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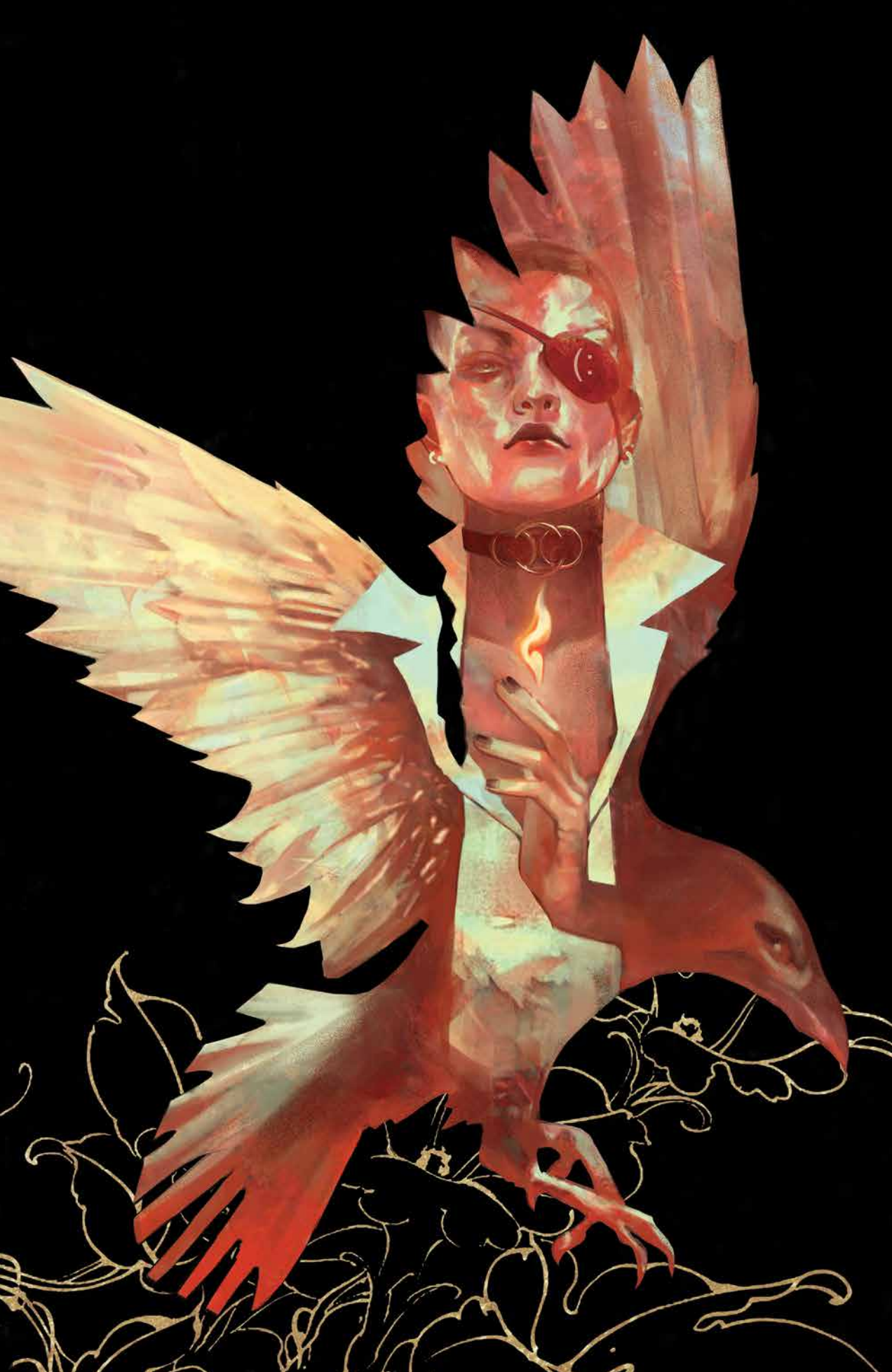
ISSUE

