

A TRILOGY OF ERROR!

SIMPSONSONS

TM

COMICS

#185

\$2.99

COMICS
BONGO
GROUP



bongocomics.com

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MATT
GROENING
ARTWORK

DIRECT EDITION



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AN EXPLANATION IS IN ORDER...

THIS ISSUE OF SIMPSONS COMICS IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT FROM MOST. IN PREPARING A NORMAL ISSUE FOR PRINT, ONE OF OUR FULLY LICENSED AND BONDED SIMPSONS ARTISTS WILL DRAW THE COVER WELL AFTER THE SCRIPT HAS BEEN WRITTEN AND APPROVED. IN FACT, THAT'S UNIVERSALLY HOW MOST COMIC BOOK COVERS ARE CREATED. (IF THE COVER RELATES TO THE STORY OR STORIES INSIDE, IT'S USUALLY INSPIRED BY THE SCRIPT.)

THIS ISSUE, WE THOUGHT WE'D TRY A LITTLE EXPERIMENT. WE ASKED CARTOONIST EXTRAORDINAIRE AND MUSTACHE ENTHUSIAST SERGIO ARAGONES TO DRAW A COVER WITH NO INPUT FROM OUR EDITORIAL STAFF WHATSOEVER. WE GAVE HIM FREE REIGN TO DRAW WHATEVER MADNESS POPPED INTO HIS HEAD, TELLING HIM ONLY THAT HIS FINISHED DRAWING WOULD BE SHOWN TO THREE DIFFERENT WRITERS, THAT THEY WOULD EACH BE GIVEN THE ASSIGNMENT TO CRAFT STORIES BASED ON HIS COVER ART, AND THAT WE WOULD PAY HIM.

AND SO IT CAME TO PASS! SIMPSONS SCRIBES IAN BOOTHBY, EVAN DORKIN, AND PATRIC VERRONE WERE ALL GIVEN COPIES OF SERGIO'S CRAZY COVER ART AND DIRECTED TO COME UP WITH A SHORT STORY TO GO WITH IT. THEN, SOME VERY TALENTED ARTISTS DREW THE STORIES, OUR ACCOMPLISHED BONGO PRODUCTION STAFF COLORED AND LETTERED THEM, AND...VOILÀ! YOU NOW HOLD THE RESULTS OF THIS WILD EXPERIMENT IN YOUR HANDS: THREE DIFFERENT SIMPSONS SAGAS, ALL BASED ON ONE KOOKY COVER!

**LET US KNOW IF YOU LIKE 'EM!
MAYBE WE'LL DO THIS AGAIN SOME DAY!**

THE BIG FINISH



PATRIC M. VERRONE
SCRIPT

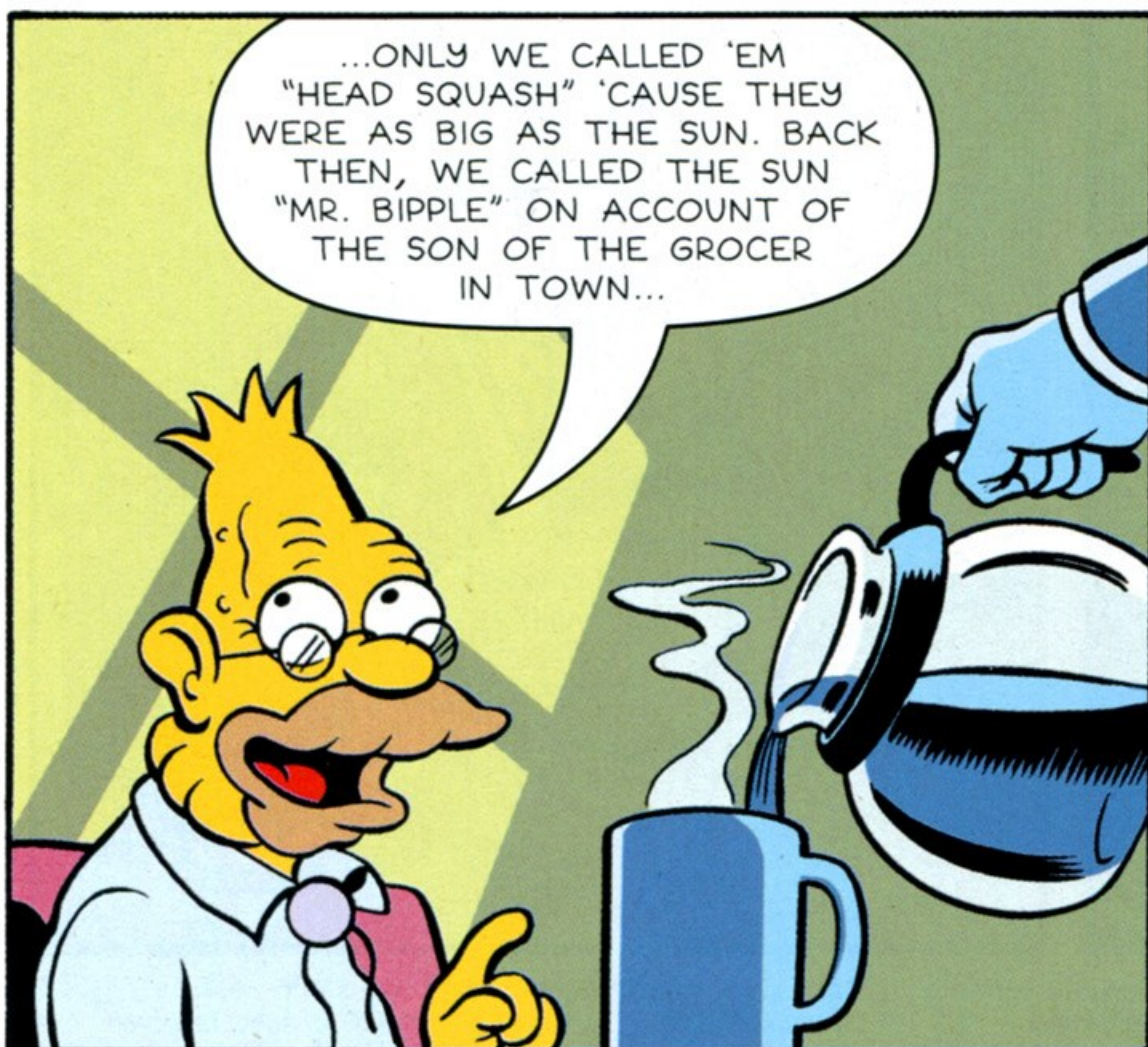
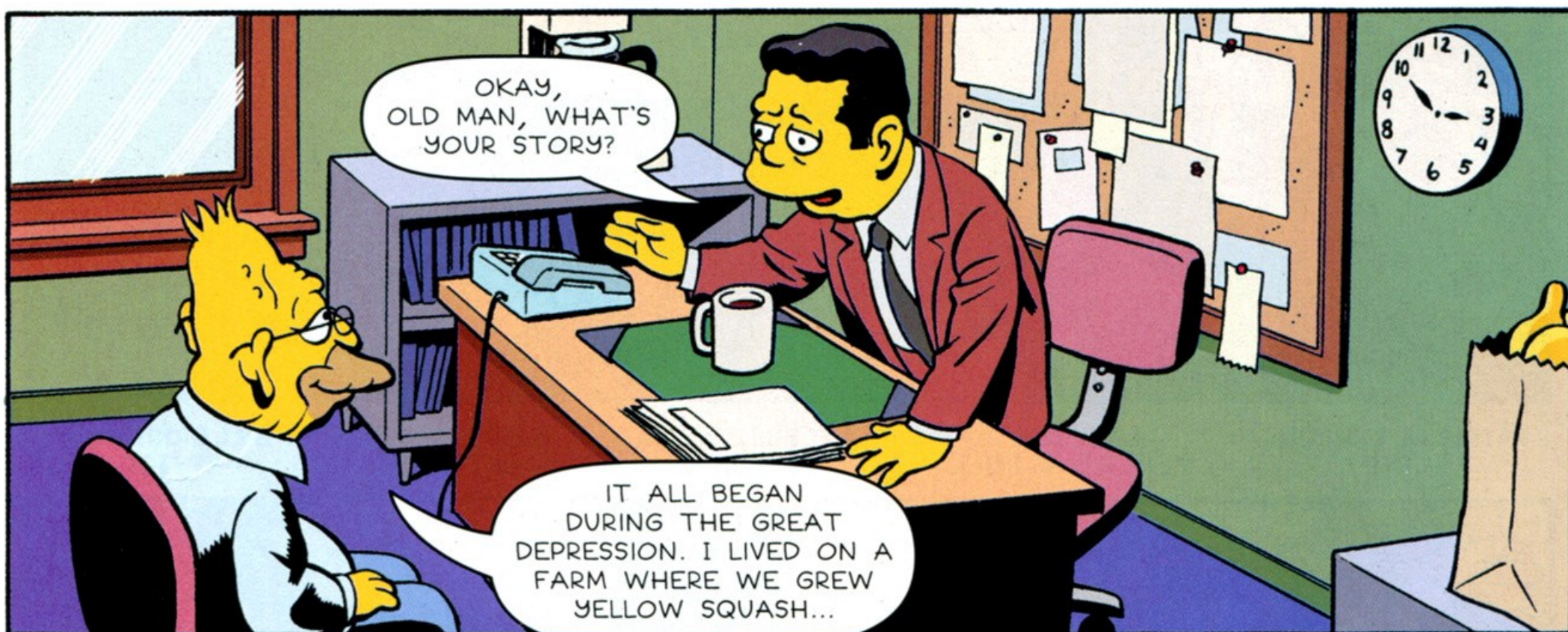
HILARY BARTA
PENCILS & INKS

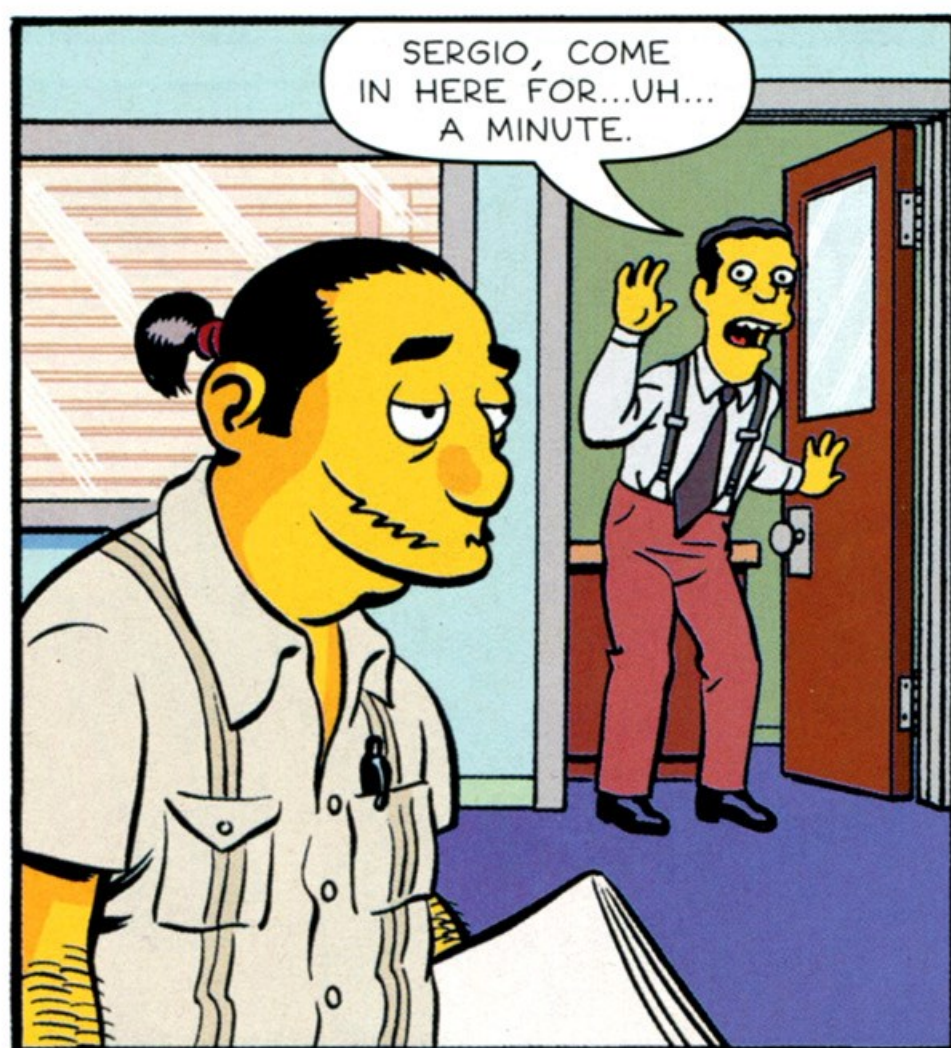
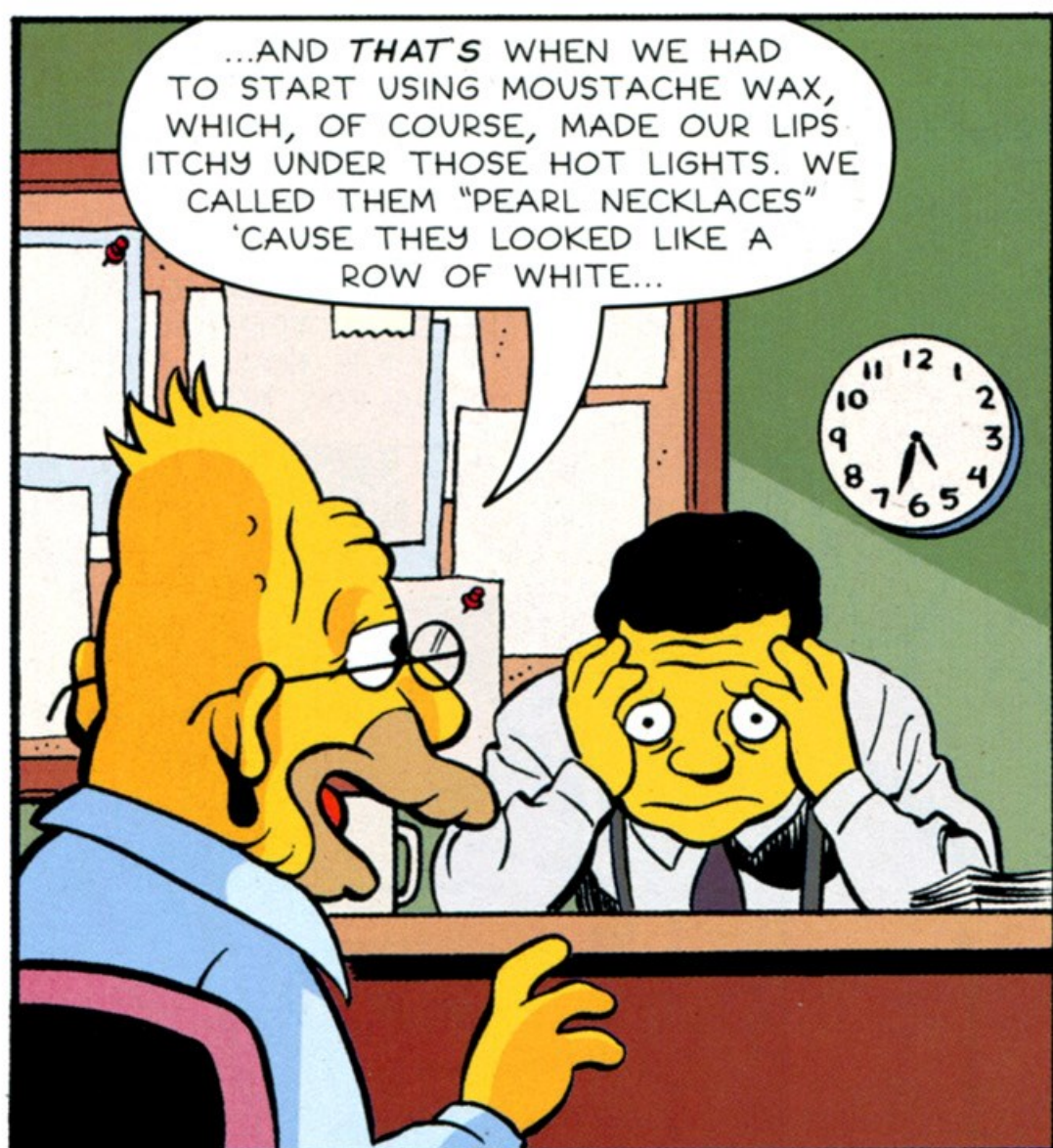
ART VILLANUEVA
COLORS

