



# WASTELAND

ANTONY JOHNSTON  
CHRISTOPHER MITTEN

**BOOK 01**  
CITIES IN DUST

"The best post-apocalyptic comic being published today." WARREN ELLIS







# **WASTELAND**

## **BOOK 01**

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### **CITIES IN DUST**

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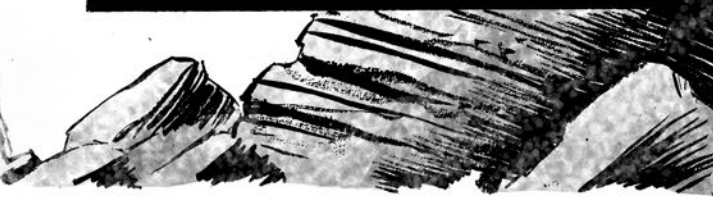
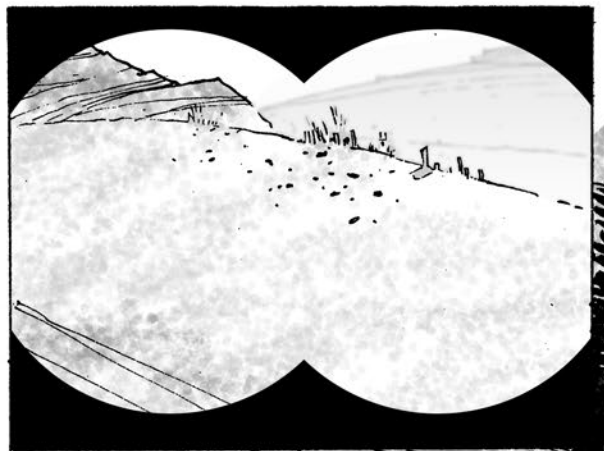
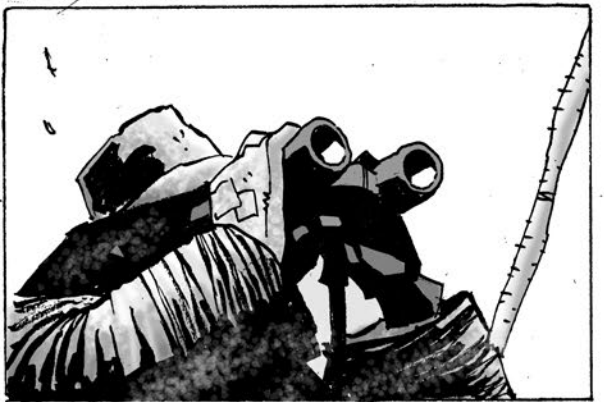
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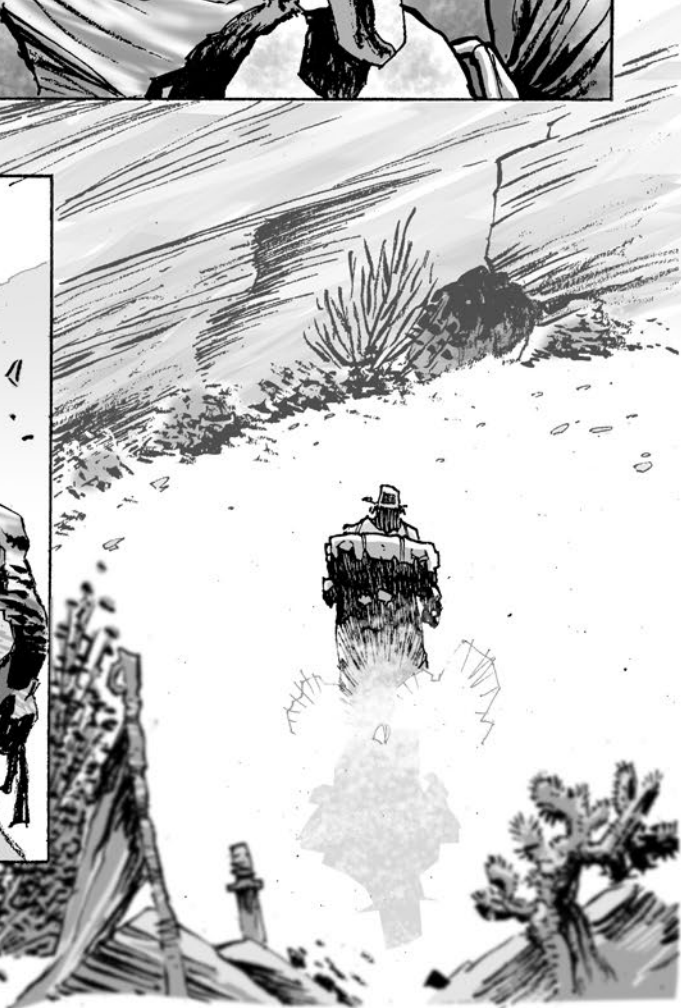
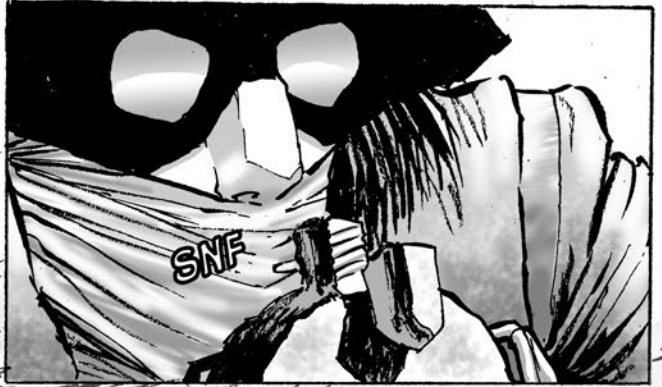
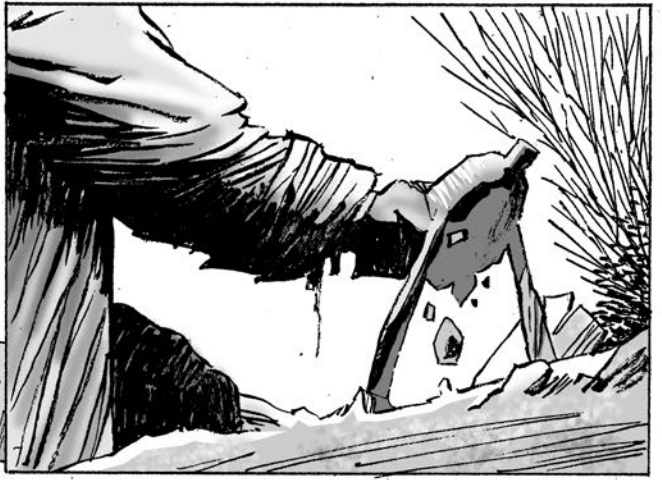
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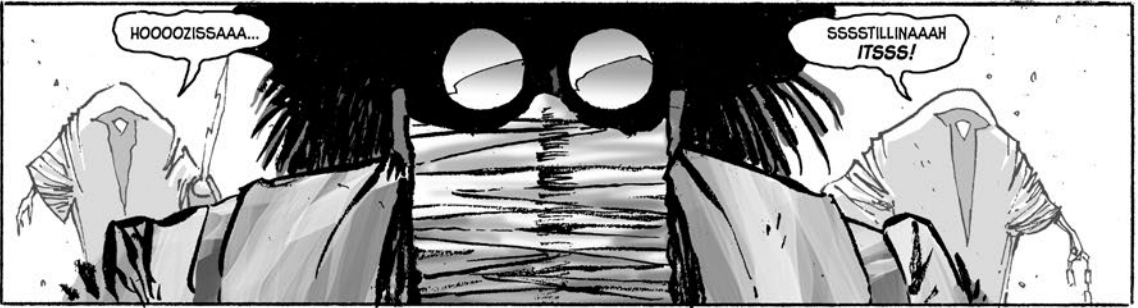


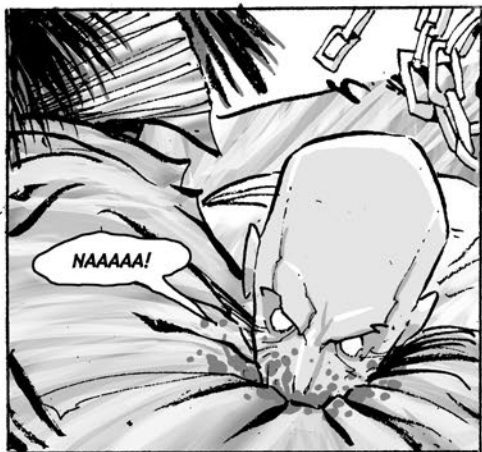
**ONE HUNDRED YEARS AFTER THE BIG WET.  
SOMEWHERE IN AMERICA...**

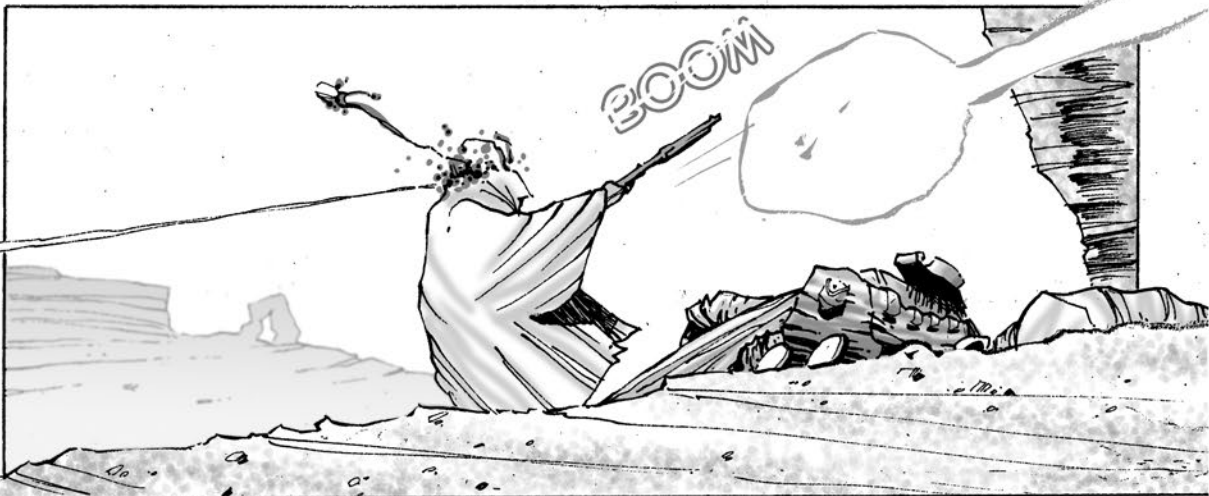
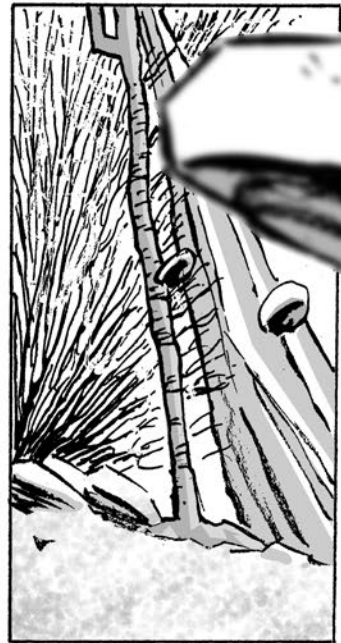
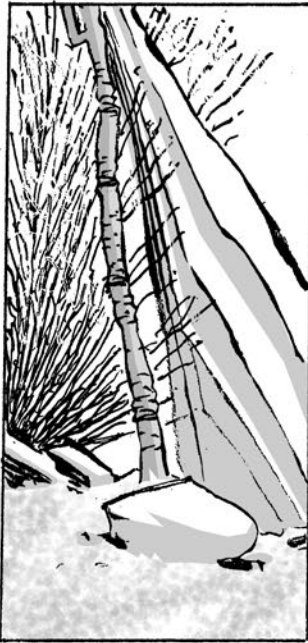


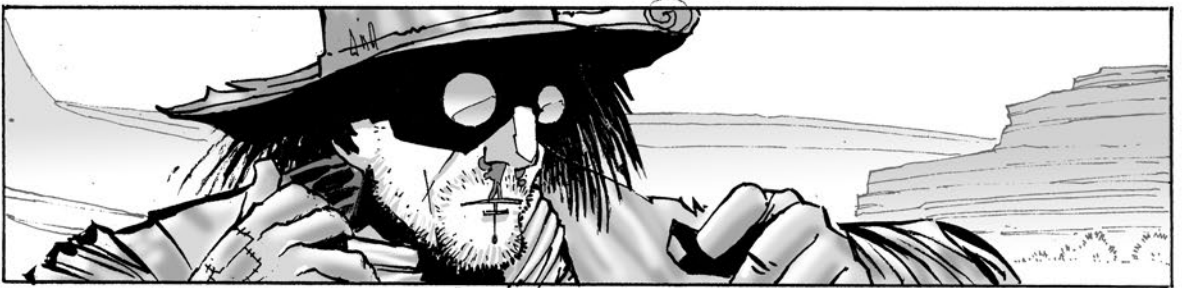
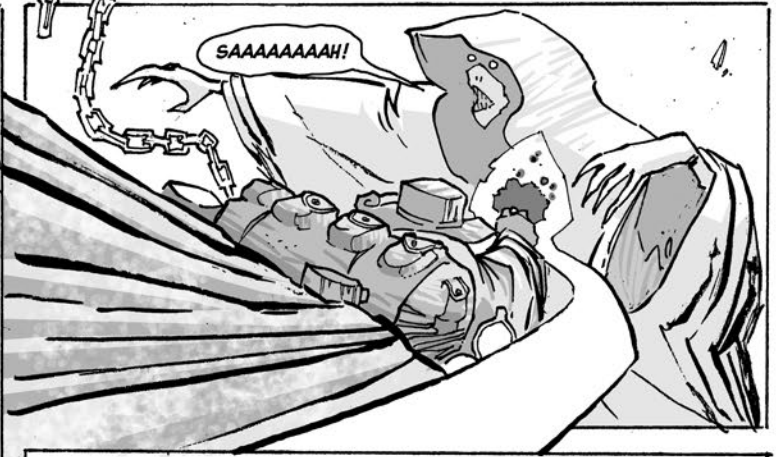
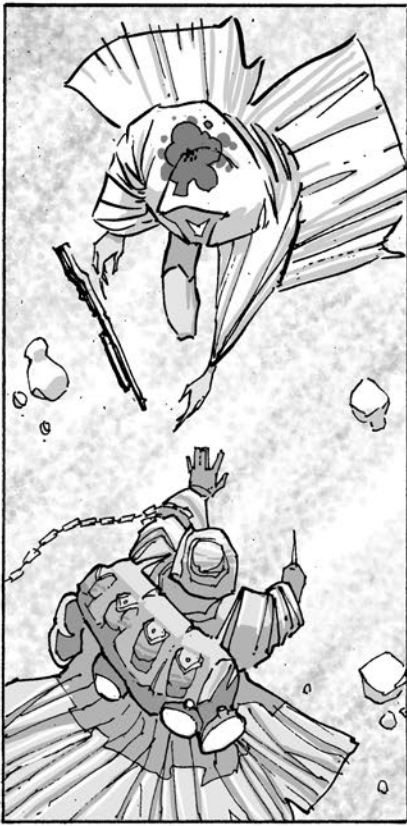




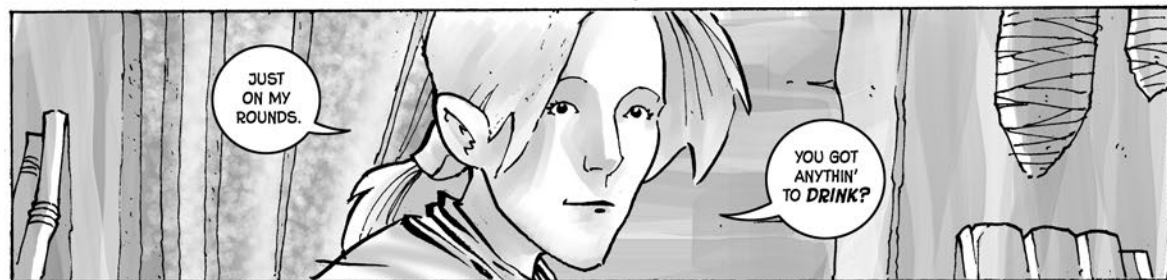
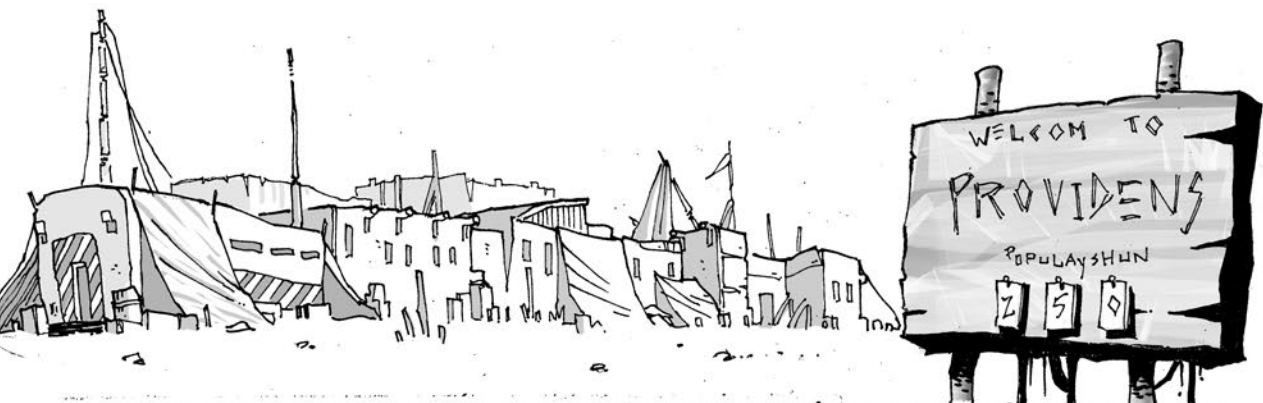


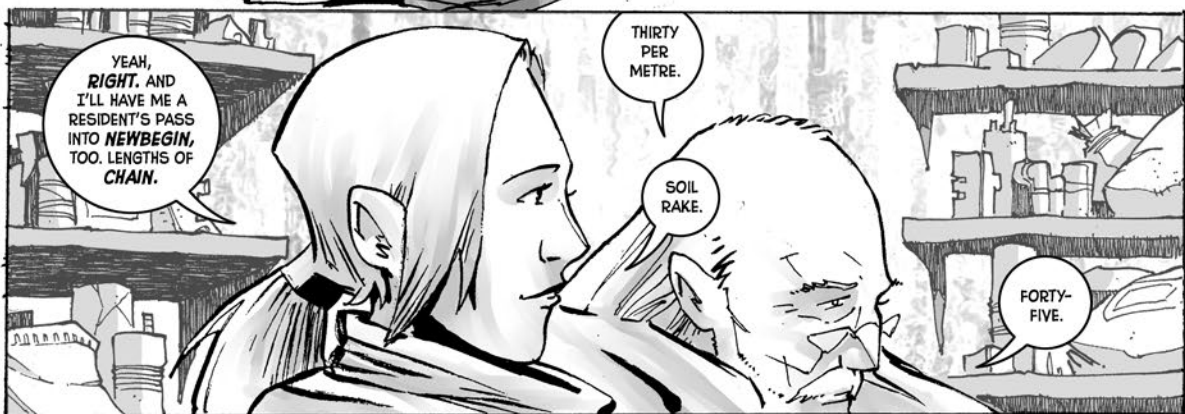


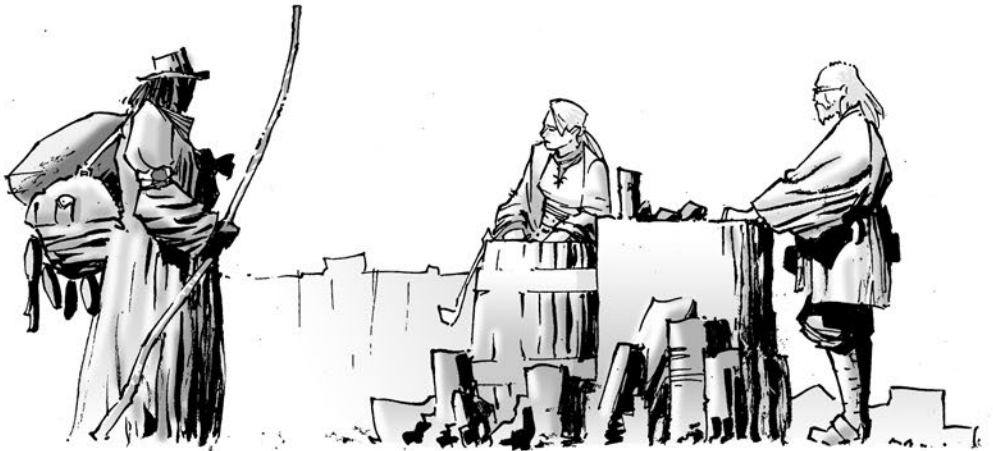
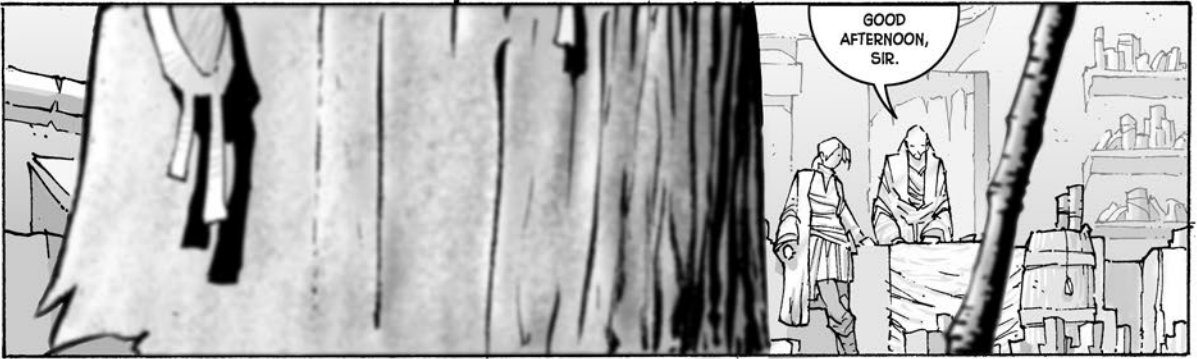








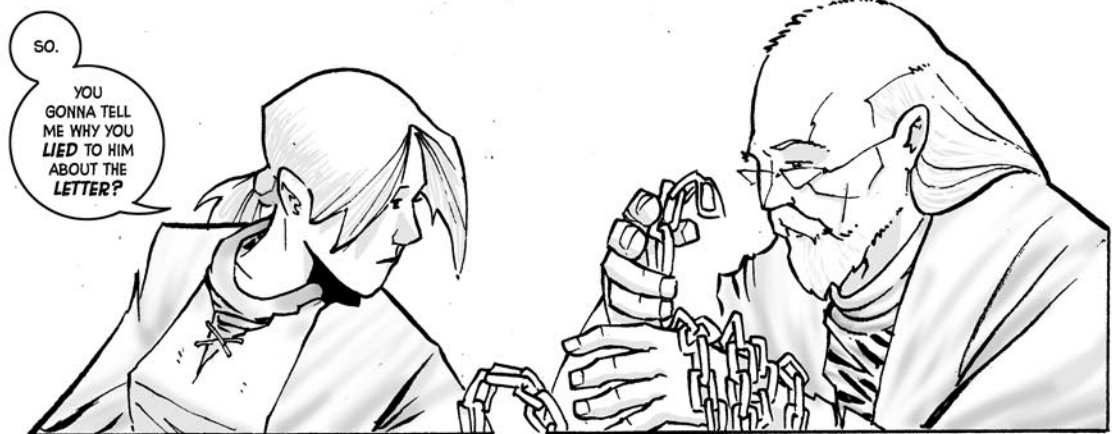














WAIT UP!



YOU WANT TO TRADE?



YEAH. INFORMATION.

YOU UNDERSTOOD THAT MACHINE, DIDN'T YOU?



DIDN'T YOU? HEY, LOOK AT ME WHEN--

HNNNH.



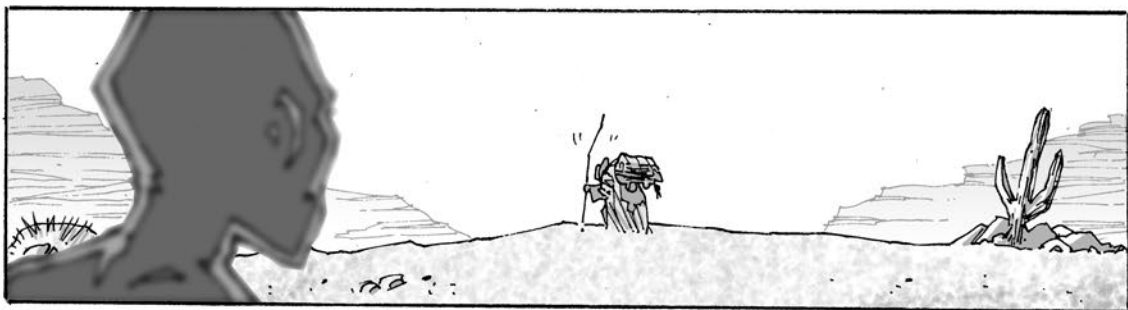
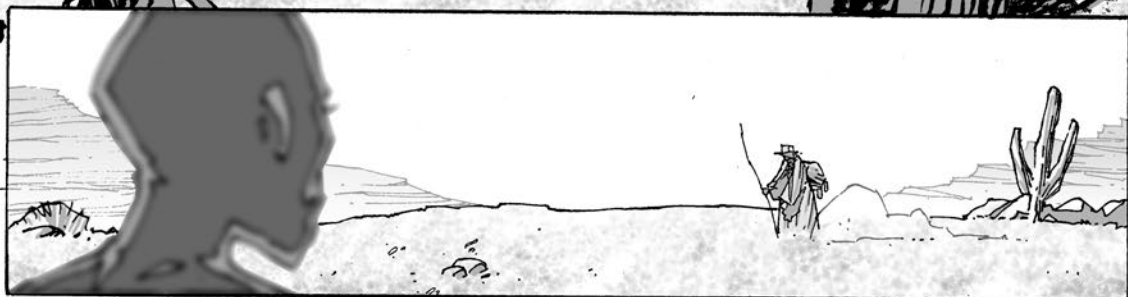
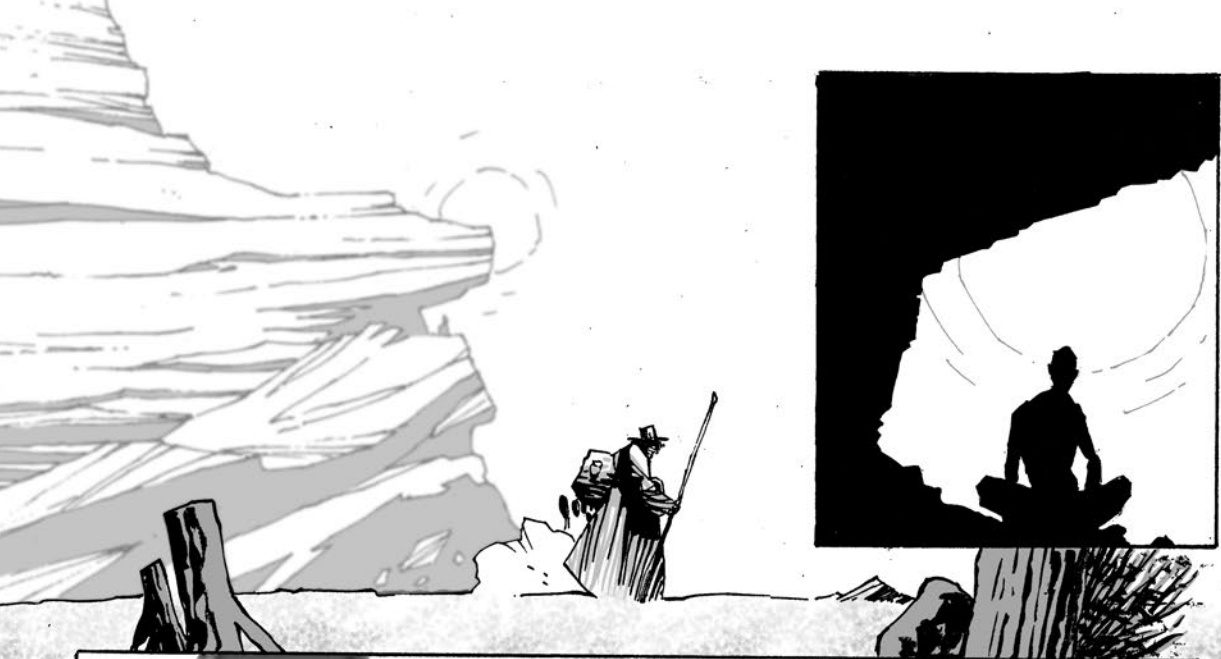
OH, YUCK. MISTER, YOU GOT A CHUNK MISSIN' HERE. SANDIES DO THIS TO YOU?

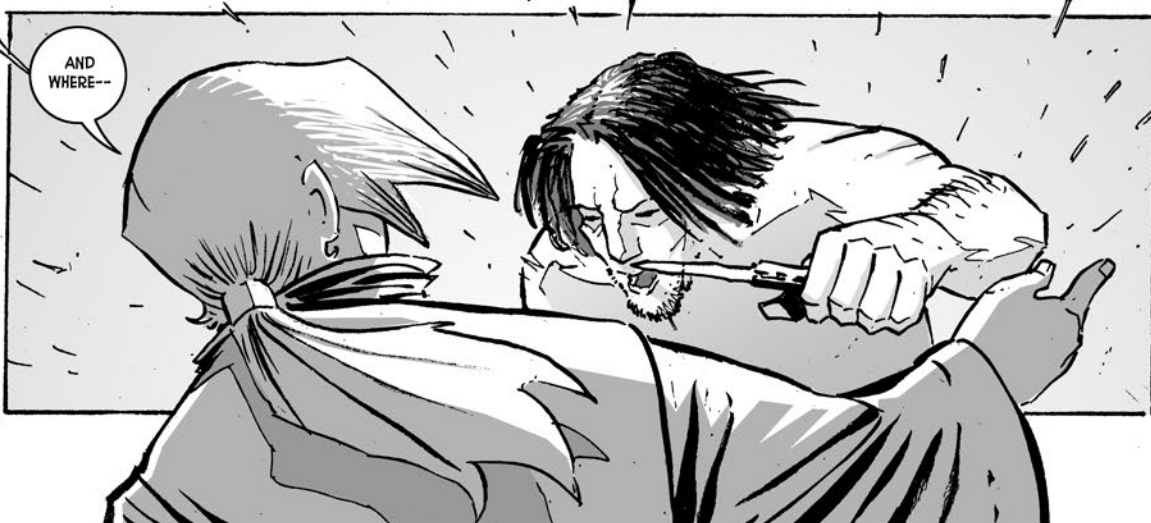
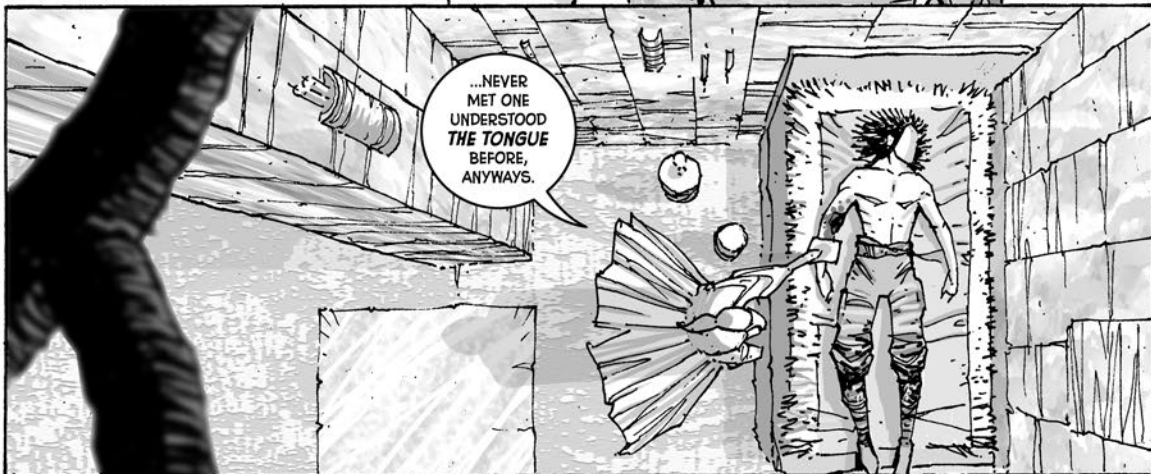
IT'S NOTHING. IT'LL HEAL.



GOATSHIT IT'S NOTHIN', YOU'LL BLEED OUT BEFORE YOU MAKE IT TO NEWBEGIN. COME WITH ME, I'LL GET YOU FIXED UP.

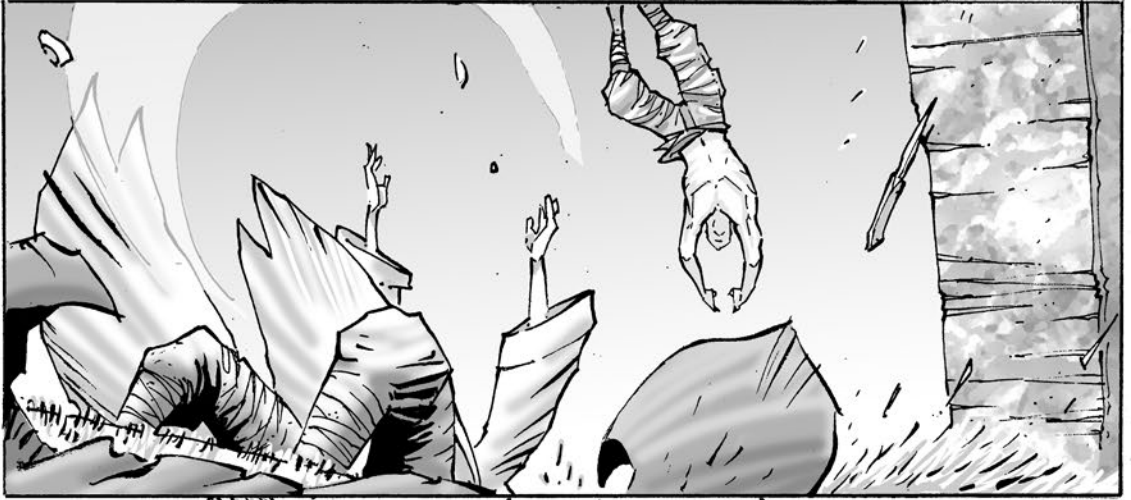
SO LONG, NURSE.





NNNGH!

SO,  
YOU'RE...  
AWAKE.



YOU  
STUPID SON  
OF A GOAT!  
I'M TRYIN'  
TO HELP  
YOU!

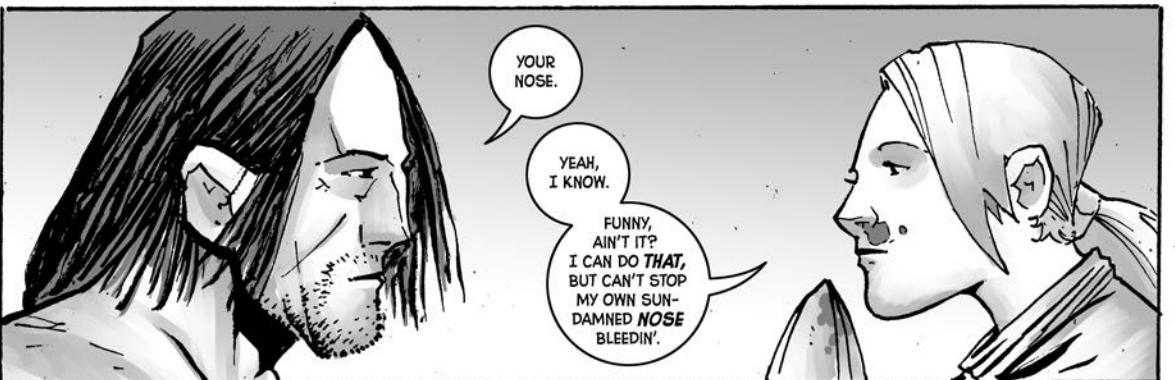
AAAAAH!

