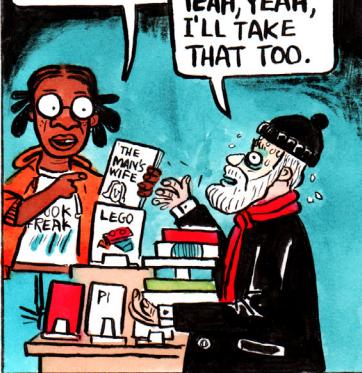


IT ACTUALLY DOES GET BUSY.  
CLICHÉD HARRIED MEN BUYING LITERALLY ANYTHING YOU SUGGEST.

AND THIS IS...

YEAH, YEAH,  
I'LL TAKE  
THAT TOO.



THEY DON'T KNOW THEIR LOVED ONES, DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY LIKE. OR DON'T CARE...

CAN YOU WRAP THEM OR SOMETHING?

ABSOLUTE DOUCHEs.

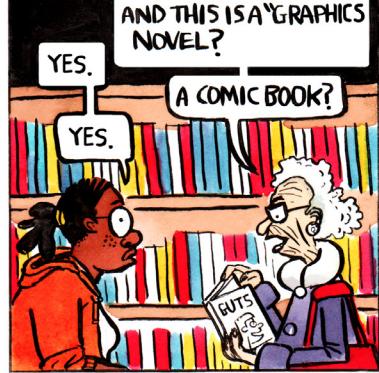
SURE...



THE LAST FORTY MINUTES BREEZES BY. I EVEN STAY OPEN LATE A BIT, HELPING AN OLD LADY BUY "GRAPHICS NOVELS" FOR HER GRANDKIDS. I'M A REAL POST-GHOST EBENEZER SCROOGE.

AND THIS IS A "GRAPHICS NOVEL?"

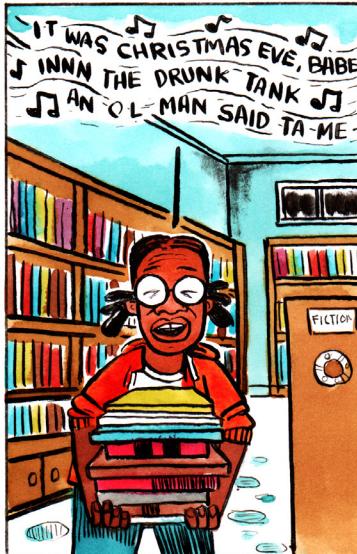
A COMIC BOOK?



I'M GLAD IT WAS BUSY. NO TIME TO THINK ABOUT BEN AND WHERE THE HELL WE STAND.

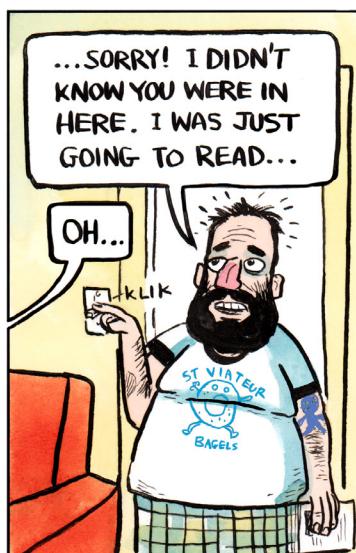
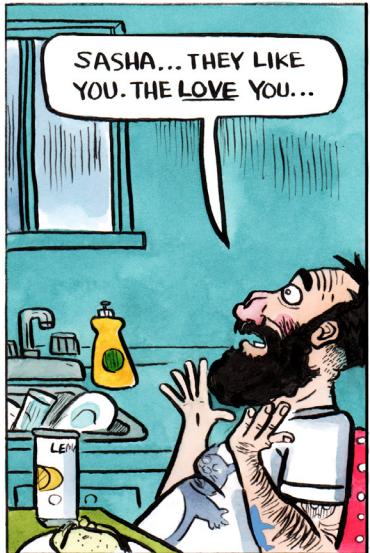


OFF WITH THE BUBLÉ! PUT ON SOMETHING MORE APPROPRIATE TO MY RELATIONSHIP STATUS.









HE BROACHED THE SUBJECT  
ONE MORE TIME BEFORE HE LEFT.

...I COULD BUY YOU A  
LAST-MINUTE FLIGHT...?

ORRR... YOU COULD CANCEL  
YOUR FLIGHT...?

THERE ARE TIMES WHEN YOU CAN  
FEEL SOMETHING PERMANENTLY  
SNAPPING IN A RELATIONSHIP,  
AND YOU BOTH STILL DO IT ANYWAY.  
LIKE A COUPLE A FUCKING PSYCHOS.

A cartoon illustration of a woman with dark skin, large white eyes, and a wide, joyful smile. She is wearing a red short-sleeved blouse with a white collar and a blue pleated skirt. Her hands are resting on her hips. The background shows a room with green walls and a doorway.

A cartoon illustration of a woman with a large, bulbous head and a wide, toothy grin. She has short, dark hair and is wearing a red, long-sleeved sweater over a white collared shirt and a blue, pleated skirt. She is holding a book in her right hand. The background is a simple, light green color.

A cartoon illustration of a man with a beard and a mustache, wearing a blue jacket, looking up at a painting on a green wall. A small dog is lying on the floor in front of him.

NOT THAT ONE OF US NEEDED TO  
CAPITULATE, JUST IF THERE'D  
BEEN LESS OF THIS STUFF...

OKAY, WELL... OH  
MY UBER'S HERE...

UGIt

SMAK  
SMAK  
SMAK

# WHAT??

NOTHING, NOTHING... UBER FLICKS UNIONIZED WORKERS AND OPPRESSES THE "GIG" WORKER. THEY'RE INCREDDIBLY EVIL, BUT EVERYONE JUST KEEPS USING THEM... NOTHING...

A cartoon illustration of a woman with a shocked expression. She has large, bulging eyes and a wide-open mouth. She is wearing a red sweater over a white collared shirt and a blue skirt. Her hands are on her hips.

A cartoon illustration of a man with a shocked expression. He has a large, dark beard and mustache, and is wearing a grey beanie and a dark coat with a white fur-trimmed collar. A speech bubble above him contains the word "WHAT???" in large, bold, black letters. The background is a solid red color with some white lines and shapes.

I KNOW THEY ARE SHIT, SASHA. I FUCKING KNOW!

YOU KNOW WHAT? LET'S TAKE A BREAK THIS WEEK. DON'T CALL ME... WE CAN TALK WHEN I GET BACK.

BEN...

BEN.

MERRY FUCKING CHRISTMAS, I GUESS.

BYE.

A cartoon illustration of a woman with dark skin and curly hair, wearing a red sweater and a teal skirt. She is standing in a doorway, holding a white coffee cup in her right hand. She has a disgruntled expression on her face. Above her head is a large, white, speech bubble containing the text 'YOU'RE BEING A BIG SUCK HOLE!!' in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The background consists of red brick walls. To the left of the doorway, a small sign on a post reads '5997'. To the right, a blue and white striped awning is visible, along with a small window and a light fixture. The overall style is a hand-drawn, colorful cartoon.