

# MURKY



CAN COURTENAY ESCAPE THE GRUB?

COURTENAY LIKED GOING SHOPPING WITH HER MUM, BUT ALWAYS WANTED MORE THAN THEY HAD AGREED.

# DOLL PARTS

BUT MUUUUUUUUM!

I WANT IT! I WAAAAAANT IT!!!

NOW COURTENAY, WE'VE SPOKEN ABOUT THIS. YOU CAN HAVE ONE.

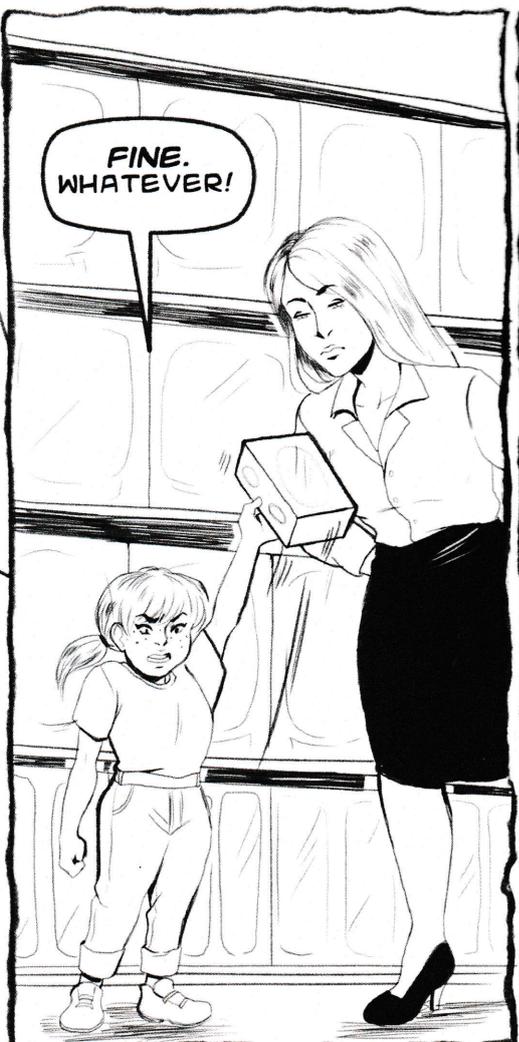
NOOOOOOOOO!!! I WANT ALL OF THEM!!!



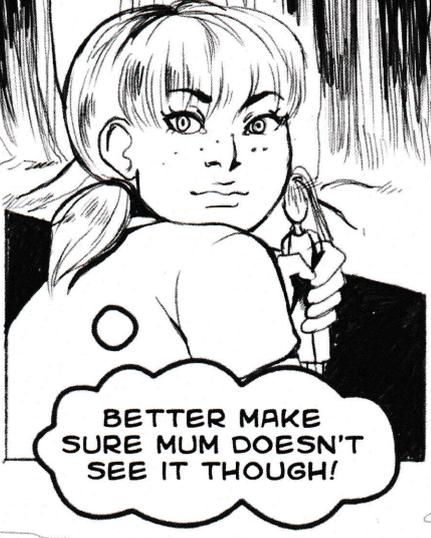
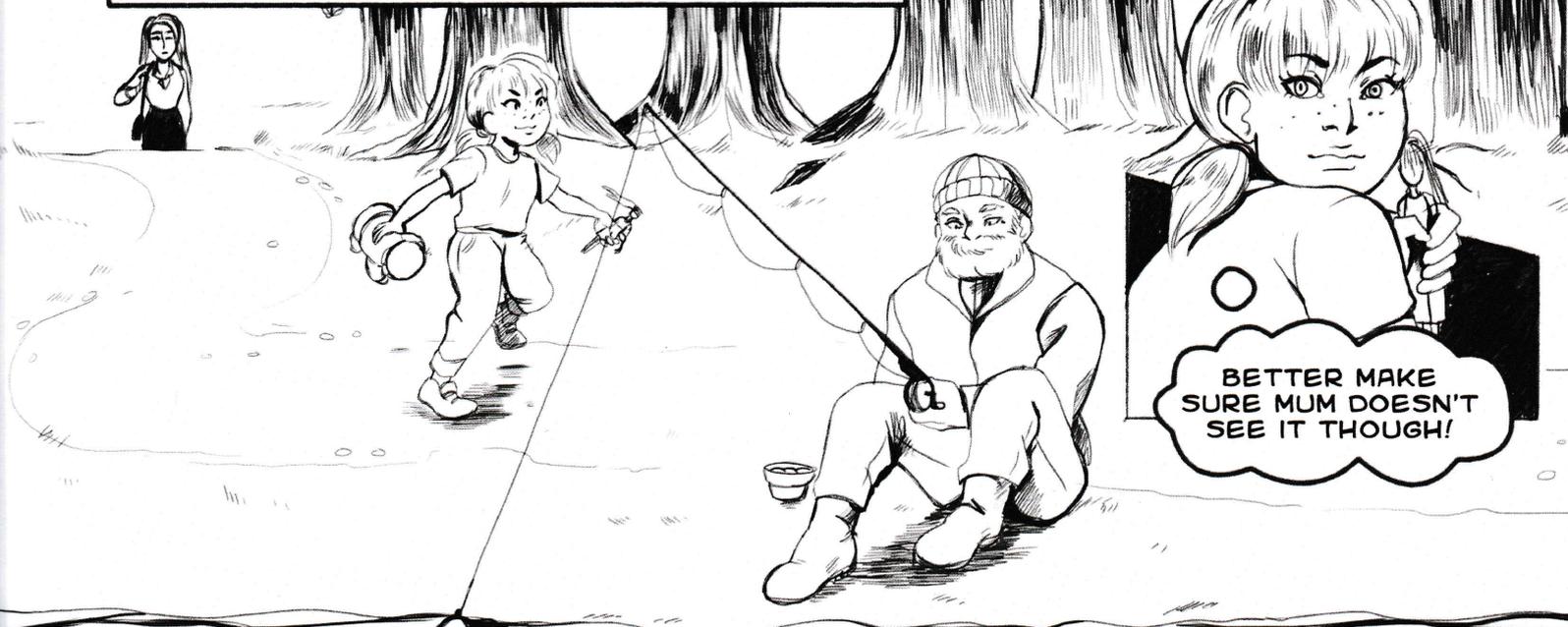
COURTENAY! I SAID NO. NOW CHOOSE THE ONE YOU WANT BEFORE I CHANGE MY MIND.

