

מגן דוד



ש-חזקתו מסבוכת:

SIMON M.

ATANA S.

SCRIPT

PENCILS

PANEL LAYOUT

INK

COVER

TRANSLATION

(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

EPILOGUE'S PENCILS

AND INK

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WEBPAGE: WWW.UPSURGE.ES/ENGLISH

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THEM THE FISH THIEVES? I HAD FISH AND NOW I DON'T HAVE FISH.



HAVE TO CATCH THEM. TEACH THE TRUTH TO THEM.



THEY'VE CAPTURED YOUR PARTNER. THE BALD ONE.

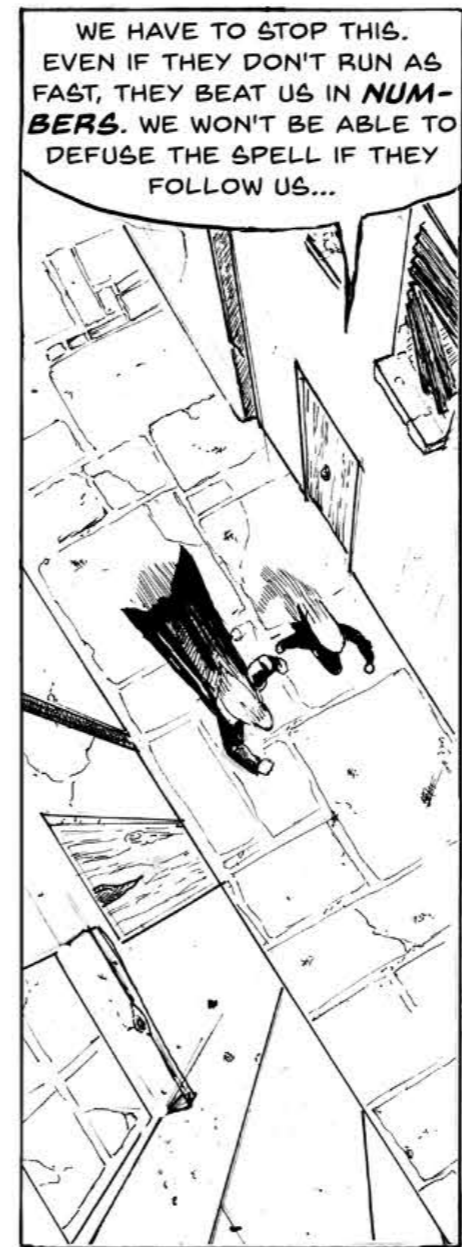


THEY PUT A MAGIC SIGIL ON HIS HEAD AND HE BEGAN TO BE COVERED IN ROCKS...

WHAT?



SO NOT EVERY STATUE IS FROM THAT TIME?



WE HAVE TO STOP THIS. EVEN IF THEY DON'T RUN AS FAST, THEY BEAT US IN NUMBERS. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO DEFUSE THE SPELL IF THEY FOLLOW US...



SNIF



FOLLOW ME. I'VE DETECTED ADAM'S TRAIL.



SO WHAT?

BELIEVE ME. ADAM'S WHERE THE MESS IS.



NGMPF... YOU THINK THIS IS GONNA STOP ME?!

IT'LL ONLY TAKE A MINUTE TO HAVE MY SHOULDER FULLY HEALED!!



YOUR HAND WILL STAY HERE, STUPID BOY. I'M NOT GOING TO LET ROAM FREE SOMETHING THAT OPENS THE DOORS TO OUR WORLD.

ADAM.



WHO KNOWS.

MAYBE IF I OBTAIN THE HAND OF GOD AND THE HELMET OF MORPHEUS, I WILL HAVE ENOUGH POWER TO MODIFY THE SPELL AND MAKE SANTIAGO REAL...



AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGH!!



WHY DID YOU HUMILIATE ME, DUDE?

ARE YOU SO LONELY THAT YOU NEED TO TALK EVEN TO THOSE YOU INTEND TO KILL?



YOU THINK THESE IMMATURE INSULTS ARE GOING TO DO YOU ANY GOOD?

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.



ADAM, HIS "MIND" HAS CRACKS. DON'T LISTEN TO HIM. WE WANT TO REST, BUT OUR IMPERATIVE IS TO MAKE SANTIAGO A LIVING CITY.



MOST OF US ARE ONLY STATUES, BUT INUO IS MORE SOPHISTICATED... HE FEEDS ON STORIES... BUT IN THE END, NO MATTER WHAT HE WANTS TO BE, HE HAS TO FOLLOW THE IMPERATIVE AND YOUR HAND MARKS YOU AS THE ENEMY...

ARE YOU THE ROCKS OF HIS BOB...?



DISTRACTED?



HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE?

HAHA-HAHAHA!



WHAT DOES IT MATTER TO YOU?



YOU HAVE TO STOP INUO. I WANT TO REST.

RUNNING AWAY, ADAM?

RUNNING?



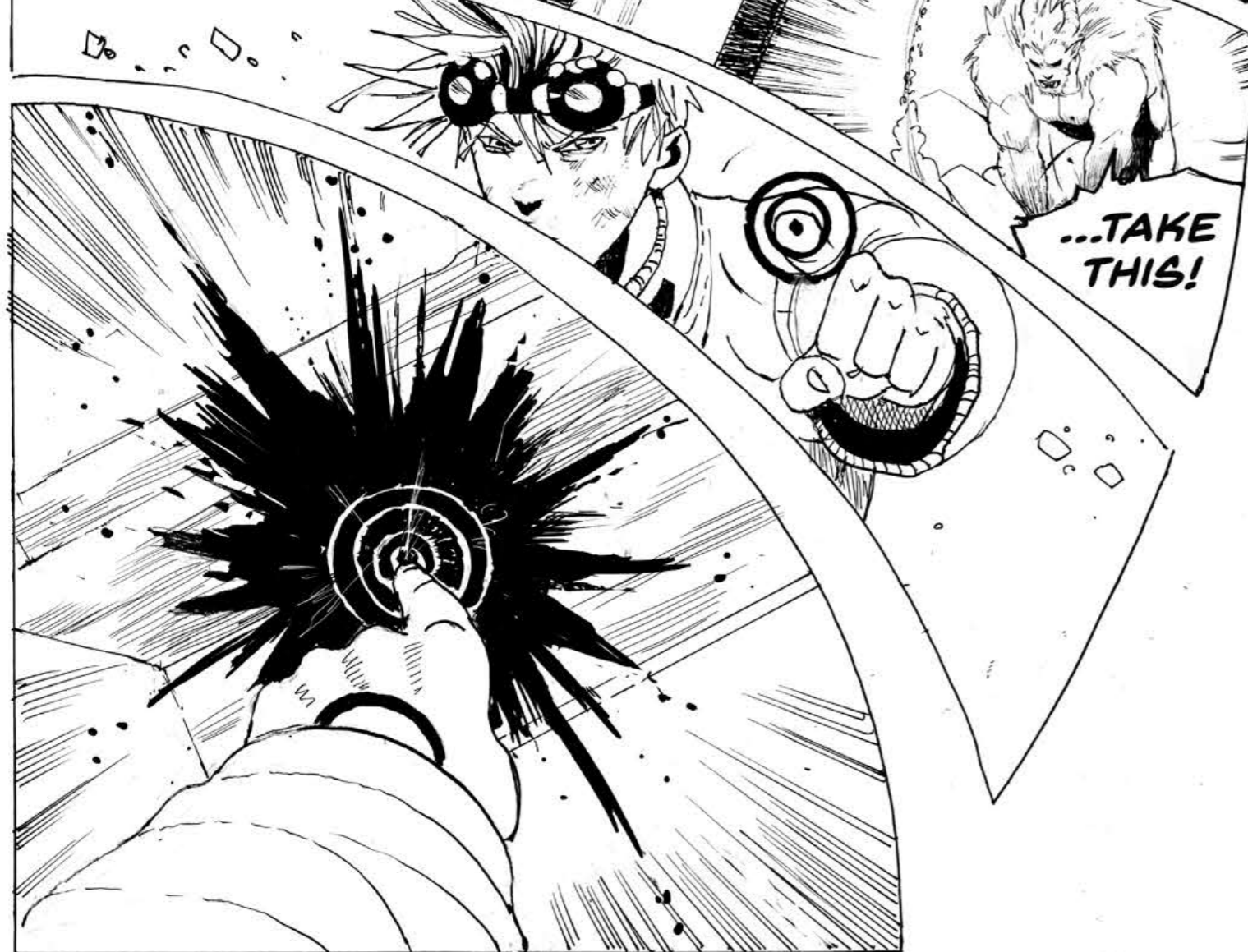
I JUST WANT TO PRESERVE THESE RUINS YOU LOVE SO MUCH, YOU CUNT!

EVEN THE ROCKS OF YOUR ASS ARE WORTH MORE THAN THE BULLSHIT STORY YOU'VE TOLD ME!

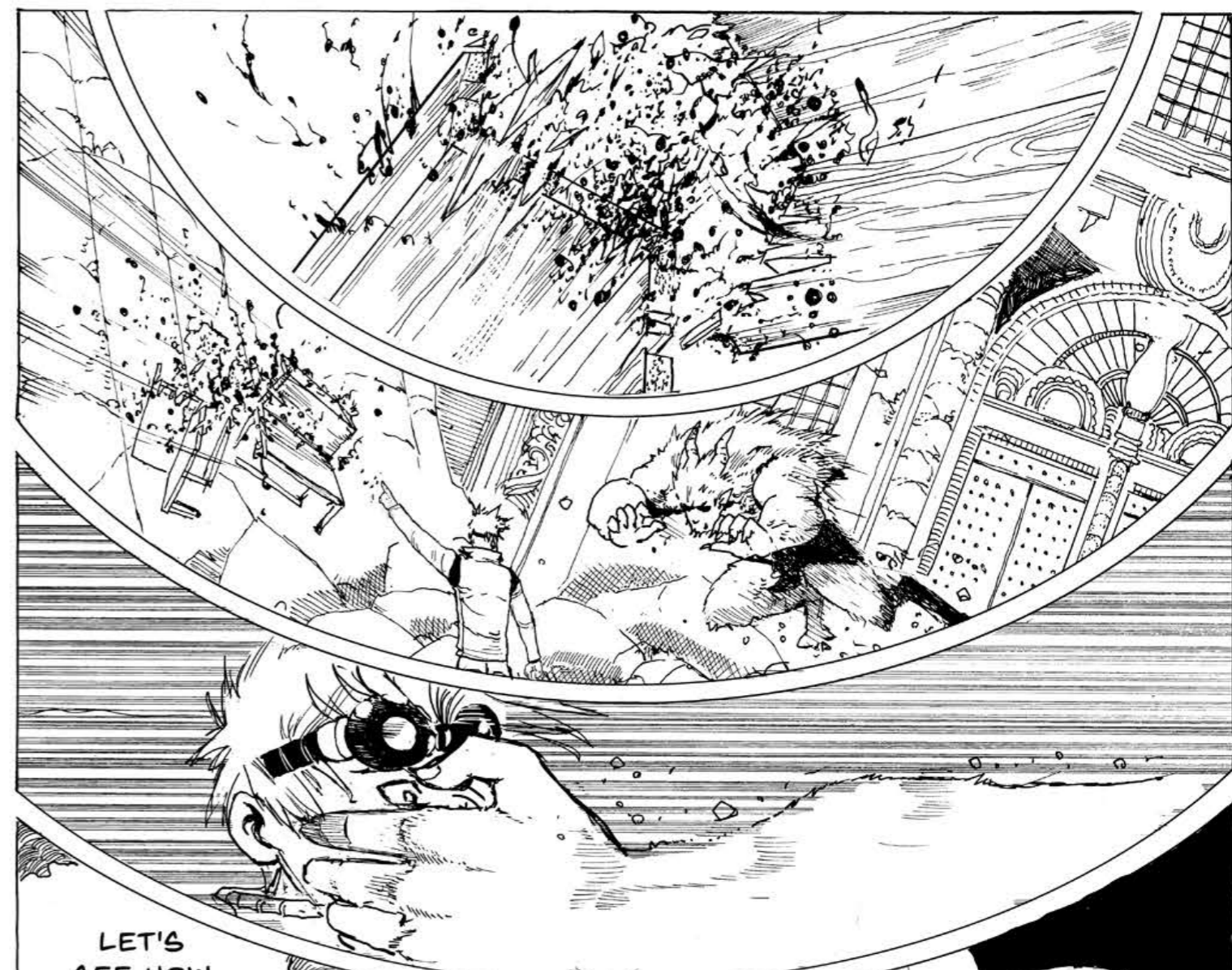




IF YOU LIKE THESE FUC-KING **RUINS** SO MUCH...!



