

UPSURGE

Sístole, diástole

SIMON M.

ATANA S.

SCRIPT

PENCILS

PANEL LAYOUT

INK

COVER

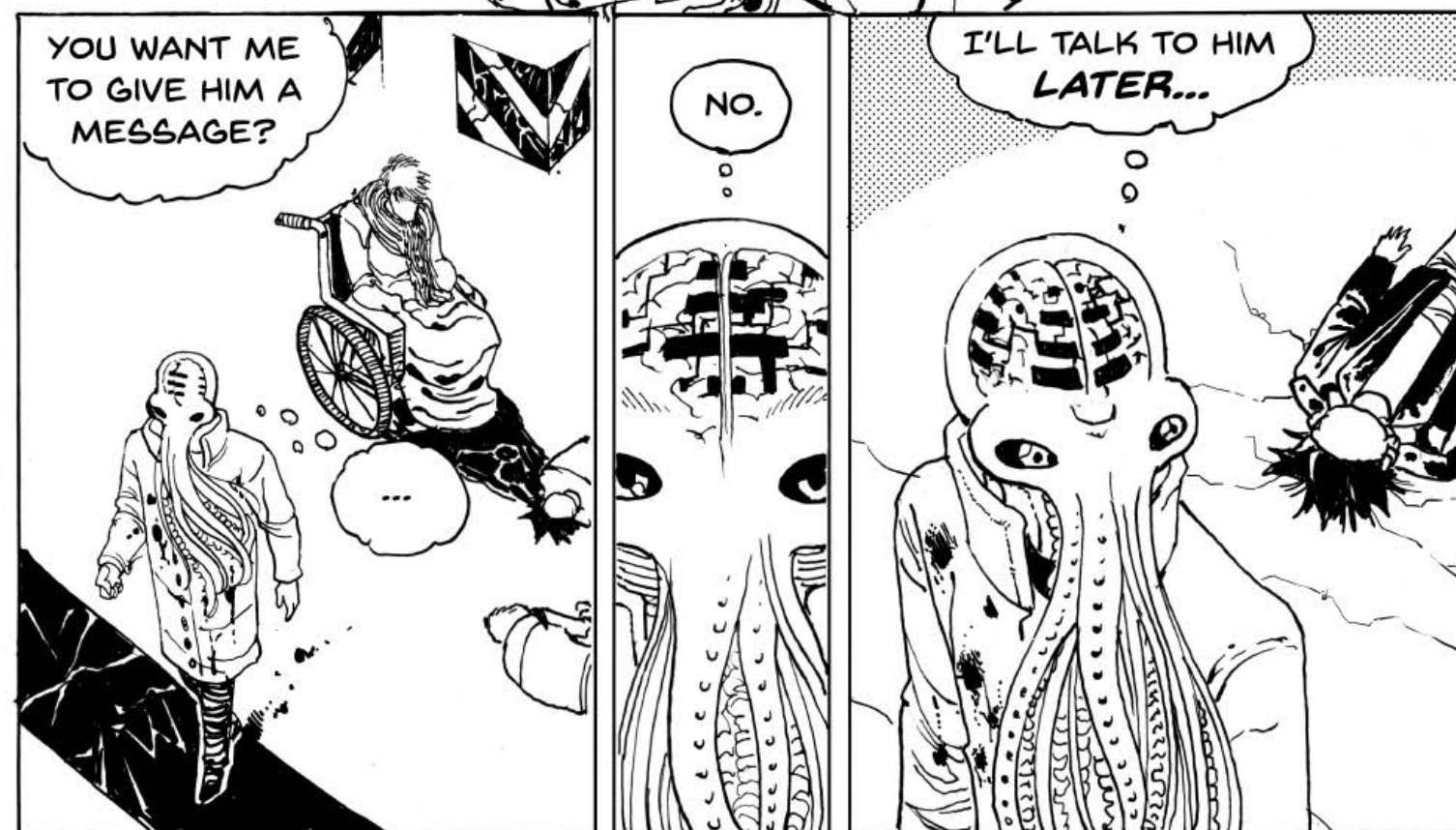
TRANSLATION

(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

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WEBPAGE: WWW.UPSURGE.ES/ENGLISH

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"WHEN MY TENTACLES
HAVE ACCESSSED ALL
THEIR MEMORIES".



YOU'RE STILL
THINKING ABOUT
LEAVING WITH
THAT... GIRL?

WHY DON'T
YOU **STAB**
ME AND
GET IT OVER
WITH?



HERE, IN THE
HEART!



IT'S NOT THE
END OF THE
WORLD, MOM.



IT'S NOT
TH...?



DO YOU HEAR
THIS, MA'AM?
COULD YOU IMAGINE YOUR SON
...?



YOU HAD
A **BRIGHT**
FUTURE,
ADAM.

YOU WERE GOING TO BE AN ENGI-
NEER OR SOMETHING; FERNANDO
SAID HE HADN'T SEEN ANYONE
SO **TALENTED** AT FIXING STUFF
AND YOU...



WHERE'S THAT
SMART, RESPON-
SIBLE KID?



I WAS SMART BECAUSE I DID WHAT
YOU WANTED! I DIDN'T GET OUT OF
THE HOUSE AND WHEN I DID...! YOU
MADE BOB LEAVE!



I HAD TO KEEP AN EYE
ON YOU! YOU THINK IT'S
NORMAL FOR A KID LIKE YOU
TO HANG OUT WITH AN OLD
PRIEST?

WHO
KNOWS WHAT
HE WANTED!



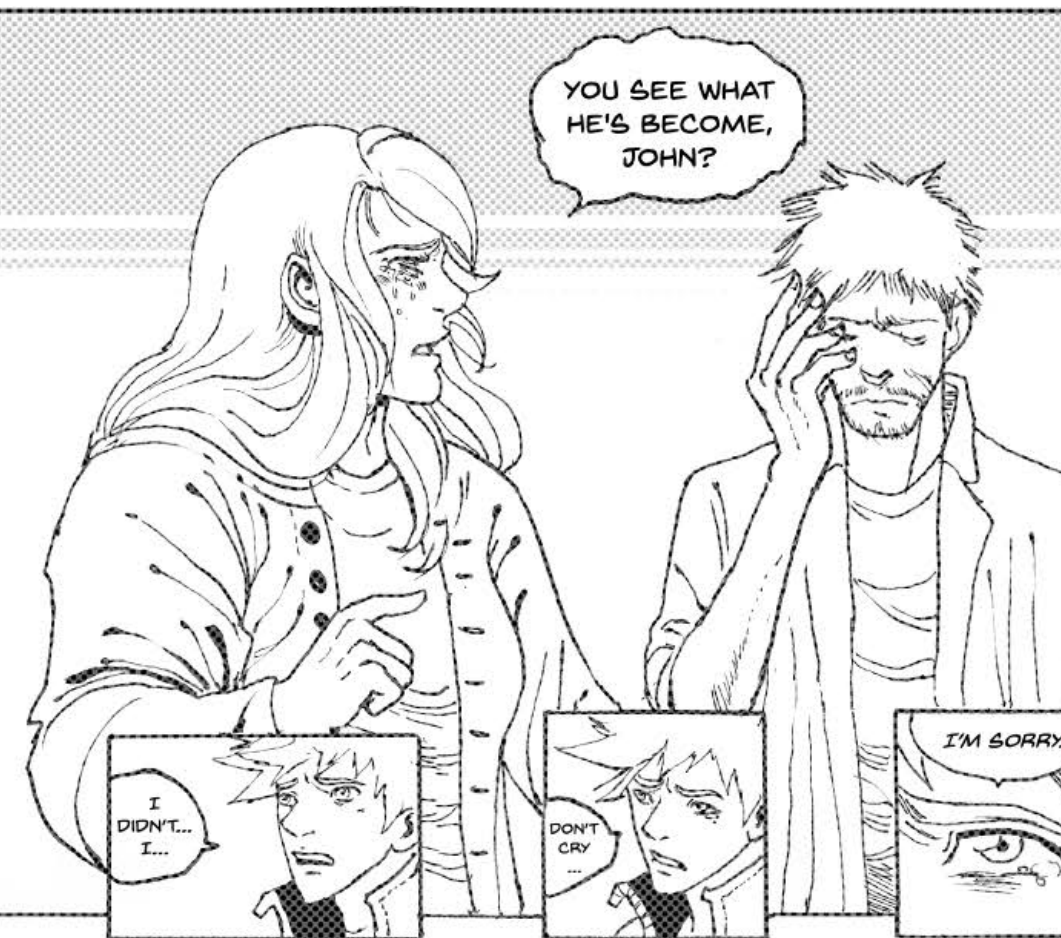
DON'T TALK
ABOUT HIM
LIKE THAT!



HOW MANY
FUCKING TIMES
DO I HAVE TO SAY
IT, GODDAMMIT?!
YOU'RE SICK!!



