

ש-ד-ח-ה-ת-מ-כ-ו-ת: ת-ח-ל-מ



ו-ח-ה-ת-מ-כ-ו-ת: ת-ח-ל-מ

SIMON M.

SCRIPT

PANEL LAYOUT

COVER

TRANSLATION

(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

EPILOGUE'S PENCILS

AND INK

EMAIL: UPSURGECOMICS@GMAIL.COM

WEBPAGE: WWW.UPSURGE.ES/ENGLISH

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ATANA S.

PENCILS

INK

THEM THE FISH THIEVES? I HAD FISH AND NOW I DON'T HAVE FISH.



HAVE TO CATCH THEM. TEACH THE TRUTH TO THEM.



THEY'VE CAPTURED YOUR PARTNER. THE BALD ONE.



THEY PUT A MAGIC SIGIL ON HIS HEAD AND HE BEGAN TO BE COVERED IN ROCKS...



SO NOT EVERY STATUE IS FROM THAT TIME?



WE HAVE TO STOP THIS. EVEN IF THEY DON'T RUN AS FAST, THEY BEAT US IN NUMBERS. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO DEFUSE THE SPELL IF THEY FOLLOW US...



FOLLOW ME. I'VE DETECTED ADAM'S TRAIL.



SO WHAT?



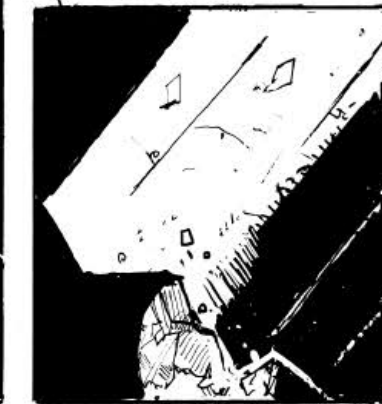
BELIEVE ME. ADAM'S WHERE THE MESS IS.





NGMPF...
YOU THINK
THIS IS
GONNA
STOP
ME?!

IT'LL ONLY
TAKE A MINUTE
TO HAVE MY
SHOULDER FULLY
HEALED!!



YOUR HAND
WILL STAY HERE,
STUPID BOY. I'M
NOT GOING TO
LET ROAM FREE
SOMETHING THAT
OPENS THE
DOORS TO OUR
WORLD.

ADAM.



WHO
KNOWS.

MAYBE IF I OBTAIN
THE **HAND OF GOD**
AND THE **HELMET OF**
MORPHEUS, I WILL
HAVE ENOUGH POWER
TO MODIFY THE SPELL
AND MAKE SANTIAGO
REAL...



AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAGH!!



WHY DID YOU
HUMILIATE ME,
DUDE?

ARE YOU SO **LONELY**
THAT YOU NEED TO
TALK EVEN TO THOSE
YOU INTEND TO KILL?



YOU THINK THESE
IMMATURE INSULTS
ARE GOING TO DO
YOU ANY GOOD?

DON'T MAKE
ME **LAUGH**.



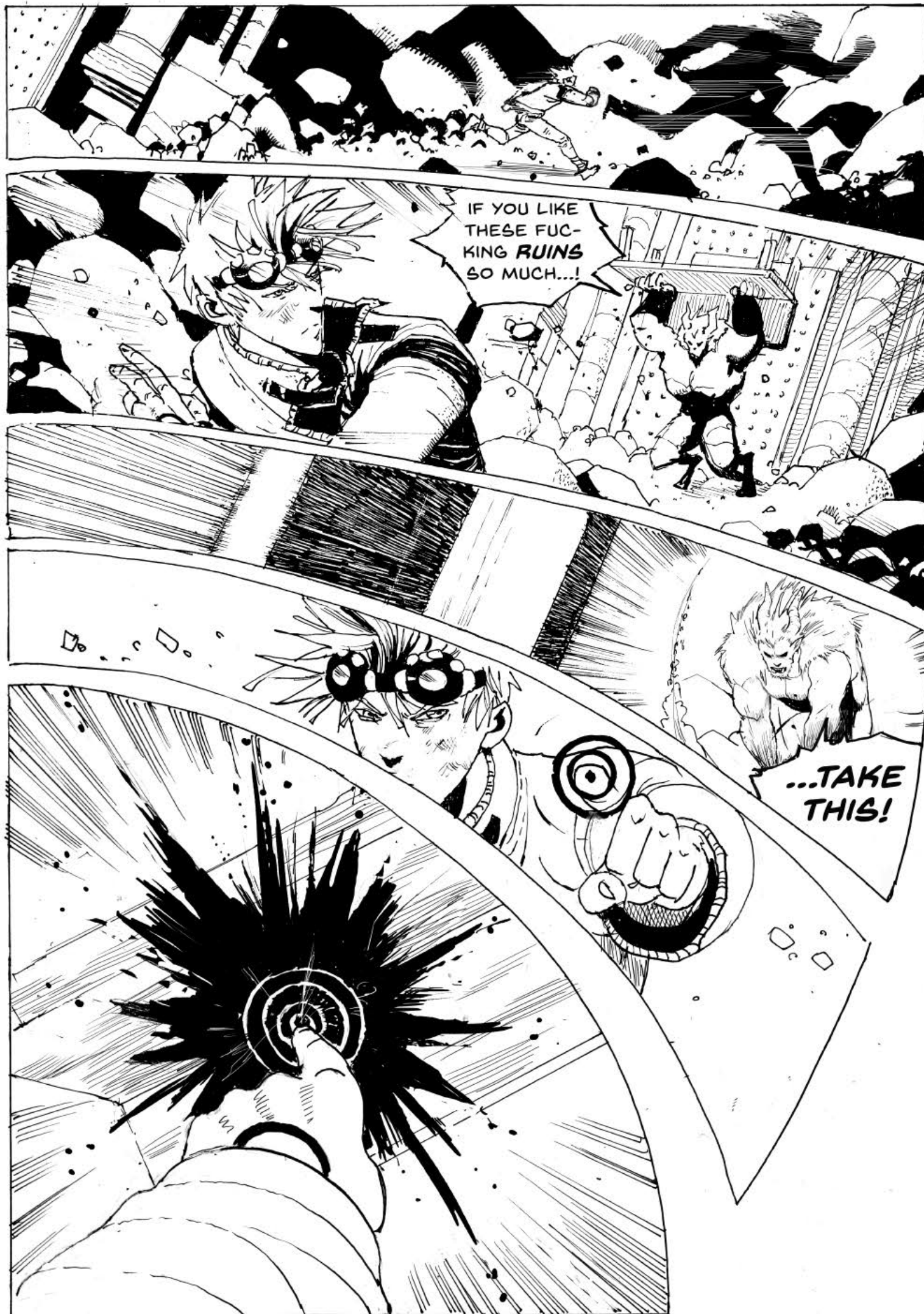
ADAM, HIS "MIND" HAS
CRACKS. DON'T LISTEN
TO HIM. WE WANT TO
REST, BUT OUR IMPERATIVE
IS TO MAKE SANTIAGO
A **LIVING CITY**.



MOST OF US ARE ONLY
STATUES, BUT INUO IS
MORE SOPHISTICATED... HE
FEEDS ON STORIES... BUT
IN THE END, NO MATTER
WHAT HE WANTS TO BE, HE
HAS TO FOLLOW THE IMPE-
RATIVE AND YOUR HAND
MARKS YOU AS THE EN-
EMY...

ARE YOU THE
ROCKS OF HIS BODY...?





DON'T
WORRY, IT'S
VERY
SIMPLE.

WHO **WERE** YOU
AND WHAT DID YOU
DO **BEFORE** YOU
TURNED INTO
STONE?

HMM.
ANO-
THER
POINT
OF THE
STAR.

THE ONE
WHO THINKS
HE'S **SMARTER**
THAN HE IS.

YOU REALLY THINK
THAT QUESTION IS
GOING TO CAUSE ME A
COGNITIVE SHOCK?

**EVERY
ROCK HAS ITS
BREAKING
POINT.**

**YOU HAVEN'T
ANSWERED.
YOU KNOW WHY?**

**BECAUSE YOU
DON'T KNOW. YOU
DON'T EVEN KNOW
YOU'RE MADE OF
STONE. YOU'RE A
BUNCH OF STATUES
BABBLING FRAGMENTS
OF MEMORIES, AND
YOU CAN BARELY DIS-
TINGUISH THEM
FROM REALITY.**

HEH.

HAHAHA! DO YOU
REALLY THINK
THAT WORKS
AGAINST **ME?**

NICE TRY, ESSEX.
IT WOULD'VE
WORKED, WITH THE
OTHERS.

ME?
I'M TOO
OLD.

MAY-
BE.

BUT I DON'T
THINK HE'S
THAT FAR
OFF.

I THINK
THERE'S AN
IDEA THAT CAN
HURT YOU.



WHAT?

DON'T PLAY DUMB.
WHY LET ME TALK?

