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# CEREBZUS

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# HIGH SOCIETY

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Dave and Deni met December 16, 1976.  
They married October 6, 1978.  
Separated August 20, 1983.  
Divorced August 1986.

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IT'S, LIKE, 30 YEARS AGO, EH?

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## A Note from the Publisher

My note this time is going to be brief. I know I have promised this before, but this time I really mean it! I'm really happy with the mail we've been getting in the last two months or so. So many people have written in to say good things about Cerebus and I want you all to know that the mail is THE EVENT around here. We savour every good letter and fret and worry (especially Dave!) over every word of reproach in any letter. I hope that you realize that the whole idea of Cerebus is to make something the fans can really enjoy. So what you say about Cerebus means a great deal to us. We do it so you can enjoy it and because we like to believe that you are much more intelligent than what I feel some other publishers (I won't name any names) like to believe. So thanks for all the letters of encouragement and discouragement. We can't know what you think of all this if you don't let us know!! I'll see you next issue.

*Deni*

CEREBUS

VOL. 1 NO. 26 MAY, 1981

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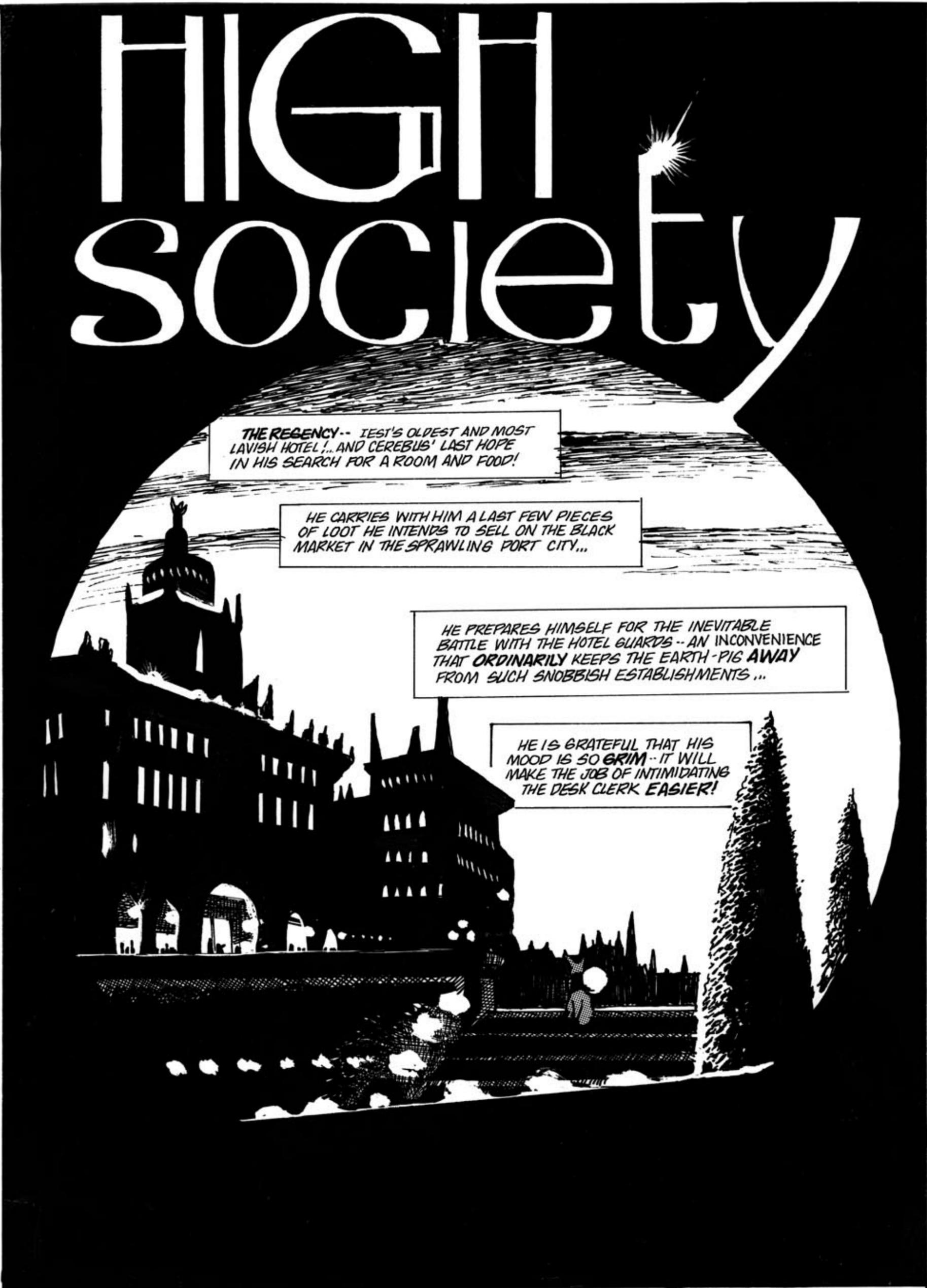
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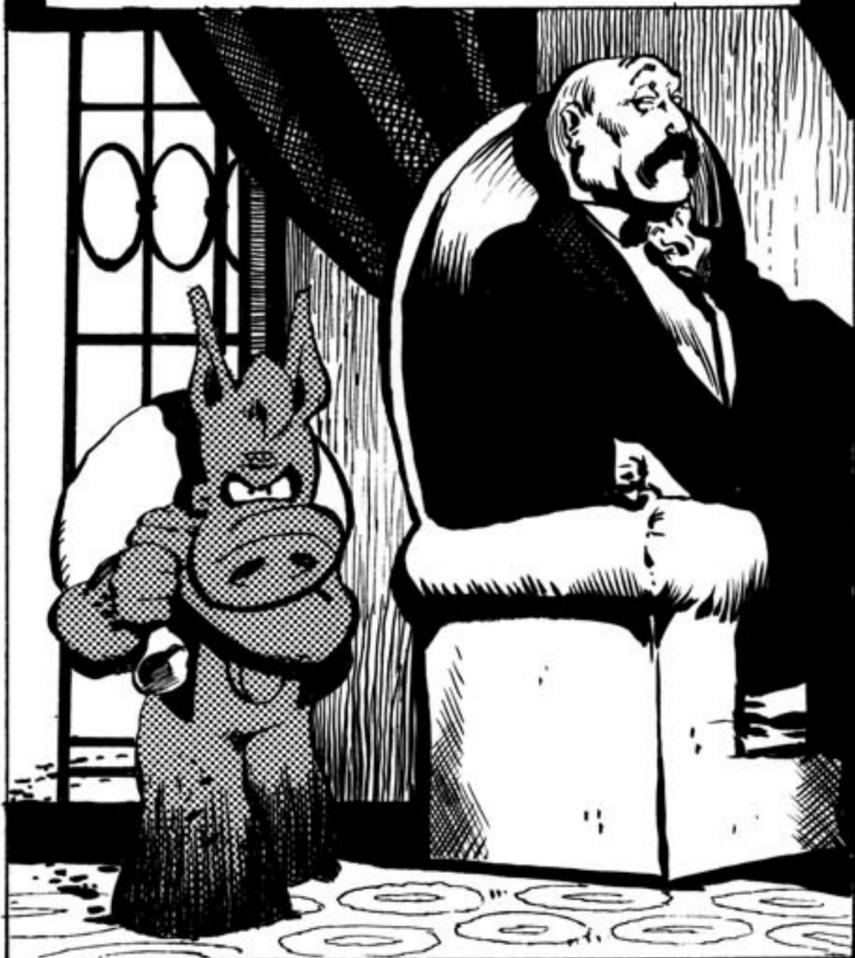
*THE REGENCY-- IEST'S OLDEST AND MOST LAVISH HOTEL!... AND CEREBUS' LAST HOPE IN HIS SEARCH FOR A ROOM AND FOOD!*

*HE CARRIES WITH HIM A LAST FEW PIECES OF LOOT HE INTENDS TO SELL ON THE BLACK MARKET IN THE SPRAWLING PORT CITY...*

*HE PREPARES HIMSELF FOR THE INEVITABLE BATTLE WITH THE HOTEL GUARDS -- AN INCONVENIENCE THAT ORDINARILY KEEPS THE EARTH-PIG AWAY FROM SUCH SNOBBISH ESTABLISHMENTS ...*

*HE IS GRATEFUL THAT HIS MOOD IS SO GRIM -- IT WILL MAKE THE JOB OF INTIMIDATING THE DESK CLERK EASIER!*

AND THE EARTH-PIG'S MOOD, DAMPENED BY ENDLESS MILES OF SWAMP IS GRIM, INDEED! HE SCOWLS AT THE DESK CLERK EVEN AS HE ENTERS THE LOBBY...



"THEY MUST BREED THEM FOR ARROGANCE" THINKS THE AARDVARK AS HE APPROACHES, NOISILY...



NO ROOMS.  
SORRY.



CEREBUS HAS JUST CARRIED THIS SACK OVER FIFTY MILES THROUGH THE WORST SWAMPS IN ESTARCION -- NOW-- IF YOU DON'T WANT CEREBUS TO FORCE-FEED YOU TO ONE OF THOSE STONE LIONS OUTSIDE, YOU...



CEREBUS?

DID YOU SAY 'CEREBUS', SIR?

AYE-- CEREBUS THE AARDVARK.

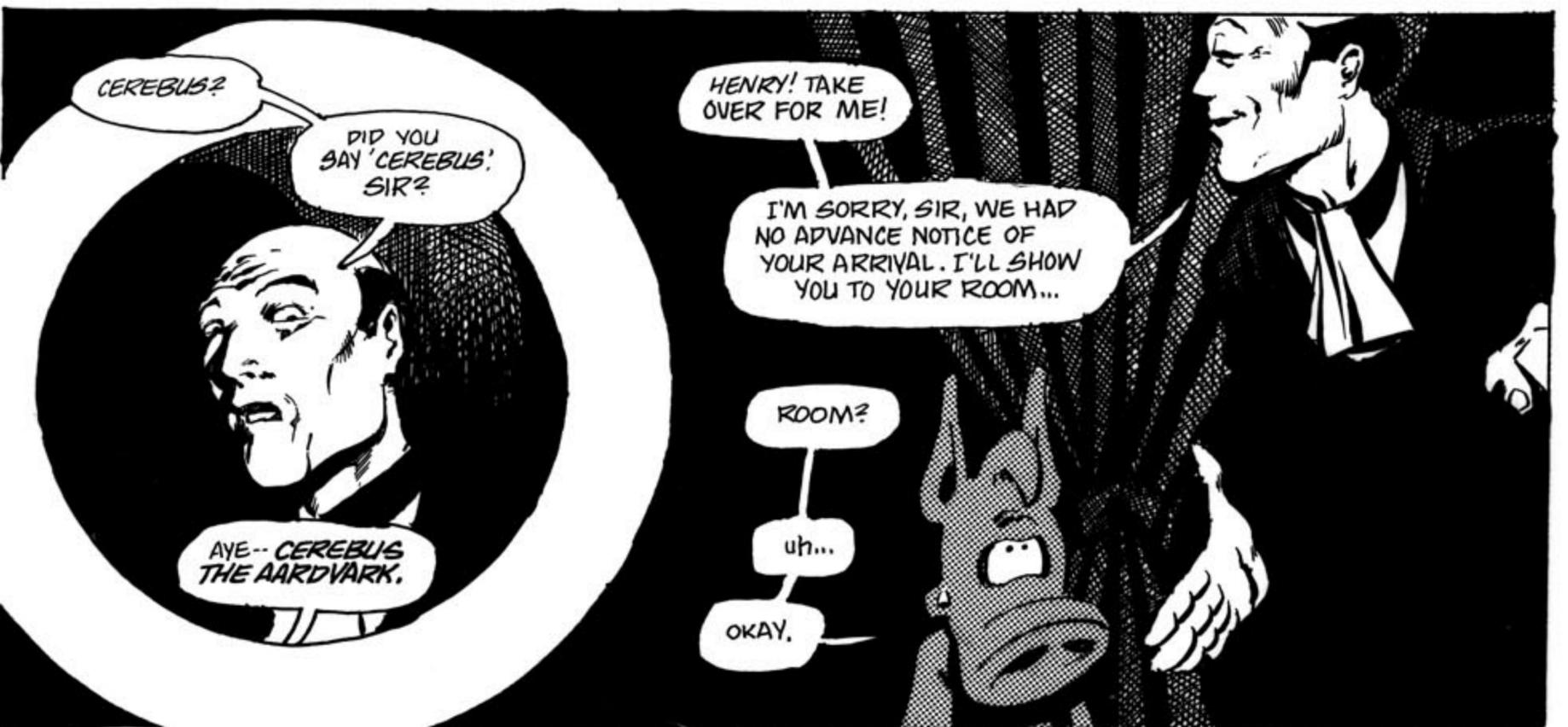
HENRY! TAKE OVER FOR ME!

I'M SORRY, SIR, WE HAD NO ADVANCE NOTICE OF YOUR ARRIVAL. I'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM...

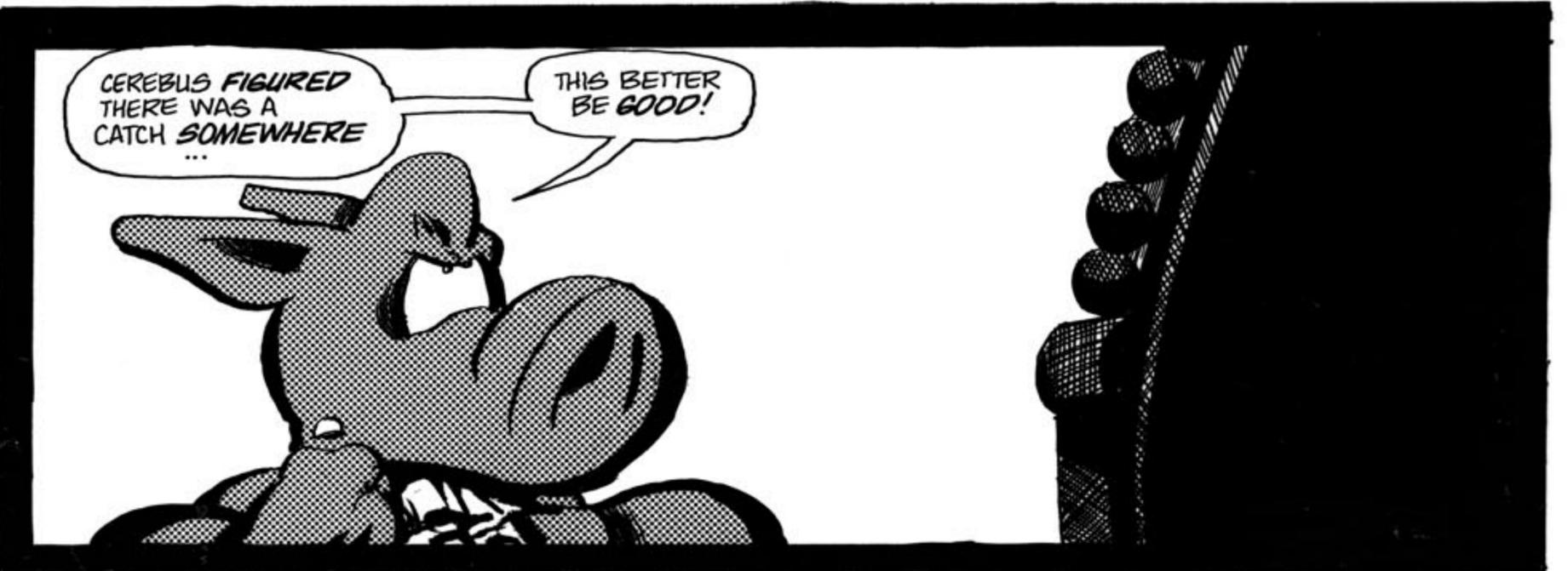
ROOM?

uh...

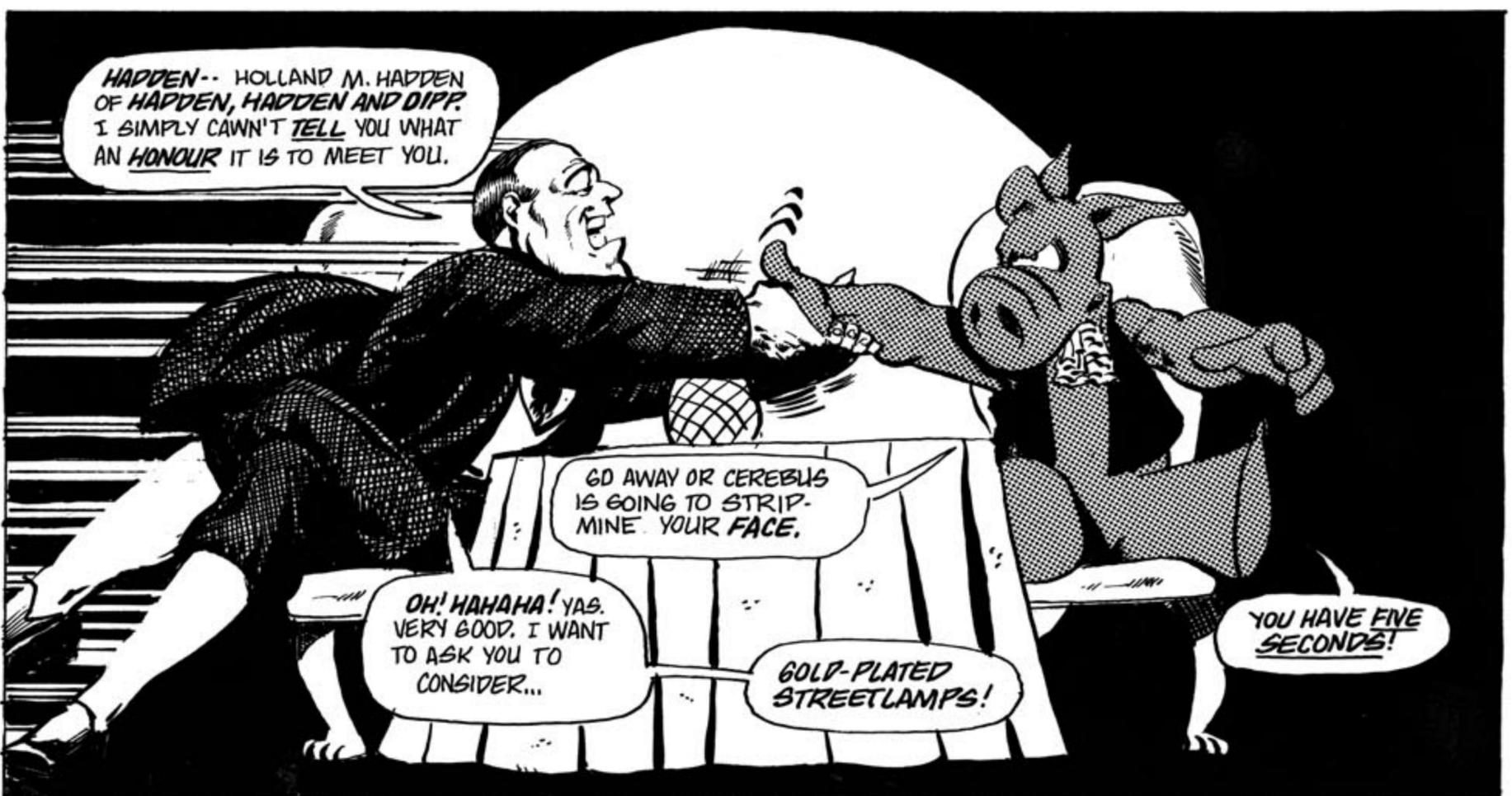
OKAY.

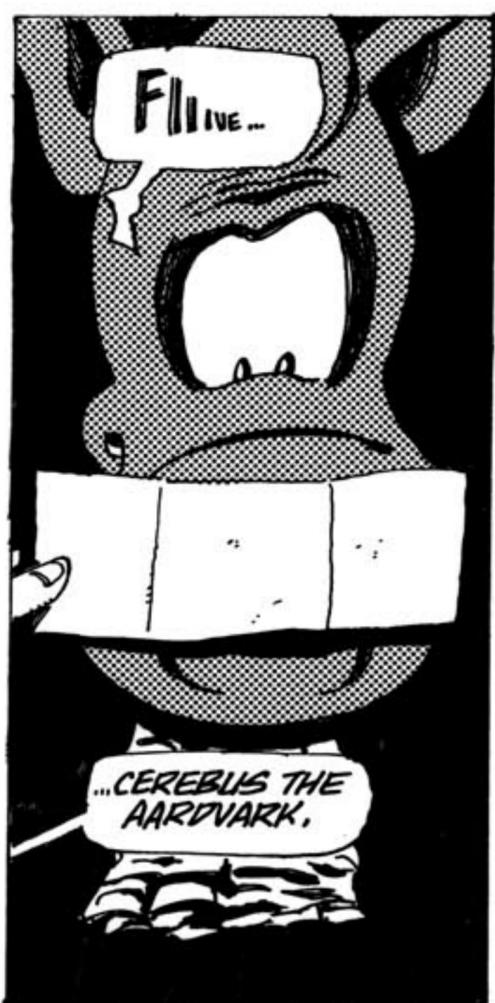




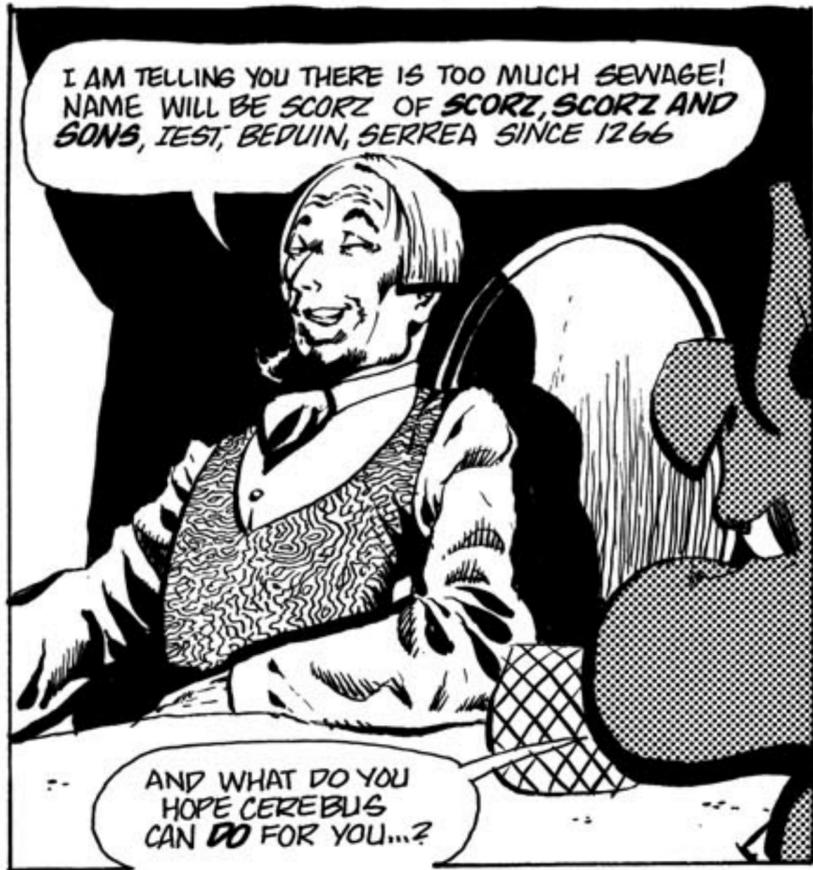


IT WAS ALL THE DESK CLERK'S FAULT, CEREBUS DECIDED! THE EARTH-PIG HAD ARRIVED QUITE READY TO FIGHT FOR A ROOM AND THE CLERK WAS TAKING PERVERSE SATISFACTION OUT OF MAKING THE WHOLE PROCESS TOO EASY... CEREBUS INTENDED TO START A FIGHT WITH **SOMEONE** IF IT TOOK THE WHOLE REST OF THE EVENING.



