

CHAPTER 12

Non-Standard Transitions

WELL, BUTCH... THIS IS IT. I'LL BE ON MY WAY NOW. YOU GOT EVERYTHING, JOE?



YEAH I THINK SO... ALL MY CLOTHES, MY DETECTIVE MAGAZINES... MY .22 IS IN ITS HOLSTER UNDER MY COAT...



I'LL PROBABLY BE SEEING YOU AROUND, WON'T I? NOT MUCH.



THE PILGRIMS PLAY THE FIRST DATE ON THE TOUR TONIGHT.



JOE ON TOUR! HOW ABOUT THAT? WHERE DO YOU OPEN UP?



IT'S A CLASS-A TOUR. IT'S ALL EXCLUSIVE HOLIDAY INNS. LOTS OF MONEY IN LOUNGES.



OH YEAH! YOU BETTER KNOW THERE'S MONEY IN THEM! AND WHERE THERE'S LOTS OF MONEY, DANGER LURKS.



DON'T LET THE NAME "HOLIDAY INN" FOOL YOU! THEY CAN BE ROUGH PLACES. THAT'S WHY THEY WANT ME AROUND.



IT GOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT I'D RATHER BE PUTTING YOU AND BONTOS ON THE ROAD.



FROM THE FIRST TIME I EVER HEARD YOU TWO GUYS I KNEW YOU HAD SOME KIND OF GENIUS ABOUT YOU...



IT WAS OFFBEAT, FUNNY AND OBVIOUS YOU WERE BOTH TOO STUPID TO DO ANYTHING ELSE.



YOU AND CHRIS WERE A TEAM. WITHOUT THE TEAM, THERE'S NO BAND, AND WITH NO BAND YOU NEED NO MANAGER.



I HATE GOODBYES, SO I'LL JUST LEAVE QUIETLY.



NOT SO QUICKLY THERE JOE SHITFITS!



SARGE, PUT THAT GUN DOWN!
HA! AND SPOIL MY BIG
MOMENT OF GLORY?



THOUGHT YOU COULD JUST
SNEAK AWAY QUIETLY,
HUH? THOUGHT I'D NEVER
CATCH UP!



WRONG AGAIN JOE! I'VE
NOT PRETENDED TO BE
A COMMANDO FOR NOTHING
YOU KNOW BUSTER!



SARGE, I HAVE A HOUSE RULE
AGAINST DRAWN PISTOLS IN
MY LIVING ROOM.



I'M SORRY, MAXWELL, BUT THIS
IS THE WAY I MET JOE, AND
THIS IS THE WAY WE'LL PART.



ONLY THIS TIME, I'M ON THE
OTHER END OF THE GUN!



UP AGAINST THE WALL AND
SPREAD 'EM, JOE! HA!
OH SWEET REVENGE.



DID YOU THINK I KEPT MY GUN
COLLECTION UNDER MY BED
FOR THE SAKE OF COLLECTING
OR SOMETHING?



WELL UP TO NOW, MAYBE
I DID. BUT FROM NOW
ON THINGS ARE GOING
TO BE DIFFERENT!



OH? WHAT'S THIS? A LITTLE
BABY .22? HOW CUTE! THINK
I'LL HOLD UP TO MY .38?



SARGE! WHAT'S THIS ALL
ABOUT? I DIDN'T DO A
THING TO YOU!



OH YEAH? YOU STRUNG ME ALONG
FOR MONTHS ON LIES! YOU
PLAYED ME FOR A BIG FOOL!



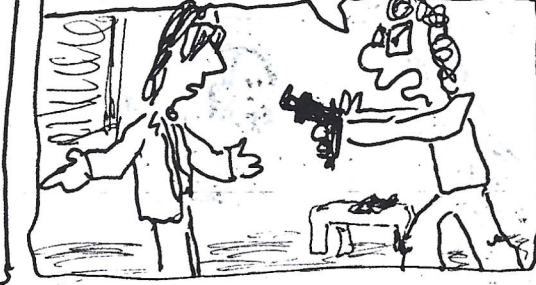
YOU PRETENDED TO BE SO
IMPORTANT AND SUCH A
BIG GUY WITH THE MAFIA!



