF THAT!

I'LL JUST HAVE TIME TO BAKE COOKIES BEFORE I WASH THE FLOOR!!

IT'S TIME FOR CHARM SCHOOL!



GOTCHA!

YAAAAHHH!!

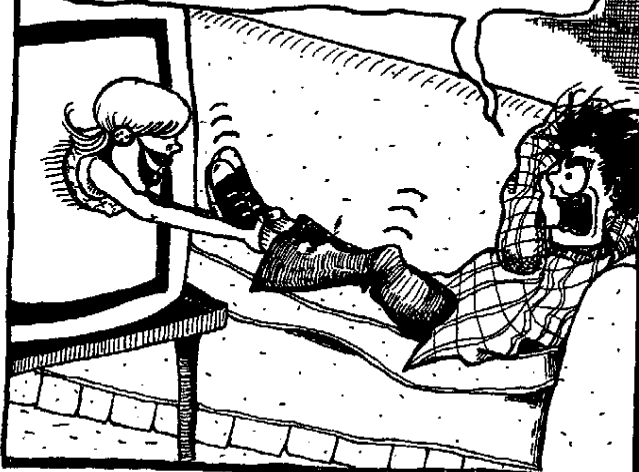


C'MON, SURRENDER!! YOU NEED A LOT OF WORK!!

HOLY SHIT!!



LET GO!! YOU'RE GETTING NAIL POLISH ON MY SOCKS!!



COME, COME NOW! YOU MUST BEGIN TO PREPARE FOR YOUR LIFE'S ROLE OF "LADY OF THE HOUSE!"

OH, GOD!!







WE'VE GOT BIG PLANS FOR YOU!  
HUSBAND! KIDS! VACUUM CLEANER!

SORRY!  
NO SALE!!



WE'VE GOT A BEAUTIFUL MOLD IN HERE  
WITH YOUR NAME ON IT! ONE SIZE  
FITS ALL!!

I SAID NO, YOU  
FUCKING FROSTED  
HAIR FREAK!!



NOW GET THE FUCK OUT!  
GO CLEAN YOUR HUZ-BINS  
ASSHOLE OR SOMETHING!!



BUT YOU'VE BEEN SITTING  
THERE FOR YEARS!  
WHY AREN'T YOU  
CONVINCED???

DOES THE WORD  
BRAIN RING A BELL??



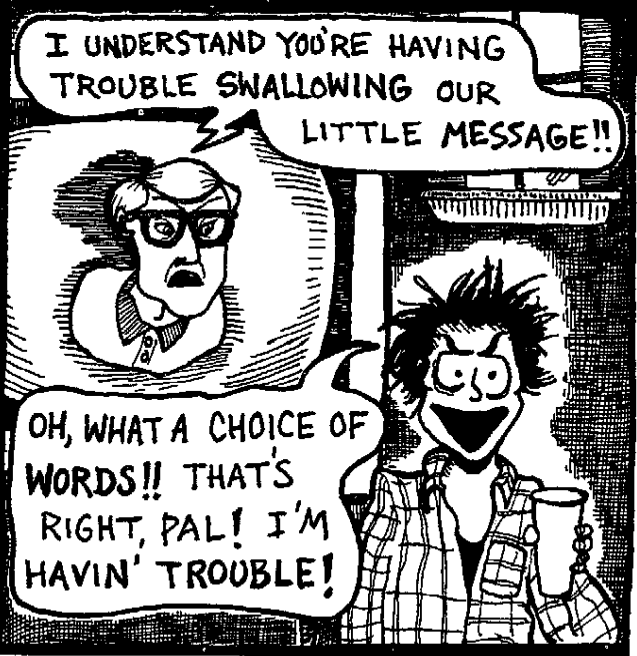
WHISPER  
WHISPER  
PSSSS  
PSSSS



EXCUSE ME YOUNG LADY!!

OH, GROSS!!

THERE'S NO ONE  
HERE BY THAT NAME!



I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE HAVING  
TROUBLE SWALLOWING OUR  
LITTLE MESSAGE!!

OH, WHAT A CHOICE OF  
WORDS!! THAT'S  
RIGHT, PAL! I'M  
HAVIN' TROUBLE!

JUST WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE,  
THINKING FOR YOURSELF??  
YOU'LL NEVER GET ANYWHERE!

SILLY GIRL  
SILLY GIRL

RIDICULOUS  
GIRLY  
GIRL GIRL!

YOU'D BETTER FALL INTO LINE IMMEDIATELY,  
OR YOU'LL HAVE NOTHING BUT TROUBLE  
YOUR WHOLE LIFE!

