

# WISKOS

61: a los pies





SIMON M.

SCRIPT  
PANEL LAYOUT  
COVER

TRANSLATION  
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

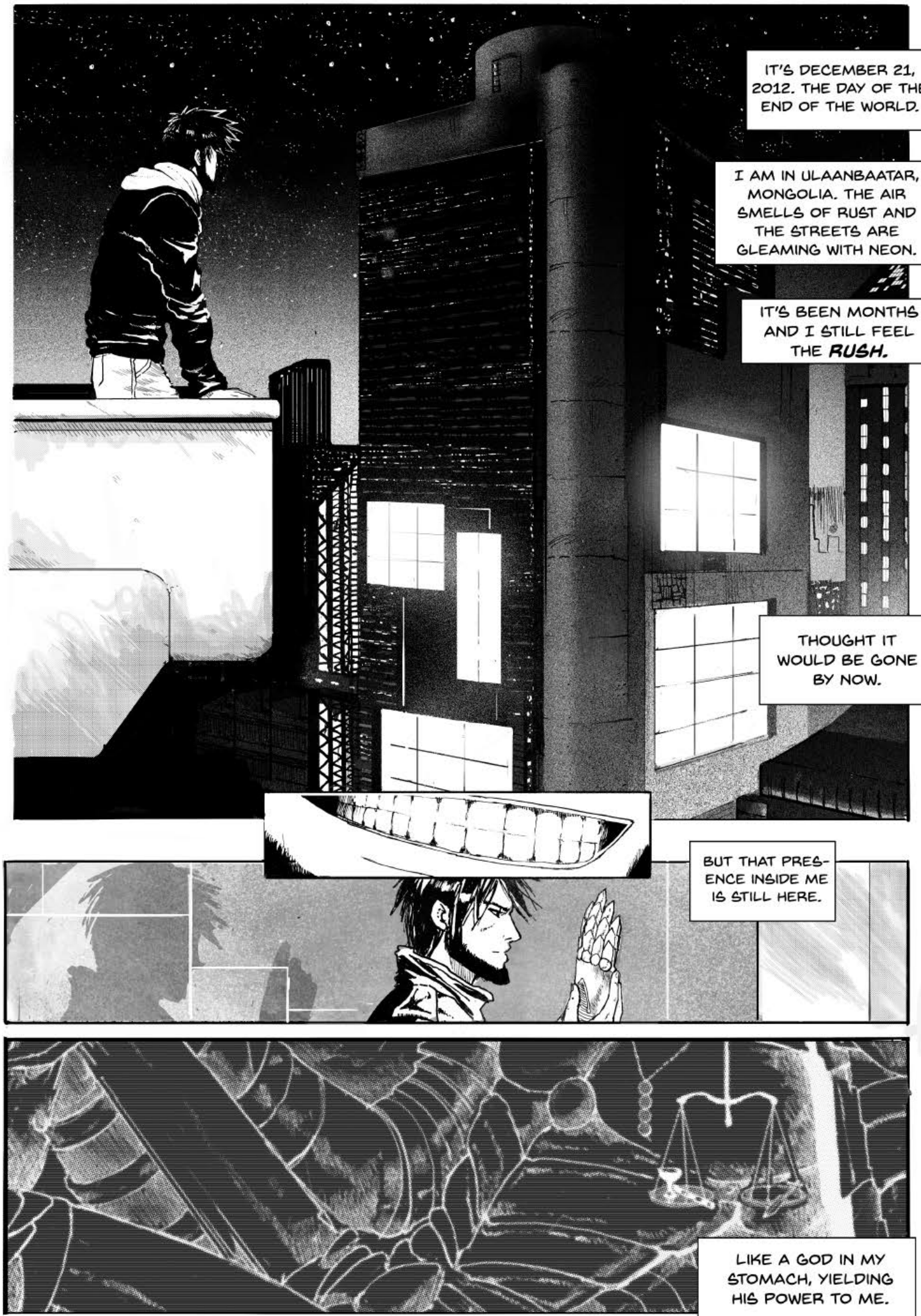
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IT'S DECEMBER 21, 2012. THE DAY OF THE END OF THE WORLD.

I AM IN ULAANBAATAR, MONGOLIA. THE AIR SMELLS OF RUST AND THE STREETS ARE GLEAMING WITH NEON.

IT'S BEEN MONTHS AND I STILL FEEL THE **RUSH**.

THOUGHT IT WOULD BE GONE BY NOW.

BUT THAT PRESENCE INSIDE ME IS STILL HERE.

LIKE A GOD IN MY STOMACH, YIELDING HIS POWER TO ME.



THE **HAND OF GOD**.  
IT'S AUGUST 6, AND THE EBI  
WANTS TO INTERROGATE ME  
FOR HAVING IT IMPLANTED  
IN MY HAND.



APPARENTLY, THEY KNEW  
THAT LANARK WAS THE  
LAST ONE TO HAVE IT IN  
HIS POSSESSION.

THEY ASSUMED THAT  
I TOOK IT FOR THE  
HEREMITES.



AGENT  
HERNÁNDEZ,  
COME IN.

SEEING IT IN MY  
HAND WAS A SIGN  
OF **BETRAYAL**.

THE FUNNY THING IS THAT  
THESE INTERROGATIONS...  
THEY WANTED TO MAKE IT  
LOOK LIKE A NORMAL  
PROCEDURE.



