



5
AUG.
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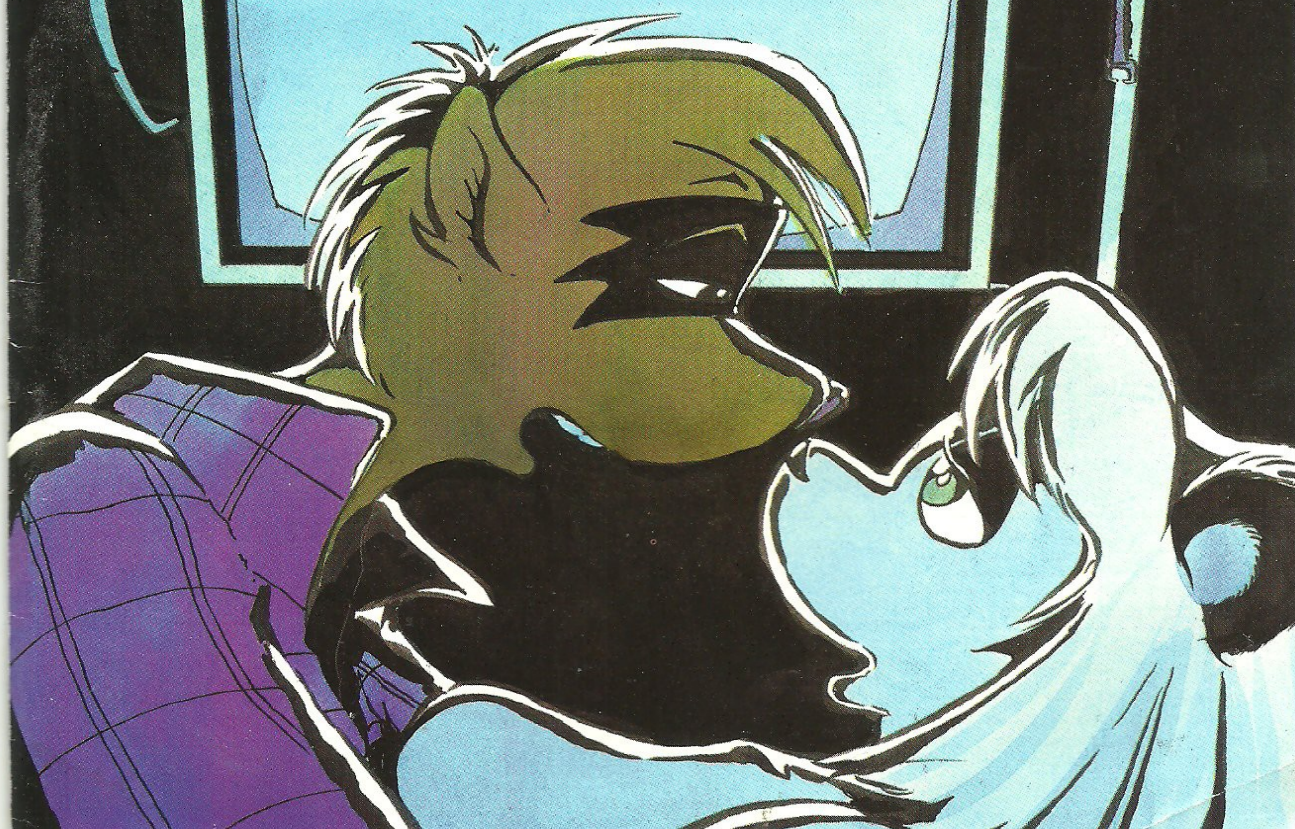
\$3.85
Can.

ANTHROPOMORPHIC

Shanda

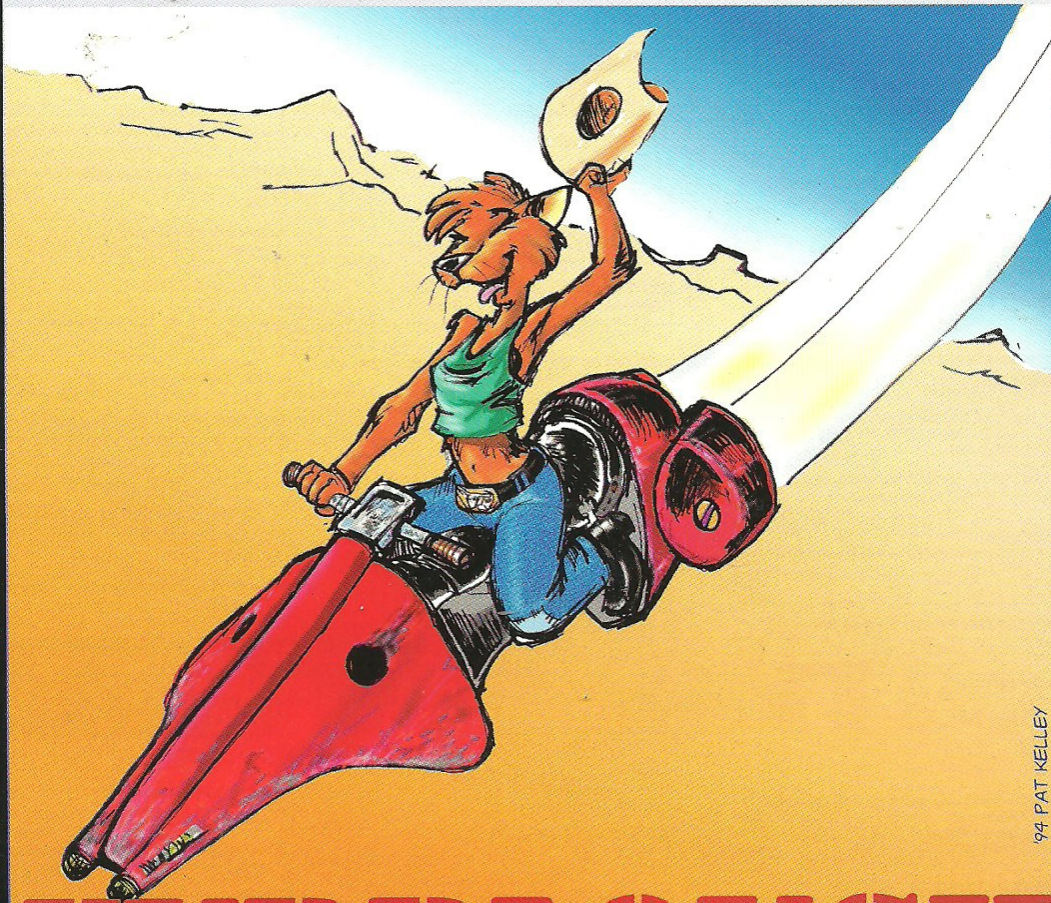
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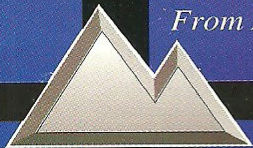


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* signifies an adult title.

ANTARCTIC

AUGUST 1994

BLAST



ABSOLUTE ZERO by Herb Mallette

Nine and a half years ago, Antarctic Press produced its first anthology title, *Mangazine*. The book has undergone many changes since then: different sizes, different cover stock, different interior paper, different page counts, changes from bimonthly to quarterly back to bimonthly to monthly publishing status . . . and finally, the addition and growing importance of the anime section. Throughout all of this change, though, *Mangazine* has remained a proving ground for new creators. By providing a forum for untried artists, the book allowed us to take chances we couldn't otherwise have afforded. Often, these chances have paid off, leading to full series like Joe Wight's *Twilight X* and Fred Perry's *Gold Digger*.

But in the near future, probably by *Mangazine* #36 or 37, that's going to change. The comics section, which has dwindled to a bare third of the book, will disappear, making room for more of the articles and reviews that have become the heart of the publication.

If I wanted to wallow in melancholy wistfulness, I might say it marks the end of an era, that things will never quite be the same, or that all steps into the future require the abandonment of something from the past.

The truth is, though, that we're lopping an extra thumb off the book, and it will

probably work lots better without it.

So where does that leave all the aspiring new artists who previously looked, starry-eyed, to *Mangazine* with all their hopes of being published, of getting that foot in the comics industry's door? Are we leaving them completely out in the cold? Well, in a manner of speaking, we are.

Absolute Zero is the coldest possible temperature, the temperature at which all subatomic motion comes to a halt. It's also the name of Antarctic's new anthology title, set to debut late this year or early next. We chose the name because it's in keeping with our general south pole motif, it has a nice ring of magnitude to it . . . and it will make any hostile critics happy because it's sort of like painting a big target on our chests.

The book is now open for submissions — any and all genres are accepted, so long as they don't require an "adults only" label. It will be a big book — 48 pages — so there will be lots of room for fresh new talent. We're pretty excited about it. We hope you will be too.

☒ CHECK OUT ANTARCTIC PRESS' other releases

Release dates subject to change.

- ☐ **Tomorrow Man & Knight Hunter:**
Last Rites #1 • 32 pages • by Bobee Padilla & Joe Weltjens • \$2.75.
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- ☐ **Mangazine #13 relist** • 32 pages • \$2.95
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MORE FINEPRINT BY PAT DUKE

I've been getting a lot of requests for information regarding submitting computer generated art. So, for next month I'll run down some of the basics of how we color our covers on the computer. Even if you aren't an artist, the process we use is quite interesting, so stick around - you might learn something!

Now for the list of the people who won cool stuff in the Gold Digger "Strike it Rich" Contest! The grand prize winner was Jon Bezner of Waterford, Michigan! He takes home one cool ounce of gold! Congratulations Jon! Other big prize winners include Velton Kyle Baker II of Fort Sill, Oklahoma, who should find some original Gold Digger art in his mailbox any day now!

Winners of the signed Gold Editions are:

Martin Finch of Victoria, Australia
Alan Daniels of Richardson, Texas
Andrew Tucker of Devizes Wiltshire, United Kingdom
Bryan Feir of Toronto, Canada
Scott Johnson of Castle Rock, Colorado
Caleb Morris of Gulf Port, Mississippi
Dave Denman of Centralia, Washington
Edward Maxwell of Crawfordsville, Indiana
Timothy Berry of Anchorage, Alaska
Vince D'Amelio of MT View, California
Gregory Nace of York, Pennsylvania
Steven Thesken of Irvine, California

Winners of the 6-month subscriptions are:

Chuck Blades Jr. of Converse, Texas
Karl P. Madsen of Poway, California
Chris Chiasson of Ottawa, Canada

Alfredo Nava of McAllen, Texas
Michael L. Bowen of Sierra Vista, Arizona
Eric Grundmann of Dallas, Texas
Kelly B. Oaks of Long Beach, California
Bill Noppi of North Royalton, Ohio
Gregory L. Bolton of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Chris Adkins of Jackson, South Carolina
Steve Thesken of Irvine, California
Brian Brown of Vineland, New Jersey
Jason Gaffney of Cabbage Tree Point, Australia
William P. Beard of San Diego, California
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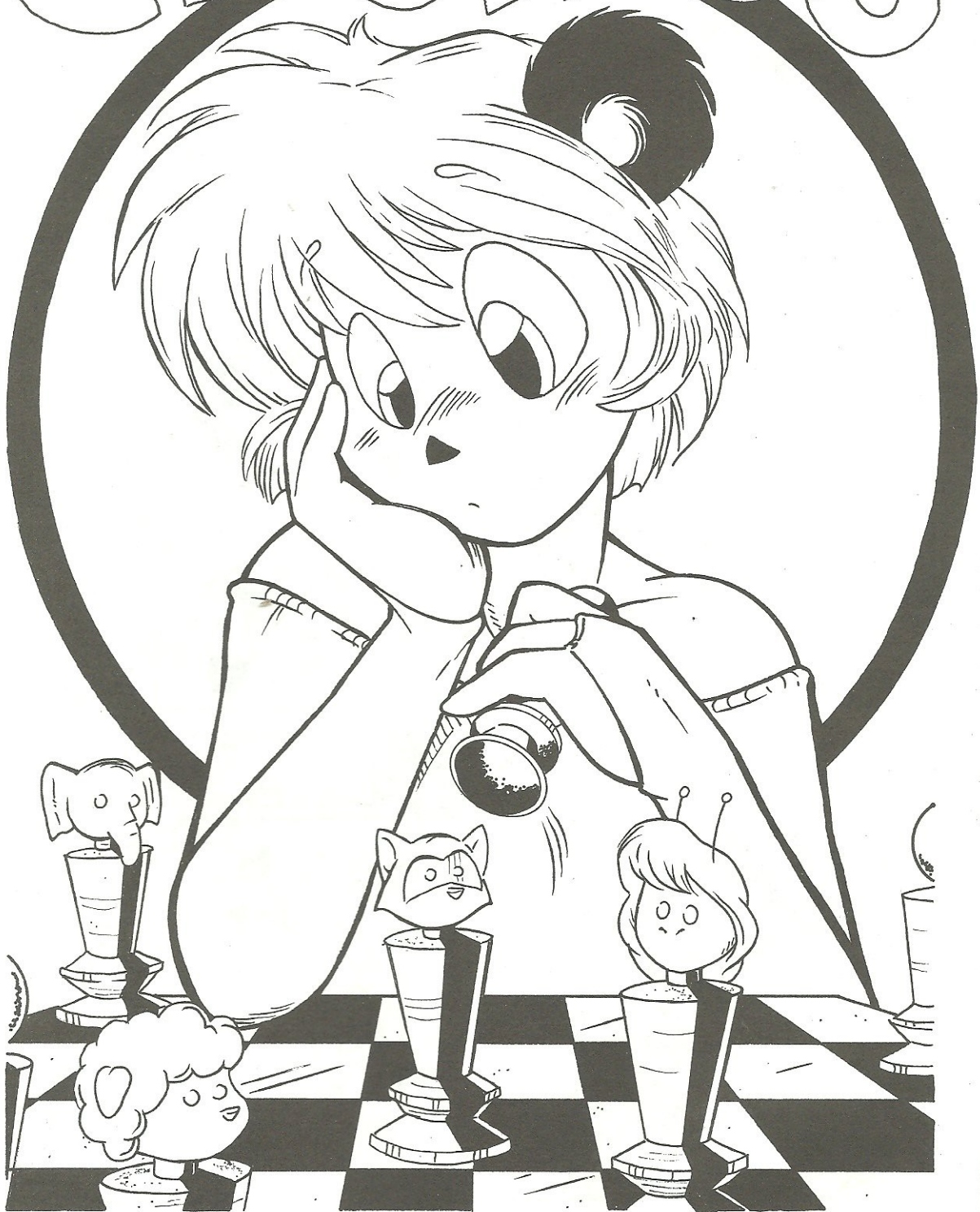
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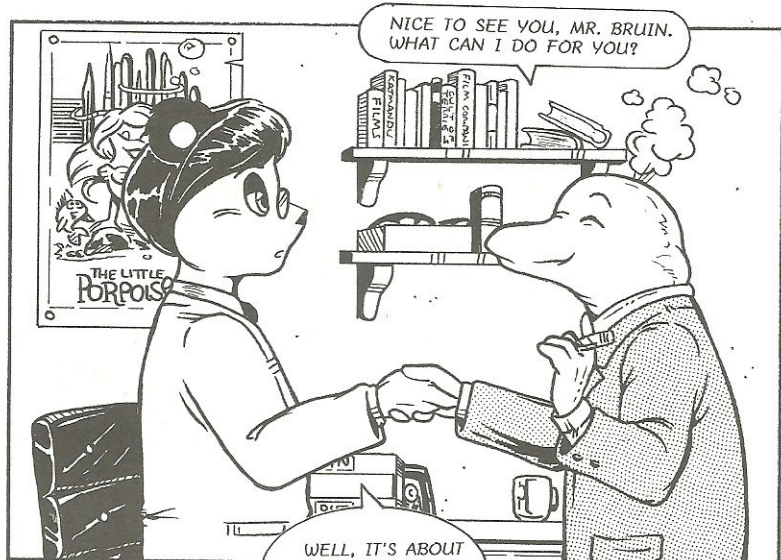
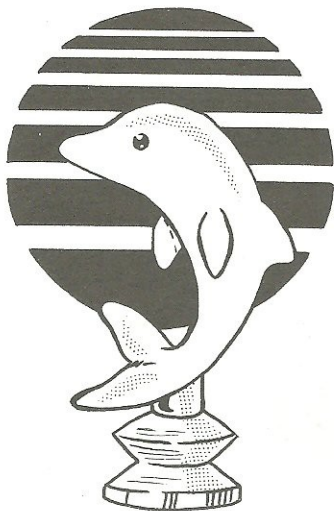
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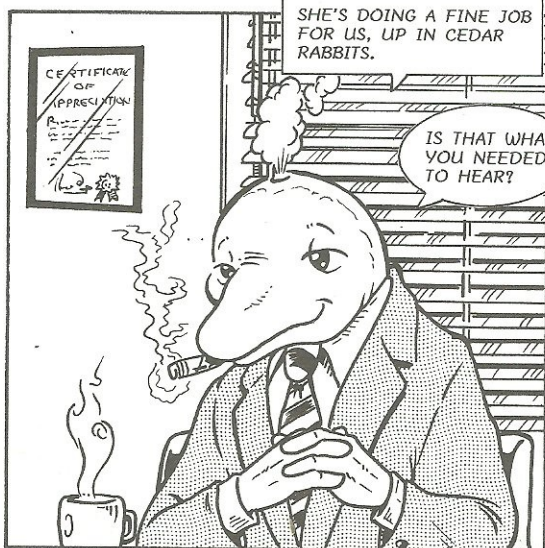
STORY BY MIKE CURTIS • ART BY MICHELE LIGHT • INKS BY MARK BARNARD



NICE TO SEE YOU, MR. BRUIN.
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

WELL, IT'S ABOUT
MY DAUGHTER,
SHANDA, MR.
BECKER...

