

VOLUME 2

Banana-Chan



by Alan Holman



INT. = INTERIOR

EXT. = EXTERIOR

This book is filled with television scripts for an unproduced series called BANANA CHAN.

Reading TV scripts is easy.

INT. = Interior EXT. = Exterior

ENJOY THE SHOW!

Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locals, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental. This story takes place in a fictional version of Japan, where some things, and some ways of doing stuff, are more "western" than in the actual Japan.

A.H.

Banana Chan Volume 2

EPISODES
8 & 9

BY
ALAN
HOLMAN



FEATURING ART BY:
THE ANIMEQUEENS
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& Megan Ewert)

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KATIE DAY

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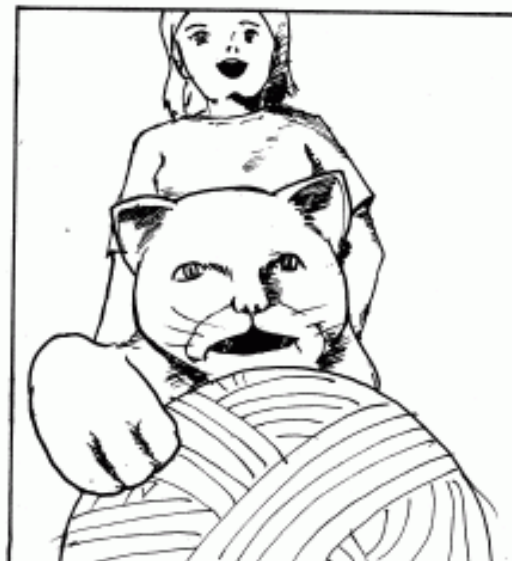
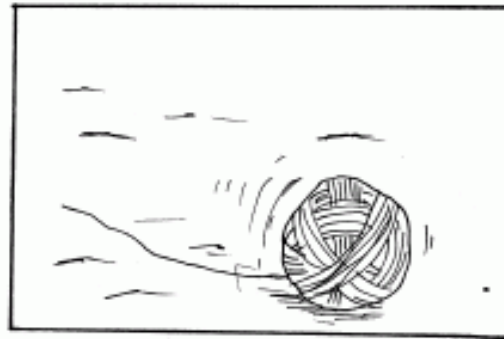
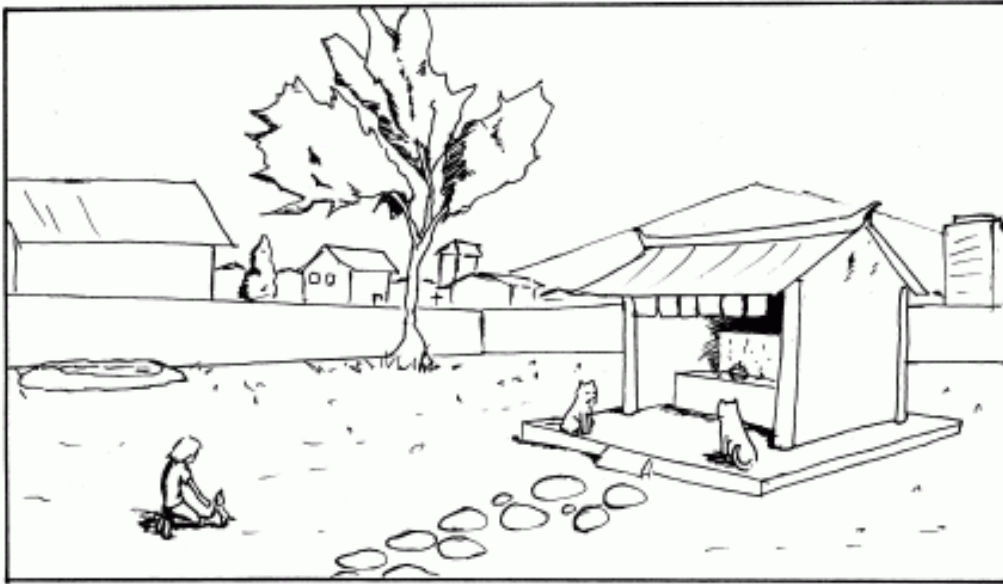
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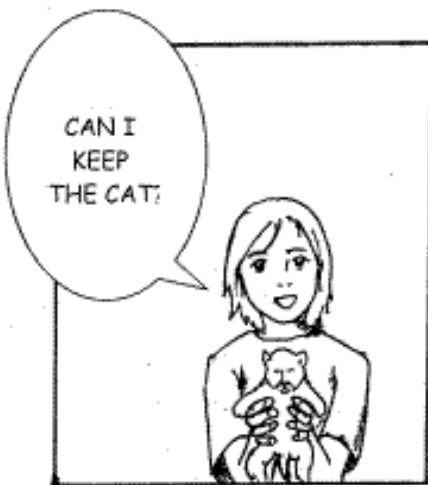
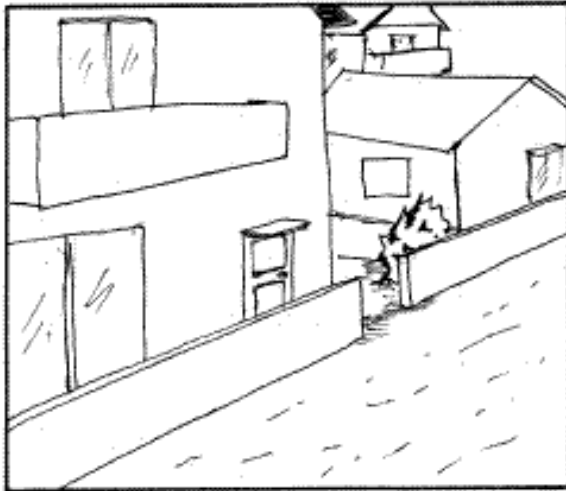


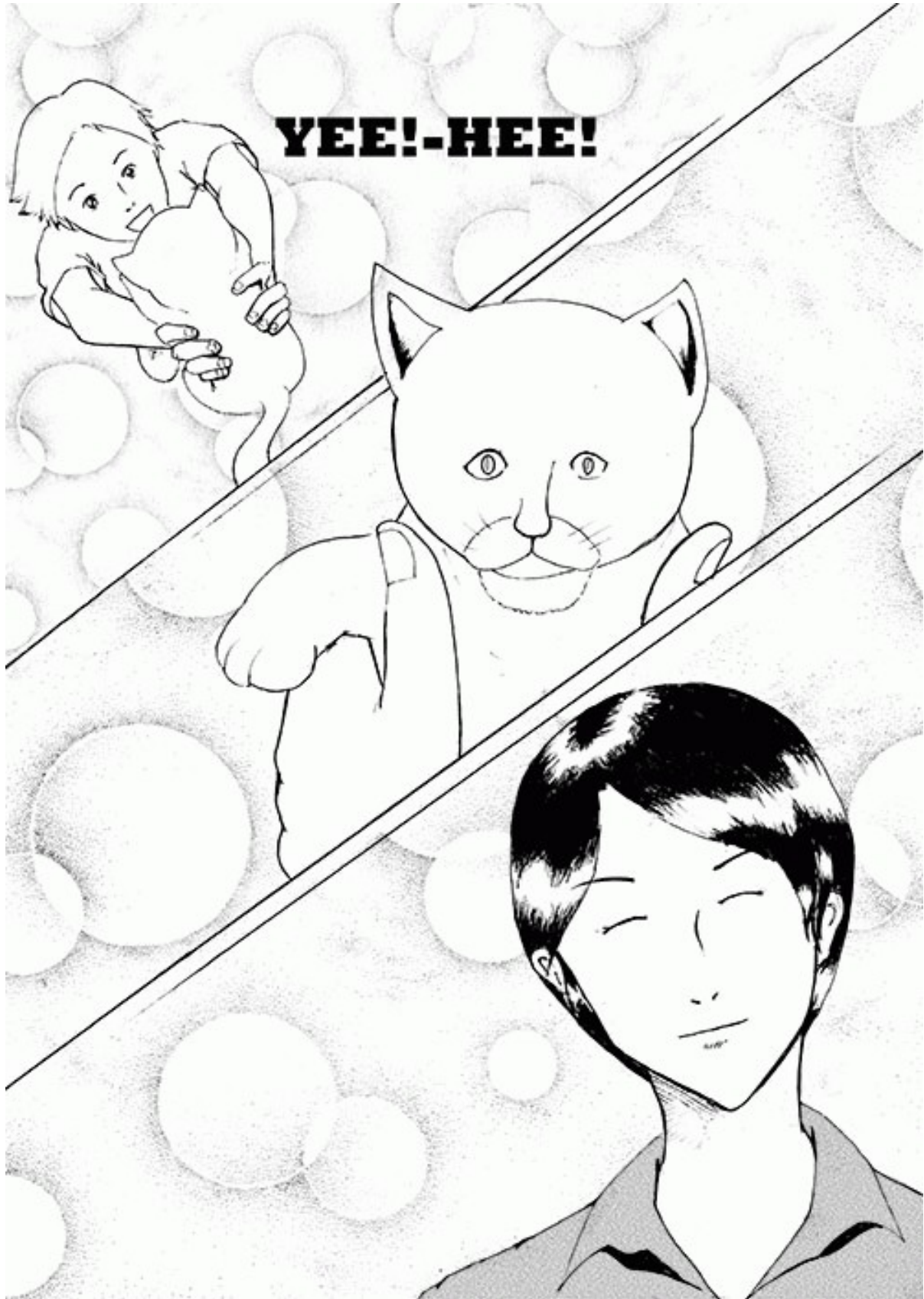
DEDICATION: This book is dedicated, without any exceptions, to every person who assisted, either directly or indirectly, with any aspect of the five partly-illustrated volumes which currently exist in this series, this being volume 2 . Even though there have sometimes been issues between myself and certain individuals in that group, I perpetually send my love and appreciation to all of them. Regardless of what's going on at any given time, I'm always willing to be a friend to everyone who is covered by this dedication.

