

Coffee

It's what's
for dinner.

comics
for
coffee
lovers



by
Dave Kellett

GIVEN IN THANKS TO OUR AWESOME
FRIENDS AND BACKERS OF KICKSTARTER,
FROM THE DIRECTORS OF "STRIPPED."

...THANK YOU FOR BEIN'
ALL AWESOME AND STUFF.

- DAVE & FRED

coffee

It's what's
for dinner.



by Dave Kellett

*“What if we poured hot water on a bean?
Could that be a thing?”
– The First Coffee Drinker*

SHELDONCOMICS.COM



COFFEE: IT'S WHAT'S FOR DINNER

A collection of coffee-themed strips from the cartoon Sheldon®

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About The Book...

Ever had a caffeine headache? Ever held up a whole road trip just so you could find a Starbucks? Ever fantasized about drinking your next coffee...while there is *still a dang coffee in your hand*?

Then this is the book for you. These are comic strips crafted for people who love coffee: Everything from lattes to cappuccinos, from espressos to big ol' honkin' mugs. It's a collection of all the best coffee strips from the daily comic strip "Sheldon," brought together in one, coffee-shop-friendly container.

But before we get into it, let's meet the characters that populate the strip, as they'll be with us throughout our coffee journey. So cast your glance below, gentle reader, and let's meet them now...

About The Cast...



GRAMP:

Our resident coffee addict, Gramp is a warm-hearted guy raising his grandson, Sheldon. Now in his retirement years, Gramp has become a fan of all coffees, whether they be lattes...or a whole lotta lattes.

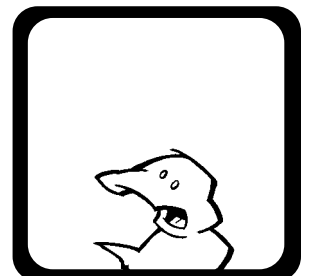


SHELDON:

Gramp's 10-year old grandson, Sheldon is the resident genius and sci-fi nerd.

ARTHUR:

Sheldon's pet duck learned to talk when Sheldon downloaded some speech-recognition software into his head. He now mostly spends his days harassing Gramp.

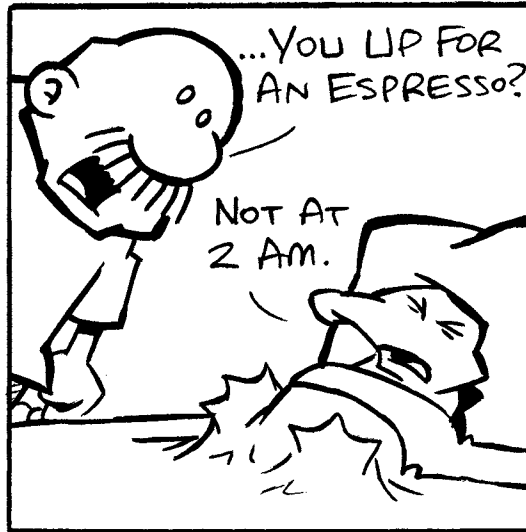




**TODAY:
SPOTTING
THE SIGNS
OF
COFFEE
ADDICTION**



#1: YOU'RE INCREASINGLY WILLING TO DRINK COFFEE ANY TIME.



#2: YOU REALLY ONLY NOTICE WHEN YOU'RE **NOT** SWEATING



#3: YOUR CAFFEINE HEADACHES REACH WONDERFUL NEW SUMMITS



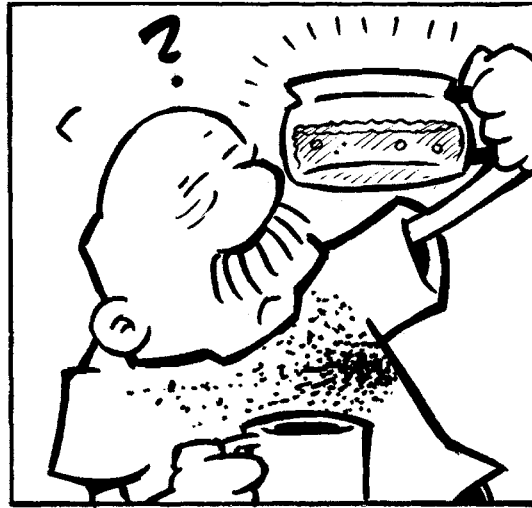
#4: YOU FIND YOURSELF WISHING FOR A COFFEE...
WHILE DRINKING A COFFEE.



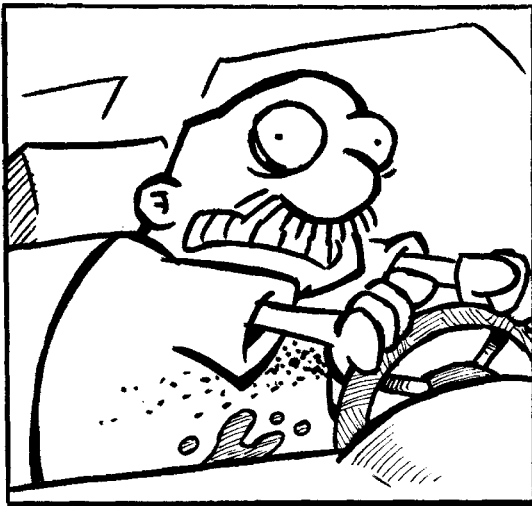
YOU FORGET TO COMPLETELY
SEAL THE BEAN GRINDER
BEFORE YOU START



YOU MISTAKENLY PUT
TWO PAPER FILTERS IN THE
MACHINE, RESULTING IN
LIGHTLY-BROWNEO WATER

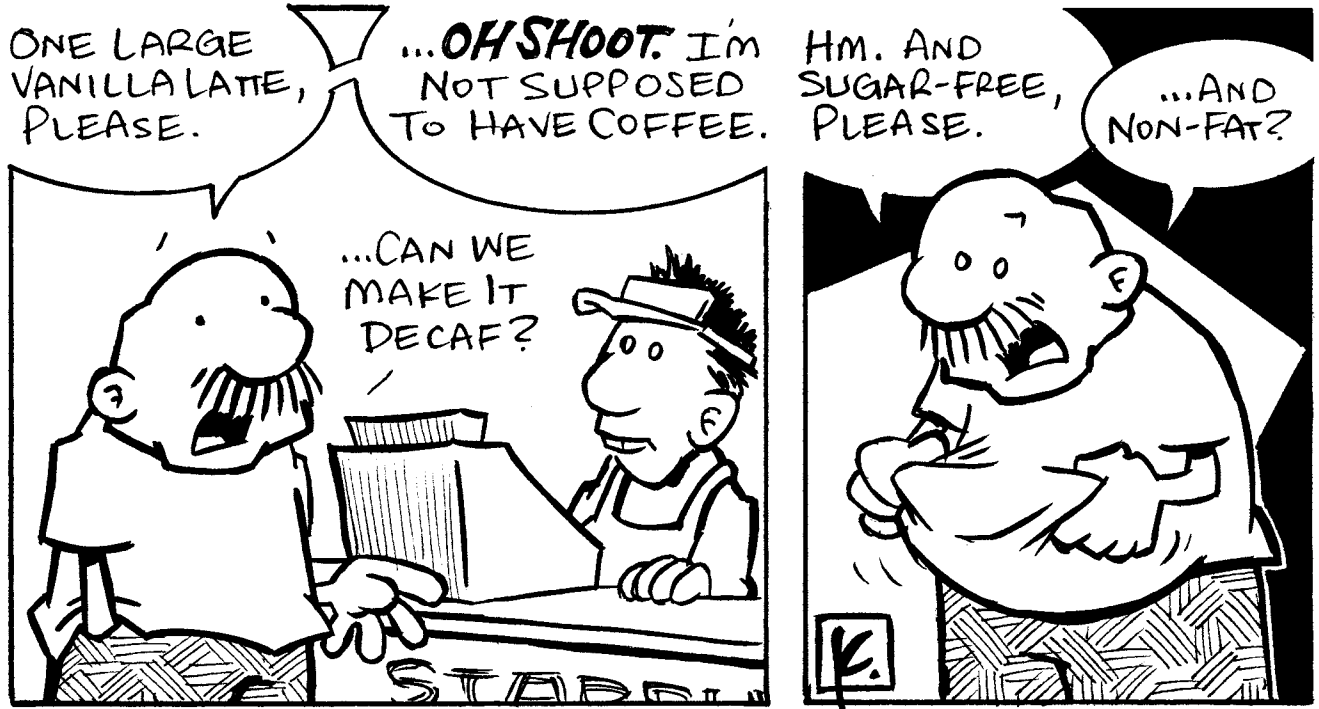


YOU SPILL THE ENTIRE
SCALDING CUP ON YOUR
CROTCH AS SOON AS YOU
GET IN THE CAR.



COFFEE: ALWAYS A WISE
CHOICE IN THE MORNING





THERE IS A TWENTY-MINUTE PERIOD WHERE YOU ACTUALLY ENJOY A LARGE COFFEE



...BUT IT'S FOLLOWED BY FOUR HOURS OF "THE TROUBLES"



...WHICH IS FOLLOWED BY FOUR HOURS OF CAFFEINE-INDUCED MIGRAINES.

AIGH! IT HURTS! HURTS LIKE A DAVID HASSELHOFF SONG!*

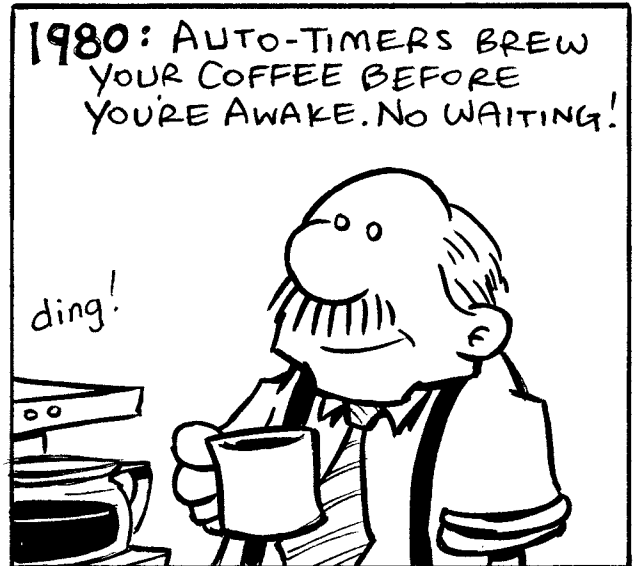


Coffee:

20 MINUTES OF ENJOYMENT.

8 HOURS OF HELL.

GREAT MOMENTS IN CAFFEINE ADDICTION!



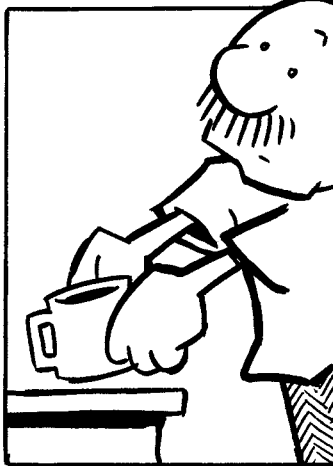


HOW TO TELL IF YOU'RE ADDICTED TO COFFEE:

A SIMPLE
4-PART
TEST



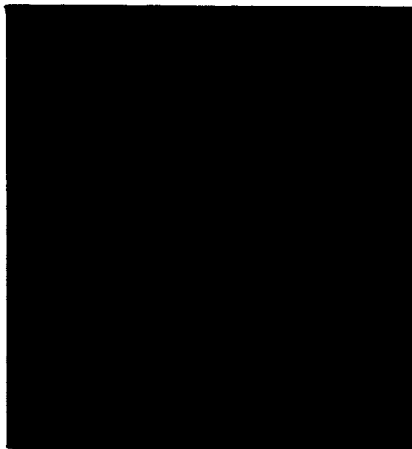
1: SET YOUR
COFFEE DOWN,
AND WALK INTO
ANOTHER ROOM



2: CLOSE YOUR EYES.
CLEAR YOUR MIND OF ALL
COFFEE-RELATED THOUGHTS



3: FROM A PLACE
OF STILLNESS,
TAKE SLOW, DEEP
BREATHS... AND
IMAGINE A LIFE
WITHOUT COFFEE.



4: SLOWLY OPEN YOUR EYES.
HAVE YOU PUNCHED HOLES IN
THREE-FOURTHS OF THE
SURROUNDING DRYWALL? YOU
MAY BE ADDICTED TO COFFEE.



EVERY TIME I POUR COFFEE
OUT OF THE POT, IT DRIPS
COFFEE **ALL DOWN THE SIDE.**



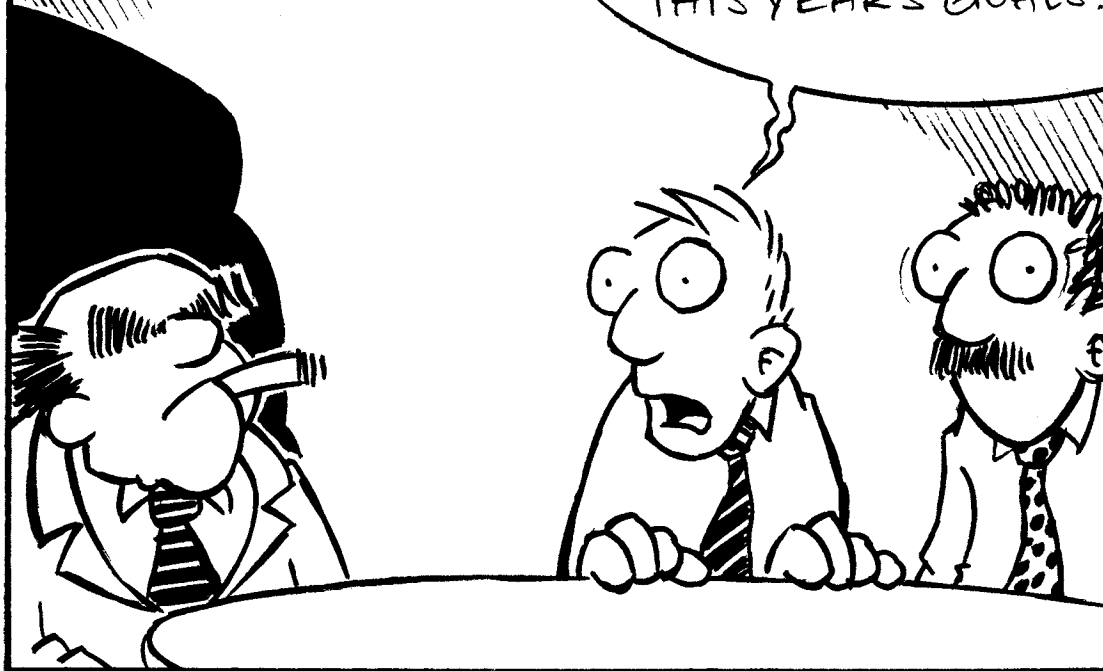
THE DANG THING HAS
TWO JOBS:
HOLD COFFEE, AND
POUR COFFEE.
THAT'S ALL IT
NEEDS TO DO!



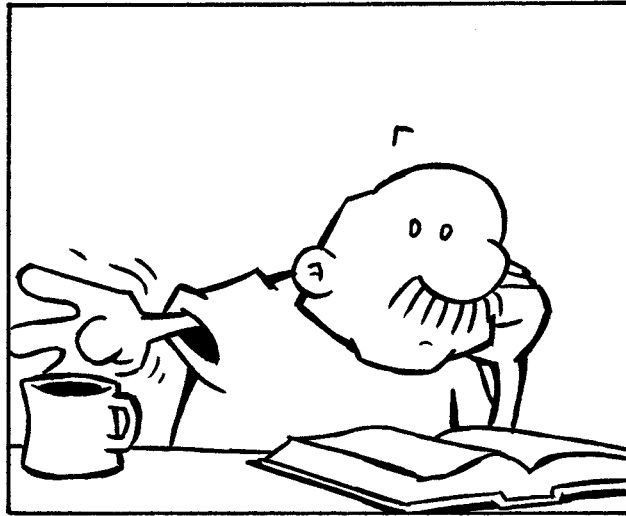
... SO WHAT
BRILLIANT
DESIGN TEAM
THOUGHT
THIS WAS
ACCEPTABLE?

EARLIER...

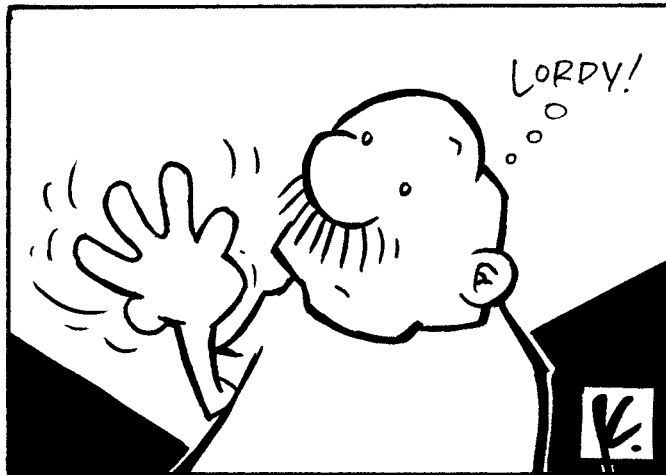
SIR, WE'RE
PROUD TO REPORT
WE'VE HIT 50% OF
THIS YEAR'S GOALS.



EVER DRINK SO MUCH COFFEE THAT
YOUR HAND GETS THE SHAKES?



THIS IS YOUR BODY'S
NATURAL DEFENSE MECHANISM
AGAINST COFFEE.



.....'CAUSE IT KEEPS YOU FROM
DRINKING MORE COFFEE.

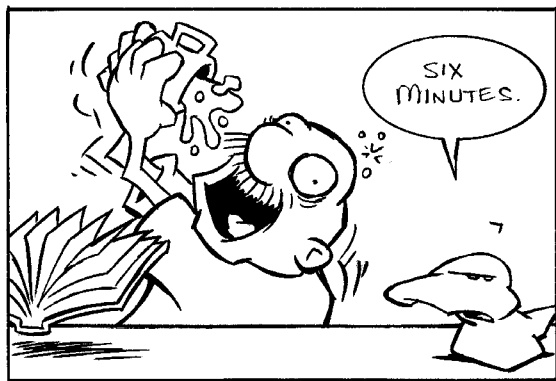
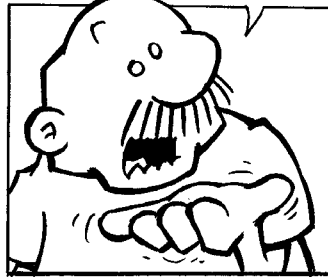


HEY, LOOKIT THAT.
MY HAND IS
SHAKING
FROM ALL THE
COFFEE.

HOW
FREAKY.



I **Gotta** LAY OFF
FOR A WHILE. THIS CAN'T
BE A HEALTHY SIGN.



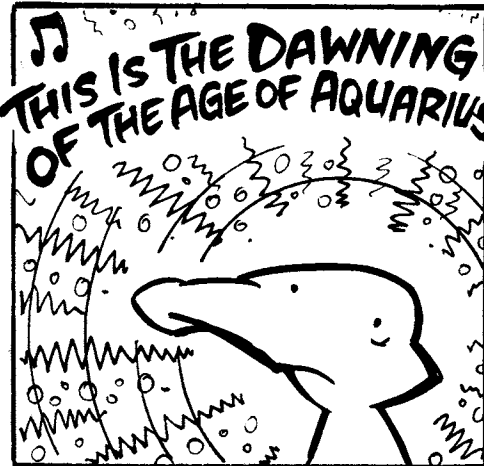
YOU'RE ALWAYS GOING ON AND ON ABOUT COFFEE.... LET ME TRY ASIP.



