



UPSURGE 20

INTERLUDIO I

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ATANA S.

SCRIPT

PENCILS

PANEL LAYOUT

INK

COVER

TRANSLATION

(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

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ALLISON!
CATCH HIM,
FOR FUCK'S
SAKE!

TONY, CALM
DOWN. SHE'S NOT
ONE OF US, DON'T
TALK TO HER LIKE
THAT.

THIS IS THE
BEST SUMMER
OF MY LIFE!

CONFUSED?
JOIN THE
CLUB.



YOU HAVE SUPERHUMAN SPEED TOO?



IF I KNEW THAT YOU CAN GET THIS POWER WITHOUT FORMING A PACT WITH DEMONS I WOULD HAVE CONSIDER IT!



HAHAHAHAHA!
TAKE THIS!



IN IT, THERE WAS A RITUAL... THE **RITUAL OF THE DOOR**. IT SOUNDED SO STUPID, I HAD TO TRY IT. SO I DID. SAID THE WORDS, DID THE VISUALIZATIONS.

THEN I OPENED MY EYES. NOTHING HAPPENED, IN THE BEGINNING. BUT, WHEN I TURNED ON THE TV... **YOUNG HEROES** WAS ON AND... MY HEAD WAS FLOATING LIKE IN THE RITUAL... AND ALL OF A SUDDEN I WAS IN THE TV, IN THE BACK-GROUNDS OF THE SHOW, ALBEIT WITH SOME CHANGES. LIKE, WHAT YOU SEE ON THE TV IS ONLY THE **GOOD** PARTS, YOU KNOW?



LET'S SEE, WHERE DO I BEGIN?



I WAS GOING TO USE MY SUMMER VACATION TO EXPLORE THE **POWERS** I GOT FROM... WELL... A WEIRD BOOK I DOWNLOADED FROM THE INTERNET...

ANYWAY, I SAW THUNDER'S SHOES (HE'S ONE OF THE SUPERHEROES OF THE SHOW), AND TOOK THEM.



WHILE I WEAR THEM, I HAVE SUPERSPEED, LIKE HIM (THOUGH NOT AS FAST). BEST SHOES I'VE EVER HAD, IN MY OPINION.



OH, YEAH... THIS GUY. I'VE YET TO WRITE WHAT'S HE DOING HERE, RIGHT?

HE'S THE CONSEQUENCE OF INVESTIGATING SOME RUMORS ABOUT SATANIC RITUALS... PEOPLE ON THE INTERNET SWEARED THAT, AFTER EXECUTING A RITUAL, A GUY BECAME SUPER-STRONG AND MUSCULAR...



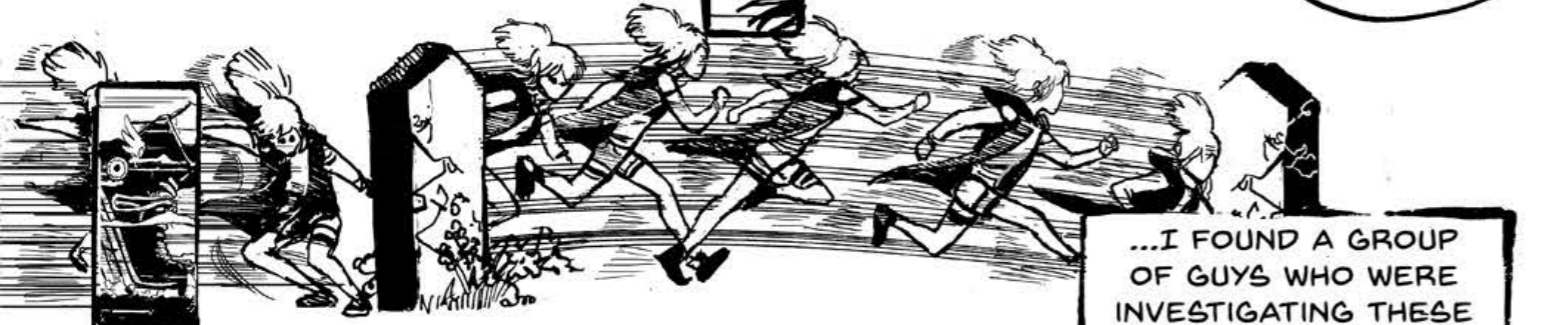
...ARE YOU USING OUR TEACHINGS TO RAISE THE DEAD?