1

An UnKindness of Ravens

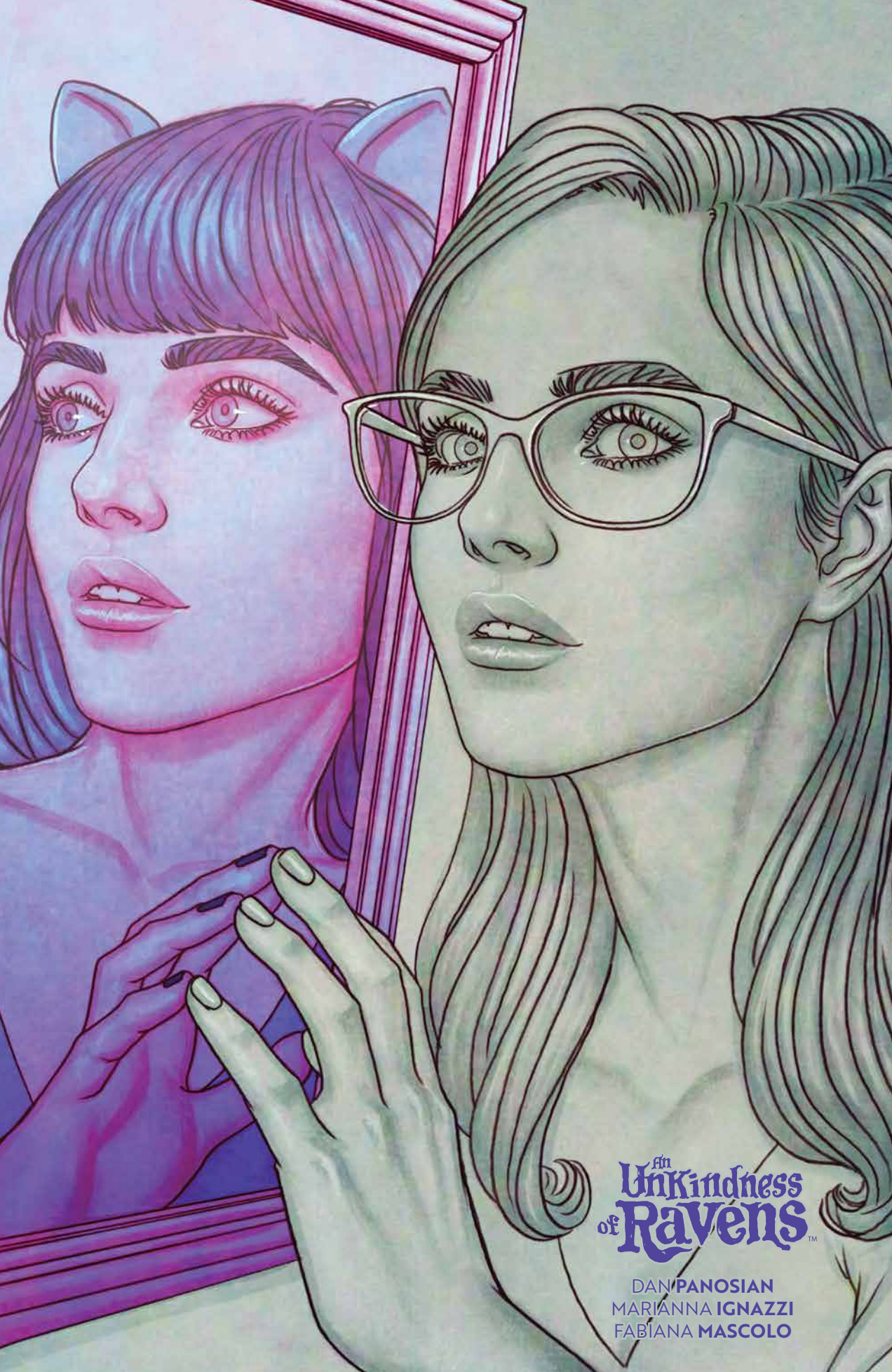


PANOSIAN









an
**UnKindness
of Ravens**™

DAN PANOSIAN
MARIANNA IGNAZZI
FABIANA MASCOLO

AN UNKINDNESS OF RAVENS

TM



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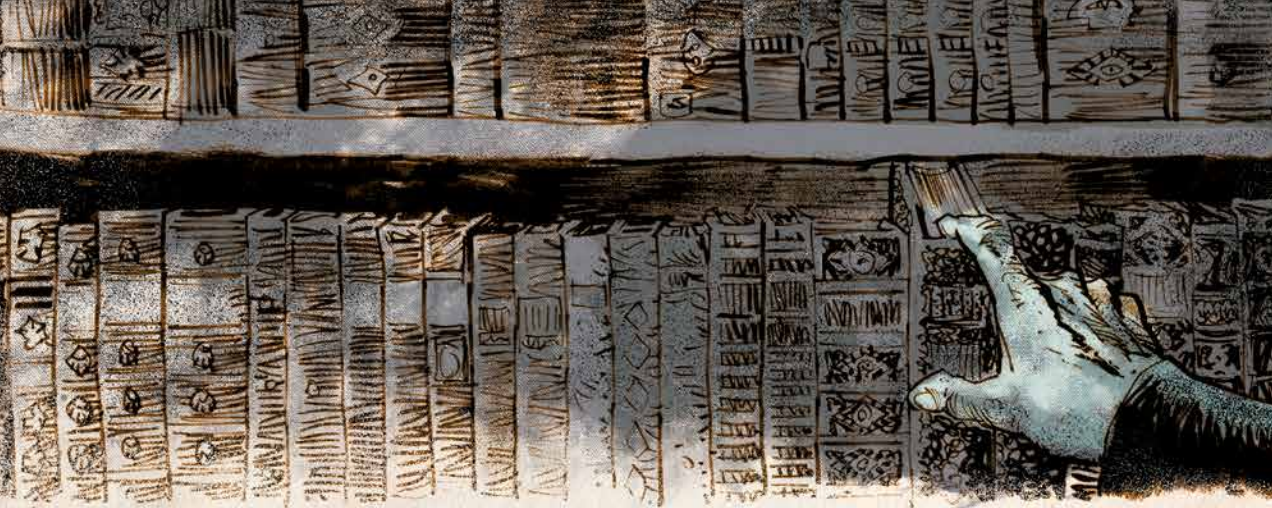
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There it is. So many collected journals. Records. Notes. Tomes, some call them. I collect them here in the library of The Abigail House.

These books hold accounts of our history here in Crab's Eye. The ledgers of the past that can reveal secrets about us today. They can shed light on what transpired in the darkness centuries ago.



excerpts from

THE ABIGAIL HOUSE

a private hostelry



But sometimes it takes more than historical accounts to gain insight about our past. You may need to read between the lines of history to truly understand it. A book can tell you the when and where.

