

HARROGATE, WINTER 2013





YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE.

"I'VE BEEN DOING THIS NOW FOR 15 YEARS, LONGER THAN ANY OTHER JOB I CAN REMEMBER.

PEOPLE STILL ASK, "DO YOU GET NERVOUS?"

SOMETIMES I DO, BUT IN TRUTH NOT OFTEN. EXCITED YES, BUT NOT NERVOUS, NOT REALLY.

NOT ANYMORE.

WALKING OUT ON STAGE HAS BECOME SECOND NATURE, A SKILL AND A DRUG.

A FIZZY KICK OF ADRENALIN. STEPPING OUT, FEELING THE ROOM. MEASURE THE CROWD.

TONIGHT'S GOING TO BE GOOD.

TIME IS ELASTIC AND IT'S OVER ALL TOO SOON. GOODNIGHT. JOB DONE."



WHEN DID THIS BECOME NORMAL?

SUNDERLAND, SUMMER 1999.

OUTSIDE YATES  
WINE LODGE.

"I'D LEFT UNIVERSITY. I GOT AN OFFICE JOB. IT WAS  
SHIT. I WAS BORED, YOUNG AND VERY SINGLE."

KNOW  
ANY GOOD  
JOKES?

HAWAY,  
LET'S HAVE  
AT IT.

Batchelor's  
*Cup a Soup  
Comedy  
Challenge*

Have you got what it takes  
to be the next top comedy star?

TONIGHT

LADIES AND  
GENTS, IF YOU WANT  
TO ENTER TONIGHT'S  
COMEDY COMPETITION  
THERE'S STILL  
TIME.

COME UP HERE  
AND PUT YOUR NAME  
ON THE LIST.

AYE GO  
ON THEN.

GARY GOT UP.

I GOT UP.

GARY DID A JOKE ABOUT MACRO-BIOTIC YOGHURT, WHICH THE  
AUDIENCE MISHEARD AS SOMETHING REALLY OFFENSIVE. I DID A  
REALLY OLD GAG I'D HEARD ABOUT GREEN TARMAC AND SOMEONE  
SHOUTED OUT THE PUNCHLINE BEFORE I GOT TO IT.

NEITHER OF US WON THE HEAT OR THE CHANCE TO GO TO LONDON  
TO WIN £10,000...BUT FOR TAKING PART WE GOT A FREE T-SHIRT.



I'M NOT  
DOING THAT  
AGAIN.

OH, I DUNNO.  
I REALLY ENJOYED  
IT.

NO ONE WAS  
LISTENING

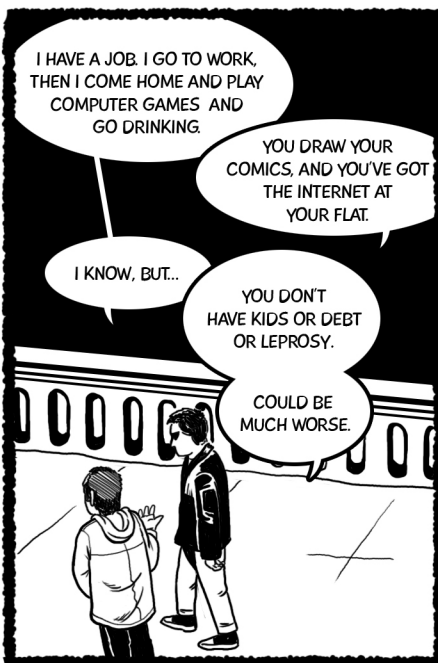
I'M STILL  
BUZZING

YOU'RE  
PISSED



THERE'S GOT  
TO BE MORE TO LIFE  
THAN THIS.

HASNT THERE?



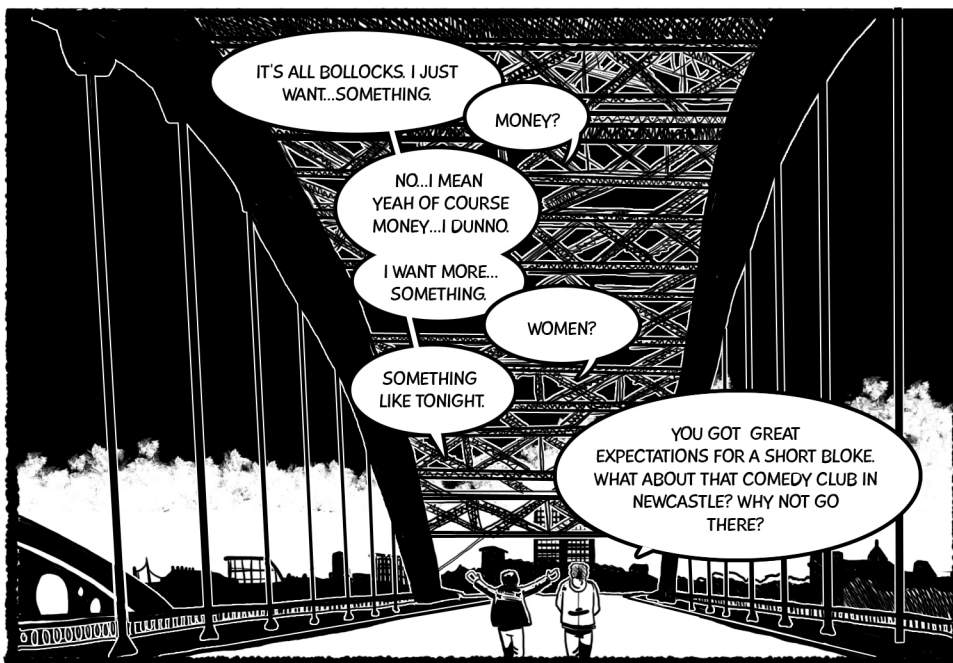
I HAVE A JOB. I GO TO WORK,  
THEN I COME HOME AND PLAY  
COMPUTER GAMES AND  
GO DRINKING.

YOU DRAW YOUR  
COMICS, AND YOU'VE GOT  
THE INTERNET AT  
YOUR FLAT.

I KNOW, BUT...

YOU DONT  
HAVE KIDS OR DEBT  
OR LEPROSY.

COULD BE  
MUCH WORSE.



IT'S ALL BOLLOCKS. I JUST  
WANT...SOMETHING.

MONEY?

NO...I MEAN  
YEAH OF COURSE  
MONEY...I DUNNO.

I WANT MORE...  
SOMETHING.

WOMEN?

SOMETHING  
LIKE TONIGHT.

YOU GOT GREAT  
EXPECTATIONS FOR A SHORT BLOKE.  
WHAT ABOUT THAT COMEDY CLUB IN  
NEWCASTLE? WHY NOT GO  
THERE?



