



Antarctic Press presents

Issue #40

Fred Perry's

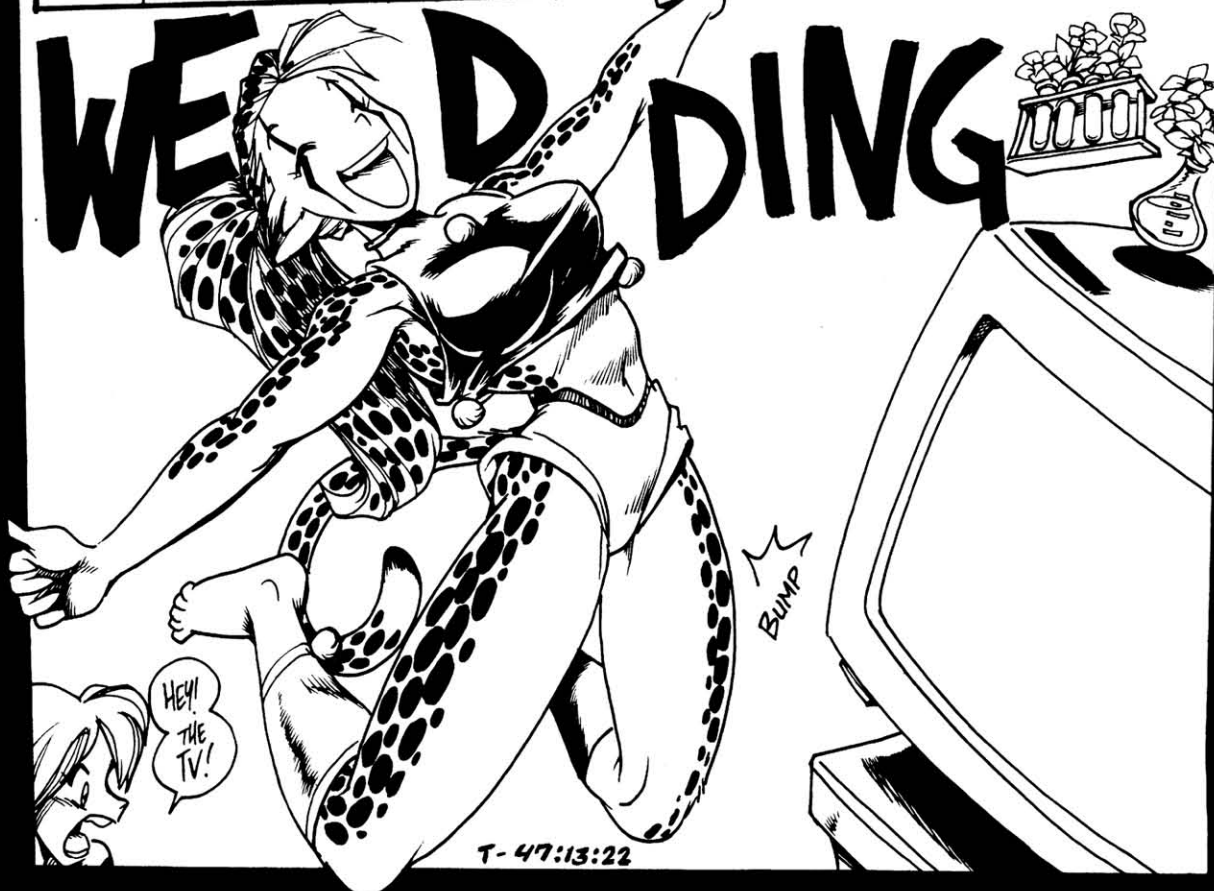
# GOLDDIGGER



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SO, JAZELLE... HOW WAS YOUR MEETING WITH DEACON ELLIS?

Oh, IT WAS VERY ENLIGHTENING, DR. DIGGERS. IT'S SO EXCITING TO LEARN THE CEREMONIAL CUSTOMS OF ANOTHER CULTURE. I SHOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE WITH THE WEDDING...

I THOUGHT DEACON ELLIS WAS HOSTING THE WEDDING CEREMONY...

HE DID AN AMAZING JOB WITH JULIA AND ME WHEN WE WERE WED...

YES... HE TOLD ME ABOUT THE DRAGON THAT ATTENDED...

...ABOUT THE RICKLS HE CAUSED...

HMM... PERHAPS THAT IS WHY HE IS LETTING ME HOST THIS TIME...