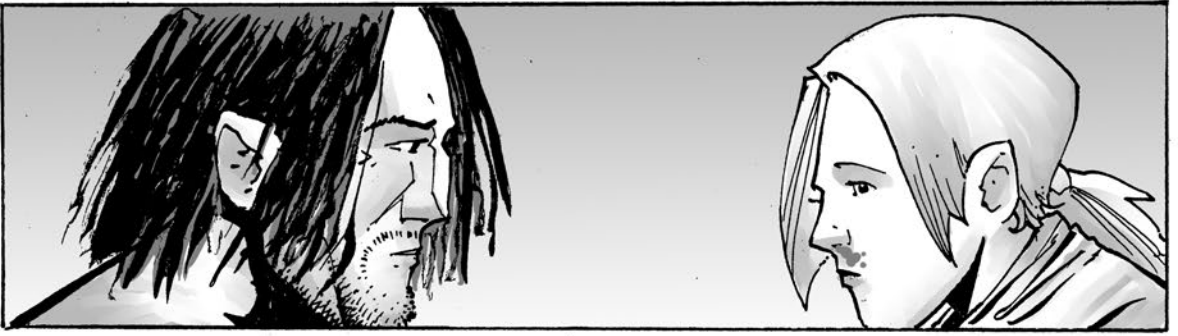
DAMMIT...

LOOK,  
JUST LAY  
THERE A  
WHILE,  
OKAY?

JUST  
SHUT UP  
AND LAY  
THERE.





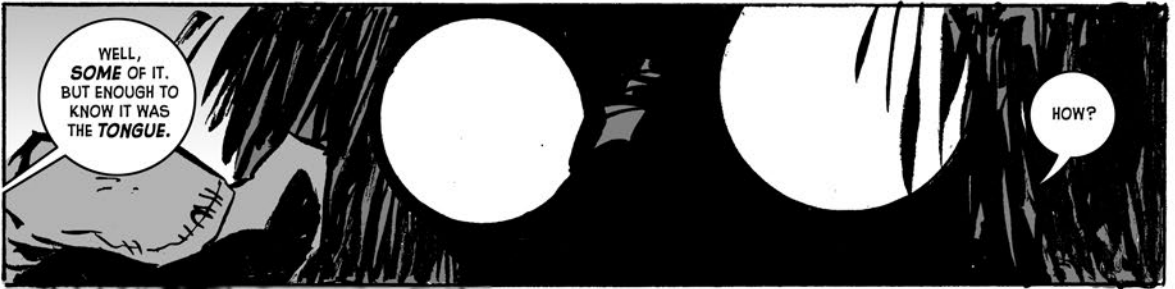




NO.

GOATSHIT!  
AND YOU  
KNOW WHY?

COS I  
UNDERSTOOD  
THE MACHINE,  
TOO.



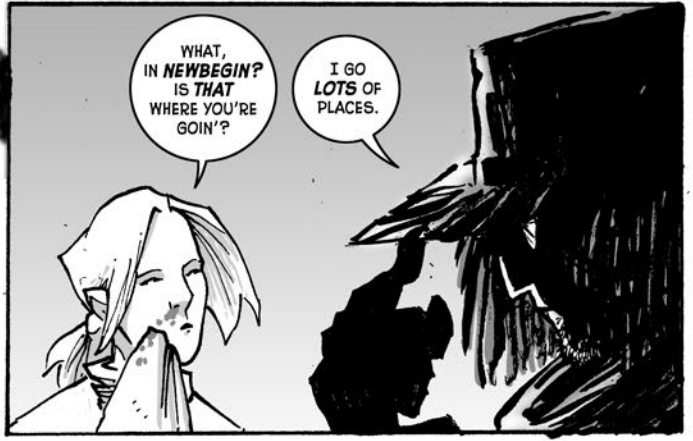
WELL,  
**SOME** OF IT.  
BUT ENOUGH TO  
KNOW IT WAS  
THE **TONGUE**.

HOW?



I...  
I'M NOT  
SURE. I  
JUST **DO**.

**PLEN**  
TY OF PEOPLE  
READ THESE  
DAYS. I'LL FIND  
SOMEONE  
ELSE.



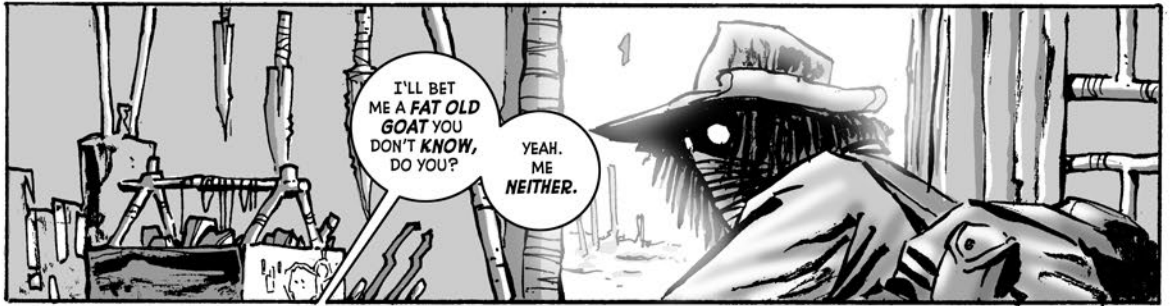
WHAT,  
IN **NEWBEGIN**?  
IS **THAT**  
WHERE YOU'RE  
GOIN'?

I GO  
**LOTS** OF  
PLACES.



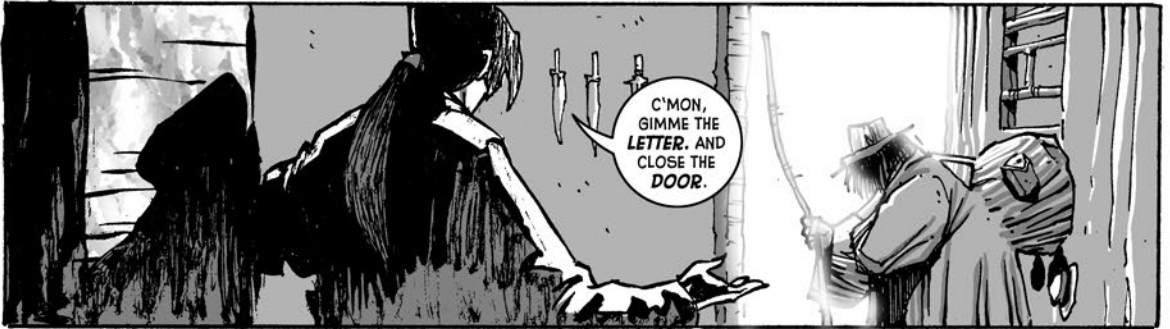
THANKS FOR  
THE **MEDICINE**.  
MAYBE I'LL PASS  
BACK THROUGH  
HERE, AFTER  
ALL.

HOW  
**OLD** ARE YOU,  
SCAVENGER MAN?  
WHO'S YOUR  
**PARENTS**?  
WHERE YOU  
**FROM**?

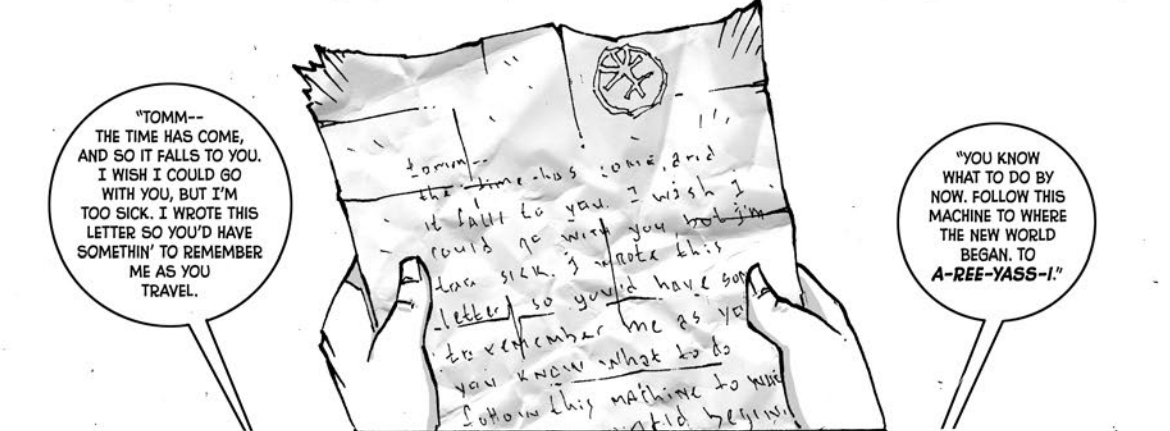


I'LL BET ME A FAT OLD GOAT YOU DON'T KNOW, DO YOU?

YEAH. ME NEITHER.



C'MON, GIMME THE LETTER. AND CLOSE THE DOOR.



"TOMM-- THE TIME HAS COME, AND SO IT FALLS TO YOU. I WISH I COULD GO WITH YOU, BUT I'M TOO SICK. I WROTE THIS LETTER SO YOU'D HAVE SOMETHIN' TO REMEMBER ME AS YOU TRAVEL.

tommm-- the time has come, and it falls to you. I wish I could go with you but i'm too sick. i wrote this letter so you'd have somethin' to remember me as you travel. you know what to do follow this machine to where the new world began.

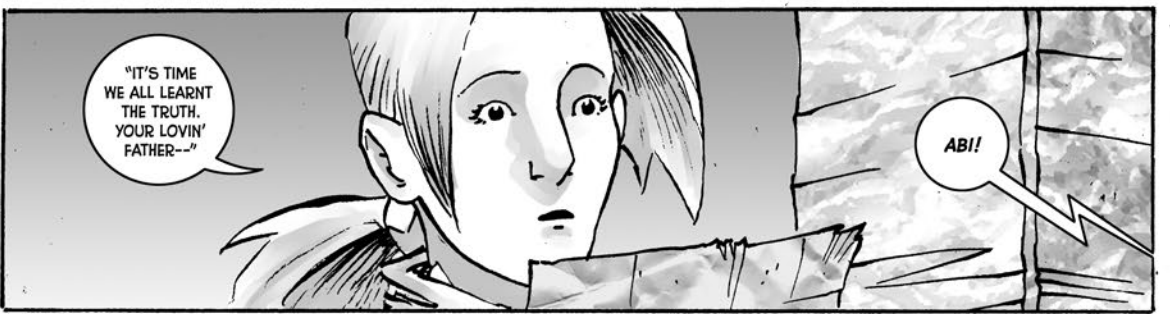
"YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO BY NOW. FOLLOW THIS MACHINE TO WHERE THE NEW WORLD BEGAN. TO A-REE-YASS-I!"



A-REE-YASS-I IS A MYTH.

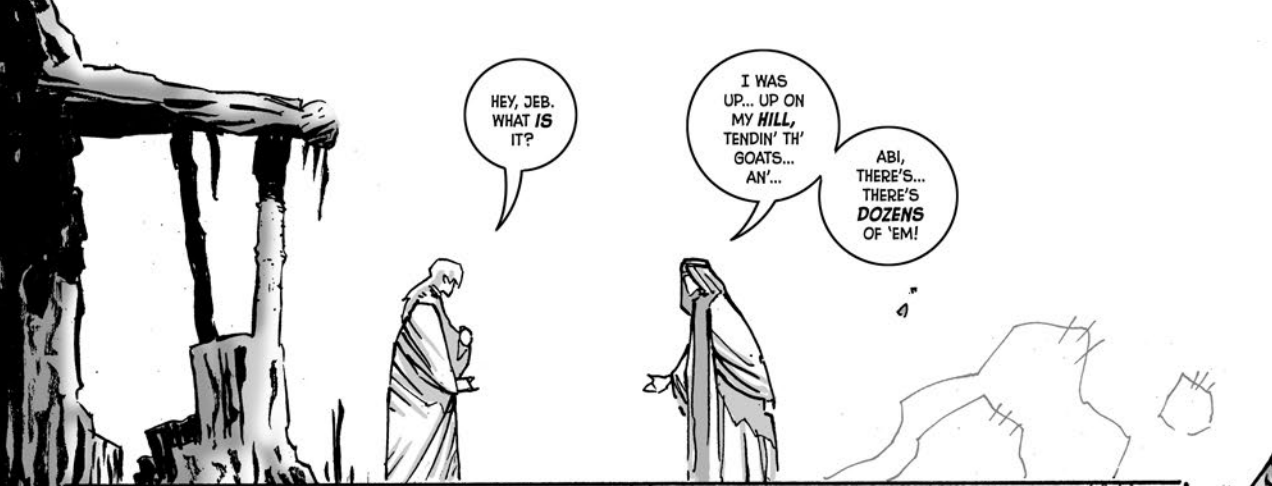
NO, IT AIN'T. SHUT UP AND LET ME FINISH.

"LOOK FOR MARCUS, THE LAST OF THE CHILDREN. GRANDMA ALWAYS SAID HE WENT WEST -- MAYBE HE HEADED HOME. IF HE'S TRULY STILL ALIVE, HE'LL HELP YOU, 'COS HE'LL REMEMBER DR. SCOTT.



"IT'S TIME WE ALL LEARN THE TRUTH. YOUR LOVIN' FATHER--"

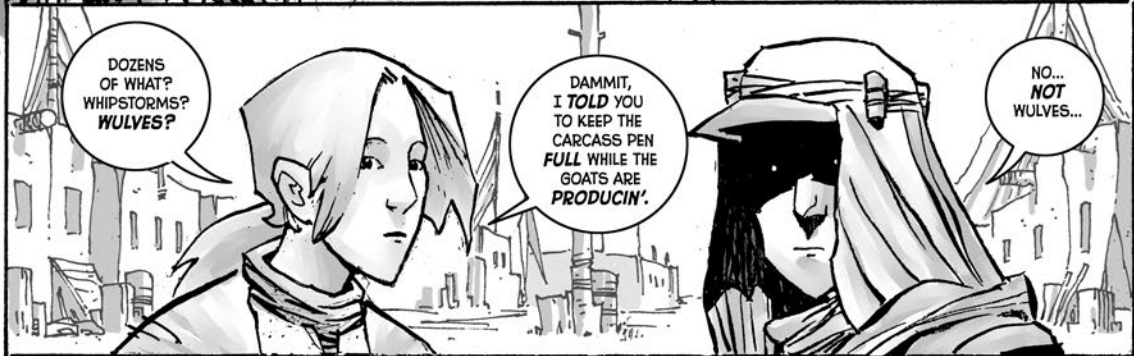
ABI!



HEY, JEB.  
WHAT IS  
IT?

I WAS  
UP... UP ON  
MY HILL,  
TENDIN' TH'  
GOATS...  
AN'...

ABI,  
THERE'S...  
THERE'S  
DOZENS  
OF 'EM!



DOZENS  
OF WHAT?  
WHIPSTORMS?  
WULVES?

DAMMIT,  
I TOLD YOU  
TO KEEP THE  
CARCASS PEN  
FULL WHILE THE  
GOATS ARE  
PRODUCIN'.

NO...  
NOT  
WULVES...

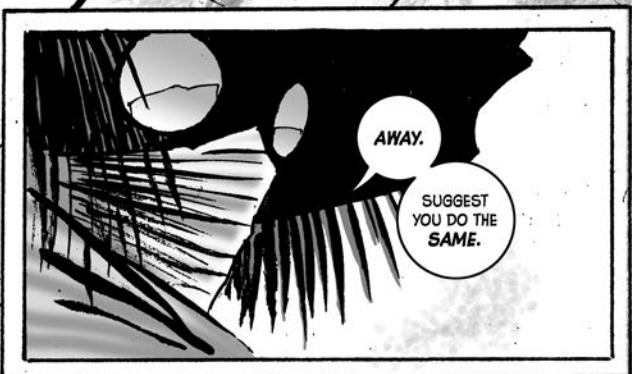


SAND-  
EATERS.



FUCK.  
ARE YOU  
SURE--

HEY,  
WHERE  
YOU  
GOIN'?



AWAY.

SUGGEST  
YOU DO THE  
SAME.



OH, NO.  
ME AND YOU  
AIN'T FINISHED  
TALKIN',  
SCAVENGER  
MAN.

WHY STAY?  
THEY'LL BURN  
YOU TO THE  
GROUND.



BECAUSE  
THIS IS MY  
HOME.

AND I  
HAPPEN TO  
BE **SHERIFF**  
AROUND  
HERE.



INTERESTING.

BUT  
NOTHING TO  
DO WITH **ME**.  
SO LONG.



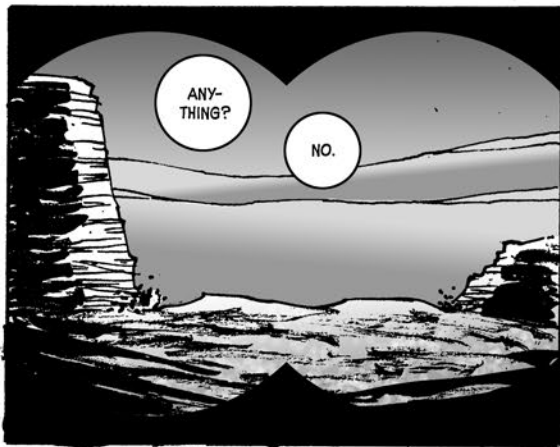
ALL  
RIGHT,  
THEN...

**TRADE**  
WITH  
ME.



I  
SAVED  
YOUR  
LIFE.

WHAT'S  
THAT  
WORTH?



ANY-THING?

NO.



WAIT.

THIRTY,  
GIVE OR  
TAKE.



THEY  
CARRYIN'  
WEAPONS?

NO,  
GIFTS.  
WHAT DO YOU  
THINK?

WOW.  
SCAVENGER  
MAN'S GOT  
HIMSELF A SENSE  
OF HUMOR,  
AFTER ALL.



ALL RIGHT,  
LISTEN UP!  
WE COUNT **THIRTY**  
OF THEM FUCKERS,  
AGAINST **SEVENTY**  
OF US.

REMEMBER,  
SANDIES ARE  
**STRONG**, BUT THEY'RE  
**SLOW**. KEEP **MOVIN'**,  
KEEP 'EM **RUNNIN'**,  
GET 'EM **OFF-**  
**GUARD...**



...AND  
DON'T LET  
THEM **BITE**  
YOU.

MICHAEL.



SAY WHAT?

NOT A "SCAVENGER MAN," EITHER. TRADER.

YOU SAY POTATO.



I NEVER SEEN A PACK THIS BIG. WHAT DO THEY WANT?

MONEY. FOOD. HEADS. DOES IT MATTER?

WELL, MICHAEL, YOU ARE JUST ONE BIG BARREL OF LAUGHS.



WHERE'D YOU GET THE SHELLS?

DOC HAD HALF A CASE.

WHAT'S THE SINGER DOING HERE? THOUGHT SUNNERS DIDN'T FIGHT.



MY NAME IS GOLDEN VOICE, STRANGER. WE'RE ALL SUNNERS HERE.

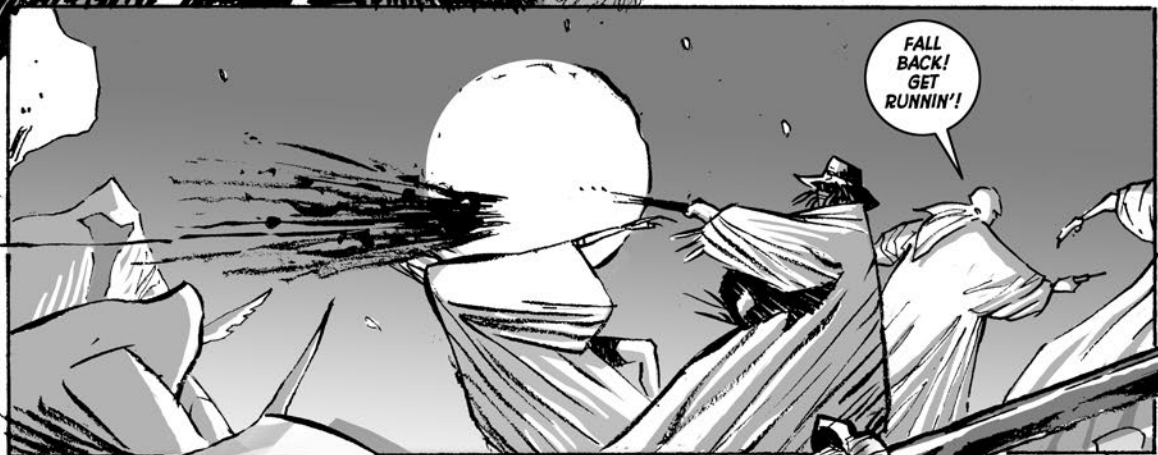
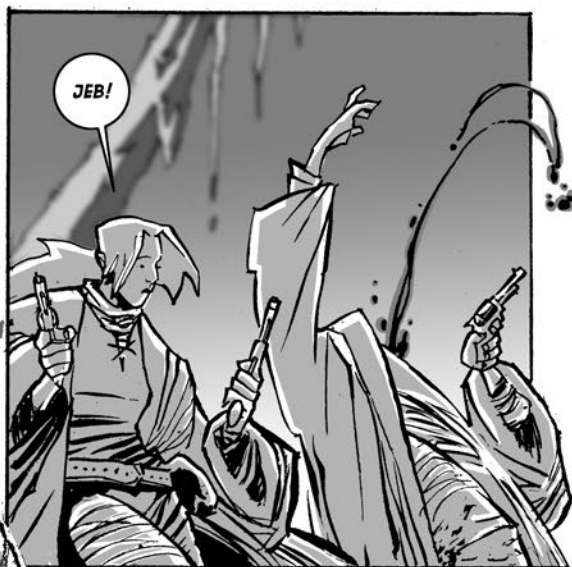
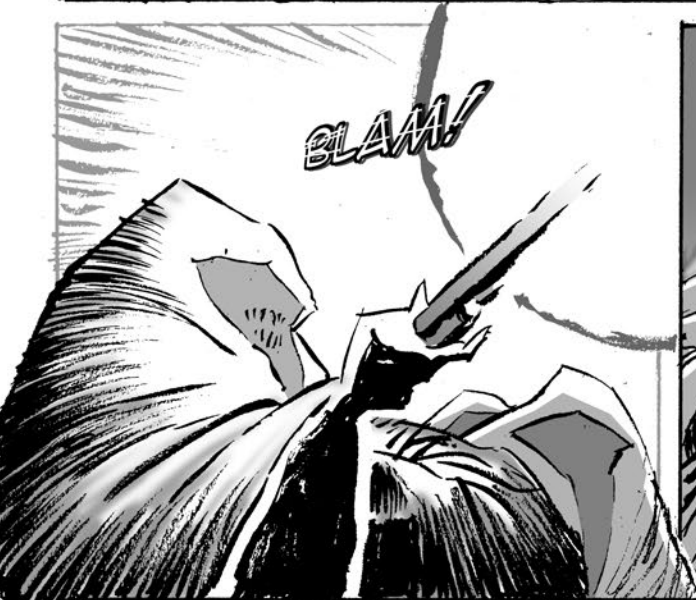
AND WE MAKE EXCEPTIONS FOR SAND-EATERS.

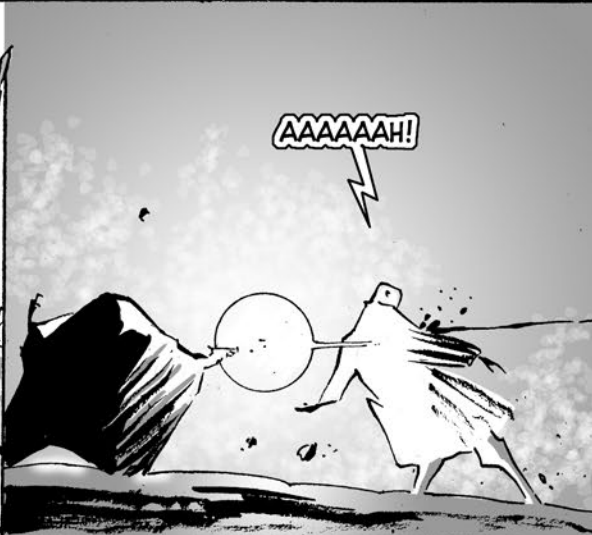
HEADS-UP!



...MAY FATHER MOON HELP US ALL.













HEEEEEELP!

HELP,  
PLEASE,  
MY  
CHILDREN!

SOKIIIIIIIND.

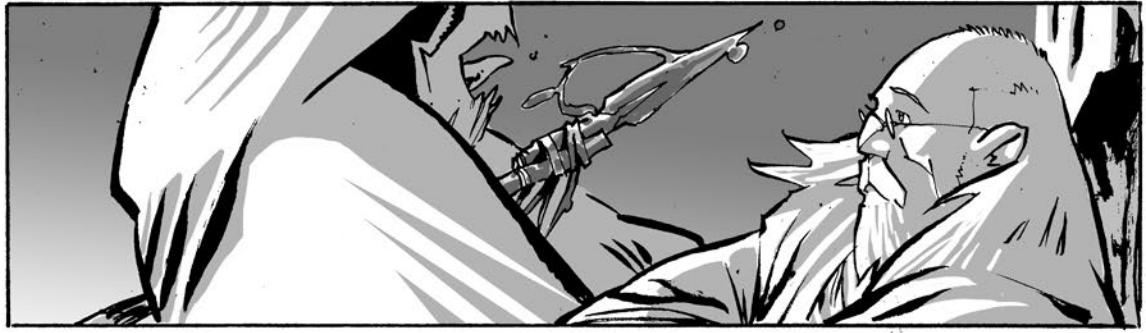
OH,  
THANK THE  
SUN, PLEASE,  
TAKE MY  
CHILDREN...

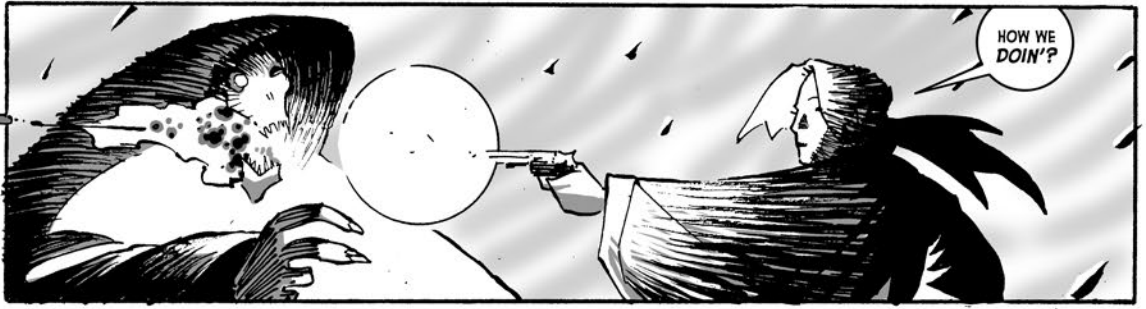
NO...

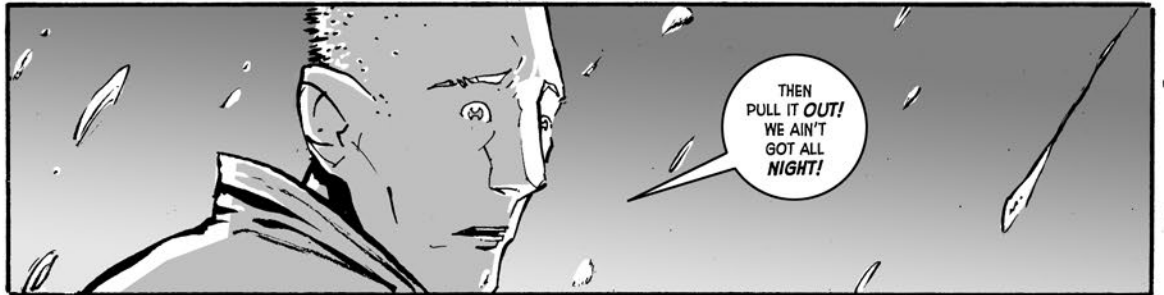
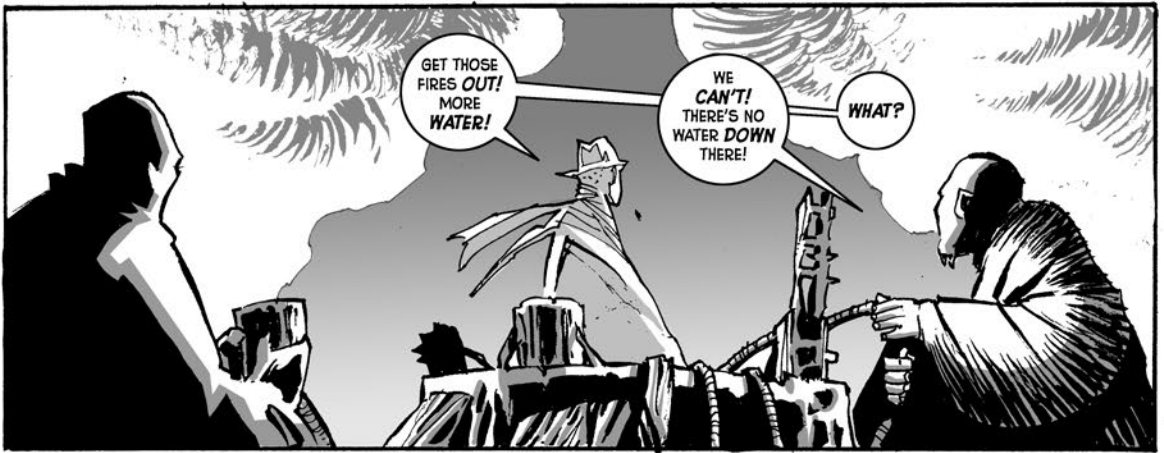
NOOOOOO!

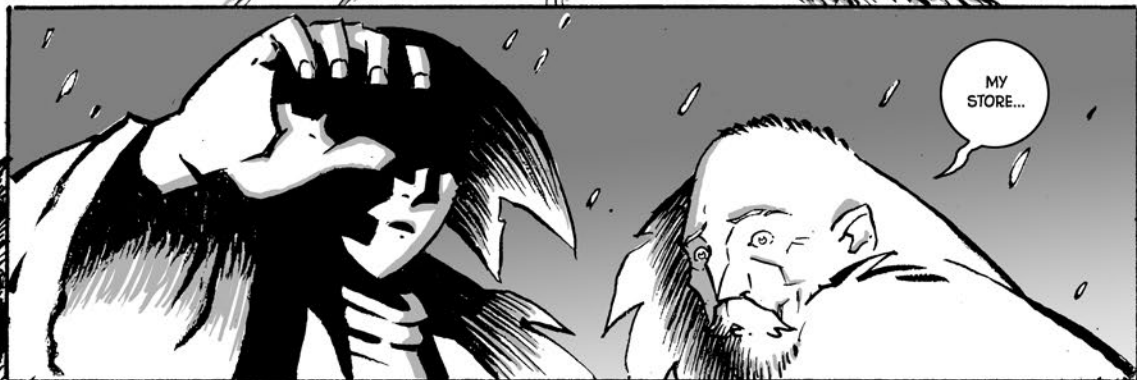


AAAH!











NOT MUCH WORRYING LEFT FOR YOU, THEN.

WHOLE TOWN'S ON FIRE. DON'T KNOW HOW MANY DEAD. LOTS, THOUGH.



MOTHER SUN...

HNN. MY PACK WAS IN THAT STORE.

WHO'S THIS?



NO, LET ME GUESS... A SUN-DAMNED RUIN-RUNNER.

TROUBLE JUST FOLLOWS YOU GUYS AROUND LIKE A SHADOW, DOESN'T IT?

LEAVE IT, KID.



"KID"? YOU SON OF A GOAT, I SHOULD GUT YOU RIGHT HERE. YOU BROUGHT THEM SANDIES HERE, DIDN'T YOU?

DIDN'T YOU?



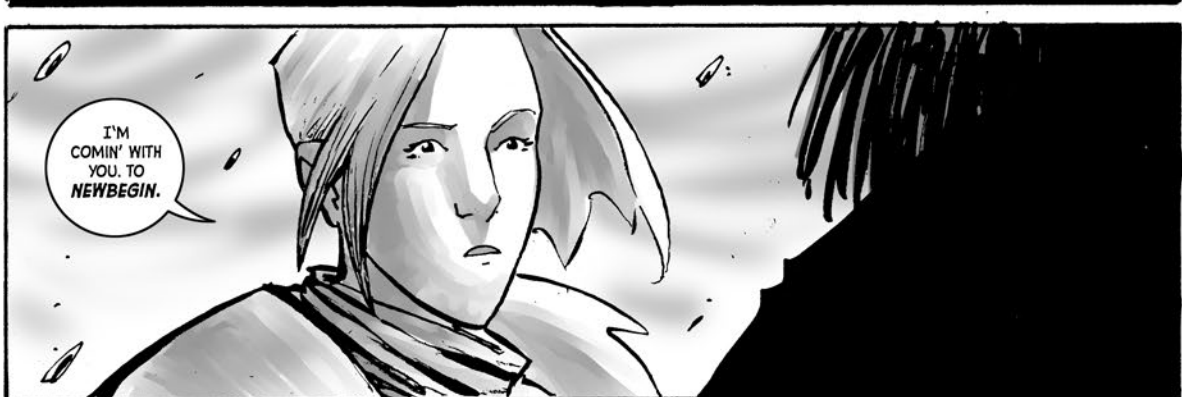
WHA--?



NNN...



STOP IT!





YOU'RE GOIN' THERE ANYWAY, AIN'T YOU?

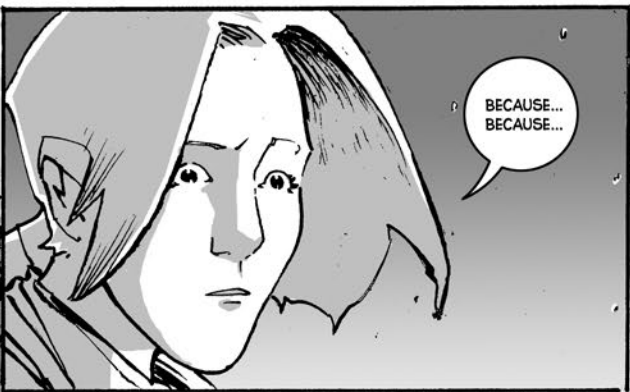
DON'T LIKE CITIES. TOO MUCH NOISE.

OH, COME ON. JUST HELP ME GET EVERYONE **SAFE**. WE MADE A **DEAL**, REMEMBER?



SAID I'D HELP YOU AGAINST **SAND-EATERS**, NOT CARRY A PACK OF **TOWNIES** ON MY BACK.

GIVE ME A REASON.

