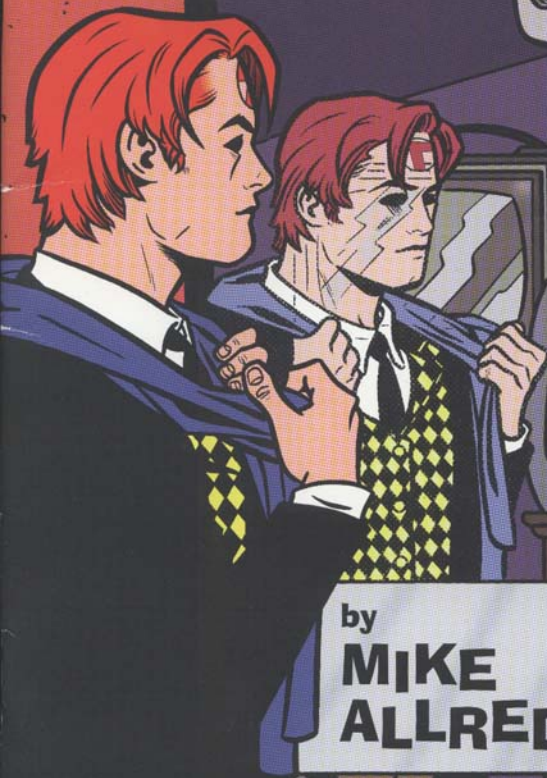


# RED ROCKET™



by  
**MIKE  
ALLRED**



««««« (HI-SCI-FI) »»»»»



# RED ROCKET 7

by  
**MIKE ALLRED**

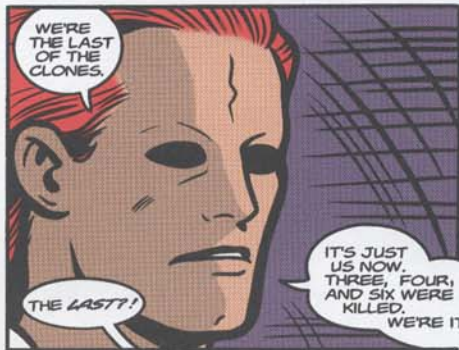
colors and separations by  
**Laura Allred**

publisher • Mike Richardson  
book design • Cary Grazzini  
top gear • Jamie S. Rich

RED ROCKET 7, v.5, October 1997. Published by Dark Horse Comics, Inc., 10955 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, Oregon 97222. Red Rocket 7 © 1997 Michael Allred. Red Rocket 7 and all other prominently featured characters are trademarks of Michael Allred. Legend™ is a 1935 Frank Miller, Inc. and John Byrne, Inc. Legend™ logo created by Mike Allred. Dark Horse Comics and the Dark Horse logo are registered trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. No portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or by any means, without the express written permission of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Names, characters, places, and incidents featured in this publication either are the product of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, events, institutions, or locales, without satiric intent, is coincidental. I am the frog. If you want me, printed in CANADA.









20 April '60

Dear Crazy Dog,

The whole country of Germany is still finding its identity after the shame of a war fought and lost on corrupt principles. The countryside is a contrast of beauty to the cities' Reeperbahn district and its decaying whoredom. But the city and its nightspots inspire me. I'm surrounded by other lost souls squeezing out a living. The ruins make me imagine what Celestion might have become without the exodus.

Lori writes me regularly. I discourage her even though her letters stick to me like treacle and help me believe in Heaven.

I'd been spending all my earnings on rooms for let until Bruno Koschmider, owner of the Kaiserkeller, let me have quarters for free as long as I play at his club. It's really just a cot behind the movie screen at the Bambi-Filmkunsttheater, a nasty little cinema Bruno owns. I can suffer a little if I can save some money. I'd like to buy some new gear.

IT'S GOING TO BE A TIGHT SQUEEZE.

17 August '60

Business is booming on the Reeperbahn. Especially for British acts. Bruno had me help move five lads from Liverpool into my humble residence. So, now it's me, the rats and The Beatles. What a crowd!

Pete Best, a bit quiet so I don't really have an opinion of him yet...

George Harrison, funny kid whose humor kind of sneaks on you,

and a striking artist type who reminds me of Red Five. His name's Stu Sutcliffe.

Turns out the other two guys remember me from Lori's picnic, John Lennon and Paul McCartney. Paul couldn't be nicer despite the long trip. John, on the other hand, the cocky mouthy sort.

