

SIMPSONSTM

COMICS

BONGO[®]
COMICS

#202
\$2.99



DIRECT EDITION



bongocomics.com

MATT
GROENING

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LIKE A BOSS!



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STORY

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PENCILS

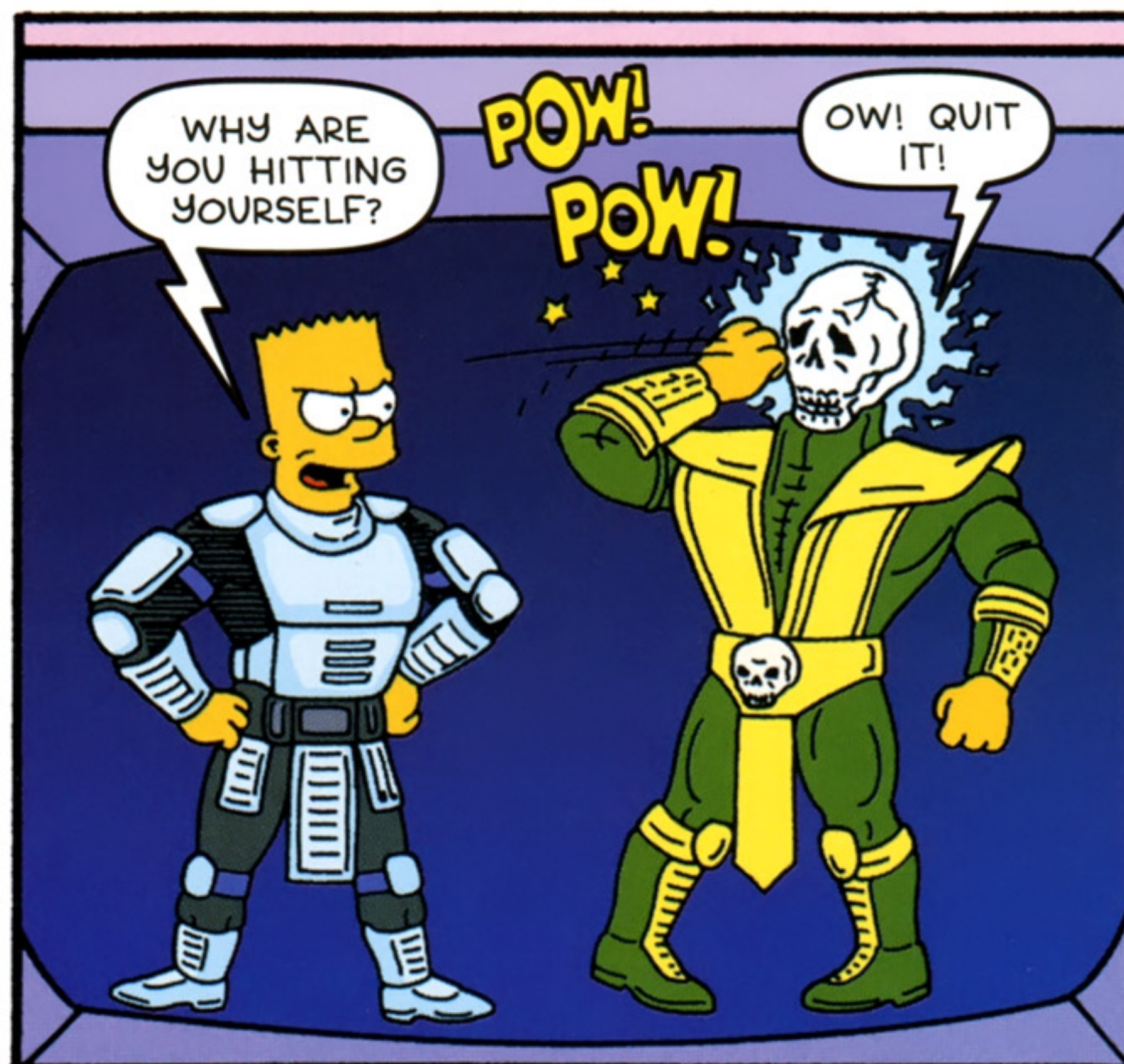
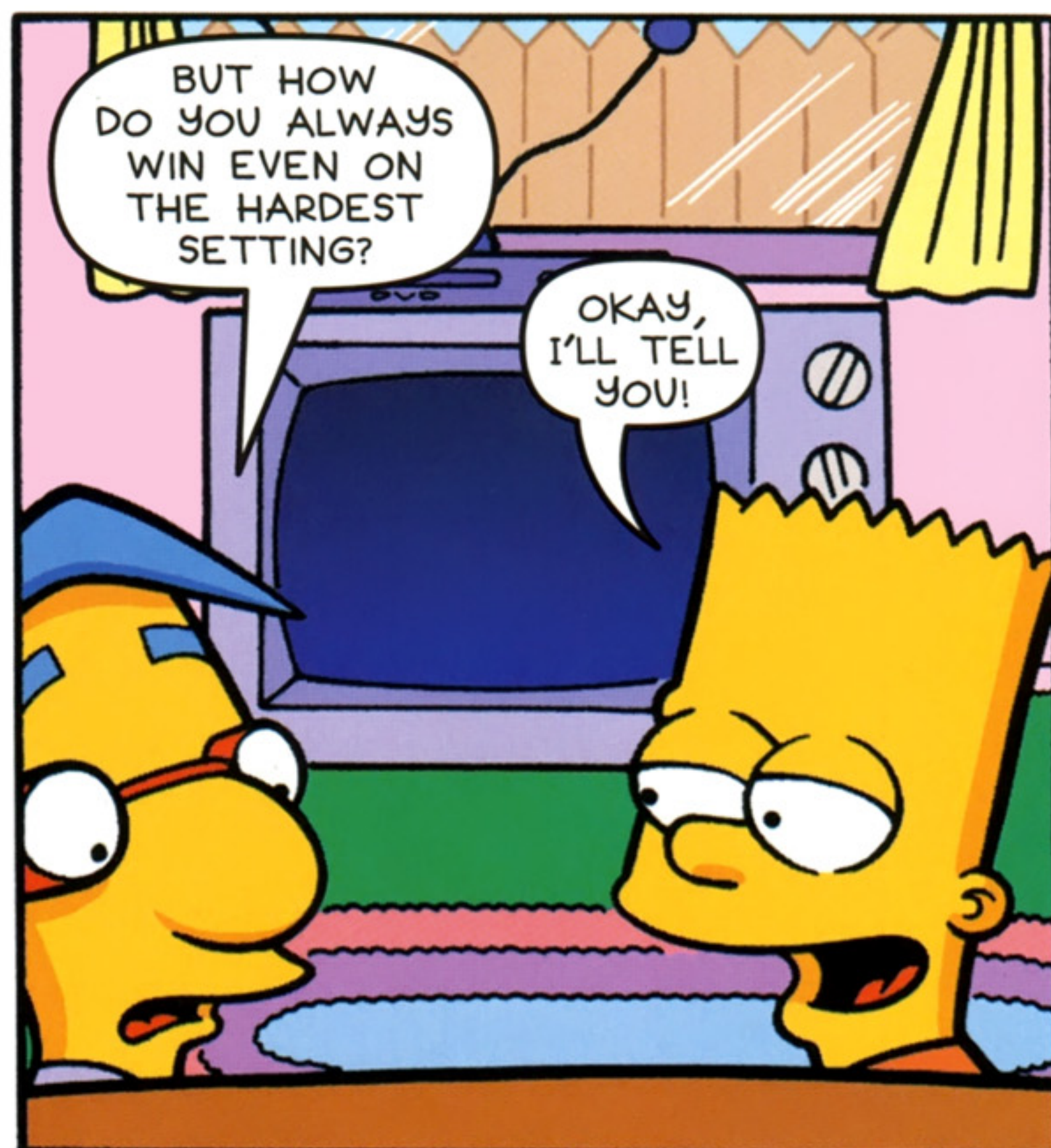
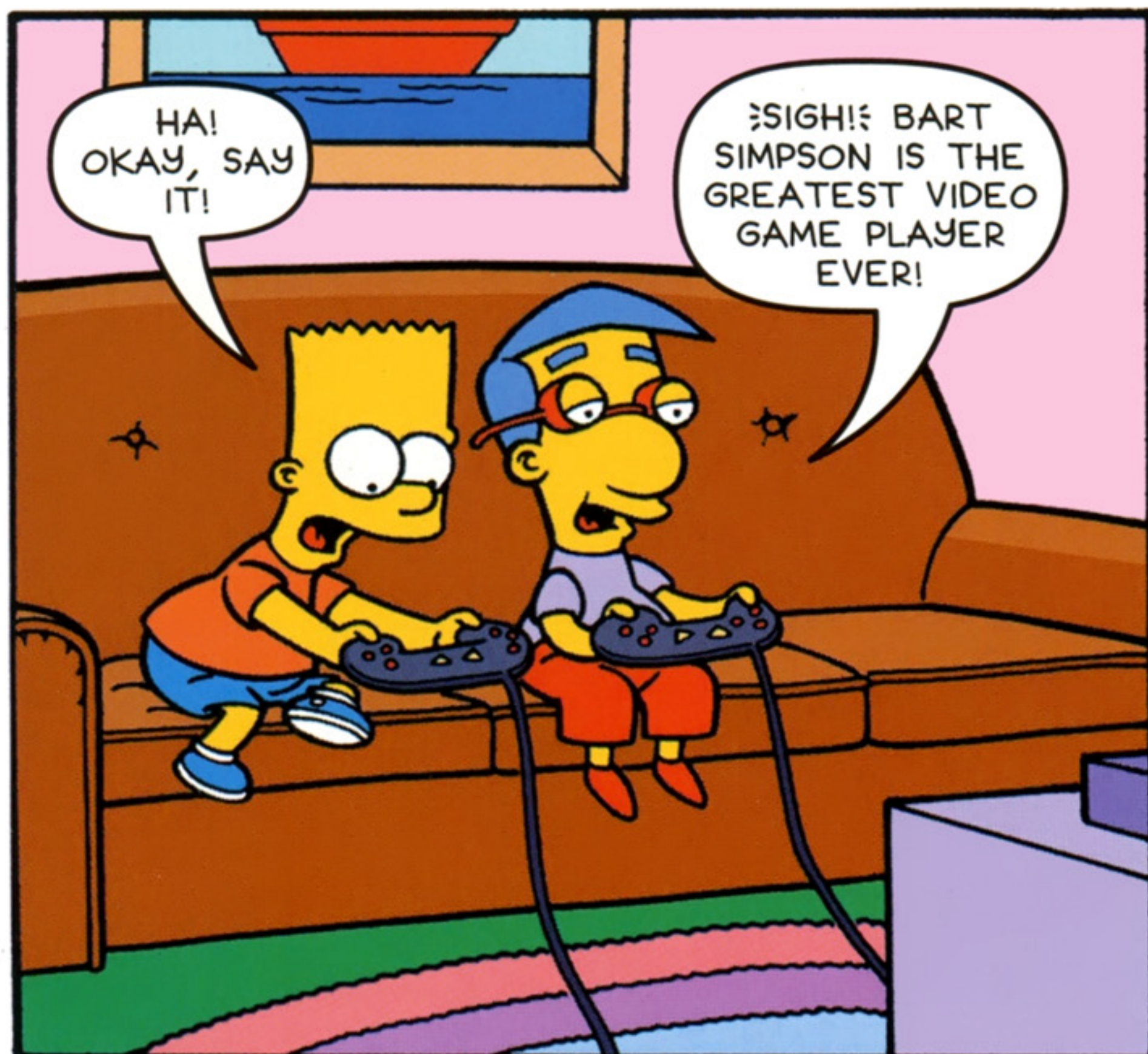
MIKE DECARLO
INKS

