

WIZZYWIG

ED PISKOR

TOP SHELF
PRODUCTIONS

DEDICATED TO YOU, THE READER

BECAUSE YOU ARE LITERALLY AND FIGURATIVELY
HOLDING MY PAST, MY PRESENT, AND MY
FUTURE IN THE PALMS OF YOUR HANDS.

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CHAPTER

1



THE WORD ON THE STREET

HE WAS IN
CAHOOTS WITH
THE TOWELHEADS
I BET!



I'M LESS AFRAID
TO MAKE PURCHASES
ON EBAY NOW.



HE COULD WHISTLE
INTO TELEPHONES
TO TRIGGER A
NUCLEAR MISSILE!



HE AIN'T GONNA
BE ABLE TO
COPE!



ALL THIS
PUBLICITY MUST
REALLY STROKE
HIS EGO!





OFF THE ROCKER

with your host
**WINSTON
SMITH**

WABC 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

...IF YOU ARE NEW TO THIS SHOW, THERE
IS NO DOUBT WHY YOU ARE HERE.



I ALWAYS WANTED A BIGGER AUDIENCE,
BUT NOT UNDER THESE

CIRCUMSTANCES.



THE COUNTRY IS BREATHING AN
UNNECESSARY SIGH OF RELIEF DUE TO
THE CAPTURE OF A

FUGITIVE



COMPUTER



HACKER.



NOW MY DIMINUTIVE TALK SHOW
HAS BEEN THRUST INTO THE

LIMELIGHT



BECAUSE THE ELUSIVE KEVIN "BOINGTHUMP"
PHENICLE JR. WAS A FORMER GUEST ON TH-THIS

PROGRAM.



HE ALSO HAPPENS TO BE MY

BEST FRIEND.



NEARLY EVERYTHING YOU HAVE BEEN HEARING
ABOUT HIM FROM MAINSTREAM MEDIA
SOURCES IS LAUGHABLE AND

ABSURD!



WHAT IS TRUE IS THAT KEVIN HAS
DONE SOME WRONG, BUT THE
PUNISHMENT MUST FIT THE

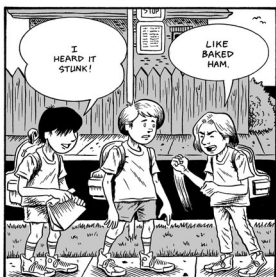
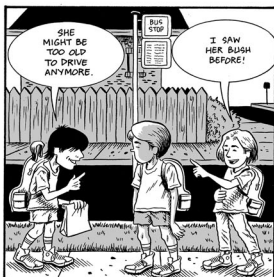
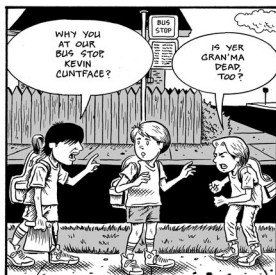
CRIME!

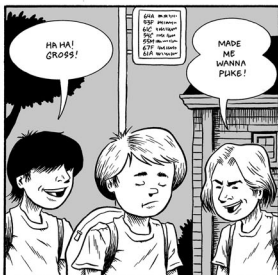


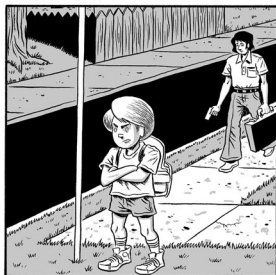
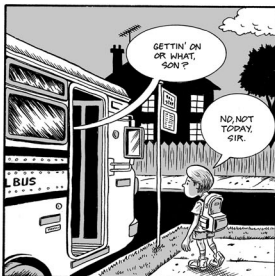
IT IS IMPORTANT TO DISPEL THE
SPECIOUSNESS ABOUT THIS CASE IN AN
EFFORT TO GET KEVIN SOME

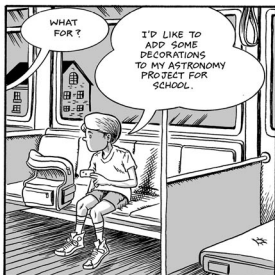
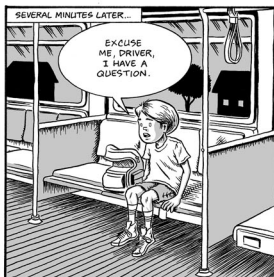
DUE PROCESS.

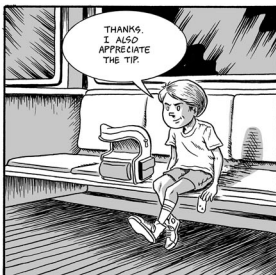


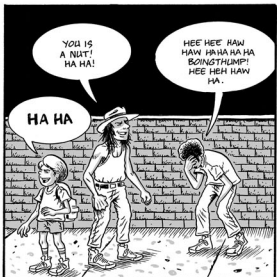
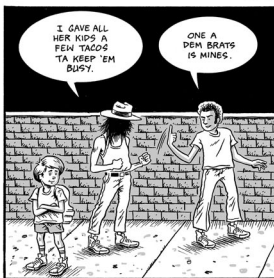


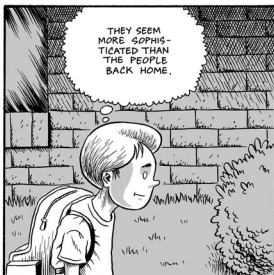


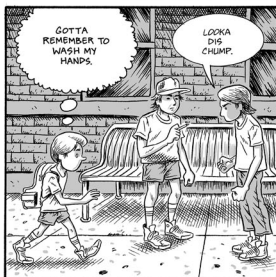


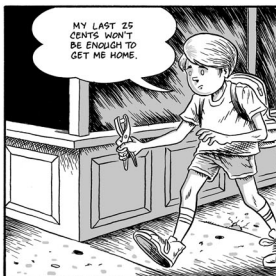


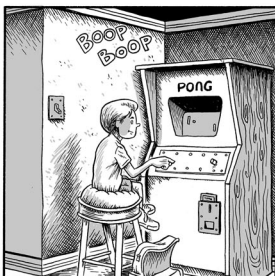
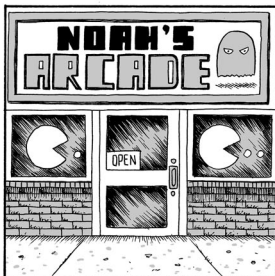


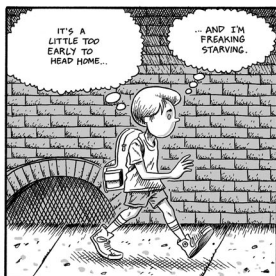
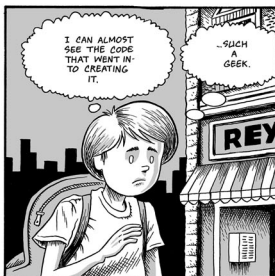
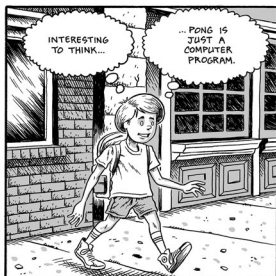


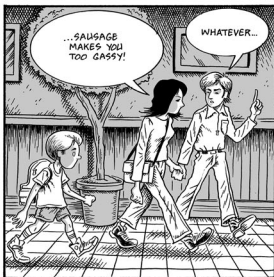


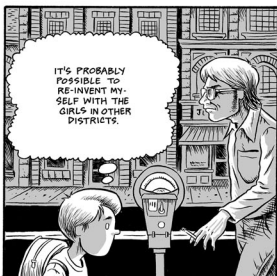
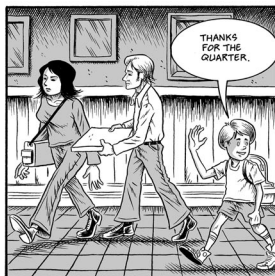


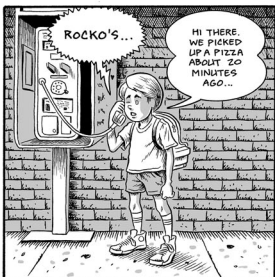


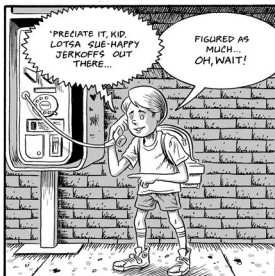


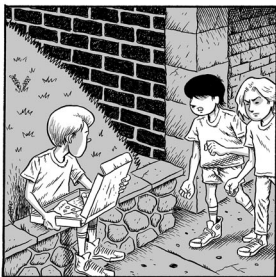


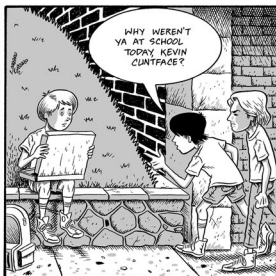


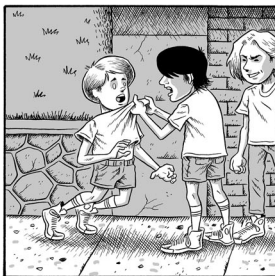
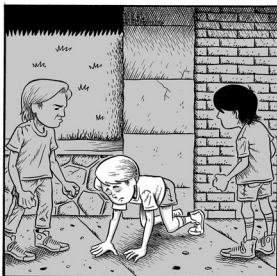


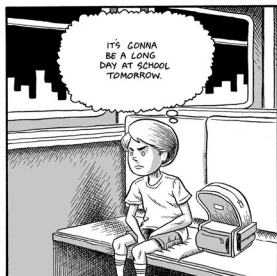


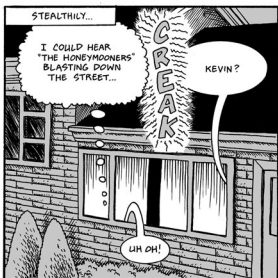
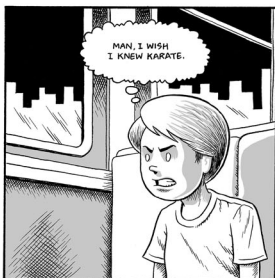












KEYS TO THE KINGDOM



THERE'S A GREAT ADVANTAGE TO BEING GROUNDED.



IT'S AN EXCUSE FOR STAYING INSIDE ALL DAY...



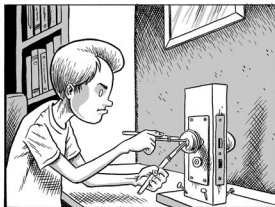
...WHICH LEADS TO ALL SORTS OF CRAZY PROJECTS...



... LIKE PRACTICING MY LOCKPICKING SKILLS.



THIS ONE IS A WHORE OF A LOCK... A SIX PIN AND TUMBLER.



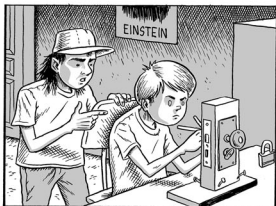
SHE REQUIRES A BIT MORE FINESSE
THAN JUST SIMPLY RAKING THE
PICK BACK AND FORTH.



HA HA! GUESS
GRANMA ISN'T
HOME.



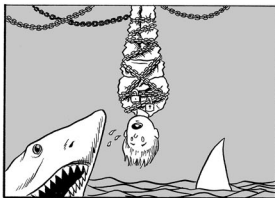
WINSTON IS COOL. HE'S THE
ONLY PERSON WHO REALLY
RESPECTS MY OBSESSIONS...
... AND HE'S HAPPY TO PARTICIPATE...



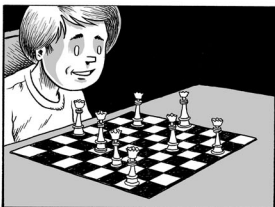
I'D BET GRAN'MA ACCIDENTALLY LEFT
THE FRONT DOOR UNLOCKED SO THAT
HE COULD GET IN, THOUGH.



I'M NOT SURE HOW I CAN BENEFIT
FROM THIS HOBBY.



I JUST REALLY ENJOY PUZZLES.



THIS LOCK REQUIRES A LEVEL
OF CONCENTRATION THAT I
CAN'T ACHIEVE WITH COMPANY.



THE CONVERSATION SHIFTS OVER
TO A FUZZLE THAT WE BOTH
ENJOY... THE PHONE SYSTEM.



WINSTON'S LACK OF KNOWLEDGE
IS COMPENSATED FOR BY HIS
ENTHUSIASM.



TURNS OUT A LITTLE WHILE AGO
SOME PEOPLE FIGURED OUT HOW
TO MAKE LONG DISTANCE PHONE
CALLS FOR FREE.



SPECIFIC AUDIO TONES PICKED UP
BY THE RECEIVER ARE ALL THAT'S
NEEDED. IT JUST SO HAPPENS I
WAS BORN WITH PERFECT PITCH.



IT ISN'T HARD FOR ME TO MIMIC
THE NECESSARY 2600hz TONE
BY WHISTLING INTO THE PHONE.



FIRST I PRETEND
TO BE HENRY KISSINGER AND
CALL THE VATICAN LOOKING
FOR THE POPE.



WINSTON CAN DO A MEAN
DICK VAN PATTEN.



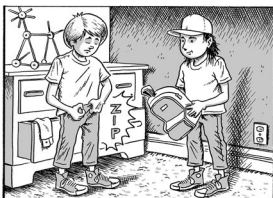
HE SAYS HE TALKED WITH A FEW GUYS
AT THE SWAP MEET WHO WERE SELLING
DEVICES THAT COULD APPROXIMATE THE
TONES.



THE "BLUE BOXES" ARE PRETTY
EXPENSIVE, BUT END UP BEING
A BETTER DEAL THAN GETTING
SODOMIZED BY THE PHONE
COMPANY EACH MONTH.



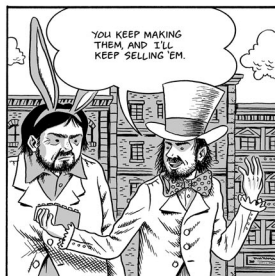
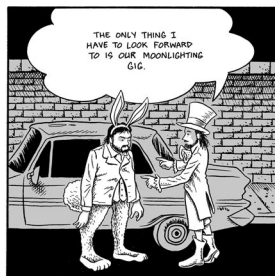
SINCE WINSTON CAN'T WHISTLE,
MAYBE THERE'S AN ANGLE TO
CONVINCE THE INVENTORS TO
DONATE A GADGET TO HIM.

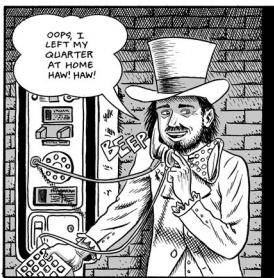
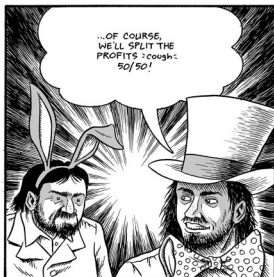


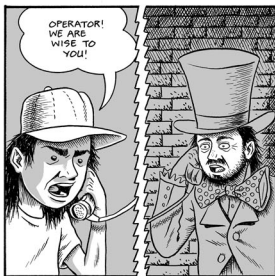
GRAN MA WILL JUST HAVE TO
ADD SOME TIME TO MY
SENTENCE.



THE MISADVENTURES OF STEVE AND STEVE

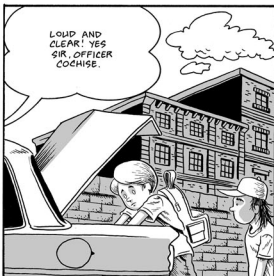
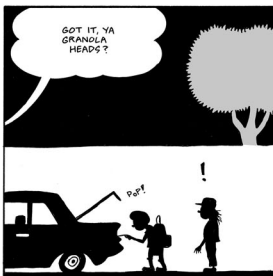
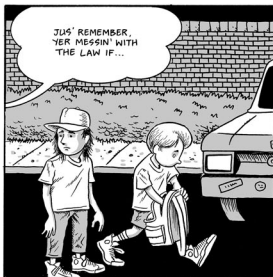












CHAPTER 2



SO YOU'RE FRIENDS WITH BOINGTHUMP?

I'M
HIS ONLY
FRIEND.

WE'VE
GROWN UP
IN VERY
SIMILAR
SITUATIONS.

MY INTERESTS
STARTED TO
DIVERSIFY, WHILE
HIS REMAINED
FOCUSED.

I STARTED
TO GET KINDA
UNCOMFORTABLE
FOR A LOT OF
REASONS.

HE CAN BE
VERY PERSUASIVE
WHEN HE TURNS
IT ON.

THE FEDS
CAN'T BE
CHARMED,
OBVIOUSLY.

I JUST HOPE
HE DOESN'T GET
COMPLETELY
RAILROADED.

WHAT IS YOUR GRANDSON LIKE?



DON'T FORGET, I DIDN'T SEE HIM MUCH THOSE FIRST FEW YEARS.



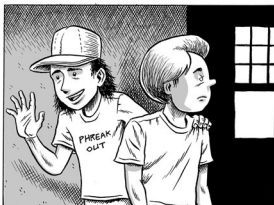
SINCE HE'S BEEN WITH ME, I FIND HIM TO BE VERY SWEET... YET, INWARD.



HE NEVER SEEMS TO BE BORED THOUGH.



I'M NOT SURE ABOUT HIS FRIEND WINSTON. MIGHT BE A POOR INFLUENCE.



KEVIN'S BEEN SAYING SOMETHING ABOUT A GIRLFRIEND, BUT I THINK HE'S JUST TELLING ME WHAT I WANT TO HEAR.

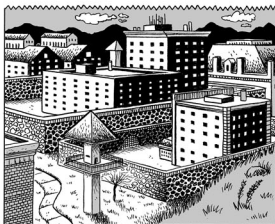


OFF THE ROCKER

with your host
**WINSTON
SMITH**

WABC 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

IT'S ALL GOING DOWN THE WAY
I EXPECTED IT WOULD.



HE'S BEEN IN THERE FOR SIX MONTHS
BY MY CALENDAR.



KEVIN STILL HASN'T BEEN FORMALLY
CHARGED WITH A CRIME.



THEY KEEP SAYING THINGS ABOUT
THE CASE BEING TOO COMPLICATED.



IT'S B.S.!! THEY WANT HIM TO FESTER!
THEY WANT US TO FORGET HIM!



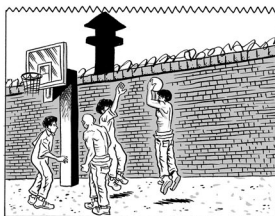
HE WAS ABLE TO ELUDE THE AUTHORITIES FOR YEARS, AND THEY HAVE EGG ON THEIR FACES.



THEY WANT TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OUT OF HIM.



WITH THE CURRENT MEDIA BIAS AGAINST HACKING, IT WILL NOT BE HARD FOR THEM TO ACHIEVE THIS.



PHENICLE'S KNOWLEDGE COULD BE SO HELPFUL TO OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.



I GUESS THEY'D RATHER HAVE KILLERS AND RAPISTS PICK HIS BRAIN FOR SUCH INFO.



I CAN GO ON, BUT LET ME GIVE YOU KEVIN'S ADDRESS TO SEND HIM BOOKS AND MAGAZINES BEFORE I FORGET.

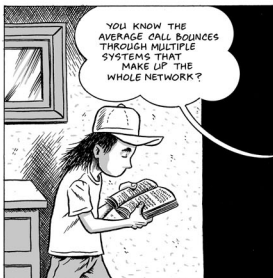
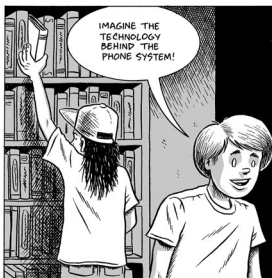




I THINK IT MIGHT BE A SYSTEM FOR
COPS TO SNOOP ON THE STREET CORNERS.



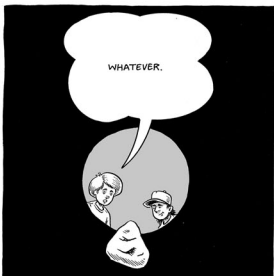
DETERMINATION





LISA





EXECUTION

I'M
CONFUSED
KEV.