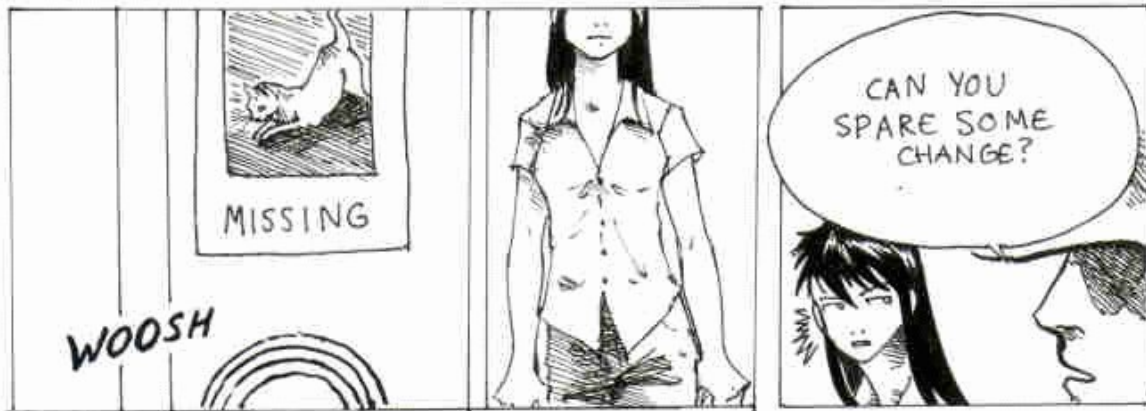
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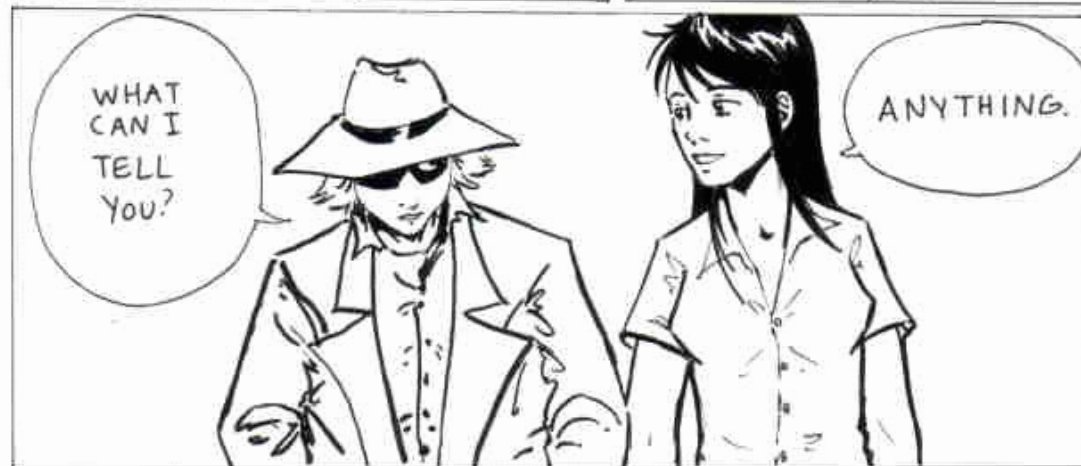
(Manga by Liana Buszka & Yudhianto Bambang)

















Only after one thousand more dreams of crawling out from under the depths of this shameless nightmare of poverty and hopelessness, the thunderous crack of my prize-winning voice will survive a depressing wave of repressing heat, putting your petty wishes to shame.





My eyes are deep pools of despair and surrender through which I see pedestrians who are disgusted by the gaze of a man whom they think has never heard of bathwater; they think the memories I count on shot addled fingers are of things which never happened. They think I enjoy having to eat moldy, discarded stuff, I don't. And sometimes, at night when I hear loud, terrifying screams, I find they are my own. The most depressing thing is I count on everyone, yet no one counts on me. If anyone counted on me, I would do what they counted on me to do, but no one does. No one has given me that kind of support. ~~to this world~~

Mitsuo had almost been destroyed by Hepatitis B.











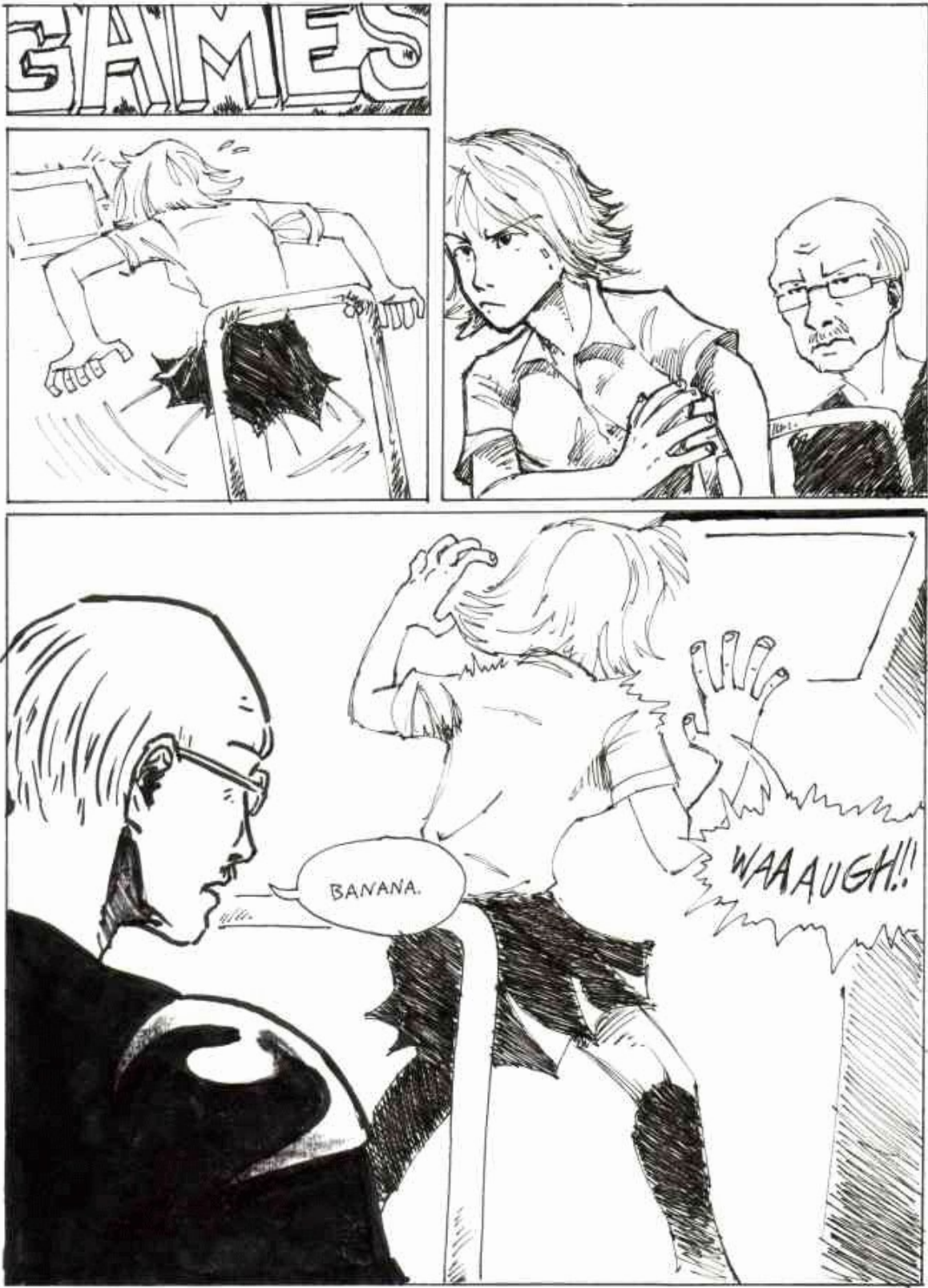




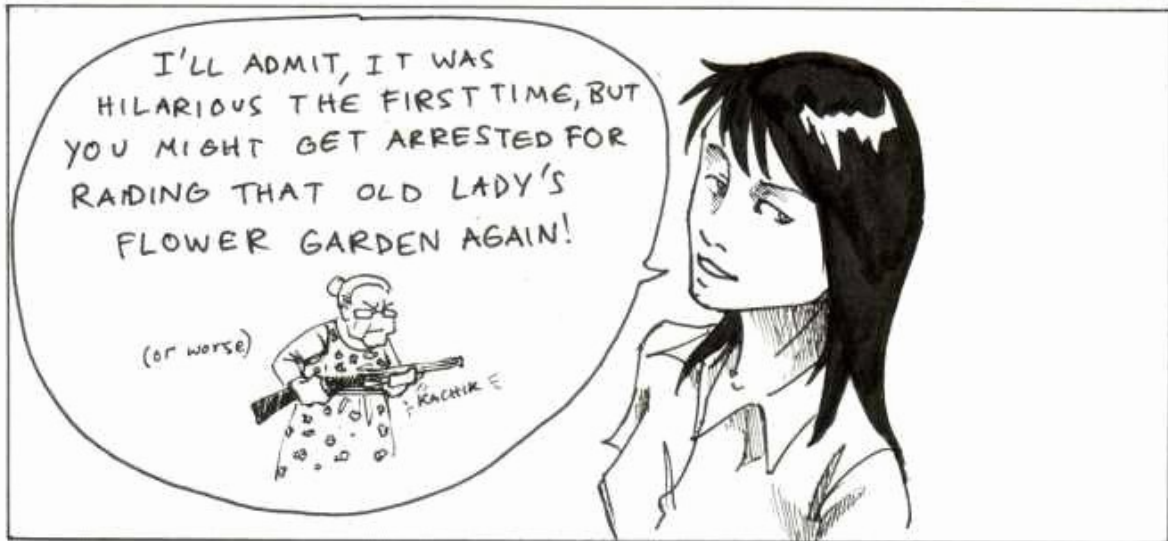






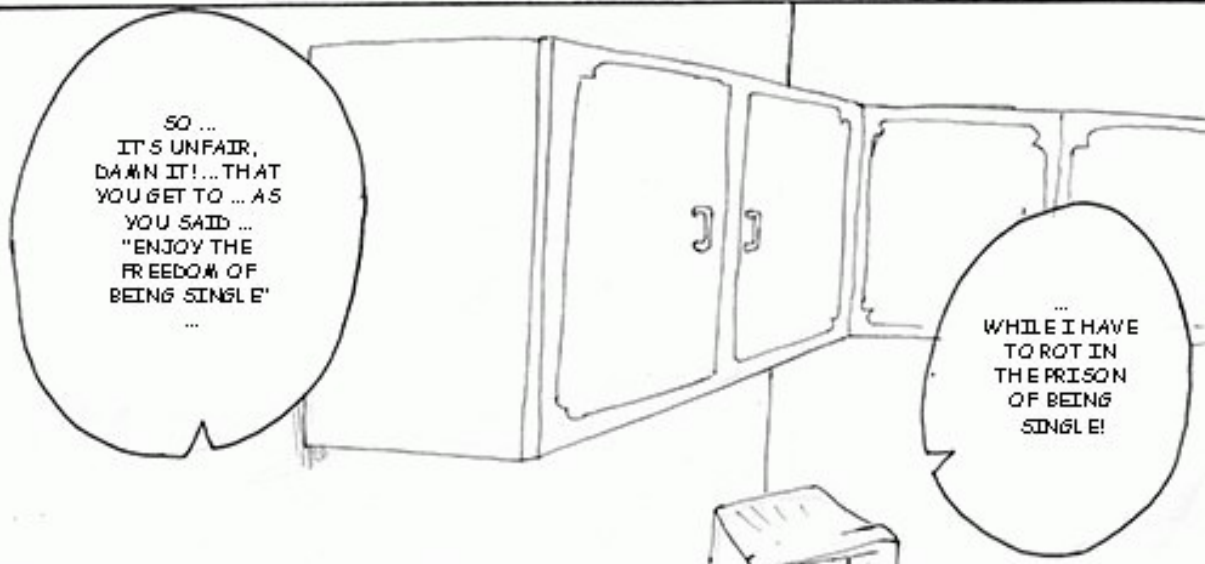
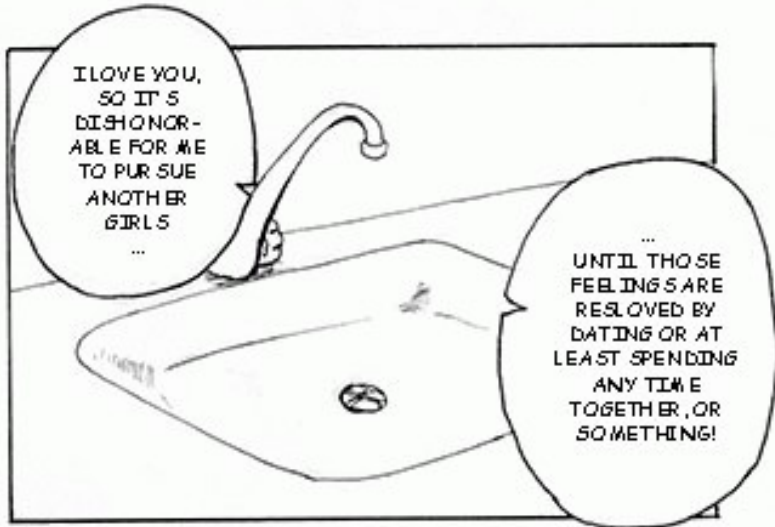


