



FOURTH FRIGHT-FILLED ISSUE

#4

US \$2.50  
CAN \$3.50



BART SIMPSON'S

# MILFHOUSE OF HORROR

FEATURING  
THE TERRIFYING  
TALENTS OF  
GEOF DARROW,  
CHUCK DIXON,  
AND  
BATTON LASH



GROENING  
Morrison  
Kaufman



DIRECT EDITION

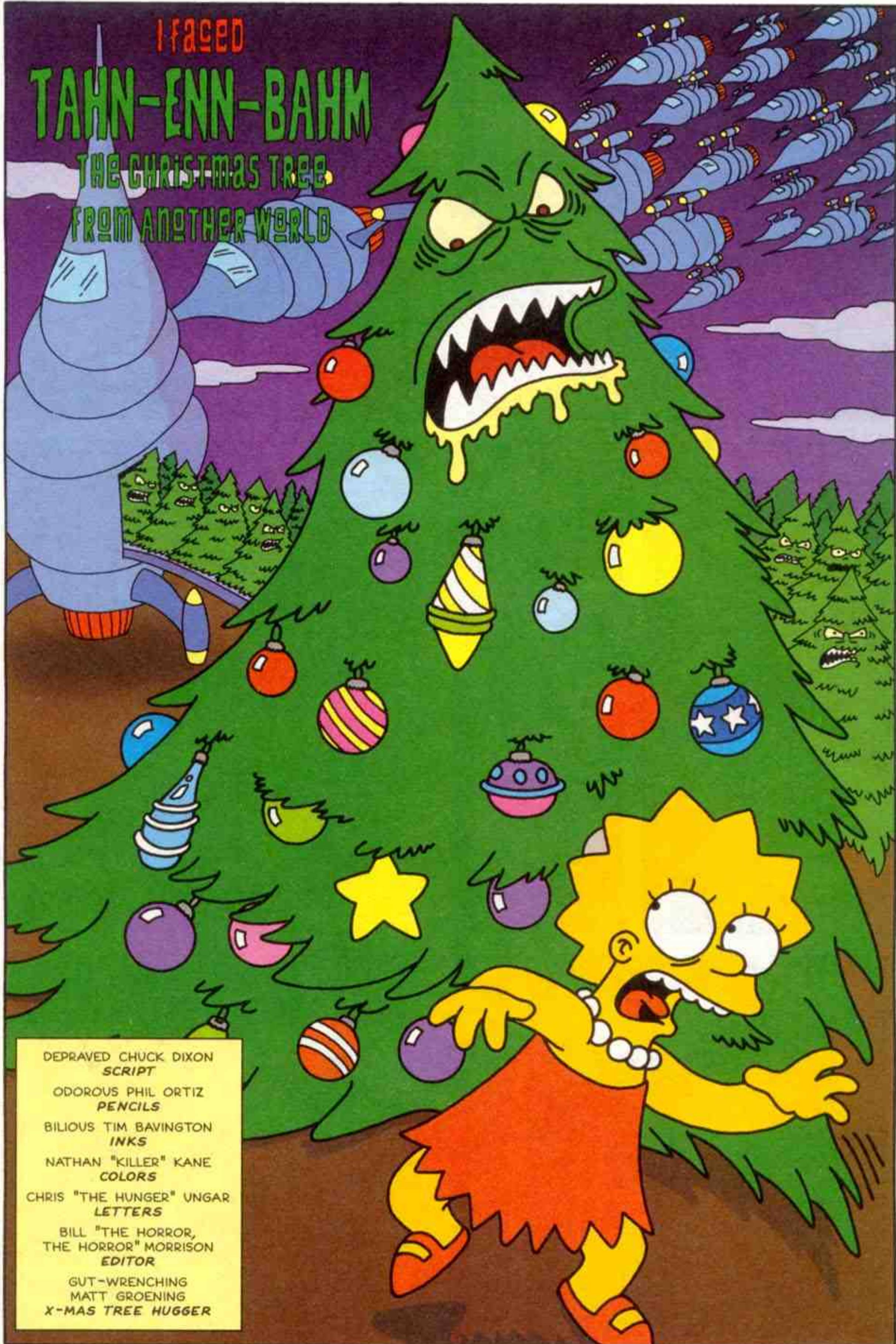


00411

7 59606 03151 1

©1998 BONGO ENTERTAINMENT, INC. THE SIMPSONS ©20TH CENTURY FOX FILM CORPORATION. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

I Faced  
**TAHN-ENN-BAHM**  
THE CHRISTMAS TREE  
FROM ANOTHER WORLD



DEPRAVED CHUCK DIXON  
SCRIPT

ODOROUS PHIL ORTIZ  
PENCILS

BILIOUS TIM BAVINGTON  
INKS

NATHAN "KILLER" KANE  
COLORS

CHRIS "THE HUNGER" UNGAR  
LETTERS

BILL "THE HORROR,  
THE HORROR" MORRISON  
EDITOR

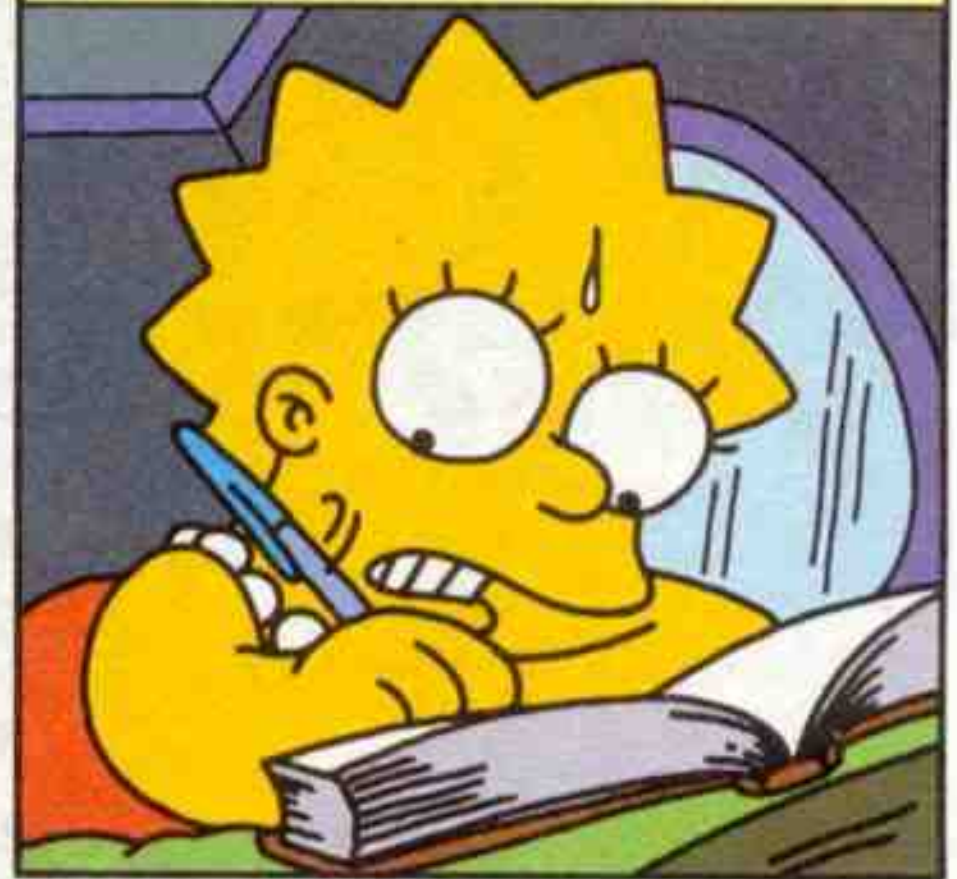
GUT-WRENCHING  
MATT GROENING  
X-MAS TREE HUGGER

HOW IRONIC THAT WHAT STARTED AS A TYPICAL FAMILY CHRISTMAS TURNED INTO A *HOLIDAY OF HORROR*!

EQUALLY IRONIC IS THE FACT THAT IT WAS I, LISA SIMPSON, WHO INVITED THIS NIGHTMARE INTO OUR HOME.



