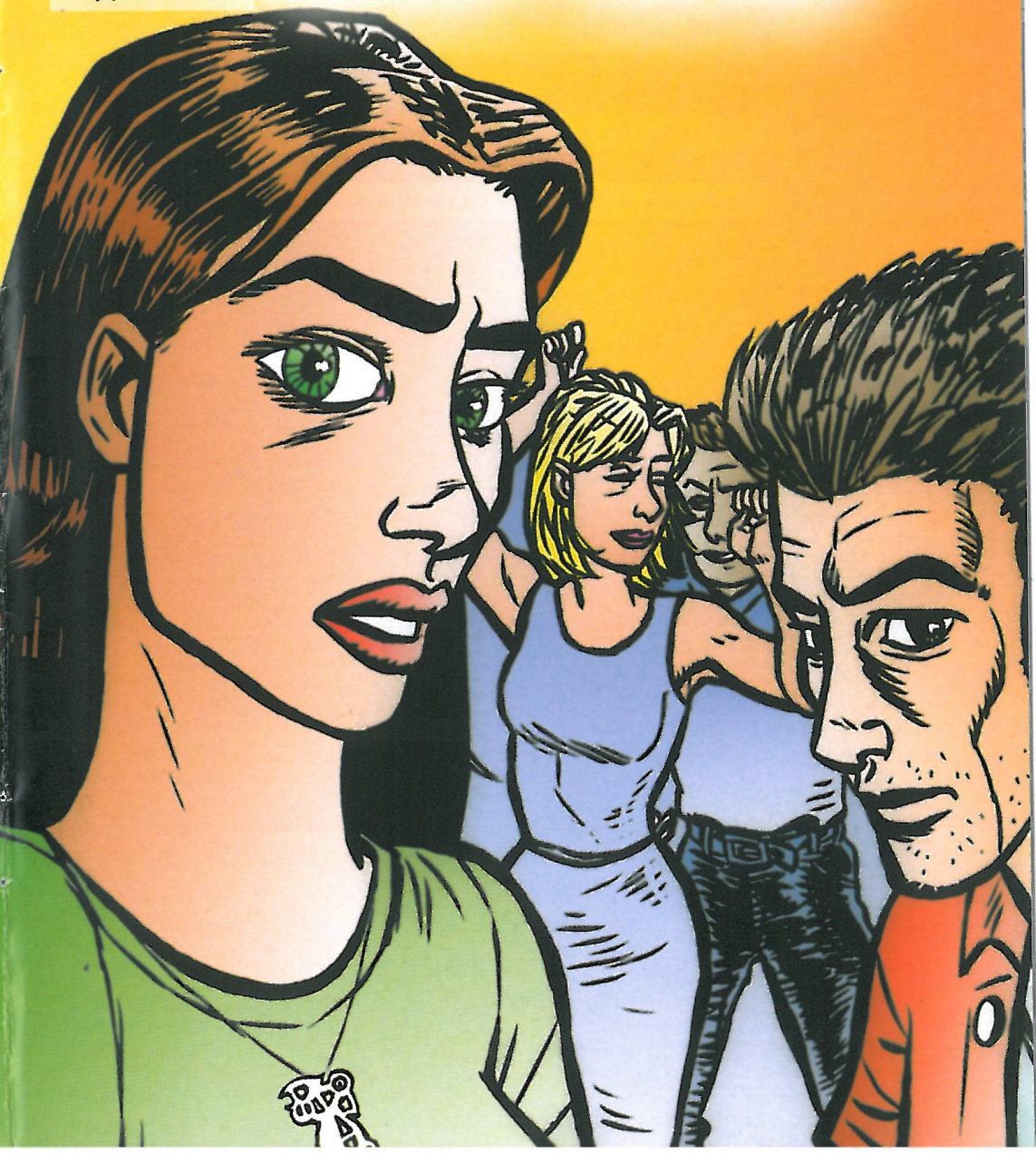




# SPIN



# Spin

Comic written and drawn by Dylan Horrocks

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IT'S **SATURDAY NIGHT...**

TIME TO MEET OUR STARS...

