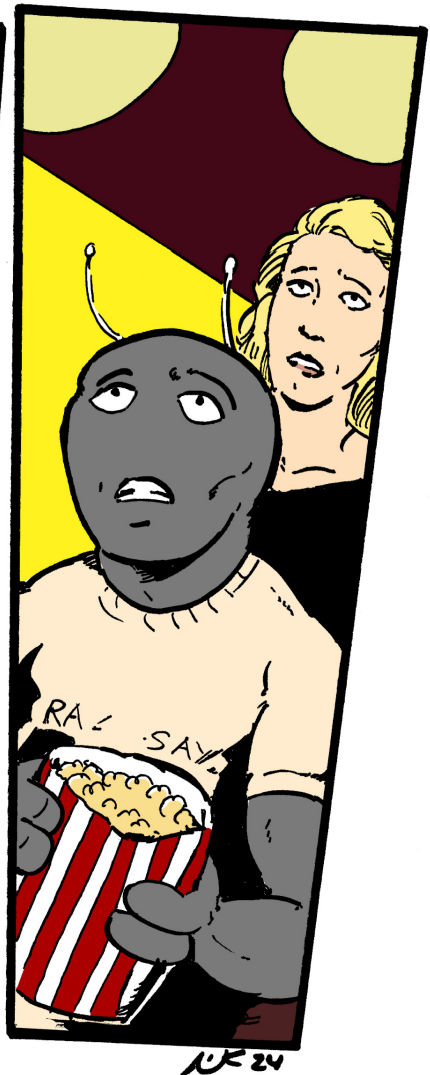
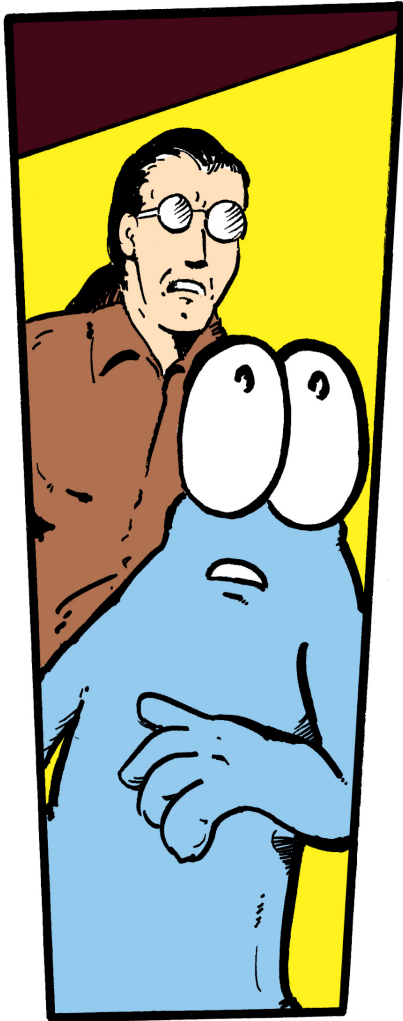


Protoplasm  
Press

**34**  
JUNE 24

# AMOEBA ADVENTURES™



## Three Days In Spongopolis

# The Slimeball Speaks

email: dirganik@gmail.com • amoebaadventures.com • facebook.com/amoebaadventures

**Welcome to another occasional issue of Amoeba Adventures, your home for the adventures of Prometheus the Protoplasm since (gasp) 1990!**

This issue took a little longer to come out than I had originally planned. My father, **Richard Dirga**, died in early May in California. Without him, of course, there'd be no me, and no *Amoeba Adventures*. I've written a lot about the amazing person my dad was on my website (which you can Google easily), but I couldn't put the finishing touches on this issue without taking a moment to pay tribute to my dad.

He was always quietly amused by my comic book addiction and the comic drawing hobby that I never quite grew out of. Dad always called them "funny books," which as a touchy teenage fanboy struck me a bit wrong - they were *graphic art*, by god! - but the older I get, the more I like that name. I always sent him my latest comics over the years and he always had a kind word to say about them.



And this issue, mostly completed before Dad died, really *is* a funny book, by gosh. My comics can be cheerful and they sometimes are also a bit melancholy, I think, but this issue is all about the goofy side of *Amoeba Adventures*. And that feels kind of right for this moment. This one's for you, Dad. Actually, they all are.

## Triple the tales

This issue, I felt like keeping it short, so instead of one big honkin' story we've got not one, not two but *three* short comic adventures for you. There's an art form to writing short which is fun to play around with. These days, when every mainstream superhero comic seems to be a 25-part event, it's a solid challenge to see if you can pack a complete story into 6 or 7 pages.

Special thanks to **Tony Lorenz** and inker **Thomas Ahearn** who collaborated with me on the art for this issue's Rambunny story. Tony, believe it or not, last drew an *Amoeba Adventures* story more than 30 (gasp) years ago back in *Amoeba Adventures* #12 in 1993! It's very cool to have an old pal help out with the art and give a slightly different look to one of the tales this issue. It also features the return of my over-the-top vigilante character The Period, who parodied the excesses of 1990s comics and last appeared way back in *Amoeba Adventures* #19!

## Amoeba Adventures - now in book form!

Hey, I've been busy since the last issue of AA came out in September - in February, I finally published the first official collection of *Amoeba Adventures* comics in more than 20 years, **The Best Of Amoeba Adventures**, gathering up nearly 350 pages of classic Prometheus adventures from 1987 to 1998 in one hefty tome, packed with extras! I hand-picked 13 of my favourite comics from the

**Continued on page 22!**

## Our Cast



Prometheus the Protoplasm rarely knows what's going on.



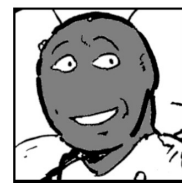
Spif is a scientist and inventor who usually gets it right.



Rambunny has had enough of this nonsense.



The Period spells the end of all crime.

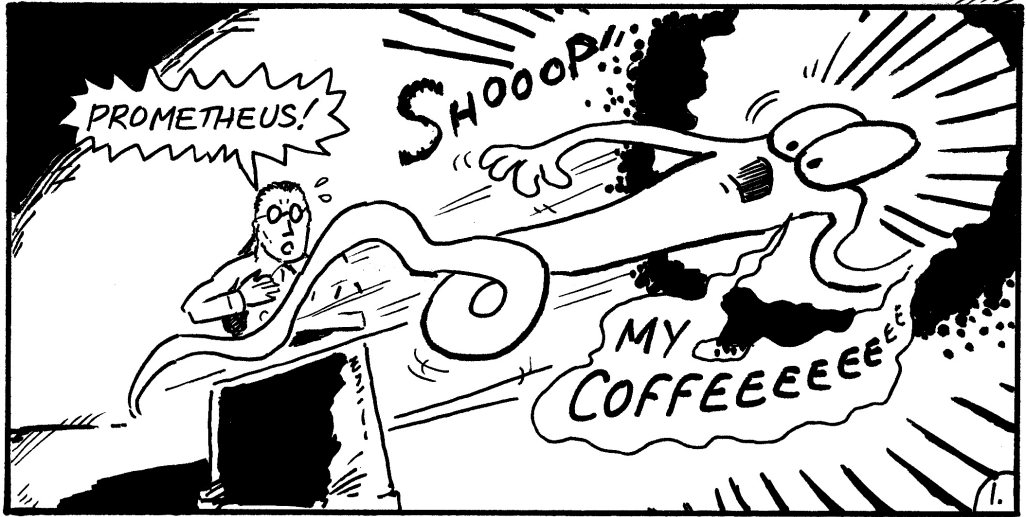
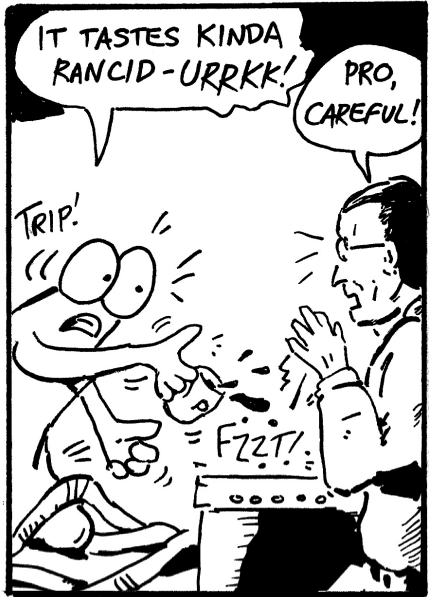
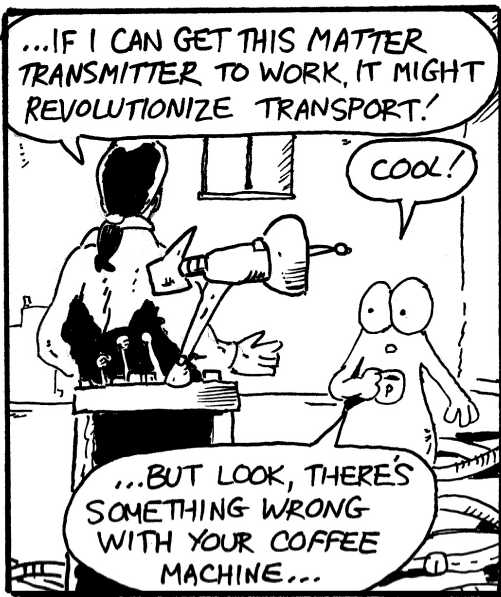
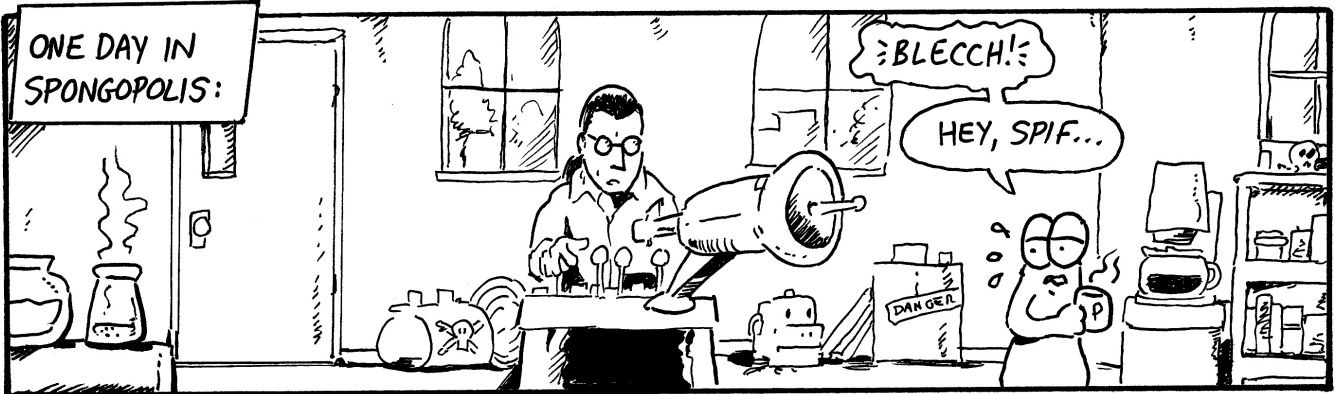


