

Remove R Comic 2007

There once was a
nice tile from Nantucket



And when
sea men
came by,
they would..



There was a young
man like a phoenix
whose body was
controlled by
his..



Jacob:"If I was british, I would be watching doctor who right [now!](#) But alas... I'm not, so I must [wait until next month...](#)"

Gary:"Wow. I'm so very excited at the prospect of new Dr. Who episodes. The last two seasons were amazing. They had me holding my breath and being amazed. I was initially skeptical when I heard that they were going to make new Dr. Who episodes after a 20 year break, but I've been happily surprised. I still remember watching Dr. Who as a child. My dad was a big fan, and he would let us stay awake for it. It was shown at 11pm on WTTW on Sunday nights. He would make popcorn and we would all sit around the TV and watch. It was great. I loved the show. What can I say, I was younger then. Recently I and some friends have been re-watching all of Dr. Who, starting with Hartnell and working our way forward. We're currently on Pertwee. Initially I thought the stories would be great, and I would be enthralled again. This however did not happen. Some stories are good, but most are campy at best, and yet I keep watching the old ones. The Dr. Who night quickly morphed into a Mystery Science Theater type of event. An evening where friends sit around and eat food, drink, and watch/make fun of Dr. Who. It's great. I really enjoy it, and soon new episodes. For those of you who don't know about Dr. Who, here are a couple links. [Who North America](#) : the site where I bought all the Dr. Who episodes on VHS [Wikipedia's Dr. Who entry](#)"

Return of the Who

2007-04-02



Jacob: "I can't believe I wasn't able to bring my shield and sword on the plane. *sigh* oh well. At least I was able to enjoy Digital Overload. There was Gaming everywhere!"

Jane: "Jacob made a bunch of us wait while checking in until the hotel staff could get him a room with red curtains. I must admit I never saw this coming."

Spartan
2007-04-04



Jacob: "[Digital Overload](#) was GREAT, even if it did introduce Jane to Battlefield. It was 300 of my closest friends to play video games with!"

Jane: "[What?! It's got chicken legs! IT DOES! I sooo love "](#)

Jase: "[What is there to say? Invader Zim is one of the best cartoons ever.](#)"

Chicken Legs

2007-04-09



Jacob: "That really did happen. O'hare security is crazy now. I even took some [photos](#). You would never believe where I had to hide the camera to make it out of there with it. It'll never smell quite the same again."

High security

2007-04-11



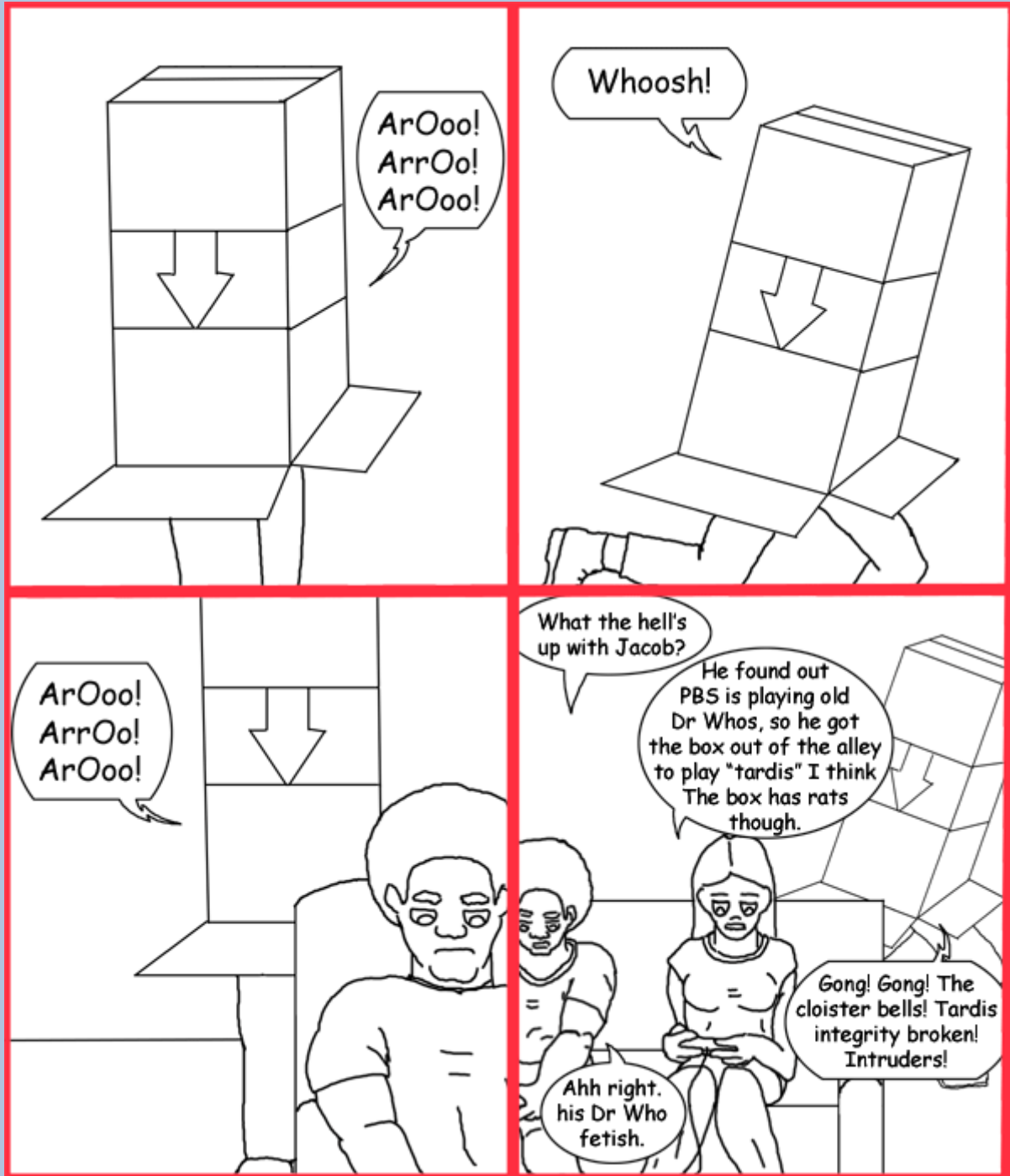
Gary: "The idea for today's comic was stolen from a description Tycho weaved in a [news post](#) at [Penny Arcade](#). Tycho has a way with words, and the image he painted in his news post was so funny to me that I had to make a comic of it. To make everything even funnier to me, the subject of his article was art "plagiarism." Then to make everything even more delightful, I based my comic around the quote on their site which was stolen from Picasso. Hopefully Tycho will also see the humor in this, or at least find it slightly amusing. If he doesn't and instead takes it as an insult, then perhaps it's a sign that we're really living in a humorless post apocalyptic world where any attempts at humor carry with them a death sentence where the accused is stoned to death with rubber chickens. Ok, perhaps I exaggerate a bit, but this sort of art theft has been going on for life times. It's the nature of organisms, they learn from each other, to the point of stealing ideas. The web just makes the acquisition a little easier. Is it wrong for them to make money of another's work? Yes. Does it happen? Yes. Does it happen in other fields too? Yes. When was the last time you stole someone else's javascript work, or html code, or opinion on something you haven't experienced. Unfortunately it happens. Perhaps I would be taking a different stance if it was my stuff stolen. Luckily I don't have anything worth stealing yet. Heh. I just get tired of artists complaining about it and thinking it only happens to them. A little background, so you know I'm not just complaining for the hell of it, my father is a graphic designer, so growing up I was around that community a lot, and all they did was complain about the world, never trying to change it, and that pointless complaining gets old after a while. Either fight or accept defeat. It's a cruel world. Now, I know what you're thinking, around graphic designers so much, and his site looks like what? That's mostly due to my laziness towards it. It will eventually look better. I have more I could rant about, but instead I'll go do some work. Later."

Jacob: "This is totally how I see artists pulling off a heist.. well this or a committee trying to decide what to do. Perhaps that happened first."

Jane: "They definitely should have listened to the guy in the back and let the one in the front create. I'm sure it would've been beautiful and non-functional."

Jase: "How exactly does one sell a stolen van Gogh or Picasso? I'm just wondering.. it's not like I have two mint condition early van Gogh's and one good condition late style Picasso in my basement that I would want to offload for like 2 to 3 million a piece."

PA Theft
2007-04-16



Jacob: "[It's here! It's here! It's here! It's here!](#) "

Gary: "I appoligize, my information when I made the comic was wrong. WTTW, a PBS Chicago station is going to be playing the new Doctor Who episodes, not the old ones. "

The TARDIS trot

2007-04-18

Everyone enjoys a day off, it's a joyous time of sleeping and relaxing.

hmm.. wha?.. a server's down.. you rebooted ..keyboard doesn't work?.. ok.. ok.. I'll be right in.



What the hell is this?! RJ-45 to serial to parallel to AT to usb? What were you thinking?!

Slick right? I don't know why it won't work. I didn't have a usb keyboard, but I know computers, and I had some converters.



Most people who have to tell you about their amazing computer knowledge, don't have it.



Hey, weren't you supposed to be off today?

Yeah, but some jackass got something on a server's keyboard



The Proper Plug

2007-04-23



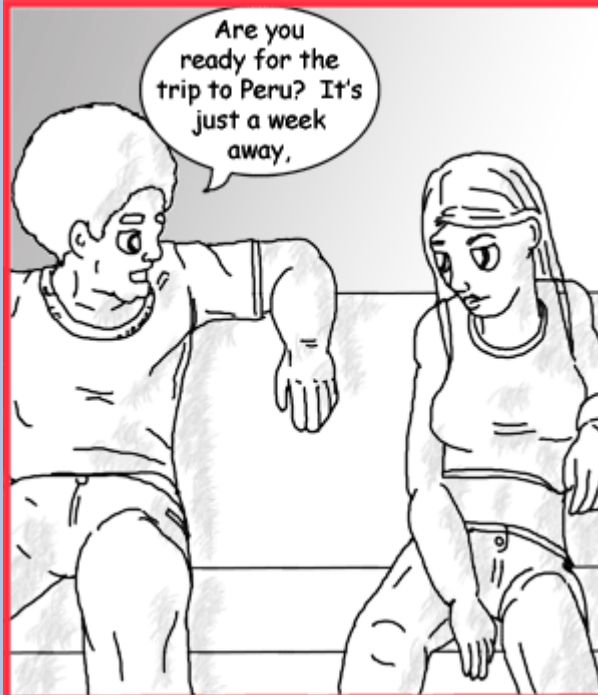
Jacob: "Happy Birthday Jase!"

Jane: "Really, I didn't know about the hip. I just wanted to get you a cake. Happy B-day Jase."

Jase: "I think Jacob meant well, but that poor man in the backyard... He was right though. Eventually the guy went away, or was taken away. It's hard to say."

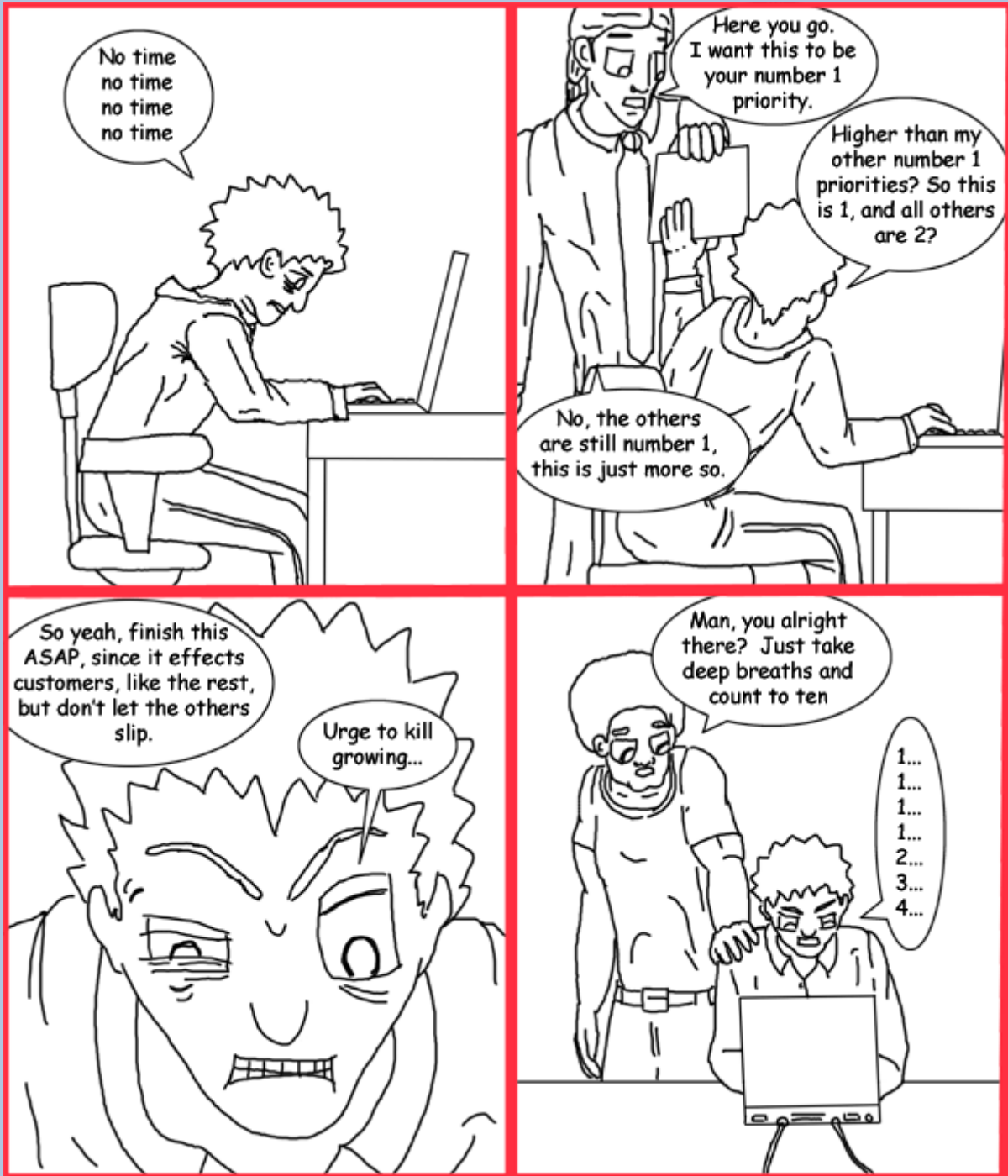
Break a hip

2007-04-25



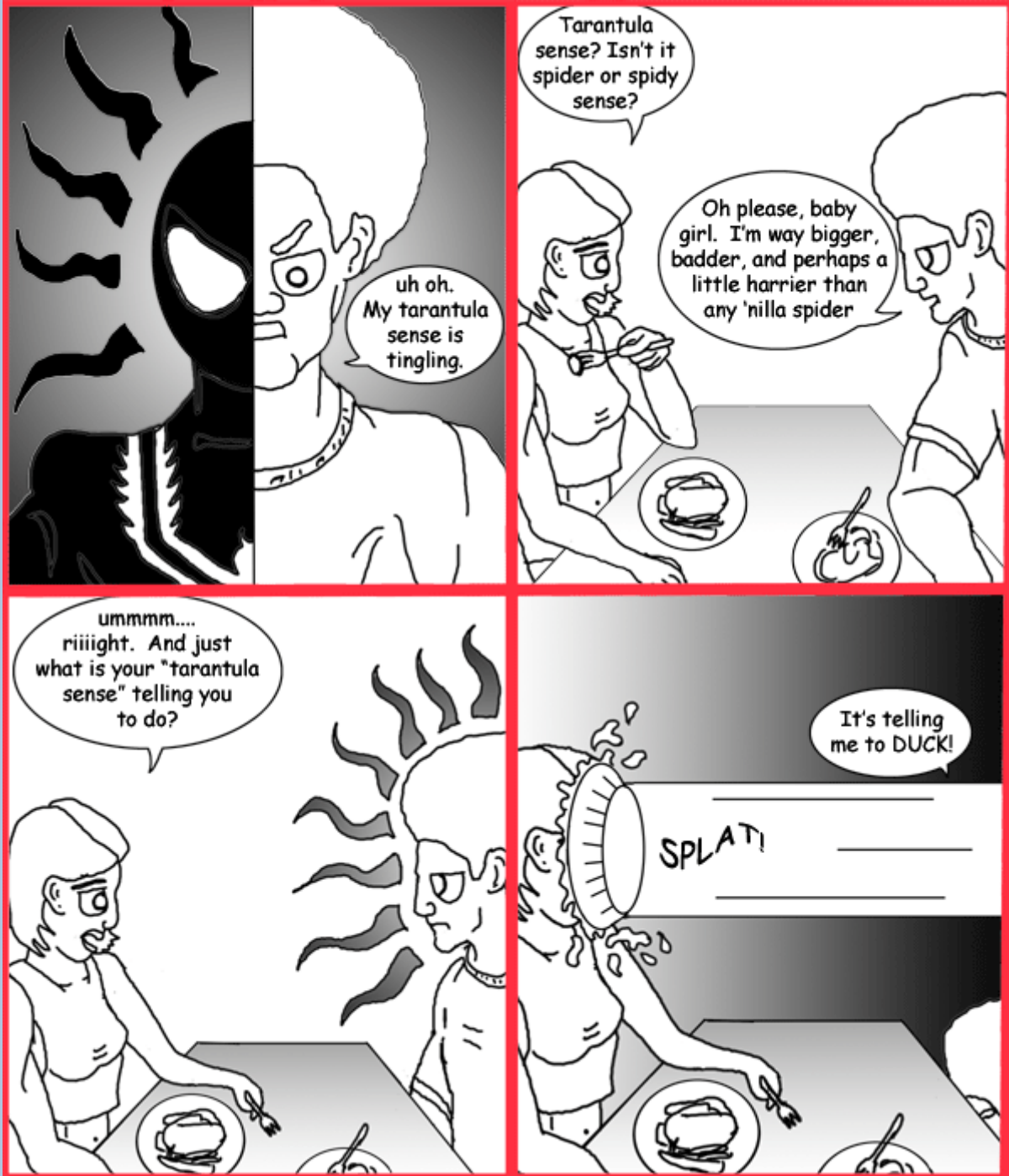
Peru, part 1

2007-04-30



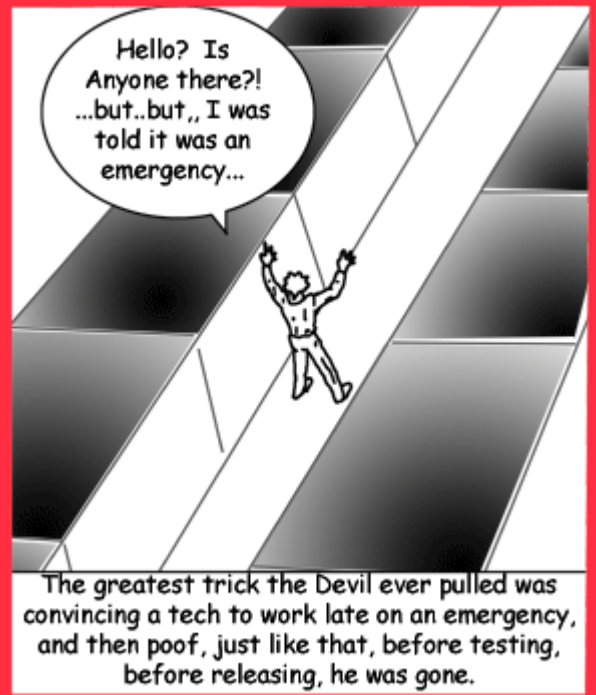
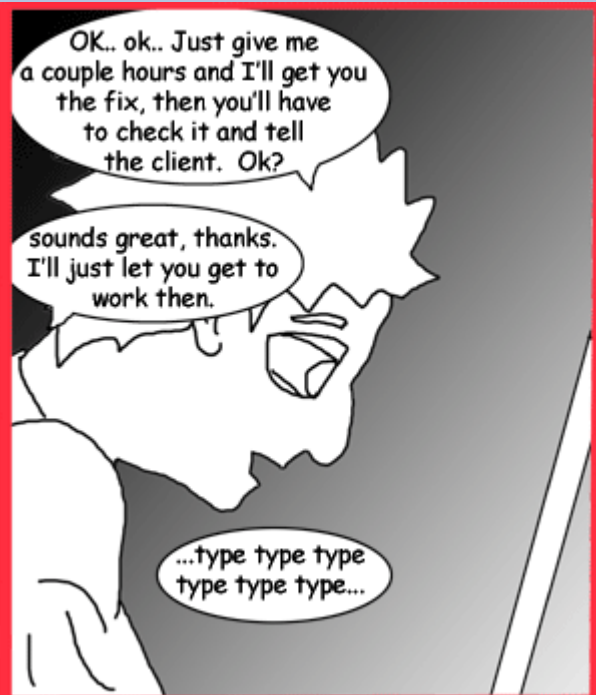
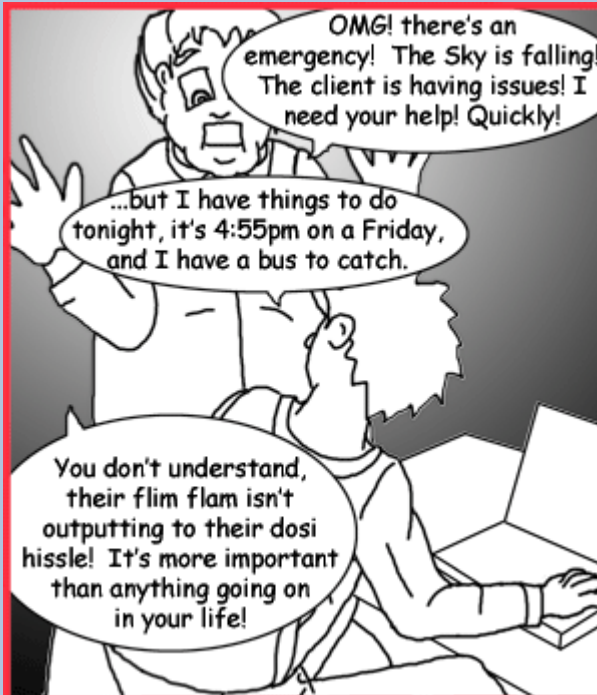
Top priority