THANKS
FOR THE
RIDE, SIR.



HOW WILL WE
GET INFO FROM
THE PHONE
GUYS?



THEY WOULDN'T
BE HELPFUL TO
US AT ALL...

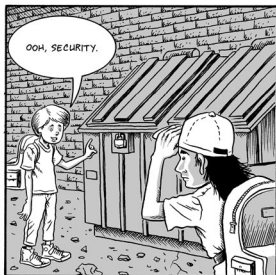


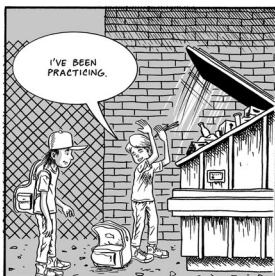
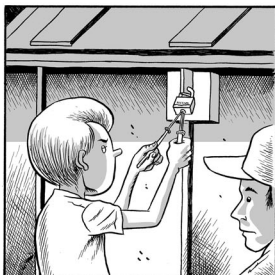
...SO WE'LL
TAKE A MORE
DIRECT
APPROACH.

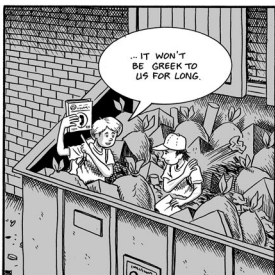
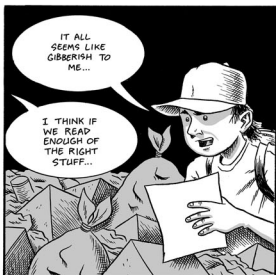


I'M STILL
CONFUSED.

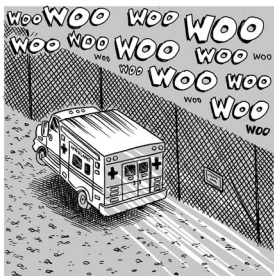


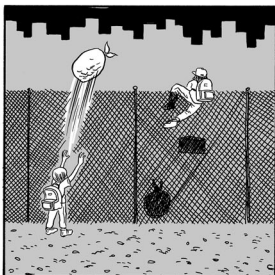


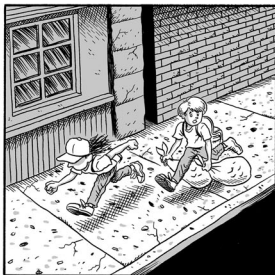
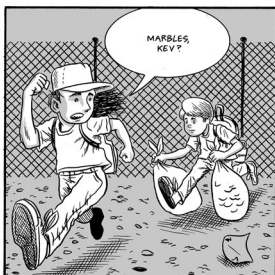
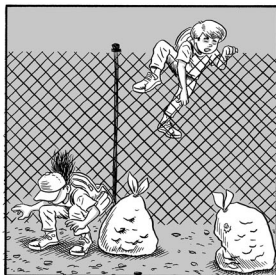


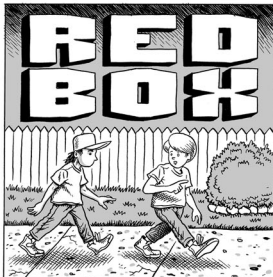


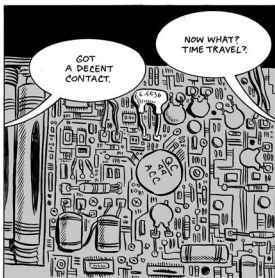


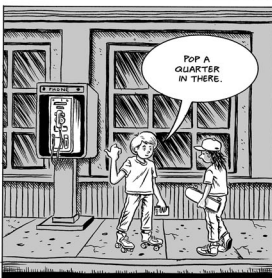


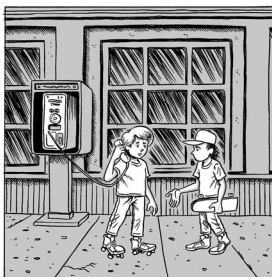


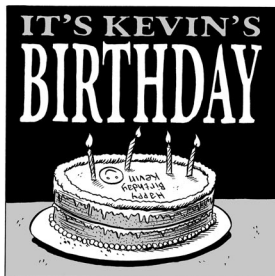




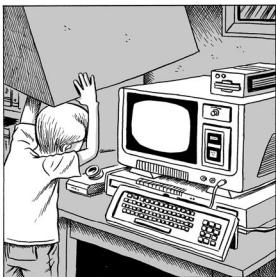
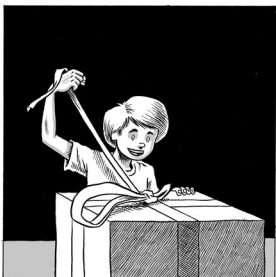


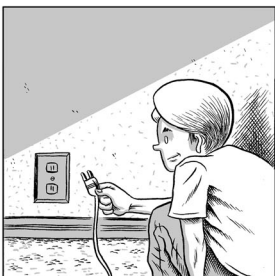
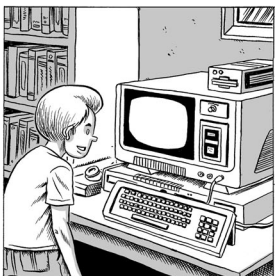
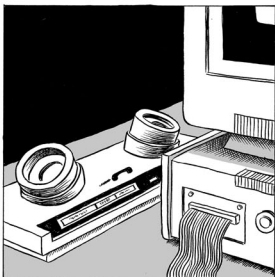












THE BIG DATE

WHY'D I LET HER TALK ME INTO THIS?



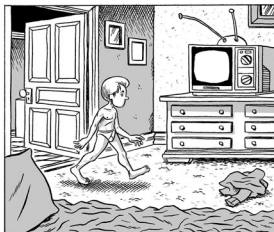
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO EAT ALL DAY.



UGH... I'D RATHER BE A BRAIN
IN A JAR.



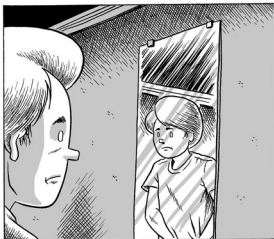
I JUST DON'T WANT TO
RUIN THE ILLUSION.



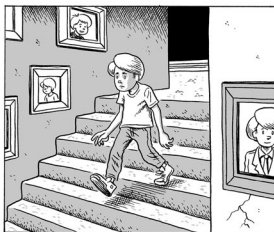
WHAT DOES SHE EXPECT ANYHOW?



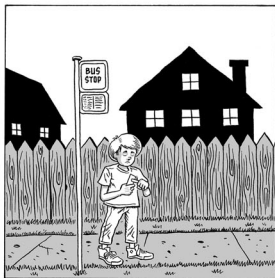
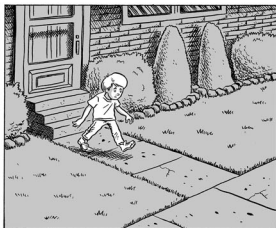
MAYBE SHE'LL HAVE TO RESCHEDULE...



CRAP.



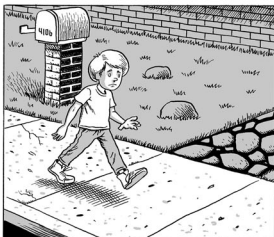
IS THIS THE FEELING GUYS HAVE WHEN
THEY'RE HEADING TO THE ELECTRIC CHAIR?



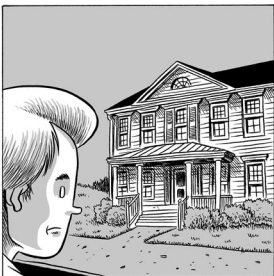
THAT WAS QUICK...



WISH THAT BUS RIDE WOULDN'T END.



I'M SURPRISED IT EVEN COMES
TO THIS PART OF TOWN.



GULP...



LOOK AT THE DISAPPOINTMENT
ALL OVER HER FACE!



AT LEAST THERE IS
NO SCHOOL FOR A
FEW DAYS.



FIN...

CHAPTER 3



THE MYTHOLOGY OF BOINGTHUMP

Handle: DR. PSYCHO, Computer: TI-99/4



Handle: ANUSMONGREL, Computer: SYM MODEL 1



Handle: CHOAD, Computer: IBM 5110 PORTABLE PC



Handle: DVORAKSNOB, Computer: APPLE II



Handle: GRIZZLYNIPS, Computer: ATARI 400



Handle: PROF DOOM , Computer: COMMODORE PET



Handle: PHREAKNIK , Computer: WAMECO S-100



Handle: JIMDOORBELL , Computer: NORTHSTAR



Handle: BLOODYKUNT , Computer: VECTOR 1



Handle: JIMJONES , Computer: HEATHKIT HB



Handle: OPTIKNERVE , Computer: ATARI 800



OFF THE ROCKER

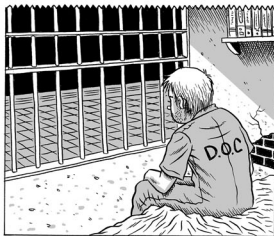
with your host
**WINSTON
SMITH**

WABC 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

I UNDERSTAND THAT KEVIN WAS
INITIALLY ON THE RUN FOR LIKE
FIVE YEARS...



... BUT HE'S BEEN LOCKED UP FOR OVER
A YEAR WITH NO TRIAL IN SIGHT...



IT'S INEXCUSABLE! AT LEAST NOW WE
KNOW SOME OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM...



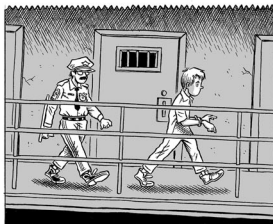
... MULTIPLE CHARGES OF MAIL, WIRE, AND
COMPUTER FRAUD, POSSESSION OF ACCESS
DEVICES, OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE, MONEY
LAUNDERING, PAROLE VIOLATION...



... JUST TO NAME A FEW...



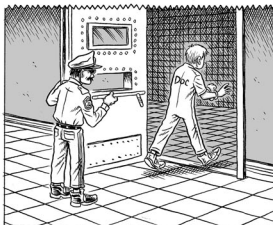
... ALSO, THE AMOUNT OF COST SOME COMPANIES CLAIM TO HAVE LOST DUE TO SECURITY BREACHES ARE NUTS!



THEY'RE ATTACHING WHAT THEY SPENT TO CREATE THE SYSTEMS THAT KEV BROKE INTO FOR THEIR FINAL TOTALS!



THE AUTHORITIES ARE SO AFRAID OF KEVIN THAT THEY WILL KEEP HIM IN THERE FOREVER IF THEY CAN.



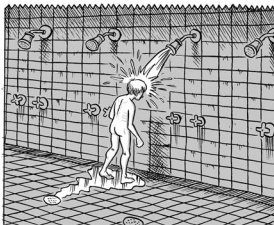
AS IT STANDS NOW, IF HE WAS TO DO THE MAX AMOUNT OF TIME FOR THE LISTED CHARGES...

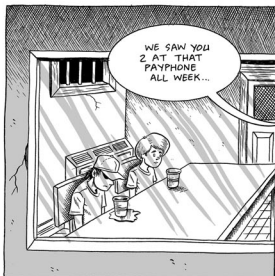
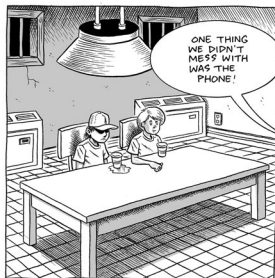


-- HE WOULD BE LOCKED UP FOR OVER 100 YEARS!

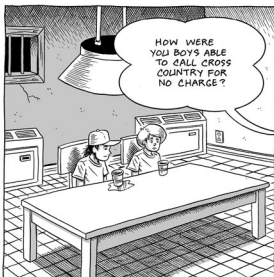


ALL FOR CRIMES WITH NO REAL, HUMAN VICTIMS...

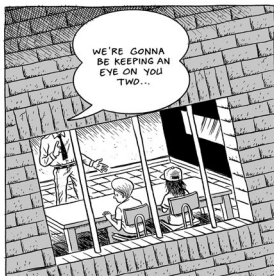




YOU KNOW WHEN A GUY MAKES A
FREE LONG DISTANCE CALL THAT IT'S
CONSIDERED STEALING?



HA! THEN WHY DID THE PHONE
CHARGE US WHEN WE TRIED TO
MAKE A CALL?



AFTER SHOCK

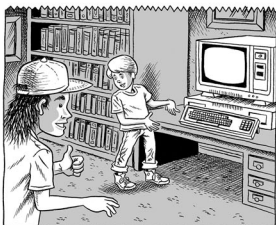




Now What Do You Do With It?



...DON'T GET ME WRONG, HIS NEW TRS-80 WAS BEAUTIFUL!



... AND KEVIN'S MIND WAS PERFECTLY SUITED TO UNDERSTAND ALL SORTS OF INTENSE COMPUTER LOGIC AND PROGRAMMING...

... IT'S JUST THAT THE HONEYMOON WAS OVER KINDA FAST BECAUSE THERE WAS ONLY SO MUCH THAT WE COULD FIGURE OUT ON OUR OWN.



KEV WAS THE FIRST KID IN SCHOOL WITH A COMPUTER, SO WE COULDN'T REALLY PUT HIS MODEM TO USE.

THE GUY AT THE COMPUTER STORE WAS NO HELP. HE CALLED KEV'S COMP THE "TRASH-80"...



... SOOO ONE OF US DECIDED TO
KEEP THE BALL FROM A COMPUTER
MOUSE.



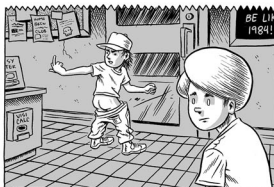
I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT GUY. HE
WAS A SUCKER FOR APPLE PRODUCTS.



HE REALLY FLIPPED WHEN I MADE FUN
OF THEIR "LEMMINGS" COMMERCIAL.



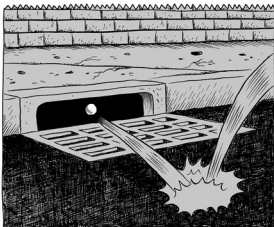
AT THE TIME, I DIDN'T REALIZE I WAS
PROVIDING KEV SOME COVER...



... BECAUSE HE SWIPED A BUNCH OF
COMPUTER BBS NUMBERS FOR US
TO CONNECT WITH.



THAT'S WHEN WE GOT THE BALL
ROLLING, SO TO SPEAK...



THE BBS

USER: _____
PASS: *****

I'VE BEEN READING ABOUT COMPUTER
BULLETIN BOARD SYSTEMS SINCE
BEFORE I GOT MY RIG.



LINKING WITH OTHER COMPUTERS HAS
BEEN THE NEXT LOGICAL STEP FOR US.



I EXPECT THE WORLD WILL GET A LITTLE
LESS LONELY NOW.



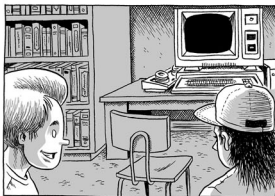
I WONDER ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO
RUN THE BBS'S.



THEY ARE LIKE RULERS OVER THEIR OWN
LITTLE KINGDOMS... GODS EVEN!



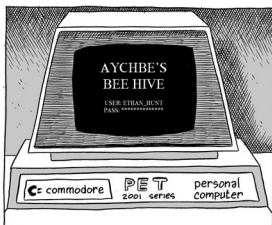
THERE IS PROBABLY SO MUCH THAT I
CAN LEARN FROM THEM.



WE WILL PROBABLY BE TREATED WITH
GREATER RESPECT TOO, SINCE NO ONE
WILL KNOW WE'RE JUST KIDS.



DAMMIT! EVERY FUN-SOUNDING BOARD
IS PASSWORD PROTECTED. I'LL HAVE
TO WORK ON THAT.



UGH! MOST OF THESE LOCAL ONES
ARE DULL AS HELL.



THERE IS ONE PIRATE BOARD ON
THE LIST THOUGH.



JUST LIKE REAL LIFE, THERE
ARE SOME DARK ALLEYS
THAT I FIND IMPRESSIVE.



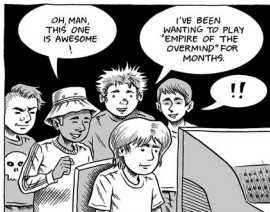
KEVIN, THE ENTREPRENEUR



THE OUT-OF-TOWN BBS'S AREN'T
CHEAP TO CONNECT TO, I GUESS...



NOW THAT SOME SCHOOLMATES HAVE
STARTED GETTING COMPUTERS, WE
CAN SELL BOOTLEG GAMES...



GRAN'MA HAS BEEN GIVING ME SOME
TROUBLE FOR RUNNING UP THE PHONE
BILLS...



I CAN EASILY CIRCUMVENT THE COPY PROTECTION ON ANY COMPUTER GAME...



THERE IS SO MUCH GREAT STUFF OUT THERE, AND NO ONE CAN AFFORD IT ALL...



WINSTON'S JOB IS TO ASK AROUND
AND TAKE ORDERS...



WE BORROW GAMES, RIP THEM, SELL
COPIES, AND MAKE A PROFIT. BUT THERE
IS A CATCH.



BECAUSE I CAN'T HELP MYSELF, I
DECIDED TO INJECT SOME CODE OF
MY OWN INTO THE COPIES.



EVERY 100 PLAYS WILL LOAD A SCREEN
WITH MY COMPUTER HANDLE AND A
SILLY MESSAGE BEFORE REBOOTING.

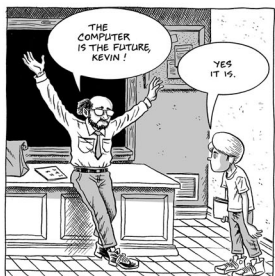
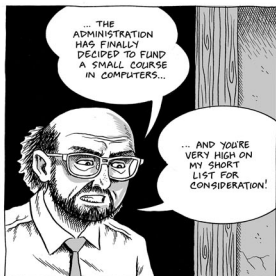
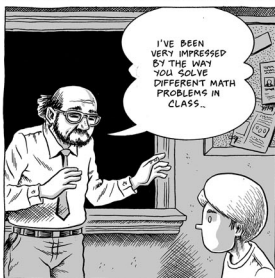
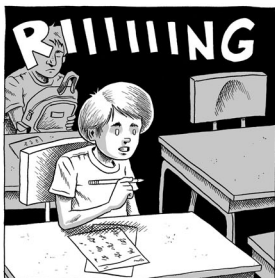
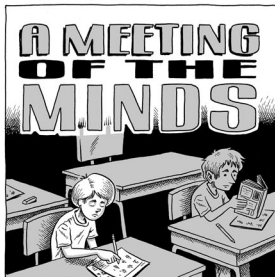


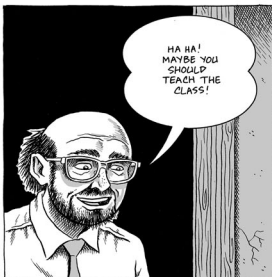
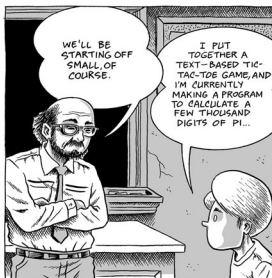
WHAT'S THE POINT OF ANYTHING, IF YOU
CAN'T HAVE FUN WITH IT?



I BET NO ONE BOOTS ANY DUMB GAME
CLOSE TO 100 TIMES ANYHOW.











BROWN NOSER

KEVIN J.
PHENICLE JR.
IS A TURD!

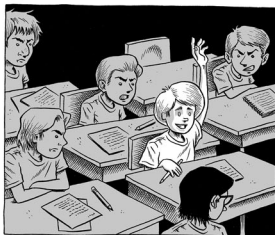
I
HATE
HIM!



I AM THE BRIGHTEST KID IN THE SCHOOL...



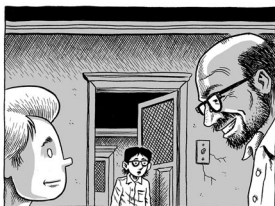
... BUT HE ALWAYS CAN HELP MR. KRAMER
WITH ANY OF HIS SILLY COMPUTER PROBLEMS.



