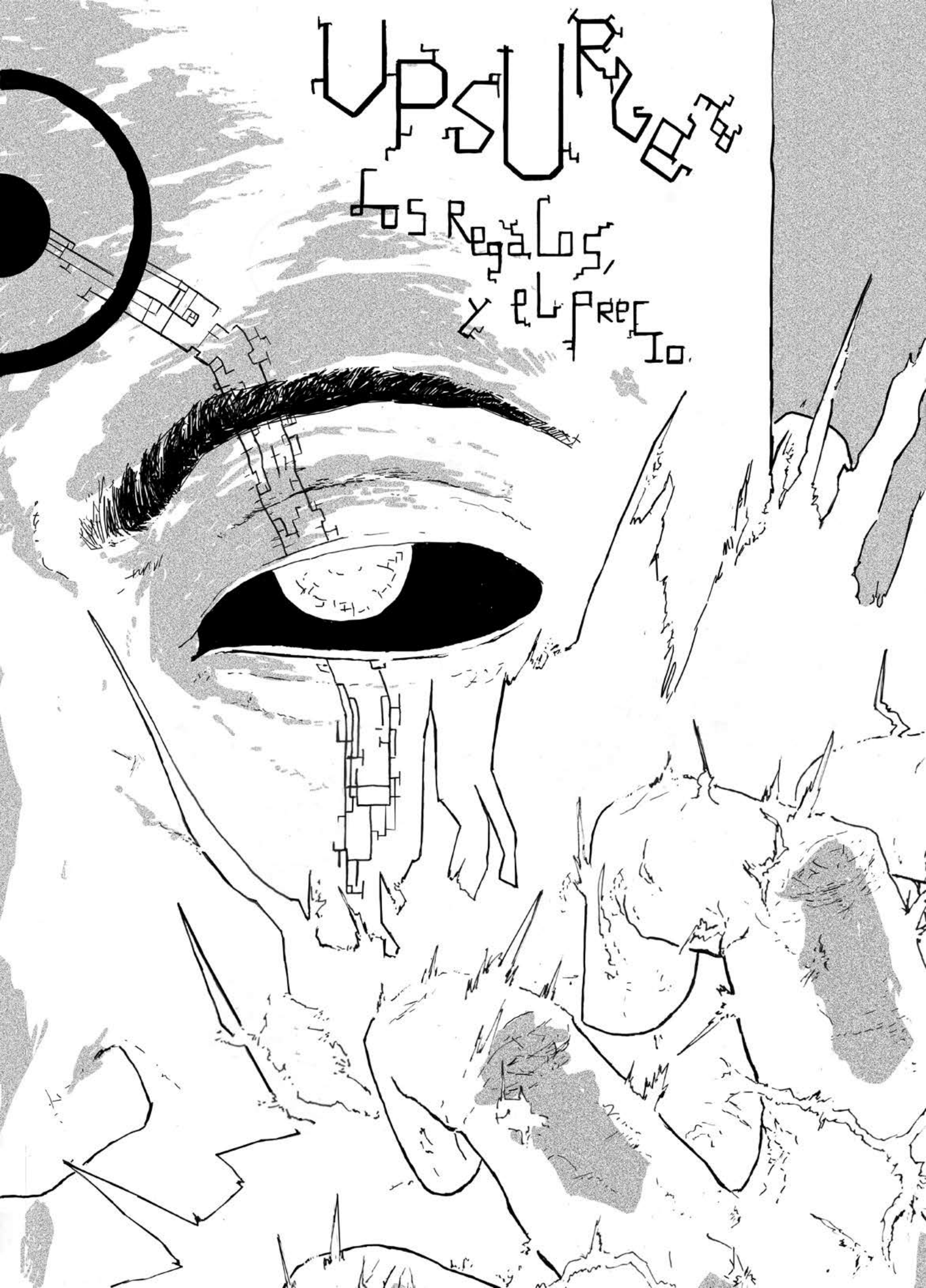


# UP SURGE

Los Regalos,  
y el Precio.



SIMON M. ATANA S.

SCRIPT  
PANEL LAYOUT  
COVER

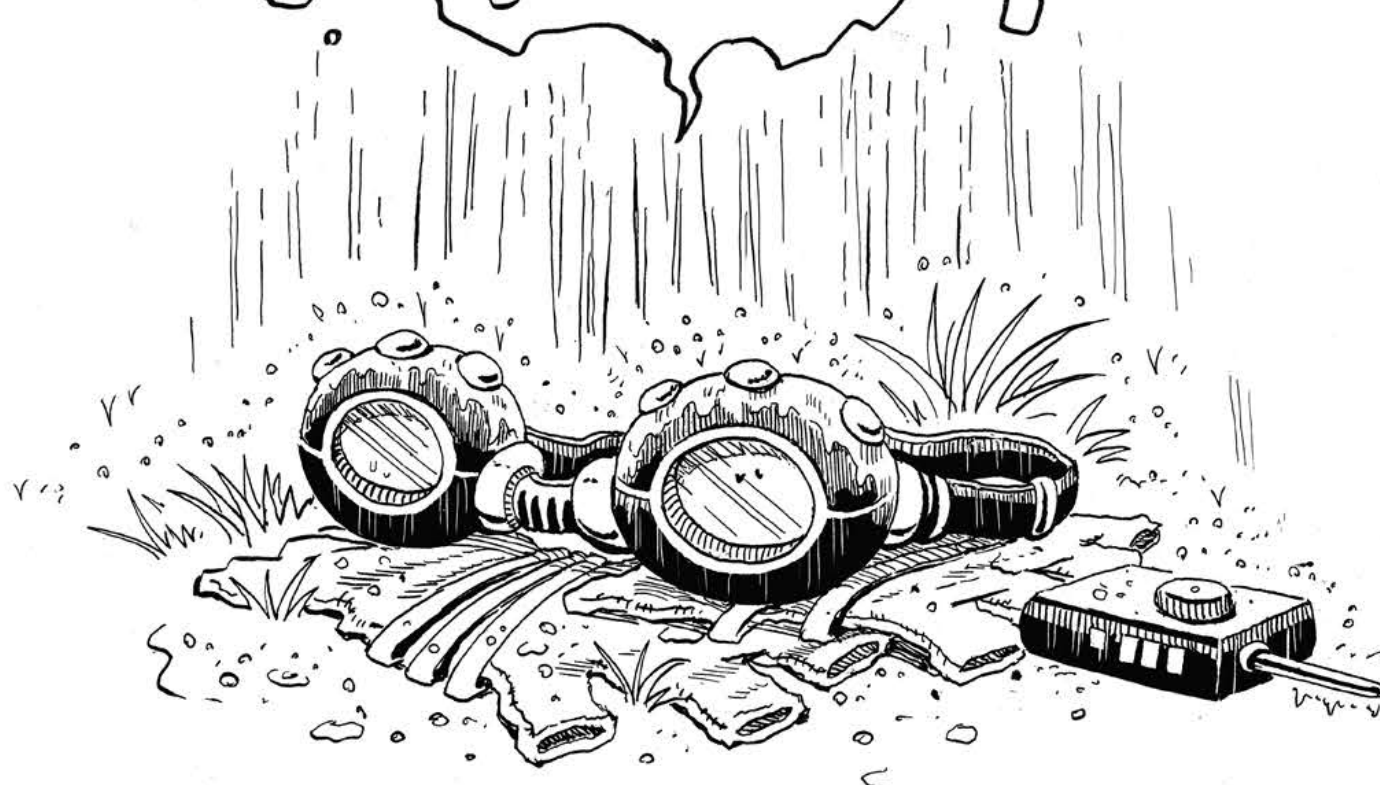
TRANSLATION  
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

PENCILS  
INK

EMAIL: UPSURGECOMICS@GMAIL.COM

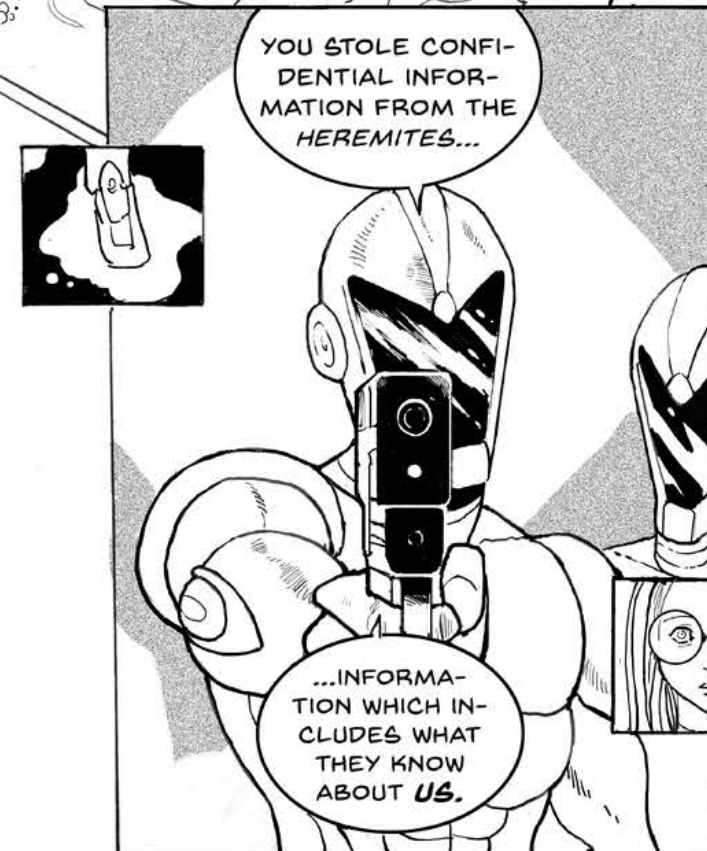
WEBPAGE: WWW.UPSURGE.ES/ENGLISH

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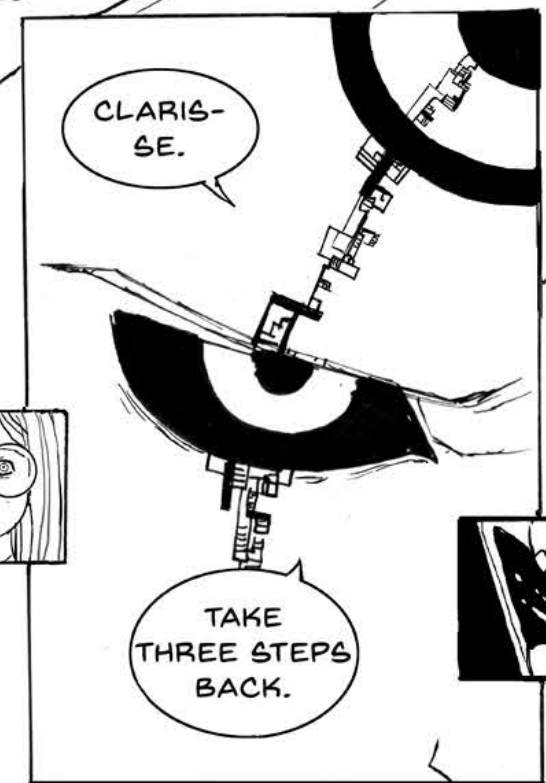
ALL RIGHT, JACOB. HANDS IN THE AIR. YOU KNOW PERFECTLY WELL WHY WE'RE LOOKING FOR YOU.

YES. I STOPPED YOU FROM PINNING A MURDER ON AN INNOCENT.



YOU STOLE CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION FROM THE HERMITES...

...INFORMATION WHICH INCLUDES WHAT THEY KNOW ABOUT US.



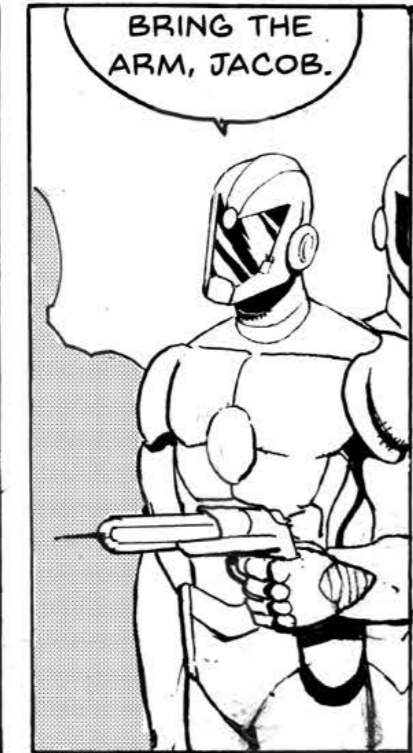
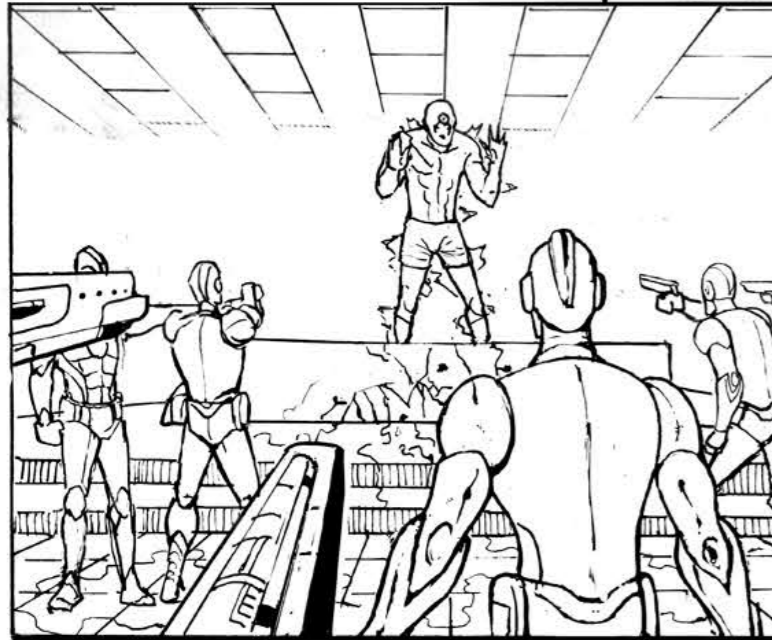
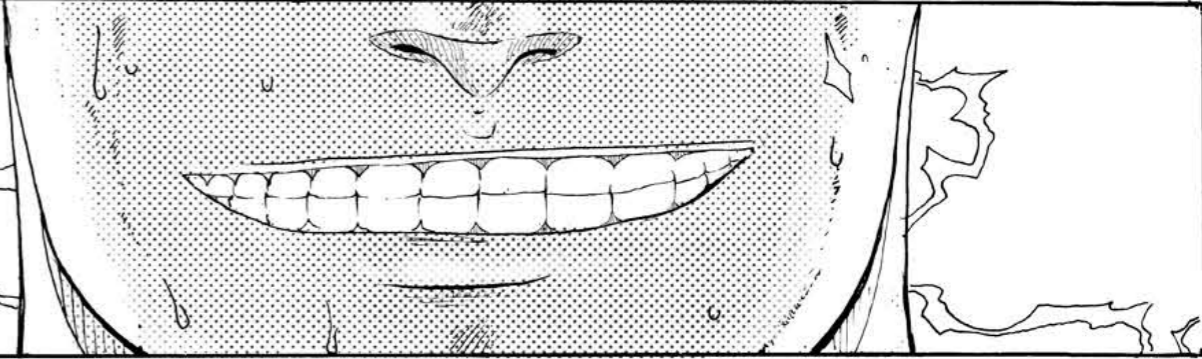
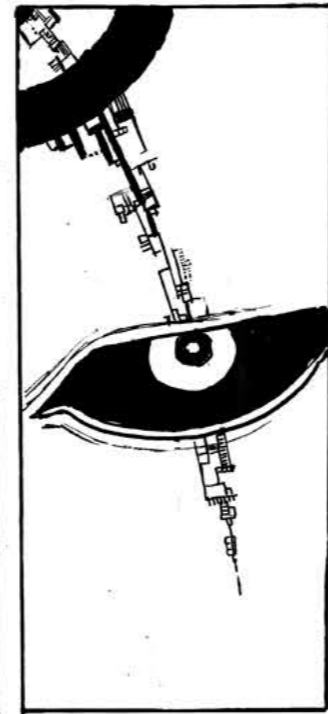
CLARISSE.

