

Cerebus Rex II: The Second Half

Hello, and welcome to Cerebus Rex II. Written by the Cerebus Fangirl and part by Daniel, it summarizes the second half of Cerebus from issue #150 to #300. It can be found on the internet at <http://www.cerebusfangirl.com/rex/>

Flight

Issue #151: The novel opens with Cirin in the Papal Library of the Eastern Church looking for books on the One True Ascension. The books that don't meet her criteria are thrown in the Furnaces. So far no books meet her requirements.

The demon Khem realizes it has no reason to exist any longer. So it turns into itself and disappears.

Cerebus is creating bloody hell in the streets of Iest. Cirin refuses to believe her troops that it is indeed Cerebus.

The Judge appears to Death and tells it that it is not Death but a lesser Demon. Death ceases to exist.

Lord Julius is sign briefly.

Issue #152: Cerebus fights more Cirinists and (male) on lookers start cheering for "the Pope." They start talking back to the Cirinists.

General Norma Swartskof telepathically shows Cirin what Cerebus has been doing. The Black Blossom Lotus magic charm is in the Feld River, the magic leaves it's form and turns into a narrow band of light (the blossom disappears) and two coins that are over 1,400 years old start spinning together in a circle.

The report from Cirin is to take Cerebus alive. The General thinks otherwise and orders him KILLED.

Issue #153: Cerebus climbs to a balcony and urges the citizens of Iest that it is the time for Vengeance, for them to grab a weapon, to take back their city and to kill the Cirinists. They all cheer very loudly.

The two coins in the river glow in their orbit. The black blossom lotus starts to lengthen and boil the water around it. Missus Thatcher while sitting in her office in the upper City, sees a large penis looking object start to grow from the black wall.

Cerebus' impromptu army is slaughtered by the Cirinists. The crossbow comes out to kill him and everyone hides back in their homes.

Issue #154: The archer fires her shot and Cerebus disappears! The Roach (normalroach) appears and turns into Punisherroach. There is mounting confusion about Cerebus' whereabouts and Cirin wonders if it is only the Illusionists playing tricks.

Meanwhile, Cerebus floats around in white nothingness. Cirin orders the area where Cerebus was seen quarantine, only mothers and children under the age of 5 are saved, all others are executed. The people start to worry what will happen to them. The two coins stop spinning and the lotus shrinks and disappears.

Issue #155: The Pigts aardvark idol starts to crumble at the left ear, the Pigts start to riot. Cerebus is now traveling thru stormy clouds. Punisheroach runs from the Cirinists. The Cirinists start executing people.

Mr. Hammond and Mrs. Copps talk about the construction of the mold for the gold sphere that is to be used for Cirin's Ascension. Mrs. Copps needs the sphere enlarged. Punisheroach realizes that he has an automatic crossbow and starts killing Cirinists. Elrod appears (still in his Bunky the Albino outfit) and tries to get in past the quarantine. Astoria appears in jail and a ball of light appears to her telling her she won't be there much longer.

Two Judges appear on the moon and start arguing. The Elf appears and so does her duplicate. Cerebus ends up in the Seventh Sphere.

Issue #156: Mind Game V. Cerebus in the Seventh Sphere, he gets past the illusions and decides to go up. Fret MacMury calms the Pigts and we see their idol - it's left ear has fallen off. The two Judges continue to argue about who is who. Cirin gets a report on Punisheroach.

Hammond talks to Missus Thatcher about having to rebuild the sphere mold.

In other news, Dave starts answering the letters in Aardvark Column again. He was personally answering the mail himself, but with time constraints due to the tour and the fact that a big request is to start answering them again -- he does.

Issue #157: Cerebus has reached the Eighth Sphere, there is no more up or down only eternal blackness. He witnesses several flashbacks to times that brought him joy: his youth, his first beheading of a Borean, standing on the Wall of T'Sai. The Evil Twin Judge disappears and so does the other Elf.

Cerebus Realizes the flashbacks are only meant to distract him again. He starts to go up. He wants to go up so much that a smaller version of him breaks off from the bigger one. It is an exact duplicate of him (without Missy and his sword), splitting his awareness. He goes up and up to a platform, a chess board.

Issue #158: Suenteus Po appears above the chess board and tells Cerebus there are three aardvarks: Cerebus, Cirin and Suenteus Po. Po starts to tell the story of his past. The Pigts storm their armory trying to get weapons to march out over the marshes. Punisheroach has taken over some land and called it "roachland." Missus Thatcher goes to Cirin about Mrs. Copps' changes to the sphere. Cirin wants Copps tortured for her disobedience. The People start talking about Cerebus just being an illusion.

Po has made his move. Cerebus pushes his chess piece and ends up in Imesh.

Issue #159: Punisheroach argues with himself about either killing or screwing them (women that is). Cerebus is asked by K'Cor about his ascension and Astoria appears to him. Cerebus then returns to Po, who then continues on with his story. Cirin receives Astoria's conditions for meeting with her. Cerebus' move and he sees the Pigts marching on lest. Elrod meets up with the Punisheroach.

Issue #160: The two coins start to glow and then settles back down to the river bottom. Posey is seen in a Cirinist jail and dies for his believes in Cerebus. Po tells Cerebus Posey's story. Po then tells the story of the gold coins.

Elrod and Punisheroach talk. Kind of. More like Elrod talking while the 'roach thinks about things. An Eye of the Pyramid assassin tries to kill Lord Julius. Cirin dreams of the ascension and she meets Tarim not her Terim.

Issue #161: The first of the two coins turns to tar, the other one gets a blemish. Cerebus' move is to see the dead Bran Mak Muffin and Po tells Bran's story. Everyone shows up in this fast paced story.

Something is wrong with Cirin's ascension. Po tells Cerebus "Checkmate."

Issue #162: Cerebus rejoins his other self. The Pigts offensive is stopped. The 'roach turns into: Loboroach, Venomroach and Ghostroach before finding his Queen. Cirin's Sphere is now changed by itself to the dimensions in her dream. The people decide who they will back.

Cerebus appears to both Astoria and Cirin as he squeezes out from a slit (really!). Then he disappears again. Poit!

Women

Issue #163: Two text pieces open the issue: one by Astoria and one by Cirin. Astoria explains how she uses men's sex drives to get what she wants (power) and Cirin discusses how childbirth is the Goddess' greatest gift. Punisheroach is in Love, Astoria is getting ready for her meeting with Cirin and Cerebus appears and then falls thru the roof of the real Cirin's Home.

There is a parody of Oprah with Red Sophia and her mother appearing. Punisheroach gets his heart broken when he realizes his Queen has a boyfriend. He turns up missing. Cirin's files on Astoria are missing.

Issue #164: Punisheroach turns into Swoon. The real Cirin and Cerebus talk, Astoria getting ready for her meeting, Swoon finds Elrod and turns him into Snuff. Cirin's files on Kevlinism disappear and the Pig'ts enter into a new golden era (resembling socialism).

The real Cirin's guard goes to get the other guards. She then gives Cerebus some money and sends him to the Tavern where he will be safe because Taverns are for men only.

Issue #165: Cerebus goes to the Tavern and kicks the bejeezus out of some guy for making fun of Missy. Swoon swoons and the Judge on the moon is now in Swoon-like robes and gets a snuff like hair cut.

Po is seen in his room playing chess. A lone Pig't male who wishes to return the military rule is killed by a group of women.

Astoria heads to the meeting. Cirin and Generals Dworkin and Greer discuss Cerebus in the Tavern. Hammond and Thatcher talk about the mold which has modified itself. Snuff tries out the auto crossbow. The strange occurrences are being blamed on the illusionists.

Issue #166: Cerebus dreams and sleep walks. He is monitored by the Cirinists. He goes to the roof of the Tavern and raises his sword. The tower starts to grow. A belch causes a part of the

outcropping to fall into the upper city. This throws the Cirinists into confusion. "Something Fell." Cerebus lowers his sword and still sleep walking, heads into the stair way and falls deep asleep.

A Cerebus preview is in this issue of a 6 page comic "Don't You Want Me" by Lee Carey and Desmond Lagen. A transcript of Dave's speech to Diamond on June 14, 1992 is included also.

Issue #167: Astoria is kidnapped from the Cirinists. Swoon reveals Snuff and herself are members of the "clueless." Cerebus and a Fake Elf meet up and have a talk and realize that Cerebus is the Fake Elf's father. And then Cerebus wakes up.

Issue #168: Swoon ends up in Astoria's Dream. Astoria wakes up in and learns that she is among her followers and what has happened in the Upper City. Then she goes back to sleep. Cerebus tells the McGrew brothers of his ascension. They don't believe him. Swoon appears in Cirin's dream. While Cirin lies in a coma.

Preview: Exit by Nabel Kanan

Issue #169: Jaka appears and realizes that Cerebus is alive and he loves her very much. Swoon is still with Cirin in her dream and then Astoria appears.

It starts to snow. Cerebus is floating a couple feet off his bed while sleeping. We see some text of the real Cirin's trail by Serna (who now calls herself Cirin). Lord Julius, Baskin and Boobah appear.

Preview: Understanding Comics by Scott McCloud

Issue #170: Cirin wakes up. Kind of. Astoria, Swoon and Cirin are in a semi-dream state. Cerebus drinks buckets of scotch and "loses" Missy (heheheh). Cirin wakes up and General Greer is executed.

[Address to the Pro Con](#) on April 1, 1993 is included.