...WHAT?

AS IF ALL THAT WASN'T STRANGE ENOUGH...

IF WE CAN LET OURSELVES BE POSSESSED BY DEMONS,

WHY DON'T RESURRECT THE DEAD?



...I FOUND A GROUP OF GUYS WHO WERE INVESTIGATING THESE RUMORS TOO... AND ALL OF THEM HAD POWERS.



TONY, SUPER-STRENGTH.



RUTH, TELEPATHY.



MIKE AND NIA, TWO BROTHERS THAT GENERATE ENERGY WHEN THEY ARE CLOSE TO EACH OTHER (YUP, THEY FIND IT LAME TOO).

THEIR POWERS... IT SEEMS THEY COME FROM SOME EXPERIMENTS... ALL OF THEIR PARENTS WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT, I THINK...

THEY ASSUMED THAT MY ABILITIES CAME FROM "SOME PILLS".

(I DID NOTHING TO REFUTE IT, BY THE WAY. THE RITUAL OF THE DOOR HAS YOU TAKING A VOW OF SILENCE "TO THOSE WHO HEAR BUT DON'T LISTEN", SO... JUST IN CASE.)



KEEP YOUR FOCUS IN BRINGING THE POWER OF LOW-RANK DEMONS TO YOUR BODY.

DON'T TRY MAGIC ABOVE YOUR SKILL, IT'LL BITE YOU IN THE ASS.

C'MON, GO TO THE MANOR.

AND I WOULD BE REALLY HAPPY BEING ABLE TO TALK, ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY DON'T BELIEVE THAT THESE GUYS' ABILITIES TRULY COME FROM SOME FORM OF BLACK MAGIC.



YOU'RE NOT COMING?

JUST A SECOND.



HH.



BAD LUCK, CHIEF.

YOU WERE GOING TO BE REVIVED, AND NOW YOU'RE A TOILET.



HEH. NOT LIKE YOU'RE GONNA COMPLAIN.

WHAT A JERK.

ALLISON, WE'VE FOUND THE MANOR WHERE THE CULT MEETS! I'M IMPLANTING YOU THE MEMORY OF THE WAY THERE.

OK. I'M FOLLOWING SOME OF THE MEMBERS... I THINK THEY'RE ALSO HEADING THERE.

RUTH?

BE CAREFUL.

OH, PLEASE. THEY'RE JUST A BUNCH OF FANATICS WITH ACCESS TO SUPERDRUGS OR SOMETHING. SIGIL OF M, I THINK THEY CALL THEMSELVES. THEY'RE NUTS!

I'M SERIOUS!

MY FATHER'S THE SAME, IT'S ALL DAWKINS THIS AND DAWKINS THAT, THE MYSTERIES OF THE WORLD ARE ALL HOAXES OR SCAMS.

"SKEPTICS".

THEY COULD HAVE THE UFO'S IN THEIR FACE AND IT'D STILL BE "GAS POCKETS CAUSING LIGHT DISTORTIONS".

RGFF

SOMETHING VERY WEIRD IS GOING ON AND NO ONE WANTS TO SEE IT! MAYBE IT'S TRUE THAT THE SUN IS CHANGING...

DON'T THEY SEE THE DANGER IN IGNORING THESE THINGS?



PIP

OH GOD, WHAT I'VE JUST DONE?





GOOD-BYE!

RUNRUN-
RUNRUN-
RUNRUN

WHY AM I
THE ONLY ONE
AROUND WHEN
WEIRD STUFF
HAPPENS?

THOSE GUYS
HAVE BEEN
ABLE TO RE-
SURRECT THE
DEAD!

AND JUST
THEN, RUTH
CONTACTS ME.

WITH A
PSYCHIC
SCREAM.

SHE WASN'T EVEN
ASKING FOR HELP.
JUST SCREAMING.

RUTH?



JUST
SCREAMING
...