SO, I SHOWED HIM SOME MOVES.

YOU BLEEDIN' WANKER! YOU NEVER MET BLEEDIN' ELVIS!

LET US GET READY, LADS! WE'LL HAVE TO *PULL* OURSELVES AWAY FROM THE GREAT ELVIS GURU!!

I wanted to punch him out first thing just to shut him up. I'm going to have to think about escaping these close quarters.

Bruno has them opening his new dive, The Indra Club, tonight! And five to six hours a night every night. I shouldn't worry.

MACH SCHAU!!

20 November '60

maybe it's the slimming pills, but...

They probably won't last long.

They don't quit, they just keep getting stronger. They love to rock American. They play a lot of Buddy Holly and Chuck Berry.

Bruno has been playing them with Rory Storm and the Hurricanes at the Kaiserkeller since early October. They even recorded a cut last month on the 15th. Pete didn't make it so they used Rory's drummer, Ringo Starr.

...HERE'S *MUD* INTO YOUR EYE! AND THERE WAS.

MYAH-MAN!

After the first week with John I thought I would be pushed to murder, but somehow he's become my greatest friend and confidant.

WHAT IS A SOUL ANYWAY?

AND DO I HAVE MY OWN?

After a full night of jamming, I actually confided in him my purpose. He laughed and has been calling me "spaceman" ever since.

ALL TRUTH.

OUTER SPACE? YOU'RE A LOONEY GIT, OL' SON.





15 April '61

I got a jolt last night when I thought I saw an Enfinite Assassin hiding on line at the club. I told the stage manager I was too sick to go on and begged off the bill.



Paul's picked up the bass since Stu lost interest in the band. Astrid and his paintings have taken their place in his heart.



1 May '61

Lori gave me the surprise of my short life on April 1st when she showed up with John, Paul, George and Pete when they returned to Hamburg to play the Top Ten Club.



Lori has two younger siblings, Marnie and Eric. They've followed the Beatles at the Cavern.



7 April '62 The Ealing Club

I made my way to London to see what I could stir up while Lori mends things with her folks. I found a great blues spot.



They're not the same band I met last August. The immeasurable hours of constant playing have turned them into performing dynamos and hometown heroes in Liverpool.



19 Jan '62

Astrid has talked everyone but Pete into a new 'do that's all the rage in France.



I'm still not sure if I really saw an Enfinite but the thought has kept me off the stage. I'm looking for other ways to make money.



John talked him into flying me to help out their road manager, Neil Aspinall, a friend of Pete Best and his family.



Astrid met us at the airport alone. Stu is gone. He died of a brain hemorrhage just yesterday. Only 22. Nothing seems real.



I can't shake the feeling that I'm not allowed a real life...that I don't deserve her.



I've gone back with Lori to Liverpool to meet her folks. At first they were thrilled just to have their daughter back safe and healthy.



But their resentment towards me didn't stay hidden long.



Back in England John married his fiancée, Cynthia Powell. He then headed straight to Chester to play at the Riverpark ballroom.



The locals aren't too keen on Ringo. They seem to feel betrayed, especially since the band has been signed to Parlophone records and look to move to London.



I've been picking up recording techniques at Abbey Road studios. This I like. It's a whole different ballgame from performing. With recording it's all about capturing creativity.



George Martin is brilliant.



In London it's clear that what happened in the States in the fifties is happening again here. All the fragmented influences in music are adding up to even more varied exciting wholes.



And the girls! I wonder if Red Thres and Red Six are getting the girls hanging with the Einstein crowd.

The Beatles played the royal command performance tonight. It's official! National heroes! Still, it reminds me of Elvis singing to a hound dog. Could the same leather lads in Hamburg play for the Queen Mother? John managed to get off a good one.



4 November, '63

I like being around it without being a part of it. I don't desire the adoration of faceless thousands. The love Lori gives me is more than I can accept or have a right to.



Epstein pushes John, Paul, George and Ringo to greater heights and I've been getting more work as an engineer and session musician.



Maybe it's my increasing paranoia or the loss of life fame seems to eat up, but the lure of the stage has lost its hold on me.



The Rolling Stones are filling the role of bad boy rebels to counter the Beatles romance with the mainstream. We all want to see them play the Crawdaddy tonight. They're great with their own niche. They're making their own way without dripping with affected charm.