AHH -- WE DIDN'T PART ON
THE BEST OF TERMS. I HAD
MADE OVERTURES TOWARDS
HER MEETING A MALE PANDA.



SHE'S DOING A FINE JOB
FOR US, UP IN CEDAR
RABBITS.

IS THAT WHAT
YOU NEEDED
TO HEAR?

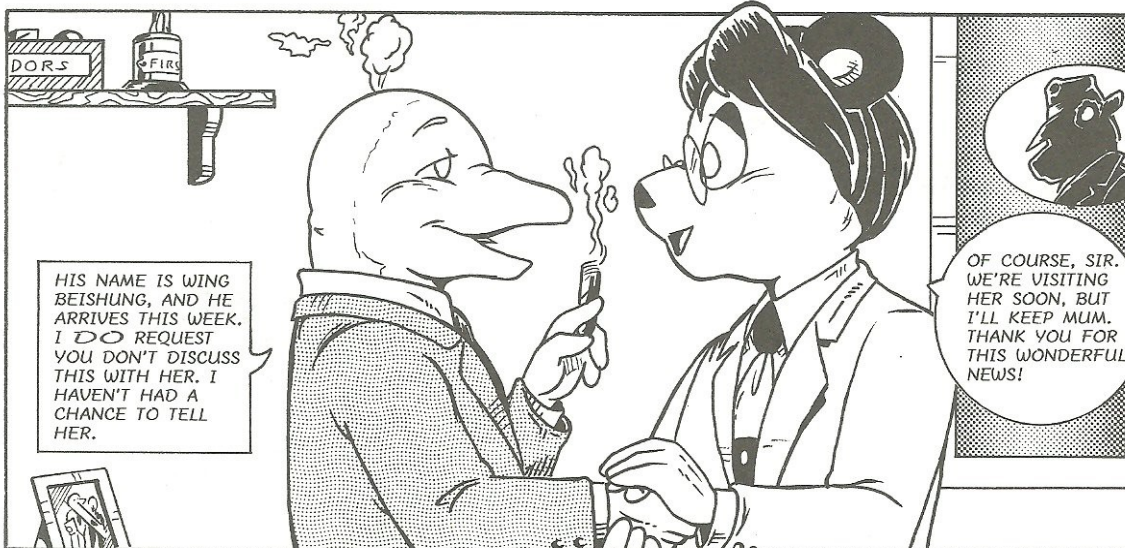
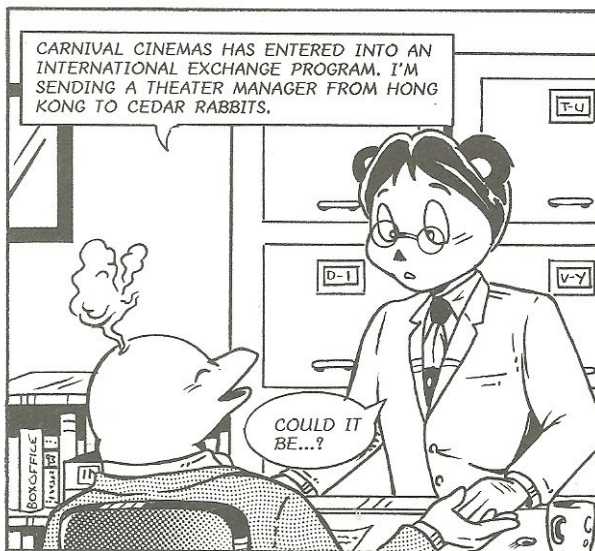


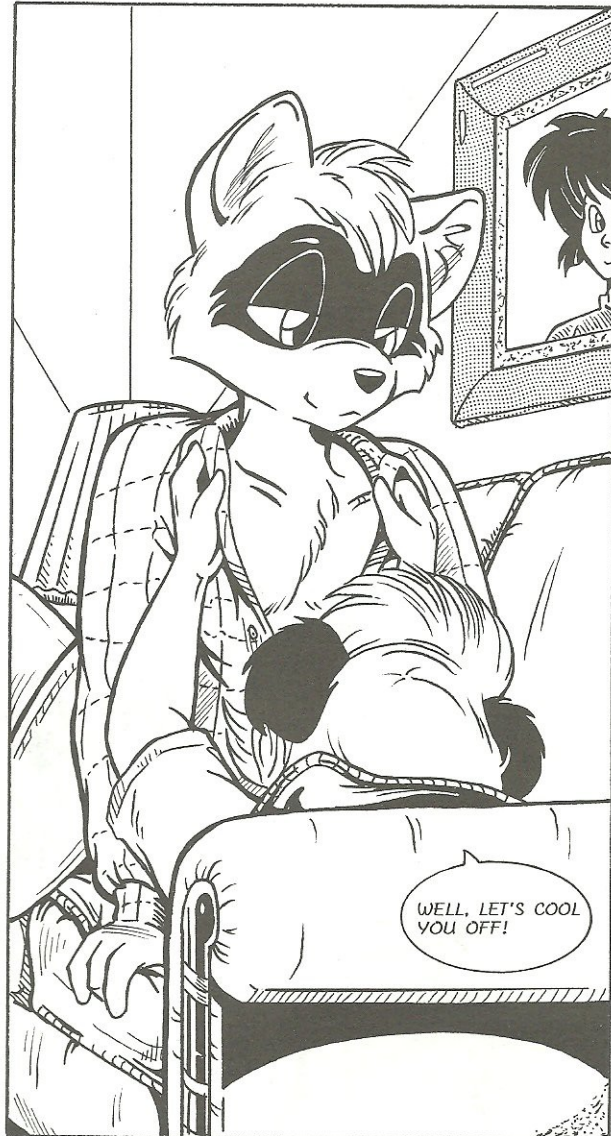
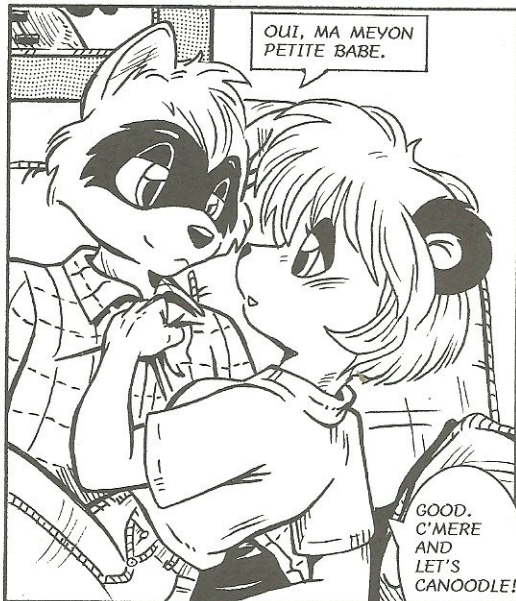
IS BEING SPECIES
EXCLUSIVE THAT
IMPORTANT TO
YOU?

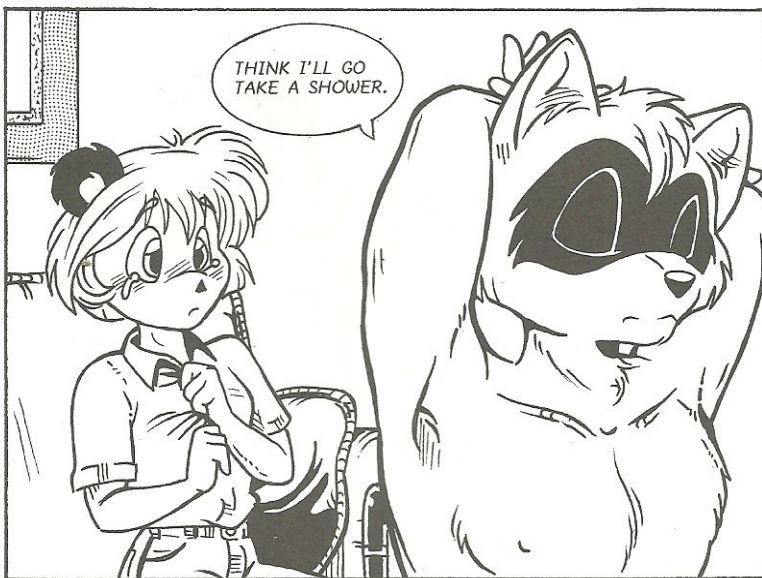
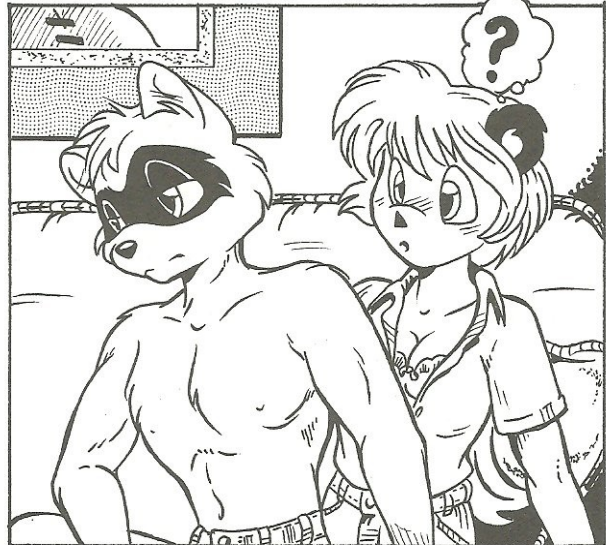
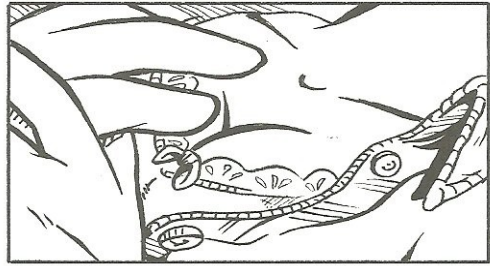
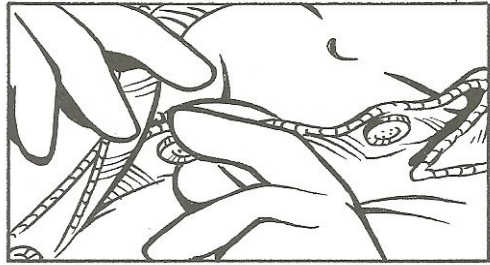
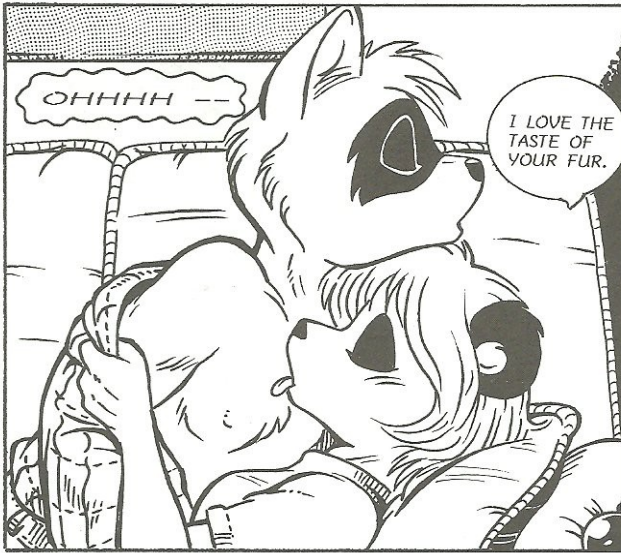


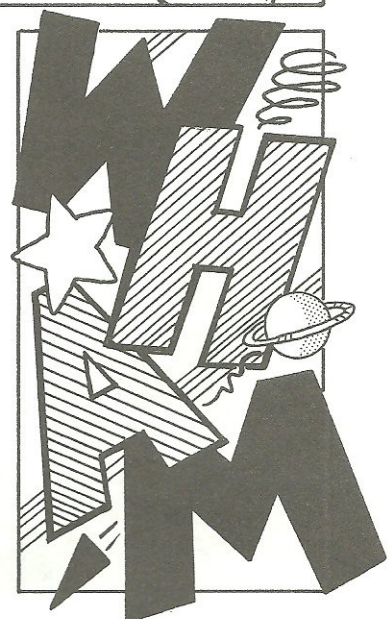
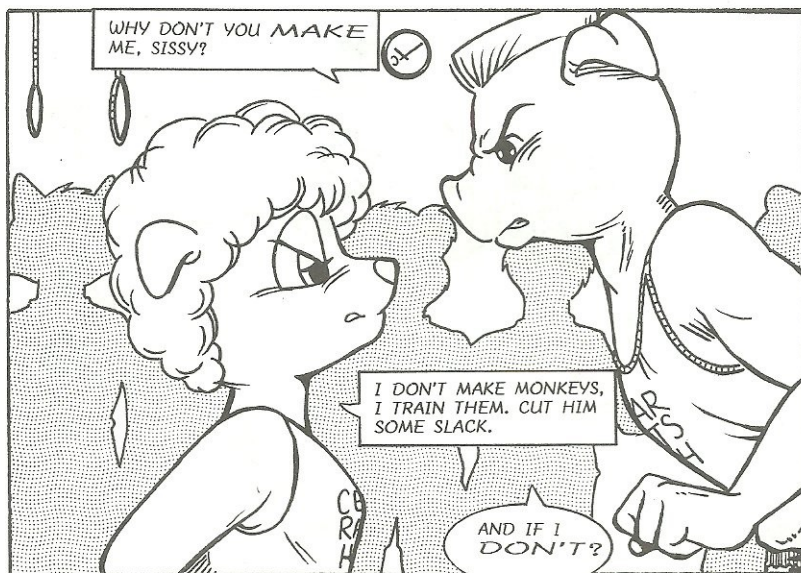
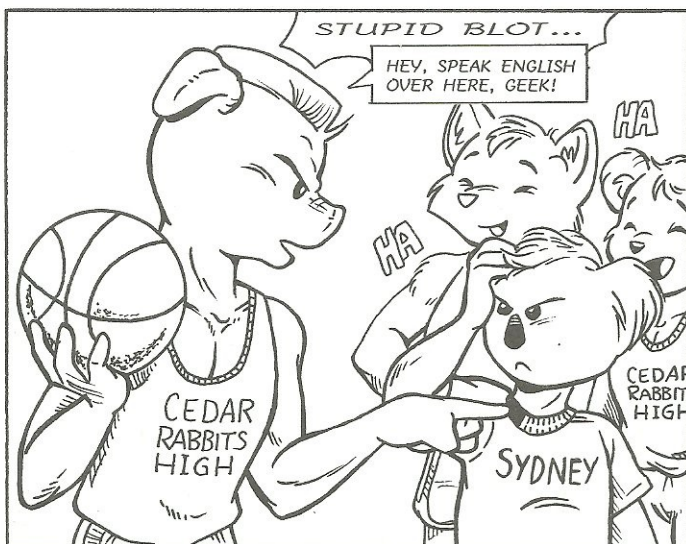
WELL, I SEARCHED A LONG TIME FOR
MY WIFE. I'D LIKE SHANDA TO
EVENTUALLY MARRY A PANDA. OF
COURSE, MEETING ONE IS
THE HARD PART.