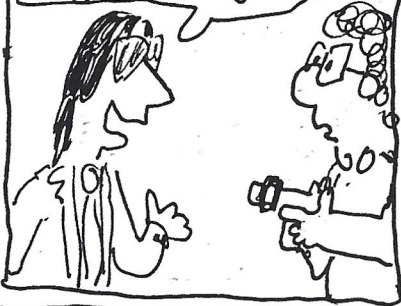
YOU LIED TO EVERYONE, TOOK
ADVANTAGE OF THE BAND,
AND ESPECIALLY OF ME!



SO I'M HERE TO MAKE SURE
YOU ADMIT TO BEING A
FAKE TO BUTCH, AND TO
APOLOGISE TO ME...



OKAY, OKAY, SARGIE
BABY. WHATEVER
you say...



AND THAT'S ANOTHER THING!
DON'T YOU CALL ME "SARGIE
BABY" EVER AGAIN!
OKAY, OKAY.



SARGE, WILL YOU PLEASE
PUT THAT GUN DOWN. I
HATE GUNS. TELL JOE TO
GET TALKING



IT'S ALL TRUE WHAT HE
SAID ABOUT ME. I AM
A FAKE AND A LIAR.



I'M NOT REALLY IN THE
MAFIA AND I WAS NEVER
A BIG-TIME ROCK MANAGER.



MAYBE I AM AN OPPORTUN-
IST AND I DID TAKE A
LITTLE ADVANTAGE OF
EVERYONE...



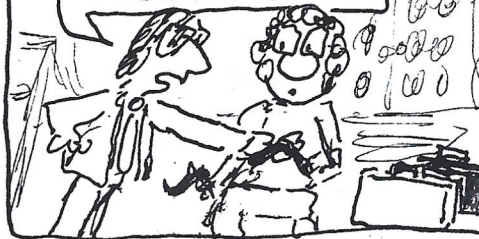
SO I'M SORRY BOTH OF
YOU. I REALLY DIDN'T
MEAN TO HURT ANYONE.



MY LIES WERE PURPOSEFUL
I'M NOT IN THE MAFIA, I'M
REALLY WORKING FOR THE CIA!



SO NOW IF YOU'LL GIVE ME
MY "CUTE" GUN, I'LL BE ON
MY WAY. I HAVE AN
ASSIGNMENT.



YOU AREN'T GOING ANYWHERE
TILL I TELL YOU YOU CAN.
BULLSHIT.



STOP RIGHT THERE OR
I'LL SHOOT YOU, JOE!
I MEAN IT!



YOU AREN'T SHOOTING ME.
THAT GUN ISN'T EVEN
LOADED.



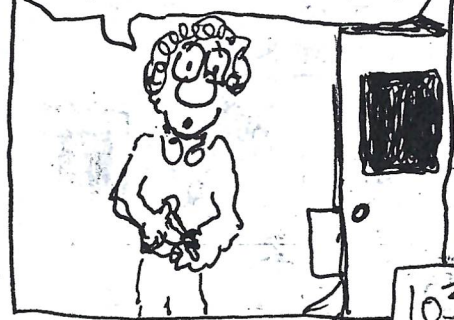
JOE! WAIT! ONE LAST THING!
HOW DID YOU KNOW?



DON'T TRY TO FAKE-OUT
A PROFESSIONAL
FAKER.



GODDAMNIT, HE DID
IT TO ME AGAIN.



DON'T TAKE IT SO HARD, SARGE. I DIDN'T THINK JOE + YOU WERE THAT GOOD OF FRIENDS.



