

GUINEA PIG



Pet SHOP
Private
eye

#1

Hamster and Cheese



COLLEEN AF VENABLE

ILLUSTRATED BY STEPHANIE YUE

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UNIVERSE

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Hamster and Cheese

COLLEEN AF VENABLE

ILLUSTRATED BY
STEPHANIE YUE



GRAPHIC UNIVERSE™ • MINNEAPOLIS • NEW YORK

Story by Colleen AF Venable

Art by Stephanie Yue

Coloring by Hi-Fi Design

Lettering by Zack Giallongo

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Summary: Sasspants, a guinea pig, reluctantly agrees to act as a private investigator when Hamisher the hamster begs for her help in discovering who is stealing sandwiches from the pet shop's befuddled owner.

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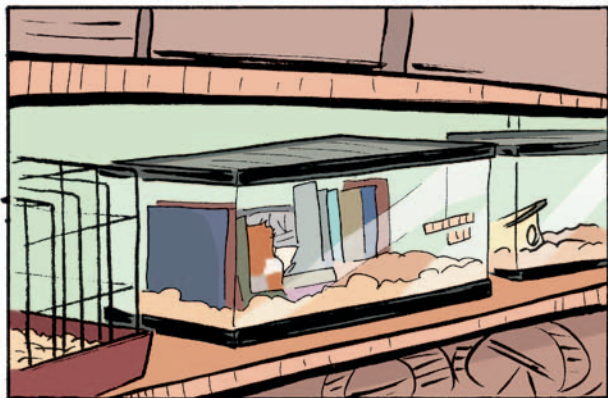
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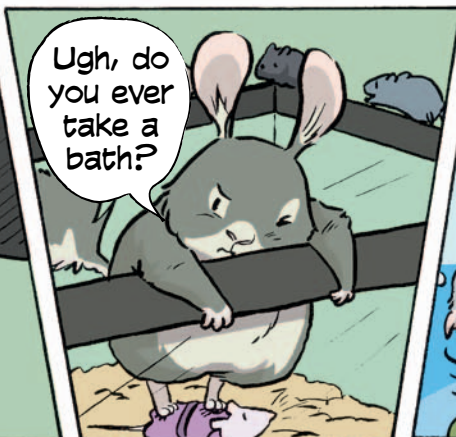
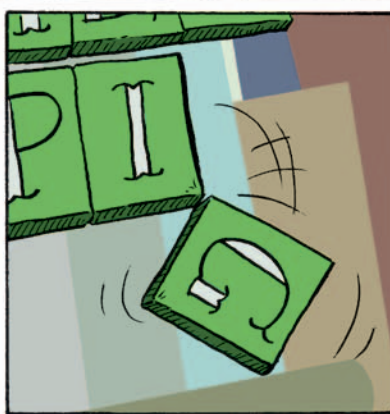
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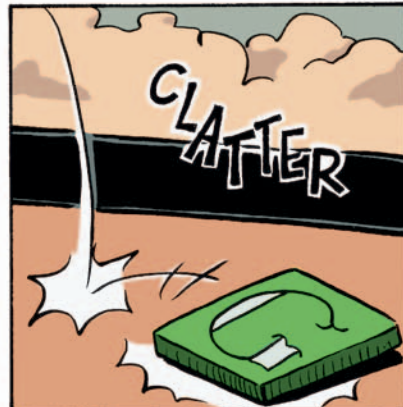
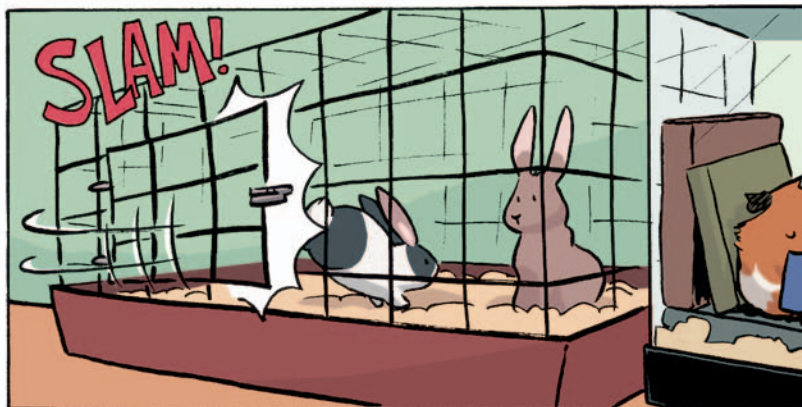
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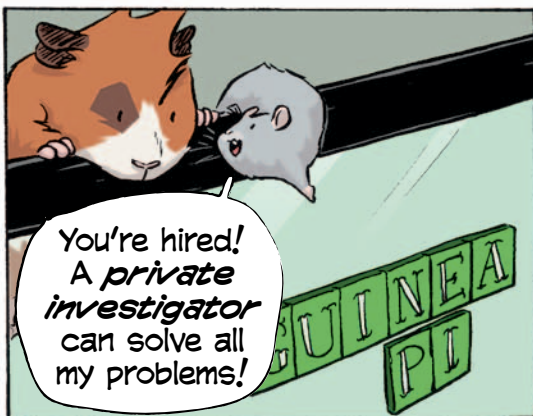




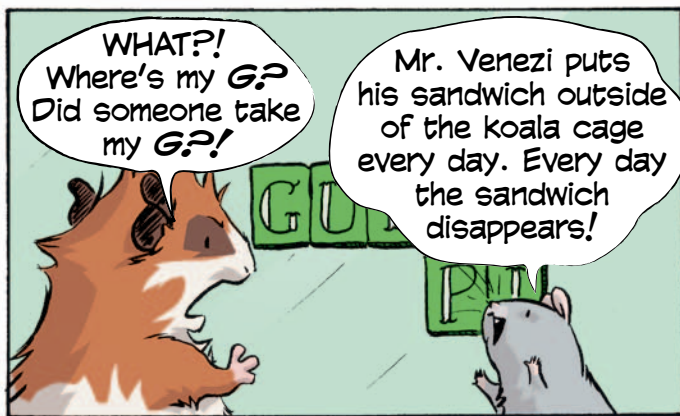








You're hired!
A *private investigator*
can solve all
my problems!



WHAT?!
Where's my *G*?
Did someone take
my *G*?!

Mr. Venezi puts
his sandwich outside
of the koala cage
every day. Every day
the sandwich
disappears!



I can't stay awake
during the day, so I
never see who steals
the sandwich. Mr.
Venezi says if it
disappears one more
time, he's going to
send away all the
koalas!

Koalas?

Yeah. We're
koalas.

You're not
a koala.

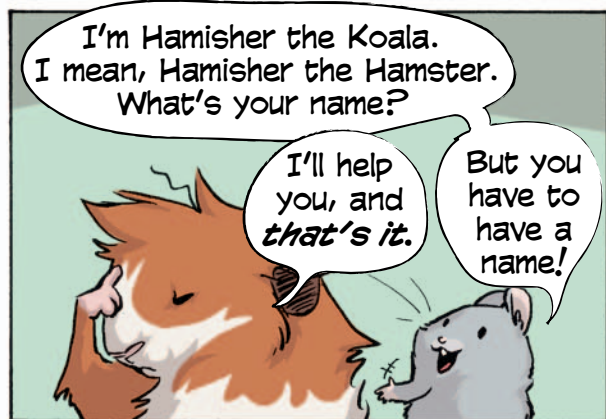
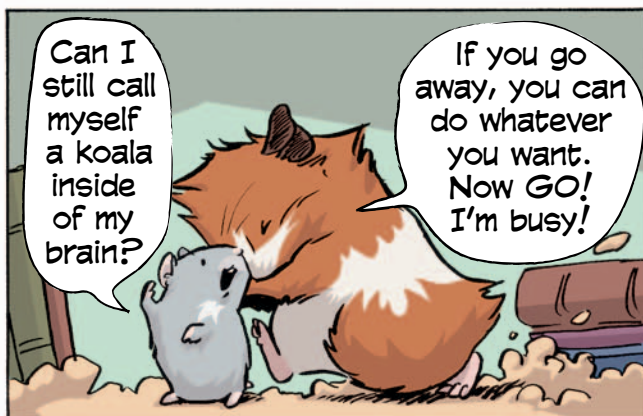


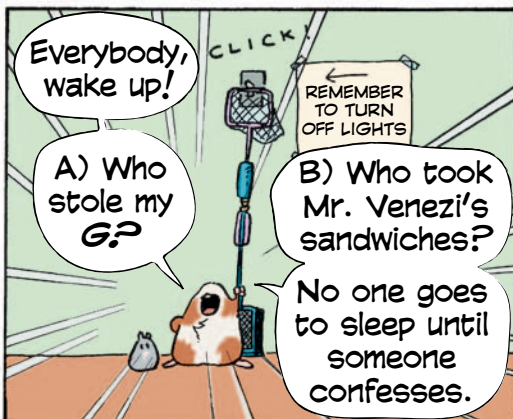
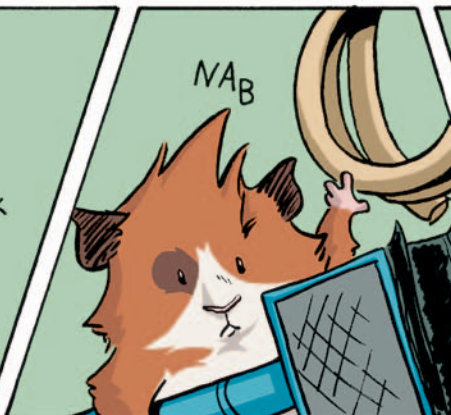
I'm
not a
koala?!

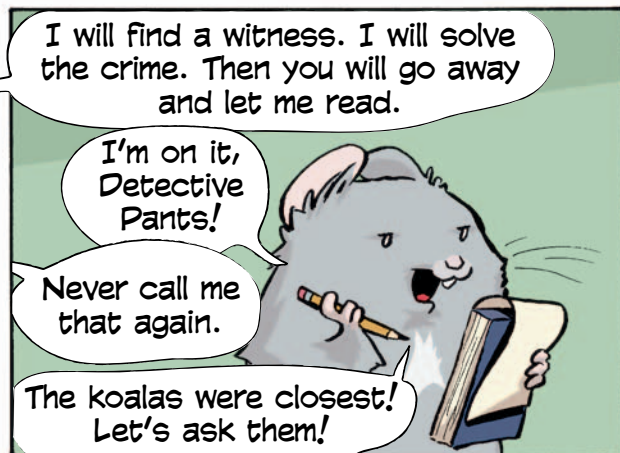


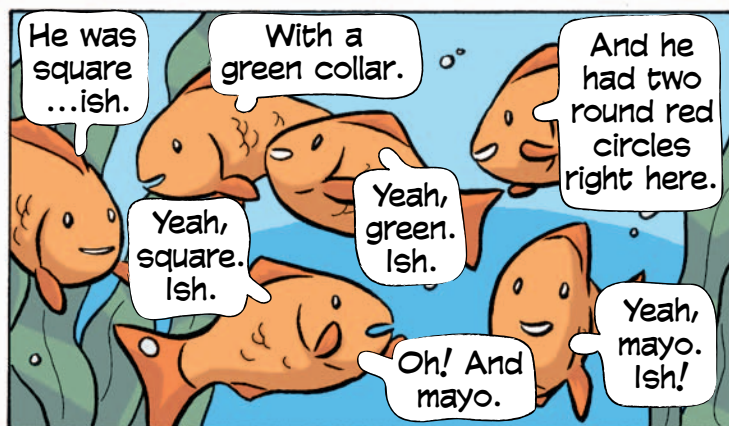
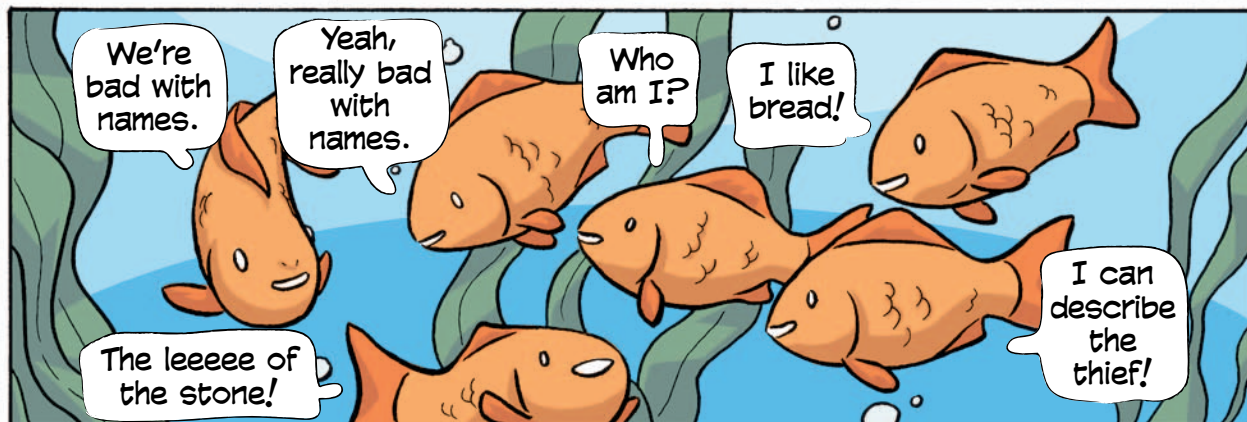
But that's what
our sign says!