FINE. WHATEVER!

SHE CAN'T TELL ME WHAT TO DO. I'LL HAVE THIS ONE TOO!



SHE FELT MORE THRILLED THAN GUILTY AS THEY LEFT THE STORE. BUT ON THE WAY HOME...



BETTER MAKE SURE MUM DOESN'T SEE IT THOUGH!



BUMP!

OH NO! I HAVE TO GET HER BACK BEFORE MY MUM GETS HERE!



THAT'S MINE!



AS YOU WISH



I... I'M SORRY. IT'S JUST THAT IT'S MY FAVOURITE.

GIVE ME MY OTHER ONE. PLEASE.



UGH. IT LOOKS LIKE A **MAGGOT**. I DON'T WANT TO TOUCH IT.

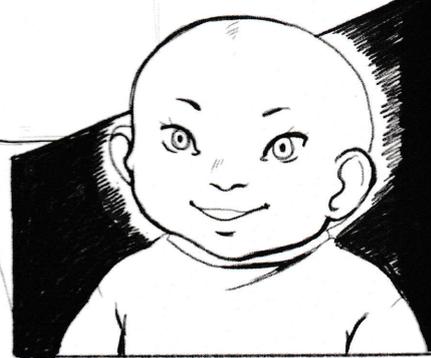


OH THANK YOU. COME ON COURTENAY LET'S GET HOME.

THAT EVENING COURTENAY INTRODUCED HER NEW DOLLS TO THE REST OF HER COLLECTION



HERE WE ARE, ALL IN A LINE. YOU'RE THE **PRETTIEST** SO YOU CAN GO HERE AT THE **FRONT MISS BARBY**.



UGH. I CAN'T BEAR TO LOOK AT YOU.



YOU CAN STAY IN THERE YOU **UGLY GRUB**



I WISH I WAS A **PRINCESS**...



JUST LIKE YOU.



THAT NIGHT SHE HAD NIGHTMARES. BUT IT WAS THE STOLEN BARBY DOLL NOT THE UGLY GRUB THAT HAUNTED HER DREAMS...

AND WHEN SHE WOKE UP IN THE MORNING



WHAT...  
(GASP) I  
CAN'T...



CAN'T BREATHE!



MY LUNGS...  
EVERYTHING...

ALL CRUSHED...  
(GASP)

AAAAAARGH...

THE  
END

*Caterina Colloff*

Write  
to  
Murky



*Write to me in my Dark Domain with YOUR tales of terror, questions, quandaries and creepy compositions. Tread carefully and beware – never read the letters page after dark!*  
Your friend, Murky

Dear Murky,  
Where are all the scary girls' comics these days? My corner shop only sells six comics for girls and they're all about princesses. I'm 12 years old and I HATE everything pink! And I don't like Disney or bubblegum pop stars – my heroines are Grace Jones, Patti Smith and PJ Harvey. And you of course!  
With lots of love,  
Gregolina O'Neill, Morecambe, Lancs.

*They are all great women and have often visited me in the Dark Domain.*

M is for mystery, the stories you tell  
U is undead, corpses rising from hell  
R is revenge: people get what they should  
K is for killing – because sometimes there's blood.  
Y is for yesterday, when you were around  
MURKY we miss you, where can you be found?  
A. Poet, USA

Dear Murky,  
I love your comic, but why do all your heroines have to come to a bad end? I understand that if you do bad things you are punished, but it seems a lot of the girls are simply in the wrong place at the wrong time? I've checked, and more than three-quarters of your stories have an unhappy ending! That's a lot! Please cheer up.  
Optimista Eterna, Bournemouth

*Ah Optimista – you are right that in my stories bad things do happen to those who deserve it... and sometimes to other people as well. But no stories ever truly end, so who knows what good things then happen to those who change their ways...*

Do any Murky readers have any back issues or annuals to swap? Whenever I go to comic-cons there are lots of old American comics but not many British titles – and even fewer girls' ones. And the ones on eBay are so expensive! Please help.  
Julie, Bristol  
PS Also, why is the 1986 annual the hardest to find and most expensive? It contains less pages and more reprints than all the others!

*More of my comics are available these days, both as reprinted collections (from Rebellion Publishing) and second-hand. Good luck in your search!*

Dear Murky,  
Are you a witch? There are a lot of good or unexpected witches in your comic so I wondered if you were one too.  
Maleficent Malefica, Dundee

*I am not a witch but I do possess some magical powers – as do we all!*

Dear Murky,  
Who are you? Where did you come from?  
A Murky Fan

*Dear Murky Fan – My past is as mysterious as my name. Although I said I might tell you my story one day, I have no clear origin and I am simply shaped by your questions. I am a part of you all, my Sisters of Gloom, more than you know – and I am always with you.*

Murky