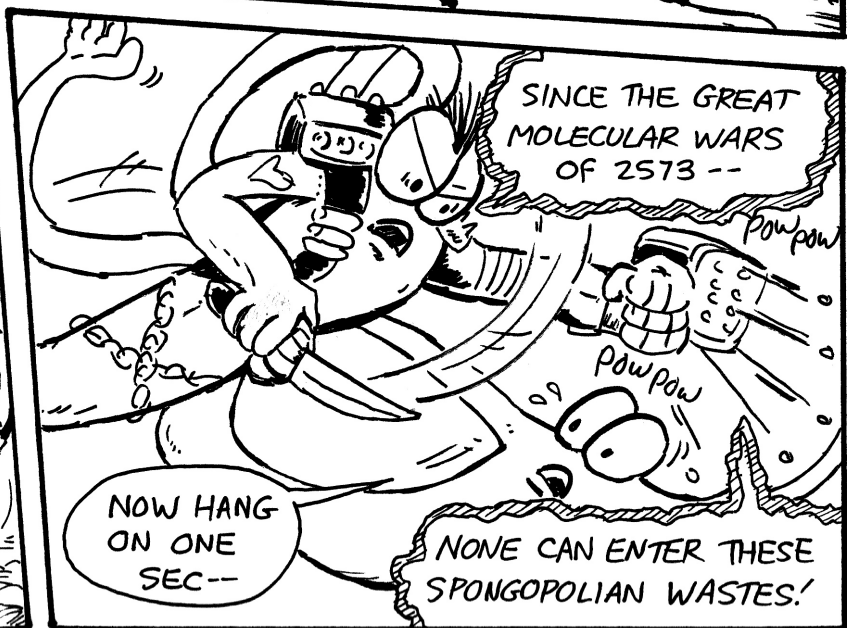
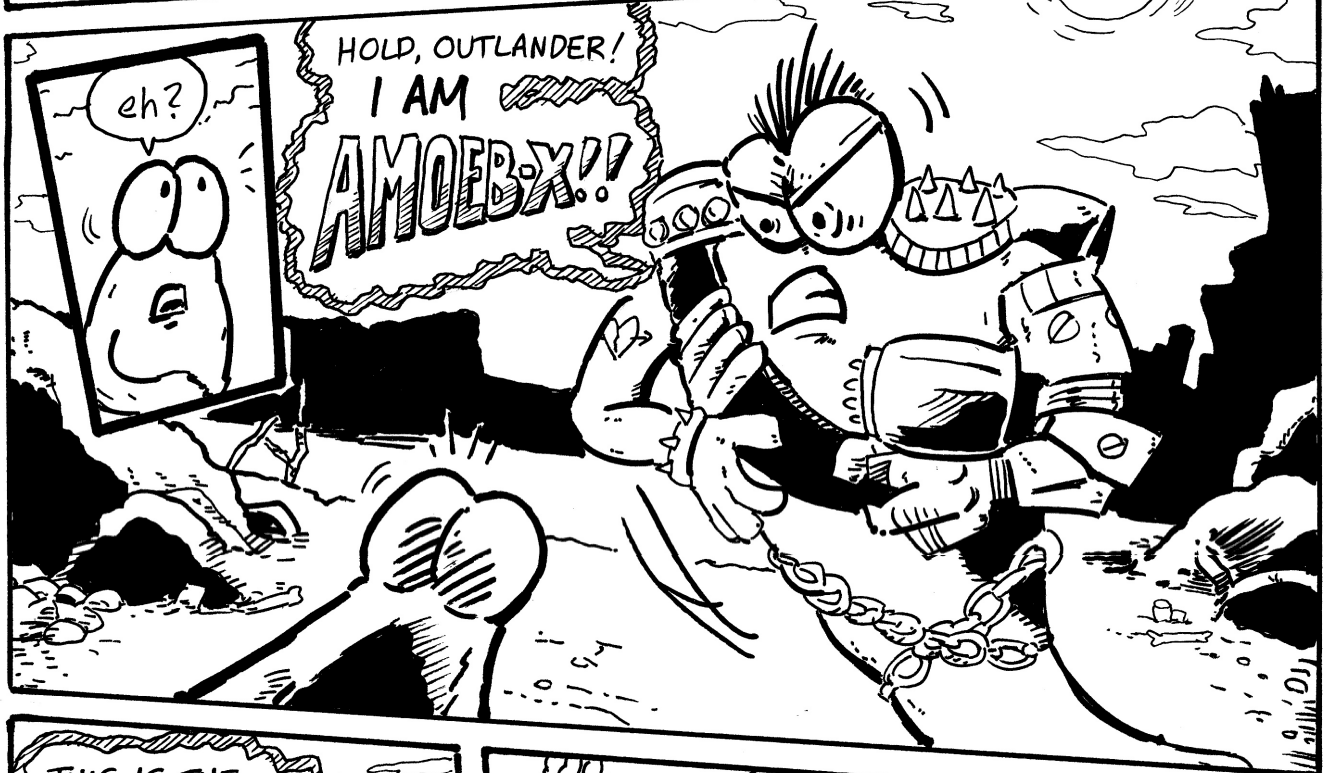
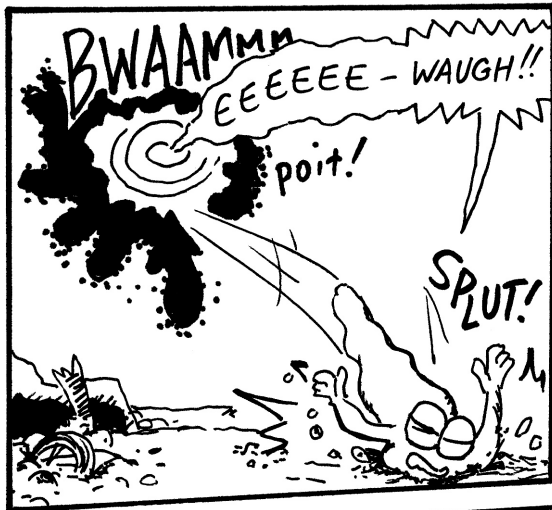
Ninja Ant's heart is in the right place.

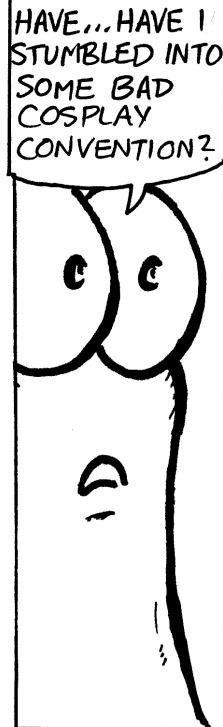
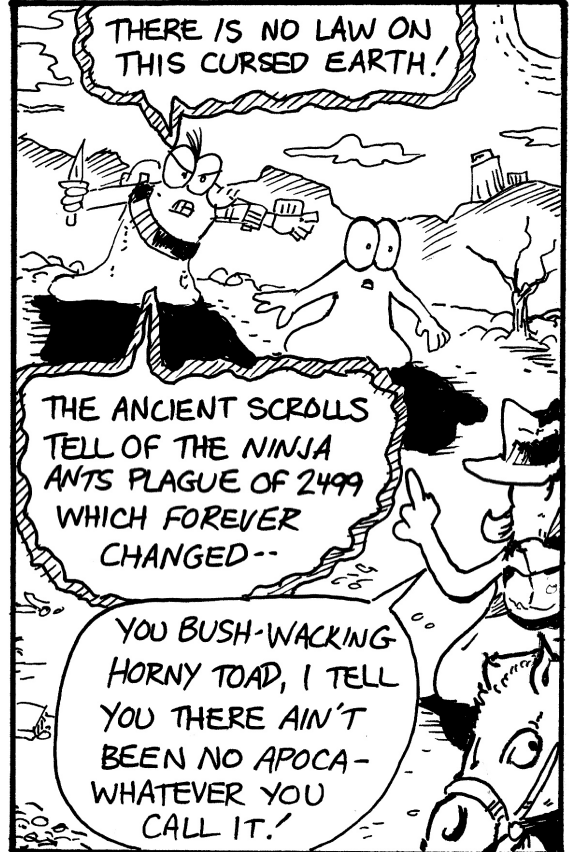
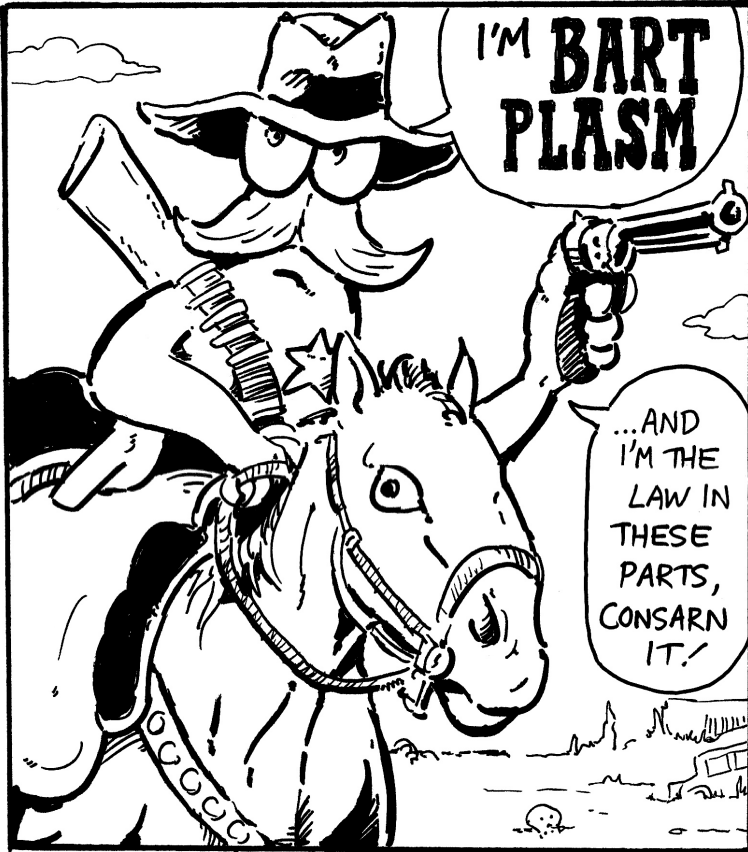
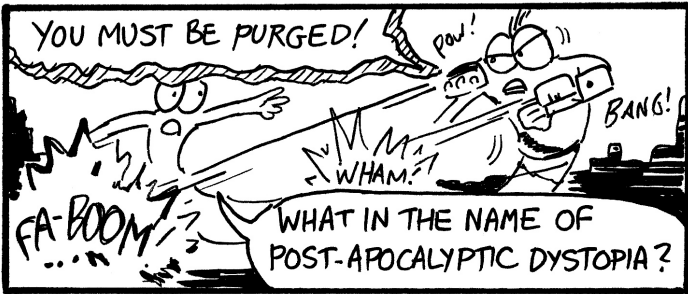