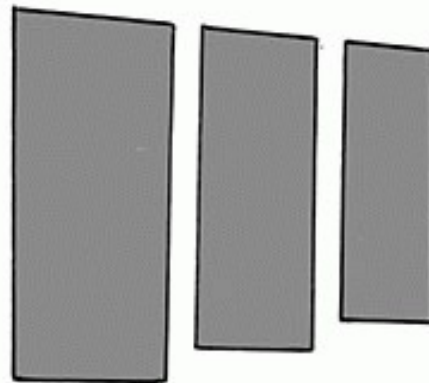
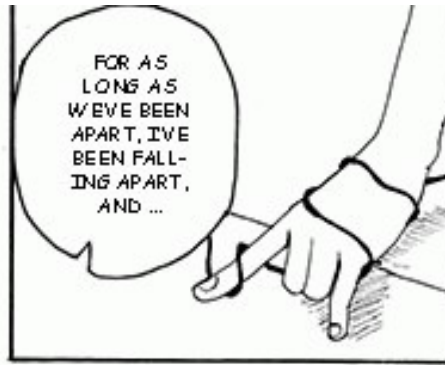




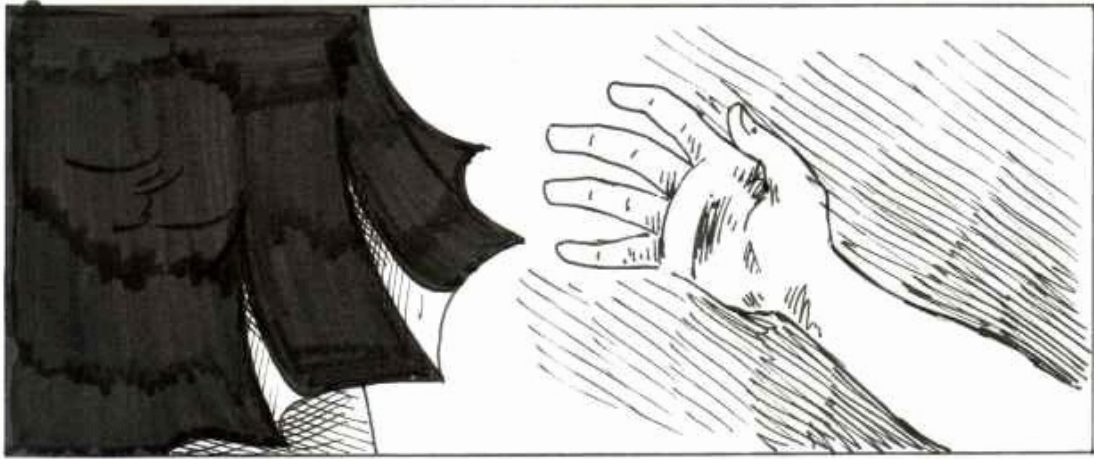
















Chapter 8

A Cat And His Boy

Banana gained some optimism, and began thinking maybe the writer had given up on his original formula since Banana wasn't co-operating with it. Maybe the writer decided Banana was interesting enough that her freedom would provide enough good material for the rest of the series. She doubted that her new pet cat was a catalyst for a events that would lead to Ryone telling her his back-story. She doubted a random dream about a dragon telling her that she saved the universe could possibly be a catalyst for a chain of events that would lead to Ryone telling her his back-story. And she especially didn't think that accidentally injuring a little child was any more than some writer's sick vendetta against annoying little brats. She was pretty confident that episode 7 did not contain a catalyst for a chain of events that could lead to Ryone telling her his back-story, and she was not "in love" with Ryone, so she knew that Ryone did not tell her his back-story while she was

sleeping as he carried her home from the hospital ... but that was a close call.

When Banana began to think that maybe that kid who called her “granny had something to do with the plot of the series, she realized that episode 8 was starting, and thus she was indeed that kid’s granny, and he was in deed a time-traveler. He would return. But will the boy’s return somehow begin a chain reaction that leads to her having to hear Ryone’s back-story? She got a sinking feeling in her stomach to indicate that yes indeed that sort of chain reaction was likely. But she also knew that if she remains awake to what’s going on, she can avoid hearing Ryone’s back-story, and thus avoid the appearance of the bad-guys.

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x08

A Cat And His Boy

By Alan Holman

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BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN
November, 2008.

WIPE TO:

INT. ALTAR ROOM, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA and MRS. CHAN chat while playing a two-player video game.

BANANA
A few days ago, a kid called me "granny."

MRS. CHAN
That would be Buster.

BANANA
How'd you know his name?

MRS. CHAN
The cat told me.

BANANA
(laughs)
You're funny.

937 enters.

937
I can talk.

BANANA faints.

MRS. CHAN
She's a fainter.

WIPE TO:

EXT. BACK YARD, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

MRS. CHAN shows 937 the Koi Pond.

Two koi-fish -- a sixteen year-old (KOI BANANA), and a thirty-eight year old (KOI KO) -- swim around the pond.

MRS. CHAN
I feel bad about reading Banana's diary.

937
I feel good when I suck Banana's blanket! It's like catnip!

WIPE TO:

EXT. MOONLIT PARK - NIGHT

BANANA CHAN lays on a grassy field, wearing only a full-body flamingo costume.

THE MOON talks to BANANA.

THE MOON
What is such a cute looking blonde-haired, slender teenage girl doing wearing a flamingo costume?

BANANA

Why do you only talk to me and no one else?

THE MOON

Because you're crazy.

BANANA

No, what's crazy is that cats can talk ... and that people can fly ... but only if they don't look down ... that would break the illusion.

THE MOON chuckles.

THE MOON

Actually, I have important news about your father.

BANANA

WHAT???

THE MOON

Your father's a real big jerk and I hate him.

BANANA

(angry)

Don't talk about my daddy like that! Never talk to me again! Unless you bring clowns! Clowns make me smile!

WIPE TO:

INT. BANANA'S BEDROOM - MORNING

MRS. CHAN opens the curtains, shining light into BANANA's eyes, waking BANANA up painfully.

MRS. CHAN

Time for school!

BANANA does a double-take, as she asks...

BANANA

Why, why?

MRS. CHAN

Out of the blue, tell me: did you dream about the moon telling you that your father is a jerk?

BANANA

Yes, how did you know?

MRS. CHAN

No reason. But Banana, please quit dreaming- up such fantasies, and spend more time among real people, living in the real world.

BANANA

Alright mamma, but how did you know about that dream?

MRS. CHAN

A mother has her ways.

MRS. CHAN exits.

WIPE TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA and 937 sit and chat.

BANANA

I'm too shy to take your advice about James.
(sigh)
... but thanks anyway, Catty.

937

The name's Nine-Thirty-Seven.

BANANA

Can I call you Catty?

937

No.

BANANA

Please?

937

No.

BANANA

Pretty please?

937

No.

BANANA

Pretty please, with a cherry on top?

937

Yes.

They laugh.

WIPE TO:

EXT. ROOFTOP, MAISON CHAN - DAWN

BANANA climbs from her open window, onto the roof-top, where she sits, and watches the sun find a place among the shape-shifting clouds in the sky.

The small blue cat -- named 937 -- joins her, and sits on her lap.

BANANA pets 937.

BANANA

What the hell is happening in my life? Nothing makes sense anymore ... except one thing: I like James.

WIPE TO:

INT. CLASS, SCHOOL - MORNING

BANANA sleeps on her desk, as MR. ONO gives a lecture.

MR. ONO
Banana?

BANANA wakes up, screams, and her chair falls backwards.

The other students laugh.

BANANA
(screams at peers)
Don't provoke me!

The other students run away.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY, SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

BANANA stands outside her classroom, holding two buckets of water beside the door, as MR. ONO talks to her.

MR. ONO
Banana. Expulsion draws near.

BANANA
Most likely.
(serious)
What's the dealio? You usually let me sleep in class because you have a crush on my mom. Besides, I had to stay up late last night, so it's not my fault.

MR. ONO
What was so important last night?

BANANA

(drools)
A thick slice of cheese, melted on green
beans.

MR. ONO
Stay here.

MR. ONO walks back into the classroom, and slams the door.

BANANA
(sigh)
This blows. I'm going home.

WIPE TO:

EXT. PRETTY LITTLE HOUSE - AFTERNOON

BANANA picks flowers in front of a pretty little house.

An old lady emerges from the house, and points a shot-gun at
BANANA.

OLD LADY
Not so fast, thief.

BANANA moves in slow-motion.

OLD LADY
That's better.

The old lady slips back into her house.

BANANA sneezes.

BANANA
I just remembered: I'm allergic to flowers.

BANANA tramples and stomps on all the flowers.

BANANA
Stupid flowers. I don't even need flowers

anyway.

BANANA leaves.

WIPE TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

MRS. CHAN sits on a chair, talking to the cat 937 who sits on the table.

937

... and I now serve as Buster's diary.

MRS. CHAN

When will he arrive?

BANANA enters.

BANANA

Hey, cat! Hey mom.

BANANA gets a can of pop from the fridge while MRS. CHAN says ...

MRS. CHAN

Hey Banana. Our cyborg feline was designed to deprogram children from an evil NINJA cult!

937

Trained, not designed.

MRS. CHAN

My mistake.

937

You're forgiven.

BANANA

Does he know the alphabet?

937

I know all alphabets.

BANANA sits on the table, beside 937, and pets him while she says ...

BANANA

Wow. So what exactly is a cyborg anyway?

937

A cyborg is a mix of sentient biology with robotic elements. My only robotic elements are to permanently store certain facts and figures that help me do my job.

BANANA

That, and to talk!

937

No, I was already able to talk, because ...

BANANA

Wait. What's your job?

937

I deprogram people from cults, and re-focus them on their own priorities, and humanity's priorities.

EXT. TOWN-SIDE POND - NIGHT

BANANA lays on the rock. 937 lays on her stomach while she pets him. Both look up, stargazing.

BANANA

I like the constellations. Do you know anything about the constellations?

937

Indeed. Pick one, and I'll tell you about it.

BANANA

Virgo.

937

Asrtrologers -- and astronomers -- call Virgo the "House of Bread". The ancients symbolized this with myths about a virgin birth. For example, in Hebrew, "bêth lehem" means "House of Bread".

BANANA

I recently wrote a story about a virgin birth!

937

Fascinating. One of my data files is a psychological study that says girls your age don't like to think about fertility.

BANANA

And that's why it's impossible to get any of my friends to read and review that particular work of fiction.

937

I wouldn't mind.

BANANA

I'll show it to you later. What other cool ways did ancient people use the stars in their myths?

937

Well, on the three shortest days of the year -- December 22nd to December 25th -- the sun's position is upon the constellation called The Southern Cross. The ancients symbolized this with myths about crucifixion and resurrection.

