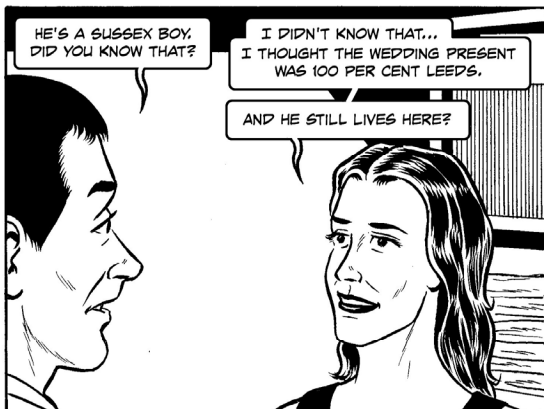


# GOING, GOING...

THE SCOPITONES STORAGE UNIT, BRIGHTON, WINTER 2011.



YOU'VE BEEN THROUGH LOADS OF PERSONNEL CHANGES OVER THE YEARS, HAVEN'T YOU? PRESENT COMPANY INCLUDED!

PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS ACCUSING HIM OF BEING LIKE MARK E. SMITH!

HA, HA! I CAN SEE THAT! WHY DO YOU THINK THE REVOLVING LINE-UP IS SUCH A THING?

WELL, PEOPLE CHANGE ONCE THEY'VE JOINED THE BAND. AT FIRST, THEY THINK, "GREAT! I'LL WRITE SONGS AND MAKE RECORDS FOR A LIVING AND TRAVEL THE WORLD."

BUT THEN THEY FIND OUT THAT IT'S ALSO QUITE HARD WORK... AND THAT BEING AWAY SO MUCH CAN BECOME A PROBLEM.

YEAH, AND WHEN YOU'RE ON TOUR, YOUR SIGNIFICANT OTHER THINKS YOU'RE OUT EVERY NIGHT PARTYING WHILE THEY'RE BACK AT HOME PAYING THE BILLS!

AND THERE ISN'T EVEN THAT MUCH MONEY TO BE MADE ANYMORE...

UH, HELLO? I'M THE LAST PERSON YOU HAVE TO EXPLAIN ALL THAT TO!

AND YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE WITH NEW MEMBERS. ON THEIR FIRST AMERICAN TOUR THEY'RE LIKE, "GREAT! I'M OFF TO AMERICA! THIS IS GOING TO BE BRILLIANT!"

THEN, ON THE SECOND TOUR, THEY'RE SLIGHTLY LESS ENTHUSIASTIC "OFF BACK TO AMERICA, AGAIN? NICE." BUT, COME TOUR NUMBER FOUR OR FIVE, THEY'RE MORE LIKELY TO SAY "AMERICA? AGAIN? ALREADY?!"

HA, HA... YEAH!

I REMEMBER WHAT PAUL DORRINGTON SAID IN AN INTERVIEW ABOUT WHAT IT WAS LIKE BEING IN THE WEDDING PRESENT.

OH, WHAT DID HE SAY IT WAS LIKE?

FOUR YEARS IN A VAN.

HA, HA! THAT PRETTY MUCH SUMS IT UP!

AND THEN HE WAS ASKED WHY HE LEFT...

I HAD TO GET OUT OF THE VAN.

SOME PEOPLE LAST A COUPLE OF YEARS... SOME, LIKE YOU, A LOT LONGER... BUT I WAS ALREADY THE SOLE REMAINING FOUNDER MEMBER BY 1993!

SO I SUPPOSE YOU'VE GOTTEN USED TO IT BY NOW?

I GUESS... BUT THE ONE WITH SHAUN WAS A PRETTY BIG DEAL. I THINK IT'S BECAUSE HE WAS THE FIRST TO GO.

AND THE PRESS WERE INTERESTED BECAUSE IT HAPPENED AT A TIME WHEN THE BAND HAD A HIGH PROFILE.

**HONEYMOON OVER**

*"...and finally 'out from us'!"*

HOW DID SHAUN TAKE IT?

NOT VERY WELL...

BUT THEN, HOW WAS HE SUPPOSED TO TAKE IT? WE'D JUST RECORDED OUR FIRST ALBUM AND THEN HE WAS ASKED TO LEAVE.

SHAUN



SEEMS LIKE THAT BECAME SOMEWHAT OF A TRADITION.

THAT'S WHAT PETER SAYS.

I CAN SEE WHY!