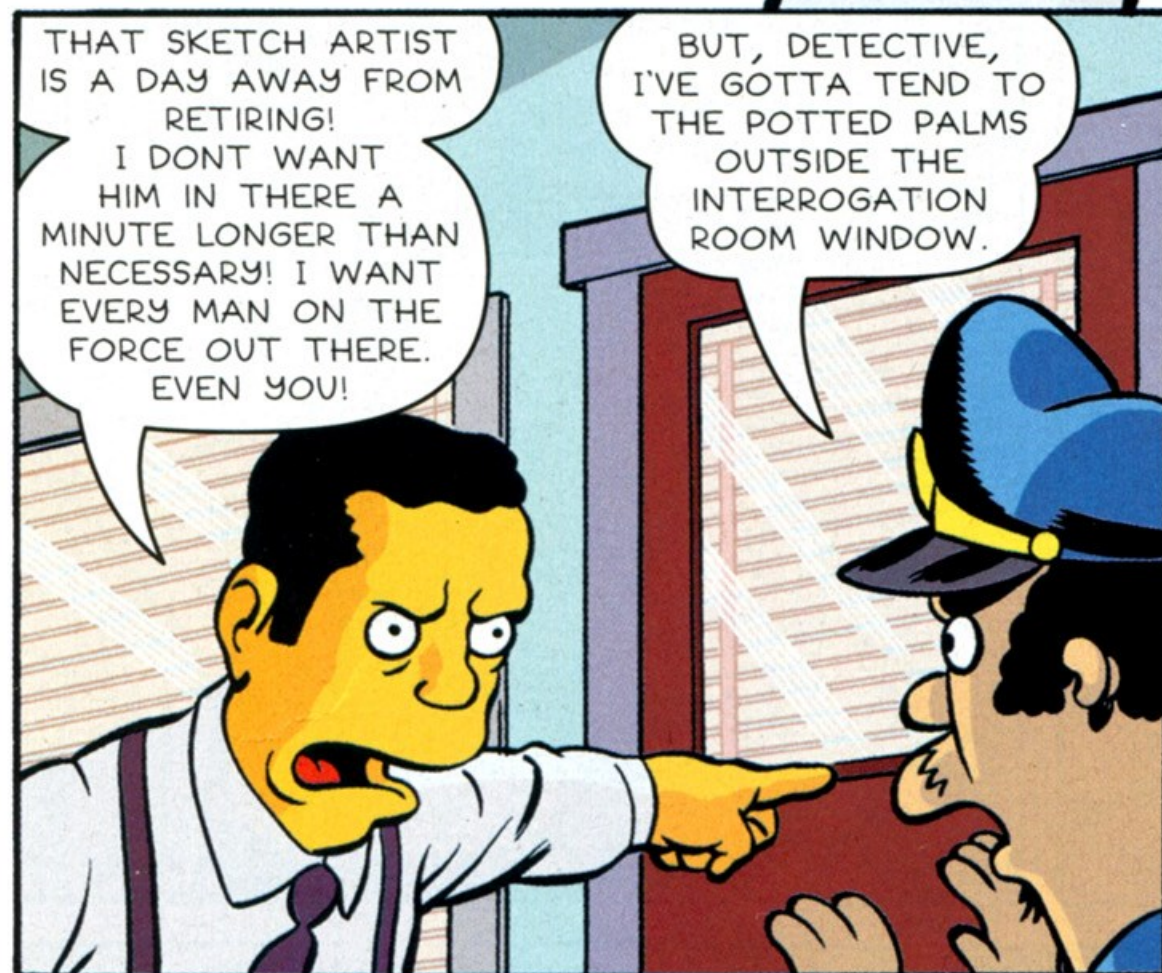
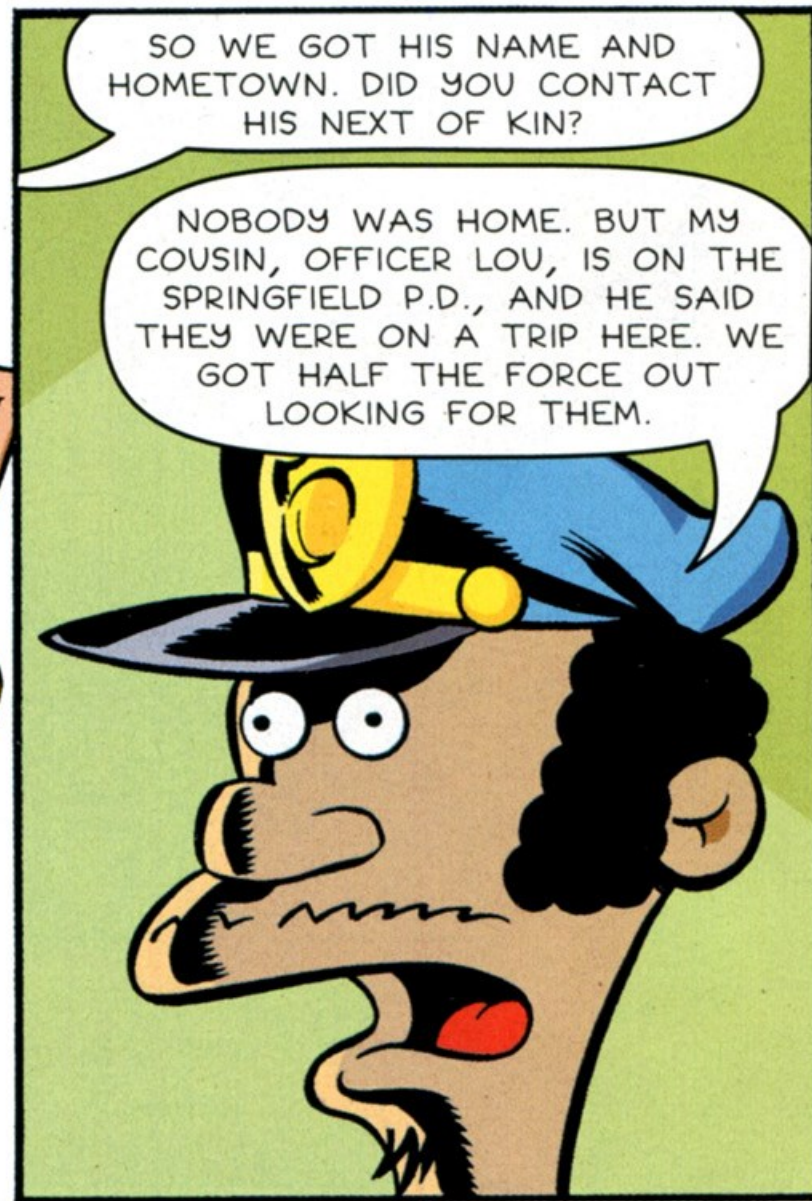
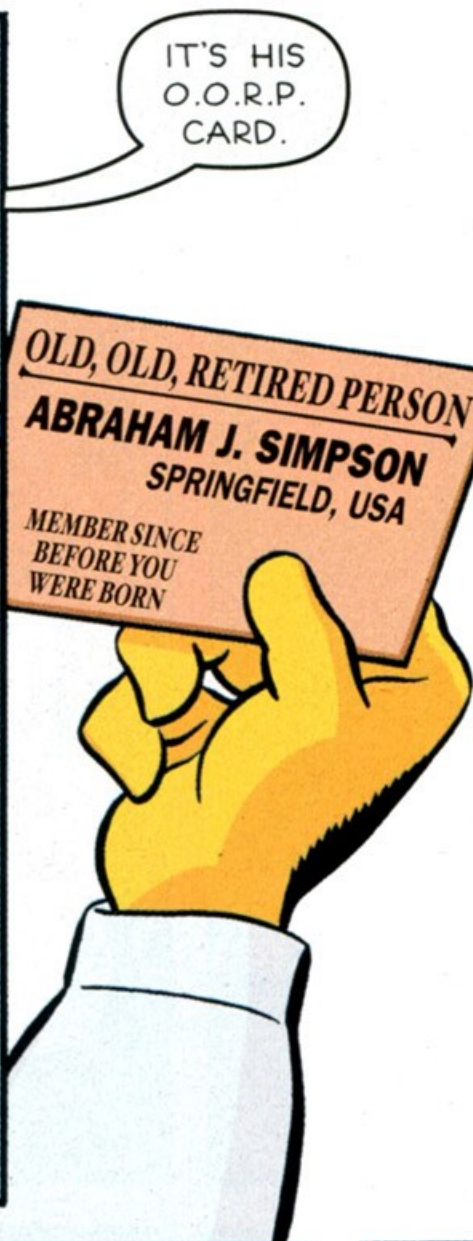
KAREN BATES
LETTERS

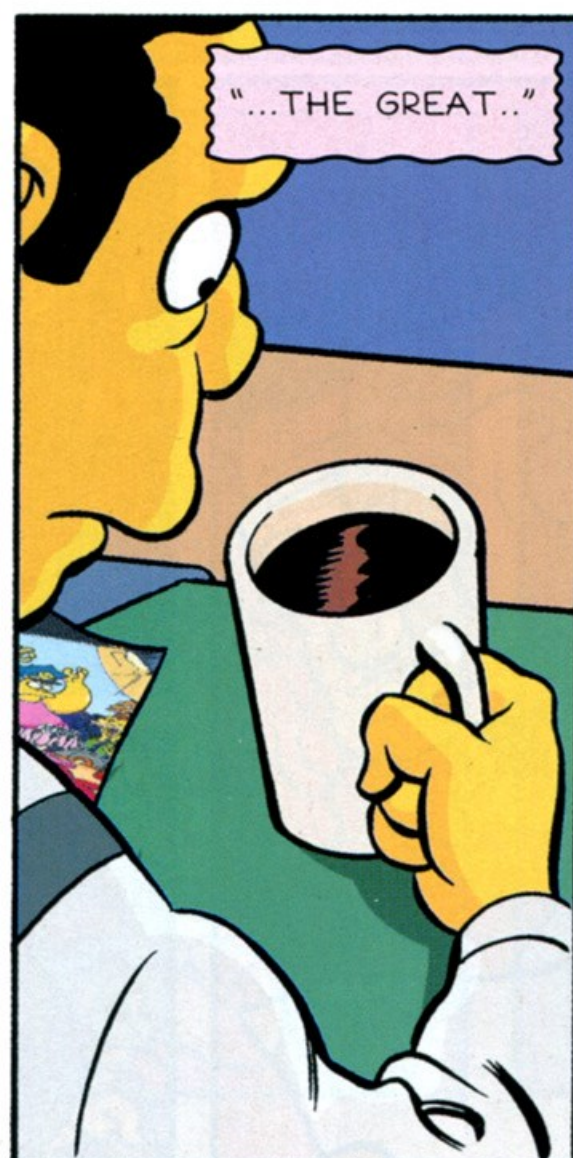
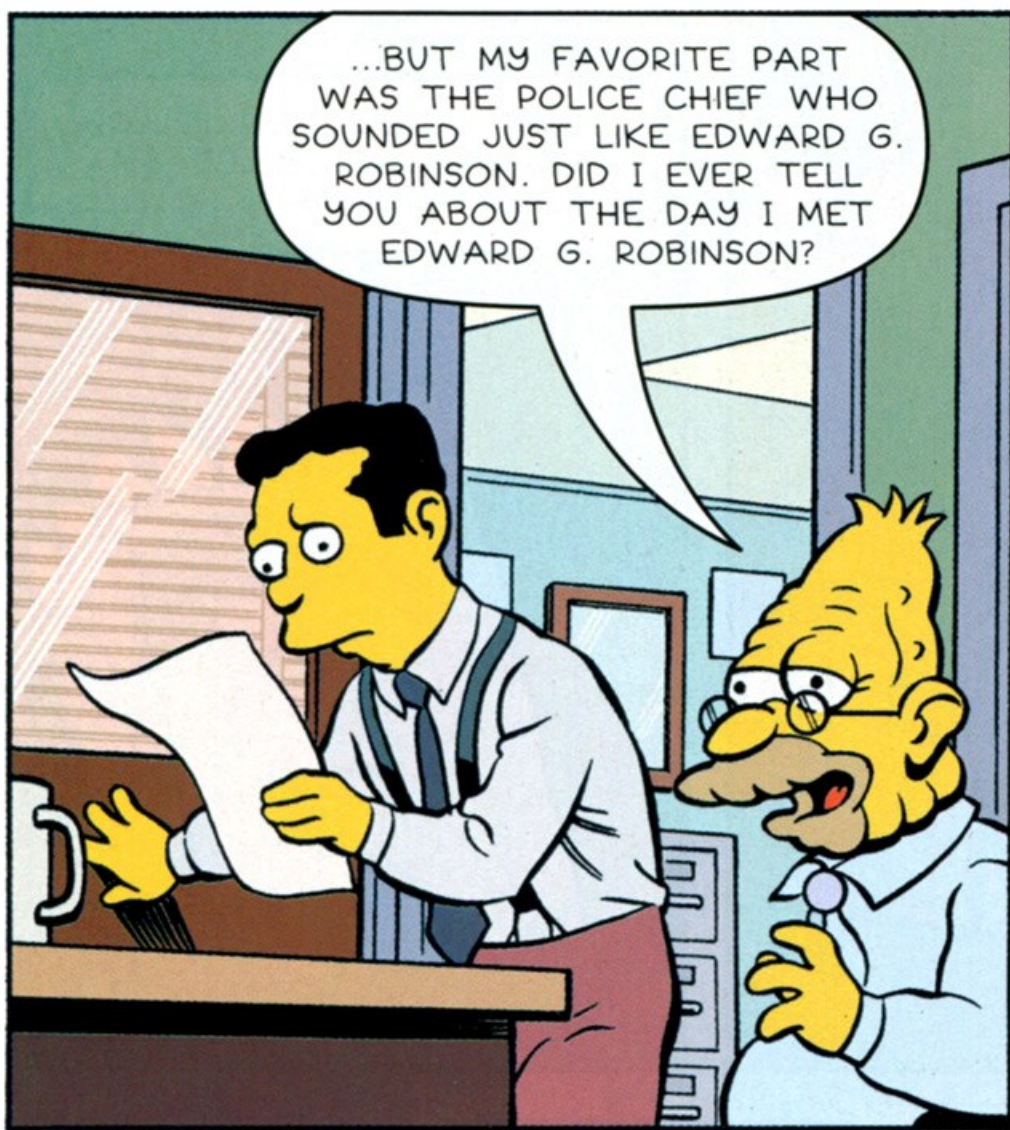
BILL MORRISON
EDITOR

