



MAN! I HATE DOIN' LAUNDRY.

YEAH, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN

IT SEEMS LIKE JUST YESTERDAY I WAS IN HERE, YA KNOW?

IT'S AMAZING HOW FAST TWO MONTHS CAN FLY BY.

GAG!

MY NAME
IS SCOTCH
DAWSON

HI, I'M
RALPH
GANTRY

I'LL BET YOU'RE
WONDERING WHY
THEY CALL ME
SCOTCH.

NOT
REALLY.

WELL SOME GUY IN
THIS BAR DARED ME TO
DRINK A WHOLE FIFTH
OF SCOTCH AND I COULDN'T
PASS UP A DARE YOU
SEE AND...

AND SO YOU DRANK
THE SCOTCH AND
THEY CALLED YOU
SCOTCH EVER
SINCE

YOU WERE THERE,
TOO?







THAT CHICK OVER THERE IS WAITING FOR, RALPHY BABES, SO I'LL SEE YA LATER, MAN

HEY, BABY, WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?

YOU'RE GETTIN' TO BE A PAIN IN THE NECK, FELLA.

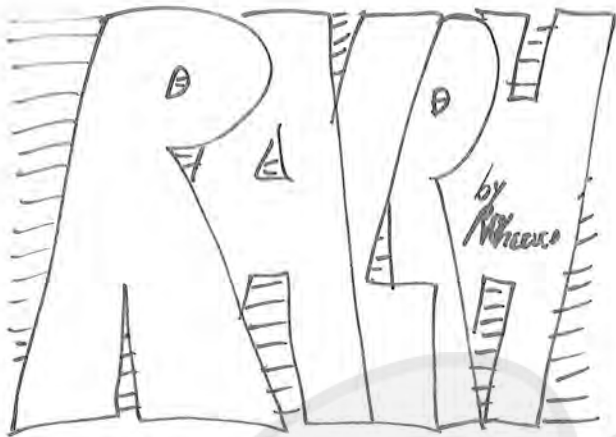
WELL?

POOR KID.

SHE'S GOT A HEADACHE,

OH,







SAY SCOTCH, DOES THIS APARTMENT COMPLEX SCHEDULE ANY ACTIVITIES FOR THE TENANTS?

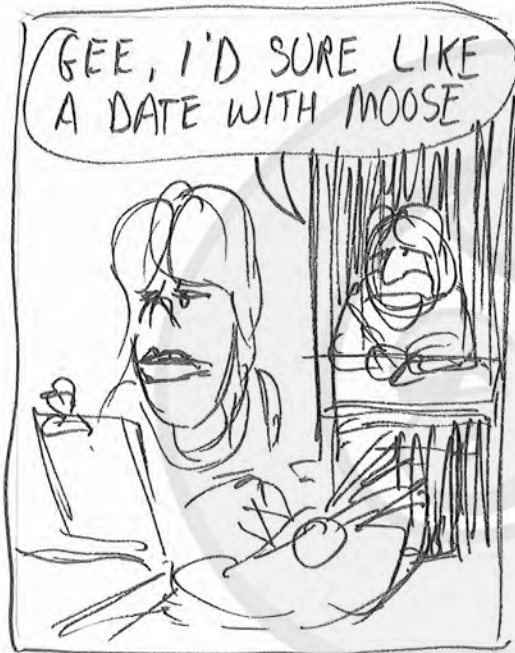
DO THEY!

WOW, MAN, THEY'VE GOT A TUPPERWARE PARTY NEXT WEEK.