COULD BE...

...BUT A MORE SOUND EXPLANATION IS THAT YOU'RE THE ONE WHO KNOWS THE MOST ABOUT BOTH WRYN AND HUMAN CULTURES.

HONEY... I'VE FINISHED WITH THE GATE-SCROLL!

ALL OF THE "OUT-OF-TOWNERS" ARE HERE...



THABIAN, JETA, POCO AND ALERA... FROM EDEN'S INGRESS.

CONGRATULATIONS YOU TWO... ALERA'S A BEAUTIFUL LITTLE GIRL...

THANK YOU, JULIA. SHE TAKES AFTER HER MOTHER.

OH STOP!

OH... AND ONE MORE THING, THEO...



hello...

...Teddy.

Oh, NO...

it begins...



um... I-I invited Mumsy along... I hope you don't m-mind, honey.

....

She made me promise I wouldn't let her miss the wedding... Sh-she had me in a headlock! what could I do?

TODAY, I'M ACTUALLY HAPPY TO SEE MY SCRAWNY, WORTHLESS, UNWORTHY SON-IN-LAW!

STILL PRACTICING THOSE CHEAP PARLOR TRICKS YOU CALL "MAGIC", TEDDY?

I'M HAPPY TO SEE YOU TOO, MOTHER DEAREST.

pat pat

RELAX, TEDDY. I'M NOT GOING TO ATTACK YOU THIS TIME...

YOU CAN IMAGINE MY RELIEF, MOTHER DEAREST.

JUST DON'T FORGET, I STILL BELIEVE YOU UNFIT FOR MY JULIA.

BUT AFTER THIS JOYOUS OCCASION IS OVER, I WILL BREAK BOTH OF YOUR LEGS OFF AND SHOVE THEM UP YOUR FLANK!

NOW, HOW'S ABOUT GIVING MUMSY A KISS?

E-EXCUSE ME, PLEASE?

WHA-??  
Thabian, LOOK!!  
Jetta? How is this POSSIBLE?

I WAS WONDERING ... Z Z

But I thought...

...IF THIS IS THE LOCATION ...

...There was only one left...

...OF BRITANNY'S WEDDING??

Oh DEAR...

THIS MAY COMPLICATE MATTERS...

What?

**NO! NO! NO!**

AND IN CASE YOU DIDN'T  
HEAR ME CLEARLY,

**NO!**

I'M ~~NOT~~  
HAVING A  
BACHELORETTE  
PARTY...

BUT BRIT-AN-EEE

GINA AND I HANDLED-~~ED~~ HAND  
PICKED ALL THESE ~~BUFF~~ MALE  
STRIPPERS AND EVERYTHING!!  
THEY'RE GOING THE FULL MONTY!

LAST TASTE  
OF FREEDOM,  
SIS... AND  
MMM! THESE  
GUYS ARE TASTY!

LOTS OF  
BULGE,  
TOO!

HMPH!

OOPS!  
HERE'S  
THE CHAPEL...  
WE'LL TALK  
LATER! I'VE  
GOT PICTURES!

AS FAR AS I'M  
CONCERNED, THIS  
TOPIC IS **DEAD!**

THERE'S ONLY **ONE**  
THING I WANNA  
TASTE FOR MY WEDDING...

...AND **THAT** IS  
WEDDING CAKE.

LATER,  
SIBLINGS.

WE'LL  
SEE YOU AFTER  
WE PICK UP  
ACE, PENNY,  
CHARLOTTE  
AND RYAN...

PLUS WE'VE  
GOTTA GET HOME  
TO SNATCH UP  
SEANCE AND  
GENN.

YOU KNOW, GINA...  
JUST 'CAUSE SHE  
DOESN'T WANNA  
DOESN'T MEAN  
WE CAN'T GO...

oh yech... and  
STRIPE TOO!

**HELLO, EVERYBODY!**

BR- BRITANNY?

YOU'RE  
EARLY FOR  
THE  
REHEARSAL...