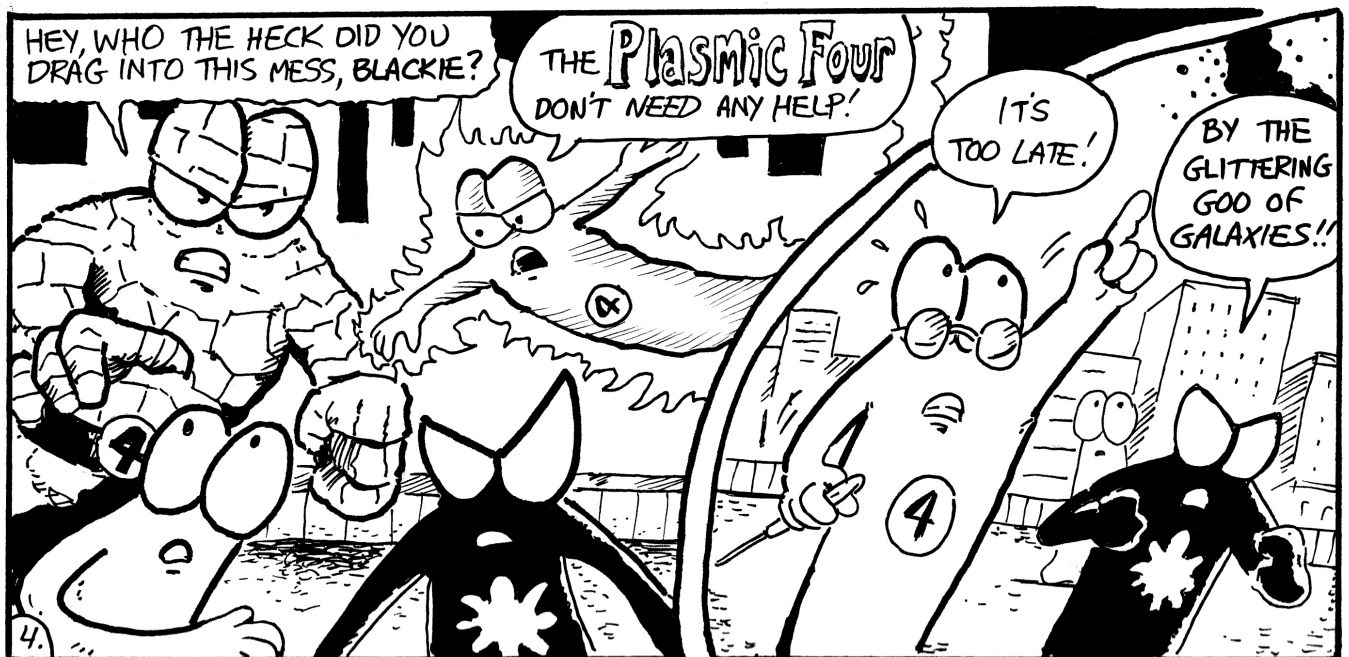
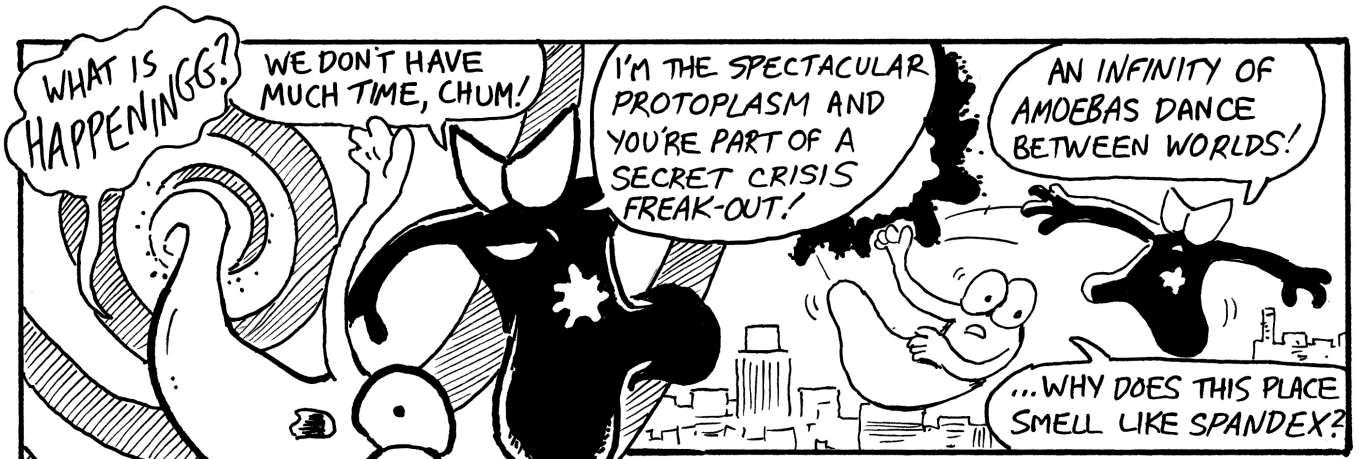
Dawn Star can set herself on fire, sometimes.

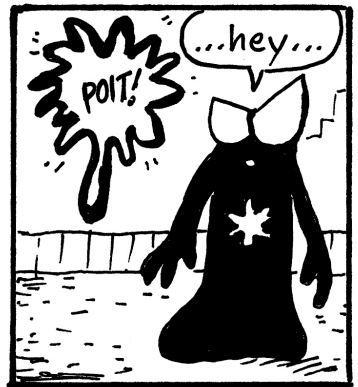
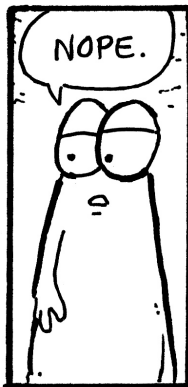
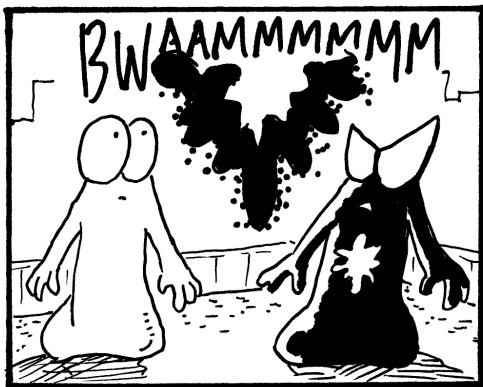
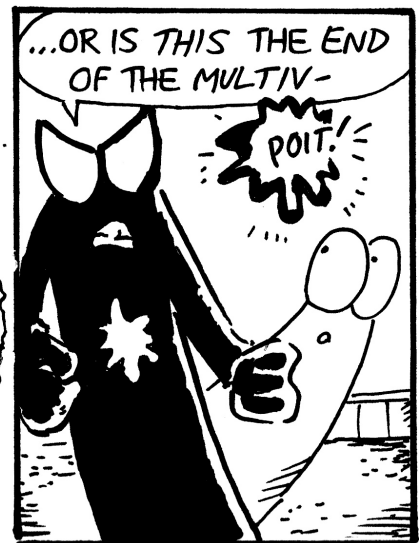
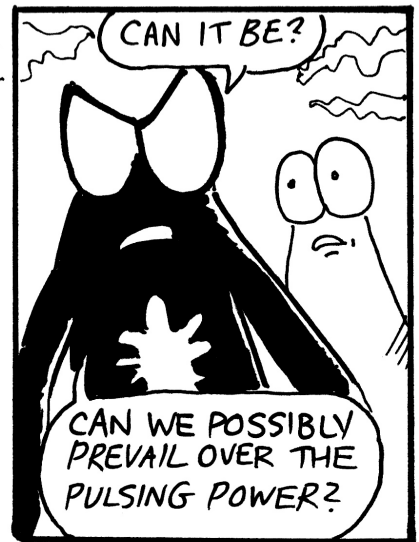
**Amoeba Adventures #34, June 2024.** Published maybe twice a year by Protoplasm Press, 262 Konini Road, Titirangi, Auckland New Zealand 0604. Additional print copies of this issue available for \$7.50 postpaid by emailing dirganik@gmail.com. Visit amoebaadventures.com and look for the links to download all 33 previous issues and much more for FREE, and give us a "like" on Facebook.com/amoebaadventures where occasionally I'll remember to post rare art and coming attractions. *Amoeba Adventures*, Prometheus the Protoplasm and all other characters are (C) 2024 Nik Dirga. All rights reserved.