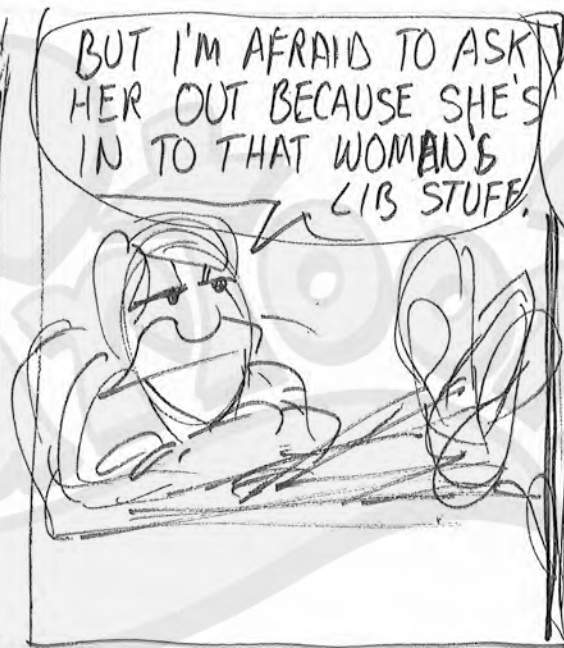
TUPPERWARE?

MORE CHICKS IN ONE SPOT THAN YOU CAN IMAGINE, RALPHY BABES.

JUST WHAT I NEED... ANOTHER ORANGE PEELER.



GEE, I'D SURE LIKE
A DATE WITH MOOSE



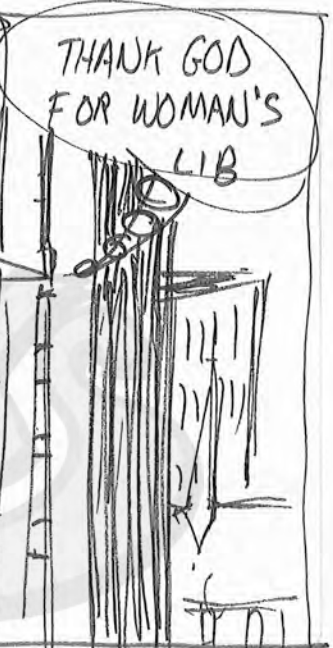
BUT I'M AFRAID TO ASK
HER OUT BECAUSE SHE'S
IN TO THAT WOMAN'S
LIB STUFF.



AND YOU NEVER KNOW
WHAT THOSE
LIBBERS WILL
DO.



HEY, GANTRY
HOW WOULD
YOU LIKE TO
JOIN ME FOR
DINNER
TONIGHT?



THANK GOD
FOR WOMAN'S
LIB

SHE ASKS ME OUT,
SHE PICKS THE RESTAURANT,
AND NOW SHE IS DRIVING
OVER HERE TO PICK ME UP.



I GUESS REVERSING THE
ROLES IS HER WAY OF
TELLING ME SHE'S
SELF-SUFFICIENT.



WELL, I CAN
PLAY ALONG
WITH HER
ON THAT.



I FEEL PRETTY...
OH SO PRETTY...





YOU KNOW, MOOSE, I
KIND OF ENJOY HAVING
YOU TAKE TOTAL CHARGE
OF THIS EVENING

THANK
YOU,
GANTRY.

HEY! WHAT KIND
OF A DATE DO YOU
THINK I AM, ANYWAY?

HUH?

GET OVER HERE
AND OPEN MY
CAR DOOR FOR
ME,

OH GEE!
I'M SORRY!
I FORGOT!

Demonstrating your
self-sufficiency
as a woman is
fine ...

But playing the
male role in
the dating ritual
doesn't prove
anything, Mr Wolke

Would you ^{feel} better
~~prefer~~ ~~going~~ ^{Yes}
~~back~~ ~~to~~ ~~the~~
~~if~~ ~~it's~~ ~~about~~ ~~the~~
~~traditional~~
roles ~~thought~~ ^{then?}

The check, sir.
I mean no.





WELL THIS IS THE PART OF THE EVENING WHERE TRADITION SAYS THE GENTLEMAN SHOULD POLITELY THANK THE YOUNG LADY AT THE DOOR AND DEPART,

AND TRADITION ALSO SAYS, THE YOUNG LADY SHOULD SAY SHE HAD A WONDERFUL TIME AND GO INSIDE

THANK YOU

I HAD A WONDERFUL TIME

HEY, GANTRY, AREN'T YOU GOING TO COME IN?

HUH?

IT'S YOUR APARTMENT,

WELL IN THAT CASE...

