

SIMON M.

ATANA S.

SCRIPT

PENCILS

PANEL LAYOUT

INK

COVER

TRANSLATION  
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

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WINTER,  
NOW.

...BETWEEN 1708 AND 1710  
A STRANGE ENGLISH ARMY, COM-  
POSED OF PRISONERS AND  
POOR MEN, INVADED  
SOUTHERN SPAIN...

...DESPITE THEIR LESSER  
NUMBERS, THEY WON SEVERAL  
BATTLES, WHICH LED THE SUPER-  
STITIOUS MINDS OF THE TIME TO  
SAY THAT THEY HAD FAVORS FROM  
THE GODS; THEIR COSTUMES, THEY  
SAID, HAD BLESSINGS...

AGENT SIGURD.  
RUSHKOFF SPEAKING.

I DETECT THE **BLACK  
ENERGY** APPROACHING,  
AS YOU PREDICTED.

ASSUME  
THAT SUBJECT  
ADAM IS HEADED TO  
THE AGREED PLACE.

AGENT CHIRONEX. RUSHKOFF  
SPEAKING. I'M THE BOSS OF  
THE TELEPATHS.

SUBJECT ADAM IS APPROACHING, IF MY OBSERVATIONS  
ARE NOT MISTAKEN. PROCEED WITH THE PLAN.

WHAT IF  
HE RESISTS?

WE HAVE A  
**NARRATIVE  
TEAM** READY.

AT ANY RATE,  
TRY TO AVOID THE  
PUBLIC LIGHT AS  
MUCH AS POSSI-  
BLE.

...BLESSSED OR NOT,  
THEY ENDED UP LO-  
SING THE WAR, AND EN-  
GLAND DENIED THEM  
ENTRY TO THE COUNTRY.  
THE KING OF SPAIN,  
FORESEEING **PROB-  
LEMS**, OFFERED THEM  
AN AMNESTY IN EX-  
CHANGE FOR JOINING  
THE ARMY...

ESTACIO  
SANTA JUSTA

...MANY  
ADOPTED NEW  
SURNAME...

REDCHEEKS,  
WHEATREAP,  
IBERIAN...

...SOUTH-  
SUN...

THIS STATION, FOR EXAMPLE, WAS DE-  
SIGNED BY JOHN IBERIAN... IF YOU  
FOLLOW ME OUTSIDE, YOU'LL SEE THAT  
THE WALLS...

MY  
"OTHER"  
HOME...



HEY, SIGURD. I JUST SAW ADAM, WITH HIS GIRLFRIEND AND ALL. THEY WERE GOING TO SEE THAT SPACE MOVIE...

DIDN'T YOU WANT TO GO SEE IT WITH HIM?



I'M GLAD SOMEONE'S LAUGHING.



HUH, SO YOU CAME. I DIDN'T KNOW IF I'D RECOGNISE YOU, THE CABALISTS SAID YOU HAD A PROTECTION SPELL...

...BUT I SEE YOU THE SAME. WHY DID YOU WANT TO MEET ON THE OUTSKIRTS?



OBVIOUSLY I'M NOT GONNA GO WITH THOSE GUYS...



WHY WOULD I? TO HEAR BLANCA BRAGGING ABOUT HOW FILTHY RICH HIS DAD IS BECOMING? OR DANI AND HIS CUNT LAWYER PARENTS?

