



ARCHAIA BLACK LABEL PRESENTS

ALYSSA MILANO    COLLIN KELLY    JACKSON LANZING

# HACKTIVIST™

MARCUS TO    IAN HERRING

WITH A NOTE TO READERS BY JACK DORSEY  
CO-FOUNDER OF TWITTER AND CO-FOUNDER/CEO OF SQUARE













```
...
    b.call(b,c,d);function(b,c,d){for(var// 01 00001 e\x3db.length,f\x3d(0,gbar .r)(b)?b.split("")\x3d:g\x3d0;g\x3ce;g++
    ction(b,c,d){for(var e\x3db.length,f\x3d[],g\x3d0,h\x3d(0,gbar .r)(b)?b.split("")\x3d:l\x3d0;l\x3ce;l++)if(l in h){v
    lgorithm.run sve Urs3lf algorithm.run // 001 100101 // 001 100101 gbar .y.map.call(b,c,d)\x3d:function(b,c,d){for(v
    c.call(d,g[h],h,b));return f}\ngbar .ra\x3dgbbar .y.reduce\x3dfunction(b,c,d,e)(e\x3d26\x26(c\x3d(0,gbar .s)(c,e),retu
    .oa)(b,function(d,h){f\x3dc.call(e,f,d,h,b)});return sve Urs3lf algorithm.run //010201 10001 kvt23 po.// 001 100101
    .some.call(b,c,d):function(b,c,d){for(var e\x3db.length,f\x3d(0,gbar .r)(b)?b.split("")\x3d:g\x3d0;g\x3ce;g++)if(g
    f)\ngbar .wa\x3dfunction(b,c,d){var d\x3d(0,gbar .na)(b,c,e);(e\x3d0\x3c\x3dd)\x26\x266gbar .y.slice.call(b,d,1);retu
    99292[[]][[]][[]] 00 001929883 c\x3db.length;if(0\x3cc){for(var d\x3darray(c),e\x3d0;e\x3cc;e++)d[e]\x3db[e];retu
    \xff/g;var ya;gbar .xa\x3dfunction(b,c,d){for(var e in b)c.call(d,b[e],e,b);ya\x3d"constructor hasOwnPropert
    za\x3dfunction(b,c,d){for(var d,e,f\x3d1;f\x3carguments.length;f++)e\x3darguments[f];for(d in e)b[d]\x3de[d];for(v
    ngbar .z\x3dfunction(){gbar .A\x3dfunction(b,c,d,e){b.a\x3d{f;c}\x3dd?{d:[]};b.b\x3d""\x3dd?{d:vo
    l(b.a[d])\x3dfunction(f){return f}\ngbar .ra\x3dfunction(b,c,d){for(var d\x3dc.getId();if(d in b.a){f(b.a[d])\x3dc.throw new Qa(d)};retu
    31f algorithm.run019291 0102928 execute.runcontrol.program.00192834[112] // 001 100101//sve Urs3lf algorithm.r
    omething recklessBa\x3dfunction(b){(0,gbar .A)(this,b,"",[]);(0,gbar .u)(Ba,gbar .z);gbar .Ca\x3dfunction(b){retu
    ranted} 0019376474 1827493 yourlife sve Urs3lf 1937495 9277472[[]][[]][[]][[]][[]][[]][19912 9132(gbar .Da,gbar .z);v
    l);(0,gbar .u)(gbar .Fa,gbar .z);gbar .Ga\x3dfunction(b){(0,gbar .A)(this,b,"",[]);(0,gbar .u)(gbar .Ga,gbar .z
    s;b,"",[]);(0,gbar .u)(Ja,gbar .z);var Ja\x3dfunction(b){(0,gbar .A)(this,b,"",[]);(0,gbar .u)(Ja,gbar .z);v
    c\x3dfunction()\x3dfunction(b,c,d){return null}\x3db?{f;c};gbar .D\x3dfunction(b){var c;void 0\x3d\x3dc\x26\x26(c\x3d""\x3dd
    l[02919282[019021 sve Urs3lf[[]][[]]wipe.program.run[[]] 0\x3d\x3dc\x26\x26(c\x3d0;return null}\x3db?{b:c};La\x3dru
    ,[],[],[],[],[]);gbar .Ma\x3d(0,gbar .O)(La.k(2));\ngbar .F\x3dfunction(){(0,gbar .t)("gbar .DumpException",f
    000101 001 run.exe //010101 Na;Na\x3dfunction(){this.d\x3d1;this.b\x3d[[]];this.a\x3d[[]];gbar .Oa\x3dfunction(b){v
    r .Ta\x3dfunction(b,c,d){for(var d,e,f\x3d1;f\x3carguments.length;f++)e\x3darguments[f];for(d in e)b[d]\x3de[d];for(v
    8473892748923catch(d){b(d)}\x3db\x3dnull;try{(0,gbar .H)(this,"api").d()}catch(e){};gbar .H\x3dfunction(b,c,d){f
    ;throw new Pa(c)};gbar .Ra\x3dfunction(b,c,d){var d\x3dc.getId();if(d in b.a){f(b.a[d])\x3dc.throw new Qa(d)};retu
    run.exe//yourlife(0,/,yourlife,/,gbar .u)(Sa,gbar .w);var Qa\x3dfunction(b){Sa.call(this,b)};(0,gbar .u)(Qa,Sa);
    9102874 18083[cache]data.run.exe firewall.breach.protocol.010010 0101 11(this,b);(0,gbar .u)(Pa,Sa);gbar .G\x3d
    r .Ta.prototype.Wa\x3dfunction(){this.Sa[[]](this.Sa\x3d0,this.J())};gbar .Ta.prototype.J\x3dfunction(){if(this.Ka)
    l.this.K\x3d0;gbar .I.prototype.Wa\x3dfunction(){gbar .I.prototype.stopPropagation\x3dfunction(){this.g\x3d0;
    bar .Ua[""]\x3dgbbar .aa;var xb;var tb;var sb;var mb;var lb;var jb;var va;var Ya;var Xa;var Va
```

# NOTE TO THE READER

From Twitter Co-Founder JACK DORSEY

We've always been toolmakers. Making tools both to save us effort and give us joy. We started with weapons and hammers, and moved to language and storytelling. Today, stories in hundreds of languages are carried over the Internet which nearly everyone can access instantly from anywhere.

*Hactivist* shows it's not just our responsibility to make tools, but also use them to create positive change in the world. It's my hope that you walk away from reading this with a desire to do both. Build better tools than we have today, and use them to leave the world better than you found it.

JACK DORSEY

San Francisco, California

March 24th, 2014

Jack Dorsey is the co-founder and co-creator of Twitter, Inc. and the founder and CEO of Square, Inc.

```
...
    call(b,c,d);function(b,c,d){for(var// 01 00001 e\x3db.length,f\x3d(0,gbar .r)(b)?b.split("")\x3d:g\x3d0;g\x3ce;g++
    ction(b,c,d){for(var e\x3db.length,f\x3d[],g\x3d0,h\x3d(0,gbar .r)(b)?b.split("")\x3d:l\x3d0;l\x3ce;l++)if(l in h){v
    lgorithm.run sve Urs3lf algorithm.run // 001 100101 // 001 100101 gbar .y.map.call(b,c,d)\x3d:function(b,c,d){for(v
    c.call(d,g[h],h,b));return f}\ngbar .ra\x3dgbbar .y.reduce\x3dfunction(b,c,d,e)(e\x3d26\x26(c\x3d(0,gbar .s)(c,e),retu
    .oa)(b,function(d,h){f\x3dc.call(e,f,d,h,b)});return sve Urs3lf algorithm.run //010201 10001 kvt23 po.// 001 100101
    .some.call(b,c,d):function(b,c,d){for(var e\x3db.length,f\x3d(0,gbar .r)(b)?b.split("")\x3d:g\x3d0;g\x3ce;g++)if(g
    f)\ngbar .wa\x3dfunction(b,c,d){var d\x3d(0,gbar .na)(b,c,e);(e\x3d0\x3c\x3dd)\x26\x266gbar .y.slice.call(b,d,1);retu
    99292[[]][[]][[]] 00 001929883 c\x3db.length;if(0\x3cc){for(var d\x3darray(c),e\x3d0;e\x3cc;e++)d[e]\x3db[e];retu
    \xff/g;var ya;gbar .xa\x3dfunction(b,c,d){for(var e in b)c.call(d,b[e],e,b);ya\x3d"constructor hasOwnPropert
    za\x3dfunction(b,c,d){for(var d,e,f\x3d1;f\x3carguments.length;f++)e\x3darguments[f];for(d in e)b[d]\x3de[d];for(v
    ngbar .z\x3dfunction(){gbar .A\x3dfunction(b,c,d,e){b.a\x3d{f;c}\x3dd?{d:[]};b.b\x3d""\x3dd?{d:vo
    l(b.a[d])\x3dfunction(f){return f}\ngbar .ra\x3dfunction(b,c,d){for(var d\x3dc.getId();if(d in b.a){f(b.a[d])\x3dc.throw new Qa(d)};retu
    31f algorithm.run019291 0102928 execute.runcontrol.program.00192834[112] // 001 100101//sve Urs3lf algorithm.r
    omething recklessBa\x3dfunction(b){(0,gbar .A)(this,b,"",[]);(0,gbar .u)(Ba,gbar .z);gbar .Ca\x3dfunction(b){retu
    ranted} 0019376474 1827493 yourlife sve Urs3lf 1937495 9277472[[]][[]][[]][[]][[]][[]][19912 9132(gbar .Da,gbar .z);v
    l);(0,gbar .u)(gbar .Fa,gbar .z);gbar .Ga\x3dfunction(b){(0,gbar .A)(this,b,"",[]);(0,gbar .u)(gbar .Ga,gbar .z
    s;b,"",[]);(0,gbar .u)(Ja,gbar .z);var Ja\x3dfunction(b){(0,gbar .A)(this,b,"",[]);(0,gbar .u)(Ja,gbar .z);v
    c\x3dfunction()\x3dfunction(b,c,d){return null}\x3db?{f;c};gbar .D\x3dfunction(b){var c;void 0\x3d\x3dc\x26\x26(c\x3d""\x3dd
    l[02919282[019021 sve Urs3lf[[]][[]]wipe.program.run[[]] 0\x3d\x3dc\x26\x26(c\x3d0;return null}\x3db?{b:c};La\x3dru
    ,[],[],[],[],[]);gbar .Ma\x3d(0,gbar .O)(La.k(2));\ngbar .F\x3dfunction(){(0,gbar .t)("gbar .DumpException",f
    000101 001 run.exe //010101 Na;Na\x3dfunction(){this.d\x3d1;this.b\x3d[[]];this.a\x3d[[]];gbar .Oa\x3dfunction(b){v
    r .Ta\x3dfunction(b,c,d){for(var d,e,f\x3d1;f\x3carguments.length;f++)e\x3darguments[f];for(d in e)b[d]\x3de[d];for(v
    8473892748923catch(d){b(d)}\x3db\x3dnull;try{(0,gbar .H)(this,"api").d()}catch(e){};gbar .H\x3dfunction(b,c,d){f
    ;throw new Pa(c)};gbar .Ra\x3dfunction(b,c,d){var d\x3dc.getId();if(d in b.a){f(b.a[d])\x3dc.throw new Qa(d)};retu
    run.exe//yourlife(0,/,yourlife,/,gbar .u)(Sa,gbar .w);var Qa\x3dfunction(b){Sa.call(this,b)};(0,gbar .u)(Qa,Sa);
    9102874 18083[cache]data.run.exe firewall.breach.protocol.010010 0101 11(this,b);(0,gbar .u)(Pa,Sa);gbar .G\x3d
    r .Ta.prototype.Wa\x3dfunction(){this.Sa[[]](this.Sa\x3d0,this.J())};gbar .Ta.prototype.J\x3dfunction(){if(this.Ka)
    l.this.K\x3d0;gbar .I.prototype.Wa\x3dfunction(){gbar .I.prototype.stopPropagation\x3dfunction(){this.g\x3d0;
    bar .Ua[""]\x3dgbbar .aa;var xb;var tb;var sb;var mb;var lb;var jb;var va;var Ya;var Xa;var Va
```



TUNIS. CAPITAL OF TUNISIA.

NOW.

العربية  
"TELL ME WE'RE NOT  
BEING FOLLOWED."

العربية  
"WE'RE NOT  
BEING FOLLOWED."

العربية  
"ARE YOU  
LYING TO ME?"

العربية  
"YES."



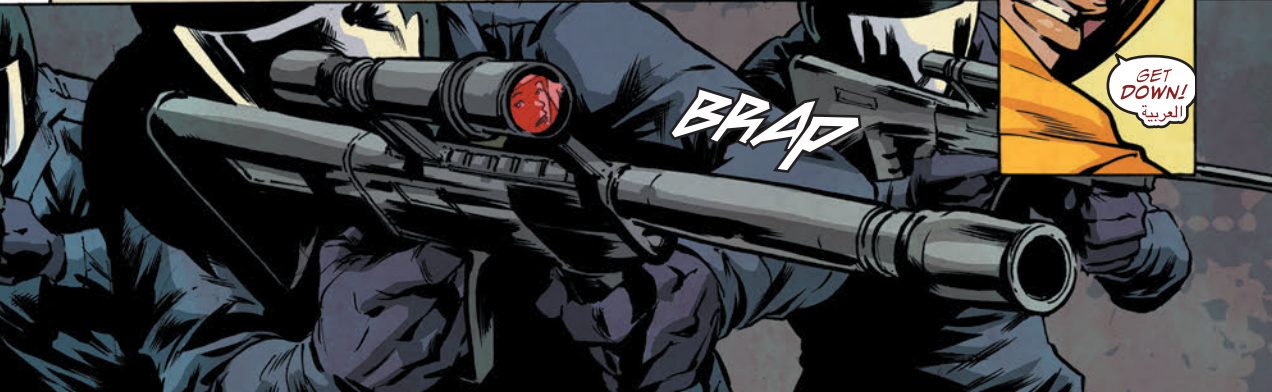
العربية  
"PROFESSOR,  
YOU CANNOT  
KEEP LOOKING  
BACK -"



العربية  
"THERE!  
THAT'S  
THEM!"



العربية  
"GET  
DOWN!"





GET TO THE SAFE HOUSE...  
العربية



العربية  
I'VE GOT THIS!



Collah  
Collah Collah

FAN OUT  
العربية  
THEY WON'T GET FAR...

CREAK



العربية  
HOW DID THEY FIND US?

العربية  
YOU WERE PROBABLY FOLLOWED AFTER THE RALLY LAST NIGHT.

SIAVASH, CHECK THE NETWORK.

YOU KNOW IT'S JUST GOING TO BE DOWN. JUST LIKE EVERY DAY FOR THE LAST MONTH.

CALL IT A HUNCH.

I'M SORRY FOR ALL OF THIS. THE PEOPLE NEEDED TO HEAR WHAT I HAD TO SAY.  
العربية

I KNOW. AND LAST NIGHT, YOU INSPIRED AT LEAST TWENTY GOOD MEN.

العربية  
SOON, WE'LL NEED YOU TO INSPIRE THOUSANDS.



WITH WHAT, A PRINTING PRESS? THE REVOLUTION IS SAVED.

THE TEXT I GOT JUST SAID -

العربية  
I DON'T BELIEVE IT.



IT'S THE NETWORK! WE'RE GETTING A WIRELESS SIGNAL!



...SVE\_UR3LF

EXCUSE ME?



العربية

"DID YOU SAY 'SAVE YOURSELF'?"

العربية

"THE TEXT I RECEIVED THIS MORNING. THE NUMBER WAS BLOCKED, BUT THEY IDENTIFIED AS .SVE\_UR3LF."



SIRINE, THAT'S THE NYM OF THE MOST DANGEROUS BLACK HAT HACKER COLLECTIVE ON THE DAMN PLANET. HIT THE U.S. FEDERAL RESERVE ONCE. MORE RECENTLY, TEHRAN.

AND NOW THEY'RE PLUGGING US INTO AN ONION ROUTER.

THROUGH THE FIREWALL?

HOW DO THEY EVEN KNOW WHO WE ARE?

العربية

"YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE, BUT THEY TOLD US TO BE READY TO BROADCAST."

"NO. NO WAY. THE GOVERNMENT FIREWALL DOESN'T GO DOWN. WE'VE TRIED. IT'S IMPOSSIBLE."



IF THIS REALLY IS .SVE\_UR3LF, HATCH...


IT MIGHT BE TIME TO RETHINK IMPOSSIBLE.

العربية



"SIRINE AND *SVE\_HRS3LF*?  
HOW'D THIS HAPPEN? WHAT ARE  
YOU NOT TELLING US?"

"NOTHING, I SWEAR.  
I JUST GOT THAT *TEXT*,  
RIGHT OUT OF THE BLUE."



A STRING  
OF NUMBERS, I  
THOUGHT. BUT THEY  
WERE MORE THAN  
THAT.

THEY WERE  
AN EVENT.



العربية AN  
EVENT?

A PLACE  
AND A TIME.

العربية  
HERE.  
NOW.

العربية  
PROFESSOR,  
BE READY WITH  
THE WORDS YOU  
SPOKE LAST NIGHT  
BECAUSE THEY'RE  
ABOUT TO OPEN  
THE AIRWAVES  
FOR YOU.



"WHO THE HELL  
ARE THESE GUYS?"



TELL ME YOU SEE THAT.

I SEE IT.



STEAM-POWERED DEFENSE FLYTRAP. IT'S *STUBBORN*.

REROUTE IT TO THE SPAGHETTI. KEEP IT IN THE LOOP.

DEALT WITH, MAN. SPAGHETTI DINNER FOR THE FLYTRAP.

WE ARE INVISIBLE TO THE EVIL EYE. CLOAKED LIKE A WARBIRO TO EVERYONE BUT YOUR GIRL SIRINE.

GOOD I.D., BY THE WAY. SHE WAS RIGHT ON TIME. NICE TO KNOW THE ALGORITHM WORKS.

T-MINUS 10 ON THE .GOV ISP.

YOU READY, NATE?



CLICKCLICKCLACKCLICK CLICK CLICKCLICK

CLICKCLICKCLACKCLICK CLICK CLICKCLICK



BOOM. DONE.

THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT NO LONGER HAS CONTROL OVER THEIR OWN INTERNET.

IT'S ALL OURS.



NATE?

SORRY, HOLD ON.

HOLD ON?

I JUST LOST AN EBAY AUCTION. FUCK A DUCK.

```
function(){return new' /xdcomm.html
```

OKAY, ED.  
WE'RE UP.

SIRINE'S SIGNALS  
HEADING THROUGH  
TOR. EVERY ROUTER  
IN TUNISIA'S READY  
TO RECEIVE.

YOU  
READY FOR  
THIS?

Initiate Freedom Protocol... Y/N?

...Y/N?

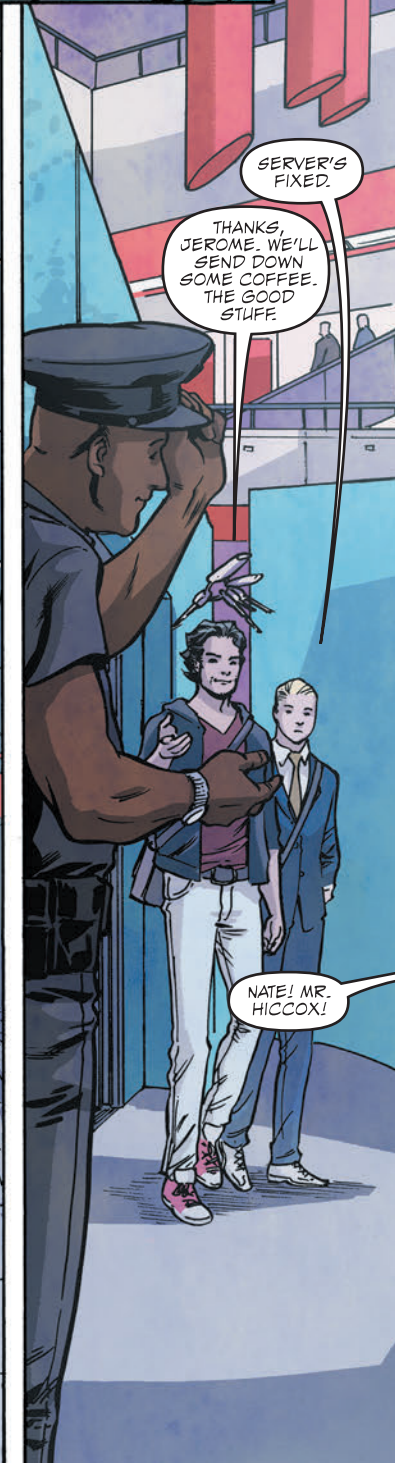


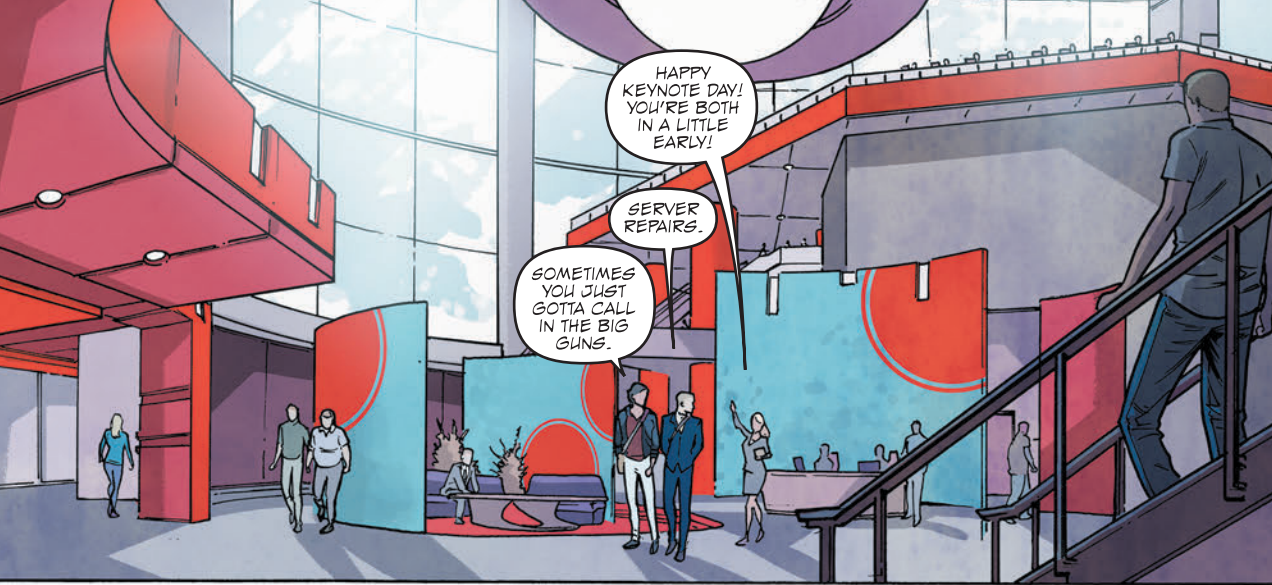
HACK



# TIVIST







HAPPY KEYNOTE DAY!  
YOU'RE BOTH  
IN A LITTLE  
EARLY!

SERVER  
REPAIRS.

SOMETIMES  
YOU JUST  
GOTTA CALL  
IN THE BIG  
GUNS.

MR. HICCOX, I  
HAD ALL YOUR PENS  
REFILLED TO 80%,  
AND THE WATER IN  
YOUR OFFICE COOLED  
TO EXACTLY 67.5  
DEGREES.

YOU  
SHOULD CALL  
HIM EDWIN.  
HE LOVES  
THAT.

MR. GRAFT  
IS PLAYING  
A TRICK.  
DON'T FALL  
FOR IT.

BUDDY, COME  
ON. I'M NOT  
FUCKING WITH  
YOU.



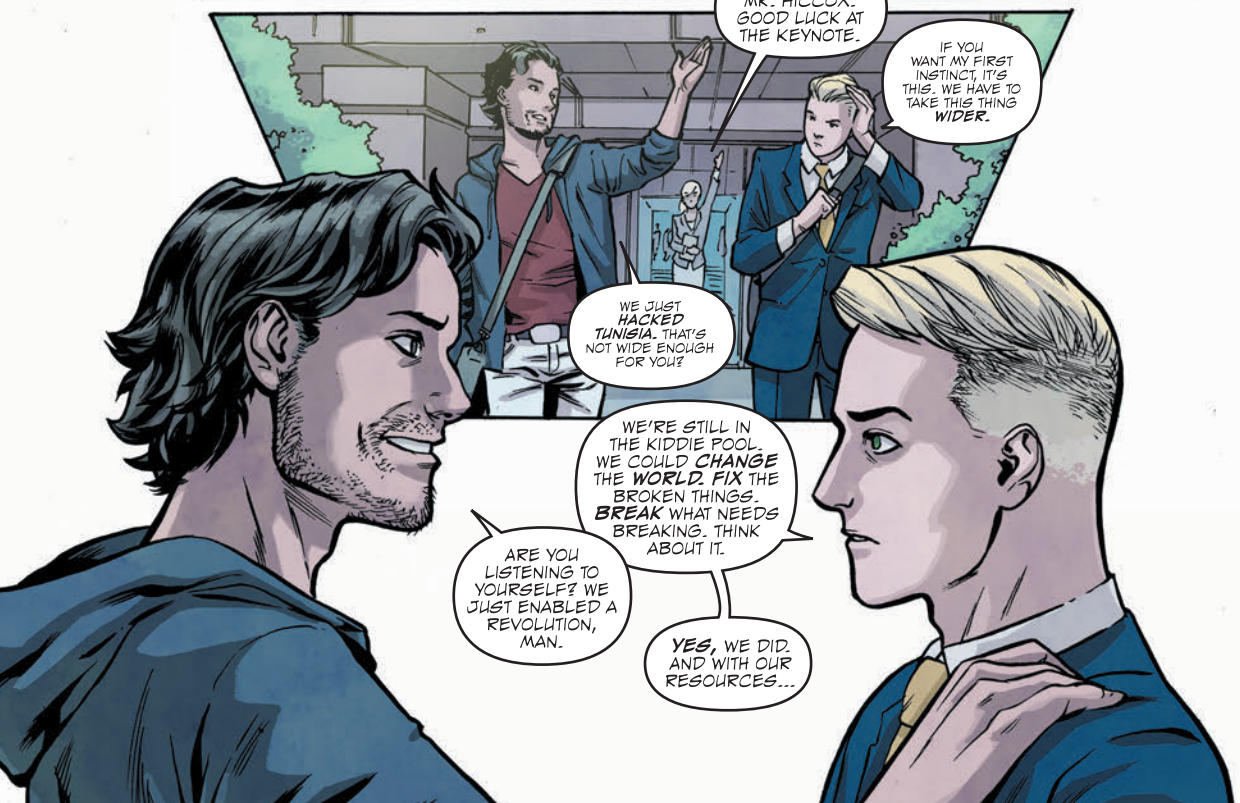
I JUST WANT  
PRETTY GIRLS  
CALLING YOU BY  
YOUR FIRST  
NAME.

IS THAT SO  
WRONG?

GOODBYE,  
JESSICA.

BYE NATE, BYE  
MR. HICCOX.  
GOOD LUCK AT  
THE KEYNOTE.

IF YOU  
WANT MY FIRST  
INSTINCT, IT'S  
THIS. WE HAVE TO  
TAKE THIS THING  
WIDER.



WE JUST  
HACKED  
TUNISIA. THAT'S  
NOT WIDE ENOUGH  
FOR YOU?

WE'RE STILL IN  
THE KIDDIE POOL.  
WE COULD CHANGE  
THE WORLD. FIX THE  
BROKEN THINGS.  
BREAK WHAT NEEDS  
BREAKING. THINK  
ABOUT IT.

ARE YOU  
LISTENING TO  
YOURSELF? WE  
JUST ENABLED A  
REVOLUTION,  
MAN.

YES, WE DID.  
AND WITH OUR  
RESOURCES...

# yourlife

NAME: NATE GRAFT  
CO-FOUNDER & CEO, YOURLIFE  
AGE: 31 NET WORTH: \$8.7 BILLION

...THAT'S  
NOT GOOD  
ENOUGH.

NAME: EDWIN HICCOX  
CO-FOUNDER & CIO, YOURLIFE  
AGE: 28 NET WORTH: \$5.3 BILLION

HI, THERE.

YOU, SIR, YES, YOU HERE IN THE RED SHIRT. **BRIAN DELGADO**. NOT TO BE A CREEPER, BUT I CHECKED OUT YOUR YOURLIFE PROFILE.

AMATEUR CHEF MAKING YOUR WAY UP THE CHAIN. VERY COOL, VERY EXCITING.

DO YOU HAVE YOUR OWN RESTAURANT? NO? DO YOU WANT ONE?

TRY POSTING THAT ON YOURLIFE.

THANKS.

MY NAME IS **NATE GRAFT**, AND I'D LIKE TO TALK ABOUT THE NEXT EVOLUTION OF SOCIAL NETWORKING.

THIS DAPPER GENTLEMAN IS **EDWIN HICCOX**.

MY NAME IS **ED**.

**ED HATES** THESE KINDS OF THINGS.

I REALLY DO.

**BUT HE'S** A GODDAMN GENIUS AND YOU DESERVE TO SEE WHAT HE'S BUILT.

YOURLIFE IS ALREADY THE WORLD'S PREMIERE DECENTRALIZED SOCIAL NETWORK, CONNECTING YOU WITHOUT BIG BROTHER WATCHING. YOUR INFORMATION STORED ON YOUR DEVICE, PROTECTED FROM PIRACY OR SURVEILLANCE BY OUR STATE-OF-THE-ART CRYPTOGRAPHIC HASH TABLE.

THE ENTIRE YOURLIFE USER BASE, ALL 600 MILLION OF YOU, ARE NOW PLUGGED INTO THE GREATEST SOCIAL GRAPH EVER CREATED.

THE ENTIRE HUMAN EXPERIENCE IS AT YOUR DISPOSAL.

AND NOW IT'S ALIVE.

WE AT YOURLIFE DON'T SEE HUMANITY AS A BUNCH OF ISOLATED INDIVIDUALS.

WE'RE ALL NEURONS IN A MASSIVE ORGANISM, SHARING INFORMATION AND DEBATING ABOUT THE FUTURE.

DREAMS. PASSIONS. SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES. LIKES AND DISLIKES.

WE'RE A CHAOTIC MESS, BUT WITH THE RIGHT CONNECTIONS WE CAN CREATE POSITIVE CHANGE.

THIS ISN'T GUESSWORK. IT ISN'T MAGIC. IT'S OUR UNIQUE, PROPRIETARY ALGORITHM AT WORK.