I'D RATHER EAT  
DIARRHEA  
SOUP!!

YOU'LL COME AROUND! YOU'VE GOT A  
LIFETIME OF TV, BILLBOARD,  
AND MAGAZINE POISONING  
AHEAD OF YOU!

I SWEAR RIGHT  
NOW, I'LL NEVER  
BELIEVE IT!

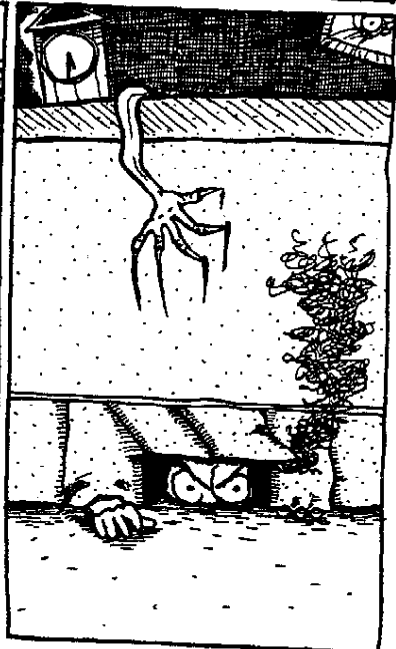
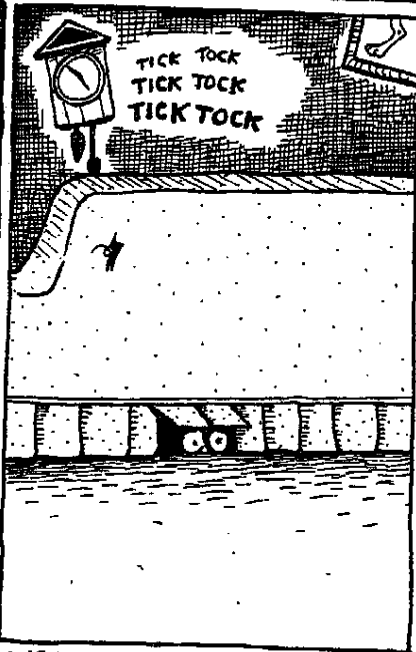
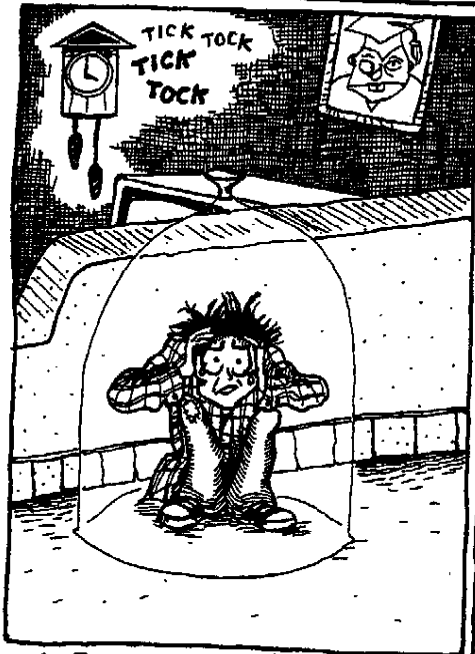
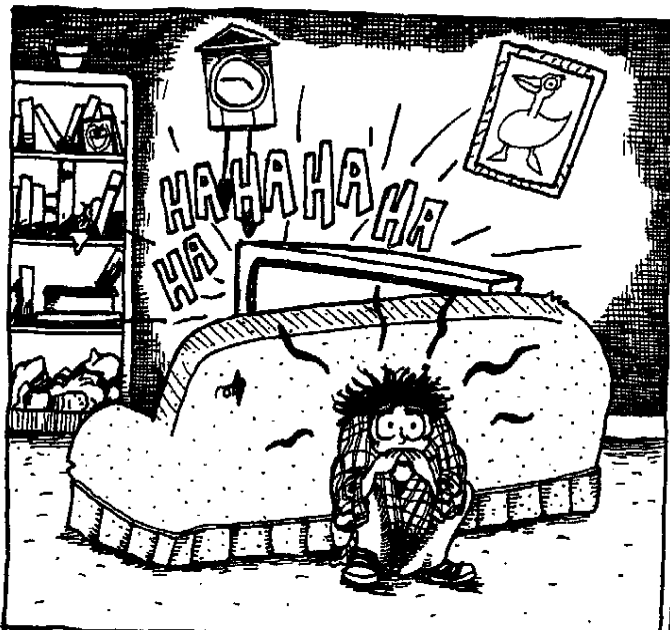
YES, YOU WILL! SOMEDAY YOU'LL BE  
SITTING THERE TIRED, WITH YOUR  
GUARD DOWN, TOTALLY RE-  
CEPTIVE, LIKE EVERYONE ELSE!