23 November '63



7 December '63

Beatlemania is spreading around the world.

All three networks in the U.S. have broadcast feature stories on the phenomenon.



The Beatles are everywhere, constantly playing to live venues and national TV shows.



13 October '63

It's Beatlemania!

That's what they called it tonight on the Palladium TV show.



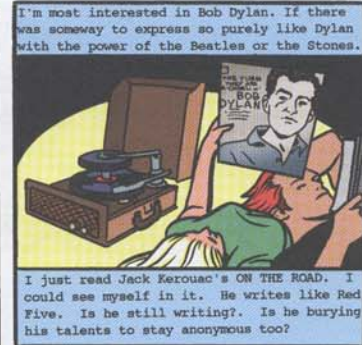
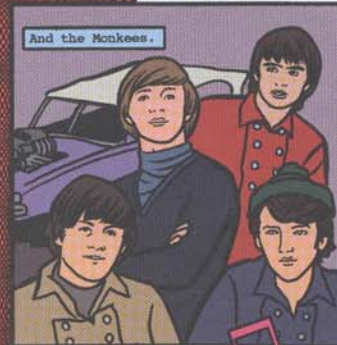
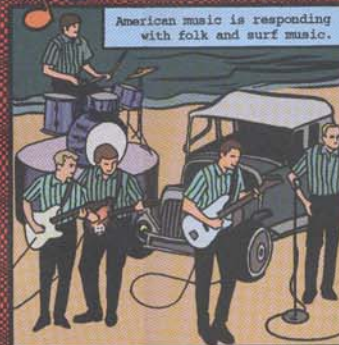
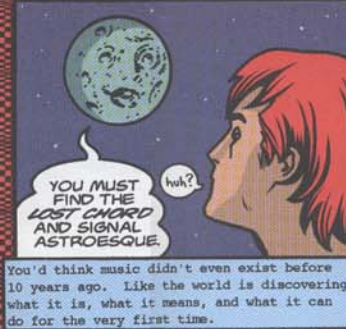
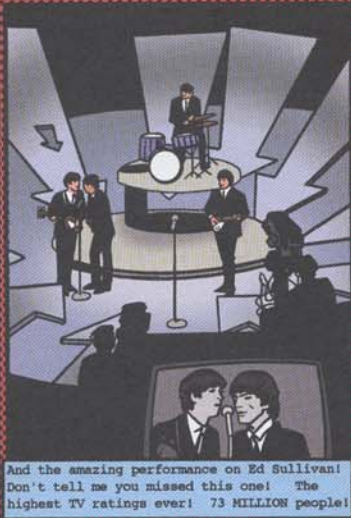
21 February '64

Following their Paris success I was invited to go stateside with them. In addition to helping out Neil, I think John felt I could show them the ropes since I'd spent so much time in New York. I could sense a silent fear of failure. No one wanted to return to the UK defeated by the Yanks.



Well, the opposite is happening. Before the trip "I Want to Hold Your Hand" went from no.43 to no.1 in one week!

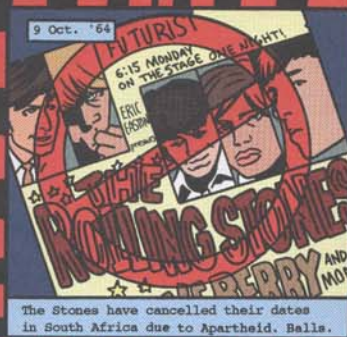








The Rolling Stones are burning up the States. They showed up at Chess Records like kids in a candy store.



The Stones have cancelled their dates in South Africa due to Apartheid. Balls.



Garage rock is blooming in America. Everyone is in a band or at least wants to be. I'm getting the itch.



Alan Freed dies of uremia  
The man who coined the phrase Rock and Roll has died of uremia in Palm Springs, the 20th. He was 38.



I started a band, the Atomic Super Sonica. We were going to make our debut tonight but I made the mistake of riding with Mick, Keith and Bill. We had to relieve ourselves on a wall when we weren't allowed to use the WC.



We've been arrested for insulting behavior.