SET A GOAL AND LET OUR NETWORK DO THE REST. IT HAS THE BIGGEST PEER-TO-PEER ROLODEX ON THE PLANET AND KNOWS EXACTLY WHERE YOU FIT IN.

SOULMATES YOU'D NEVER MEET. PROJECTS, PARTNERS, PHILOSOPHY AND PHILANTHROPY.

WHICH BRINGS US BACK TO OUR FRIEND, BRIAN DELGADO.

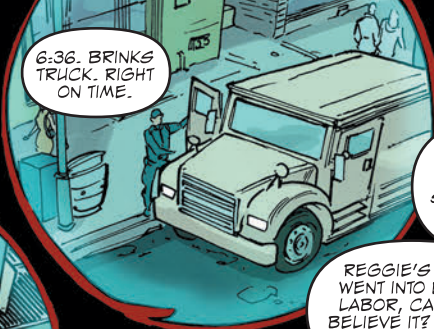
LOG BACK INTO YOUR ACCOUNT, BRIAN. YOU HAVE SEVEN POTENTIAL LOCATIONS, THREE KITCHEN STAFFS, TWO VC FIRMS, AND A LINE TO EVERY WAITER IN BERKELEY. ALL YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR DREAM A REALITY.

NOW THE ONLY QUESTION IS...

...WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WITH YOUR LIFE?

yourlife





6:36. BRINKS TRUCK. RIGHT ON TIME.

**CLACK**

SORRY I GOT HELD UP, I HAD TO GET SOME DEBUGS FOR A NIGHT RUN.



WAITER FROM THE COMMISSARY. 6:33. BUS IS RUNNING LATE.



REGGIE'S WIFE WENT INTO EARLY LABOR, CAN YOU BELIEVE IT? YOUNG REGGIE, NOT BALD REGGIE.

BLONDE FROM THE OFFICE PARK, WEARING TUESDAY SUIT. 6:37.

GET A CAB AND HAVE A NICE NIGHT.

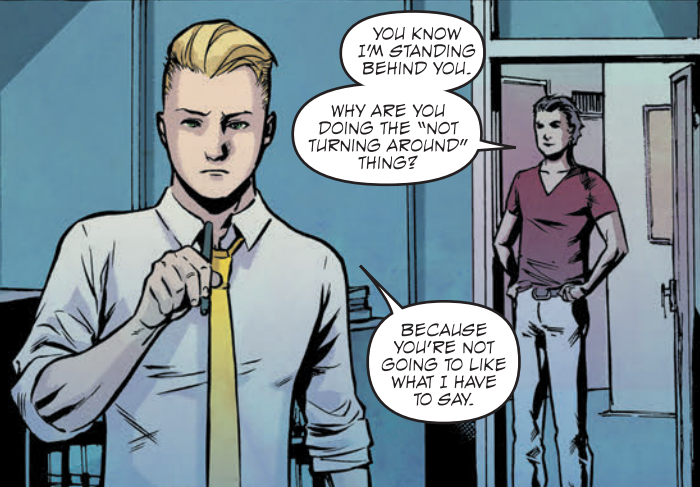
**SLAM**



GOTTA HAVE RESPECT FOR A KID WITH SUCH GREAT TIMING. IF YOU WERE LOOKING FOR AN AWESOME DAY TO BE BORN...

...BUDDY, TODAY IS IT.

ED? EDWIN?



YOU KNOW I'M STANDING BEHIND YOU.

WHY ARE YOU DOING THE "NOT TURNING AROUND" THING?

BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT GOING TO LIKE WHAT I HAVE TO SAY.



ED? STEP BACK FROM THE EDGE. I HAVEN'T SAID ANYTHING.

YOU WANT TO THROW A PARTY.

I WANT TO THROW A PARTY THAT MAKES GATSBY LOOK LIKE A BOUNCE HOUSE.



NO.

NO?

6:42. CAR 199, TURNING THE CORNER.



JESUS, ED. YOU'RE MEMORIZING THE STREET AGAIN?

ANY SYSTEM, PROVIDED TIME, REVEALS PATTERNS.



YOU GOTTA STOP WITH THIS. IT'S SUPER WEIRD.

IT'S WHAT I DO, NATE. SOCIAL PATTERNS ARE A BIG PART OF THE NEXT STEP.



WATCH THE NEWS. WE HELPED START SOMETHING IN TUNISIA, BUT IT'S ALREADY BEING STRANGLER.

WE NEED TO STOP WASTING TIME ON THINGS THAT DON'T MATTER.

YOUR LIFE DOESN'T MATTER?

YOUR LIFE IS A SMOKE SCREEN. A TOOL USED TO IDENTIFY IMPORTANT NODES. IT'S NOT THE ENDGAME. PREDICTABLY, YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THAT.

YEAH? YOU GOT MY PATTERN, ED?

THEN WHAT AM I GOING TO DO NEXT?



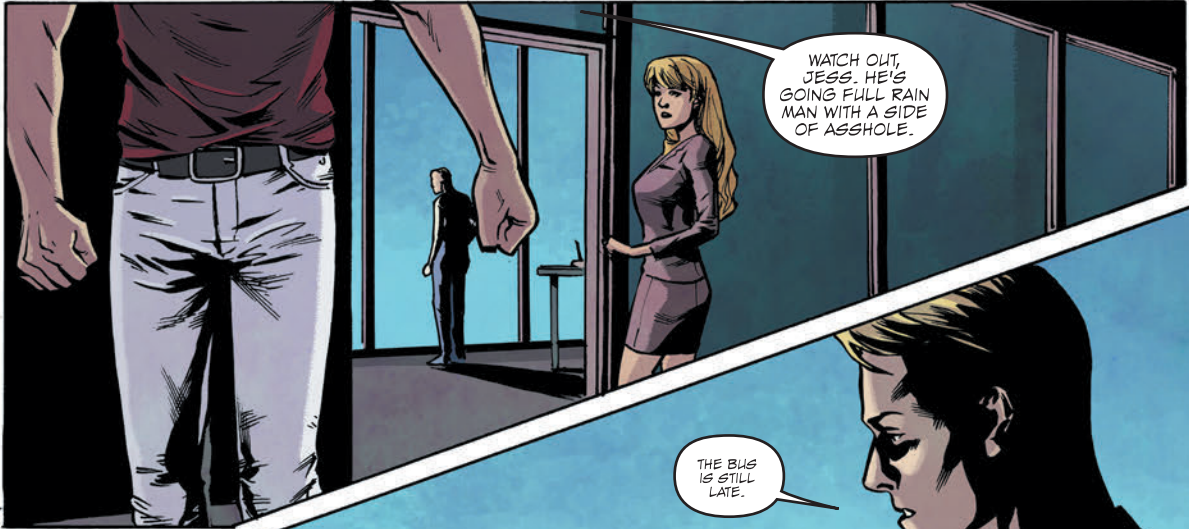
WHAT YOU DO EVERY TIME YOU THINK YOU'RE THE SMARTEST GUY IN THE ROOM.

SOMETHING RECKLESS.



YEAH.

OKAY.



WATCH OUT, JESS. HE'S GOING FULL RAIN MAN WITH A SIDE OF ASSHOLE.

THE BUS IS STILL LATE.





1  $\updownarrow$  4981

# How's this for #SOMETHINGRECKLESS?

submitted 3 hours ago by Nate\_Graft  
1385 comments share



IT WAS THE WEIRDEST THING, I JUST GOT A TEXT -

I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS A BULLSHIT POP-UP AD, BUT -

WHAT DO YOU MEAN THERE'S NO LIST! DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?

DO YOU THINK HE'LL BE HERE? I MEAN, HE WAS AT CANNES LAST MONTH -

I HEARD IT'S THE ENTIRE CAST.

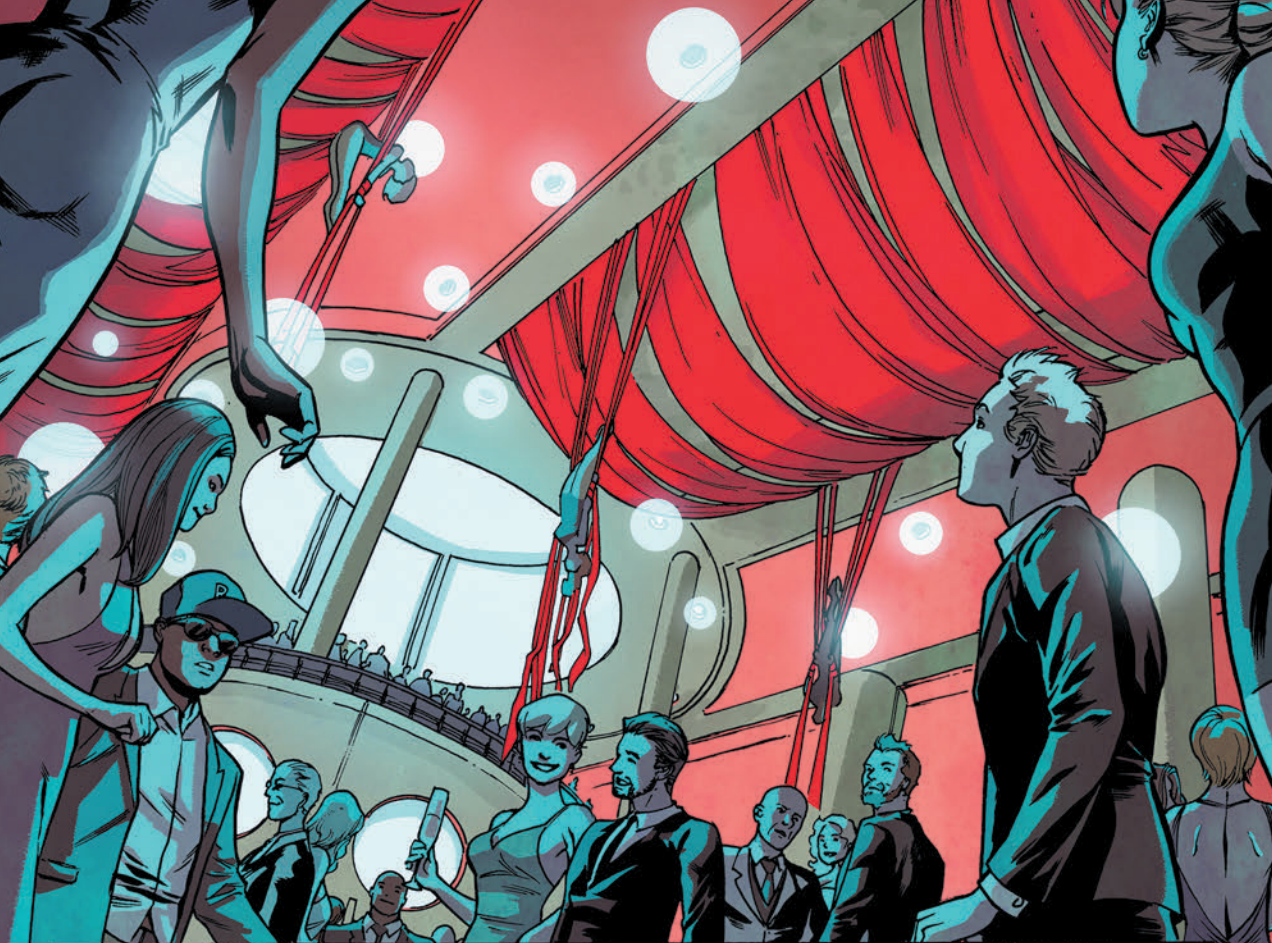
I HEARD THERE WILL BE A PANTHER.

I can't believe this!  
#somethingreckless  
Delivered

I'm literally losing my mind!  
#somethingreckless  
Delivered

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,  
ATOMS FOR PEACE!







...OR YOU'RE JUST AS BORED AS I AM.

I MEAN, GOD, WHAT KIND OF OVERCOMPENSATING NEANDERTHAL SPENDS THIS MUCH ON A PARTY?

IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU TOO, MISS...



MY NAME'S BRYNN. AND NOW I'M PRETTY SURE YOU'RE NATE GRAFI.

GOT IT IN ONE.

IT'S A TALENT.



WELL, LIKE I SAID, IT WAS NICE TO -

I KNOW ABOUT YOUR LITTLE SECRET.

I'M SORRY?

YOUR SURPRISE. THE COUP DE GRACE, THE BIG SHOW. I'M ONTO YOU.

YOU THROW A BIG PARTY, THE BIGGEST, AND THEN RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE, YOU PUSH SKRILLEX OFF THE TABLES, YOU MAKE A BIG SPEECH...

...AND THEN BAM!

THE WHOLE CITY LIGHTS UP. YOU'VE GOT THE ELECTRIC GRID, IT'S PROBABLY RIGGED TO YOUR CELLPHONE.

HACKING AS A MAGIC TRICK. ANTISEX PORN. HACKERS HOMAGE. IT'S A COOL PLAN.







RELAX, NATE. I'M A FAN.  
 WE ALL ARE.  
 AND "WE" ARE...?  
 EXACTLY WHO YOU THINK.



WE KNOW ABOUT THE FED, AND TEHRAN.  
 AND THAT WAS ONE HELL OF A STUNT IN TUNISIA.



DOES THIS MEAN I'M UNDER ARREST?  
 OR DO ED AND I JUST DISAPPEAR?

NATE, BUDDY, YOU READ WAY TOO MANY LUDLUM NOVELS.

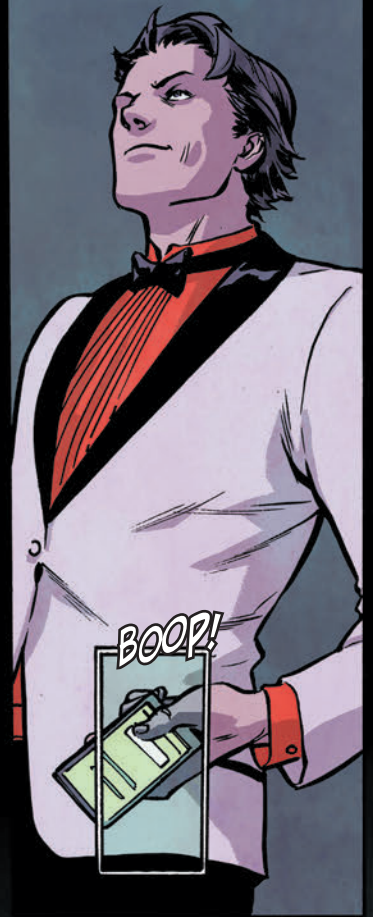
AGENT BRYNN ORI. I'M WITH C.I.A. CYBER COMMAND.

AND THIS IS A DEFENSE CONTRACT REQUESTING THE USE OF THE YOURLIFE NETWORK TO ENGAGE IN A COVERT CYBERSTRIKE ON THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT WITH THE FULL BACKING OF THE UNITED STATES.

WITH YOUR FULL COOPERATION, OF COURSE.

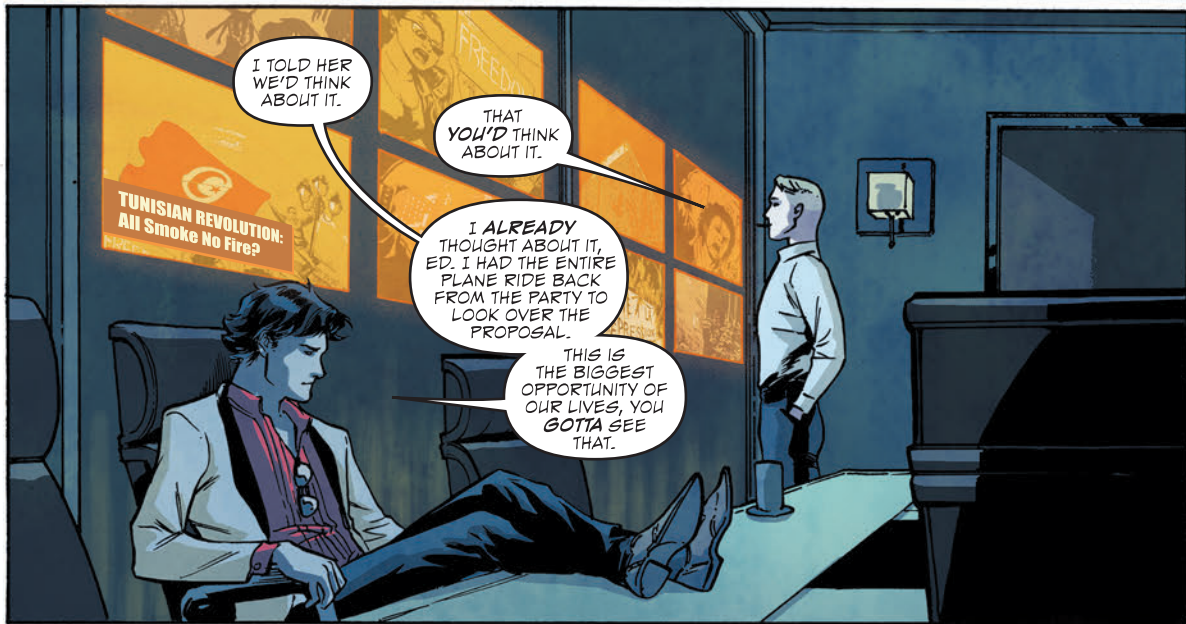


**TOP SECRET**





YOU DID WHAT!?



I TOLD HER WE'D THINK ABOUT IT.

THAT YOU'D THINK ABOUT IT.

I ALREADY THOUGHT ABOUT IT, ED. I HAD THE ENTIRE PLANE RIDE BACK FROM THE PARTY TO LOOK OVER THE PROPOSAL.

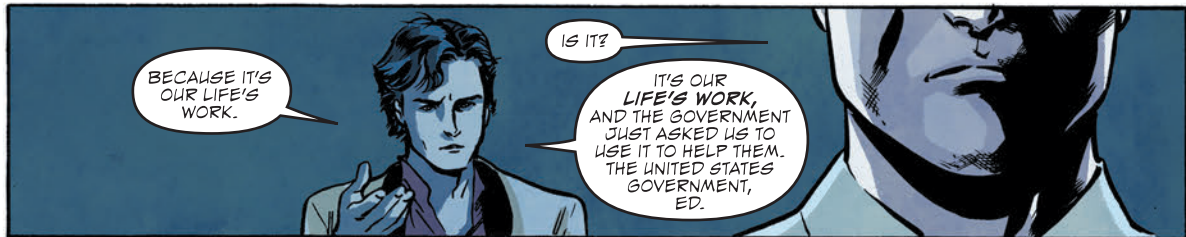
THIS IS THE BIGGEST OPPORTUNITY OF OUR LIVES, YOU GOTTA SEE THAT.



IT'S A DECENTRALIZED NETWORK, NATE. THAT'S THE ENTIRE POINT. IF WE GIVE THEM ACCESS, THE WHOLE THING FALLS APART.

IF AND WHEN WE CAN GO PUBLIC WITH THIS, THE VALIDATION TO YOUR LIFE—

—ISN'T THE POINT. YOUR LIFE IS NEVER THE POINT. WHY CAN'T YOU UNDERSTAND THAT?



IS IT?

BECAUSE IT'S OUR LIFE'S WORK.

IT'S OUR LIFE'S WORK, AND THE GOVERNMENT JUST ASKED US TO USE IT TO HELP THEM. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT, ED.



FRANKLY, I THINK YOU NEED TO START LOOKING AT THE BIG PICTURE.

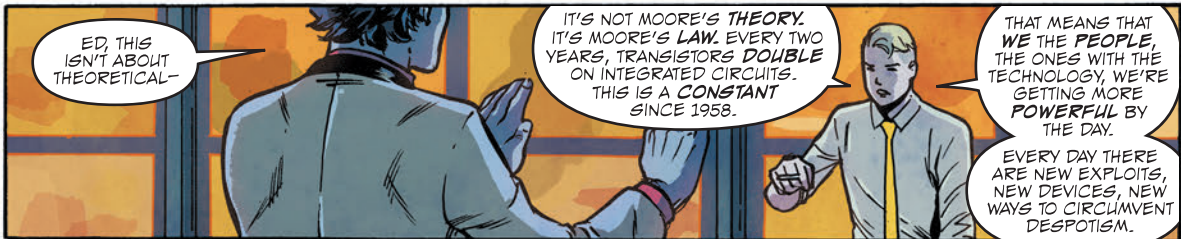
THE BIG PICTURE?



LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING ABOUT THE **BIG PICTURE** AND YOUR SCARY U.S. GOVERNMENT.

ALL THAT "JET AGE FUTURE OF TOMORROW" HYPE YOU WERE SPOILING AT THE KEYNOTE? THOSE AREN'T JUST WORDS.

IT'S MOORE'S LAW.



ED, THIS ISN'T ABOUT THEORETICAL-

IT'S NOT MOORE'S THEORY. IT'S MOORE'S LAW. EVERY TWO YEARS, TRANSISTORS DOUBLE ON INTEGRATED CIRCUITS. THIS IS A **CONSTANT** SINCE 1958.

THAT MEANS THAT WE THE PEOPLE, THE ONES WITH THE TECHNOLOGY, WE'RE GETTING MORE POWERFUL BY THE DAY.

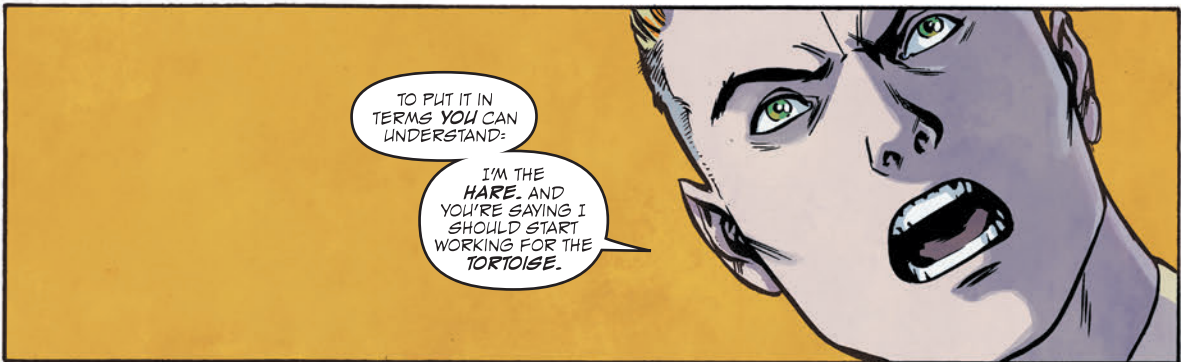
EVERY DAY THERE ARE NEW EXPLOITS, NEW DEVICES, NEW WAYS TO CIRCUMVENT DESPOTISM.



YOU AND ME, RIGHT NOW, WE CAN USE THE PEER-TO-PEER ALGORITHM TO BUILD **ACTION GROUPS** AROUND THE GLOBE - KEEP THEM SAFE WITH THE SAME HASH TABLE THAT **PROTECTS** OUR USERS. NATE, THERE'S NOTHING THEY COULD DO TO STOP US.

THEY'RE CLINGING TO THE CONCEPT OF **INTERNET SECURITY**, BUT IT'S A JOKE. WE'RE **THIS CLOSE**, NATE. ONE MORE STEP AND WE'VE GOT **REVOLUTION**.

ALL IT TAKES IS FOR ME TO **PUSH A BUTTON** AND I'VE GOT MORE POWER THAN THEY EVER WILL, BECAUSE I'M ADVANCING **EXPONENTIALLY FASTER**.

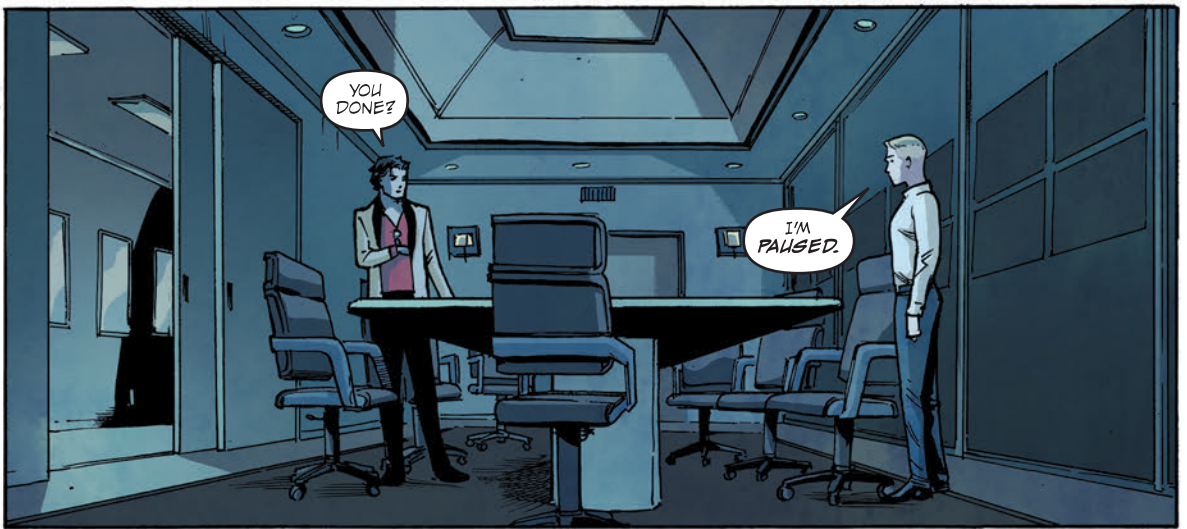


TO PUT IT IN TERMS YOU CAN UNDERSTAND:

I'M THE **HARE**. AND YOU'RE SAYING I SHOULD START WORKING FOR THE **TORTOISE**.

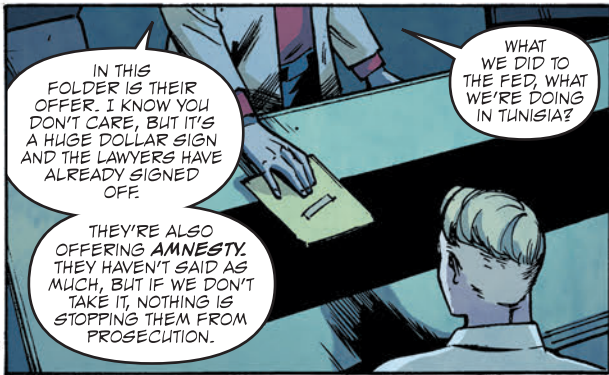


CLICK



YOU DONE?

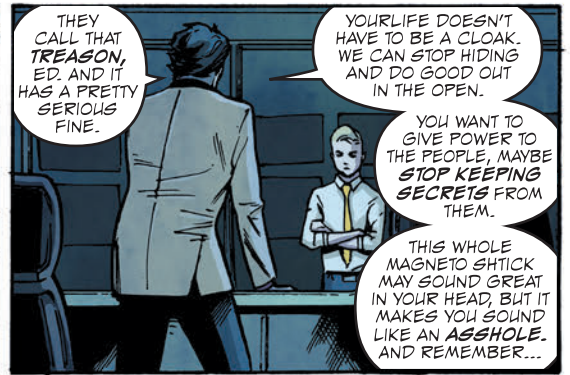
I'M PAUSED.



IN THIS FOLDER IS THEIR OFFER. I KNOW YOU DON'T CARE, BUT IT'S A HUGE DOLLAR SIGN AND THE LAWYERS HAVE ALREADY SIGNED OFF.

WHAT WE DID TO THE FED, WHAT WE'RE DOING IN TUNISIA?

THEY'RE ALSO OFFERING AMNESTY. THEY HAVEN'T SAID AS MUCH, BUT IF WE DON'T TAKE IT, NOTHING IS STOPPING THEM FROM PROSECUTION.



THEY CALL THAT TREASON, ED. AND IT HAS A PRETTY SERIOUS FINE.

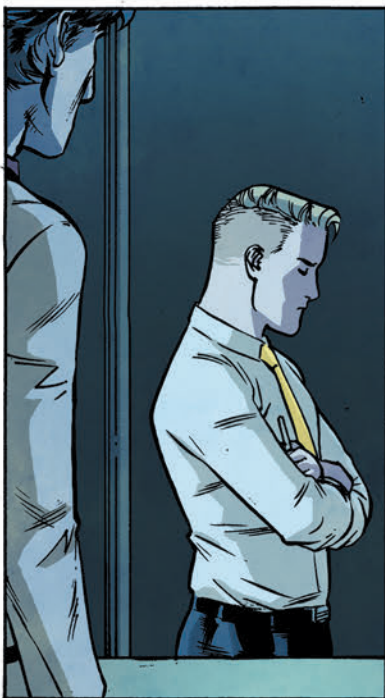
YOUR LIFE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A CLOAK. WE CAN STOP HIDING AND DO GOOD OUT IN THE OPEN.

YOU WANT TO GIVE POWER TO THE PEOPLE, MAYBE STOP KEEPING SECRETS FROM THEM.

THIS WHOLE MAGNETO SHITCK MAY SOUND GREAT IN YOUR HEAD, BUT IT MAKES YOU SOUND LIKE AN ASSHOLE. AND REMEMBER...



...THE HARE LOST THE RACE.



...OKAY. YOU WIN. I'LL SIGN.



SERIOUSLY? WITHOUT READING IT?

YEAH. SERIOUSLY.



BECAUSE I TRUST YOU, NATE.

OKAY...  
OKAY, THAT'S  
GREAT.

I'LL GET  
COPIES TO THE  
FIRM IN THE  
MORNING.

THEN WE'LL  
GET YOU IN A  
ROOM WITH AGENT  
ORI. SHE'S OUR  
HANDLER.

GOODNIGHT,  
ED. JUST...  
KNOW HOW MUCH  
I APPRECIATE  
THIS.

I KNOW  
IT'S A CHANGE,  
BUT IT'S FOR  
THE BETTER. I  
KNOW IT.

CLIK

SO  
DO I.



Update Status...



Search

### yourfeed

yasim\_34: FF @BeyaForever @TuniS @kharout121 The square is cleared but the prayer lives on.

BeyaForever: @yasim\_34 only if people like you stand up and join us.

CNN: Cairo reels from cyber-security breach: Faceless Crime or Nascent Rebellion?

theburnanator: THE NEW CENTRAL YOURLIFE SERVERS #thingsworsethanTunisia #somethingreckless  
Connex: 141 Favored: 400

YourLife: We are attempting to resolve the current site issues. Reports of compromised data are false.

