BIP

...YOU WANT AN EXAMPLE?
ipod
4:05 AM
My Podcasts
WORD BALLOONS CONVERSATIONS WITH CARTOONISTS
Unplayed
Feed
EPISODE 75:
CALEB WYATT
PLAY

...SURE... (LAUGHS)...WHICH ONE OF A THOUSAND?
SNEP!
DINK DINK

OKAY...HOW ABOUT THE INAUGURAL INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER CARTOONISTS' SOCIETY AWARDS IN 1975?

THIS WAS THE FIRST "INKSY" AWARDS THAT MY FATHER INVENTED AND THEN SUBSEQUENTLY WON THE TOP PRIZE FOR

RIGHT, RIGHT- BUT WAIT-TO YOUR DAD'S CREDIT, THE SAME THING HAPPENED HERE IN CANADA WITH SETH CO-FOUNDING THE DOUG WRIGHT AWARDS, AND THEN, IMMEDIATELY WINNING IT.

"YEAH, THAT'S TRUE, BUT I KNOW SETH AND HE WAS MORTIFIED BY THAT. SETH MAKES HIS OWN AWARDS AT HOME. HE DIDN'T NEED THAT..."
WELL... THIS IS EMBARRASSING...

... BUT MY FATHER?

WAIT... YOU'RE NOT SUGGESTING THAT JIMMI WYATT ONLY STARTED THE "INKSY" AWARD SO THAT HE COULD WIN IT?
SOUND OFF!
<LONG PAUSE...>
LOOK... YOU'RE ENAMOURED WITH MY FATHER'S WORK- LIKE EVERYONE...
YOU CAN'T SEPARATE THE MAN FROM THE WORK, YOU KNOW? NO MATTER WHAT I SAY, I'M GOING TO LOOK LIKE A DICK...
NO, NO! I JUST MEANT, YOU CAN'T EMPIRICALLY KNOW THAT'S WHY HE STARTED THE AWARDS; JUST SO HE COULD WIN IT!
QUIDDITCH
WHETHER OR NOT HE RIGGED THE AWARDS WASN'T EVEN THE POINT OF THE STORY... IT'S JUST A SHITTY BONUS.
OKAY, BUT...
CAN I JUST TELL THE STORY?
SHEESH!
OF COURSE!
SORRY...
QUIDDITCH CHAMPS
WHAT A DICK...

OKAY, SO IT'S THE FIRST "INKSY" AWARDS...
BLIP!
TOC-TALK®
OMG! HE BEING SO MEAN 2 U!

"MY FATHER IS ONSTAGE ACCEPTING THE CARTOONIST OF THE YEAR AWARD."
the "INKSY" AWARDS
INTERNATIONAL CA

"HE'S A BIT DRUNK, SO HE'S A BIT EMOTIONAL."

"HE THANKS THE AWARDS (THE AWARDS HE INVENTED AND WAS THE HEAD OF, REMEMBER...

"HE THANKS THE AUDIENCE, HE THANKS THE SYNDICATE, AND..."
... ALL THE READERS OUT THERE...

LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING; I WAS COMPLETELY IN AWE OF MY FATHER BACK THEN. I LOVED COMICS, AND I WANTED ONLY TO BE A FAMOUS CARTOONIST LIKE HIM.

DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE FOR A KID WHEN THEIR PARENT IS UP FOR AN AWARD?
THEY SOOO WANT THEM TO WIN. I WAS FIERCELY CONCENTRATING, WILLING HIM TO WIN... AND HE DID.
TOC-TALK®
OMG! HE
TOC-TALK®
I KNOW! WAS A JERK!
BURP!
TAK TAK TAK

"THEN HE SAYS..."
THERE'S A SPECIAL LITTLE PERSON I WANT TO THANK TONIGHT...

I COULDN'T DO WHAT I DO EVERY DAY WITHOUT MY LITTLE HELPER...