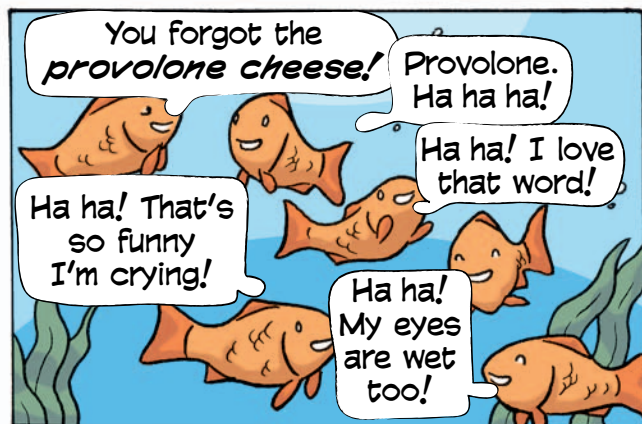
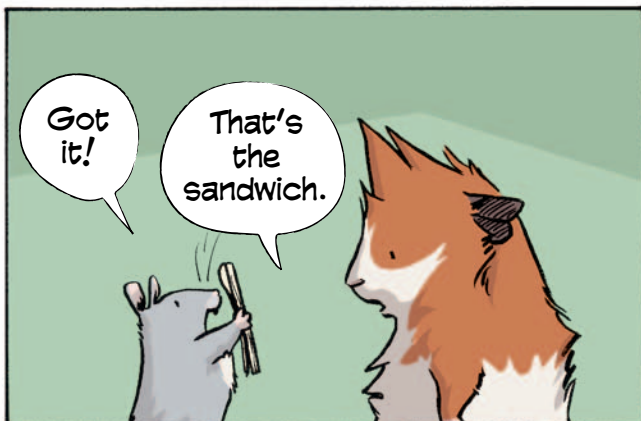
Mr. V isn't very good
at telling animals apart.

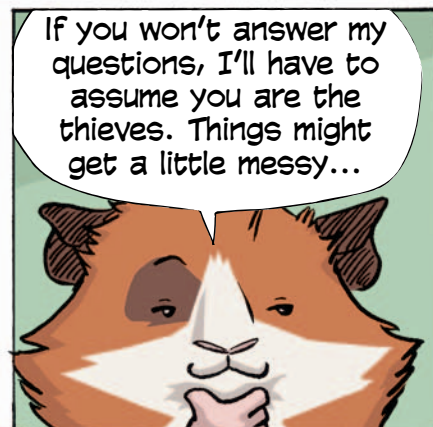
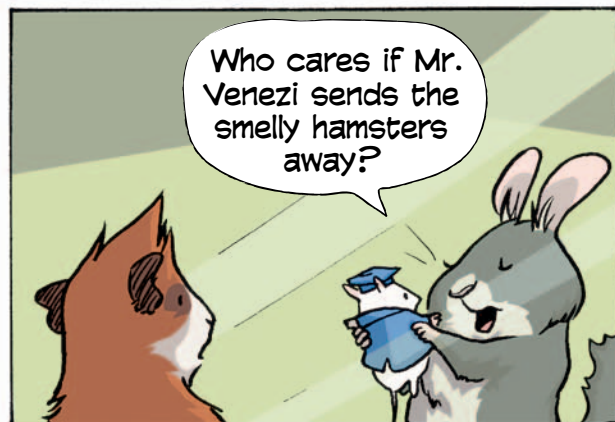
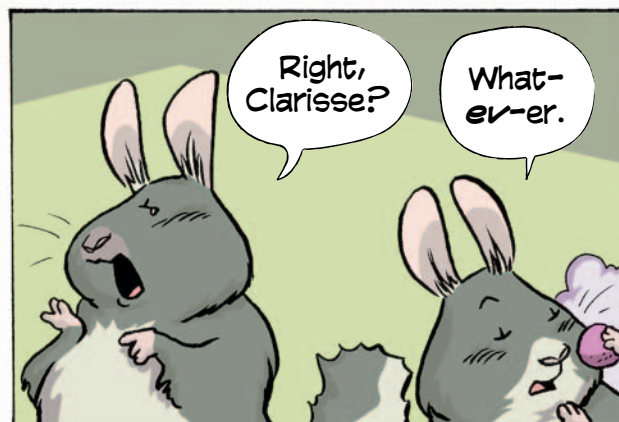
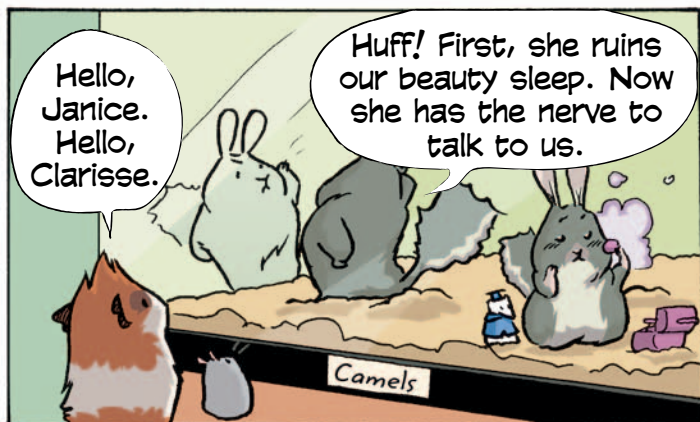


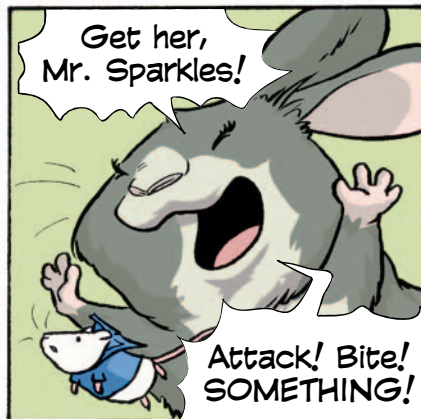
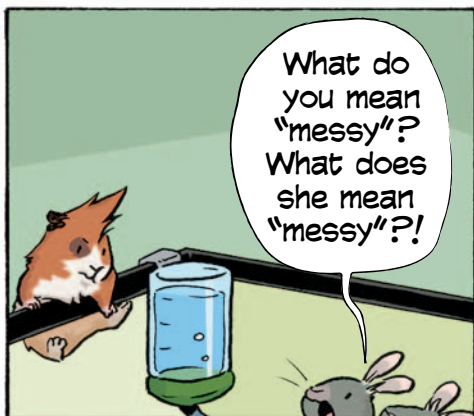


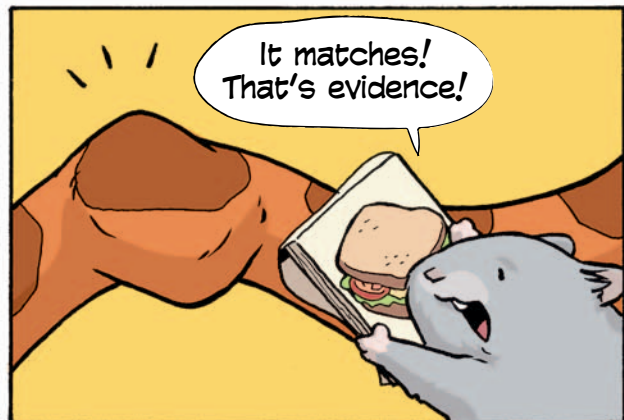
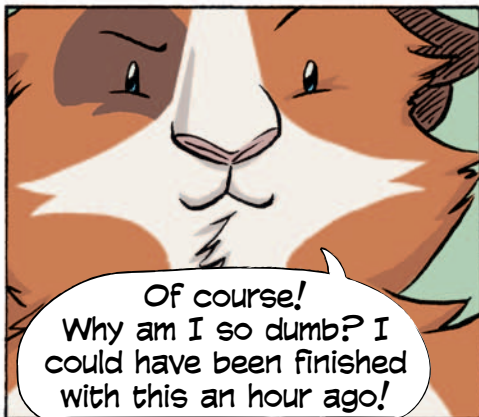
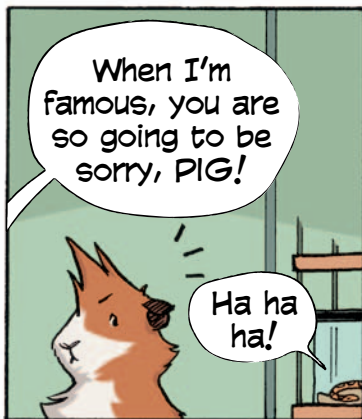


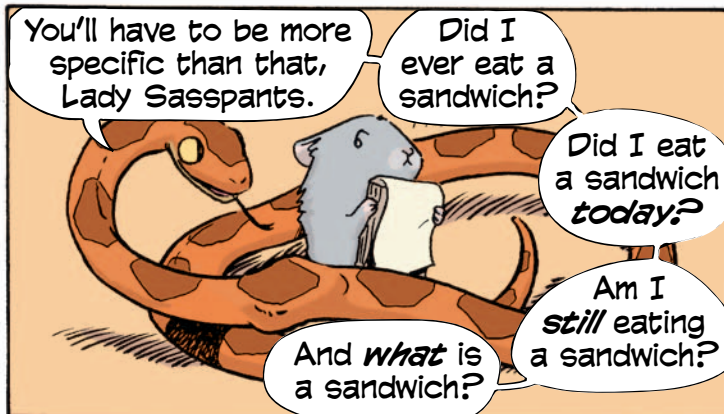


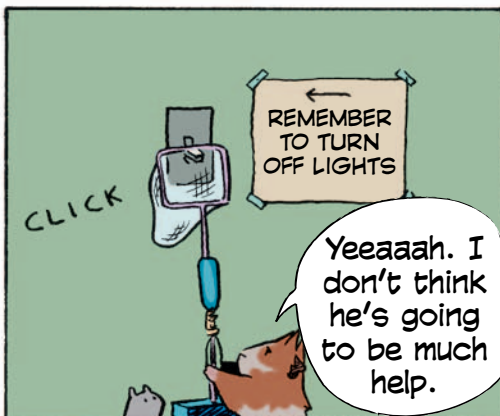
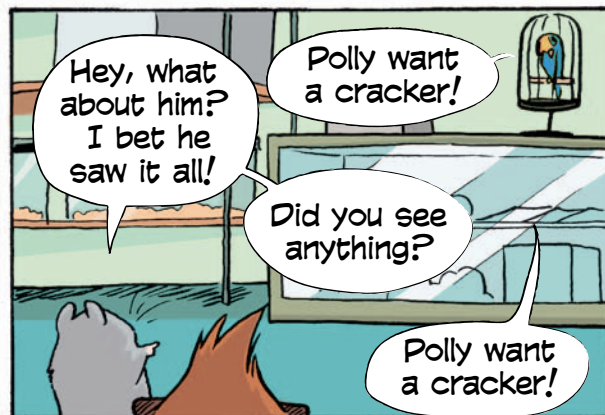


