Finally, the elusive hermit Al Burian returns to grace us with more of his crazy half-baked opinions. This is the comics issue, and it’s chock full of drawings, short subway sketches, an essay extolling the virtues of the post-Fort Thunder school of comics, and an extended Jack Chick religious tract parody, culminating in a climactic Marvel style battle between the author and God. The writing spans the last several years in Chicago, and is some kind of attempt at wrestling a meaning, moral and/or hopefully happy ending from that bitterly temperatured town.

Like peers Aaron Cometbus and Doris zine publisher Cindy Crabb, AL BURIAN is a veritable independent art powerhouse. In between touring and recording in such beloved punk bands as Milemarker, Hellbender, and Challenger, Burian has released a library of books and zines, most notably the Natural Disasters zine and book and the long-running Burn Collector zine and its book anthologies. Burn Collector #14 is his second release for Microcosm, the first of which, a graphic novel, Things are Meaningless, was released in 2003. Burian, regularly on the road, lives in Berlin. His latest band, Challenger, recently toured Europe after a long dormant period.

**MARKETING NOTES**

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**SUBJECT CATEGORY** COMICS, PERZINE, PUNK

**PRICE** RETAIL $8 DIRECT $6 WHOLESALE $4

**ISBN** 978-1-934620-05-2

**FORMAT** PAPERBACK, 1/4 SIZE, 156 PAGES

**RELEASE DATE** FEBRUARY 2, 2010

**AUTHOR WEBSITE** ALBURIAN.COM

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