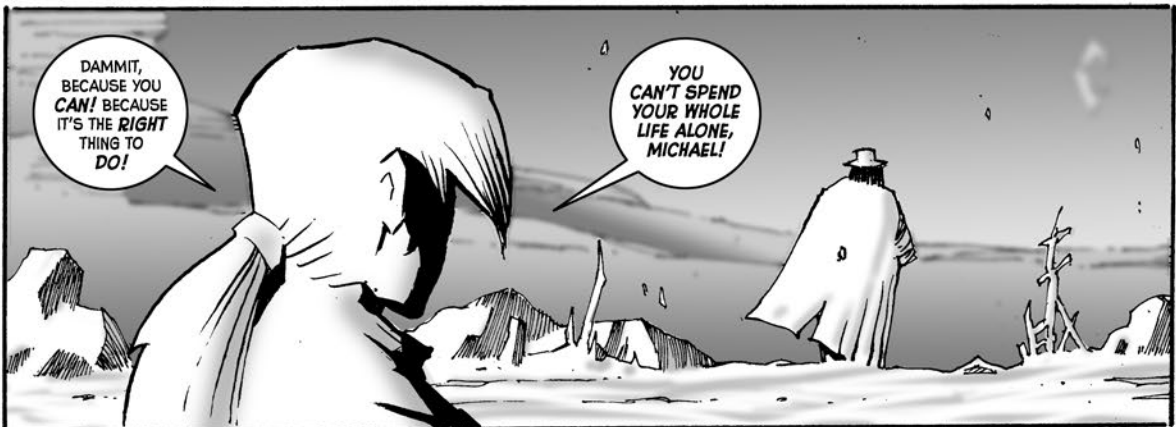


BECAUSE... BECAUSE...



HRR HRR HRR.

SO LONG, NURSE.



DAMMIT, BECAUSE YOU **CAN!** BECAUSE IT'S THE **RIGHT** THING TO **DO!**

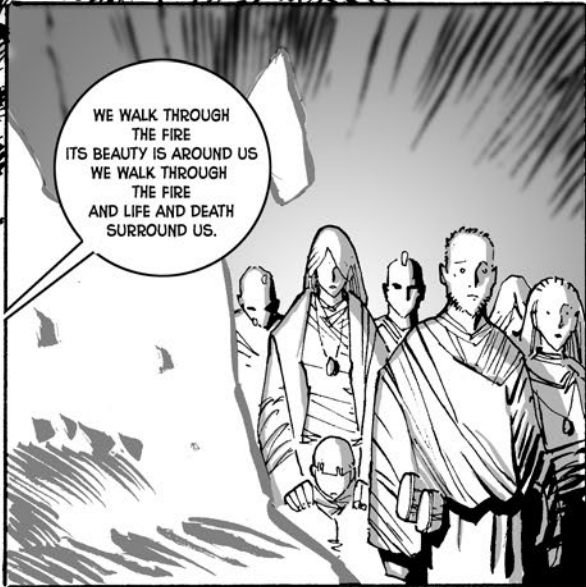
YOU **CAN'T** SPEND YOUR **WHOLE** LIFE ALONE, **MICHAEL!**





THE FIRE IS IN  
OUR HEARTS  
THE FIRE IS IN OUR  
SOULS  
THE FIRE IS LIFE AND  
DEATH  
THE FIRE YOU  
GIVE TO US

MOTHER SUN,  
MOTHER SUN  
GIVE YOUR BLESSINGS  
TO US  
FATHER MOON,  
FATHER MOON  
GIVE YOUR BLESSINGS  
TO US.

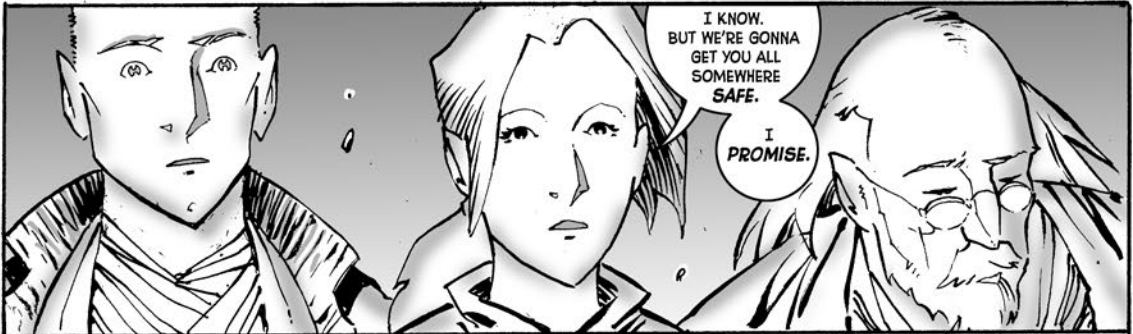


WE WALK THROUGH  
THE FIRE  
ITS BEAUTY IS AROUND US  
WE WALK THROUGH  
THE FIRE  
AND LIFE AND DEATH  
SURROUND US.



YOU  
OKAY?

MY  
STORE...  
MY  
LIFE...



I KNOW.  
BUT WE'RE GONNA  
GET YOU ALL  
SOMEWHERE  
SAFE.

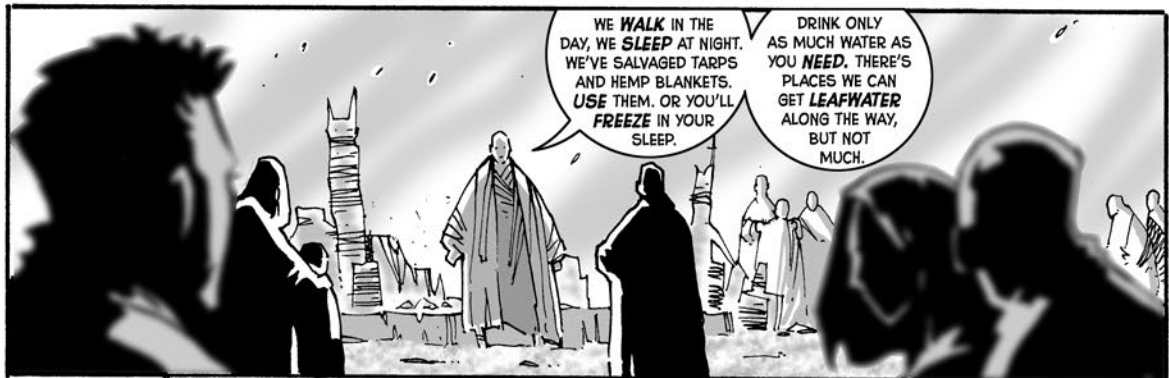
I  
PROMISE.



OKAY, LISTEN UP.

IT TAKES ME AND THE CREW **FOUR DAYS** TO REACH NEWBEGIN. **FIVE** IF THERE'S A **WHIPSTORM** ALONG THE WAY, LIKE ON OUR WAY BACK **YESTERDAY**.

BUT WITH EVERYONE HERE, IT'S GOING TO BE MORE LIKE **SIX OR SEVEN**.



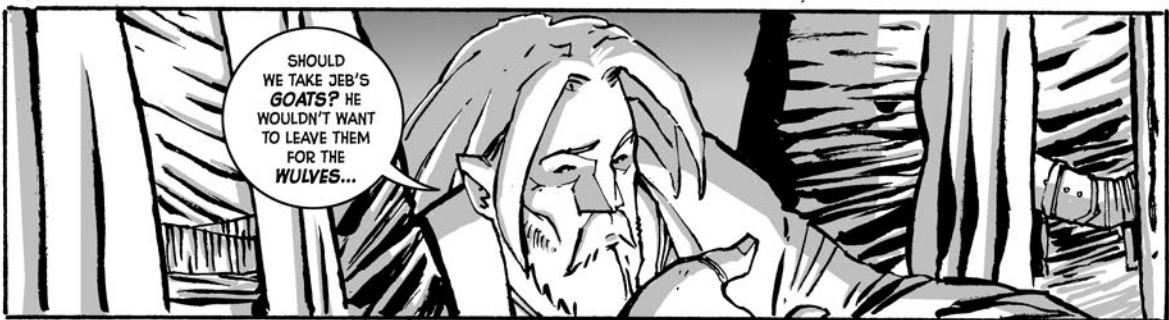
WE **WALK** IN THE DAY, WE **SLEEP** AT NIGHT. WE'VE SALVAGED **TARPS** AND **HEMP BLANKETS**. **USE THEM**. OR YOU'LL **FREEZE** IN YOUR SLEEP.

DRINK ONLY AS MUCH WATER AS YOU **NEED**. THERE'S PLACES WE CAN GET **LEAFWATER** ALONG THE WAY, BUT NOT MUCH.



THIS **ISN'T** GOING TO BE EASY. BUT IF WE **STAY TOGETHER**, AND WE'RE **STRONG**, WE CAN MAKE IT TO THE CITY.

ANY QUESTIONS?



SHOULD WE TAKE JEB'S **GOATS**? HE WOULDN'T WANT TO LEAVE THEM FOR THE **WULVES**...



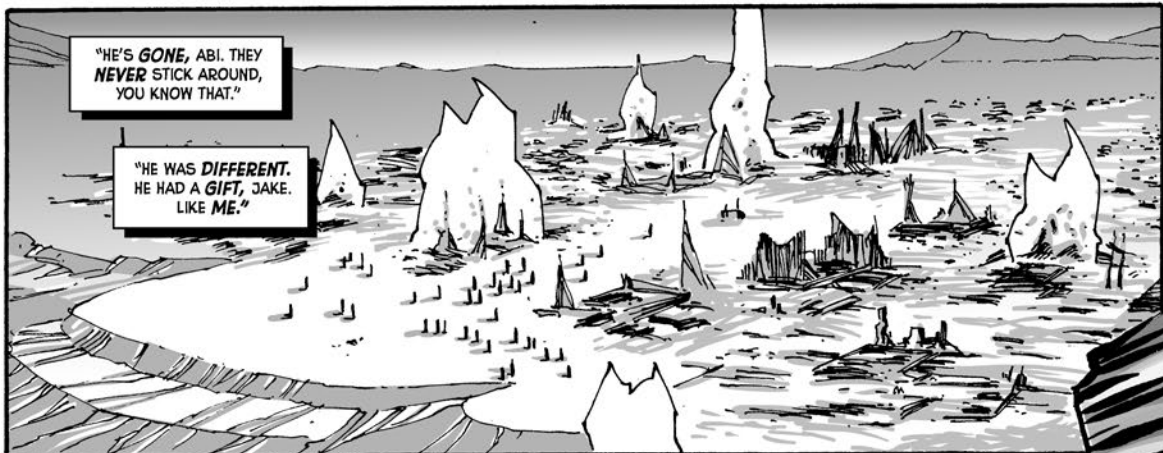
GOOD IDEA, GRISS. GO ROUND 'EM UP.

OKAY, EVERYBODY GRAB SOME **SUPPLIES**, AND LET'S GET READY. **SUN'S** UP ANY TIME NOW.



ABI?

THOUGHT I **SAW** SOMETHING...



"HE'S **GONE**, ABI. THEY **NEVER** STICK AROUND, YOU KNOW THAT."

"HE WAS **DIFFERENT**. HE HAD A **GIFT**, JAKE. LIKE **ME**."



"AND YOU USE YOURS TO **HELP** PEOPLE. NOT MAKE THEM **STAB** THEMSELVES."

"HE WAS **BAD NEWS**, ABI. **FORGET** HIM."



YOU'RE RIGHT. WE GOT **BIGGER** WORRIES RIGHT NOW.



EVERYBODY **READY?**

THEN LET'S GET WALKING.



WE  
GOT A  
LONG ROAD  
AHEAD OF  
US.

-Chapman

THEY ARE COMING.

AM I DREAMING?

A DREAM OF FIRE.

(WHO AM I?)

COME TO ME,  
MY CHILDREN.

THE CHILDREN ARE COMING.

(COME TO ME,  
MY CHILDREN)

THE CHILDREN OF THE SUN.

AND EVERYTHING  
ENDS IN FIRE.

NNNNAAAAAH!



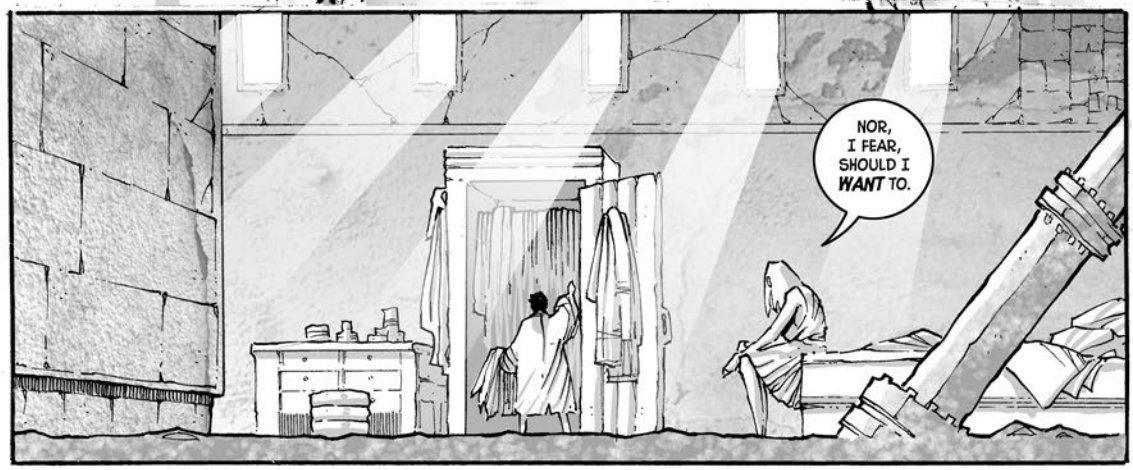
MY LORD!  
ARE YOU ALL  
RIGHT?



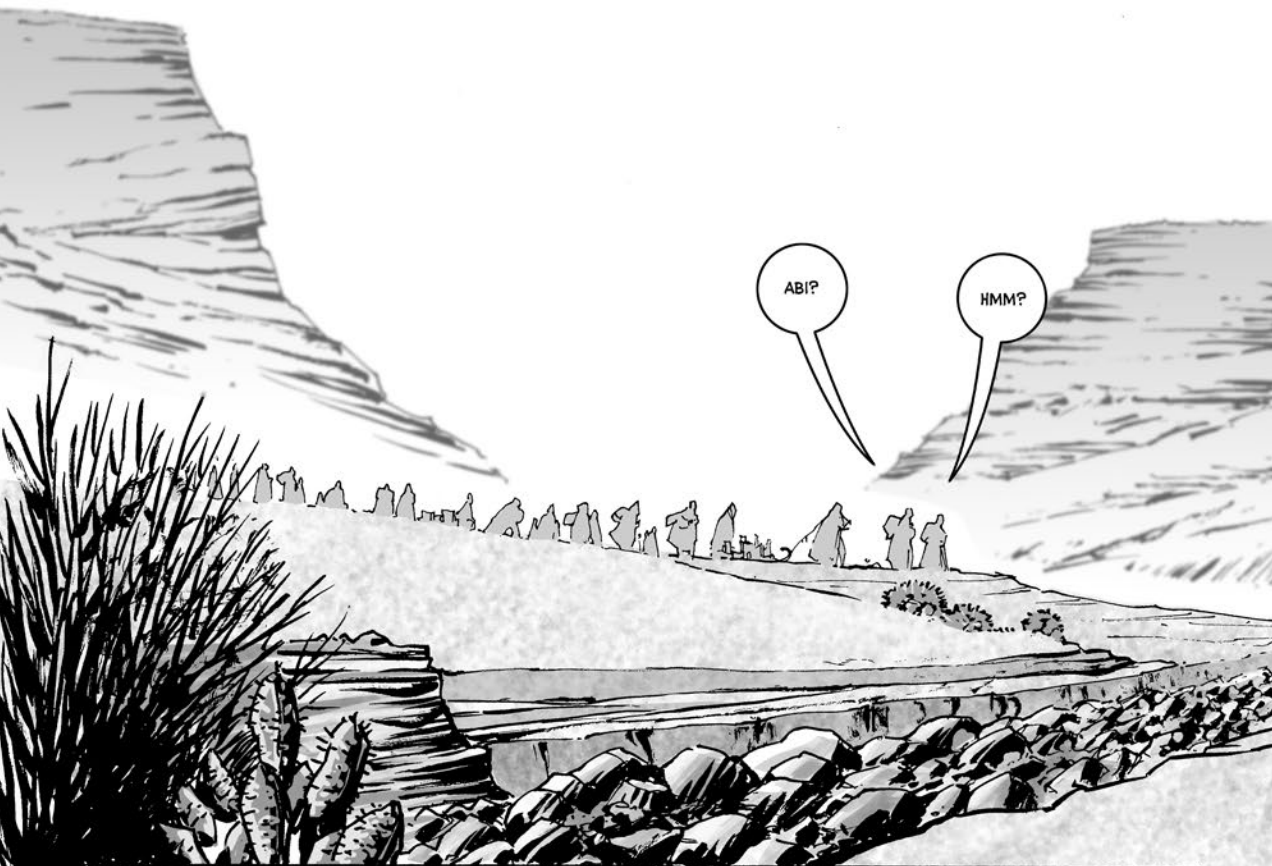
A  
DREAM,  
YAN...  
NOTHING  
MORE.

THE  
COUNCIL  
MEETS WITHIN  
THE HOUR,  
MY LORD. SHALL  
I DRESS  
YOU?

YES...  
I SHAN'T  
FIND SLEEP  
AGAIN IN A  
HURRY.



NOR,  
I FEAR,  
SHOULD I  
WANT TO.



ABI?

HMM?



SORRY...  
THOUGHT I  
**SAW** SOMETHIN'.  
PROBABLY  
NOTHIN',  
JUST **TIRED**.

SO I  
FORGOT TO  
**ASK**, HOW'D  
THE **TRADIN'**  
GO?



NOT BAD.  
PLENTY OF **MEAT**,  
NOT SO MANY  
**VEGETABLES**,  
SOME **HARDWARE**  
FOR **DOC**.

GOT A  
BALE OF **COTTON**  
FOR **ALYS** TO  
WEAVE, TOO. GUESS  
SHE WON'T BE  
NEEDING IT  
NOW.

LEAST  
WE CAN  
EAT THE **FOOD**  
ON THE  
WAY.



**WHY**,  
ABI? **FUCKING**  
**SANDIES** HAVEN'T  
BEEN ANYWHERE  
NEAR **PROVIDENCE**  
IN **YEARS**.

I KNOW...  
THE **WALKER**...  
**MICHAEL**...  
HE SAID HE **KILLED**  
SOME JUST A  
**DAY'S** WALK  
**EAST**.

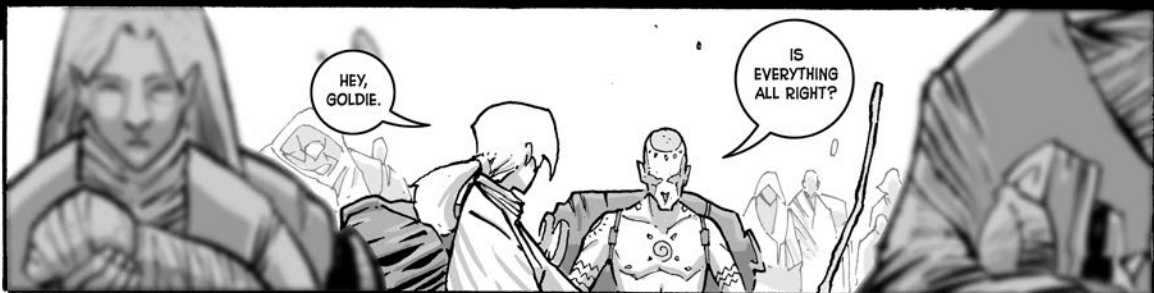


AND LED THEM STRAIGHT TO US. **THANKS**, RUIN-RUNNER.

CAN WE TALK ABOUT SOMETHIN' ELSE?

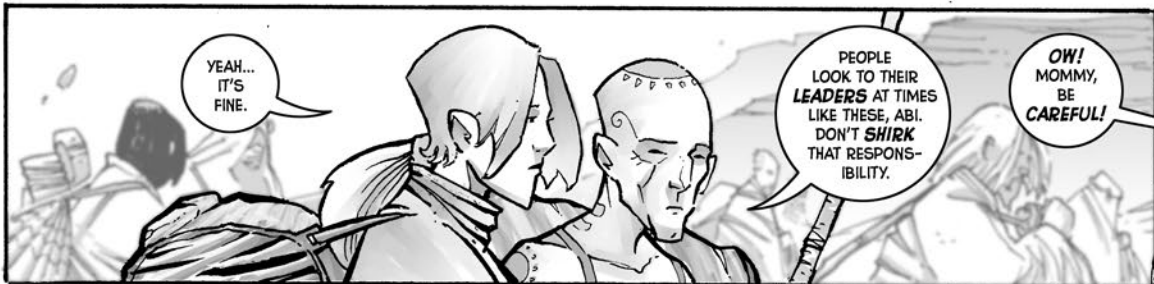


WHAT ELSE *IS* THERE TO TALK ABOUT?



HEY, GOLDIE.

IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?



YEAH... IT'S FINE.

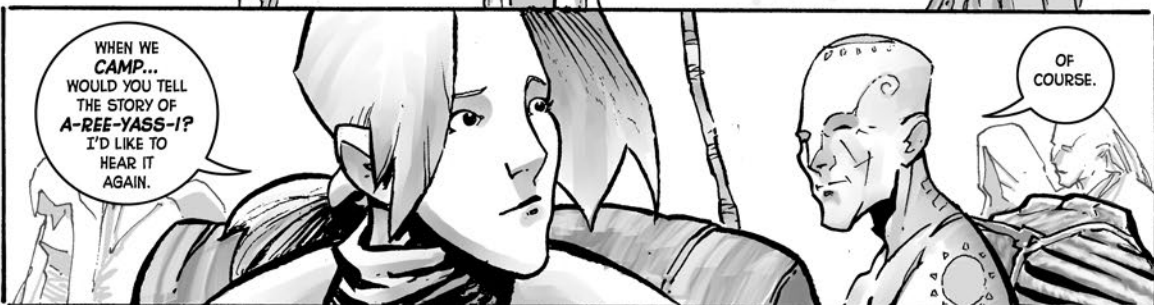
PEOPLE LOOK TO THEIR **LEADERS** AT TIMES LIKE THESE, ABI. DON'T **SHIRK** THAT RESPONSIBILITY.

**OW!** MOMMY, BE CAREFUL!



I UNDERSTAND.

HEY, SEERA! HOLD ON, I'LL COME GIVE YOU A HAND!



WHEN WE **CAMP**... WOULD YOU TELL THE STORY OF **A-REE-YASS-I?** I'D LIKE TO HEAR IT AGAIN.

OF COURSE.



C'MON,  
GIMME THAT  
**SWADDLE**.  
RYKARD'S GOTTA  
BE ENOUGH  
**WEIGHT** FOR  
YOU ALREADY.

THANK  
YOU,  
ABI.



IS IT  
MUCH  
**FURTHER?**

JAKOB  
SAID IT'S  
GONNA TAKE A  
**WEEK**, REMEMBER?  
WE'RE ONLY ONE  
DAY OUT.



OH,  
MOTHER  
SUN...  
I CAN'T **DO**  
THIS, ABI.

YEAH,  
YOU **CAN**.  
WE ALL  
CAN.

JAYM  
WAS ALWAYS  
THE **STRONG**  
ONE. **HE**  
COULD HAVE  
DONE IT.



HE  
ALWAYS  
TOOK CARE  
OF US.

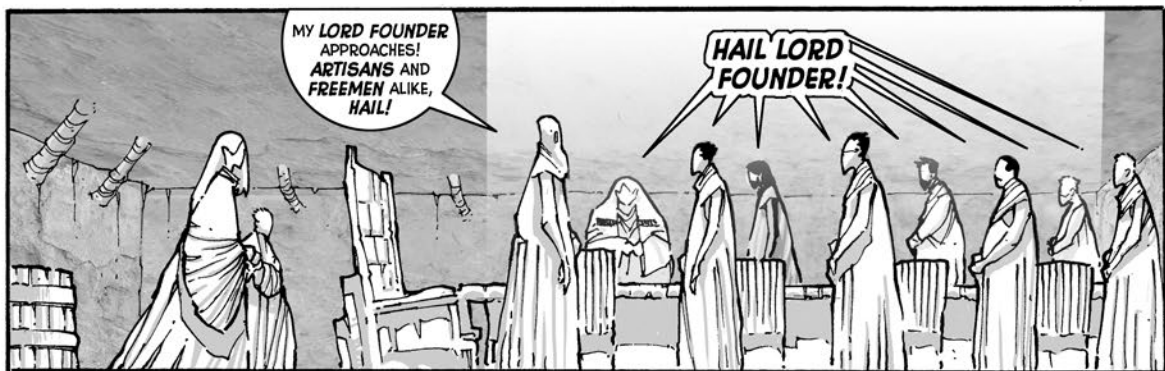
HEY,  
**HEY**. COME  
**ON**, NOW. YOU  
HAVE TO BE  
STRONG. FOR  
RYKARD.



BUT WHAT  
WILL WE **DO**?  
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN  
WE **GET** TO NEWBEGIN?  
I'VE NEVER BEEN  
IN A CITY  
BEFORE...



I'M  
NOT **SURE**.  
BUT WE'LL  
BE **SAFE**.



MY LORD FOUNDER APPROACHES! ARTISANS AND FREEMEN ALIKE, HAIL!

HAIL LORD FOUNDER!



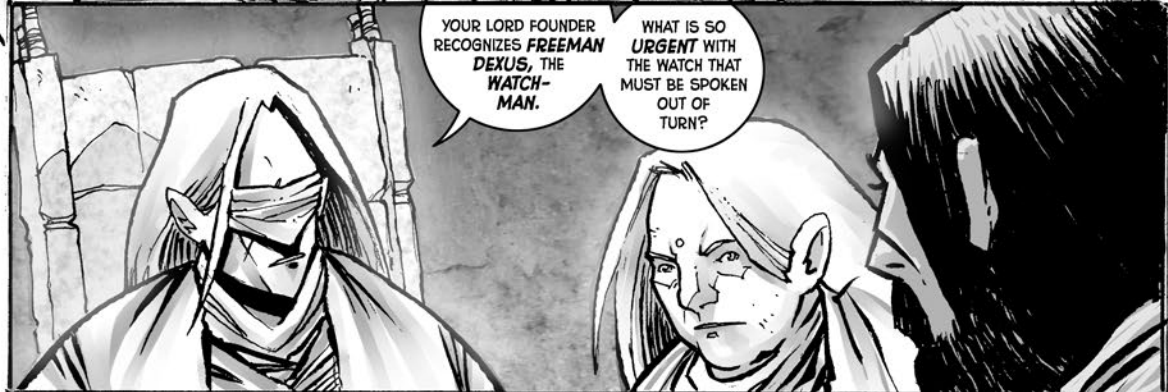
MAY THE LIGHT OF YOUR FATHERS BE UPON YOU.

I CALL THIS MEETING TO ORDER. PLEASE, BE SEATED.



NOW, TO BUSINESS--

MY LORD, I BEG LEAVE TO SPEAK FIRST.



YOUR LORD FOUNDER RECOGNIZES FREEMAN DEXUS, THE WATCH-MAN.

WHAT IS SO URGENT WITH THE WATCH THAT MUST BE SPOKEN OUT OF TURN?



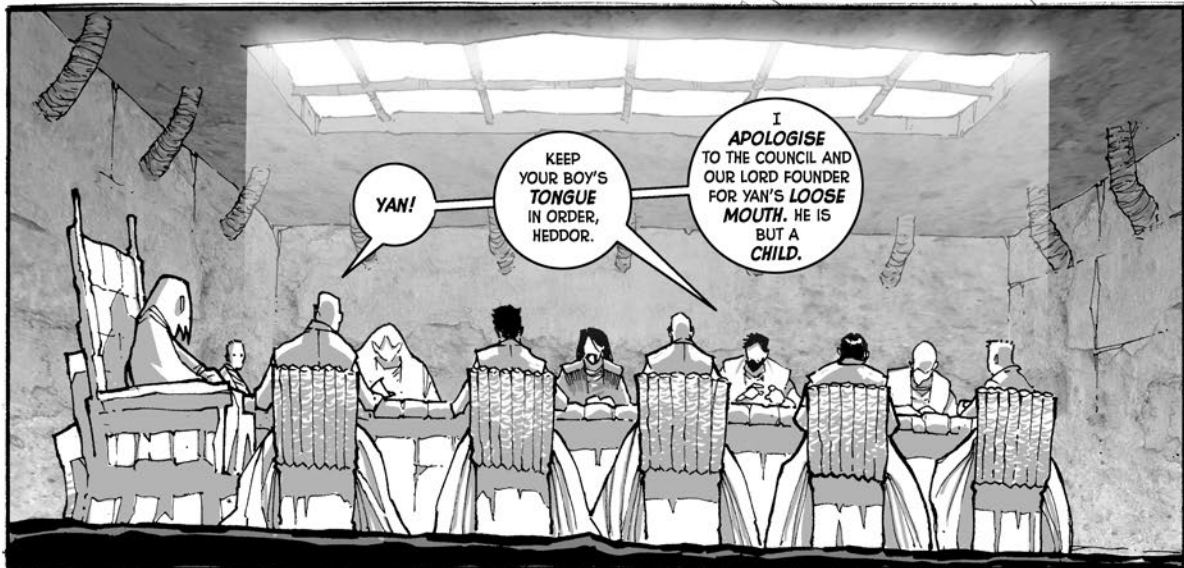
THIS MORNING, MY DISCIPLES DISCOVERED A BLASPHEMY IN THE TEMPLE OF LIGHT.

VANDALS HAD BROKEN IN AND... DESECRATED YOUR LIKENESS.

THE HEAD WAS BROKEN OFF.



WHAT ANIMAL WOULD DO SUCH A THING?



YAN!

KEEP YOUR BOY'S TONGUE IN ORDER, HEDDOR.

I APOLOGISE TO THE COUNCIL AND OUR LORD FOUNDER FOR YAN'S LOOSE MOUTH. HE IS BUT A CHILD.



BUT NOT SO FAR FROM A MAN GROWN.

AND THE QUESTION IS VALID. WHO DID THIS THING? BROTHER BRYN?



NO FOUNDER'S CHILD WOULD ACT SO. WE CANNOT BE SURE BUT...

WE BELIEVE THE VANDALS WERE SUNNERS, WHO ARE NO STRANGERS TO BLASPHEMY.



VERY WELL. REBUILD THE LIKENESS, AND WHIP A DOZEN OF THE HEATHENS AS A WARNING.




MY LORD, WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN...

YOU MEAN YOU CANNOT BE CERTAIN, PRIMATE HEDDOR.



I GROW WEARY OF THIS HEATHEN CULT'S GROWTH IN MY CITY. PERHAPS I SHOULD SIMPLY CAST THEM OUT.

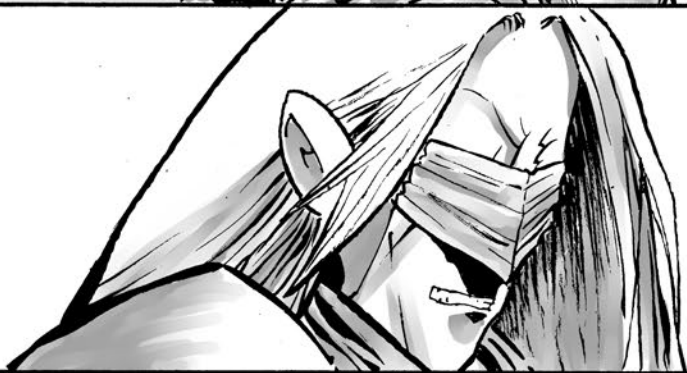


BUT THE MAJORITY OF OUR SLAVES ARE SUNNERS.

THEN CONVERT THEM. YOU ARE CURRENTLY WASTING MORE THAN HALF ON YOUR RIDICULOUS METALROAD, AFTER ALL.



BUT THE METALROAD--




--IS OF NO INTEREST TO ME, AS YOU WILL KNOW. THE PROSPECT OF REVOLUTION, ON THE OTHER HAND, IS SOMETHING I THINK WE CAN ALL TAKE AN INTEREST IN.

DEXUS!



MY LORD?



I WANT THE LEADERS. FIND OUT WHO THEIR PRIESTS ARE, THEIR... SINGERS, WHATEVER THEY CALL THEMSELVES. I EXPECT A REPORT BY NIGHTFALL.



WITH PLEASURE, MY LORD!





MOMMY,  
I'M  
COLD.



I KNOW,  
RYKARD. FATHER  
MOON IS ALWAYS  
COLD. THAT'S WHY  
YOU HAVE TO WEAR  
THE **BLANKETS**,  
TO KEEP YOU WARM  
WHILE YOU  
**SLEEP**.

HAVE  
YOU GOT  
A  
BLANKET?



YES,  
LOVE. DON'T  
WORRY, I'LL BE  
RIGHT NEXT TO  
YOU.

SHE  
ASKED WHAT  
WE'RE GONNA **DO**  
WHEN WE GET THERE.  
AND YOU KNOW  
WHAT? I GOT  
**NO IDEA**.

THE **DISCIPLES** ON  
THE **GATES** KNOW ME  
AND THE GUYS WELL  
ENOUGH BY NOW.  
THEY'LL LET US IN,  
I **PROMISE**.



THANKS  
FOR KEEPIN'  
THE **FIRE**  
GOIN',  
GOLDIE.


IT IS MY  
**HONOUR**  
TO **MOTHER**  
**SUN**.

YOU  
WANT TO  
HEAR THE  
**STORY**,  
NOW?



YOU  
BET.

IT  
IS AS MY  
**FATHER**, AND HIS  
**FATHER'S FATHERS**  
ALL TOLD, AND THE  
STORY IS  
**THIS**:



Long ago, man was foolish and proud, and the people of A-Ree-Yass-I were the most foolish of all.

They spurned Mother Sun and Father Moon, hiding from them inside great metal boxes.



PRaise ME, FOR I BRING LIFE!

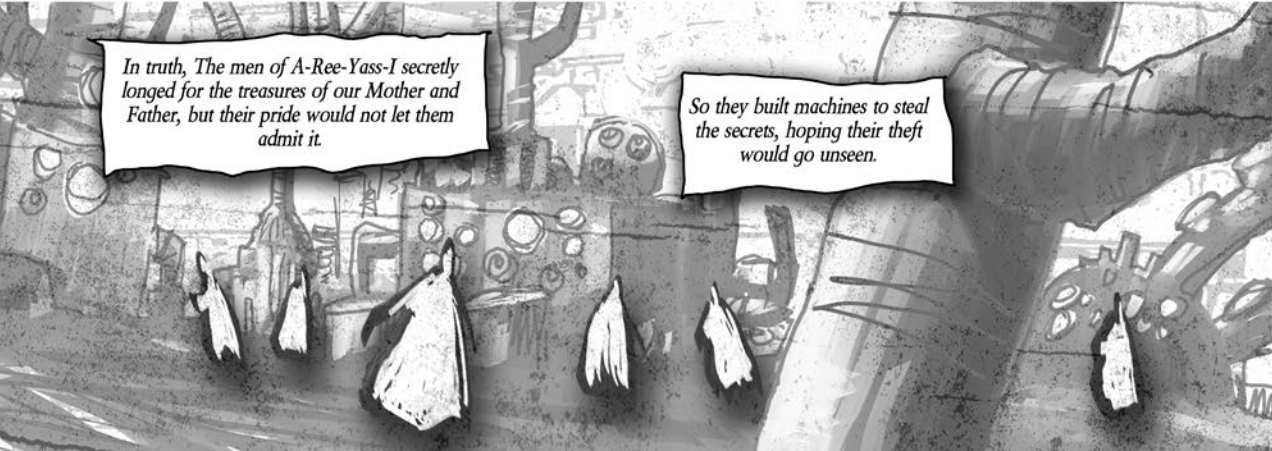
BUT WE DO NOT NEED YOUR LIGHT AND WARMTH.



PRaise ME, FOR I SHOW YOU THE GLORIOUS HEAVENS!

BUT WE DO NOT CARE FOR THE WONDERS YOU SHOW US.

And Mother Sun and Father Moon wept, for their children were ungrateful.




In truth, The men of A-Ree-Yass-I secretly longed for the treasures of our Mother and Father, but their pride would not let them admit it.

So they built machines to steal the secrets, hoping their theft would go unseen.