2A





ALTHOUGH I'M VERY FOND OF YOU, MOOSE, I'M SORT OF AFRAID TO GET MORE INVOLVED WITH YOU FOR FEAR OF IT HAMPERING OUR WORKING RELATIONSHIP



DO YOU THINK THAT MAYBE WE SHOULD SLOW IT DOWN A BIT?



GACK!



ME NEITHER.



SITTING UP



WHAT'S THE
MATTER.

NO DOUBT ABOUT
IT, GANTRY...

CLICK?



THAT MUSTACHE
HAS GOT TO GO.





YOU REALLY WANT ME TO SHAVE MY MUSTACHE?

YOU WANT ME TO CUT OFF MY IDENTITY?
... MY INDIVIDUALITY?
... MY ... MY ...

FACADE?

FACADE?



LOOK, RALPH, YOUR MUSTACHE IS ONLY A FACADE!

GET AWAY!

YOU CAN'T HIDE BEHIND A MASS OF FUR!

I'M NOT GOING TO LISTEN TO YOU.

STEP OUT FROM IT! YOU DON'T NEED HAIR ON YOUR LIP TO PROVE YOUR MASCULINITY!

OOO-WEE-OOO-WEE-OOO

LET THE TRUE MAN RISE TO THE SURFACE!

OOO-WEE-OOO-WEE-OOO





I'M NOT SHAVING MY MUSTACHE, MOOSE.

(SIGH)

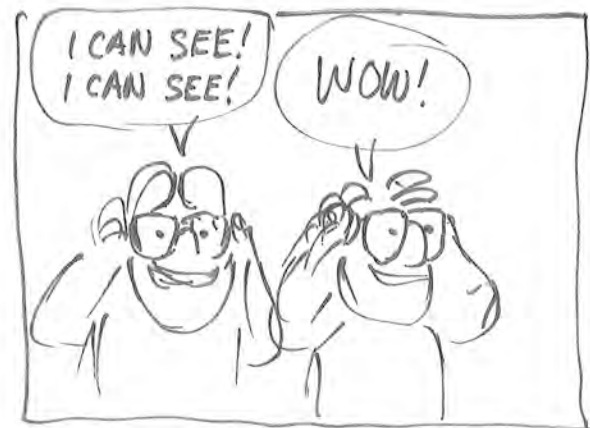
JUST ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF MALE OPPRESSION.

OPPRESSION!

YOUR OBSESSION WITH THIS OPPRESSION IS AN Agression AGAINST MAKING CONCESSIONS!

WHAT?

YOU HEARD ME.





MOOSE, I CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO SHAVE OFF MY MUSTACHE.

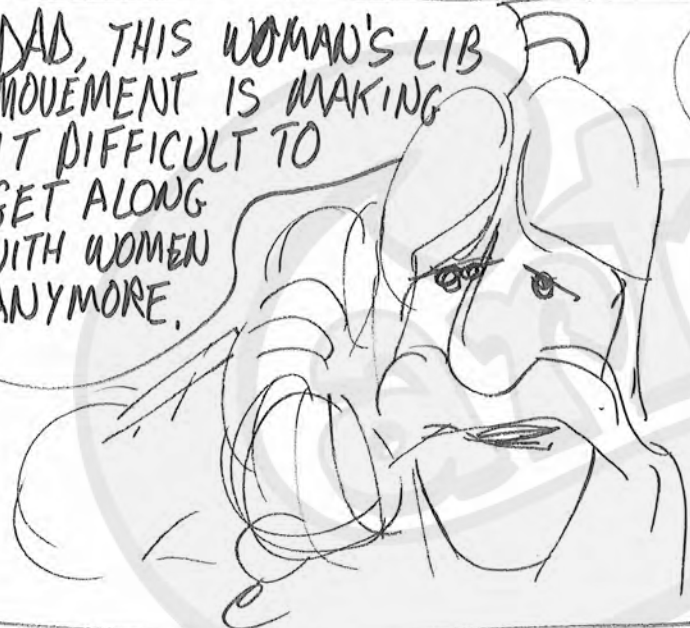
AND IF YOU CAN'T LIVE WITH THAT, THEN I GUESS WE'RE THROUGH DATING.

