ALEX SCHUMACHER'S



A COLLECTION
OF CANTANKEROUS
COMMENTARY



Cover colors by Allan Ferguson



SLG Publishing 44 Race Street San Jose, CA 95126 Dan Vado - President & Publisher

The material collected in this book appears as originally published by Drunk Monkeys, May 2016 - April 2020, excluding "Psychotropic San Francisco Sojourn".

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Dedicated to anyone who is still chasing their dream.

Acknowledgments

Special thanks and gratitude to:

All who generously donated their time and talents including Ron Evans, Hannah Means-Shannon, Dimitris Zach, Ace Continuado, X Brushes of Doom, Kurt Belcher, Randy Haldeman, and Javier Hernandez.

Keith Knight, Michael Jantze, and Ruben Bolling for their contributions, as well as their indelible encouragement early on in my comics career.

Kevin Ketner for his guidance, stalwart support, and one hell of a foreword.

Peter Ryan and Francis Lombard who unwaveringly believe in what I do, even on the days when I don't.

Matt Guerrero and Kolleen Carney Hoepfner, without whom Mr. Butterchips would not exist.

Dan Vado and SLG Publishing for making this book a reality.

My family who at no time made me feel as though comics were not a "real job".

My eternally loving and patient wife who has more confidence in my ability than I ever will and never lets me throw in the towel.

TA FOREWORD WRITTEN IN THE MIDST OF TAIL TRANDEMIC

How long ago did Alex ask you to write the foreword to this book? A few months.

Uhh...how many? I no longer have the ability to delineate the manner in which time passes and, as we all have learned since the beginning of 2020, it is meaningless anyway.

What have you done with all of the time given to you in which to write this? Look, don't hassle me. You spend your time the way you want, I will spend mine repeatedly telling myself that tomorrow will be a better day to write something. I had no idea that a global pandemic was going to be a thing, no matter how many warnings from scientists I would not at while skimming books over the years.

Also, I broke my glasses and because almost everything is closed, it apparently takes a lot longer to make a new set. And, yes, I know that we have all been joking about living in a Twilight Zone episode with quarantines and social-distancing being the new normal, it just so happens that I was actually living the very specific episode everyone was joking about. I finally had time to read everything I have been stockpiling for years and then proceeded to almost immediately make it so it was RATHER difficult to do so. But now I no longer can rely on that as an excuse.

And to be clear, it's not that I didn't want to or know what to write here. It's not that at all. It was just a struggle with creativity that I wasn't really expecting. I had to cut my time on social media down because everyone was discussing what personal projects and fun things they were going to do instead of going outside. Not me! I was getting very good at thinking about things and never doing them. It was made worse when I would finally check in on Twitter and see that Alex was being even more

prolific than he normally is.

What an asshole.

In a time where I, and many others (I checked just to make sure I wasn't the only one) couldn't find it in themselves to do anything outside of the bare minimum, Alex not only finished the rest of this collection, but continued with his weekly work on *Decades of (in)Experience*, plus he moved. Holy shit.



And it's pretty apt that I was getting reminders of how much he was getting done on Twitter because that is how Alex and I met. For once social media was actually doing what it was supposed to be doing and brought people together. (THAT'S NICE!)

But it's also where people talk the most shit. You want a reminder of literally everything that is going wrong at all times? Pop on Twitter. I'm guilty as hell of this. Alex, on the other hand, is busy making a series of comics that address everything from a point of view that extends beyond the ironic detachment his generation is accused of having. He is using all of the anger and pain that we feel on a daily basis and funneling it into his art.

The fact that he is doing it via a smoking monkey, in this case, doesn't minimize its impact either. You may have some initial, "Ha! That monkey sure is angry!" reaction to things, but then it will sneak up on you and have you going, "I feel you, Mr. Butterchips." And that is exactly what a comic like this should do.