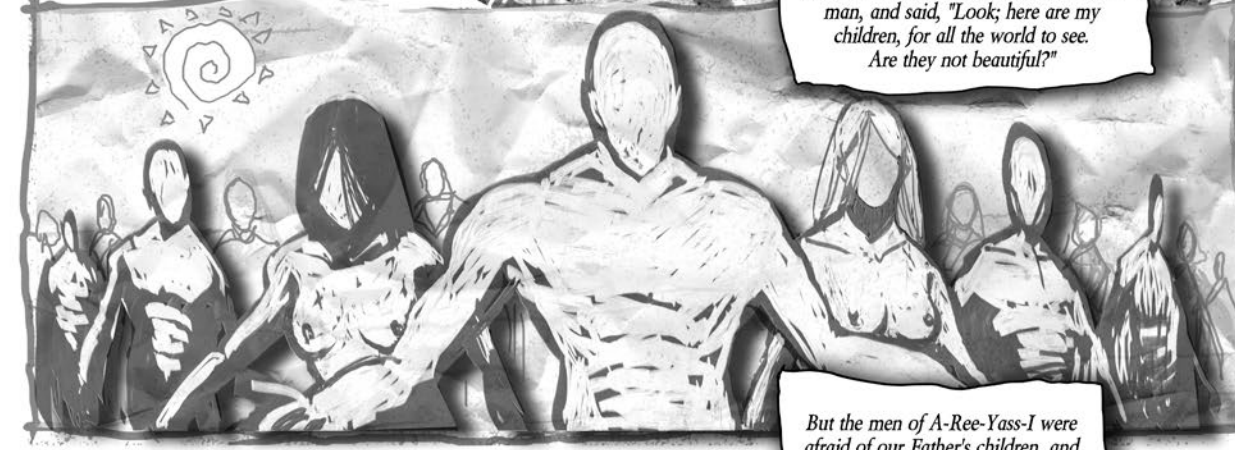
BUT MOTHER SUN AND FATHER MOON SEE ALL.



*Mother Sun revealed her child to man, and said, "Look; here is my child, for all the world to see. Is he not beautiful?"*


*But the men of A-Ree-Yass-I stole the child, and hid him from the world so no-one else could see his beauty.*

*And Mother Sun grew angry.*

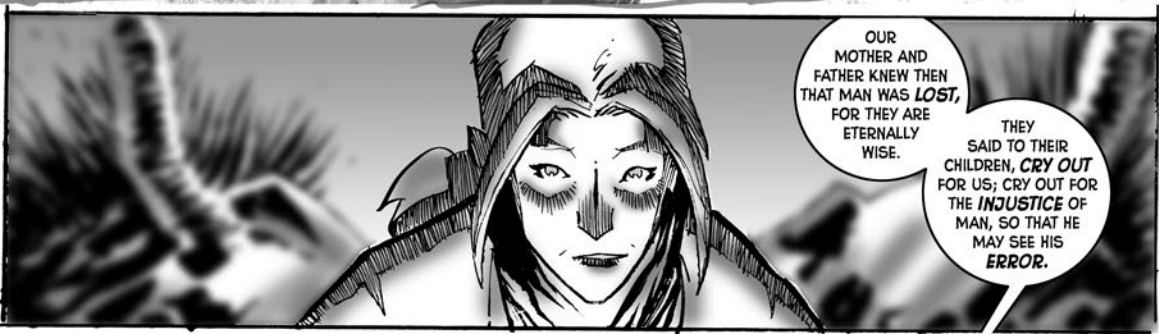


*So Father Moon revealed his children to man, and said, "Look; here are my children, for all the world to see. Are they not beautiful?"*

*But the men of A-Ree-Yass-I were afraid of our Father's children, and what man fears he seeks to kill.*



*And Father Moon grew angry.*



OUR MOTHER AND FATHER KNEW THEN THAT MAN WAS **LOST**, FOR THEY ARE ETERNALLY WISE.

THEY SAID TO THEIR CHILDREN, **CRY OUT** FOR US; CRY OUT FOR THE **INJUSTICE** OF MAN, SO THAT HE MAY SEE HIS **ERROR**.

So the children cried out,  
and the tears of their weeping  
swept over the earth.

And it was called  
the Big Wet.

Mother Sun rained fire  
from the sky, and burnt  
the cities of man.

Father Moon hid the  
heavens from sight, and  
cast darkness over all  
the earth.

And man also wept, for  
A-Ree-Yass-I was  
his downfall.

**MANY**  
**YEARS** PASSED  
BEFORE MAN  
**CRAWLED** FROM HIS  
RUIN, AND TOOK  
HIS PLACE UNDER  
MOTHER  
SUN.

**FORGIVE US, OUR MOTHER!**

WE SHALL **PRAISE** YOU AS ONE, THAT WE MAY BEGIN AGAIN; AND **LONG** SHALL WE SUFFER, FOR IT IS BY YOUR PASSING WE LIVE AND DIE.



I SHALL **GIVE** YOU LIFE, BUT NOT AS YOU KNEW IT. I HAVE TAKEN THE **CLOUDS**, SO THAT MY **SIGHT** UPON YOU MAY NEVER BE **OBSCURED**.

I HAVE TAKEN THE **BIRDS**, SO THAT I MAY **HEAR** EVERY WORD YOU **SPEAK**.

I HAVE DESTROYED YOUR **CITIES**, SO THAT YOU MAY NOT **HIDE** FROM ME AS YOU ONCE **DID**.

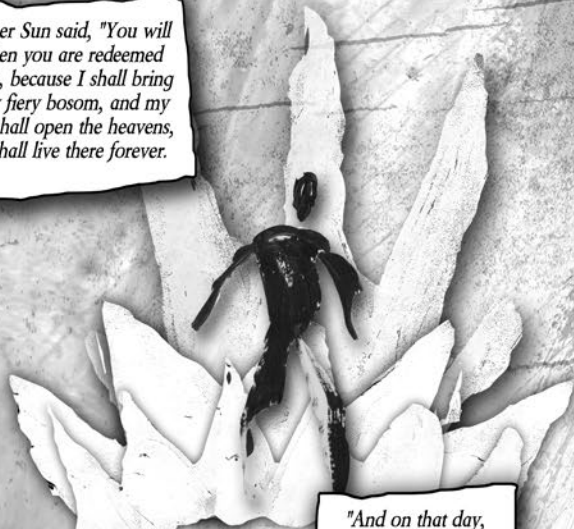
AND I HAVE TAKEN THE **HEAVENS**, SO THAT YOU MAY NOT **SEE** THEM.

I HAVE POISONED THE **OCEANS**, SO THAT YOU MAY NOT **TASTE** THEIR **FRUIT**.

AND THIS IS THE **WAY** OF THINGS, UNTIL YOU ARE **REDEEMED** IN OUR **EYES**.

BUT HOW WILL WE KNOW WHEN THAT TIME IS COME?

And Mother Sun said, "You will know when you are redeemed in my eyes, because I shall bring you to my fiery bosom, and my Husband shall open the heavens, and you shall live there forever."



"And on that day, man shall rejoice."



THAT IS THE WAY OF THINGS.

THANKS, GOLDIE. AFTER WHAT'S HAPPENED...

MOTHER SUN IS NEVER FALSE, ABI. WITH HER GUIDANCE AND WISDOM, WE'LL GET THROUGH THIS.



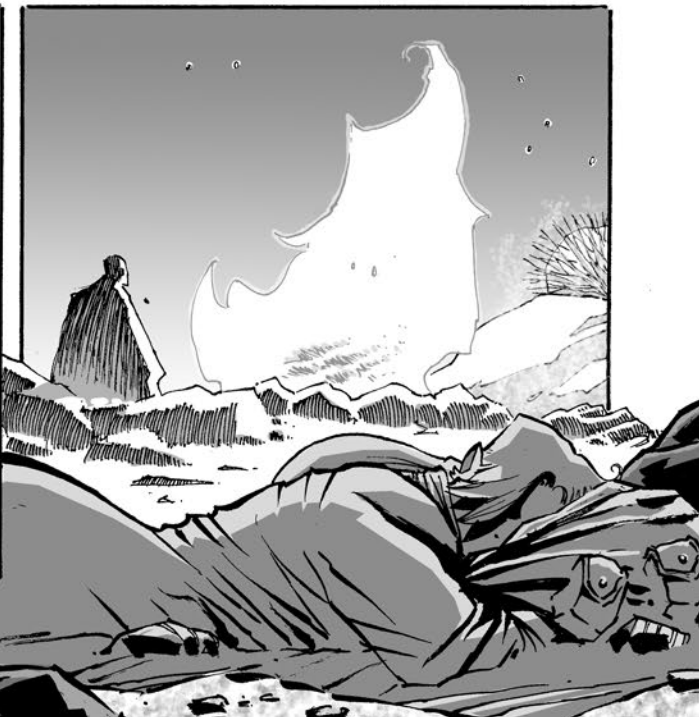
ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE, STORY'S OVER.

JAKOB AND ME'LL KEEP WATCH THROUGH THE NIGHT, OKAY? YOU ALL JUST GET YOUR HEADS DOWN AND CONCENTRATE ON SLEEP. YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT.



I'LL TAKE FIRST ON. YOU NEED SHUT-EYE, TOO.

OKAY. WAKE ME IN A FEW HOURS.






YOU  
HAVE A  
NAME?



MY  
LORD FOUNDER...  
IT APPEARS THE  
HEATHENS DO NOT  
HAVE A *SINGLE*  
LEADER, SUCH AS  
YOUR *GLORIOUS*  
SELF--

*SPARE*  
ME YOUR FAWNING,  
WATCHMAN, FROM YOU,  
OF ALL PEOPLE,  
I EXPECT THE *TRUTH*...  
NO MATTER HOW  
*PALATABLE*. SPEAK  
YOUR MIND.

--YES,  
MY  
LORD.



THERE  
ARE AT LEAST  
TEN *SUN-SINGERS*,  
AS THEY CALL THEMSELVES,  
KNOWN IN THE CITY.  
BUT *NONE* SEEMS TO  
WIELD ANY *MORE* POWER  
OR INFLUENCE THAN  
*ANOTHER*.



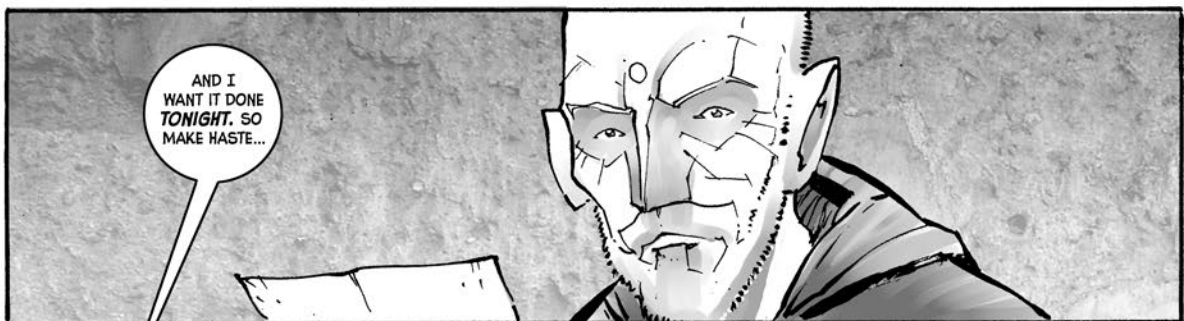
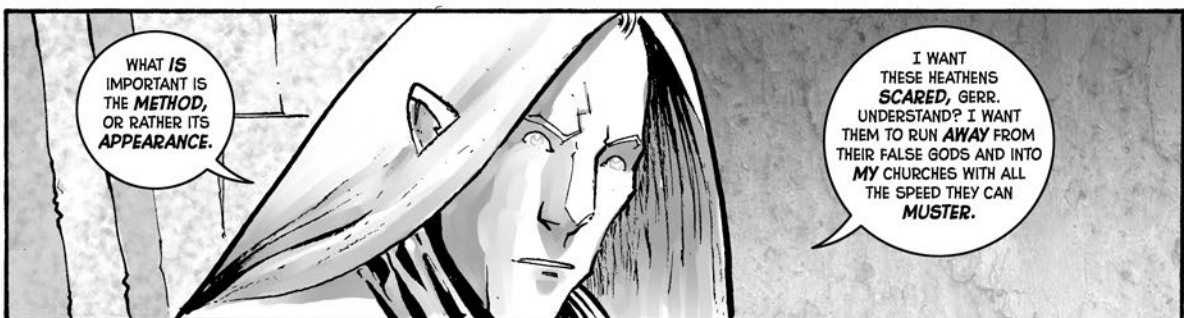
THEIR  
NAMES  
ARE--

WHY,  
DEXUS, I DO  
BELIEVE THAT  
SOUNDS LIKE A  
*LETTER*. HAVE YOU  
BEEN TAKING  
*LESSONS*?

FROM  
*BROTHER*  
*BRYN*, MY LORD.  
HE SAYS I AM A  
*FAST* LEARNER.  
THEIR NAMES--



*THANK*  
YOU, WATCHMAN.  
LEAVE IT ON THE  
*TABLE*, AND  
CONSIDER YOUR  
TASK  
*FULFILLED*.

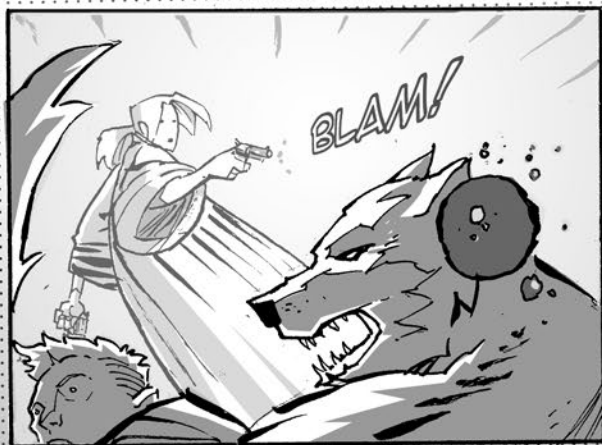
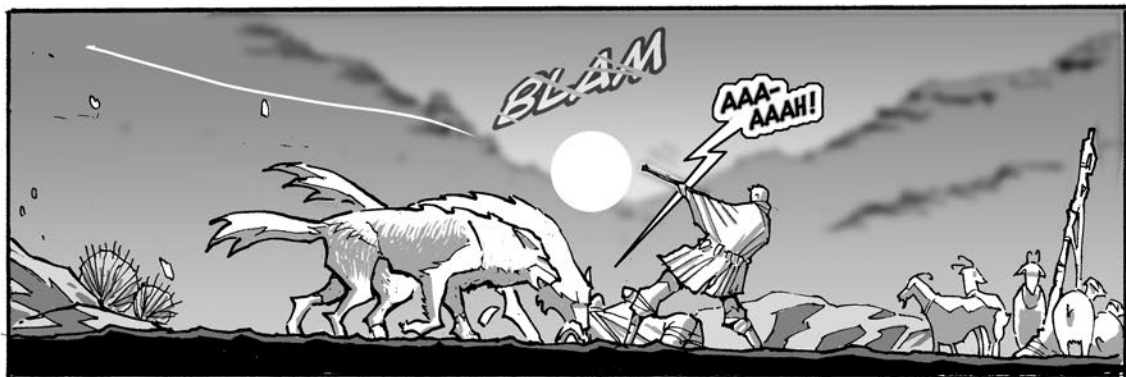


"...YOU HAVE A CITY TO SCOUR."













MICHAEL!

HELLO,  
NURSE.

YOU  
CAN HAVE  
THAT ONE  
FOR FREE.

Chop 06



YOU SON OF A GOAT!



GIMME THAT PACK!  
YOU BEEN SNEAKING IT AWAY?

MMF!  
WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



IT WAS YOU PACKED ALL THE FOOD ONTO THE SLEDS!  
YOU GOT IT ALL OUT LAST NIGHT WHEN WE CAMPED!

SO WHERE'S IT ALL GONE?



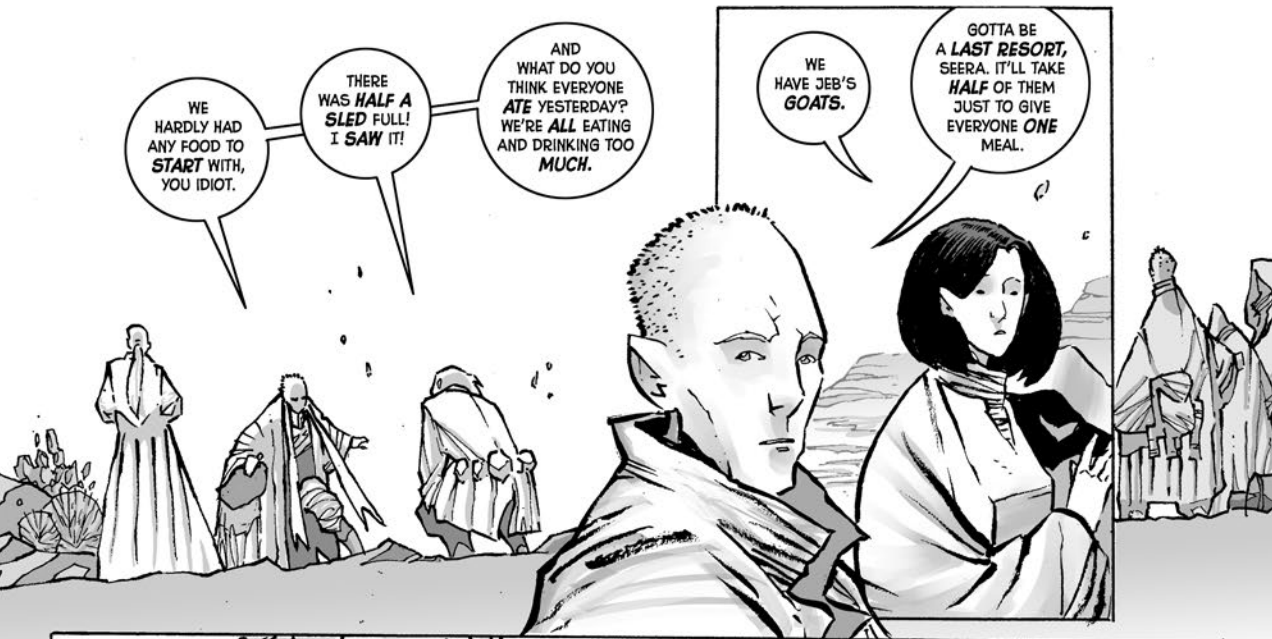
klik

GET OFF HIM, GRISS. NOW.



YOU DON'T EVEN HAVE ANY BULLETS LEFT.

IT'S THE THOUGHT THAT COUNTS.



WE HARDLY HAD ANY FOOD TO START WITH, YOU IDIOT.

THERE WAS HALF A SLED FULL! I SAW IT!

AND WHAT DO YOU THINK EVERYONE ATE YESTERDAY? WE'RE ALL EATING AND DRINKING TOO MUCH.

WE HAVE JEB'S GOATS.

GOTTA BE A LAST RESORT, SEERA. IT'LL TAKE HALF OF THEM JUST TO GIVE EVERYONE ONE MEAL.



THIS IS A LAST RESORT!

NO, IT'S NOT!

I'VE DONE THIS BEFORE, GRISS. I KNOW WHAT WE HAVE WILL LAST US A WHILE YET, IF WE JUST RATION.



THE SOONER WE GET TO THE CITY, THE SOONER WE CAN HUNT.

NOW STOP FUCKING AROUND.



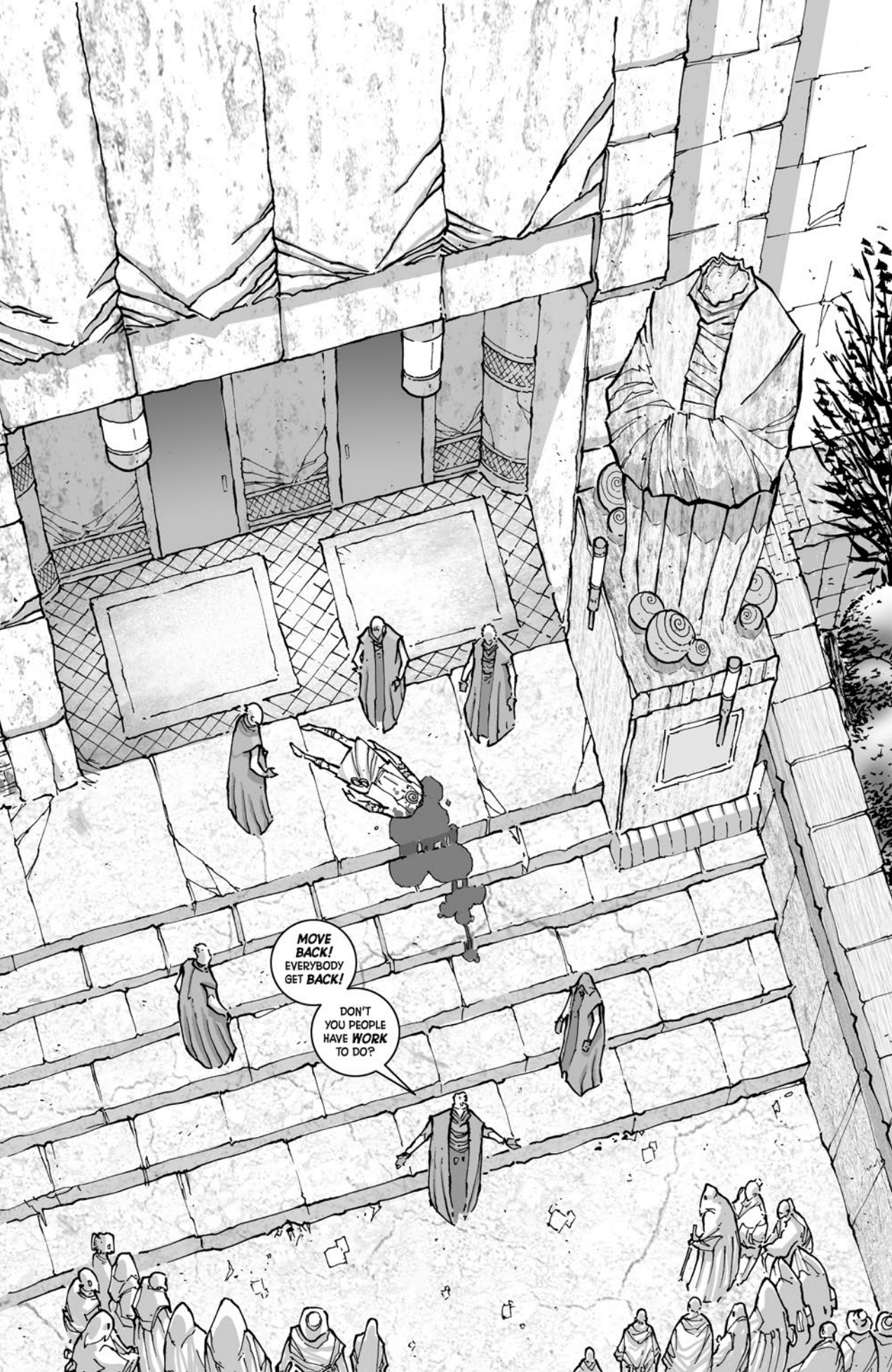
HUNTING AROUND NEWBEGIN?

FALSE HOPE'S A DANGEROUS GIFT.

FUCK YOU. WHY DID YOU EVEN COME BACK, SCAVENGER MAN? THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU HERE.



MAYBE.



**MOVE  
BACK!  
EVERYBODY  
GET BACK!**

**DON'T  
YOU PEOPLE  
HAVE *WORK*  
TO DO?**



SAME AS THE STATUE. SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE WHAT THEY DID.

FUCKIN' DESERVED IT. FILTHY FUCKIN' SUN-SLAVES.

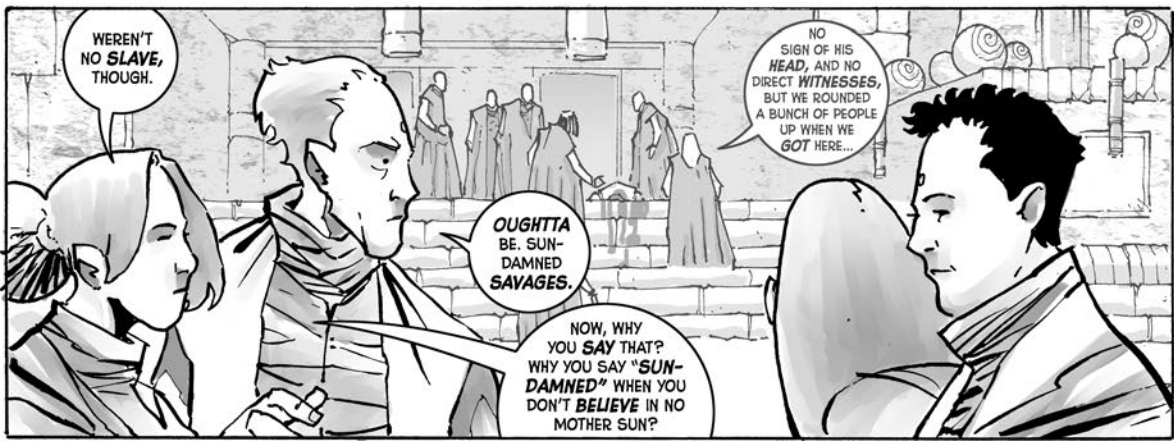
HOW DO YOU KNOW HE WAS A SUNNER?



LOOK AT HIM. ALL THOSE FREAKY FUCKIN' TATTOOS.

WATCH-MAN DEXUS, SIR!

GET HIM OUT OF HERE. YOU, GO FIND A WASHER-WOMAN AND CLEAN THIS MESS UP.



WEREN'T NO SLAVE, THOUGH.

NO SIGN OF HIS HEAD, AND NO DIRECT WITNESSES, BUT WE ROUNDED A BUNCH OF PEOPLE UP WHEN WE GOT HERE...

OUGHTTA BE. SUN-DAMNED SAVAGES.

NOW, WHY YOU SAY THAT? WHY YOU SAY "SUN-DAMNED" WHEN YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN NO MOTHER SUN?

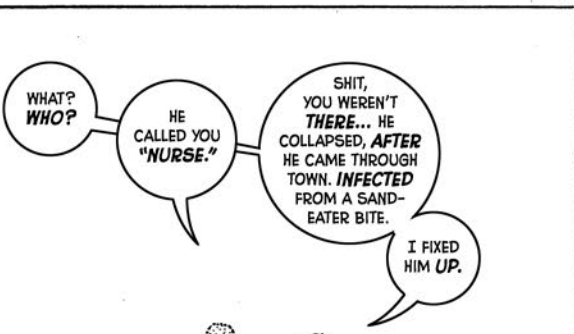


JUST A FIGURE OF FUCKING SPEECH, WOMAN. FUCK ME...

LET THEM GO. THIS ONE'S GOING STRAIGHT IN THE GROUND.



WHY'D HE CALL YOU THAT?



WHAT? WHO?

HE CALLED YOU "NURSE."

SHIT, YOU WEREN'T THERE... HE COLLAPSED, AFTER HE CAME THROUGH TOWN. INFECTED FROM A SAND-EATER BITE.

I FIXED HIM UP.



DON'T EVEN LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT, JAKE. THIS IS WHAT I DO, YOU KNOW THAT.



HEY, SCAVENGER MAN! FORWARD'S THIS WAY!



KNOCK IT OFF, JAKE.

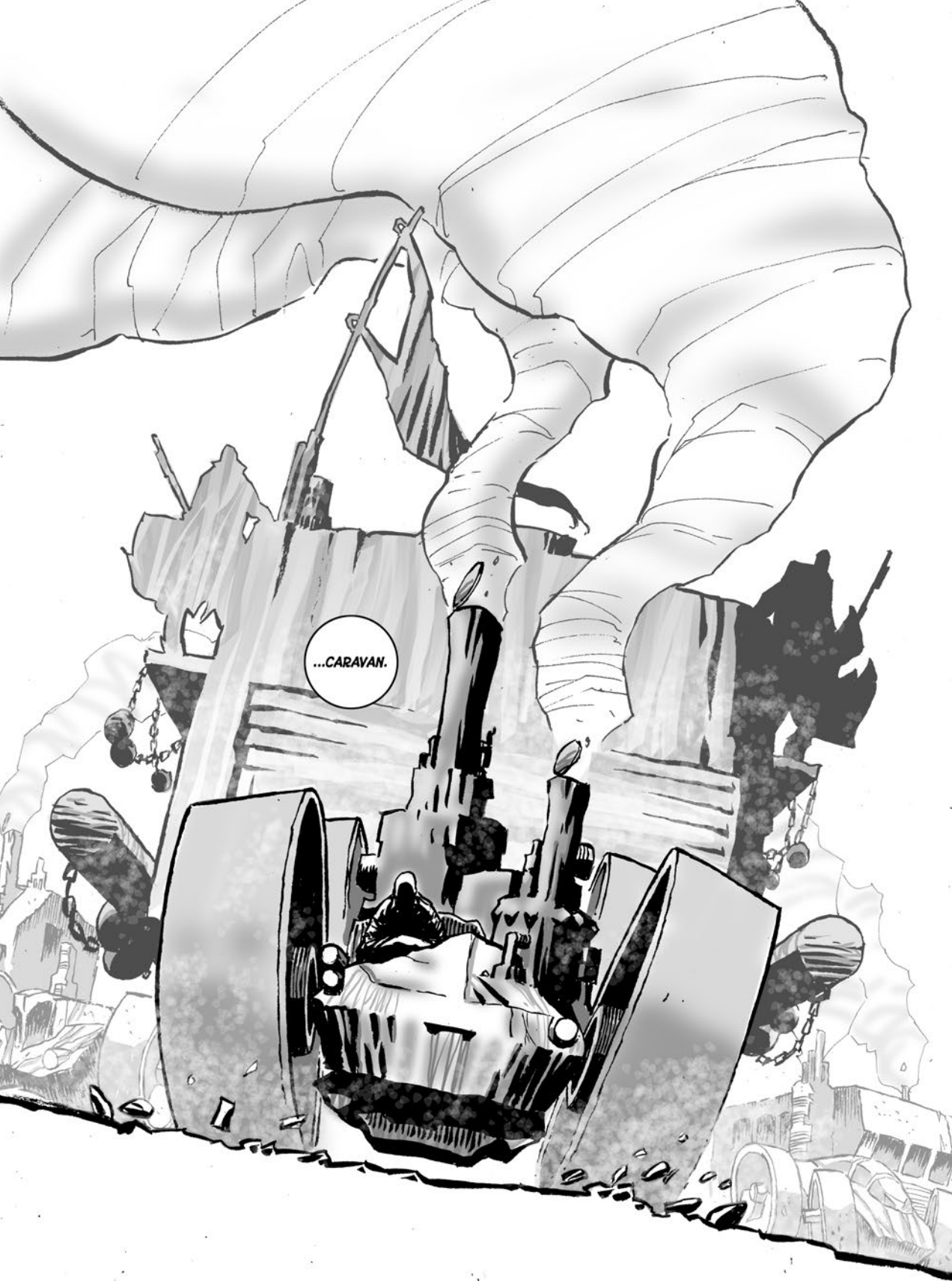
WHAT IS IT, MICHAEL? WHAT YOU LOOKIN' AT?

SMOKE. BACK BEHIND US.

A FIRE?

NO...





...CARAVAN.



MACHINE CARAVAN? WE CAN GET A RIDE.

NO. SHOULD TAKE COVER, LET THEM PASS.



GOATSHIT! THAT CARAVAN'S GONNA HAVE FOOD AND WATER, AND IT'LL TAKE US TO THE CITY IN NO TIME!

I WON'T LET MY PEOPLE STARVE JUST BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS HAVE TO BE A FUCKING LONER.

YOUR PEOPLE?



DAMN STRAIGHT! ALL RIGHT, EVERYBODY-- MMPH!

HOLD IT. WE GO IN THERE LIKE A MOB, THEY'LL THINK WE'RE TRYIN' TO RAID 'EM.

'SIDES, WHAT HAPPENS IF THEY SAY NO? AIN'T LIKE WE CAN FORCE 'EM.



MICHAEL, YOU KNOW THIS COUNTRY BETTER'N ANYONE.

GO BARTER US A PLACE ON THAT CARAVAN.



I KNOW THESE HILLS. FOUR DAYS, I CAN GET YOU ALL TO--

PLEASE, MICHAEL.

MOST OF US WON'T LAST FOUR DAYS.



HEY!  
MIND IF  
I TAG  
ALONG?



I, AH... I WANT  
TO **EXPLAIN**  
ABOUT THE  
**LETTER.**

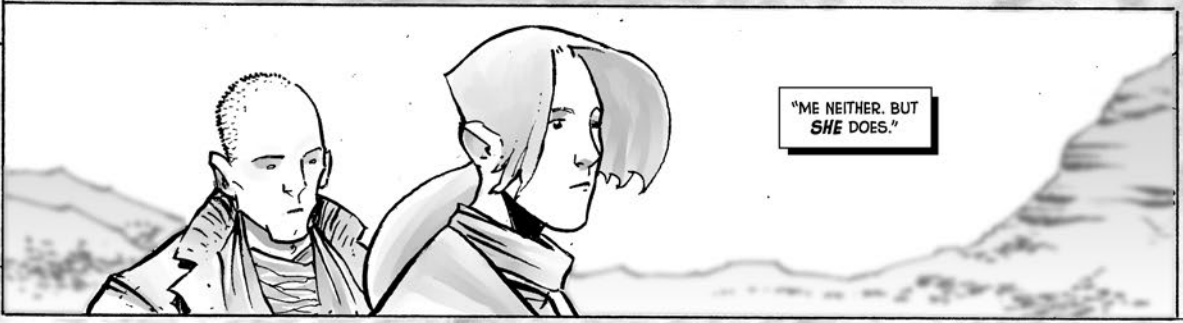
WHOSE  
**BENEFIT?**  
MINE OR YOURS?



PROVIDENCE  
NEEDS--I MEAN  
**NEEDED**--NO, FUCK  
IT, PROVIDENCE **STILL**  
NEEDS ABI. BUT I  
KNEW SHE WOULDN'T  
BE ABLE  
TO **RESIST.**

**YOU**  
BELIEVE IN  
A-REE-  
YASS-I?

NO.



"ME NEITHER. BUT  
**SHE DOES."**



HOW  
**OLD** ARE  
YOU?

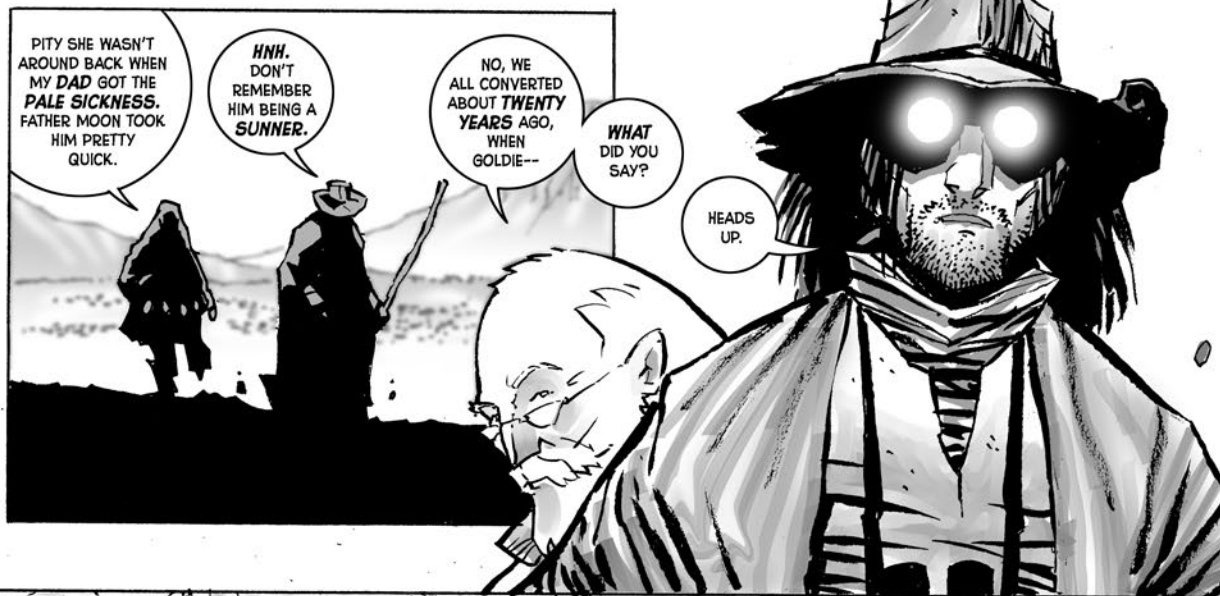
FIFTY.  
WHY?