...**TAKE THIS!**



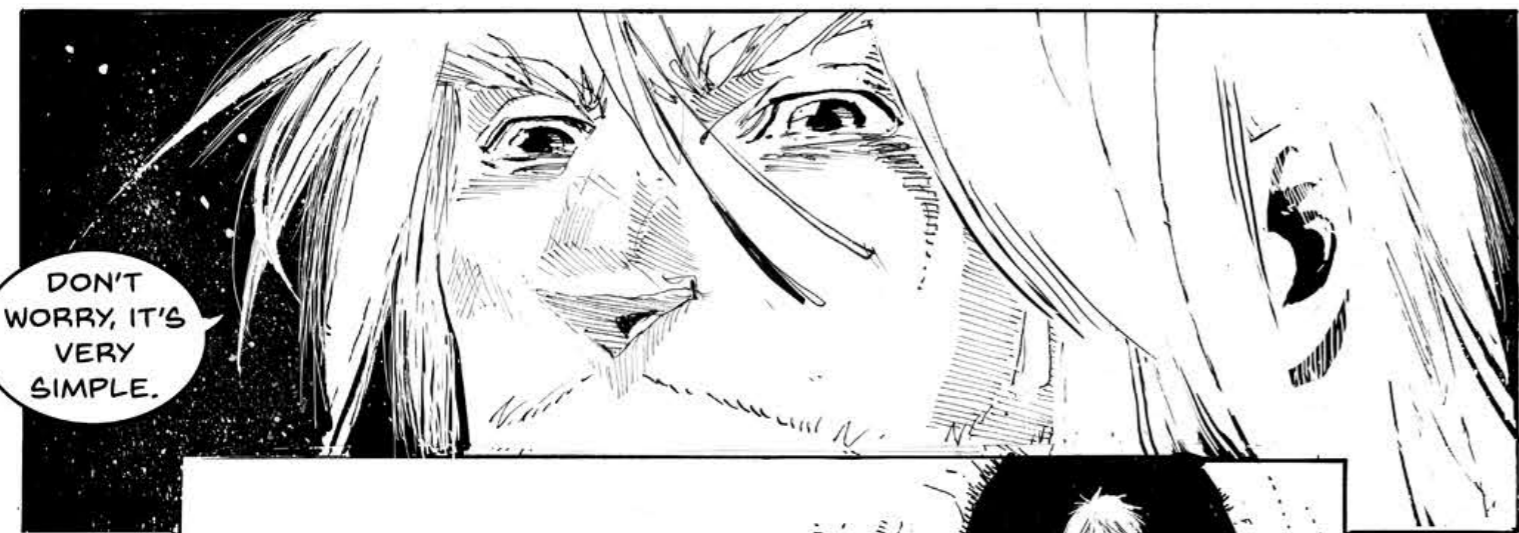
LET'S SEE HOW LONG YOU CAN LAST BEFORE I **CRUSH** YOUR SKULL!



YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME YOUR HAND, **ADAM!**

BEFORE YOU TAKE IT, CAN YOU ANSWER A **QUESTION?**





DON'T WORRY, IT'S VERY SIMPLE.



WHO WERE YOU AND WHAT DID YOU DO BEFORE YOU TURNED INTO STONE?

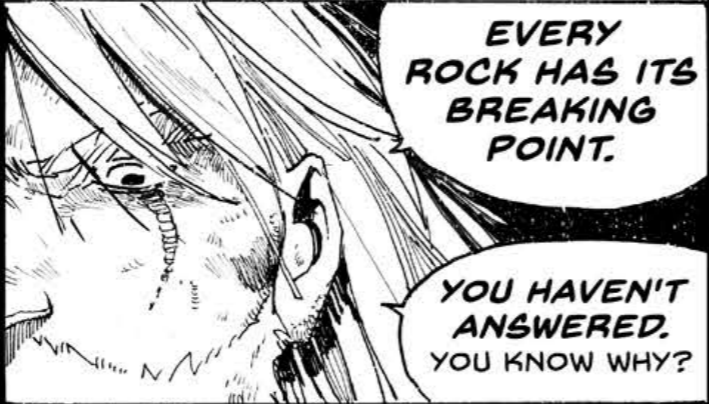
HMM. ANOTHER POINT OF THE STAR.



THE ONE WHO THINKS HE'S SMARTER THAN HE IS.

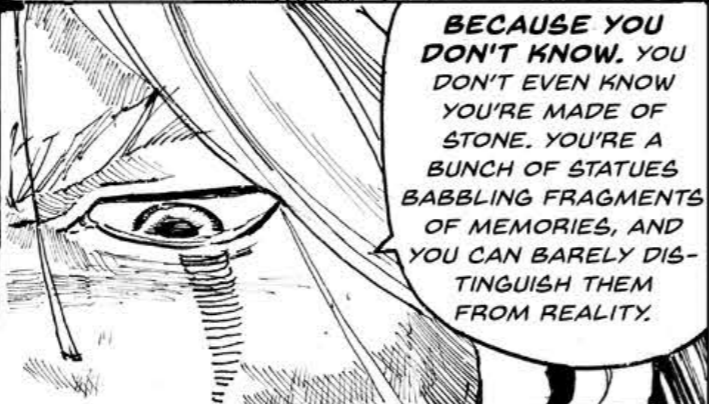


YOU REALLY THINK THAT QUESTION IS GOING TO CAUSE ME A COGNITIVE SHOCK?



EVERY ROCK HAS ITS BREAKING POINT.

YOU HAVEN'T ANSWERED. YOU KNOW WHY?



BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW. YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU'RE MADE OF STONE. YOU'RE A BUNCH OF STATUES BABBLING FRAGMENTS OF MEMORIES, AND YOU CAN BARELY DISTINGUISH THEM FROM REALITY.



HEH.



HAHAHA! DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT WORKS AGAINST ME?



NICE TRY, ESSEX. IT WOULD'VE WORKED, WITH THE OTHERS.

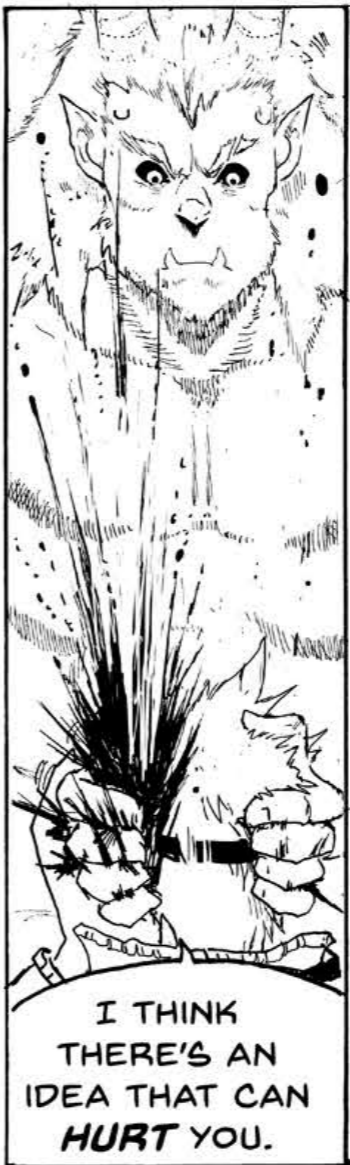
ME? I'M TOO OLD.



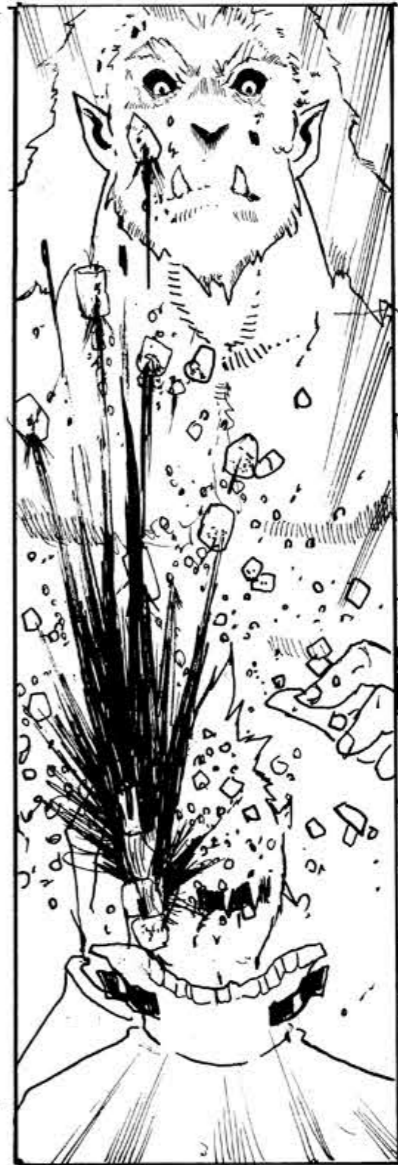
MAY-BE.



BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S THAT FAR OFF.



I THINK THERE'S AN IDEA THAT CAN HURT YOU.





WHAT?



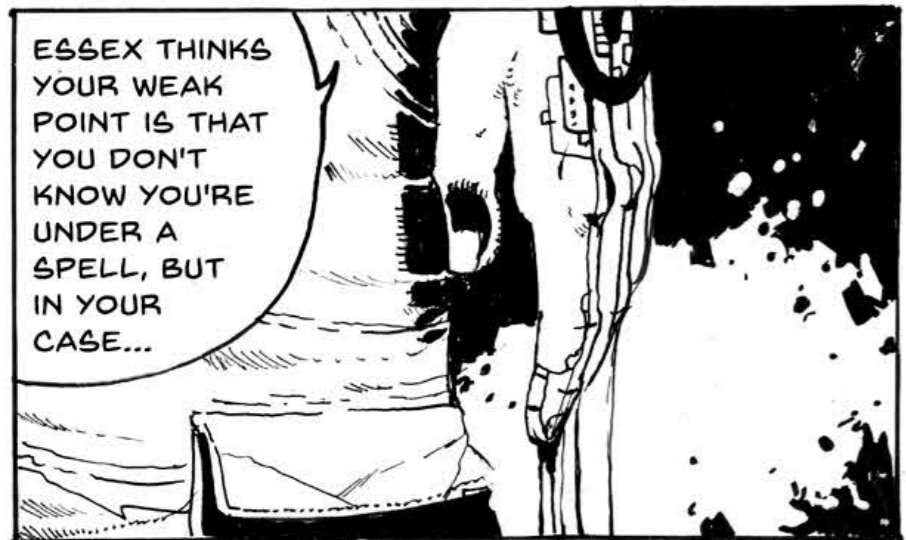
DON'T PLAY DUMB. WHY LET ME TALK?

WHY TELL ME YOUR STORY?