Issue #171: Cerebus dreams. George (not the Judge anymore) realizes he was wrong more than once. Cerebus sees his young self and his mother. His young self is disappointed with his older self.

A stranger dress in black robes walks thru the city. Cerebus' old self also appears.

Issue #172: Cirin gives a very powerful telepathic message to the citizens of Iest: she tells them everything is okay and for Astoria to give herself up. Astoria's people are all worried. Swoon is at a dream bar with a squirrel. Astoria stops and uprising from occurring within the ranks of her people.

Issue #173: Astoria's followers get ready for an attack. Swoon is having some personality problems (to say the least). Cerebus remembers a conversation he had with Magus Doran long ago. Cerebus puts down Missy, opens the window and steps out.

The stranger in black moves towards the gates of the upper City. Astoria has a vision of her youth. She leaves her followers to go to see Cirin. Cerebus starts to fly and heads up towards the upper city.

Preview: Wandering Star by Teri S. Wood

Issue #174: Swoon is having multiple roach personalities. Everyone is headed towards Cirin. Astoria is about to be shot by a crossbow. She says go away and the crossbow disappears. The people start to hail her as the a goddess. The outcroppings on the tower start disappearing. The sphere is flawed. Cerebus meets up with Astoria and the stranger in black who is Po! The three of them head into see Cirin.

Reads

Issue #175:

Text (12): Introduction to the Victor Reid, writer of 'reads', character: his rise to fame, his disagreement with the illustrator of his 'reads', Mr. Zulli, and going to a trade convention in the hopes of meeting a publisher. He meets "Denis Eastman, Publisher of Kevin's Kitchen Enterprises" and "Mike Prosserman, Publisher, Vertigo Horse."

Comic (6): Cirin, Cerebus, Po and Astoria finally all meet up inside. Po has his say.

Issue #176:

Text (13): Victor signs a contract with Vertigo Horse for 2,000 crowns. He starts on his new book, but gets side tracked by research on women. Then he realizes that his book is supposed to be about women.

Comic (7): Cirin orders her guards to leave and the four are left alone. Swoon makes an appearance (not with the four). Po reveals that he brought the four of them together.

Also contains the Address to UK Retailers United Kingdom Comic Art Convention on September 17, 1993.

Issue #177:

Text (13): Victor tries to recover from a hard night of drinking. He gets a note from his editor (Karen Potts) that makes him so upset that his anti-self, Rotsieve, comes out. Rotsieve was capable of "...dictating the first dozen chapters of a definitive tract on misogyny without taking a breath..." Then Victor realizes that he, in this personality, verbal abused his female assistant the previous night with one of his long endless rants.

Comic (7): Po has his stay before he leaves.

Preview: Nina Paley's mini-comics

Issue #178:

Text (9): Victor's latest read is late to the editor. He meets Carl Berger with Karen Potts and they tell him his book is in the top of the 100 list of the distributor and their insider magazine.

Comic (9): Po reveals some more interesting tidbits: Astoria never had an abortion, but just a regular miscarriage, how the aardvarks are allegory of power, this is the first time in history that three aardvarks have existed at the same time, and then he leaves. Cerebus asks the two women who wants to die first.

Issue #179:

Text (7): Victor has to change his writing to appeal to the Vertigo Horse reader.

Comic (13): Astoria has her say before she leaves: she tells Cerebus that he is an hermaphrodite and a lot more. Swoon shows up again with Snuff/Elrod.

Issue #180:

Text (3): Victor has read some criticism of him in the latest distributor insider publication. His wife is upset with him for not feeding the baby.

Comic (17): Cerebus and Cirin start to fight. Swoon shows up again and we hear the Truth about Elrod.

Preview: Rick Veitch's Rare Bit Fiends

Issue #181:

Comic (14): Cerebus and Cirin fight some more. Dave shows up. Not at the fight. Watching it from his drawing board.

Text (4): Viktor Davis appears and he starts to engage the audience.

Preview: More Rick Veitch's Rare Bit Fiends

Also included: Keynote Address to Comics Australia Distribution / OZCON III Retailer Conference on February 4, 1994.

Issue #182:

Comic (14): Roach mutters audience and becomes "Forty Thousand Eyes Roach". Cirin has gotten a hold of Cerebus' sword and Cerebus loses his right ear in the ensuing nasty business.

Text (6): Viktor thinks about many things (what are you thinking about?): all stories are True and he talks directly to the reader about Cerebus.

Preview: The third and final installment of Rick Veitch's Rare Bit Fiends

Issue #183:

Comic (13): Cerebus and Cirin fight some more.

Text (7): Sim has put the reader into the narrative. Viktor calls this his autobiography. No retelling of past events from childhood, but what he is now.

Preview: Strange Attractors: Spicy Space Stories

Issue #184:

Comic (12): "Something Fell." The throne breaks apart from the rest of the building and starts rising. Cerebus' sword is thrown into the depths and the fight stops.

Text (7): Viktor escorts the reader into an empty stadium. He then explains that comics aren't like rock n' roll.

Preview: Stephen R. Bissette's Tyrant

Issue #185:

Comic (9): The two start the ascension and Cirin is nervous. She looks at Cerebus, he is looking at the moon. She telepathically senses him thinking of the Judge. She sighs.

Text (11): Viktor takes the reader on a journey and shows him/her/it how the void engulfs the ejaculate. "Fun with Black Holes."

Preview: Pt 2 of Stephen R. Bissette's Tyrant

Issue #186:

Comic (5): The duo reach the moon and . . .go past it.

Text (15): I can, in no short paragraph, give you a concise few sentences on issue #186. It is up to you, the reader, to think for yourself. Go [here to see the complete text portion of #186](#). Reprinted on that site with permission of Dave Sim.

Preview: Terry Moore's Strangers In Paradise

Minds

Intro: This is the fourth and final installment of Mother's Daughters and runs thru issues #187 to 200.

Issue #187:

Cirin and Cerebus race past the moon. We find out that Cirin calls The Judge "Belinus Two-Tongues", who Cirin says is Tarim exiled by Terim. Cirin talks about the wonders of Terim. The two of them get in an argument. The two come to Mars and are instantly healed. Cirin starts to praise Terim even more.

Preview: Very Vicky by John Mitchell and Jana Christy.

Also: Address to Dragon Con Trade Expo on July 14, 1994. and Keynote Address to the Harvey Awards 1994

Issue #188:

Cerebus calls on Tarim to strike. They enter the asteroid belt and Cirin call the asteroids the frozen souls of them who turned from Terim.

Cerebus again calls on Tarim to strike. Cerebus unleashes some power that forms a hammer of asteroids and strikes at Cirin, but it is an illusion. They fight for the throne.

Preview: Hairbat by David Zaparta.

Also: Spirits of Independence tour info

Issue #189:

A big rock destroys the throne. They go to attack each other, but are separated by some an invisible force. The block they are on breaks in half and they float in different directions.

Preview: THB by Paul Pope

Also: "Pilgrimage to Provincetown" an essay on the reaction to 186 and finally having it finished.

Issue #190:

Cerebus sees the kitchen knife incident that happened when he was younger. Cerebus' father and Magus Doran are heard talking about Cerebus. Cerebus is turned over to Doran to be his apprentice.

Preview: Red River by Stephen Blue.

The Big Picture -- an ongoing essay that runs in the front of the book replacing The Note From The President. It deals with changing the state of the comic industry.

Issue #191:

Cerebus praises Tarim and says he'll conquer the world for him, but Tarim shows him when Cerebus cursed his name for killing Jaka (or so Cerebus thought). Cerebus arrives at Jupiter and heads towards the large red storm. Cerebus thinks he is being cast into the pit.

Preview: Jason Lutes' Jar of Fools

The Big Picture: ongoing

Issue #192:

Cerebus has some conflicting internal dialogue. Cerebus tries to prove he is not as bad as other people. A bright light appears and Cerebus starts beating himself up (physically and verbally) for talking back to Tarim.

Dave throws a pie at Cerebus who sees it as a sign.

Aardvark Comment: Dave prints a series of faxes from a The Comics Journal writer and his responses about issue #186 that are supposed to later be published in TCJ special Sim issue.

Preview: Eddie Campbell's Bacchus

Big Picture: Address to IADD (International Association of Direct Distributors) by Larry Marder on January 23, 1995.

Issue #193:

Dave appears. . . Well, he talks with Cerebus in his head. "Call me Dave." Cerebus' response: "Not exactly awe-inspiring is it? 'Dave'" We see what happened to Jaka and what she is doing (she is alive in Palnu and waiting for her date.)

Preview: Eddie Campbell's Bacchus part 2.

Issue #194:

Dave reveals he wanted to talk to Cerebus and Cirin together. Then he shows Cirin's reaction to the fact that her creator is a male. Dave tells Cerebus the story of Serna / Cirin. Cerebus realizes that he had fallen into the house of the real Cirin.

Essay by Stephen L. Holland "Now or Never: A Lesson in Basic Economics, Backed With Hard Evidence and Hope For the Future.

Preview: Hilly Rose by B.C. Boyer

Issue #195:

More on the early Cirinists and their development as a powerful group. Cirin realizes that Cerebus is not capable of giving birth and she praises Terim. Cerebus gets a chair and as much beer as he can drink. Cerebus asks what the three medallions he was are supposed to be.

Preview: Bug House by Steve Lafler

Also: Letter from Dave to Capital City Distributors

Issue #196:

Cerebus Learns about how if he had his helmet, sword and medallions when he first met the Pigts, they would've become solid gold and he could've commanded the Pigt's idol.