NO!!

YOU'LL BE INNOCENTLY "RELAXING" IN FRONT  
OF THE TV, AND THE NEXT THING YOU  
KNOW, YOU'LL BE WEARING AN APRON!

HAHAHA  
HAHAHA

THERE WILL BE NO ESCAPE  
FROM THE CONSTANT ONSLAUGHT  
OF WHITE HETEROSEXISM!  
AH HA HA HA HA HA





YOU NEED ME! WEAR ME LIKE A COAT!

YEAH..



REMEMBER, IF YOU SPACE OUT FOR ONE SECOND THE STEPFORD'S WILL GET YOU!

WHAT'S WRONG?

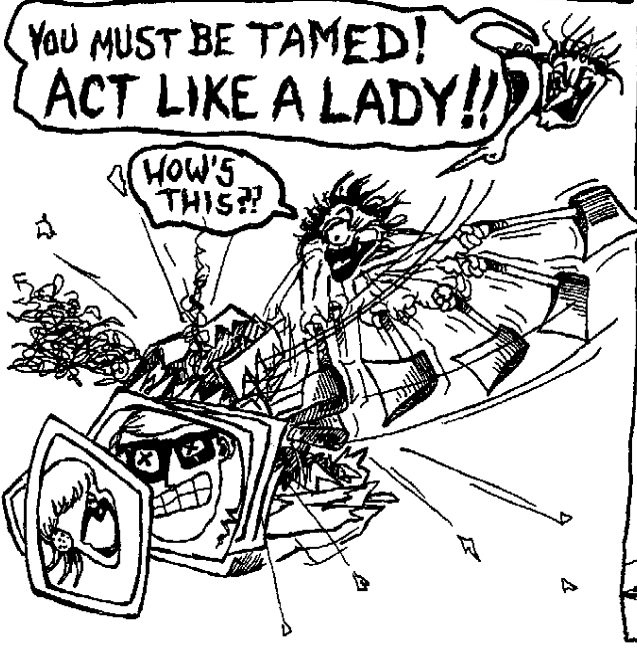


YOU'RE NOT UPSET JUST BECAUSE YOUR DESIRES WILL GET YOU ANNIHILATED?!

FUCK YOU! THEY'RE MINE!!



BE QUIET! SMILE PRETTY! WHATEVER YOU DO, DON'T BE YOU!!