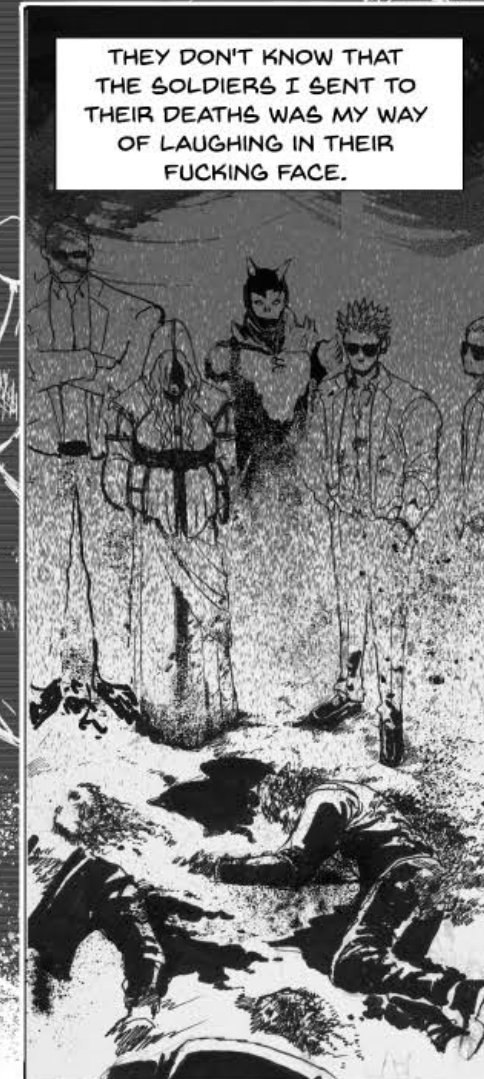
BUT THEY WERE  
SOMETHING ELSE.  
AND I KNEW IT.



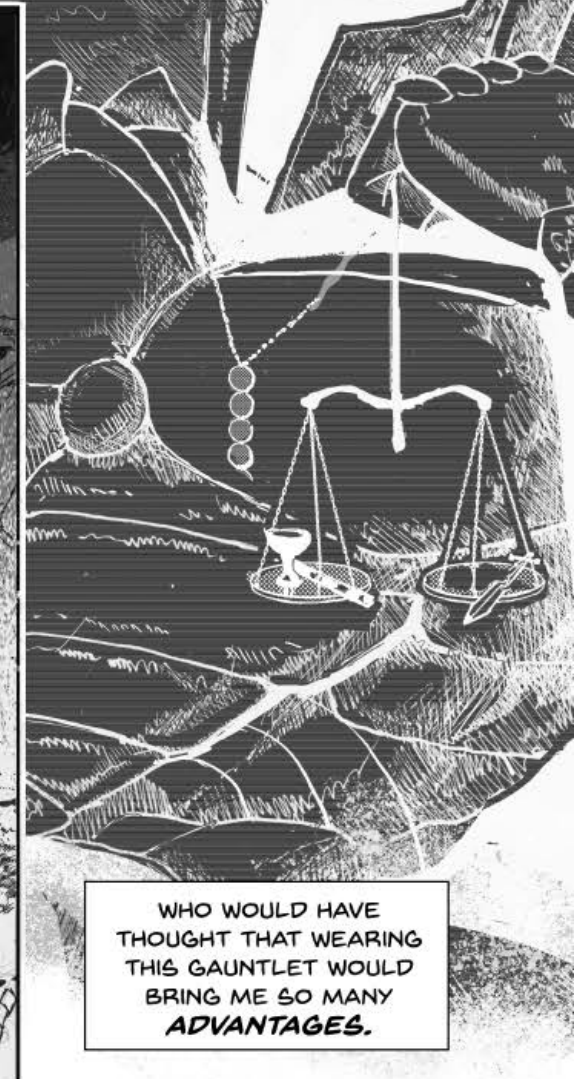
FUCKING MORONS DON'T  
KNOW THE POWER THEY  
HAVE BESTOWED ON ME.



THEY DON'T KNOW THAT  
THE SOLDIERS I SENT TO  
THEIR DEATHS WAS MY WAY  
OF LAUGHING IN THEIR  
FUCKING FACE.



WHO WOULD HAVE  
THOUGHT THAT WEARING  
THIS GAUNTLET WOULD  
BRING ME SO MANY  
**ADVANTAGES**.



YOU WERE  
VERY HELPFUL  
IN OUR FORAY  
TO THE SEDAN  
BASE.