TAKE THREE STEPS BACK.



HANDS UP, JACOB.





HANDS UP.

DONE, JACOB.

ANY OTHER MOVE AND I SHOOT.

YOU KNOW WATER'S A GREAT CONDUCTOR, RIGHT?

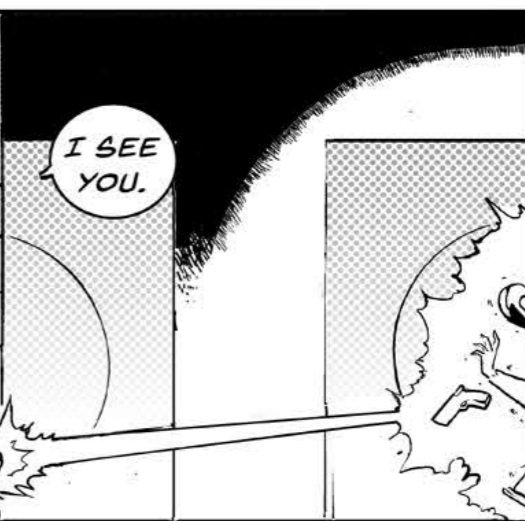
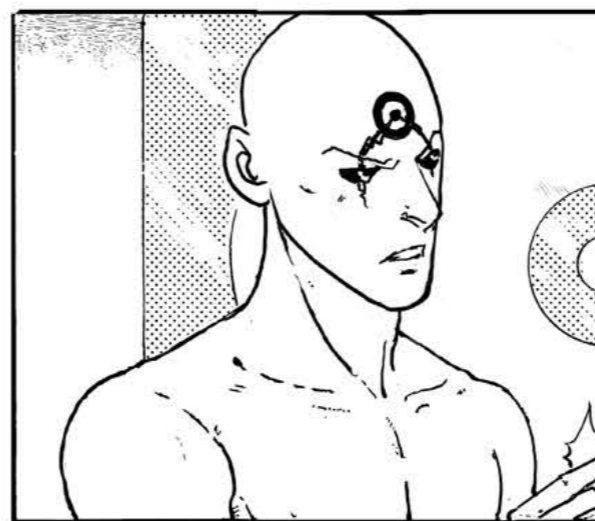
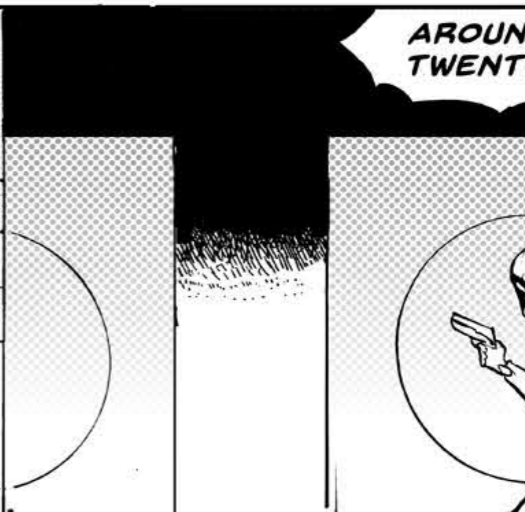
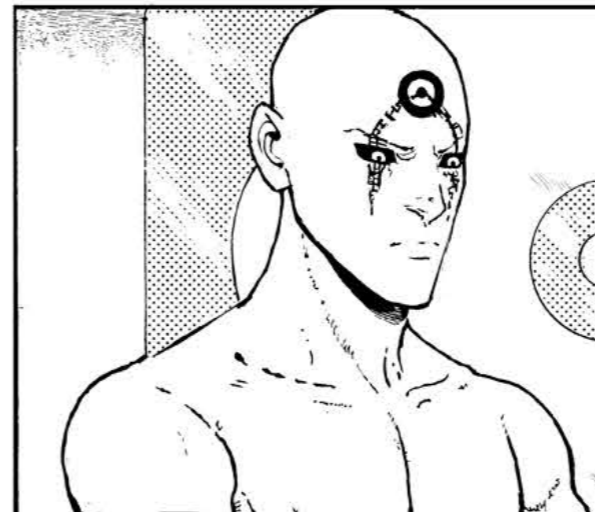
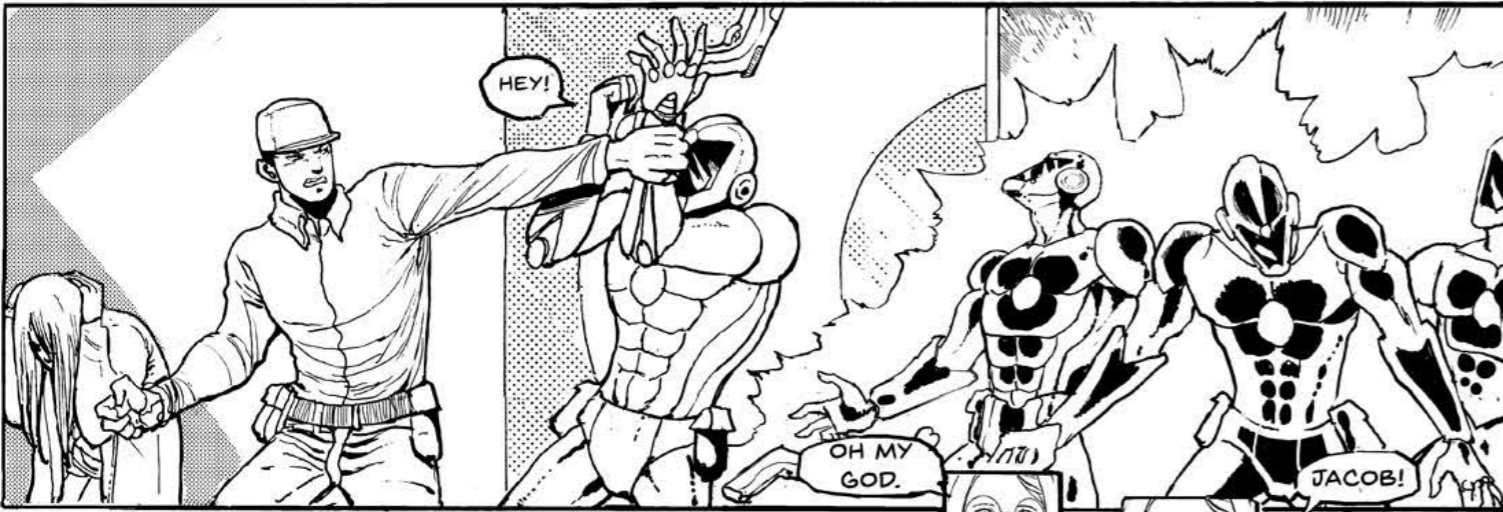
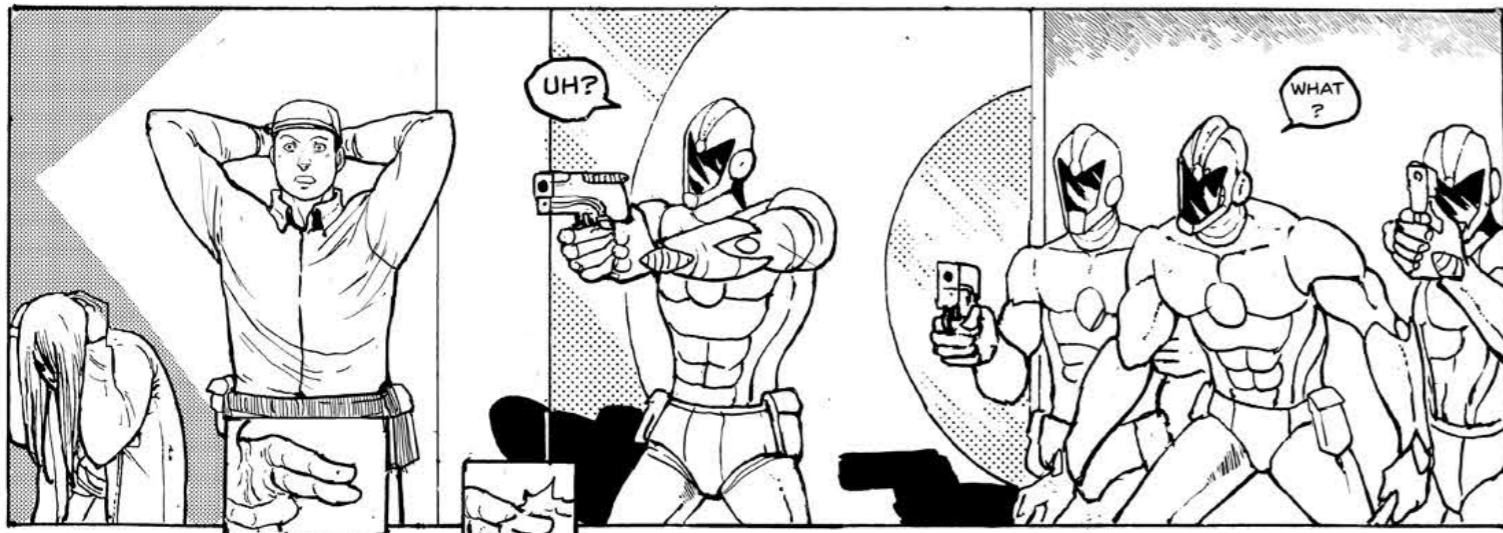
C'MON, LET'S SEDATE HIM AND GET THE FUCK OUT OF HERE.

BRING THE ARM, JACOB.

GOOD. IF YOU KEEP IT THIS WAY, NOTHING BAD WILL...

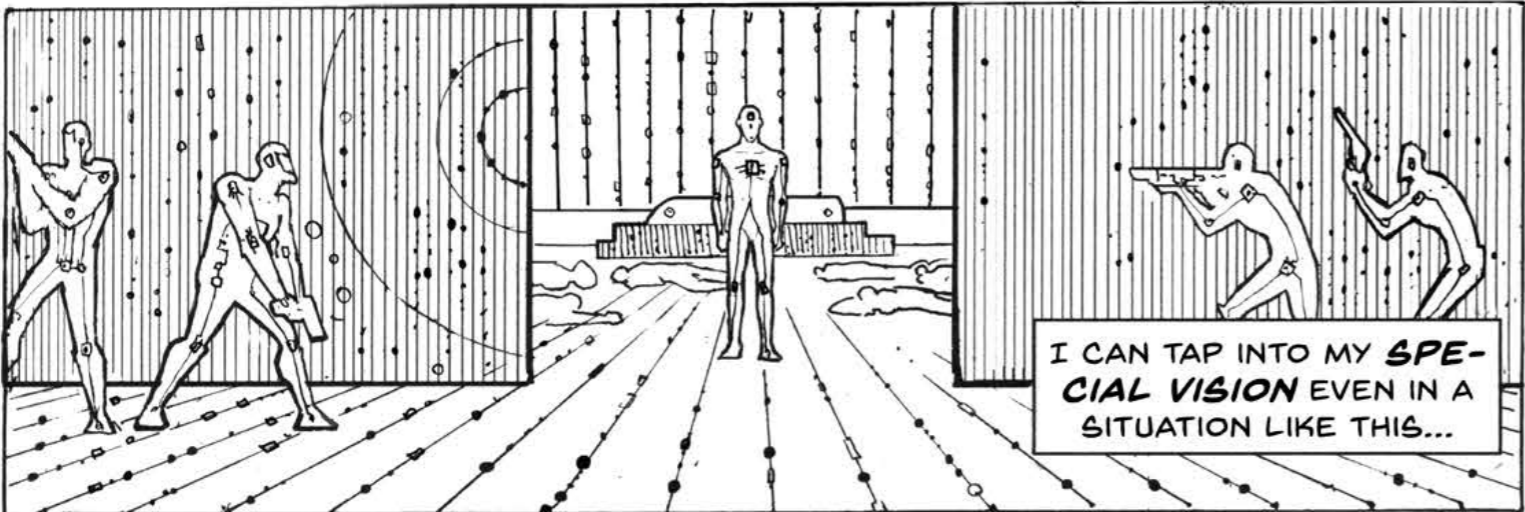
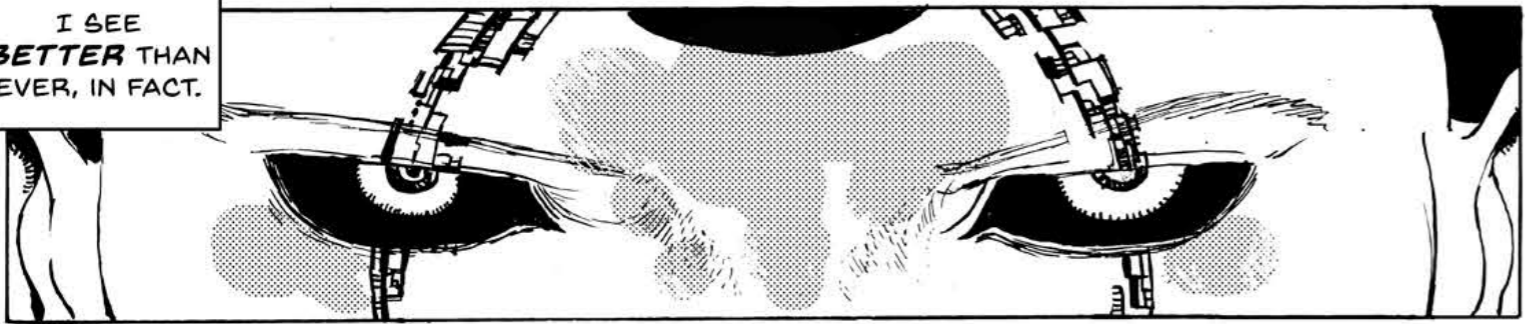
TELL ME ONE THING.