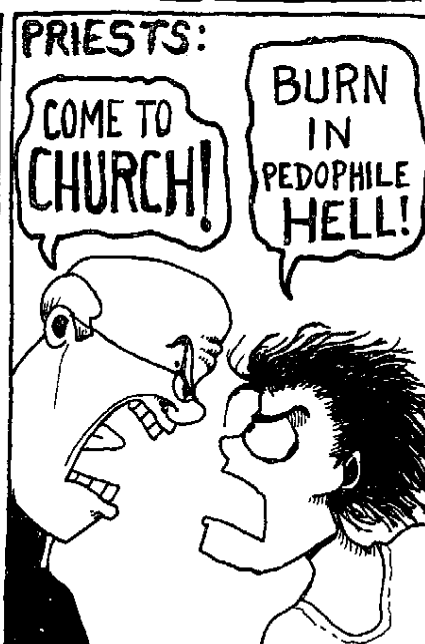
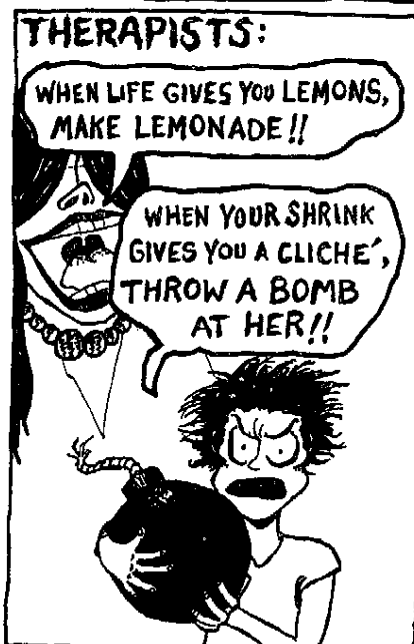
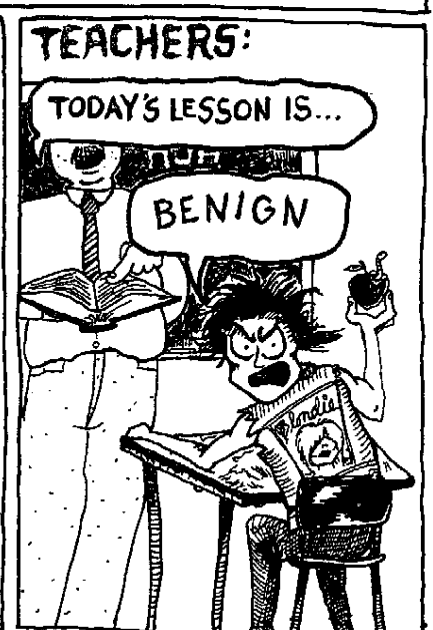
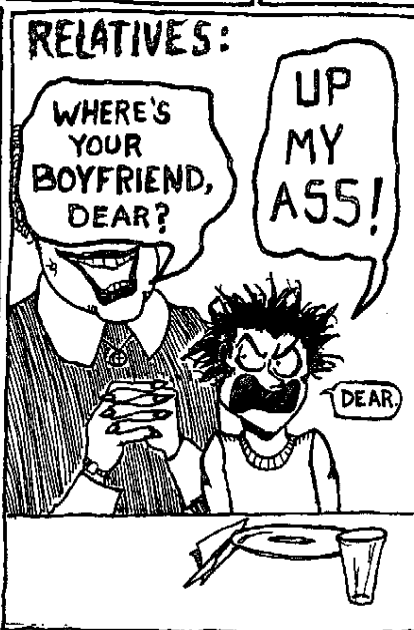
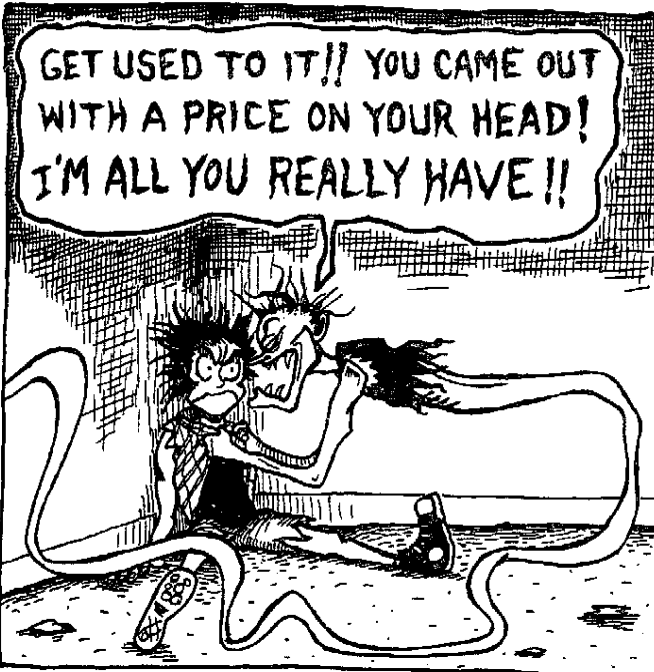
YOU MUST BE TAMED! ACT LIKE A LADY!!!

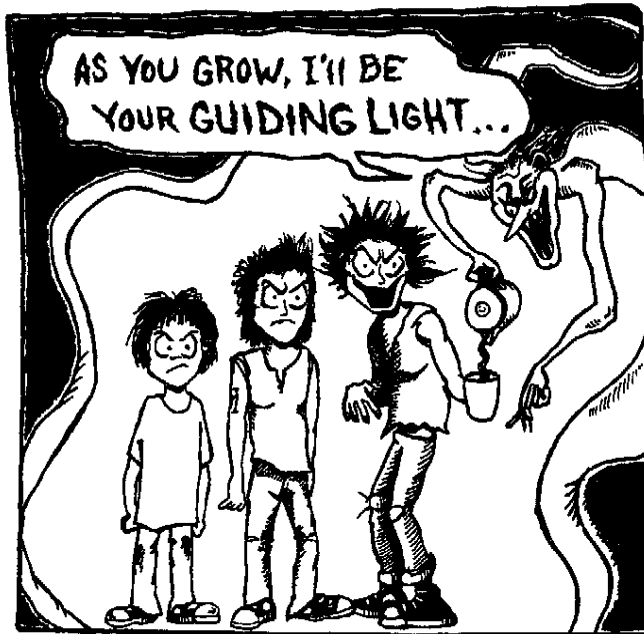
HOW'S THIS?!



YOU LOVE THE WRONG PEOPLE!!

IT AIN'T WRONG!





AS YOU GROW, I'LL BE YOUR GUIDING LIGHT...



