

# SHIFT IN PROGRESS

## A NOT-SO-COMIC BOOK

**Q:** What do you get when you combine true stories of workplace mistreatment and struggles with 6 aspiring artists?

**A:** *Shift in Progress: A Not-So-Comic Book!*

Interviews with young workers and the real-life experiences of the artists themselves provided the material for the 5 stories in *Shift in Progress: A Not-So-Comic Book*, published by the Edmonton Branch of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). With Sabo-Kitty cameo appearances and supplementary text at the end of the book that teaches readers the basics on direct action and about knowing their rights in the workplace!



(TRADE PAPERBACK, 80 PAGES)

### STORY SYNOPSES:



**The Illusion of Time (S.J. Pike):** Eva is a young artist who lives with her boyfriend and works in a small independent art store. She is a perfectionist. She sacrifices almost everything to her job, friends, relationship, and health. Devastating news forces her to re-evaluate her path in life.

**After Breakfast and Just Before Bed (R. Butz & L. Butz):** Dhan is gay, East Indian, and pathologically driven to overperform, micromanage, and burn out. Family, friends, lovers and self are all casualties while his bosses reap the rewards of his workaholicism. For what and for whom is he driving himself?



**Grind (K. Johnson):** Julie comes to the oil patch with boyfriend and baby. One accident later, she is the sole breadwinner of the family and sets off to work at the local caffeine dealer. After a particularly horrible day of sexual and managerial harassment, she opens her cheque to find she has been short-changed her overtime. What next?

**Rights of Passage (S. Louden):** April is an avid skateboarder who refuses to work at McHarvey's, choosing instead to submit herself to the local testosterone bar where the tips are great but where the lewd patrons are never chastised for their sexual assaults on the female staff. April wonders: "Is this what all jobs are like?"



**A Black Sheep Tale (L.A.A. Barlott):** Chan has a Mohawk, an Anarchist t-shirt, and an attitude. He works hard but unhappily in a garment factory and has disturbing dreams. Mary Faithful, a seasoned veteran of the class wars, takes him under her wing, opens his eyes and his mind to the greater cause. Can he grow into his t-shirt?

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