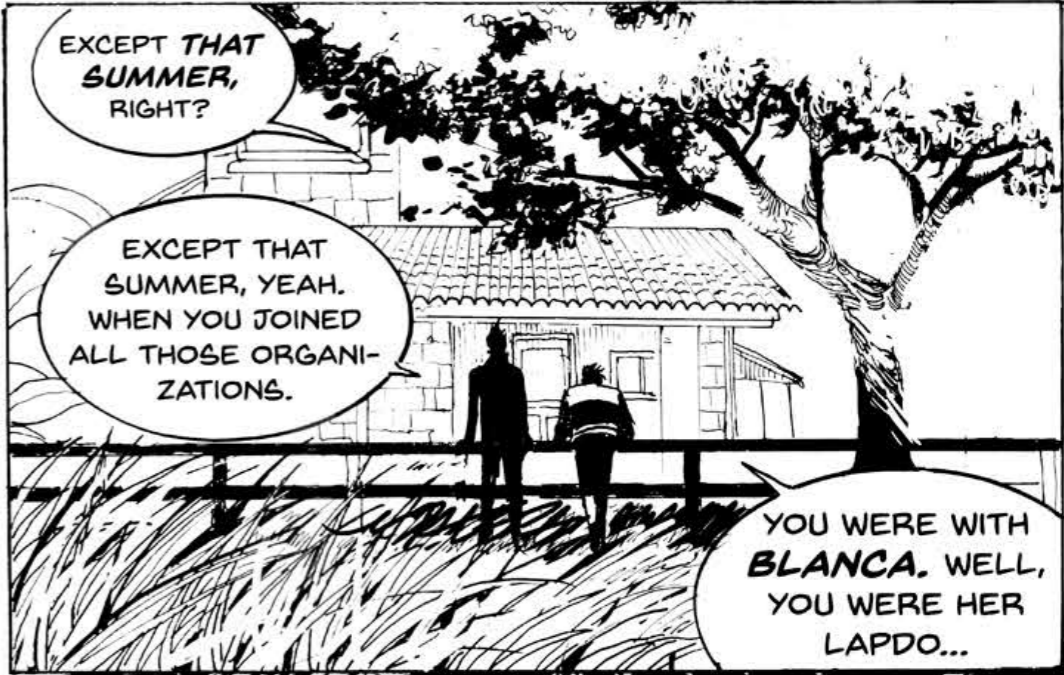
A NORMAL WEEKEND FOR THEM IS TO GO SKIING WITH "STOCK MARKET INVESTORS" OR WHATEVER THE FUCK!



HEH.



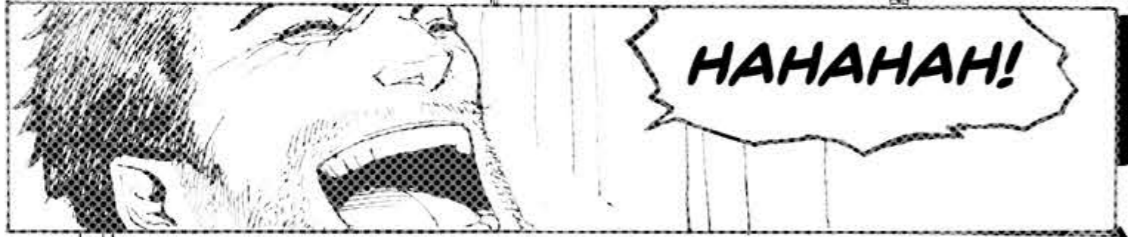
WE HAD A HOUSE AROUND HERE; MY FAMILY AND I USED TO COME HERE IN THE SUMMERS...



EXCEPT THAT SUMMER, RIGHT?

EXCEPT THAT SUMMER, YEAH. WHEN YOU JOINED ALL THOSE ORGANIZATIONS.

YOU WERE WITH BLANCA. WELL, YOU WERE HER LAPDO...



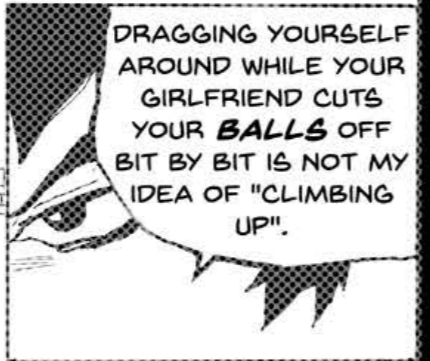
HAHAHAH!



GOOD FOR ADAM, CLIMBING UP THE RANKS.



CLIMBING UP?



DRAGGING YOURSELF AROUND WHILE YOUR GIRLFRIEND CUTS YOUR BALLS OFF BIT BY BIT IS NOT MY IDEA OF "CLIMBING UP".

ADAM, YOU CUNT.  
WHAT'S THE  
MATTER WITH  
YOU?



