

# UPSURGE



71 : Alucinaciones de bronce y ozono

SIMON M.

ATANA S.

SCRIPT

PENCILS

PANEL LAYOUT

INK

COVER

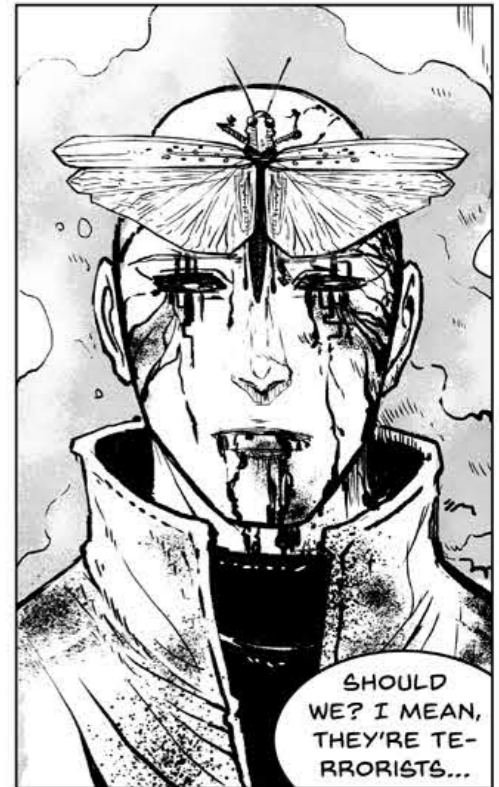
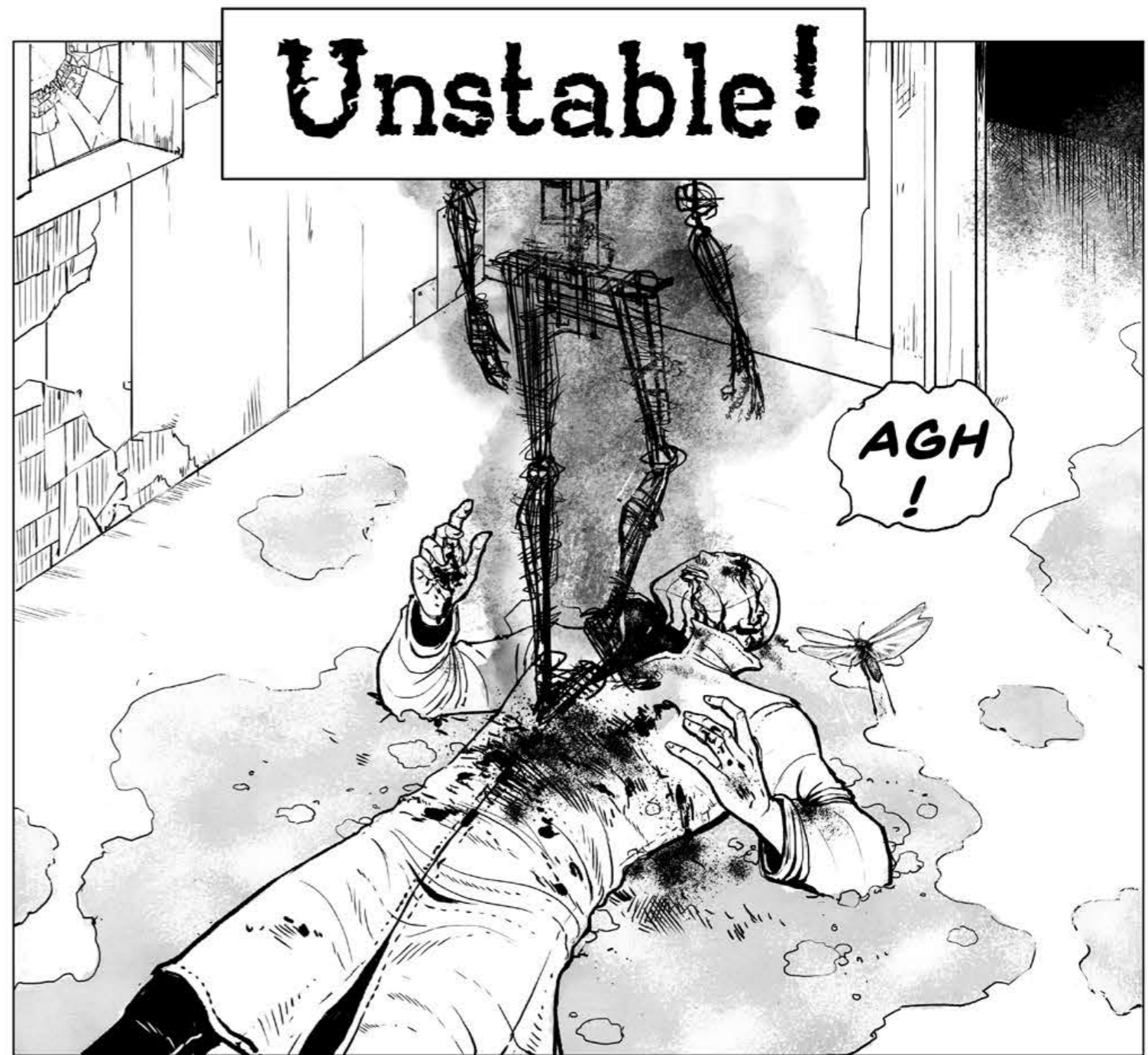
TRANSLATION

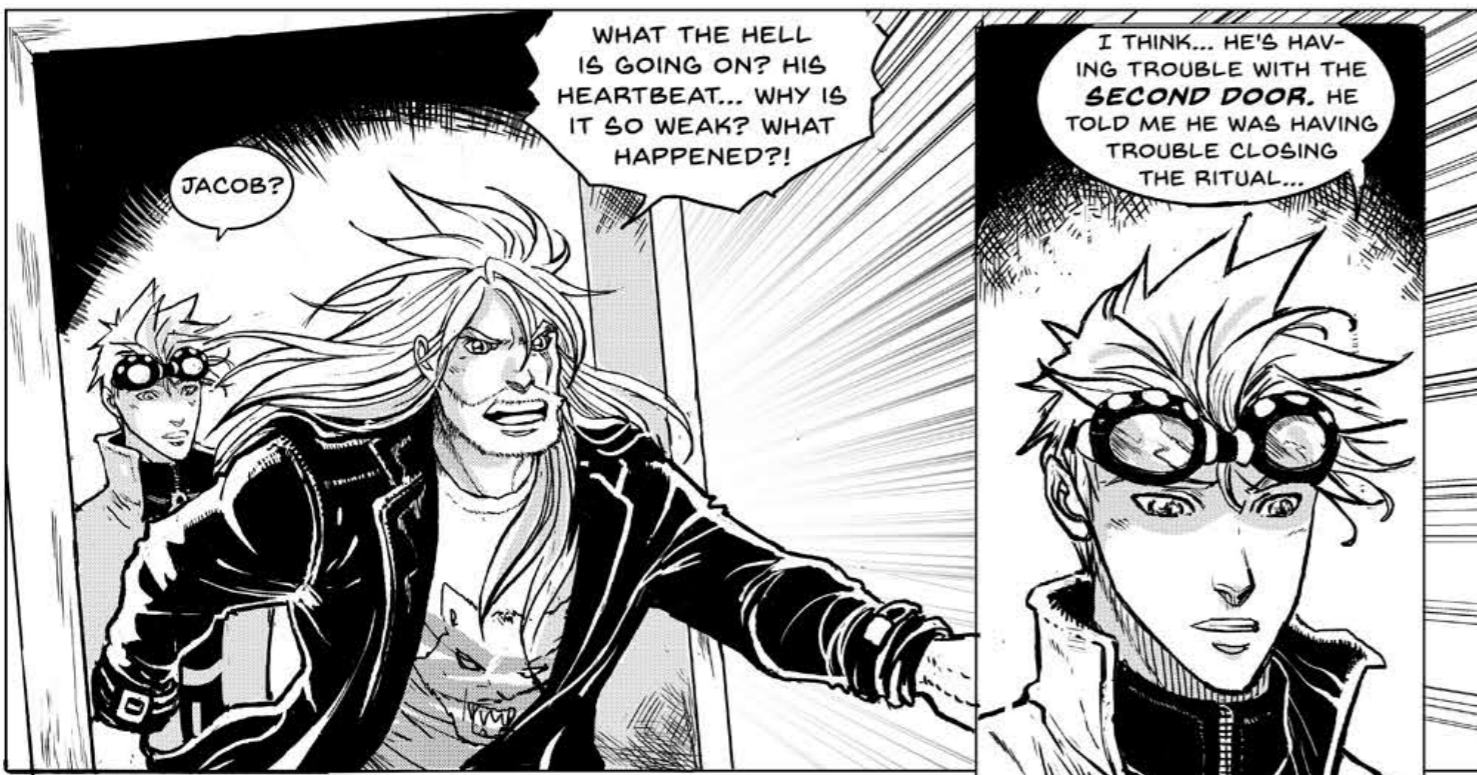
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

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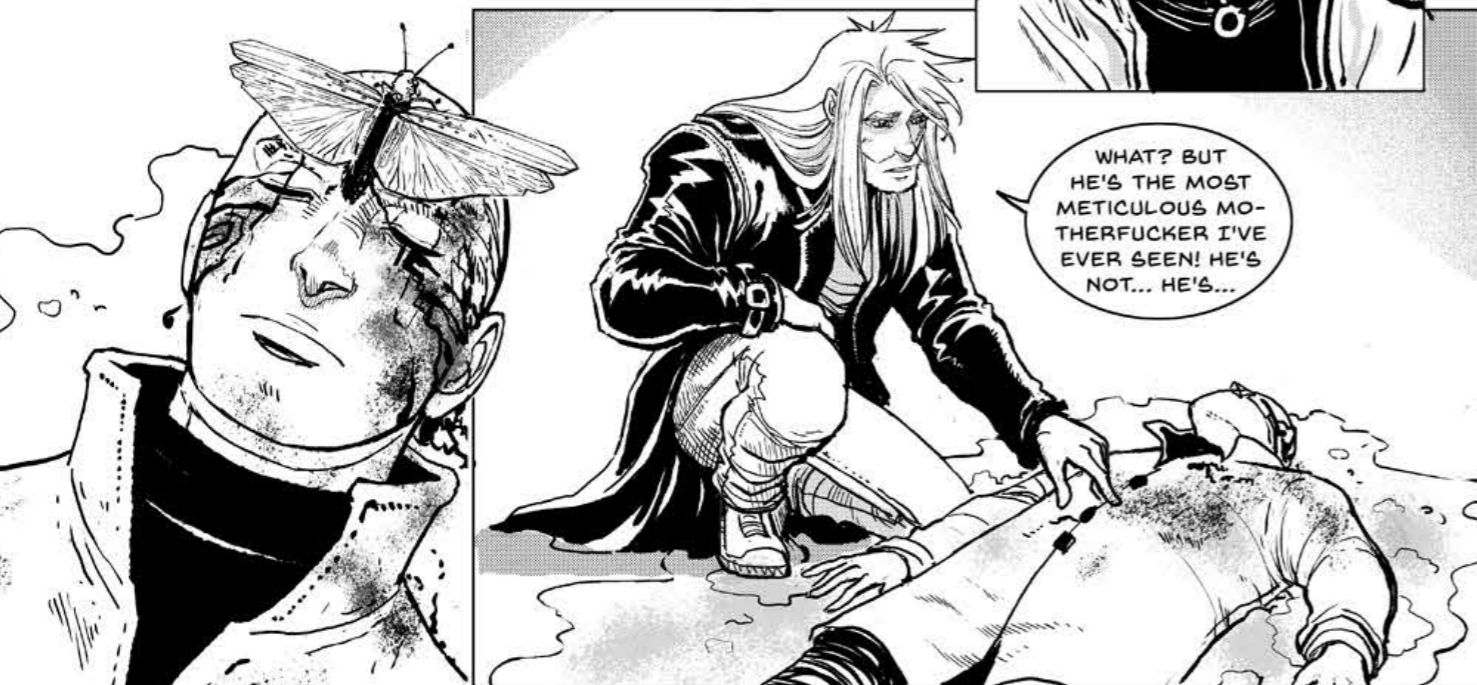


WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON? HIS HEARTBEAT... WHY IS IT SO WEAK? WHAT HAPPENED?!