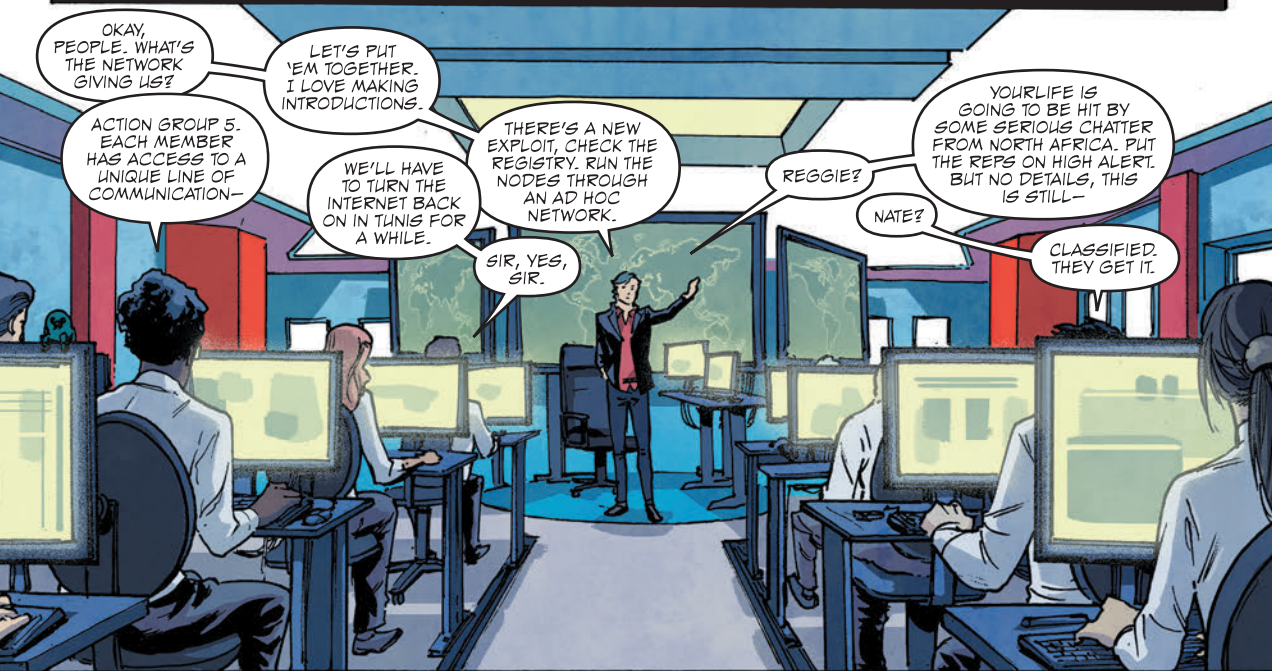
BBCair040: #EgyptUnrest facilitated by advanced viral cyber coordination. Who's connecting Cairo's revolutionaries - and how?  
#MoreAtEleven

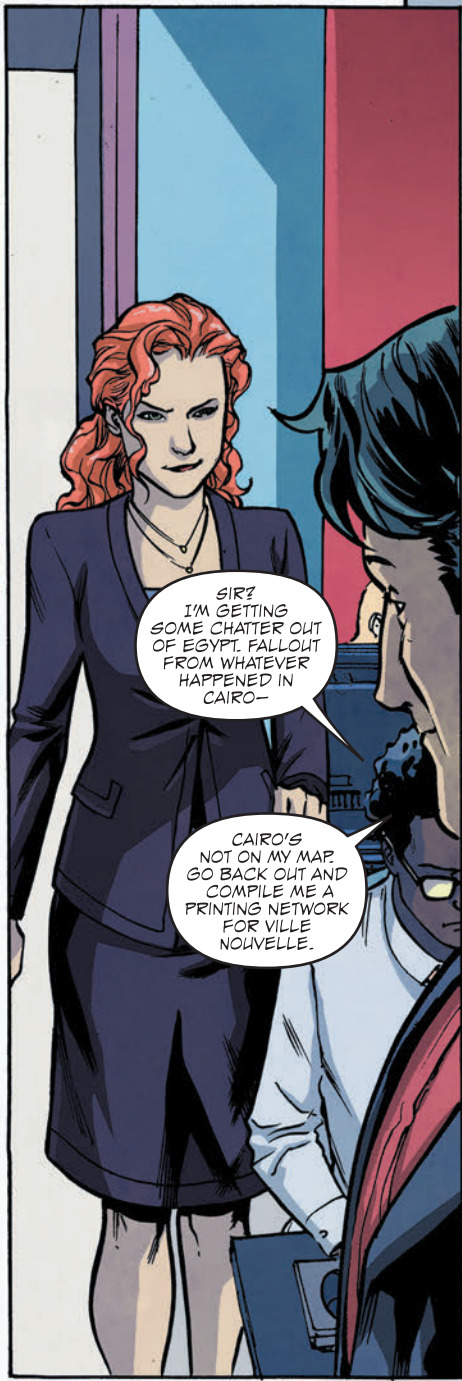
yasim\_34: @BeyaForever I can do nothing alone. How will I know when?

.sve\_Urs3lf: @yasim\_34 You'll know.

# sve\_Urs3lf: @yasim\_34 You'll know

## TWO WEEKS LATER





SIR? I'M GETTING SOME CHATTER OUT OF EGYPT. FALLOUT FROM WHATEVER HAPPENED IN CAIRO—

CAIRO'S NOT ON MY MAP. GO BACK OUT AND COMPILE ME A PRINTING NETWORK FOR VILLE NOUVELLE.

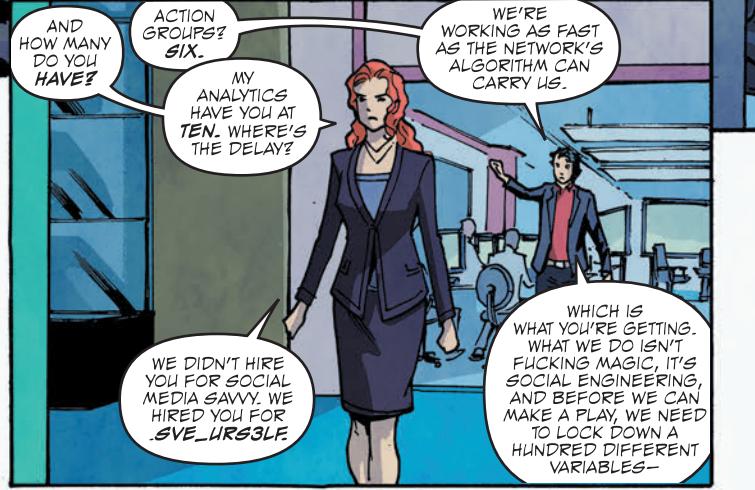


YOU DO KNOW WE HAVE PRINTERS, RIGHT?

NOT A PRINTER NETWORK. A **PRINTING** NETWORK. A PRESS AND SOME KIDS TO RUN IT. WE'RE GONNA GET GUTENBERG ON THIS THING AND SPREAD THE WORD FOR BEYA.

AND HOW MANY ACTION GROUPS DID THAT TAKE?

THAT'S ONE.



AND HOW MANY DO YOU HAVE?

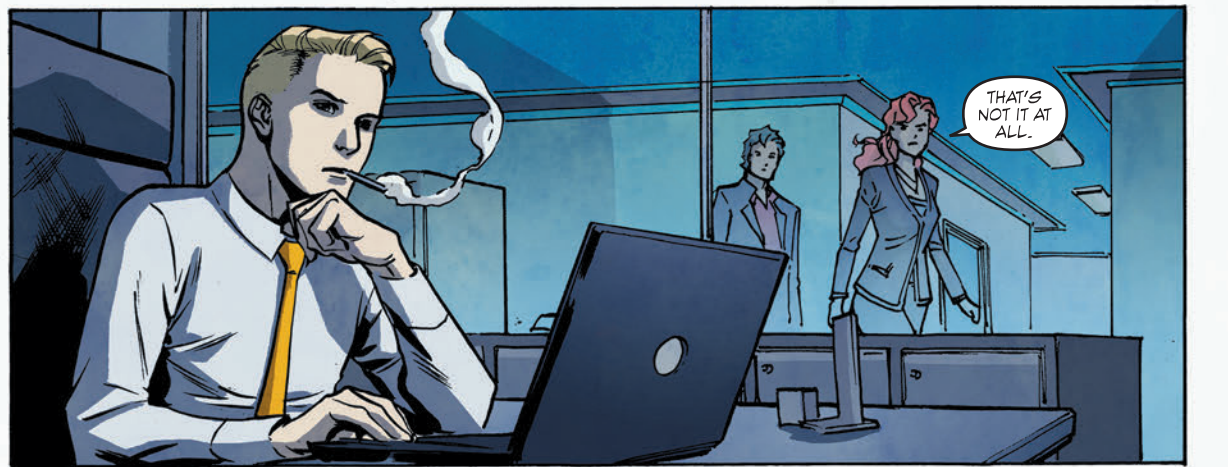
ACTION GROUPS? **SIX.**

MY ANALYTICS HAVE YOU AT **TEN.** WHERE'S THE DELAY?

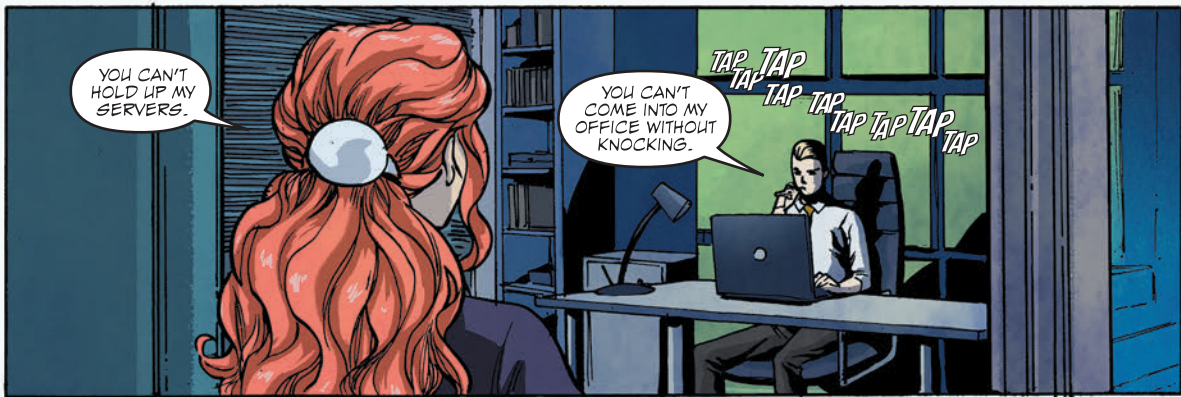
WE'RE WORKING AS FAST AS THE NETWORK'S ALGORITHM CAN CARRY US.

WE DIDN'T HIRE YOU FOR SOCIAL MEDIA SAVVY. WE HIRED YOU FOR **.SVE\_UR33LF.**

WHICH IS WHAT YOU'RE GETTING. WHAT WE DO ISN'T FUCKING MAGIC, IT'S SOCIAL ENGINEERING, AND BEFORE WE CAN MAKE A PLAY, WE NEED TO LOCK DOWN A HUNDRED DIFFERENT VARIABLES—



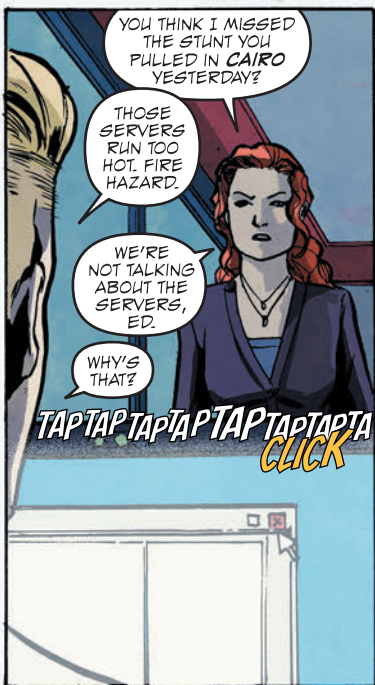
THAT'S NOT IT AT ALL.



YOU CAN'T HOLD UP MY SERVERS.

YOU CAN'T COME INTO MY OFFICE WITHOUT KNOCKING.

TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP



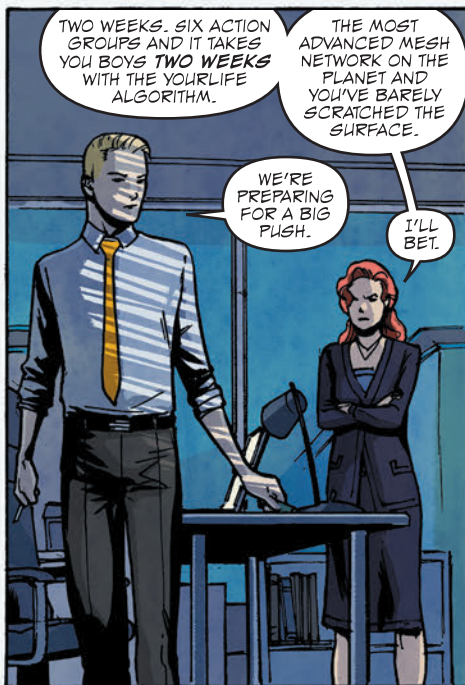
YOU THINK I MISSED THE STUNT YOU PULLED IN CAIRO YESTERDAY?

THOSE SERVERS RUN TOO HOT. FIRE HAZARD.

WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT THE SERVERS, ED.

WHY'S THAT?

TAPTAP TAPTAP TAPTAPTAPTAP CLICK



TWO WEEKS. SIX ACTION GROUPS AND IT TAKES YOU BOYS TWO WEEKS WITH THE YOURLIFE ALGORITHM.

THE MOST ADVANCED MESH NETWORK ON THE PLANET AND YOU'VE BARELY SCRATCHED THE SURFACE.

WE'RE PREPARING FOR A BIG PUSH.

I'LL BET.



BECAUSE LAST NIGHT FIFTY ACTION GROUPS SPRUNG UP IN CAIRO. IN FIVE HOURS.

JUST LIKE THAT.



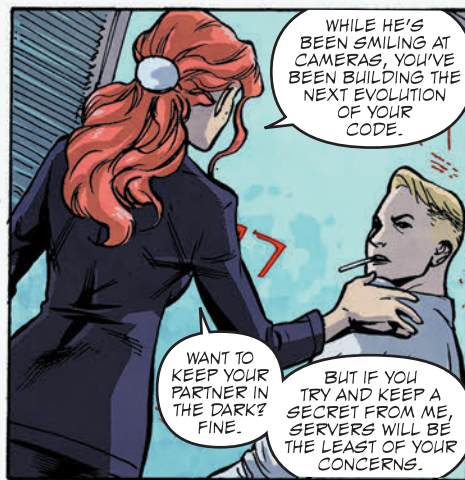
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT.



YES, YOU DO. WHATEVER ALGORITHM NATE'S RUNNING, IT'S NOT ONE TENTH AS ACCURATE OR EXPANSIVE AS WHAT YOU'VE BEEN USING AS `SVE_HRS3LF`. I STUDIED YOU, REMEMBER?

AND I'M REALIZING SOMETHING. I THOUGHT THE TWO OF YOU WERE PLAYING ME. BUT THAT'S NOT RIGHT, IS IT?

IT'S YOU THAT'S PLAYING HIM.



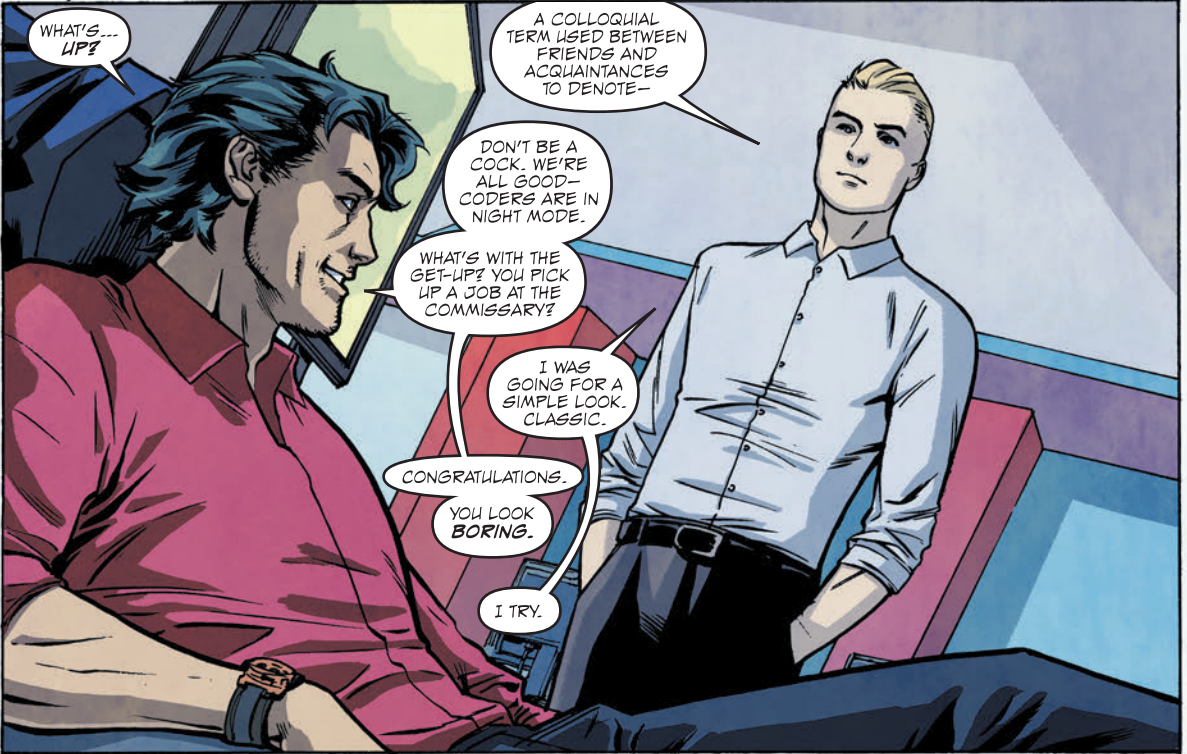
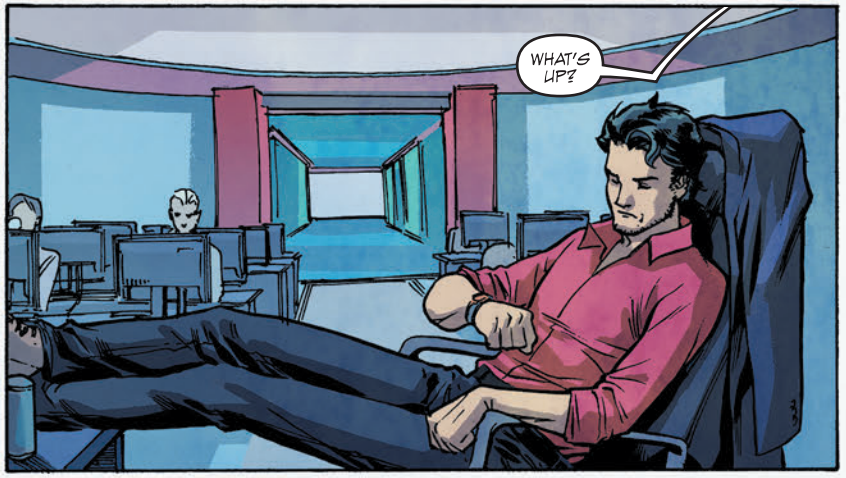
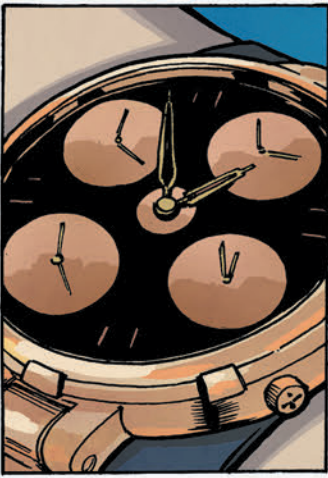
WHILE HE'S BEEN SMILING AT CAMERAS, YOU'VE BEEN BUILDING THE NEXT EVOLUTION OF YOUR CODE.

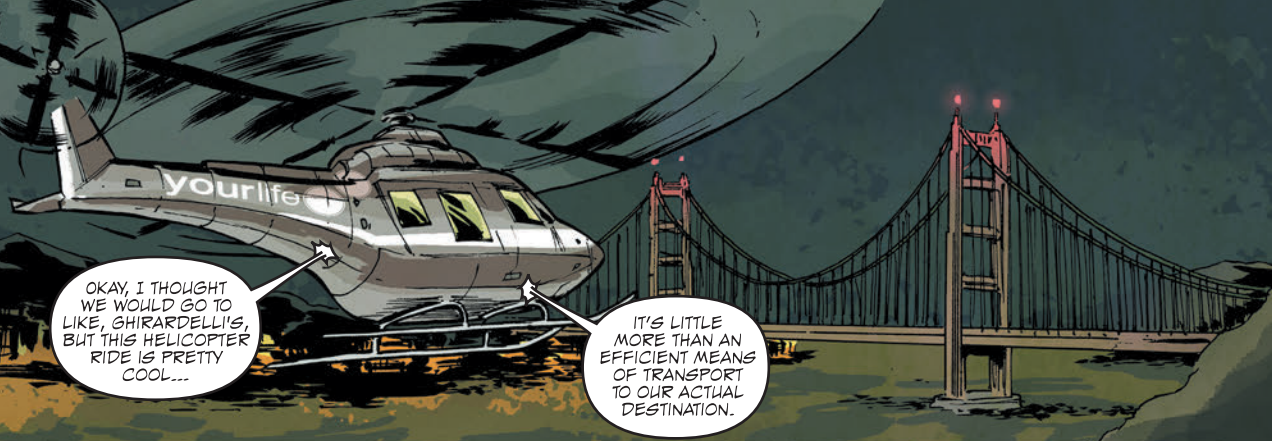
WANT TO KEEP YOUR PARTNER IN THE DARK? FINE.

BUT IF YOU TRY AND KEEP A SECRET FROM ME, SERVERS WILL BE THE LEAST OF YOUR CONCERNS.



I'M NOT FUCKING AROUND ANYMORE.





OKAY, I THOUGHT WE WOULD GO TO LIKE, GHIRARDELLI'S, BUT THIS HELICOPTER RIDE IS PRETTY COOL....

IT'S LITTLE MORE THAN AN EFFICIENT MEANS OF TRANSPORT TO OUR ACTUAL DESTINATION.

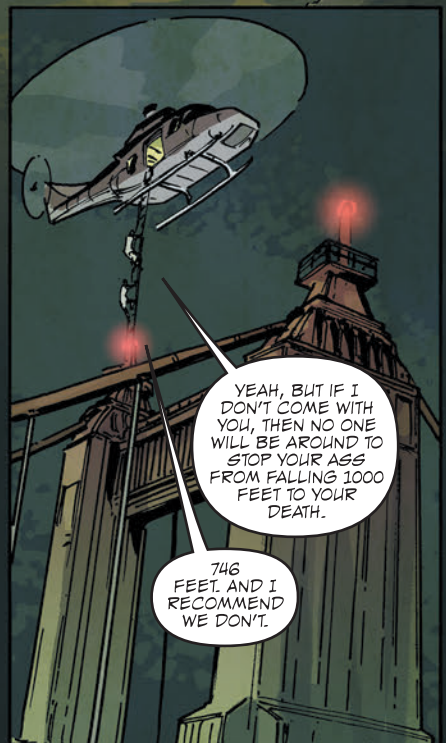


ARE YOU KIDDING ME? THIS IS INSANE!

THE FLIGHT PLAN IS REGISTERED. I CROSS REFERENCED WITH AIR TRAFFIC. WE SHOULD HAVE JUST UNDER AN HOUR.

YOU KNOW THAT WHEN YOU DO THESE THINGS, I HAVE TO FOLLOW YOU, RIGHT?

YOU DO NOT. IT'S YOUR CHOICE.



YEAH, BUT IF I DON'T COME WITH YOU, THEN NO ONE WILL BE AROUND TO STOP YOUR ASS FROM FALLING 1000 FEET TO YOUR DEATH.

746 FEET. AND I RECOMMEND WE DON'T.



YOU KNOW, ED, YOU DON'T HAVE TO PROVE ANYTHING TO ME.



THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS IS.



OH.



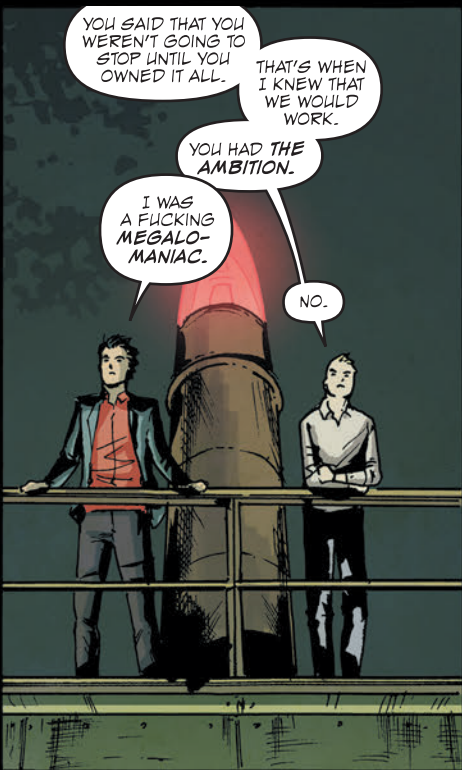


THIS IS PRETTY DAMN COOL.

DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT YOU CALLED IT, WHEN WE WERE KIDS?



THE KINGDOM.



YOU SAID THAT YOU WEREN'T GOING TO STOP UNTIL YOU OWNED IT ALL.

THAT'S WHEN I KNEW THAT WE WOULD WORK.

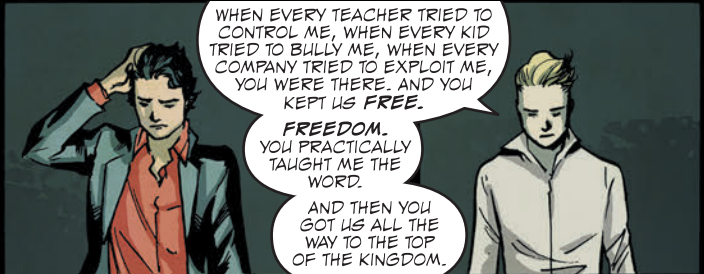
YOU HAD THE AMBITION.

I WAS A FUCKING MEGALO-MANIAC.

NO.



YOU WERE MY FRIEND.



WHEN EVERY TEACHER TRIED TO CONTROL ME, WHEN EVERY KID TRIED TO BULLY ME, WHEN EVERY COMPANY TRIED TO EXPLOIT ME, YOU WERE THERE, AND YOU KEPT US FREE.

**FREEDOM.** YOU PRACTICALLY TAUGHT ME THE WORD.

AND THEN YOU GOT US ALL THE WAY TO THE TOP OF THE KINGDOM.



TELL ME, AFTER ALL THAT, NOW THAT YOU'RE HERE...

...ARE YOU HAPPY?



ED. WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE, MAN?

IS THIS SOME KIND OF TEST? ARE YOU...

...ARE YOU OKAY? I KNOW IT'S BEEN A LOT TO TAKE IN RECENTLY.



YOU KNOW ME. I'M FINE.



JUST DON'T JUMP OR ANYTHING, OKAY?

DEFINITELY WASN'T THE PLAN.



GOOD. NOT SURE WHAT I'D DO WITHOUT YOU, MAN.

YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND.

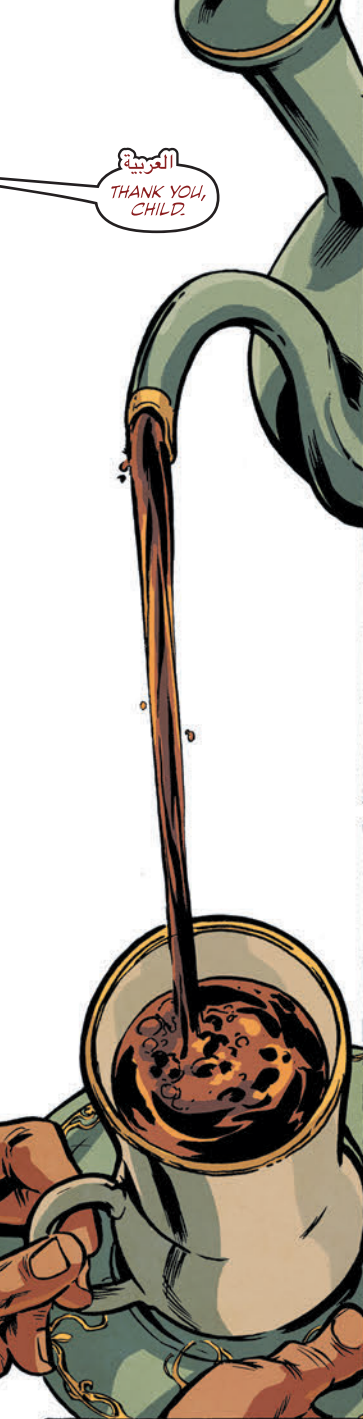
I...AGREE. I DO WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY. THAT'S IMPORTANT TO ME.

CLASSIC ED.

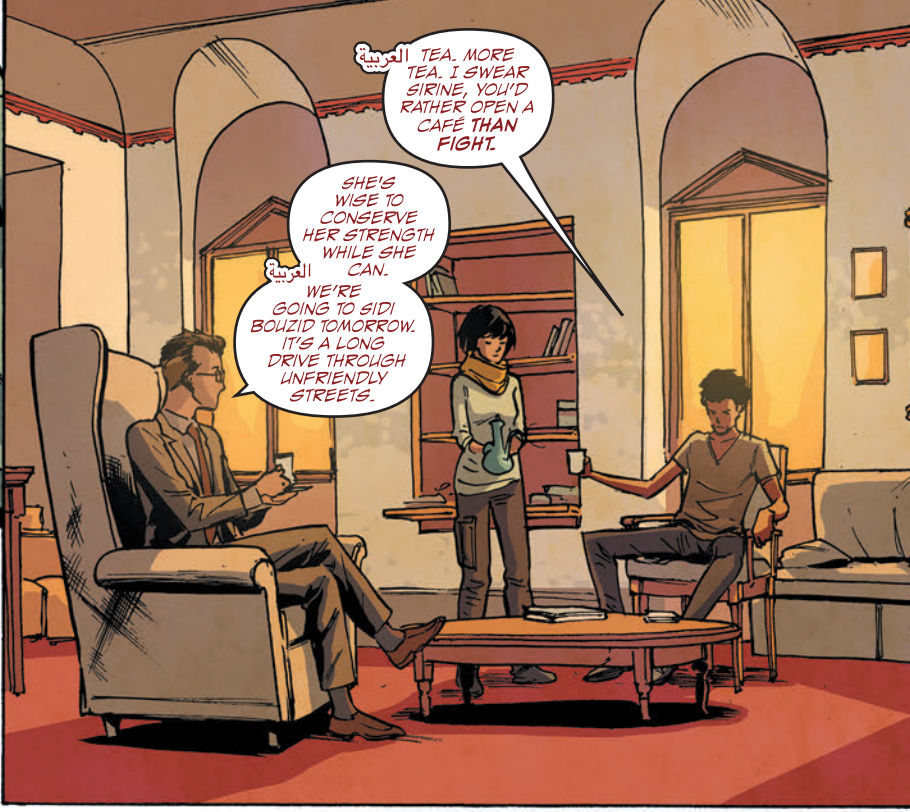
SERIOUSLY, MAN. LOOK AROUND YOU.