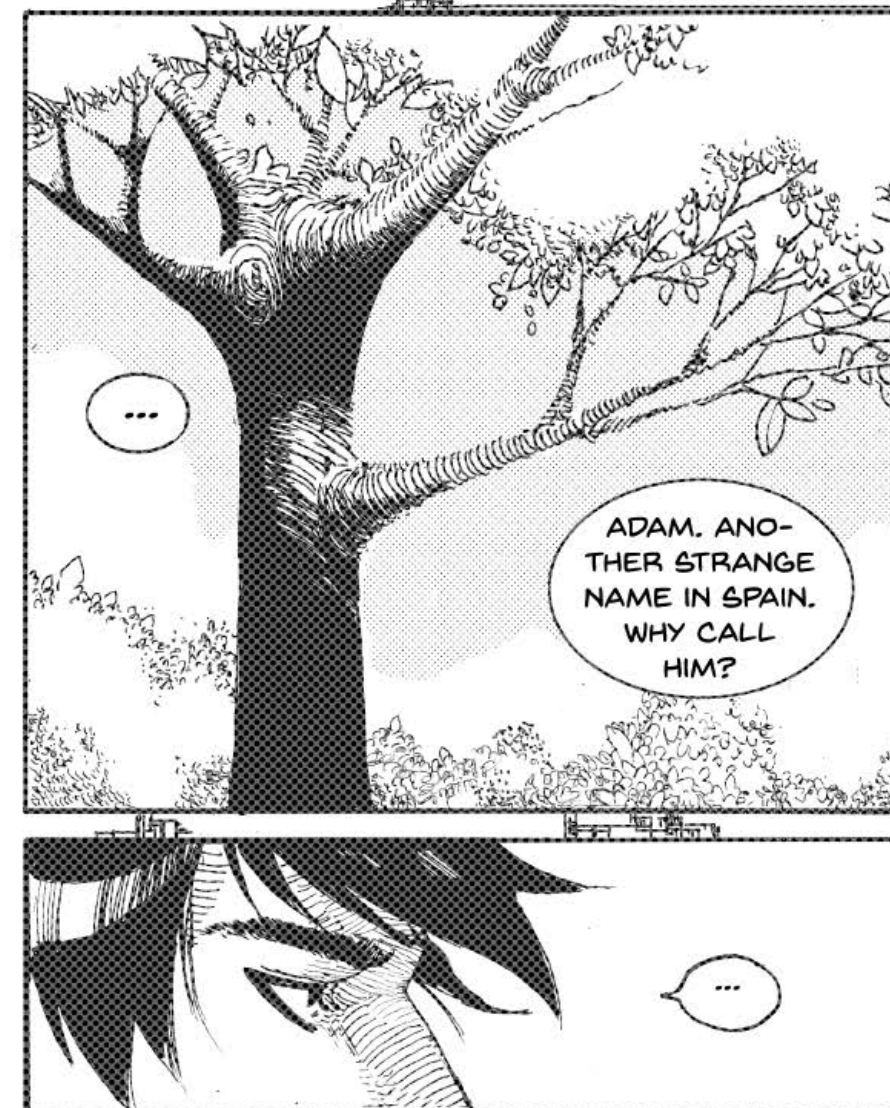
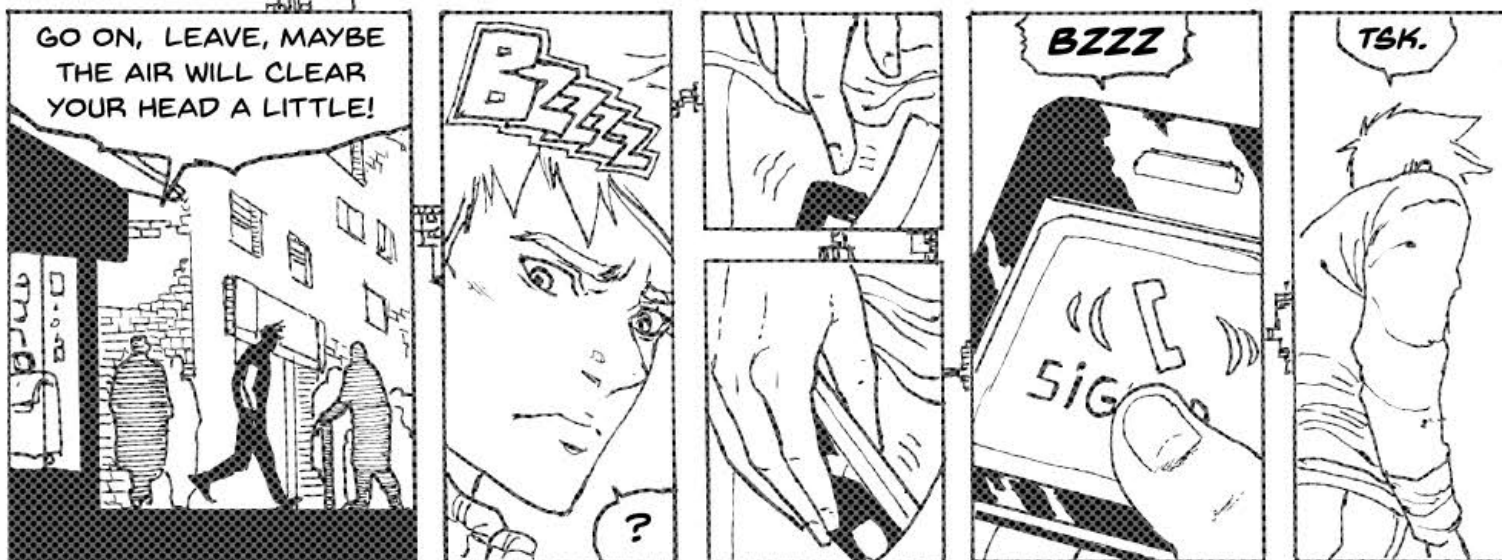
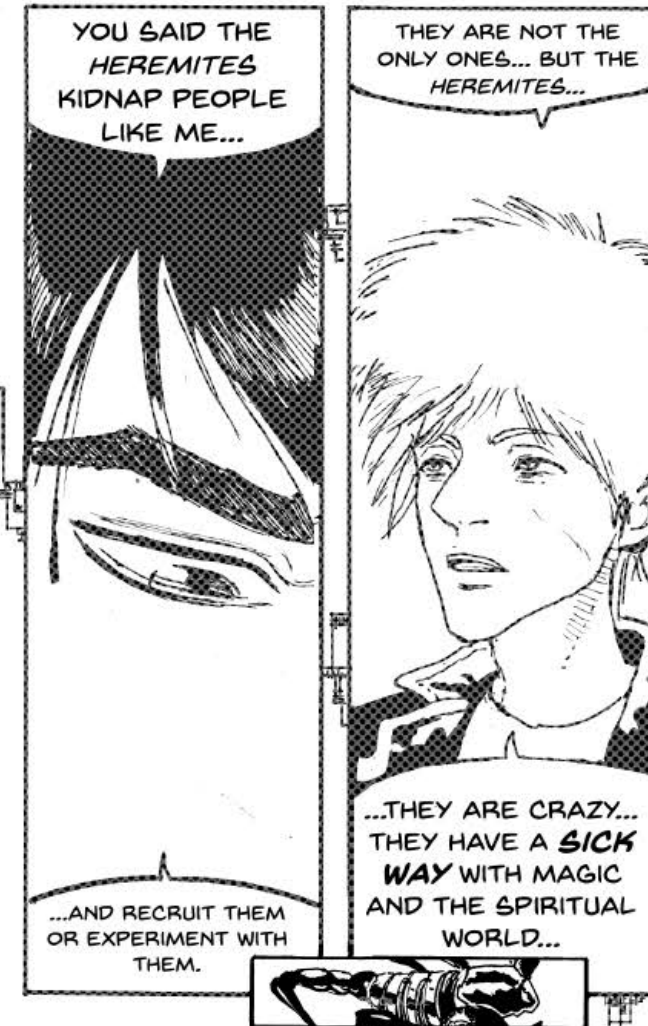
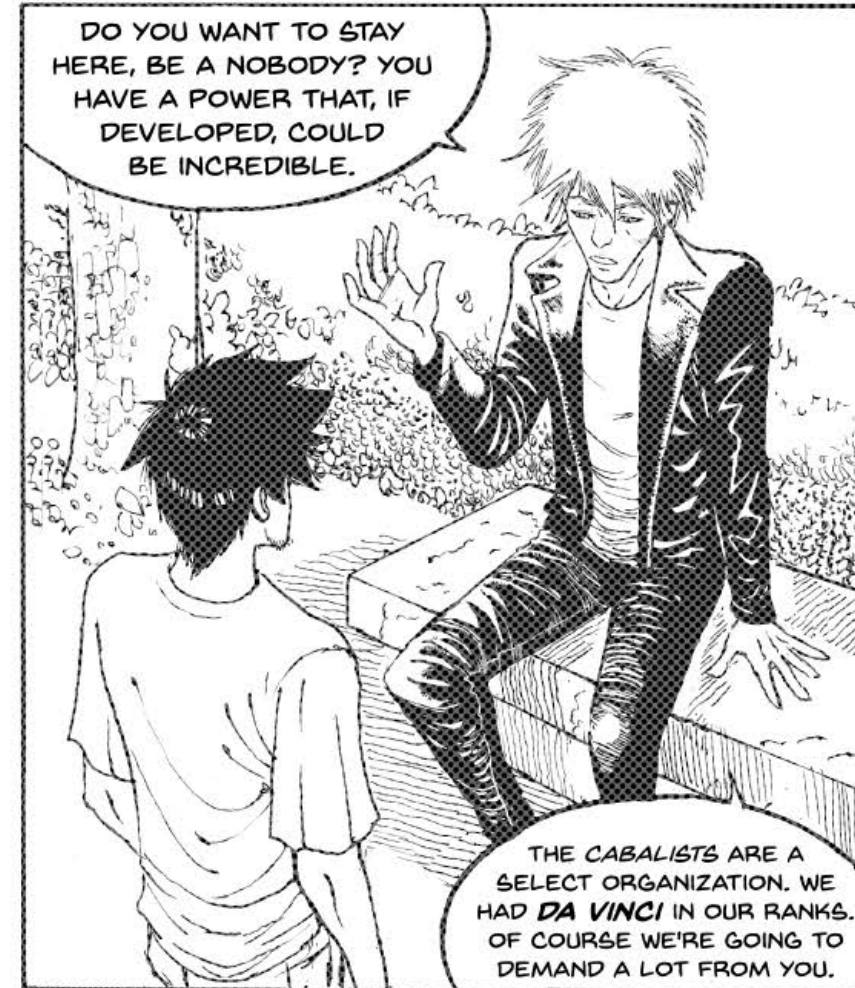
YOU SEE WHAT
HE'S BECOME,
JOHN?