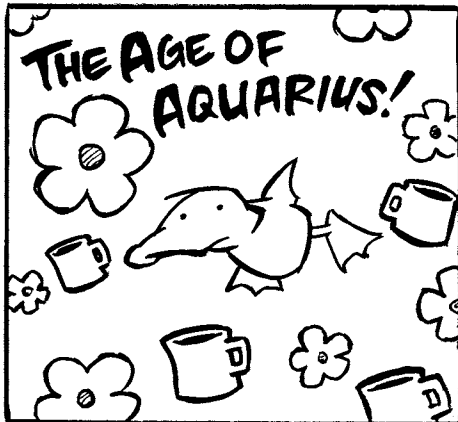
Siiiiiiiiip



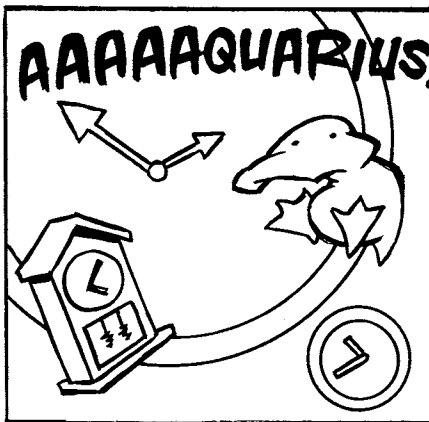
THIS IS THE DAWNING OF THE AGE OF AQUARIUS



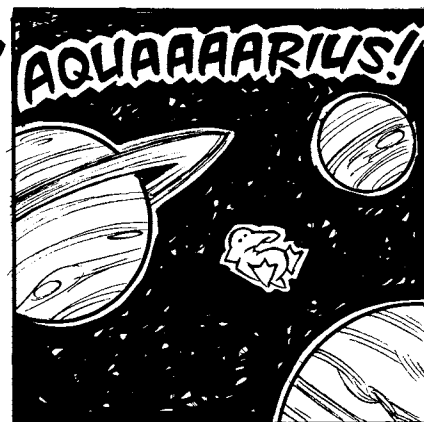
THE AGE OF AQUARIUS!



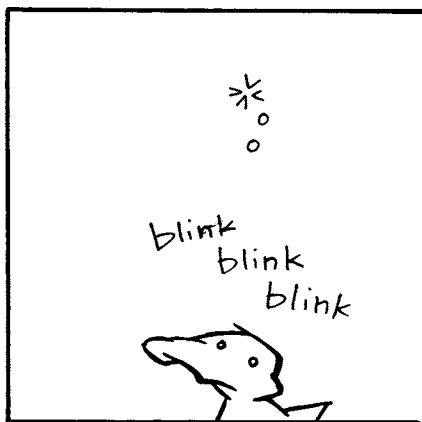
AAAAAQUARIUS!



AQUAAAAARIUS!



blink
blink
blink



...IT TASTES LIKE A BITTER, BOILED PHONEBOOK

YOU GET OVER THAT AFTER 1300 CUPS OR SO...

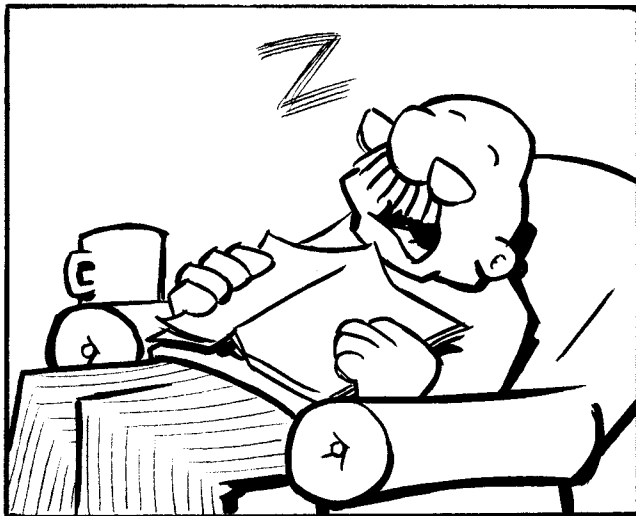


THE 3 KEY STAGES OF AGING:

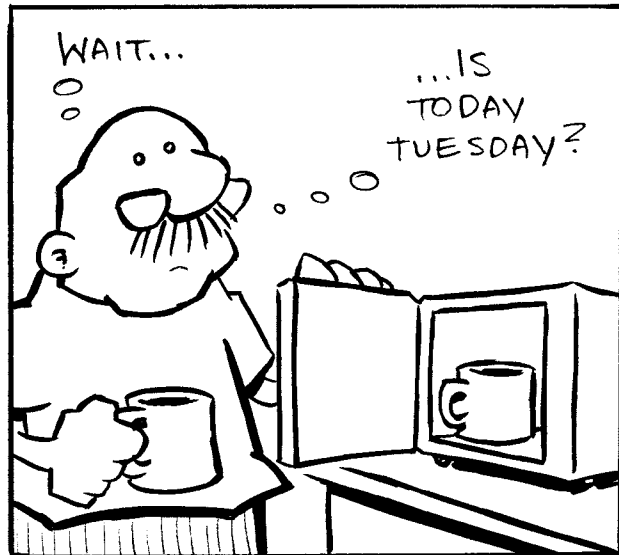
STAGE ONE: YOU START MAKING YOURSELF CHAMOMILLE TEA... AND NOT ON A DARE.

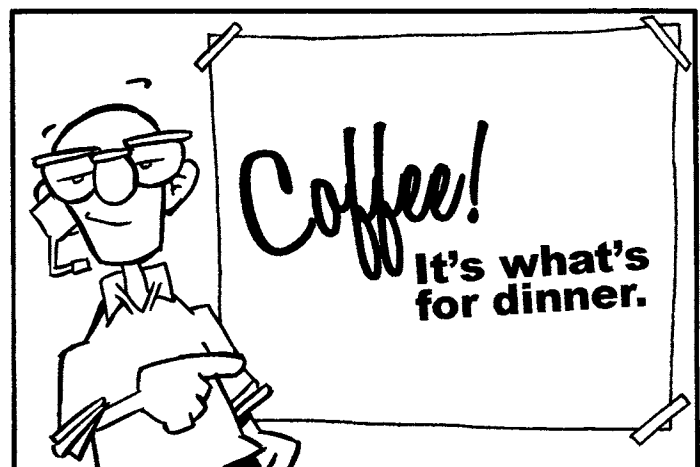
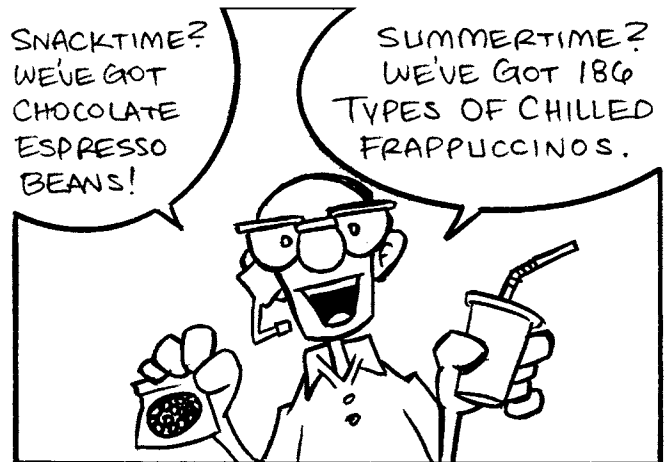
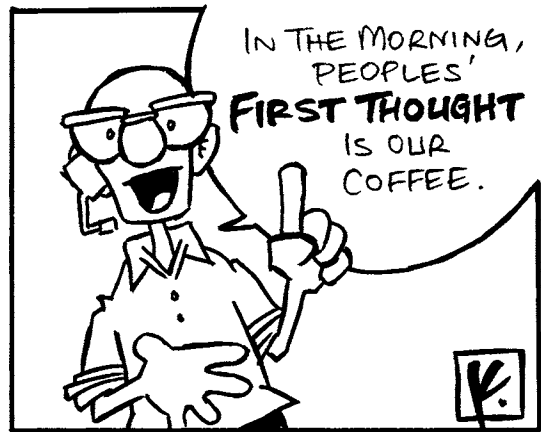
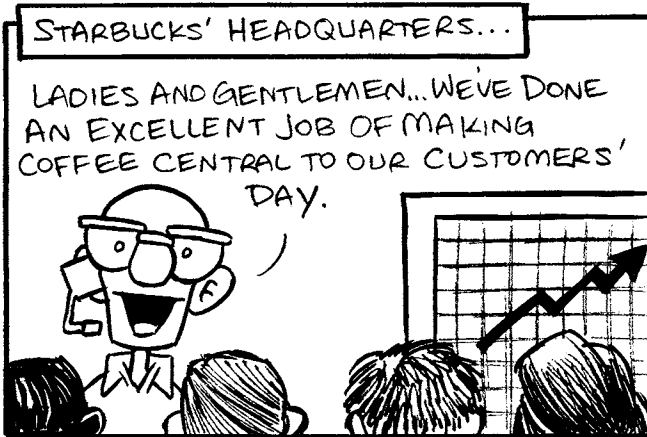


STAGE TWO: YOU START FALLING ASLEEP WAITING FOR THE TEA TO COOL... FORCING YOU TO REHEAT IT IN THE MICROWAVE LATER ON



STAGE THREE: YOU START FORGETTING YOU LEFT TEA IN THE MICROWAVE FROM THE LAST TIME YOU DID THIS





HERE'S YOUR VENTI LATE, SIR.
CAN I GET YOU
ANYTHING ELSE?



...AN
APOSTROPHE
?

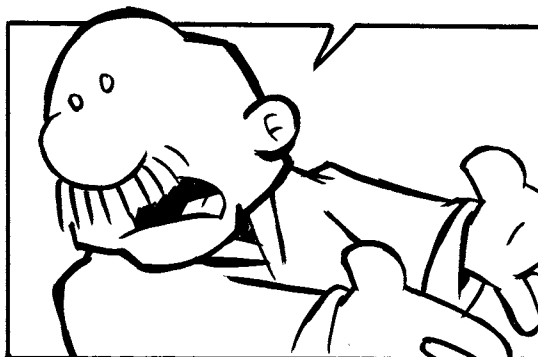
IN YOUR NAME.
..."STARBUCKS!"
DONT YOU
NEED AN
APOSTROPHE?



YOU'RE NAMED AFTER THE "MOBY DICK"
CHARACTER **STARBUCK**... SO A SHOP
OF HIS COFFEES, OR OF COFFEES
PERTAINING TO HIM, SHOULD BE
"**STARBUCK'S**."



IT'S NOT SOME GROUP OF GUYS NAMED
STARBUCK... OR SOME ABSTRACT
ADJECTIVAL USAGE, RIGHT? SO IT
NEEDS AN APOSTROPHE... RIGHT??



MAAAAAAYBE
WE'LL GIVE THIS
LATE TO SOMEBODY
ELSE.



WE'RE CUTTING YOU OFF, PAL.
NO MORE COFFEE FOR YOU.



YES. NO ONE MAY QUESTION US! **WE** ARE IN CONTROL!

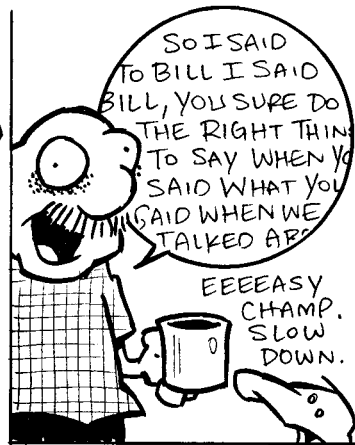


MAYBE THAT GUY AT
STARBUCKS IS **RIGHT**. MAYBE...



...**COFFEE**
IS SORTA
LIKE THE
SPICE IN
"DUNE":

IT SPEEDS UP THOUGHT!



IT MAKES TRAVEL THROUGH
SPACE POSSIBLE!



IT HEIGHTENS
BODY CONTROL!

I CAN CONTROL HOW
MUCH I SWEAT...
BY HOW MUCH I
DRINK!



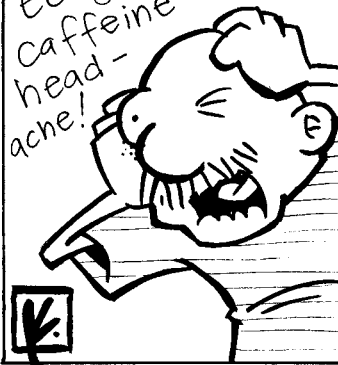
IT LENGTHENS LIFE!

...ACTUALLY, A QUICK
GOOGLE SEARCH SHOWS
1436 STUDIES SAYING
IT LENGTHENS LIFE,
AND 1436 STUDIES
SAYIN' IT KILLS YA.



IT MAKES YOU CONFRONT
YOUR INNER DEMONS!

eergh!
caffeine
head-
ache!



IT'S ADDICTIVE!

THE SPICE
MUST FLOW!

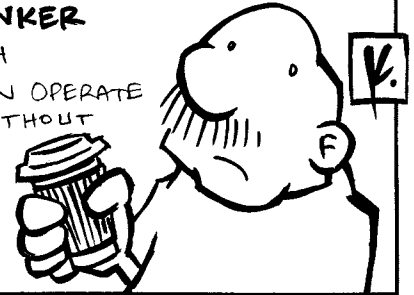


ONE LAST
COFFEE/DUNE
JOKE!
WE PROMISE!

HOW IS A COFFEE DRINKER LIKE A "MENTAT"?



MENTAT	COFFEE DRINKER
STAINED LIPS.....	STAINED TEETH
MIND LIKE A COMPUTER.....	MIND CAN'T EVEN OPERATE A COMPUTER WITHOUT COFFEE
MURDEROUS ABILITIES.....	MURDEROUS ABILITIES....IF YOU OFFER HIM DECAF



"IT IS BY COFFEE ALONE THAT I SET MY MIND IN MOTION. IT IS BY THE JUICE OF JAVA THAT THOUGHTS ACQUIRE SPEED, THE TEETH ACQUIRE STAINS, THE STAINS BECOME A WARNING. IT IS BY COFFEE ALONE I SET MY MIND IN MOTION."







MY COFFEE IS A DELICATE BALANCE OF CREAM, SUGAR, AND COFFEE. AND EVERY TIME YOU REFILL IT AT THE 2/3RDS MARK, I HAVE TO GO THROUGH A BALANCING ACT TO GET IT RIGHT AGAIN.



WE NOW RETURN
TO THE SEASON
PREMIERE OF...

GA'ARTH! KLINGON FASHION DESIGNER!

UGH... THESE CLIFFS ARE
SO... BLAH. WHY CAN'T
KLINGONS LOOK FABULOUS
WHEN GOING TO BATTLE??



THE HIGH COUNCIL SAYS THEY
HATE YOUR FALL COLLECTION.



...DO YOU EVER WISH
YOU COULD DIE
GLORIOUSLY IN
BATTLE RIGHT
NOW??



ANSWERING YOUR PRESSING QUESTION:

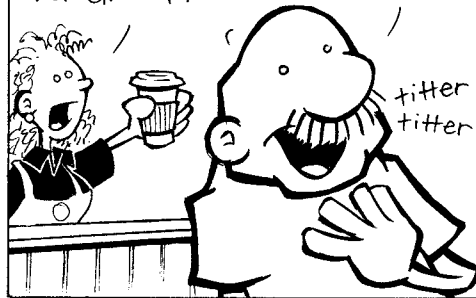


WHY ARE COFFEES FROM A COFFEE SHOP SO MUCH TASTIER THAN WHAT I BREW AT HOME?

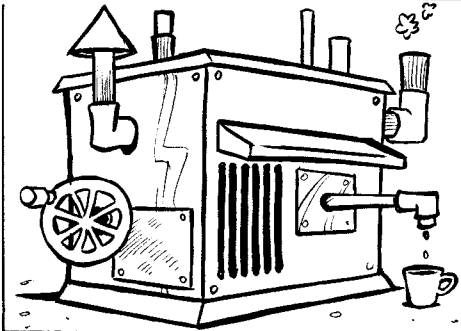
① SOMEHOW, HEARING YOUR NAME CALLED MAKES COFFEE TASTE BETTER

GRAMP! TRIPLE CARAMEL LATTE FOR GRAMP!

WHAT??
...FOR MOI?



② THEY BREW THEIR COFFEE IN A GIGANTOR, BRASS MACHINE FROM ITALY CALLED "LA BELLISIMA" OR "PASTA FAGIOLI" OR SUMTHIN'

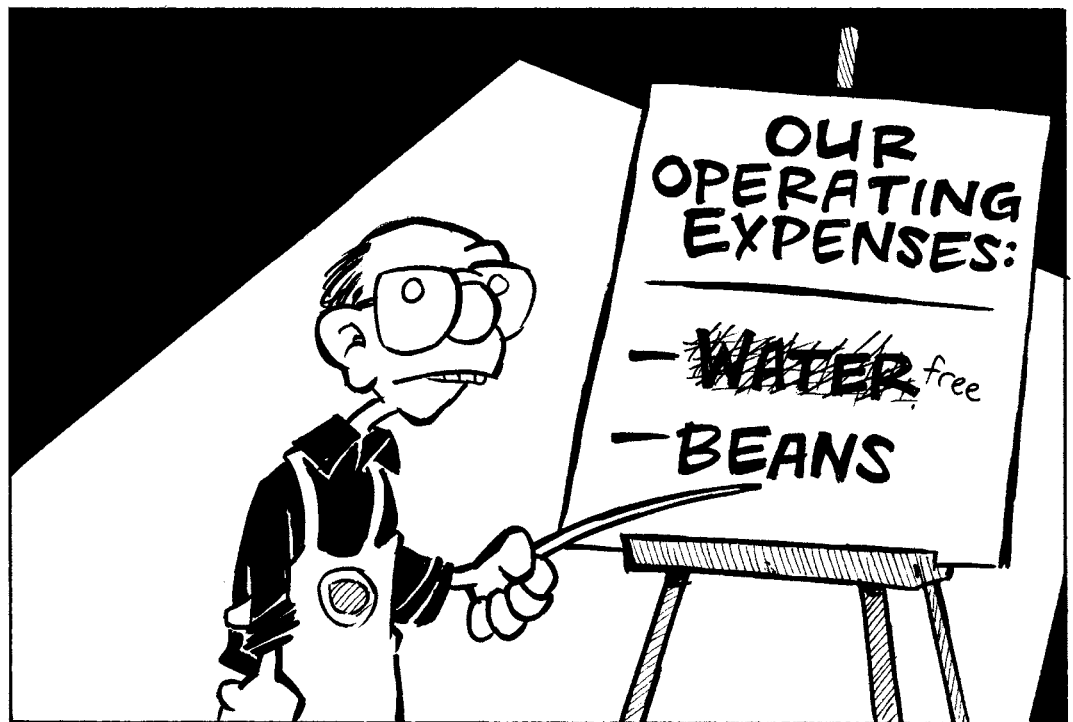
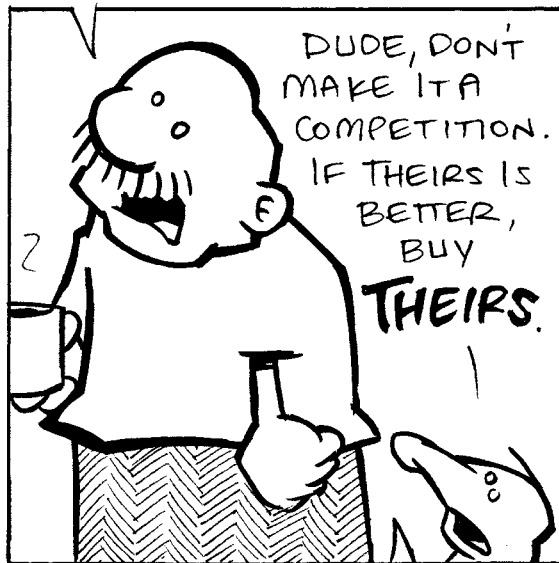


③ THEY USE A SECRET INGREDIENT IN THEIR LATTES



WHY? WHY IS STARBUCKS
COFFEE SO MUCH BETTER THAN
WHAT I MAKE AT HOME??

I CAN'T AFFORD IT!
THEY CHARGE FOUR BUCKS
FOR ONE DANG LATTE!



WHY DO COFFEE-SHOP BREWS TASTE BETTER THAN YOURS AT HOME? WELL, **THEY** USE FRESH-GROUND BEANS.



YOU USE CANNED COFFEE THAT WAS GROUND IN OHIO TWO YEARS AGO.