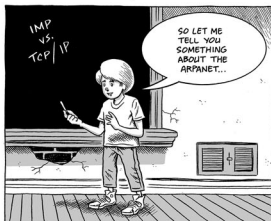
KRAMER WILL
MANUFACTURE
THESE PROBLEMS
SPECIFICALLY TO
MAKE PHENICLE
LOOK GOOD!

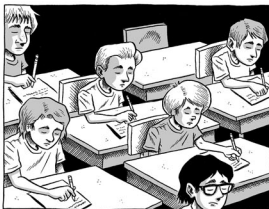
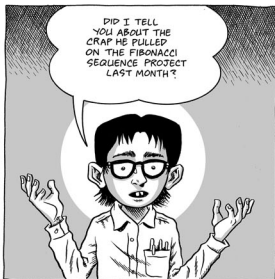


IT'S CLEAR TO ME THAT THEY ARE BOTH
HOMOSEXUALS! THEIR KIND SHOULD BE
BURNED AT THE STAKE!



IT CERTAINLY EXPLAINS ALL THE SPECIAL
TREATMENT HE GETS IN CLASS!





SINCE THERE ARE ONLY A FEW SYSTEMS IN CLASS, WE HAVE TO START WORK ON PAPER FIRST, AND KEVIN WAS TAKING FOREVER AT THAT STAGE.

IN FACT, HE WAS LATE WITH GETTING THE ASSIGNMENT FINISHED...



...AND WHAT HE TURNED IN WASN'T THE TRUE ASSIGNMENT AT ALL! HE MADE AN APP THAT SIFTED THROUGH THE DICTIONARY TO REVEAL MR. KRAMER'S PASSWORD.

YOUR PASSWORD IS "SUICIDE"!? YOU SHOULD PROBABLY CHOOSE A WORD THAT'S NOT IN THE DICTIONARY! DUMMY!



WAR DIALING

HOW CAN I LOCATE MORE BBS'S WITHOUT
KNOWING THEIR ACTUAL PHONE NUMBERS?



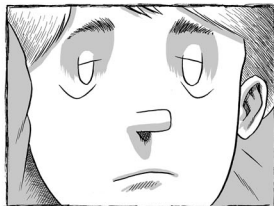
WHAT A FOOLISH THING TO BE THINKING
ABOUT AT 2 IN THE MORNING.



EVERY BOARD I HAVE ACCESS TO HAS BEEN
COMPLETELY EXHAUSTED! THERE IS NO
GOOD CONTENT.



AT BEST, THEY ARE REHASHING ANARCHIST
COOKBOOK GARBAGE.



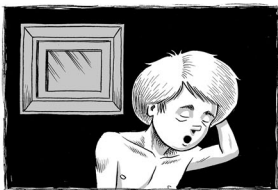
IT SHOULDN'T BE HARD TO GET THE
COMPUTER TO SNIFF OUT INTERESTING
PHONE NUMBERS.



I'LL CREATE A SCRIPT TO CALL THROUGH
A BLOCK OF PHONE NUMBERS... LIKE EVERY-
THING BETWEEN 555-0000 - 555-9999.



I CAN SET IT TO HANG UP AND TRY A
NEW NUMBER IF SOMEONE PICKS UP OR
IF IT RINGS.



IF THE COMPUTER MAKES A CONNECTION
I'LL NEED TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO RECORD
THAT NUMBER FOR REVIEW.



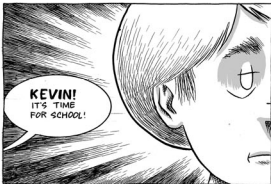
I FEEL CLEAR-HEADED ENOUGH TO
SITUATE THESE "IF" AND "THEN"
STATEMENTS IN THE CORRECT ORDER.



HOLY CRAP! IT'S 6:30 ALREADY. NO
CHANCE TO DEBUG!

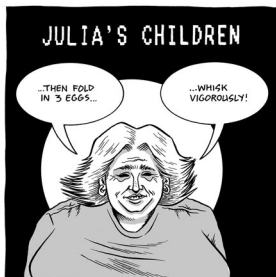


GONNA HAVE TO TEST IT LIVE.



HOPE I COME HOME TO SOME
INTERESTING RESULTS.

UNEARTHED BBS'S



AFTER SIFTING THROUGH MANY ESOTERIC, STUPID, AND DIMINUTIVE COMPUTER BULLETIN BOARD SYSTEMS, KEVIN STUMBLED ONTO THIS BOARD

ASSJACKET'S HAVEN

ARE YOU GUYS SEEING THIS 'BOINGTHUMP' GUY POSTING ABOUT ALL HIS DIFFERENT HACKS AND STUFF?



username:
SEAL

I SEE THE NAME AROUND. HE'S A KNOW-IT-ALL!



username:
DEEPEGEEK

YEAH, FUCK THAT GUY! WHO MADE HIM AN AUTHORITY?



username:
FULLTANGINJA

I HOPE HE GETS THE AIDS.



username:
MAGNUM I.P.

YOU CAN'T CATCH THAT SHIT THROUGH THE COMPUTER CAN YOU? HA!



username:
DUKECITY420

JUST WEAR RUBBER GLOVES WHEN YOU'RE TYPING. HA HA!



username:
MATT_BOR

YOU THINK BOINGTHUMP MIGHT BE A GIRL?



username:
SUNNYCHIBA69

SURE IS A CUNT!



username:
ORALMINISTRATION

...SEE WHAT HAPPENS IF I EVER BUMP INTO HIM/HER!



username:
Z_KNOW_PHOBE

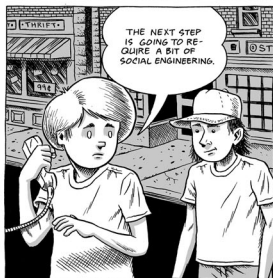
HE'S WORSE THAN THE NAZIS.



username:
GODWIN'S_THEORY

OWNED









NEWS AT 6 ON WABCD CHANNEL 2

**YOUR ANCHORMAN
WITH A TAN:**

RON SHUMWAY

UNWANTED, SELF-PROPAGATING PROGRAMS
KNOWN AS "COMPUTER VIRUSES" HAVE
EXISTED IN COMPUTER LABORATORIES
FOR YEARS.



THROUGH A NATIONAL INVESTIGATION, IT APPEARS
THAT AN EXTREMELY HIGH VOLUME OF INFECTED
COMPUTERS THAT CONTAIN THE "BOINGTHUMP" VIRUS
ARE LOCATED WITHIN THIS BROADCAST'S VIEWERSHIP.
LEADING PROFESSIONALS TO SUSPECT THE BIRTH OF
THE BUG LOCALLY, ALMOST EVERY OTHER COMPUTER
IN TOWN IS INFECTED.



OUR TOP STORY IS DIRECTED TOWARD
OUR VIEWERS WHO OWN AND OPERATE
PERSONAL COMPUTERS. THERE SEEMS
TO BE A NEW DANGER WHICH MAY
"INFECT" YOUR SYSTEM.



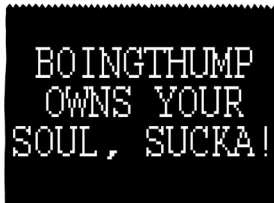
EXPERTS HAVE EXTRAPOLATED THAT
THE SOURCE OF THIS NEW BUG MAY
HAVE ORIGINATED HERE IN STEEL
VALLEY.



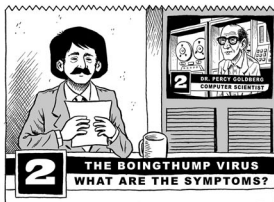
SHARING DISKS OF PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION ARE
A COMMON PRACTICE AMONGST COMPUTER USERS,
WHICH HELPED THE VIRUS MAKE ITS WAY ACROSS
THE COUNTRY AT A RAPID PACE. AUTHORITIES AT A
FEDERAL LEVEL ARE INTERESTED IN THE BUG
BECAUSE THE VERY IDEA OF INSTALLING SECRET,
UNDETECTED PROGRAMS ONTO COMPUTERS COULD
BE DANGEROUS TO NATIONAL SECURITY.



THE BOINGTHUMP VIRUS REVEALS ITSELF EVERY 100 TIMES A USER 'BOOTS' HIS COMPUTER. THE SOMEWHAT INSULTING MESSAGE MAKES THE COMPUTER UNUSABLE, BUT CAN SIMPLY BE RESTARTED, MAKING THE VIRUS LIE DORMANT FOR 100 MORE START-UPS. NO OTHER DAMAGE IS INFLICTED AS A RESULT OF THIS BUG.

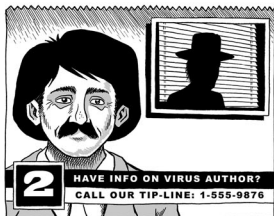


BECAUSE THE VIRUS IS REVEALED AFTER 100 TIMES THE COMPUTER IS TURNED ON, A SYSTEM CAN HOUSE THIS VIRUS MONTHS BEFORE THE OWNER DISCOVERS THE PROBLEM, POTENTIALLY CORRUPTING DISKS ALL THE WHILE. WE SPOKE WITH A LOCAL COMPUTER SCIENTIST WHO HAD THIS TO SAY:



**2 THE BOINGTHUMP VIRUS
WHAT ARE THE SYMPTOMS?**

MANY QUESTIONS ARE RAISED ABOUT THE AUTHOR OF THE VIRUS. WHAT MOTIVATES HIM? WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF UNLEASHING THIS? AUTHORITIES WOULD APPRECIATE ANY LEADS AS TO WHO THIS GRIEFER MAY BE. IN CLOSING, AN FBI AGENT SAID:



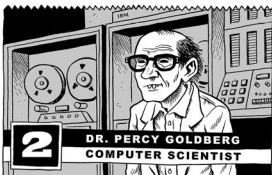
**2 HAVE INFO ON VIRUS AUTHOR?
CALL OUR TIP-LINE: 1-555-9876**

THE VIRUS IS KNOWN TO INSTALL ITSELF BY BOOTING AN INFECTED FLOPPY DISK THAT CONTAINS THE PROGRAM. THE BUG ADDS ITSELF TO YOUR SYSTEM AND INFECTS ANY OTHER DISKS THAT ARE INSERTED INTO THE COMPUTER.



**2 PROTECT YOUR COMPUTER
BE CAREFUL OF UNKNOWN DISKS**

THE VIRUS ITSELF IS A MINOR NUISANCE, THANK GOODNESS, BUT THE IDEA OF A SELF-REPRODUCING APPLICATION IS VERY ALARMING. IMAGINE IF THE CREATOR OF THIS VIRUS WANTED TO DESTROY DATA OR SOMEHOW RENDER YOUR COMPUTER USELESS, WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING HARD ON SOME TOOLS THAT WILL DETECT SPECIFIC STRANGE BEHAVIORS WHICH MAY INDICATE A VIRUS, BUT IT'S GOING TO TAKE SOME TIME TO WORK THE BUGS OUT.



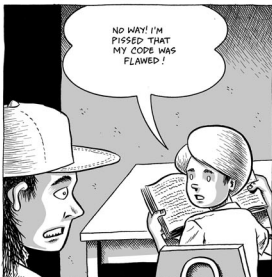
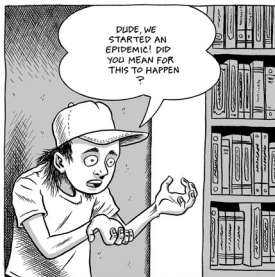
**2 DR. PERCY GOLDBERG
COMPUTER SCIENTIST**

EVEN THOUGH THERE IS NO LAW ON THE BOOKS FOR COMPUTER VIRUSES, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE TO PREPARE FOR AN ERA WHERE DIGITAL CRIME EXISTS. THIS VIRUS TOOK A LOT OF TIME TO BE DISCOVERED. THOUSANDS OF COMPUTERS CAN BE INFECTED WITH SOMETHING HAZARDOUS RIGHT NOW, AND IT COULD SIT DORMANT LIKE A TIME BOMB WAITING TO GO OFF AT THE MOST INOPPORTUNE TIME.



**2 ANONYMOUS FBI AGENT ON CASE
DISGUISED TO PROTECT IDENTITY**

UNEXPECTED RESULTS





CHAPTER 4



OFF THE ROCKER

with your host
**WINSTON
SMITH**

WABC 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

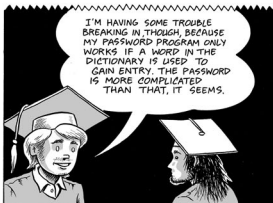
...THE END OF THIS CHAPTER HIT ME
LIKE A TON OF BRICKS...



... BUT I WAS EXCITED TO PURSUE
MY COMMUNICATIONS DEGREE.



KEVIN WASN'T SO SURE ABOUT WHAT
HE WANTED TO DO, THOUGH.



I MEAN, I GUESS HE MAY HAVE HAD
SOME VAGUE IDEA...



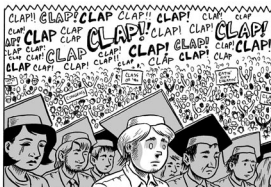
... CERTAINLY SOMETHING IN THE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS OR THE
COMPUTER FIELD.



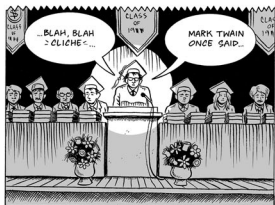
UNFORTUNATELY, KEVIN MADE SOME MISTAKES, AND WE'RE STUCK WITH WHAT WE HAVE NOW.



2 YEARS IN PRISON! 2 YEARS WITH NO TRIAL! IS THIS JUSTICE?!



I WAS FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO VISIT HIM LAST WEEK. THE MAN STILL HAS FAITH THAT THE SYSTEM WON'T COMPLETELY RAPE HIM...



... EVEN WITH THIS MORE ACCURATE SET OF CHARGES, HE REMAINS OPTIMISTIC.



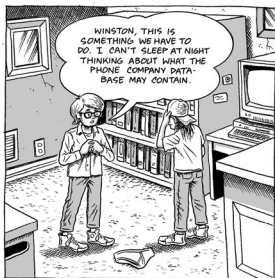
4 CHARGES MAIL FRAUD, 5 COUNTS WIRE AND COMPUTER FRAUD, 14 COUNTS OF POSSESSING ILLEGAL ACCESS DEVICES, 3 FOR MONEY LAUNDERING, 11 OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE VIOLATIONS, TO NAME A FEW...

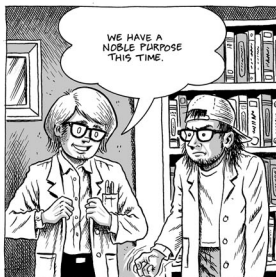


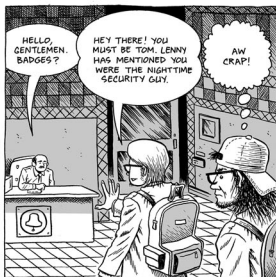
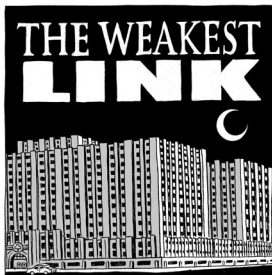
IT'S TIME FOR US TO WRITE OUR ELECTED OFFICIALS! CONGRESSMEN, SENATORS, EVERYBODY!!

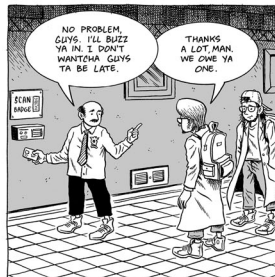


PRELUDE TO THE BREACH





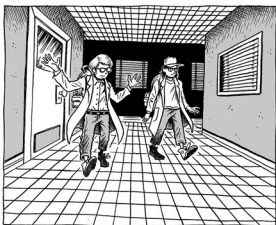




BEHIND ENEMY LINES



KEVIN REALLY MAY BE A SOCIOPATH.



I DON'T KNOW HOW HE CAN KEEP CALM,
BUT I'M ABOUT TO SHIT MYSELF!

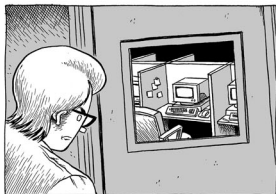


WHAT KINDA GUY HANGS AROUND A
PHONE COMPANY LOBBY GETTING TO
KNOW EVERY GUARD, JANITOR, AND
REPAIRMAN...

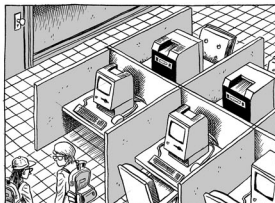


...TO THE POINT THAT HE CAN NAVIGATE
A COMPLEX PERFECTLY WITHOUT EVER
BEING THERE FIRSTHAND?

FUCKING KEVIN!



THE COMPUTER ROOM WAS LOCKED,
BUT THE KEY WAS EASILY LOCATED
ON A RING IN THE JANITOR'S CLOSET.



THEY SURE CARE A LOT ABOUT
SECURITY IN THIS PLACE.



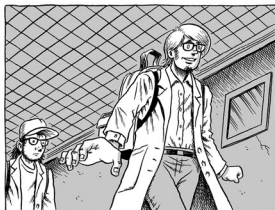
WE GOT WHAT WE CAME FOR,
BUT IT'S HARD TO CONVINCE
KEY TO LEAVE.



HE'S JUST NEVER SATISFIED.



HOW DOES THAT SAYING GO?
SOMETHING ABOUT FLYING TOO
CLOSE TO THE SUN WITH WAX
WINGS?!



PERCIVAL, THE KEY WITNESS



SO WE WERE THERE TRYING TO FIGURE OUT HOW TO PROCEED WITH BUSINESS AS USUAL. PERLMAN WAS A KNOW-IT-ALL LIKE ALWAYS.



AT FIRST, PERLMAN WAS HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS OF THOSE TWO AND QUESTIONED THEM EXTENSIVELY. BOINGTHUMP WAS COOL AND COLLECTED, AND EVEN OFFERED TO CALL HIS SUPERVISOR.



A FEW OTHER EXECUTIVES AND I HAD A LATE NIGHT MEETING DUE TO THE FACT THAT OUR COMPANY HAD TO DIVEST BECAUSE OF SO-CALLED "MONOPOLISTIC PRACTICES." JUDGE GREEN WAS AN IDIOT IF YOU ASK ME.



THAT'S WHEN PHENICLE BARGED IN WITH AN UNKNOWN ASSAILANT. THEY STILL NEVER FOUND THAT GUY, NEITHER OF THEM WERE FAMILIAR, BUT IT WAS TYPICAL FOR THE COMPUTER ENGINEERS TO BE THERE ALL HOURS OF THE NIGHT.



WE DIDN'T THINK THAT WAS NECESSARY AND LET THEM GO ABOUT THEIR BUSINESS, STUPID US, BUT I NEVER FORGOT PHENICLE'S FACE, WHICH WAS IMPORTANT WHEN THE INVESTIGATION BEGAN.



RETREAT

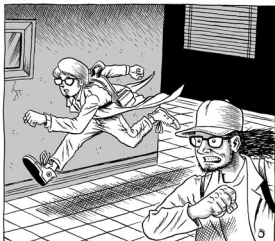


AS WE HIT THE CORNER, I ALLOWED
MY TRUE FEELINGS TO BE KNOWN.

WE GOT OUT OF THERE BY THE
SKIN OF OUR TEETH, NO THANKS
TO WINSTON.



NO NEED TO WAIT AROUND FOR
AN ELEVATOR, EITHER!



SURE HOPE NOTHING HAPPENS TO
THE NICE SECURITY GUY!



MAN, IT'S GETTING LATE, AND NOW
THAT WE HAVE THIS PASSWORD,
THE NIGHT IS JUST BEGINNING.



30 Days Of Access

DAY 3: KEVIN CAN NOW CALL ANY LONG DISTANCE PHONE NUMBER AND BBS FROM HOME, WHICH MAKES HIM HAPPY. HE CAN MAKE THOSE RECORDS DISAPPEAR FROM HIS GRANDMOTHER'S PHONE BILL WITH EASE.