WHAT'S THE  
MATTER? WHAT'S  
THE MATTER, YOU  
FUCKING BAS-  
TARD!?



UNGH!

WHAT SHOULD  
I TALK ABOUT,  
HOW I **HELPED**  
YOU, FOR EXAM-  
PLE? UNGRATEFUL  
CUNT.



YOU THINK WHAT  
HAPPENED WAS  
MY **FAULT?**

IF YOU DECIDE  
TO BE AN ILLE-  
GAL MAGE AND  
NOT **PROTECT**  
YOURSELF...

...WHAT WERE YOU EXPECT-  
ING? MANY LIKE YOU HAVE  
ENDED UP WITH **SHADOW-**  
**GENE** IN THEIR VEINS,  
OR WORSE!



HAHAHA, ADAM, LOOK  
AT YOU!



IT'S ALMOST  
AS IF YOU HAVE  
BALLS!



SINCE WHEN  
HE'S SO  
STRONG?  
IS IT THE  
**GAUNT-**  
**LET?**



LAUGH IF  
YOU WANT,  
SIGURD.



BUT **THIS TIME**  
YOU WON'T LEAVE  
WITHOUT TALKING!

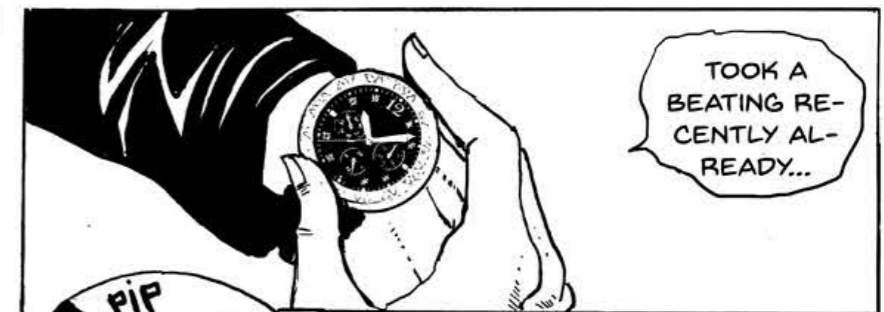


ENOUGH OF  
THIS SHIT,  
SIGURD!



OR WHAT?  
WHAT'RE YOU  
GONNA DO?

TOOK A  
BEATING RE-  
CENTLY AL-  
READY...



PIP

...AND I THINK  
ONE IS MORE  
THAN ENOUGH!



GGG!

AA-GG-GGAA-GH!



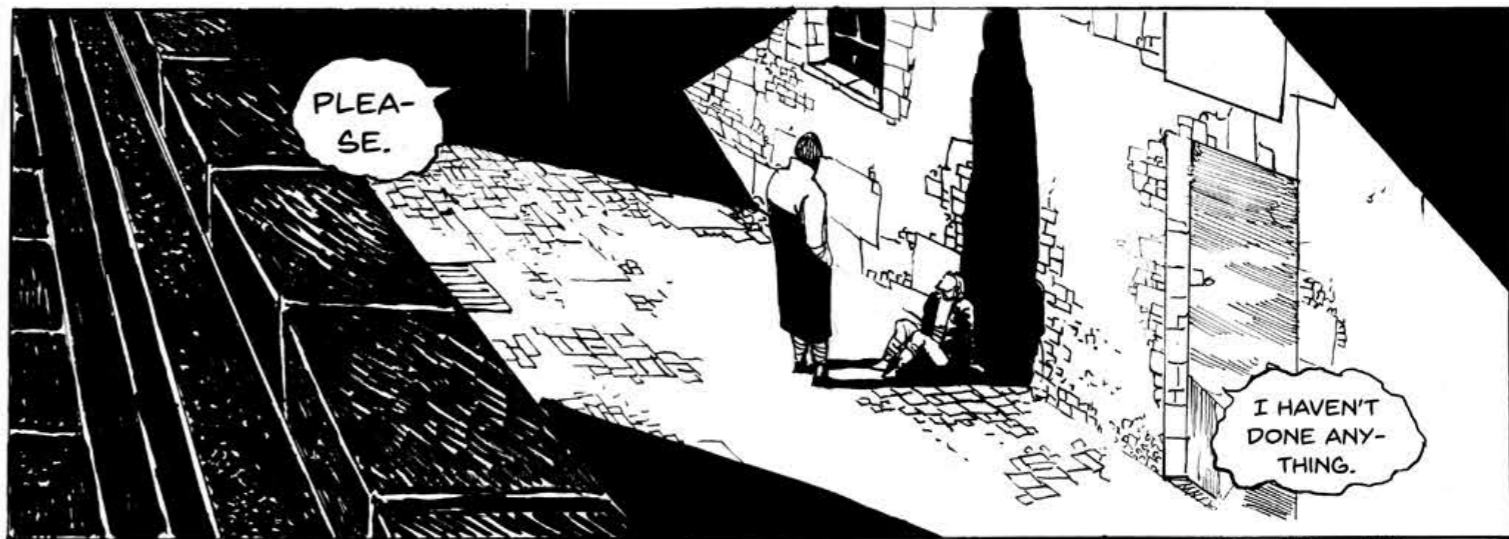
HAHAHA!