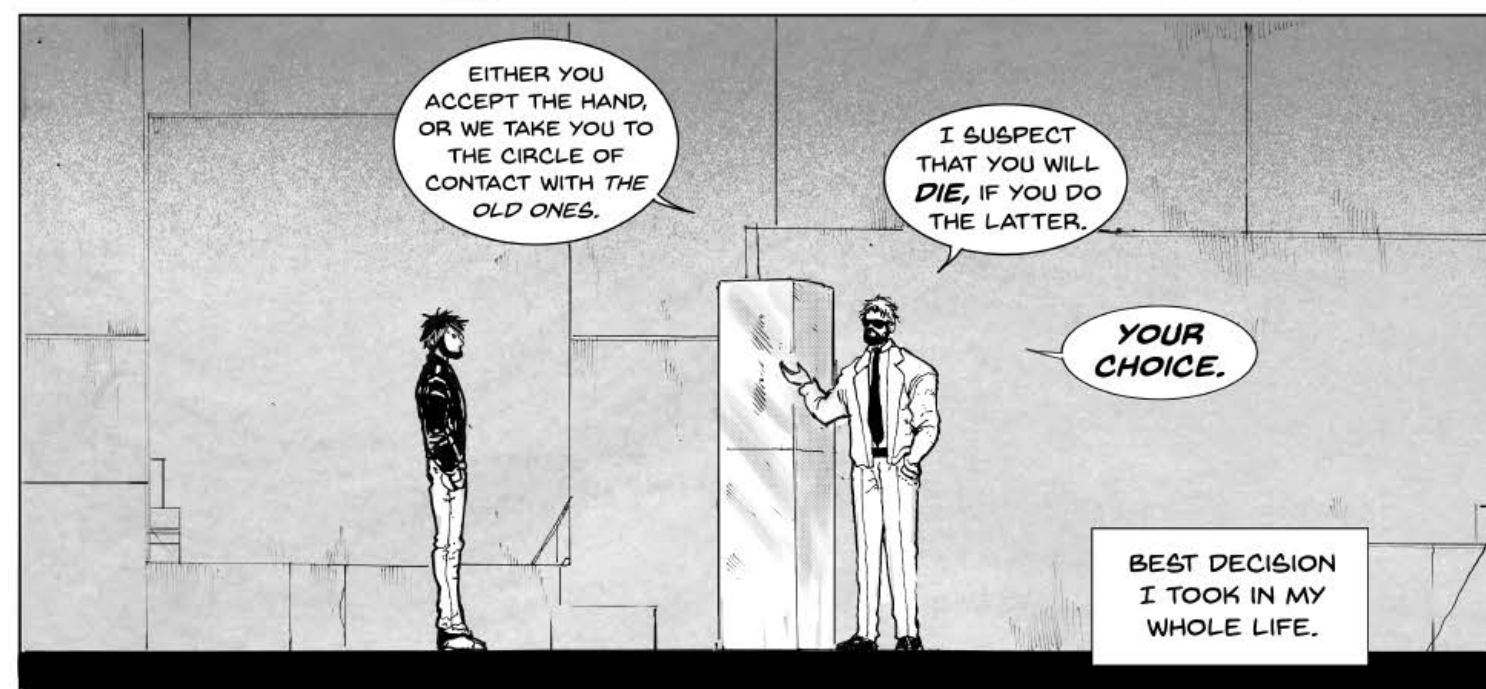


BUT I THINK  
YOUR LIMITATIONS  
ARE NOW OBVI-  
OUS, ESPECIALLY  
FOR COMBAT.

EITHER YOU  
ACCEPT THE HAND,  
OR WE TAKE YOU TO  
THE CIRCLE OF  
CONTACT WITH THE  
OLD ONES.

I SUSPECT  
THAT YOU WILL  
**DIE**, IF YOU DO  
THE LATTER.

**YOUR  
CHOICE.**



BEST DECISION  
I TOOK IN MY  
WHOLE LIFE.



IT'S DECEMBER 21, IN MONGOLIA.

IN SITUATIONS LIKE THESE, I WOULD'VE USED MY VOICE.

YOU KNOW WHY I'M HERE.

WHOEVER SURVIVES WILL DO THE TALKING.



HAH.

IT'S AUGUST 6, AND THE EBI IS SO AFRAID OF ME THAT THEY ARE TRYING TO BRAINWASH ME: I TAKE IT AS A COMPLIMENT.

THEIR MIND CONTROL. IT HAS NO EFFECT, THANKS TO MY GAUNTLET. BUT THEY DON'T KNOW IT.

UNDER MY SUPPOSED MIND CONTROL, I "CONFESS" THEM THE LOCATION WHERE A HEREMITE PRIEST WAS PLANNING TO GO.

I WAS IMPROVISING, AND THE DECISION MIGHT HAVE UPSET THE HEREMITES. A BET.

BUT WHEN I INFORMED THEM OF EVERYTHING, THEY SAW THE OPPORTUNITY I WAS OFFERING THEM.

ALL OF THE EBI'S AGENTS WERE KILLED EXCEPT FOR 1037. YET NO ONE SUSPECTS ME, BECAUSE I AM UNDER THE EBI'S "MIND CONTROL".



IN FACT, THEY EVEN TAKE THEIR HAVING SEEN THE PRIEST AS CONFIRMATION OF MY FORCED LOYALTY.



ON JULY 5, A HEREMITE AGENT EXPLAINED WHY THEY KEPT THE HAND FOR ME.

OUR POST-CONTACT BIOLOGY PREVENTS INTERACTION WITH THOSE ARTIFACTS. BUT HAVING AN AGENT WITH THE GAUNTLET IS USEFUL TO US.

UNTIL NOW, WE USED ADAM. OUR SOOTHSAYERS RECOMMENDED US TO MANUFACTURE EVENTS TO MAKE HIM PUT THE HAND ON, AND THEN TO USE HIM AT THE BASE...

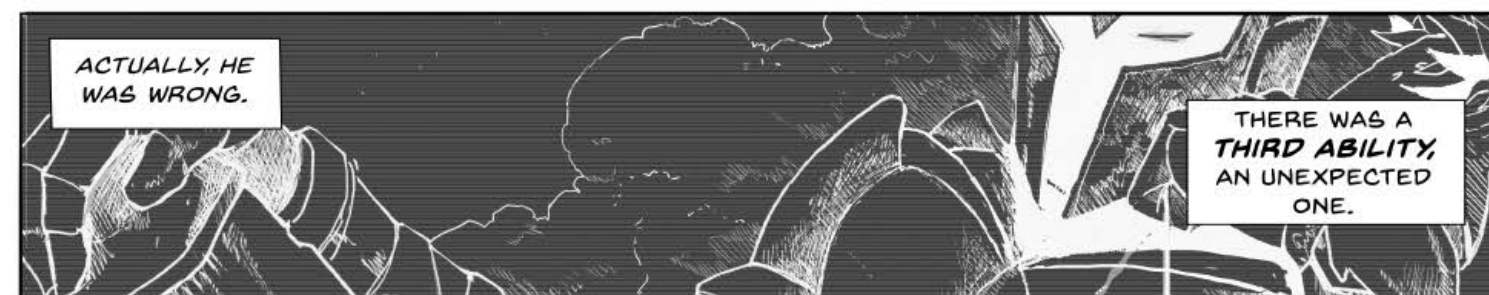
BUT NOW HE'S OUT OF OUR REACH.

YOU WILL BE THE ONE TO, NOT REPLACE, BUT **ENHANCE** HIS ROLE.



REMEMBER: THIS IS NOT A GIFT, IT HAS A PRICE.

SO FAR, WE HAVE ALLOWED YOUR **LIBERAL** APPROACH TO MISSIONS.



ACTUALLY, HE WAS WRONG.

THERE WAS A **THIRD ABILITY**, AN UNEXPECTED ONE.



IF WE SEE THE SLIGHTEST COMPONENT OF DISLOYALTY IN YOUR ACTIONS...

...YOU'LL WISH WE HAD **KILLED** YOU.