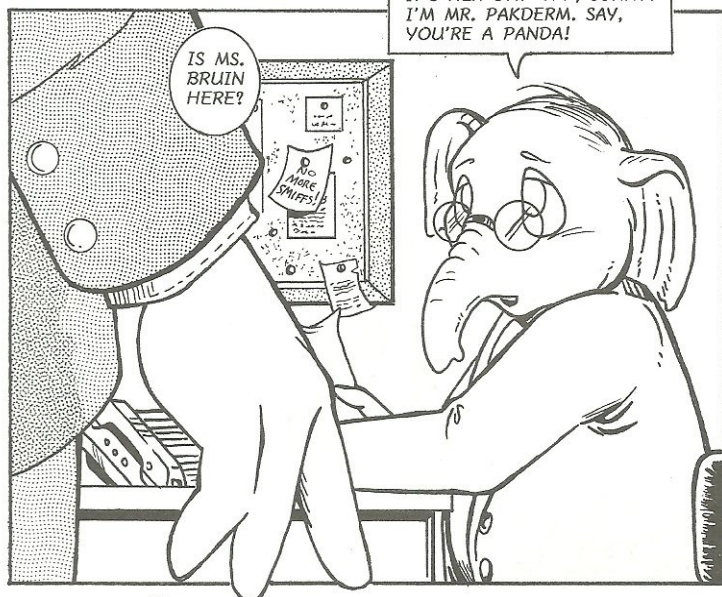
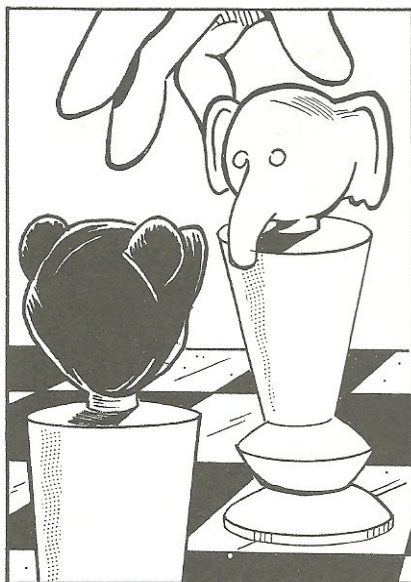
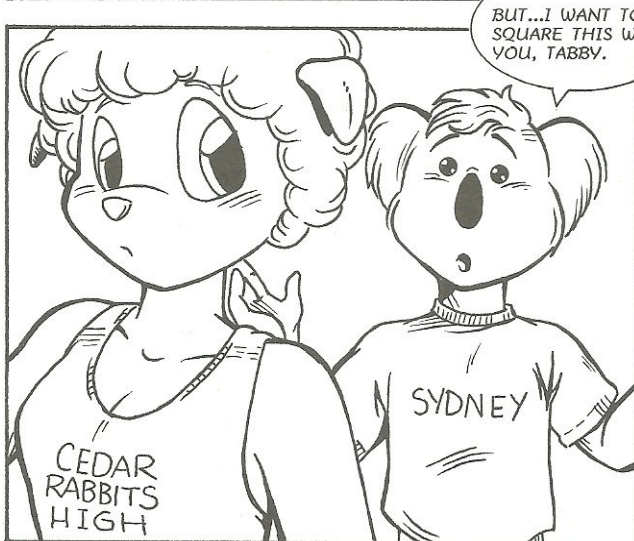
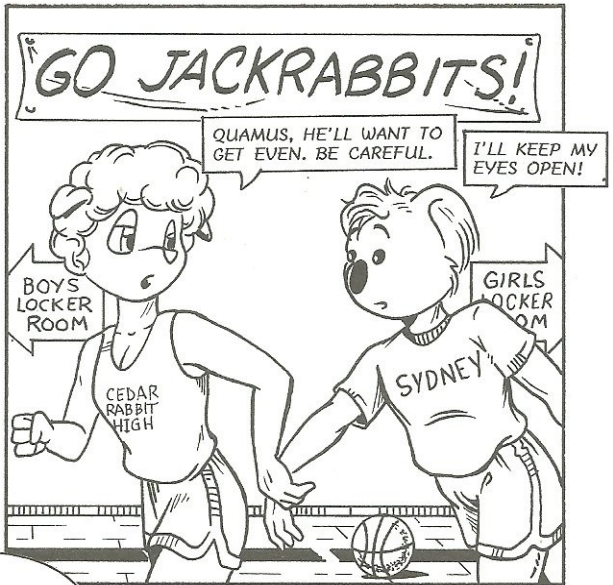
IN THAT CASE, I
HAVE A PLEASANT
SURPRISE.

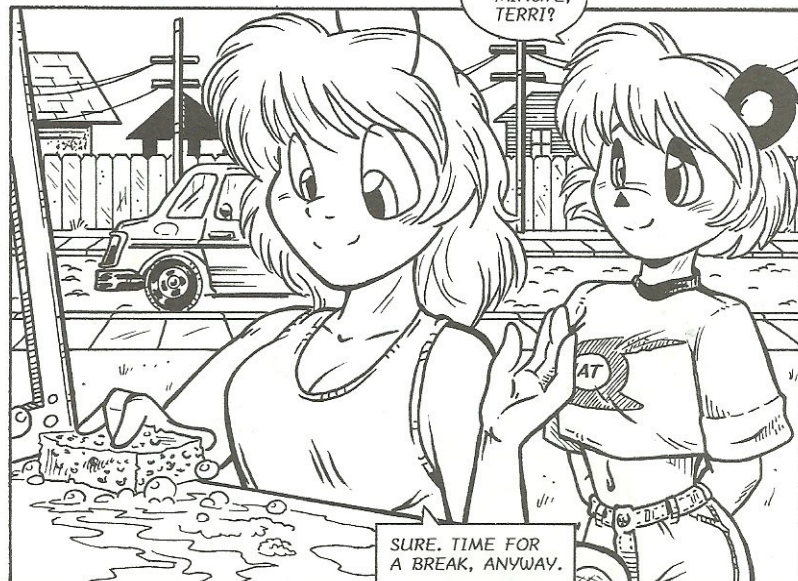
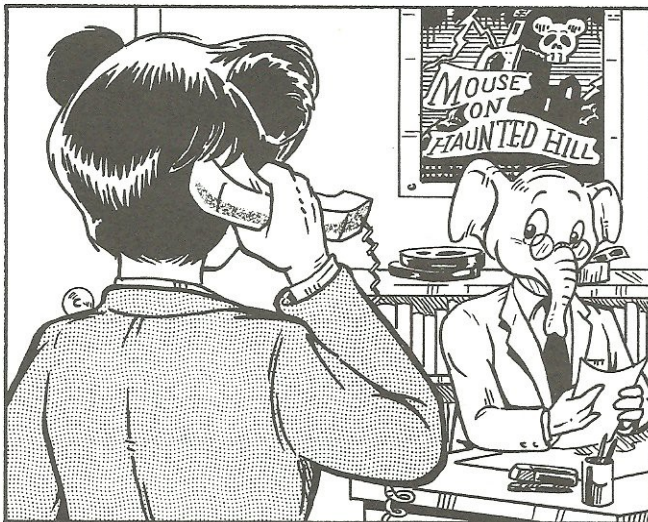
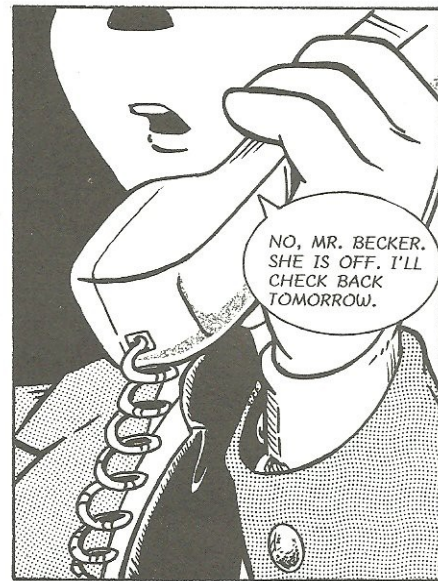
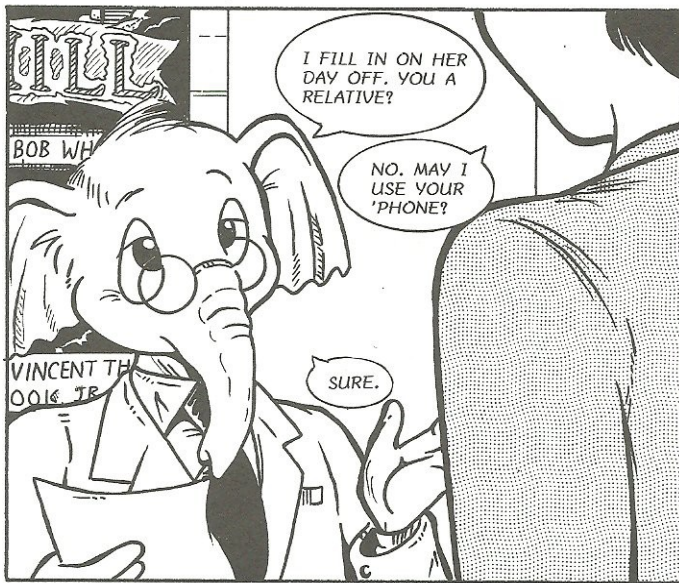


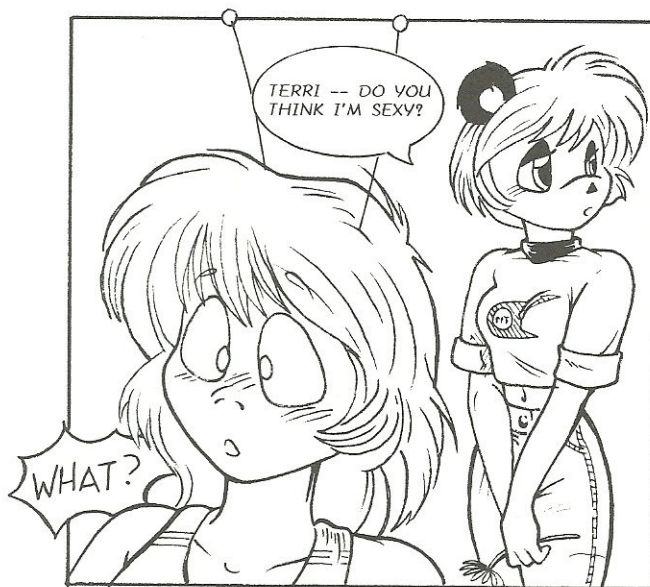




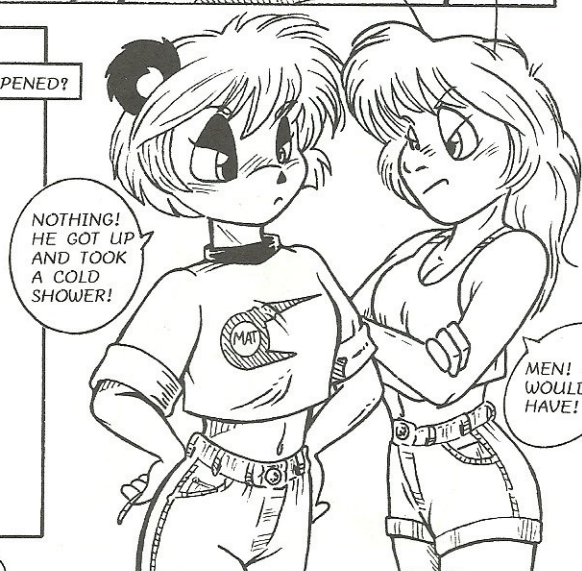
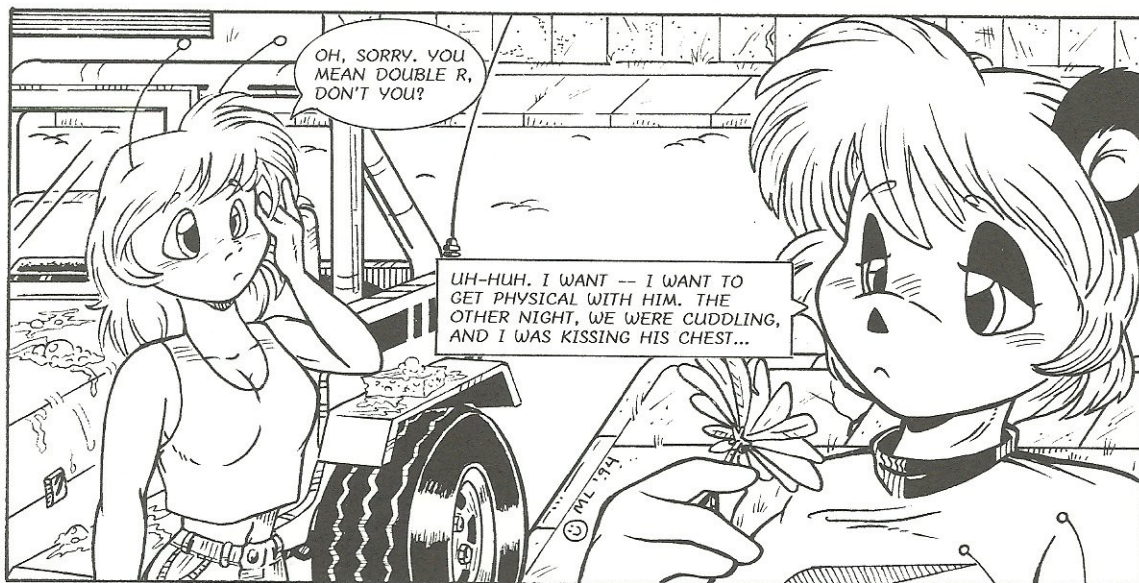