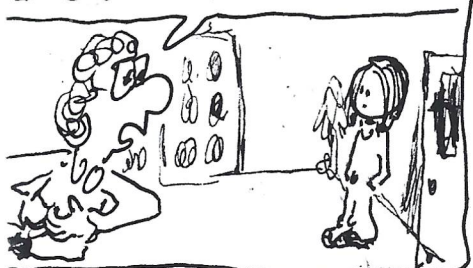
I DON'T GIVE A DAMN ABOUT JOE! IT'S MY WHOLE CRAPPY LIFE.



EVERYONE I KNOW PLAYS ME FOR A FOOL. IT'S JUST NOT FAIR.



I'M ONE OF THE CHOSEN PEOPLE! AND WHAT WAS I CHOSEN FOR? THIS?



OKAY, SO I'M A LITTLE BIT DISAPPOINTED I NEVER GOT INTO THE MAFIA...



...BUT IT'S JUST TYPICAL OF MY WHOLE LIFE UP TO NOW! ONE BIG NEAR-MISS.



I JUST GO TO COLLEGE ALL DAY AND STUDY "LIBERAL ARTS". I CAN'T EVEN DECIDE ON A MAJOR.



I'M SCARED TO MEET NEW PEOPLE. I'M 20 YEARS OLD AND GIRLS STILL TERRIFY ME!



I'VE BEEN HANGING OUT WITH YOUR BANDS FOR A COUPLE OF YEARS NOW AND EVEN THE GROUPIES WON'T GO OUT WITH ME!



I COULD FIX YOU UP WITH SOMEONE...
NO! NO! NO! THAT NEVER WORKS OUT RIGHT.



I'M ALWAYS AFRAID THEY'RE LAUGHING AT ME! I CAN'T EVEN GET TO 2ND BASE.



NO. SOMEHOW, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO CHANGE MYSELF!



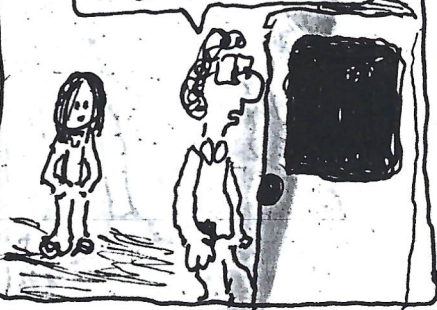
IN FACT, I'M GOING TO START RIGHT NOW. I'M GOING TO GO TO THE GYM AT SCHOOL AND WORK OUT!



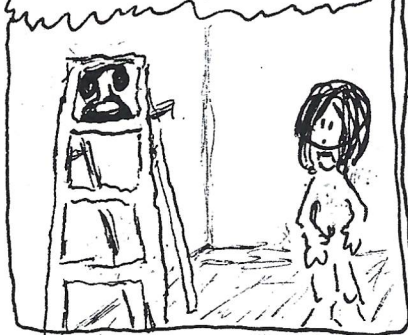
PRETTY SOON, MAXWELL, YOU ARE GOING TO SEE A NEWLY CONFIDENT, WELL-BUILT SARGE!



I JUST HOPE NO ONE LAUGHS AT ME IN MY GYM TRUNKS.



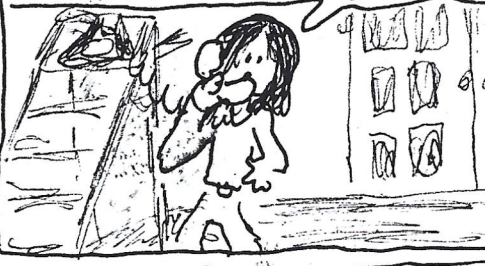
RING! RING! RING!



HELLO?... NO, PHILBERT IS NO LONGER LIVING HERE. IN FACT, HE'S NO LONGER LIVING.



IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR JOE HE JUST LEFT FOR GOOD. WHO IS THIS, ANYWAY?



