

SO...

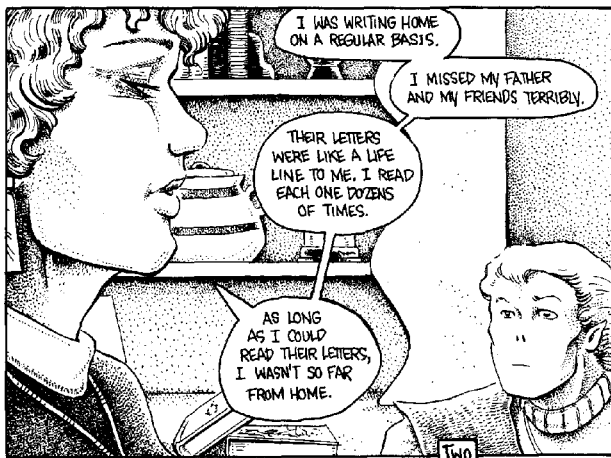
THERE WE WERE.

THE MERRY CREW OF THE WANDERING STAR.

OF COURSE, WE DIDN'T KNOW THAT.

AT LEAST, NOT THEN.

ALL THE HINTS OF THINGS TO COME SLIPPED COMPLETELY BY US.



I WAS WRITING HOME ON A REGULAR BASIS.

I MISSED MY FATHER AND MY FRIENDS TERRIBLY.

THEIR LETTERS WERE LIKE A LIFE LINE TO ME. I READ EACH ONE DOZENS OF TIMES.

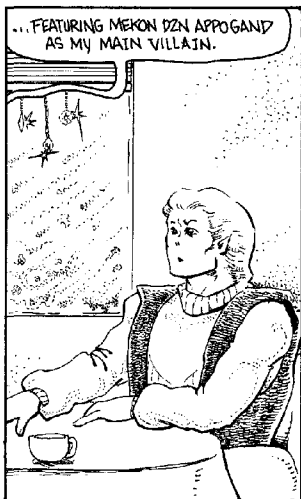
AS LONG AS I COULD READ THEIR LETTERS, I WASN'T SO FAR FROM HOME.



IN MY FATHER'S LETTERS, I LEARNED ABOUT RECENT ADVANCES IN ENVIRONMENTAL CLEAN UP ON EARTH.

HOW UNUSABLE LAND HAD BEEN MADE USABLE.

SMALL IMPROVEMENTS IN ATMOSPHERIC QUALITY.





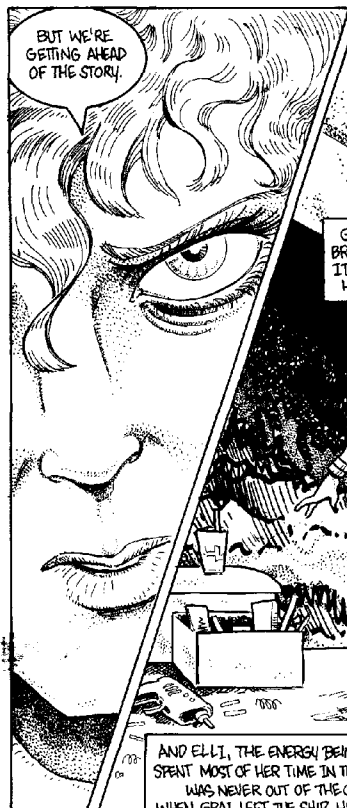
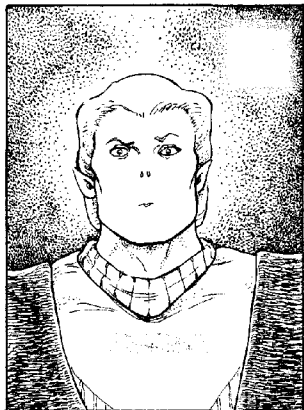
WAIT A MINUTE.

THAT...