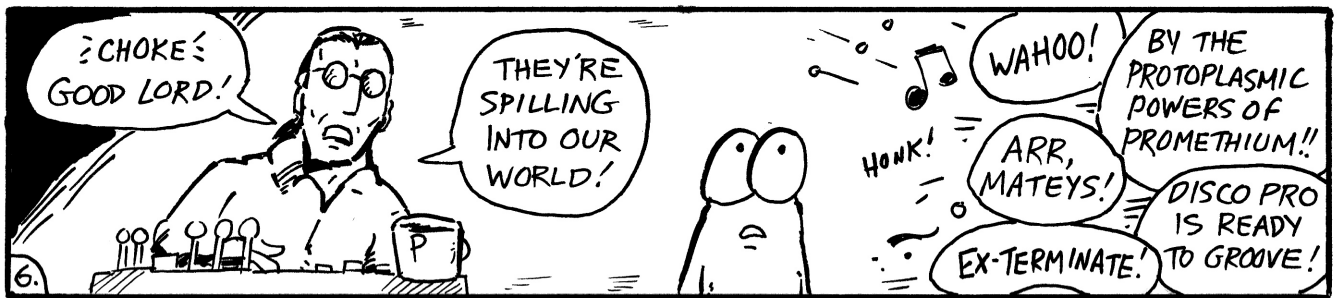




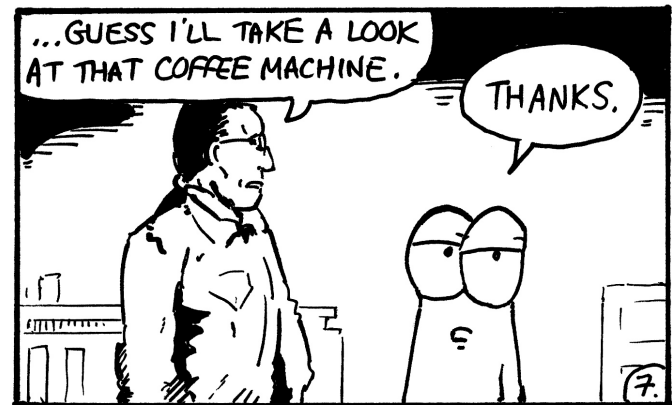
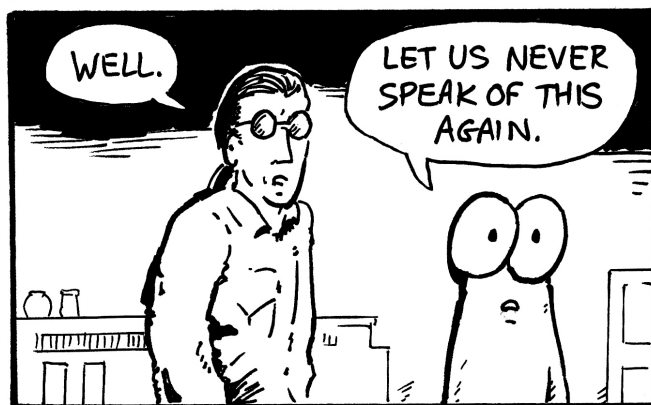
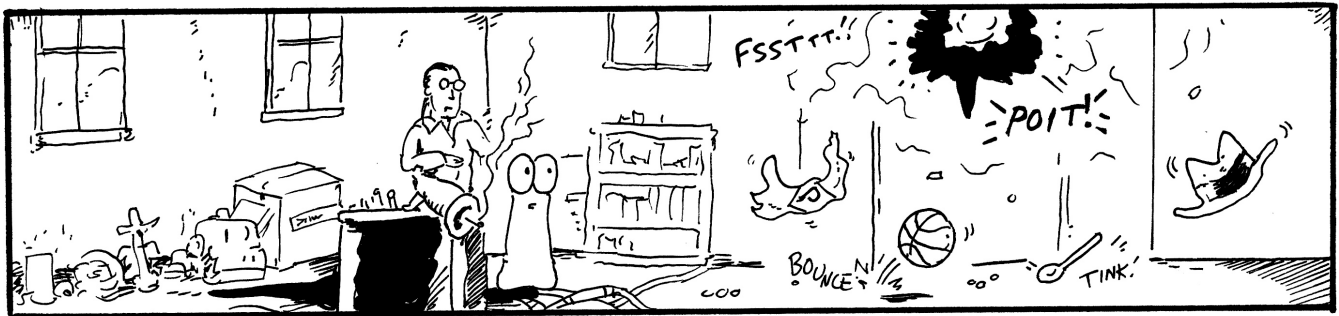
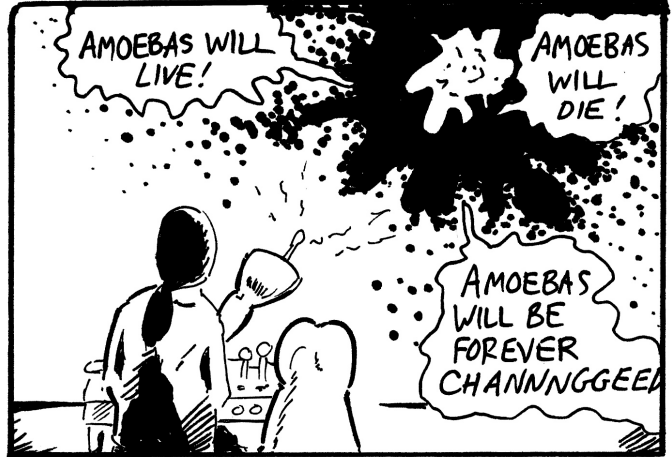
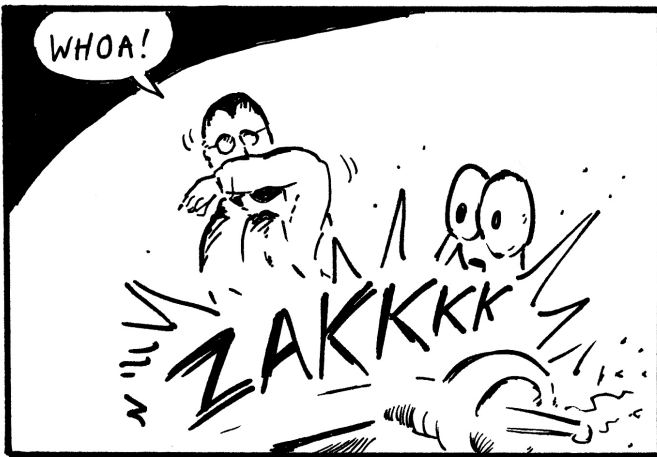
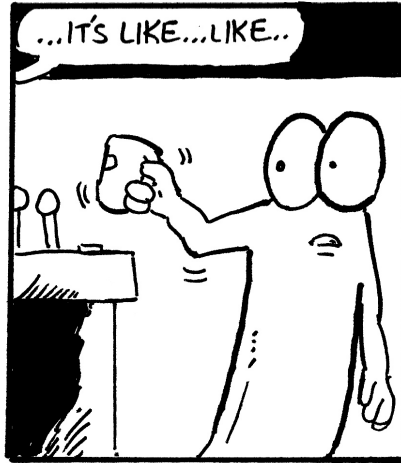
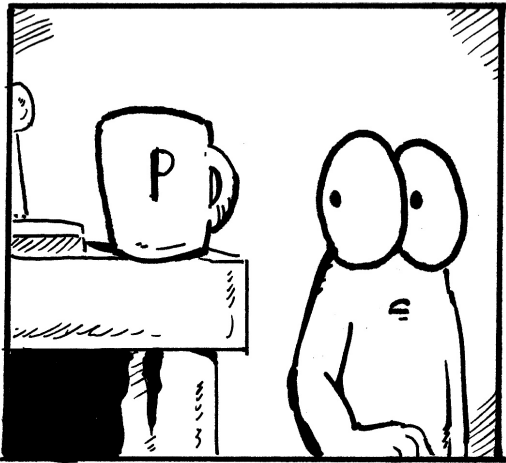






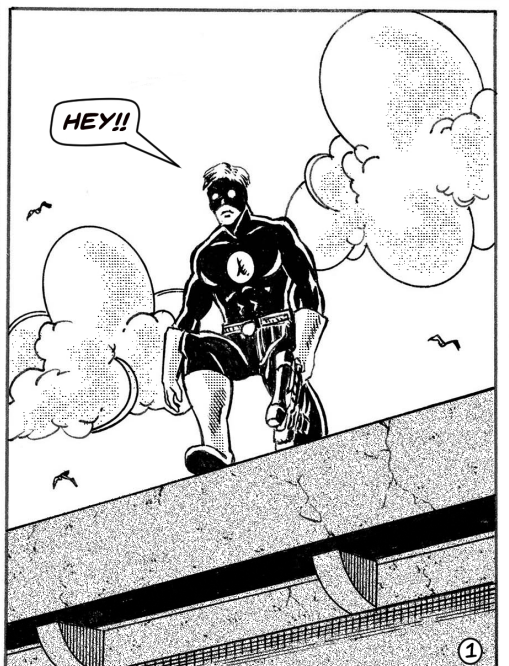
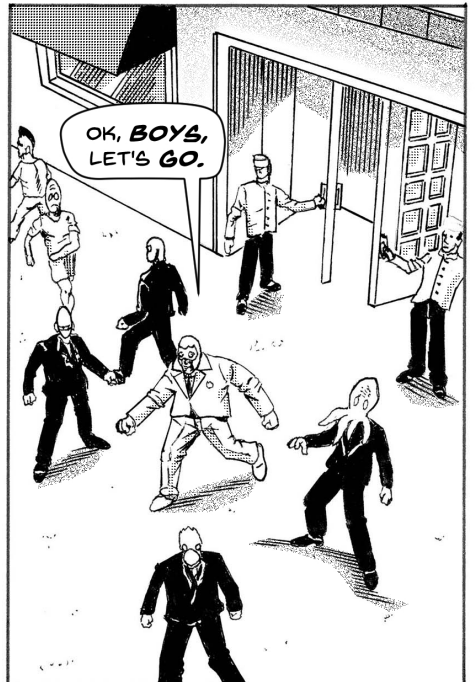
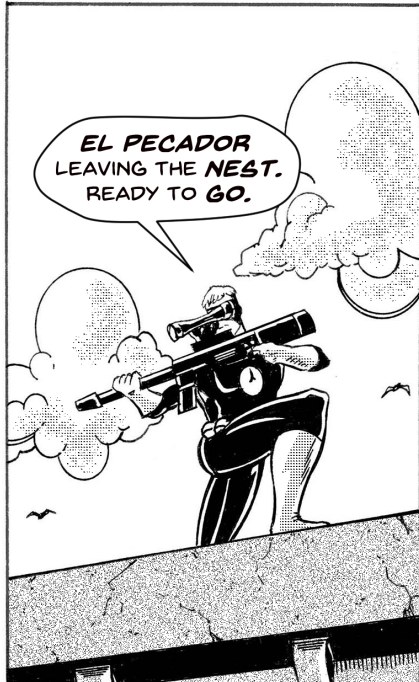


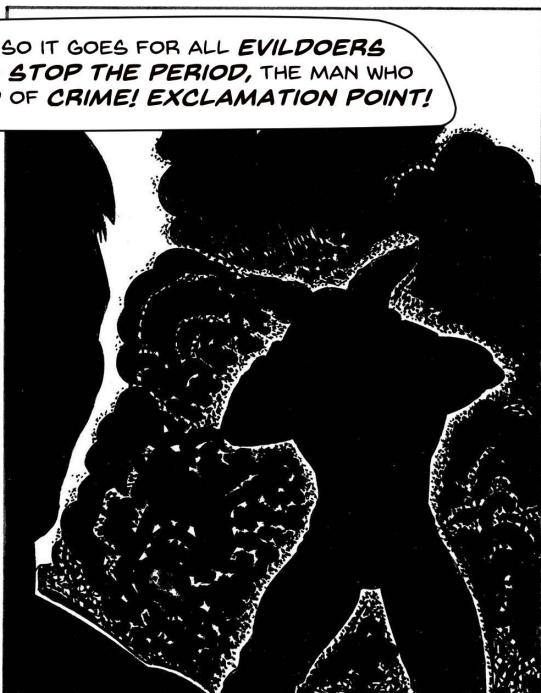
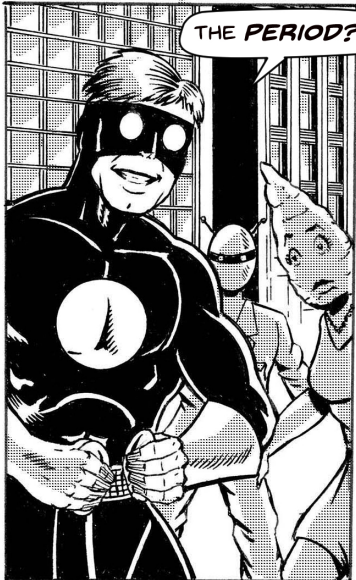
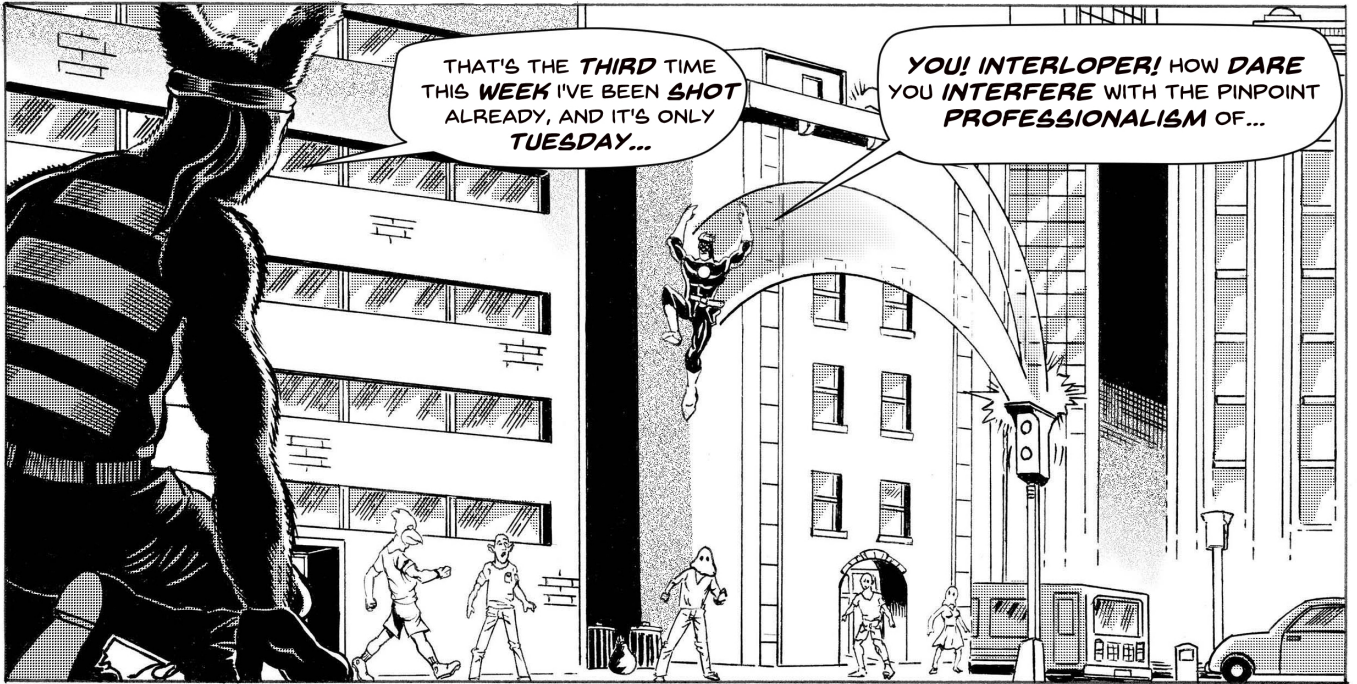


