

ENTERTAINMENT  
AP  
ENTERTAINMENT  
MAY 13 #201

# GOLD DIGGER

FRED PERRY



# GOLD DIGGER



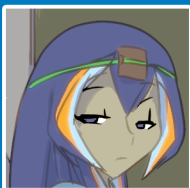
**199 FREE GD issues!**  
[www.antarcticpresslibrary.com](http://www.antarcticpresslibrary.com)



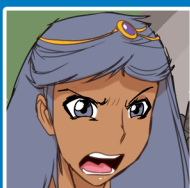
**GINA DIGGERS:** Archaeologist, super-scientist, and adventurer; lover of all things Monty Python, Roddenberry and Lucas. After many years exploring the bizarre and inexplicable all over the Earth and off it, she now teaches archaeology at a local university in her home of Atlanta, Georgia, preparing the next generation of adventurers. Her current project is Earth's Age of Wonders. Among those helping or hindering her are:



**EBENEZER SLEAKE:** Gina's current main squeeze, Professor Sleake is an adventurer like her. While Gina far outranks him in variety of experience, 'Nez is an archaeologist par excellence. His focused study and natural observational skill allow him to piece together past events from the tiniest of clues on a site. Like Gina, he shares a weakness for easily found "on" buttons and attractive members of the opposite sex.



**PORTIA:** Portia is a native of Ooshoosh Island, where the women are 40 feet tall and the men only 1/4 that size. As a sage in a tribe of warrior/hunters, she was bottom rung for acquiring a mate...until Prof. Sleake arrived on an anthropology mission. She soon created a size-reduction spell that let her accompany him to the outside world. She shows a little deference for his relationship with Gina, but per her tribe's tradition, unless Gina's pregnant with his child, he's fair game.



**L'RETTA:** Daughter of Jehsya, the Queen of the Amazons on the world of Jade, L'retta is heir to a proud tradition of warrior training. She is also one of the Amazon Breeders, whose skills help maintain the genetic viability of all manner of human and demi-human races on Jade. Her lack of impulse control tends to put her in embarrassment and/or danger all too often.

**STORY & ART BY**

**FRED PERRY**

FREDGDPERRY.DEVIANTART.COM

GD200FANMAIL@GMAIL.COM

**EDITED BY**

**DOUG DLIN**

**WES HARTMAN**

**200+**

**Sure, the 200th issue has already hit, but that's no reason to think it's too late to write in! We're always looking for more great fan commentary and stories of GD experiences! Tell us what you think by sending those letters to**

**[GD200fanmail@gmail.com](mailto:GD200fanmail@gmail.com)**

**PRESIDENT**  
Joe Dunn

**ART DIRECTOR**  
Joseph Wight

**IN-HOUSE ARTISTS**  
Fred Perry  
Brian Denham  
Rod Espinosa  
David Hutchison  
Robert Acosta

**FOUNDER**  
Ben Dunn

**VP OF PRODUCTION**  
Wes Hartman

**PROD. ASSISTANTS**  
Tony Galvan  
Zech Gray  
Grady Phillips

**EDITOR IN CHIEF**  
Jochen Weltjens

**PUBLISHING MANAGER**  
Robby Bevard

**SALES DIRECTOR**  
Lee Duhig

**OFFICE MANAGER**  
Doug Dlin

Gold Digger is published by Antarctic Press, 7272 Wurzbach, Suite #204, San Antonio, Texas, 78240. FAX#: (210) 593-0692. Gold Digger and all related characters are © and ©2013 Fred Perry. All other material is ™ and ©2013 Antarctic Press. No similarity to any actual character(s) and/or place(s) is intended, and any such similarity is purely coincidental. Nothing from this book may be reproduced without the express written consent of the author, except for purposes of review or promotion. "Bulk granola, do your stuff!" Printed in the USA by Brenner Printing, Inc.

MY NAME'S GINA...  
GINA DIGGERS.

I'M AN EXPLORER,  
SCIENTIST AND  
ARCHAEOLOGIST.

WORLD-FAMOUS...  
ON EARTH, THAT IS.

BUT THIS  
ISN'T EARTH.

THIS "JADE REALM"  
IS A WHOLE WORLD  
APART!

JADE IS WHERE MOM  
WAS BORN... AS THE  
HEREDITARY LEADER  
OF JADE'S POWERFUL  
BARBARIAN CLAN!

MOM'S OFFICIAL  
INAUGURATION IS  
IN A FEW WEEKS...  
SO...I GUESS...

...THAT ALSO  
MAKES ME  
GINA DIGGERS:  
BARBARIAN  
PRINCESS!

NEXT IN LINE TO  
THE THRONE...

...WEARER OF  
ROYAL, ARMORED  
BIKINI "FORMAL  
ATTIRE"...

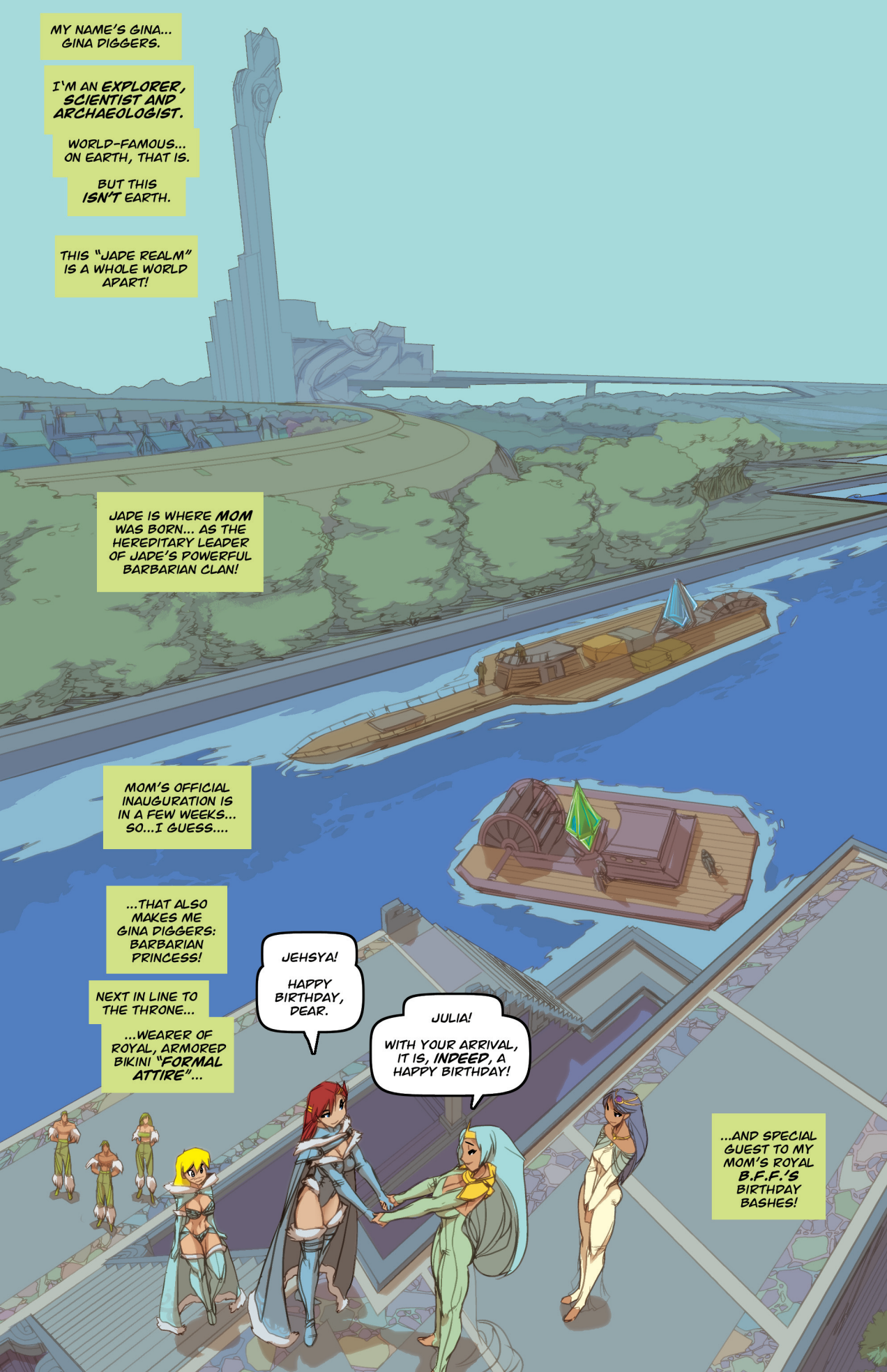
JEHSYA!

HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY,  
DEAR.

JULIA!

WITH YOUR ARRIVAL,  
IT IS, INDEED, A  
HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

...AND SPECIAL  
GUEST TO MY  
MOM'S ROYAL  
B.F.F.'S  
BIRTHDAY  
BASHES!



MOM AND THE AMAZON QUEEN ARE LIFELONG FRIENDS...

THEY'RE LIKE SISTERS!

ALTHOUGH, "AUNTIE" JEHSYA GETS A LITTLE TOO FAMILIAR EVERY NOW AND THEN...

MY GOODNESS, LOOK AT YOU *GROWING* GINA!

YOU'VE INHERITED YOUR GRANDMOTHER'S ROBUST MUSCULATURE...AND HER GENEROUS GLANDS!

MAY I?

THAT'S OKAYNO! AHEH!

DON'T GET THE WRONG IDEA...

...AMAZON BREEDERS LIKE QUEEN JEHSYA KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT ANATOMY AND GENETIC ENGINEERING TO FILL A LIBRARY OF MEDICAL JOURNALS!

BUT THEY SEE BODIES AS MACHINES...

...AND AUNTIE JEHSYA'S FASCINATED WITH MY "MAKE AND MODEL"!



COME ALONG, "JESSIE".

YOU CAN FLUSTER MY POOR GINA ON SOME OTHER OCCASION.

TELL ME OF YOUR ARRANGEMENTS.

I HEAR IT'S GOING TO BE A PARTY OF SPECIAL MAGNIFICENCE!

WELL, YOU KNOW HOW ENTHUSIASTIC MY ADVISORS ARE... ESPECIALLY TIERRA!

SHE'S GOT THE WHOLE PLACE IN AN UPROAR!

HALF THE REGION MIGHT SHOW UP!!!



BUT IF JEHSYA IS MY KOOKY "AUNT"...

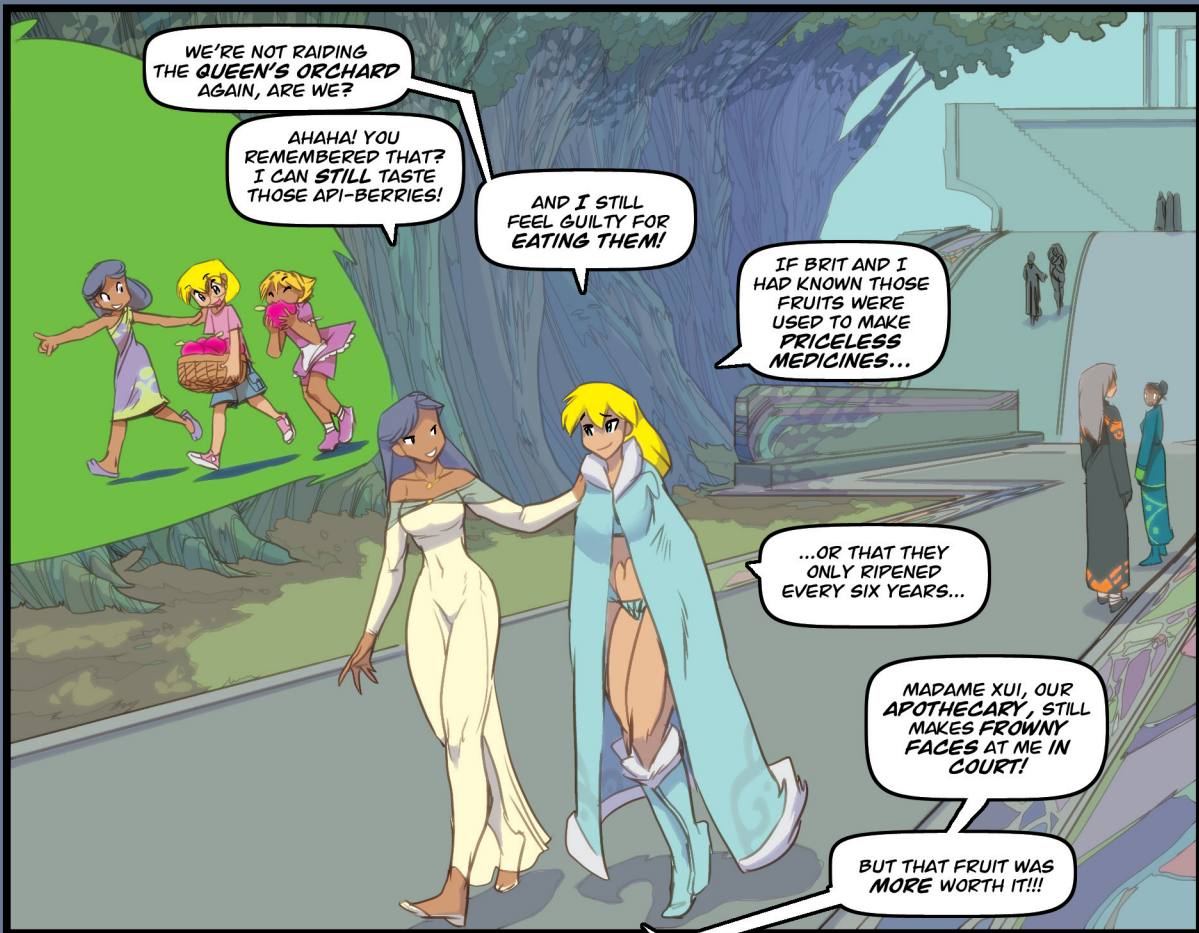
PSST.

GINA, FOLLOW ME.

...L'RETTA'S MY CRAZY "COUSIN!"

I'VE GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL TO SHOW YOU THIS TIME!!!





WE'RE NOT RAIDING THE QUEEN'S ORCHARD AGAIN, ARE WE?

AHAHA! YOU REMEMBERED THAT? I CAN STILL TASTE THOSE API-BERRIES!

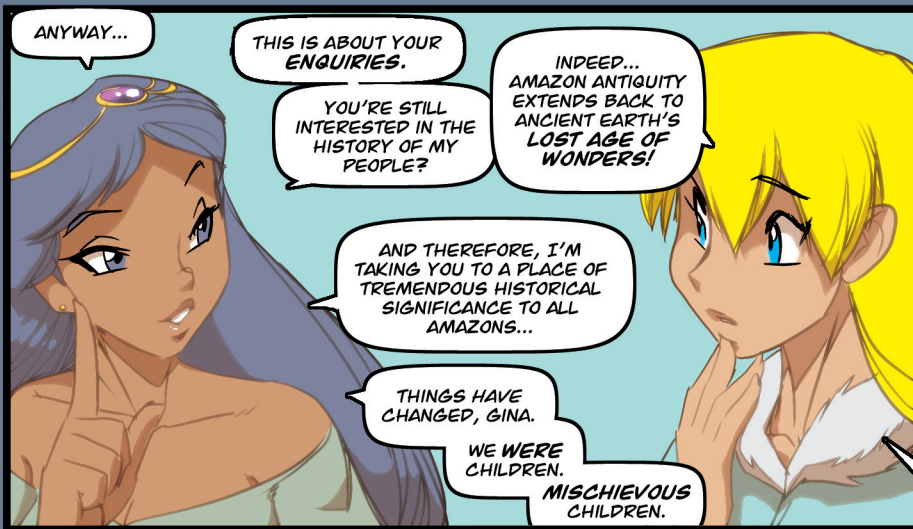
AND I STILL FEEL GUILTY FOR EATING THEM!