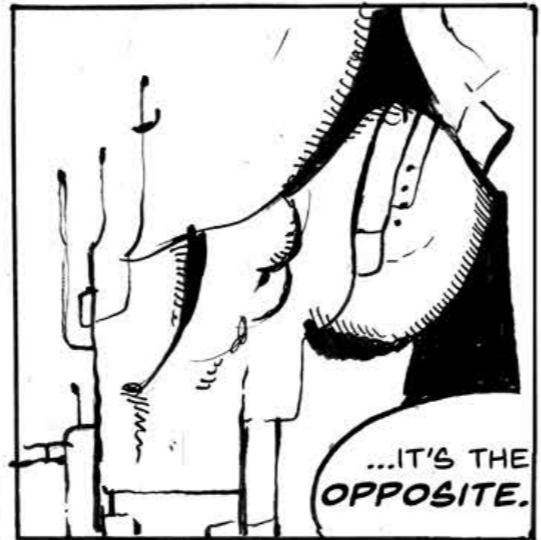


CYNICS WOULD SAY IT'S BECAUSE OF SADISM.

I PREFER TO THINK OF IT AS A SIGN OF LONELINESS. OF DOUBT.



ESSEX THINKS YOUR WEAK POINT IS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW YOU'RE UNDER A SPELL, BUT IN YOUR CASE...



...IT'S THE OPPOSITE.



YOU KNOW YOU'RE A GUY SUSTAINED BY A SPELL THAT TELLS YOU YOU'RE INUO, WHAT YOU DON'T KNOW IS WHETHER THAT STORY IS TRUE OR NOT.

THAT'S THE PROBLEM, RIGHT?

THE HORROR OF CONTEMPLATING YOUR LIFE AS A LIE.

CRACK

ADAM! THE GROUND ZERO OF THE SPELL HAS TO BE A PLACE WITH AN IMPORTANT **MYSTICAL CHARGE**. THE **EARTH ELEMENT** WILL BE THERE!



THE CATHEDRAL.

YOU HAVE TO HURRY UP; JACOB'S BECOMING ANOTHER **FUCKING STATUE!**



MAN, WHAT A DAY.

DO YOU KNOW WHO PUT A **SPELL** IN THE BOTAFUMEIRO?



I DON'T.

YOU ARE AN IDIOT, ADAM.

A GODDAMN IDIOT.

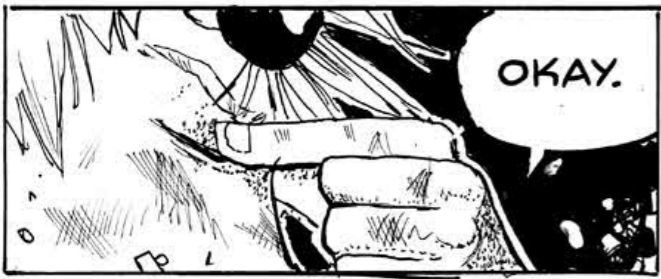
YOU REALLY DESERVE THAT DAMN HAND. YOU'RE THE REAL ANTICHRIST, A **MORONIC JESUS**.

INSTEAD OF DOING MIRACLES, YOU **UNDO** THEM.

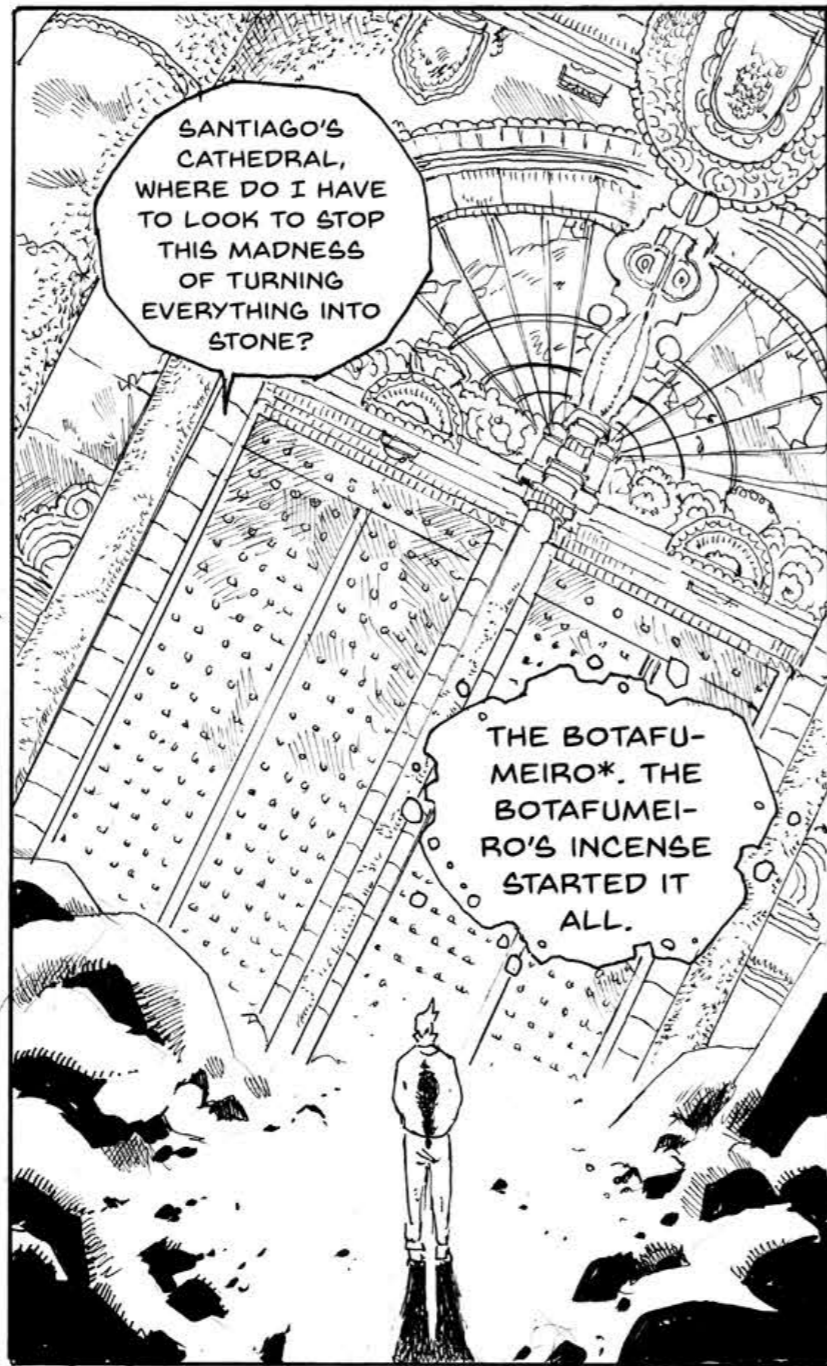


SHUT UP.

OKAY.



SANTIAGO'S CATHEDRAL, WHERE DO I HAVE TO LOOK TO STOP THIS MADNESS OF TURNING EVERYTHING INTO STONE?



THE BOTAFUMEIRO*. THE BOTAFUMEIRO'S INCENSE STARTED IT ALL.

...LET'S END THIS NIGHTMARE OF A DAY.



YOU SHUT UP, SINCE FOR ALL I KNOW I'M A MORE **SPECIAL** BEING THAN YOU'LL EVER BE. MAYBE THE SPIRIT OF INUO LIVES IN ME OR MAYBE NOT, MAYBE I'M JUST A **ROCK** BELIEVING IN A MIRAGE, BUT WHATEVER THE CASE MAY BE...



...I'M THE ONLY SELF-CONSCIOUS STATUE, I'M THE ONLY ONE AWARE OF ITS ORIGIN! THAT MEANS **SOMETHING!**



AND MAYBE THAT, TOO, IS **WRITTEN** IN THE SPELL.



*BOTAFUMEIRO: A BIG INCENSE BURNER INSIDE SANTIAGO'S CATHEDRAL.



YOU THINK YOU'RE **DIFFERENT**?!

YOU THINK YOU'RE NOT A PUPPET OF THE STORIES YOU HAVE IN YOUR HEAD?!

I KNOW ABOUT YOU THREE, ADAM! YOU HAVE NOT MADE A SINGLE DECISION THAT IS NOT CONDITIONED BY THE PAST, BY MEMORY!

DO YOU REALLY THINK PEOPLE WILL SEE YOU AS A HERO FOR FACING THE **FORCES** THAT MOVE THE WORLD?



DO YOU THINK PEOPLE WILL **APPLAUD** YOU? YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND?



PEOPLE **DON'T** WANT TO KNOW!

PEOPLE WANT TO BE **DOMINATED** AND HAVE SOMEONE ELSE TAKE CARE OF THEIR PROBLEMS!



THEY'LL HATE YOU FOR MAKING THEM **SELF-AWARE!** WHY DESTROY US WHEN THEY WILL END UP **CRUCI...**?



UH... WHAT?



AND WHAT IF I'M **RIGHT**?



...IT'S LIKE **THREE-DIMENSIONAL LANGUAGE**.



WHETHER IT WAS THE-MAN-FROM-BEYOND-TIME OR NOT...



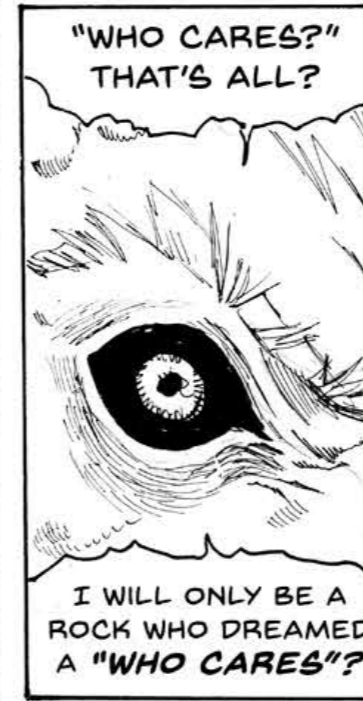
...SOMEONE HAD ENOUGH POWER TO ENCHANT AN ENTIRE CITY FOR **CENTURIES!**



HMM. MAYBE **INUO** DID IT. THE **REAL ONE**, I MEAN.

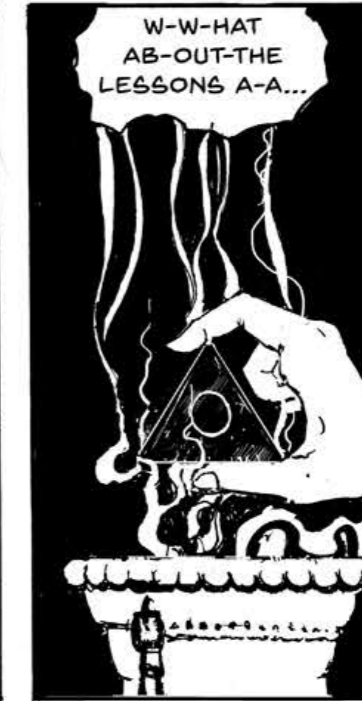


SOMEONE DID IT LONG AGO. **WHO CARES?**



"WHO CARES?" THAT'S ALL?

I WILL ONLY BE A ROCK WHO DREAMED A "**WHO CARES**"?



W-W-HAT AB-OUT-THE LESSONS A-A...



...T-THE DREAMS WHEN I-I'M A-ASLEEP...

W-WHY W-WOULD I D-DREAM WITH-TH GREEN FI-ELDS IF I'M NO-NO-NO-THING...?



AND TH-THE P-PP-EO-PL E-L-L-L-L-I-ST...