Alex's work is a reflection of the world that will remind people years from now about all of the absolute bullshit we've been living through. And he does it with such a personal touch, that even if you have never met him, you understand him. He is bringing you closer to his world with this no-nonsense monkey than anyone could with a multi-tweet thread pontificating on what is making them upset at the time.

It was random happenstance that he and I became acquainted, but I'm glad it did. He makes me proud of all the cartoonists working today in a world that is filled with movies based on superheroes, but doesn't reflect on the importance of personal work done in comics. It's scary to put yourself out there like that, even if your main character doesn't share your name. It's still a reflection of who you are and the struggles you have. That takes courage. And talent. Luckily, Alex has both.

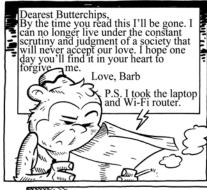
Maybe we should all take Alex's lead and use our frustration with the world to inspire us instead of bring us down. Easier said than done, especially if you are like me and can't draw for shit. But it may make us all feel a bit better.

-Kevin Ketner





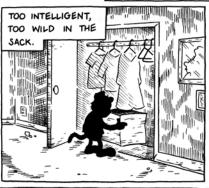














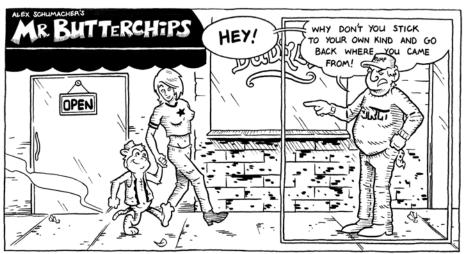
































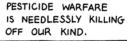








MY COLONY AND I HAVE





OFFICIALS EVIDENTLY DO NOT REALIZE THE INTEGRAL ROLE WE PLAY, WITHOUT OUR TIRELESS WORK THERE WOULD BE NO HONEY, FRUIT, VEGETABLES, COFFEE-



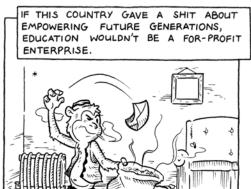




I SUPPOSE ONLY AN IGNORANT FUCKING ASSHOLE WOULD REFUSE SANCTUARY TO AN ENTIRE GROUP BASED ON A RADICALIZED MINORITY. BEER ANYONE? HOO-RAY!!





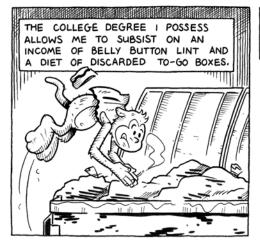






I KNEW I WOULD STRUGGLE UNTIL MY COMEDY CAREER FLOURISHED, BUT HOW THE FUCK DO I MAKE ENDS MEET AND DEFRAY LOANS WITH INTEREST?

















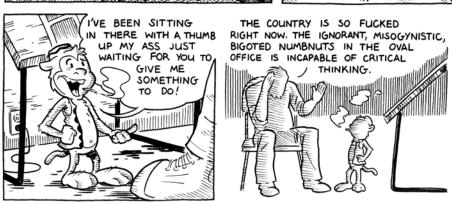




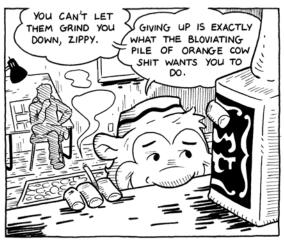
SAAAAAHHHH













WELL, BUILDING UP THE











ALEX SCHUMACHER'S STITTEREDES









ALL OF THE UGLINESS THAT SOCIETY HAS TO OFFER SLITHERED OUT FROM UNDER ITS ROCK AND REARED ITS XENOPHOBIC HEAD.



THE TIME TO ABANDON HOPE SEEMS TO HAVE ARRIVED.
AFTER ALL, WHAT CAN BE DONE TO COMBAT SUCH ILLS?