I AM GONNA GET **SO PISSED TONIGHT..**

MARIA!  
YOU'LL GET ANOTHER HIDING!



HERE'S

...MARIA

THERESA

AND SIMONE.

ONLY IF I GO HOME AGAIN...

MARIA'S ALWAYS BEEN A REAL PARTY ANIMAL...

BUT RECENTLY SHE'S BEEN A BIT UP AND DOWN...

MOSTLY DOWN!





UH OH. HERE COMES TROUBLE.

**YOW!** THAT'S SHANE - WHO **WAS** MARIA'S BOYFRIEND...



...UNTIL LAST MONDAY..!



NICE SHIRT, SHANE...

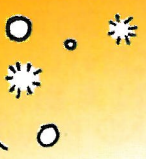


PITY ABOUT THAT UGLY STAIN ON THE SHOULDER!



I PLAN ON ENJOYING MYSELF TONIGHT MARIA...

SO PISS OFF!



GOOD ONE MARIA.



JUST FORGET HIM. HE'S NOT WORTH IT!



LISTEN, THERESA - THE ONLY GUY YOU'VE EVER GONE OUT WITH THOUGHT **CONDOM** WAS A PLACE IN FRANCE...

SO DON'T START GIVING ME ADVICE!



MEE-YOW!



WHAT'S WITH YOU, MARIA?


GOT YOUR MATE?



GO TO HELL!




MARIA!



LET HER GO. SHE'S TURNED INTO SUCH A BITCH!



I'M GONNA GO SEE IF SHE'S OKAY...



WHEN SOMETHING GETS YOU DOWN, THERE ARE LOTS OF THINGS YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT...

MARIA'S THING IS TO GET DRUNK AND PISS EVERYONE OFF...

GREAT, eh?

AND NOW LET'S MEET MIKE!

MIKE JUST MOVED HERE A FEW MONTHS AGO WITH HIS DAD...

LET'S TAKE A LOOK INSIDE HIS HEAD...



WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING HERE?!

YOU'RE A WEIRDO!  
A CREEP! A LOSER!

NO-ONE WANTS TO TALK TO YOU!

GIVE UP!  
GO HOME!

COME ON, MIKE-RELAX!  
HAVE FUN!

MEET PEOPLE!

DON'T LISTEN TO HIM - YOU'RE A COOL GUY!



Sigh.

WHEN MIKE FEELS DOWN, HE JUST TELLS HIMSELF TO CHEER UP.

TROUBLE IS - HE'S TOO BUSY GIVING HIMSELF A HARD TIME TO LISTEN!

HEY! WHAT'RE YOU LOOKIN' AT?!

SOME-TIMES HE'LL GO ROUND IN CIRCLES LIKE THIS FOR HOURS...





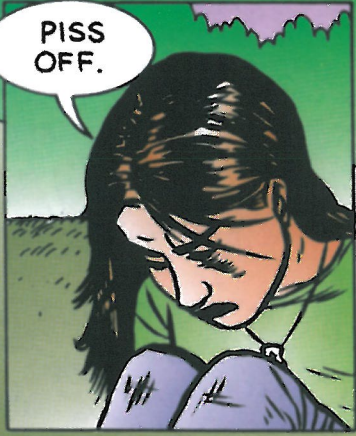
LET'S GO SEE HOW MARIA'S DOING.

WHAT A YEAR MARIA'S HAD!

FIRST HER NAN DIED... THEN SHE STARTED DOING BADLY AT SCHOOL, WHICH MADE HER PARENTS EVEN WORSE THAN USUAL! AND NOW HER BOYFRIEND'S DUMPED HER...



MARIA...