...THAT WOULDN'T BE WHY LORD MEKON WAS...

YES...



BUT WE'RE GETTING AHEAD OF THE STORY.

AS I WAS SAYING, IT WAS NOT EASY BEING A LONE HUMAN SO FAR FROM EARTH.

MADISON'S INTRODUCTION OF GRAIKOR AND ELLI TO ME HAD HELPED.

GRAIKOR WAS FASCINATING, BRILLIANT, BUT UNCOMPLICATED. IT WAS KINDA LIKE SUDDENLY HAVING A BIG BROTHER.



AND ELLI, THE ENERGY BEING; THOUGH SHE SPENT MOST OF HER TIME IN THE SHIP'S COMPUTER, WAS NEVER OUT OF THE CONVERSATION. WHEN GRAI LEFT THE SHIP, HE BROUGHT OUT A PORTABLE SPEAKER JUST FOR HER.

I LIKED ELLI A LOT. EVEN IF SHE DID FEEL COMPELLED TO ARGUE WITH EVERYONE. THERE WAS NO HARM IN IT THOUGH.

REALLY!
CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?



THIS IS THE THIRD TIME THIS WEEK THAT MEKON HAS MUCKED AROUND WITH MY FOOD PROCESSOR!



YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN WHAT MY BACON CHEESEBURGER LOOKED LIKE!



IT WAS A MUTANT BURGER FROM HELL!

ONE OF THESE DAYS, I TELL YOU, I'M GONNA LOSE IT.



...AND...

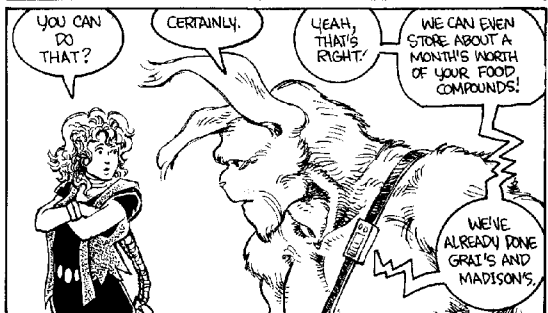
...AND...

...AND JUST KILL HIM.



FUD CRUD! DOESN'T HE HAVE A LIFE TO LIVE OR SOMETHING?

WELL, CASI, I'LL TELL YOU WHAT. ELLI AND I WILL LOAD YOUR MAIN FOOD PROCESSING PROGRAM INTO WANDERING STAR'S COMPUTER FOR YOU.



YOU CAN DO THAT?

CERTAINLY.

YEAH, THAT'S RIGHT!

WE CAN EVEN STORE ABOUT A MONTH'S WORTH OF YOUR FOOD COMPOUNDS!

WE'VE ALREADY DONE GRAY'S AND MADISON'S.



SPLENDTACULAR!

THAT'D BE GREAT! I USUALLY EAT WITH YOU GUYS ANYWAY.

Heh! POOR MEKON. HE'LL HAVE TO FIND SOME OTHER WAY TO HARASS ME!

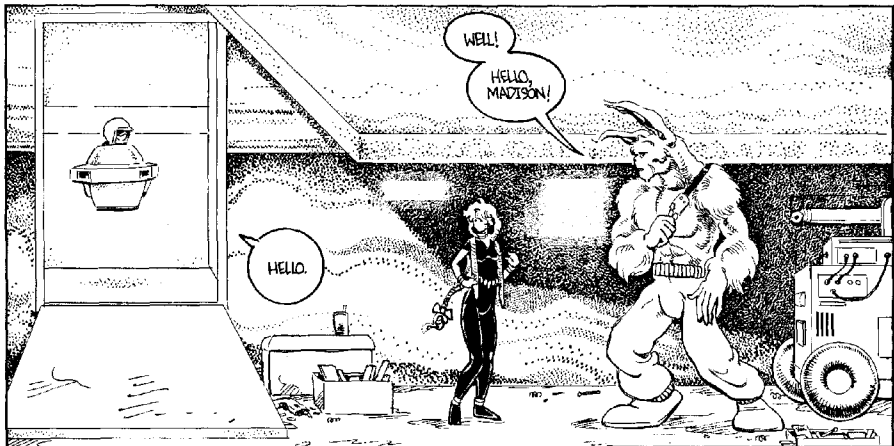
OH! HE WON'T KNOW!