READ TO ME, SIS.

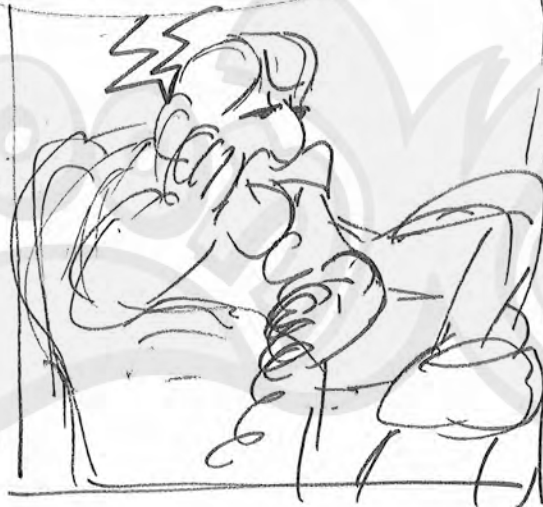
SEE RALPH. SEE RALPH RUN.

RUN, RALPH, RUN.

DAD, THIS WOMAN'S LIB
MOVEMENT IS MAKING
IT DIFFICULT TO
GET ALONG
WITH WOMEN
ANYMORE.



I'VE GOT NEWS
FOR YOU, SON.



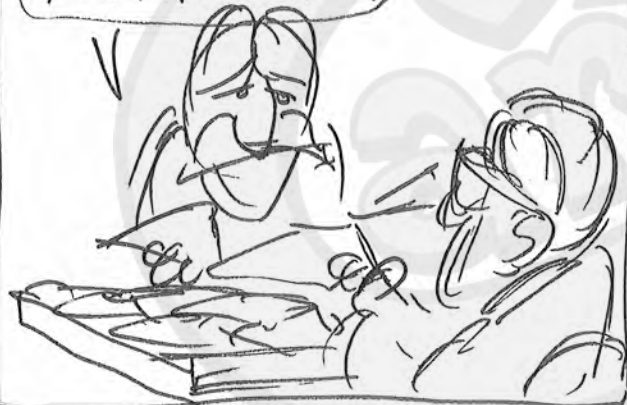
THEY WERE DIFFICULT TO
GET ALONG WITH WAY
BEFORE WOMAN'S LIB.





I THINK WE'LL NEED TO LOOK
AT THE WARREN REPORT

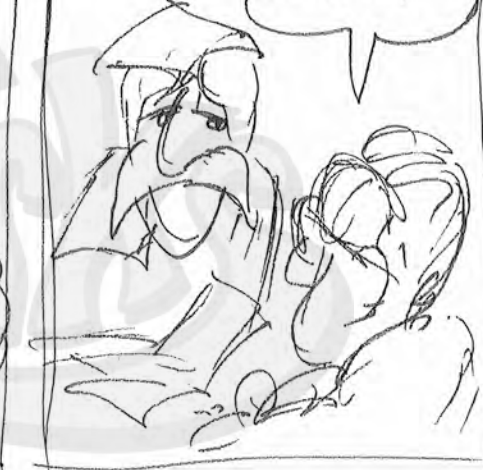
YOU'RE RIGHT,
MR. TURNER.



HEY, MOOSE,
BRING IN THE
WARREN REPORT,
WILL YA?



HAVING A LITTLE TROUBLE
WITH YOUR SECRETARY,
RALPH?



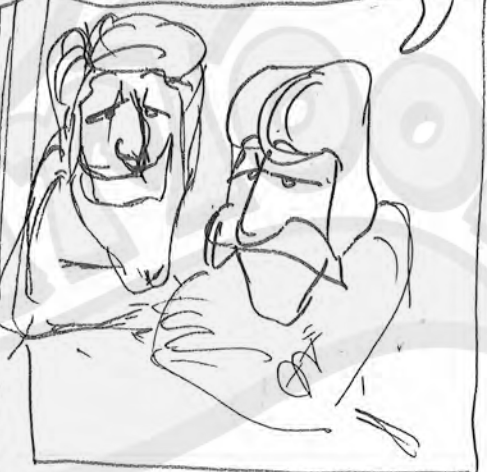
COME ON, RALPHY BARBES,
CHEER UP! LOOK AT ALL
THE CHICKS AROUND YOU!