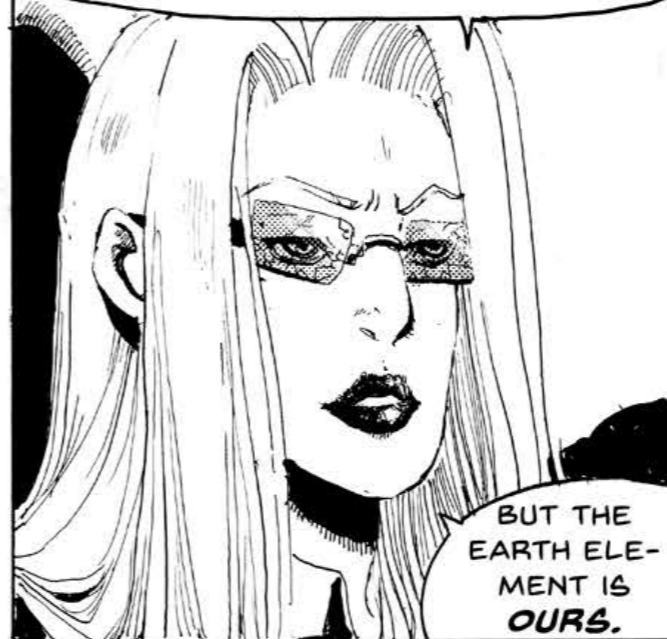
THEY L-LIS-LIST-LI-LI-S-STEE-N...



I-I-I...



WE KNOW YOU'RE **STUPID** AND YOU DON'T WANT TO JOIN US.



BUT THE EARTH ELEMENT IS **OURS**.

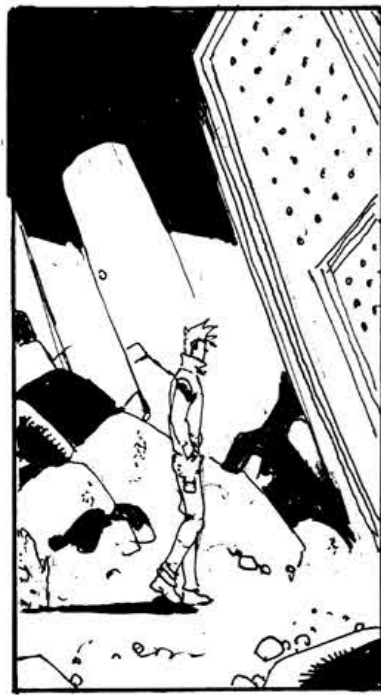
WE CAN **FIGHT**, ADAM.



SPEAK FOR YOURSELF, ESSEX. I'M SICK OF THIS.



I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT THIS **SHIT** IS FOR.



FUCK.



NOW WHAT.



HELLO, ADAM.



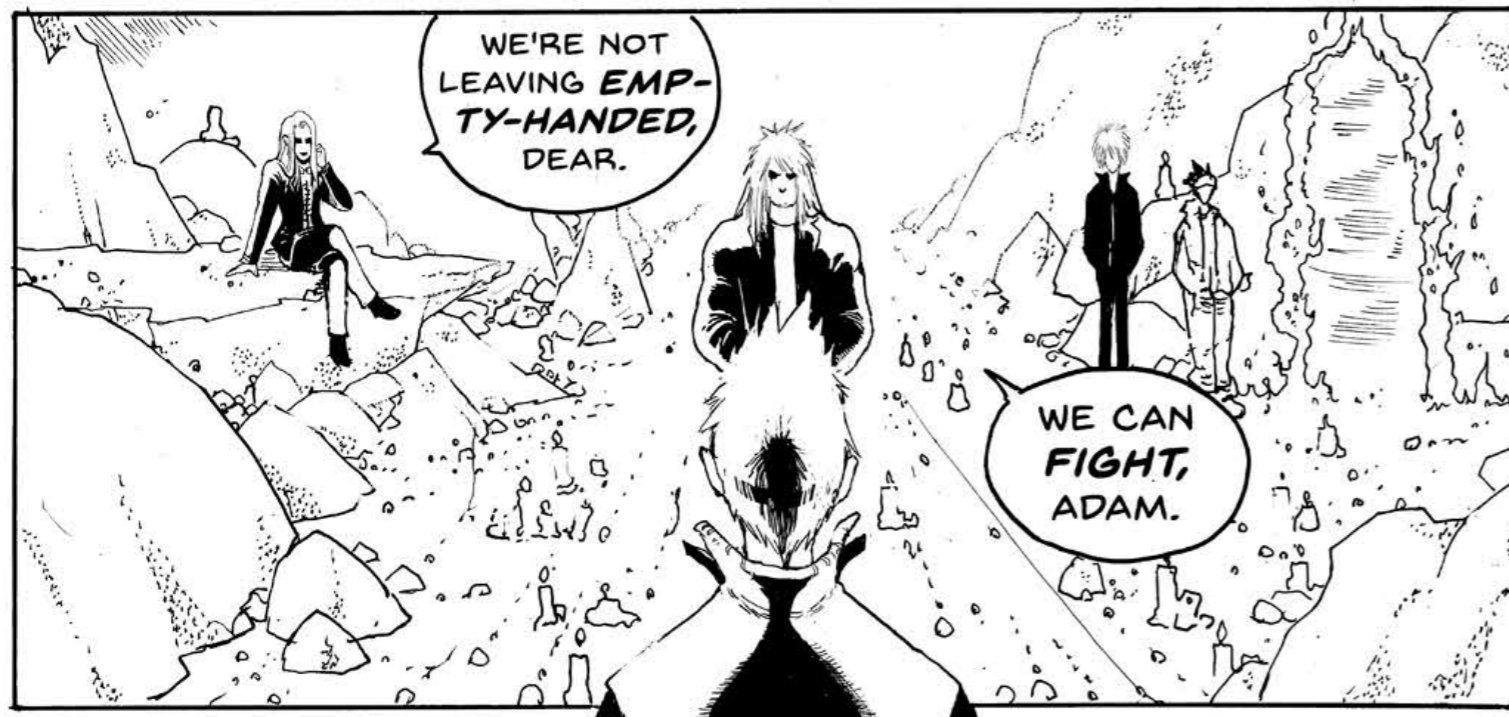
AND YOU THINK YOU'RE GONNA FIND OUT BY GIVING IT AWAY?!



HERE YOU GO.



IS THE PORTAL READY? **GOOD**.



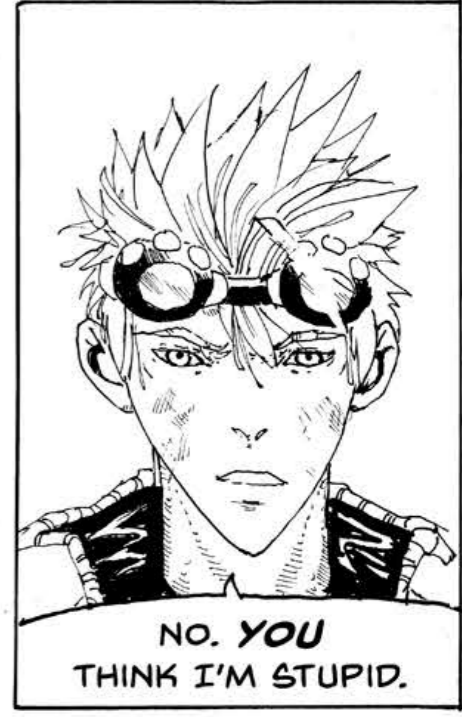
WE'RE NOT LEAVING **EMPTY-HANDED**, DEAR.

WE CAN **FIGHT**, ADAM.