..HELPING YOU KEEP THE WORLD AT BAY!  
IT'S A TOUGH MOTHERFUCKER OUT THERE..

I KNOW!



AND YOU CAN NEVER TAKE ANY SHIT!  
YOU KNOW WHY?

CAUSE IF I DO,  
MY LIGHT WILL GO OUT!!



RIGHT! AND YOU MUST ALWAYS BE ON GUARD BECAUSE...

THEY WANT TO CRUSH ME!



AND YOU CAN NEVER, EVER FORGET, OR ELSE..

THAT!!



RIGHT! LET'S WATCH MTV!

OK!

BZZT





IS IT A MAGIC MICROPHONE?  
I LEFT MY DICK... IN SAN FRANCISCO

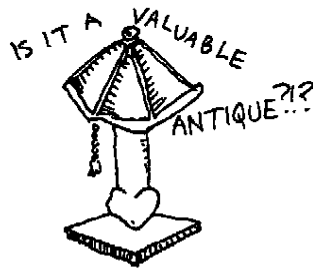
IS IT A MAGIC WAND?  
I WISH I WAS PRESIDENT!!



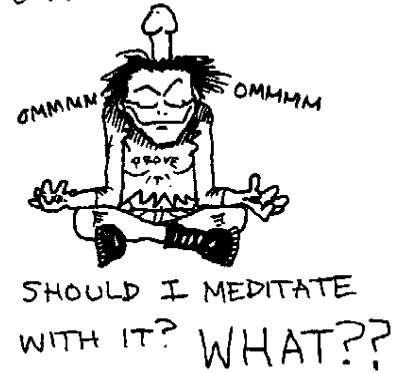
CAN I FEED IT TO THE DOG?



DOES IT HAVE MONEY ROLLED UP IN IT?!



DOES IT HOLD THE SECRETS OF THE UNIVERSE?



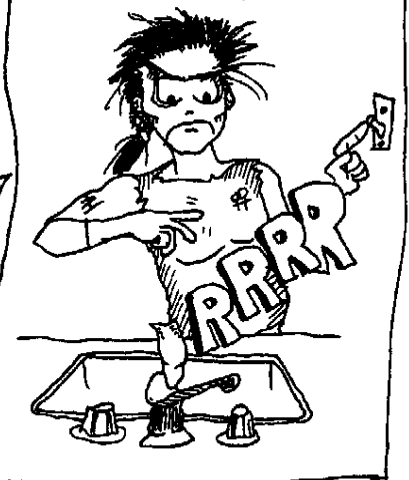
HEY! WAKE UP, YOU RUDE, DEAD, LYIN' MOTHER FUCKER!! THIS IS NOT THE RIGHT ONE!!

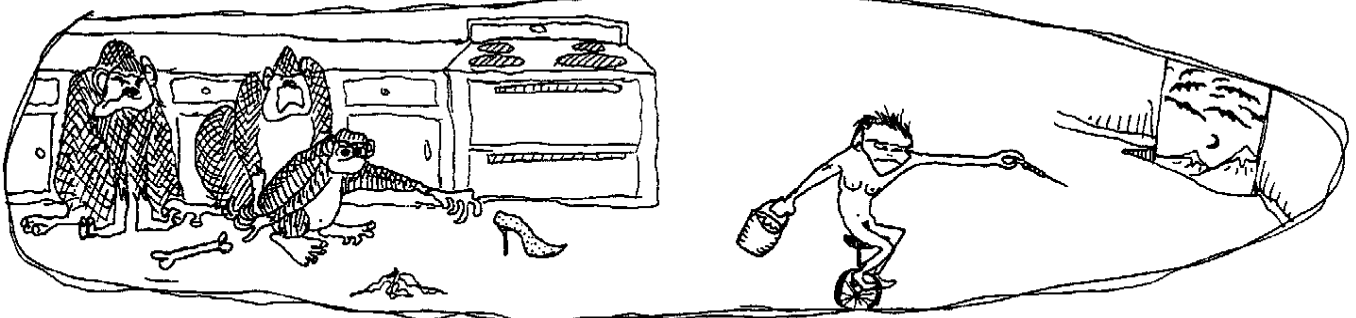
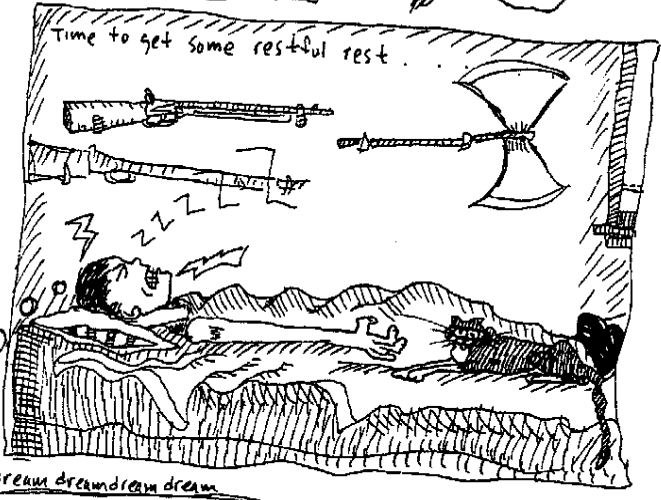
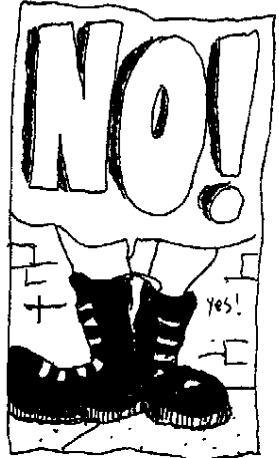
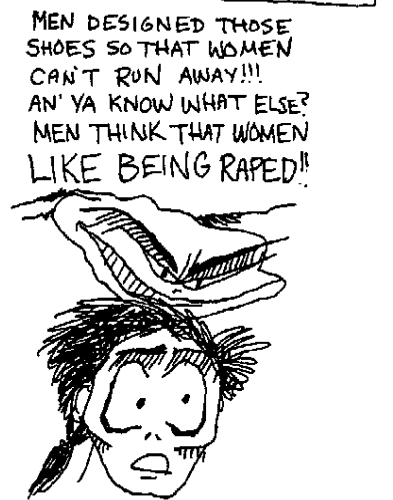