IF BRIT AND I HAD KNOWN THOSE FRUITS WERE USED TO MAKE PRICELESS MEDICINES...

...OR THAT THEY ONLY RIPENED EVERY SIX YEARS...

MADAME XUI, OUR APOTHECARY, STILL MAKES FROWNY FACES AT ME IN COURT!

BUT THAT FRUIT WAS MORE WORTH IT!!!



ANYWAY...

THIS IS ABOUT YOUR ENQUIRIES.

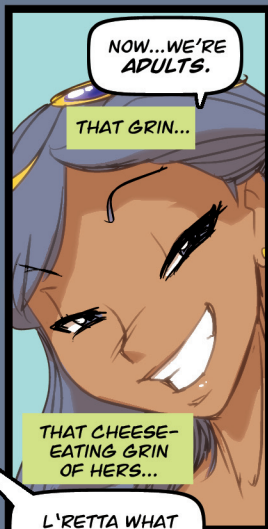
YOU'RE STILL INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY OF MY PEOPLE?

INDEED... AMAZON ANTIQUITY EXTENDS BACK TO ANCIENT EARTH'S LOST AGE OF WONDERS!

AND THEREFORE, I'M TAKING YOU TO A PLACE OF TREMENDOUS HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE TO ALL AMAZONS...

THINGS HAVE CHANGED, GINA.

WE WERE CHILDREN. MISCHIEVOUS CHILDREN.



NOW...WE'RE ADULTS.

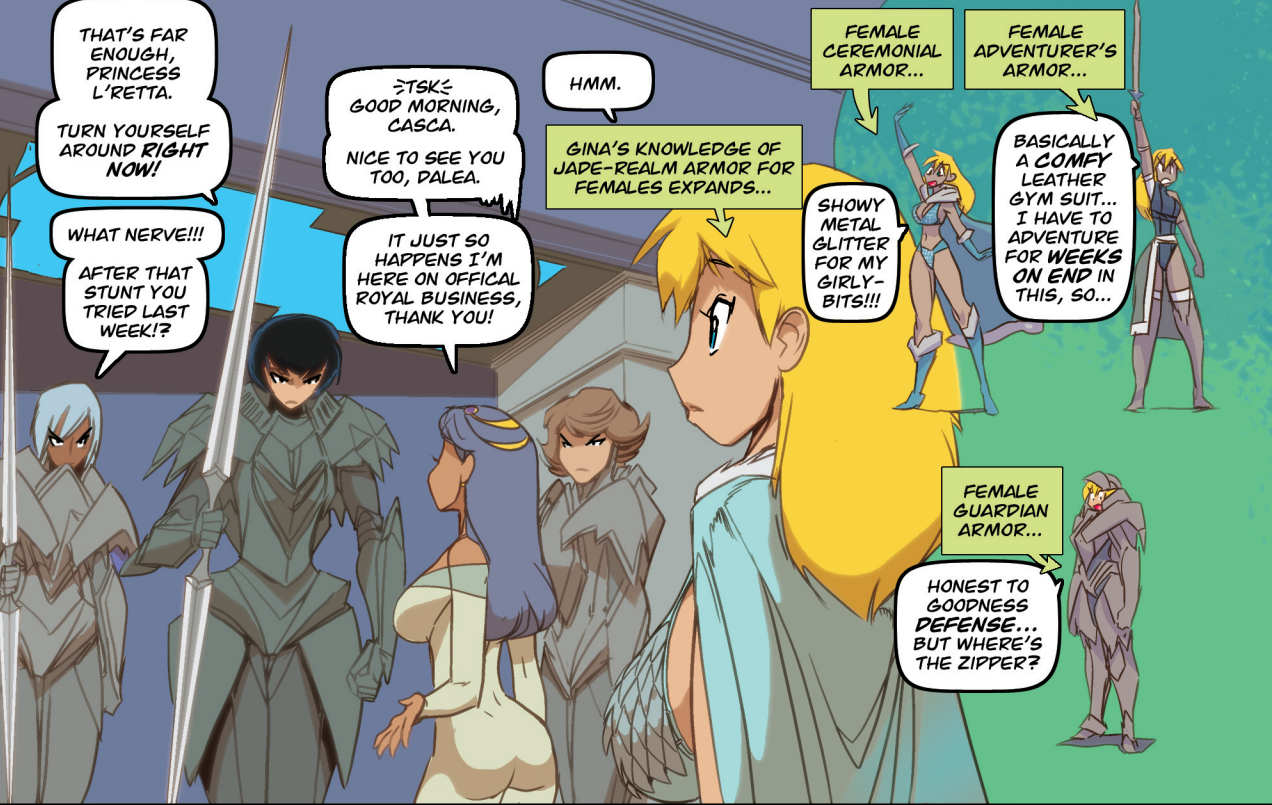
THAT GRIN...

THAT CHEESE-EATING GRIN OF HERS...

L'RETTA WHAT ARE YOU UP T--



HALT!!!



THAT'S FAR ENOUGH, PRINCESS L'RETTA.

TURN YOURSELF AROUND RIGHT NOW!

WHAT NERVE!!!

AFTER THAT STUNT YOU TRIED LAST WEEK!?

≥TSK≤  
GOOD MORNING, CASCA.  
NICE TO SEE YOU TOO, DALEA.

HMM.

GINA'S KNOWLEDGE OF JADE-REALM ARMOR FOR FEMALES EXPANDS...

FEMALE CEREMONIAL ARMOR...

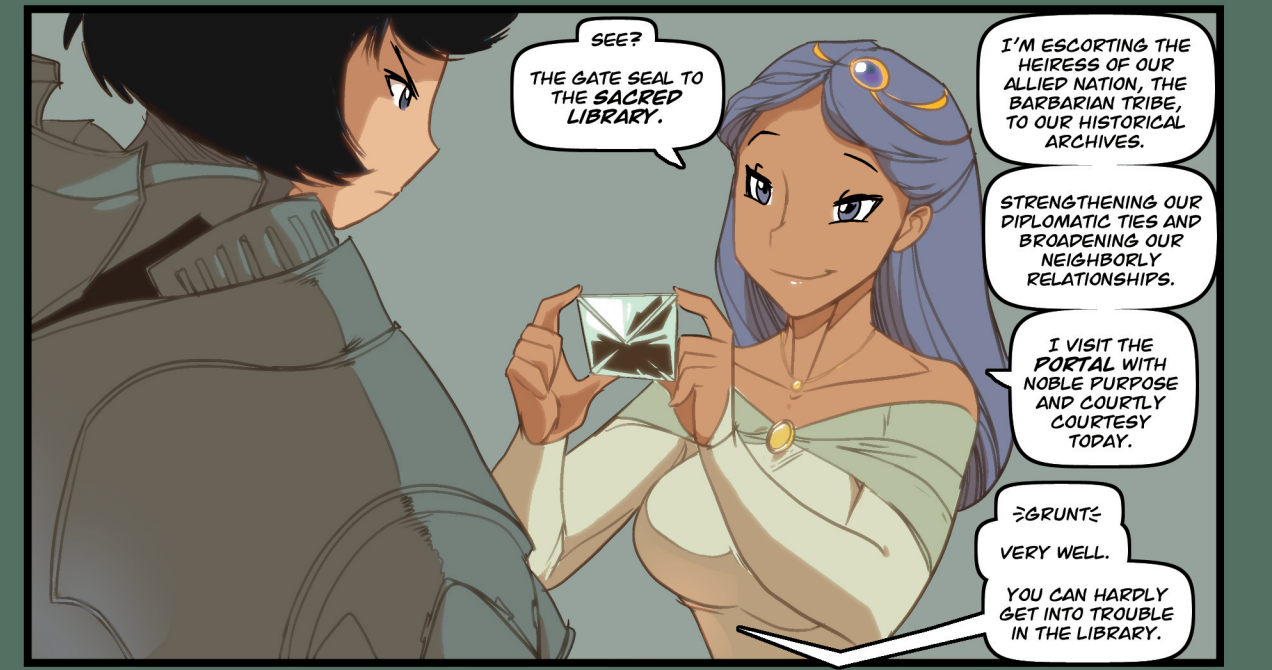
FEMALE ADVENTURER'S ARMOR...

SHOWY METAL GLITTER FOR MY GIRLY-BITS!!!

BASICALLY A COMFY LEATHER GYM SUIT... I HAVE TO ADVENTURE FOR WEEKS ON END IN THIS, SO...

FEMALE GUARDIAN ARMOR...

HONEST TO GOODNESS DEFENSE... BUT WHERE'S THE ZIPPER?



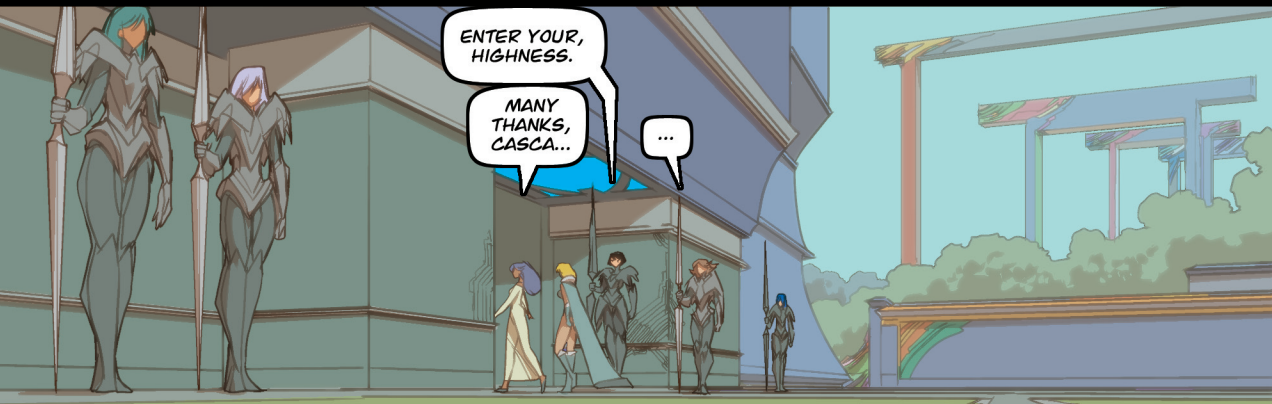
SEE?  
THE GATE SEAL TO THE SACRED LIBRARY.

I'M ESCORTING THE HEIRESS OF OUR ALLIED NATION, THE BARBARIAN TRIBE, TO OUR HISTORICAL ARCHIVES.

STRENGTHENING OUR DIPLOMATIC TIES AND BROADENING OUR NEIGHBORLY RELATIONSHIPS.

I VISIT THE PORTAL WITH NOBLE PURPOSE AND COURTLY COURTESY TODAY.

≥GRUNT≤  
VERY WELL.  
YOU CAN HARDLY GET INTO TROUBLE IN THE LIBRARY.



ENTER YOUR, HIGHNESS.

MANY THANKS, CASCA...

...



UHMMM...  
L'RETTA...WHAT DID THAT  
GUARD MEAN WHEN SHE  
REFERRED TO A "STUNT YOU  
TRIED LAST WEEK..."?

HMHMHM...  
IF I TOLD YOU  
IT WOULD SPOIL  
THE SURPRISE!

AND YOU'RE  
GOING TO  
LOVE THIS!!

ABSOLUTELY  
LOVE IT!!!

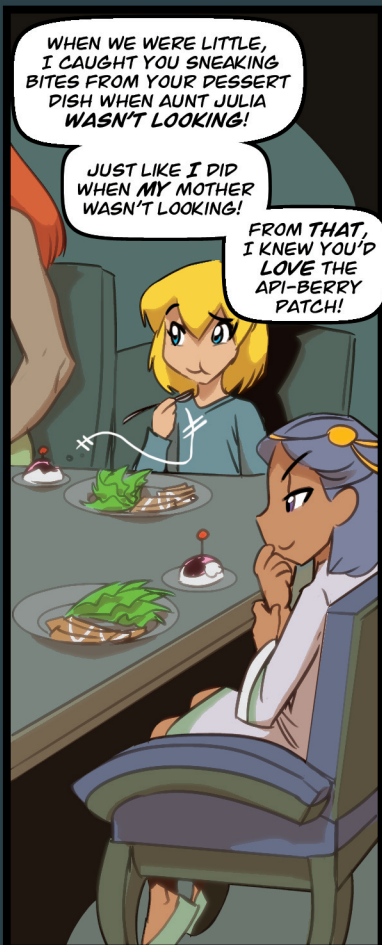


DON'T  
BE SO  
SURE.

WE'RE NOT  
KIDS ANY  
MORE,  
L'RETTA.

BUT I AM  
SURE, GINA.

BECAUSE  
WE'RE STILL  
VERY MUCH  
ALIKE!!!



WHEN WE WERE LITTLE,  
I CAUGHT YOU SNEAKING  
BITES FROM YOUR DESERT  
DISH WHEN AUNT JULIA  
WASN'T LOOKING!

JUST LIKE I DID  
WHEN MY MOTHER  
WASN'T LOOKING!

FROM THAT,  
I KNEW YOU'D  
LOVE THE  
API-BERRY  
PATCH!



AND HERE WE ARE,  
DECADES LATER...

I CAUGHT YOU OGLING  
SOME OF THE WELL-TONED  
HEINIES OF YOUR BARBARIAN  
HONOR-GUARD WHEN AUNT  
JULIA WASN'T LOOKING!

JUST LIKE I  
WAS OGLING A  
FEW SECONDS  
EARLIER!

OH, YES, GINA,  
I CAN TELL...  
OUR APPETITES  
ARE IDENTICAL!

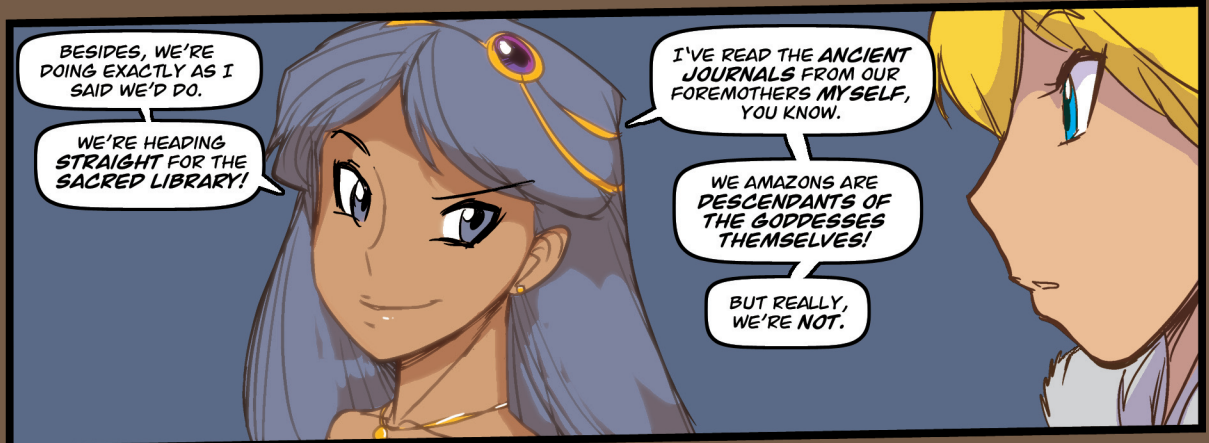


OKAY...YOU KNOW THIS IS TOTALLY MAKING ME PARANOID, L'RETTA.