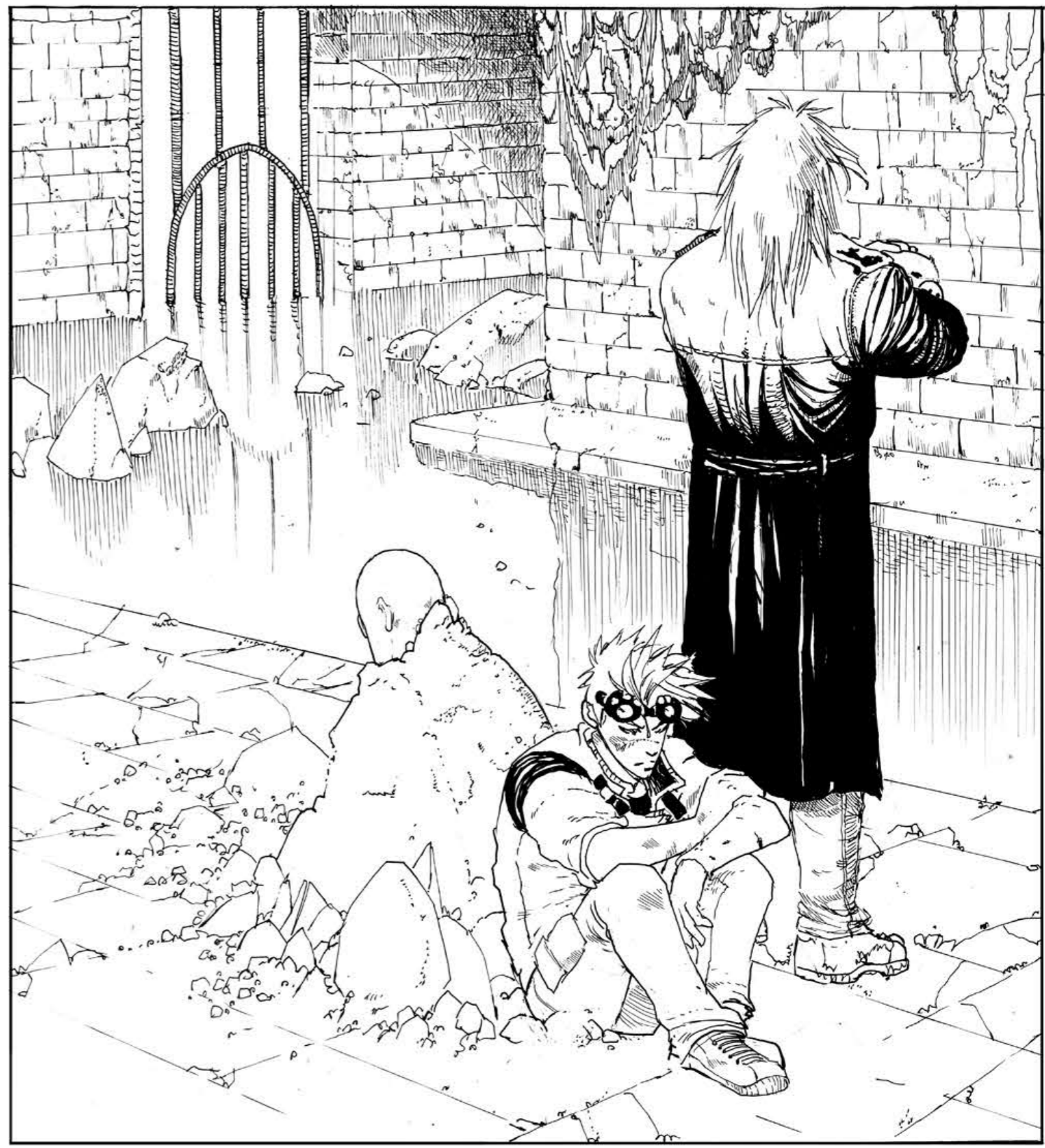
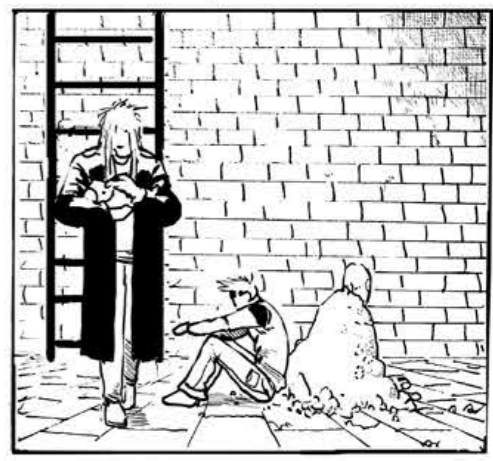
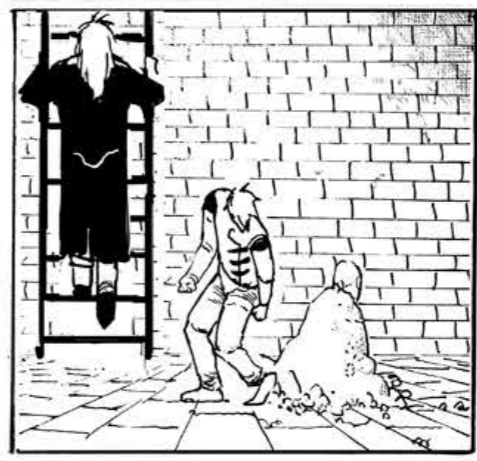
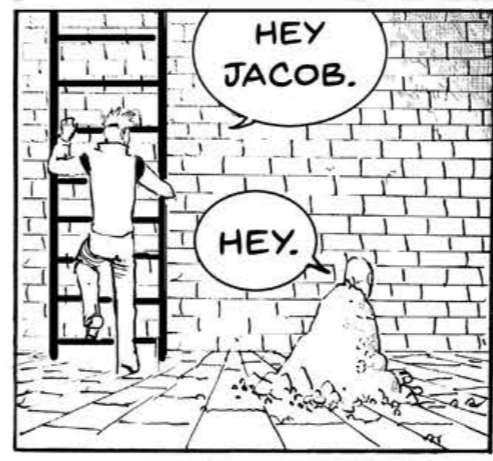
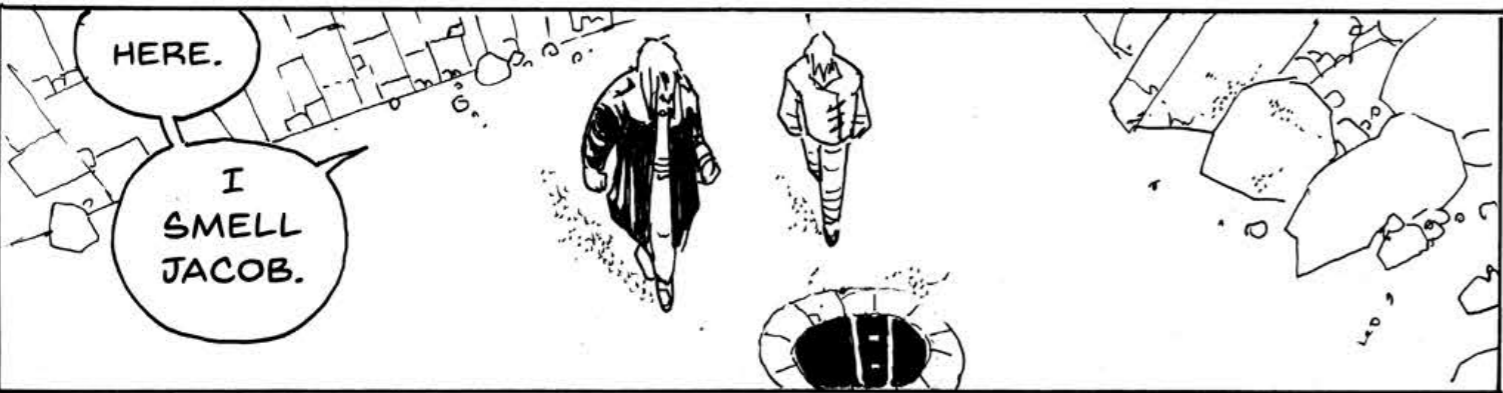
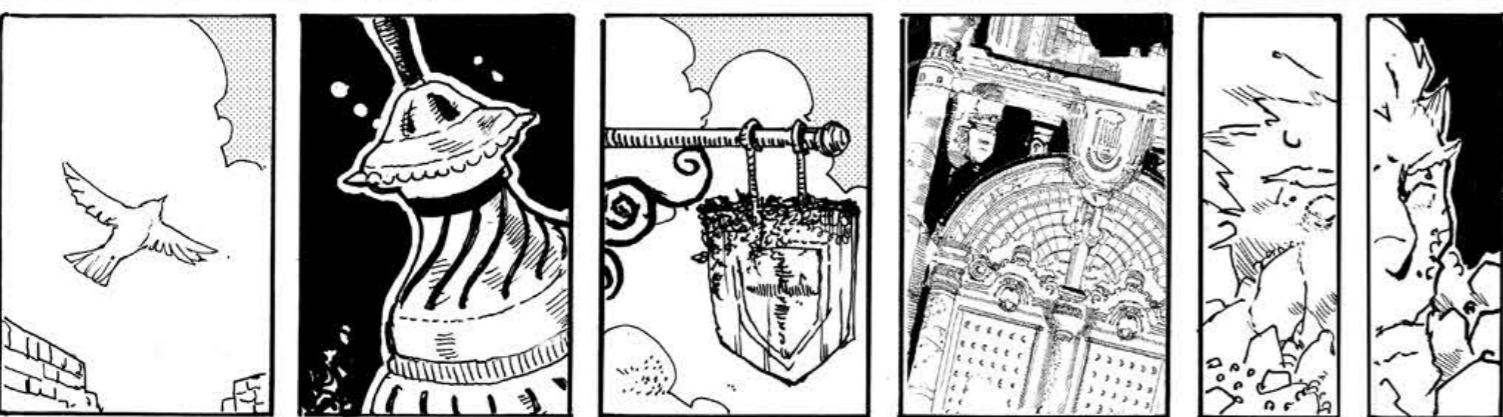
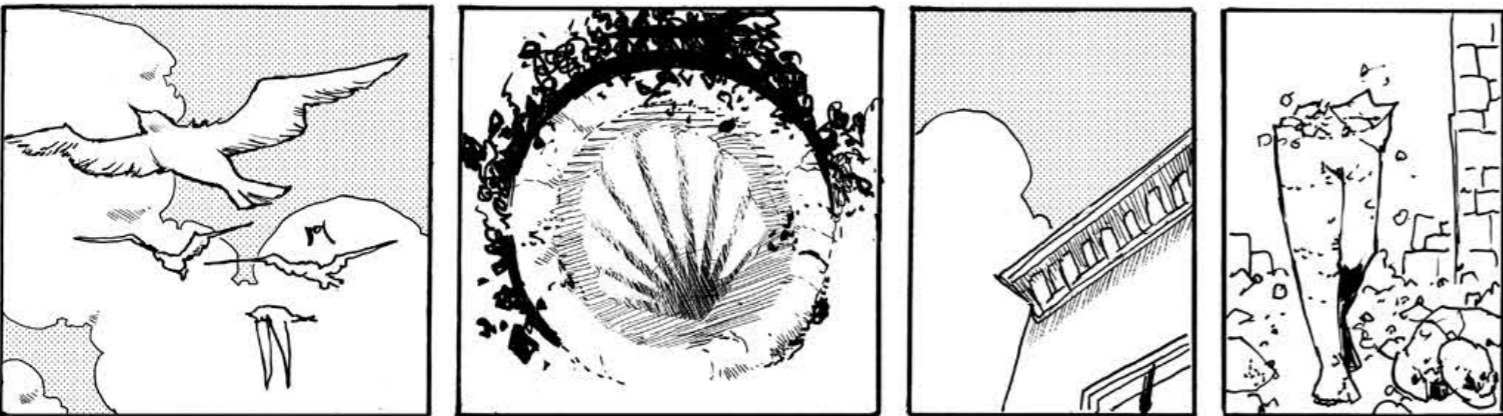


SEE YOU, IF YOU'RE STILL **ALIVE** BY THEN.

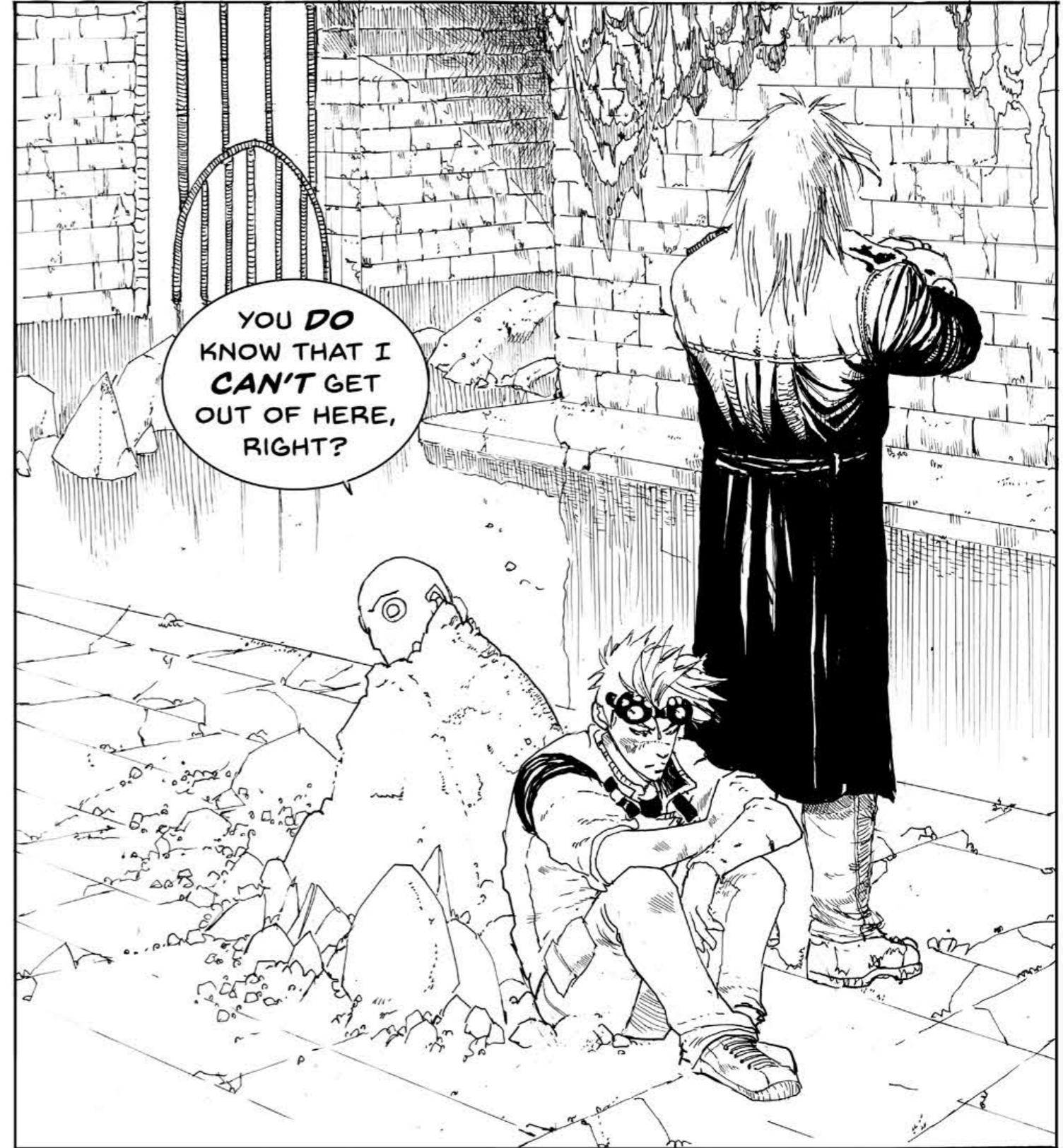
YOU'RE **STUPID**, ADAM.