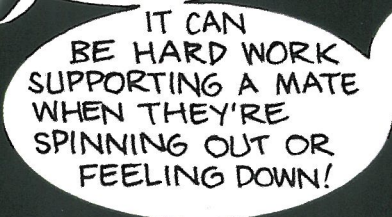
PISS OFF.

THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT SHANE, IS IT?

YOU'VE BEEN DOWN FOR AGES! WHAT'S GOING ON?

I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT.







BACK INSIDE THE PARTY, MIKE'S STILL GIVING HIMSELF A HARD TIME...

COME ON MIKE, DRINK UP! YOU'LL FEEL BETTER WITH A FEW BEERS IN YOU!!

ARE YOU KIDDING?! ALCOHOL IS A 'DEPRESSANT' - IT MAKES YOU FEEL WORSE!



**PARTY POOPER!**  
FACE IT KID - NOBODY LIKES YOU! NO WONDER YOUR MUM LEFT!!

SHE COULDN'T STAND LIVING WITH YOU ANY MORE!

THAT'S CRAP!

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT YOUR PARENTS SPLIT UP - THEY'VE GOT THEIR OWN PROBLEMS!

THINGS ARE ROUGH NOW, BUT THEY WILL GET BETTER!



HOW MUCH THINGS GET BETTER?!

YOU'RE A LOSER!

LIFE SUCKS!

SCHOOL SUCKS!

THIS PARTY SUCKS!

YOU'RE JUST HAVING A ROUGH TIME—YOU NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO ABOUT IT!



HA! TALKING DOESN'T DO ANYTHING!

NO-ONE LIKES YOU!

YOU'RE JUST A USELESS MISERABLE BASTARD!

BEFORE YOU MOVED, YOU HAD LOTS OF FRIENDS—THE GUYS IN THE BAND, YOUR MATES AT SCHOOL...



WELL NOW YOU HAVE NO FRIENDS AND NO-ONE TO TURN TO!

SO FORGET IT! YOU'RE ALL ALONE!!



THERE ARE HEAPS OF PEOPLE YOU COULD TALK TO!

YOU COULD RING ONE OF YOUR OLD MATES, OR TRY YOUR DAD, OR UNCLE DAVID...

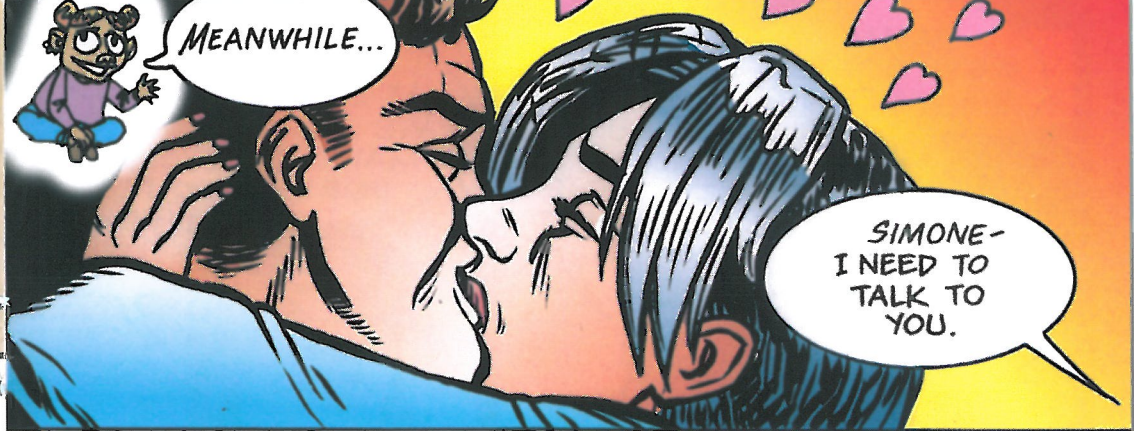
OR...