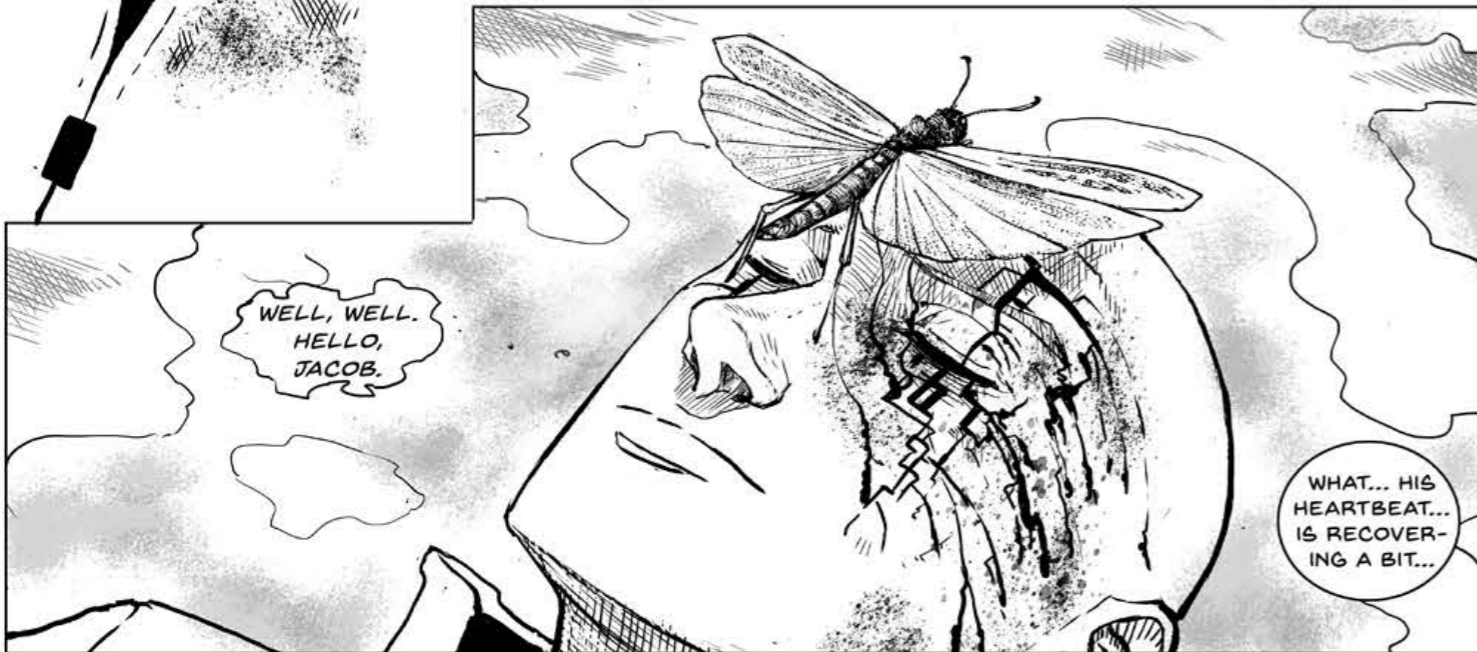
JACOB?



I THINK... HE'S HAVING TROUBLE WITH THE SECOND DOOR. HE TOLD ME HE WAS HAVING TROUBLE CLOSING THE RITUAL...



WHAT? BUT HE'S THE MOST METICULOUS MOTHERFUCKER I'VE EVER SEEN! HE'S NOT... HE'S...



WELL, WELL. HELLO, JACOB.

WHAT... HIS HEARTBEAT... IS RECOVERING A BIT...

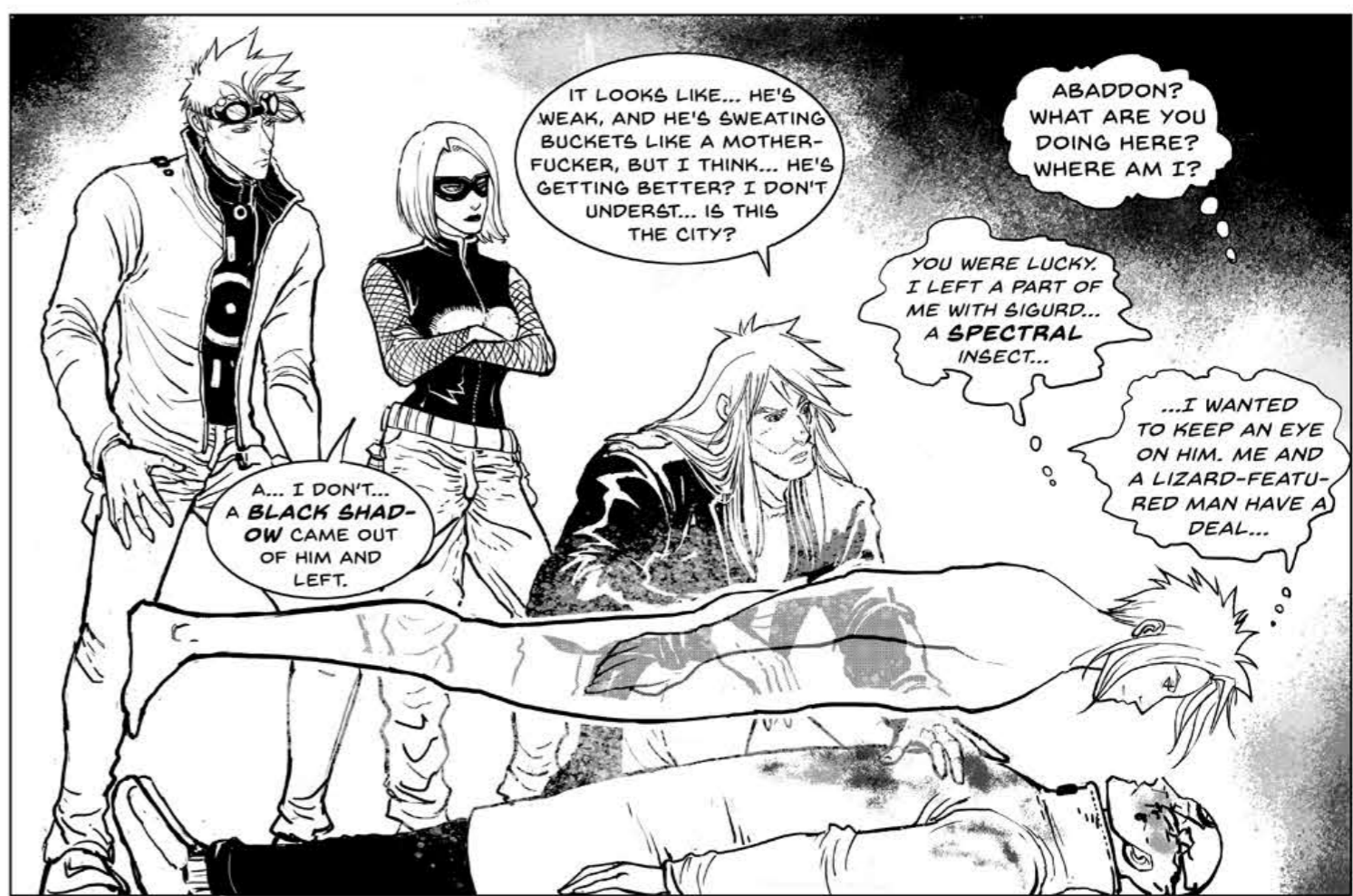


IT'S... STABILIZING.



WHAT'S GOING ON... MY BRAIN IS... BURNING!

EVERYTHING... BURNS! THIS FIRE... ABADDON?



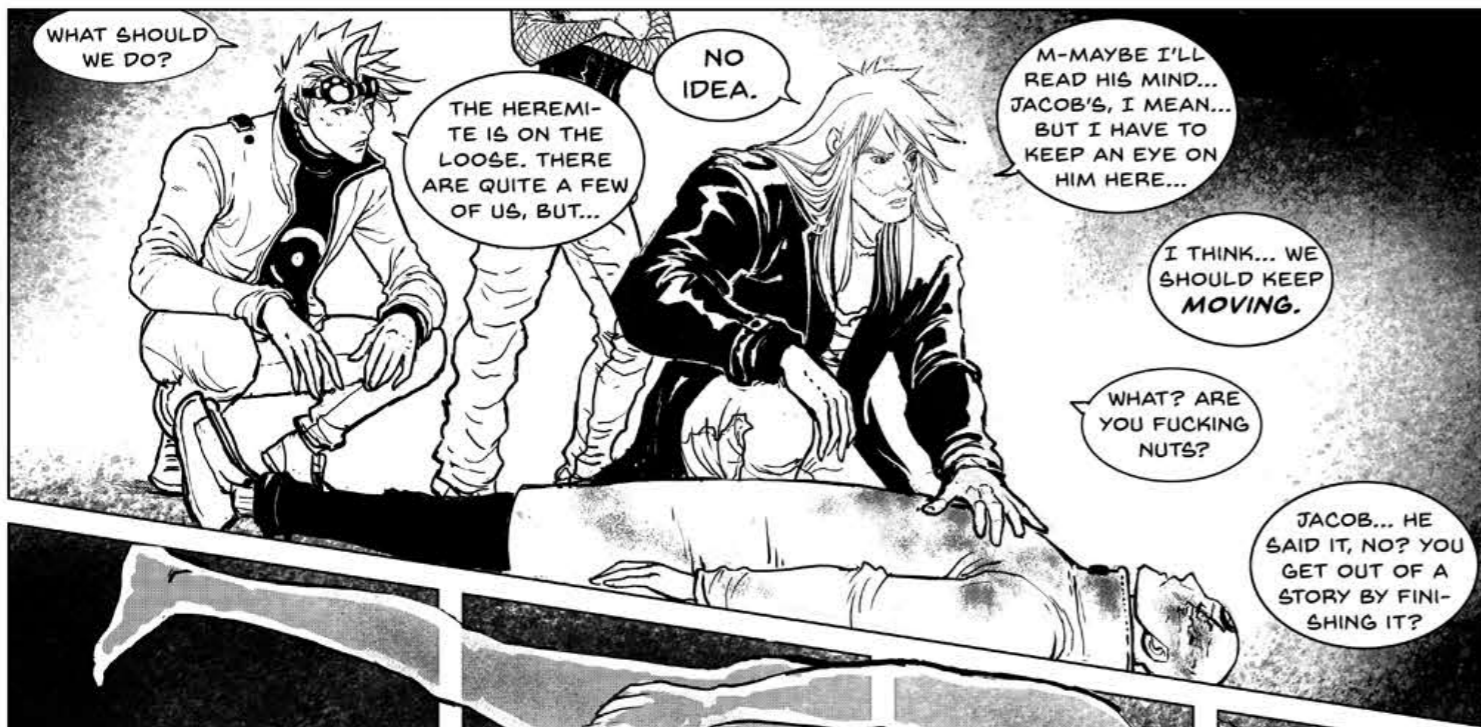
IT LOOKS LIKE... HE'S WEAK, AND HE'S SWEATING BUCKETS LIKE A MOTHERFUCKER, BUT I THINK... HE'S GETTING BETTER? I DON'T UNDERST... IS THIS THE CITY?

ABADDON? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHERE AM I?

YOU WERE LUCKY. I LEFT A PART OF ME WITH SIGURD... A SPECTRAL INSECT...

...I WANTED TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM. ME AND A LIZARD-FEATURED MAN HAVE A DEAL...

A... I DON'T... A BLACK SHADOW CAME OUT OF HIM AND LEFT.



WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

THE HEREMITE IS ON THE LOOSE. THERE ARE QUITE A FEW OF US, BUT...