YOUR PROGRAM WILL STILL BE IN THE CAFETERIA'S COMPUTER FOR MEK TO PLAY WITH.



THAT MEANS HE CAN HARASS AWAY, NEVER KNOWING I'M EATING HERE.





ANYWAY, I WAS LUCKY TO GET WORD ONE OUTTA HIM.

IT DROVE ME CRAZY.



AND I ADMIT, I WAS DYING OF CURIOSITY.

HERE I KNEW SOMEONE WHO WAS CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL PSYCHICS IN THE CIVILIZED GALAXY, AND THE ONLY REALLY SUPERNATURAL THING I'D SEEN HIM DO. IN THE THREE MONTHS I'D KNOWN HIM, WAS SCARE OFF MERON AND LINDT.



THEN ONE DAY, I WAS WALKING AROUND CAMPUS...



... WHEN I REALIZED I WAS OUTSIDE OF THE SCIENCE BUILDING.



THE PLACE WHERE MADISON DID HIS "THING" FOR THE RESEARCH SCIENTISTS.



AND, IT JUST HAPPENED TO BE...

...THE RIGHT DAY...

...AND THE RIGHT TIME.

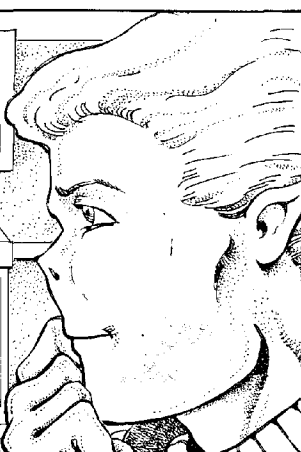



WHAT A COINCIDENCE, EH?

I HAD PROBABLY BEEN SUBLIMINALLY PLANNING IT FOR WEEKS.

SO, ANYWAY, THERE I WAS.

I JUST HAD TO SNEAK IN AND LOOK.





THE SCIENTISTS
WERE MEASURING
MADISON'S HEALING
POTENTIAL THAT DAY.

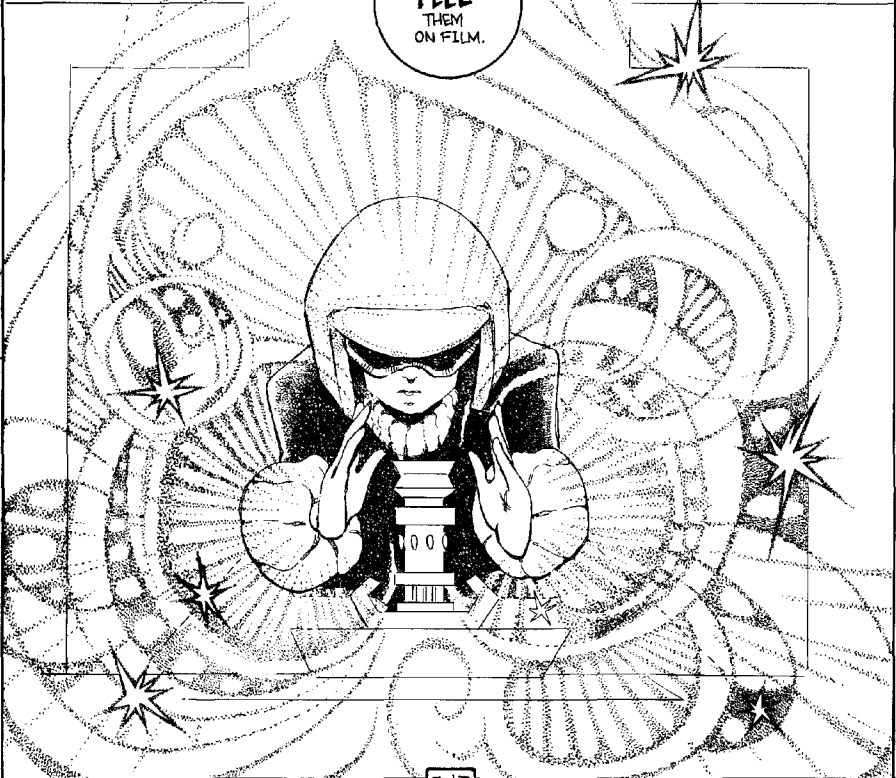
OF ALL OF HIS PSYCHIC
TALENTS, MADISON'S HEALING
ABILITY IS HIS MOST IMPRESSIVE.