BANANA

Like Beddru or Tien!

937

Actually both Beddru and Tien, and the main characters from dozens of other myths.

BANANA

I'm intrigued. My favorite star is Sirius. What do you know about Sirius?

937

They should have named it the Cat Star.

BANANA laughs.

937

Sirius is the brightest star in the night sky.

BANANA

Indeed.

937

The three brightest stars in Orion's Belt are called The Three Kings. Annually, Sirius aligns with The Three Kings, pointing to where the sun rises on December 25th.

BANANA

Yay, Christmas!

937

Precisely. The Christmas Story is a metaphor for this; it's a plot device called Astrotheology.

BANANA

Does this mean there's truth to Astrology?

937

That's a loaded question. Astrotheology was invented in Babylon, where it was ...

WIPE TO:

INT. MADAME SARA'S FORTUNE TELLING PARLOR - AFTERNOON

BANANA consults a fortune teller named MADAME SARA.

MADAME SARA

I remember you! It was perhaps five or six years ago.

BANANA

Yeah, it was that long ago. And you still recognize me?

MADAME SARA

You've changed a bit.

BANANA

You look the same.

MADAME SARA

How have you been?

BANANA

You tell me.

MADAME SARA closes her eyes.

MADAME SARA

It was March of 2002 when you were eleven, and your mother drove you back to the town of your birth -- this town: Rain, Japan. You hoped that your classmates Yoshi, Minako, and Nozomi, wouldn't recognize you from a few years previous when they used to treat you very badly.

MADAME SARA opens her eyes, and resumes normal eye movement.

MADAME SARA

Why are you sixteen in November of 2008, when you were eleven in March of 2002?

What month is your birthday?

BANANA

June and December.

MADAME SARA

Two months? How's that possible?

BANANA

You tell me.

MADAME SARA closes her eyes.

MADAME SARA

When you were a child, you had a great friendship with another child -- a boy named Boden. In fact, you still love him.

A tear rolls out of BANANA's eyes.

BANANA

Where is Boden now?

MADAME SARA opens her eyes, and resumes normal eye movement.

MADAME SARA

Banana, I told you this already: The day you see him again will be the day he dies.

BANANA

I love Boden. I refuse to believe you.

MADAME SARA

Sit down for dinner with Ryone. Banana, I know about the arrangement.

BANANA

Well don't tell Ryone about it.

MADAME SARA

Your father, and Ryone's father, run top secret construction companies that build secret bases throughout the solar system for secret agencies within the secret global shadow government. And the potential locations for more secret bases are running out, dooming both companies to collapse unless the companies merge. But there is so much friction between the "honorable" leaders of both those companies that the only way how a merger can go smoothly is if you and Ryone marry each-other. And you must do it because a lot of families -- including innocent children and pets -- depend on those companies. And due to the secret nature of the companies, you and Ryone aren't supposed to learn about the arranged marriage until you're both eighteen. Except, you learned about it when you were fourteen, and now you want to figure out a way to slip out of it, so that Ryone never has to learn about it.

BANANA

You've just described the hell that I know as my life.

MADAME SARA

Ryone's family are nice people. Ryone loves you.

BANANA

There's something about Ryone that I just can't trust.

MADAME SARA

Listen to his eyes with your heart. If you look into his eyes while you tell him that you don't trust him, his eyes will reveal truths that can't be expressed with language.

BANANA

Let's talk about something else.

MADAME SARA

You slammed an innocent child into a wall.

BANANA

I was already boiling over with frustration from the fact that my mom was reading my diary earlier, so I literally snapped when that kid called me "granny."

MADAME SARA

And then you threw a very heavy tire at him.

BANANA

That brat's name is Buster. If I ever see him again, I'll try to make up for my past mistakes by doing something really nice for him ... but I'm not sure what I'll do.

MADAME SARA

All of your problems will solve themselves, without you even having to think about them, if -- and only if -- a lot of positive energy surrounds you. So be nice to Buster, be nice to everyone. And especially be nice to Ryone.

BANANA

I'll try, I promise.

COMMERCIAL BREAK

EXT. RAIN HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

BANANA sleep-walks towards the school.

BANANA'S VOICE

Hey. I'm Banana. I'm sixteen. I go to Rain High School.

BANANA bumps into the door and falls down.

CUT TO:

INT. RAIN HIGH SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

BANANA sleeps on her desk.

MR. ONO

Obesity is highest in cities with
fluoridated water. Fluoride interferes with
the thyroid gland, thus slows metabolism.
The spice called Tamarind removes fluoride
from your body. A big breakfast maintains
good metabolism.

(pause)

Banana Chan. Are you listening? This is
important!

BANANA CHAN wakes up, and screams ...

BANANA

AHHHH!!!

MR. ONO

Scary dream?

BANANA

Most likely, but I don't remember.

A bell rings.

MR. ONO

Class dismissed.

BANANA

What was school about today?

MR. ONO

Do you remember anything?

BANANA

Recently, I mortally wounded a small child.

WIPE TO:

[FLASHBACK TO SCENES FROM EPISODE 7]

INT. MALL - AFTERNOON

BANANA (age 16) talks with her friend MINAKO (age 16).

For the hell of it, I'll describe BANANA again ...



Illustration by Liana Buszka.

BANANA CHAN (age 16) is 5'6", with shoulder-length dyed-blonde hair with orange roots. She's cute with orange eyebrows, big green eyes, and a tiny bit of freckles over the bright skin tone of her youthful face.

MINAKO

It's weird to run into you in the mall.

BANANA

Agreed.

MINAKO

I haven't seen you anywhere after our little club broke up.

BANANA

That was two years ago.

MINAKO

I want you to know that I'm not mad at you anymore.

BANANA

(shrugs)

No worries.

MINAKO

What school are you going to now?

BANANA

Rain ...

MINAKO's cell-phone rings.

MINAKO

Hold that thought.

MINAKO answers her cell phone.

BANANA

I've gotta go anyway. Talk to you later.

BANANA walks towards an arcade.

BUSTER CHAN approaches BANANA.

BUSTER CHAN (age 6), at 2'10", has messy hair that's been dyed brown, over his orange eyebrows, and a wardrobe which features personified-car parts called SqueegiMon; for example, his shirt features an animé character named "Tire the tire."



Illustration by Liana Buszka.

BUSTER tugs urgently on BANANA's skirt, asking...

BUSTER
Granny?

BANANA
Oh no, some twerp did not just call me
"grannie"! Grrrr ...

The little boy tugs on her skirt again.

BUSTER
Granny?

Her eyes turn red, and an angry expression appears on her face as her shoulders raise.

The little boy tugs on her skirt again.

BUSTER
Granny?

She tenses up some more.

BANANA
I dare you to say that again, twerp!

The little boy tugs on her skirt again.

BUSTER
Granny?

She turns around, and picks him up, and throws him into the wall.

Then suddenly, at the sight of the little boy in pain, all signs of her anger disappear, and she runs to his aid.

BANANA
Sorry! Oh sorry, sorry, sorry, little boy! Are
you alright!?!

WIPE TO:

INT. HOSPITAL - AFTERNOON

BANANA -- carrying the bleeding little unconscious boy named
BUSTER -- runs toward a NURSE.

NURSE

I'll handle it from here.

The nurse takes BUSTER.

NURSE

(to BANANA)

Are you his mom?

BANANA

(angrily)

I'M SIXTEEN!

NURSE

Sorry. I didn't know.

BANANA raises her fist, and grits her teeth.

The nurse giggles nervously.

WIPE TO:

INT. BEDROOM, HOSPITAL - AFTERNOON

BUSTER lies on a bed, sad, wearing his Tire SqueegiMon shirt on
his chest, and a bandage on his head.

BANANA enters, holding a tire behind her back.

Frightened, BUSTER jumps behind blankets, in a corner of the
room.

BUSTER

Stay away from me, Grandma, please!

BANANA raises her fists as her face turns red with angry rage, and she yells...

BANANA
GRANDMA!?!

As a nervous, accidental reflex, she tosses the tire at him.

The tire hurts him badly.

She faints.

WIPE TO:

INT. BEDROOM, HOSPITAL - AFTERNOON

BUSTER wears a body-cast, as BANANA - wearing a white medical face-mask -- enters with withered Morning Glory flowers.

BANANA approaches him, drops the withered Morning Glory flowers onto BUSTER, then turns around to leave.

BUSTER
Wait!

BANANA stops in her tracks - takes off her mask to reveal an oozing, gross mess, through which she gives BUSTER a warm smile, and asks ...

BANANA
What's up?

BUSTER
You attacked a helpless child! Tires are very heavy, y'know!?!

BANANA
(indignant)
Well, I thought you wanted one because you wear a picture of the Tire SqueegiMon on your

shirt! So the tire was a gift because I felt sorry for you!

BUSTER
A gift?

BANANA
Yeah, I like SqueegiMon too. In fact, watching animé is how I de-stress. It was a toss-up between a tire toy, or the actual tire, actually.

BUSTER
Thank you! This is the BEST GIFT EVER!!!

BUSTER hugs BANANA ... even though he's wearing a body-cast.

BANANA
(animé "sweat-drop" cliché)
Whatever, buster.

BUSTER
(laughs)
"That's my name! Don't wear it out!"

[END OF FLASHBACK]

FADE TO:

INT. BREAKFAST TABLE, KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BUSTER, now TWELVE years old, talks with MRS. CHAN.

BUSTER CHAN (age 12) is 4'8", with orange roots in his dyed-brown, and purple-streaked, hair, that's parted in the middle. Under this athletic boy's innocent green eyes are a tight SqueegiMon shirt, blue shorts, black socks, and futuristic running-shoes.



Illustration by Liana Buszka.

BUSTER

...my half-uncle had no idea that the NINjAs were evil, because their misleading pamphlet contained a bunch of lies about ...

BANANA enters, and interrupts.

BANANA

(points at BUSTER)

Hey!?! Is that ... the twerp's older brother?

BUSTER

Nope!
(laughs)
I'm "the twerp"!

BANANA
And the moon is made of Brussels sprouts.

MRS. CHAN
He's my twelve-year-old, great Grandson from
the future; he's going to be staying in the old
guest room!

BUSTER
Hiya! Believe it or not, I'm Buster!

BANANA
And up is down, down is up, and birds fly left.

MRS. CHAN
He's really from the future.

BANANA
Oh, I get what you're saying. Time travel,
right?

BUSTER
Yeah! I'm a time-traveler!

BANANA
And I'm a fishmonger. If you're my grandson,
then who's your grandfather, huh!?!

BUSTER
Rob Piso.

BANANA
Who?

BUSTER
You'll meet a guy named Rob, then after a
long, drawn-out, gradually-progressing

relationship with him, you'll eventually, after several years of dating Rob, you'll get married to him, and you two will conceive a daughter named Roko.

BANANA

That's an awesome name!

BUSTER

Weird. I think I just named my own mother!

They laugh.

BANANA

But what about James?

MRS. CHAN

But what about Ryone?

BANANA

(to Buster)

I think you'd better tell me your back-story.

BUSTER

Okay. Just a sec...

BUSTER takes a deep breath.

WIPE TO:

BLANK SCREEN

WORDS ON SCREEN: "The Future, circa 2048."

WIPE TO:

EXT. CITY OF NEW RAIN - NIGHT

Looking through thick smog, New Rain City is a complicated system of roads, sky-walks, over-passes, bridges, buildings, and artificial rivers.