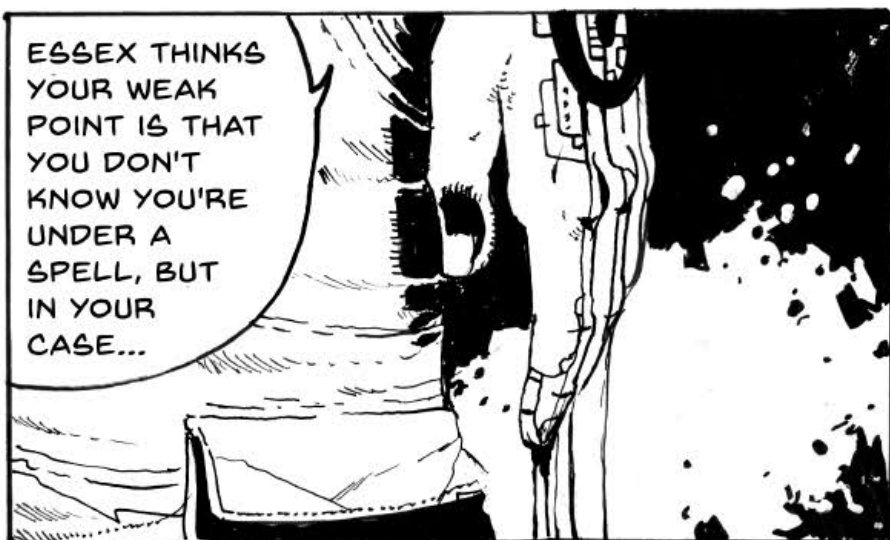


WHY TELL ME
YOUR STORY?

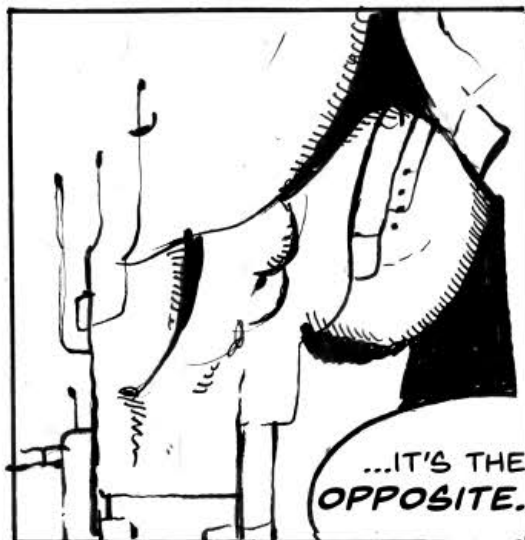
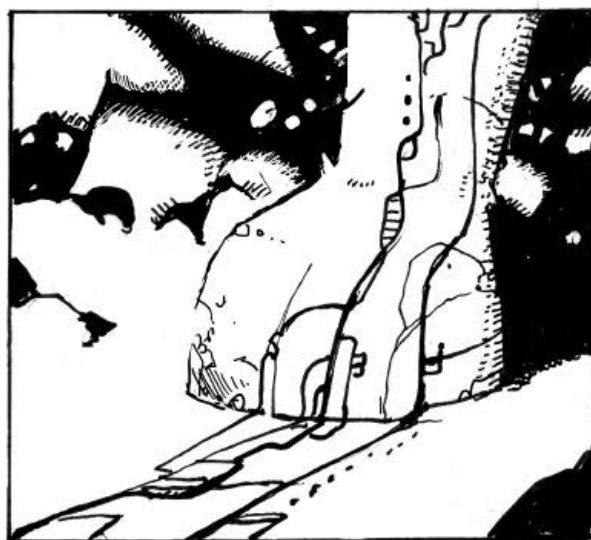
CYNICS
WOULD SAY IT'S
BECAUSE OF
SADISM.



I PREFER
TO THINK OF IT AS A
SIGN OF **LONELI-
NESS. OF DOUBT.**



ESSEX THINKS
YOUR WEAK
POINT IS THAT
YOU DON'T
KNOW YOU'RE
UNDER A
SPELL, BUT
IN YOUR
CASE...



...IT'S THE
OPPOSITE.

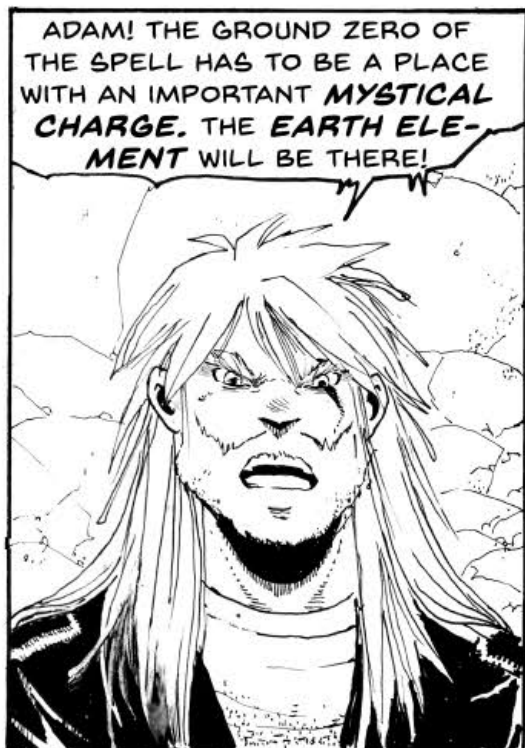


YOU **KNOW** YOU'RE A
GUY SUSTAINED BY A
SPELL THAT TELLS YOU
YOU'RE INUO, WHAT YOU
DON'T KNOW IS WHETHER
THAT STORY IS **TRUE**
OR NOT.

THAT'S THE
PROBLEM,
RIGHT?

CRACK

THE
HORROR OF
CONTEM-
PLATING
YOUR LIFE
AS A
LIE.



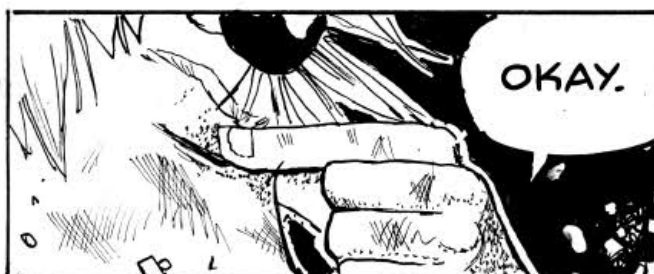
ADAM! THE GROUND ZERO OF THE SPELL HAS TO BE A PLACE WITH AN IMPORTANT **MYSTICAL CHARGE**. THE **EARTH ELEMENT** WILL BE THERE!



THE CATHEDRAL.

YOU HAVE TO HURRY UP; JACOB'S BECOMING ANOTHER FUCKING **STATUE**!

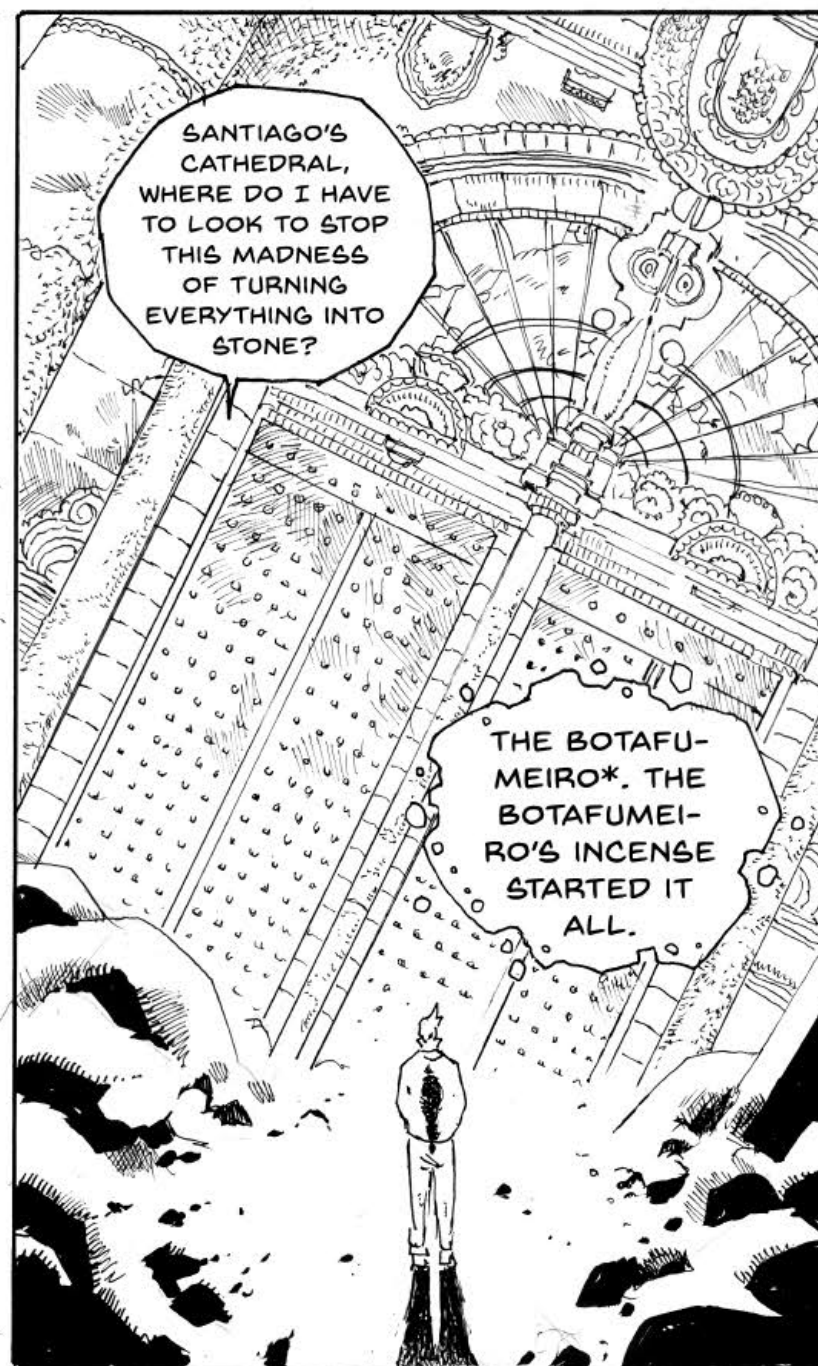
MAN, WHAT A DAY.