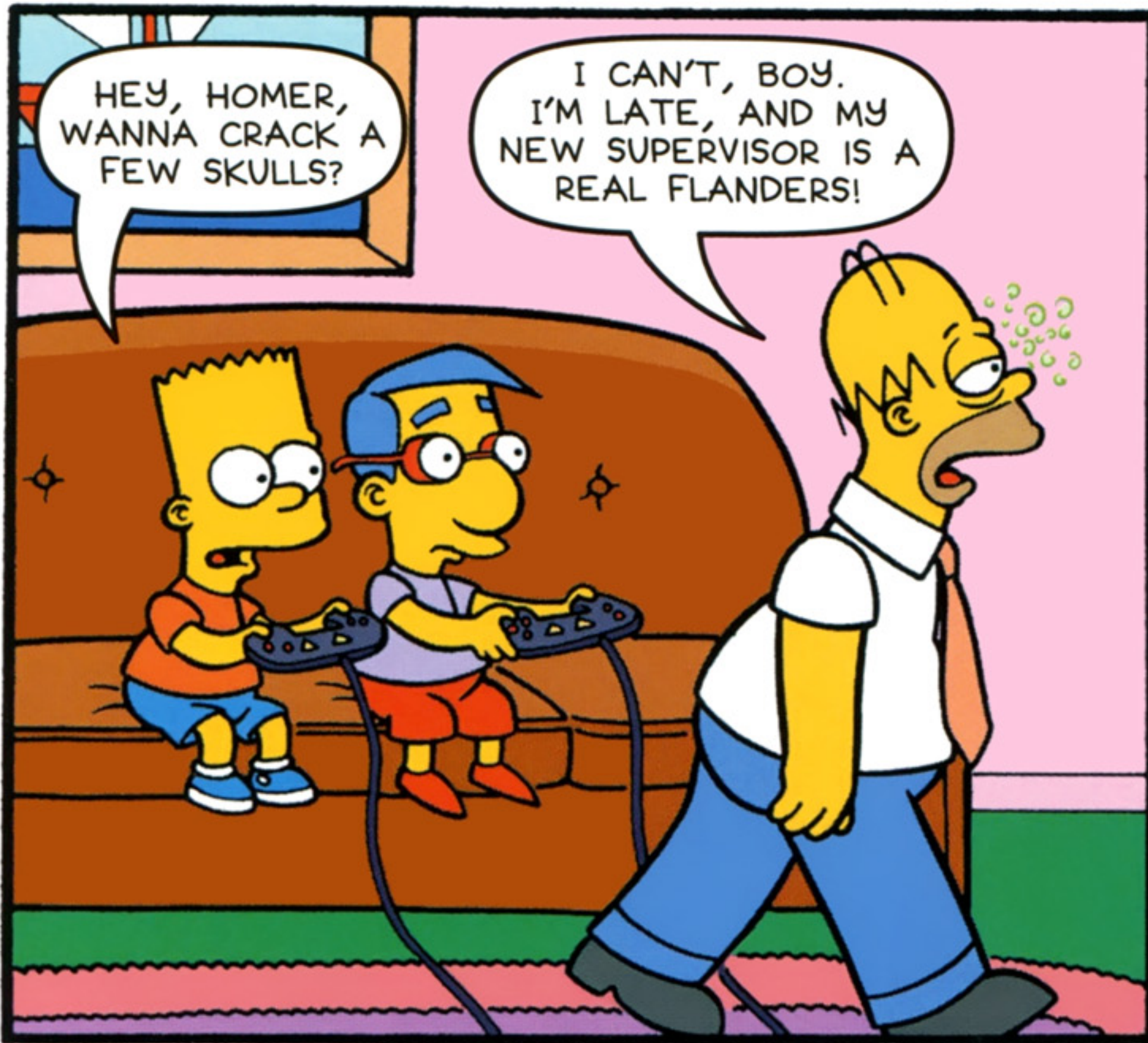
ART VILLANUEVA
COLORS

KAREN BATES
LETTERS

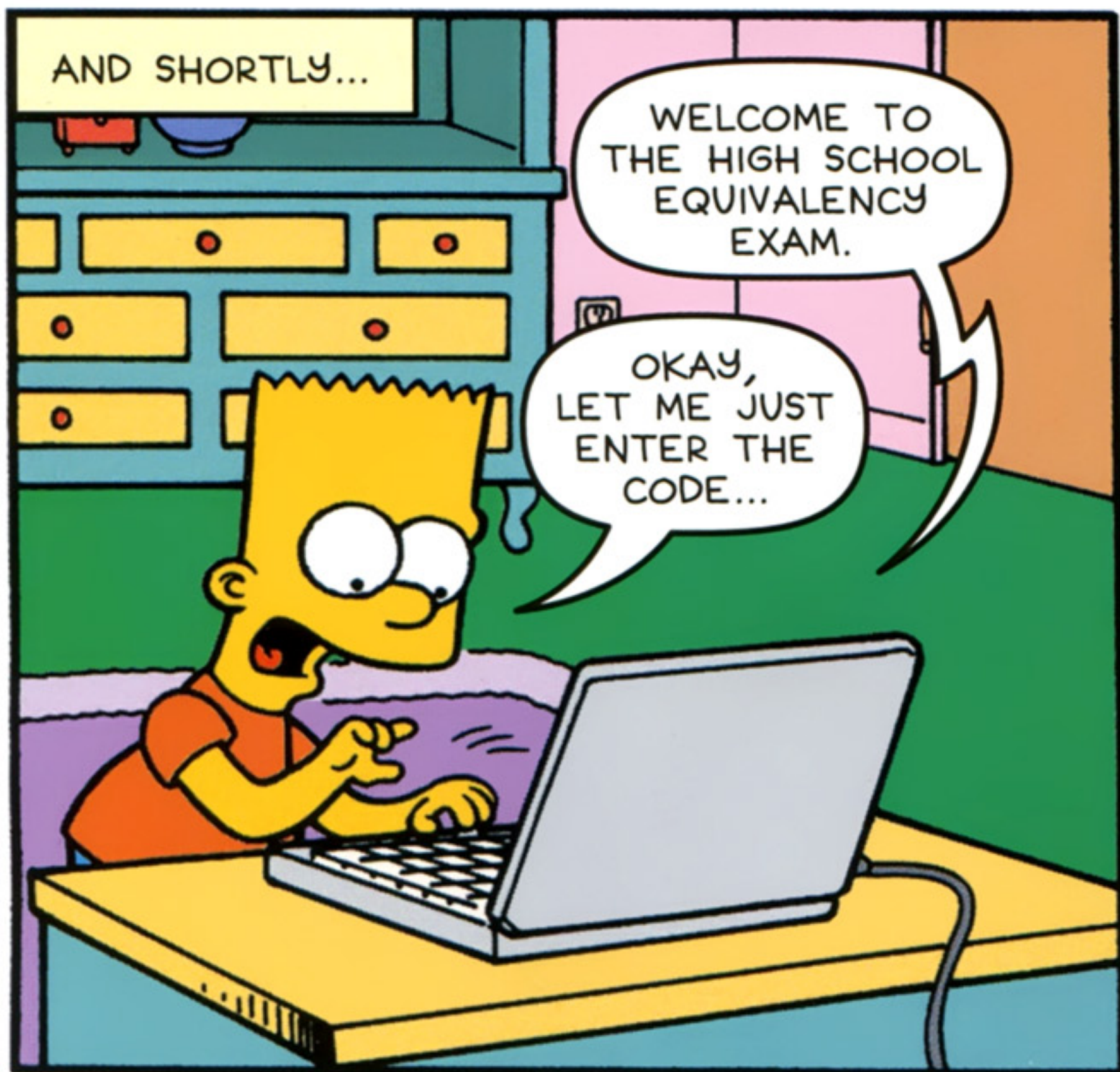
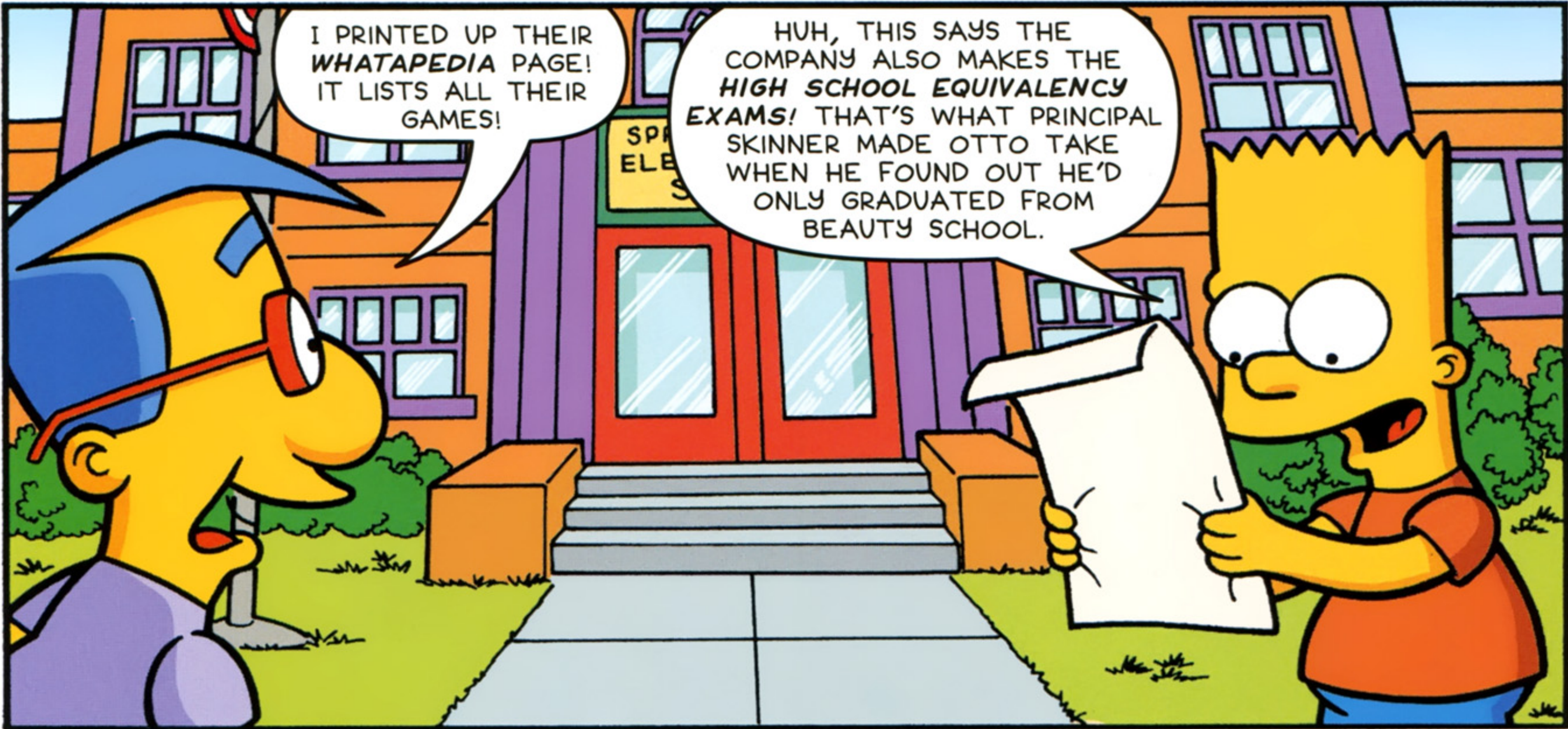
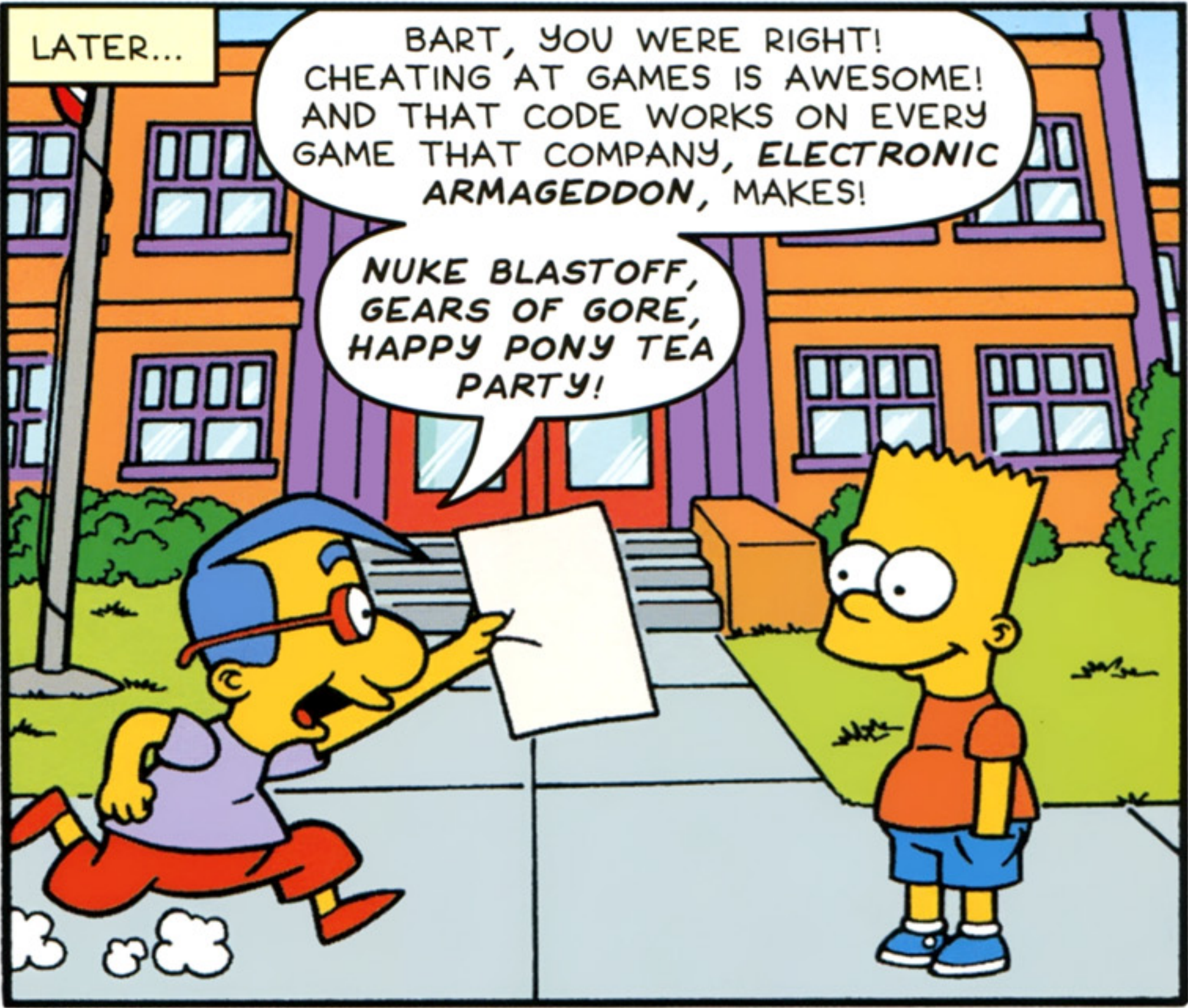
NATHAN KANE
EDITOR