DAY 7: KEVIN ADDS CALLER ID TO THE PHONE LINE AT HIS HOUSE.



DAY 1: KEVIN THOROUGHLY LOOKS THROUGH THE PHONE COMPANY COMPUTER SYSTEM. HE REALIZES THAT WITH THE SPECIAL PERMISSIONS GRANTED BY THE STOLEN PASSWORD HE CAN BASICALLY DO WHATEVER HE WANTS, SO...



DAY 6: KEVIN LEARNS ABOUT A WEIRD, NEW, CREEPY FEATURE CALLED "CALLER ID" HE WONDERS WHEN THIS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.



DAY 13: KEVIN THINKS IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO CHANGE THE INTERNAL CLOCK ON THE DATABASE FROM 3:00AM TO 3:00 PM. IT WILL TAKE SOME TIME FOR THE PHONE COMPANY TO BECOME AWARE OF THE DISCREPANCY.



DAY 16: KEVIN SCUFFLES WITH A FEW DRUNK PEOPLE WHO REMEMBERED HIM FROM HIGH SCHOOL. THAT NIGHT, THE INTOXICATED MAN'S PHONE BILL SOMEHOW GOT MIXED UP WITH THE LOCAL HOSPITAL'S \$32,000 PHONE BILL.



DAY 22: KEVIN MAKES A GAME OF COLLECTING THE PHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES OF CELEBRITIES.



DAY 27: KEVIN FINDS A FILE DEEP WITHIN THE DATABASE THAT LOGS THE PHONE NUMBER OF EVERY COMPUTER THAT ACCESSES THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING KEVIN'S HOME PHONE NUMBER.



DAY 20: KEVIN ACTIVATES A DEAD PHONE LINE IN HIS ROOM WITH JUST A FEW CLICKS OF THE KEYBOARD.



DAY 25: KEVIN MAKES OUTGOING CALLS FREE-OF-CHARGE AT THE PAYPHONE ON THE CORNER OF 21 AND LEWIS.



DAY 30: AFTER DAYS OF TRYING TO HIDE HIS TRACKS ON THE COMPUTER, KEVIN HEARS A FEW FIERCE, RAPID KNOCKS ON THE DOOR OF HIS BEDROOM.



TRUE CRIME IN STEEL VALLEY

NARRATED BY
**RON
SHUMWAY**

KEVIN 'BOINGTHUMP' PHENICLE WAS THE MASTERMIND BEHIND THE INTRUSION AND WAS RAPIDLY CAPTURED ONCE THE TELCO REPORTED THE BREACH TO THE FBI.



WHILE IN CUSTODY, THE MAD GENIUS, KEVIN, WAS QUESTIONED FOR DAYS AS THE AUTHORITIES GOT TO KNOW THE EXTENT OF HIS KNOWLEDGE AND COMPUTER INTRUSION TRACK RECORD.



LAST JUNE, THE PHONE COMPANY FELL VICTIM TO A PSYCHOTIC INVADER BENT ON USING THEIR TECHNOLOGY AGAINST THEM!



AT PHENICLE'S HOME, MANY PIECES OF COMPUTER EQUIPMENT WERE LOCATED ON THE PREMISES, HUNDREDS OF PIECES OF PROPRIETARY TELCO PROPERTY WERE ALSO CONFISCATED AT HIS LAIR.



IT TURNED OUT THAT PHENICLE HAD MADE A LIFE OF HACKING, PHONE PHREAKING, AND ESPIONAGE. THE FBI REALIZED QUICKLY THAT THEY HAD A VERY DANGEROUS INDIVIDUAL IN CUSTODY.



HIS PUBLIC DEFENDER HAD A HARD TIME ARGUING THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM!



THE JUDGE HAD LITTLE SYMPATHY FOR THE HEINOUS CRIMES OF PHENICLE AND NOBLY INVOKED THE MAXIMUM SENTENCE POSSIBLE FOR THIS MANIACAL INDIVIDUAL.



WINSTON'S DILEMMA



GROUNDHOG DAY

THE ONLY GOOD THING ABOUT SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IS THAT THE GUARDS DON'T SEEM TO CARE WHAT TIME I WAKE UP.



IT'S A MIRACLE I CAN SLEEP HERE AT ALL. I HEAR THE GUY IN THE NEXT CELL SCREAM ALL NIGHT AS HE THROWS FECEES AT THE GUARDS.



THEY WON'T LET ME HAVE A BELT TO KEEP MY PANTS UP. IT'S WEIRD BECAUSE THERE'S NO PLACE TO EVEN HANG MYSELF IN THIS CELL.



BETTER NOT USE TOO MUCH TOOTHPASTE. I'M NOT ALLOWED TO VISIT THE COMMISSARY UNTIL NEXT MONTH.



I SWEAR I SEE CRAP LIKE PLANKTON IN THE WATER SOMETIMES.



AS MY GENITALS RUB ON THE INSIDE OF THIS TOILET, I TRY NOT TO IMAGINE THE DISEASE-INFECTED INMATES WHO MAY HAVE ONCE INHABITED THIS CELL.



I LEARNED TO FORGET ABOUT MY MODESTY PRETTY EARLY HERE. IF I FELT THE LEAST BIT HUMAN, I'M SURE I'D BE HUMILIATED.



BREAKFAST TIME! IT HAS TO BE BETWEEN 7 AND 11 A.M.



THE MILK HASN'T TURNED TO COTTAGE CHEESE. YAY.



THE WARDEN HAS APPROVED OF THIS BOOK. GOD FORBID I HAVE ACCESS TO ANYTHING WRITTEN IN THE PAST 150 YEARS.



OH MAN!



SORRY, BUD. HAD TO SEE IF YOU HAD A GIZMO HIDING IN YOUR BOOK! HAW! HAW!



THEY'RE DOING A GREAT JOB OF KEEPING ME ON MY TOES.



I GUESS THIS IS BETTER THAN MINGLING WITH GENERAL POPULATION.



I FEEL LIKE SUCH A DOG IN HERE... ON A LEASH EVEN TO GO TAKE A SHOWER...



CHRIST KNOWS A DOG EATS BETTER, THOUGH. IT'S A REAL COST CUTTER TO FEED US THESE GREEN BOLOGNA SANDWICHES FOR DINNER EVERYDAY.



NOW THAT SUPPER IS OVER, IT MUST BE BETWEEN 5 AND 9 P.M. THAT MEANS THE DAY-LIGHT GUARDS SHOULD BE GONE...



WITH ALL THIS FREE TIME TO THINK AND REFLECT, I'M HAVING A HARD TIME COMING UP WITH A SENSIBLE PLAN FOR WHEN I GET OUT OF HERE. ALL I KNOW IS THAT I'M NEVER COMING BACK.



THIS OLD NIGHT-SHIFT GUY IS NICE. IT SEEMS THE YOUNGER GUARDS NEED TO SHOW WHO'S BOSS MORE THAN THE VETERANS. THEY'RE PROBABLY JUST A BIT ON EDGE.



I THINK BY GIVING ME SOLITARY, THE IDEA IS TO BREAK ME DOWN... HUMBLE ME. I NEVER REALLY TALK TO PEOPLE ANYHOW...



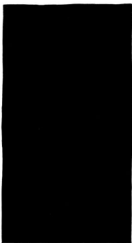
IT'S HARD TO READ THROUGH THE COMMO-TION. THE GUY NEXT DOOR FLOODED HIS TOILET DELIBERATELY, AS HE DOES SOME NIGHTS. I THINK I HEARD HIS RIB SNAP IN BETWEEN ALL THE HOLLERING.



WOW... DIDN'T TAKE LONG TO SUBDUDE HIM THIS TIME. MIGHT AS WELL TRY TO GET SOME SLEEP NOW THAT IT'S QUIET.



ANOTHER DAY IN THIS HELLHOLE DOWN...



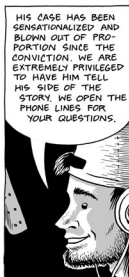
CARTONIST'S NOTE:

TO ACCURATELY UNDERSTAND KEVIN'S FIRST STAY IN PRISON, PLEASE READ THIS PAGE 240 TIMES BEFORE PROCEEDING.

THANK YOU!

OFF THE ROCKER

WITH YOUR HOST: WINSTON SMITH
STEEL VALLEY SCHOOL OF BROADCASTING
RADIO CHANNEL 640 ON YOUR A.M. DIAL





YESTERDAY, WHEN MANY OF US WERE CALLING CROSS-COUNTRY FOR MOTHER'S DAY, WE WERE GREETED WITH A DISTORTED BUSY SIGNAL...



...YOU MAY HAVE THOUGHT THE LINES WERE JAMMED, BUT THE COMPLETE LONG DISTANCE INFRASTRUCTURE COLLAPSED FOR A TIME...



... THE RESULT IS A PROJECTED LOSS OF MORE THAN \$10,000,000 ON WHAT IS ONE OF THE BUSIEST DAYS FOR USE OF THE SERVICE.







THE P.O. WOULD LIKE TO SEE ME
GAINFULLY EMPLOYED AND OUT OF
GRAN'MA'S HOUSE.



GETTING A DECENT PROGRAMMING
JOB REQUIRES LONG HOURS TO CREATE
A STRONG PORTFOLIO OF WORK.

I MET A KID ON A BBS WHO IS
HELPING ME ON A MAJOR PROJECT.

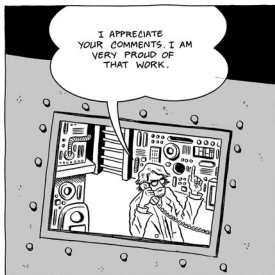


NAME: ROBERT T.
MORRIS
COMPUTER: APPLE IIE
PLUS
FAV. COMP.
LANGUAGE: C++
HANDLE: RTM

WE'RE MAKING AN APPLICATION TO
MEASURE THE SIZE OF THE INTERNET.







A NATIONWIDE COMPUTER NETWORK CALLED THE INTERNET, SPANNING THOUSANDS OF SYSTEMS, WAS RENDERED COMPLETELY UNUSABLE FOR DAYS DUE TO THE INJECTION OF WHAT IS A NEW KIND OF COMPUTER VIRUS CALLED A WORM.

A COMPUTER WORM IS A PROGRAM THAT REPLICATES ITSELF AND PROACTIVELY SENDS COPIES OF ITSELF TO OTHER SYSTEMS.

THE PURPOSE OF THIS DESTRUCTIVE WORM IS UNCLEAR AT THIS POINT, THOUGH PROFESSIONALS ARE LOOKING CLOSELY AT THE CODE BEHIND THE PROGRAM.



THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE ESTIMATES THAT THE DISRUPTION CAUSED AROUND \$10,000,000 DAMAGE.

NO ONE HAS BEEN ARRESTED FOR THIS CATASTROPHE YET. THE FBI HAS DISPATCHED A MASSIVE TEAM TO WORK THE CASE.





THE P.O. IS FUCKING
WITH ME...

... I JUST
KNOW IT.

THAT NOISE?

DID HE CALL BACKUP?





I COULD GET 3 YEARS FOR VIOLATING PROBATION.



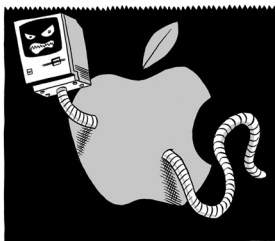
THIS S.A.S WIRETAP SYSTEM CAN GIVE ME A LEG UP...



... IF I CAN JUST FIGURE IT OUT!



LEADING OFF TONIGHT'S BROADCAST, WE HAVE A BREAK IN THE CASE OF THE COMPUTER WORM.



IRONICALLY, THE HACKER'S FATHER HAS WORKED FOR BELL LABS IN THE PAST AND IS NOW A CRYPTOGRAPHER FOR THE NSA.



ROBERT MORRIS SR. COULD NOT BE REACHED FOR COMMENT, BUT THE SUSPECT'S MOTHER HAD THIS TO SAY:



ROBERT MORRIS, AN IVY LEAGUE GRAD STUDENT, WAS ARRESTED THIS MORNING FOR UNLEASHING THE PROGRAM ONTO THE INTERNET.

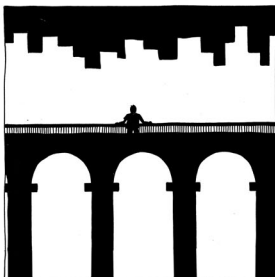


MORRIS HAS BEEN INTENSIVELY QUESTIONED ALL DAY IN SEARCH FOR HIS MOTIVES, KNOWLEDGE OF POSSIBLE ACCOMPLICES, ETC. WE WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED WITH NEW DETAILS...









Computer Networks and the Commercial Sector

an editorial by
Ron Shumway

The internet is
becoming a common
household
appliance.



With the commodification
of this network, many
pundits are screaming for
regulation.



Those who have worked
with the network for
years are of an opposite
mindset. They want no
interference from out-
side organizations.



"Information should be free," they say, but how can we trust this system with our financial identity as commercialism is on the horizon?

?

Are your children safe on this "Internet?"



I THINK WE CAN ALL AGREE...



...WE KNOW THEY ARE OUT THERE READY TO EXPLOIT US, AND WE WILL HUNT THEM DOWN BEFORE THEY STRIKE.



I CAN'T REMEMBER THE LAST TIME I SLEPT.



MY JUDGEMENT IS SERIOUSLY CLOUDED. MY STOMACH FEELS LIKE IT'S EATING ITSELF.



I DIDN'T INTEND TO CAUSE ANY DAMAGE, BUT THE AUTHORITIES HAVE NO TOLERANCE FOR IGNORANCE.



I JUST CAN'T LET THEM TAKE ME BACK TO JAIL.



THAT VAN'S BEEN OUT THERE FOR A WHILE.



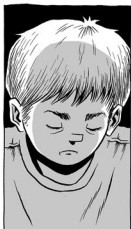
GOTTA TAKE MY MIND OFF THIS B.S.



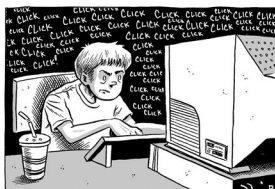
WINSTON, I JUST WANTED TO...



DAMMIT, MAN.



AFTER DAYS OF TRYING, I FINALLY FIGURED OUT HOW TO GET INTO S.A.S. NOW I NEED TO FIND THE DIRECTORY WHERE THE FEDS ADD NEW WIRETAPS. THE TELCO IS GIVING THEM CARTE BLANCHE!!



AN ARABIAN EMBASSY, A MASSAGE PARLOR IN TOWN, A SHADY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY...

... I CAN FEEL MY HEART BEATING IN MY STOMACH.



elsh	(412)	555-9
iber	(724)	461-7
lsen	(412)	858-4
fski	(724)	281-1
urry	(412)	915-2
orak	(724)	298-3
Rose	(412)	555-4
echt	(724)	234-5
eger	(412)	462-6
dson	(724)	945-7
lski	(412)	462-8



IT'S BEEN DAYS NOW SINCE I COULD SLEEP... I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO SHAKE THIS "FIGHT OR FLIGHT" FEELING!



SO MUCH SO THAT I COULD GIVE A SHIT ABOUT HACKING FROM HOME.



I KNOW WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN NOW.









SIR, WE'RE CALLING FOR A STATEWIDE 894 ON KEVIN J. PHENICLE JR. CODE 12. HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED 311 DUE TO A VIOLATION OF PROBATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACT 55 ARTICLE 19A.



SHOULD WE CONTACT THE LOCAL MEDIA AND ALERT THE PUBLIC?



I HAVE A FEELING WE'LL NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET.



CHAPTER 5



THE
MYTHOLOGY
OF
BOINGTHUMP

AW YEAH!
I HEARD OF
THAT GUY. I BET
HE'S RELAXING ON
AN ISLAND,
RIGHT NOW.



I REFUSE
TO EVEN GO
ONLINE UNTIL
KEVIN IS
CAPTURED.



I THINK
I SAW HIM
ON 53RD & 3RD
THE OTHER
DAY.



BOINGTHUMP'S
THE KING!
D.B. COOPER
GO GET YER
SHINE BOX!!



I THINK
HE'S DEAD
TO BE
HONEST ABOUT
IT.



MY
COMPUTER
BLEW UP
YESTERDAY!
THINK HE
DID IT?



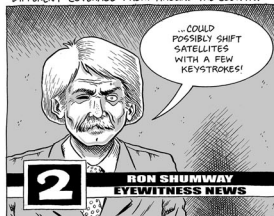
FROM WHAT
I KNOW OF THAT
GUY, HE AIN'T
GONNA GET CAUGHT
IF HE DON'T
WANNA.



MEDIA HYPE!

DIFFERENT COVERAGE FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

...COULD
POSSIBLY SHIFT
SATELLITES
WITH A FEW
KEYSTROKES!



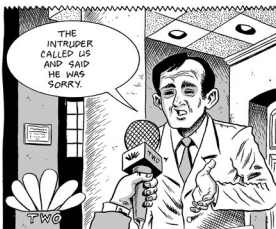
... THE FCC IS ON THE HUNT FOR A MYSTERIOUS HACKER WHO OVERRODE THE BROADCAST OF AN EPISODE OF DR. WHO WITH THIS BIZARRE INTERRUPTION...



...HACKER PILLAGED THE SATELLITE
SIGNAL WITH THIS EDITORIAL MESSAGE.
SATELLITE SYSTEMS ARE ALSO USED
IN BANKING...



THE DIABOLICAL 414 GANG HAS RECENTLY USED
SIMPLE, CHEAP COMPUTERS TO INVAD E SLOAN
KETTERING DATABASES...



OFF THE ROCKER

with your host
**WINSTON
SMITH**

WABCD 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

IF THE AUTHORITIES ARE LISTENING:
YOU HAVE MADE YOUR POINT ALREADY!



NOT THAT THERE'S ANYTHING WE
CAN DO ABOUT IT, AS I'M FINDING OUT!



... 3 GODDAMN YEARS WITHOUT A
TRIAL! OUTRAGEOUS!



WHEN KEVIN FINALLY HAS HIS DAY IN
COURT, HE BETTER NOT BE SENTENCED
ONE DAY MORE THAN 'TIME SERVED.'



THEY KEEP LEANING ON KEVIN HARD
TO COP A PLEA!



CAN YOU IMAGINE ADMITTING TO
SOMETHING THAT MAY NOT BE ABLE
TO BE PROVEN AGAINST YOU?



THAT HAS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING
TO DO WITH JUSTICE! IT'S ALL
ABOUT MONEY.



THANKS TO EVERYBODY FOR CONTRIBUTING
TO BOINGTHUMPS DEFENSE!



THE DEFENSE FUND IS DOING WELL!



THAT'S THE ONE POSITIVE. BECAUSE
YOU BELIEVE IN WHAT'S RIGHT AND
YOU PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR
MOUTH IS, KEVIN HAS BEEN ABLE TO
FIGHT THIS BATTLE FOR YEARS!!

IT SEEMS MOST OF THE PUBLIC
AGREES THAT KEVIN NEEDS TO BE
CHARGED ALREADY! THE AUTHORITIES
SHOULD TAKE HEED!



LARRY, THE LANDLORD!

YEAH, AT THE TIME I DIDN'T KNOW I WAS HARBORING A FUGITIVE...

... I KNEW HIM AS DAVID KOTKIN.



I CHECKED HIM OUT BEFOREHAND IN MY USUAL FASHION. DAVE HAD GOOD CREDIT, NO CRIMINAL RECORD, AND A DECENT JOB.

THE GUY SEEMED LEGIT. HE WAS EXTREMELY CHARISMATIC WHEN HE INITIALLY INQUIRED ABOUT MOVING INTO MY BUILDING.

GREAT MEETING YOU, SON.



HE WAS A CONSCIENTIOUS, QUIET, NEIGHBOR FOR THE MOST PART.



DAVID... KEVIN... WHATEVER HIS NAME IS... WAS A PRETTY SWEET GUY, ACTUALLY.



I WOULD HAVE NEVER EXPECTED HIM TO BE A BAD MAN...



... LET ALONE THE MOST DANGEROUS HACKER IN THE WORLD!