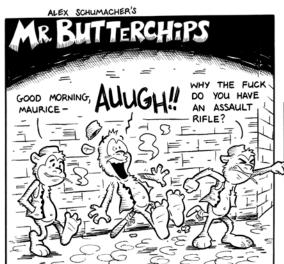


IM GLAD YOU ASKED, KIDS! YOUR RESOLUTION FOR 2018 IS THIS: DON'T BE A FUCKING ASSHOLE! CALL OUT RACISM, MISOGYNY, HOMOPHOBIA, AND ALL FORMS OF HATE. WE THE PEOPLE SHOULD NO LONGER TOLERATE WOULD-BE OPPRESSORS. LET LOVE RULE!













IT'S NOT GUNS THAT
ARE THE PROBLEM,
BUTTERCHIPS, THE REAL
ISSUE IS MENTAL
HEALTH.



THESE REPS IDLY STAND BY AS CHILDREN ARE SLAUGHTERED, CONTINUING TO HEMORRHAGE NRA PROPOGANDA WHILE CIRCLE-JERKING OVER THE ALMIGHTY ASSAULT RIFLE. THEY ARE FUCKING DERANGED.



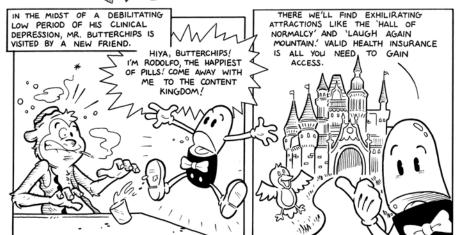
ALL THOSE GRAND OLD
PSYCHOS CARE ABOUT ARE
THEIR DONOR CHECKS. IF
THEY HAD THEIR DRUTHERS
THERE'D BE A GAG ORDER
ON ANYONE SPEAKING OUT
AGAINST THEIR AMMOSEXUAL OVERLORDS. I MEAN,
HOW SMALL DOES
YOUR DICK



S.O.P.A. AND HAS BEEN REMOVED.

INSTEAD, PLEASE ENJOY THIS
IMAGE OF A FUTURE TRUE
AMERICAN PATRIOT.

ALEX SCHUMACHER'S Top 6 rejected ideas for: THE ROAD BUTTERCHIPS CURIOUS BUTTERCHIPS ARE YOU HACKING INTO MY EMAIL AGAIN? SPRING-BUTTERCHIPS HOW THE FUCK DO I GET DOWN? SPIDER-MONKEY MONKEYS BUTTERFIELD TWIN FUCK LASAGNA! NO...YOU YOU DRANK DRANK ALL THE BEER! ALL THE BEER!





AH. WELL, WE CAN MOSEY DOWN THE ROAD TO THE GENERIC CONTENT KINGDOM. THE RIDES ARE NEARLY JUST AS THRILLING, BUT THE PRICE OF ADMISSION IS CONSIDERABLY LESS.



WITH THE GOP'S REPEAL
OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE
MANDATE, I WON'T BE ABLE
TO COVER INCIDENTALS AT
THAT COST EITHER.



HMM. I WAS HIRED TO BE-FRIEND ONLY THOSE WHO CAN AFFORD RIDICULOUSLY HIGH ENTRANCE FEES.