I can tell you the how and why...



Centuries ago, men and women uncovered a few of their compatriots practicing the dark arts. Perhaps you've heard of the Witch Trials. They're quite popular. Men and women were found guilty of all kinds of wickedness. They were rounded up. Put to death. Burned at the stake. Hung. Mostly women, if I'm being honest.

Throughout history, mankind has always feared magic. Those who practice occultism do so in the shadows. When revealed, they have always been met with terrible judgments and consequences.

So if these books can tell us anything about magic, they tell us that secrets must always remain secrets. To keep a tight circle. Trust only those that share your circumstances and your vicissitudes. You must form alliances in order to survive. A kinship can provide strength.

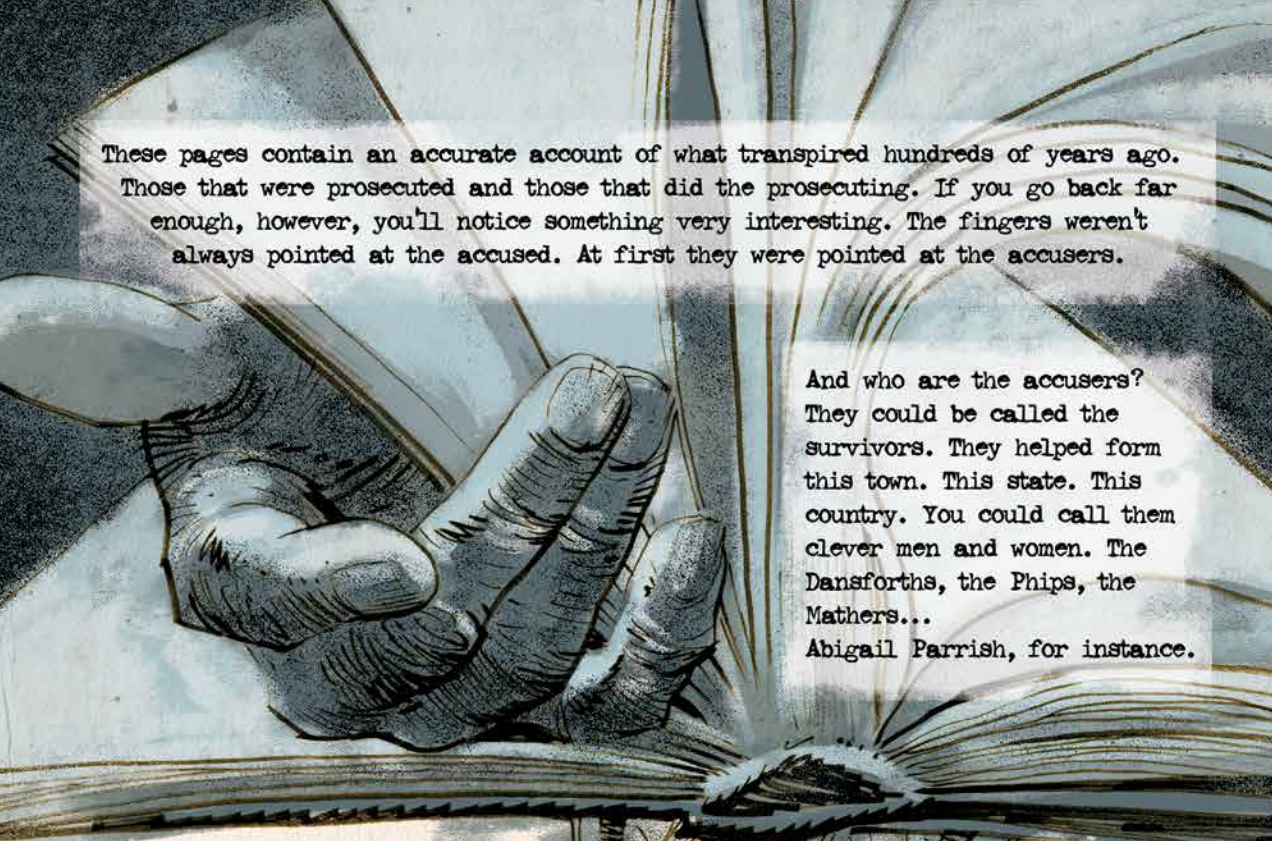
Sometimes, however, strength is not enough. Strength can help you to survive, but if you want to prosper – you have to do more than just survive. You need to be clever.



Men and women can take a secret and become powerful if they are cunning enough. There are no secrets in this library. But there are answers. One just has to ask the right questions.

