



ITEM TWELVE -- \$2.00. TAXI.

THE FOLLOWING MORNING NATALIE AND I ARRIVED AT THE THEATRE JUST IN TIME TO GREET DETECTIVE LUND.

BEEN  
HERE LONG,  
DETECTIVE?

ONLY  
FIVE MINUTES,  
DOLLAR.



ANY  
SIGN OF THE  
SHOOTER?

NOT YET.  
TURNS OUT THE  
ROBE BELONGS  
TO HUNTER... I SENT  
MY BOYS TO HIS  
APARTMENT WITH  
A WARRANT.



NOW WE ARE SWEEPING  
THE BALCONY, THE STAGE,  
AND THE OFFICE.

DETECTIVE...  
WILL YOU  
EXCUSE US FOR  
A SECOND?

SURE THING,  
MA'AM.



YOU'RE A  
DETECTIVE!?

USED  
TO BE. BUT, NO...  
I'M AN *INSURANCE*  
INVESTIGATOR.



I CAME HERE  
TO INVESTIGATE  
THE CURSE, THE FIRE,  
AND EVERYTHING  
ELSE.

WHY  
DIDN'T YOU  
TELL ME...?



I DIDN'T  
*DARE* LET  
YOU KNOW  
UNTIL--

OF ALL THE  
*SELFISH* THINGS  
TO DO!



DOLLAR...  
I THINK YOU  
SHOULD SEE  
*THIS*.



ITEM THIRTEEN -- \$ 12.00. FLOWERS.

DAYS LATER, I FOUND MYSELF WITH NATALIE AT THE FUNERAL. THE SILENCE BETWEEN US WAS DEAFENING.

IN THE WORDS OF THE BARD--

"LIFE IS BUT A WALKING SHADOW, A POOR PLAYER..."

THAT STRUTS AND FRET'S HIS HOUR UPON THE STAGE--

AND THEN IS HEARD NO MORE.

IT IS A TALE TOLD BY AN IDIOT, FULL OF SOUND AND FURY,

--SIGNIFYING NOTHING."

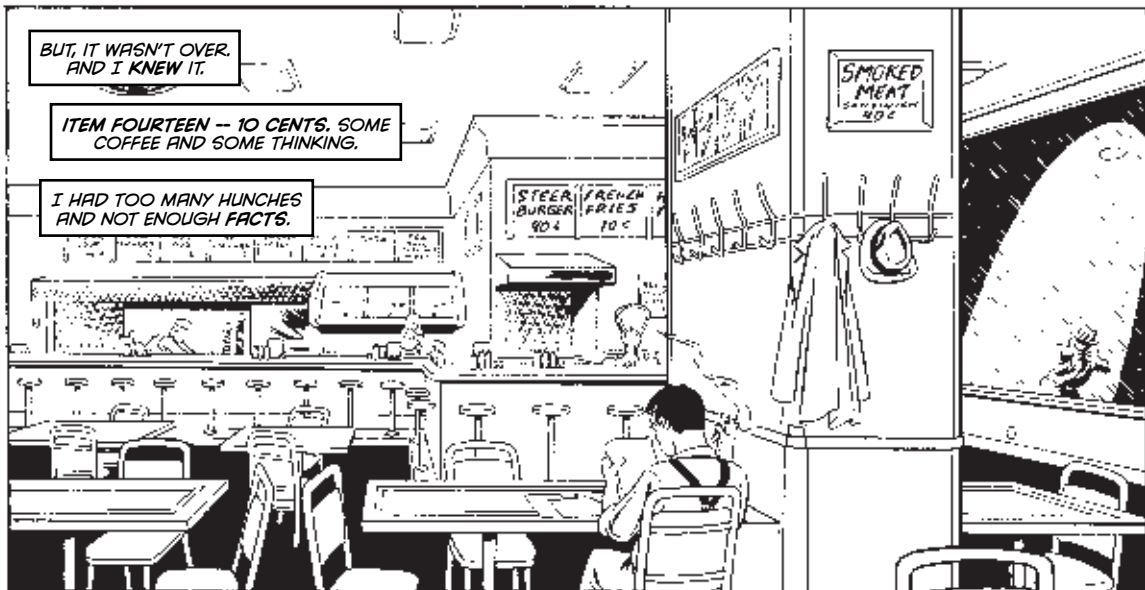
MATTHEW PHILIP HUNTER  
Brief Candle  
1928-1957

BUT, THE LIFE OF MATTHEW HUNTER MEANS EVERYTHING TO HIS FRIENDS, FAMILY, AND LOVED ONES.

HIS LIFE CAST A LOVELY LIGHT UPON US ALL.

HE SHALL BE MISSED. AMEN.

I HOPED IT WAS OVER...



BUT, IT WASN'T OVER,  
AND I KNEW IT.

ITEM FOURTEEN -- 10 CENTS, SOME  
COFFEE AND SOME THINKING.