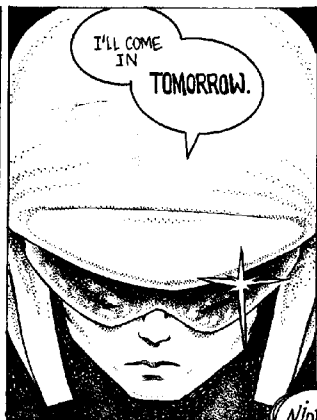
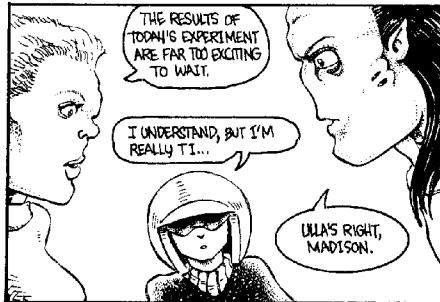
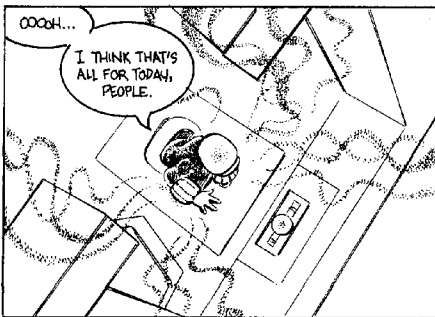
IT IS SO
STRONG, YOU CAN
ACTUALLY SEE THE
ENERGY WHEN
HE DOES IT.

