SLICED (QUARTERLY)





Editorial

This issue was completed during my recovery from spinal surgery. It all went quite swimmingly, but the rehab is a bit tiresome, yet familiar to a degree. I find my mind is stretching ahead of what my body can manage. Having never been an impressive physical specimen, I'm quite used to it, but it continues to be an annoyance. As I must keep reminding myself: A long view must be taken.

A sentiment that I find myself grasping firmly when reviewing the current political landscape. I'm not going to launch into a political polemic but I would like to share my state of mind as it all unfolded.

I had my operation on June 20th. The experience itself was not enjoyable, but made tolerable by the excellent hospital staff and the fine array of drugs on offer. The only downside was the company I was forced to keep. My fellow patients. All I heard for 2 days was bitching and complaining of the highest order from the most horrendously entitled people I've ever had the misfortune to encounter. It seemed they had mistaken surgery and a hospital stay for a luxury spa weekend.

I was home by the 23rd/24th for the EU referendum and result. In the first week after the surgery I was in a fog of pain, drugs and exhaustion. Once my wits had returned it felt as though I had woken up in a very different world. One I wasn't keen on, one that sapped a bit of hope. It has continued to do so as time has gone on. There has been a lot of unpleasantness, but maybe it's always been there and I simply haven't been observant enough?

The reason I sat down to write this today is Terry Pratchett. I've been reading his discworld novels while resting. I must admit I'm rather late to them, having not been clever enough in my teens to fully appreciate them. I decided to dive back in now and I'm very glad I did as I can now properly appreciate his genius. I'm reading 'Men at Arms', a book published in 1993. Yes. 23 years ago (we all feel old now, I'm sure). It's a clever approach to writing about social class, racism and immigration. It's dressed up in fantasy and crime procedural tropes, as well as Pratchett's trademark wit. But it's all there. The same things we are dealing with today. The same worries, the same hysteria. Nothing really changes all that much.

I felt inspired. It's the first rush of hope I've had in a few weeks regarding the state of the world. Making sense of the real world through fiction. Through creativity and creation. Through narrative. It's how I process my reality, how I filter the world outside of my own personal bubble of being. Things probably won't change, but I'm lucky to have a mechanism in my life that helps me to understand it all better.

So I'm delighted to present this comic to you at this specific time. It may not shed any light on the current state of the world, but if nothing else I hope it proves to be a useful distraction.

Ken Reynolds Editor



ISSUE #3



Cover Art by Saffron Knight



Crowdsurfing Script by Jon Laight Art by Rory Donald



Final Reality
Script by
Dominic B. Aveiro
Art by Ben Peter Johnson



Alle Meine Neue Woerter Sind Libensmittel By Kathryn Briggs



Aufklarung *By* S.K. Moore



Hyenas Story & Art by Tom Mortimer Script by John Osborn



TexitBy Simon Mackie



Backwards BillyScript by David Hailwood
Art by Brett Burbridge

The Ballad of



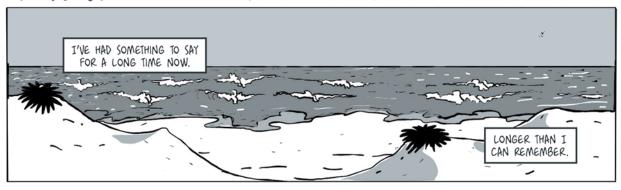
Small Press Preview -Rats & Crows Publishing SANE6