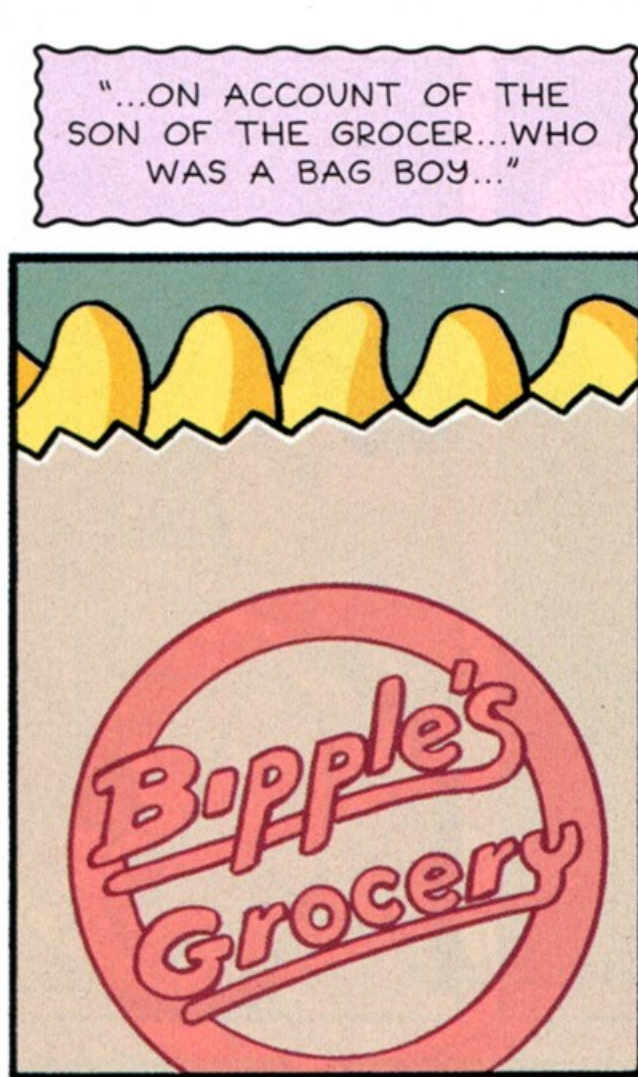
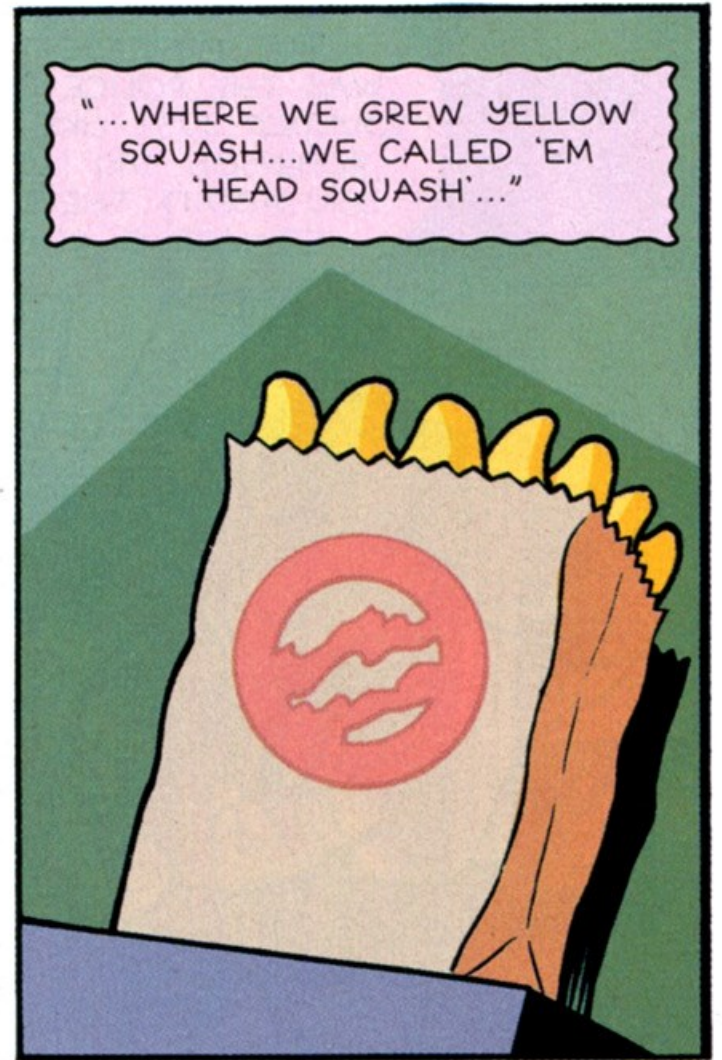
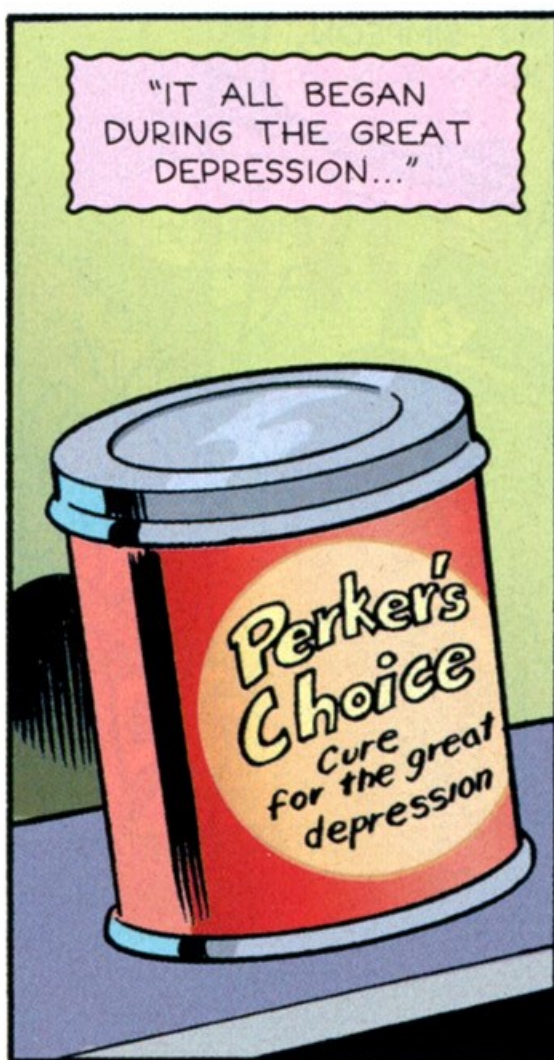


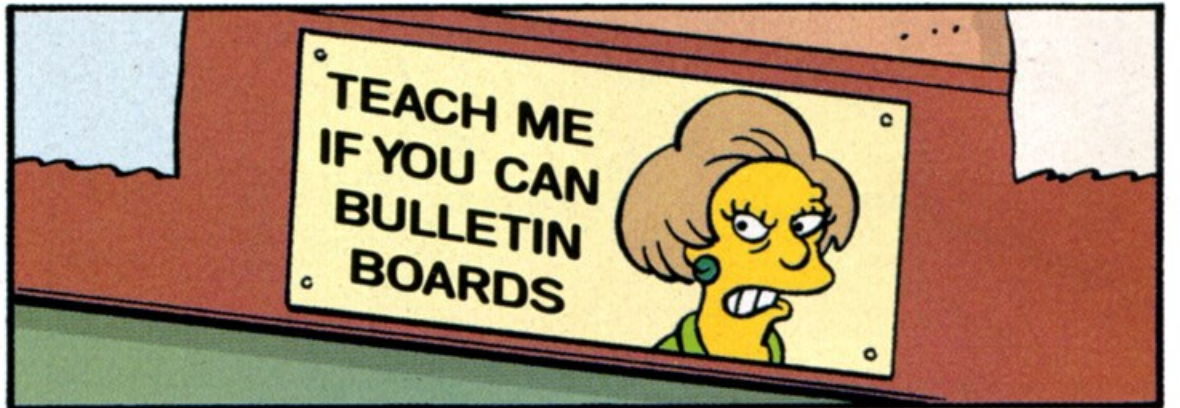
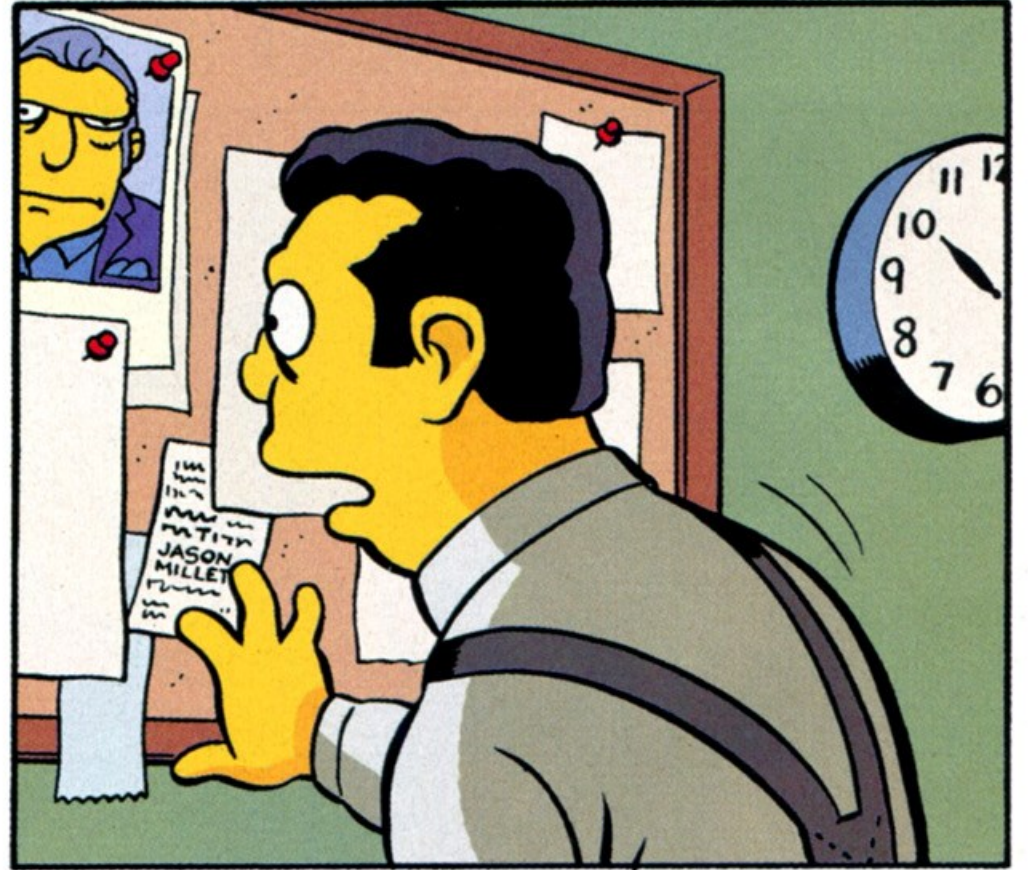
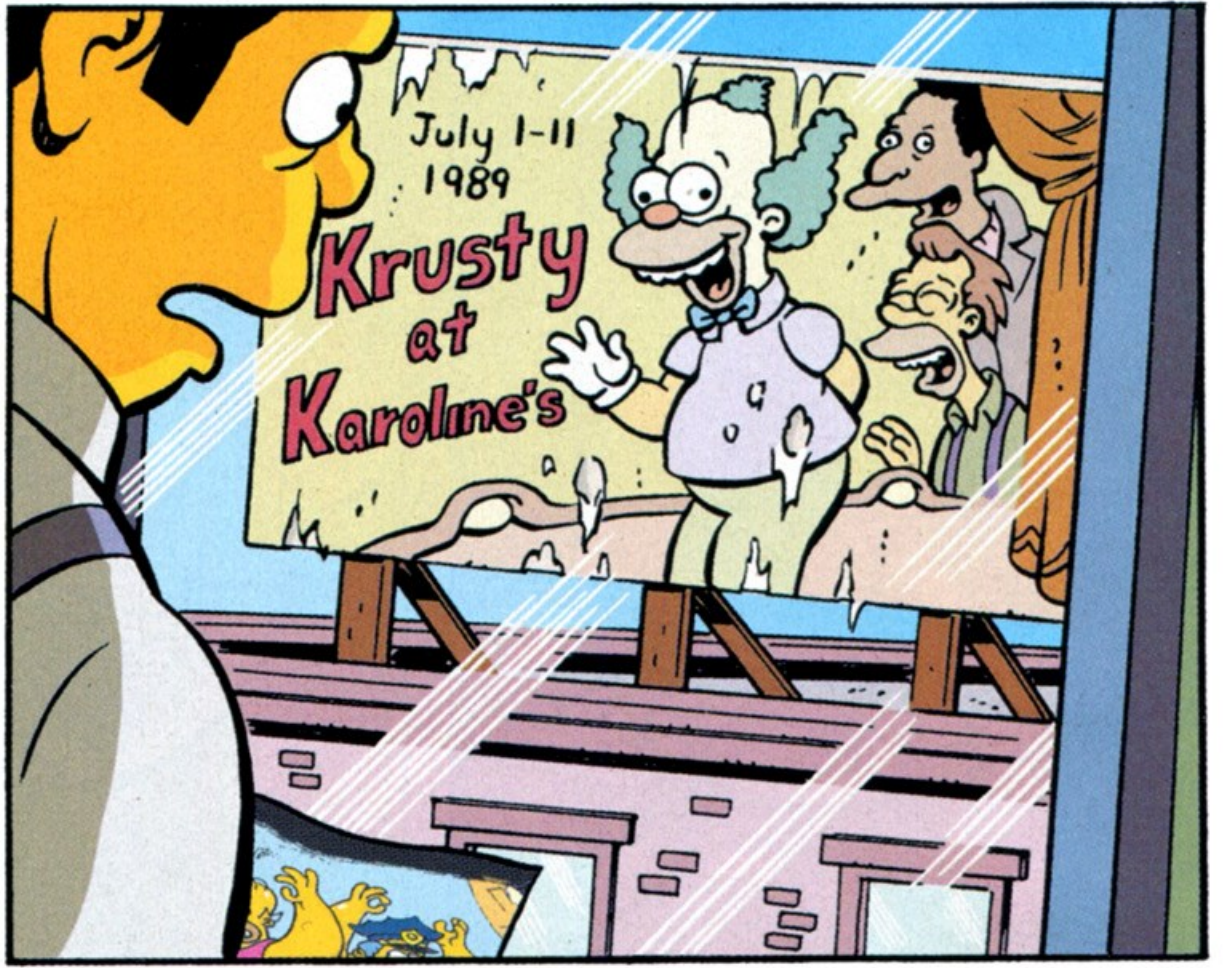