BECAUSE THE BUILDING WAS SO CLOSE TO DC, A LOT OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WOULD LIVE THERE. IT WASN'T WEIRD TO GET KNOCKS ON THE DOOR FROM THE FEDS.



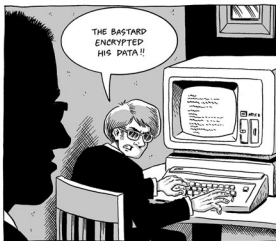
I COULD EXPECT TO BE QUESTIONED MAYBE TWICE A YEAR ABOUT ANY TENANTS WHO WORKED FOR OUR COUNTRY. NO BIG DEAL.



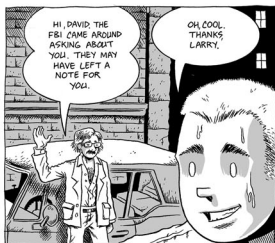
THE FEDS ARE COOL. IT DIDN'T OCCUR TO ME TO ASK FOR WARRANTS OR ANYTHING.



I WONDERED WHAT MADE DAVE SO SPECIAL.



I DID SEE HIM ONE LAST TIME THAT NIGHT.



I DON'T THINK HE STEPPED FOOT IN HIS APARTMENT AFTER THAT.



HE COMPLETELY DISAPPEARED AND DIDN'T EVEN GRAB ANYTHING FROM HIS PLACE.



CREATING A NEW PERSONA

(AS NARRATED BY WINSTON SMITH
ON WABCD RADIO, 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL)

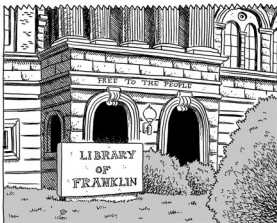
THE GOVERNMENT HAS
NOT FIXED THESE HOLES
IN THE WAKE OF KEVIN'S
CAPTURE.



AT THIS POINT THEY KNOW WHERE YOU LIVE, YOUR AGE,
YOUR INCOME, ETC. WHEN YOU DIE, YOU STOP PAYING
INTO S.S., SO THEY ADD YOU TO THIS DEATH INDEX.
YOUR USEFULNESS HAS EXPIRED.



IT ISN'T HARD TO MAKE A NEW
LIFE FOR YOURSELF AND REMAIN
UNDERGROUND THE SAME WAY
KEVIN DID. THE SAME FLAWS
IN THE SYSTEM ARE PRESENT TODAY!



THERE'S THIS LITTLE THING CALLED THE SOCIAL
SECURITY DEATH INDEX. WHEN YOU GET TO BE OF
SUFFICIENT AGE WHERE YOU CAN HAVE A JOB, YOU
START PAYING INTO SOCIAL SECURITY. THAT IS
PRECISELY THE TIME THEY TRULY BECOME AWARE OF
YOU.



IF YOU DIE WITHOUT EVER WORKING A JOB, YOU ARE
NOT ADDED TO THE DEATH INDEX.



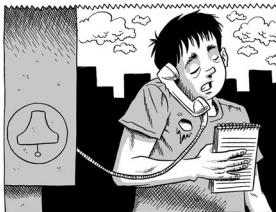
NOW THAT I EXPLAINED THE SYSTEM TO YOU HERE IS HOW THE EXPLOIT WORKS. IT WILL REQUIRE SOME RESEARCH ON YOUR PART.



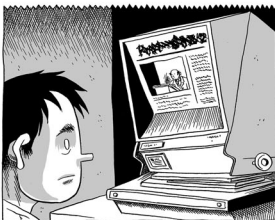
YOU NEED TO MAKE SURE TO MEMORIZE THE SURVIVING KIN FROM THE OBITUARY. YOU MAY BE ASKED QUESTIONS.



THE BUREAU OF PUBLIC RECORDS WILL RUN A FEW CHECKS TO MAKE SURE YOU WERE EVEN BORN IN THE FIRST PLACE. THEN THEY CHECK THE DEATH INDEX. ONCE THEY ARE SATISFIED THEY WILL SEND YOU A BEAUTIFUL NEW BIRTH CERTIFICATE.



YOU NEED TO SCOUR OLD NEWSPAPERS AT THE LIBRARY, LOOKING FOR SOMEONE WHO DIED AT A YOUNG AGE, WHO NEVER HAD A JOB, AND WHO WOULD BE AROUND YOUR AGE.



YOU HAVE TO BE CONFIDENT ON THE PHONE WHEN APPLYING FOR YOUR BIRTH CERTIFICATE. TAKE NOTES IF YOU THINK IT WILL HELP.



WITH THAT SIMPLE PIECE OF PAPER, YOU CAN THEN APPLY FOR A SOCIAL SECURITY CARD, DRIVERS LICENSE, PASSPORT, WHATEVER. MAKE SURE TO THROW AWAY YOUR REAL I.D. CARRYING AROUND I.R.'S WITH DIFFERENT NAMES IS FOR NOOBS.

"I WOULDN'T USE THIS INFO UNLESS YOU'RE DESPERATE"
- ED PISKOR

RAIDING THE RAIDERS

WITH YOUR HOST
JOHN DAISEY

2

WITH HACKING
IN THE NEWS
SO MUCH LATELY,
ONE GUEST WAS
LOGICAL...



RON SHUMWAY!
THE INSTRUMENTAL FIGURE
IN THE TRENCHES, BRINGING
THE DANGER OF HACKERS
TO THE PUBLIC ARENA.
PLEASED TO HAVE YOU
HERE TODAY, RON.

PLEASED TO BE
HERE, JOHN. I'M
HAPPY TO HAVE
YOU HAVE ME!
HAW HAW HA!!



HAVE HACKERS
SETTLED DOWN
NOW THAT ROBERT
MORRIS WAS FOUND
GUILTY?



3 YEARS PROBATION?
400 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE, AND
A FINE OF \$10,000!?
THE SENTENCE
WAS LIGHT AND
HACKERS KNOW
IT!



I SEE, DO YOU
THINK THAT HACKERS
COULD BE A SERVICE
TO OUR COUNTRY?
WORK IN THE
GOVERNMENT, PERHAPS?

ABSOLUTELY
NOT!! THESE GUYS
CANNOT BE TRUSTED!
THEIR MOTIVES
ARE VERY
UNCLEAR!!



TELL THE AUDIENCE
ABOUT OPERATION
SUNDEVIL.

AH, IT'S BEEN BIG NEWS RE-
CENTLY. I AM PROUD OF THE
SECRET SERVICE AND FBI
FOR TAKING THESE CREEPS
DOWN IN ONE SWEEPING
MOTION.



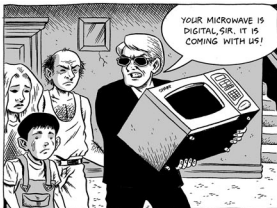
OPERATION SUNDEVIL IS A NATIONWIDE CRACKDOWN
ON COMPUTER-USING CRIMINALS. THIS IS THE FIRST
SERIOUS ACTION TOWARDS ERADICATING THE
HACKER MENACE. I HOPE IT'S NOT THE LAST!



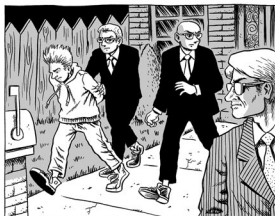
RAIDS WERE PERFORMED IN EVERY MAJOR CITY IN THE COUNTRY, SEIZING THE 'TOOLS OF THE TRADE' THAT THESE VILLAINS USED TO PERFORM THEIR HEINOUS WORK.



THEY ARE CUNNING INDIVIDUALS, THESE HACKERS!! THEY COULD HIDE DATA ANYWHERE! PAPER, AUDIO TAPES, FLOPPY DISKS— THOUSANDS OF PIECES OF CONTRABAND ARE NOW IN THE POSSESSION OF AUTHORITIES.



ONE OF THE MOST DISGUSTING PIECES OF INFORMATION THAT PROMPTED THE OPERATION WAS THE ELECTRONIC DISTRIBUTION OF A PROPRIETARY DOCUMENT USED FOR INTERNAL BUSINESS WITHIN 911 EMERGENCY OFFICES.



I MEAN, CAN YOU BELIEVE THE AUDACITY OF THAT! IMAGINE THE DAMAGE THEY COULD HAVE CAUSED.



WHAT WERE SOME OF THE BULLETPROOFS HIGHLIGHTED IN THE DOCUMENT?



UH... I DIDN'T READ IT ALL...



... BUT THERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU JUST SHOULD NOT TOY AROUND WITH...



... AND I'D PUT 911 DISPATCH PRETTY HIGH ON THAT LIST!!



ONE OF THE PLACES THAT WAS TARGETED IN THE RAID WAS A ROLEPLAYING GAME COMPANY BASED IN TEXAS. A COMPANY WITH INTIMATE ACCESS TO CHILDREN.

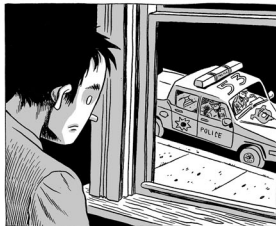


IT IS BELIEVED THAT ONE OF THEIR GAMES REQUIRES A HANDBOOK THAT THEY PUBLISH, AND IT SEEMS THAT IT IS AN ACTUAL GUIDE THAT TEACHES YOU HOW TO HACK!



THIS RAID SENDS A CLEAR MESSAGE TO THESE CREEPS THAT THEY WILL NO LONGER VICTIMIZE US ANONYMOUSLY.

SPEAKING OF "CREEPS", IS KEVIN "BOING-THUMP" PHENICLE CLOSER TO BEING APPREHENDED THANKS TO OPERATION SUNDEVIL, RON?





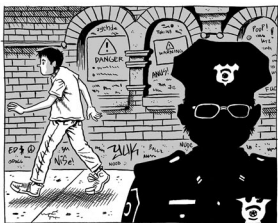
IF THIS GUY IS IN THE CONTINENTAL U.S. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE HE MAKES A MISTAKE AND IS CAUGHT.

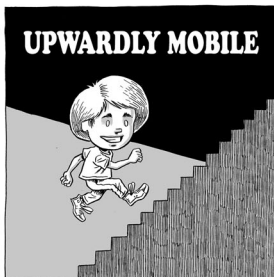


PHENICLE IS A DANGER TO SOCIETY. HE ISN'T INTERESTED IN HELPING US. HE LIKES TO GO WHERE HE'S NOT SUPPOSED TO. HE LIKES DAMAGE. HE MAY EVEN BE USING HIS HACKING PROWESS TO ACCUMULATE WEALTH AT THIS VERY MOMENT!



THE AUTHORITIES HAVE BEEN KEEPING THEIR LIPS TIGHT ABOUT HOW THEY OBSERVED THEIR TARGETS BEFORE THE RAIDS. PHENICLE IS A SMART MAN, BUT HE'S GOTTA BE FEELING THE HEAT!





NOT GONNA LIE. THE FIRST YEAR WAS TOUGH.

LEAVING THINGS BEHIND AND STARTING OVER IS NOW ROUTINE.



THE MOST IMPORTANT THING I LEARNED IS TO STAY IN A NICE CLIMATE.



SO MUCH TIME IS SPENT OUTDOORS...

...BUT, MORE IMPORTANTLY, GOOD WEATHER GENERALLY BRIGHTENS PEOPLE'S MOODS!





IDENTITY IN AMERICA IS BASED PURELY ON EQUAL PARTS PAPER TRAIL AND THE HONOR SYSTEM. ALL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH AN IDENTITY CAN BE OBTAINED WITH A LETTER, A SIGNATURE, OR OVER THE PHONE, AND IT STARTS WITH A...



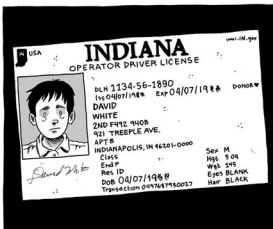
IF YOU LOSE YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY CARD ALL THAT YOU NEED TO GET A NEW ONE IS TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION AND LET THEM SEE THE BIRTH CERTIFICATE.



TO GET A DRIVERS LICENSE? WELL, YOU JUST NEED TWO FORMS OF I.D. TO ACQUIRE THAT. SEE WHERE THIS IS GOING?



THE WHOLE SYSTEM IS BUSTED BECAUSE THE ONLY WAY THEY CAN KEEP THINGS STRAIGHT IS TO GO BY WHAT IS ON A PIECE OF PAPER OR A CARD.



IF YOU KNOW THESE SORTS OF TIDBITS, YOU CAN USE THIS INFO FOR MANY DIFFERENT PURPOSES.



GETTING NEW PIECES OF I.D. IS THE EASY PART OF STARTING A NEW LIFE.



I DON'T MUCH LIKE COMMITTING CRIMES, BELIEVE IT OR NOT, AND I WOULD NEVER STEAL A PIME FROM ANYONE...



IN THIS ECONOMY, I KNOW THAT HONEST WORK IS HARD TO COMEBY...



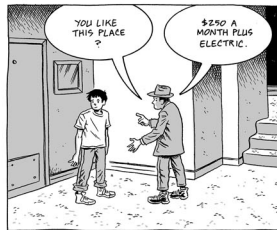
THINGS SHOULD EVENTUALLY WORK OUT.



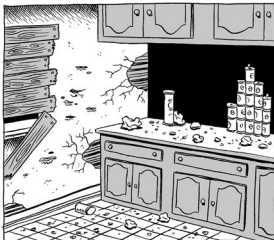
JUST CONTINUE TO PLAY THE GAME.



SAVE MONEY, PAY TAXES, OBEY TRAFFIC LAWS. MY NEW LIFE DOESN'T GIVE ME CARTE BLANCHE TO BE A JERK.



IT TAKES TIME AND PATIENCE ...



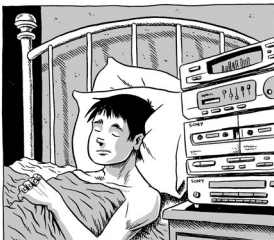
I'M ALSO NOT SHABBY AT FADING INTO THE BACKGROUND.



I DO ADMIT TO SOME MOMENTS OF WEAKNESS.



..TWO CHARACTERISTICS I HAVE IN SPADES.



MY PERSONALITY HAS MADE THIS EASY TO ACCOMPLISH.



BUT, I CAN USUALLY NIP THINGS IN THE BUD.



PETE, THE PRODUCER



YOU NEED SOME-ONE TO SHARE THINGS WITH.

I BECAME HEAD-OVER-HEELS.

I WAS A PRETTY SUCCESSFUL GUY.



THINGS WERE REALLY GREAT FOR A WHILE.

BUT, T-ROCK, YOU KNOW MONEY IS NOT EVERYTHING.



BEFORE LONG, SHE STARTED TO BE WITH HER FRIENDS A LITTLE MORE THAN ME.



I WAS ALWAYS A DRINKER. HER ABSENCE DIDN'T HELP.



THERE WAS THIS DIVE THAT I WOULD VISIT PRETTY FAR FROM MY BEACH HOUSE.



THAT WAY, I COULD DRINK IN PEACE. NO DELUSIONAL WAITERS WITH MOVIE SCRIPTS.



I GUESS I WAS A BIT SAUCED WHEN I WAS TALKING TO THE KID SERVING ME DRINKS.



THE KID HAD A SOLUTION TO MY FEMALE TROUBLES.



DID I MENTION THAT I DIDN'T THINK TO HAVE HER SIGN A PRENUP?



I GOT HIM A NEW COMPUTER, AND I PROMISED TO PAY HIM \$5000 WHEN THE TAP WAS SET.



IT TOOK HIM TWO NIGHTS TO SET IT UP FOR ME.



THE WIFE WAS BEING SO COLD AND DISTANT. THIS BREACH OF MORALITY WAS ESSENTIAL.



THAT DAY IS STILL FRESH IN MY HEAD.



SHE GOT A CALL SHORTLY AFTER I GOT TO MY OFFICE.



I FELT LIKE I WAS ON AUTOPILOT.



THE GUY WAS GONE BY THE TIME I GOT TO THE HOUSE.



IT WAS A RUSH, I MUST SAY.



I CONSIDERED KILLING MYSELF AT FIRST, BUT I WAS TAKEN OVER QUICKLY BY A CALMING SENSE OF RELIEF.



DID YOU EVER SEE WHAT A .45 DOES TO A WOMAN'S FACE?







PARNELL, THE PIMP



NOW YOUR RUIN-A-THE-MILL ESCORTS, JACK-SHACKS, AND ALL THAT HAVE THEIR ADS IN THOSE WEEKLY PAPERS AROUND TOWN. THIS AIN'T NUTHIN' NEW.

THE PROBLEM IS: YOU SPEND ALL THIS CASH, UP FRONT, TO GET YOUR BUSINESS NUMBER IN THE PAPERS. AS QUICK AS YO' DIGITS APPEAR IN THE RAG IS AS QUICK AS THE NUMBER GETS TAKEN DOWN.



MY MAIN BITCH USED TO PICK UP TRICKS AT THIS BAR OUTSIDE THE CITY LIMITS. BITCH HAD A BIG MOUTH AND MUSTA TALKED ABOUT THIS PROBLEM OF OURS WHILE SHE WAS ON THE TRACK.

I MET WITH THE KID FIRST. HAD TO MAKE SURE HE WAS ON THE UP-N-UP.



YOU CAN'T HAVE HIS NUMBER. I DON'T EVEN HAVE IT. HE'S PRETTY SECRETIVE WHEN WE MAKE CONTACT. THE KID HAS THE CHARISMA OF DOLEMITE, MAN.



WITH THE AMOUNT OF CASH I MAKE WHEN THE PHONES ARE ACTIVE, HIS PROPOSITION MADE SENSE.



IT DID TAKE SOME TIME FOR HIM TO SET THINGS UP.



ONCE HE GOT HIS STUFF TOGETHER, IT WAS SO RELIABLE. THE PHONES WOULD ONLY BE DOWN A FEW HOURS A DAY, TOPS.





BEEN HERE
A WHILE.

TOO LONG.



THIS URGE TO
SOCIALIZE CAN
ONLY LEAD TO
BAD.

SETTLING DOWN EQUALS
COMPLACENCY. CANNOT LET
THE GUARD DOWN.



CAN IT BE?



IT'S KINDA CLICHE...



... BUT THE FEDS
ARE KNOWN FOR
THEIR HAM-FISTED
ACTS OF SUBTERFUGE.



I
NEED TO
RUN THESE
PLATE
NUMBERS...



HMMM...



HOW TO "OWN"
THE DMV'S
COMPUTERS?



THEY MUST
HAVE A TON
OF SECURITY.



CREATING A
BACKDOOR, TROJAN
HORSE PROGRAM IS
EASY...



... BUT HOW
WILL I BE ABLE
TO INSTALL
IT?



I'LL
FIGURE
SOMETHING
OUT...



IT MIGHT TAKE
SOME TIME...



... BUT THERE IS
ALWAYS A WEAK
LINK TO EXPLOIT!



FRICKIN' KIDS
ALWAYS MAKE A
MESS A' THE
LEARNER'S MANUALS...
HMMM ?



"EMPLOYEE
SALARIES AND
PASSWORDS."
NICE.



MUS' BE
BROKE. IT
WON'T LET
ME PAST
THIS SCREEN.

LOADING...

FINISHED

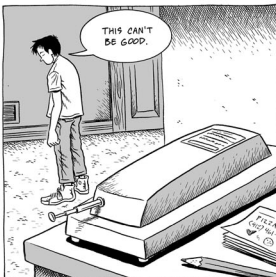
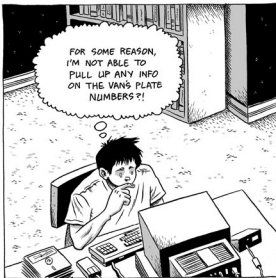
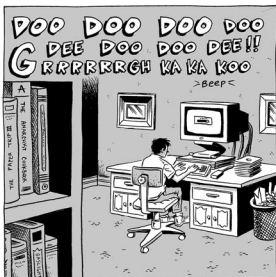


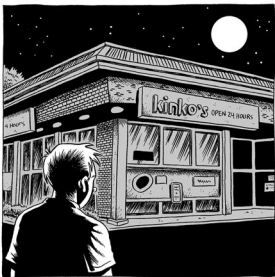
GONNA
LOCK UP,
CLEMENTZA
?