WHO WOULDN'T BE HAPPY?



العربية  
THANK YOU,  
CHILD.



العربية  
TEA. MORE  
TEA. I SWEAR  
SIRINE, YOU'D  
RATHER OPEN A  
CAFÉ THAN  
FIGHT.

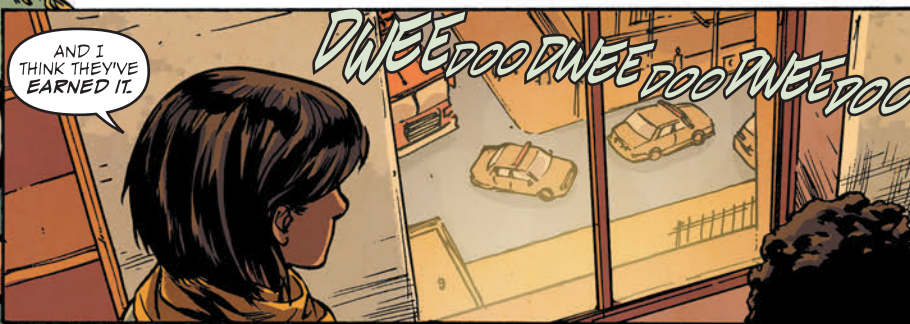
SHE'S  
WISE TO  
CONSERVE  
HER STRENGTH  
WHILE SHE  
CAN.

العربية  
WE'RE  
GOING TO SIDI  
BOUZID TOMORROW.  
IT'S A LONG  
DRIVE THROUGH  
UNFRIENDLY  
STREETS.



SOME GHOSTS  
YOU'VE NEVER  
MET TELL YOU TO  
LAY LOW AND YOU  
TAKE THEIR WORD  
AS GOSPEL?

IT'S  
CALLED  
FAITH.



AND I  
THINK YOU'VE  
EARNED IT.

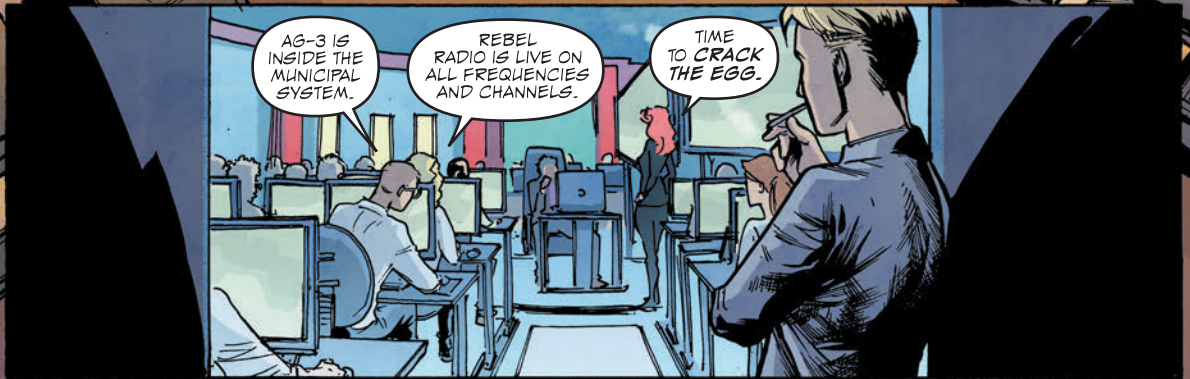
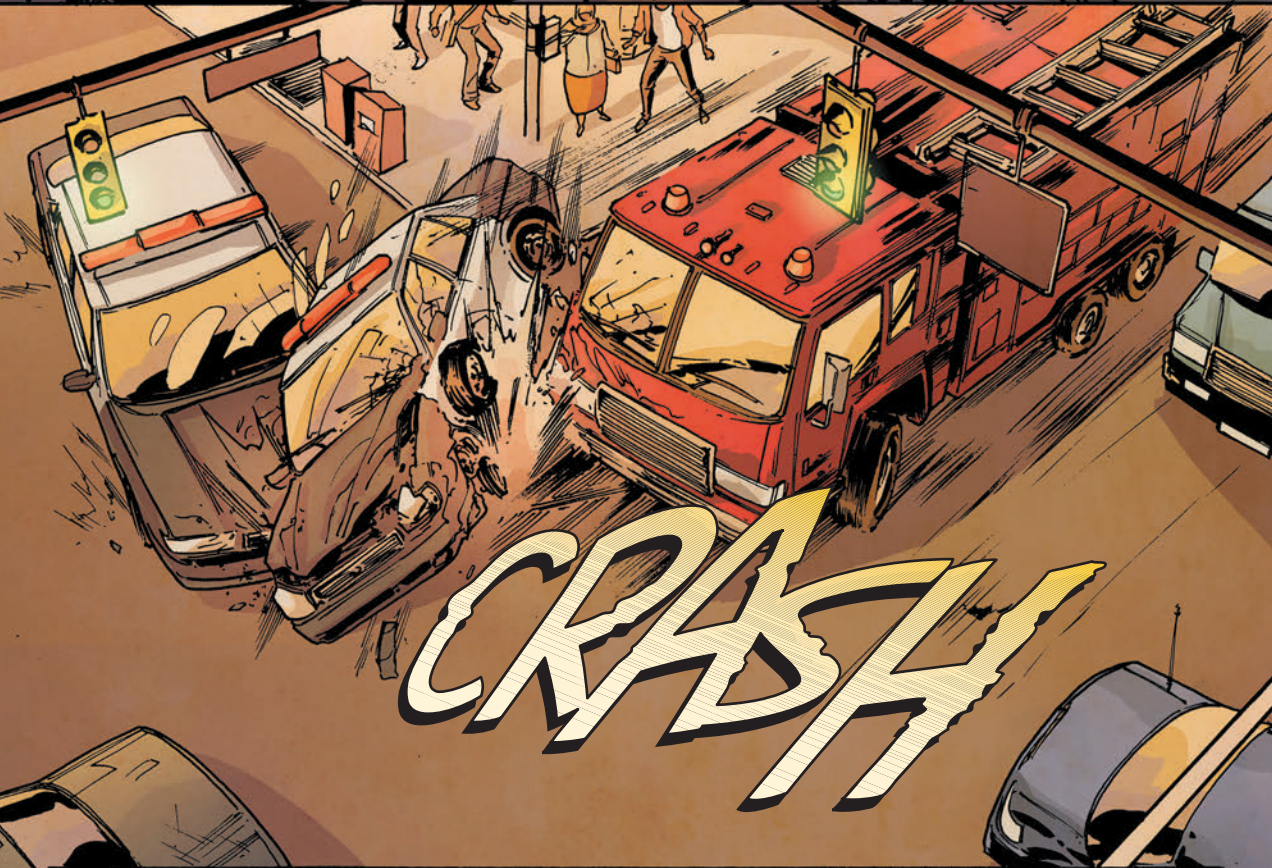
DWEEDOO DWEEDOO DWEEDOO

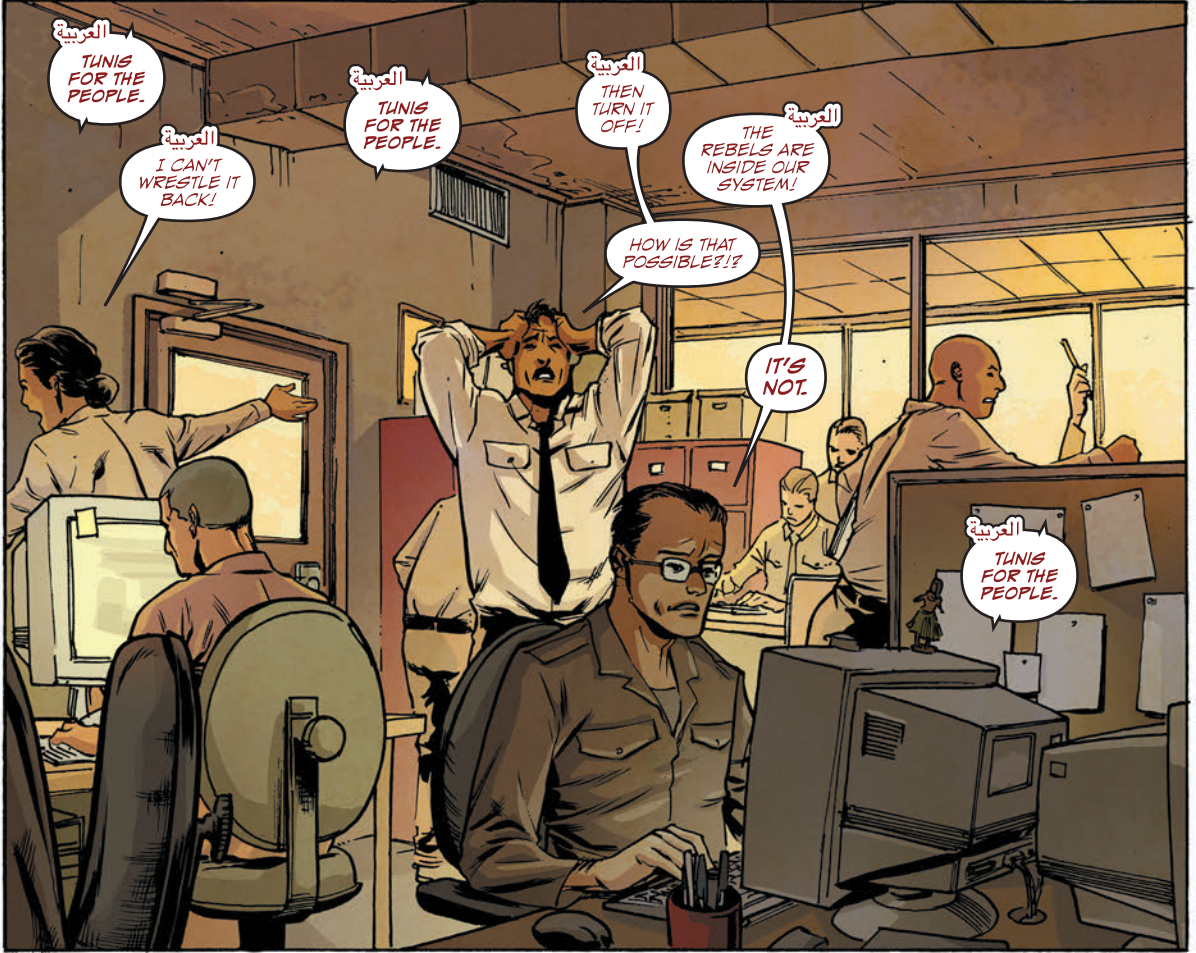


THE  
RADES II  
POWER PLANT  
IS DOWN.

THIS IS  
DARK, PEOPLE.  
YOU'RE OFF  
THE LEASH.

GET  
THE ACTION  
GROUPS READY  
TO EXECUTE ON  
MY MARK—





العربية  
TUNIS FOR THE PEOPLE.

العربية  
I CAN'T WRESTLE IT BACK!

العربية  
TUNIS FOR THE PEOPLE.

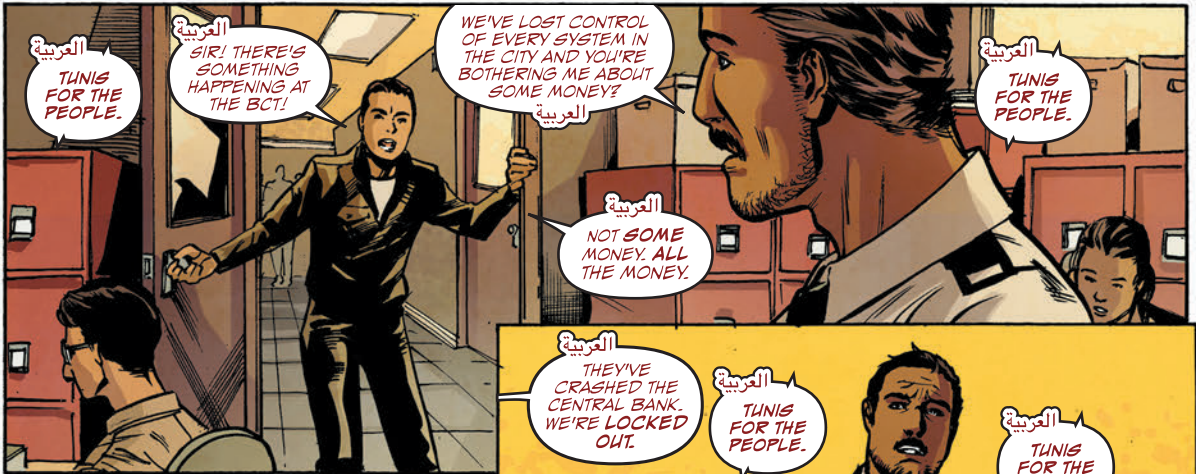
العربية  
THEN TURN IT OFF!

العربية  
THE REBELS ARE INSIDE OUR SYSTEM!

HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?!?

IT'S NOT.

العربية  
TUNIS FOR THE PEOPLE.



العربية  
TUNIS FOR THE PEOPLE.

العربية  
SIR! THERE'S SOMETHING HAPPENING AT THE BCT!

العربية  
WE'VE LOST CONTROL OF EVERY SYSTEM IN THE CITY AND YOU'RE BOTHERING ME ABOUT SOME MONEY?

العربية

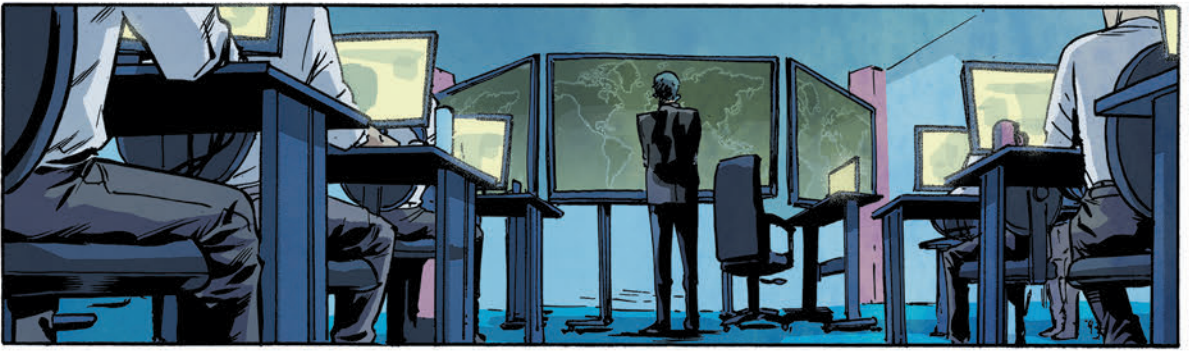
العربية  
NOT SOME MONEY. ALL THE MONEY.

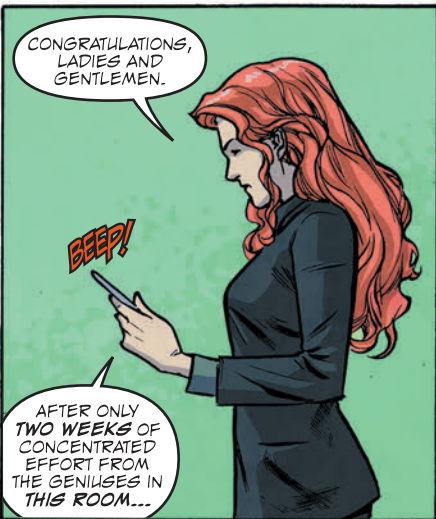
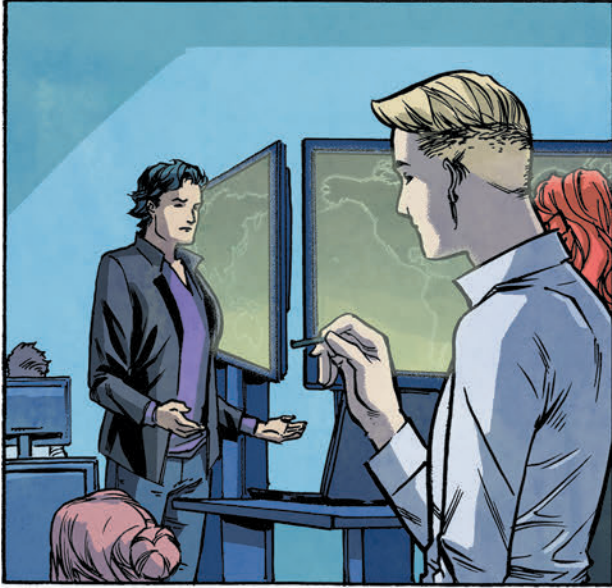
العربية  
TUNIS FOR THE PEOPLE.

العربية  
THEY'VE CRASHED THE CENTRAL BANK. WE'RE LOCKED OUT.

العربية  
TUNIS FOR THE PEOPLE.

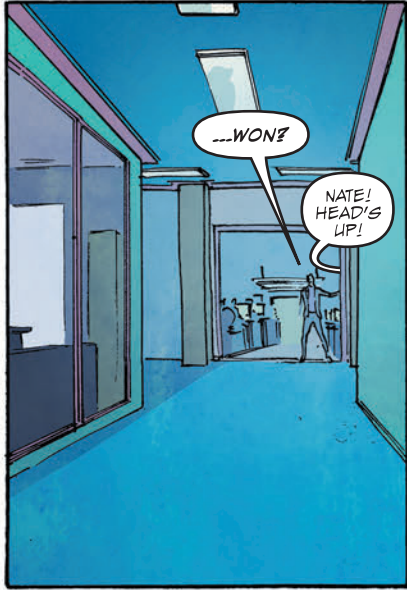
العربية  
TUNIS FOR THE PEOPLE.







ED? WHAT THE HELL, MAN, WE JUST...



...WON?

NATE! HEAD'S UP!



WE'RE GOING TO NEED EVERY ACTION GROUP BURNED IMMEDIATELY. AND TRANSFER THE ENTIRE NETWORK TO THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT, YOU GOT IT?

WAIT... I...

IS SOMETHING WRONG?



BRYNN.

WHO WAS ON THE PHONE?



MY BOSS.

SAYING WHAT, EXACTLY?

THE TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT HAS FORMALLY REQUESTED ANTI-CYBER-TERRORISM AID FROM THE UNITED STATES. WE HAVE THEM OVER A BARREL.

WHAT?

OUR LITTLE REVOLUTION GAMBIT IS COMPLETE. CONGRATS.



"GAMBIT".

WE POSED WITH REBELS, MADE THEM DESPERATE, AND NOW WE'RE SWITCHING SIDES FOR CONCESSIONS AND FEEDING THOSE PEOPLE TO THE DOGS.

THAT ABOUT RIGHT?



YEAH, NATE. THAT'S ABOUT IT.

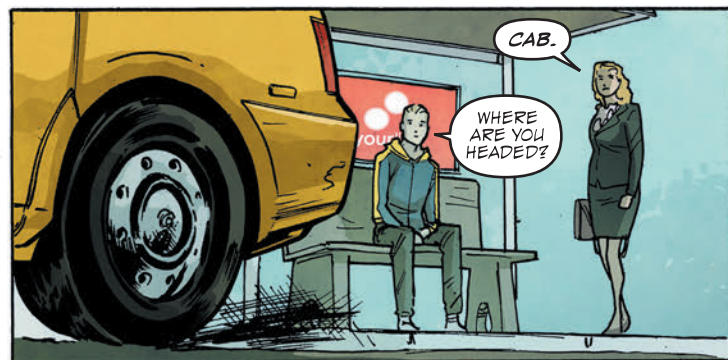
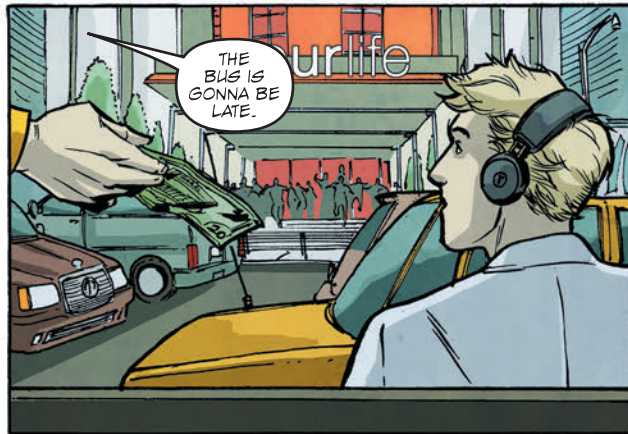
NOW, WHERE'S ED?

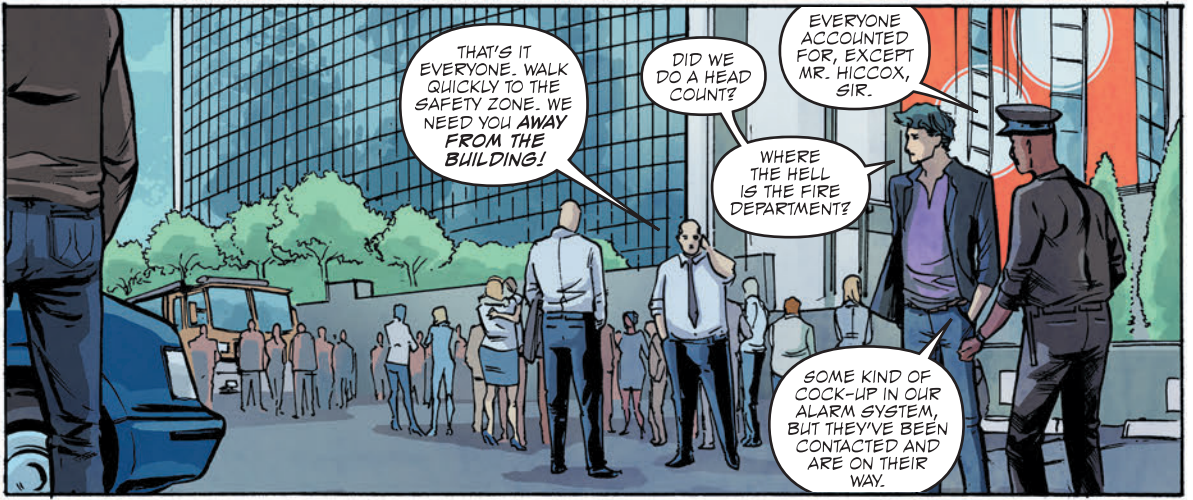


THANK YOU, JEROME.









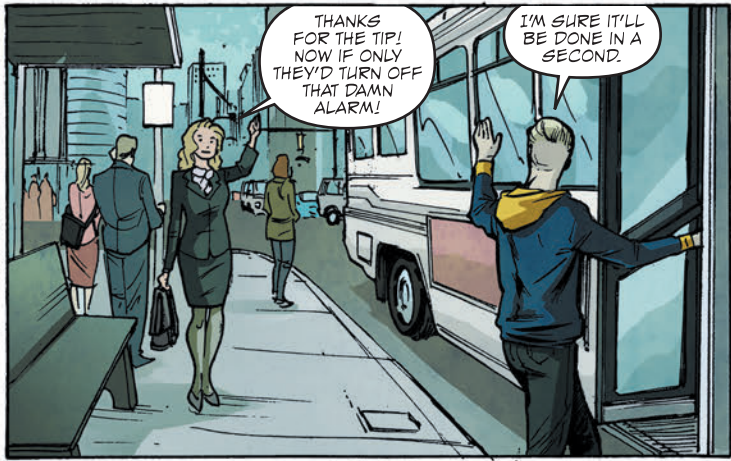
THAT'S IT EVERYONE. WALK QUICKLY TO THE SAFETY ZONE. WE NEED YOU AWAY FROM THE BUILDING!

DID WE DO A HEAD COUNT?

EVERYONE ACCOUNTED FOR, EXCEPT MR. HICCOX, SIR.

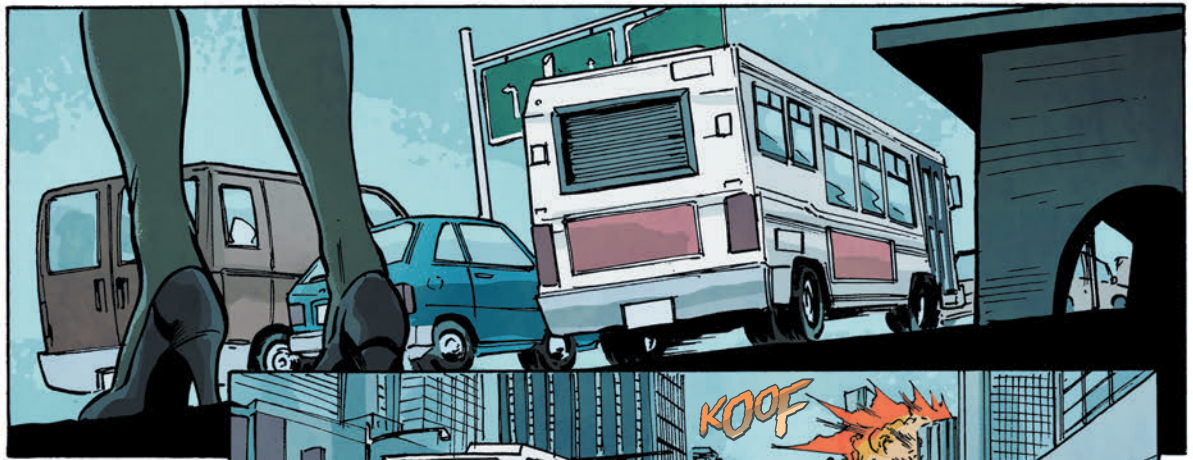
WHERE THE HELL IS THE FIRE DEPARTMENT?

SOME KIND OF COCK-UP IN OUR ALARM SYSTEM, BUT THEY'VE BEEN CONTACTED AND ARE ON THEIR WAY.



THANKS FOR THE TIP! NOW IF ONLY THEY'D TURN OFF THAT DAMN ALARM!

I'M SURE IT'LL BE DONE IN A SECOND.





ALL THE DATA ON THE TUNISIA OPERATION IS LOST. EVEN THE BACKUPS ARE BLOWN. THE ENTIRE CENTRAL YOURLIFE SERVER, THE CRYPTOGRAPHIC HASH, ALL OF IT'S GONE.

WHAT ABOUT ED?



THE SECURITY GUARD WHO PULLED THE ALARM SAW HIM ENTER THE SERVER ROOM.

JEROME.

BETWEEN THE FIRE AND THE EXPLOSION, WE CAN'T EVEN OPEN THE DOOR. NOT YET.

A WOMAN OUTSIDE THOUGHT SHE SAW ED GET INTO A CAB. CAUCASIAN. YOUNG. WHITE SHIRT. BLACK PANTS.

WE TRACED IT. IT WASN'T HIM.

JESUS.

JUST SOME KID FROM THE COMMISSARY. I'M...I'M SORRY, NATE. WE'LL KEEP-

WAIT, WHAT DID YOU SAY?

THE KID IN THE CAB, HE WAS A WAITER IN THE COMMISSARY.



NO...



...GODDAMMIT, ED!



HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN SINCE THE ALARM?

WE CAN CALL OFF THE SEARCH.

75 MINUTES.

WHAT?



IF I CALL MY BANK RIGHT NOW, MY ACCOUNTS WILL BE DRAINED AND CLOSED.

IF I CALL MY PLANE, IT'LL BE OUT OF AMERICAN AIRSPACE.

WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, NATE?



PATTERNS.

HE PLANNED THIS ENTIRE THING.

HOW CAN YOU BE SURE?



77 MINUTES. EXACTLY HOW LONG IT TOOK ED TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

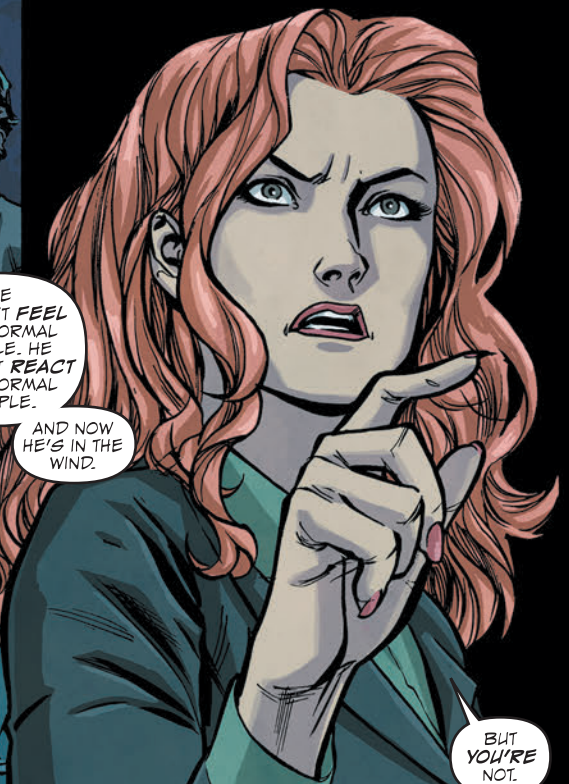


ED CAN PLAN A MILITARY COUP IN THE TIME IT TAKES YOU TO DRINK A CUP OF COFFEE.

HE'S THE SMARTEST GUY I'VE EVER MET, AND I'VE MET ALL THE SMART GUYS.

HE DOESN'T FEEL LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE. HE DOESN'T REACT LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE.

AND NOW HE'S IN THE WIND.



BUT YOU'RE NOT.



"IF YOU'RE RIGHT, AND I THINK YOU ARE, THEN YOUR ENTIRE COMPANY IS COMPLICATED IN A DOMESTIC TERROR INVESTIGATION."

"YOU KNOW THAT'S NOT WHAT THIS--"

"WHICH COULD SPILL INTO AN INTERNATIONAL INCIDENT, WHICH MIGHT IMPLICATE YOUR STAFF."