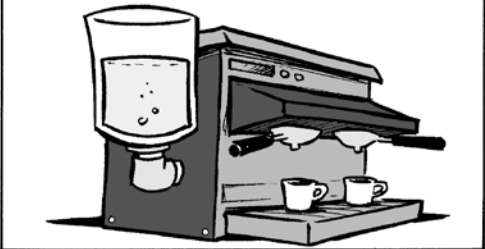
THEY USE WELL-MAINTAINED MACHINES



YOU SORTA KINDA GIVE YOUR COFFEE-THING A COURTESY RINSE FROM THE DAY BEFORE



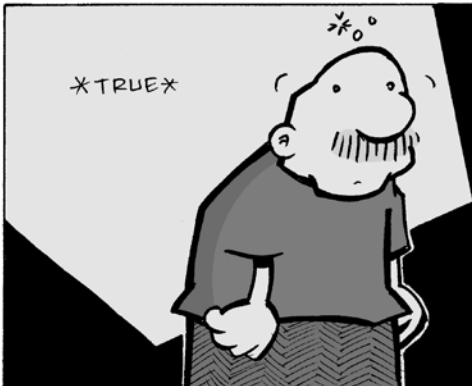
THEY USE AN \$800 ESPRESSO MAKER THAT HAS MASSIVE, MASSIVE WATER PRESSURE



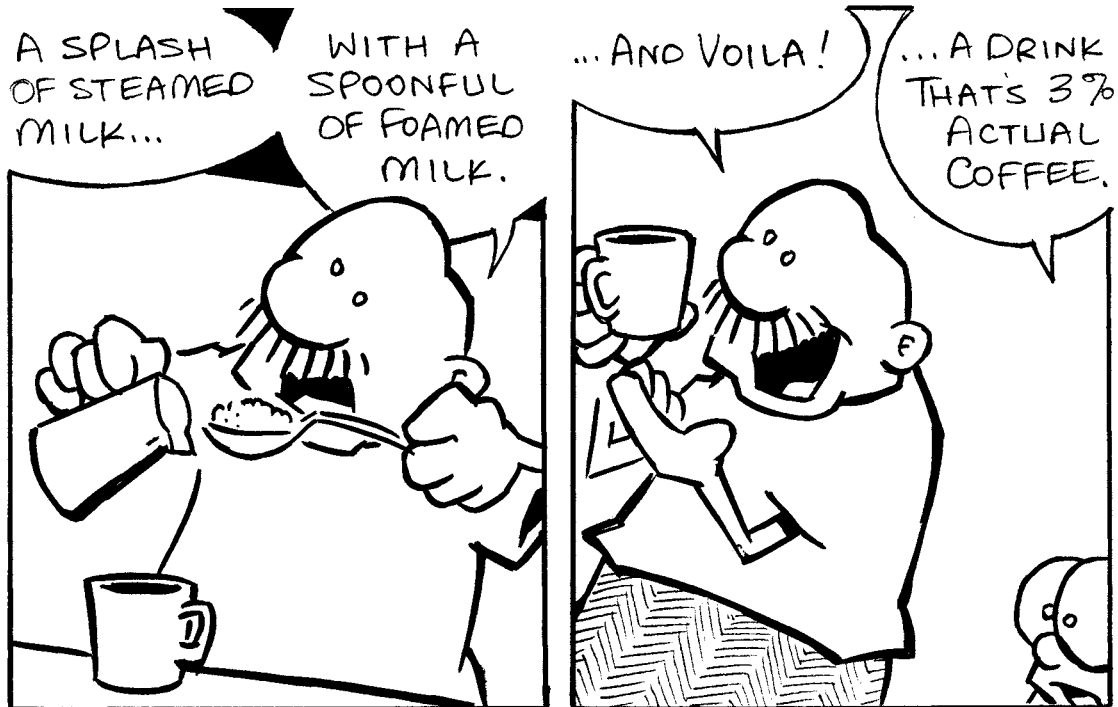
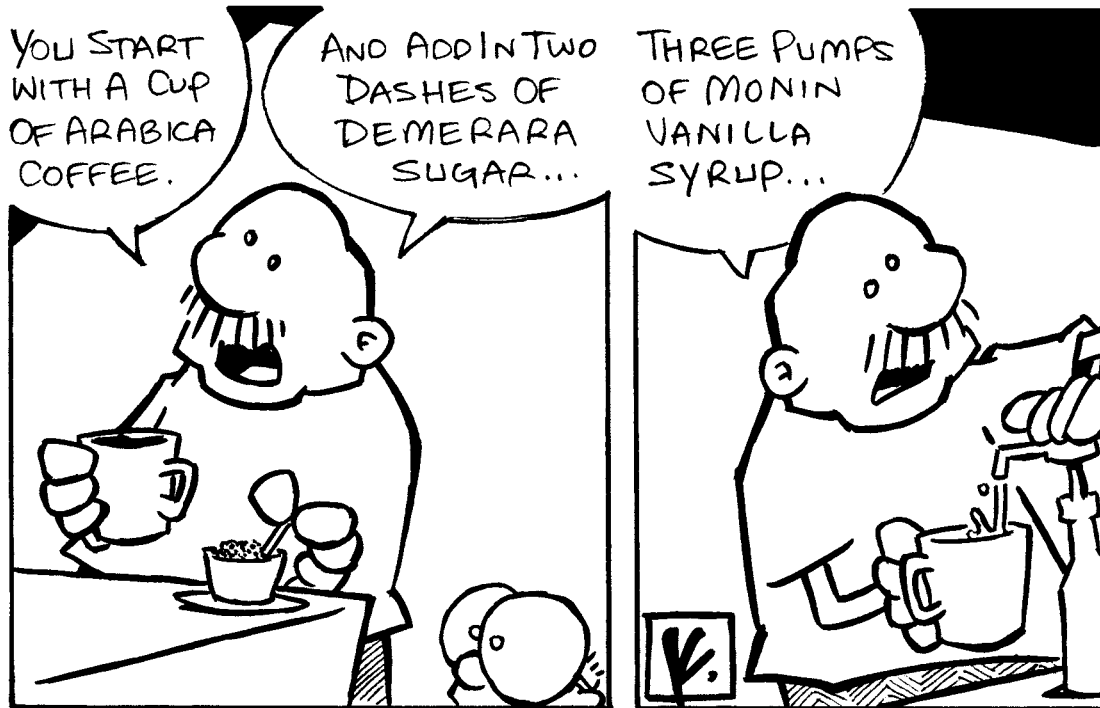
YOU USE A \$28 MACHINE YOU BOUGHT AT TARGET... THAT HAS THE WATER PRESSURE OF A 65-YEAR OLD GUY'S BLADDER.



TRUE







IN THEIR EARLY YEARS, EUROPEAN COFFEE DRINKERS EXPERIMENTED WITH DIFFERENT FLAVORINGS

WHAT IF WE ADDED SOME OF THAT "SUGAR" STUFF FROM THE NEW WORLD?

GO FOR IT!



SOME WERE BIG HITS

HOW ABOUT SOME BOVINE MILK?

SURE!



AND SOME IDEAS WERE UNEXPECTED SURPRISES

SHOULD WE TRY SOME VANILLA?

DAAAANG! LESLIE, YOU ARE ON FIRE TODAY.



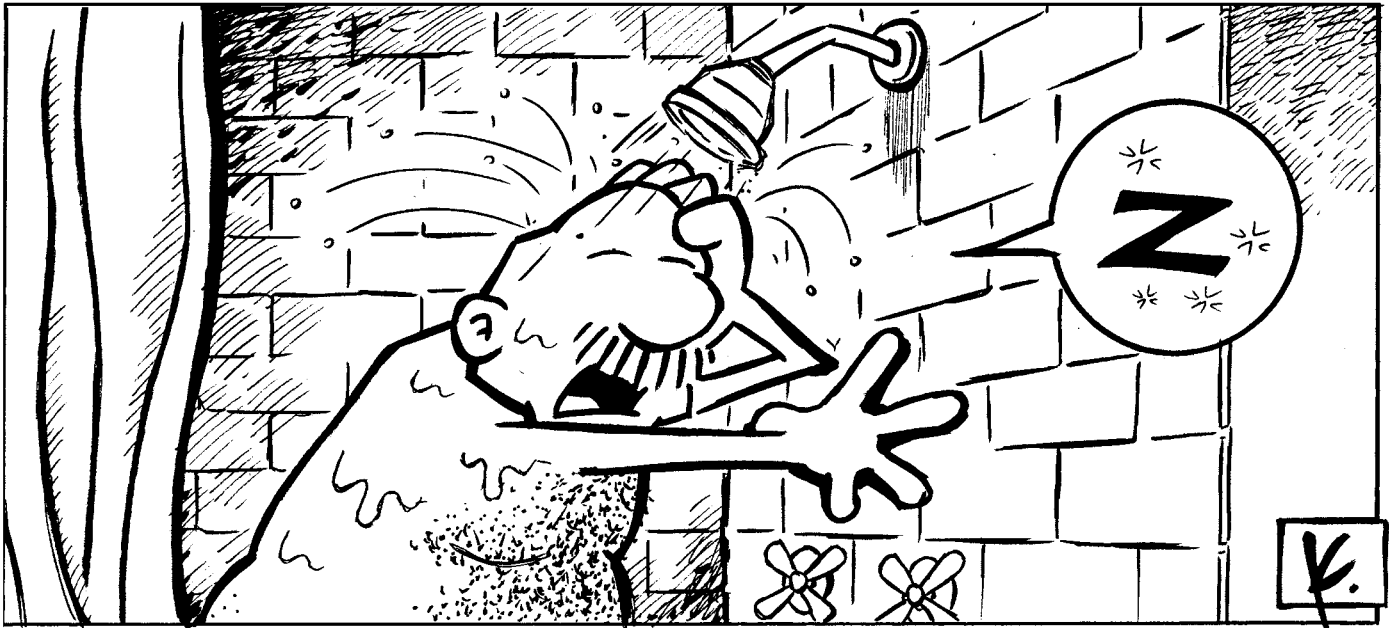
OTHER IDEAS, NOT SO MUCH

I ADDED SOME PAN-SEARED TUNA.

HRMPHH. I DINK I JUT FOO UP IN MA MOWT.



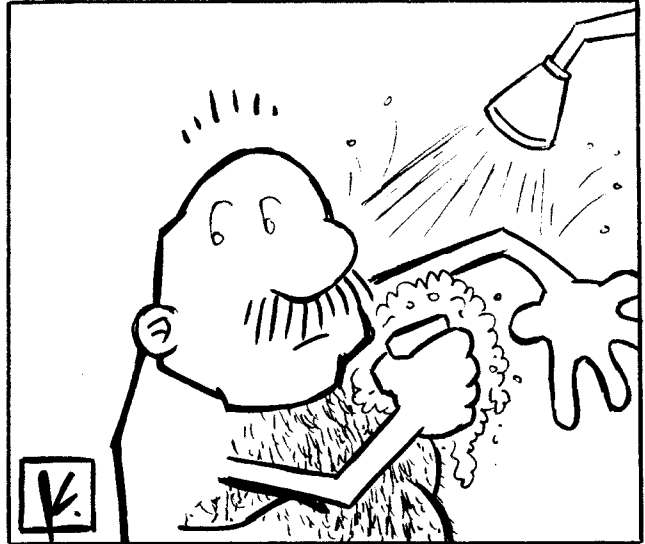
IF YOUR ELBOW
EVER TOUCHES
THE TILE... YOUR
WEEK IS NOT
OFF TO
A GOOD START.



ARE YOU
A MORNING
PERSON?

A
SIMPLE
TEST

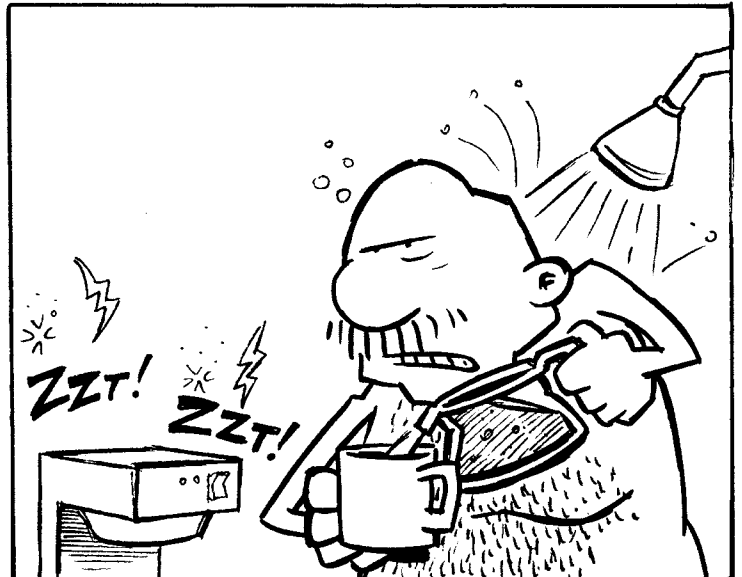
HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED
BRINGING A CUP OF COFFEE INTO
THE SHOWER WITH YOU?



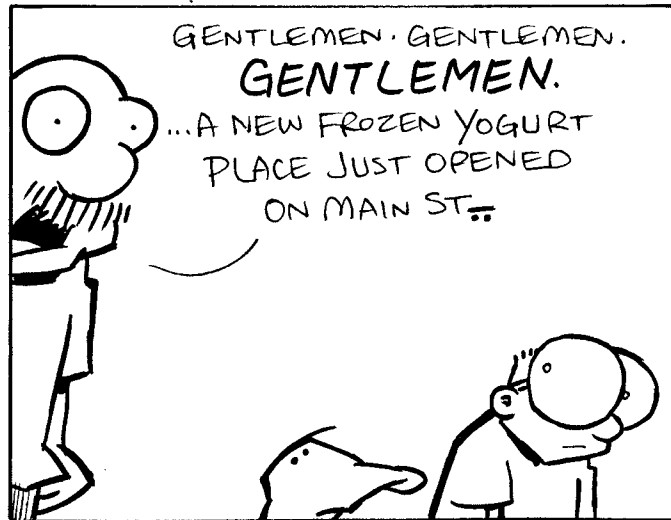
DO YOU, IN FACT, BRING
A CUP IN THERE
EVERY DAY?



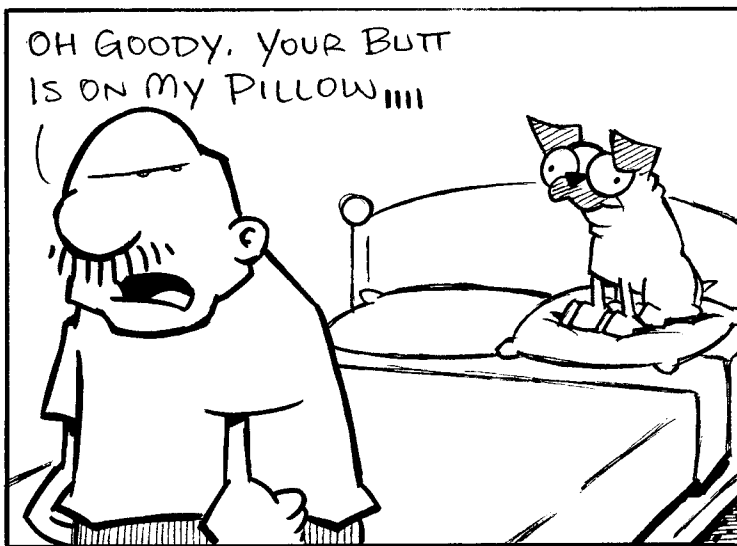
HAVE YOU SET UP A COFFEE MACHINE
IN THERE, CONSEQUENCES BE DAMNED?



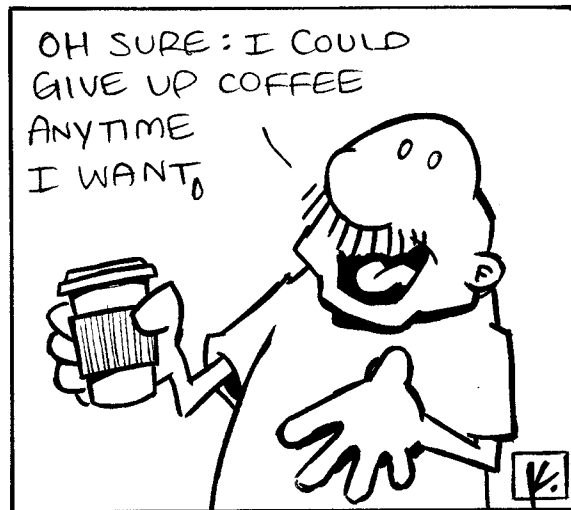
TODAY: PUNCTUATION MARKS THAT NEVER CAUGHT ON...



⏟ = TO THE CAR! QUICKLY!

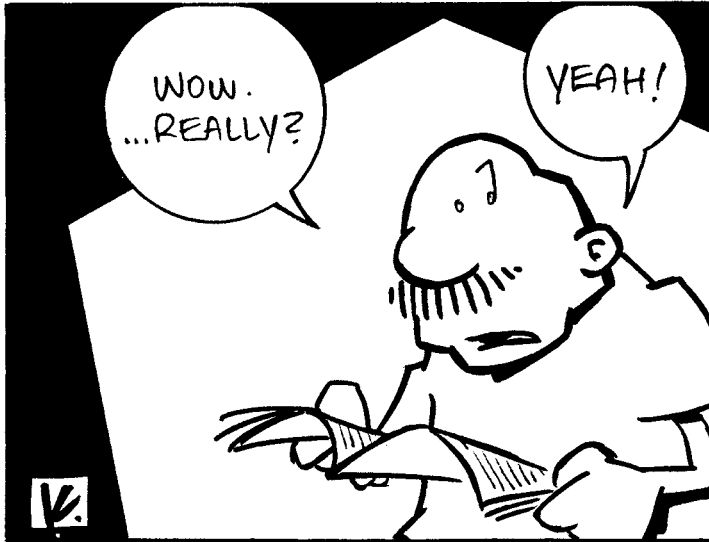


|||| = WHY HAVEN'T I PUT DOORWAY GATES ALL OVER THE HOUSE??



∩ = THIS IS A LIE. WE BOTH KNOW IT. LEAVE ME TO MY BEAN JUICE.

COFFEE DRINKERS! WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF WE COULD OFFER YOU BRIGHT, WHITE-AS-SNOW TEETH?



ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS STOP DRINKING COFFEE



PURE WHITE TEETH CAN BE YOURS! ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS

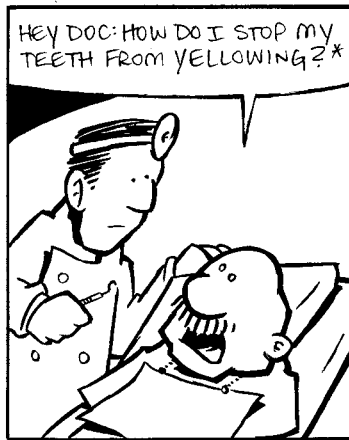


IT'S A FACT BENEFITS



TODAY!

WHAT'S REALLY BEING SAID BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR DENTIST



* (MY TEETH ARE STARTING TO LOOK LIKE A HOBO'S)



* (YOU'LL NEVER DO THIS, BUT I'M ETHICALLY OBLIGED TO SAY IT)



* (SHEESH. WHY DON'T I JUST STOP EATING WHILE I'M AT IT???)



* (WELL, I DO ENJOY MAKING THE PAYMENTS ON MY BMW 7-SERIES... SO KEEP ON SLURPIN' THAT COFFEE, MORON.)

FRIENDS!
do you love tea?
then you'll "love..."

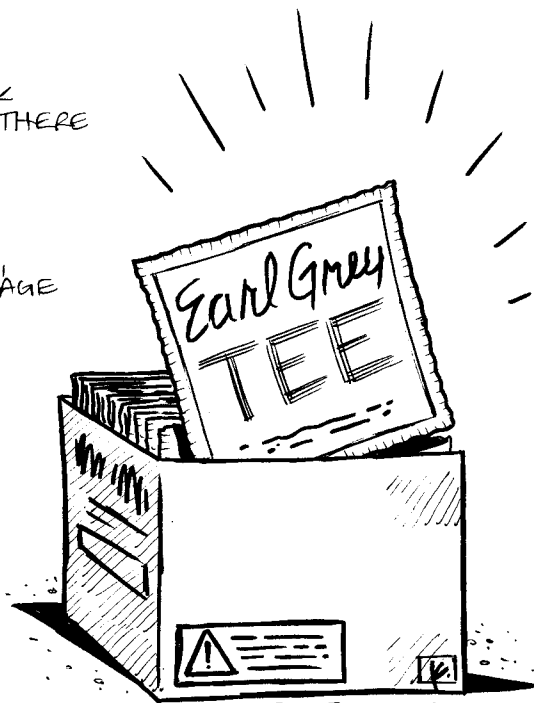
THE TEA IN YOUR OFFICE BREAKROOM!