2007-05-02



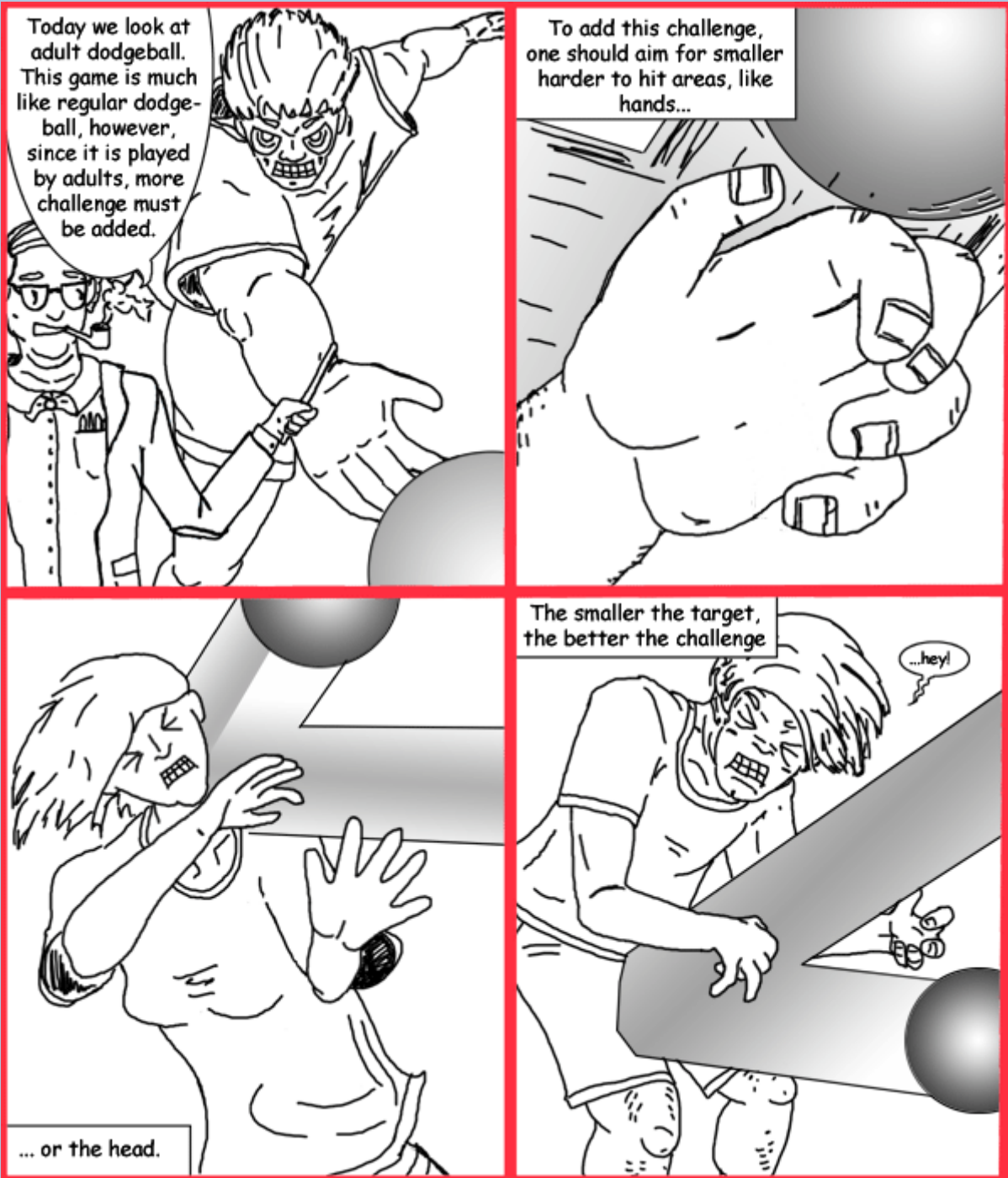
Tarantula sense

2007-05-07



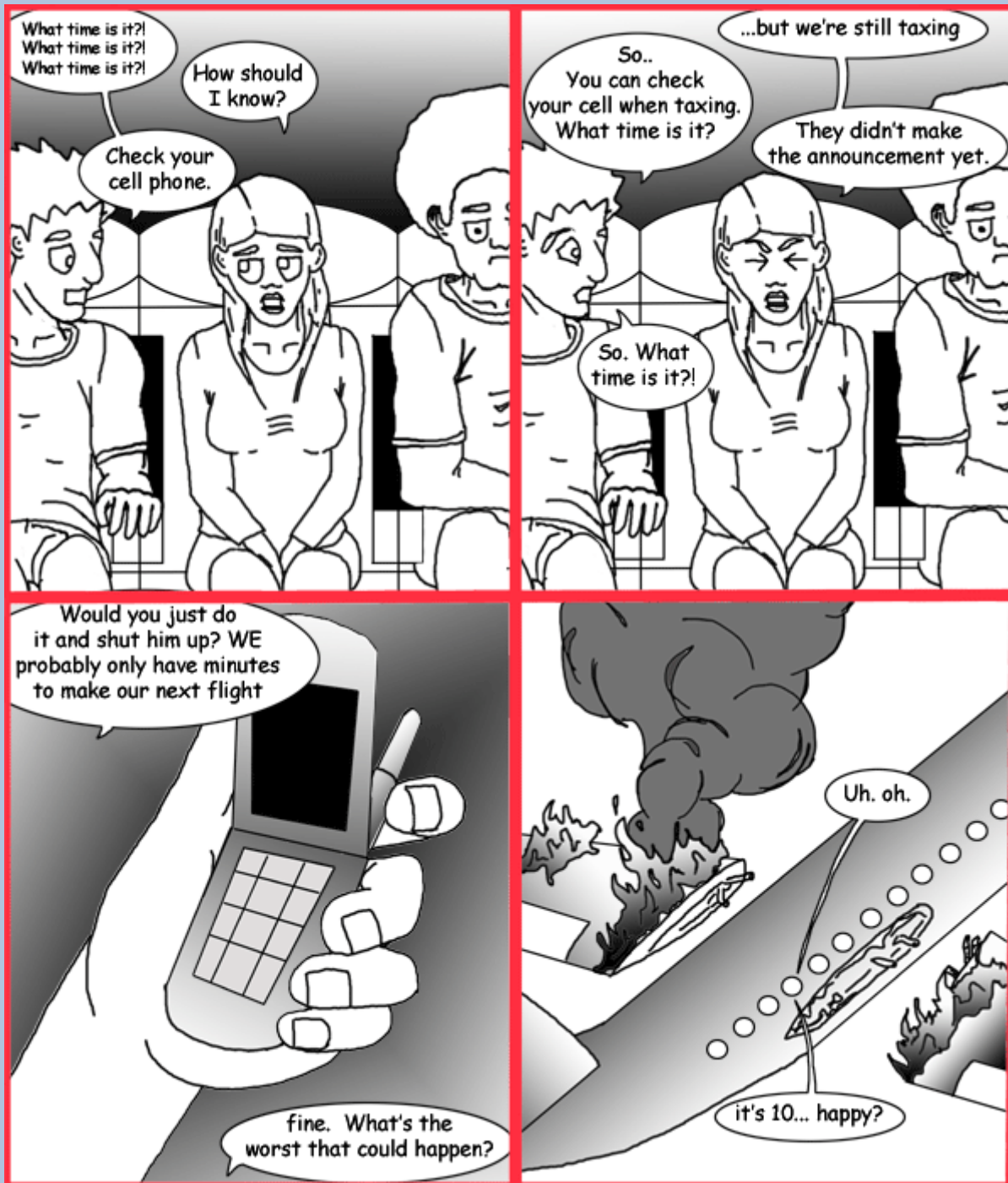
Devil in the details

2007-05-09

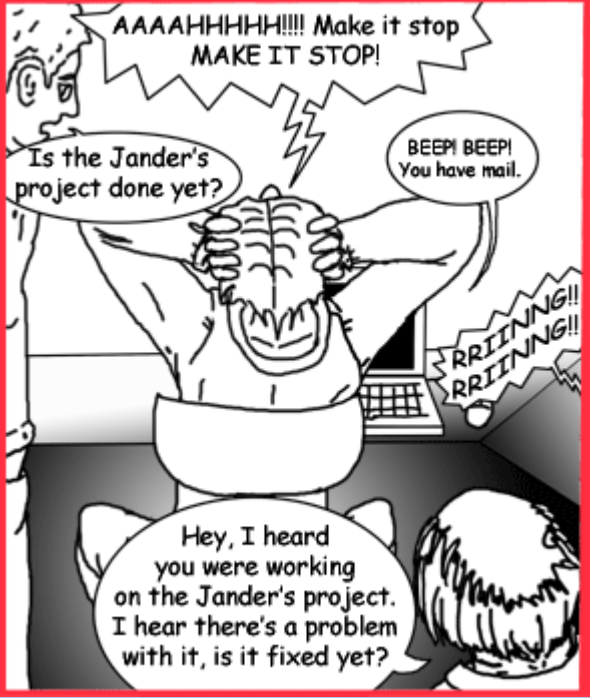
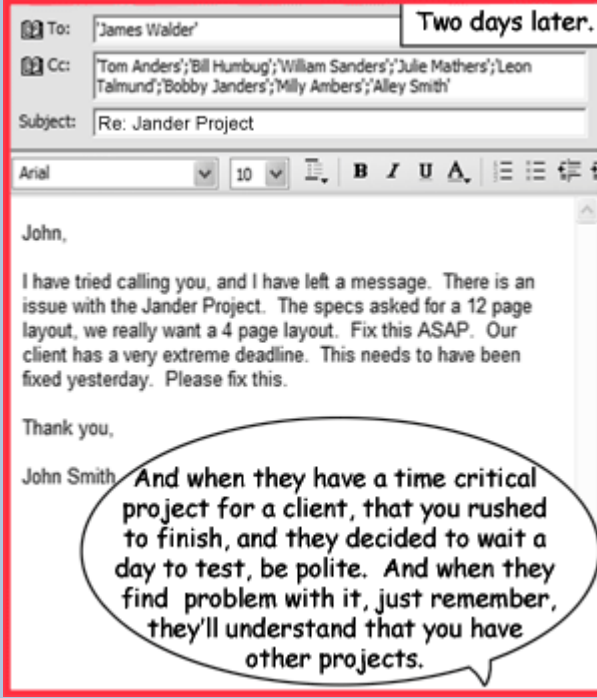
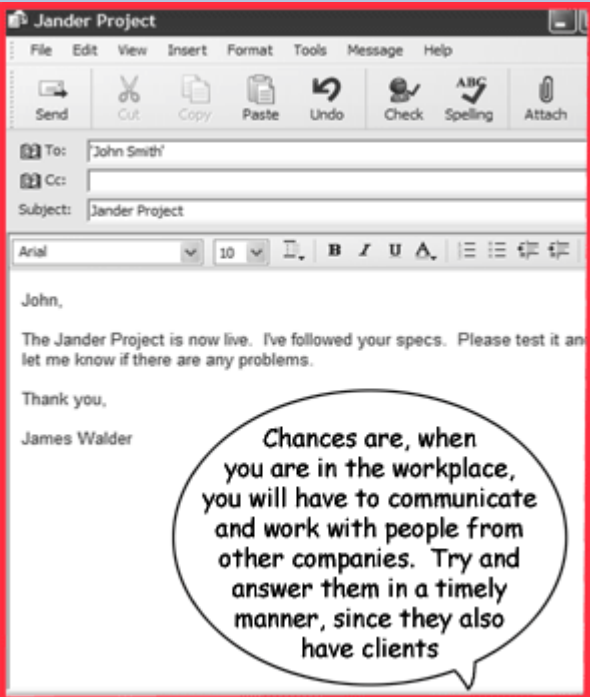


Dodgeball

2007-05-14



Peru, part 2
2007-05-16



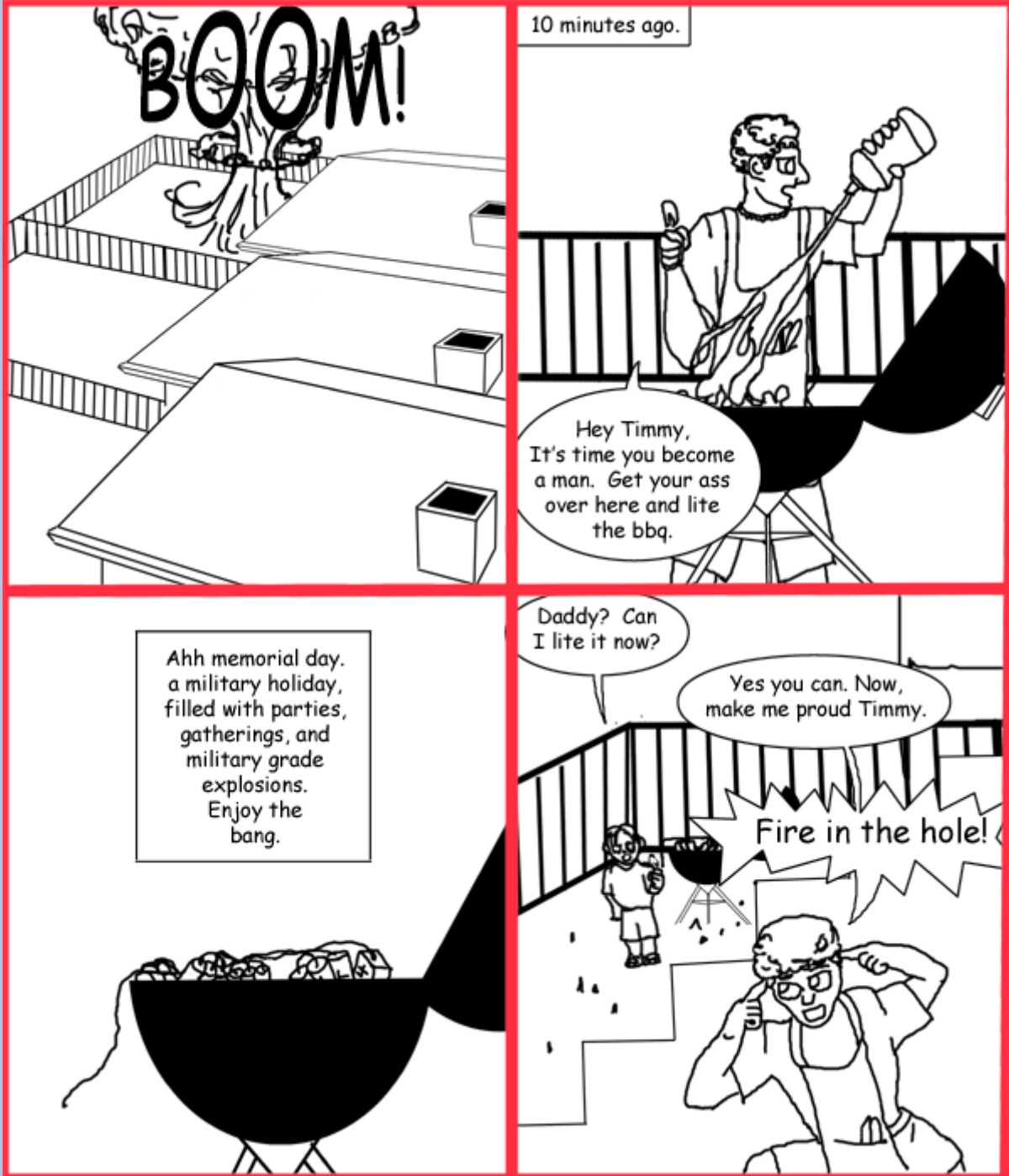
Workplace Etiquette (Project Communication)

2007-05-21



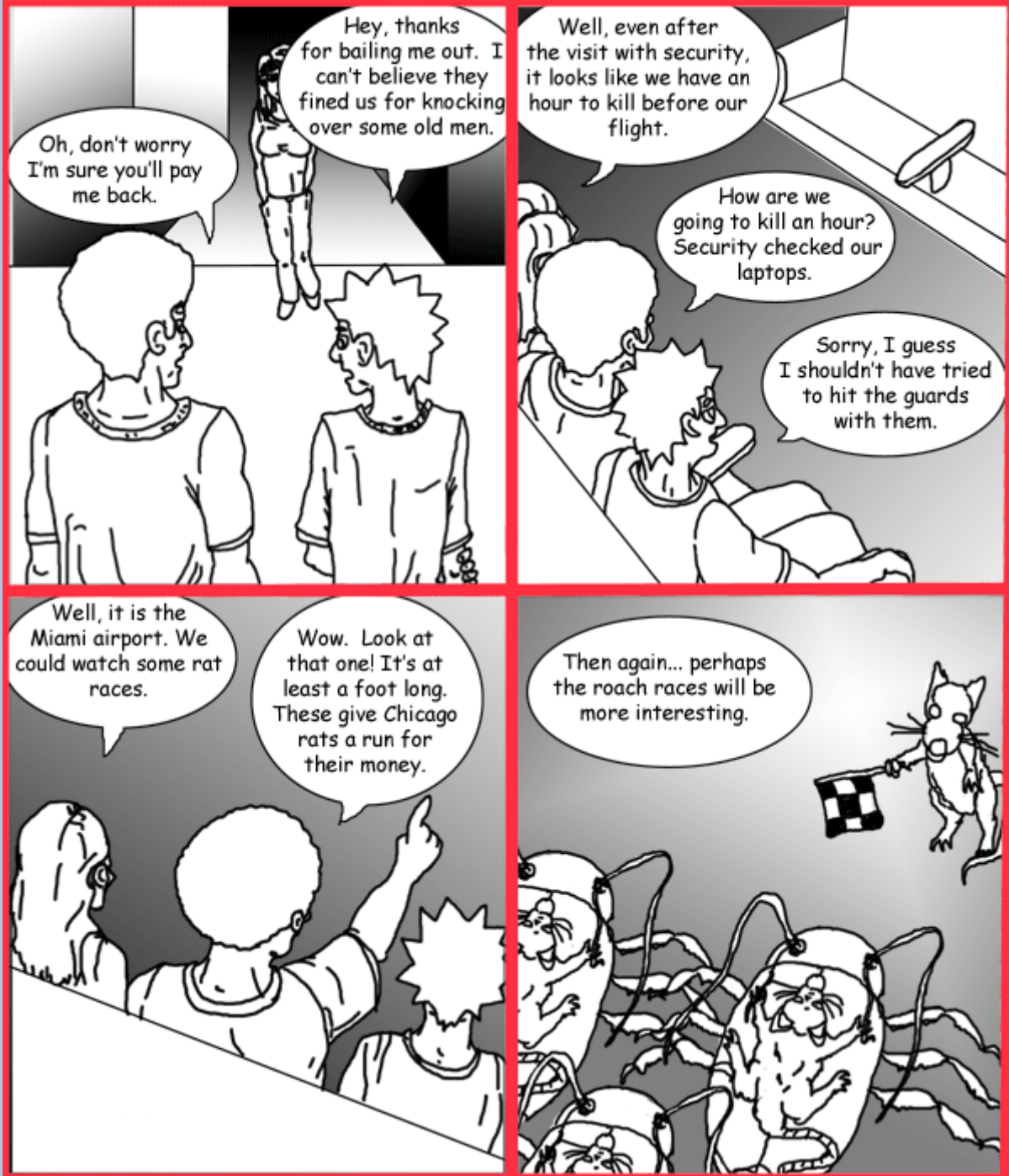
Peru, part 3

2007-05-23



Memorial Day Blast

2007-05-28



Peru, part 4

2007-05-30



Dance of the tired fool

2007-06-04



Force times distance equals no sleep.

Panel 1

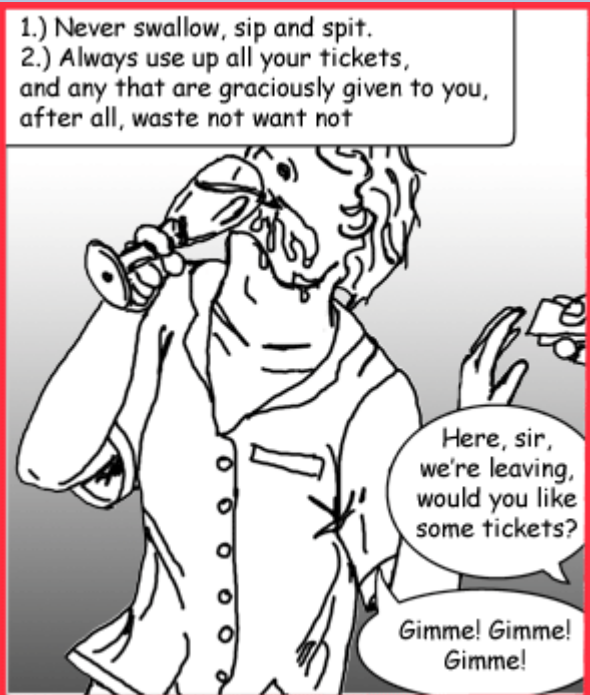
Caption: Friends don't let friends over work...

Panel 2

Caption: ...unless it's funny.

Never Sleep

2007-06-06

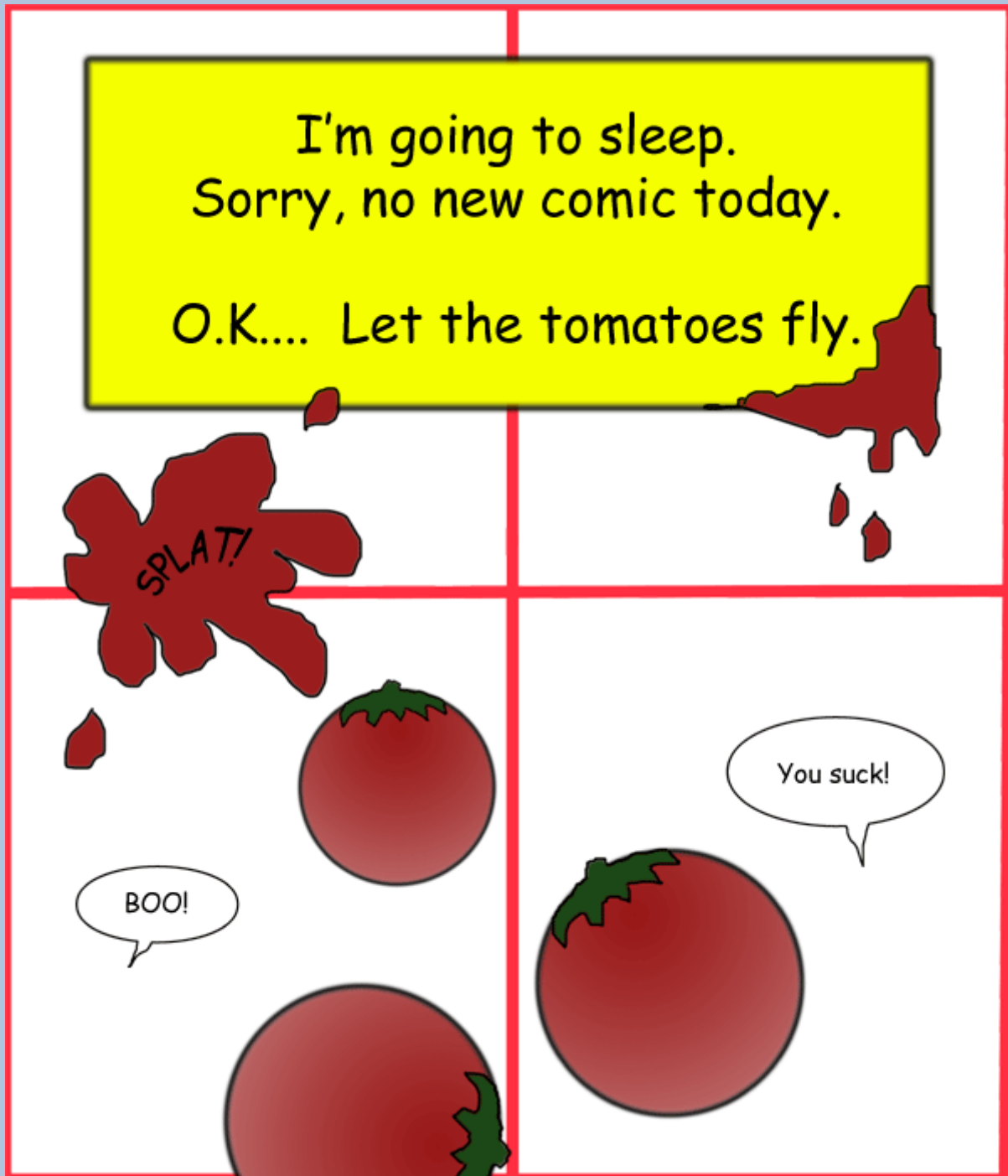


3.) Always respect the vendors.
4.) Never pour your own wine.



5. Most importantly, always keep your demeanor, and never do anything to embarrass yourself.





Vigorously and passionately.

Panel 1

Caption: I'm going to sleep. Sorry, no new comic today. O.K.... Let the tomatoes fly.

Panel 3

Reader 1: BOO!

Panel 4

Reader 2: You suck!

Splat
2007-06-13



Muhahahahaha! It's ALIVE!

Panel 1

Sign: Delays due to construction New comic on Tuesday

Delays
2007-06-18



Gary: "Every time I travel out of the country, I fear this will happen to me. I got my passport in 2001, for my first journey to Peru. At the time I looked very different. I had long hair, well long in the front at least. To get my picture taken, I ran to a Kinkos over lunch. There was a strong wind, I got a lift there from a friend, but still my hair did not survive. Mix in the fact that I was a bit frazzled because I was getting my passport rushed later that day, and I was working on some major programming projects at the time; and you get a rather horrendous [photo](#). A photo that makes me fear for my freedom everytime I have to use it. I fear that they won't believe that it's me, or worse that I'm some [crazy mad bomber](#). Luckily, so far, I have yet to be called on it."

Peru, part 5

2007-06-19



Gary: "OK, I'm guessing this comic is going to get a lot of questions. The garb donned by Jane is not traditional per say. Also, this comic does not fall into the Peru journey, though the garb it taken from an image of an Incan fertility god found on a deck of cards bought in the Lima airport. This comic was done, because [Summer Solstice](#) is [coming up](#), and it's as good a reason as any to throw a celebration. During summer solstice celebrations, there are groups of people who dress up and party old school [pagan](#) style. So the idea of mixing that dressing up with with some tribal rituals and the peruvian fertility god, seemed amusing. The person the character Jane is based on presented me with the idea, and it seemed funny. The comic was done in jest, like all the comics. It has no statement or historic background. Just a marker for a chance to party tomorrow."

Solstice break

2007-06-20



Gary: "This comic took me all of Sunday to create. Normally they don't take that long, but this time, I just stared at the blank screen. I hit a total block of ideas. There are people I know who would tell me, "duuuude.. wait for inspiration.", but that's seems like a bad idea. There are people I've heard speak who say that you simply have to work through it. That sounds a bit more likely, though it is a lot harder. So I sat there most of the day staring at it. I put in the movie [Head](#) by the [Monkees](#). That was a cool but trippy movie, and it didn't help me come up with any sane coherent thoughts.

Since TV was failing me for ideas, I thought through my work week, hoping I would find something, anything of some comedic value. A friend had IM'ed me an idea, unfortunately it was on another computer, one I didn't have access to, so that was out. Last week was pretty normal. I did my standard two hour each way commute, to then program for 8 hours to leave and come home exhausted, so I was having trouble picking out anything special. Then it hit me. Earlier in the week I had been reviewing an email to see why something had changed, and if the code was needed when I made the comment. "Wow. That's a vague and useless comment. 'A lot of changes.' Really descriptive." And then it was pointed out that it was my comment. Quickly I started to defend it. "Oh, well, I didn't know what the changes were for.. blah blah blah." Basically I did the completely wrong thing. Luckily my co-worker called me on it. "You were just about to berate the consultant for doing this, and now that it's your doing, you start to backtrack." It was true. I was being an ass, and because of that, I have come up with my programming rules.

Somehow I was able to break the mental block and cope. Yay for arrogance!"

Jacob: "I am da Master! Sho nuff!"