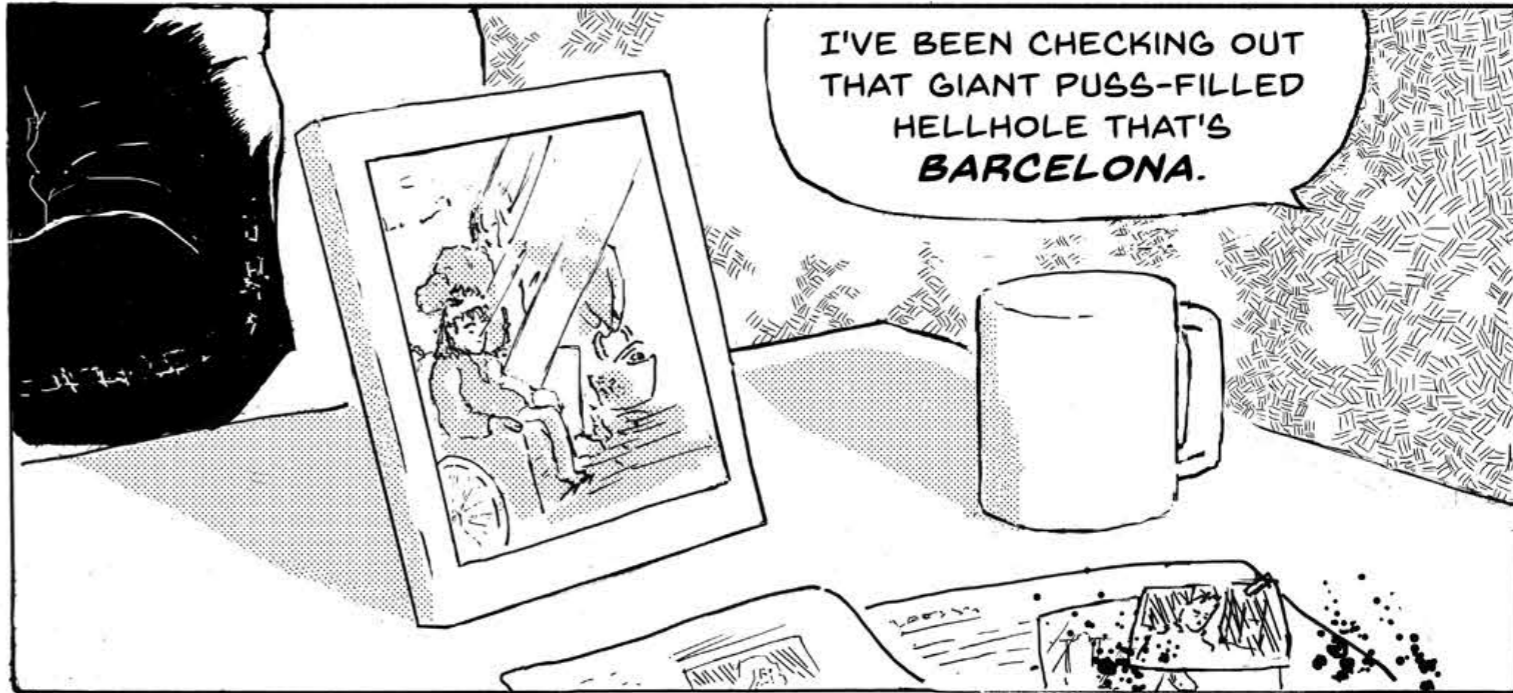
NO. YOU THINK I'M **STUPID**.

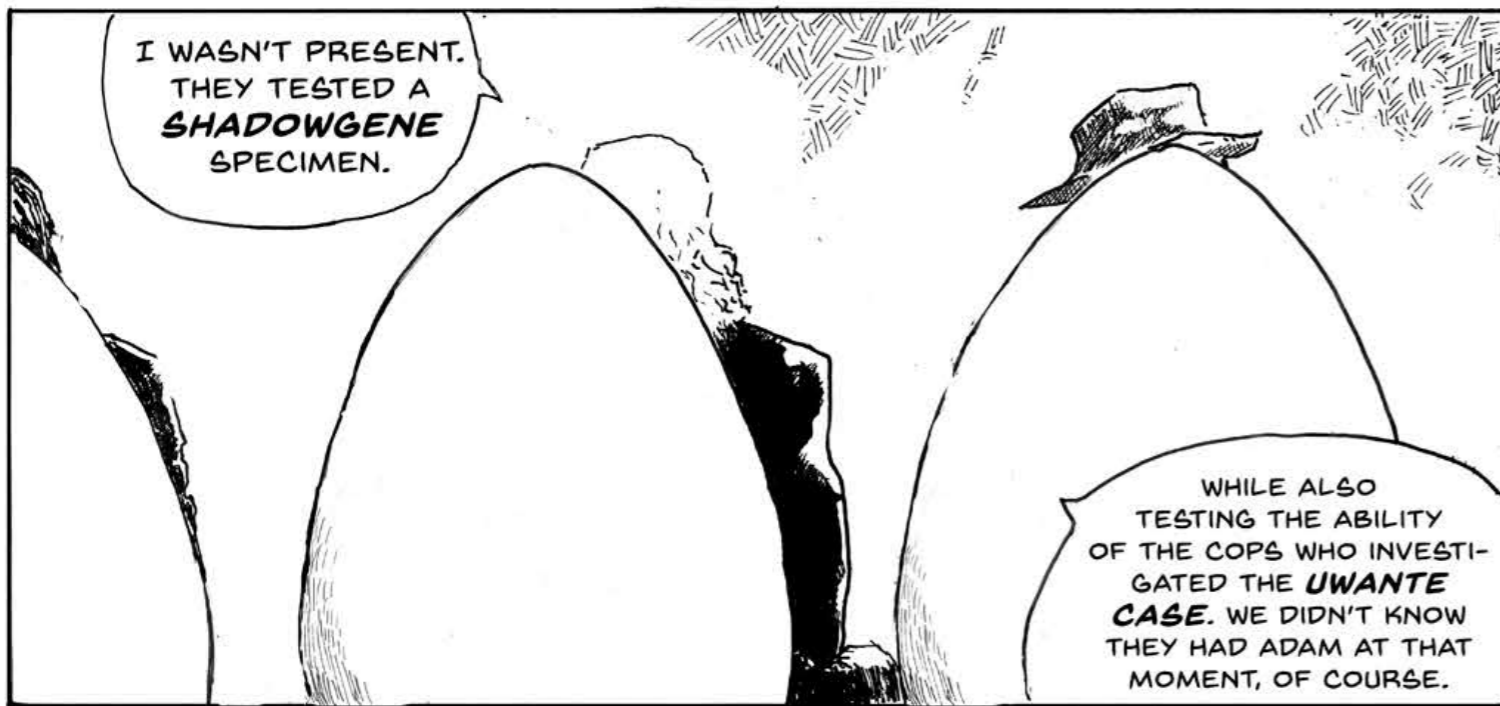






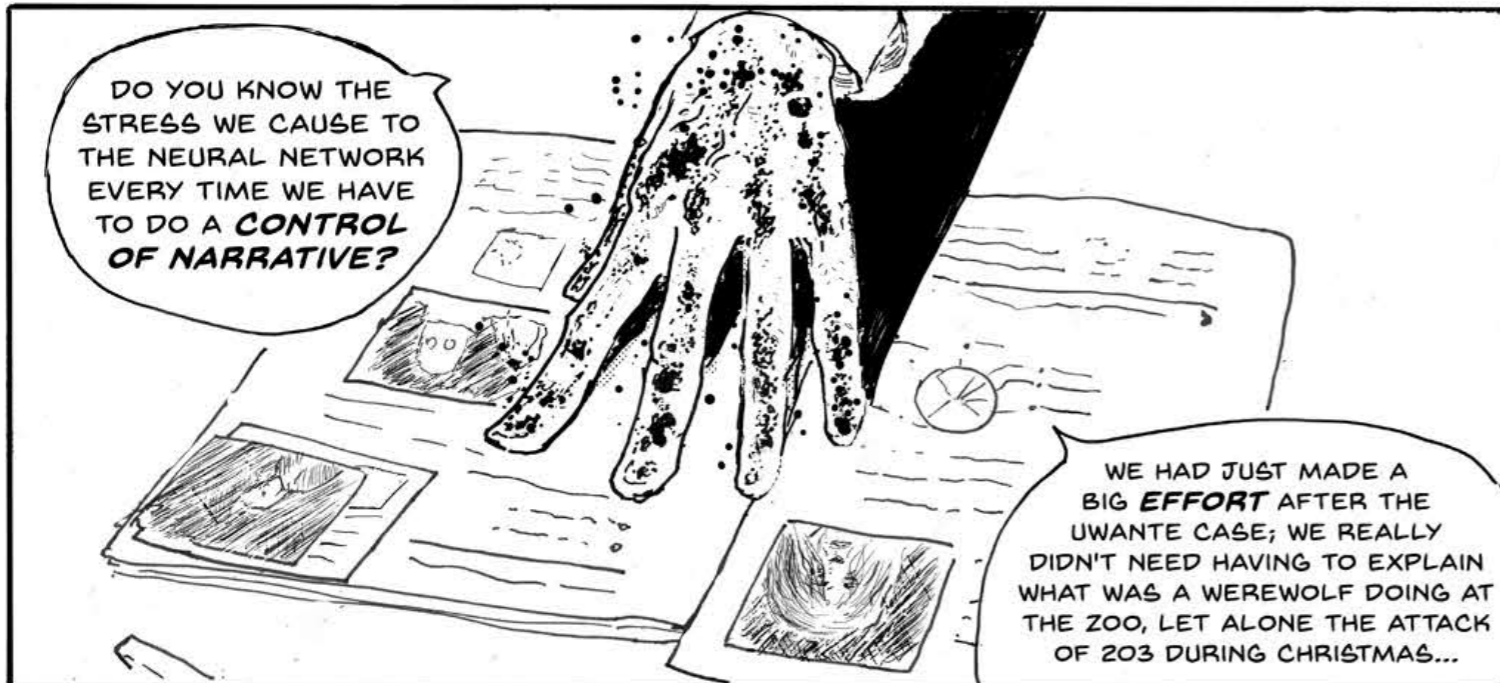
EPILOGUE





I WASN'T PRESENT. THEY TESTED A **SHADOWGENE** SPECIMEN.

WHILE ALSO TESTING THE ABILITY OF THE COPS WHO INVESTIGATED THE **UWANTE CASE**. WE DIDN'T KNOW THEY HAD ADAM AT THAT MOMENT, OF COURSE.

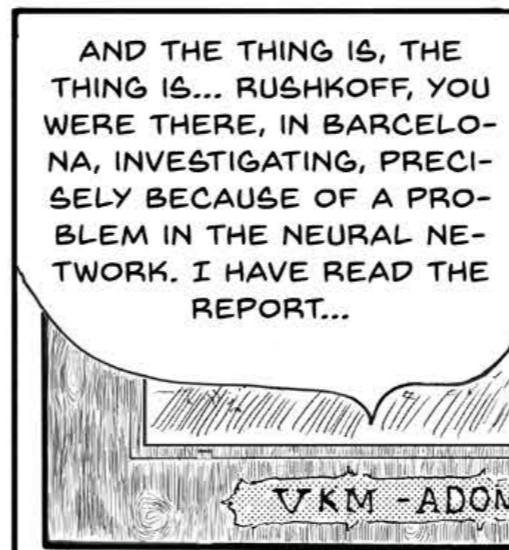


DO YOU KNOW THE STRESS WE CAUSE TO THE NEURAL NETWORK EVERY TIME WE HAVE TO DO A **CONTROL OF NARRATIVE**?