DAD AND I HAVEN'T HAD A REALLY GOOD TALK SINCE MUM LEFT!

MAYBE...?

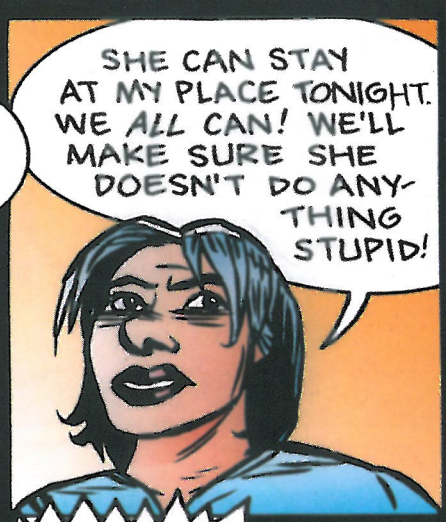




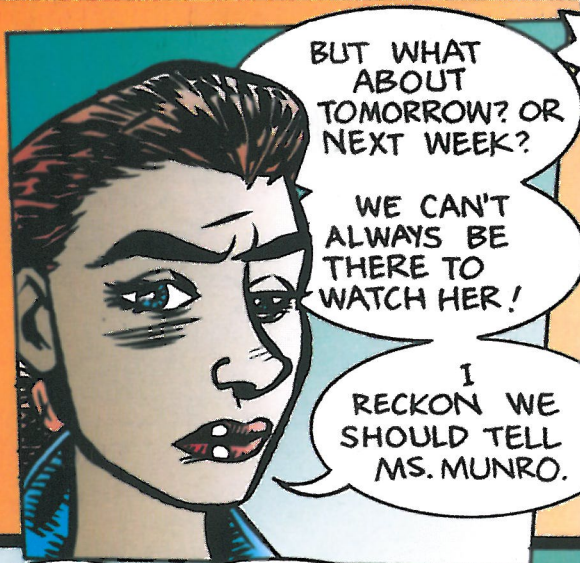


DAMN!  
WE'VE GOT TO  
DO SOMETHING!

BUT WHAT?  
HER MUM AND  
DAD WOULD GO  
CRAZY IF THEY  
FOUND OUT!



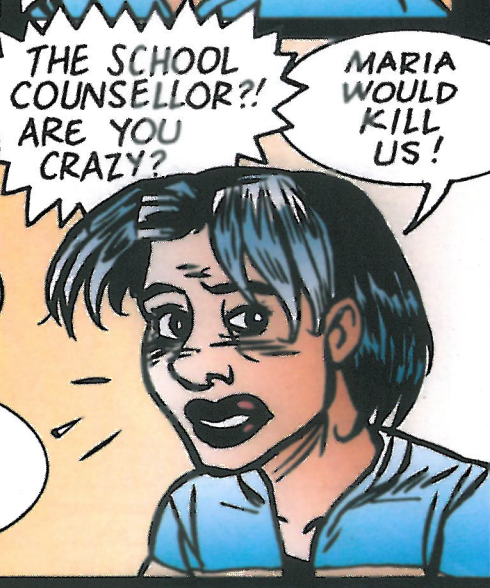
SHE CAN STAY  
AT MY PLACE TONIGHT.  
WE ALL CAN! WE'LL  
MAKE SURE SHE  
DOESN'T DO ANY-  
THING  
STUPID!



BUT WHAT  
ABOUT  
TOMORROW? OR  
NEXT WEEK?

WE CAN'T  
ALWAYS BE  
THERE TO  
WATCH HER!

I  
RECKON WE  
SHOULD TELL  
MS. MUNRO.



THE SCHOOL  
COUNSELLOR?!  
ARE YOU  
CRAZY?

MARIA  
WOULD  
KILL  
US!



MAYBE.