ONE THAT ONLY I COULD ACCESS.



COME.

THE HAND HAS TWO BASIC FORMS OF ATTACK.

THE **LIGHT MIRROR**, WHICH IS A PSYCHIC ATTACK, AND THE SIMPLE GENERATION OF ENERGY.

THE LEAST YOU CAN DO IS TO FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH THE SECOND, LIKE ADAM.

NO ONE KNOWS WHAT I **DID** BEFORE I PUT ON THE GAUNTLET, AND THE EFFECTS I CAUSED.

EVERYONE TOLD ME THAT I WOULD LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS AFTER PUTTING ON THE HAND.

I'LL BE BACK IN HALF AN HOUR.

I WAS NOT GOING TO ALLOW IT.



SIGURD.

STAY AWAKE.  
REMEMBER  
EVERYTHING.  
EVERY-  
THING.

WHO DARES  
TO SET FOOT IN  
MY CASTLE?

MY SELF-HYPNOSIS  
CHANGED EVERYTHING.  
AND I DISCOVERED  
THAT, INSIDE  
THE HAND...

...THERE'S LIKE A  
GOD, OR A MAGICAL  
ENTITY...

I REMEMBER IT ALL.  
THE **FLAMING CHAIN  
SUNS** IN THE SKY...

I WANT  
TO SEE YOUR  
BEING IN YOUR  
FACE.

COME  
CLOSER.

IT TOOK ME A FEW SE-  
CONDS TO REALIZE IT, BUT  
SOMEHOW I UNDERSTOOD  
THAT THE FIRE I FELT...  
THE SUNS WERE THERE,  
BUT IT WAS HIM. THE FIRE  
OF THE SUNS WAS HIS.

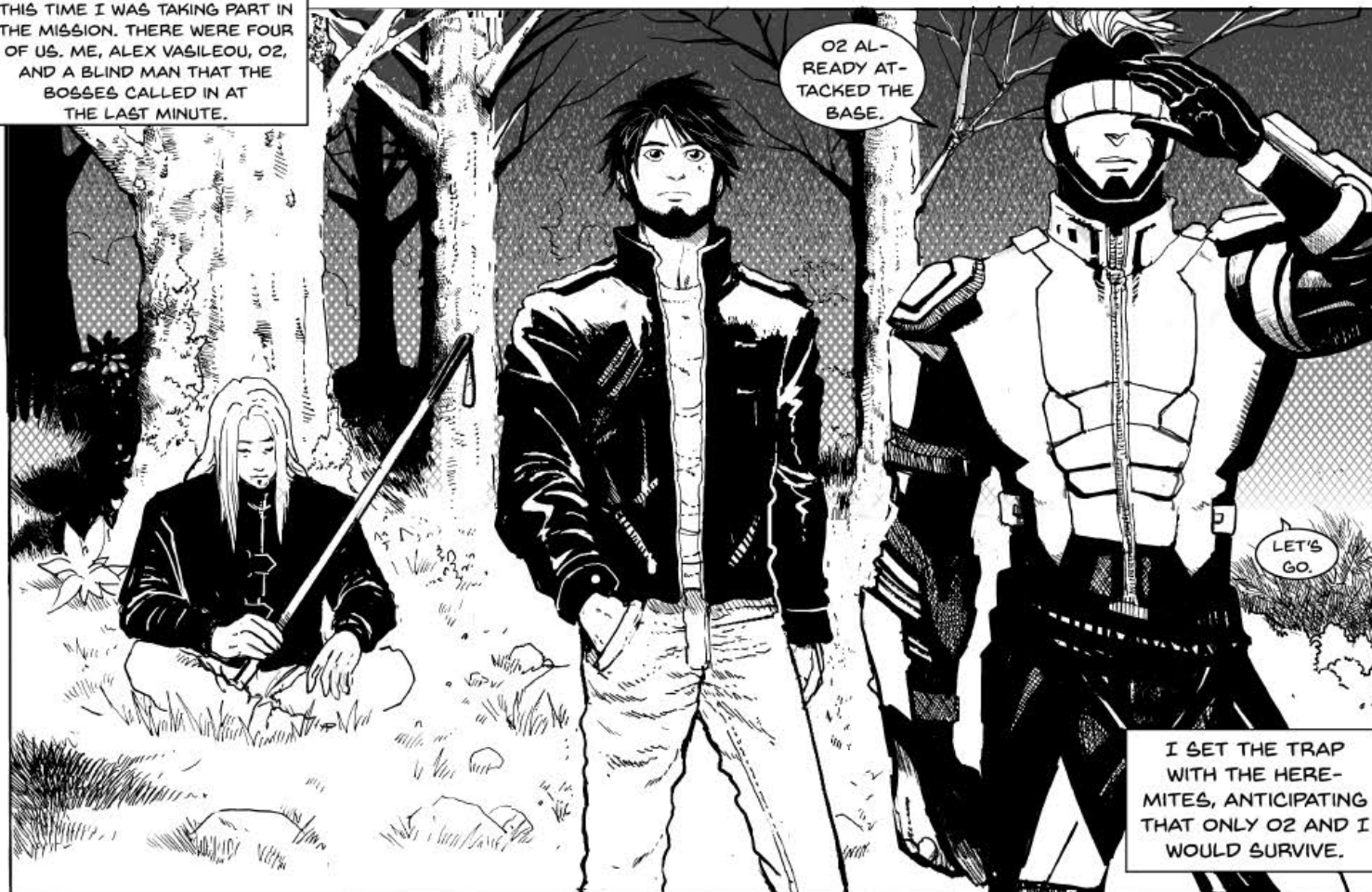
...THE BLACK ARMOR GLEAM-  
ING. THE LIGHT, BURNING MY  
SKIN. THE EYES OF THE GOD,  
BRIGHTER THAN THE SUNS.