...AS IF...
...AS IF...



HERE. IN
THE HOUSE.
THEY.

YOU'RE
HERE.

I'M HERE
NOW, RUTH.

DO YOU
HEAR ME?



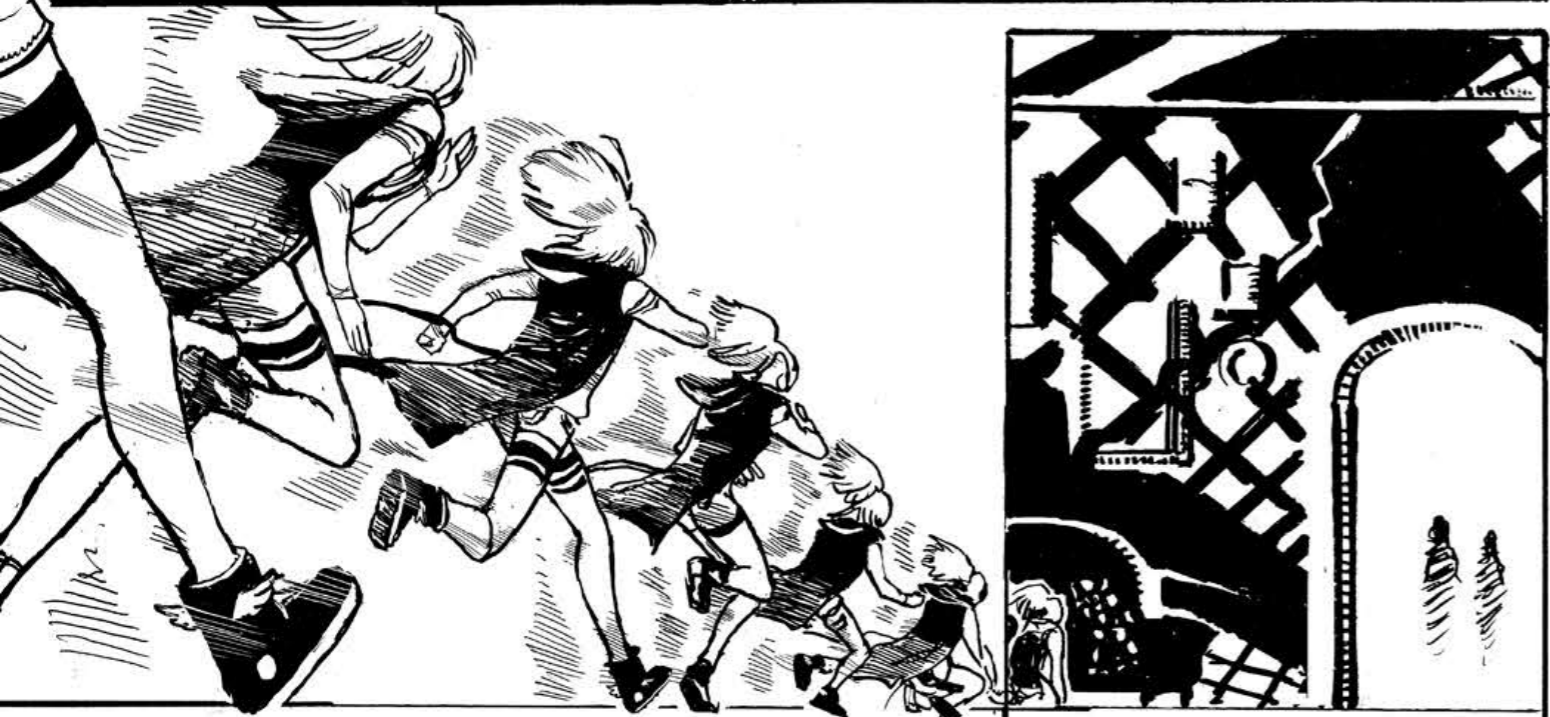


RUTH?
RUTH?

WHY DON'T
YOU...?



HAVEN'T
YOU SEEN WAS-
HINGTON'S *MO-
NUMENT*?