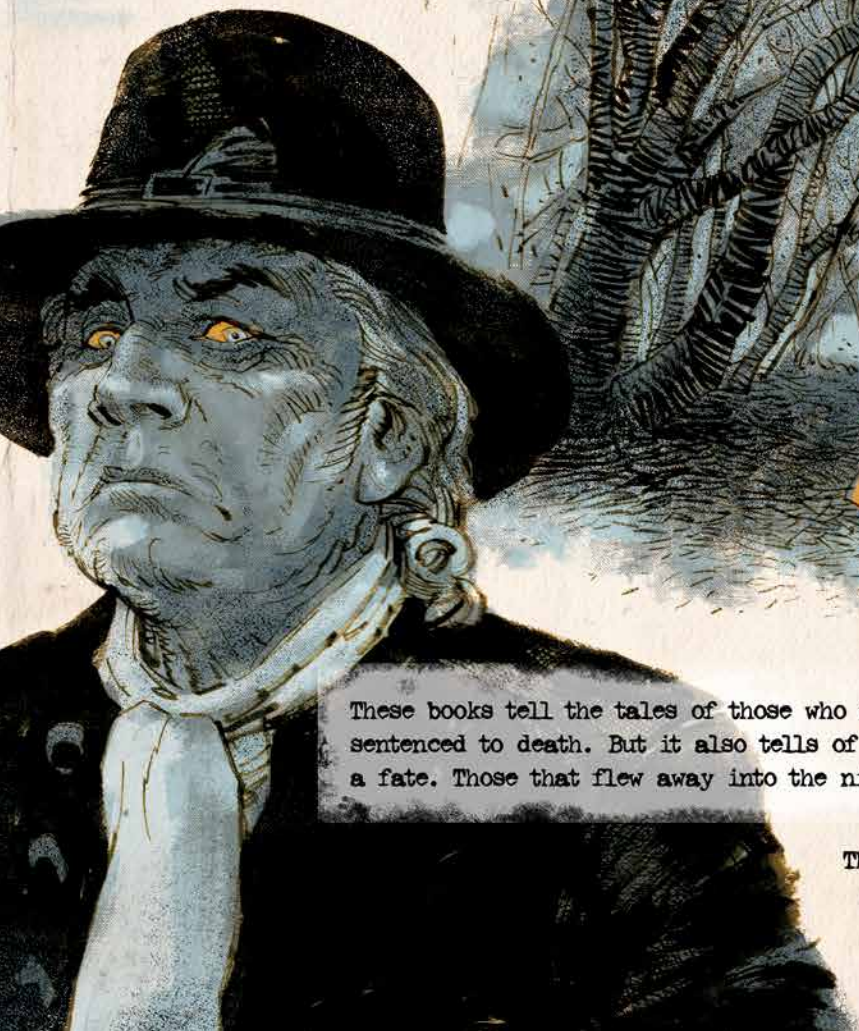


Men and women were accused of terrible deeds, this much is true. They begged for their lives and declared their innocence. But they were found guilty by trial and were punished.

A large, gnarled, grey hand with thick, wrinkled skin is shown holding an open book. The hand is positioned at the top left, with fingers gripping the edges of the pages. The book is open, showing its pages and binding. The background is dark and textured.

These pages contain an accurate account of what transpired hundreds of years ago. Those that were prosecuted and those that did the prosecuting. If you go back far enough, however, you'll notice something very interesting. The fingers weren't always pointed at the accused. At first they were pointed at the accusers.

And who are the accusers? They could be called the survivors. They helped form this town. This state. This country. You could call them clever men and women. The Dansforths, the Phips, the Mathers... Abigail Parrish, for instance.



These books tell the tales of those who were prosecuted and sentenced to death. But it also tells of those that escaped such a fate. Those that flew away into the night...

The Ravens, some call them.



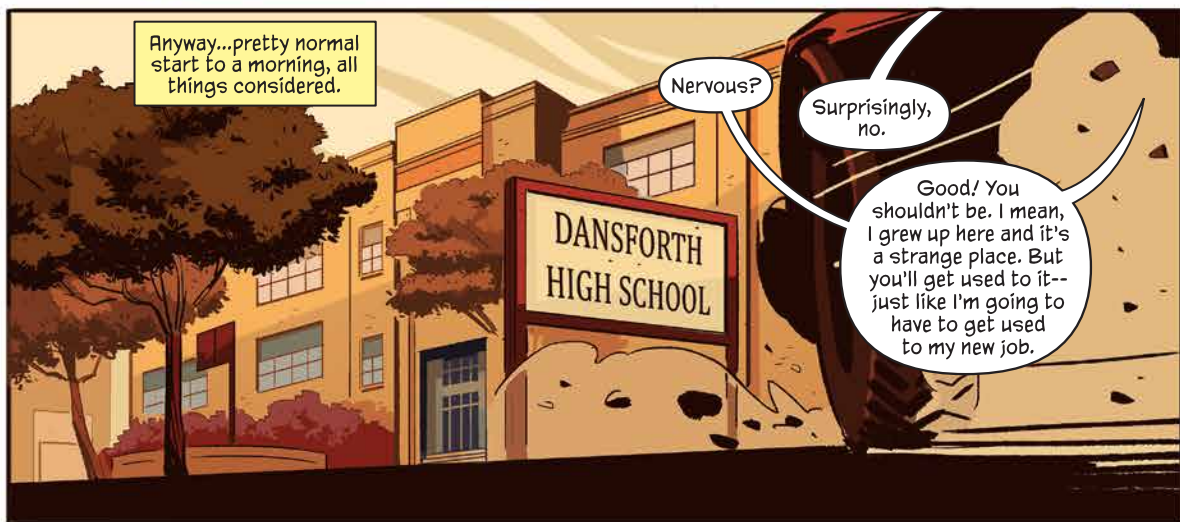


Still, it would be nice to have a mom and a sister.

It's been pretty tough on my dad.



Honestly, real tough on him.

