

BART SIMPSON UNIFICATION

ON GAME BOY AND GAME GEAR

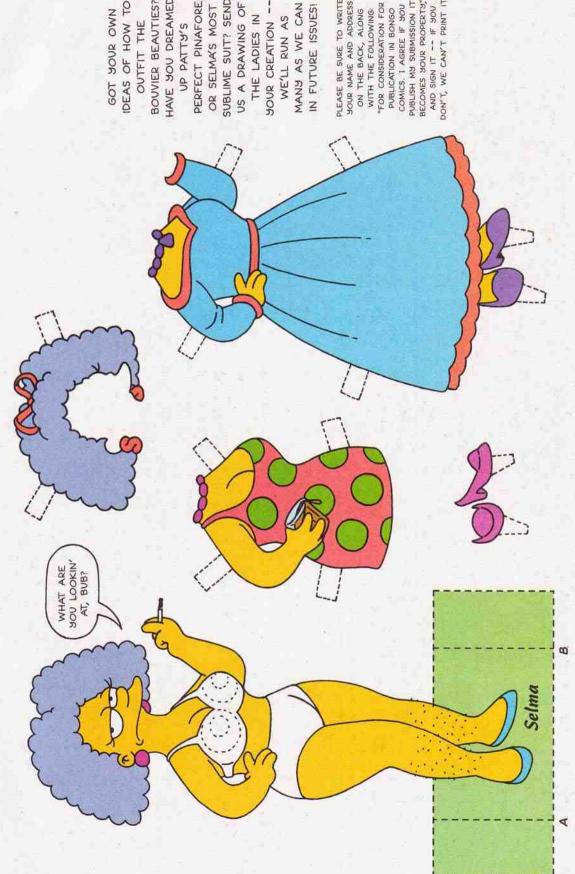




Check it out, man! Bart's takin' it on the road with his hot new portable hits! He's "on lead," live, dangerous and touring the world in three chart-topping Simpson" smashes! So grab your GEAR and get ready to jam with the BOYs! Nobody plays like the legendary Bart Simpson"... uncut, uncanny and TOTALLY UNPLUGGED!

The Simpsons TM & © 1993 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. All rights reserved. Sega and Game Gear are trademarks of Sega Enterprises, Ltd. Nintendo © Game Boy® and the official seals are registered trademarks of Nintendo of America Inc. Flying Edge & Acciaim are divisions of Acciaim Entertainment, Inc. TM, ® & © 1993 Acciaim Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved.





HAVE YOU DREAMED SUBLIME SUIT? SEND IDEAS OF HOW TO BOUVIER BEAUTIES? PERFECT PINAFORE US A DRAWING OF OR SELMA'S MOST SOUR CREATION -GOT YOUR OWN WE'LL RUN AS THE LADIES IN OUTFIT THE UP PATTY'S

PLEASE BE SURE TO WRITE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR CONSIDERATION FOR ON THE BACK, ALONG WITH THE FOLLOWING

DON'T, WE CAN'T PRINT IT! PUBLISH MY SUBMISSION IT BECOMES SOUR PROPERTY, AND SIGN IT -- IF SOU











































WE HAVE A SAYING IN LAW ENFORCEMENT, BOYS: "A FRIGHTENED CITIZEN IS A LAW-ABIDING CITIZEN."

THE REASON FOR THIS LITTLE CONFAB IS TO SHOW YOU THE HORRORS OF PRISON LIFE -- TO SCARE YOU SO BAD THAT YOU'LL DO ANYTHING TO BE SURE YOU NEVER COME BACK!