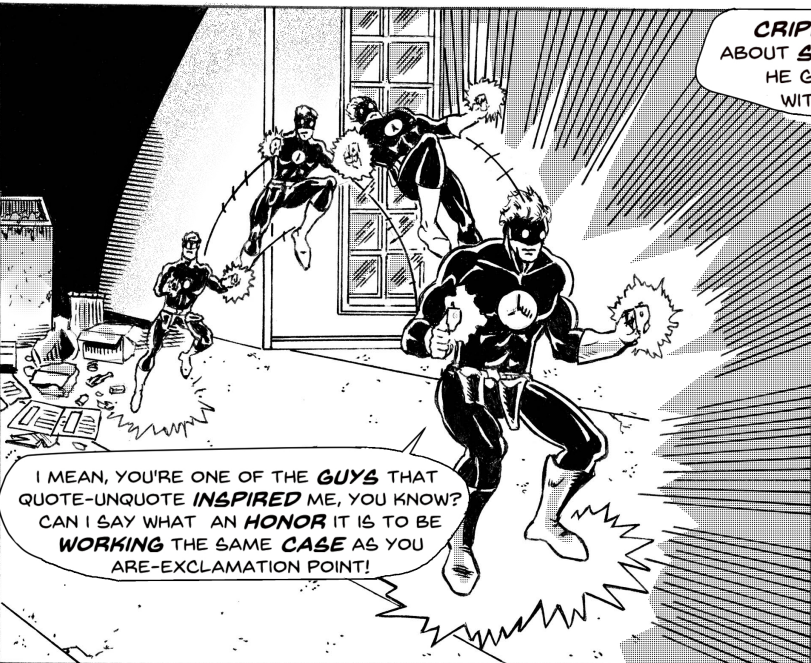
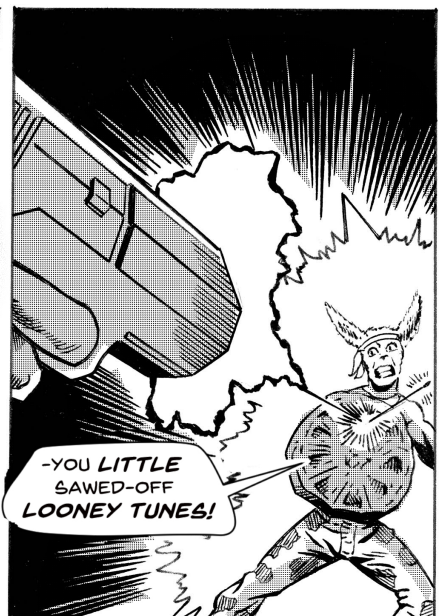
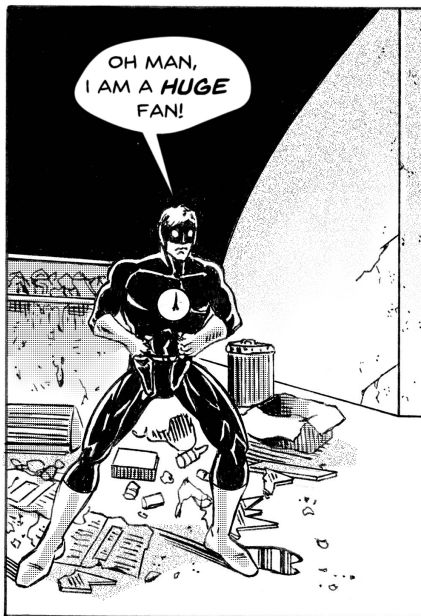
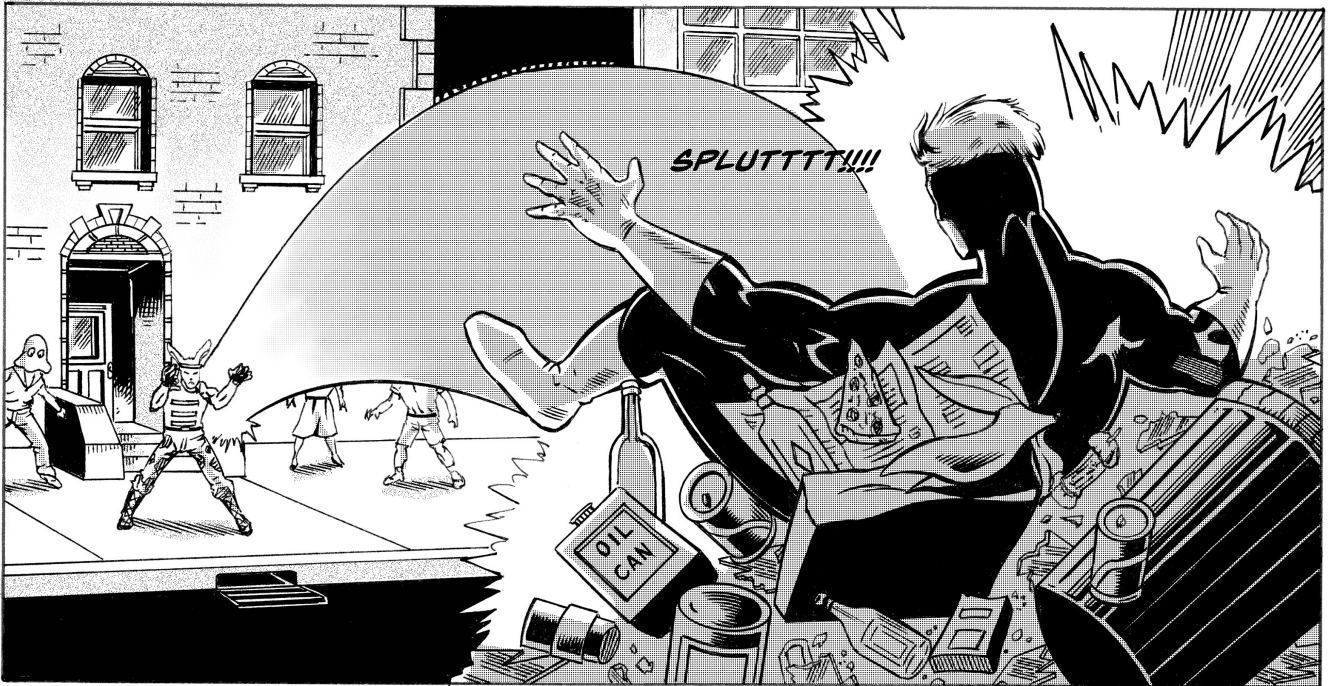


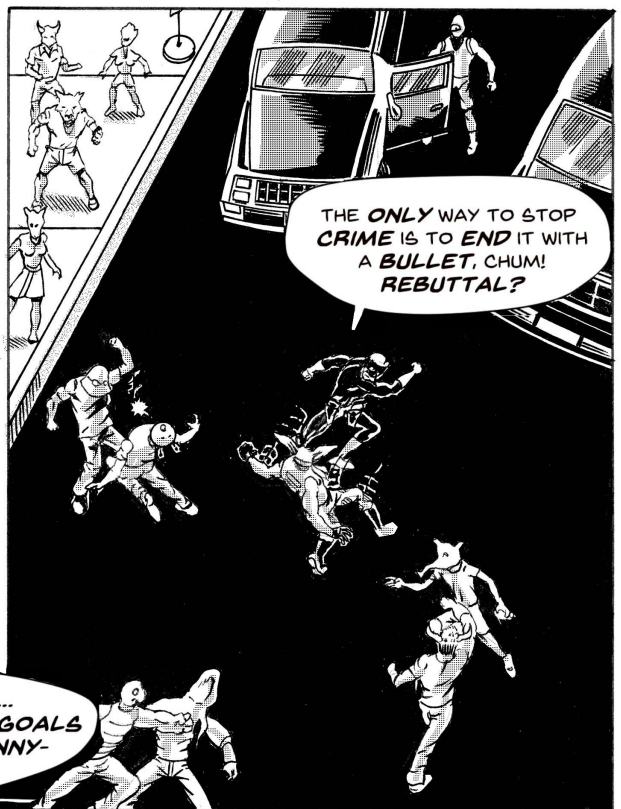
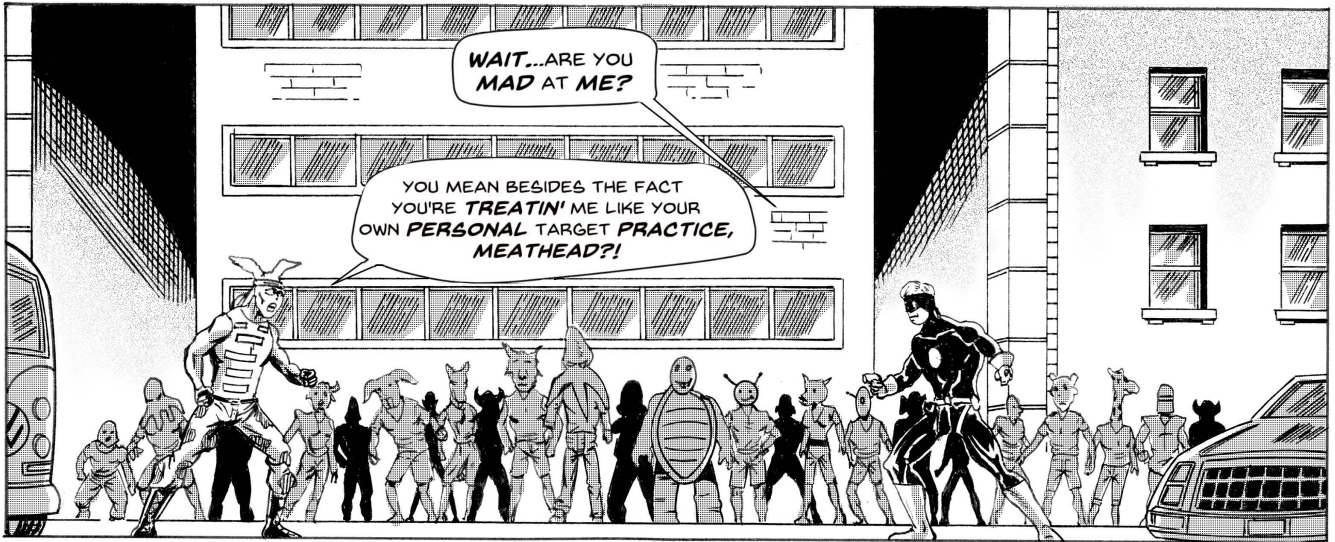
# PARALLEL LINES

AN AMOEBAS ADVENTURES STORY • BY NIK DIRGA 3/24













HUH. GUESS I FORGOT TO READ THE SMALL PRINT ...QUESTION MARK?