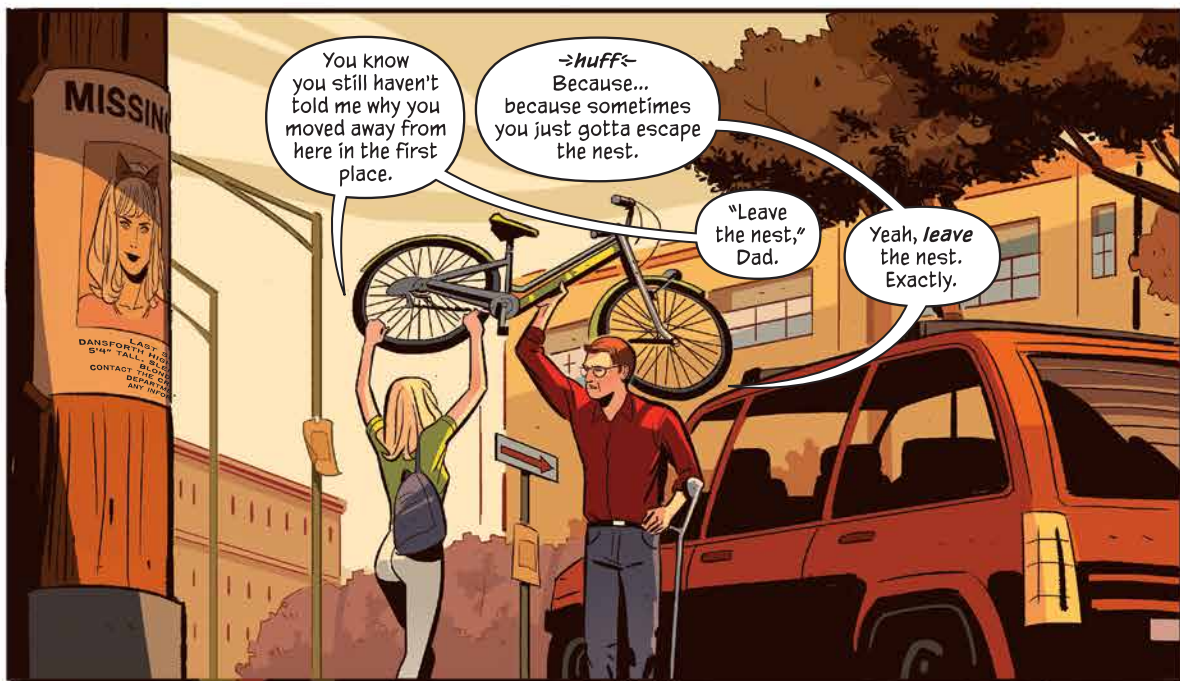


Anyway...pretty normal start to a morning, all things considered.

Nervous?

Surprisingly, no.

Good! You shouldn't be. I mean, I grew up here and it's a strange place. But you'll get used to it--just like I'm going to have to get used to my new job.

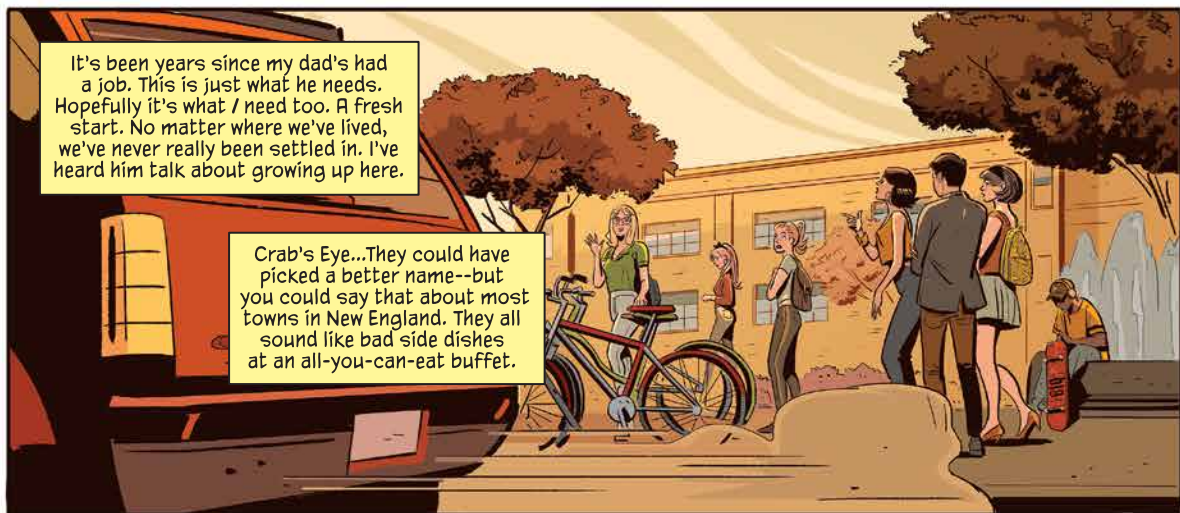


You know you still haven't told me why you moved away from here in the first place.

~~huff~~ Because... because sometimes you just gotta escape the nest.

"Leave the nest," Dad.

Yeah, *leave* the nest. Exactly.