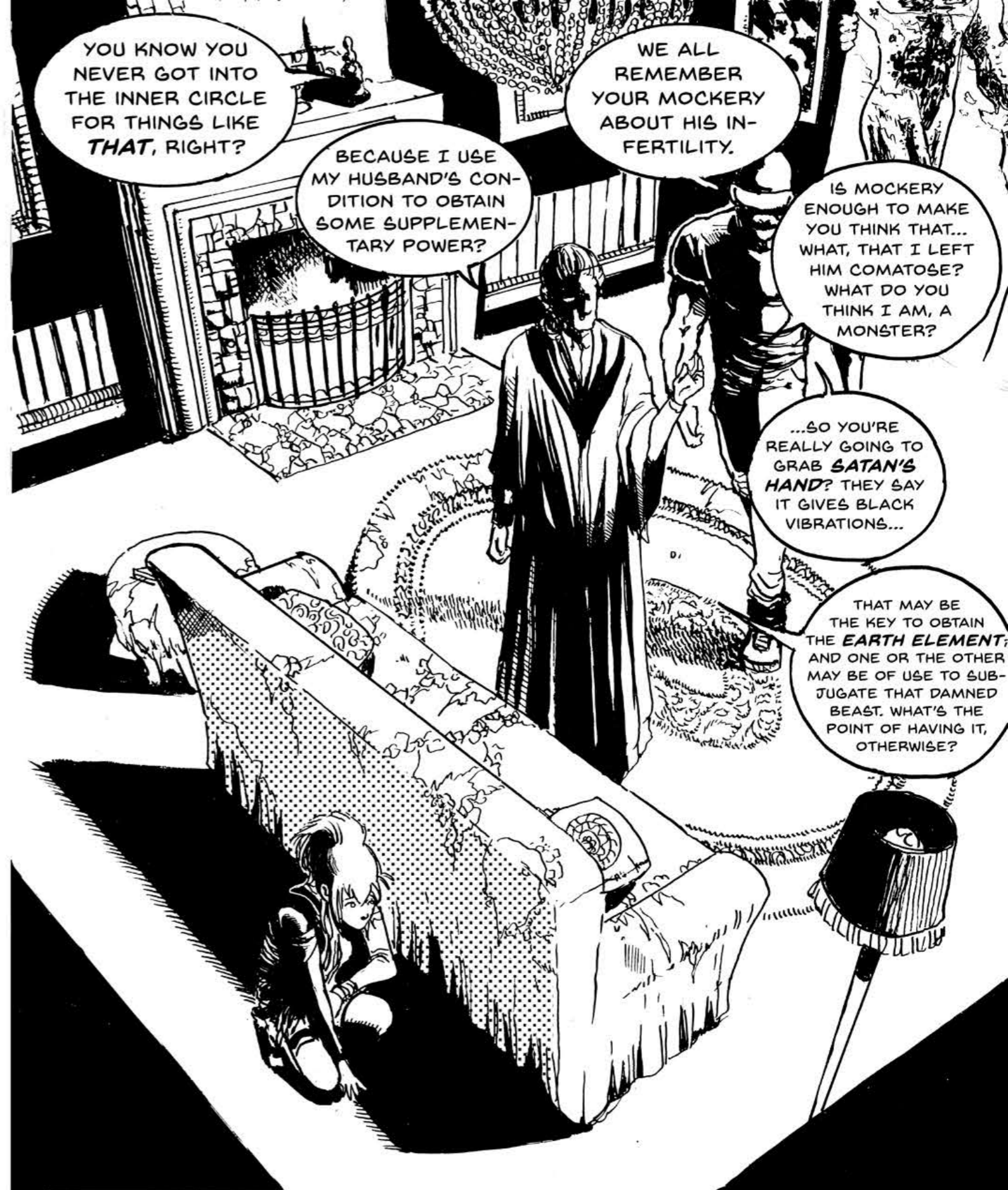
IT
CRACKED.
IT'S OUR
CHANCE.

I KNOW, BUT
THE INNER
CIRCLE...

...ARE COMPLE-
TELY DISCON-
NECTED
FROM REALITY. THEY
DON'T KNOW WHAT
NEEDS TO BE
DONE.