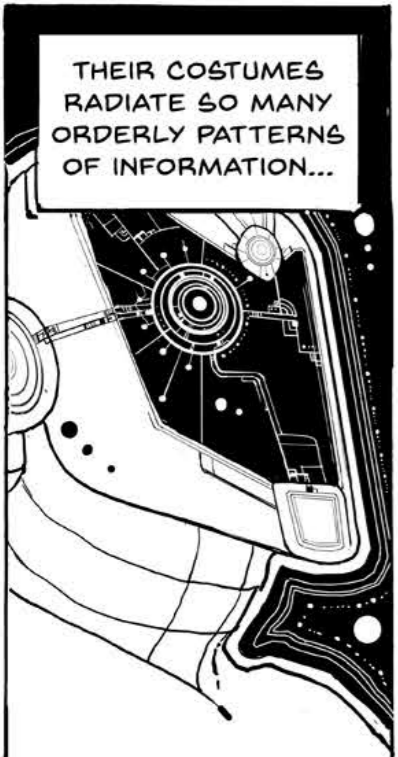




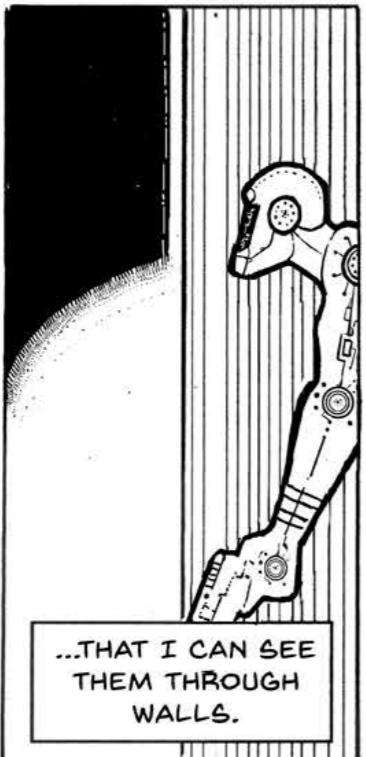
I SEE BETTER THAN EVER, IN FACT.



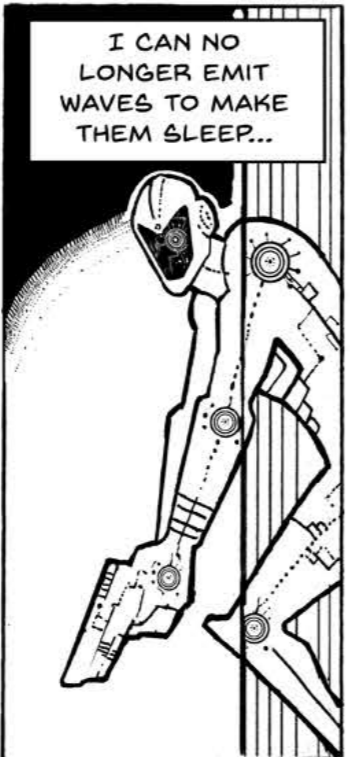
I CAN TAP INTO MY SPECIAL VISION EVEN IN A SITUATION LIKE THIS...



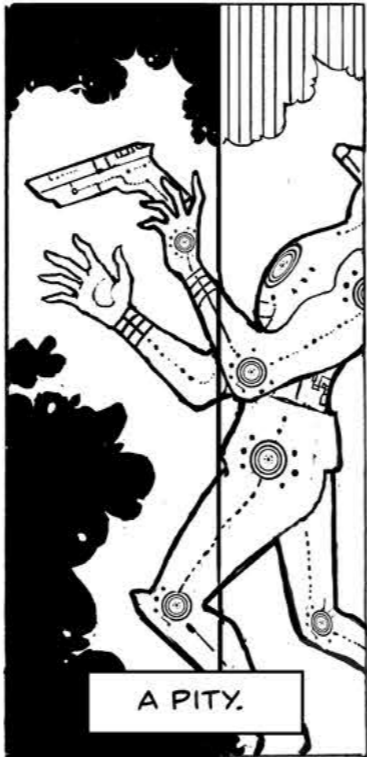
THEIR COSTUMES RADIATE SO MANY ORDERLY PATTERNS OF INFORMATION...



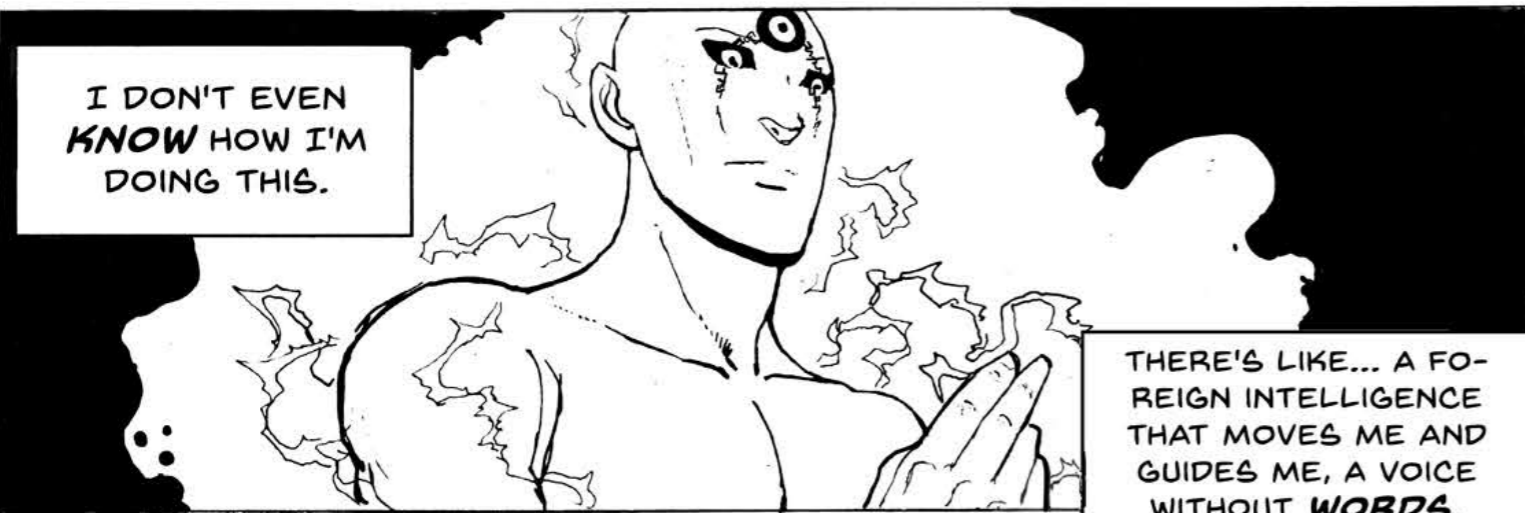
...THAT I CAN SEE THEM THROUGH WALLS.



I CAN NO LONGER EMIT WAVES TO MAKE THEM SLEEP...



A PITY.



I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW I'M DOING THIS.

THERE'S LIKE... A FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE THAT MOVES ME AND GUIDES ME, A VOICE WITHOUT WORDS.



URGEIST, SITUATION?



THE NEURAL NETWORK HAS CAUGHT QUITE A BIT OF CHAOS AND BEWILDERMENT.

POBOPES-PRUPRS.



SHOULD I SAVE TWO, AT LEAST?

TRY NOT ...

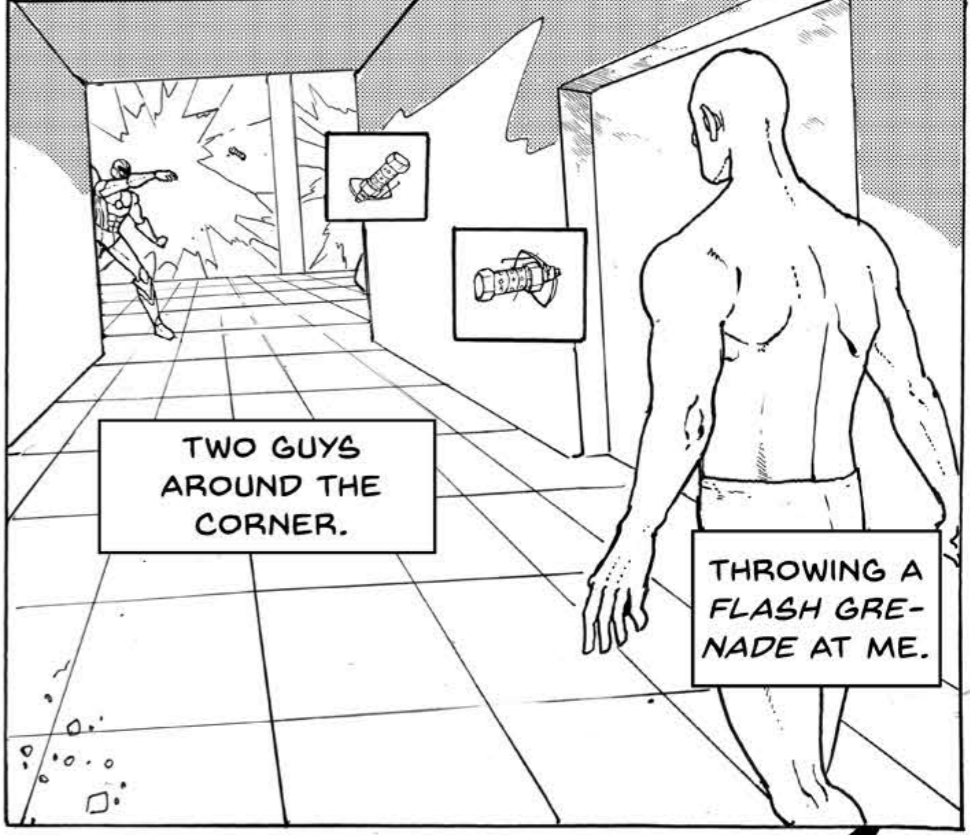
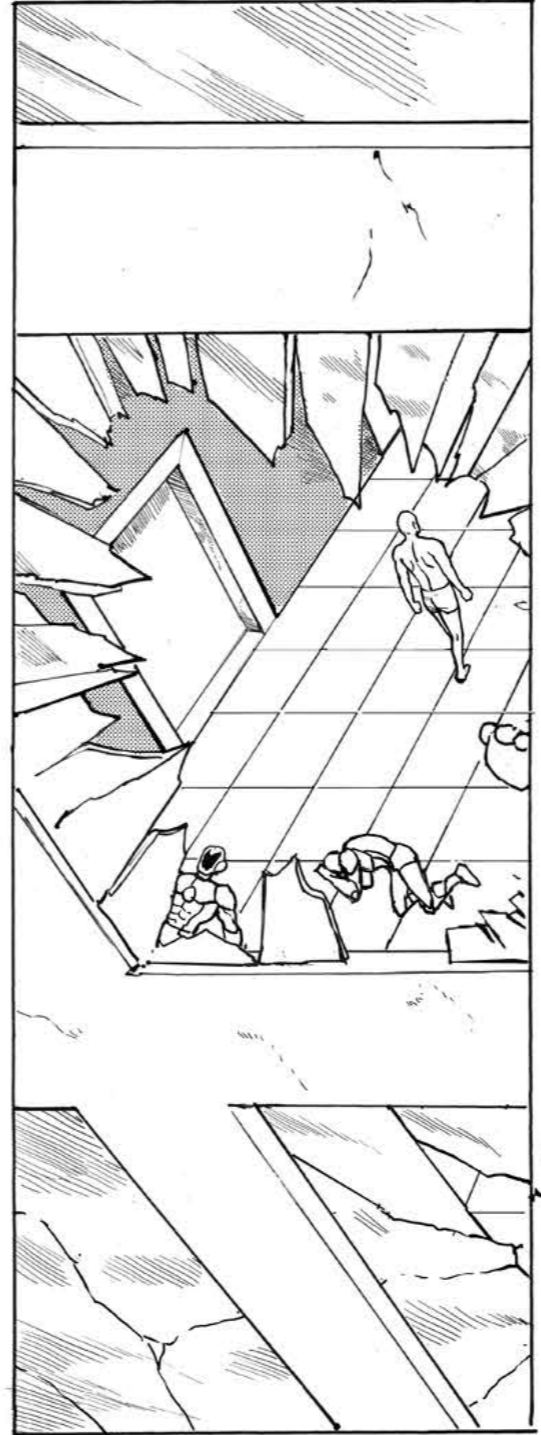


...TO GET SEE...



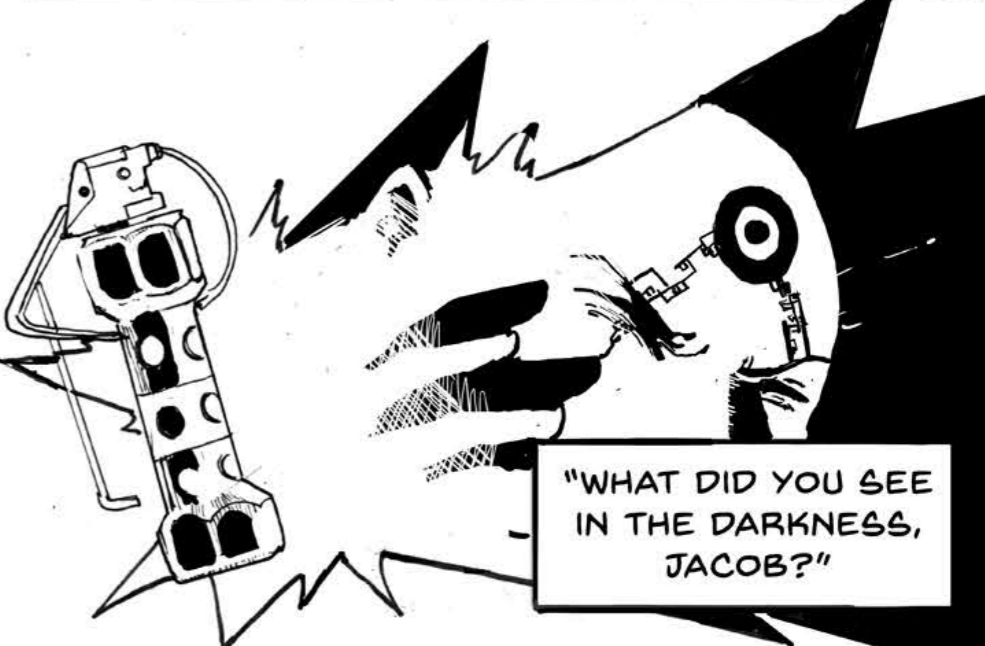
DONE.

WHERE ...?