I
DIDN'T...
I...

DON'T
CRY

I'M SORRY.



I JUST DON'T GET IT. HE SHOWED ME SO MUCH POWER... HE TAUGHT ME HOW TO MAKE MAGIC SIGILS TO FULFILL WISHES, I OPENED THE **FIRST DOOR** AND THEN... LIFE BEGAN TO TURN FOR THE WORSE AND...

...SUDDENLY MY POWERS LOOKED LIKE FUCKING SHIT... AND ADAM DIDN'T EVEN KNOW...

MAYBE ADAM DIDN'T WANT TO **PAY THE PRICE.**

THE WHAT?

THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH SELF-TAUGHT MAGES. NO TEACHERS TO GUIDE YOU. DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN GET MAGICAL POWER WITHOUT CONSEQUENCES?

THE DOOR HAS ONE SIDE AND OPENS BOTH WAYS.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

THESE POWERS MAY MAKE YOU FEEL LIKE A GOD... BUT YOU'RE STILL **HUMAN**. YOUR POWER IS MORE LIMITED THAN YOU THINK, AND WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENS THAT YOU WANT TO CHANGE BUT YOU CAN'T, YOU WON'T DO LIKE A NORMAL HUMAN AND COMFORT YOURSELF BY SAYING YOU COULDN'T DO ANYTHING; YOU'LL PAY THE PRICE AND SAY, "IF I HAD BEEN A MORE **POWERFUL** MAGE, THIS WOULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED".

THINK ABOUT IT. ALL THESE FABLES ABOUT MAGICAL OBJECTS THAT GIVE YOU POWERS WHILE CORRUPTING YOU... IT'S A SIMPLIFIED VERSION OF WHAT I'M TELLING YOU.

EVERY MISFORTUNE, EVERY SORROW... A PROOF OF YOUR **WEAKNESS**. DO YOU WANT TO ALWAYS BE THIS WEAK?

FUCK YOU. ME, WEAK? FUCK YOU.

ADAM, IF YOU DON'T PICK IT UP.

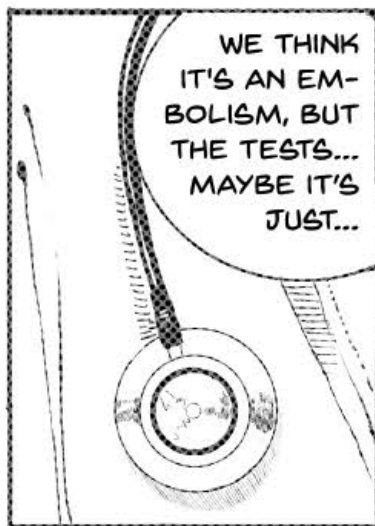
IT'S OVER.

YES?

WHAT?

WE DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.

HOSPITAL DEL MAR



WE THINK
IT'S AN EM-
BOLISM, BUT
THE TESTS...
MAYBE IT'S
JUST...



JOHN.



DAD, WHAT...? WHAT
HAPPENED TO HIM?



WHAT?



I HAVEN'T
DON...



I...



YOU KNOW
WHEN IT ALL
STARTED?



IT'S GONE,
ADAM!



**HIS MIND'S
GONE!**



NGH...
LEAVE
ME...



HE'S BEEN LIKE THIS
SINCE YOU **LEFT!**



**YOU KNOW IT,
DON'T YOU?!**



HE'S REALLY NOT
GOING TO RECOVER?



I WARNED YOU IT'D BRING
US **MISFORTUNE!** YOU
THOUGHT IT WOULDN'T,
BUT HERE WE ARE!



SO WHAT
NOW, ADAM?



NOW?

WHAT IF HE
DOESN'T RECOVER?



A YEAR WAS ALL WE
NEEDED FOR RETIRE-
MENT!



...WE'RE
BAFFLED.
IT'S AS IF HE
HAD LEFT HIS
OWN MIND,
I'VE NEVER
SEEN SOME-
THING...



**THAT PRIEST
TEACHING YOU
"MAGIC"! DEVIL'S
GARBAGE!**



**THE OCCULT! YOU
SERVE SATAN AND
YOU'RE SURPRISED
THIS HAPPENS?!**



AND NOW, BECAUSE
OF YOU, I HAVE TO
SUPPORT YOU
BOTH!



MOM, YOU CAN'T...



**SHUT
UP!**



YOU'RE STILL GOING
TO BE IRRESPONSI-
BLE!? **LOOK WHAT
YOU'VE DONE!**



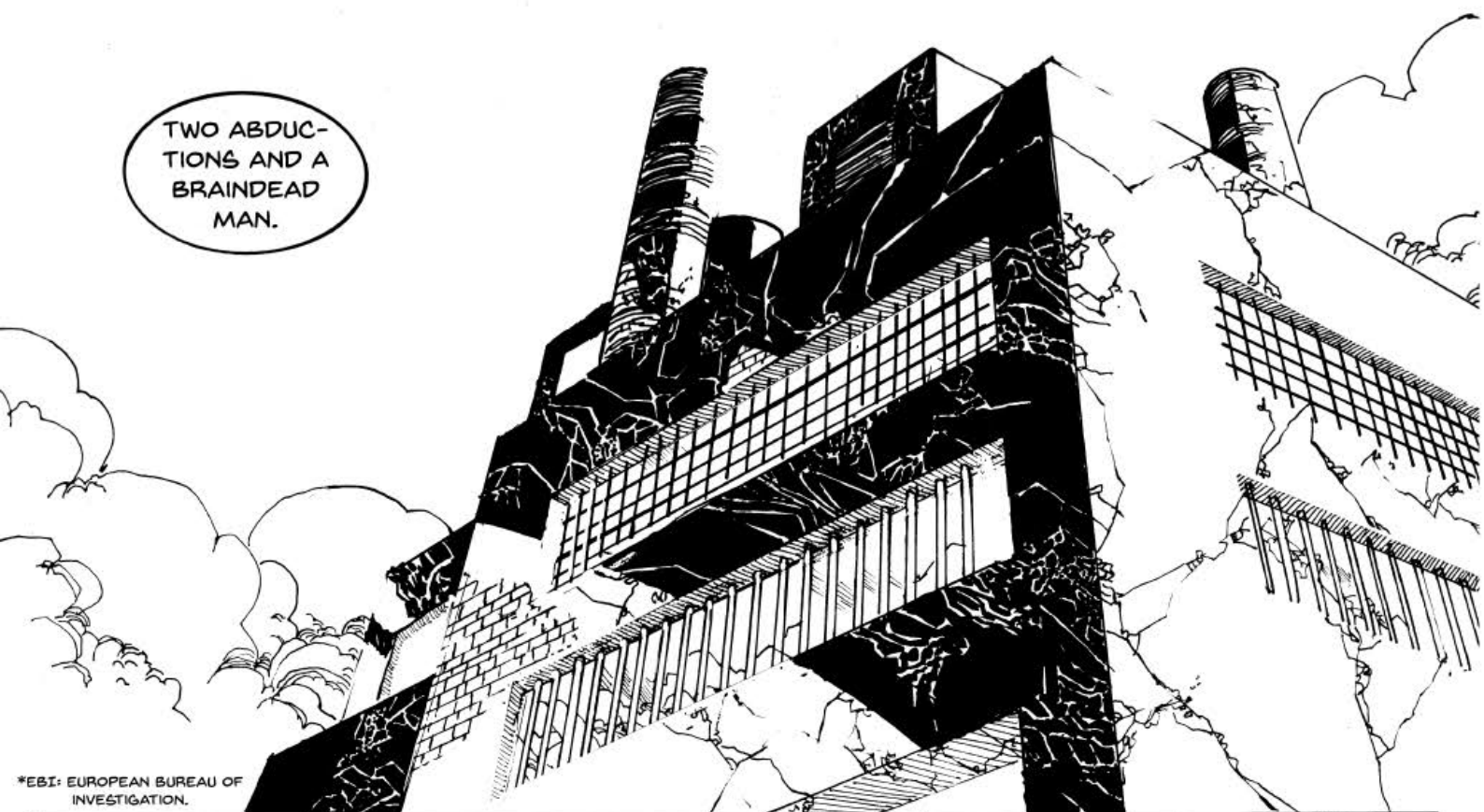
YOU **CURSED** US,
ADAM! DON'T YOU SEE
IT? YOU CURSED US!