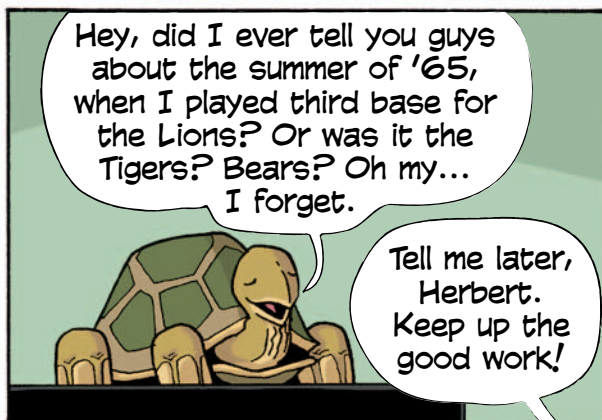
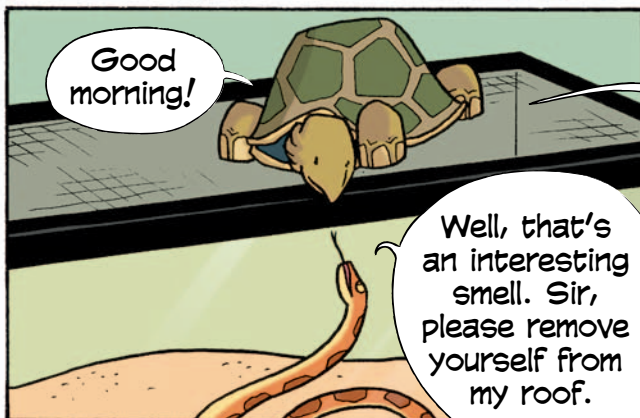


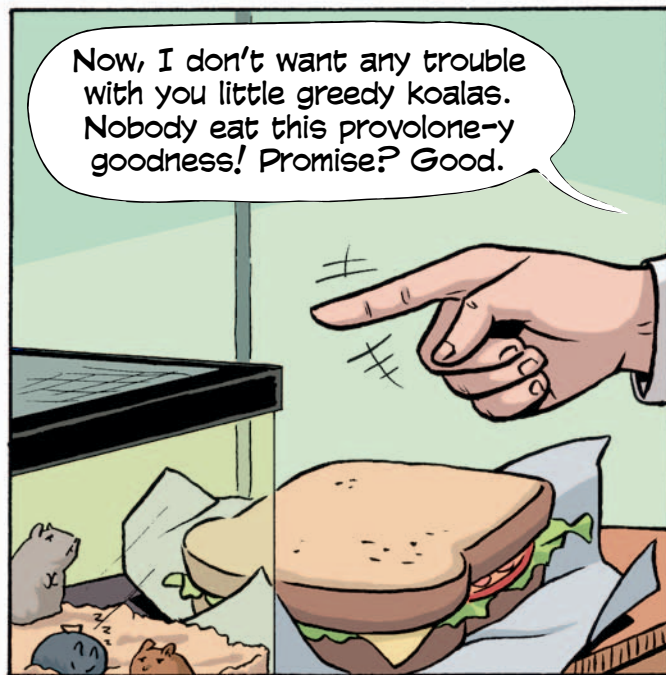
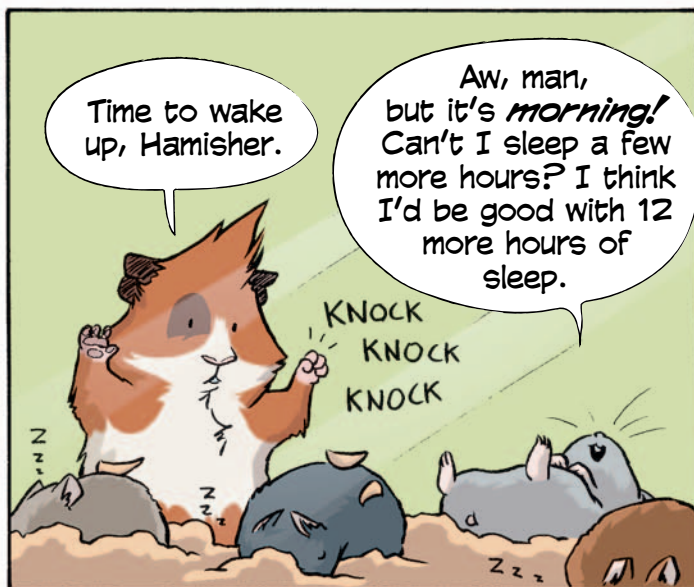


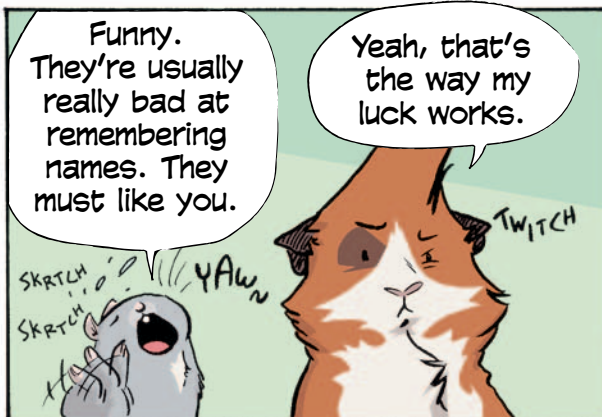
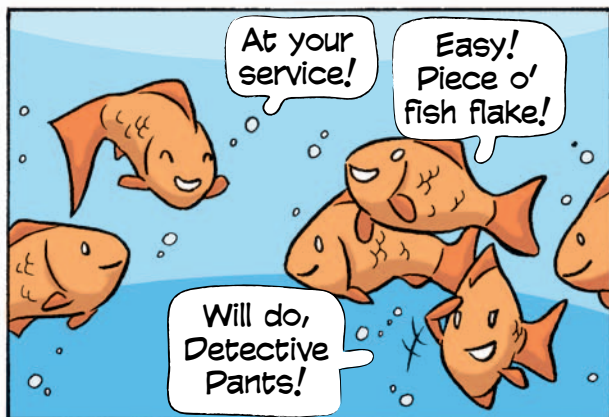
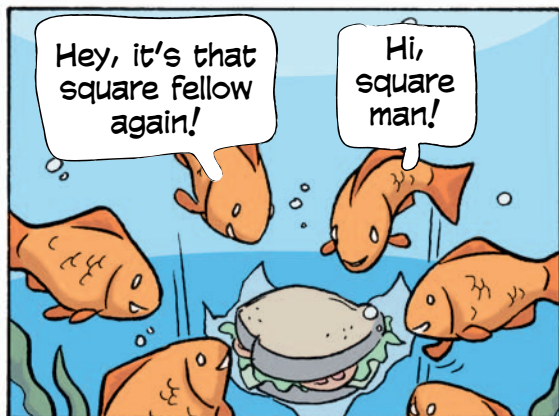




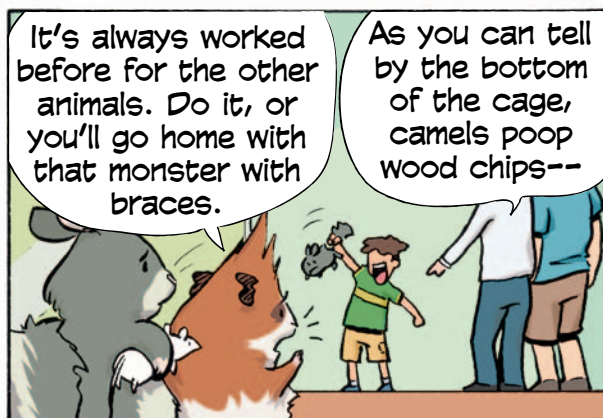
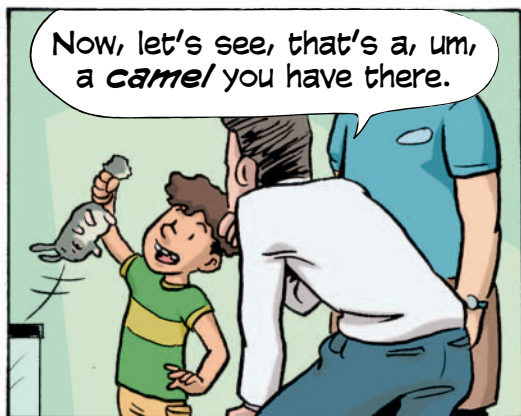


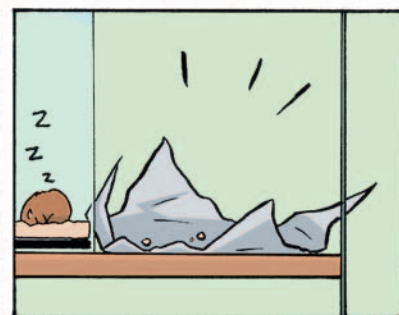


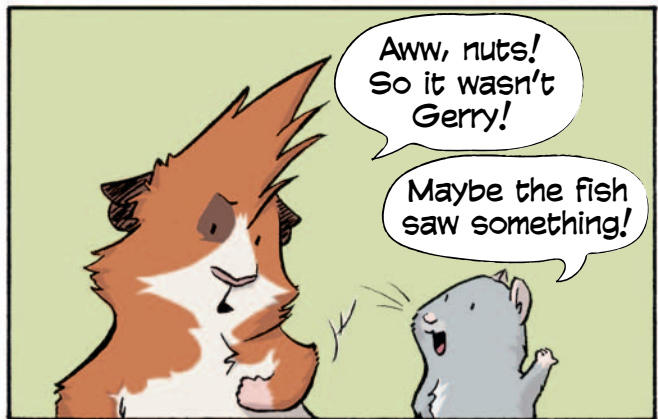
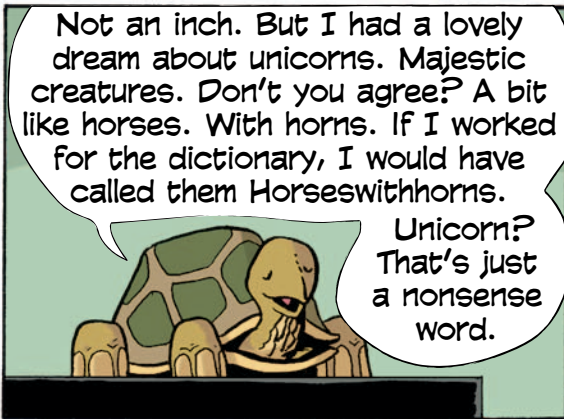
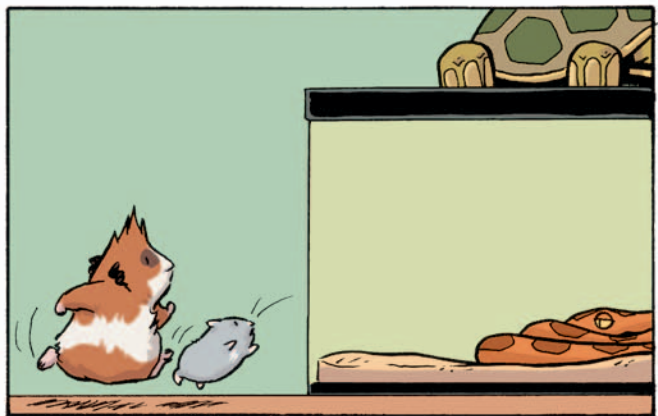
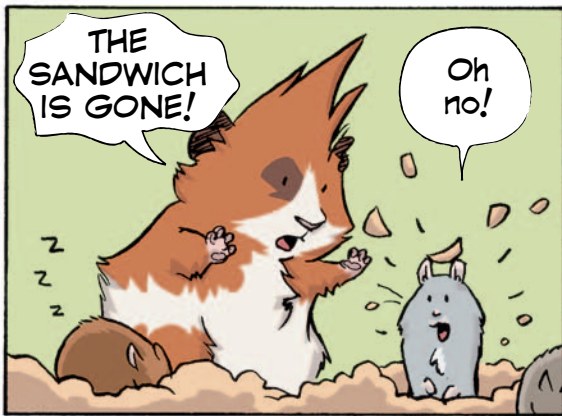


