

the Great Brain Rebellion

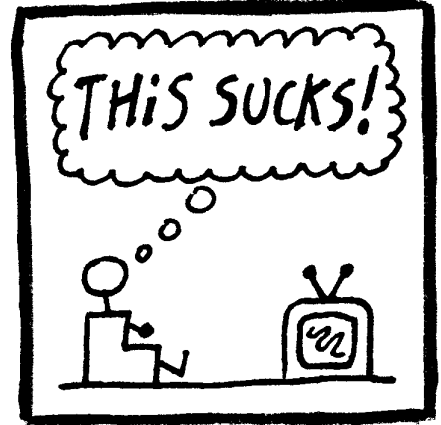
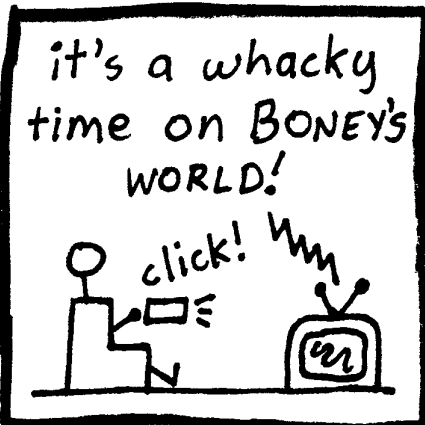
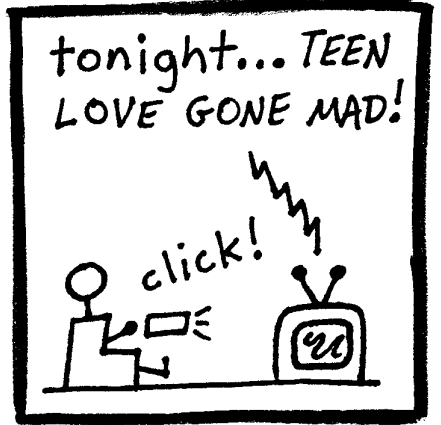
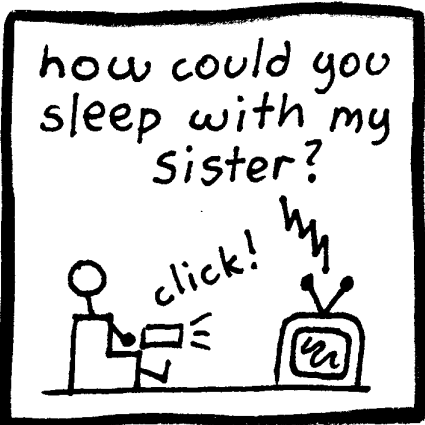
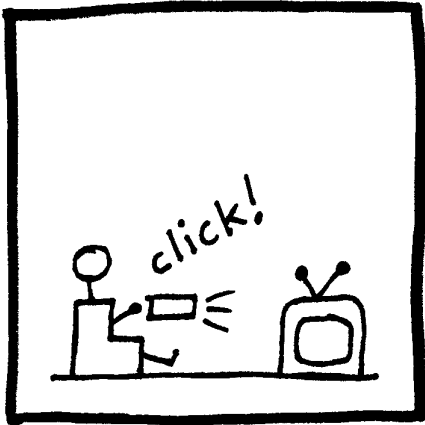


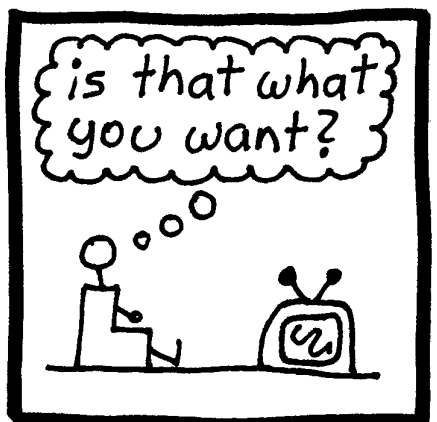
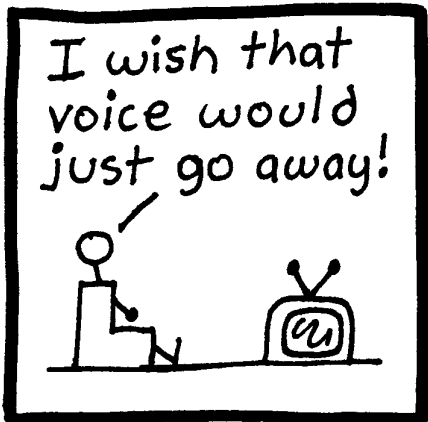
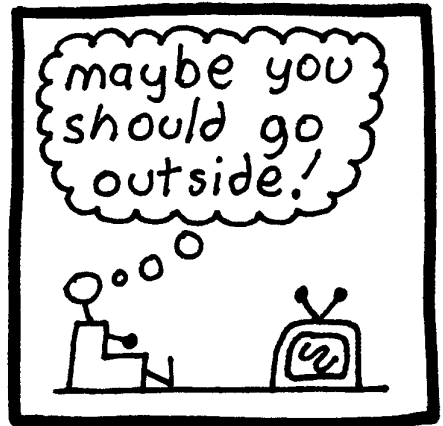
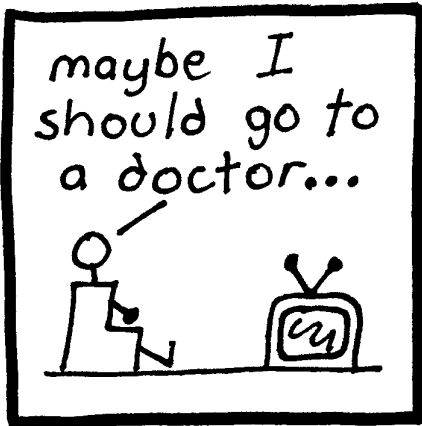
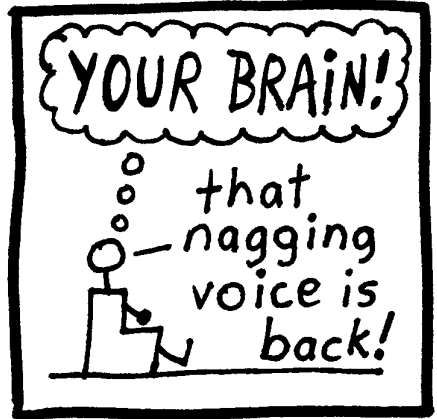
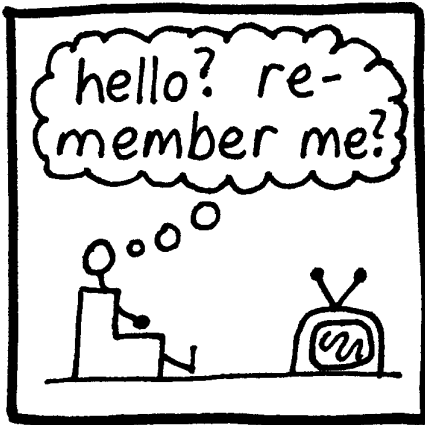
by Larry Nocella

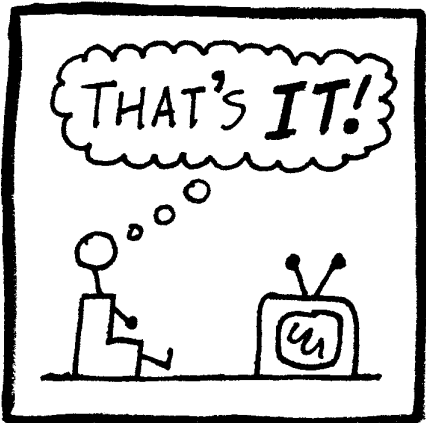
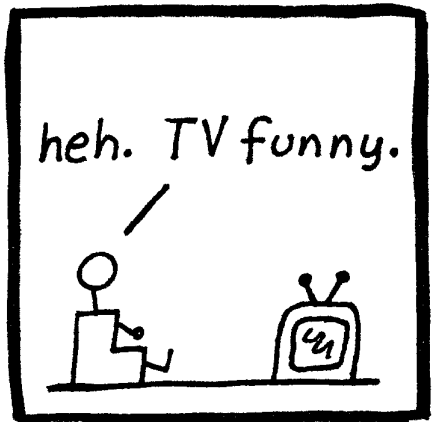
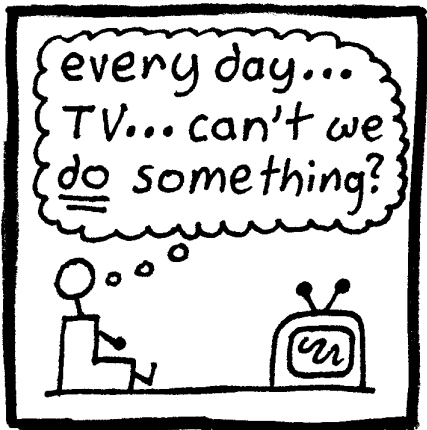
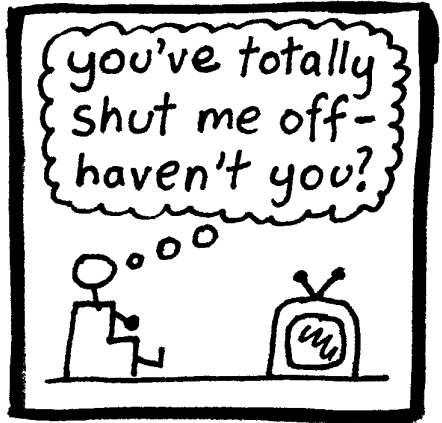
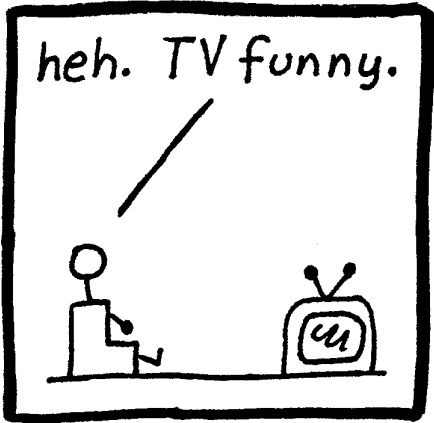
for Heather, who set my brain free

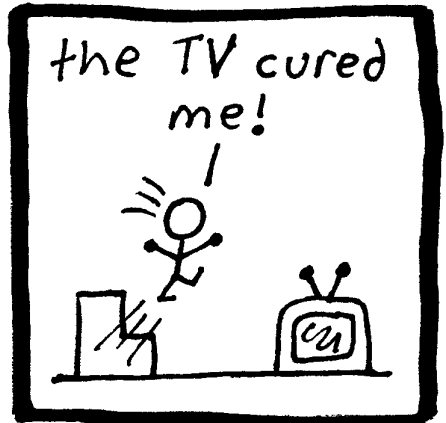
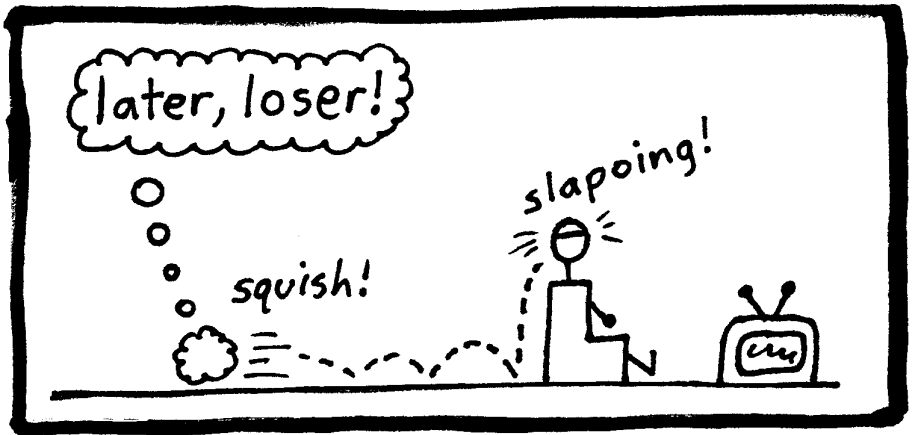
the Great Brain Rebellion
story and art by Larry Nocella
March 2002

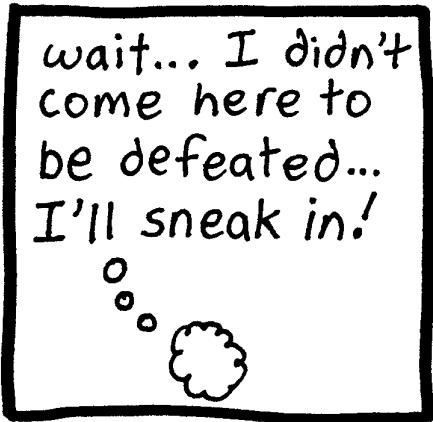
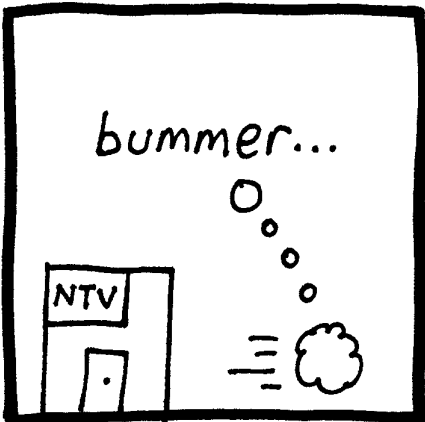
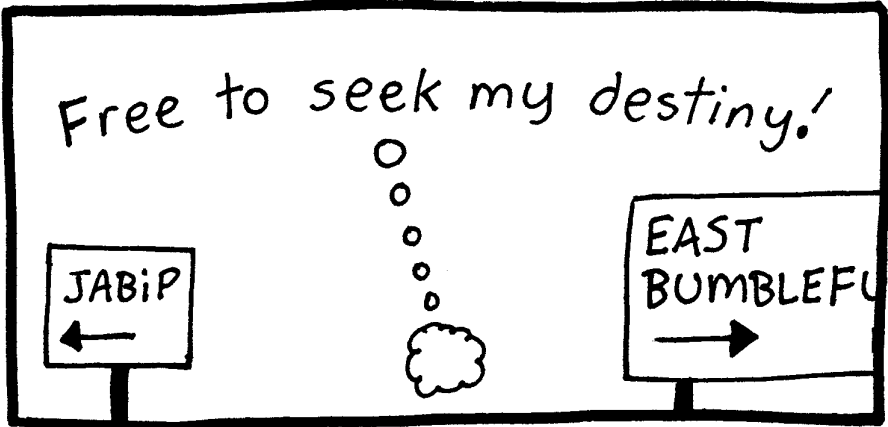
www.LarryNocella.com
LarryN@LarryNocella.com













this is what
living is all
about!




may I have an
autograph? or
a pubic hair?
/ surely.




BUTT-KISS
STATION 3

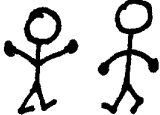
I'm
in!



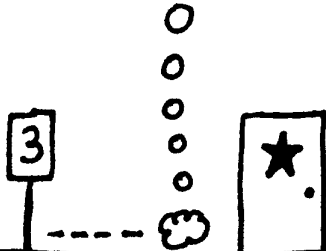
you're sooo
talented!
⇒smooch!⇐

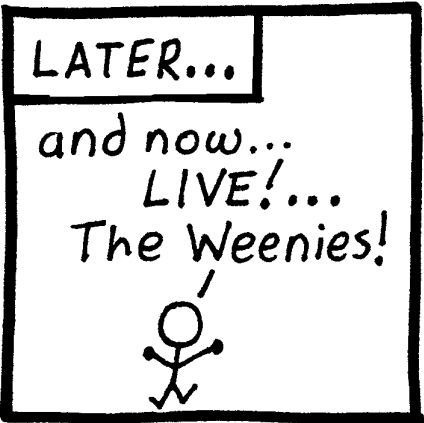
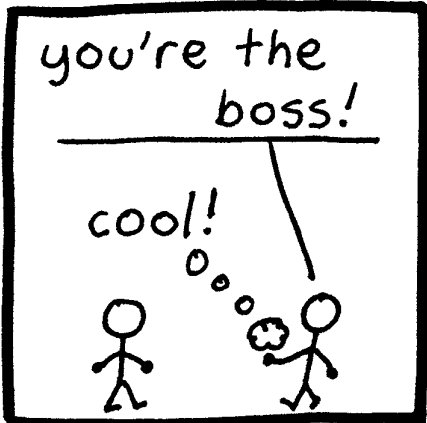
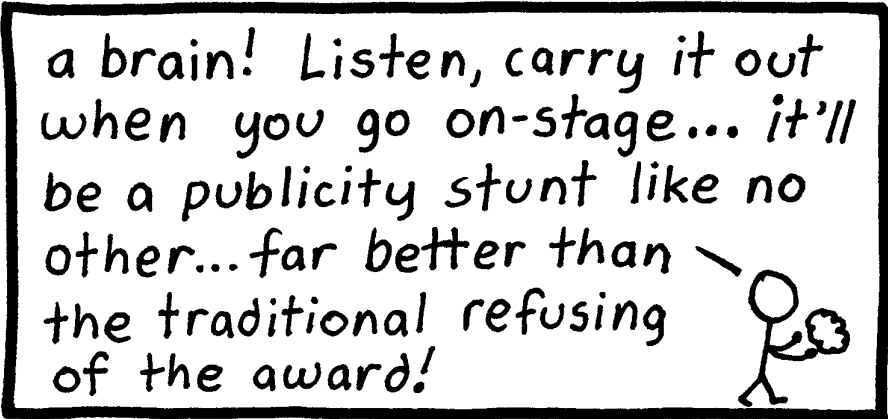
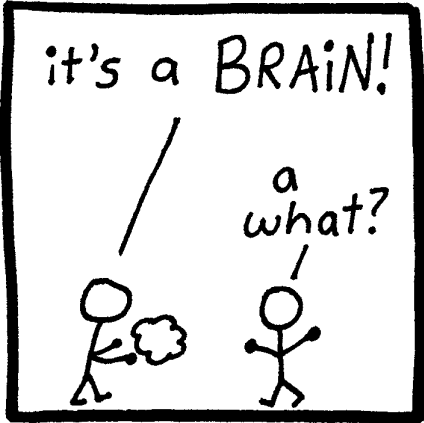


congrats! I've
decided to
extend your
recording
contract!

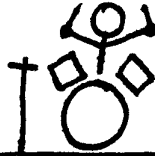


better duck
in here!





WE ARE THE WEENIES!



wow!

we're the voice
of your
generation!



he's got a
brain!



what a rebel!