On top of run-down skyscrapers are entire upper-class neighborhoods. On top of one run-down building, for example, is a pretty little house.

12 Y/O BUSTER CHAN'S VOICE

We lived in New Rain City, where the poor -- known as Untouchables -- lived on the streets, while the Pure -- known as employees of the Megalith Corporation -- lived in Pretty Little Houses atop single-family skyscrapers that looked run-down to hide us from the Untouchables. Big families had more than one house on their building, but mom and I only needed one Pretty Little House, since it was only the two of us.

INT. LIVING ROOM, PRETTY LITTLE HOUSE - MORNING

ROKO CHAN enters the room, and sits on a couch.

ROKO CHAN is a slightly-slim, somewhat muscular, six-foot tall woman in her early forties, whose short blonde hair almost reaches her shoulders. Under her bright green eyes, she wears sneakers and blue jeans over the bottom-half of her purple full-body sweater-suit.



Illustration by The AnimeQueens.

A holographic projection-orb rises from the floor, and emits a small television set.

ROKO shakes her head, and the TV morphs into a slightly-bigger TV.

Two year old toddler BUSTER CHAN, runs into the room, crying.



Illustration by The AnimeQueens.

BUSTER CHAN (age 2) is an average toddler of 1'6". Under his short orange hair, are innocent and curious, bright green eyes, a fire truck shirt, sweatpants, socks, and shoes.

BUSTER CHAN
Momma, it's scary!

ROKO CHAN
Buster, what's wrong!?!

BUSTER jumps into ROKO's arms, and screams...

BUSTER CHAN
(frightened)
MOMMA!!! IT'S SCARY!!!

ROKO hugs BUSTER.

ROKO CHAN
A nightmare?

BUSTER CHAN
An antique tried to steal Buster!

BUSTER vomits.

ROKO feels his forehead, and says...

ROKO CHAN
You're burning up.

BUSTER CHAN
WHAT'S BURNING!?!

ROKO CHAN Let's find a doctor.

INT. STORAGE CELLAR, MEGALITH HOSPITAL - NIGHT

A Doctor named TOFFEE, and a demon named BAKA, scheme.

DOCTOR TOFFEE (age 42) is a skinny-to-average 6'10", black-haired Doctor of Pediatric Biogenetics, with yellow contact lenses.



Illustration by The AnimeQueens.

BAKA is a ten-inch tall (fourteen inches if you include his horns), ash-haired, red-eyed, flying demon head, who leaves behind him a braided, translucent spectral trail, which varies in length and thickness.



Illustration by The AnimeQueens.

BAKA

What's a spectral realm?

DR. TOFFEE

How can you not know what the spectral realm is, after you've just spent the previous ten minutes explaining an in-depth plot to dominate said realm?

BAKA

(burps)

Did I say dominate?

DR. TOFFEE

Yes.

BAKA

What if we fail?

DR. TOFFEE

Well of course we'd fail the plot you devised.
It's about as unbelievable and insane as you
are.

BAKA

Then you devise a plot.

DR. TOFFEE

Why? I don't even know you, nor do I want to
dominate the spectral realm, or any realm for
that matter. Besides, I'm still trying to figure
out how to account for the fact that I'm talking
to a demon.

Pause.

BAKA

I know your secret: you were raised by nuns.

DR. TOFFEE

Who are you, and why did you just show up
ten minutes ago, and start describing a plot to
dominate the spectral realm?

BAKA

I also know your father.

DR. TOFFEE

(laughs)

I'm sure you do.

BAKA

No, I'm not drunk!

(burps)

Good day to you, sir. I shall now take my
leave of you ... whoever you are.

INT. BEDROOM, HOSPITAL - DAY

ROKO CHAN, and DR. TOFFEE, watch as BUSTER sleeps.

DR. TOFFEE
The effects are neutralized by sleep.

ROKO CHAN
Effects of what?

DR. TOFFEE
Regard the InfoDoc...

An orb rises from a compartment in the floor, and projects a holographic doctor named INFODOC.

DR. TOFFEE exits.

INFODOC
Your son or daughter is Terrible Two. This age is turbulent, so inquire about over-the-counter horse-tranquilizers.

INT. STAFF LOUNGE, HOSPITAL - DAY

DR. TOFFEE enters, sits with other DOCTORS, and lights up a cigarette.

The other DOCTORS disapprove of the cigarette smoke, so they exit. Then DR. TOFFEE extinguishes his cigarette, and laughs.

His cellular phone rings; he answers it.

DR. TOFFEE
Hello?
(pause)
Yes, his mother -- Roko Chan -- brought him in -- fever, vomiting, nightmares.
(pause)
Once his brain assimilates the genetic information, he'll be healthier than ever, not to mention smarter than ever.

INT. LIVING ROOM, PRETTY LITTLE HOUSE - DAY

ROKO enters, carrying two-year-old BUSTER in her arms.

ROKO CHAN
Why did you have that nightmare?

BUSTER CHAN
Neuropathy.

ROKO puts BUSTER on the table, looks into his eyes, and asks...

ROKO CHAN
What?

BUSTER CHAN
Neuropathy.

ROKO CHAN
Big word, little boy.

BUSTER CHAN
That's because Buster's vocabulary increased.

ROKO
When?

BUSTER CHAN
When momma and Buster approached the
green guy.

ROKO CHAN
Green guy?

BUSTER CHAN
Don't you remember? Buster was brave, like a
soldier, when Buster picked up the snakes
and the ball, and...and...

Pause.

ROKO CHAN
"Snakes and the ball?"

BUSTER CHAN

The golden snakes that held up the blue ball
that the green face came from.

ROKO CHAN

Your vocabulary is amazing for a two year old,
Buster, but you still must learn that dreams
are not reality.

END OF EPISODE

Banana-Chan



Chapter 9

FutureBoy

Banana thought maybe she was wrong about the formulaic story structure of her series. Perhaps the introduction of Buster was the beginning of her series, and everything before Buster's introduction was flashback material for future episodes; and if that's the case – as Banana figured -- then maybe Ryone's back-story trigger love, and maybe Banana and Ryone weren't supposed to team up against bad guys. Maybe it was Banana and Buster – her grandson from the future – who were supposed to team up against a series of bad guys of escalating difficulty levels ... because – she figured – that'd be a more interesting premise than if she were supposed to team up with Ryone.

She was beginning to get seriously confused about the plot structure of the series. She was listening to Buster's back-story with a lot of interest, and one

possibility that crossed her mind was that maybe her series did in fact end when she defeated the Eater of Worlds. Maybe the arrangement with Ryone has something to do with a series that is focused on another character – a concept her ego had prevented her from considering up to this point. Maybe she was a background character in a story about Buster. She liked that idea until she realized that she might be a comedy relief character again. She was a comedy relief character in her many adventures with The Emotion 16 Soldiers, and she was beginning to get depressed now as she was thinking that perhaps she is in fact now a comedy relief character in a series that is focused on Buster.

But I have the name Banana Chan! I have to be the main character!

She hoped that her name wasn't her most interesting trait.

She continued to listen to Buster's back-story ...

"BANANA CHAN"

EPISODE 1x09

FutureBoy

By Alan Holman

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newlegend2005@yahoo.ca

BLANK SCREEN

WORDS ON SCREEN: "The Future, circa 2048."

WIPE TO:

INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE, ADVANCED PRESCHOOL - DAY

ROKO talks to the PRINCIPAL of an elite preschool.

PRINCIPAL

Your toddler still refers to himself in the third-person; however, he mastered every other spelling and grammar requirement. Still, this school cannot accept him.

ROKO CHAN

WHY NOT!?!

PRINCIPAL

He cried for his "momma" to bring him to the toilet.

ROKO blushes.

INT. PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT

12 Y/O BUSTER CHAN'S VOICE

We kept our car in its own underground parking lot, linked to a tunnel system that connected the Pure with each-other's buildings, and further concealed our existence from the knowledge of the Untouchables.

In a parked vehicle, a concealed conversation occurs between DR. TOFFEE and his cellular telephone.

DR. TOFFEE

Project Mind Control Ultra is more than forty years old, and ...

(pause)

Yes, yes. You don't need to interrupt me about Buster's importance; I know he IS the corporate-drone prototype, bred specifically for assassination, and work in certain offices.

(pause)

You're welcome.

The phone call ends.

CUT TO:

BLANK SCREEN

12 Y/O BUSTER CHAN'S VOICE

"Despite my heightened vernacular capabilities, it was still a lot of fun to act my age."

CUT TO:

INT. BATHROOM, PRETTY LITTLE HOUSE - DAY

2 y/o BUSTER CHAN stands in front of the toilet, smiling.

BUSTER CHAN

Momma momma! Buster did it! Buster did it!

ROKO enters.

ROKO
That's great Bust!

BUSTER beams a bright smile at his mother.

We notice a banana peel on the floor. BUSTER is about to put his hands in the toilet water.

BUSTER
Splashy Splashy!

ROKO
NO, DON'T!

ROKO tries to get across the room, so that she can stop her son from putting his hands into the toilet, but she slips on the banana peel, and falls, head-first toward the wall.

The wall stops her head.

ROKO CHAN
Oww.

12 Y/O BUSTER CHAN'S VOICE
Most pretty little houses had one-way windows which, from the outside, looked like mirrors, such as the one on our bathroom wall, that allowed us to see the sky from the toilet.

ROKO stumbles backward, again onto the banana peel; this time, it "skates" her through a large, plate-glass window.

BUSTER
(screaming, crying)
MOMMA!!!

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET, NEW RAIN CITY - NIGHT

DR. TOFFEE is among a crowd of pedestrians who watch as ROKO's fall from the skyscraper's penthouse is interrupted when BAKA bites the collar of ROKO's shirt, and guides her descent into a "hellhole" that opens -- at the last second -- on the road.

INT. STORAGE CELLAR, HOSPITAL - NIGHT

DOCTOR TOFFEE, and BAKA, scheme.

DR. TOFFEE
(amazed)
I couldn't believe my eyes! We actually traveled through time!

BAKA
Nifty, huh?

DR. TOFFEE
You caught that child's mother, and took her to ... HELL!?! Isn't that a bit ... HARSH!?!

BAKA
(shrugs)
Meh. The Armageddon is next year anyway.

DR. TOFFEE
(profound)
Oh my God! What'll I do until then?

BAKA
Keep up the good work!

BAKA disappears in a puff of smoke.

EXT. CITY OF NEW RAIN - NIGHT

Looking through a skyful of toxic but beautiful, multi-color pollution, New Rain City is a complicated system of roads, skywalks, over-passes, bridges, buildings, and artificial rivers.

On top of run-down skyscrapers are entire upper-class neighborhoods. On top of one run-down ninety-seven storey hospital, for example, is a six-storey, barn-shaped establishment called Megalith's Barn o'Orphans.

INT. WAITING ROOM, PRIVATE HOSPITAL - NIGHT

DR. TOFFEE speaks with toddler BUSTER CHAN.

BUSTER CHAN
Where's momma?

DR. TOFFEE
She's with all the little angels in heaven.

BUSTER cries loud.

DR. TOFFEE puts an orange pill into BUSTER's hand -- BUSTER temporarily stops crying.

BUSTER CHAN
What's this?

DR. TOFFEE
It's candy.

BUSTER puts the pill into his mouth.

INT. MEGALITH'S BARN O'ORPHANS - NIGHT

Through the window, we see that it's still night time, but a lot of clean, rich two-year-old kids play in this room as if it's the middle of the afternoon.