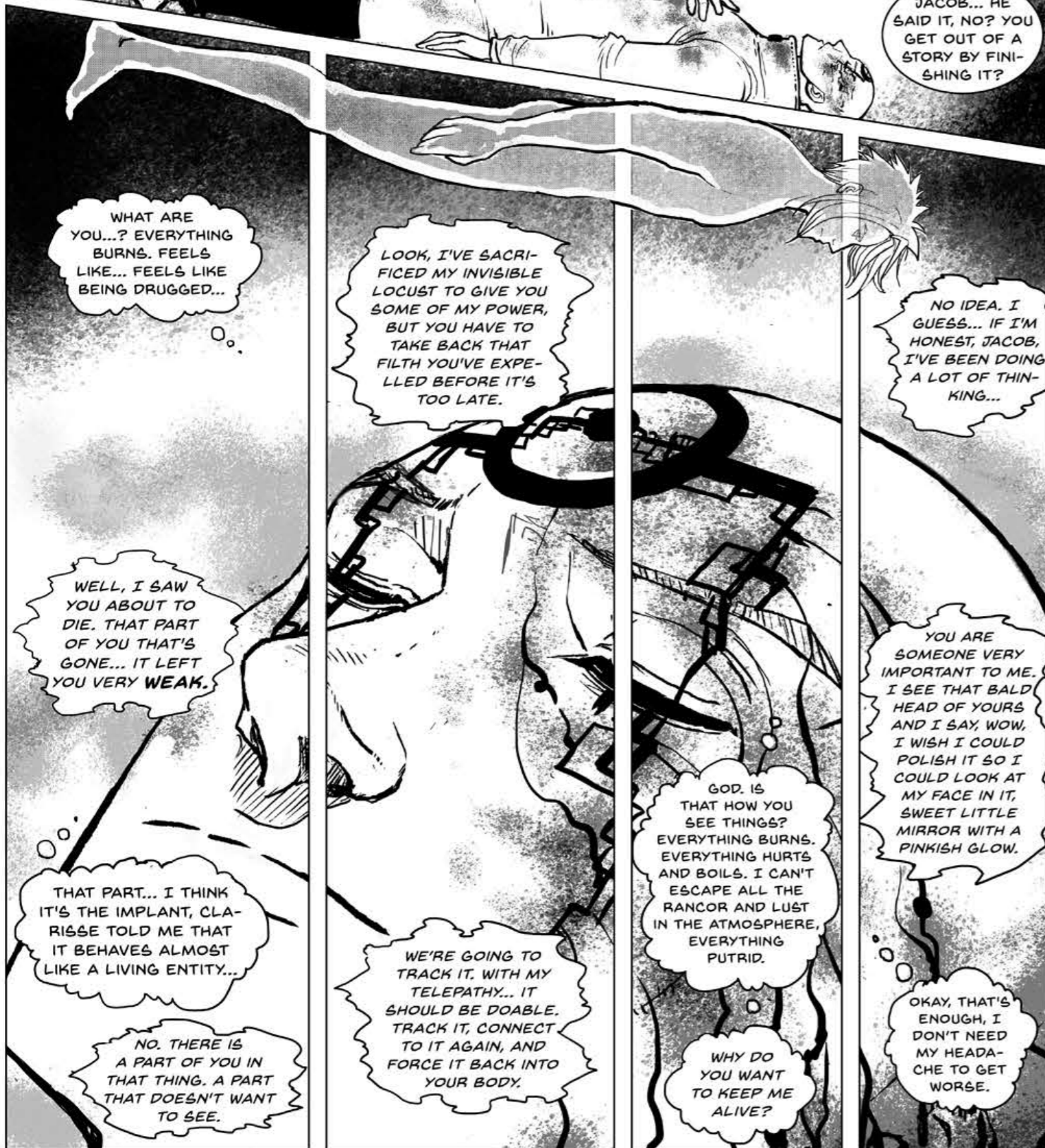
NO IDEA.

M-MAYBE I'LL READ HIS MIND... JACOB'S, I MEAN... BUT I HAVE TO KEEP AN EYE ON HIM HERE...

I THINK... WE SHOULD KEEP MOVING.

WHAT? ARE YOU FUCKING NUTS?

JACOB... HE SAID IT, NO? YOU GET OUT OF A STORY BY FINISHING IT?



WHAT ARE YOU...? EVERYTHING BURNS. FEELS LIKE... FEELS LIKE BEING DRUGGED...

LOOK, I'VE SACRIFICED MY INVISIBLE LOCUST TO GIVE YOU SOME OF MY POWER, BUT YOU HAVE TO TAKE BACK THAT FILTH YOU'VE EXPELLED BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE.

NO IDEA. I GUESS... IF I'M HONEST, JACOB, I'VE BEEN DOING A LOT OF THINKING...

WELL, I SAW YOU ABOUT TO DIE. THAT PART OF YOU THAT'S GONE... IT LEFT YOU VERY WEAK.

THAT PART... I THINK IT'S THE IMPLANT, CLARRISSE TOLD ME THAT IT BEHAVES ALMOST LIKE A LIVING ENTITY...

NO. THERE IS A PART OF YOU IN THAT THING. A PART THAT DOESN'T WANT TO SEE.

WE'RE GOING TO TRACK IT. WITH MY TELEPATHY... IT SHOULD BE DOABLE. TRACK IT, CONNECT TO IT AGAIN, AND FORCE IT BACK INTO YOUR BODY.

GOD. IS THAT HOW YOU SEE THINGS? EVERYTHING BURNS. EVERYTHING HURTS AND BOILS. I CAN'T ESCAPE ALL THE RANCOR AND LUST IN THE ATMOSPHERE, EVERYTHING PUTRID.

WHY DO YOU WANT TO KEEP ME ALIVE?

YOU ARE SOMEONE VERY IMPORTANT TO ME. I SEE THAT BALD HEAD OF YOURS AND I SAY, WOW, I WISH I COULD POLISH IT SO I COULD LOOK AT MY FACE IN IT, SWEET LITTLE MIRROR WITH A PINKISH GLOW.

OKAY, THAT'S ENOUGH, I DON'T NEED MY HEADACHE TO GET WORSE.



SO WHAT NOW? YOU'VE GIVEN ME ENERGY, BUT... HOW TO TRACE...?

IT'S THE "FIRE" BEHIND THOSE BURNS AND BOILS. THAT'S MY... FREQUENCY, SO TO SPEAK. GET INTO THE HEAT SO YOU CAN MOVE TELEPATHICALLY. ALL YOU NEED TO DO IS FIND THAT EXCREMENT THAT YOU PUSHED OUT, IT'S JUST A MATTER OF GETTING INTO ITS PSEUDO-MIND FOR YOU TO REGAIN CONTROL.



IT'S PART OF YOU, SHOULD BE EASY, OR SO I HOPE, BECAUSE THIS ENERGY I LENT YOU WILL VANISH SOON...

I THINK I UNDERSTAND. THESE HALLUCINATIONS...

WHAT? IT'S ME? WHAT WAS I SAYING?

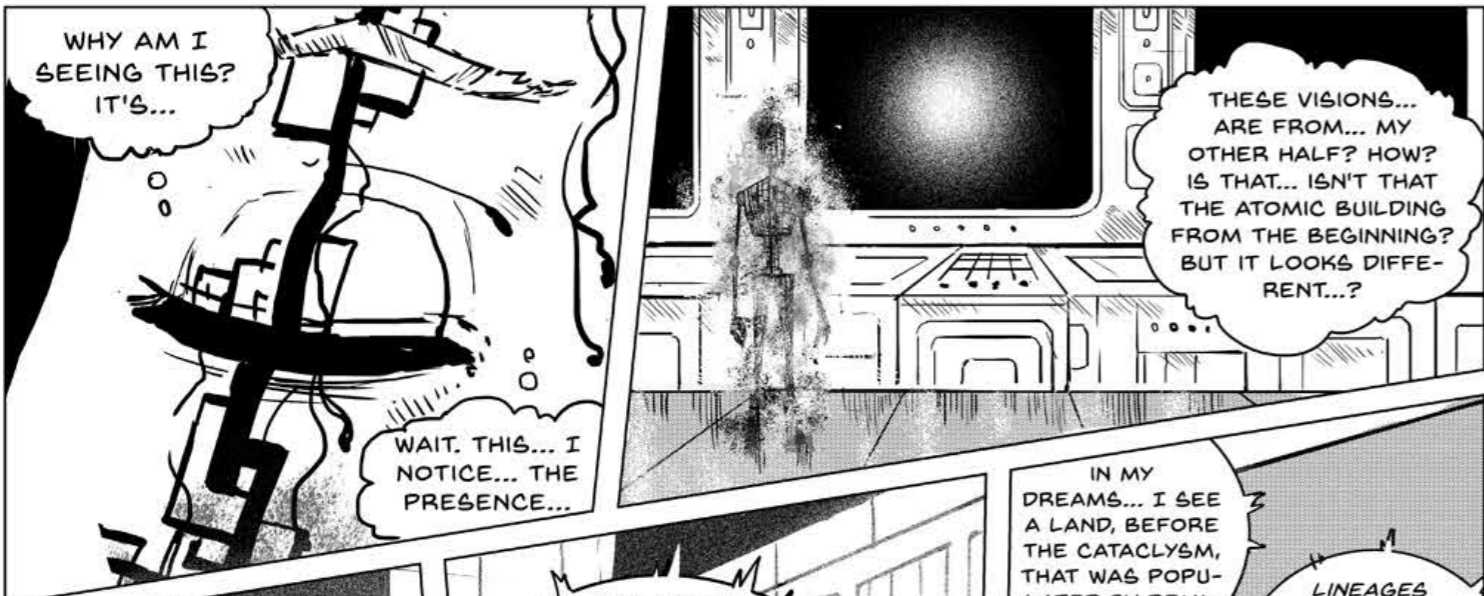
...ARE NOT SUCH. THEY ARE REALITY. WE ARE THE HALLUCINATION.

WE FAILED. WE FAILED. I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I HAVE THIS IDIOTIC NAME, ELECTRICBRAIN. THE HERO WITH SUPERINTELLIGENCE. I THINK I'M... I THINK I'M SOMETHING... CONDITIONED BY OTHERS... NO. NO, RIGHT? IT CAN'T BE. I CAN'T BE.

THE HUMAN CIVILIZATION DYING IN A SOLAR HOLOCAUST... A FLARE...

REMEMBER WHEN ENTROPY DRUGGED US? I'VE BEEN HAVING THOSE... DREAMS EVER SINCE.

...THAT LEFT US ALL AS SHADOWS OF OURSELVES. OR WAS IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND?



WHY AM I SEEING THIS? IT'S...

THESE VISIONS... ARE FROM... MY OTHER HALF? HOW? IS THAT... ISN'T THAT THE ATOMIC BUILDING FROM THE BEGINNING? BUT IT LOOKS DIFFERENT...?

WAIT. THIS... I NOTICE... THE PRESENCE...



I THINK MY STUDIES ON THE SUN WERE RIGHT, BUT THEY ARE FROM THE PRE-CATAclySM WORLD. THEY ARE... MEMORIES. THE CATAclySM HAPPENED, AND THIS IS THE WORLD AFTER IT.

MY HYPOTHESIS... IT'S NOT THAT THE SUN DICTATES OUR DESTINY...

...IT IS RATHER THAT THE SUN RADIATES US WITH EVOLUTIONARY PATTERNS THAT CAN BE ENCODED AS HEROIC NARRATIVES TO TEST WHETHER HUMANITY CAN MOVE ON TO THE NEXT GENETIC BREAKTHROUGH.

IT'S A WAY OF PROMOTING RISK AND STRENGTH TEMPERED BY MORAL PRINCIPLES. THE HERO IS ONE OF THOSE PATTERNS; THE INDIVIDUAL WHO USES FORCE TO IMPROVE THE WORLD...

AND IF HE WINS, AND REPRODUCES, A DYNASTY OF "HEROES" IS GENERATED, OF PEOPLE WITH GENETIC GIFTS. A LEGACY WHERE HEROISM IS ENGRAVED IN THEIR GENES.



IN MY DREAMS... I SEE A LAND, BEFORE THE CATAclySM, THAT WAS POPULATED BY DEMI-GODS.

LINEAGES OF HEROES BRINGING THE GIFT OF THEIR TALENTS TO THE PLANET. EVERYTHING SEEMED TO BE GOING WELL...

UNTIL THAT BEING APPEARED... HE CALLED HIMSELF "BEING-FROM-THE-SUN-BEFORE", AND HE SAID THAT WE HAD MADE A TERRIBLE MISTAKE, THAT A CATAclySM WAS COMING.