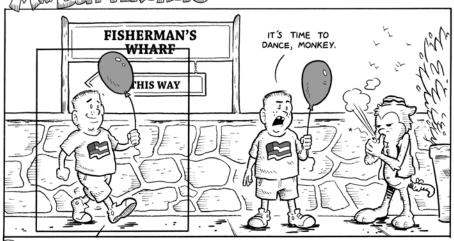












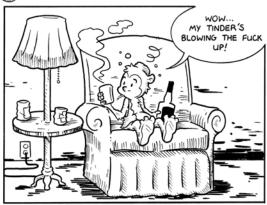








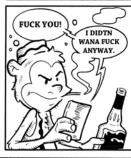


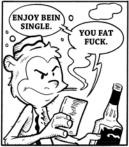










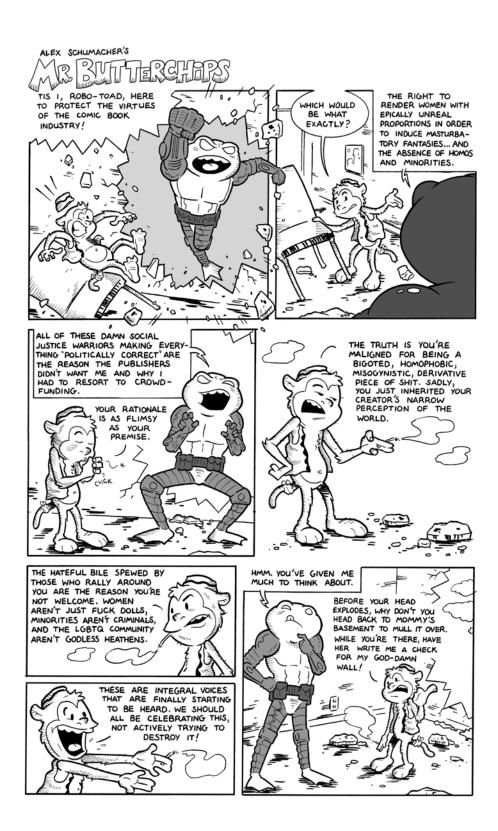




WRONG PERSON OR NOT, YOU'RE A LOATHSOME FUCK WHO DESPERATELY NEEDS TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU CONDUCT YOURSELF. NO ONE OWES YOU A GOD-DAMN THING. IF YOU'RE SEARCHING FOR COMPANIONSHIP, TRY TREATING OTHERS WITH RESPECT.



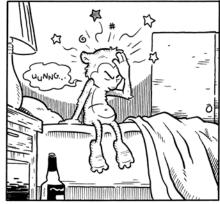


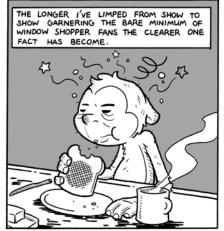


ALEX SCHUMACHER'S

MR STUTTERCLIPS

I ALWAYS AIMED TO BE A STANDUP COMEDIAN, GROWING UP BELIEVING I HAD A NATURAL INCLINATION TO DELIVER THE GOODS.

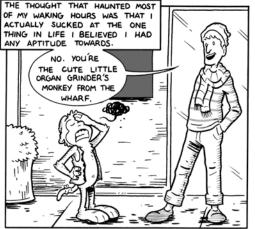






MY CLOWN OF AN AGENT BOOKED ME IRREGULAR GIGS WITH DISMAL COMPENSATION, BUT I BEGAN TO FEAR THIS MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ENTIRELY HIS FAULT.







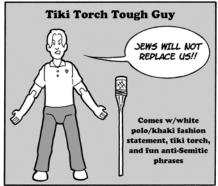


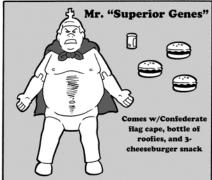


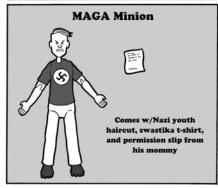


WHAT DO YOU BUY FOR THE PATRIOT WHO HAS EVERYTHING?

NOW, JUST IN TIME FOR CHRISTMAS (the only real winter holiday) IT'S THE ALT-RIGHT REACTION FIGURES!