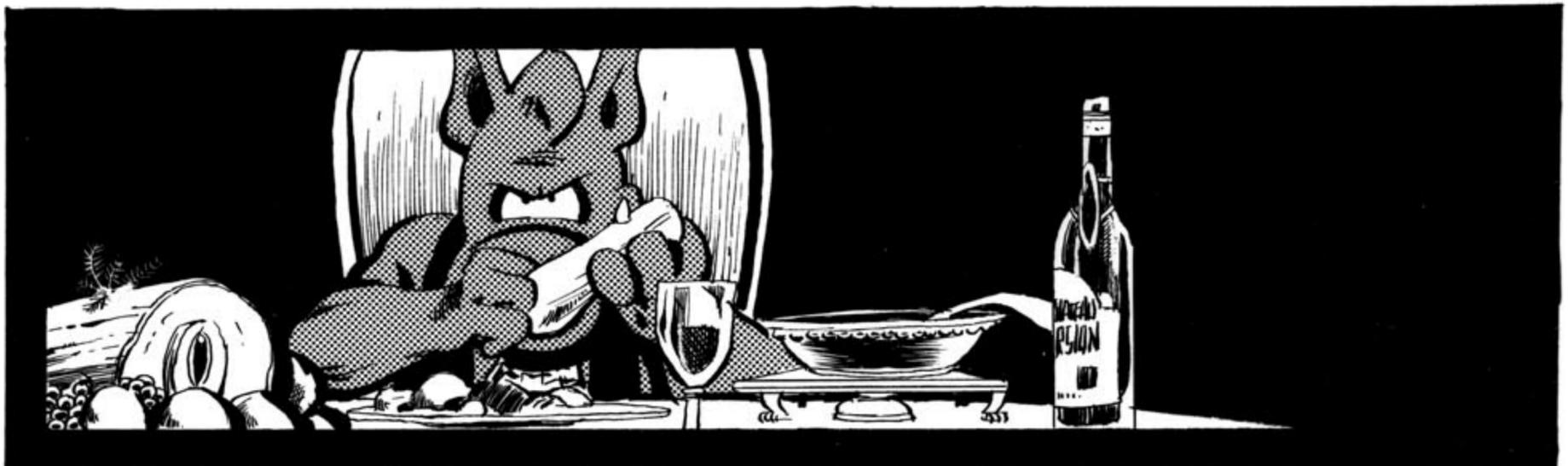




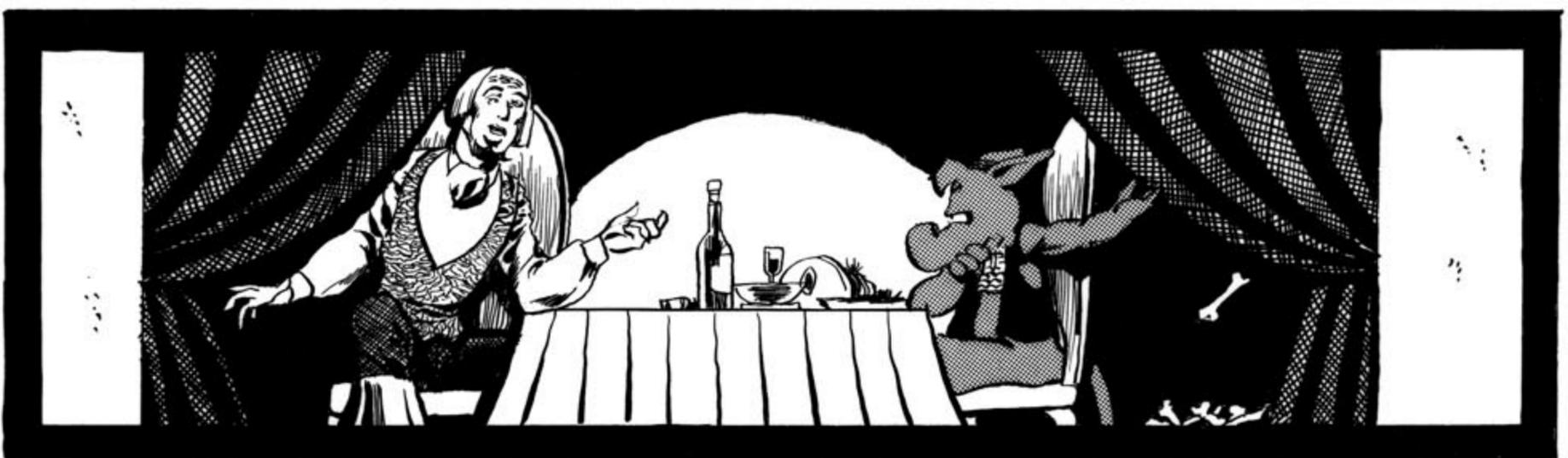




HEAD OF PURCHASING COMMA GOVERNMENTAL TELL ME HE IS TAKE ONLY CARE OF DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR TELL SCORZ "GO SEE BASKIN". GO SEE BASKIN. TALK AT BASKIN "SEWAGE, SEWAGE, SEWAGE" BASKIN SAY "INQUIRIES REGARDING PUBLIC UTILITIES ARE TO BE DIRECTED TO THE UNDERSECRETARY OF THE 'INTERNAL SECURITY TASK FORCE ON AGING IN THE HOME,'" SCORZ FILL OUT FORMS FOR HOUR AND A HALF, TWO WEEKS LATER SCORZ GET OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION FROM OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY OF THE "EXTERNAL AFFAIRS TASK FORCE ON AGING IN THE STREETS" INSIDE, SCORZ FIND FORMAL DECLARATION OF WAR AND INVITATION TO FESTIVAL OF PETUNIAS."



UNFORTUNATELY, SCORZ HAD NO ARMY AND NO PLACE TO RENT COSTUME, COMES IN NEXT COMMUNICATION SPECIAL ONE-TIME-ONLY, TOO-GOOD-TO-TRULY-BE OFFER! OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS AND OBFUSCATION MAKE AVAILABLE TO VALUED CUSTOMERS A DIRECTORY OF PALNU'S EXECUTIVES, STUDY GROUPS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS! SMALL CHARGE FOR HANDLING. WITH TAX, CONSULTING FEE AND LABOUR CHARGES, DIRECTORY COME TO ONLY FORTY-NINE CROWNS, TWO WEEKS LATER COMES NEXT NOTE "OWING TO INCREASED COSTS, DIRECTORY NOW COST TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY-NINE CROWNS. SEND MORE MONEY WITH COURIER."



NEXT LETTER ARRIVES FROM THE OFFICE OF CENTRAL INFORMATION. LETTER THANKS SCORZ, SCORZ AND SONS FOR CONTRIBUTION TO LORD JULIUS' STUDY GROUP EXAMINING METROPOLITAN FORESTRY. LETTER APOLOGIZED FOR DELAY IN ANSWERING. SCORZ WRITE LETTER TO STUDY GROUP DEMANDING COPY OF DIRECTORY. NEXT LETTER ARRIVE, STUDY GROUP DISSOLVED BY LORD JULIUS OWING TO LACK OF FOREST AREAS IN METROPOLITAN CENTRES. LETTER SAY LORD JULIUS CONSIDERING IDEA OF A DIRECTORY. WILL GET BACK TO SCORZ.

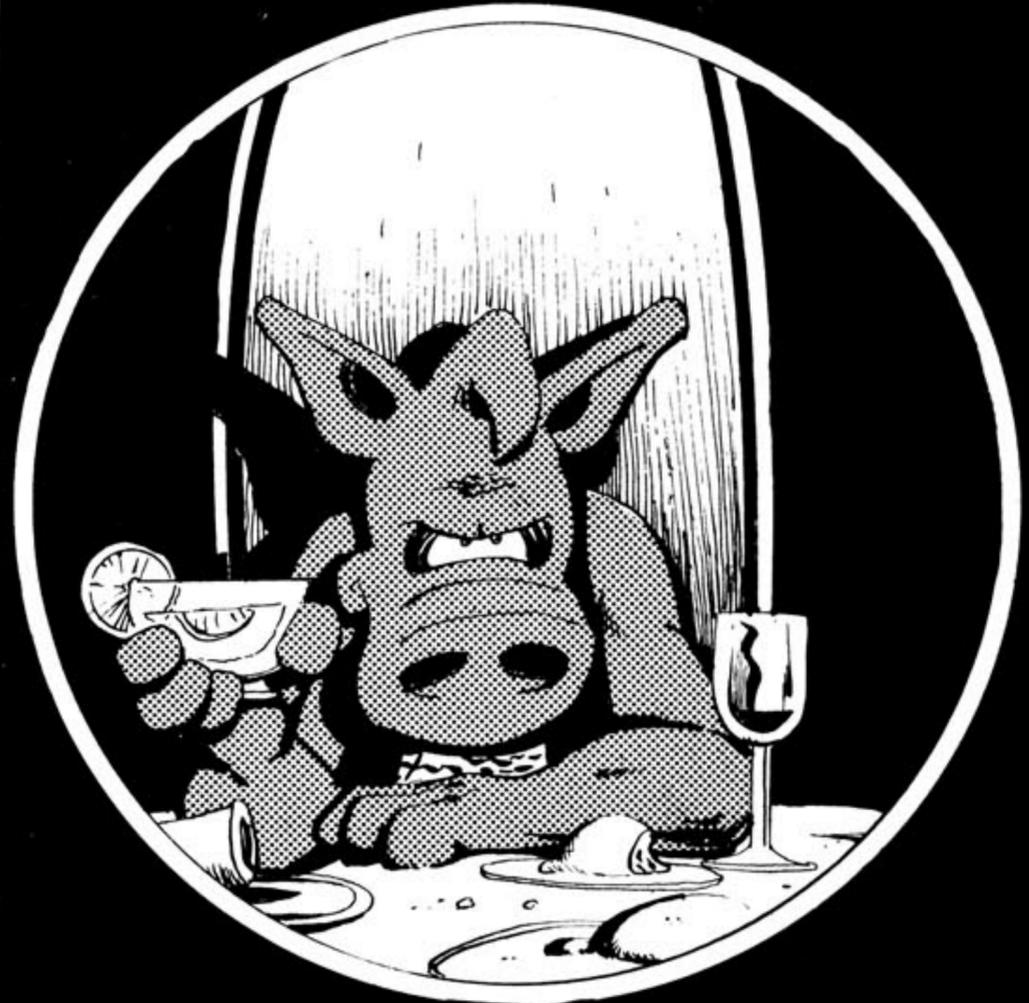
EVERY TIME MALL ARRIVE SCORZ BREAK OUT IN HIVES.

WARMING TO HIS SUBJECT, SCORZ BEGINS TO MAKE A CASE FOR CEREBUS BECOMING AN EMPLOYEE OF SCORZ, SCORZ AND SONS...



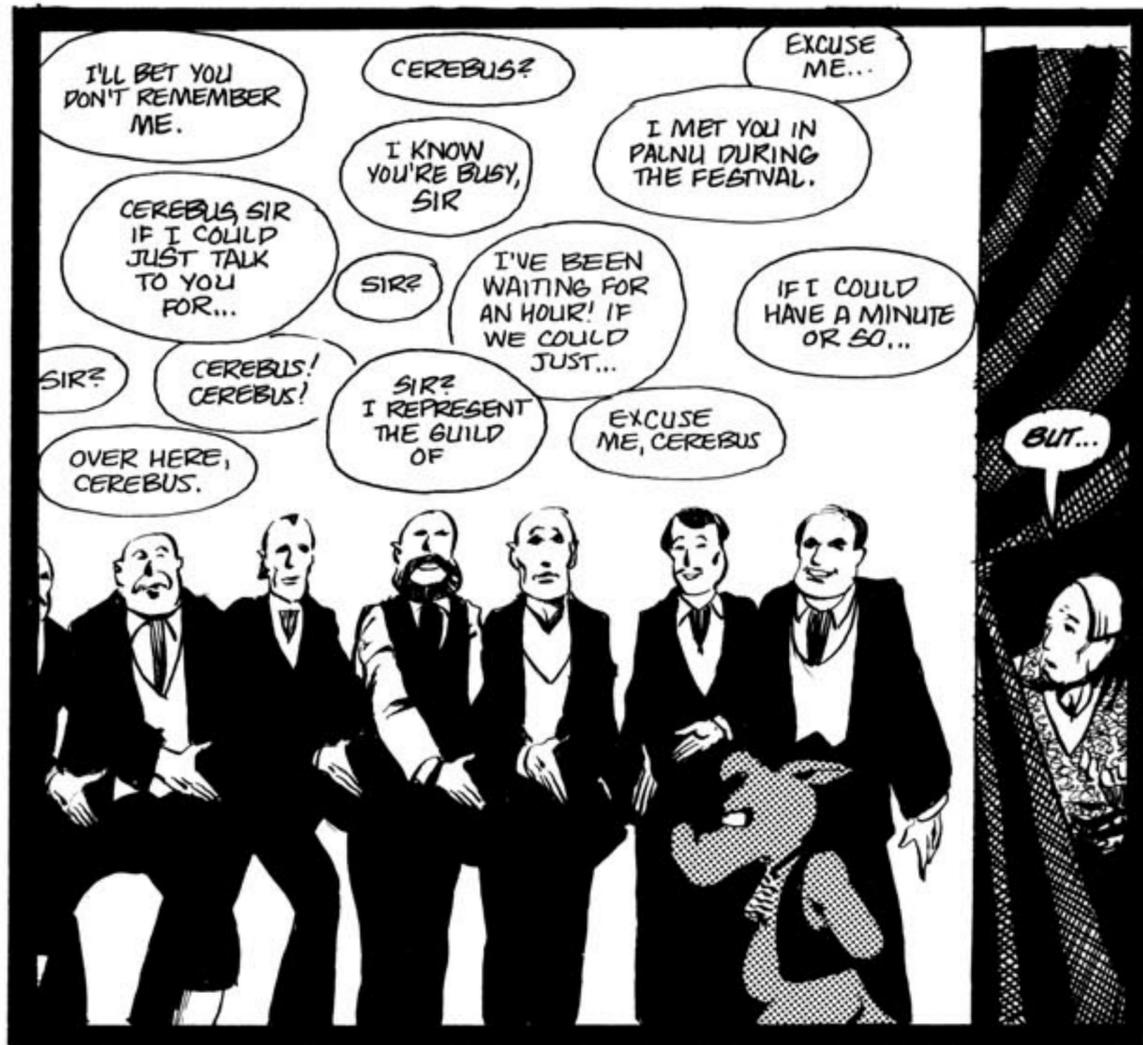
BUT THE EARTH-PIG'S THOUGHTS ARE ALREADY ELSEWHERE AS HE THINKS BACK TO HIS DAYS IN FALNU.

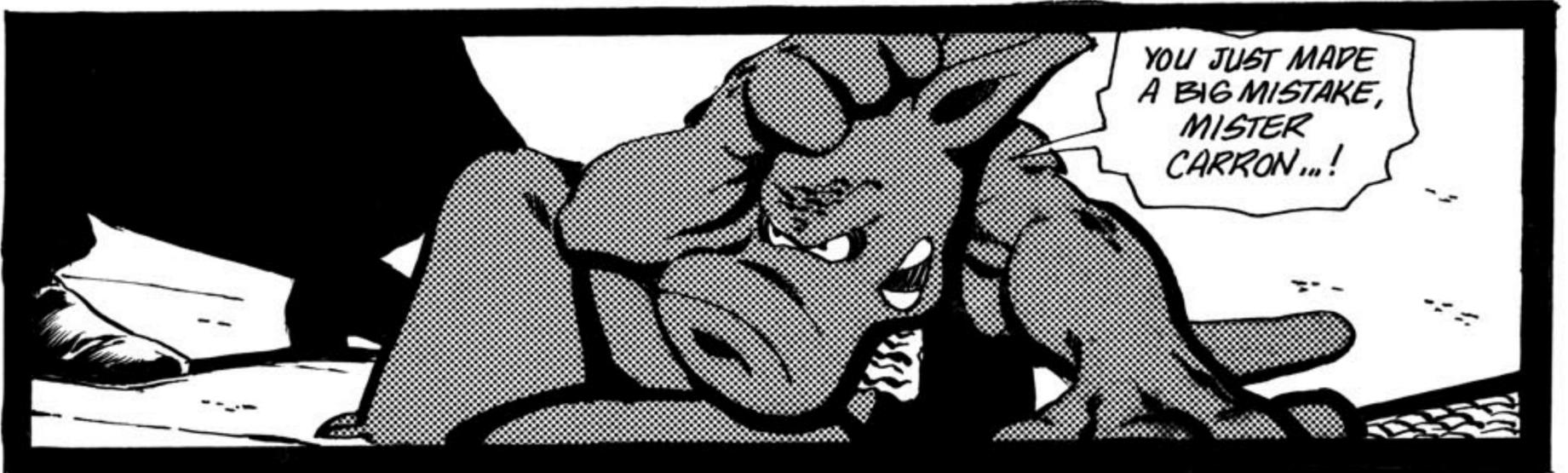
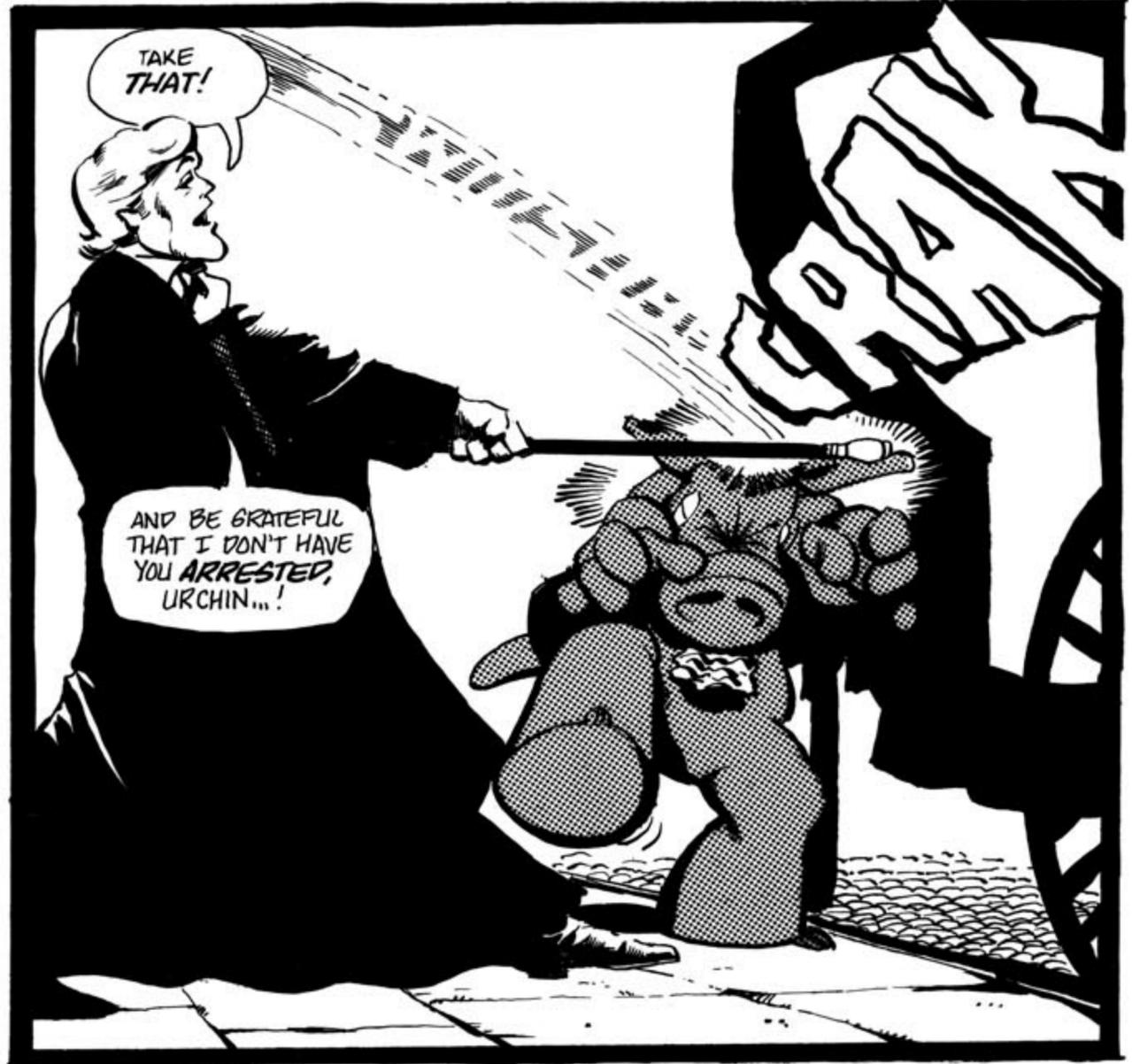
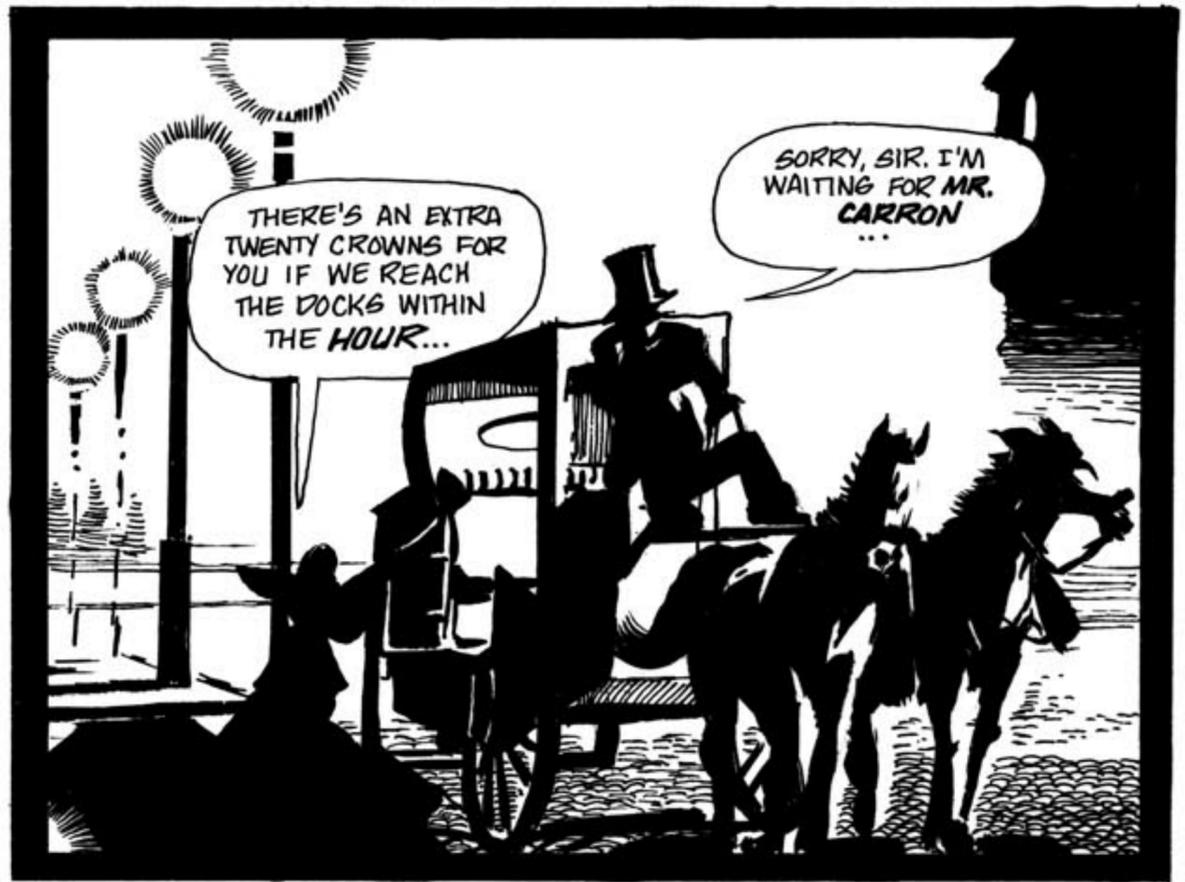
HE IS NOT SO GREATLY SURPRISED BY HIS RECEPTION, NOW! HE REMEMBERS THE LINES OF BUSINESSMEN, CABINET MINISTERS AND UNDERLINGS THAT DAILY PASSED THROUGH THE DOORS OF LORD JULIUS' OFFICE, ALL WITH THE SAME DISGUSTING LOOK OF WELL-DRESSED FEGGARS WHINING FOR A HAND-OUT HE NOW SAW ACROSS THE TABLE.