BUT, SPAIN?
YOU WILL REALLY GO
TO SPAIN? YOU WON'T
HAVE ACCESS TO THE
POWER OF THE
BEAST, THERE...

DON'T WORRY,
I'LL TAKE MY
HUSBAND
WITH ME.



YOU KNOW YOU
NEVER GOT INTO
THE INNER CIRCLE
FOR THINGS LIKE
THAT, RIGHT?

BECAUSE I USE
MY HUSBAND'S CON-
DITION TO OBTAIN
SOME SUPPLEMEN-
TARY POWER?

WE ALL
REMEMBER
YOUR MOCKERY
ABOUT HIS IN-
FERTILITY.

IS MOCKERY
ENOUGH TO MAKE
YOU THINK THAT...
WHAT, THAT I LEFT
HIM COMATOSE?
WHAT DO YOU
THINK I AM, A
MONSTER?

...SO YOU'RE
REALLY GOING TO
GRAB *SATAN'S*
HAND? THEY SAY
IT GIVES BLACK
VIBRATIONS...

THAT MAY BE
THE KEY TO OBTAIN
THE *EARTH ELEMENT*,
AND ONE OR THE OTHER
MAY BE OF USE TO SUB-
JUGATE THAT DAMNED
BEAST. WHAT'S THE
POINT OF HAVING IT,
OTHERWISE?



WE HAVE
TO TRY.

ANYWAY,
WHAT DO WE
DO WITH THE GO-
VERNMENT'S
KIDS?

YOU'VE GOT 'EM
DEEP INSIDE NIGHT-
MARES; THEY WON'T
EVER RECO-
VER.

PRECISELY
BECAUSE THEY ARE
MENTALLY CRIPPLED I PRO-
POSE AN ACT OF **COM-
PASSION**: USE THEM FOR
SOME RITUAL WITH THE
NOVICES.

WELL,
WELL.

THERE'S
ANOTHER KID
OVER HERE!



SHOULD I **BREAK**
HER NECK?



DON'T WORRY CHILD,
THERE IS NO NEED.



FOR A
MOMENT...

...I SAW MY LIFE FROM OUTSIDE... I SAW A DINNER THAT NEVER ENDS, AND MY FATHER... HAD A **HOLE** IN HIS CHEST, AND I KNEW HE WAS DISAPPOINTED IN ME FOR CHOOSING FINE ARTS... AND HE ACTED SO LIFELESS AND HIS EYES DIDN'T SHINE.



I SAW... I SAW MYSELF FIGHTING WITH HIM... ME TELLING HIM ABOUT MY ABILITIES, AND HIM NOT BELIEVING THEY COME FROM MAGIC SO HE TAKES ME TO A **LAB**... I SEE THEM MAKING TEST AFTER TEST TO KNOW WHY I CAN DO WHAT I CAN DO...



AND I WAS SO **SCARED**...



I HAD SO MUCH FEAR... **DYING** SEEMED BETTER THAN STAYING THERE...



AND THEN.



ELLEN!

THE HALLUCINATION STOPPED AND WHAT I FOUND BEFORE ME WAS EVEN MORE ABSURD.



YES, I DEBATED AN ASTROLOGER THE OTHER DAY. CAN YOU BELIEVE IT, IN THIS DAY AND AGE?

DID YOU SEE IT, ALLISON? IT'S ON THE WEB. IT HAS 2000 VIEWS!

YOU ONLY FOCUSED ON THAT SUN SIGN NONSENSE THAT EVEN ASTROLOGERS DON'T USE! HOW CAN YOU CRITICIZE SOMETHING YOU HAVEN'T BOTHERED TO LEARN?



WHAT DOES IT MEAN I'M SO TIRED OF THIS. THE MENT OF CELESTIAL BODIES...

DAD, YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW ASTROLOGY WORKS.