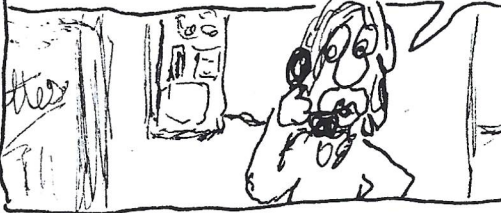
THIS IS ROGER, MAN. I'M IN A BAR AT A PAY PHONE, IT'S NOISEY IN HERE SO TALK LOUD!



HI ROGER! WHAT'S UP? I HAVEN'T TALKED TO YOU IN A WHILE...



I KNOW, MAN. I HAVEN'T SEEN YOU SINCE THE LAST TIME AND CHRIS PLAYED THE GIG CLUB. AND SPEAKING OF THE



YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHO I RAN INTO OUT HERE... NO... NO... NOPE. GIVE UP?



CHRIS BONTOS? YOU SAY HE'S GETTING DRUNK? HOW ABOUT THAT...



LISTEN, MAN, HE TOLD ME HE JUST QUIT KIRCHENBAND!... YEAH! FOR SURE YEAH. I'LL GET HIM



CHRIS, THERE'S SOMEONE HERE WHO WANTS TO TALK WITH YOU.



HELLO?... OH HI BUTCH! YEAH, I REALLY DID QUIT THE BAND. ...JUST TONIGHT... HE WANTED ME TO DANCE, MAN!



ASK HIM IF HE WANTS TO DANCE WITH YOU!



COME ON CHRIS! YOU TWO HAVE TO PUT IT BACK TOGETHER! YOU KNOW I NEVER MISSED ONE OF YOUR GIGS! WHAT?



I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU HAD A BAND TOGETHER. JOHN TOLD ME YOU WERE GIGGING OUT WITH A REAL SUCKY BAND.. CHRIS!



YEAH, SURE, BUTCH. LOVE TO PUT A NEW BAND TOGETHER WITH YOU.



WE'VE GOT THE USUAL SMALL PROBLEMS, THOUGH... SUCH AS FINDING MUSICIANS AND A PLACE TO WORK THINGS OUT.



ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THAT, ROGER?



I KNOW... WE'LL FIND THE PLAYERS I KNOW. BUT A PLACE TO JAM IS A PROBLEM.



THAT'S NO PROBLEM! YOU GUYS CAN JAM UP AT MY HOUSE! HUH?



I'LL TALK IT OVER WITH MY WIFE, BUT I KNOW SHE WANTS YOU GUYS TO MAKE IT AS MUCH AS I DO!



OKAY BUTCH. WE GOT A PROBLEM SOLVED ALREADY!... I THINK...



HI TIM. GOOD TO SEE YOU COULD MAKE IT OUT.



I HAD A HELLOFA TIME FINDING THIS PLACE. IT'S REALLY PRETTY FAR OUT...



...OF TOWN, THAT IS. YEAH, WE'RE FORTUNATE TO HAVE A FRIEND WITH A HOUSE.



MY GOD! IT'S TIM CAROLL! NO ONE TOLD ME TIM WAS GOING TO BE IN THE BAND!



TIM, YOU REMEMBER ROGER? HE'S AN OLD FAN OF PHILBERT DESANEX...



HI ROGER. I'M NOT SURE ABOUT JOINING THE BAND. BUT I'M HERE TO PLAY.



SURE! SURE! WHATEVER! YOU GUYS CAN SET UP IN THE DWING ROOM. JUST MOVE THE TABLE.



BUT THAT'S WHERE WE WERE GOING TO SET UP THE DRUMS.



HAW HAW HAW! YOU GUYS ARE SO CRAZY! BUT DON'T EVEN JOKE ABOUT IT TO DIANNE.



SO HOW LONG HAVE YOU TWO
BEEN PLAYING MUSIC TO-
GETHER AGAIN?