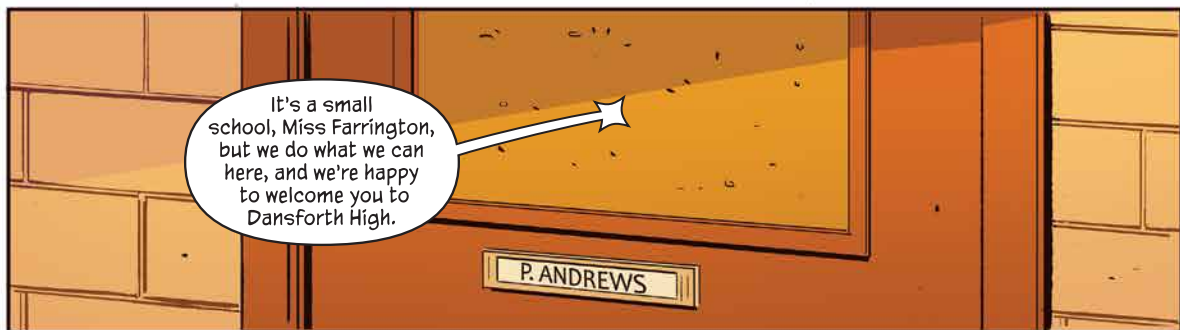
It's been years since my dad's had a job. This is just what he needs. Hopefully it's what I need too. A fresh start. No matter where we've lived, we've never really been settled in. I've heard him talk about growing up here.

Crab's Eye...They could have picked a better name--but you could say that about most towns in New England. They all sound like bad side dishes at an all-you-can-eat buffet.



I thought I would miss my old school, my friends--but I think it will be nice to just be the new girl in a new place.

Someplace where no one notices you.



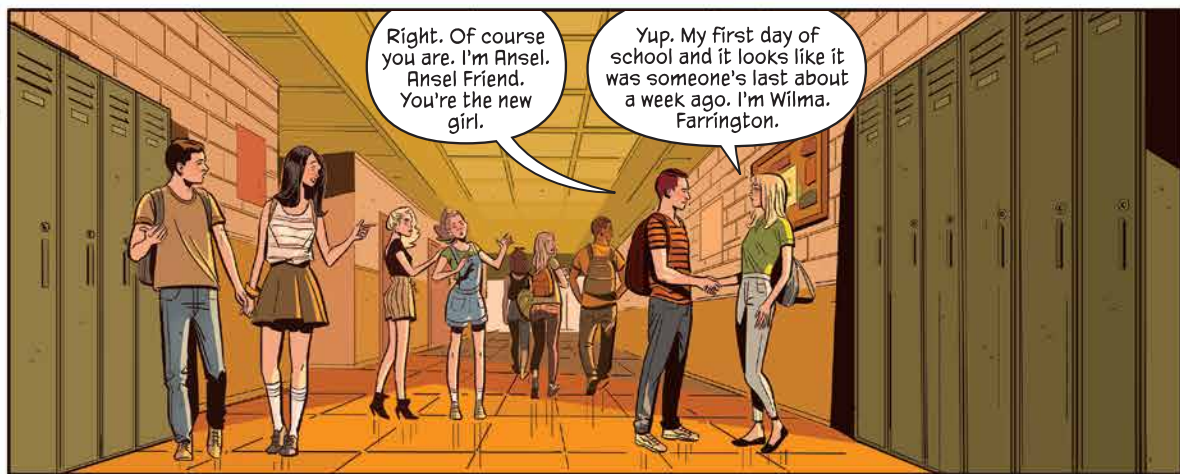
It's a small school, Miss Farrington, but we do what we can here, and we're happy to welcome you to Dansforth High.



Your locker is down the hall to the right. Number Twenty-three. Let me know if you have any problems. Anything at all...

Down the hall and to the right. Got it!





Right. Of course you are. I'm Ansel. Ansel Friend. You're the new girl.

Yup. My first day of school and it looks like it was someone's last about a week ago. I'm Wilma. Farrington.



Well expect some attention. She just disappeared and the whole school is pretty freaked out about it.

Wow. Hopefully she's okay.



Uh, that's your locker?

Twenty-three, yes.



That's Waverly's locker. They gave you her locker? Where's her books?