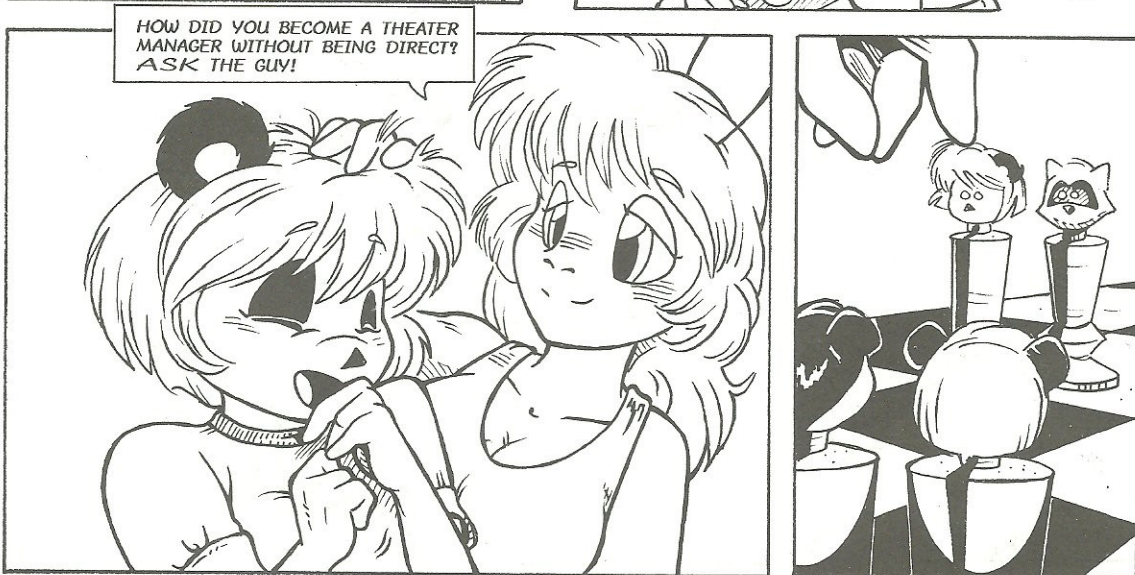
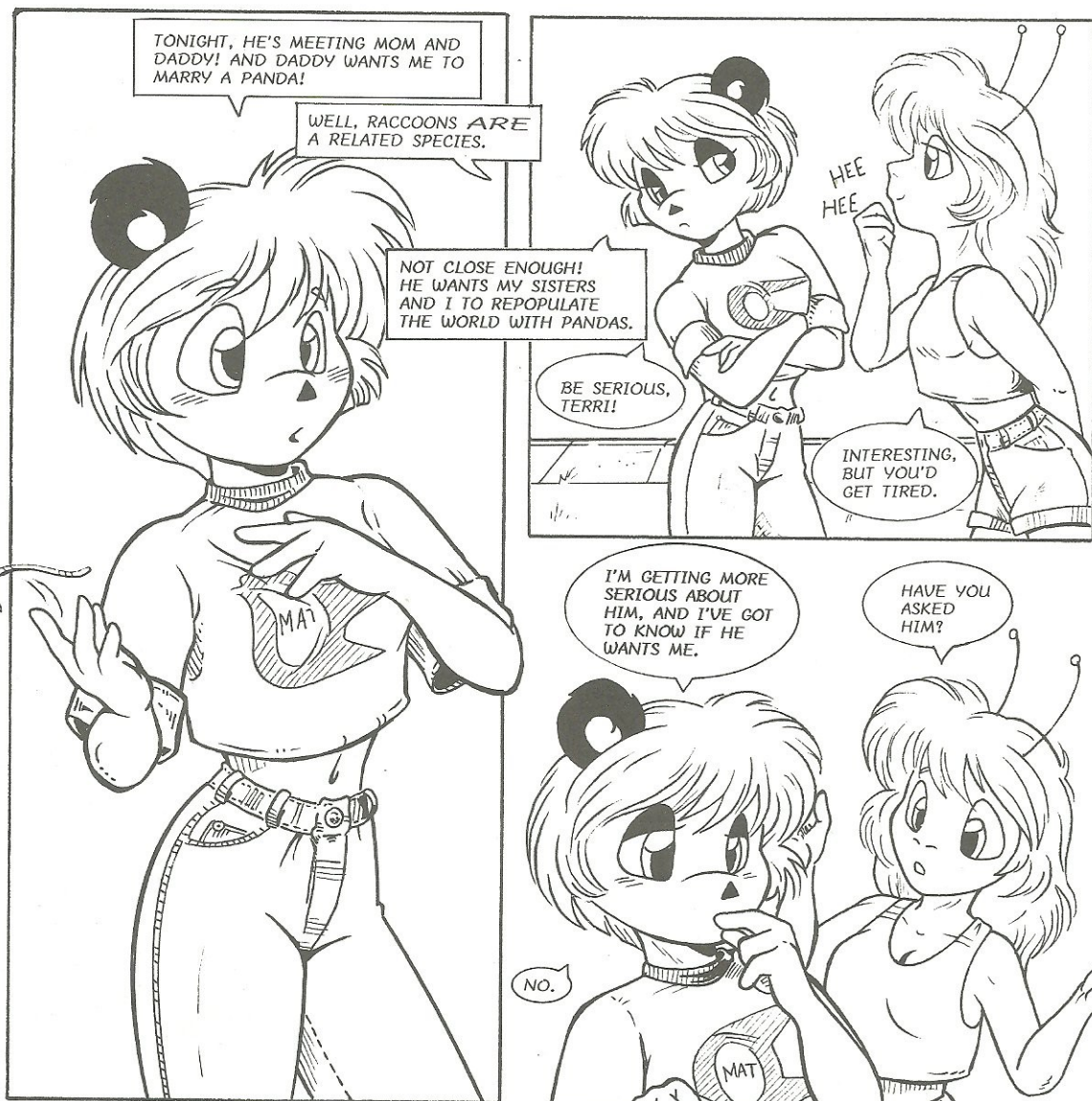


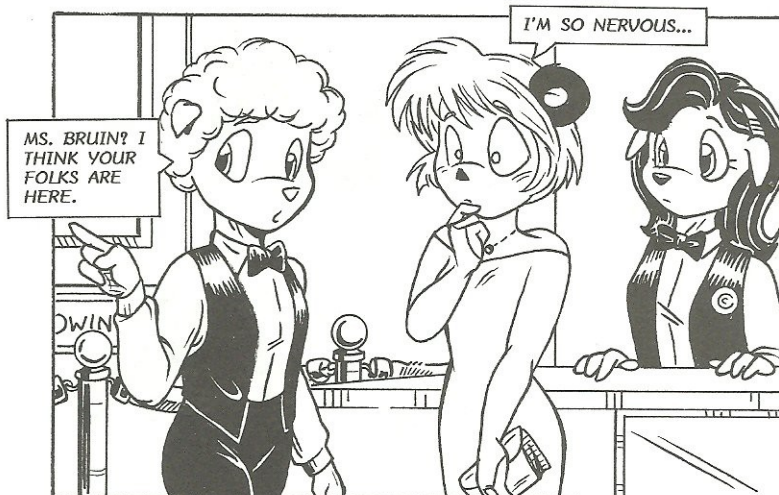




SHANDA, I JUST WENT THROUGH ONE OF THE MOST TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCES OF MY LIFE OVER THIS. YEAH, YOU'RE SEXY! SO?

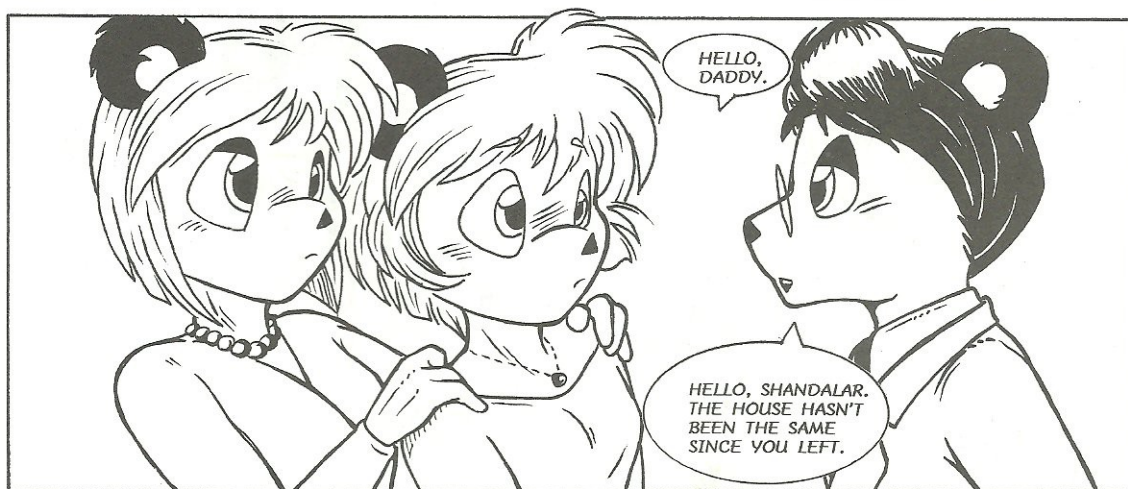


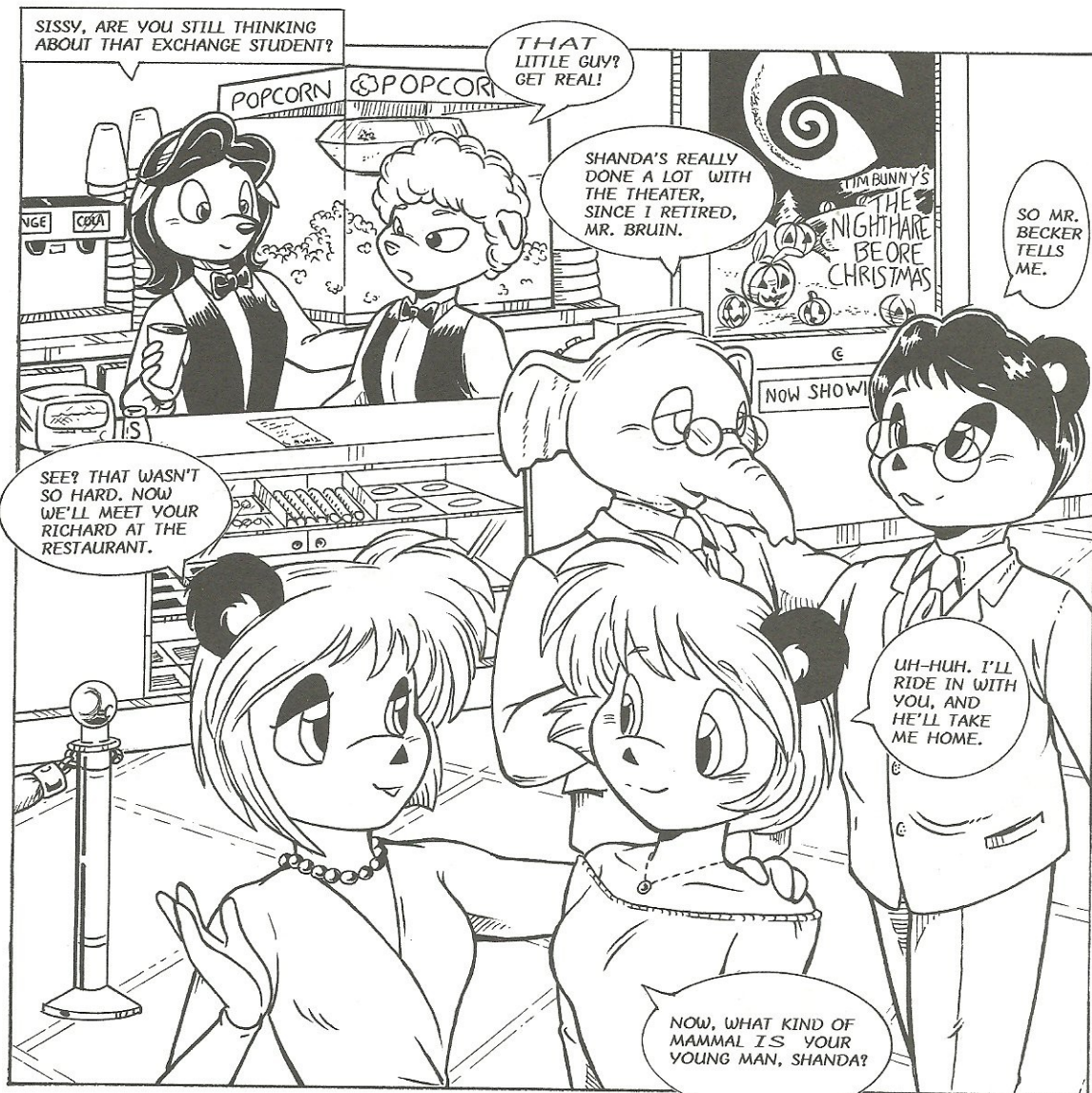


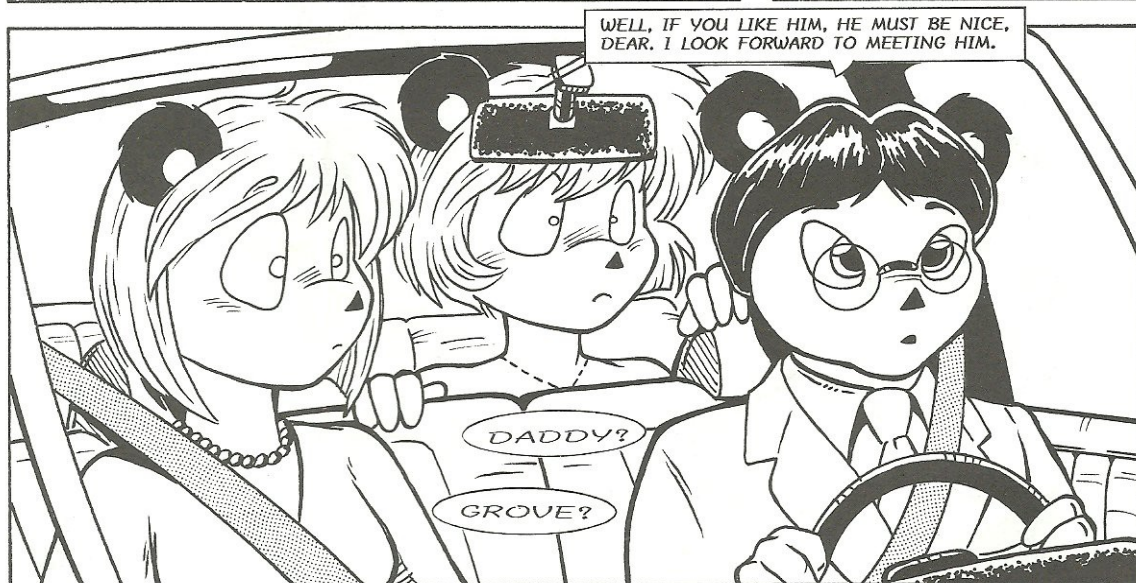
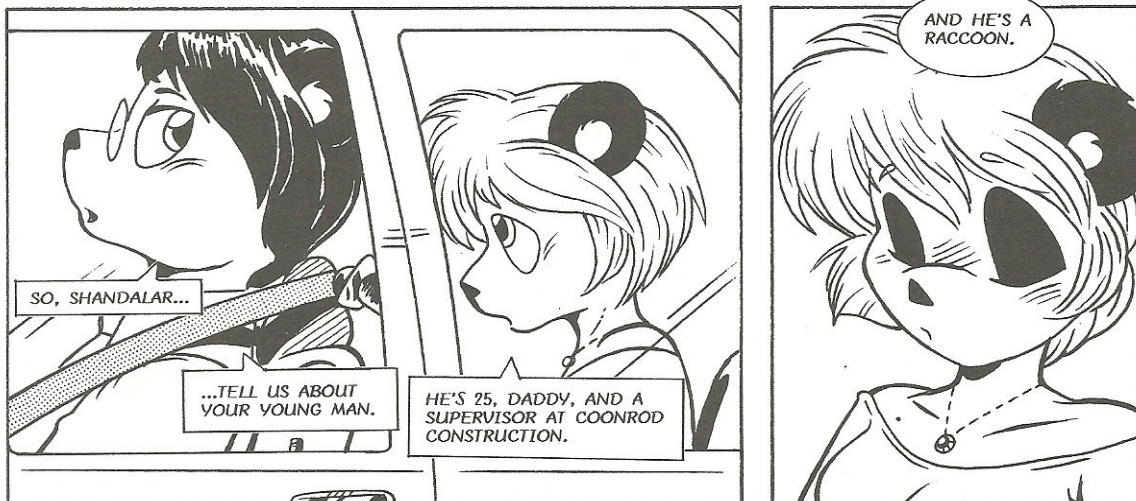
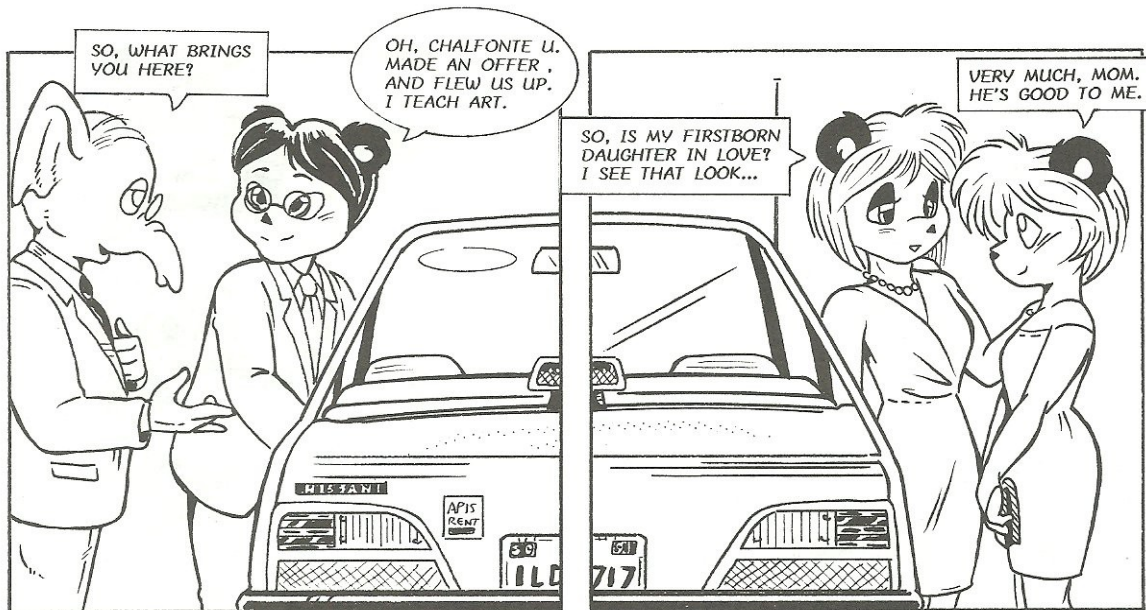