AND NOW YOU'RE
GONNA GO ALL OVER
EUROPE WITH THAT
FUCKING **WHORE!**



**WHEN I NEED
YOU THE MOST!**



TWO ABDUC-
TIONS AND A
BRAINDEAD
MAN.

*EBI: EUROPEAN BUREAU OF
INVESTIGATION.



YOU MINIMIZED THE
CIVILIAN SIGHTINGS,
RIGHT? THE EBI* IS
QUITE OBSESSED WITH
THAT THESE DAYS.

YEAH, **CONTROL
OF NARRATIVE** IS EX-
PENSIVE AND THERE'S
ALWAYS THE RISK THAT
SOMEONE WILL ESCAPE
AND TRY TO TALK



FOLLOW ME.

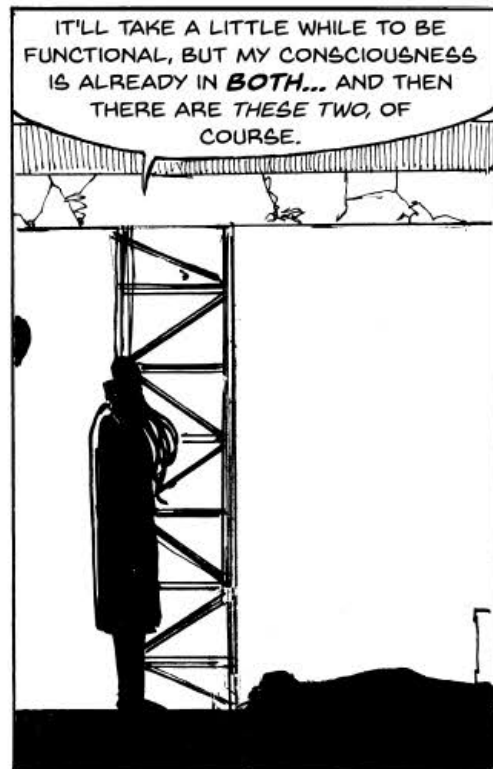
ARE
YOU OKAY?
YOU'RE
BLEEDING.



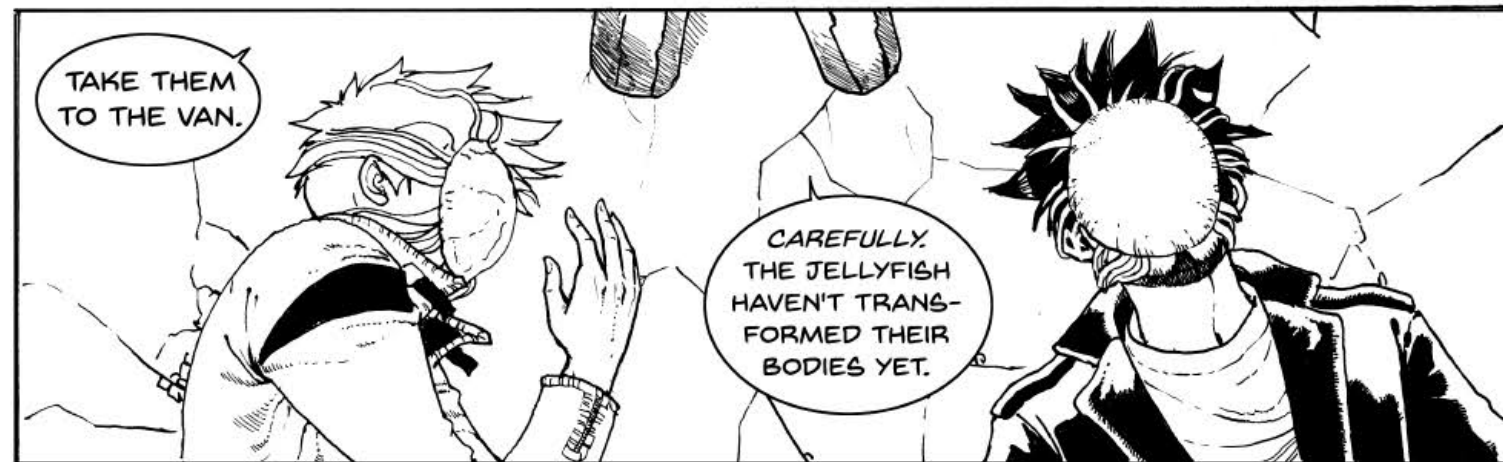
NO. THIS BODY IS DYING.

WHAT?

NO MATTER.
I HAVE GENE-
RATED **ANO-
THER.**



IT'LL TAKE A LITTLE WHILE TO BE
FUNCTIONAL, BUT MY CONSCIOUSNESS
IS ALREADY IN **BOTH...** AND THEN
THERE ARE **THESE TWO**, OF
COURSE.



TAKE THEM
TO THE VAN.

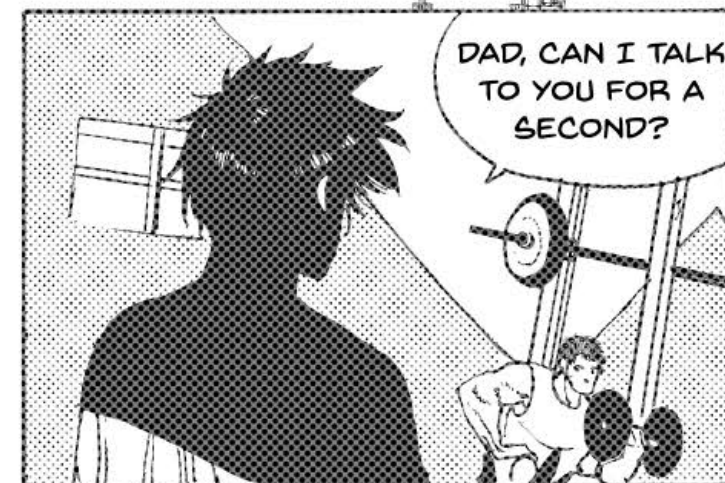
CAREFULLY.
THE JELLYFISH
HAVEN'T TRANS-
FORMED THEIR
BODIES YET.



I... I HAVEN'T
DONE ANYTHING
WRONG...



BLANCA?
CAN I SEE YOU
FOR A SECOND?



DAD, CAN I TALK
TO YOU FOR A
SECOND?



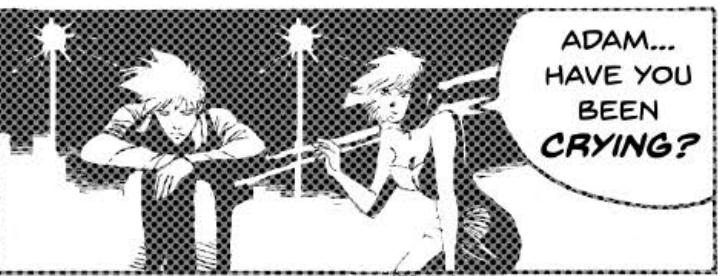
HEY! WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE?



SURE.
WHAT?

WHAT?
WHE...
?

RETRIEVE
THE **SECRET
MEMORIES.**



ADAM...
HAVE YOU
BEEN
CRYING?