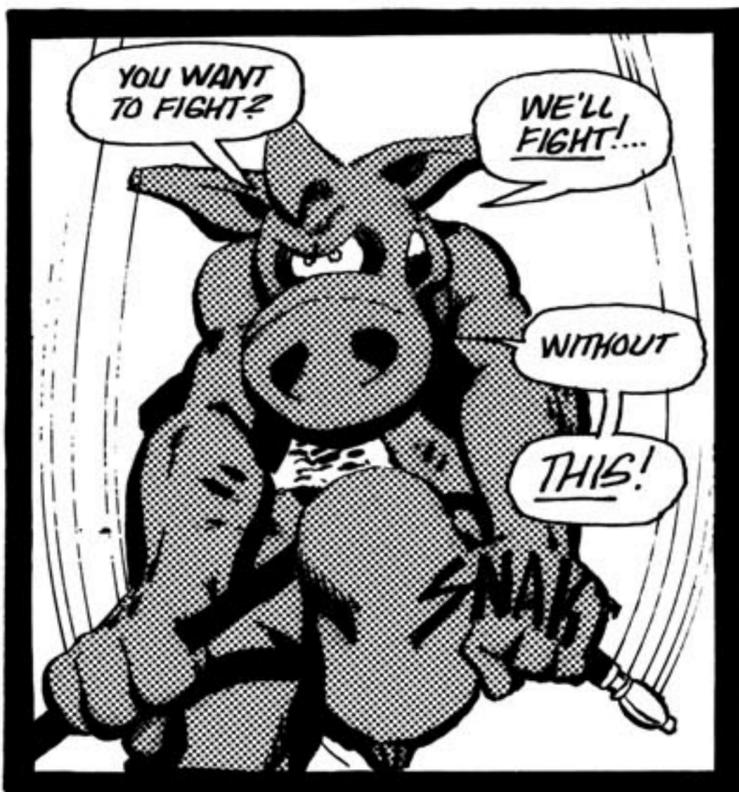


SIPPING THOUGHTFULLY FROM HIS FINGER-BOWL CEREBUS DECIDES THAT HE HAS HAD ENOUGH OF THIS AGGRAVATION. THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING THAT WOULD ALLEVIATE HIS FOUL MOOD.

CEREBUS HAD TO FIND SOMEONE TO BEAT UP.









I SHALL TRY MY BEST TO REFRAIN FROM CAUSING YOU ANY **PERMANENT** INJURY...



CEREBUS HAS BEEN WAITING ALL DAY FOR THIS, **BLONDIE!**



CEREBUS?



WELL, THIS IS A STROKE OF LUCK...

CARRON OF CARRON, McKIEL AND BENNY.



STOW IT, **BLONDIE!**

CEREBUS IS GOING TO BEAT YOU TO A **PULP!**



OH, OF COURSE

IN FACT, I **INSIST!**

I'M SURE IT'S THE **LEAST** I CAN DO...

AFTER BEING SUCH AN **ABSOLUTE PIG...**



YOU MEAN YOU'RE JUST GOING TO **STAND THERE** WHILE CEREBUS BEATS YOU TO A **PULP?**



EXACTLY SO...

HERE, LET ME MAKE IT **EASIER** FOR YOU...

CEREBUS DOESN'T **BELIEVE** THIS...

ALL I ASK IS THAT YOU NOT HOLD THIS AGAINST MY COMPANY-- THEY CAN BE OF **GREAT HELP** TO PALNU...







YOU'RE QUITE SURE YOU DON'T WANT ME TO WAIT HERE FOR YOU THEN, SIR?

NO--CEREBUS IS APT TO BE HERE FOR A WHILE...

AS YOU SAY, SIR.

THE RAM'S LORDS TAVERN.



SINCE THE TURN OF THE CENTURY, THE GATHERING PLACE FOR EVERY SADISTIC SEAMAN WITH THREE MONTHS' PAY AND SHORE LEAVE...

IT WAS SAID THAT THE RAMS LORDS HAD CLAIMED MORE LIVES THAN THE REVOLUTION IN UPPER FELDA...

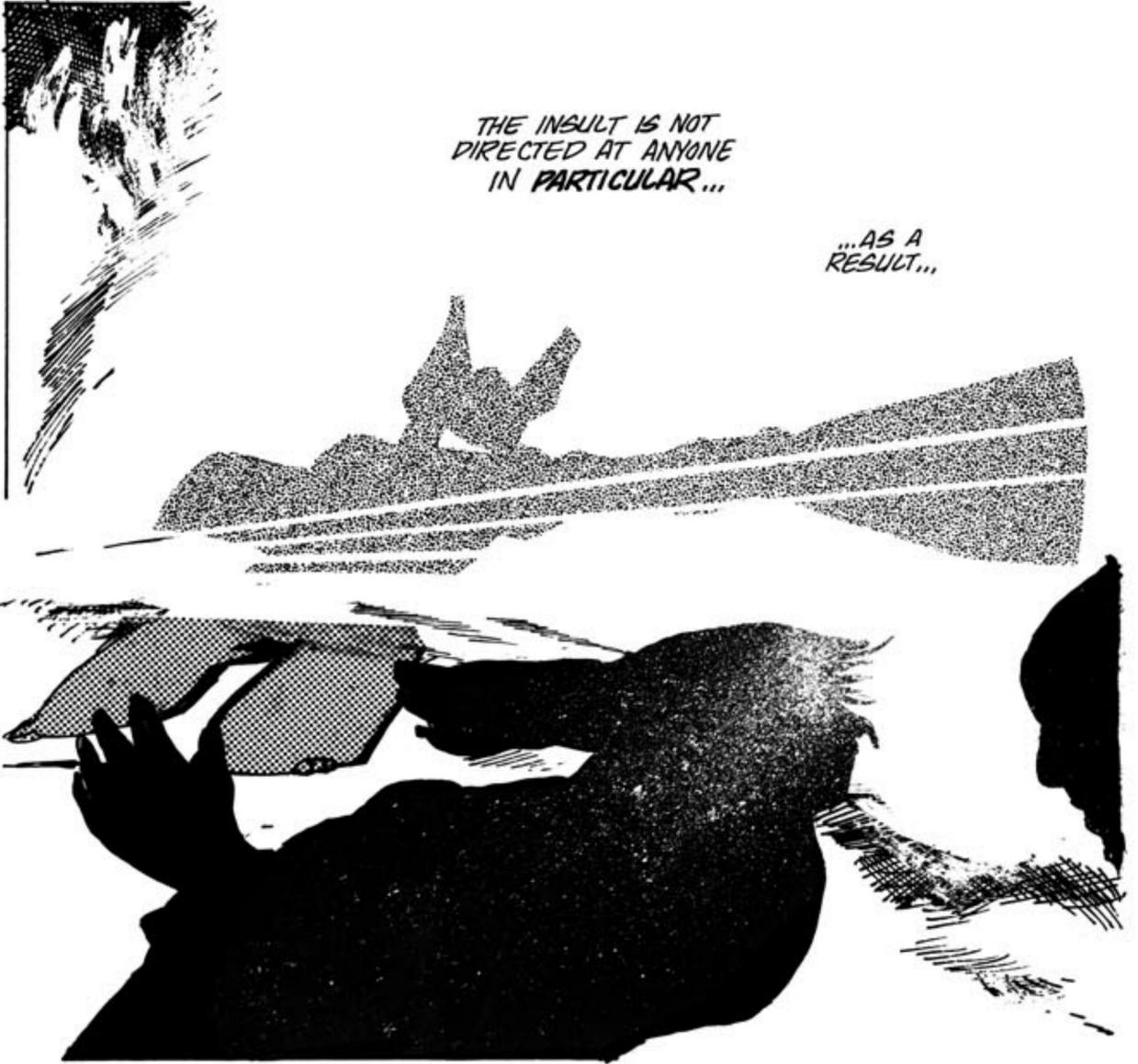
BUT THEN...



CEREBUS WAS LOOKING FOR A FIGHT...



HEY! SCUM BAG! OVER HERE!!



THE INSULT IS NOT DIRECTED AT ANYONE IN PARTICULAR...

...AS A RESULT...

EVERYONE TAKES IT PERSONALLY.

FOR A MOMENT, THE ENTIRE TAVERN IS DEATHLY SILENT...



BUT ONLY FOR A MOMENT.



GET 'IM!

BREAK THE LITTLE RAT IN HALF...!

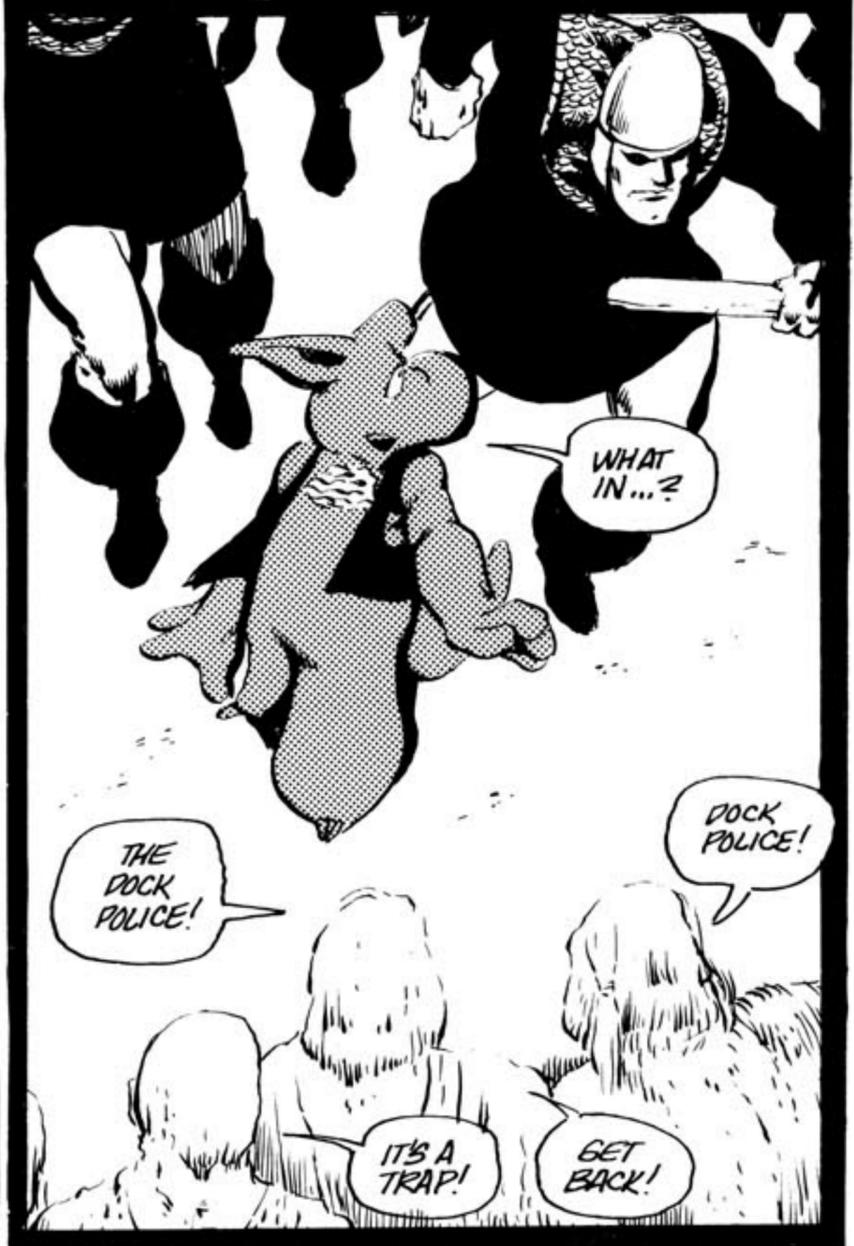
CRIPPLE 'IM!

PULL HIS EARS OFF!



IMPOSSIBLE ODDS; MENTALLY UNBALANCED FOES; CRAMPED QUARTERS FOR A GOOD PUNCH-UP...

AND PEOPLE SAY IEST WAS NO NIGHT LIFE...



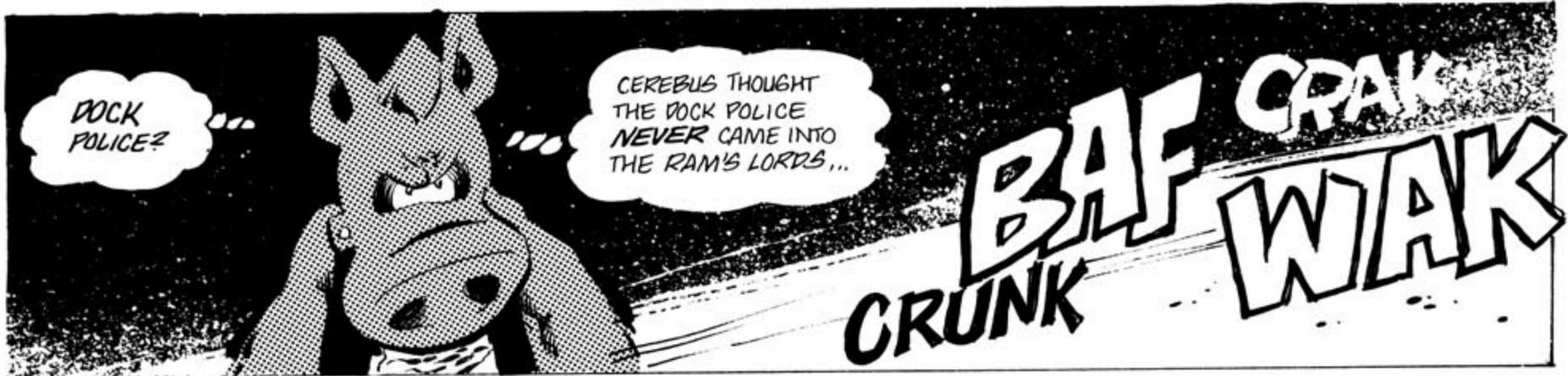
WHAT IN...?

THE DOCK POLICE!

DOCK POLICE!

IT'S A TRAP!

GET BACK!



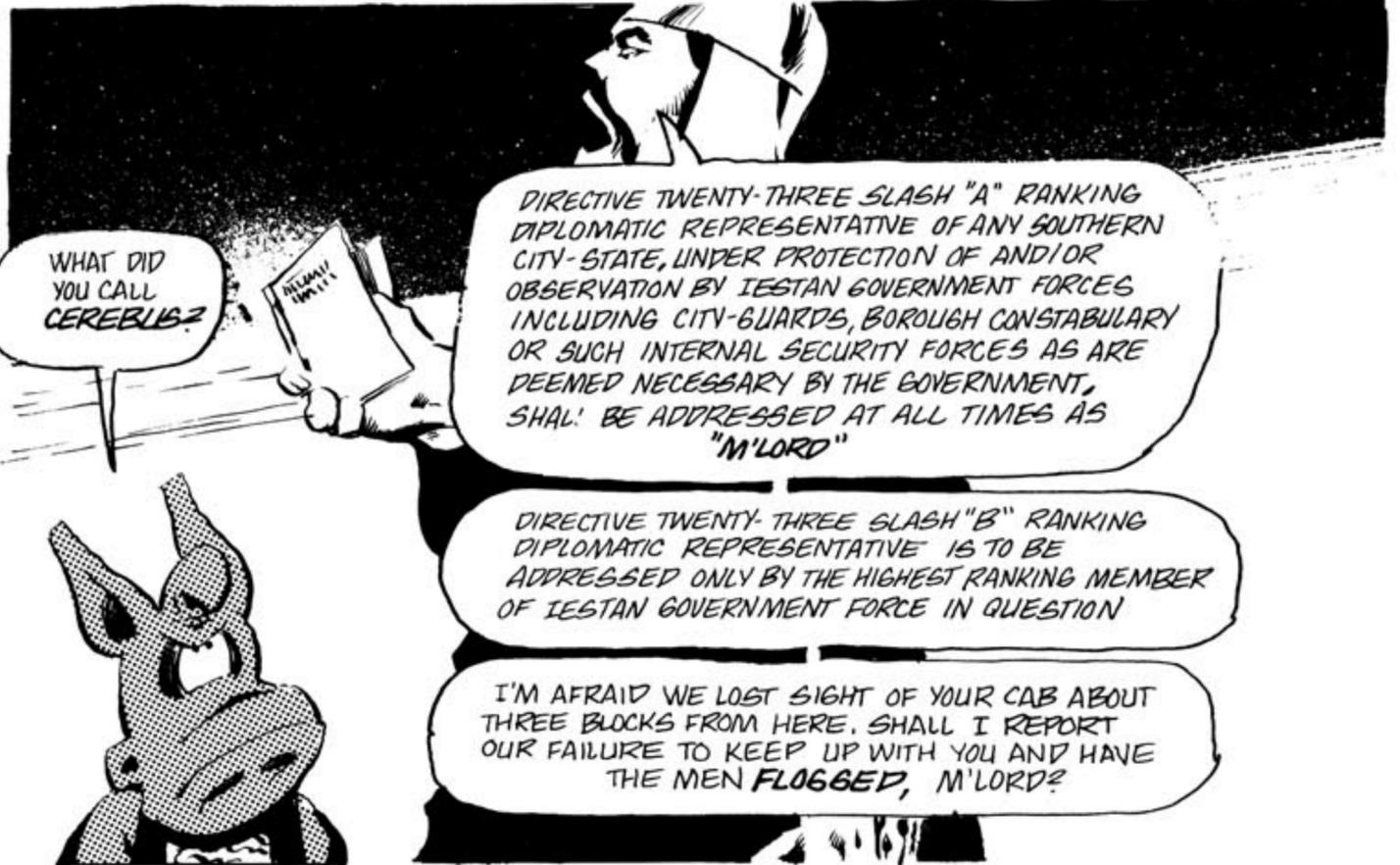
DOCK POLICE?

CEREBUS THOUGHT THE DOCK POLICE NEVER CAME INTO THE RAM'S LORDS...

BAF CRACK  
CRUNK WIAK



CAPTAIN HILL-HODGES; WATERFRONT SPECIAL SECURITY, M'LORD!



WHAT DID YOU CALL CEREBUS?

DIRECTIVE TWENTY-THREE SLASH "A" RANKING DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE OF ANY SOUTHERN CITY-STATE, UNDER PROTECTION OF AND/OR OBSERVATION BY IESTAN GOVERNMENT FORCES INCLUDING CITY-GUARDS, BOROUGH CONSTABULARY OR SUCH INTERNAL SECURITY FORCES AS ARE DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE GOVERNMENT, SHAL' BE ADDRESSED AT ALL TIMES AS "M'LORD"

DIRECTIVE TWENTY-THREE SLASH "B" RANKING DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE IS TO BE ADDRESSED ONLY BY THE HIGHEST RANKING MEMBER OF IESTAN GOVERNMENT FORCE IN QUESTION

I'M AFRAID WE LOST SIGHT OF YOUR CAB ABOUT THREE BLOCKS FROM HERE. SHALL I REPORT OUR FAILURE TO KEEP UP WITH YOU AND HAVE THE MEN FLOGGED, M'LORD?



NOT UNLESS CEREBUS GETS TO DO THE FLOGGING HIMSELF.

I'M SORRY, M'LORD-- DIRECTIVE TWENTY-THREE SLASH "C" SPECIFICALLY FORBIDS RANKING DIPLOMATIC...