AND WITH IRONY SO DEEP IT REACHES THE SECOND FLOOR WINDOWS, IT WAS MY ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS THAT BROUGHT THIS BOTANICAL TERROR UPON US.



IT BEGAN JUST THREE DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS...

GAAAAAH!

THIS IS TOO HORRIBLE!



THE CHRISTMAS TREE IS *RUSTED*! NOW IT WON'T REFLECT THE MOOD LIGHTS!

RUST IS A COOL COLOR, HOMER.

WE'LL HAVE TO GET A LIVE TREE, DAD.



GOOD IDEA, LISA.

NOTHING LIKE THE SMELL OF FRESHLY CUT TIMBER IN THE LIVING ROOM!



I SAID A LIVE TREE! ONE WE CAN *PLANT* IN THE BACKYARD WHEN THE HOLIDAYS ARE OVER AND *ENJOY* THROUGHOUT THE YEARS!

SANTA'S LITTLE HELPER LIKES THE IDEA!





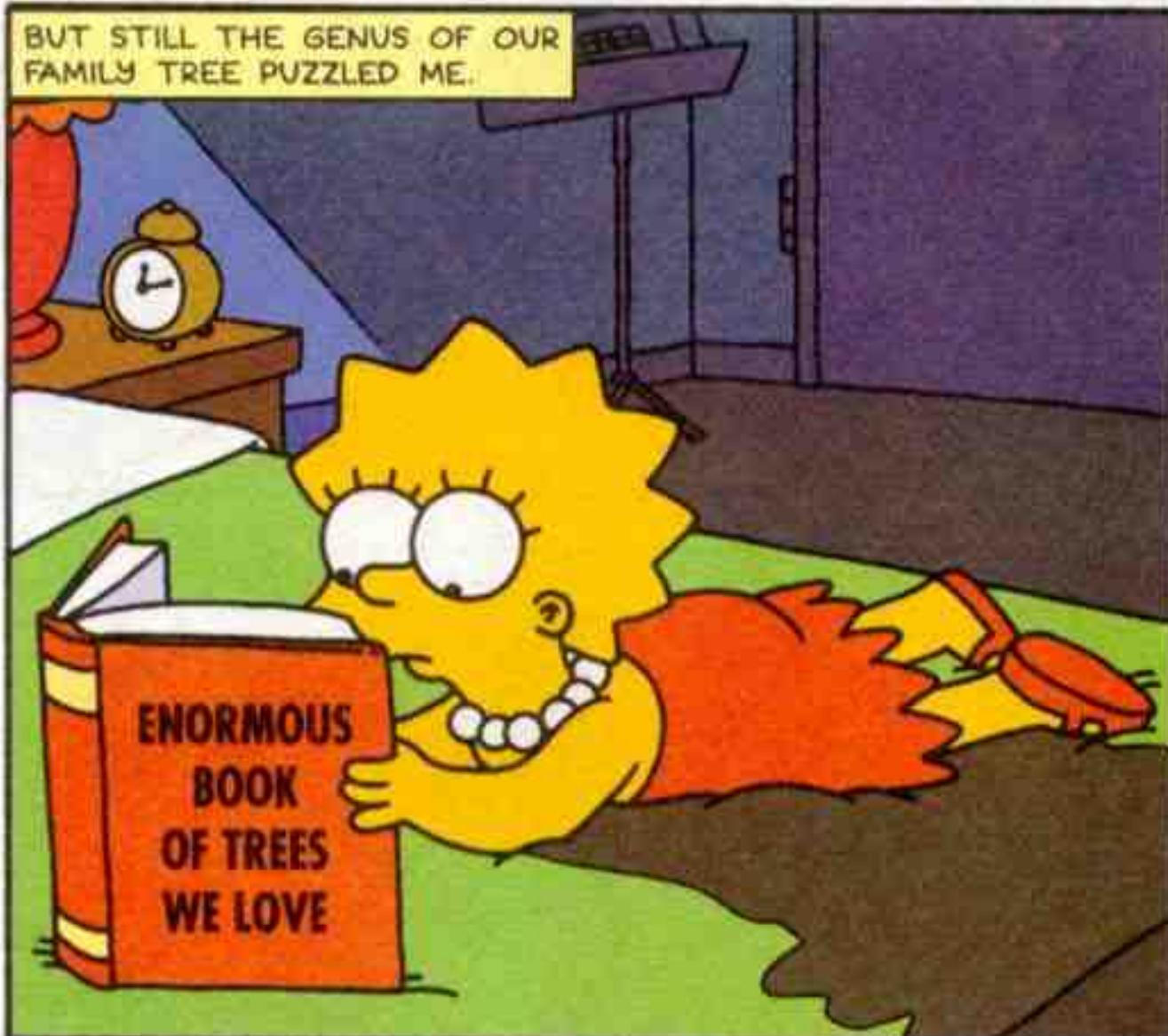




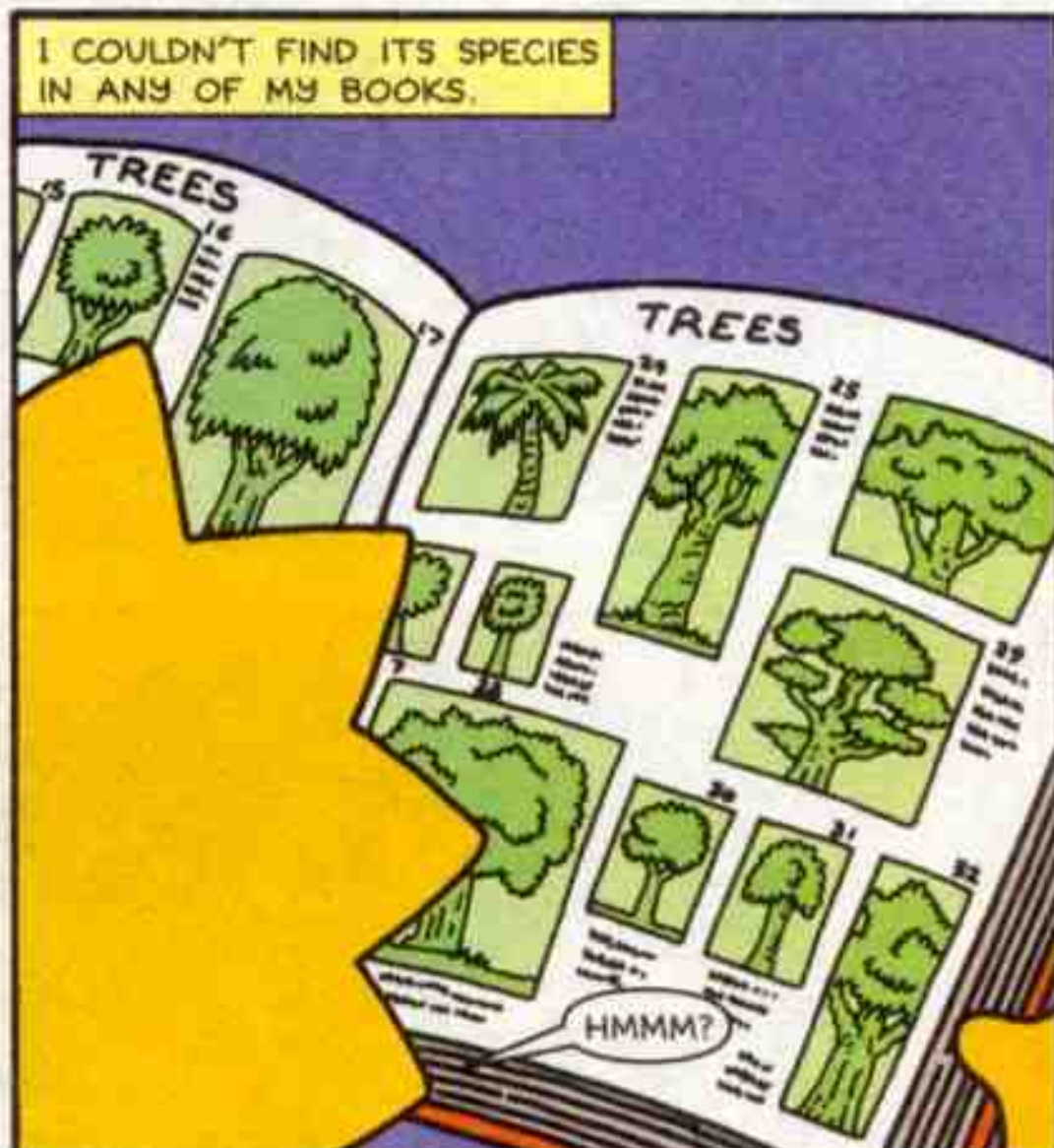
THAT NIGHT WE DECORATED THE TREE, IGNORANT OF THE MIND-NUMBING FEAR THAT WAS TO COME.