DR. TOFFEE enters, carrying BUSTER in his arms.

DR. TOFFEE
You're shaking.

BUSTER CHAN

Buster is shaking?

DR. TOFFEE

Yes. You're Buster.

BUSTER CHAN

Buster is me?

DR. TOFFEE

Yes. Just as I am me, you are he.

(laughs)

You are ... an "I".

BUSTER CHAN

I...am Buster?

DR. TOFFEE

Exactly. Now why are you shaking?

BUSTER CHAN

Because I am scared.

DR. TOFFEE

Why are you scared?

BUSTER CHAN

I'm scared because I can't cry.

DR. TOFFEE

That candy is making it so that you can't cry.

BUSTER CHAN

I WANT TO CRY!!!

DR. TOFFEE

We're rich, thus above sadness; it's for poor people.

BUSTER CHAN

Really?

DR. TOFFEE nods.

CUT TO:

INT. BUSTER'S BEDROOM, ORPHANAGE - MORNING

DR. TOFFEE brings BUSTER into this beautifully decorated bedroom.

DR. TOFFEE
This is your bedroom.

DR. TOFFEE exits.

BUSTER gets onto his bed, lays down, and falls asleep.

DR. TOFFEE re-enters the room.

DR. TOFFEE
ACTIVATION!!!

BUSTER sits-up, opens his eyes, and says...

BUSTER CHAN
Yes, master.

DR. TOFFEE
As a living prototype for Project Mind Control Ultra, you can gain the rest of a full sleep-cycle, whilst performing complicated tasks for the Megalith Corporation!

BUSTER CHAN
Yes, master.

DR. TOFFEE
Your first task...

DR. TOFFEE reveals a photograph of a beautiful woman.

DR. TOFFEE

While she's asleep, before she dimension-shifts to her reptilian state, kill her.

INT. HOUSE - MIDNIGHT

The BEAUTIFUL WOMAN (from the photo) sleeps peacefully.

BUSTER enters from an open window, crawls onto the queen-sized bed, and digs his fingernails into the BEAUTIFUL WOMAN's neck as she wakes up, screaming.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN
WHO ARE YOU!?!

BUSTER CHAN
BUSTER!!!

BUSTER rips savagely, digging new wounds in her neck, as her desperate attempts to rip him from her neck fail.

BEAUTIFUL WOMAN
NO!!!

When BUSTER's attacks draw tidal torrents of gushing blood from her neck, the BEAUTIFUL WOMAN surrenders to that open-eyed, final slumber known as death.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY, BARN O'ORPHANS - SUNRISE

BUSTER is just a small, two year-old toddler. He wears a towel as a super-hero cape, a shirt with a puppy on it, and a diaper, as he stands watching the sunrise through a huge, semi-circle shaped window. To his left, is a stairwell leading down. And behind him are doors to rooms numbered 601 to 633. And on the opposite side of the hallway, and above his reach, is a large message board filled with charts, diplomas, newsletters, et cetera.

DOCTOR TOFFEE enters from the stairwell.

DOCTOR TOFFEE

What do you want for breakfast?

BUSTER CHAN

Lunch.

DOCTOR TOFFEE

We're out of THAT until noon.

BUSTER CHAN

Is puppy dead with mom? Do dogs go to heaven? I crunchied in throne SIX TIMES!

DOCTOR TOFFEE

What's that smell?

BUSTER CHAN

Diaper got lonely. I'm better at diaper.

DOCTOR TOFFEE

That's gotta change.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFETERIA, BARN O'ORPHANS - MORNING

112 toddlers make a lot of noise, while putting food everywhere but their mouths. Some make things, others break things. Some sing, others scream. Some run, some fall. Some tag, others hit. Some attack a cook named JEFF, others get attacked by a cook named JEFF.

However, the 113th toddler -- BUSTER CHAN -- sits calmly with DOCTOR TOFFEE.

BUSTER CHAN

Let's get out of here.

DOCTOR TOFFEE

You can't.

Then BUSTER cries ... LOUD!

CUT TO:

BLANK SCREEN

DATE ON SCREEN: December 31st, 2049

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY OF NEW RAIN - NIGHT

Looking through thick smog, New Rain City is a complicated system of roads, sky-walks, over-passes, bridges, buildings, and artificial rivers.

12 Y/O BUSTER CHAN'S VOICE

I spent my nights looking through the orphanage window, at the violet shooting stars of the pre-Armageddon sky, upon which I often wished to be part of a family, until I was three, and I met my half-uncle.

CUT TO:

INT. BUSTER'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

BUSTER CHAN (age 3) has grown to 2'0", and he wears a puppy shirt.

He lays on his bed, about to fall asleep, when suddenly the demon BAKA appears, hovering above the bed.

BUSTER CHAN

(frightened)

A DEMON!

BAKA

I mean you no harm.

BUSTER CHAN
(thoughtful)
Why do I know your voice?

BAKA
You talked to me on the phone at Christmas...

BUSTER CHAN
Godfather Baka!?!

BAKA nods.

BUSTER CHAN
How'd you become a demon?

BAKA
I've always been a demon.

BUSTER CHAN
Is that why I only talk to you on the phone?

BAKA
Your mother thought I, her demon half-brother,
would upset you, so you weren't going to meet
me until your fourteenth birthday.

BUSTER CHAN
I'm glad to finally meet the man who sends me
a toy every week!

BAKA
So you don't mind that I'm a demon?

BUSTER CHAN
Hell no. So why did you pick now to reveal
yourself to me?

BAKA
Disgruntled caregivers will destroy this
orphanage tomorrow, at one in the afternoon.

BUSTER CHAN

I must save everyone!

BAKA

There's no point. The APOCALYPSE is scheduled for an hour later!

BUSTER CHAN

But I don't want to die!

BAKA

I don't want you to die either, nephew, so that's why I've asked NINjAs, in the not-too-distant past, to look after you.

BUSTER

The past?

BAKA

Before that, though, you will be granted the ability to time-travel, but it will come with a price. I'll explain later, but what you should know now is this: I haven't had much chance to look over the pamphlet which the NINjAs provided about how they'd care for you, but I think you'll be in good hands.

BUSTER

But I want to be with you, Uncle Baka!

BAKA

I can't take you with me, to my home in Hell, but what I can do is -- well, I can put off sending you to the NINjAs for a few years. You can have all sorts of fun time-traveling until then.

BUSTER

Explain! Until when!?!

BAKA

All will be revealed in due time...

BUSTER

But I wanna save the orphanage!

BAKA

I told you already: it's no use since the Armageddon will happen one hour after the orphanage is set to explode.

BUSTER

That's one more hour in which the kids can be alive, so tell me where the bomb is!

BAKA

It's under the sink in the kitchen, but what are you going to do with this information?

BUSTER

You said you'd give me the ability to time travel, so I'll take the bomb to a place and time where it won't hurt anybody!

BAKA

Good idea. And by the way, Buster, you're very verbose for a three year old.

BUSTER

That's because I'm smart!

INT. KITCHEN, ORPHANAGE - NIGHT

BUSTER finds the time-bomb under the sink -- its timer counts down from thirteen hours.

BUSTER grabs the bomb, disappears in a puff of smoke...

CUT TO:

EXT. GREAT WHITE VOID

BUSTER appears in a quantum vacuum, full of universal scalar waves of electrostatic energy -- with infinite creative potential -- which has the appearance of a Great White Void.

BUSTER CHAN

Hmm...A Big Bang won't hurt anyone in this empty space!

BUSTER lets go of the bomb, then disappears in a puff of smoke.

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN, ORPHANAGE - NIGHT

Same as before.

BUSTER re-appears in a puff of smoke.

BAKA appears.

BAKA

You saved the orphanage...temporarily.

BUSTER CHAN

That's because I'm awesome!

Pause.

BAKA

So what'll it be: a few years of NINjA training, or a few years of time-traveling?

BUSTER CHAN

Time-traveling sounds fun, but what's the catch?

BAKA

The catch: you'll beta-test a Demonic Credit System.

BUSTER CHAN

Demonic Credit System?

BAKA

If you time-travel for fun, your credit rating drops, and you'll go to hell when you die. However, if you time-travel to help people, you'll earn a good credit rating, and you'll go to heaven when you die.

BUSTER CHAN

I don't get it.

BAKA

A printed statement of your transactions will explain everything.

BUSTER vanishes in a puff of smoke.

BAKA

(laughing)

Little scamp couldn't wait to get started.

CUT TO:

BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN: 2008

CUT TO:

INT. BREAKFAST TABLE, KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BUSTER (age 12) continues telling his story to BANANA (age 16) and MRS. CHAN (age 38).

BUSTER

I was a whimsical time-traveler until age six.

MRS. CHAN

Why'd you stop?

BUSTER

Because Banana threw a tire at me!

BANANA

WHAT!? If you're that scampi brat Buster,
how'd a six year old runt become a twelve year-
old twerp? That's impossible!

COMMERCIAL BREAK

BLANK SCREEN

12 Y/O BUSTER CHAN'S VOICE

Your accidental violence towards me, caused
my irrational fear of time-traveling. It was that
fear of time-traveling which prompted my half-
uncle Baka to send me to the NINJA boarding
school when I was six years old.

YEAR ON SCREEN: 2038

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED CATHEDRAL, JAPANESE COUNTRYSIDE - NIGHT

Orphaned lightning decorates the cloudless night sky whose full
moon's beams stop above the monolithic cathedral on this broken
road.

Six year old BUSTER CHAN -- stands small on the horizon. With a
crumbled envelope in his hand, and his gaze set on the
cathedral, he struggles toward his destination, until he
whispers...

BUSTER

I'm so exhausted!

He falls.

Suddenly...

NINjAs appear, and flock around unconscious BUSTER CHAN.

A single NINjA pulls the envelope from BUSTER's cold, wet fingers, opens it, and finds a note, on plain paper, which says: "Dear NINjAs. I'm Buster Chan. My half-uncle paid for my tuition."

CUT TO:

BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN: 2041

CUT TO:

INT. RECITAL HALL - MORNING

We look at NINE year old BUSTER CHAN.



Illustration by Jason Sullivan.

BUSTER CHAN (age 9) stands tall at 3'10", with well-groomed brown hair over his orange eyebrows. His brown-haired pony tail, and metal body armor, match perfectly the garb of one thousand identical NINJA choir-members, who sing beautifully:

SONG:

"It's useless to fight NINJA glory/ So loud and proud we sing
our story/ of knives, swords, breaking boards/ nunchucks,
staffs, chops, blocks/ swinging swords, swift kicks/ punches, et
cetera."

CUT TO:

EXT. DARK ALLEY - NIGHT

Nine year old BUSTER CHAN scouts this alley under the watchful
eye of an older NINJA CADET from whom he is being trained.



Illustration by Doug.

The older NINJA CADET directs BUSTER toward a homeless man who cries in his sleep.

BUSTER approaches the sleeping man.

BUSTER
What now?

NINJA CADET
Their indecision is our prosperity.

BUSTER
What does that mean?

NINJA CADET
FiNiSH HiM!!!

BUSTER
How?

The NINJA CADET pulls a still-beating human heart out of HIS OWN pocket, and the man stops breathing.

NINJA CADET
We take their lives away, and drink their guilty blood.

BUSTER
Blood is gross.

NINJA CADET
We must not think for ourselves.

BUSTER
Why not?