OH, GOD, LOOK AT YOU SHAKING!

"YOU DON'T FEEL SO STRONG ANY-MORE, HUH?"

OH, GOD.

DON'T KILL ME.

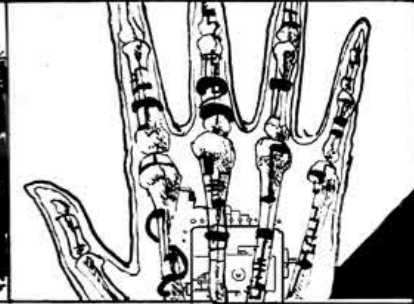


PLEASE.

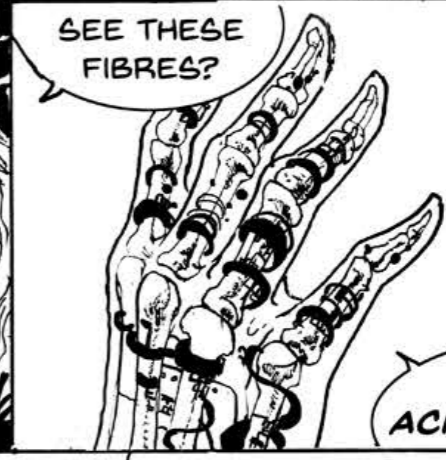
I HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING.



SEE MY HAND? A LITTLE WEIRD, RIGHT?



SEE THESE FIBRES?



I CAN EXPEL ACID THROUGH THEM.



DISSOLVES THE SKIN IN MINUTES. THE BONE TAKES MORE TIME. I HAVE A MORE POTENT ACID, NOT IN MY HANDS, BUT... WELL...

...YOU WOULDN'T HAVE TIME TO ENJOY THE EXPERIENCE WITH THAT ONE.





AAMMMM ...!

CHST.



DON'T SHOUT.



I JUST WANTED TO SCARE YOU, MAKE YOUR HEART BEAT FASTER...

...SO THAT IT PUMPS THE ANAESTHETIC I'M SECRETING...



SEE?

THAT WAY, WHILE YOU SLEEP, YOU CAN BECOME MY **BACKUP COPY...**



WELL...



GGGGGGH!



I SEE YOU'VE COME, SIGURD.

HELLO, MOON.

DON'T WORRY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO DECIDE IF YOU JOIN US JUST YET.

