

Mladen
Oljača

BAD BOY



ebook





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Oljača**

**BAD
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Modesty
COMICS



Mladen Oljača
Bad Boy

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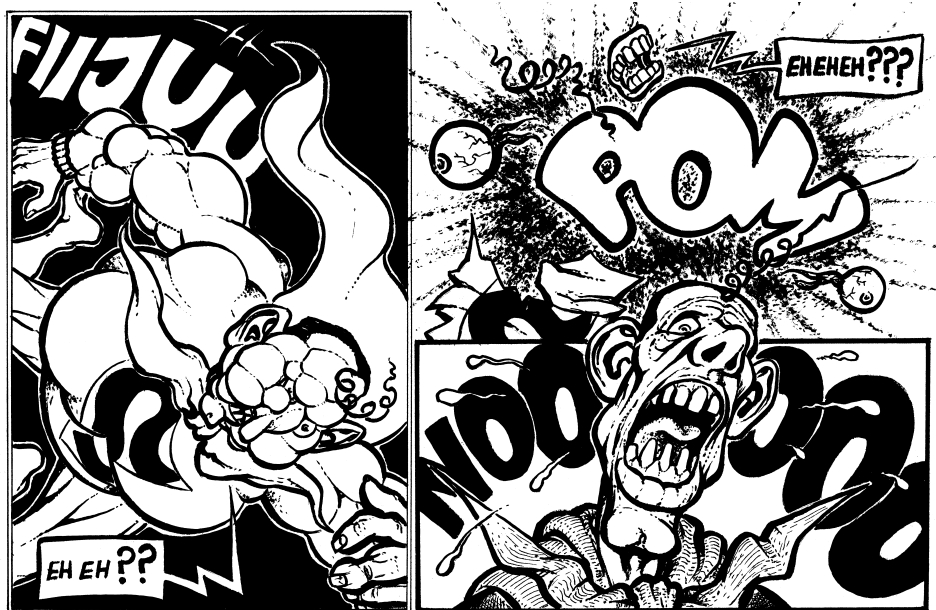


Black Humour from the Pannonia Valley

People from the fertile Pannonia Valley are considered to be peaceful and pleasant, even lenient in difficult situations. However, in the days of Yugoslavia's disintegration in the nineties of the last century, huge inflation, poverty and overwhelming physical and psychological suffering, some comic artists from Pannonia were intensively looking for personal solutions for that difficult situation. Comic publishing practically didn't exist, foreign publishers were outside of reach and authors had to turn to camaraderie, making short stories to be published in hand printed fanzines and trying to physically survive. It is not surprising that in this critical situation, a generation of "underground" authors was developed – different, autonomous and above all talented.

For example Wostok was distancing himself from reality through a fairytale-esque stories, social parodies and anecdotes about the world's famous comic heroes. Zograf was mainly researching his own dreams which were his reaction to the outside world, or keeping a diary of events. Milovic poetically treated stories from literature, while Straka stayed in his metaphysical stories or satires.

Mladen Oljaca, in those days, was making stories with black humour, which are collected in this book. Nobody was left spared, and the author himself was exposed to inappropriate life situations. He is that 'bad boy', whose sharp pen (and brush) fell on prophets, bureaucrats, ecologists, politicians and even on ourselves, with our shortcomings, ability to wrongly fall in love, to be slaves to television or words of the professional politicians, unable to escape from the ring of conformism around us, which was stopping us from developing into thoughtful human beings. However, 'bad boys' are also the characters in these stories – Superman is a junkie, Red Riding Hood is a gang leader with the three little pigs, Tarzan is old and mentally unhinged, the golden fish is not fulfilling wishes but is poisonous, and the Untouchables in Chicago kill Father Christmas by mistake.



Superman has problems with drug effects

Oljaca's drawing style is mature and clearly defined. The panels are framed precisely and lucidly, the pages are mainly minutely drawn and the black areas dominates the white. The line which goes along the edges of people and things is much thicker than other lines in the panels, like by Uderzo (*Asterix*) or Bednjanec (*Kids*). The line is elegant like by Mastantuono (*Donald Duck, Magic Wind*) and Cavazzano (*Altai and Johnson*), but at the same time it is much more creased and sharp, like by Egon Schiele, an Austrian troubled painter at the beginning of the 20th century.