"-ARE YOU KIDDING ME?"

"GO HERE'S HOW THIS GOES DOWN."



"INDIVIDUAL ASSETS, SEIZED."



"ALL OF YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE UNDER INVESTIGATION. THEY WILL BE DETAINED."

"THEIR LIVES GET HARD, STARTING NOW."



"UNLESS YOU GET YOUR LIFE RUNNING AGAIN AND FIND YOUR PARTNER, WHO ONLY YOU CAN TRACK."



HE BUILT A PROGRAM BEHIND YOUR BACK. PLANNED THIS ENTIRE DISASTER TO THE SECOND.

HE LEFT YOU IN THIS POSITION.



CRACK



NOT THIS TIME, ED...

...THIS TIME YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN.



Update Status...



Search

### yourfeed

**CNN:** Explosions reported at YourLife offices in San Francisco. Terrorism suspected.

**braggartatbest:** First it's sluggish and then it EXPLODES? YourLife is really taking #somethingreckless to heart. #switchingtoFacebook

**TakeBackControl:** Where the hell is @BeyaForever? No word in two days! Did the T-gov spooks get him?

**KazonHunter:** Is YourLife working for anyone? It's had a maintenance sign up all morning!

**Hoshi\_TNR:** Sources indicate @EdHiccox may be implicated in YourLife explosion. Conflict over sharing user data? PRISM all over again?

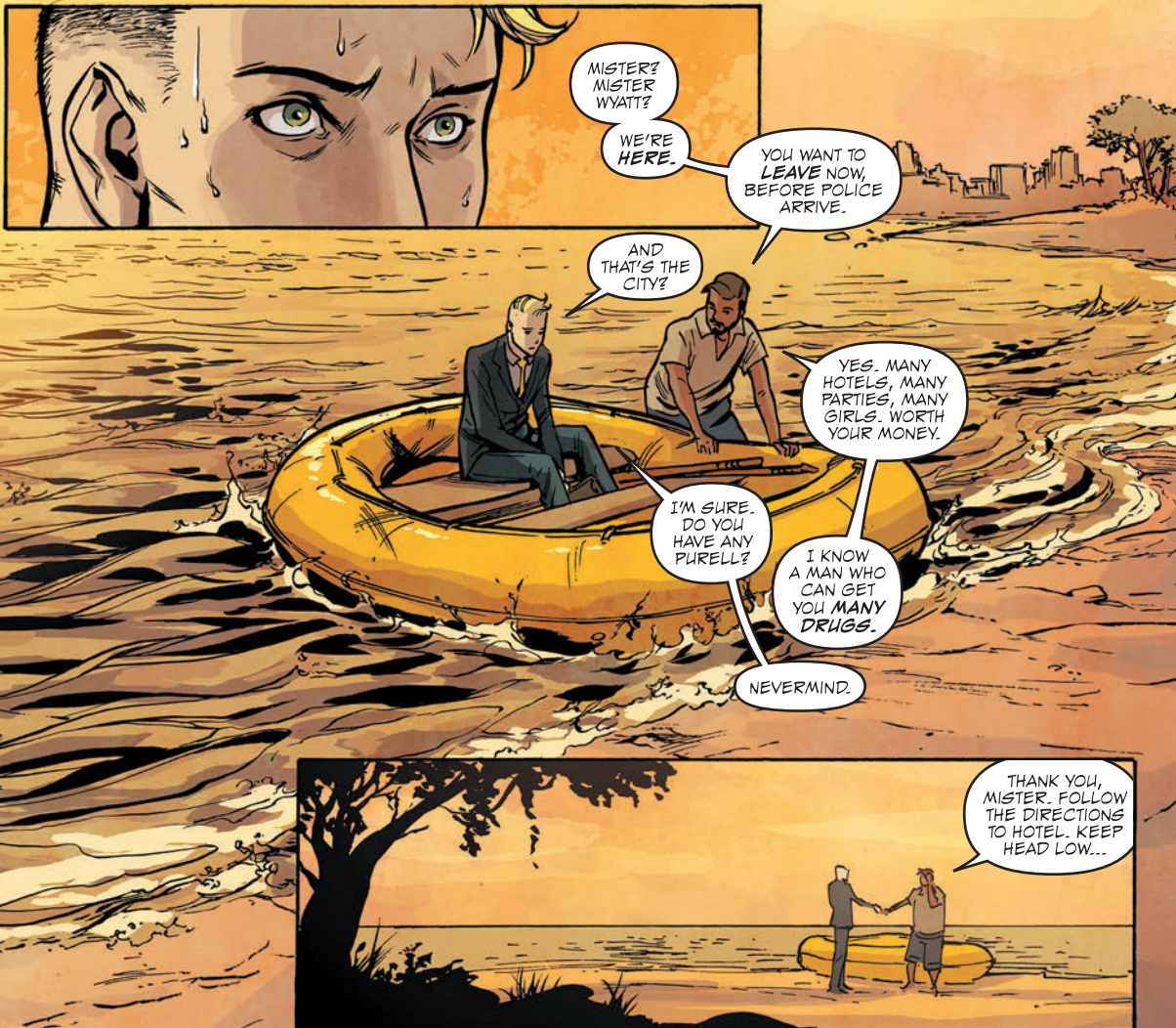
**YourLife:** We have scheduled a press conference for tomorrow afternoon. Nate Graft will make a statement. There will be no questions.

**TaylorSwiftFan96:** @YourLife Did u share my info with the government?!?!?!?

**Hoshi\_TNR:** @YourLife Just Nate? Where's Ed Hiccox? Is this another Snowden? #whereisHiccox

# owden? #whereisHiccox

## ONE WEEK LATER



"...AND WELCOME TO TUNISIA."



FIND SIRINE.  
FIND THE REBELS.



FIND BEYA.  
FIND THE PATTERN.



USE THE VIRUS.  
BREAK THE SYSTEM.



DON'T BLACK OUT.

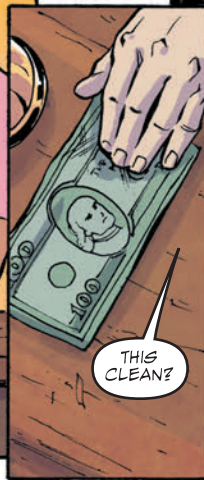


PING



OF COURSE, SIR.

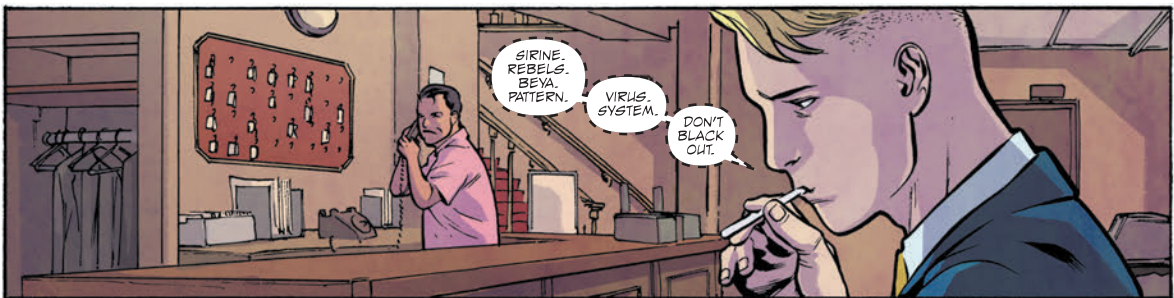
OUR ROOMS ARE VERY CLEAN!



THIS CLEAN?



PLEASE HAVE A SEAT, I'LL MAKE IT HAPPEN.



SIRINE. REBELS. BEVA. PATTERN.

VIRUS. SYSTEM.

DON'T BLACK OUT.



IS THAT HIM? العربية  
IN THE CHAIR. AMERICAN.  
العربية



PAPERS?

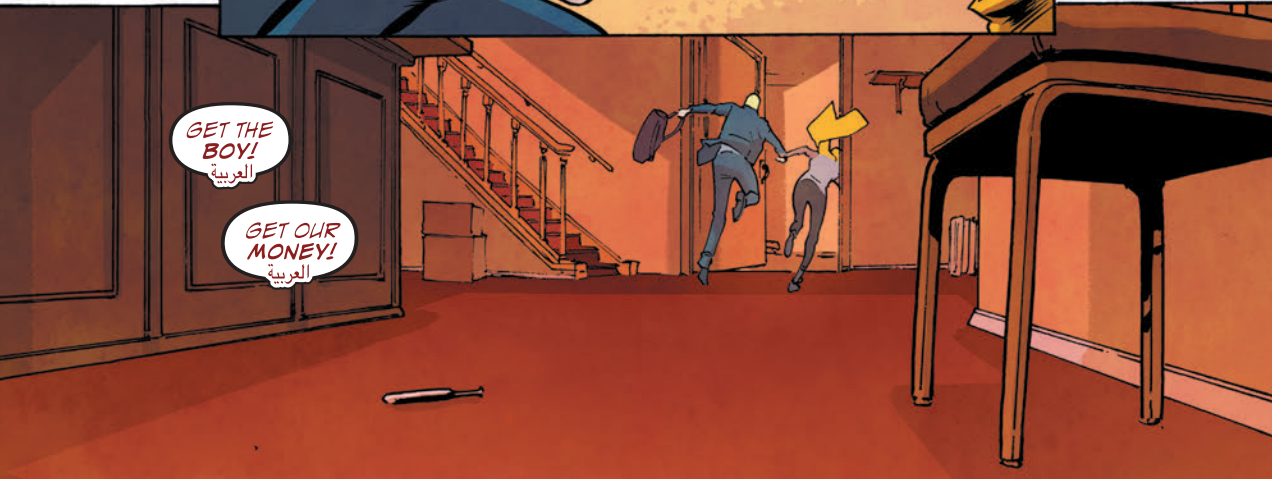
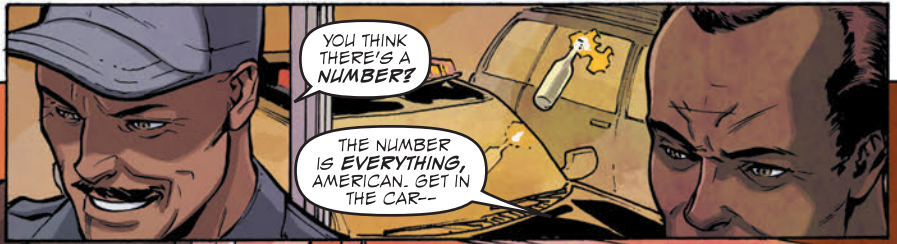
I'M SORRY, WHAT--

VERY BAD FOR YOU IF YOU DON'T HAVE PAPERS.

I'M SURE I HAVE MY PASSPORT ON ME.



THAT'S NOT THE PAPERWORK WE'RE LOOKING FOR.





HOW DID YOU--

THE BOY IS ONE OF OURS. MORE COURAGE THAN SENSE...



"...BUT HE HAS SHARP EYES AND LOVES A FIRE."

التحيةة  
THIS IS FOR THE PEOPLE!



LET'S GET YOU TO SAFETY, THEN FIND THE REST OF YOUR TEAM.

MY TEAM?



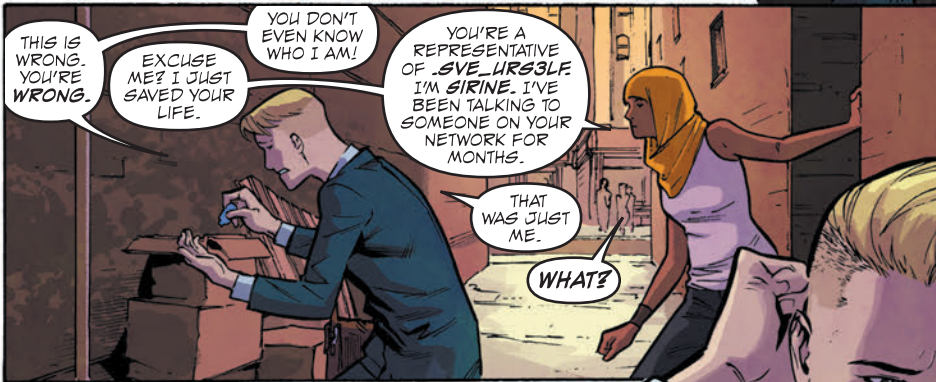
ALL OF ..SVE..URS3LF.



WHEN WE GOT YOUR TEXT, I COULDN'T BELIEVE IT.

WE HAVE SPACE FOR FIFTY. I HOPE THAT'S ENOUGH.

NOW MIND THE DROP.





LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE PRESS, THANK YOU FOR COMING.

THERE WILL BE A STATEMENT. I WON'T BE TAKING ANY QUESTIONS.

FIRST AND FOREMOST: YOURLIFE WILL BE SHUTTING DOWN ALL PUBLIC OPERATIONS AS OF THIS HOUR.

FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, OUR ENTIRE NETWORK WILL BE GOING OFFLINE TO AID IN U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS RELATED TO LAST WEEK'S SERVER FIRE.

THAT FIRE... WAS NO ACCIDENT.

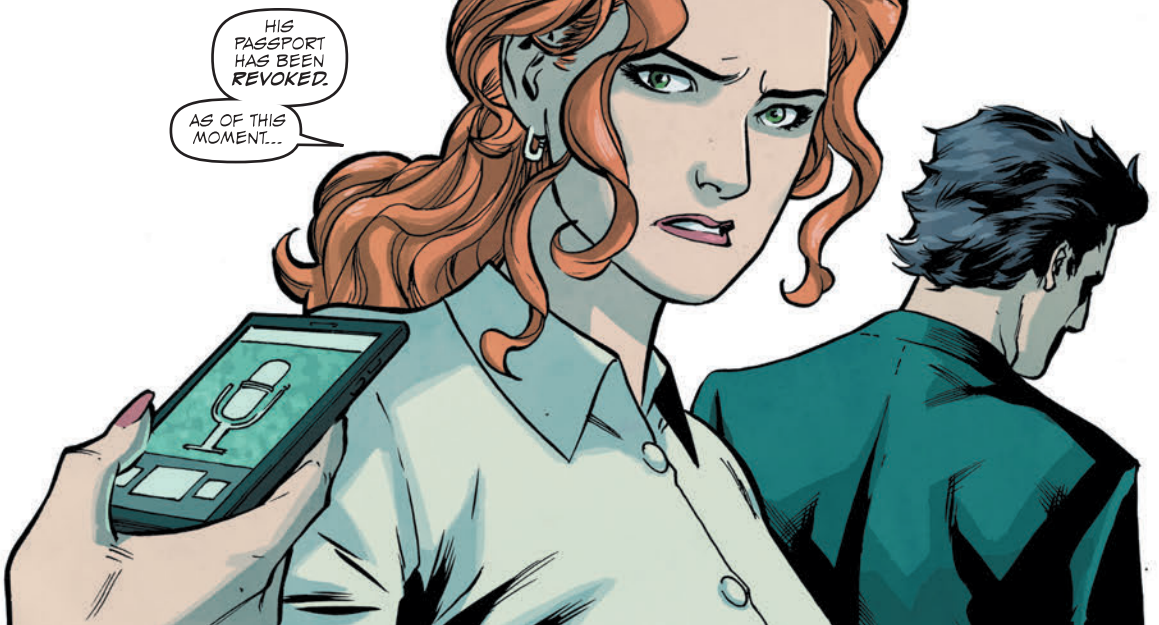
PLANNED AND CARRIED OUT BY FORMER YOURLIFE CIO EDWIN HICCOX, THE SERVER FIRE WAS AN ACT OF SABOTAGE EXECUTED TO HIDE WHAT CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS DOMESTIC TERRORISM.

YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION HAS BEEN COMPROMISED.

ED SOLD IT. ALL OF IT, TO UNKNOWN SOURCES. BURNED THE EVIDENCE, AND FLED THE COUNTRY.

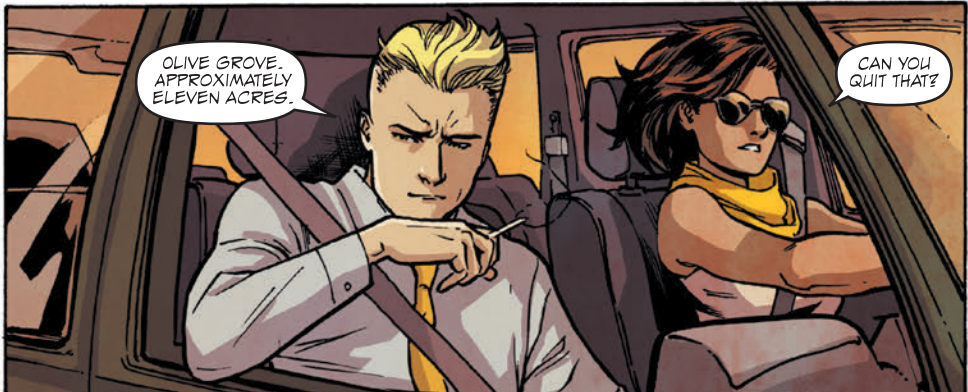
HE IS NO LONGER ASSOCIATED WITH THIS COMPANY.

MR. GRAFT! MR. GRAFT!!



"...HE IS THIS COUNTRY'S NUMBER ONE THREAT."

BUS TO AL-QAYWARAN. RUNNING LATE.



OLIVE GROVE. APPROXIMATELY ELEVEN ACRES.

CAN YOU QUIT THAT?



OLD HABIT.

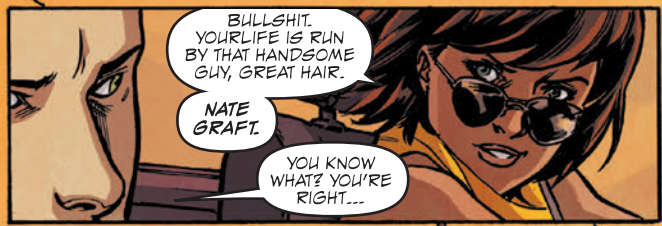
GOD, THESE ARE DISGUSTING.



REAL TOBACCO PACKS A BIT MORE KICK THAN YOUR ELECTRIC... WHATEVER.

ED HICCOX. HICCOX. WHY DO I KNOW THAT NAME?

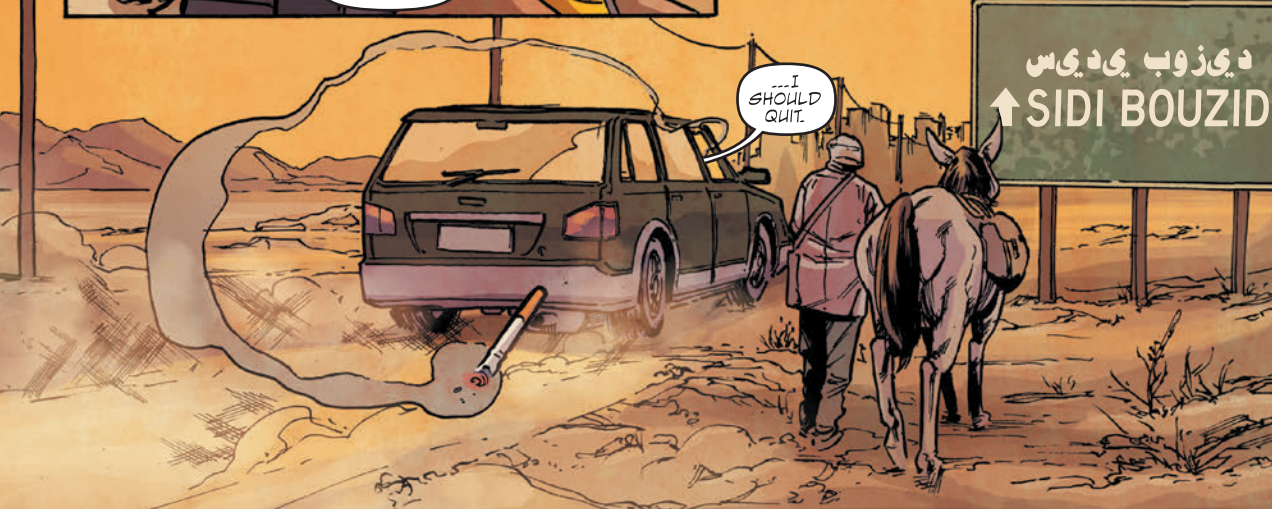
I HAD A COMPANY BACK HOME. CALLED YOURLIFE.



BULLSHIT. YOURLIFE IS RUN BY THAT HANDSOME GUY, GREAT HAIR.

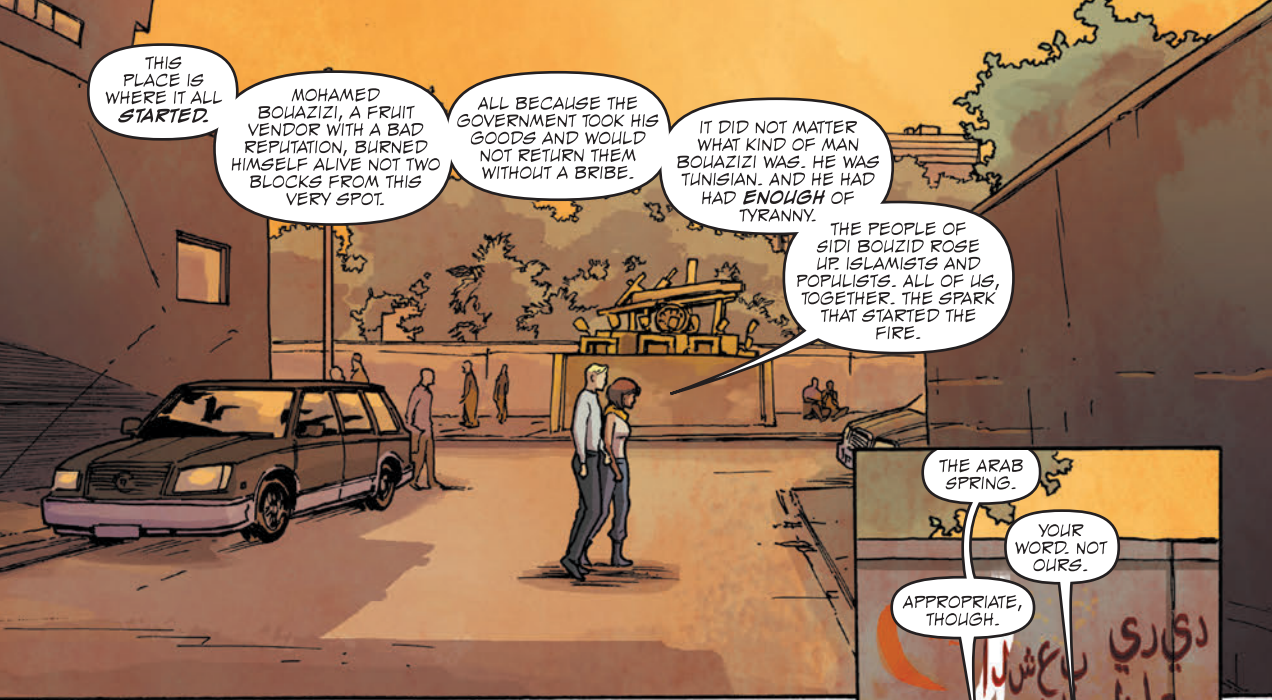
NATE GRAFT.

YOU KNOW WHAT? YOU'RE RIGHT...



...I SHOULD QUIT.

دي زوب يديس  
↑ SIDI BOUZID



THIS PLACE IS WHERE IT ALL STARTED.

MOHAMED BOUAZIZI, A FRUIT VENDOR WITH A BAD REPUTATION, BURNED HIMSELF ALIVE NOT TWO BLOCKS FROM THIS VERY SPOT.

ALL BECAUSE THE GOVERNMENT TOOK HIS GOODS AND WOULD NOT RETURN THEM WITHOUT A BRIBE.

IT DID NOT MATTER WHAT KIND OF MAN BOUAZIZI WAS. HE WAS TUNISIAN. AND HE HAD HAD ENOUGH OF TYRANNY.

THE PEOPLE OF SIDI BOUZID ROSE UP. ISLAMISTS AND POPULISTS. ALL OF US, TOGETHER. THE SPARK THAT STARTED THE FIRE.



THE ARAB SPRING.

YOUR WORD. NOT OURS.

APPROPRIATE, THOUGH.



ONLY BECAUSE SPRING ONE DAY BECOMES WINTER.



AREN'T WE GOING TO HELP THOSE PEOPLE?

COME. THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO.



BUT FIRST...

SLAM



I WANT TO KNOW WHY.

WHAT? I DON'T UNDERSTAND.  
SHUT UP.

THREE MONTHS SINCE THEY DROPPED OUT OF THE SKY, A NYM TAGGED "SAVE YOURSELF" WIELDING MAGIC INTERNET.

SUDDENLY, WE CAN ORGANIZE. PROTEST. SHOW THOSE AT THE TOP WHAT WE THINK OF CORRUPTION.

AND SOON WHAT STARTS AS A RIVER BECOMES AN OCEAN, ATTACKS WE NEVER PLANNED, DEMONSTRATIONS WE NEVER CALLED, EVEN ACTIVITY IN CAIRO STARTED SPROUTING UP OUT OF NOWHERE.

LIKE SOMEONE WAS RUNNING THE REVOLUTION WITHOUT US. AND EVEN MORE, THIS SOMEONE WAS WINNING.

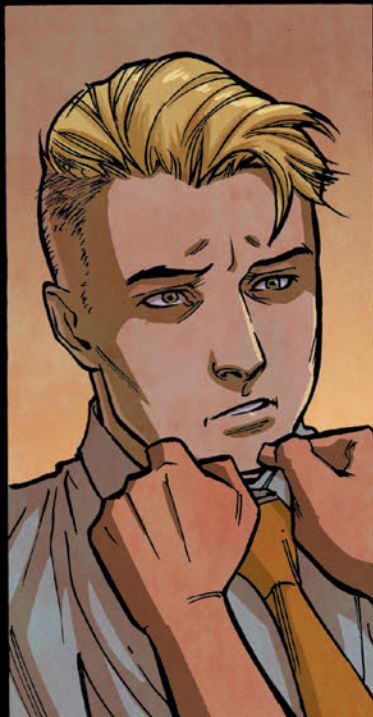


AND THEN, SUDDENLY, THEY WERE GONE.

YOU WERE GONE.



I WANT TO KNOW WHY.





I...  
I'M GOOD WITH PATTERNS. ALWAYS HAVE BEEN. IT'S WHAT I DO.

AND I SAW A SYSTEM.

ONE THAT WAS DEDICATED TO KEEPING PEOPLE UNDER FOOT. ONE THAT USED POWER FOR THE SAKE OF POWER, KEEPING PEOPLE ISOLATED.

THAT'S A BAD SYSTEM. IT'S ANTI-THETICAL TO PROGRESS.

SO I DECLARED WAR ON IT. I LIED TO YOU EARLIER. *SVE*...*URSELF* WASN'T JUST ME. IT WAS NATE, TOO. YOU CAN IMAGINE OUR RESOURCES. WE REACHED OUT, FAR AND WIDE.

WE FOUND YOU. AND THROUGH YOU, WE FOUND A NEW SYSTEM. ONE TO COUNTERACT THE OLD.

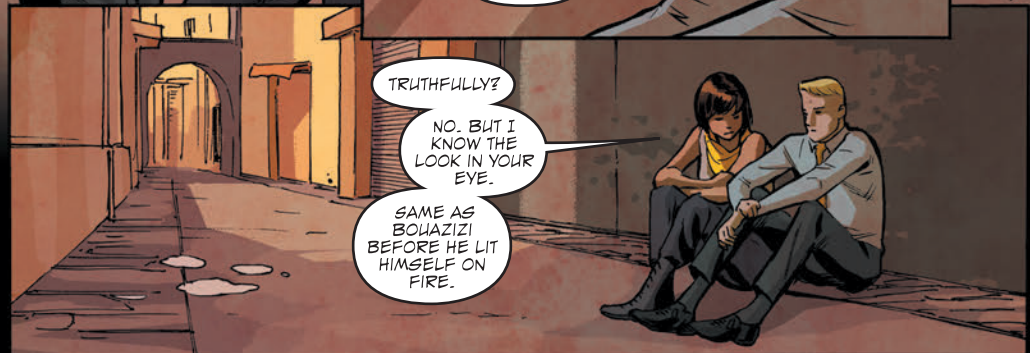
BUT SOMETHING FOUND US. A RETROGRADE PATHOGEN.

IT INFECTED US. TOOK US OVER. SPLIT OUR EFFORTS. BY WINNING OUR WAR, WE LOST YOURS.

SO I CAME HERE. TO FIGHT THE ACTUAL FIGHT. TO ESCAPE MY SYSTEM AND HELP YOU DESTROY YOURS.



DOES THAT... DOES THAT MAKE ANY SENSE?



TRUTHFULLY?

NO. BUT I KNOW THE LOOK IN YOUR EYE.

SAME AS BOHAZIZI BEFORE HE LIT HIMSELF ON FIRE.



NOW, COME ON.

THERE'S SOMEONE I'D LIKE YOU TO MEET.



العربية I'M NOT ASKING PERMISSION, AZIZ.



العربية HE'S A CREDIBLE THREAT.

العربية HE'S A LITTLE WHITE BOY.

العربية HE'S A LITTLE WHITE AMERICAN.

العربية AND HE'S WITH ME.

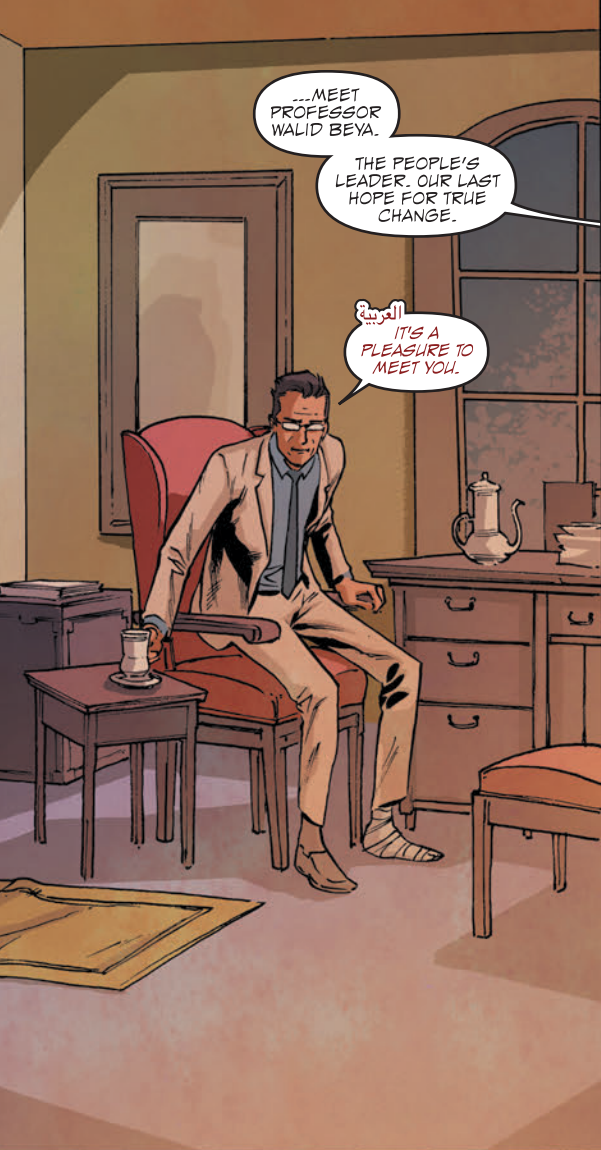


THIS PLACE LOOKS SAFE.