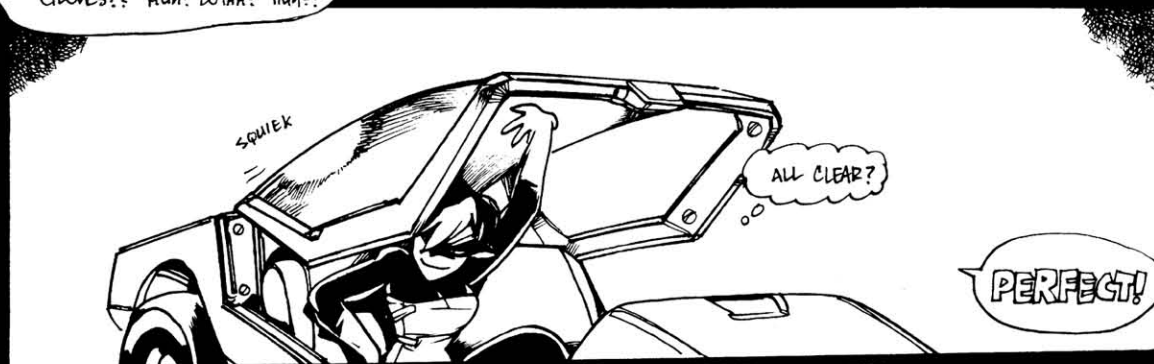
I KNOW.

I'VE JUST  
GOTTA TRY ON  
MY DRESS!

ooOo! Hi,  
JETTA!  
YOU MADE  
IT!

BRITANNY...

WE  
NEED  
TO HAVE  
A FEW  
WORDS...

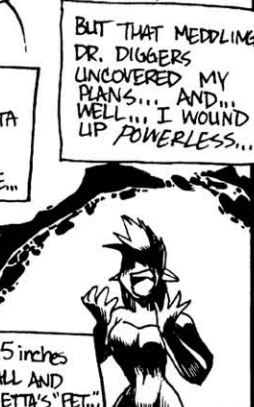




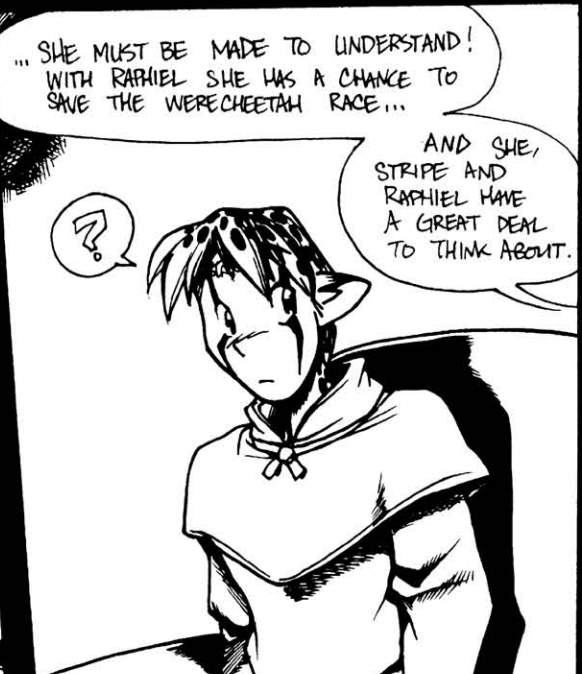
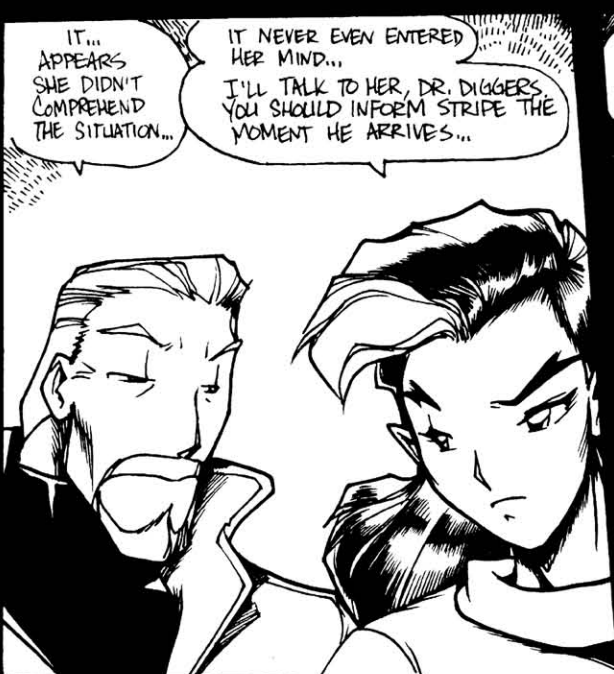
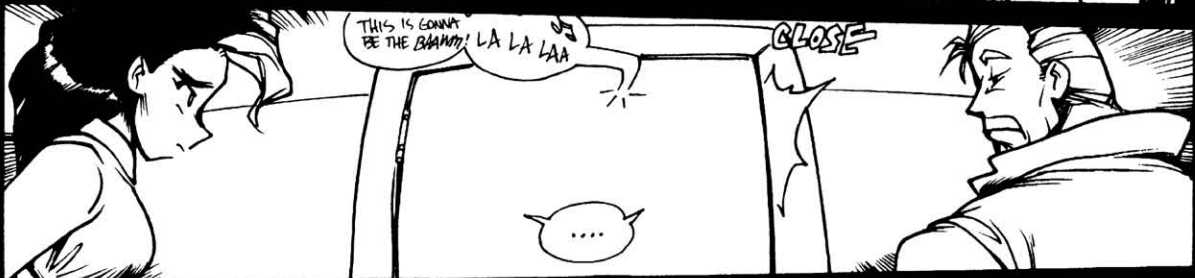
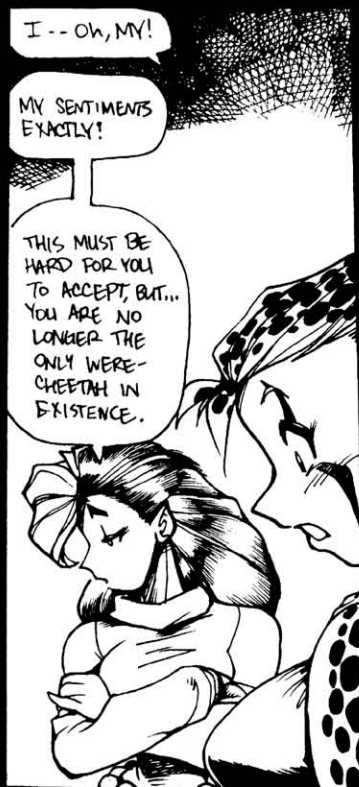
STRYP'GIA, PRINCE OF EL DORADO, HAD NOT FOUND ANYONE TO COURT YET... WHICH MEANT HE WOULD SOON HAVE TO MARRY THE PRIESTESS... ME!!