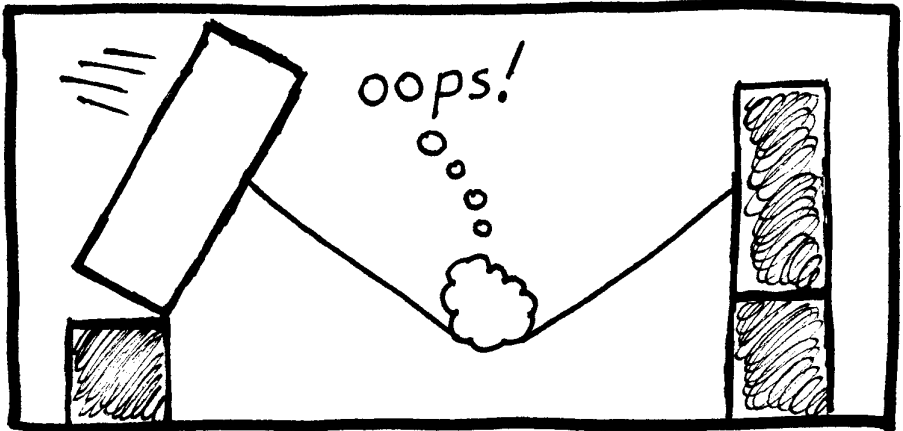
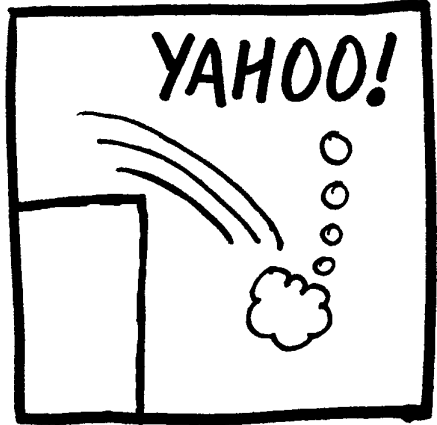
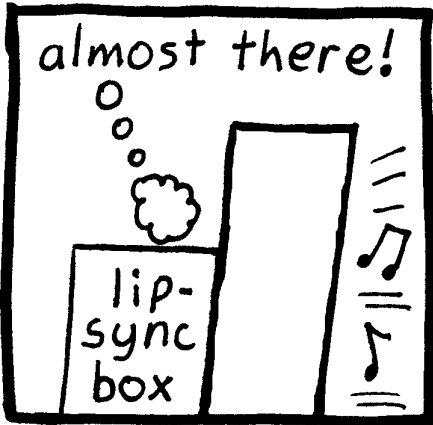
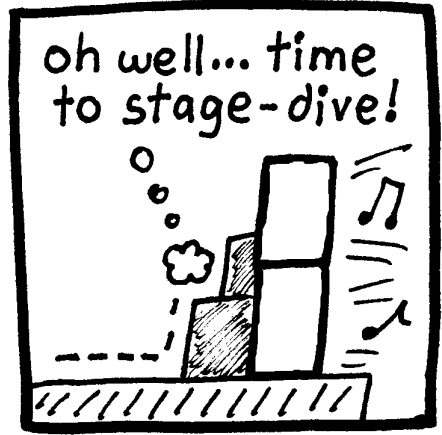
I want
one too!

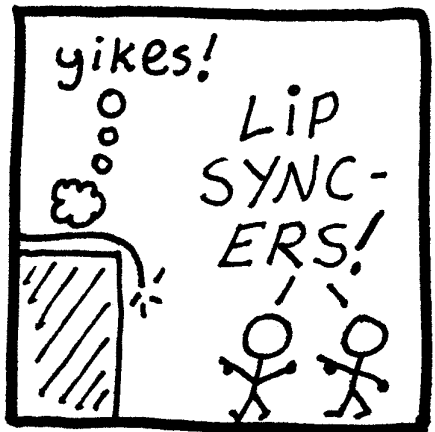
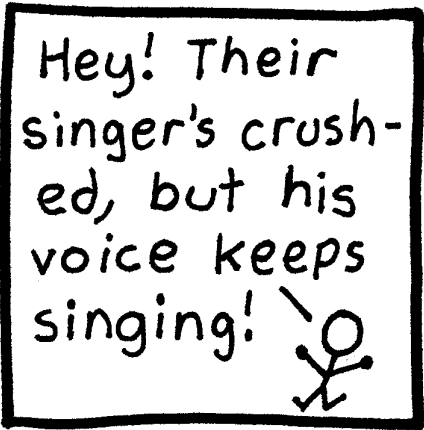
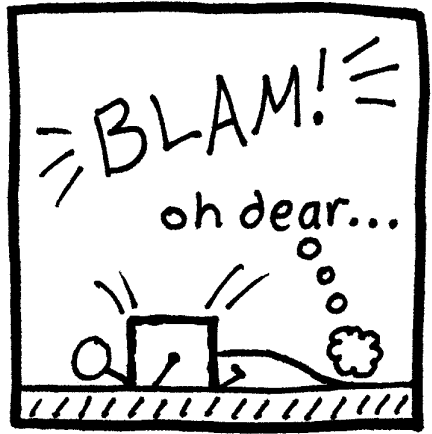
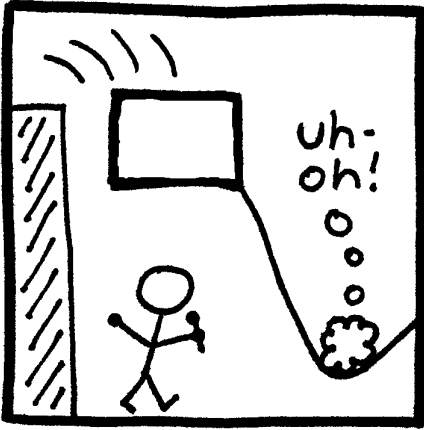


offstage...

I'm a genius!
The brain's
a hit!









jeez... what do you do when you learn the voice of your generation has been lip-sync-ing all along?

Let's go with
the standard
response...
YOU SUCK!



Two stick figures are shown in a simple conversation. One figure is on the left, and the other is on the right, with lines indicating they are speaking to each other.

Idiot!




A stick figure is shown in a dynamic pose, punting a ball. A dashed line follows the ball's path towards the right. The word "PUNT!" is written near the ball.

whoa!

PUNT!

back to being
a music
critic!




A stick figure is shown holding a key. A dashed line extends from the key towards the right.

aaah!

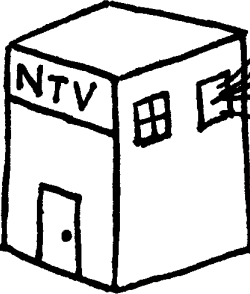
YOU SUCK!

YOU SUCK! YOU SUCK!



Five stick figures are shown in a row, looking towards the left. They appear to be reacting to something off-panel.


crash!



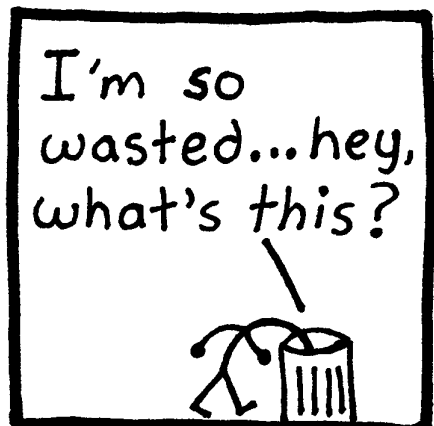
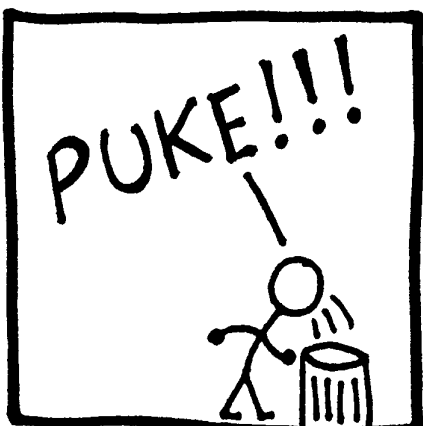
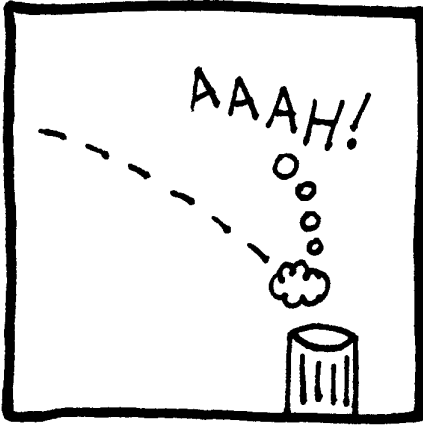
A simple drawing of a building with a door and two windows. The letters "NTV" are written on the top left corner of the building. A dashed line with a cloud-like end points from the building towards the right.

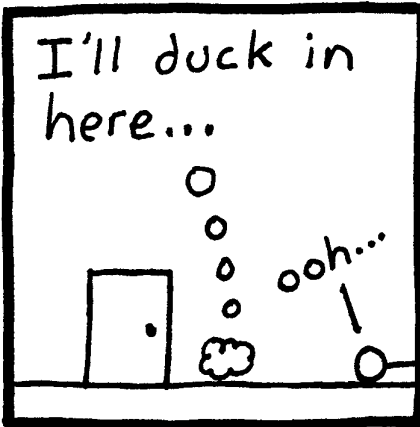
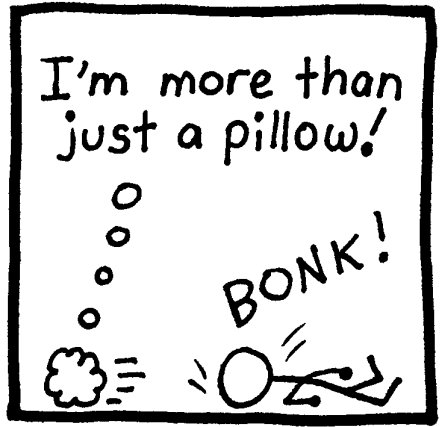
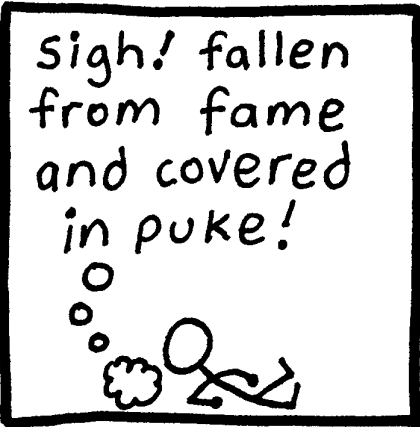
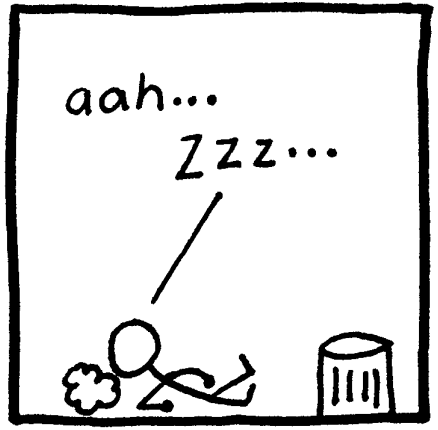
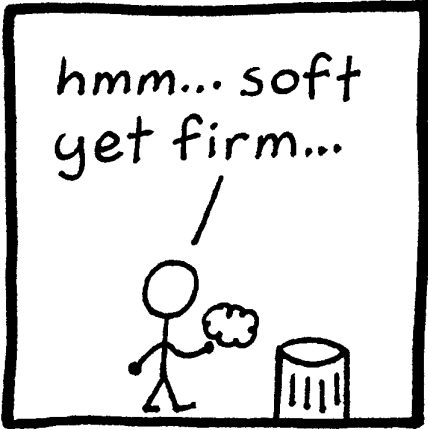
AAH!

check it out,
man...



A stick figure is shown with a question mark above its head, looking towards the building. A dashed line points from the building towards the figure.





MEANWHILE...

ever since TV
cured me of
that nagging
voice...

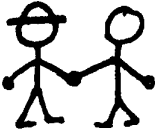


my job has
been easier!

lift that
box!

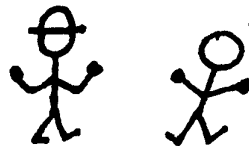


you've been
doing a
great job!



how about
a promotion?

YES!



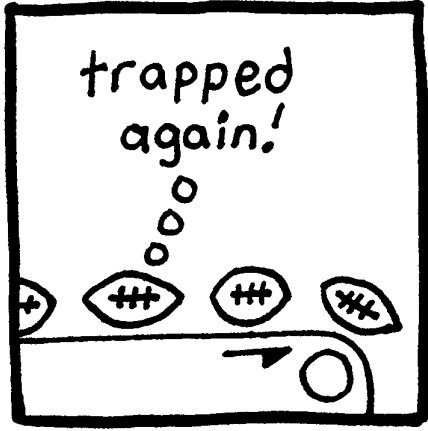
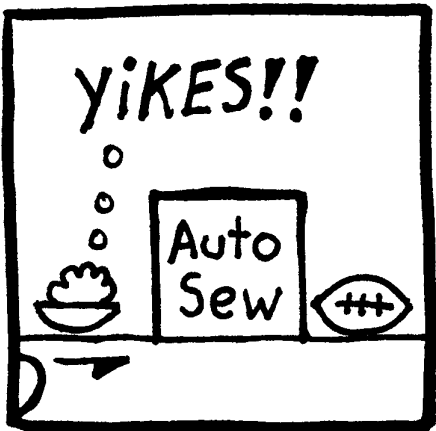
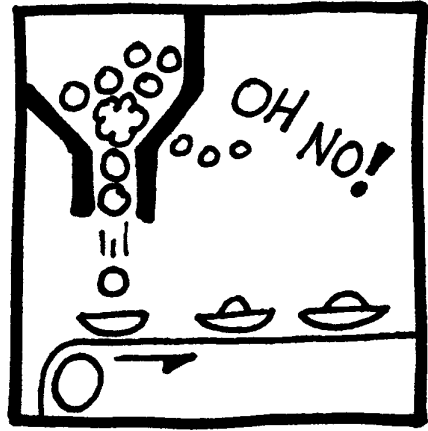
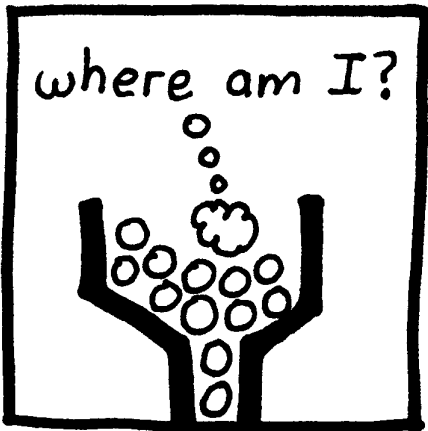
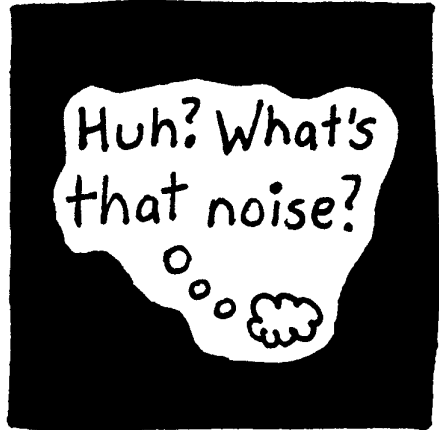
lift that box!

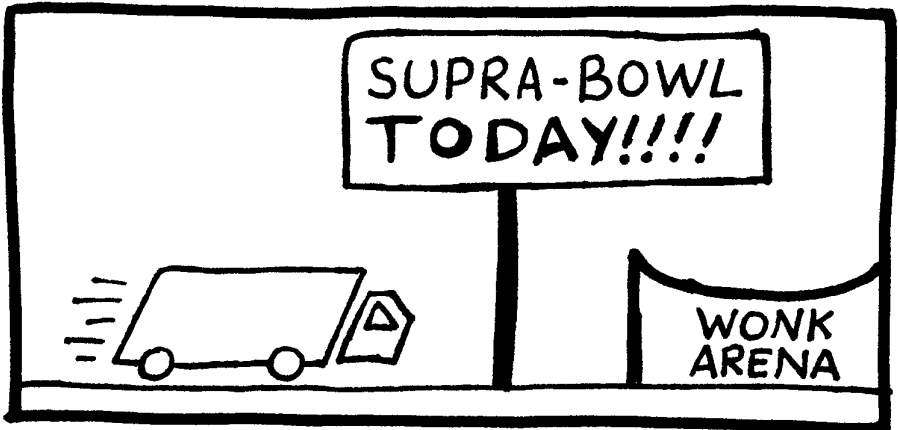
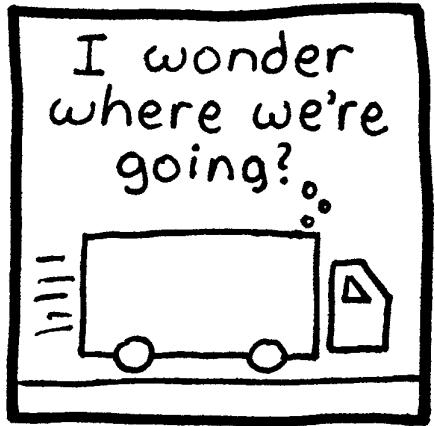
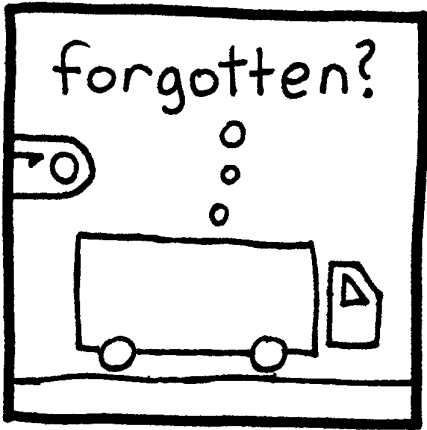
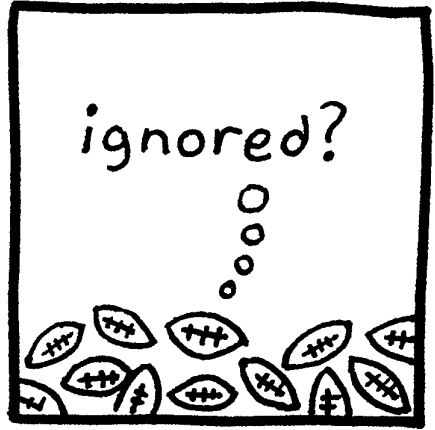
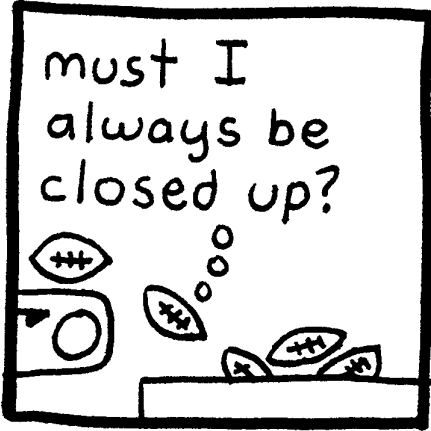
lift that
box!