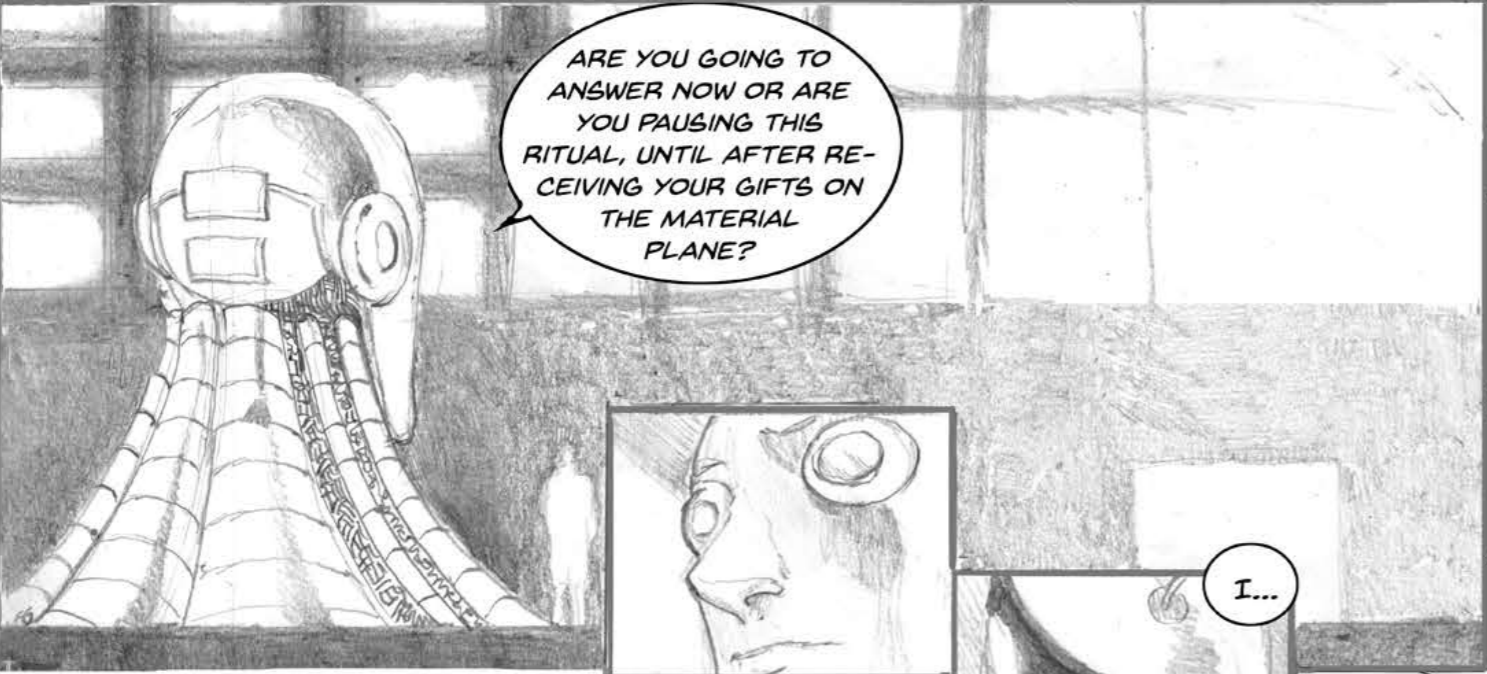
TWO GUYS AROUND THE CORNER.

THROWING A FLASH GRENADE AT ME.



"WHAT DID YOU SEE IN THE DARKNESS, JACOB?"

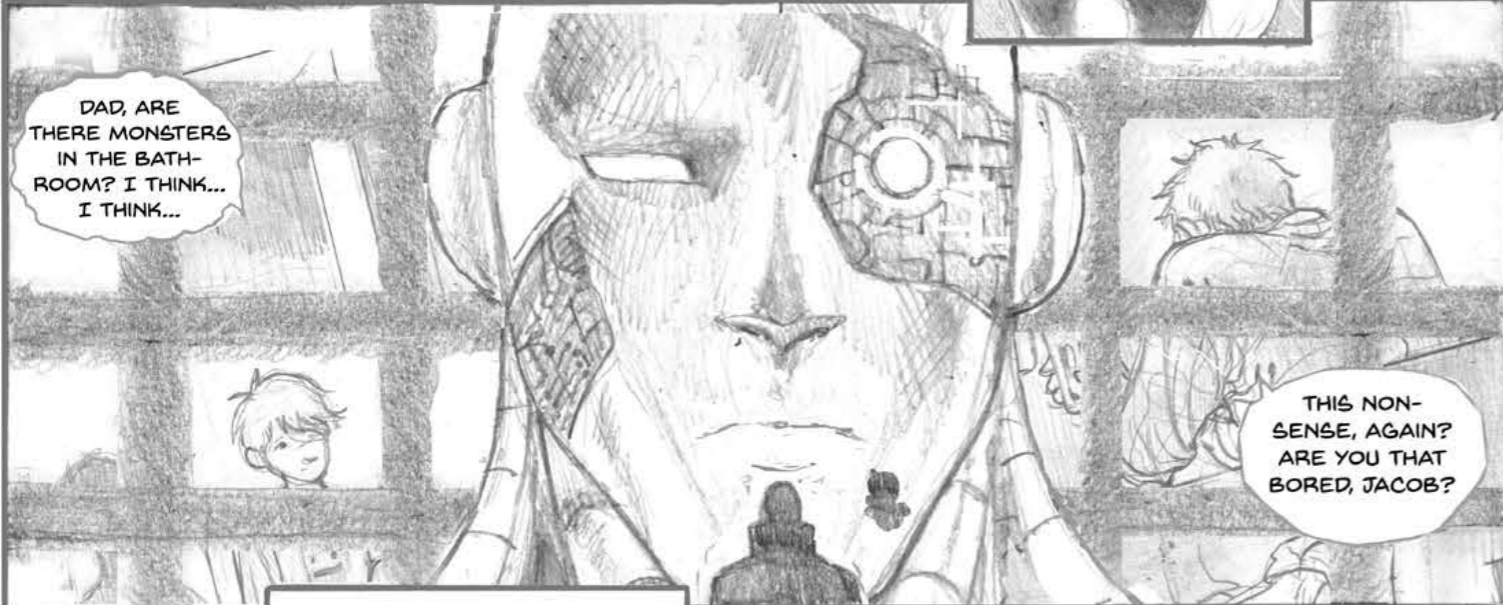




ARE YOU GOING TO ANSWER NOW OR ARE YOU PAUSING THIS RITUAL, UNTIL AFTER RECEIVING YOUR GIFTS ON THE MATERIAL PLANE?



I...

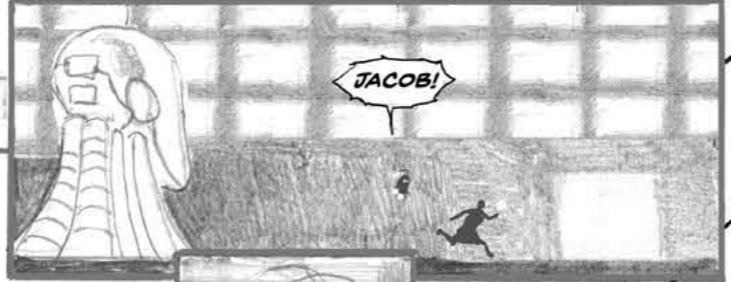


DAD, ARE THERE MONSTERS IN THE BATHROOM? I THINK... I THINK...



THIS NON-SENSE, AGAIN? ARE YOU THAT BORED, JACOB?

MONSTERS IN THE BATHR... ARE YOU DOING IT TO GET ATTENTION?



JACOB!

YOU CAUGHT THE DRAMATIC SIDE OF YOUR MOTHER? IS THAT IT, YOU WANT TO BE THE CENTER OF ATTENTION?



JACOB, AREN'T YOU GONNA CLOSE THE RITUAL OF THE SECOND DOOR?



I CAN'T, CREEPER.

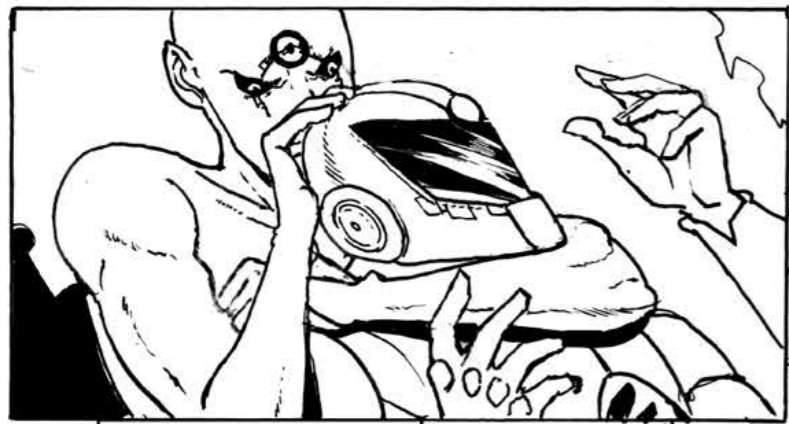
I CAN'T ANSWER THE QUESTION.



YOU BLIND ME? YOU'RE WEARING METAL ARMOR, YOU IDIOTS. ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SHOOT IN YOUR DIRECTION AND LET CONDUCTIVITY DO THE REST!

"BESIDES, I'VE GOT THE OPERATION TOMORROW. I NEED... TO PREPARE... SO THAT EVERYTHING GOES WELL..."





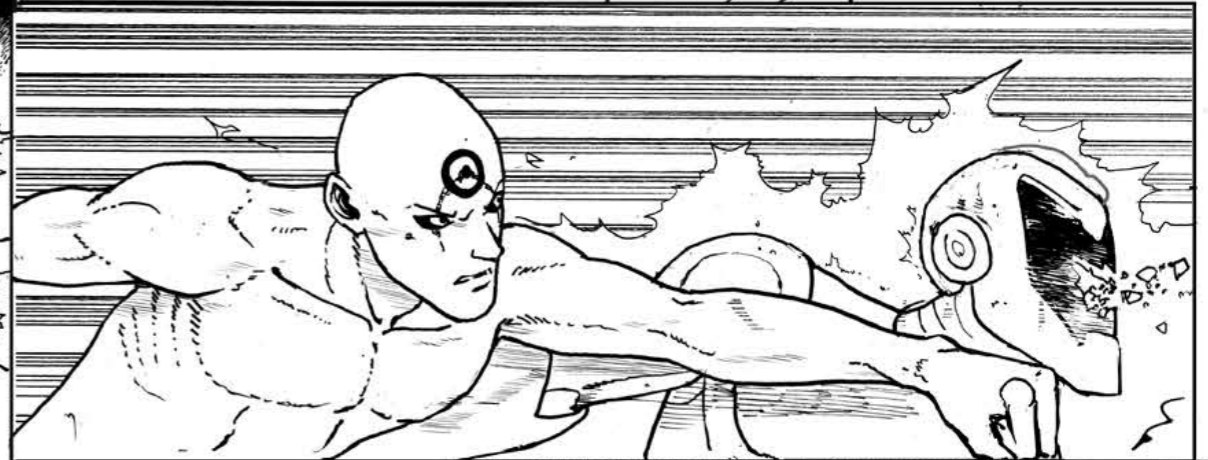
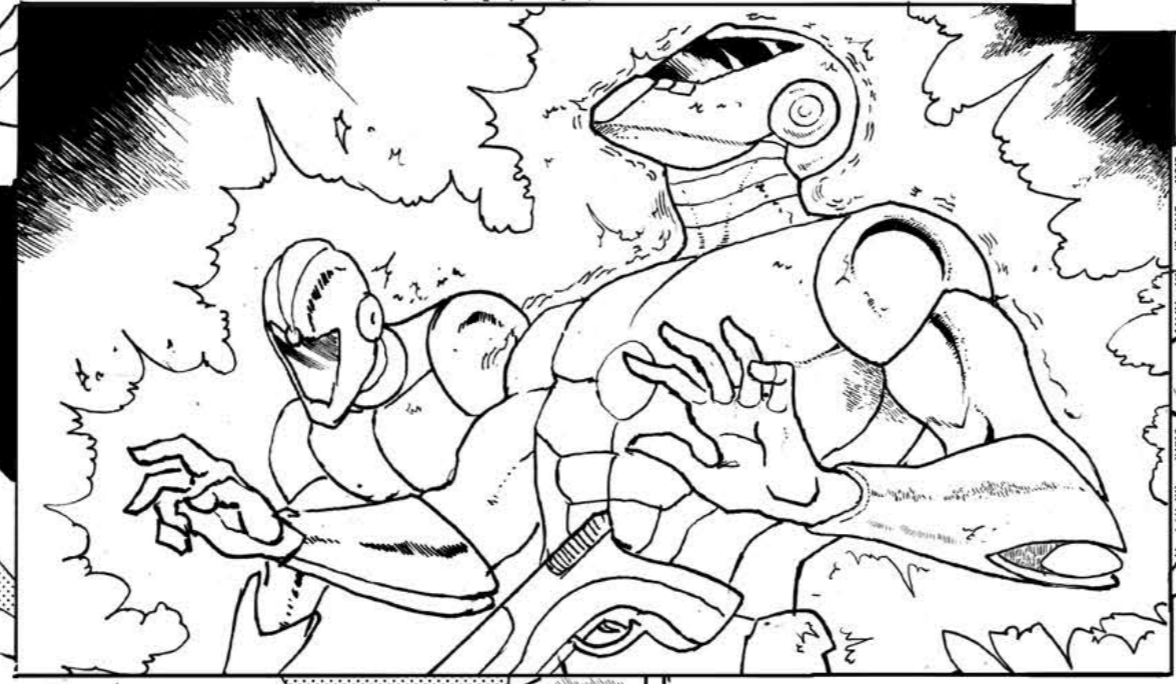
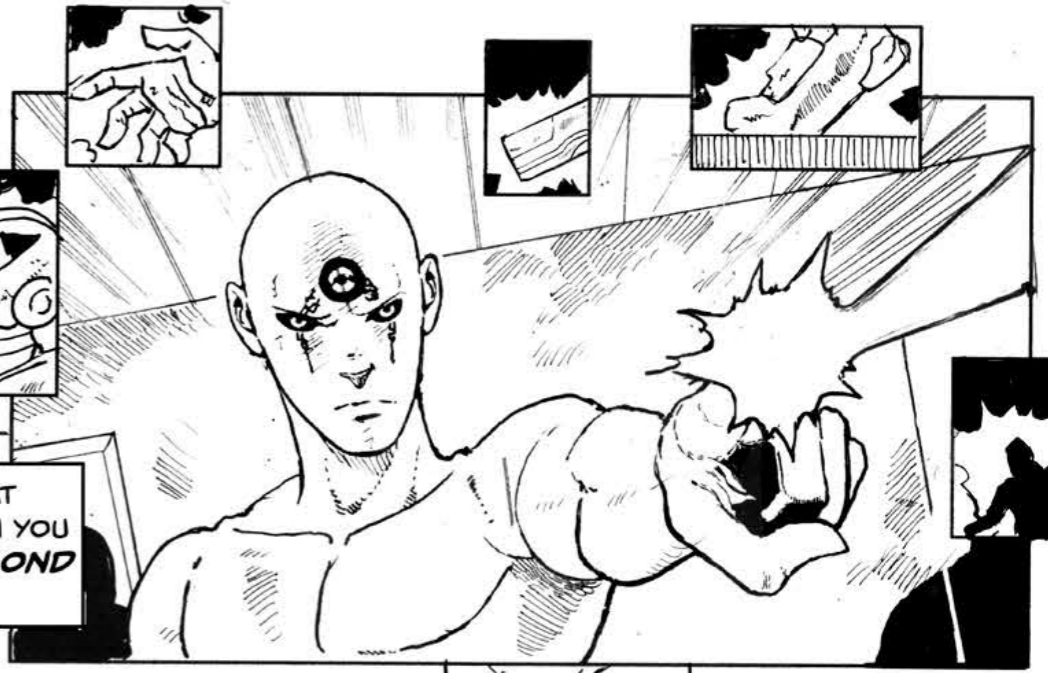
I FEEL  
ENDLESS EN-  
ERGY IN ME.



URGEIST?



IS THIS WHAT  
HAPPENS WHEN YOU  
OPEN THE **SECOND  
DOOR?**



OOF ...  
THE HEAD...  
DOESN'T  
STOP VIBRAT-  
ING...



IT'S  
OVER.