COVER BY JASON HO, MIKE ROTE, AND NATHAN KANE



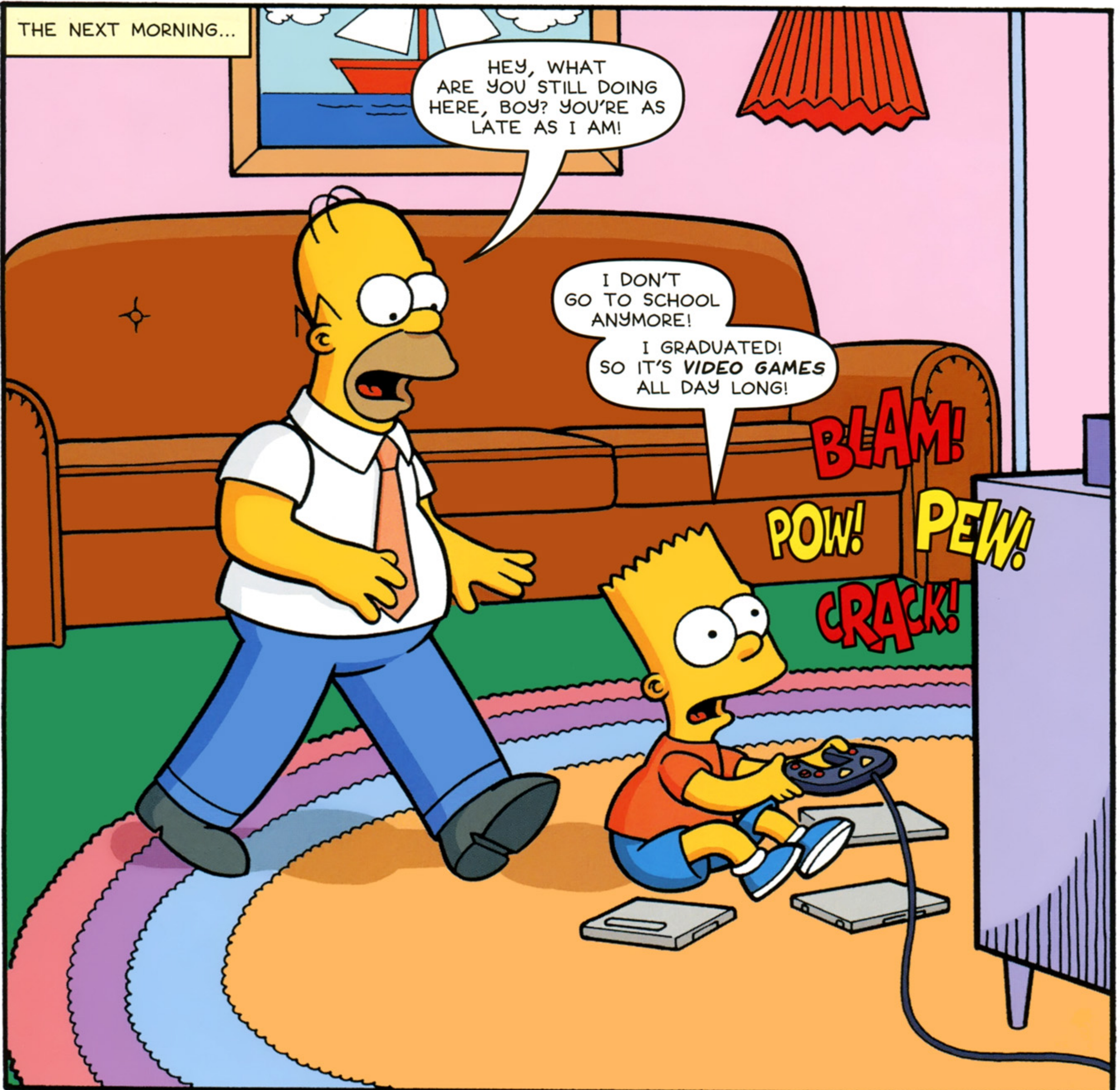
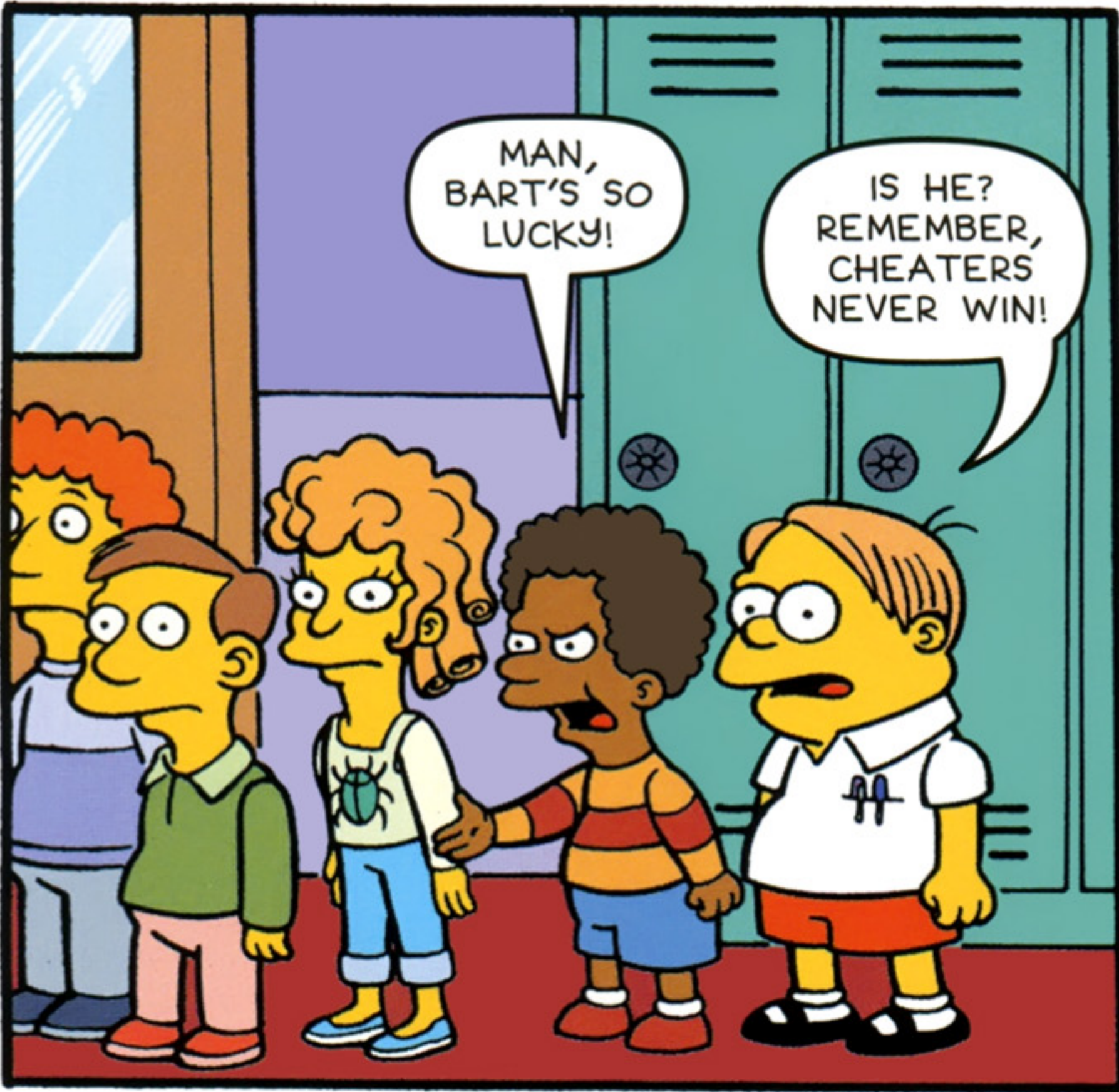