MY FATHER LOST
HIS MIND. JUST LIKE
THAT, OUT OF NO-
WHERE.



WHAT?
HOW?



THE DOCTORS...
THEY DON'T KNOW
WHAT HAPPENED.

AND MY-MY MOTHER...
I... I DON'T UNDER-
STAND... WHAT HAVE I
DONE WRONG?



WHAT
ARE YOU
TALKING
ABOUT?

I CAN'T DO
THE **TRIP**,
BLANCA.



HELLO AGAIN. RE-
MEMBER WHAT I
TOLD YOU ABOUT THE
CABALISTS? ME
HAVING POTENTIAL
AND ALL THAT.

'CAUSE I
LEARNED MAGIC
ALONE.



ARE THEY IM-
PORTANT? IS
THERE **MONEY**
INVOLVED?



WELL, THE TRUTH IS THAT
NOT MUCH IS KNOWN
ABOUT THEM. THEY USE
TAROT AND KABBALAH
CODENAMES, DISPOSABLE
CELL PHONES...



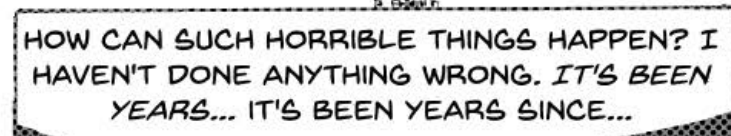
...BUT THEY
SEEM, YOU
KNOW, IN THE
THICK OF IT.



I CAN'T DO
SOMETHING
LIKE THAT
TO MY MO-
THER... NOT
NOW.



WHY NOT? YOUR
FATHER WILL RECO-
VER, IF THE DOCTORS
DON'T SEE ANYTHING...
YOU'LL SEE.



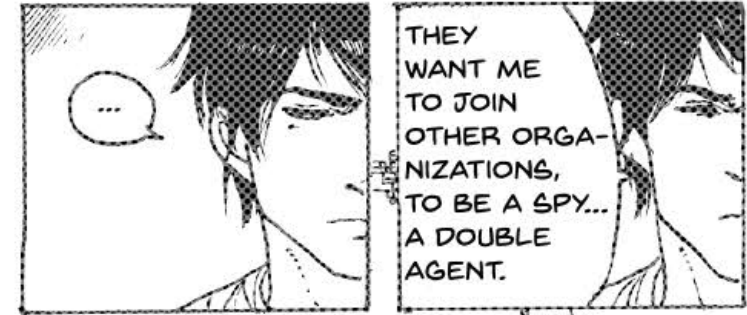
HOW CAN SUCH HORRIBLE THINGS HAPPEN? I
HAVEN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG. **IT'S BEEN**
YEARS... **IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE...**



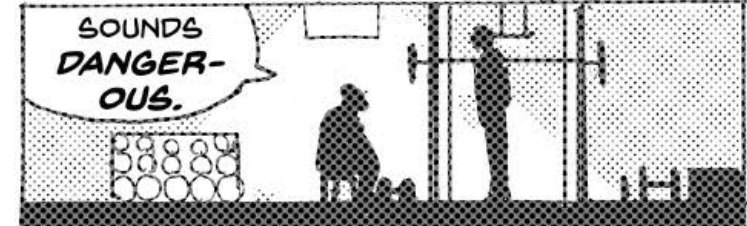
IT'S BEEN YEARS SINCE
I'VE BARELY USED IT...
SIGURD'S USING IT, YOU
KNOW, AND I THINK IT'LL
END **BADLY**. MAGIC NEVER
PROTECTS YOU FROM
ANY OF THIS...

WHAT
ARE...?

YOU CAN'T
CHANGE THE **WHOLE**
WORLD WHEN YOU'RE
A ROOKIE...



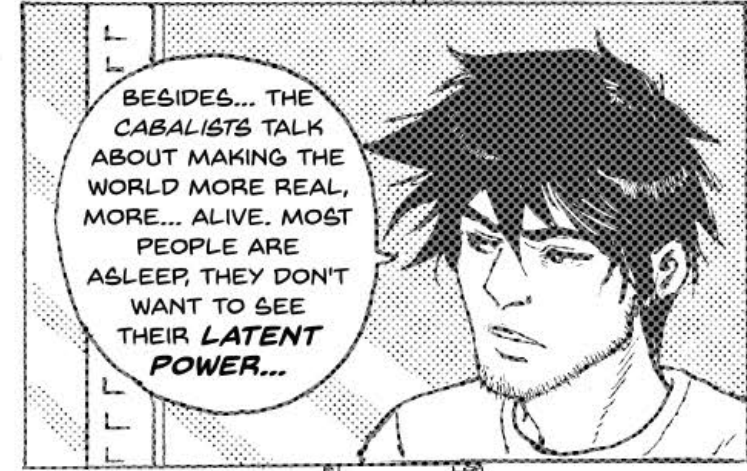
THEY
WANT ME
TO JOIN
OTHER ORGA-
NIZATIONS,
TO BE A SPY...
A DOUBLE
AGENT.



SOUNDS
**DANGER-
OUS**.



WELL, YOU JUMP
OUT OF PLANES
AND BRIDGES,
HM.



BESIDES... THE
CABALISTS TALK
ABOUT MAKING THE
WORLD MORE REAL,
MORE... ALIVE. MOST
PEOPLE ARE
ASLEEP, THEY DON'T
WANT TO SEE
THEIR **LATENT**
POWER...

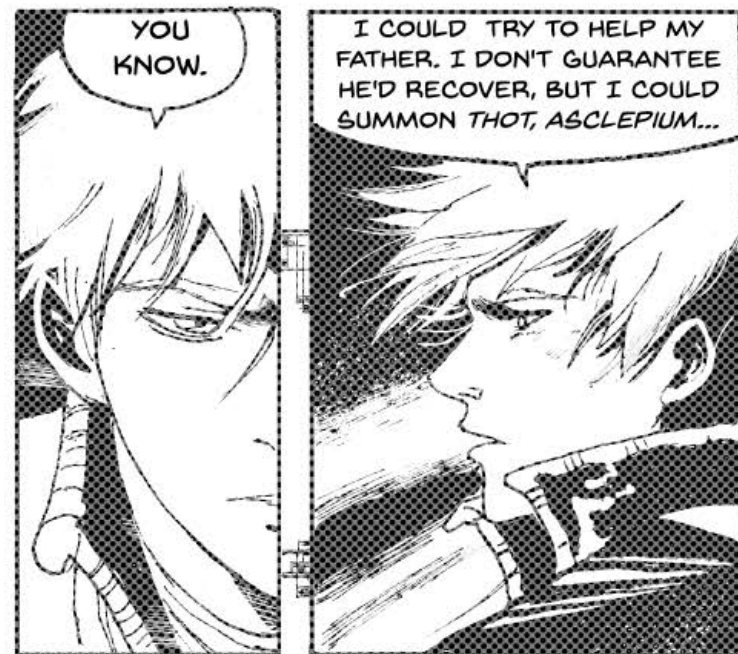


THEY DON'T WANT RES-
PONSIBILITIES... BUT BE-
CAUSE OF THAT, THE
WORLD IS FILLED WITH
SUBMISSIVE PEOPLE
WHO ACCEPT ANY INJUS-
TICE...

YOU REALLY
ARE LIKE YOUR
MOTHER, MAY SHE
REST IN PEACE.



SINCE SHE DIED... I
DON'T KNOW, YOU GET
TOO CAUGHT UP IN
YOUR THOUGHTS, I
FEEL.



YOU KNOW.

I COULD TRY TO HELP MY FATHER. I DON'T GUARANTEE HE'D RECOVER, BUT I COULD SUMMON *THOT*, *ASCLEPIUM*...



...THERE WAS THIS **PRIEST** WHO TAUGHT ME TECHNIQUES...

MAGIC, IN ONE WORD. LIKE THE COP-MAGES. I KNOW PEOPLE DON'T BELIEVE IT, BUT... IT WORKS. FOR A WHILE I FELT THAT THE WORLD MADE SENSE, THAT I CAME TO LEARN THIS...

SUDDENLY I COULD HEAR THINGS... THE COMICS TALKED TO ME, I COULD DISCOVER **SECRET MEANINGS** IN THEM... THE BUILDINGS TOLD ME STORIES OF THEIR TENANTS...



I STARTED WRITING **SIGILS** TO FULFILL SMALL DESIRES... THEN, I OPENED THE FIRST DOOR AND GOT POWERS...



OH, ADAM...

ANYWAY. MY MOTHER FOUND OUT ABOUT THE PRIEST.