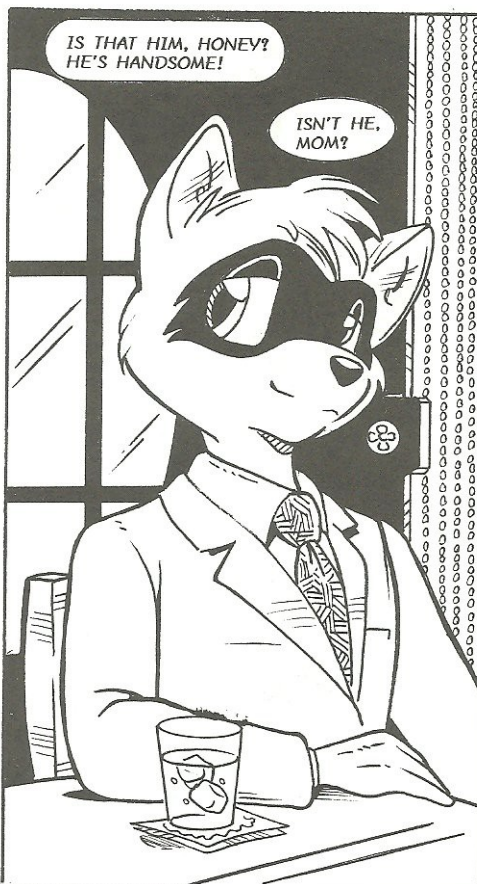
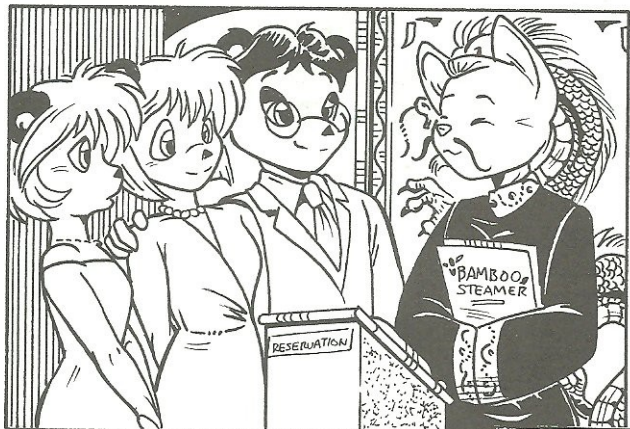
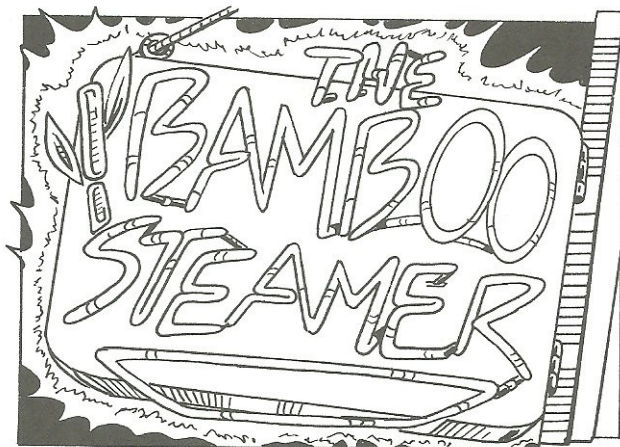
SHANDA, THINGS WILL BE DIFFERENT. I'VE TALKED TO YOUR FATHER. HE SAW MR. BECKER, WHO TOLD HIM ABOUT YOUR GOOD WORK HERE.

ALL RIGHT, MOM.







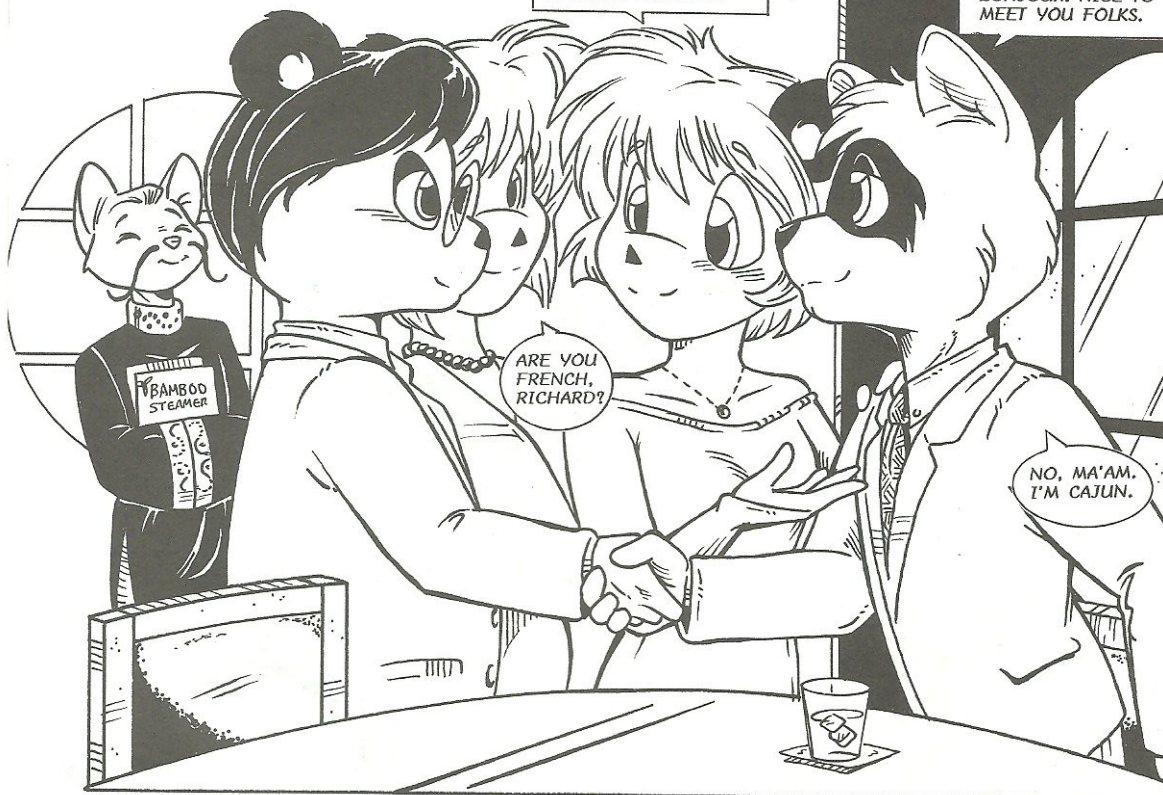


IS THAT HIM, HONEY?
HE'S HANDSOME!

ISN'T HE,
MOM?

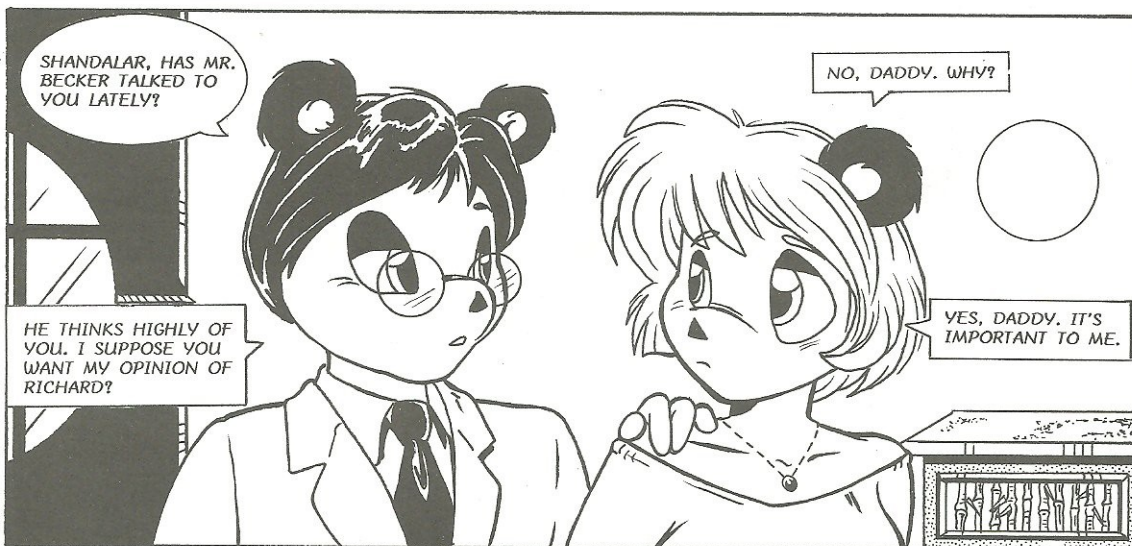
MOM, DADDY, THIS IS
RICHARD SABATIER.

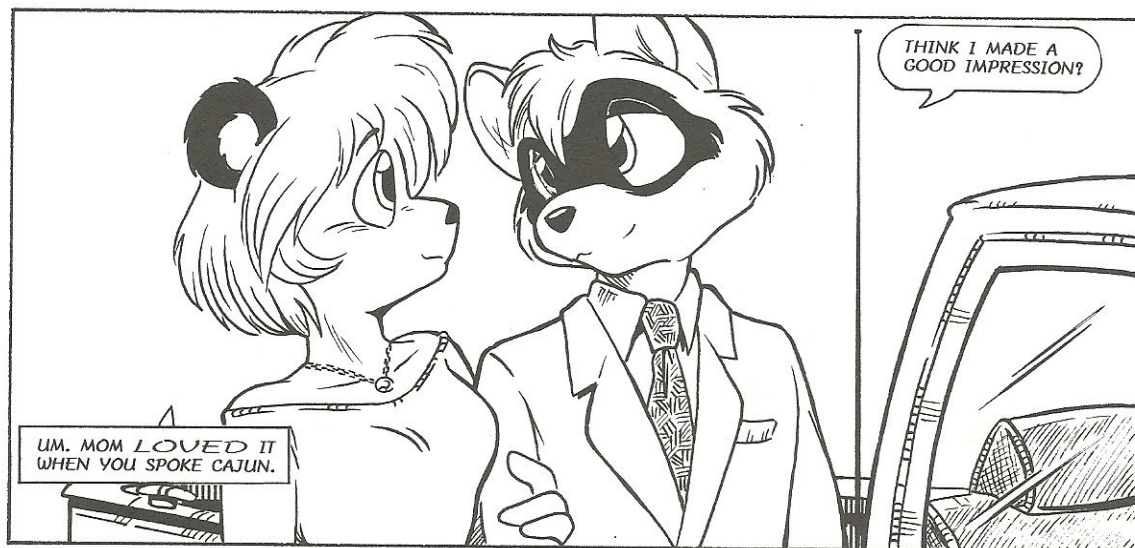
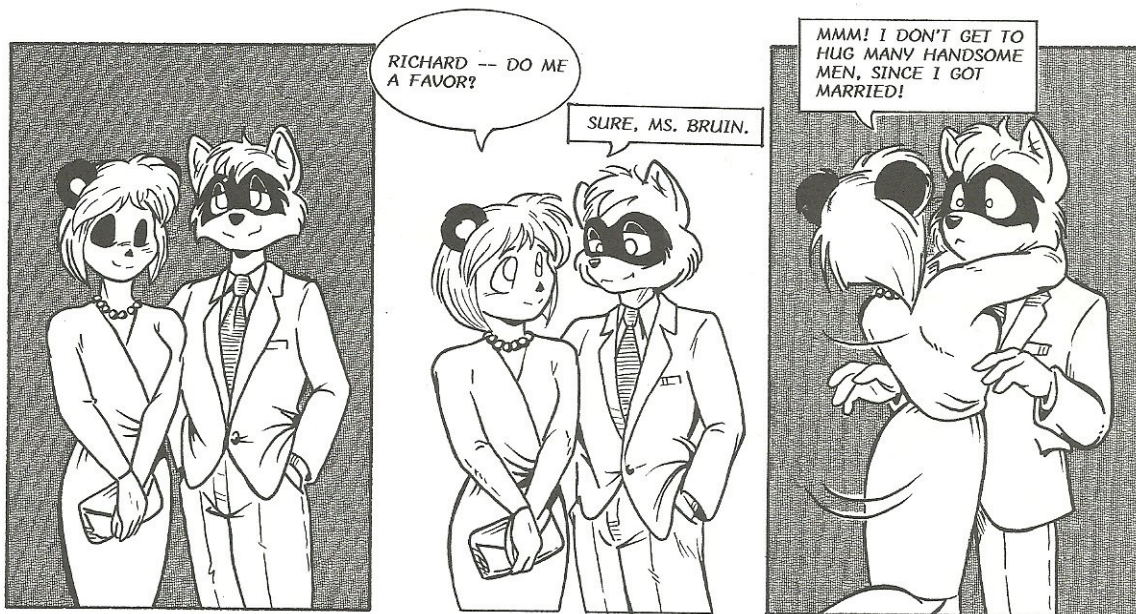
BONJOUR. NICE TO
MEET YOU FOLKS.