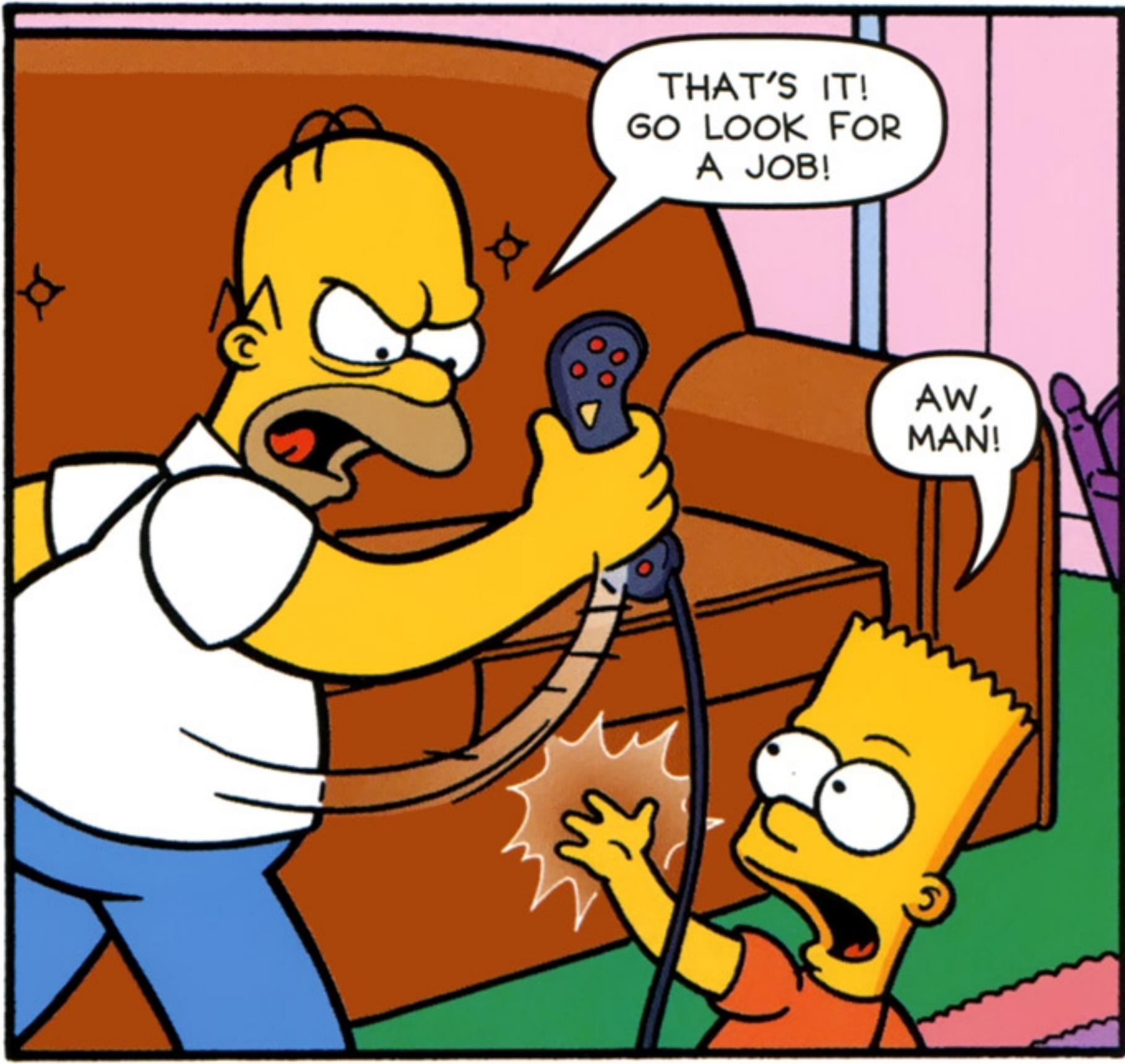


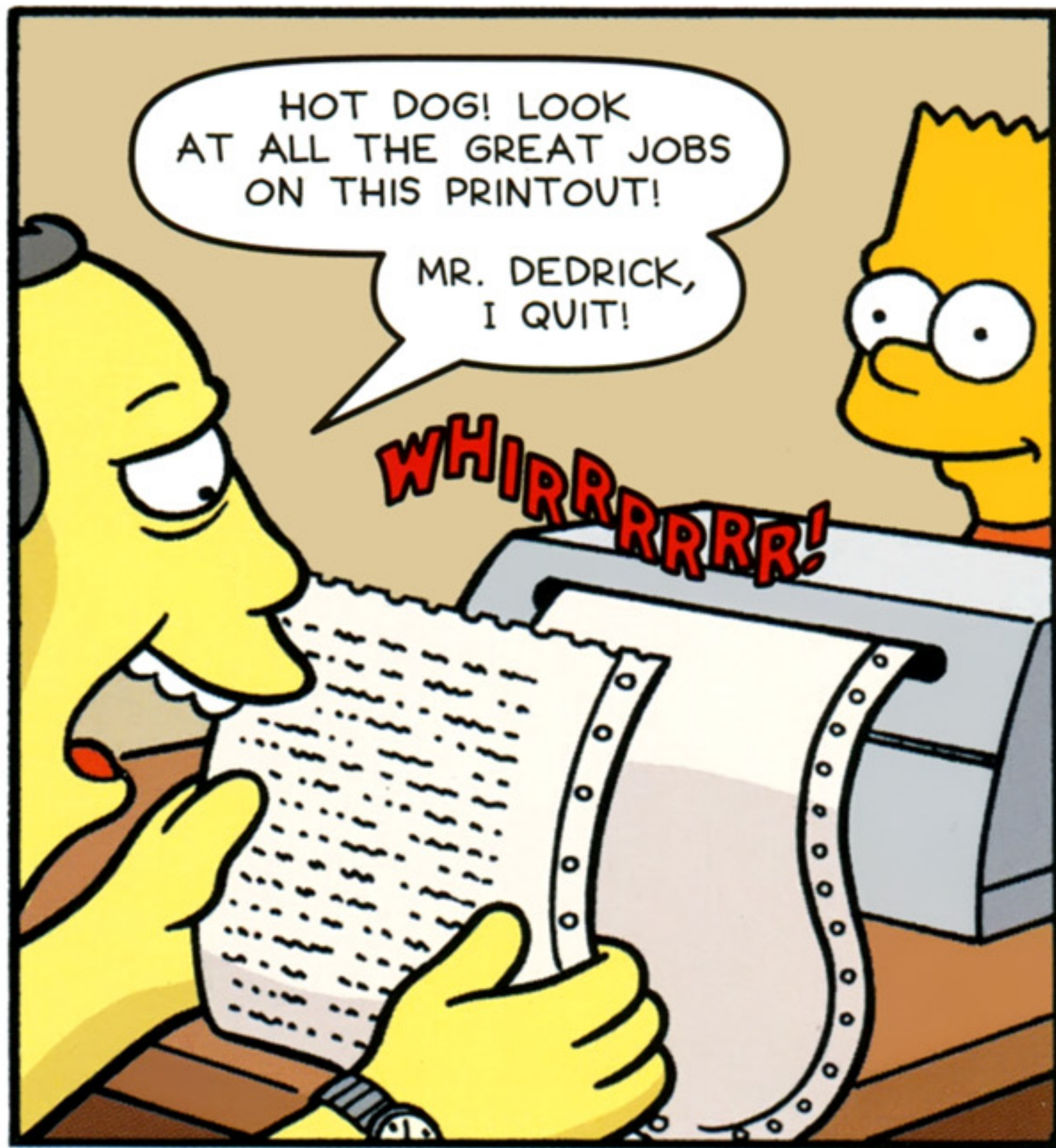
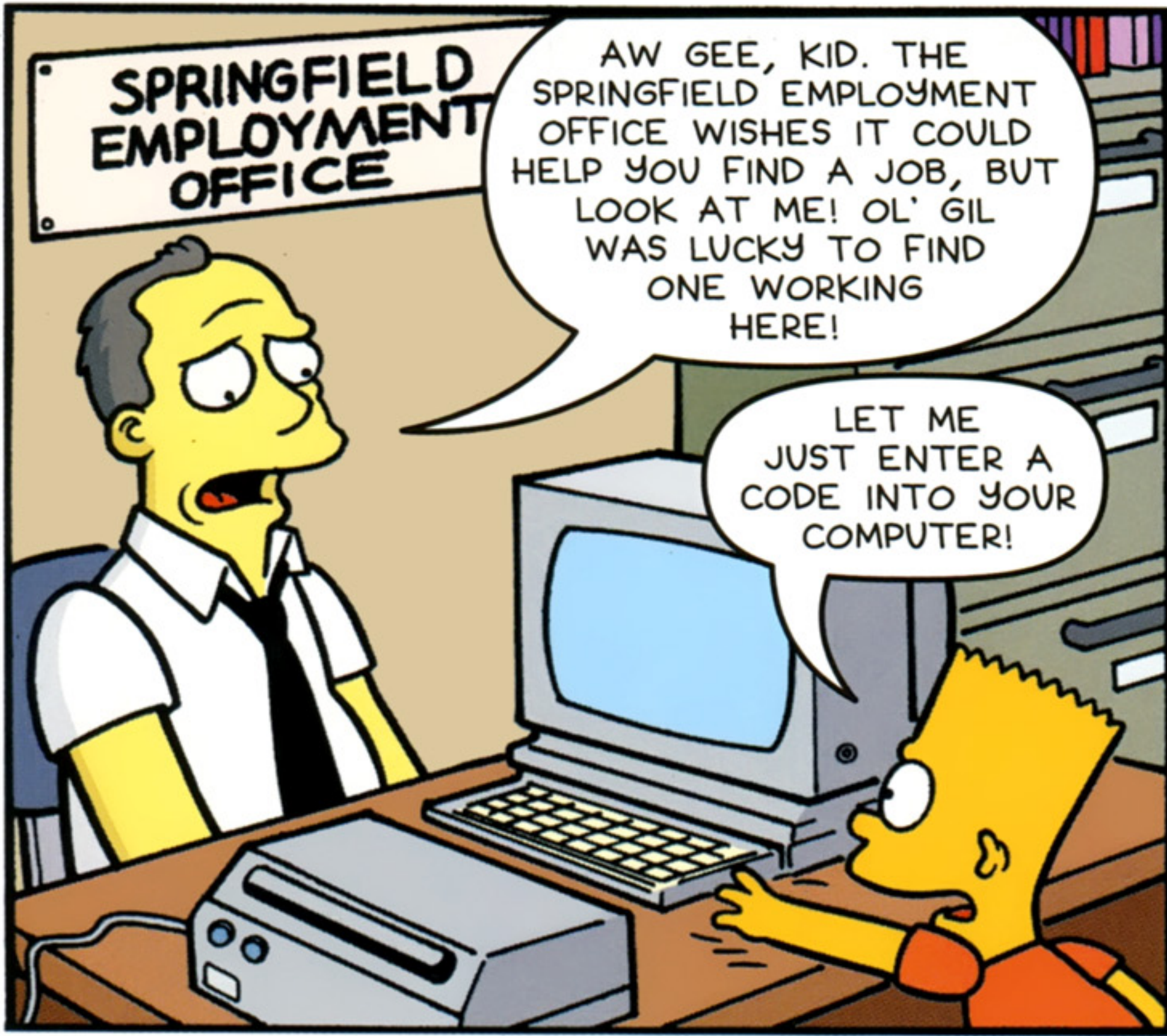
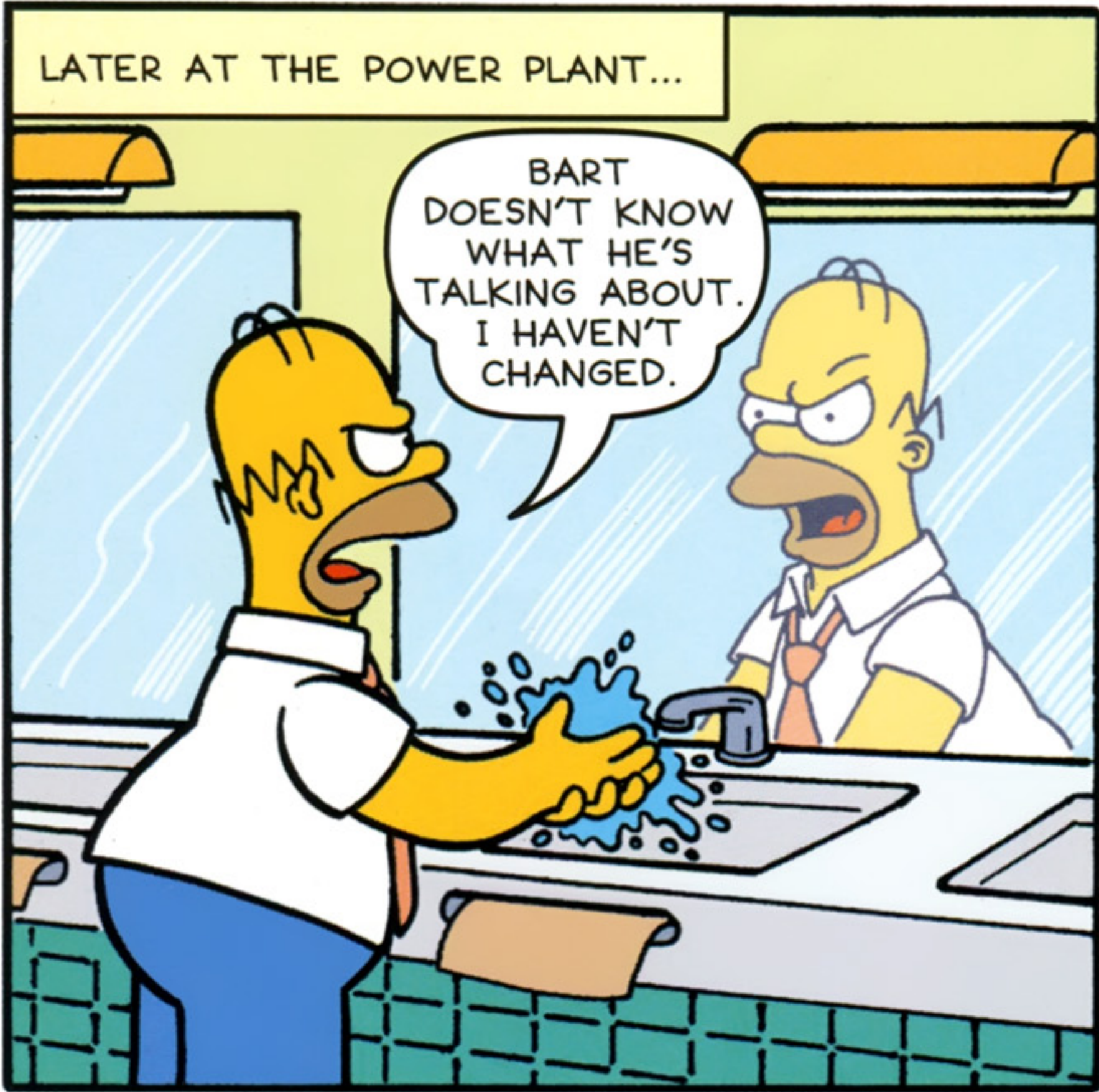