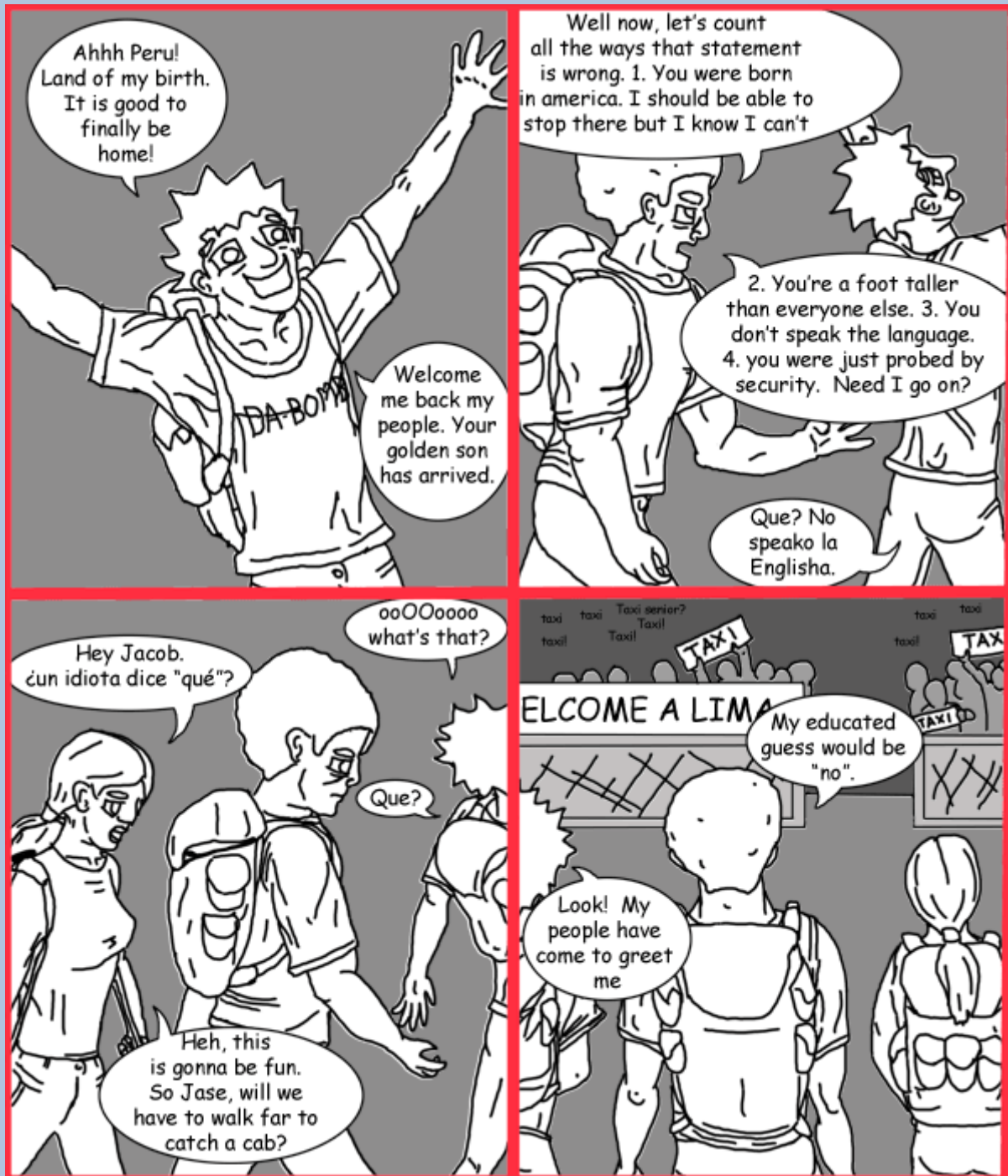
Gary: "Other items of note this past weekend, Stargate SG-1 ended. We finished rebuilding my dad's porch. Stargate Atlantis had it's season finally. I hit my finger with a sledge hammer, I hit my other finger with a regular hammer, and I hit my head into a low hanging ceiling."

Gary: "My brain freeze is over, I thought up a new comic on my 2 hour ride to work this morning."

Gary: "Fyi, I'll try to never use PS again on my comments, instead, I'll come up with real titles.. or something like that."

Steps to master programming

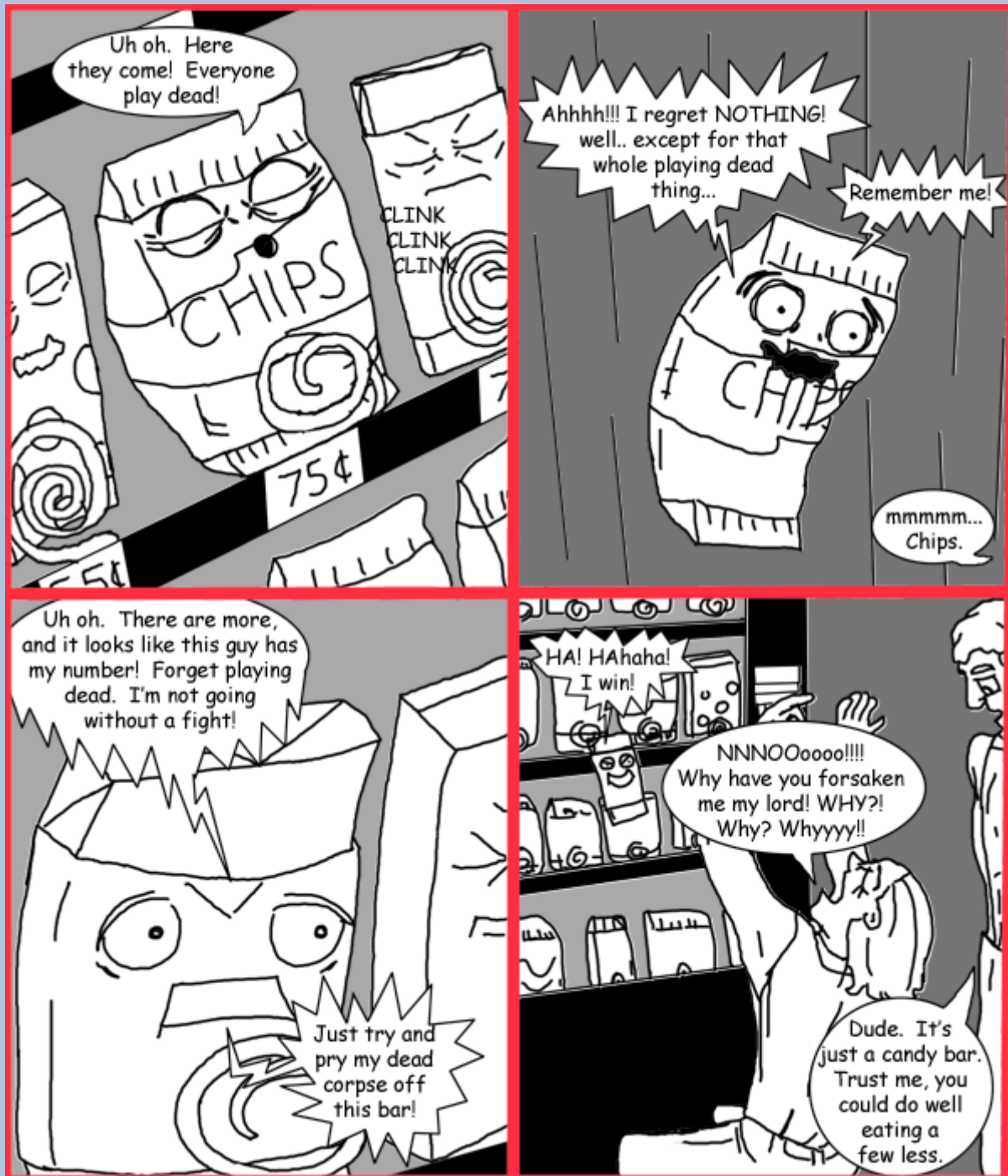
2007-06-25



Gary: "Ahh Peru. It was good to make it back there. This year's journey to Peru was my second time visiting it. A friend of mine was born there and has family there. The first trip was with him and some other friends. We went to see Peru and enjoy ourselves. My friend went for a family wedding. This time I went to see my friend get married. Well... to see that and to get back to Peru. [Peru](#) is a very cool [country](#). The people are very nice. [There is also some amazing landscapes in peru](#). Since its landmass is so spread out, it has a wide variety of land types. This was the first country outside of the US that I ever visited. Unfortunately the first thing I got to see when exiting the airport was a flock of [taxi drivers](#). Basically 30 or 40 people asking to carry your luggage, or be your taxi driver. "Take your bags sir?" "Where you headed?" "Cheapest taxi" "taxi" This was definitely unexpected, but it wasn't really bad, and it beat my first trip to Leeds (England), where I was offered (within a matter of minutes of leaving my hotel) pot and a prostitute, and I was hit up for change by a bum in front of the guy selling the pot. All the taxis in an unorganized manner was just a little culture shock, more funny than annoying or scary. If any of you have a chance to visit Peru, I highly recommend it."

Peru, part 6

2007-06-27

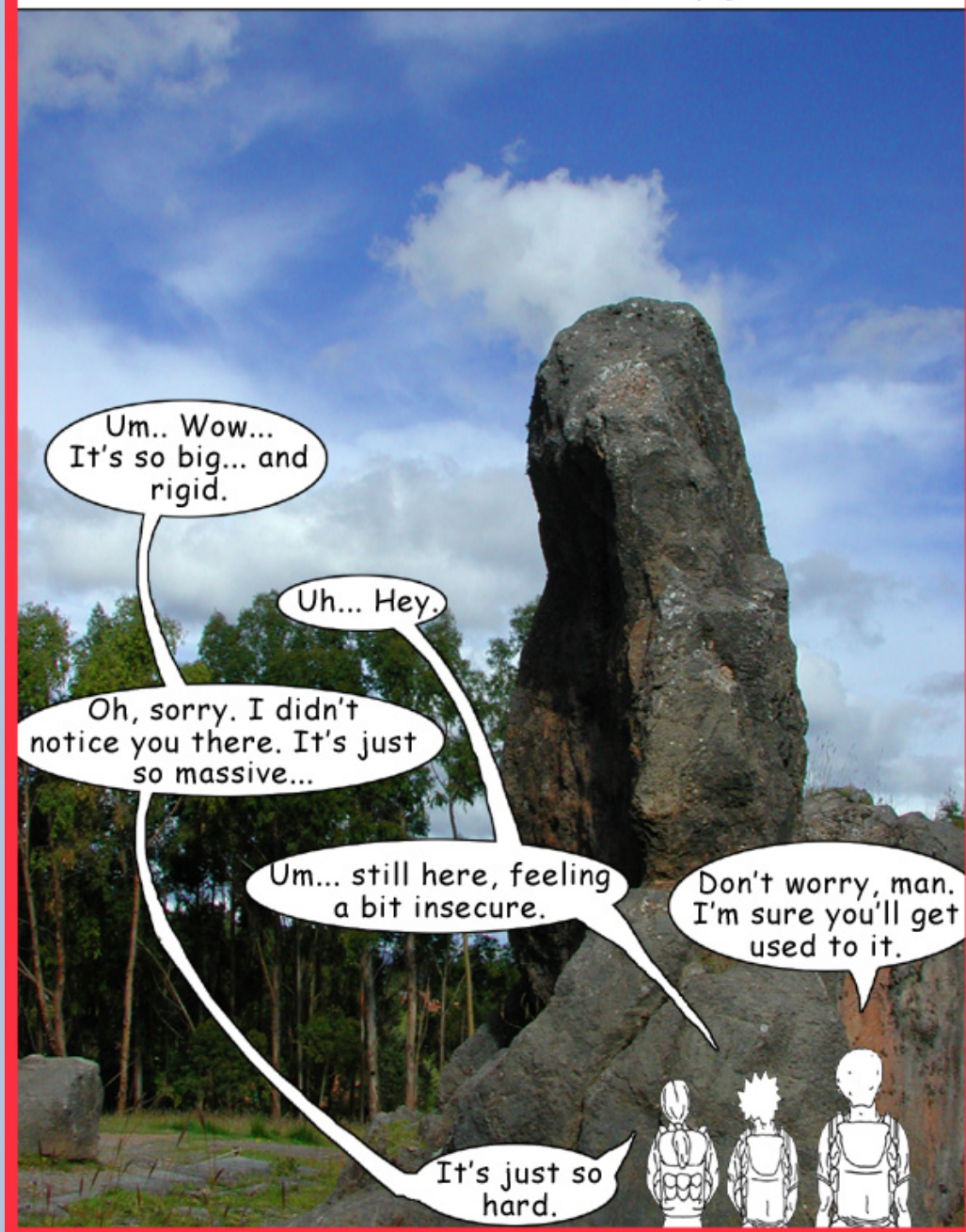


Gary: "The fates can be so cruel. Last week, I walked into the lunch room and saw [this](#). At first I didn't know what it was, but [then on closer inspection](#), I saw just how harsh life was for someone. I can only assume it played out like [this](#). This weekend I tried playing [Marvel Ultimate Alliance](#) multiplayer with someone at my place. The lag was horrid. I love this game, but it is basically a direct port from the consoles, so when one plays it on PC, they notice the kludgy controls, and the lack of PC specific things, like LAN play. When we were playing, we played "online play". It was somewhat sad, since it is such a good game, but perhaps I'll stick with other games for LAN adventures. Also, [this comic](#) marks 3 months of rm -r. It seems I can maintain the comic. If I could keep it going for 3 months, then I could keep it going indefinitely, or so my theory to my self went. This means if you want to tell someone about the comic, feel free. This comic will be updated on Monday and Wednesday for the foreseeable future."

The sweet die young

2007-07-02

As soon as the team arrives in Cusco, they go on a tour.



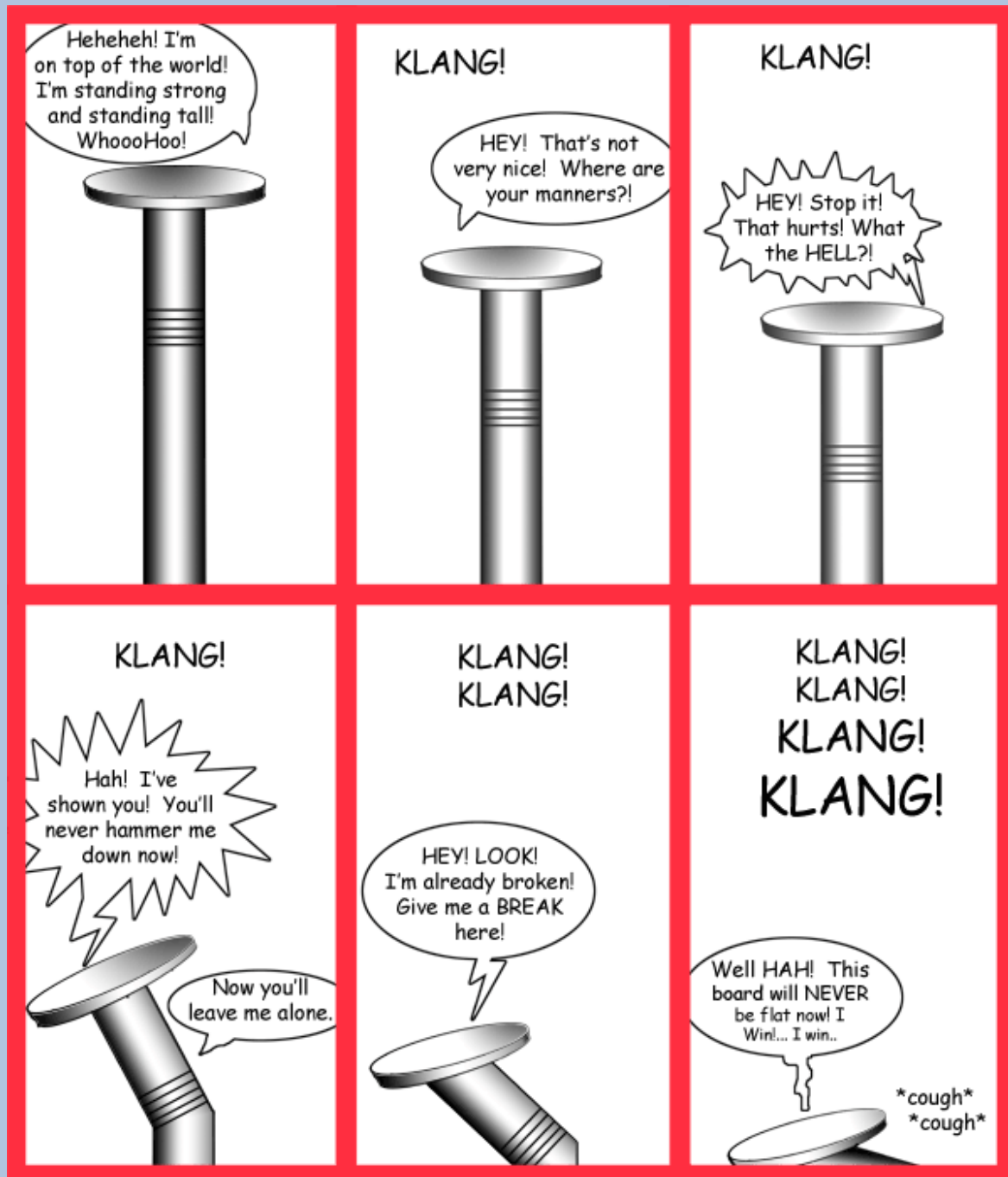
Gary:"If you're in the United States of America, and it is July 4th, and you're reading this... STOP!. Go outside. Go run and play. Take a walk. Char some meat. Skewer some vegetables. Dance, sing, garden, play baseball, play tennis, play outside, lay in the grass, stare at the clouds, go to a park, go to the beach, sit on your porch sipping iced tea. Do something. Something outside. This is your day off of work. Enjoy it. They are so few. This comic should be here tomorrow, I might even have comments up that are directly related to this comic, tomorrow. Life is short, enjoy it. If you're in the tech industry, you know how rarely you get to see the outside world. Do it now. Breathe in fresh.. or somewhat fresh air, and bask in the bright burning rays of the ominous and frightening day star. If it's raining, go stand in the rain and feel something real for a short while... but um.. leave your electronics inside. Trust me. The shocks are fun, but when the camera or laptop stops responding, it just leads to despair. I too plan to go outside and enjoy some large bangs and bright lights given to me by the illustrious city Chicago. I'll update the comments tonight sometime, with images of The tour I took when I arrived at Cusco. Until then however... I shall brave the outside... maybe... it is sorta bright out there... that star does look awfully close... it IS a nice temperature inside... heh."

Gary:"Sorry, I got caught up in a fireworks display, I'll get the Cusco images and description up late Thursday some time."

Gary:"Here are some pics of the ruins I toured around Cusco. [\[Link\]](#) They aren't cropped or edited, and they're using php to resize, so not the best of the best quality. If you want to see one in better quality, let me know."

Peru, part 7

2007-07-04



Gary: "Today's comic is based off the old Japanese adage, "[The nail that sticks up, gets hammered down.](#)" Sometimes I feel like that's the case, and we all stick up initially. Lately however it seems like the hammering down was slightly skewed, or perhaps I'm an alloy or thinner metal. In the end, it's left me a bit bent. This weekend, like last, I spent one day feeling sick, probably due to exhaustion, and one day zoning out. I'm also going to use that and an excuse for today's comic. Heh. So during one of my brief moments of clarity, where I decided to go get something to drink, I left my house and walked down the street. It was a beautiful day. The sun was out. The trees shimmered with bright and dark greens due to the intense sun, and down the street, I saw the strangest thing on a power line. Something tells me, [this](#), is not the way to plug something in. That wire, up there, is actually a power cord. I wonder if the person learned not to plug in appliances like this the easy way or the hard way. I was actually going to go into a long rant about nails being hammered down, but perhaps later. "

Jacob: "Sometimes you're the hammer. Other times, you're the nail. Today? Today I think I'll be the hammer."

Jase: "Go knock yourself out then."

The nail that sticks up

2007-07-09



Jase: "Wow.. I feel so shakey."

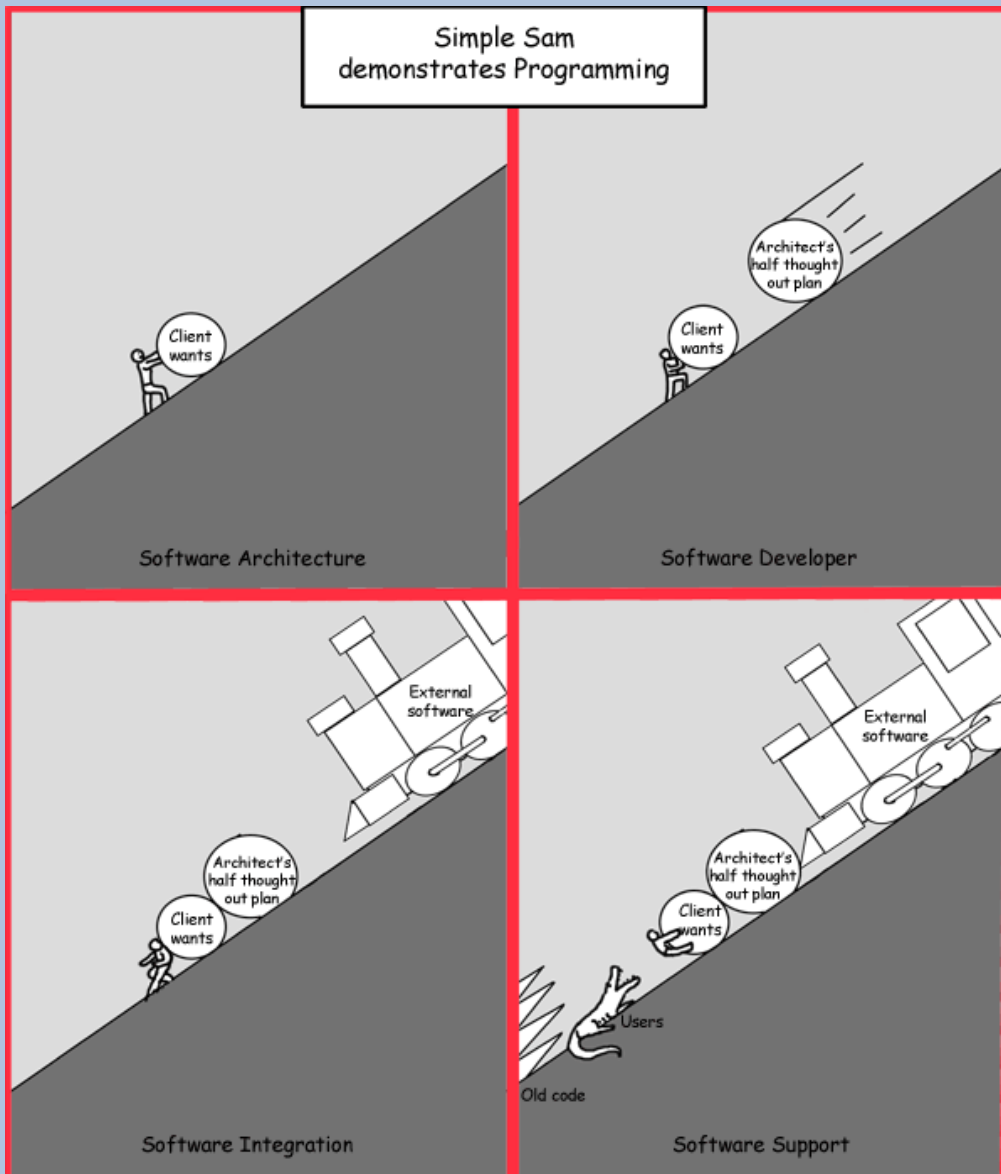
Jacob: "You call THIS commitment to getting the comic out?"

Jane: "Huh.. I seem to remember this more vividly than it appears here."

Gary: "Ok, ok.. so today's comic is a quartz in the ruff. No? Sandstone in the rough? No? Well, ok then. So this comic is based on reality. This time when I got to Peru, for my [friend](#)'s wedding, (Ok... so maybe that's not him. but it amuses me all the same.), we settled into our hotel for 30 minutes and then went on some local tours, part 7. When we got back from that, there was a dinner with the whole group, welcoming us to Peru and thanking everyone for coming down for the wedding. The food was great. There was music. There was dancing. It was a lot of fun, but by this point I had been up a little over 48 hours straight, and Cusco is a lot higher so I started to really feel bad. After the dinner I went back to my hotel and I started puking up a lot. Turns out i was very dehydrated and burned out. Luckily Jen decided to skip the hike to Machu Pichu (against my advice), and venture out into Cusco in search of some sort of Gatorade or Powerade. She searched for a few hours, and finally found a place that had it. She bought them out. Towards the end of the day, I was feeling a lot better, but Jen was feeling bad. She got the rest of the Powerade, and then the next day I went looking. Powerade was EVERYWHERE. So I bought some and brought it to her. When she was feeling a little better, we started to explore the city more, and Powerade was everywhere. It turns out Powerade is a Coca-Cola product, and Coke owns South America, especially Peru. Ok, I'll add more later, probably by Friday, including photos of Cusco."

Peru, part 8

2007-07-11



Those are some mighty grippy shoes.