Elrod is seen to be "a manifestation of (Cerebus') self deception, incompetence and bluster." Just as we see the origin of other characters and magical objects. Cerebus asks Dave to make Jaka love him in that way. Cerebus passes Uranus. Dave begins to show what life would be like with Jaka.

Preview: Charles Vess' Book of Ballads and Sagas

Issue #197:

Cerebus tries vainly to get his relationship with Jaka right by telling Dave to do this or that. Joanne shows up and Cerebus and her end up getting it on. Cerebus passes Neptune. Cerebus gets a note from Jaka.

Preview: Mark Oakley's Thieves and Kings

Issue #198:

Cerebus reads Jaka's note. He walks in to find that she has killed herself so Cerebus could be happy. Cerebus arrives on Pluto. Dave goes off on Cerebus trying to straighten him up. Motive. Scalpel. Syringe. "Just a little pin prick. There'll be no more. . . ARGHH!"

Preview: Gary Millridge's Strangehaven

Also: Dave's letter to Steve Geppi

Issue #199:

Dave tells Cerebus all he has to do is decide where to go and he'll be there. Cerebus tells Dave to go away. So Dave says good-bye and leaves.

Issue #200:

Epilogue: Cerebus is cold on Pluto and wants Dave to come back and send him home. Jaka's date never showed. Cerebus calls A-V and ask for Dave's boss. Of course Dave doesn't have a boss, so Cerebus hangs up. Later, a phone rings in Cerebus' head. It's Dave. Cerebus tells Dave how he understands. Dave sends him to the bar at the wall of T'Sai. We see Gerhard in one panel. Dave also appears.

Also: Dave's Top 10 Answers to ["Why An Aardvark"](#)

"The Man in The Ceiling" by Jules Feiffer is reviewed. There are various letters to Dave about a Small Press review. "Dream Diary" countdown to two hundred by Dave. Dave's Top Ten Comics. A 6 page Pattycake (By Scott Roberts) story and a 3 page Pattycake story that guest stars Cerebus (drawn by Roberts). Memoir "Why An Aardvark" part 1.

Guy's Story

Intro: Guy's Story runs thru issues #201 to 219. Dave plays around with the ideas of relationships between men (plutonic) and the relationships between women and men. The covers are notable: they start out being a bottle of liquor and a side panel(s) gag. They turn into pop art style and end up being a continuation of the inside story.

Issue #201

Opens at a tavern on the wall of T'Sai. Bacchus makes an appearance. Mick and Harrison (based on George from the Beatles) are talking about Cerebus, who is sitting at a corner table. We find out that Harrison Starkey's brother is Richard George. Prince Mick's real name is Phillip Michaels.

Missus Thatcher conducts an inspection of the tavern. She talks with Cerebus, who has been gone for four years. She tells them how single males can live in a tavern of their choice (except trouble makers who can only stay 2 nights in a row). Alcohol, rice cakes and vegetable soup are free. Thatcher urges Cerebus to get married and not to drink himself to death. Tavern Tramps and Whores indeed.

Extra: Why An Aardvark Part 1

Preview: Shmog by Greg McCannis

Issue #202

Bear shows up and asks Harrison why Cerebus is drunk with a bucket of scotch. Harrison tells him it has been over a month since a woman rejected Cerebus. Drunken Cerebus asks Bear to play 5 Bar Gate with him. Bear doesn't want to play, but Cerebus calls him a Puss Puss. Bear shoves the ball up Cerebus' butt. Marty shows up and says he can remove the ball.

Review: Birth Caul

Issue #203:

An episode where Cerebus doesn't even really attain consciousness. Many bizarre day-dreams bring back the faces of those long gone in Cerebus' life. Are these delusions trying to tell him something? Cerebus prays to "Dave" for a quick death as opposed to continuing his current life. Also, a "reads" signing takes place, drawing a crowd that includes a suspiciously "Roach-like" individual. (summary taken without permission from Cerebus.org since I've misplaced my issue. Lord knows where it has gone to)

Extra: Why An Aardvark Part Two

Issue #204:

Cerebus drinks-n-dreams his way into the company of the "Lord of Inebriation", only to be saved by "Roarin' Rick Veitch" (perhaps another 'god' of the comic artist's pantheon next to Dave). Veitch gives a tiny lesson on the nature of dreams, especially sick, twisted, and depraved ones. (This summary also taken without permission from Cerebus.org, as soon as I find these two issues, they are getting a beating.

Extra: Why An Aardvark Part Three

Issue #205:

Cerebus wakes up from a dream that really wasn't a dream but a drunken stupor. Alec shows up and takes home his mother (the person dressed up as Bacchus). Harrison and Cerebus talk about the bad things a drunk Cerebus called Bear.

Extra: Why An Aardvark Part Four

Issue #206:

Boobah and Greggo appear. Cerebus' eye bandage almost comes off and Marty claims Cerebus has an eye infection. The guys talk about how Cerebus supposedly had hurt his eye. The bandage finally comes off. We some interaction between Bear and Greggo.

Extra: Friends of LuLu: The Last Word

Issue #207:

Kingsley shows up with a Cirinist transcriber / guard in tow. He constantly talks keeping his guard busy. A drunken Bear is talking with a sober Cerebus about why he broke up with Ziggy. Kingsley comes into the Tavern and starts taking notes.

Thatcher shows up (again) and talks with Kingsley about woman reading minds and Kingsley gives us some good insights into the Cirinist regime. Then an argument between the two of them

ensues. Bear and Marty (both drunk) are laughing at jokes that a sober Cerebus doesn't find funny.

Extra: "Spirits Having Flown" about self-publishers who are worried about what Dave thinks of them "selling out" to the bigger publishers.

Issue #208:

"Rilly" Hose shows up, flirting with the guys. Cerebus goes to take her up on her advances, but Mick beats him to her. Cerebus gets drunk with his bucket again.

We see preparations for the bonfire, the bonfire orgy and the aftermath. Fall passes and the season becomes winter. Cerebus and Bear start a game of 5 bar gate. Dandy Don shows up with his Bazaar Heroes graphic read with The Wanker.

Aardvark Comment appears

Issue #209:

Bear wants to play 5 Bar Gate, but Cerebus is too entranced with his graphic read. He gets Bear to read it, but Bear isn't as excited by it as Cerebus. Cerebus gets the guys to read it and they laugh at it and him. Cerebus gets mad and also gets a talking to from Bear. Bear says Cerebus is not acting like a real man but like "part chick"

Extra: Exit Sandman: My Chat With Neil

Extra: Celebration: 25 Years of Now and Then

Issue #210:

Bear and Cerebus get back into the game and playing it like a man: not crying or complaining. The season turns to spring. (THB's) H.R. Wassermann shows up and strips for the guys while Missus Thatcher tries to talk to them. Bear and Cerebus go fishing.

Extra: Here and Now: Spirits in Flight

Extra: Anecdote: One Day in Boston Common

Issue #211: /p>

Marty and Alec show up. The infamous mongoose appears. Too Much Coffee Man talks and talks and talks Cerebus' ear off. Keef shoves the mongoose up Marty's nose. "Gently Bent" disgusts everyone with samples and talk of his bodily fluids. They all play a game of diamondback with rice cakes as chips.

Aardvark Comment appears

Issue #212:

It is winter again. The guys talk about why they can't seem to keep a girlfriend. Marty's wife shows up and orders him home. Boobah shows up. "Gently Bent" is trying to get the guys aroused with his telepathic commands. He manages to get a sleeping Cerebus who dreams of a

being with a woman. Thatcher shows up and Harrison tells her what "Gently Bent" has been up to and she corks his mouth.

The book ends with spring and bear and Cerebus relaxing on the roof. Bear talks about Red Sonia and Jaka and how Cerebus messed up any chances he had for happiness.

Aardvark comments appears

Issue #213:

Bear's girlfriend, Ziggy, shows up. She is the ultimate controller. Harrison and Mick are talking about heading south. "Gently Bent" can't take Zig Pig (what they call Ziggy) and he begs Harrison to let him go, promising he will head north and not south with them. Harrison lets him go and he takes off.

Cerebus and Bear have a little talk, Bear tells him he is leaving and Cerebus tells him it'll never work with him and Ziggy.

Extra: Comics and The Mass Medium Part One

Aardvark Comment: Mooney on Mailer

Issue #214:

Sim begins putting an Excerpt on the front inside covers.

Everyone has left and Cerebus is alone in the Tavern. Cerebus' many personalities kick into gear for some inner dialogue. Thatcher shows up and tells Cerebus he'll have to leave. Cerebus tells her he will be the new bartender instead.

Extra: Comics and The Mass Medium Part Two

Extra: Footnote: These Foolish Computers

Issue #215:

Cerebus is in his bar all dressed up. He can't stand it so he removes his tie, shoes, socks and pants. Thatcher shows up interrupting Cerebus' introspection. He tells Thatcher (and Cirin) how things are going to run from now on.

Alec shows up and is disappointed with Cerebus pint of foam. Cerebus goes fishing by himself and wishes that Bear was there. Winter comes around again. An ugly woman shows up wanted to have sex with Cerebus and he refuses.

Extra: Comics and The Mass Medium Part Three

Issue #216:

Cerebus is debating if he should or shouldn't have refused the woman's advances. Then Joanne (the same one as from Minds) shows up. Cerebus debates getting together with her. We some male and female pre-dating interactions. Cerebus agrees to her advances.

Extra: Comics and The Mass Medium Part Four

Extra: Response from Stephen Holland (from Page 45) to the Comics and The Mass Medium essay.