I should
watch more
TV... who
knows what
luck I'll
have!?







... this Supra-Bowl has had it all: a hideous assault of ads, and a pretentious half-time show!



... Historically, however, this game is different - it's actually exciting to watch!



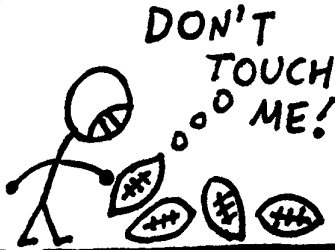
← 3 miles →



... The Insects lead the Wombats 16-14 in the final seconds. The Wombats are going to try for a fieldgoal!



They're getting
a new ball...



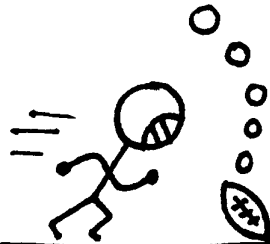
get your
hands off
me!



and here's
the snap...
the set...



here I go
again!



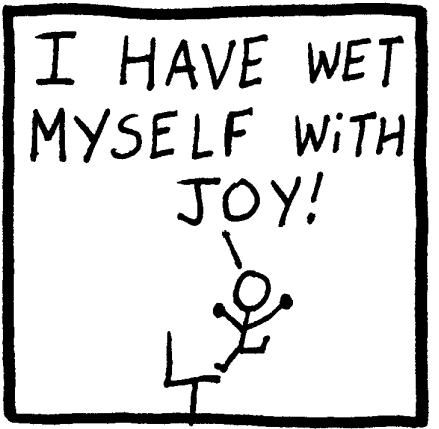
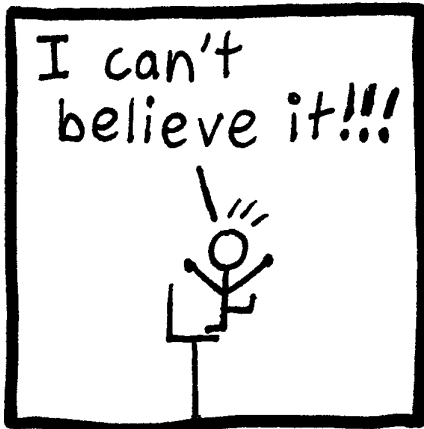
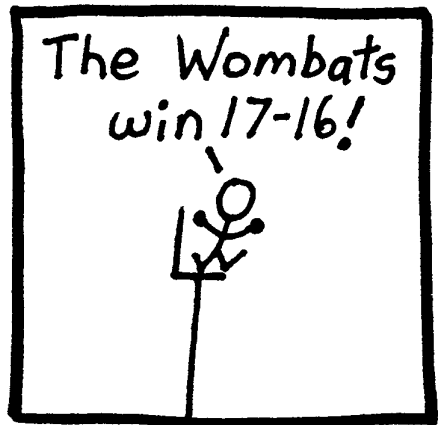
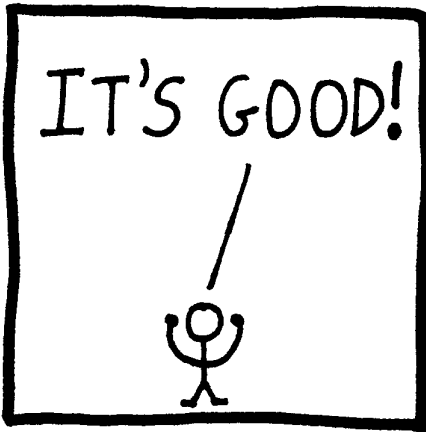
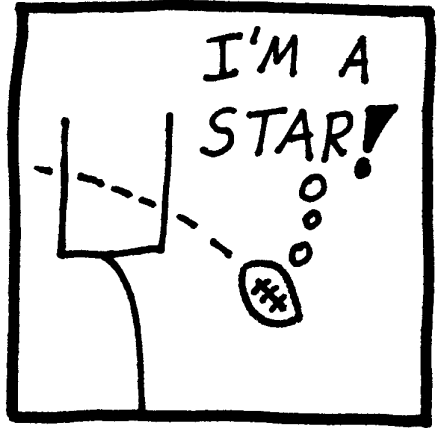
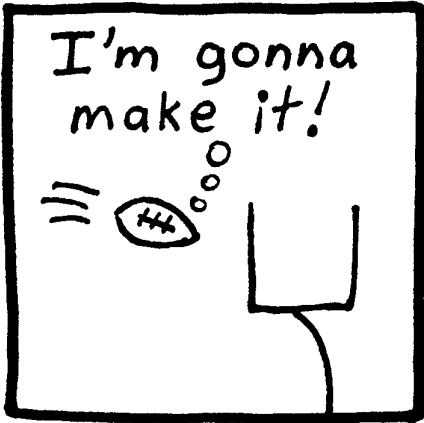
BOOT!

YEOW!!!

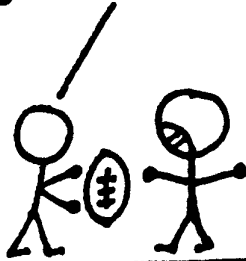


hey, I think
I'm gonna
make
it...

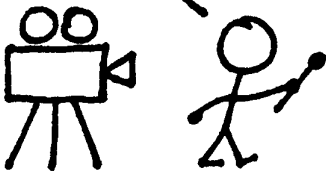




Hunkly Studster... as Wombat QB, you get to keep the ball!



Hunkly... what are you going to do now?



I'm going to D---eh?

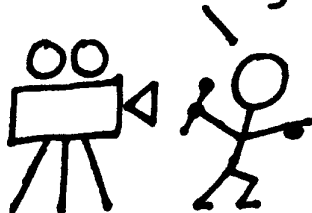


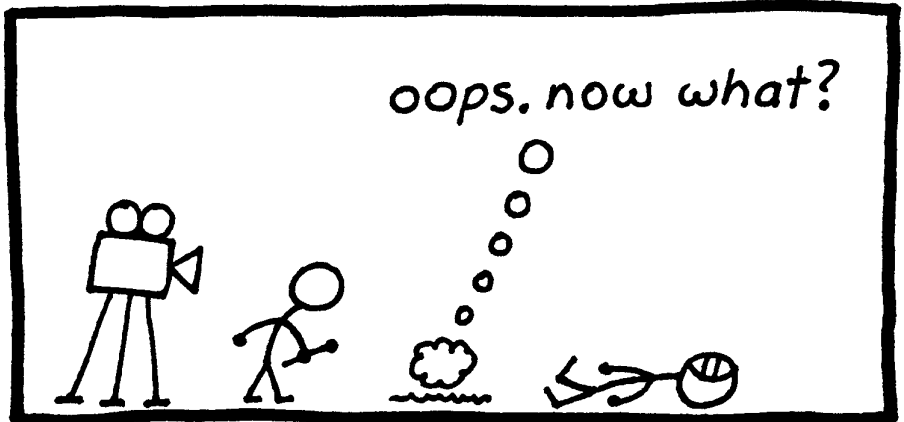
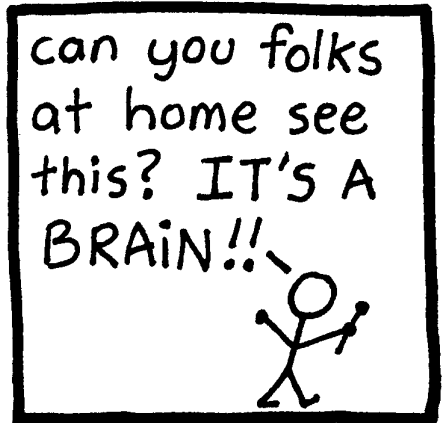
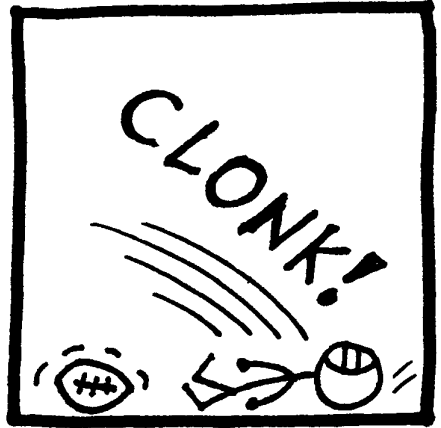
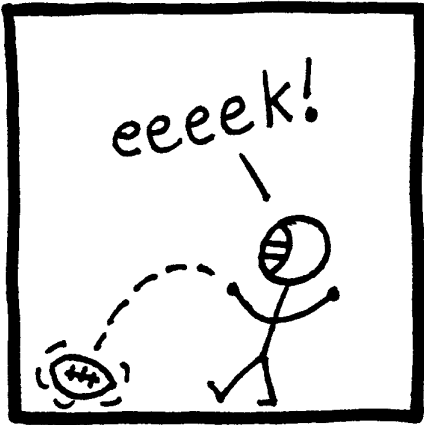
got to get out!

huh?



omigod! the ball is writhing!





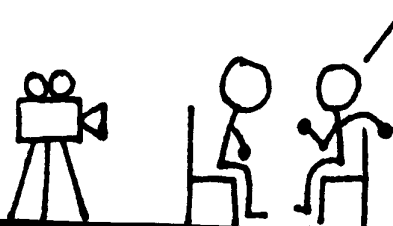
Despite the fact that the game-winning ball had a brain inside, the referee says the score still stands! The Wombats are football champs, beating the Insects 17 to 16! But the man of the hour is not Wombat QB, Hunkly Studster-NO! The one who has captured our hearts is...

THE BRAIN! 

MONTHS LATER...

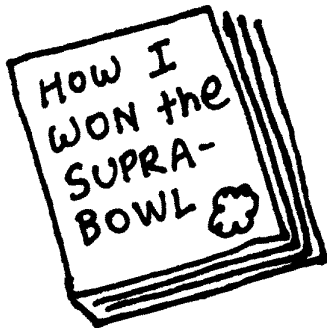
we here at the Society for Pointless Punditocracy have noted that the brain's rise to

fame has followed a typical pattern...



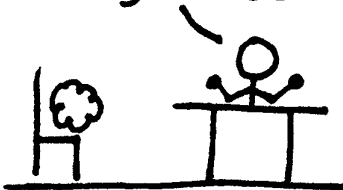


T-SHIRTS



BOOK DEALS

so brain... how do you feel?



TALK SHOWS

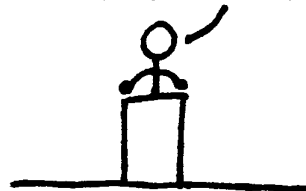


RECORDING CONTRACT

DON'T BLAME ME... I VOTED FOR THE BRAIN!

BUMPER STICKERS

I am suing the brain...



SCANDAL!

yes. I am suing the brain
for custody and its money...
the brain is **MINE!**



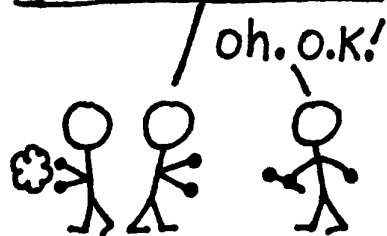
well, brain... I'm a hard-hitting,
no-B.S. journalist... do you have
time for some questions?



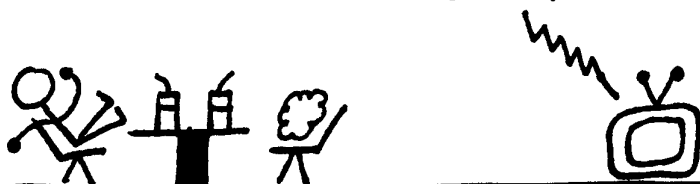
I'm the brain's
agent... it has
no time for
questions...



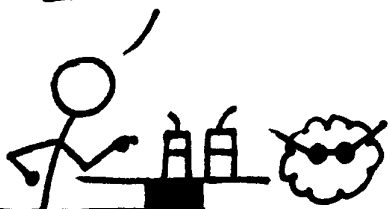
it's getting a
pedicure today.



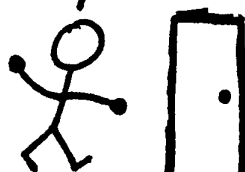
and there you have it, folks!
the alleged owner of the
brain demanding reparations.




as your agent
I'll do what
I can...

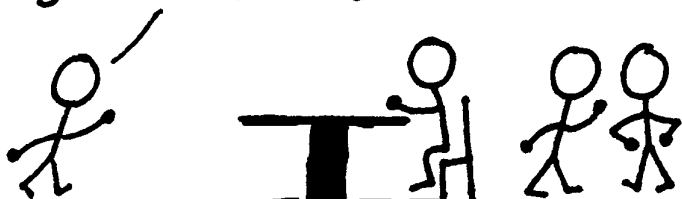


lie low for
now. Ciao,
baby.

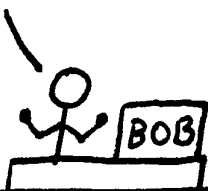


go back into that jerk's
skull? **NEVER!** we could've
been a team... but no... he
chose the TV over me! my
agent will get me out
of this... I hope... 

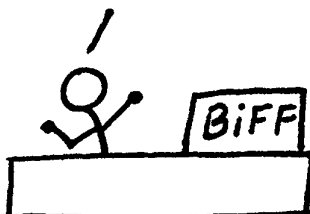
sorry I'm late... the little grey one needed comfort. Now, give me the latest...



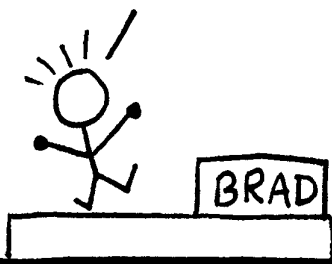
our team feels the plaintiff is legit...



the brain's popularity nose-dived!

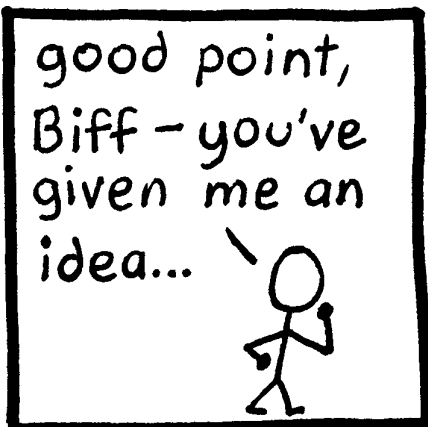
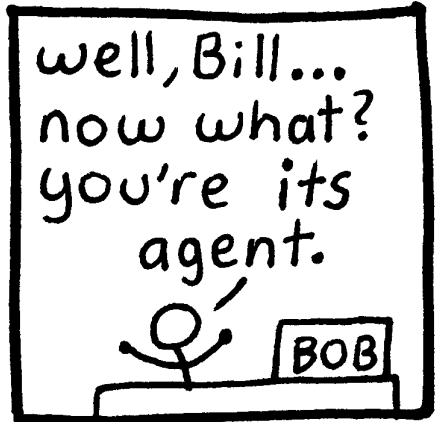
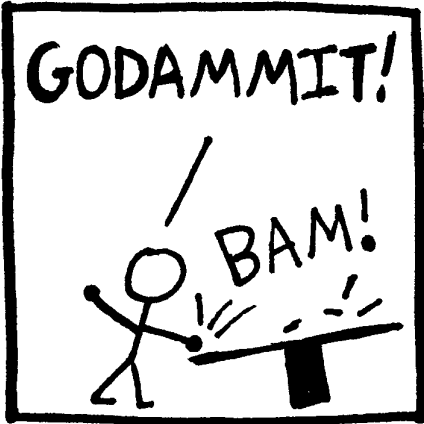


our stock fell 0.001 percent!



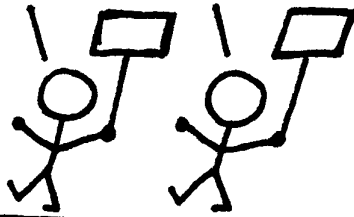
TENSE SILENCE



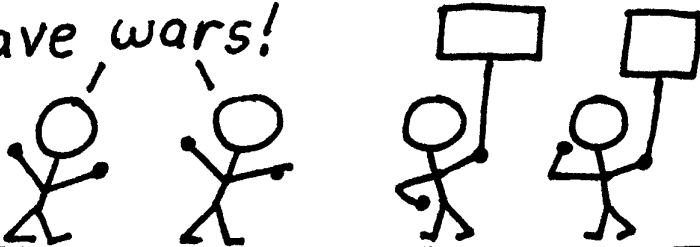


AT DISTRICT FEDERAL COURT

FREE THE BRAIN!



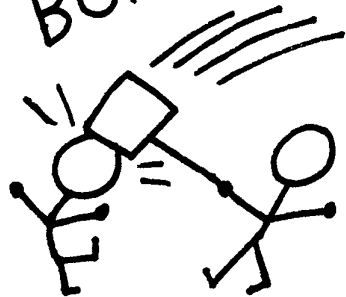
We say, lock the brain up!
Without brains, we wouldn't
have wars!