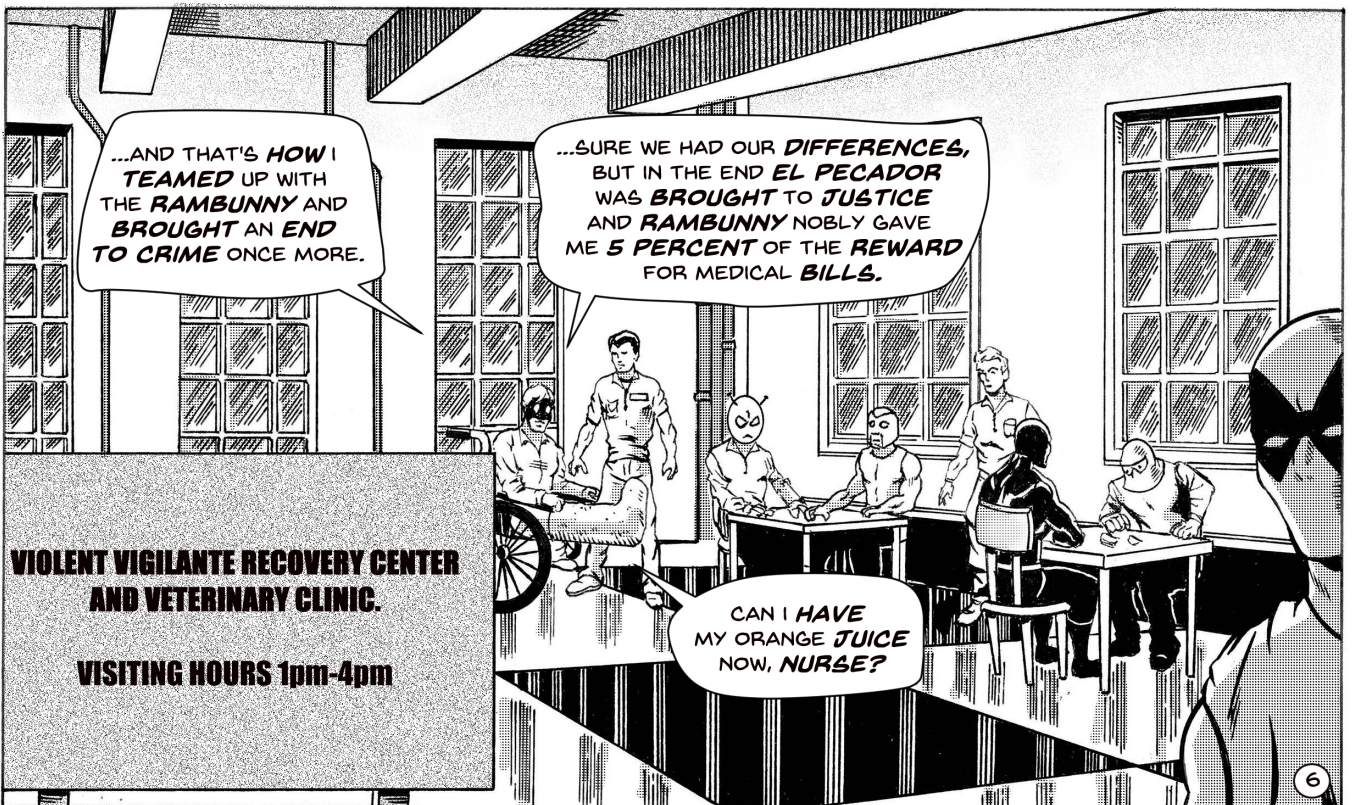


I THINK IT'S TIME YOU GOT THE POINT!

# PUNCTUATION

\*\*\*WRITTEN BY NIK DIRGA  
PENCILS BY TONY LORENZ INKS BY TOM AHEARN\*\*\*

\*\*\*AN AMOeba ADVENTURES STORY\*\*\*

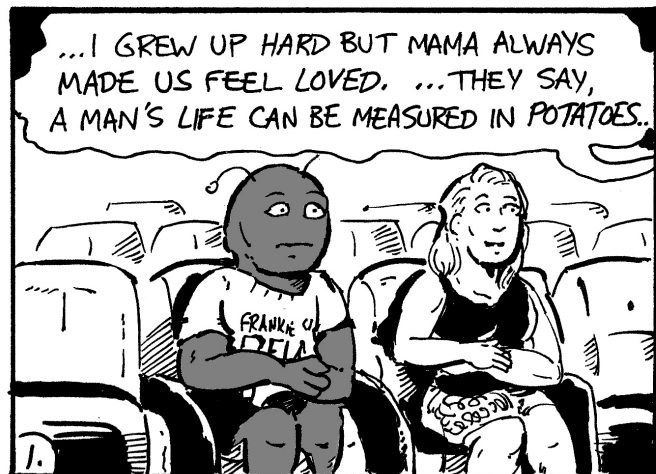
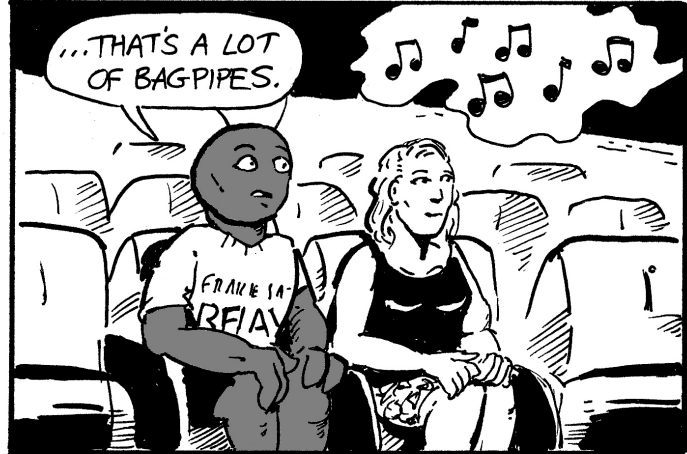
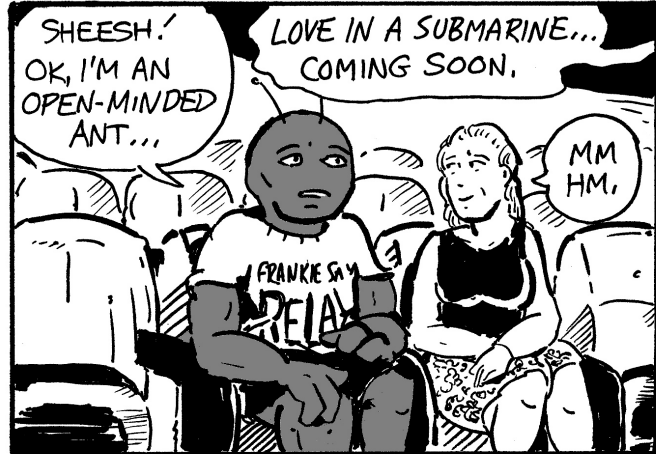
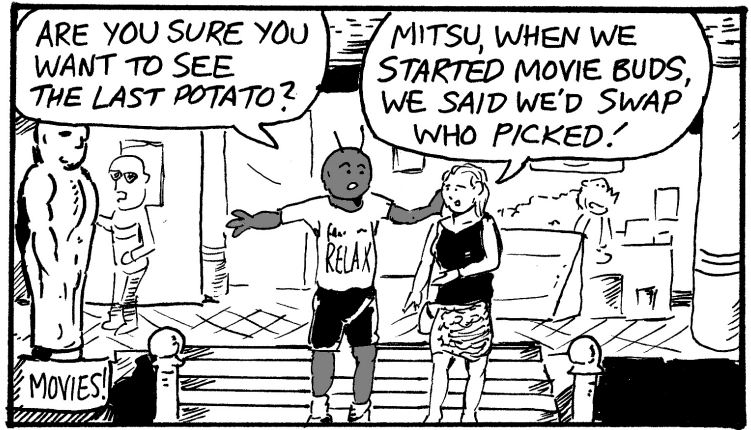
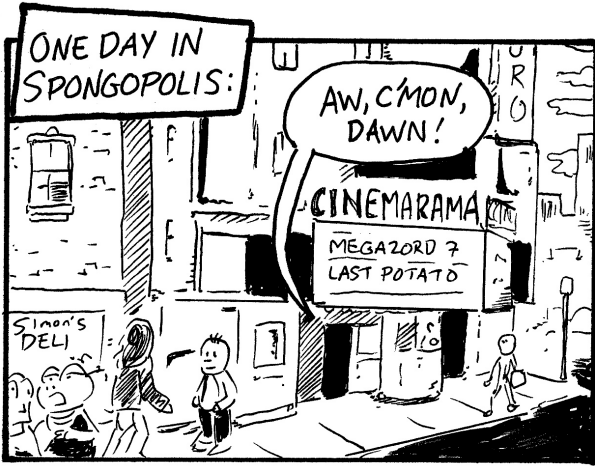


...AND THAT'S HOW I TEAMED UP WITH THE RAMBUNNY AND BROUGHT AN END TO CRIME ONCE MORE.

...SURE WE HAD OUR DIFFERENCES, BUT IN THE END EL PECADOR WAS BROUGHT TO JUSTICE AND RAMBUNNY NOBLY GAVE ME 5 PERCENT OF THE REWARD FOR MEDICAL BILLS.

**VIOLENT VIGILANTE RECOVERY CENTER  
AND VETERINARY CLINIC.**  
**VISITING HOURS 1pm-4pm**

CAN I HAVE MY ORANGE JUICE NOW, NURSE?



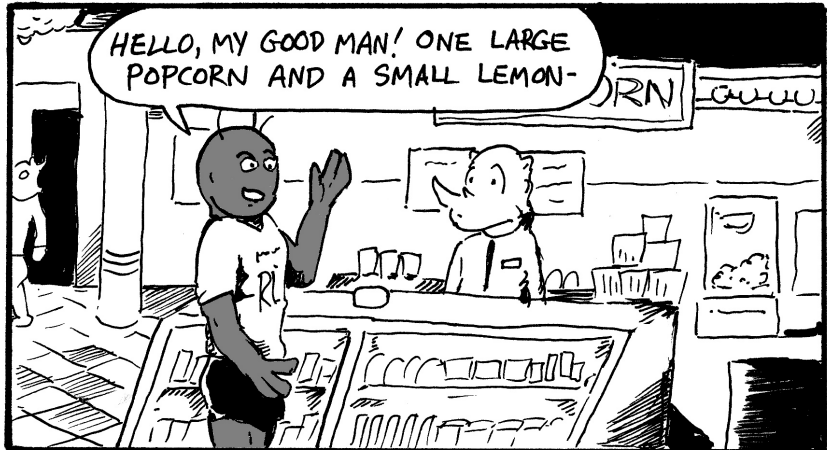


I GOTTA GET PROMETHEUS TO COME ONE OF THESE WEEKS. CAN'T TAKE ANOTHER MOVIE ABOUT FISH AND OLD PEOPLE.



FRANKIE

HELLO, MY GOOD MAN! ONE LARGE POPCORN AND A SMALL LEMON-



**SLAM!!**

ATTENTION, CINEMARAMA!

I DEMAND TO SEE THE MANAGER!

I'M MAKING A STAND FOR THE ART FORM!

WHAT'S ALL THAT NOISE-

OH, MAN.

DAVE? IS THAT YOU?



DAVE NO MORE, GENE!

NOW AND FOREVER I AM THE...  
**KEYBOARD WARRIOR!**

POPCORN

LOOK, DAVEY, I SAID I WAS SORRY BUT I HAD TO LET YOU GO.

NOW, PAL, LET'S CALM DOWN AND TALK THIS OUT...