BUT STILL THE GENUS OF OUR FAMILY TREE PUZZLED ME.



I COULDN'T FIND ITS SPECIES IN ANY OF MY BOOKS.



WHILE MY PARENTS AND SIBLINGS SLEPT, I WENT TO THE LIVING ROOM TO EXAMINE THE TREE.



I EXPECTED TO FIND BART INVOLVED IN HIS CHRISTMAS EVE RITUAL OF SNOOPING THROUGH PRESENTS.

INSTEAD, I MADE THE MOST FRIGHTENING DISCOVERY OF MY YOUNG LIFE.











THE TREE WAS RIGHT--  
NO ONE WOULD LISTEN.

AND SO I TURNED TO MY  
FAMILY IN HOPE THAT THEY  
WOULD HEED MY WARNING.



YOU HAVE  
TO BELIEVE  
ME, DADI!

LIKE ALL  
YOUR OTHER  
LIES?



"DAAAAD,  
I CREATED A  
UNIVERSE IN A MAR-  
GARINE TUBI!"

"DAAAAD, THE  
PRINCIPAL IS COOKING  
CHILDREN IN THE  
CAFETERIA."

"DAAAAD,  
BART'S RAISED  
THE DEAD."



SOUNDS LIKE  
DAD'S BEEN WATCHING  
THE FOX NETWORK  
AGAIN.

BUT--

DON'T  
TAKE THAT  
TONE WITH ME,  
YOUNG LADY!

HOMER!

I HAD TO FACE THE UGLY TRUTH.  
THE EARTH WAS DOOMED...



DID YOU  
WATER THE  
TREE?

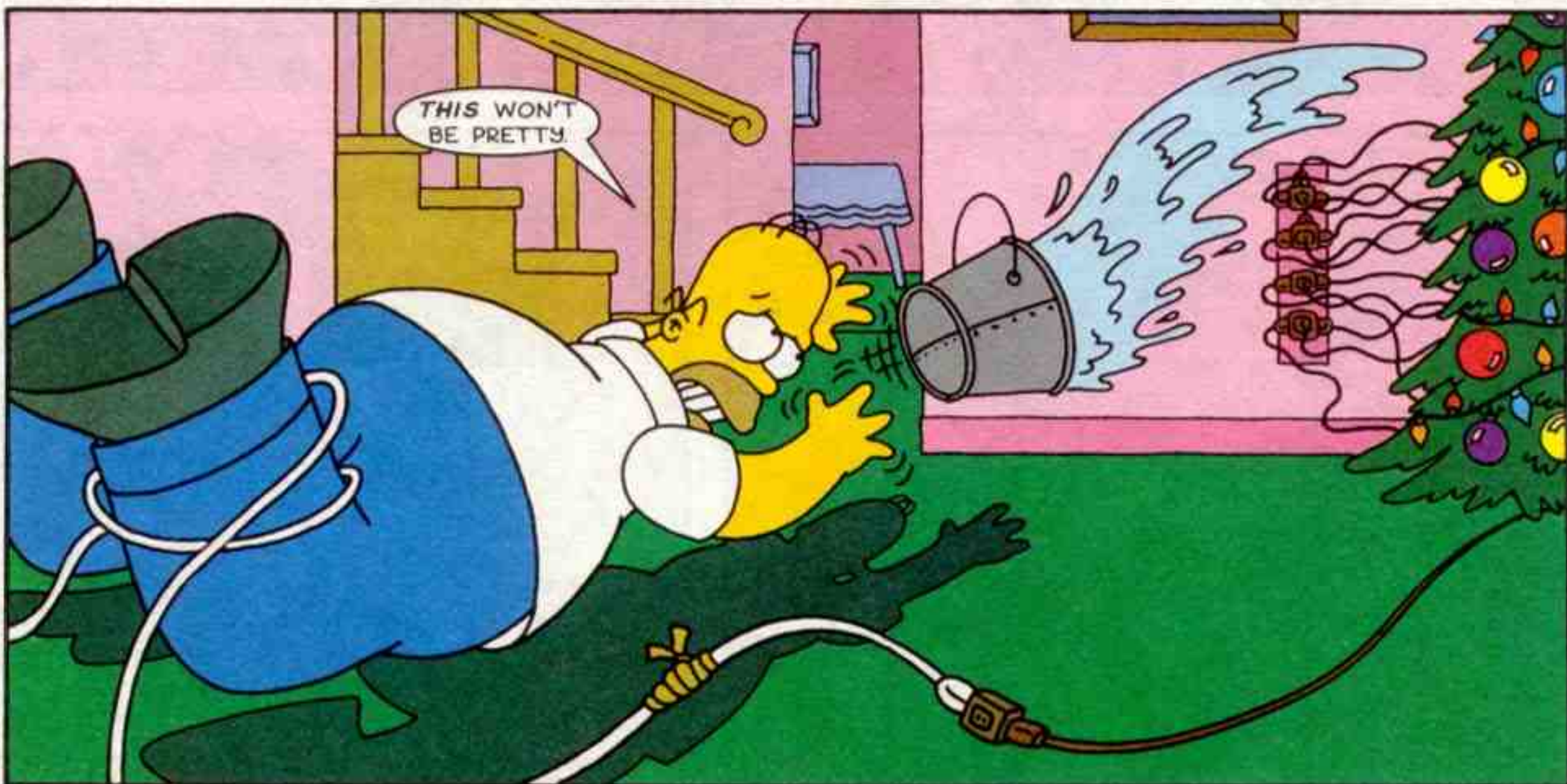
D'OH!

...AND THERE WAS  
NOTHING I COULD  
DO TO SAVE IT.



IT LOOKS  
LIKE YOU  
WON.

HEH, HEH,  
HEH, HEH







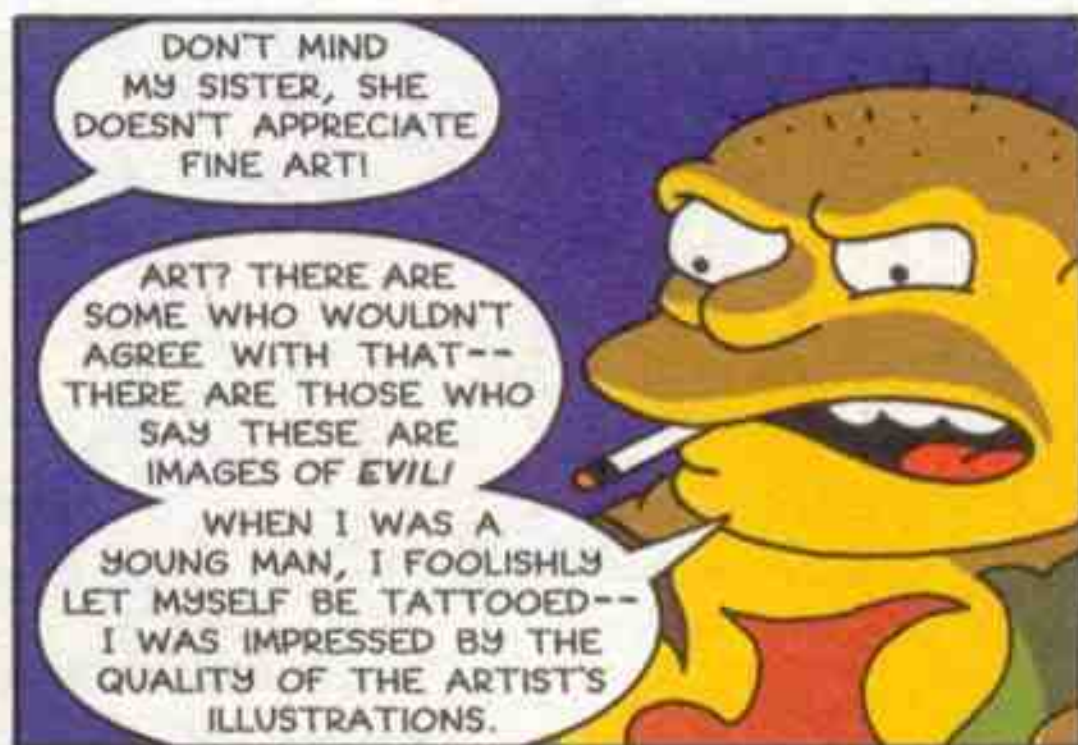
|                             |                                |                           |                                                                |                              |                       |                               |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| SCRIPT                      | PENCILS                        | INKS                      | LETTERS                                                        | COLORS                       | EDITOR                | FREAKSHOW<br>MANAGER          |
| LOATHSOME<br>BATTON<br>LASH | JULIUS<br>"AIN'T SO"<br>PRIETE | BAWDY<br>TIM<br>BAVINGTON | KAREN<br>"NO VACANCY"<br>BATES<br>AND<br>JEANNINE BLACK PLAGUE | CADAVEROUS<br>NATHAN<br>KANE | BILL<br>"MORGUE"-ISON | GROTESQUE<br>MATT<br>GROENING |