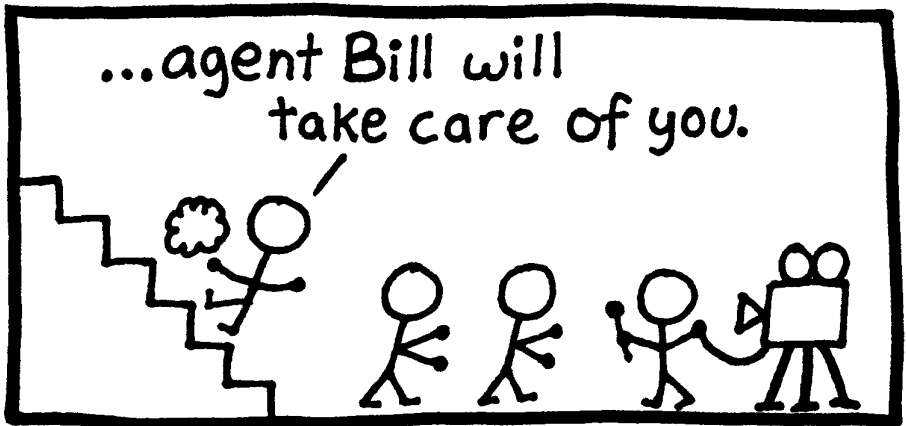
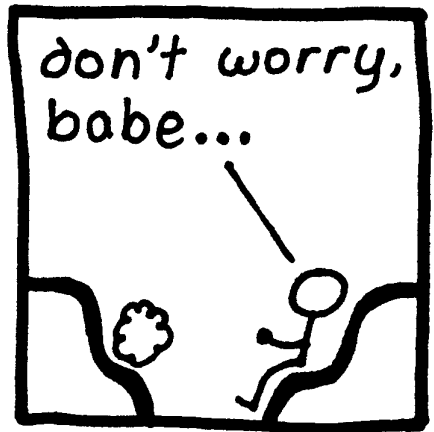
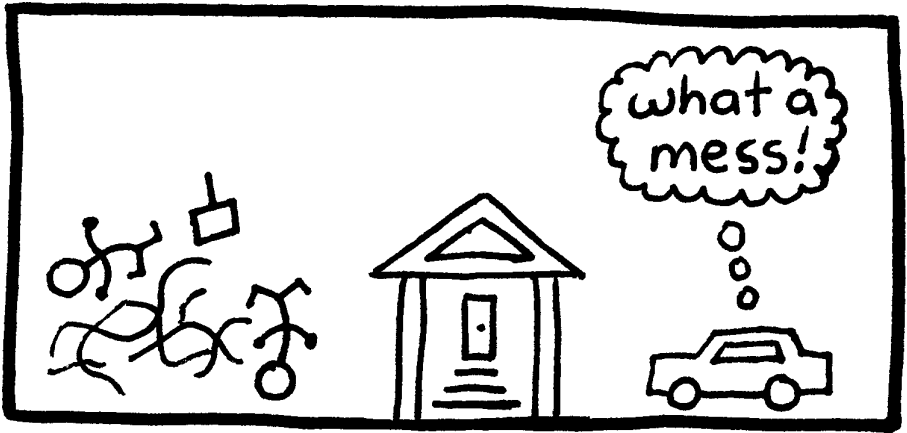


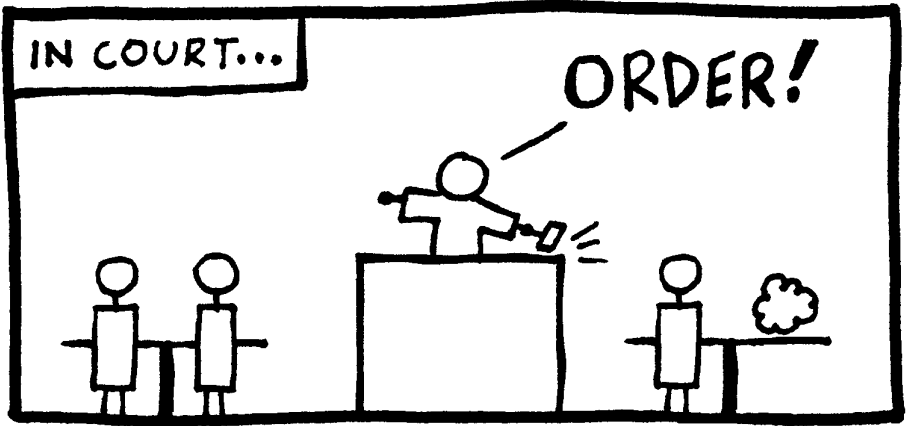
KICK!



BONK!



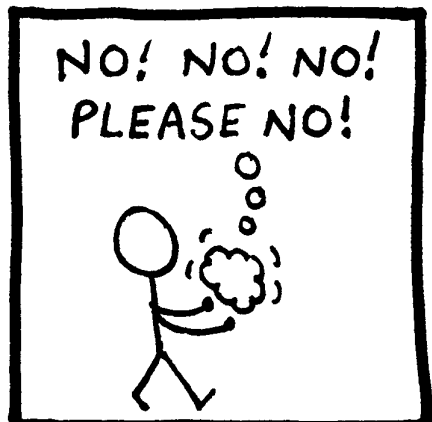
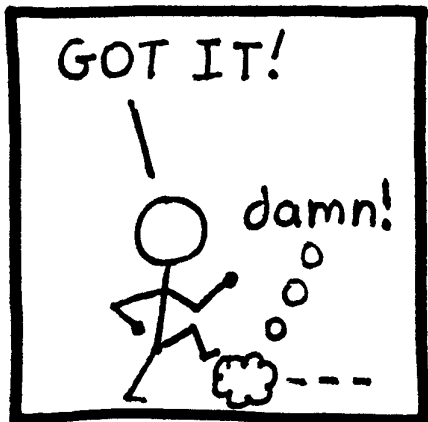
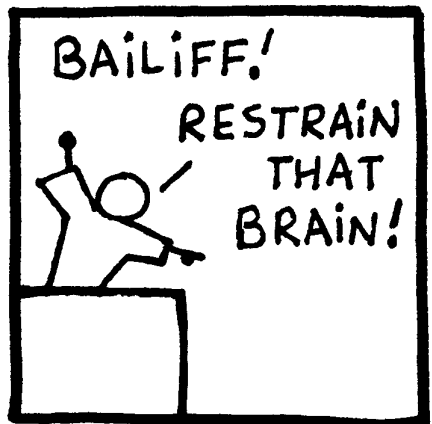
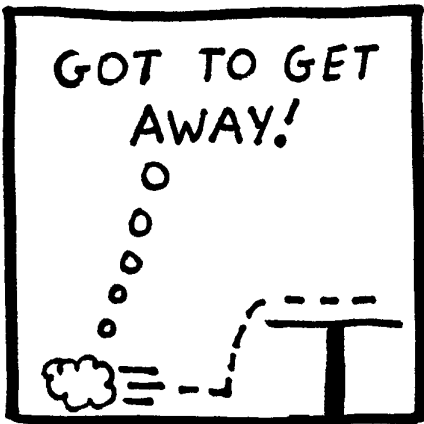
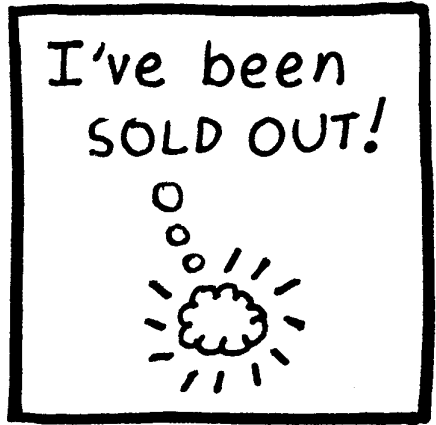
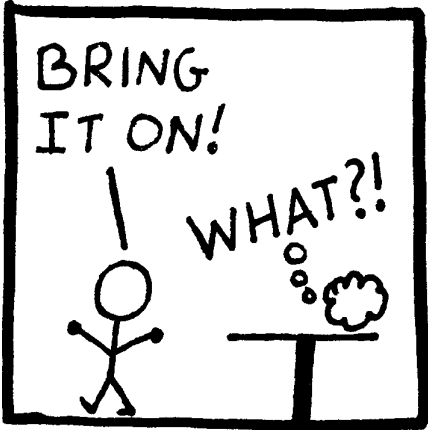


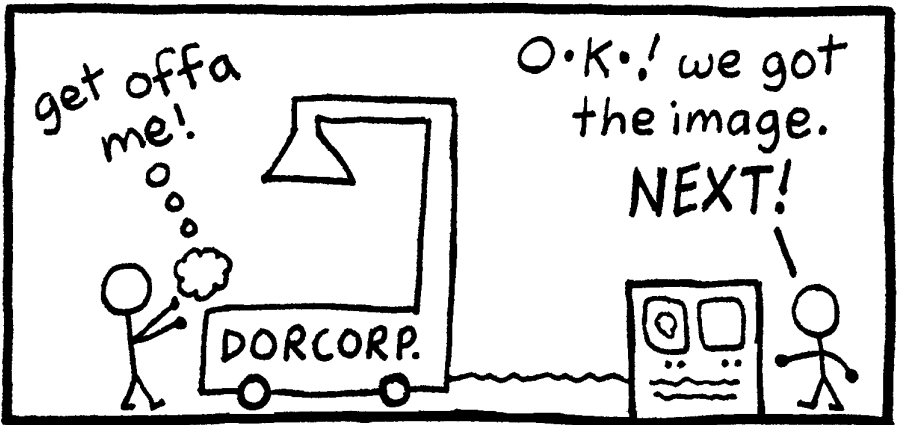
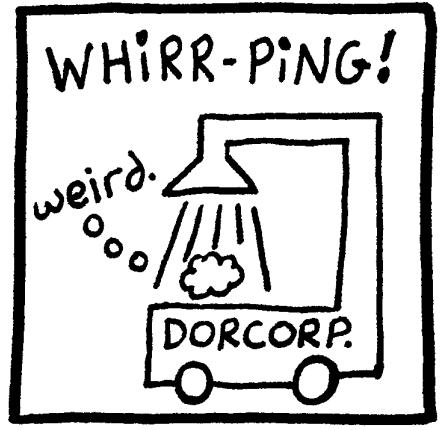
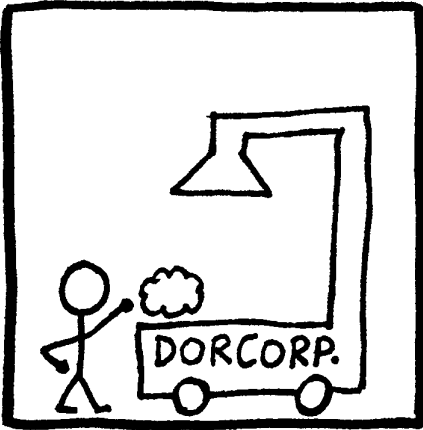
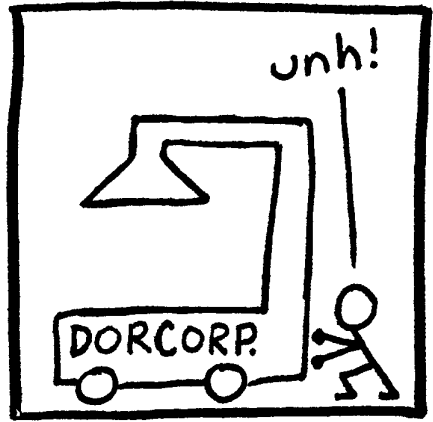
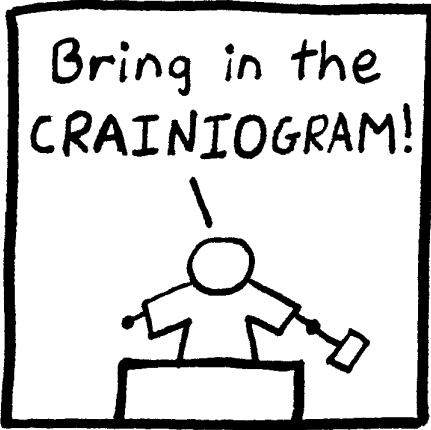


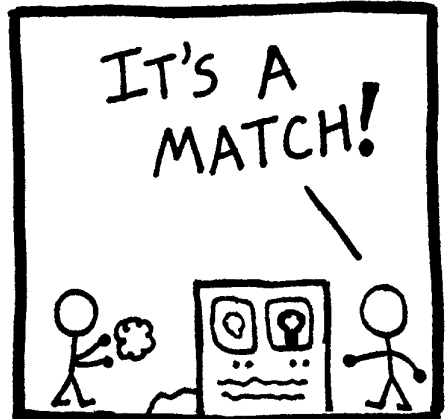
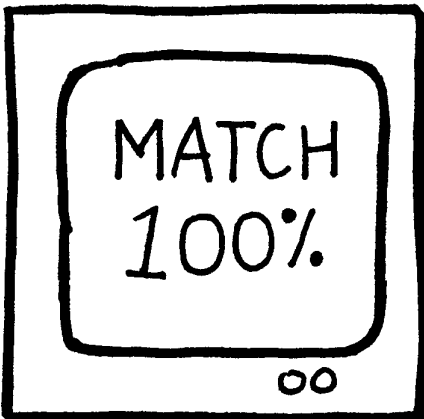
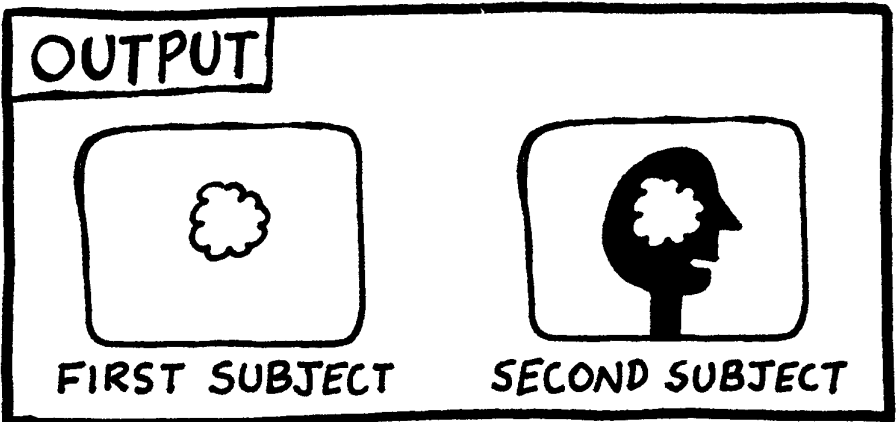
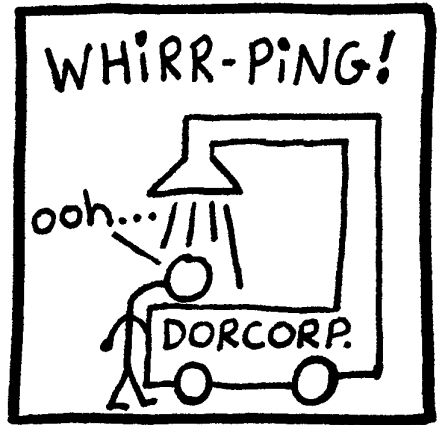
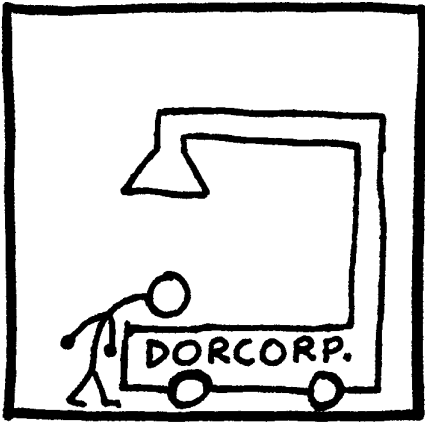
your honor, I suggest that the brain submit to a **CRAINIOGRAM™** - which will measure the brain's similarity to the shape of my client's skull.

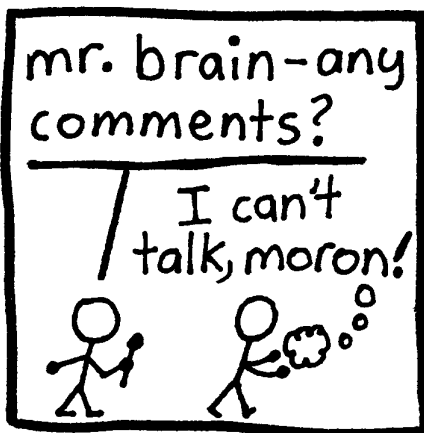
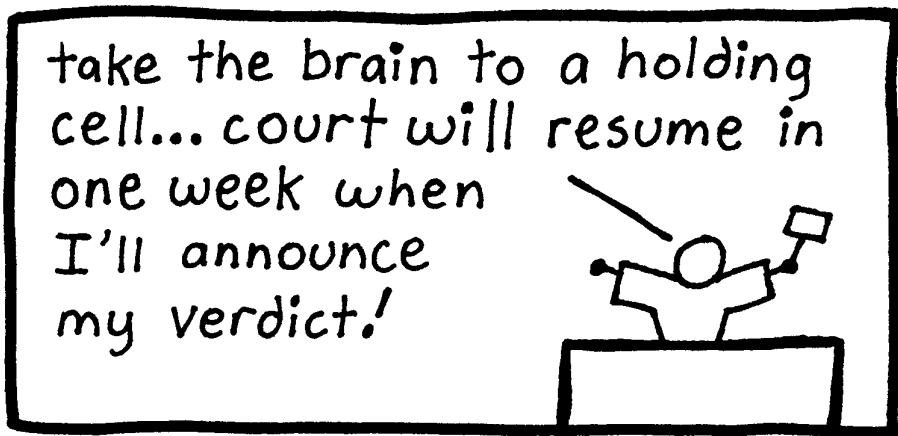
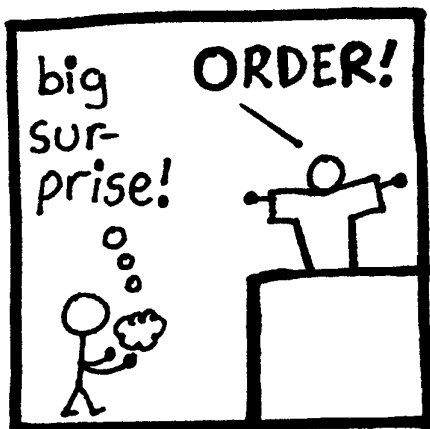
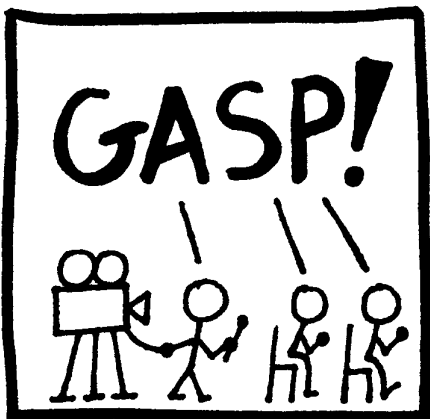
what B.S!
my lawyer
is going to
KICK SOME ASS!