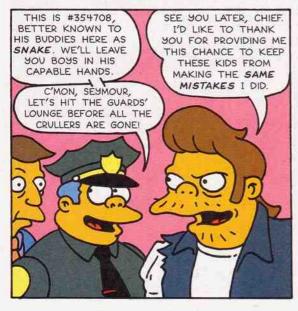








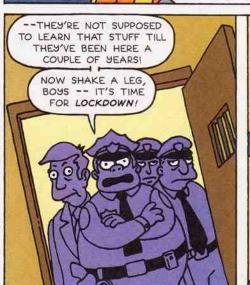


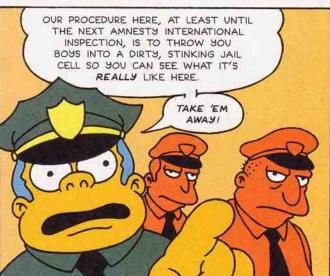












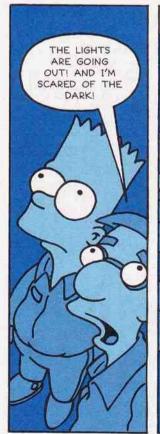




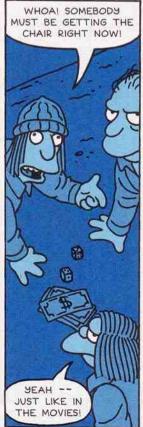






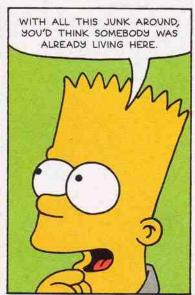


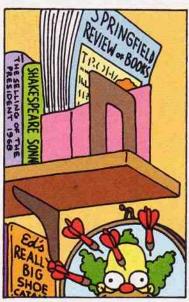


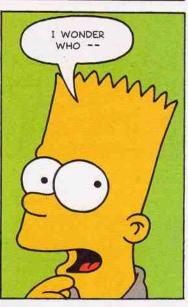


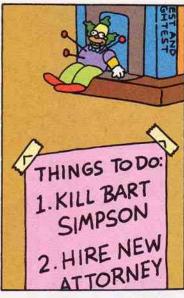


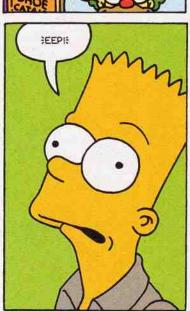




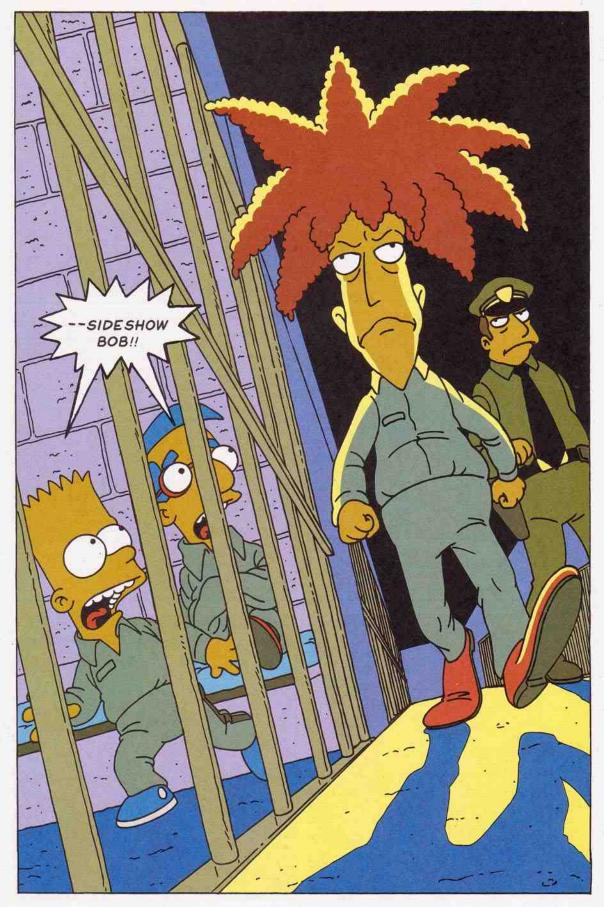
















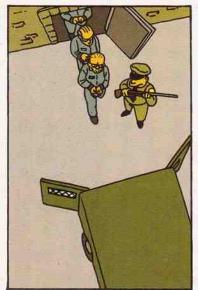




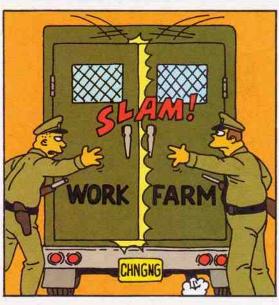


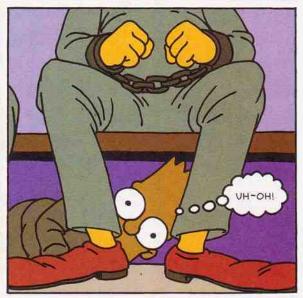


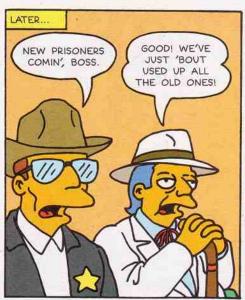




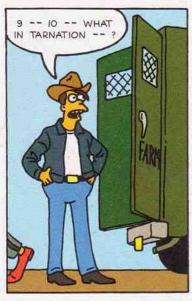


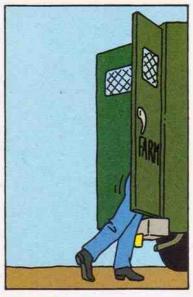








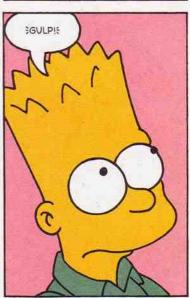




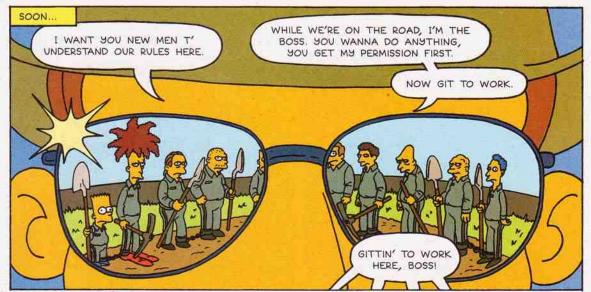






























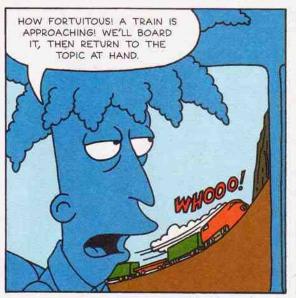




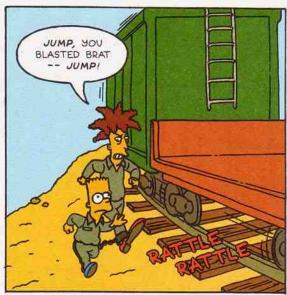




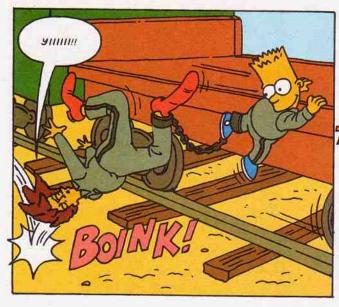