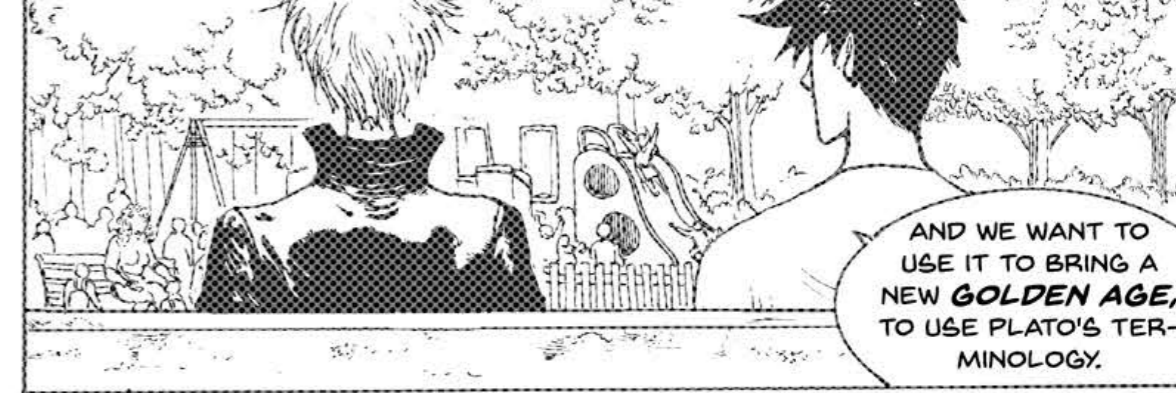


I AM GOING TO TELL YOU, HOWEVER, ABOUT OUR **MISSION...**

AS OF 2010, A NEW ERA WILL START... A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY OF SORTS.

THINGS THAT REMAINED HIDDEN WILL BE **REVEALED...**

IT'S A **MALLEABLE** TIME, SIGURD.



AND WE WANT TO USE IT TO BRING A NEW **GOLDEN AGE**, TO USE PLATO'S TERMINOLOGY.

TO MAKE THE WHOLE WORLD AWARE OF ITS LATENT **MAGICAL** CAPACITY... TO REBUILD ATLANTIS IN THIS WORLD OF DEAD, GREY STEEL.



OTHERS, HOWEVER...

...BELIEVE IN **CONTROL AND SECRECY.**



THAT'S WHY WE NEED **SPIES.**



MMM...



OH, COME TO THINK OF IT.

MY FATHER ASKED IF YOU WANTED TO COME ON *VACATION* WITH US.



NOW? I USUALLY GO TO SEVILLE WITH MY FAMILY IN THE SUMMER...



WE'LL TRAVEL THROUGH EUROPE. MY FATHER IS AN ART PROMOTER... HE'S ALWAYS SURROUNDED BY ARTISTS.

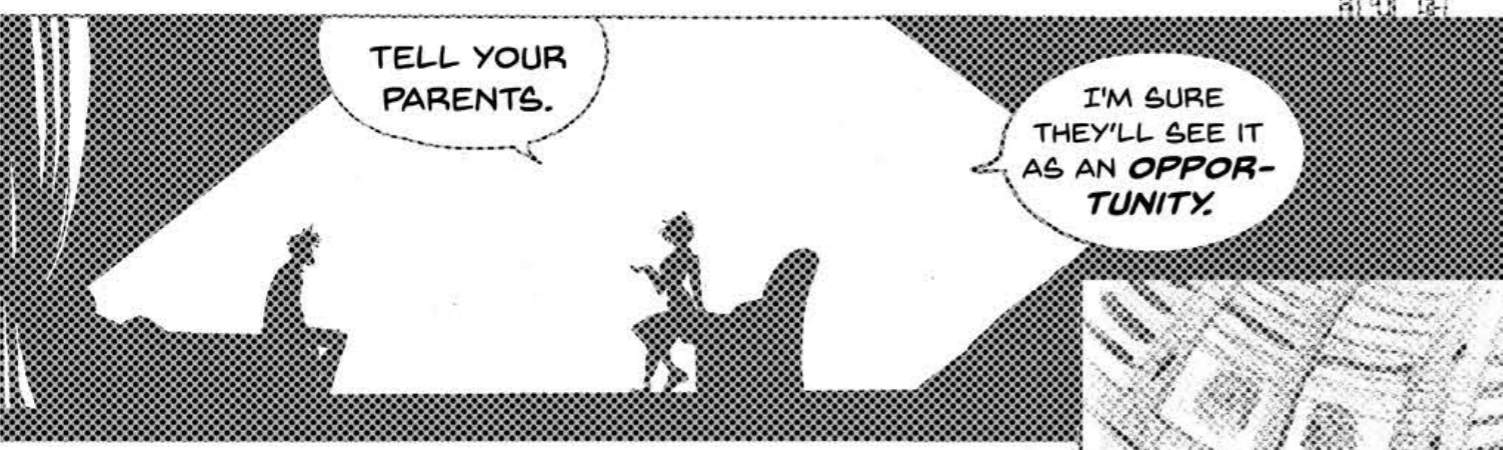
YOU LIKE TO *DRAW*, DON'T YOU?