DON'T GET YOUR HOPES UP THOSE ARE THE ONLY WEAPONS HE LETS IN THE BUILDING.



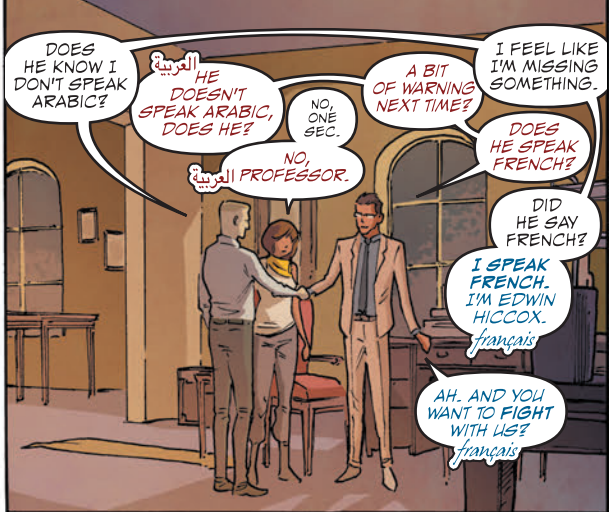
EDWIN HICCOX...



...MEET PROFESSOR WALID BEYA.

THE PEOPLE'S LEADER. OUR LAST HOPE FOR TRUE CHANGE.

العربية  
IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.



DOES HE KNOW I DON'T SPEAK ARABIC?

العربية  
HE DOESN'T SPEAK ARABIC, DOES HE?

NO, ONE SEC.

A BIT OF WARNING NEXT TIME?

I FEEL LIKE I'M MISSING SOMETHING.

DOES HE SPEAK FRENCH?

DID HE SAY FRENCH?

I SPEAK FRENCH. I'M EDWIN HICCOX. *français*

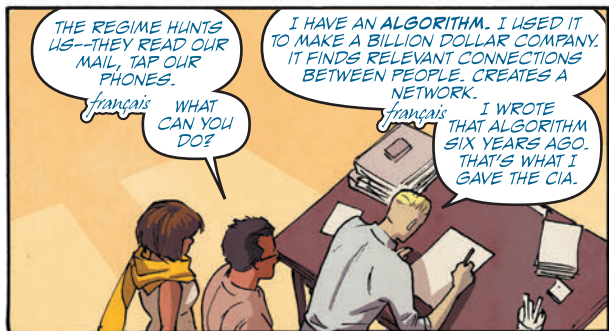
AH, AND YOU WANT TO FIGHT WITH US? *français*



I WANT TO HELP YOU FIGHT. *français*

AN IMPORTANT DIFFERENCE. *français*  
BUT YOUR "HELP" COULD COME FROM ANYWHERE, YES?

*français*  
NO, ACTUALLY. WHAT YOU NEED HAS TO COME FROM THE GROUND UP.

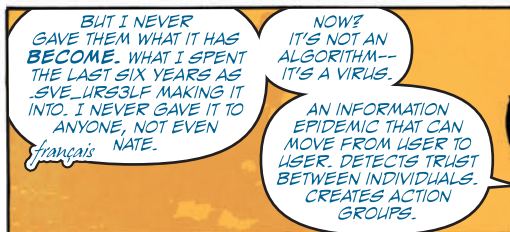


THE REGIME HUNTS US--THEY READ OUR MAIL, TAP OUR PHONES. *français*

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

I HAVE AN ALGORITHM. I USED IT TO MAKE A BILLION DOLLAR COMPANY. IT FINDS RELEVANT CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PEOPLE. CREATES A NETWORK. *français*

I WROTE THAT ALGORITHM SIX YEARS AGO. THAT'S WHAT I GAVE THE CIA.

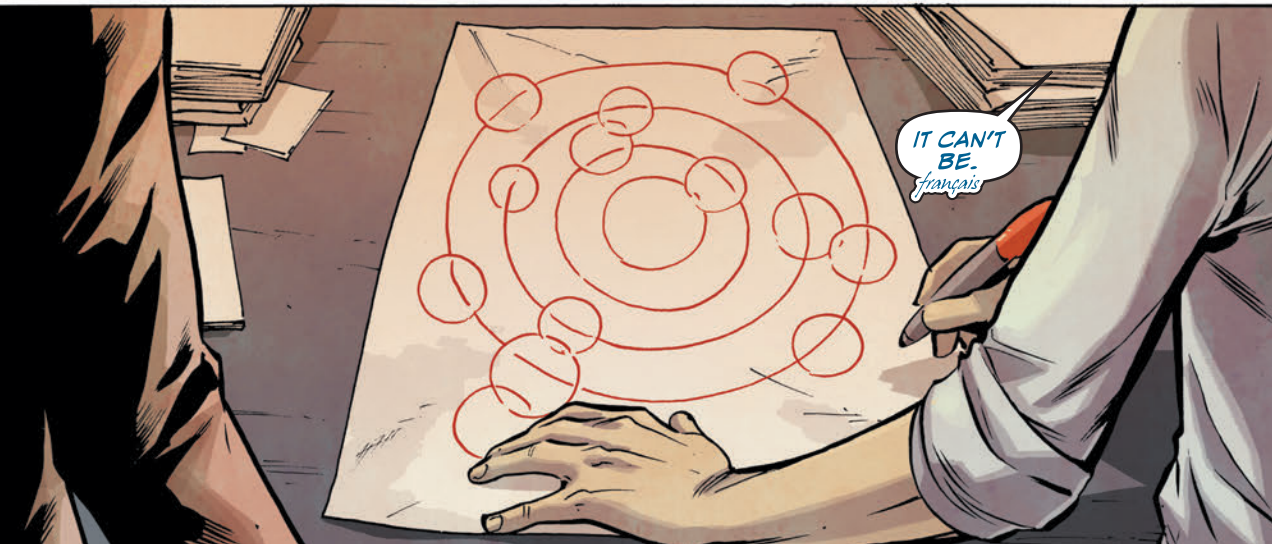


BUT I NEVER GAVE THEM WHAT IT HAS BECOME. WHAT I SPENT THE LAST SIX YEARS AS...SVE...URSELF MAKING IT INTO. I NEVER GAVE IT TO ANYONE, NOT EVEN *français* NATE.

NOW? IT'S NOT AN ALGORITHM-- IT'S A VIRUS.

AN INFORMATION EPIDEMIC THAT CAN MOVE FROM USER TO USER. DETECTS TRUST BETWEEN INDIVIDUALS. CREATES ACTION GROUPS.

WHEN THE ATTACK EDGE HITS AN UNTRUSTWORTHY AGENT, IT SIMPLY SLIPS PAST. UNDETECTABLE. *français* YOU AND ME, WE CAN BE STOPPED.



IT CAN'T BE. *français*



SO. HERE IS HOW YOU UNIFY A REVOLUTION UNDER THE NOSE OF THE MOST POWERFUL GOVERNMENT ON THE PLANET WHILE BEING HUNTED FOR TREASON.

STEP ONE: DISTRACT THEM.

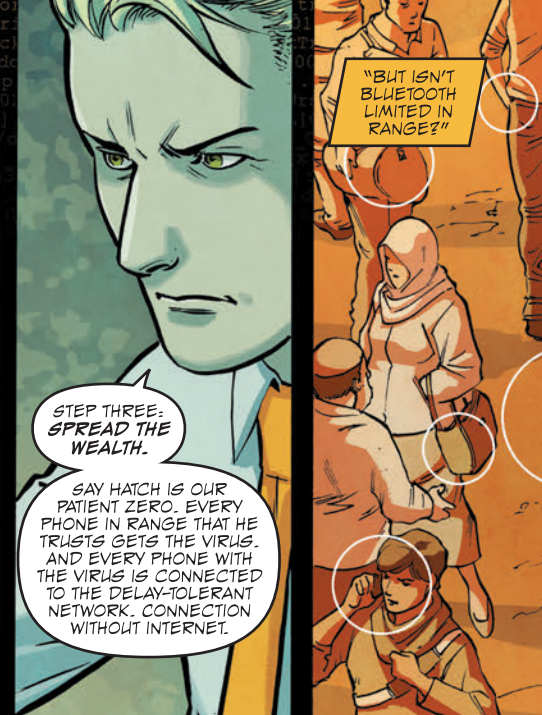


STEP TWO: FIND A PHONE.

THE GREAT THING ABOUT THE MODERN AGE IS THAT EVERYONE HAS A SUPER-COMPUTER IN THEIR POCKET. EACH OF THOSE COMPUTERS? THEY WANT TO TALK TO EACH OTHER.



"NOT WITH CELLULAR SERVICE OR THE INTERNET, BUT WITH BLUETOOTH."



"BUT ISN'T BLUETOOTH LIMITED IN RANGE?"

STEP THREE: SPREAD THE WEALTH.

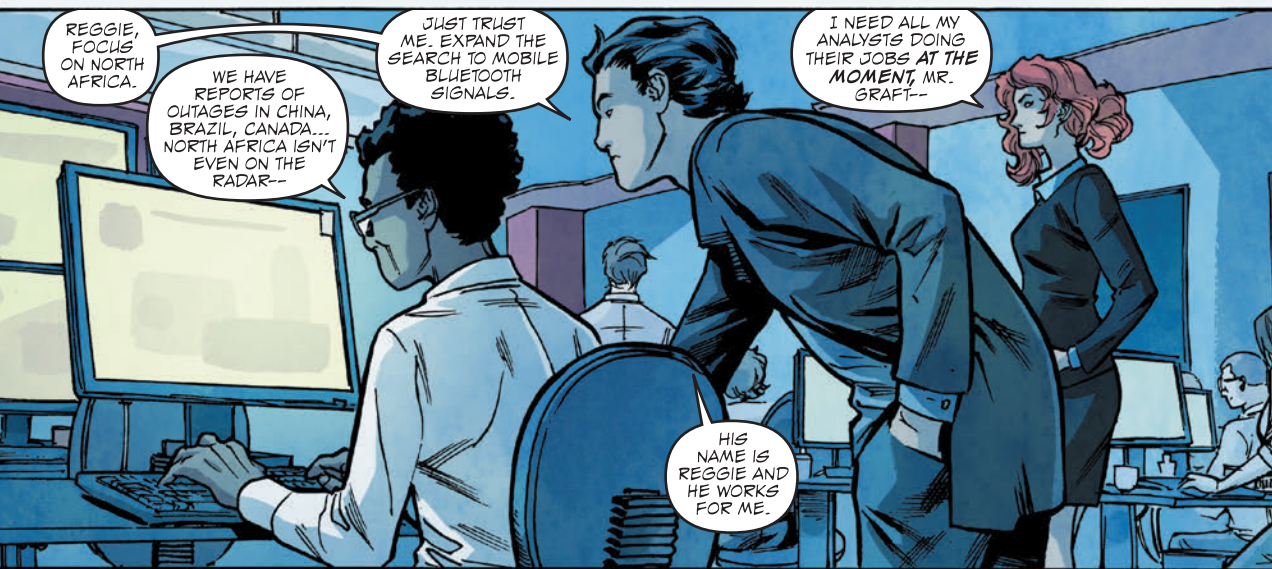
SAY HATCH IS OUR PATIENT ZERO. EVERY PHONE IN RANGE THAT HE TRUSTS GETS THE VIRUS. AND EVERY PHONE WITH THE VIRUS IS CONNECTED TO THE DELAY-TOLERANT NETWORK. CONNECTION WITHOUT INTERNET.





"...DON'T GET CAUGHT."

YOU JUMPED RIGHT TO THE TURN WITHOUT A PLEDGE...



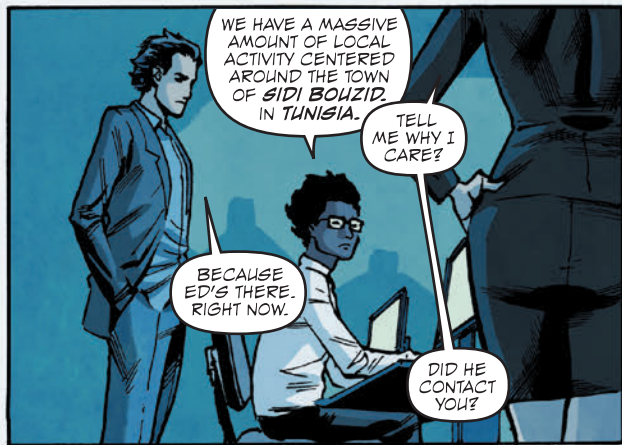
REGGIE, FOCUS ON NORTH AFRICA.

WE HAVE REPORTS OF OUTAGES IN CHINA, BRAZIL, CANADA... NORTH AFRICA ISN'T EVEN ON THE RADAR--

JUST TRUST ME. EXPAND THE SEARCH TO MOBILE BLUETOOTH SIGNALS.

I NEED ALL MY ANALYSTS DOING THEIR JOBS AT THE MOMENT, MR. GRAFT--

HIS NAME IS REGGIE AND HE WORKS FOR ME.

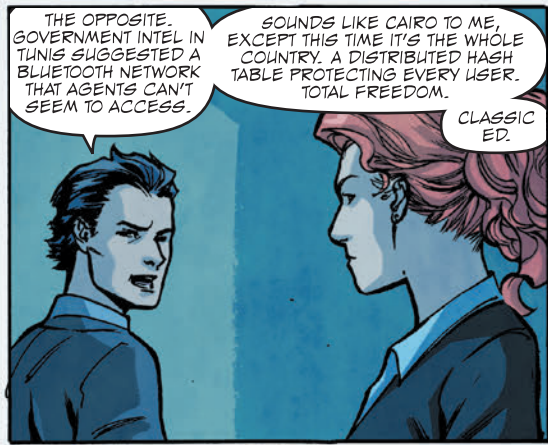


WE HAVE A MASSIVE AMOUNT OF LOCAL ACTIVITY CENTERED AROUND THE TOWN OF SIDI BOUZID IN TUNISIA.

TELL ME WHY I CARE?

BECAUSE ED'S THERE. RIGHT NOW.

DID HE CONTACT YOU?



THE OPPOSITE. GOVERNMENT INTEL IN TUNIS SUGGESTED A BLUETOOTH NETWORK THAT AGENTS CAN'T SEEM TO ACCESS.

SOUNDS LIKE CAIRO TO ME, EXCEPT THIS TIME IT'S THE WHOLE COUNTRY. A DISTRIBUTED HASH TABLE PROTECTING EVERY USER. TOTAL FREEDOM.

CLASSIC ED.



THIS IS GOOD WORK, GRAFT.

THERE'S A CHANCE YOUR COMPANY MIGHT SURVIVE THIS AFTER ALL.



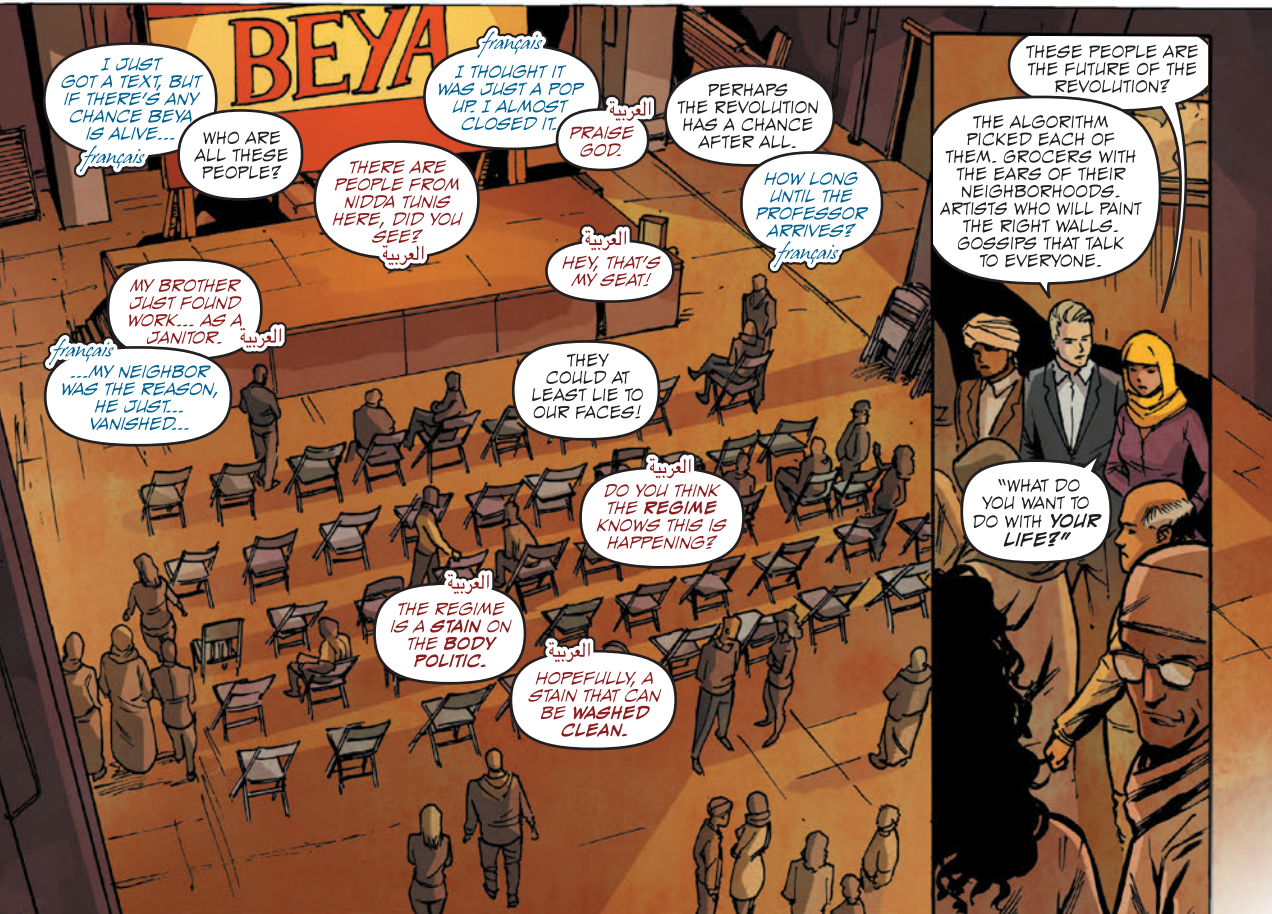
HELLO? GET ME CENTRAL COMMAND AND THE TUNISIAN MILITARY.

WE HAVE A TARGET.



I DIDN'T THINK SO MANY WOULD SHOW.  
العربية

TO HEAR BEYA SPEAK? THEY COULD HAVE FILLED STADE OLYMPIQUE.  
العربية



I JUST GOT A TEXT, BUT IF THERE'S ANY CHANCE BEYA IS ALIVE...  
français

WHO ARE ALL THESE PEOPLE?

THERE ARE PEOPLE FROM NIDDA TUNIS HERE, DID YOU SEE?  
العربية

I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A POP UP. I ALMOST CLOSED IT.  
français

PRaise GOD.  
العربية

PERHAPS THE REVOLUTION HAS A CHANCE AFTER ALL.

HOW LONG UNTIL THE PROFESSOR ARRIVES?  
français

HEY, THAT'S MY SEAT!  
العربية

THEY COULD AT LEAST LIE TO OUR FACES!

DO YOU THINK THE REGIME KNOWS THIS IS HAPPENING?  
العربية

MY BROTHER JUST FOUND WORK... AS A JANITOR.  
العربية

...MY NEIGHBOR WAS THE REASON, HE JUST... VANISHED...

THE REGIME IS A STAIN ON THE BODY POLITIC.  
العربية

HOPEFULLY, A STAIN THAT CAN BE WASHED CLEAN.  
العربية

THESE PEOPLE ARE THE FUTURE OF THE REVOLUTION?

THE ALGORITHM PICKED EACH OF THEM. GROCERS WITH THE EARS OF THEIR NEIGHBORHOODS. ARTISTS WHO WILL PAINT THE RIGHT WALLS. GOSSIPS THAT TALK TO EVERYONE.

"WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WITH YOUR LIFE?"



I LOOKED YOU UP.

WHAT ABOUT SECURITY?  
العربية

THEY'VE BEEN SEARCHED. WEREN'T VERY HAPPY ABOUT IT, THOUGH.  
العربية

IF THE MOST DANGEROUS THING IN THIS ROOM IS THEIR OPINIONS, I'M A HAPPY WOMAN.  
العربية



BROTHERS AND SISTERS!



I SEE FACES FROM ACROSS OUR COUNTRY. SOME OLD AND SOME YOUNG. VETERANS TO OUR FIGHT, BUT ALSO STRANGERS I AM EAGER TO MEET. IN THIS MOMENT, KNOW THAT EVERYONE IN THIS ROOM BURNS WITH THE SAME FIRE.

YOU ARE PASSIONATE. YOU ARE POWERFUL.  
العربية

BUT YOU ARE NOT TUNISIA.  
العربية



THE REGIME SITS IN THE HEART OF CARTHAGE--

LIARS!

LIARS! YES, PERHAPS. POLITICS MAKES LIARS OF US ALL.

BUT THINK OF YOUR NEIGHBORS. OF THE OLD MEN, OF THE WOMEN YOU PASS ON THE STREET. THEY ALLOW THIS REGIME TO CONTINUE.

THEY DO THIS BECAUSE THEY ARE SCARED. THEY THINK WE DO NOT LOVE GOD. THEY THINK WE DO NOT LOVE VALUE AND TRADITION.

THEY ARE SCARED BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT WE ARE THE FUTURE.

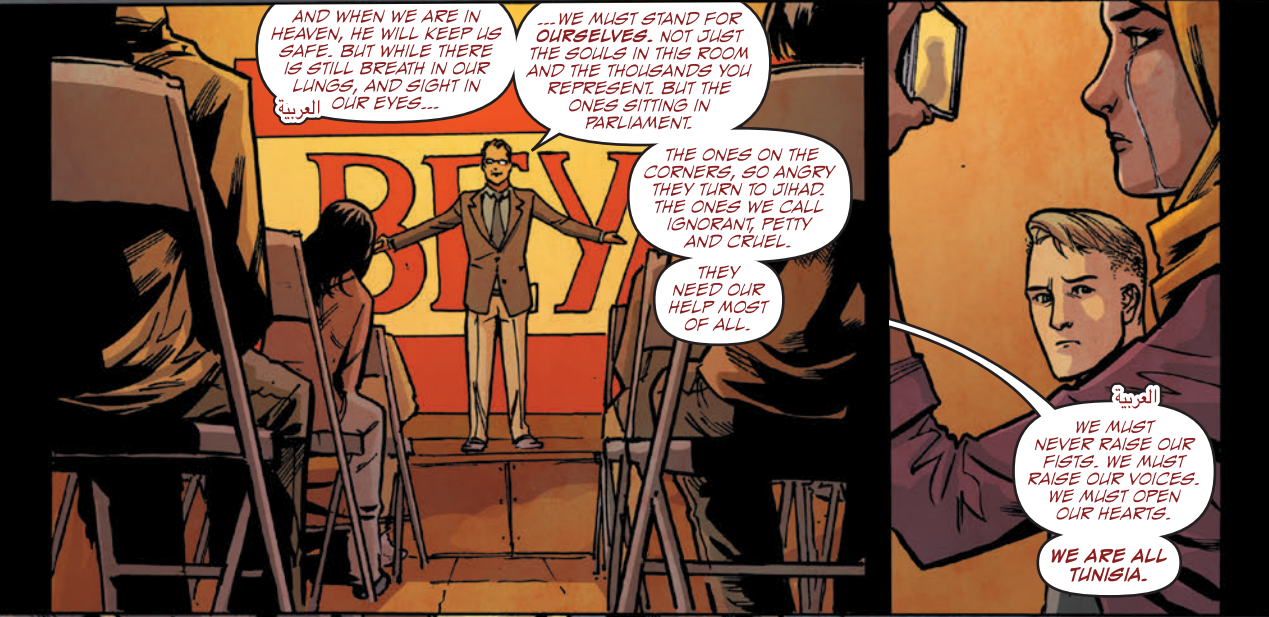
IS HE ALWAYS LIKE THIS?

HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THIS.

I LOVE GOD! HE IS THE FIRST I THINK OF IN THE MORNING AND THE LAST I THINK OF AT NIGHT.

I PRAISE HIM EVERY DAY FOR THE WONDER THAT HE HAS SPREAD AROUND US.

"HE LOVES WOMEN. HE LOVES THE SICK. HE LOVES THE MEEK."



AND WHEN WE ARE IN HEAVEN, HE WILL KEEP US SAFE. BUT WHILE THERE IS STILL BREATH IN OUR LUNGS, AND SIGHT IN OUR EYES...

...WE MUST STAND FOR OURSELVES. NOT JUST THE SOULS IN THIS ROOM AND THE THOUSANDS YOU REPRESENT. BUT THE ONES SITTING IN PARLIAMENT.

THE ONES ON THE CORNERS, SO ANGRY THEY TURN TO JIHAD. THE ONES WE CALL IGNORANT, PETTY AND CRUEL.

THEY NEED OUR HELP MOST OF ALL.

WE MUST NEVER RAISE OUR FISTS. WE MUST RAISE OUR VOICES. WE MUST OPEN OUR HEARTS.

WE ARE ALL TUNISIA.



INSERTION ON MY MARK.



العربية  
EVERYONE  
ON THE  
GROUND!

CRACK



العربية  
NOBODY  
MOVE!

العربية  
PROTECT THE  
PROFESSOR!

العربية  
PLEASE, DO  
NOT FIGHT  
THEM!



العربية  
INTO THE  
BACK ALLEYS,  
FOLLOW ME!



KSHHH

SHUNT



العربية  
THIS IS  
NOT OUR  
WAY!

العربية  
BEYA, GET  
DOWN!



العربية  
WE  
HAVE SHOTS  
FIRED.

العربية  
LETHAL  
FORCE IS  
AUTHORIZED.

BRAP



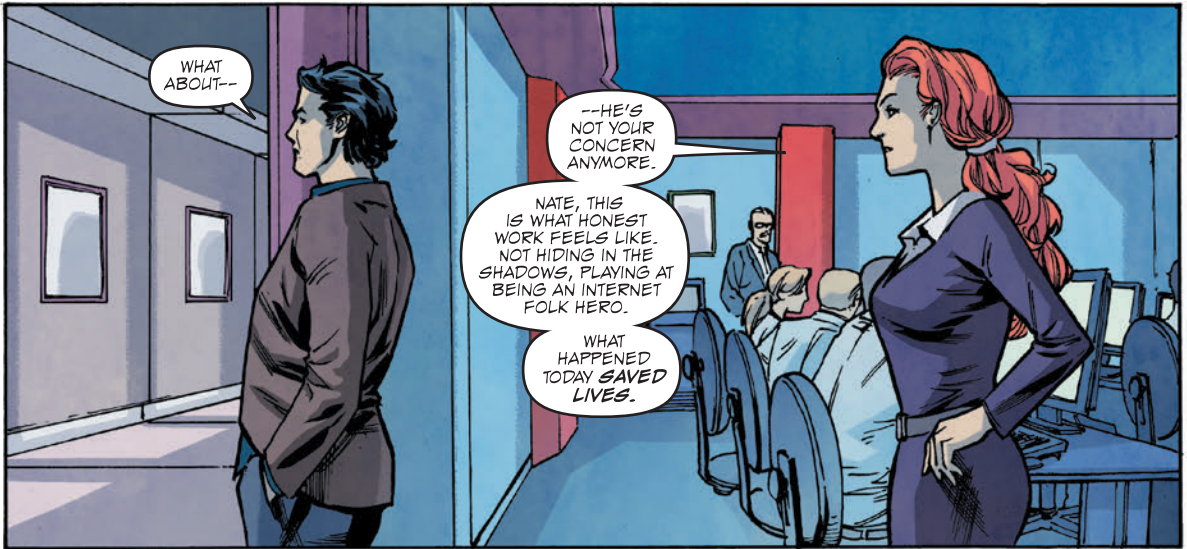


"...IT WAS ME."



WERE THERE ANY SURVIVORS?

OF COURSE. MOST OF TUNISIA.

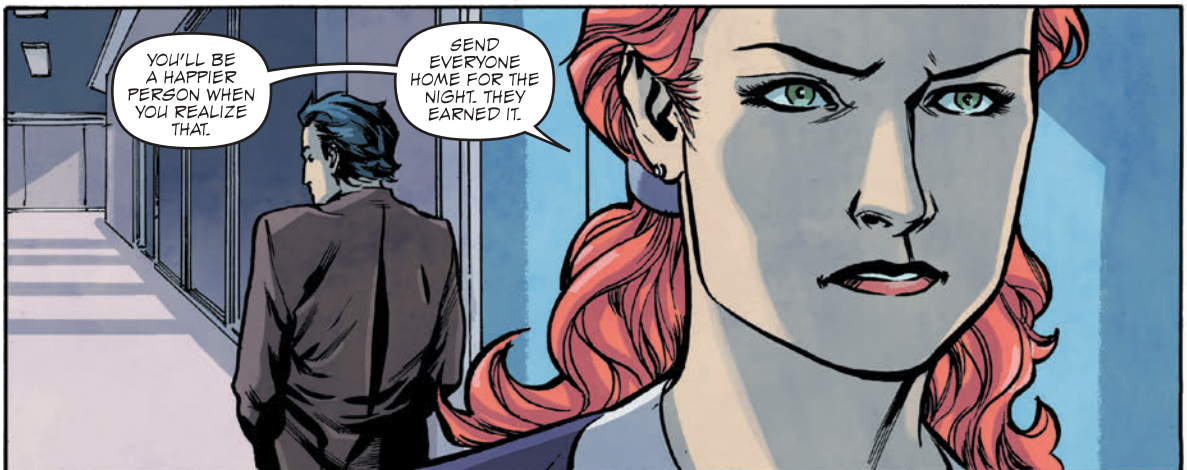


WHAT ABOUT--

--HE'S NOT YOUR CONCERN ANYMORE.