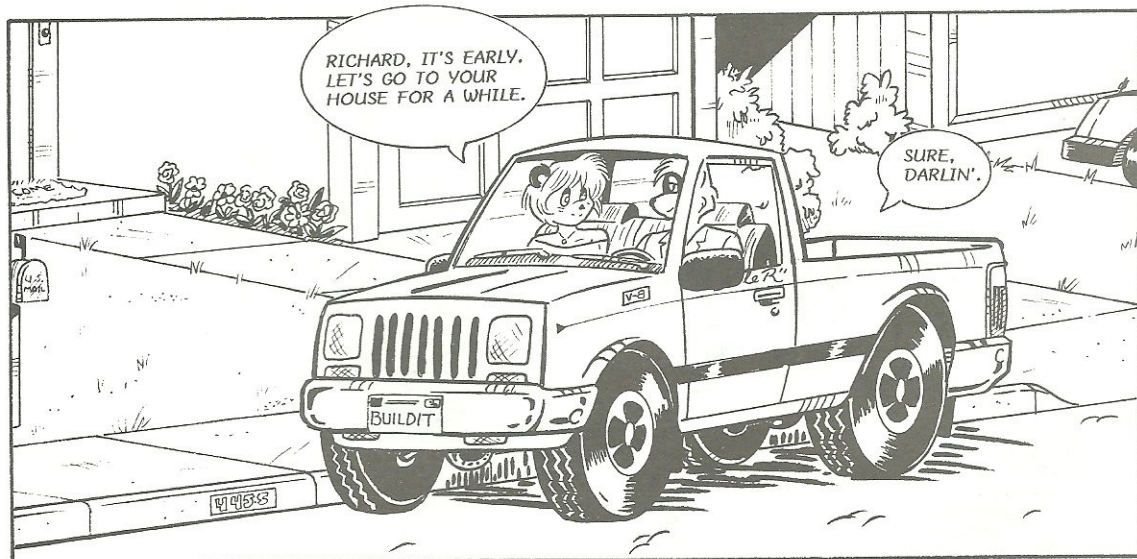
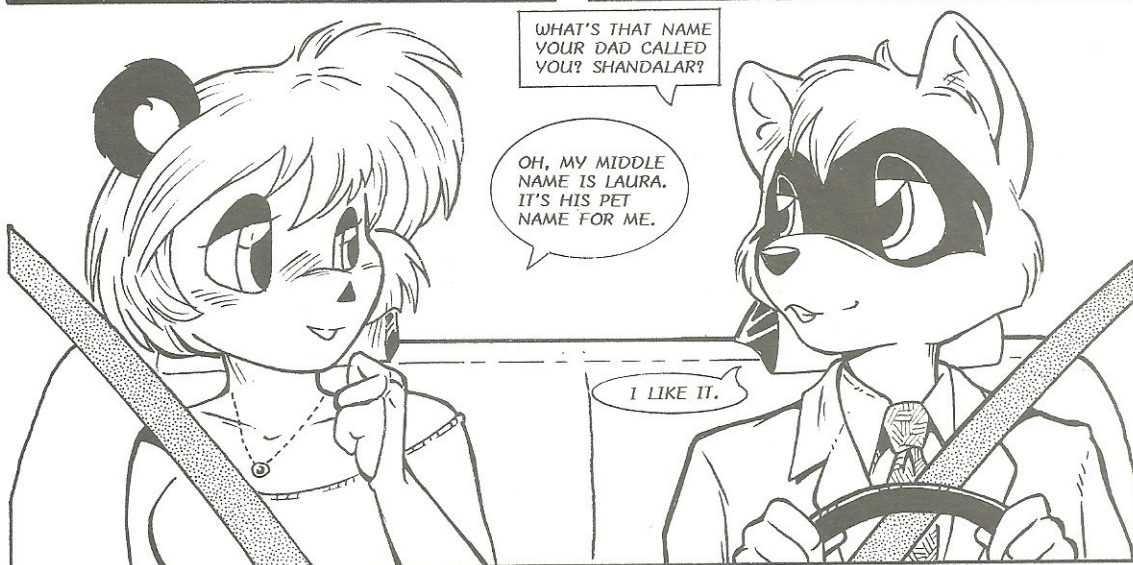
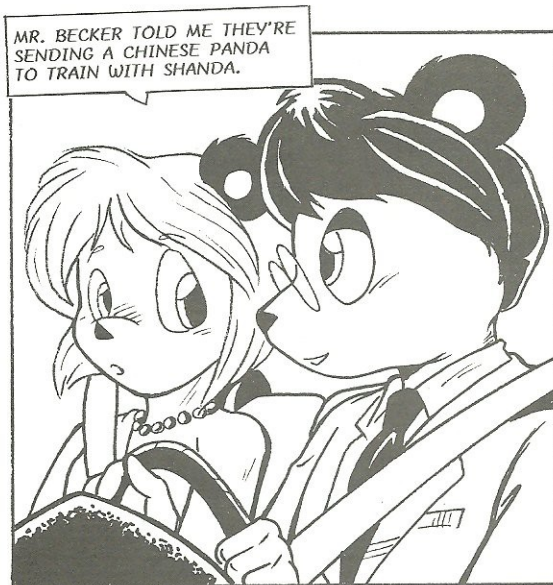


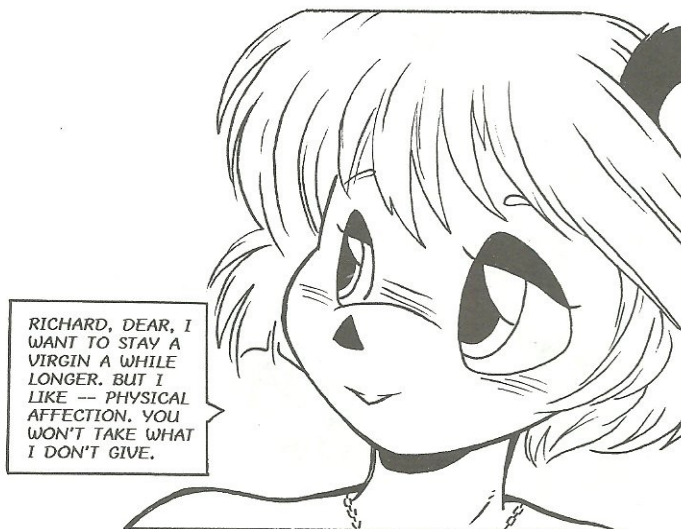
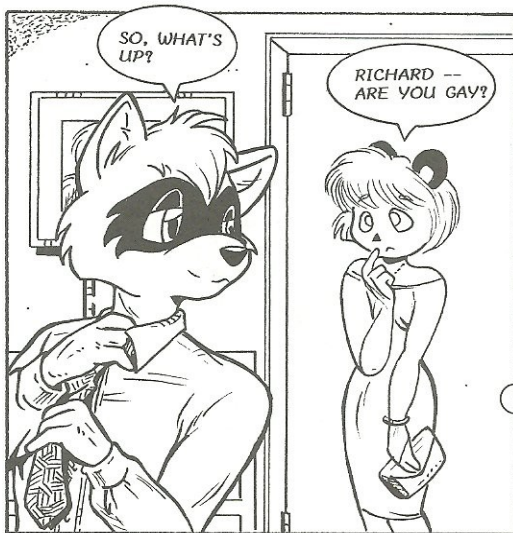
ARE YOU
FRENCH,
RICHARD?

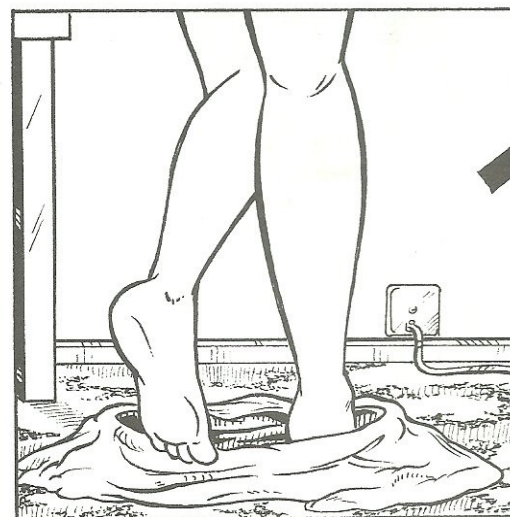
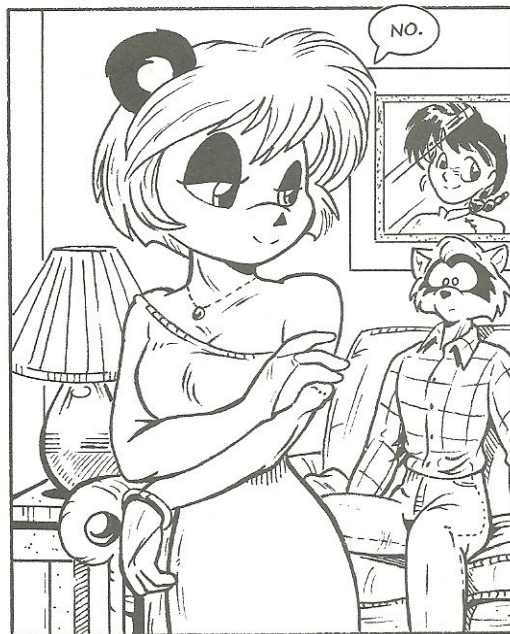
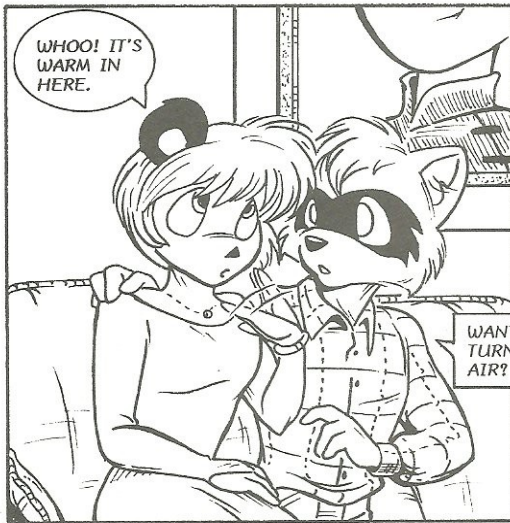
NO, MA'AM.
I'M CAJUN.

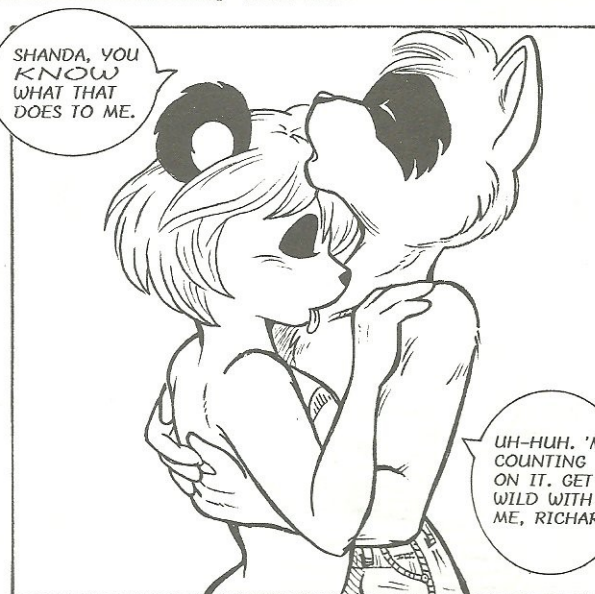
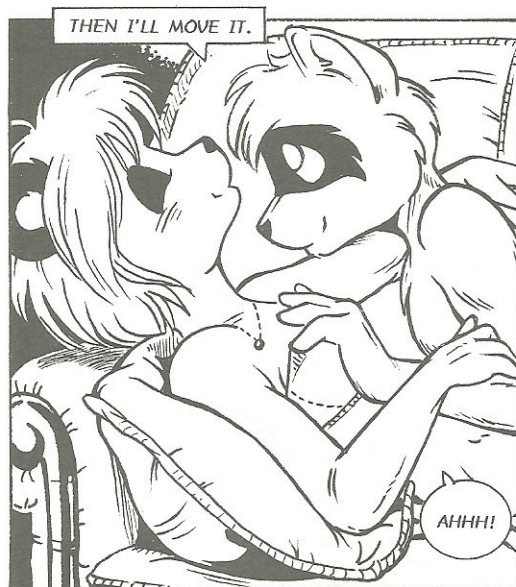


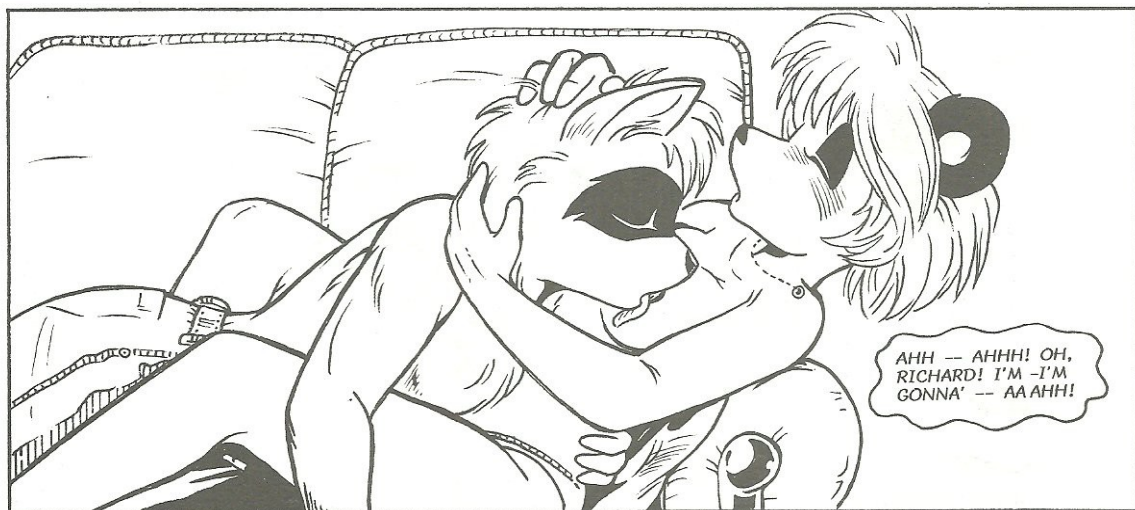
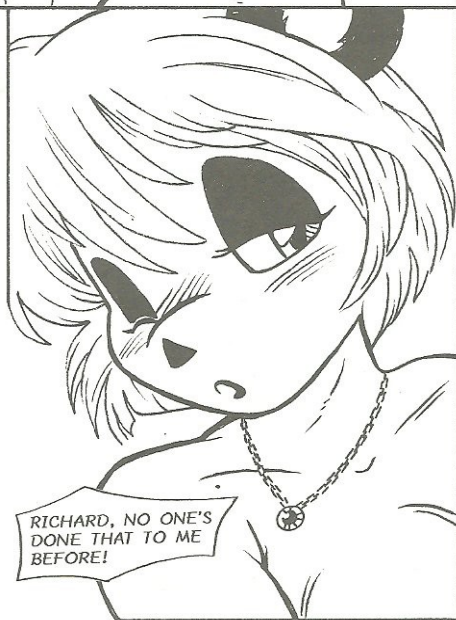
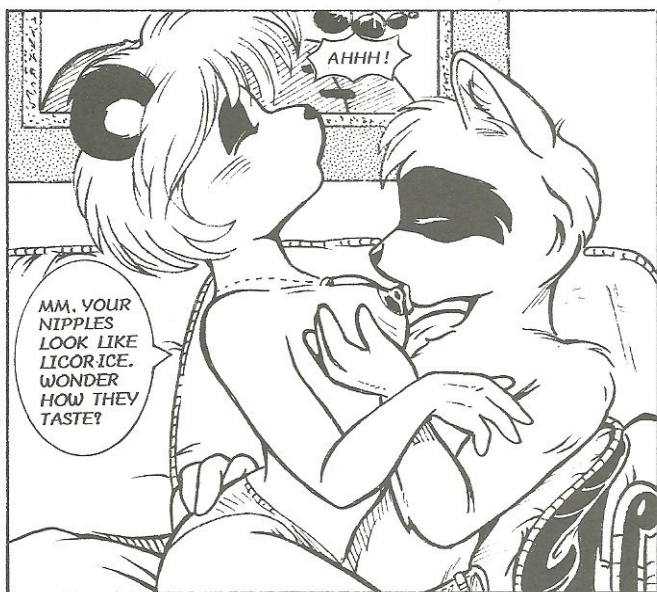


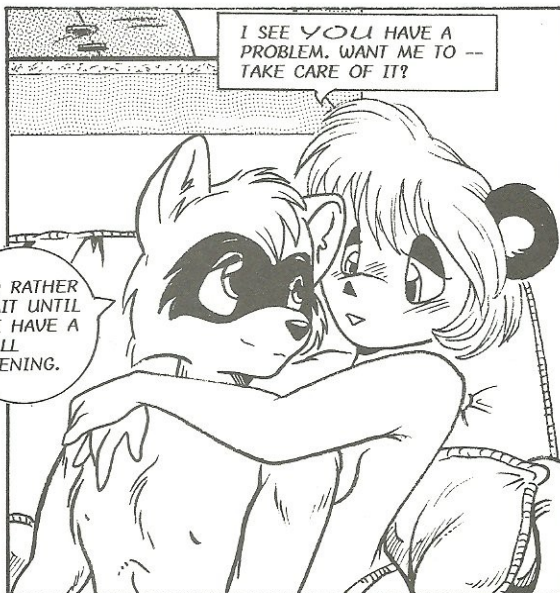
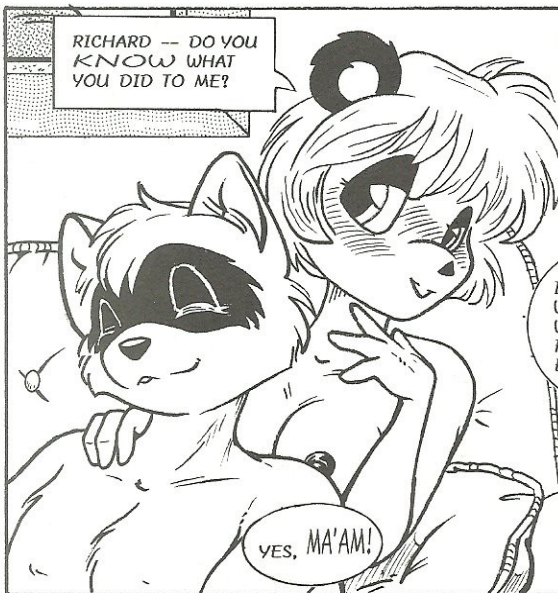