COMICS.



IT'S NOT THE SAM...



TELL YOUR PARENTS.

I'M SURE THEY'LL SEE IT AS AN *OPPORTUNITY*.



AN ELECTRIC SHOCK? ARE YOU KIDDING ME?

I ONLY AGREED TO COME BECAUSE I THOUGHT YOU WERE GOING TO EXPLAIN SOMETHING ABOUT THIS NONSENSE. ELIYA, THE HEREMITES, THE EBI\*... SOMETHING! WHAT THE FUCK DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT, OTHERWISE!?



THAT FUCKING *HAND* OF YOURS...



IT GETS YOU OUT OF ALL THE TROUBLE, HUH? I *WONDER* HOW YOU GOT IT...

SIGURD!



...

FINE.





I WANT YOU TO JOIN THE EBI.

ARE YOU NUTS?



THEY HAVE ISSUED AN ARREST ORDER. THE MINUTE ONE OF YOU THREE APPEARS ON OUR RADAR, WHICH WILL HAPPEN AS SOON AS YOU APPROACH A MEDIUM-SIZED CITY WITH CELL TOWERS...

...YOU'LL HAVE SUPER-DEUDES OR AGENTS WITH **CYBERSUITS** OR GOD-KNOWS-WHAT COMING FOR YOU.



SO? WE'LL FIGHT AND WE'LL DEFEAT YOU.



YOU STOLE INFORMATION FROM THE HEREMITES, RIGHT? EVEN THE EBI WAS NERVOUS THAT YOU COULD DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...

SEEMS IMPORTANT INFORMATION...



IF YOU BRING IT TO THE EBI WE CAN DECODE IT AND USE IT AGAINST THE HEREMITES...

YOU COULD USE IT AS PAYMENT SO THE EBI WOULDN'T PUNISH YOU! THEY'D MAKE YOU AGENTS RIGHT AWAY!

WHAT DO I CARE ABOUT THE EBI? THOSE MOTHERFUCKERS THREW ME OUT OF BARCELONA!

DAMN IT, ADAM! YOU'RE AN **ILLEGAL MAGE**, OF COURSE THEY WERE GOING TO ATTACK YOU SOONER OR LATER! THE EBI WANTS TO CONTROL ANY SOURCE OF DISTORTION...

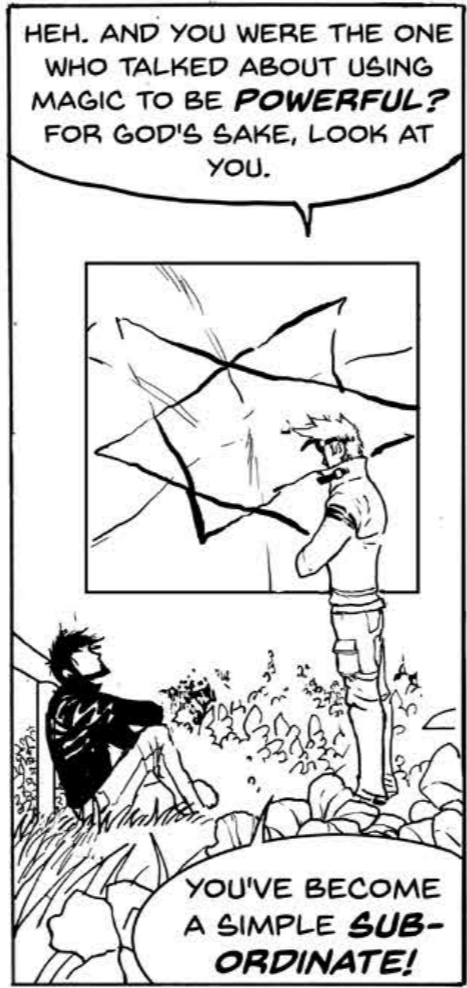
...BUT THAT'S ONE THING AND ANOTHER WHAT THE HEREMITES WANT, THEY'RE ALL ABOUT CREATING A NEW ORDER... YOU CAN'T PRETEND THEY'RE **THE SAME!**