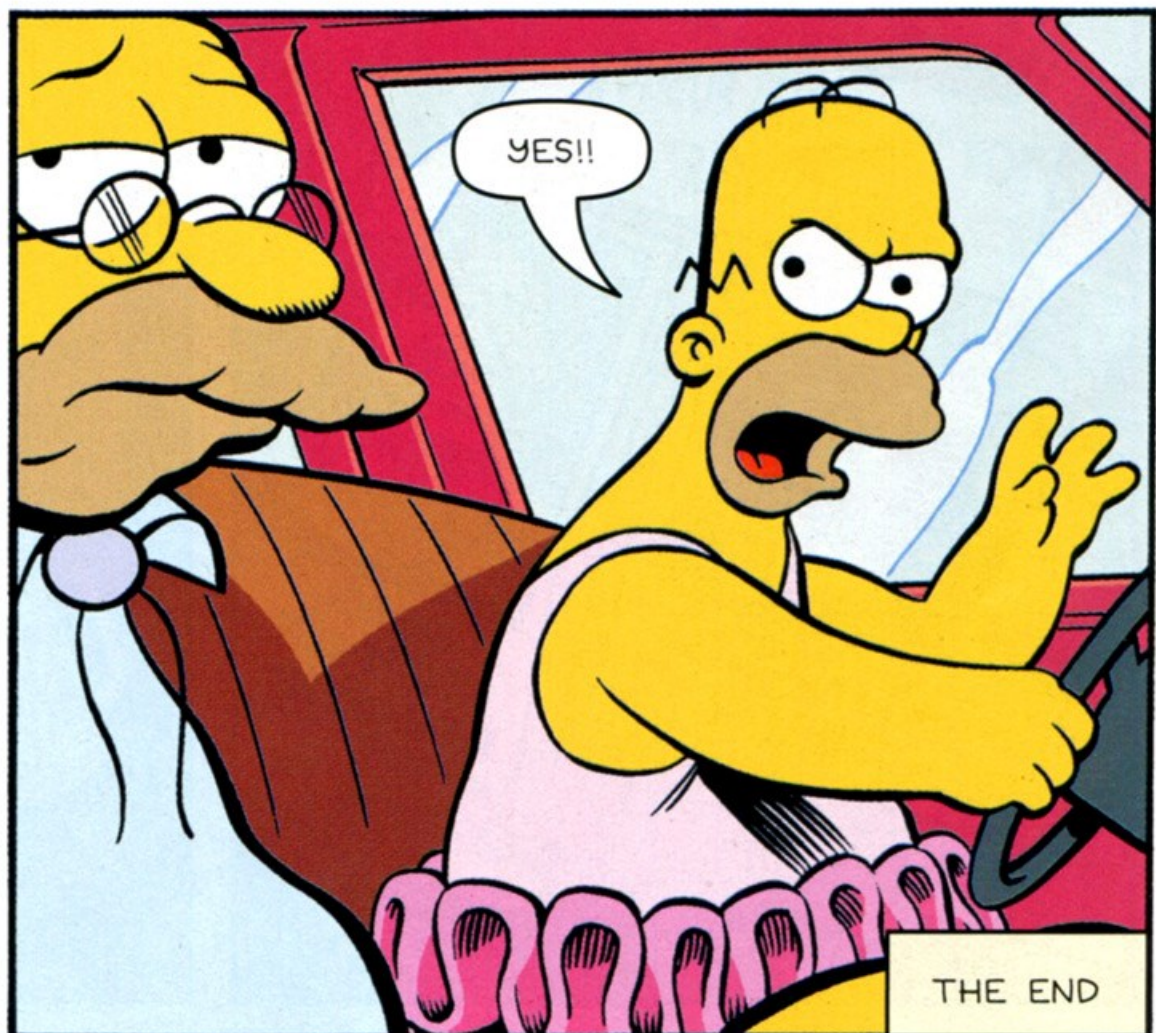








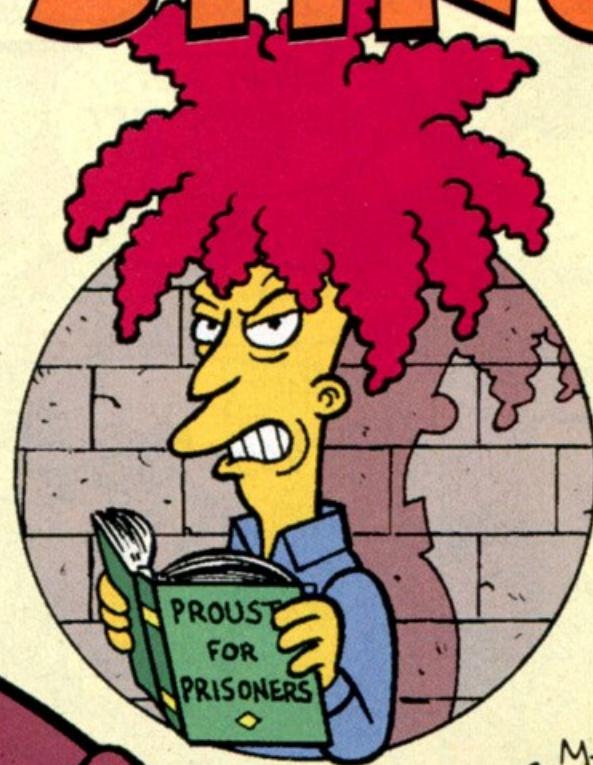




THE PLAY'S THE STING

KEEP YOUR DOORS LOCKED AND HIDE THE LITERATURE, FOLKS, BECAUSE HOMICIDAL MANIAC AND UNDERWORLD AESTHETE **SIDESHOW BOB** IS STILL ON THE LOOSE THREE DAYS AFTER ESCAPING PRISON IN A LARD TRUCK.

PUBLIC OUTRAGE IS HIGH OVER POLICE CHIEF WIGGUM'S INABILITY TO CAPTURE BOB. THE MOOD IS PERHAPS BEST SUMMED UP BY THIS SPRINGFIELD RESIDENT...



MATT GROENING

FRANKLY, I'M OUTRAGED--

BANG!

SPESH!

AW C'MON, CHIEF! THAT'S THE THIRD SET SINCE BOB ESCAPED!

THAT TV **DESERVED** IT! YOU HEARD WHAT IT SAID, THAT IT'S MY FAULT SIDESHOW BOB HASN'T BEEN CAUGHT YET!



WELL, IT'S **TRUE!** MAYBE YOU SHOULDN'T BE SITTING HERE SHOOTING DEFENSELESS TVs WHILE THAT MANIAC IS ON THE STREETS. **I'M OUTRAGED!**

YEAH, WELL, MAYBE **YOU** SHOULD BE HOME PROTECTING YOUR KID, THE ONE BOB'S ALWAYS TRYING TO **BUMP OFF!**

I ONLY CAME OUT FOR **ONE QUICK DRINK** TO STEEL MY NERVES IN THE FACE OF DANGER! IF YOU CAUGHT THAT PSYCHO, I WOULDN'T HAVE TO BE HERE!

OH, **YEAH?** LISTEN, YOU...



...MY MEN ARE OUT THERE **RIGHT NOW** DOING EVERYTHING HUMANLY POSSIBLE TO CATCH HIM!



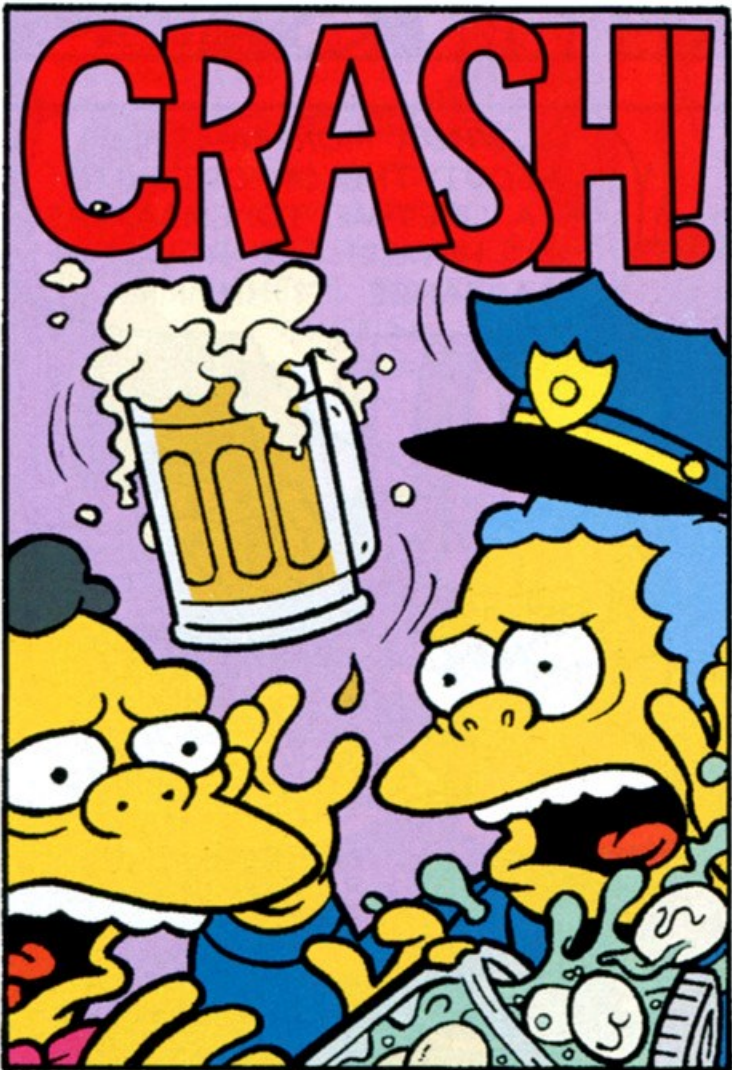
EVAN DORKIN
STORY & ART

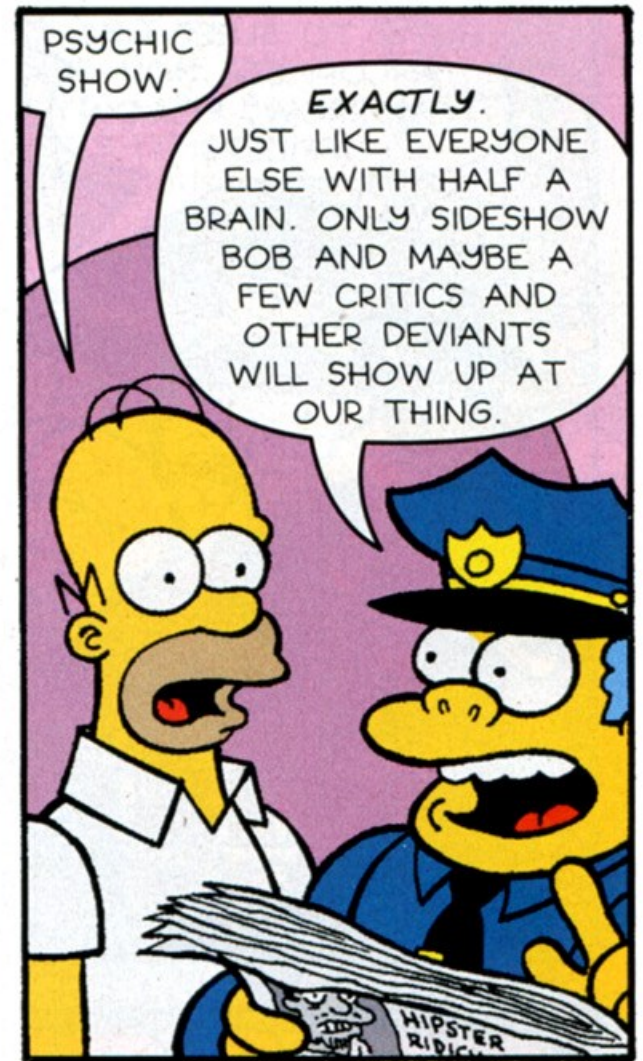
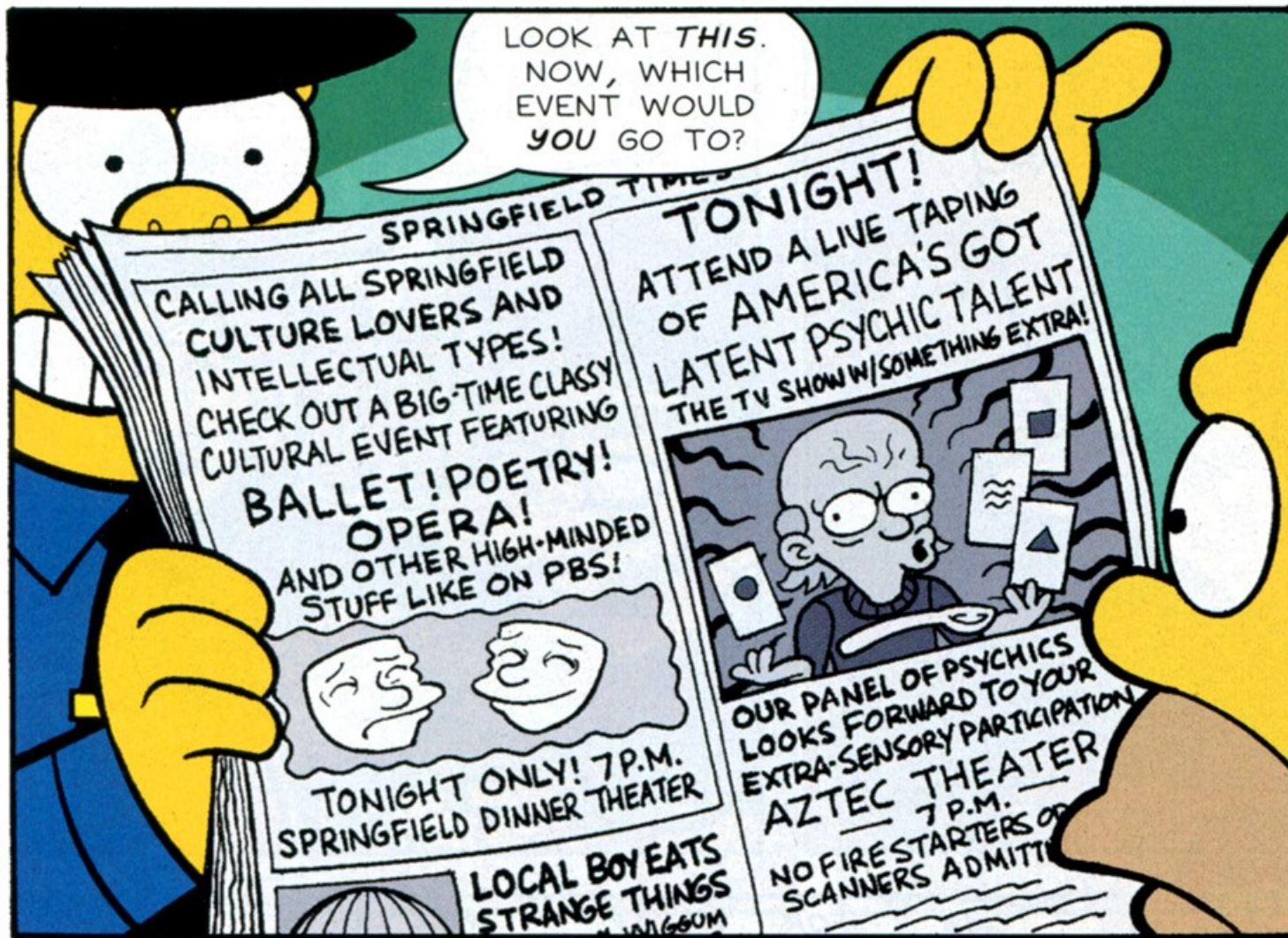
SARAH DYER
COLORS