NOT  
MANY **GET**  
THAT FAR. NOT  
WITHOUT  
**HELP.**



IS  
IT THAT  
**OBVIOUS?**

IT IS  
NOW.



PITY SHE WASN'T AROUND BACK WHEN MY DAD GOT THE PALE SICKNESS. FATHER MOON TOOK HIM PRETTY QUICK.

HHH. DON'T REMEMBER HIM BEING A SUNNER.

NO, WE ALL CONVERTED ABOUT TWENTY YEARS AGO, WHEN GOLDIE--

WHAT DID YOU SAY?

HEADS UP.



HRR. I'LL BE A GOAT'S UNCLE.

HEY! TELL THE SULTAN WE WANT TO TRADE!



SURE, RUIN RUNNER! YOU LOOK LIKE YOU GOT PLENTY OFFERAGE GOIN'!

OUT OF THE FUCKING WAY!



"THE SULTAN"?



WOAH!  
SHIIIIII--



KRUMP



NOW.  
GO TELL THE  
SULTAN--

JENNSUN,  
YOU SON  
OF A  
GOAT!



WHO  
THE FUCK  
TAUGHT YOU  
DRIVAGE?  
YOU ALMOST--

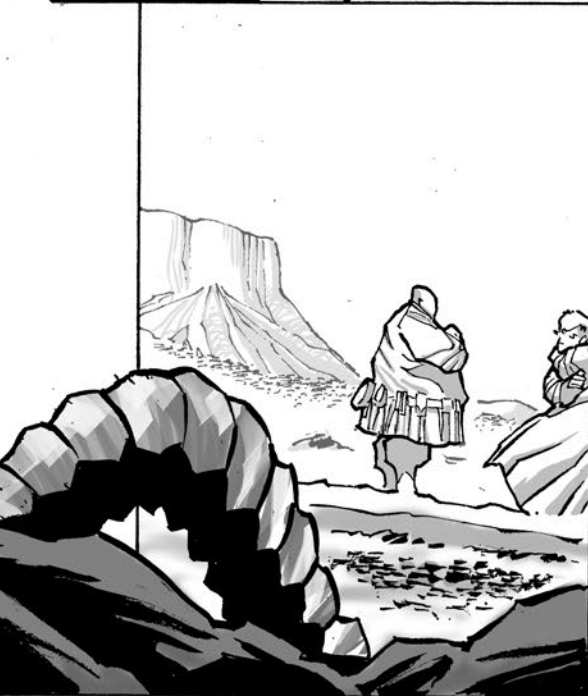
WELL,  
FUCK  
ME.



MICHAEL  
THE LOST.

SULTAN  
AMEER.  
BEEN A LONG  
TIME.

NOT  
LONG ENOUGH,  
YOU BACKSTABBING  
GOATFUCKER. NOW  
WHAT THE FUCK ARE  
YOU DOING HOLDING  
UP MY  
CARAVAN?





YOU RIDE WITH ME, YOU LIVE BY MY RULES.

YOU DON'T TAKE FOOD FOR YOURSELVES. YOU EAT WHEN WE EAT, AND YOU EAT WHAT WE GIVE YOU. YOU WANT EXTRAS YOU TRADE LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE.

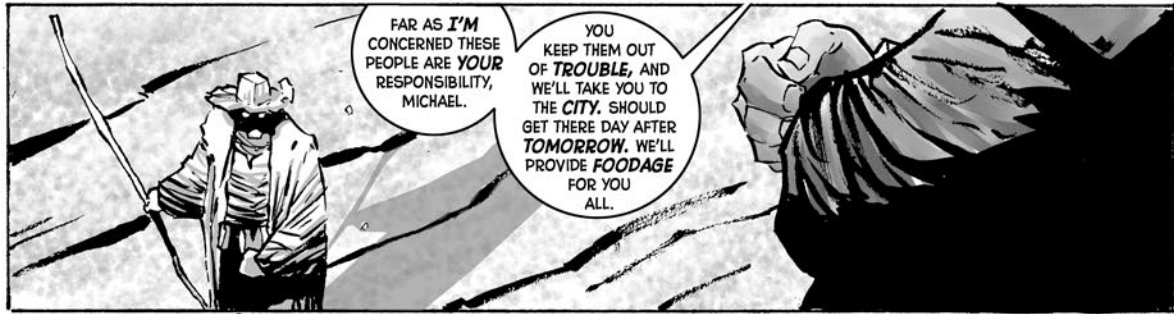
YOU DON'T GO IN A VEHICLE UNLESS YOU'RE INVITED. THESE ARE OUR HOMES.



AND WHEN WE CAMP, YOU SLEEP OUTSIDE.



SEE THOSE BIG TRAILERS AT THE BACK? THAT'S OUR CARGO. OUR LIVELIHOOD. ANY OF YOU EVEN SNIFF AT THEM, I'LL KILL YOU MYSELF.



FAR AS I'M CONCERNED THESE PEOPLE ARE YOUR RESPONSIBILITY, MICHAEL.

YOU KEEP THEM OUT OF TROUBLE, AND WE'LL TAKE YOU TO THE CITY. SHOULD GET THERE DAY AFTER TOMORROW. WE'LL PROVIDE FOODAGE FOR YOU ALL.



AND WHO KNOWS, THERE MAY EVEN BE BOOZEAGE, TOO.

NOW YOU'RE TALKING.



GOOD EVENING, ARTISIAN SKOT.



MY FATHER WELCOMES YOU, AND ASKS THAT YOU ATTEND HIM IN THE CARD ROOM.

THANK YOU, YAN, BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO SHOW ME WHERE IT IS. I'M NEW, REMEMBER?



MY APOLOGIES, ARTISIAN. THIS WAY.

SHOULDN'T YOU BE WITH THE FOUNDER?

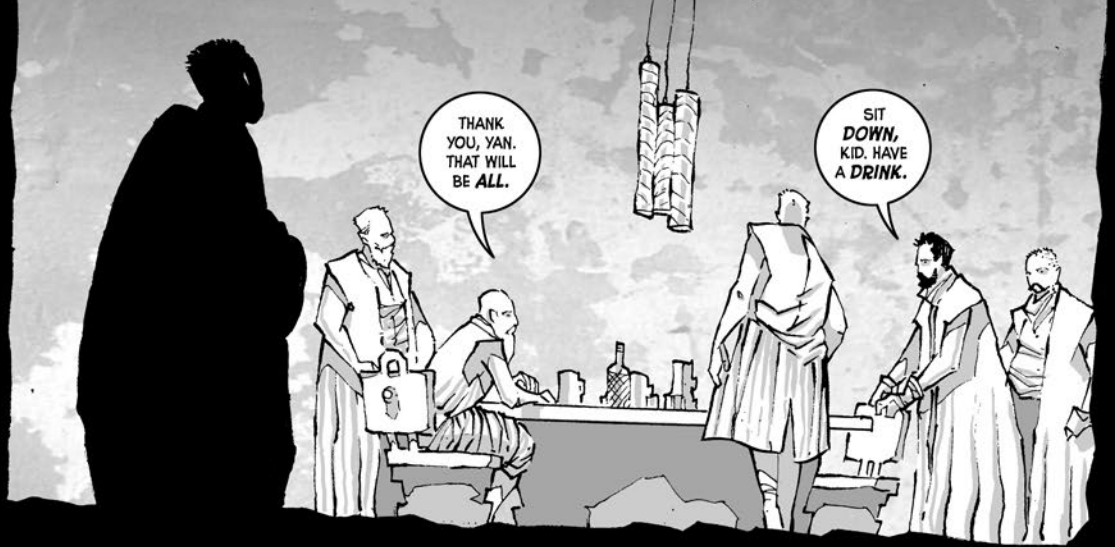
MY LORD SOME-TIMES REQUIRES TIME ALONE. I WILL ATTEND HIM IN THE MORNING.



THE CARD ROOM, SIR.

SKOT! COME IN, COME IN. WELCOME TO OUR LITTLE CLUB.

TO THE TRUE NEWBEGIN COUNCIL! HAHA!



THANK YOU, YAN. THAT WILL BE ALL.

SIT DOWN, KID. HAVE A DRINK.



DON'T DO IT. CHEFFRI JUST TRIES TO GET EVERYONE PLASTERED BECAUSE HE'S A TERRIBLE PLAYER.

I'M TELLING YOU, DOCTOR, IT'S A MYSTERY.

AND THEN WONDERS WHY HE CAN'T WALK TO COUNCIL CHAMBERS THE NEXT MORNING.



SO IS THAT EVERYONE?

FOR TONIGHT, YES. NEELAN'S DAUGHTER IS UNWELL AGAIN.

WHAT ABOUT FREEMAN DEXUS?



THE ANSWER'S IN THE QUESTION, SKOT. COUNCIL SEAT OR NOT, HE'S STILL A CIRCLE-HEAD.

HE'LL BE ASKING WHERE BROTHER BRYN IS NEXT.

I'M NOT THAT NAIVE, JAX.



SPEAKING OF OUR **BLESSED BROTHER...** HAS ANYONE **SEEN** HIM SINCE THIS MORNING'S **BODY?**

**BODY?**



THEY FOUND A **SUN-SINGER** THIS MORNING ON THE TEMPLE STEPS.

MINUS HIS **HEAD.**



WHO DID IT? DID THEY **CATCH** ANY-ONE?

OH, PLEASE. THE **DISCIPLES OF THE WATCH** COULDN'T CATCH THE **FUCKING BLACK DEATH.**



I KNOW WHO DID IT.



WHO?



**COME,** NOW. THE NIGHT AFTER HIS **STATUE** WAS **DECAPITATED?** AFTER **DECLARING** THEY SHOULD ALL BE **BANISHED?**



YOU THINK IT'S A MESSAGE.

YES. BUT IT WON'T WORK.



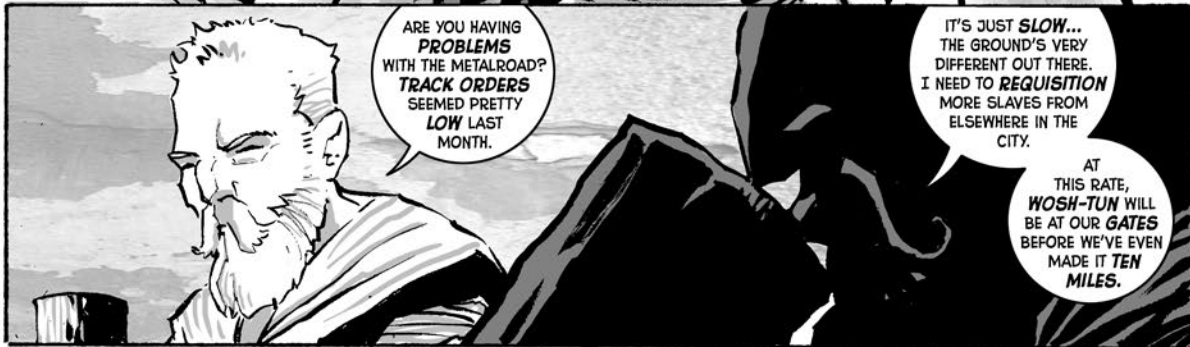
I PROBABLY SPEND MORE TIME WITH THE SLAVES THAN ANY OF YOU. AND IT'S TRUE WHAT THEY SAY, **DEATH** HOLDS NO FEAR FOR SUNNERS.

BUT NEITHER ARE THEY **DANGEROUS**, TO US OR THE CITY.



**GOAT-SHIT.** THEY'RE LAZY, IGNORANT SAVAGES. THEY'D KILL EVERY **FOUNDER'S CHILD** IN THE CITY IF THEY COULD FIND A WAY.

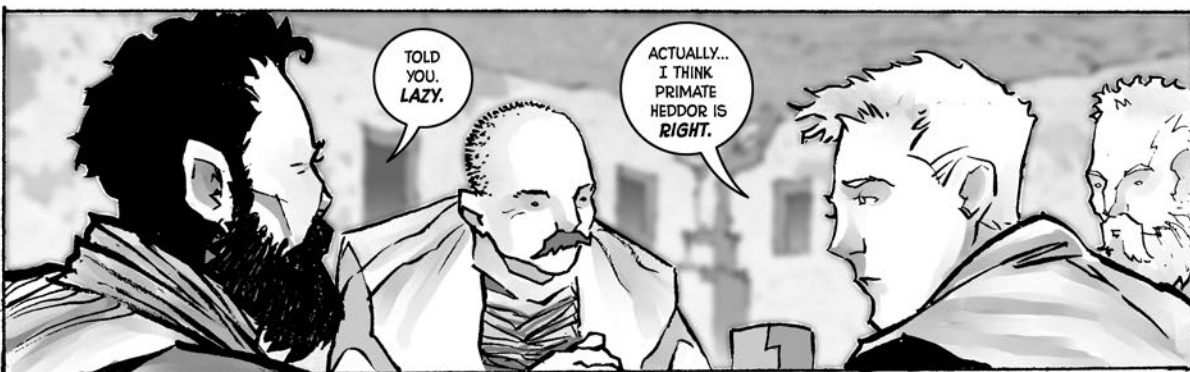
LORD FOUNDER WAS RIGHT, THEY SHOULD ALL BE SLAVES.



ARE YOU HAVING PROBLEMS WITH THE METALROAD? **TRACK ORDERS** SEEMED PRETTY LOW LAST MONTH.

IT'S JUST **SLOW...** THE GROUND'S VERY DIFFERENT OUT THERE. I NEED TO **REQUISITION** MORE SLAVES FROM ELSEWHERE IN THE CITY.

AT THIS RATE, **WOSH-TUN** WILL BE AT OUR **GATES** BEFORE WE'VE EVEN MADE IT **TEN MILES.**



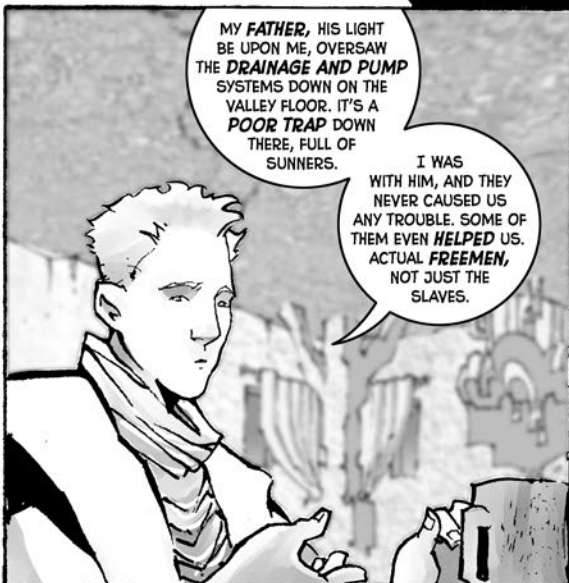
TOLD YOU. LAZY.

ACTUALLY... I THINK PRIMATE HEDDOR IS RIGHT.



WE'RE NOT IN CHAMBERS NOW, SKOT. JUST HEDDOR IS FINE.

GO ON.



MY FATHER, HIS LIGHT BE UPON ME, OVERSAW THE DRAINAGE AND PUMP SYSTEMS DOWN ON THE VALLEY FLOOR. IT'S A POOR TRAP DOWN THERE, FULL OF SUNNERS.

I WAS WITH HIM, AND THEY NEVER CAUSED US ANY TROUBLE. SOME OF THEM EVEN HELPED US. ACTUAL FREEMEN, NOT JUST THE SLAVES.



IT DIDN'T OCCUR TO YOU THEY MIGHT JUST BE LOOKING OUT FOR THEIR OWN?

WELL, NO--



CHEFFRI, WHEN DID YOU LAST EVEN SEE A SUNNER?

I TRY NOT TO GET WITHIN A HUNDRED FEET OF THE SMELLY BASTARDS.



EXACTLY.

I THINK EXPELLING THE SUNNERS WOULD BE A BIG MISTAKE. WE MAY HAVE TO REMIND MARCUS WHO'S REALLY IN CHARGE OF THIS CITY.

YOU'RE NOT SERIOUS. "MARCUS" IS THE LORD FOUNDER?

tom--  
the time has come  
and it falls to you.

MAYBE NOT THE SAME ONE. BUT I ASSUMED THAT'S WHY YOU WANTED TO GO TO NEWBEGIN.

I JUST THOUGHT IT'D BE A GOOD PLACE TO START. I DIDN'T KNOW HIS NAME WAS MARCUS. YOU THINK HE'LL SEE US?

...WHAT'S FUNNY?

NOTHING.

ANYWAY, MARCUS DOESN'T BELIEVE IN A-REE-YASS-I.

YOU KNOW HIM?

NO. MET HIM ONCE, ABOUT... WELL, LONG TIME AGO. DON'T REMEMBER EXACTLY. BUT HE WON'T HELP YOU.



'EY,  
ABI! SHEEN  
JAKE?

HI,  
GRISS. NO,  
BUT IT LOOKS  
LIKE YOU SAW  
THE BOOZE.



WANNAPOLLGISE  
TO 'IM. THIS  
MORNIN', I MEAN.  
OUTTA LINE.

WE'RE  
ALL ON EDGE  
RIGHT NOW. DON'T  
WORRY ABOUT IT.  
JUST BE GLAD  
WE MET THIS  
CARAVAN.



DAMN  
SHTRAIGHT! DIN'  
THINK MUCHA TH'  
FOOD, THO'.  
COULD EADIT  
ALL OVER  
AGAIN?

HEY  
NOW, BE  
GRATEFUL  
FOR WHAT  
YOU GOT.



SHURE.  
DONCHOO  
WORRY.



ALL  
RIGHT, NOW  
WHO'S THIS  
"DR. SCOTT?"  
RING ANY  
BELLS?





WHOOPS!



SHHHH!  
HEHEHE...



shhkt



WHA...?  
BUT--



HNNN



TOLD YOU TO LAY OFF THE SNOOPAGE.



GOAT-FUCKER.



LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE. HE--

MMPH! FUCKER WEIGHS A TON!

--HE CAN EARN HIS KEEP TOMORROW NIGHT, INSTEAD. AT THE PRECITY.



SHEV HIM SOMEWHERE OUTTA SIGHT.

AND YOU...



...GET BACK IN AND SHUT THE FUCK UP, LESS YOU WANT THE SAME.



HEY,  
ABI!



YOU  
SEEN **GRISS**?  
WHERE'D HE **GO**  
LAST NIGHT?

**MMMYAH?**  
DUNNO...

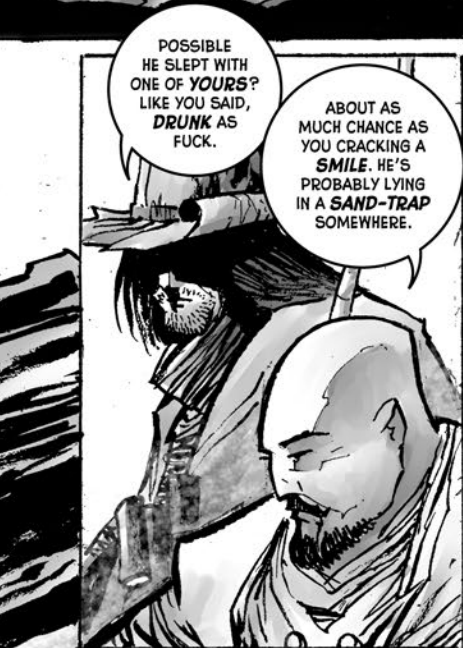
**FUCK.**  
NOR'S  
ANYBODY  
**ELSE.**



SURE?

**NOBODY**  
SAW HIM. TALL  
GUY, RIGHT?  
**DRUNKARD?**

YEAH.



POSSIBLE  
HE SLEPT WITH  
ONE OF **YOURS**?  
LIKE YOU SAID,  
**DRUNK AS**  
FUCK.

ABOUT AS  
MUCH CHANCE AS  
YOU CRACKING A  
**SMILE**. HE'S  
PROBABLY LYING  
IN A **SAND-TRAP**  
SOMEWHERE.



**WHEREVER**  
HE IS, WE HAVE TO  
SHEV ON OUT. CAN'T  
AFFORD TO LOSE  
**PACE** TODAY.

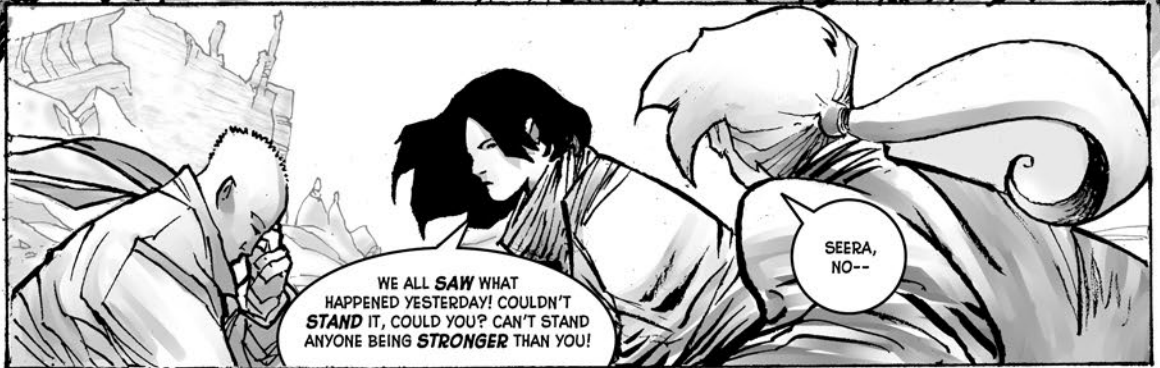
THEY  
WON'T--

**WHAT**  
HAVE YOU  
DONE WITH  
HIM?



WHAT?  
I DIDN'T--

LIAR!



WE ALL SAW WHAT  
HAPPENED YESTERDAY! COULDN'T  
STAND IT, COULD YOU? CAN'T STAND  
ANYONE BEING STRONGER THAN YOU!

SEERA,  
NO--



OH, AIN'T  
THAT TYPICAL?  
ALWAYS TAKING  
HIS SIDE!

YOU WANNA  
BE SHERIFF, ABI?  
STILL WANNA BE IN  
CHARGE? THEN ARREST  
HIM FOR MURDER!



WELL?

MOMMY,  
DON'T...

SEERA,  
JUST CALM  
DOWN. NOBODY'S  
MURDERED  
ANYBODY.



I  
KNEW  
IT.





FUCK ME,  
SEERA, WAKE UP!  
THERE'S FUCKING  
WULVES, BEARS,  
SCORPS AND  
**WORSE** OUT  
THERE!



IF GRISS  
**DID** GO OFF IN  
THE NIGHT,  
CHANCES ARE  
HE'S **ALREADY**  
DEAD.




AND  
IF YOU STAY  
AND **LOOK** FOR  
HIM? YOU'LL  
WIND UP THE  
**SAME.**

YOU  
AND  
RYKARD.



THEN WE  
**ALL** STAY! WE  
MADE IT A DAY  
**WITHOUT** THE  
CARAVAN, RIGHT?  
AND WE HAVE  
**MICHAEL**,  
NOW! WE'LL  
BE--

MOMMY.



UNCLE GRISS  
WOULD TELL US TO  
KEEP SAFE. WE SHOULD  
GO WITH EVERYONE  
ELSE.



SADDLE  
UP. SULTAN  
LEAVES IN  
**FIVE MINUTES.**



I THINK IT'S A LOAD OF **GOATSHIT**. IT AIN'T **DIVINE VENGEANCE** UNLESS YOUR KILLER'S A **GOD**.

LESS **TALK** AND MORE **WORK**, OVER THERE!



SOME OF US CAN DO BOTH AT ONCE... **SIR**.

DON'T YOU **TALK BACK** TO ME, YOU **SUNNER BASTARD!**



SEE THIS? THAT'S A **CIRCLE**, GRANDPA. THAT MEANS **FREEMAN**. THAT MEANS I TELL YOU TO **SHUT UP**, YOU **SHUT THE FUCK UP** AND GET BACK TO **WORK!**

HEY, IF YOU LEFT HIM ALONE HE'D **BE WORKING**.

**DIVINE VENGEANCE**, THEY'RE SAYING. WHAT DO YOU THINK, FAR SEER?



I DON'T RECALL ASKING YOU **GOATSHIT**, BOY. DON'T MAKE ME--





THAT'S GOATSHIT!  
FAR SEER DIDN'T DO  
NOTHING!

I WAS THE ONE WHO  
HIT HIM, ALL RIGHT?  
IT WAS ME!



I AIN'T  
TELLING YOU  
**AGAIN**, SCUM.  
SHUT YOUR  
FUCKING  
MOUTH!

UHH!



IT'S ALL  
RIGHT, DERRK.  
THEY CAN'T  
SILENCE US  
ALL.



IT'S  
A  
START.



NOW  
GRAB THOSE  
PICKS AND  
GET DIGGING!





PRECITY.  
NEVER SEEN  
ONE BEFORE?

SURE,  
FROM A  
DISTANCE.

THE FUCK  
WE DOIN'  
RIDIN'  
THROUGH  
IT?



MY VEHICLES  
WON'T MAKE  
IT OVER **OPEN**  
**GROUND**, NOT  
OUT HERE. SO WE  
FOLLOW THE  
**ROAD**.

BESIDES,  
THIS IS THE **SHORTEST**  
ROUTE. YOU WANT TO  
REACH NEWBEGIN **FAST** AS  
POSSIBLE, RIGHT?



YOU'VE  
GOT TO BE **KIDDING**.  
THERE'S ALL KINDS OF  
**DISEASE** AND **SICKNESS**  
IN THESE PLACES! EVEN  
MY TEAM GO **ROUND**  
THEM. THEY'RE  
FUCKING **CURSED**.

SUPERSTITIOUS  
**GOATSHIT**. I'VE  
DONE THIS RUN A  
DOZEN TIMES, AND  
MY PEOPLE ARE  
**FINE**.



DEBATABLE.

FUCK YOU,  
MICHAEL. YOU OF  
ALL PEOPLE DON'T GET  
TO TELL ME ABOUT  
HAPPY FAMILIES.



DON'T  
WORRY, WE'LL  
SHEV THROUGH  
**BEFORE NIGHTFALL**.  
NOW SHUT UP AND  
KEEP YOUR EYES  
**OPEN**.

WAIT,  
WHAT HAPPENS  
AT **NIGHT-  
FALL**?



DWELLERS  
COME OUT TO  
PLAY.



SWELL.



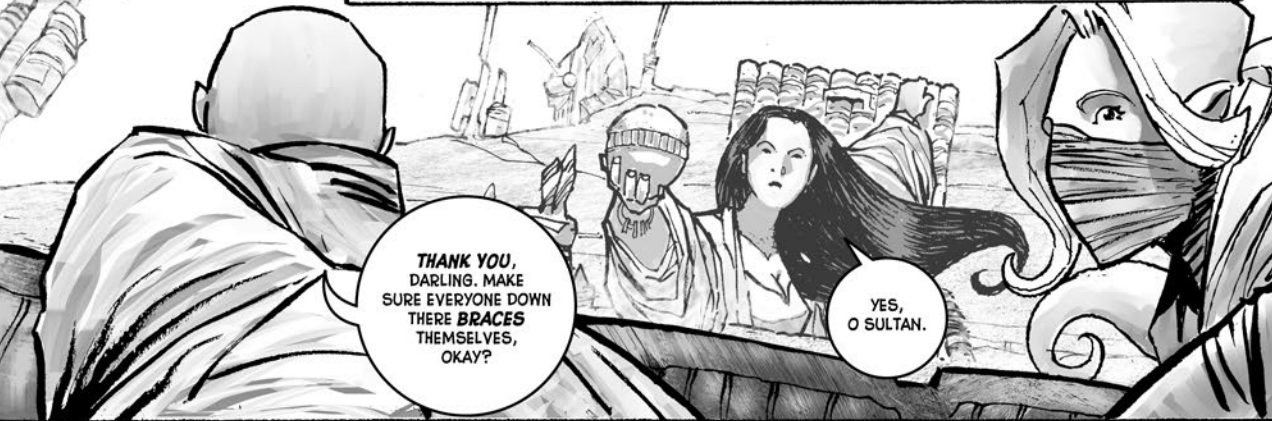
BLOCKADE  
AHEAD!



SWITCH  
ROUTE?

THEY'VE  
BLOCKED **ONE**,  
THEY'VE BLOCKED  
**'EM ALL**. AND THIS  
IS THE **BEST** ROAD  
THROUGH.

YELAVN,  
GIVE ME  
SOME **FIRE**  
UP HERE!



**THANK YOU,**  
DARLING. MAKE  
SURE EVERYONE DOWN  
THERE **BRACES**  
THEMSELVES,  
OKAY?

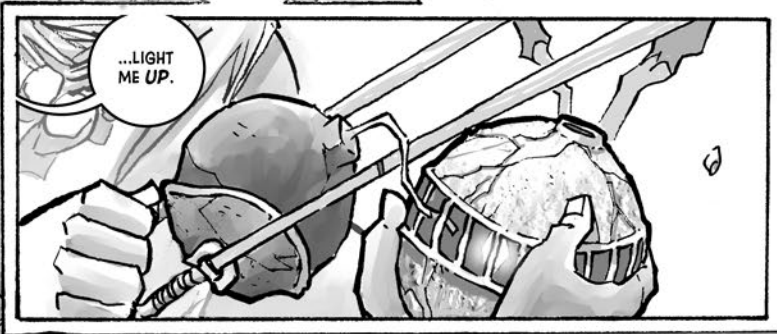
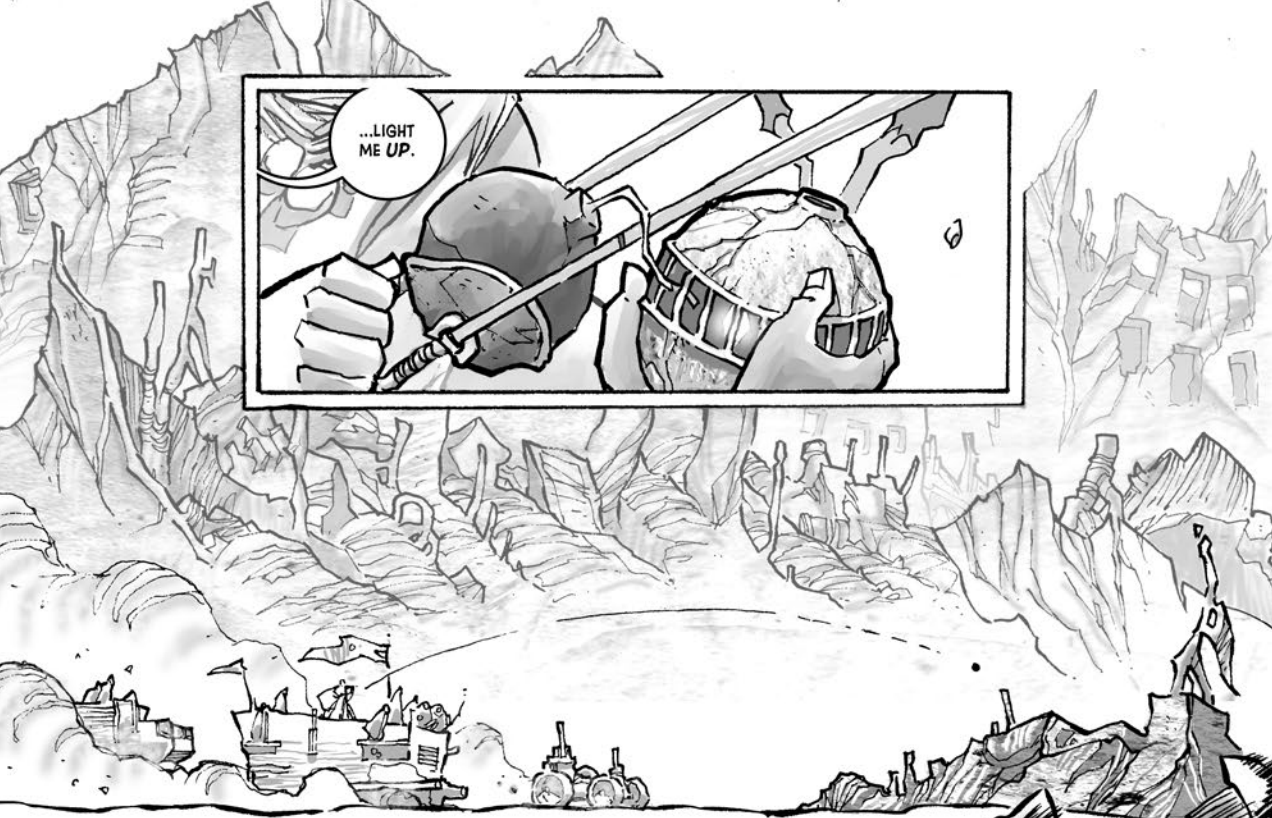
YES,  
O SULTAN.



**SERRJ!**  
GET YOUR  
**SLINGAGE**  
READY!



WAY  
AHEAD  
OF YOU, O  
SULTAN...





MY LORD  
FOUNDER, I MUST  
URGE YOU TO RECONSIDER  
THIS **VENDETTA** AGAINST  
THE SUNNERS. THE  
SLAVES ARE ALREADY  
**RESTLESS**.

I WORRY  
THEY MAY YET  
BECOME  
**MUTINOUS**.



YOU WORRY TOO MUCH,  
HEDDOR. **FEAR** WILL  
KEEP THE SUNNERS  
IN LINE.

FEAR  
OF... **WHAT**,  
MY LORD?



OF ME,  
SKOT. STEPS  
ARE **ALREADY**  
BEING TAKEN  
TO REMOVE  
**TROUBLE-**  
**MAKERS**.

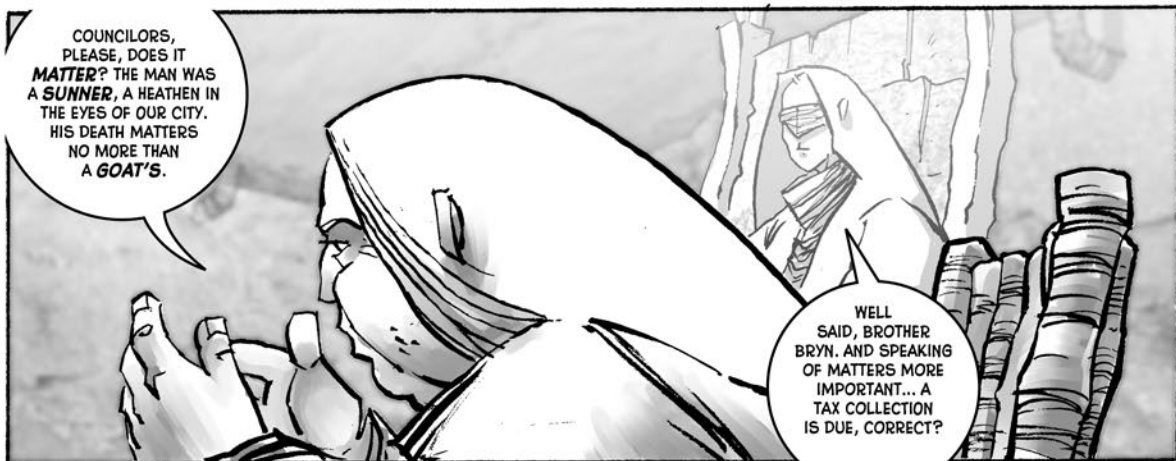


SO IT  
**WAS** YOU HAD  
THAT SINGER  
BEHEADED.