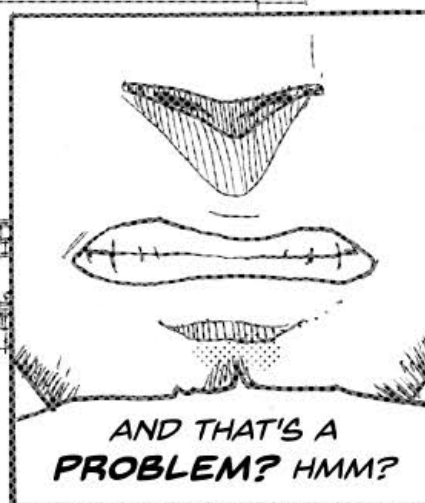
FUCK, DAD, YOU'VE GOT THE ELOQUENCE OF A **ROCK**.



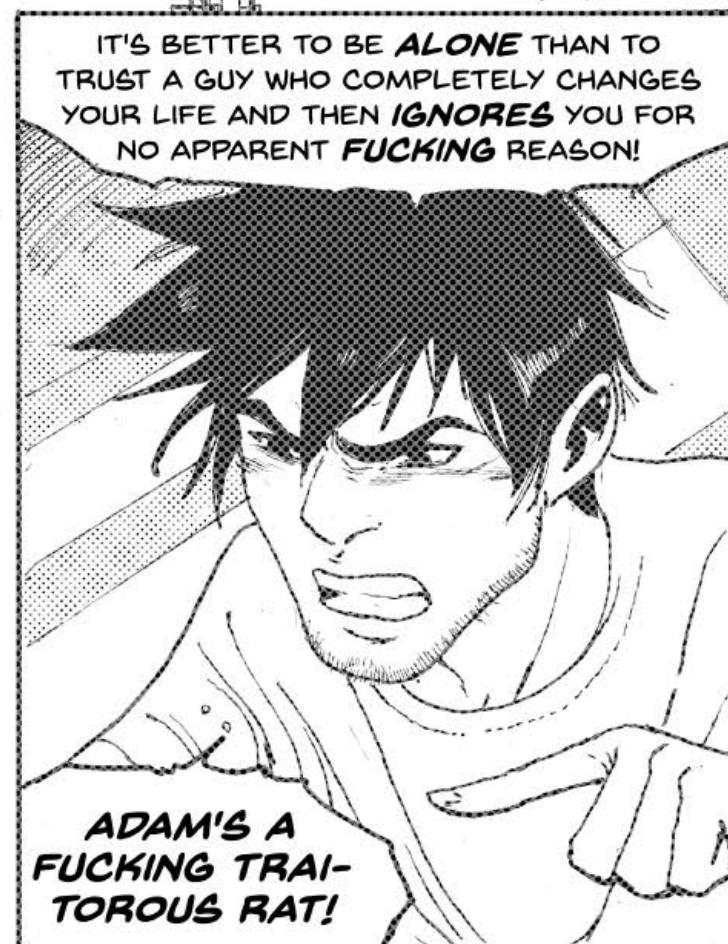
SAY ANYTHING YOU WANT, BUT IT'S TRUE.



YOU SPEND TOO MUCH TIME ALONE.



AND THAT'S A **PROBLEM?** HMM?



IT'S BETTER TO BE **ALONE** THAN TO TRUST A GUY WHO COMPLETELY CHANGES YOUR LIFE AND THEN **IGNORES** YOU FOR NO APPARENT **FUCKING** REASON!

ADAM'S A FUCKING TRAITOROUS RAT!



SHE WAS LIVID, FULL OF ANGER. "HE IS A SERVANT OF *THE OTHER*, THE DEVIL!" SHE RAISED A FUSS... AND **THREATENED** HIM.

...TOLD HIM THAT IF HE DIDN'T LEAVE THIS CITY, SHE'D PUBLICLY DENOUNCE HIM FOR WORSHIPPING *THE OTHER*. AND YOU KNOW WHAT? HE AGREED. HE LEFT. HE LEFT ME. "YOU HAVE TO RESPECT PEOPLE'S WILL TO DECLARE THEMSELVES **IRRESPONSIBLE** FOR THEIR LIVES", HE SAID TO ME.



"MAGIC, LIKE ANY SOURCE OF POWER, FORCES YOU TO TAKE RESPONSIBILITY... BUT MOST PEOPLE PREFER TO BE **VICTIMS** OF THEIR OWN CONDITION". SO HERE WE ARE: I COULD USE MAGIC TO TRY TO HELP MY MOTHER...