HHH!



SOMETHING'S HAPPENING, HE'S REACTING...



BRING HIM WITH US WHILE WE UNTANGLE ALL THIS.

LOOK WHAT HAPPENED TO THE DOCTOR. WE LOST HIM ALONG THE WAY. THIS PLACE ISN'T SAFE...

WE? IF YOU DIDN'T RUN TO THE...

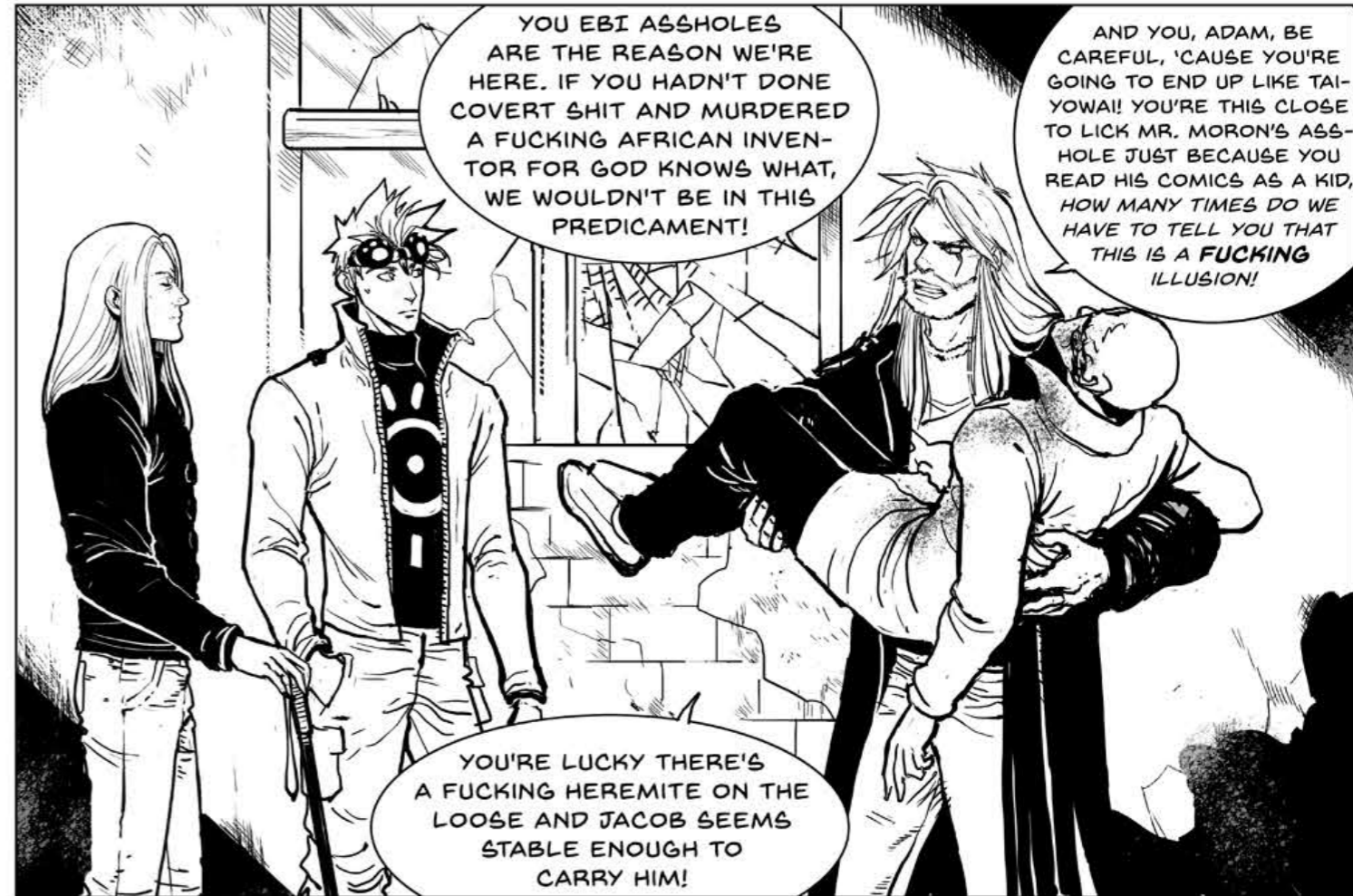


THIS IS NOT A SAFE PLACE. THINK ABOUT IT. MR. MAGICK IS THE ONLY SUPERHERO WE'VE SEEN. WHAT ABOUT THE REST? MAYBE THERE'S A VILLAIN...

THERE ARE THE HERMITES, ALSO. WE HAVE TO MOVE.



NOBODY ASKED FOR YOUR OPINION, MR. MAGOO! THE BALLS ON YOU, THINKING YOU CAN GIVE ME FUCKING ORDERS!



YOU EBI ASSHOLES ARE THE REASON WE'RE HERE. IF YOU HADN'T DONE COVERT SHIT AND MURDERED A FUCKING AFRICAN INVENTOR FOR GOD KNOWS WHAT, WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS PREDICAMENT!

AND YOU, ADAM, BE CAREFUL, 'CAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO END UP LIKE TAI-YOWAI! YOU'RE THIS CLOSE TO LICK MR. MORON'S ASSHOLE JUST BECAUSE YOU READ HIS COMICS AS A KID, HOW MANY TIMES DO WE HAVE TO TELL YOU THAT THIS IS A FUCKING ILLUSION!

YOU'RE LUCKY THERE'S A FUCKING HEREMITE ON THE LOOSE AND JACOB SEEMS STABLE ENOUGH TO CARRY HIM!



LOTS OF PROTESTING BUT YOU ARE ALREADY STANDING UP, AS YOU HAVE BEEN ASKED TO DO. SAVE US THE EMBARRASSMENT.

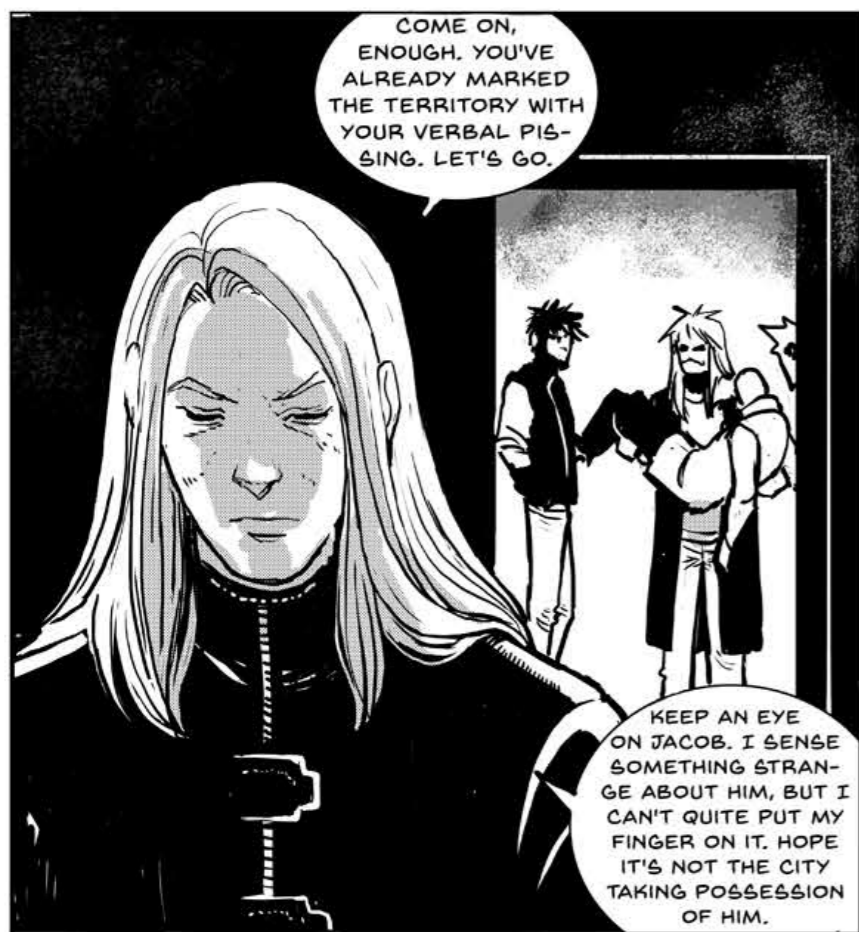


FORGIVE ME, I KNOW YOU ARE OF A SENSITIVE DISPOSITION. THE LAST THING I WANT IS TO MAKE YOU SUFFER SO MUCH THAT YOU END UP ON YOUR KNEES, BEGGING TO DIE.



THAT WAS...! YOU FUCKING ASSHOLE! ARE YOU AWARE OF WHERE YOU ARE? WHAT WE CAN DO TO YOU...?

NOPE. WANT ME TO ASK YOUR PARTNER ALEX? HE'S BENEFITED A LOT FROM EVERYTHING YOU "CAN DO".



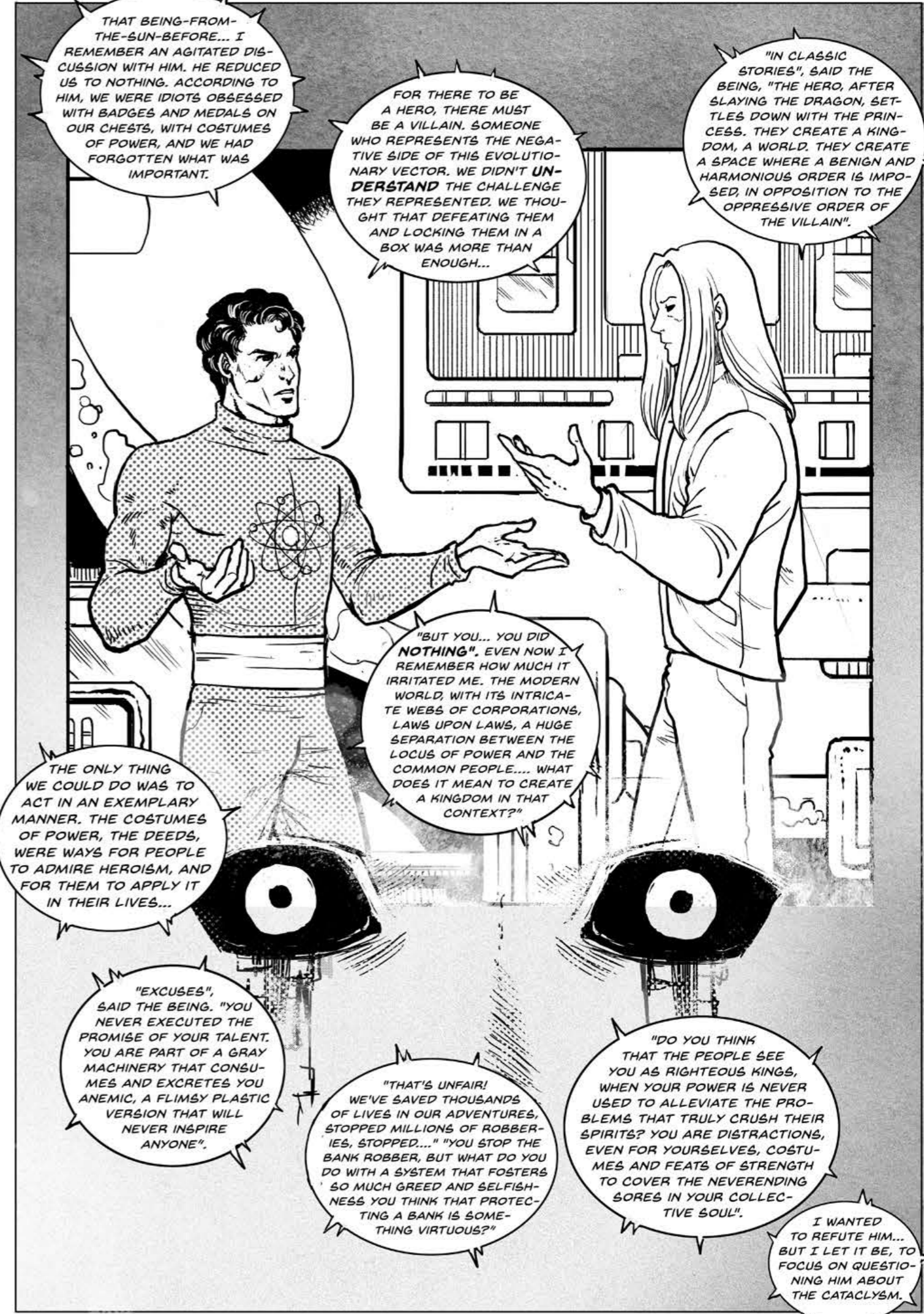
COME ON, ENOUGH. YOU'VE ALREADY MARKED THE TERRITORY WITH YOUR VERBAL PIS-SING. LET'S GO.