THE SAME 40-PACK
OF TEA BAGS IS STILL THERE
FROM THE DAY
YOU WERE HIRED

FOR LEGAL REASONS,
THE TEXT ON THE PACKAGE
SAYS "TEE"

WARNING ON PACKET
SAYS "PRODUCED ON
MACHINES THAT ALSO
PROCESS PEANUTS,
...AND SALMON ENTRAILS.
SO, HEADS UP."

THRICE-IRRADIATED
... FOR FRESHNESS!

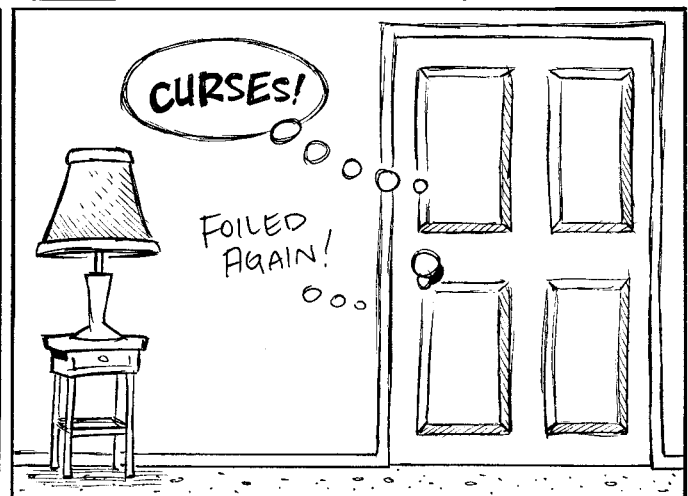
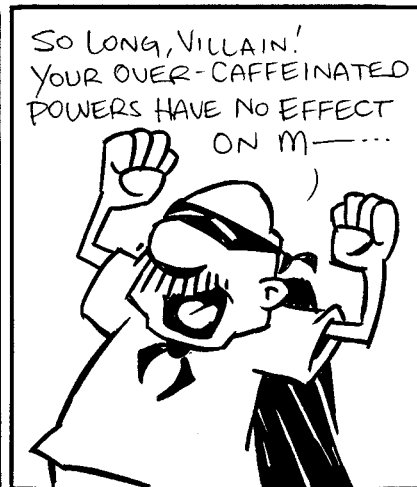
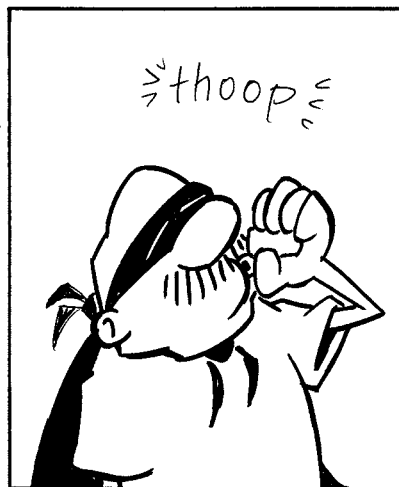


CONTENTS COULD BE
DESCRIBED LESS AS
"CRUSHED TEA LEAVES"
AND MORE AS
"A CRUSHED SENSE OF SPIRIT"

THE PLASTIC-COATED
ALUMINUM PACKETS ARE
HARDER TO OPEN THAN THOSE
PLASTIC CLAMSHELLS
THEY SHIP ELECTRONICS IN

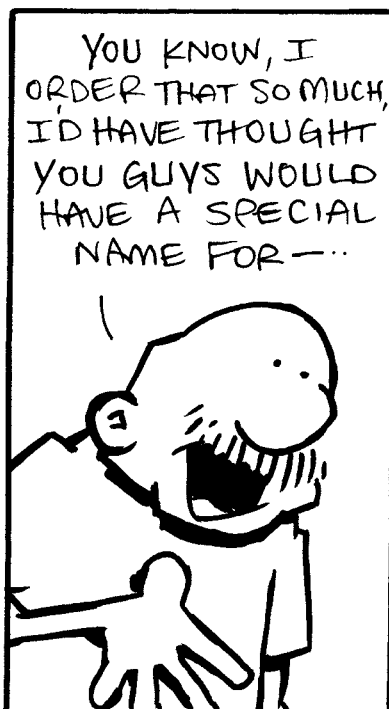
THE "EARL GREY" TASTES
LIKE YOU'VE DUNKED THE
ACTUAL LORD EARL GREY
IN WATER ... AFTER HE'S
BEEN WORKING OUT

THE SAME 40-PACK
WILL BE THERE WHEN YOU QUIT
TWO YEARS FROM NOW





EPP EPP EPP... AND I'D LIKE IT AT 130 DEGREES, WITH ALMOND MILK INSTEAD OF MILK, VANILLA SYRUP INSTEAD OF POWDER... AND IN AN EXTRA-LARGE CUP, TO MAKE ROOM FOR FOAM.

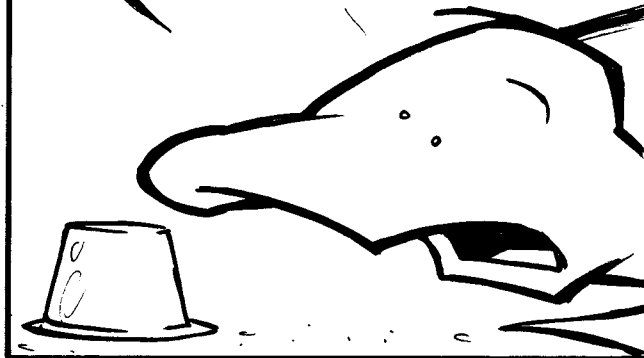


REALLY?? YOU'RE GONNA START USIN'
THESE COFFEE-POD THINGS? REALLY?



OH,
I'M
SURE.

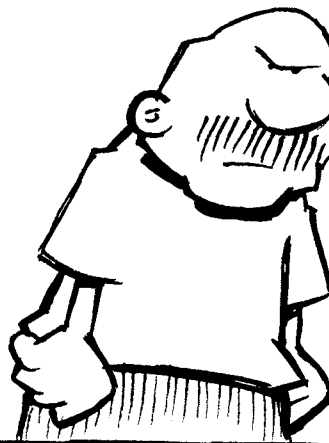
NUTHIN' SAYS "FRESH CUP
O' COFFEE" LIKE BEANS
SHIPPED TO CHINA,
GROUND UP AND SEALED
IN PLASTIC TUBS, THEN
SHIPPED BACK HERE.



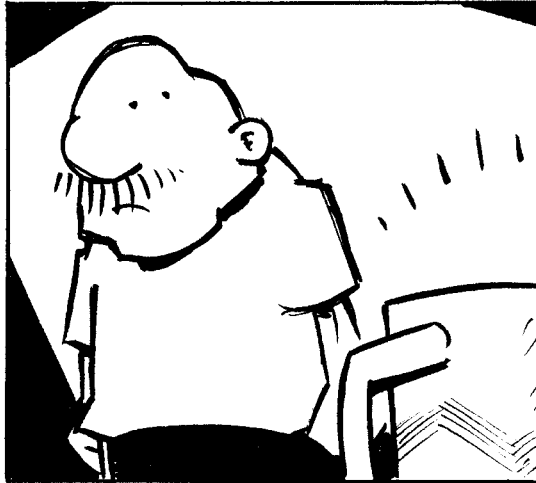
YOU CAN
SENSE
THE
FLAVOR!

...JUST WAITIN' BEHIND
THE HIGH-DENSITY
POLYPROPYLENE!

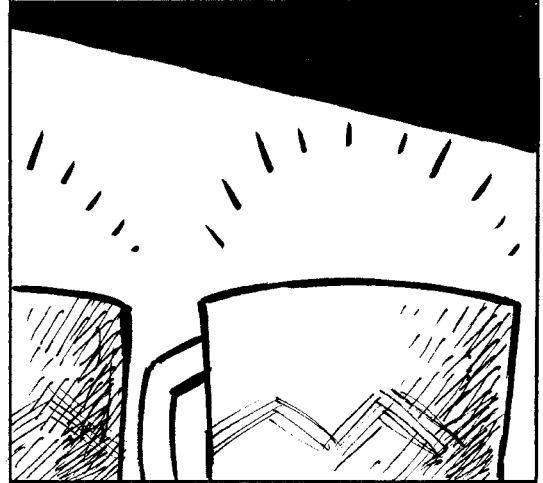
SNIFFFF



IF YOU'RE A HARD-CORE
COFFEE-DRINKER, YOU
EVENTUALLY RUN UP AGAINST
THE WORST POSSIBLE MOMENT

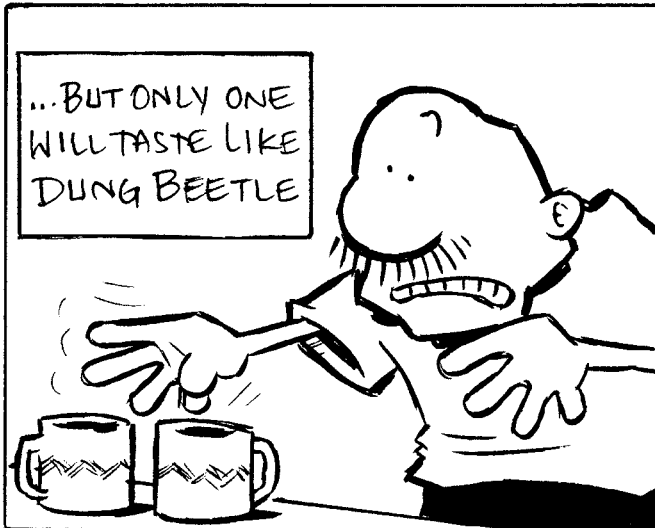


YESTERDAY'S LEFTOVER
COFFEE-WITH-CREAM, SITTING
NEXT TO TODAY'S COFFEE
.... IN IDENTICAL MUGS.

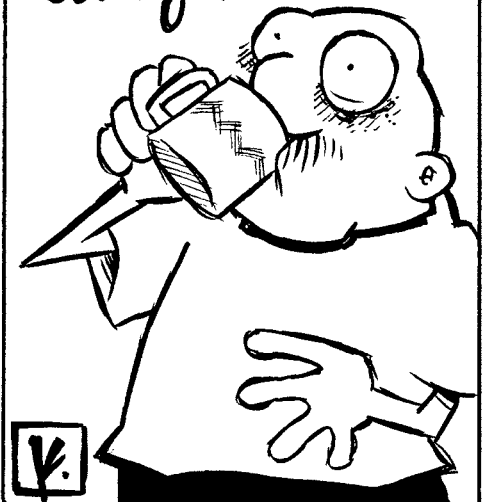


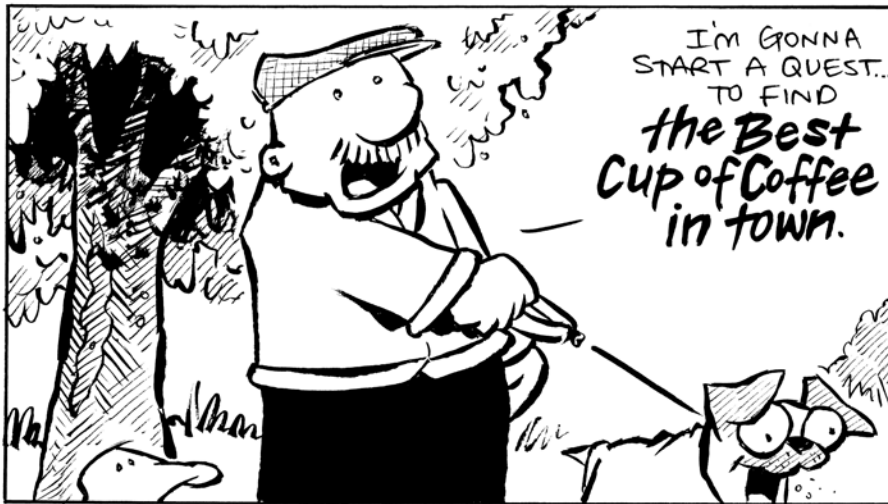
THEY'RE THE SAME TEMPERATURE,
THE SAME COLOR,
AND THE SAME CONSISTENCY.

...BUT ONLY ONE
WILL TASTE LIKE
DUNG BEETLE

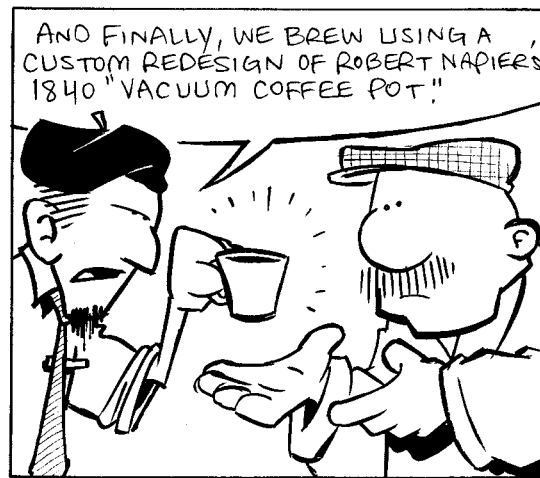
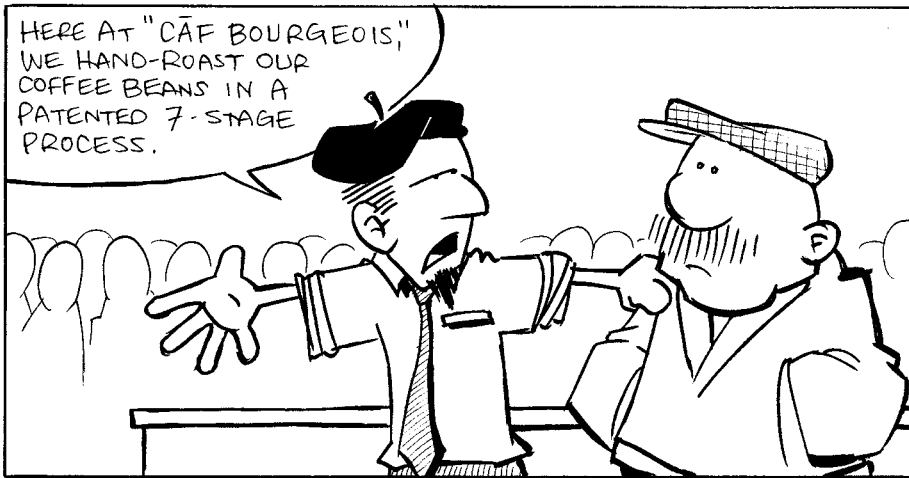


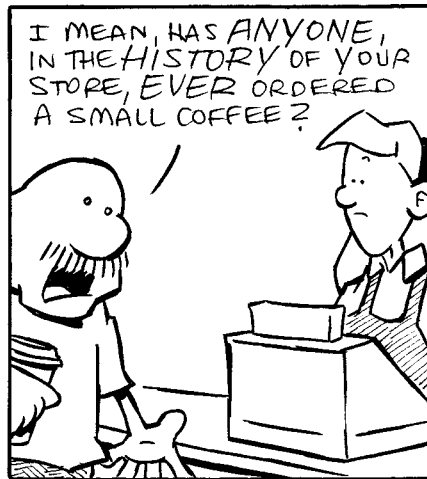
...Enjoy your
possible
dung beetle!

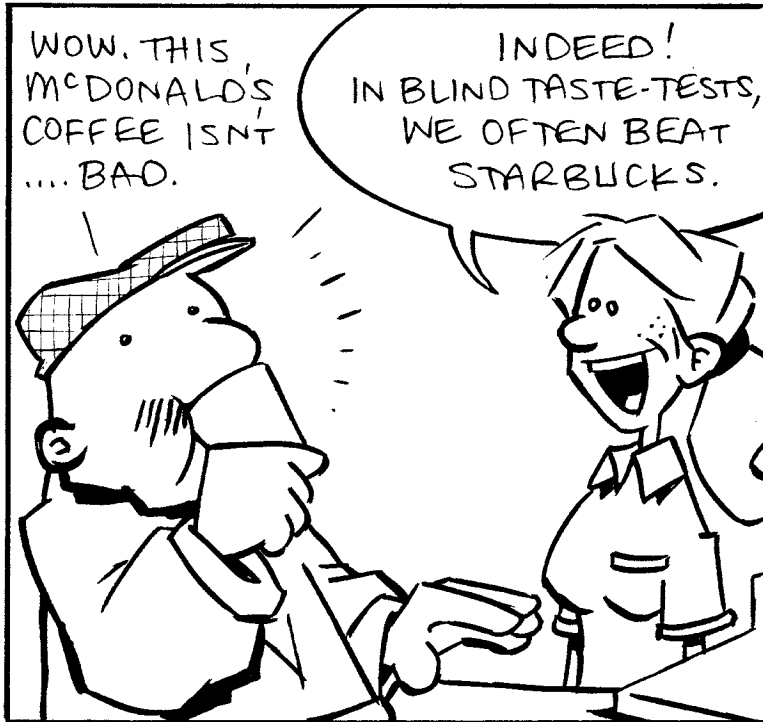






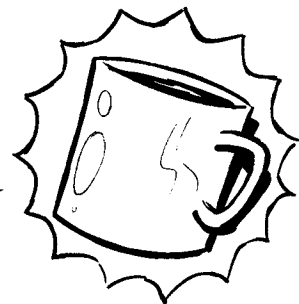






Coffee Drinkers!

... YOU EVER GET A PAINFUL
CAFFEINE HEADACHE, BUT GENUINELY CAN'T DECIDE
IF IT'S FROM DRINKING TOO **MUCH** COFFEE
... OR TOO **LITTLE**?



HOW A
LOGICAL
PERSON
REACTS

HOW TRUE
COFFEE
DRINKERS
REACT



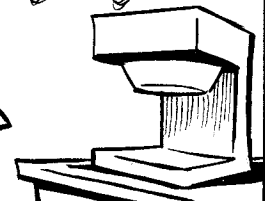
EEEESH...
TIME TO WEAN
MYSELF
OFF THIS.