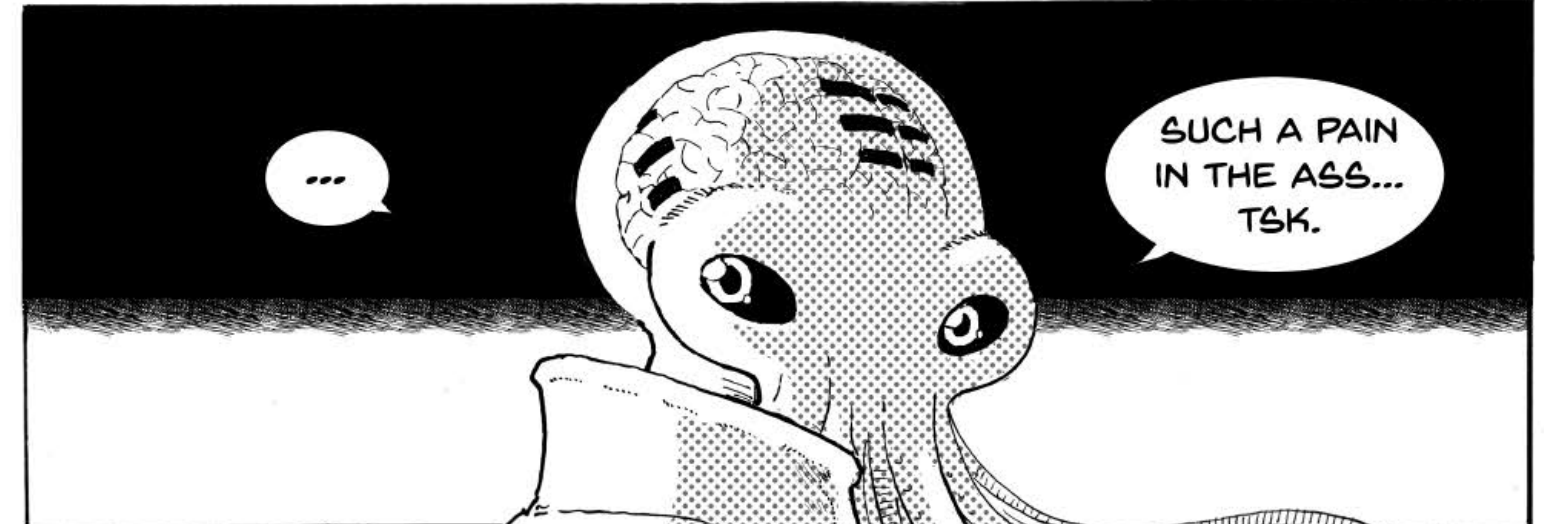
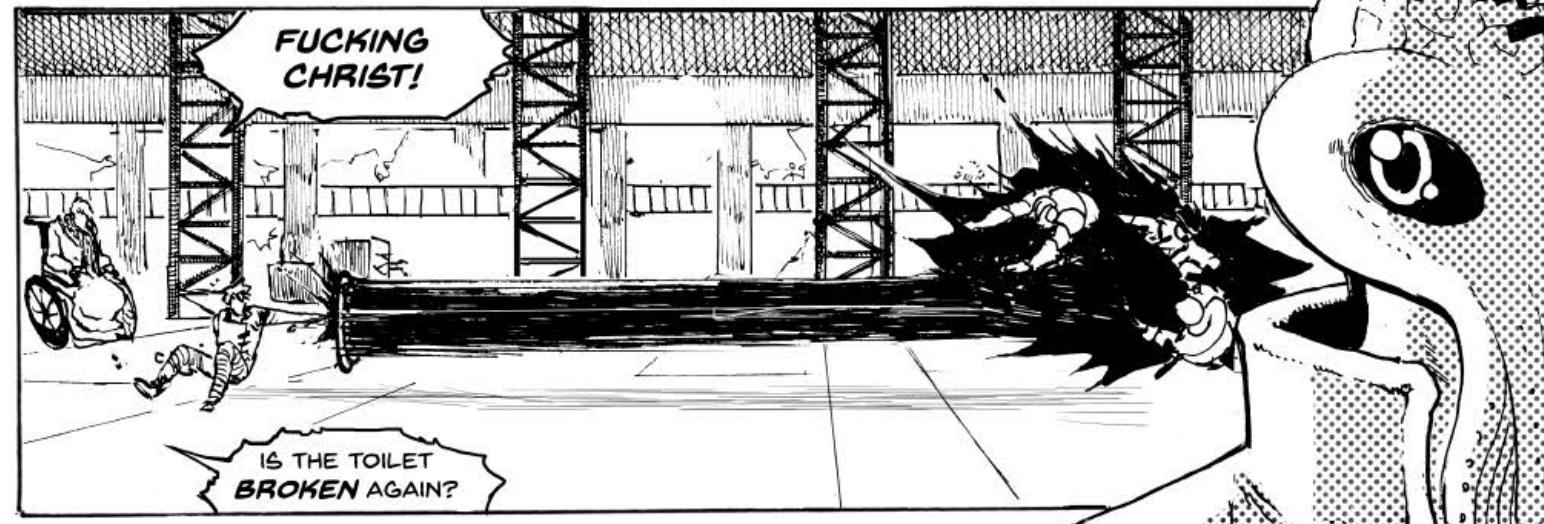
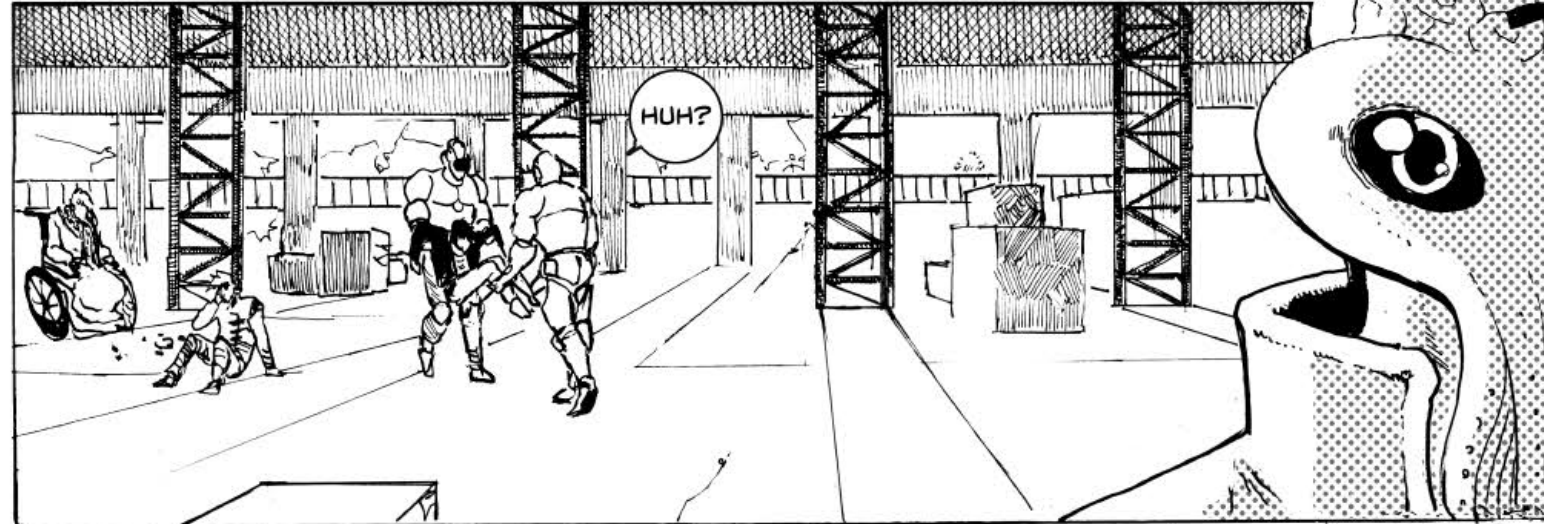
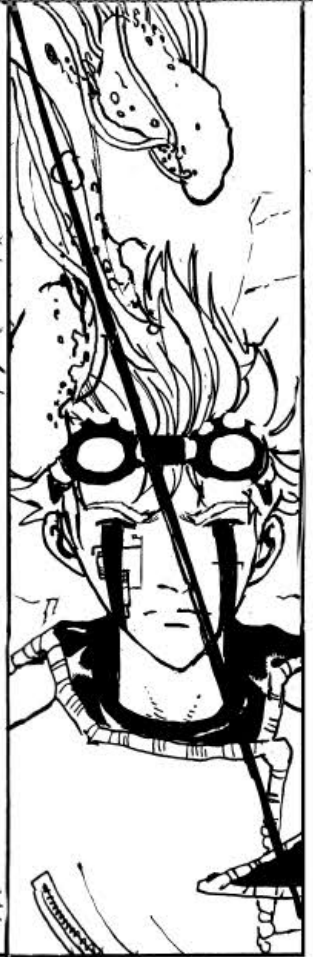
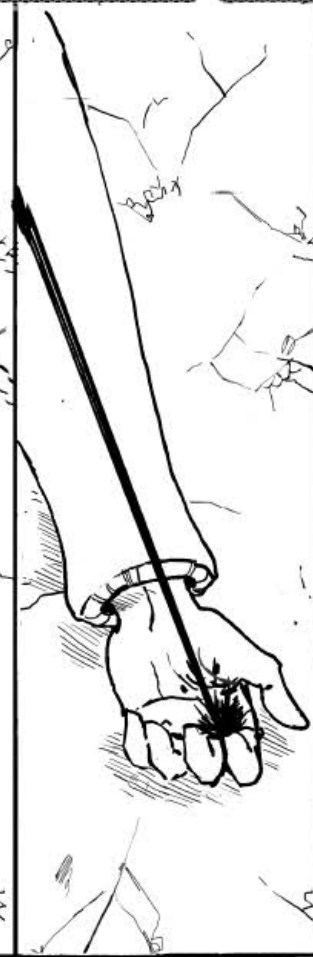
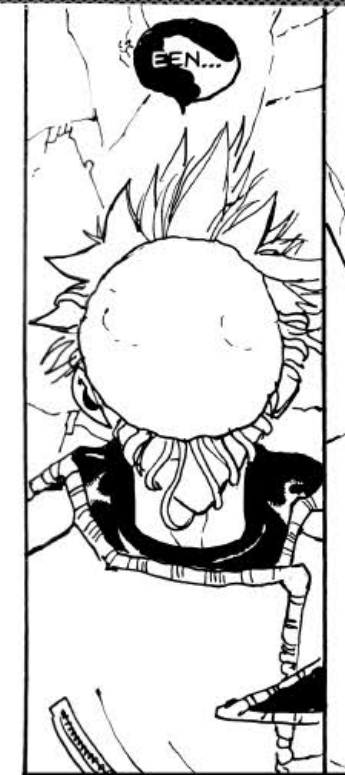
MAGIC ALLOWS YOU TO CHANGE REALITY. BUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU STILL DON'T HAVE ENOUGH POWER TO REPAIR A MISFORTUNE? THEN YOU REALIZE HOW **PATHETIC** YOU ARE, HOW MUCH YOU STILL HAVE TO LEARN...



I LEARNED MAGIC ONLY TO SEE MY MOTHER **DIE** WHILE THE FUCKWIT THAT TAUGHT ME ABANDONS ALL THIS POWER BECAUSE MOMMY DOESN'T LIKE IT!



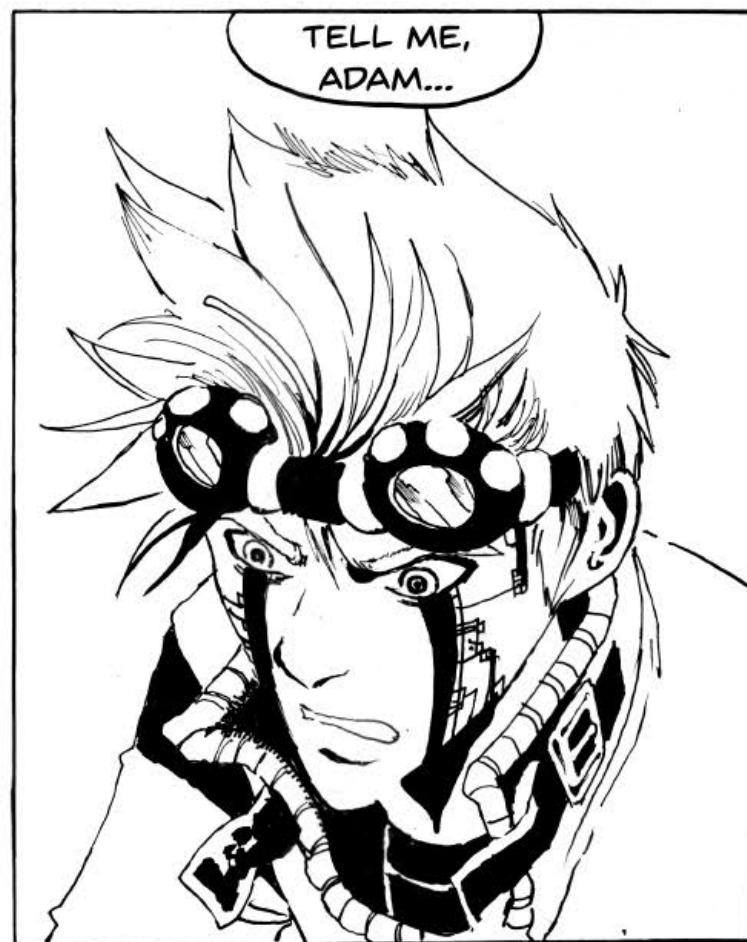
I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT NOT JOINING *THE CABALISTS* HOPING THAT SOMEHOW THE FUCKING MORON WOULD WAKE UP AND TELL ME TO DO SOMETHING **TOGETHER**, BUT IT SEEMS THAT THE VERY LACKING TITS OF THAT GIRL ARE ENOUGH FOR HIM!