WHADDAYA GAWKIN' AT?

THE TATTOOS, MAN!

EWWW--  
HOW CAN YOU  
LET THAT BE DONE  
TO YOURSELF?



DON'T MIND  
MY SISTER, SHE  
DOESN'T APPRECIATE  
FINE ART!

ART? THERE ARE  
SOME WHO WOULDN'T  
AGREE WITH THAT--  
THERE ARE THOSE WHO  
SAY THESE ARE  
IMAGES OF EVIL!

WHEN I WAS A  
YOUNG MAN, I FOOLISHLY  
LET MYSELF BE TATTOOED--  
I WAS IMPRESSED BY THE  
QUALITY OF THE ARTIST'S  
ILLUSTRATIONS.



BUT THE ARTIST  
WAS A **SORCERER**--  
AND HE USED MY SKIN  
AS A CANVAS TO TELL  
**DEPRAVED STORIES!**

I MUST WARN YOU.  
DON'T LOOK AT THE  
TATTOOS TOO LONG--  
YOU MAY NOT LIKE  
WHAT YOU SEE!

YOU MEAN  
SCABS?



I MEAN EACH PICTURE TELLS  
A STORY--AND THEY'RE NOT  
AT ALL PLEASANT! YOU MAY  
SEE YOURSELF--OR PEOPLE  
YOU KNOW--CAST IN A  
SORDID LITTLE TALE.  
THAT IS MY CURSE!!

AW,  
C'MON!

YEAH, MAN, WHAT DO  
YOU THINK WE ARE, RUBES?



DON'T TAKE MY WORD  
FOR IT. I LET THE PICTURES  
SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. STARE  
DEEP AND WATCH ITS STORY  
UNFOLD--IF YOU DARE!

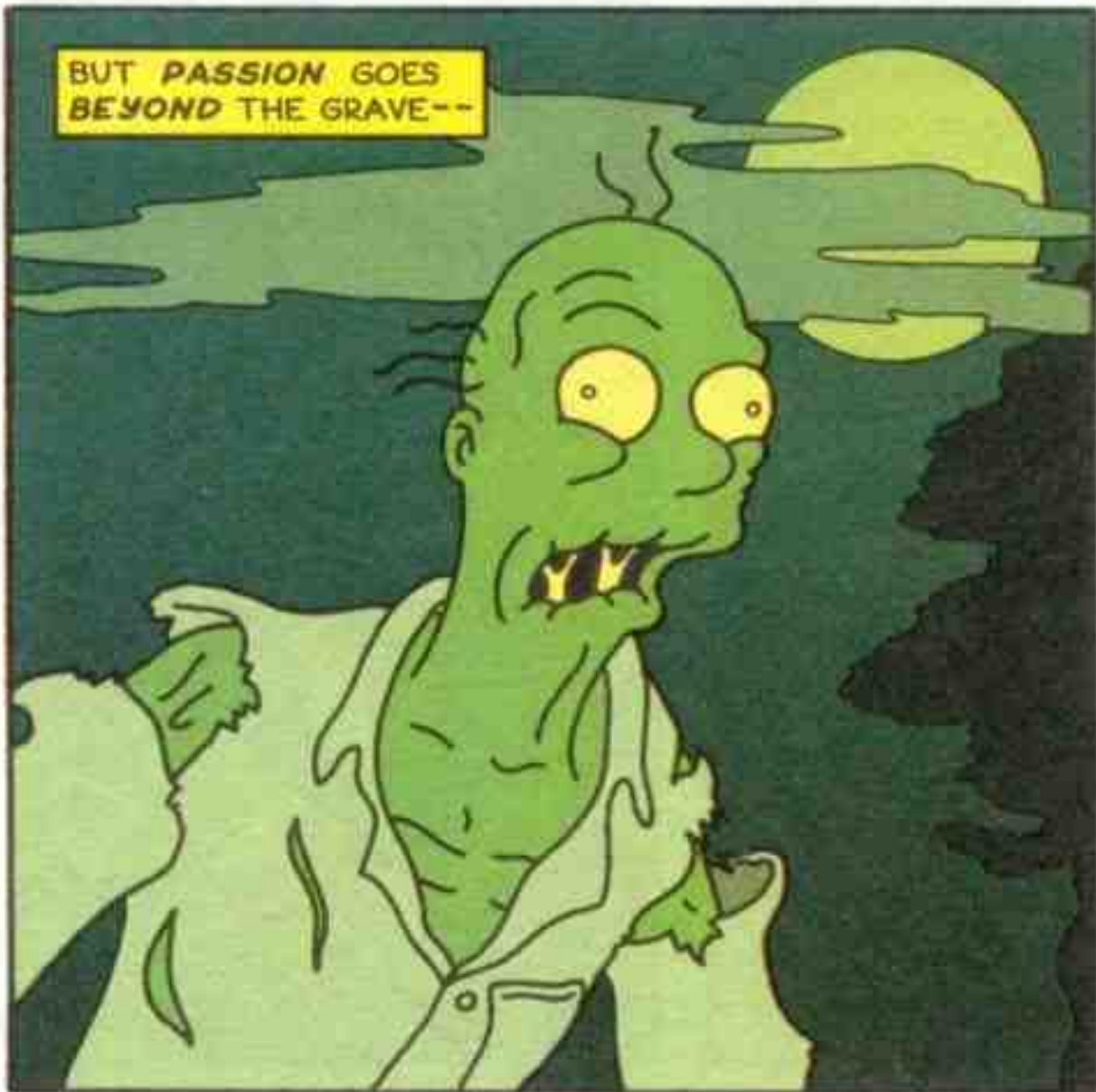


**THE RELUCTANT CORPSE**

YOU KNOW  
NO PEACE.

OR REST.

YOU ONLY  
KNOW THAT  
YOU ARE DEAD...



BUT PASSION GOES BEYOND THE GRAVE--



MUCH TO YOUR ETERNAL REGRET!

THERE YOU ARE!



YOU SPIN ON YOUR DECAYING HEELS.

EVERY ROTTING FIBER IN YOU CRIES--

"GET AWAY! GET AWAY!!"



AND WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?!

YOU WOULD RETCH-- IF ONLY YOU COULD!

HEY!



WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING? I'VE GOT DIBS ON HIM--I'M THE ONE WHO LEARNED VODOO TO BRING HIM BACK!

I MET HIM FIRST--WHEN HE WAS ALIVE! ONE LOOK AT YOUR HAIRY LEGS SCARED HIM TO DEATH!