I CAN'T HELP IT, SCOTCH.
I CAN'T GET HER OUT
OF MY MIND.

CAN'T GET
WHO OUT OF
YOUR MIND?

MY... UH..
... I... UH..

I CAN'T
REMEMBER!





HEY BABY,

HEE HEE
HEE HEE

WHAT'S A NICE
GIRL LIKE YOU
DOING IN A PLACE
LIKE THIS.

HEEHHEE
HEE HEE
HEE

IT WORKED!
SHE LIKES
ME!

HEE
HEEHHEE
HEE,

YEAH, SCOTCH, YOU'RE
QUITE THE LADY
KILLER

HEE
HEE HEE





I TELL YA, RALPHY BABES,
IF YOU'RE GOUNA GET IN
WITH THE DISCO CROWD,
YOU'VE GOT TO DRESS
THE PART.

I DON'T
KNOW, SCOTCH,
IT ALL SEEMS
SO PHONY.

GO AHEAD.
UNBUTTON THAT
SHIRT! SHOW OFF
THAT HAIRY CHEST!

WELL
I...

BE A MAN!

OOO...
I FEEL SO
VIRILE



YES SIR, I'M THE EPITOME OF VIRILITY.

WITH MY SHIRT UNBUTTONED, THE GIRLS WON'T BE ABLE TO RESIST ME.

HEY, BABY.

DROP DEAD!

I FEEL SO NAKED!



BEAT IT!

SCRAM!

DROP DEAD!

GOSH I'M HAVING FUN, SCOTCH.

HEY, GREAT, RALPHY BABES



YA WANNA DANCE?

SURE!

OH GOOD IT'S A SLOW ONE LET'S GO!

ULP!

LET'S DANCE,
CUTIE.

SAY! WAIT
A MINUTE.

WHY DON'T WE SIT
THIS ONE OUT. I'VE
BEEN SICK LATELY AND...

THAT'S OKAY. IT
HAPPENS TO ME
ALL THE TIME.

BOY! NOW I REALLY
DO FEEL SICK.

(SIGH)





HEY, RALPHY BABES,
HOW'S IT GOIN'?

TERRIBLE!

I JUST HURT
A GIRL'S FEELINGS,

YOU
DID?

THAT'S GREAT, MAN, IT
TOOK ME TWO YEARS TO LEARN
HOW TO DO THAT.





IT'S JUST THAT THOSE
DISCOS ALLOW PEOPLE
TO COMFORTABLY FUNCTION
IN A SHALLOW PHONY
EXISTANCE.



WHY DO YOU HAVE
TO BE SO PHILOSOPHICAL
ABOUT EVERYTHING,
RALPH.



BECAUSE I'M
A LITTLE NERVOUS,
I GUESS.

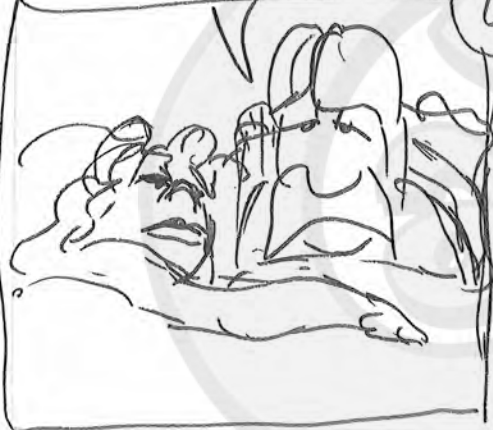


NOW, WHAT COULD
POSSIBLY MAKE YOU
SO NERVOUS.?