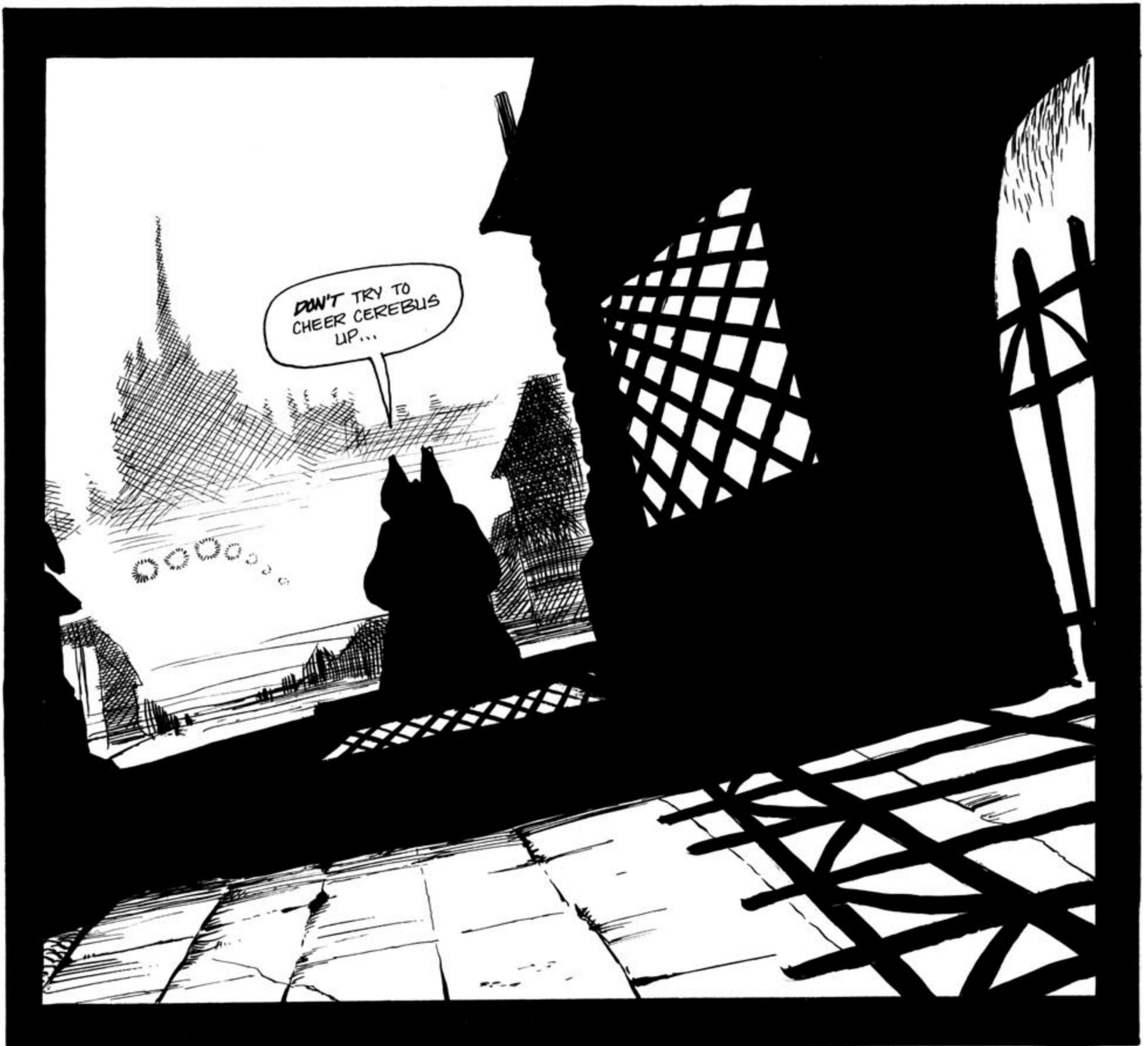


RIGHT.

CEREBUS IS GOING TO GO BACK TO HIS HOTEL... OKAY?

RIGHT YOU ARE, M'LORD IT WILL JUST TAKE TEN MINUTES TO ASSIGN YOU A SECURITY TEAM.

GOOD. THAT WILL GIVE CEREBUS A TEN-MINUTE HEAD-START...



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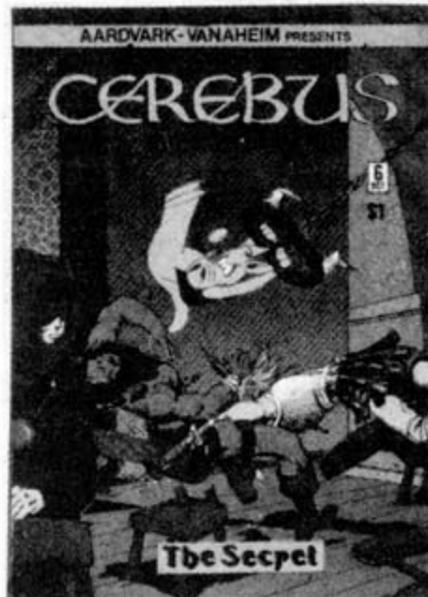
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# AARDVARK COMMENT

221 QUEEN ST S. #1401 - KITCHENER-ONTARIO N2G 1W5

Dear Deni:

Now that I've had a chance to read CEREBUS #23 which arrived yesterday, I'd like to offer a few comments on it and more on CEREBUS in general. I think this is your best issue yet. The cover, the interior art, the story -- all seem to be at a slightly higher level of quality than anything you've done before, though you may have had stories that were funnier or more dramatic. This seems to be the best blend of all the elements that go together to make a work really satisfying.

But -- on the whole, I agree with Dennis Summer's criticism on your letters page. I haven't felt strongly enough about this to comment on it before, but you've had a number of unsatisfying transitions from one plot to another, leaving too many points unanswered. I know that you consider CEREBUS to be a humor magazine in a superficially-dramatic format, rather than an actual adventure strip; but what counts is whether the reader feels satisfied with the way the story is presented, and the overall impression that several stories have left is that they were good but that they had a few very noticeable rough spots that should've been worked on more carefully. You yourself talk in this letter column about introducing coherent plots to comic book humor; these "cheap" transitions damage your coherence. (Besides, with all due respect, I think that Carl Barks has to be acknowledged as having regularly produced coherent plots in humorous comic books for many years. His classic DONALD DUCK and UNCLE SCROOGE stories such as "Lost in the Andes" and "The Golden Helmet" are certainly neither straight adventure strips nor theatre-of-the-absurd comedies.)

Twice now you've put Cerebus in command of mighty armies bent on conquest and then separated him from them & destroyed them offstage. (Issues 9 & 22.) The first time it was okay, but the second instance struck me as being both repetitious and an unsatisfactory resolution to the question of how Cerebus was going to handle his personal relationships with both the T'Gitan and with Lord Julius. In fact, in the letter column in issue 19 Dave said he wanted to make the T'Gitan assault on Palnu as realistic as possible, which led me to expect a really dynamic climax to that story after all the build-up to it was completed. Instead it's dismissed in a single offhand reference to an offstage event in issue 22. When I read that I frankly wondered whether President Weisshaupt was lying in order to retain Cerebus' services, and that Cerebus would eventually find himself still in time for the T'Gitan-Palnan confrontation; but issue 23 makes it look as though you really have finished with that story completely & are going on to something else. So even though the moment-to-moment action in the last several issues has been quite satisfying, I'm irritated that the Palnu adventure seems to have been abandoned rather than resolved.

I fully share Summers' feelings on your transition from #20 to #21. The complaint isn't over the transition itself -- it's an excellent shock and I like shocks in my leisure reading -- but the fact that there's never any explanation for it. I like mysteries when they're solved at the end of the story, not when they leave major questions unanswered. How and why did Cerebus get moved from Toghth to Beduin? You might be able to come up with some snappy, humorous reply to this, but it'll take more than that to make me, the reader, feel really satisfied. Summers is right; whatever you may have thought you were doing, it looks like you just wrote yourself into a corner and took a cheap way out rather than really solving the problem of how to get Cerebus away from the Cirinists. And that cheapens the whole story.

As a reader I'm also unsatisfied with the way you've dropped Lord Julius from the story. Not over his being dropped, but the casual way that you've done it. If he'd just disappeared after issue 16, when Cerebus left Palnu, that would've been perfectly natural. After all, Cerebus is the focal point of the magazine and the reader wouldn't expect to see Lord Julius continue on stage after Cerebus moves on. But Lord Julius did continue on stage. For the next three issues you kept flashing back to him in "Meanwhile, in

Palnu...." asides, which led your audience to expect that he would continue to be pertinent to Cerebus' adventures -- or that, at the least, we could look forward to an enjoyably exciting confrontation between Lord Julius and Lord Gorce for the control of Palnu. Instead this subplot seems to have fizzled out completely. I'm sure you haven't totally abandoned such a popular character as Lord Julius, and I won't be surprised if (to suggest one possibility) Cerebus eventually runs into him in exile and undertakes to restore him to power in Palnu. But that will be a new adventure. My whole point is that, as a reader, I had been looking forward with anticipation during the past few issues to a confrontation between Lord Julius and Cerebus with Cerebus as the commander of the T'Gitan horde, or to a confrontation between Lord Julius and Lord Gorce with or without Cerebus on the scene. Now I have a feeling of dissatisfaction over the way you seem to have just forgotten about this subtheme. It smacks of sloppiness rather than conscious planning.

I was also left with a feeling that there was something not quite right about Cerebus' abandonment of Weisshaupt at the conclusion of #22. Granted that Cerebus might be peeved by Weisshaupt's condescension toward him, he still seemed to have stronger reasons of self-interest to support Weisshaupt -- the offer of a comfortable position of power in Weisshaupt's cabinet -- than to let this opportunity disintegrate and become a lonely refugee. And, as I said, I was also left with a feeling of wrongness over the whole transition from #20 to #21; both over the unexplained nature of (& lack of reason for) that transition, and over the fact that it left Cerebus' relationship with the Cirinists and the Illusionists unresolved.

Maybe the problem is in me for wanting CEREBUS to be more of an adventure book and less of a humor book than it's intended to be. But these lapses of continuity seem to be due to poorly thought-out plotting more than to the fact that CEREBUS is supposed to be a humor magazine. I realize that Dave is doing a superhuman job of writing already, but if he can devote just a bit more seriousness to covering all the loose ends in a story, rather than feeling that they don't matter because CEREBUS isn't a serious adventure title, the result will be greater reader satisfaction.

Best,

Fred Patten  
11863 West Jefferson Blvd.  
Culver City, Calif. 90230

*I concede your point on Carl Barks, only insofar as single issues go. With all do respect to you, I don't believe Barks had a coherent world-view of the imaginary characters he was creating that remained faithful to the previous issue's continuity (i.e. Donald Duck's sudden appearance as a Museum Guard in "The Golden Helmet" does not continue in the next story. Profession, disposition, environment and social status were manipulated from issue to issue as called for by the single issue plot. I try to maintain the reality from issue to issue. I enhance the reality, but I never arbitrarily change it for convenience sake).*

*"Mighty armies" is your phrase, not mine. The Conniptins were enthusiastic, and within their own limited framework, probably quite an adequate army, but come on! Look at lest (their ultimate target) as depicted in this issue. It's a city for heaven's sake. It would be like taking a band of snarky shepherds with good sword arms out of Scotland and racing south to lay siege to London. Ditto for the T'Gitan. It was a unique alliance that had been forged, largely by the diplomatic proficiency of Gudre, between several T'Gitan tribes. With the reduced troop strength reaching crisis proportion in Palnu and its territories, they had a very small but real chance of making it to the city gates. They had an even smaller chance of getting inside, but who knows? Perhaps under cover of darkness or in the middle of a bad storm. The*

# AARDVARK COMMENT

221 QUEEN ST S. #1401 - KITCHENER-ONTARIO N2G 1W5

introduction of the Lord Gorce character changed the whole complexion of the matter. The T'Gitans didn't stand a chance once he had all the armies he needed -- needed in the sense of decided over-kill. Gorce wasn't going to stop until he had the T'Gitans facing absolutely impossible odds.

This, of course, raises the question: What was I trying to accomplish? Foremost, I was using the armies as an illustration of Cerebus' complete lack of expertise in the area. You mistake the Earth-pig's enthusiasm (Essentially no better thought out than "Hot Diggety! A good scrap!") for cold, analytical strategy. This was a viewpoint I was trying to illustrate in recent issues; Cerebus' wariness of getting swept up into someone else's quarrel. Remember, he couldn't find any flaw in Gudre's plan, even though it was flawed to the degree that Lord Gorce made quick work of the T'Gitan hordes. He is learning to not trust his instincts when it comes to picking an army to fight with. His instincts in that area are not particularly good.

I'm afraid the letters page reference in #19 falls under the category of Dave Sim and His Big Mouth. I now avoid plotting my next few issues on the letters page. Suffice to say the emergence of Lord Julius' popularity as a character and a revived interest on my part in charting more of what conspires in the bizarre city of Palnu, made the whole idea of just filling the streets with corpses while T'Gitans sack the city unappealing in the extreme. Combined with the improbability of such an occurrence (as described above) this made me shift the direction of the Palnu story onto a new tangent (this issue should give you an idea of how Palnu's impact on Cerebus' life continues).

The problem of how Cerebus got from Togith to Beduin has already been worked out. I could explain it all here, but since it involves people you haven't met, disciplines I haven't touched on and power groups on the very fringes of Estarcion society that haven't nearly been revealed even fragmentally, I doubt that you would derive as much entertainment value from it as you will by just being patient and reading each issue as it comes out. How would you have liked it if I had revealed on the letters page in #14 that Jaka was Lord Julius' niece? Would have made the ending to #16 something of a clunker wouldn't it? The situation is comparable. Believe me.

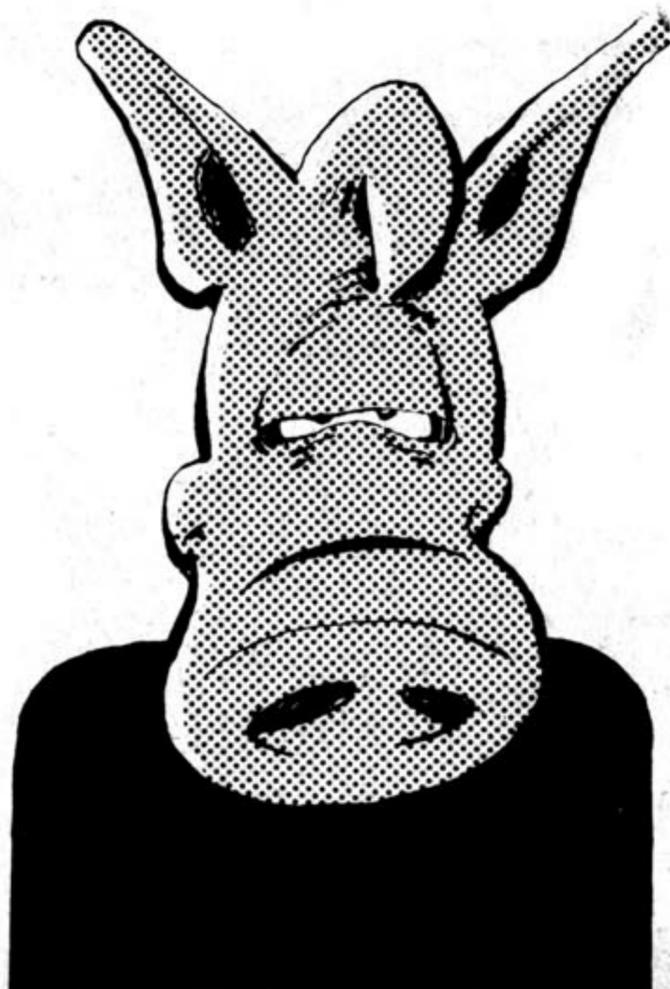
Sloppiness, indeed. If I had signed an agreement with my fans at the outset of Cerebus' run, promising to wrap up every plot development within six issues, then I think you might have a case. To re-iterate -- I'm going to be doing Cerebus for another twenty-three years. I could have kept Lord Julius in the book long past issue #16. I think that issue (to use it again as an example) illustrates the kind of character I'm trying to develop for Lord Julius. His presence is all over this issue even though he never makes an appearance and is only referred to in the most general way. A power struggle between Lord Julius and Lord Gorce? Hardly likely. Gorce is a lightweight, suffering from the same myopia as Cerebus. The world of Estarcion is in the middle of a great social upheaval. There is great wealth and the rise of the merchant class is making all these chaps with the big armies something of the past. If Lord Gorce tried to wrest power from Lord Julius, he would be trying to buck the largest inter-related old-boy network on the continent. Lord Julius pays his armies well and his bureaucrats even better. And if Lord Gorce thought that defeating a bunch of uncouth barbarians from the north was going to win him power by acclamation, he was not facing the fact that virtually the whole population of Palnu is either directly or indirectly employed by the government. With Lord Julius' rotating bureaucracy (you can see someone else's experience with it in this issue's Scorz monologue) his chances of finding somewhere to drive the thin end of his revolutionary wedge were two-fold: slim and nill. The result is a paralysis on his part, but not a complete loss of influence. Like most of the rebels in Palnu he will be facing the dilemma of being independent and powerless or acquiescent and influential.

Weissaupt was a millionaire nut. He is not unlike the current spate of 19th century conservatives who figure you can run a country like a corporation. Once his face was known and there

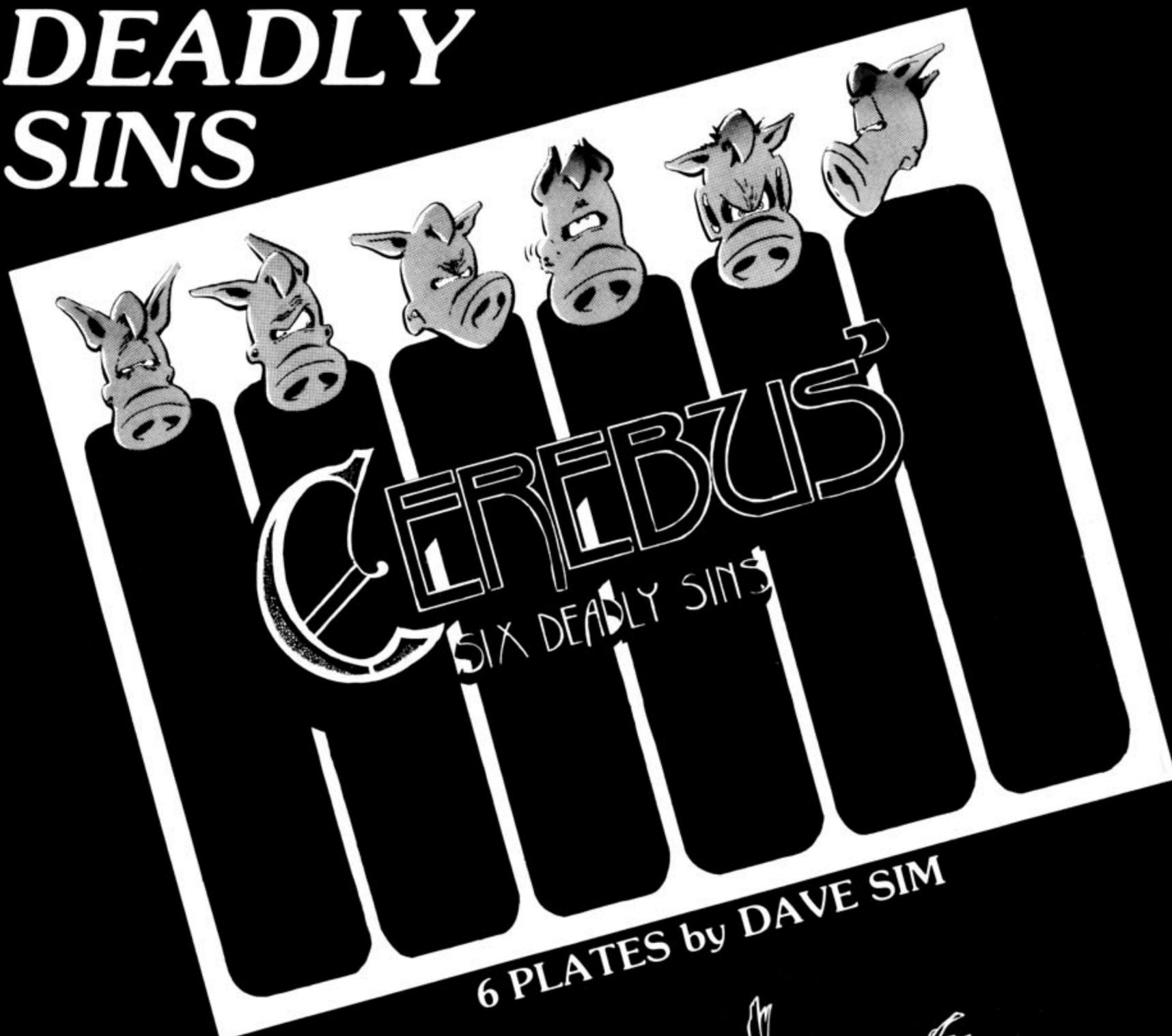
was no hope for Elrod to assist in getting his activities sanctioned, he was only going one place; military jail and then the gallows. The Military Government of Lower Felda doesn't tolerate any movement from the private sector into their domain; governing. Cerebus had nothing to gain by staying with Weissaupt.

The Cirinists are the most recent incarnation of the original matriarchal society that once dominated Estarcion. They have a foothold now that they have formed the revolutionary government of Upper Felda, but almost everywhere else on the map, they are either a grudgingly tolerated or rabidly persecuted minority. Likewise the Illusionists. The key word here is underground. Cerebus could be bumping into hard-core Illusionists and Cirinists every day and not know it. While for their part, the two groups will be having a hard time since issue #20 trying to find the Earth-pig. No matter how anyone tries to describe Cerebus physically to someone else, they never picture him looking like he does. Would you? For his part, Cerebus woke up from a bad situation and found himself out of immediate danger. What would you have done in his situation? Gone back to find out how you escaped? I doubt it. Look on issue #20 as an introduction to a whole new strata of Estarcion society seldom understood or even seen by the members of that society. His relationship to the two groups will emerge from time to time, but bear in mind that these are secret societies and an overkill on information is only going to hurt the credibility of the idea.

Above all, I would ask all of the readers of Cerebus to remember that Cerebus himself is trying to learn to adapt to a world not only he never made -- but one that very few individuals have managed to adapt to gradually. His simple pursuit of money, physical comfort and frivolous pasttimes is becoming something of an albatross in the thriving new capitalism -- it becomes too easy for him to achieve his goals because his sites are set so low. The reaction at the moment is restlessness and a basic rejection of everything new in his new society. Whether Cerebus molds the environment to suit his needs or whether the society manages to change Cerebus (he hasn't slept in a tree since issue #5) is what I'll be exploring for the next two hundred and seventy-four issues. I hope you'll be here. Fred.



# CEREBUS' SIX DEADLY SINS



SLOTH  
ENVY  
AVARICE  
GREED  
ANGER  
PRIDE

\$12.00



AARDVARK-VANAHEIM PRESENTS

# UNIQUE

STORIES

**1**

COMING  
SOON!