Panel 1

Caption: Simple Sam demonstrates Programming

Boulder 1: Client wants

Caption: Software Architecture

Panel 2

Boulder 1: Client wants

Boulder 2: Architect's half thought out plan

Caption: Software Developer

Panel 3

Boulder 1: Client wants

Boulder 2: Architect's half thought out plan

Train: External software

Caption: Software Integration

Panel 4

Spikes: Old code

Croc: Users

Boulder 1: Client wants

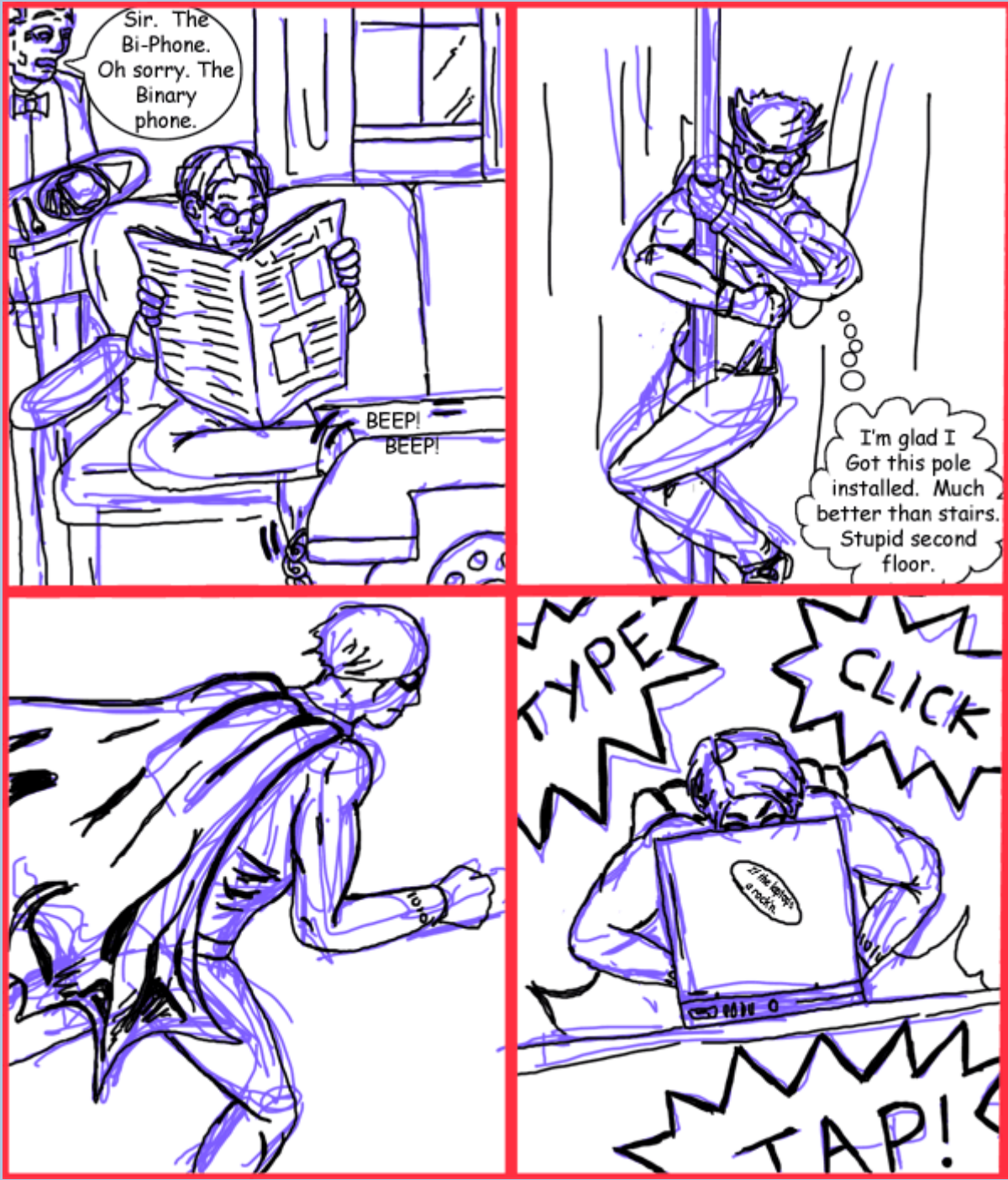
Boulder 2: Architect's half thought out plan

Train: External software

Caption: Software Support

Where do you fall?

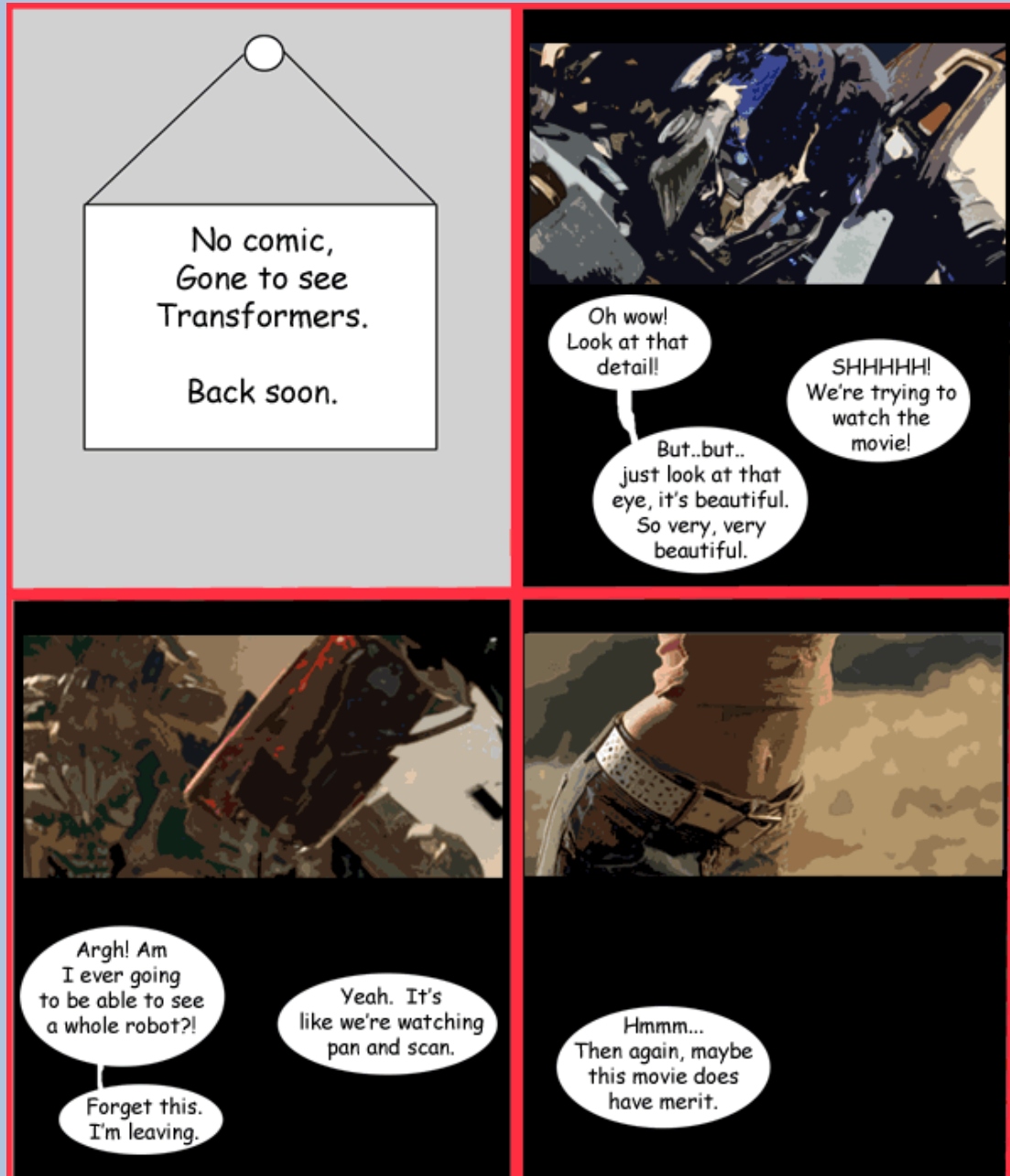
2007-07-16



Gary: "Sorry, I've been lacking on the comments and on the quality lately. I've been rather busy work wise and last week I was sick for most of it. I will get back on this soon."

Late Night Coder to the rescue

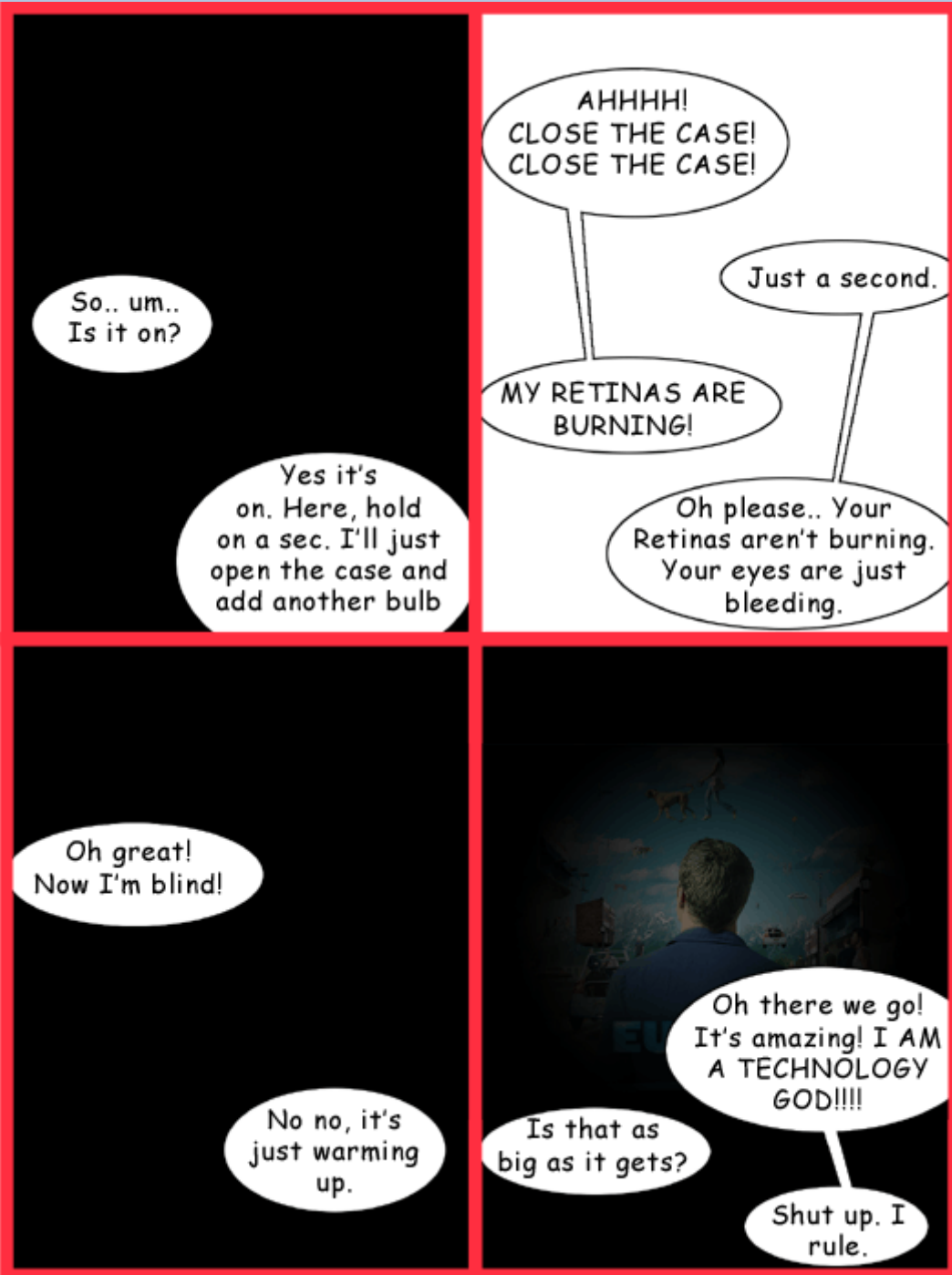
2007-07-18



Gary: "Sorry for the recent lack of comments on things. I'll go back and add them, hopefully soon. I've been working over the weekend lately, and I'm starting to build a projector. So, this weekend I made it out to see [Transformers](#) and the new [Harry Potter](#) film, [The Order of the Phoenix](#). Both were good, but not amazing in my opinion. Both were rather long, and yet there were things I wanted to see in more depth. Now in order for me to explain what I mean, I would have to do spoilers, so I'm breaking that into another page. I suggest you watch the movies before reading these. (Not yet live) [Transformers Potter](#). Now both movies were enjoyable. The humor in Transformers was great. It was delivered in a very non-forced manner. The dialog, for the most part, flowed very nicely. Visually, it's effects were stunning, a bit busy, but very cool. Unfortunately, who ever story boarded it, or did the camera work, sucked. I know the "new" thing is to make things a little shaky, and then zoom in during action scenes so you can't see anything, but that is getting very very old for me. Just once I'd like to actually see the scene and not just flailing body parts, or robot gears. Perhaps someday. Best part of Transformers.. Optimus Prime's voice. It sounded a lot like the original, to me. Harry Potter was well shot like all the previous ones. Gorgeous flying scenes and backgrounds. The acting is better in this one than previous ones, probably because the cast is getting older and learning more. The story was definitely fun. There are also some of the best wizardry fights I've seen in a movie so far. Unfortunately, I never tried reading the books, so I can't know how it's going to end for another 2 years, but I have my theories. Once all the movies are over, I'll most likely try to read the series. Right now, I'm reading [book 2](#) of the ["A Song of Ice and Fire"](#) series. It's a great book. I highly recommend this series to people out there. OK, time for me to stop typing. I should have some photos of my projector project with my next post. "

More than meets the eye

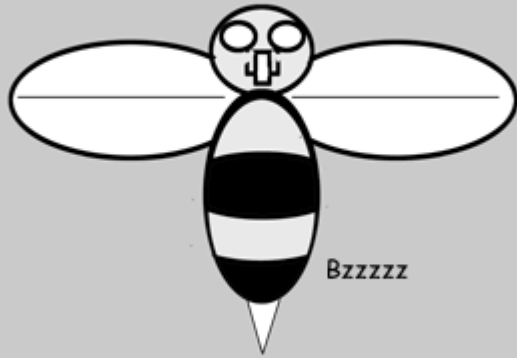
2007-07-23



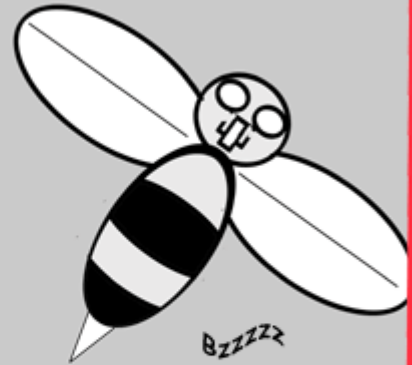
Projector madness, take one

2007-07-25

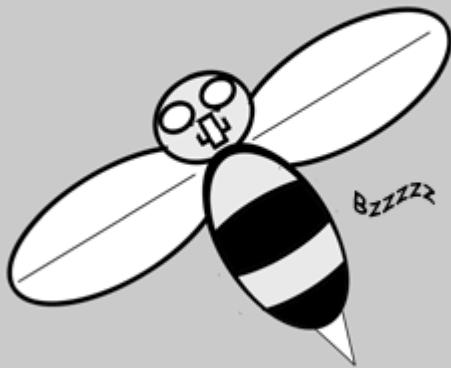
Busy as a bee-ver.



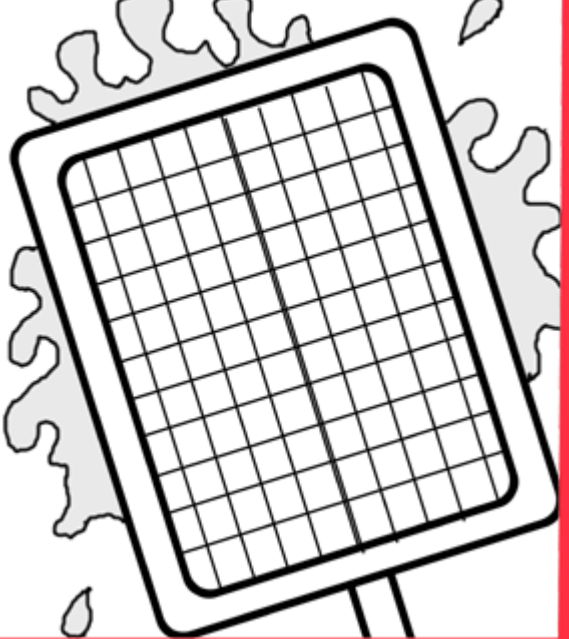
Bee back soon.



Why? Bee-cause.

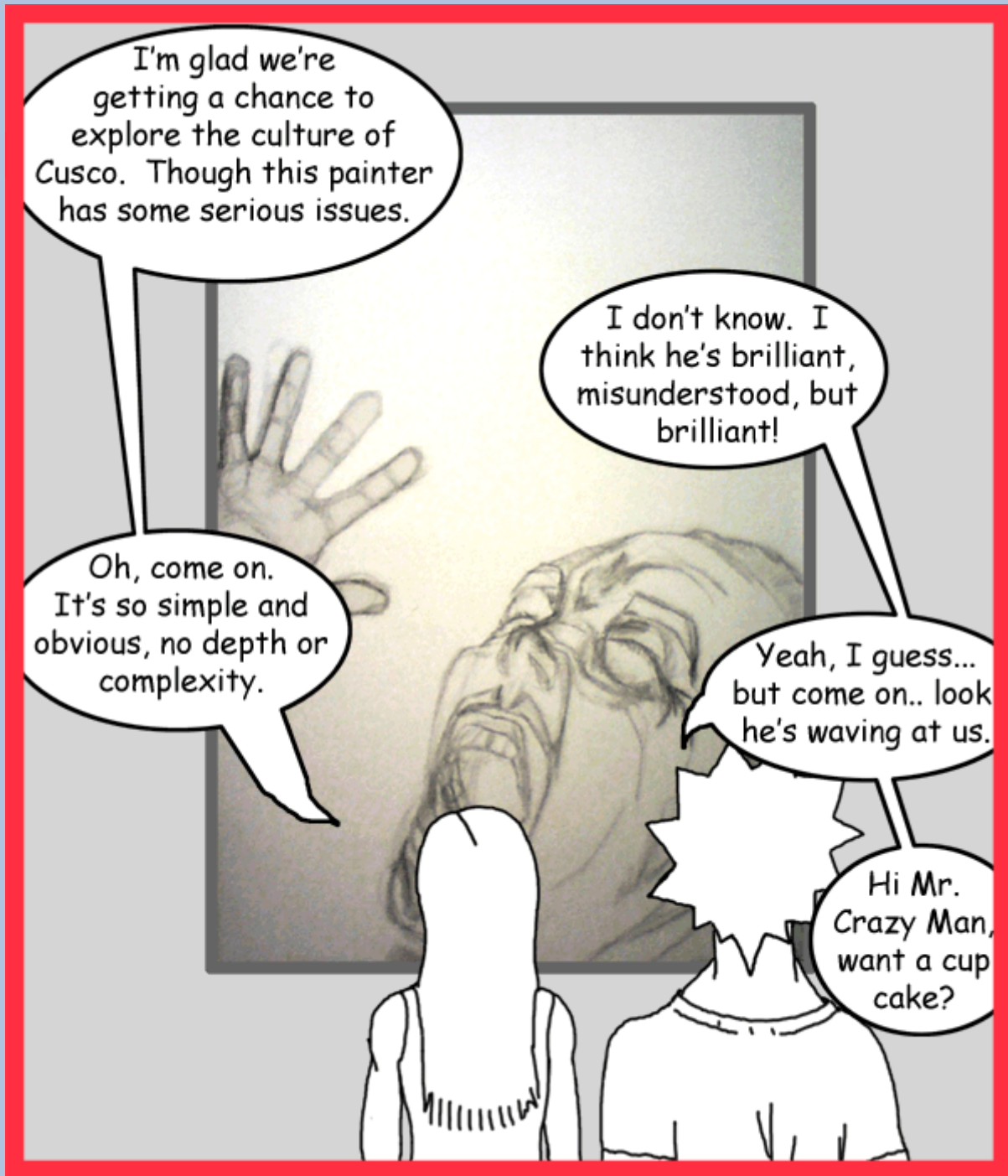


GARY SMASH PUNNY BUG!



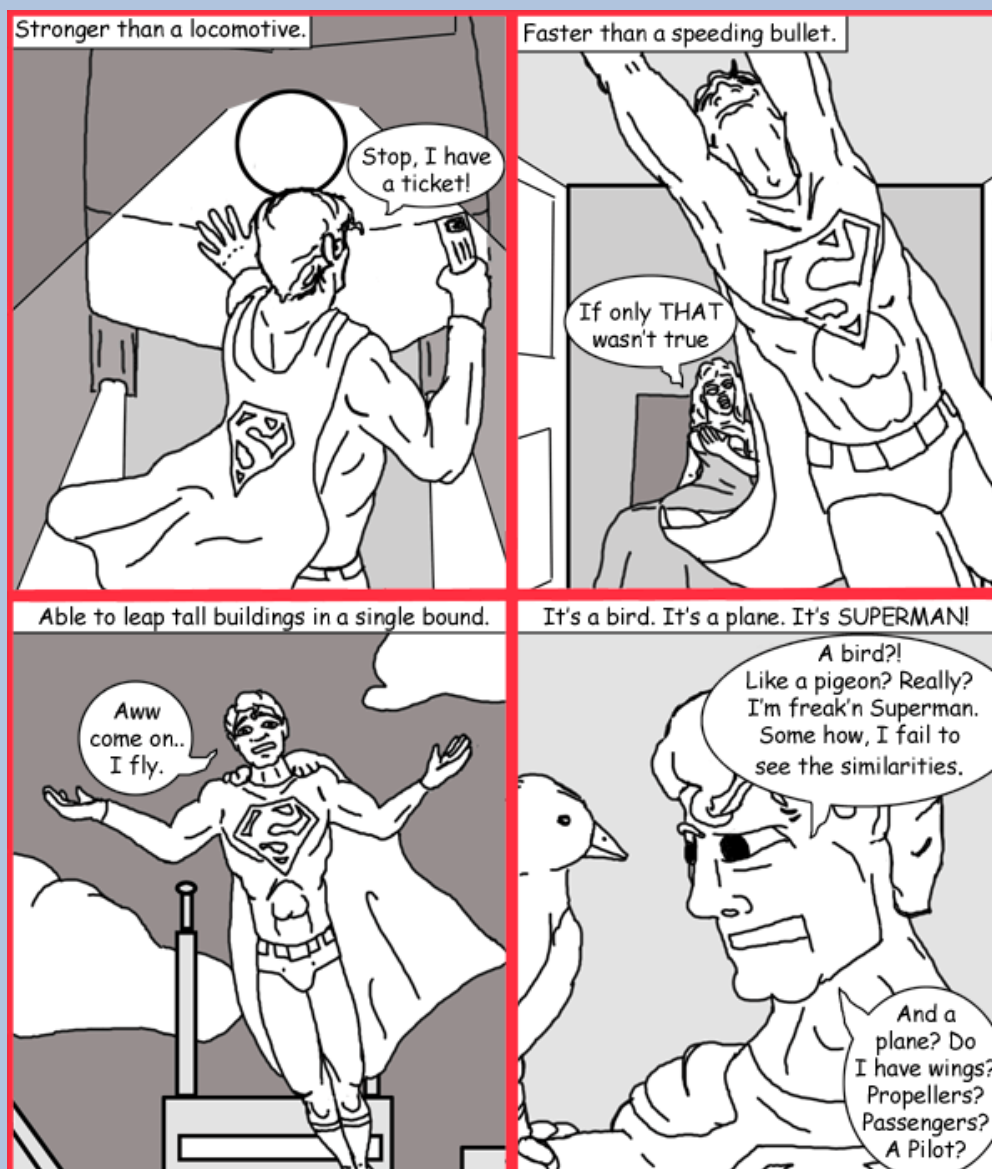
Punny bug!

2007-07-30



Peru, part 9

2007-08-01



Gary: "I had great ambitions for this weekend. Jen is out of town, so I was going to be productive and finish up some work projects, finish a painting, do both comics for this week, help out with an Aikido intro class at my dojo, get my hair cut, see an eye doctor, and many many other things. Unfortunately, I've been working every day for the last 3 or 4 weeks, so I was tired, and I lost my will to do work. I also woke up late Sunday, so that meant no helping with the intro class. So instead, I slept, did artsy stuff, and surfed the web. What does this mean for you my loyal readers? It means some photos of a painting I'm working on, and lot's and lot's of links. The painting: It's called "Echoless" Here are the first 3 stages, initial sketch, base coat, background work. Now, since [Wizard World](#) is coming to Chicago this Thursday to Sunday (August 9th-12th). I've done a Superman comic, and I have a bunch of Superman links below. FYI, I'll be visiting Wizard World, obviously as an attendee. Since the skit cuts off short, [here's the transcript](#). five for fighting Superman wow... it's real, I thought it was a bad dream but then again, automan was also real, and not just a bad dream, so why not superboy and since we're on the subject, manimal and.. misfits of science with Courtney Cox five for fighting - 100 years (real video). I just love this song... Secret Wars serenity (Five for Fighting song... sorry, I like thier music). Cool computer physics prog. It's really basic, but the handdrawing recognition is interesting. Now, the thing originally lead me to you tube Saturday night, was [this](#) great comic book blog. Here are some links from it. [Link Link Link Link Link](#) And now some more [Bored in K-Mart? Gotta love friends. Um... somtimes I guess you don't know you're the largest. Old Joke about an english paper Music cats A bit freaky](#) ... and to end it all, a strange image. "

Gary: "Just a little advice, I say with an exhausted voice. If you have the choice, and are offered a job that requires 2 hours of commute each way, RUN! Run as if you are being chased by plague carrying zombies! Eventually you will grow to hate the exhaustion you feel every day. You'll dislike the constant 12 hour days (without overtime). Wasting 4 hours a day feels just like that, a waste. It also keeps you from have much of a life, up by 5:30am to get to work by 8:10, to leave at 5pm to get home or to anything you want to do by 7pm. This advice is really just me ranting because I'm tired as always, and because the one thing I love to do, train (Aikido), I never seem to be able to do. I get to train 1 to 2 times a week now, and when I'm there, half the time I'm too exhausted to think. Sigh.. oh well. Just some advice, a 2 hour commute, hell, a 1 hour commute, really isn't worth it. OK, time for me to work."

