

LITTLE DEBBIE AND THE MAGIC SHROOMS

Graphic Novel

Written by Suzette Jewett

-SAMPLE-

Copyright © 2016 Suzette Jewett

Suzette.Jewett@outlook.com

PAGE ONE**Panel 1**

JOSH (19) wavy, overgrown, shaggy brown bangs peek out from under the yellow and red rubber chicken on his head. A big, brown, upside down, dead roach is printed on his yellow T-shirt beneath a prohibit sign—red circle with a 45-degree diagonal line inside the circle, from upper-left to lower-right. The T-shirt is worn over his plain, white, long-sleeve shirt, which hangs over his black and white, cow print, sueded, fringed chaps that tie over his blue jean thighs, that scrunch over white sneakers. The costume hides his lanky frame. His lack of confidence is made visible by a humpback. The bangs express his state of being—mostly to hid his emotions. RANDOLPH “ROACH” (20) blond straight, spikey tips shoot around an antenna headband, bug-eye glasses rest on his face with the plastic eyes resting on the coffee table. A blue muscle shirt and khaki cargo shorts hang loosely on his stocky, build, and his sockless feet fit in red sneakers. He's a goofy, and paranoid character that has blind confidence. Both guys are passed out amongst the post-party clutter inside Roach's dimly lit contemporary living room. A closed crème-colored front door is along the same wall as the picture window. The street lamp illuminates the cars in the parking lot, shining a spotlight into the living room through open tan curtains. Josh is asleep, belly up while lying on a pale, brown leather couch across from Roach, who's asleep belly down on the dark wooden coffee table. It's 4 a.m. and they're surrounded by half-full snack bowls, empty beer cans, and various weed bongs. Roach's unzipped, green 'Where's Waldo' backpack is snuggled in Josh's arms. The furniture arrangement is laid out like an L-shape. The coffee table and dark wood end tables are spaciouly askew in a 45-degree angle, instead of straight, forward. One end table resides between the love seat and couch, while the other is next to the couch—this end table is separated far enough away to allow Josh's body to lean against the wall—facing the front door and window. There are low lit lava lamps that rest on the end tables. An upturned silver and black football helmet with chrome fasteners is in front of the end table that's nearest the couch. LITTLE DEBBIE, a blonde, well-endowed, half-naked blowup doll wears a lopsided, ill-fitted, fuchsia, lace and silk, one-

piece lingerie. She lays prone on the floor in front of the upturned helmet, beside the coffee table.

1. BARISTA CHICK: (OP)

Josh.

Panel 2

Josh bolts up, and knocks off Roach's 'Where's Waldo' unzipped backpack. He's unaware of the apparition behind him. MADELINE "BARISTA CHICK" (21) long, dark, wavy hair, curvaceous figure, assertive pose, transparent apparition stands behind the couch's arm rest where Josh is sitting upright. She wears a pumpkin and cocoa colored, extremely short, bottom-ruffled skirt work uniform, with black sneakers, and a black satin choker around her neck—no employee name plate.

Panel 3

Josh falls back to sleep on the couch. Barista Chick is standing over him. The carpet is littered with the contents of Roach's 'Where's Waldo' backpack. There're various colored and shaped bongs, bug spray, foil-sealed condoms, bags of mushrooms, and a bong keychain with keys on them.

2. JOSH SFX: ZZZZ

3. BARISTA CHICK: (OP)

Come, Josh. Come for me.

4. JOSH:

I can hear you. But I can't see you.

Panel 4

Josh snatches at the air in front of him.

5. JOSH:

Where are you?

COPYRIGHT © SUZETTE JEWETT

PAGE TWO**Panel 1**

Josh's still asleep on the couch when his dream sequence begins:

Inset 1

Dressed the same, Josh faces a black classic car with chrome trim on a deserted foggy dark street, which is the street across from the café Barista Chick works at.

Inset 2

Josh stands next to the car with a contorted, painful expression as he peers through the car window and sees a lifeless, dark shadowy woman in the backseat. Josh stares at the shiny, undone belt buckle on her pair of black jeans, where her white, short-sleeve, V-neck shirt is untucked, resting on her midriff. The lamppost beams, illuminating light through the window. The beam hits her belt buckle, sending light prism rays to glitter along the leather backseat. The light rays shoot out the window, touching his chest.