**CEREBUS**

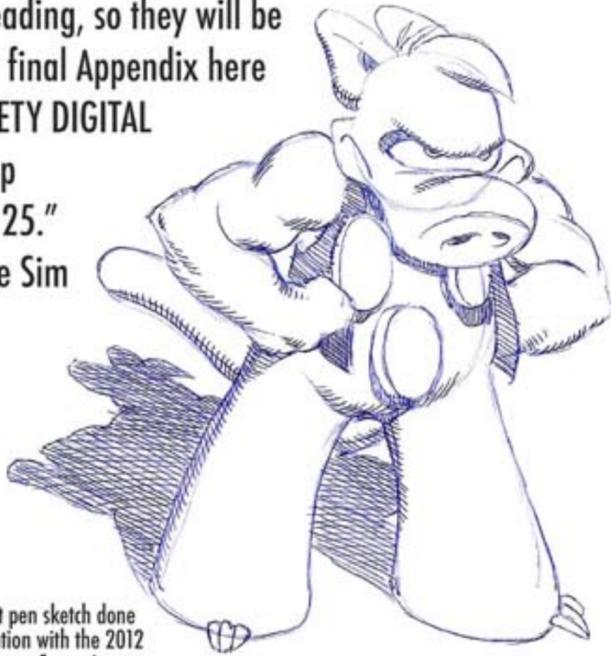
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ARCHIVE

# CEREBUS ARCHIVE

"While the invoice books do provide a good snapshot of the early history of the Direct Market - which sub-distributors were buying from which distributors and in what quantities, as an example - immediately prior to the first appearance of Diamond Comic Distributors, they don't exactly make for "gripping first issue" reading, so they will be featured as a final Appendix here in HIGH SOCIETY DIGITAL somewhere up around issue 25."

- Dave Sim



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 Kickstarter Campaign.

OUR NUMBER <b>48268</b>	
DATE <u>May 1/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>due May 15/81</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Bud Plant</u>	
SHIPPED TO	
ADDRESS _____ VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	5000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #26</u> @ 45 <u>2250.00</u>
	<u>one 4-colour ad (back page)</u> <u>125.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>2375.00</u>
	<u>Reminder</u>
<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th cheques by May 30th.</u>	

OUR NUMBER <b>48269</b>	
DATE <u>May 4/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>due May 15/81</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Pacific Comics</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>PO Box 699217 San Diego, Calif</u>	
ADDRESS _____ VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	3000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #26</u> @ 45 <u>1350.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>1350.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48270</b>	
DATE <u>May 4/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>due May 15/81</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Glennwood Distributors</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>1214 Vandelin St Colton, Calif</u>	
ADDRESS _____ VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	9000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #26</u> @ 45 <u>4050.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>4050.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48271</b>	
DATE <u>May 4/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>due May 15/81</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Star Comic Service</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>Box 3791 Sta B Winnipeg, Man</u>	
ADDRESS _____ VIA _____	
INVOICE	1000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #26</u> @ 505 <u>505.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>505.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48272</b>	
DATE <u>May 4/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>due May 15/81</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Capital City Distributors</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>2207 11th Ave St Madison, Wis</u>	
ADDRESS <u>537130</u> VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	1000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #26</u> @ 505 <u>505.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>505.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48273</b>	
DATE <u>May 4/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>due May 15/81</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>News-Then Books</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>23 Green St Rochester</u>	
ADDRESS _____ VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	1000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #26</u> @ 505 <u>505.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>505.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48274</b>	
DATE <u>May 4/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>ASAP</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>The Comic Shop</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>2099 West 4th Ave</u>	
ADDRESS <u>Vancouver, B.C. V6S 1N3</u> VIA _____	
INVOICE	<u>The records show no payments for ads in Cerebus the Ardwrak #s 23, 24 + 25. Total amount is \$205.00 (\$15 x 3). Do this a problem? Let me know. Otherwise please send payment ASAP.</u>
	<u>Thank you - Dave Sim</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48275</b>	
DATE <u>May 1/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>ASAP</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>News-Then Books</u>	
SHIPPED TO _____	
ADDRESS _____ VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	1000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #25</u> @ 505 <u>505.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>505.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

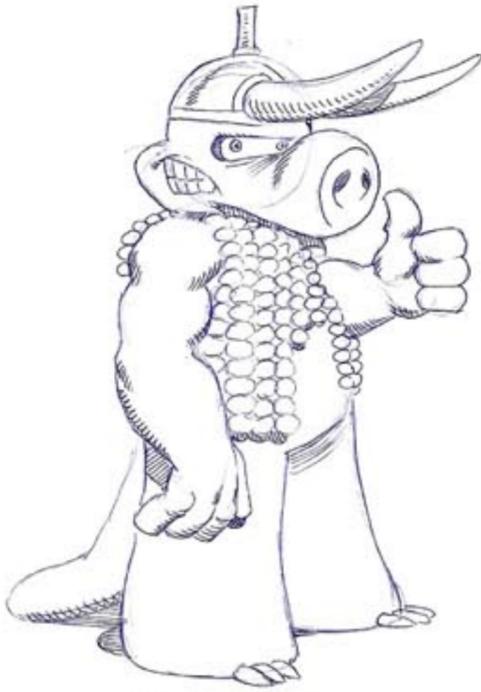
OUR NUMBER <b>48276</b>	
DATE <u>June 1/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>15 days</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Bud Plant Inc</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>PO Box 1016 Grass Valley Calif</u>	
ADDRESS <u>12555 Jones Blvd #10 Grass Valley, Calif 9595</u> VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	5000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #27</u> @ 45 <u>2250.00</u>
	1 <u>4-colour AD (back-page)</u> <u>125.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>2375.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48277</b>	
DATE <u>June 1/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>15 days</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Pacific Comics</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>PO Box 699217 San Diego Calif 92109</u>	
ADDRESS <u>92109</u> VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	2000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #27</u> @ 45 <u>900.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>900.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48278</b>	
DATE <u>June 1/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>15 days</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Glennwood Distributors</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>1214 Vandelin St Colton, Calif</u>	
ADDRESS _____ VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	2000 <u>Cerebus the Ardwrak #27</u> @ 45 <u>900.00</u>
	1500 <u>Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2</u> @ 1.50 <u>2250.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>3150.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48279</b>	
DATE <u>June 1/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>30 days</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Pacific Comics</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>PO Box 699217 San Diego Calif</u>	
ADDRESS <u>92109</u> VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	1000 <u>Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2</u> @ 1.50 <u>1500.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>1500.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>

OUR NUMBER <b>48280</b>	
DATE <u>June 1/81</u>	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS <u>20 days</u>	
F.O.B.	
SOLD TO <u>Bud Plant Inc</u>	
SHIPPED TO <u>PO Box 1016 Grass Valley Calif</u>	
ADDRESS <u>12555 Jones Blvd #10 Grass Valley, Calif</u> VIA <u>truck</u>	
INVOICE	3000 <u>Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2</u> @ 1.50 <u>4500.00</u>
	<u>Total</u> <u>4500.00</u>
	<u>Reminder:</u>
	<u>Orders for Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 must be in by May 12th Cheques in by May 30th</u>



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 KickStarter Campaign.

INVOICE # 48281  
 DATE: June 1/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Ship-Craic Service, Box 3791, Stn B, Winnipeg, Manitoba R5B 4L8, Winnipeg, MB  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Cerebus the Aardvark @ \$0.55 = \$550.00  
 100 Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 @ \$2.50 = \$250.00  
 (to be shipped June 2nd)  
 Total \$800.00

INVOICE # 48282  
 DATE: June 1/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Capital City Distribution, 2107 Perry St, Madison, Wisconsin  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Cerebus the Aardvark #27 @ \$0.525 = \$525.00  
 500 Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 @ \$1.75 = \$875.00  
 (to be shipped June 20th)  
 Total \$1400.00  
 Just received your cheque in the mail as well while this. I won't cash it till shipping time. Thanks Debi

INVOICE # 48283  
 DATE: June 2/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Next-then Books, 103 Queen St S, Kitchener, ONT.  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Cerebus the Aardvark #27 @ \$0.525 = \$525.00  
 1000 Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 @ \$1.50 = \$1500.00  
 (to be shipped June 2nd)  
 Total \$2025.00

INVOICE # 48284  
 DATE: June 29/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Next-then Books, 103 Queen St S, Kitchener  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Cerebus #28 = \$205.00  
 Total \$205.00  
 Paid by cheque in full

INVOICE # 48285  
 DATE: Aug 9/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Next-then Books, 103 Queen St S, Kitchener  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 @ \$1.50 = \$1500.00  
 Total \$1500.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48286  
 DATE: Aug 21/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Bud Plant, PO Box 1816, Coors Valley, California 95945  
 SHIPPED BY: D. Sim  
 VIA: ASAP  
 3000 Cerebus #29 @ .45 = 1350.00  
 1 full-colour back page = 125.00  
 Total 1475.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48287  
 DATE: Aug 10/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Glenwood Distribution, 104 Mandelina St, Collinsville, Ill.  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 2000 Cerebus #29 @ .45 = 900.00  
 Total \$900.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48288  
 DATE: Aug 13/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Ship-Craic Service, Box 3791, Stn B, Winnipeg, Man.  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Cerebus #29 @ .525 = \$525.00  
 Total \$525.00  
 Received Aug 13/11

INVOICE # 48289  
 DATE: Aug 10/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Capital City Distribution, 2107 Perry St, Madison, Wisconsin  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 2000 Cerebus #29 @ .45 = 900.00  
 500 Cerebus #29 @ .45 = 225.00  
 Total 1125.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48290  
 DATE: Aug 13/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Next-then Books, 103 Queen St S, Kitchener, Ont.  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Cerebus #29 @ .525 = \$525.00  
 Total \$525.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48291  
 DATE: Aug 13/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Ship-Craic Service, Box 3791, Stn B, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 100 Swords of Cerebus Vol. 2 @ 2.50 = \$250.00  
 Total \$250.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48292  
 DATE: Sept 21/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Next-then Books, 103 Queen St S, Kitchener  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Cerebus #30 @ \$0.95 = \$950.00  
 500 Cerebus #30 @ \$0.95 = \$475.00  
 Total \$1425.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48293  
 DATE: Sept 29/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Ship-Craic Service, Box 3791, Stn B, Winnipeg, Manitoba  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 1000 Cerebus the Aardvark (Issue #30) @ \$0.525 = \$525.00  
 Total \$525.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48294  
 DATE: Sept 21/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Capital City Distribution, 2107 Perry St, Madison, Wisconsin  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 2000 Cerebus the Aardvark (Issue #30) @ \$0.45 = \$900.00  
 Total \$900.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48295  
 DATE: Sept 21/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Bud Plant Distribution, PO Box 1816, Coors Valley, California  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 3000 Cerebus the Aardvark (Issue #30) = 1350.00  
 1 full-colour end (back page) = 125.00  
 Total \$1475.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48296  
 DATE: Sept 21/11  
 SHIPPED TO: Glenwood Distribution, 104 Mandelina St, Collinsville, Ill. 62234  
 SHIPPED BY: same  
 VIA: truck  
 2000 Cerebus the Aardvark (Issue #30) = 900.00  
 Total \$900.00  
 PAID

INVOICE # 48297  
DATE Oct 6/71  
SHIP TO: Bud Plant Inc, PO Box 1886, Grass Valley, Calif 95945  
BY: D Sim, by Oct 15/71

3,000 Cerebus the Aardvark Issue #31	\$350.00
4-color backpage AD	125.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$475.00</b>

*PAID Oct 20*

INVOICE # 48298  
DATE Oct 6/71  
SHIP TO: Glenwood Distributors, 124 Vanalme St, Collinsville, Ill 62301  
BY: D Sim, by Oct 15/71

2,000 Cerebus the Aardvark (#31)	\$200.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$200.00</b>

*PAID Oct 20*

INVOICE # 48299  
DATE Oct 6/71  
SHIP TO: Steve Comic Service, Box 3711, San Bernardino, Calif 92404  
BY: D Sim, by Oct 15/71

1,000 Cerebus the Aardvark (#31)	\$25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$25.00</b>

*PAID Nov 7*

INVOICE # 48300  
DATE Oct 6/71  
SHIP TO: Capital City Distributors, 2527 Terry St, Madison, Wisconsin 53713  
BY: D Sim, by Oct 15/71

2250 Cerebus the Aardvark Issue #31 @ .45	\$1012.00
250 Issue #30 @ .45	112.50
250 Issue #29 @ .45	112.50
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1237.00</b>

*PAID Oct 20*

~~INVOICE # 15201  
DATE Oct 10/71  
SHIP TO: Bud Plant Inc, PO Box 1886, Grass Valley, Calif 95945  
BY: D Sim~~

<del>3,000 Cerebus the Aardvark (#31) @ .45</del>	<del>\$1350.00</del>
<del>one 4-color ad (back cover)</del>	<del>125.00</del>
<del><b>Total</b></del>	<del><b>\$1475.00</b></del>

*PAID Oct 20*

INVOICE # 15202  
DATE Oct 15/71  
SHIP TO: Silver Snail, 323 Queen St W, Toronto, Ont.

ONE 2-page B/W AD (#32) @ 1/2 pg	\$150.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$150.00</b>

AARDVARK-VANAHEIM INC. P.O. BOX 1874, STE C, KITCHENER, ONTARIO N2G 4R2  
SHIP TO: Glenwood Distribution

INVOICE # 15203



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 Kickstarter Campaign.

SHIP TO: New & Then Books, 53 Queen St E, Kitchener, Ont.

INVOICE # 15204

3500 Cerebus the Aardvark (#31) @ .45	\$1575.00
one B/W interior ad	\$15.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1590.00</b>

*350.00 pd Oct 20  
50.00 pd Oct 27  
540.00 pd  
257.45 left pd Oct 27*

SHIP TO: New & Then Books, 103 Queen St S, Kitch.

INVOICE # 15205

61 Cerebus the Aardvark @ .45 (#30)	\$27.45
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$27.45</b>

*PAID Oct 20*

SHIP TO: New & Then Books, 103 Queen St S, Kitchener

INVOICE # 15206

2,000 Diamondback Decks @ 1.17	\$2340.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2340.00</b>

*350.00 pd Oct 20  
2,000 pd Nov 2nd  
\$1000 pd Nov 2nd  
\$1000 pd Nov 15th  
\$500 pd Nov 27th  
See pd Dec 4th  
and see re #15206*

SHIP TO: New & Then Books, 103 Queen St S, Kitchener

INVOICE # 15207

100 Cerebus #29's	\$45.00
100 Cerebus #30's	\$45.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$90.00</b>

*PAID Oct 23*

SHIP TO: Bud Plant, PO Box 1886, Grass Valley, Calif 95945  
BY: D Sim, 30 days

INVOICE # 15208

100 Diamondback Decks @ 1.17	\$117.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$117.00</b>

*PAID Oct 23*

*End!  
You can just send payment with #32, Demi*

SHIP TO: Glenwood Distributors, 124 Vanalme St, Collinsville, Ill

INVOICE # 15209

300 Diamondback decks @ 1.17	\$351.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$351.00</b>

*will be shipped with Cerebus #31.*

*PAID Oct 23*

SHIP TO: Capital City Dist., 2527 Terry St, Madison, Wis

INVOICE # 15210

500 Diamondback Decks @ 1.17	\$585.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$585.00</b>

*not send cheque with Cerebus #32 cheque total*

SHIP TO: Steve Comic Service, PO Box 3711, San Bernardino, Calif 92404  
BY: D Sim, 30 days

INVOICE # 15211

500 Diamondback decks @ 1.17	\$585.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$585.00</b>

*PAID Oct 27*

*Just send payment with your cheque for Cerebus #32 by November 15th*

SHIP TO: Pacific Comics, 4117 Broadway, Suite E, San Diego, Calif

INVOICE # 15212

200 Diamondback decks @ 1.17	\$234.00
500 Subs of Cerebus Volume THREE @ 1.75	\$875.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1111.00</b>

*PAID Oct 27*

INV # 15213 DATE Oct 27/71 ORDER # 2 TO Bud Plant 170 Box 1876 12555 Santa Rita Rd #10 Grass Valley, Calif ... Truck ... (30 days) ... ASAP	
INVOICE	200 Swords of Cerberus Volume Three @ 1.50 \$300.00 PD Dec 7

INV # 15214 DATE Oct 27/71 ORDER # 2 TO Almond Distribution 104 Highway 24 Colusa, Calif ... Truck ... (Name) ... ASAP	
INVOICE	500 Swords of Cerberus Volume Three @ 1.50 \$750.00 PD by Dept No. 04

INV # 15215 DATE Oct 27/71 ORDER # 2 TO Sky Comic Service 1759 Highway 24 Colusa, Calif ... Truck ... ASAP	
INVOICE	1000 Swords of Cerberus Volume Three @ 1.50 \$1500.00 PD Dec 7

INV # 15216 DATE Oct 27/71 ORDER # 2 TO Capital City Distributors 2631 Perry St Madison, Miss. 39113 ... Truck ... (Name) ... (Name)	
INVOICE	1000 Swords of Cerberus Volume Three @ 1.50 \$1500.00 PD Dec 7

INV # 15217 DATE Oct 27/71 ORDER # 2 TO New Than Books 103 Green St S Kitchener ... Truck ... (Name) ... (Name)	
INVOICE	1000 Swords of Cerberus Volume Three @ 1.50 \$1500.00 PAID by Dept No. 04

INV # 15218 DATE Nov 15/71 ORDER # 2 TO Bud Plant 170 Box 1876 12555 Santa Rita Rd #10 Grass Valley, Calif ... Truck	
INVOICE	300 Cerberus #29 @ .45 500 Cerberus #30 @ .45 300 Cerberus #31 @ .45 3300 Cerberus #32 @ .45 One 4-colour ad Total \$185.00 \$2015.00

INV # 15219 DATE Nov 19/71 ORDER # 2 TO Pacific Comics PO Box 1107 San Diego, Calif ... UPS ... (Name)	
INVOICE	100 Cerberus #32 (.525) \$52.50 PAID in advance - Mats, Blue

INV # 15220 DATE Nov 19/71 ORDER # 2 TO Pacific Comics PO Box 1107 San Diego, Calif ... UPS ... (Name)	
INVOICE	300 Cerberus #32 (.525) \$157.50 PAID

INV # 15221 DATE Nov 19/71 ORDER # 2 TO Pacific Comics PO Box 1107 San Diego, Calif ... UPS ... (Name)	
INVOICE	300 Cerberus #32 (.525) \$157.50 PAID

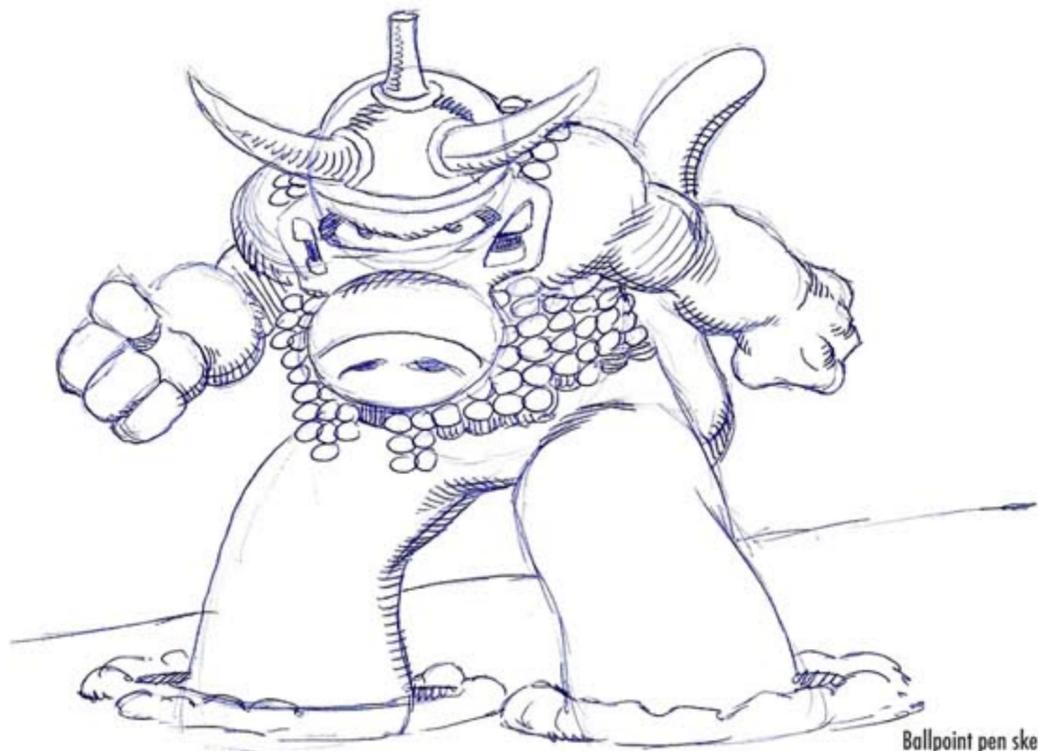
INV # 15222 DATE Nov 19/71 ORDER # 2 TO Almond Dist 104 Highway 24 Colusa, Calif ... Truck ... (Name) ... (Name)	
INVOICE	1000 Cerberus #32 (.525) \$525.00 1 B+W ad (interior) \$15.00 Total \$540.00

INV # 15223 DATE Nov 19/71 ORDER # 2 TO Sky Comic Service 1759 Highway 24 Colusa, Calif ... Truck ... (Name)	
INVOICE	1000 Cerberus #32 (.525) \$525.00 One ad (interior) \$100.00 Total \$625.00

INV # 15224 DATE Nov 19/71 ORDER # 2 TO Capital City Dist 2631 Perry St Madison, Miss. 39113 ... Truck ... (Name)	
INVOICE	2000 Cerberus #32 (.45) \$900.00

INV # 15225 DATE Nov 19/71 ORDER # 2 TO Almond Distribution 104 Highway 24 Colusa, Calif ... UPS ... (Name)	
INVOICE	100 Cerberus #32 (.525) \$52.50 550 Cerberus #32 (.525) \$288.75 Total \$341.25

INV # 15226 DATE Nov 19/71 ORDER # 2 TO Capital City Dist 2631 Perry St Madison, Miss. 39113	
INVOICE	500 Cerberus #32 to Jim's Comic World \$262.50 200 Cerberus #32 to N.E.O.N. \$90.00 100 Sulipan Comic World Cerberus #32 \$52.50 Total \$405.00



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 KickStarter Campaign.



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 KickStarter Campaign.