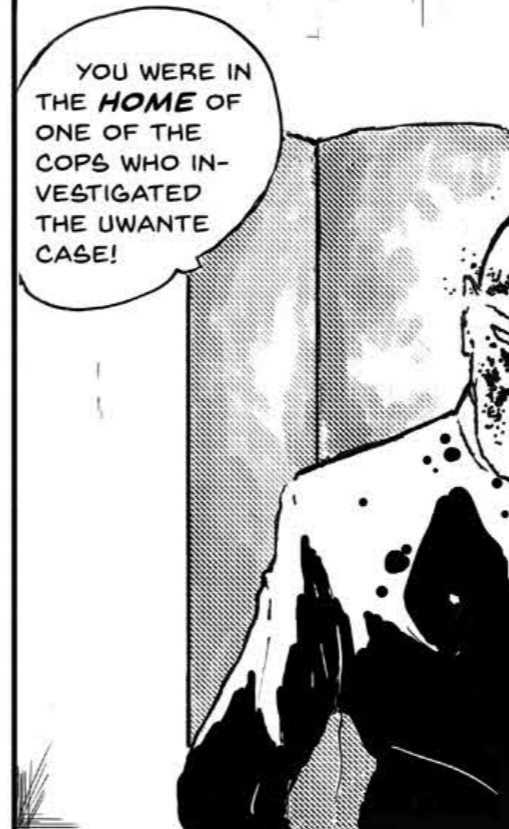
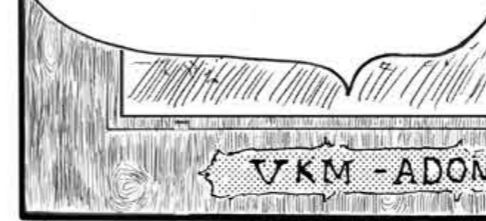
WE HAD JUST MADE A **BIG EFFORT** AFTER THE UWANTE CASE; WE REALLY DIDN'T NEED HAVING TO EXPLAIN WHAT WAS A WEREWOLF DOING AT THE ZOO, LET ALONE THE ATTACK OF 203 DURING CHRISTMAS...



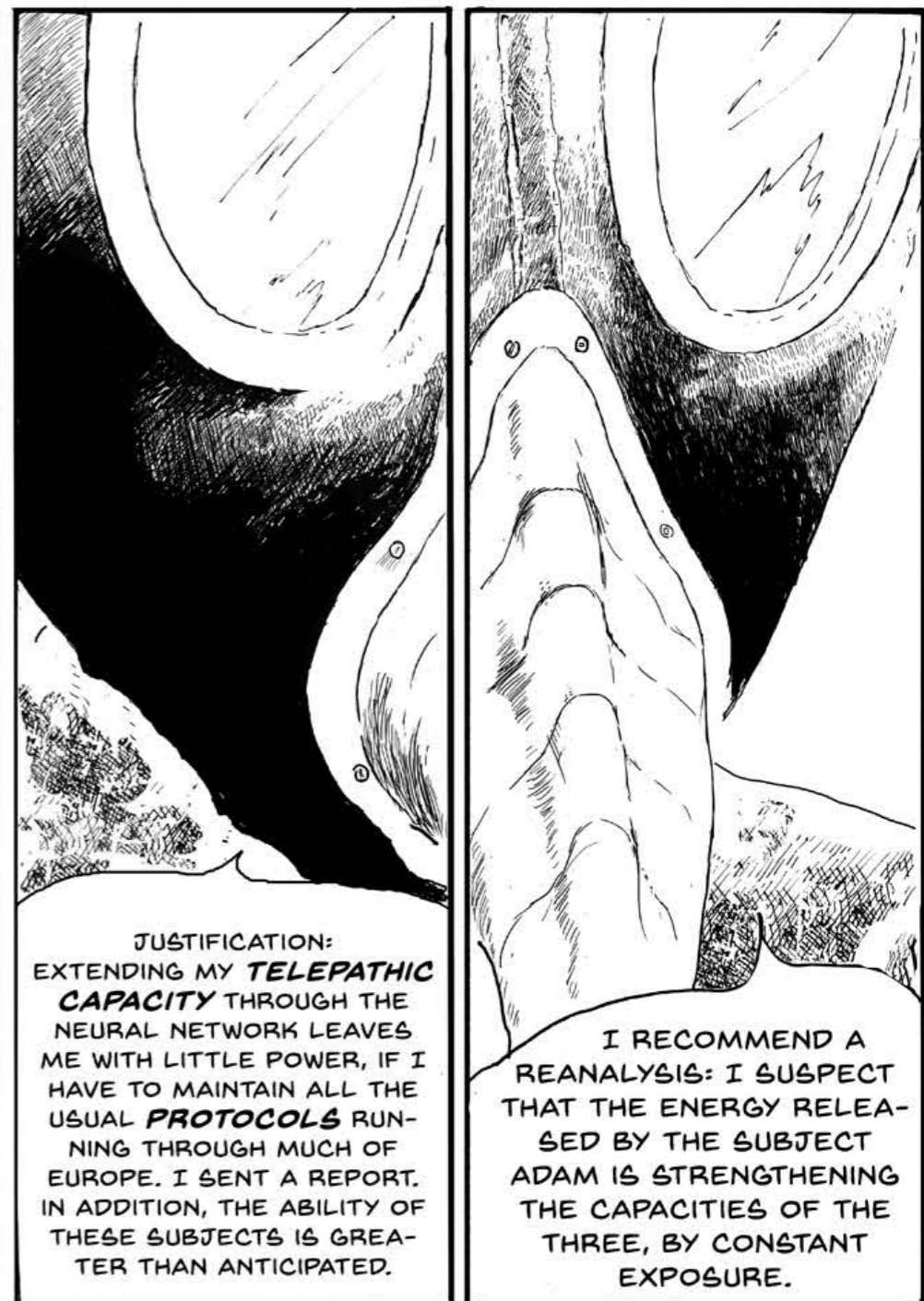
HEY, HEY. I DIDN'T CAUSE ANY DAMAGE TO THE PUBLIC PROPERTY, THAT WAS ADAM.



AND THE THING IS, THE THING IS... RUSHKOFF, YOU WERE THERE, IN BARCELONA, INVESTIGATING, PRECISELY BECAUSE OF A PROBLEM IN THE NEURAL NETWORK. I HAVE READ THE REPORT...

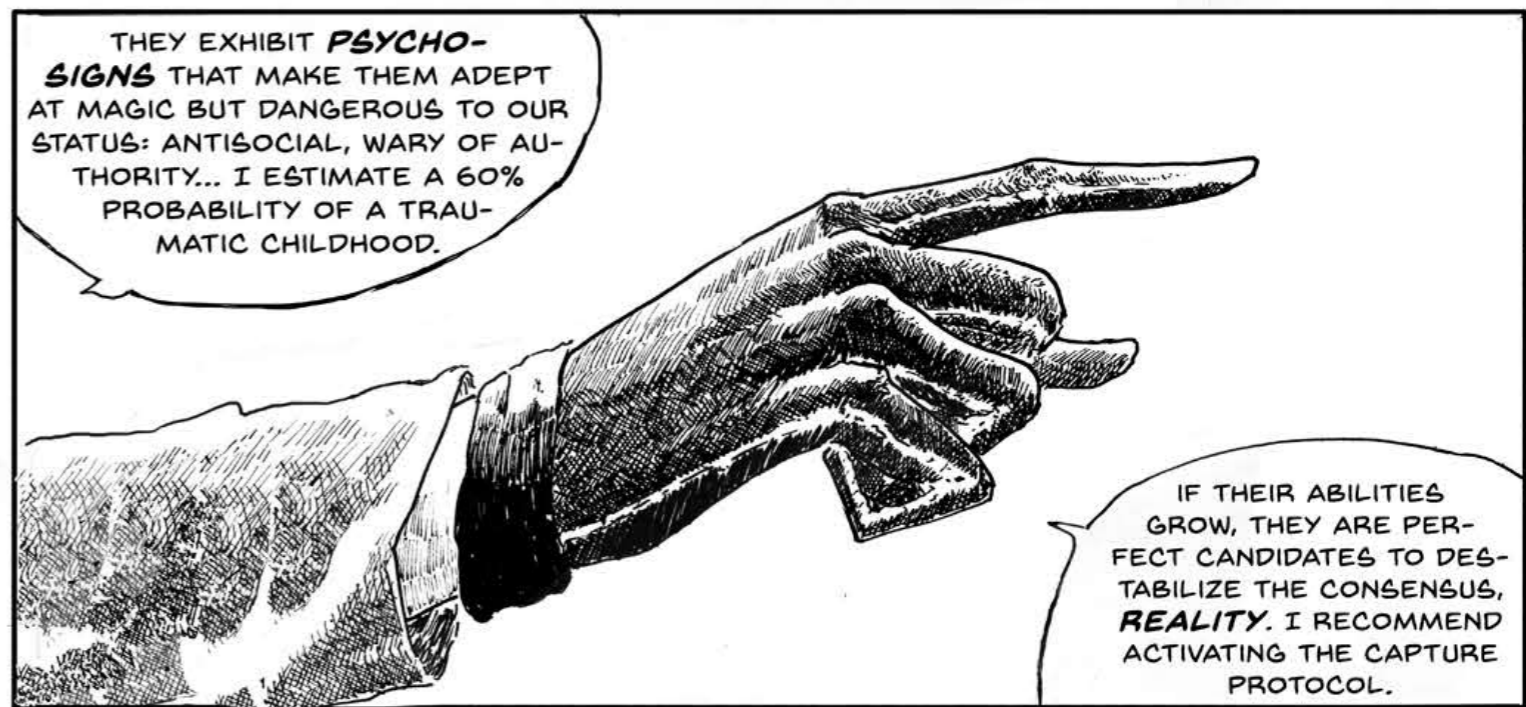


YOU WERE IN THE **HOME** OF ONE OF THE COPS WHO INVESTIGATED THE UWANTE CASE!