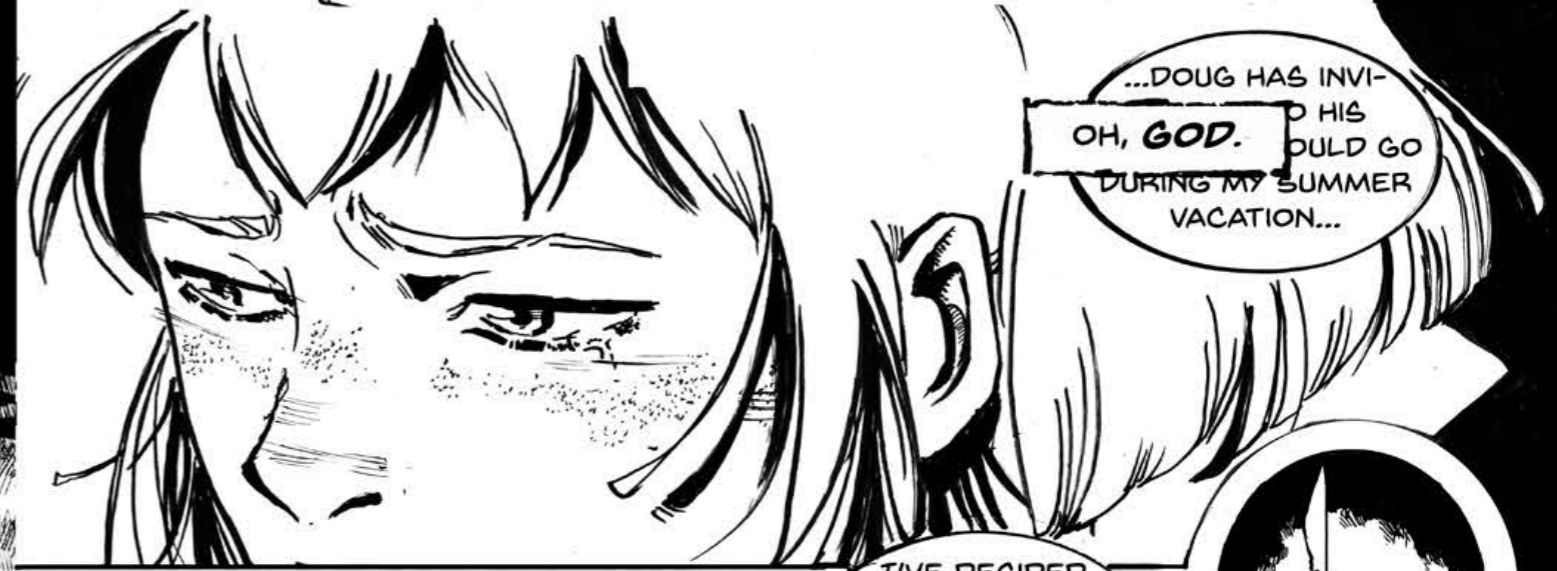
YOU SHOULD TAKE YOUR FATHER'S WORK MORE SERIOUSLY, ALLY.

THE WORLD IS FULL OF IGNORANCE AND PREJUDICE TO THEM. THEY HAVEN'T SEEN WHAT I HAVE SEEN. AND I WOULD NEVER TELL THEM, EITHER. WHY WOULD I? THEY WOULD CAUSE A SCENE AND LOOK AT ME LIKE I'M CRAZY.