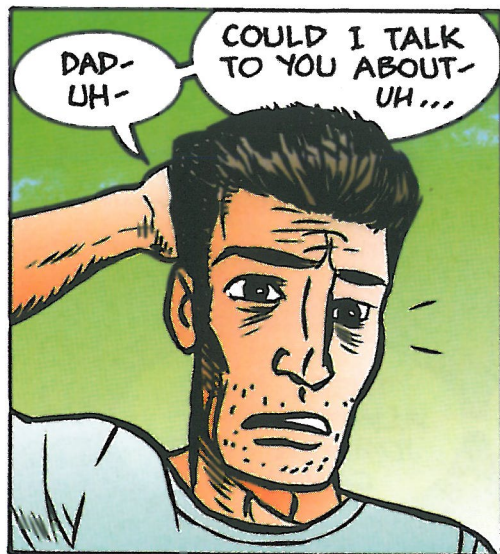
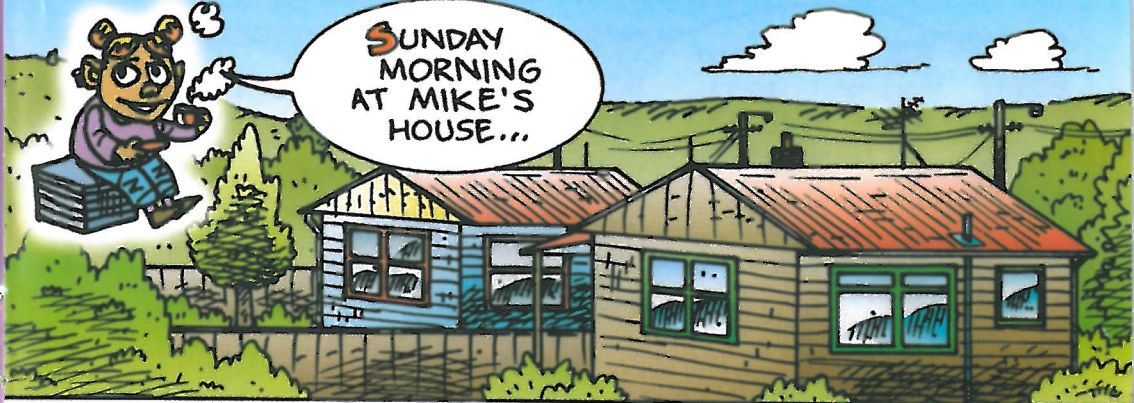
BUT I'D  
RATHER PISS  
HER OFF  
THAN LOSE  
HER...



DAMN  
STRAIGHT!

IF YOU  
THINK A FRIEND  
MIGHT HURT  
THEMSELVES...