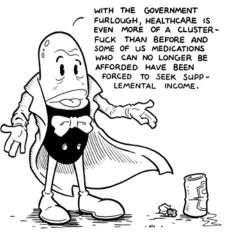
















^{*}MR. BUTTERCHIPS, MAY 2018





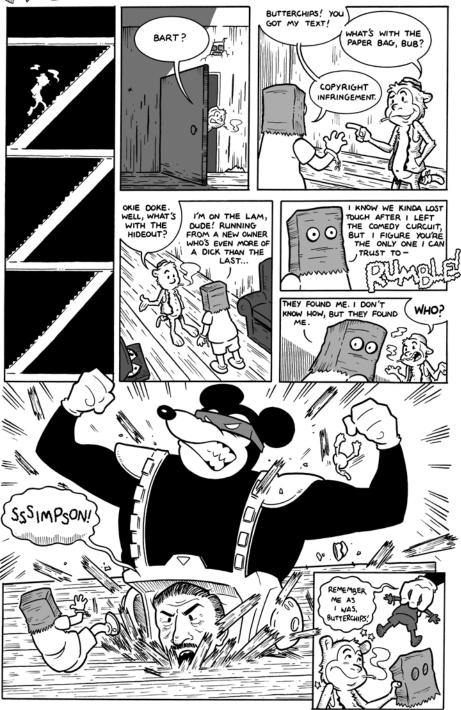


THEY BADGERED US FOR HOURS, DEMANDING TO SEE OUR PAPERS AND PROVE WE WERE NATIVE BIRDS. ALL BECAUSE WE DIDN'T LOOK LIKE THEM!









ALEX SCHUMACHER'S TERGIARS WHIMPER... Lancer lancer HEY, BUB. IS SHE BARKING IS THAT YOUR AGAIN? I'LL MAKE DOG CHAINED UP SURE TO SHUT IN THE HER UP FOR GOOD THIS TIME! NO. YOU DON'T APPEAR TO UNDERSTAND, SHE ISN'T THE PROBLEM. FRIEND. MMF! ALL LIVING CREATURES ARE DESERVING OF COMPASSION.



ALEX SCHUMACHER'S MR STITTERCLASS











CAGES ARE NOT HUMANE. TIME TO SHUT DOWN THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS.





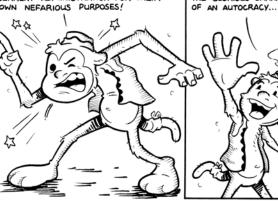


INSTEAD OF ALLOWING THIS

COUNTRY TO DESCEND INTO

THE GLORIOUS DARKNESS

THEY ARE A TRULY VILE GROUP OF LIBERALS HELL-BENT ON UPENDING THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION FOR THEIR OWN NEFARIOUS PURPOSES!



THESE FIENDS WANT TO IMPLEMENT MEDICARE FOR ALL, LIVING WAGES WITH LABOR RIGHTS, AND 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY.







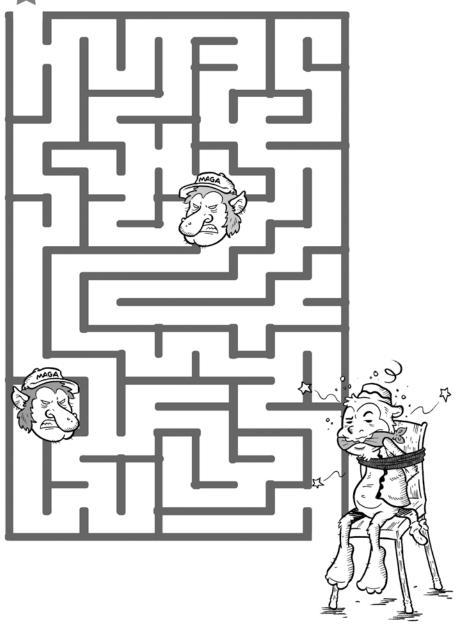




INTERNET TROLLS HAVE KIDNAPPED MR. BUTTERCHIPS! WORK YOUR WAY THROUGH THE MAZE TO RESCUE HIM AND UNLOCK AN ALL NEW COMIC (TO BE POSTED IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS).