Issue #217:

Cerebus starts his countdown until he leaves -- he is waiting for Bear to return. We see the interactions of a male and female in a relationship.

Extra: From Hell Correspondence, Sim and Alan Moore talk about various topics.

Issue #218:

Joanne and Cerebus go out to another Tavern. They meet Marty at the Tavern, who with his wife runs it. More relationship interactions between Cerebus and Joanne. Cerebus has a strange dream.

Extra: From Hell Correspondence, Part Two.

Issue #219:

Cerebus' dream continues. He wakes up and tells Joanne to get out. Joanne confronts him about the chalk markings: his conquests? Cerebus tells her about him leaving.

Epilogue: Rick Nash appears and shows Cerebus how to pour a proper pint and not just foam.

Extra: From Hell Correspondence, Part Three

Rick's Story

Intro: Rick's Story runs thru issues #220 to #231. The covers start off with a large bar sign with the picture in them and a smaller constant size bar sign with the storyline title in it. At a turning point in the story, the two switch places. The storyline title gets progressively bigger until it is too big to fit on the cover. The pictures remain in the constantly sized bar sign.

Issue #220:

Rick and Cerebus are seen talking about women and making jokes. Rick flips thru a book from which we see some excerpts. It is Rick's Story, his answer to Oscar's Jaka's Story. We see Rick's "drinking fast." Rick sees Cerebus as a demon and himself as a heavenly martyr. Something fell.

Extra: From Hell Conclusion.

Issue #221:

Rick apologizes for the previous day's display. Breakfast juice is served up. Cerebus is still conducting his countdown. We see more from Rick's Story, which goes on to describe how Rick and Jaka broke up. We see the bartender's living quarters, much better than the downstairs

where Cerebus had been staying. Cerebus and Rick start a game of Five Bar Gate. Rick turns into a crybaby over a welt from the ball. Joanne is watching them thru the corn.

Aardvark comment appears.

Issue #222:

Cerebus debates leaving or staying: he really liked his hot bath. Rick is scribbling in his book, his arm in a sling and he is thinking about how Cerebus is the fallen pope. Thatcher shows up with the potatoes and Rick gets extremely nervous. He sees her as a large bug / demon creature. Cerebus notices how Thatcher's presence scares Rick so he orders her to lave. Rick looks like he is going to piss himself. Cerebus has attained a new status in Rick's eyes: "Go on. Beat it! Scram!" Cerebus orders Rick to take off the sling and Rick is "healed."

Aardvark comment appears.

Issue #223:

Cerebus and Rick are talking in the bar when Joanne shows up. Rick falls in love. Joanne starts using Rick to piss off Cerebus. Cerebus tries in vain not to pay attention to the pair.

Aardvark Comment appears.

Issue #224:

We see what happened to Rick on his supposed Date with Joanne, who shows up. Cerebus and Joanne fight for whom is going to take care of Rick's head wound. Joanne gives them her reason for not showing up for the date. Cerebus convinces Rick that Joanne lied. Once again Rick sees Cerebus as an angel. Rick confesses that he was going to leave Cerebus and marry Joanne. Cerebus realizes that he is now Rick's babysitter.

Aardvark comment: 3 letters on Mama's Boys.

Issue #225:

20th Anniversary! Rick has changed his story: it now has taken the form of the bible (with chapters, verses and use of old English). Cerebus wants to get rid of Rick, but doesn't know how. Something fell. Cerebus briefly sees Cirin. Joanne shows up and tells Rick that she lied. She leaves and instead of chasing her, Rick goes inside the bar.

Aardvark Comment appears.

Issue #226:

Rick tells Cerebus that Joanne tempted him to go to the Starchild Tavern with her. Cerebus tries to convince Rick to go. Finally convinced, Rick takes the bandage off his head. Cerebus argues with himself. Rick learns of God and "duds." Rick shows up to get some advice from Cerebus. Rick is all dressed up and ready to go out.

Extra: Mama's Boy essay part 1

Issue #227:

Cerebus gets drunk and argues with himself. Rick shows up and talks about his date, which he left early because Joanne already had a male friend there. Joanne shows up and she is mad. Since Rick left early, she thinks he is mad at her. Cerebus leaves so the two can talk, but he eavesdrops in on them. They go for a walk and Cerebus gets drunk and goes to sleep. Cirin shows up and is about to kill Cerebus when the pair partially wakes Cerebus up when they return. Cerebus falls back to sleep and dreams of Sand Hill Creek and going home.

Extra: Mama's Boy essay part 2

Issue #228:

Cerebus tries to get the will to tell Rick he is leaving. Rick shows up and asks Cerebus why he told Joanne that he was once married to Jaka. Cerebus doesn't know how to respond. Rick places a spell on Cerebus. He also tells him "we'll see each other only once more after today." Rick leaves and tells Cerebus what he told Joanne: to go to hell. Cerebus tries to leave but can't.

Extra: Mama's Boy essay part 3

Issue #229:

Cerebus finally walks out of the bar and realizes that he doesn't have his vest or medallions. He goes back to get them and his medallions have shrunk. He walks out again and he is trying to figure out what kind of spell Rick put on him. When he returns to the bar, Dave is there. Dave and Cerebus talk about leaving the bar. Just as Cerebus realizes where he knows Dave from, Dave is gone, but has left his package. Cerebus debates opening it. Then he finally gets the nerve.

Aardvark comment appears.

Issue #230:

The package is Missy, Jaka's doll. Cerebus is sitting there and Jaka walks in. Dave gets a joke in about American Coors beer when Jaka says, "it looks like water but it tastes like watery beer" and Cerebus says it is Coors or something. Jaka and Cerebus get reacquainted. Cerebus and Jaka go upstairs together.

Extra: Analysis: Lending Legitimacy. About selling comics to Libraries.

Extra: Mama's Boy Essay part 4

Aardvark Comment appears.

Issue #231:

Bear and Marty return (without their women). Richard George appears. Jaka and Bear meet for the first time since Church and State. Cerebus has to decide between the guys or Jaka. He chooses Jaka. The two leave together.

Extra: Mama's Boy part 5 (conclusion)

Going Home

Intro: Going Home part one consists of two books: Sudden Moves (issues #232 - 239) and Fall and The River (issues #240 to 250). The books have photo covers (taken by Gerhard) and most are wraparound.

Issue #232:

At the Action Figures Pub, Greg Hyland is the proprietor who uses action figures (don't call them dolls) to help his clients express their emotions. Missus Reno appears to tell Greg what to do and how to act when Jaka (Do not call her Princess Jaka) and her companion (Cerebus) arrive.

Cerebus and Jaka appear very happy together in that honeymoon just starting your relationship type love. Greg shows Cerebus how to use his action figure saying women are emotionally stable already and don't need to use an action figure. Jaka pulls out Missy anyways and they talk. When pushed by women, Greg always defers to them.

Extra: Memoir (inside front cover)

Extra: Open Letter: Dear Kevin. A response to Eastman's interview in The Comics Journal #202 about reprinting issue #8 of TMNT with Cerebus in it.

Aardvark Comment appears.

Issue #233:

Cerebus and Jaka are in a tavern talking and someone who looks like Lord Julius shows up - it is a like-a-look. The rabbit suit joke appears. The like-a-look bothers Cerebus and Jaka trying to get the answers to the three questions (for how to tell the real Lord Julius from the like-a-looks). Hijinks ensue until a Cirinist guard catches Cerebus chasing Lord Julius. She brings them to Jaka who tells the guard what is going on. Ends with the two of them in bed when the like-a-look shows up again.

Extra: Stand-up (front inside cover)

Aardvark Comment appears

Issue #234:

Cerebus and Jaka are walking along a path talking about Rick. They stop often (so Jaka can rest or look at the scenery) and Cerebus starts to get irritated at how far behind schedule they are getting. Jaka keeps talking about Rick even further upsetting Cerebus.

They come to a fork in the road. Cerebus says they should go left and Jaka thinks they should go right. Jaka asks a local Cirinist directions and the couple end up going right.

Aardvark Comment appears.

Issue #235:

Cerebus and Jaka have had a fight about clothing huts: once they pass district one there won't be any more. Jaka needs to have a new set of clothes every day. Jaka has asked Cerebus what

they are going to do, and Cerebus doesn't know. He is sitting in the chair looking at Jaka lying in bed facing away from him. After a bit he tells her that he would get up early every day and wash her clothes for her. She says thanks, but no; she needs a new pair of clothes every day not just clean clothes. Again she asks what are they going to do and Cerebus replies (again) he doesn't know.

Extra: Memoir (inside front cover)

Aardvark Comment appears

Issue #236:

The couple is in a carriage heading south and Jaka tells Cerebus how thoughtful he is and he says it is nothing. They stop at a large clothing hut and everyone is watching what Jaka picks out. Once Jaka picks out her outfit, everyone picks out the same thing. Jaka is a majority celebrity and the mothers of the district ask her to go to a reception in her honor. Jaka doesn't want to, but Cerebus wants to see what goes on at one. At the reception, Cerebus leaves early and goes to a local pub for an ale. On her way to get Cerebus after the reception, Jaka is accosted by a revolutionary from the Mothers of the Feldwar Valley. A prophet of Ricke (he has changed his name from Rick to Ricke) is in the bar with Cerebus and starts preaching. Something fell.

Aardvark Comment appears.