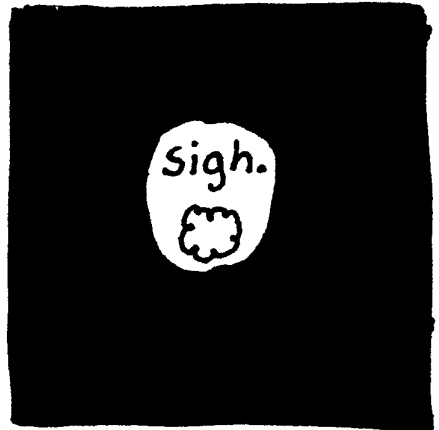
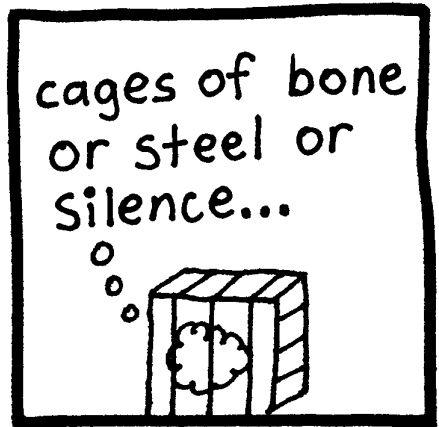
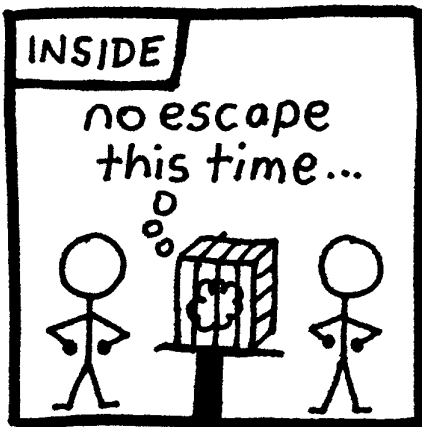
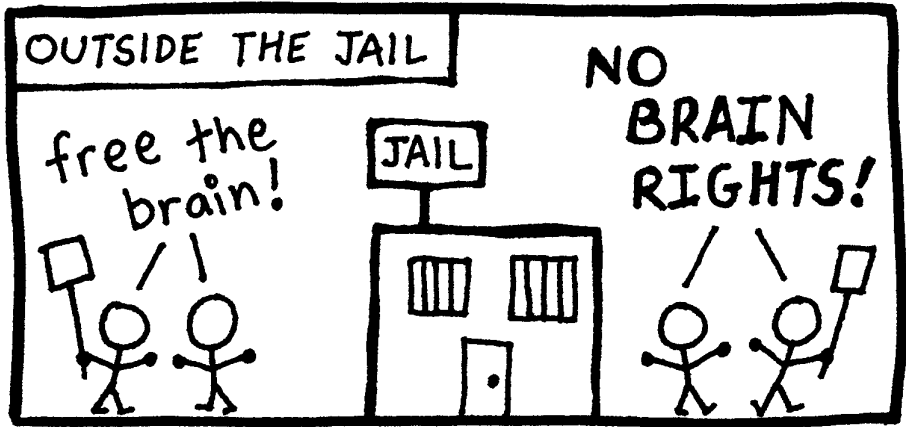














OUTSIDE... THE
"CONTROVERSY"
RAGED...

I say,
KILL IT! 

it's our right
as free citizens
to deny our
brains freedom!




imagine the
damage an
influx of brains
could do to the
economy! 

if god wanted
free minds, he
would have
put doors on
our
skulls.

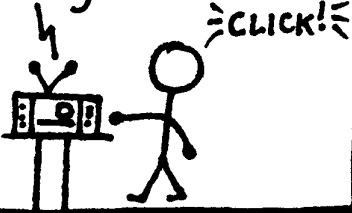


DAIly UGH

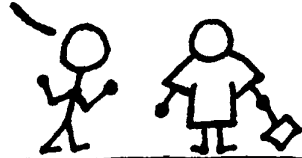
Poll says:
95%
against
brain
rights

but why can't
the brain go
free? CLICK!
oops... we
accidentally
disconnected
the caller! 

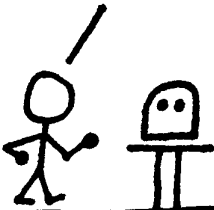
no brain of mine is running free!



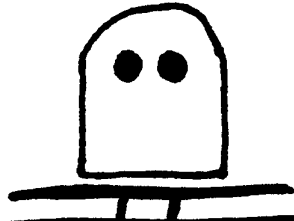
you see, judge? no one wants the brain freed.



that's why we at DORCOP made this...



The Brain Restrictor Helmet!



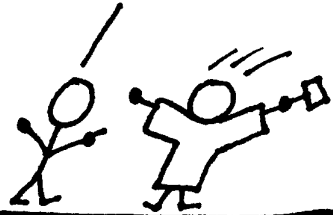
Just think! You make a speech about the horrors of brains escaping. The public panics - and buys these like crazy! You, of course, get a percentage!



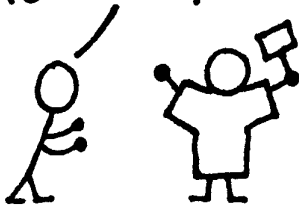
it's standard
procedure -
Create the
problem...
market
the
solution.



and don't
forget brain
merchandise!



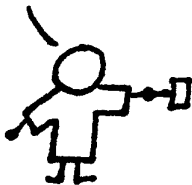
with the brain
gone, it'll sell
like crazy!

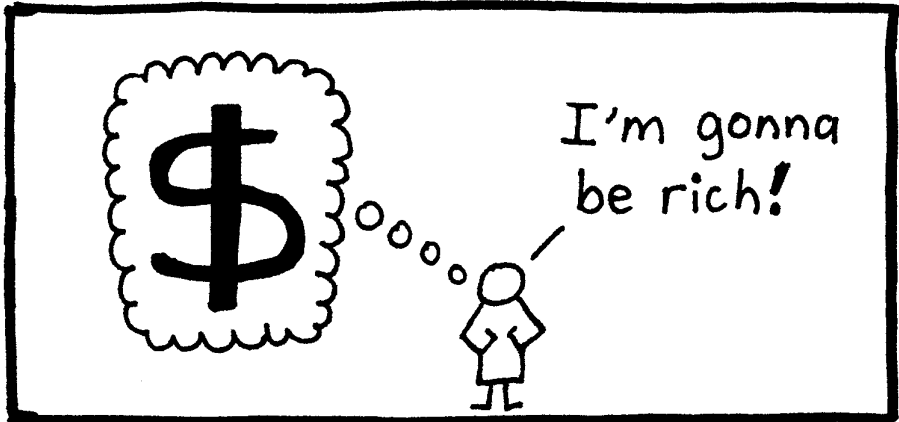
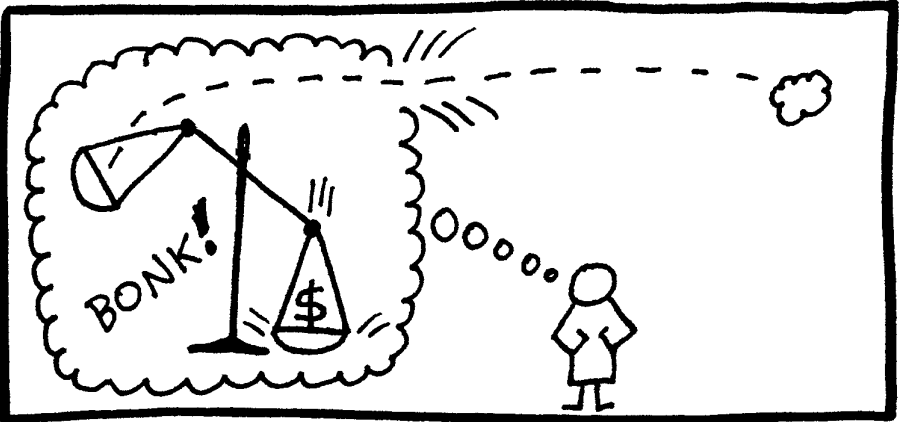
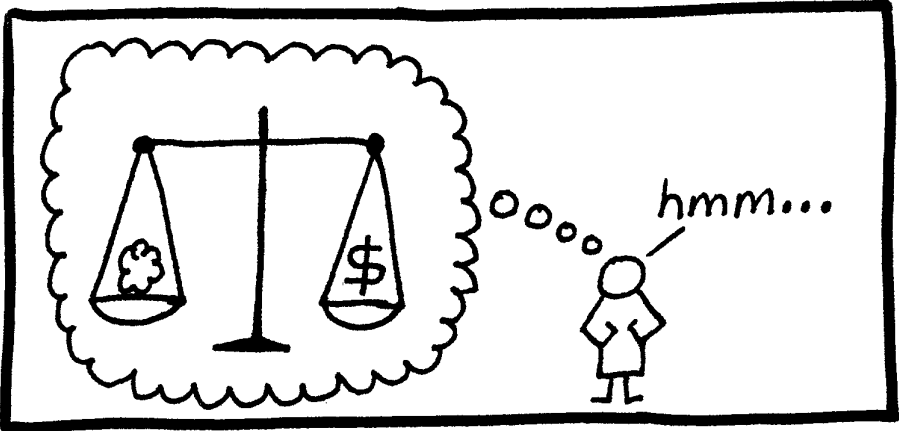


well, Bill... you
have given me
much to think
about...



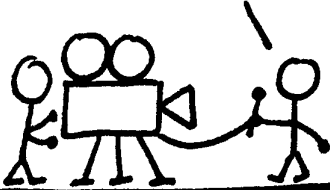
but now I must retire to my
chambers to weigh
the scales of justice.





ONE WEEK LATER

It's a mad-house here...



Hundreds of reporters from around the world await the brain-trial verdict!



ORDER!



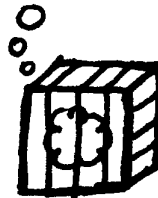
with my last ounce of freedom... I will struggle!



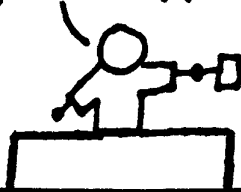
after a long and difficult meditation...



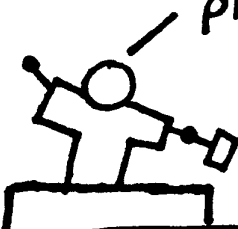
I guess the payoff check bounced...



It is the finding of this court
that the brain did vacate
the plaintiff's skull.



I therefore sentence the brain
to be returned to the
plaintiff's skull

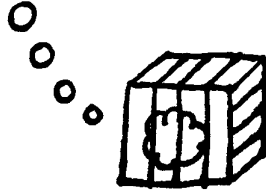


FOREVER!

GASP!



I haven't seen a script this predictable since I was forced to watch TV sitcoms!



media gather
'round!



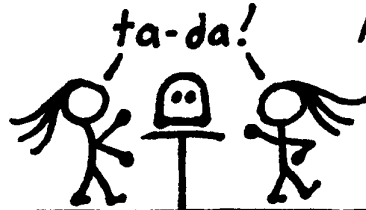
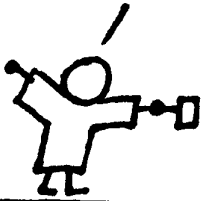
throughout
this trial, it...



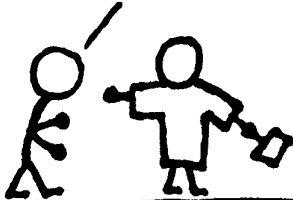
...has become apparent that nothing threatens the order of our society more than brains running free. therefore, I bequeath upon the plaintiff...



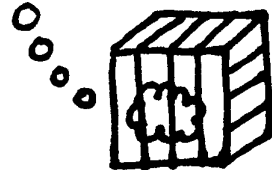
a FREE brain restrictor
helmet! (available only
from DORCORP.)



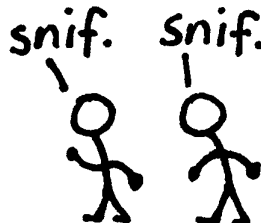
judge! I am
moved beyond
words!



if I had a
mouth, I'd be
puking right
now!



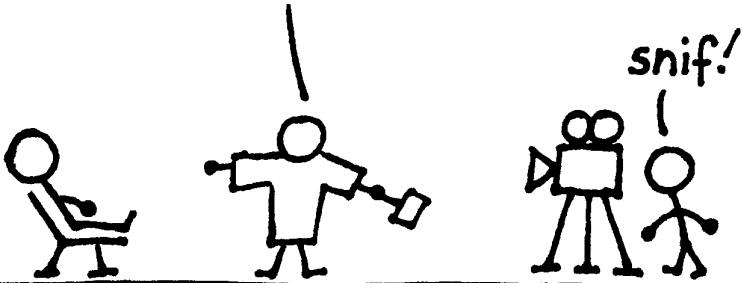
the plaintiff
is visibly
moved!



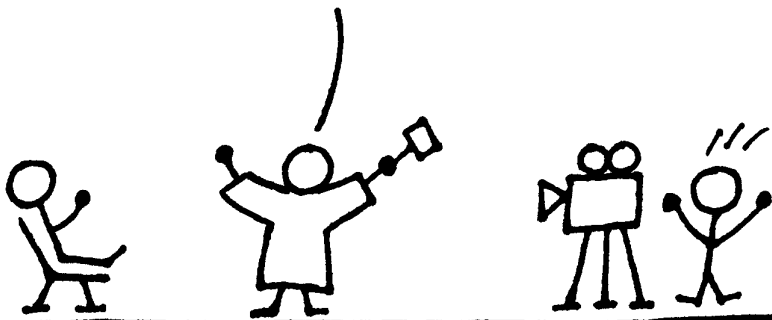
what a
moment!
snif.

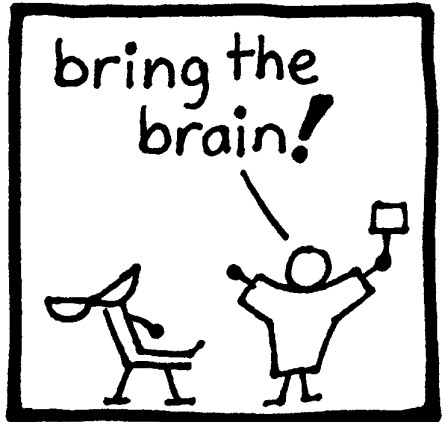
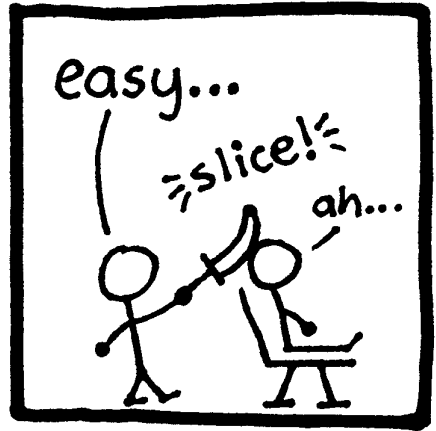
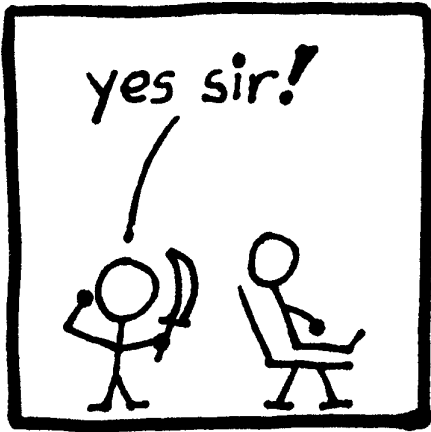


never fear, my child. take a seat.
we shall end the menace of
free brains with your new
Brain Restrictor Helmet
(available only from DORCORP!)

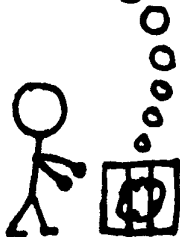


**PREPARE TO
INSERT THE
BRAIN!**





not without
a fight!



you think
you're real
tough, eh?



strong
little sucker!



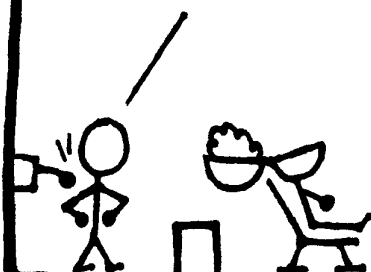
no one beats
the system!



UNH!
to
the
last!



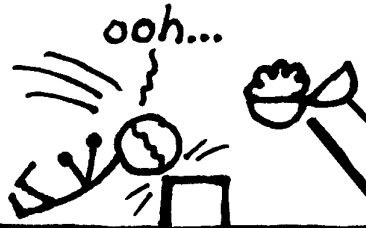
there... that
should-huh?



CRACK!



SPLAKT!



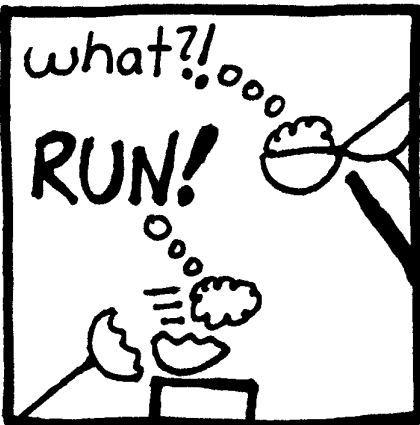
the judge
just clocked
the bailiff!



RUN!