KEEP AN EYE ON JACOB. I SENSE SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT HIM, BUT I CAN'T QUITE PUT MY FINGER ON IT. HOPE IT'S NOT THE CITY TAKING POSSESSION OF HIM.



DID YOU HEAR THAT? WALK ON, SUCKER.

UMFF...



THAT BEING-FROM-THE-SUN-BEFORE... I REMEMBER AN AGITATED DISCUSSION WITH HIM. HE REDUCED US TO NOTHING. ACCORDING TO HIM, WE WERE IDIOTS OBSESSED WITH BADGES AND MEDALS ON OUR CHESTS, WITH COSTUMES OF POWER, AND WE HAD FORGOTTEN WHAT WAS IMPORTANT.

FOR THERE TO BE A HERO, THERE MUST BE A VILLAIN. SOMEONE WHO REPRESENTS THE NEGATIVE SIDE OF THIS EVOLUTIONARY VECTOR. WE DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE CHALLENGE THEY REPRESENTED. WE THOUGHT THAT DEFEATING THEM AND LOCKING THEM IN A BOX WAS MORE THAN ENOUGH...

"IN CLASSIC STORIES", SAID THE BEING, "THE HERO, AFTER SLAYING THE DRAGON, SETTLES DOWN WITH THE PRINCESS. THEY CREATE A KINGDOM, A WORLD. THEY CREATE A SPACE WHERE A BENIGN AND HARMONIOUS ORDER IS IMPOSED, IN OPPOSITION TO THE OPPRESSIVE ORDER OF THE VILLAIN".

"BUT YOU... YOU DID NOTHING". EVEN NOW I REMEMBER HOW MUCH IT IRRITATED ME. THE MODERN WORLD, WITH ITS INTRICATE WEBS OF CORPORATIONS, LAWS UPON LAWS, A HUGE SEPARATION BETWEEN THE LOCUS OF POWER AND THE COMMON PEOPLE.... WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO CREATE A KINGDOM IN THAT CONTEXT?"

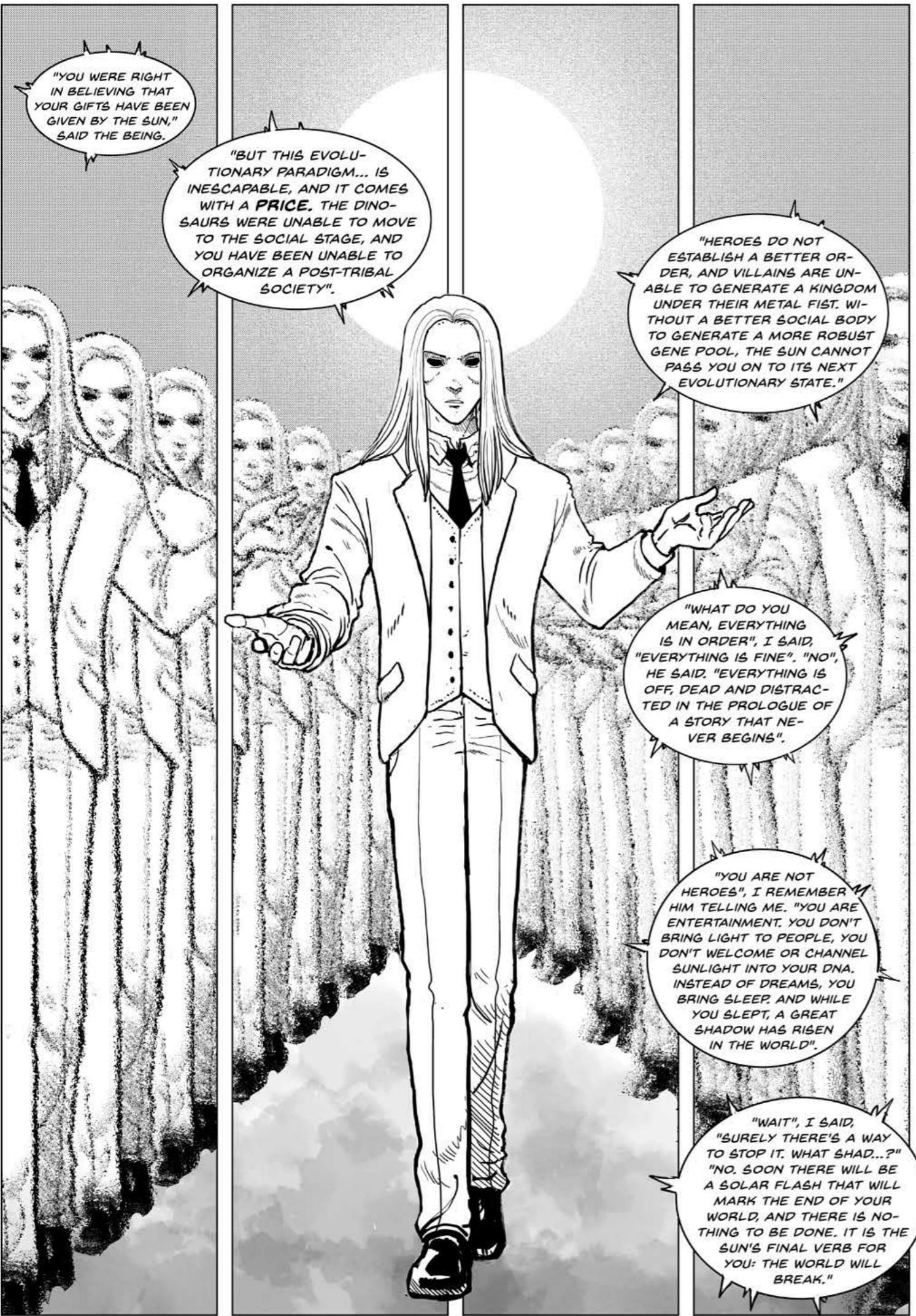
THE ONLY THING WE COULD DO WAS TO ACT IN AN EXEMPLARY MANNER. THE COSTUMES OF POWER, THE DEEDS, WERE WAYS FOR PEOPLE TO ADMIRE HEROISM, AND FOR THEM TO APPLY IT IN THEIR LIVES...

"EXCUSES", SAID THE BEING. "YOU NEVER EXECUTED THE PROMISE OF YOUR TALENT. YOU ARE PART OF A GRAY MACHINERY THAT CONSUMES AND EXCRETES YOU ANEMIC, A FLIMSY PLASTIC VERSION THAT WILL NEVER INSPIRE ANYONE".

"THAT'S UNFAIR! WE'VE SAVED THOUSANDS OF LIVES IN OUR ADVENTURES, STOPPED MILLIONS OF ROBBERIES, STOPPED..." "YOU STOP THE BANK ROBBER, BUT WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A SYSTEM THAT FOSTERS SO MUCH GREED AND SELFISHNESS YOU THINK THAT PROTECTING A BANK IS SOMETHING VIRTUOUS?"

"DO YOU THINK THAT THE PEOPLE SEE YOU AS RIGHTEOUS KINGS, WHEN YOUR POWER IS NEVER USED TO ALLEVIATE THE PROBLEMS THAT TRULY CRUSH THEIR SPIRITS? YOU ARE DISTRACTIONS, EVEN FOR YOURSELVES, COSTUMES AND FEATS OF STRENGTH TO COVER THE NEVERENDING SORES IN YOUR COLLECTIVE SOUL".

I WANTED TO REFUTE HIM... BUT I LET IT BE, TO FOCUS ON QUESTIONING HIM ABOUT THE CATACLYSM.



"YOU WERE RIGHT IN BELIEVING THAT YOUR GIFTS HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY THE SUN," SAID THE BEING.

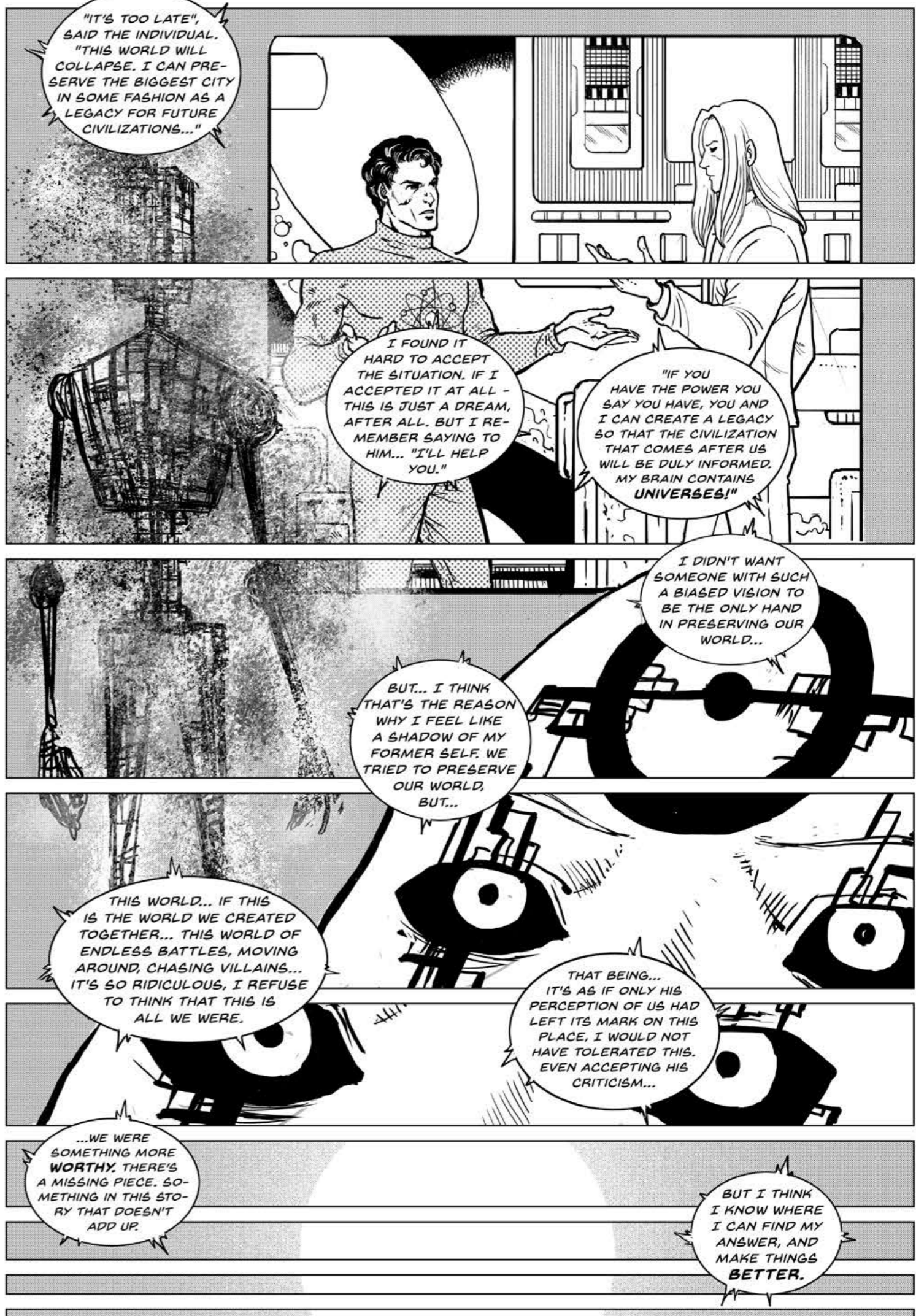
"BUT THIS EVOLUTIONARY PARADIGM... IS INESCAPABLE, AND IT COMES WITH A PRICE. THE DINOSAURS WERE UNABLE TO MOVE TO THE SOCIAL STAGE, AND YOU HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO ORGANIZE A POST-TRIBAL SOCIETY".