NOW... I WAS IN THE FRONT ROW IN A LITTLE TUXEDO NEXT TO MY MOTHER.
I SAT UP STRAIGHTER...
THIS LITTLE HELPER IS INDISPENSIBLE TO ME IN A MILLION LITTLE WAYS...
I LOOKED OVER AT MY MOTHER, BUT SHE AVOIDED MY EYES. SHE KNEW...
...MY LITTLE HELPER MAKES ME LAUGH EVERY DAY, AND THAT'S MAYBE THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IN OUR BUSINESS OF MAKING PEOPLE LAUGH: WHO MAKES THE JESTER LAUGH?
NOW, I WANNA GET THEM UP HERE... THIS AWARD ALSO BELONGS TO THEM...
MOSTLY TO ME... BUT, YOU KNOW, HAHA!
HA HA HA HA HA HA
I ACTUALLY STARTED TO GET UP... BUT MY MOTHER- STILL NOT LOOKING AT ME - PUT A HAND ON MY CHEST.
SHE'D LIVED - YOU KNOW - UNDER HIS REGIME LONGER THAN I...
AND THEN HE SAYS:
PLEASE, JOIN ME IN GIVING A BIG HAND FOR MY LITTLE HELPER, MY GIRL FRIDAY, MY ASSISTANT, MISS MELANIE JOHNS!

I REMEMBER JUST STARING AT MY MOM...
BUNK
BUT SHE NEVER DID LOOK AT ME.
YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE THE LIT
YES.
SOOO...
THAT'S ONE EXAMPLE—I GUESS—OF MY FATHER'S ACTUAL PARENTING STYLE...
"EVERYBODY'S DAD" BUT MINE, I GUESS...
HA!
WHOOPS!
BUMP!
WOW...
WELL, THAT'S AWFUL.
PUTT
EHH... IT WASN'T SO BAD...
...HE DID LET US CARRY THE AWARD HOME IN THE CAB, WHILE HE STAYED ON FOR THE PARTY.

Sonny Side Up!
Mommy share cookie?
ABC 7
"SONNY SIDE UP SUPER-FAN, ROBERTA PLATT"

I HAVE ALL THE DELL PAPERBACKS...
Sonny Side Up!

THE AMERICAN AND UK EDITIONS. THIS ONE'S IN CROATIAN!!
Sonny Side Up!
Otac i Sin

HERE I HAVE THE PARKER BROTHERS, SONNY SIDE UP, AND DOWN! GAME - SUPER RARE.
Sonny Side Up!
Sonny Side Up and DOWN the game

...AND THIS, MY PRIZED POSSESSION... THIS ORIGINAL DRAWING OF L'IL SONNY BY JIMMI WYATT.
WOW!
Sonny Side Up!

HOLY MOLEY, ROBERTA! WHAT IS IT THAT'S SO DARN APPEALING ABOUT THIS STRIP FOR YOU?

ONLY EVERYTHING!
IT'S THE GREATEST COMIC STRIP IN THE WORLD!
Sonny Side Up!

WHAT ABOUT PEANUTS?
Sonny Side Up!

"PEANUTS?!?" *BLEEP* - PEANUTS!!
ABC 7
"DOESN'T LIKE PEANUTS"
FROM 60 MINUTES SEGMENT, "SONNY SIDE UP TURNS FORTY."

"AM I A FAN?"
OF WHAT?
YOUR BANK CARES
SONNY SIDE UP, THE COMIC STRIP?
NO, MAN, I'M HOMELESS FOOD BANK GIVE IT TO ME.
IS IT A TEE VEE SHOW?
G.I. JOE, YOU WANNA SHARE MY COOKIE?
OKAY.
YOU'RE LIKE, OBSSESSED WITH THAT COMIC STRIP
YES.
SOOP
SONNY SIDE UP
JAN 2
...IT MAKES ME THINK OF MY KID... I LOVE MY SON!!
TAXI LICENCE
SONNY SIDE UP
"SONNY" of Sonny Side Up
FUN!
PB TOYS

GEOFF DOYLE, CREATOR OF SNOOTY KIDZ.
JIMMI WYATT'S STRIP MEANT SO MUCH TO ME GROWING UP.
I GREW UP WITHOUT A... MY MOM WAS A SINGLE MOM, OKAY? AND SHE WAS GREAT-I'M BLESSED-BUT SEEING THE LOVING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A FATHER AND SON IN SONNY SIDE UP MEANT A LOT TO ME.
A LOT.
I'M PROBABLY A CARTOONIST TODAY BECAUSE OF JIMMI WYATT.
HE'S THE SPIRITUAL FATHER OF MY OWN STRIP... SNOOTY KIDZ... WWW.SNOOTYKIDZ.US.COM!
FORGEOFF
EXCERPT FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE.
Sonny Side Up!
SONNY SIDE UP
Karl is a trucker. He's big around the middle, more tanned on his left side and wears Sonny Side Up paraphernalia that matches the giant mural of the cartoon characters on his rig. When I ask him what is it about Sonny Side Up, he says, "let me show you something..." He slowly unfolds his billfold which is connected to his belt with an industrial-sized chain. With giant, grease-stained (cont'd on next page)
fingers, he probes behind a 70s-era school photo of a boy with black hair and big ears. The boy in the photo is not unlike the titular character in Sonny Side Up. The truck driver fishes out a small, brittle and yellowed bit of newsprint.
He carefully unfolds it and smooths it down, tapping it with his enormous forefinger. He gazes at it for a long moment, sighs, his immense shoulders shaking with a stuttering intake of breath. "I cut this Sonny Side Up strip out of the newspaper the day my son was killed by a hit-and-run driver eighteen years ago. The strip that day was about Sonny learning to cross the road safely."
"I don't think that was a coincidence..."