These short stories by Oljaca are halfway between grotesque's mainstream works and alternative works. At first glance, these are stories which are humorous and very pleasantly drawn, but after reading them we will not only be entertained. Deep satire and sarcasm which imperceptibly permeate through the stories, as well as a total crackdown on physical and psychological characteristics of archetypes from history, comics, literature and contemporary men, brings much more complex experience to the readers. In the final assessment, it can be said that these black humoured stories are a serious and authentic achievement, where a battle with trivial reality resolves with resignation and a little humorous revenge. The author is battling and avenging, at least to some extent, with his black humour, to everything which has eaten his youth and prevented him from having full humanistic development.

Oljaca is a peaceful and pleasant person from the Pannonia Valley, but in these comics prevails his black humour and antagonism towards default reality, which is part of his inner being, and which has been created, or at least heavily stimulated, by the widespread tribulation when one country was being disintegrated.

London/Belgrade, August 2013

Živojin Tamburić

**Mladen
Oljača**

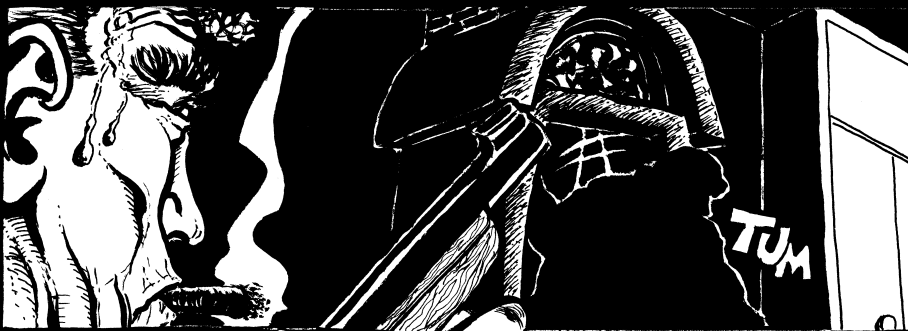
**BAD
BOY**

a new year's tale

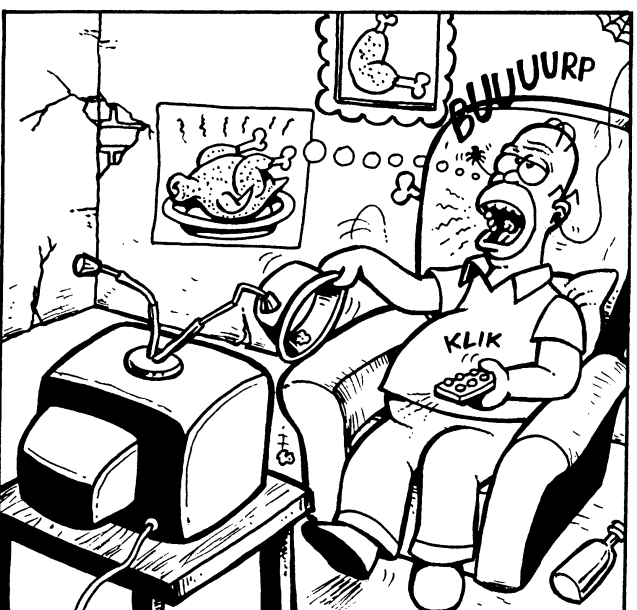
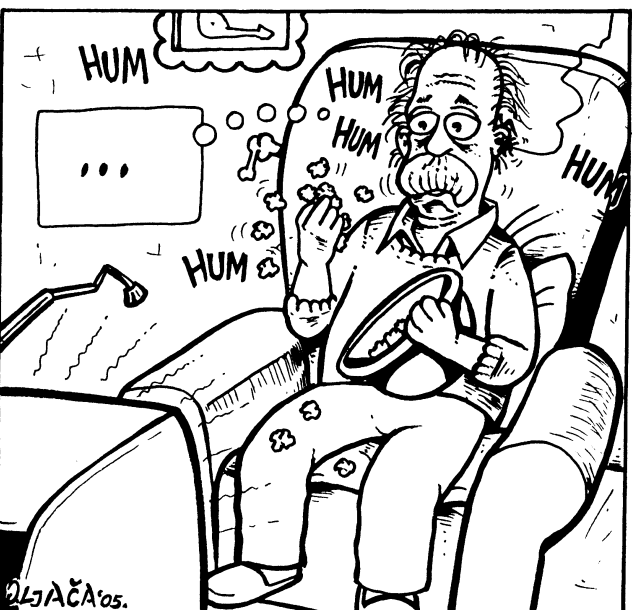
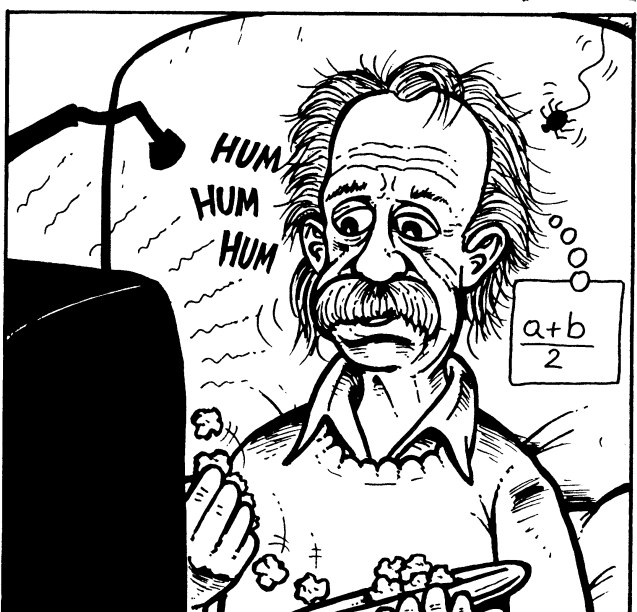
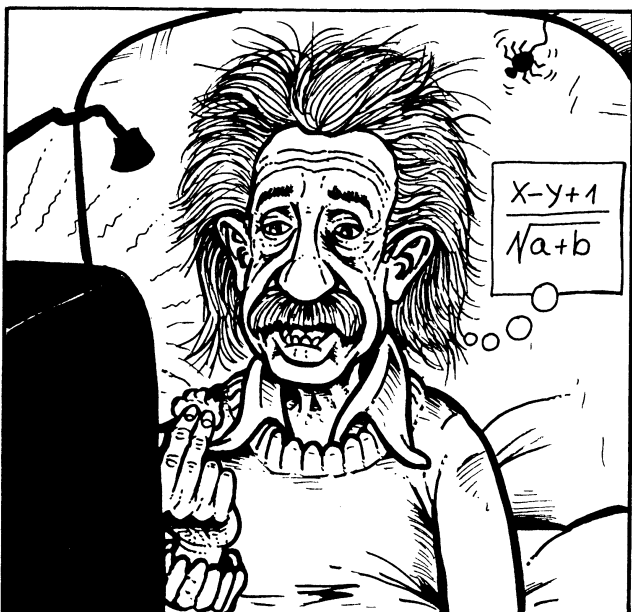
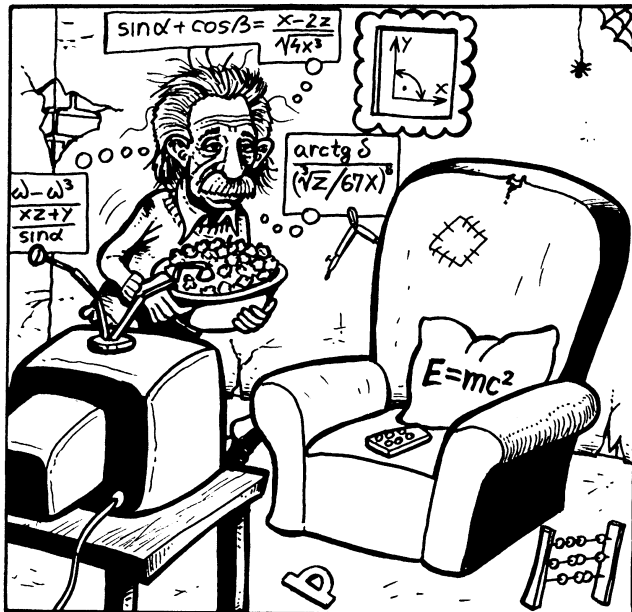
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a new year's tale