Issue #237:

A Cirinist questions Cerebus about the rebel from last night, who is now dead. Cerebus tells Jaka to watch out whom she talks to and Jaka gets scared. Cerebus wants to keep her happy though and not scared. Cerebus wonders if Jaka is a Kevillist. There is tension between the two of them.

Extra: Judge Not (inside front cover)

Aardvark Comment appears

Issue #238:

Cerebus and Jaka aren't talking so Cerebus tells a joke to get Jaka to laugh. In bed, Jaka asks Cerebus "lets not fight anymore" because she really hates it. They stop at the Action Figure Pub again and decide to play a practical joke on Greg. Greg isn't there anymore and the couple both end up in a bad mood.

Extra: Banged Up

Aardvark Comment appears

Issue #239:

Cerebus tries to cheer up Jaka. Cerebus has a dream that they stop at a Roarin' Rick's Rare Bit Pub where Roarin' Rick lights up the biggest joint ever and talks nonstop. Cerebus has a vision of a bride of death right before Jaka wakes him up. They just arrived at the docks.

Extra: Cerebus No. 1

Aardvark comment appears for the last time according to Dave. So he can start running Notes (see #240). After writing Dave, he has sent back a form letter saying Aardvark Comment will appear again before issue #265. We'll see I guess.

Issue #240:

F. Stop Kennedy, a writer, is at the docks waiting for the boat to set sail along with Jaka and Cerebus. Pages from his book reflect what is going on between the trio. The sexual tension between Jaka and F. Stop begins. Jaka tells Cerebus about the things F. Stop has done a Lord Julius' parties in the past.

Notes: Notes on "Fall and the River" begin and run thru to issue #250 in the back of the comic. They run from 4 to 5 pages an issue and in them Dave describes coming up with the comic / story. They are reprinted in the collection.

Issue #241:

We see F. Stop going thru the process of getting ready for dinner, but he decides to eat in. He gets up at the break of dawn and has breakfast with Cerebus and Jaka. Cerebus makes a slip, insulting F. Stop, and Jaka wants him to apologize to F. Stop.

Issue #242:

It is late at night and Cerebus returns drunk from apologizing to F. Stop. He wakes up with a hell of a hang over. Jaka and F. Stop go at each other's throats in verbal fisticuffs.

Notes: Included in the notes is the layout of Jaka's suite.

Issue #243:

Cerebus goes fishing. F. Stop and Jaka talk calmly. Cerebus has a vision of Rick - Rick is on the bank of the river blessing his followers. Cerebus catches a fish and the Cirinist cook it up for dinner. No one but Cerebus wants to eat it though. F. Stop goes to his cabin and drinks. Cerebus and Jaka were going to go out on the deck to look at the stars, but F. Stop is sitting on the roof of his cabin.

Issue #244:

More of F. Stop on his roof, drunk and talking about his wife. The whole comic is mainly full page spreads and text pages.

Issue #245:

F. Stop wakes up with a hangover and is about to start drinking again when the Cirinists keep popping in on him telling him how much they empathize with hiss recitation from last night. He goes outside eventually and is confronted by a Cirinist who tells him that thinking about adultery gets the same punishment as the crime itself. Cerebus and Jaka are making small talk. F. Stop talks to Jaka about the southern island of Mealc.

Issue #246:

Nighttime. F. Stop is in his cabin writing and he writes 'till dawn. He goes outside and talks with Cerebus who is doing some early morning fishing. They both start drinking from F. Stop's flask. Jaka and a Cirinist have a talk about men.

Issue #247:

The three are having cocktails outside talking about writing. Cerebus sees a castle that reminds him of his past. F. Stop makes Jaka cry with a story.

Notes: Gerhard and Dave talk about how Gerhard's using the computer to help design and layout the backgrounds has effected how they work.

Issue #248:

Cerebus is outside drinking thinking about how he has to be happy for the rest of his life to keep Jaka. F. Stop is drunk and thinking about Jaka. Jaka goes out to talk to Cerebus and to get him to come inside or else he'll get sick. Later. . .Jaka goes to get tea for a sick Cerebus and she talks to the Cirinists.

Issue #249:

The boat arrives at the stop before Dead Salt Locks: the remains of the city of Iest. We hear the tale of Cirin's version of the "Iestan Tragedy". We see what used to be Iest. The boat arrives at Dead Salt Locks and the dock is full of armed Cirinist troops.

Issue #250:

The Cirinist guards hold up Jaka on the boat by asking for her autograph. They also grab F. Stop and pull him to the side. They try to rush Cerebus off the boat. Jaka realizes what is going on and rushes up to the gangplank. She escorts Cerebus off the boat and thru the guards.

Going Home

Intro: Going Home Book 3: Form & Void, issues #251 to 265. The books have photo covers (taken by Gerhard, Ken Sim, and Rose) and most are wraparound. 'To Ham & Ham Not' are notes on Form & Void that appear at the back of the book unless otherwise noted. The inside covers are a mix of pictures of Mary, Ham and their friends and selections from different Hemmingway writings.

Issue #251:

Cerebus and Jaka meet up with Ham Ernestway and his wife Mary. Mary explains how their house is run (according to her at least) and Cerebus sits bedazzled in a chair, drinking his Griz ("Grisly Beer"), thinking of Bear and how he is in THE Ham Ernestway's house.

Issue #252:

We see Ham talking to a long dead friend about his not yet completed book while we overhear Mary talking about Ham's "blackass" condition and how the doctors are trying to help Ham.

Cerebus spins a yarn for Ham, doing the whole fan thing while Jaka calls Cerebus in the middle of his yarn.

Issue #253:

The four, Cerebus, Jaka, Ham and Mary, along with the Ernestways' gun toters, head out on the trail towards Sand Hills Creek. After the previous night's confrontation (so to speak) between Ham and Mary, Mary explains what it takes for a good marriage to Jaka. Meanwhile, Cerebus talks to Ham and Ham pictures Jaka naked. Jaka gives Cerebus a haircut so his hair is just like Ham's.

Issue #254:

Cerebus fires a gun for the first time and falls in love with it. Mary asks where he has been these past years as guns have been around a bit. Cerebus replies "traveling" thinking of Juno. Ham and Jaka have been left alone, Mary fires off a "warning shot" and they return to find Jaka in her tent and Ham with the mark of a slap on his face. Cerebus gets mad at Jaka for hitting Ham. Cerebus and Jaka have make up sex and as they head off the next morning, something large starts to come over the horizon.

Issue #255:

Cerebus gets his first view of an airship (like a blimp with moving wings) and Jaka makes a comment about the weird look Cerebus gave her when she suggested they take an airship to Cerebus' parent's house. Cerebus and Ham sit outside the hunting lodge while waiting for Jaka to see if they will allow unmarried couples to share a room. Cerebus thinks about his "friendship" with Ham. Jaka tells Cerebus the Hunting Lodge will allow them to stay the night as long as they sign a piece of paper saying they are lesbians, and how she asked if "would it make any difference. . . that Cerebus has both a penis and a" and Cerebus throws his coffee on her and tells her to shut up. This loud out burst doesn't even wake the sleeping Ham sitting right across from Cerebus. At the campfire that night Jaka tries to explain she meant it as a joke, and Mary says she wants to tell a story that happened to her and Ham "a long long way from here." And as the shot pulls out, we see what looks like Africa below Estarcion.

Issue #256:

Mary's story of their hunting safari to Africa starts. She tells how they meet up with their gun-toters. They start their loin hunt with a piece of zebra carcass as bait in a tree and we meet Percy, their "white hunter". Ham shoots a lion and later Mary and him eat some of the lion, and Percy declines their offer of lion meat as it is taboo, which Mary says they never explained to her, in Kenja for natives and the whites to eat lion meat. We also meet Denis, their game warden. They hunt gazelles for meat, but Mary thinks it really is for her to practice. Mary always misses and thinks "it is lonely being the only incompetent here." Mary finally shoots her first gazelle and feels ashamed, sorry and pleased. Afterwards she has a dream of shooting a warthog. The next to be hunted is zebra, of which Mary misses and Ham and Denis shoot one immediately. They catch sight of a lion and the hunt for it begins.

Issue #257:

Mary calls off the hunt thinking she wouldn't be able to shoot after the climbing. She later has a dream of a talking lion. We see the four of them at the campfire, Mary is reading from a journal, which we flashback to her story and she is writing in it. The hunt for Mary's lion continues. They find the lion and all of them shoot, Mary hears Ham shot, Denis, and then she does and the lion is killed. They later claim that Mary shot first and earned the kill. Mary doesn't enjoy the lion steak

she had for dinner that night. Mary feels cheated that Ham and Denis had shot first and then fooled her about it. We see the four of them at the campfire where Mary talks of a journalist's question that she is a lesbian. To whom she recounts that Ham states Mary is not a lesbian but his boy, and how she always wanted to be a boy without losing her femininity and how he is her little girl.

Issue #258:

Mary tells of a Rhino they saw whom the hyenas starting eating it's genitals and then the rhino moaned like a "domesticated cow", cut to Ham. With a pale ridged look on his face. They finish their hunting expedition and take an airship across the country. The airship ran into some birds and they crash, they take some supplies and head out towards the closest village 40 miles away. Walking along the river they spot a ship and it stops and picks them up. They get aboard another airship which has problems taking off and explodes. Ham is hurt in the crash. The natives start yelling "Mungu Mkono" which we find out means "In the hand of God."