YEAH,
LIKE
ALWAYS.













CHAPTER 6

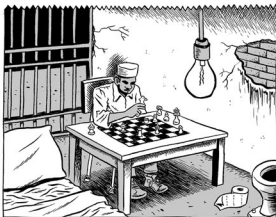


OFF THE ROCKER

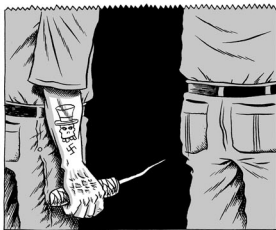
with your host
**WINSTON
SMITH**

WABC 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

HE'S BEEN IN CUSTODY FOR A BIT MORE
THAN 4 YEARS...



JUST WHEN WE THINK THINGS
CAN'T GET WORSE, THEY DO...



THEY MOVED HIM ABOUT
1000 MILES AWAY LAST WEEK.



HE IS NOW IN A SUPER MAX!



THERE'S STILL NO TRIAL
IN SIGHT.



HIS GRANDMOTHER CANNOT TRAVEL
SUCH A DISTANCE TO SEE HIM.



THEY HAVE OFFICIALLY SEVERED ALL OUTSIDE
HUMAN CONTACT FOR KEVIN.



THEY'LL DO ANYTHING TO
GET HIM TO CONFESS...



... BUT THEY CAN'T QUANTIFY
WHAT HE IS GUILTY OF...



... HIS FORTITUDE AND WILLPOWER
REMAIN STRONG.



WHEN IS ENOUGH, ENOUGH ?





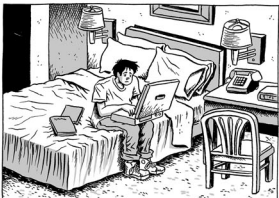
I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING
ABOUT THE KINKO'S DEBACLE
ON THE NEWS. THEY MUST
NOT HAVE SUSPECTED IT
WAS ME?



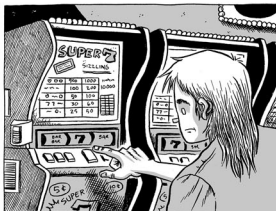
I'M RETARDED FOR
GETTING IN THAT MESS.
VERY SLOPPY!



THANKS TO THAT PIMP I
HAVE A FEW DOLLARS TO
LIVE.



THIS WHOLE JOURNEY IS
GETTING VERY TIRESOME.



BEING CAPTURED WOULD
PROBABLY RELIEVE THE
BURDEN AT THIS POINT.



... BUT SOMETHING INSIDE WON'T
LET ME QUIT.



MIGHT AS WELL CONTINUE
UNTIL I COMPLETELY RUN
OUT OF STEAM.



I'LL NEVER FORGET THAT
TIME IN SOLITARY
CONFINEMENT.



I DO KINDA MISS GRAN'MA
THOUGH...

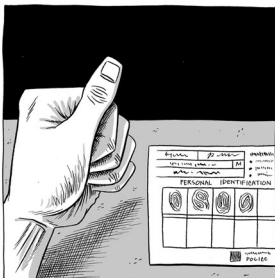
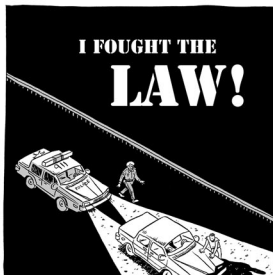


GUESS I'M TOO NARCISSISTIC
TO GIVE UP!



THIS IS A KIND OF PRISON
IN ITSELF.



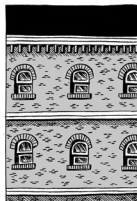






UGH! I DON'T KNOW
HOW PEOPLE DO THIS
EVERY DAY!

GUESS I DO WAKE
UP A TAD EARLIER
THAN MOST.



I SHOULDN'T
COMPLAIN...

... I'M AT A VERY
ADVANTAGEOUS
POSITION.

VERY LITTLE HUMAN
INTERACTION ...

... A STEADY
PAYCHECK ...



... AND A REVOLVING DOOR OF EMPLOYEES
WHO GIVE THE BOSSES NO REAL INCENTIVE
TO LEARN ANYONE'S NAME.

MAKES ME CRINGE TO THINK PEOPLE
SPEND MOST OF THEIR LIVES LIKE THIS.



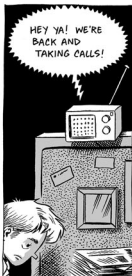
AT LEAST THERE
IS NO CHALLENGE
IN REMAINING
ANONYMOUS.



FINDING WAYS TO
REMAIN ALERT AND
ENGAGED ARE KIND
OF A BIGGER ISSUE.



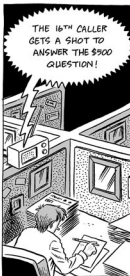
HEY YA! WE'RE
BACK AND
TAKING CALLS!



BEFORE THE
COMMERCIAL, WE
ASKED A QUESTION:
WHICH AUTHOR
FIRST WROTE, "PARTING
IS SUCH SWEET
SORROW"?



THE 16TH CALLER
GETS A SHOT TO
ANSWER THE \$500
QUESTION!



CALLER, YOU'RE
ON THE AIR!



SHAKESPEARE
!!!



THAT'S IT!
YOU GET THE
MONEY!



EASY
MONEY...



YET ANOTHER MASTER PLAN

OR

HOW TO RIG RADIO CONTESTS FOR FUN AND PROFIT.

2. WITHIN ALL APARTMENT BUILDINGS THERE IS A TRUNK SOMEWHERE FULL OF THE RESIDENT'S PHONE LINES, MANY ARE UNCONNECTED. RIG THEM UP FOR YOUR OWN USE.



4. CREATE A LOOP BY DIVERTING THE PHONE LINES AT THE RADIO STATION TO YOUR NEWLY ACTIVATED PHONES.



1. IT'S A FAIRLY SIMPLE PROCESS, TRY TO FOLLOW ALONG. IT REQUIRES MULTIPLE PHONE LINES...



3. HACKING INTO THE PHONE COMPANY DATABASE IN ONE CITY IS THE SAME AS ANY OTHER. GETTING INTO THEIR COMPUTERS IS ESSENTIAL.



5. ADD CALL FORWARDING(#72) ONTO YOUR PHONES AND SEND THE CALLS BACK TO THE RADIO STATION.



6. THIS WAY THE CALLS STILL GET BACK TO THE RADIO DJ THROUGH YOUR CONNECTION, AND THEY'RE NONE THE WISER.



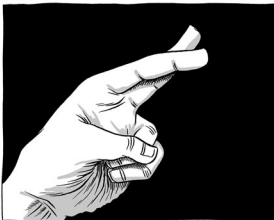
7. EVERY TIME SOMEONE CALLS THE STATION, YOU WILL HEAR A SINGLE RING ON YOUR PHONE INDICATING THAT THE CALL IS BEING FORWARDED.



8. THIS IS EXTREMELY HELPFUL WHEN PARTICIPATING IN A RADIO CALL-IN CONTEST THAT REQUIRES PICKING UP THE 75TH CALLER FOR INSTANCE.



9. WHEN YOU HEAR ENOUGH RINGS AS THE WINNING CALL APPROACHES, HIT *72 TO STOP CALL FORWARDING, AND YOU WILL ROUTE ALL CALLERS BACK TO YOUR PHONE LINES.



10. YOU'LL HAVE TO MAKE A FEW CALLS TO THE STATION USING DIFFERENT VOICES IF YOU TURNED OFF FORWARDING A BIT EARLY, BUT YOU WILL CERTAINLY BE THE WINNING CALLER IF YOU FOLLOW EVERY STEP PROPERLY.



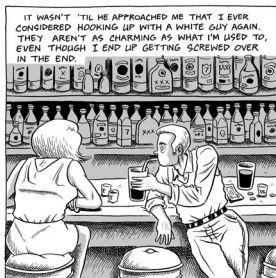
11. THE CHECKS/PRIZES SHOULD ARRIVE WITHIN A WEEK OR SO.



DOLLY, THE DRUNK...



THERE WAS THIS LITTLE CLUB THAT PLAYED THE BEST MUSIC IN TOWN AND HAD THE MOST EXOTIC MEN.



HE HAD A WILD SIDE. I COULD TELL. I THOUGHT HE'D LIVED A HARD LIFE, AND I FIGURED I COULD SHOW HIM A GOOD TIME. AT LEAST FOR ONE NIGHT.



HE DIDN'T SEEM LIKE HE WAS INTERESTED IN ME SEXUALLY, WHICH MADE ME WANT HIM MORE.



I WISH I COULD REMEMBER HIS NAME. HE'S THE ONLY GUY I MET WHO DELIVERED ANY PROMISES TO ME.





MORE HAPPY WINNERS

NAME: JENNY BLUMPKIN
PRIZE: A TRIP TO CANCUN & SPENDING CASH
KEV'S CUT: \$3000



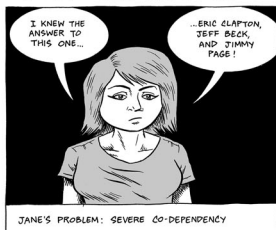
JENNY'S VICE: OPIATES

NAME: SANDRA McGEE
HER TAKE: A SHOPPING SPREE AT THE MALL.
KEVIN'S CUT: A NEO-Geo GAME CONSOLE AND
\$500 WORTH OF SOFTWARE



SANDRA'S VICE: PROMISCUITY

NAME: JANE JACOBS
SHE GOT: 2 TICKETS TO THE BALL GAME
KEVIN EARNED: \$ 1000 WORTH OF OTHER GIFTS



JANE'S PROBLEM: SEVERE CO-DEPENDENCY

NAME: ANGEL BRIDGES
WON: BBQ RIBS AND MONSTER TRUCK TICKETS
KEV'S CUT: \$200



ANGEL'S ADDICTION: CHOCOLATE & CRYSTAL METH.

NAME: JESSICA WILSON
HER PART: A TRIP TO THE GRAND CANYON
KEVIN'S PART: \$2000



JESSICA HAS BEEN DIAGNOSED BI POLAR

NAME: SHANNON BRISTER
WON: A TRIP TO VEGAS
KEV TOOK THE \$5000 SPENDING CASH



NAME: VALERIE B.(?)
WON: A JET SKI
KEVIN'S TAKE: PAWNED \$500 WORTH OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT



NAME: ROBYN CHARLES
WON: A TRIP TO DISNEY WORLD
KEVIN TOOK THE \$1000 ADDITIONAL CASH



NAME: HEATHER PINN
WON: A TOTAL OF \$500
KEVIN TOOK HALF OF THAT



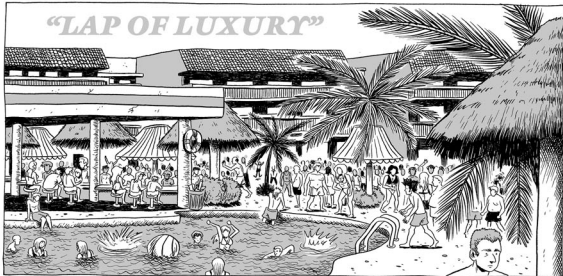
NAME: NATALIE FREEMAN
WON: TICKETS TO THE ROLLING STONES
KEVIN: PAWNED A BUNCH OF STONES MERCHANDISE

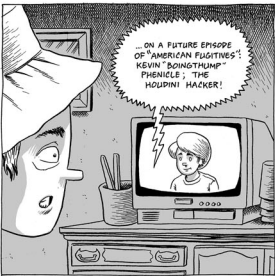


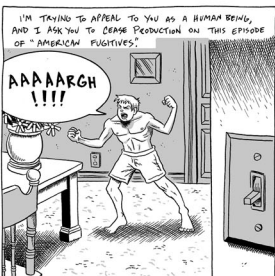
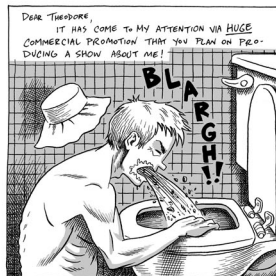
NAME: SOREN
WON: A POOL TABLE
KEVIN: \$1000



"LAP OF LUXURY"







EVERYTHING IN THE MEDIA ABOUT ME SO FAR HAS BEEN PADDED WITH LIES AND FALSEHOODS. I'M SURE THAT YOUR SHOW WILL ALSO SKEW THIS WAY, AND THE POPULARITY OF YOUR BROADCAST COULD BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS TO ME!



I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT BEING HARMFUL TO MY FREEDOM, BUT IF/WHEN I NO LONGER DECIDE TO HIDE THIS INCORRECT INFORMATION YOUR SHOW WILL DISPLAY WILL MAKE IT VERY HARD FOR ME TO RECEIVE A FAIR TRIAL.



I WAS JAILED IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT FOR NEARLY A YEAR, AS A TEENAGER, BECAUSE SENSATIONALISM IN THE MEDIA PUT A LOT OF FEAR INTO THE MINDS OF THOSE SENTENCING ME. THE REASON I RAN IS BECAUSE I KNOW MEDIA INVOLVEMENT WILL CREATE A ~~THE~~ BATTLE FOR ME THAT I SIMPLY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO WIN.



NEARLY EVERYTHING ABOUT MY CASE HAS BEEN BLOWN SO FAR OUT OF PROPORTION, AND BY VIRTUE OF BEING ON YOUR HIGHLY RATED PROGRAM, I FEAR AN EVEN BIGGER PART OF THE POPULATION WILL BE MISINFORMED ABOUT ME.



IMAGINE IF YOU WERE IN MY SHOES, WOULD YOU NOT HIDE FROM PEOPLE CALLING FOR YOUR CRUCIFIXION? I KNOW I HAVE NO VOICE TO DEFEND MYSELF AGAINST MAJOR MEDIA PUBLICITY WHICH HAPPENS TO BE 90% INCORRECT. PLEASE DON'T DO THIS TO ME!

THANKS!
KEVIN PHENICLE



CHARLENE, GET ME THE EDITOR AT THE "TIMES"!

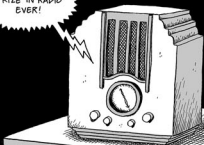


WE'RE GOING TO HAVE THE HIGHEST RATED SHOW IN HISTORY!!!



TOO GOOD TO PASS UP!

...THE BIGGEST
PRIZE IN RADIO
EVER!



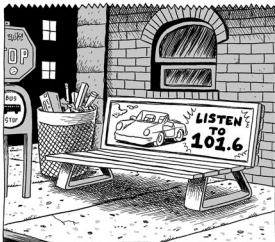
THE CONTEST TAKES PLACE NEXT WEEK, AND YOUR
CUE TO CALL WILL BE THE 3RD DOG BARK IN A
SINGLE HOUR.



DON'T EVER SAY GOOD OL' JIMMY NIGHTTRAIN
DOESN'T TAKE CARE OF HIS AUDIENCE! HYUK HYUK!



...ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LISTEN TO 101.6 ON YOUR FM
DIAL AND GIVE US A CALL AT THE RIGHT TIME.

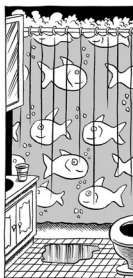


THAT'S ALL IT TAKES TO GET YOUR HANDS ON A
BRAND SPANKIN' NEW PORSCHE 911! CAN YA
BELIEVE IT, FOLKS!?

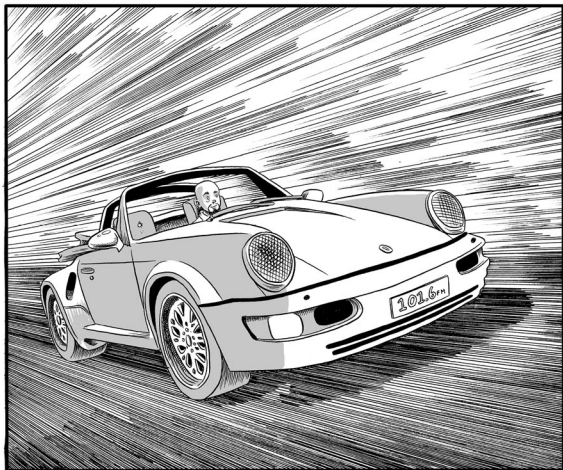


YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS OUT ON THIS ONE-OF-A-
KIND OPPORTUNITY.









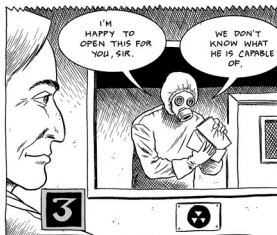
ANOTHER GOOD SAMARITAN



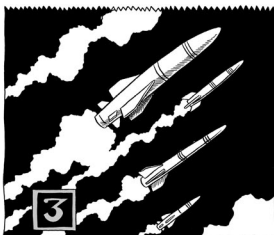
IN TWO WEEKS, A MAJOR MEDIA EVENT TAKES PLACE. THE SHOW THAT NOTORIOUS HACKER VILLAIN KEVIN "BOINGTHUMP" PHENICLE DOESN'T WANT YOU TO SEE.



THE EVIL GENIUS HAS SENT THIS NETWORK A LETTER EXPRESSING HIS DISAPPROVAL ABOUT "AMERICAN FUGITIVES" COVERING HIS CAREER IN CRIME.



MAKE SURE YOU TUNE IN TO SEE EXACTLY WHY YOUR COMPUTERS ARE IN DANGER AS LONG AS PHENICLE IS ON THE LOOSE.



YOU, THE VIEWER, HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR PUTTING THOUSANDS OF CRIMINALS BEHIND BARS. BE SURE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION IF YOU HAVE IT...



WE'RE GOING TO NEED YOUR HELP CATCHING THIS MENACE!

AMERICAN FLUGTIVES



BE HERE IN
TWO WEEKS!!

3



THEODORE
RUSSO'S OFFICE,
KBS NETWORKS.
HOW MAY I
HELP YOU?



HELLO, THERE.
I HAVE JUST SEEN
A PREVIEW OF A
SHOW ABOUT THIS
COMPUTER
WIZARD...



... I'M SO
GLAD YOU'RE GOING
THROUGH WITH BROAD-
CASTING THE PIECE.
THIS GUY NEEDS
TO BE PUT AWAY...



...I ACTUALLY
THINK I MIGHT
HAVE SOME INFO
TO AID IN HIS
CAPTURE...

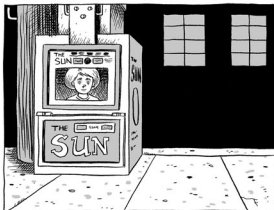


...I KNOW IT'S
A TAD EARLY, BUT
CAN YOU PROVIDE
ME WITH THE \$OO#
TO CALL IN WITH
MY TIP?



DEEPER UNDERGROUND

ONE COULD HOPE THAT THE CONSTANT BOMBARDMENT OF HYPE WILL CREATE A KIND OF 'WHITE NOISE' EFFECT IN WHICH THE VIEWER WILL JUST TUNE OUT AT THE MERE MENTION OF MY NAME. YEAH, RIGHT!



IT WASN'T VERY HARD FINDING A HOTEL THAT MEETS MY NEEDS. THE JOINT IS OUT OF THE WAY, THEY ACCEPT CASH, THE ROOM HAS A STOVE, AND NOT MANY QUESTIONS ARE ASKED.



WHAT A STUPID MOVE SENDING THAT LETTER! THE PROMOTION SURROUNDING THAT UPCOMING SHOW IS STAGGERING. EVERY COMMERCIAL BREAK MENTIONS THE EPISODE...



THANKFULLY, THERE IS STILL TIME TO PREPARE BEFORE THIS TREMENDOUS PIECE OF NEGATIVITY AIRS.



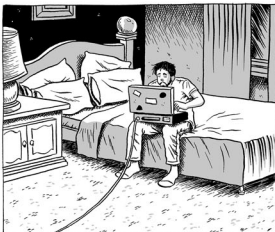
IT WILL BE ESSENTIAL TO KEEP THE MIND BUSY WHILE IN HIDING. NO MORE GOING NUTS AND FALLING INTO A DEEP DEPRESSION BECAUSE CONDITIONS ARE OUT OF MY CONTROL.



