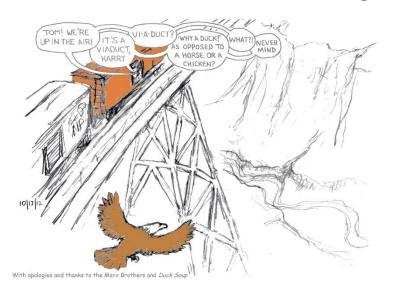
The continuing saga of



The Alaskan Adventure of Tom Duck and Harry

with our heroes starting Day 10, Westward in the Yukon

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The Alaskan Adventure of Tom Duck and Harry

by David Mudrick

Reston, Virginia April 2025 Dedicated to the faithful readers who have been waiting since 2017 for further dispatches from our earstwhile travelers then stuck on the Cassiar Highway in British Columbia - both of them

The Alaskan Adventure of Tom Duck and Harry

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Contents

Forward	iv
Day 1 - On the Road Again	1
Day 2 - Into the Storm	13
Day 3 - The Rat Bat Underground	24
Day 4 - The Corn Palace	44
Day 5 - Devil's Tower and Beyond	52

Day 6 - Good Night, Irene	61
Day 7 - Parcs Canada	91
Day 8 - Their Bear to Cross	102
Day 9 - North on the Cassiar	117
Day 10 - Westward in the Yukon	129

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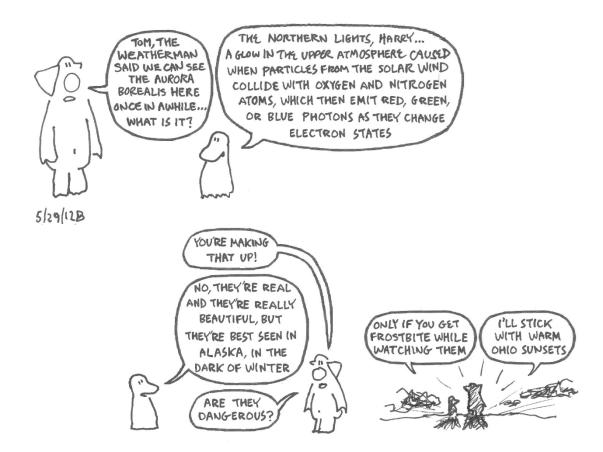
Forward

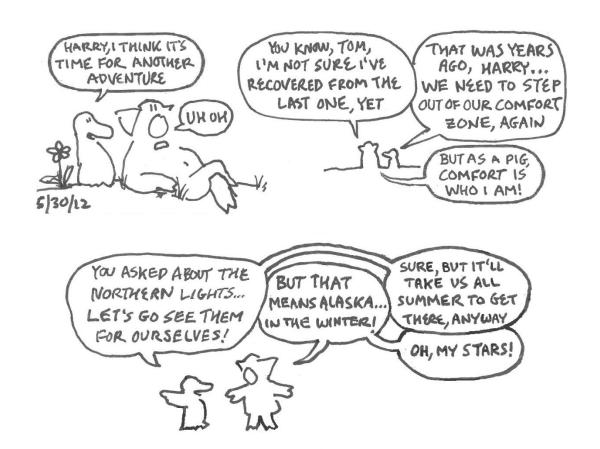
Tom Duck and Harry (a pig) reside at Cow Manor, the home of African American farmers Al and Ellie MacDonald, a short hop as the duck flies from the hamlet of Gozaimasu, Ohio. Harry was born on the farm and has never traveled other than to the nearby town, but he has a broader, if questionable, world view gleaned from the Southern Ohio Bugle and radio and television broadcasts captured on the MacDonalds' front porch. Tom, a former resident of New York City, has fled the rat race to find relief in this pastoral setting. Although content with his new life, he thinks an exploration of the nearby lake and its environs would be educational for him and his porcine pal. The ensuing adventure with its unforeseen events and unusual acquaintances, sometimes bordering on the bizarre, proves enlightening, if not life changing, for both of them.

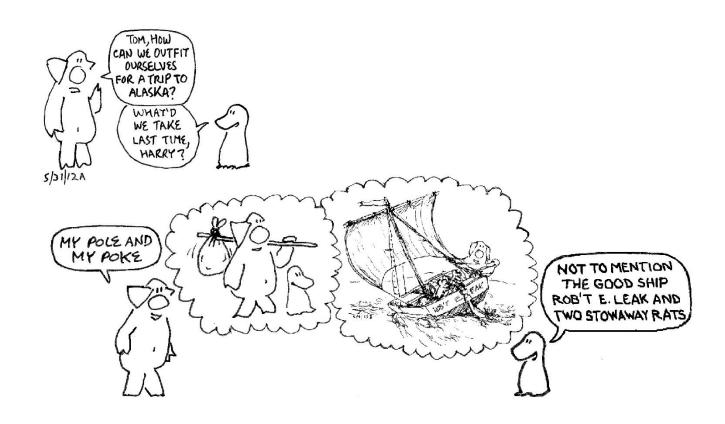
If the plot seems to be unscripted and the drawings look like they were executed on the cartoonist's lap while commuting by public transportation, you are correct. Although originally drafted in 2004 and 2005, the adventure was not completely posted for twenty years, in May 2025, which may be an auspicious way to let us know that things could always be worse.