Up in the sky!

2007-08-06

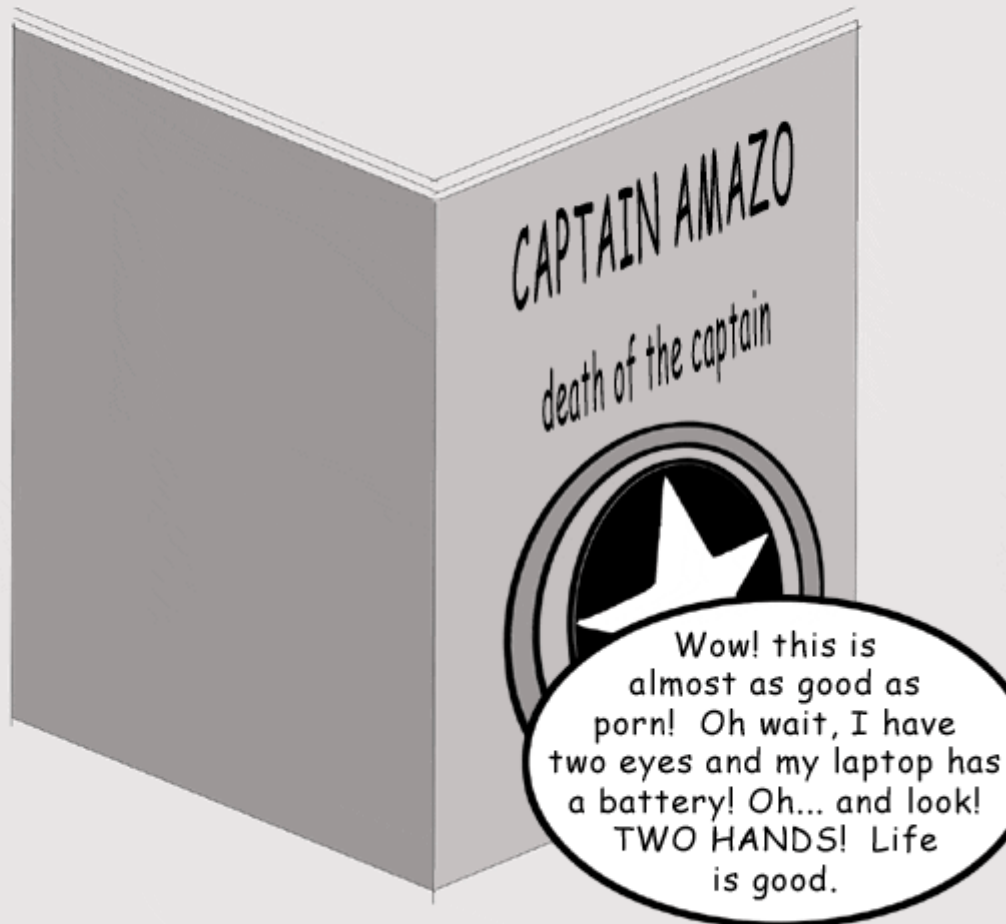


Gary: "I missed her. Jen was out of town for a bit, so instead of doing the comic, I'm gonna hang out with her for a bit."

WizardWorld 07

2007-08-13

The author has bought lots of comics and is currently by passing sleep and food for the sheer enjoyment of reading. He will most likely return after her realizes that he has no more light, because we cut off his power. That'll show him. Ignoring us like a jock at a comic book convention. The punk!



Uh oh, it appears as if all is lost. Sorry loyal readers.

Now there are two ways to go blind.

Panel 1

Caption: The author has bought lots of comics and is currently by passing sleep and food for the sheer enjoyment of reading. He will most likely return after he realizes that he has no more light, because we cut off his power. That'll show him. Ignoring use like a jock at a comic book convention. The punk!

Gary Marks: Wow! this is almost as good as porn! Oh wait, I have two eyes and my laptop has a battery! Oh... and look! TWO HANDS! Life is good.

Caption: Uh oh, it appears as if all is lost. Sorry loyal readers.

Gary: "Soooooo tired... and sore.. it's uh... because of martial arts? Yeah, that's it. That's why I'm tired. It's got nothing to do with comic books."

The two staples of life

2007-08-15

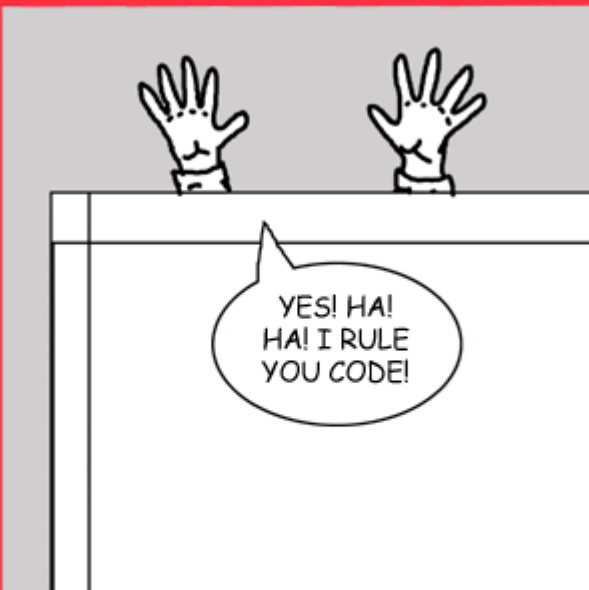
When sharing on open office space, there are certain courtesies one should follow.



Take personal cell phone conversations outside the open space. They have the tendency to be distracting



Keep your workplace tidy. Remember, your workspace now reflects on everyone.



Please try not to have too many outbursts. After all, you probably don't have turrets.



When decorating your portion of the cube, remember that everyone might not share your fine tastes and hobbies.

Gary: "So yeah. I've been moved into an open office with a bunch of other developers. I've been in this situation before, and this Monday's comic is about the things I remember. It's also about the things I've done. There are occasions where I've .. um... "decorated" my cube and/or other's cubes. It was fun, perhaps I'll put up some photos at some point."

Open office etiquette

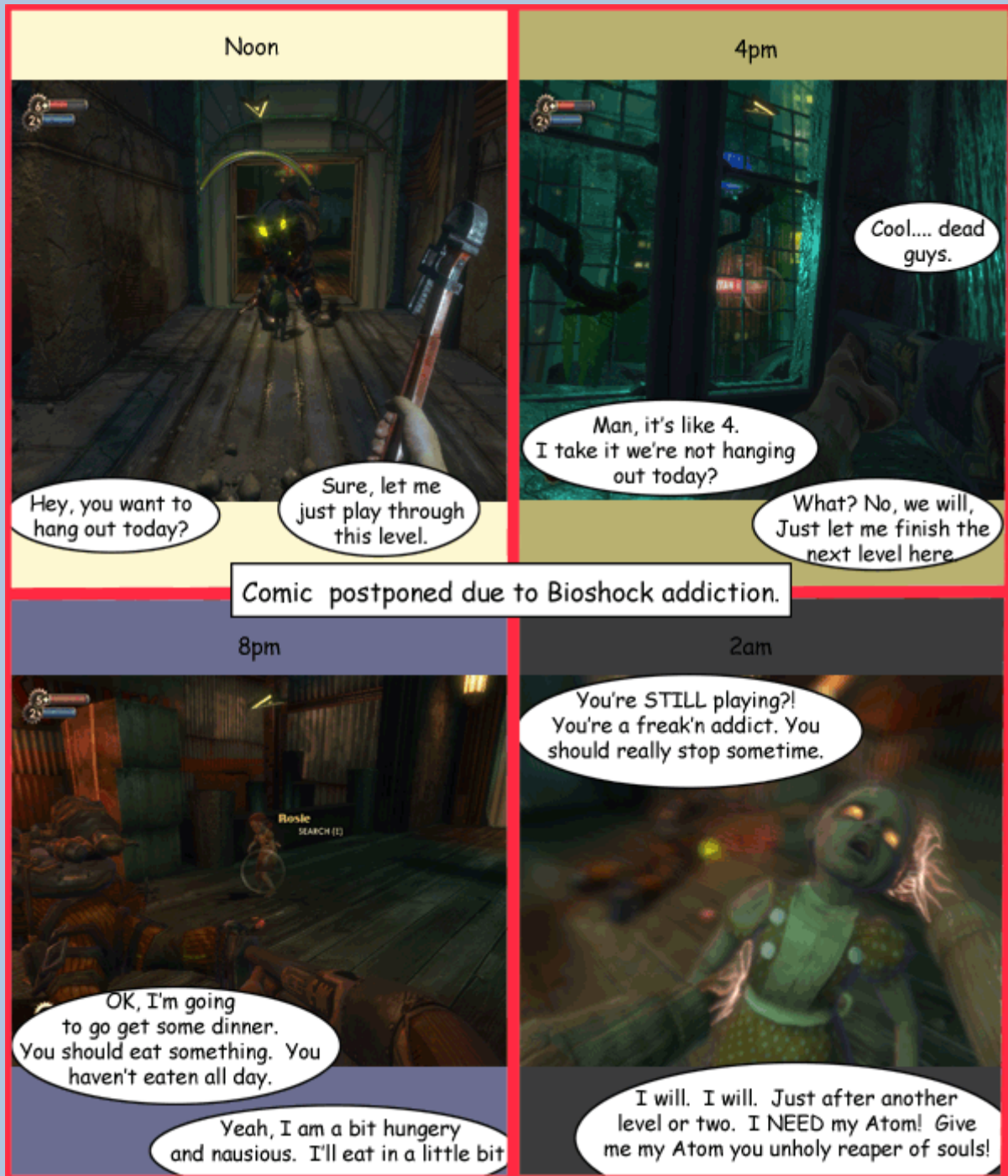
2007-08-20



Gary:"Ok, I'm nipping this one in the bud. So to speak. This did not happen, though it was promised. Promises were not up kept! Time to demand a refund! heh. So yeah, this was jokingly thrown around before the trip, while drinking at another friend's bachelor party. Then I say clerks two, and the image of the mule haunted my dreams for many a day. I would wake up screaming in cold sweats, then remember the movie and start laughing hysterically. It was a very strange few years... (no, not really.. yes. really.. no.. yes.. no...). Hmmm.. that last display of strangeness is a good sign that I should eat some dinner and get to sleep."

Peru, part 10, Lama, lama, lama

2007-08-22



Gary: "What can I say? Bioshock is a great game. I lost all of Saturday to it. I started playing at 1pm and when I looked up, it was 9:30pm and my eyes hurt, I was a bit nauseous, and I had a headache. Around 10pm I stopped playing and tried to eat something. I was unsuccessful. Instead I just went to sleep. It's been a while since I've played a game like that. It is a very fun game though. It's all about the ambiance, and the story. I wholly recommend it. It's not really a game for kids though. It has a lot of violence in it, a creepy atmosphere, and some adult concepts."

Atom addict

2007-08-27

A brilliant man stares down the storm. Daring it to try and take him.



A brave man stands proudly at the face of the coming storm laughing at its power.



A smart man runs for cover and waits out the storm warm and secure.



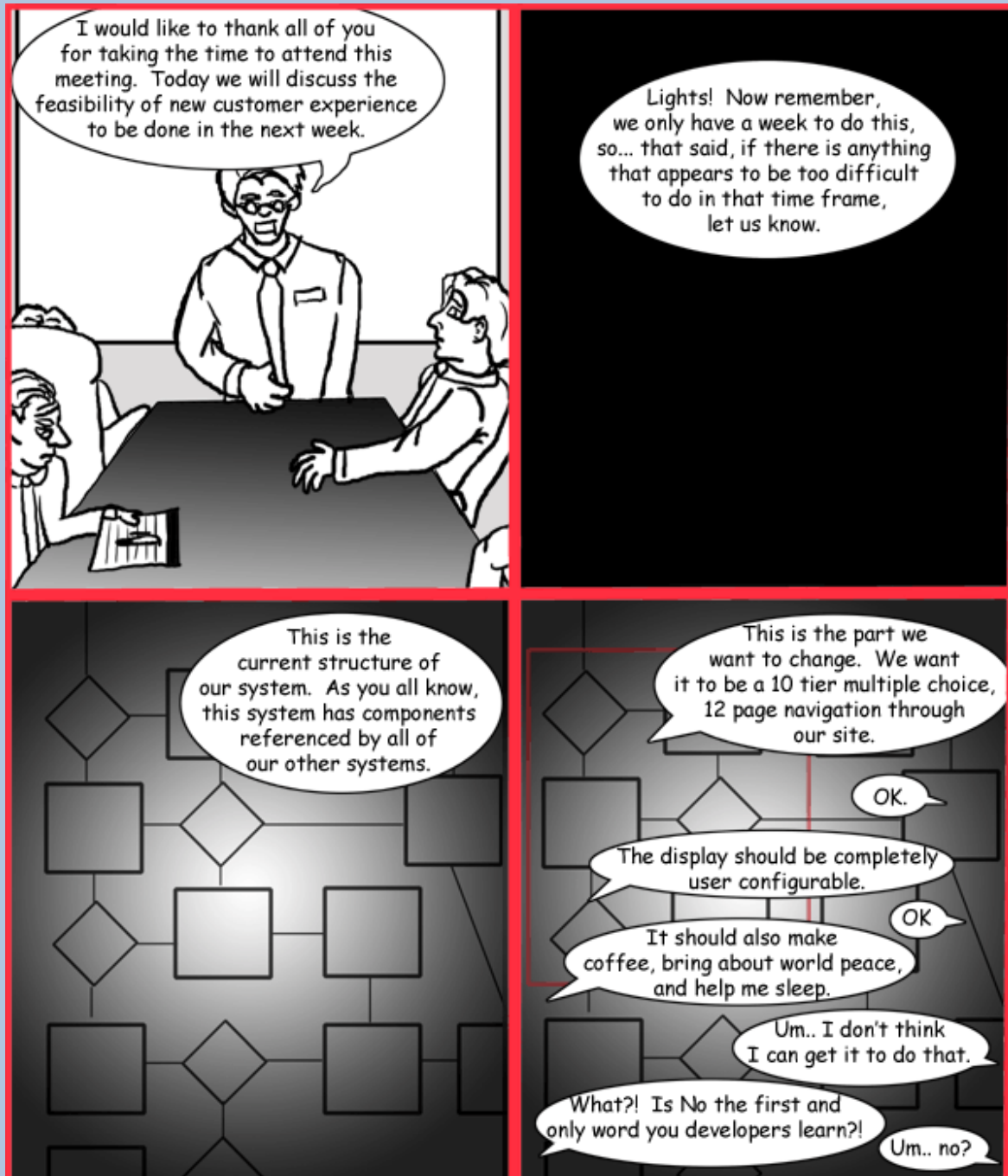
A fool runs out into the storm laughing giddily trying to take the perfect photo.

Gary: "So.. last week, Chicago was hit with a [little rain](#). So, on this day, I was working remotely and talking to a co-worker online about testing patterns and what we would call them so we could keep them straight, when he tells me that the office had to go take cover incase of tornados. My reply was something along the lines of, "What?". I'm quick of wit you see. No, I replied with, but it's bright out. Then I looked outside and saw that it was noon and getting dark. Then the rain came. I ran and got my camera. Then for about five minutes, I watched the storm, taking photos. Within about 30 seconds of doing that, I was drenched. I then went back to work, as people's power went out. Later that night, I had to go to the dojo. It was still raining. The dojo I go to is 3 miles from my apartment. I took the el, but I still got drenched. My Gi, which was in my backpack, got long streaks of being drenched. It was actually a lot of fun, and hey, I got a bunch of photos from my camera and phone."

Gary: "[Images Sideways video\(3.3MB\)](#) [And then I remembered to turn my camera around.\(16.4MB\)](#)"

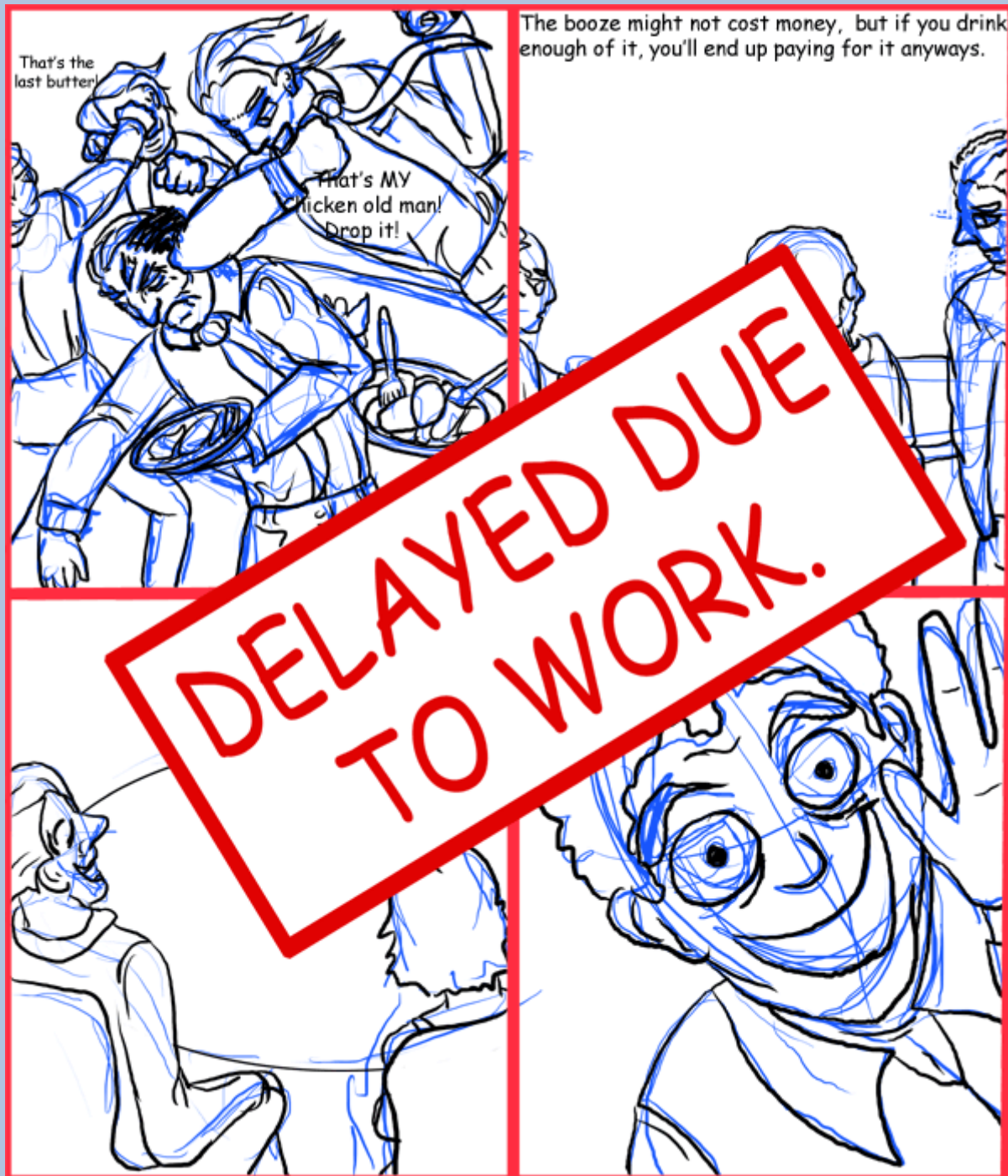
Bring forth the rain!

2007-08-29



Gary: "I sincerely apologize to anyone waiting on today's comic. Unfortunately, I had a busy day, and I wasted 1/2 a day earlier this weekend playing Bioshock, so today's comic was up 47 seconds late. I will try my best to see to it that this never happens again. So now, on to the meeting last week. So I was in this meeting discussing what would or would not be easily possible for someone, who doesn't know our system or programming, to do to change the look and feel of our system. The first few things they asked, I was perfectly fine with. They were pretty safe CSS things. Then they started asking about some larger structure changes, things that are output dynamically and controlled with rather mind boggling difficult javascript. At this point I started to tell them what wouldn't be possible in their time frame, and I started to explain why, when I was cut off. "Why is it developers only know the word no? Is that the first thing you guys learn?" At this point I'm very tempted to leap over the conference room table and slap some sense into the guy, but that would've been just as unprofessional as the comment, so I let it slide. I know we developers sometimes say no, but so does every one else. "We need sales to increase by 800%, no later than next week." "No." "We need to have an underwater skyscraper that can act as a spacecraft." "Um.. cool, but no." etc.. It was a fun moment in my life and it gave me a comic, so I can't complain too much. I thought I had heard it all in meetings, I guess I haven't. Live and learn. Live and learn. "

No.
2007-09-03



Gary: "Sorry the comic isn't done, I't 4:45am and I've just gotten home after working a 19+ hour day. Gee that was fun. Oh and did I mention that I have a 9am flight to catch, and I haven't packed. Oh yeah, and it takes 30 minutes to an hour to get to the airport, so I'm leaving at 6:30/7. Boy will this be fun. I'll update the site when I get back. Hope you all have a good week."

Gary: "7am... been up for 15 min... I can almost feel my arms. Sooo tired, I want to go back to sleep. Must catch a flight though. 1 to 1.5 hours of sleep does not equal enough sleep."

Gary: "Well, I've made it here, for what little I've seen, before I crashed for 15 hours it's cool. Relaxing, near the Hudson. Soo I get to eat breakfast and then travel some more. This next set of travel is to get me to the city where the wedding will take place, hopefully in time for Jen to make it to the rehearsal. OK, tim e for a late breakfast."

Man overboard

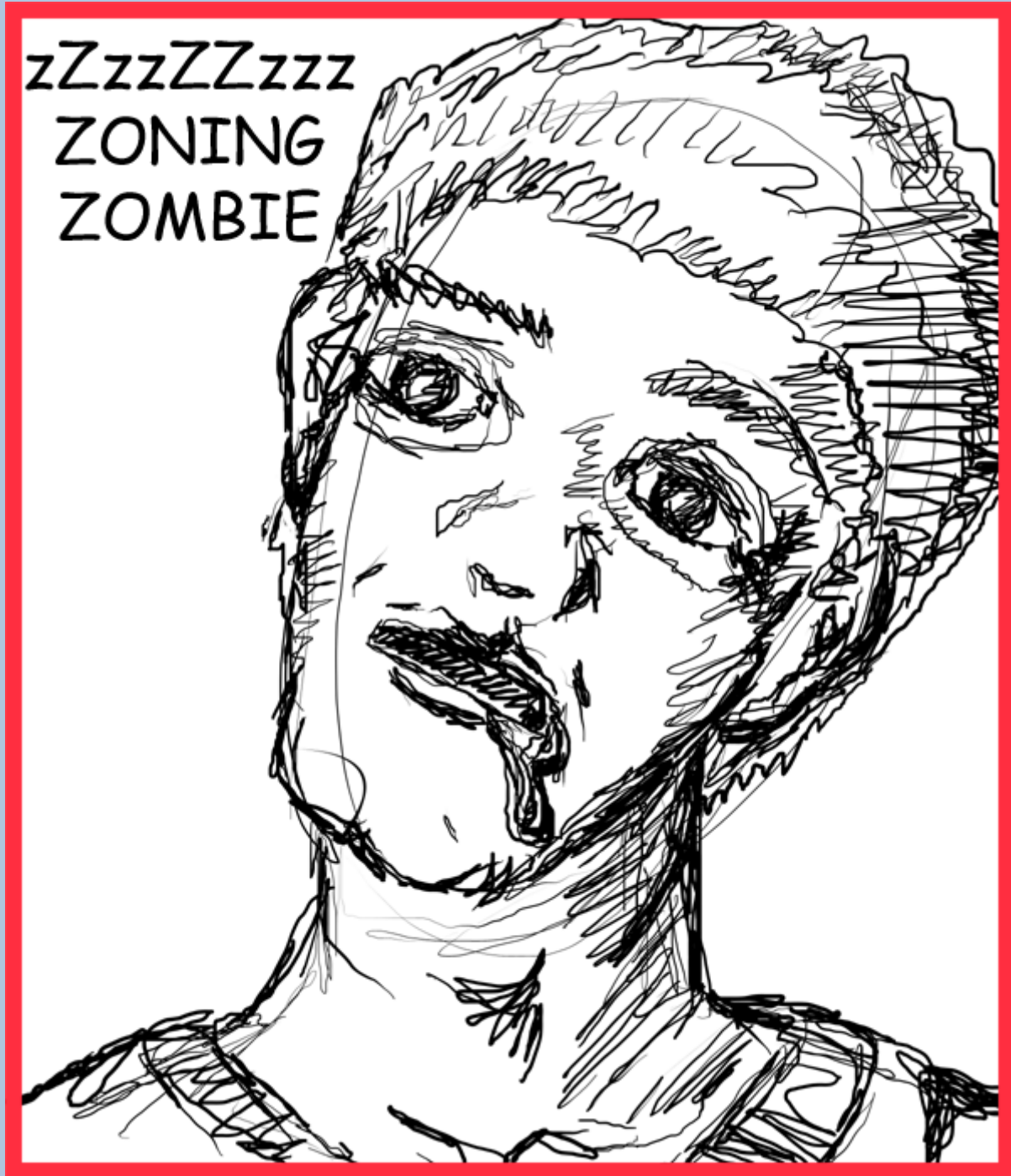
2007-09-05



Gary: "Sorry to disappoint everyone, but I've made it back. Heh. The trip was good. NY (state) was cool. As it was clearly pointed out in a bar, we were not in NY city. That's a story I may go into sometime. So today's comic is about the company cruise I went on 2 weeks ago. It was the first company cruise I've ever been on. It was actually fun, and it went by a lot faster than I thought it would. Now mind you, I did have 5 screw drivers during the 3 hour cruise (I so hate that song). The cruise itself was rather uneventful. I did not get any of the chicken. Everytime they brought it out, it was gone in 20 seconds flat, so I was a bit hungry at the end of it. Jen and I found some food in the food court at Navy pier and then continued on to a good friend's party. Unfortunately the party was both an happy and unfortunate occasion. My friend Mischa is leaving Chicago and moving to DC. I wish him the very best in that, and I will most likely be traveling out there to visit him at some point. There will most likely be a comic that comes out of that. Oh, another exciting thing that happened recently, well.. today in fact, I played Bioshock for another hour, and I won it. I really enjoyed the game, it was a bit easy, but the story was great. I've built the database structure to put up game reviews, so I'll most likely, within the next week or so, add a game review section to the site and put up a Bioshock game review. Ok, I have to head out now. I've got things to do and plan, so... ablee, ablee, ablee.. that's all folks."

