COLLECTOR'S EDITION VOL. 1

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> SWM I'm a tall, dark, slavic, wealthy, bachelos Enjoy after-hour clubs, night time baseball garner gal, who left the following cryptic message on drive-ins, late shows, star gazing, freworks, flying my vidphone lastThursday. YYBPYWWY walks under a full moon, dogs and ocrtain flying.

and healthy, enjoy red wine but not red meat pleas respond

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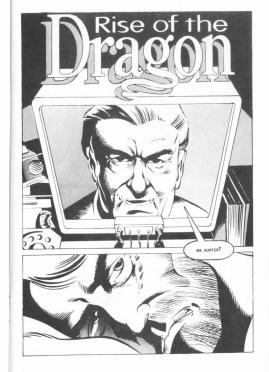
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COMICS We still got 'em!

























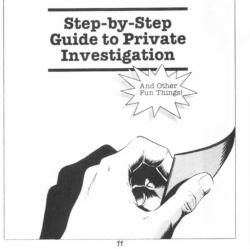












"So you wanna be a Private Eye: Well buddy, you came to the right place."

Chang Li

Other Ximanyd books in this series include:

User's Guide to Toxic Waste and Other Fun Things. Mordred's Atlas to Mortuaries and Other Fun Things. Halitosis, Gingivitis, and Other Fun Things. Step by Step Guide to Yeast Farming and Other Fun Things. Step by Step Guide to Professional Yodeling and Other Fun Things. Congratulations on your purchase of the A Step by Step Guide to Private Investigation and Other Fun Things, another fine product from the Ximanyd family of companies.

This manual contains:

One (dozen) pages which detail everything you need to know to achieve a personally fulfilling and financially rewarding career in the personal investigation field.

NTRODUCTION

You will learn:

- How to question suspects with finesse and subtlety.
- How to make and interpret discrete observations.
- How to completely service and repair someone else's VidPhone.
- How and why to use the Em-Way transportation system.
- How and where to use the tools of the trade.
- How to persuade people to do things they really don't want to.
- The benefits of personal hygiene, a good diet and plenty of exercise.
- Handy PI Fashion tips.
- PI technical Jargon.

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Forward iii Field interrogation. Observational techniques. 'Repairing' Someone Else's VidPhone The Em-Way Tools of the trade3 How to get people to do things they probably wouldn't do on their own. 4 Health & Fitness. 4 Sleep 5 Handy Fashion tips. Glossarv

Chapter 1

Step one:

Find someone to interrogate.

Step two:

Find a field (just kidding but we couldn't resist). Ahem.

Step two:

Try to start a friendly conversation with them. Hint: it isn't usually a good idea to introduce vourself as a private

detective to a client's estranged spouse and ask if they have a criminal record. If you use an approach and it doesn't.



work, try something else. Common sense is your best guide here.

Step three:

Cleverly maneuver the conversation to your area of inquiry.

Say the person you're talking to says something like "We've sure had some weather lately, haven't we?" You could reply, "Boy, we sure have. By the way, you haven't seen a suspicious man in a raincoat lurking about in this neighborhood lately have you?" It's so simple even a child can do it.

Step four:

Try to leave things on a positive note. Say polite things like "Have a nice day" or "Wasn't that special" or "Don't worry, the scar is hardly noticeable." You never know when you might want to talk to someone again.

Step five:

When all else fails: lie like a dog.

Step six:

(Well this isn't really a step, but it kind of fits under this category, so what the heck.) Sometimes no matter what you do. you won't get anywhere with a person. Then it's time to seriously reconsider your past approach. Did you do something to tick them off? Or is the person just a complete closet case? Time and experience will teach you to tell the difference.

Chapter 2

A private dick (that's trade jargon for private investigator) must always keep his eves open. This helps him avoid the embarrassment of

bumping into things and also allows him to case a ioint (more PI jargon - it means reconnoiter a location) before charging in half-cocked.



direct immediate frontal assault isn't exciting and macho, it just not much fun to be exciting. macho, and dead. It is also a good idea to look over a room very thoroughly before you try and pick up or otherwise mess with anything in it. Examining rooms and objects carefully may yield helpful clues and will hopefully have the added benefit of preventing you from becoming a dead duck. As my Most Aged and Venerable Grandpa Chin used to say "Rrook befrore yrou reap."