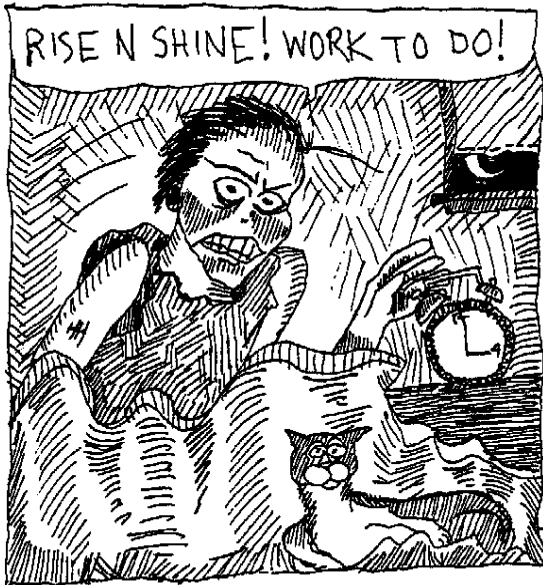
YOU MAKE IT OUT TO BE SUCH A BIG DEAL AN' THEN I'M ALWAYS DISAPPOINTED!!



SIGH! I'LL JUST GET RID OF THIS PIECE-A SHIT AN' GO FINISH MY WALK.







THE BOBBESS SAID SO.



and quickly dispenses disability...



an' then...



SO, BUTTHOLE, THESE ARE THE QUALITIES THAT WOMEN WANT RIGHT? (that's not hurting you, is it?) Ya know, YOU'RE RIGHT!



PAIN VICTIMIZATION GUILT  
 VIOLENCE HUMILIATION  
 EMOTIONAL TRAUMA SHAME  
 FEAR DEPRESSION  
 INVASION SUICIDE  
 DISEASE