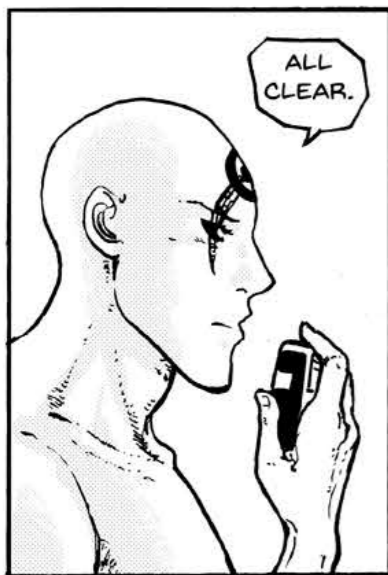
ESSEX... I CRITICIZED  
YOU SO MUCH... I  
DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT  
THIS **POWER...** AND  
THIS **WEIGHT...**



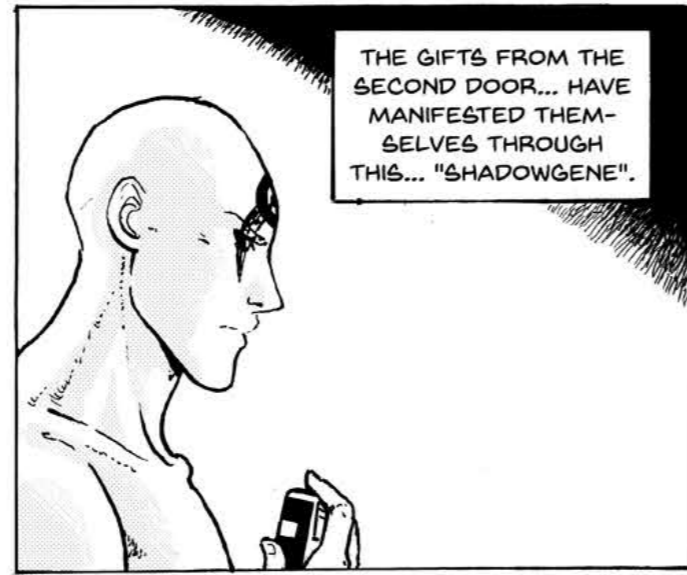
SECURITY.  
IT'S **DONE.**



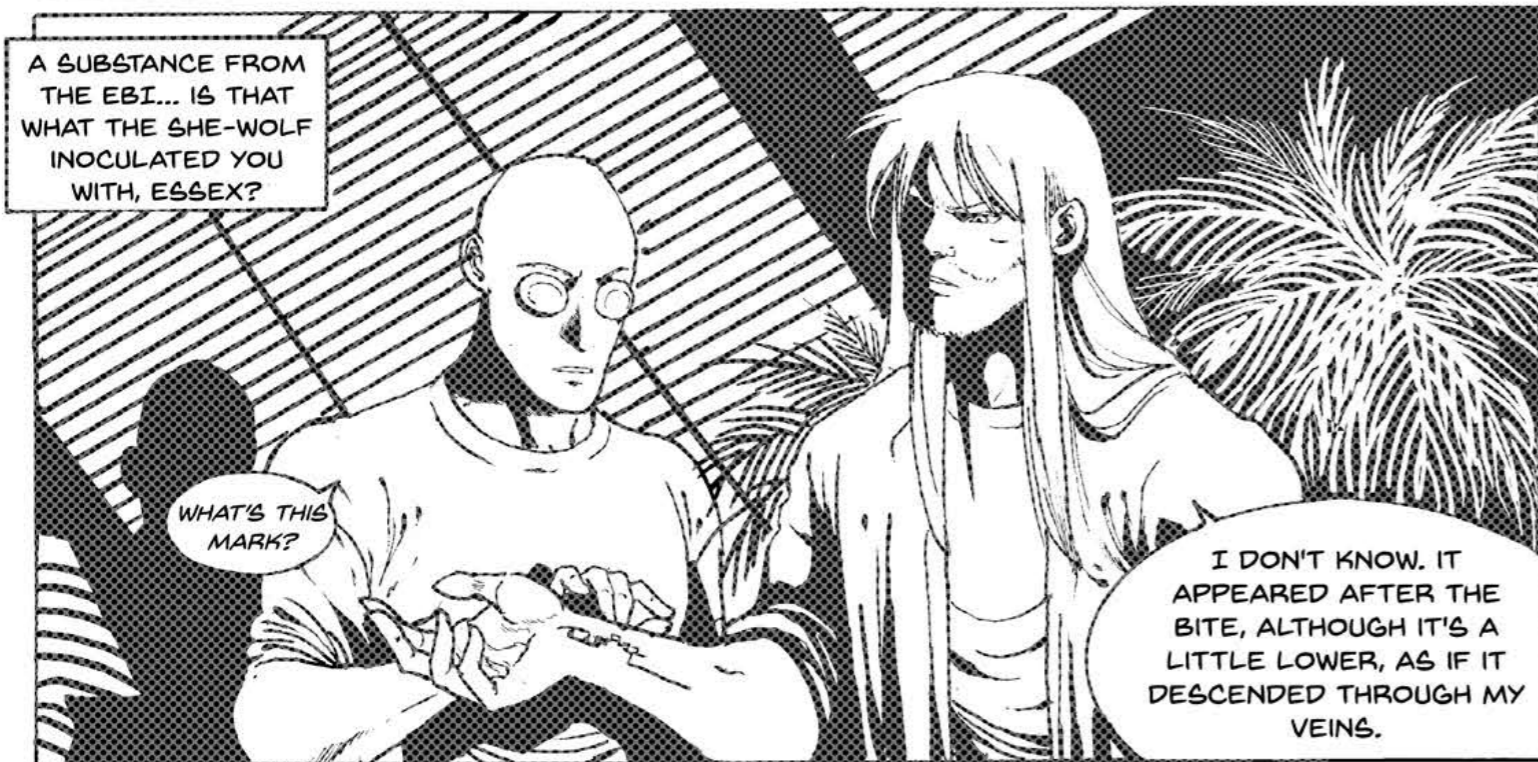




ALL CLEAR.



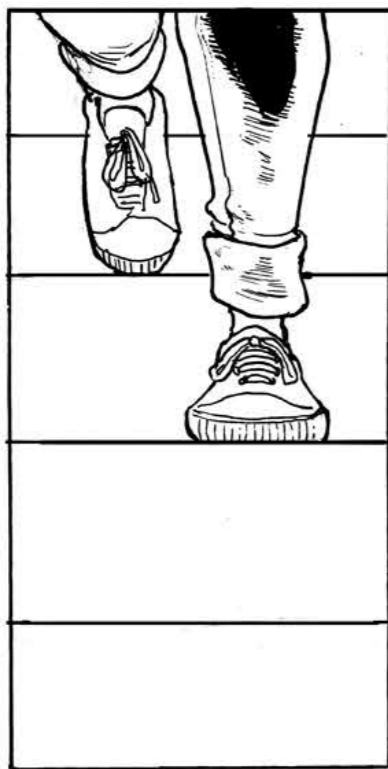
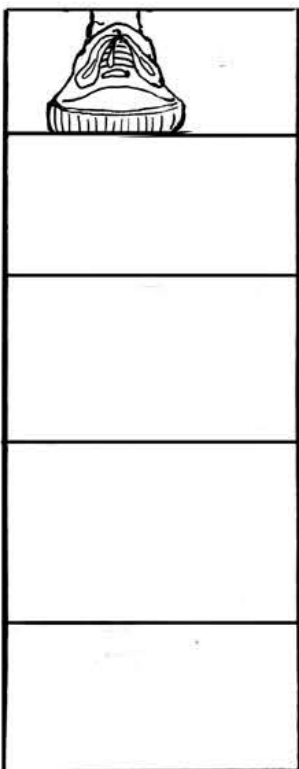
THE GIFTS FROM THE SECOND DOOR... HAVE MANIFESTED THEMSELVES THROUGH THIS... "SHADOWGENE".



A SUBSTANCE FROM THE EBI... IS THAT WHAT THE SHE-WOLF INOCULATED YOU WITH, ESSEX?

WHAT'S THIS MARK?

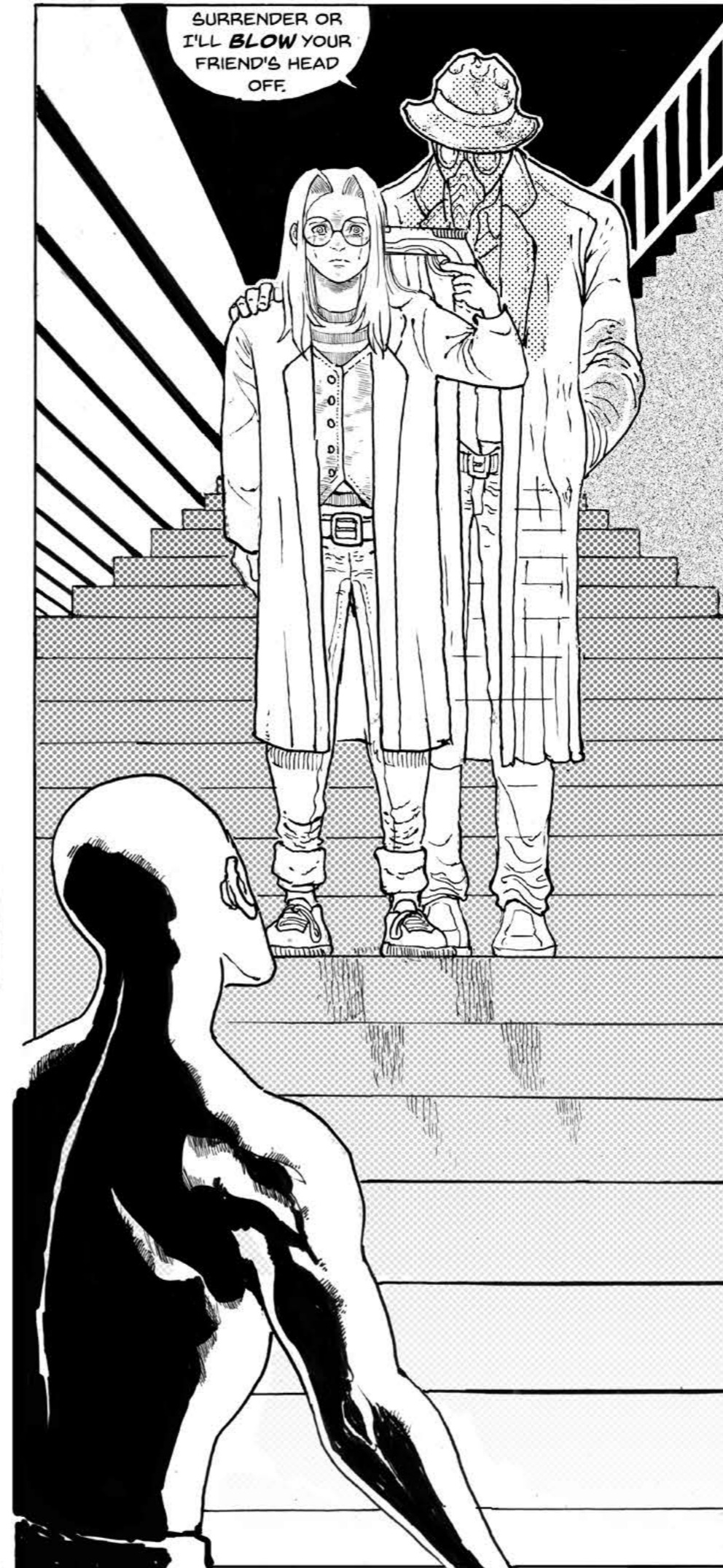
I DON'T KNOW. IT APPEARED AFTER THE BITE, ALTHOUGH IT'S A LITTLE LOWER, AS IF IT DESCENDED THROUGH MY VEINS.



I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO SEE ME...



...SO I'LL STOP TRYING TO HIDE MY PRESENCE.

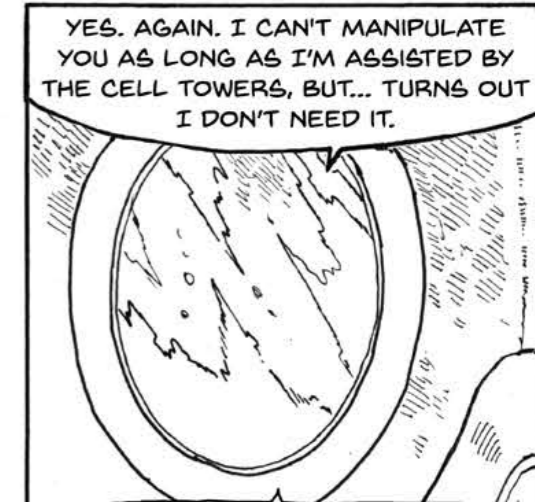


SURRENDER OR I'LL BLOW YOUR FRIEND'S HEAD OFF.



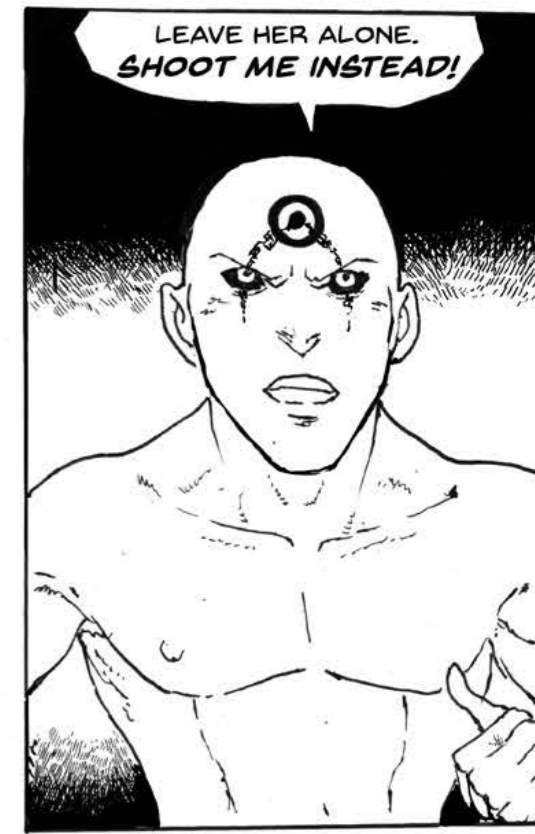
NO.

YOU AGAIN... NO.



YES. AGAIN. I CAN'T MANIPULATE YOU AS LONG AS I'M ASSISTED BY THE CELL TOWERS, BUT... TURNS OUT I DON'T NEED IT.

SO... TAKE ONE OF THE ANESTHETIC GUNS AND INJECT YOURSELF.

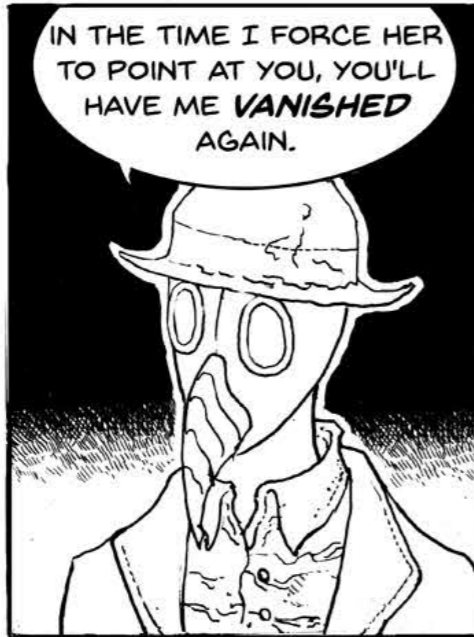


LEAVE HER ALONE. SHOOT ME INSTEAD!