Inset 3

Josh's arms are up, one knee is in the air, surprised at the blare of a car horn.

1. JOSH SFX: HORN

Panel 2

Josh's body is in a bolted, upright position with a shock and frightened face, panting. The dream sequence ends.

PAGE THREE

Panel 1

Josh is upright, rubbing his eyes around the curtain of bangs crushed by the rubber chicken on his head.

1. JOSH:
What was that?

Panel 2

Josh power walks in the opposite direction of the voice.

2. BARISTA CHICK: (LOUD, OP)
Josh!

Panel 3

Josh's bangs are pushed back. He stares at his reflection in the bathroom mirror.

3. JOSH: (BURST)
It's just a dream! Just a dream.

Panel 4

Josh's head is bowed, his bangs hang straight down in a V-formation, his shoulders are hiked up to his ears, with his hands on the faucet handle, frustrated.

4. JOSH:
Get a hold of yourself.

PAGE FOUR**Panel 1**

Josh white-knuckles the counter while he stares at the water running down the drain.
 Josh's flashback sequence begins:

Inset 1

Josh stares at Barista Chick, who's squished between Roach's eclectic costumes party-goers. A tall man with cropped hair stands behind her in black clothes and mustard-colored boots. Josh covertly watches her through his long bangs. Barista Chick wears a white, short-sleeve, V-neck shirt, black jeans with a shiny, belts buckle and black sneakers.

Inset 2

Barista Chick leans toward Josh. Josh's overgrown bangs hang down while he looks at his feet.

1. BARISTA CHICK:

Josh, you want to dance?

2. JOSH:

Um... I, ah...

Inset 3

ROID MAN (25) tall, cropped black hair, arrogant, steroid ridden, wears tight, black long-sleeve shirt that shows off his bulky muscles, tucked in with a white belt, black jeans, and mustard-colored boots. Roid Man has a hand on Barista Chick's shoulder as he leans down over her with his lips hovering over her ear. Josh watches the pair of them with his shoulders hiked up and his head bowed to the side, like he's hunched back.

Inset 4

Roid Man and Barista Chick head towards the front door. Barista Chick is peering over her shoulder at Josh. Josh's bangs hide his embarrassment and he kicks a beer can. Josh's flashback sequence ends.

PAGE FIVE**Panel 1**

Josh's left hand is on the faucet knob, and the water is off.

1. JOSH: (WEAK)

It's the shrooms. It has to be.

Panel 2

Josh looks at his reflection.

2. JOSH:

Yeah, that's it. It's the shrooms.

3. JOSH SFX: BREATHES

Panel 3

Josh glimpses at Barista Chick's apparition—over his shoulder—through the mirror's reflection. Barista Chick leans toward Josh with a stern expression.

4. BARISTA CHICK:

Hurry up chicken! Cross the road, and save me already. I can't wait all day.

Panel 4

Josh runs from the bathroom, with no apparition in sight. His left arm is extended in front of him. The right hand pulls off the rubber chicken on his head. His sueded, cow print, fringed chaps slap his thighs.

5. JOSH SFX: SQUELS

6. JOSH SFX: THWAPS

COPYRIGHT © SUZETTE JEWETT

PAGE SIX**Panel 1**

Josh stumbles on a long colorful bong in the midst of a floor full of empty beer cans and bong paraphernalia, along with the contents of the “Where’s Waldo’ backpack. His arms pinwheel as he descends. Roach’s asleep on the coffee table.

1. JOSH SFX: WHOA

Panel 2

Josh is on top of Little Debbie in a starfish position.

2. LITTLE DEBBIE SFX: SQUEAKS

Panel 3

Little Debbie’s arms and legs are pushed up from the air distribution as Josh scrambles to escape. It looks like she’s hugging him to her chest, with her legs up in the air between his own and her arms under his armpits.

3. LITTLE DEBBIE SFX: SQUEAKS

Panel 4

Josh is crawling away from Little Debbie’s clutches.

Panel 5

Roach is still asleep. His face rests in his pool of drool.

Panel 6

Josh pulls off Roach’s antenna headband and bug-eye glasses.

4. JOSH: (BURST)

Wake-up! Before I stomp you like the roach you are!