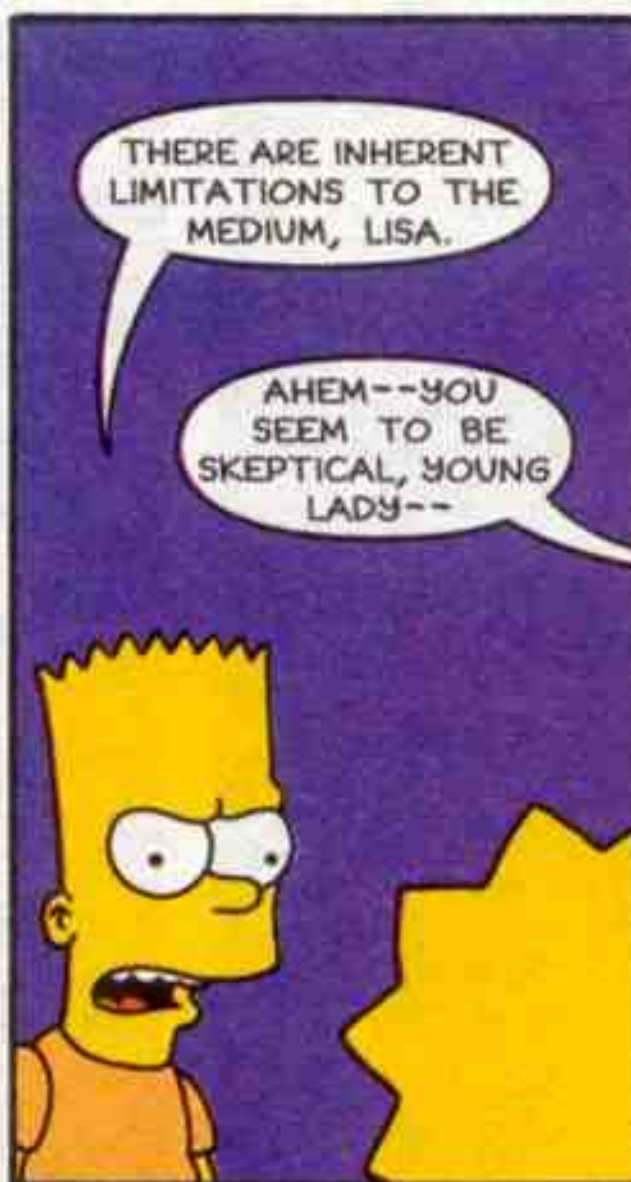


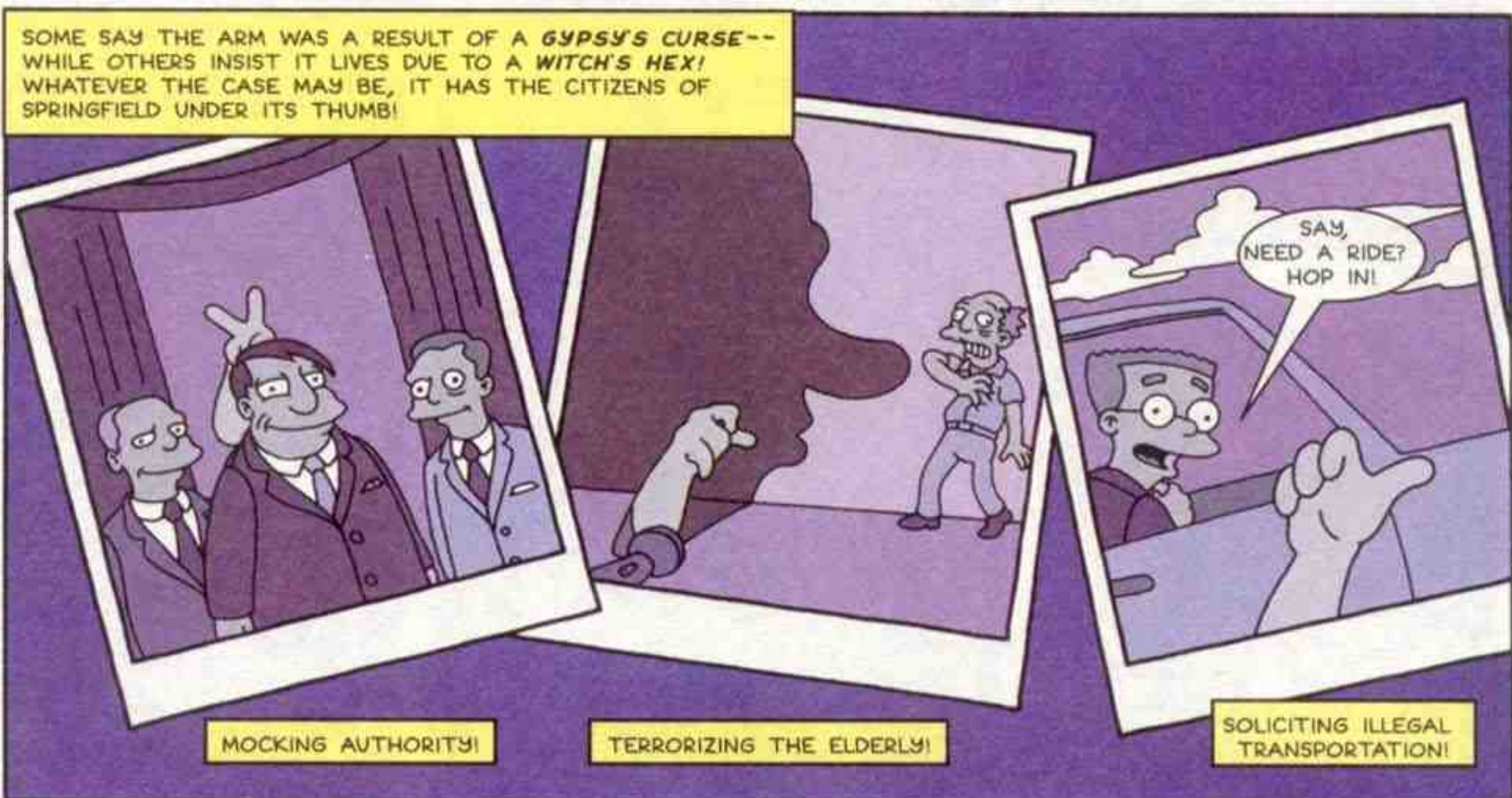
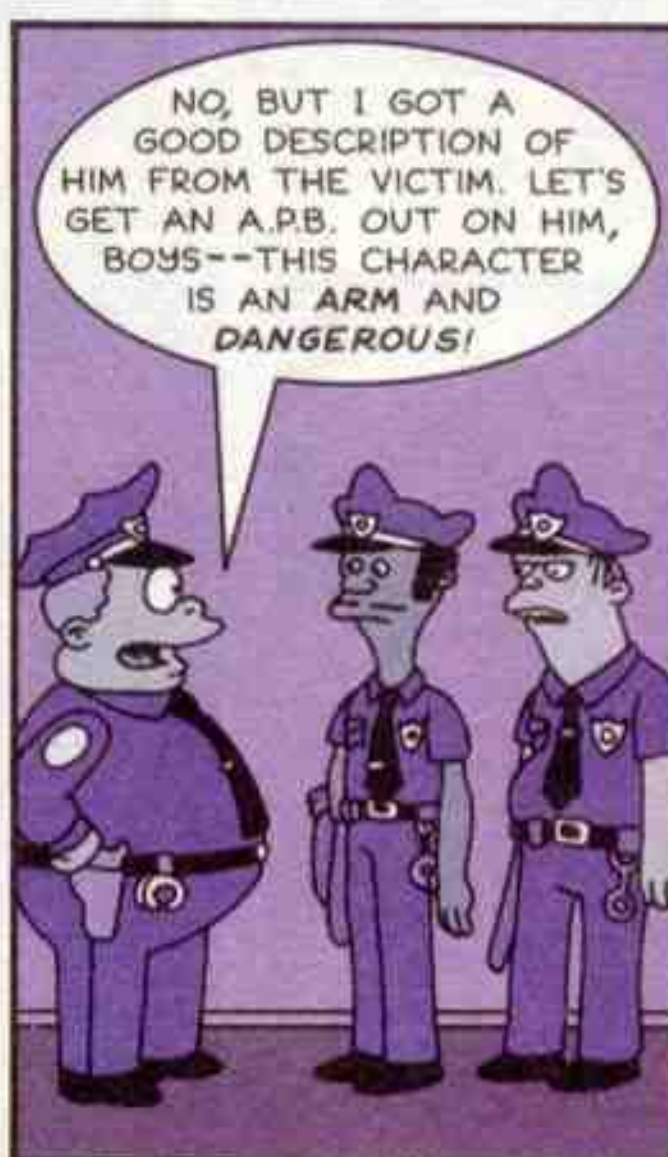
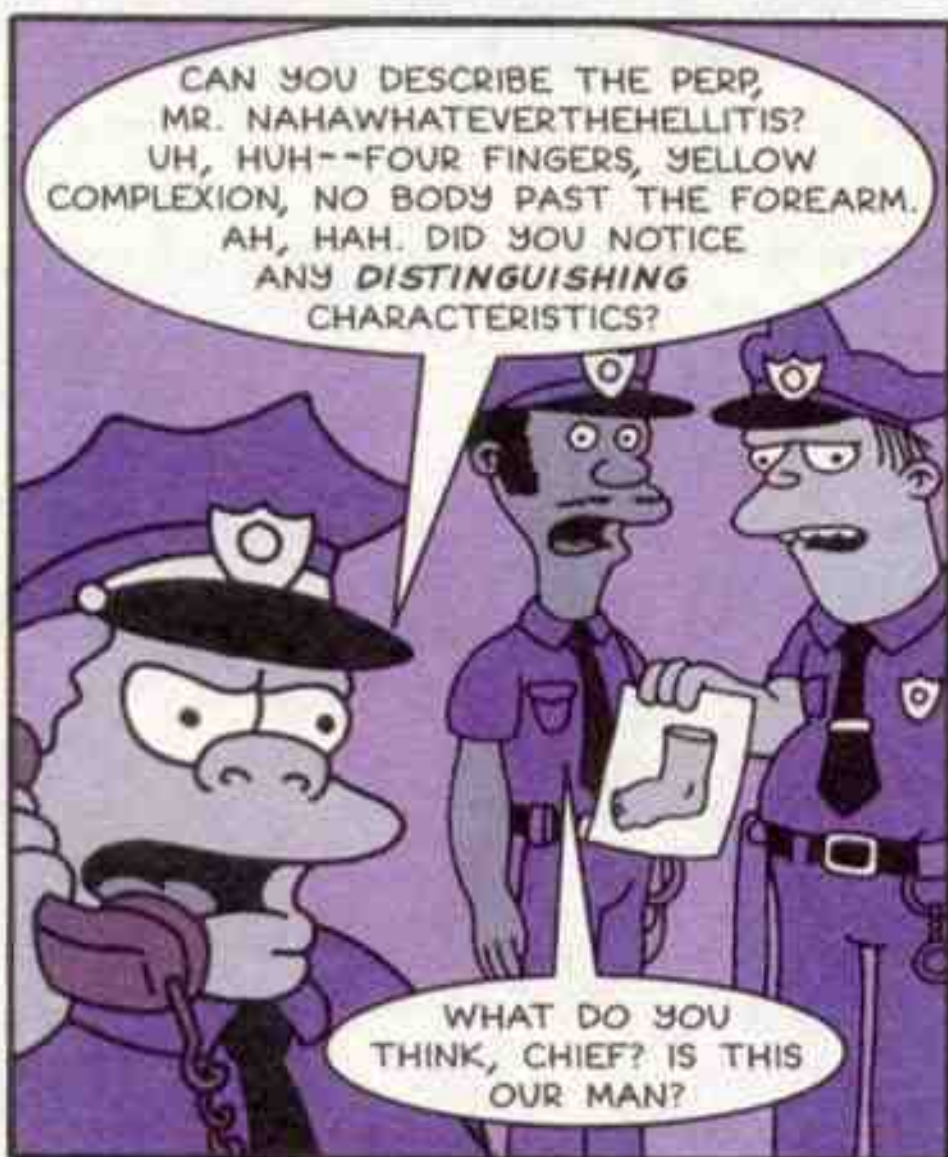
MAYBE YOU BORED HIM TO DEATH WITH YOUR VACATION SLIDES!