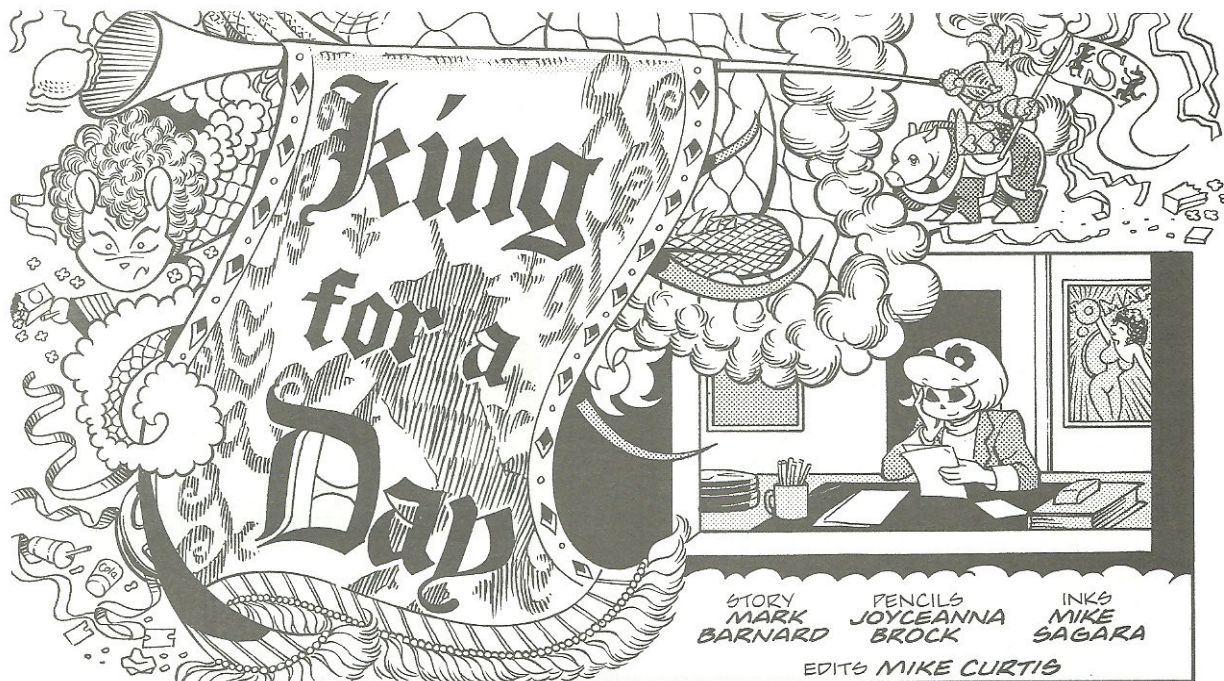


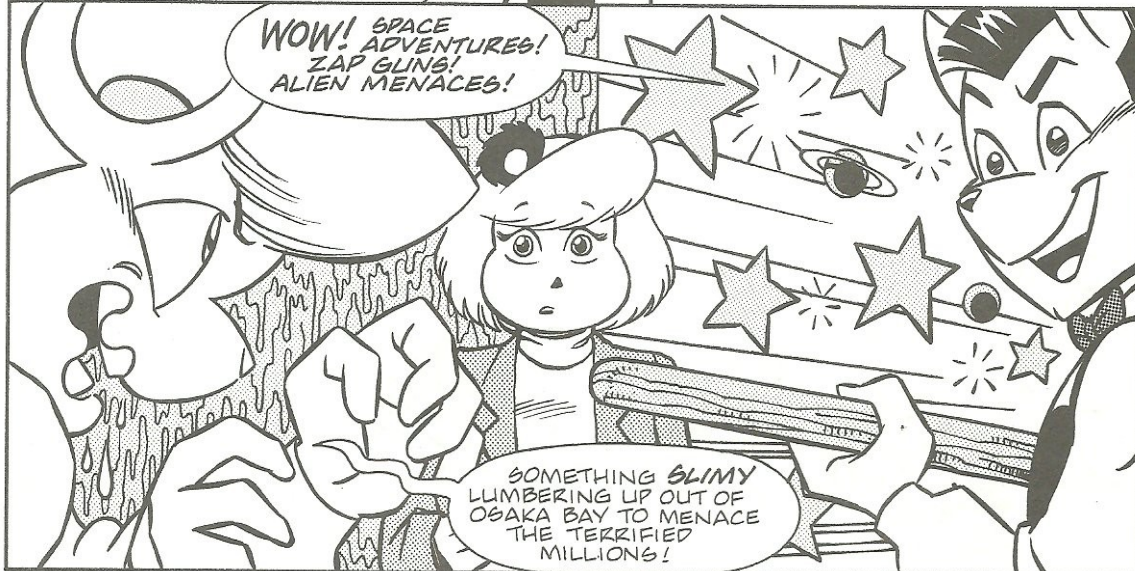
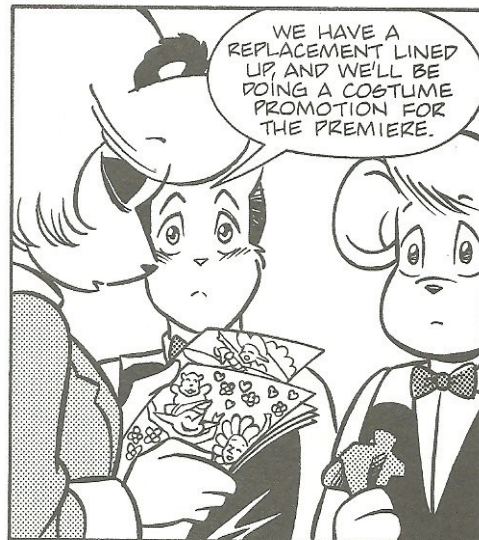


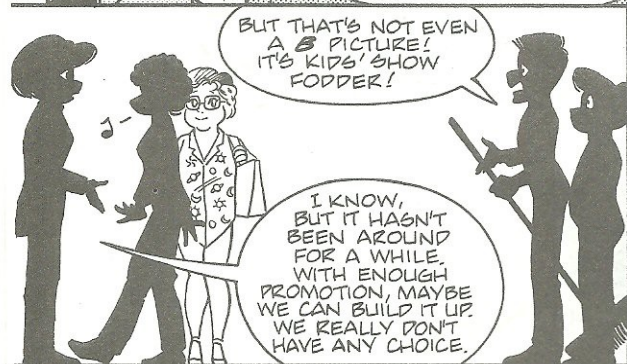
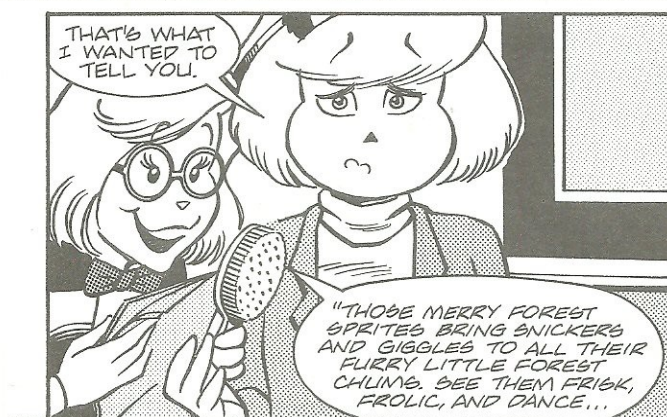
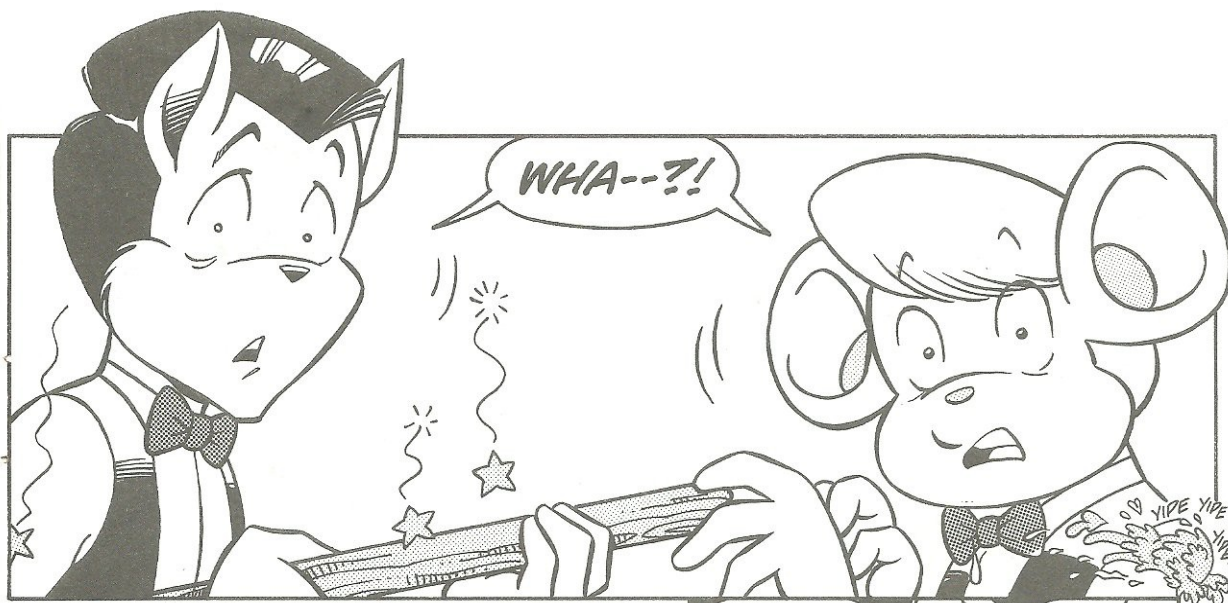


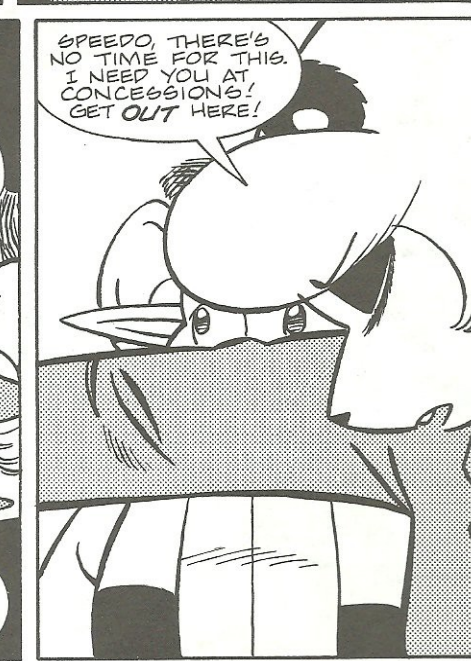
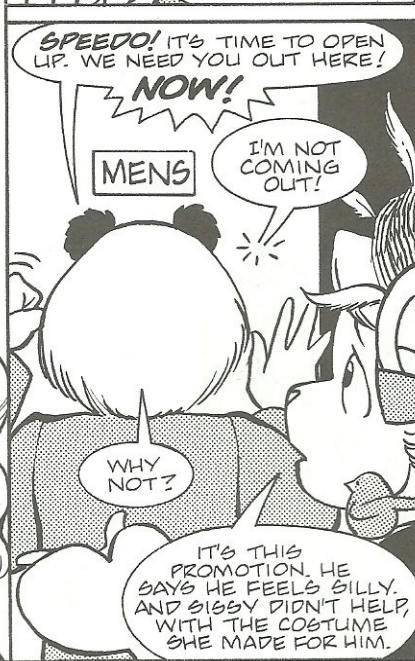
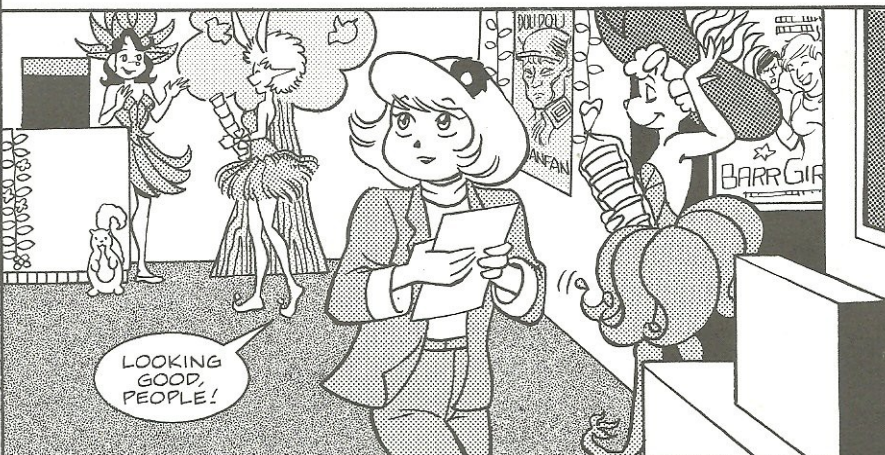


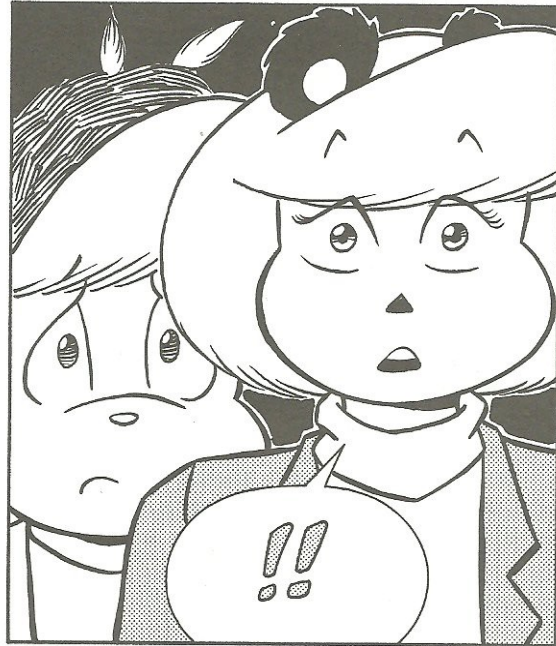
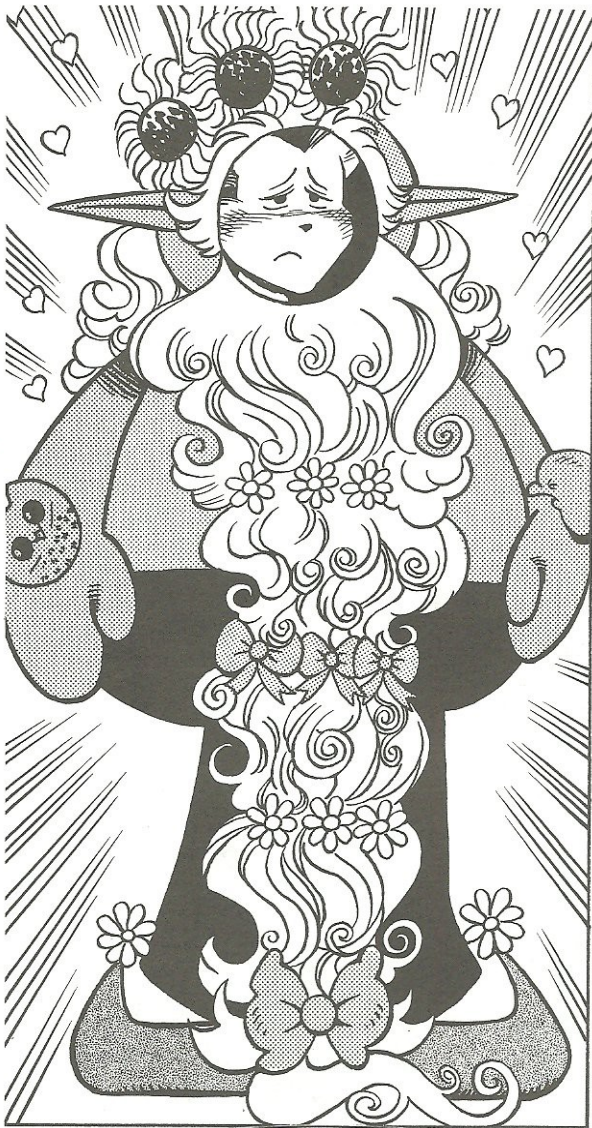