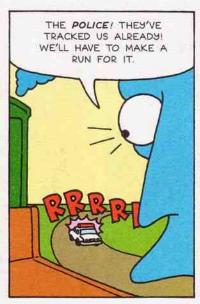




























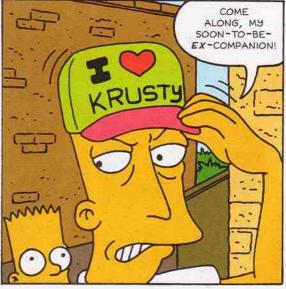




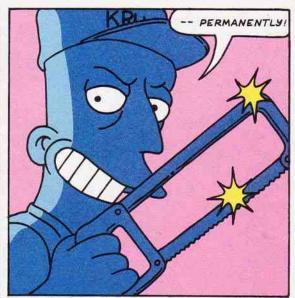


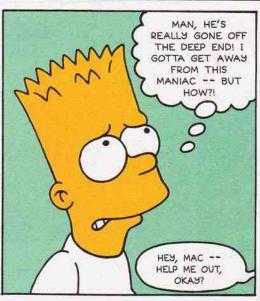






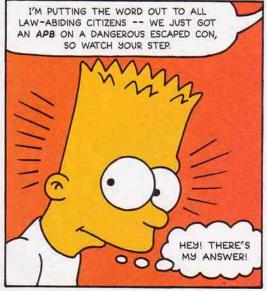








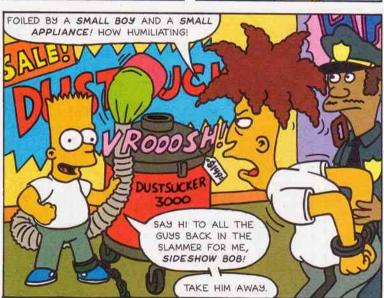








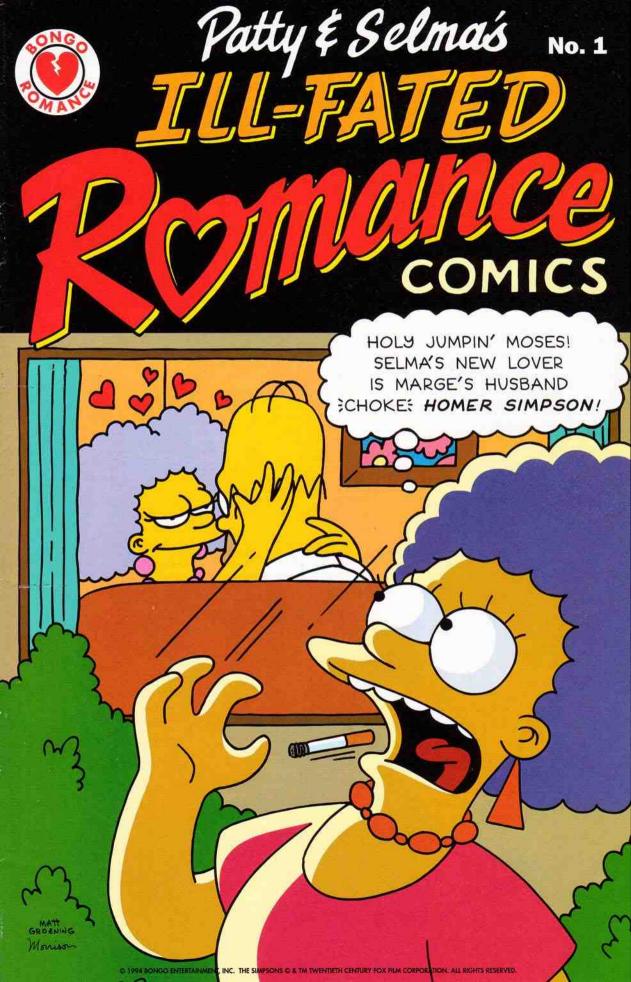












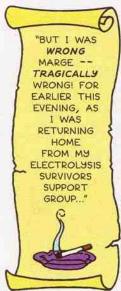


"OR SO I THOUGHT. THEN THE NEXT EVENING, I RECEIVED A VISIT FROM MY SISTER PATTY. WE WERE CHATTING LIGHTLY OVER COFFEE AND MAPLE LOGS WHEN PATTY ABRUPTLY BLURTED OUT THE WORDS WHICH YANKED MY DEEPEST DARKEST FEAR FROM THE PIT OF MY STOMACH AND PULLED IT UP MY ESOPHAGUS AND INTO MY THROAT..."







































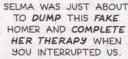


"SELMAS" JEALOUSY OVER YOUR MARITAL BLISS, COUPLED WITH HER EXTREME CONTEMPT FOR YOUR HUSBAND, HAD CREATED A CONFLICT IN HER SUBCONSCIOUS WHICH CAUSED HER TO SEEK OUT DOOMED RELATIONSHIPS! 1 SUGGESTED THAT SHE BEGIN A ROMANCE WITH THE OBJECT OF HER JEALOUSY-SLASH-DISGUST AND THEN BREAK IT OFF, THUS FREEING HER TO PURSUE HEALTHIER RELATIONSHIPS."



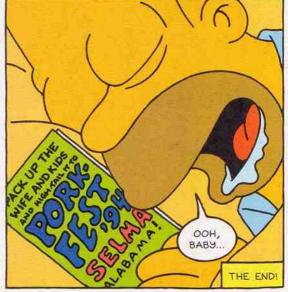
THE GOOD FOLKS AT DUFF GARDENS, I CREATED A LIFELIKE AUTO-ANIMATRON® OF YOUR HUSBAND.

SO, WITH THE HELP OF









THE BONGO BEAT!

A massive media frenzy marked the official world premiere of Simpsons Comics and Itchy & Scratchy Comics at the glitzy Golden Apple comics shop in Hollywood. The whole Bongo crew was there, and hundreds of fans waited hours in the brutal, sub-70° November weather for a chance to squeeze in the door and get their new mags de-mintified by the scrawled signatures of the folks who wrote and drew 'em. While camera crews from CNN, Entertainment Tonight, and Ellostled for elbow room inside the store, a frighteningly-larger-than-lifesized figure of Bart Simpson roamed the sidewalk outside, baffling passers-by. Even Wizardmeister Gareb Shamus was there, having jetted in to fork over an impressive-looking plaque to Matt and company in honor of the occasion.