I HAD TOO MANY HUNCHES  
AND NOT ENOUGH FACTS.



IT FELT LIKE I WAS THINKING BACK-  
WARD ABOUT THIS WHOLE MATTER.



AS A MEANS OF DISTRACTION,  
I SPENT SOME TIME WITH THE  
TIVOLI POLICY.



I SAT WITH IT QUIETLY  
FOR NEARLY AN HOUR--



UNTIL--



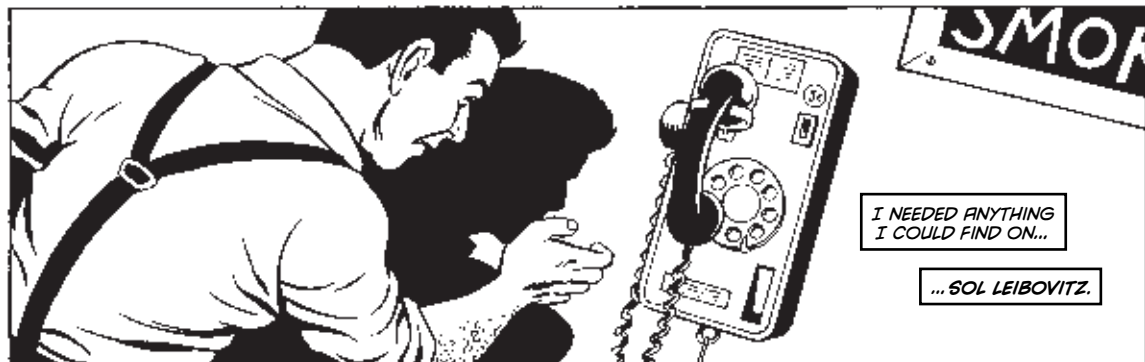
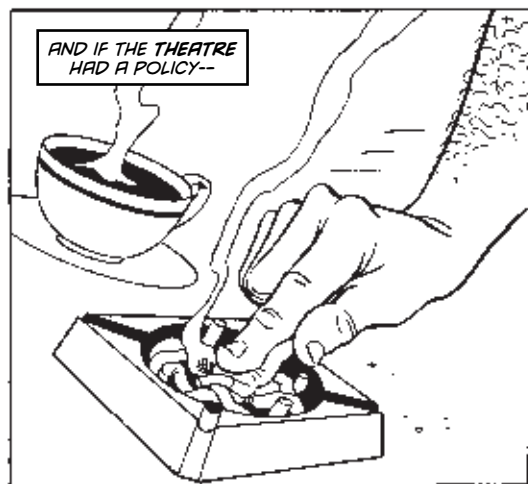
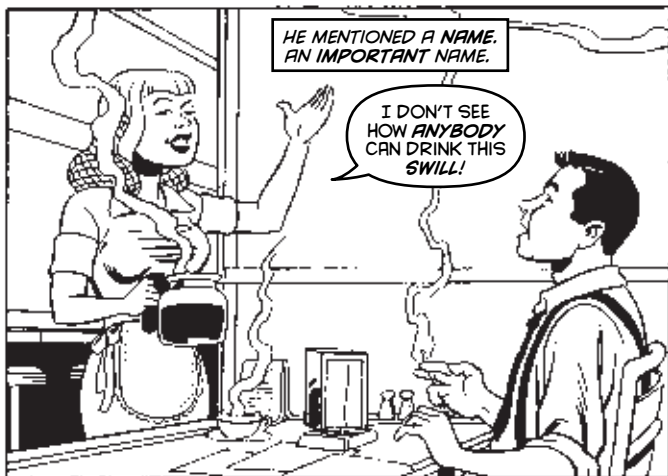
MORE COFFEE,  
MISTER?



WHAF? OH!  
YEAH. SURE.



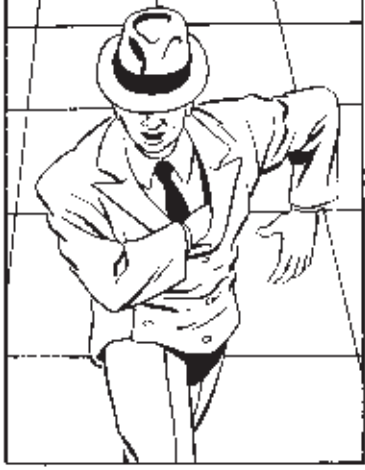
MILK OR  
SUGAR?



ITEM FIFTEEN -- \$5.80. A LONG DISTANCE CALL TO GLOBAL MUTUAL ALLOWED ME TO DISCOVER SPECIFIC DETAILS RELATING TO THE POLICY OF SOLOMON LEIBOVITZ AND HIS FAMILY.