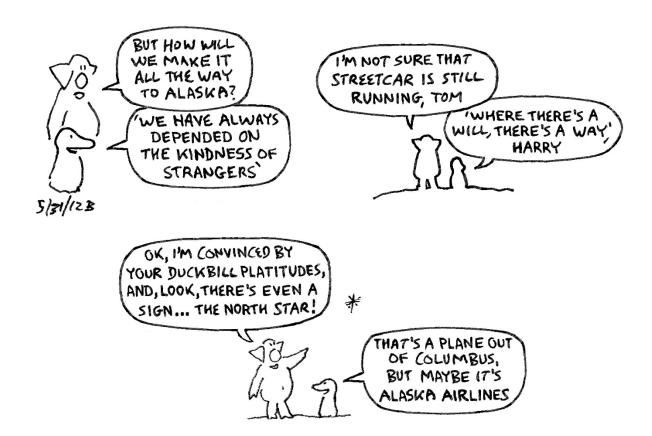
Day 1 - On the Road Again

Tom beguiles Harry with talk of the Northern Lights, convincing him to set out cross continent to Alaska, provisioned only with his poke and pole.







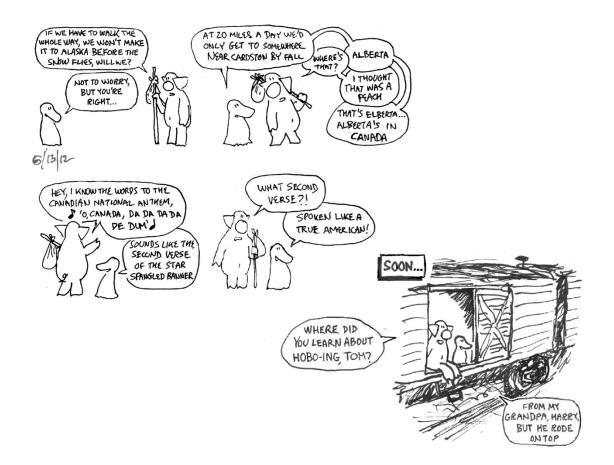




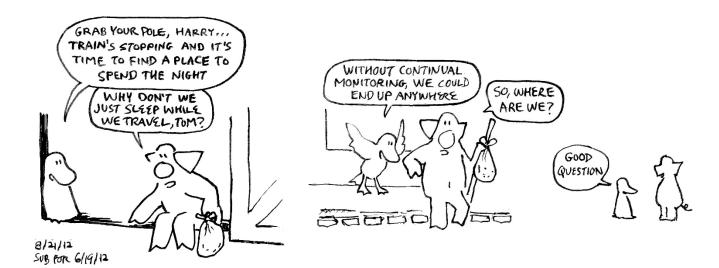








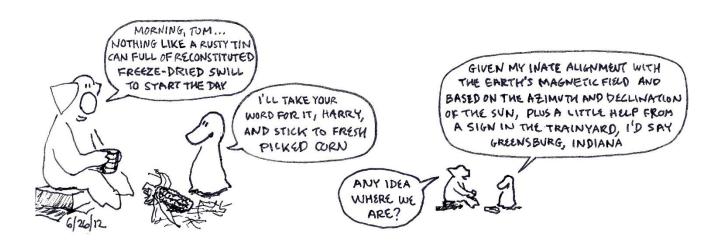


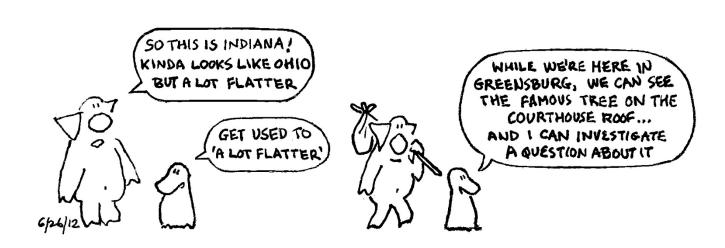




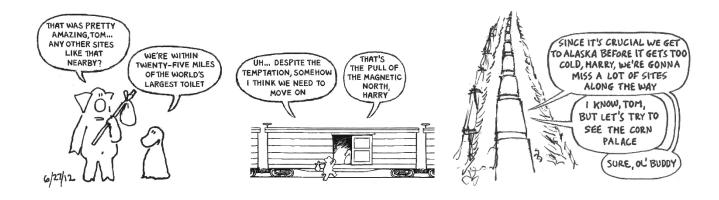
Day 2 - Into the Storm

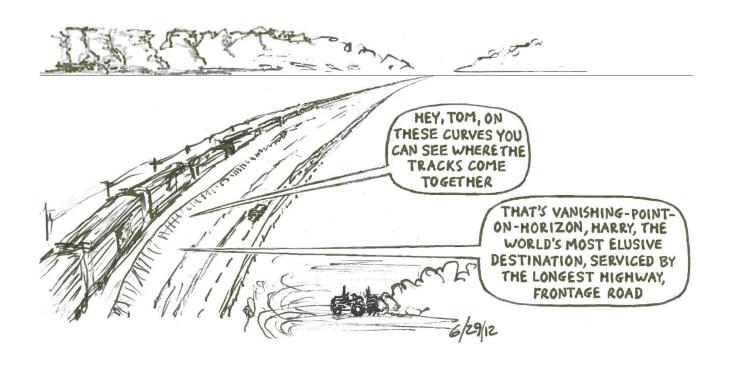
This day's train ride carries our travelers straight into an ominous line of thunderstorms fraught with precarious possibilities and engendering a dramatic rescue, all prior to the fall of night.