FROM JAN. 1977 *PEOPLE MAGAZINE* ARTICLE, THE FUNNY WORLD OF JIMMI WYATT. (SIDEBAR ARTICLE)

MEET THE WYATT FAMILY

JIMMI

CALEB

PEARL

10 QUESTIONS FOR "THE REAL-LIFE SONNY": CALEB WYATT

1. WHAT'S IT LIKE HAVING "EVERYBODY'S DAD" AS YOUR REAL DAD?

CALEB: "IT'S OKAY. I MEAN, THAT'S JUST A COMIC STRIP, YOU KNOW? HE'S NOT THE DAD IN THE COMICS. HE'S THE SAME AS EVERYONE ELSE IN REAL LIFE."

2. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEW *STAR WARS* MOVIE? ARE YOU A FAN?

ABC TV, 20/20, 1986 PROFILE OF JIMMI WYATT AND HIS REAL-LIFE FAMILY.

NOW...

CAY-WUB, YOUR FATHER IS OFTEN CAWWED "EV-WEEBODY'S DAD."

...BUT HE'S **YOUR** DAD.

HOW DOES THAT MAKE YOU FEEL?

HONESTLY? I COULDN'T CARE LESS...

"EVERYBODY" CAN HAVE HIM...

I SHOULD BE WORKING.

...CARE LESS. "EVERYBODY" CAN HAVE HIM.

HOW DID WE USE TO WASTE TIME BEFORE THE INTERNET?

I'VE JUST BLOWN A WHOLE MORNING'S STUDIO TIME STUCK IN THE BLACK HOLE OF MY FATHER'S HISTORY.
ebay shop by category
Search for anything
Home
ALSO, "STUCK IN THE BLACK HOLE OF MY FATHER" IS AN UNFORTUNATE TURN OF PHRASE.
ebay shop by category
Sonny Side up memc
Sonny Side up memora
Sonny Side up masks
Sonny Side up movies
TAKKA TAKKA TAK
I SHOULD PRETEND TO EARN MY KEEP, SEARCH FOR NEW MEMORABILIA FOR THE MUSEUM.
All
Auctions
Buy it now
Sonny Side Up Syndicate promo piece–RARE! Prime Condition.
More
enlarge
the Sonny Side Up 1986 CALENDAR
Sonny Side Up Calendar (1986)
More
"ULTRA-RARE SYNDICATE PROMO MAILER, SENT TO NEWSPAPER EDS. TO ANNOUNCE..."
WOW, THIS IS IN PRIME CONDITION AND RARE.
ebay
I'VE BEEN AROUND JIMMI WYATT MEMORABILIA ALL MY LIFE AND I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE OF THESE.
I BETTER BUY THIS...
Buy it Now
LET'S HAVE A CLOSER LOOK AT IT. NOW...
ebay
PRESENTING:
SONNY SIDE UP!™
THE FUN-TASTIC NEW DAILY STRIP FOR 1966!
WHO KNEW THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A FATHER AND SON COULD BE SO DOG-GONE FUNNY? AND HEARTFELT? JIMMI WYATT, THE FANTASTIC YOUNG CARTOONIST MANAGES TO SHOW BOTH IN THE SWEET AND HILARIOUS STORIES OF "SONNY" AND "POPPY" IN THEIR BUSY DINER. EVERY DAY ADVENTURES THAT ANYONE WITH A HEART AND A FUNNY BONE WILL LOVE!
WE PREDICT BIG THINGS FOR SONNY SIDE UP!
"I THINK JIMMI'S MADE A REALLY FINE STRIP." -Charles M. Schulz creator of PEANUTS
the long-suffering "POPPY"
"SONNY" the pint-sized philosopher.
DAILY AND COLOR SUNDAYS-STARTING JANUARY, 1966.
CONTACT CHARLES LOGGINS (905)529-6989
ACS
AMERICAN COMICAL SYNDICATE
Buy it now

1966: THE YEAR THAT SAW THE START OF MY FATHER'S GREAT ACHIEVEMENT.