WELL, HE DIDN'T LOOK TOO GOOD AFTER YOU SERVED HIM YOUR TUNA NOODLE CASSEROLE!

ACTUALLY, YOU ALWAYS THOUGHT IT WAS THE SECOND-HAND CIGARETTE SMOKE THAT DID YOU IN. YOU SHAMBLE AWAY--AS FAST AS YOUR DECOMPOSING LEGS CAN TAKE YOU--TO BE FAR FROM... THEM!

BEING A ZOMBIE IS BAD ENOUGH, BUT TO BE WITH THEM--NOW THERE'S A FATE WORSE THAN DEATH!





SPRINGFIELD WAS UP IN ARMS--WHAT IS THE SOUND OF ONE HAND **LOOTING** WHILE THE CITY SLEEPS?



I SAW THE ROBBERY!  
IT SLAPPED ME SILLY AND FLED--  
BUT NOT BEFORE I PULLED OFF IT'S DISGUISE!  
I'D KNOW IT **ANYWHERE!**

DO I  
GET A REWARD?



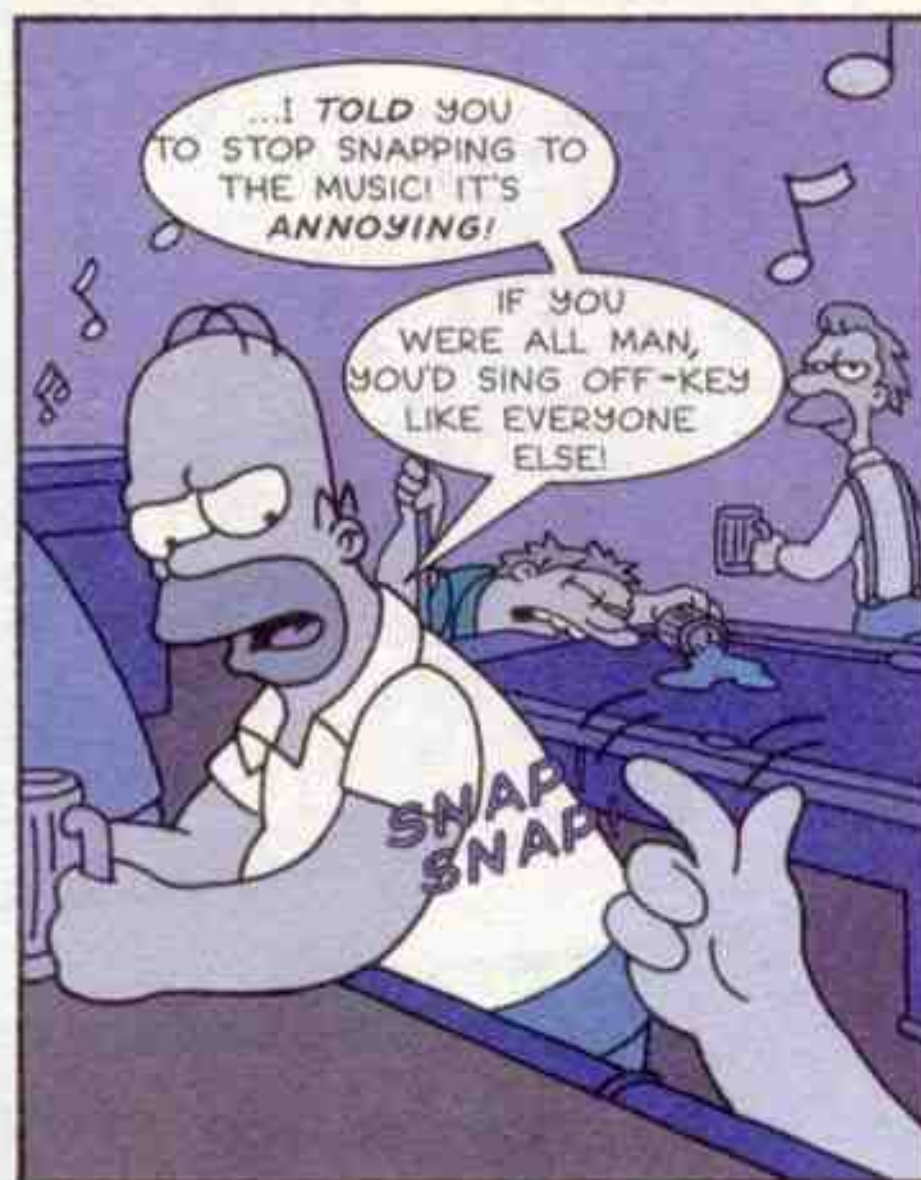
FINALLY, THERE WAS A BREAK IN THE CASE. A JILTED MANICURIST PHONED IN WITH A TIP, AND A SUSPECT WAS BROUGHT IN FOR QUESTIONING. BUT--