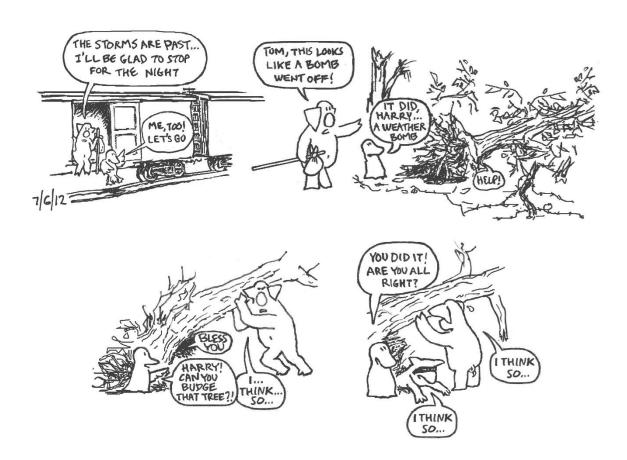














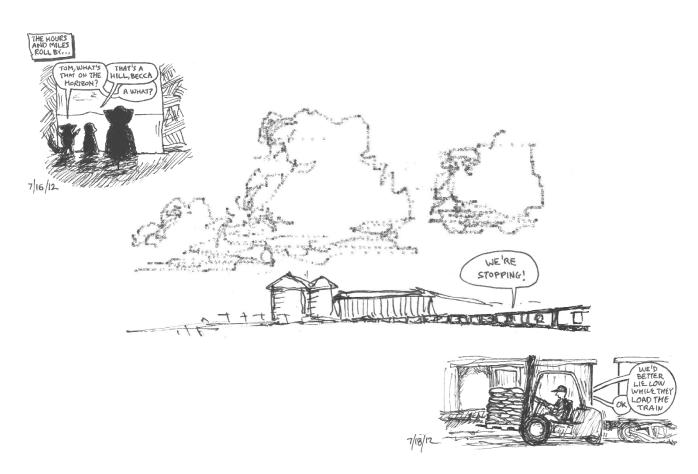
Day 3 - The Rat Bat Underground

The road-trip crew starts to expand while encountering new dangers and pitfalls.

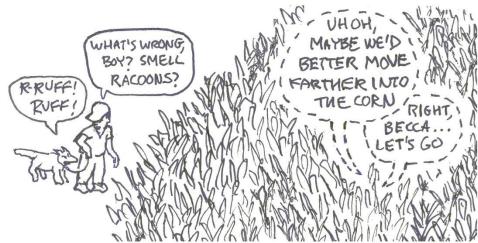










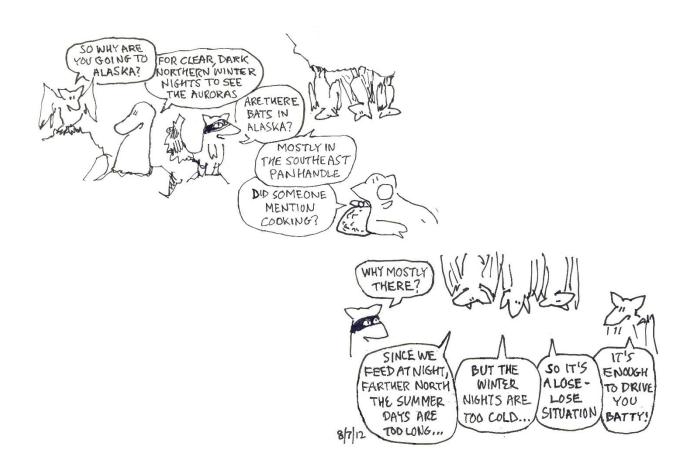












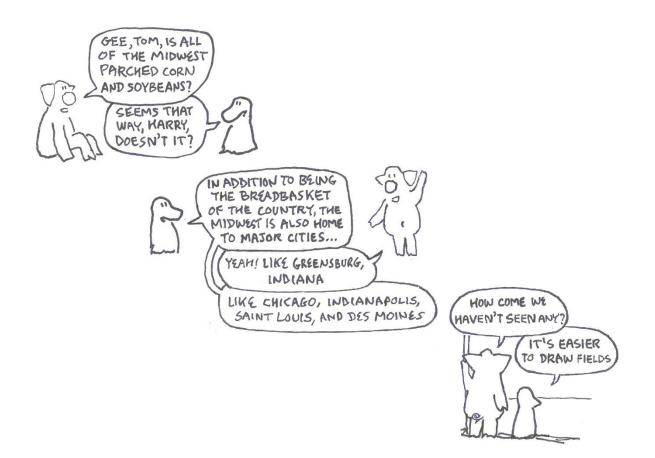




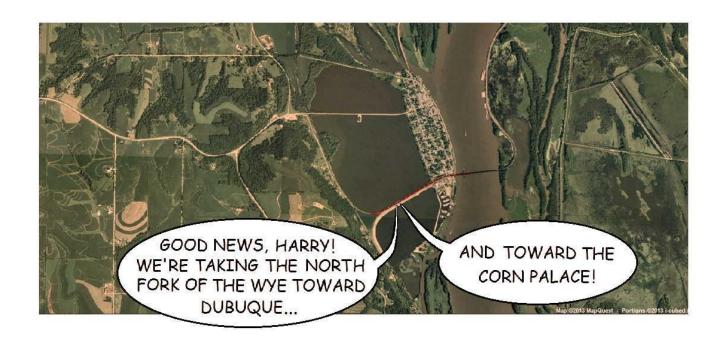






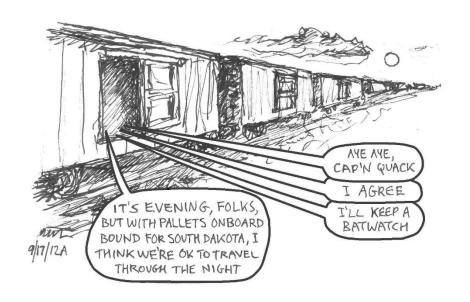








As you can see, dear reader, this cartoon was originally drawn in 2012, the once and future year on which the Mayan calendar stopped. It has been assumed that this signalled the end of the world. Since aparently that didn't happen. However, there is another explanation: Since the calendar is a glyphic object, they ran out of big flat round stones. There is a similar explanation for why Stonehenge in England was aboandoned: With the introduction of Daylight Saving Time, it became too difficult to rotate the structure an hour forward and an hour back each year.