P.O. (TM) OR 1966

HIS SUSTAINED, SOLO ARTISTIC ENDEAVOR THAT WON HIM THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF HONOUR, THE REUBEN, (THE AFORE-MENTIONED "INKSY,") AND SAW A HERITAGE FOUR STAR GOLF COURSE NAMED AFTER HIM.

1966: THE YEAR HE INTRODUCED THE BELOVED CARTOON FATHER AND SON TEAM OF SONNY AND POPS TO THE WORLD AND JIMMI WYATT FOUND HIMSELF FOREVER CAST AS "EVERYBODY'S DAD."

IT WAS ALSO-INCIDENTALLY-THE YEAR I WAS BORN...

A FACT WHICH SOME REPORTERS OVER THE YEARS-IF NOT MY FATHER-FOUND SIGNIFICANT.

THE FUNNIEST
WHO KNEW THE RELATIONSHIP A FATHER AND SON COULD BE GONE FUNNY? AND HEARTFE

STRANGELY, NOT THE ARTIST HIMSELF. NOR HIS OWN SON. OUR RELATIONSHIP WAS NEVER VERY "DOG-GONE FUNNY" OR "HEART FELT."

WE PREDICT BIG THINGS FOR SONNY SIDE UP!

"I THINK JIMMI'S MADE

THEY WERE RIGHT. WHILE *SONNY SIDE UP* WAS LESS-ADORED THAN SCHULZ'S *PEANUTS*, IT HAD A LOT MORE STREET CRED THAN KEANE'S *FAMILY CIRCUS*, AND WAS THE NEXT BIGGEST THING TO THESE TWO TITANS.

NO *SONNY SIDE UP* CHARACTER MADE IT TO THE MOON AS SNOOPY DID, BUT PLUSH VERSIONS OF SONNY AND POP DID HAVE THE DUBIOUS HONOUR OF EXPLODING ALONG WITH THE CREW OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE...

...A FACT FOREVER CAREFULLY SUPPRESSED BY THE SYNDICATE'S MARKETING TEAM.

I SUSPECT MY FATHER FELT HIMSELF TO BE "LONG-SUFFERING.

JUST IN TERMS OF MOM AND I KEEPING HIM FROM *COMPLETELY* DOING WHATEVER HE WANTED.

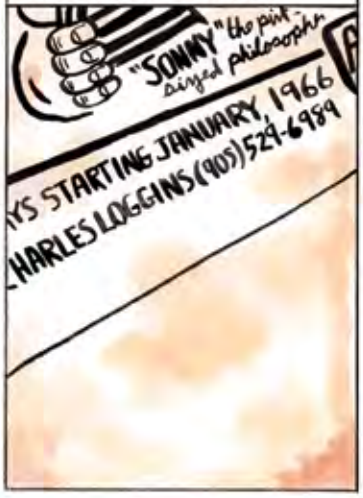
EXCEPT, OF COURSE, WHEN HE NEEDED A PROP FAMILY FOR APPEARANCE'S SAKE.

I DON'T RECALL THIS PHOTO SHOOT, BUT I CAN CONFIRM WE NEVER FLEW A KITE OUTSIDE A PHOTO STUDIO.

SONNY SIDE UP© BY JIMMI WYATT

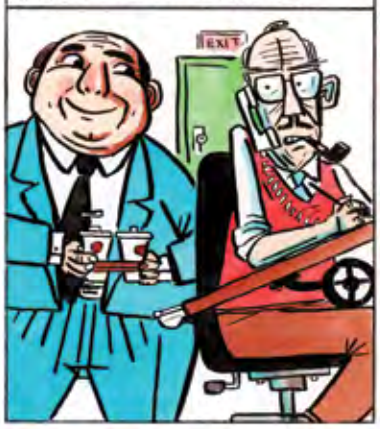
TO BE CLEAR, IT'S NOT REALLY KITE-FLYING *SPECIFICALLY* I'M RESENTFUL ABOUT.

AH, CHARLES LOGGINS WAS STILL AT ACS THEN...



BEFORE DAD STOLE HIM TO BE HIS BUSINESS MANAGER IN 1972. MY FATHER NICKNAMED HIM "CHUMP," AND CHUMP LOGGINS LIKES THAT JUST FINE.