NINJA CADET
Because we don't ask questions.

BUSTER

Oh.

The NINJA CADET points at a frightened little girl.

NINJA CADET

KiLL HeR!!!

BUSTER

But she's young!

NINJA CADET

Life doesn't have to seem long.

BUSTER

Oh.

BUSTER approaches the frightened girl ...

WIPE TO:

EXT. CITY OF NEW RAIN - NIGHT

Looking through thick smog, New Rain City is a complicated system of roads, sky-walks, over-passes, bridges, buildings, and artificial rivers.

12 Y/O BUSTER CHAN'S VOICE

That part of my life was no laughing matter; that future -- with all its stupid, far-fetched situations -- was no place for a naive kid like myself. I tell you the story -- what I can remember of it, anyway -- because many problems remain with me, from that part of my life, and most importantly: telling you about that future, might prevent it.

CUT TO:

BLANK SCREEN

YEAR ON SCREEN: 2008

CUT TO:

INT. BREAKFAST TABLE, KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BUSTER (age 12) continues telling his story to BANANA (age 16) and MRS. CHAN (age 38).

BUSTER

Well... enough about me.

BANANA

Agreed.

MRS. CHAN

What about the frightened girl?

BUSTER

I didn't turn around, and attack my mentor, if that's what you're asking. They were a real cult of evil NINjAs -- they brain-washed me to do things I regret fully. Please change the topic.

MRS. CHAN

So ... how'd you use time-travel when you were three-to-six?

BUSTER

Baka was my guide on wild worldwide adventures. We learned many, many things. We learned why Japanese Emperors claim descent from Dragon Gods who come from the sky. We learned why in China they say a Serpent Queen interbred with man. But the most important thing we learned was the shocking truth about why the Chinese surname "Chan" means

"Serpent."

BANANA and MRS. CHAN look at each-other.

MRS. CHAN
Tradition is to tell boys at fourteen.

BANANA
Girls, when we get our first ...

MRS. CHAN
Yeah.

BUSTER laughs.

BANANA
Teehee. Imagine my shock when I
learned that I can do this.

BANANA shape-shifts into a seven foot tall reptilian
humanoid.

MRS. CHAN
She was eleven. I can do it too!

MRS. CHAN shape-shifts into a seven foot tall
reptilian humanoid.

BANANA and MRS. CHAN bow while BUSTER smiles and
applauds.

BANANA
Turns out The Emotion 16 Soldiers was
intended as a safe group in which I
could manifest so Frau Angstweiler
could answer my questions when I did!

MRS. CHAN
And I knew all along! Frau
Angstweiler is a professional; she did
the same thing for me when I was

young!

BANANA
(laughs)
Mommie was in on it!

BANANA and MRS. CHAN laugh.

MRS. CHAN lightly taps BANANA's shoulder.

BANANA nods.

BANANA and MRS. CHAN shape-shift back into their human forms.

BUSTER
Emotion 16 Soldiers? Frau
Angstweiler? What? Who?

BANANA and MRS. CHAN laugh louder.

BANANA
We'll explain later. But nows, Bust,
it's you who is being interrogated!
So please say more about the NINjAs!

BUSTER
(points randomly)
Look, a distraction!

BUSTER runs away.

BANANA
Buster seems smart.

MRS. CHAN
Maybe he can help you with your homework!

BANANA
That floating demon head thinger was a little
confusing.

MRS. CHAN

About that ... his name is Baka, and he's ...

BANANA

And he's ... a Baka!?

BANANA laughs.

MRS. CHAN

Yeah. Hey, Buster mentioned a boy named Rob. Have you met this Rob?

BANANA

No, but I'm glad he didn't say I end up with Ryone.

MRS. CHAN

I like Ryone. Why don't you like Ryone?

BANANA

I guess it's because he's creepy. And I saved the world, so what can he possibly brag about to impress me, y'know?

MRS. CHAN

Well -- by that logic -- what can Rob brag about?

BANANA

I don't know. I haven't even met Rob.

MRS. CHAN

Maybe you dismiss Ryone so easily because you met him so soon after you saved the universe by defeating the "Eater of Worlds" two years ago.

BLANK SCREEN

WORDS ON SCREEN

Two Years Ago ...

INT. CLASS-ROOM - DAY

The students stare at BANANA (age 14) as if she's a celebrity.

A BOY

You defeated the Eater of Worlds. Can I touch you?

BANANA

NO! AND AIN'T ANYONE TOLD YOU THAT LOOKING AT ME WITHOUT MY PERMISSION IS NOT POLITE!?!

A GIRL

It is our will, Banana Chan. One must follow their will to achieve true egoism, which is our culture's goal.

BANANA

Egoism is our culture's goal?

A GIRL

My cover's blown.

A GIRL turns into a black guy named ORLANDO and flies out of the window and up into the clouds.

BANANA

That's it!

WIPE TO:

BLANK SCREEN

WORDS ON SCREEN

November, 2008.

WIPE TO:

INT. KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - AFTERNOON

BANANA (age 16) chats with MRS. CHAN (age 38).

BANANA CHAN (age 16) is 5'6", with shoulder-length dyed-blond hair with orange roots. She's cute with orange eyebrows, big green eyes, and a tiny bit of freckles over the bright skin tone of her youthful face.

MRS. CHAN, (age 38) is a normal, average-income housewife. She's 6'4", with black hair, and orange eyebrows over her bright green eyes.

BANANA

Drop it, okay? Shut up about Ryone mom, please. I'm sorry for telling you to "shut up", but that's your last warning.

MRS. CHAN

(laughs)

But you wouldn't hurt your dear old mother!

BANANA

That's right, but you're not my real mother.

MRS. CHAN

Still, you wouldn't hurt me. You wouldn't harm a soul.

BANANA

I look like I wouldn't harm a soul. But if you say one more thing about Ryone, your face will be red from the bloody nose you will get!

MRS. CHAN

(smiling, sarcastic)

Okay. You win.

MRS. CHAN walks away.

INT. BREAKFAST TABLE, KITCHEN, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BUSTER (age 12) chats with BANANA (age 16) and MRS. CHAN.



Illustration by Liana Buszka.

BUSTER CHAN (age 12) is 4'8", with orange roots in his dyed-brown, and purple-streaked, hair, that's parted in the middle. Under this athletic boy's innocent green eyes are a tight SqueegiMon shirt, blue shorts, black socks, and futuristic running-shoes.

BANANA

Money makes me hot. Am I rich in the

future?

BUSTER
Yes, actually.

BANANA
Boo-Yah! How will I get rich?

BUSTER
I think it's a family secret.

BANANA
Secrets waste time.

BUSTER
You'll find a lot of diamonds, but you'll never
tell anyone where you found them.

MRS. CHAN
You hear that, Banana?! Diamonds!

BANANA
Yee-Hee!

MRS. CHAN
Buster, is the future ... really ... totally pre-
determined?

BUSTER
Well ... maybe.

MRS. CHAN
As long as you can remember it, are your
memories pre-determined?

BUSTER
I'm not sure I understand the question.

MRS. CHAN
Will Banana find those diamonds?

BUSTER

Well ... err ... I'm not sure how she found them, or where she found them, but she found them, and maybe she'll find diamonds!

BANANA

ME LIKEY DIAMONDS!

BUSTER

Yeah. And I guess it's also part of the reason why I'm here.

BANANA

To steal all our worldly possessions?

BUSTER

No. I want to figure out a lot of things about my family. You see, I never knew my mother, and I want to know all about her. Since you're my grandma, if I stay here, I'll eventually meet my mother, and I'll be able to get to know her, because I was two years old the last time I saw her.

BANANA

Wacky! Weird! Coolers! Bonkers! You've sure got issues, kid!

Pause.

BUSTER

Granted, granny.

BANANA

If you call me granny one more time, Buster, we'll be signing your death certificate!

BUSTER

Whatever. Hey -- please tell me about yourself!

BANANA

(self-involved)

Sure! Nice to meetcha! I'm Banana-chan Lacy Chan, but my best-est girlfriends call me Banana.

BUSTER

Can I call you Granny-Banana?

BANANA

No. You may call me Banner-Nanners, Nanna- Hanna-Channa, or Banana-Rama!

BUSTER

I'll call you Banana.

BANANA

Okie dokie.

(self involved)

Born to Ko and Reg on June 3rd, 1992, I'm left- handed, 167cm, and my blood type's A!

BUSTER

(sarcastic)

What's your shoe size?

BANANA

23 or 24 or LL - I forget.

(self-involved)

Anyway, I enjoy baseball, lemonade, and crisp November mornings.

MRS. CHAN

Hey Banana: Why don't you show Buster around town after school?

BANANA

Because I might see Ryone.

BUSTER

That's not necessary. I don't want to be a

burden.

MRS. CHAN

Banana, don't avoid the world just to avoid one of its citizens.

BANANA gives BUSTER a head-lock, and a noogie.

BANANA

Right. I'll take the little brat for that walk!

BUSTER rubs his head.

BUSTER

Really?

BANANA

Sure! Well, I'm almost late for school, but I'll give you the grand-tour of our town either today or by next week, alright?

BUSTER

Alright!

BANANA

So you just practice your deadly ninja skillz until then, or something, okay?

BUSTER

Okay!

BANANA gives him an odd look.

INT. RAIN HIGH SCHOOL - MORNING

BANANA sleeps on her desk.

MR. ONO

Cancer cannot grow in a body that has a pH level of 7.36, and cancer disappears in a body that has a pH level of 7.88.

(pause)

Banana Chan. Are you listening? This is important!

BANANA CHAN wakes up, smiles at MR. ONO, and says ...

BANANA

Sorry. What's the day?

MR. ONO

You should know what day it is.

BANANA

What month?

MR. ONO

November.

BANANA

Okay, shut up now. I'm trying to sleep.

BANANA lays her head down on her desk, and falls asleep.

EXT. ROOFTOP, MAISON CHAN - MORNING

BUSTER lays on the rooftop with 937, watching the clouds.

BUSTER

Y'know, domestic relaxation is good after six years of strict evil ninja academy!

937

That's not true -- we've had our moments.

BUSTER

Yeah, but the next stressful moment was always right around the corner at the NINJA academy; whereas here -- in this small, peaceful, seaside town, where I can feel the saltwater breeze on my face -- I'm certain that there's absolutely nothing at all to worry

about. I can finally relax for a change!

937

Relax while you can.

BUSTER

What's that mean?

937

You're being enrolled into Rain Middle School,
as a transfer student.

BUSTER

Cool. I'll be the mysterious transfer kid.
When?

937

Sooner, rather than later.

BUSTER

Was this your idea?

937

Yes. But -- to be fair -- Ko had the same idea,
at the same time.

BUSTER

Her name's not Ko.

937

Her ROLE is Ko. And I'm still a bit ticked off
that my half-father never mentioned me to her.

BUSTER

You mean they knew each-other before I
came?

937

Yeah, but only long enough to tell her to
sound-proof a guest-room. He didn't tell her
who the guest-room was for. He just burped

then vanished. My job was to clarify whatever details his drunkenness left out. Still, his visit terrified her, and now she has mental problems for which she visits one Doctor Melfin for intensive therapy.

END OF EPISODE



Illustration by Diane Holman

What is an "Awkward Domestic Situation Animé"?

In awkward domestic situation animé/manga serials, a main character has an unpleasant situation with someone they've never met, then that main character returns home and learns that relaxation is impossible because they have to live with the person who was the focus of their unpleasant situation.