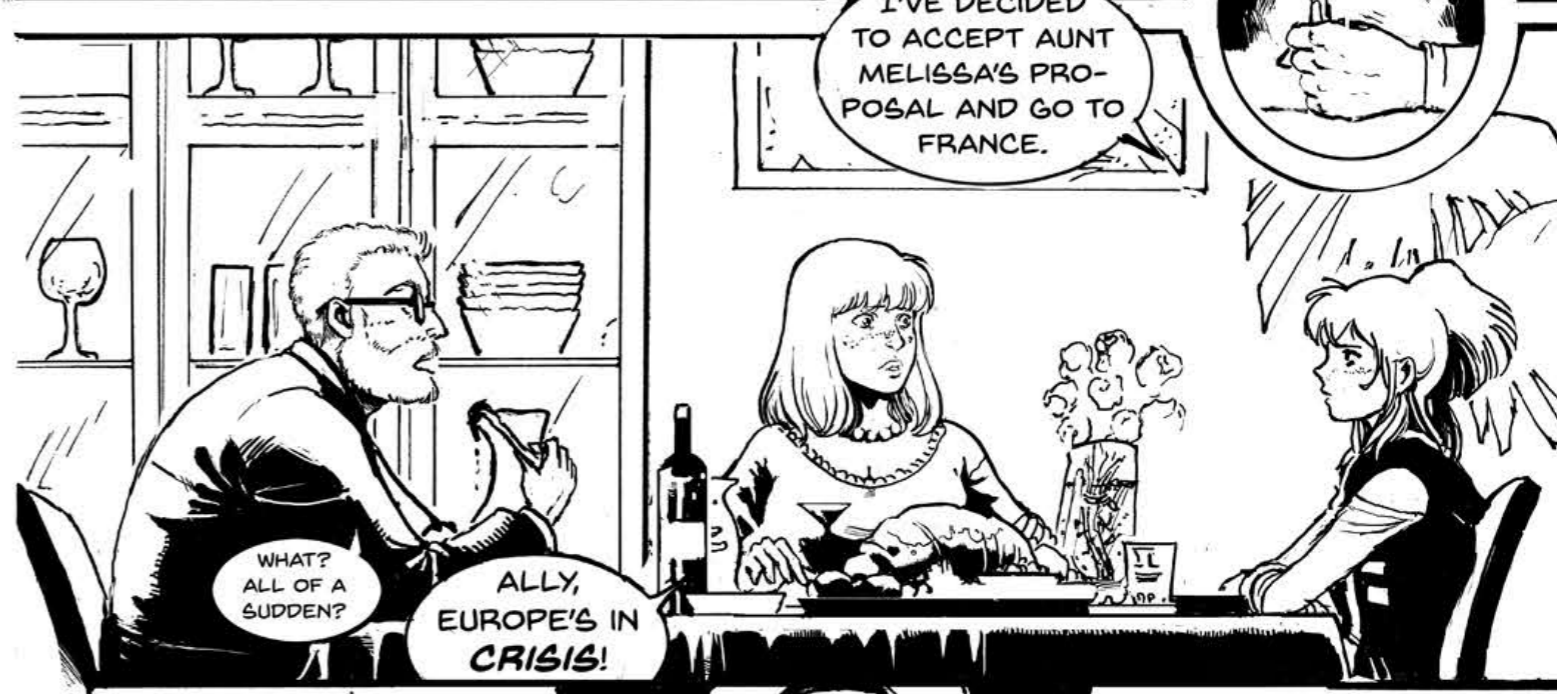
HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN THAT HORRIBLE OLD WITCH'S HALLUCINATIONS? HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED TO MY GROUP, HUH?

TONY WOKE FROM THE TRANCE AND STARTED TO SELF-HARM. MIKE AND NIA ARE ON A PSYCH WARD, HIM CATATONIC AND HER WITH CONSTANT PSYCHOTIC BREAKS. AND RUTH...