WHEN YOU'RE IN THE PRESENCE OF ONE OF THEM, THEY GIVE YOU GOOSE BUMPS. THERE'S SOMETHING INHUMAN.... I'M CONVINCED THEY FRAMED **YOU** TO TOY WITH **ME!**



JUST TO TEST ME! ANYTHING THEY CAN USE AS PSYCHOLOGICAL **TORTURE**, THEY...!



HEH. AND YOU WERE THE ONE WHO TALKED ABOUT USING MAGIC TO BE **POWERFUL?** FOR GOD'S SAKE, LOOK AT YOU.

YOU'VE BECOME A SIMPLE **SUB-ORDINATE!**

"YOU OBVIOUSLY DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE **SERIOUSLY** ANY OF THIS SHIT!"



SOUTHSUN, YES.



I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND HOW YOU COULD BE MEETING WITH THE CABALISTS **THAT SUMMER** AND NOT TELL ME UNTIL MONTHS LATER...

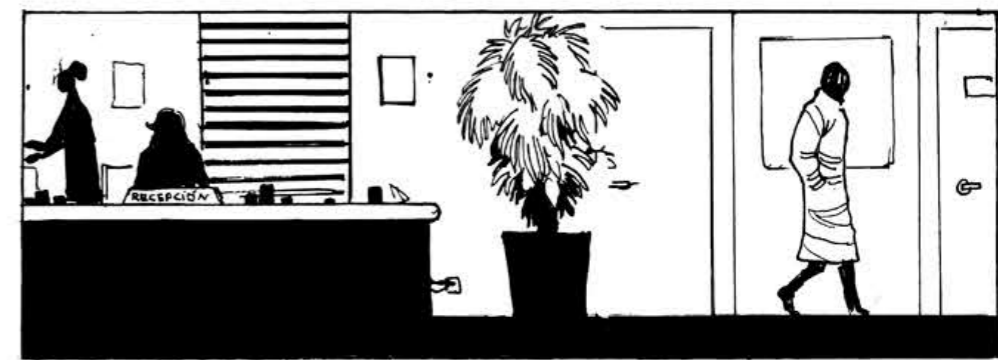
...AND FOR WHAT, TO END UP BEING A **PUPPET** OF THESE ORGANIZATIONS?

PUPPET?! PUPPE... THE BALLS ON YOU! **YOU**, SAYING THAT I'M...? **YOU**, WHO WASTED...? EVERY TIME I TALKED TO YOU ABOUT USING OUR POWER TO PROSPER, YOU SAID IT WAS **UNETHICAL!**



IT WAS YOU WHO HEARD OF THOSE **RUMORS** ABOUT SECRET ORGANIZATIONS KIDNAPPING MAGES, BUT THEN YOU WANTED TO PRETEND THAT THEY WERE A FUCKING **URBAN LEGEND!**

GO UP THE STAIRS AND THEN STRAIGHT AHEAD. HE MUST BE EATING THE AFTERNOON SNACK...