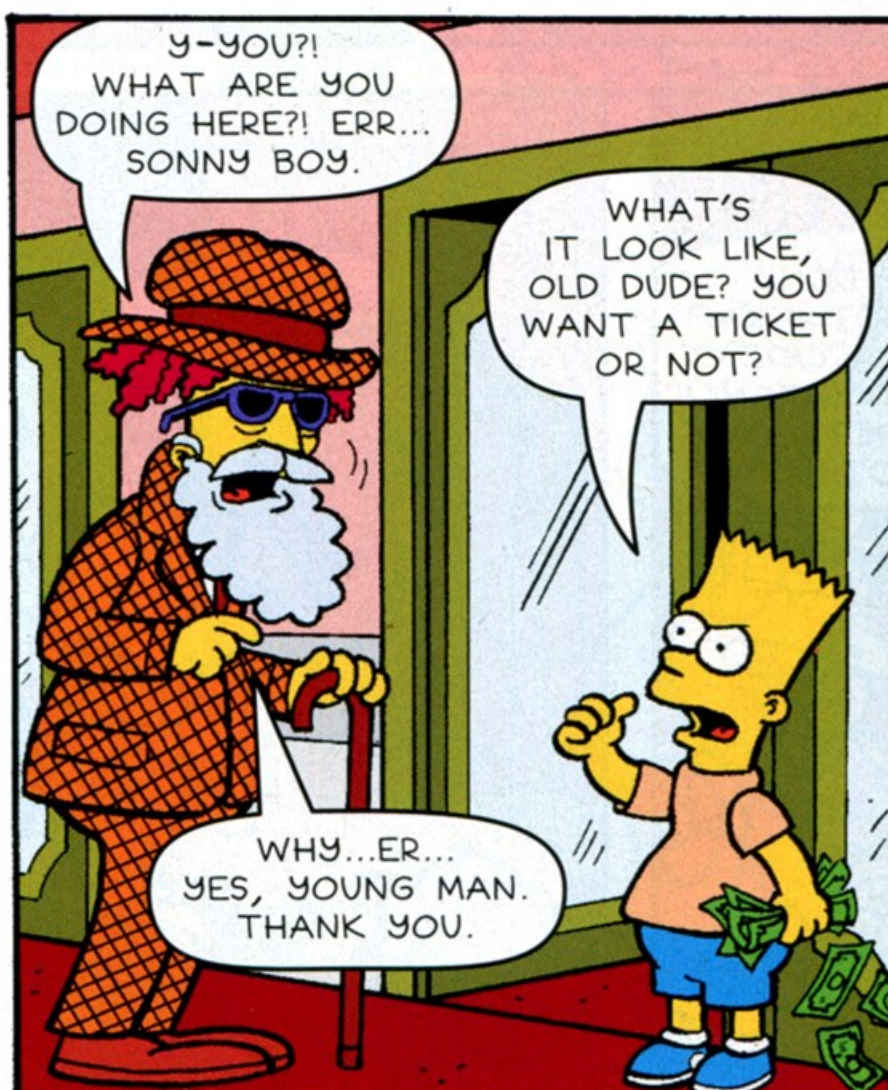
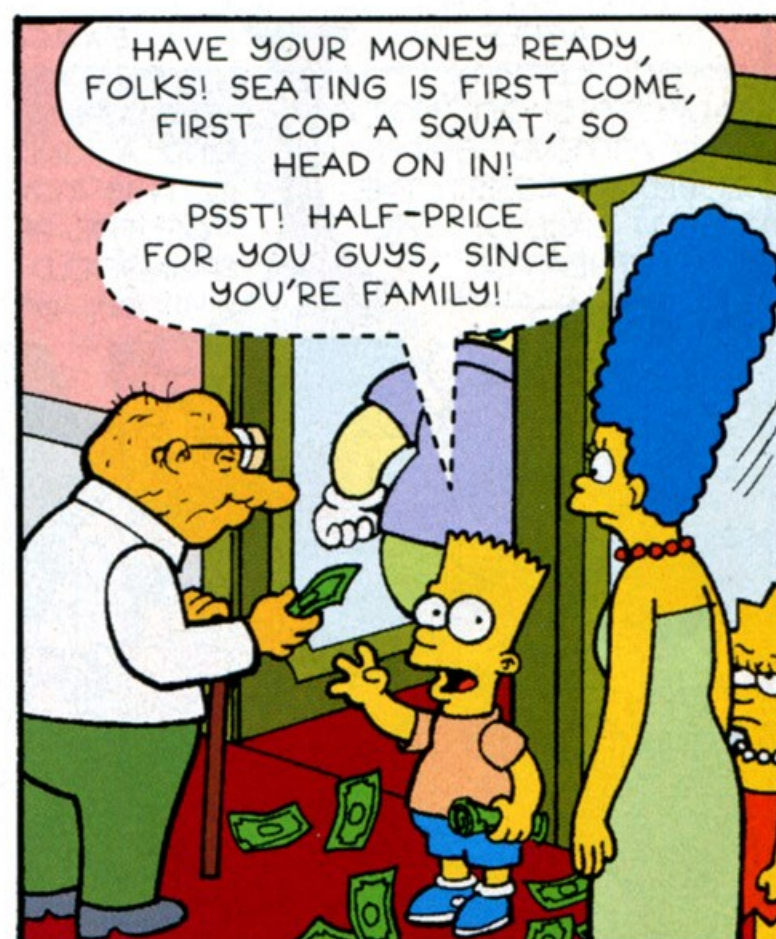
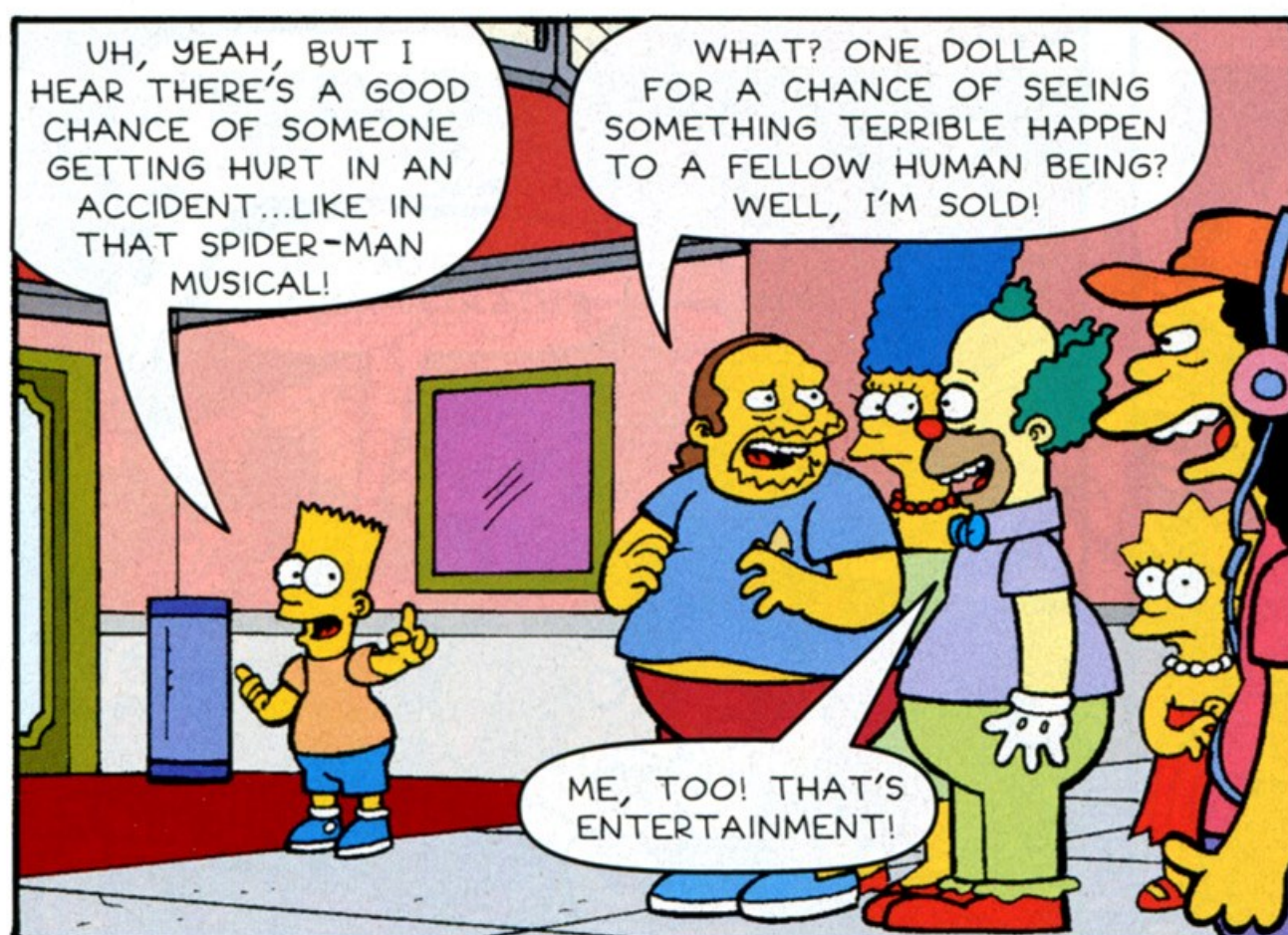
KAREN BATES
LETTERS