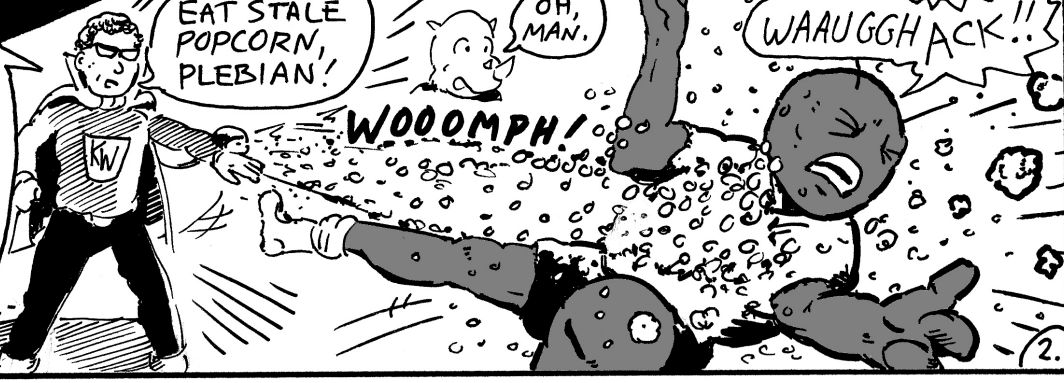
TALK? TALK?! THE TIME FOR DIALOGUE ENDED WHEN DAVE SCHWANK WAS FIRED AS ASSISTANT MANAGER!

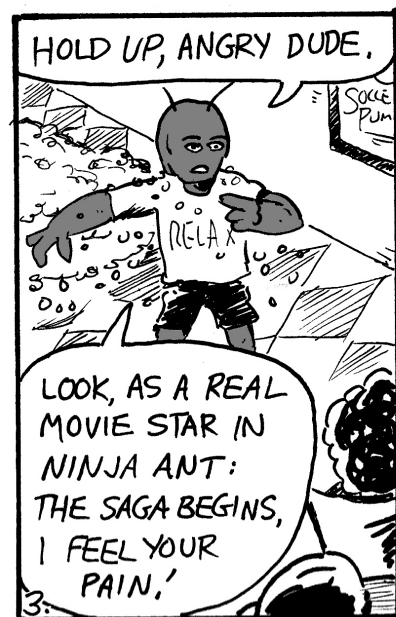
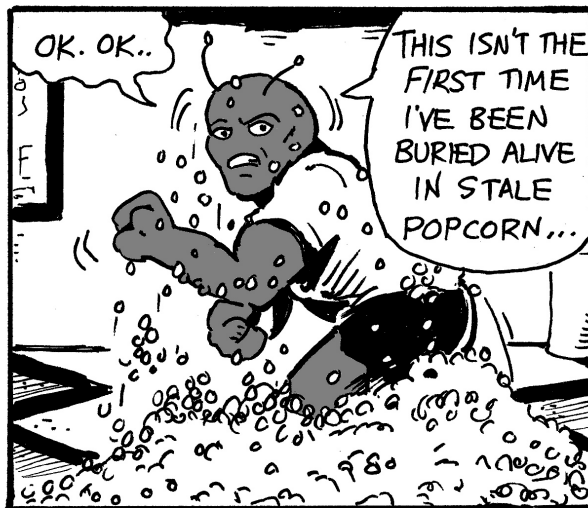
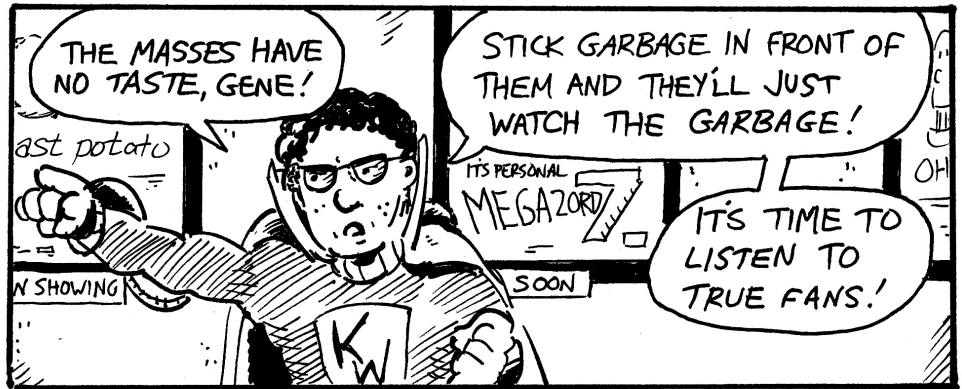
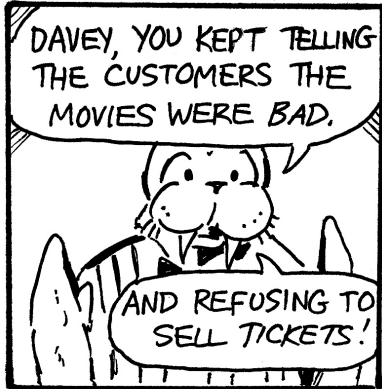
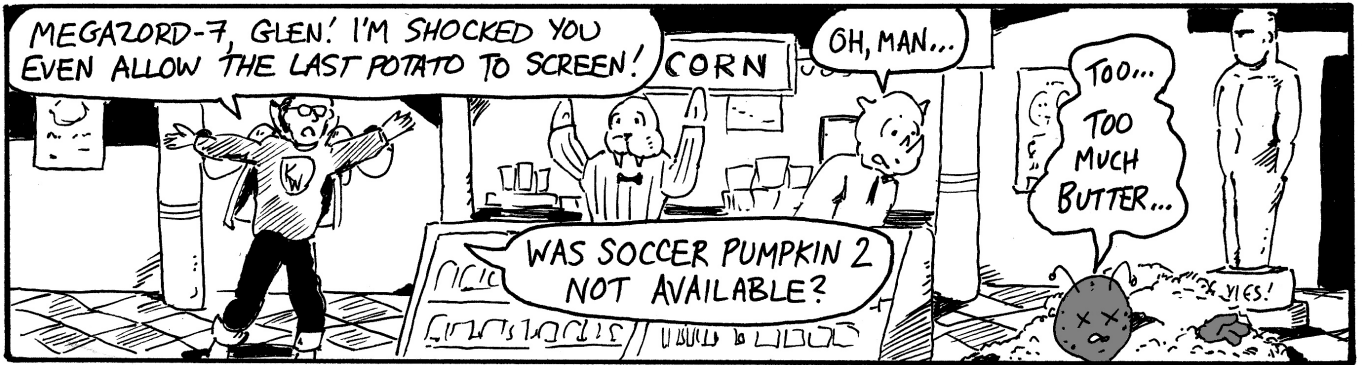
EAT STALE POPCORN, PLEBIAN!

OH, MAN.

WAAUGGHACK!!

WOOMPH!









I'M NO VILLAIN, DARN IT!

I JUST WANT PEOPLE TO TRY HARDER!



I DREAM OF A WORLD WHERE WE FANS ARE HEARD!

SOMETHING MORE THAN A MERE ZINE... A... A COMMUNITY!



HFFF!

SAY, SOME KIND OF ELECTRONIC BILLBOARD WHERE PEOPLE CAN SHARE OPINIONS ON ART... ON... ON ALL THE THINGS!



WHY... IT COULD BE A UTOPIA!



SORRY, KID...

BRING ON THE END CREDITS!

NO!

MY CONCESSION PACK!

MY REVENGE!



SON, THE MORAL IS, WE CAN ALL LEARN TO BE GOOD CINEMA CITIZENS!

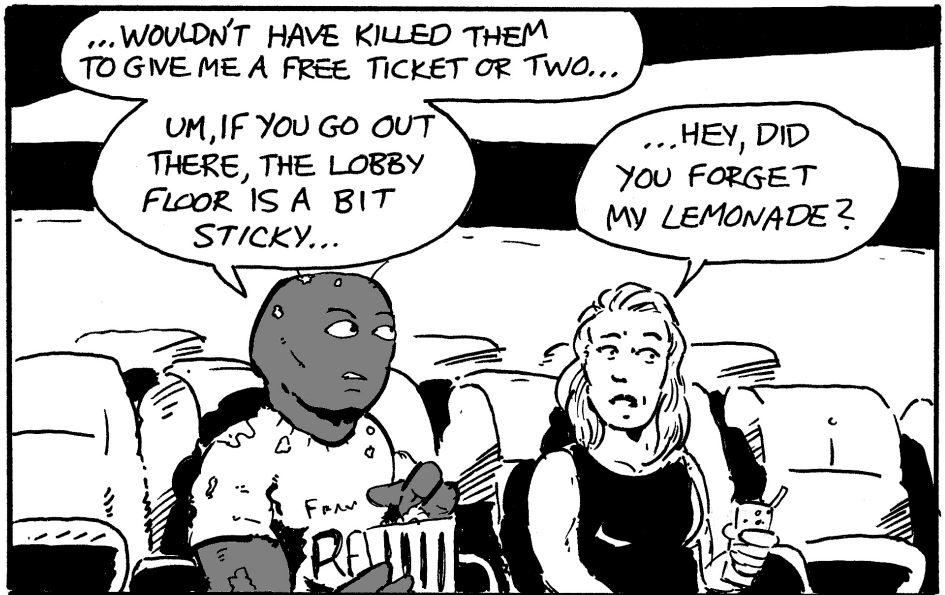
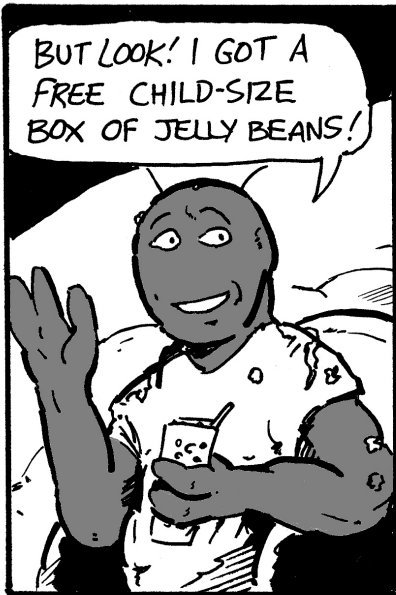
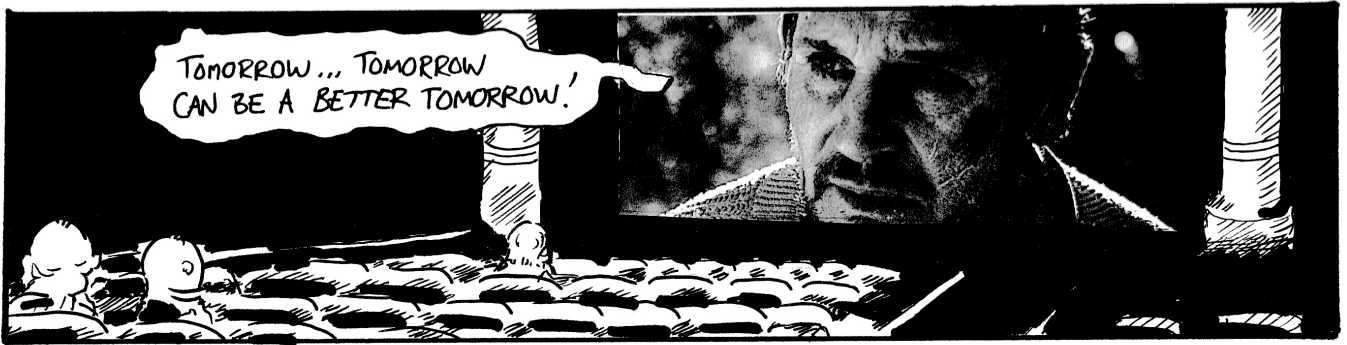
WHY, THERE'S ROOM FOR SOCCER PUMPKIN 2 AND MOVIES ABOUT NUNS AND CHEESE!



AND TO QUOTE MY ALL-TIME FAVORITE FILM...

YOU'RE TERMINATED!

TURGID TRIPE.. HARLAN ELLISON WAS ROBBED...



# CRITICAL MASS

AN AMOEBA ADVENTURES STORY \* WRITTEN AND DRAWN BY NIK DIRGA

## The Slimeball Speaks (continued from inside front cover)

original Amoeba run which I think come together to make one overall story and return some long, long out of print comics to the world after far too many years.

