

Ferron at the Flynn

Moira

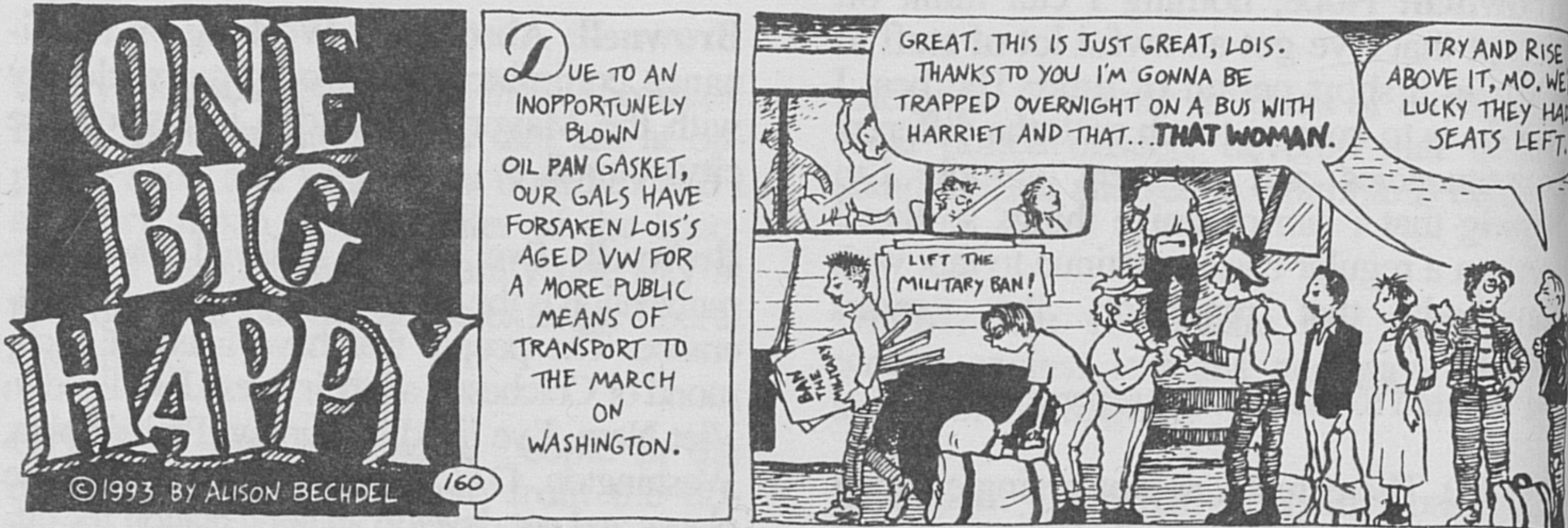
My partner and I are usually guarded when we touch in public. There is often a safe distance between us. Walking in to the Flynn to see Ferron, our hands slid into each others. She pulled me through the crowd, mostly women, mostly smiling, like a reunion. Our bodies moved as if we were at home, our familiarity with each other acknowledged. We had a birds-eye view from the balcony, looking down on a sea of old friends, watching new ones being made, laughter bouncing around them all. And when the lights went dim, a strong clapping brought Ferron and her accompanist Shelley Jennings onto the stage.

We were treated to a very long, emotional, all-out performance. Woven through the classics were a few new songs. All were sung and played with the heart and soul that one has grown to expect from this woman. In between were anecdotes, stories, the wanderings of Ferron's busy mind. She is funny. And personal. And truly a poet singing our song.

As she encouraged the audience to sing their parts, adding to her angelic sounds, the whole place was lifted higher. "Sound painting", she said as she danced around in the shower of purple-red light and our voices. The additional guitar, played beautifully by Shelley, led to a wondrous blend of strengths and softness, as the two improvised their way through old favorites and new uncharted domain. A new album is scheduled to be released before this year is over titled *The Driver*.

Ferron has a beat... as she had all of us snapping along, encouraging the audience to be cool in a group... we were swept, willingly along... yeah, she's still cool... and anyone who was there left knowing they were too. Thanks Ferron, for gracing Burlington one more time, with your poetry in song and with the warm handshake and friendly pen extended in the lobby afterwards! ▼

Dykes To Watch Out For By Alison Bechdel



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