NATE, THIS IS WHAT HONEST WORK FEELS LIKE. NOT HIDING IN THE SHADOWS, PLAYING AT BEING AN INTERNET FOLK HERO.

WHAT HAPPENED TODAY SAVED LIVES.



YOU'LL BE A HAPPIER PERSON WHEN YOU REALIZE THAT.

SEND EVERYONE HOME FOR THE NIGHT. THEY EARNED IT.



...IT'S THE BEST PIZZA THIS SIDE OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

PLEASE, I ONLY GO TO BERKELEY TO LAUGH AT HIPPIES.



I SWEAR, WHOEVER KEEPS SHUFFLING MY PAPERWORK IS GOING TO GET IT!



G'NIGHT, NATE. ANYTHING I CAN GET YOU BEFORE I LEAVE?

G'NIGHT, JESS. NO, I'M FINE. YOU CAN HEAD ON HOME...



"...I'VE GOT SOMETHING I NEED TO FINISH."





NO PATROLS  
ON THE BLOCK  
THIS TIME.

TAP  
TAP  
TAP  
TAP  
TAP

WE  
HAVE MAYBE  
A DAY BEFORE  
THEY REALIZE  
WE'RE NOT IN  
BOUZID.

WHAT'RE  
YOU--



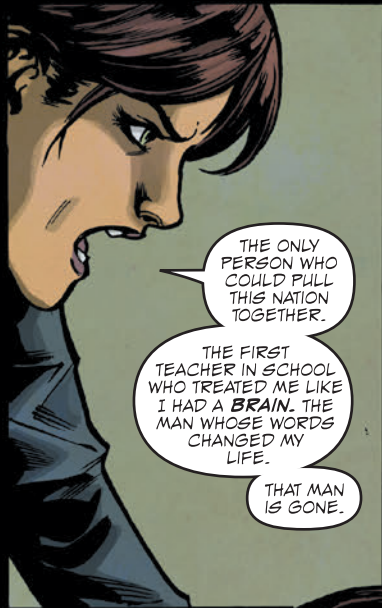


ED... WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?



DOES THIS HAVE A CONNECTION? ARE YOU REALLY THAT STUPID!?

I'M SORRY.



THE ONLY PERSON WHO COULD PULL THIS NATION TOGETHER.

THE FIRST TEACHER IN SCHOOL WHO TREATED ME LIKE I HAD A BRAIN. THE MAN WHOSE WORDS CHANGED MY LIFE.

THAT MAN IS GONE.



AND I'M SORRY.

GOOD. YOU SHOULD BE.



THEY MIGHT HAVE KILLED BEYA, BUT THEY WERE THERE FOR YOU.



SO I'M GOING TO ASK YOU AGAIN--

WHAT WERE YOU DOING WITH THIS COMPUTER?



TWENTY-FOUR WERE CAPTURED IN THE RAID. SEVENTEEN WERE HOSPITALIZED. TWO DIED.

OF THE HUNDRED IN THAT ROOM, THAT LEAVES US WITH FIFTY-SEVEN TUNISIAN CITIZENS, EACH WITH A TRUST SCORE THAT'S THROUGH THE ROOF

YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT YOUR ALGORITHM.

WE HAVE TO PULL THE PARAMETERS BACK. MAKE TRUST HARDER TO ACHIEVE. THE VIRUS WON'T SPREAD NEARLY AS QUICKLY.

EVEN SO, WE SHOULD HAVE A POPULAR UPRISING WITHIN...

...SIX MONTHS.



ED... WHAT DID YOU TELL THEM TO DO?

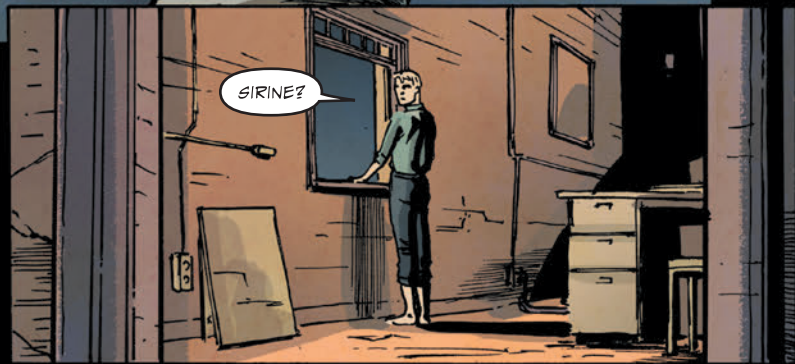
I DIDN'T TELL THEM ANYTHING.

I DON'T HAVE THE WORDS. I DON'T HAVE THE CHARISMA.

ED...



I SENT THE VIDEO FROM YOUR PHONE.



SIRINE?



SIRINE,  
WAIT.



I WAS  
PLANNING ON  
GIVING YOU  
YOUR PHONE  
BACK--



CRACK



TELL ME THIS WASN'T YOUR PLAN FROM THE START.

TELL ME THAT YOU WEREN'T WAITING FOR THE RELEVANT DATA TO TIP THE SCALES.

WAITING FOR THE BODY COUNT.



NO, I...  
NEVER.



YOU USED MY COUNTRY LIKE A PETRI DISH.

WE TREATED YOU LIKE A BROTHER. WE TREATED YOU LIKE FAMILY.

AND YOU JUST CONTROLLED US. KEPT SECRETS. WE WEREN'T PEOPLE TO YOU, JUST NODES IN YOUR NETWORK.



...I JUST WANTED TO HELP YOU.



WE DIDN'T NEED IT.



MAYBE YOU DIDN'T.  
BUT WHAT KIND OF MAN WOULD I BE IF I DIDN'T TRY?



I KNOW MY MATH IS GOOD.



BUT I DON'T HAVE THE METRICS FOR THIS. THERE IS NO SEQUENCE.

I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.

I'M SORRY I ACTED LIKE I DID I CAN'T GUARANTEE MY RESULTS.



YOU CAN'T GUARANTEE YOUR RESULTS?

GOOD. FUCK YOUR RESULTS.

I'M DONE LETTING YOUR MATH TELL ME WHO I CAN "TRUST."

EVERYONE IN MY COUNTRY WANTS FREEDOM. ANY ONE OF THEM COULD LIGHT THE FUSE. IT'S NOT ABOUT TRUST. IT'S ABOUT FAITH.



YOU'RE SAYING WE TRUST EVERYONE. WE GIVE UP THE POWER AND HOPE THEY DO THE RIGHT THING.

IF YOU'RE PULLING THE STRINGS, THAT'S NO BETTER THAN THE REGIME. REAL FREEDOM REQUIRES REAL TRUST.

DO YOU TRUST THE PEOPLE, ED?

...NO.



BUT I TRUST YOU.

22,300 MILES OVER TUNIS.

THE CLARKE BELT.

INTELSAT 1W.

ONE HALF OF TUNISIA'S COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK.

"UM... SIR?  
MR. GRAFT?"

"WE MIGHT HAVE  
A PROBLEM."

"MIGHT?"

"LESS 'MIGHT' AND  
MORE 'ABSOLUTELY.'"

"ARABSAT JUST  
WENT OFFLINE. WE'RE  
LOOKING AT 1W."

"WHAT ABOUT IT?"

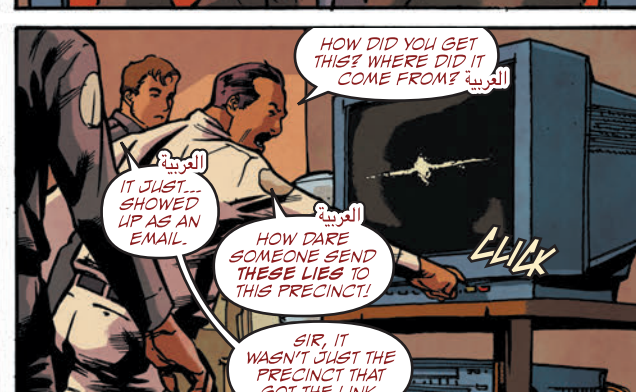
"WE'VE LOST  
CONTROL OF IT."

"THEN IT NOW  
BELONGS TO ED."

"AGENT ORI,  
WHAT'S THE PLAY?"

"TRACE HIM."

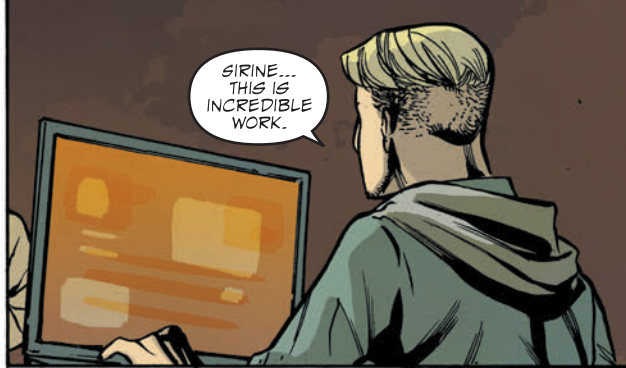
"I NEED A SECURE LINE  
TO THE WHITE HOUSE."



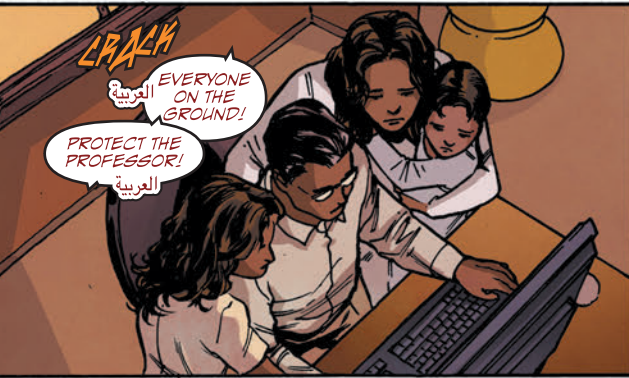


WE MUST RAISE OUR VOICES. WE MUST OPEN OUR HEARTS.  
العربية

WE ARE ALL TUNISIA.  
العربية



SIRINE... THIS IS INCREDIBLE WORK.



CRASH

EVERYONE ON THE GROUND!  
العربية

PROTECT THE PROFESSOR!  
العربية



IMPRESSED?

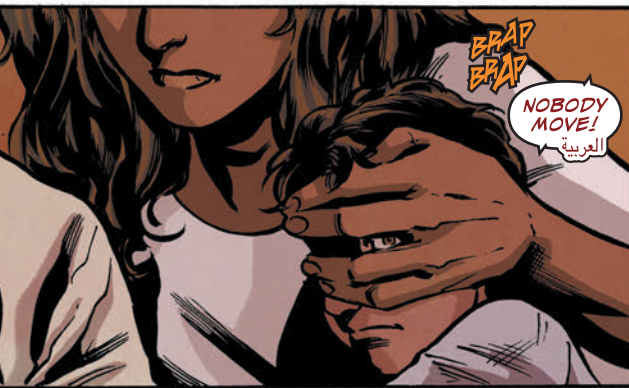
SURPRISED.

I'VE BEEN SMASHING ATIS GRID FOR YEARS, BUT NEVER THIS FAR. NEVER THIS LOUD.



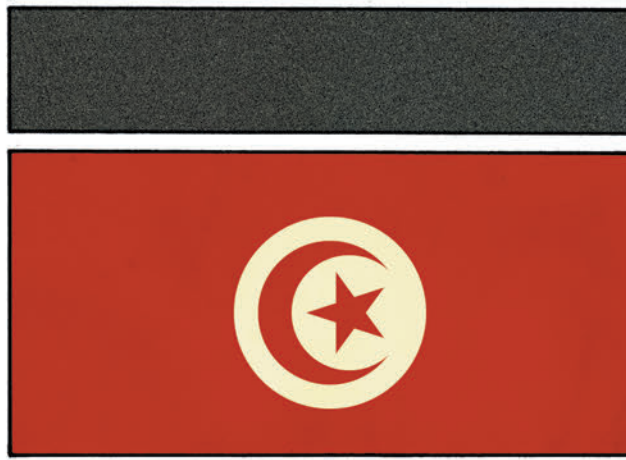
PLEASE, DO NOT FIGHT THEM!  
العربية

BRAP BRAP



BRAP BRAP

NOBODY MOVE!  
العربية

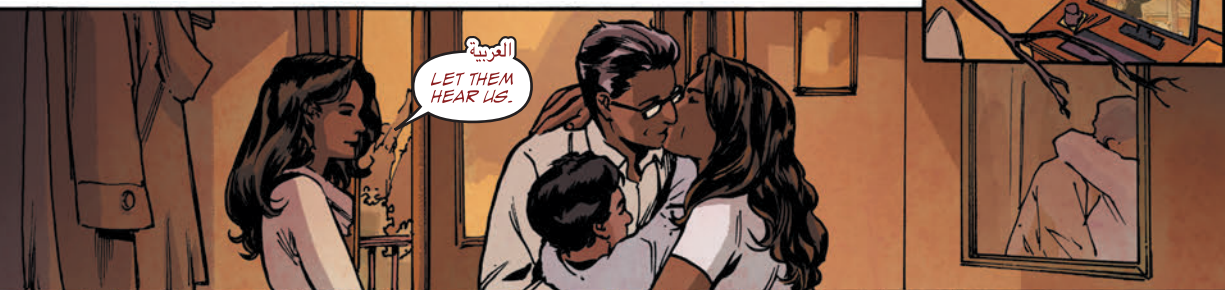


THIS IS NOT OUR WAY!  
العربية



WHY?

CAUSE WE ONLY GET ONE SHOT AT WHAT HAPPENS NEXT.









A DRONE STRIKE?! ED'S NOT--BRYNN, THOSE ARE CIVILIANS. THEY'RE INNOCENT PEOPLE!

YOU REALLY DO THINK I'M A MONSTER.



I HAVE A PRESIDENTIAL SIGNATURE LEGALIZING THE USE OF ONE STRIKE. FOR ONE MAN.

WHO WE FOUND, THANKS TO YOU.



"3 MINUTES, 57 SECONDS TO FIRING SOLUTION.."



SOMETHING I'VE BEEN CODING FOR A WHILE. FOR A RAINY DAY.

PLUG IT IN. KEEP IT ACTIVE.

WHAT'S THIS, NATE?

WHAT ABOUT YOU? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?



"ME? WHAT I DO BEST..."



WHAT THE HELL?

IT'S A WORM, COMING IN FROM A DOZEN LOCATIONS!

THE TARGET IS DESPERATE, PEOPLE, LET'S BOX HIM OUT!

"...SOMETHING RECKLESS.."



THIS. THIS IS IT. WE DID IT.

NO. WE'RE ON A ROOF, ED. THEY'RE IN THE STREETS.

THEY DID IT. WE JUST SHARED A STORY. NO ALGORITHMS, NO PATTERNS. JUST COMPLETE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION.

YOU WERE RIGHT.

IT'S NICE TO HAVE A PARTNER AGAIN--



OH.

WHAT IS IT?

RETALIATION.



THEY HAVE MY LOCATION. THEY'VE CALLED IN A DRONE STRIKE.

ARE THEY GOING TO OPEN FIRE ON THE--

NO. THEY CAN'T BOMB A POPULAR REVOLUTION.

THIS ONE'S JUST FOR ME. YOU SHOULD GO.

LIKE HELL!



WAIT.

WHAT NOW?

MY YOURLIFE ACCESS HAS JUST BEEN REACTIVATED. BUT... THIS ISN'T RIGHT...

IT'S A MIRROR. A SECRET YOURLIFE, RIGHT UNDER THE CIA'S NOSE. AND IT'S UPLOADING OUR VIRAL ALGORITHM AS WE SPEAK.

AN INFORMATION RELAY ON THE YOURLIFE SOCIAL GRAPH. HOW THE HELL ARE YOU DOING THIS?

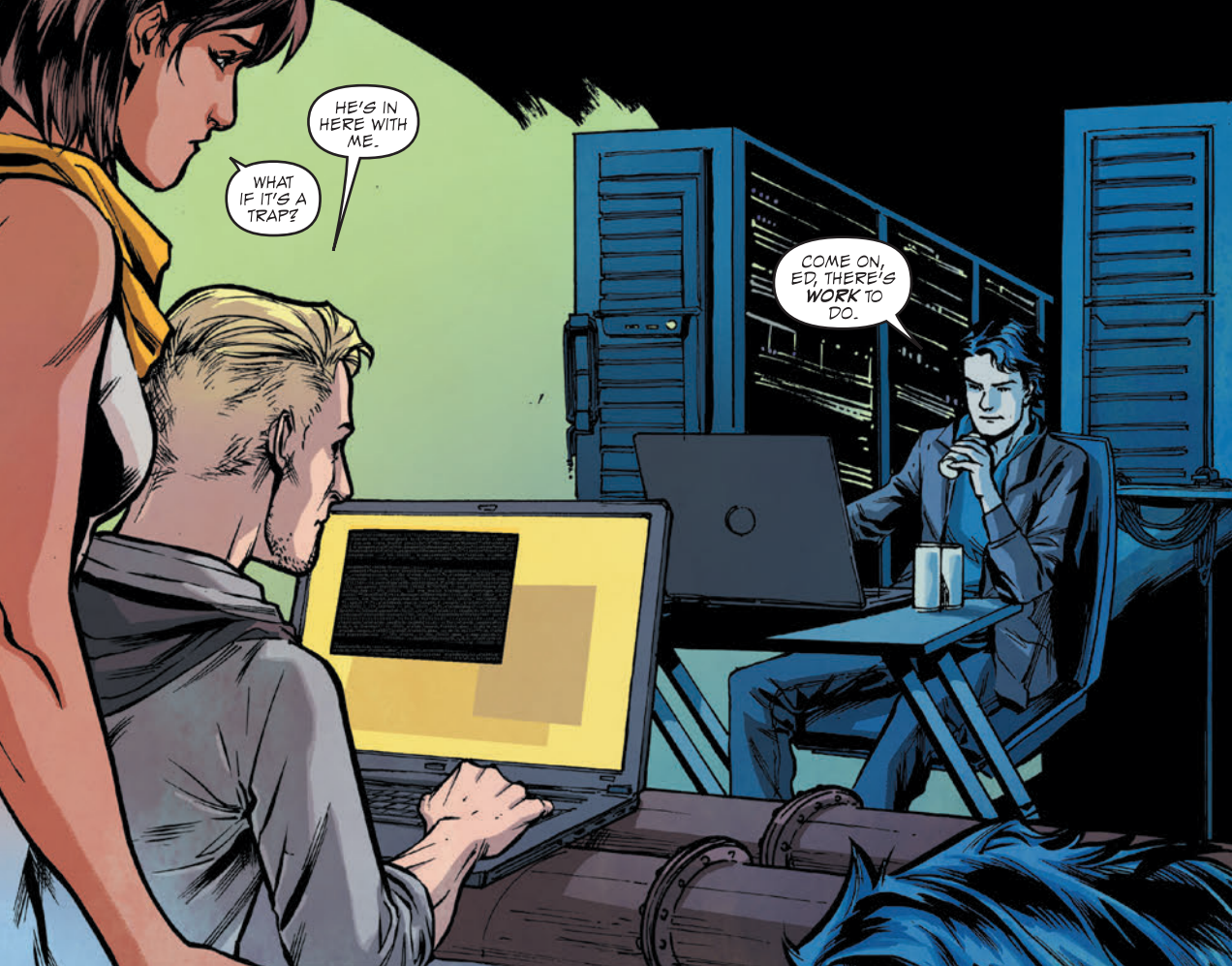
I'M NOT. THIS IS NATE'S CODE.

NATE GRAFT? I THOUGHT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAD HIM UNDER CONTROL?

IF THERE'S ANYTHING THOSE PEOPLE DOWN THERE PROVE...



...IT'S THAT CONTROL DOESN'T LAST FOREVER.



HE'S IN HERE WITH ME.  
WHAT IF IT'S A TRAP?

COME ON, ED, THERE'S WORK TO DO.

yourlife.com:443 -  
02:45  
ection www.yourlife.  
user id: .sve\_urse

LET'S CHANGE THE WORLD.

SOMEONE GET OUR SERVERS LOCKED DOWN NOW! WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON!?

"THEY MIGHT NOT REALIZE IT YET, SIRINE, BUT YOUR LIFE IS OURS.

"THAT MEANS WE'VE GOT USERS IN NEARLY EVERY NATION WITH INTERNET AND THE ABILITY TO SPREAD EVEN WIDER WITH BLUETOOTH. MILLIONS OF HACKERS. ACTIVISTS. GENIUSES.

"I HAD THREE MINUTES."

TOGETHER, WE HAVE THREE MILLION.



CHINA. THE FORBIDDEN CITY.

01:48

FIRST THINGS FIRST. ED, YOU'RE GOING FOR THE DOMESTIC THROAT, I KNOW IT.

PERSONALLY, I'VE ALWAYS CONSIDERED MYSELF TO BE A BIT MORE INTERNATIONAL.

...WHILE THERE IS STILL BREATH IN OUR LUNGS, AND SIGHT IN OUR EYES...

中国的

中国的

...WE MUST STAND FOR OURSELVES.

"NOW, BEYA'S WORDS DON'T JUST RING TRUE IN TUNISIA.

CHELYABINSK, RUSSIA.

01:20

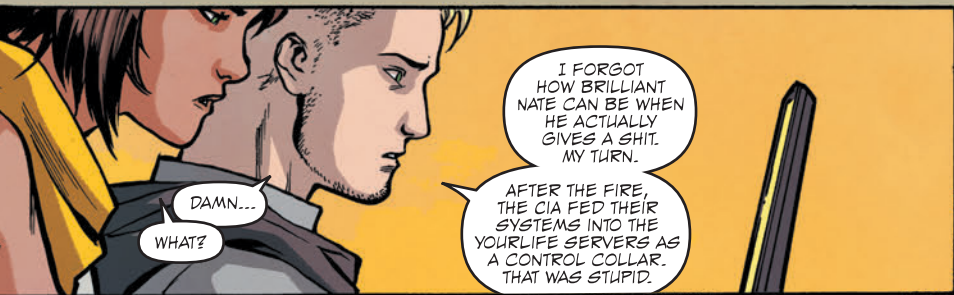
WE MUST RAISE OUR VOICES. WE MUST OPEN OUR HEARTS.

РУССКИЙ

WE ARE ALL TUNISIA.

РУССКИЙ

"THE REVOLUTION JUST BECAME A WORLDWIDE EVENT."



DAMN...  
WHAT?

I FORGOT  
HOW BRILLIANT  
NATE CAN BE WHEN  
HE ACTUALLY  
GIVES A SHIT.  
MY TURN.  
AFTER THE FIRE,  
THE CIA FED THEIR  
SYSTEMS INTO THE  
YOURLIFE SERVERS AS  
A CONTROL COLLAR.  
THAT WAS STUPID.



NEW YORK CITY.

01:05

"THAT MOVE YOU  
PULLED ON INTELSTAT?  
INSPIRING."

"SO I'VE JUST RELEASED  
THEIR ENTIRE DOMESTIC  
SPYING PROGRAM TO  
EVERY MEDIA OUTLET IN  
THE COUNTRY."

"WHOOOPS."



01:03

"TONIGHT, THE ENTIRE  
CONVERSATION IS  
ABOUT TUNISIA."

"WHAT HAPPENED ON  
THE GROUND, AMERICA'S  
DUPPLICITY, AND HOW I  
TRIED TO HELP."

"THE CIA SOLD YOURLIFE'S  
USERS OUT IN THE NAME OF  
NATIONAL SECURITY. AND NOW  
EVERYONE KNOWS IT."

"NO MORE  
SECRETS.."



SIRINE'S EXPLOIT'S GONE GLOBAL. DAMN GOOD SONG.  
WANNA HEAR MY COVER?

LOS ANGELES.  
00:47

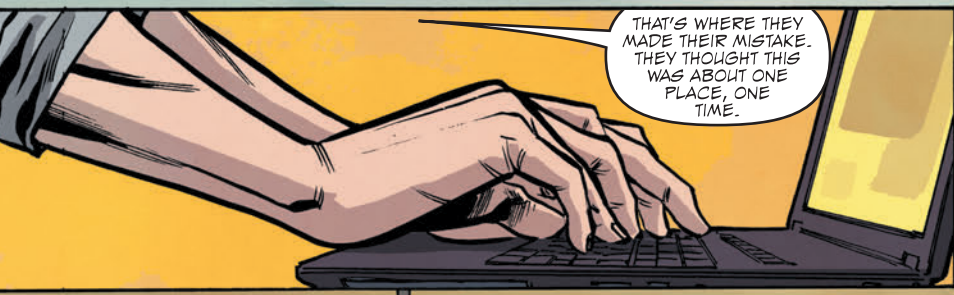


"THE WORLD WILL KNOW WHAT FREEDOM LOOKS LIKE."



LONDON.  
00:39

"THEY WILL KNOW WHAT CAN BE DONE."



THAT'S WHERE THEY MADE THEIR MISTAKE. THEY THOUGHT THIS WAS ABOUT ONE PLACE, ONE TIME.

CAIRO.  
00:23



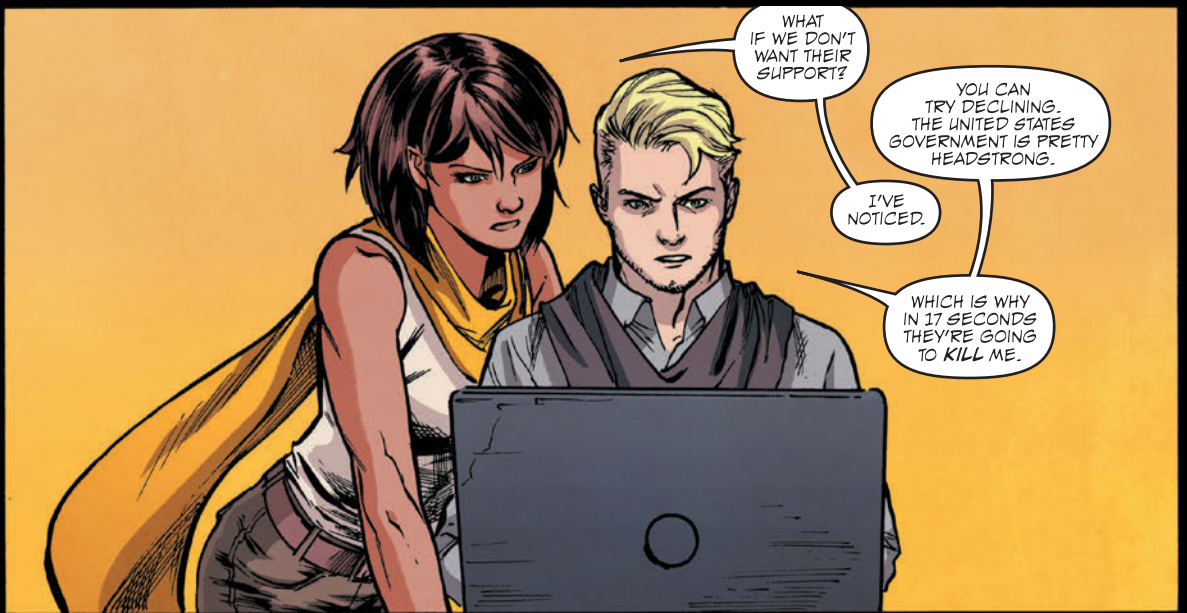
"BUT THIS IS ONLY THE START."

TUNIS.  
00:21



"AND THE CONTROL SYSTEMS NOW HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO LEAVE YOU BE."

"HELL, THEY MIGHT EVEN HAVE TO SUPPORT YOU, NOW."



WHAT IF WE DON'T WANT THEIR SUPPORT?

YOU CAN TRY DECLINING. THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IS PRETTY HEADSTRONG.

I'VE NOTICED.

WHICH IS WHY IN 17 SECONDS THEY'RE GOING TO KILL ME.



I'VE RIGGED EVERY ATM AND SECURITY CAMERA FOR THREE BLOCKS TO FOCUS ON THIS ROOFTOP.



WHEN I GO, THE WHOLE WORLD WATCHES.



ARE YOU CRAZY?! YOU THINK ANYONE IN AMERICA CARES IF YOUR EXECUTION IS PUBLICIZED?



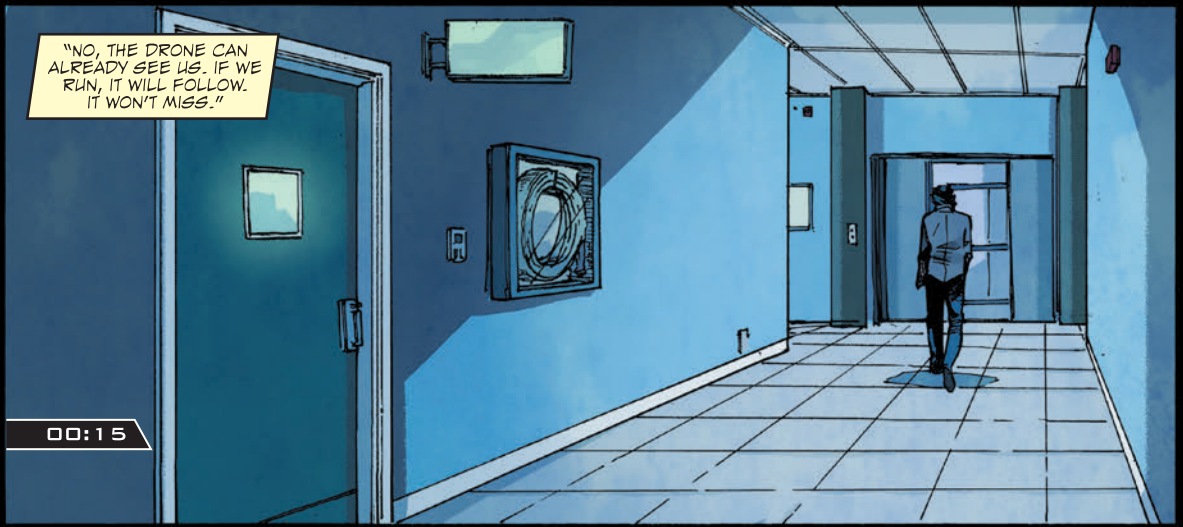
I DO. I THINK ONE PERSON CARES.

WE HAVE TO RUN, ED!