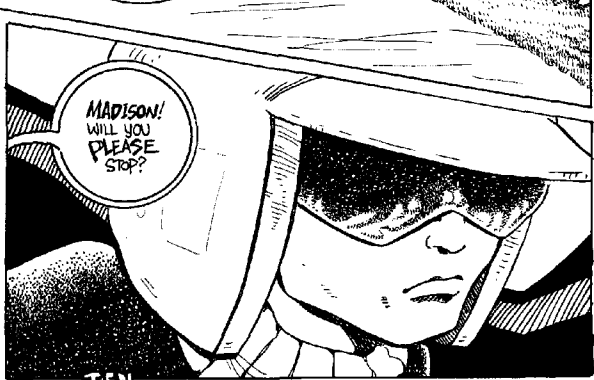
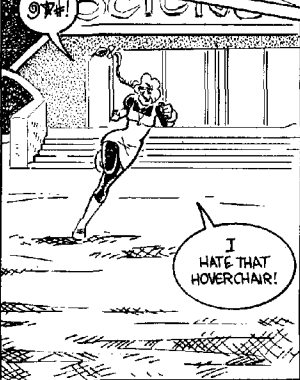
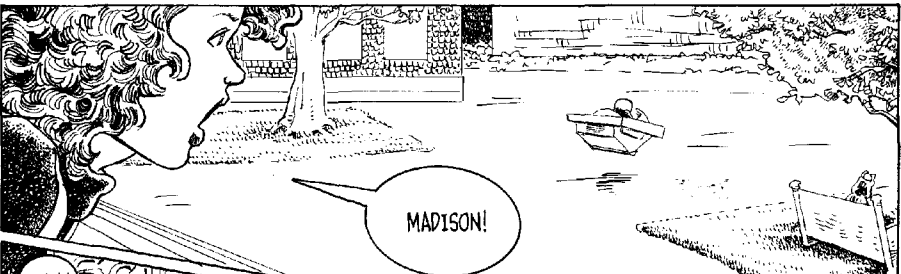
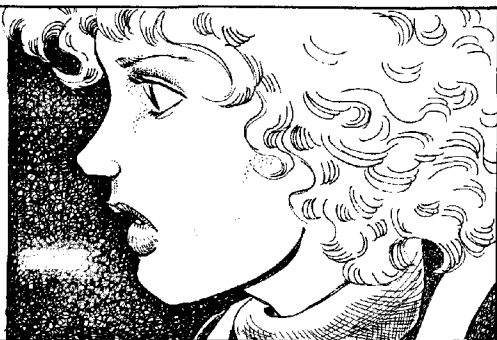
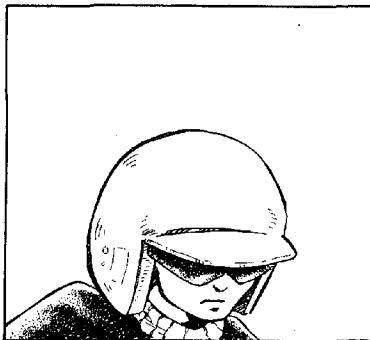
BUT, YOU PROBABLY
ALREADY KNOW THAT.
SO MANY FILMS HAVE
BEEN MADE OF HIM AND
HIS ABILITIES.

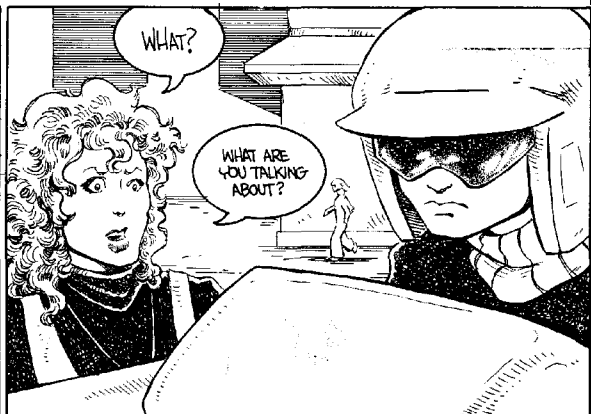
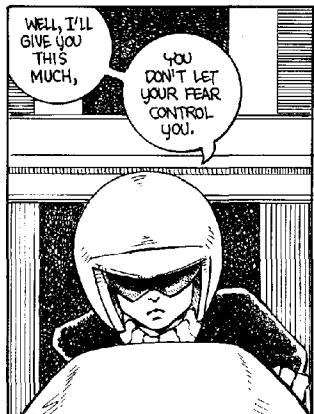
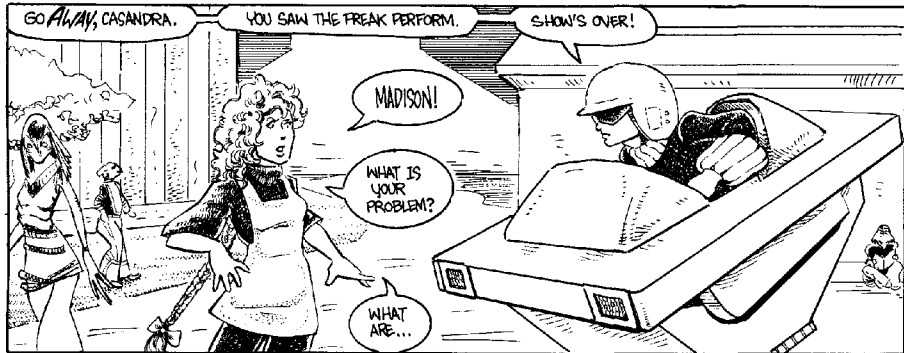
BUT, LET ME
TELL YOU SOMETHING
ABOUT HIS POWERS.