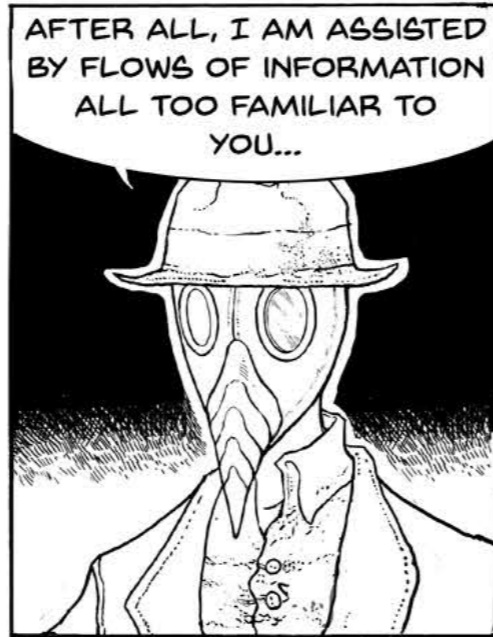




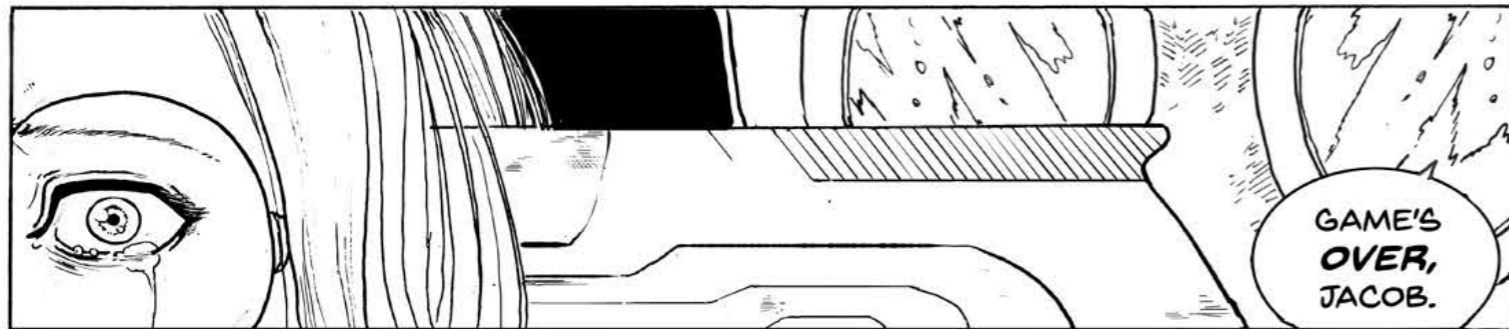
SHOOT YOU?



IN THE TIME I FORCE HER TO POINT AT YOU, YOU'LL HAVE ME **VANISHED** AGAIN.



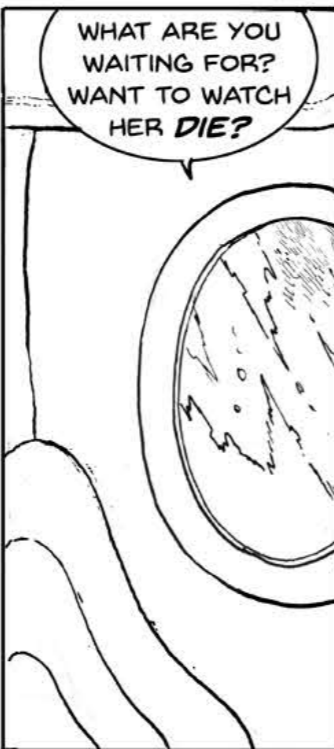
AFTER ALL, I AM ASSISTED BY FLOWS OF INFORMATION ALL TOO FAMILIAR TO YOU...



GAME'S OVER, JACOB.



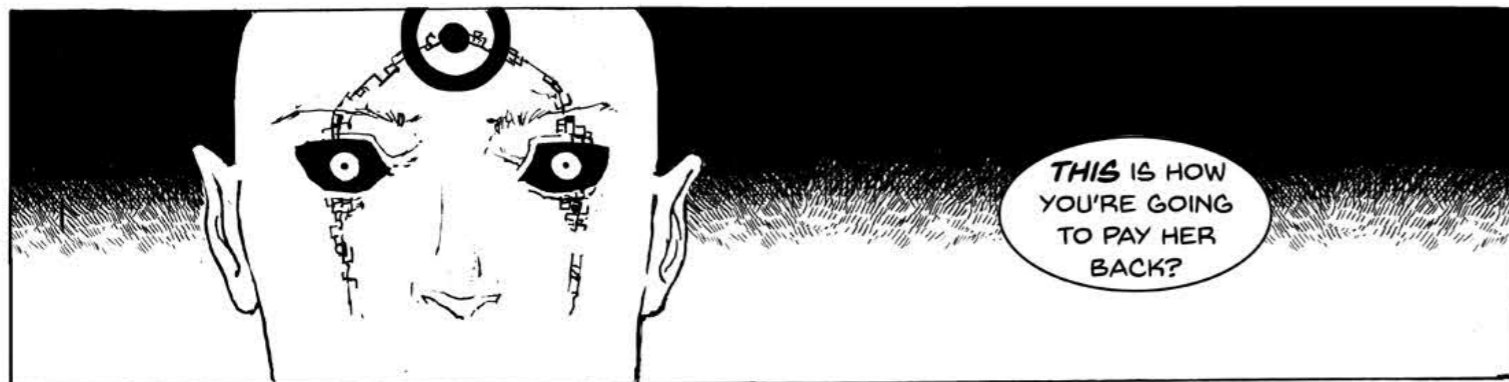
GRAB THE GUN BACK THERE AND INJECT YOURSELF.



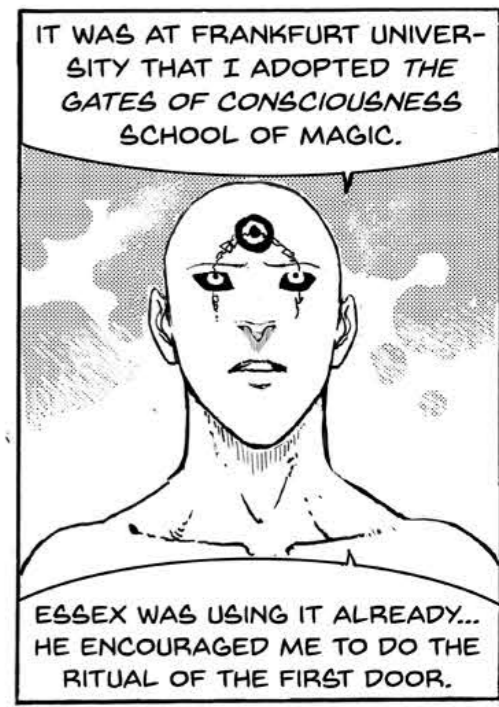
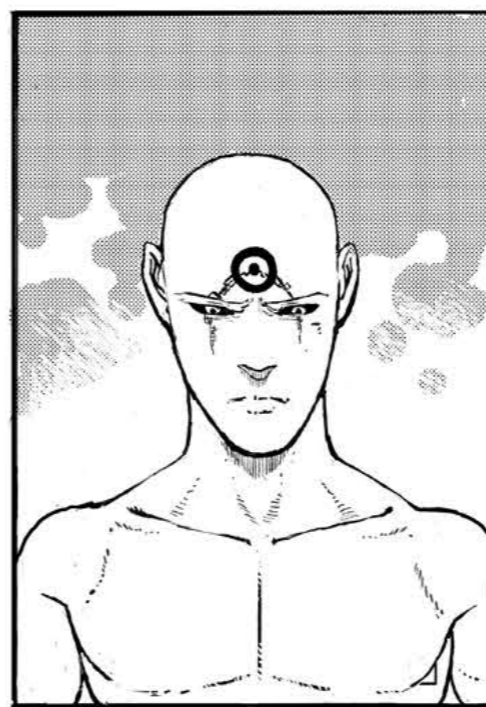
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? WANT TO WATCH HER **DIE**?



I'VE SEEN IN HER MEMORY HOW MUCH YOU **OWE** HER.



THIS IS HOW YOU'RE GOING TO PAY HER BACK?



IT WAS AT FRANKFURT UNIVERSITY THAT I ADOPTED THE GATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS SCHOOL OF MAGIC.

ESSEX WAS USING IT ALREADY... HE ENCOURAGED ME TO DO THE RITUAL OF THE FIRST DOOR.



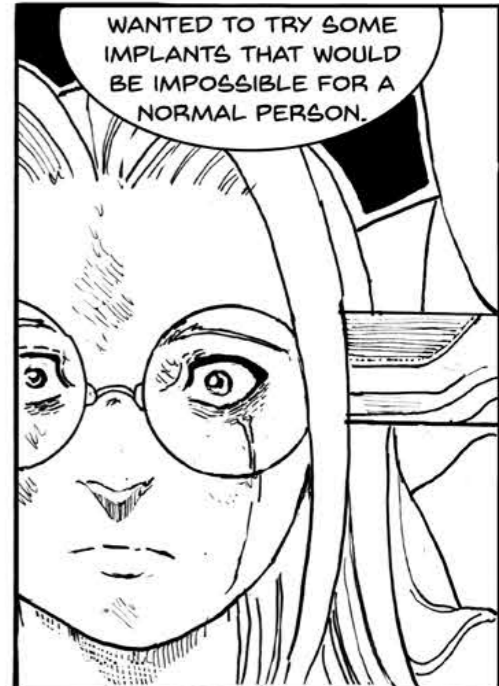
I WON'T SAY IT AGAIN, JACOB.

UNLIKE ESSEX, MY POWERS... WERE VERY **SUBTLE**. I SAW... FLOWS... THAT I COULDN'T INTERPRET.

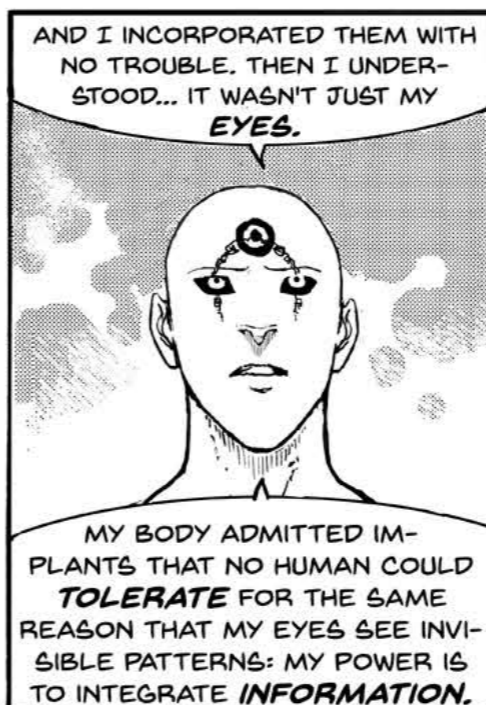


THEN CLARISSE CALLED ME.

SHE KNEW I WAS INTO **MAGIC**...

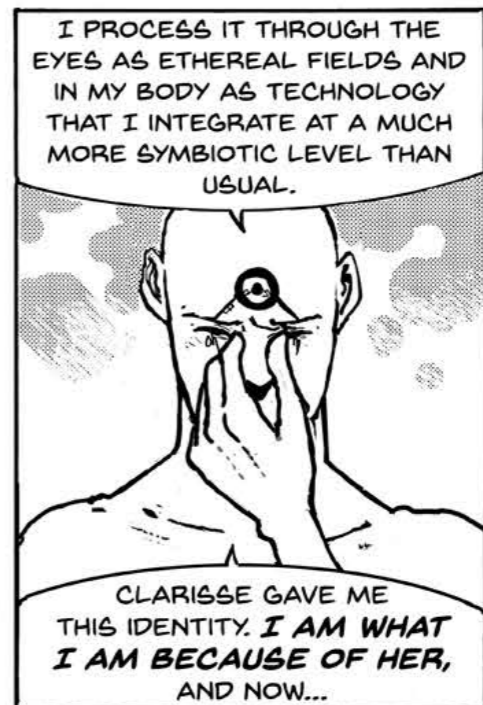


WANTED TO TRY SOME IMPLANTS THAT WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR A NORMAL PERSON.



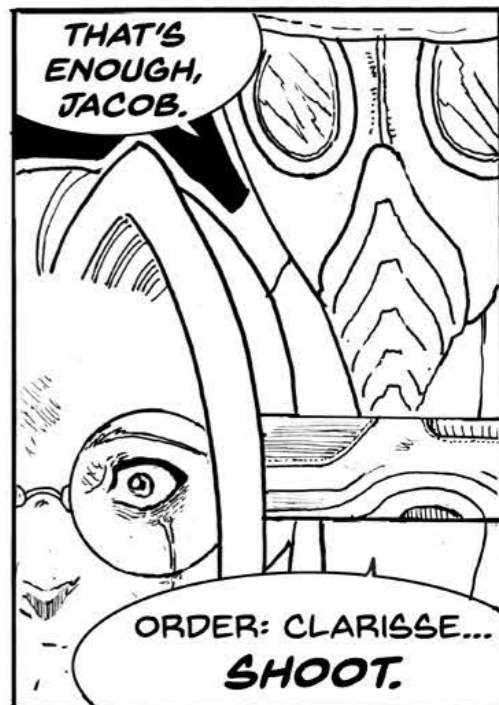
AND I INCORPORATED THEM WITH NO TROUBLE. THEN I UNDERSTOOD... IT WASN'T JUST MY **EYES**.

MY BODY ADMITTED IMPLANTS THAT NO HUMAN COULD **TOLERATE** FOR THE SAME REASON THAT MY EYES SEE INVISIBLE PATTERNS: MY POWER IS TO INTEGRATE **INFORMATION**.



I PROCESS IT THROUGH THE EYES AS ETHEREAL FIELDS AND IN MY BODY AS TECHNOLOGY THAT I INTEGRATE AT A MUCH MORE SYMBIOTIC LEVEL THAN USUAL.

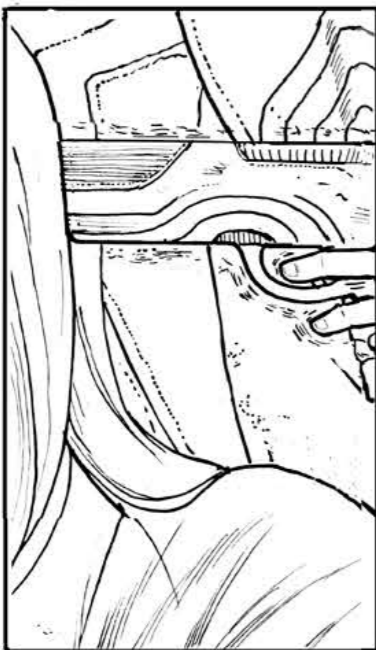
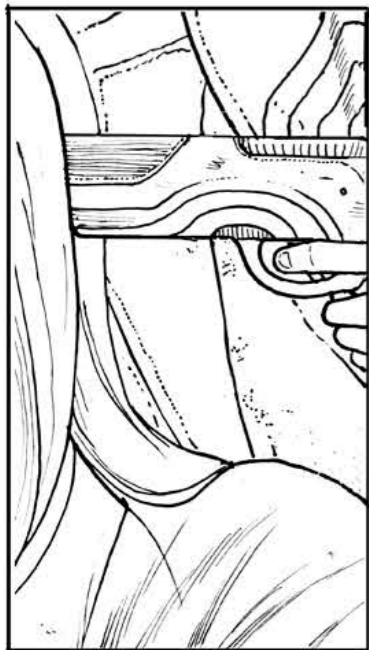
CLARISSE GAVE ME THIS IDENTITY. **I AM WHAT I AM BECAUSE OF HER**, AND NOW...