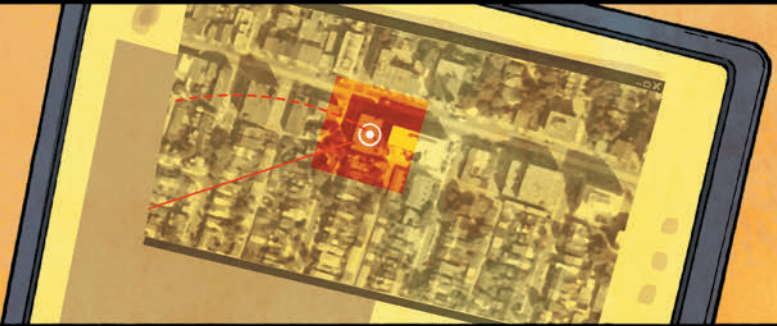
"NO, THE DRONE CAN ALREADY SEE US. IF WE RUN, IT WILL FOLLOW. IT WON'T MISS."

00:15



BUT WHEN THE FINAL CONFIRMATION SIGNAL IS SENT, THERE'S A MOMENT. IF YOU'RE ALREADY INSIDE THE SYSTEM. IF YOU'RE BRILLIANT. FOR JUST ONE MOMENT, YOU CAN BLIND A DRONE.

THAT'S THE MOMENT WE RUN.



"BUT TIMING IS EVERYTHING. AND IT'S NOT UP TO US."

I NEED TO GET DRONE COMMAND ON THE LINE NOW!



00:10

ED, YOU STUBBORN SON OF A BITCH! YOU CAN'T KNOW THAT NATE'S GOING TO STOP IT!

I DON'T WANT HIM TO STOP IT.





NATE!  
TELL ME THE  
SERVERS  
ARE BACK!

HIT THE  
SYSTEM  
RESTORE.



WE'RE  
BACK ONLINE,  
MAYAM!



00:05

YOU DON'T  
HAVE TO DIE  
HERE!



YOU NEED TO  
CALL OFF THE  
STRIKE! HE'S GOT  
CAMERAS, HE'S  
STREAMING  
THIS--

--DO  
YOU HEAR  
ME!?



TuniS4Me: can't believe what i'm seeing

kharout121: are we under attack!?!

Ayim092: I saw it. It was a drone. A drone just hit Casbah Square.

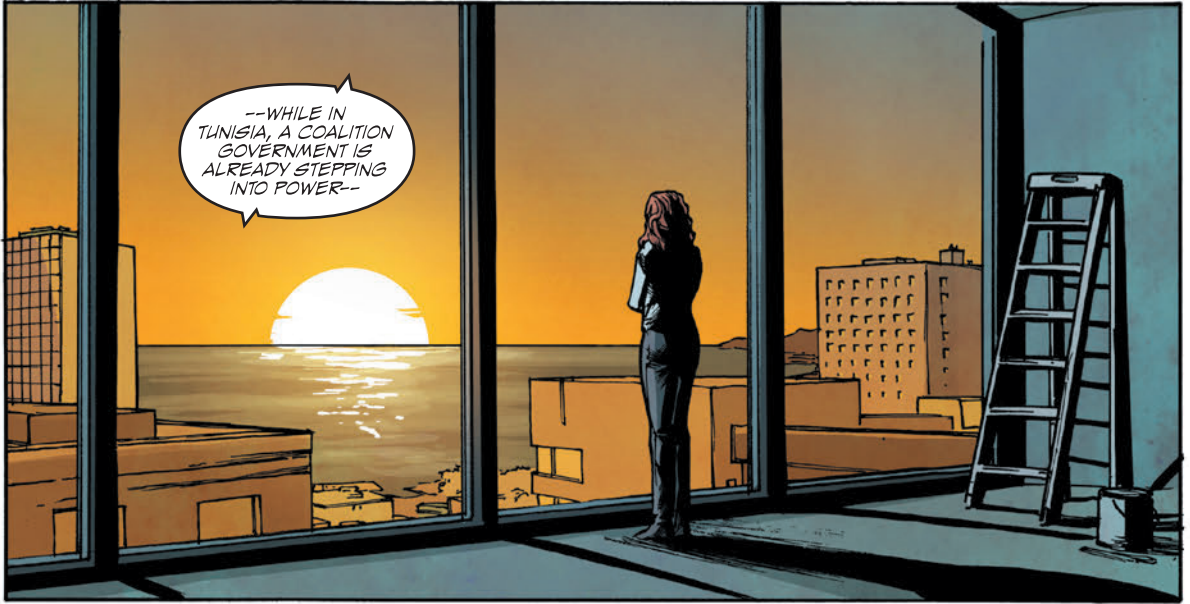
hunterseeker: check r/Hiccox, he streamed it, he knew.  
RT: @Ayim092: I saw it. It was a drone. A drone just hit Casbah Square.

BBCcairo040: News Alert: An explosion has been reported in Tunis. Ousted officials unavailable for comment. Casualties unknown.

BIPPEE13: @hunterseeker @Ayim092 murder by any other name



# 48 HOURS LATER.



--WHILE IN TUNISIA, A COALITION GOVERNMENT IS ALREADY STEPPING INTO POWER--



--THE REAL STRUGGLE IS JUST BEGINNING--

TUNIS FOR THE PEOPLE! **التونسية**

--THE MURDERER OF WALID BEYA, SEEN HERE, TO STAND TRIAL ON AN INTERNATIONAL STAGE--

--A NEW DAY IN TUNISIA'S ARAB SPRING, SERVING AS A SHINING EXAMPLE FOR THE REGION--

--AFTER TWO THUGGISH EXECUTIONS. ONE BY THE FORMER TUNISIAN GOVERNMENT--



--AND ONE BY THE WHITE HOUSE.

THEY'VE GOT THE SERVER ARRAY BACK UP. TEMPORARY, BUT AT LEAST THEY'RE AWAY FROM THE GAS MAIN.

GOOD. WE START AGAIN TOMORROW.



START AGAIN?

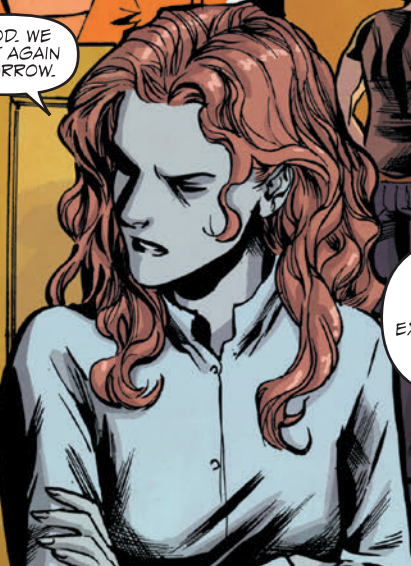
AREN'T WE DONE?

WE'RE NEVER DONE, NATE. ED HICCOX IS OFF THE BOARD, BUT HE'S OPENED UP A CAN OF WORMS.

EVERY KID WITH A LAPTOP AND 4CHAN KNOWS WE'RE EXPLOITABLE. AND THEY KNOW WE KILLED THEIR HERO.

IT'S A WAR NOW, NATE. YOUR CHOICE IF YOU WANT TO FIGHT IT. YOU STILL WITH ME?

YEAH, BRYNN...



"...I'M ALL YOURS."

SOMETHING RECKLESS

```
search perimeter
instigated//
user: '.sve_UrsElf'
unique instances searched:
6,389,946,43
total hits: 0
```

---WHAT THE HELL?



## The New York Times

### Bay Area Teens Crack Virtual Mystery

By AJ POWERS

A series of thefts that left San Francisco area police baffled over the weekend by two teenagers operating from a Silicon Valley basement. Though it took weeks for the authorities to even acknowledge the linked connection of the crimes, the two teenagers, Nathan Graft, 17, and Edwin Hiccox, 16, were able to solve it within hours.

"It wasn't that they were stealing from the banks," explained Graft. "It was that they were rerouting communications from discrete ATMs."

Like many within the affected area, the two teens had been attentive to the electronic crime scene, as both personal and corporate accounts were struck in equal measure. It was only when the actual amounts were revealed in a local paper that the facts became clear.

"All it took was a matrix with the relevant data, then the pattern was said the obvious," Hiccox.

"Once we had that, geo-location was a forgone conclusion. Can I get back to work now?"

When asked for a comment, Dr. Terrace Winticker, Professor of Computer Science at UC Berkeley, stated, "I have literally no idea how those kids figured it out. In a million years, I would never... please, just, I need to lay down."

## San Francisco Chronicle

...H  
24  
and  
ewest  
rking  
being  
book  
by  
u s  
in  
und  
local  
is Nate  
Edwin  
x, t h e  
realized  
network is  
led as the  
in privacy,  
s are no  
to fame,  
their first  
perhaps their  
best well-known—  
the app "Qaltex"  
selling to Google  
for a then record 14  
million — the two  
are also the duo  
behind the security  
judgement "Red  
Path," which is an  
automated system  
that secures both  
personal files and

digital information from online threat.

"We are just normal guys, who want to help normal people with their normal problems," says Mr. Graft.

"That was true for Qaltex and Red Path. And now with YourLife, we're not trying to sell you s—t, we just want your life to be the truly best possible version of itself."

"The internet is yours," added the normally reticent Mr. Hiccox. "It should do what you want."

When we asked how the duo hopes to make money on such an endeavor, Graft brushed the question off. "What we've sold publicly in the past is only a fraction of the product we have moved. We don't need more money, we have enough."

### Your Internet, Your Life

...will never make us a dollar. Full stop."The website, which already boasts over 2 million users, is based on a proprietary algorithm that the two claim is able to match users' preferences and provide recommendations towards the implementation of user designated goals. The duo hopes to help users find new friends, but encourages them to create their own system, not in a central server. In this way, YourLife is designed to be secure and private, even from the founders themselves.

Continued on Page A15

# WIRED

## Prophets of the Electronic Future

ns Grad View

You're

It's All For

LET'S  
GET TO  
WORK.







INTERVIEW

# HACKERS ON HACKTIVIST

*In addition to telling a compelling story, Hacktivist was intended to help shed light on the real-life struggle of hackers and activists fighting for freedom of speech and information around the world. To provide more insight, writers Jackson Lanzing and Collin Kelly sat down with inventor and hacker Pablos Holman to discuss the ongoing fight for internet freedom.*

**JACKSON LANZING:** *Hacktivist* is concerned with information freedom. What have hackers done and what are they doing now to protect activists?

**PABLOS HOLMAN:** The mid 90s was the first time that the Internet opened up to everyone. Before that it was just government, military, and educational institutions. That's where you got .gov, .mil, .edu. When .com was opened up, that's when people got their first experience of what it was like to be able to communicate with anybody around the world whenever you want.

Pretty quickly, we realized that there are a whole bunch of places that aren't on the Internet, and we set about trying to get the whole world on. But people ran into the problem of oppressive regimes. If you're in a country where the government is willing to assassinate people for their ideas and you don't have a police force to defend you, occasionally we're able to make technologies that level the playing field.

We saw early on that if we're going to have bad actors like governments getting in the way of people having freedom in their communications, we could develop tools that enforce freedom. Anonymity is a huge factor in leveling the playing field and letting dissidents have a voice. Anonymous remailers were the

first version of that. What they do is allow anyone to send an email to anyone on the Internet so you can't tell where it came from.

In [*Hacktivist*], you have characters using a software called TOR. TOR is the next generation after anonymous remailers. The Onion Router allows people to surf the Web anonymously. Like in the story, if you're a dissident of some kind, TOR gives you a technical way of communicating with people outside of that country without the fear that anyone in the middle can eavesdrop or find out the origin of the communication.

**COLLIN KELLY:** Our story opens with .sve\_Urs3lf trying to get internet to Sirine in Tunisia. How capable are governments of disabling their own internet systems, and how can you go about reinstating control?

**PH:** One of the beautiful things about the way the Internet is architected is that there's no centralized, singular place to take out the Internet. We take that for granted, but that's different than how telephone systems were architected in the 80s or 70s or 60s.

With the Internet, all you've got to do is find somebody else online and they can pass the Internet on to you. What that means is for places where there's a border firewall, and internet traffic all runs through a single place, it's easy for the government to shut off everybody. The characters in the story are desperately trying to figure out a way to get online, and these days, there're a couple of options.

If you shut off the Internet, but not the cell phone system, you can route internet traffic over a cell phone. If they shut off the Internet and the cell phones, you can go via a satellite, with a satellite phone. Or you can run a wire over the border, or use wifi with a point-to-point wifi antennae. That's what we're trying to show in the story. That is practical to do and there are a lot of cases when it needs to be done and can be done.



**JL:** Our two characters manage to take control of Tunisia's radio signals, power plants, television signals and electronic billboards. Can you talk about the feasibility of hacking municipal systems?

**PH:** Almost everything in the whole world is a computer now. Your car is basically a big iPhone on wheels. What's inside your TV is a power supply and some computer chips. There are very few things in your life that don't consist of a computer.

Industrially, that's also what's going on. If you run a power plant, or a traffic network, or billboards, it's a lot easier to put computers in there. And the computers themselves are a whole lot more useful if they're connected to the Internet.

And nobody tries to create their own computer; you get one that exists already. So if you know a thing or two about how to hack computers, then you also know a thing or two about how to hack a nuclear power plant, or traffic systems, or billboards, because they're all made of the same Lego bricks.

**CK:** Is the concept of YourLife that we have in the book—this decentralized, massively-used social network—even possible to pull off? And if it is possible, can you hypothesize why we haven't seen it yet?

**PH:** The fundamental idea of YourLife—a distributed social network—is that instead of having a centralized server, like Facebook, YourLife should be immune to attack. Right now, the government can twist Facebook's arm and get access to your stuff. The idea with YourLife being decentralized is maybe we could build a system where the government could go twist YourLife's arm and YourLife could say, "We don't actually have access to that stuff." That's what a distributed hash table would do, which would be pretty cool.

But it's hard to build. One of the fundamental problems that we have is that users like to have

features. They like to try something, see if it works, and use it. Historically, it's been almost impossible for two equivalent products, feature-wise, to compete with each other if one of them is trying to be more secure. The guy who's trying to be more secure is going to lose, because the guy who's not trying to be secure will be easier to use.

As far as making a social network that's decentralized that does everything that Facebook does? No problem. Technically, it is possible; technically, it's not even really that hard. Now, making it to scale, making it as responsive as Facebook, making sure that the quality of service is as good, making it easy to use, will take a little bit of work.

**JL:** Anything else that you'd like to tell readers?

**PH:** These issues are real, the technology is real. The scale we use in the book is fantastical, but there's a fight on. It's a fight for the freedom of everybody on the Internet. Just because you don't have any problems doesn't mean that it isn't important to preserve those freedoms.

We're trying to do that to whatever extent we can in the architecture of the Internet and in the tools we create for it. It's work to maintain those things and make them available for people who need them. And we think it's important.

**PABLOS HOLMAN** is an inventor and notorious hacker who helped create the world's smallest PC; 3D printers at Makerbot; spaceships with Jeff Bezos; artificial intelligence agent systems; and the Hackerbot, a Wi-Fi seeking robot with The Shmoo Group. He currently works at the Intellectual Ventures Lab where a wide variety of futuristic invention projects are underway including a fission reactor powered by nuclear waste; a machine to suppress hurricanes; a system to reverse global warming; and a device that can shoot mosquitoes out of the sky with lasers to help eradicate malaria.



BEHIND-THE-SCENES

# BUILDING YOURLIFE

## THE IDEA

Social media provides an incredible platform for everyday people to do extraordinary things, and those are the kinds of stories that interest me. No sci-fi, no superpowers, real people trying to make the world better. Ed's character was inspired by Jack Dorsey, the founder of Twitter and Square—I imagined him going home at night and using his skills and intelligence to try and change the world through hacking. Our Ed needed his own Twitter, a social media company that was both grounded and innovative, and that's how YourLife was born.

—ALYSSA MILANO, *Creator*

## THE TECHNOLOGY

The challenge was simple: create a Facebook killer and Twitter successor that didn't just work, but succeeded. The solution came over many weeks of research and discussion: a decentralized network that operated not-

for-profit. With the already successful Nate and Ed at the helm, the company (which we named YourLife) could operate with user satisfaction as its primary objective—never worrying about monetization and never collecting user information in a central server. Unless, of course, the U.S. Government came knocking and changed the system to its own purpose. Perfect for our story.

—JACKSON LANZING & COLLIN KELLY, *Writers*

## THE OFFICES

When we started on *Hacktivist* we took time to decide how we could show the audience the differences between the two settings, YourLife and Tunisia, especially with the quick scene changes between countries on some pages. We felt that with the YourLife building, we wanted a lot of right angles and straight lines, almost show in the style a very strict and unbending feeling, while with Tunisia I tried to use no rulers when inking and a more organic-looking inking style to show a more free and emotional setting, which ties into the characters we meet.

—MARCUS TO, *Illustrator*

## THE BOSSES

We talked about using color subtly to push certain character traits. For example, Nate starts off wearing

PAGE 30 - THE NEW NORMAL

### PANEL ONE

This page is gonna be weird. We're starting in the middle of a social media chatter wave, various tweets and texts all around us. We want to get a sense of the time that has passed, and the events therein. No actual images, just text and abstract presentation. Feel free to get creative with how to present this.

Here's the chatter.

**yasim\_34:** FF @BeyaForever @TuniS @kharout121 The square is cleared but the prayer lives on.

**BeyaForever:** @yasim\_34 only if people like you stand up and join us.

**CNN:** Cairo reels from cyber-security breach: Faceless Crime or Nascent Rebellion?

**theburnanator:** THE NEW CENTRAL YOURLIFE SERVERS #thingsworsesthanTunisia #somethingreckless

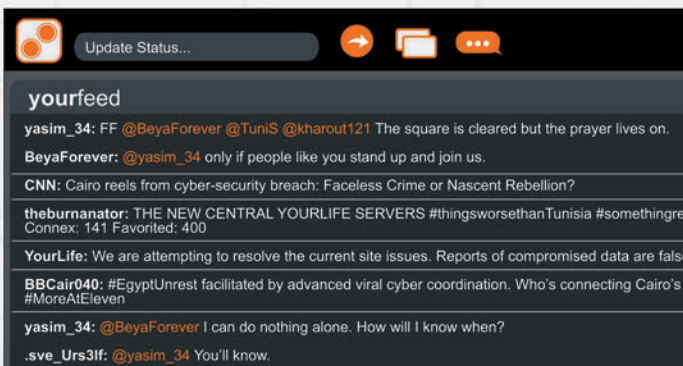
Retweets: 141 Favorited: 400

**YourLife:** We are attempting to resolve the current site issues. Reports of compromised data are false.

**BBCair040:** Source: #EgyptUnrest facilitated by advanced viral cyber coordination. Who's connecting Cairo's revolutionaries - and how? #MoreAtEleven

**yasim\_34:** @BeyaForever I can do nothing alone. How will I know when?

**.sve\_Urs3lf:** @yasim\_34 You'll know.





much louder colors to go against Ed's conservative style. As the book goes on, Nate's wardrobe becomes more drab. The YourLife office color scheme also reflects this idea as the playful colors are washed over with greys and whites.

—IAN HERRING, *Colorist*

#### THE INTERFACE

"This page is gonna be weird." That's what Jackson and Collin actually warned in the script. They wanted some social media chatter staggered all over the panel. I was puzzled for a while, until I realized this could all be accomplished with a social media app. I'd have to bring Ed and Nate's product to life. Every element of the UI (User Interface) build was created from scratch. I designed icons that I thought fit the application theme and stuck with a typical display font. I chose the darker UI skin, which I felt was appropriate and contrasted with the orange and white from the YourLife colors. I included app essentials like a status update option, an in-app search engine, sharing tools, and of course the feed. I got to have fun with it and it became a steady implementation throughout the series.

—DERON BENNETT, *Letterer*

#### THE LOGO

When it came to the design direction for *Hacktivist*, the overall goal was to create an aesthetic that was relatively simple, but unique enough to set the book apart from everything else on the shelf. The YourLife brand represents this core concept more than any other aspect of the book's design. When you think about the major players in the world of social media, their branding and their logos are clean, simple, and yet they each possess some element that makes them immediately recognizable. Our challenge with the YourLife brand was to apply this same sense of simplicity and uniqueness, while creating a look that would feel natural next to other social media giants.

The orange and gray color scheme was something we settled on early in the process. It's a unique color scheme in social media, yet relatively common with high-end tech companies, which seemed appropriate for YourLife. Marcus' use of repeating circles, both in the announcement scene for YourLife, and when Ed is calling out patterns in his office, was the inspiration for the core element to the YourLife brand. The final logo design feels believable as a social media group, but also lends itself to the instances of duality present throughout the story.

—SCOTT NEWMAN, *Designer*





BEHIND-THE-SCENES

## ON SITE IN TUNISIA

### THE ACTIVISM

I've always been very involved with global activism and philanthropy, and the way that current technology plays a role in struggles for freedom and equality fascinates me. When the Green Revolution was happening in Egypt, and protesters were using social media to organize, I was glued to Twitter. I'm constantly reading and sharing articles about the actions of groups like Anonymous and WikiLeaks. In *Hacktivist*, I wanted the story to explore the kind of real-world impacts that the use and abuse of tangible, current technology can have across the globe.

—ALYSSA MILANO, *Creator*

### THE HEROES

On December 17, 2010, Mohamed Bouazizi lit himself on fire in protest of his government; he died 18 days later, igniting what would be called the Tunisian Revolution. Their fight for freedom would spread, catching the attention of

the region and the world. *Hacktivist* couldn't have been set in a fictional context without losing the grounded reality that the story demanded—however, over the long gestation period for our book, the situation in Tunisia continued to evolve. They found a way to something better. After the assassination of Chokri Belaïd, a prominent opposition leader, the ruling Ennahda voluntarily stepped down, establishing a new coalition government. That assembly passed a revised constitution in January of 2014, and elections are scheduled for this year. Ultimately, the story of *Hacktivist* is about the human desire to struggle for freedom—no matter the context. Nate and Ed aren't the only heroes in this story anymore than America is the only country on the planet. It wasn't the conflict in Tunisia that inspired us; it was the heroism. Brave people on the ground, real heroes and leaders like Sirine, they're being the change their country needs.

—JACKSON LANZING & COLLIN KELLY, *Writers*

### THE PASSION

While working on the look for Tunisia and the marching scenes, I learned a lot about the passion of the people. The images I found of a community fighting for their freedom were immensely impactful, and I really tried to make sure the march scenes had that same level of





emotion. The real-world struggle is what we wanted to bring to the book, the raw emotion and love for the people is what I tried to bring to the look of the Tunisia scenes.

—MARCUS TO, *Illustrator*

#### THE PALETTE

When we started *Hacktivist* we made choices that would carry through until the end of the book. The opening riot scenes in Tunisia and the introduction to the YourLife building was where we established the switching of palettes as we moved between the two locations. Once the YourLife building was revealed, we went forward with that coldness we used for the rest of the book to go against the warm schemes of Tunisia.

—IAN HERRING, *Colorist*

#### THE LANGUAGE

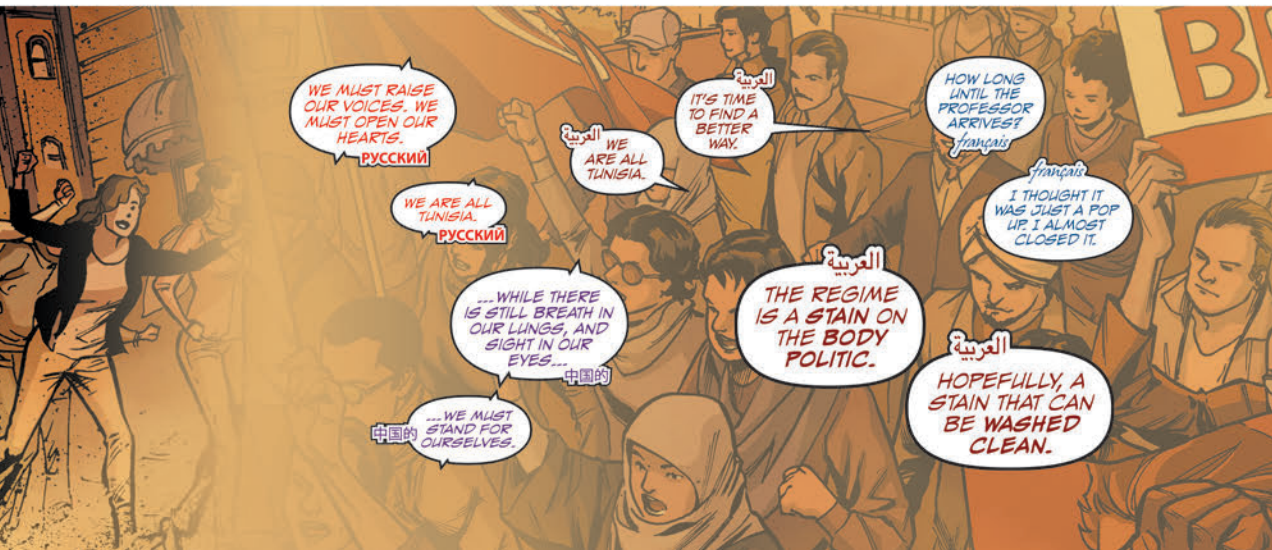
Comic books have their very own unique language. Thoughts are interpreted differently than spoken words. Loud crashes are conveyed in an entirely different manner than earth-shattering yells. And each of these are done visually. My role in interpreting language for *Hacktivist* was representing the language of the people in a way that could only be done in comic books.

Communicating foreign dialog in comics has traditionally been done in one way. The letterer would use brackets to show that a different language was being spoken and use a caption to tell the reader what language that was. With *Hacktivist*, we wanted to avoid that. We wanted to present the story and the languages within with as little interference as possible.

Each language had to be immediately accessible and recognizable. The reader shouldn't need a caption or explanation to know what is being displayed. They should just get it. It was important that we keep the reader in the moment and that foreign languages were interpreted organically. To that end, I used color and symbols to make the foreign languages a natural part of the comic. I was able to change in and out of different languages without pulling the reader out of the story.

One of the most important jobs of the letterer is to stay invisible and not get in the way of the story or the art. The lettering devices that I came up with for lettering in Arabic or displaying a text message were developed with that idea in mind. I wanted to come up with the best way for the reader to stay engaged in the story while still understanding the context in which it was being delivered. Hopefully, I was able to do just that.

—DERON BENNETT, *Letterer*





## ABOUT THE CREATORS

**ALYSSA MILANO** is an actress, producer and philanthropist best known for her work in television and global activism. Milano's rich television and film career began on ABC's *Who's the Boss*, continuing on to include lead roles in the long-running series *Melrose Place* and *Charmed* as well as numerous other shows and films. She is currently starring in ABC's *Mistresses*. Alyssa was named a UNICEF National Ambassador in 2003 for her charitable work on behalf of children as well as the founding ambassador for the Global Network for Neglected Tropical Disease Control (GNNTDC). She was awarded the Spirit of Hollywood Award in 2004 by The John Wayne Cancer Institute and the Associates of Breast & Prostate Cancer Studies for her charitable work. She currently resides in Los Angeles. *Hacktivist* is her first graphic novel.

**JACKSON LANZING** and **COLLIN KELLY** are the writing team behind Alyssa Milano's *Hacktivist*, which represents their first joint foray into comic books. They come from the world of screenwriting, where they made their name with *Sundown*, a samurai fantasy epic. Since then, they've written *Marlow* (adapted from the Arcana Comics title) and *Underground* (for Bluegrass Films), as well as a great deal of still-very-secret work in the cinema and digital spaces. In addition, Kelly has written for the animated action-adventure show *Invizimals*, while Lanzing has worked previously in comics with David Server, producing the creator-owned *Freakshow* as well as *The Penguins of Madagascar* and *Squids* for Ape Entertainment. More information can be found at [www.jacksonlanzing.com](http://www.jacksonlanzing.com) and [www.thecollinkelly.com](http://www.thecollinkelly.com), respectively. Kelly/Lanzing are repped at WME and Energy Entertainment.

**MARCUS TO** is a Canadian artist and illustrator whose credits include *Cyborg 009*, *New Warriors*, *Red Robin*, *Huntress*, *Soulfire* and *The Flash*. Born in Red Deer, Alberta, Canada, he has been a part of the American comic book industry since 2004. To lives in Toronto, Ontario and is a member of the Royal Academy of Illustration and Design. You can follow his adventures at [MarcusTo.com](http://MarcusTo.com).

**IAN HERRING** is an Eisner-nominated colorist. Splitting his youth between small-town Ontario and smaller-town Cape Breton, Ian was raised on Nintendo and reruns of *The Simpsons*. Somewhere during this time he learned to color. Now based in Toronto, Ian has worked on various titles including Archaia's *Jim Henson's Tale of Sand* and *Cyborg 009*, Marvel's *Ms. Marvel*, DC's *The Flash*, and IDW's *TMNT*. His work can be found at [156thmongoose.com](http://156thmongoose.com).

Eisner Award-nominated letterer, **DERON BENNETT** knew early on that he wanted to work in comics. After receiving his B.F.A. from SCAD in 2002, Deron has been providing lettering services for various comic book companies. His body of work includes the critically acclaimed *Jim Henson's Tale of Sand*, *Jim Henson's The Dark Crystal*, *Mr. Murder is Dead*, *The Muppet Show Comic Book*, *Darkwing Duck*, and *Richie Rich*. You can learn more about Deron by visiting his website [andworlddesign.com](http://andworlddesign.com).

ALYSSA MILANO  
@Alyssa\_Milano

JACKSON LANZING  
@JacksonLanzing

COLLIN KELLY  
@cpkelly

MARCUS TO  
@marcusto

IAN HERRING  
@TweetIanHerring

DERON BENNETT  
@deronbennett









SUGGESTED FOR MATURE READERS



WWW.ARCHAIA.COM

The world knows Ed Hiccox and Nate Graft as the young, brilliant co-founders of social networking company YourLife. The world knows ".sve\_Urs3If" as the largest hacking collective on the planet. What the world doesn't know is that they are one and the same: Ed Hiccox and Nate Graft are .sve\_Urs3If. When their operation is discovered by the U.S. Government, Ed and Nate must face the real world beyond the code and choose between friendship and what they believe to be right.

From the creative mind of Alyssa Milano, *Hacktivist* is a fast-paced cyber-thriller that tests friendship and freedom in a time of war. The critically-acclaimed mini-series is collected for the first time in hardcover, featuring bonus material and commentary from the creative team and members of the tech community.

"...a comic that inspires thought, both wondrous and fearful. Milano's idea is an incredibly important and relevant one that's brilliantly brought to life by all creators involved."  
—Comic Book Resources