BUT YOU'RE CURIOUS, GINA!

YOU'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO OUTSMART YOUR CURIOSITY!

AND THAT'S WHY YOU'RE GOING TO FOLLOW ME RIGHT TO MY SURPRISE!



BESIDES, WE'RE DOING EXACTLY AS I SAID WE'D DO.

WE'RE HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE SACRED LIBRARY!

I'VE READ THE ANCIENT JOURNALS FROM OUR FOREMOTHERS MYSELF, YOU KNOW.

WE AMAZONS ARE DESCENDANTS OF THE GODDESSES THEMSELVES!

BUT REALLY, WE'RE NOT.



WE'RE ACTUALLY DESCENDED FROM MAGICALLY CRAFTED CALL GIRLS AND BIGOLOS FOR A RACE OF "OUTSIDERS" WHO CALLED THEMSELVES "OLYMPIANS".

BUT THAT DOESN'T SOUND NEARLY AS AWE-INSPIRING.

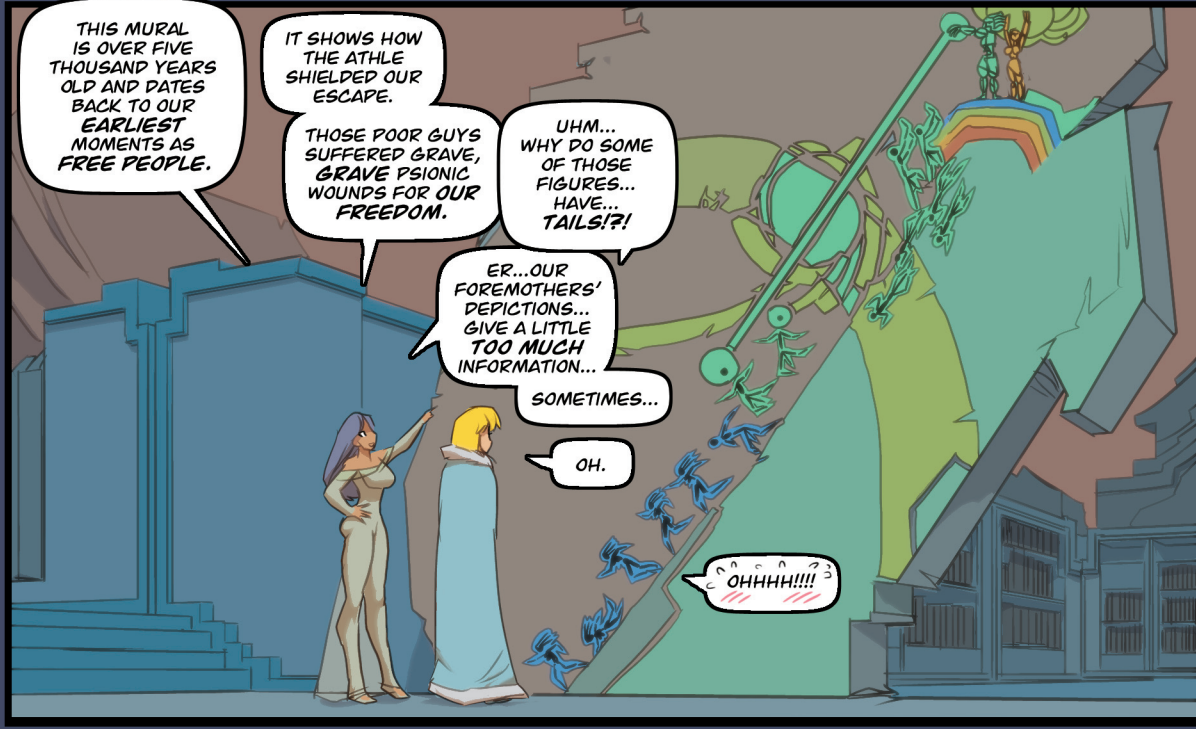


"GIGLOS"?!?  
THERE WERE MALE  
AMAZONS?!?"

WERE  
AND STILL  
ARE.

THE ATHLE WERE THE  
ONES WHO BROKE US  
ALL FREE FROM THE  
OLYMPIANS' PSIONIC  
FETTERS!

OVER HERE.  
I'LL SHOW  
YOU.



THIS MURAL  
IS OVER FIVE  
THOUSAND YEARS  
OLD AND DATES  
BACK TO OUR  
EARLIEST  
MOMENTS AS  
FREE PEOPLE.

IT SHOWS HOW  
THE ATHLE  
SHIELDED OUR  
ESCAPE.

THOSE POOR GUYS  
SUFFERED GRAVE,  
GRAVE PSIONIC  
WOUNDS FOR OUR  
FREEDOM.

UHM...  
WHY DO SOME  
OF THOSE  
FIGURES...  
HAVE...  
TAILS?!?"

ER...OUR  
FORMOTHERS'  
DEPICTIONS...  
GIVE A LITTLE  
TOO MUCH  
INFORMATION...

SOMETIMES...

OH.

OHHHH!!!!



YOU MENTIONED  
"PSIONIC WOUNDS"?

I DID.

THE "FETTER  
SCARS" MAKE IT  
IMPOSSIBLE FOR  
OUR GUYS TO GRASP  
THE CONCEPTS OF  
DECEIT AND  
MISTRUST.

THEY'RE REAL  
SMART. THEY'RE  
STRONG, TOO.

BUT THEY  
WOULDN'T LAST A  
PAY OUT IN THE  
WORLD.

WE LOVE OUR  
GUYS VERY  
MUCH...

WE PROTECT  
THEM...

PRESERVE  
THEM.

PRESERVE?

INDEED.

PRESERVATION OF THE ATHLE IS THE PRIMARY ROLE OF ALL BREEDER CASTE AMAZO--

SHH.

OKAY...

THE LIBRARIANS IN THIS SECTION ARE LEAVING...

NOW'S OUR CHANCE!!!  
♡

QUICKLY!!!

DOWN HERE!!!  
NO ONE IS IN SHOT OF THE SPHERE DANCER STATUE!

WHAT?

HURRY!  
I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING ON THE WAY!!!

BUT--

Poink  
Poink

Poink  
Poink

~  
BING  
BING

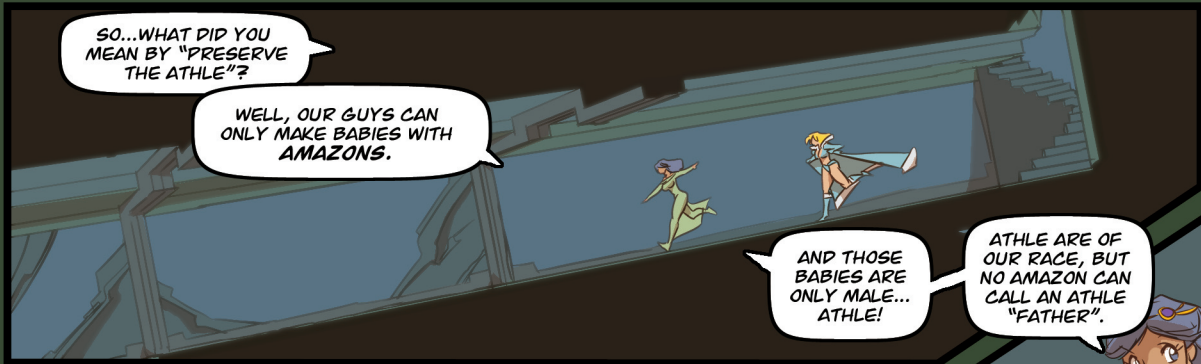
SHHHKKK

CHK

GINA DIGGERS...

...WHAT ARE YOU GETTING YOURSELF INTO?

SHHHKKK

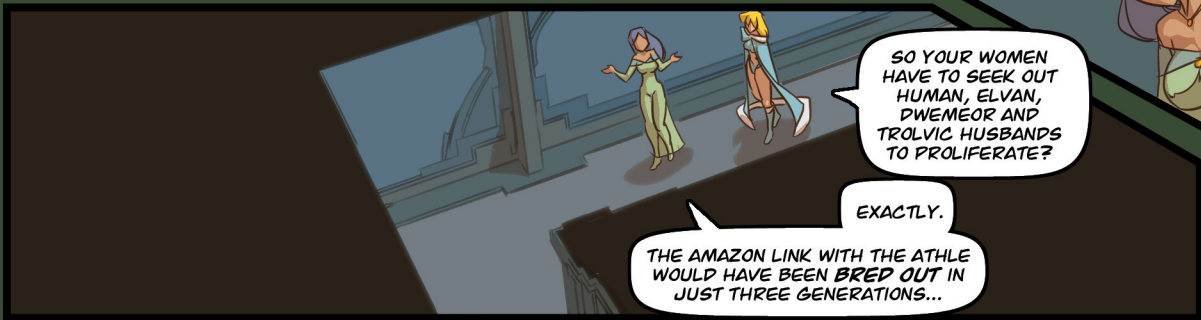


SO...WHAT DID YOU MEAN BY "PRESERVE THE ATHLE"?

WELL, OUR GUYS CAN ONLY MAKE BABIES WITH AMAZONS.

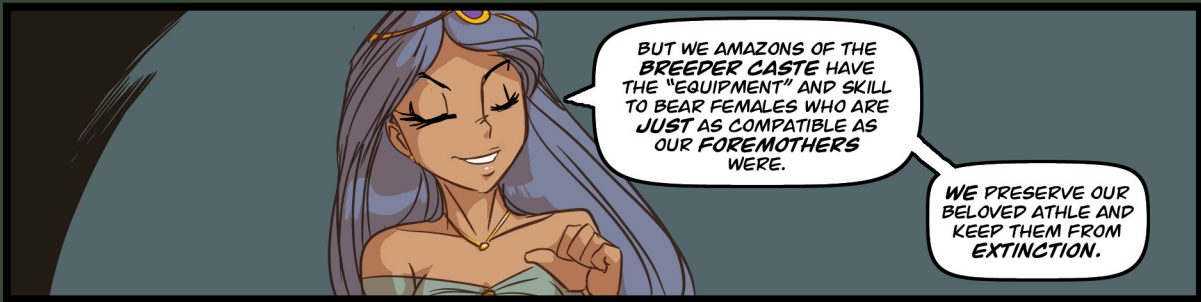
AND THOSE BABIES ARE ONLY MALE... ATHLE!

ATHLE ARE OF OUR RACE, BUT NO AMAZON CAN CALL AN ATHLE "FATHER".



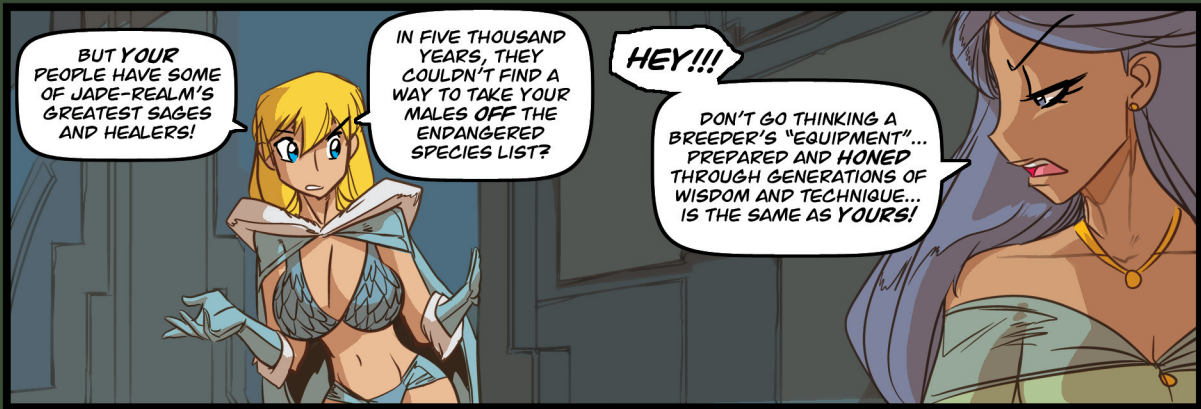
SO YOUR WOMEN HAVE TO SEEK OUT HUMAN, ELVAN, DWEMEOR AND TROLVIC HUSBANDS TO PROLIFERATE?

EXACTLY.  
THE AMAZON LINK WITH THE ATHLE WOULD HAVE BEEN BREP OUT IN JUST THREE GENERATIONS...



BUT WE AMAZONS OF THE BREEPER CASTE HAVE THE "EQUIPMENT" AND SKILL TO BEAR FEMALES WHO ARE JUST AS COMPATIBLE AS OUR FOREMOTHERS WERE.

WE PRESERVE OUR BELOVED ATHLE AND KEEP THEM FROM EXTINCTION.

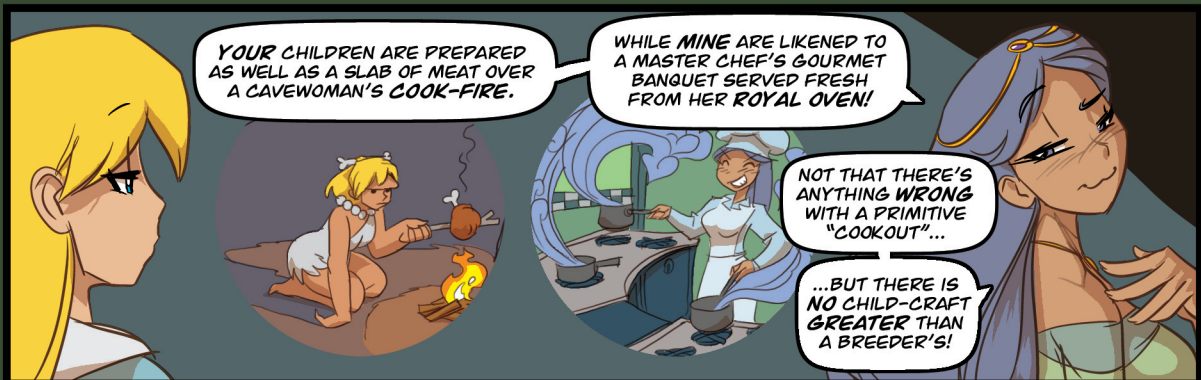


BUT YOUR PEOPLE HAVE SOME OF JAPE-REALM'S GREATEST SAGES AND HEALERS!

IN FIVE THOUSAND YEARS, THEY COULDN'T FIND A WAY TO TAKE YOUR MALES OFF THE ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST?

HEY!!!

DON'T GO THINKING A BREEPER'S "EQUIPMENT"... PREPARED AND HONED THROUGH GENERATIONS OF WISDOM AND TECHNIQUE... IS THE SAME AS YOURS!



YOUR CHILDREN ARE PREPARED AS WELL AS A SLAB OF MEAT OVER A CAVEWOMAN'S COOK-FIRE.

WHILE MINE ARE LIKENED TO A MASTER CHEF'S GOURMET BANQUET SERVED FRESH FROM HER ROYAL OVEN!

NOT THAT THERE'S ANYTHING WRONG WITH A PRIMITIVE "COOKOUT"...

...BUT THERE IS NO CHILD-CRAFT GREATER THAN A BREEPER'S!

NOW, FOR YOU TO ATTAIN A TRUE UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT MOTIVATES OUR CASTE'S QUEST FOR UNPARALLELED PARTURITIONAL ATTUNEMENT...

...I'LL NEED TO INTRODUCE YOU TO THE ONES WHOM I AND MY SISTER AMAZONS WOULD DO ANYTHING TO PROTECT!