HER DESIRE FOR STRIPE THREATENED MY BID FOR THE POWERS OF A QUEEN PRIESTESS...









T-44:51:30



ACE Z HONEY?? IS THIS GIVING YOU ANY IDEAS?

Um...  
RUN FOR IT, ACE!  
RUN!!  
RUUUUNNN!!!

Sigh  
GOOD-BYE, STAFF.

ACTUALLY, GINA, I WOULDN'T HAVE MINDED WEARING A TUXEDO...

BUT BRITANNY INSISTED ON ME WEARING THE TRADITIONAL KRYNN ROBE FOR THIS OCCASION.

How ARE YOU GOING TO TELL HIM, DOCTOR?  
I'LL JUST BE DIRECT...

...BooRinnngga...

DR. DIGGERS...

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ME TO WED YOUR DAUGHTER AND JOIN YOUR FAMILY!

I CAN THINK OF NO FINER HONOR!

I ONLY WISH THERE WAS A WAY TO FULLY EXPRESS MY GRATITUDE...

...FATHER.



...Ehem... Well...

Oh, DOCTOR...

THERE..... MAY NOT BE A WEDDING CEREMONY...

SOMEONE.... NEW HAS APPEARED... AND... IT... Uhm...

WE MAY HAVE TO THINK ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT THIS MARRIAGE SHOULD BE...



DAD??

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING AB---

Zoinks!

Mmm  
Munch  
munch

I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND...