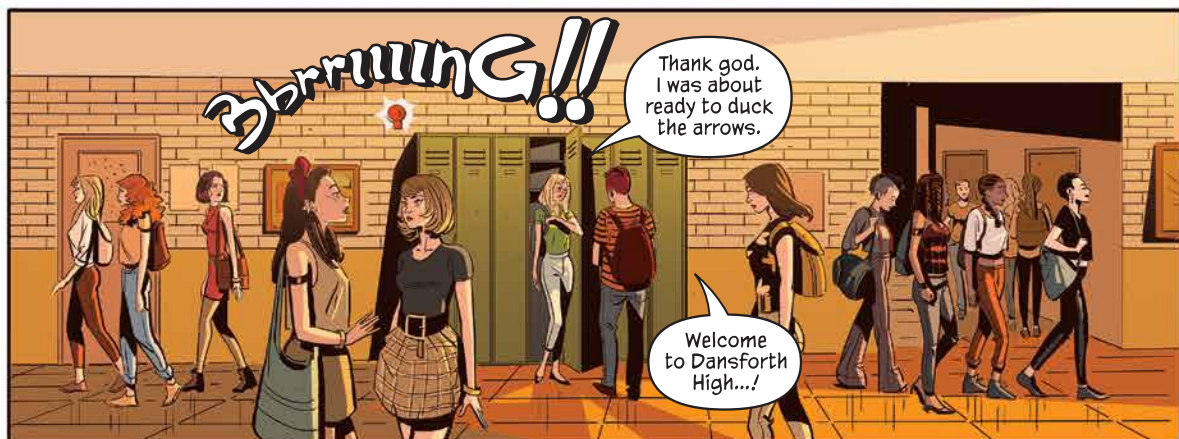
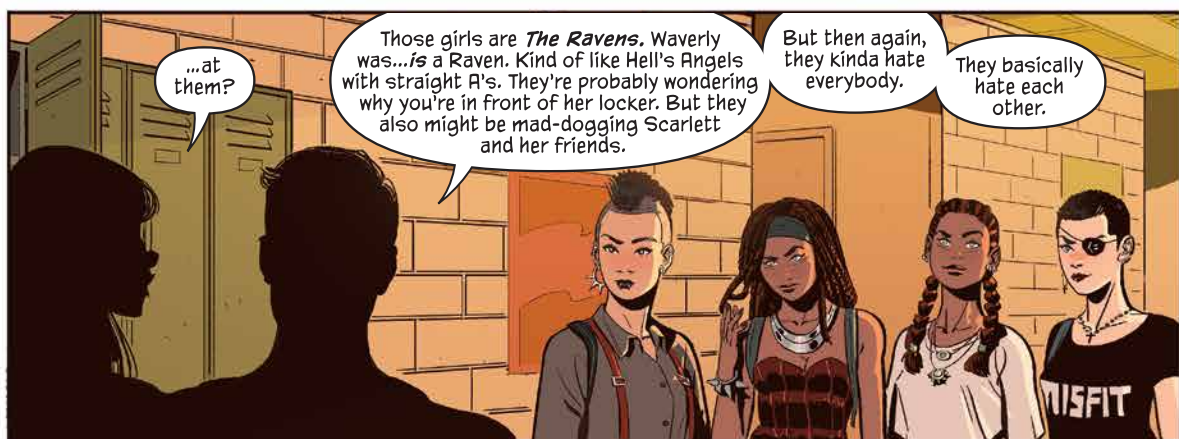
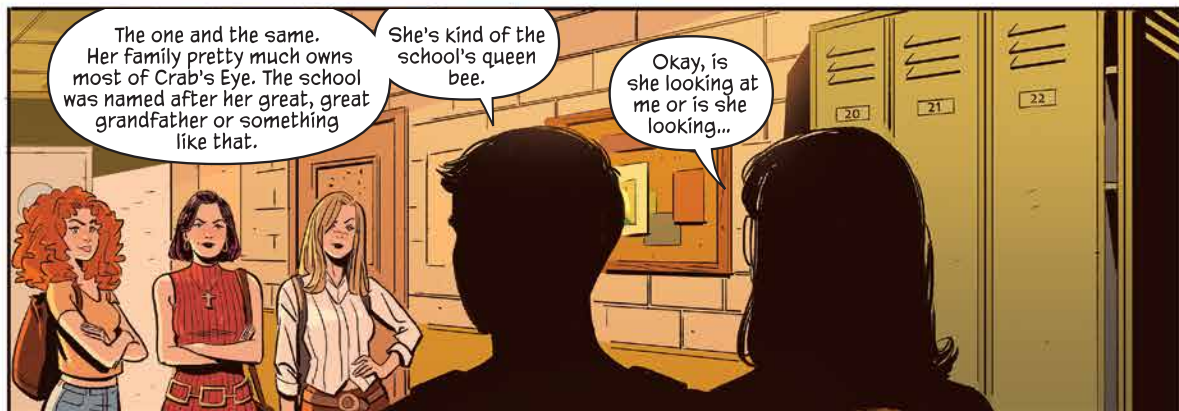


Um...is that supposed to be written to me?

What?

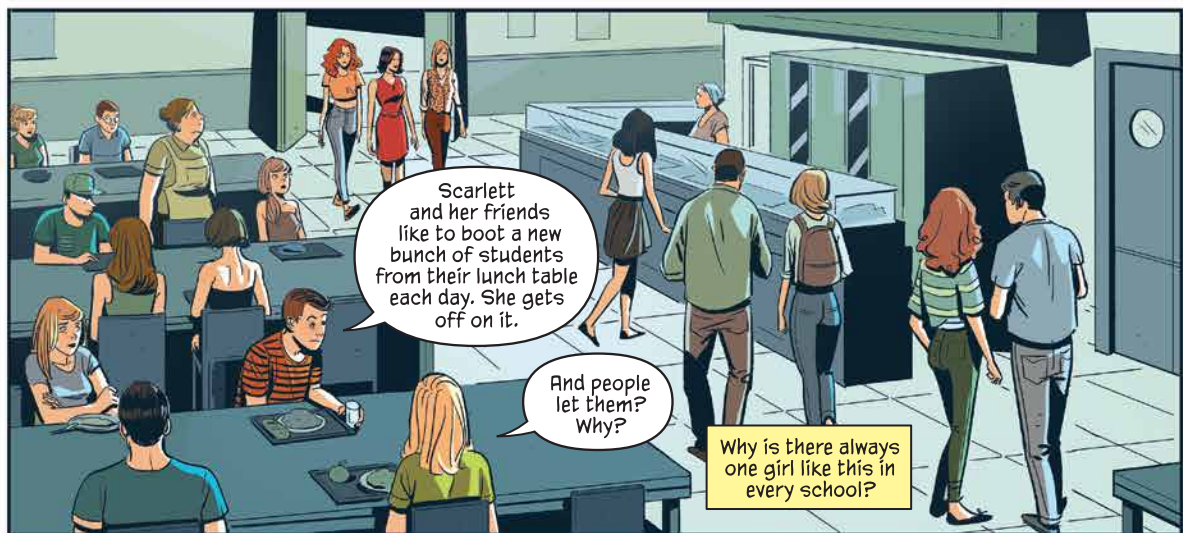
That weird, glowy message.