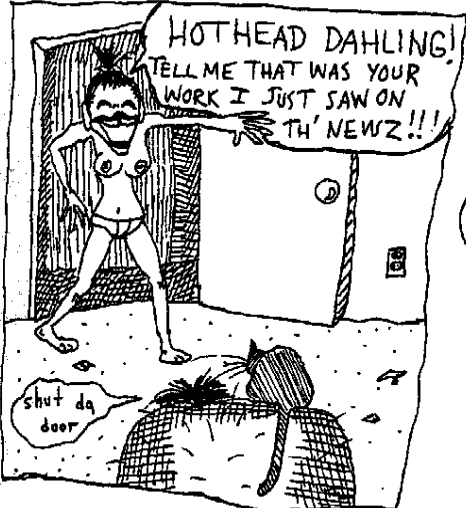
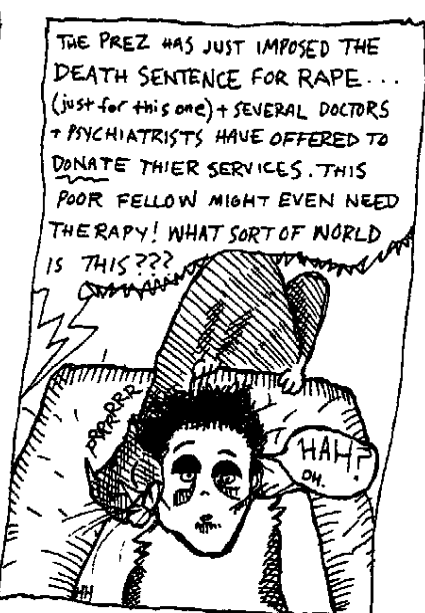
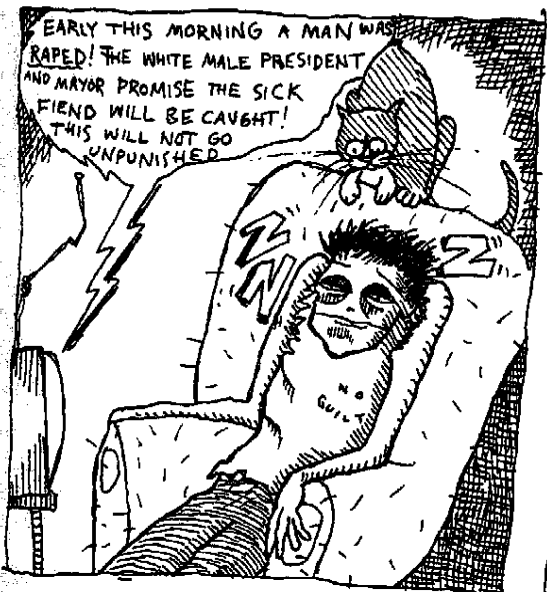
An' we wanna THANK you guys, Im glad I could return the FAVOR!

why so quiet, chum? I know, your life is finally complete + you're overwhelmed!!

well, TATA + TRALALA! Have a sparkling evening!!

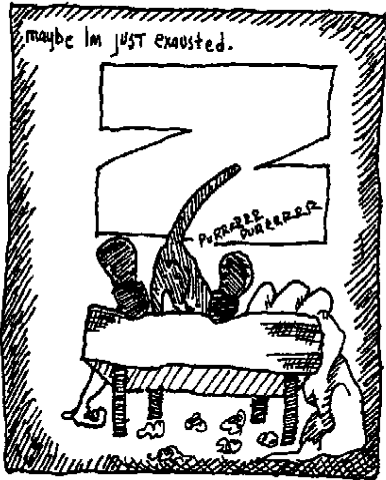


BOO HOO





IT WAS JUST the mandatory sex scene.  
 What's a matter? Was it too short? not violent enough? Does this mean we wont get a movie contract?



OH WOW! I JUST REMEMBERED I HAD THIS INSANE DREAM! OH god!! I WAS SLEEPIN' IN MY CHAIR AN' THIS MALE-IDENTIFIED FEM-BOT CAME IN....



AN' THEN I FUCKED HER BRAINS OUT WHILE NOT BEING ABLE TO DISCERN BETWEEN SEX and VIOLENCE (Just like a certain OTHER GENDER.)