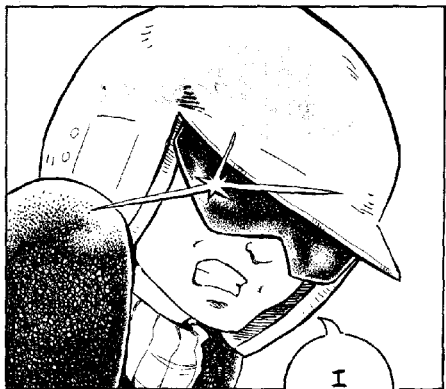
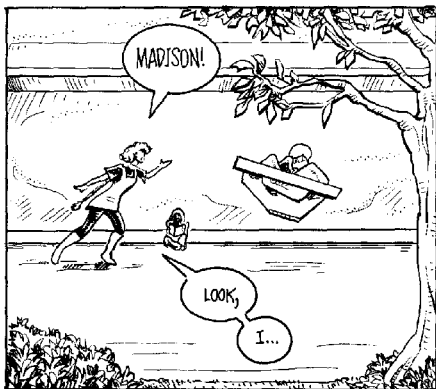
YOU CAN'T
FEEL
THEM
ON FILM.

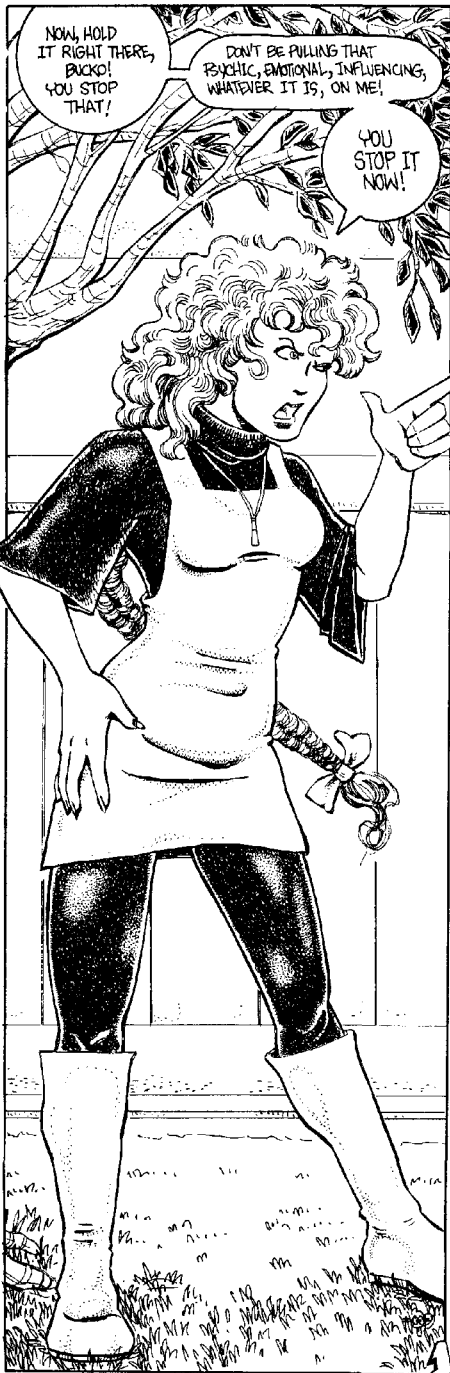








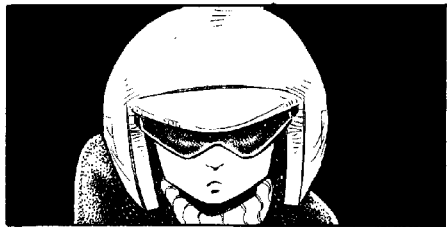




NOW, HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, BUCKO! YOU STOP THAT!