Man overboard (finished)

2007-09-10



Gary: "Sooo zoning. I sat down after a good class and stared at the screen. Then my brain froze. I'm so zoning out right now. And thus... Zoning Zombie was born! "

Zoning zombie

2007-09-12



Gary:"The big 50! Who would've thought that I'd have made it so far? So far it's been fun, a bit tiring, but definately fun. Soon it will also be 6 months. At that time I plan to celebrate."

Gary:"So my relationship with the Bourne movies is a love/hate thing. I just saw the latest movie "Ultimatum". The story is great, the characters are very cool, but the camera work, like the previous one... horribly bad. I don't know who thought that shaking the camera all the time would make it interesting, but the were on crack. I mean really.. when showing a boardroom meeting, there's no action, let it be. When looking at a piece of paper, there's no action. Shaking the camera does not add action. Throwing the camera down stairs does not make a fight scene better. If they didn't do the stupid things like that, the movies would be great, but since they do... the movies are good at best. I would recommend watching them, but do expect the camera work to suck, or maybe it's the direction."

Bouncing bad-ass Bourne

2007-09-17



Gary: "Yar! Avast ye wenchies, matey's, an ye scallywag dogs. Today be the 19th of September. It be [talk like a pirate day](#). So, if ye be a PI-rat, start yar squaking, lest ye be a lilly livered land lover. *Squak* "land lover. land lover" An if ye be a land lover, then best ye be keep'n yar mouth shut, lest I be cutt'n out yar toungue and be make'n ye walk the plank. *SQUAK!* "the plank. the plank" So be ye a land lover, or do you be love'n the salt of the sea? The choice be yar's."

Gary: "So, I went to NY for a wedding. It was actually a very nice wedding, a lot of fun. Unfortunately, I was in the middle of playing BioShock, and my mind kept drifting to it. Also, the name of the groom was Adam, and in BioShock one collects Atom... This meant that my mind went back to the game whenever his name was said. What? They're just too similar! I mean hey, I'm only human. Heh. I actually came really close to beating that game while waiting to go to the wedding."

Too much gaming: The wedding

2007-09-19



Gary: "So, while in NY for the wedding, my mind was stuck on gaming. Sometimes it's just who I am. I've never claimed to be perfect. I've only claimed to be unique, just like everyone else. So yes, I was at the wedding, and afterwards, like at most weddings, there was a reception. This wedding was actually amazing as far as the reception went. There was a cocktail hour where they had more food being cooked up for you, than most normal weddings. After the cocktail hour, there was the 6 course dinner. One of the courses towards the end was an apple tart, I believe. It was quite good, and when I was coming to an end, I put my spoon down, and all I could think was "power up". As a kid I used to play Super Mario Bros, probably like quite a few of you out there. So the sight of the mushroom brought me great joy. The only thing that would've brought more joy would've been a fire flower. *sigh* unfortunately I was only able to grow in size, and I did not gain the power to shoot fireballs. "

Too much gaming: Mushroom

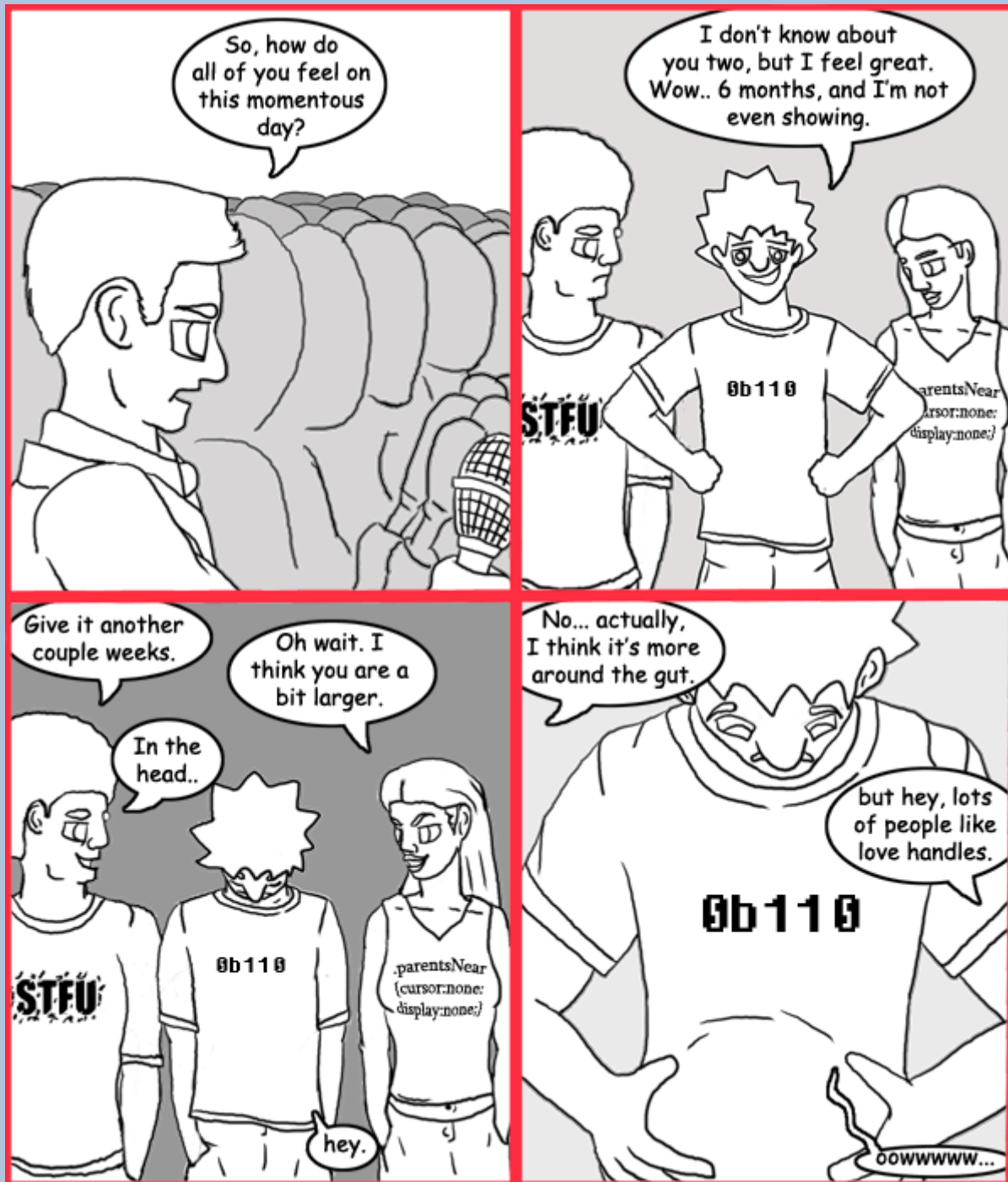
2007-09-24



Gary: "Unfortunately, it is with great shame that I announce that I lost the picture that went with this one. One of the dishes served was a mint lemon sorbet, to clean out pallets between dishes. I was eating mine, and I formed pacman. It was a totally subconscious thing, but my life fell into place when I saw it. Hmm.. well ok, maybe it wasn't that significant to me, but it did make me chuckle to myself a little bit. It was then that I knew I must eat all the other power pellets in order to go to the next level. Unfortunately.. that was not allowed."

Too much gaming: Pac-ed

2007-09-26



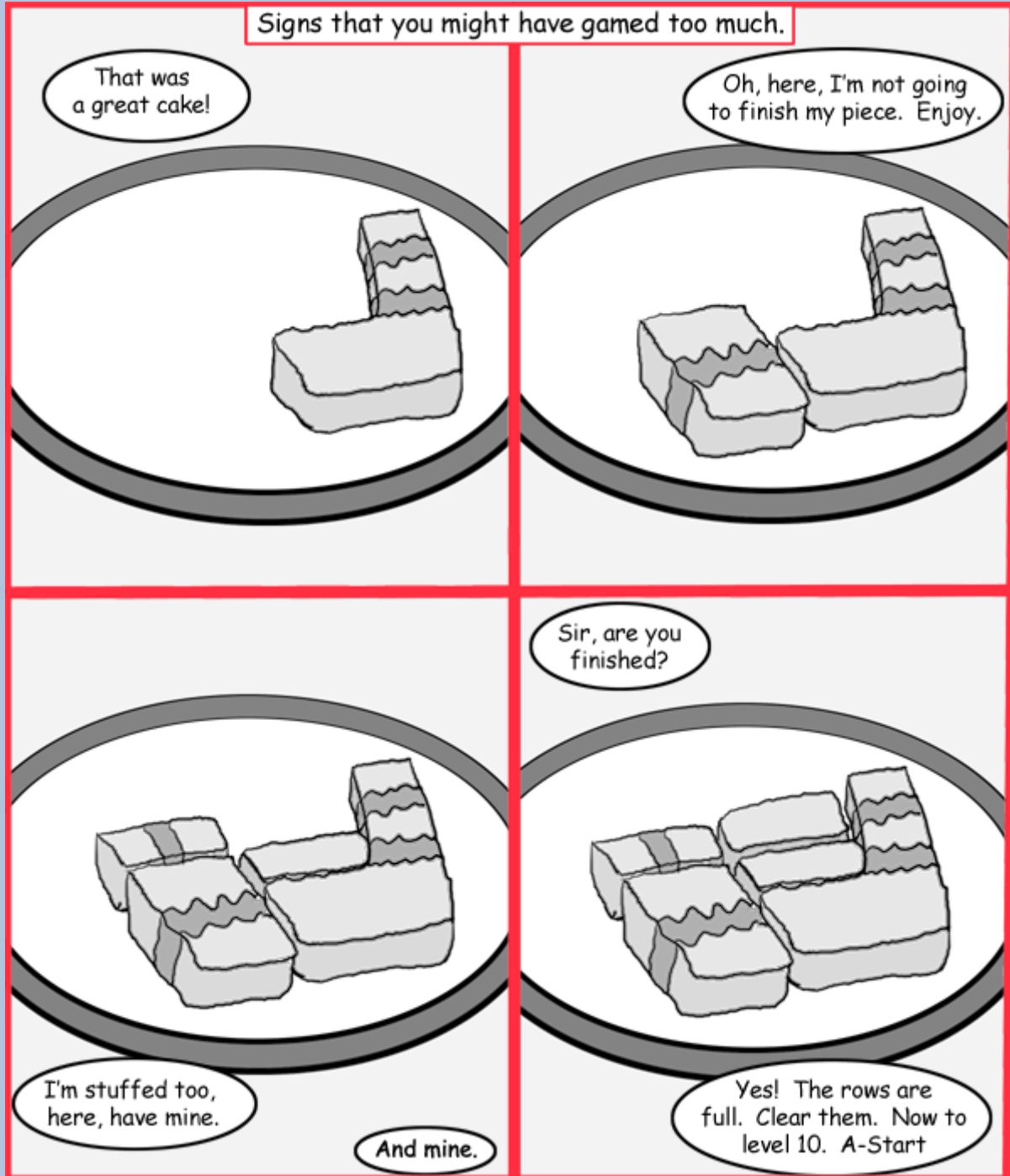
Gary: "If you work in a job that uses email, you may find [these](#) email scenarios very common."

Gary: "This morning was really strange. It was dark out, from the rain and a bit cool out. The strange thing was that noone was around. The public transit I take to work had about a quarter of the normal number of people riding it. On the first bus it was unnerving, on the el it was strange, but by the time I was on the second bus, I was starting to question what day it was. Was it a holiday? Was it really Monday? The answer is, it's not a holiday, there is work today."

Gary: "Wow, six months. I have to admit, I didn't think I would be able to keep this up for so long. I must have no life, heh. No I really just don't sleep, all in the name of insanity. It is sort of fun though. I hope those of you reading would agree. Those of you who have been reading, thanks. Hopefully everyone will now enjoy the new forum functionality."

6 Months

2007-10-01



Gary: "So, at this wedding of a thousand feasts, there was the traditional wedding cake. It was quite good, but most people at this point were getting pretty full, so to be nice for those collecting plates, we consolidated. At first it was just chaos, but then all the pieces fell into place. This is a game I never really got addicted to, though many of the people I knew did, including family members. It was a vicious and relentless Russian drug, their last attempt to end the cold war. Luckily its hold did not take over all gamers. Luckily, gaming lived on. *play patriotic music here while holding Nintendo controller to one's heart* Remember, I've made no claims at sanity. "

Too much gaming: Russian cake

2007-10-03



Gary: "Ok, I've been a little behind on the author comments, so the last few comics probably make no sense to any one. So, I've updated the author comments on the following comics. [Too much gaming: The wedding](#) [Too much gaming: Mushroom](#) [Too much gaming: Pac-ed](#) [Too much gaming: Russian cake](#) Today's comic is also about that wedding. I was obviously in a gaming mindset when I was there. At the dinner during the dancing, glow sticks were passed out. The first thing I thought of was sonic the hedgehog, and then I saw this kid running around collecting them... IT was too much like the game for me to simply forget it. This concludes "Too much gaming" For now... Muhahahah! "

Too much gaming: Let it glow

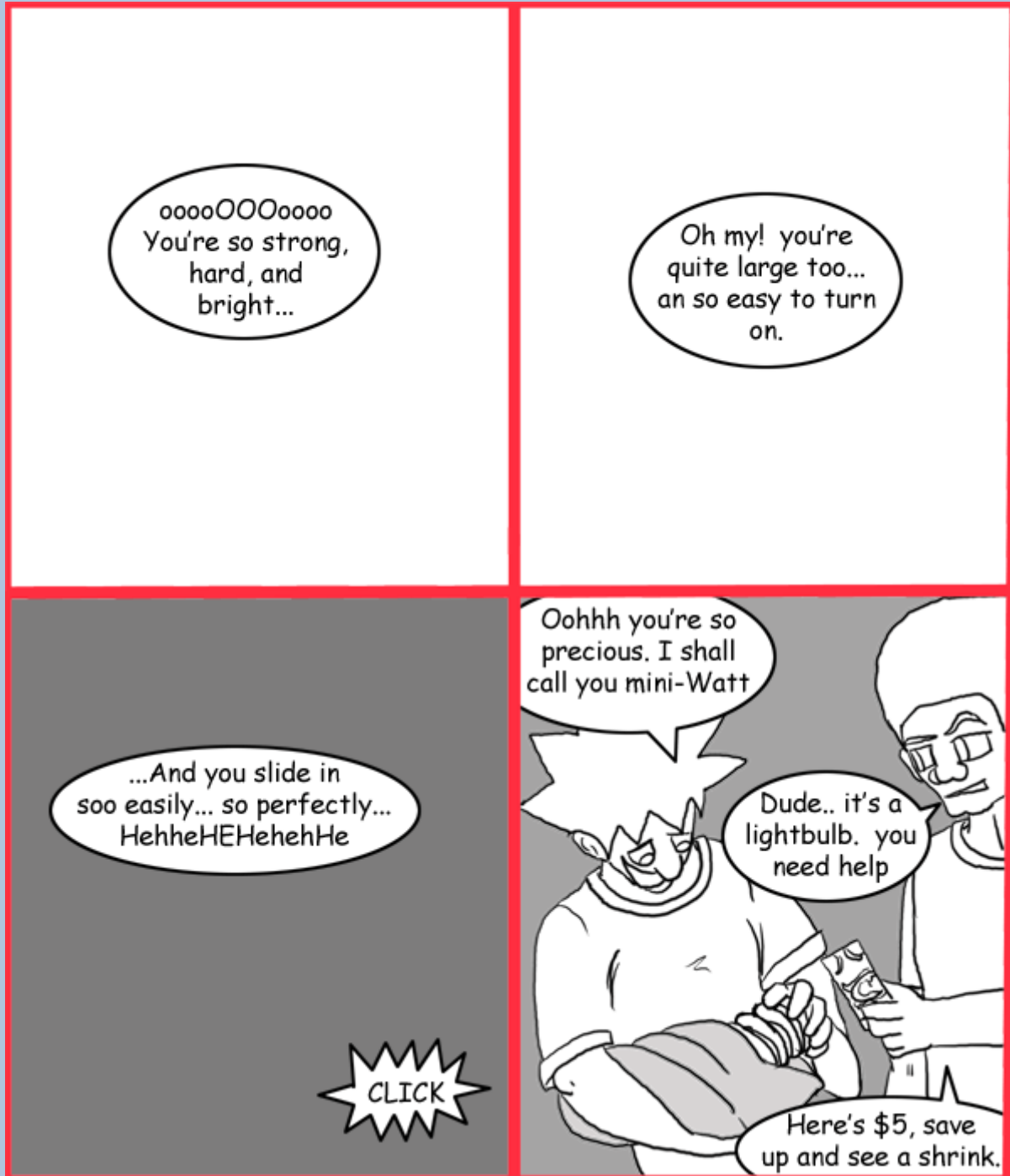
2007-10-08



Gary: "My stylus broke... it's quite sad, but it's broken before. The pen is pretty shoddy. Don't get me wrong, I really like my tablet, I mean.. it lets me do these comics, but it has broken in many ways. Currently its display is always off by at least one color. I can get red, blue, black, and white, or green, blue, black, and white, or red, black, and white, or green and white, all depending on how the cord is bent. It's actually quite annoying, but this has been with me for quite some time. It's an attempt to enter the touch screen market by a taiwanese company, model PI-500, or something like that. The screen is nice. Drawing on it is quite nice. It has a bunch of levels of pressure. So, it has a lot of nice features, but the constructions isn't necessarily the best, or I handle it too roughly. The pen is also ok, but it feels a bit flimsy, and it is. The par that screws in, breaks. It comes off of the rest of the pen fairly easily, and since it is a powered pen, this tends to be a problem. So.. sadly, I have no pen to draw this comic. I was actually in the middle of drawing the comic, when the hot glue fix I did before popped, before that, it was crazy glue."

Stylus down

2007-10-10



Gary:"So, I'm certain most of you probably see me as crazy already and these comics aren't helping, but I've been in the middle of trying to make a projector, so I've been experimenting with different types of bulbs, trying to take the light from cheaper brighter bulbs and use them. Recently I ordered an 85 watt florescent screw in bulb. On the site I saw the dimensions, 11" by 4" diameter. In my head, this didn't seem like too much. Then it came in the mail. The bulb is freak'n huge! It's also quite bright. It allows me to see an image through the screen with normal lights on, without incasing the bulb in mirrors. Unfortunately, that image is very dim, so I'm going to have to encase it and hopefully get a bulb I can use. This is all just playing around, 5 min here or there, since I rarely get more than that now a days. If any one has any suggestions or things they think my be cool to try, let me know. Later all. "

Mini-Watt

2007-10-15

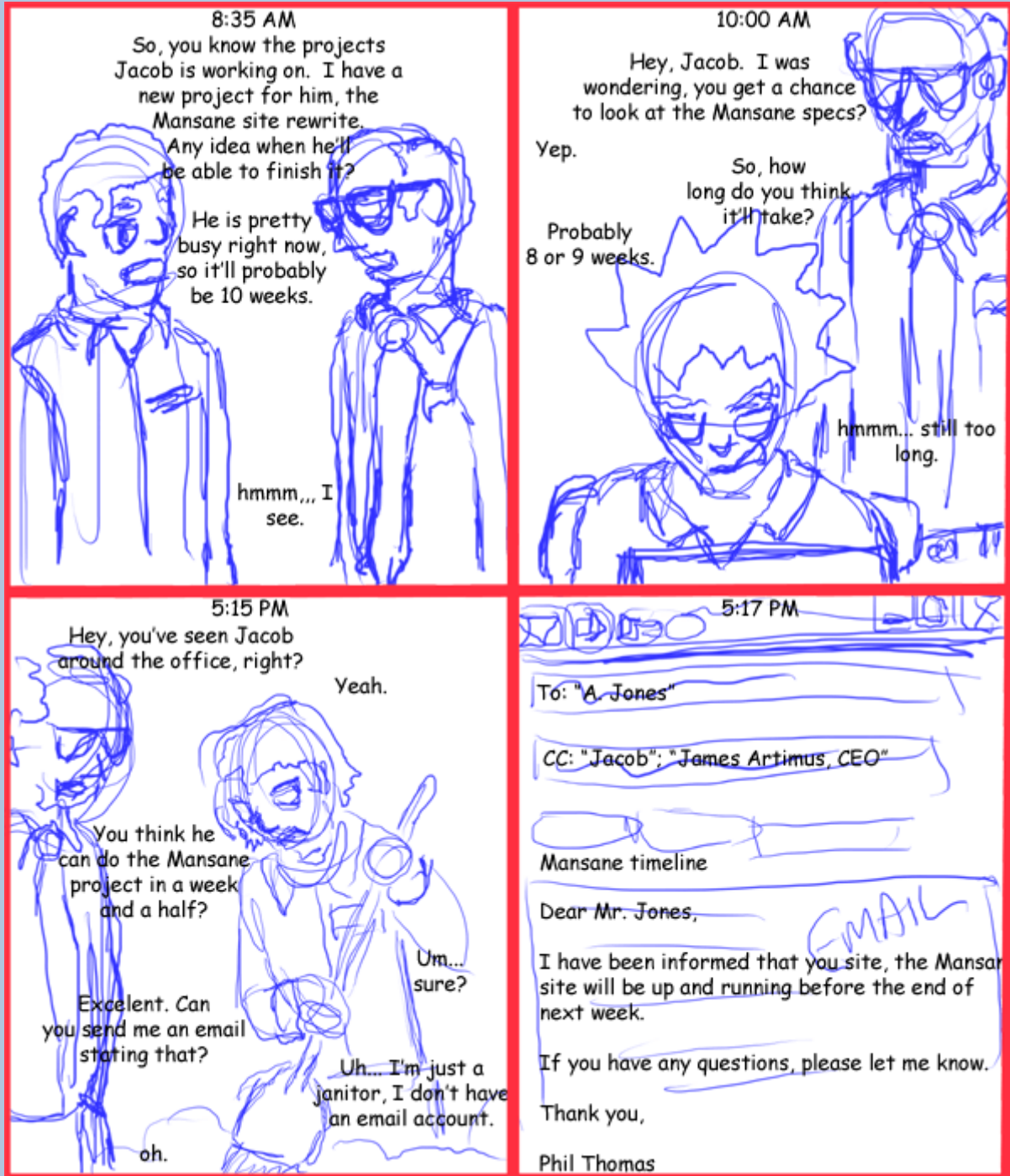


Gary: "Well loyal readers, I've updated some older comics to have author comments. Hopefully this will have them make more sense. The comics updated are: [Stylus down Mini-Watt](#)"

Gary: "I'm sure we've all had meetings like this. The meeting starts out all normal, discussing a new website, or lan structure, or design, etc, and suddenly 12,000 individual conversations break out. The meeting gets side tracked. Then within those conversations, someone brings up something that actually has no right answer, Internet Explorer VS Mozilla, Arial VS Comic Sans, SQL Server VS Oracle, [Red VS Blue](#), and suddenly fists are flying and insults are blasting through the air. At this point the meeting is lost. This comic is to commemorate such meetings. It's also fill in the blank, so now you can write the jokes for it. If you come up with one that you think is really funny, [email](#) it to me. I may just post it on my site."

MEetinGS gone Wild

2007-10-17



Gary: "Sorry all, I was at a [systema](#) seminar this weekend, so I didn't have time to finish the comic. I'll ink it later this week and post it."

All in due time

2007-10-22



Gary: "So, last weekend, I went to a [Systema](#) seminar in NC. It was a lot of fun. There was exercising, and knife work, and of course hitting. Once the seminar was done, I felt like I was ninety. I hurt everywhere and was moving a bit slower than normal. It was a good hurt though, and yes, my body was covered with bruises. One of the exercises, which actually teaches you a lot, is you standing in one place while another person or people hit you. The person being hit, is learning how to absorb the hit and move it out of their body, while the person hitting is learning how to place their hand, how to hit, and how to disrupt their partner's body. It's a very interesting martial art, I would recommend it to others looking to find a martial art. Almost everyone at the seminar was really friendly. No one seems to get mad when the hitting comes, and in fact people tend to smile laugh and joke. Even with all that joviality going on, the martial art stays practical, and the strikes are amazing to me. They seem to sink into the body and sit there, very different than a lot of other strikes I've seen, which are developed to simple break through objects. These strikes are used more to control and disrupt a person's body. Or at least that's my current impression. I would recommend checking it out if your interested and getting your own impression. I haven't been studying it for long, and I'm far from a martial arts expert. I just try to train, play, and learn. Hopefully this explains the comic a little too."