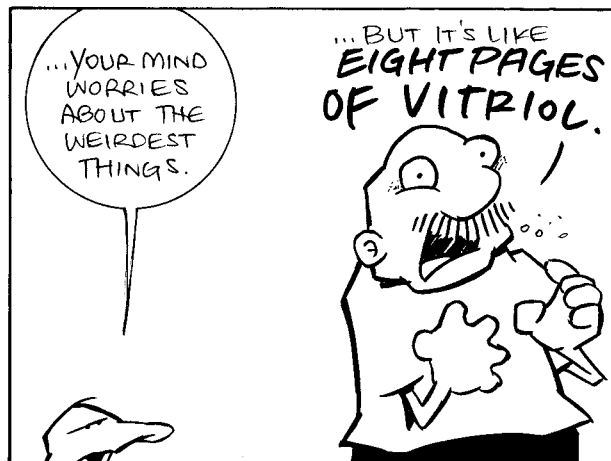
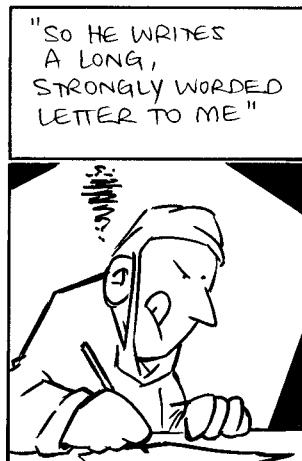
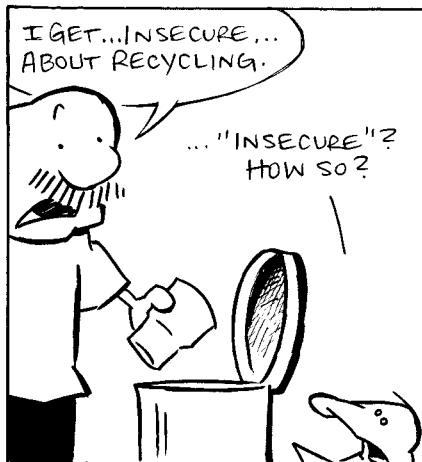


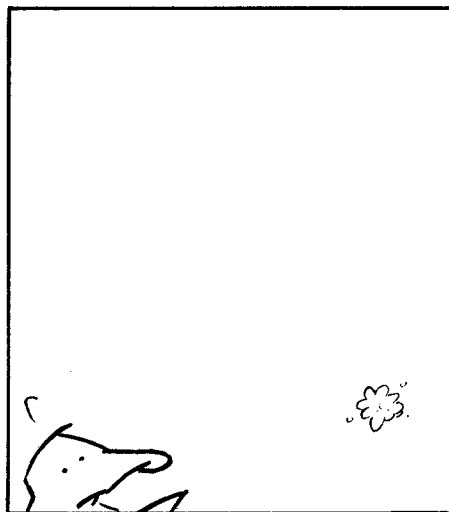
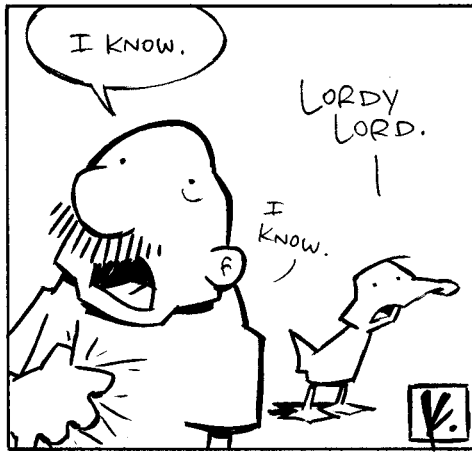
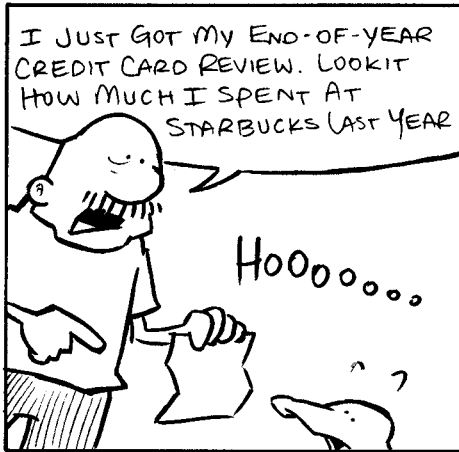
50%
chance this'll
cure what
ails
me...



glug
glug
glug







YOU'VE ADDED UP
THE HUGE SUMS YOU
SPENT ON COFFEE
IN THE PAST YEAR. ...*Now, How
Do You
Fix It?*

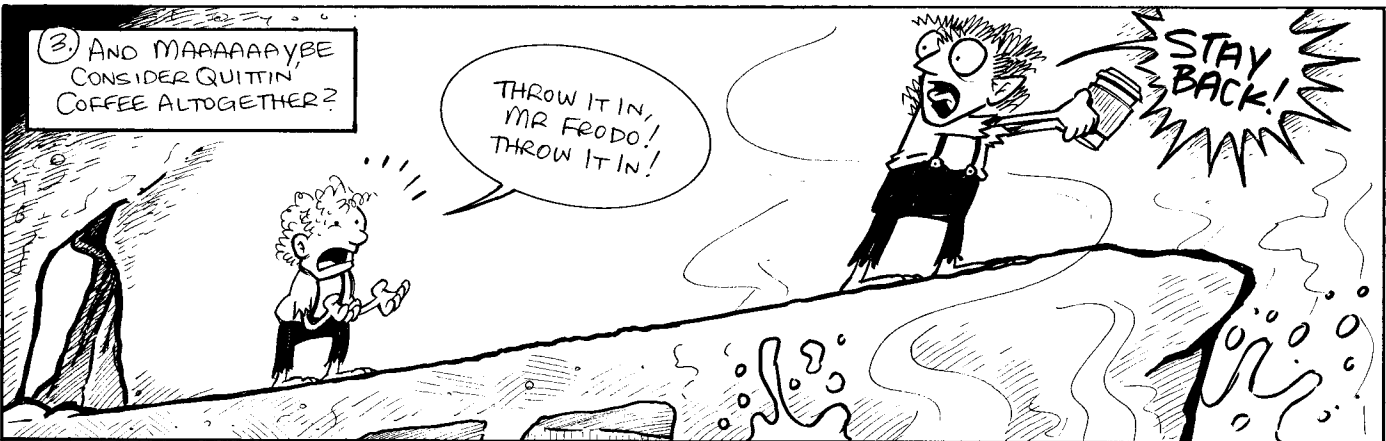
① QUIT ALL THE EXPENSIVE EXTRAS:
THE VANILLA SYRUP, THE SOY MILK,
THE EXTRA SHOTS

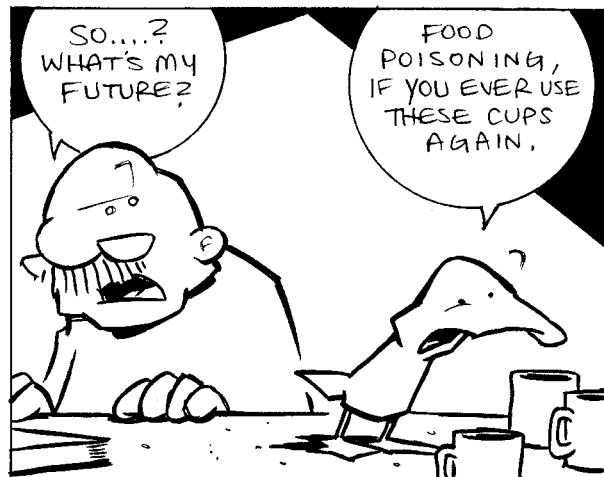
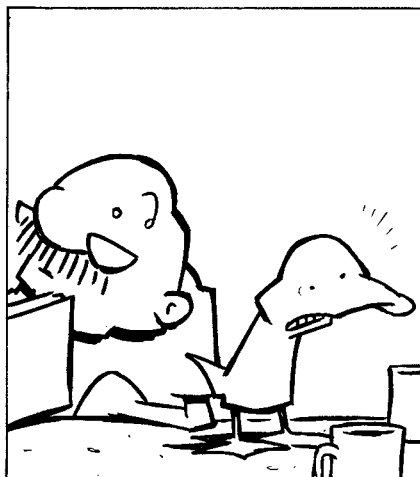
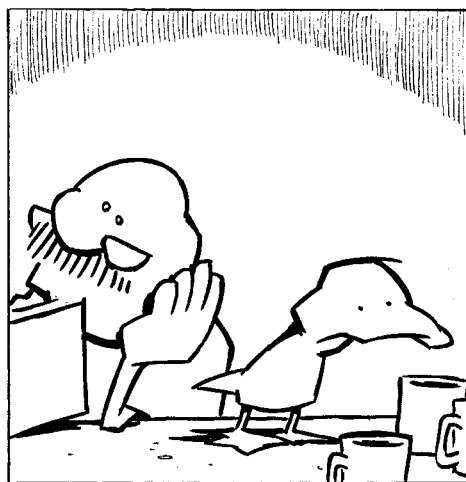
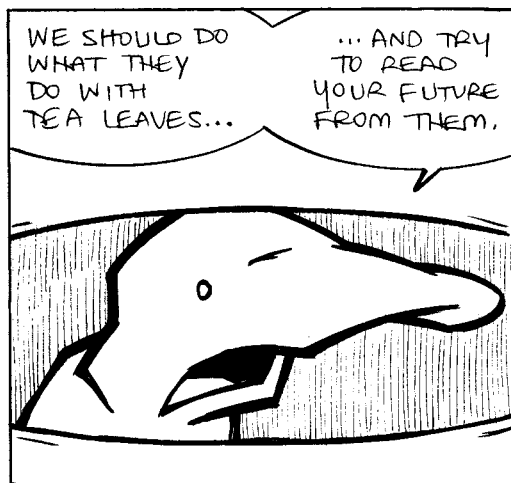
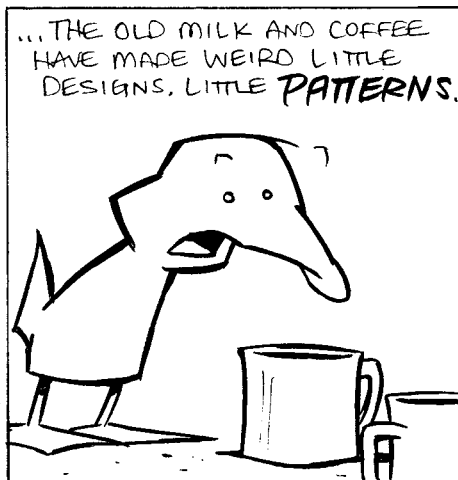


② QUIT BUYING FROM
OVER-PRICED COFFEE SHOPS



③ AND MAAAAAYBE
CONSIDER QUITTIN'
COFFEE ALTOGETHER?







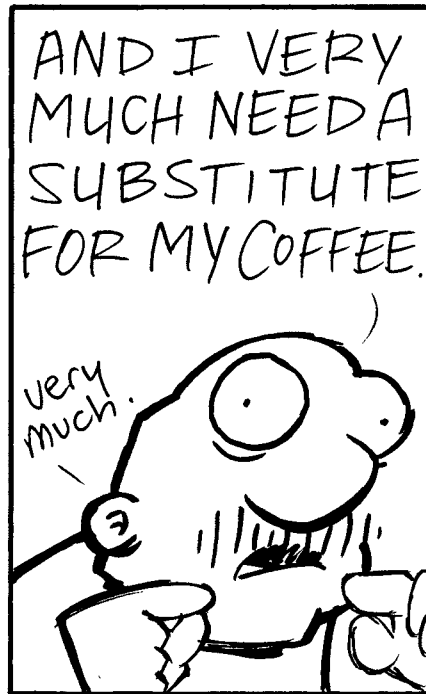
IF YOU DRINK COFFEE **ONLY**
WITH MILK OR CREAM, YOU
HAVE FACED THIS MOMENT

YOU OPEN YOUR FRIDGE
AND REALIZE YOU'RE
COMPLETELY OUT.

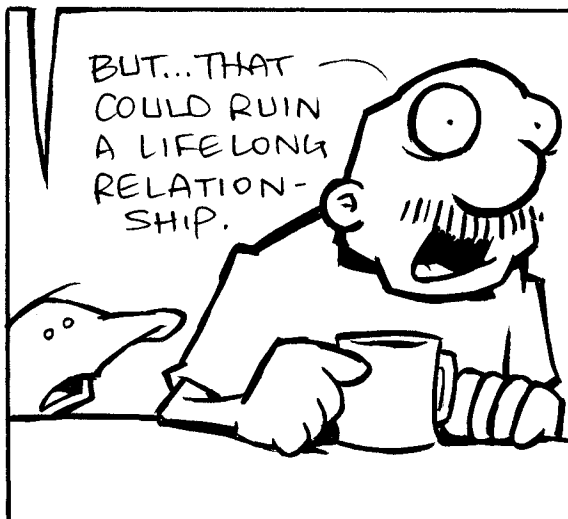
AND AS YOUR EYES DESPERATELY
SCAN THE FRIDGE, A
QUESTION ARISES....



**DO
NOT
LIE.**
...you've
been here.



DON'T MAKE THIS A BIG DEAL.
IF WE DON'T HAVE MILK FOR
COFFEE, JUST DRINK IT BLACK.



FOR DECADES, I'VE
TURNED TO COFFEE TO
PUT A SPRING IN
MY STEP. I'VE COME
TO RELY ON IT LIKE
AN OLD
FRIEND.

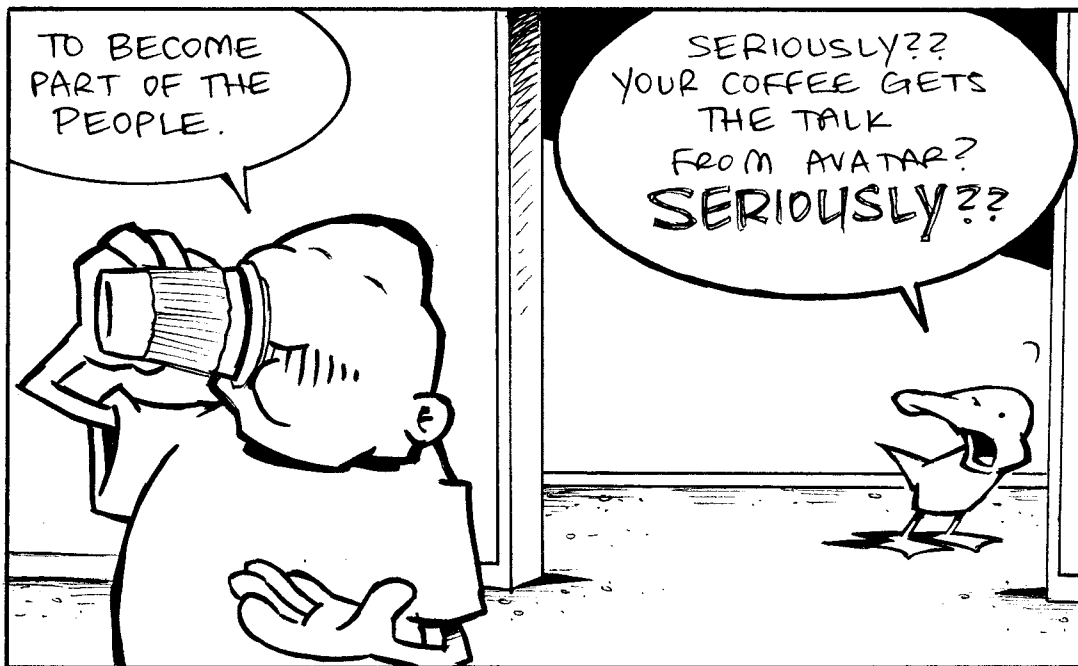


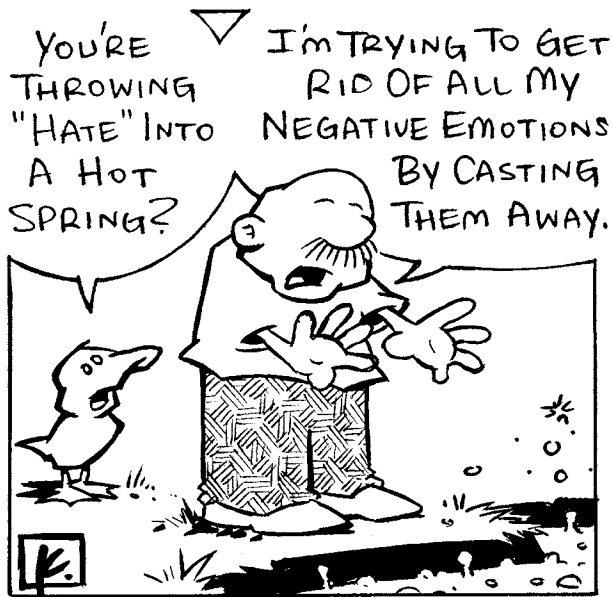
BUT IF I DRINK
IT ONCE WITHOUT
MILK, I MIGHT...



REALIZE
COFFEE TASTES LIKE
WET MOOSE LIP?

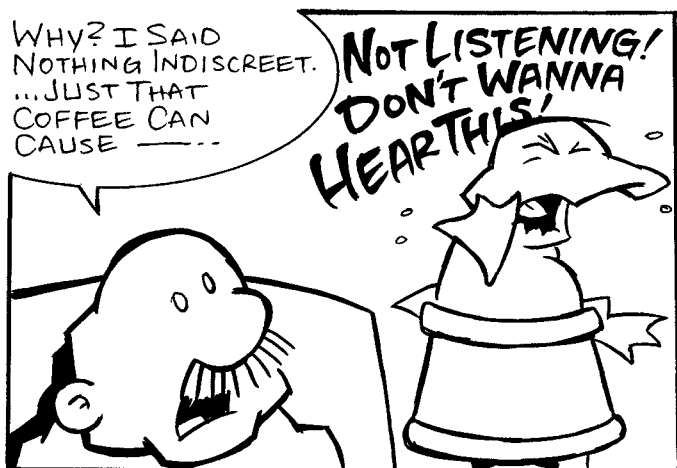






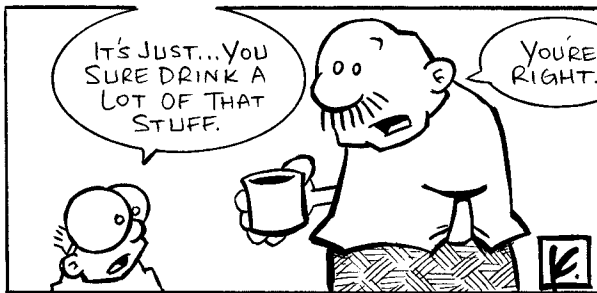
SPECIFICALLY, FOR THE STARBUCKS MARKETING GUY THAT CAME UP WITH "TALL, VENTI AND GRANDE."





THE SEVEN STAGES OF QUITTING COFFEE

STEP ONE: YOUR FAMILY LOVINGLY SUGGESTS YOU GIVE UP COFFEE



STEP TWO: THE IMMEDIATE ENERGY CRASH THE NEXT DAY



STEP THREE: THE UNCONTROLLABLE SWEATS

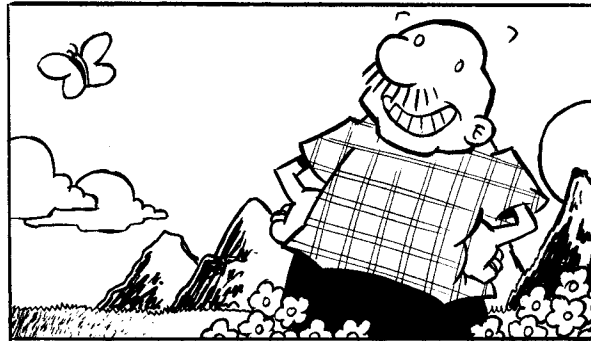


STEP FOUR: THE NIGHT-TIME HEADACHES

THE PRESSURE! IT'S LIKE ROSIE O'DONNELL IS SUNBATHING ON MY HEAD!