OKAY.



...LET'S END THIS NIGHTMARE OF A DAY.



SANTIAGO'S CATHEDRAL, WHERE DO I HAVE TO LOOK TO STOP THIS MADNESS OF TURNING EVERYTHING INTO STONE?

THE BOTAFUMEIRO*. THE BOTAFUMEIRO'S INCENSE STARTED IT ALL.



DO YOU KNOW WHO PUT A **SPELL** IN THE BOTAFUMEIRO?

I DON'T.

YOU ARE AN IDIOT, ADAM.

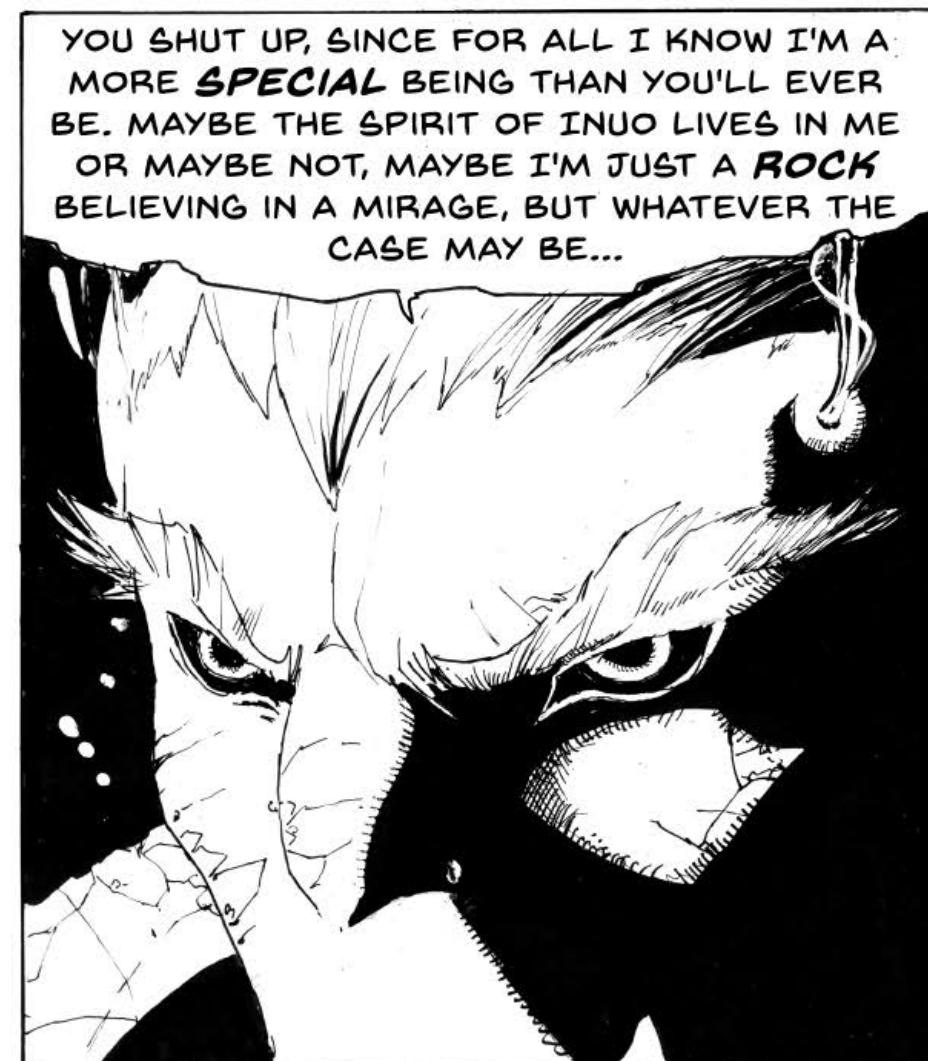


A GODDAMN IDIOT.

YOU REALLY DESERVE THAT DAMN HAND. YOU'RE THE REAL ANTICHRIST, A **MORONIC JESUS**.

INSTEAD OF DOING MIRACLES, YOU **UNDO** THEM.

SHUT UP.



YOU SHUT UP, SINCE FOR ALL I KNOW I'M A MORE **SPECIAL** BEING THAN YOU'LL EVER BE. MAYBE THE SPIRIT OF INUO LIVES IN ME OR MAYBE NOT, MAYBE I'M JUST A **ROCK** BELIEVING IN A MIRAGE, BUT WHATEVER THE CASE MAY BE...



...I'M THE ONLY SELF-CONSCIOUS STATUE, I'M THE ONLY ONE AWARE OF ITS ORIGIN! THAT MEANS **SOMETHING**!



AND MAYBE THAT, TOO, IS **WRITTEN** IN THE SPELL.

*BOTAFUMEIRO: A BIG INCENSE BURNER INSIDE SANTIAGO'S CATHEDRAL.



YOU THINK YOU'RE **DIFFERENT**?!

YOU THINK YOU'RE NOT A PUPPET OF THE **STORIES** YOU HAVE IN YOUR HEAD?!

I KNOW ABOUT YOU **THREE, ADAM!** YOU HAVE NOT MADE A **SINGLE DECISION** THAT IS NOT **CONDITIONED** BY THE **PAST, BY MEMORY!**

DO YOU REALLY THINK PEOPLE WILL SEE YOU AS A HERO FOR FACING THE **FORCES** THAT MOVE THE WORLD?



DO YOU THINK PEOPLE WILL **APPLAUD** YOU? YOU STILL DON'T UNDERSTAND?



PEOPLE **DON'T** WANT TO KNOW!

PEOPLE WANT TO BE **DOMINATED** AND HAVE SOMEONE ELSE TAKE CARE OF THEIR PROBLEMS!



THEY'LL HATE YOU FOR MAKING THEM **SELF-AWARE!** WHY DESTROY US WHEN THEY WILL END UP **CRUCI...**?



UH... WHAT?



AND WHAT IF I'M **RIGHT**?



IT'S LIKE **THREE-DIMENSIONAL LANGUAGE.**



WHETHER IT WAS THE-MAN-FROM-BEYOND-TIME OR NOT...



...SOMEONE HAD ENOUGH POWER TO ENCHANT AN ENTIRE CITY FOR **CENTURIES!**



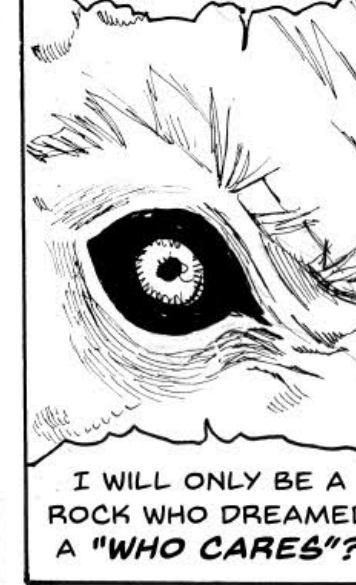
HMM. MAYBE INUO DID IT. THE **REAL ONE, I MEAN.**



SOMEONE DID IT LONG AGO. **WHO CARES?**

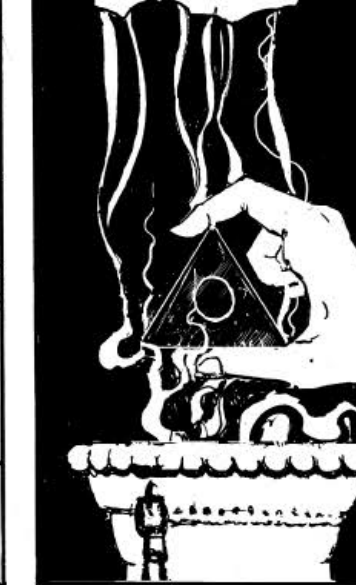


"WHO CARES?" THAT'S ALL?



I WILL ONLY BE A ROCK WHO DREAMED A "**WHO CARES**"?

W-W-HAT AB-OUT-THE LESSONS A-A...



...T-THE DREAMS WHEN I-I'M A-ASLEEP...



W-WHY W-WOULD I D-DREAM
WITH-TH GREEN FI-ELDS IF
I'M NO-NO-NO-THING...?



AND TH-THE
P-PP-EO-PLE
L-L-L-L-L-I-ST...



THEY L-LIS-LIST-
LI-LI-S-STEE-N...



I-I-I...



WE KNOW YOU'RE **STUPID** AND
YOU DON'T WANT TO JOIN US.



BUT THE
EARTH ELE-
MENT IS
OURS.