OUR NUMBER 15227	
DATE Nov 19/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
100 Cerebus #33 @ (.45)	45.00
to Silver Spaul, 10000	
1400 Cerebus #33 @ (.45)	630.00
to News-Then Books, Berkeley	1135.00
One B/w ad	50.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>1175.00</b>

OUR NUMBER 15228	
DATE Dec 1/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
400 Cerebus #33 @ (.45)	180.00
1/2 ad out order	
(for 700)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>180.00</b>

OUR NUMBER 15229	
DATE Nov 19/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
335 Cerebus #33 @ (.45)	150.75
(to make up the lbs left for shipping to you)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>150.75</b>

OUR NUMBER 15230	
DATE Nov 20/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
1 Swords of Cerebus Vol 2	5.00
1 Swords of Cerebus Vol 3	5.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.00</b>

OUR NUMBER 15232	
DATE Nov 19/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
500 Diamondback Dicks @ .55	275.00
(1.00/4)	
rebate on 700 dicks (5% discount from retail price) 700 x .15	-105.00
<b>Total due</b>	<b>170.00</b>

OUR NUMBER 15233	
DATE Dec 3/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
500 Cerebus #33 @ .45	225.00
1 Hecate back-pag ad	25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>250.00</b>
if payment received by Dec 15th	-25.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>225.00</b>

OUR NUMBER 15234	
DATE Dec 3/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
500 Cerebus #33 @ .525	262.50
to London Books	
400 Cerebus #33 @ .525	210.00
to Pacific at 497 Diamond	
Suite E San Diego Calif	
300 Cerebus #33 @ .525	157.50
<b>Total @ .525</b>	<b>630.00</b>

OUR NUMBER 15235	
DATE Dec 5/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
750 Cerebus #33 @ (.45)	337.50
to FW Enterprises	
15 Joint Club Love Stories	
500 Cerebus #33 @ (.45)	225.00
<b>Total @ (.45)</b>	<b>562.50</b>

OUR NUMBER 15236	
DATE Dec 1/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
1000 Cerebus #33 @ (.525)	525.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>525.00</b>

OUR NUMBER 15238	
DATE Dec 3/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
3,000 Cerebus #33 @ .45	1350.00
to common ground in Berkeley	
1 4-colour # ad	125.00
to News-Then Books	
275 Cerebus #33	
to H.E.O.N.	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1475.00</b>
175 Cerebus #33	
to Sullivan's comic world	
150 Cerebus #33	
to News-Then Books	

OUR NUMBER 15237	
DATE Dec 3/71	
CUSTOMER'S ORDER	
SALESMAN	
TERMS	
F. O. B.	
1000 Cerebus #33 @ .525	525.00
1 B/w ad	75.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>600.00</b>

INVOICE

15239  
DATE: Dec 3/91

TO: Common Ground in Berkeley

50	Cerebus #32	
70	Pat Scott's Comic Con on Photo	
100	Cerebus #33	
275	3 Pops Comics	
175	Cerebus #33	
	to N.E.O.N.	
150	Cerebus #33	
	to Sully's Comic World	
	Cerebus #33	
	to New Media/Dexa	
	Cerebus #33	

INVOICE

15240  
DATE: Dec 3/91

Total books 1,000 @ .52 = 520.00

INVOICE

15241  
DATE: Dec 7/91

300 Diamondback Darts @ .17 = 51.00

Total 59.00

INVOICE

15242  
DATE: Dec 11/91

100 Cerebus #33 @ .525 = 52.50

Total 52.50

INVOICE

15243  
DATE: Dec 11/91

1	Swires of Cerebus Volume 1	5.00	5.00
1	Swires of Cerebus Volume 2	5.00	5.00
1	Swires of Cerebus Volume 3	5.00	5.00

Total 15.00

INVOICE

15244  
DATE: Dec 14/91

25	Cerebus #30's @ .45	9.00
125	Cerebus #27's @ .45	56.25
40	Cerebus #29's @ .45	18.00

Total 83.25

INVOICE

15245  
DATE: Dec 14/91

300	Cerebus #33's @ .45	135.00
1	Book return ad	30.00

Total 165.00

INVOICE

15246  
DATE: Dec 17/91

1	Book ad - 2 pgs	1.00	1.00
1	Book ad - 2 pgs in Cerebus #34	1.50	1.50

Total 2.50

INVOICE

15247  
DATE: Dec 18/91

3000	Cerebus #34 @ .45	1350.00
------	-------------------	---------

Total 1350.00



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 Kickstarter Campaign.

INVOICE

15248  
DATE: Jan 13/92

3000	Cerebus #34 @ .15	450.00
1	4-color mail-order ad	25.00

Total 475.00

INVOICE

15249  
DATE: Jan 14/92

700	Cerebus #34 (.525)	367.50
300	Cerebus #34 (.525)	157.50
1300	Cerebus #34 (.525)	682.50

Total 1207.50

INVOICE

15250  
DATE: Jan 13/92

2500	Cerebus #34 @ (.525)	1312.50
1	Book ad	75.00

Total 1387.50

"I'm not sure what I was writing this for. The reference to Southern Dutchess News - the same printer that was doing ELFQUEST - narrows it down to the three pre-HIGH SOCIETY issues since No.26 was the first issue printed by Preney Print & Litho."  
- Dave Sim



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 KickStarter Campaign.

"I wrote the issue in two days at MAPIECON in Ottawa. There were only three channels on the hotel TV's - the House of Commons in French, the House of Commons in English and a lousy movie. 'They saved Hitler's Brain' I think it was. It was a case of either write the next issue or watch my fingernails grow."

"Three people die in the story, which is the most violence I've used in a long time. I tried to avoid ~~using~~ really graphic death scenes though -- they tend to break the rhythm of the ha-ha"

"I set the schedule for SWORDS OF CEREBUS and then noticed that it was the same as ELFQUEST's -- JANUARY MAY and SEPTEMBER. Since we're now using the same printer as ELFQUEST for the guts of our books, I can tell you what his three busiest months are likely to be"

"I talked to JOE RUBINSTEIN in Ottawa at a convention about inking a CEREBUS story for SWORDS -- probably for ~~the~~ VOLUME THREE. I'd also love to have FRANK MILLER pencil one"

"VOLUME TWO is likely to contain a ten-page CEREBUS story 'MAGIKING' that was supposed to be printed elsewhere and wasn't. After that I'll be back to working with other comics professionals. JOE RUBINSTEIN has already expressed an interest in inking one."

"I plotted the whole issue and realized it was full of women - girls! Girls are something have great difficulty in drawing. I thought about having them all wear black hoods with little eye-slits, but it would have made character identification difficult."

"Kind of a jarring pre-Cirnist depiction reference to black hoods and eye slits. From the description, I'm guessing this is in reference to No.23's 'The Beguiling'. Which is where the name of the Toronto comic shop came from although I doubt they'd admit to it these days."

- Dave Sim



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 KickStarter Campaign.

"A bill from Southern Dutchess News. Should give you an idea of how profitable the Direct Market was at that time."  
- Dave Sim



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 Kickstarter Campaign.

WAPPINGERS FALLS SHOPPER INC. PUBLISHERS OF:		SOUTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS		BEACON FREE PRESS	
		SPACKENKILL SENTINEL			
84 EAST MAIN STREET WAPPINGERS FALLS, NEW YORK 12590 PHONE 914 297-3723					
February 25, 1981 Aardvark-Vanaheim					
January 16, 1981:	No. 23/1 "The Beguiling"		\$	912.50	
	Shipping Charges			197.66	
	Return of "Diamondback" (Priority Mail)			15.00	
					\$1,125.16
January 23, 1981:	"Swords"		\$	1,303.00	
	Shipping Charges			137.82	
	Folding of Cerebus Covers			70.00	
					\$1,520.82
					TOTAL \$2,645.98
	PAID \$1,000.00 February 24, 1981				Balance \$1,645.98
* * * * *					
ESTIMATED CHARGES for No. 24 "Swamp Sounds" (The Beguiling, Part 2)					
	24 pages, 12,200 copies		\$	861.50	
	Composition			51.00	
	Shipping Charges			197.66	
					Total \$1,110.16
					2756.14
					(3224.68)

Quotes

Daniel Peck (with S. Dutch = \$4306.00 Surplus)  
(SIT) 725-8614  
Monthly - \$1682.06 Covers (1516 - guts) Complete  
(12,200) \$2178.98

not include seps

✓ Swords (6,100) \$2148.48 covers

---

✓ Artstore - brushes w/ points (Gerhart) longer lasting  
duck Wilson - newton pen 7 #3 + #4  
for feathering + filling in blacks

744-1103

Ship to  
Fort Orange Press  
Sand Creek Road  
Albany, N.Y.

William B. Collins  
& E. #4 Fulton St.  
Glensville, N.Y.  
12078

Allen D. Peck

40 miles west

"Deni's handwritten notes on getting quotes from other printers. We really weren't getting along with Southern Dutchess News - the washed out greens on the cover of No.25 were the last straw. This is Gerhard's first appearance in the Archive (misspelled as "Gerhart") where I've given her a list of things I needed from the Artstore in Waterloo where he was working at the time. Apt. 1401 was his favourite place to deliver supplies because I used to tip him with a joint or two."

- Dave Sim

"Deni's rough draft of a letter to David Peck of Southern Dutchess News. We had gotten damaged copies from Phil Seuling's SeaGate Distributors and wanted some kind of compensation - which wasn't forthcoming. You have to learn that it's all part of the cost of doing business. You replace damaged books and eat the cost."  
- Dave Sim

FEB 27/81

DAVID PECK

Enclosed is samples  
~~copy of~~ the letter we received  
from our distributor.

Can you let us know  
what will be done  
in terms of compensation  
for this and what  
you are doing to prevent  
any future damage of  
this type.

I would appreciate you  
contacting Sea Gate to

let them know  
what is happening  
concerning this  
matter.

Sincerely

FEB 27/81

DAVID PECK

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~~copy of~~ the letter we received  
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I would appreciate you  
contacting Sea Gate to

let them know  
what is happening  
concerning this  
matter.

Sincerely

"Like I say, we just weren't getting along. Probably had a lot to do with the fact that ELFQUEST came out three times a year and sold something like 60,000 copies while CEREBUS came out monthly and sold barely enough copies to keep from being really aggravating for a good-sized printer."

- Dave Sim

WAPPINGERS FALLS SHOPPER INC.  
PUBLISHERS OF:

SOUTHERN DUTCHESS NEWS

BEACON FREE PRESS

SPACKENKILL SENTINEL

84 EAST MAIN STREET  
WAPPINGERS FALLS, NEW YORK 12590  
PHONE 914 297-3723

February 25, 1981

Aardvark Vanaheim  
221 Queen St. South  
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada N2G1W5

Attn: Denise Sim

Dear Denise:

Upon reviewing our original agreement, we find that we were to receive payment for each job as it was shipped. At this time, we have not received payment for all of the work that we have done.

Although we had originally planned to ship No. 24 upon receipt of the \$1,000. transfer, the length of time for the \$1,000. to arrive was much longer than anticipated. If we ship No. 24, we find ourselves with an equally large debt and very little to encourage you to make payment.

We must, therefore, withhold shipment of No. 24 until all previous bills are paid and No. 24 is paid for. A copy of your statement is enclosed.

Sincerely,



Al Oster  
Vice President

AO/mb  
Enc.

"We were also finding out how much fun doing business across the border could be - which is why we started looking for Canadian printers."

- Dave Sim

Value less  
\$500 / Cdn.  
needs  
Commercial  
invoice  
Mark carton  
"invoice attached"  
take



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 KickStarter Campaign.

"Form letter from Mike Friedrich who had given me my first big break in 'Groundlevel comics' (as we were then called) in QUACK! A short story I had written, drawn by Fabio Gasbarri, called 'I'm God' had made Mike's short list of GREATEST HITS which was very flattering."

- Dave Sim



19 January 1981

Dear Contributors, *Dave*

Well, this is it. Except for those of you who are appearing in STAR\*REACH GREATEST HITS, this is the last royalty/sales statement you'll be getting from me. Throughout 1980 I "remaindered" all of the comics inventory. Most of it was sold at 10¢ apiece, though some at higher prices (a weighted average of about 12¢ apiece).

Since I never anticipated this contingency when we signed our contracts, the way I figured the royalties was to take 25% of my income and declare that the royalty (the 10% of cover price royalty that we agreed to was that percentage of the amount I collected--i.e., 40% of cover price--when things operated on a regular basis). Naturally, if you have any questions as to how any of the figures were arrived at on the statement, let me know.

Those of you in the GREATEST HITS book will continue to receive annual statements until it's sold out; I'll also report any foreign sales.

I want to thank all of you for your contributions, large and small. I'm very aware of the financial sacrifices you made in working for me and I appreciate them. Your efforts have wedged open a small but growing market for alternative, independent comics in which the creators participate in the rewards (and risk) all the way down the line, ~~thereby~~ as well as retaining more creative control over their work. The effects of your efforts continue to ripple throughout the field and are even now beginning to affect the major publishers.

I think it was worth it. And someday I'll be back. I hope you'll still be there.

Best wishes,

*Mike*

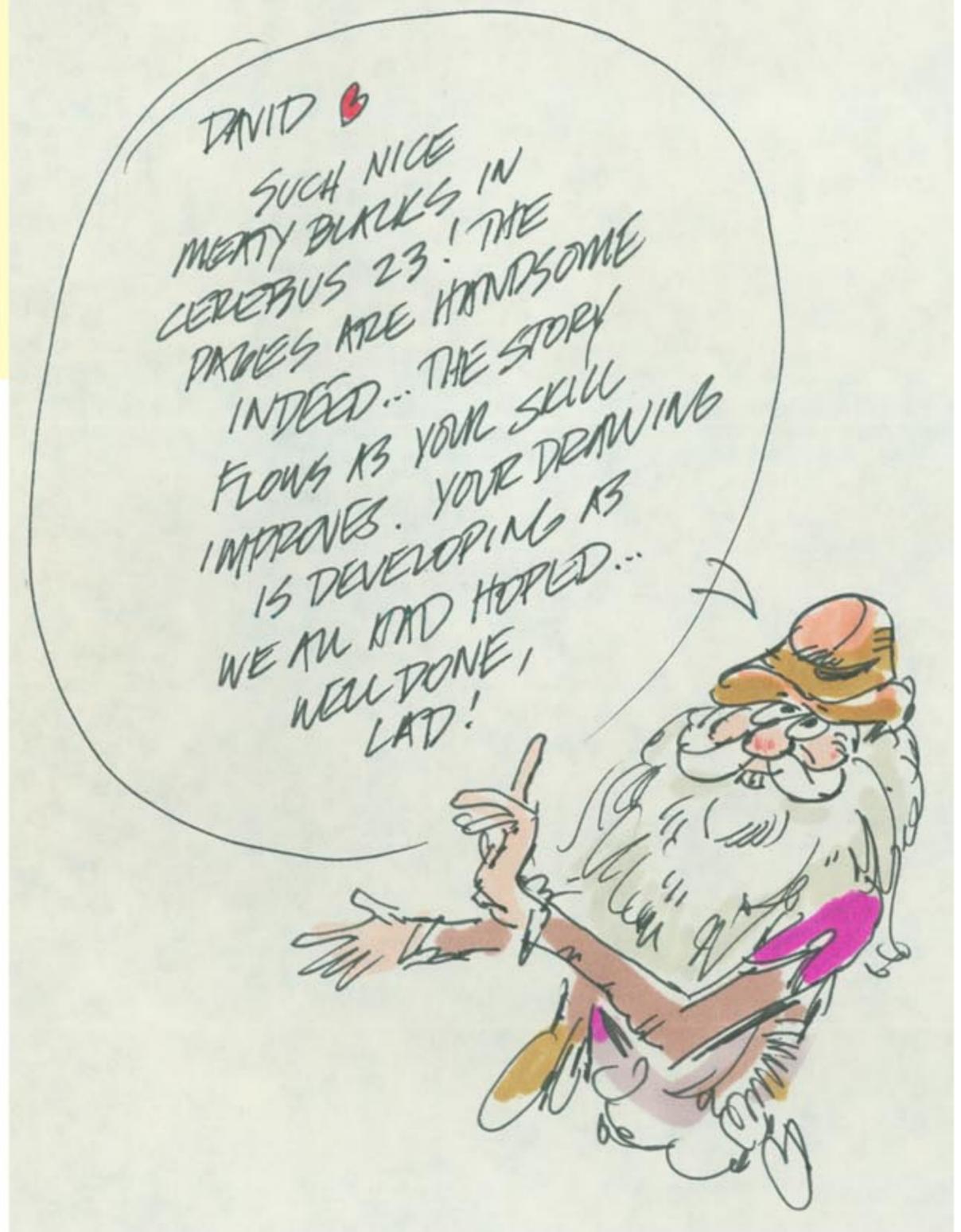
Mike

*Your royalties subtracted from the bill for the comics you bought in 6/79, as agreed. There's about \$25 outstanding.*

*MF*

"Colour cartoon/note from Frank Thorne. I don't know where he found the time to do these. He set a very high standard for the professional/wannabe relationship, always encouraging me and others, a standard I've always tried to live up to."

- Dave Sim



"Unused Cerebus button design that didn't make it to the lettering stage."

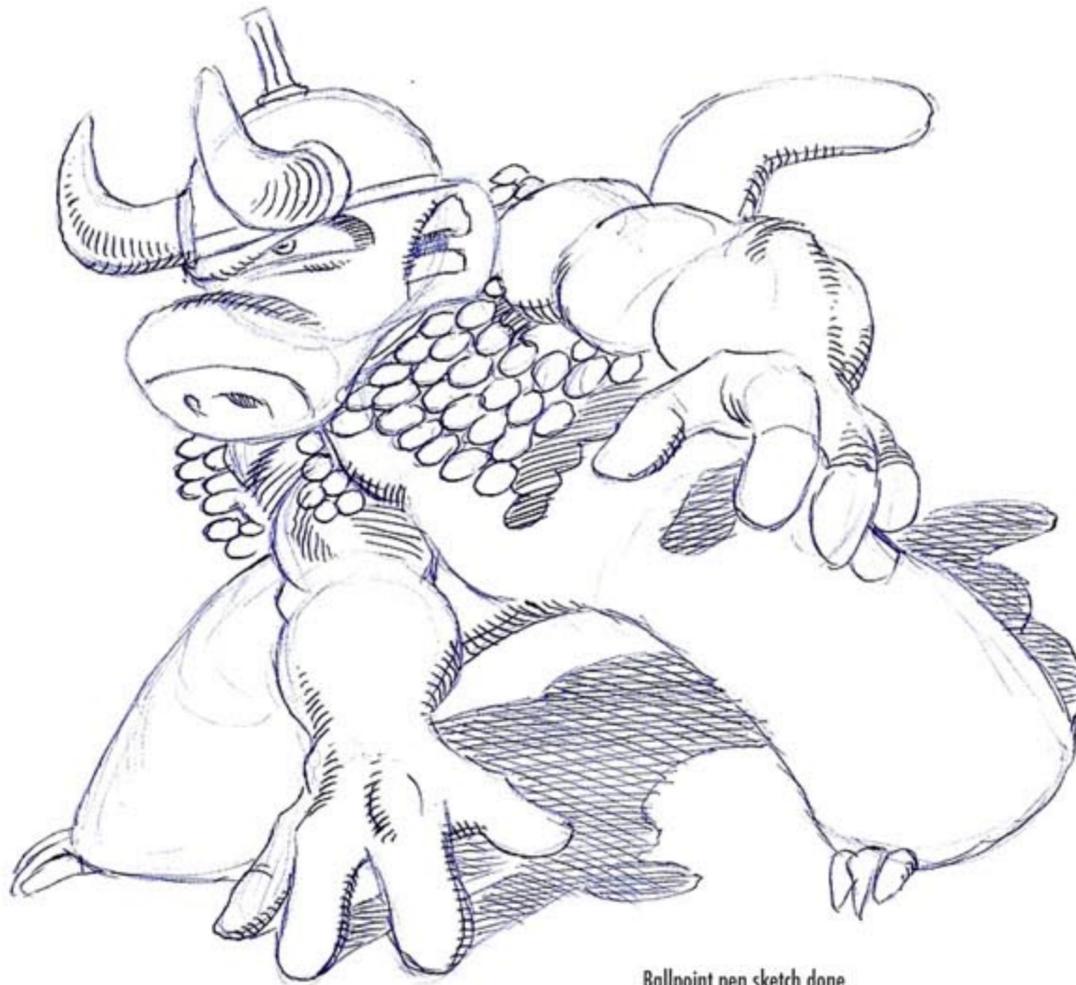
- Dave Sim



# CEREBUS ARCHIVE

"Unbound cover for SWORDS OF CEREBUS volume one, which reprinted four issues of CEREBUS at a time and ran for six volumes. Done with a combination of markers and pencil crayons."

- Dave Sim



Ballpoint pen sketch done in association with the 2012 KickStarter Campaign.



*Bud Plant Inc. P.O. Box 1886, Grass Valley, California 95945 (916) 273-9588*

26 February 1981

Aardvark Vanheim Press  
48 Weber St. E.  
Kitchener, Ontario, Canada N2H 1C5

Dear Dave & Denise,

I think you may be cutting your own throat with the price change to \$1.50. I've already gotten customer resistance to this, complaining that the vast majority of other alternative comics are still \$1.25 for more pages, usually 32 to 40 rather than 24. Dave explained that printing costs have gone up. But that does not explain why everyone else can produce comics for less than yours, sometimes with smaller press runs (usually 10,000).

The hardest thing for me to understand is that you raised your print run due to Pacific's and my larger orders. This would lower your cost per book.

No matter how much you want or need to make out of a book, you have to realize that at a certain point people will start resisting Cerebus due to the price. \$1.25 for 24 pages was a bit high but since most other comics were the same price, most people would not complain. But when you are charging more money for less pages than any other book...that's not being competitive. And you have to be competitive with the number of books on the stands.

All of the above is based on my experience as a dealer. On a strictly personal basis, I still feel screwed because I was never contacted about the change. Neither was Bill Shanes. We both made deals that put us out on limbs in order to take more copies based on the book as it was. We deserved to at least be informed of the change. 'Nuff said; please consider this in the future if any other changes come down. That we can work for you, you have to work with us.

A second point that I'd like to mention in concerning the SWORDS OF CEREBUS. I'm happy to report that it is selling well so far. Most of these sales were solicited in advance of publication. I started with 1000 from Phil and have reordered another 300 already. But I think you really short-changed your fans with the cover of this. I thought the coloring was mediocre and the title logo was almost an afterthought, still showing paste-up lines and imperfections from freehand drawing. I don't think this had near the quality that most people expected; with just a little more effort you could have had a 100% great package. *Dal*

*Distributor for Comic, Fantasy and Science Fiction Publications*



ARCHIVE  
NOTEBOOKS

"Albatross One"

Hilroy LTD • LTÉE Toronto M6E 2R9

2000 pages

note book

cahier avec spirale

ALBATROSS ONE

name • nom \_\_\_\_\_

subject • sujet \_\_\_\_\_

CONTAINS RECYCLED DE-INKED FIBRE  
CONTIENT DES FIBRES DÉSENCRÉES ET RECYCLÉES

10 7/8" x 8 3/8" • 27.6x21.2 cm  
no 13-224

I began using notebooks to plot CEREBUS beginning with issue 20. I called the notebook my "albatross" since it was always with me, a constant reminder of work I had to do. Plotting for HIGH SOCIETY began on page 135 of the 200-page "Albatross One" (although much plotting of the various political factions takes place on the earlier pages and on - now long gone - scraps of paper).

CEREBUS #26 (MARCH, 1981) "HIGH SOCIETY"

PAGE ① CEREBUS & BETTING PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF ARTIST'S STUFF  
PAPER MONEY AND HIS REACTION TO IT.