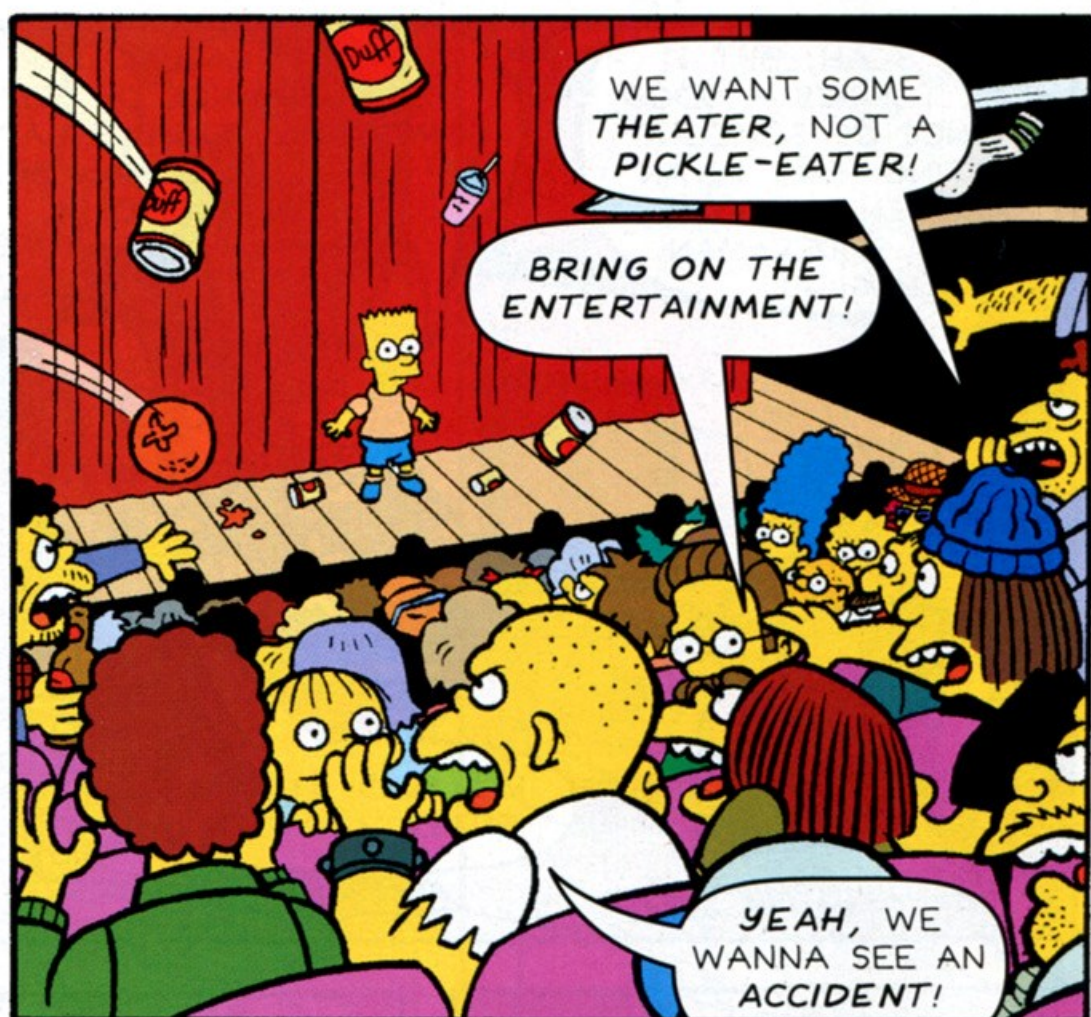
BILL MORRISON
EDITOR



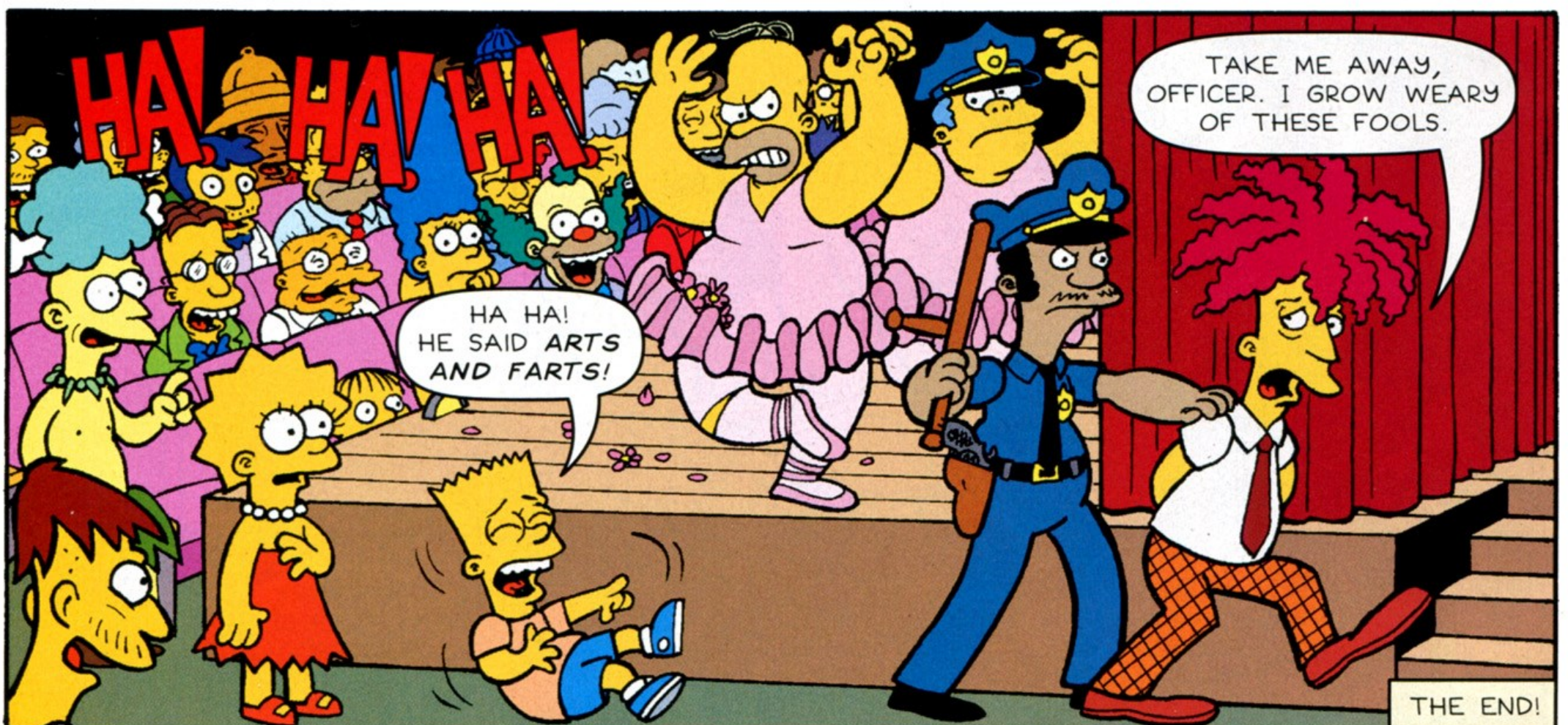
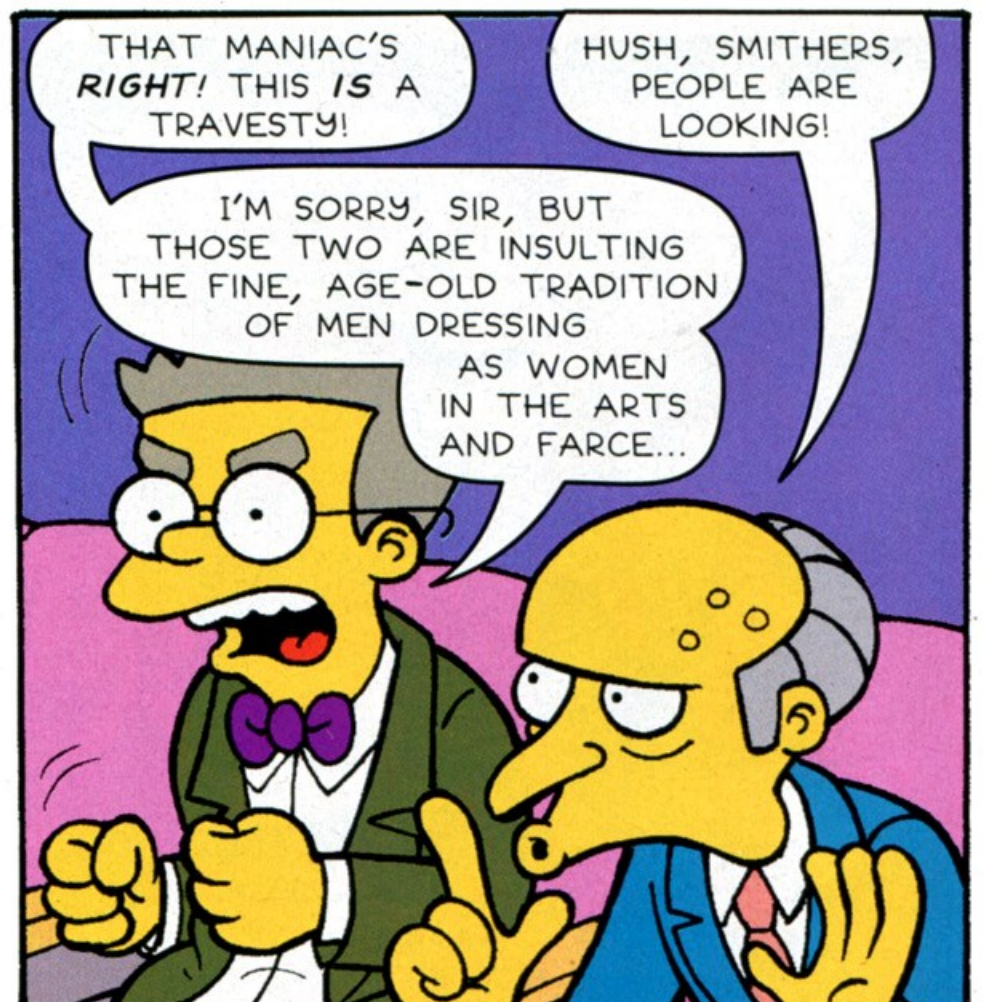
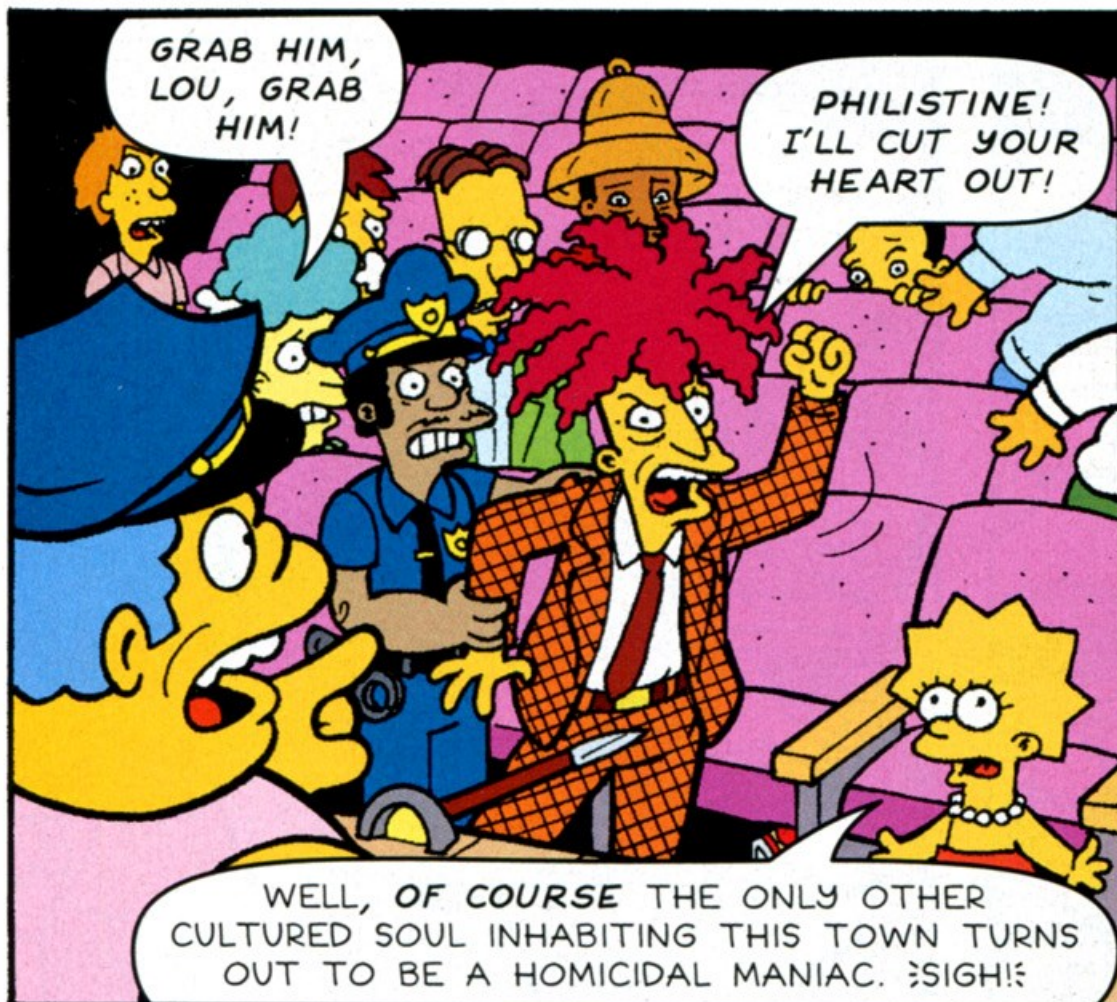