CHICAGO,
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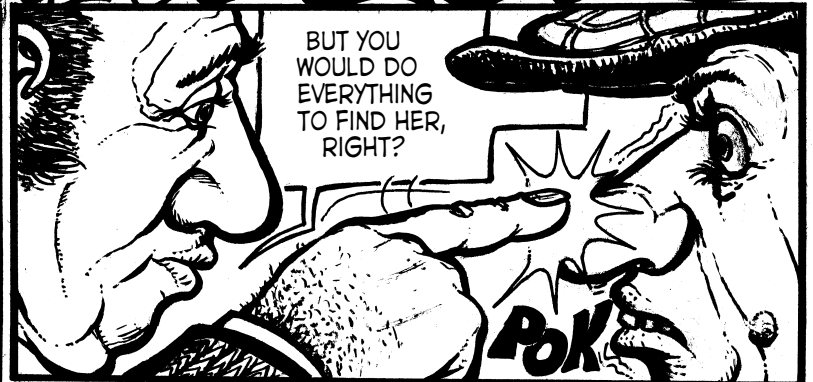


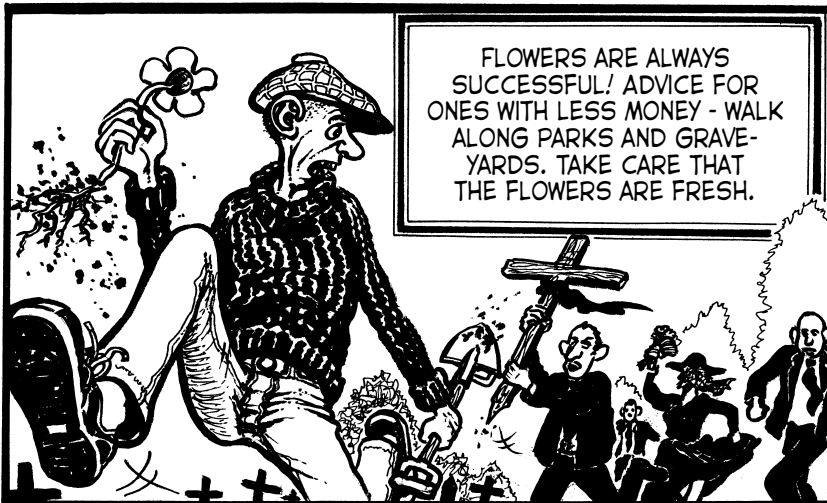
The DEGENERATION of MAN





all you need is LOVE





FLOWERS ARE ALWAYS SUCCESSFUL! ADVICE FOR ONES WITH LESS MONEY - WALK ALONG PARKS AND GRAVEYARDS. TAKE CARE THAT THE FLOWERS ARE FRESH.



LESSON 2

CHOCOLATE GOES WELL WITH FLOWERS.

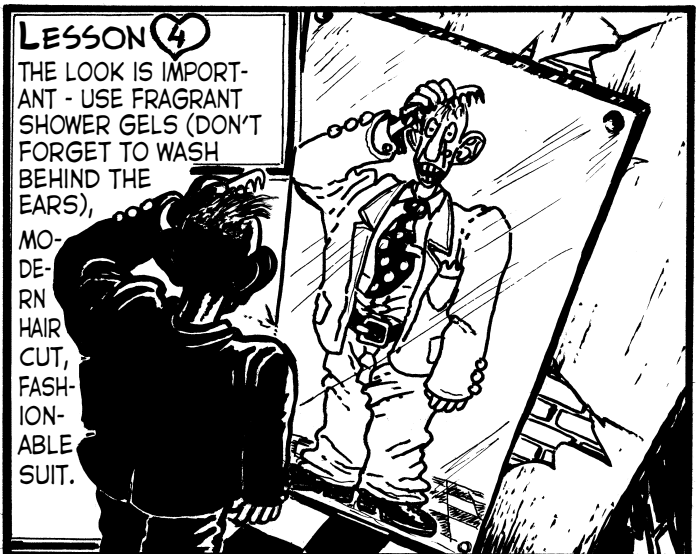
TAKE CARE THAT IT IS WITHIN EXPIRY DATE TO AVOID KILLING THE LOVING BEING.