COPYRIGHT © SUZETTE JEWETT

PAGE SEVEN

Panel 1

Roach falls off the coffee table.

1. ROACH SFX: UGH

Panel 2

Roach is on his stomach facing the wall, with the front window at his heels.

2. ROACH:
Dude. Shoo. Don't bug me. Let the Roach be.

Panel 3

Josh comes down to his level on all fours and stares at him.

3. JOSH:
What did you give me last night?
4. ROACH:
Nothing you haven't buzzed on before.

PAGE EIGHT

Panel 1

Roach laughs. Josh sits on his calves in front of Roach.

1. ROACH SFX: LAUGHTER

2. ROACH SFX: COUGH

Panel 2

Josh gives Roach a death-glare.

3. JOSH:

I'm not buying it, Roach. I can see my dreams as if they're right in front of me.

Panel 3

Roach's eyes squint from the side-table lamp. His hand rests on Josh's cow print chaps.

4. ROACH SFX: LAUGHTER

Dude, you need to sleep it off. This isn't your first rodeo, you know?

Panel 4

Roach is on his knees with his back to the window. He tosses the blow-up doll at Josh—wiggling his eyebrows.

5. ROACH:

Here. Let the Little Debbie chase away your fears and yearnings.

PAGE NINE

Panel 1

Josh pushes Little Debbie away.

1. JOSH:

Get her away from me!

2. ROACH SFX: HICCUP LAUGHS

Panel 2

Roach picks up the black and silver football helmet with chrome fasteners, and vomits inside of it.

Panel 3

Josh stares at the glint of light that bounces off the football helmet's fastener due to the beam of light coming in from outside the living room. Josh's vision sequences begins:

Inset 1

Josh is bent at the waist, facing the open car window. He stares at the prism light bouncing off the shadowed woman's undone belt buckle from the street lamp.

Inset 2

Josh points his cellphone light at the shadowed woman's face, and is shocked to see it's Barista Chick.

3. JOSH SFX: GASPS

Panel 4

Josh's vision sequences ends.

PAGE TEN

Panel 1

Roach drops a bong—from off the carpet—into his ‘Where’s Waldo’ backpack while studying Josh. Pale-faced and crossed-legged with his wrist on his knees, Josh leans against the wall between the couch and the end table, zoned out.

1. ROACH:

Dude, you’re white as a ghost. What are you bugging out about?

2. JOSH:

I don’t know, Roach. I had a nightmare. Then I relived it when I woke.

Panel 2

Roach scratches his head while he scrutinizes Josh.

3. ROACH:

Was it bugs? Were they like creeping into your skull from your nose, mouth, and eye sockets?

Panel 3

Roach sprays bug spray at Josh. The bug spray creates a big foggy mist. Josh waves his hand through the foggy air.

4. JOSH:

No! Stop that. What is wrong with you?

5. ROACH:

Me? What’s wrong with you?

PAGE ELEVEN

Panel 1

Roach puts the bug spray in his 'Where's Waldo' backpack. Josh's bangs hang over the side of his face as he stares at the cloud of fog with a pensive, scowling expression.

1. JOSH:

In my nightmare, I saw Barista Chick laying in the backseat of her parked car with her belt buckle undone.

Panel 2

Roach waves away the fog with a 'so what' expression. A back profile of Josh facing Roach.

2. ROACH:

Dude, whatcha expect, she'd leave the part alone? The chick's hot! You've known her for what, two years? And you still haven't asked her out. That's on you.

3. JOSH SFX: SCOFFS

4. ROACH:

So, what? You're freaking out because some muscle dude on roids has bigger stones than you, and got there first?

Panel 3

Josh shrugs at Roach—still retaining a back profile. Roach gives Josh a 'come-on' look.

5. JOSH:

No! Yes, maybe... I don't know...

Panel 4

Josh waves away the last of the bug spray that lingers behind Roach. His attention snags at the glint of light gleaming off a chrome bumper in the driveway from the street light.

6. JOSH:

Nooooo!

Panel 5

Josh is standing up with his back to Roach. Josh's hands are threaded through his hair as he stares out the front—at the twinkling light coming off the chrome bumper Roach stares up at Josh from his position on the floor, gobsmacked.