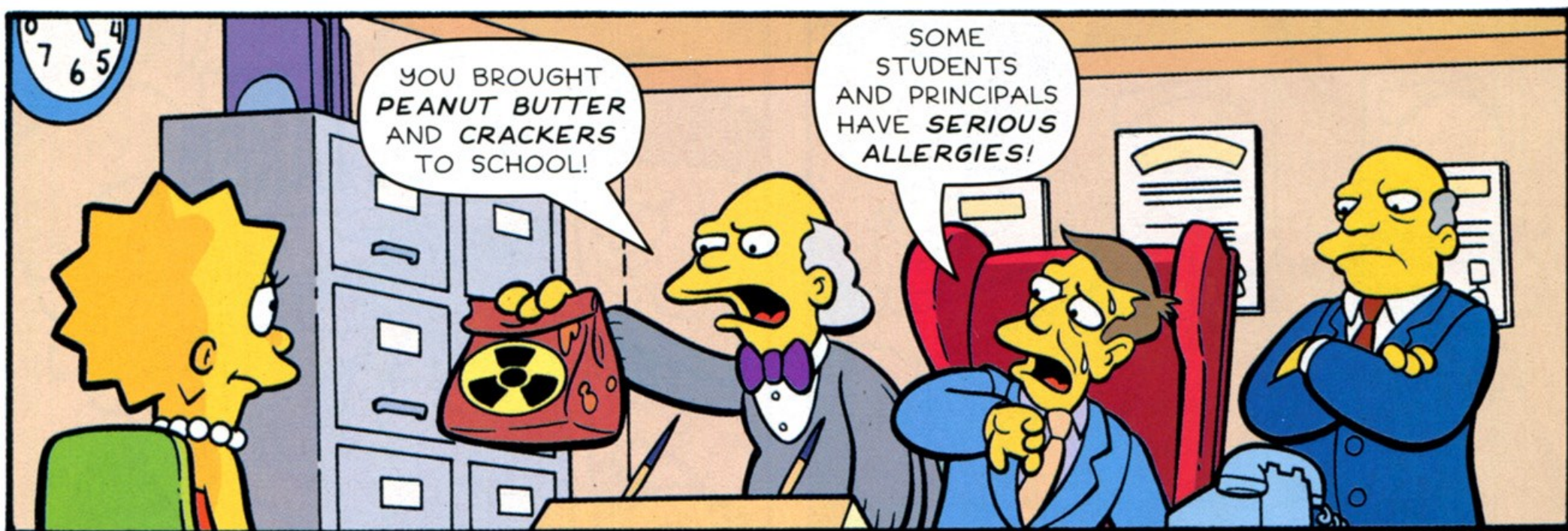












IAN BOOTHBY
SCRIPT

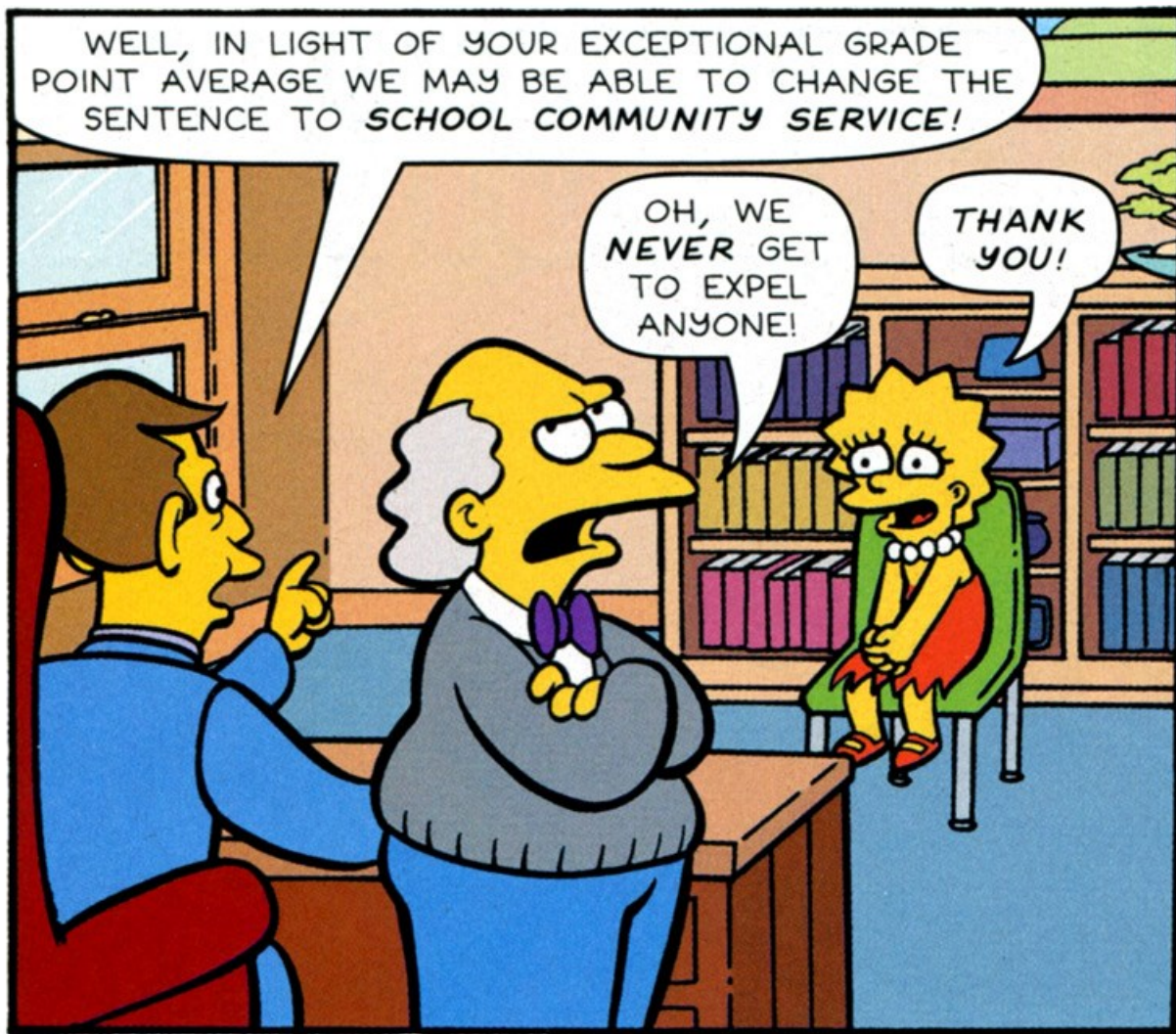
JAMES LLOYD
PENCILS

ANDREW PEPOY
INKS

ART VILLANUEVA
COLORS

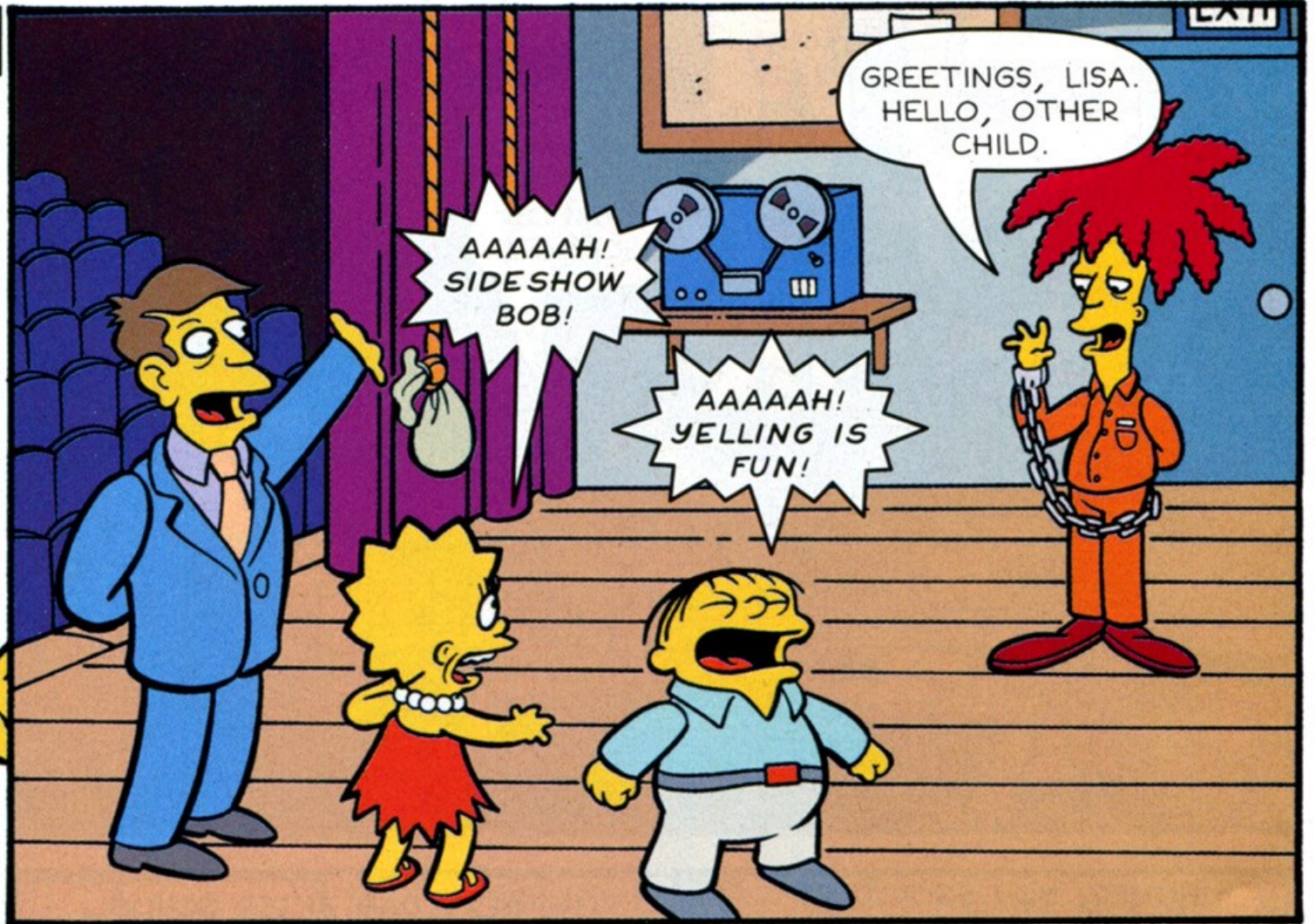
KAREN BATES
LETTERS

BILL MORRISON
EDITOR



AND SO, LATER THAT DAY...

I'D LIKE
YOU BOTH TO
MEET YOUR
DIRECTOR...



GREETINGS, LISA.
HELLO, OTHER
CHILD.

AAAAAH!
SIDESHOW
BOB!

AAAAAH!
YELLING IS
FUN!

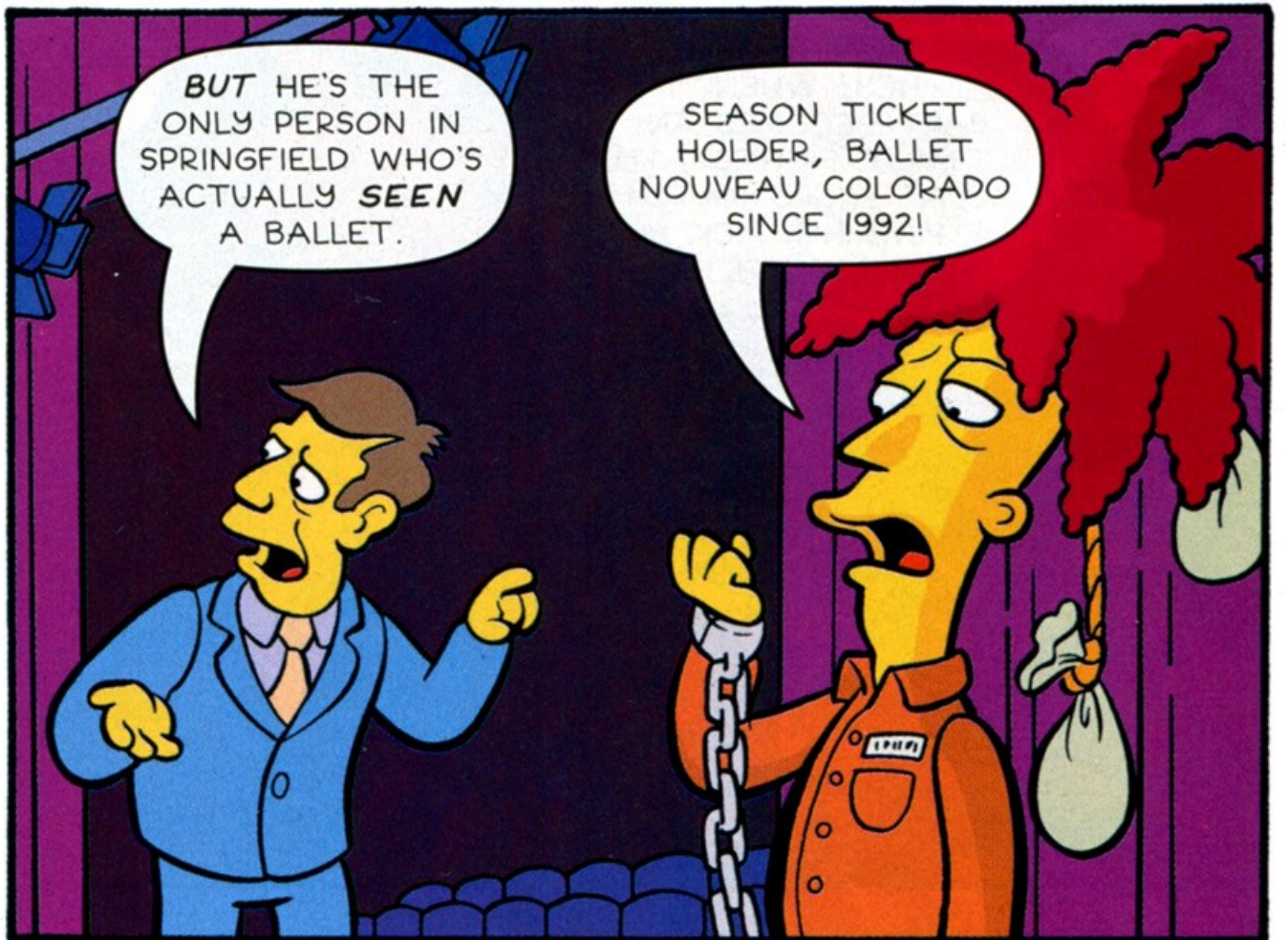
I KNOW THERE'S
A LITTLE BAD BLOOD
BETWEEN BOB AND
YOUR FAMILY.

HE TRIED
TO *KILL*
BART! OVER
AND OVER
AGAIN!



BUT HE'S THE
ONLY PERSON IN
SPRINGFIELD WHO'S
ACTUALLY *SEEN*
A BALLET.

SEASON TICKET
HOLDER, BALLET
NOUVEAU COLORADO
SINCE 1992!



LISA, I KNOW YOU HAVE GOOD REASON NOT TO
TRUST ME, BUT WE BOTH SHARE A LOVE OF THE
MUSICAL ARTS! FOR THE GOOD OF THE SHOW, CAN'T
WE PUT ASIDE OUR DIFFERENCES FOR ONE WEEK?