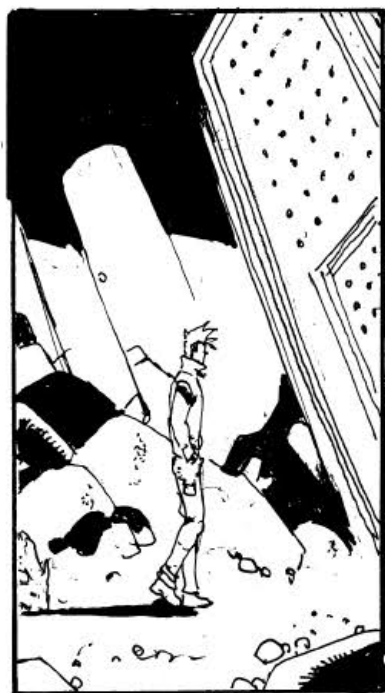
WE CAN
FIGHT,
ADAM.



SPEAK FOR
YOURSELF,
ESSEX. I'M
SICK OF THIS.



I DON'T EVEN
KNOW WHAT THIS
SHIT IS FOR.



FUCK.



NOW
WHAT.



HELLO,
ADAM.



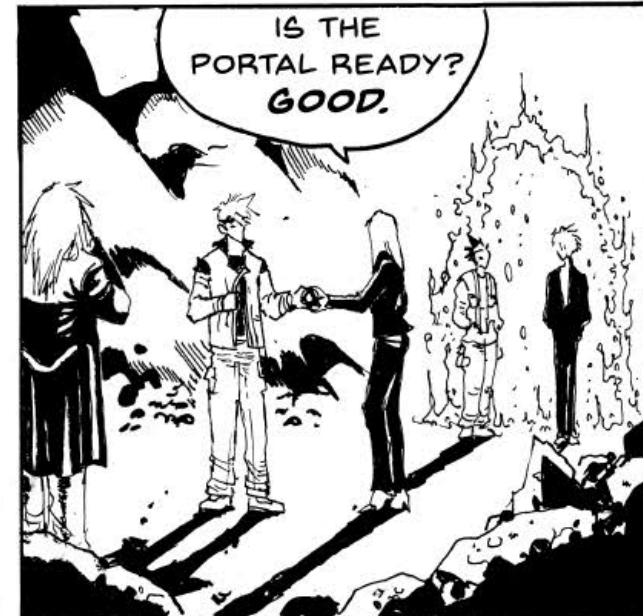
AND YOU THINK
YOU'RE GONNA
FIND OUT BY GI-
VING IT AWAY?!



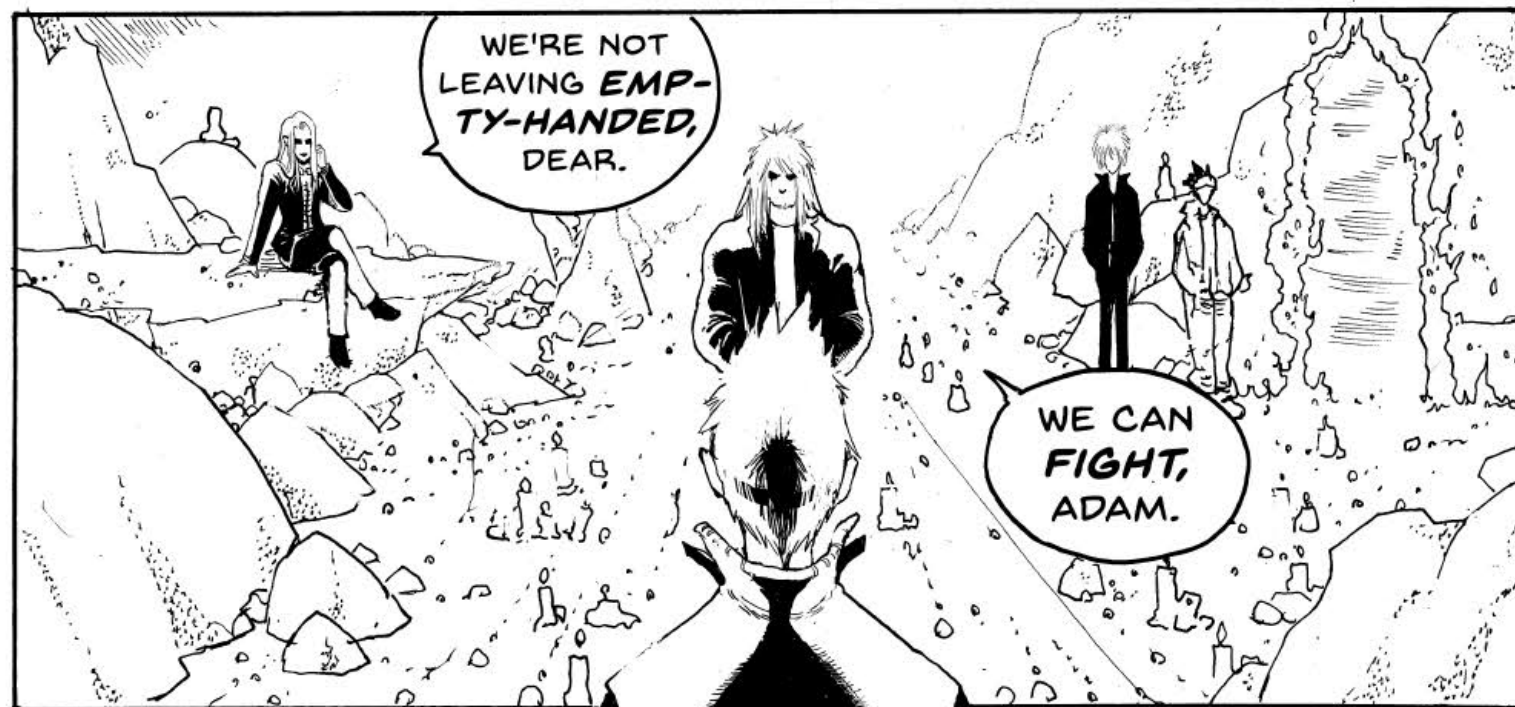
HERE
YOU
GO.



IS THE
PORTAL READY?
GOOD.



WE'RE NOT
LEAVING **EMP-
TY-HANDED,**
DEAR.



WE CAN
FIGHT,
ADAM.