"HEROES DO NOT ESTABLISH A BETTER ORDER, AND VILLAINS ARE UNABLE TO GENERATE A KINGDOM UNDER THEIR METAL FIST. WITHOUT A BETTER SOCIAL BODY TO GENERATE A MORE ROBUST GENE POOL, THE SUN CANNOT PASS YOU ON TO ITS NEXT EVOLUTIONARY STATE."

"WHAT DO YOU MEAN, EVERYTHING IS IN ORDER", I SAID, "EVERYTHING IS FINE". "NO", HE SAID. "EVERYTHING IS OFF, DEAD AND DISTRACTED IN THE PROLOGUE OF A STORY THAT NEVER BEGINS".

"YOU ARE NOT HEROES", I REMEMBER HIM TELLING ME. "YOU ARE ENTERTAINMENT. YOU DON'T BRING LIGHT TO PEOPLE, YOU DON'T WELCOME OR CHANNEL SUNLIGHT INTO YOUR DNA. INSTEAD OF DREAMS, YOU BRING SLEEP, AND WHILE YOU SLEPT, A GREAT SHADOW HAS RISEN IN THE WORLD".

"WAIT", I SAID, "SURELY THERE'S A WAY TO STOP IT. WHAT SHAD...?" "NO. SOON THERE WILL BE A SOLAR FLASH THAT WILL MARK THE END OF YOUR WORLD, AND THERE IS NOTHING TO BE DONE. IT IS THE SUN'S FINAL VERB FOR YOU: THE WORLD WILL BREAK."



"IT'S TOO LATE", SAID THE INDIVIDUAL. "THIS WORLD WILL COLLAPSE. I CAN PRESERVE THE BIGGEST CITY IN SOME FASHION AS A LEGACY FOR FUTURE CIVILIZATIONS..."

I FOUND IT HARD TO ACCEPT THE SITUATION. IF I ACCEPTED IT AT ALL - THIS IS JUST A DREAM, AFTER ALL. BUT I REMEMBER SAYING TO HIM... "I'LL HELP YOU."

"IF YOU HAVE THE POWER YOU SAY YOU HAVE, YOU AND I CAN CREATE A LEGACY SO THAT THE CIVILIZATION THAT COMES AFTER US WILL BE DULY INFORMED. MY BRAIN CONTAINS UNIVERSES!"

I DIDN'T WANT SOMEONE WITH SUCH A BIASED VISION TO BE THE ONLY HAND IN PRESERVING OUR WORLD...

BUT... I THINK THAT'S THE REASON WHY I FEEL LIKE A SHADOW OF MY FORMER SELF. WE TRIED TO PRESERVE OUR WORLD, BUT...

THIS WORLD... IF THIS IS THE WORLD WE CREATED TOGETHER... THIS WORLD OF ENDLESS BATTLES, MOVING AROUND, CHASING VILLAINS... IT'S SO RIDICULOUS, I REFUSE TO THINK THAT THIS IS ALL WE WERE.

THAT BEING... IT'S AS IF ONLY HIS PERCEPTION OF US HAD LEFT ITS MARK ON THIS PLACE, I WOULD NOT HAVE TOLERATED THIS. EVEN ACCEPTING HIS CRITICISM...

...WE WERE SOMETHING MORE WORTHY. THERE'S A MISSING PIECE. SOMETHING IN THIS STORY THAT DOESN'T ADD UP.

BUT I THINK I KNOW WHERE I CAN FIND MY ANSWER, AND MAKE THINGS BETTER.



DON'T WORRY, ESSEX. I'M CONVINCED WE'LL FIND THAT THING JACOB EXPELLED AT THE END OF ALL THIS.

WHAT? WHY?

I DON'T KNOW, THAT'S HOW STORIES GO, RIGHT? WHEN YOU GET TO THE END, ALL THE LOOSE ENDS...



ADAM, FOR GOD'S SAKE. HAVE YOU SEEN MR. MAGICK? HE CAN HARDLY HOLD HIS FARTS IN! THIS IS NOT WHAT YOU THINK...

OKAY, THERE ARE THINGS THAT DON'T FIT, BUT, EVEN SO, THERE'S A SHAPE EMERGING...

THE TRAIL OF THE HEREMITE GOES THROUGH THIS. GET READY.

THE KNUCKLE DRAGGER IS RIGHT. YOU HAVE TOO MUCH FAITH IN THIS SHIT. PRAY WE MAKE IT OUT ALIVE...

NO ONE ASKED YOUR OPINION, SIGURD.



HMM. A VERY SOPHISTICATED USE OF YOUR HAND, ADAM.



LISTEN, YOU TWO.

THERE'S A PARTICULARLY DANGEROUS HEREMITE.



HM?

HE'S... THE ONE THEY CALL A PRIEST, REMEMBER? A HEREMITE OF HIGHER SPIRITUAL POWER. THEY LIVE IN SUBTERRANEAN, SEMI-IMMATERIAL SPACES, TO ELIMINATE ANY TRACE OF MATERIALISTIC WEAKNESS.

HAS A MASK MADE OF BONE IN HIS FACE, HIS SKIN IS COVERED WITH BLACK AURA. LEAVE IT TO ME.



SO, A HIGH-RANKING HEREMITE IS AFTER SOMETHING FROM SAUNIÈRE, WHO BASICALLY FOUNDED YOU.

AND YET YOU KNEW NOTHING. SUPPOSEDLY.

WE REALLY STUMBLED ON A BIG MISSION, EH.



BOB

EH, WE'RE NOT LYING.

FOR REAL.



HEY, WHAT DID YOU SAY?

BOB. UMBRELLA.

ADAM...!





HMM.



ADAM'S... SWEATING MORE THAN USUAL.

ESSEX, DID YOU HEAR?



HE SAID BOB! THAT'S THE NAME OF...

BOB

...THE OLD MAN WHO TAUGHT YOU MAGIC.

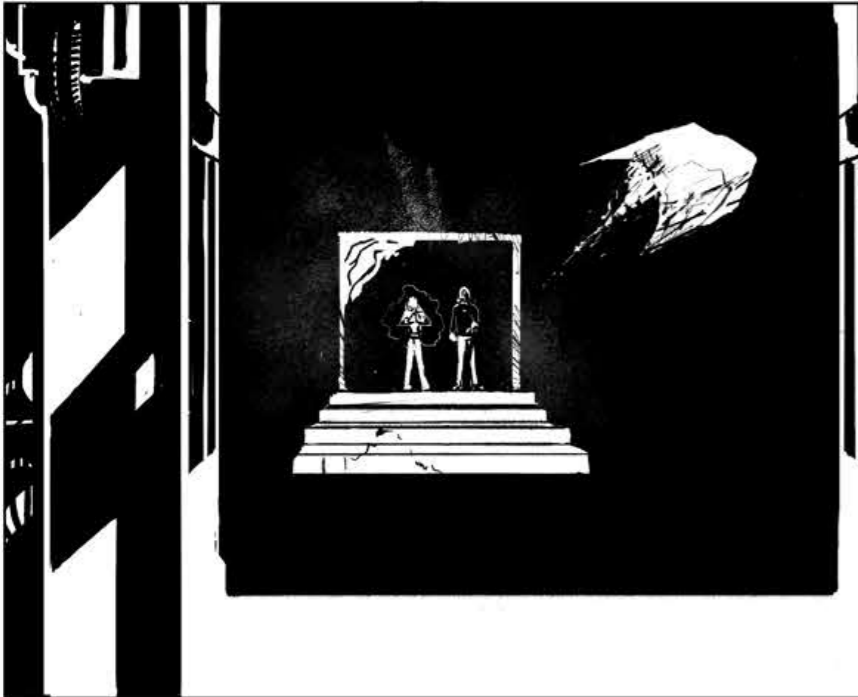
WAS HE HERE?



SEVEN, USE YOUR VIBRATIONAL WAVES TO OPEN THE DOOR.



ON IT.



LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER PORTAL. THIS HEAT... THEY USED IT. CURIOUS. THEY CAN TELEPORT... BUT THEY'VE USED THE MACHINE.

MAYBE THEY NEED TO FOLLOW THE NARRATIVE TO ACCESS CERTAIN POINTS? LET'S FIND THE WAY TO ACTIVATE IT.



BOB! UMBRELLA!



THAT WAY? BUT THE MACHINE...



THERE. UMBRELLA FOR THE STORM.



AGAIN... !?

NO, THIS CAN BE... INTERESTING.



WE'LL BE BACK FAST!



YOU TOO?!

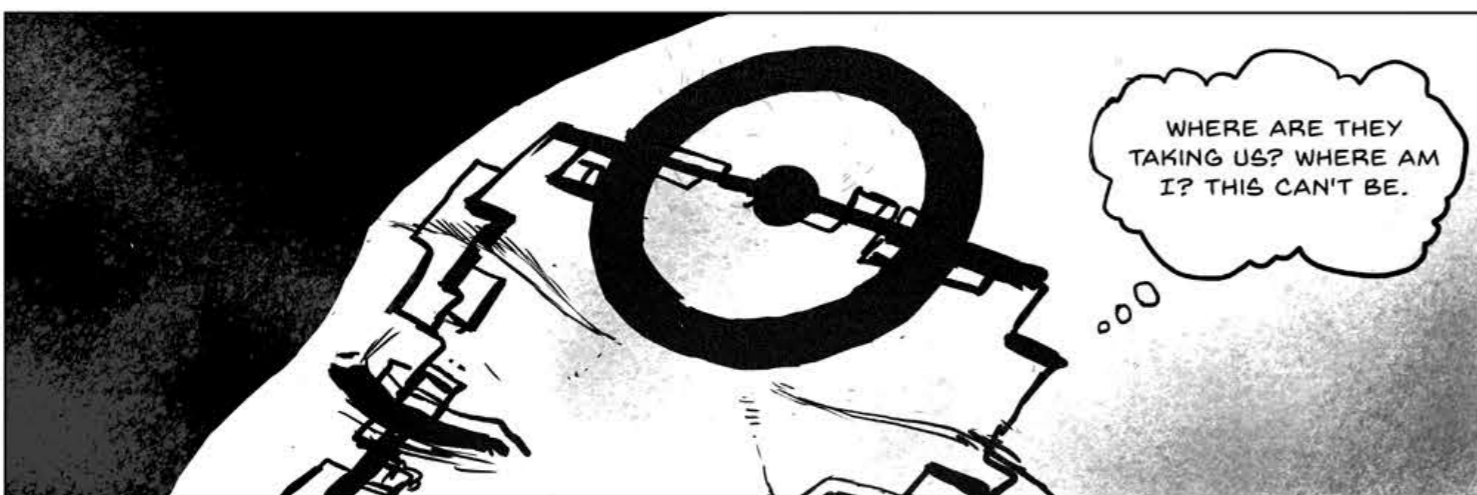


WHAT IF HE'S A TRAP, EH... OH, WHATEVER.