By Rob Cannon



Small Press Preview -Rats & Crows Publishing Slime

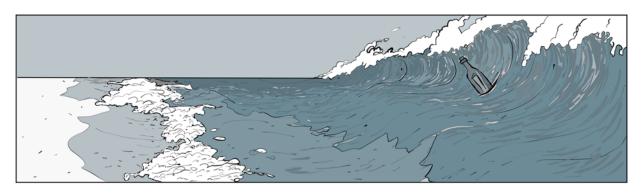
BvŁukasz Kowalczuk

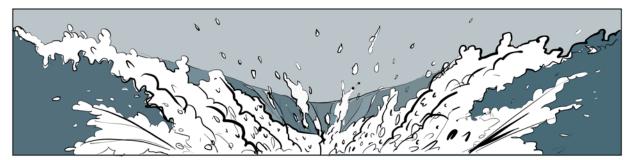






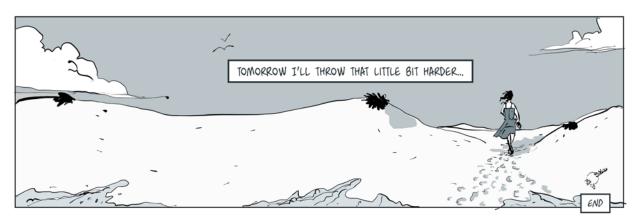








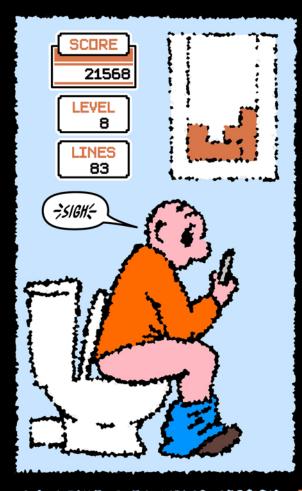




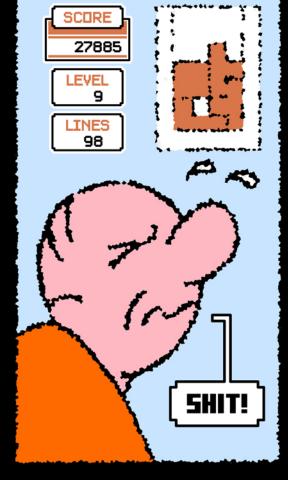


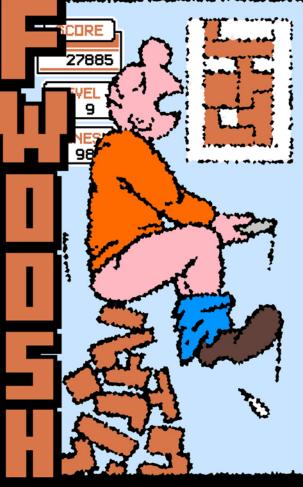






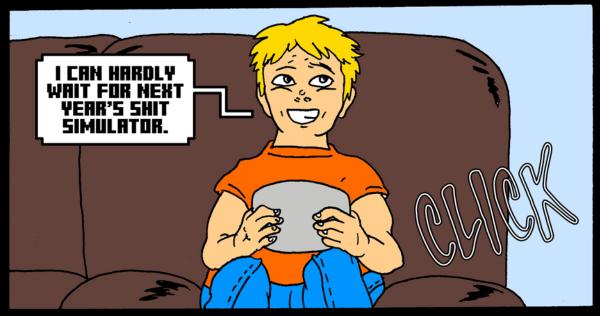
















GAME OVER



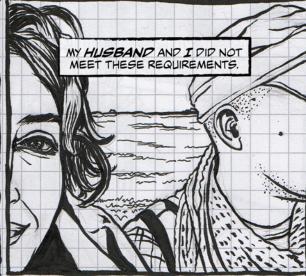
SCRIPT & ART BY KATHRYN BRIGGS LETTERS BY KEN REYNOLDS

IN APRIL 2012 THE UKBA INACTED NEW INCOME REQUIREMENTS FOR VISA APPLICANTS WHO ARE THE SPOUSES OF UK CITIZENS.

ALL APPLICANTS ARE REQUIRED TO PROVE THAT THEIR COMBINED INCOME IS AT LEAST £18.6K PER YEAR.

FURTHERMORE, THEY MUST HAVE HELD THESE JOBS FOR AT LEAST 6 MONTHS AND MUST PROVE THEIR POSITION IS GUARANTEED FOR AT LEAST 2.5 YEARS.

APPLICANTS WHO ARE FREELANCERS, SELF-EMPLOYED OR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS MUST PROVE THEIR INCOME FOR 2 YEARS PRIOR TO APPLYING AVERAGED AT LEAST £18.6K.