WELL, I JUST SPENT
THE NIGHT WITH
A TOTAL STRANGER



OH COME ON,
RALPH, THINK OF
IT AS LIVING
OUT A FANTASY.



A
FANTASY!

IS THAT ALL LIFE
IS TO YOU? A FANTASY?
WHAT DO YOU THINK
WE ARE?



CHARACTERS
IN A COMIC
STRIP?





RAWH

by
Whoever

CONSCIENCE
BOTHERING
YOU?

YEAH, I'M NOT
MUCH FOR ONE
NIGHT STANDS.



SO LET'S GET TOGETHER
AGAIN NEXT WEEK.



SLAM!

MY
HUSBAND!

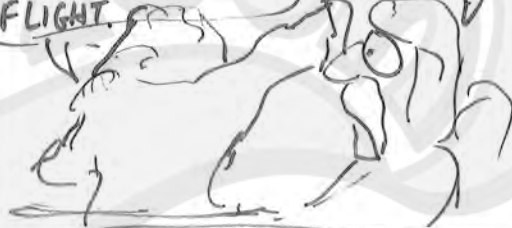
HUSBAND!



HONEY I'M HOME!

HE MUST HAVE
CAUGHT AN EARLIER
FLIGHT.

YOU'RE
MARRIED?



I CAUGHT AN EARLIER
FLIGHT

YOU'VE
GOT TO
HIDE

MGBLFL



DID WE GET ANY MAIL, DEAR?

QUICK! GET IN THE
BATHROOM!

YOU'RE
MARRIED?



WHERE ARE YOU, DEAR?

WHEN THE
COAST IS
CLEAR,
DASH
OUT THE
BACK

YOU'RE
MARRIED?



COMING, DARLING!

DARLING!
I'M
CRUSHED.









~~Walking~~
Walking makes
with a newspaper
around waist
↓ people gawking

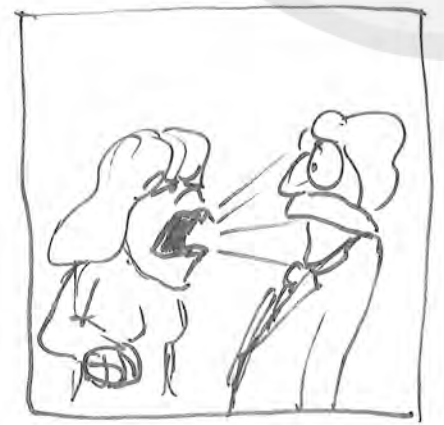
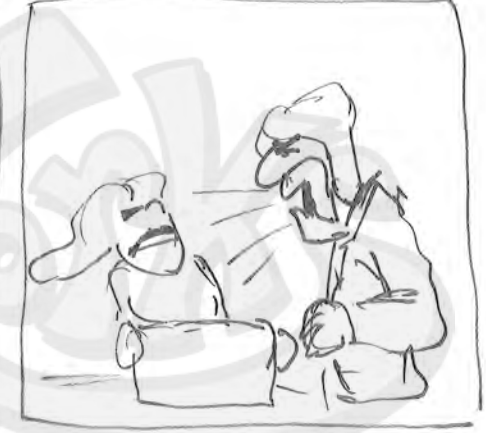
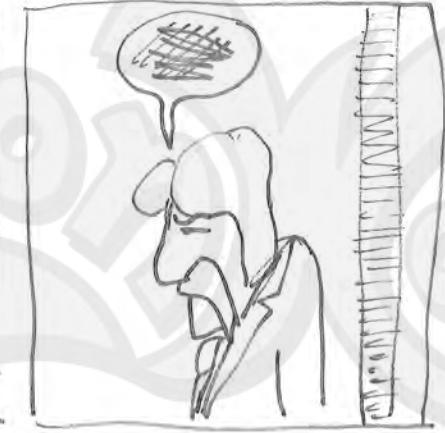
GETTING CAUGHT WITH
A MARRIED WOMAN IS MY
SECOND MOST HUMILIATING
EXPERIENCE.

THIS IS DEFINITELY
THE FIRST.