WE'VE BEEN WRITING
NEW SONGS AND TRYING
OUT NEW MUSICIANS FOR
A FEW WEEKS...



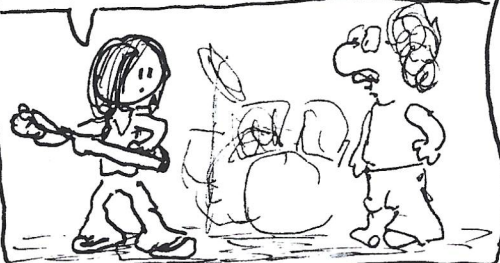
WHAT REALLY INTERESTED
ME WHEN YOU TOLD ME
YOU WERE WRITING AS A
TEAM TOGETHER WAS
ONE THING...



YOU SAID YOU WERE WRITING
IN A NEW STYLE NOW...
MORE PROGRESSIVE...



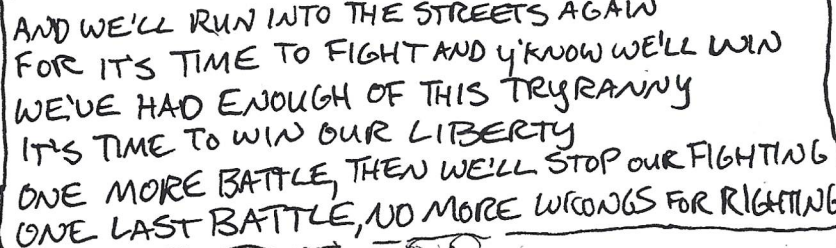
YEAH. IT'S STILL ROCK N ROLL.
JUST TAKEN A STEP BEYOND
BASIC 3-CHORD ROCK.



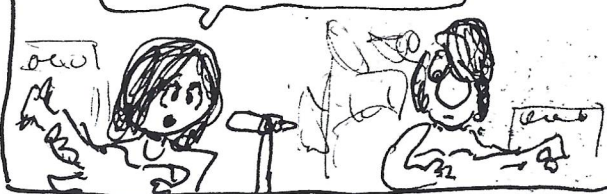
THE BEST WAY TO
COMMUNICATE IT
IS TO PLAY IT...



AND WE'LL RUN INTO THE STREETS AGAIN
FOR IT'S TIME TO FIGHT AND Y'KNOW WE'LL WIN
WE'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS TRYGRANNY
IT'S TIME TO WIN OUR LIBERTY
ONE MORE BATTLE, THEN WE'LL STOP OUR FIGHTING
ONE LAST BATTLE, NO MORE WRONGS FOR RIGHTING



AND WE'LL RUN OUR FLAG ON UP THE MAST
THIS TIME THE BLOODSHED WILL BE THE
LAST-OUR CHILDREN WILL THANK US
FOR WHAT WE'VE DONE, IF WE CAN
GET THIS LAST WAR WON ONE MORE
BATTLE, THEN WE'LL STOP OUR FIGHTING
ONE LAST BATTLE, NO MORE WRONGS
FOR RIGHTING...



NO! IT NEVER WAS, IT NEVER IS, AND YOU KNOW
IT NEVER WILL BE AGAIN, THERE'S NOTHING
LEFT OF THE OLD TO SAVE, YOU KNOW WE'LL
LIVE TO PISS ON YOUR GRAVE! ONE MORE BATTLE
THEN WE'LL STOP OUR FIGHTING, ONE LAST BATTLE
NO MORE WRONGS FOR RIGHTING.

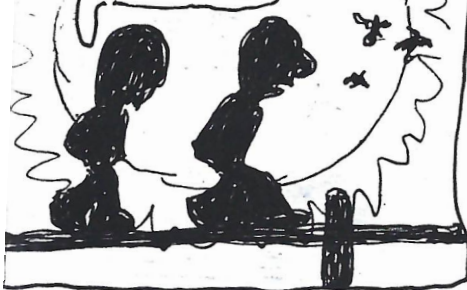


REPLACE A FLAG WITH FLAG, REPLACE A
NAME WITH NAME, SAY "GOD IS WITH
US" IT'S ALL THE SAME! - IT ALWAYS
WAS - IT ALWAYS IS - IT ALWAYS WILL BE!