LESSON 3

DID YOU PLAY GUITAR AS A BOY? IT IS TIME TO PRACTISE AGAIN. SERENADING AT THE RIGHT MOMENT CAN SEAL THE DEAL.

HUH?



LESSON 4

THE LOOK IS IMPORTANT - USE FRAGRANT SHOWER GELS (DON'T FORGET TO WASH BEHIND THE EARS),

MODERN HAIR CUT, FASHIONABLE SUIT.



LESSON 50

IF YOU'VE STUDIED WELL, SHE IS NOW READY FOR YOU. GO INTO ACTION.

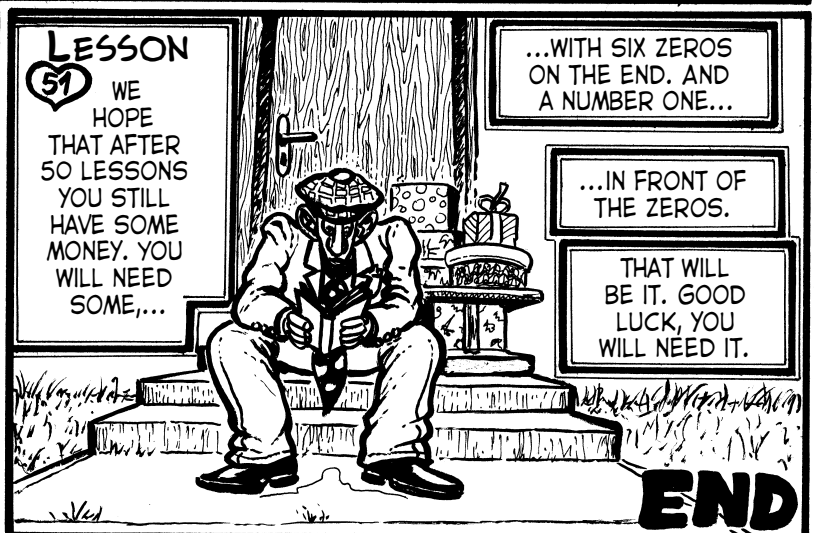
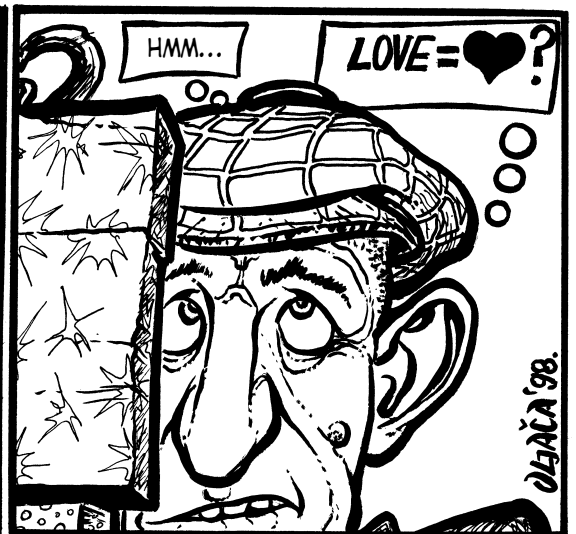


WE WILL KEEP OUR FINGERS CROSSED FOR YOU!

OLJAČA '98.



2.