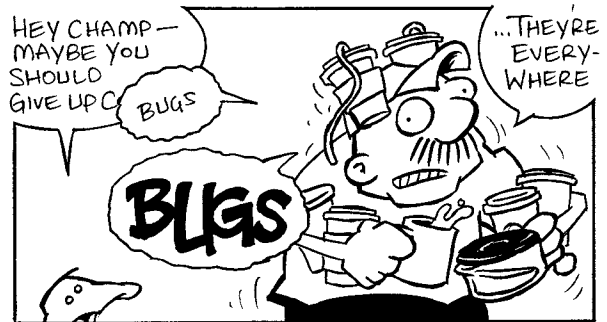
STEP FIVE: SUCCESS! NO HEADACHES, NO CRAVINGS

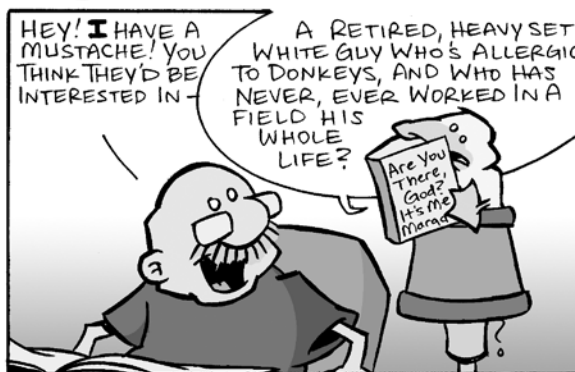


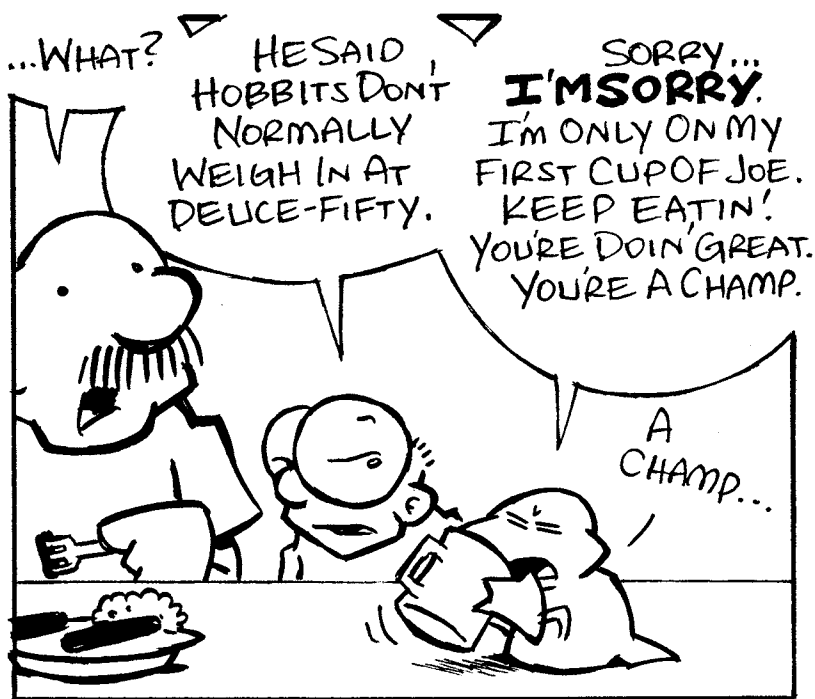
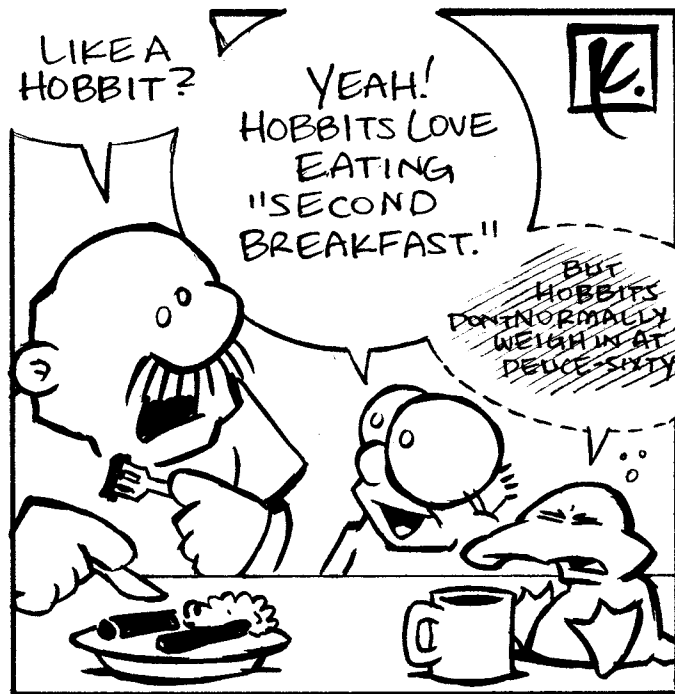
STEP SIX: YOU TAKE ONE, TINY SIP FROM A STARBUCKS SAMPLER AT THE MALL



STEP SEVEN: YOUR FAMILY LOVINGLY SUGGESTS YOU GIVE UP COFFEE



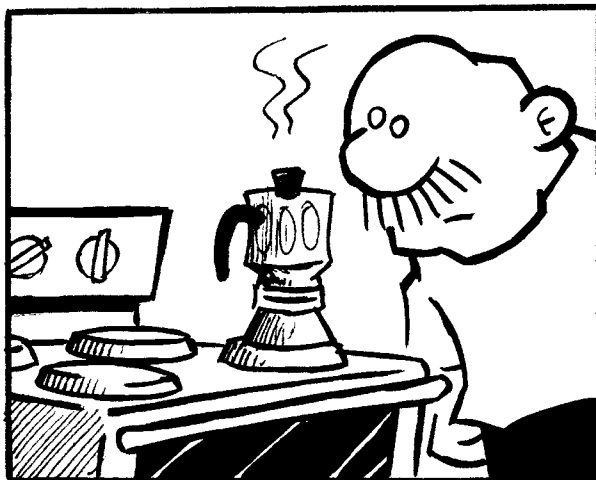




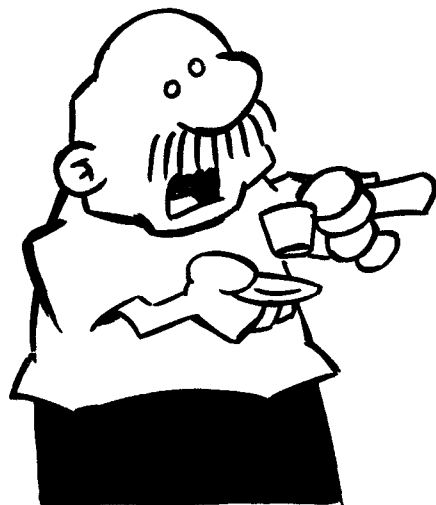
ENJOY Espresso IN 3 EASY STEPS...



① PACK YOUR ESPRESSO
GROUNDS TIGHTLY
...AND BREW.



② ADD SUGAR...
A THIN SLICE
OF LEMON RIND...
AND DRINK!



③ THEN, PROCEED TO SWEAT
NERVOUSLY FOR 63 HOURS



SIR? WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY
A WHEAT-GRASS SHOT?



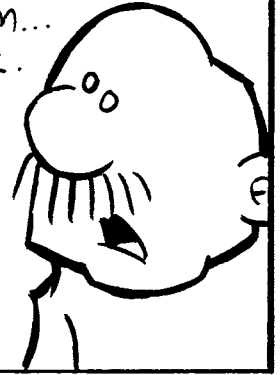
A WHAT
WITH THE
WHAT-WHAT?



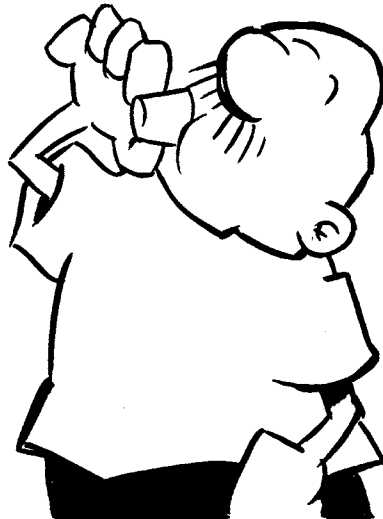
A WHEAT-GRASS SHOT.
IT'S THE EQUIVALENT
OF TWO POUNDS OF
VEGGIES. IT'S THE
ULTIMATE ENERGY
BOOST!



UM...
OK.



thoop



...AAAAAND, IT
TASTES LIKE
BEA ARTHUR'S
WIG.

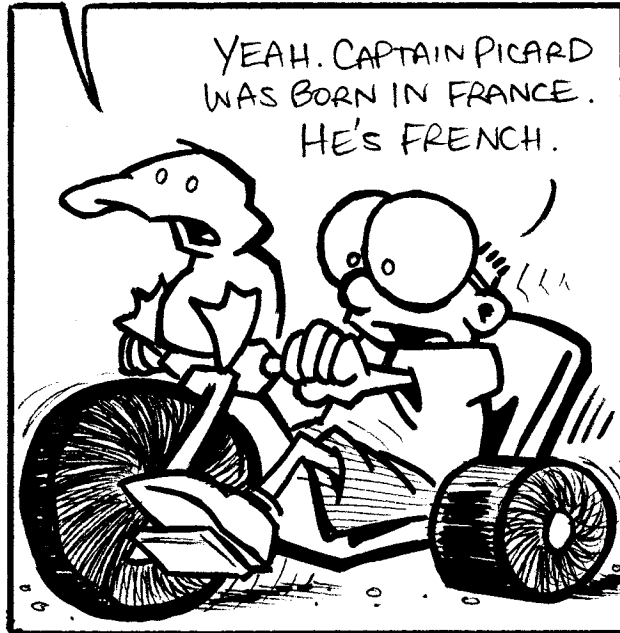


FEELING... IS...
LESS... OF AN...
ENERGY BOOST...
MORE... OF A...
SURVIVAL INSTINCT.





"JEAN-LUC PICARD" IS A FRENCH NAME, ISN'T IT?



BUT HE SPEAKS WITH AN ENGLISH ACCENT.

WELL **YEAH**. IT'S THE FUTURE.

THAT IN THE FUTURE, ENGLAND MAKES UNEXPECTEDLY CONQUERS NO FRANCE. AND ALL THE ENGLISH SENSE START, UM, MOVING TO FRANCE AND, UM, TAKING FRENCH NAMES.

...YOU'VE WORKED THIS OUT ALL BY YOURSELF, HAVE YOU?

...BUT THEY STILL DO ENGLISH STUFF, LIKE DRINK EARL GREY TEA. IT **TOTALLY** MAKES 100% SENSE.

HOW TURKISH COFFEE WAS INVENTED

coffee. need. morning. hngh.



OH
MAN

THE
GRINDS ARE
EVERYWHERE.
IS TERRIBLE.

IT'S LIKE
DRINKING
MUD-FILTERED
MUD.

... LIKE A
FAMILY OF
BEAVERS
ARE
LIVING
IN HERE.



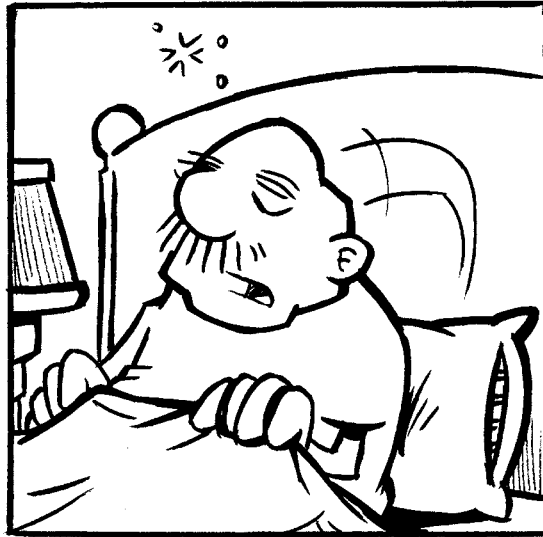
still....

coffee. need.
morning. hngh.



AND THAT'S HOW TURKISH COFFEE WAS INVENTED.

WAKE UP, AMERICA!
THE EXCITING MOMENT
IS FINALLY HERE!



THAT'S RIGHT! IT'S **MAJOR
LEAGUE SOCCER** TIME!
...AND THE NEW SEASON IS
GOING TO BLOW YOU AWAY!



WE'VE GOT NEW STADIUMS; A
NEW, NATIONAL TV CONTRACT;
~~AND~~ DAVID BECKHAM IN JULY!
IT'S ALL THE HARD-CHARGING
SOCCER ACTION AMERICANS
CRAVE! CATCH THE FEVER!



Um, WE SAID CATCH THE-



STILL IN YOUR PJS
AT 11 AM, eh?
WHAT A
PROUD START
TO THE DAY.

QUIET,
YOU.

BESIDES, I KINDA THINK
THE WORLD WOULD BE A
BETTER PLACE IF WE ALL
WORE PJS MORE.



THERE'D BE
LESS WAR,
FOR SURE.

AINT NOBODY
RUNNIN' INTO BATTLE
WHEN YOUR PANTS ARE
ALL LOOSEY-GOOSEY,
IF YOU KNOW
WHAT I MEAN.



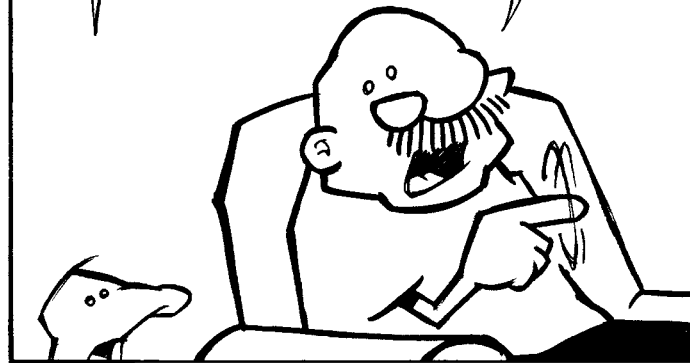
MAYBE...
BUT IF
EVERYONE'S
WEARIN' PJS
ALL THE TIME,
OUR ECONOMIC
OUTPUT WOULD
PLUMMET!
...WE'RE ALREADY
IN A RECESSION!

BUT IF YOU HAD PJS ON,
**IT WOULDN'T BUG
YOU AS MUCH.**
...THIS IS WHAT
I'M SAYIN'.



WHY DO BAGELS
AND DOUGHNUTS
AND STUFF
HAVE HOLES
IN THEM?

THE HOLE
ENSURES THAT
THE DOUGH
COOKS EVENLY
THROUGHOUT.



WOW!
REALLY??

HOW DID
YOU KNOW
THAT?

THE PATH OF
EVERY LIFE IS
A SLOW BUT
STEADY GATHERING
OF FACTS.

...AND THEN
SLOWLY FORGETTING
THEM... AND ASKING
WHERE YOU LEFT
YOUR TEA.

OH!
FOUND IT,
BY THE
WAY.

HALL
CLOSET,
OF ALL
PLACES.



GOD BLESS AMERICA!
...ARE YOU TUCKING INTO
ANOTHER COFFEE?

**ANOTHER
ONE??**



DUDE, HOW MANY
COFFEES HAVE
YOU **HAD**
TODAY?

YES.



**YES IS
NOT AN
ANSWER!**

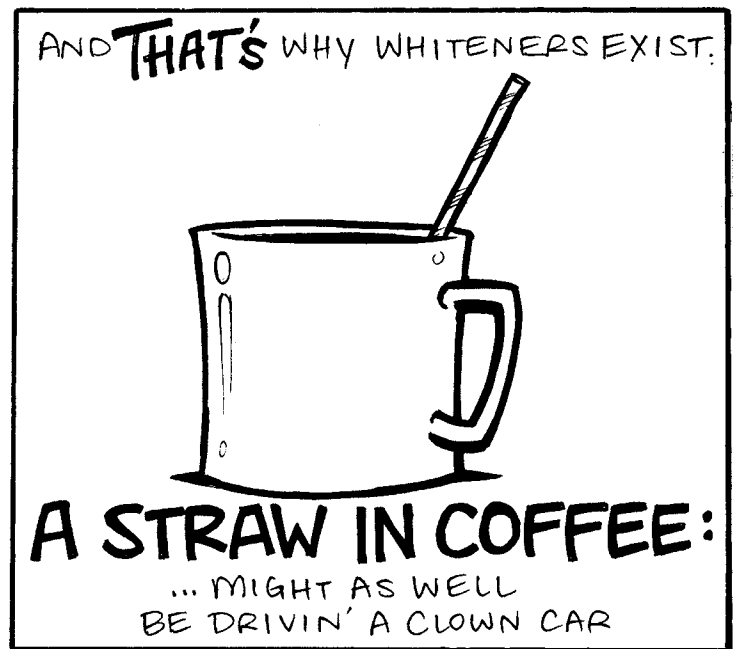
"YES"



WHY

DO WE NEED TEETH WHITENERS
FOR COFFEE DRINKERS?
...ANY DENTIST WILL TELL YOU
THAT DRINKING COFFEE THROUGH
A STRAW COULD KEEP TEETH
FROM STAINING.

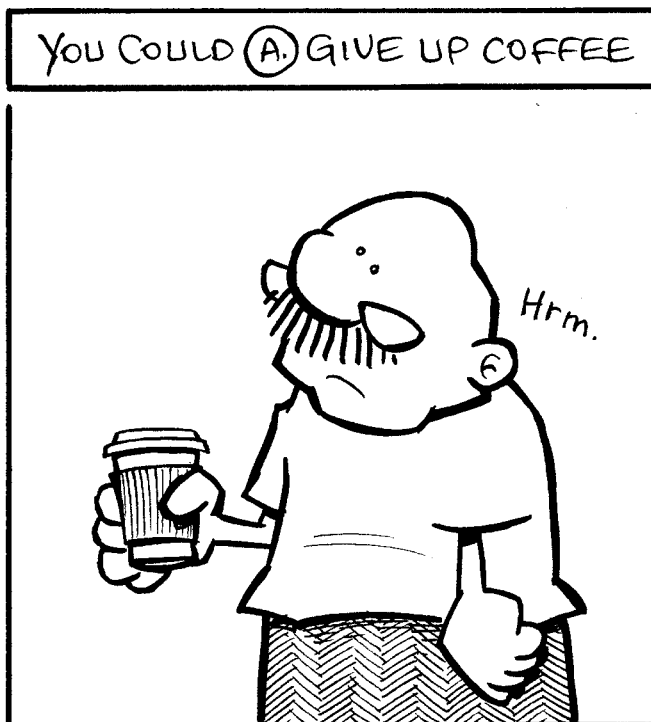
SO WHY WON'T PEOPLE JUST
USE A DANG STRAW?



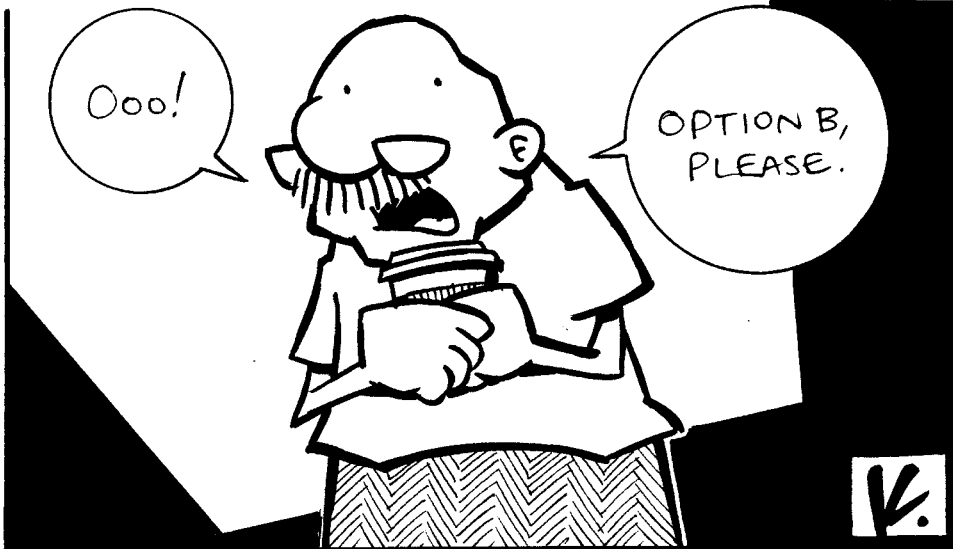
COFFEE ADDICTS:

...ARE YOU,
CONCERNED YOU'LL
GET YELLOW,
COFFEE-STAINED
TEETH?

YOU HAVE TWO CHOICES:

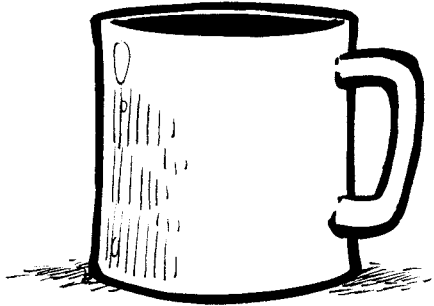


OR (B) HAVE YOUR TEETH SURGICALLY
REMOVED AND REPLACED WITH SOME SORT
OF RUBBER TEETH THAT CAN'T BE STAINED.