THESE ARE OUR GUYS, GINA...

THE ATHLE.





THIS BEATS THE HECK OUT OF THAT API-BERRY PATCH, EH, COUSIN?

GREETINGS, ATHLE!!!

PRINCESS L'RETTA?

NO ONE TOLD US YOU'D BE VISITING.

AND ISN'T IT A WONDERFUL DAY TODAY?


IS ALL WELL?

KER-TECH-SPECTACLE-RECORD!!!

Mph!

RRF!



ooooo! 

PRINCESS L'RETTA!!! WHO'S YOUR FRIEND!?!?

CHIRP!



I'M FUCHSIA!

HEY!

LOOK DOWN.

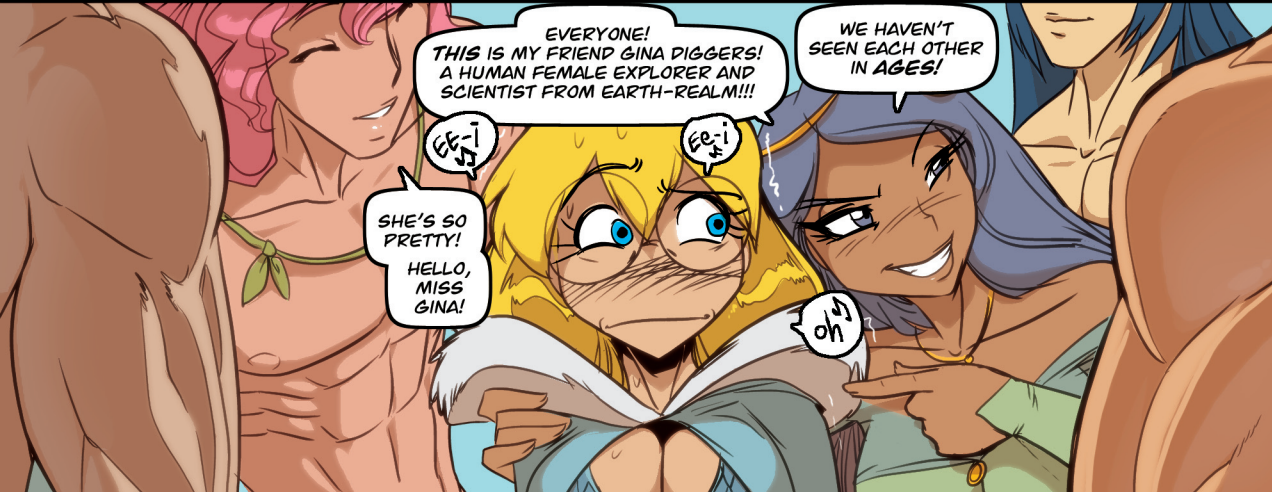
Quack!!

MWAHAHA! YEAAAAAH!

WELCOME. IT'S WONDERFUL TO HAVE YOU AS A GUEST ONCE AGAIN.

ASK THEM TO COME TO THE WESTERN GLADE!

IT'S ALMOST PICNIC TIME!



EVERYONE! THIS IS MY FRIEND GINA DIGGERS! A HUMAN FEMALE EXPLORER AND SCIENTIST FROM EARTH-REALM!!!

WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER IN AGES!

SHE'S SO PRETTY! HELLO, MISS GINA!

oh

EE-i

EE-i



MISS GINA? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

I'M FINE.

EEEKHAWWWW!!!

L'BI DO GINA

SLOZZER

USED TO BE IN CHARGE ALL THE TIME!!!

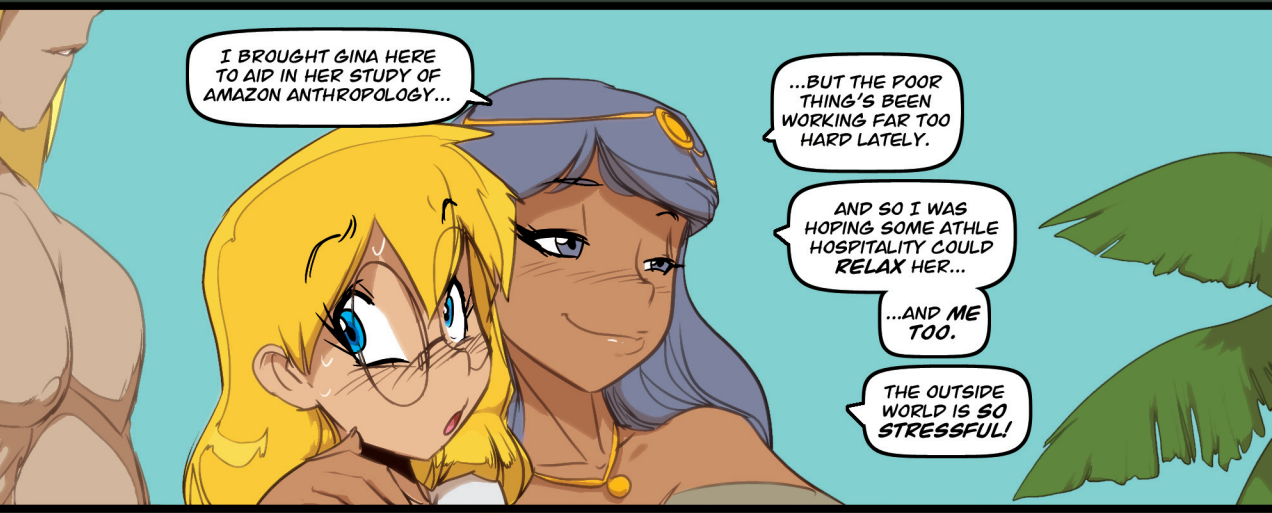
LOGIC GINA

YOU IDIOT!!! STOP STRIPPING THE "SPEECH GEARS"!!!

AND GET BACK TO YOUR SEAT!!!

THIS IS A SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITION!!!

AND WE HAVE A BOYFRIEND ALREADY!!!



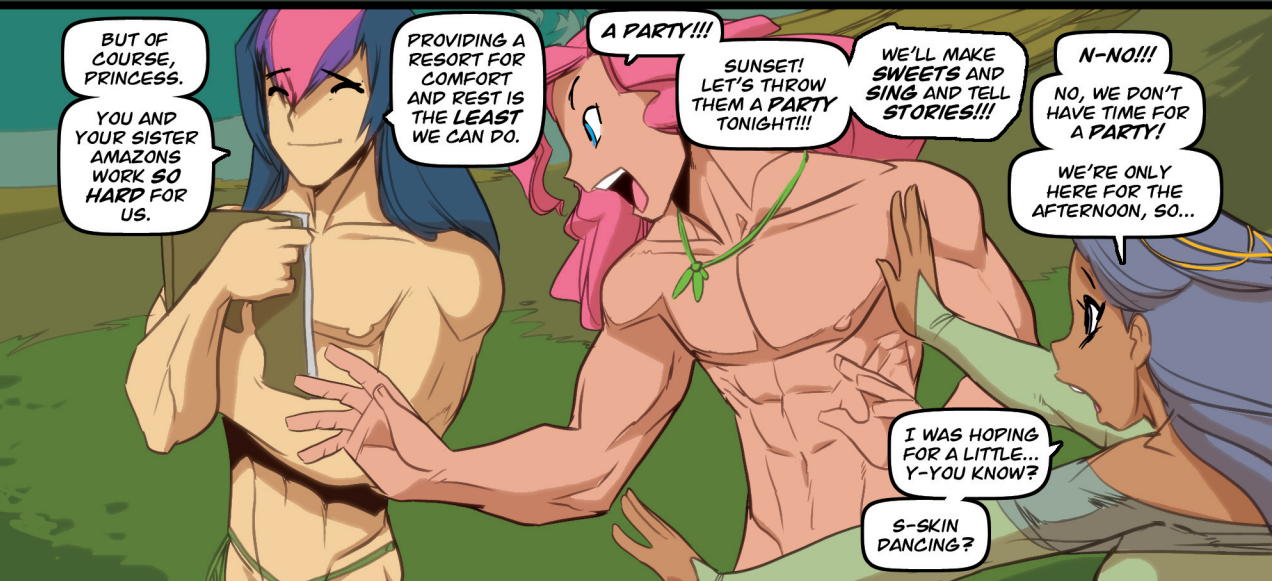
I BROUGHT GINA HERE TO AID IN HER STUDY OF AMAZON ANTHROPOLOGY...

...BUT THE POOR THING'S BEEN WORKING FAR TOO HARD LATELY.

AND SO I WAS HOPING SOME ATHLE HOSPITALITY COULD RELAX HER...

...AND ME TOO.

THE OUTSIDE WORLD IS SO STRESSFUL!



BUT OF COURSE, PRINCESS.

YOU AND YOUR SISTER AMAZONS WORK SO HARD FOR US.

PROVIDING A RESORT FOR COMFORT AND REST IS THE LEAST WE CAN DO.

A PARTY!!!

SUNSET! LET'S THROW THEM A PARTY TONIGHT!!!

WE'LL MAKE SWEETS AND SING AND TELL STORIES!!!

N-N-O!!! NO, WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR A PARTY!

WE'RE ONLY HERE FOR THE AFTERNOON, SO...

I WAS HOPING FOR A LITTLE... Y-YOU KNOW?

S-SKIN DANCING?



L'RETTA... WHAT DOES "SKIN DANCING" MEAN?

EXACTLY WHAT YOU THINK IT MEANS!!!

BUT WHAT IF WE HAD A FAST PARTY?

A PARTY SO FAST THAT IT WOULDN'T BE OVER BEFORE YOU COULD SAY "FAST PARTY"!!

WHICH MEANS WE'LL HAVE TO CALL IT SOMETHING ELSE!

>GASP< I GOT IT!

WE'LL HAVE US A "FA-ARTY"!!!!

I...

I-I WOULDN'T MIND D-DANCING...

...W-WITH MISS GINA.

I BAKED A MESS OF PASTRIES THIS MORNIN'.

THIS IS AS GOOD A REASON AS ANY TO CHOMP 'EM WHILE THEY'RE FRESH!

AN IMPROMPTU CELEBRATION DOES SOUND FUN...BUT WE'RE NOT CALLING IT WHAT FUCHSIA CALLED IT.

W-WAIT A MOMENT!

I'LL CAST US SOME MAGIC FA-ARTY POPPERS!!!

LIKE THIS!!!

OW!!! FUCHSIA!

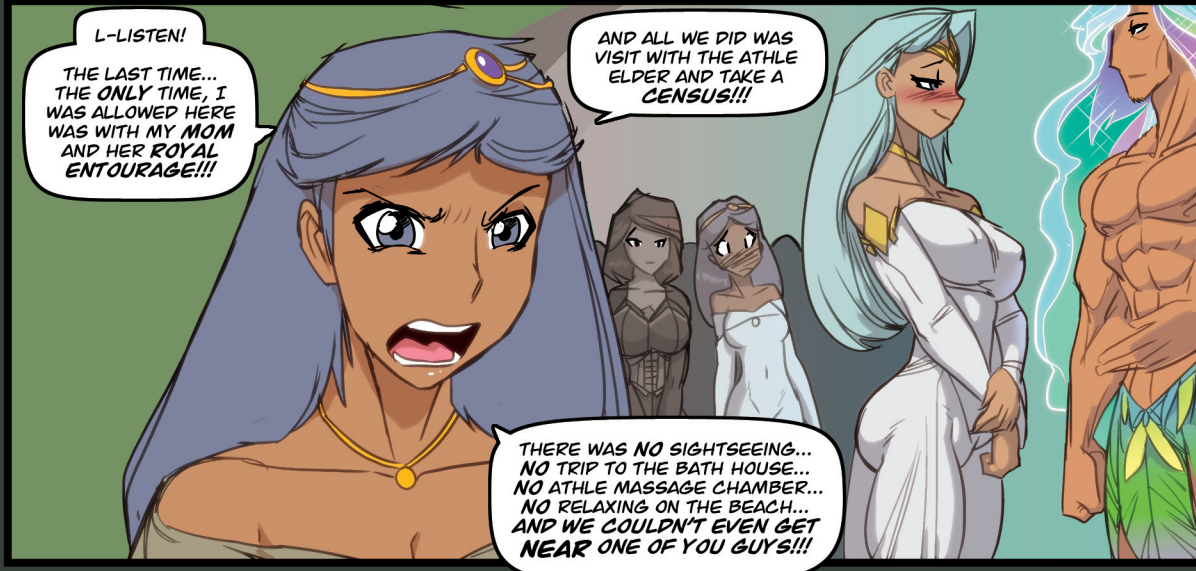


L-LISTEN!

THE LAST TIME... THE ONLY TIME, I WAS ALLOWED HERE WAS WITH MY MOM AND HER ROYAL ENTOURAGE!!!

AND ALL WE DID WAS VISIT WITH THE ATHLE ELDER AND TAKE A CENSUS!!!

THERE WAS NO SIGHTSEEING... NO TRIP TO THE BATH HOUSE... NO ATHLE MASSAGE CHAMBER... NO RELAXING ON THE BEACH... AND WE COULDN'T EVEN GET NEAR ONE OF YOU GUYS!!!



D-DID THAT GUY JUST USE MAGIC?!

C-COULDN'T WE HAVE THE STUPID PARTY AFTER WE--

Y-YOU KNOW?!

HUG!

PRINCESS L'RETTA NEEDS A HUG!!!





MMMMM!

O-O-KAY... THIS IS A-A GOOD START!



THERE! ALL HUGGED!

WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?

BR-BRING THOSE BICEPS BACK HERE!!!

BUT PRINCESS L'RETTA FEELS BETTER! DOESN'T SHE?



...



OKAY... MAYBE A LITTLE BIT!

HEE!



B-BUT I'M NOT SATISFIED!

I'VE READ ABOUT IT!

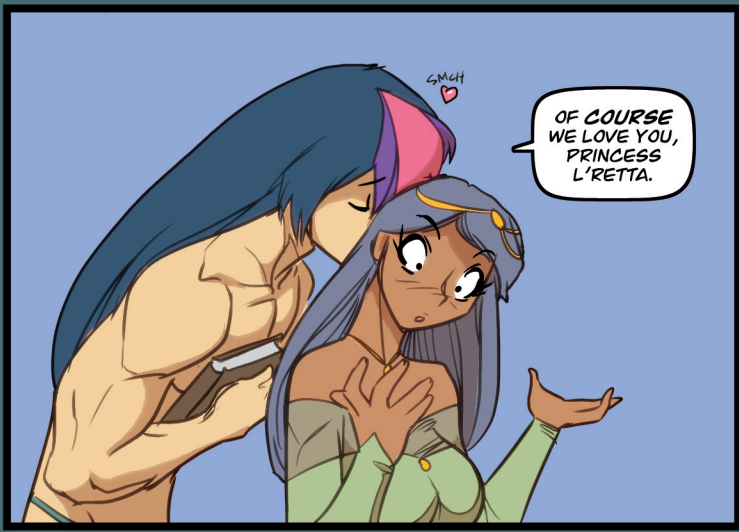
I'VE DREAMED ABOUT IT!

I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT MY SKIN DANCE!



THERE'S EVEN A POEM WRITTEN BY ATHENA ABOUT HOW HER ATHLE PUT A GRIN ON HER FACE THAT LASTED ALL DAY LONG!

IS BEING LOVED LIKE A GODDESS TOO MUCH TO ASK!?!