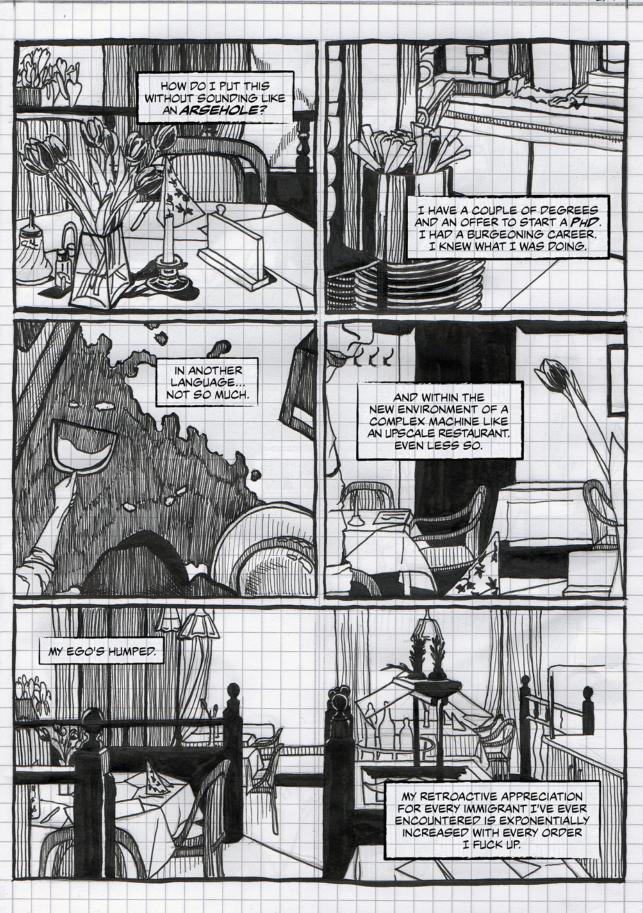








A. M. N. W. S. L. 2/4



A. M. N. W. S. L. 3/4



FUN OF YOUR LIMITED LANGUAGE SKILLS TO MY FRIENDS.>

KI'M MAKING



A. M. N. W. S. L. 4/4

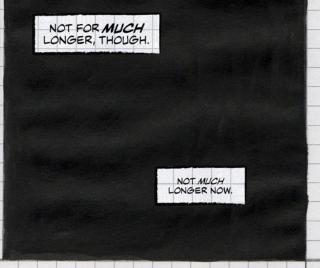














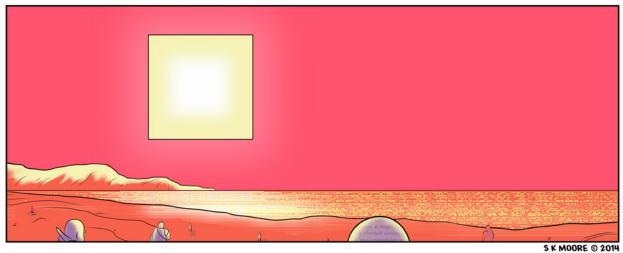


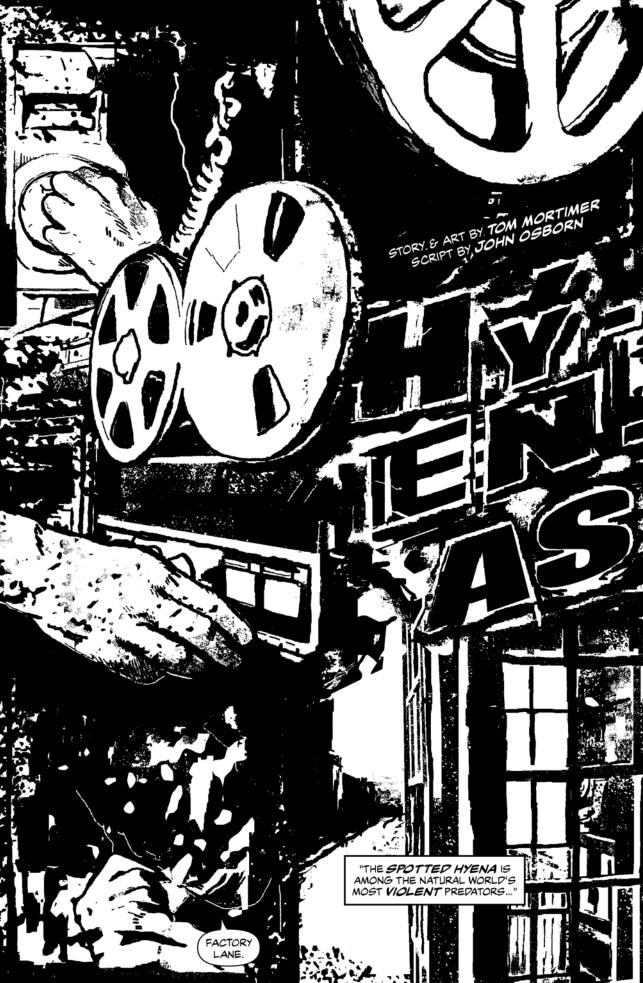


















'THAT WALL' THAT WAS GOING TO STRETCH FROM SAN DIEGO TO BROWNSVILLE STILL HADN'T BEEN BUILT. TEXAN'S CLAIMED THAT MEXICANS WERE STILL FLOODING ACROSS THE BORDER.