HEY, RALPHY BABES, THANKS FOR BRINGING ME TO YOUR OFFICE PARTY, YA KNOW?



DON'T MENTION...

HEY! WHO'S THE BLONDE MAN?



THAT'S MY SECRETARY, SCOTCH. I WOULDN'T...



SEE YA LATER, MAN,

I DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE I FEEL MORE SORRY FOR.





HEY, BABY!

I'M AN ADULT FEMALE

YA KNOW, MAN...

I HAPPEN TO BE A WOMAN.

I DIG A CHICK WITH SPIRIT.

THEN GO SIT ON AN EGG IN CHURCH.



YA KNOW,
SWEETHEART,
WE COULD...

ALL RIGHT!

YOUR PLACE
OR MINE!

HUH?

THAT'S WHAT
YOU WANT
ISN'T IT?

BUT...
BUT...

THEN LET'S GO!

HELP!

WELL, HERE WE ARE!



NOW TAKE YOUR CLOTHES OFF!



MY CLOTHES?



SURE! WE CAN'T HAVE RAW ILLICIT SEX WITH OUR CLOTHES ON, CAN WE?



LET ME GIVE YOU A HAND.



GET AWAY!!







RARH

by
King
Whedon

LET'S SEE... IF I'M
GOING TO BE GAY, NOW...



I'D BETTER CANCEL MY
DATE WITH JULIE THIS
FRIDAY



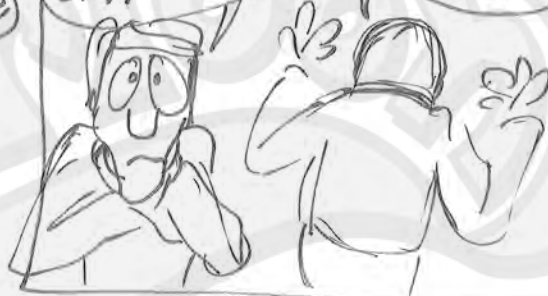
I CAN FEEL
MY WRISTS
GOING LIMP.

EVERY PERSON HAS
BOTH MASCULINE AND
FEMININE CHARACTERISTICS,
SCOTCH.



MY VOICE IS
STARTING TO
LISP.

SO IT'S NORMAL
FOR YOU TO HAVE
DOUBTS.



I'LL HAVE TO
CHANGE MY
WARDROBE.

BUT A HETEROSEXUAL
ENCOUNTER THAT DOESN'T
MATERIALIZER ONLY MEANS
YOUR HEART WASN'T IN IT.



THEN THERE'S
MY HAIR AND
MY NAILS

IT DOESN'T MEAN
YOU'RE GAY.



(SIGH) THIS
IS GOING TO
BE A LOT OF
WORK.

IT JUST MEANS YOU
WILL HAVE TO TREAT
WOMEN AS MORE THAN
SEX OBJECTS NOW.



I DON'T WANT
TO BE GAY!

IM GETTIN'
OUTTA HERE!





I'M GAY!

YOU'RE BLOWING THIS ALL OUT OF PROPORTION, SCOTCH. YOU'RE NOT GAY.

I'M GAY!

SNAP OUT OF IT!

SLAP!

OH, I LOVE IT, DO IT AGAIN.

YOU'RE NOT FUNNY!



RALPHY BABES,
THERE'S ONLY ONE
THING TO DO.

I DON'T
THINK I
WANT TO
HEAR THIS.

I'M GOING
TO FILE CHARGES
AGAINST HER.

FOR
WHAT?

IMPOTENCE.

WELL THEY CAN
CHARGE US WITH
RAPE CAN'T THEY?

OH
BROTHER



THANKS TO YOU, MOOSE,
SCOTCH THINKS
HE'S GAY.

WHAT?
HE'S NOT
GAY!

I KNOW, BUT
I THINK YOU SHOULD
TALK TO HIM ANYWAY!

FORGET IT.
LET HIM
SUFFER.

HE SAID HE WAS FILING
CHARGES AGAINST YOU FOR
CAUSING HIS IMPOTENCE

HUH?