SO, DUE TO A TECHNICALITY, THE SUSPECT WAS RELEASED. NATURALLY, THE MEDIA HAD A FIELD DAY--

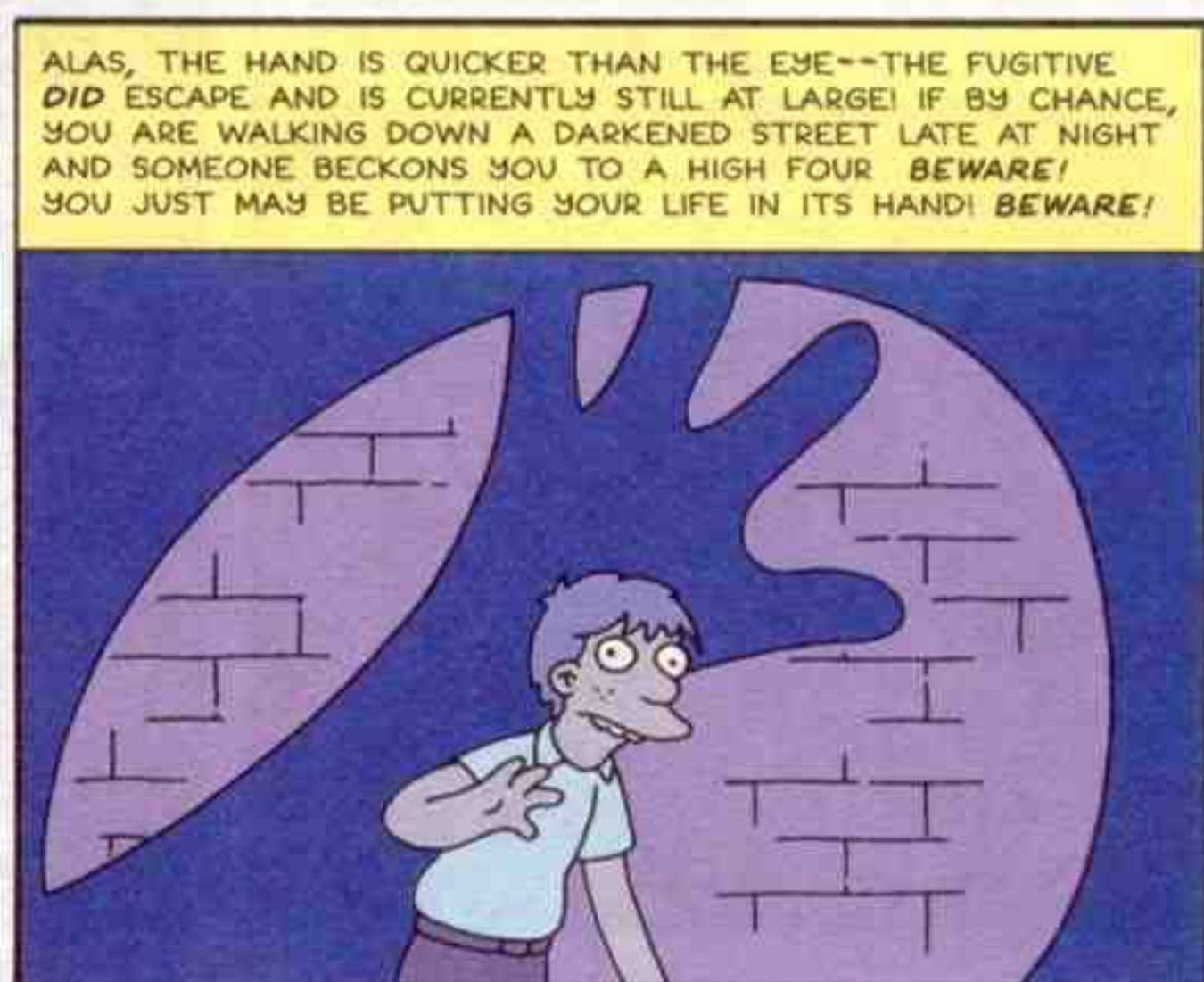
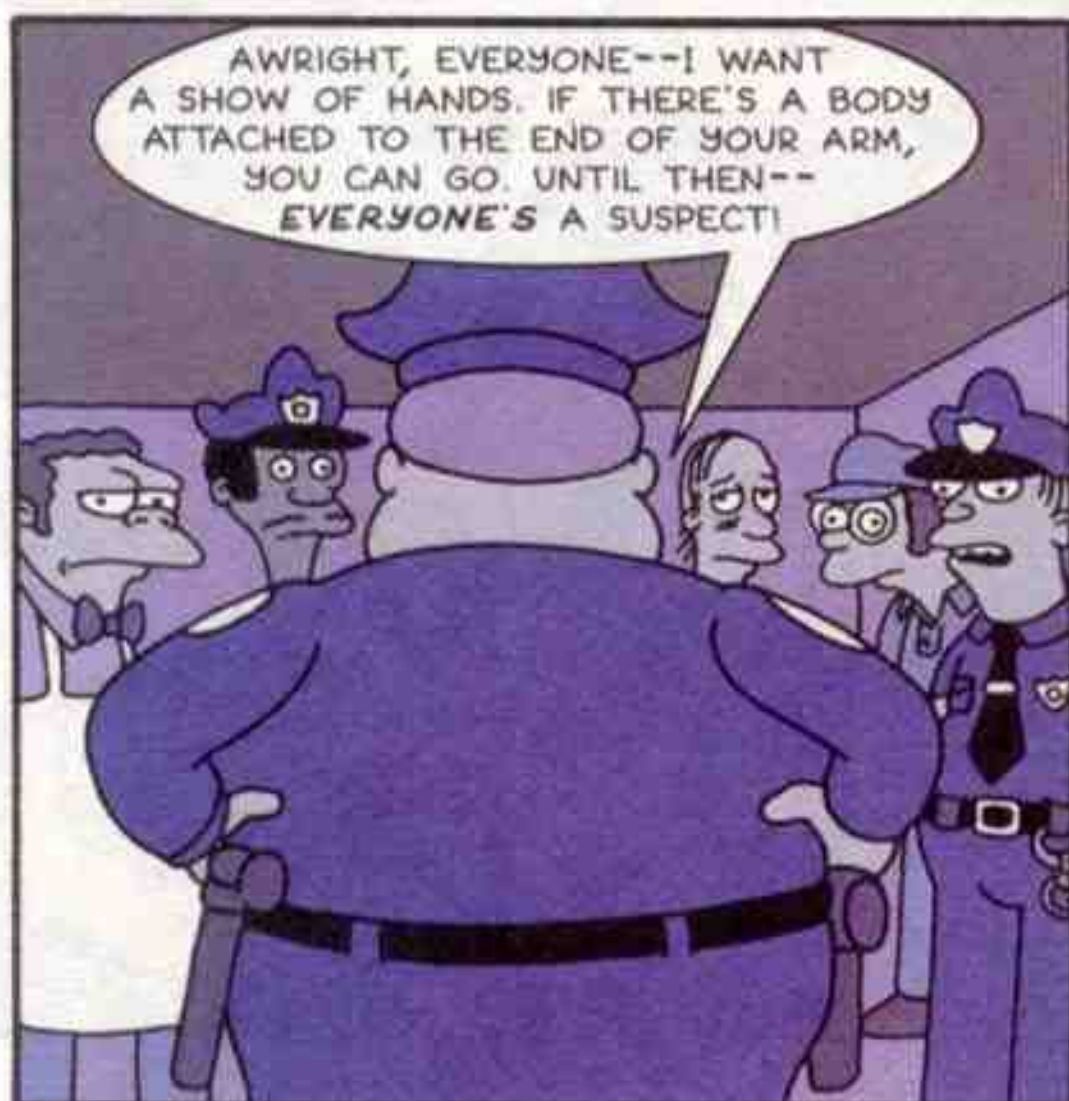


BUT EVEN THE MOST CALLUSED CRIMINAL WILL SLIP UP EVENTUALLY--UNEXPECTEDLY!-- WHEN LAYING LOW...