TRUMP STILL HADN'T MADE IT COMPULSORY FOR EVERY CITIZEN TO WEAR A GUN. HE HADN'T LIVED UP TO HIS PROMISES. THE TIME FOR CHANGE HAD COME.

2026: DUE TO A QUIRK IN U.S. FEDERAL LAW THE LONE STAR'S ANNEXATION PAPERS GAVE TEXAS THE RIGHT TO SECEDE.



A PETITION WAS FILED TO THE WHITE HOUSE ASKING FOR TEXAS TO LEAVE THE UNION.

MEN NEVER LANDED ON THE MOON. HOW COULD THEY? IT WAS MADE OF



PRESIDENT TRUMP, NOW IN HIS 80TH YEAR AND IN THE ADVANCED STAGES OF DEMENTIA, GRANTED THE REBEL STATE IT'S WISH.

CAN YOU TELL ME WHY YOU HAVE PUT UP NO RESISTANCE TO TEXAS LEAVING THE U.S.?

TEXAS HAS GOTTEN FAR MORE FROM THE GOVERNMENT IN EXPENDITURES THAN IT PAID IN TAXES. AND ANYWAY, ULTIMATELY IT WAS THEIR CHOICE.



AND IT **WAS** THE TEXAN'S CHOICE: THEY HAD FALLEN FOR THE CHARMS OF SENATOR DIDDLEY DOOLALLY. THEY WERE TAKEN IN BY HIS FEIGNED STUPIDITY.



ACCUSED BY HIS CRITICS OF BEING DOWNRIGHT CHEEZY, THE MAJORITY WERE TAKEN IN BY HIS TOUGH STANCES AND STRAIGHT TALKING.

DOOLALLY KNEW TEXAS COULD NEVER COPE ON ITS OWN BUT THE 'TEXIT CAMPAIGN GOT HIM A PRESIDENCY. HIS LONG TERM STALWART, BUD COWDEN, BECAME HIS VICE PRESIDENT.



FOLLOWING HIS INAUGURATION AS PRESIDENT OF TEXAS, DOOLALLY MET WITH HIS FINANCIAL BACKER, MEDIA MOGUL RUDOLPH HEARDOCH.

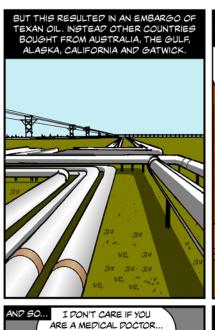
WELL DONE, DIDDELY. TEXAS IS NOW A PROUD INDEPENDENT NATION. THE GOOD PEOPLE OF TEXAS ARE GONNA ASK YOU TO DELIVER ON YOUR PROMISES TO RID



TEXAS WAS NOW GOING TO FIND MONEY TO PAY FOR ITS OWN MILITARY, HEALTH CARE, INFRASTRUCTURE, UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFIT, SOCIAL SECURITY, POLICE, ETC.



THE ONE WAY THAT DOOLALLY AND COWDEN THOUGHT OF PAYING FOR THIS WAS TO INCREASE THE PRICE OF TEXAS OIL - ITS MOST IMPORTANT COMMODITY.