Issue #259:

Ham and Mary stay at a hotel in Masindi where upon a doctor takes care of Ham and Ham starts to drink more. Ham is even "entertaining" others in the bar. We see he isn't really doing as well as he appears to others. The drinking is causing health issues for him. Ham takes a disliking to the dugout canoe upon which he broke a paddle and the backseat of it. Ham starts to take risks like rushing in to put out a brushfire and face cutting ceremonies with the natives. Mary says he started to be abusive towards her so she would leave the area after breakfast. The couple arrive home, Mary attends a function where she meets a writer called Scott. Scott took offense to something Mary says, which she claims was a joke taken wrong, and Scott said in print that Ham should take care of Mary or lose his honor. Scott later challenges Ham to a duel. We hear Ham's response to Scott's challenge. The four go to sleep, and the next morning Cerebus wakes up when he hears a gun shot. We see Mary standing over Ham's body, he has shot himself and Cerebus notices the key is in the lock for the guns. Mary says "I think no wife has the right to deprive her husband of his possessions." We see a storm approaching and a dazed Cerebus walking towards the tent.

Issue #260:

Cerebus and Jaka are trapped in their tent in a big snow storm. Cerebus keeps blanking out. Cerebus is thinking to himself why they got trapped in the snow storm: because they up and left when he found Mary over Ham's body and Cerebus didn't want to sign the papers saying Jaka and him were lesbians. In his blanking out, Cerebus flashes back to Rick and Jaka's apartment on the side of the tower. He sees Rick who tells him the Cirinists have executed him. Rick mentions the convulsion that destroyed lest and how the shoreline has changed because of it. Rick tells Cerebus to leave everything and follow the line of trees over the ridge. Rick says "Mungu mkono" and shows his palm to Cerebus: it has a hole in it. A gunshot goes off.

Issue #261:

Cerebus wakes up shouting no and the past experience was just a dream. He convinces Jaka to leave everything and follow him over the ridge as Rick explained in his dream. Jaka thinks Cerebus is crazy. She starts huffing and puffing for her biscuits. They make it over the ridge to a clear path down the mountain: the gunshot that Cerebus heard was actually a volcanic eruption and the "road" is a harden lava path.

Issue #262:

Cerebus and Jaka are now in the comfort of a hunting lodge, and the snow storm continues outside. Jaka and Cerebus talk and we see Cerebus reading a "read". A Cirinist questions Jaka about if Cerebus had taken one of Ham's guns. Jaka says she left Missy in the tent and she wants to get her back because she is just not a doll. Jaka and Cerebus plan their escape from Cirinist controlled lands. Cerebus lets it slip that Sand Hills Creek is in Isshuria. Cerebus watches the Cirinists shovel further and further up the side of the mountain to their tent.

Issue #263:

Cerebus wakes up to the sound of a horse plow going by clearing the road. He wakes Jaka up and they leave the hunting lodge. Cerebus finds the opening to a tunnel which he says is part of the "Black Tower Catacombs". Cerebus reads the hieroglyphics on the walls to Jaka. Cerebus tells Jaka that he can lend her his book of black tower symbols and get her special permission to enter the catacombs because they are only two miles from his parent's house. They spend a night at a farm before going to his parent's place.

Issue #264:

Cerebus has a dream of Crotch-Face killing Jaka because she was talking about the Catacombs and women aren't supposed to be in the catacombs. Cerebus wakes up and makes Jaka promise she won't tell anyone she was in them. She refuses at first but then acquiesces to Cerebus request with a "double slitty-eyed 'Palnu face' and a door slam". Cerebus realizes it is morning and asks Jaka why she didn't wake him up at the first moon. Cerebus isn't happy with Jaka's reason, and the two of them argue some more. Cerebus tells Jaka they will have to pretend that they are married because his hometown is very strict orthodox Tarmite. She claims that they have no wedding rings, so Cerebus makes up a story why they don't have them and she laughs at his story. Cerebus then yells at her to stop mouthing off. She starts laughing at Cerebus and they come up on Sand Hills Creek. Cerebus thinks of what Jaka says before she says it, he is flashing back to his dream.

Issue #265:

Cerebus and Jaka run into Sand Hills Creek. But no one is outside, and all the houses are locked. Cerebus runs pass the place where the kitchen knife incident took place. And he sees the chair in his parent's house which he saw in his dream. Cerebus sees Mr. Morton who speaks of his Cerebus' father Joseph's death. Mr. Morton notices that Jaka has taken off her mitten to expose her left hand with no wedding ring. Mr. Morton asks Cerebus if Joseph died alone because he was busy with that harlot. Jaka takes offense to being called a harlot. Cerebus tells Jaka to shut up, but Mr. Morton won't tell Cerebus where his parents are buried. Jaka tries to talk to Cerebus but Cerebus tells her to "Go on. Beat it. Scram." A Cirinist comes to pick up Jaka, and offers Missy to Jaka. Jaka leaves and Cerebus rips his clothes.

Back: Tangent

Front: Letter from Diana Schultz telling Dave she can't be his proofreader any more starting with issue 264.

Latter Days

Intro: Latter Days: Cerebus issues #266 to 288. #266 & #267 are the "Prologue". 266 to 276 by Daniel from the Cerebus Group on Yahoo. Thanks Daniel!

#266: "This Aardvark, This Shepard": Cerebus wanders around for several years, blanking in and blanking out irregularly, and spends three years as a sheep-herder, where he reads "Morpheus" and "/RABBI/" ("which you can tell is a great book because LOTS of guys die in REALLY INTERESTING ways!"). Cerebus wanks to the Sheep-Owner's wife in the shower. Eventually, the owner of the sheep realizes this and kills all the sheep, so he can fire Cerebus. The issue ends with the thought "Well... they ARE his sheep."

Aardvark Comment returns. A letter from Jeff Smith in this one.

#267: "If Five Bar Gate Be My Destiny": Cerebus becomes a professional Five Bar Gate player for thirty years. He comes in second-place for years, always losing to Paul "Coffee" Anon. He wins once when "Coffee" has a broken leg, and then another time when "Coffee" dies of old age. Cerebus is laughed out of the game at that one. Cerebus is seen reading "/RABBI/" regularly throughout the issue.

Front: AC with Gary Groth's response to Dave's response to Jeff.

Back: "Post Game: About This Issue" How Dave came up with issue.

#268: "Lo, There Shall Come Three Wise Fellows": Cerebus becomes suicidal again, and so wanders into Cirinist territory. He opens up a Titty Bar which is flagrantly (and stately) objectifying women, and waits to be shot in the head by a Cirinist. The Three Wise Fellows (a Three Stooges parody) are introduced; they're seen quoting "The Bookee of Rickee" and Koshie (Curly) becomes very excited when he sees that Cerebus has three fingers on each hand and three toes on each foot. The Wise Fellows end up saving a seriously drunk Cerebus from a Cirinist at the last moment, and run off with him.

Back: Aardvark Comment.

#269: "If Cerebus Be Bound": Cerebus wakes up hog-tied, bound and gagged in a *very* opulent mock-up of "The Sanctvary" from Chapter III of the Bookee of Rickee, with the Wise Fellows reading "The Bookee" to him, verse by verse. Cerebus tries to figure out what's going on, and overhears the Wise Fellows discussing a system of pulleys and piping that allow Cerebus to eat/sleep/defecate all while bound in the Sanctvary. The issue contains "Chapter VII" and "Chapter XIII" as new "Bookee of Rickee" sections; Chapter VII is what happened between Chapter VI and Chapter VIII, while Chapter XIII describes the Wise Fellows being chosen as disciples of Ricke, and their instructions to look for a man with "three fingers on each hand, and three toes on each foot; for each Wise Fellow a finger, and for each Wise Fellow a toe", then to bind him in the "Sanctvary which thou shalt build on the instructions in this booke", give him regular food and "some wine (for his stomachs sake)", and to read him the entirety of the Bookee "euen from first to last", and then to ask Cerebus for the "Word of Truthe" which will allow the Wise Fellows to overcome this age which hath ouerturned all righteousness after the manner of the deuil and the uiper and the scorpion. If "Cerebus be taken with he daemon aspect, rebind him and start the process anew". They ask him.

Front: "Jew"

Back: Aardvark Comment

#270: "If Cerebus Still Be Bound": Cerebus gives his first "Worde of Truthe" guess: "Herring!". Much Three Stooges hilarity ensues (with a terror-stricken Cerebus worried sick about the flying red-hot bolts and pincers be used). In the end, the Wise Fellows unanimously declare "Herring" to be of the daemon aspect, and so rebind Cerebus. Cerebus tries a few more wordes, then tries to sicken the Wise Fellows so much (they being simple religious folke) that they will decide he is

not the One True Cerebus, and kill him. He goes off on a long tangent (which, thankfully, we only hear the end of): "And the HARDEST PART was getting the DIAPER back on! (Snarl, spit, hiss, growl)"; the implication being that he described raping a baby. The Wise Fellows are unphased; they quickly rebind him and try again. Cerebus realizes he can't get any worse without making himself sick, and so gives up on that plan, and tries to come up with real ideas.

Front: Aardvark Comment

Back: Memoir: Howard Eugene Day, Mentor. An 8 page excerpt from [Faith: A Fable](#) by Bill Knapp.