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MUSIC (BONTOS + MAXWELL)

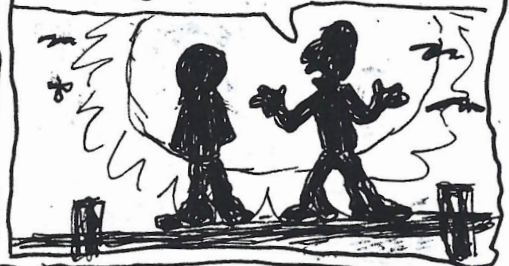
WELL CHRIS... THERE'S NOTHING LIKE STARTING OVER.



THAT'S TRUE. IT'S EXCITING BUT IT'S KIND OF SCAREY. AND A LOT OF WORK!



IN FACT, I GET CONFUSED! SO MUCH TO DO! I ABOUT READY TO FREAK OUT!



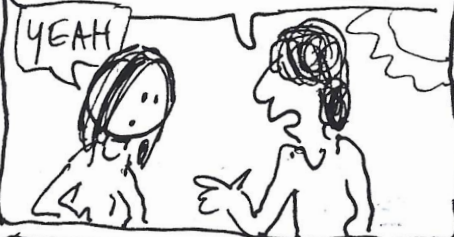
TAKE IT EASY! IT'S GOING TO WORK OUT! I'M OPTIMISTIC ABOUT IT! FOR GOOD REASON!



DESPITE THE BULLSHIT INVOLVED, PLAYING WITH KIRCHNER DID HELP YOU GROW AS A GUITARIST.



THAT'S TRUE! AND I ALSO SAW HOW TO POLISH A BAND'S SOUND... TOO BAD ABOUT THE VOCALS + DRUMS...



I GREW A GOOD BIT MYSELF. I'VE EXPANDED MY TASTES AND INFLUENCES A LOT. CLASSICALLY AND PHILOSOPHICALLY.



I KNOW. I LIKE A LOT OF THE MUSIC YOU'VE TURNED ME ON TO LATELY.



THANK CRAZY BOB.

HE'S A GUITAR PLAYER. A GOOD ONE. HAVE YOU EVER HEARD HIM PLAY ROCK?



OH YEAH, HE'S GOOD.

WHY DON'T WE TRY HIM OUT FOR THE BAND?



SURE. HE MIGHT BE JUST RIGHT FOR OUR NEW SOUND.

AND TIM SEEMED TO LIKE US PRETTY WELL. WE MAY HAVE A WHOLE BAND NOW!



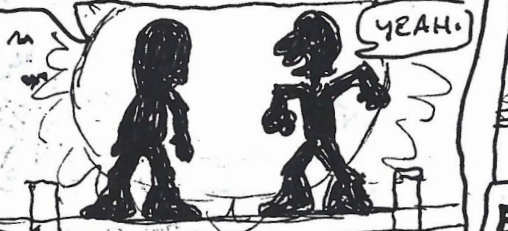
COULD BE. AND ONE MORE BIG ADVANTAGE: JOE SHITFITS IS GONE!



HOW CAN WE MISS? BUTCH, LET'S REHEARSE TILL WE'RE REAL TIGHT, IN SECRET! THEN GO OUT AND KNOCK EVERYBODY OUT!



YEAH! MUSIC IN SECRET! AFTER A FEW MONTHS OF INTENSIVE REHEARSAL THE VALLEY WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT 'EM WHEN WE PLAY OUT!



YEAH!

THERE'S NOTHING GOING TO STOP US NOW!



END OF CHAPTER 12