CHUMP LOVES MY FATHER WITH AN UNABASHED, DESPERATE, SQUIRMING, TAIL-WAGGING PUPPY DOG ADORATION.



IF MY FATHER EVER HAD ANY BODIES TO BURY, CHUMP LOGGINS WOULD HAVE GRATEFULLY WIELDED THE SHOVEL.

I HOPE DAD DOESN'T ALREADY HAVE THIS PIECE. MAYBE IT WILL DAZZLE HIM.

LIKE ALL RICH GUYS, *ANYTHING* ABOUT HIMSELF IS OF GREAT INTEREST.

BUT MY FATHER ALREADY HAS ALMOST EVERYTHING RELATED TO THE STRIP OR HIMSELF IN THE MUSEUM/SHRINE ATTACHED TO HIS STUDIO.

JIMMI WYATT COLLECTIBLES, ESPECIALLY ORIGINAL ART—AS HE RARELY SOLD ORIGINALS—FETCH A HIGH PRICE.

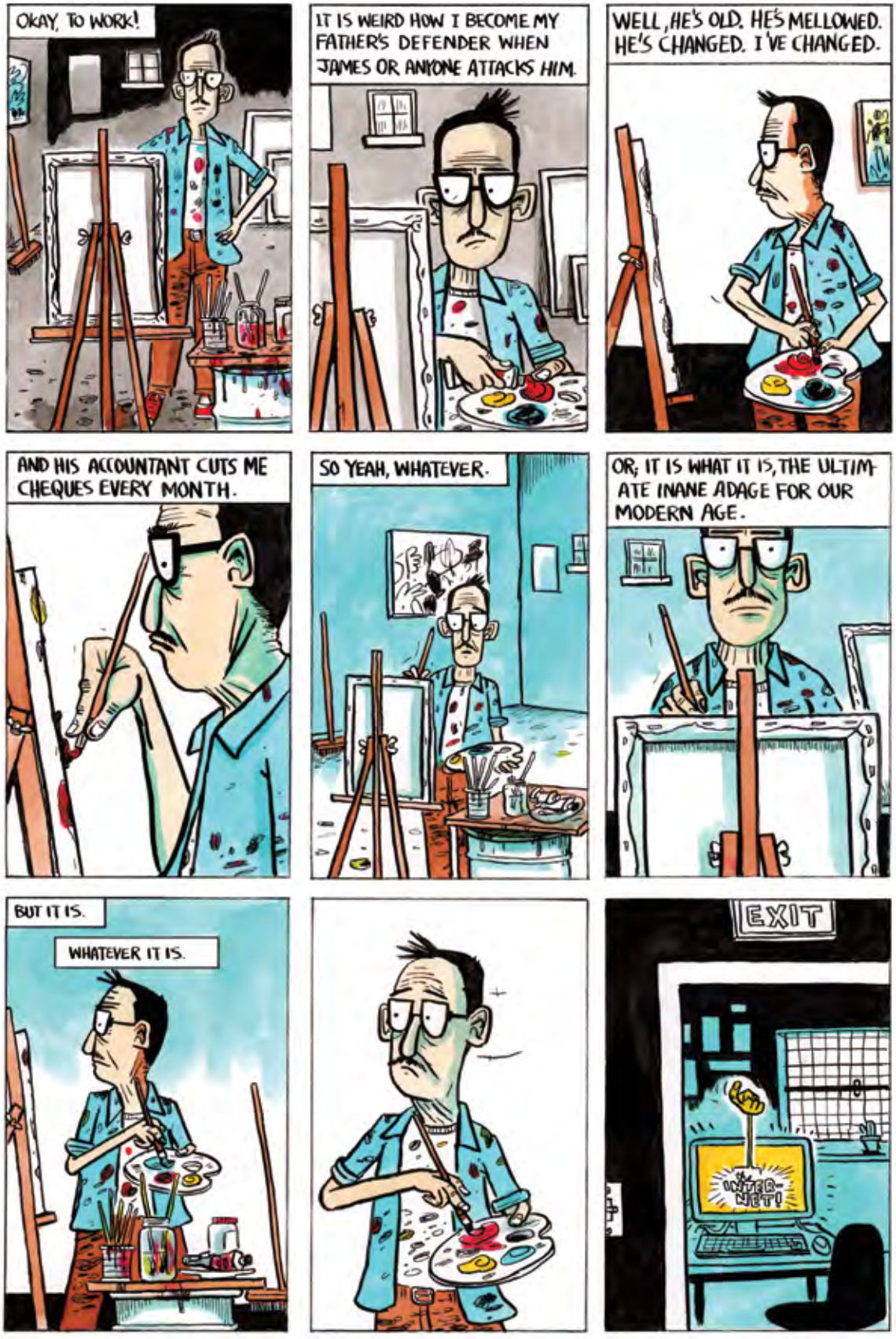
tracing paper sketch of "Popo"