#271: "If Cerebus Be Bound So Long Cerebus Could Plotz!": Cerebus becomes an insomniac, unable to tell when he's awake and when he's asleep. He has a VISION! Cerebus realizes that CEREBUS is /RABBI! /RABBI/ then looses Cerebus' bindings, and Cerebus FLIES away (RABH-RABBI AWAY!!!!!!!!!!!!) and meets his arch-nemesis: MARY HEMINGWAY! /RABBI/ goes on with his "Ambience of Immortality" schpiel ("In this business? You take what you can get! She's the ONLY arch-nemesis I've GOT!") /RABBI/ then realizes the Wise Fellows are returning, and so FLIES back to the Sanctuary, changing back into Cerebus as he goes, and then uses his "ROPO-ATTACHO-VISION" to rebind himself, JUST in the NICK OF TIME!

Front: Excerpt from the National Post

Back: Excerpt from the speech for delivery by JFK at Trade Mart in Dallas Nov 22, 1963.

#272: "NOW! Cerebus understood EVERYTHING! Everything! /RABBI/'s "Oath of Power" (which had been given to him, you may recall, by the BEN-GURIONS of the GALAXY): (when he was just a LITTLE rabbi): "In Darkest Night, In Brightest Day, No EVIL Shall Stand In /HIS/ Way! Let Those Who Will Not /EVIL SHUN/ BEWARE HIS POWER */OUR GOD IS ONE/* and how it was the SAME as Rick 12:10 "He is One God, indiuisable, with One Face and One Aspect which is God." Of COURSE! /RABBI/ has been in RICK! (HOW could Cerebus have MISSED that? It was SO obvious!) Just As... NOW... /RABBI/ was in CEREBUS! A MIRACLE! In FACT! As Cerebus now saw! (as plainly as the /Schnozzle/ on his face!) Cerebus' Life had been FILLED with Miracles! The Big-Round-Glowing-White Strange Thing. The Gold Coin Minted By Tarim. Cerebus' ASCENSIONS. The REGENCY ELF. All of those thing that Cerebus USED TO FIND (well.. Frankly) EMBARRASSING (why don't OTHER people SNEEZE FIRE for no reason?) ALL... MIRACLES. MIRACLES From /GOD/. And NOW-- The GREATEST Miracle of ALL: That /RABBI/ was Cerebus' SECRET IDOLATRY! (background: Wilt thou now speak unto thy soyvints da WOID OF TRUTH which was promised us of the PROHET RICK?) EH? The "WORD of TRUTH"? Chuckle. CHILD'S PLAY for RABBI! Aye! (background: "Whaddee day?" "He said... Aye!" "This is IT!" "Memorizeth it as soon as he DOTHSPEAK IT unto us!" "Woop woop woop woop woop") Chapter Fourteen, Verse One.. 'And Cerebus Spake Unto The Three Wise Fellows... Saying Unto Them... THIS! Lookest like unto a JOB FOR... /RABBI/'.... "Cerebus TRIED explaining to them /RABBI/'s FOOLPROOF PLAN:" "And THEN? When ALL of the Cirinists are standing ON the fishnet? That /RABBI/ will weave at /RABBI/-SPEED? (Four Miles Around?) out of SOLD IRON STRANDS? That /RABBI/ will have COMPRESSED using his MIGHTY /RABBI/ FINGERS? /RABBI/ will gather up ALL FOUR CORNERS of the NET... FLY it up to the TOP of EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE... SWING it around... ONCE! TWICE! And THEN? with ONE MIGHTY HEAVE of his /RABBI/ MUSCLES? HURL the whole FARSHINKENER bunch STRAIGHT to JUNO!" "Demon self." "Demon self." "Demon self." And they rebind him :-)

(sorry this last part wasn't an actual summary; it's my favourite part of the whole damn series, and I wanted to try and do it justice).

Cerebus, every night, is off as /RABBI/ to talk to Mary Hemingway on the cathedral steps about the Ambience of Immortality. He's haunted by his /RABBI/ persona's need to go defeat the Cirinists, but he can't seem to turn into /RABBI/ again. He ends up giving the Wise Fellows a *phony* "Worde of Truthe", so that he might be unbound, and become his /RABBI/ self: Get all of the men from all of the Hunting Lodges, and take them to a big flat area, and arrange them in a circle. Then, wait for the Cirinists to come within range (which they will, since any group of men without any women has to be a problem), and then BLAM! Shoot their heads off! This will work because the BEST WOMAN SHOOTER isn't as good as the WORST MAN SHOOTER! The Wise Fellows agree that this is the "Worde of Truthe", but, before they can Unbind Cerebus, they have to ask the question from *Chapter Fourteen* (which has not been seen in "Latter Daies"): What was the Prophet Ricke doing when he appeared to The One True Cerebus in the Feldwar Valley Wilderness? Cerebus thinks back to when he saw Ricke in "Going Home" (where Ricke was baptizing disciples) and answers "... Drowning guys?" That is CORRECT, sir! Cerebus is UNBOUND! The Wise Fellows leave to go enact the WORDE OF TRUTHE! Cerebus checks the Bookee, first, and we see Chapter XIV. Cerebus got it right! The correct answer, as given in Chapter XIV, is "Drowning Guys".

Aardvark comment appears.

#273: "Uh-Oh": Cerebus tries to fly, and breaks his leg. He then realizes he's lying there with a broken leg, and the Cirinists are probably on their way with molten lead enemas, after easily killing the Cerebites (they ARE military, after all). He tries to crawl up to the door, and, at the top, the Wise Fellows return and mention that he's needed on the battlefield.

Front: "reading Cerebus"

Back: "is Dave Brady actually gay?"

#274: "If Rocks Be My Scenery": Cerebus arrives at the front lines. ALL of the Cirinists are dead. None of the Cerebites are. Todd "Far Lane" McSpawn turns out to be the problem the Wise Fellows needed Cerebus for; most of the Cerebites swore allegiance to him. Cerebus quickly fixes this problem by having the "Ferry Tits" (the bizarre name Ricke gave to his followers as he was dying on a tree) take a vote; the majority decides to follow Cerebus, and so they ALL agree to follow Cerebus.

#275: "Avoyd Fornication": Cerebus prays to /GOD/ for guidance; he looks up after his prayer and sees a sign that says "Avoyd Fornication". Cerebus takes this sign as a... well, as a sign, and an answer to his prayer. Cerebus realizes the Cerebites are ignoring him, instead preferring to go to Weenie Roasts, and so he develops a plan... he has Koshie start taking dictation for "The Booke Of Cerebus", and...

#276: "And Men Shall Call Him SPORE": Cerebus dresses up as SPORE, King Of All Daemons, Good And Faithful Husband To The Queen Of All Daemons Mentioned In Ricke Chapter IV, And Good And Faithful Father To The Daughters Of All Daemons Also Mentioned In Ricke Chapter IV. To demonstrate his general policy on governing, he takes Todd McSpawn's daughter, Magenta, and hurls her off into the distance. Spore then announces his new policy for the ouertvrning of the age which hath ouerturned all righteousness: Ye Cleansing Of Ye Lande. The Cerebites shall travel from Town Center to Town Center, gathering all of the women together, and then take a vote among the men: All Deuils, Uipers, and Scorpions are shot in the head, all normal women and angels are allowed to go.

#277: Cerebus as Spore explains his scripture and the men start to kill off the women they consider devils, vipers and scorpions. Spore and his Spore's Spores went from community center to community center "cleansing" it of the devils, vipers and scorpions. Cerebus gets rid of the

spore costume and Spore's Spores starting calling themselves Cerebites. Cerebus can't remove the white of the Spore costume from his head so he puts a bag with eyeholes over his head. With the women that desired to become angels, the men built houses for them.

Front of book: Letter from Nick Zivkovic regarding the usage of some of his material by Dave in an issue of Cerebus.

Back of book: Islam, My Islam, part 3.

#278: Cerebus lays down the rules of the land regarding a man and his wife and his stronghold (not her house). Cerebus recalls all the women that came by with home cooked meals and for other things (if you get Cerebus' drift). Cerebus institutes the new calendar with wintermonth, springmonth, summermonth and Steve. First mention of the "Nation of Cerebus". Cerebus lays down more rules including the Complete Dick Rule wherein 12 guys could declare a guy a "complete dick" and blow his head off. Cerebus takes up bird watching once society is going the way he believes it ought to go. Sometimes his birds aren't really birds (if you get Cerebus' drift). The 10:13 crisis occurs when in Northern Isshuria takes offense at something in The Booke of Rick. Turns out it is that Rick put Five Bar Gate behind food and drink on his list. Koshie has a stroke.

Front of book: Review of The Comics Journal #239 by Dave.

Back of book Islam, my Islam continued.

#279: Cerebus recalls the deaths of the Three Wise Fellows. Cerebus takes up reading and collecting a read called "Rabbi" by Garth Inniscent. He hunted down every issue and then declared himself Estarcion's Greatest Living Rabbi Expert. Cerebus sacrifices his Rabbi collection to write "The. One. Definite. Guide to Rabbi." Someone then gives him a copy of a 21 year old copy of The Reads Journal wherein is an interview with Garth Inniscent. Wherein Garth explains how he created Rabbi for his son but then realized the Cerebus was reading it as well. When he realized that Cerebus wasn't going to kidnap him to talk to him, he turned Rabbi into a way to have the ever mentally unstable Cerebus destroy the Cirinists. Garth then instructed someone to give the interview to Cerebus after his death to turn Cerebus into a drooling vegetable. Cerebus then walks around for the next couple of days saying Darr Pretty Sun-Sets and Darr Pretty Flowers with his robe and his mug pointing at stuff. Someone arrives and says "Mungu. Mungu Mkono."

Back of book: Islam, my Islam continued and a dedication to Harry Kremer who passed away on 12 March 2002.