START HERE





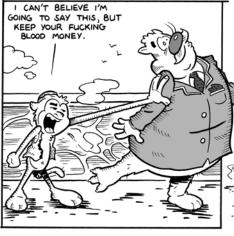








JUST AS WELL. CGI CUTS

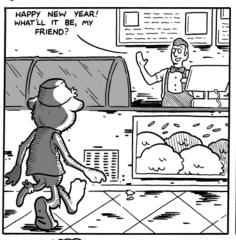




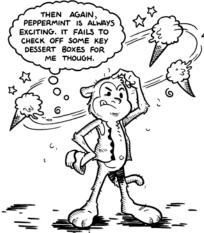
ALEX SCHUMACHER'S















I KNOW THIS IS NO TIME FOR A PROTEST VOTE, BUT AT LEAST CHOOSING THIS ICE CREAM SANDWICH ONLY AFFECTS ME.

















^{*} MR. BUTTERCHIPS - 2/10/2020

ALEX SCHUMACHER'S

WHEN LIFE LEAVES YOU WITH FESTERING WOUNDS AND LIBERALLY APPLIES LEMON JUICE, THE PETTY IDIOCY OF OTHERS CAN BE TOO MUCH TO BEAR.





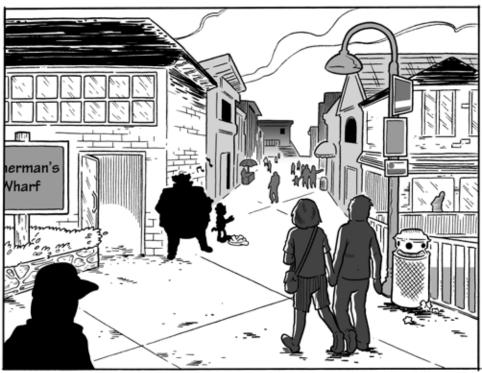


















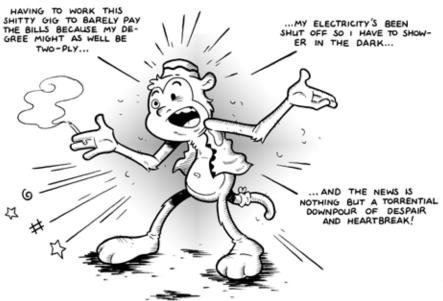
























CAPITALISM IS A VINDICTIVE MISTRESS. I'LL JUST TAKE A







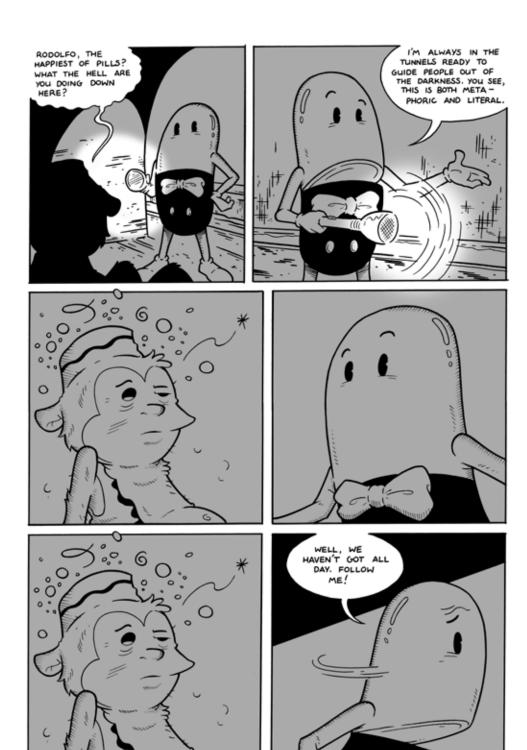








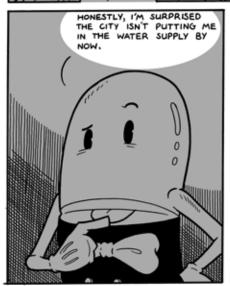
OH MAN, DID I
REALLY JUST SPILL INTO
THE SEWER? I'M STARTING TO TRIP
HARD!