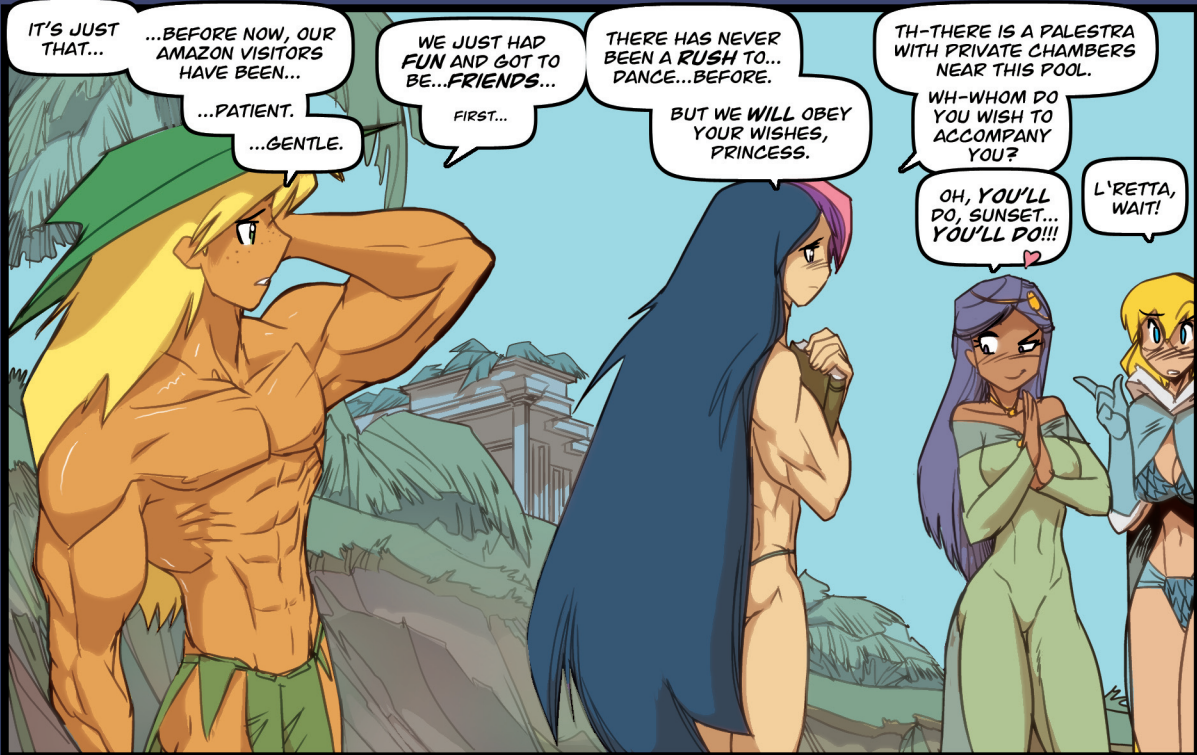
OF COURSE WE LOVE YOU, PRINCESS L'RETTA.



WE ATHLE ARE MADLY IN LOVE WITH OUR AMAZONS.

YOU'RE ALL SO BEAUTIFUL.

WHEN YOU'RE NEAR, OUR HEARTS SOAR WITH JOY AND WONDER!



IT'S JUST THAT...

...BEFORE NOW, OUR AMAZON VISITORS HAVE BEEN...

...PATIENT.  
...GENTLE.

WE JUST HAD FUN AND GOT TO BE...FRIENDS...  
FIRST...

THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A RUSH TO... DANCE...BEFORE.

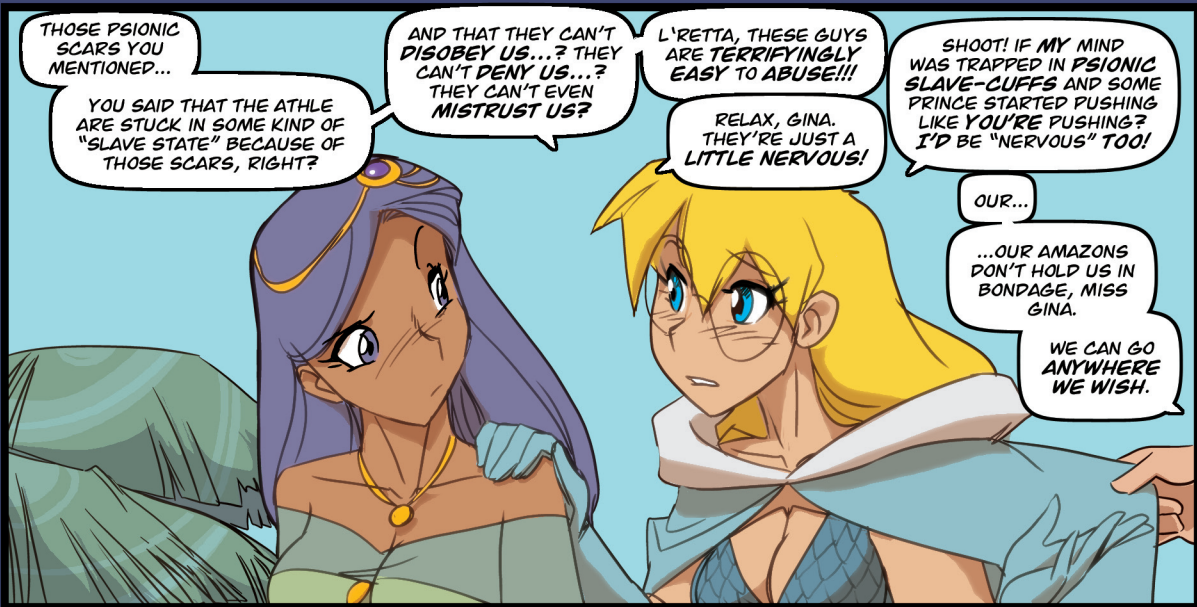
BUT WE WILL OBEY YOUR WISHES, PRINCESS.

TH-THERE IS A PALESTRA WITH PRIVATE CHAMBERS NEAR THIS POOL.

WH-WHOM DO YOU WISH TO ACCOMPANY YOU?

OH, YOU'LL DO, SUNSET... YOU'LL DO!!!

L'RETTA, WAIT!



THOSE PSIONIC SCARS YOU MENTIONED...

YOU SAID THAT THE ATHLE ARE STUCK IN SOME KIND OF "SLAVE STATE" BECAUSE OF THOSE SCARS, RIGHT?

AND THAT THEY CAN'T DISOBEY US...? THEY CAN'T DENY US...? THEY CAN'T EVEN MISTRUST US?

L'RETTA, THESE GUYS ARE TERRIFYINGLY EASY TO ABUSE!!!

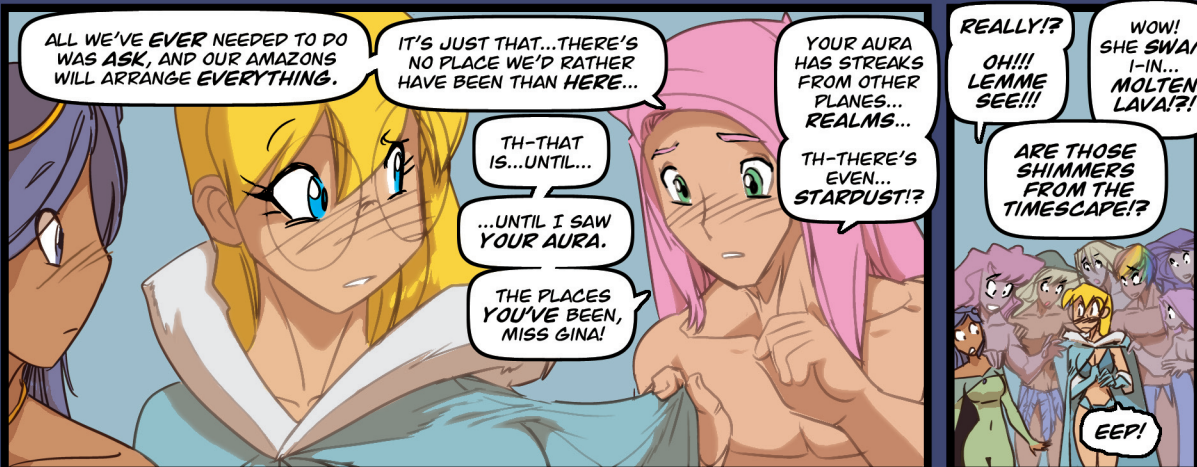
RELAX, GINA. THEY'RE JUST A LITTLE NERVOUS!

SHOOT! IF MY MIND WAS TRAPPED IN PSIONIC SLAVE-CUFFS AND SOME PRINCE STARTED PUSHING LIKE YOU'RE PUSHING? I'D BE "NERVOUS" TOO!

OUR...

...OUR AMAZONS DON'T HOLD US IN BONDAGE, MISS GINA.

WE CAN GO ANYWHERE WE WISH.



ALL WE'VE EVER NEEDED TO DO WAS ASK, AND OUR AMAZONS WILL ARRANGE EVERYTHING.

IT'S JUST THAT...THERE'S NO PLACE WE'D RATHER HAVE BEEN THAN HERE...

TH-THAT IS...UNTIL...

...UNTIL I SAW YOUR AURA.

THE PLACES YOU'VE BEEN, MISS GINA!

YOUR AURA HAS STREAKS FROM OTHER PLANES... REALMS...

TH-THERE'S EVEN... STARDUST!?

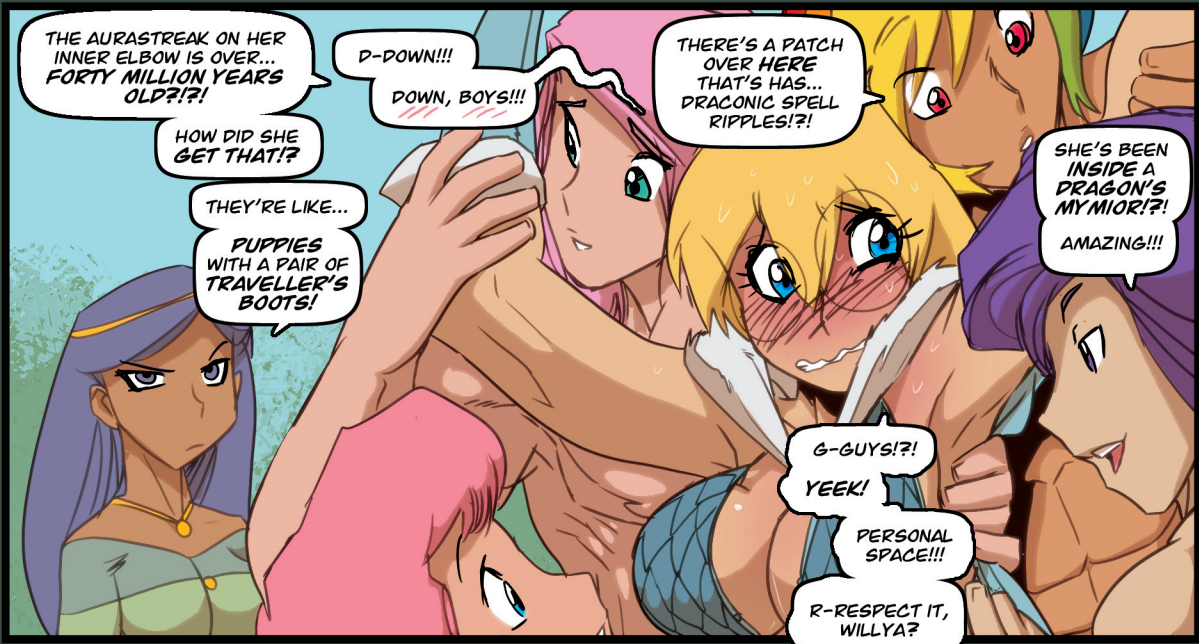
REALLY!?

OH!!! LEMME SEE!!!

WOW! SHE SWAM I-IN... MOLTEN LAVA!?

ARE THOSE SHIMMERS FROM THE TIMESCAPE?!

EEP!



THE AURASTREAK ON HER INNER ELBOW IS OVER... FORTY MILLION YEARS OLD?!?!

D-DOWN!!!  
DOWN, BOYS!!!

THERE'S A PATCH OVER HERE THAT'S HAS... DRACONIC SPELL RIPPLES?!!

SHE'S BEEN INSIDE A DRAGON'S MYMIOR?!!  
AMAZING!!!

HOW DID SHE GET THAT?!

THEY'RE LIKE...  
PUPPIES WITH A PAIR OF TRAVELLER'S BOOTS!

G-GUYS?!  
YEEK!

PERSONAL SPACE!!!

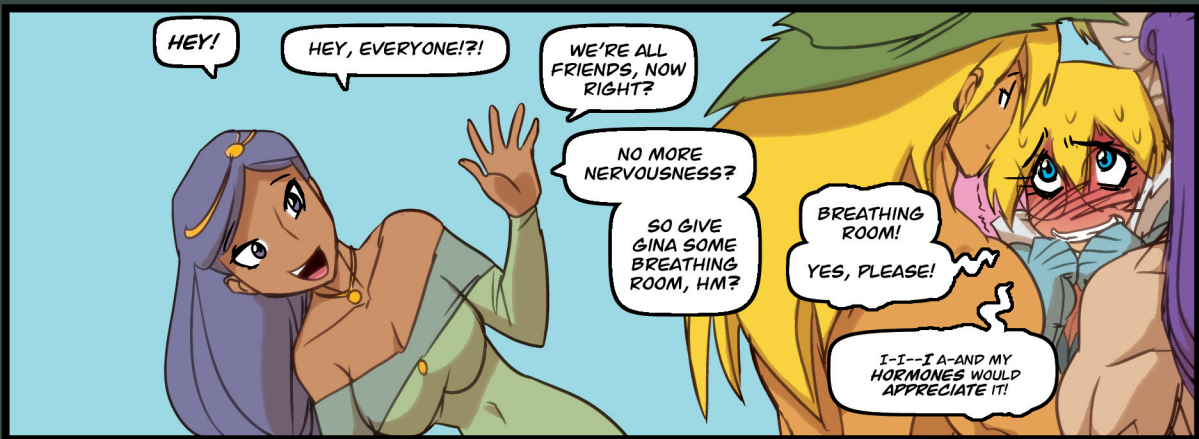
R-RESPECT IT, WILLYA?



JUST A MOMENT...

THE ICE IS BROKEN! ♡

HM!



HEY!

HEY, EVERYONE?!!

WE'RE ALL FRIENDS, NOW RIGHT?

NO MORE NERVOUSNESS?

SO GIVE GINA SOME BREATHING ROOM, HM?

BREATHING ROOM!  
YES, PLEASE!

I-I--I A-AND MY HORMONES WOULD APPRECIATE IT!



SO WHAT IF GINA PROMISED TO LET US VISIT HER HOME REALM SOMETIME?

WE CAN RELAX AND PLAN THE WHOLE TRIP OVER THERE AT THE PALESTRA!

ON THOSE HUGE, COMFORTABLE PALESTRA COUCHES!!! ♡

WHAT SAY YOU ALL?

C-CAN WE?!!

