

## **Another Day at the Office**

*Brad Rose*

It's a law-and-order planet, so the president signed into law a parallel universe. Now everything is lined up shoulder to shoulder, even the double talk. Monday, I noticed my face is too big for my head and my hair's too long for a chainsaw. That was the hardest part. That, and when I realized I was speeding in reverse with the emergency brake on. Can a mind reader be expected to read an illiterate's mind? It's like that time my dentist pulled his own teeth, except my dentist is probably a genius of some kind. What do you say we sink that boat when we get to it? Yesterday, did you see all that stuff burning simultaneously? I would have blacked out, if I hadn't stuck my finger in the socket. That'll be the last time I'll allow my court-appointed attorney to read a synopsis of my hypnosis. Besides, you'd have thought I would have looked better since I was wearing my invisible disguise. Now, here on death row, everyone's lined up alphabetically, by date of birth. What I'd give for another day at the office.

## Charred

Trying to simplify my life, so I threw out all my bills and re-financed my sweater. I may be susceptible to disinformation, but I'm not prone to conspiratorial thinking. Like any red-blooded American mammal, I'm just trying to get my money to grow. Now that the government has banned the wearing of pants, everybody remembers things differently. Thanks to the bad blood between us, nobody in this time zone has the same area code. That's probably why they tore down the old bowling alley right after those lazy pinheads went out on strike. What did they expect? Easy street? Yesterday, during the thunderstorm, I nearly fell into that old storm drain, the one near Stubby's. It wasn't my fault I wasn't paying any attention. The lightning set a couple of cows on fire, and Billy was jabbering about the invention of barbeque. I told him, in the old days, everyone just ate raw meat. He shouted, *Look out, Arnold*, but before I knew what was happening--just like that--another one went up in smoke.