THERE WAS GRAVE
PSYCHOLOGICAL DAMAGE
INVOLVED, MOOSE

WHERE'S
THE PHONE?

WHAT'S
HIS
NUMBER?

go out.



WELL YOUR FRIEND IS
BACK TO NORMAL ...
IF YOU CALL MACHO
NORMAL.

YOU TALKED
TO SCOTCH?
WHAT DID
YOU SAY?

I JUST TOLD HIM THAT
I WOULDN'T SLEEP WITH
HIM IF HE WAS THE LAST
MAN ON EARTH.

AND THAT
STRAIGHTENED
HIM OUT?

HIS KIND
THRIVES ON
REJECTION.





IF YOU WERE MORE CAREFUL THIS ERROR IN PROCESSING WOULD NOT HAVE OCCURRED.

DON'T BLAME THAT ON ME, BUSTER.

BOY! GOOD SECRETARIES ARE SURE HARD TO FIND

YEAH? I'VE SAVED YOUR NECK MANY TIMES, GANTRY!

IF YOU DIDN'T HIDE BEHIND A MUSTACHE YOU MIGHT BE MORE EFFICIENT

I THINK IT'S A GOOD DAY TO GET SOME EXERCISE

WELL, LET'S TALK ABOUT FACADES, MISS BLEACHED BLONDE,

DING

EXCUSE ME

STAIRS







YOU OKAY NOW, GANTRY?

YEAH, I THINK SO.

SNAP!

WHAT WAS THAT?

WAS THAT THE CABLE BREAKING?

GACK!

NO, JUST MY POCKET CALCULATOR.

SAY, YOU'RE REALLY AFRAID THIS ELEVATOR IS GOING TO FALL, AREN'T YOU?



NO...
..NO...
..NOT ME!

SURE YOU ARE!
BUT YOU'RE EVEN MORE AFRAID TO SHOW IT!



NO...
WRONG!
...NOPE!

HECK! YOU CAN'T EXPRESS YOUR TRUE EMOTIONS ANY BETTER THAN THE MOST INSENSITIVE MACHO MALE.



NO!
NO!

WAAAAA!!
..OR CAN YOU?



not so
paranoid



✓

Dec. 3, 1978

Mr. Lee Salem
Universal Press Syndicate
6700 Squibb Rd.
Mission KS

Dear Mr. Salem,

When I last talked with you, you suggested that I gear my strip toward being a male version of the strip, "Cathy". I recall that my initial reaction to that was of fear of my strip being offensive toward women.

As it turns out, after researching the matter thoroughly, I have come to the conclusion that this fear of being offensive toward women is a major factor in preventing men from liberating themselves. I've always considered myself fairly liberal, but my earlier reaction tells me that I still treat women as fragile creatures that will be shattered when spoken to harshly. By living in the worst of both worlds . . . by being accused of being oppressive on one hand, and by not allowing themselves to be verbally aggressive toward women on the other, men have been left with the guilt from the woman's lib movement and thus have never been able to unify themselves in liberation against their own oppression.

What oppression do men have? Plenty! They live under the same oppression as women. For every helpless female, there's a poor macho male running around out there with his sensitivities beaten out of him. Be a man! Don't feel pain! Chug that beer! Be sexual, not sensual! Heaven forbid if you feel anything . . . you might be gay!

To liberate a woman, she needs to gain strength. To liberate a man, he needs to gain feelings. The latter becomes very frightening, especially when the former is being achieved. To become aware of your feelings is to become aware of your vulnerability, and thus perhaps the loss of your strength. It takes a special person to be both strong and emotional. Thus, there is a paranoia among men toward becoming in touch with their emotions for fear of castration or latent homosexuality. So, as a defense, many men become even more insensitive than before.

There you have the premise for the following sketches. I have mainly used only three characters . . . a liberated woman, a macho man, and Ralph. I will be looking forward to discussing them with you when the People's Temple news blows over. I assume that is what is making you so hard to get ahold of. In the meantime I will continue writing strips and drawing my 12 strips in finished art form.

Sincerely,
Ron Wheeler
561-7495