Field Guide: VARYING COFFEE CUP STYLES (AND WHAT THEY MEAN)

STANDARD
CUP O' JOE



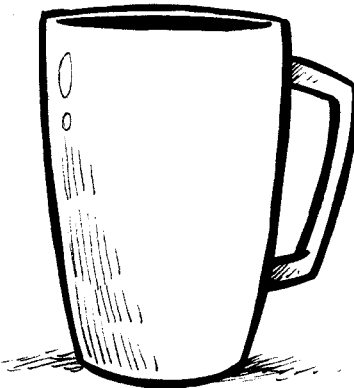
(YOU ARE
A SENSIBLE,
NO-NONSENSE
COFFEE DRINKER)

ESPRESSO



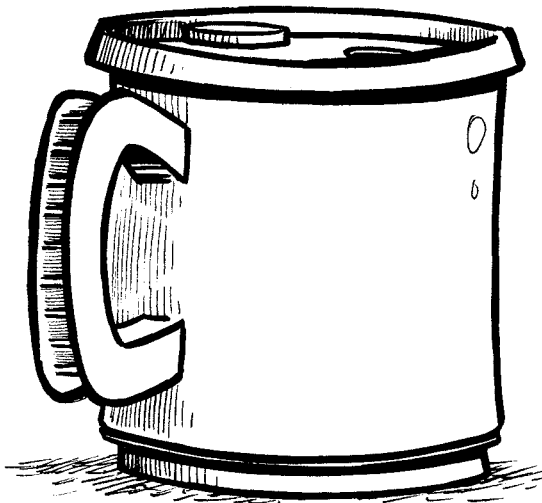
(YOU RECOGNIZE
GOOD THINGS
COME IN SMALL
PACKAGES)

LATTE



(YOU HAVE A
TASTE FOR THE
FINER THINGS
IN LIFE)

DRIVE 'N GO'S "THIRSTY-TWO OUNCER" JUG

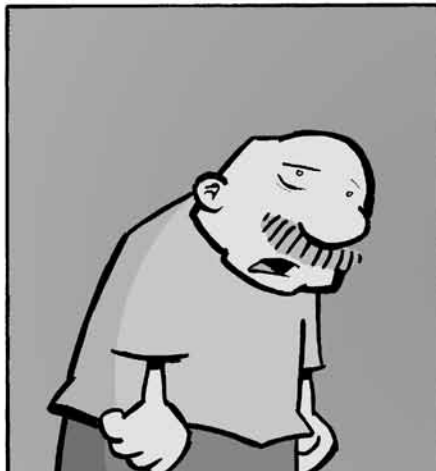
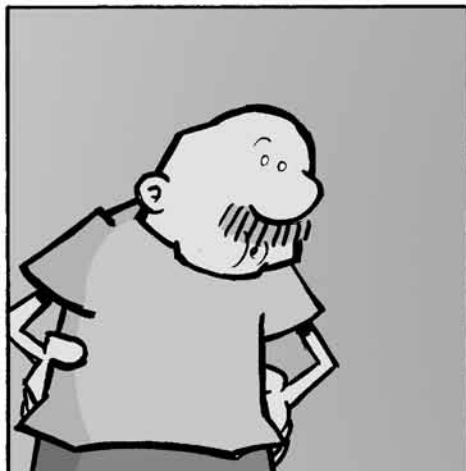
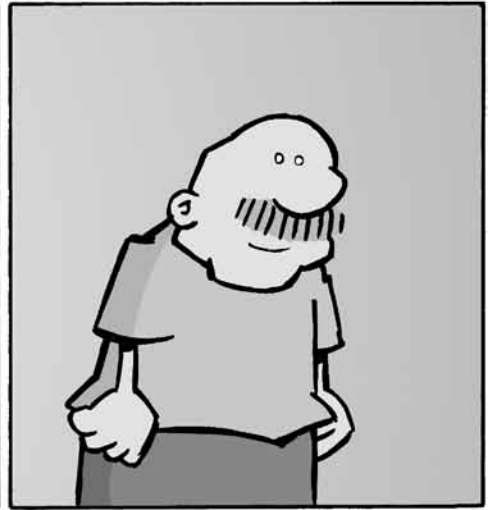
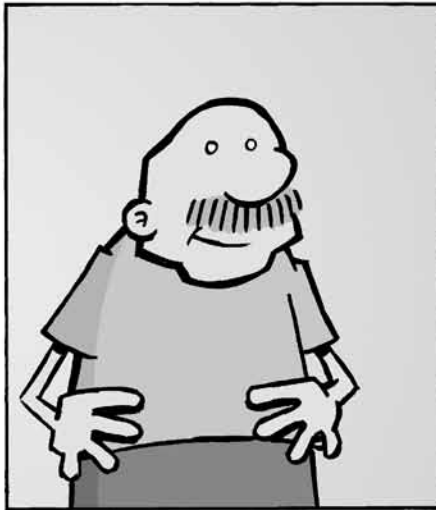
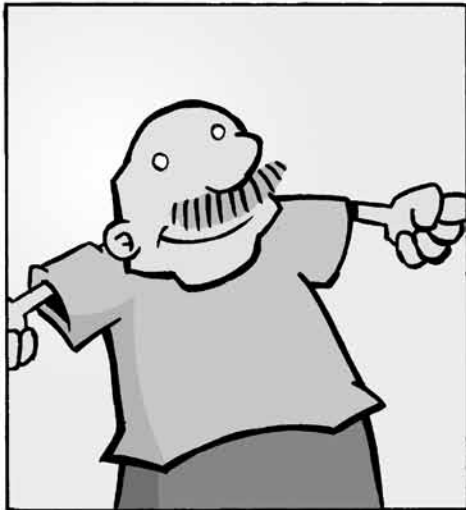


(YOU ENJOY
SUCKING THE MARROW
OUT OF LIFE)

(...ALL WHILE
SWEATING LIKE
A FAT GUY
ON STAIRS)

(ALSO: YOUR
BLADDER TRULY
DESPISES YOU.
JUST FYI)





WHEN I FIRST DRANK COFFEE
IN COLLEGE, I THOUGHT
IT TASTED **TERRIBLE**.



BUT OVER THE YEARS,
I'VE REALLY COME
TO LIKE THE TASTE.



AND WHEN MY DOCTOR TELLS ME
TO CUT DOWN ON CAFFEINE,
WHAT DO I DO....?

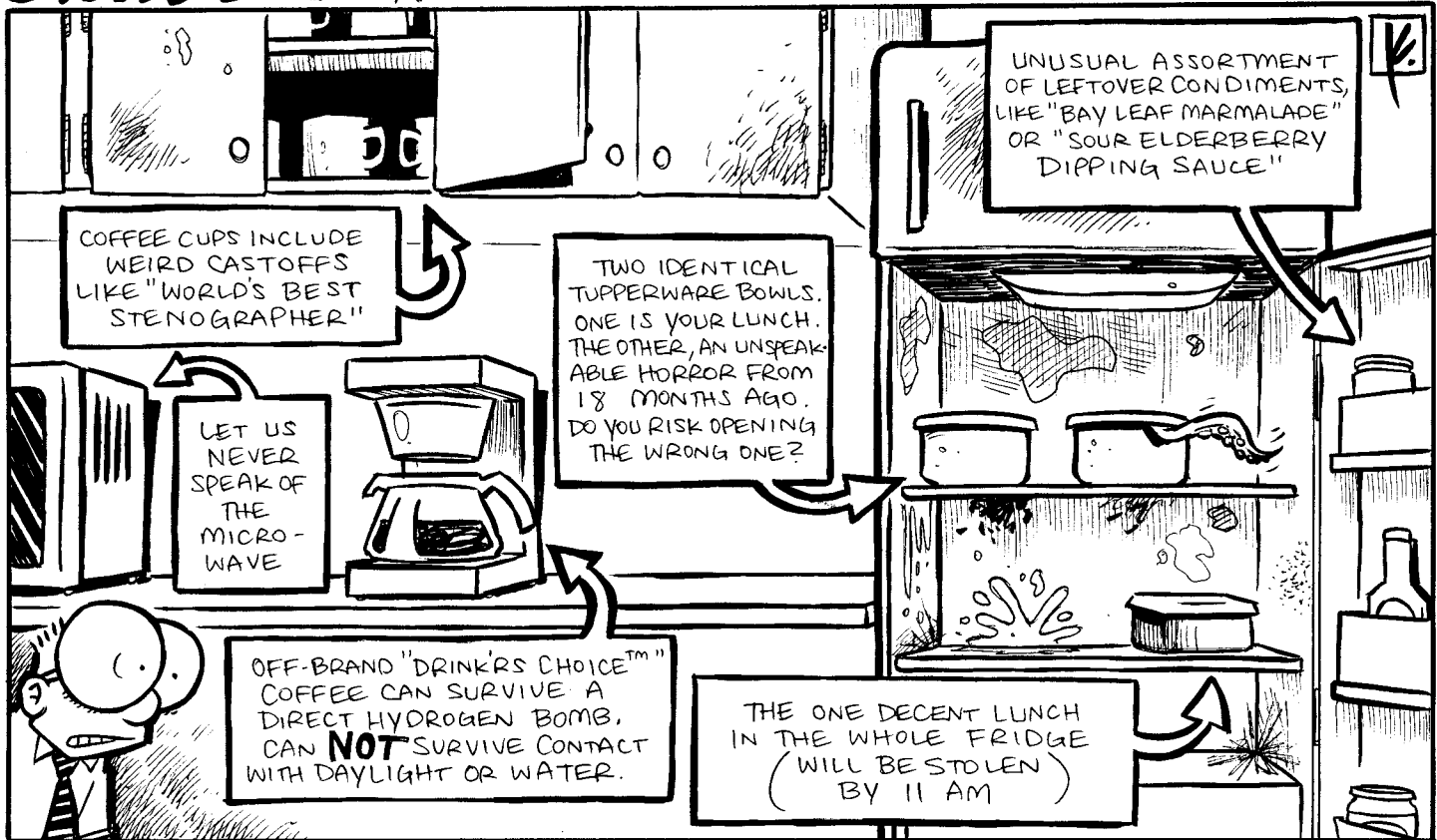


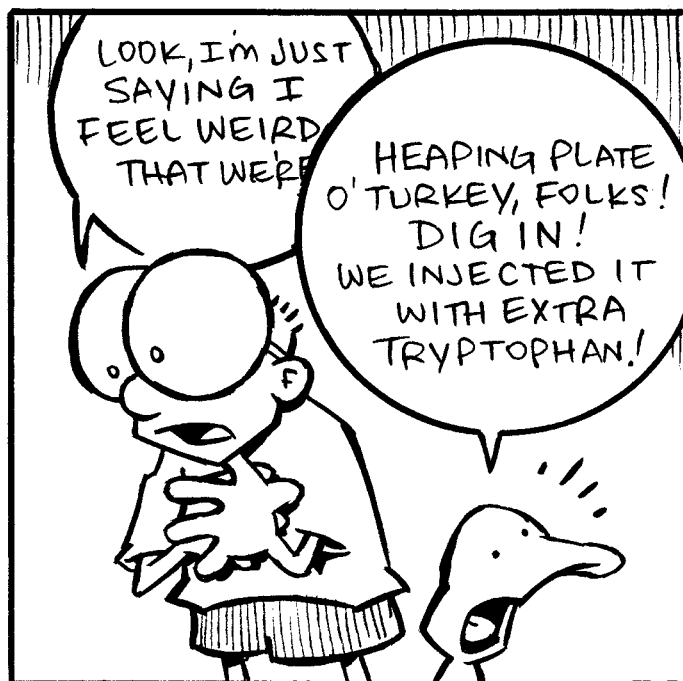
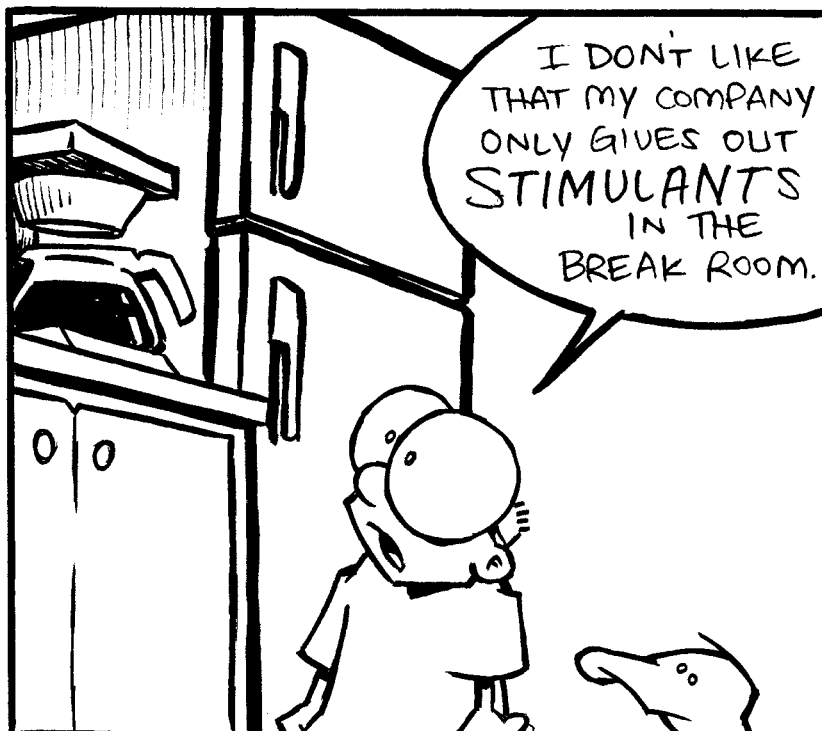
THAT'S LIKE WANTING
TO TAKE AN ASPIRIN
SOLELY FOR THE
BOLD, RICH
ASPIRIN TASTE.

THIS IS
A DRINK
GONE
WRONG.



GUIDE TO ^(your) OFFICE BREAK ROOMS





FRIENDS, DO YOU ENJOY
THE LOOK, FEEL AND
TASTE OF MUD?



DOES THE IDEA OF
WET EARTH SLOSHING
AROUND YOUR GUMS
SOUND JUST DELIGHTFUL?



DO YOU FIND YOURSELF
CONSTANTLY ASKING
"HOW CAN I QUICKLY
GET THAT SOIL-LIKE
TASTE THAT I CRAVE
SO BADLY??"



WELL FRIENDS, LOOK NO FURTHER...



TURKISH COFFEE, IF IT WAS
A NEW PRODUCT ON THE MARKET.

COMIC STRIP BATTLE!



VS. UNSHELVED

What happens when one comic strip challenges another? Throws down the gauntlet to see who can be funnier on a specific, super boring topic? That was the question when the comic strip UNSHELVED (www.unshelved.com) challenged SHELDON to see who could better tackle the bland topic of “**coffee cup lids**” for a whole week.

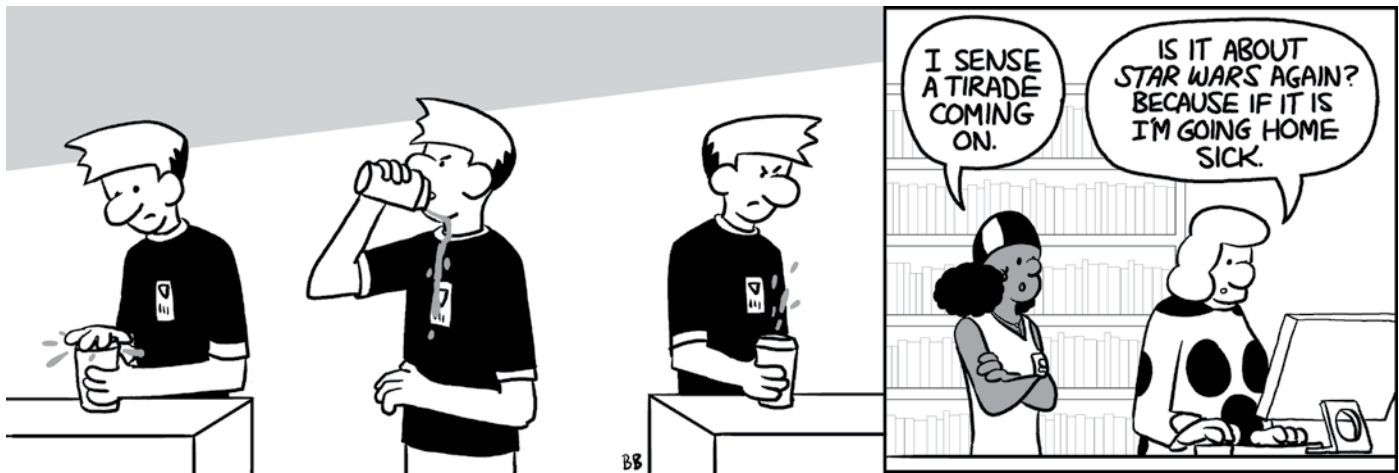
Collected in the following pages are both comics' entries, expertly judged by the much-loved (and much-moustachioed) comics journalist Gary Tyrrell. Take it away, Gary....

Coffee cup lids?

What humor could be dredged from such an ordinary, everyday object? Can even such acknowledged masters as Barnes, Ambaum and Kellett mine this vein of material without devolving into lame Seinfeldian Cliche? And who can win in this challenge if all fail to bring the funny? Let's take a look...

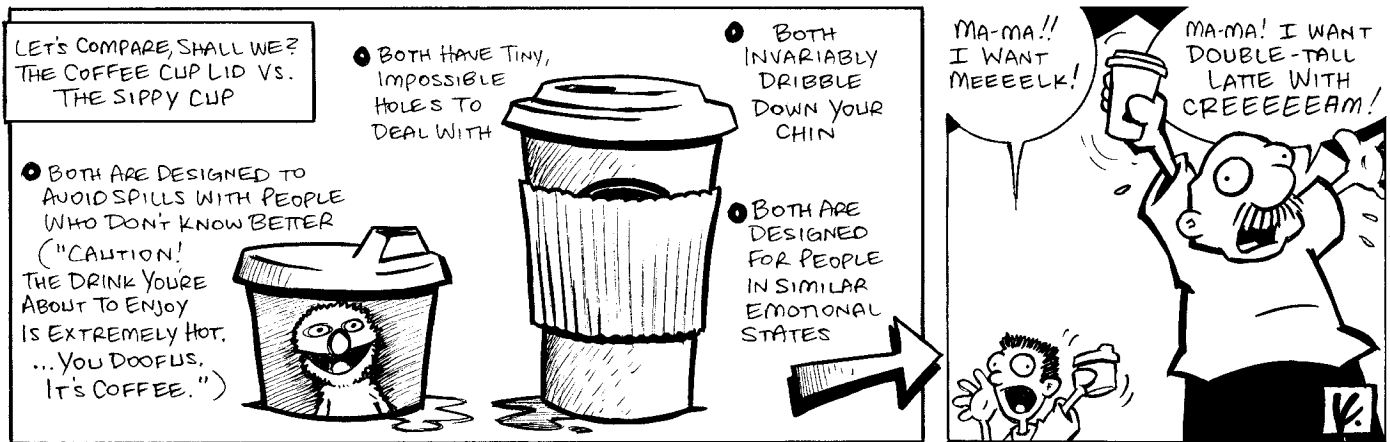


UNSHELVED®



"UNshelved takes a sidelong approach to the topic at hand (indeed, one might suspect that the theme for the week was actually "star wars"), treating the lids themselves as catalyst for (one would hope) future laugh-chuckles. While not about coffee cup lids per se, one may hope that this strip is merely to intrigue the comedic palate, and prime it for what is to come. An amuse-bouche, indeed."

COMIC STRIP BATTLE: DAY ONE



"Sheldon, by contrast, forgoes the subtle mise-en-scene and tackles the topic head-on, by name. Coffee cups are contrasted directly to the also-ubiquitous "sippy cup," leading to the classic humor trope of comparing things that are unlike (babies and old people) to show how truly similar they are. Plus it has Grover. Grover's cool!"

WINNER, DAY ONE:
SHELDON!

UNSHELVED®



"Unshelved moves to directly reference coffee cups, but in a surprise move also keeps with the movie theme brought up yesterday. Indeed, the bombastic, over-the-top histrionics of "Braveheart" are most appropriate as a model here, as one can only hope that Dewey remembers what happened to Mel Gibson at the end of that movie. Yelling your head off in a library, Dewey? YOUR library? Disembowelment's too good for you."

WINNER, DAY TWO:

UNSHELVED!

COMIC STRIP BATTLE: DAY TWO

sheldon®



THINGS WERE DIFFERENT WHEN I WAS A BOY

OH LORD. HERE WE GO...

YOU HAD COFFEE, AND YOU HAD THE MUG TO HOLD IT.

BUT NOW YOU HAVE THIS THROW-AWAY CUP THAT'S SO THIN, YOU NEED A CARDBOARD SLEEVE AROUND IT TO PROTECT YOUR HAND. WHICH IS **USELESS**, 'CAUSE HOT COFFEE SPURTS OUT OF THE DAMN PLASTIC LID, ANYWAY, SO THEY GIVE YOU A STRAW TO PROTECT YOUR LIPS, AND A CARDBOARD TRAY TO SAVE YOUR HANDS.

ADD IN THE SALES RECEIPT, AND THAT'S **SIX** ITEMS FOR **ONE** CUP OF COFFEE.

...and people wonder why our landfills are full.

... I ALWAYS ASK THEM TO "SARAN WRAP" THE WHOLE THING TOGETHER. ... SEALS IN THE FRESHNESS.