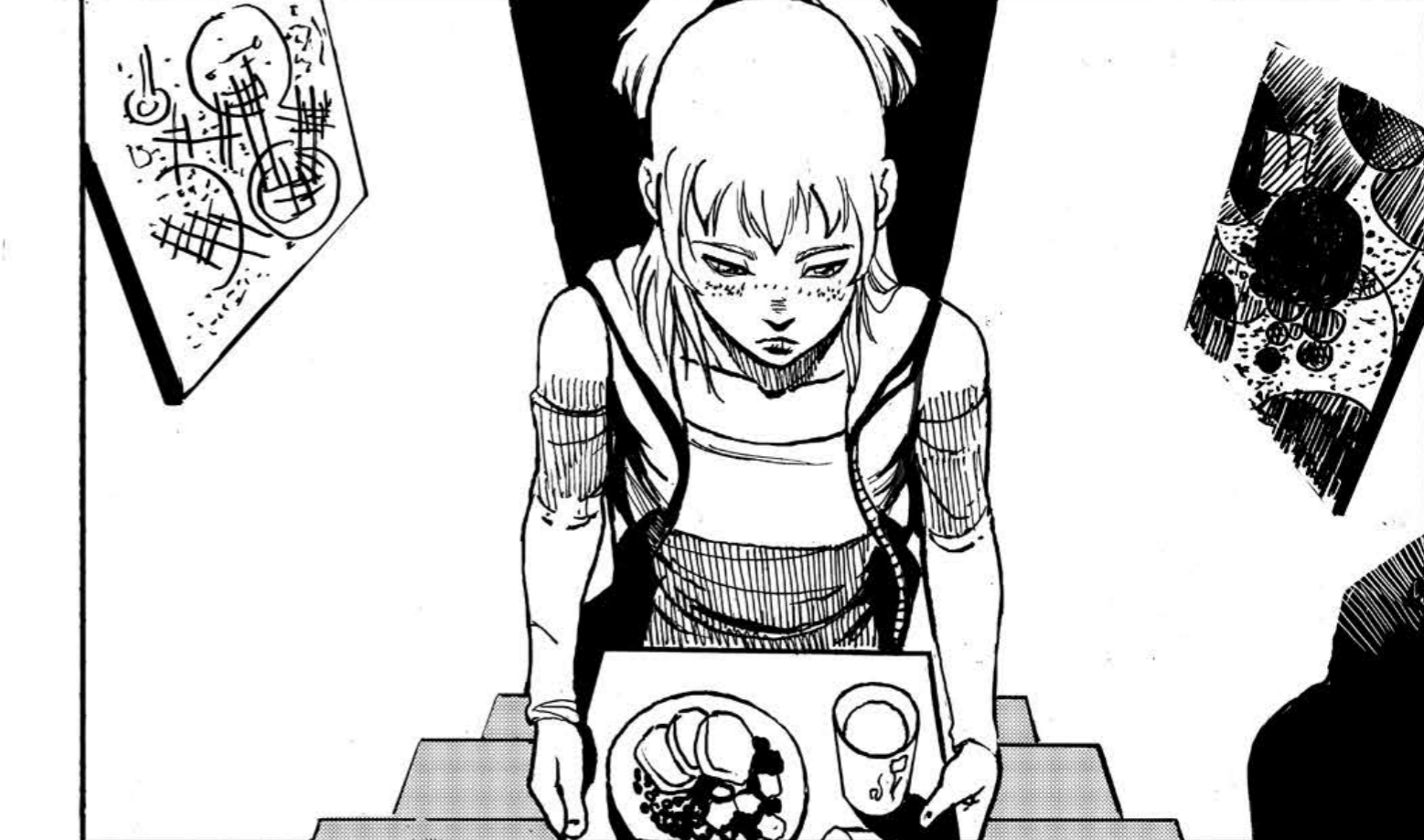
...DOUG HAS INVITED HIS WIFE TO GO DURING MY SUMMER VACATION... OH, GOD.

I'VE DECIDED TO ACCEPT AUNT MELISSA'S PROPOSAL AND GO TO FRANCE.



WHAT? ALL OF A SUDDEN?

ALLY, EUROPE'S IN CRISIS!





WE'RE GOING TO FRANCE. END OF **AUGUST**, PROBABLY.

SO WE HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE TO SEE IF YOUR AMNE-SIA, Y'KNOW, HEALS ITSELF OR WHATEVER. IF NOT...

FRANCE IS ONE OF THE COUNTRIES WITH MORE INFLUENCE OF THE CULT OF THE ONE. MAYBE WE CAN LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR IDENTITY THERE... IT'S THE ONLY OPTION I HAVE LEFT, REALLY.

THE FEW CHURCHES OF YOUR CULT HERE IN THE STATES DON'T ORDAIN PRIESTS, AND THEY ARE SO STINGY WITH PERSONAL INFORMATION... I DON'T EVEN HAVE YOUR LAST NAME, NO DEATH CERTIFICATE, NOT EVEN WHERE YOU WORKED... IF IT WASN'T FOR THE TOMBSTONE, I WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE YOUR NA...

THHAN... THHHA-AAAN-KKY-YY...

STILL CAN'T SPEAK WELL, HUH?

HE EATS A LOT, AND FAST...



...IT'S STRANGELY RELAXING.

...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). THANK YOU!

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