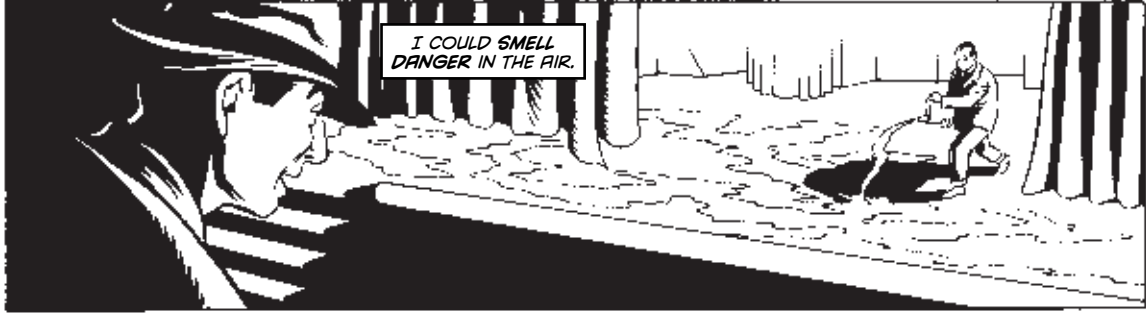
ITEM SIXTEEN -- 10 CENTS. PHONE CALL TO DETECTIVE LUND, WHOSE REPORT CONFIRMED MY SUSPICIONS.



ITEM SEVENTEEN -- \$1.50. CAB FARE TO THE TIVOLI.



I COULD SMELL DANGER IN THE AIR.



STRANGELY ENOUGH--

--DANGER SMELLS A LOT LIKE GASOLINE.

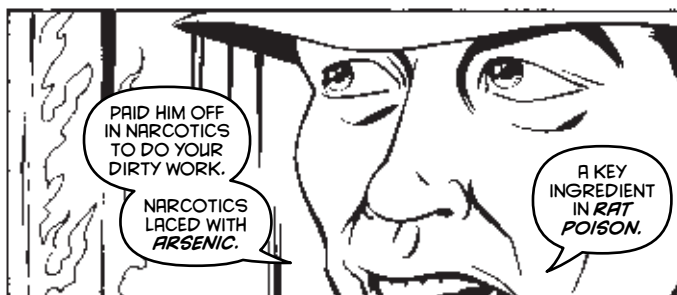
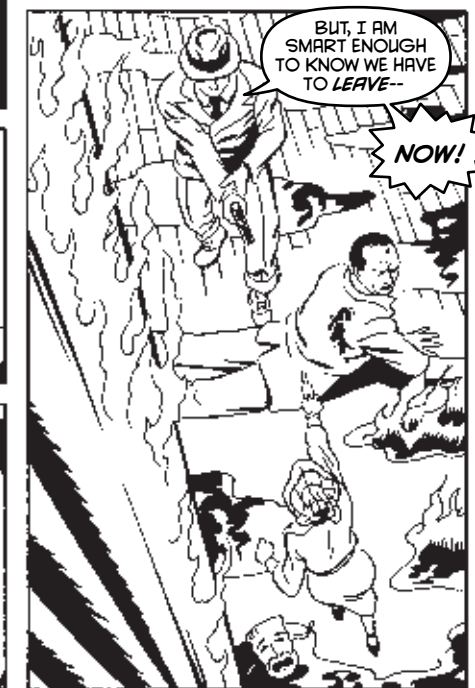


YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THIS, TWEEDLY!

DOLLAR?

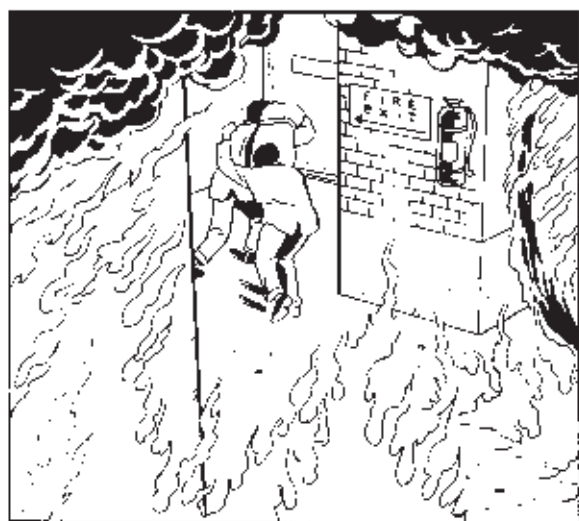














ITEM EIGHTEEN -- \$95.37, MY JOURNEY BACK TO HARTFORD.

EXPENSE ACCOUNT TOTAL: \$675.93



REMARKS: AMBITION IS FUNNY THING.



WE DON'T ALWAYS GET WHAT WE WANT...



BUT SOMETIMES...

NO!



NOOOO--

NOOOO--

WE GET WHAT WE DESERVE.



THE ERIC SQUIRE

*Yours Truly,  
Johnny Dollar!*