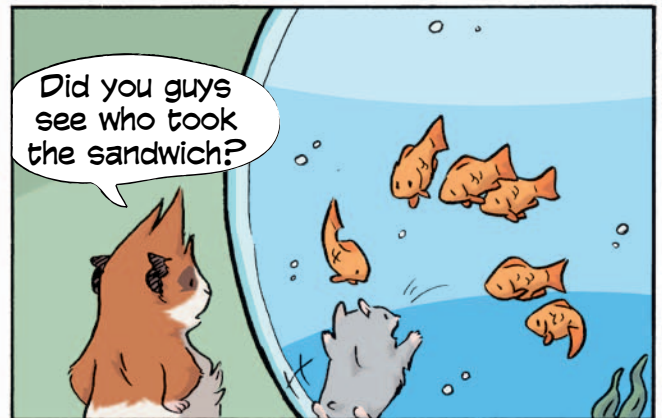
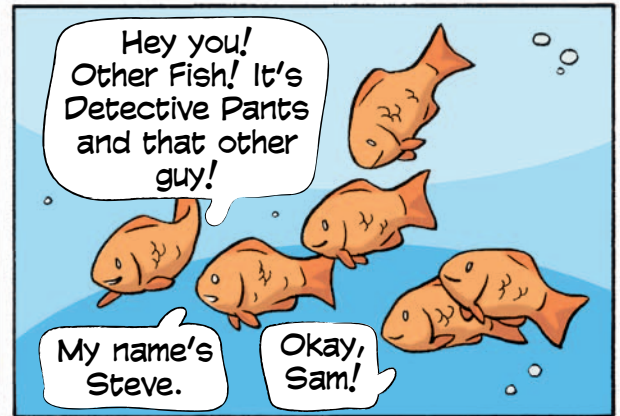
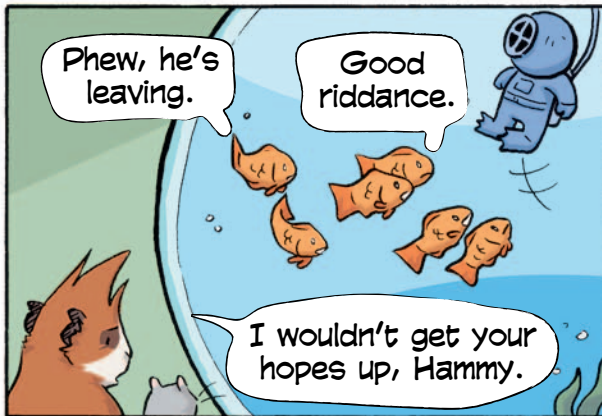
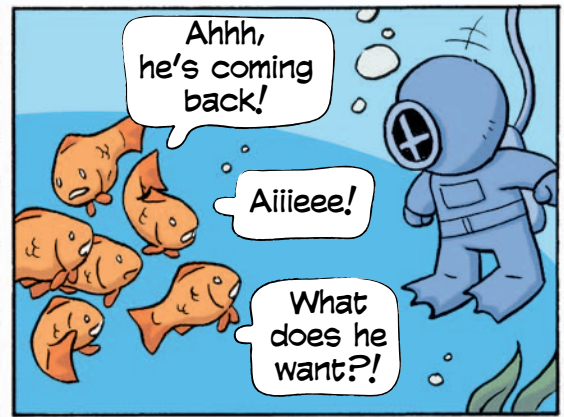
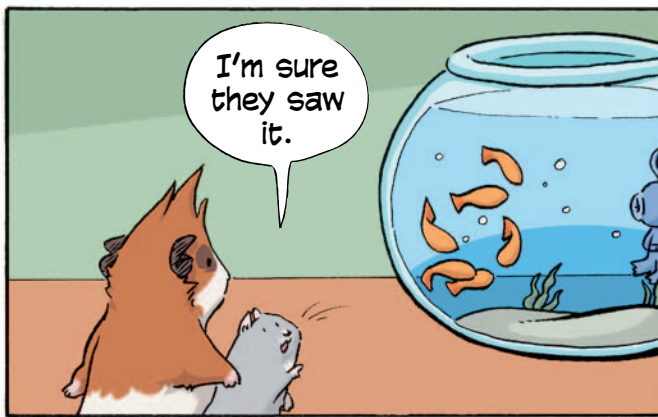


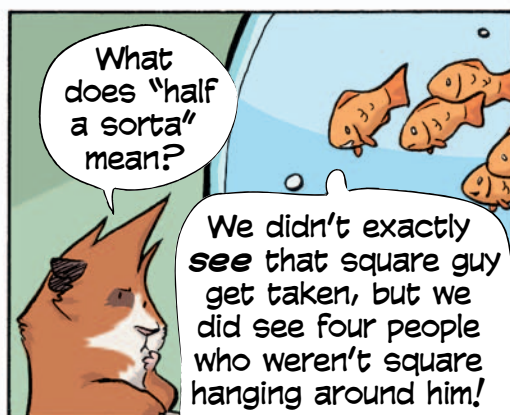


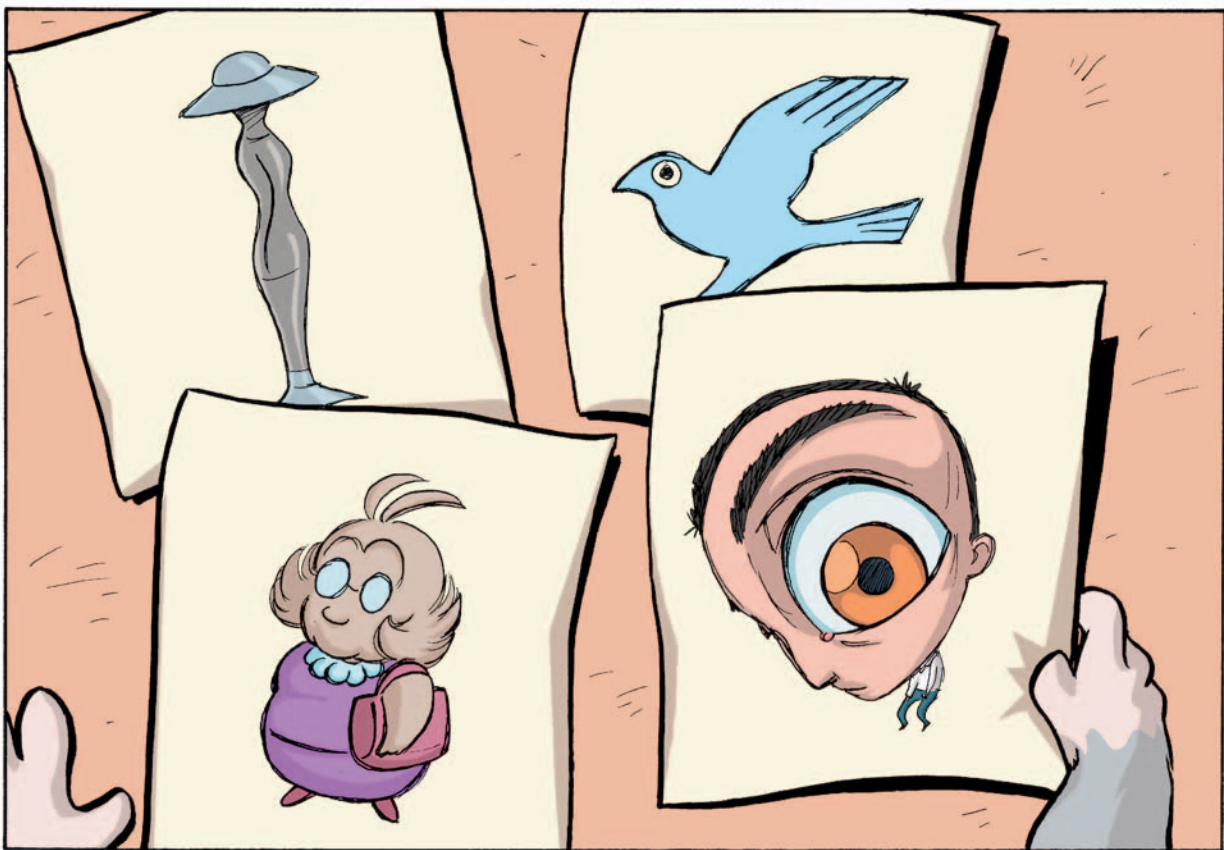


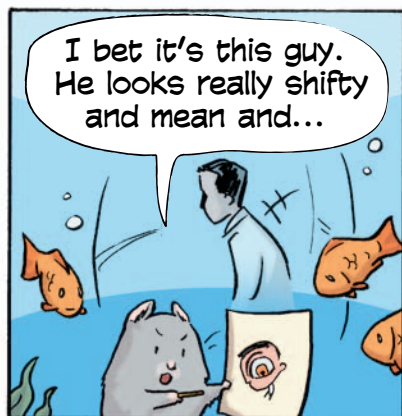




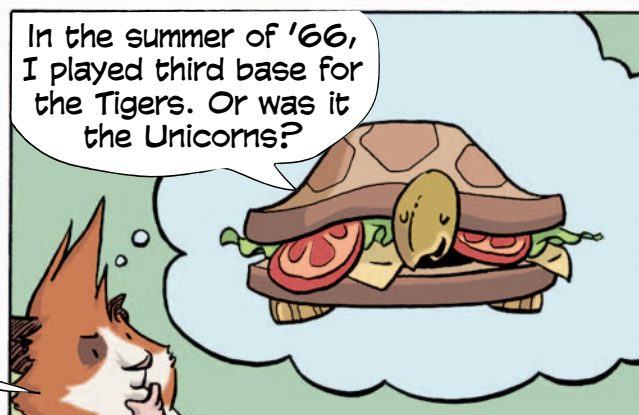






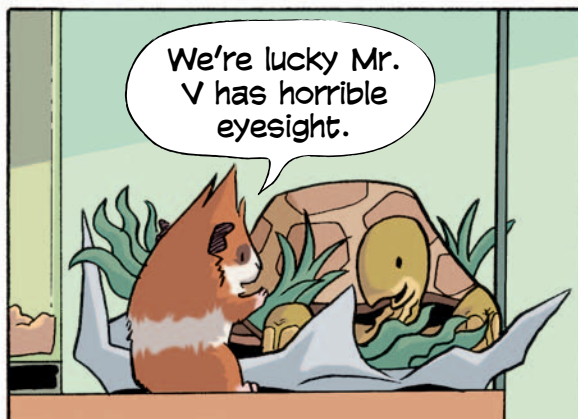


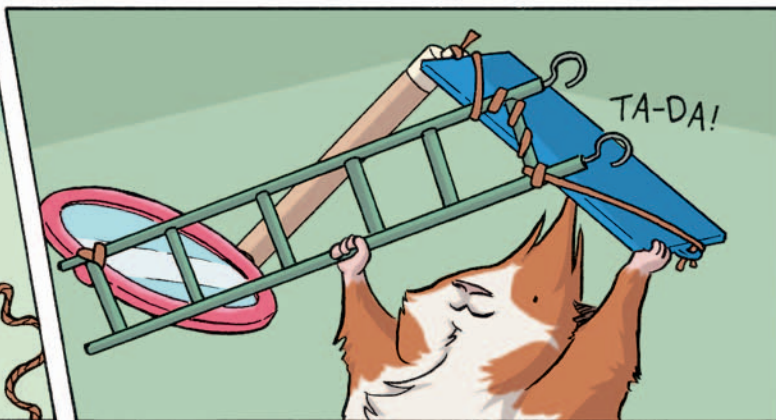
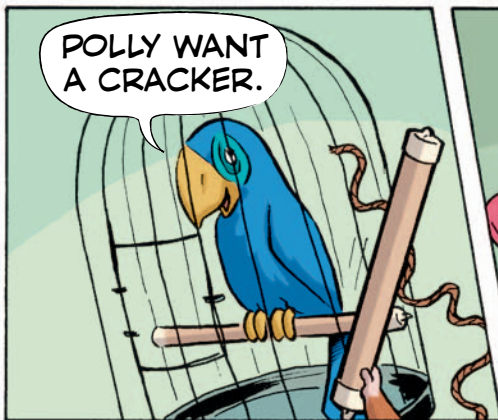
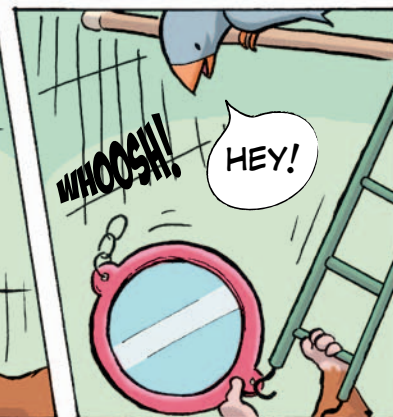
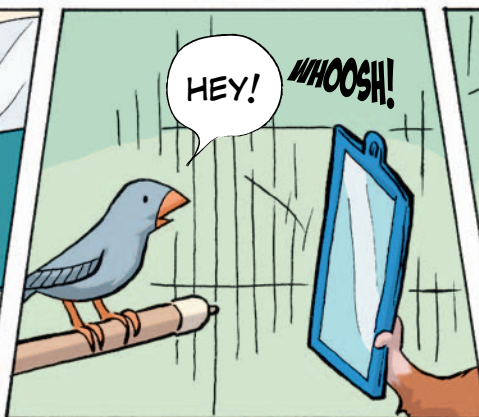
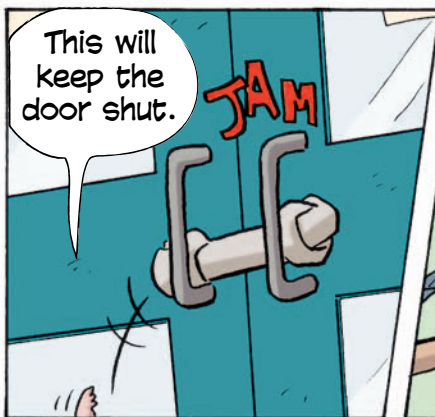
First things first. We need a decoy sandwich.