FIGHTING IS USELESS.
THIS BODY WILL GO
INTO A PROCESS OF
DECOMPOSITION.
MY CONSCIOUSNESS,
HOWEVER, WILL
SURVIVE.

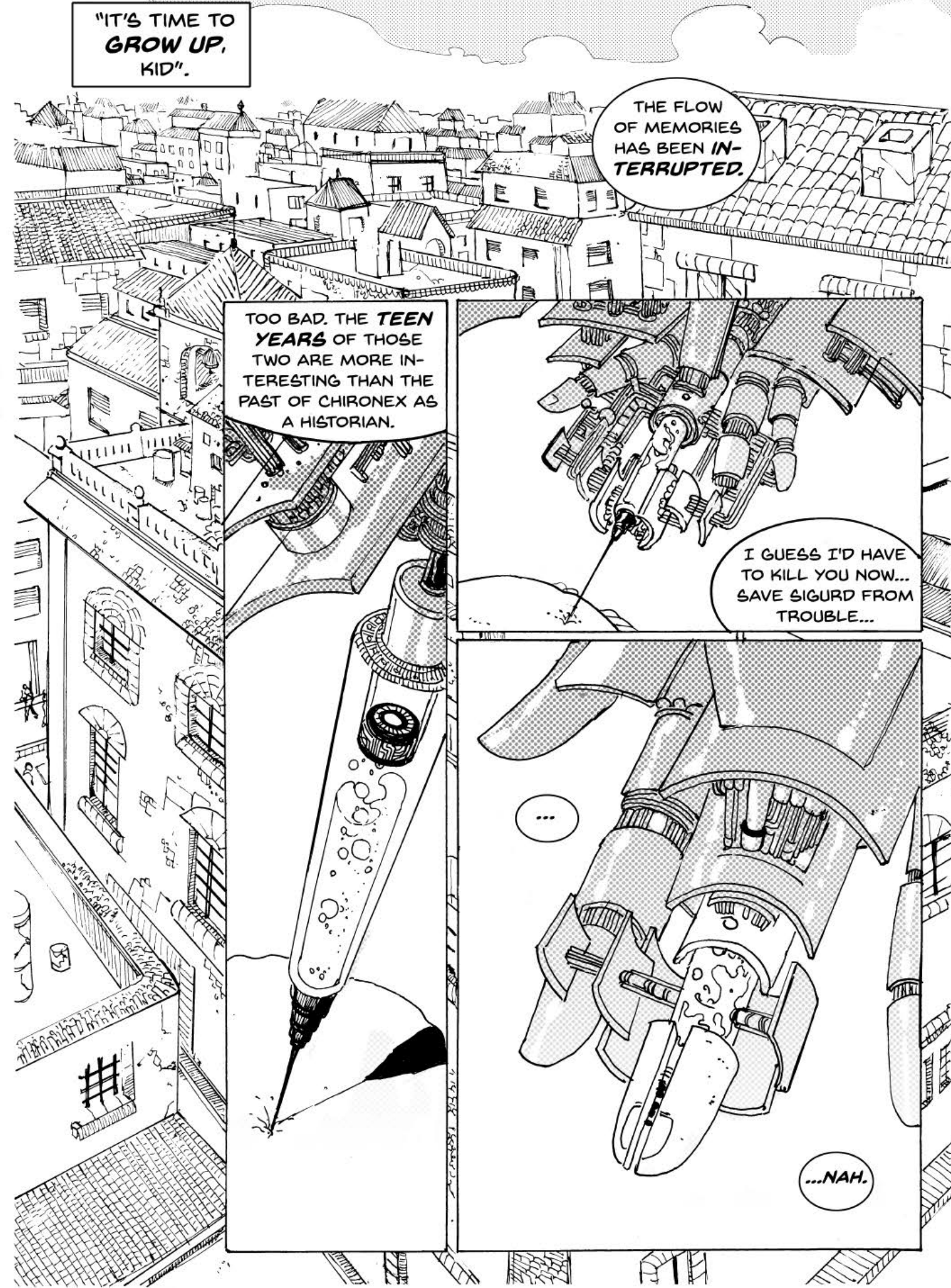
AND WITH IT THE
MEMORIES I'VE
GOT OF YOU, SIGURD,
YOUR FATHER,
BLANCA...



TELL ME,
ADAM...



ARE YOU GOING TO KEEP
RUNNING AWAY FROM THE
EBI, EVEN IF YOU PUT THE
PEOPLE YOU LOVE AT
RISK?



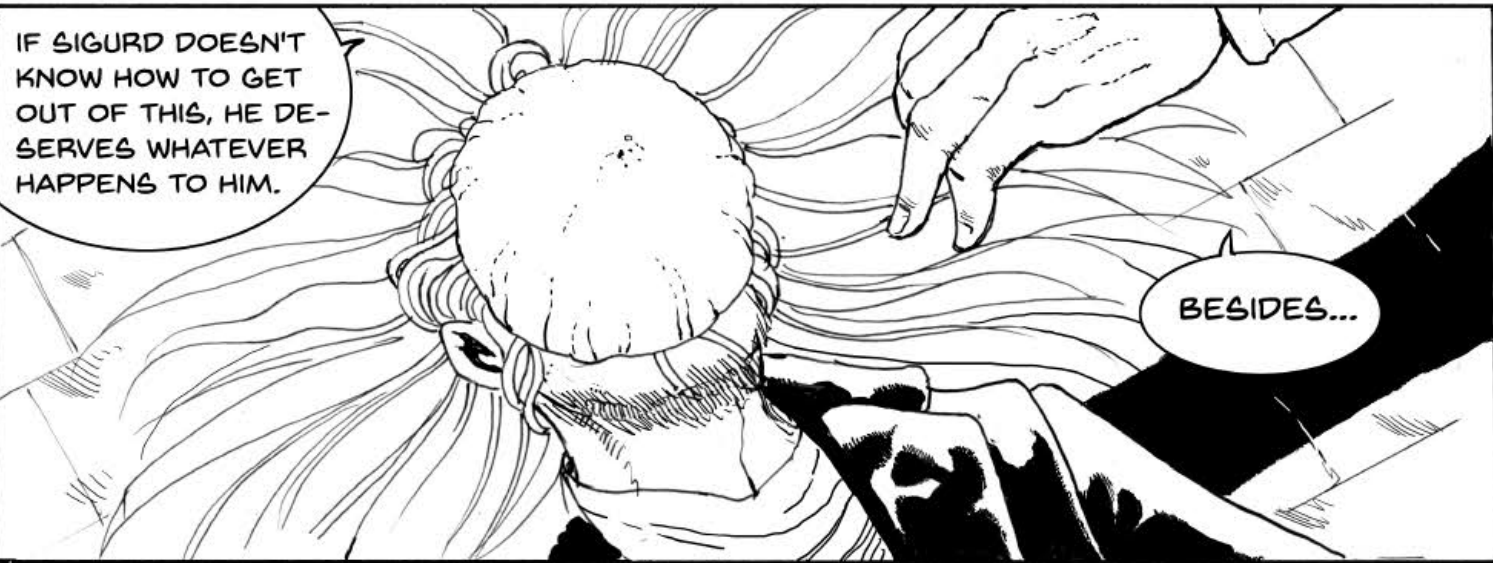
"IT'S TIME TO
GROW UP,
KID".

THE FLOW
OF MEMORIES
HAS BEEN **IN-**
TERRUPTED.

TOO BAD. THE **TEEN**
YEARS OF THOSE
TWO ARE MORE IN-
TERESTING THAN THE
PAST OF CHIRONEX AS
A HISTORIAN.

I GUESS I'D HAVE
TO KILL YOU NOW...
SAVE SIGURD FROM
TROUBLE...

...NAH.



IF SIGURD DOESN'T
KNOW HOW TO GET
OUT OF THIS, HE DE-
SERVES WHATEVER
HAPPENS TO HIM.

BESIDES...



HOW COULD I KILL
SOMEONE WHO GAVE
ME SUCH JUICY IN-
FORMATION?

...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-
SURGEOMIC](https://facebook.com/upsurgecomic)

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