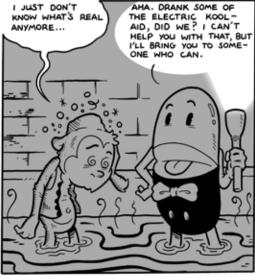




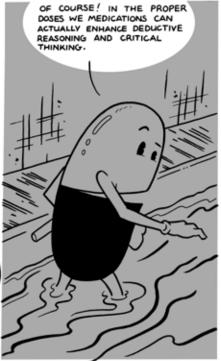












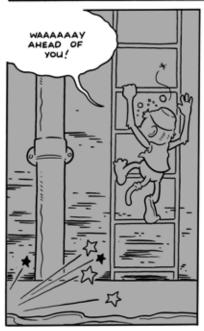


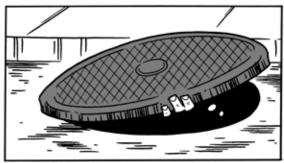




















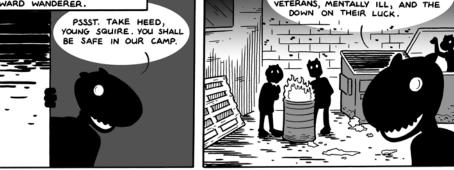


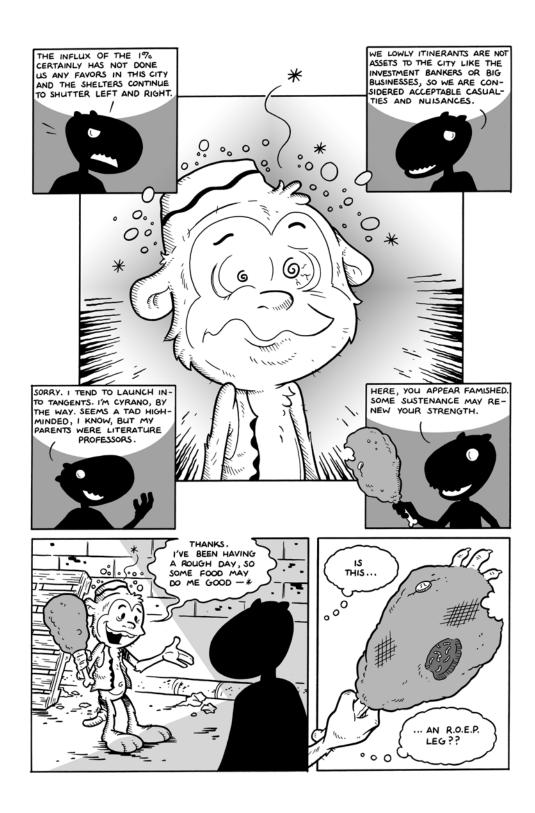


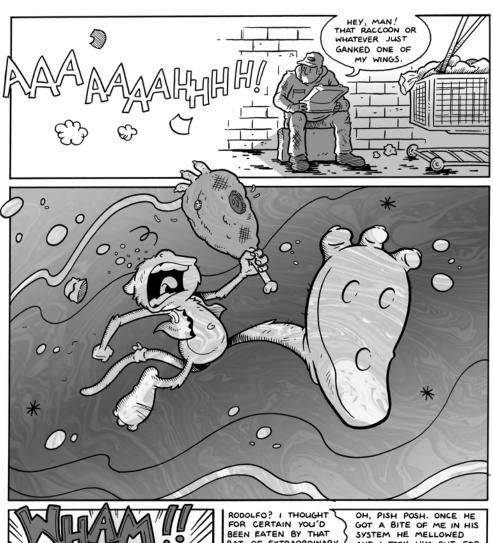


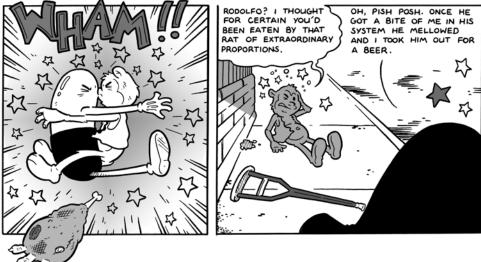














THOU CLEARLY NEEDS TO USE THE BUDDY SYSTEM PRESENTLY. DOES NOT THOU KNOW TO REFRAIN FROM TRIPPING BALLS ALONE?