3 pgs. PAGE ②

LAST THREE PANELS PAGE ③ THERE IS ANOTHER LAND OUT THERE

FASHIONABLE LEAVING FOR NEW WORLD THESE DAYS

BACK TO TEST LOTS OF STUFF GOING ON...

NICER ROOM THAN HE'S BEEN USED TO.

MIDDLE CLASS -- AARDVARKIAN AGE "HOLIDAY INN"

DIFFERENT SET OF PROBLEMS.

KIND SHOWS  
LIM HOW TO SPEND  
TO CAPACITY



BATH BEFORE DINNER

NO ENERGY IS TOO  
FAR AWAY...

NO, SIRRAY -- IN YOUR  
ROOM

GUEST: CHURCH  
OF TARM IS  
GOING TO BE  
PUBLISHING ONE OF  
MY TREATISE

KIND BEARBY...

JUST DECIDING TO UNRAIL INTO BED  
KNOCK! KNOCK!

DAMN CUTTHROATS

eh? CAME IN TO GIVE YOU HOT WATER

WHAT FOR? WHEN TO WASH -- HOT OF THIS

WATER: HOT WATER -- HOW FAR YOU

MORE HOT WATER: THIS IS HOW YOU SPEND  
MONEY.



HSANB 1/26 - Original idea was to do an "Aardvarkian Age" Holiday Inn, a middle class hotel. Then I thought that having a bath in your room would be a distinctly "upper class" thing at the time.

IF YOU'LL EXCUSE MY SAYING SO, STURBAN... I COULD  
 TELL YOU WERE PRETTY WELL FIXED TIMES aren't as  
 good as they used to be --  
 GOVERNMENT OF IEST has started writing notes  
 now that a gold <sup>piece</sup> is worth more three gold pieces

IF YOU WERE TO HAVE A FEW TITLES or something  
 ever been PRESIDENT of A GOVERNMENT, COMMITTEE  
 or owned some land

CEREBUS was KITCHEN STAFF SUPERVISOR  
 CEREBUS? You're that CEREBUS?!

Aye what of...

SMART-ASS KID  
 BUT HE KNOWS  
 WHAT'S GOING  
 DOWN

~~OVERHEAR~~  
~~A BANNERS FALLING~~  
~~ABOUT A FALLOUT~~  
 FROM



WATER BUSINESSMEN, MERCHANTS,  
 BANKERS, TRADERS, BOURGEOIS,  
 BUREAUCRATS



THIS IS CEREBUS THE AARONVARD... YOU REMEMBER  
 SIR

TAKES HIM DOWN TO DINNER  
 YOU WAIT HERE...

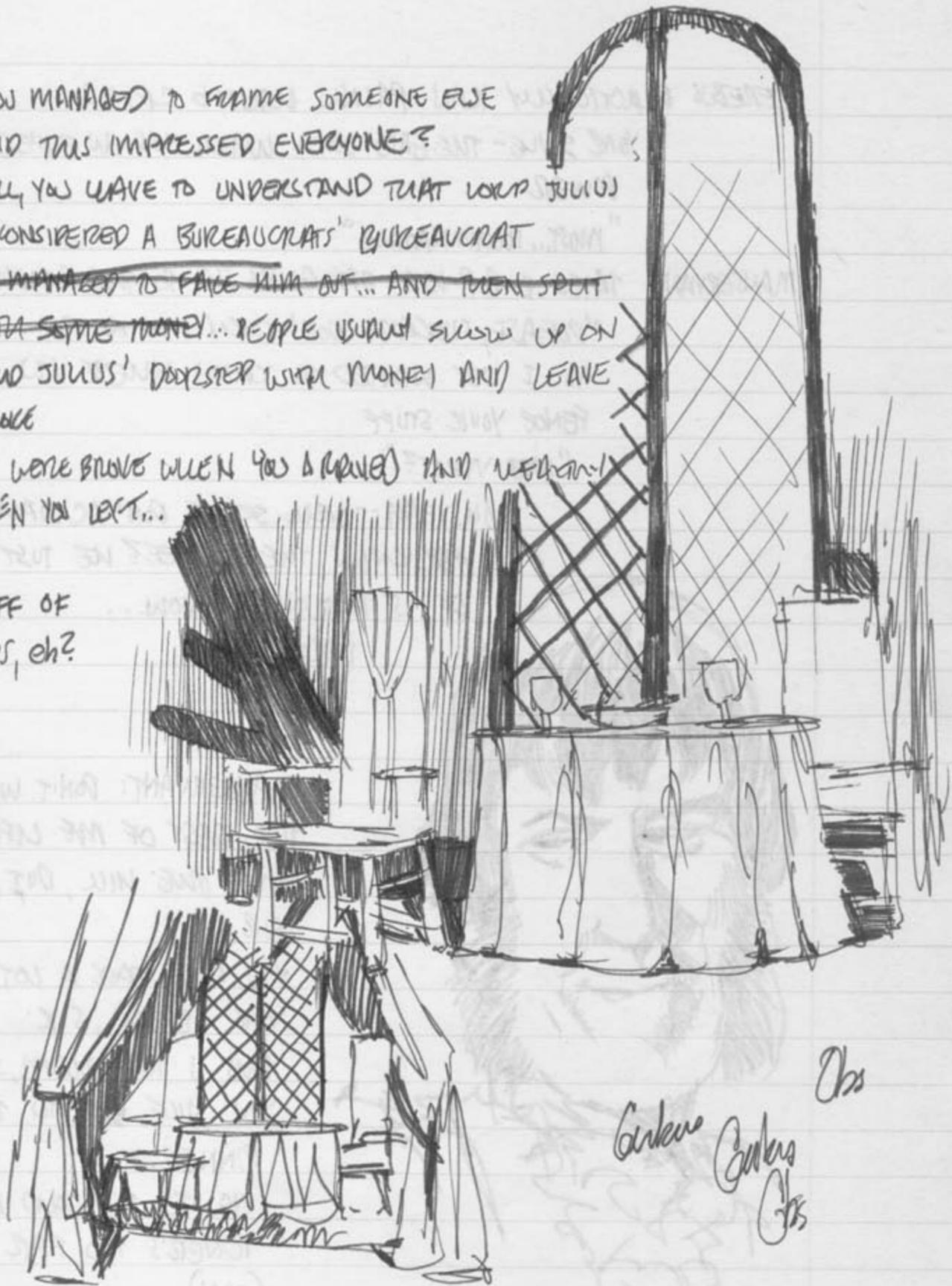
BUT CEREBUS DOESN'T KNOW  
 ANYTHING

BOY WHO GOT POISONED IN #16 WAS A RIVAL FOR  
 CEREBUS' position at LORD JURUS' side everyone  
 is amazed that CEREBUS would risk everything  
 on the fact that he was going to eat before  
 anyone else...

HSANB 2/26 - Manservant in the original plotline ("smart ass kid but he knows what's going down") who later became the desk clerk of the "Holiday Inn" in issue 27. Plot problem: "businessmen, merchants, bankers, traders" would stay there, but not "politicians and bureaucrats" which were needed to drive the plot forward.

THEN YOU MANAGED TO FRAME SOMEONE ELSE  
GER: AND THIS IMPRESSED EVERYONE?  
BEK: WELL, YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT LORD JULIUS  
IS CONSIDERED A BUREAUCRATS' BUREAUCRAT  
GER: ~~YOU MANAGED TO FACE HIM OUT... AND THEN SPILT~~  
~~WITH SOME MONEY... PEOPLE USUALLY SHOW UP ON~~  
~~LORD JULIUS' DOORSTEP WITH MONEY AND LEAVE~~  
~~BRACE~~  
YOU WERE BRAVE WHEN YOU APPROVED AND NEGOTIATED  
WHEN YOU LEFT...

THE STUFF OF  
LEGENDS, eh?



Cerebus  
Cerebus  
Obs

Pgs 1-8 MOSTLY, THE YOUNG MANSERVANT IS TRYING TO GET ACROSS TO CEREBUS  
HOW MUCH MONEY CAN BUY CEREBUS EXPLAINS THAT WE JUST GETS  
MONEY WHEN WE NEEDS IT... ~~WHAT ABOUT BANKS... BANKS TAKE~~

HSANB 3/26 - Sample exchange of dialogue on WHY Cerebus is seen as a key figure. I decided to skip that and leave it a bit of mystery. There was no reason anyone would discuss it with him except in terms of their personal experience (Skorz of Skorz, Skorz & Sons).

CEREBUS PRACTICALLY RAN PALMS DURING CRISIS

YOUR STYLE - THE EASE WITH WHICH YOU WIELDED  
POWER

"MOST... ILLUMINATING"

MANSERVANT. TRIES TO RIP HIM OFF GOING UP TO THE ROOM

"PLEASE, SIR... DON'T TALK ME IN TO

NO I JUST WANTED TO KNOW WHERE YOU

FENCE YOUR STUFF

"WHAT WHAT?"

OH, YEAH -- WELL SEE I DON'T ACTUALLY

KNOW THE GUY, SEE? WE JUST SORT

OF IS AROUND, Y'KNOW...

FORGET IT



MANSERVANT: DON'T WANT TO SPEND

THE REST OF ME LIFE ~~HERE~~

DOWN THE HILL, DUH, SIR -- NO

SIR.

YOU SURE TALK A LOT, I'D

VEH' SORRY, SIR

THIS IS YOUR ROOM, SIR. WOULD

YOU LIKE ~~TO~~ TO BATH BEFORE

DINNER.

NO IT'S TOO COLD AND THE

RIVER'S TOO FAR AWAY.

(SUN)

SOMETHING WRONG?

I MEANT HERE, SIR

IN YOUR ROOM

WHY? IS THE RIVER FLOODING?

NO SIR -- IN THIS TUB, LIKE

CEREBUS WAS NEVER  
WEARY OF ~~SUCH~~ ANYTHING

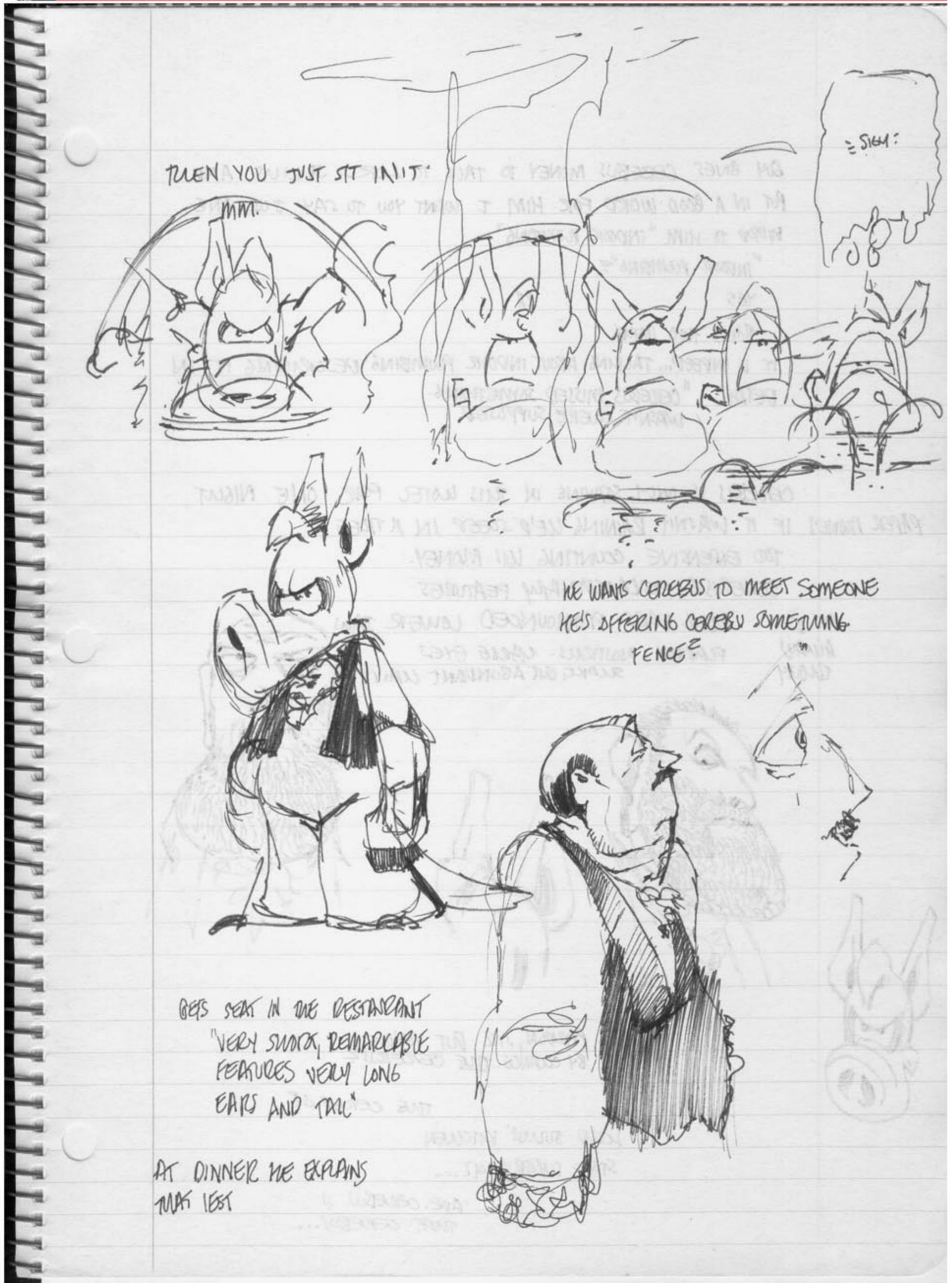
~~BEFORE~~ ~~ANYTHING~~ ~~HEAT~~

QUITE THE BRAGGART



SEVERAL MINUTES OF  
MISUNDERSTANDING  
LATER..

HSANB 4/26 - More plotting of the "Holiday Inn" hotel "down the hill" ("Don't want to spend the rest of me life 'down the hill', do I, sir - no sir."). It was a variation of the Hamilton, Ontario reference to Hamilton locations on the top of the Niagara Escarpment as "up the mountain" and those below the Escarpment as "down the mountain".



HSANB 5/26 - Cerebus easing into his bath. Too slow a moment when I'm trying to get things going. The snobbish desk clerk begins to take shape. Cerebus in his "hotel appropriate" garb. This is mostly what the plotting consisted of, doing things wrong so I would know how to do them right.

GUY GIVES CEREBUS MONEY TO TALK TO LORD JULIUS AND PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR HIM I WANT YOU TO SAY JUST ONE WORD TO HIM "INDOOR PLUMBING"

"INDOOR PLUMBING"

YES

PA

THAT'S TWO WORDS

IT IS INDEED... TALKING ABOUT INDOOR PLUMBING DESCRIBING IT IN DETAIL "CEREBUS MISSED SOMETHING. WASN'T THERE SUPPOSED"

CEREBUS IS ONLY STAYING IN THIS HOTEL FOR ONE NIGHT PAPER MONEY. IF IT WASN'T RAINING WE'D SLEEP IN A TREE TOO EXPENSIVE COUNTING HIS MONEY.

CEREBUS: EXTRAORDINARY FEATURES

BUT I  
HUMAN  
THOUGHT

LONG EARS PRONOUNCED LOWER JAW  
FLARING NOSTRILS. LARGE EYES  
SHORT, BUT ABUNDANT HAIR



BEG PARDON, SIR BUT YOU'RE NOT BY CHANCE THE CEREBUS?

THE CEREBUS?

LORD JULIUS' KITCHEN

STAFF SUPERVISOR...

AVE. CEREBUS IS  
THAT CEREBUS...

HSANB 6/26 - Scorz "talk at Lord Julius, SEWAGE, SEWAGE, SEWAGE" began as "indoor plumbing". I was always trying to work how people envisioned Cerebus from the description: "long ears, pronounced lower jaw, flaring nostrils, large eyes, short but abundant hair" and then having them picture someone who looked like this. Again, it was too slow for getting things rolling. It wasn't until CHURCH & STATE that I finally devoted a couple of pages to it.

CEREBUS IS GOING TO NEED SOME MONEY.

~~THE KING OF THE DIAMOND BACK~~

YOU'VE BEEN TO IEST BEFORE? WHERE DID YOU STAY?

WELL IT'S JUST THAT LORD JULIUS' PREVIOUS

KITCHEN STAFF SUPERVISORS HAVE ~~BEEN~~

AN BEEN -- WELL, UPPER CLASS -- WAR HEROES, ~~PROF~~ RETIRED

CEREBUS SAVED LORD JULIUS' KID

WAR-SHIP CAPTAINS  
AND SUCH

ONCE

IT WAS SORT OF A FAVOUR

MAY I ASK YOU A PERSONAL QUESTION

MAY.

NOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT LORD JULIUS TAKING

CREDIT FOR YOUR DEFEAT OF THE EYE IN THE

PYRAMID CONSPIRACY IN PAINU?

IF WE?

OH AVE... HE'S TOLD EVERYONE THAT IT

WAS HIS DOING RIGHT DOWN TO THE DEFEAT OF THE CULT LEADER

TUEN WHAT MAKES YOU THINK IT WASN'T?

→ KICKER CEREBUS THREW A ROCK AND HIT HIM ON THE  
HEAD WHILE HE WAS BABBING ABOUT HIS REVOLUTION

EVERYONE THINKS IT WAS A HEROIC FIGHT.

~~CEREBUS IS IN TOWN RAISING MONEY  
FOR THE PAINU~~

THE ~~REPUTATION~~ CEREBUS WAS HEARD OF YOUR ~~REPUTATION~~

~~REPUTATION~~ REPUTATION IN THE FIELD OF

URBAN PLANNING. AS PAINU IS

3 guys shown to CEREBUS 1 page each PRESENTLY FACING AN OVERPOPULATION

PROBLEM IN THE CENTER OF THE

passionate loves his CITY

pollyannic - if stops work no one else must touch it

at the city state at PAINU is just around the corner see list taken the recreation

HSANB 7/26 - More sample dialogue that was going nowhere except "over-feeding" the continuity junkies. Finally at the bottom of the page, I distill the problem: "3 guys shown to Cerebus, 1 page each, passionate, loves his work."

such-hole of course is the plans do not meet with approval

CEREBUS getting progressively drunker

"THE KIDNAPPING OF AN AARDVARK"

- 1 PAPER MONEY TAKE YOUR BAGS 11 KIDNAPPER OVERHEARS
- 2 CEREBUS THE CEREBUS EXPENSIVE 12 K
- 3 ~~WORDS~~ HANA YES SIR 13
- 4 14
- 5 15 TEST IS IN NEED OF MARKETS
- 6 16 FOR THE STUFF IT PRODUCES
- 7 17 WE ALL KNOW ABOUT THE PERK
- 8 18 CAPTA WEALTH IN PAIN.
- 9 ~~HA~~ 19
- 10 20 VERY ATTRACTIVE FOR AN EXPORTING COUNTRY SUCH AS ORES

OH YES, SIR QUITE  
"LET US EMPLOY"  
YOU CAN RELY ON ME, SIR

BOYS WHO GRAB CEREBUS THINK THEY'RE JUST KIDNAPPING A BUREAUCRAT.

NOT A WOMAN

IT SHOULD BE OUR SECRET

THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO WILL BE PLEASED TO KNOW THAT YOU HAVE COME TO TEST.

**CEREBUS**  
6 DEADLY SINS  
SLOTH, GUTTON,  
AVARICE, ~~COURTLINESS~~  
ANGER, PRIDE,  
ENVY

KIDNAP HIM "WHEN LET THE GUY NEGOTIATE. ONLY SEND RANSOM DEMAND TO LORD JULIUS..."

HSANB 8/26 - "Road map" of all 20 pages while I roughed in the intro pages to the Hadden M. Hadden, Ned Greeley and Skorz pages. I wanted to bring the unnamed kidnapper in on page 11. Then realized that that would be moving too fast and moved the kidnapping up 10 pages to No.27. First idea for the SIX DEADLY SINS PORTFOLIO: make it 6 instead of 7.

- CEREBUS
- 1 CEREBUS ENTERING HOTEL (why is he going to a more expensive place?) 11  
Got lots for artist's stuff had to walk all the way to left to get a decent price
  - 2 TIME OVER FOR THE WOODYOUS 12
  - 3 BATHUB CEREBUS WOULD LIKE EXECUTIVE BATH, PLEASE 13
  - 4 DINNER FIRST GUY COMES UP NO CLIP LOTS OF MONEY OKAY DRINK ON THE WORKS 14
  - 5 SUCCESSION.. OF THREE 15
  - 6 REVELATION THAT THEY WANT LOUD JULW' EAT "LEFT HIS" EMERON... I QUITE UNDERSTAND 16
  - 7 GETS A LOT OF MONEY 17
  - 8 EXPLANATION OF WHY ITS ~~TOO MUCH FOR THE FRUIT~~ ~~TOO MUCH FOR THE FRUIT~~ ~~TOO MUCH FOR THE FRUIT~~ DUE TO SELL STUFF 18
  - 9 TO PAIN... CEREBUS IS INTER 19
  - 10 20



### CHARACTERS

KOTEL MANAGER - INGRATIATING, SOLICITOUS SKIMMING SOME OFF THE TOP WHICH IS HIS angle

- PAGE 5
- PAGE 1 - CEREBUS CHECKS INTO HOTEL
  - PAGE 2 - HOTEL MANAGER ACTS SUSPICIOUSLY NICE.. BATHUB
  - PAGE 4 - OFFERS HIM MEAL (SPOT <sup>THAT</sup> FAR AWAY FROM PEOPLE ~~AS~~) (NONSENSE - PRIVATE DINING TABLE FOR CEREBUS AND HIS GUESTS) (SITTING DOWN TO EAT GUY COMES IN CEREBUS IS ABOUT TO BOP HIM ONE THE GUY GETS SUSPICIOUS CUT JUST IN TIME...)
  - PAGE 6 - NOW CEREBUS SAYS NOTHING AS THE MEN ARE BROUGHT TO HIM LETS THEM TALK AND WE SOON HAS A SMALL STOOD OF PROMISORY NOTES DRAWING NEARLY A THOUSAND

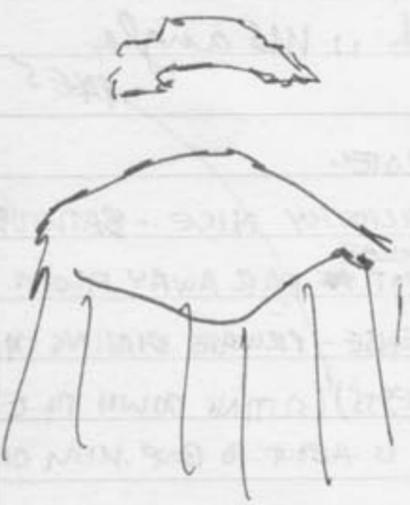
WAVE YOU ARE NOT OFFENDED... THE IS MANDATORY. PUTS IT ON

HSANB 9/26 - Some obvious questions: "Why is he going to a more expensive place?" for which there was no answer, so I just avoided it - which allowed me to plot up through page 9 (which would usually get compacted from there as you can see: the 9 pages have become 6 pages at the bottom of the page). First sketches of the Moon Roach (when he was originally "Corn King Roach" with a couple of ears of corn attached to his mask) and Artemis Strong. Sketch of Cerebus and the cab from later in the story.