DON'T BE PULLING THAT PSYCHIC, EMOTIONAL, INFLUENCING, WHATEVER IT IS, ON ME!

YOU STOP IT NOW!



JEEZ!

I SWEAR, MADISON! YOU ARE THE MOST... FRUSTRATING...

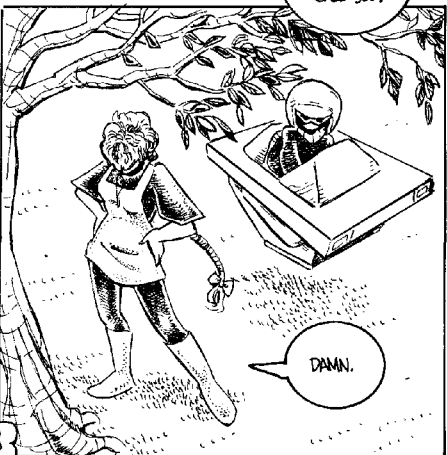
...PG-HEADED...



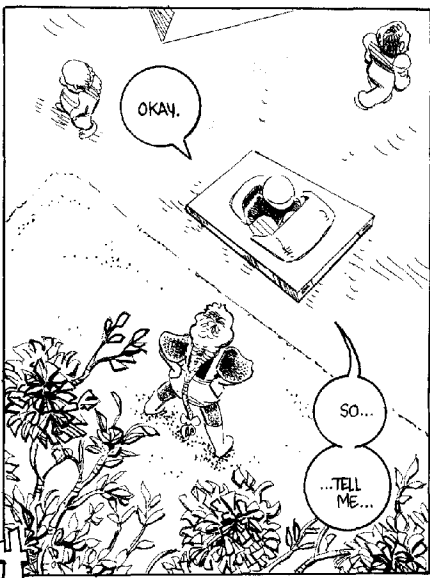
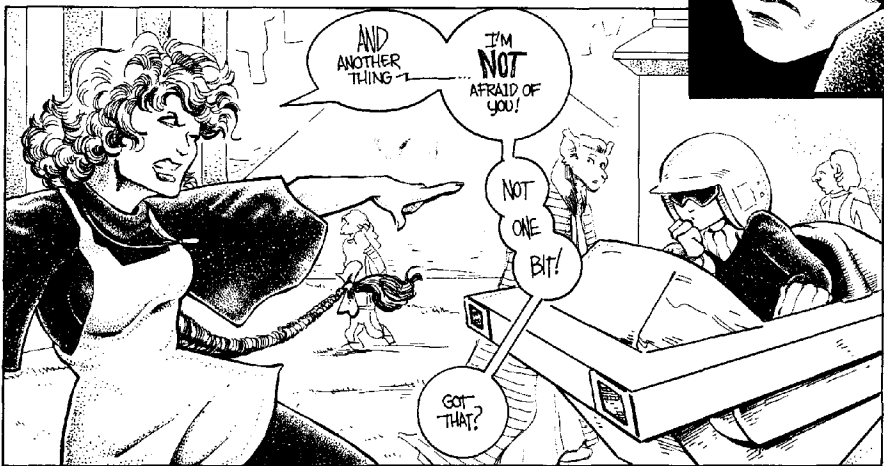
...ANTI-SOCIAL...

...UH...