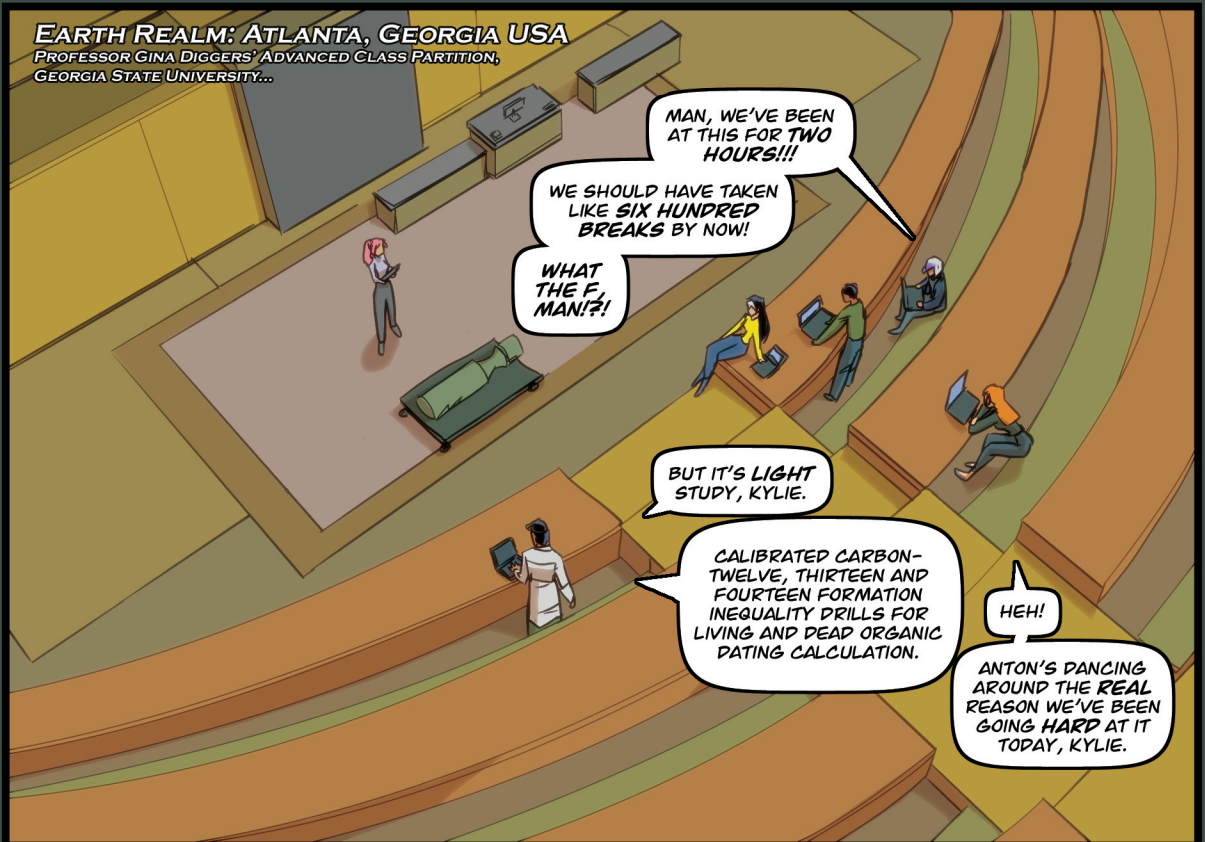
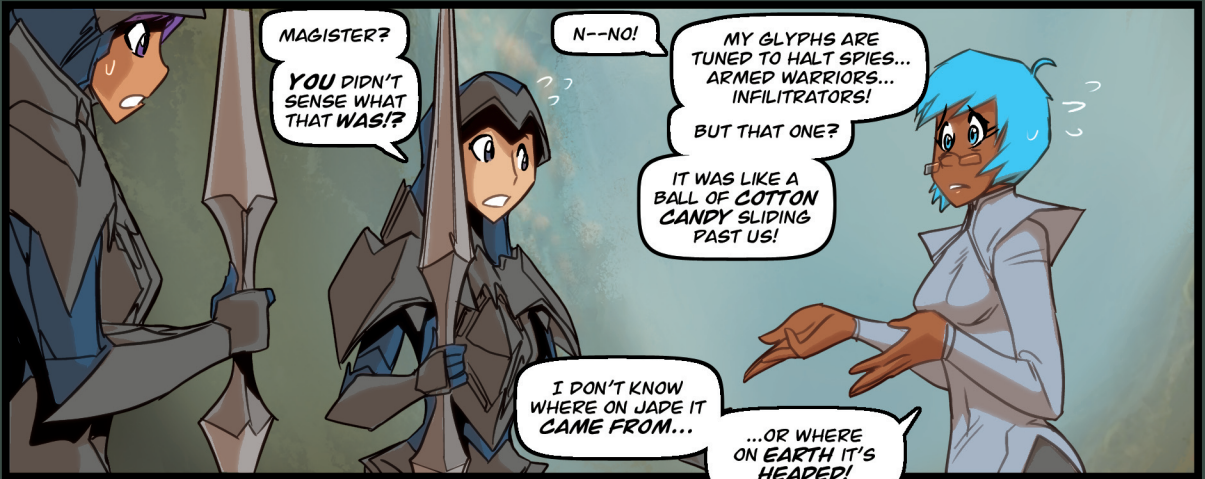
TRULY?!!

99.9% MAXED OUT!

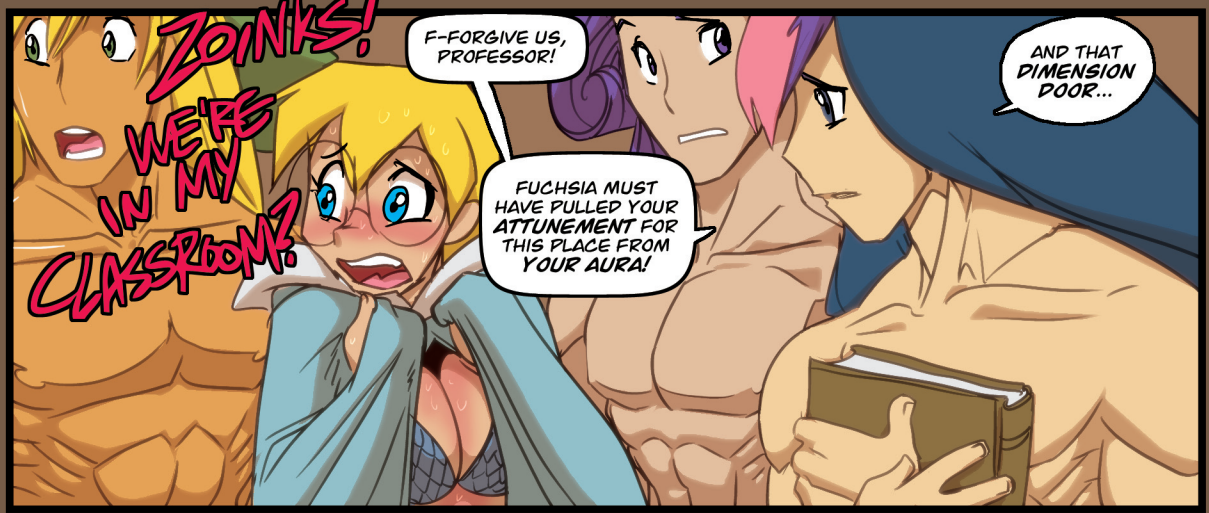




**JADE REALM DIMENSIONAL CORRIDOR**  
ROYAL AMAZONIAN TERRITORIAL REGION...





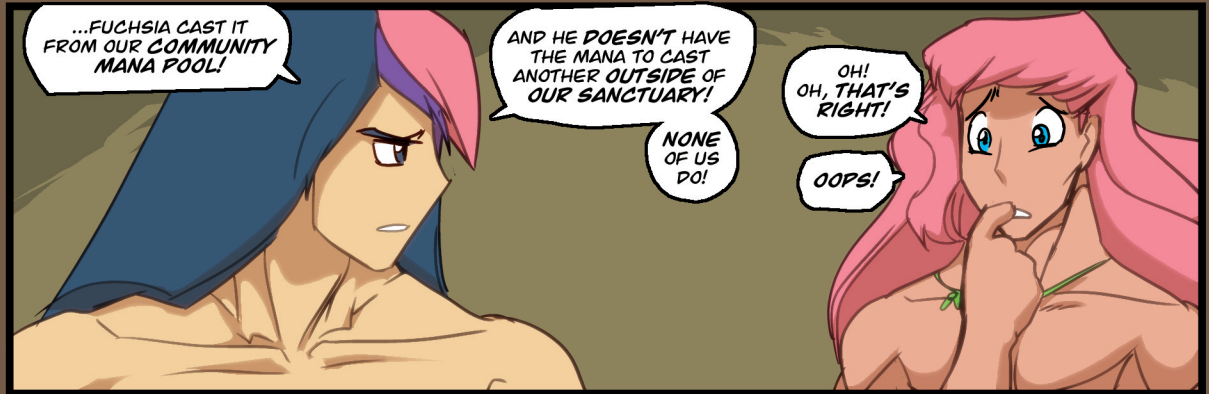


F-FORGIVE US, PROFESSOR!

AND THAT DIMENSION DOOR...

FUCHSIA MUST HAVE PULLED YOUR ATTUNEMENT FOR THIS PLACE FROM YOUR AURA!

**ZOINKS!**  
**WE'RE IN MY CLASSROOM?**



...FUCHSIA CAST IT FROM OUR COMMUNITY MANA POOL!

AND HE DOESN'T HAVE THE MANA TO CAST ANOTHER OUTSIDE OF OUR SANCTUARY!

OH! OH, THAT'S RIGHT!

NONE OF US DO!

OOPS!



**Y--**  
**YOU'RE STUCK HERE?**

HERE Y' GO, BUDDY.

TAKE THE WHEEL!!!

THANKS!

**KER! MOOD KER! KILLED...**

GINA BRAIN



BY THE VEIL!!!

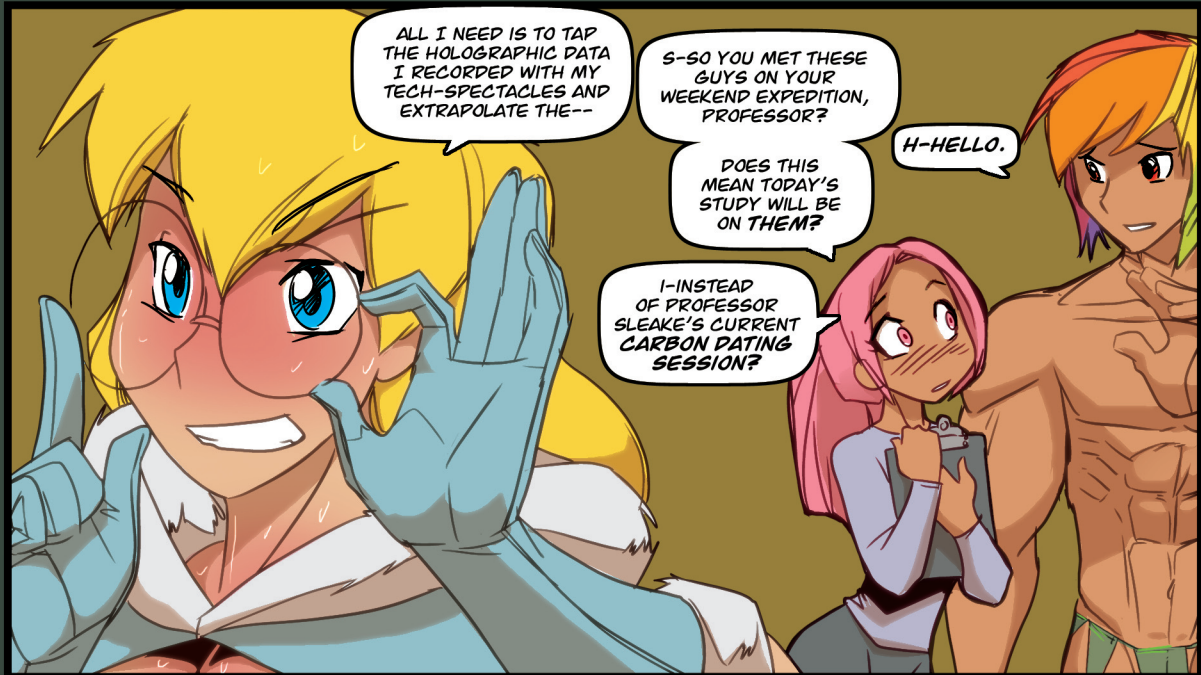
WE'VE JUST STRANDED SEVEN OF OUR ATHLE ON EARTH, OF ALL PLACES!!!

MOM'S GOING TO EVISCERATE ME!!!

RELAX!

I'VE GOT AN IDEA, ALL RIGHT?

I--I CAN GET US ALL BACK TO THE SANCTUARY WITH SOME CAREFULLY DERIVED HYPERSPACE COORDINATES!



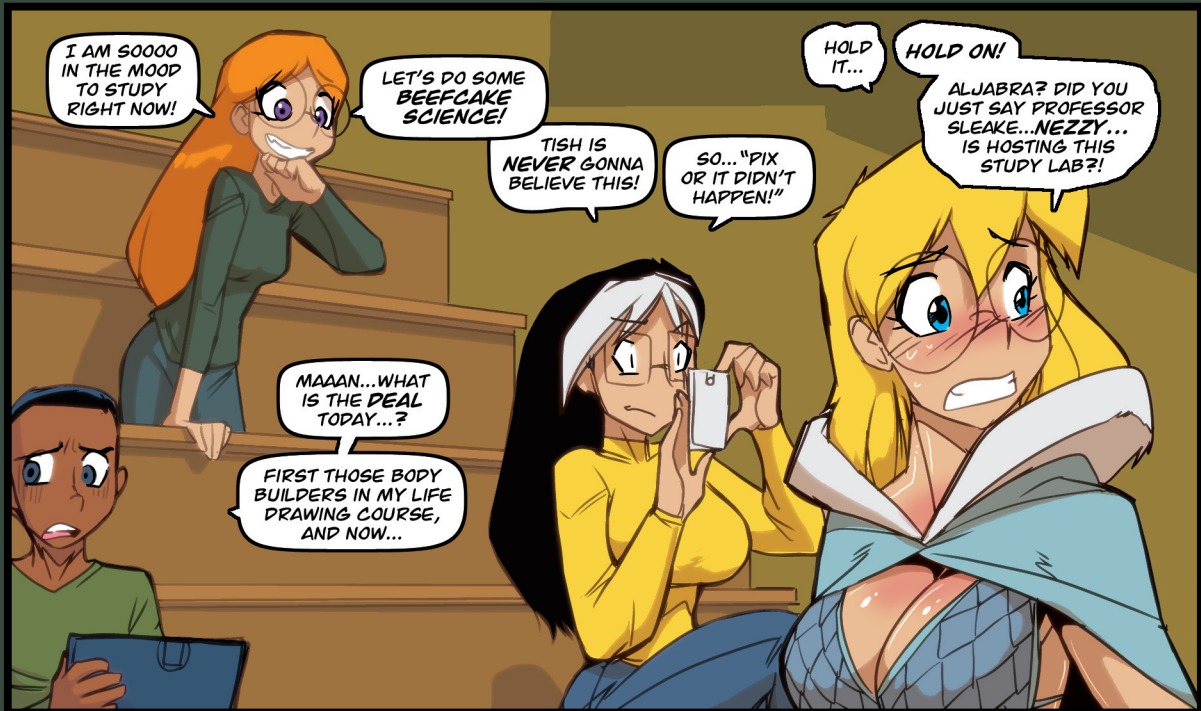
ALL I NEED IS TO TAP THE HOLOGRAPHIC DATA I RECORDED WITH MY TECH-SPECTACLES AND EXTRAPOLATE THE--

S-SO YOU MET THESE GUYS ON YOUR WEEKEND EXPEDITION, PROFESSOR?