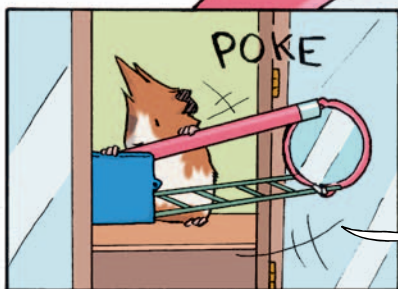


We're almost done. You're still our prime suspect.

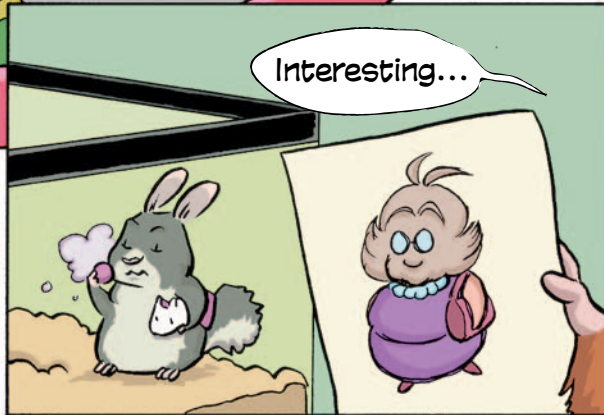
And I'm honored.

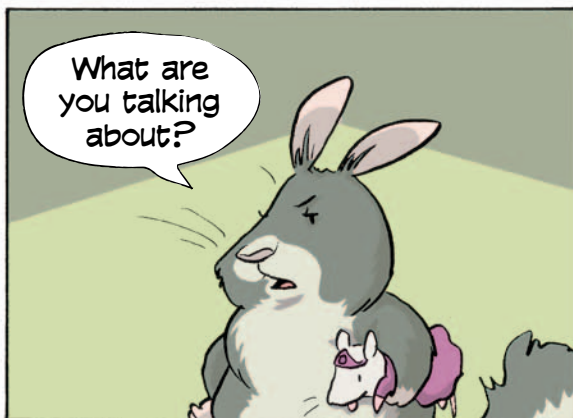
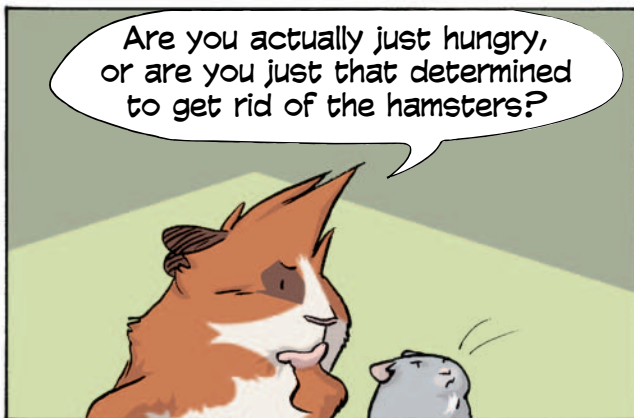
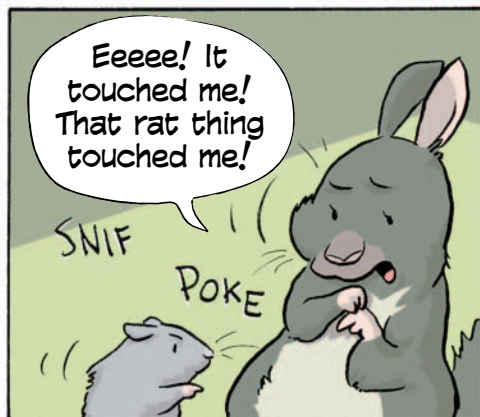
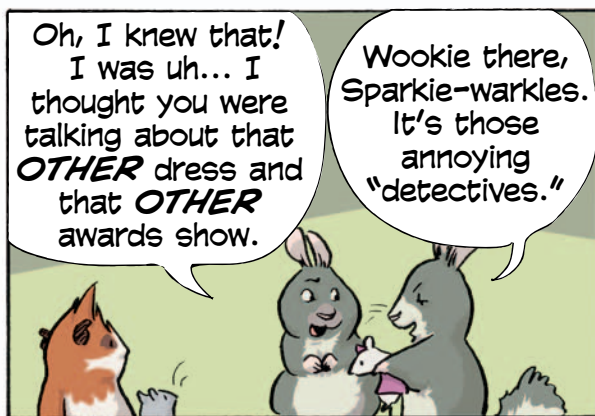
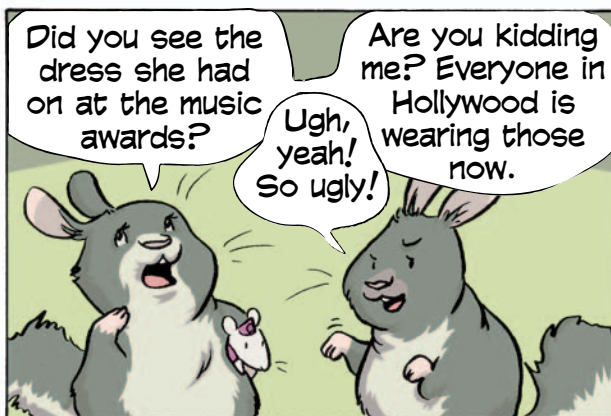


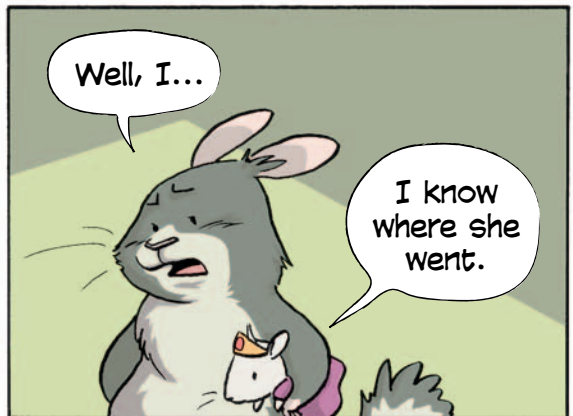
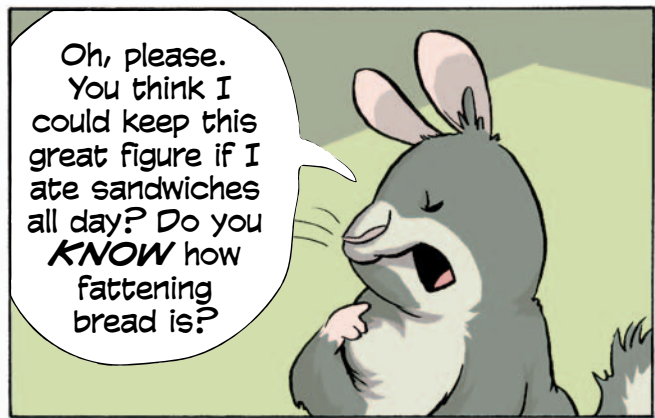


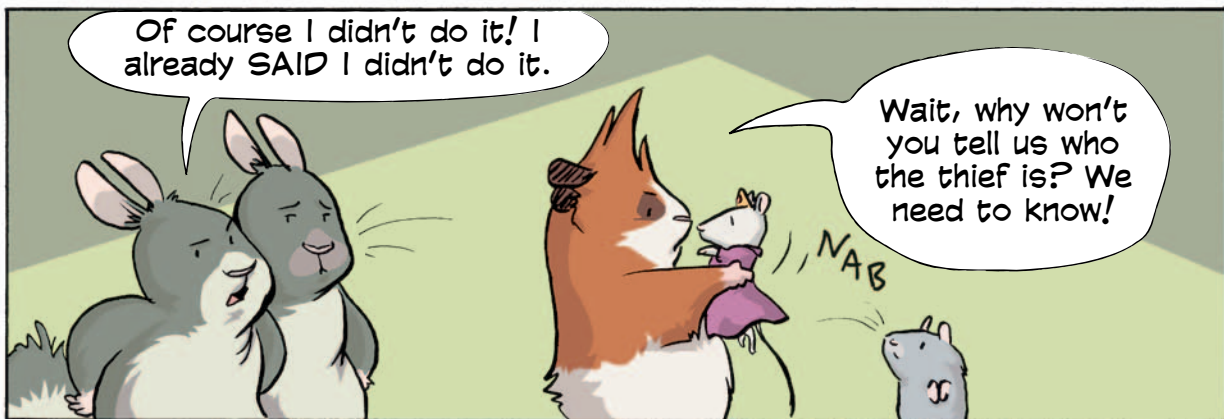
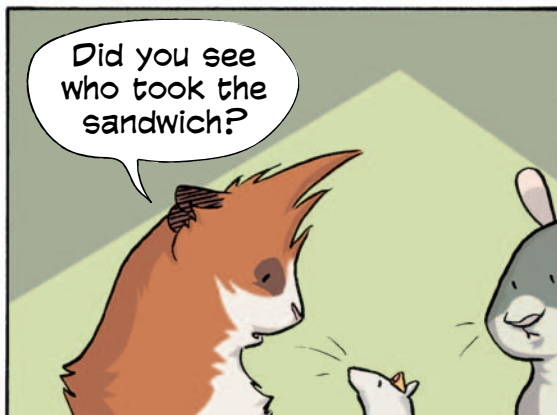
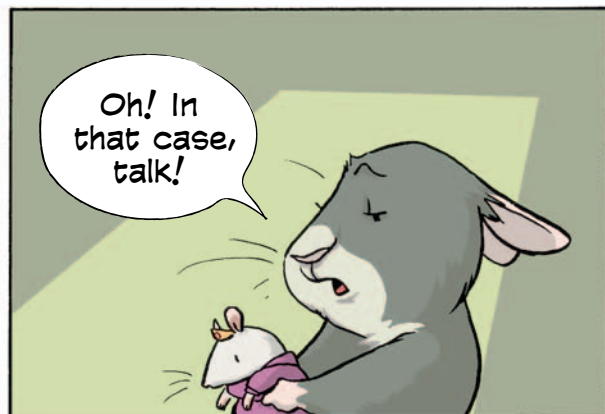
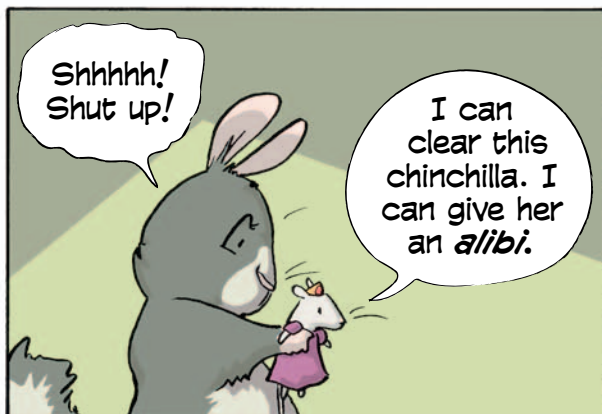