**STEPS**  
ARE BEING  
**TAKEN**.



DON'T  
LOOK AT ME  
LIKE THAT,  
HEDDOR. I'M THE  
**WATCHMAN**,  
NOT A FUCKING  
EXECUTIONER.



COUNCILORS,  
PLEASE, DOES IT  
**MATTER?** THE MAN WAS  
A **SUNNER**, A HEATHEN IN  
THE EYES OF OUR CITY.  
HIS DEATH MATTERS  
NO MORE THAN  
A **GOAT'S**.

WELL  
SAID, BROTHER  
BRYN. AND SPEAKING  
OF MATTERS MORE  
IMPORTANT... A  
TAX COLLECTION  
IS DUE, CORRECT?



AND NOT  
BEFORE **TIME**. THE  
CITY PURSE CURRENTLY  
STANDS AT **TWO HUNDRED  
THOUSAND DOLLARS**,  
AND THIS MONTH'S **CITY  
WORKERS' WAGE** IS  
NOT YET PAID.

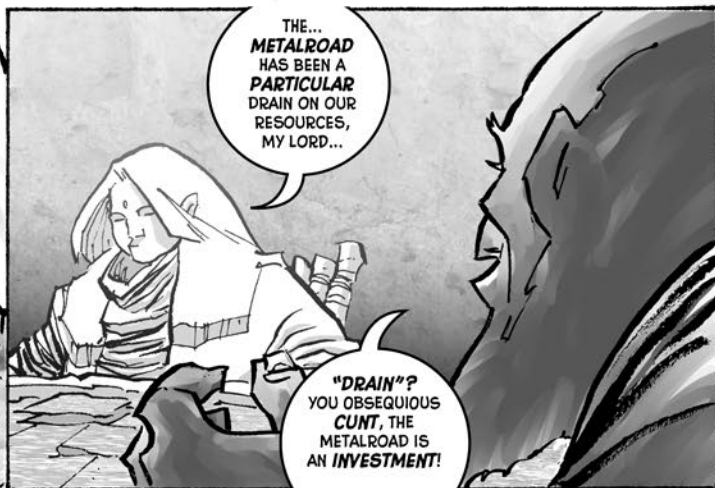
THAT  
SEEMS  
UNUSUALLY  
LOW.

THERE  
HAVE BEEN  
SOME...  
**UNUSUAL**  
EXPENSES  
OF LATE,  
MY LORD.



**LOOK**  
AT YOUR LORD  
FOUNDER WHEN  
YOU ADDRESS  
HIM, BROTHER.

YOU ARE THE  
**CITY TREASURER**,  
AND EVERY PENNY IN  
MY COFFERS PASSES  
THROUGH **YOUR** FAT  
FINGERS. NOW TELL  
ME WHERE  
IT HAS **GONE**.



THE...  
**METALROAD**  
HAS BEEN A  
**PARTICULAR**  
DRAIN ON OUR  
RESOURCES,  
MY LORD...

**"DRAIN"?**  
YOU OBSEQUIOUS  
**CUNT**, THE  
METALROAD IS  
AN **INVESTMENT!**



INDEED.

BROTHER  
BRYN... HOW  
**MUCH** IS  
THIS MONTH'S  
COLLECTION  
EXPECTED TO BRING  
IN?



NINETY THOUSAND, MY LORD.

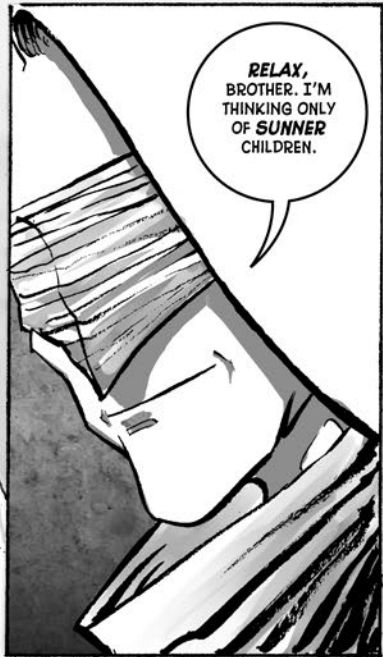
THREE DOLLARS FOR EVERY **FREEMAN** IN THE CITY, PLUS ONE FOR **WIVES**.



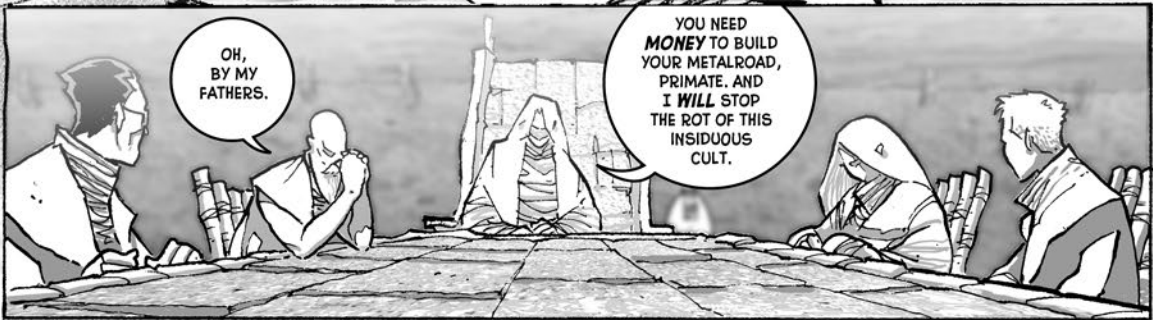
HMMM. WE DON'T TAX **CHILDREN**, DO WE?

ERM... NO, MY LORD.

SUCH A TAX WOULD BE **ILL-RECEIVED**, I FEAR. ON YOUR OWN ORDERS, WE HAVE **ENCOURAGED** PROCREATION THROUGH ALL AREAS OF THE CITY.



RELAX, BROTHER. I'M THINKING ONLY OF **SUNNER** CHILDREN.



OH, BY MY FATHERS.

YOU NEED **MONEY** TO BUILD YOUR METALROAD, PRIMATE. AND I **WILL** STOP THE ROT OF THIS INSIDUOUS CULT.

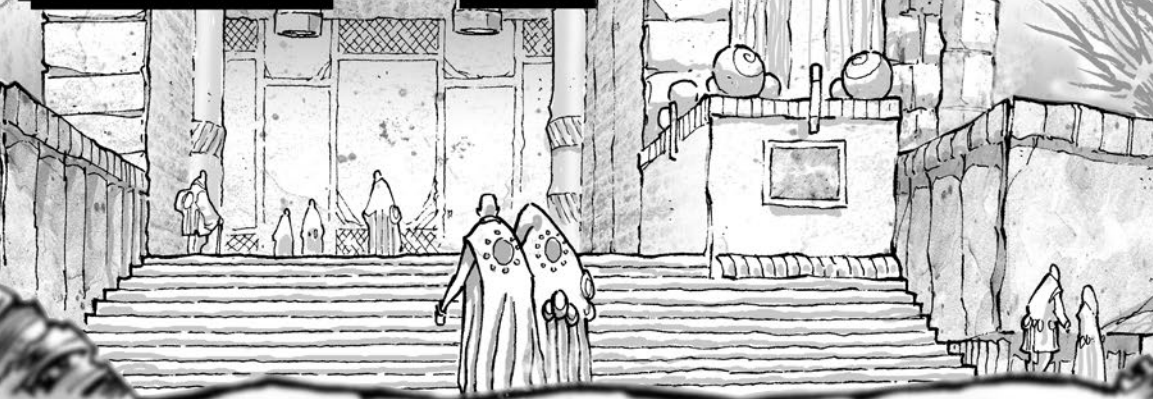


ALL CHILDREN ARE A BURDEN. AT LEAST **FOUNDER'S CHILDREN** WILL GROW UP TO BE LOYAL AND HARDWORKING.

BROTHER, LET IT BE **KNOWN**. A TAX OF **ONE DOLLAR PER MONTH** ON EVERY **SUNNER** CHILD YOUNGER THAN **TWELVE**.

"AND IF THEY **COMPLAIN**, SHOW THEM THE WAY TO MY TEMPLE.

"THE CHOICE IS **THEIRS**."



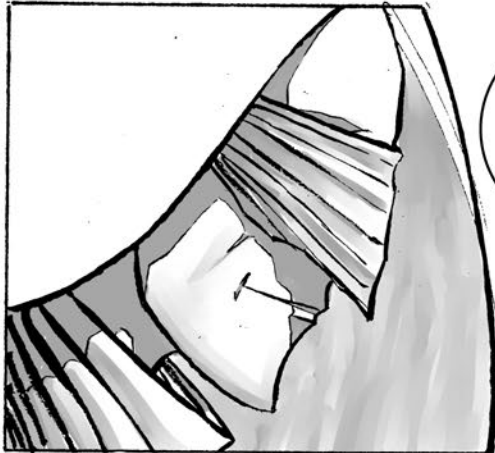


MY LORD?

YES, YAN.



AM I A BURDEN?



NO, CHILD. NO, YOU ARE **SPECIAL** TO ME. BESIDES, YOU **DO** WORK FOR YOUR KEEP, DO YOU NOT?

I **TRY** TO SERVE, MY LORD.



AND YOU DO IT **VERY** WELL. NOW PREPARE MY BED. I WILL **SLEEP** AWHILE.

YES, MY LORD.



WATCHMAN. HOW GOES YOUR... **OTHER** TASK?

THE DISCIPLES ARE **READY**, MY LORD. I **AWAIT** YOUR ORDER.



THEN YOU HAVE IT. ONLY... WAIT FOR SOME **BLASPHEMY**. MMM?



YES, MY LORD.



"YOU OF ALL PEOPLE DON'T GET TO TELL ME ABOUT HAPPY FAMILIES?"

LONG TIME AGO.

OH, COME ON.



MADE A PROMISE.



"DIDN'T KEEP IT."



NOW, TELL ME. WHY ARE YOU AFRAID?

WHAT? I AIN'T--

CAN'T HIDE IT FROM ME. I CAN FEEL IT.



SHIT, I DON'T KNOW. EVERYTHIN'?

GRISS VANISHES, WE RIDE STRAIGHT THROUGH A FUCKIN' PRECITY... I'M SUPPOSED TO PROTECT 'EM, YOU KNOW?

BUT IT FEELS LIKE IT'S OUTTA MY HANDS.



I'LL PATROL. YOU SLEEP.

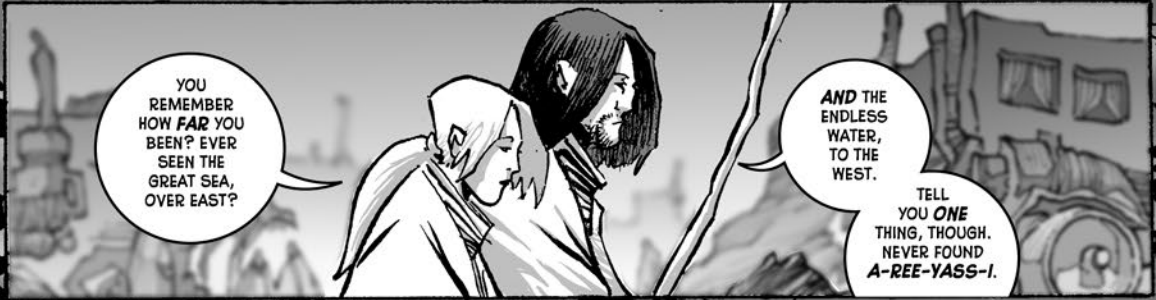
YEAH, **THAT'S** GONNA HAPPEN. NO, I'LL COME **WITH** YOU.

WHAT ABOUT THEM?  
SHIT, I WAS HERE ALL **LAST** NIGHT AND IT DIDN'T MAKE A GOAT'S NUT'S **DIFFERENCE**.

AIN'T THE **FIRST** TIME YOU'VE SAID THAT. "**LONG TIME AGO.**"

HOW LONG YOU **BEEEN** OUT HERE, JUST **WALKIN'**?

LONG TIME. DON'T REMEMBER.



YOU REMEMBER HOW **FAR** YOU BEEN? EVER SEEN THE GREAT SEA, OVER EAST?

AND THE ENDLESS WATER, TO THE WEST.  
TELL YOU **ONE** THING, THOUGH. NEVER FOUND **A-REE-YASS-I**.



THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU **WASN'T** LOOKIN' FOR IT.

I'M NOT.



MAYBE **THAT'S** WHY YOU AIN'T FOUND IT.

SHUT UP!



UNNNH!

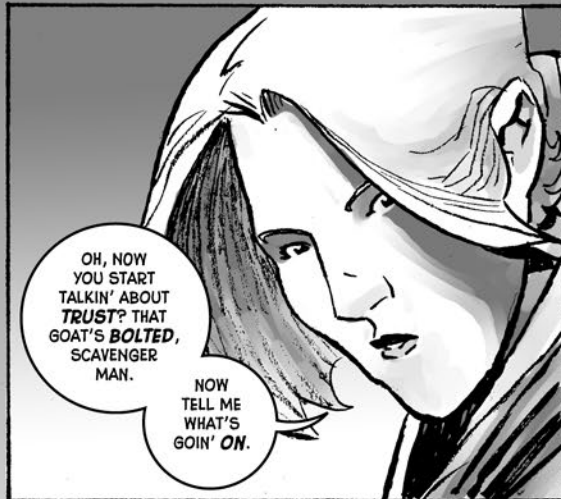


THE FUCK'S GOIN' ON OVER THERE?

DON'T.

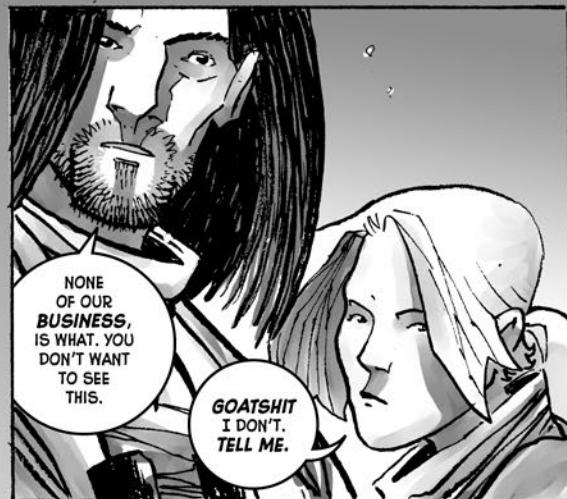
DON'T WHAT?

TRUST ME.



OH, NOW YOU START TALKIN' ABOUT **TRUST**? THAT GOAT'S BOLTED, SCAVENGER MAN.

NOW TELL ME WHAT'S GOIN' ON.



NONE OF OUR **BUSINESS**, IS WHAT. YOU DON'T WANT TO SEE THIS.

GOATSHIT I DON'T. TELL ME.



HRRR...

IT'S A PAYMENT.



WHAT  
ARE YOU **TALKIN'**  
ABOUT? GIMME  
THOSE **BINNOX**.



FOR THE  
**PRECITY**. A  
**TOLL**.



OH,  
YOU  
**CANNOT**  
BE  
SERIOUS.



**TOLD**  
YOU NOT  
TO LOOK.



**WOAH,**  
**WOAH...**  
HOLD  
THE **FUCK**  
**ON...**



...THEY  
GOT **GRISS**  
OUT THERE  
TOO!



**HNNN.**



**SULTAN,**  
YOU **LYING**  
**BASTARD.**



**FUCK**  
IF I'M  
**STANDIN'**  
AROUND HERE  
LIKE A  
**GOATPRICK.**



**ABI,**  
**NO!** THERE'S  
NOTHING YOU  
CAN--



--DUNH!



QUIT YER FUCKIN' HOLLERAGE.

WHAT ABOUT HER?

FUCK HER. MORE FOR THEM.



GRISS!  
HOLD ON, I'M  
COMIN'!

MMMPH!



GRISS,  
WAKE--AH,  
SHIT.

MMMPH!

HEY,  
JUST HOLD  
ON A SECOND,  
ALL RIGHT?



WHAT  
HAPPENED  
HERE? WHO  
KILLED  
GRISS?

BE...  
BE...

CALM  
DOWN!  
BE  
WHAT?



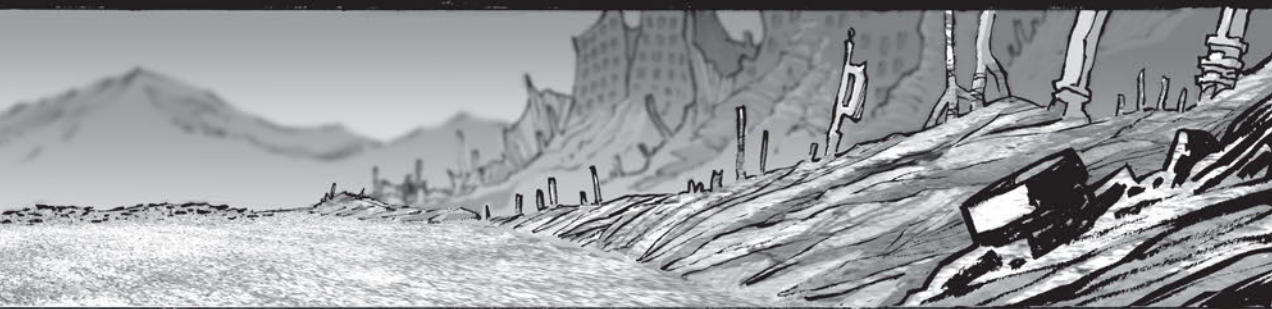
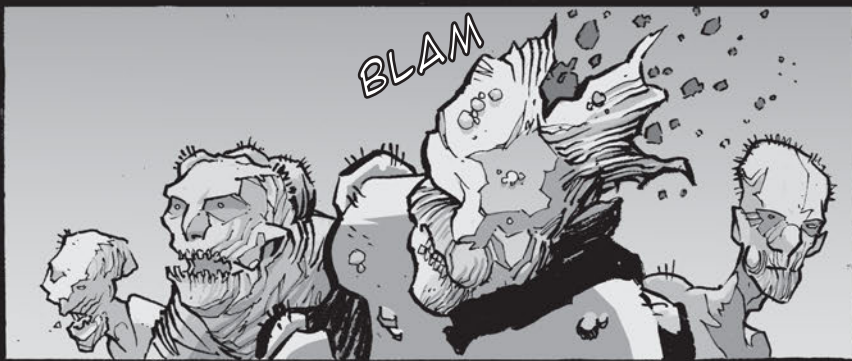
...BEHIND  
YOU.

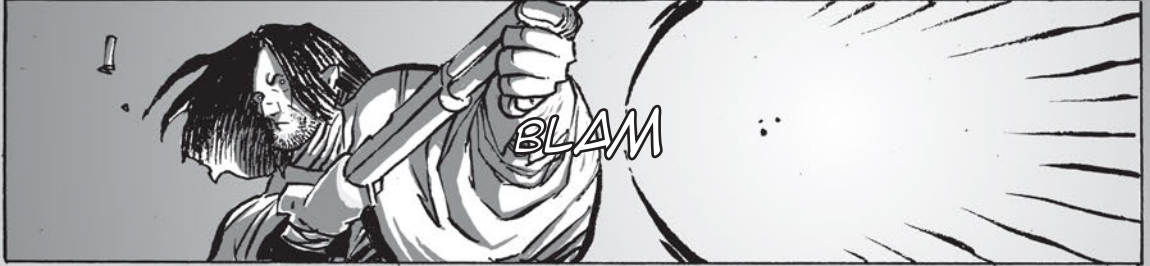


LEMME  
GUESS.

YOU'RE  
A  
DWELLER.

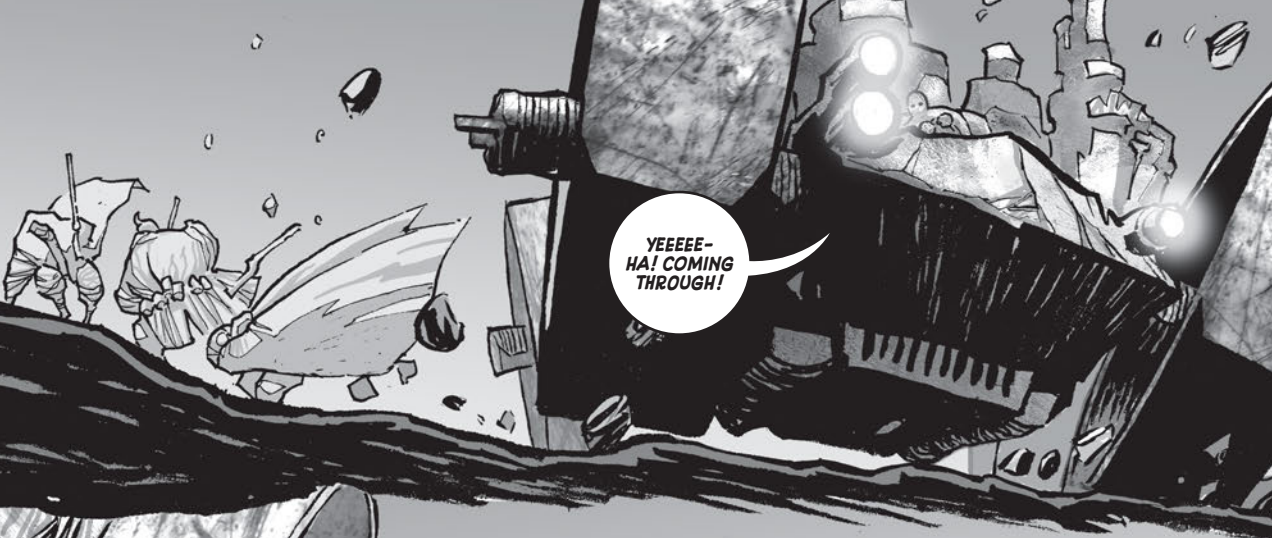












YEEEE-HA!  
COMING THROUGH!



KRUNP



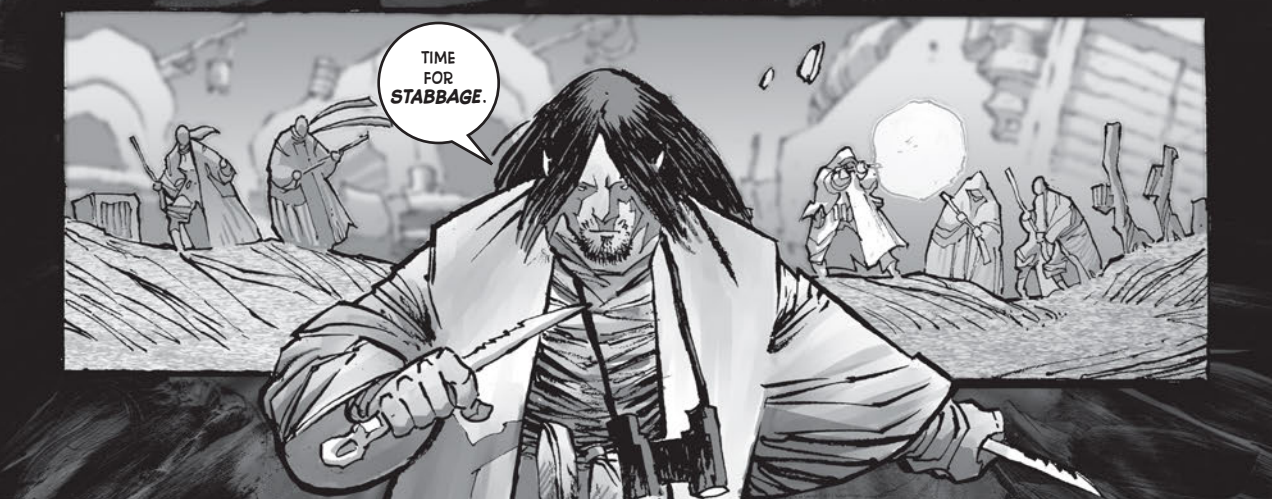
GUN!  
SOMEBODY  
GIVE ME A  
FUCKIN' GUN!

FUCK YOU, LADY!  
GET BACK THERE  
WHERE YOU CAN'T  
BE ANY MORE  
TROUBLE!



HERE.  
BAD SHOT  
ANYWAY.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?



TIME FOR STABBAGE.





--**FUCK!**  
THEY'RE COMING FROM THE **NORTH,**  
TOO!



AND THE **SOUTH!**  
EVERYONE STAND **FAST,** THIS IS  
GONNA GET **UGLY!**



**FUCK,**  
**YEAH.** COME  
TO MOMMY...

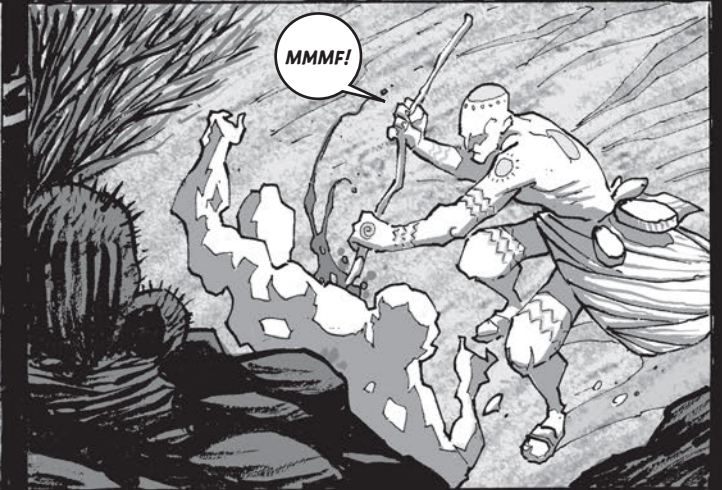
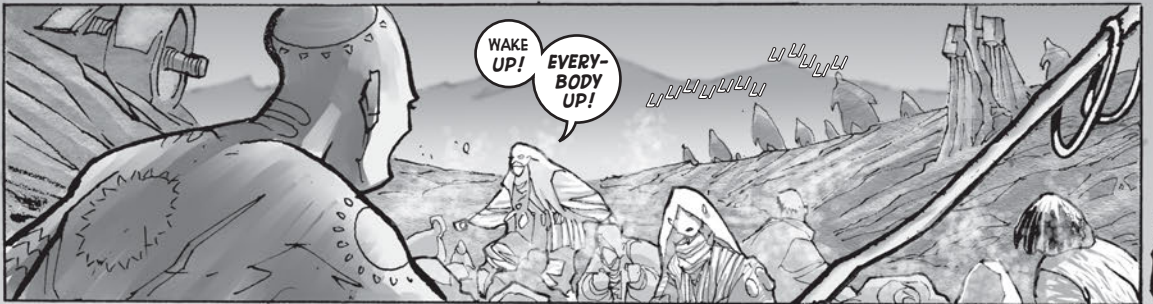


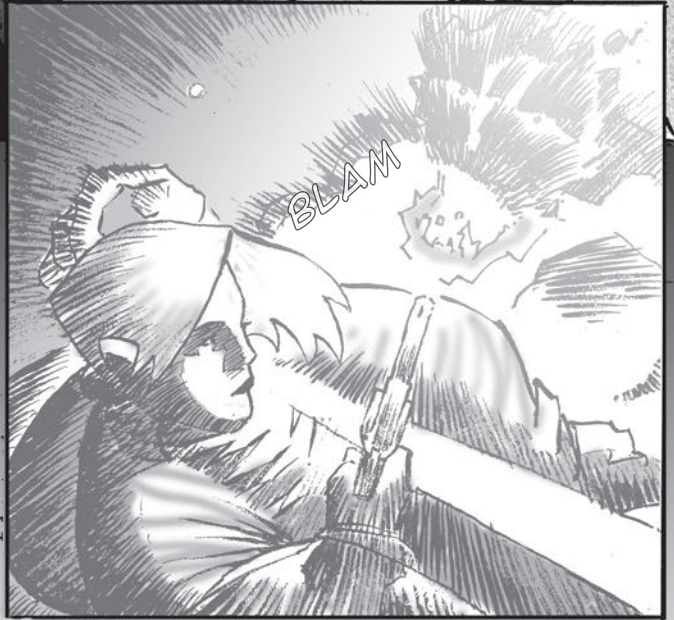
**JAKE!**  
I'M GONNA  
GO **CHECK** ON  
DOC AN' THE  
OTHERS!

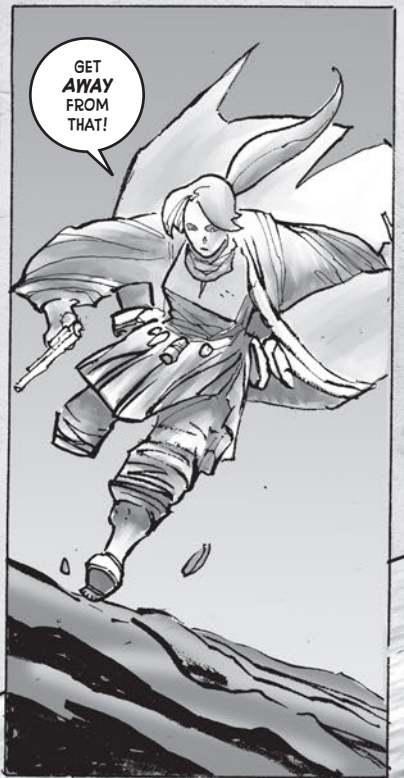
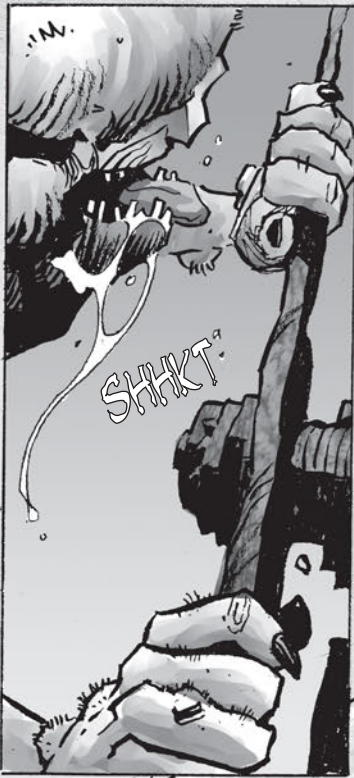
**BE**  
**CARE-**  
**FUL!**



**GRAAAH!**







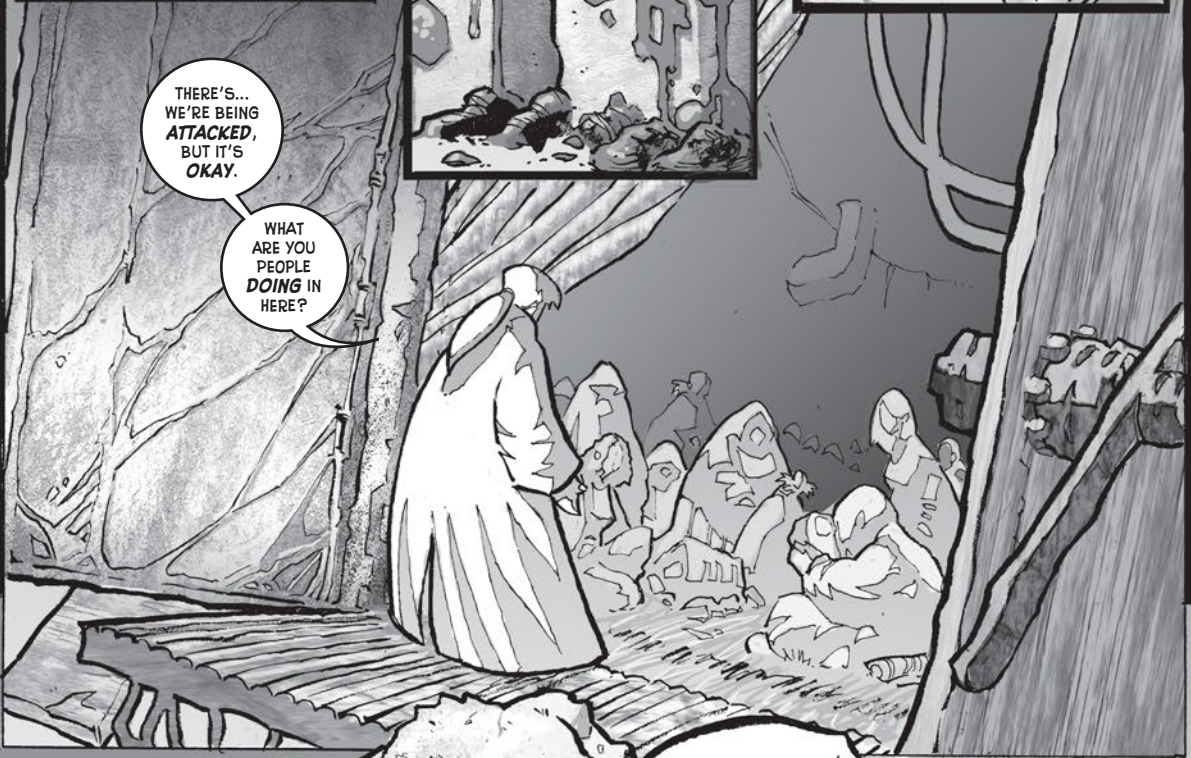




WHAT...  
WHO ARE  
YOU...?



WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON OUT  
THERE?



THERE'S...  
WE'RE BEING  
ATTACKED,  
BUT IT'S  
OKAY.

WHAT  
ARE YOU  
PEOPLE  
DOING IN  
HERE?



AAAAAH!



FREEMEN  
AND FREEWOMEN,  
CHILDREN AND  
DAUGHTERS, MAY  
THE **LIGHT** OF YOUR  
**FATHERS** BE  
UPON YOU.


TODAY,  
I WANT TO TALK  
ABOUT **TRUST**. NONE  
OF US GIVES IT  
FREELY. TRUST MUST  
BE **EARNED**, AND  
THAT TAKES  
**TIME**.

"HOW LONG BEFORE **YOU** CAN TRUST  
SOMEONE? A MONTH? SIX  
MONTHS? A **YEAR**? **FIVE YEARS**?"

"HOW ABOUT **EIGHTY YEARS**? THAT IS HOW LONG  
OUR **LORD FOUNDER** HAS WATCHED OVER US.


"EIGHTY YEARS PAST, HE STOOD ON THIS  
**VERY SPOT** AND LOOKED OUT AT THE  
WORLD AFTER THE **BIG WET**. AND HE **WEPT**."

"**SO** GRIEVED WAS HE THAT HE TOOK  
OUT HIS **OWN EYES** RATHER THAN  
SUFFER THE SIGHT ANY LONGER.




"BUT THAT DIDN'T STOP HIS **VISION**. A  
VISION OF THE WAY THINGS COULD BE.  
THE WAY THEY **SHOULD** BE.

"OUR LORD **KNEW**  
WHAT HE HAD TO DO.



"HE PICKED UP A **ROCK**, AND FELT IT **LIVE** IN  
HIS HANDS. HE FOUND ANOTHER, AND **ANOTHER**,  
AND PLACED THEM ON THE GROUND... DAY AND  
NIGHT, DAY AND NIGHT, HE LAID **FOUNDATIONS**."



"HE KNEW THIS SHOULD BE **IMPOSSIBLE** WITHOUT HIS SIGHT. BUT HIS HANDS WERE GUIDED BY **JUSTICE**, AND HE **TRUSTED** THEM.

"FINALLY, THE **CITY** WAS BUILT. AND HE WELCOMED **US** INTO HIS CITY.




"WE BECAME HIS **CHILDREN**, HE OUR **FATHER**. AND A CHILD SHOULD ALWAYS **OBEY** ITS FATHER.

"BUT THE CITY HAS **GROWN**, AND THE WORLD HAS **CHANGED**. CHILDREN REBEL, AND UPSET SPREADS. ONLY **ONE THING** REMAINS CONSTANT, **UNMOVED** IN THE FACE OF **TIME**.



"OUR **LORD FOUNDER**.