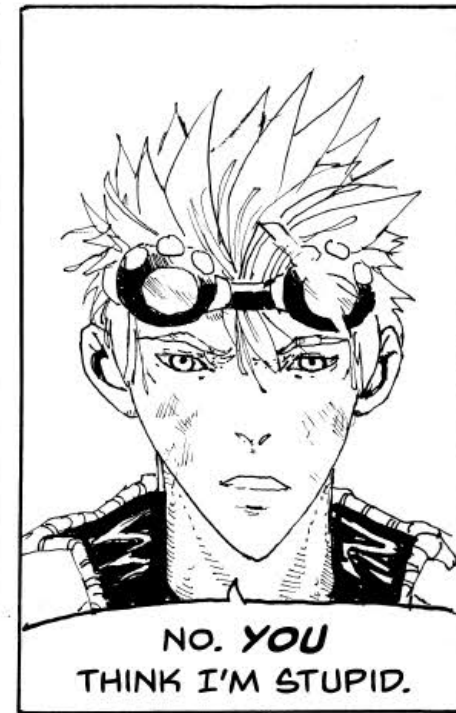


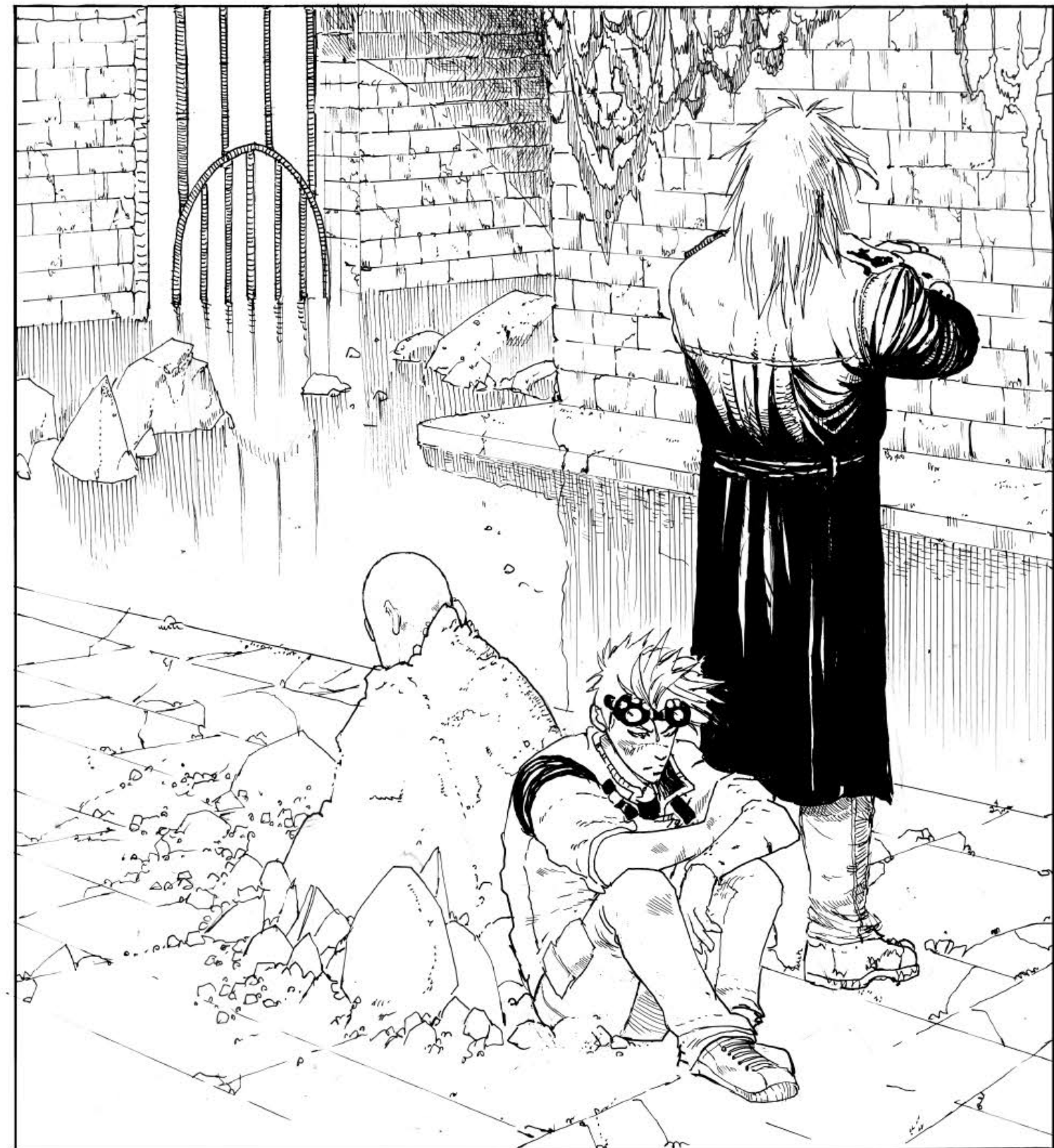
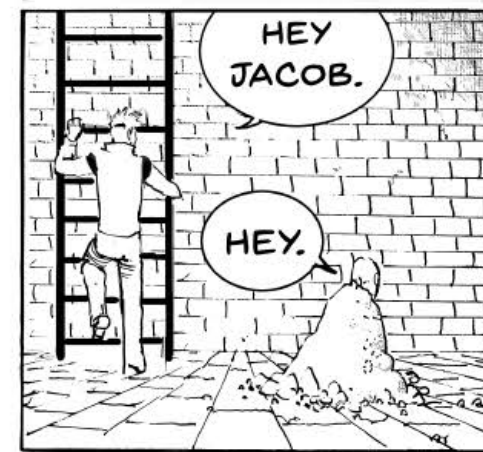
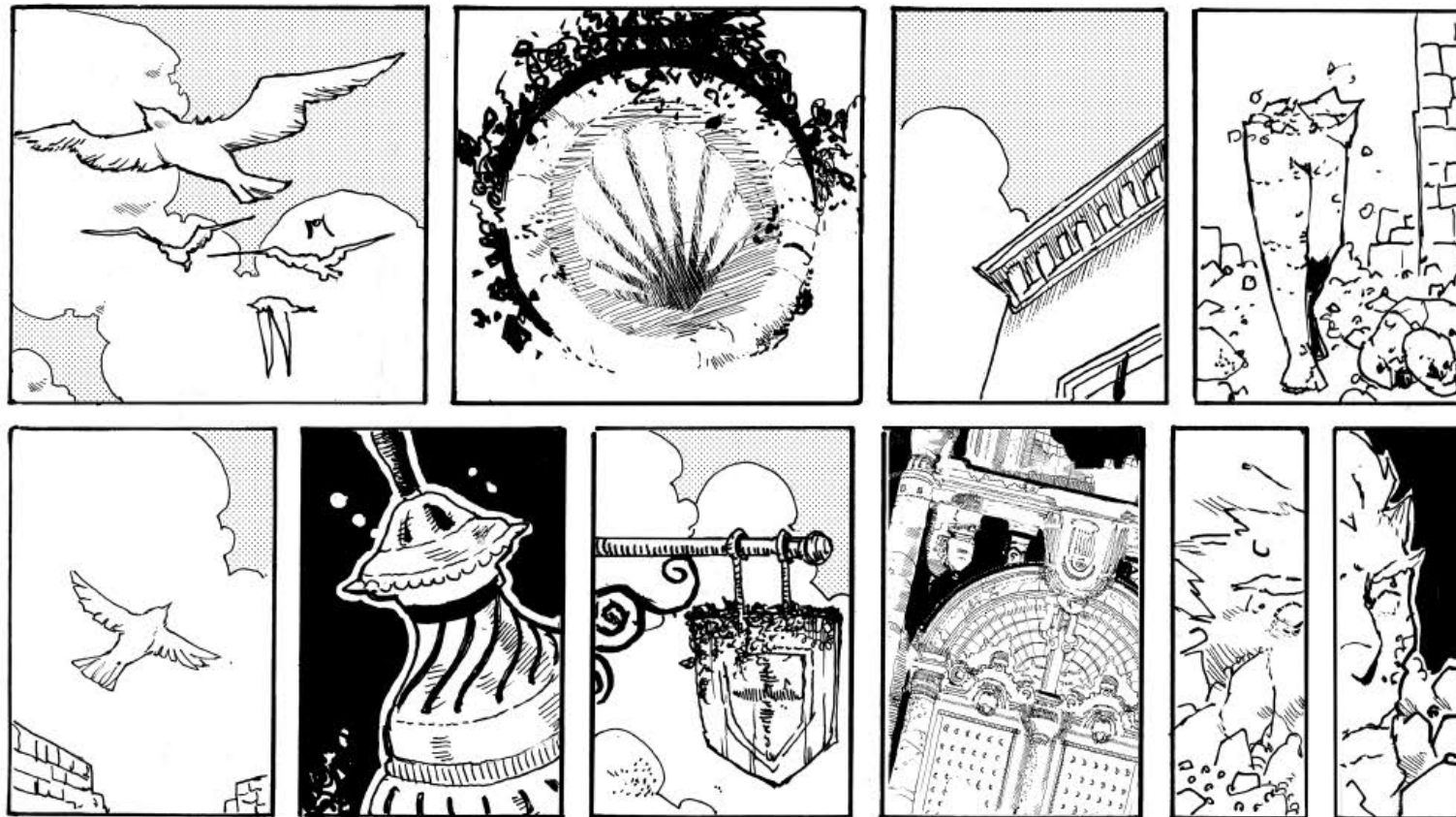
SEE YOU,
IF YOU'RE
STILL **ALIVE**
BY THEN.

YOU'RE STUPID,
ADAM.



NO. **YOU**
THINK I'M STUPID.