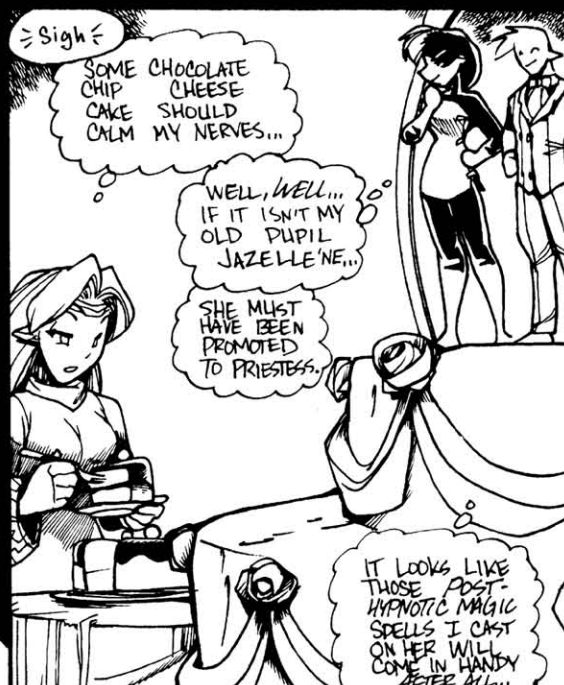
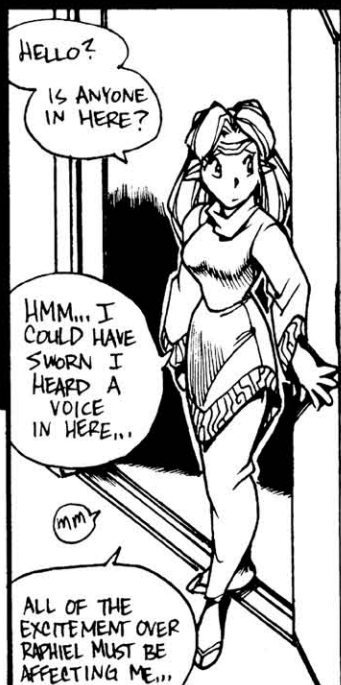
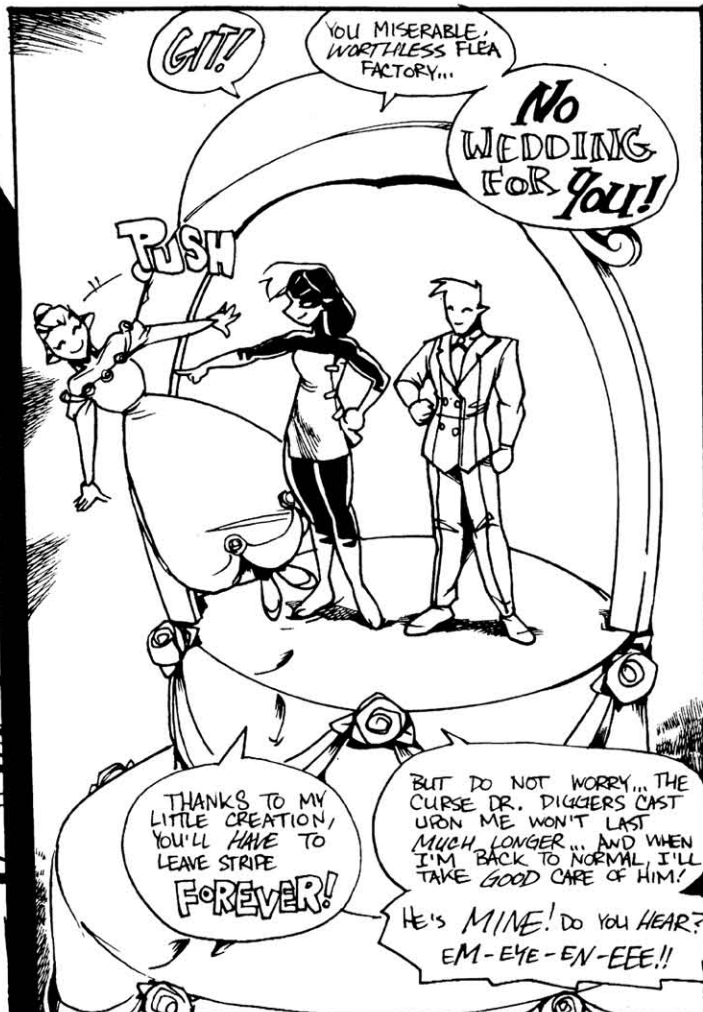
WHAT HAS HAPPENED?



T-44:33:08



\* SUNG TO THE TUNE OF  
"HERE COMES THE BRIDE"











SHE IS WITH STRIPE NOW, GINA...

PROBABLY SOBBING HER EYES OUT BY NOW...

PROBABLY SOBB-

SHH

HOLD IT, EVERYONE! WE'VE FOUND A SOLUTION!



I'VE BEEN TALKING IT OVER WITH RAPHAEL, AND I KNOW A WAY WE CAN CONTINUE THE WERE-CHEETAH RACE WITHOUT BRITANNY!