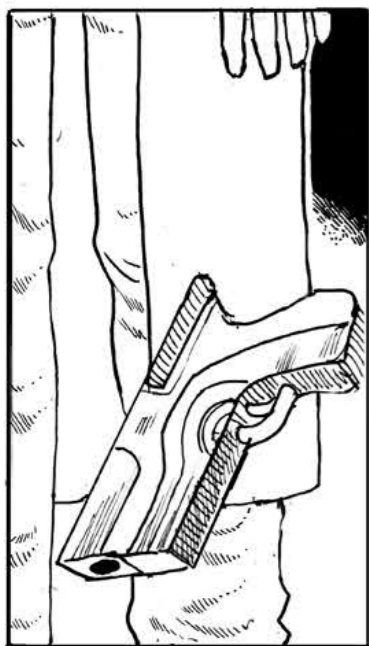
THAT'S ENOUGH, JACOB.

ORDER: CLARISSE... **SHOOT**.





WHAT?  
SHE'S RE-  
SISTING?



I DON'T UNDER-  
STAND. I'M CON-  
TROLLING HER  
**MIND!**

YES.

AND I HER **BODY.**

I'VE SENT **MICRODIS-  
CHARGES** WITH MY  
FOOT... TO COLLAPSE THE  
NERVES IN HER WRIST AND  
CEASE ALL MOVEMENT.



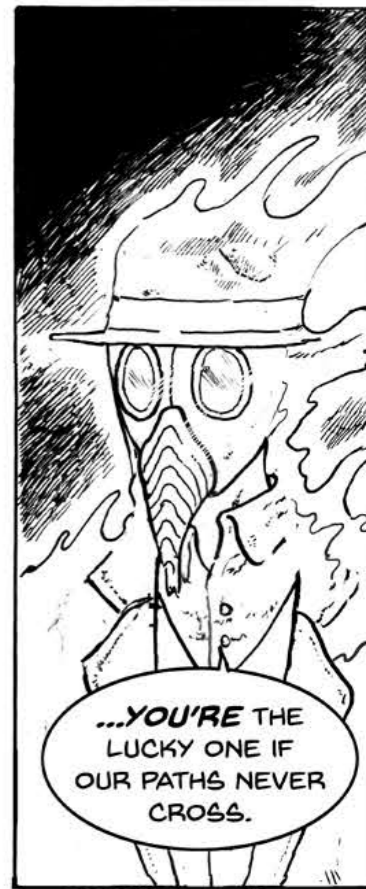
PRAY WE NEVER SEE  
EACH OTHER IN  
PERSON.



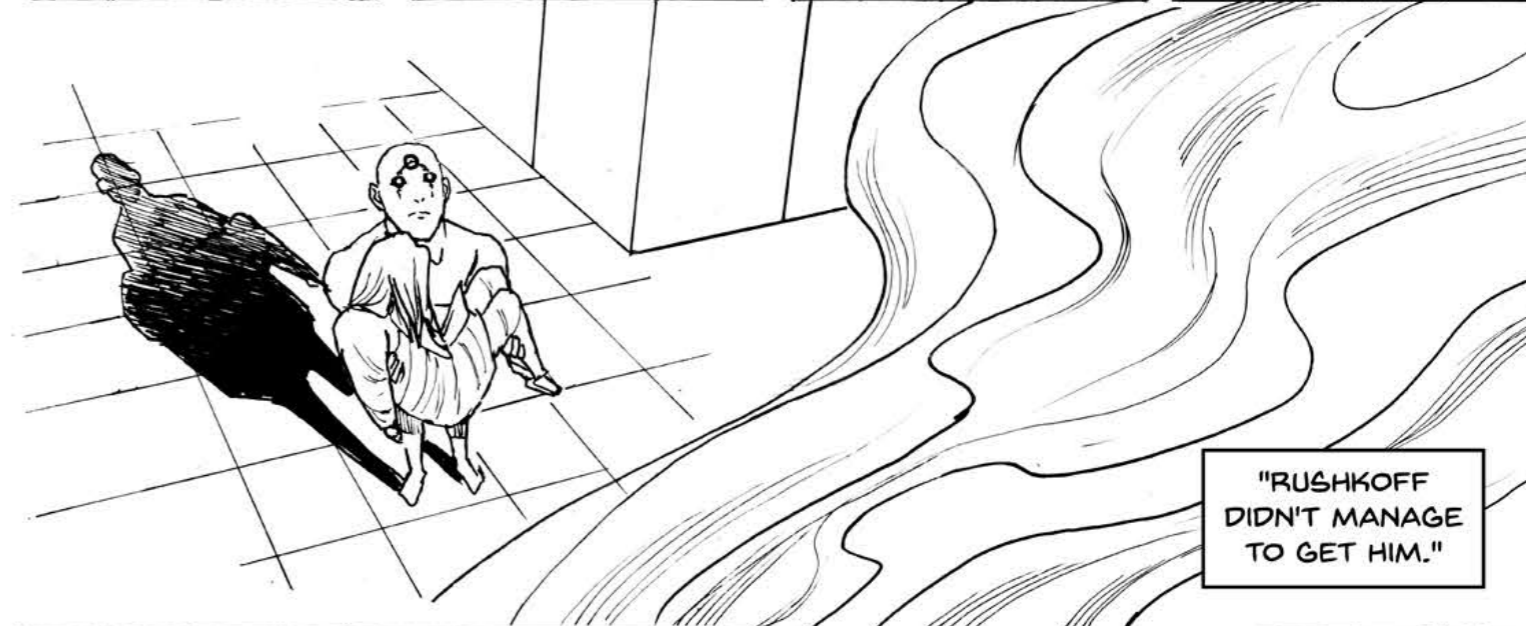
YOU GET A  
LITTLE POWER  
AND YOU BECOME  
A BULLY.



AND ABOUT  
SEEING YOU...



...YOU'RE THE  
LUCKY ONE IF  
OUR PATHS NEVER  
CROSS.



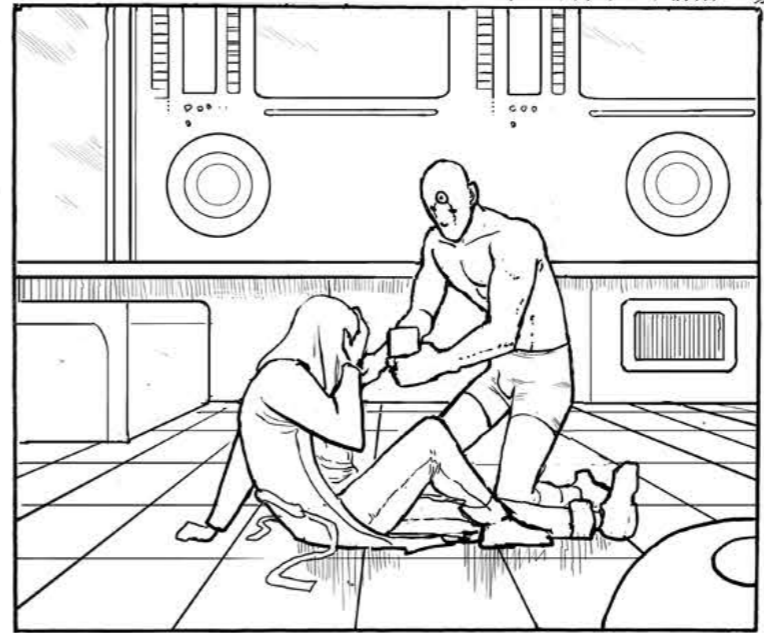
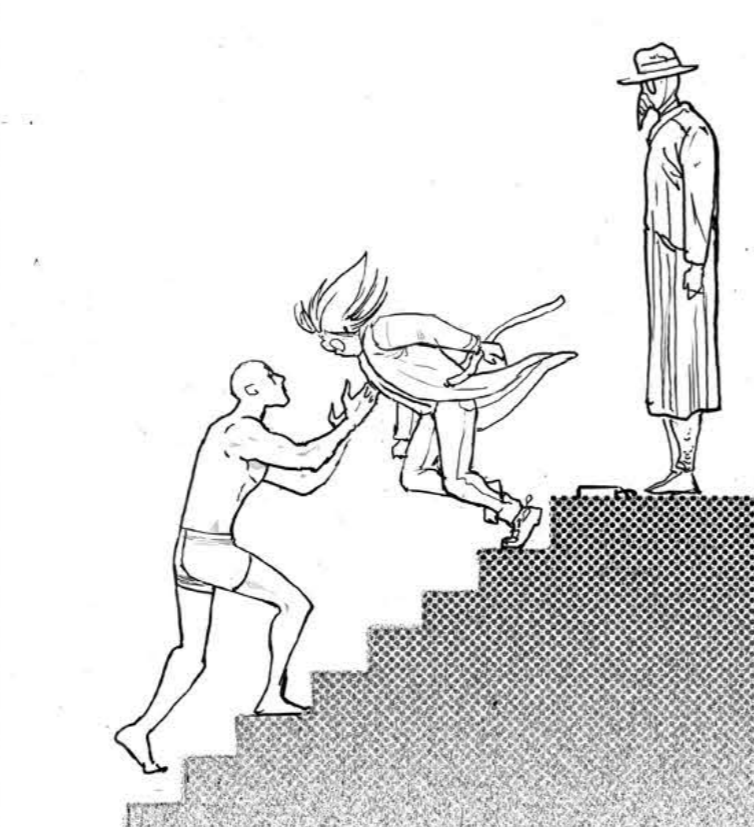
"RUSHKOFF  
DIDN'T MANAGE  
TO GET HIM."



THOSE  
EYES...



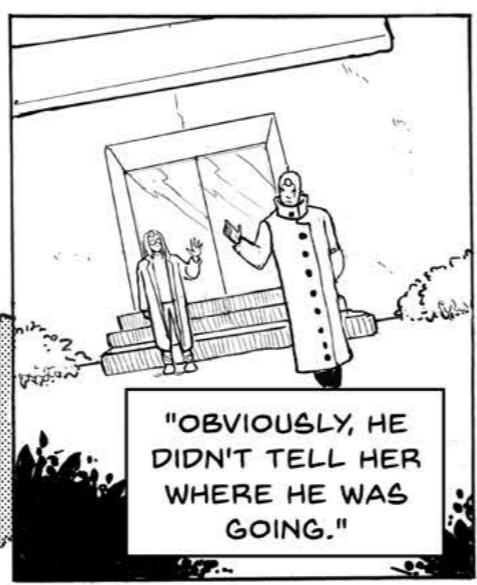
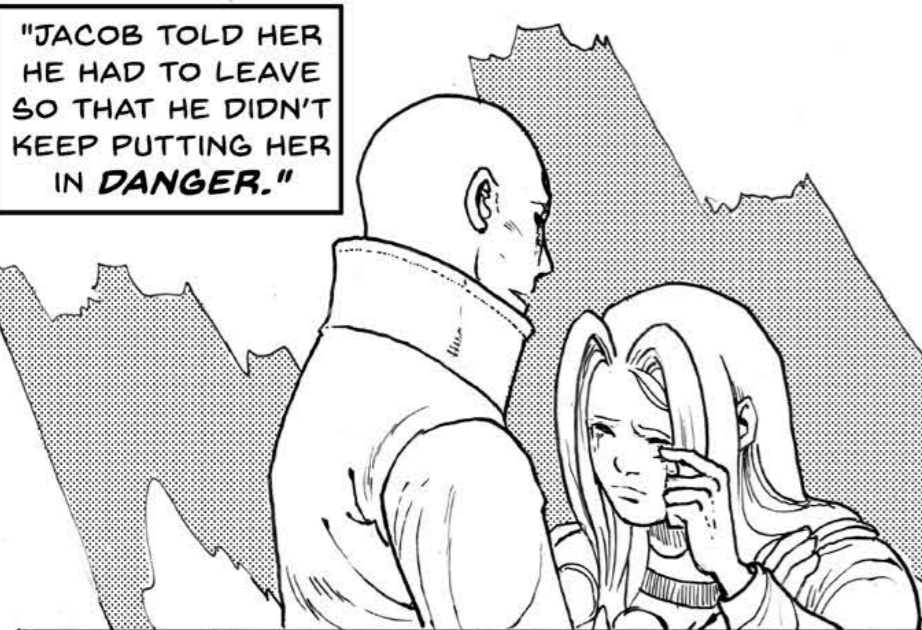
...I MADE  
THEM.



"HE SPENT SEVERAL  
HOURS HELPING TO  
**STEAL** THE EXO-  
SUITS TECHNOLOGY  
FROM US..."



"JACOB TOLD HER HE HAD TO LEAVE SO THAT HE DIDN'T KEEP PUTTING HER IN **DANGER**."

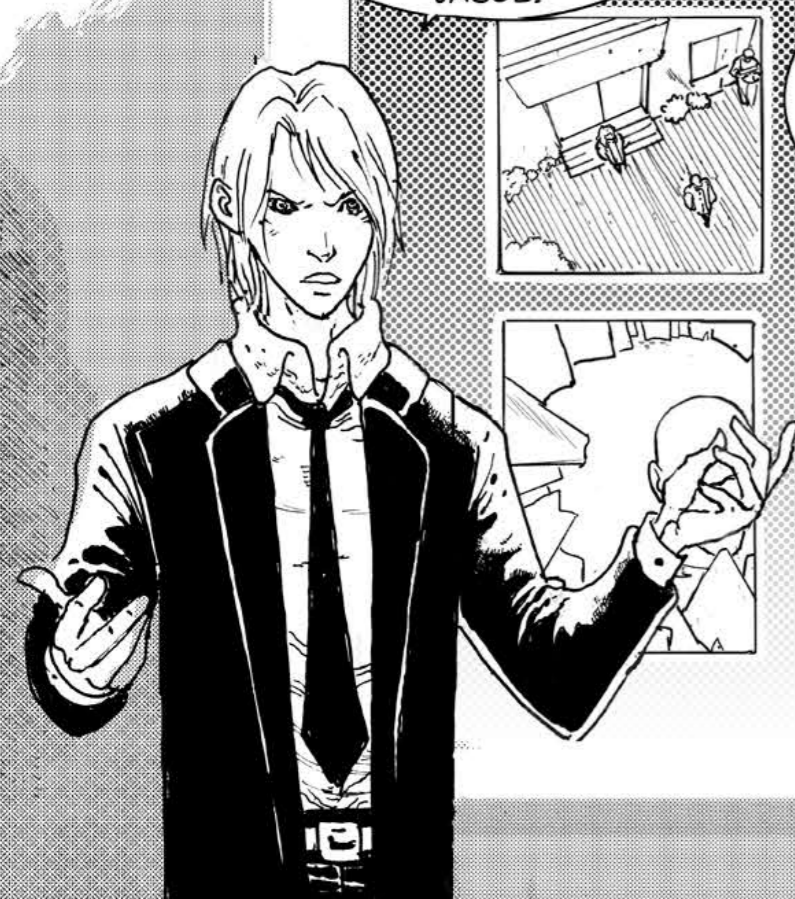


"OBVIOUSLY, HE DIDN'T TELL HER WHERE HE WAS GOING."