Inset

FLASHBACK CLOSE-UP: Barista Chick lays prone on the backseat of her car with her shiny, undone belt buckle ricocheting prism rays from the lamppost light.

Panel 6

Josh's still in same position while he stares out the front window.

7. JOSH:

No! No, no, no, this can't be happening.

PAGE TWELVE

Panel 1

Josh pulls Roach into a standing position by pulling on his muscle shirt.

1. ROACH:

Get off me!

2. JOSH:

Think about it... why else would her spirit come to me?

Panel 2

Roach pulls away from Josh.

3. ROACH:

What are you talking about Fruit Loop?

Panel 3

Josh grabs Roach by the biceps and shakes Roach to and fro. Roach kicks, slaps, and bats Josh away.

4. ROACH:

Owe! Stop that. That hurts.

Panel 4

Josh turns and peers out the front window.

5. JOSH:

I thought it was a shroom-induced nightmare, but it's not. It. She was an apparition.

PAGE THIRTEEN

Panel 1

Roach stares with eyebrows raised at Josh with a ‘oh, yeah, he’s gone’ look.

1. JOSH:

She must be dead in the backseat. How else could she visit me if she wasn’t dead?

2. ROACH:

Sure... whatever you say.

3. JOSH:

Don’t you see! In my dream—I mean nightmare or vision—she was in the backseat lying there, dead-like with her buckle undone.

4. ROACH

No, I see, you’re still tripping.

Panel 2

Roach hits the back of Josh’s head.

5. JOSH SFX: OUCH

6. ROACH:

That’s the last time I give you any of my magic shrooms.

Panel 3

Roach sits on the coffee table, holding his ‘Where’s Waldo’ backpack between his legs.

Josh’s bangs hand down. Defiant, he kicks a beer can.

7. JOSH:

I'm not wrong—it's true.

Panel 4

Josh stands with his hands on his hips, staring down at Roach. Roach looks away from Josh, bored.

8. JOSH:

She left with that big muscle guy. Who knows what he is capable of?

9. ROACH:

You mean, Roid man.

10. JOSH:

We don't even know him. He could be a serial killer!

PAGE FOURTEEN

Panel 1

Roach threw a beer can at Josh. Josh wabbles—falling downward—from the direct hit to his chest.

1. ROACH:

Get a hold over yourself. She's fine.

Panel 2

Josh is crouched on the carpet in front of Roach. Roach has an arm extended on Josh's shoulder.

2. ROACH:

She's probably sleeping one off, like you should be.

Panel 3

Josh and Roach sit in silence amongst Little Debbie the blow-up doll, football helmet, one condom left on the carpet, and an empty beer can.

3. JOSH:

She wasn't sleeping. She was like... stiff.

Panel 4

Josh stares at Little Debbie half naked and the condom, when a memory resurfaces. Josh's flashback begins: Barista Chick lays prone on the backseat of her car with her shiny undone belt buckle ricocheting prism rays from the lamppost light.

Inset 1

Josh eyes Little Debbie in her lingerie.

Inset 2

Josh eyes the condoms left on the floor by the backpack.

Inset 3

Josh's eyes catch the light glinting off the helmet.

4. JOSH: (BURST)

Nooooo! Can't be...

COPYRIGHT © SUZETTE JEWETT

PAGE FIFTEEN

Panel 1

Josh burst up from his seated position on the carpet like a rocket.

1. JOSH: (BURST)

I think she might be... you know...

Panel 2

Roach grabs a hold of Josh's arms.

2. ROACH:

Get a hold of yourself.

Panel 3

Josh returns the gesture and grabs Roach's arms with a scared expression.

3. JOSH:

What if he...

4. ROACH:

I said, get a hold over yourself, not me.

Panel 4

Roach's arm extends to push Josh away. They both are mid-fall.

5. JOSH SFX: WHOA

6. ROACH SFX: AH

Panel 5

Josh and Roach are on the floor staring at the condom on the carpet.

7. JOSH:

You don't think Roid man, he'd—

8. ROACH:

Damn skippy!

Panel 6

Josh's bangs hang over his face.

9. ROACH:

Now, why is that worse than her being dead.

Panel 7

Josh stands above Roach and offers his hand to pull Roach up.

10. JOSH:

What if he tried to take advantage... I have to do something. We have to do something.

END OF SAMPLE