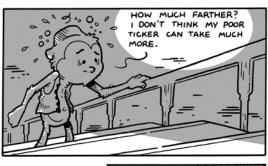
























AND SO THE SUN SETS AS THE REGULATED RAPSCALLION REFLECTS ON AN UNCONVENTIONALLY SUCCESSFUL OUTING.

I MAY JUST HAVE TO MAKE A TRIP IN THE CITY A REGULAR EXCURSION.



Gallery Credits (In order of appearance)

Ace Continuado

https://ace-continuado.artstation.com

Dimitris Zach

Javier Hernandez

https://www.instagram.com/javierloscomex/

Kurt Belcher

https://www.amazon.com/-/e/B07PJ41QSJ

Randy Haldeman https://www.randyhaldeman.com/

X Brushes of Doom

https://www.brushesofdoom.com/

Keith Knight

http://www.kchronicles.com/





BUTTERCHIPS SHITHEAD!





AS MR. BUTTERCHIPS SAT UPON THE COMMODE, HE COULD HEAR THE STEADY STREAM OF NEWS AND COMMENTARY FROM THE TELEVISION IN THE ADJOINING ROOM. HE CONTEMPLATED OVER THE STATE OF THINGS. THIS STRANGE NEW WORLD...

AS A MELANCHOLIC WAVE OF EXISTENTIAL ANXIETY WASHED OVER HIM, THE WORDS OF THE LATE, GREAT FREDDIE BLASSIE CAME TO MIND:

"WHAT THE HELL EVER HAPPENDED TO THE HUMAN RACE?!"









Mr. Butterchips: A Short and Sordid History

Since we're here to celebrate the maniacal monkey, I figured I'd take the opportunity to demystify his seemingly sudden materialization. In reality, his frenzied tale began some time ago in a vastly different world. America was at least a decade away from the reign of a megalomaniacal moron with a spray-on tan and the internet was in its infancy—anyone remember AIM? So prehistoric was technology that I was photocopying submission packages for the comic strip syndicates who still required physical copies at the time.



One such comic strip submission revolved around an ensemble cast of anthropomorphic characters and their exploits on and around a nondescript fisherman's wharf. Mr. Butterchips (named for my mother's favorite variety of pickles) was but an ancillary player. However, as I fleshed out the backgrounds of the cast and their personalities emerged, the salty simian was by far the most compelling.

Fast forward to 2013. I was working with an animation talent manager who was looking for original content to hock. Reaching back into the annals of my absurdist comics history, I reworked the strip to fit the mold of a half hour series. Surprising to no one, the studios were unenthusiastic and the show was dead on arrival. My fondness for the remainder of the cast was waning even then. Yet, Mr. Butterchips persisted.

In 2016 I was approached by Matt Guerreo, founding editor of Drunk Monkeys, to develop a monthly feature for their online magazine. Mr. Butterchips' existence as an organ grinder's monkey served as an infuriatingly apt metaphor for those toiling away in customer service purgatory. On a whim—though not as contrived as it may appear—I pitched the idea as an homage to the underground comix of the 60's and 70's, for which Matt and I shared an affinity. This aesthetic lasted all of 5 months. The ensuing election was a bombshell, dry-humping the country into uncharted and "unpresidented" territory. This historic misstep also served to forever alter the course of the series.

A silver lining in these unmoored times has been the curmudgeonly capuchin striking a chord with a number of people, fellow wanderers on the bumpy road we'll travel for some time to come. Rest assured, so long as the fires of injustice and hate rage on, Mr. Butterchips will be there to piss all over them.

-Alex Schumacher May 2020