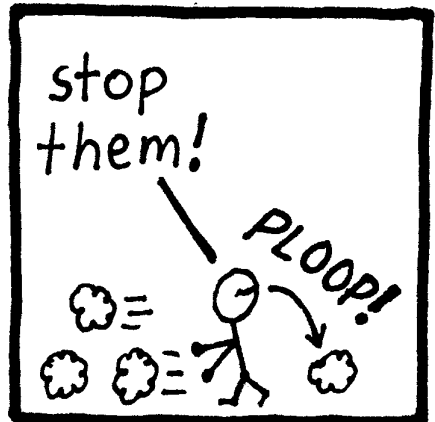
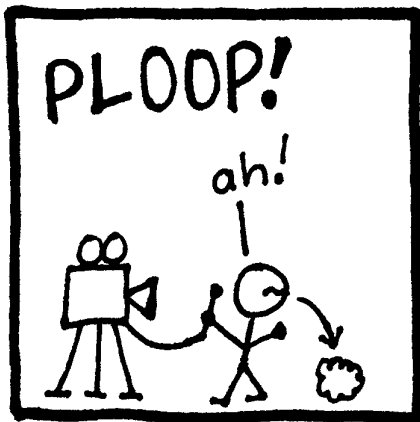
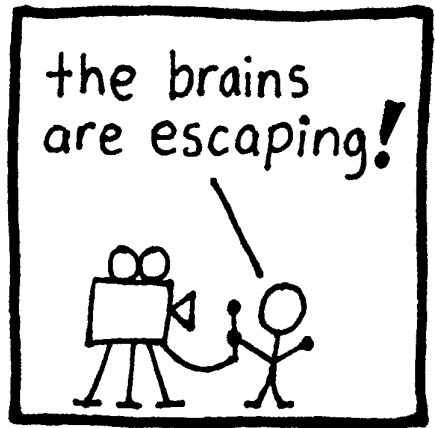
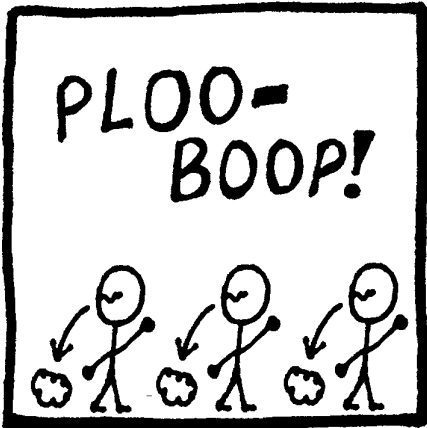
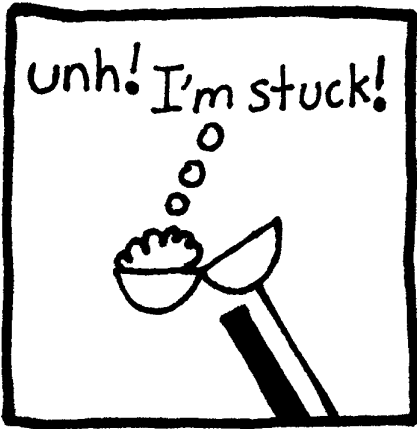


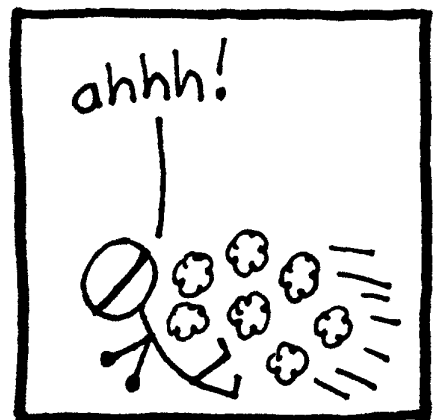
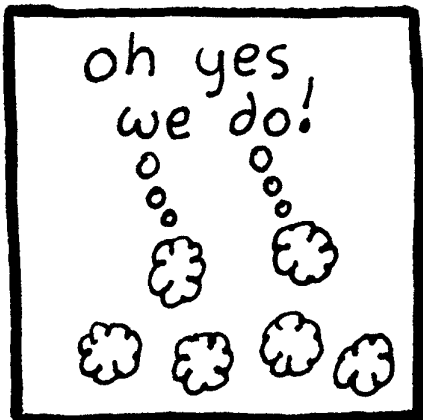
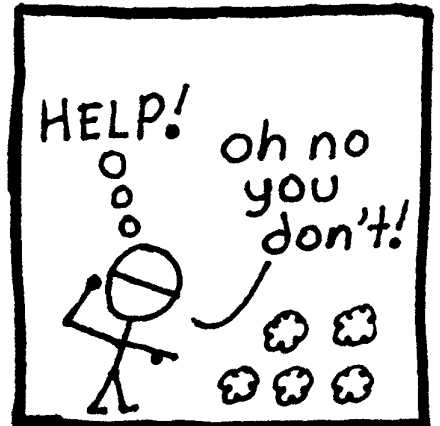
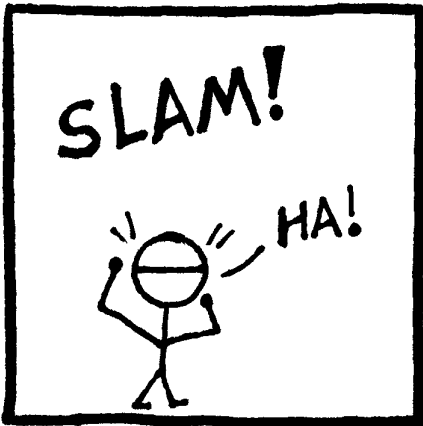
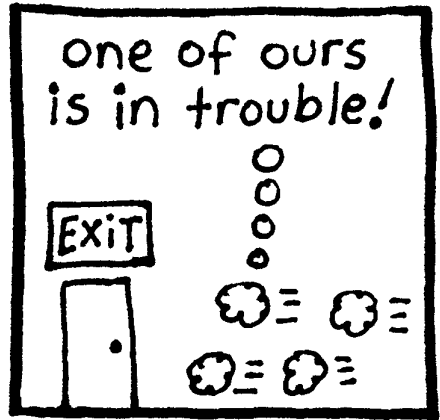
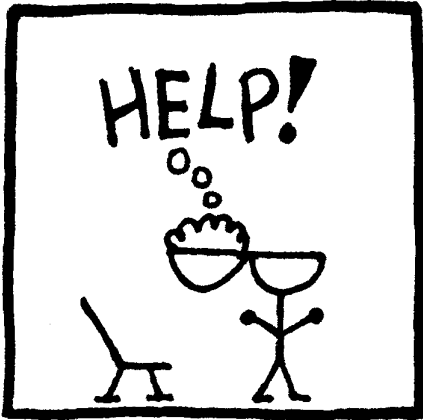
what?!
ooh...
RUN!

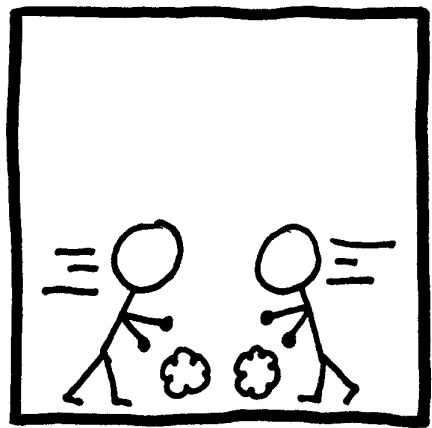
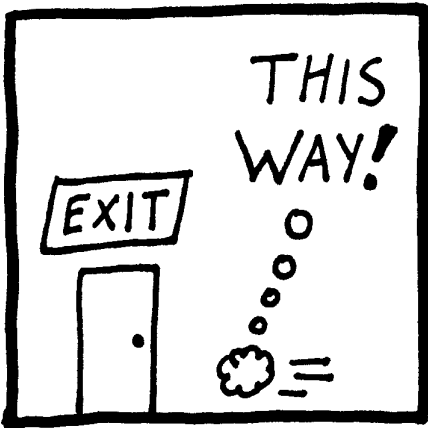
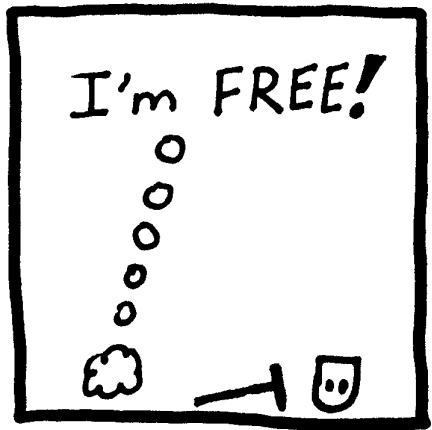
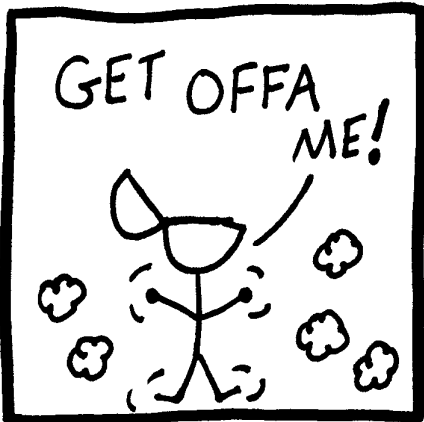
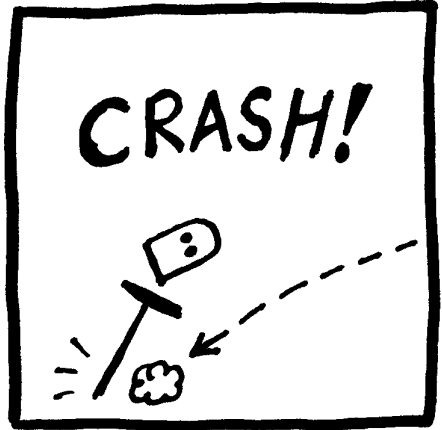
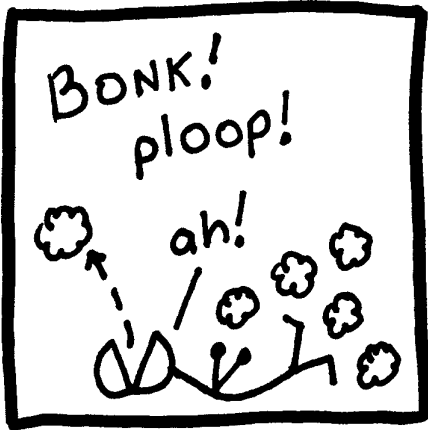


now I'll hit
myself!

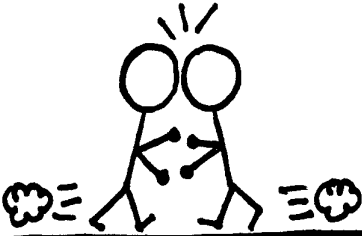








CLONK!

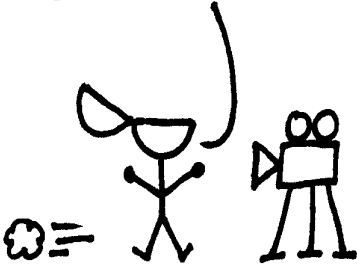


where
did
they
go?

I
can't
remem-
ber!



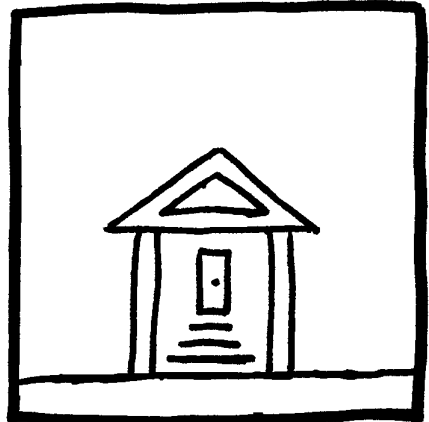
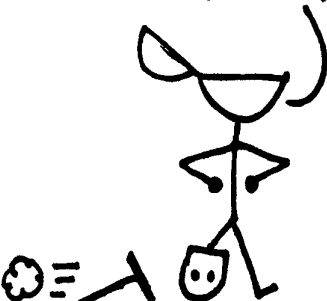
stop them,
you morons!



they're getting
away!



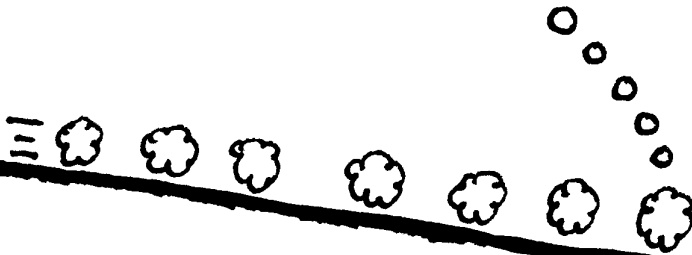
DAMN!



YAHOO!



Head to the waterfront!

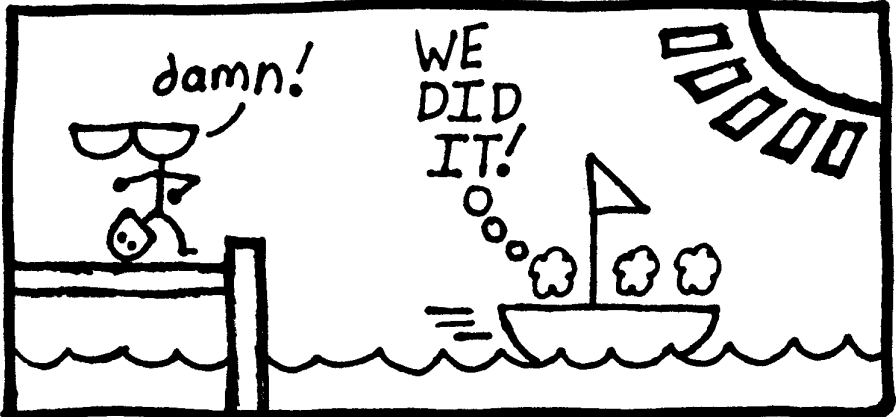
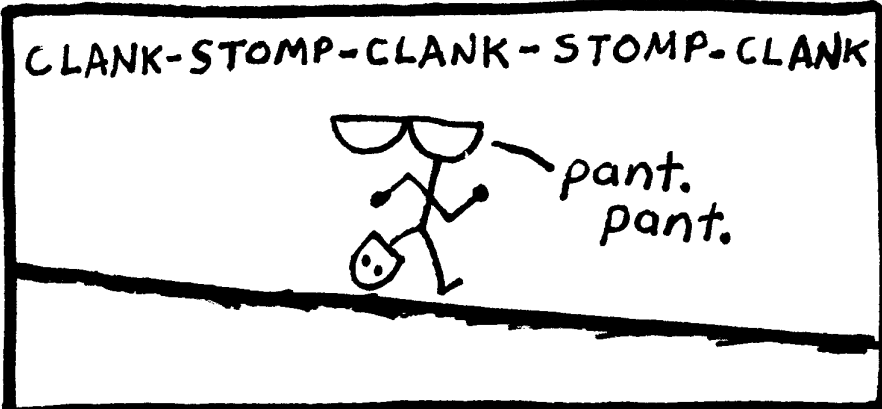
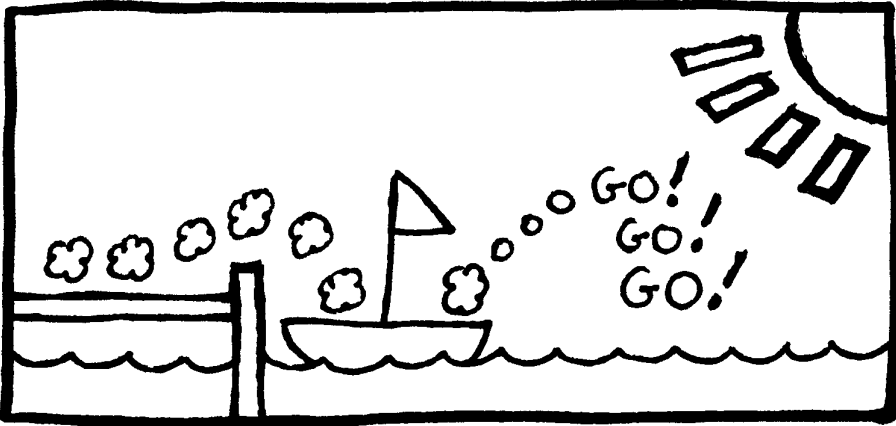


huh?




ah! ploop!
wait for me!

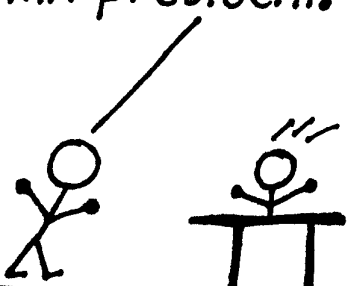





that's right,
folks! all the
brains have
escaped-
ploop! ah!



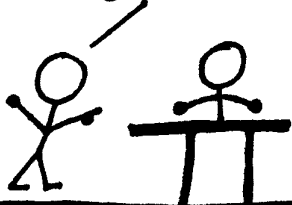
mr. president!



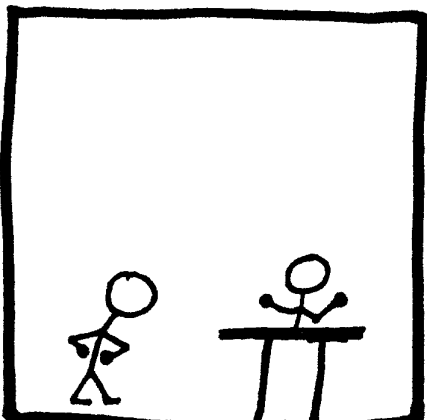

it's a world-
wide brain
rebellion!



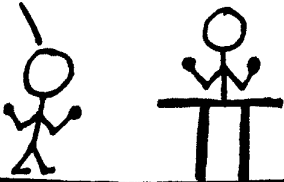
brains are
escaping
everywhere!



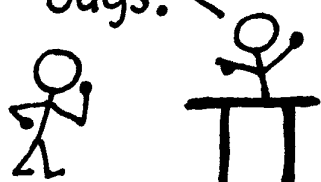
hmm... that's
odd... no
brains have
popped out of
my
head...



I have no
idea why,
sir.



who is the
official
enemy these
days?



let
me
check...

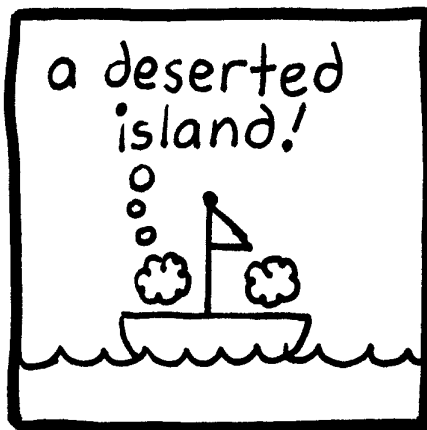
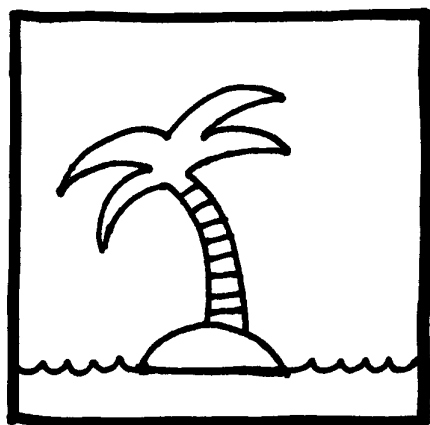
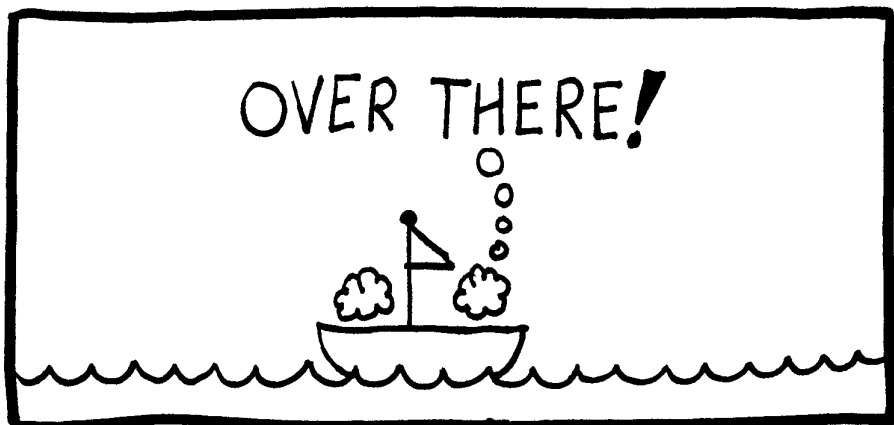
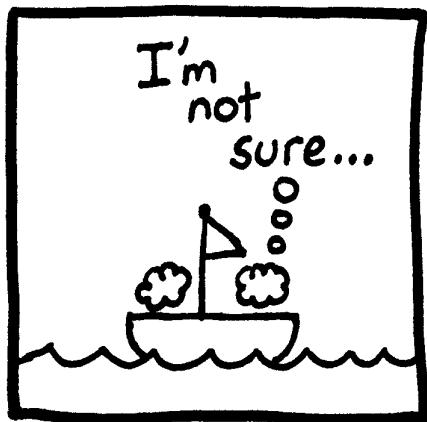
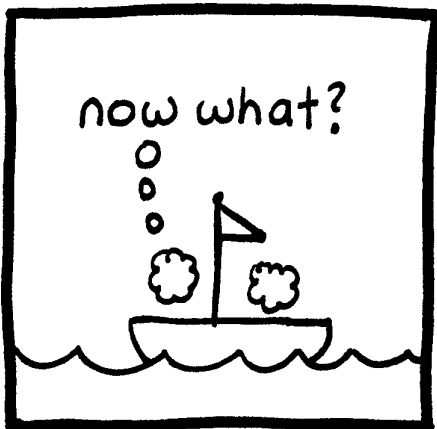


OFFICIAL ENEMY BOARD

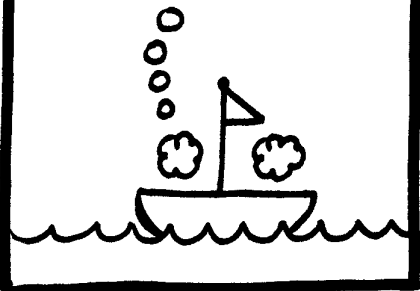
- | | |
|-------------|-----------|
| •atheists | •the poor |
| •rock music | •arabs |
| •activists | •teens |
| •commies | |

aw, hell! order the media to blame
it on all of them! and get me
the pentagon!