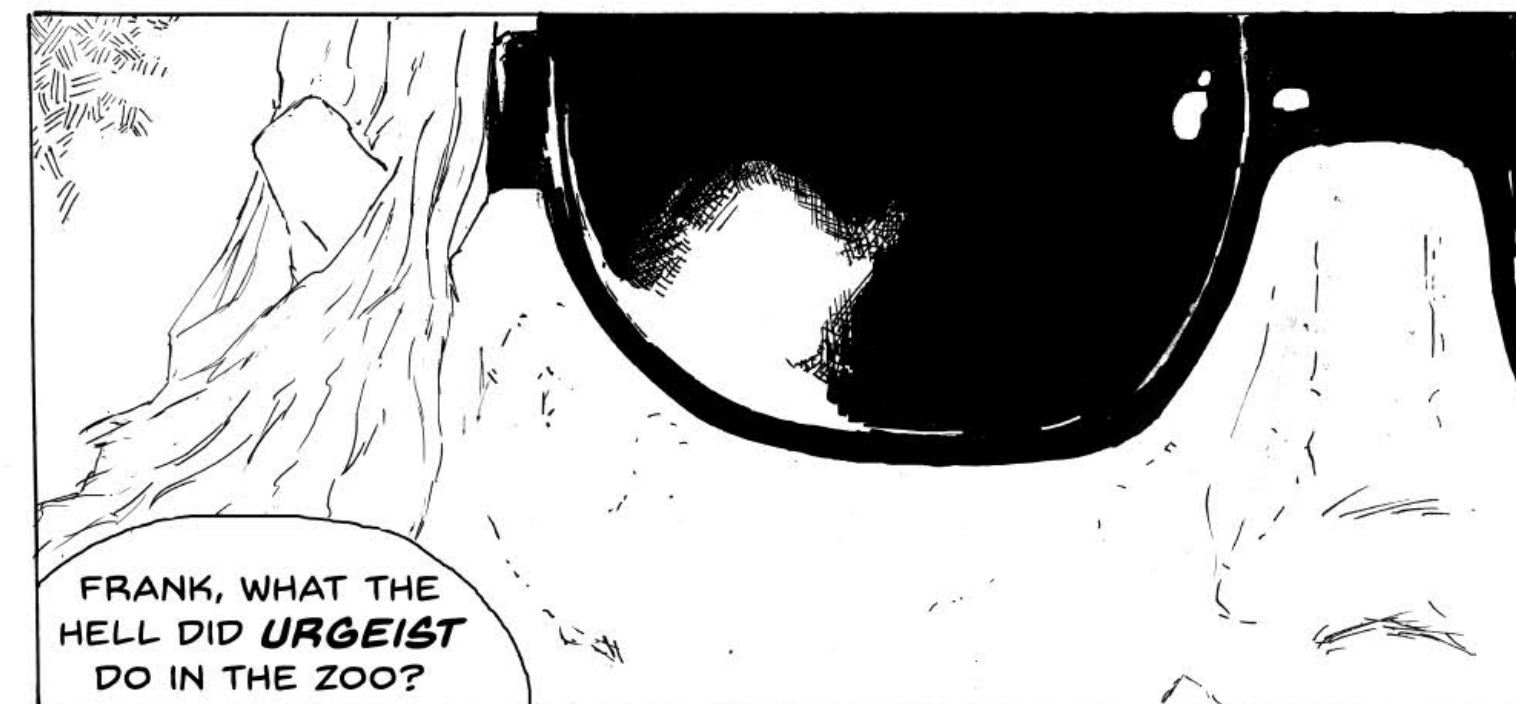


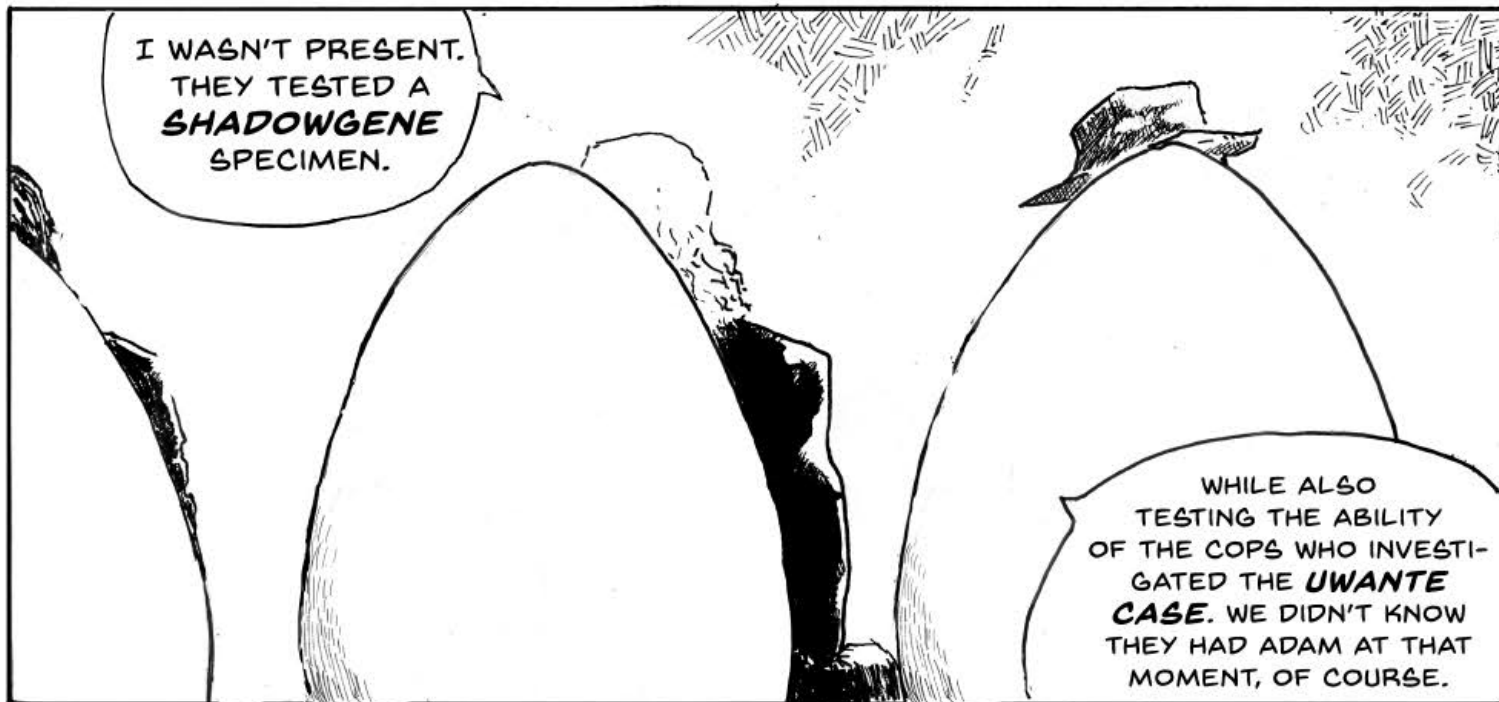






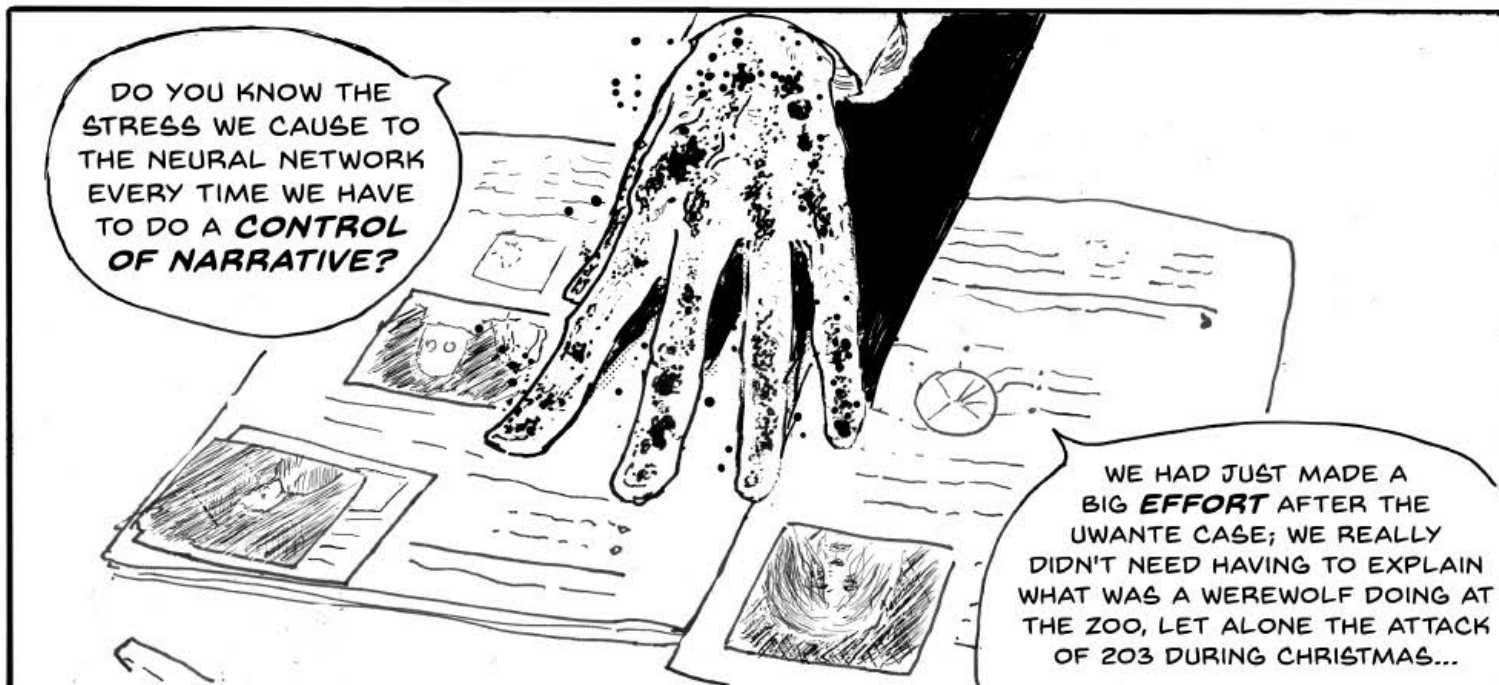
EPILOGUE





I WASN'T PRESENT. THEY TESTED A **SHADOWGENE** SPECIMEN.

WHILE ALSO TESTING THE ABILITY OF THE COPS WHO INVESTIGATED THE **UWANTE CASE**. WE DIDN'T KNOW THEY HAD ADAM AT THAT MOMENT, OF COURSE.

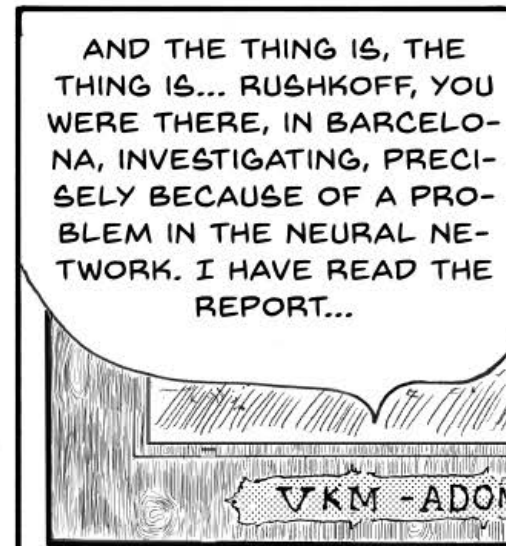


DO YOU KNOW THE STRESS WE CAUSE TO THE NEURAL NETWORK EVERY TIME WE HAVE TO DO A **CONTROL OF NARRATIVE**?