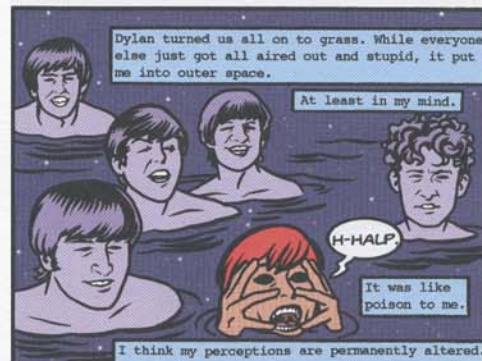
Why would Clapton leave? That's the end of him.



It's called "Satisfaction". We just layed it down at Chess Records. Man, I dig this song!



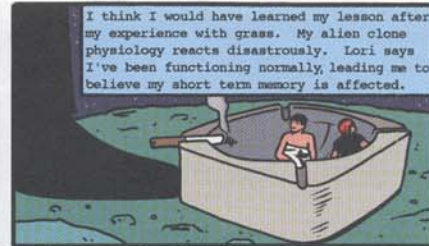
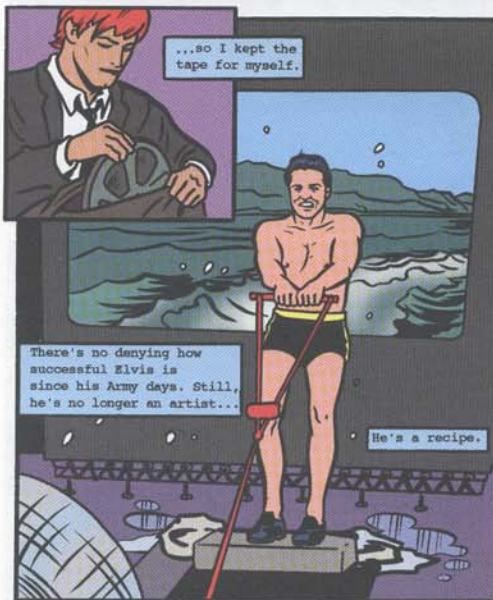
I need to feel roots. My mind is all stretched out. Reality is avoiding me.



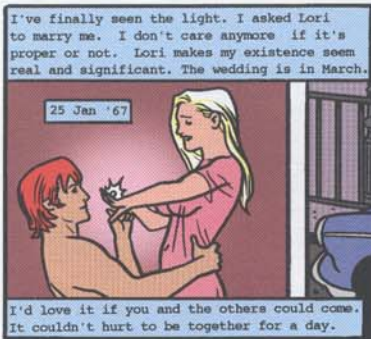
H-HALP  
It was like poison to me.  
I think my perceptions are permanently altered.



It was great visiting again, Crazy Dog. Hey, I saw Elvis again! I got to tag along when the Beatles visited at his Beverly Hills mansion. It was great, but Elvis seems lost in his bubbled world.



















HE WAS BADLY INJURED ON IMPACT.

THE OXYGEN MALFUNCTIONED, AND HE BLEW HIMSELF OUT OF THE AIRLOCK BEFORE HE SUFFOCATED.

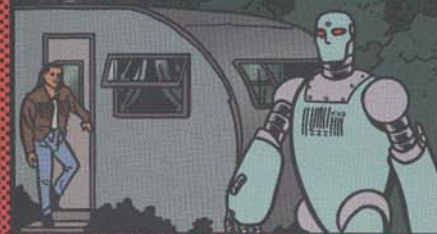


WHEN CRAZY DOG FOUND HIM...



THE SHOCK AND THE BLOOD LOSS PUT HIM OUT FOR QUITE A FEW DAYS.

WHILE THE ORIGINAL WAS RECOVERING, THE PRISON ORG WOULD SHOW UP IN THE EVENING FOR A FEW MINUTES AND THEN WALK BACK INTO THE OCEAN.