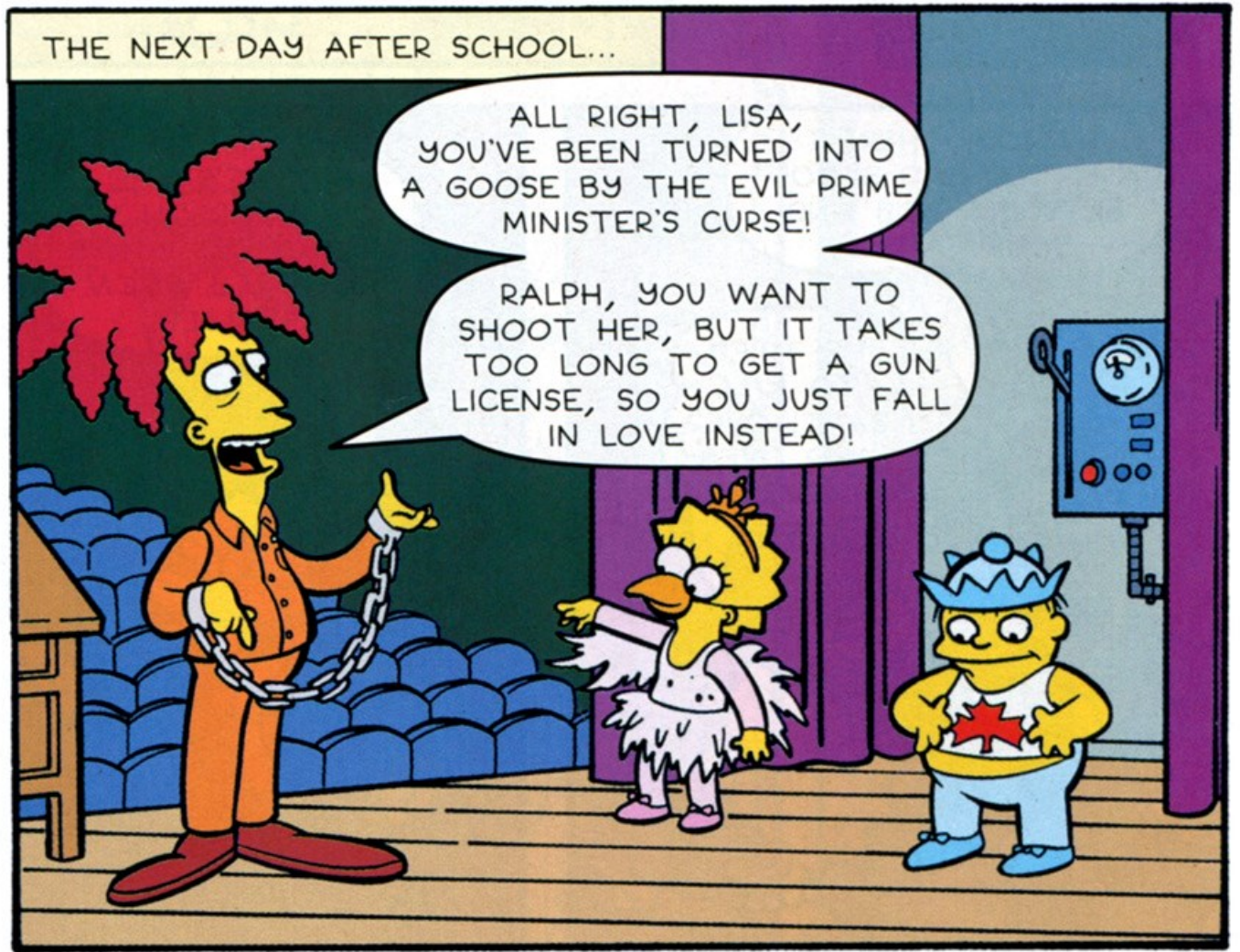
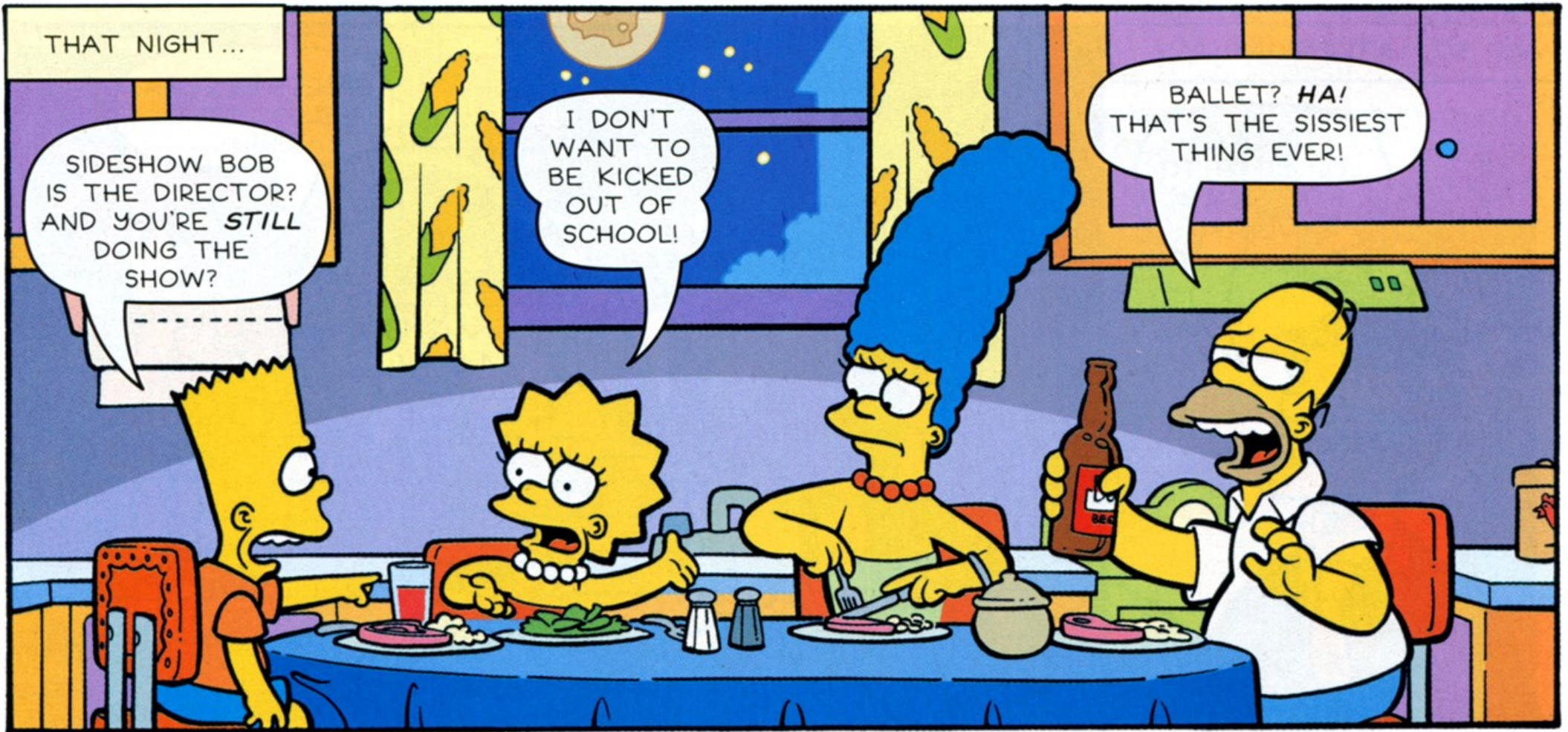
FINE!



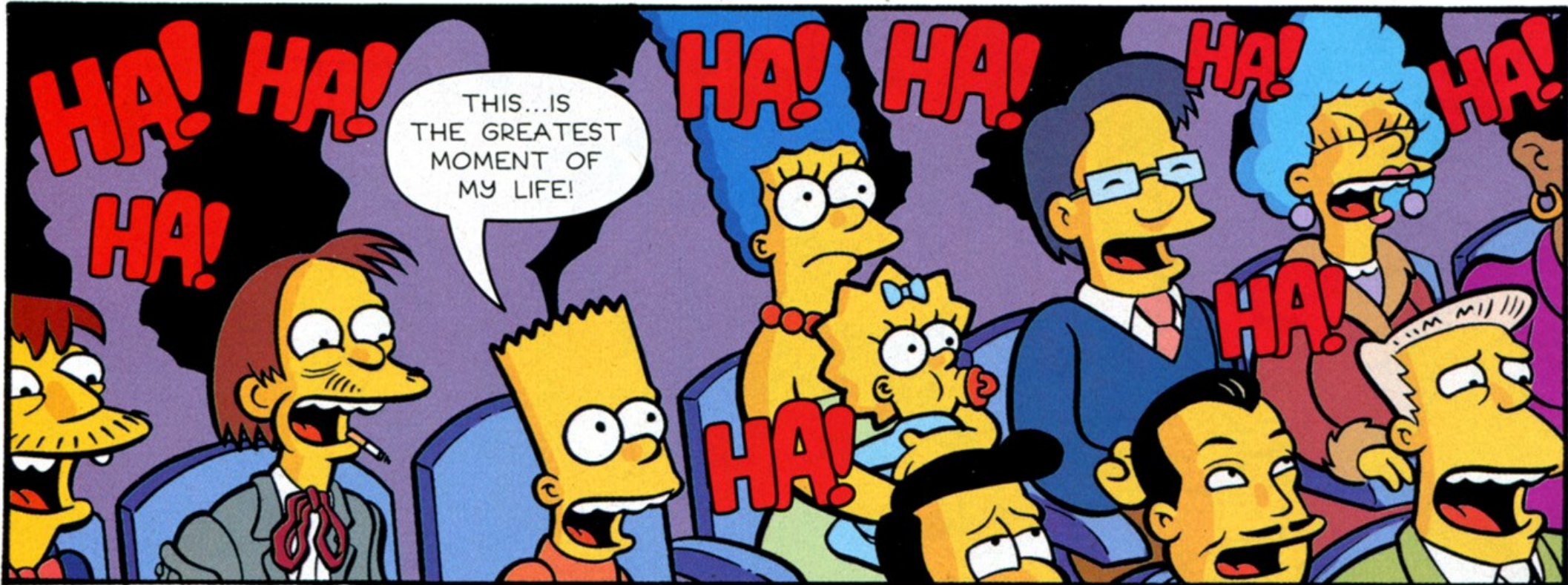
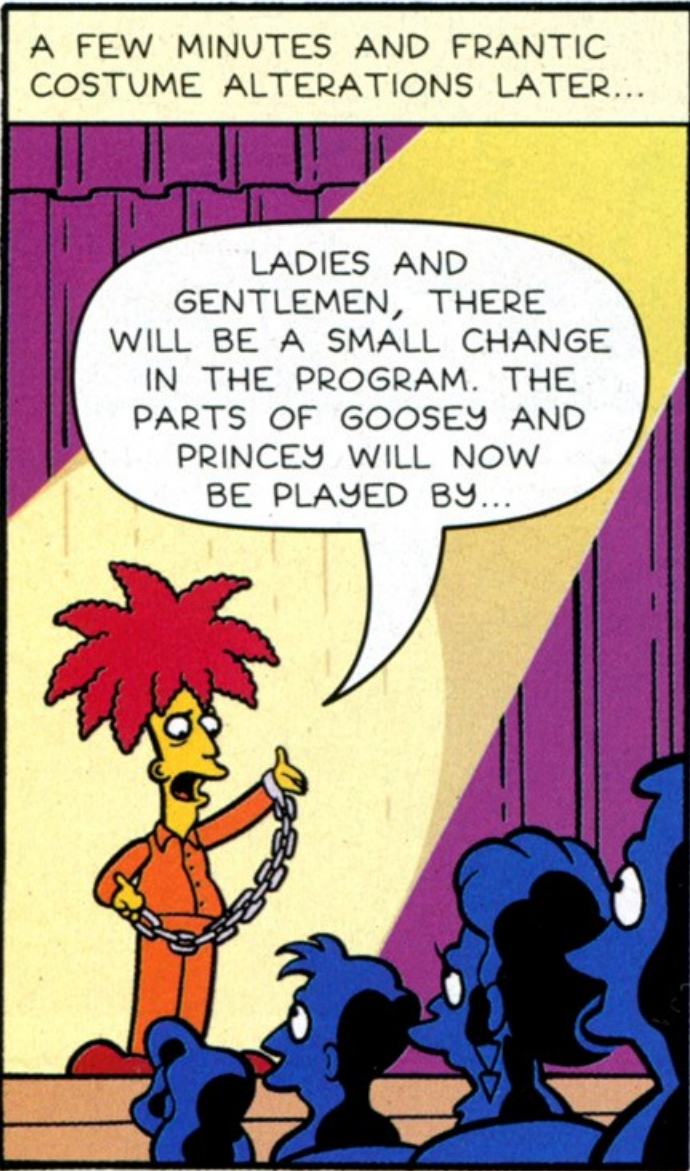
AND PLEASE
STOP EATING
MY HAIR.

IT LOOKS
LIKE COTTON
CANDY BUT TASTES
LIKE BARBERSHOP
FLOOR!









THREE HOURS LATER...

AND SO, GOOSEY
LEARNED THAT THE ONLY
WAY TO BREAK THE CURSE
WAS FOR BOTH OF THEM
TO JUMP INTO LAKE
ONTARIO!

I'VE ALWAYS
LOVED YOU,
GOOSEY!

HONK!

BART? ARE
YOU CRYING?

CHOKE!
NO.

THE END!

WOO! CLAP!
CLAP! CLAP! BRAVO!
CLAP! CLAP!

OKAY, BOB..
SHOW'S OVER. BACK
TO PRISON!

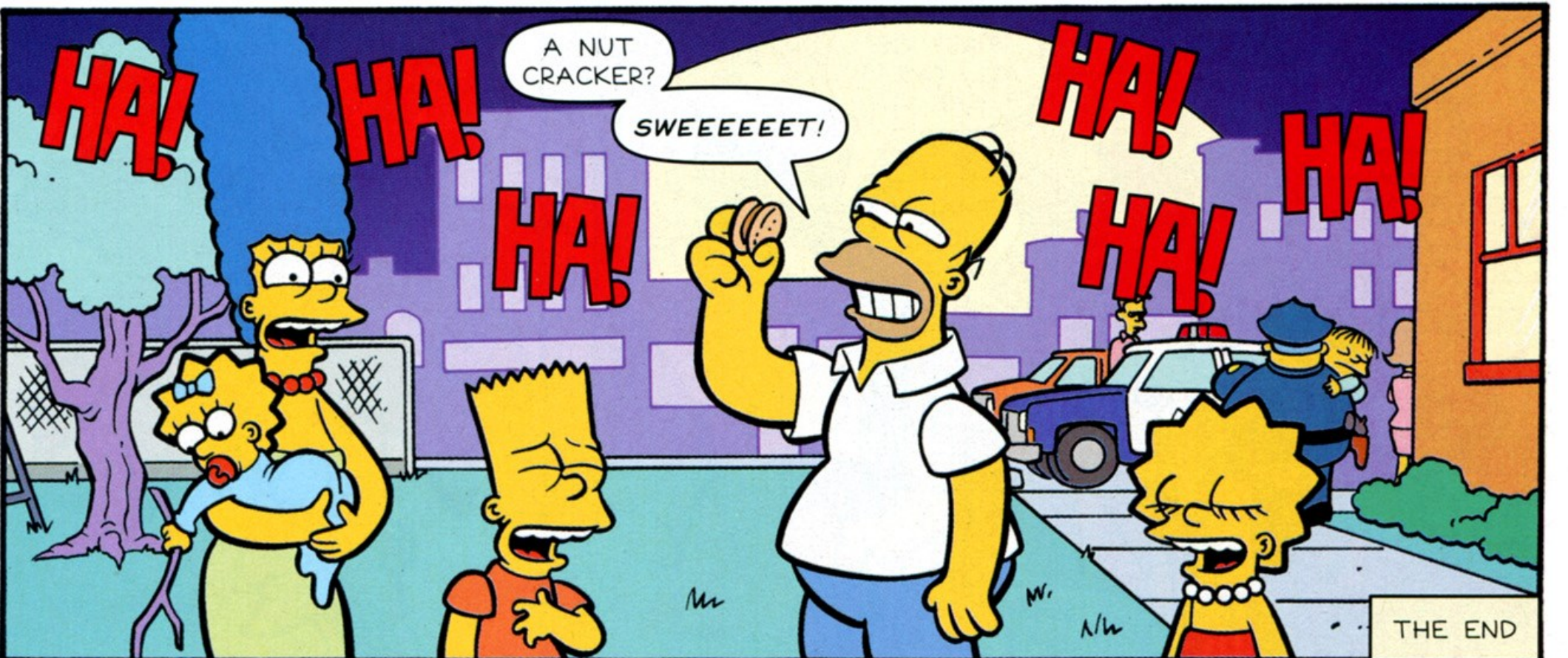
WAIT!

FIRST OF
ALL, GREAT
SHOW!

THANK
YOU.

SECOND,
WHY DIDN'T YOU
TRY TO KILL ME
WHILE YOU WERE
OUT OF PRISON?

BUT I **DID**. I PUT A
BOMB ON YOUR BIKE, SET
TO GO OFF WHEN YOU
USED THE BRAKES.



THE END