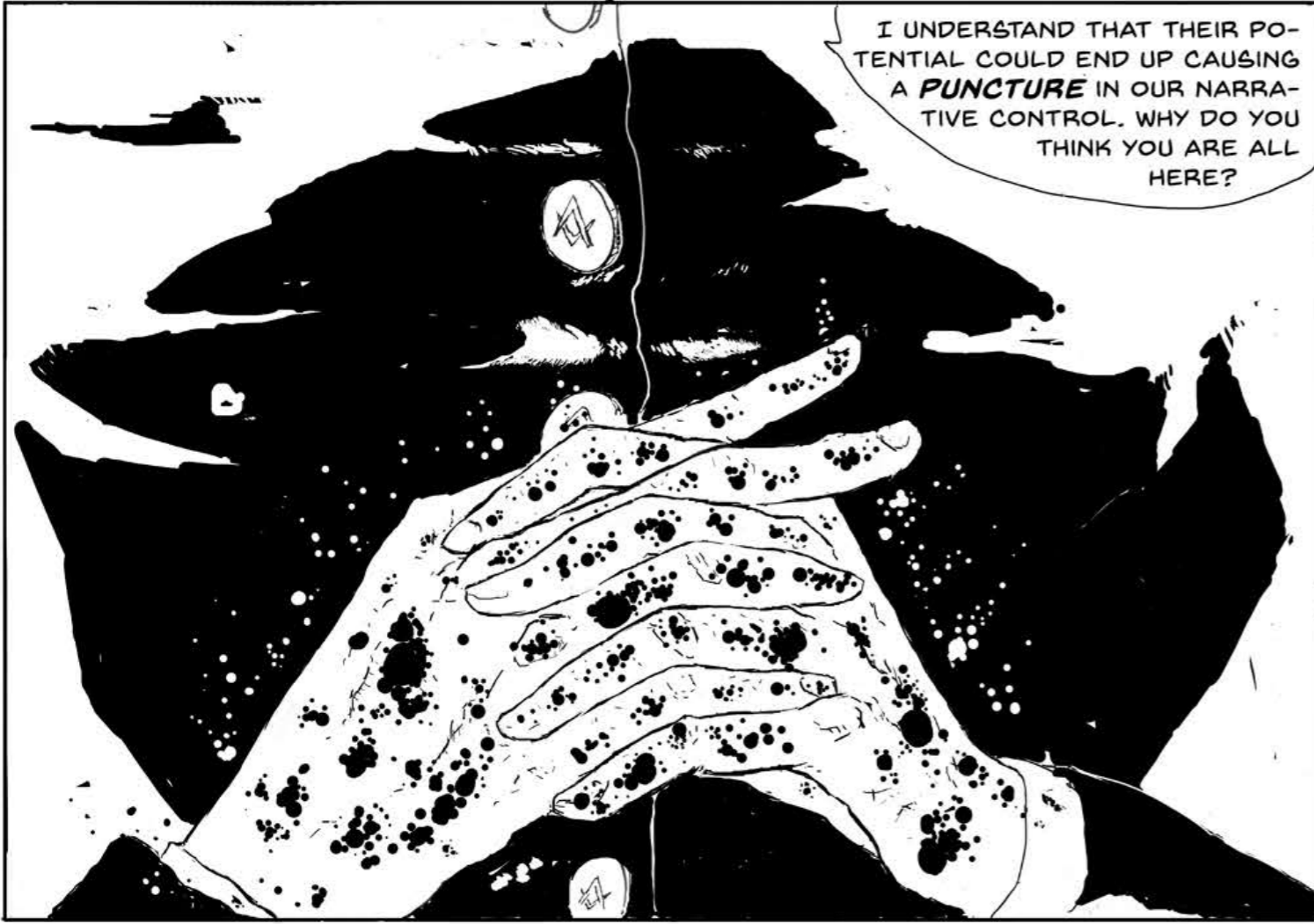
JUSTIFICATION: EXTENDING MY **TELEPATHIC CAPACITY** THROUGH THE NEURAL NETWORK LEAVES ME WITH LITTLE POWER, IF I HAVE TO MAINTAIN ALL THE USUAL **PROTOCOLS** RUNNING THROUGH MUCH OF EUROPE. I SENT A REPORT. IN ADDITION, THE ABILITY OF THESE SUBJECTS IS GREATER THAN ANTICIPATED.

I RECOMMEND A **REANALYSIS:** I SUSPECT THAT THE ENERGY RELEASED BY THE SUBJECT ADAM IS STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF THE THREE, BY CONSTANT EXPOSURE.



THEY EXHIBIT **PSYCHOSIGNS** THAT MAKE THEM ADEPT AT MAGIC BUT DANGEROUS TO OUR STATUS: ANTISOCIAL, WARY OF AUTHORITY... I ESTIMATE A 60% PROBABILITY OF A TRAUMATIC CHILDHOOD.

IF THEIR ABILITIES GROW, THEY ARE PERFECT CANDIDATES TO DESTABILIZE THE CONSENSUS, **REALITY**. I RECOMMEND ACTIVATING THE CAPTURE PROTOCOL.

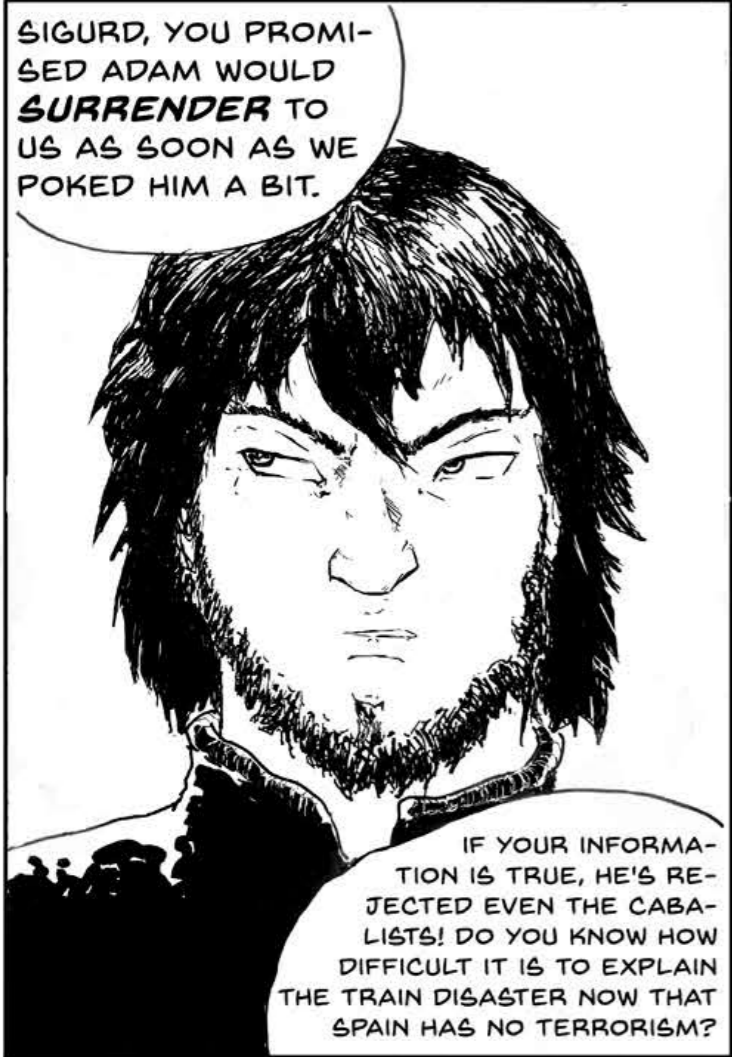


I UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR POTENTIAL COULD END UP CAUSING A **PUNCTURE** IN OUR NARRATIVE CONTROL. WHY DO YOU THINK YOU ARE ALL HERE?



WE'RE THE ELITE TEAM OF THE EUROPEAN UNION! ENOUGH OF THIS CONGA LINE OF ERRORS YOU ALL SEEM TO BE SO KEEN ON, GOD-DAMMIT!

THE LONGER THEY'RE LOOSE IN SPAIN, THE MORE LIKELY THEY ARE TO INOCULATE OTHERS WITH AN INTEREST IN **MAGIC**!



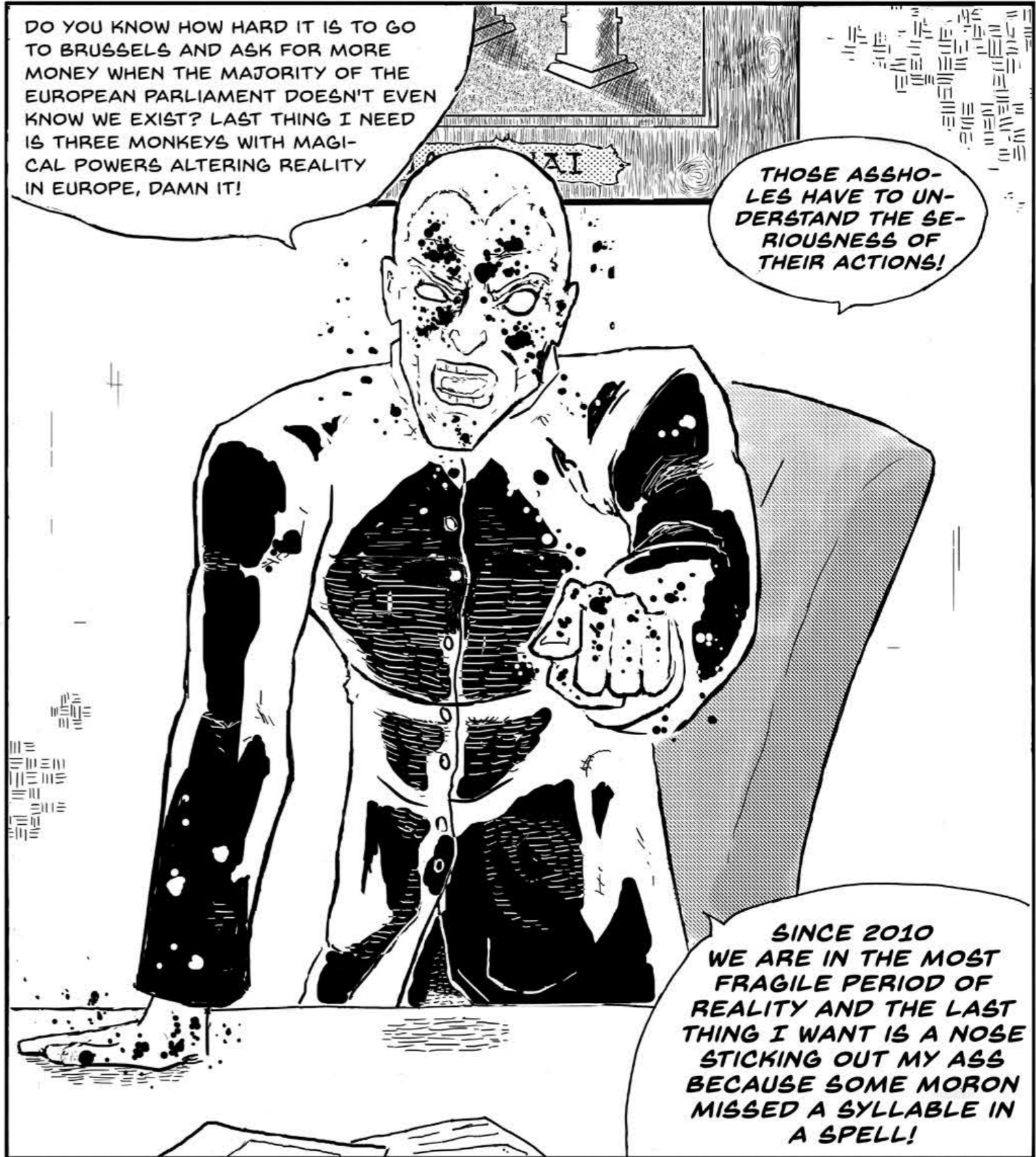
SIGURD, YOU PROMISED ADAM WOULD **SURRENDER** TO US AS SOON AS WE POKED HIM A BIT.

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS TRUE, HE'S REJECTED EVEN THE CABALISTS! DO YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO EXPLAIN THE TRAIN DISASTER NOW THAT SPAIN HAS NO TERRORISM?



I'M NOT SURPRISED, THOUGH, CONSIDERING HOW HE ESCAPED FROM BARCELONA THANKS TO YOUR BIG **ABDUCTION** OPERATION, DAGO.

YOU SENT SEVERAL EXO-COP SQUADS AND **203** AND CAME BACK WITH A LIST OF EXPENSES BIGGER THAN THAT OF THE H-DEPARTMENT!



DO YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT IS TO GO TO BRUSSELS AND ASK FOR MORE MONEY WHEN THE MAJORITY OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WE EXIST? LAST THING I NEED IS THREE MONKEYS WITH MAGICAL POWERS ALTERING REALITY IN EUROPE, DAMN IT!

THOSE ASSHOLLES HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THE SERIOUSNESS OF THEIR ACTIONS!

SINCE 2010 WE ARE IN THE MOST FRAGILE PERIOD OF REALITY AND THE LAST THING I WANT IS A NOSE STICKING OUT MY ASS BECAUSE SOME MORON MISSED A SYLLABLE IN A SPELL!



UNDER-
STAND? I WANT
THEM **HERE**.
ALIVE...



...OR
DEAD.

...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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