

**Happy Tree Friends is pretty sick stuff. Did you pull the wings off flies as a kid?** Ha! I did pop little ticks with magnifying glasses, if that counts. The child runs on the outside with me, the child's never left me. The violence wasn't the original intent for the shows, it was the comedy, but even now I can't put my finger on what actually makes it funny.

**Where will it go from here?**

I hope that it can get more violent. We try and look for the cringe factor, the wince aspect, the "Oh God, that's wrong." It'll get to a stage where it's just a thick red screen of blood and the sound of chopping. That point when you can't stop watching it - like an accident.

**Ever had nightmares about HTF?**

I've never dreamed about it... yet. I probably will now, and that'll be the end of me; I'll go mad. My favourite is Cuddles, though the Mondo team (*the company that makes HTF*) like Lumpy 'cos he's dumb and fun. Rhode (*Montijo, HTF co-creator*) is a fan of Flippy and of Handy, who is one sick character. The best thing is it's word of mouth. You either know about it or you don't and now it's getting huge.


It's a proper cult thing.

Piers Townley

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# Out of their Tree

We speak to Happy Tree Friends' co-creator Kenn Navarro, about MTV's sick new 'toon



**USA GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT** Flippy, right, a twisted bear veteran, watches Petunia the skunk have her face melted off by a hotplate. Cute!