YOU DON'T MEAN... THE AMALGAMS OF JADE??

OF COURSE I DO, MAGE-BOY!

THEY'RE GOOD PALS OF MINE AND THEY'RE THE FINEST BREEDING EXPERTS AROUND!

(AND I DO MEAN *Fine*)

THEY'LL BE ABLE TO PROVIDE RAPHAEL WITH 99.996 PERCENT WERE-CHEETAH CHILDREN WITH THEIR SPECIAL TECHNIQUES! SO HOW 'BOUT IT, RAPHY?

FINE AMAZON BREEDING EXPERTS SOUND GOOD TO ME!



WHA-WHA

WHAT?

YOU TRAITOR!

I KNEW I SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN YOU FREE WILL!!



ZONKS



TANYA???



WELL, RAPHAEL REY, DON'T THINK YOU'RE GOING TO GET AWAY WITH THIS!

SOUL-KEY!! COME TO MY HAND! SO I CAN CRUSH IT!



M-

MOTHER?



WHP

OH, NO, YOU DON'T!

YOU'RE NOT EVEN TOUCHING RAPHIEL'S... THINGAMABOB!



HOLD IT!

ONE FALSE MOVE, AND KAPOW SPLAT!

JAZELLE BLOWS HER BRAINS OUT WITH AN "AURA-SPARK" AT POINT-BLANK RANGE!



THAT ESPECIALLY GOES FOR YOU, DR. DIGGERS...

POWER DOWN THAT SPELL OR ELSE!

DAMN!



THAT'S RIGHT, MR. ARCH-MAGE! YOU'RE POWERLESS TO STOP ME NOW!

AND WHEN SWEET INNOCENT JAZELLE FINISHES CASTING THE ESCAPE GATE FOR ME...

...EVEN SHE WON'T KNOW WHERE SHE SENT ME!

I ADMIT I'VE FAILED THIS TIME... BUT I'M PATIENT.



AFTER ALL, REVENGE IS A DISH THAT IS BEST SERVED AFTER SIMMERING FOR A WHILE...

FADE FADE FADE

WAVE

WAVE

SEE... SEE WHAT HAPPENS

WHEN YOU RELY ON **MAGIC**,  
TEDDY-BOY? IF I HAD MY  
TRUSTY BLADE, SHE WOULDN'T  
HAVE GOTTEN AWAY!!

WE'LL FIX THE  
BLAME LATER,  
MOTHER DEAREST...

JAZELLE?  
ARE YOU  
WELL?

WE  
KNOW IT'S  
NOT YOUR  
FAULT,  
JAZELLE...

IS...  
IS THAT...

RAPHAEL  
...?

WE HEARD THE  
COMMOTION  
AND CAME TO  
INVESTIGATE...

WHAT  
HAPPENED?



I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, DR. DIGGERS...  
EVEN THOUGH MY FATHER FORCED OUR  
CLANS TO FIGHT, MY CLAN AND I  
D-DID... KILL... YOUR FAMILY...

Jetta...



THAT'S WHY I WANTED YOU WITH  
RAPHAEL, BRITANNY. I THOUGHT IT  
WAS A WAY TO F/X WHAT WENT  
WRONG SO LONG AGO...

I'm sorry...

STRIFE? BRITANNY?... OUR  
OLD FRIEND TANYA CAME  
BACK FOR A VISIT...  
AND RAPHAEL...

AND THIS MELTED CLAY  
RAPHAEL WAS MADE FROM...  
IT'S INCREDIBLY SIMILAR  
TO THE GENESIS CLAY  
OF EDEN...

THAT EXPLAINS  
WHY HE WAS  
SO... LIFE-  
LIKE...

IT FOOLED  
EVEN MY  
SENSES...

...OR...

...PERHAPS I STILL FEEL  
GUILTY OVER NOT BEING  
ABLE TO RESCUE BRITANNY'S  
FAMILY WHEN SHE WAS AN  
INFANT...

PERHAPS I WANTED TO BELIEVE  
RAPHAEL WAS... A SECOND  
CHANCE...



... WAS A GOLEM.  
CAREFULLY  
CONSTRUCTED  
SPECIFICALLY  
FOR THIS  
OCCASION...

HER GOLEM-MAKING  
SKILLS ARE VERY MUCH  
INTACT, EVEN WHILE HER  
SPELL CASTING ABILITIES  
ARE SUPPRESSED.