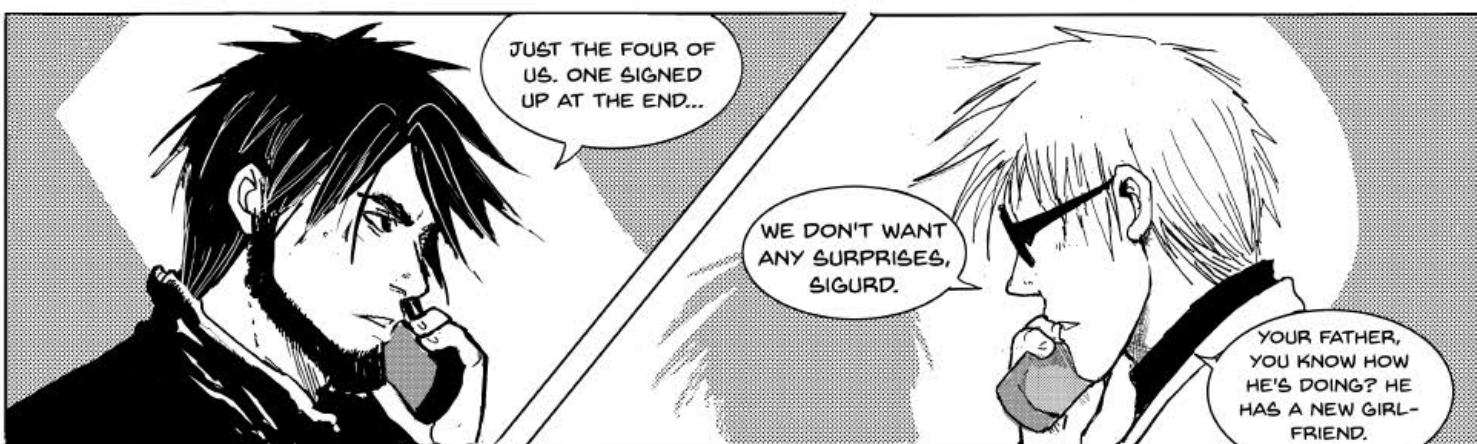
THIS TIME I WAS TAKING PART IN THE MISSION. THERE WERE FOUR OF US. ME, ALEX VASILEOU, O2, AND A BLIND MAN THAT THE BOSSES CALLED IN AT THE LAST MINUTE.



O2 ALREADY ATTACKED THE BASE.

LET'S GO.

I SET THE TRAP WITH THE HERMITES, ANTICIPATING THAT ONLY O2 AND I WOULD SURVIVE.



JUST THE FOUR OF US. ONE SIGNED UP AT THE END...

WE DON'T WANT ANY SURPRISES, SIGURD.

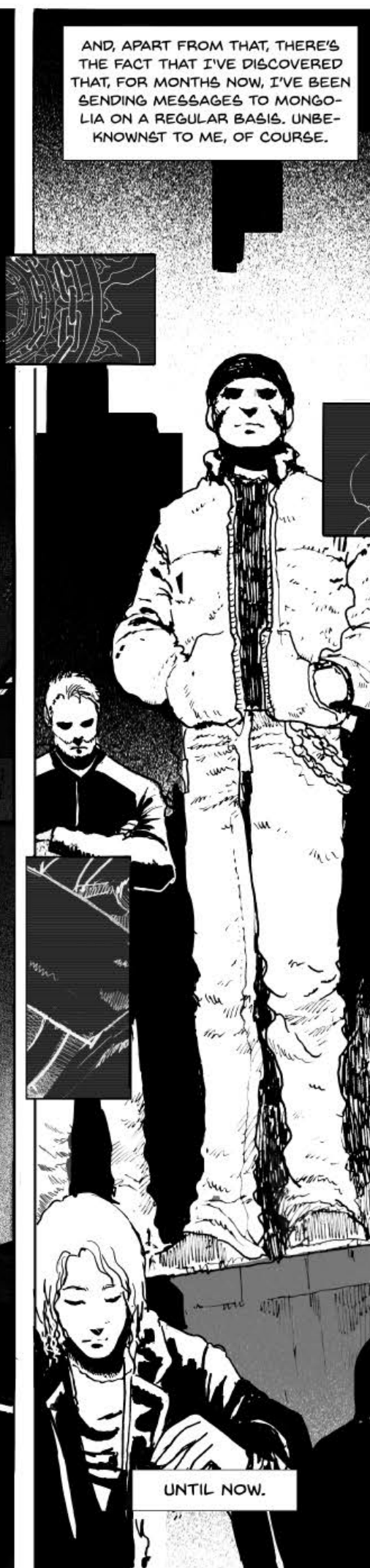
YOUR FATHER, YOU KNOW HOW HE'S DOING? HE HAS A NEW GIRL-FRIEND.



SOUTH AMERICAN. THEY GO CLIMBING ON THE WEEKENDS.



THERE ARE **TWO THINGS** THAT HAPPENED ON THAT MISSION THAT BRING ME BACK TO MONGOLIA.



AND, APART FROM THAT, THERE'S THE FACT THAT I'VE DISCOVERED THAT, FOR MONTHS NOW, I'VE BEEN SENDING MESSAGES TO MONGOLIA ON A REGULAR BASIS. UNBETTER KNOWNST TO ME, OF COURSE.

UNTIL NOW.



LAST TIME I WAS HERE, I WAS INOCULATED WITH A DRUG. I THOUGHT THAT WAS IT... BUT... AFTER THE CONTACT WITH THE GOD, I REMEMBERED.

THE HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION, THROUGH THE DRUG AND HALLUCINATIONS. HOW MUCH OF WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY REALLY HAPPENED? EVEN NOW I AM NOT ABLE TO PUT IT IN ORDER.