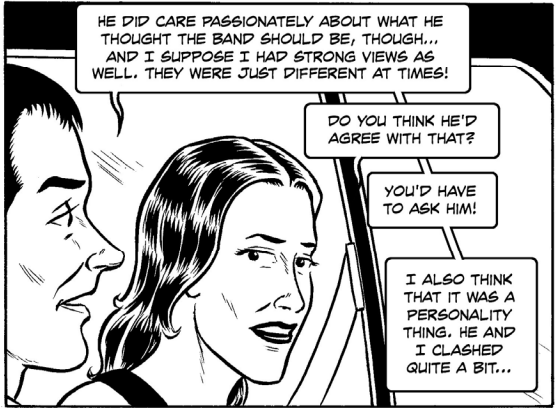


YES, BUT NEITHER TIMINGS WERE INTENTIONAL... IT'S JUST COINCIDENCE,

IF YOU HAD TO PUT IT IN A NUTSHELL... WHY DIDN'T IT WORK OUT WITH SHAUN?



WE USED TO ARGUE QUITE A BIT. I REMEMBER HIM BEING UNWILLING TO COMPROMISE. HE HAD STRONG VIEWS, WHICH WAS GREAT, BUT I THINK SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO GIVE AND TAKE.



HE DID CARE PASSIONATELY ABOUT WHAT HE THOUGHT THE BAND SHOULD BE, THOUGH... AND I SUPPOSE I HAD STRONG VIEWS AS WELL. THEY WERE JUST DIFFERENT AT TIMES!

DO YOU THINK HE'D AGREE WITH THAT?

YOU'D HAVE TO ASK HIM!

I ALSO THINK THAT IT WAS A PERSONALITY THING. HE AND I CLASHED QUITE A BIT...



MAINLINE REHEARSAL STUDIO, LEEDS, 1987.

I STILL THINK THE END SECTION OF 'MY FAVOURITE DRESS' SHOULD GO ON A LOT LONGER.

BUT DON'T YOU THINK IT GETS BORING?

NOT AT ALL... IT SOUNDS LIKE THE VELVET UNDERGROUND.



I THINK IT GOES ON WAY TOO LONG ALREADY! IT'S NOT VERY PUNK....

THE VELVET UNDERGROUND WERE THE GODFATHERS OF PUNK!

YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN!



I DO KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN BUT I DISAGREE.

I THINK YOU'RE JUST BEING BLOODY MINDED ABOUT IT!

WHAT DOES IT MATTER ANYWAY?



IT MATTERS BECAUSE IT WOULD MAKE IT GREAT.

YOU WOULD THINK THAT, THOUGH.

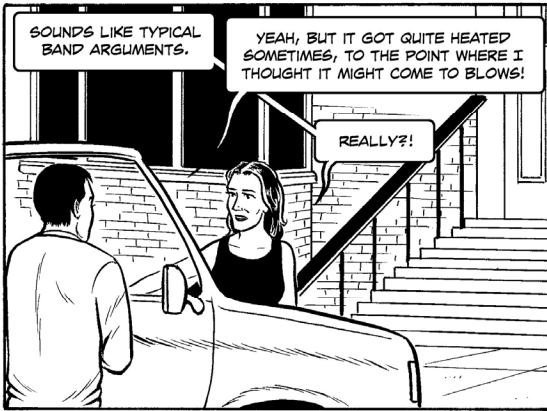
I WOULD AND I DO.



MAYBE WE SHOULD JUST LEAVE THEM TO IT.



BUT WHOEVER HEARD OF A CLASH OF EGOS BETWEEN THE DRUMMER AND THE LEAD SINGER?



SOUNDS LIKE TYPICAL BAND ARGUMENTS.

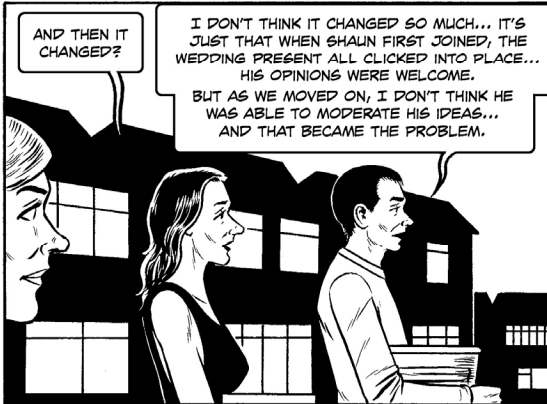
YEAH, BUT IT GOT QUITE HEATED SOMETIMES, TO THE POINT WHERE I THOUGHT IT MIGHT COME TO BLOWS!

REALLY?!



WELL, NO... NOT REALLY... BUT IT DID SOMETIMES GET A BIT INTENSE. AND YOU KNOW HOW I HATE CONFRONTATION...