Day 4 - The Corn Palace

A big question hangs in the air, not "Will they make it to Alaska?" but "Will they make it to the Corn Palace?"

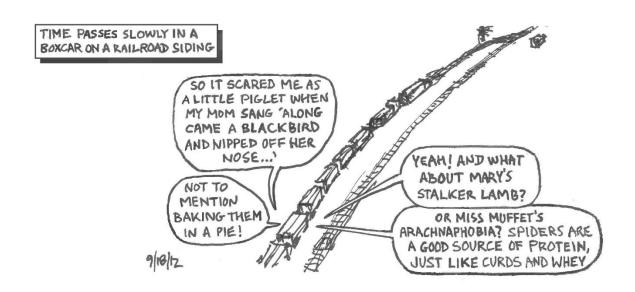
Spoiler alert: If you read the name of this chapter, they apparently do.



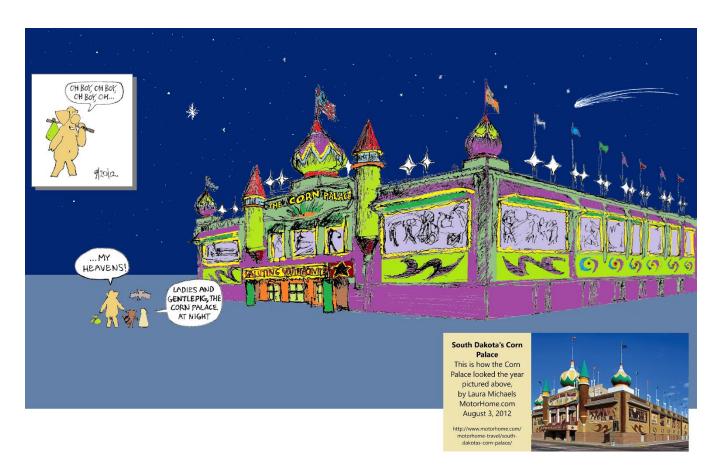


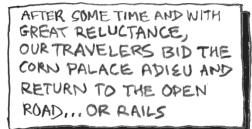


















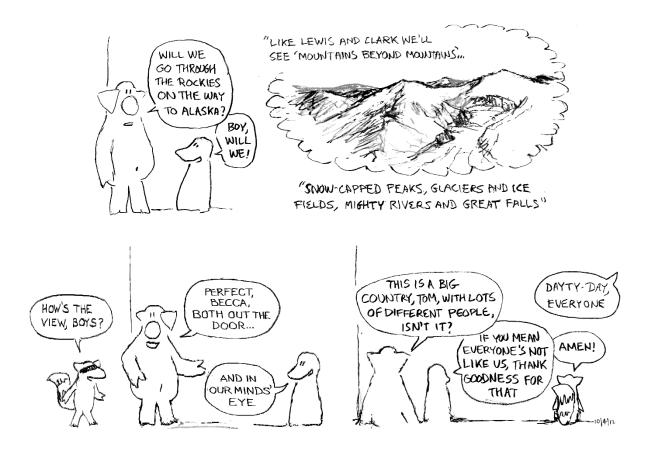
Day 5 - Devil's Tower and Beyond

The dawn's early light reveals Mato Tipila (Bear Lodge), otherwise known as Devil's Tower, on the plains of the buffalo, as our adventurers continue westward and northward.



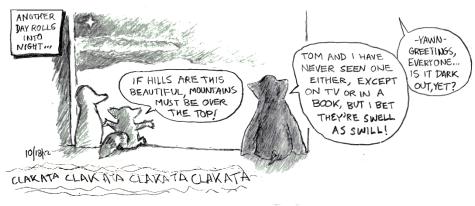














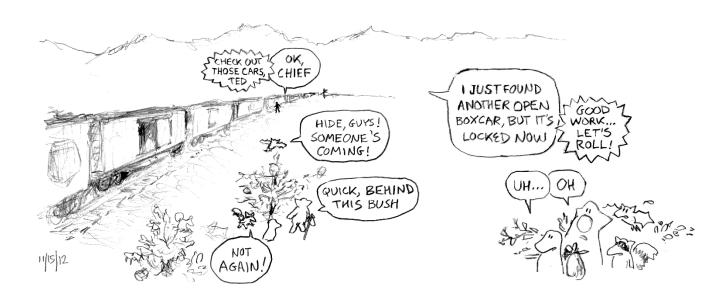


Day 6 - Good Night, Irene

A day that starts on an incredible high note, Rocky Mountain high to be specific, followed by an un-trained low, continues with more ups and downs across the northern border.