YOU HAVE NO REASON  
TO BE SORRY, JETTA.

WE WERE  
AT WAR.

FORGIVE US  
FOR NOT  
APPEARING  
UNTIL NOW,  
BRITANNY.

GENN, COULD YOU...  
STOP STARING AT  
ME? PLEASE??

SEANCE WANTED  
TO CHANNEL OUR  
SPIRITS EARLIER,  
BUT WE DIDN'T  
WANT TO INFLUENCE  
YOUR DECISION.

ALTHOUGH WE...  
WERE TEMPTED...

>gasp<  
>x-x-resses<

WE COULD NEVER ASK  
YOU TO FORSAKE THE  
ONE YOU LOVE...

WE WANT YOU TO  
BE HAPPY WITH  
STRIPE!

YOUR CHILDREN WILL  
CARRY ON OUR HERITAGE  
WHETHER THEY ARE  
KRYN, WERECHETAH,  
OR BOTH...

YOU HAVE YOUR  
CLAN'S BLESSING,  
BRITANNY...

WE ALL ARE MOST  
PLEASED WITH YOUR  
CHOICE...

STRIPE IS  
PERFECT FOR  
YOU!

MOM!

NOW HURRY UP  
WITH MY GRAND-  
CHILDREN!

T-00:25:21

PULL!

I AM  
PULLING!

NO, YOU'RE  
NOT!

I CAN'T  
FEEL A  
THING!

gah THAT'S BECAUSE  
OF YOUR - gah

STOMACH  
MUSCLES!

LOL  
THAT - OR  
YOU'RE  
GETTIN' TOO  
CHUNKY!



BRIT! THE DRESS IS BACK FROM THE SEAMSTRESS!!!

AFTER THESE ALTERATIONS, IT SHOULD BE PERFECT!





HONEY, HONEY...  
WHAT'S WRONG?  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO YOUR GOWN?

THE NOTE FROM THE  
SEAMSTRESS... READ  
IT!...

"IT HAS COME TO OUR  
ATTENTION THAT THESE  
MEASUREMENTS ARE  
CERTAINLY A MISTAKE!  
NO BRIDE IS THIS  
BIG..."

Oh Dear...

"WE MADE THE BEST  
ADJUSTMENTS WE  
COULD. IT MAY NOT  
BE PERFECT, BUT  
THEY'RE BETTER  
THAN HAVING THE  
BRIDE WEAR A  
CIRCUS TENT!"

THAT SEAMSTRESS  
IS GOIN'

**DOWN!!**

MOM? THE WEDDING'S  
IN TWENTY  
MINUTES!!  
WHAT ARE  
WE GONNA  
DO??



COME, JULIA!  
WE'LL HANDLE  
**THIS!**

BRITANNY, TAKE OFF  
THE GOWN AND GIVE  
IT TO US...

FORTUNATELY, I  
BROUGHT MY GARMENT  
KIT FOR JUST SUCH  
AN EMERGENCY!

Um...

**HURRY  
UP,  
JULIA!**

Y-YES,  
MUMSY!

Uf...

DON'T  
WORRY, BABY...  
WE'LL DO  
EVERYTHING  
WE CAN...

T-00:17:27

I'VE GOT  
A BAAAD  
FEELING...



NNH

Ngh

Hurry

C'mon  
mom

NNH

NNgh

GINA... THEY'RE  
NOT GONNA  
MAKE IT!

BRIT!  
LET GO!  
YOU'RE...  
HURTING  
ME?

GET YOUR  
OWN WATCH!