1. TAKE IT SERIOUSLY!
2. TALK TO AN ADULT YOU TRUST!



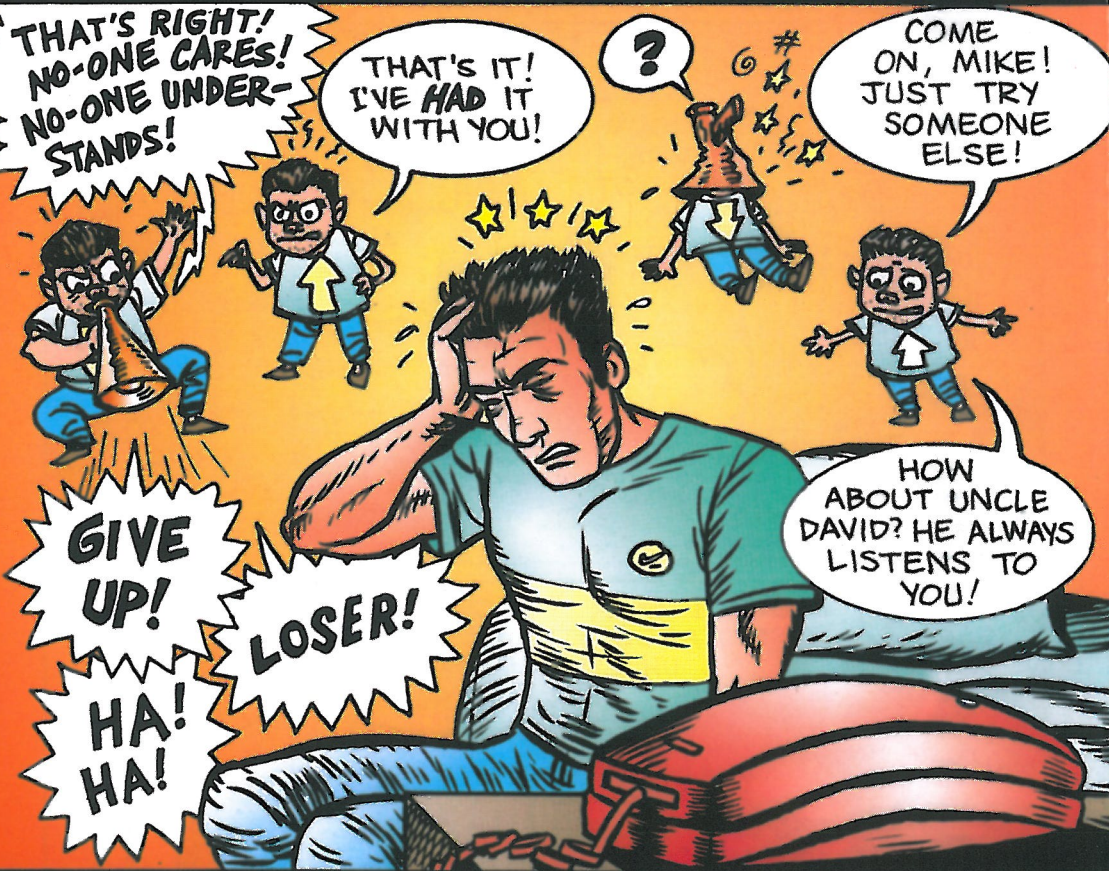


SEE?! I TOLD YOU SO! HE'LL JUST GIVE YOU A HARD TIME!

UH... NO, IT'S NOTHING, DAD.

HEY!

FORGET IT.



THAT'S RIGHT! NO-ONE CARES! NO-ONE UNDERSTANDS!

THAT'S IT! I'VE HAD IT WITH YOU!

? #

COME ON, MIKE! JUST TRY SOMEONE ELSE!

GIVE UP!

HA! HA!

LOSER!

HOW ABOUT UNCLE DAVID? HE ALWAYS LISTENS TO YOU!



YOU MIGHT NOT FIND THE RIGHT PERSON FIRST TIME...

BUT THERE WILL ALWAYS BE SOMEONE THAT CAN HELP!



HELLO?

HI-DAVID?

UM... OKAY... UH...

MIKE? HOW YA DOIN'?

HEY, ARE YOU ALRIGHT, MIKE? YOU SOUND A BIT DOWN...