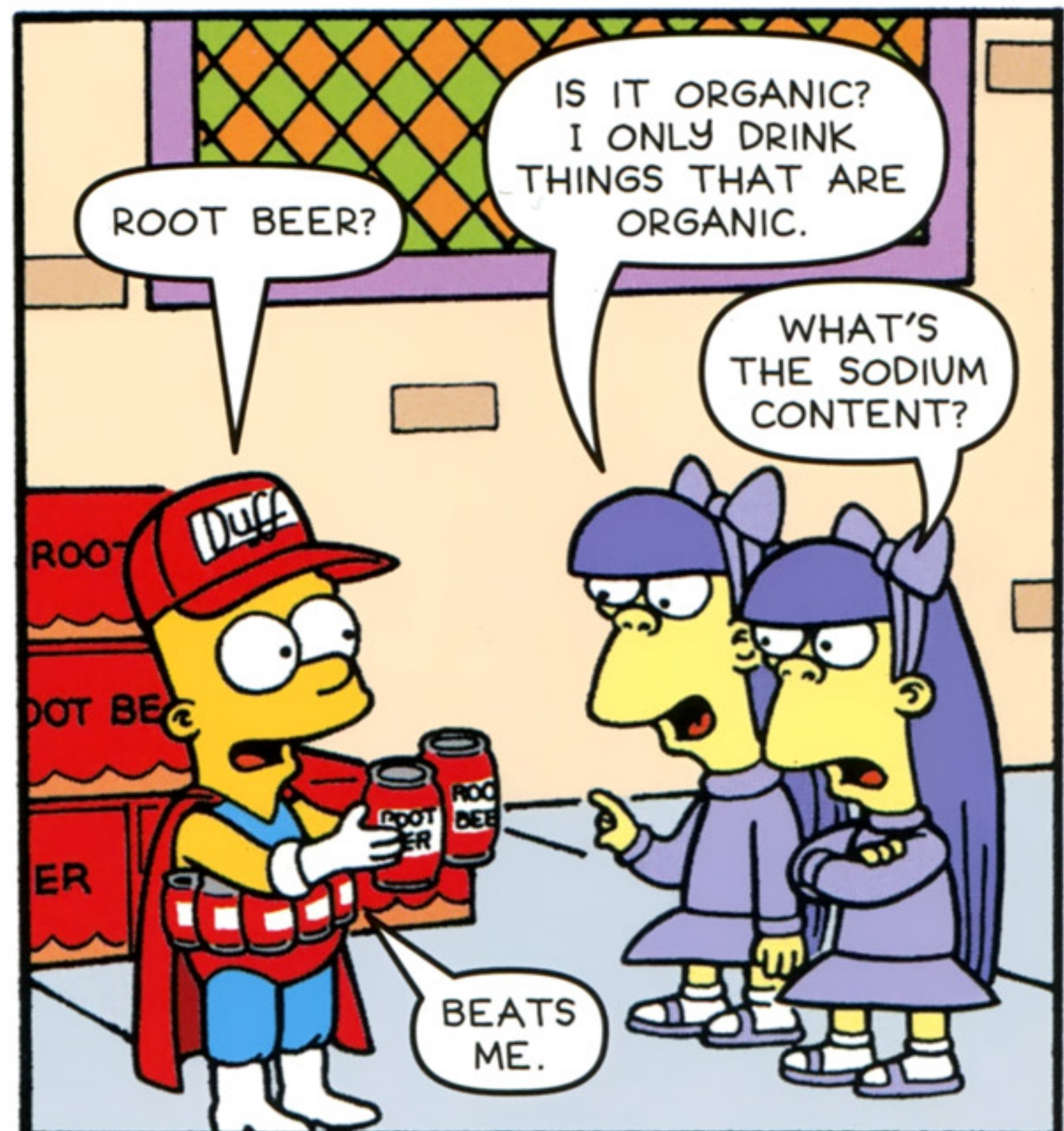


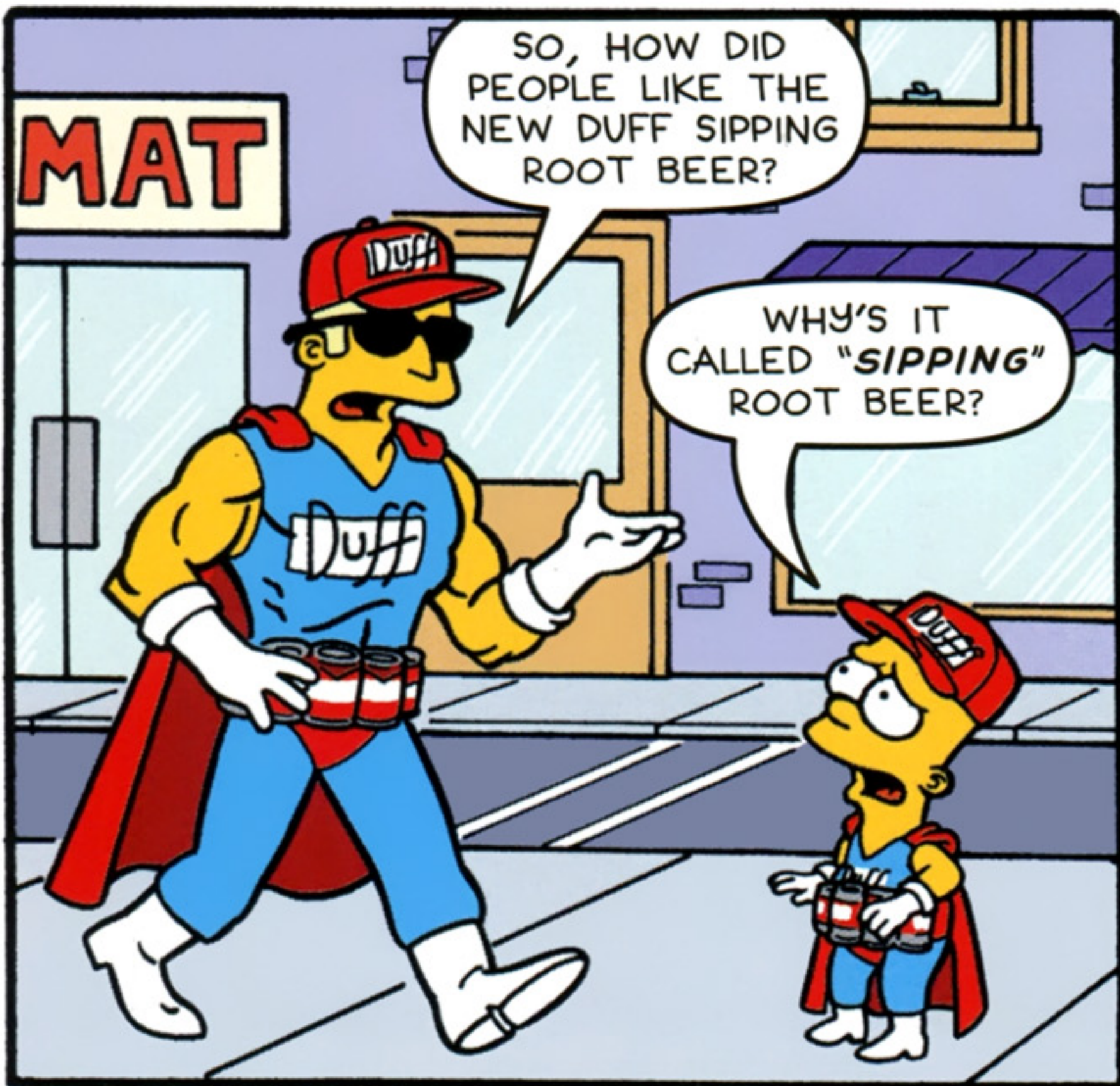




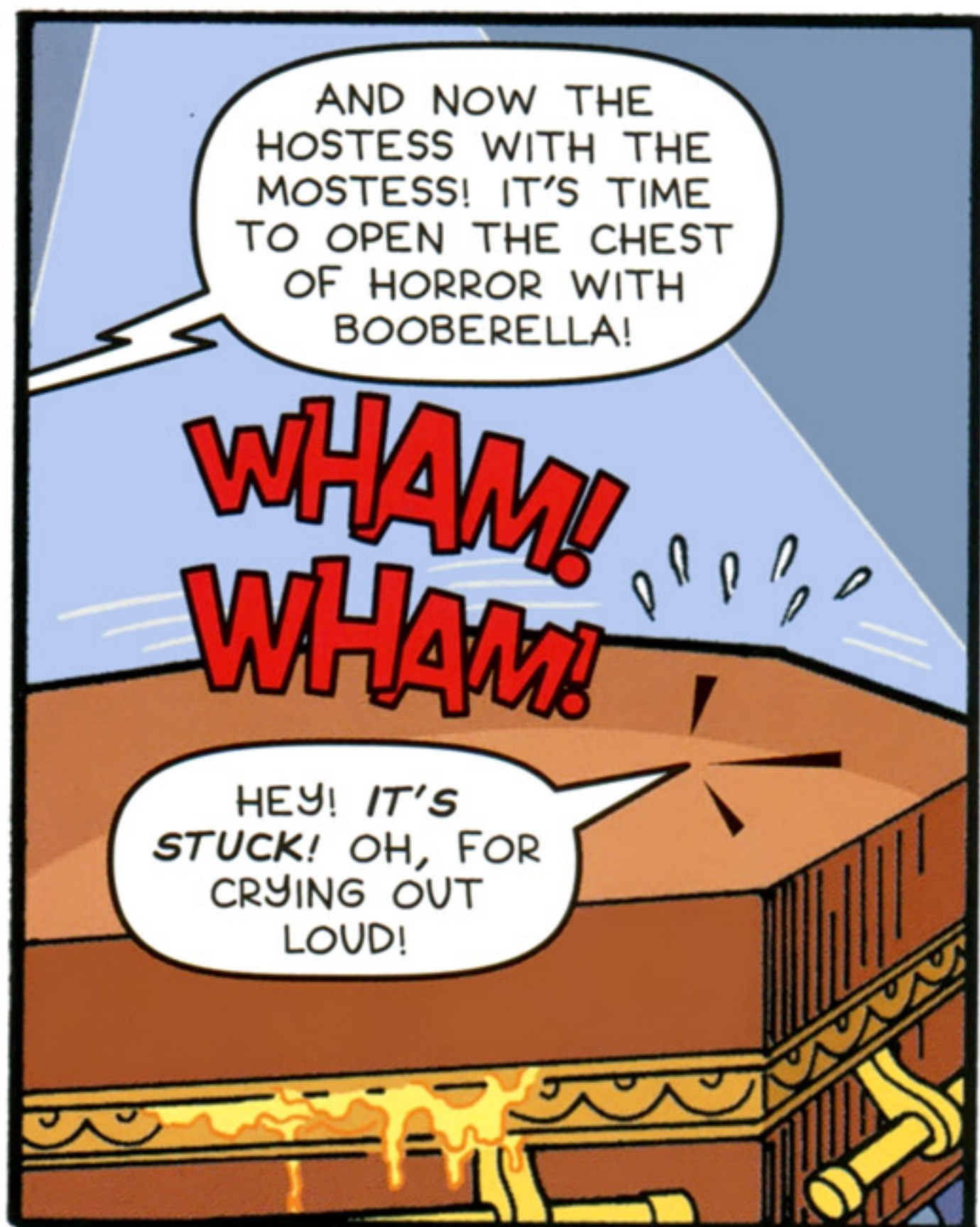
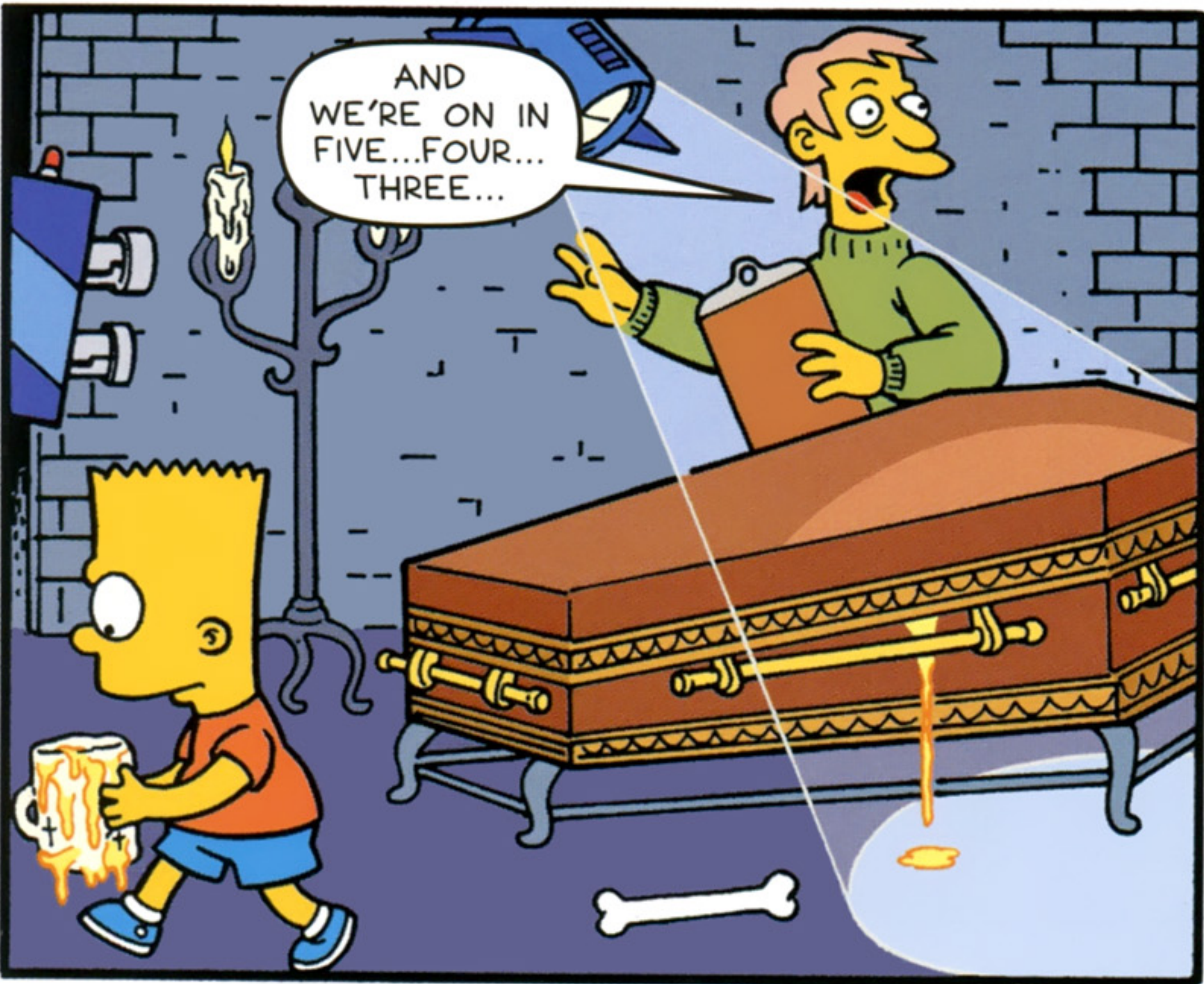