Beaten and bruised

2007-10-24

For those still looking for costume ideas, please consider being a cereal killer.

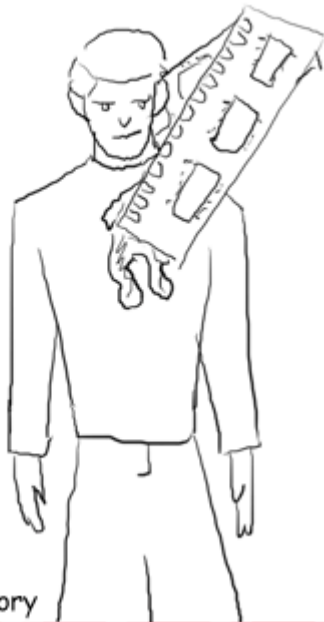


Gary: "Wow. I love Halloween. It's my favorite holiday of the year. Over the last few years, I have come close to being very disillusioned about it though. Basically I've had a few bad halloweens, but every year, despite my best efforts, I get excited about it. This year I flew to Denver for a friend's party. It was a lot of fun. Everyone was in costume. Even me. I didn't have a costume, so I had to go purchase one. For better or worse, I wound up in an adult shop that sells costumes. That is where I bought my costume... a pirate of sorts, with a "special" sword. I may have photos to show later. Denver is a cool place. I'll probably talk more about it later. I would recommend visiting it. It's a nice city, and property (when compared to Chicago) is very cheap. This week will be a week of sketches. There will be more comics than normal, so keep checking back. Did I mention that I love halloween? Because I do. "

Cereal killer

2007-10-29

More costume ideas, for those searching



A byte of memory



Zombie PC



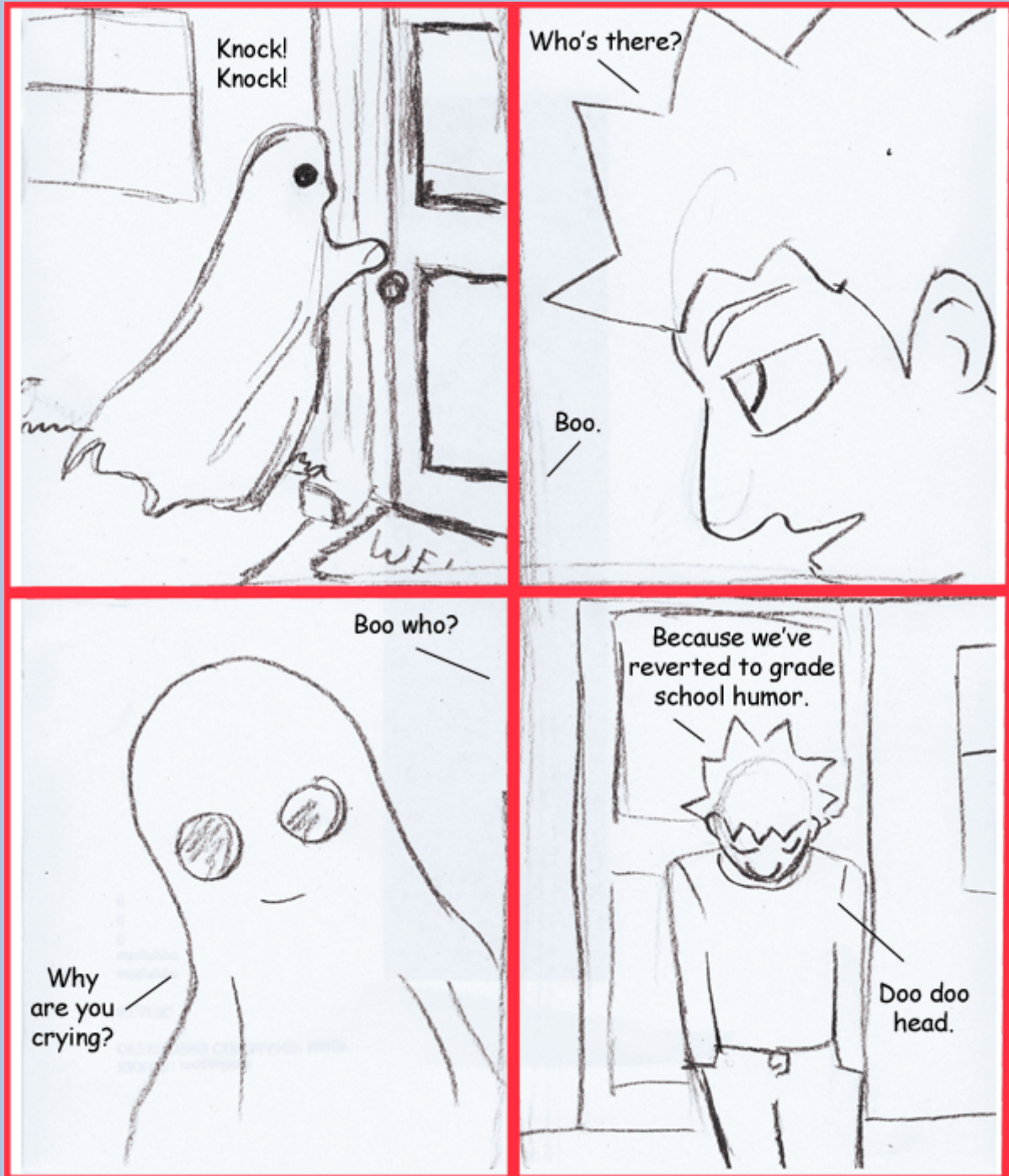
Blue screen of death

Intelligent, rational end user

Gary: "God I love Halloween. Today continues a week of sketches. I hope you enjoy."

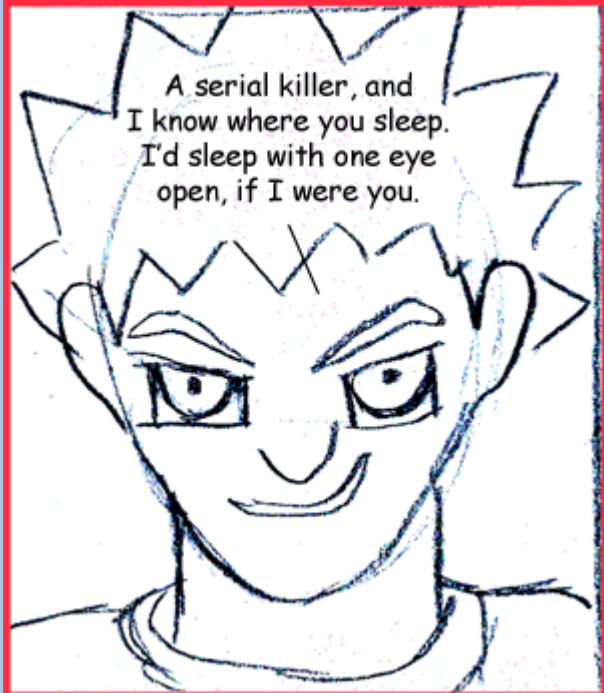
More costume ideas

2007-10-30



Gary: "HAPPY HALLOWEEN!!! As I've said before, I do love this holiday. Part of my celebrating happened Monday night as I went to go see ["The nightmare before Christmas"](#) in 3d. That movie is such a gorgeous movie. I liked it in 2d, and I liked it in 3d. If you get a chance, check it out. [Huh.. there seems to be a video game of it too.](#) "

Boo who
2007-10-31



Peaceful night's sleep

2007-11-01



Gary: "Well.. this brings us to the end of the week of halloween sketches. I hope you all enjoyed them and I hope you all had a good halloween. It is a great holiday."

Vampire jokes

2007-11-02



Words of wisdom, never bring a gas can to a fire fight.

Caption: Chicago, October 8th, 1871

Jacob: Ahhh, this looks like it's going to be a nice peaceful day.

Caption: All too often, tech jobs turn into this...

Gary: "As I work through yet another weekend, I realize that my job now, and in the past has very often been like today's comic, a rush to fix something for a client. Unfortunately these problems are always last minute. Unfortunately, I've started to get used to this being what I do. Unfortunately, according to others, I'm not bad at doing this. However, at some point, I want to get out of triage and fire fighting. As many of you in the tech industry know, this concept of fix it ASAP, and make it work vs make it work properly or well, is quite a common concept. Every job I've been in has this in it at some point. Unfortunately for those who learn how to work under pressure, and learn how to problem solve/read other's code, this becomes their burden more often than not. For those who don't know this or can't do this, more often then not, they get to write the new code that others end up rushing to fix. Now this doesn't mean that fire fighters don't get to work on new code. It just means that they get to work on new code, and they get to put in overtime to fix other peoples bad code. To be fair, I knew coming on to this company, that I would be dealing with code that had issues, code that was written by consultants (C consultants writing Java, by my best guess now) in a rush and handed over with out much documentation. I choose my sinking ship, and therefore have nothing to really complain about. I'm going to stop my rant now and leave new developers with one small bit of advice. If you can work under pressure, and you can read other people's code, and worse yet, you can fix it, don't let anyone know. Hide that skill, or take up a different profession."

Fire fighting

2007-11-05

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IE

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

End of the week
Gary
Well... this brings us to the end of the week of halloween sketches. I hope you all enjoyed them and I hope you all had a good halloween. It is a great holiday.

Gary
"Author Comments"

```
1 body {
2 {
3     font-family:Arial;
4     font-size:11px;
5     color:#AA0000;
6     background-color:#330000;
7 }
```

FF

< November 2007 >

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Gary
"Author Comments"

It's good to know that once you're king of the schoolyard, you can stop whining

Yeah, yeah, it's syntactically wrong, but the computer knows what I mean.

It's good to know that once you're king of the schoolyard, you can stop whining

Gary: "Ok, most of you are going to want to leave you own opinions on this and argue with me, so please do. The forum for this is [HERE](#). I'm going to say a lot of things that will probably piss a lot of you off, but hell that's life. This is all opinion, so no one is really going to be right. Now, to start with, yes, the css syntax is wrong. It does not follow "standards", but IE doesn't whine like a little punk about it. Fire Fox however does. Like I said, in this case I was definitely wrong, but it reminded me a lot about working with Open Source code and developers. Developers that work with commercial code, when they run into a problem, complain about the code their using being junk. When open source developers run into a problem, they complain that the commercial code isn't following "standards". You may wonder why I'm putting "standards" in quotes. It's because a bunch of rules made up by mostly [academia](#) isn't really a standard. It's a bunch of pompous people with little real world experience defining how the world should work. One word, communism, because that worked out so well. The other issue is that most open source projects follow the "standards" they want, as does the commercial software, and both also interpret the rules in their own way, pulling them both away from the literal "standards". Most of the time neither is more standard compliant than the other. Ok, I'm going to end my rant for now. I may rant more later. The jist is, stop wining about standards, they aren't real standards. If five percent of the people follow one set of rules, is it really more the standard than the set of rules that the ninety-five percent are using? My guess would be that the ninety-five percent are actually a better call for a standard, since they are the majority by far. "

Clash of titans

2007-11-07



oooOOOooo, does that look like the Eiffel Tower to you?

Panel 1

Caption: Here I sit, broken hearted

Panel 2

Caption: Tried to think, but only farted

Panel 3

Caption: Needed a comic lickity split

Panel 4

Caption: Instead I just got this pile of...

Gary: "Doodie!!!!!"

Gary: "Why do the weekends seem to get shorter while the weeks seem to get longer?"

Just a pile
2007-11-12



I hope this wave doesn't crash.

Panel 1

No text.

Gary: "Ok, last week was a bit hard, and I was watching "Psycho" when I made this comic. Basically... you know it's time to stop programming when these nightmares start popping up."

Binary wave

2007-11-14



Gary: "Today marks the start of a five day Thanksgiving storyline. Why? Because I'm thankful of my loyal readers, and hey, any excuse to do more comics. Monday through Friday, this week, there will be different comics. I hope you all enjoy them. I enjoyed making them."

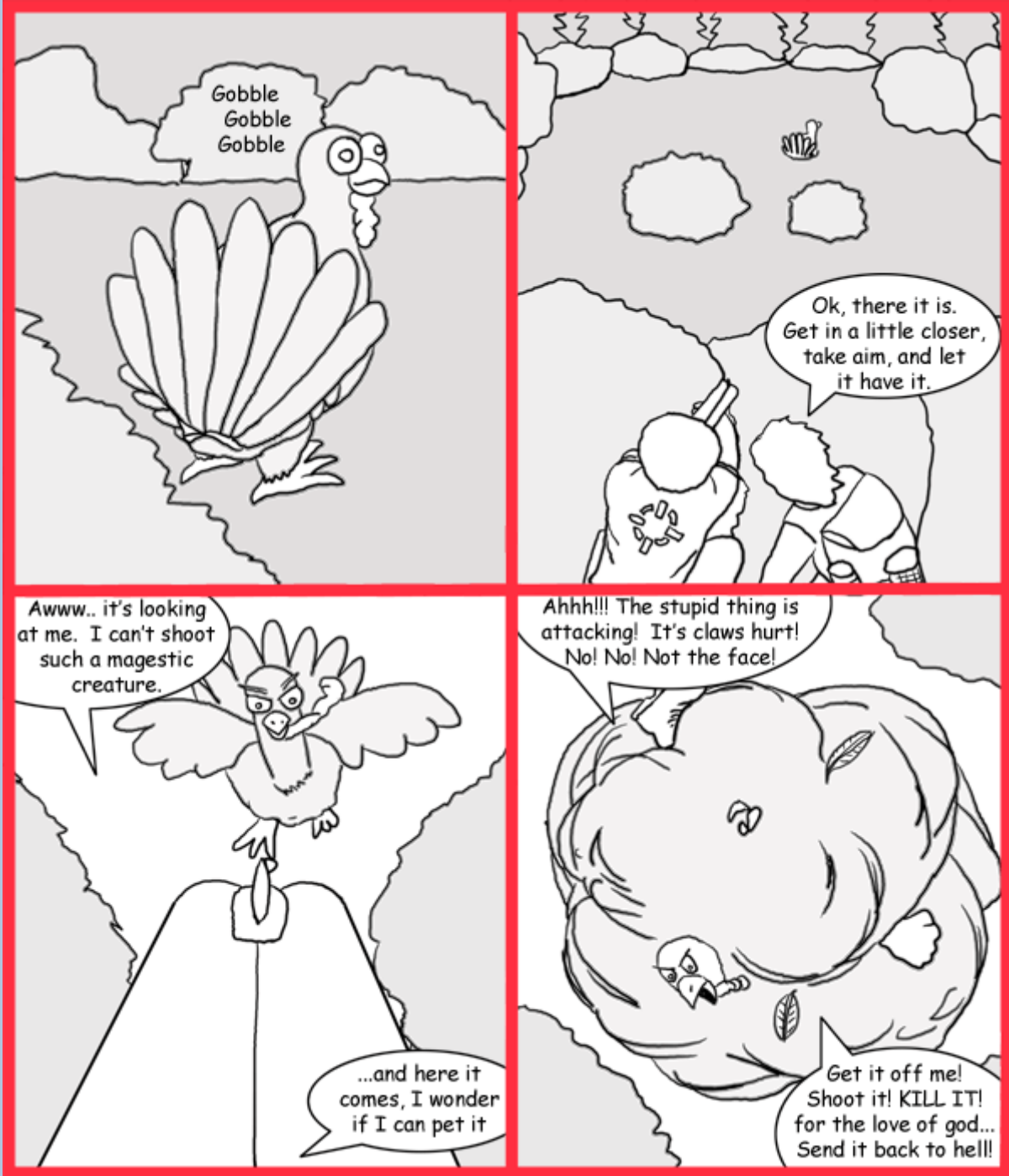
The invite

2007-11-19

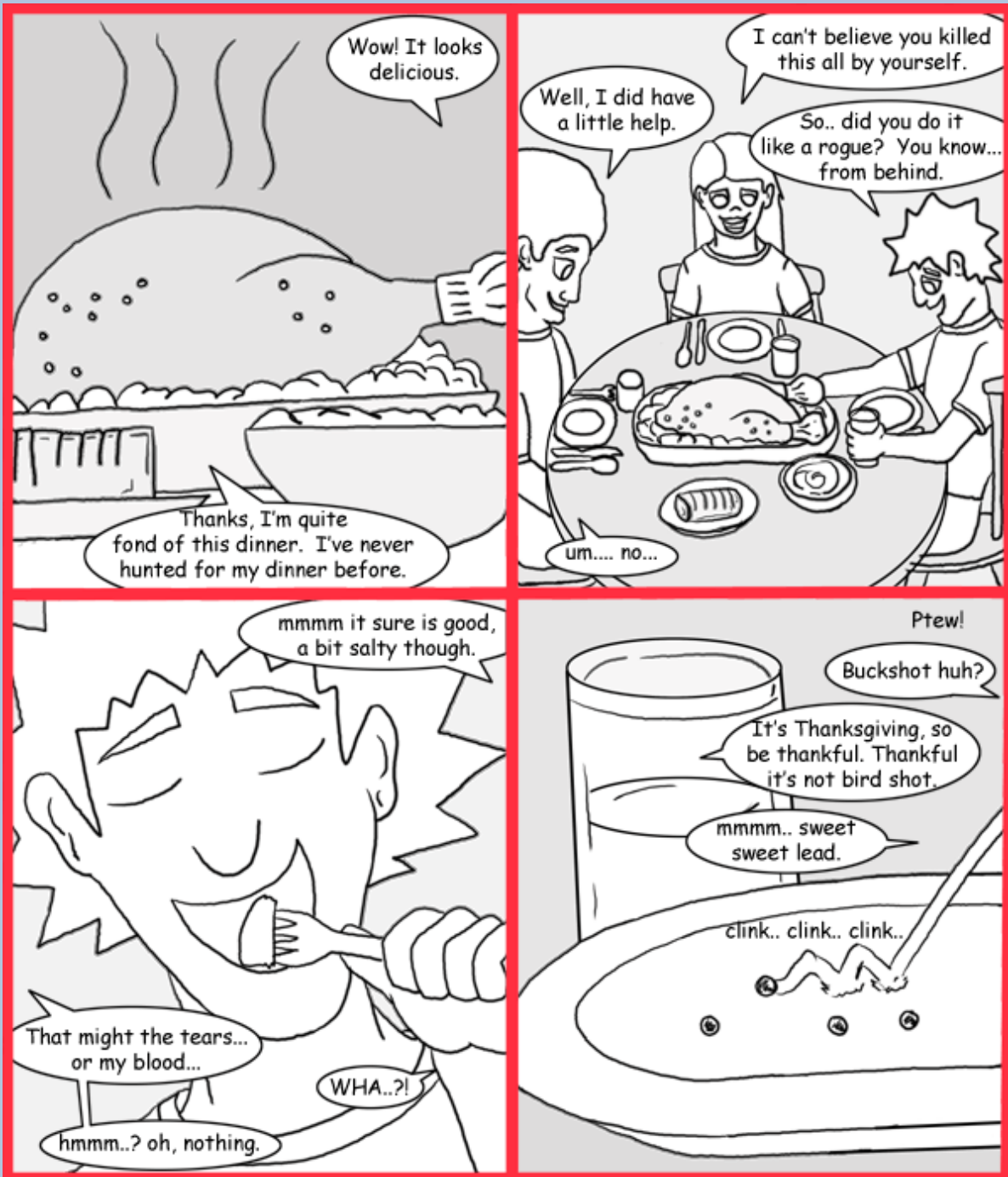


Gary:"Day 2 of a special week long Thanksgiving story. At least I went with a story about hunting Turkeys, instead of on about [snipe hunting](#)."

The morning of
2007-11-20



The hunt
2007-11-21



Gary: "Two things to celebrate today, Thanksgiving (a celebration about a jacked up event I know, but it does bring family together for a little bit, so that's good) and the first snow of the year (in Chicago, that actually took to the ground a bit)! I do love snow. There may infact be a comic about first snow falls on Monday, one never really knows. Today I get to do a Thanksgiving dinner with my sister, her partner, my Aunt, and my dad, and perhaps others. It should be fun. I made sugar cookies for it. There's a reason I normally wasn't allowed to bake as a child, and I don't think it had anything to do with the oven being hot. More than likely it had to do with my rather strange imagination, and my lack of patience with baking. My mom's side of the family bakes a lot, it's what they're really good at, but I've always tended to lean more towards the cooking than the baking. To me the cooking felt like more of an art form. You're able to more easily veer off the defined recipie and find something new, or something that better matches you tastes at the time. With baking I've found that hard, it's more of a chemical process that you're forced to stay within. I guess the art side of it comes from the presentation, and the more subtle changes to the recipie. Well I hope everyone enjoys their Thanksgiving, and todays comic, part 4 of 5. I'm off to eat breakfast."

The dinner

2007-11-22



The aftermath

2007-11-23



Huh, it's kind of smokey for snow.

Panel 1

Jacob: hehehehe

Panel 2

Jacob: YAAAAAAAY!!!

Panel 3

Jane: Um... Jacob? I think it's time we go.

Jacob: But... but I love snow...

Panel 4

Jane: Yeah... but it's not snow.

Jacob: owww...

First snow

2007-11-26



Gary: "Sorry all, I'm slacking a bit here. I was busy all weekend. That's why there wasn't an author's comment on Monday, and why today's comic is only a sketch. Quick note to you gamers out there, [Digital Overload](#), held by [CTRL+ALT+DEL](#), a great web comic to you readers out there. It's a giant LAN party. Last year I went, I'll probably go this year too. It's really a lot of fun, I recommend going."

Cookies

2007-11-28



Due to a lot of gaming, and not enough time, there is no comic today. Instead, please enjoy this dancing monkey. May he amuse you, like me, for hours on end.

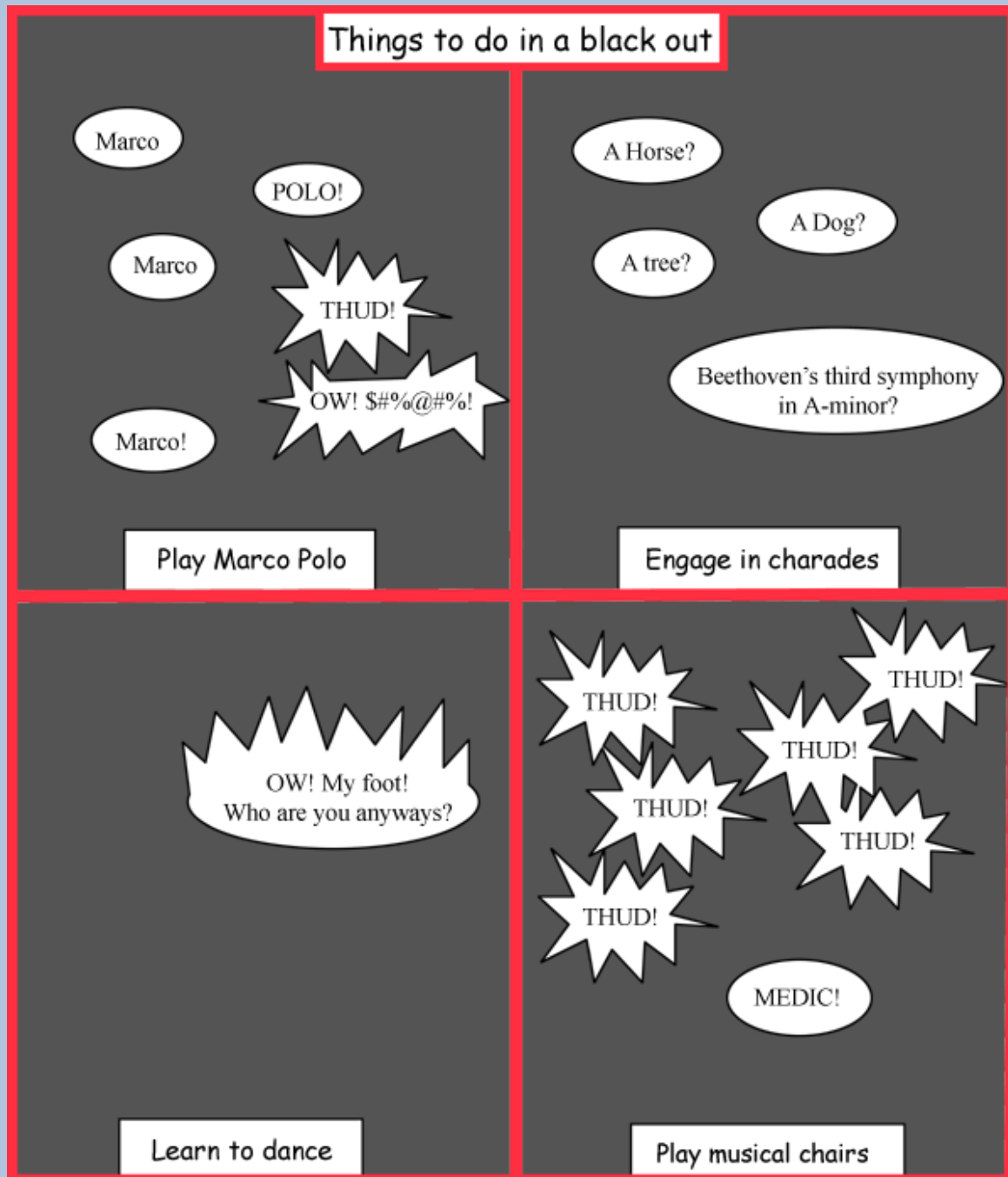
I knew I should've shaved.