HEAVY CUTBACKS IN THE POLICE AND THE



















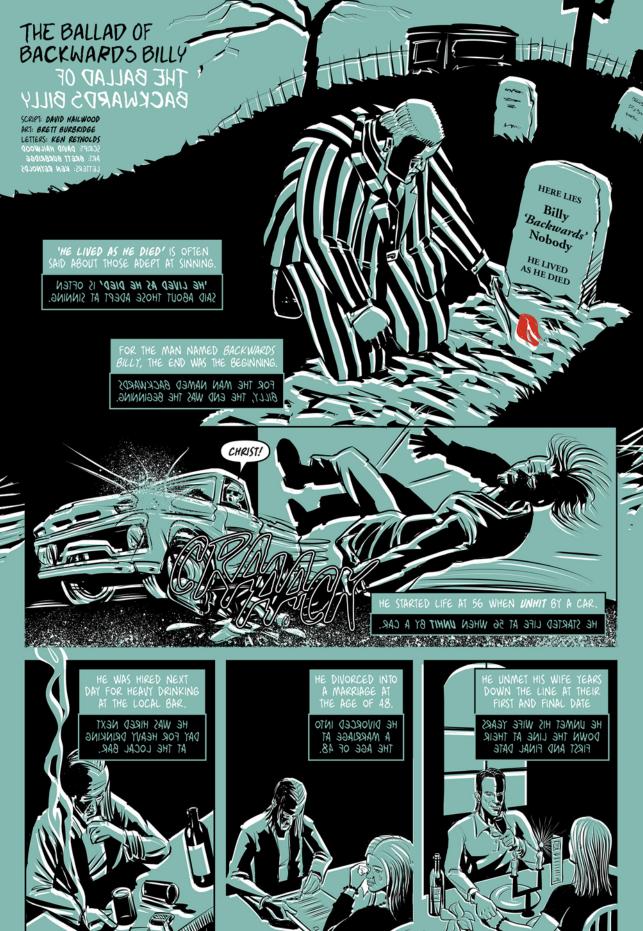




RUSSIA WERE WAITING IN THE WINGS.



'SHARPEN UP YOUR ICE SKATES, IT'S GOING TO BE A LONG WINTER.' J.R. EWING - 'DALLAS'















SMALL PRESS PREVIEW



Rats & Crows Publishing

featuring SANE6 & Slime!

Rats & Crows Publishing was founded by **Kevin Parent** and **Rob Cannon**, two independent comic creators, out of an interest in creating, publishing and promoting unique comics and graphic novels.

Our mission: To be a publishing agency that rewards the merit of creators and honors its responsibilities to them. To elevate the medium by encouraging risk-taking challenges to the norms of storytelling through comics. To publish great books to a global market, with attention to detail and the desires of creators.



Kevin Parent was born in Trois-Rivières, Quebec (Canada) in 1997. He started his career of a writer as a French web journalist and novelist (2012-2014). He became co-owner of a comic book store in June 2015 and fell in love with the American comic book medium. He worked as an artist manager on Sane6. Kevin will release his first comic book series. LIL'AMERICAN HITLER, for fall 2016.



Rob Cannon was born in Sacramento, California in 1989. He graduated American River College with an AA in Art in 2011. Rob works in a broad range of traditional and digital medium, with a focus on illustration. In 2010 he teamed up with writer Eric Myers to work on the nine part HARLEN MARTYR, and from there proceeded to collaborate with other writers including Alec Kerestesi, Tim Neumann, Christopher sides of Redshift Press.

Turn the page for previews of SANE6 & Slime! Anthology.

Twitter:

- @RatsAndCrows
- @blownminded
- @Kevarent

Web:

ratsandcrowspublishing.com

Facebook:

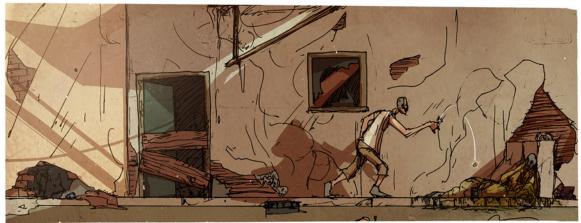
facebook.com/ratscrows

Submissions:

contact@ratsandcrows.com





























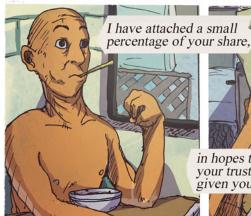


in fact, if any attempt to contact an enforcement agency is made, I'm afraid swift retaliation will



