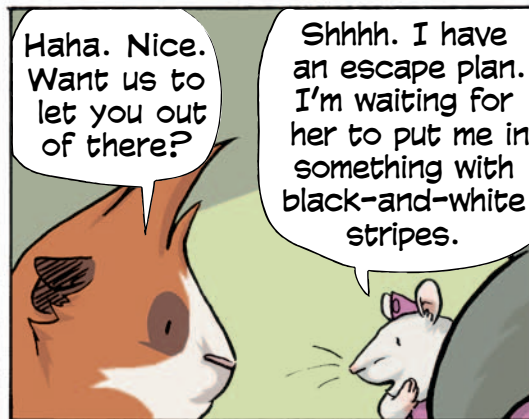
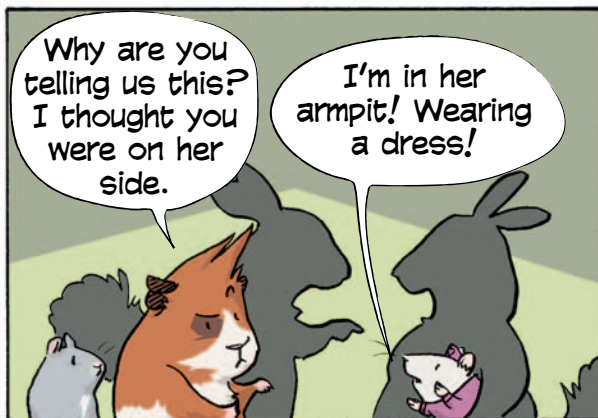
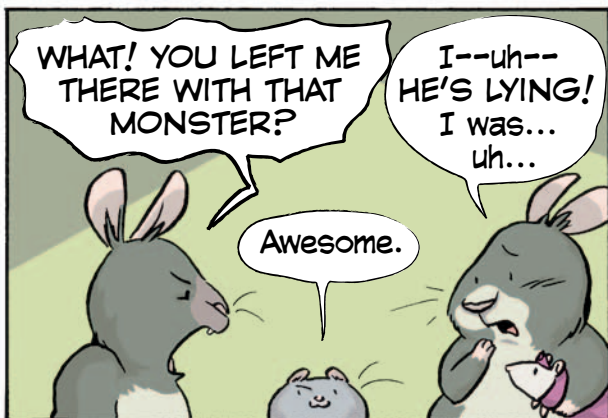
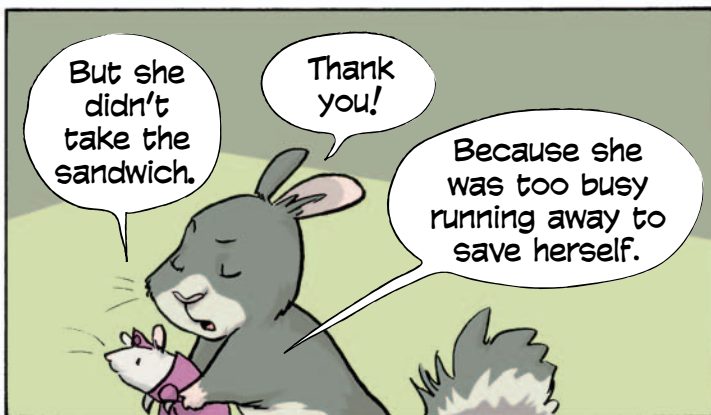
Let's take a look at who's outside.

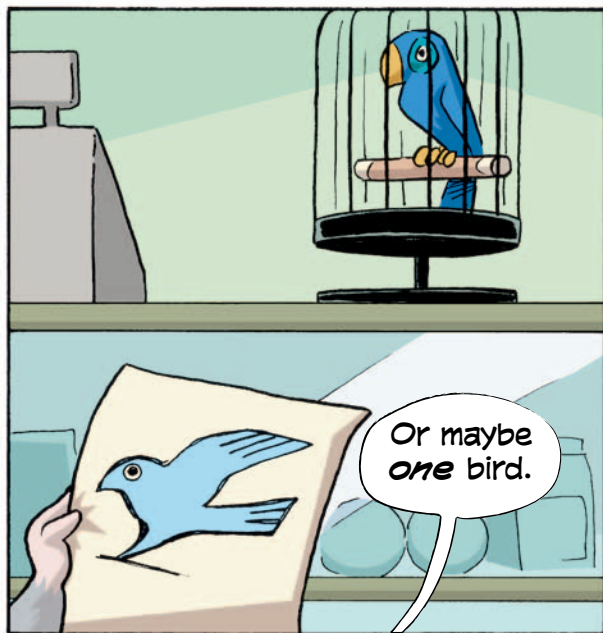
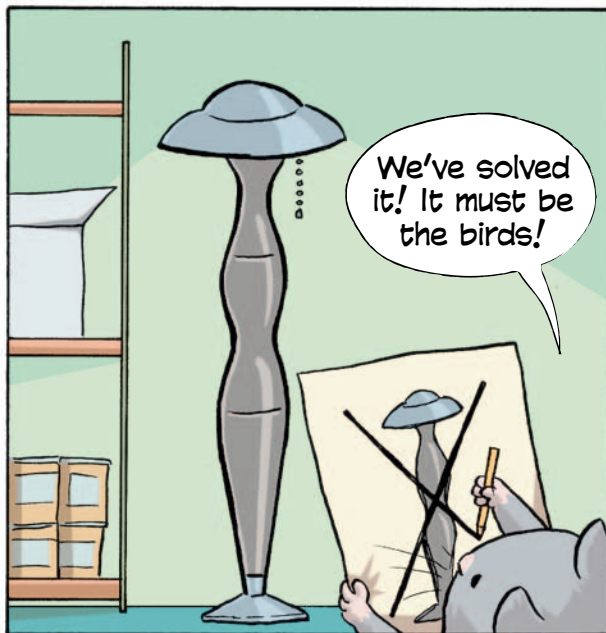
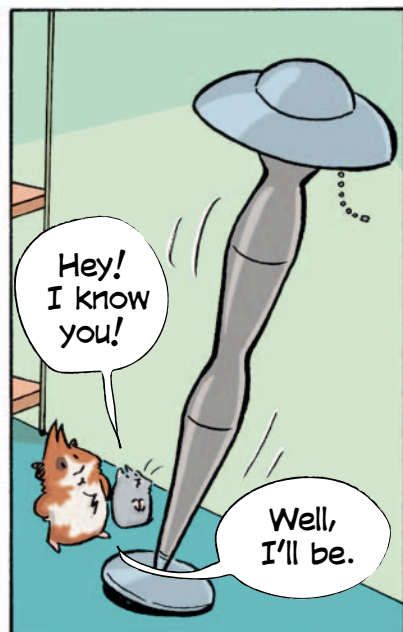
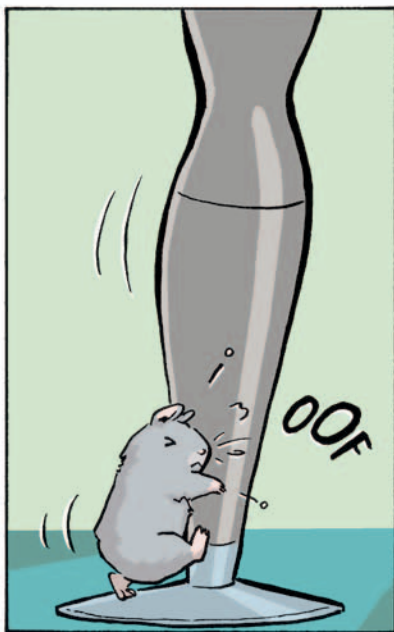


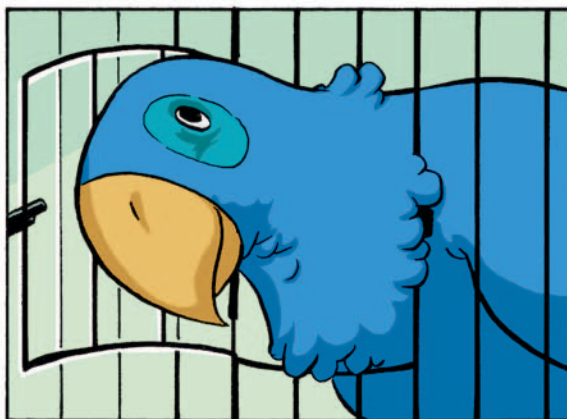
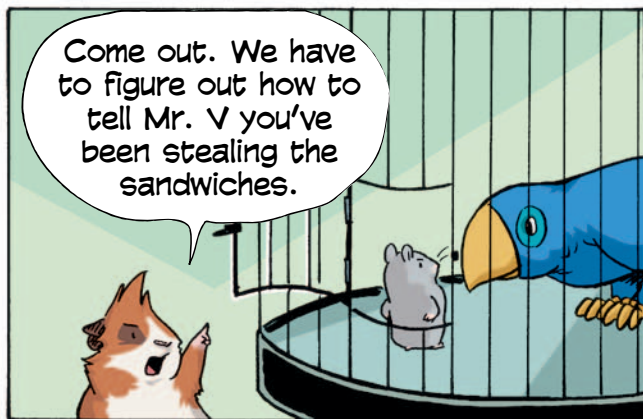
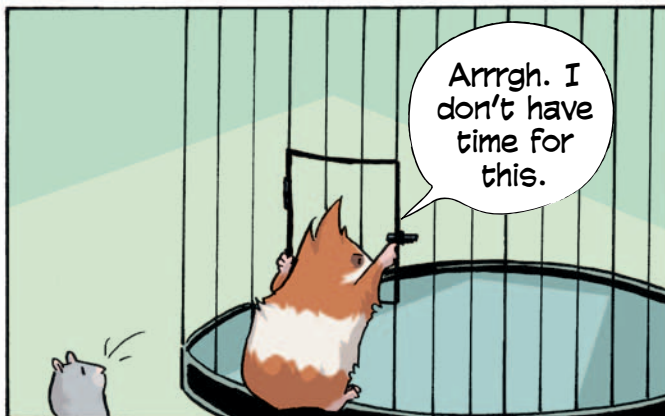
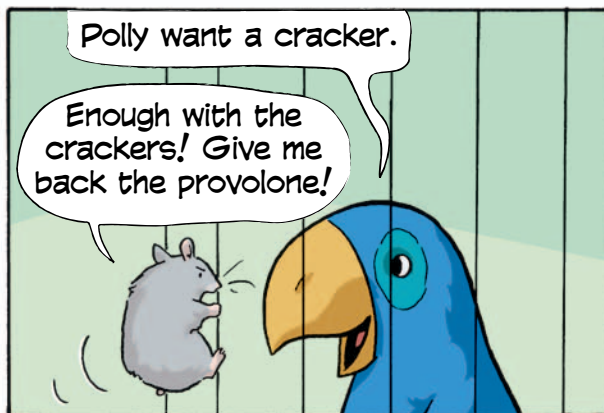


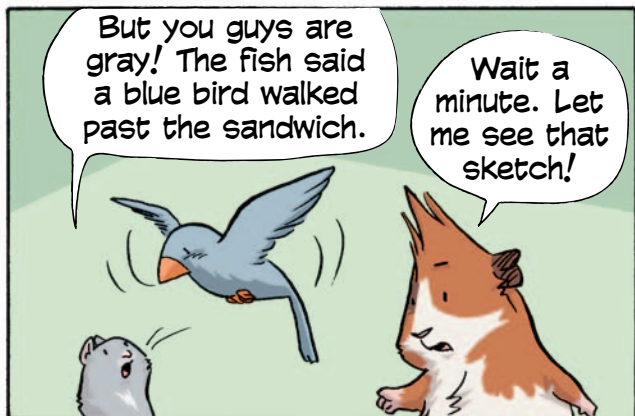
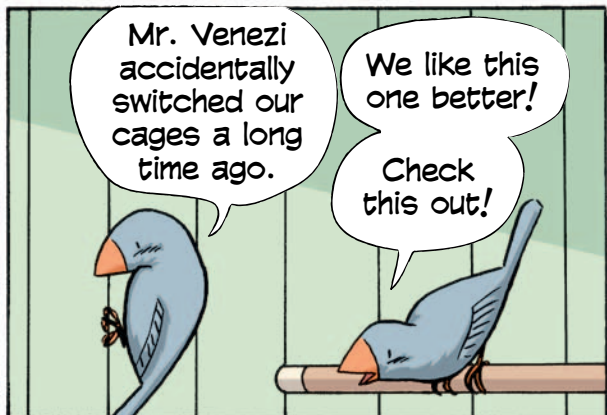
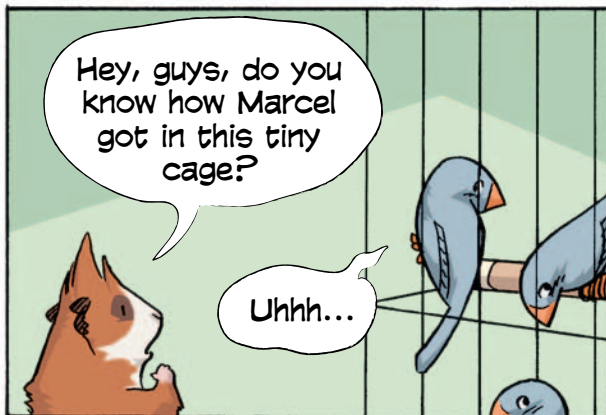
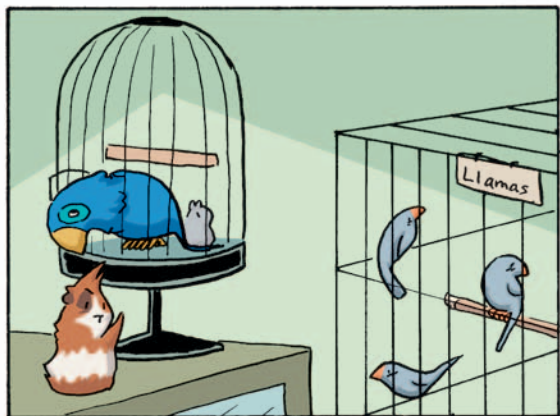