ECHNIQUES

Chapter Three

Chapter 3

Repairing Someone Else's VidPhone:

There are times in every dicks life when he must do something really unscrupulous. Fortunately, listening in on someone else's private VidPhone conversation does not qualify as unscrupulous, as long as you're on a case and not just doing it to get your jollies. With the proper equipment you can splice into another person's VidPhone trunk and monitor their calls from the comfort of your own home. All you need is a wire tester kit, three leads (included in most kits), and a lot of guts. VidPhone work is not for the timid; there's a very real potential to become a crispy critter. Just remember, red goes to the battery (positive), blue goes to the ground and yellow is the hot wire. Or is that blue, positive, red ground ... ? Oh well, never mind. Once you connect all three wires correctly a green light will show on the tester. Note: It's a very bad sign when tester light starts flashing red. If you don't disconnect the tester lead from the wire terminal within about 15 seconds the circuit will overload and send several thousand volts of electricity shooting through your body.



Chapter 4

The Em-Way made easy

The Em can be a detective's best friend. It is cheap (free is a very good price) and relatively safe. All you have to do is select your destination from the map and the transit computer will stop the next available train and put you on it. Note: it is important to know where you want. to go before you try to get there on the Em-Way.

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As your investigations take you further afield you may also want to allow yourself more time to reach your destinations. It can take well over an hour to travel across the length of some large cities.

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Chapter 5 Things no PI worth his salt-substitute should be without.

Handgun:

There are several types of personal hand weapons available; we recommend a police or military issue pistol or pulse particlebeam handgun. The most desirable attribute of any weapon is reliability, therefore we tend to lean more towards the pulse particle-beam weapon as its powerpack is good for over 1,000 rounds.



PV IV Energy Cartridge.

Bombs:

These small but powerful explosive devices contain flaked TNT suspended in a polymer base. If placed strategically, a single bomb can do a great deal of damage. All you have to do is place the adhesive backin



TNT Flake Rombs

퍽

HHH

 $reve{\exists}$

bombs onto something you want to blow up and stand back. Bombs typically work well to open doors and locks but. have the distinct disadvantage of alerting everyone in the area to your presence.



Wire tester: Following are a few useful techniques for Wiretester use. Always remember that the Postive (+) Lead goes to the red wire, the Negative (-) lead goes to the blue wire and Terminal Connection (>) goes to the tapped line.



examine the wiring layout carefully before attempting to breach a line.

ID Card:

Don't leave home without it.

APPD:

Aerosol personal protect



Personal I.D. Card

device.

Manufactured under such brand names as NaPent, ThugStop, NoMug, etc. It is supposed to disable an attacker without harming them. Unfortunately, it doesn't work very well on the large angry men it was designed to be used against. But what the heck, it's a great way to catch a buzz or pick up on unsuspecting women. Typically there are three

charges per can.

NaPent APPD

Body Armor: It's a good idea to wear body armor if you can get your hands on some. Wearing it significantly decreases the likelihood of lead poisoning. Unless somebody gets a



Lead Stopper Mark III Flak Vest.

Chapter 6 How to get people to do things they probably wouldn't do on their own.

Six &

Seven

ERSUASION

HITNESS

Occasionally, people can be encouraged to be more helpful if offered inducement. The best thing to use is a black-market candy bar, if you can find one. Note: try to make sure that the person you give it to really has some information or can do something to help you. Otherwise, they may just take your candy bar and say "Thanks dude." Nobody, in their right mind will turn down free chocolate.

Chapter 7 Health & Fitness.