YOU'RE GIVING ME HALF THE PEACE SIGN?! WHY YOU--!





YOU FEEL LIKE SCREAMING,  
LISA SIMPSON, BUT YOU  
DON'T. NOT AT THE FAIR-  
WEATHER FRIENDS WHO  
MOCK YOU BEHIND  
YOUR BACK...

OR THE PHILISTINES  
YOU'RE SURROUNDED  
BY WHO CANNOT  
UNDERSTAND  
YOUR ART...

NOR DO YOU SCREAM AT  
THE EMBARRASSMENT  
YOU FIND IN YOUR  
OWN HOME...

YOU FEEL LIKE SCREAMING,  
LISA SIMPSON, BUT YOU  
DON'T--BECAUSE YOU'RE  
ABOVE IT ALL!



BUT SOMETIMES, LISA SIMPSON, EVEN THE MOST  
IRON-WILLED TEMPERAMENT CAN ONLY ENDURE  
SO MUCH--UNTIL IT FINALLY SNAPS!

...DUE TO  
CONGRESS PULLING  
FUNDS, NPR WILL NO LONGER  
BE HEARD! STAY TUNED FOR  
THE BIRCH BARLOW  
SHOW...



YAAAAAAAH!

LISA!  
WHAT WAS  
IT? WHAT DID  
YOU SEE?

MAYBE  
HER WORST  
NIGHTMARE...



TOO BAD I  
MISSED IT! I'D BE CURIOUS  
TO SEE WHAT HER WORST  
NIGHTMARE IS. IT'S PROBABLY  
SOMETHING STUPID, LIKE  
NPR GOING OFF  
THE AIR!

NOW, LESSEE--  
ARE THERE SOME TATTOOS  
UP HERE THAT MIGHT SPIN A  
YARN? HEY! DO YOU KNOW  
GROUNDSKEEPER  
WILLIE?

WHY, NO,  
I DON'T!



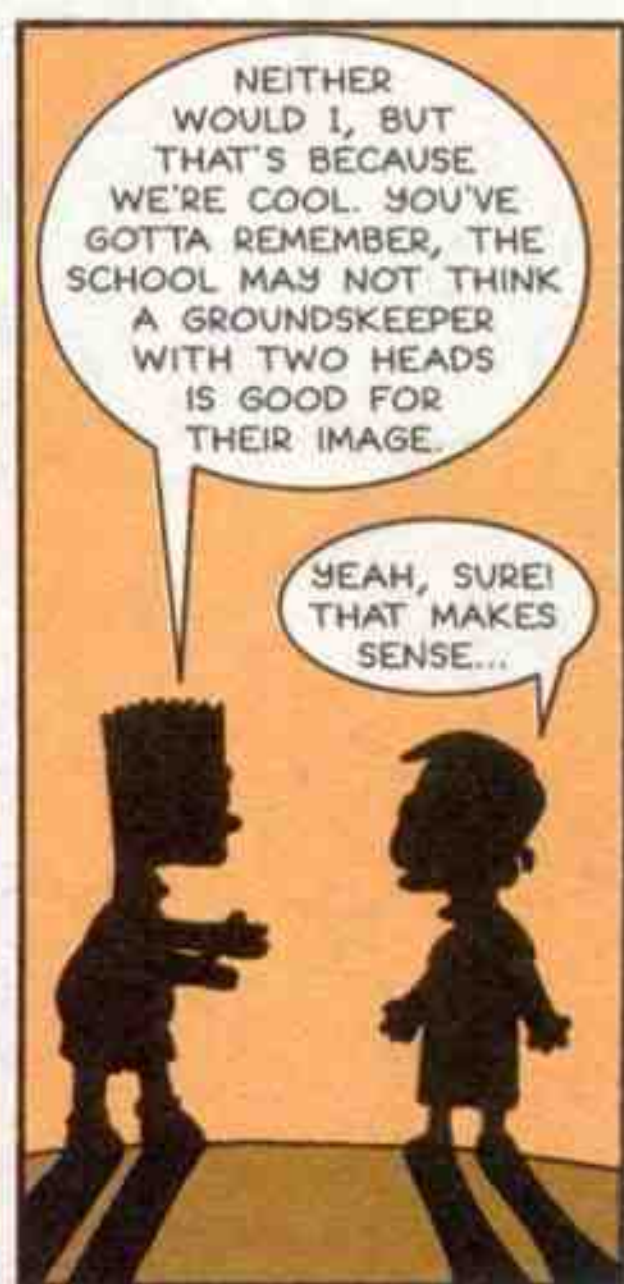
ARE YOU  
SURE? THIS TATTOO SURE  
LOOKS LIKE HIM. HMMM...  
AND WHAT'S HE  
CARRYING?



BASKET BAWL



BART!  
HERE COMES  
GROUNDSKEEPER WILLIE  
AGAIN!



STILL MORE DAYS LATER...

HEY, WILLIE, ARE YOU GONNA TELL US WHAT YOU'VE GOT IN THE BASKET?

OUTTA ME WAY!

GEE, WE'RE JUST--

ACH! WHY AM I DOIN' THIS WHEN I COULD BE A-HOME SITTIN' DOWN TO A NICE BOWLA HAGGIS...

WHAT'S WITH WILLIE? HE'S BEEN **SURLY**, BUT HE'S NEVER TRIED TO **HIT** US BEFORE!

LOOK! WILLIE'S CARRYING THE BASKET ON HIS **OTHER** SHOULDER!

SO?

DON'T YOU SEE? THAT WAS THE **EVIL WILLIE** WE SPOKE TO--**GOOD WILLIE'S HEAD** IS NOW IN THE BASKET! THE **EVIL HEAD** TOOK OVER!

WE HAVE TO SAVE **GOOD WILLIE**-- BY CHOPPING OFF THE **EVIL HEAD** AND BURYING IT! IT'S THE LEAST WE CAN DO FOR **GROUNDKEEPER WILLIE**!

GEE, BART, YOU ALWAYS KNOW THE RIGHT THING TO DO IN A CRISIS!

SAVE THE PRAISE FOR LATER! HERE'S MY PLAN. WE SNEAK INTO THE SCHOOL, SEE? AND THEN WE'LL...

A LITTLE LATER...

ACH--THE SCHOOL'S BEIN' NEGLECTED SINCE I HAVE TO SPEND ALL MY TIME CODDLIN' THE CURSED THING!

AW, DINNA TELL ME THERE WAS AN EMERGENCY WHILE I WAS GONE!

I JUS' CAN'T SPLIT MY TIME ANYMORE 'TWEEN SCHOOL MAINTENANCE AND CARING FOR THE CURSED THING!

YAAARGH!

WILLIE, IS THAT YOU? THERE ARE CHORES TO DO AND LOLLYGAGGING WON'T--

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YE? HAS THE SUMMER HEAT MADE YE DAFT?

GOOD HEAVENS!

GIVE ME THAT, YE MISERABLE MOPPET!

BART! LOOK!!

THERE WAS ONLY FOOD IN THE BASKET!

UH-OH!

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?

SO YE THOT YE'D LOP OFF WILLIE'S HEAD, EH?

BART ONLY WANTED TO CUT OFF THE EVIL HEAD THAT WAS IN THE BASKET!

AH, I GUESS I CALLED THAT ONE WRONG.

OBVIOUSLY YOU BOYS HAVE LET YOUR IMAGINATION RUN AWAY WITH YOU--THE RESULT, NO DOUBT, OF TOO MANY VIDEO GAMES PLAYED DURING YOUR SUMMER VACATION!

OH, FOR THE DAYS WHEN COMIC BOOKS WOULD ROT A YOUNGSTER'S MIND --AT LEAST THEY WERE READING!

DON'T STAND THERE FLAPPING YOUR LIPS, PUNISH THESE HOOLIGANS!