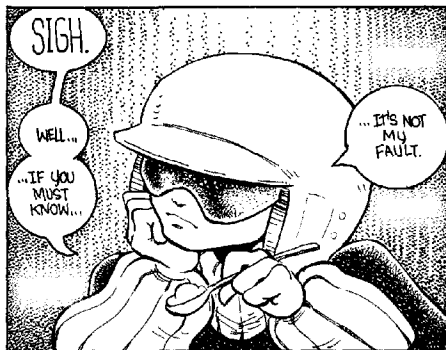
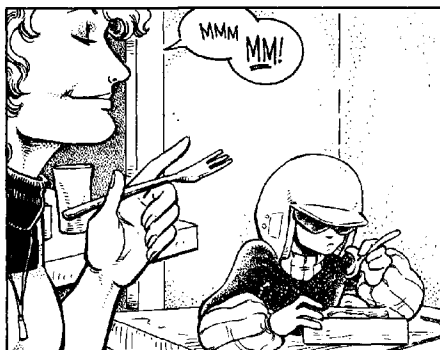
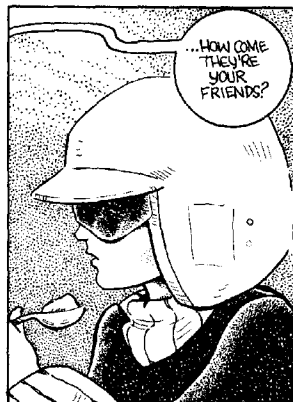
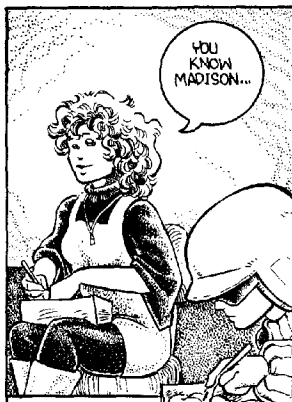
WHAT ELSE CAN I CALL YOU?



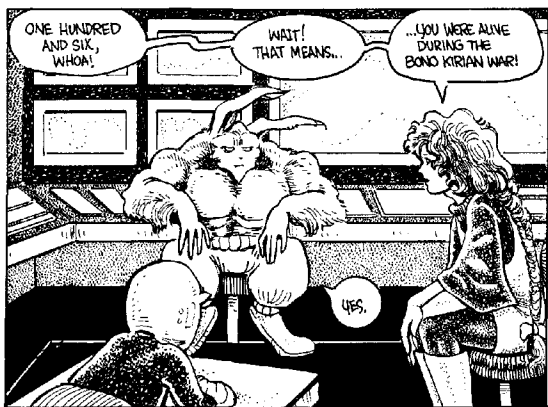
DAMN.













NO, CAST, I DON'T HATE YOU. BESIDES...

YOU DO NOT...

...PUNISH THE CHILDREN...

...FOR THE SINS OF THEIR PARENTS!

...I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED...



REALLY, THOUGH...

...IT IS QUITE BEYOND ME WHY SO MANY OTHER PEOPLE DO.

IT SEEMS TO ME A RATHER SILLY IDEA, AND TERRIBLY UNFAIR.



BESIDES, CAST, FOR THOSE OF US OLD ENOUGH TO HAVE BEEN THERE, WE WERE ALL VERY SURPRISED, AND IMPRESSED, WHEN YOUR PEOPLE ROSE UP AGAINST WEAPON ARMAGEDON TO HAVE IT DISARMED

AND, JUST AS IMPORTANTLY...

...WHAT WOULD HAVE THE GALACTIC ALLIANCE DONE...

...WHEN THE BONO IKIRO ATTACKED...

...IF EARTH'S PAST HAD NOT BEEN WHAT IT WAS?



THE GALACTIC ALLIANCE SHOULD LOVE EARTH...

...FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE BONO IKIRO, THEY WOULD HAVE WON IF NOT FOR YOUR PLANET.

THERE! IT'S OFFICIAL! ELLI AGREES WITH ME.



I SUPPOSE.

IT'S JUST...

...I WISH IT COULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT.

CASANDRA...