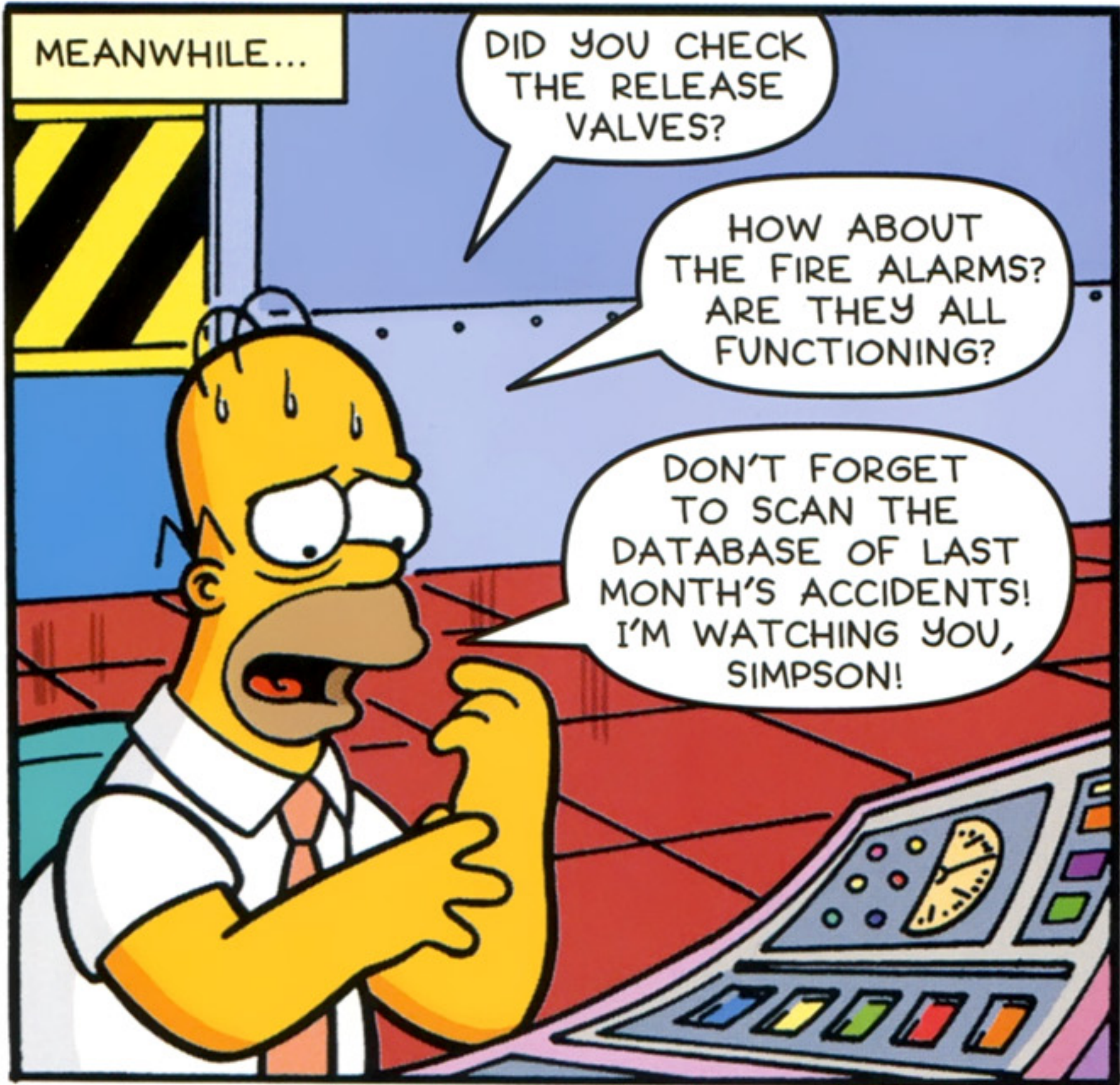




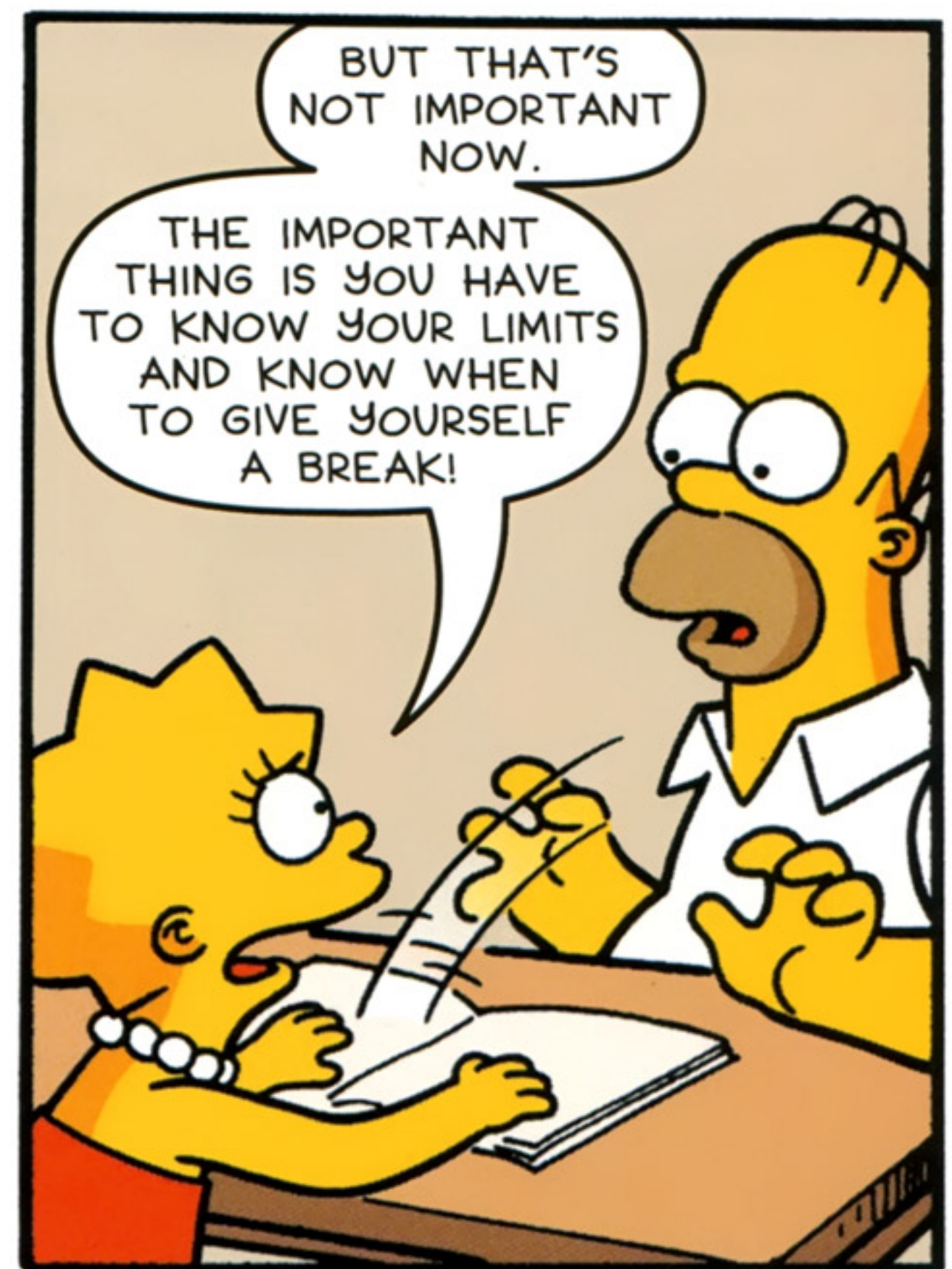


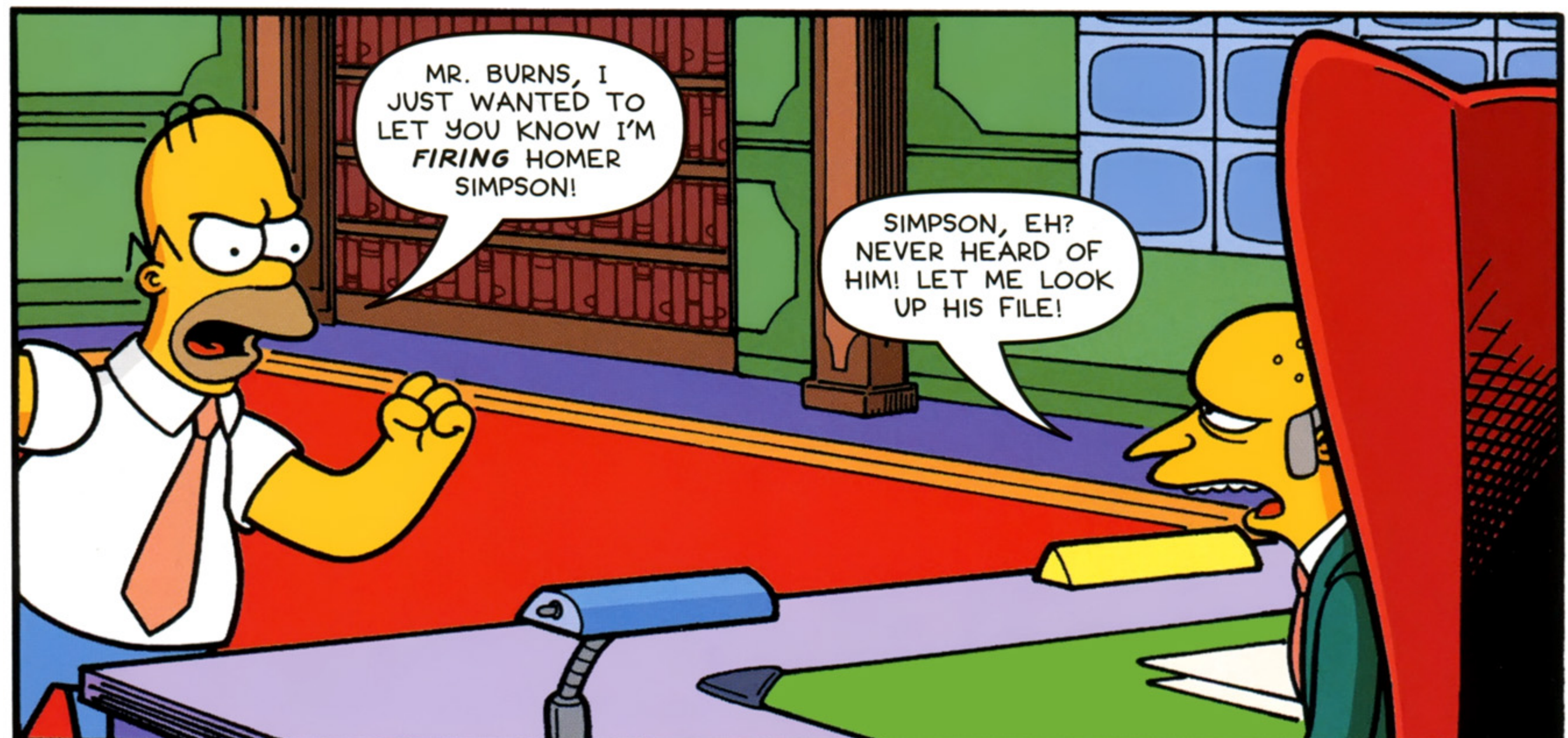
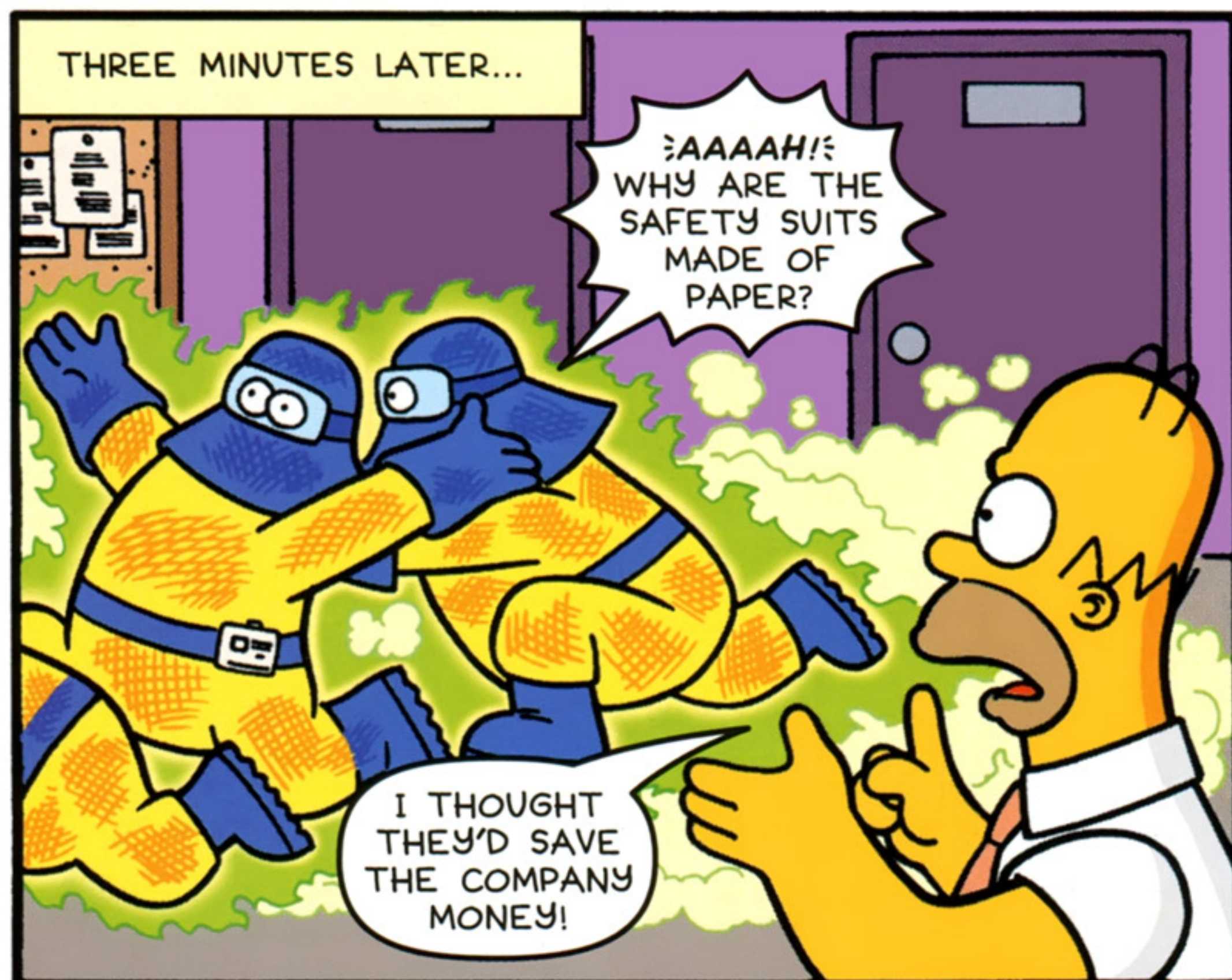


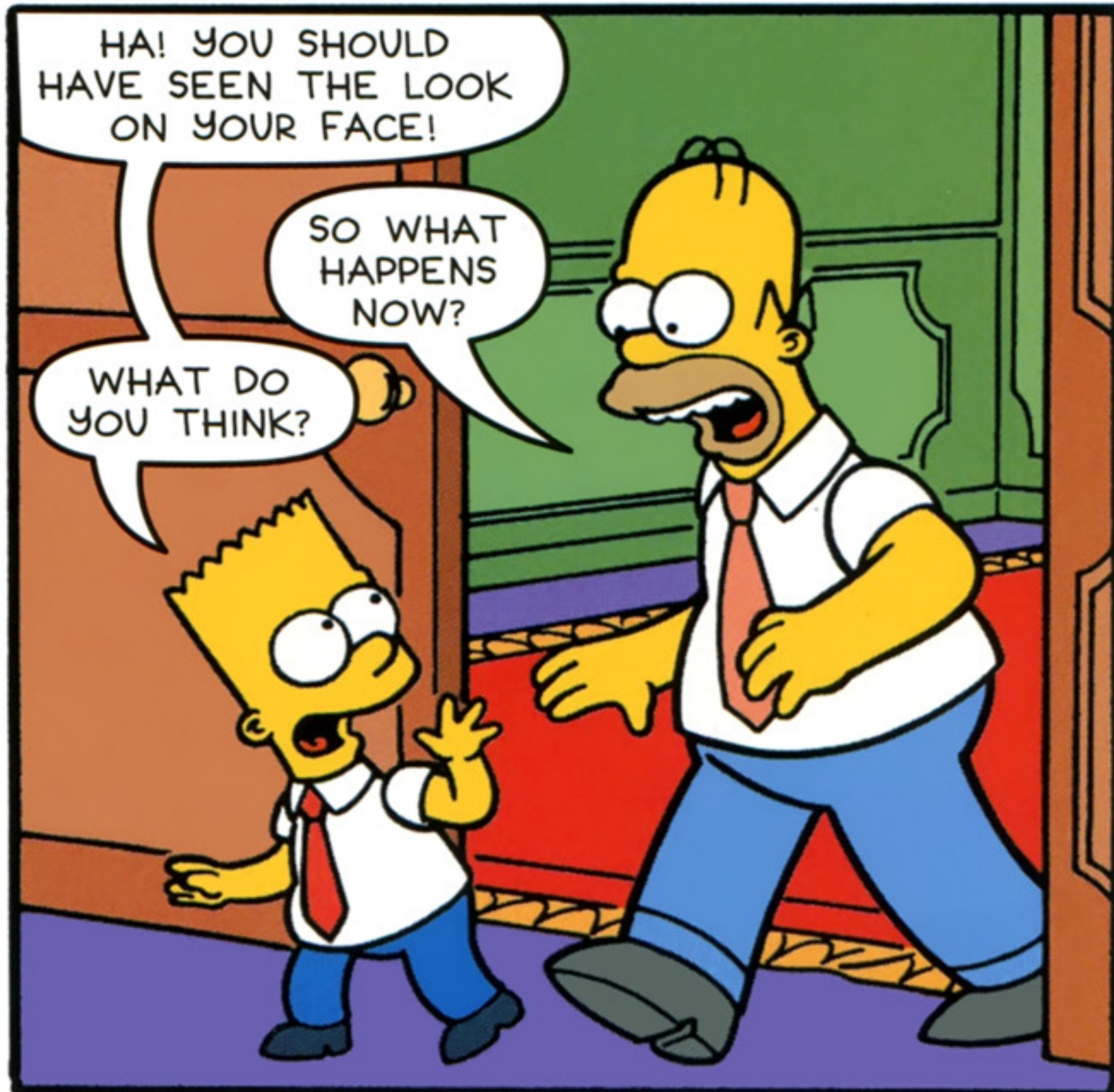
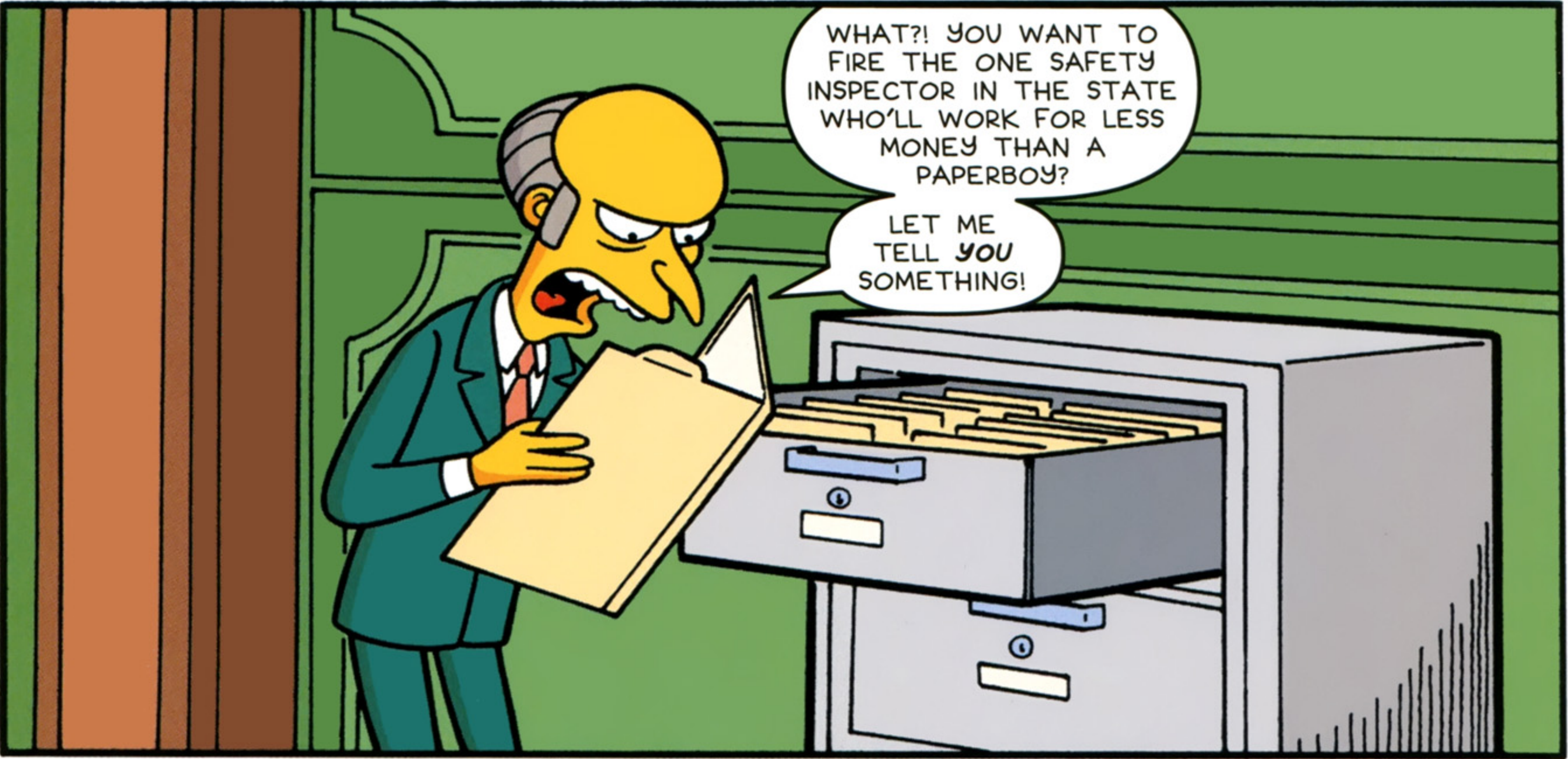