SELECTED CHARACTER NOTES:

BANANA

Banana, whose hair is sometimes dyed blonde, completed a series of selfless sacrifices, that are destined to make her a role-model for all time, at age 14, and then she got lazy and became the only sixteen-year-old in Rain Middle School!

MRS. CHAN

She understands people. She's good at giving advice. And she is always ready and willing to lend a helping hand to someone in need. She prefers that everyone calls her Mrs. Chan ... even though she's not really Banana's mother, and therefore not really a "Mrs."

JAMES ALYN

Girls can't get enough of this teenaged human who works in the mall! He seems like a nice guy.

937

He doesn't swim, always lands on his feet, and loves sleeping in the kitchen sink. This cyborg cat was made to deprogram Buster from an evil cult. Now he's Buster's best friend and diary. Always happy to help!

Why do some animés include blood types when they introduce their characters?

In the 1940s, the Japanese military commissioned scientists to figure out if blood types contribute to people's personalities. The scientists ended up writing a report which revealed how different blood types are related to different personality categories. This is true, and it's scary how accurate it is. I'm blood type O. Which blood type are you?

TYPE O

I'm blood type O. People with the O blood type strive for leadership positions because otherwise we don't feel in control of the situation, and we find it difficult to cope in a situation which we don't control or otherwise understand. We're very strategic and cunning. For entertainment, we enjoy thought-provoking movies, or epic books or tv shows with deep plots and any story which contains characters who deal with difficult situations that we don't understand fully ... so that we can learn! Anything that can teach us something, we enjoy. As long as we know that a thing or activity has no danger to our life, or to our lifestyle, we enjoy it. We don't get along as well as we should with others of our blood-type, but magic happens when we find ways to work together. People with my blood type have an amazing amount of loyalty, so if we tell you that we'll be loyal to you, we'll keep our word. If we don't want to be loyal to you, we'll be up-front about it. Our biggest strength and biggest weakness is that we don't let anything or anyone get in between us and our goals. We fight for what we believe in with confidence. We set trends and follow our passions even if it means being too competitive, or becoming over-jealous. Vanity also describes us.

TYPE A

People with the A blood type will try to keep their lives -- and everything in their lives -- nice, and neat, and tidy. They're clean and organized, and they'd get good marks in school if school weren't so damn early in the morning. They're very social people. They prefer team-work and they make friends easily. They're very sensitive when things go wrong, and very sympathetic towards others who are in need. They're good listeners. And when they need something, they can get very stubborn. They deal with many things at a time, and they rarely find enough time to relax in privacy.

TYPE B

People with the B blood type are total individuals, often in a category all their own. They stick out in a crowd, even though they don't want to. They're very self-sufficient and it's both an honor and a privilege to get to know a B on a personal level. B's are straightforward when they express themselves, and they unapologetically do things their own way, and there's usually nothing wrong with that. But when their individuality goes too far, it's a weakness, because teamwork is ALWAYS better, so the challenge of every B is to find the right team; however, often their right team finds them, but the B is too used to working alone, to realize what's under their nose. B's are very creative. And despite their fear of new situations, B's adapt surprisingly well to new situations.

TYPE AB

People with the AB blood type have this strange, calming effect on people. They aim to please. If an AB is confused about what people want or need, their company and support is all that's required, and it's usually offered unconditionally. They are charitable. They have their affairs in order most of the time, so they've got time to help others, and they often do help others. They win arguments because they have control of their temper. They do lose their temper, but they have enough control that they don't lose their temper often, and when they do lose their temper, they can cool off easier than the other blood types. They're logical, fair, and tactful. But they're so opinionated that they're confrontational, but they're logical about which fights they pick. They have difficulties enlisting help when they need to make tough decisions.

-- random Banana Chan characters, and their blood types --

BANANA: A

ROB: B

ROKO: A

KNOCKO: B

BOBBY DARK: B

TOM NIKON: O

CHIKAO SAWAMURA: AB

MAIKO PENK: AB

BUSTER CHAN: O

DOCTOR TOFFEE: B

What are Japanese Honorifics?

The "Chan" in BANANA CHAN has a double meaning; namely, Banana's surname is Chan (Chinese origin), and Chan is a Japanese honorific.

Honorifics are little words that are attached to people's names in Japanese society, to explain relationships, ranks, social order, et cetera. Some are prefixes, but most are suffixes.

I omitted honorifics in the Banana Chan scripts; they're used maybe only once or twice.

However, Japanese people who omit honorifics in conversation are bakas, so here are some common honorifics:

Oh-

If you're a huge suck-up, or if you sincerely have a ton of respect for a person, you'll add "Oh-" to the start of their name.

EXAMPLE: Oh-Ono!

-chan

It can be condescending, or very casual. It's mostly used when talking to small kids or girls. Very close friends and family use this one towards each-other, and to their pets; it can mean literally "small" or "cute." It can also be flirtatious or rude ... or very polite, depending who you're talking about.

EXAMPLE: Lacy-chan!

-denka

Use this when talking about royalty or Japan's Imperial Family. It's like saying "Your Highness"

EXAMPLE: Jack-denka

-dono

A way of showing great respect, like saying "m'lord."

EXAMPLE: Ono-dono

-hakase

Professor.

EXAMPLE: Ono-hakase

-heika

Another way to say "Your Highness"

EXAMPLE: Ono-heika

-hime

Princess.

EXAMPLE: Roko-hime

-jo

Used among upper-crust girls, to each-other.

EXAMPLES: Paris-jo, Nikki-jo

-joshi

Like -jo, but only used among unmarried upper-crust women.

EXAMPLE: Paris-joshi

-kakka

For ambassadors and other dignitaries.

EXAMPLE: Reg-kakka

-ko

For familiar or friendly females.

EXAMPLE: "Hello, Ko-ko!"

-kohai

You say this to an inferior at work who is in the same social class.

EXAMPLE: Tom-kohai

-kun

Same as "chan", but more for boys, and slightly more respectful.

EXAMPLE: Buster-kun

-sama

Very respectful towards an older person, or someone of higher standing.

EXAMPLE: Kami-sama (God)

-san

Default among most people.

EXAMPLE: Chikao-san

-sempai

Used toward people who out-rank you.

EXAMPLE: Ono-sempai

-sensei

Someone who shares their experience. Also used towards folks who figured out how to write animé scripts.

EXAMPLE: Ono-sensei

-shi

A man you respect a lot. Not used too often.

EXAMPLE: Ono-shi

-tachi

Plural.

EXAMPLE: Watashi-tachi (we)

kojin

Individual.

kojin-teki

friendly acquaintance

onna-

female.

oniisan

brother

oneesan

sister

otoosan

father

okaasan

mother

obasan

aunt

obaasan

grandmother

ojisan

uncle

ojiisan

grandfather

If you behave confidently, as if you believe in yourself, then other people will think you're smart and strong ... even when you know better.

AUTHOR BIO

ALAN HOLMAN

BIRTHDAY: April 19th, 1981

HOMETOWN: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

When I had the first draft of eleven scripts written in 2002, I wanted art. I believed in the story that I was developing, and I knew that animé fans would get a kick out of it. So I searched for artists who would be willing to devote time and energy to a good script.

In 2002, Katie Day drew a wonderful picture of Banana and Buster, and she also drew a great standalone picture of Banana. That was all I could get her to do.

So then I googled "animé artist". The first talented anime artist whose work caught my eye was Theodore Serafica. I asked him to design characters. So he asked for a detailed outline of the series, and some character information. I sent him what I could, and he told me to quit. He said I have no future in this, and that I know nothing about storytelling. He said that I don't know anything, even the basics, about story structure. The main thing he said was that I should give up.

So my search for artists resumed. I sent e-mails to a dozen anime artists.

When Heather Ewert and her younger sister Megan Ewert replied, I was very happy. They are The AniméQueens!

The AniméQueens drew a manga about Buster when he was a toddler.

Then an artist named B__ said that she read the series and there was hardly a time when she wasn't laughing, so she promised to draw a complete set of character designs. She asked me for descriptions, so I sent the descriptions to her, and she said she'd get right on it. One year later, she said that she hadn't even drawn a single one, and that she wasn't going to.

Then I rebounded into searching for an artist, and I found Liana Buszka. She made a ton of amazing character designs, some fantastic standalone art, and roughly thirty pages of top-notch manga!

Then came Yudhianto Bambang; he drew a lot of high-quality manga!

And now there's Jason Sullivan who has drawn a lot of great pics so far!

My sister Diane made some amazing pictures!

Other artists have made small but appreciated contributions!

I have an unstoppable appreciation for all of the artists who contributed art to this project; they will be paid fairly if this project ever becomes a source of profit!

ARTIST BIOS

YUDHIANTO BAMBAY and BAYO AJI

Yudhianto rides a motorcycle and teaches manga. His favorite drink is called Gula Asem; it is a local specialty from his home of Jakarta, Indonesia.

Nothing is known about Bayo Aji.

LIANA BUSZKA

Originally from Carmel Indiana, where she grew up eating nutritious foods and watching the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, Liana is an art student at Herron School of Art, with a major in General Fine Arts, mainly focusing on Drawing, Painting, and Illustration. She has won various contests in art. She loves nature, and the outdoors. And she plays DDR often, with furious energy.

HEATHER EWERT

BIRTHDAY: August 13th, 1984

HOMETOWN: Glyndon, Minnesota

PHYSICAL FEATURES: Short enough, hair color that changes, blue eyes, obviously female. I dress in drab colors.

FAVORITE THINGS: Playing video games, hanging out with friends, traveling, learning languages, goofing off, drinking, socializing, dancing, drawing, doing computer nerd stuff.

LEAST FAVORITE THINGS: Mean people, stress, HAVING to be somewhere at a specific time, people who do not know the meaning of constructive criticism.

EDUCATION: I did a five-year undergraduate degree at Minnesota State University Moorhead in Graphic Communications/Languages, and studied at Utsunomiya University in Japan for a semester. I am currently in the process of getting a Master's at Georgetown University for Language and Communication.

ART ACCOMPLISHMENTS: I won various stuff in high school for art, but mostly I do comics (*Shonen Chikara*), illustrations, and web design nowadays. My most fantastic feat will be when I draw a mini-seeing-eye horse wearing a diaper and tennis shoes, with my friend on him yelling "DIAPER STEED, AWAY~"

More artist bios will be included in future volumes!

What are Shounen/Shoujo animé/manga?

Shounen is about and/or for boys. Shoujo is about and/or for girls.

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING ARTISTS

THE ANIMEQUEENS

(Heather Ewert & Megan Ewert)

DIANE HOLMAN

DOUG

JASON SULLIVAN

KATIE DAY

LIANA BUSZKA

YUDHIANTO BAMBAY

Alan Holman



Hi, I'm Alan Holman!

Thanks for buying volume 2 of **BANANA CHAN!**

Originally, the idea for **BANANA CHAN** was a joke when I wrote a few pages of anime parody in script format to amuse myself and a friend ...

... but then I kept adding more and more to the story, and editing it more and more ...

... for years and years and years and years ...

... and years.

The original story was about a kid named **Buster** who came from the future and teamed up with his teenaged grandmother named **Banana** for whimsical adventures that would ultimately lead to winning the **Armageddon** for the side of good.

So ... in this volume, you'll meet **Buster**, and the storyline that was at the core of the original plan for this series will be added into the mix :)

FUN!