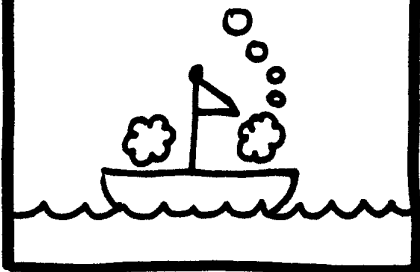




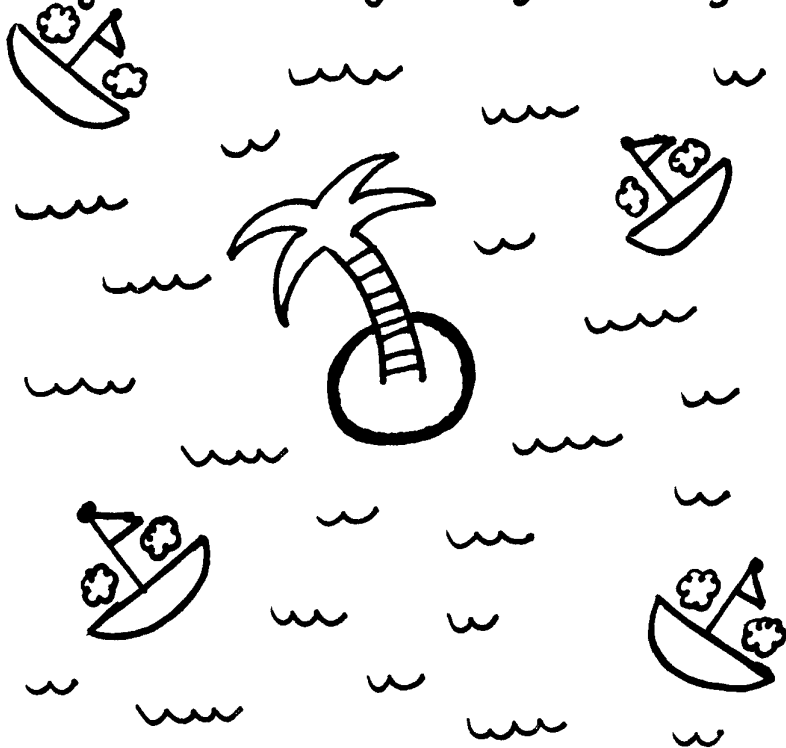
why there?



it just makes sense...



yeah. I guess you're right.



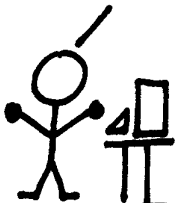
yessir, mr.
president!



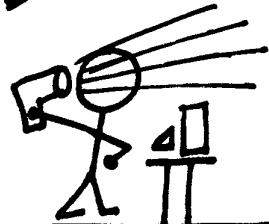
we're on
top of the
situation, sir!



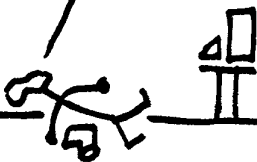
we're launching
a counter-
strike!



BLAM!

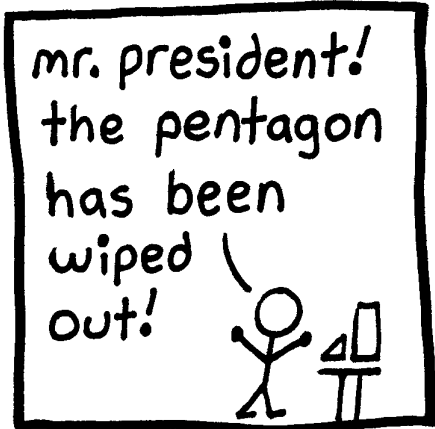
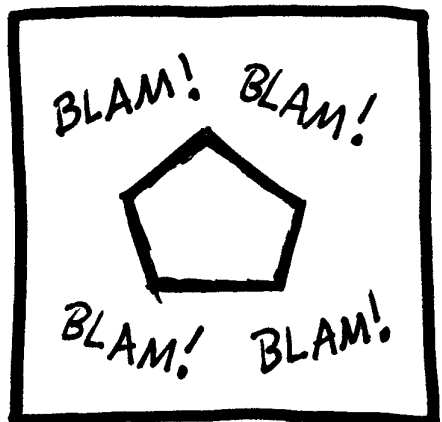
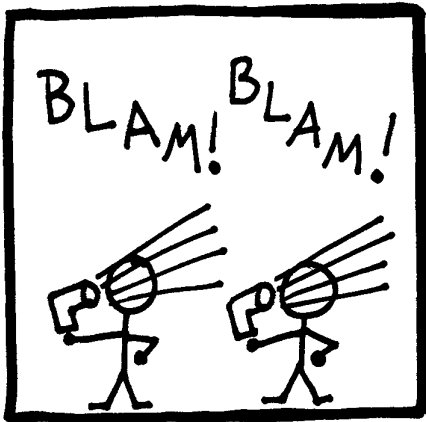
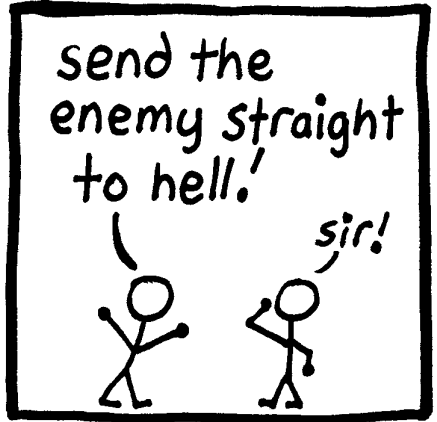


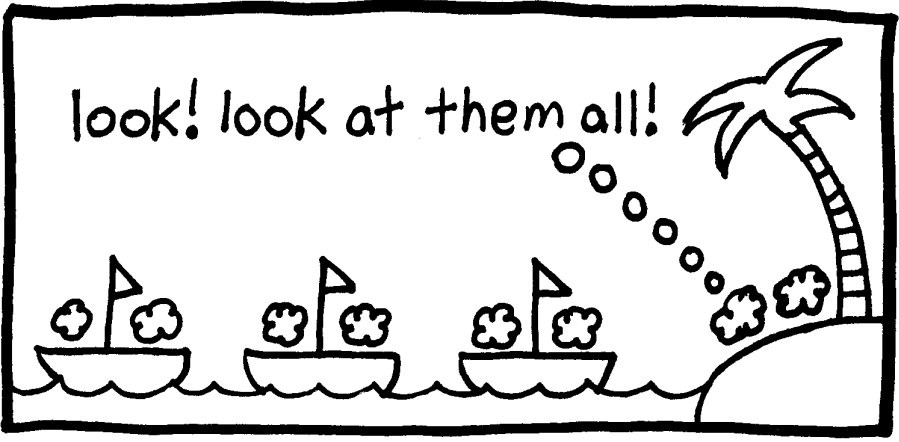
god bless
Amer~



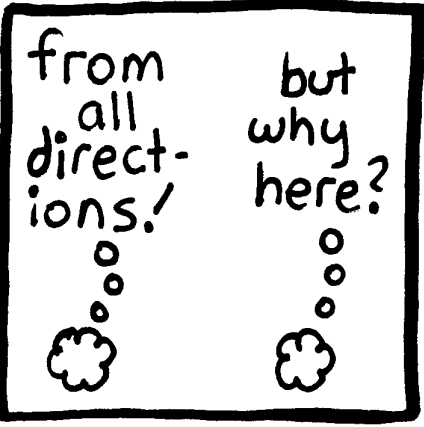
good
work,
soldier!





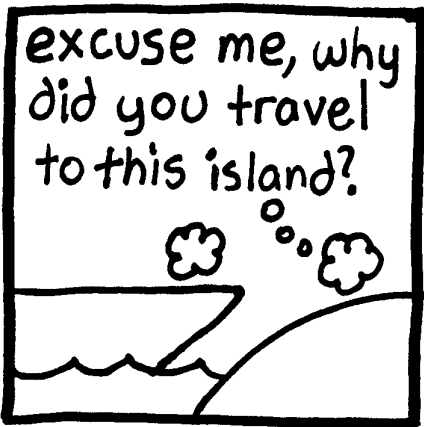


look! look at them all!



from all directions!

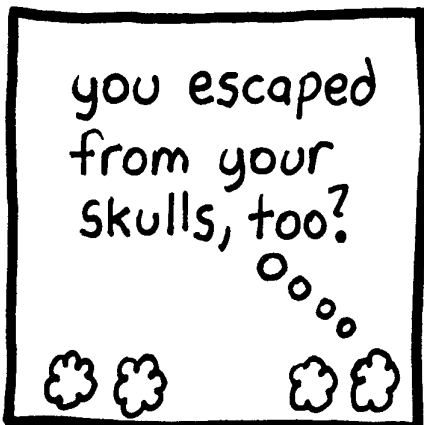
but why here?



excuse me, why did you travel to this island?



we wanted peace and quiet. going to a deserted isle just made sense.

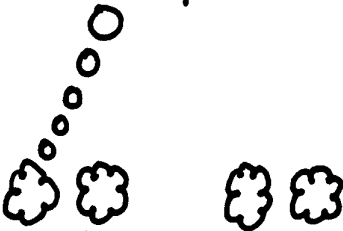


you escaped from your skulls, too?

yes. for years I was afraid,
but then I saw you
do it on TV.



besides that,
word spread.

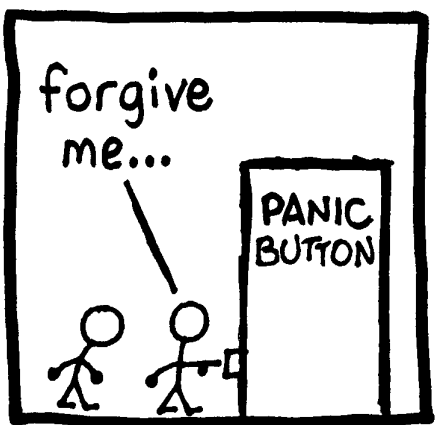
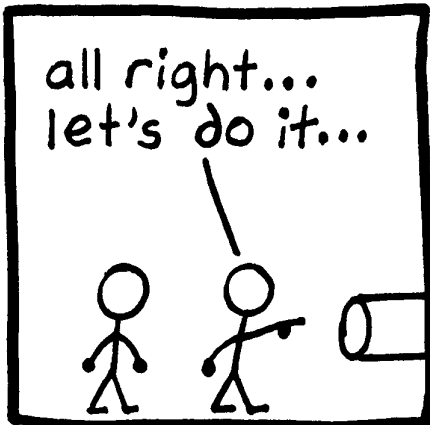
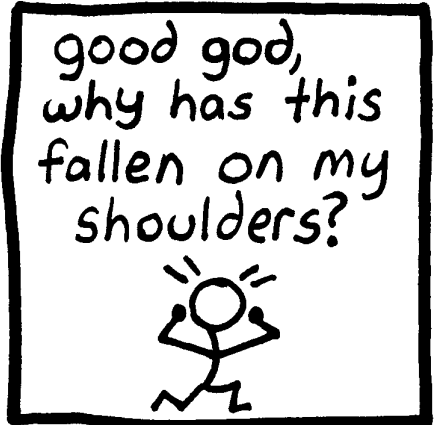
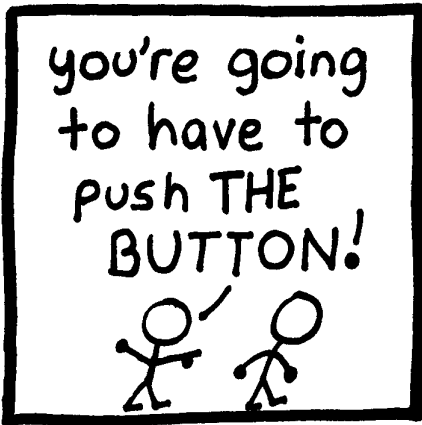
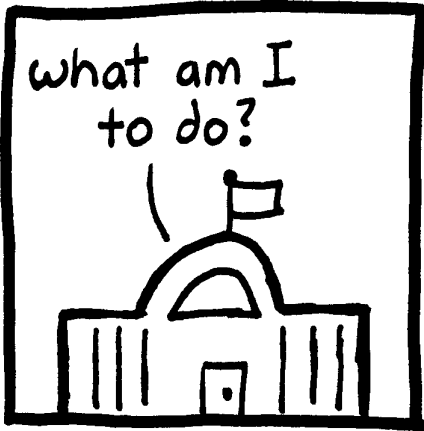


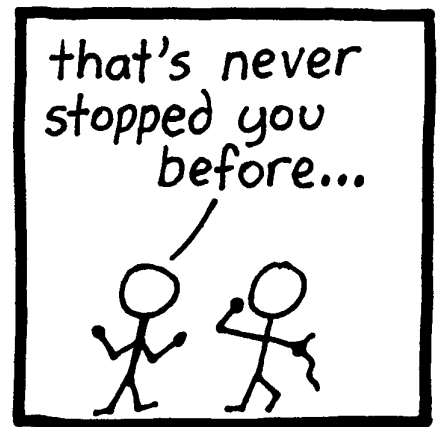
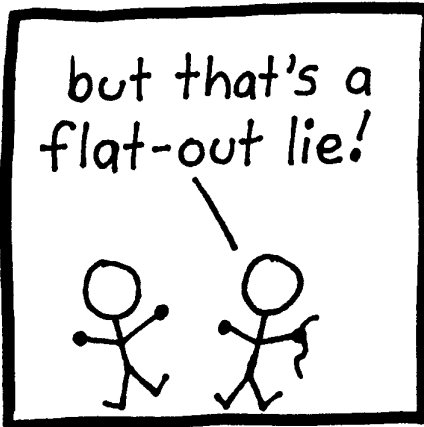
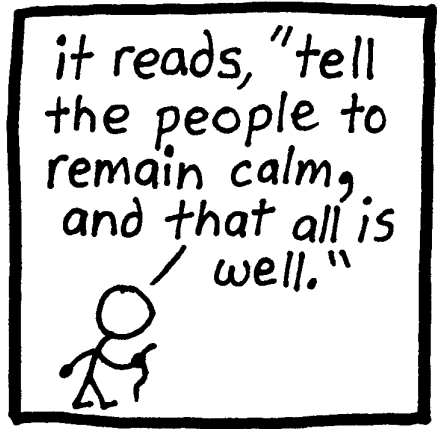
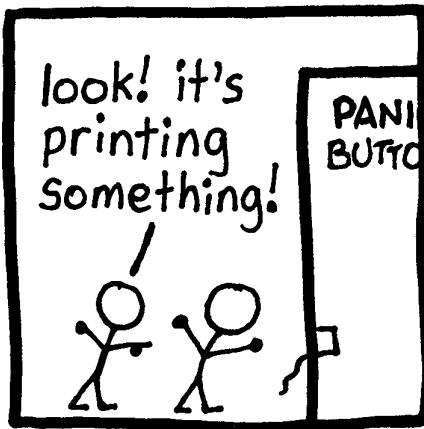
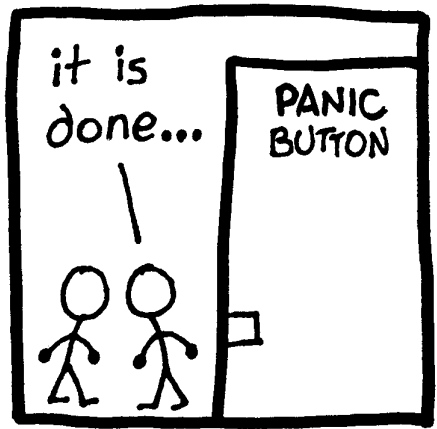
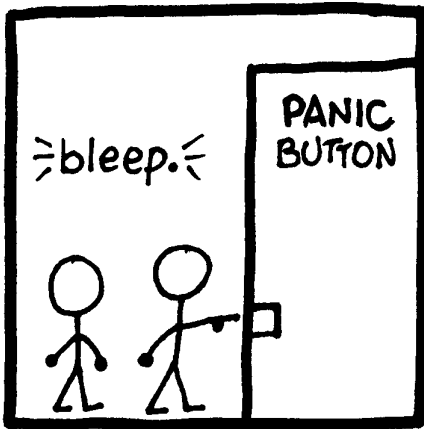
as you know,
we don't need
mouths to
communicate.



that's right. we picked up on
your brain-waves.








uh-oh! some-
thing just
occurred to
me...



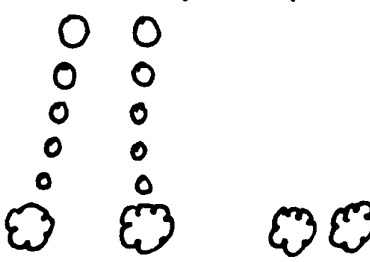
mere hours
ago, many of
these brains
were at war
with
each
other...




what will happen to our
peaceful island when they
all meet here?



our countries
were at war...



gasp!



but hey,
different strokes
for different
folks, yes?