The hullabaloo surrounding the birth of Bongo continues to keep publicity director Antonia Coffman busy, as she fields calls from detail-hungry mediaheads from Maine to Maui. You probably saw the pieces in USA Today, the Los Angeles Times, or the New York Post, not to mention cover stories in seemingly every comics-oriented



PUBLISHER Matt Groening

EDITOR IN CHIEF/ CREATIVE DIRECTOR Steve Vence

EDITOR IN CHIEF/ CREATIVE DIRECTOR Cindy Vance

MANAGING EDITOR

Jason Grode

ART DIRECTOR Bill Monison

PUBLICITY DIRECTOR Antonia Coffman publication around, but just in case you haven't heard, here's a quick rundown of the titles that make up the burgeoning Bongo media empire:

stars the catastrophe-prone combo from the cartoon-within-a-cartoon on The Simpsons TV show. Issue #2, on sale in February, exposes the sordid, seamy underbelly that lurks behind showbiz's sordid, seamy facade. We're publishing this one only three times a year for your own good—that's all the mindless mayhern your heart can stand!

RADIOACTIVE MAN is a bimonthly limited series with a unique twist; we're covering RM's entire career, from his Golden Age roots to his polybagged present, by jumping through time to bring you six carefully-selected issues from the "real" 40-plus-year run of Bart's favorite comic book. The second issue, on sale in February, fast-forwards ten years from last month's 1952 premiere. Numbered #88 on the cover, it comes direct to you from 1962. Next, in April: our ultra-relevant early-1970s ish!

BARTMAN features the amazing and amusing adventures of Bart Simpson's superheroic alter ego—avenger of evil, champion of justice, and defender of comic collectors! Issue #2, coming in April, introduces a dastardly supervillain called The Penalizer. Bartman is published three times a year, because that's as often as we can produce it!

simpsons comics should be easy to figure out—after all, you're holding the second issue in your doubtless-recently-washed hands. Each bimonthly ish stars the Simpsons themselves in the lead story, while the backup tale, replete with its own outlandish flip cover, turns the spotlight on the more peculiar corners and characters of the Simpsons' universe.

Collect 'em all!

HERE WE GO AGAIN!

Thanks a bunch, discriminating pop-culture fans! You've made all the inksoiled, back-aching, up-untilthe-wee-hours nights of sweat-drenched drawingboard toil worthwhile. The response to our first batch of Simpsonic comic books has been downright gratifying and we don't mean that merely in the materialistic, moneygrubbing, laughing-all-theway-to-the-bank sense, either. The crazed but appreciative letters that you've sent, not to mention the weird but brilliant drawings, are a daily delight, so keep 'em coming, no matter how dementedly enthusiastic or just plain demented. All we can say in reply is yikes! - and of course we mean that as the highest form of compliment.

In the meantime, we hope you dig our latest offering. which we humbly believe is our finest effort yet. We hope you agree, but if you don't, that's OK - we realize the world is full of malcontented screwballs. Which is not to say that we aren't looking for a little constructive criticism. If something bugs you about our comic books, even the teeniest little niggling bit, please let us know, because by gum, it is our pledge to von that we will not rest until you are as happy as Homer Simpson with a maple bar.

Maybe.

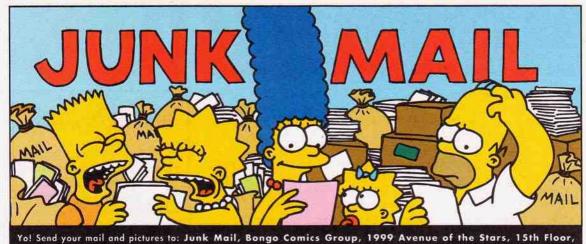
GROENING

Matt Groening

SIMPSONS COMICS is published six times a year by Bongs Entertainment, Inc., 1999 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067 (310) 788-1267, Fax (310) 788-1200.

Issue 2. © 1994 Bongo Entertainment, Inc. The Simpsons © & TM Twentieth Century Fox Filin Corporation, All rights reserved. Neither this comic book nor any portion of it may be used or reproduced for any purpose whatsoever without the express written permission of Bongs Entertainment, Inc. If you're reading this, you have you much time on your hands.