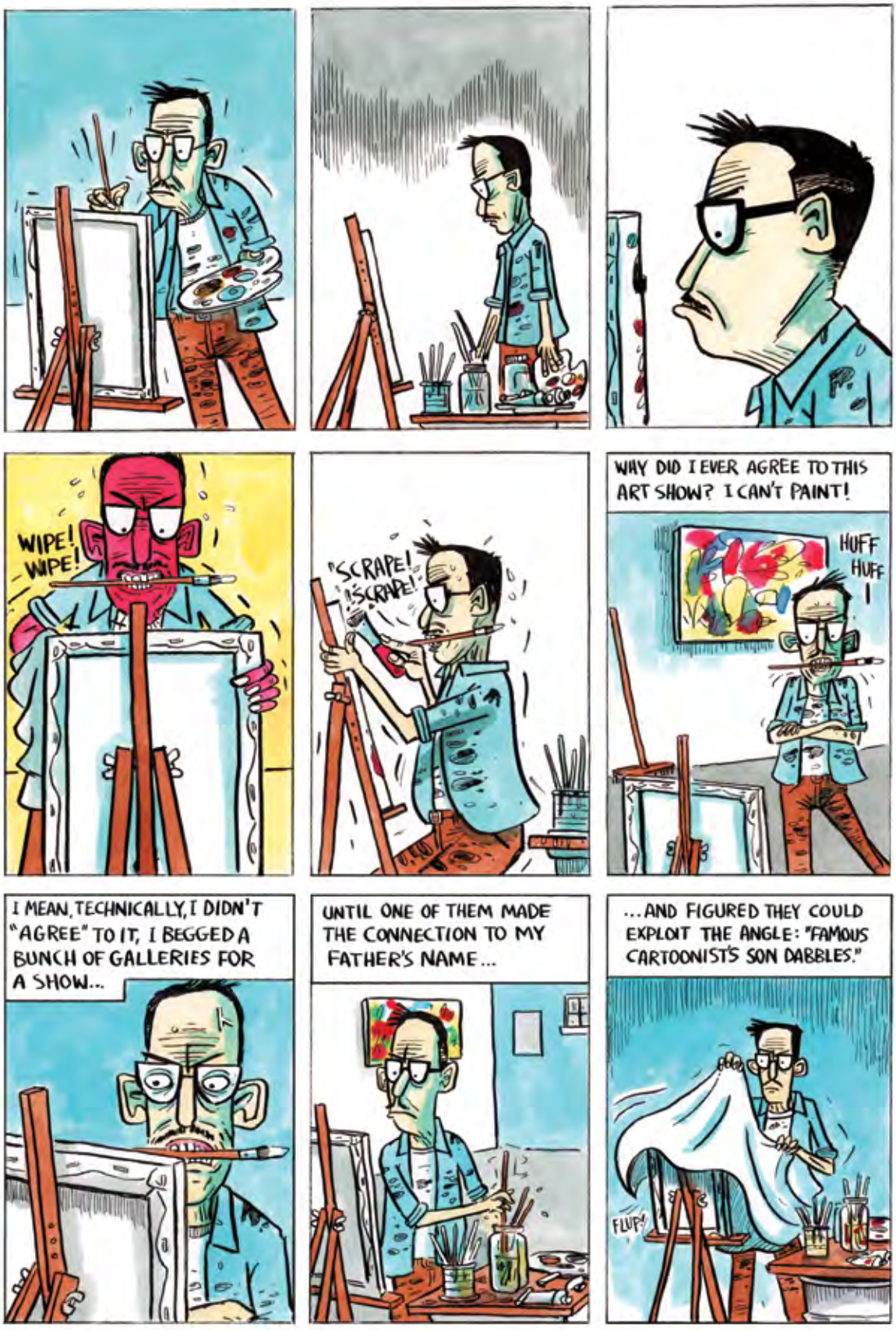
(undated) Sold for $2685 in 2005. (Donated to the Billy Ireland Collection)

I SHOULD KNOW, I "SOLD" A LOT OF THEM TO A COKE DEALER BACK IN THE 90s—HA HA!

BUT, TRUE STORY...