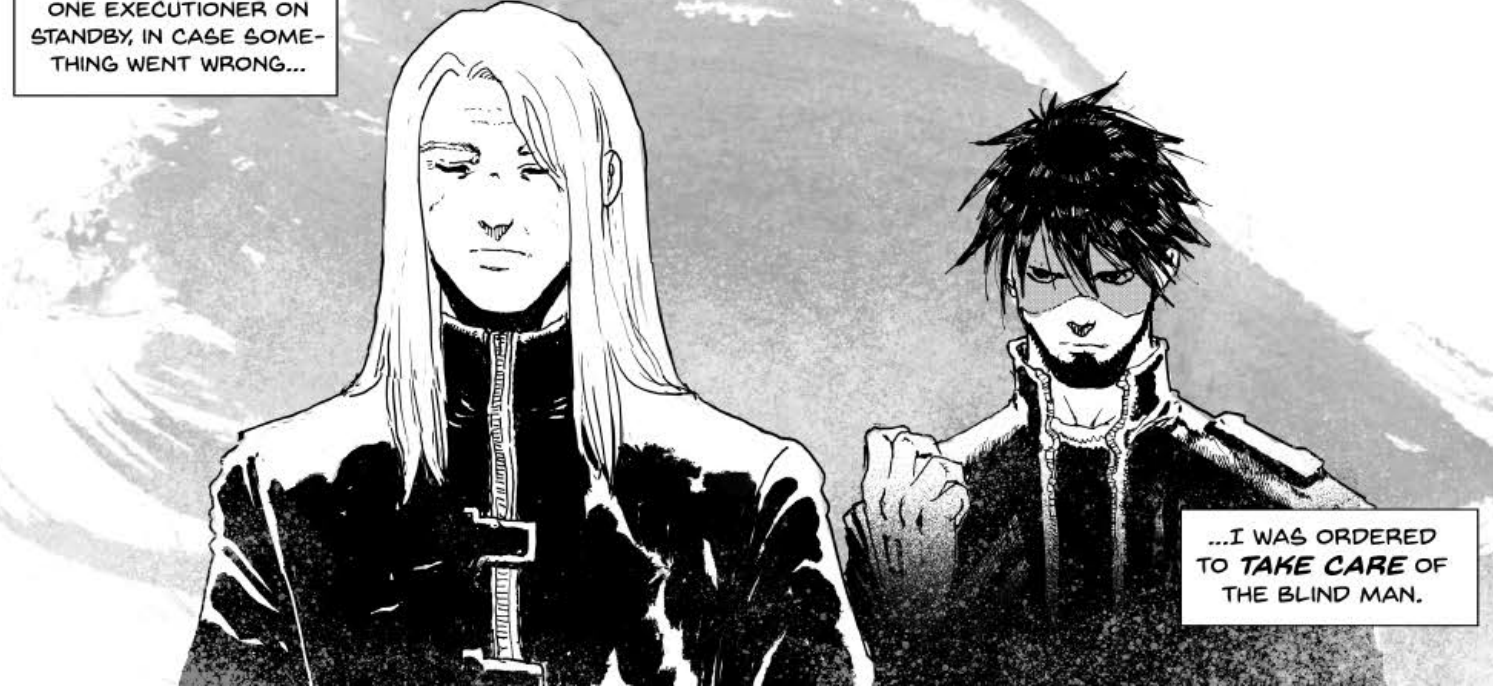


EVERYTHING WAS  
THOUGHT OUT. THE HER-  
MITES WANTED NO SUR-  
PRISES.



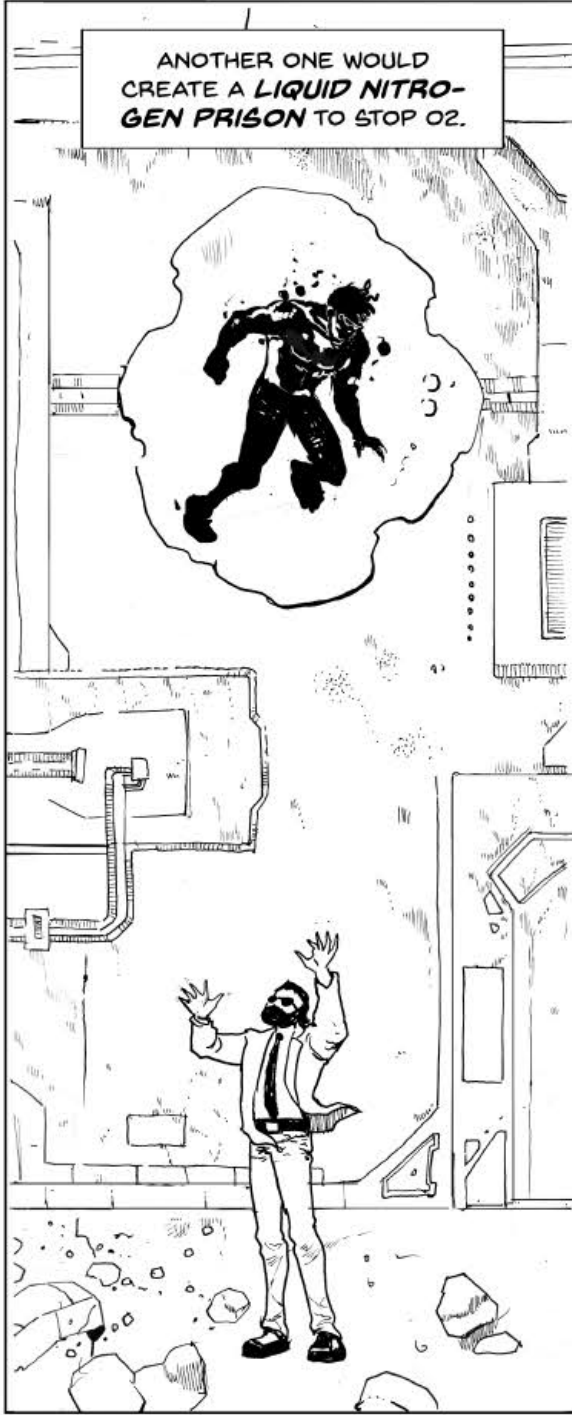
A HEREMITE AGENT  
FOR ALEX, WHO WAS GOING  
TO KILL HIM IMMEDIATELY.  
THE CELL LEADER, NEU-  
TRALIZED.