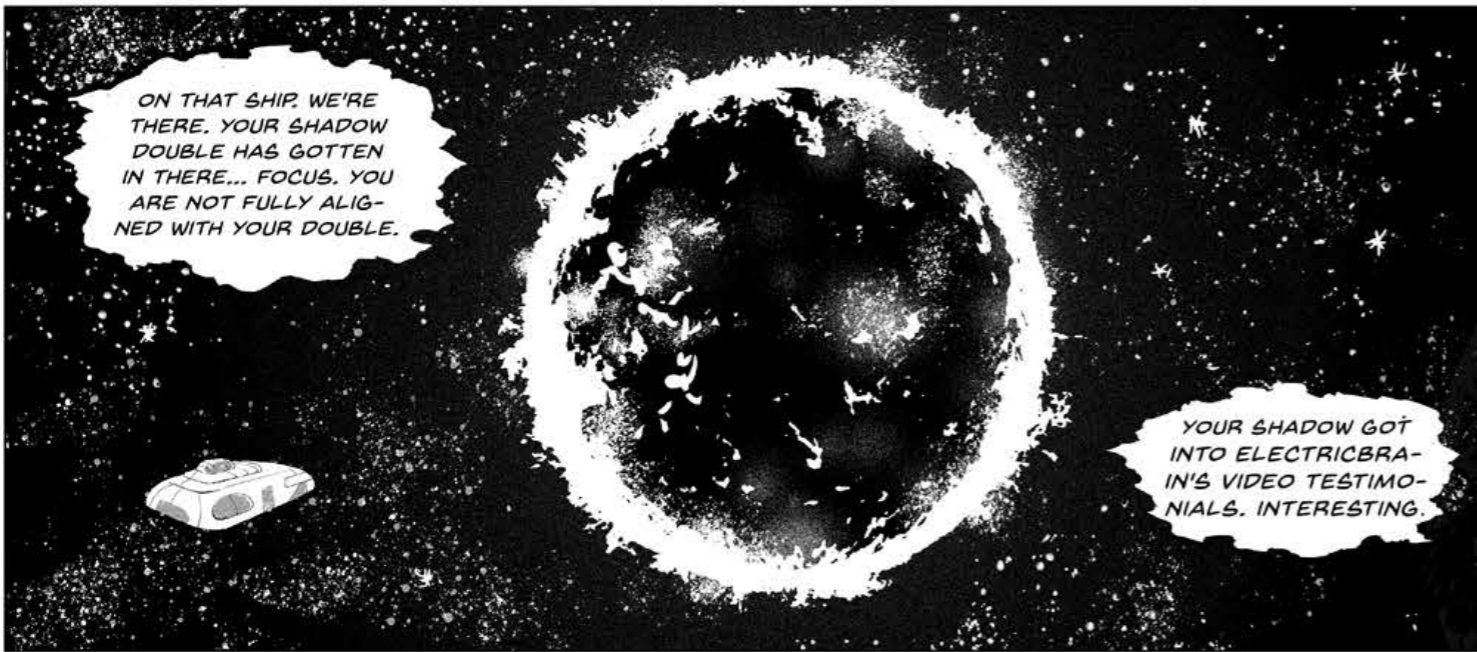
THE MACHINE...!



WE'RE BEING...!



WHERE ARE THEY TAKING US? WHERE AM I? THIS CAN'T BE.



ON THAT SHIP, WE'RE THERE, YOUR SHADOW DOUBLE HAS GOTTEN IN THERE... FOCUS, YOU ARE NOT FULLY ALIGNED WITH YOUR DOUBLE.

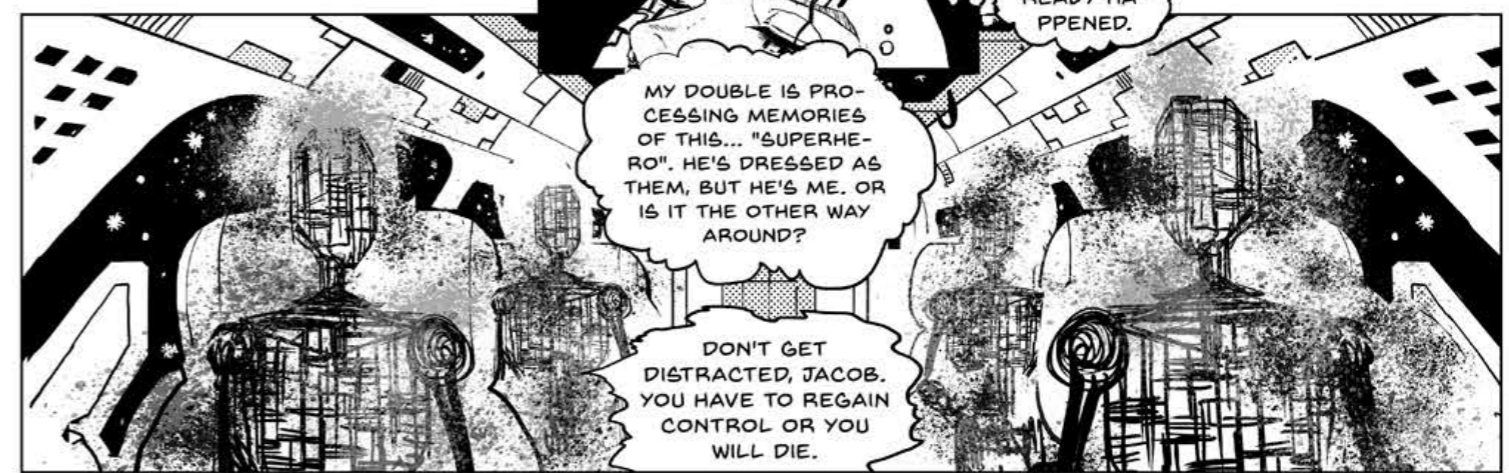
YOUR SHADOW GOT INTO ELECTRICBRAIN'S VIDEO TESTIMONIALS. INTERESTING.



LISTEN. THIS MISSION IS VERY IMPORTANT. THERE IS SOMETHING STRANGE IN THE SUN. WE HAVE TO ACT IMMEDIATELY.

I DON'T WANT TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING UNTIL I'M SURE, BUT I THINK THAT... THERE IS SOMETHING SUPPORTING OUR REALITY, BUT... IT NEEDS TO BE REPAIRED.

NO. THIS ALREADY HAPPENED.



MY DOUBLE IS PROCESSING MEMORIES OF THIS... "SUPERHERO". HE'S DRESSED AS THEM, BUT HE'S ME. OR IS IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND?

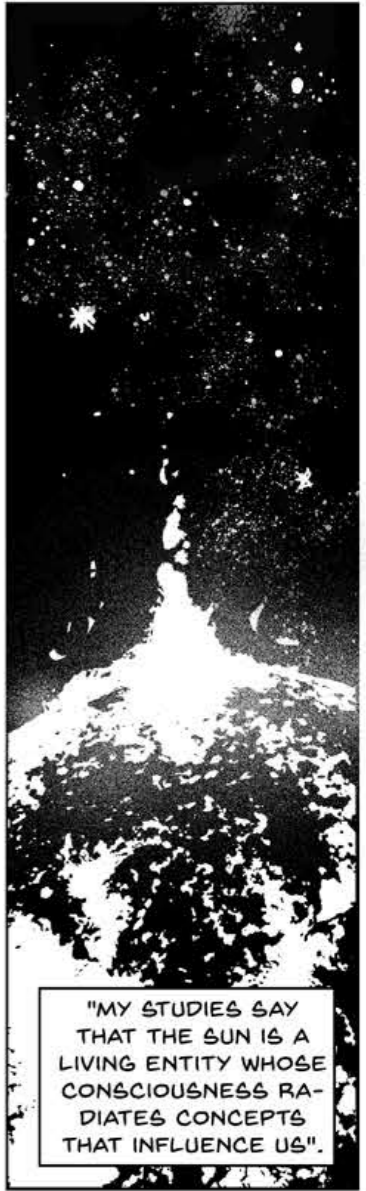
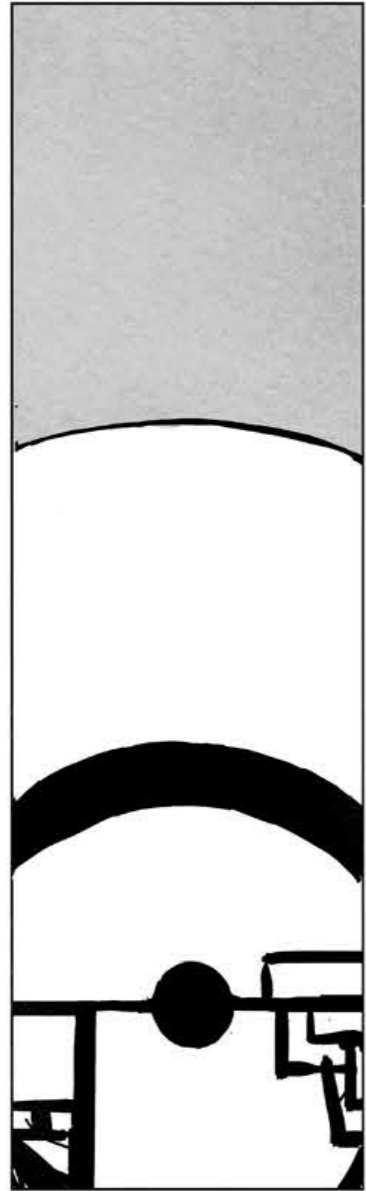
DON'T GET DISTRACTED, JACOB. YOU HAVE TO REGAIN CONTROL OR YOU WILL DIE.



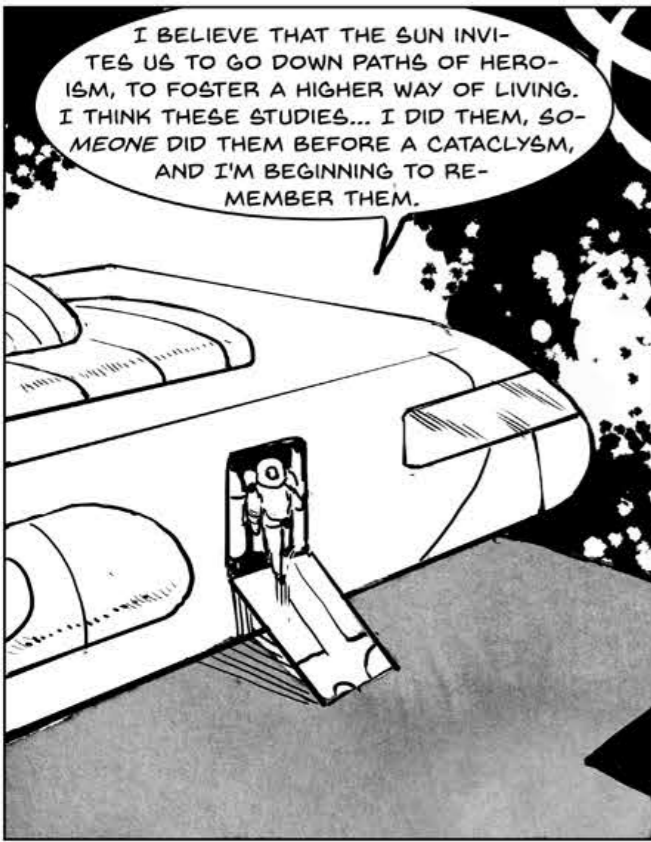
THERE, YOU SEE? I KNEW IT! I KNEW SOMETHING WAS UP. SOMEONE HAS OPENED A DOOR IN THE SUN.



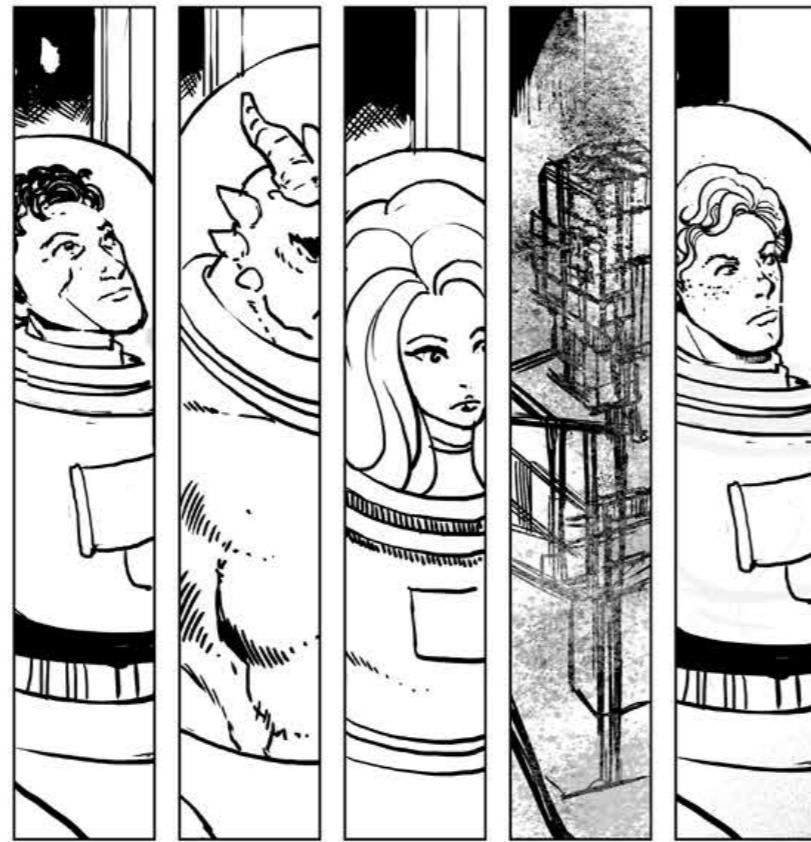
SOMEONE HAS ENTERED THE SUN AND DONE SOMETHING.