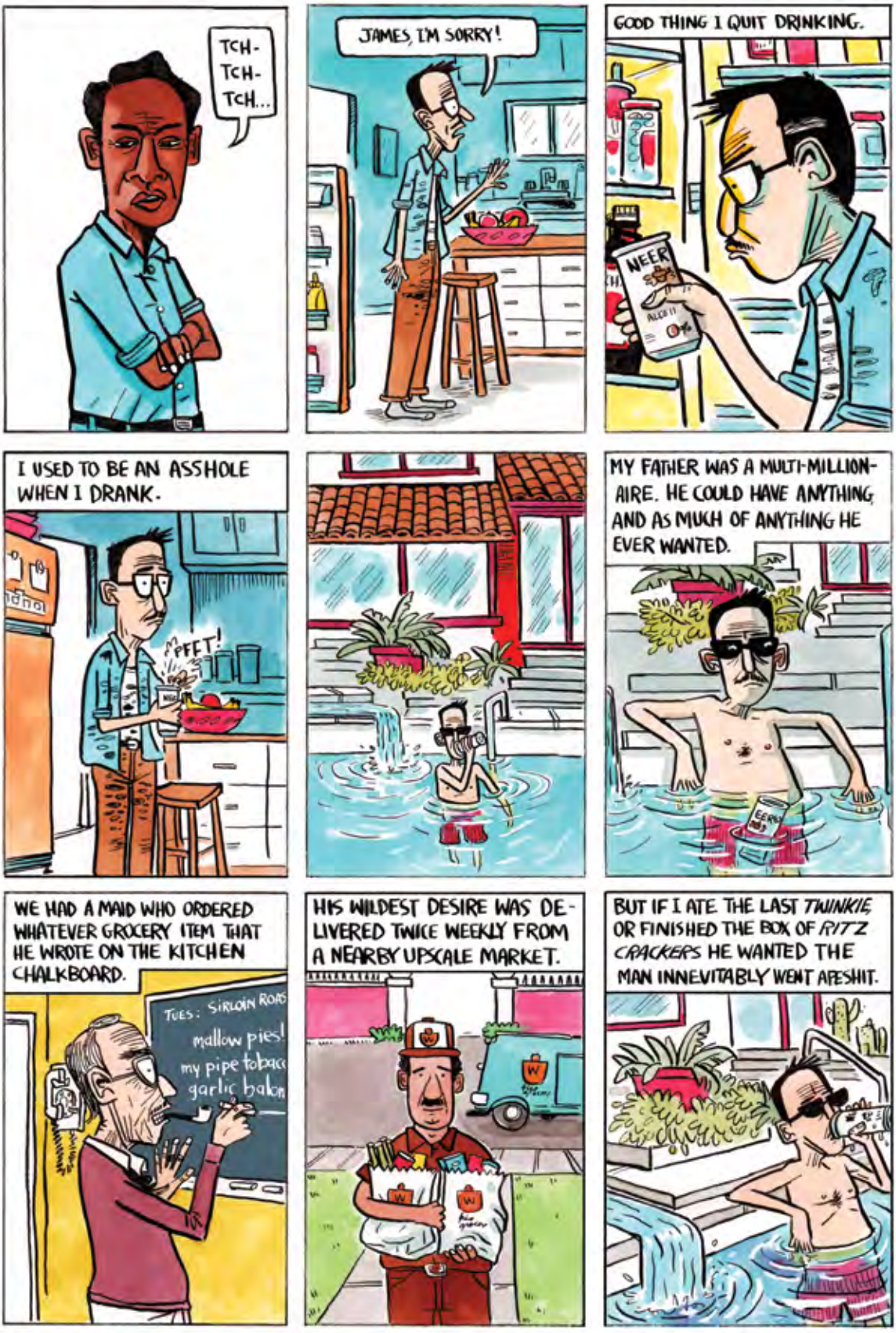
THIS IS WORK. I'M BUYING A PIECE FOR MY FATHER'S ARCHIVE.
bay=
HMM...
IF IT'S ABOUT HIM, HE'LL ALREADY HAVE IT IN HIS MUSEUM.
IT'S NOT A MUSEUM, JAMES, IT'S AN ARCHIVE.
TAK TAKKA TAK
IF TOURISTS PAY FIVE BUCKS TO LOOK AT IT; IT'S A MUSEUM. WHO HAS A MUSEUM TO THEMSELVES NEXT TO THEIR HOUSE?
YEAH, WELL, PEOPLE WANT TO LOOK AT IT. THE MAN HAS FANS...STALKERS, WHO WILL MILL AROUND THE HOUSE OTHERWISE...
YAHOO
ANYWAY... WHATEVER!
CAL, YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TAUGHT ME TO MAKE FUN OF YOUR FATHER... AND NOW YOU'RE ALWAYS DEFENDING HIM...
ANYWAY, "WHATEVER!" AS YOU SAY, BUFFY...