AND ALTHOUGH THEY HAD  
ONE EXECUTIONER ON  
STANDBY, IN CASE SOME-  
THING WENT WRONG...

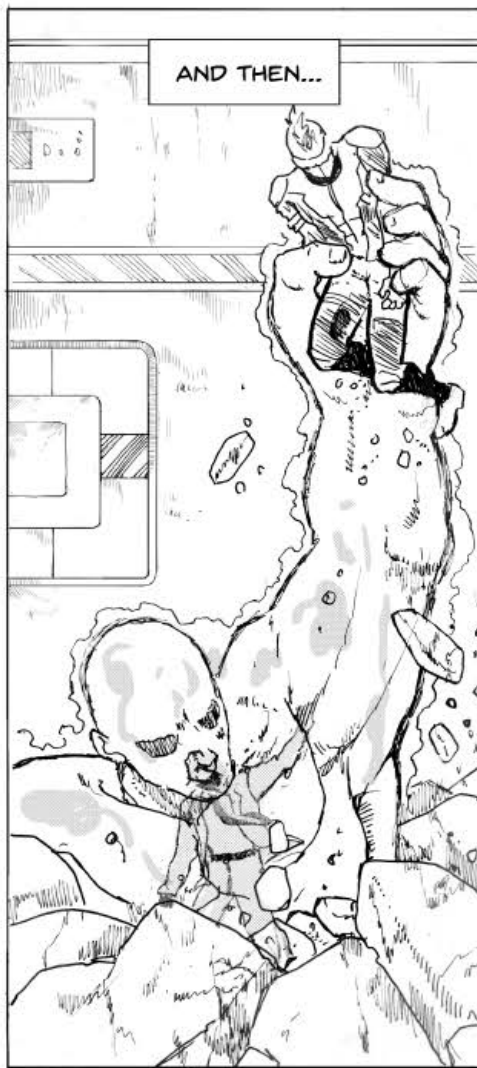


...I WAS ORDERED  
TO **TAKE CARE** OF  
THE BLIND MAN.

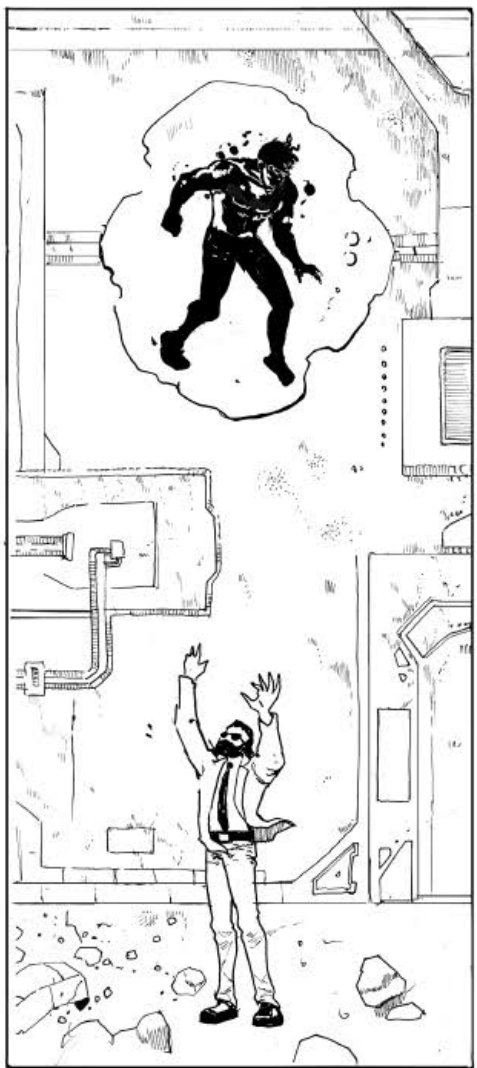
ANOTHER ONE WOULD  
CREATE A **LIQUID NITRO-  
GEN PRISON** TO STOP O2.



AND THEN...



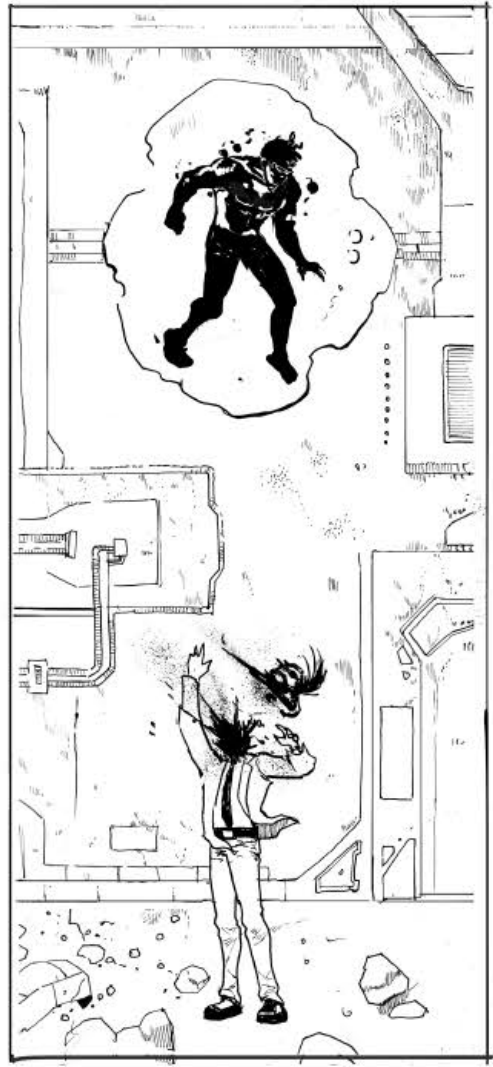
AND THEN HE  
WASN'T.



I SWEAR IT WAS  
ONLY A SECOND.



THE BLIND MAN  
WAS IN FRONT OF  
ME.







THERE IS AN EXECUTIONER WAITING DOWNSTAIRS, PLUS TEN AGENTS.