"MY STUDIES SAY THAT THE SUN IS A LIVING ENTITY WHOSE CONSCIOUSNESS RADIATES CONCEPTS THAT INFLUENCE US".



I BELIEVE THAT THE SUN INVITES US TO GO DOWN PATHS OF HEROISM, TO FOSTER A HIGHER WAY OF LIVING. I THINK THESE STUDIES... I DID THEM, SOMEONE DID THEM BEFORE A CATACLYSM, AND I'M BEGINNING TO REMEMBER THEM.



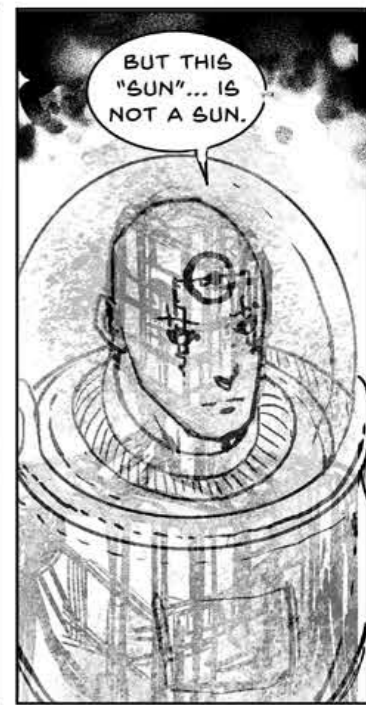
UH? DOWN THERE... IS SOMEONE...?



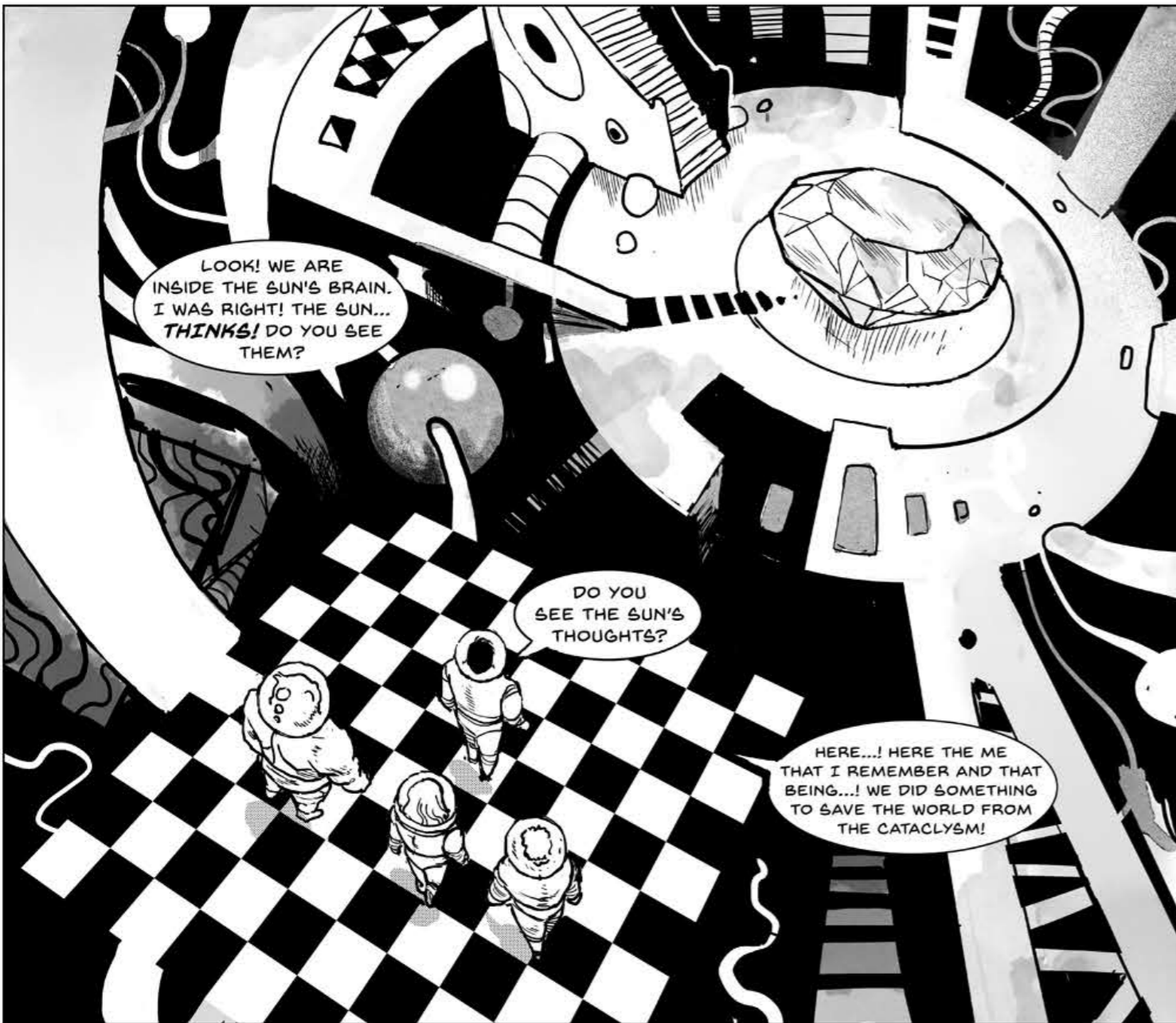
SO IT WAS TRUE.



A PRESENCE ALTERED THE "SUN".



BUT THIS "SUN"... IS NOT A SUN.



LOOK! WE ARE INSIDE THE SUN'S BRAIN. I WAS RIGHT! THE SUN... THINKS! DO YOU SEE THEM?

DO YOU SEE THE SUN'S THOUGHTS?

HERE...! HERE THE ME THAT I REMEMBER AND THAT BEING...! WE DID SOMETHING TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM THE CATACLYSM!



"ALTHOUGH... IT DOES SEEM LIKE THE CENTER OF THE STORY... OF THIS UNIVERSE."

BOB!

WHAT? IT'S A CARVED STONE!



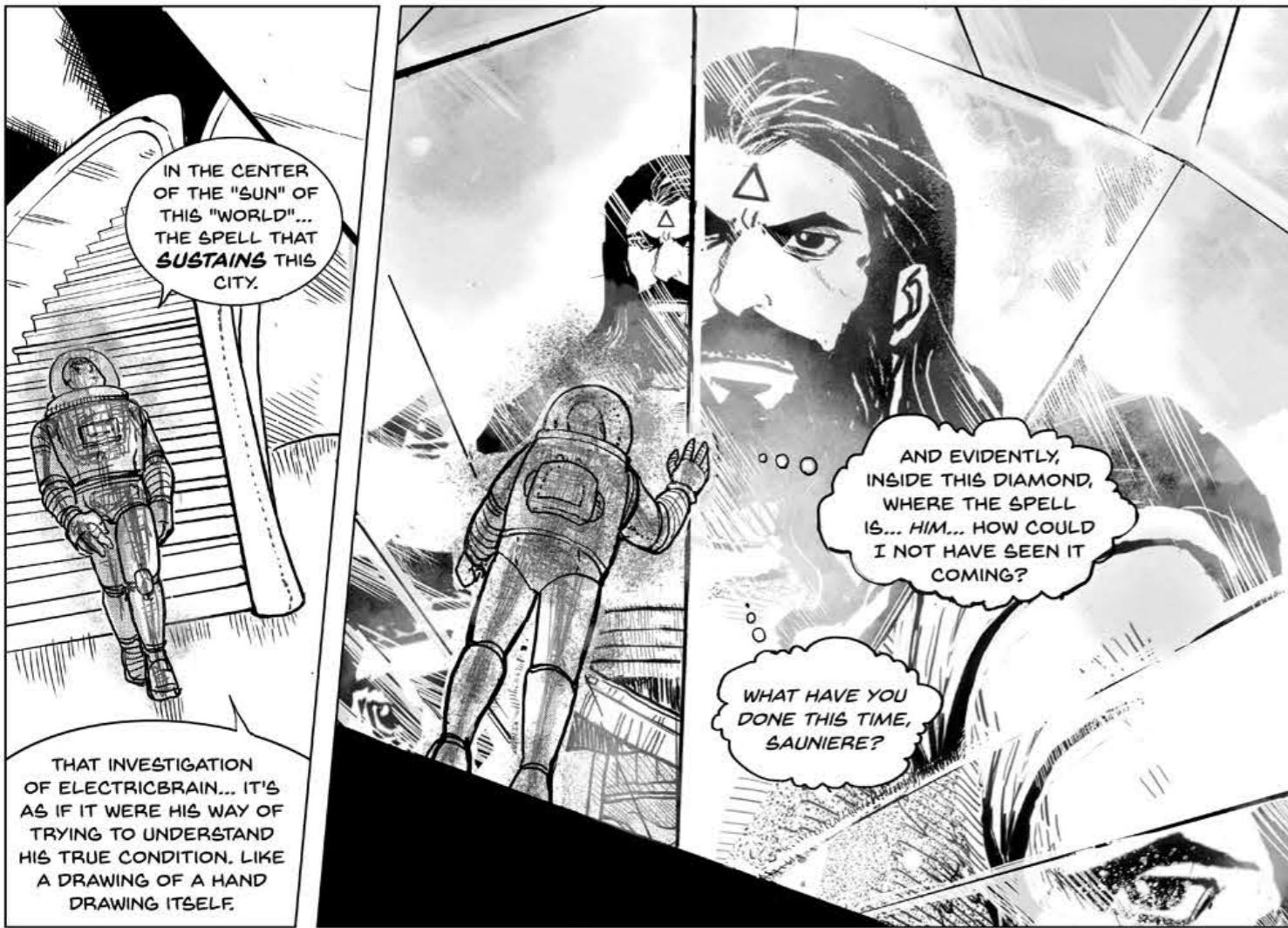
WHY DO YOU PAY ANY ATTENTION TO A MERE SHATTERED ILLUSION?

I THINK... EVERYTHING STARTS TO MAKE SENSE, NOW. EVERY CITY HAS HAD A STORY OF A CATACLYSM AND A BEING SAVING IT IN EXTREMIS.

WHAT...?

HHN! OH, NO...!

THERE IT IS.



IN THE CENTER OF THE "SUN" OF THIS "WORLD"... THE SPELL THAT SUSTAINS THIS CITY.

THAT INVESTIGATION OF ELECTRICBRAIN... IT'S AS IF IT WERE HIS WAY OF TRYING TO UNDERSTAND HIS TRUE CONDITION. LIKE A DRAWING OF A HAND DRAWING ITSELF.

AND EVIDENTLY, INSIDE THIS DIAMOND, WHERE THE SPELL IS... HIM... HOW COULD I NOT HAVE SEEN IT COMING?

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE THIS TIME, SAUNIÈRE?



YOUR HANDS SING...

...THE OLD ONES CONTINUE TO LEAD US ON THE RIGHT PATH.

# ...TO BE CONTINUED

SEE YOU IN ABOUT 40 DAYS (IDEALLY; SOME ISSUES IT'S 50 OR, UHM, MORE). WE KEEP THE RELEASE DATE UPDATED ON THE FACEBOOK FIXED POST. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING US SO WE CAN GET ISSUES OUT FASTER AND GET **DRAWINGS/SKETCHES** OF FUTURE ISSUES, **EARLY ACCESS** TO A WORK-IN-PROGRESS VERSION OF THE NEXT ISSUE, OR **VIDEOS** SHOWING HOW WE DRAW A PAGE, PLEASE CONSIDER HELPING US THROUGH PATREON AT THE \$3 LEVEL (LINK BELOW). IF WE GET ENOUGH HELP, WE MAY BE ABLE TO MAKE UPSURGE A MONTHLY SERIES. THANKS!

## LINKS:

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

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

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THE PLACE FORMERLY KNOWN AS TWITTER -> [X.COM/SIMONOGATARI](https://x.com/simonogatari)  
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