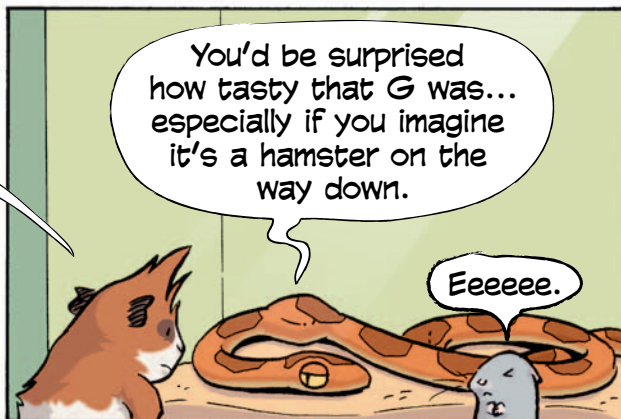
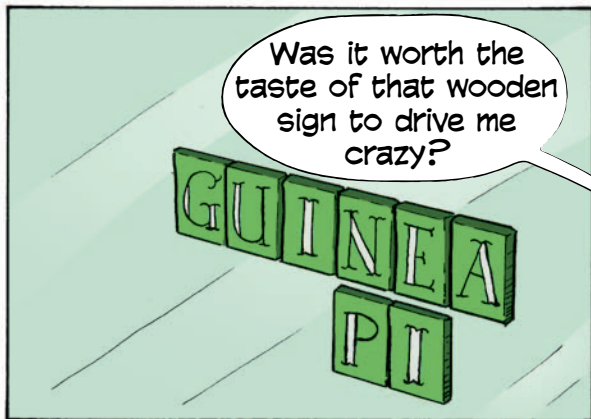
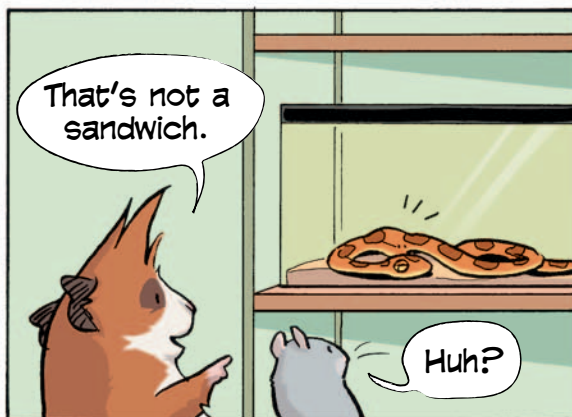
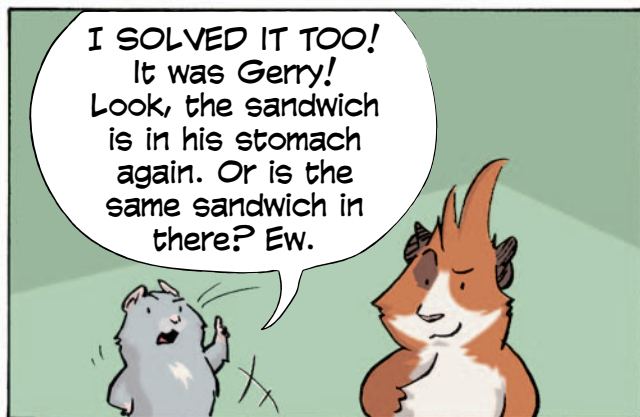
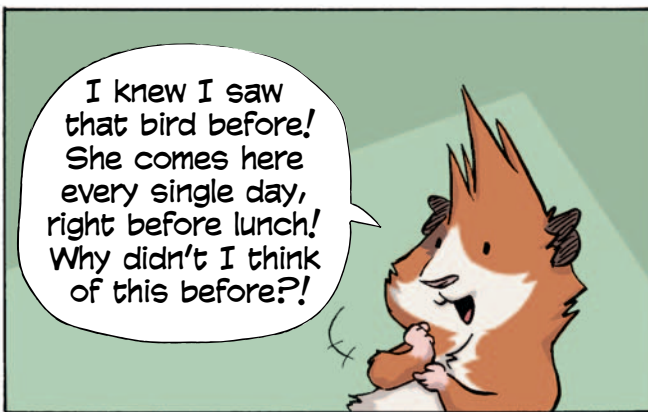
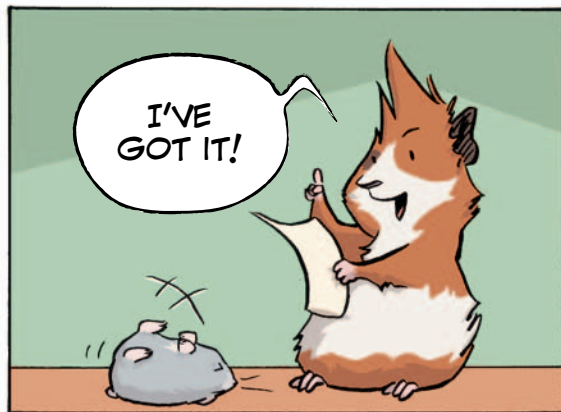


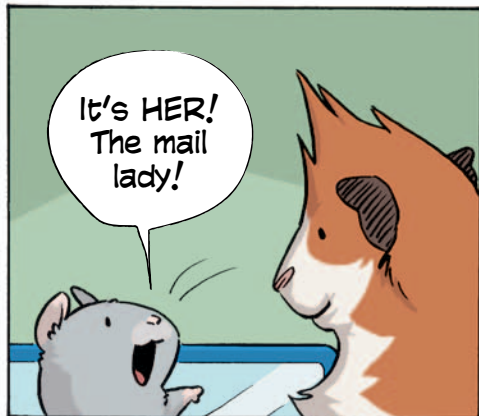
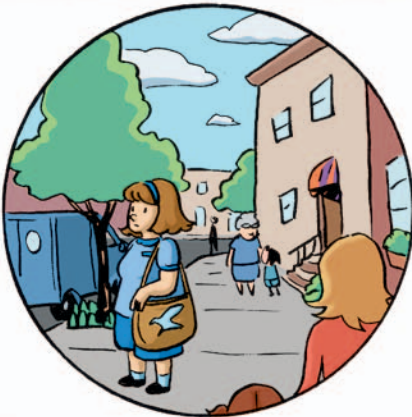
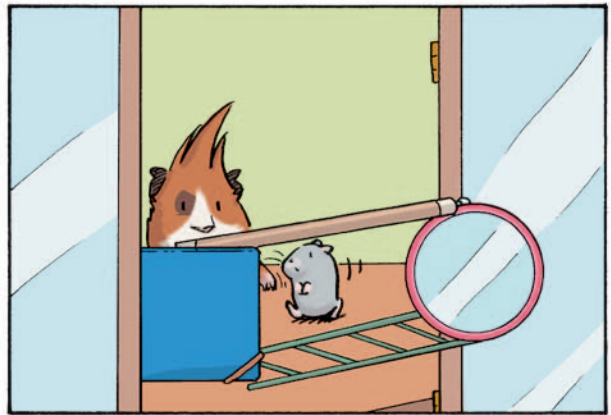


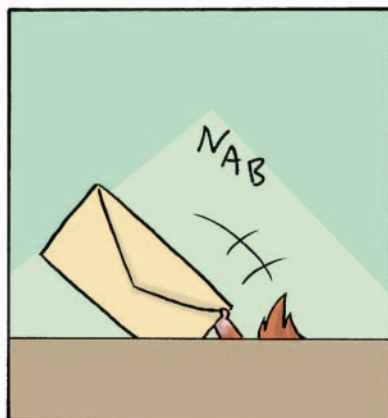
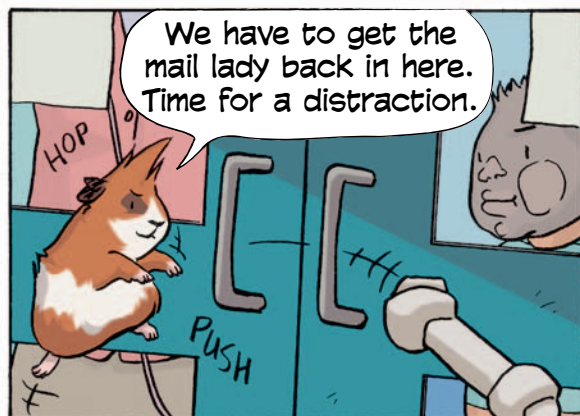
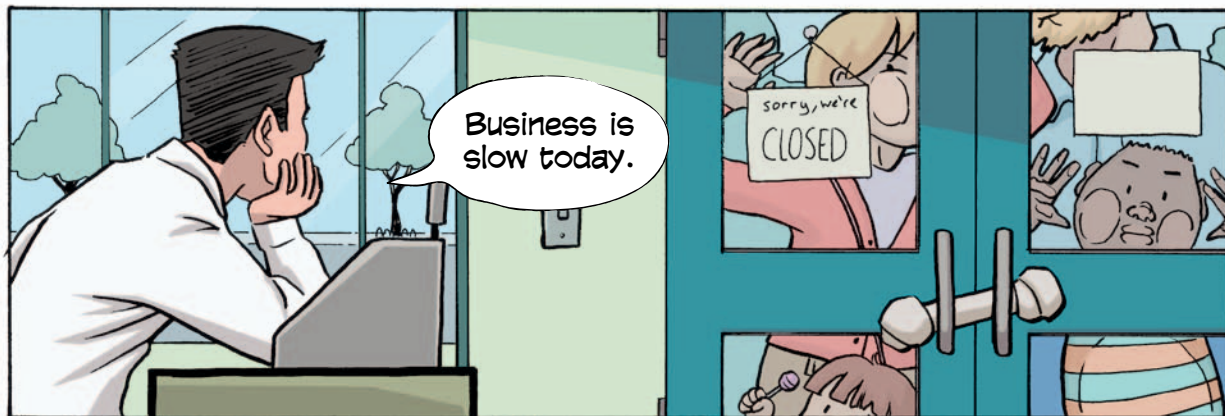