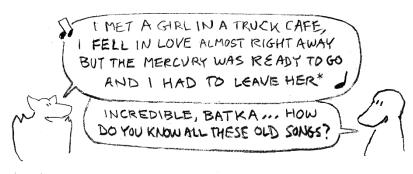




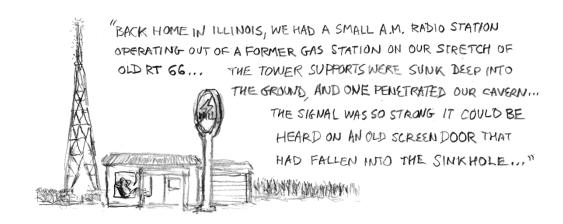


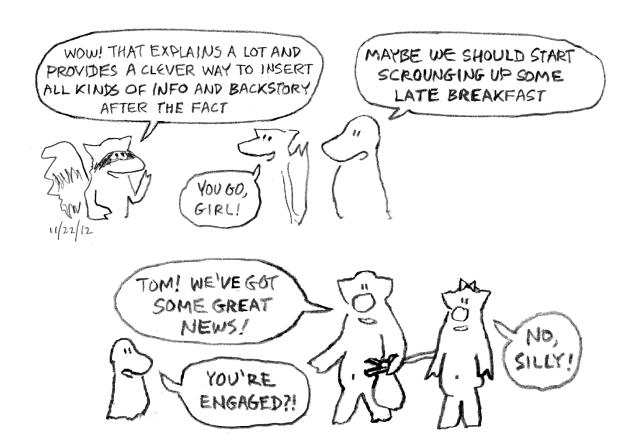


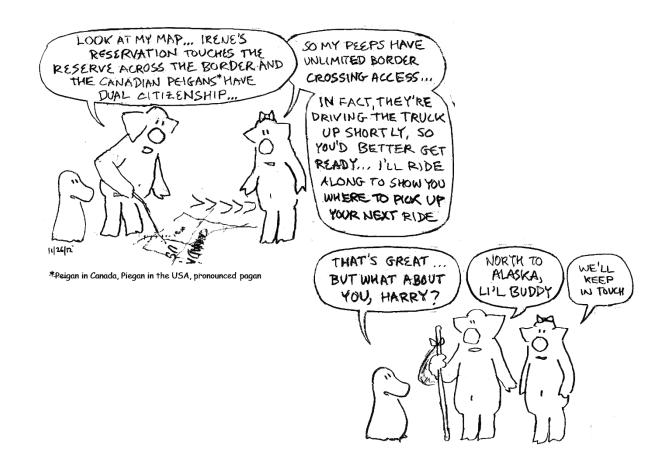


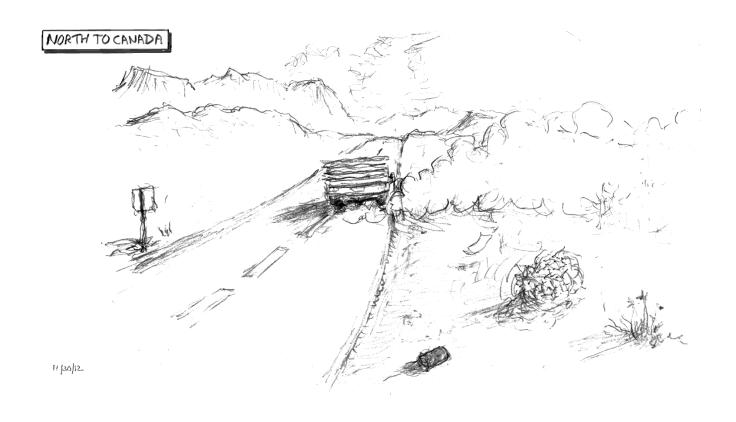


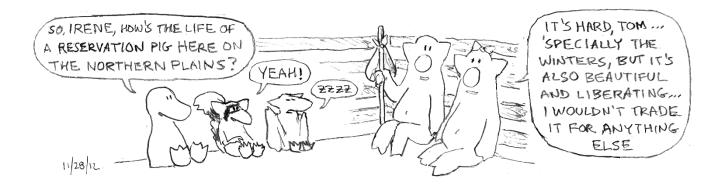
11/22/12 * "ON THE ROAD" BY CARL FRANZEN





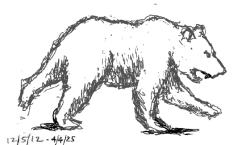








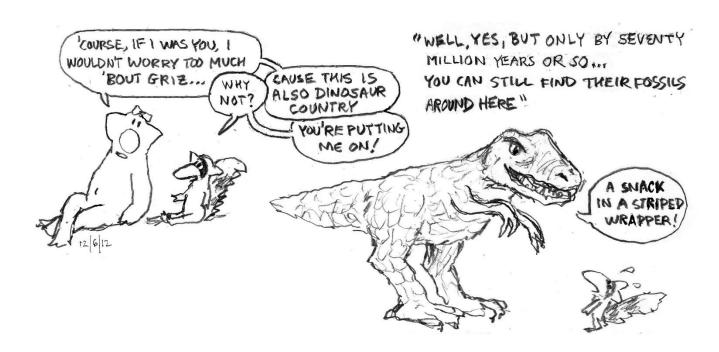
"A GRIZ CAN HIT 30 MILES PER HOUR IN A SHORT DASH"



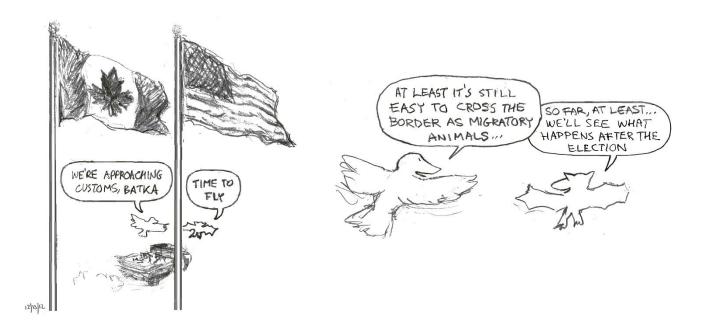
Drawn from a photograph by George Sanker https://georgesanker.com



Drawn from a video image of a grizzly pushing a woman around in a **bo**x, apparently from Japanese game show Sekai No Hatte Madde Itte Q!. https://metro.co.uk/video/grizzly-bear-pushes-woman-cube-game-clip-1256091/