I DON'T KNOW HOW HE APPEARED FROM BEHIND.



GOT IT? WE DON'T GIVE THIS HAND TO LOSE IT.

IF YOU BETRAY US, I PROMISE YOU THAT YOU WILL SUFFER MORE THAN YOU EVER THOUGHT *PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE*.

BEFORE I COULD SEE THEM, THEY WERE ALREADY DEAD.

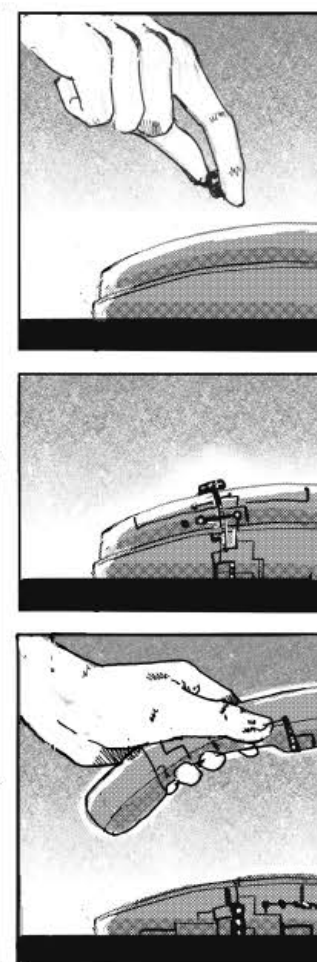


IT WAS AMAZING HOW CALMLY I THOUGHT, "I'M DEAD. THEY WILL KILL ME".

LET'S GO. I'VE DISCOVERED SOMETHING. IF IT'S WHAT I THINK IT IS, IT'S SERIOUS.



JUST A MATTER OF TIME. BUT THEY WILL KILL ME.



I KNOW THAT IT SEEMS...

NOT "SEEMS". "IS".





WE WERE IN A PRECARIOUS SITUATION, AFTER ACHIEVING SOMETHING **CRUCIAL**. BUT YOU UNDERSOLD THE THREAT. CONVENIENT, ISN'T IT? FOR YOU AND THE EBI.



DOES IT HAVE TO DO WITH THAT OBJECT? I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT WAS. THE BLIND MAN ACTED LIKE IT WAS IMPORTANT, BUT... HE DIDN'T SAY...

WHAT ARE THESE HEREMITES DOING WITH THIS PIECE?



ONLY ONE SYLLABLE. AND IT'S INERT.

THIS IS... **TERRIBLE.**



DO YOU WANT TO PLAY THAT CARD? "OH, I'M TOO STUPID, ME NO UNDERSTAND?"



NO! IT'S... LOOK... LISTEN. THIS IS IMPORTANT, ISN'T IT? I HAVE A-A MEETING. THE EBI'S GONNA BRING ME IN TO TALK ABOUT THIS, YOU UNDERSTAND?

WE CAN WORK FROM THE INSIDE... I WILL GIVE YOU **INFORMATION!**



MY PATIENCE'S RUNNING THIN.

NO ONE PUSHES ME AROUND.



SO... THEN. HERE. THE DAY OF THE END OF THE WORLD, MONGOLIA.

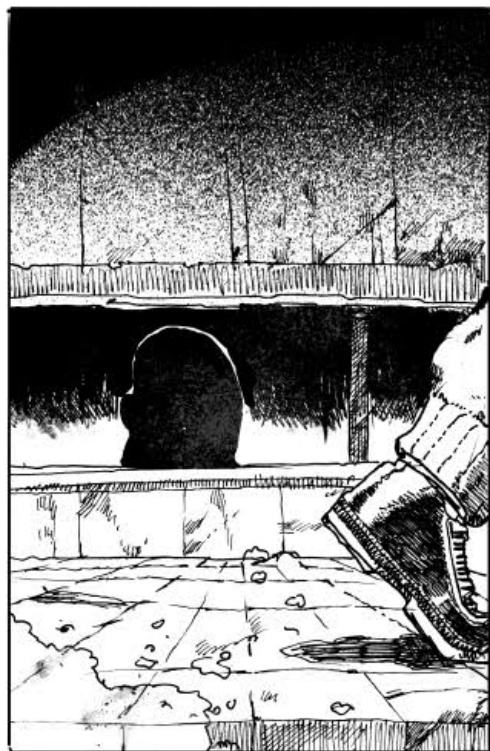


THE LAST LOOSE END.



THE LAST **PIECE OF SHIT** WHO'S BEEN USING ME.





KING OF  
THE FUCKING  
UNDERWORLD,  
EH.

THOUGHT I  
HAD KILLED  
HIM.



SIGURD.

WAS IT PART OF THE  
HALLUCINATIONS?  
DID HE REGENERA-  
TE? DID HE GIVE ME  
THE GAUNTLET?



LANARK.

HOW'S YOUR  
HOMOSEXUA-  
LITY?

STILL  
REPRESSED?

THE SON OF A  
BITCH I NEED.

## ...TO BE CONTINUED

UPSURGE IS AN ALMOST MONTHLY (40 DAYS) SERIES THAT STILL HAS A LONG WAY TO GO TO REACH THE INTENDED ENDING. HOWEVER, WE CAN'T KEEP DOING IT FOR "FREE" INDEFINITELY. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN HELPING US WHILE ALSO GETTING **EARLY ACCESS** TO AN ISSUE, **PREVIEWS** OF FUTURE EPISODES, OR **VIDEOS** AND TEXTS ABOUT OUR CREATIVE PROCESS, PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING US THROUGH PATREON AT THE 3\$ PLEDGE LEVEL (LINK BELOW). IF WE HAVE ENOUGH HELP, WE'LL TURN UPSURGE INTO A **MONTHLY** SERIES. THANK YOU!

### LINKS:

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

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

THROW SOME PEANUTS TO THE APE -> [TWITTER.COM/SIMONOGATARI](https://twitter.com/simonogatari)