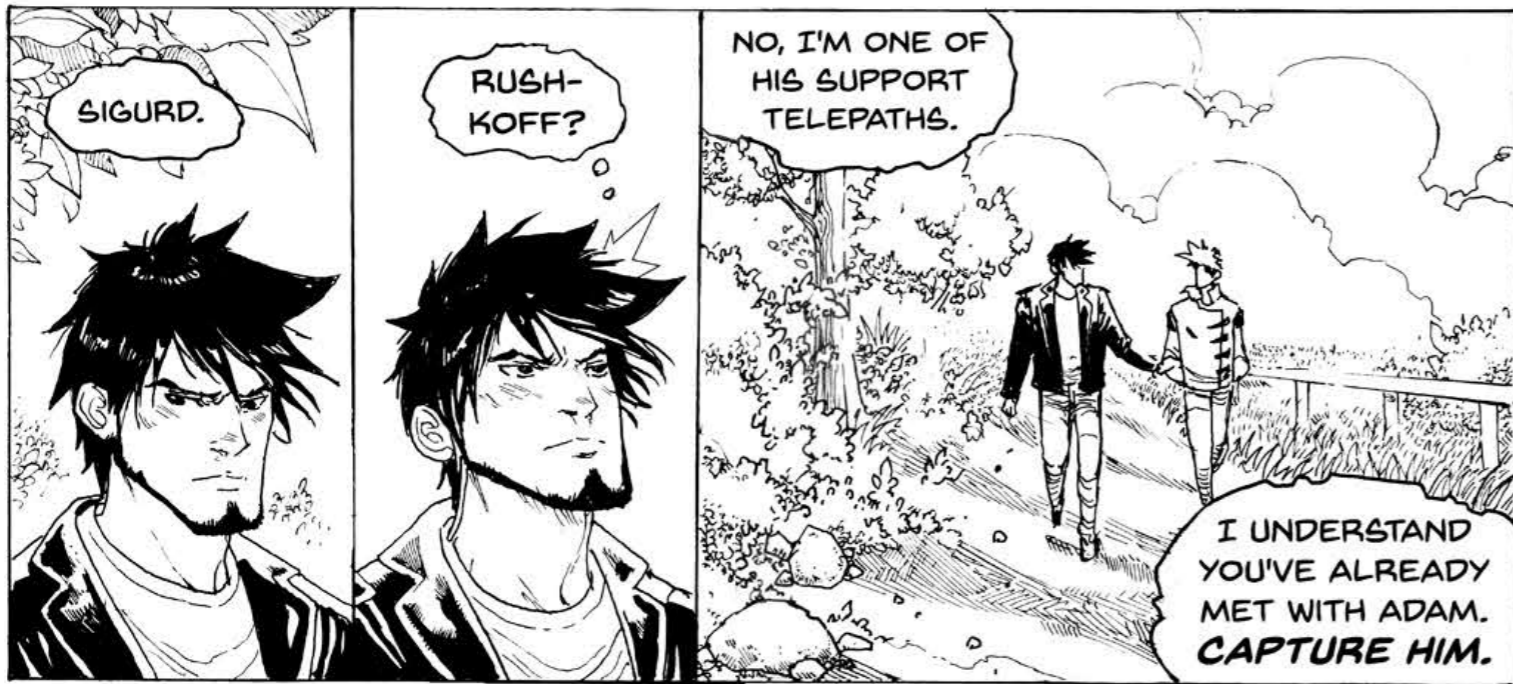


THE SIGNAL FROM THE CELL TOWERS WORKS VERY WELL.

NOT A WORD ABOUT **MY FACE.**



IT'S NICE.



SIGURD.

RUSH-KOFF?

NO, I'M ONE OF HIS SUPPORT TELEPATHS.

I UNDERSTAND YOU'VE ALREADY MET WITH ADAM. CAPTURE HIM.



ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND? HE'D RESIST. LET ME TALK TO HIM, I'LL CONVINCE HIM. AND IF NOT...

DON'T WORRY. WE'VE SENT ANOTHER AGENT.

ANOTH... WHAT? I SAID I'D TAKE CARE OF IT!

ORDERS FROM ABOVE. FROM WHO!



SIGURD, WHAT THE HELL IS GOING...?



SHUT YOUR TRAP.



NO, I WAS SAYING IT TO... DOESN'T MATTER.



WAIT, WHAT? YOU DID WHAT?



IS THAT WHAT WE'VE COME TO?



IT IS A SIMPLE WAY TO ENCOURAGE SURRENDER...



DO YOU HAVE TO MAKE A MESS OF EVERYTHING? THIS IS WORSE! YOU'VE RUINED MY FUCKING WORK!

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE NOW, SIGURD?

WHAT THE FUCK IS GOING ON, GODDAMMIT!

IF ADAM RESISTS CAPTURE, INFORM HIM OF THE SITUATION.

YOU CAN GO SHIT UNDER A TREE!



## ...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!

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