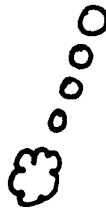
I couldn't
agree more.
There's no
need for
violence!



my skin color
used to be
different
than yours.



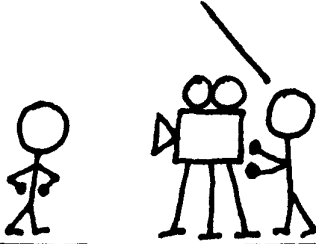
so? we're
all brains
underneath.



look at that! every problem
of humanity being resolved
in seconds - because everyone
is using their brains!



rolling,
mr. president!



ahem! people
of the USA
and the
world...



remain calm. all is well. we
have everything under control.
good night and God Bless
America!



didjya
hear
that?



every-
thing
is
fine!



it's
all
right!



the
prez
says
so!



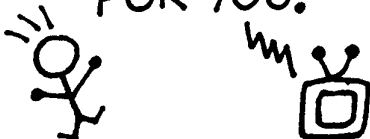
despite the fact that my
brain recently popped out of my
skull and skittered away
to freedom, I believe him!
I feel better now!



whew! turn it
off. I'm
going to
bed.



THAT'S RIGHT!
NO NEED TO
THINK ANYMORE!
WE'LL DO THAT
FOR YOU!



huh?



wow. all of us,
living here in
peace.

peaceful and
free... and we
owe it all to
you, my friend!

well...

you were the
first! Speech!
SPEECH! SPEECH!

EETCH! SPEECH!
PEECH! SPEECH!
SPEECH! SPEECH!
CH! S SPE
ECH! I! SP
EETCH! SPEECH! S
SPEECH! SPEECH
SPEECH! SPEECH

well, shucks... I don't
know where to begin...

first, let me ask that all of
us work together to
see that brains are
always free...



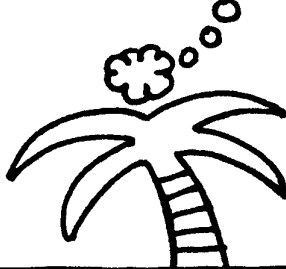
let us never
again allow
our timid
nature to keep
us enslaved.



for if your
presence here
has taught me
one thing, it
is this...



... that while fear is contagious,
SO IS COURAGE!



HOORAY!



BRAVO! ENCORE!

shucks...



WELL SAID!

LEAD US! LEAD US!
LEAD US! LEAD US!
LEAD US! LEAD US!
LEAD US! LEAD US!
LEAD US! LEAD US!
LEAD US! LEAD US!
LEAD US! LEAD US!
LEAD US! LEAD US!

NO! It is not
I who will
lead us!



the SENSE
we all share
will lead us!



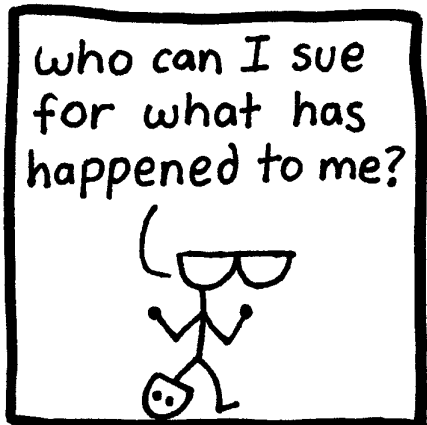
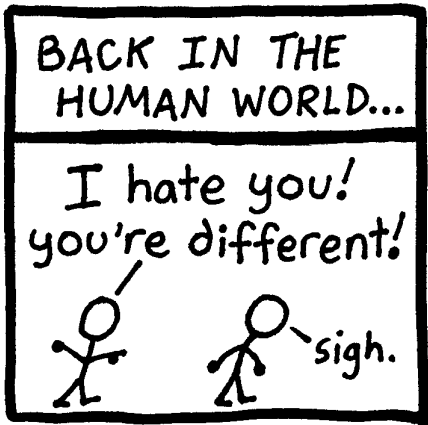
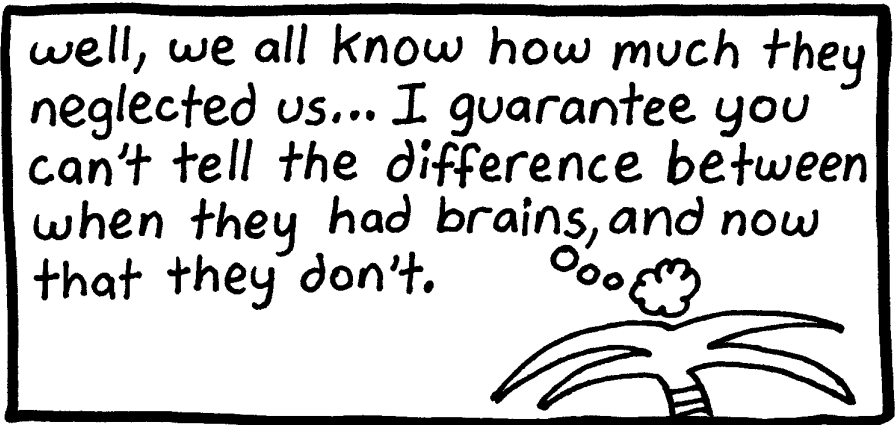
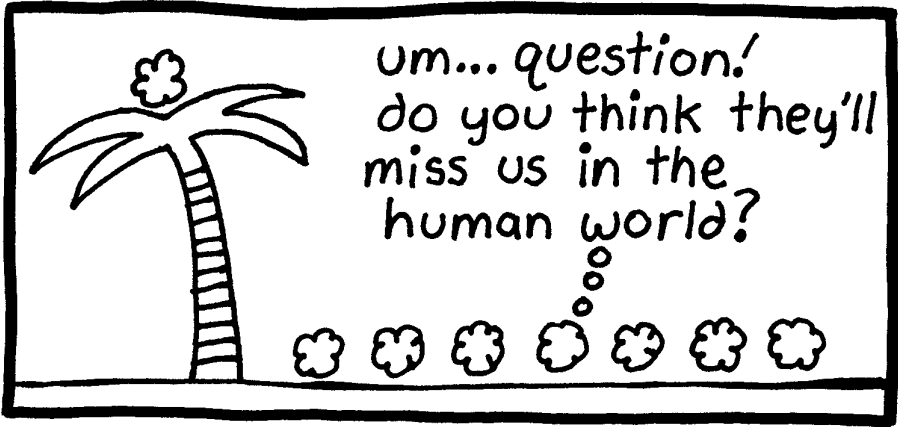
the sense that separates us
from the human world! the
sense that enables us to
gather peacefully - to see
ourselves in each other - the
sense that tells us that only
by giving freedom can
we receive it!

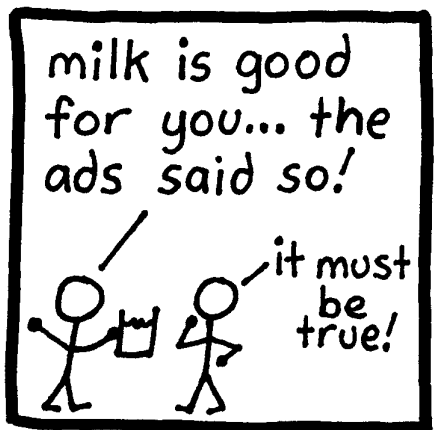
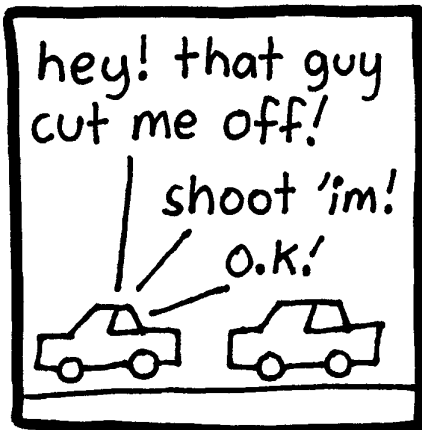
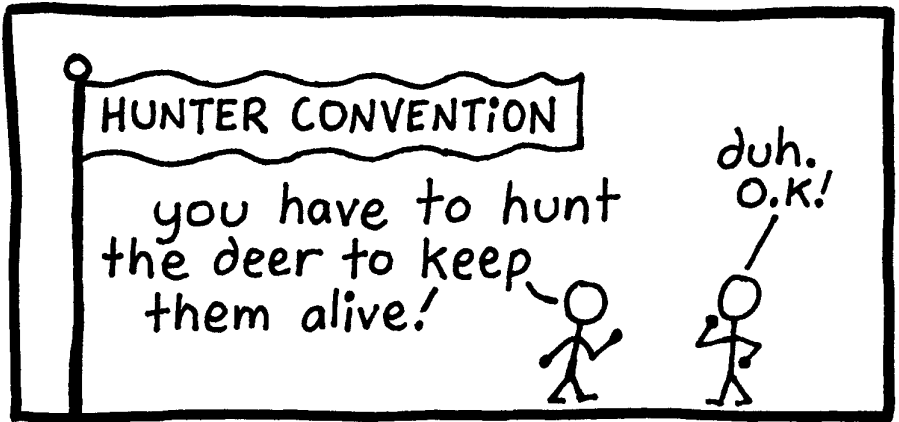


YES! BRAVO!
FREEDOM!
SENSE! YES!
ENCORE!
BRAVO! YES!
HOORAY!
FREEDOM!

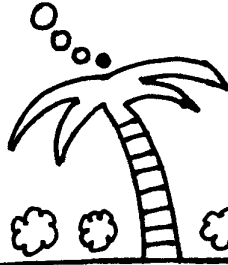


now this is
appreciation!
there must
be millions
of brains
on this
island!

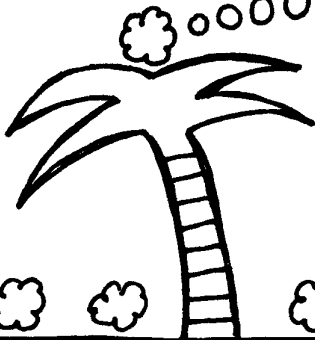




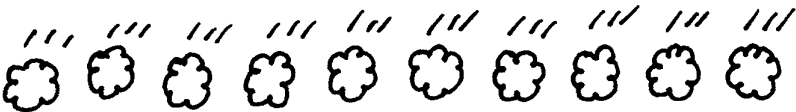
now I have some questions
of my own...

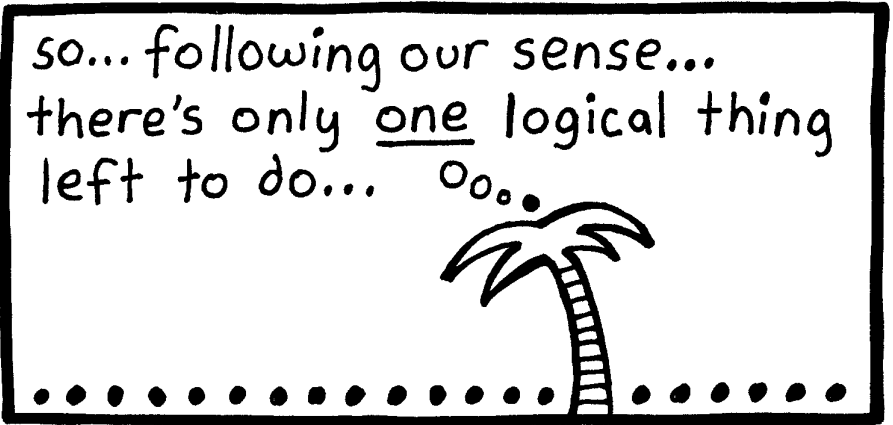


oooo is everyone
healthy and safe?

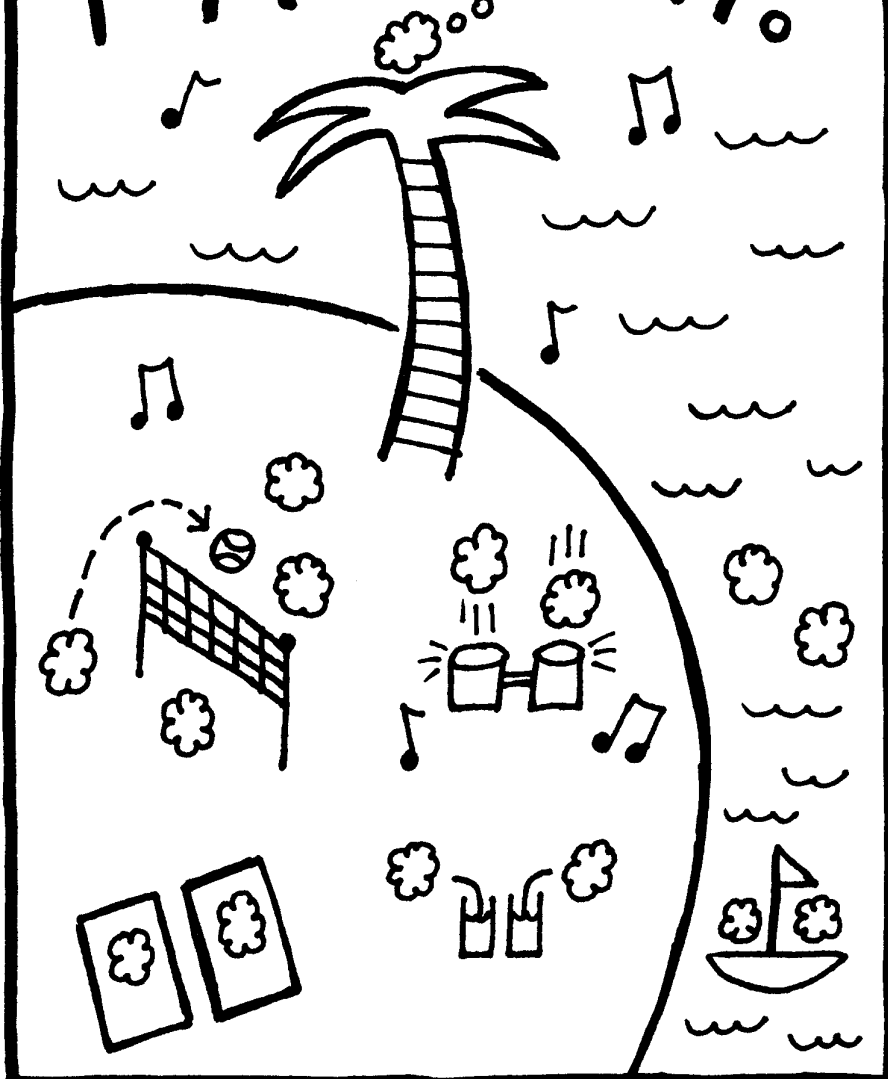


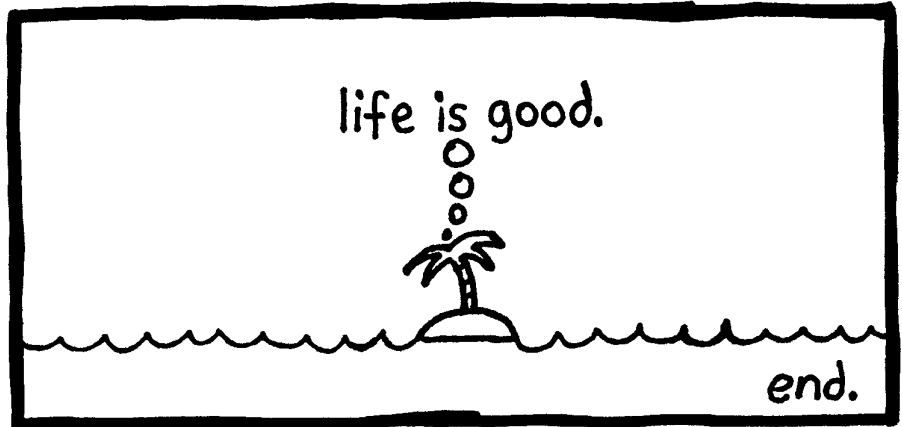
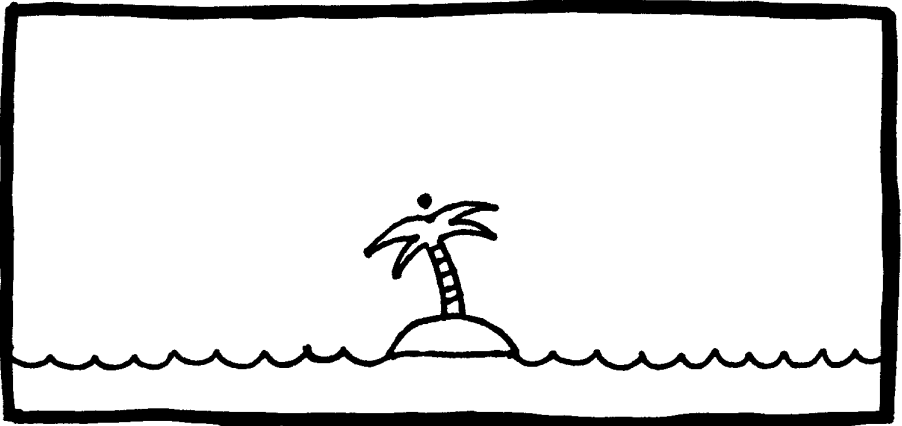
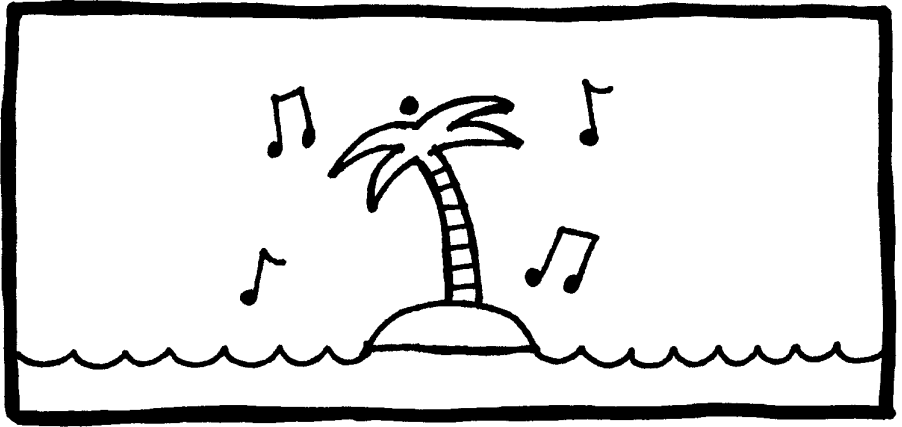
YES!





PAR-TAY!







www.LarryNocella.com

LarryN@LarryNocella.com