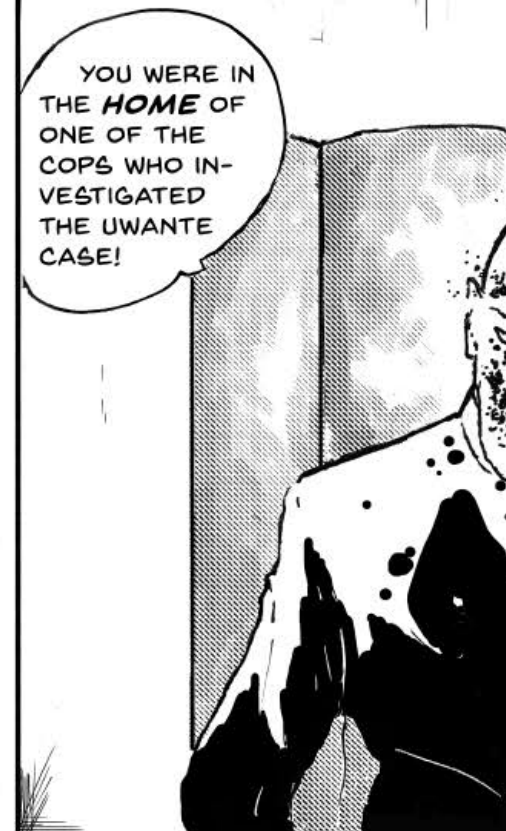
WE HAD JUST MADE A BIG **EFFORT** AFTER THE UWANTE CASE; WE REALLY DIDN'T NEED HAVING TO EXPLAIN WHAT WAS A WEREWOLF DOING AT THE ZOO, LET ALONE THE ATTACK OF 203 DURING CHRISTMAS...



HEY, HEY. I DIDN'T CAUSE ANY DAMAGE TO THE PUBLIC PROPERTY, THAT WAS ADAM.



YOU WERE IN THE **HOME** OF ONE OF THE COPS WHO INVESTIGATED THE UWANTE CASE!

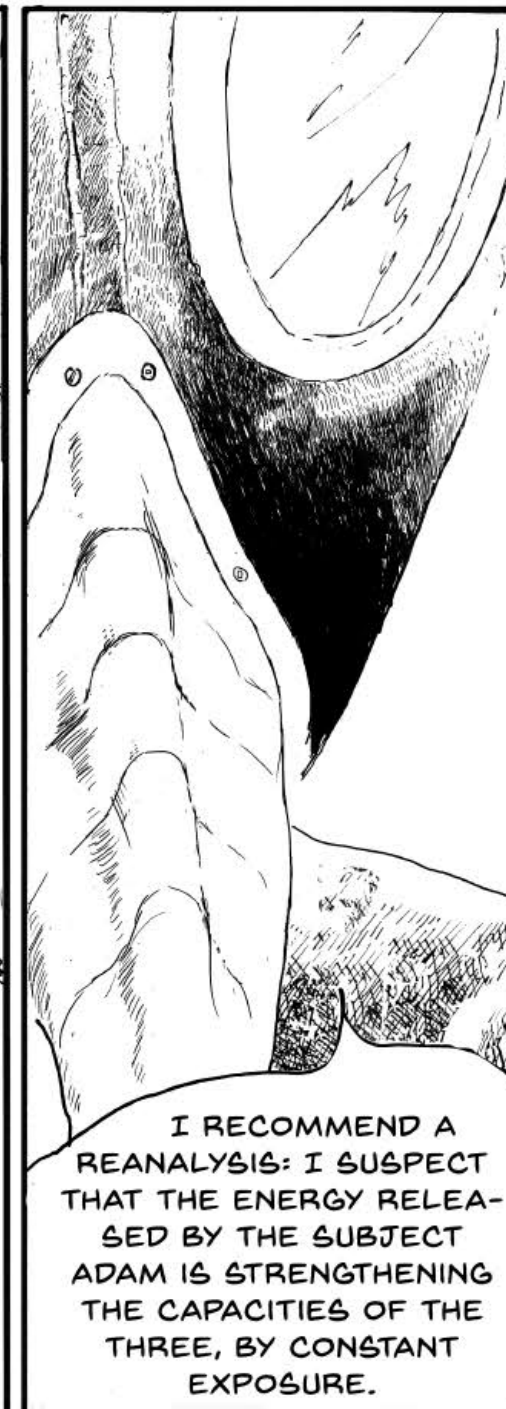


AND THE THING IS, THE THING IS... RUSHKOFF, YOU WERE THERE, IN BARCELONA, INVESTIGATING, PRECISELY BECAUSE OF A PROBLEM IN THE NEURAL NETWORK. I HAVE READ THE REPORT...

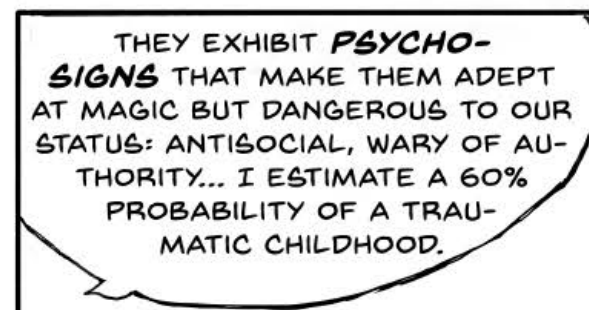
VKM - ADON



JUSTIFICATION: EXTENDING MY **TELEPATHIC CAPACITY** THROUGH THE NEURAL NETWORK LEAVES ME WITH LITTLE POWER, IF I HAVE TO MAINTAIN ALL THE USUAL **PROTOCOLS** RUNNING THROUGH MUCH OF EUROPE. I SENT A REPORT. IN ADDITION, THE ABILITY OF THESE SUBJECTS IS GREATER THAN ANTICIPATED.



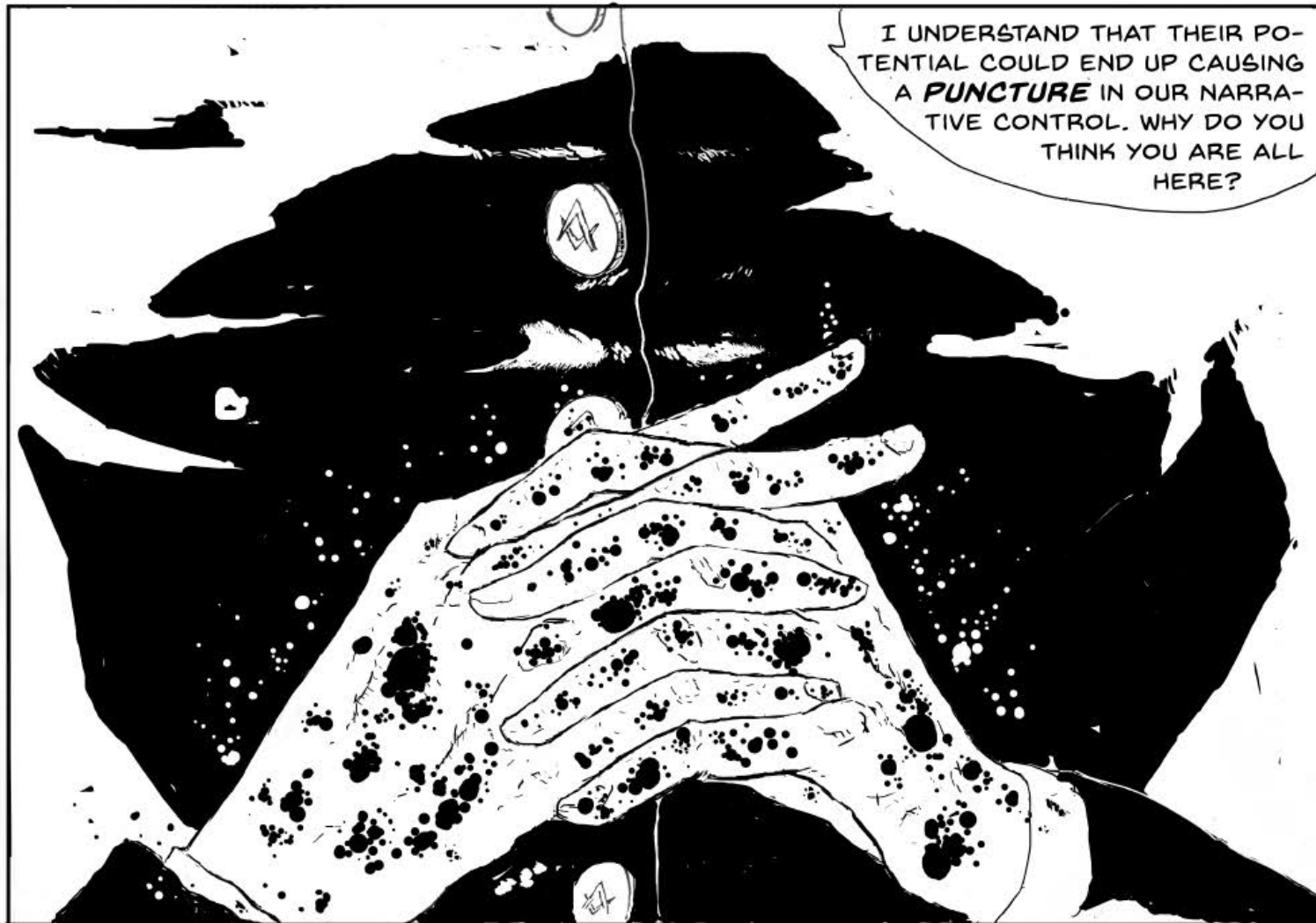
I RECOMMEND A REANALYSIS: I SUSPECT THAT THE ENERGY RELEASED BY THE SUBJECT ADAM IS STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF THE THREE, BY CONSTANT EXPOSURE.