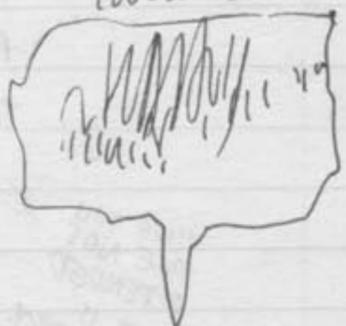
PRAYING TARIMITES  
TARIM BLESS OUR PRIME  
MINISTER  
BOATMEN TO TAKE YOU  
DOWN THE RIVER

CHANCELLOR  
EVERYONE KNOWS  
THE PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL LIFE...  
WAR BETWEEN  
CHURCH and  
STATE



SEWANTS LEADS FAMILY

PRIME MINISTER  
"bum jokes"  
knows



HSANB 10/26 - Stray thoughts and sketches that weren't taking me anywhere - except that Cerebus had to go ballistic at some point.

~~THESE~~ FOUR INTERNATIONAL CURRENCIES  
 PALNAN GOLD PIECE COPPER BIT TEN BIT  
 LOWER FELDAN GOLD PIECE COPPER BIT TEN BIT  
 SERICAN GOLD THREE SIZES CROWNS, GEBBUNG, BITS  
~~WESTAN~~  
 WEST CROWN

SESTAN CROWNS

PAGE 7 THE NEXT GUY COMES ALONG AND LETS THE CAT OUT OF THE BAG... WANT LORD JULIUS' EAR... CEREBUS WANTS TO KNOW WHAT THE FUR IS ABOUT PALNU.

~~REVISOR~~ 8 ME I'VE MADE STUDIES OF PALNU AND LORD JULIUS'... 2h -  
 UNIQUE METHOD OF ORGANIZING A BUREAUCRACY... TO PUT IT AS SIMPLE AS POSSIBLE, ~~HE HAS DEVELOPED THE POSSIBLE~~  
~~PROCESS FOR~~ OUR TRADITIONAL METHODS OF DOING BUSINESS..



DEALING WITH THE APPROPRIATIONS OFFICE OR THE BUDGET DIRECTOR ARE IMPOSSIBLE... OUR FIRST LETTER TO THE APPROPRIATIONS OFFICE WAS RETURNED WITH A FORMAL DECLARATION OF WAR AND AN INVITATION TO AFFIRMAL THE FESTIVAL OF PETUNIAS. ~~WE WERE OUR~~  
~~FIRST DEPARTMENT~~  
 WE ENGAGED THE SERVICES OF A CAREER CIVIL SERVANT IN PALNU TO HELP US WADE THROUGH THE RED TAPE. OUR FIRST MESSAGE FROM HIM WAS A DIRECTIVE FROM THE CLASHION OFFICE FOR INTERNAL SECURITY WE INFORMED US THAT WE WAS BEING RELOCATED TO THE ~~SECRETARY'S~~ ~~OFFICE~~ OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT IN THE SECRETARIAT OF THE TREASURY BUT ~~WE WAS~~ <sup>THAT WE WAS FORWARDING</sup> A DIRECTORY OF PERTINENT GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS ~~FOR~~

NAMED BASKIN

WE RECEIVED

AS SOON AS ~~WE~~ WE RECEIVED A CERTIFIED BANK DRAFT FOR TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND CROWNS WE SENT IT ~~BY COURIER~~ BY COURIER AND WITHIN A WEEK <sup>A NOTE OF CONFIRMATION</sup> ~~WE RECEIVED~~ FROM ~~THE~~ A CLERK IN SUPPLY AND SERVICES THANKING US FOR OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO ~~THE~~ LORD JULIUS' STUDY GROUP ON URBAN

CHARACTER DESIGN  
 WRITING  
 DRAWING  
 LETTERING 3/  
~~COLOR~~ PAGE  
 INKING



20%  
 7% writing  
 7% inking  
~~3%~~  
 3% pencilling

HSANB 11/26 - The Skorz monologue, just the basic contents. Too dry and boring. That's when I decided to use the "Why you not sell me rights for Norway?" dialect I used to get in letters seeking to do foreign translations (an Aardvark-Vanaheim in-office joke).

DEUCOREWY  
THE EIGHTY-PIK MULLS TUN OVER AS WE SIP FROM OUR  
FINGER-BOWL

INTELLIGENCE  
AFTER

WE SENT A DEPUY STATING THE NAME OF THE MAN  
WHOSE SERVICES WE HAD ENGAGED IN HIS CITY MENTIONING  
THAT HE WAS PRESENTLY EMPLOYED IN THE OFFICE  
OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF THE  
TREASURY AND THE REGISTER DIRECTORY OF PERTINENT  
GOVERNMENTAL DEPARTMENTS GERMAINE TO OUR  
SITUATION.

THEIR ANSWER ARRIVED WITHIN THE WEEK ~~LEWAS~~  
FROM THE MINISTER OF URBAN FORESTRY  
INFORMING US THAT THE MAN WE HAD ENGAGED  
HAD USED

10 CEREBUS VOICES THE IDEA OF HAVING MONEY,  
BUT WE'S GOING TO GET THE TERMINAL YAWNS  
IF WE DOESNIT FIND ANYTHING MORE INTERESTING  
TO YO... LEAVES... ~~CAB ST... ?~~

~~EXCUSE ME, I CAN'T AFFORD BUSINESS~~  
~~AT THE RESTAURANT IN THE~~

I'M SORRY, SIR, THIS  
GENTLEMEN WAS ASKED  
ME TO WAIT.

A FARE IS A FARE CHASBIE  
WHY YOU INSOLENT PUP! STAND  
ASIDE THIS INSTANT.

~~THEN~~ UNLESS YOU WANT TO  
EAT THAT THING, CEREBUS WOULD ADVISE  
YOU TO...

CEREBUS... MY WORD. NOT THE CEREBUS

THAM

OF COURSE I DEFER TO YOU, ~~THE~~  
GOOD SIR, BUT I HOPE I SHOULD BE ABLE  
TO PERSUADE YOU TO DINE ~~THE~~

WITH ME AT MY CLUB  
~~THE~~ ARE... SO WHY DON'T YOU FIND SOMEONE  
ELSE TO PERSUADE YOU.

HSANB 12/26 - Continuation of the original Skorz monologue segueing into the Carron, McKiel and Bennie (Karen McKiel's cat was named Bennie) confrontation.



LOWLY JIMUS IS MELTING ALL THE MONEY, FORGING AN INDIVIDUAL CURRENCY, BIG BUY (AN ISLAND FROM SERPAN GOVERNMENT) WITH THE CURRENCY, CREDIT RATING GOES UP HAS NO MONEY, BUT IT COMES FLOODING IN IN BRIBES AND SORE

ALL MAIL IS BROUGHT TO THE OFFICE, OPENED, BRIBES ARE TAKEN OUT AND THROWN IN THE KITT.

PALNAN GOLD PIECE .50

LOWER FELDAN GOLD PIECE .85

SERPAN CROWN .80

LESTAN CROWN .80

SERAN GEBBUNG .~~1.00~~

SERAN BIT .~~1.00~~

PALNAN TEN BIT .~~1.00~~

LOWER FELDAN TEN BIT .~~1.00~~

PALNAN COPPER

LOWER FELDAN COPPER

FELDAN

\$

YOUR



OH NOW I REALLY MUST INSIST THAT YOU ALLOW ME TO EXTEND YOU SOME HOSPITALITY.

AFTER ALL ISN'T IT BETTER THAT WE ENJOY THE PRESENCE OF SO EMINENT A WORKING FIGURE AS YOURSELF. GOOD SURE IF YOU'VE, ERREN, I WOULD WISH THAT WE MIGHT TAKE A TOUR OF

HSANB 13/26 - Getting bogged down in calculating the relative value of Estarcion's various currencies and having Cerebus expound upon it - which, of course, he wouldn't do. Stray thought on Holiday Theme Horror Movies like HALLOWEEN and FRIDAY THE 13TH - a horror version of ALICE IN WONDERLAND called "Happy UnBirthday" which you could go and see any day of the year that your birthday wasn't on. Working out Carron's dialogue.

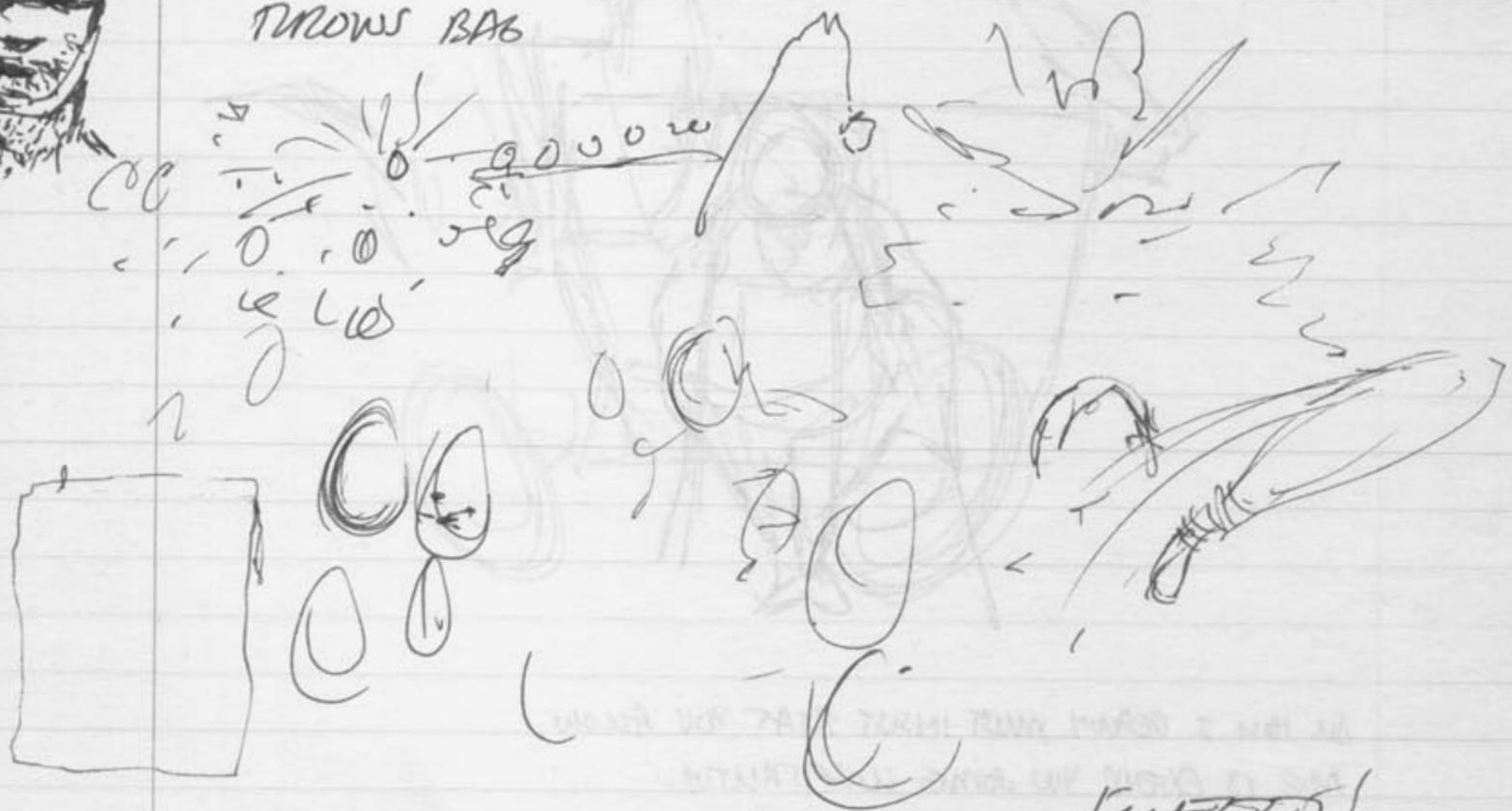
PAGE 1 GRIM HUMOUR CREATED BY FENCE

I'LL CLEAN OUT MY WORK'S STAM  
RIGHT NOW....

PAGE 1 ENTERING HOTEL PAGE 2 TAKE OVER FOR ME PAGE 3 ROOM AND A  
BATH 4 PEOPLE WOULD LIKE TO MEET YOU EATING 5 MORE PEOPLE MORE  
MONEY 6 LETS CAT OUT OF BAG 7 WHY IT IS DIFFICULT SELLING TO RAMU.  
8 CEREBUS TAKES MONEY 9 TIME TO HAVE SOME FUN CABBYE 10  
ALMOST A FIGHT GETTING CLOSER 11 ~~THE~~ CEREBUS? 12 ON THE WAY  
TO PVAH DIAMONDBACK INTRODUCTIONS COMMENCE 13 WINN IT AN WANT  
SOME OF IT BACK 14 YAAU! AN THE MONEY IS PRANKING ME CRASH  
15 CABBYE YESSIR 15. WHERE CAN CEREBUS GET A BAG OF ~~POUR~~ FERTILIZER  
EVERYTHING U LOVED WERE'S A THOUSAND CROWN RATE  
1. BROKER FOR 2 CROWN WE HAVE ONE IN OUR OWN  
KITCHEN OPENED? OPENED... SIR THE BAG OF <sup>FERTILIZER</sup> ~~POUR~~ U  
AUCKERY OPENED FINE... OUT... GET IT! ANOTHER 16 TO THE  
DOCKS YOU SURE YOU WANTED TO COME WERE SIR GOES INSIDE.  
THIS IS WHAT CEREBUS THINKS OF EVERY VIVE  
PIE IN THE WHOLE STINKING LIMP-WRISTED  
SAUDN



THROWS BAG



FWEET!

17 THEY COME TOWARDS US WITH FWEET FWEET.  
~~THE~~ RACING PAST ~~WRECK~~ BREAKING LEADS  
18 WHAT IS THE DETAINED TO FOLLOW YOU SIR

HSANB 14/26 - This is the sort of stuff I would write when I was partway into firming up the issue's continuity. One- and two-line distillations in the hopes that I could do the same with the pages I hadn't written yet. The transitions aren't there yet but I've got it figured out up to page 18 including a very rough sketch of the Ram's Lords Tavern melee (I switched the bag of fertilizer for a bag of flour).

WE WAS DETAINED TO FOWER YOU, SIR,  
BREAK THE HEADS OF ANYONE WHAT  
COME NEAR YA...

ANYBODY'S GOING TO DO A  
GOOD TURN FOR OUR TEST  
IS ALL RIGHT BY US GUYS  
IN UNIFORM SIR...

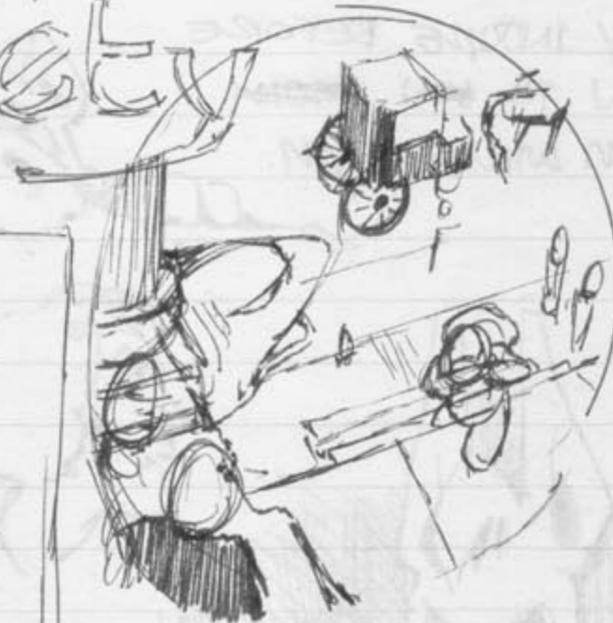
"A HEALTHY ECONOMY  
MEANS A HEALTHY MILITARY."

OUR SENTENCES DO ONCE  
SAID THAT, SIR...

DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK  
CEREBUS DIDN'T WANT YOUR  
HELP

NOW, NOW, SIR  
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE  
THINKIN' -- WE'RE  
GOING TO TAKE ALL  
THE CREDIT.

High  
Society



CEREBUS HAS TO GET  
A MORE EXPENSIVE  
HOTEL BECAUSE THEY'RE  
HAVING THE ~~SPRING~~ SPRING  
FESTIVAL  
WANTS EXPENSIVE HOTELS  
WELL ~~PREPARE~~ HAVE  
TO FIGHT WITH THE  
DESK CLERK AND ANY  
GOODS THEY HAVE ON  
HAND FOR EVICTING  
"UNDESIRABLES."

THAT'S ALL RIGHT CEREBUS HAS BEEN ITCLING FOR A  
FIGHT SINCE WALKING THROUGH AN FLOWE SWAMP  
KNEE DEEP IN MUCK...

HSANB 15/26 - Capt. Gill-Hodges when it was still a dialogue. Having him just read out the regulations helped compress the multi-page sequence into a couple of panels. At the bottom of the page, working out the story title logo and compositions of the splash page - still trying to come up with a reason that he would go to an expensive hotel like The Regency.



SLOGGING THRU THE SWAMPS

MORE EXPENSIVE

CEREBUS STAYING AT THE HOTEL BECAUSE ~~HE'S GOING TO~~ HE'S CARRYING A LOT OF MONEY AND THE LODGING HOUSES IN THE ~~BEAL-RIVER~~ ~~AROUND~~ ~~THE~~ EAST MARKET AND POWNELL SQUARE ~~WERE~~ <sup>ARE</sup> RENOWNED FOR THEIR UNSAVORY CLIENTELE..

#27 COREY WITH KIDNAPPING ATTEMPT FROM KIDNAPPER'S POINT OF VIEW

THE EARON-PIE WONDERS HOW MANY HOTEL EMPLOYEES HE WILL HAVE TO SERIOUSLY INSURE BEFORE HE'S SHOWN TO ~~THE~~ ROOM A CLEAN ROOM WITH A BATH.



HSANB 16/26 - Cerebus button design that never got past the rough design stage. Cerebus slogging his way into the Regency and my last attempt at coming up with a reason for him to go to an expensive hotel. lower right: first sketch of Astoria.

SWORDS of CEREBUS Volume 2 7 pgs

JOE RUBINSTEIN inking  
"THE HANGOVER"  
"MORNING AFTER"



DRINKS ALL THE  
WATER IN A HORSE  
TROUG.

BUYS A ~~BAZOOKA~~ THREE  
EGGS CRUNCH CRUNCH = Gulp



HSANB 1/SW2 - This was really all the plotting I needed to do for the SWORDS volume 2 back-up story "The Morning After" which Joe Rubinstein would ink.



MASSAGING HIS TEMPLES  
 MOST UNUSUAL SHORT GREY CHAP  
 JUST CAME IN AND  
 BOUGHT A HALF  
 FOOT OF ~~THE~~  
 FOX FUR

WHAT'S UNUSUAL  
 ABOUT THAT  
 WHEN WE ~~JUST~~ ROLLED  
 IT UP, STUCK IT  
 IN HIS MOUTH  
~~HE~~, CHEWED ON  
 IT FOR A FEW  
 SECONDS AND  
 SPIT IT OUT.



HSANB 2/SW2 - Sample dialogue for "The Morning After" before it became a completely silent (except for the sound effects) strip:

CLERK: Most unusual. Short grey chap just came in and bought a half-foot of fox fur...

BOSS: What's unusual about that?

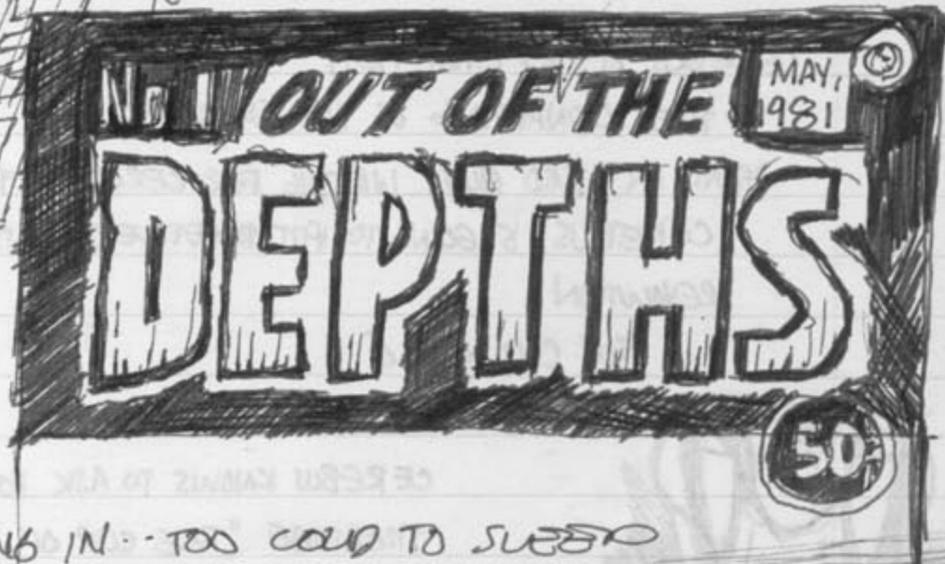
CLERK: He rolled it up, stuck it in his mouth, chewed on it for a few seconds and spit it out.

BLACK ZEPPELIN logo which is pretty close to what Gene Day ended up using for his anthology title.

OUT OF THE DEPTHS

11/26 (WHITES)

3224 (BLACK)



CEREBUS STRUMLING IN... TOO COLD TO SLEEP  
OUTSIDE GRASPING DESK CLERK'S LEG AND  
RUNNING AWAY

~~BEHIND STRIP~~

- 1 wake up trough 6
- 2 eggs ~~on~~ 7
- 3 eggs
- 4 head squeezed in a vice — a little harder
- 5 ~~...~~

its your 'alf-crown, mate... I'll do it 'til you squirt if



"hang-over"  
"or why you shouldn't  
bring all your gold  
to a tavern"

- 14 ON WAY NO IDEA
- 15 GET OUT OF HERE
- 16 PICK UP Pkg OF FLOUR
- 17 INNOG WANT ANOTHER RUNNIN OF YOU RESOURCES
- 18 COMING DOWNSTAIRS CLIMB AWAY THE WAY
- 19 CRASH BLOW WALK TO EXPLOSION

HSANB 17/26 - OUT OF THE DEPTHS logos. Gene Day was planning to revive the moribund digest comic. "The Morning After" outline in lower left, pre-silent strip treatment.

CEREBUS: (with head in vice) A little harder.  
BLACKSMITH: It's your 'alf-crown, mate...I'll do it 'til you squirt if you [want]  
End of issue 26 in pencil, bottom centre.