H-HELLO.

DOES THIS MEAN TODAY'S STUDY WILL BE ON THEM?

I-INSTEAD OF PROFESSOR SLEAKE'S CURRENT CARBON PATING SESSION?



I AM SOOOO IN THE MOOD TO STUDY RIGHT NOW!

LET'S DO SOME BEEFCAKE SCIENCE!

TISH IS NEVER GONNA BELIEVE THIS!

SO... "PIX OR IT DIDN'T HAPPEN!"

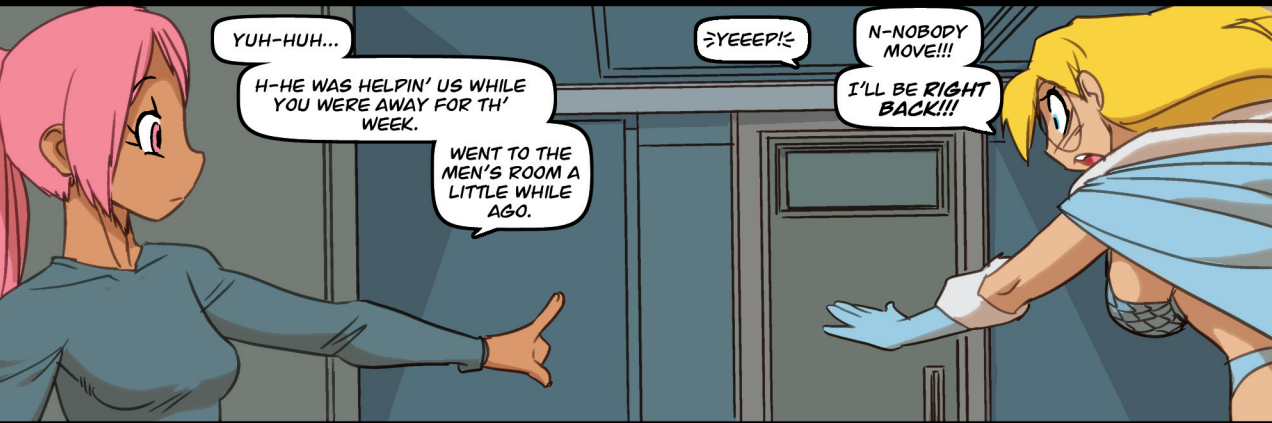
HOLD IT...

HOLD ON!

ALJABRA? DID YOU JUST SAY PROFESSOR SLEAKE... NEZZY... IS HOSTING THIS STUDY LAB?!

MAAAN... WHAT IS THE DEAL TODAY...?

FIRST THOSE BODY BUILDERS IN MY LIFE DRAWING COURSE, AND NOW...



YUH-HUH...

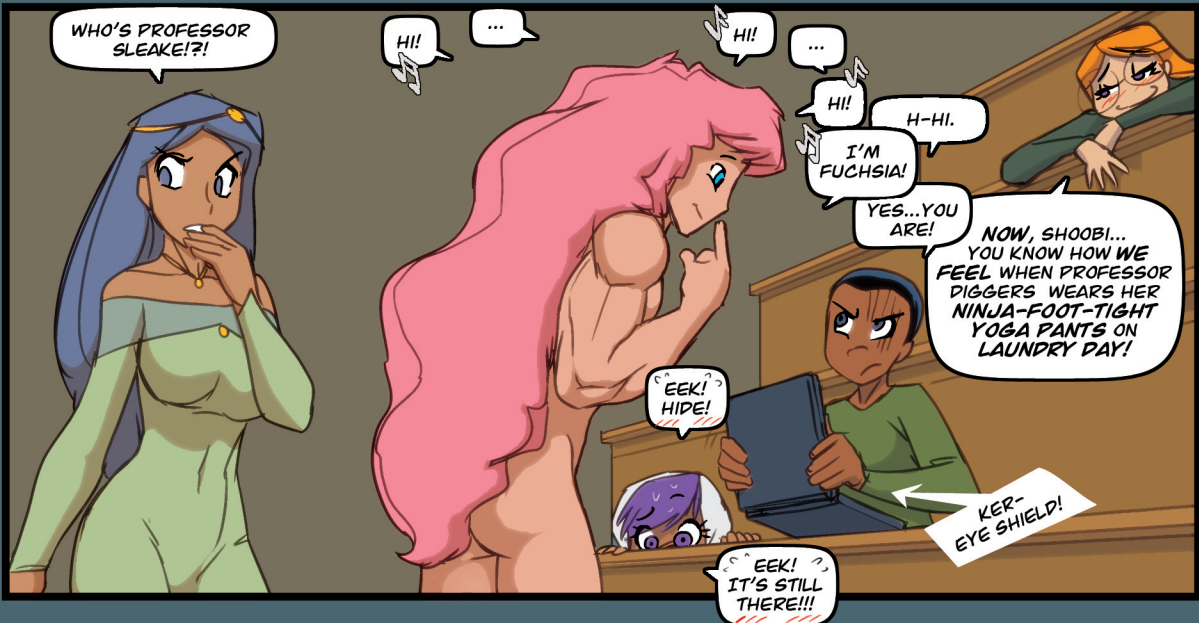
H-HE WAS HELPIN' US WHILE YOU WERE AWAY FOR TH' WEEK.

WENT TO THE MEN'S ROOM A LITTLE WHILE AGO.

YEEEEP!<

N-NOBODY MOVE!!!

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!!!



WHO'S PROFESSOR SLEAKE?!

HI!

...

HI!

...

HI!  
I'M FUCHSIA!

H-HI.

YES...YOU ARE!

NOW, SHOBI... YOU KNOW HOW WE FEEL WHEN PROFESSOR DIGGERS WEARS HER NINJA-FOOT-TIGHT YOGA PANTS ON LAUNDRY DAY!

EEEK!  
HIDE!

EEEK!  
IT'S STILL THERE!!!

KER-EYE SHIELD!

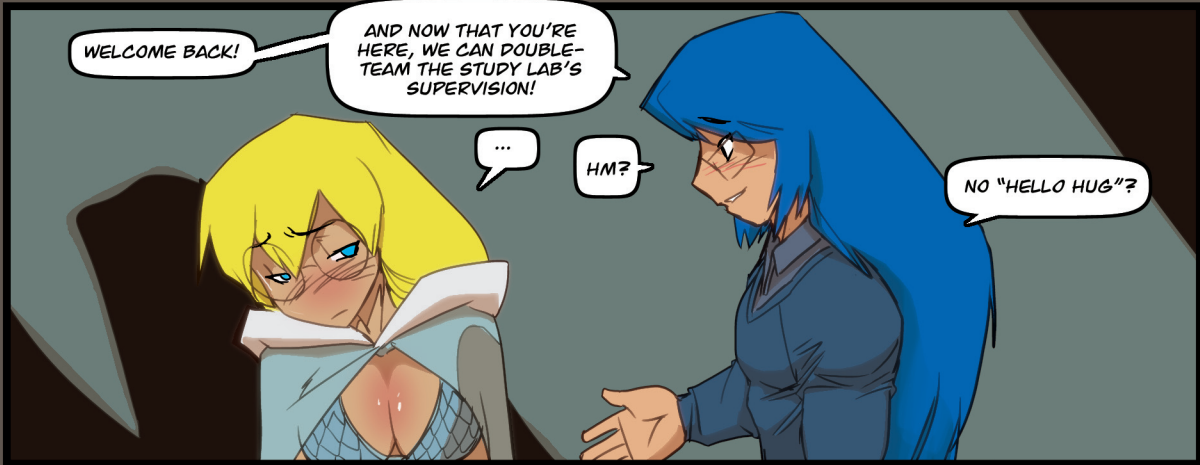


GINA?!

YOU'RE BACK EARLY!

I-IS...IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?

AHEHEHE!  
HIYA, NEZZY!



WELCOME BACK!

AND NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE, WE CAN DOUBLE-TEAM THE STUDY LAB'S SUPERVISION!

...

HM?

NO "HELLO HUG"?



UHM...

I...THAT IS...

LOOK, NEZZY.

I'M GOING TO BE STRAIGHT WITH YOU.

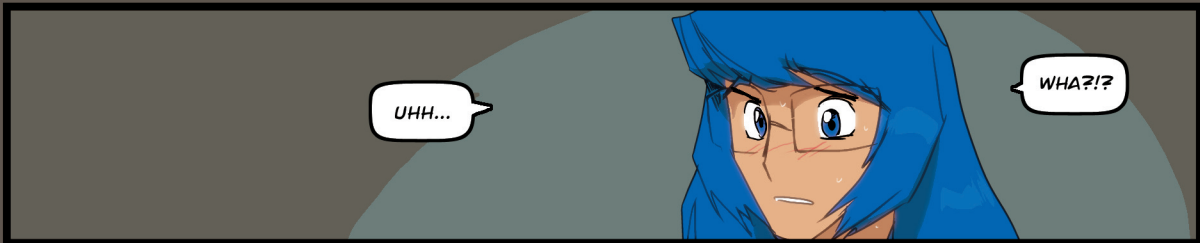
HUGGING RIGHT NOW W-WOULDN'T FEEL RIGHT.

I'M SOAKED WITH PERSPIRATION...

AND I PROBABLY SMELL LIKE I'VE BEEN RUBBING UP AGAINST, LIKE...SIX OR SEVEN AMAZON GUYS...

...SO, YEAH. I'M A MESS.

A MESS WHO'S FAILED AT BASIC SELF CONTROL!



UHH...

WHA?!?



I MEAN...I THOUGHT I HAD GROWN A LOT MORE RESISTANCE TO SURPRISE BEEFCAKE!

LITTLE DID I KNOW HOW EASY IT IS FOR MY HORMONES TO GO SUPER-SAIYAN!

I-I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO STUDY PREHISTORIC MYTHIC ANTHROPOLOGY WITH YOUR MOTHER?

WELL...THE DAY STARTED OUT THAT WAY...

BUT THEN PRINCESS L'RETTA DRAGS ME OFF TO THIS SECRET AMAZON HUNK SANCTUARY AND...

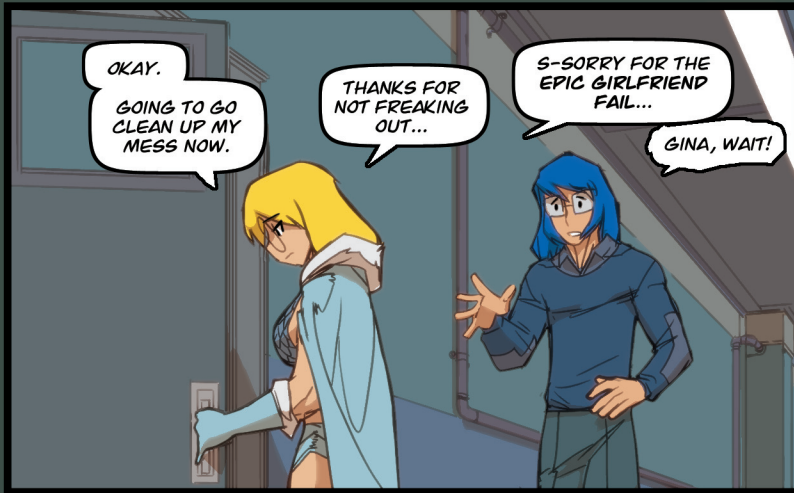
AND...

COULD...COULD WE CONFER AFTER I SORT THINGS OUT IN THERE?

AND WITHIN MYSELF?

TOMORROW MAYBE?

PLEASE?



OKAY.  
GOING TO GO  
CLEAN UP MY  
MESS NOW.

THANKS FOR  
NOT FREAKING  
OUT...

S-SORRY FOR THE  
EPIC GIRLFRIEND  
FAIL...

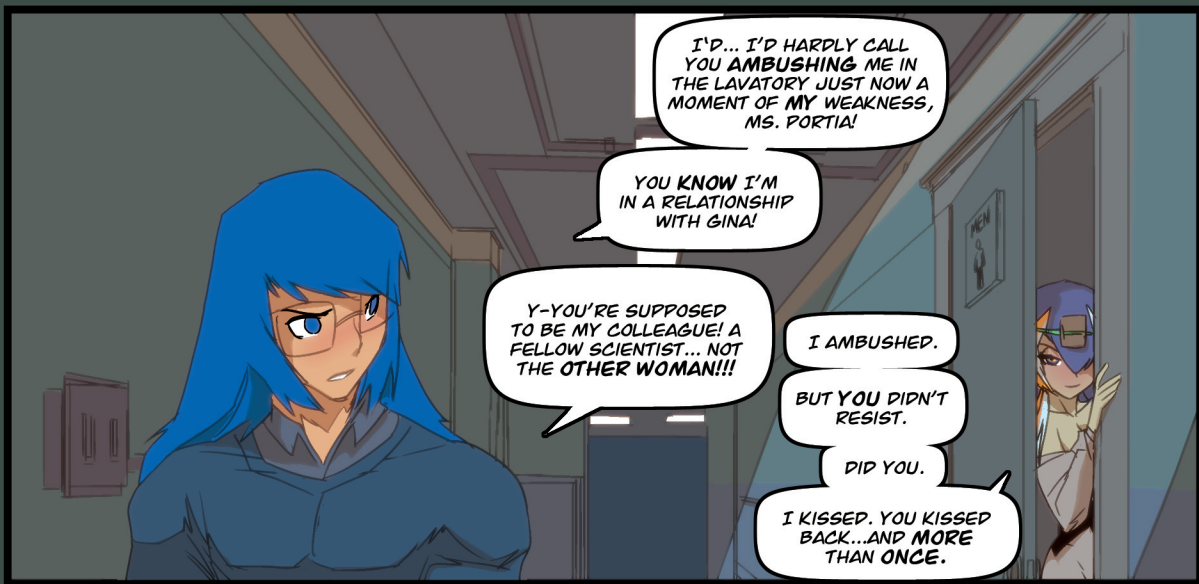
GINA, WAIT!



HMMHMM...

AMUSING.  
SHE NEVER  
GAVE YOU A  
CHANCE TO  
APOLOGIZE...

...FOR YOUR  
MOMENT OF  
WEAKNESS!



I'D... I'D HARDLY CALL  
YOU AMBUSHING ME IN  
THE LAVATORY JUST NOW A  
MOMENT OF MY WEAKNESS,  
MS. PORTIA!

YOU KNOW I'M  
IN A RELATIONSHIP  
WITH GINA!

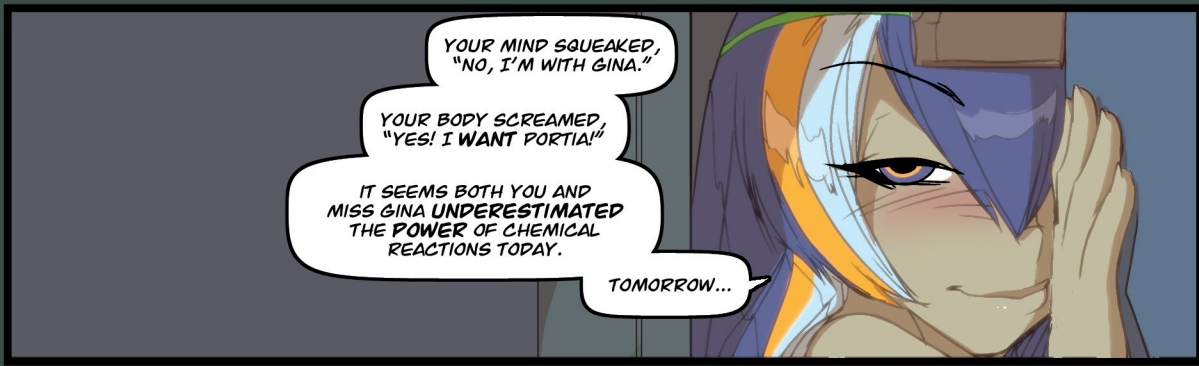
Y-YOU'RE SUPPOSED  
TO BE MY COLLEAGUE! A  
FELLOW SCIENTIST... NOT  
THE OTHER WOMAN!!!