Panel 1

Caption: Due to a lot of gaming, and not enough time, there is no comic today. Instead, please enjoy this dancing monkey. May he amuse you, like me, for hours on end.

Dancing monkey

2007-12-03



Gary: "People, like snowflakes, are beautiful and unique things that flutter alone upon their path through the world around them. Each of them shine brightly and shimmer when looked at properly, the world reflected off of them. Each reflection special and and completely unique. Too often, we notice only the snow and ignore that which makes it up. To me this is sad, for me miss millions upon millions of glittering patterns. At times like this, when we've missed one and it's melted away, we can only hope that we can make out the smallest of a reflection or impact of that shape in the snow that dances closest to it. Yesterday I went to a wake, and it was snowing. Sometimes things get me thinking. The wake was for someone I did not know as well as I should have... would have liked to. I went there mostly to support her daughter, if I could, and yet I knew that she (the mother) must have been an exceptional woman. I see her children and see what strong parents and amazing people they have become. Anyone who could help create and raise them must definitely have been amazing themselves. All of that said.. so the comic. During the wake, the power went out. It turned into a wake by candle light. At the time, I did not know that this would help me think up the comic I was going to do. In fact, on the way home, I kept trying to think about what I would do (I've been a bit busy lately, so the comics are being done last minute). When I was nearing my house, I came up with what we see here. It's simple and basic, but it was the best I could come up with."

Blackout

2007-12-05



I don't know why that chair broke, you must've put on some weight.

Panel 1

Caption: Four reasons I'm not in charge of company lunches

Gary Marks: Hehehehehe

Panel 2

Gary Marks: LET'S GET READY TO RUUMMMMMBLE!

Panel 3

Gary Marks: Thank you all for attending. Our company has done quite well this year, well enough to give a bonus. If you would each look under your chairs, 1 out of 5 of you will find a loaded gun, last one standing gets the bonus, on 3. 1... 2...

Panel 4

Gary Marks: As a sign of our appreciation, I have decided to hire a stripper for everyone. They will give you a lap dance with a special finish. Unfortunately I didn't know people's preferences, or.. where anyone was going to sit, so male or female, it's luck of the draw. Enjoy!

Gary: "If I ever lie and say, "there were no signs I should work somewhere else," remind me of today, the day I came into work to see a bright orange sign. The sign says "Do not occupy until instected by:" and then checked is "Building inspector". You see they're doing construction and who know what they'll find, though I doubt it could make the place smell any worse. One week of urinal smell was fun, this week isn't much better. So yeah, if I ever say that there weren't signs, slap me in the face and tell me, "there were signs you blind old dingbat.""

Gary: "Oh yeah, I almost forgot, the constant hammering 6 feet away is also a nice touch to the ork conditions. This is all in addition to the extremely long commute, but at least I knew that was going to be the case coming in, thought that is most likely the thing that will get me to leave eventually."

Company lunch plans

2007-12-10



*Look! I just made my cell phone disappear!
That's not sanitary.*

Panel 1

The Host: Today we discuss an important matter when traveling on public transit, cell phone etiquette

The Host: Point #1, talk loudly... very loudly. In fact shout. Make certain it's easy for everyone to hear you, after all, people are very interested.

Panel 2

Caption: Especially when talking about finances,

OffenderMan: So yeah.. afterwards she was like, you owe me \$150 for the tricks... and I'm all like, "Look you dumb broad, did you see me pay to ride the bus we're on? I'm broke."

Panel 3

Caption: ...relationships,

OffenderMan: She didn't believe me so I told her to get out! There was no way I was going to pay when my burning down below wouldn't let me enjoy it.

Panel 4

Caption: ... and dietary or medical concerns.

OffenderMan: Hahaha. I don't know which is worse, the burning then, or my gas now! Hah! I think that one wet the cloth!

Public phonage

2007-12-12



Jase: "Who the hell listens in when other people are talking about the Christmas gifts they're purchasing? How rude!"

Jane: "That little punk! If I had known this, I never would've gotten him a gift!"

Jacob: "Gimme! Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!"

Gary: "Today starts my twelve days of Christmas twelve part story. There will be a new comic every day from today, Monday, December 17th, until Friday, December 28th. There will also, most likely be a link or embeded video for you all to enjoy. Below are some twelve days of Christmas videos. "

A gift for Jacob: Part 1

2007-12-17



Jase: "What kind of idiot hides behind a glass window? No.. no.. I don't see you, you have +10 to your stealth...."

Jane: "Someday he may learn that life is not a videogame or a comic. Then again, maybe he won't."

Jacob: "Dun dun dun da dun dun.."

Gary: "So, I've been told on multiple occasions, but multiple people, that I'm near impossible to shop for. I think it come from my making enough money to normally just purchase the things I want. So, more often than not, I evaluate the gift by how much thought was put into it, and how closely it matches things I like. I'm sure I have a formula for this somewhere in my head. Ok, now for a video, something for you to kill some time on. Also remember to give to [Child's play](#), if you can. They would like all the gifts to arrive by the 20th, but they also accept donations. "

A gift for Jacob: Part 2

2007-12-18



Gary: "Wow I'm exhausted. Here, enjoy a video. "

Gary: "sigh*... some day... some day I'll get to enjoy its beautiful embrace... "

Gary: "Sorry, images are thanks to [Gamepro](#)"

A gift for Jacob: Part 3

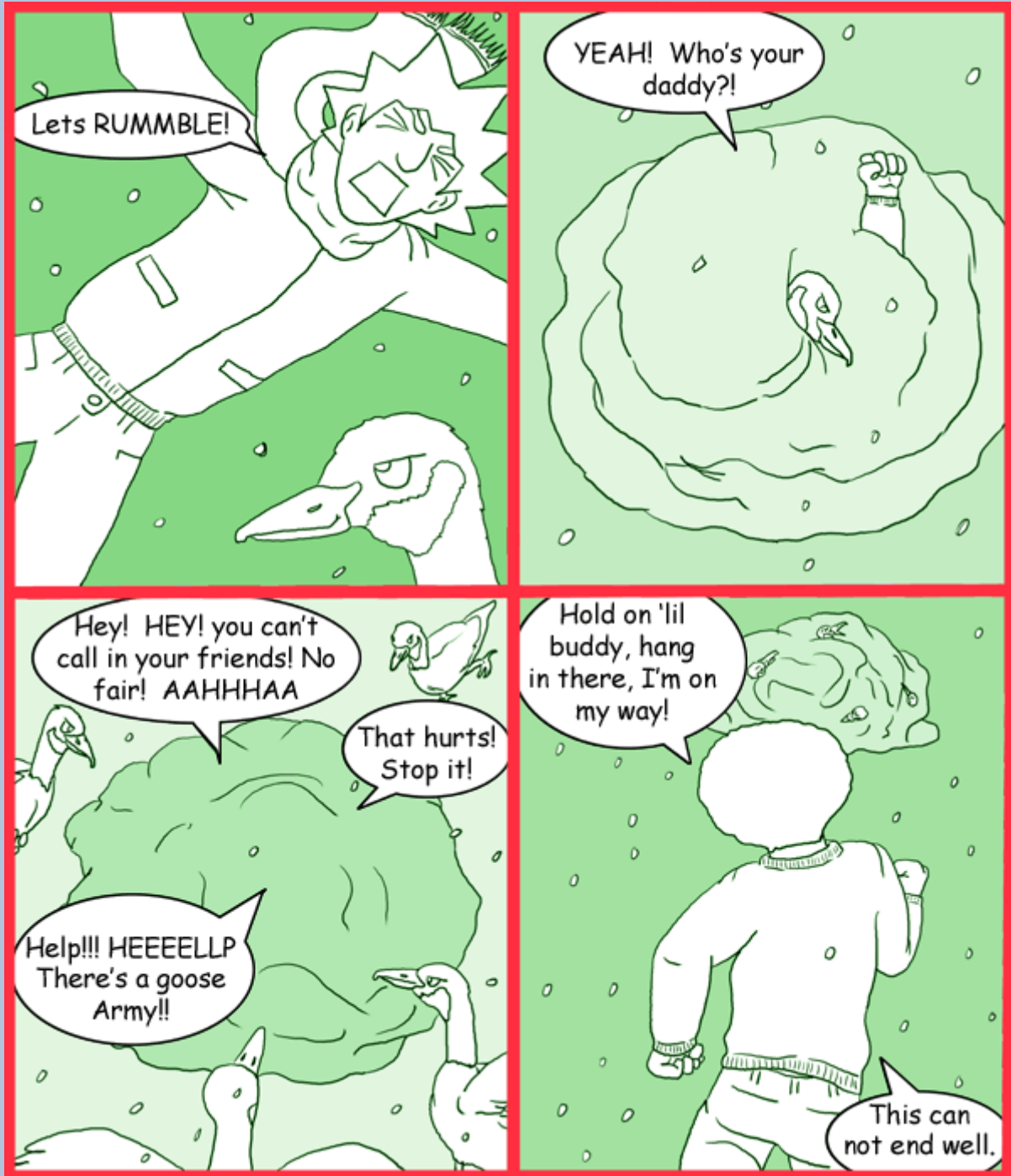
2007-12-19



Gary: "For those of you tired of decorating..."

A gift for Jacob: Part 4

2007-12-20



Gary: "Since most of you are about to see family, I give you, "The nightmare before Christmas," well.. clips of it on youtube. I just thought the name was appropriate, and it's a great film, so here you go, same clip, on with a slightly more punk feel. "

A gift for Jacob: Part 5

2007-12-21



Gary: "Sorry loyal readers, about the service outage. I guess powweb had a couple problems. Before I get to the video to entertain you, I'm going to answer a question I was asked. Q: "Why do you sometimes break you schedule and do comics everyday?" A: As many of you know, I do this comic for fun. It's not my normal job. In actuality, I'm a programmer. Since it's not my fulltime job, I can't often do a comic everyday. I just don't have the time to do that, so I try to keep a schedule of twice a week, as the calendar should show. I do however really enjoy doing the comic, and I enjoy doing storylines, so on holidays, I use them as an excuse to celebrate. I'll probably use them, more and more, as an excuse to do a longer story line, which I try to not subject you all to normally. Hopefully that explains it. The short answer is, I enjoy doing the comic, so during holidays it becomes part of my celebration. Ok, now that you sat through my explanation, here's something to kill some time. "

A gift for Jacob: Part 6

2007-12-22



Gary: "Why am I doing a Christmas holiday storyline? I thought about this a little. I'm not really religious, and if I were, I would know how little of Christmas has anything to do with Christian mythology. Yet I still like the season. I think I know why. What I was able to come up with, is that I like the change in people during this season. People seem to be happier and nicer to each other (except when in a store). The gifts are ok, but it's the fact that it gives people an excuse to show each other how they feel towards each other, that makes it so great. So that is why I'm doing this story line, I think. I'll also share with you the movies that I watch every year that get me in the Christmas spirit. "Scrooged", "Die Hard", and either "Alien" or "Alien:Resurrection". In fact yesterday, I watched "Die Hard" and "Alien". I'll probably watch "Scrooged" on Monday. Now for some excitement that could only be brought by a gift to a sugar hyped child. "

A gift for Jacob: Part 7

2007-12-23



Gary: "Here's an interesting little stop motion video to widdle away some time. And now some Weird Al "

A gift for Jacob: Part 8

2007-12-24



Trial and error, not so good when error equals death.

Panel 1

Jase: mmmm... this is good, could you pass the mashed potatoes?

Panel 2

Jacob: Hahaha, remember when we were on that team, and one guy was all like, "I keep dieing" then all at once we say.

Jacob, Jase, and Jane: "Have you tried NOT dieing?"

Jacob: Hahahahahah! Ahhhh good times. Could you pass the peas?

Panel 3

Jane: uhh.. sure. Are you guys sure you don't want any turkey?

Jase: NO! no.. no.. No birds...

Jacob: Feathers and blood everywhere... everywhere..

Panel 4

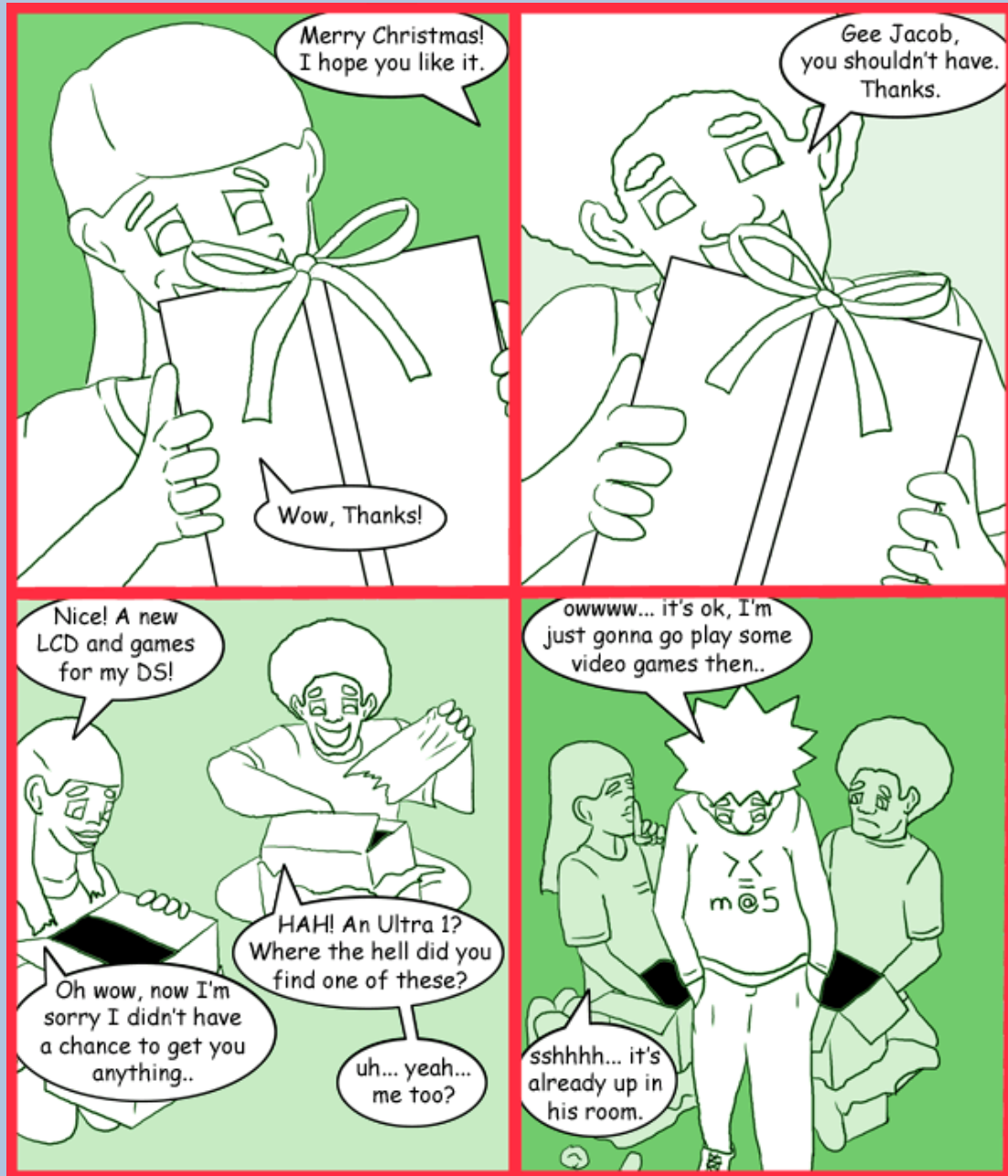
Jane: Well.. um... here's to a less fear ridden future. Merry Christmas Everyone!

Jase and Jacob: MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Gary:"Merry Christmas "

A gift for Jacob: Part 9

2007-12-25



><=m@5 <3

Panel 1

Jacob: Merry Christmas! I hope you like it.

Jane: Wow. Thanks!

Panel 2

Jase: Gee Jacob, you shouldn't have. Thanks.

Panel 3

Jane: Nice! A new LCD and games for my DS!

Jase: HAH! An Ultra 1? Where the hell did you find one of these?

Jane: Oh wow, now I'm sorry I didn't have a chance to get you anything..

Jase: uh... yeah... me too?

Panel 4

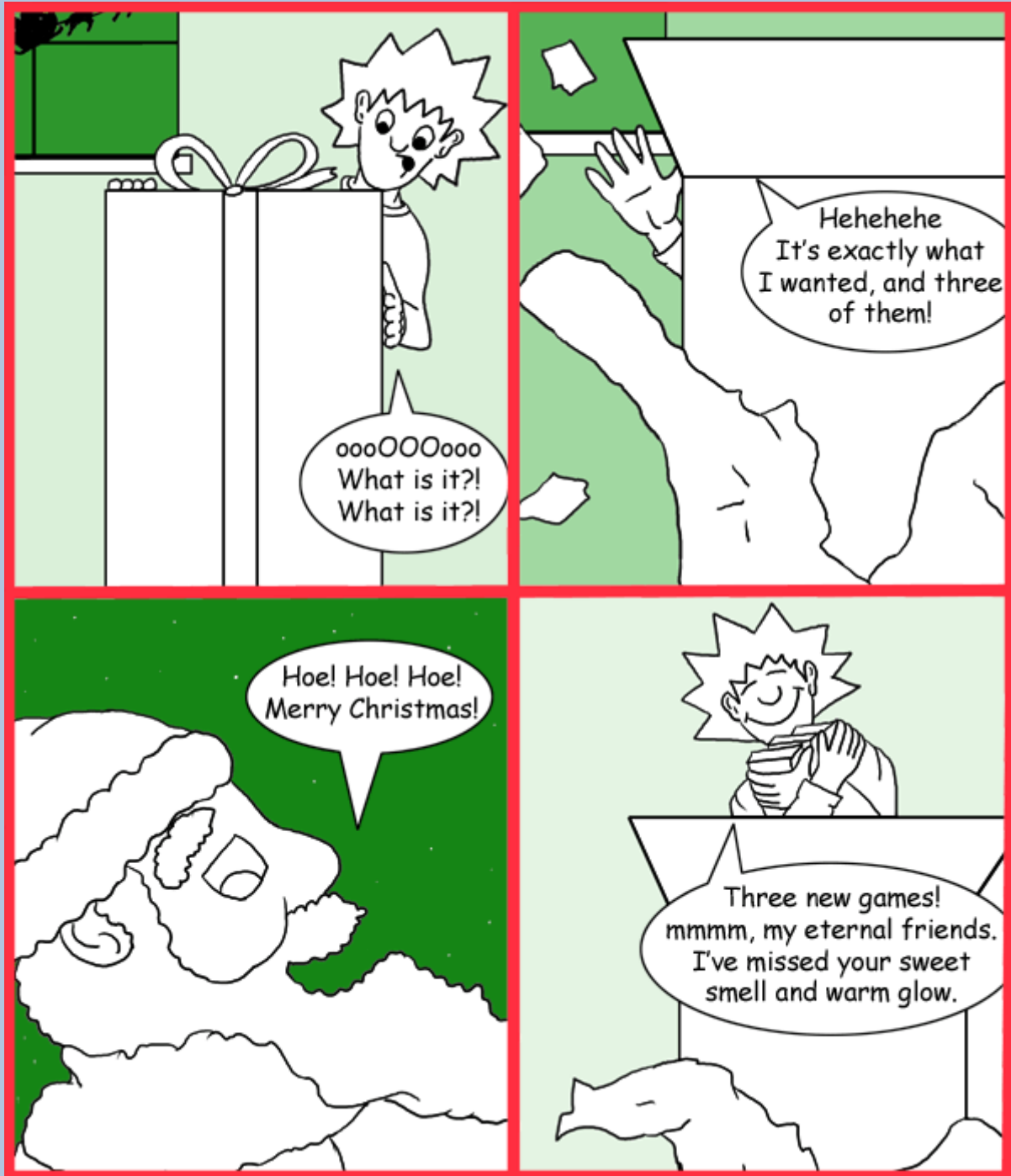
Jacob: owww... it's ok, I'm just gonna go play some video games then..

Jane: sshhhh... it's already up in his room.

Gary: "I'm assuming you're all a bit tired of Christmas, so here's some non-christmas stuff. "

A gift for Jacob: Part 10

2007-12-26



Gimme! Gimme! Gimme!

Panel 1

Jacob: oooOOOooo What is it?! What is it?!

Panel 2

Jacob: Hehehehe It's exactly what I wanted, and three of them!

Panel 3

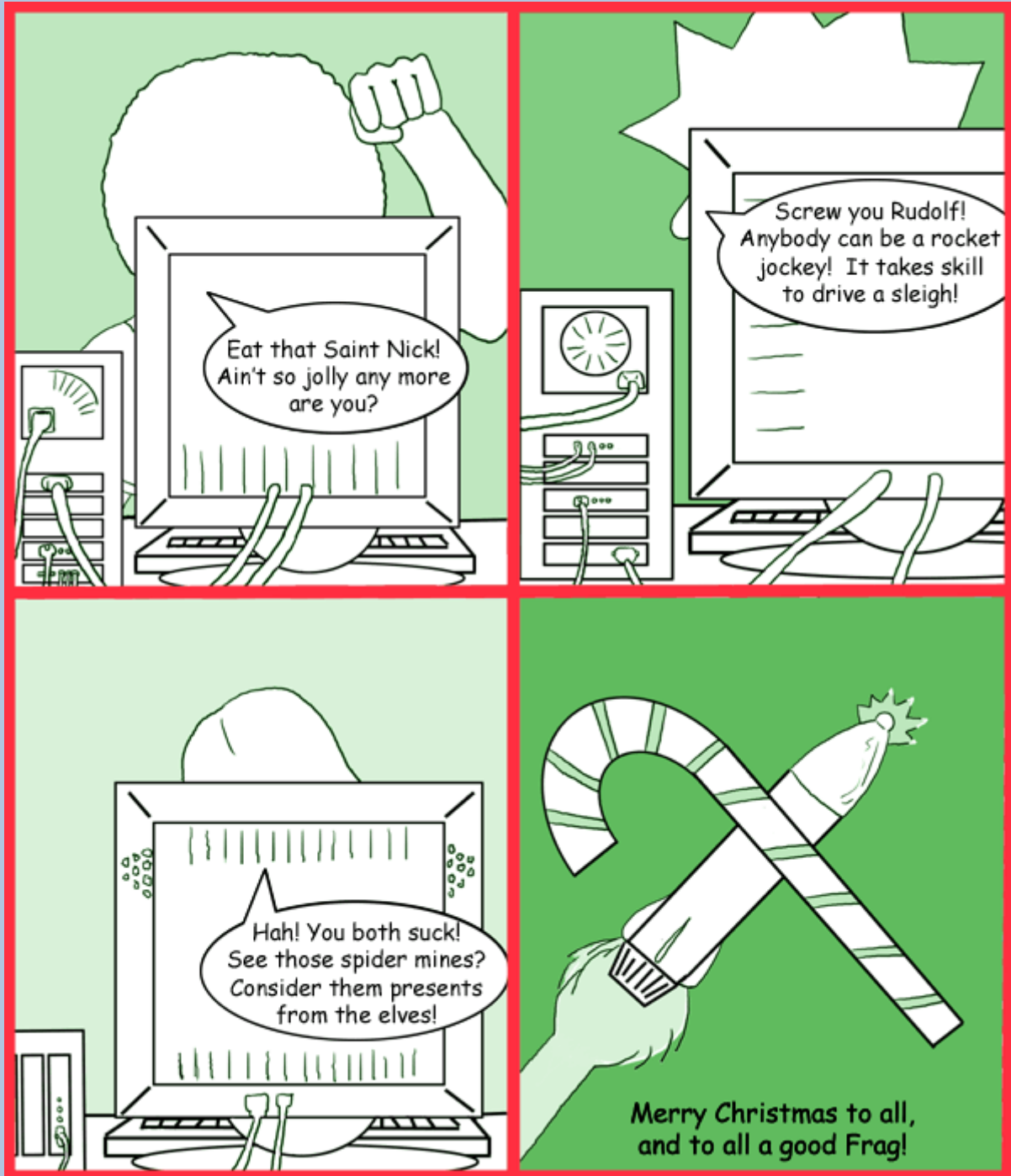
Santa Claus: Hoe! Hoe! Hoe! Merry Christmas!

Panel 4

Jacob: Three new games! mmmm, my eternal friends. I've missed your sweet smell and warm glow.

A gift for Jacob: Part 11

2007-12-27



That's a mighty big missle, or are you just happy to see me?

Panel 1

Jase: Eat that Saint Nick! Ain't so jolly any more are you?

Panel 2

Jacob: Screw you Rudolf! Anybody can be a rocket jockey! It takes skill to drive a sleigh!

Panel 3

Jane: Hah! You both suck! See those spider mines? Consider them presents from the elves!

Panel 4

Caption: Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good Frag!

A gift for Jacob: Part 12

2007-12-28

Happy *hic* New YEAR!

Let's ring in the new year by trying
to forget the old one.



Panel 1

*Caption: Happy *hic* New YEAR! Let's ring in the new year by trying to forget the old one.*