THEY EXHIBIT **PSYCHO-SIGNS** THAT MAKE THEM ADEPT AT MAGIC BUT DANGEROUS TO OUR STATUS: ANTISOCIAL, WARY OF AUTHORITY... I ESTIMATE A 60% PROBABILITY OF A TRAUMATIC CHILDHOOD.



IF THEIR ABILITIES GROW, THEY ARE PERFECT CANDIDATES TO DESTABILIZE THE CONSENSUS, **REALITY**. I RECOMMEND ACTIVATING THE CAPTURE PROTOCOL.

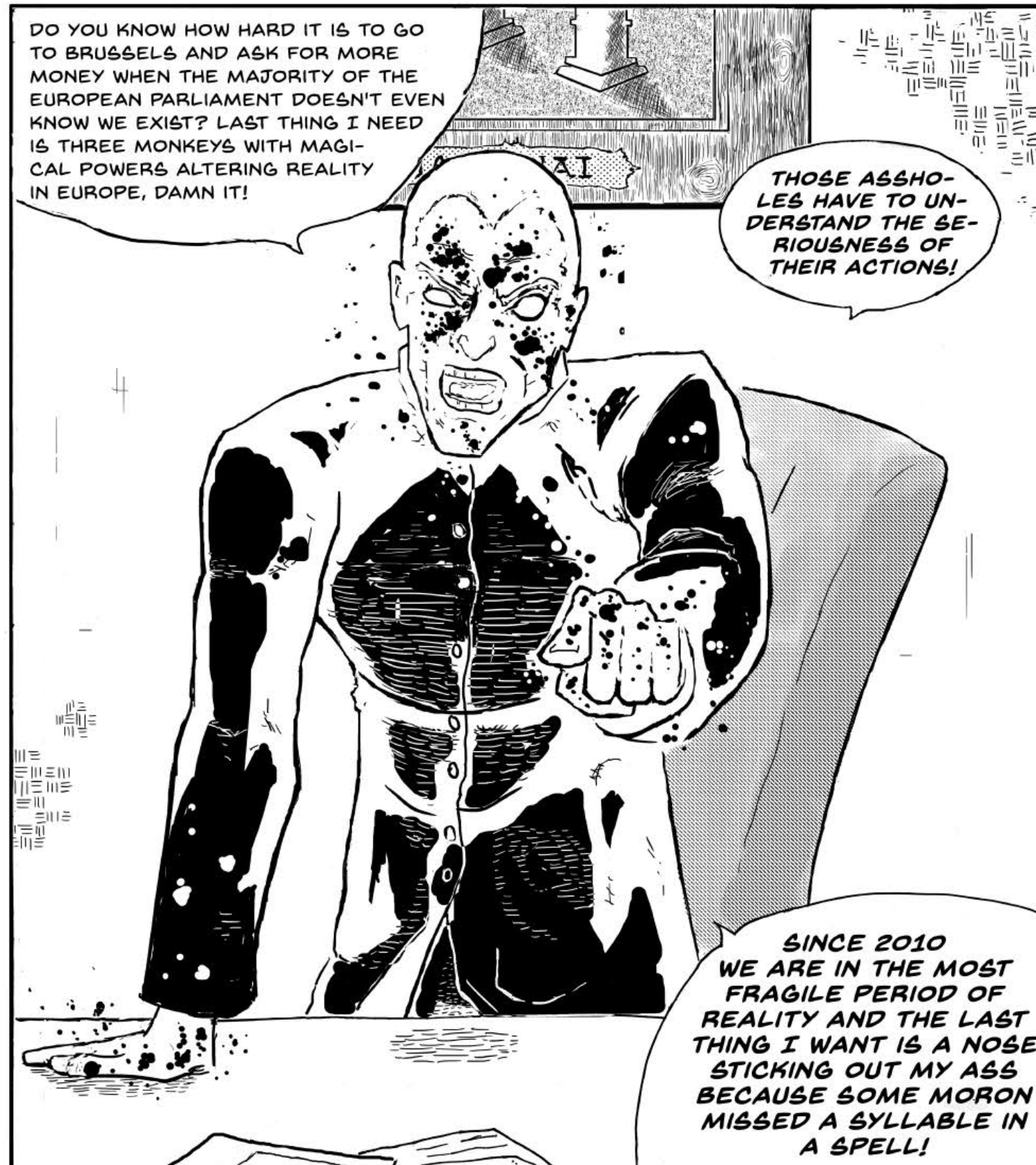


I UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR POTENTIAL COULD END UP CAUSING A **PUNCTURE** IN OUR NARRATIVE CONTROL. WHY DO YOU THINK YOU ARE ALL HERE?



WE'RE THE ELITE TEAM OF THE EUROPEAN UNION! ENOUGH OF THIS CONGA LINE OF ERRORS YOU ALL SEEM TO BE SO KEEN ON, GOD-DAMMIT!

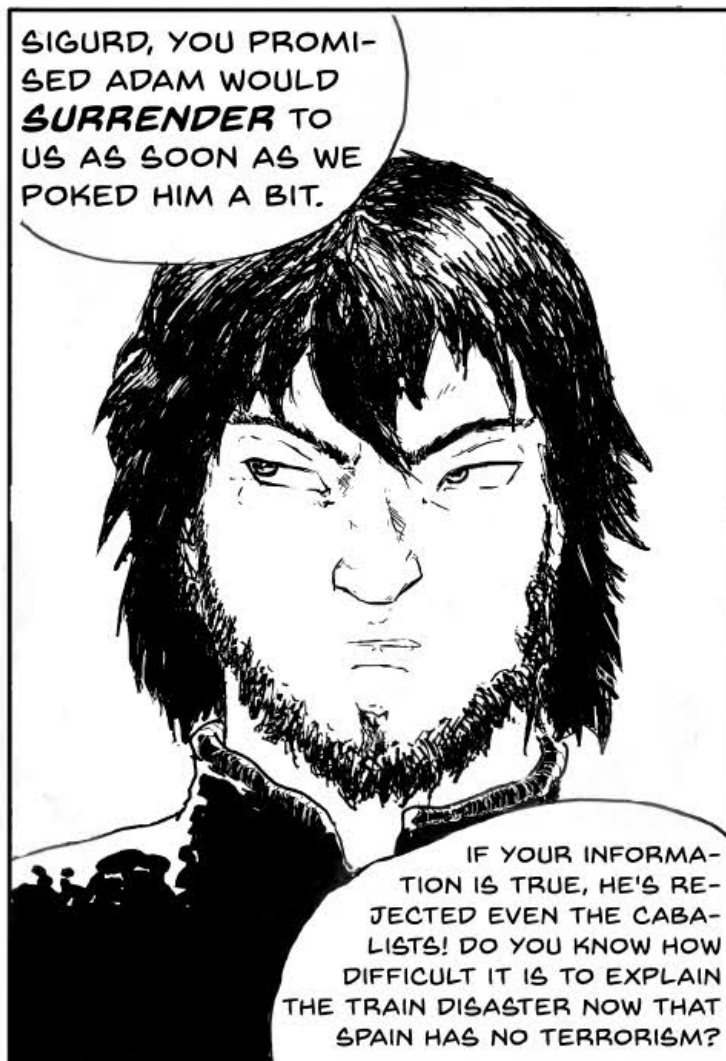
THE LONGER THEY'RE LOOSE IN SPAIN, THE MORE LIKELY THEY ARE TO INOCULATE OTHERS WITH AN INTEREST IN **MAGIC**!



DO YOU KNOW HOW HARD IT IS TO GO TO BRUSSELS AND ASK FOR MORE MONEY WHEN THE MAJORITY OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DOESN'T EVEN KNOW WE EXIST? LAST THING I NEED IS THREE MONKEYS WITH MAGICAL POWERS ALTERING REALITY IN EUROPE, DAMN IT!

THOSE ASSHOLES HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THE SERIOUSNESS OF THEIR ACTIONS!

SINCE 2010 WE ARE IN THE MOST FRAGILE PERIOD OF REALITY AND THE LAST THING I WANT IS A NOSE STICKING OUT MY ASS BECAUSE SOME MORON MISSED A SYLLABLE IN A SPELL!



SIGURD, YOU PROMISED ADAM WOULD **SURRENDER** TO US AS SOON AS WE POKED HIM A BIT.

IF YOUR INFORMATION IS TRUE, HE'S REJECTED EVEN THE CABALISTS! DO YOU KNOW HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO EXPLAIN THE TRAIN DISASTER NOW THAT SPAIN HAS NO TERRORISM?



I'M NOT SURPRISED, THOUGH, CONSIDERING HOW HE ESCAPED FROM BARCELONA THANKS TO YOUR BIG **ABDUCTION** OPERATION, DAGO.

YOU SENT SEVERAL EXO-COP SQUADS AND **203** AND CAME BACK WITH A LIST OF EXPENSES BIGGER THAN THAT OF THE H-DEPARTMENT!



...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). THANK YOU!

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