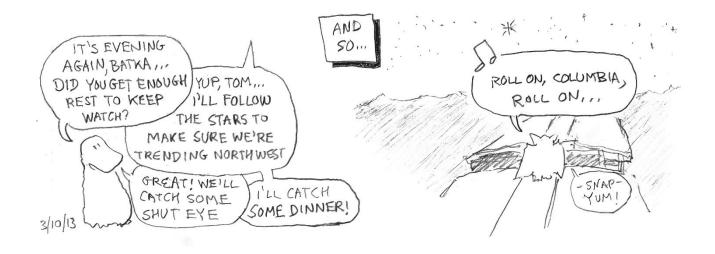


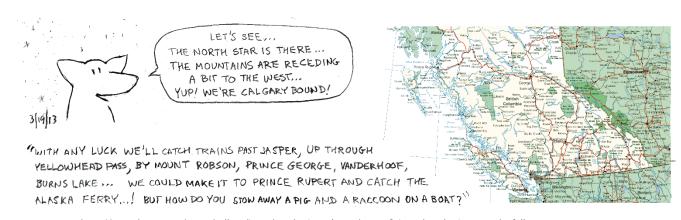












 ${\tt Map \ source \ http://www.photoscanada.com/gallery/british_columbia_photos/map_of_british_columbia_canada?full=1}$







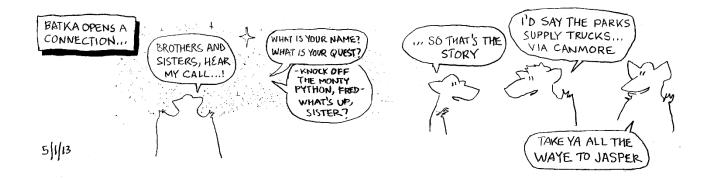




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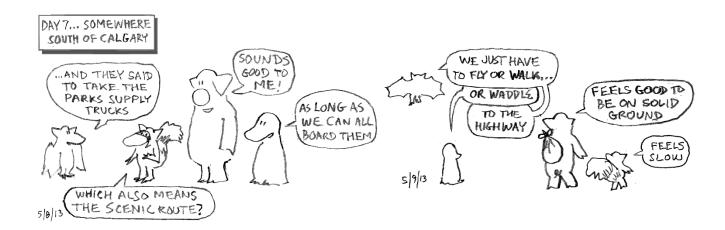






Day 7 - Parcs Cananda

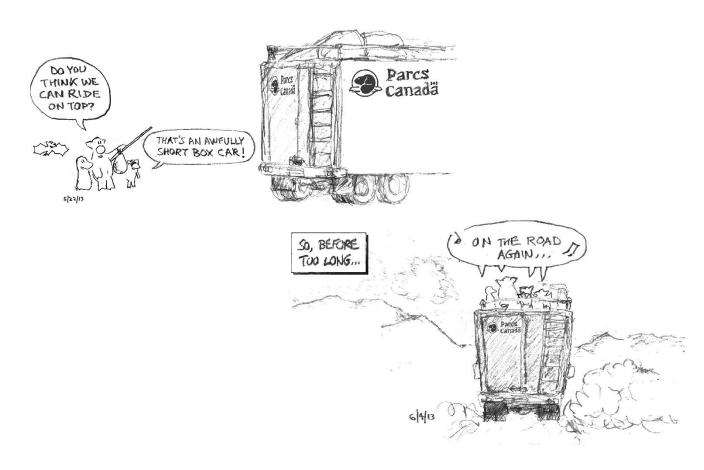
Unbeknownst to our travelers, for the foreseeable future, their means of transportation will continue to go back and forth between trucks and trains, even as they progress through varying circumstances and spectacular landscapes.





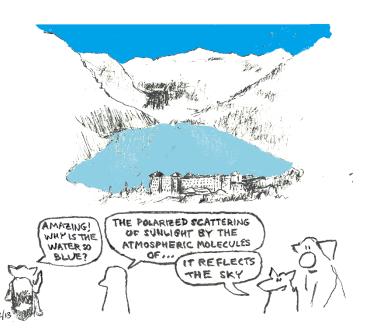






TRUE TO THE BATS' INFORMATION, THE NETWORK OF PARCS CANADA TRUCKS CARRIES OUR LITTLE BAND NORTHWARD ALONG THE ROCKIES, PAST SOME OF THE CROWN JEWELS OF ALBERTA...







http://www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotoDirectLink-g154911-d186988-i46552175-Columbia_Icefield_Glacier_Adventure-Banff_Banff_National_Park_Alberta.html



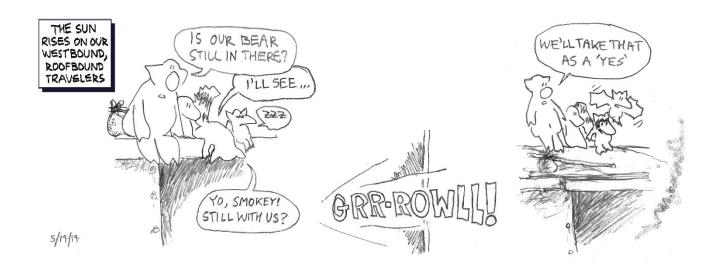






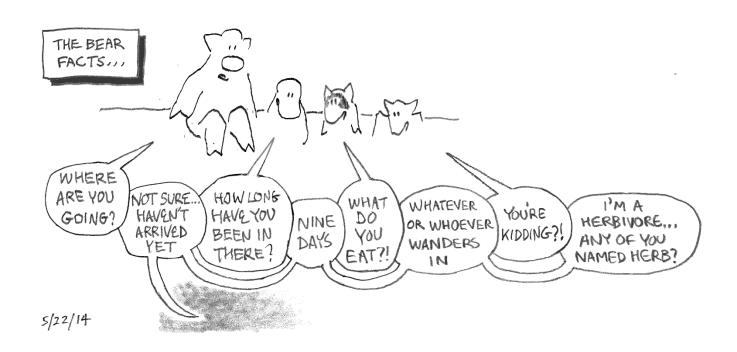
Day 8 - Their Bear to Cross

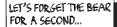
Morning finds the Corps of Discovery occupying a rooftop position with a commanding view of the surrounding, changing countryside but not of the interior of their boxcar, which is of far more importance at the moment.