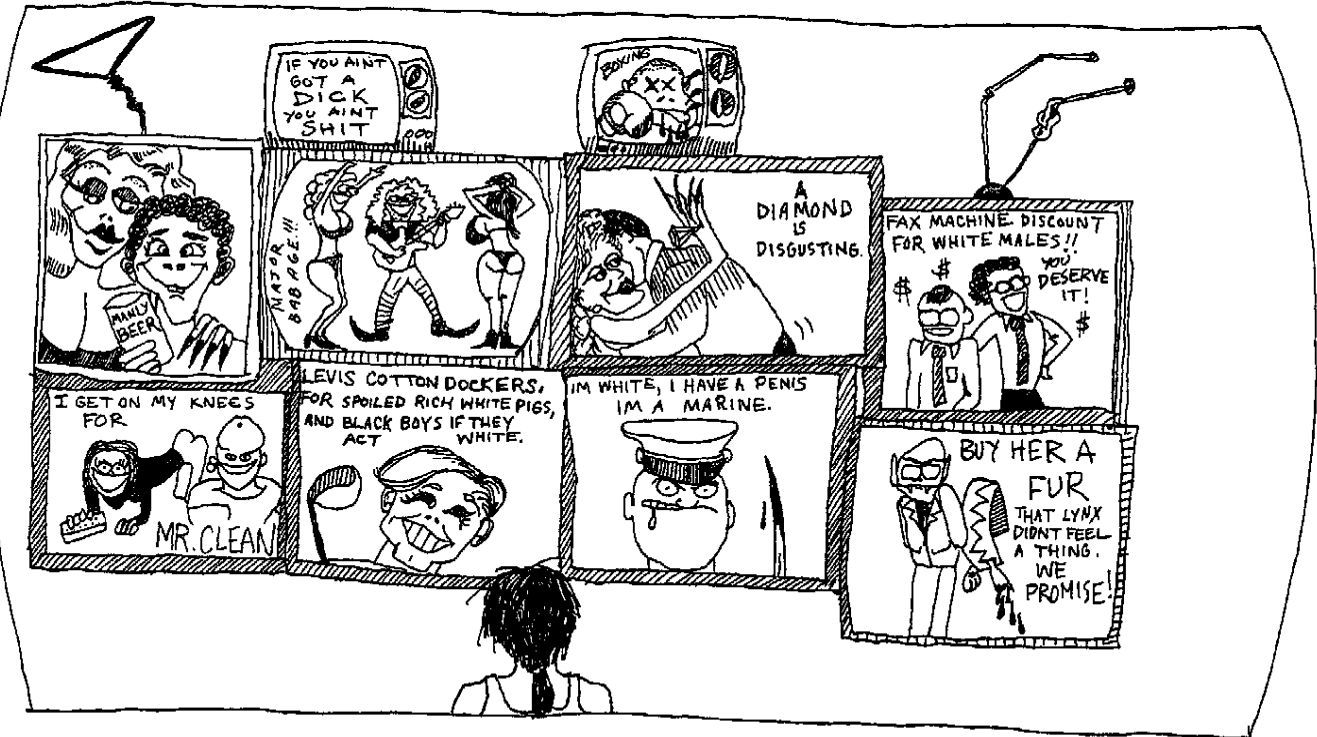
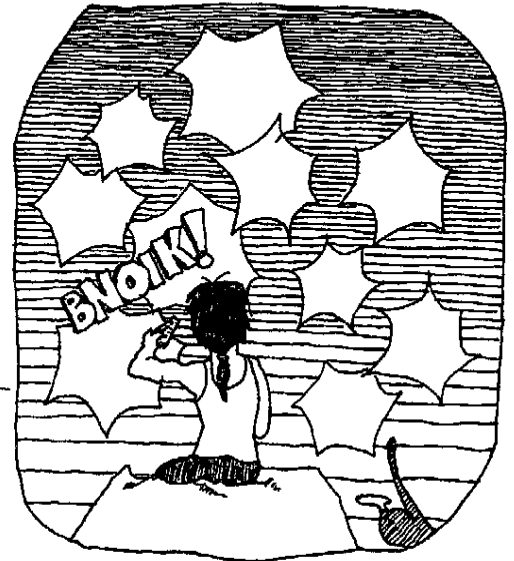
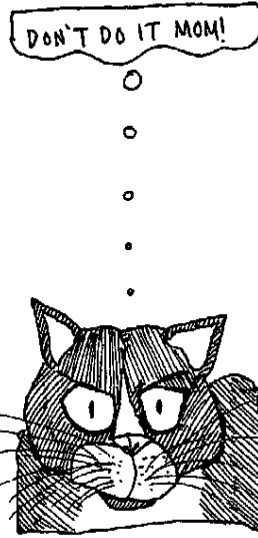


CHICKEN, WHAT'S THIS MEAN? I HATE 'EM AN' I LOVE KILLIN' 'EM BUT, um . . . . um, um shit, I lost it.\*



\* a fleeting but valid moment of clarity

BUT ALL IS SOON FORGOTTEN IN A LUXURIOUS BUBBLE BATH





OK...OK, WAIT!! I KNEW IT WAS LIKE THIS. I'M USED TO LIVING THIS WAY! I said I was stronger for it once, didn't I? (Do I really live this way?)



YOU CAN'T CONVINCE ME THAT YOU'RE USED TO BEING INVISIBLE, AN' THAT YOUR ENTIRE TRIBE LIVES UNDER SOME DICK'S BOOT HEEL!!!

THEY'RE MISOGYNISTS HOTHEAD,



THEY HATE YOU! THEY RUN THE WORLD. THEY FIGHT DIRTY. THEY HOG EVERYTHING! THEY THINK YOU'RE SHIT! THEY'LL RAPE + KILL YOU IF YA DON'T WATCH IT! THEY WON'T LET ANYONE ELSE PLAY!! THEY

REALLY BELIEVE THEY'RE BETTER!!!