THIS COULD PROBABLY BE MY HOME FOR THE NEXT FEW MONTHS.



MY LAST BIT OF ONLINE ACTIVITY IS DONE FROM A VACANT HOTEL ROOM. THE TOLL-FREE TOLL LINE GETS ROUTED TO A PHONE SEX NUMBER.



THE SHOW IS GOING TO BROADCAST IN A FEW HOURS. IT IS LOOKING TO BE THE #1 SHOW OF THE NIGHT, AND I'M EXPECTING A PUBLIC FRENZY OF FEARFUL CITIZENS CALLING FOR THE HEAD OF A DERANGED HACKER ON THE LOOSE.



I'VE BEEN AT THIS HOTEL LONG ENOUGH TO HAVE BEEN SPOTTED AT LEAST A FEW TIMES. THE LOCK ON THE BASEMENT DOOR IS A FAIRLY WEAK OBSTACLE IN THE PATH OF MY NEXT PRE-CAUTIONARY MEASURE.



AND WITH THE FLICK OF A SWITCH, THE POWER TO THE HOTEL IS UNAVAILABLE FOR MOST OF THE NIGHT UNTIL THE OWNER COMES HOME FROM THE STRIP CLUB.

**SO YOU
SAW THE
SHOW?**

IT TURNED MY
FRIGGIN' STOMACH.
THE WHOLE SHOW WAS
COMPLETE BULLSHIT. THIS
IS WHEN I DEDICATED
MY RADIO SHOW TO KEVIN'S
CASE AND PUBLICIZING
THE TRUTH.



I WAS TICKLED
PINK THAT THIS
HAPPENED. SO MUCH
OF THE MATERIAL THAT
I ORIGINALLY REPORTED
ON WAS REFERENCED
IN THE "AMERICAN
FUGITIVES" PIECE.



I KNEW IT WAS
THAT SEXY GUY WHO
WON ME THE VACATION
ON THIS RADIO CONTEST.
I WANTED TO SCREW
HIS BRAINS OUT AFTER
WATCHING THAT
SHOW.



THERE'S NO DOUBT
THAT HE'S THE COMPUTER
WHIZ KID THAT HELPED
ME BUST MY CHEATING
WIFE. THE GUY'S A
PRINCE TO ME.



BOINGTHUMP TRIED TO
SUBVERT US BUT WE
GOT THE TIP LINE BACK
TO NORMAL AND ENDED
UP GETTING HUNDREDS
OF SOLID LEADS.



IT WAS PRETTY COOL. I NEVER WORKED WITH A CELEBRITY BEFORE.



KEVIN WAS ONE OF THE MOST INTELLIGENT AND GIFTED STUDENTS I'VE HAD THE PLEASURE OF TEACHING. IT'S SAD TO SEE HIM GO OFF THE RAILS LIKE THIS.



PHENICLE IS A MENACE, AND I THINK THEY WERE FAIR ON THE SHOW, ESPECIALLY THE PARTS HAVING TO DO WITH BREAKING IN-TO OUR TELCO HEAD-QUARTERS YEARS AGO.



I ALWAYS KNEW KEVIN WOULD BE TROUBLE.



MY KEVIN IS NOT THIS EVIL CHARACTER. HE'S A HOMEBODY. HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO DO THE STUFF THEY SAY.



I ABOUT FELL OFF MY CHAIR. I RECOGNIZED HIM AND CALLED THE TIP LINE. SOME GIRL ON THE OTHER END OF THE PHONE WANTED TO BLOW ME.



ALL GOOD THINGS...

THE MAIN REASON I KEPT THE CAR FOR MYSELF WAS SO THAT I'D HAVE AN ASSET OF SOME VALUE THAT I COULD GET RID OF IN A PINCH.



THERE ARE MORE COST-EFFECTIVE WAYS TO MOVE ABOUT THE COUNTRY.

STILL, THE MONEY DOESN'T LAST FOREVER.



NOT MUCH WORK AVAILABLE IN THE MIDDLE OF NOWHERE.

I HAVE TO AGREE TO TAKE THE SAME WAGE AS THE MEXICANS HE HIRES.



I SHOULD BE ABLE TO KEEP MY HEAD
ABOVE WATER FOR A BIT.

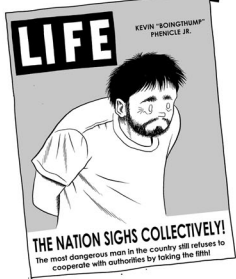
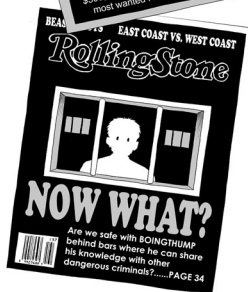


I DON'T PLAN ON BEING IN THIS TOWN
FOR VERY LONG.









CHAPTER 7



TODAY'S GOOD MORNING EARLY SHOW



THE
MYTHOLOGY
OF
BOINGTHUMP





Off THE ROCKER

with your host
WINSTON SMITH

WABCD 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

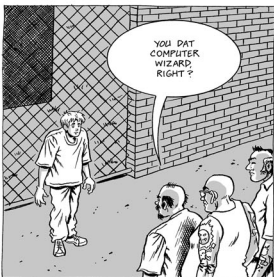
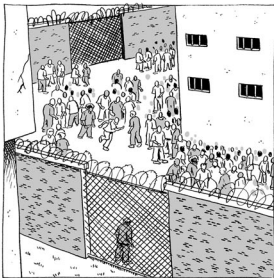
IT'S BEEN A HANDFUL OF YEARS SINCE MY GOOD FRIEND, KEVIN "BOINGTHUMP" PHENICLE, HAS BEEN IN FEDERAL CUSTODY, AND THIS PAST WEEK WAS HIS MOST PAINFUL. I HAD TO LET HIM KNOW THAT HIS GRANDMOTHER HAD PASSED.



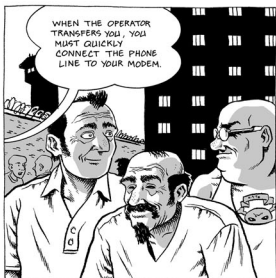
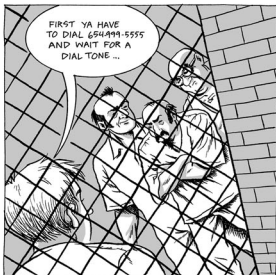
THE HARDEST PART OF THIS WAS NOT BEING ABLE TO EVEN PUT A HAND ON HIS SHOULDER AS HE BEGAN TO LOSE IT. FOR VARIOUS REASONS HE HAS BEEN DENIED VISITATION, AND IT TURNS OUT HIS GRANDMA DID NOT LET HIM KNOW HOW SICK SHE WAS.



FRESH AIR



AFTER KNUXX ASKS HIS HIGHLY ILLEGAL
AND CRIMINALLY INSANE TECHNICAL QUESTIONS...





JUST A FEW OF MY PET PEEVES

THE JERKS GAVE ME A PILLOW CASE, BUT NO PILLOW... FOR MONTHS!



NOTHING BUT SPORTS ON TV IN THE REC ROOM ... UNLESS THE ITALIANS KNOW A GANGSTER MOVIE IS ON.



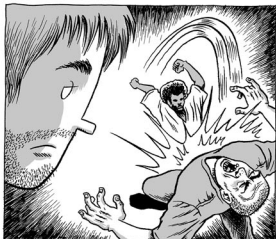
I KEEP PUTTING IN FOR A JOB AT THE LIBRARY TO NO AVAIL.

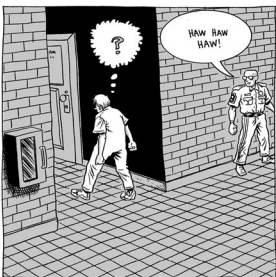


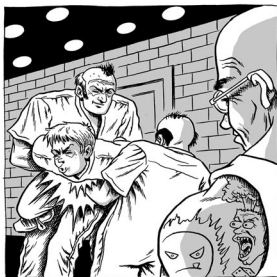
LOTS OF HOMOPHOBIC AND RACIAL EXPLETIVES ON A CONSTANT BASIS.



I LEARNED QUICKLY THAT IT IS FUTILE TO MEDIATE.





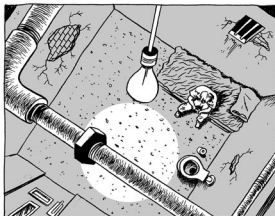


THE CHEESE STANDS ALONE

OBVIOUSLY, THE WORST OF SOCIETY
IS LOCKED UP TOGETHER...



INMATES TREAT EACH OTHER WITH SUCH
INTENSE RESPECT MOST OF THE TIME,
UNLESS YOU ALLOW YOURSELF TO BE
A TARGET.



PRISON IS INTERESTING FROM AN
ANTHROPOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW.



...BUT, INSTEAD OF MAYHEM, A
TYPICAL DAY IS USUALLY MUNDANE...



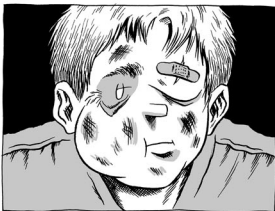
THE JOINT IS SUCH A PRESSURE-COOKER
TYPE OF SITUATION. EVERYONE IS ON
EDGE 24/7.



THIS CREATES A SENSITIVE ENVIRONMENT WHERE GUYS MAY GET EASILY OFFENDED AND VIOLENT IF THEY FEEL DISRESPECTED.



IT'S EASY TO SURVIVE AS LONG AS YOU OBSERVE THE CULTURE THAT EXISTS. FOR INSTANCE, IF YOU GET JUMPED BY 3 GUYS WHILE A GUARD IS LAUGHING, YOU BEST KEEP YOUR MOUTH SHUT.



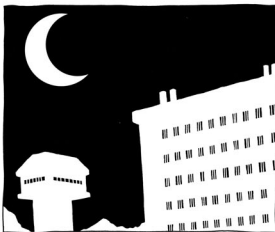
BEING A SNITCH IS AN EASY WAY TO LEAVE HERE IN A BOX.



EVEN IF YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE TO TAKE THE FALL, YOU HAVE TO CUT YOUR LOSSES.



A MONTH OF SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IS NOT THE WORST THAT CAN HAPPEN TO A GUY...



THAT'S, AT LEAST, WHAT I TELL MYSELF WHENEVER I GET INTO A SCRAPE.



WHAT
SIDE
YOU
ON?





AN UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT

BOBBY BANINI IS THE LEADER OF THE BANINI CRIME FAMILY. HE HAS IT EASY IN THE BIG HOUSE.



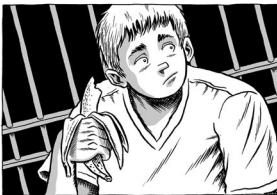
BANINI HAS A LOT OF CLOUT AMONGST THE INMATES AND GUARDS ALIKE. HE ALSO CAN DO PRETTY MUCH WHAT HE WANTS.



TO SAY THAT BANINI HAS FEW WORRIES IN THE SLAMMER IS PROBABLY AN UNDERSTATEMENT.



KEVIN SPENDS HIS TIME TRYING TO BE AS INVISIBLE AS POSSIBLE.



THE GUARDS WATCH KEVIN WITH A CLOSE EYE, MAKING SURE HE DOES THINGS BY THE BOOK.



ONE OF KEVIN'S BIGGEST CONCERNS IS TO KEEP HIS CELL CONTRABAND-FREE. THIS INCLUDES FOOD SMUGGLED IN FROM THE OUTSIDE.



BANINI COULD EVEN BE CONSIDERED COMPLACENT.



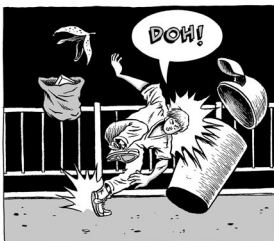
BANINI IS COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF KEVIN'S EXISTENCE.



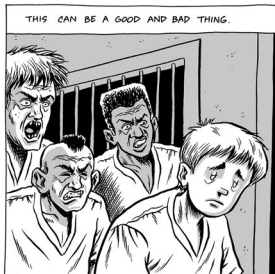
KEVIN IS METICULOUS IN HIS EFFORTS.

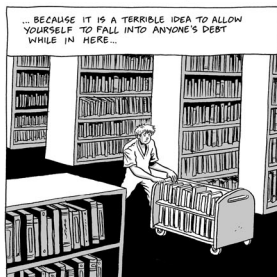
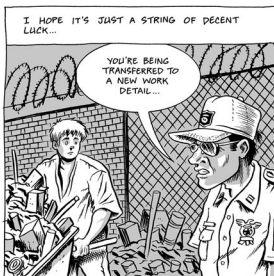


KEVIN IS TOO CLUMSY TO KEEP IT THAT WAY.



STRANGE BEDFELLOWS





AN ASTUTE OBSERVATION...

ONE OF MY JOBS
IS TO OPEN ALL THE
MAIL COMING IN.



FUCKIN' SCUM!
THEY TRY THEIR
BEST TO SMUGGLE
SHIT IN HERE.



BELIEVE IT
OR NOT...



... PROBABLY 2 TIMES
A YEAR SOME GOON IS
SENT A HOLLOWED OUT
BOOK WITH SOME SHIT
HIDDEN INSIDE.

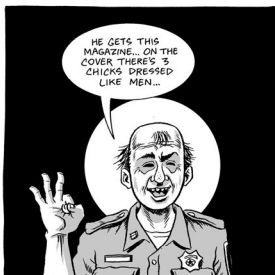


YA CAN LEARN
A LOT ABOUT THE
DIPSHITS IN HERE
BY WHAT THEY
READ.



TAKE THAT
HACKER KID,
PHENICLE...





UTOPIA



IT'S SO GOOD TO HAVE SOMETHING
TO LOOK FORWARD TO THESE DAYS.



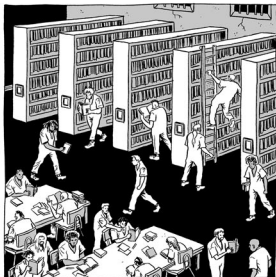
TIME SEEMS TO MOVE FASTER. IT'S
A HUGE HELP.



THE OLD-TIMERS SAY THAT THE
LIBRARY HASN'T LOOKED THIS
ORGANIZED IN DECADES.



YEAH, SEEMS TO BE GOOD
VIBES ALL AROUND.



WE ALSO CONVINCED THE WARDEN
TO LET US SPRUCE UP AND REFRESH
THE PLACE.



IT MAY ACTUALLY BE POSSIBLE
FOR A GUY TO BE REHABILITATED
IN AN ATMOSPHERE LIKE THIS.



SUBVERSION...

WINSTON'S RADIO SHOW HAS BEEN GAINING A LOT OF MAINSTREAM MEDIA ATTENTION BECAUSE OF MY STORY.



... AND I HAVE A PLAN TO WATCH IT, DESPITE THE MONOPOLY THAT THE GANGS HAVE ON THE REC ROOM.



I'M FORBIDDEN FROM TOUCHING ANY COMPUTERS IN HERE, BUT I'M ALLOWED TO USE A TYPEWRITER FOR CORRESPONDENCE WITH MY LAWYER.



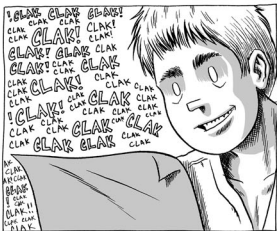
HE'S GOING TO GET A CHANCE TO BE ON A HUGE, NATIONAL, TELEVISION NEWS PROGRAM...



I RECENTLY GOT AHEAD OF SOME OFFICIAL PRISON STATIONARY.



CONJUGAL VISITS AREN'T ALLOWED IN FEDERAL PRISON, WHICH IS A REAL SADNESS FOR THE CONVICTS HERE.



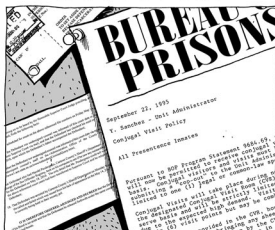
THE TOPIC COMES UP EVERY DAY.



IT'S A CARROT THAT THE ADMINISTRATION
DANGLES OVER OUR HEADS TO MAKE
SURE WE'RE GOOD BOYS.



MAKING THE VISITS A REALITY, FOR
AT LEAST A SHORT TIME, WILL MAKE IT
POSSIBLE TO WATCH SOME TV ALONE.



WORD TRAVELS FAST IN THE PEN.



VERY FAST.



AND
WE'RE
BACK...

...WITH
AUTHOR/JOURNALIST
RON SHUMWAY, AND
TALK SHOW HOST,
ACTIVIST, WINSTON
SMITH...

RON, WHEN
IS THE FILM BASED
ON YOUR BOOK 'HACKING
THE HACKER' COMING
OUT?

WELL, IT'S
IN PRODUCTION
AND OUT OF MY
HANDS. MAYBE
THIS TIME
NEXT YEAR.

YOU KNOW,
RON, I GOT MY
MITTS ON THE
SCRIPT FOR
THE MOVIE...

... IT IS
COMPLETE 'bleep'!
THERE IS NO
INDICATION THAT
KEVIN WILL BE
GETTING A TRIAL
ANY TIME
SOON...

... BUT THE
MOVIE ENDS WITH
HIM BEING FOUND
GUILTY OF ALL
SORTS OF
'bleep'!

DON'T YOU
THINK THIS
COULD AFFECT
A FUTURE JURY
DECISION?

I
DIDN'T
WRITE THE
SCRIPT...

THE BOOK
IS ALL YOU
THOUGH. LET'S
TALK ABOUT
THE TITLE...

"HACKING
THE
HACKER"
?

YOU ARE
SUGGESTING THAT
YOU HACKED THE
HACKER? TELL
US ABOUT
THAT!



OH YEAH. HEY MAN! SURE I'VE SEEN YOU AROUND. WAIT... YOU AIN'T A KID TOUCHER OR ANYTHING, RIGHT? OK, COOL. I DO HAVE SOME TIPS FOR MAKING SURE YOU HAVE A COMFORTABLE TIME WHILE IN THIS FACILITY...

PRISON HACKS

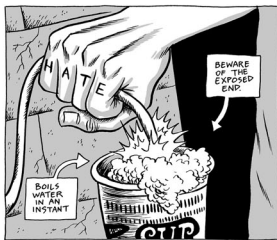
IF YOU RUN OUT OF MATCHES FOR CIGARETTES BEFORE YOU CAN HIT THE COMMISSARY, YOU CAN LIGHT YOUR SMOKE WITH ANY WIRE YOU FIND FROM A BUSTED PIECE OF ELECTRONICS.



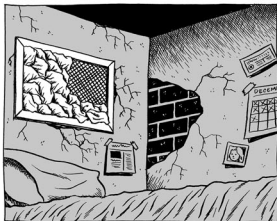
YOU CAN PASS NOTES OR ANYTHING ELSE WITH YOUR DOWNSTAIRS NEIGHBOR WITH A SIMPLE FLUSH OF THE TOILET.



YOU CAN ALSO COOK RAMEN NOODLES WITH THAT ELECTRICAL WIRE, BY THE WAY.



THE A.C. IN THIS PLACE DOES GET CHILLY. YOU CAN REGULATE THE AIR IN YOUR CELL BY PLUGGING THE VENT WITH WET, SOAPY, NEWS - OR TOILET PAPER.



IF YOU'RE IN SOLITARY, YOU CAN GET 2 MEALS BY KNOCKING THE FIRST TRAY ONTO THE FLOOR. THEY'LL BRING YOU ANOTHER. KEEP THE CELL FLOOR CLEAN ENOUGH TO EAT OFF OF.



YOU CAN DO LAUNDRY IN YOUR CELL BY FITTING YOUR TOILET WITH A TRASH BAG LINER. FILL IT WITH SINK WATER.



YOU CAN JUST HANG YOUR WET CLOTHES FROM YOUR BUNK. MAKE SURE THIS IS COOL WITH YOUR CELL-MATE.