I...don't see anything weird and glowy...

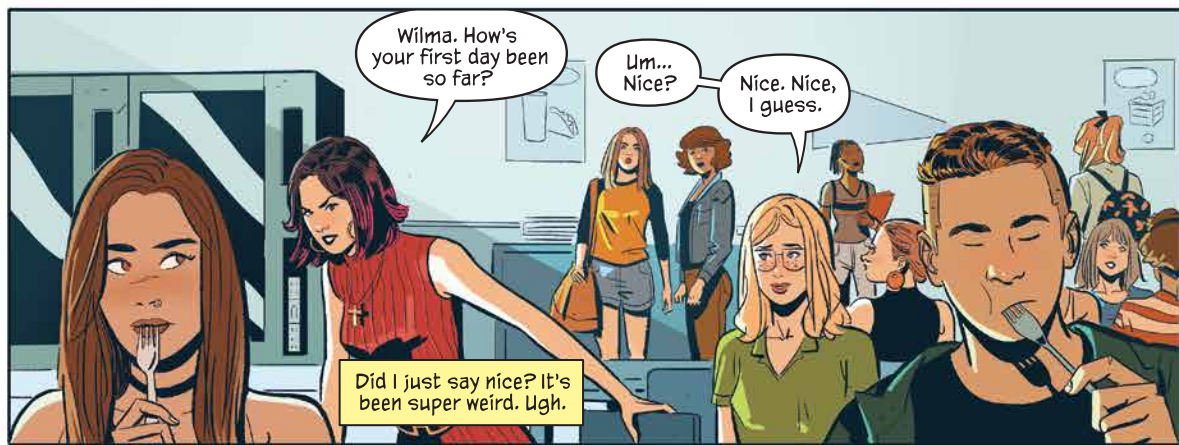




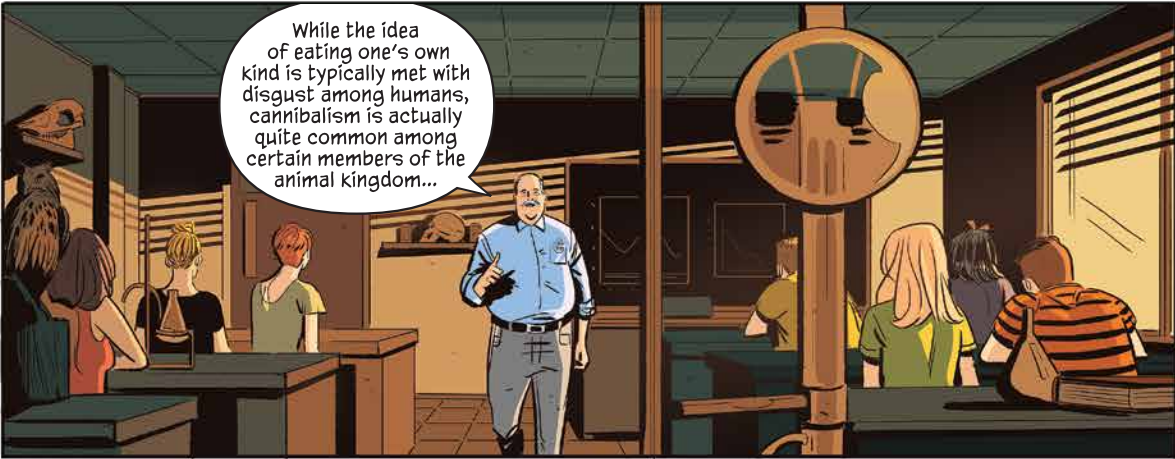




















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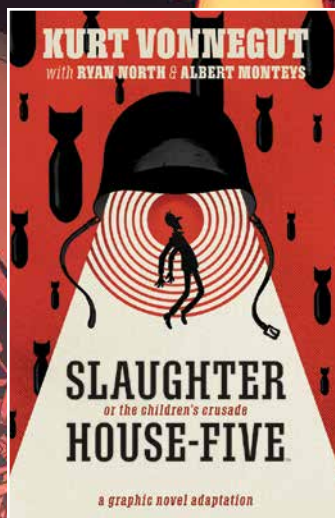
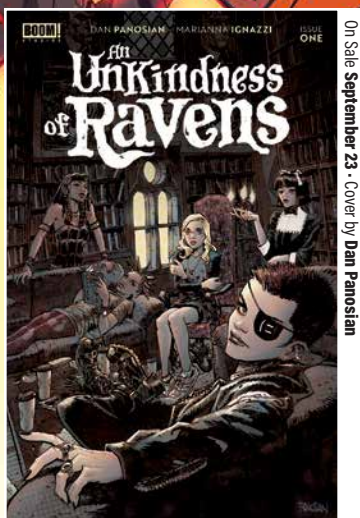
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—**SCOTT
SNYDER,**
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