It's now available on Amazon in both affordable paperback and a spiffy hardcover edition, and includes some vintage guest art by comic book legends **Sergio Aragones**, **Stan Sakai** and **Dave Sim**, a cover gallery and a whopping 7500-words of annotations and behind the scenes material including rare art and more! Just search for *The Best Of Amoeba Adventures* and you'll find the paperback for US\$19.99 and the spiffy hardcover for US\$29.99. Check out the stuff that DC and Marvel comics writer **Tony Isabella** calls "one of the best small press comics of the 1990s"! Even if you have some of the musty old 'zines of the day, you'll want this book - the artwork is bigger than the original digests, showcasing some of the great work by **Max Ink** back in the day and my own humble scribblings!

## But wait, there's more!

I've also dipped my pen into a couple of other small press projects since last time to shout out!

I wrote and drew a page in the ongoing **Sunday Jam** collaborative comic over at Small Press Heroes that's turning out to be one of the best wild rides of its time featuring more than 40 small press artists to date and many more to come. You can read the whole thing online at [smallpressheroes.com](http://smallpressheroes.com)! Coincidentally mine is the last page in the new print edition **Collected Sunday Jam Volume 1** gathering up the first 28 pages of this epic, oddball and sometimes totally insane adventure! You can also order that for a mere \$5 at that same website.

I also contributed a one-page gag comic starring Prometheus to the latest issue of Phoenix Productions' **Strange Times** anthology magazine. This issue's theme is "My Best Joke" and well, I've never been shy about telling a joke, so I'm pleased to take part in a crew of small-press all-stars that includes **Teri S. Wood**, **Matt Fezell**, **Alan Groening** and many more. You'll find my strip as a bonus on the very next page this issue, but I heartily encourage you to order a copy of the whole packed zine over on Amazon, where you'll find it by searching **Strange Times #5: My Best Joke!**

I've run out of space for letters this issue but sure would appreciate any comments you have on #33 or #34 to run whenever the next one comes out - this stuff ain't making me rich, but comments, criticism and so forth are worth their weight in gold! I'm hoping to get another issue out before the end of the year, but your feedback will spur me on to write and draw just a wee bit faster!

Thanks as always for reading —

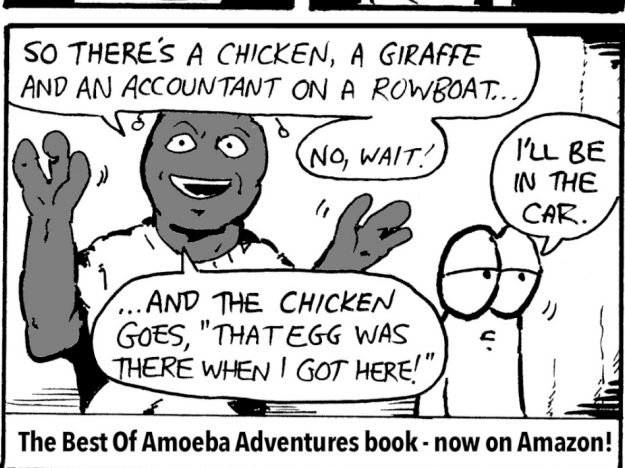
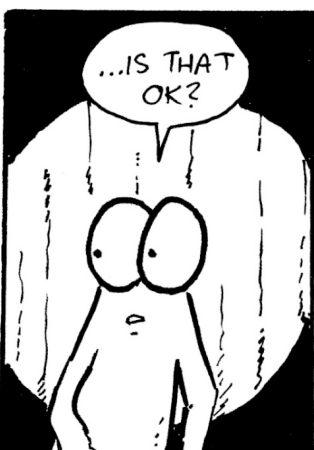
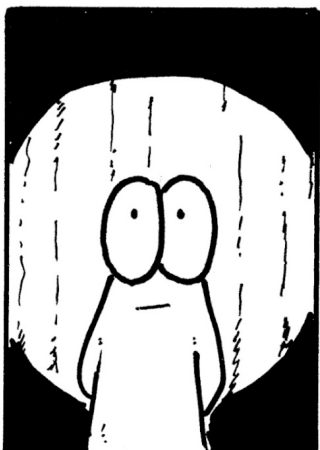
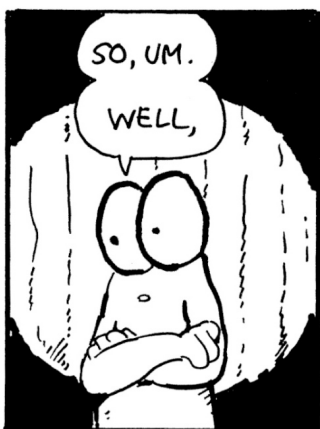
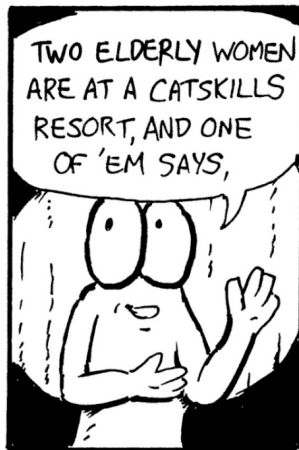
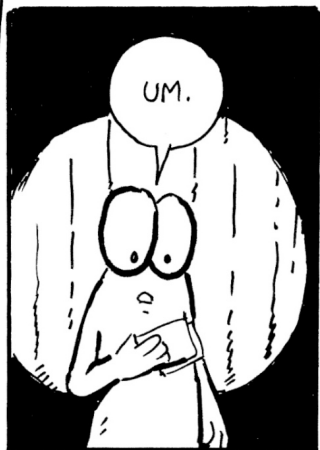


This issue's psychopathic guest star The Period previously appeared in *Spif* #1 and *Amoeba Adventures* #18 and 19, all available for free download over at [amoebaadventures.com](http://amoebaadventures.com)!

(Art from AA #18 by Max Ink)

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

With apologies to Woody Allen. AN AMOEBA ADVENTURES  
LAUGH RIOT by NIK DIRGA



# SEE WHERE THE AMOEBA ADVENTURES BEGAN

**"This is one of the best small press comics of the 1990s."**

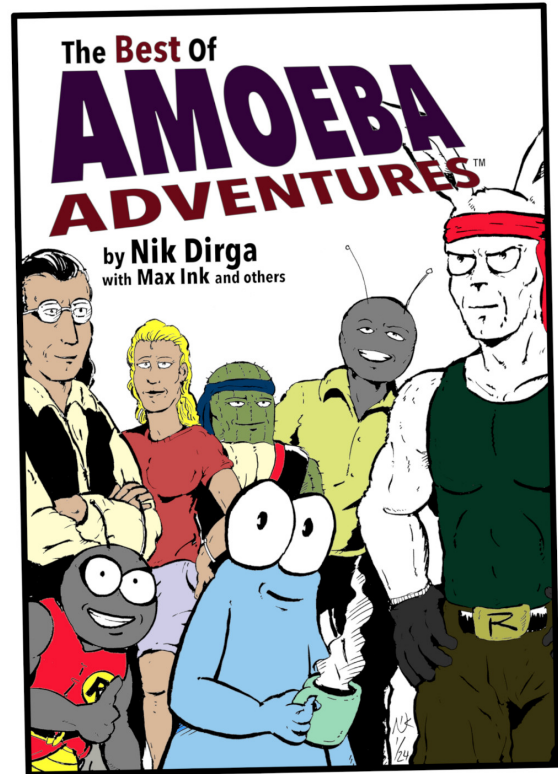
- Tony Isabella, DC and Marvel Comics writer, creator of Black Lightning

**"Small press has never seen the like of this before and I think it will be a long time before we see this again."**

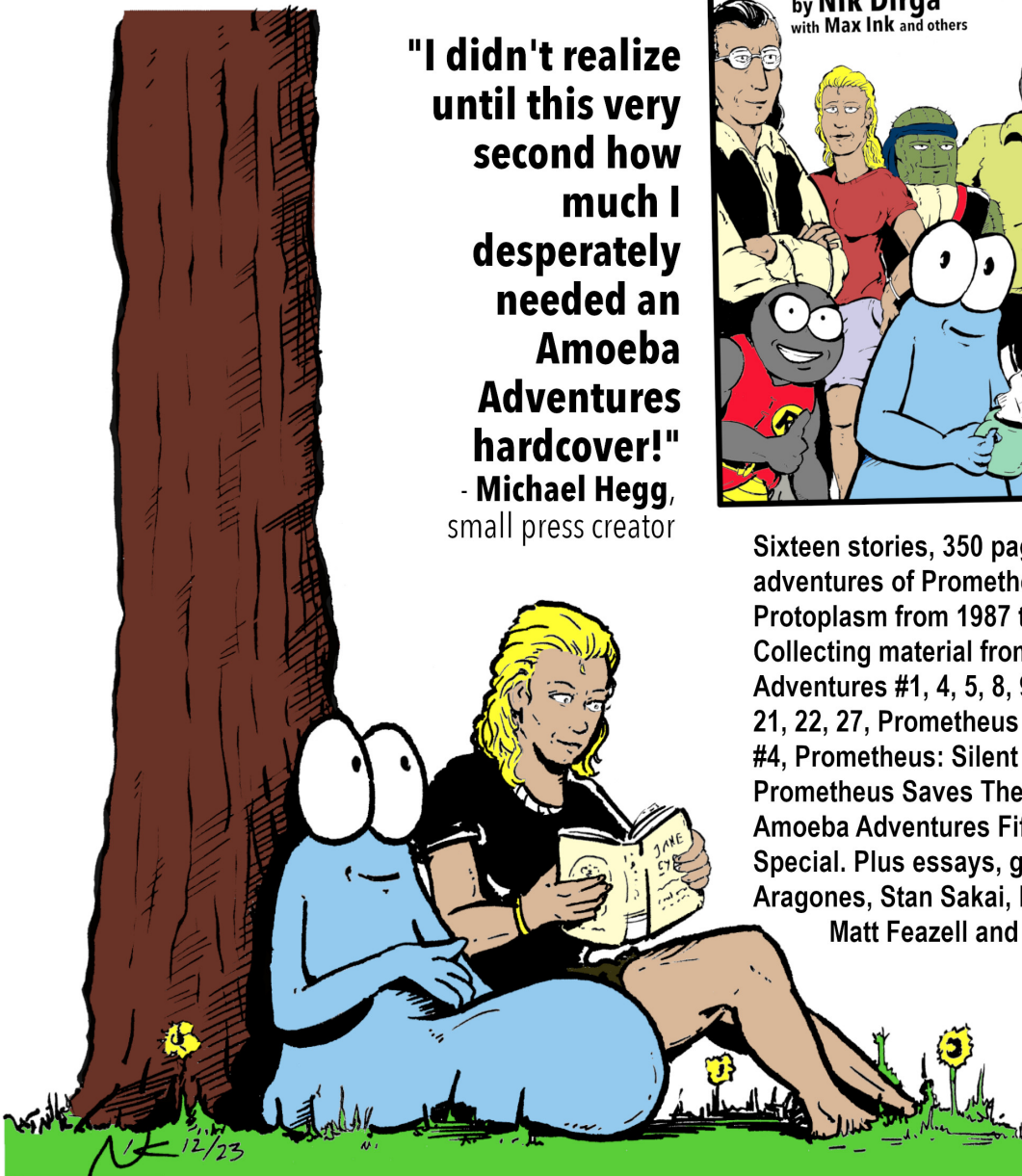
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