ALSO, YOU LOOK LIKE YOU ARE INTO BUILDING MUSCLE. SINCE WE HAVE VERY LIMITED TIME ON THE YARD, YOU CAN FILL A GARBAGE BAG WITH WATER, TIE IT OFF, AND YOU CAN LIFT IN YOUR CELL.

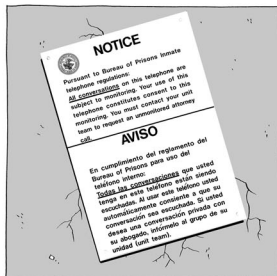


IF YOU NEED TO MEASURE ANYTHING, YOU CAN USE A PIECE OF TYPING PAPER. IT'S 8.5x11 INCHES. YOU CAN FOLD IT AS NEEDED AS YOU EYEBALL YOUR DIMENSIONS.



DO YOU KNOW YOU CAN MAKE A SEX TOY BY ROLLING YOUR BATH TOWEL AND INSERTING A RUBBER GLOVE INSIDE OUT ON THE END.



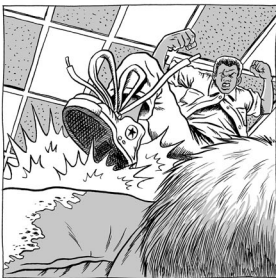
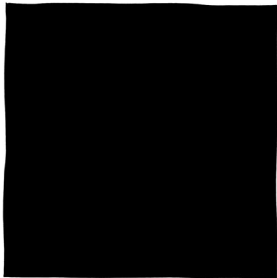


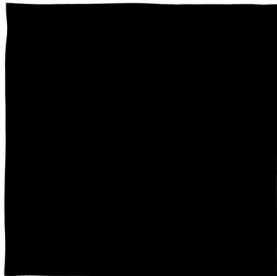
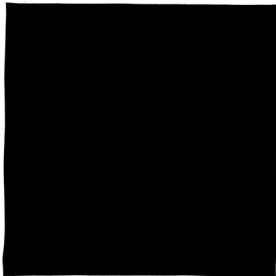












THAT'S ENOUGH
A THAT,
NEGRO!

BLAM!

FUCK, HE
DID A NUMBER
ON 'IM.

...LOTS OF
PAPERWORK
!

IS HE
ALIVE?

...GUESS
SO

LUCKY
FUCK!

IS HE?

LOOK AT
HIS HAND!

EWWW!

...GOTTA MAKE
IT LOOK
GOOD...

...YEAH...

...LIKE A
STRUGGLE...

PUNCH ME.

OW!

AGAIN...

FUCK!

...RIGHT IN
THE NOSE...

SHIT!

MY TURN!

OUCH!

ENOUGH!

ALRIGHT!
CALL IT
IN...

THINK
THIS WILL
MAKE THE
NEWS?

TOTALLY!

COOL!

PUNCH ME
AGAIN...

COCKSUCKER!

ALRIGHT,
GUYS...

THEY GOT
A WAGON
COMING FOR
THE KID.

GUESS
WE GOTTA
GET OUR STORY
STRAIGHT.

YEAH!

TOTALLY!

CHAPTER 8

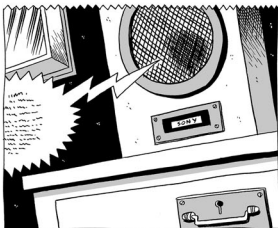


OFF THE ROCKER

with your host
**WINSTON
SMITH**

WABC 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

I COULD NOT WAIT TO GET ON THE AIR THIS WEEK, KNOWING THAT SO MANY OF YOU WOULD BE CURIOUS ABOUT WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.



WHAT I KNOW ABOUT KEVIN'S CONDITION, I REGRET, IS NO MORE THAN YOU KNOW. BROKEN BONES, LACERATIONS, COMA...



WE ALL ALSO KNOW THE PRISON'S OFFICIAL STATEMENT ABOUT KEVIN BEING AMBUSHED BY A GANG OF ASSAILANTS.



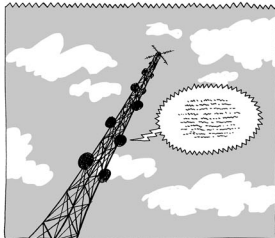
HOW UNFORTUNATE THAT THE PRISON'S TELEPHONE RECORDING EQUIPMENT WAS SEVERED WHEN THE UNIT WAS RIPPED FROM THE WALL ENROUTE TO KEVIN'S HEAD.



WHAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW IS THAT I WAS ON THE PHONE WITH KEV AT THE TIME...



... AND THE BASIC PHONE CONNECTION STAYED
IN TACT. I COULD HEAR EVERYTHING GOING ON!



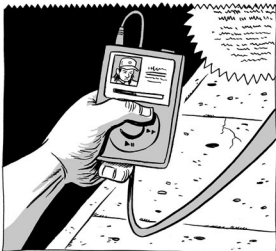
SINCE WE LIVE IN A "ONE PARTY STATE", THIS
RECORDING IS COMPLETELY LEGAL TO
BROADCAST.



WHAT EVERYONE ALSO DOESN'T KNOW IS THAT
I RECORDED EVERY CONVERSATION I HAD
WITH PHENICE ON MY END.



I'D LIKE YOU ALL TO DO ME A FAVOR...



LISTEN TO THIS WITH A CLOSE EAR...



JUDGE FOR YOURSELF IF THE OFFICIAL PRISON
STATEMENT MATCHES UP WITH YOUR INTER-
PRETATION OF WHAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO
HEAR...



ENOUGH IS ENOUGH...

THERE WAS THIS QUIET KID IN OUR HIGH SCHOOL WHO COMMITTED SUICIDE AFTER BEING JUMPED FOR NO REASON....



THE FUNERAL WAS ATTENDED BY ALMOST EVERYBODY IN SCHOOL. EVEN THE MOST POPULAR KIDS SHOWED UP.



IF YOU ARE LESS CYNICAL THAN KEVIN AND MYSELF, YOU MAY SAY THAT THE COMMUNITY WAS BROUGHT TOGETHER BY TRAGEDY...



... BUT IT REALLY WAS SIMPLY JUST THE SOCIAL EVENT OF THE SCHOOL YEAR.



PEOPLE WERE COMMENTING ON EACH OTHER'S OUTFITS THE NEXT DAY. I ALSO REMEMBER THAT THE GENERAL CONSENSUS WAS THAT THE DEAD KID'S PARENTS DIDN'T CRY ENOUGH.



NOW THIS? THIS IS DIFFERENT. EVERYONE HERE IS INSANE WITH RAGE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED, THANKS TO MY RECORDING.



THEY MAY BE MORE DISGUSTED BY BEING LIED TO BY PRISON OFFICIALS THAN WHAT HAPPENED TO KEVIN...



... BUT, THEY ALL SHOWED UP, NONETHELESS.



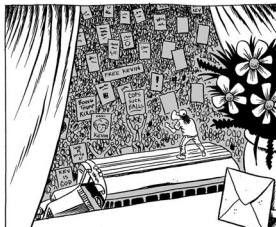
OKAY, I ADMIT, WE DON'T HAVE A STRUCTURE AS TIGHT AS I SAW IT IN MY HEAD...



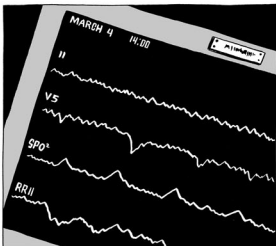
... BUT THE POLITICIANS ARE SCRAMBLING AROUND WITH WEIRD STATEMENTS, NOT KNOWING HOW TO HANDLE THINGS... THE HOSPITAL HAS ZERO FUCKING EXPERIENCE WITH WHAT IS HAPPENING... IT'S A WAR ZONE!



THE ENTIRE INSTITUTION OF LAW, THE COPS, AND PRISON SYSTEM HAVE NEVER LOOKED WORSE THAN THEY DO NOW.



KEV, I WISH YOU COULD SEE THIS RIGHT NOW.







1

IT'S HARD
TO RELAX
LIKE THIS.



2

וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח



3

UGH! MY
HAND IS
ITCHY!



4

וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח



5

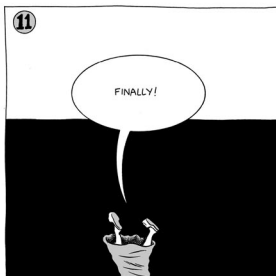
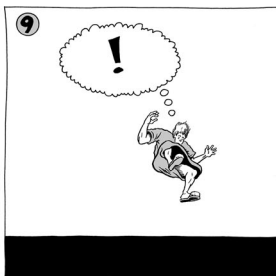
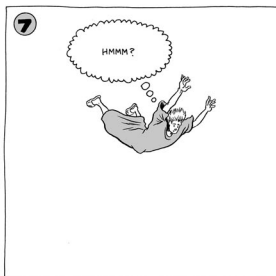
...SO
BORING...



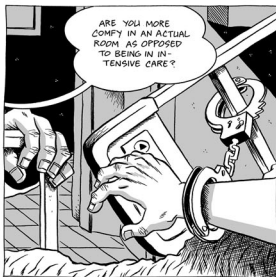
6

וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח
וְהָיָה כִּי תִשְׁכַּח





BATTLE WOUNDS





THE DOCTOR BILLED \$1295 FOR THIS VISIT.

HELPLESS



GOTTA DRINK AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE TO TRY AND GET SOME KIND OF NUTRITION, SOME SORT OF CALORIC INTAKE.



THE DOCTOR SUPPLIED ME WITH WIRE-CUTTERS IN THE EVENT THAT THERE IS A PROBLEM.



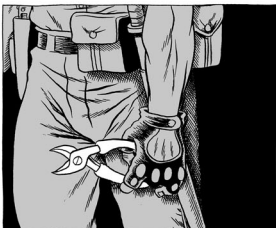
THE SCARIEST POTENTIAL ISSUE WITH A WIRED JAW IS EITHER CHOKING OR NAUSEA.



TO DIE CHOKING ON VOMIT IS NOT AN INTERESTING WAY TO GO OUT, FOR ME.



THE COPS DEEMED THE DEVICE TO BE CONTRABAND AND IT WAS TAKEN FROM ME.



SPITEFUL



THE CHUMP IS CAUSING LOTS OF TROUBLE FOR A LOT OF GOOD PEOPLE.



ALL THE BOYS WANT ME TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT, SINCE I'M SO CLOSE.



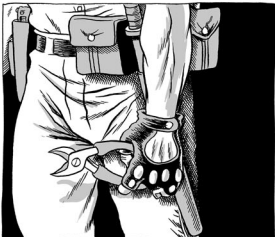
WHATTA GIMP FUCKING JERKOFF THIS BOINGTHUMP GUY IS. SUCH A PUSSY.



AT LEAST 3 PRISON GUARDS ARE HEADIN' UP THE RIVER. THE SUITS ARE IN HOT WATER.



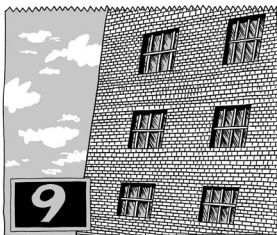
HE BEST BE CAREFUL WIT' HIS SOUP BROTH. 'SALL I KNOW. HAHAW.



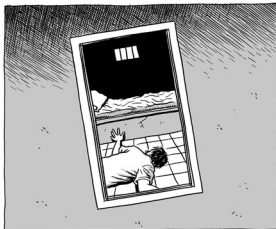
NEWS AT NINE, ON

9

LESS THAN A MONTH AFTER RADIO DJ WINSTON SMITH PLAYED THOSE NOTORIOUS RECORDINGS THAT SPARKED NATIONAL OUTRAGE...



A PRESS CONFERENCE IS EXPECTED TO BE HELD LATER AT 12:00 WITH PRISON OFFICIALS, THE MAYOR, AND THE GOVERNOR.



... THE 3 CORRECTIONS OFFICERS CAUGHT ON TAPE WERE FOUND DEAD IN THEIR CELLS THIS MORNING. POSSIBLY SELF-INFLICTED INJURIES.



EXPECT TODAY'S EPISODE OF "YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS" TO BE PREEMPTED.



MEETING THE PRESS

... ABOUT THEIR SUICIDES,
WITHOUT FURTHER ADD,
GOVERNOR SCOTT.



THANK YOU, THE
THOUSANDS IN
ATTENDANCE WHO STAND
VIGILANT PROTESTING
KEVIN J. PHENICLE'S UN-
FORTUNATE CIRCUMSTANCE
ARE NOT SHOUTING TO
DEAF EARS.



BEING INCARCERATED
FOR MORE THAN 5
YEARS WITHOUT A
TRIAL IS COMPLETELY
UNACCEPTABLE.



I PLEDGE TO DO
ALL I CAN TO MAKE
SURE THE MAN GETS
THE TRIAL THAT HE
DESERVES BY NEXT
MONTH.



IT IS
UNFORTUNATE
THAT THIS CASE
SLIPPED THROUGH
THE CRACKS IN
THIS WAY.



QUESTION?! WHAT
IF PHENICLE IS NOT
HEALTHY ENOUGH
TO APPEAR IN COURT
COME TRIAL TIME?



OFF THE ROCKER

with your host
**WINSTON
SMITH**

WABCD 108.3 ON YOUR FM DIAL

THERE IS NO OTHER PATH THIS SAGA COULD
HAVE TAKEN...



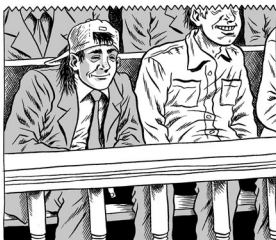
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY...



I HAVE TO THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE
OF YOU FOR MAKING THIS HAPPEN!



YOU ALL ... WE ALL ... ARE TOO STRONG A
FORCE.



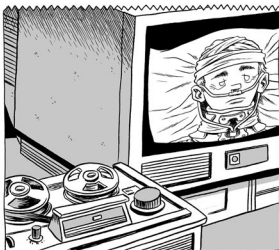
WE ARE LEGION! AND THEY KNOW IT!



...SO CLOSE TO THE RODNEY KING ATROCITY, THOUGH IT WAS THE ENTIRE U.S. GOVERNMENT BEATING KEVIN DOWN...



I'M GOING TO BE HONEST WITH YOU ALL...



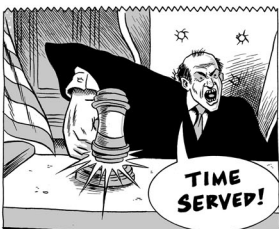
... SEEING JOHN LAW WITH SO MUCH EGG ON THEIR FACE...



THE VERDICT MIGHT HAVE COME DOWN IN RECORD TIME ,TOO, BY THE WAY!



IT WAS KIND OF INSULTING, BUT AT LEAST NOW KEVIN CAN FOCUS ON HIS HEALTH AND MOVE FORWARD WITH HIS LIFE.



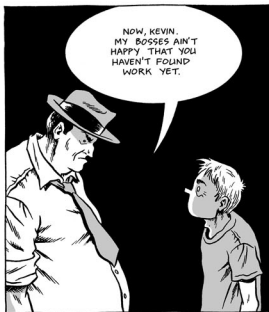
FIRST THINGS FIRST



TIED HANDS



The Gauntlet



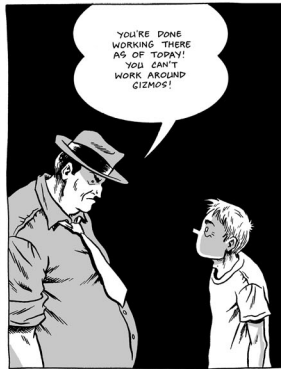
The Hunt



The Next...



The Result

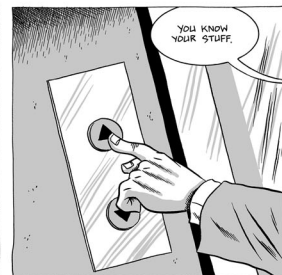


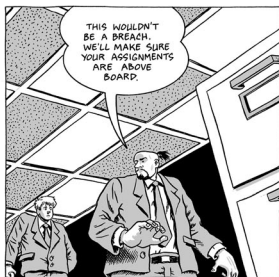
another proposition





FIRST AMENDMENT...





PROCESS





THE DECEPTIVE ART OF INTRUSION

I'VE BEEN ON
PINS AND NEEDLES
WAITING FOR
IT.



WHEN HE WRITES
ABOUT SPECIFICS, HE
SAYS THAT "ANONYMOUS
HACKERS" ARE HIS
SOURCE OF INFORMATION,
BUT YOU KNOW THAT'S
BULLSHIT.



WHY BUY IT?
I READ THE ENTIRE
CONTENTS WHEN IT
WAS SERIALIZED IN
THE MAGAZINE.

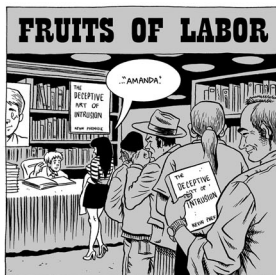


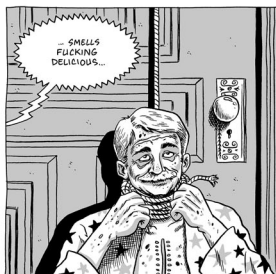
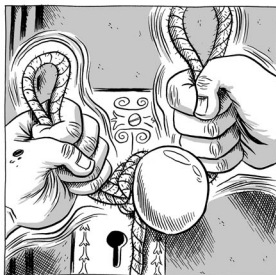
I BET
HE HAS A
GHOSTWRITER
!



I GIVE EVERY
"NEW YORK TIMES"
BESTSELLER A
"ONCE OVER," AT
LEAST.









IN THE CROSSHAIRS



this week:

"WIKILEAKS"









KEVIN

FREE



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

"WIZZYWIG" IS ED PISKOR'S FIRST "REAL" SOLO RELEASE. IN BETWEEN DOING THIS BOOK, HE HAS DRAWN A FEW OTHERS, "MACEDONIA" AND "THE BEATS". BOTH OF THOSE WERE WRITTEN BY THE LATE, GREAT, HARVEY PEKAR. ED'S ALSO DESIGNED THE CHARACTERS, AND PRODUCED ART FOR AN ADULT SWIM SHOW ON CARTOON NETWORK.

RIGHT NOW ED'S FINISHING ANOTHER, ALBEIT LOOSER, BOOK CALLED "DELETERIOUS PEDIGREE" WHICH CAN BE SEEN AT WIZZYWIGCOMICS.COM. HE ALSO DOES/DID A WEEKLY COMICSTRIP ONLINE AT THE NOTORIOUS HACKER-FRIENDLY WEBSITE, BOINGBOING.NET, CALLED "BRAIN ROT."

ED'S EMAIL: WIMPYRUTHERFORD@GMAIL.COM

TWITTER: @EDPISKOR

SNAIL MAIL: ED PISKOR

4106 FAIRFIELD AVE.

MUNHALL, PA. 15120

"Extremely pleasurable... A gripping story with lots of good, meaty forbidden knowledge and insight into the hacker mindset." -- CORY DOCTOROW, BOING BOING

"WIZZYWIG is a delight, wryly rendered and packed with dead-on details of the hacker life." -- WIRED

"WIZZYWIG is a portrait of a cultural moment when geeks weren't just outside mainstream culture but terrifying to it." -- TIME.COM TECHLAND

They say What You See Is What You Get... but Kevin "Boingthump" Phenicle could always see more than most people.

In the world of phone phreaks, hackers, and scammers, he's a legend. His exploits are hotly debated: could he really get free long-distance calls by whistling into a pay phone? Did his video-game piracy scheme accidentally trigger the first computer virus? And did he really dodge the FBI by using their own wiretapping software against them? Is he even a real person? And if he's ever caught, what would happen to a geek like him in federal prison?

Inspired by the incredible stories of real-life hackers, WIZZYWIG is the thrilling tale of a master manipulator—his journey from precocious child scammer to federally-wanted fugitive, and beyond. In a world transformed by social networks, data leaks, and digital uprisings, WIZZYWIG reminds us how much power can rest in the hands of an audacious kid with a keyboard.