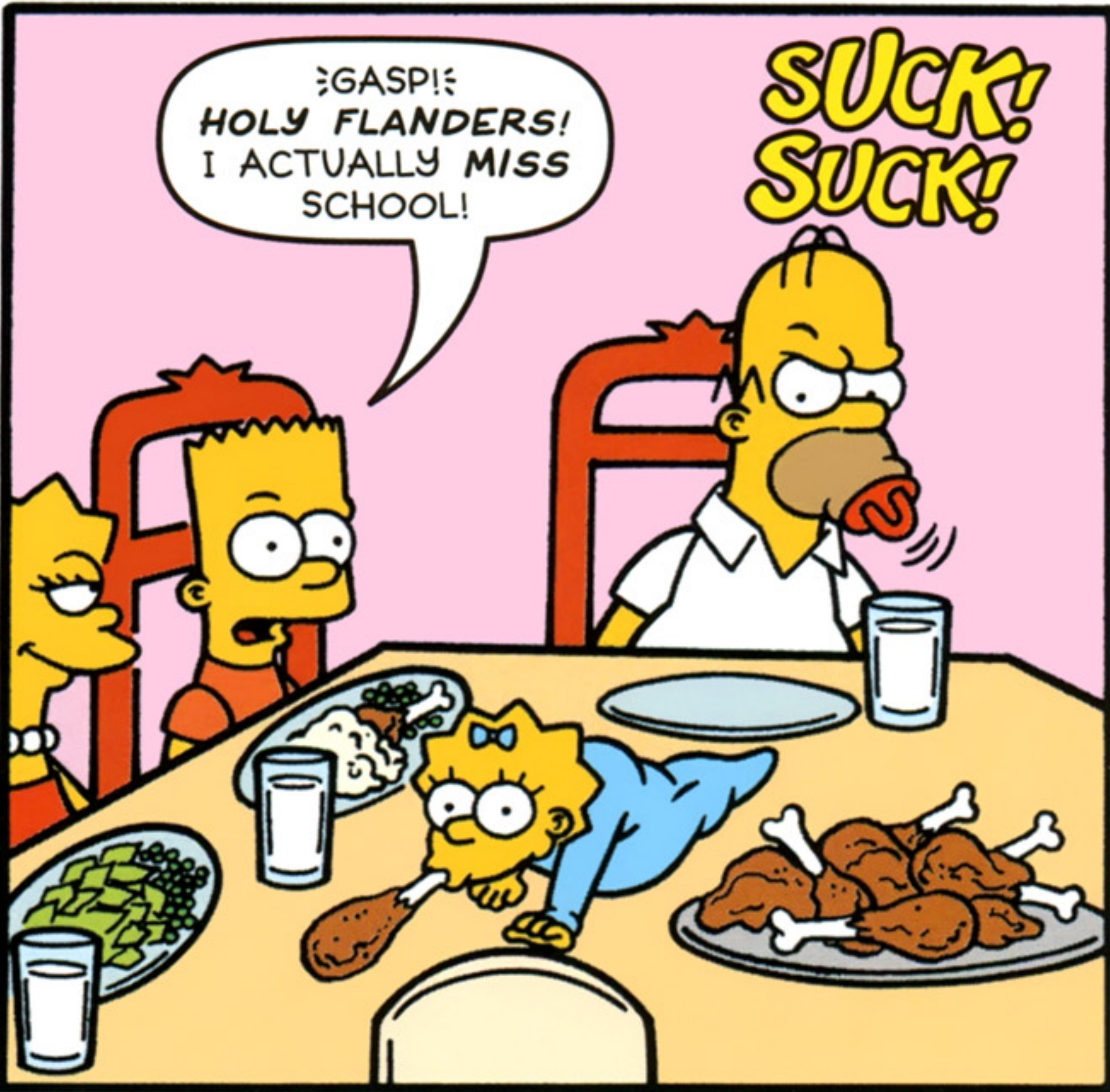
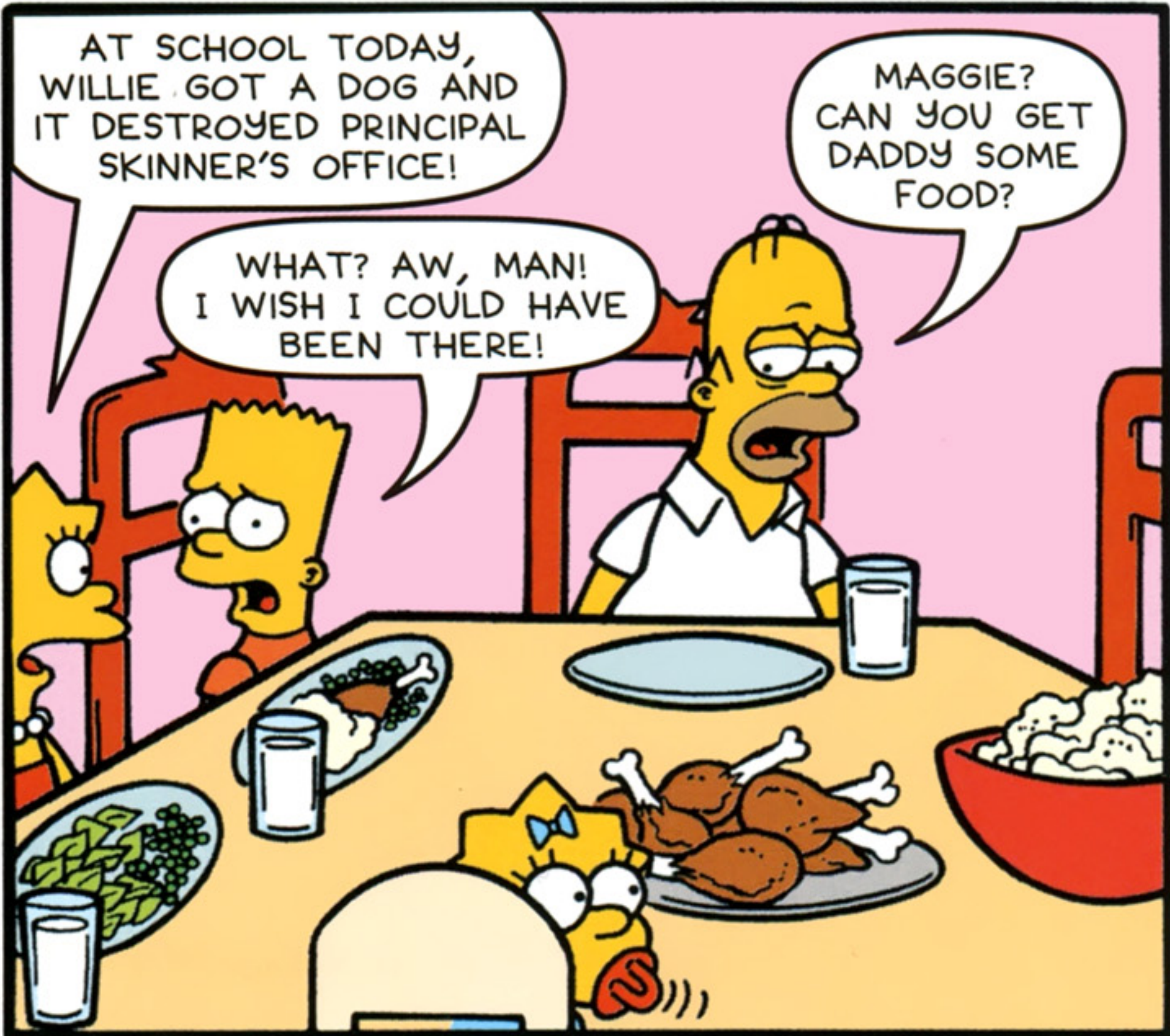
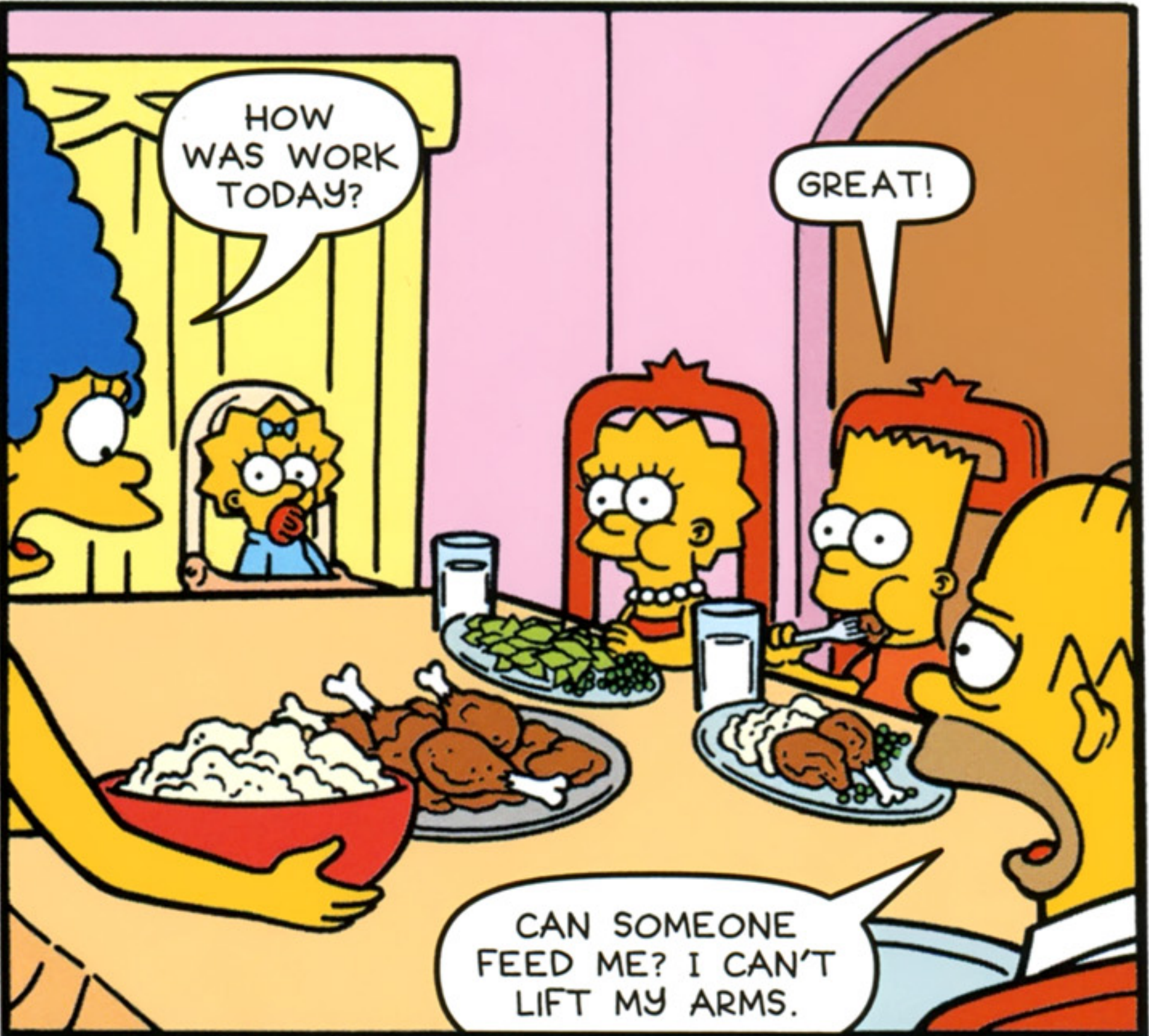


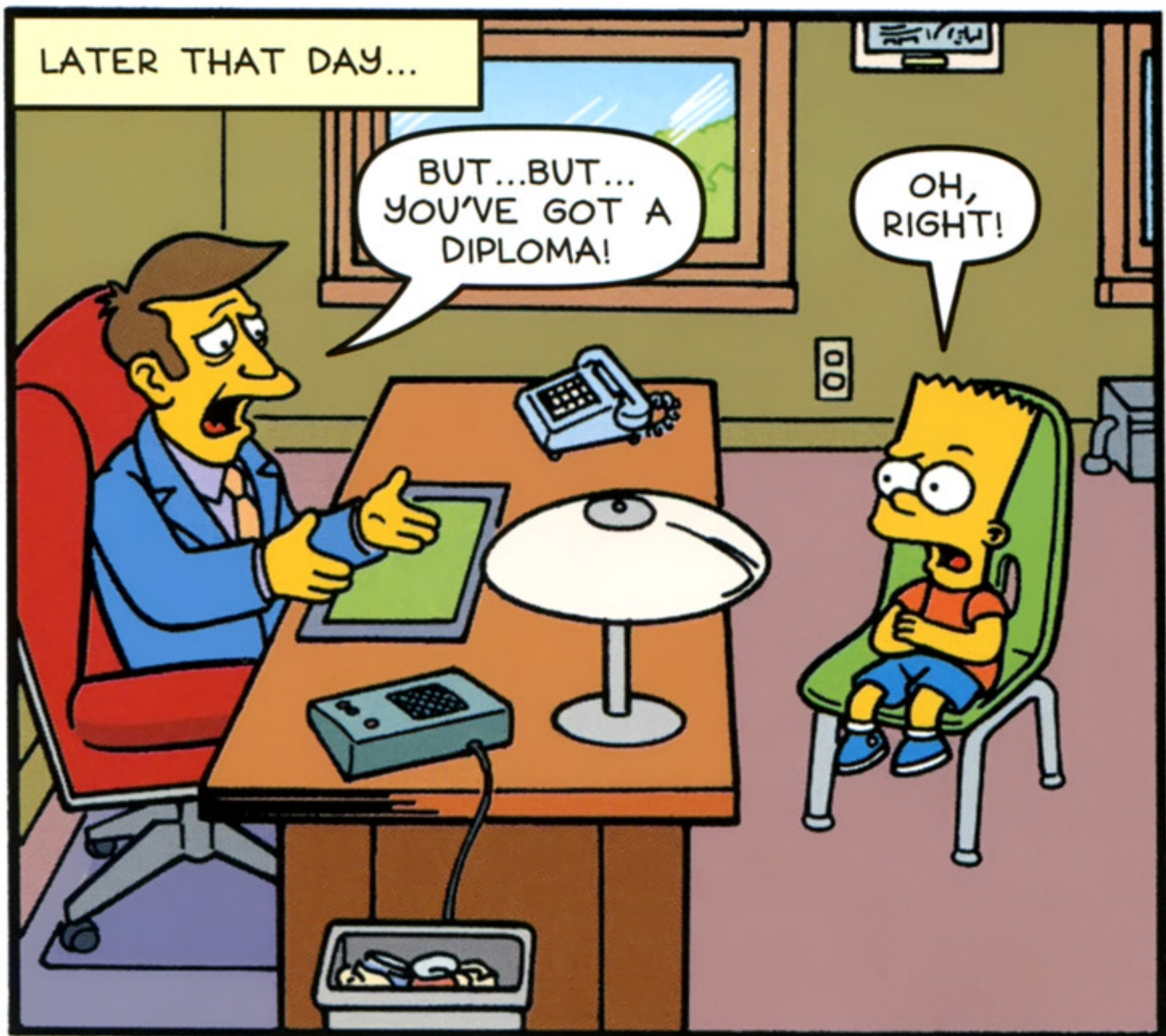
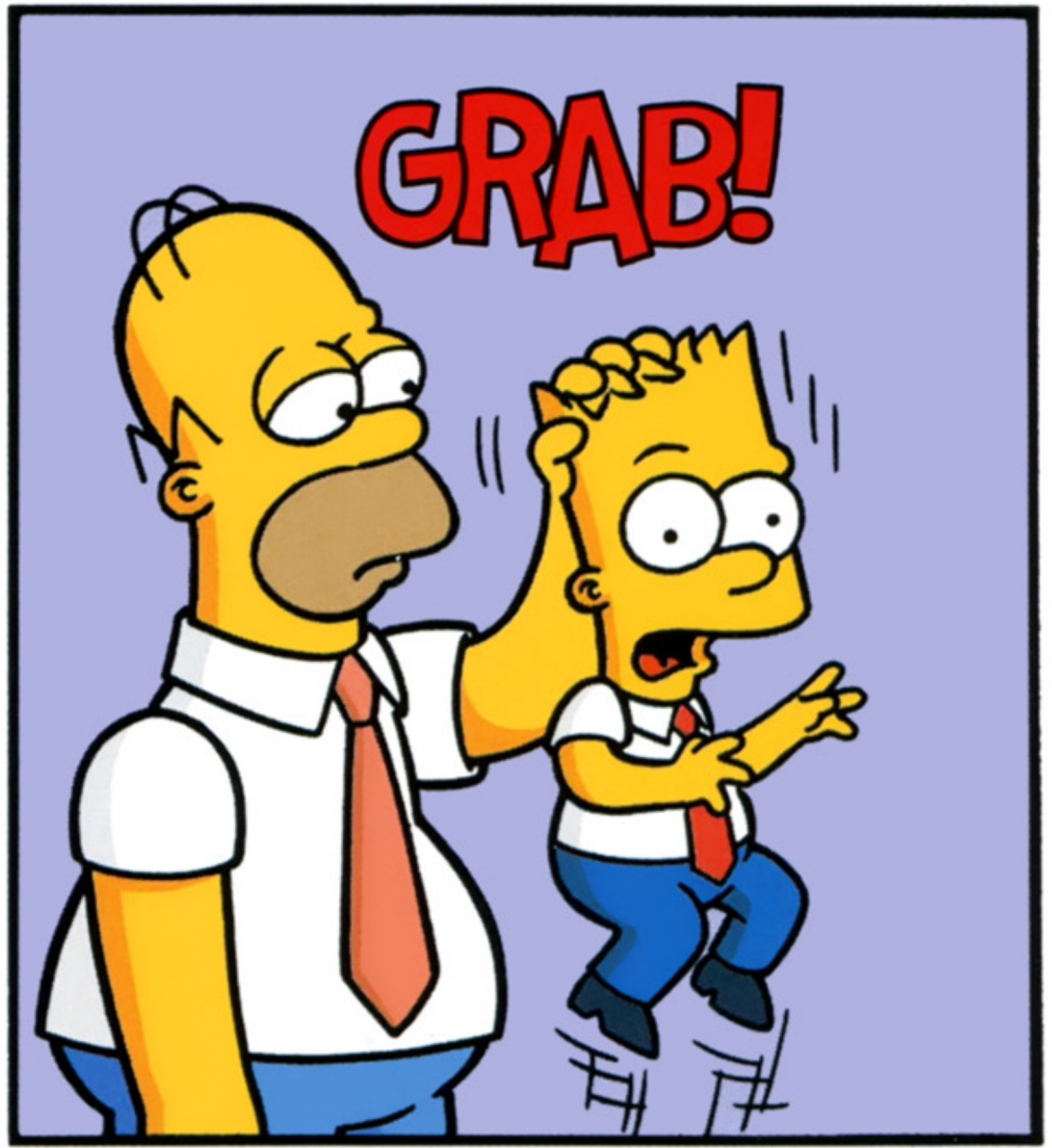