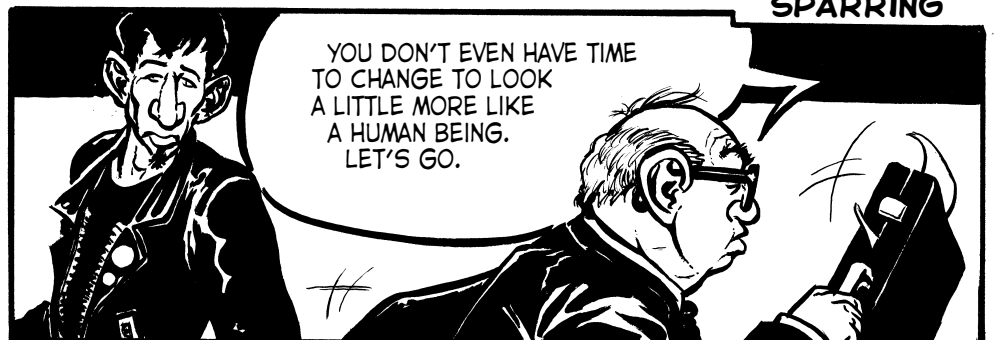


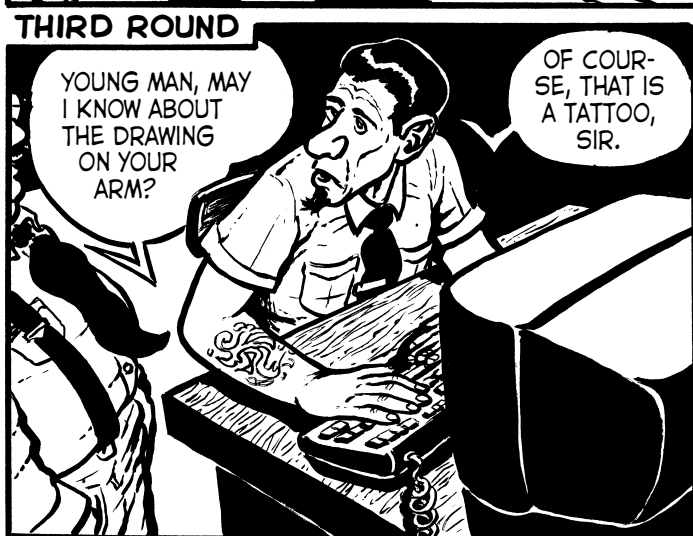
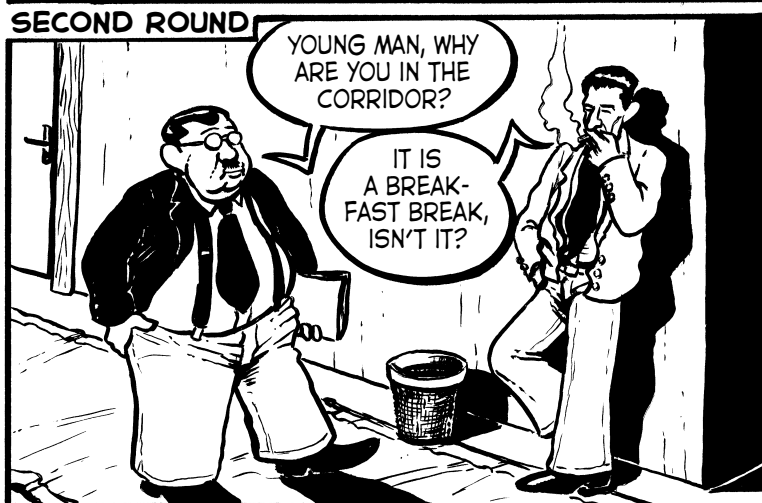
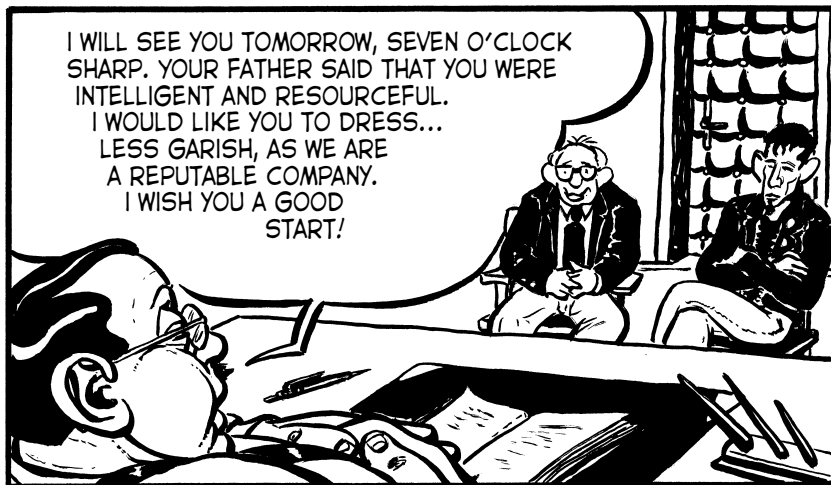


ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL



SPARRING





BREAK



FORTH ROUND



KNOCKDOWN