A private investigator must have eyes like a hawk, the reflexes of a puma, and the digestive system of a pachyderm if he expects to get ahead in his chosen profession. Nutritionists tell us that we should eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, lots of fiber, and get plenty of exercise. But who really wants to eat that junk. We recommend taking all your meals in restaurants named after a person with three or less letters in their first name: e.g. 'Eat at Joe's', Ted's Tex-Mex Truck-stop, Mad Max's BBQ, Tiny Tim's 'Tater Trough. These types of restaurants may not be fivestar, but at least you can be sure of getting a big plate of biscuits and gravy or a good bowl of chili. Remember, private investigation isn't just a job; it's a lifestyle, and you have an image to maintain. As for exercise, that seems to have a way of taking care of itself in this profession. You will be surprised how fast and how far you can run if a large man with an automatic weapon is chasing you.

Eight &

Chapter 8 Sleep - A well rested dick is an effective dick.

Remember, you must get plenty of rest if you want to be 100 percent on the job. Sometimes Pis have to put in long hours but make sure you don't work yourself to exhaustion. If you become tired you should try and sleep in your own place. You never know what might happen if you try and take a cat-nap in the park at night.

Chapter 9 Handy PI Fashion tips:

We recommend wearing clothes, preferably something which hasn't been washed recently, but doesn't smell too bad. Public displays of nudity are generally frowned upon by most members of the law enforcement community.

Dead duck. PI jargon - means bite the big one.

'effin. Slang for friggin'

Em-Way. Electromagnetically levitated subway system.

Pachyderm. Think skinned mammal such as an elephant or rhinoceros.

pulse particle-beam handgun. A handgun which fires a burst of highly organized associative particles instead of a lead projectile.

'Relatively safe' Euphemism meaning 20% chance of death or dismemberment.

'Repairing' someone else's VidPhone. Euphemism meaning run a tap and listen in on someone's private life.

Valued Customer. Anyone who is willing to shell out the ridiculously large amount of money it takes to buy one of our products.







More Stuff...

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO: DYNAMIX COMIX: P.O. BOX 11806 EUGENE, OREGON 97440

Dear Dynamix Comix:

I'm a single guy who has a lot of trouble with women. I just can't seem to figure out how to get through to them. I take them out for dinner, maybe a movie and usually this works ok. The problem is that when I take a girl back to my place to play video games and look at my comic book collection. I get the cold shoulder. What should I do?

Todd Towers, Eugene, Oregon.

Help!

Dear Todd, I think you may have us confused with a different magazine, but I suggest you try different software and/or comic books.

-Dave

Dear Dynamix Comix:

What's up with Blade? I mean he's really cool and all, but sometimes he holds his gun with his right hand and sometimes he holds it with his left hand. Is Blade a lefty or is he right-handed? I'm really confused.

Lt. Keith Eayrs, Great Falls, MT Dear Keith, Blade is ambidextrous. 'Nuff said. -Dave

Dear Dave,

Would you please quit screwing around at that silly Dynamix place and get a real life.

Mother, Charlottesville, VA

Dear mom, cheap shot...

Dear Dynamix Comix: I really enjoy the

characters you have created in this series and hope that you will continue to develop them in future issues. I would especially like to learn more about the relationship between Blade and Karvn, for instance: why is she so uptight? Blade's a really great guy and she should feel lucky to have him around. At times it seems like she really might be ready to leave him for good (if she does, can I get her VidPhone number?) even though she genuinely cares about him. What's her story? Is she the

victim of a bad past love affair? Just curious.

Bob Robatzek Tigard, OR

Dear Bob, Karyn and Blade have a long past history that will be brought into clearer focus in future issues. They may break up, but chances are they will get back together again eventually. Stay tuned.

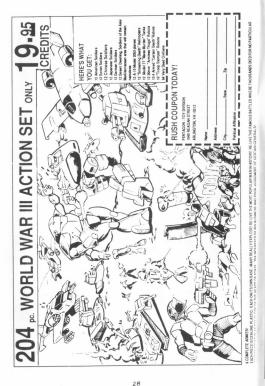
Dear Dynamix Comix:

-Dave

When are we going to see the next issue of Blade Hunter Mysterles? I have thoroughly enjoyed the latest issue of your book and hope to see more soon.

Karen Sumners, Los Angeles, CA

Dear Karen, we currently have several stories under development, but we still have to scrape up some more cash to pay off the printing for our last issue. Hopefully it will be released within the next several months.



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high energy formula that lets you put on muscles like nobodys'



business

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