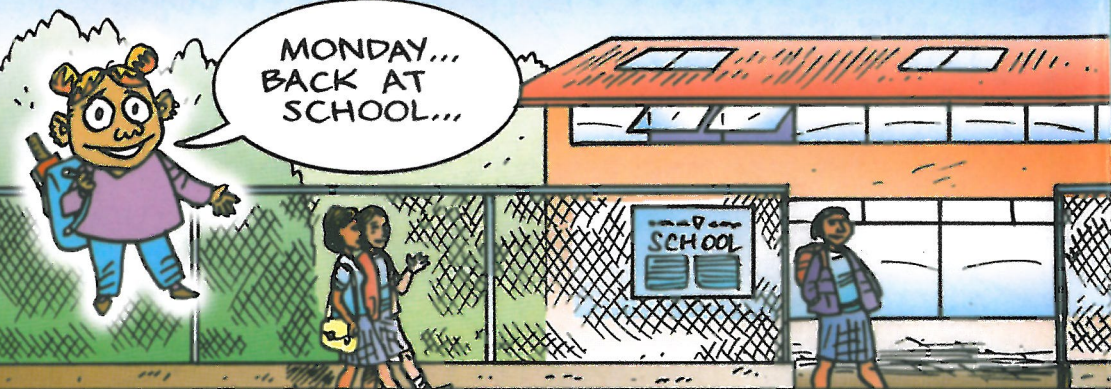


UNCLE DAVID--

I AM **SO** GLAD YOU ASKED THAT...

WELL, MIKE'S STILL GOT HIS PROBLEMS...

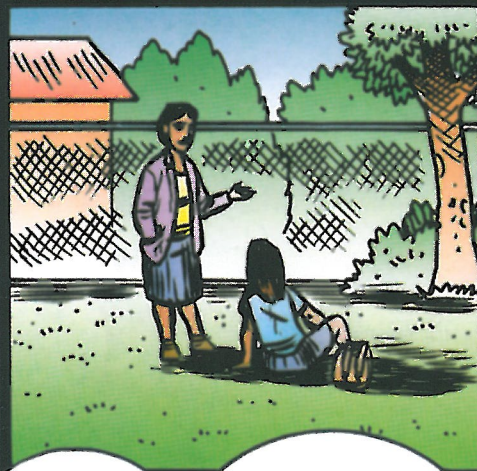
BUT THEY JUST GOT A LOT EASIER TO HANDLE!



ANYWAY, I'LL SEE IF I CAN HELP.

I JUST HOPE MARIA WON'T HATE ME FOR TELLING YOU...

DON'T WORRY! SHE'LL COPE!



'COUNSELLING' SOUNDS PRETTY FREAKY...

BUT A COUNSELLOR IS JUST SOMEONE WHO'S TALKED WITH LOTS OF PEOPLE ABOUT THEIR HASSLES.

THEY'VE SEEN WHAT HAS OR HASN'T WORKED FOR DIFFERENT PEOPLE...

THEY'VE USUALLY GOT A FEW IDEAS...





ANOTHER SATURDAY NIGHT,  
ANOTHER PARTY...

MAN, I LOVE THIS SONG!

MIKE STILL HAS GOOD DAYS AND BAD DAYS, BUT THE GOOD ONES ARE COMING MORE OFTEN...

AND THE BAD ONES AREN'T SO BAD...



AS FOR MARIA...

SHE'S READY TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF!

I AM NEVER, EVER GOING TO GET SO WORKED UP AGAIN OVER A GUY!

I'VE GOT TWO GREAT MATES - THAT'S ALL I NEED!

PHEW!

AMEN!



BY THE WAY...

DOES ANYONE KNOW IF MIKE'S GOT A GIRL-FRIEND..?

ARGH! Sigh

KIA KAHA!



**Everyone feels down some-  
times - and everyone has  
different ways of dealing  
with it.**

**Think about what you do  
when you're feeling down.**

**What things help and what  
doesn't? Do some things  
even make it worse? What  
brings you back up again?**



Some things which make it worse are alcohol, dope, not eating, not sleeping.

It's often really simple things that help - things you enjoy doing when you're fine. Like having fun with your friends, going shopping or to the movies, listening to good music, going to the beach or whatever.

Talking to someone about what's getting you down often helps a lot - friends, family, a teacher, the school counsellor - anyone you trust.

Sometimes it can feel like nothing will bring you up. If you feel out of control or your usual tricks don't work, you might need some help finding a way to feel better. Counsellors have talked to lots of people who are feeling down, so they often have lots of ideas about how to deal with things.

You can try talking to the school counsellor, school nurse or your doctor about it, or you could ring

**YOUTHLINE**

**FREEPHONE**

**0800 376 633**