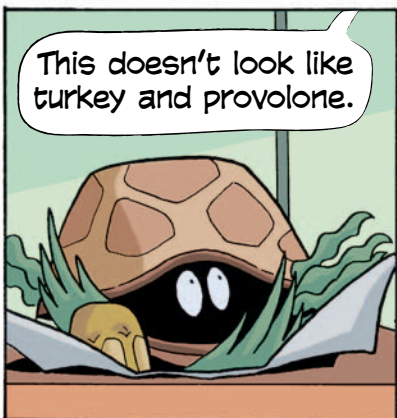
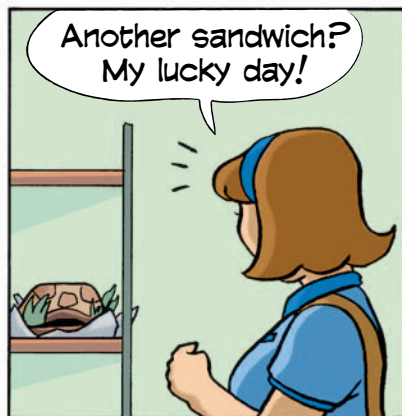
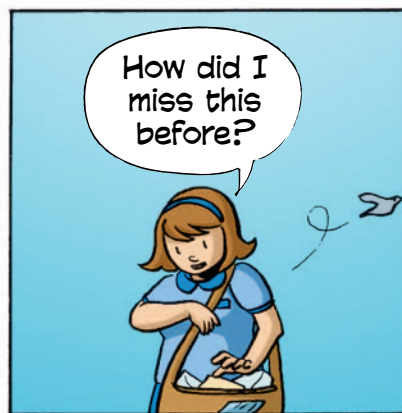
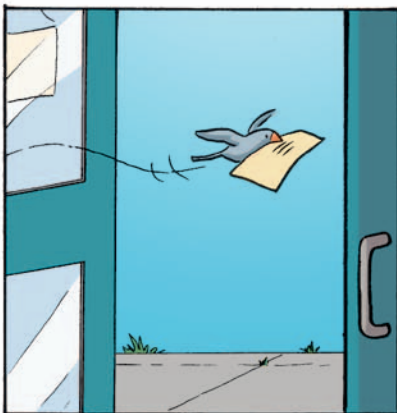


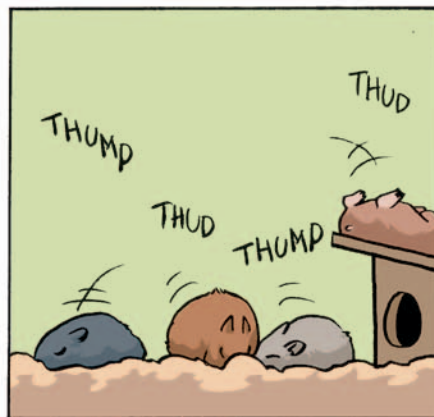
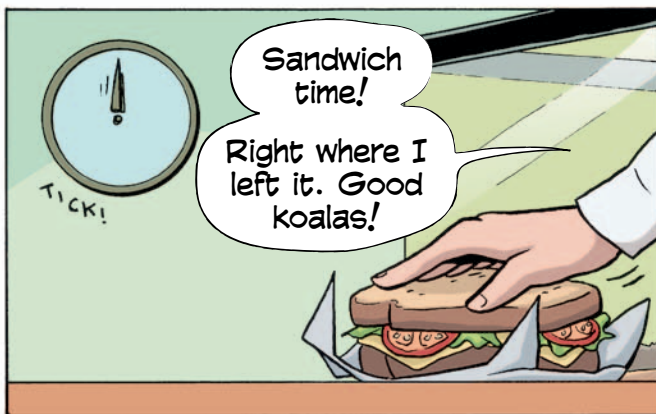


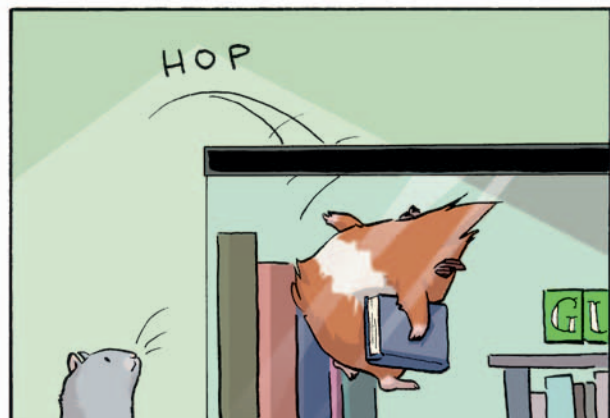
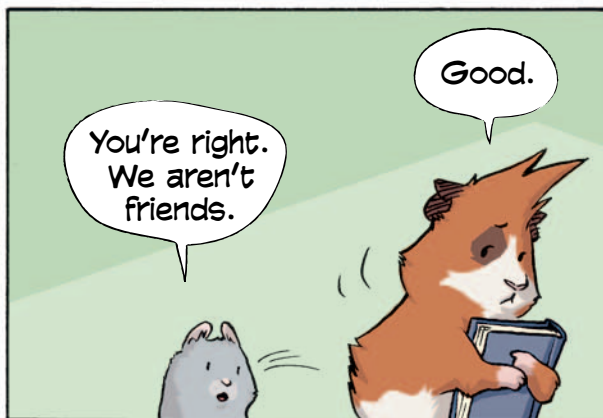
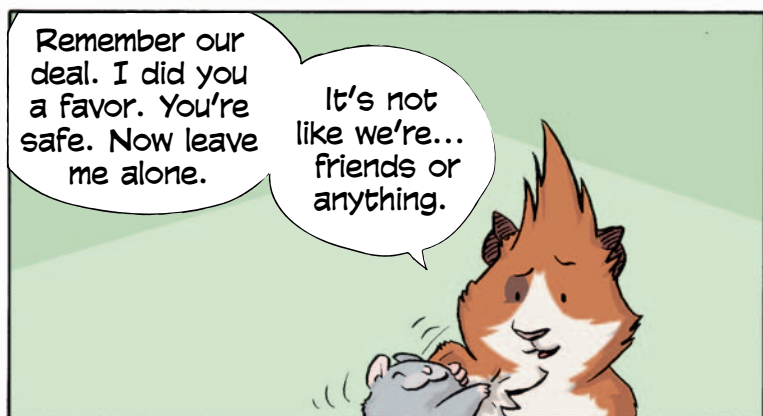


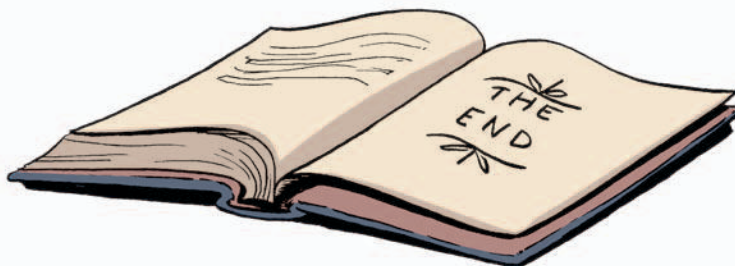
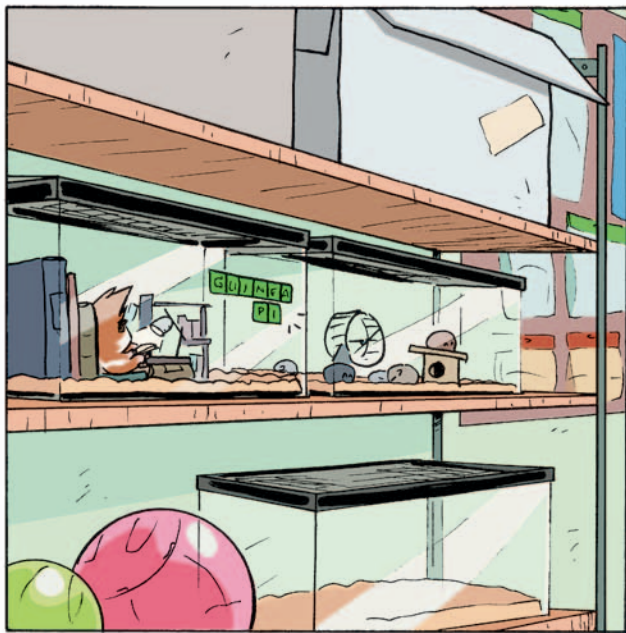












HAMISHER EXPLAINS...



How did Gerry swallow the G, since it's FOUR times the size of his tiny little head?



Snakes have jaws that separate. They can open their mouths **WIDE** to eat **HUGE** things. It's as if you could open your mouth so wide you could eat a basketball. I'm not sure why you'd want to. Unless it's covered in sunflower seeds. Yum.

Snakes have **HORRIBLE** table manners. They never chew their food. It sits inside like a speed bump for three to five days while it slooowly breaks down into nutrients. Imagine if everything you ate showed from the outside!

But all snakes **DO** have teeth. Poisonous snakes have big Dracula fangs. Normal, boring snakes like Gerry, who is a **corn snake**, have **200** teeth, all the same size and shape. There are two rows of teeth on the top and one row of teeth on the bottom. He doesn't use them to chew but to make sure food doesn't **escape**!

Snakes are **carnivores**, which means they **ONLY** eat meat. **Omnivores**, such as human beings, eat burgers **AND** fries. Gerry is called a corn snake because the pattern on his skin looks like corn on the cob. Gerry would never eat corn on the cob.

Snakes are **dormant** for a day or two after they eat. **Dormant** means they snooze and relax and don't move at all. Detective Pants and I should have remembered that Gerry can't eat a sandwich every day. Most snakes only eat once a week or so.



I'm **not** a detective!

If snakes slowly dissolve their food, does that mean they don't poop? Nope! **Snakes poop**. They don't poop very often. When they do—how can I say this nicely? It's a bit watery.

Gerry's not teasing us when he sticks out his **tongue**. Humans and hamsters use hearing and sight as our two most busy senses. Snakes smell and touch things. Snakes don't have real ears, and their eyes can't move around very much.

Now, this part is **WEIRD**! Snakes have noses and nostrils, but they don't use them to smell! They smell with their tongues. Seriously! I mean it! Every time snakes stick out their tongues, they're smelling you. There's a little spot on the roof of a snake's mouth that "smells" stinky things. Gerry is **SO** not invited to my next birthday party.



Animals NOT Appearing in This Book and How to Tell the Difference

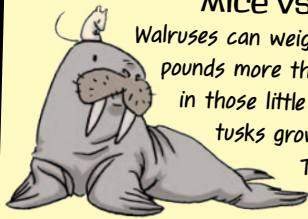
FINCHES VS. LLAMAS



Llamas are furrrier than finches. They live in warmer climates, and they aren't good at flying. But finches are a lot louder. Or at least male finches are, since female finches don't sing. No two finches sing the same song, but dads pass similar songs down to sons. The noise llamas make is usually described as "humming."

Scientists think it might be because they can't remember the words.

MICE VS. WALRUSES



Walruses can weigh up to four thousand pounds more than mice and don't fit in those little running wheels. Walrus tusks grow up to three feet long. The tusks are actually two big teeth.

PARROTS VS. MARMOTS

Marmots are basically large squirrels. They live in chilly places such as the Alps and the Rockies. Parrots like living in warm, tropical places. You'd think marmots would be a lot quieter than parrots, but marmots are known for whistling. Some folks call them whistle pigs.



RABBITS VS. THREE-TOED SLOTHS

Sloths are found in Central and South America. Sloths only move about one foot every minute. If the old story was called *The Sloth and the Hare* instead of *The Tortoise and the Hare*, the hare would finally win!



GECKOS VS. MOOSE

Moose is not the plural of mouse. They are also not geckos. A moose is not as big as a walrus, but you wouldn't want a 1,600-pound moose in your lap. Luckily, if a moose steps on a gecko's tail, the gecko can "drop" his tail and run away from danger. Then he can regrow the tail later. Pretty handy! (Or tail-y?)



CHINCHILLAS VS. CAMELS

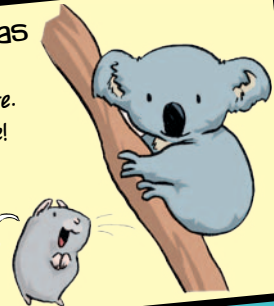
Both chinchillas and camels pee more than twice a year. Mr. Venezi really doesn't know much about pets! Camels are more fun to ride to school.



HAMSTERS = KOALAS

Koalas are supercute.
Hamsters are supercute.
There is no difference!

Do you think they're buying it?



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It's not *PI*,
it's guinea *pig*.

There's a sandwich thief in Mr. Venezi's pet shop, and everyone is a suspect—from the chinchillas to the goldfish. Never fear! The world's fluffiest detective is on the case: **Sasspants, PI(G)**. By day, Sasspants is your average book-loving, gizmo-inventing guinea pig. By night, she solves pet shop mysteries with the help of her sidekick, Hamisher the hamster. Our furry little heroes will stop at nothing to find the sandwich thief!

#1 HAMSTER AND CHEESE

Whatever
you say,
Detective
Sasspants!



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