"Sheldon also looks to complement the primary theme with the secondary theme of classic comedy tropes, here launching into the classic, "When I was a kid" approach. Unfortunately, crusty old Gramps undercuts the effectiveness of this as, instead of pinning for the good old days of the Eisenhower administration, he reduces himself to a hippie tree-hugger whining about ecological sustainability. Get a job and haircut, hippie!"

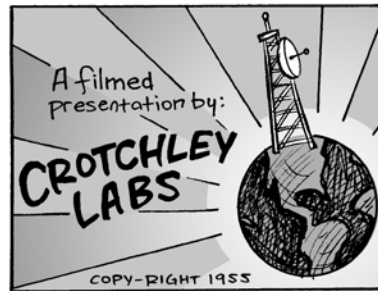
UNSHELVED®



"No more time for movie linkages at Unshelved as Dewey, seeking to take back what little control he had over his life, demands his coffee without a lid! Tragically, his attempt to transform himself into the Master of his Existence via indomitable Will is derailed by a curiously tattoo-and piercing-free barrista. You have run headlong into the Immovable Object to your Will's irresistible force, Dewey: The threat of personal-injury lawsuit. Enjoy what little coffee The Man will permit you, knowing that those few drops represent you, an insignificant cog in the omnipresent machine."

COMIC STRIP BATTLE: DAY THREE

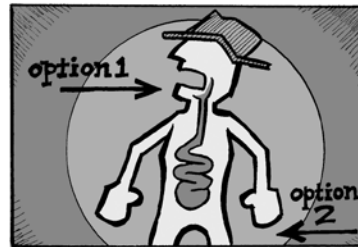
sheldon®



EVER WONDER WHERE THE COFFEE CUP LID CAME FROM? WHY, IT CAME FROM THE GOOD FOLKS AT INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES!



IN 1952, IBM MANAGERS REALIZED IT TOOK LAZY EMPLOYEES 35 MINUTES TO "WAKE UP" BY DRINKING COFFEE. BUT IT TOOK MERE SECONDS IF THEY SPILLED JET-HOT, MOLTEN COFFEE ON THEIR GROIN



SO IBM COMMISSIONED CROTCHLEY LABS TO DESIGN A COFFEE CUP LID THAT COULD DO JUST THAT!



"Meanwhile, at Sheldon, did somebody say "Eisenhower Administration"? Kellett busts open the traditional four-panel strip template and takes us on a journey of newsreel exposition to a better time -- a better place -- to explore the origins of coffee cup lids. Black-and-white visuals, flapping flags, a scratchy soundtrack, men in fedoras, and the ever-present threat of the international communist conspiracy all collude to construct an unassailable a fortress of funny. Plus, he totally said "crotch."

WINNER, DAY THREE: SHELDON!

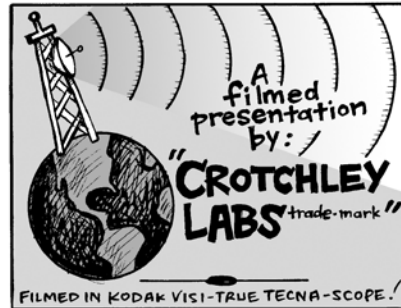
UNSHELVED®



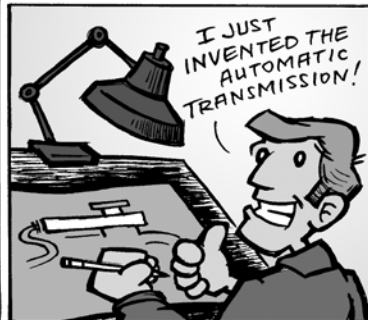
"In a curious reversal, Unshelved takes up the abandoned environmental theme from Sheldon, and again uses the agreed-upon theme of the week ("coffee cup lids," for those coming in late) almost as a background element. Here the intent seems more for Dewey to again annoy Tamara with his cruel barbs, leading one to wonder if he might be brutally injured in retaliation in the remaining two days of the challenge. One can only hope!"

COMIC STRIP BATTLE: DAY FOUR

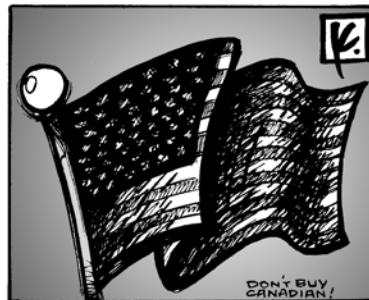
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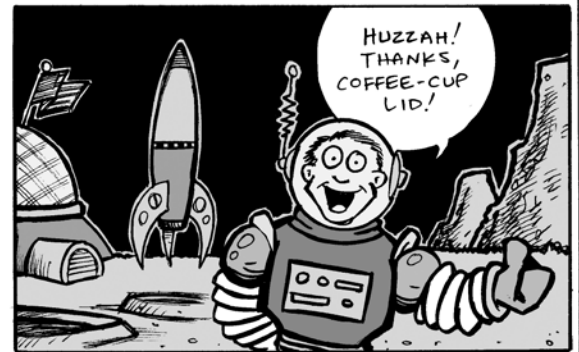
ONCE THE FLIMSY COFFEE CUP LID MADE ITS WAY INTO THE AMERICAN WORKFORCE, PRODUCTIVITY SOARED!



YES — PROGRESS! SCIENCE! INDUSTRY! THAT'S THE AMERICAN WAY, AND THAT'S THE CROTCHLEY LABS WAY!



...AND IT'S THAT SAME GO-GO SPIRIT THAT WILL GET US A PERMANENT MOONBASE BY 1959!



CROTCHLEY LABS...

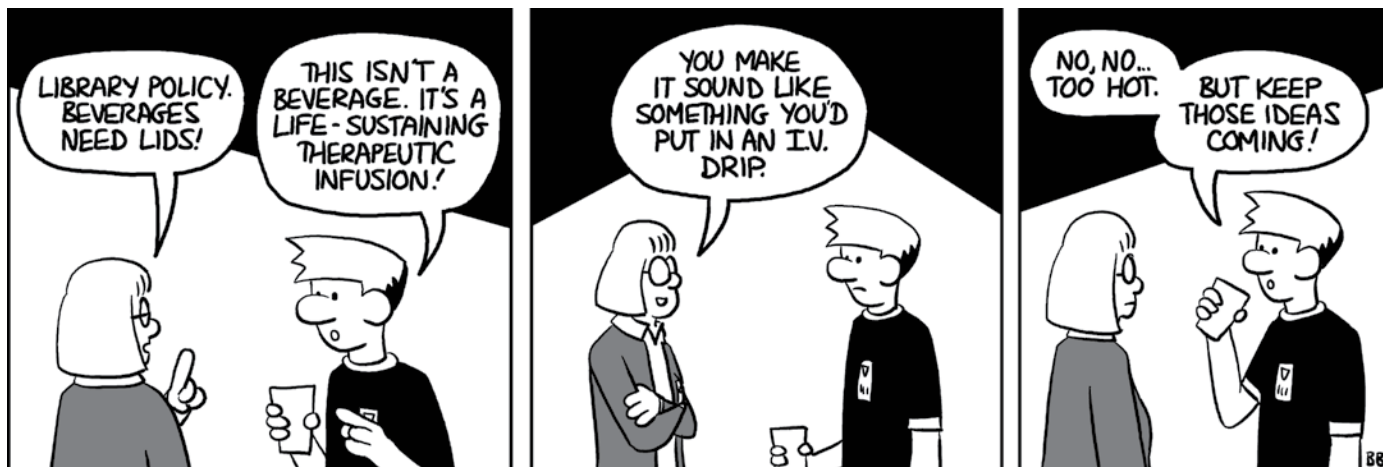
A BRIGHTER FUTURE THROUGH SPILLED COFFEE!!

KNOW A COMMUNIST?
CALL KLONDIKE-5-5-1

"Sheldon, knowing a good thing when it sees one, stays with the "Crotchley Labs" leitmotif, reminding us with a misty-eyed nostalgia how big our country's dreams once were. Oh, how we dreamed as we bestrode the world like unto a colossus. Oh, that we might shape all we that beheld once again."

WINNER, DAY FOUR: SHELDON!

UNSHELVED®



"Slowly and with much deliberation, the dispute threads of the week have resolved themselves at Unshelved. As was hinted on Wednesday, the week is less about coffee cup lids and more about Dewey's Quixote-like quest to assert some measure of control in his life, to have that little scope of dignity in his day-to-day existence. It is, of course, denied by Mel's insistence on the status quo, and Dewey's casual disregard of those in power will cost him dearly. The dramatic underscore is rising to a blistering crescendo, and the reader can only wonder breathlessly where it will all end."

WINNER, DAY FIVE:

UNSHELVED!

COMIC STRIP BATTLE: DAY FIVE

sheldon®



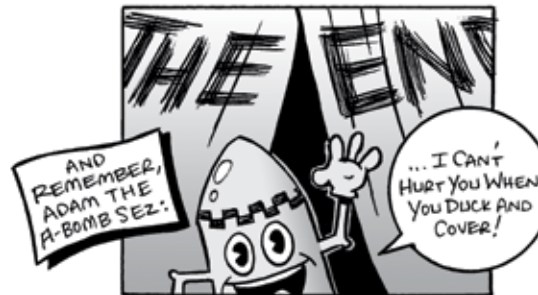
COFFEE! IT'S THE ALL-AMERICAN DRINK! GROWN IN IOWA, IT'S AS AMERICAN AS MOM AND APPLE PIE!



AND AT CROTCHLEY LABS, WE'RE DESIGNING BETTER COFFEE CUP LIDS THAT SPILL YOUR COFFEE FASTER! BECAUSE SPILLS EQUAL PRODUCTIVITY... AND "PRODUCTIVITY" IS JUST ANOTHER WAY TO SPELL "AMERICA"*

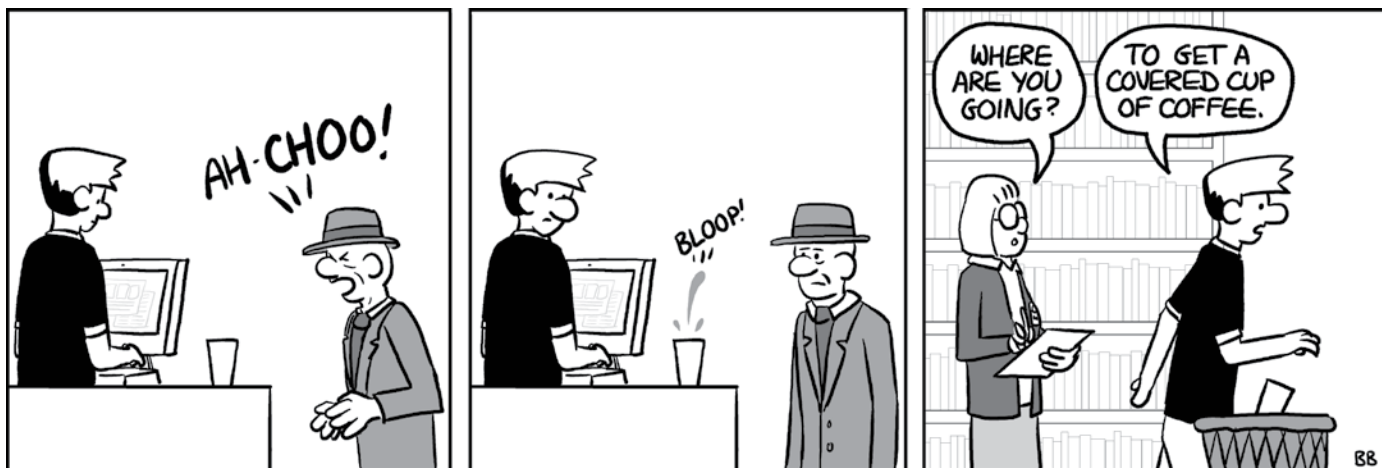


YES....IT'S THE FUTURE! AND CROTCHLEY LABS IS DRIVING YOU THERE FASTER!



"Sheldon, still stuck in the 50's, almost seems to have overstayed its welcome in that storied decade. Whereas one, or even two installments of past glories would stir the soul and drive all to regain that Utopian vision, a third merely reminds us of all we have lost. The Great Iowa Coffee Blight, the disastrous loss of tail fins, The fact that every one of those office workers wound up replaced by robots built by 12-year olds from Bolivia... the weight of nostalgia has become too great. The taste of this Proustian Madeline has become too bitter to bear."

UNSHELVED®

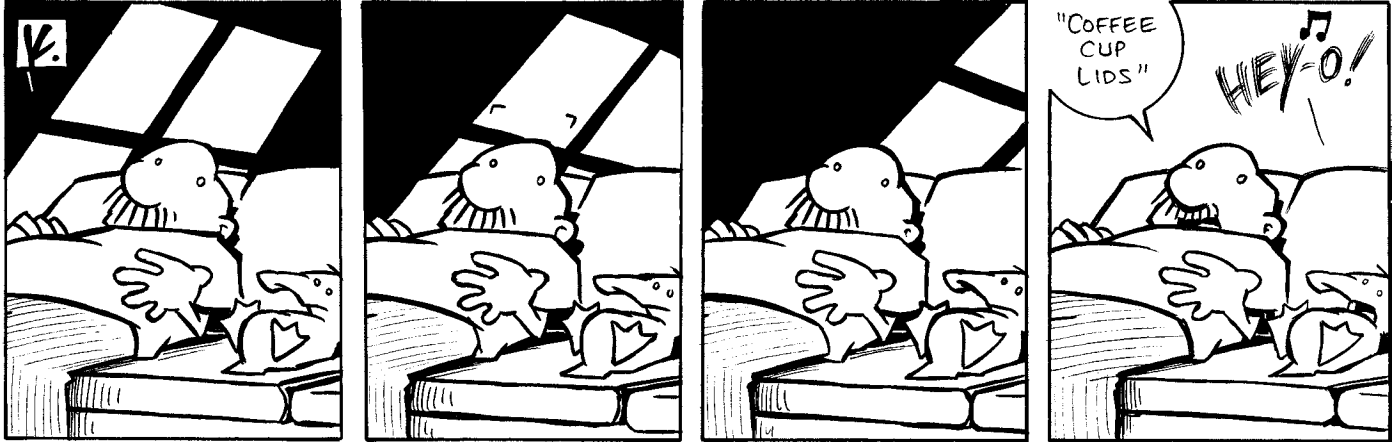


"And when Dewey Hero's Journey comes to an end, having endured travail and hardship, the prize of wisdom is his at last. Coffee cup lids, far from being an unnecessary encumbrance, are a vital part of our everyday life as long as there exist disgusting old guys who won't cover their damn mouths when they sneeze. Somewhere in the distance, a lonely trumpet plays the stinger: wah wah wah waaaaaah."

WINNER, DAY SIX:
UNSHELVED!

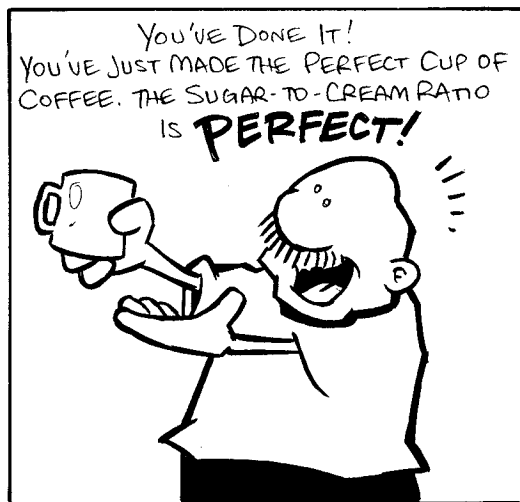
COMIC STRIP BATTLE: DAY SIX

sheldon®



"And in Sheldon, perhaps having spent all the creative energy reserves on a trip back in time, there is nothing left to do but invoke the lovable, affable Ed McMahon. But isn't Ed McMahon dead? Because if he is, that's in terrible taste. Or maybe I'm thinking of Abe Vigoda? DAMMIT SOMEBODY TELL ME IF I SHOULD BE ENJOYING THIS OR NOT." -- Gary tyrrell

...FINAL SCORE:
TIED!



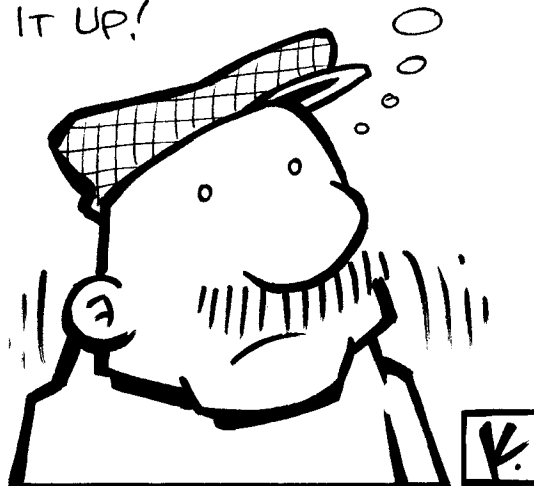


HERE IS WHAT THE
WAITRESS SAYS...



HERE IS WHAT YOU THINK

NO! I JUST GOT THE RIGHT
BALANCE OF CREAM, SUGAR
AND COFFEE... SHE'LL MESS
IT UP!

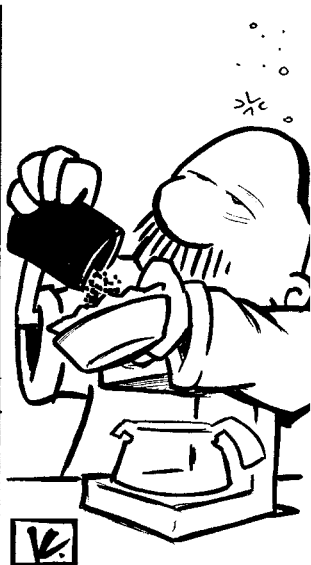


HERE IS WHAT YOU **COULD** SAY



HERE IS WHAT YOU ACTUALLY DO,
EVEN THOUGH YOU HAVE A FULL CUP.





About the Author:

Dave Kellett creates the Eisner-nominated comic strip Sheldon® at SheldonComics.com, the sci-fi strip Drive™ at DriveComic.com, and is co-author of the Harvey-nominated book “How to Make Webcomics.” He holds two Masters degrees in the art and history of comics and often speaks on cartooning at venues like Ohio State University, Savannah College of Art & Design, Loyola Marymount University, the Society of Illustrators, the National Cartoonists Society, and South by Southwest (SxSW). He is currently drinking four coffees.



The author and the famed “Price is Right” wheel.
(He rolled “thirty five cents”.)

SHELDON & DRIVE books by Dave Kellett, available at SheldonStore.com:

Drive, book 1: A Hero Rises

Drive, book 2: The Emperor Calls

Pure Ducky Goodness: The 1st Sheldon Collection

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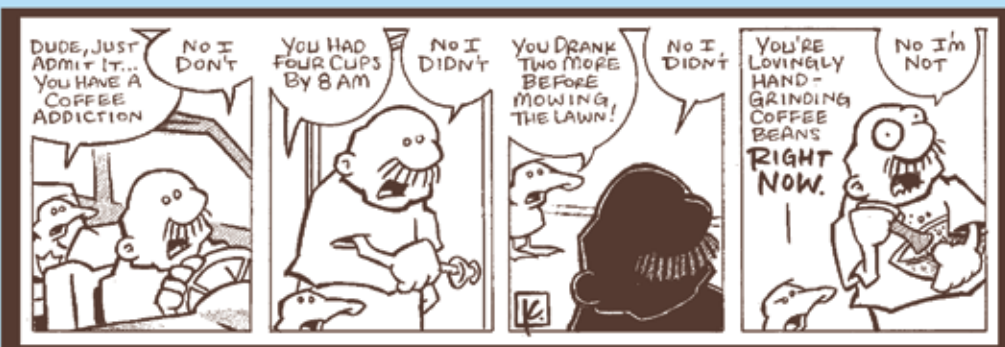
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SHELDONCOMICS.COM

Coffee

It's what's for dinner.

Coffee addicts, here is the book for you! A comic strip collection that takes on your daily routine of caffeine headaches, constant sweating, and midnight coffee cravings! "Coffee: It's What's For Dinner" collects all your favorite coffee strips from the cartoon **Sheldon**, and serves 'em up like a perfect shot of espresso. It's the ultimate laugh for a latte lover like you!



Read the daily strip online!
SheldonComics.com

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