Printed on recycled paper with 1078 post-consumer starte. PRINTED in CANADA.



Yo! Send your mail and pictures to: Junk Mail, Bongo Comics Group, 1999 Avenue of the Stars, 15th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90067. If you send art or photos, please write on the back, "For consideration for publication in Bongo Comics. Lagree if you publish my submission it becomes your property," and sign your name. If you don't, our nit-picking lawyers won't let us print 'em. Thanks!

Whew! Within hours of the unleashing of our first issue, letters began pouring into our cramped little clubhouse here at Bongo Central. As the days went by, we knew from the increasing stacks of letters (as well as the increasingly disgruntled looks from our postman, who had to lug all that mail up to our aerie) that we had a hit on our hands. Thanks—and keep writing!

BURNS-ING LOVE

What a great book! Simpsons Comics #1 was fabulous! With the great cover spoof of Fantastic Four #1, the EC horror comic spoof on the flip side, and the phenomenal artwork on the inside, it was a treat for the eyes. My guess is that this one will be the best of all four new titles, although I'm not willing to bet on it. It was just like reading deluxe storyboards for a new episode of the TV show. Mr. Burns is a great character. (I really loved the TV episode based on Citizen Kane.) The monster role was perfect for Homer because he's so mindlessly driven by instinct. And it's always funny to see the ineptitude of the authorities.

The Collector was a deft shot to the heart of any comics fanboy, and it's especially appropriate for it to appear in the first "collector's item issue." Overall I'm very impressed, so keep up the good work.

—Tom Watson Kettering, OH

FORMER SKEPTIC?

When I see a new comic based on a popular movie or TV show I tend to be skeptical. As often as not, I find that the comic doesn't live up to the source material and the end result is disappointing. This is annoying enough under most circumstances; if it happens with a series that I really like—such as *The Simpsons*—it's especially maddening. Therefore, when I first learned what Bongo Comics was going to do—and the large extent of the project—I was very apprehensive.

Luckily for us both, you managed to pull it off nicely. I found these first issues highly enjoyable, and if you can keep it up with subsequent issues you'll have at least one very happy reader.

In The Amazing Colossal Homer in particular, I was struck by how well the writers were able to capture the spirit and flavor of the weekly TV show. Homer's passion for donuts: Mr. Burns' extreme feebleness due to his advanced age; Burns' callous disregard for anyone other than himself; Troy McClure's failed movie career and the parody titles of his films-all hallmarks of the show, used to good effect here. However, there was one obvious one that you missed: in the bar sequence, when Moe and Barney were discussing the Giant Homer Problem, you forgot to have Barney belch loudly after he made his comment.

The flip-side back-up, however, was somewhat less enjoyable. I can



"BARTRAVERSE" James Therrien, Deltona, FL

appreciate a good EC Comics parody as much as the next guy, but this one just wasn't funny. Maybe I'm overly sensitive, but I'm getting tired of seeing stories where someone pokes fun at overly-serious comics collectors, giving them a none-too-gentle reminder that comics are not the beall and end-all of life. I don't consider myself one of those types-I don't go for the air-conditioned vault, or insist that my little treasures can't ever be removed from Mylar and read because it decreases their value-but if being slightly retentive about his hobby is the worst thing you can say about a person, kindly shut up and go devote your attention to bigger problems.

Besides, any idiot that invests in an air-conditioned vault and fails to learn how to maintain it is just asking for trouble.

I also find myself looking at that story-and at the front cover which obviously parodies that of Fantastic Four #1 — and wondering if your intention is to focus mainly on comic book parodies as the series continues. While I don't mind an occasional foray into that realm, I will caution you not to rely on it any more heavily than you rely on the numerous other topics The Simpsons can poke fun at; not only is it biting the hand that feeds you, it also gets old after awhile-how many things are there in comics that really deserve parodying, after all? And it ignores other areas for comedy that can be equally as rewarding.

For the most part, however, I found both books very worthwhile and as long as that continues you have my full support. I'm looking forward to your other two offerings with much more enthusiasm that I had earlier—don't let me down.

—David Peattie Concord, CA

We'll do our best, David. Sorry you weren't wowed by The Collector, but we do want you to know that when we take aim at slightly obsessive collectors, we're pointing at ourselves, too! As for parodying other comics, we'll do it when it's appropriate to a particular story—and when it makes us laugh!