"IN ANY CASE, WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN CREATING A FALSE SENSE OF **SECURITY**..."

...AND WE'VE EXPLORED THE CHANGES AND ADAPTATION OF THE **SHADOWGENE** IN JACOB.

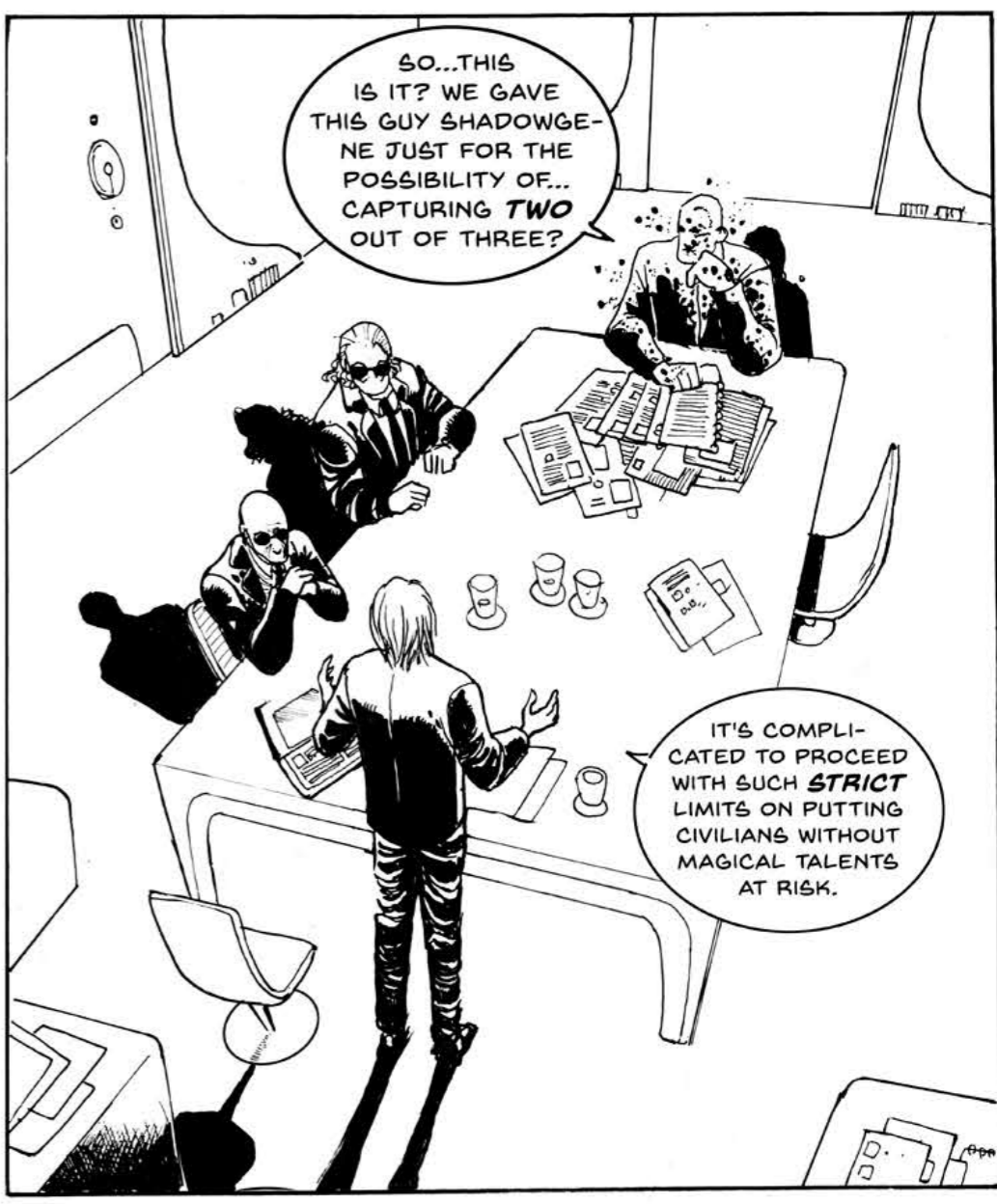


HOWEVER CAUTIOUS HE MAY BE, SOONER OR LATER HE WILL MEET WITH THE **OTHER TWO**...

...AND WE'LL CAPTURE THEM AT THAT MOMENT.



ACCORDING TO FRANK, ADAM WENT MISSING ON SEVILLE. HOW'S HE GONNA **MEET** JACOB?



SO...THIS IS IT? WE GAVE THIS GUY **SHADOWGENE** JUST FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF... CAPTURING **TWO** OUT OF THREE?

IT'S COMPLICATED TO PROCEED WITH SUCH **STRICT** LIMITS ON PUTTING CIVILIANS WITHOUT MAGICAL TALENTS AT RISK.



IF YOU KNEW ALL THE PEOPLE WE'VE **NEEDED** TO EXPERIMENT WITH THE **SHADOWGENE**...



ABOUT ADAM, I CAN...



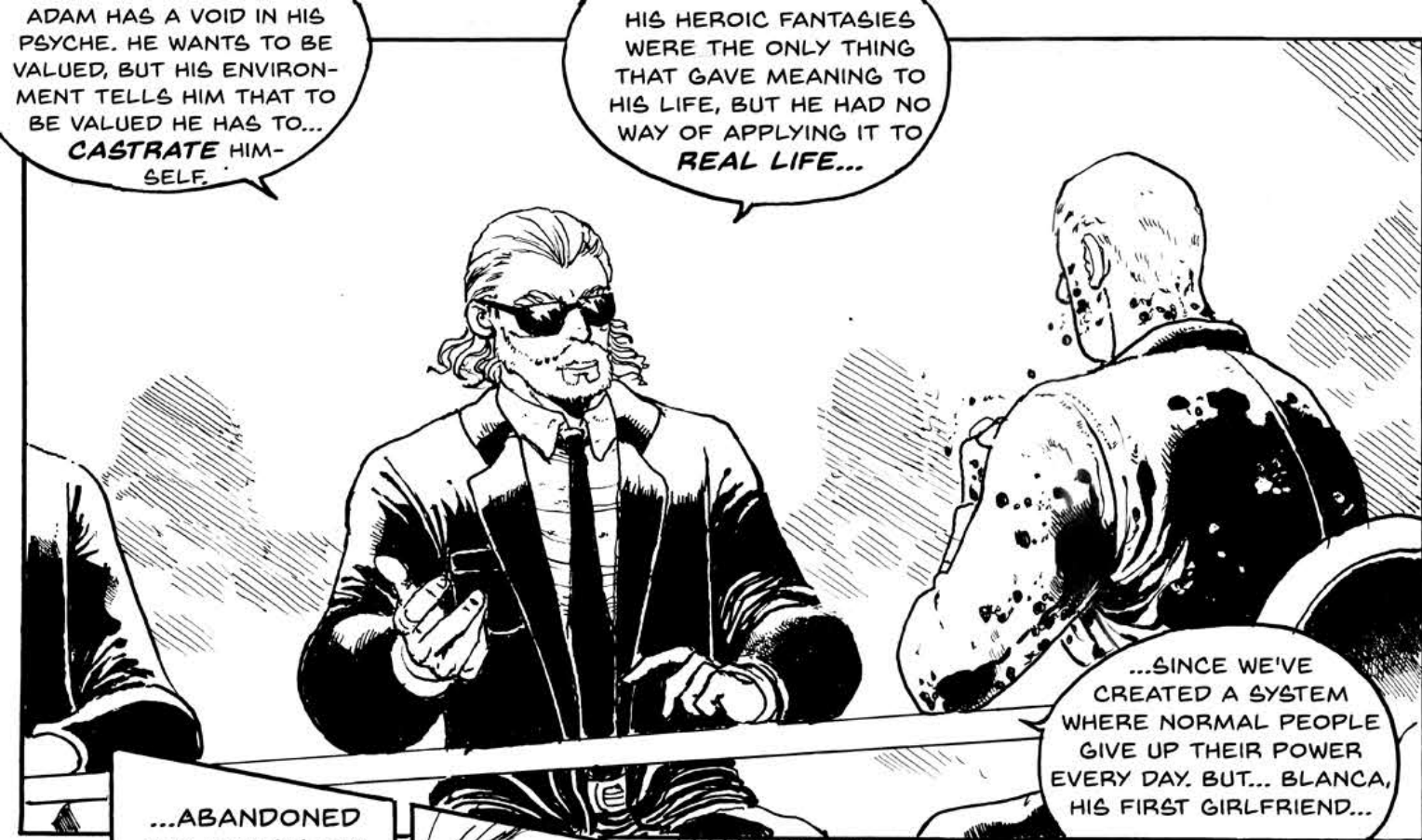
FRANK, NO. THIS IS EXACTLY THE STUFF HE...



DURING MY MISSION IN SEVILLE, I... ONE OF MY BODIES... ACCESSED ADAM'S **MEMORIES**. I THINK WE CAN DESIGN A PLAN...

HIS **MEMORIES**?





ADAM HAS A VOID IN HIS PSYCHE. HE WANTS TO BE VALUED, BUT HIS ENVIRONMENT TELLS HIM THAT TO BE VALUED HE HAS TO... **CASTRATE HIMSELF.**

HIS HEROIC FANTASIES WERE THE ONLY THING THAT GAVE MEANING TO HIS LIFE, BUT HE HAD NO WAY OF APPLYING IT TO **REAL LIFE...**

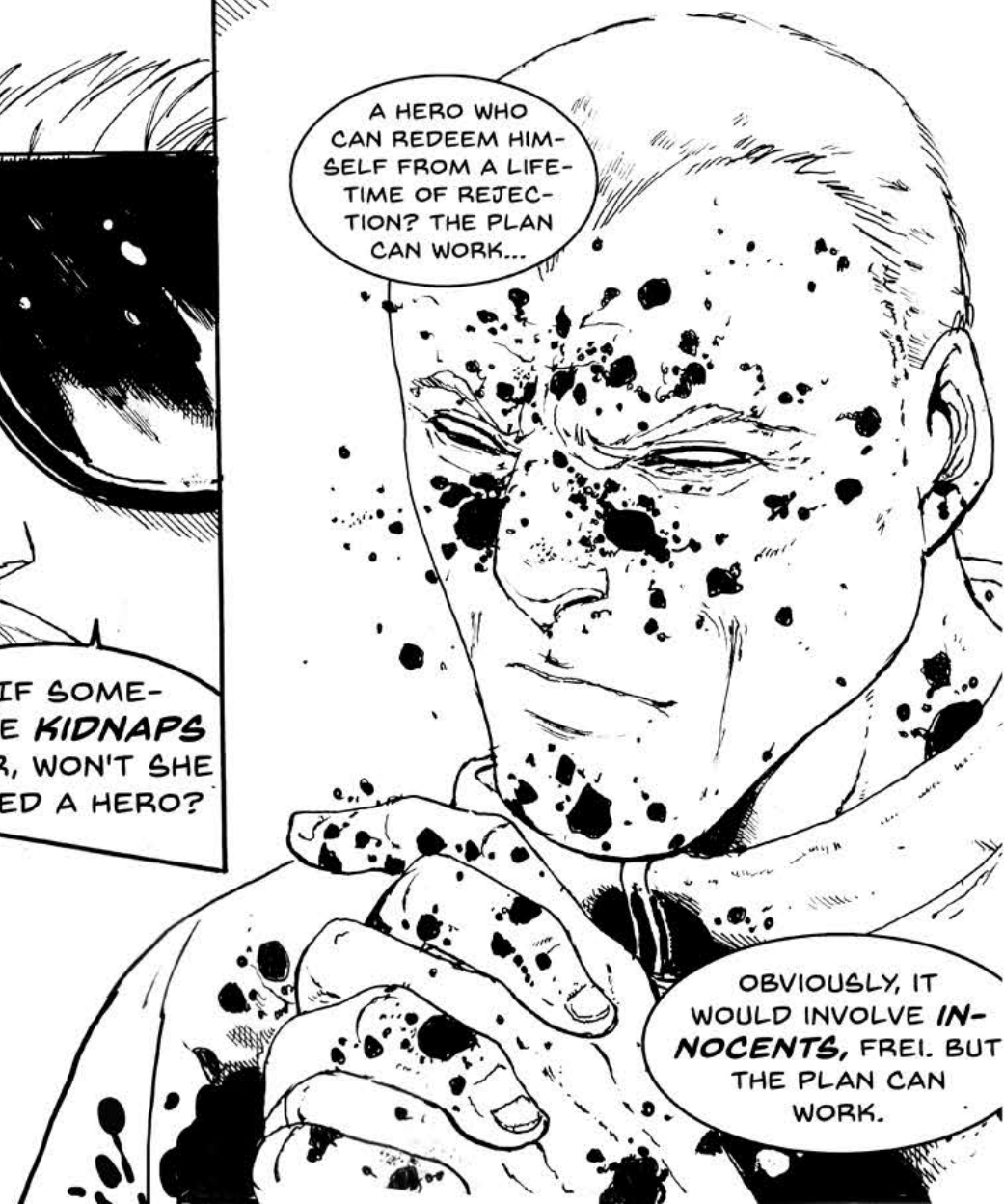
...SINCE WE'VE CREATED A SYSTEM WHERE NORMAL PEOPLE GIVE UP THEIR POWER EVERY DAY. BUT... BLANCA, HIS FIRST GIRLFRIEND...

...ABANDONED HIM PRECISELY WHEN HE SHOWED HIM HIS POWER, HIS TRUE **IDENTITY...**



IF SOME-ONE **KIDNAPS** HER, WON'T SHE NEED A HERO?

A HERO WHO CAN REDEEM HIMSELF FROM A LIFE-TIME OF REJECTION? THE PLAN CAN WORK...



OBVIOUSLY, IT WOULD INVOLVE **INNOCENTS**, FREI. BUT THE PLAN CAN WORK.

# ...TO BE CONTINUED

UPSURGE IS AN ALMOST MONTHLY (40 DAYS) SERIES THAT STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO TO REACH THE INTENDED ENDING. HOWEVER, WE CAN'T KEEP DOING IT FOR "FREE" INDEFINITELY. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN HELPING US WHILE ALSO GETTING **EARLY ACCESS** TO AN ISSUE, **PREVIEWS** OF FUTURE EPISODES, OR **VIDEOS** AND TEXTS ABOUT OUR CREATIVE PROCESS, PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING US THROUGH PATREON AT THE 3\$ PLEDGE LEVEL (LINK BELOW). IF WE HAVE ENOUGH HELP, WE'LL TURN UPSURGE INTO A **MONTHLY** SERIES. THANK YOU!

## LINKS:

OUR PATREON -> [PATREON.COM/UPSURGE](https://patreon.com/upsurge)

OUR FACEBOOK -> [FACEBOOK.COM/UPSURGECOMIC](https://facebook.com/upsurgecomic)

THROW SOME PEANUTS TO THE APE -> [TWITTER.COM/SIMONOGATARI](https://twitter.com/simonogatari)