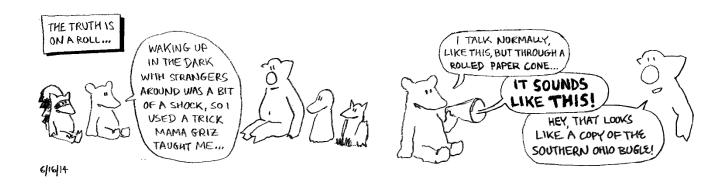


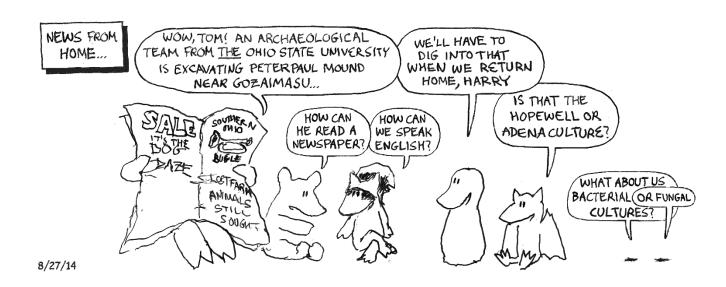


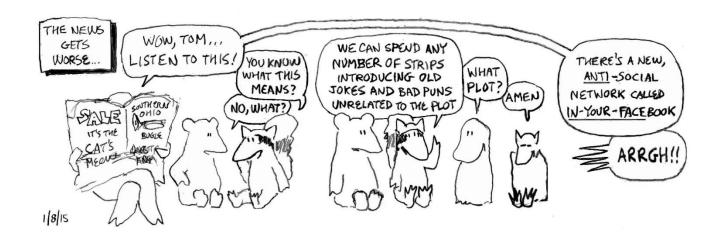




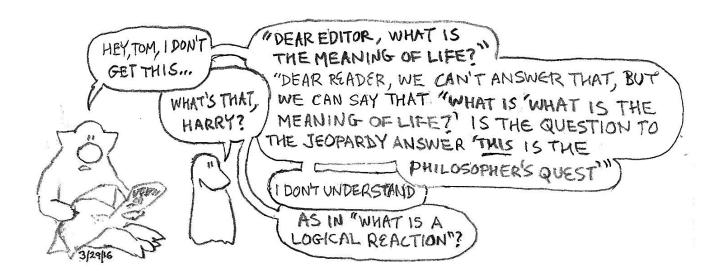




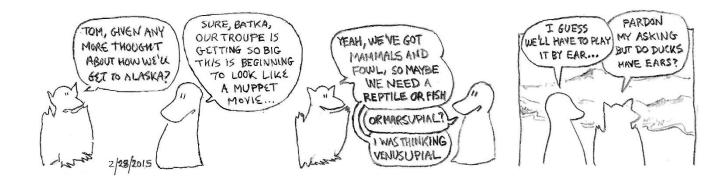
















Day 9 - North on the Cassiar

"Proceed north on Highway 37. In four hundred forty-nine miles, turn left at the stop sign onto the Alaska Highway..."

With the recommendation of their grizzly companion, Tom and Batka have decided to travel north by way of the Stewart-Cassiar Highway as the overland alternative to the water route, the ferries of the Alaska Marine Highway System. The Cassiar, farther to the west, parallels the north-south stretch of the normal route, the Alaska Highway.

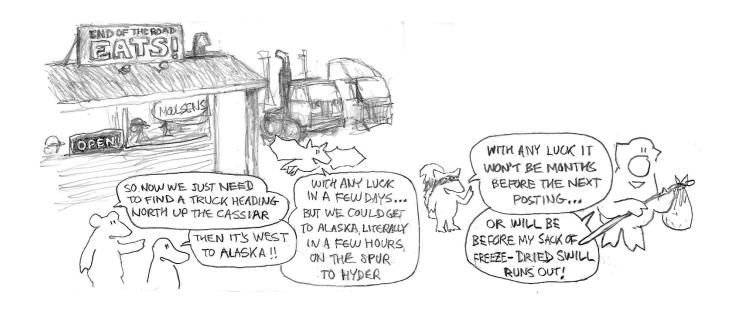
OUR ERSTWHILE BAND
RIDES THE RAILS
THROUGH THE NIGHT AND
THE MINITROPOLIS
OF PRINCE GEORGE
AND MICROTROPOLI OF
VANDERHOOF, BURNS
LAKE, SMITHERS,
AND BEYOND, UNTIL ...