"YET STILL SOME DO NOT **TRUST** HIM. **HEATHENS**, LIKE THOSE **OUTSIDE** THIS VERY TEMPLE TODAY, WHO REFUSE TO RECOGNIZE THE **BLESSING** HE'S GIVEN US!



"THESE **VERMIN**, THESE... **SUNNERS!** WHO KNOW NOTHING OF COURTESY, GRATITUDE... OR **TRUST!**

"THEY **BLASPHEME!** THEY **MOCK** OUR WAY OF LIFE! THE WAY OF LIFE THAT **BUILT** THEM A CITY TO **LIVE** IN!



"THEY REFUSE TO SEE THE **LIGHT** OF OUR **LORD FOUNDER!**



"AND SO **CONDEMN** THEMSELVES TO **TRUE** BLINDNESS."



HEY!  
WHERE YOU  
GOING?

JOB'S  
DONE HERE.  
GOING TO FIND  
SULTAN.  
COMING?



WHAT  
THE FUCK  
WERE YOU  
DOING SENDING  
HER OUT THERE,  
ANYWAY?

DIDN'T  
SEND HER.  
SHE WENT TO  
GET GRISS.



YOU  
FOUND  
HIM?

HIS  
CORPSE.

WELL,  
WHAT THE  
FUCK  
HAPPENED  
TO HIM?

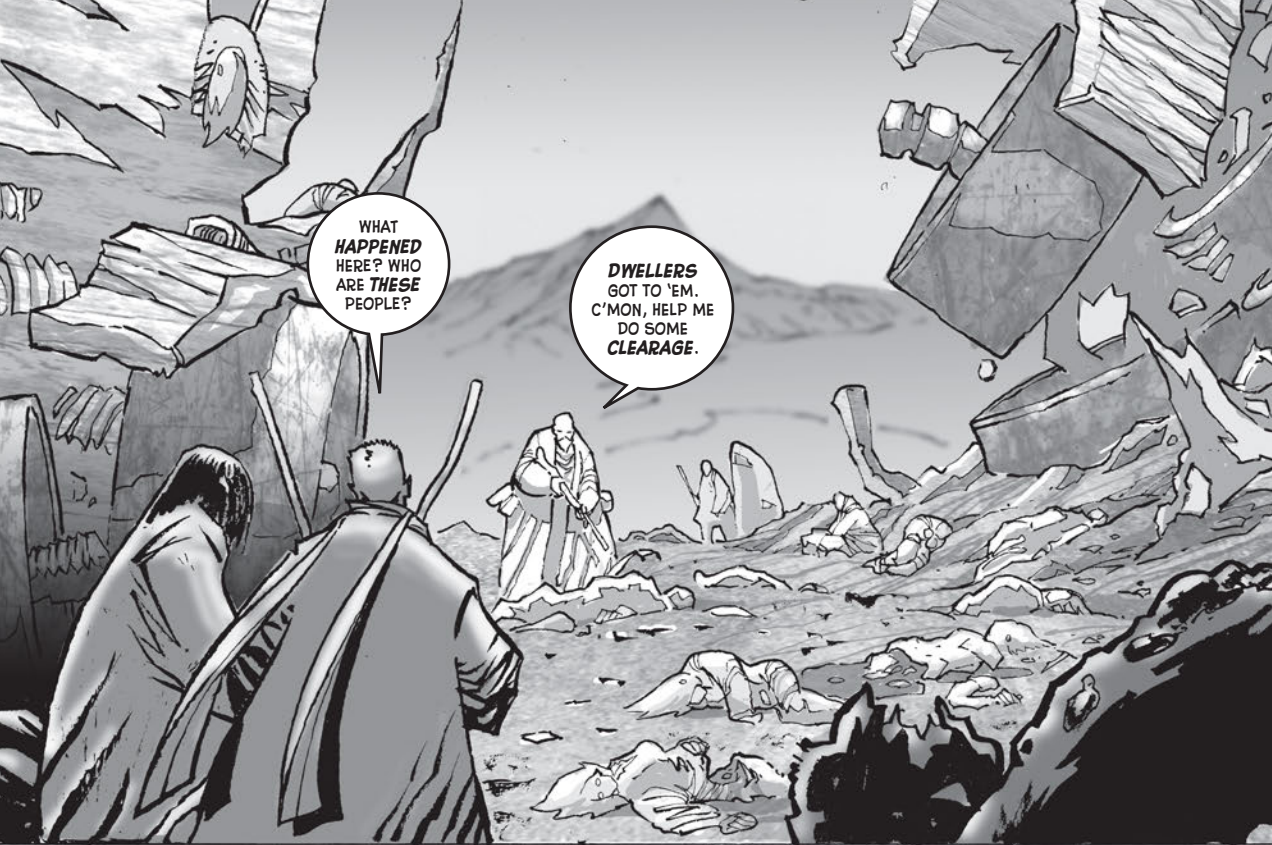


BAIT.



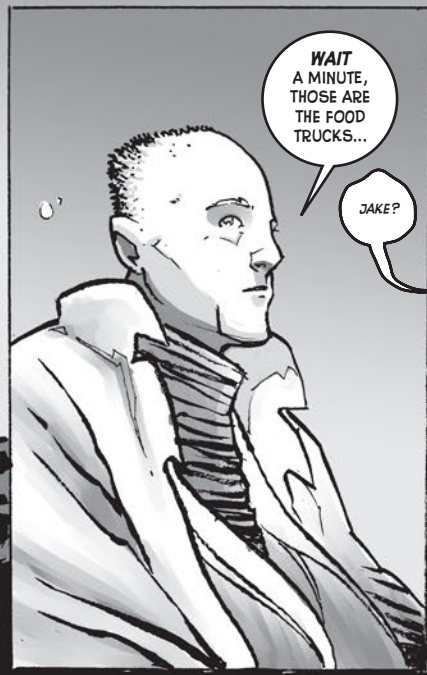
"BAIT?"  
WHAT, FOR  
THOSE THINGS?  
WHY WOULD--

BLAM



WHAT HAPPENED HERE? WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?

DWELLERS GOT TO 'EM. C'MON, HELP ME DO SOME CLEARAGE.



WAIT A MINUTE, THOSE ARE THE FOOD TRUCKS...

JAKE?



ABI!



HOLD ON, ABI, HOLD ON... OH, MOTHER SUN...

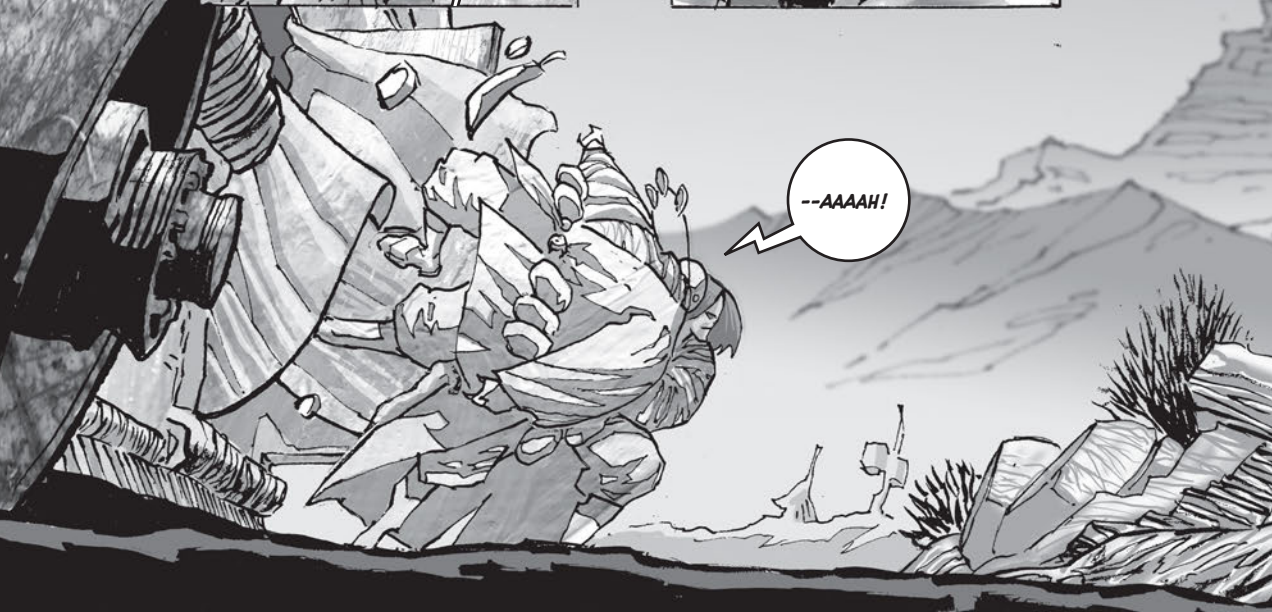
SULTAN LIED, JAKE... NOT FOOD IN THE TRAILERS...

SHUSH, SHUSH... DON'T TALK. I'M GONNA FIX YOU UP.



NO, LISTEN... NOT FOOD... PEOPLE.

LOOK... AROUND, JAKE. WOMEN AN'... KIDS.



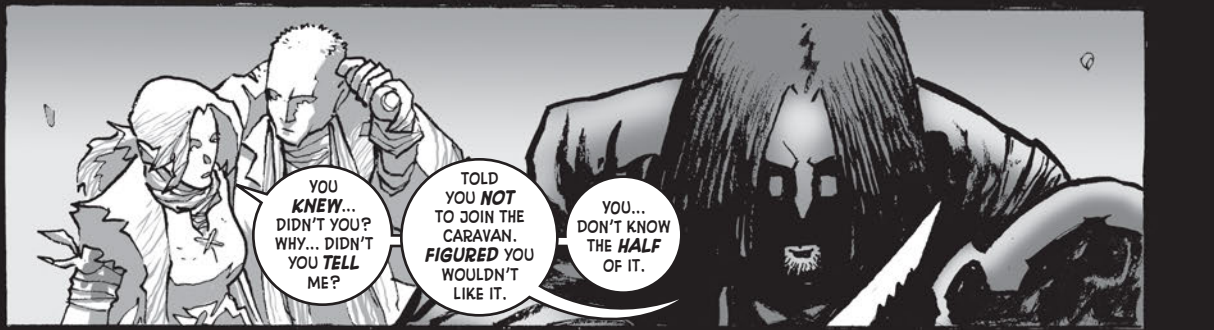


THIS CARAVAN AIN'T *CHEAP*, KID. THOSE WOMEN ARE WORTH SOME SERIOUS *COINAGE* IN NEWBEGIN!



WERE. HALF DEAD, REST ESCAPED.

WHAT?



YOU *KNEW*... DIDN'T YOU? WHY... DIDN'T YOU *TELL* ME?

TOLD YOU *NOT* TO JOIN THE CARAVAN. *FIGURED* YOU WOULDN'T LIKE IT.

YOU... DON'T KNOW THE *HALF* OF IT.



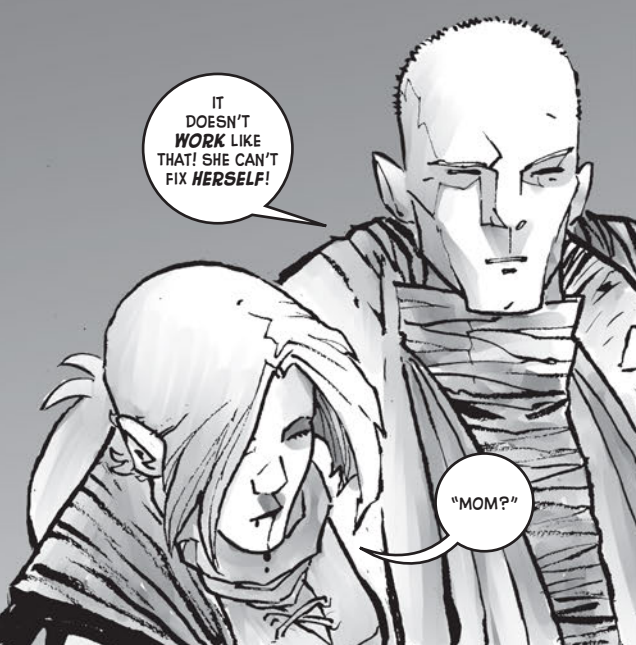
*ALSO* TOLD SULTAN TO KEEP IT SECRET.

YOU *BASTARD*.

YOU GET HALF OUR FUCKING TOWN *KILLED*, YOU *LIE* ABOUT THIS CARAVAN, YOU ALMOST GOT *ABI* KILLED... AND NOW YOU'RE A FUCKING *SLAVER*?



YOUR MOM CAN CLEAN *HERSELF* UP JUST FINE. DID *WORSE* FOR ME.



IT DOESN'T **WORK** LIKE THAT! SHE CAN'T FIX **HERSELF!**

"MOM?"

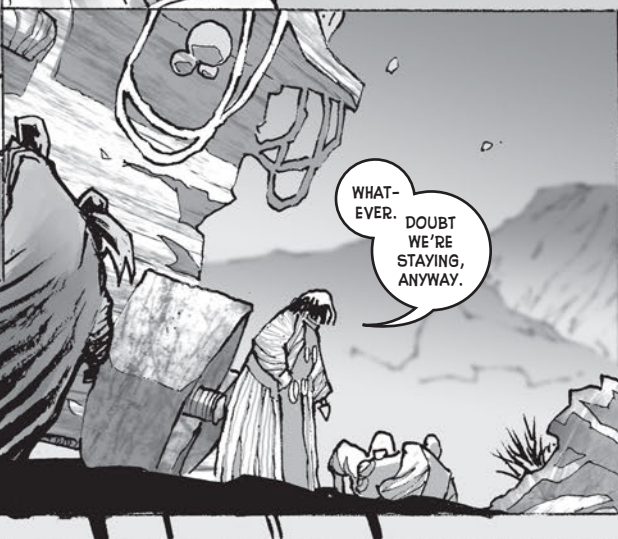


HE SAID YOU WERE HIS **MOTHER.**

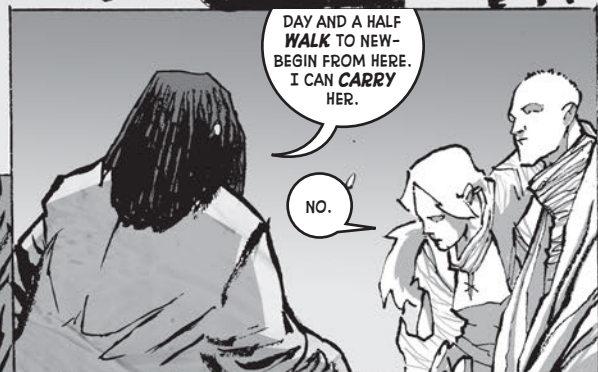
HEH... NOT... **QUITE.** LONG STORY.



**SPEAKING OF LONG STORIES,** IF YOU'VE ALL FINISHED WITH THE **GABBAGE...**



WHAT-**EVER.** DOUBT WE'RE STAYING, ANYWAY.



DAY AND A HALF **WALK** TO NEW-BEGIN FROM HERE. I CAN **CARRY** HER.

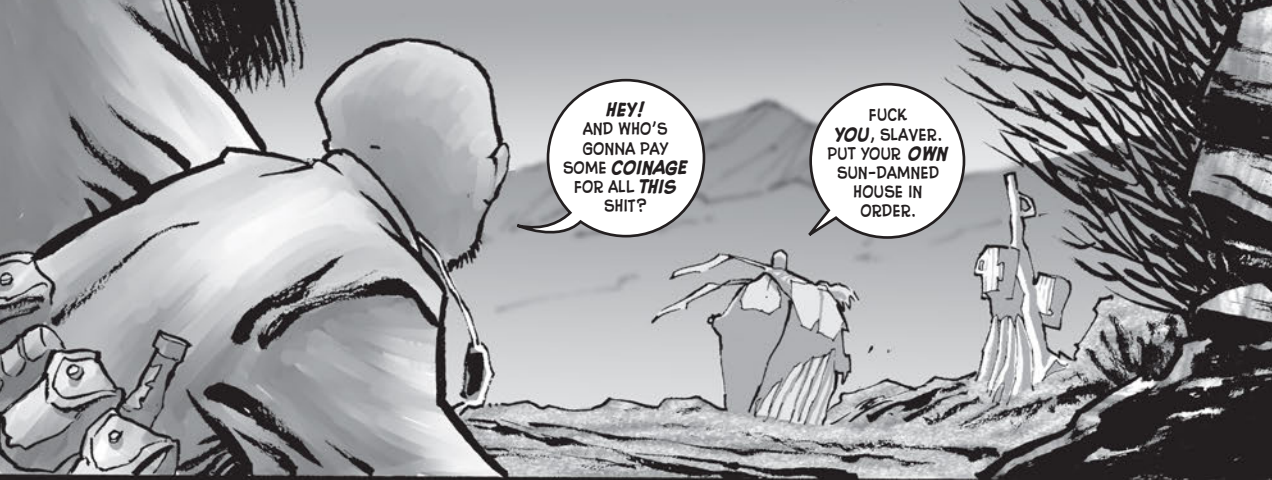
NO.



JUST... **GET AWAY...** FROM ME.



HRRR.



HEY!  
AND WHO'S  
GONNA PAY  
SOME COINAGE  
FOR ALL THIS  
SHIT?

FUCK  
YOU, SLAVER.  
PUT YOUR OWN  
SUN-DAMNED  
HOUSE IN  
ORDER.



DUNNO...  
IF I'LL MAKE  
IT TO THE CITY,  
JAKE. FEEL  
PRETTY...  
BAD.

HEY,  
HEY!  
STOP  
THAT!



YOU  
ARE GONNA  
BE ALL RIGHT,  
YOU HEAR ME?  
I AM NOT  
GOING TO LEAVE  
YOU BEHIND.



HEH.  
I SAID  
THAT... TO  
YOU...  
ONCE.

YEAH, I  
REMEMBER.  
AND NOW IT'S  
MY TURN TO KEEP  
YOU SAFE. YOU  
AND EVERYONE  
ELSE.



DOC?



ABI!  
JAKE! MOTHER  
SUN, WE THOUGHT  
YOU WERE BOTH  
DEAD...

IT'S OKAY.  
BUT WE HAVE  
TO GET ABI TO  
THE CITY AS  
SOON AS WE  
CAN.

WHERE'S  
THE  
OTHERS?



DOC!  
WHERE IS EVERY-  
ONE?



WE'RE  
ALL  
HERE...



...WHAT'S  
LEFT OF  
US.



OH, MOTHER SUN, NO...



WHERE WERE YOU?



WHAT?

WHERE WERE YOU, DAMMIT? YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE TO PROTECT US!



I... I WAS HELPING... SOMEONE ELSE...





ARE YOU **SURE** YOU'RE DOING THE RIGHT THING?

I DON'T SEE ANOTHER **OPTION**, SKOT. I'VE **FEARED** IT WOULD COME TO THIS FOR SOME MONTHS, NOW.



BUT... HAS A VOTE OF **NO CONFIDENCE** EVEN BEEN DONE BEFORE?

WE'VE NEVER **NEEDED** ONE BEFORE. BUT MARCUS HAS CHANGED SO MUCH OF LATE. NOT **PHYSICALLY**, OF COURSE, I MEAN HIS **MIND**...

HE'S GOING MAD, SKOT. WHAT ELSE **CAN** WE DO?



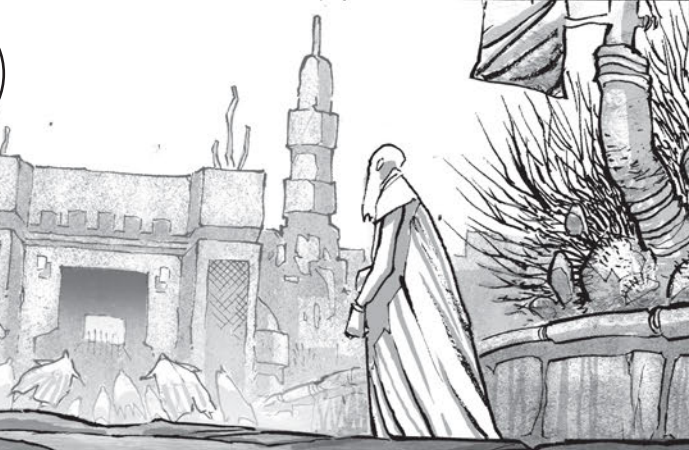
YOU MUSTN'T SAY THINGS LIKE THAT IN **PUBLIC!**

IF NOT IN THE MIDDLE OF THE STREET, THEN **WHERE--**

WHAT'S GOING ON?



I DON'T KNOW. LOOKS LIKE HALF THE ENTIRE **WATCH**...





THAT'S ANOTHER THING. **DEXUS** ISN'T HELPING MATTERS. MUCH FURTHER UP **MARCUS'** ASS AND THEY COULD **KISS...**

**PRIMATE HEDDOR!**



WATCHMAN. WE WERE JUST DISCUSSING YOUR **EXEMPLARY DUTIES**. HOW CAN WE HELP YOU?

I'M TO TAKE YOU TO THE **COUNCIL CHAMBERS**.

THAT'S VERY KIND, BUT WE HAVE NO **NEED** OF AN ESCORT.



YOU **MISUNDERSTAND** ME, PRIMATE.

I AM HERE TO **ARREST** YOU.



WHAT?

DON'T BE **RIDICULOUS**.

MAY I REMIND YOU THAT THE PRIMATE **OUTRANKS** THE WATCHMAN. BESIDES, ONLY THE **LORD FOUNDER HIMSELF** CAN WARRANT THE ARREST OF A COUNCIL MEMBER.

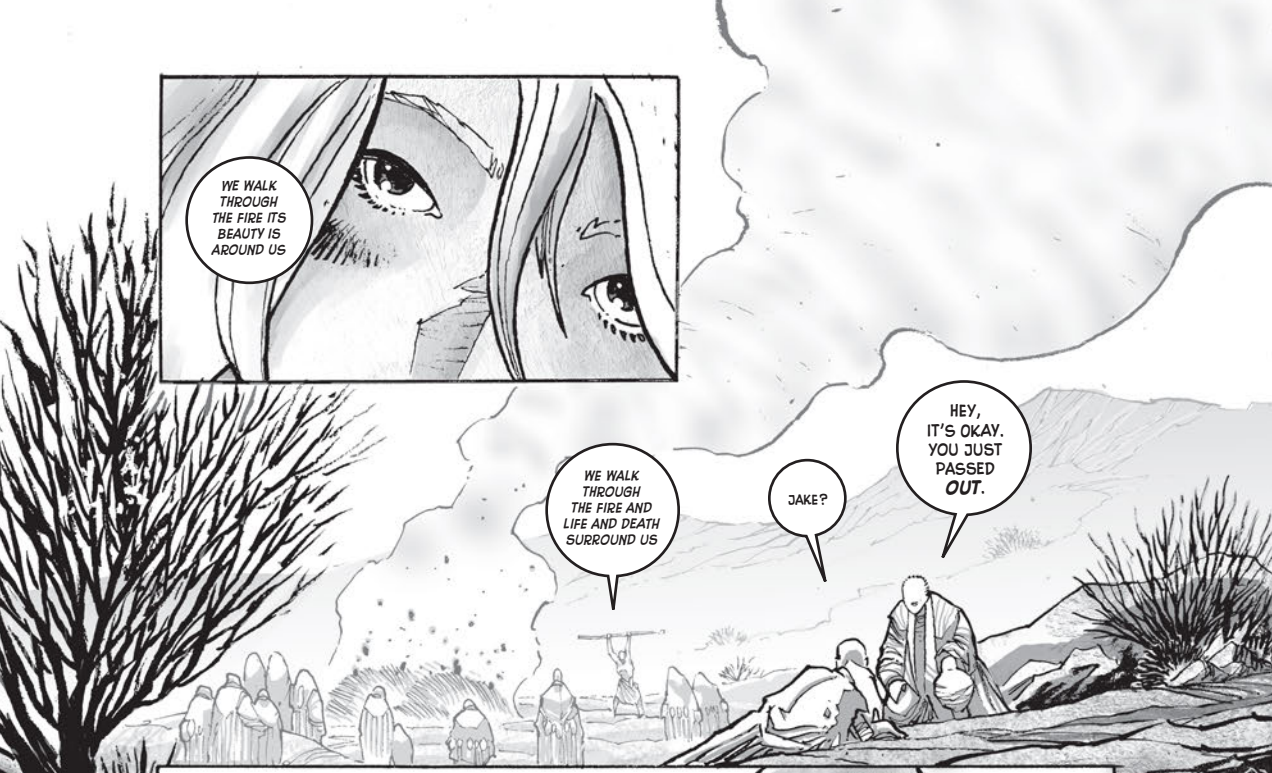


THAT'S RIGHT.

THE CHARGE IS **TREASON**.



WE WALK THROUGH THE FIRE ITS BEAUTY IS AROUND US



WE WALK THROUGH THE FIRE AND LIFE AND DEATH SURROUND US

JAKE?

HEY, IT'S OKAY. YOU JUST PASSED OUT.



WHERE'D EVERYONE... GO?

WE'LL HAVE TO WALK THE REST OF THE WAY, AND SOON. YOU NEED A PHYSICIAN.

DUNNO... IF I CAN...



YES, YOU CAN. COME ON, STAND UP.

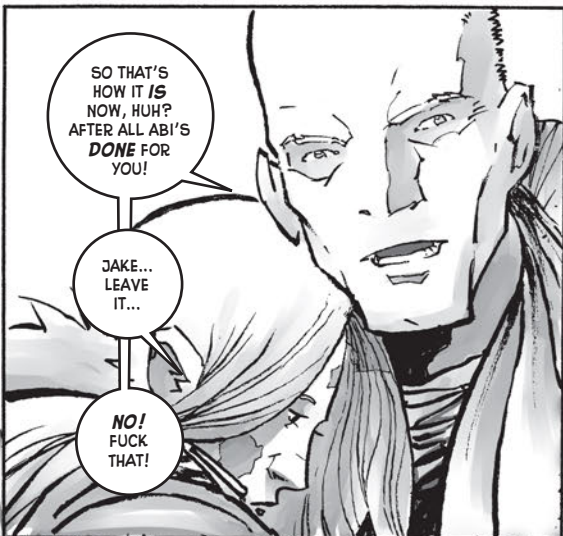
NNN...





GOLDIE...

DO NOT.



SO THAT'S HOW IT IS NOW, HUH? AFTER ALL ABI'S DONE FOR YOU!

JAKE... LEAVE IT...

NO! FUCK THAT!



THINK, YOU FUCKING IDIOTS! THINK HOW THIS ALL STARTED!

THERE'S ONLY ONE MAN TO BLAME FOR ALL OF THIS. ALL OF IT!

"AND IF WE *EVER* SEE HIM AGAIN, I PROMISE YOU..."

"I'LL KILL HIM MYSELF."

HOW DID I GET HERE?



I CAN SEE...  
HOW CAN I SEE?



ARE THESE MY EYES?

THAT SOUND.  
LIKE SCREAMING.



(THE SCREAM OF A HUNDRED  
CHILDREN SUDDENLY AWAKE)

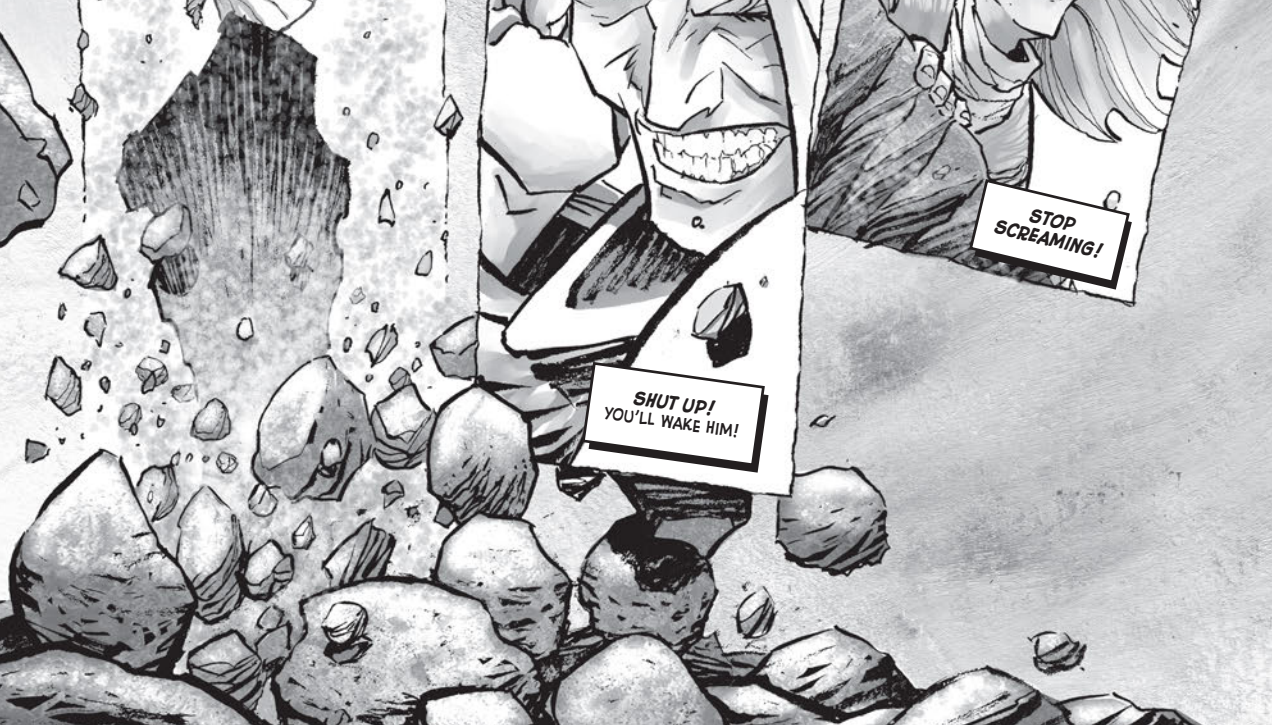


DON'T WAKE  
HIM UP!



STOP  
SCREAMING!

SHUT UP!  
YOU'LL WAKE HIM!



NOT TRUE IT'S NOT TRUE  
I TOLD THEM IT'S NOT TRUE



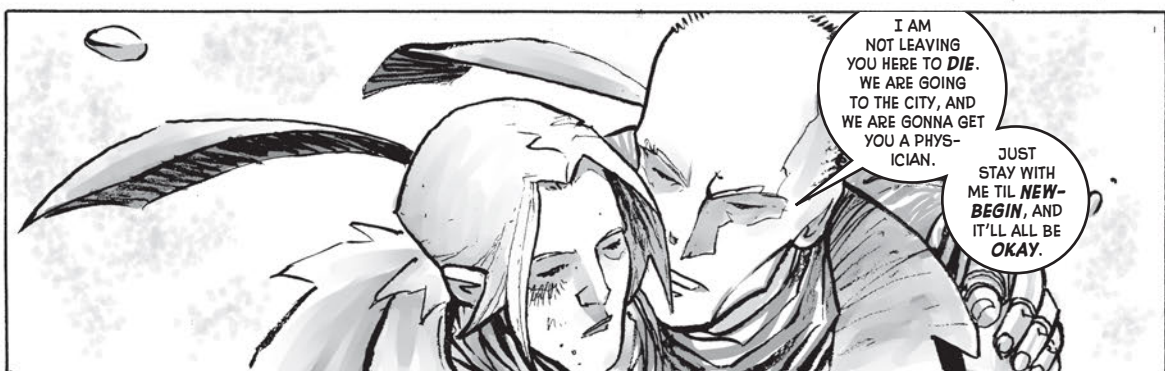
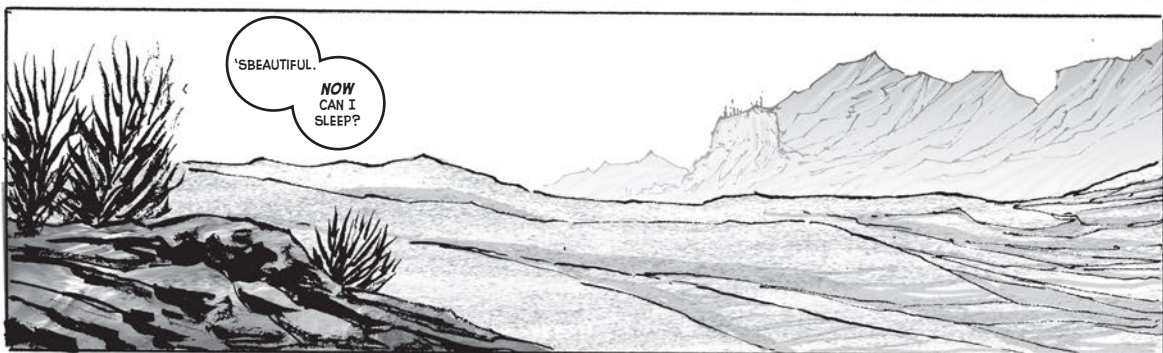
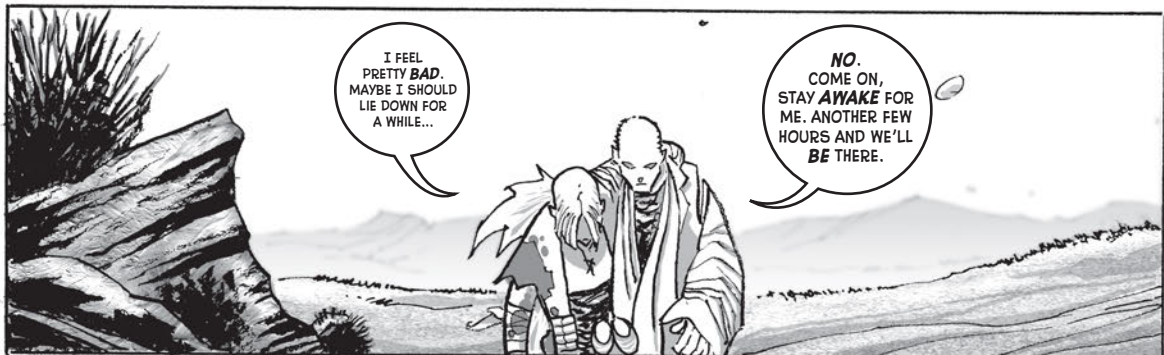
NOTHING THERE  
NOTHING ANYWHERE

NOTHING  
IN THE SAND

WHY DID YOU  
BRING ME HERE?



WHAT WAS I SUPPOSED TO SEE?

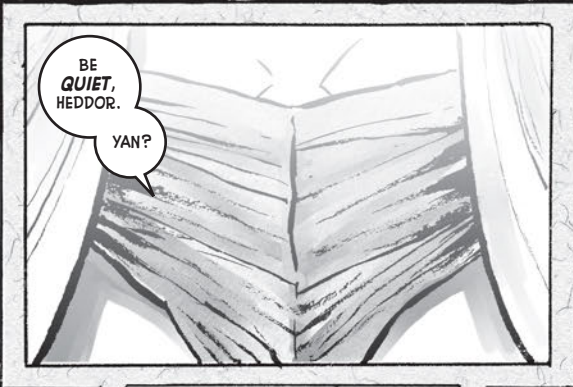
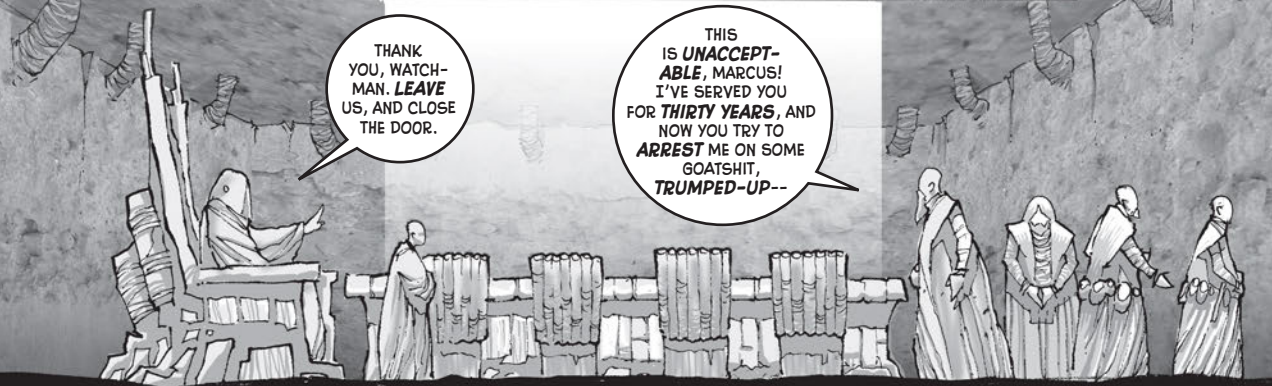




HAVE YOU LOST YOUR MIND?