IT WAS A SHAME BECAUSE WE WERE GOOD FRIENDS. IN THE BEGINNING WE ALL GOT ALONG GREAT.



AND THEN IT CHANGED?

I DON'T THINK IT CHANGED SO MUCH... IT'S JUST THAT WHEN SHAUN FIRST JOINED, THE WEDDING PRESENT ALL CLICKED INTO PLACE... HIS OPINIONS WERE WELCOME. BUT AS WE MOVED ON, I DON'T THINK HE WAS ABLE TO MODERATE HIS IDEAS... AND THAT BECAME THE PROBLEM.



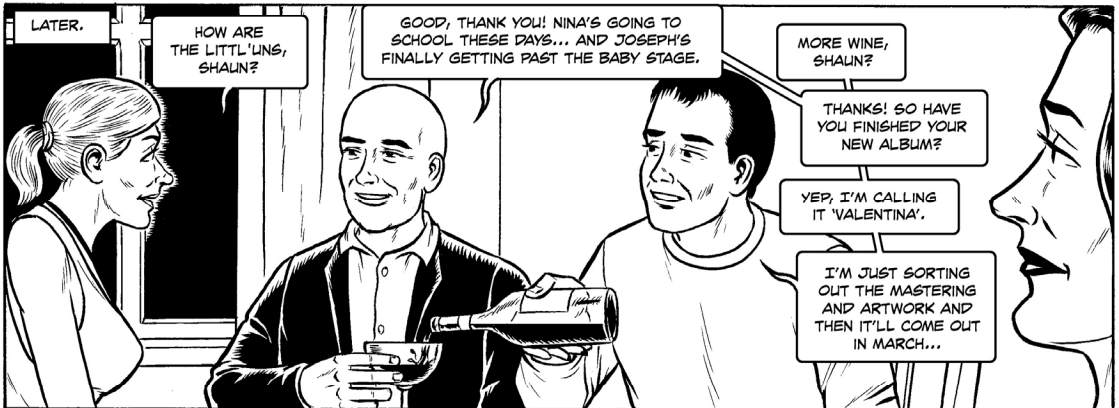
IT ALL SOUNDS KIND OF SUBTLE.

BUT IT WAS TANGIBLE AS WELL.

AND I THINK SHAUN WOULD AGREE THAT HE WAS SOMETIMES ACTUALLY UNHAPPY BEING IN THE GROUP TOWARDS THE END.

AND IT'S PRETTY TELLING THAT YOU'RE FRIENDLY AGAIN NOW.

YEAH, HE'S ACTUALLY A REALLY GREAT BLOKE!



LATER.

HOW ARE THE LITTLE'UNS, SHAUN?

GOOD, THANK YOU! NINA'S GOING TO SCHOOL THESE DAYS... AND JOSEPH'S FINALLY GETTING PAST THE BABY STAGE.

MORE WINE, SHAUN?

THANKS! SO HAVE YOU FINISHED YOUR NEW ALBUM?

YEP, I'M CALLING IT 'VALENTINA'.

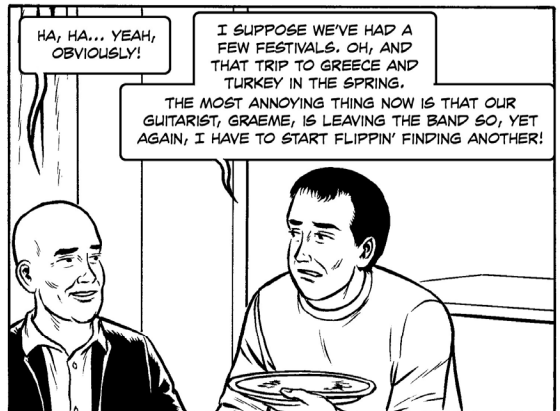
I'M JUST SORTING OUT THE MASTERING AND ARTWORK AND THEN IT'LL COME OUT IN MARCH...



AND THAT'S WHEN THE TOURING WILL RESUME!

IT SEEMS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN ON THE ROAD LOADS AGAIN THIS YEAR, THOUGH.

AND THIS IS OUR YEAR OF 'NOT TOURING'!



HA, HA... YEAH, OBVIOUSLY!

I SUPPOSE WE'VE HAD A FEW FESTIVALS. OH, AND THAT TRIP TO GREECE AND TURKEY IN THE SPRING.

THE MOST ANNOYING THING NOW IS THAT OUR GUITARIST, GRAEME, IS LEAVING THE BAND SO, YET AGAIN, I HAVE TO START FLIPPIN' FINDING ANOTHER!