#280: We meet Konigsberg, The Not So Good Samaritan. He has given Cerebus the Books of Moshe (not to be confused with Moshie the Wise Fellow) and Cerebus starts reading them with a magnifier glass. At first Cerebus laughs at it ("A talking snake!?!"), but then he decides to put Konigsberg up in a room as it will take Cerebus longer then he thinks to read it. Cerebus comes up with the idea of "Yoohwhoo" and his reading of the Torah begins.

Back of the book: Islam, my Islam continued.

#281: More of Konigsberg's dealings and feelings of inadequacy with women. More of Cerebus reading the Torah. The Cerebites participate in "Subduing the Earth." Cerebus tells Konigsberg how he believes Yoohwhoo only believes that she is god, but when in fact, she isn't.

Front of book: A letter from Dave to Blake Bell about Blake's request for input from Dave on the book "I Have to Live With This Guy!".

Back of the book: Islam, my Islam continued.

#282: Konigsberg gets married. Cerebus continues his reading of the Torah. Cerebus on Yoohwhoo: "Circumcising someone who hasn't got a dick or a foreskin? [wincing] that is just plain sick. [sighs] But, then, that's Yoohwhoo."

Front of book: A letter from Dave to The New Yorker magazine.

Back of the book: Islam, my Islam concluded.

#283: Cerebus continues his reading of the Torah. Konigsberg seeks mental help. Cerebus talks about Sodom and Gomorrah.

Front of book: Acknowledgement Sgt. 1st Class Christopher J. Speer.

Back of the book: Why Canada Slept.

#284: Konigsberg talks to Cerebus about how his wife could cheat on him with Beatty. We are witness to Fruitcake Park where the girls who were too evil to live but too beautiful to kill were sent. Cerebus continues his reading of the Torah.

Front of book: Letter to VFW Commander Major John Russo (Ret.)

Back of Book: Why Canada Slept. Continued.

#285: Cerebus continues his reading of the Torah.

Front of book: Letter from James Ricardo to Dave about James' upcoming movie release "Hey DJ".

Back of book: Howard E. Day Memorial Prize 2002. Dave talks about how he came up with the Day Prize and talks about SPACE.

#286: Cerebus continues his reading of the Torah.

Front of book: Letter from Will Eisner to Dave.

Back of Book: Why Canada Slept. Continued.

#287: Cerebus continues his reading of the Torah. Konigsberg puts on a mouse mask and gets a girlfriend. Has a bunch of kids. Konigsberg takes off the mouse mask and starts dating one of his girlfriends step daughters, Swan. Roll credits.

Back of Book: Why Canada Slept. Continued.

#288: Credits rolling. Pull back to see an empty movie theater where we hear Cerebus talking to someone. The voice asks if she reminds him of Joanne at all. Cerebus says not one bit and we see who he is talking to: A Jaka look a like (not like-a-look). Cerebus pronounces them husband and wife.

Back of Book: Why Canada Slept. Continued.

The Last Day

Intro: Latter Days book 2: The Last Day: Issues # 289 / 290 to 300, covering Cerebus' last day. The covers when placed side by side form his room.

Issue #289 / 290: Double issue. Cerebus dreams of the creation story. This creation story deals with God and Yoohwhoo. It is also tied into quantum physics, Einstein's General Theory of Relativity and other hard sciences. I can't really sum this up properly for the Rex II, you'll have to read it for yourself. There are footnotes, but not be intimidated, it is an interesting read.

Issue #291: Cerebus wakes up from his dream with the urge to write it down, the book. Cerebus is much older now, wearing diapers and gumming his mouth. As he makes it down the stairs from his bed, he slips and falls, pant's top still in hand. Several mind bogglingly slow pages later he makes it to his desk and starts to write. We see an outside shot of the Sanctvarie and it has tons of graphitti on it. Cerebus mentions "That Bitch (no swearing) "New" (hah!) 'Joanne'" and we see Cerebus' son Shep Shep. We learn that Cerebus is locked in his room. This also seems to surprise Cerebus, but not Corporal Walter O'Reilly, who knows the punch line to Cerebus' joke before Cerebus even says it.

Front of Book: Letter to CBG "The One They Never Printed" which discusses Renegade Press.

Back of Book: Why Canada Slept. Continued.

Back cover: Pictures of Dave from the early 1980s.

Issue #292: Cerebus reminisces about his son: playing Five Bar Gate with him, drinking Griz with him, going fishing with him and telling him stories of Ham and Bear. Cerebus begs God to bring Shep Shep back to him and it starts to rain. Cerebus thinks about why Shep Shep hasn't been to see Cerebus for the past 10 to 15 years. Cerebus tells himself the story of the woman who never prayed to god and who has gangrene. So Cerebus takes forever getting out of his chair and gets on his knees and starts to pray to God. The rain stops and we hear O'Reilly outside saying how Shep Shep is coming to visit. Cerebus thanks God.

Front of Book: Endings essay.

Back of Book: Why Canada Slept. Continued.

Back cover: A picture of Dave and Harlan Ellison, and a short essay by Dave on his first meeting with Harlan.

Issue #293: Cerebus talks with Corporal O'Reilly about the treaty between Cerebus and The United Sanctuaries Security Council for Shep Shep to visit. Cerebus forgets what he has to tell Shep Shep. Then he remembers: The Book. Then he has a hot flash. Cerebus prays for just one good fart before he dies. Also, the Le Sanctuaire Upper Felda des Ricke and Joanne, Lesbiennes denies his request to see his son.

Front of Book: Dear Milo, letter to Milo George of the Comics Journal

Back of Book: Why Canada Slept. Continued.

Issue #294: Cerebus has a response for the Ricke and Joanne “lesbiennes”. Cerebus has a cold spell so he puts his pants back on. Cerebus practices for meeting his son. Cerebus looks up the staircase and we see it from his perspective: blurry, white spots and unable to see the top. Cerebus thinks to himself that it looks familiar. Cerebus remembers what drove Shep Shep away: the music festival and how abortion became a right. The Ricke and Joanne “lesbiennes” maintain their veto.

Front of Book: Endings II essay.

Back of Book: Aardvark Comment

Issue #295: Cerebus offers something to try and reach a compromise. The kitchen sent up cheese for Cerebus and he chooses the lightly smoked hickory cheese that gives him heart burn. Cerebus eats all his cheese and gets heart burn. Shep Shep arrives and is waiting downstairs.

Front of Book: Endings III essay.

Back of Book: Getting Riel essay part one

Issue #296: An outside shot of the Sancturaire is shown with genetically modified people and other odd things going on outside the front gate. Cerebus’ heart burn acts up something fierce and O’Rielly thinks he is mad about the veto. Cerebus collapses on the floor because his heart burn is so bad. He has a dream with all symbolic endings. Cerebus thinks he hears a knock at the door, and thinking it is Shep Shep he gets up and answers it. But it isn’t Shep Shep instead O’Rielly has a statement from the Ricke and Joanne “lesbiennes” that Cerebus must sign if he wants to see his son.

Front of Book: Endings IV essay.

Back of Book: Getting Riel essay part two. Also Chester Brown’s notes for “My Mom was a Schizophrenic” and Chester’s 6 page comic “My Mom’s was a Schizophrenic”.

Issue #297: Cerebus’ vision getting worse, he manages to get to the door, get the statement, sign it and give it back to O’Rielly. The outside shot shows the sun starting to set. Cerebus doesn’t make it up to his bed, but prays on the steps to his bed. Cerebus finally gets in bed, and feels like saying Rosebud.

Front of Book: Endings V essay.

Back of Book: Getting Riel essay part three

Issue #298: The outside shot shows the sun set and it is now night. We hear someone trying out different keys. The door opens and someone walks into Cerebus’ room. It is Shep Shep. We learn that Shep Shep’s name is really Sheshesh Ankh for “Living Symbol”. Shep Shep tells the New Joanne version of the “I remind you of Joanne” scene when we first see New Joanne.

Front of Book: Endings VI essay.

Back of Book: Preview of Askari Hodari by Glenn Brewer (Day Prize Recipient 2004), and essay by Dave on the book, and Aardvark Comment.

Issue #299: Shep Shep asks Cerebus if Cerebus still insisted that the Character in F. Stop's "Pleasure's Simple Life" wasn't based on Joanne. Cerebus pictures Jaka and his head and said that is right, she isn't. We get more revised history from Shep Shep from New Joanne's point of view. Cerebus asks Shep Shep what is in the box. So Shep Shep explains to him what it is and shows him the baby-lion creature that is a clone of Shep Shep. We see Shep Shep's plans for the future. The creature is put back in the box and Shep Shep leaves the room. Cerebus in his disgust gets his sword from under his pillow and goes to kill Shep Shep.

Front of Book: Endings VII essay.

Back of Book: Aardvark Comment

Issue #300: Cerebus dies. Alone. Unmourned. Unloved. Well, kinda. Jumping off the bed to kill Shep Shep, the stairs fall over and take Cerebus with them: breaking his neck in the process. One last fart, and Cerebus dies. Cerebus sees his live flash before his eyes, a light comes out from above, and a voice, and a hand beckon Cerebus to come into the light. Once Cerebus see it is Jaka and all his friends (and some other acquaintances) he changes into Rabbi and jumps into the light. To realize all too late that Rick isn't there, so perhaps this is not where he wants to be going. He calls out to God, but it is too late and the hands drag him into the light.

Front of Book: Endings VII essay.

Back of Book: Aardvark Comment, Letter from Dave to his lawyer detailing some of the Cerebus Archive, and A Prayer.