THANK YOU, WATCHMAN. LEAVE US, AND CLOSE THE DOOR.

THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE, MARCUS! I'VE SERVED YOU FOR THIRTY YEARS, AND NOW YOU TRY TO ARREST ME ON SOME GOATSHIT, TRUMPED-UP--

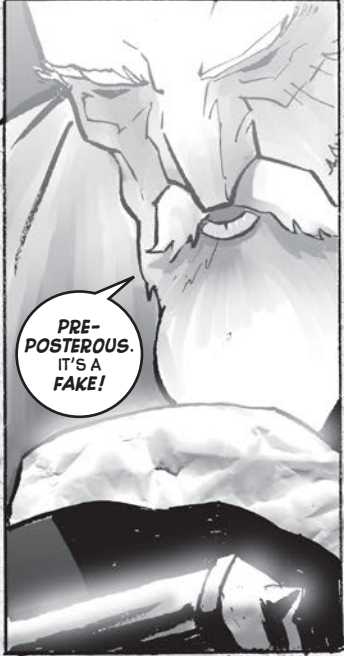


BE QUIET, HEDDOR.

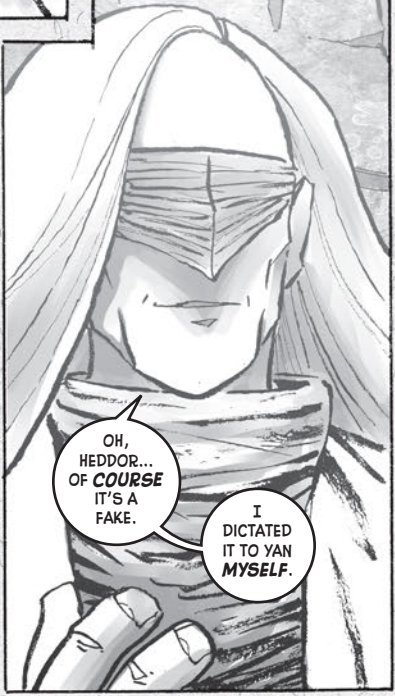
YAN?

THIS LETTER IS ADDRESSED TO THE PRIMATE OF WOSH-TUN. IT REVEALS VALUABLE SECRETS OF MY CITY'S GAS AND POWER FARMING, AND OUR PLANS FOR EXPANSION UNDERGROUND.

IT IS WRITTEN IN YOUR HAND.



PRE-POSTEROUS. IT'S A FAKE!



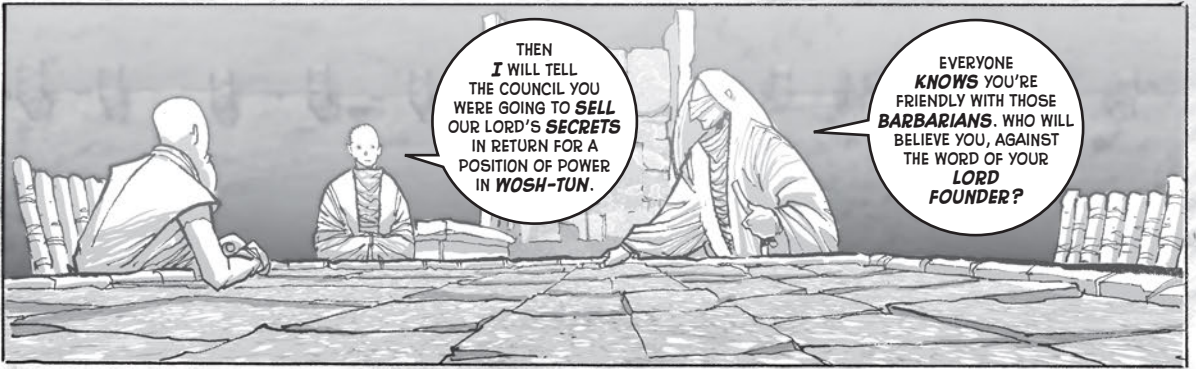
OH, HEDDOR... OF COURSE IT'S A FAKE.

I DICTATED IT TO YAN MYSELF.





YOU CAN'T GET AWAY WITH THIS. YOU DON'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY... PEOPLE WILL KNOW THE LETTER'S A FAKE!



THEN I WILL TELL THE COUNCIL YOU WERE GOING TO SELL OUR LORD'S SECRETS IN RETURN FOR A POSITION OF POWER IN WOSH-TUN.

EVERYONE KNOWS YOU'RE FRIENDLY WITH THOSE BARBARIANS. WHO WILL BELIEVE YOU, AGAINST THE WORD OF YOUR LORD FOUNDER?



MARCUS, THE SUNNERS... WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO, KILL THOUSANDS OF YOUR OWN PEOPLE?




THEY ARE NOT MY PEOPLE!



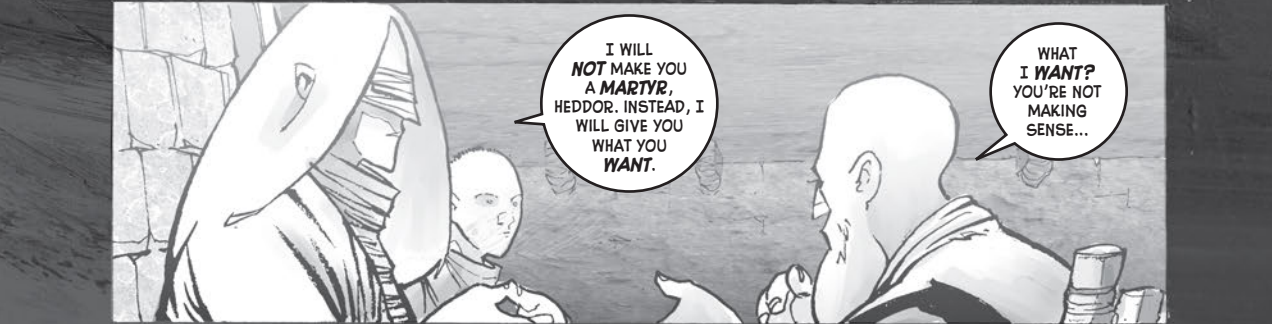
HOWEVER, YOUR BETRAYAL HAS MADE ME RETHINK. I HAVE DECIDED NOT TO TAX SUNNER CHILDREN.

OH, THANK THE FATHERS.




INSTEAD,  
I WILL **ENSLAVE**  
EVERY SUNNER WHO  
DOES NOT **CONVERT** TO  
MY CHURCH. THE **DISCI-  
PLES** HAVE ALREADY  
BEGUN ROOTING THE  
**STUBBORN**  
ONES OUT.

THE  
ONLY **REMAIN-  
ING** QUESTION  
CONCERNS YOUR  
**PUNISHMENT.**




I WILL  
**NOT** MAKE YOU  
A **MARTYR,**  
HEDDOR. INSTEAD, I  
WILL GIVE YOU  
WHAT YOU  
**WANT.**

WHAT  
I **WANT?**  
YOU'RE NOT  
MAKING  
SENSE...



YOU  
WILL SPEND  
THE REST OF YOUR  
DAYS **ALONGSIDE** THE  
SUNNERS, BUILDING  
THE **METALROAD.**  
YOU ARE TO BE  
A **SLAVE.**



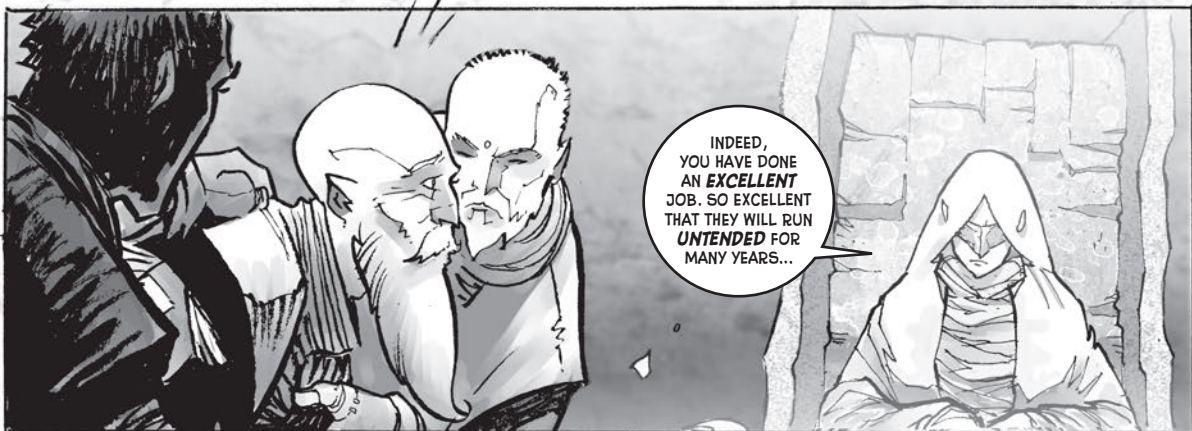
IF YOU  
ACTUALLY LIVE  
TO SEE IT **COM-  
PLETED,** I WILL  
**RELEASE** YOU. BUT  
I THINK WE ALL  
KNOW HOW LIKELY  
**THAT IS.**

**WATCH-  
MAN!**



YOU  
WOULDN'T  
**DARE!** NOBODY  
KNOWS THIS CITY'S  
**STEAM**  
**MACHINES**  
LIKE I DO!

YOU  
CAN'T  
**REPLACE**  
ME!



INDEED, YOU HAVE DONE AN **EXCELLENT** JOB. SO EXCELLENT THAT THEY WILL RUN **UNTENDED** FOR MANY YEARS...



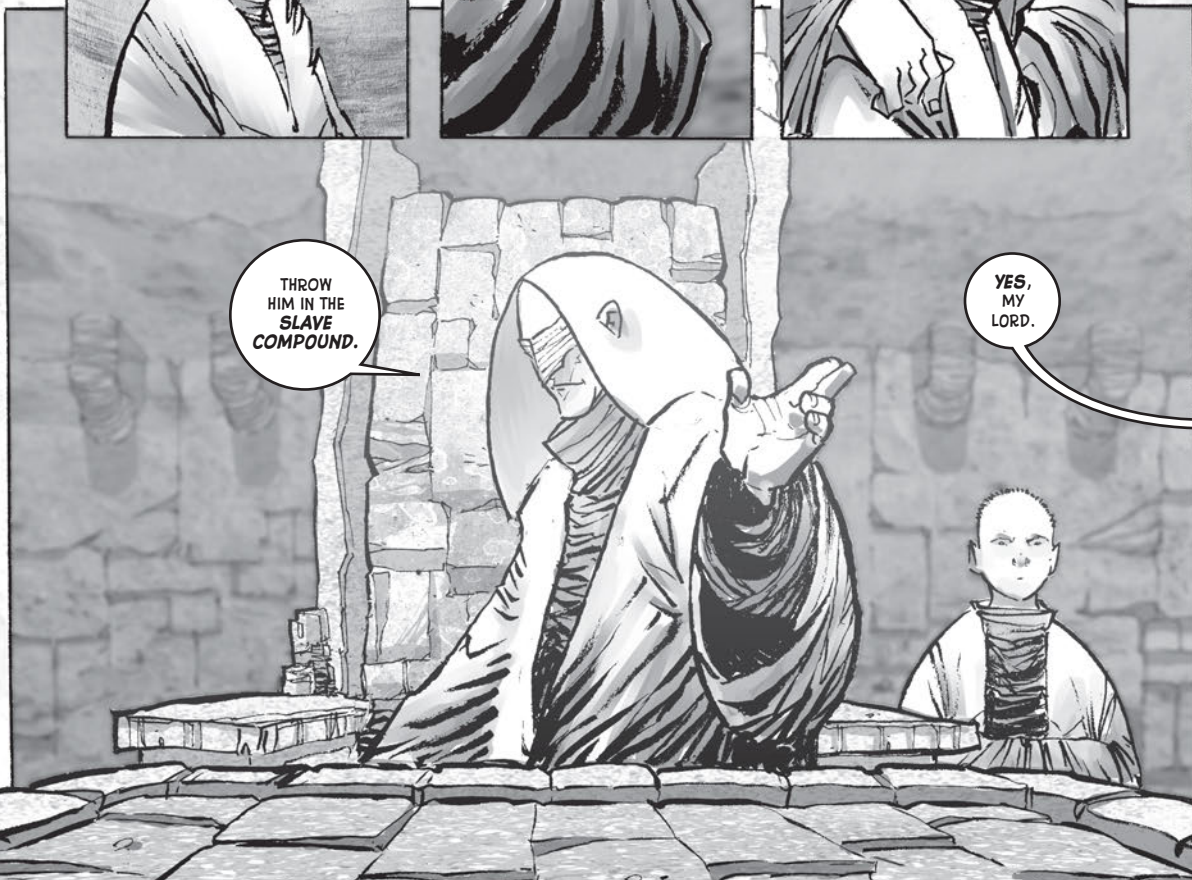
...OR AT LEAST UNTIL **YAN** IS OLD ENOUGH TO TAKE YOUR **PLACE** ON THE COUNCIL.



**YAN!** IN THE FATHERS' NAMES...

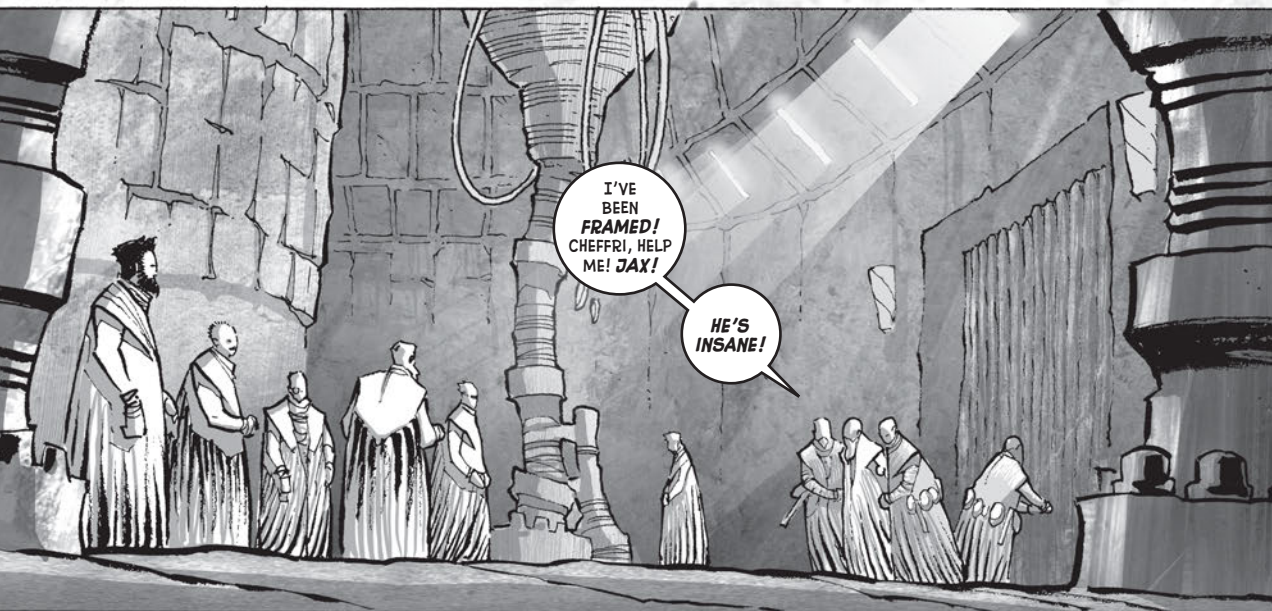
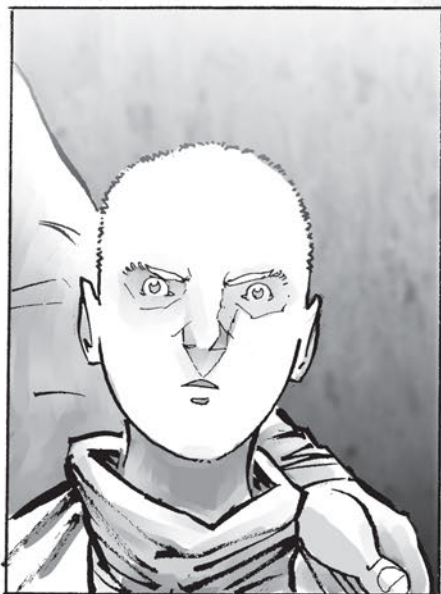


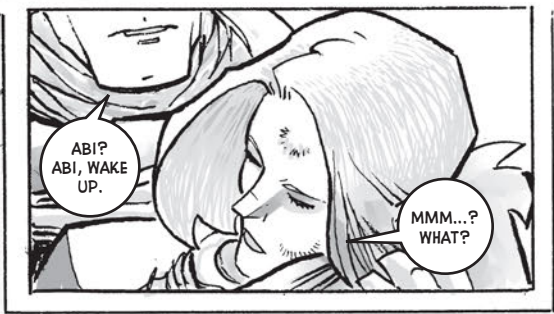
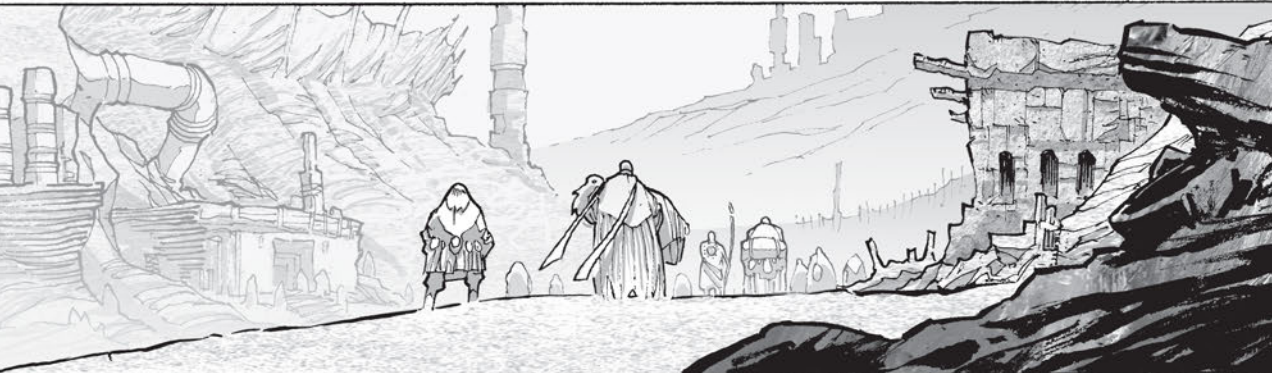
SUCH IS THE PRICE OF **BLASPHEMY**.



THROW HIM IN THE **SLAVE COMPOUND**.

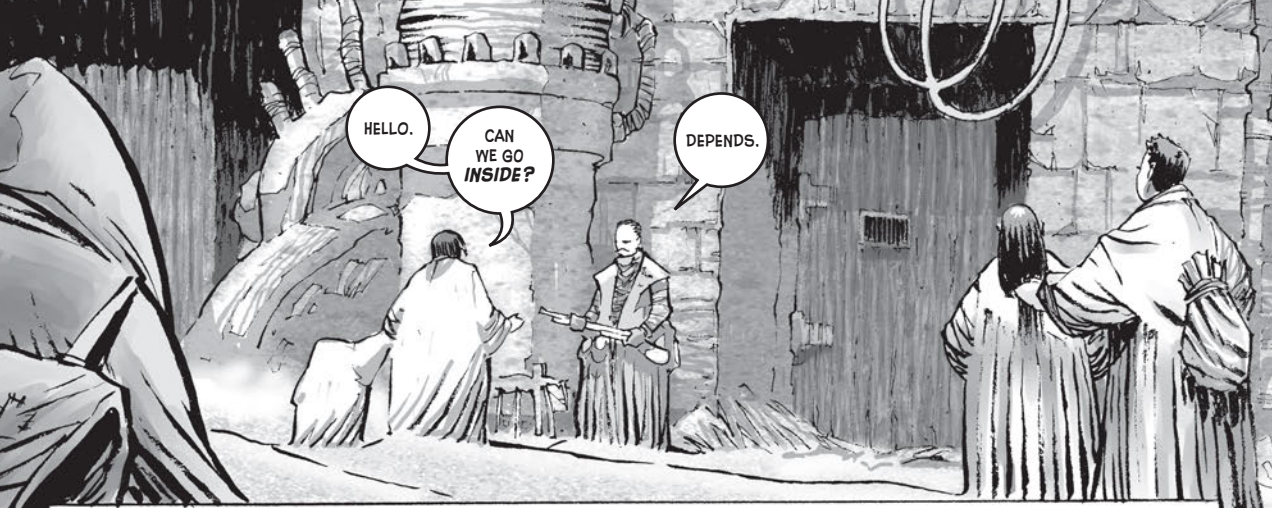
**YES, MY LORD.**







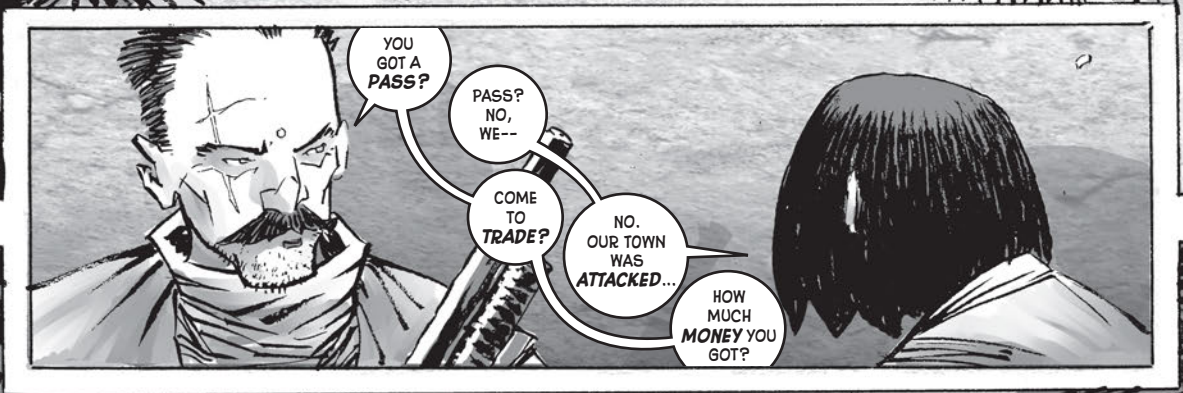
WE  
MADE  
IT.



HELLO.

CAN WE GO INSIDE?

DEPENDS.



YOU GOT A PASS?

PASS? NO, WE--

COME TO TRADE?

NO. OUR TOWN WAS ATTACKED...

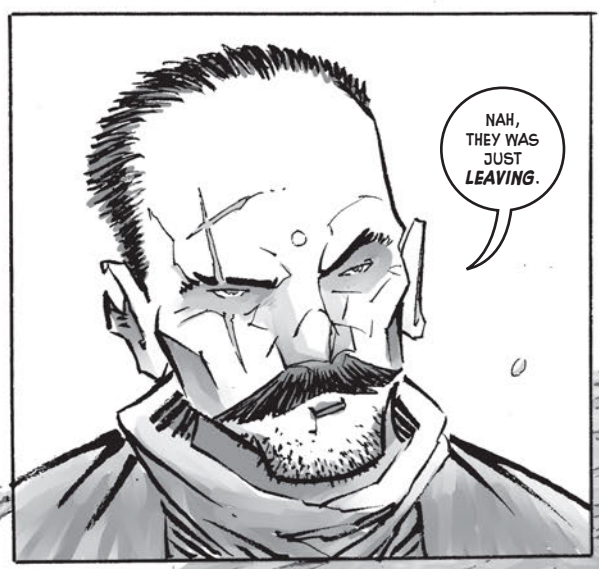
HOW MUCH MONEY YOU GOT?



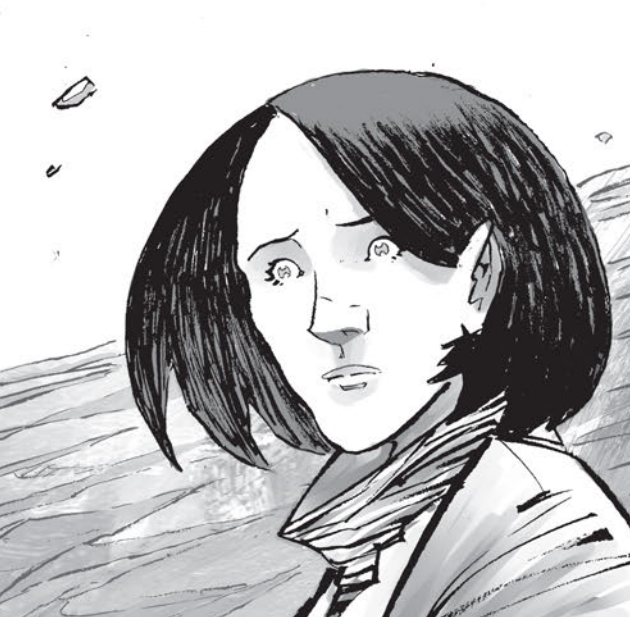
NONE! OUR TOWN WAS BURNT TO THE GROUND! WE NEED SHELTER!

NO PASS, NO GOODS, NO COIN? NO ENTRY.

PROBLEM?

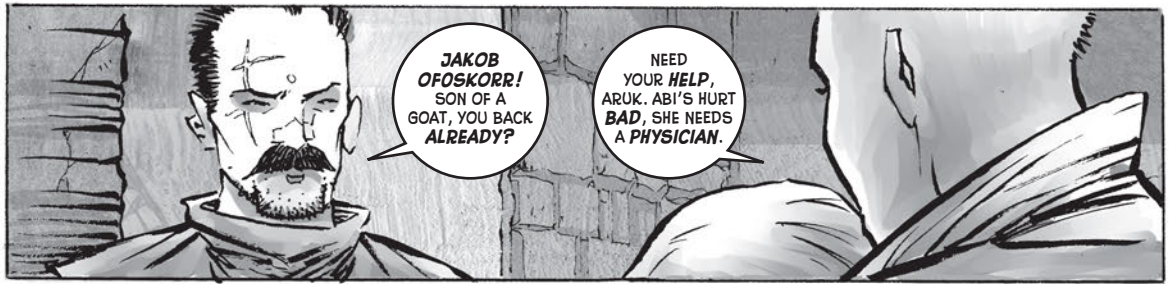


NAH, THEY WAS JUST LEAVING.



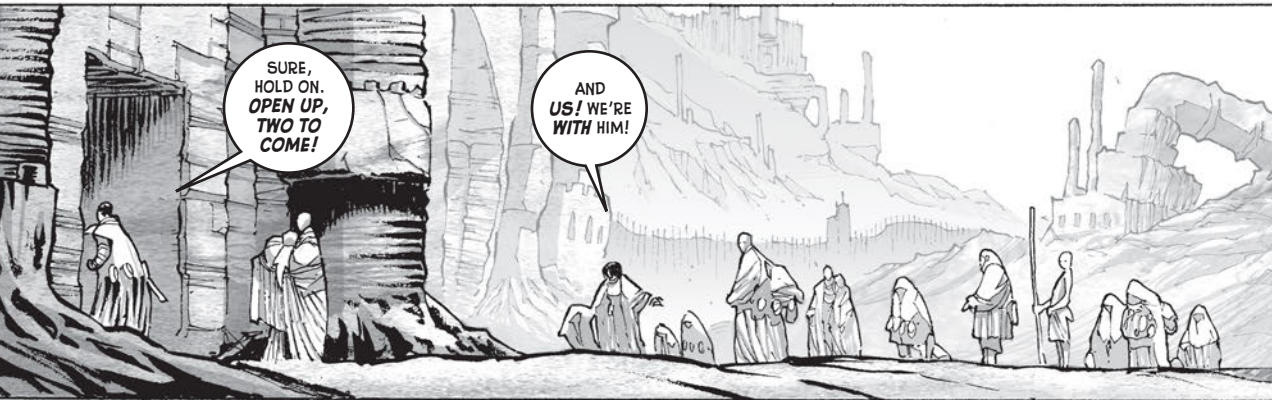


HEY,  
ARUK!  
THAT  
YOU?



JAKOB  
OFOSKORR!  
SON OF A  
GOAT, YOU  
BACK  
ALREADY?

NEED  
YOUR HELP,  
ARUK. ABI'S  
HURT  
BAD, SHE  
NEEDS  
A PHYSICIAN.



SURE,  
HOLD ON.  
OPEN UP,  
TWO TO  
COME!

AND  
US! WE'RE  
WITH HIM!



NO  
SHIT?



...YEAH.  
WE'RE ALL  
TOGETHER.



ALL  
RIGHT,  
COME ON  
THROUGH...

**BURNED  
DOWN, HUH?  
THE FUCK  
HAPPENED?**

**SAND-  
EATERS.**



**MAN.  
WELL YOU  
AIN'T GOTTA  
WORRY--**

**WOAH,  
WOAH, HOLD  
ON A SECOND.  
ARUK...?**

**SHIT,  
YEAH, I  
FORGOT.**

**HEY,  
BALDIE!  
YOU A  
SUNNER?**

**WE  
ALL ARE.  
THIS IS OUR  
SUN-SINGER,  
GOLDEN  
VOICE.**



**NO  
SHIT.**



**ALL  
RIGHT,  
THROUGH HERE.  
NEW PROCEDURE.**

**WAIT,  
DON'T WE  
NEED TO GET  
MARKED  
UP?**

**OH,  
YOU'LL  
GET MARKED.  
DON'T YOU  
WORRY.**



WHAT'S GOING ON?

DUNNO, I NEVER HAD TO COME THROUGH **HERE** BEFORE. THEY'RE **ALWAYS** CHANGING THE--



JAKOB?

OH, NO.

WHAT'S **WRONG**? AREN'T THEY LETTING US **IN** AFTER **ALL**?



DOC...

THIS IS A **SLAVE COMPOUND.**



NAA  
EEEVEN  
ENMEEET...



SAAAH...

GEDIIIT!

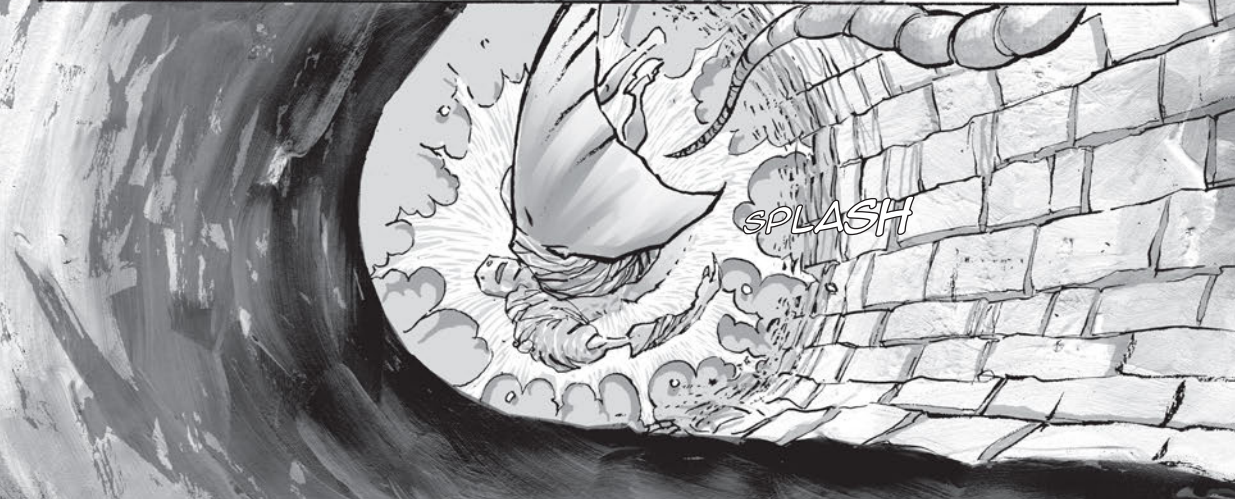


NAAAAH!

STIIINKII!



SAAAAH!



SPLASH



SAAHAHAHAHA!

ENNAAAF.



KIN  
AGSSAAAAAN...  
MASSSTAAA.

NASSSTIZZ  
DOZISS66,  
SAA  
NASSSTIZDIII.

WEWAALKAAAAAN...  
TOOZA  
SITTEEEE.



ANBURRRN  
IT.

-Chlor 006

**TO BE CONTINUED**



**ANTONY JOHNSTON**

Born and raised in central England, Antony is an award-winning author of graphic novels, comics, books, and videogames. He lives in Northern England and wears a lot of black.

**ANTONYJOHNSTON.COM**

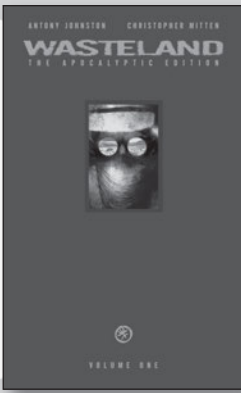


**CHRISTOPHER MITTEN**

Originally from the cow-dappled expanse of Southern Wisconsin, Christopher now roams the misty wilds of suburban Chicago, drawing little people in little boxes.

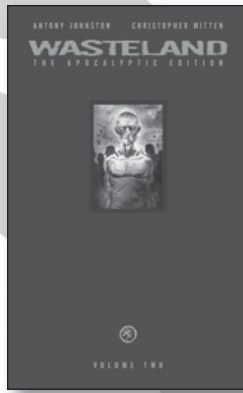
In addition to Oni, his work has appeared in books published by WildStorm, IDW, Dark Horse, and Image Comics.

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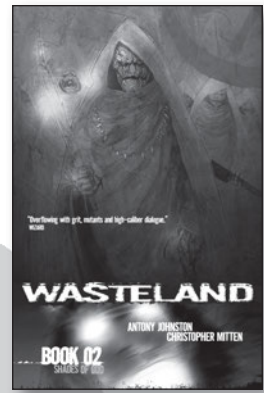
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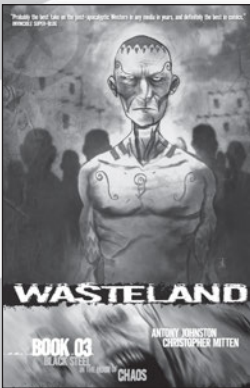
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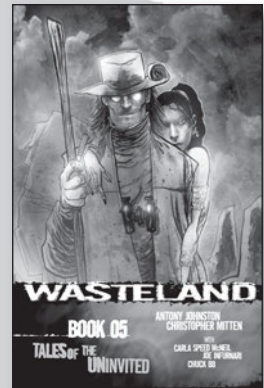
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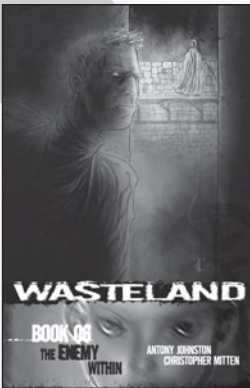
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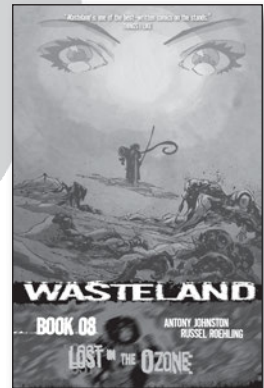
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