OKAY, TO WORK!
IT IS WEIRD HOW I BECOME MY FATHER'S DEFENDER WHEN JAMES OR ANYONE ATTACKS HIM.
WELL, HE'S OLD. HE'S MELLOWED. HE'S CHANGED. I'VE CHANGED.
AND HIS ACCOUNTANT CUTS ME CHEQUES EVERY MONTH.
SO YEAH, WHATEVER.
OR; IT IS WHAT IT IS, THE ULTIMATE INANE ADAGE FOR OUR MODERN AGE.
BUT IT IS.
WHATEVER IT IS.
EXIT
THE INTERNET!


WIPE! WIPE!
SCRAPE! SCRAPE!
WHY DID I EVER AGREE TO THIS ART SHOW? I CAN'T PAINT!
HUFF HUFF
I MEAN, TECHNICALLY, I DIDN'T "AGREE" TO IT, I BEGGED A BUNCH OF GALLERIES FOR A SHOW...
UNTIL ONE OF THEM MADE THE CONNECTION TO MY FATHER'S NAME...
...AND FIGURED THEY COULD EXPLOIT THE ANGLE: "FAMOUS CARTOONIST'S SON DABBLES."
FLIP!

EXIT
HMM..
1:12 P.M.
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY. TIME FOR A DRINK!
I REALLY DON'T KNOW IF I CAN PHYSICALLY FINISH SIX MORE PAINTINGS BY MONTH'S END.
SIX THAT I CAN LIVE WITH, I MEAN.
?
VEGETABLES
OH, FOR FUCK'S SAKE!
CHEESE
JAMES!!
WHAAAAAT?
COME HERE, WILL YOU?
BUTTER
WHAT?

YOU CAN DRINK ANYTHING, RIGHT?
NO RESTRICTIONS, RIGHT?
I CAN ONLY DRINK THE DE-ALCOHOLIZED BEER THAT I BUY FOR ME, RIGHT?
SO WHY DID YOU DRINK MY LAST FAKE BEER?
AGAIN?
PRIME KETCHUP
OH SHIT...
SORRY...


TCH-
TCH-
TCH...
JAMES, I'M SORRY!
GOOD THING I QUIT DRINKING.
NEER
I USED TO BE AN ASSHOLE WHEN I DRANK.
PFFT!
MY FATHER WAS A MULTI-MILLIONAIRE. HE COULD HAVE ANYTHING, AND AS MUCH OF ANYTHING HE EVER WANTED.
WE HAD A MAID WHO ORDERED WHATEVER GROCERY ITEM THAT HE WROTE ON THE KITCHEN CHALKBOARD.
TUES: SIRLOIN ROAS
mallow pies!
my pipe tobacc
garlic baton
HIS WILDEST DESIRE WAS DELIVERED TWICE WEEKLY FROM A NEARBY UPSCALE MARKET.
BUT IF I ATE THE LAST TWINKIE OR FINISHED THE BOX OF RITZ CRACKERS HE WANTED THE MAN INNEVITABLY WENT APESHIT.

WHICH IS BAD IN ITSELF...
CHEESE SNACKERZ
BUT WORSE AS HE MADE HIS MILLIONS FROM A COMIC STRIP WITH A CENTRAL REPEATING TROPE OF A FATHER SHARING A COOKIE WITH HIS SON AS A METAPHOR FOR THE INFINITE DEPTH OF HIS LOVE.
WANNA SHARE MY COOKIE?
THERE WERE T-SHIRTS.
WANNA SHARE MY COOKIE?
HE LITERALLY WAS MADE RICH FROM THAT LIE AND IT ALWAYS GALLED ME.
BUT HEY, WORSE STILL IS ME DOING THE SAME FUCKING THING TO JAMES!
DO WE ALWAYS BECOME THE THING WE HATE MOST OR DO WE PRE-EMPTIVELY HATE THAT TRAIT BECAUSE WE SENSE IT IN OURSELVES?
A FASCINATING ENIGMA, PROFESSOR COLDLY ANALYTICAL SOCIOPATH...
NEER
DE-ALCOHOLIZED
BEER