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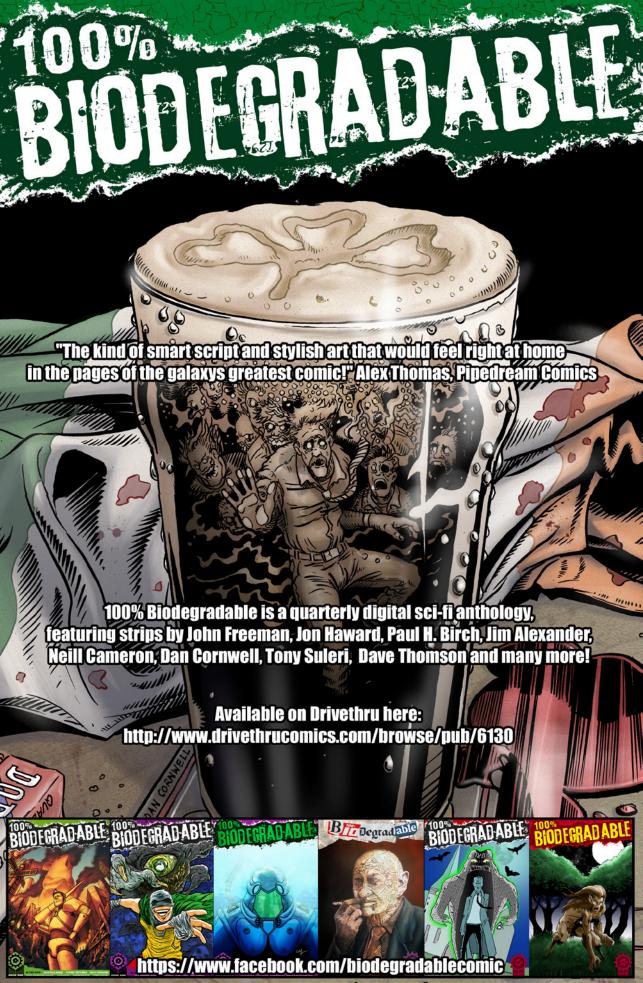












Dominic B. Aveiro

WRITER

Twitter: @dominicaveiro

Kathryn Briggs

CREATOR

Twitter: @withryn kathrynebriggs.com

Brett Burbridge

ARTIST

Rob Cannon

CREATOR/PUBLISHER

Twitter: @blownminded ratsandcrowspublishing.com etsy.com/shop/RobCannonArt facebook.com/BlownMinded blownminded.tumblr.com

Rory Donald aka REACH ILLUSTRATION

ARTIST

Twitter: @imnotdaredevil4

Instagram/Facebook: reachillustration

reachillustration.com

David Hailwood

WRITER

Twitter: @DavidCJHailwood davidhailwood.blogspot.co.uk facebook.com/biodegradablecomic www.comicsy.co.uk/biomekazoik

Ben Peter Johnson

CREATOR

blythemporia.blogspot.co.uk

Saffron Knight

ARTIST

saffronknight.co.uk

Lukasz Kowalczuk

CREATOR

lukaszkowalczuk.tumblr.com facebook.com/nienawidzeludzi666

Jon Laight

WRITER

Twitter: @level8comics Twitter: @Jon_Laight www.level8comics.com

Simon Mackie

CREATOR

toonsup.com/simonmackie theduckwebcomics.com/Flick_and_Jube

Tom Mortimer

CREATOR

Twitter: @ToiyiTomMort

Stewart Moore

CREATOR

Twitter: @opipop wineink.blogspot.com imdb.com/name/nm2713851

John Osborn

WRITER

Twitter: @GobsOsborn

Kevin Parent

WRITER/PUBLISHER
Twitter: @Kevarent

ratsandcrowspublishing.com

Ken Reynolds

CREATOR

Twitter: @kreynoldsdesign kenreynoldsdesign.co.uk facebook.com/CognitionComic



CREATOR INDEX



Are you a comic creator?

If you've enjoyed this issue, and like what we're all about, get involved. We are running an open submissions policy for future issues.

We're looking for 'slice of life' stories told in experimental and innovative ways, this includes comics, narrative illustrations and infographics. We aren't interested in zombies, vampires, aliens or superheroes; there are plenty of comics that have those bases covered.

We want stories that communicate. They can be funny, serious, moving, thought provoking. You can do whatever you want, as long as it isn't offensive or inappropriate.

We put the spotlight on the narrative potential of comics. **HOW** the story is told is as important as **WHAT** it's about.

Writers, artists, or all-round creators are welcome. We're happy to make creative teams if necessary.

slicedquarterly.co.uk/submissions

Twitter: @slicedquarterly

Facebook: facebook.com/Sliced-Quarterly
Email: editor@slicedquarterly.co.uk