6/6/15 (7157 DNNIVERS DEY OF D-DAY) REVISED 4/25/25
*"CARRY ON" BY AND WITH APOLOGIES TO CROSBY, STILLS, NASH, **AND ESPECIALLY YOUNG







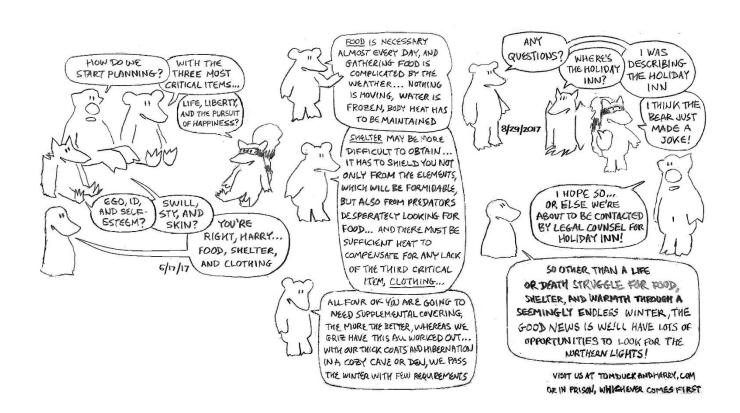


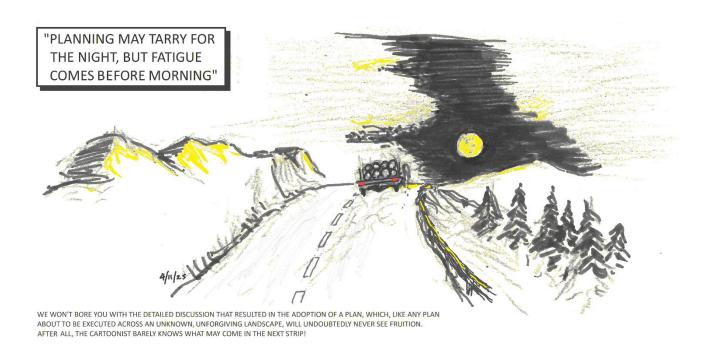








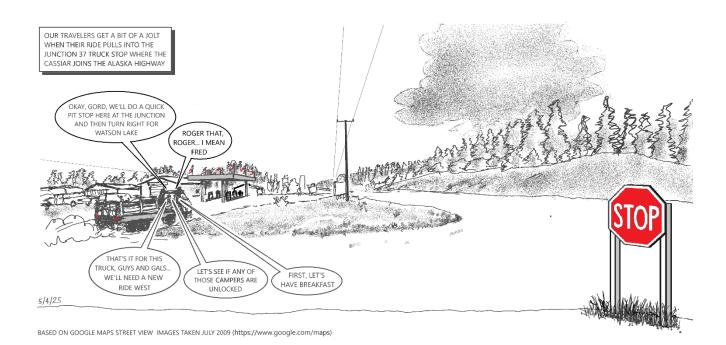


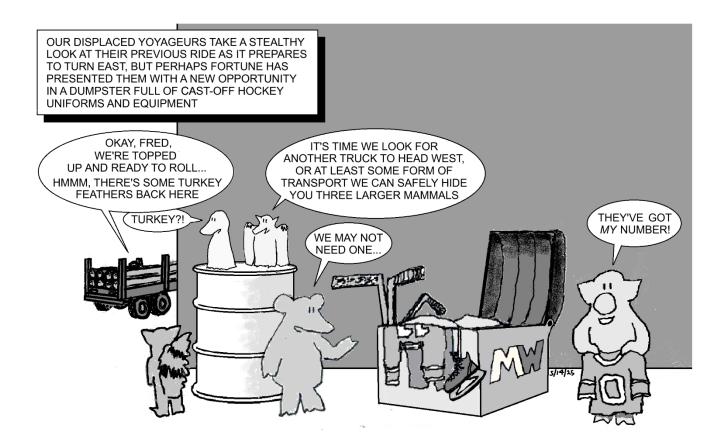


Day 10 - Westward in the Yukon

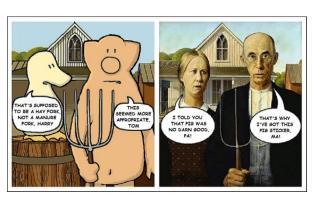
The previous day's directions, "In one hundred forty-nine miles, turn left at the stop sign onto the Alaska Highway..." assumes our roving band can find a ride in the right (meaning left) direction.

NOTE: The previous drawing of the truck proceeding up the Cassiar at night was the first new addition to this story in four and a half years. As we proceed west toward Alaska, this cartoonist still has no idea how, when, or even if they'll get there, what they'll do there, and how and which of them will get back to Gozaimasu. Bear with us, or more likely the bear soon won't be with us, as each strip starts with a blank sheet and little or no premeditation, which has been the story since this adventure started in 2012. – DM, 4/25/2025





Want More Tom Duck and Harry?



Check out their website, *Tom Duck and Harry:* Ohio Gothic (https://tomduckandharry.com), with additional Tom and Harry features, such as 150 daily and single-panel strips in *A Tom Duck and Harry Sampler; The First Adventure of Tom Duck and Harry,* 164 graphic pages of weird, wonderful, and dangerous occurrences; the history of Gozaimasu, Ohio; and other comic strip backstory and trivia.

If you want *less* Tom Duck and Harry, there are major non pig-duck sections, including the following:

- Our Alaska cartoon books: Too Far North and Living Too Far North
- Physics Cartoons for Photonics and Quantum Mechanics
- The Duck Blind, Where Mess-cellany Lurks odds and ends, mostly odds

- Wacky website policies and other metadata
- The Marmaduke Files, setting the record straight on that comic strip
- A Return to the Dark Ages of One and One Half Wits Dot Com

The Critics Rave/Rage about The First Adventure of Tom Duck and Harry

- "A stunning tour de force among graphic novels!... Oh, I thought you were asking about the latest volume of *Bone*. In that case, a tour de farce."
- Rolling Stonehenge
- "We waited twenty years for him to finish posting this?!"
- Journal of Idiotology
- "Thank goodness comic strips can't be published on Audible!"
- Audiobooks Review
- "The humor and story line are dubious. The artwork looks like it was executed on the cartoonist's lap while riding the bus or subway." [editor's note: It was]
- Washington Postage Book World
- "How come the *Rob't E. Leak* keeps changing size?"
- A reader in Ms Finley's 3rd grade class