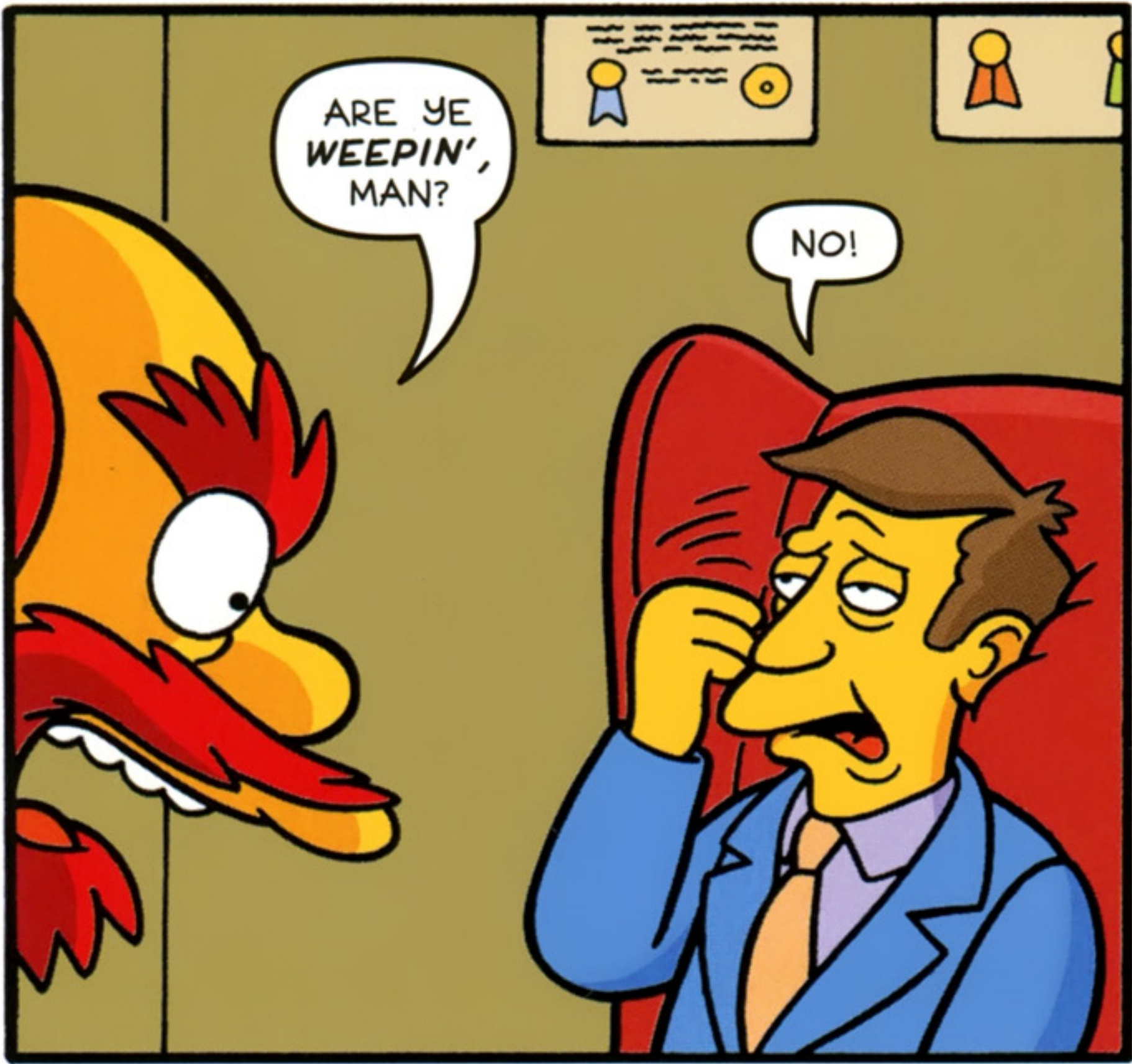














THE BONGO BEAT

by Louis Lane

CALLING ALL READERS!

"So, Louis...what's new at work?" is a question I get asked all the time. Usually, I've got my nose pressed to the proverbial grindstone along with everyone else at the Bongo office in an effort to get the latest comic delivered to the printer, so it can be kind of tough coming up with an answer that entices and delights the casual comic book fan. Of course, if you're actually reading this Bongo Beat, I'd say you're a bona fide, dyed-in-the-wool Bongo Superfan. And that's exactly the kind of fans we like!

If you've been along on this crazy ride for the last two decades, or even if you're just now discovering what all the

hubbub is about, we'd love to hear from you. We reinstated the long-defunct fan mail column "Junk Mail" about a year ago, and we couldn't be happier with all the positive response. That being said, we want more! More, I say!

Your carefully worded cards, delightful drawings, delirious doodlings, relevant rants, raucous ravings, opulent origami, shocking sketches, pen pal pontifications, miraculous manifestos, ecstatic essays, and pie-in-the-sky punditry are what keeps us going as the day winds down and the sun sets over the Pacific. We may still be stuck inside the offices, putting those final touches on the inevitable *Mr. Teeny One-Shot Wonder*, but just knowing that the greatest

fans in the world are waiting patiently out there keeps us going just a little bit longer. Well, that and a boatload of coffee. (Hey! Did you know a "boatload" is an actual unit of measure observed by the Maritime Council of Weights and Measures?* Neither did I!)

Bongo fans really care about their "Simpsons" and "Futurama," that's for sure. Our letters page is a great place to share your thoughts both with us and your fellow Bongoheads! We love getting your letters! So now it's Bongo's turn to ask you, "What's new?"

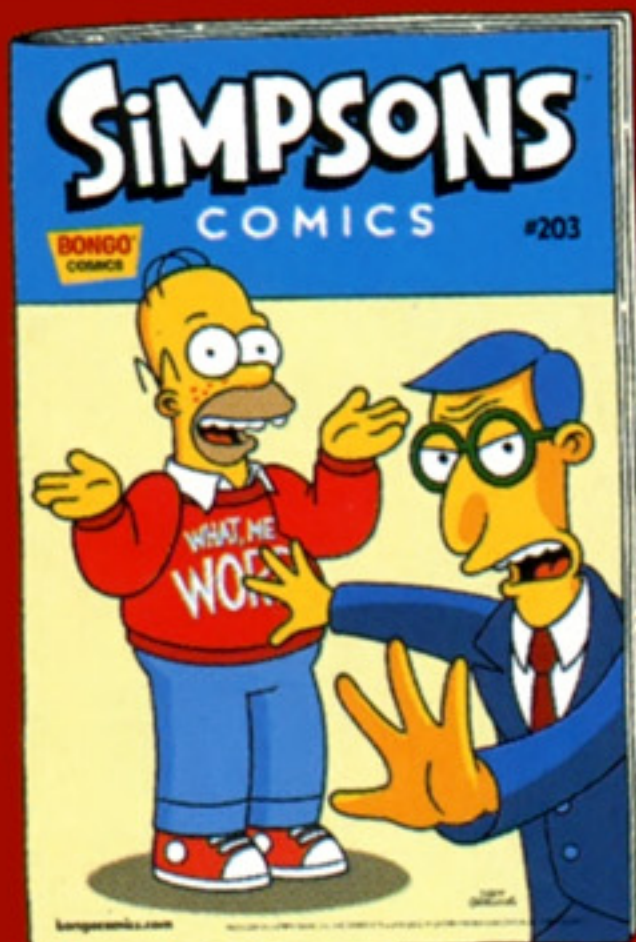
* I made that up. It's late and sometimes we get a little loopy.

**HERE'S YOUR
BONGO
BONUS STAMP!
COLLECT
THEM ALL!
(OR WE'LL RELEASE
THE HOUNDS)**



NEXT ISSUE! SIMPSONS COMICS #203

When Bart creates a successful humor magazine for his classmates, Krusty the Clown co-opts the idea, turning it into a satirical monthly serial of his own and hiring Bart as the head writer. It's just a matter of time before Krusty finds the perfect cover spokesman for the new periodical, and "D'oh!" Magazine is born! Subscribe to this fancy flipbook issue, featuring a "zine within a zine" edition of "D'oh!"



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INTERN

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Do you have a question? A query? A quixotic conundrum? We've got your answers to all things Bongo and more! Send your letters, artistic renderings, photos, and whatnot to: JUNK MAIL, Bongo Comics Group, P.O. Box 1963, Santa Monica, CA 90406-1963, or contact us online at bongoheads@bongocomics.com. If you wish to have your letter or artwork published in our comics, you need to include the following statement in your letter or attached to your artwork: "For consideration for publication in Bongo Comics. I agree if you publish my submission it becomes your property." and sign your name. Unfortunately, because we require your signature, we cannot publish emails at this time. (That instruction comes courtesy of our watchful legal eagles.)

BOB'S BIG BREAK(OUT)

Hey Bongo!

Something's been bugging me. Keeps eating at me as of late. How does Sideshow Bob keep getting out of prison?!? He is a constant thorn in Bart's side. Maybe the justice system could finally, I don't know, DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT???

Joshua Mitchell
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Sideshow Bob learned thousands of devious escape tricks from that one FOX TV show. You know...the one about the extremely intelligent guy who was in prison and had to break out. And then after he broke out of prison, he got thrown back in and had to break out of prison again. I think it was called "Arrested Development."

Louis Lane

FRANKLY, MR. BRANKLEY

People of the Planet Bongo!

Going to get straight to the point: *Simpsons Comics* #198 was a delight. The Gammills should be commended for another fun story. I had no idea that Lard Lad was such an international conglomerate with its own secret service! Are there any other Springfield establishments in control of clandestine outfits?

David Brankley
Madison, WI

The Frying Dutchman fields its own standing navy, Herman's Military Antique Store has its own fly-by-night militia on speed dial, and Wall E. Weasel's manipulates currency exchanges, hoping to inflate the value of its video game tokens... but that's just one intern's theory.

LL

THE MAUDE SQUAD

I saw your letter the other month about Maude Flanders coming back from the dead. You may mock the idea, but I think it could work! Here's a new idea: We get an alternate version (you guys seem to talk about Earth-2 a lot) of Maude and switch bodies right before the T-shirt cannons go off. Our Maude is safe and sound, and we never hear the word "Nedna" ever again!

Carissa Horton
New Orleans, LA

She's not coming back, comic fans! Maude is dead. She has passed on. She has ceased to be! Bereft of life, she rests in peace! She is an ex-Maude! Viva "Nedna"!

LL

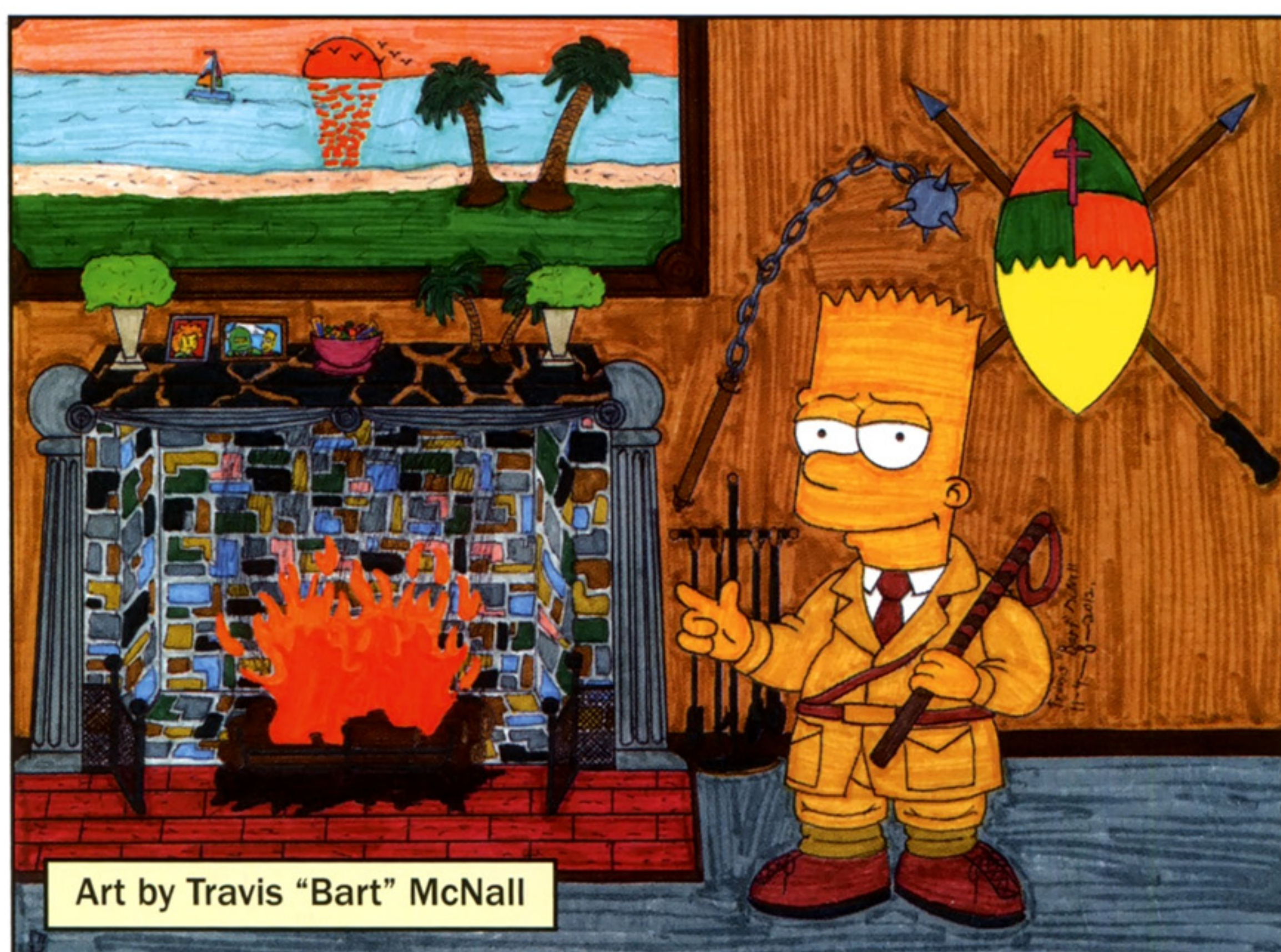
THE QUEEN OF BARTS

I really liked issue #198 ("Donut Disturb"). Lisa should have worn the crown as Lard Lad Kid of the Year! When she was Queen of the Donut Kingdom, those were the pages that got the biggest laughs out of me. She could have actually made a difference in the Lard Lad world and made a real change to the kids' dietary habits. Curse her sense of morality!

Kate Hanover
Fort Wayne, Indiana

How can we reconcile the deliciousness of donuts with the wholesomeness of oatmeal? Oatmeal-flavored donuts? Donut-flavored oatmeal? I've got it...Dough-tmeal!

LL



Art by Travis "Bart" McNall

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