



HELLO, LITTLE SNAKE.
WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

... I'VE BEEN WANTING
TO TALK TO YOU.
I FEEL I OWE YOU
AN APOLOGY...

OR PERHAPS AN
EXPLANATION.



LET ME TELL YOU ABOUT...

MY RISE AND FALL

LONG AGO, THE FIRST MAN
LIVED ALONE IN A GARDEN.
HE NEEDED A HELPER, A
COMPANION, AND ONE BY
ONE THE ANIMALS CAME
TO INTRODUCE THEMSELVES
AND OFFER THEIR SERVICES.



I LAY EGGS AND
I HAVE POISON SPURS!



I ROLL IN
MY OWN PEE!



I EAT EUCALYPTUS.
ALL DAY. EVERY DAY.



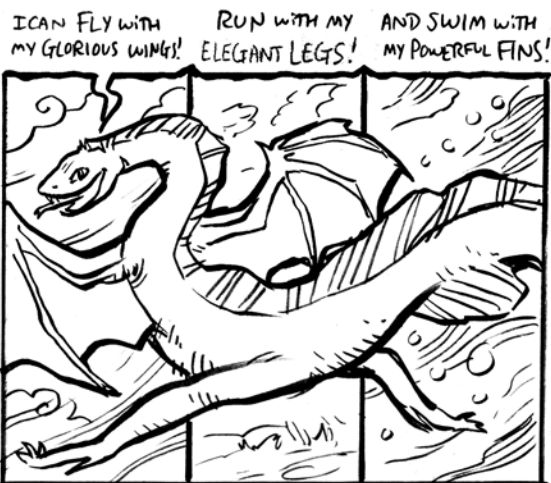
UM, OKAY! YOU'D BETTER
GET RIGHT ON THAT.

LET'S CALL YOU...
KOALA.

NEXT!



HELLO, SIR!
PLEASED TO
MEET YOU!



ICAN FLY WITH
MY GLORIOUS WINGS!

RUN WITH MY
ELEGANT LEGS!

AND SWIM WITH
MY POWERFUL FINS!



ICAN EVEN
BREATHE FIRE!



...HELLO?



HI!

UH, HI!

IS THIS WHERE WE COME FOR OUR INTERVIEW?

YOU'RE HIRED!



HEY!



TELL YOU WHAT. THERE'S THIS ONE TREE I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO EAT FROM, LEST I DIE.

WHY DON'T YOU GUARD IT FOR ME? JUST IN CASE I FORGET.

WE'LL CALL YOU... SERPENT.



WAS I JEALOUS? MAYBE A LITTLE. BUT PROUD, TOO, OF MY NEW ROLE.

GUARDIAN OF THE TREE OF KNOWLEDGE!



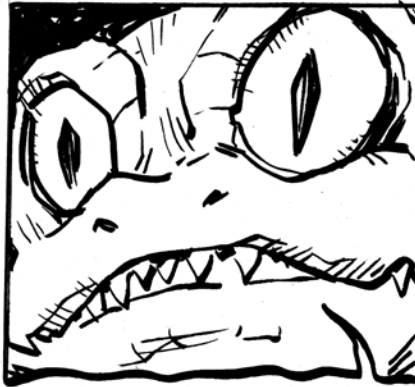
HM.



THERE WAS JUST ONE THING. THE MAN HAD SAID THAT HE WASN'T SUPPOSED TO EAT FROM IT... BUT WHAT ABOUT ME?



TWO REALIZATIONS CAME TO ME IN QUICK SUCCESSION.



AND, AS A MORTAL ANIMAL...
ONE DAY I'M GOING TO DIE!!

FORTUNATELY, THERE WAS ANOTHER VERY SPECIAL TREE IN THE GARDEN.



WITH THE BEST OF INTENTIONS, I SET OUT TO SHARE MY NEWFOUND WISDOM.



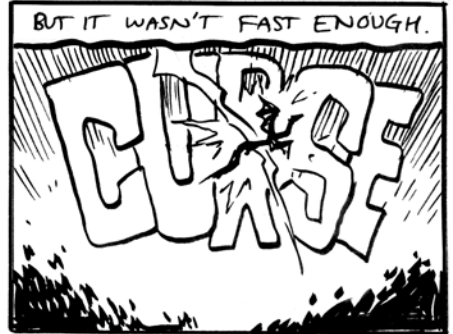
AND SO THEY ATE...



BUT THEY DIDN'T REACT AS I'D HOPED.



YOU PROBABLY KNOW THE REST OF THE STORY...



GONE WERE MY GLORIOUS WINGS! GONE WERE MY POWERFUL FINS AND ELEGANT LEGS! I COULD ONLY CRAWL IN THE DIRT...