WE'RE RUNNING THIS LETTER SO ALL THE ARTISTS CAN SEE THEIR NAMES IN PRINT

Congratulations on the Bongo Comics Group; a stranger company there never was. Your inaugural book, *Simpsons Comics #1*, was the hit that I expected it to be, as well as a lot of fun.

The Amazing Colossal Homer, in terms of structure, was an animated story. The whole story, nicely written by Steve Vance, was very much like a cartoon, especially in terms of pacing. Many comics wouldn't translate well to the screen due to their distinct comic book elements, yet Simpsons' premiere issue reads like it was intended for the Fox show. This series should definitely allow you to

expand more on the characters, and there's a lot of improvement from Simpsons Comics and Stories, as I look at the one-shot in retrospect. The dialogue, as always, was funny and the Simpsons translated perfectly into 24 pages, yet I'd like to see an occasional issue in Comics and Stories style, with smaller stories allowing for one Simpson to receive the spotlight. The Simpsons aren't my favorite cartoon family by far, but you're doing a good job at turning them into my favorite comic book family. And Steve, I enjoyed the Rewards For Paying Attention, if what you meant were the clever in-jokes scattered throughout the comic.

The artwork by Bill Morrison and Tim Bavington, from Steve's layouts, was also good and Cindy Vance continues to do a great job on the exceedingly bright colors. Yet, are there any chances that busy Matt Groening will contribute anything, from a cover illustration to a story? You all have Matt's art style down to a science, but it would be great to see something from the esteemed Publisher himself.

The flip side of Simpsons Comics #1 gave me a hint that I would enjoy Radioactive Man, the Bongo book that all of the catalogs are hyping as a spoof on comic books. The spoof of Bill Gaines and his mad mags, no pun intended, was definitely a tale of horror to any comic book collector. The Collector was funny and concise; I'd like to see more of what Bart has in mind for creepy-crawly tales. Sondra Roy and the ever-present Bill Morrison completed the story with their great artwork. It's interesting to see that you at Bongo will satirize the comics industry in the same biting manner that you tackle televisionthere's certainly a lot to tackle!

Bongo Comics are becoming some of my favorites, and when you expand your line the fun should become even bigger. Any plans for Bart and Co. to meet up with Matt's one-eared rabbit clan, perhaps in a one-shot special?

—Joey Marchese Union, NJ

Don't hold your breath for a Life in Hell/Simpsons crossover, Joey, but Matt has promised to step out of his publisher/producer role and do us a story from time to time.

4-COLOR MEMORIES

I just wanted to write and ask, "What took you guys so long to make one great TV show into a comic book?" Why, back in the old days, when Dell Comics was around, they made TV shows into comic books, after 2 or 3 years, while the show was still kinda new. As you can see, I'm a big old and new comic book collector. I've seem them come and go, and from what I've seen so far, you guys just might be around for a long time.

-Robert Sutton Columbus, OH

INFO, PLEASE

I have just finished reading Simpsons Comics #1 and I loved it. This is definitely the funniest comic I have ever read. I love The Simpsons TV show and now my dream has come true in comics. I have a few questions I hope you can answer.

- 1. What will be the fifth title in the series?
- 2. What non-Simpsons-related comics are you planning?
- Will you be doing any special covers?
 Will you do any crossovers? If so, when?

Until Bart gets an A on his homework, let's all congo with Bongo(?)!

- —Michael Cooper Manchester, England
- We've got a zillion ideas, from The Amazing Apu to Dr. Zorba's 4-Color Frolics. What do you readers want to see?
- 2. We're considering publishing some non-Simpsons titles, but it's too early to say more. Be patient; as soon as we decide, we'll be hyping the heck out of them!
- 3. We did silver foil on Bartman #1 and glow-in-the-dark for Radioactive Man #1. We'll do more only if the enhancement ties into the story—or is really funny!
- 4. A distinct possibility—watch this space!

NEXT ISSUE:

Skinner goes away to the Principals' Convention, and in his absence, all heck breaks loosel It's up to Lisa to save the day—and save Bart's bacon! Coming in March! And while you wait, don't miss Itchy & Scratchy and Radioactive Man in February!

LIFE IS GOOD!

MY TWO FAVORITE COMICS IN ONE MONTH! IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS, MAN!

COMING IN FEBRUARY!

ECCE