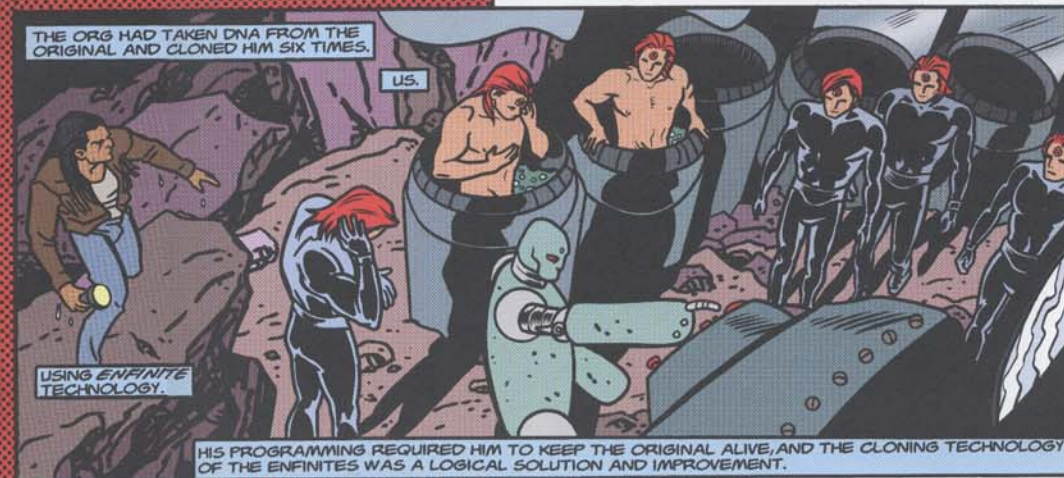
AFTER THE THIRD EVENING, CRAZY DOG FOLLOWED THE ORG TO TRY AND SEE WHAT IT WAS DOING.



UHHH



PAH



THE ORG HAD TAKEN DNA FROM THE ORIGINAL AND CLONED HIM SIX TIMES.

U.S.

USING ENFINITE TECHNOLOGY.

HIS PROGRAMMING REQUIRED HIM TO KEEP THE ORIGINAL ALIVE, AND THE CLONING TECHNOLOGY OF THE ENFINITES WAS A LOGICAL SOLUTION AND IMPROVEMENT.





# **DARK HORSE COMICS, INC.**

Neil Hankerson • executive vice president  
 David Scroggy • vice president of publishing  
 Andy Karabatsos • vice president of finance  
 Mark Anderson • general counsel  
 Randy Stradley • creative director  
 Cindy Marks • director of production & design  
 Mark Cox • art director  
 Sean Tierney • computer graphics director  
 Michael Martens • director of sales & marketing  
 Tod Borteske • director of licensing  
 Dale LaFountain • director of m.i.s.  
 Kim Haines • director of human resources

To order back issues of *Red Rocket 7* or other Dark Horse comics, call 1-800-862-0052 (Mon.-Fri. 8 A.M.-5 P.M., Pacific Time). Please have your order information and Visa or MasterCard ready. Or, send your clearly written order along with your name, address, daytime phone number, and your check or money order to: Dark Horse Comics, Dept. KSC, 10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222. Each issue of *Red Rocket 7* costs \$3.95 per copy. Include \$4.00 on all orders of 1 to 4 items. 5 or more items add \$6.00 for shipping & handling. Canadian orders add an additional \$1.00 to the shipping charge. Please allow 4-6 weeks for your order to arrive. AVAILABLE IN U.S. AND CANADA ONLY (U.S. FUNDS PLEASE). ALL SALES FINAL. ALL TITLES SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.



Visit the Allred Website at: [www.droog.com](http://www.droog.com)

Please send all letters and correspondence to  
 Dark Horse Comics, attn. RR7 Jamie, 10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222  
 or [jamie@dhorse.com](mailto:jamie@dhorse.com).

NEXT: **PUT YOUR RAYGUN TO MY HEAD**





**3 OF 7**

\$3.95 USA  
\$5.55 CAN

RS03	506	G	7	GENERAL	RRS03
3.95	500LEV	ENTRY	E3.5	\$3.95 USA	USER FEE INCLUDED
506	VI BOX		G 7	00311	506
61568 96788 3			46788-7		
DARK HORSE COMICS, MILWAUKEE OR			G		
WED OCT 29, 1997 3 of 7			7		

A LEGEND PRODUCTION



Online information:  
<http://www.ithard.com/>

**SPECIAL FLIP ACTION  
COLLECTOR CARDS!**

**DROOG-TONE  
RECORDS**

CRITIC PROOF  
BLESS REASONING  
BLACK NARCISUS  
THE VINYL IS BLACK  
& STROESQUE  
& BIG WORLD  
& STUFFED MONKEY

RED ROCKET  
SIDE ONE

side one

1. CRITIC PROOF
2. RECKLESS REASONING
3. BLACK NARCISUS
4. THE VINYL IS BLACK
5. STROESQUE
6. BIG WORLD
7. STUFFED MONKEY