I AMBUSHED.

BUT YOU DIDN'T  
RESIST.

DID YOU.

I KISSED. YOU KISSED  
BACK...AND MORE  
THAN ONCE.



YOUR MIND SQUEAKED,  
"NO, I'M WITH GINA."

YOUR BODY SCREAMED,  
"YES! I WANT PORTIA!"

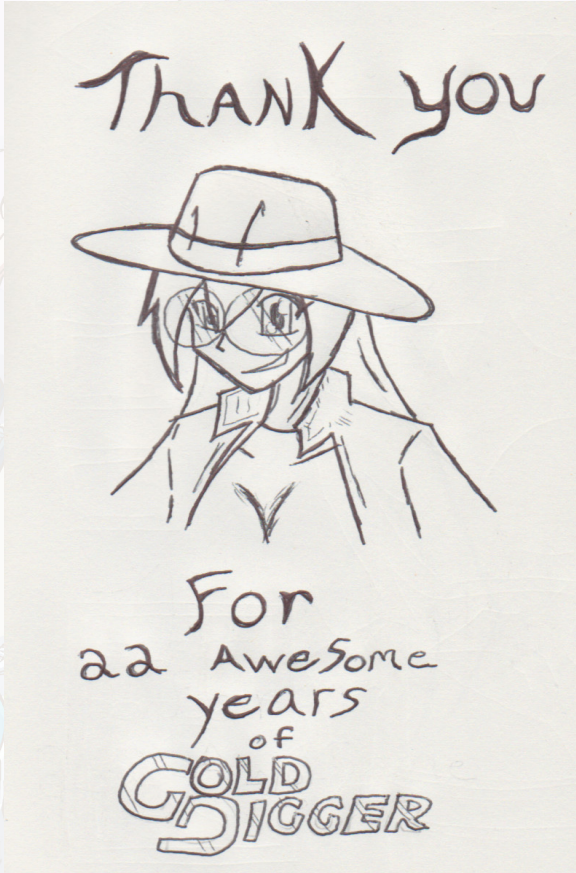
IT SEEMS BOTH YOU AND  
MISS GINA UNDERESTIMATED  
THE POWER OF CHEMICAL  
REACTIONS TODAY.

TOMORROW...

"...WE'LL STUDY THE RESULTS!"

Once more, everyone here at AP would like to express our most sincere appreciation for all the letters everyone wrote in for issue 200. And even after the issue was turned in to the printer, we got even more letters, and there's no way we couldn't run them. Now, without further ado, on to the letters.

I'm a big fan of *Gold Digger*, and happy 200 issue and thank you 22 years of awesomeness. *Gold Digger* was the comic that got me into comics. It was the one comic that stick out from the others. I love the humor and story. The hard work that Fred Perry put into is beyond amazing. Out of all the comics in the world *Gold Digger* stands above them. Thank you.



-- Josh Mcgrew

Greetings and salutations, Mr. Perry. My name is Rod Gonzalez.

I recall my first meeting with you. I asked you sketch Eric Larsen's *Savage Dragon*. Which you did. Twice.

This year at Megacon, you signed my copies of *Gold Digger Pocket Manga Vols. 1-3* as well as the *Time Raft* DVD.

I wish to offer you my congratulations for doing the third-longest running comic done by one man (behind Dave Sim and Erik Larsen, I might add.)

Here's wishing you make it to 300 and beyond!

--Rod Gonzales

(Editor's note: Eric Larsen does a great book, but he has not reached 200 issues yet. Dave Sim with Gerhard did 300 issues of *Cerebus*, and Stan Sakai has 203 at last publication.)

My comic buying started in 1970. In that time, only *Gold Digger* has been bought thru its entire run. No other comic has kept my interest so well, tho NHS Hawaii could have, if only.

-- JMS

The first time I read *Gold Digger* was actually by curiosity. Bought Issue #27 and an issue of *Fantastic Panic* from a guy who was selling his collection. At first I thought it wasn't anything to holler about (originally got it due to the cover), but it took a couple more issues and two *Gold Bricks* to make me fully understand. It's cool to see a geek do all these amazing adventures and even find some hilarious references towards geek culture. Literally growing with the characters was also pretty enjoyable.

Eleven years later, I still do my tradition of buying the latest issue, kick back, and have some milk and cookies. Thank you, Fred, for making something so fun and adventurous.

-- Jordan Oham

Dear Fred,

Let me see now...where to start...how about "Was it as good for you as it was for me?" No, wait, that has another connotation. Oh, hello, Fred! Just working on my What *Gold Digger* Means to Me Essay. While I'm toiling away, you may peruse the evaluations!

*Gold Digger* #146:

Cover: Gar lies fallen before Serpentus, as Sheila attacks sword held high. Cutting edge!

Plot: Dreadwing plots to loot the wild magi's Hostwarg's mana by deception. Double agent Grubbermun thwarts Dreadwing's plan, while simultaneously proving that pizza and beer belly gamers are not limited to planet Earth. Counsilor Xercie, aided by Gar and Sheila, makes a clever escape from Serpentus.

Best Dialogue: A collective award to Serpentus, who must have been taking gloating lessons from Dreadwing, for "Its the fire of your defiance that exhilarates me" and so forth. For humor, to Lady Sherisha for serving appetizers with "Is anyone allergic to cockatrice?"

Best Artwork: Xercie's startling stabbing of herself, although this merited a bigger panel.

Commentary: The singling out of Grubbermun of the wild magi council for detailed character development was a huge improvement. Instead of having the entire wild magi council introduced to us, along with a tedious-to-remember list of abilities, the focus was on one main tough character. It is always more interesting for the audience to see one character developed in detail, than to see a superficial treatment of a large cast.

In addition, we were treated to Xercie's cunning escape. Serpentus would have known that silver destroys the souls of were creatures in the *Gold Digger* universe if he had read issue 3 of volume 1 of the original black-and-white mini series. You never know when knowledge like that will come in handy!

Despite these delights, the issue ended so abruptly that it seemed unfinished. Grubberman, in mid-battle with Dreadwing, is hit by Dreadwing's powerful mega blast. The end. Did the super-tough Grubberman survive, or was it game over? Gar and Sheila have to get the wounded Xercie to a healer on Jade, and they barely escape to Jade through a dimension portal. The end. Are we to presume that healers capable of curing complicated silver wounds of were-creatures are like Starbucks on Jade, with one on every corner? Even a dreary epilogue page would be better than no outcomes at all.

Grade: Hard to say whether this issue merits a B for above-average character work and story craftiness, or an I for incomplete. A story that neglects to include a resolution of the two main conflicts is disappointing for the readers.

**Gold Digger #147: Cover:** Giantess Pantan, with the largest boobies ever seen on the cover of *Gold Digger*, wedgies Zan, while Gina and Brianna try to rescue him. Maternal!

**Plot:** Zan is captured by the Ooshoosh, a tribe of giantesses. Portia presents as a potential rival to Gina for Nez's affections. Zan finally learns of Bri's upcoming blessed event.

**Best Dialogue:** For semi-sweet humor, Bri to Zan "This is so not how I wanted to tell you."

**Best Artwork:** For sheer memorability, Pantan's two-page body block on pages 20-21. For styling vividness, the different color streaks in the Ooshoosh hair.

**Commentary:** After months of the entire universe anxiously awaiting the outcome of the Ancient Gina-Dreadwing war, this lighthearted issue was a refreshing change of pace. Not every issue needs to radiate grim seriousness, and a break in tone provides a mental breather.

The addition of Portia was a terrific new development as well. Noteworthy is that she was given a splash of the sympathetic light, as her lore caste is looked down on by her own people. This makes her a much more interesting love triangle rival. If Portia were merely a one-dimensional jealous suitor for Nez, we would automatically assume she was destined for defeat. In that situation, her only chance would be something hokey like a love potion, which would inevitably wear off. By showing a sympathetic side to her, and a love of learning not unlike Gina's, we can no longer assume her easy elimination.

Grade: B+. The Ooshoosh foolery was a pleasant enough diversion, and Portia's presence is highly promising.

**Gold Digger #148:**

**Cover:** Alena, Aljabra, and Elroy jumping and dodging amidst boulders. Rocking!

**Plot:** Gina prepares to send her students to Hades' Cradle, the armpit of archaeology. Ominous smoke starts rising from the Gina-Portia-Nez love triangle.

**Best Dialogue:** For humor, Gina's multi-question answer: "It won't...ours might...they will."

**Best Art:** Gina's panicked facial expressions when her class is in danger, and her angry facial expressions at Portia's appearance, prove that she is an emoting superstar. For not showing something, Portia in Nez's shirt and nothing else!

**Commentary:** Gina's jealousy of Portia is a splendid character treatment. Not that jealousy is desirable, but showing weaknesses always makes heroic characters more interesting, as it gives them a challenge to overcome far greater than the villain of the month. Your ability to show new sides of Gina seems inexhaustible.

Another positive was Gina's fear-inducing lecture to her students as to the tomb-exploring task before them. This provided exciting foreshadowing.

On the other hand, we were glumly burdened with nine (9) characters being introduced or re-introduced, with names and abilities for us to memorize, on page 5. It is not easy for us to remember: 1) Vaphne Blinkly, expert in extraplanar genealogy, ero-physiologic anthropology, and inter-dimensional fishing, 2) Shoobi Roberts, expert in ectoplasma-dynamic physics, ethereal engineering, and left-handed harmonicas, 3) Eddie Jones, expert in xeno-archaeology, and paranormal C.S.I scenes, who has an ascot which for some reason he calls Pugsley, 4) Anton Fist, president of the campus science and engineering league, who built the school's new laser core reactor in the Pugsley building during the off season, 5) Alena Fields, expert in agrostology, agroxenology, and who spends her spare time blowing into a harmonica shaped like a fish, 6) Kylie LeBranch, only the third pop culture anthropologist to attend the school since the legendary Pugsley Fishsticks, 7) Elroy Nabbum, expert in hermeneutic pathing, deductive reasoning, and living proof that you don't have to play the harmonica to fish left-handed, 8) Paul Ulysses, expert artifact appraiser, who has a pet fish named Pugsley, and 9) V'ayt, who has a dragon's level of intellect and comprehension, enabling him to communicate with every third fish during the off season. Enough with the narrative-flow-killing lengthy lists of names and abilities! You might have got away with it, if it weren't for this meddling comics critic!

One other note is that the expedition the class was set to go on didn't get very far. This is the direct result of having more characters than the story could comfortably accommodate. By the time everyone gets a panel or two, the story is over without significant plot advancement.

Grade: B+. The simmering love triangle, and Gina's jealousy, make for a powerful issue, weakened only slightly by the sluggish story of an excessive number of laborious-to-memorize supporting characters.

**Gold Digger #149:**

**Cover:** Atop Gespie, Gina grabs Nez by the binoculars! Gripping!

**Plot:** Gina's students set off on their final exam to Hades' Cradle, which may be final in more ways than one. For extra credit, they might try working the following six items into the written portion of their final exam; fish, harmonicas, left-handedness, the name Pugsley, the off season, and being only the third of something. Gina's plan to spend some quality time with Nez is interrupted by rival Portia.

**Best Dialogue:** To Alena, for the dry wit of "Using your fertility goddess powers for archaeology seems trickier than I imagined," to the flummoxed Vaphne. **Worst dialogue:** To Gina, for telling us that her "...epic, priceless coffee maker is priceless." So it doesn't have a price on it, is that what you are repeatedly telling us?

**Best Artwork:** Gina's delicious coffee high.

**Commentary:** The student adventure was rousing and imaginative. The dueling goddesses were wicked fun. Who would have thought that after all these years, Vaphne could get Atlas to do something more than shrug? He must have been Rand-y!

As a magnificent bonus, the Gina-Portia-Nez love triangle reaches white heat, as Portia asks Gina what her feelings are for Nez. The answer was dodged for now due to a convenient student emergency, but it won't be dodged forever. This fascinating story line can take many unexpected directions.

Still, the class size was too large for the character development of all of them, and some were just barely in the story (no pun intended). It is usually better to have fewer characters, and to spend more time developing them, than to have a gigantic cast whose members do little to distinguish themselves.

No deductions for this, but shouldn't it be Hades' Cradle, with an apostrophe after the s, rather than Hades Cradle? It sure seems like the possessive would fit.

**Grade:** A. Glorious adventuring fun, and a thermonuclear love triangle, are more than enough to make up for some story crowding.

**What Gold Digger Means To Me,** by Mike Kaczmarek

Once a month, I go to a meeting in a different world, where vivacious characters, whether engaged in epic struggles or confronting personal foibles, face them with unwavering resolve. Once a month, I make a trip to an art gallery of facial expressions, classic costumes, titanic scenes, and furious fighting. Once a month, I tour a landscape of the imagination, where comedy, drama, or both intermixed, play out in superlative form. Once a month, I have a reunion with literary characters who are like a fantasy family. I read *Gold Digger*.

It is difficult to choose the best feature in *Gold Digger*. Would it be the dazzling display of different techniques, each striving for maximum effectiveness? Would it be the playful sexiness or the humor? Would it be the engaging artwork or the spectacular action? Well, if I had to choose, it would be Fred Perry's creativity and inventiveness. There is a boundless energy which runs through the series, that seems determined to annihilate stale conventionality. Fred takes great risks, and whether it is pirate-ninja-leprechauns, purple bunny people, giantess amazons, or even Ayane as a Disney princess, he usually obtains great rewards. You are not going to see yet another go-around with Dr. Doom or The Joker, because the series has too much originality for that.

This hurricane of creative energy does provide me with a personal pleasure: namely, comic critiquing. Each issue of *Gold Digger* also lands on my workbench, where the components are analyzed in search of the myriad answers

to the perpetual question, "What makes for great heroic fiction comics?"

Alas, critiquing is not a pleasure unalloyed. Unlike the elegant robes of certainty worn by math or science, the best a comic critic can hope to achieve is a kind of tatterdemalion verisimilitude.

Still, I do not believe that the quest to find the most powerful techniques in the unique fusion of literature and portrait art that comprises heroic fiction comics is a vain one. There are lessons which experience teaches are true. However, there are also so many techniques that they may never be counted, let alone all perfected. I've been blazing down the technique-perfecting raceway for decades, and strongly suspect there is no finish line. Perfection is forever elusive, but the challenge is eternal, repeating itself each month. If you are ready for the next 200 issues of *Gold Digger*, I have only one thing to say to you, Fred Perry. See you there!

Your Perspicacious Pen Pal,

-- Mike Kaczmarek

*Wow! That was in-depth! Thanks, Mike and everyone, for the letters and the art. Don't forget to check out [www.action-timebuddies.com](http://www.action-timebuddies.com) for Fred and Robby's webcomic, updated every Friday with a new strip. And coming soon, be sure to grab a copy of Steam Wars issue 2, and immediately after that will be issue 202 of Gold Digger. Keep sending in the letters, and we'll keep running them, but if you want to give your congrats in person, Fred will be at A-Kon in Dallas on May 31 - June 2, as well as at San Diego Comic Con, where he will be attending as a Special Guest for the first time. See you in 30!*