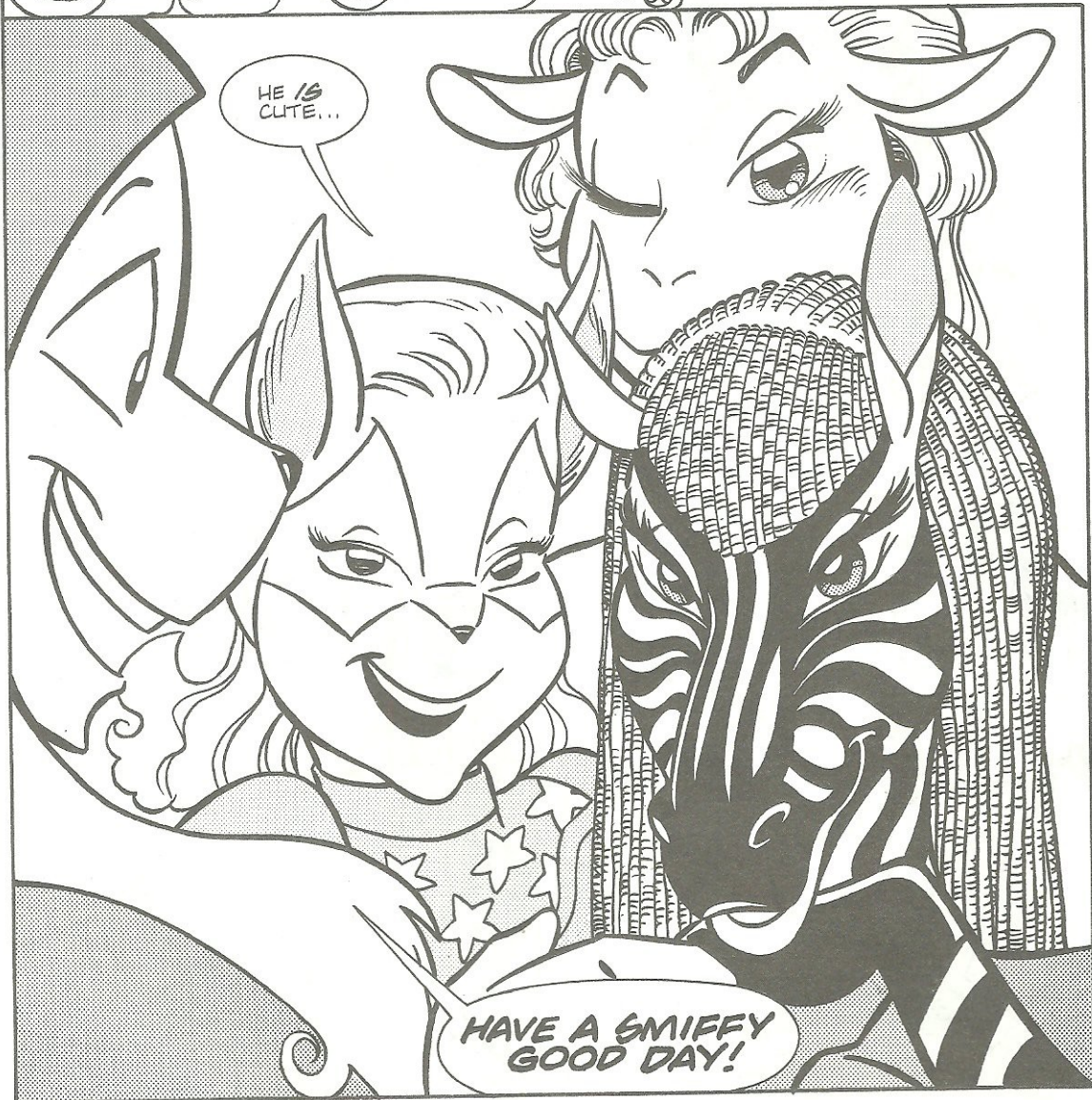
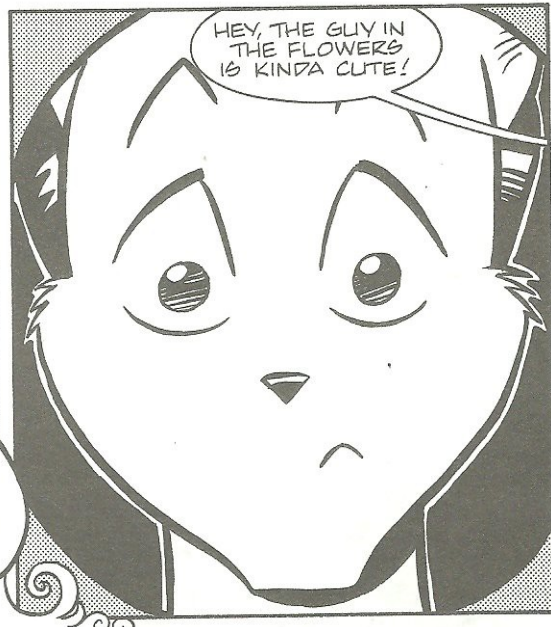
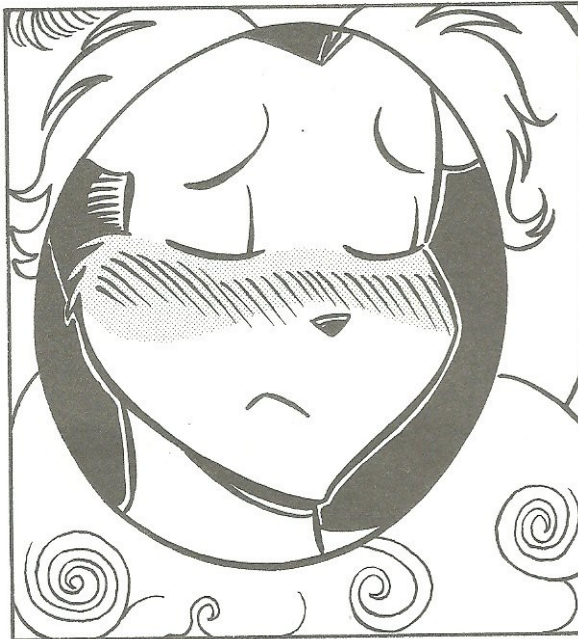


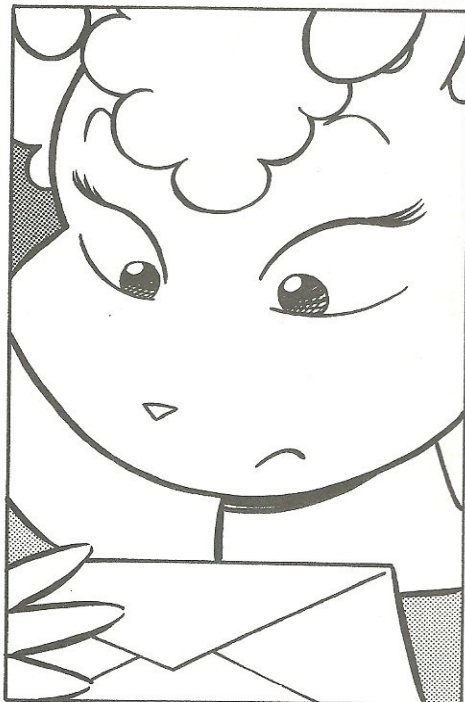
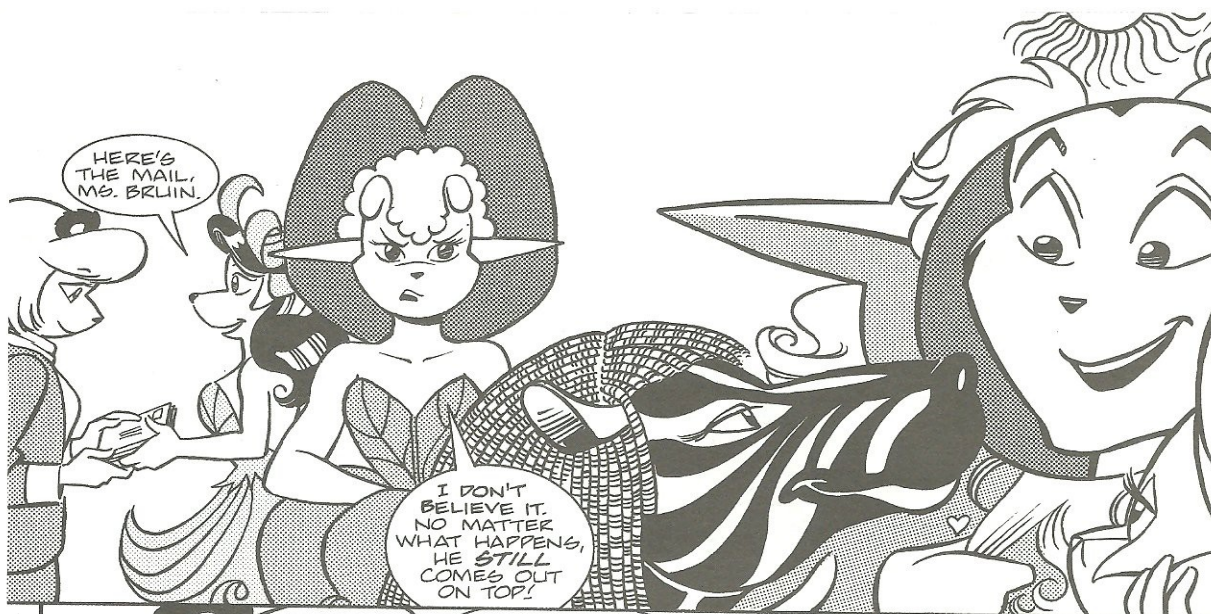




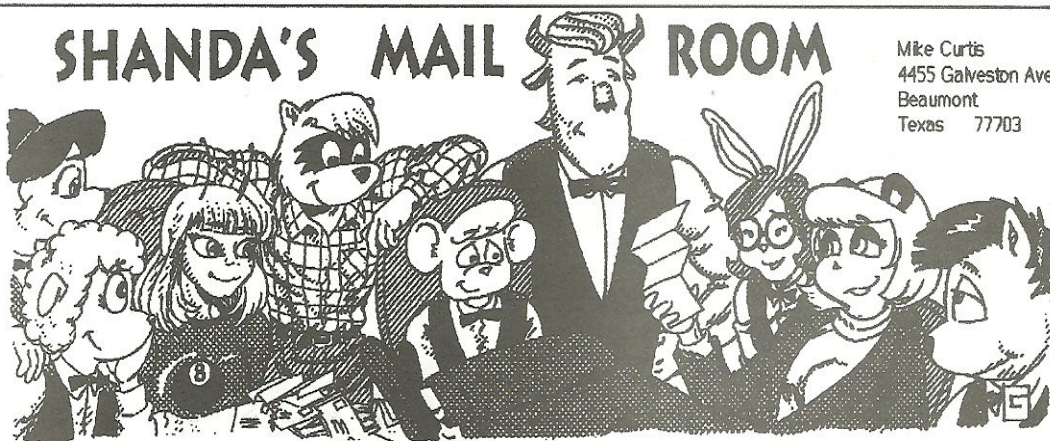








SHANDA'S MAIL ROOM



Mike Curtis
4455 Galveston Ave.
Beaumont
Texas 77703

It's been a boong time since issue #4.

(Yes, I know it's out of date) I had a WONDERFUL time at CONFERENCE. Hello to everyone I met there (ESPECIALLY the fellow who asked "Are you related to Carole Curtis who does KATMANDU?") Carole and I both plan to attend this next year.

SHANDA'S back at last, and now has regular artists - sort of. Michele Light and Joyceanna Brock will alternate pencilling chore - inked by Mark Barnard and others. Guest artists continue on backups. Talented folk like Eddie Perkins, Susan Mills, Ed Garcia, G. Raymond Eddy, and Charlie Wise have signed up for short stories.

Then there's Carl Gafford. He contributed the excellent letter column above AND will do a guest shot on the main story in issue #9 "RINGS AND THINGS."

Remember our letter column contest in MU #1? Well, it's on again. My personal favorite "Menagerie a Trois" we can't use (since its submitter, Mark Barnard works on Shanda now). We still have all the previous entries.

The prize for the best letter col. name is different too.

The winner gets to be in a story. We'll have a scene at the theater ("Hi there, I'm Mike Sagora and I work at Saga Graphics. I'm here to pick up some passes.") with the winner as the beastie of their choice and give them the original art to that page.

On other matters, I spent a lot of time in Wichita this year with inker and best friends Mark and Terrie Barnard. When in Wichita, be sure to visit VISIONS AND DREAMS at 3143 West Maple for all your SHANDA and KATMANDU needs. Raye Ann and Renee are the owners and through them I got to volunteer slave labor at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center and meet the official Terrie Snow advisor, Donna Stranger. Donna will be doing "reality checks" on Terrie for me (although NOT be screaming "Shanda needs to dump Double R and move in with Terrie!")

Upcoming projects include a second issue of SHANDA: THE XXX FILES (Featuring YoYo); a SHANDA: PERFECT MEMORY BOOK; a possible T-Shirt; and the science fiction series NAUTILUS with Terrie Smith & Mark Barnard. Carol, Terrie, and Mark are busy right now with issues 4, 5, & 6 of KATMANDU.

SHANDA: THE XXX FILES is still available for \$5 + \$1 shipping and handling plus an age statement to the address below. Please send all correspondence to on SHANDA to: MIKE CURTIS, 4455 GALVESTON AVE., BEAUMONT, TEXAS, 77703. Yes, we do answer our mail!

Now on to the letters!

Congratulations on an amazingly good first issue. Mike, I love your fresh and original art style.

I particularly like the range of animals you've caricatured in your cast of thousands (or so), including every "extra" in the crowded scene.

One thing I suppose I can't come to terms with is the fact that Terrie, supposedly a cricket, looks just like a cartoon human with antennae.

The believable dialogue made it almost more realistic. "10 for morons" - I could almost imagine that happened too. "RR - The Lone Ranger" - there's a slightly off-beam sense of humor there, too.

Craig Hilton
Collie
Western Australia



I've been with Shanda since her first Antarctic issue.

It has a moral dimension showing how lesbians and gays are just people. Like everyone else, Terrie is struggling with often confusing relationships (witness her feelings for Shanda, who's apparently feeling some confusion of her own) and trying to get through life as best she can, searching for someone to share it with her.

Finally, a question-- is Antarctic Press ever going to offer SHANDA by subscription like it does several of its other titles?

Keep up the good work, and this panda will never become endangered.

Brock Hoagland
Hazen N.D.

As far as modern adult anthropomorphic series go, I think it compares well with "Omaha." In particular I like the character of Rick Sabatier. Good male characters who are not complete slimeballs or totally neurotic are hard to find in the comic world, particularly among serious adult comics. I hope you continue to work him into the story line. I also like his daughter, who is at that cute little girl stage (like my own). She certainly deserves a better home than she has. Maybe Rick should get a decent lawyer...

David Kleiner
Rockville, M.D.