**WE'RE DONE**

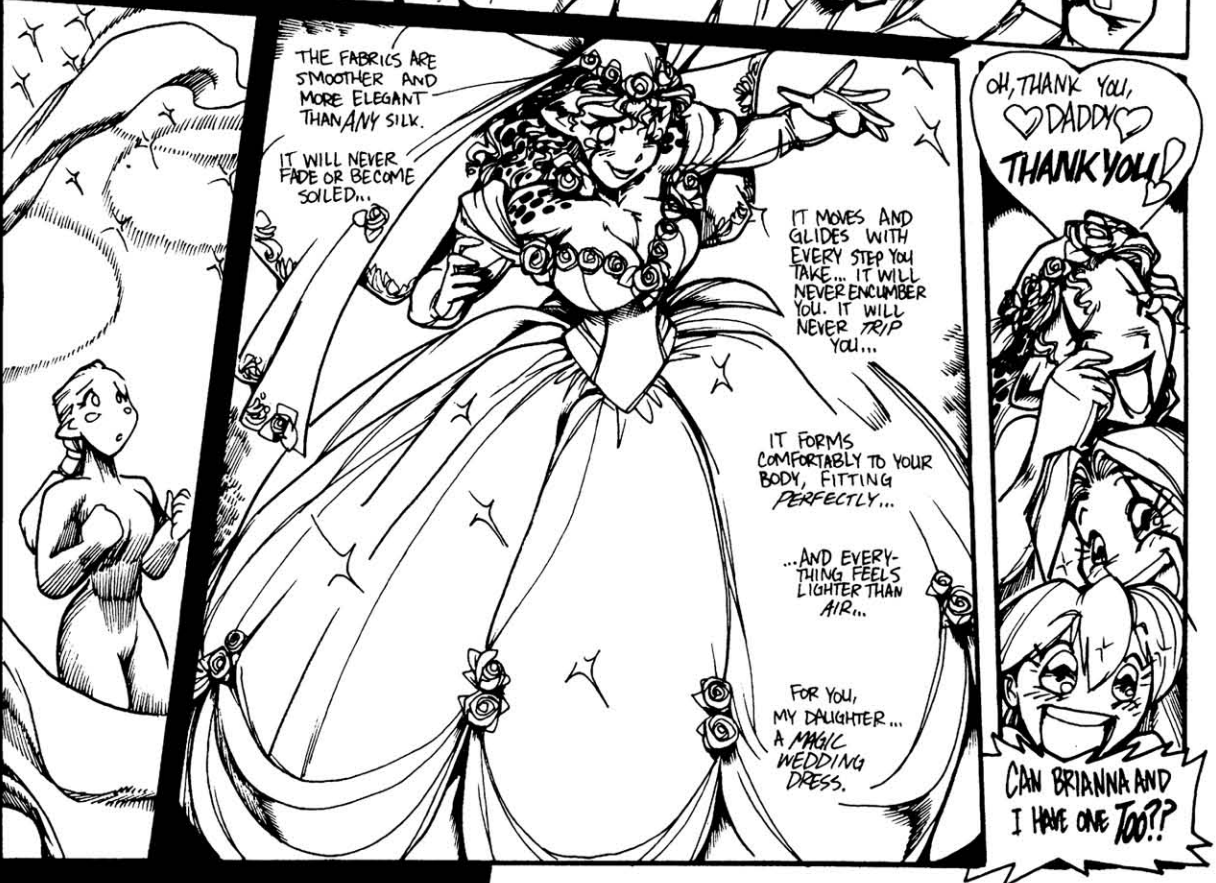
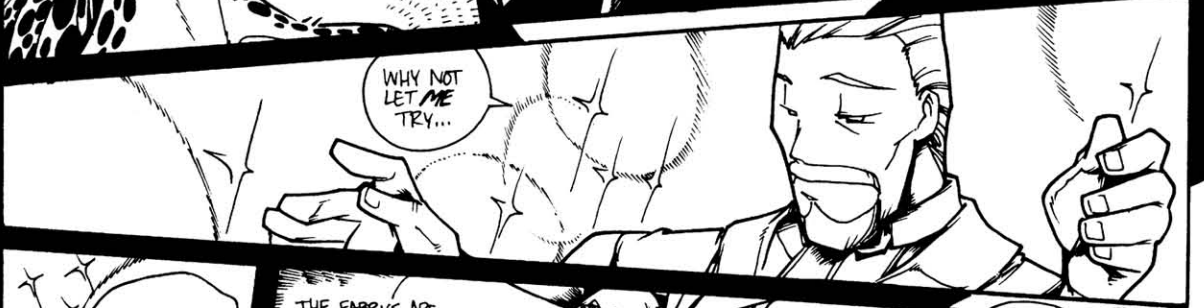
NOW I KNOW  
IT'S A BIT TRADITIONAL  
AND OLD-FASHIONED,  
BUT GRAMUMSY  
COULDN'T FIND  
HER AWWIL FOR  
THE ARMOR  
PLATING...

BRITANNY...  
I'M SO SORRY!

I TRIED TO  
STOP HER, HONEY!

I TRIED AND  
I TRIED!!

\* EVERY SECOND THAT GOES BY IS PAINFUL!





The End