

1: EL APOCALIPSIS EN CIERNES

SIMON M.

SCRIPT
PANEL LAYOUT
COVER

TRANSLATION
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

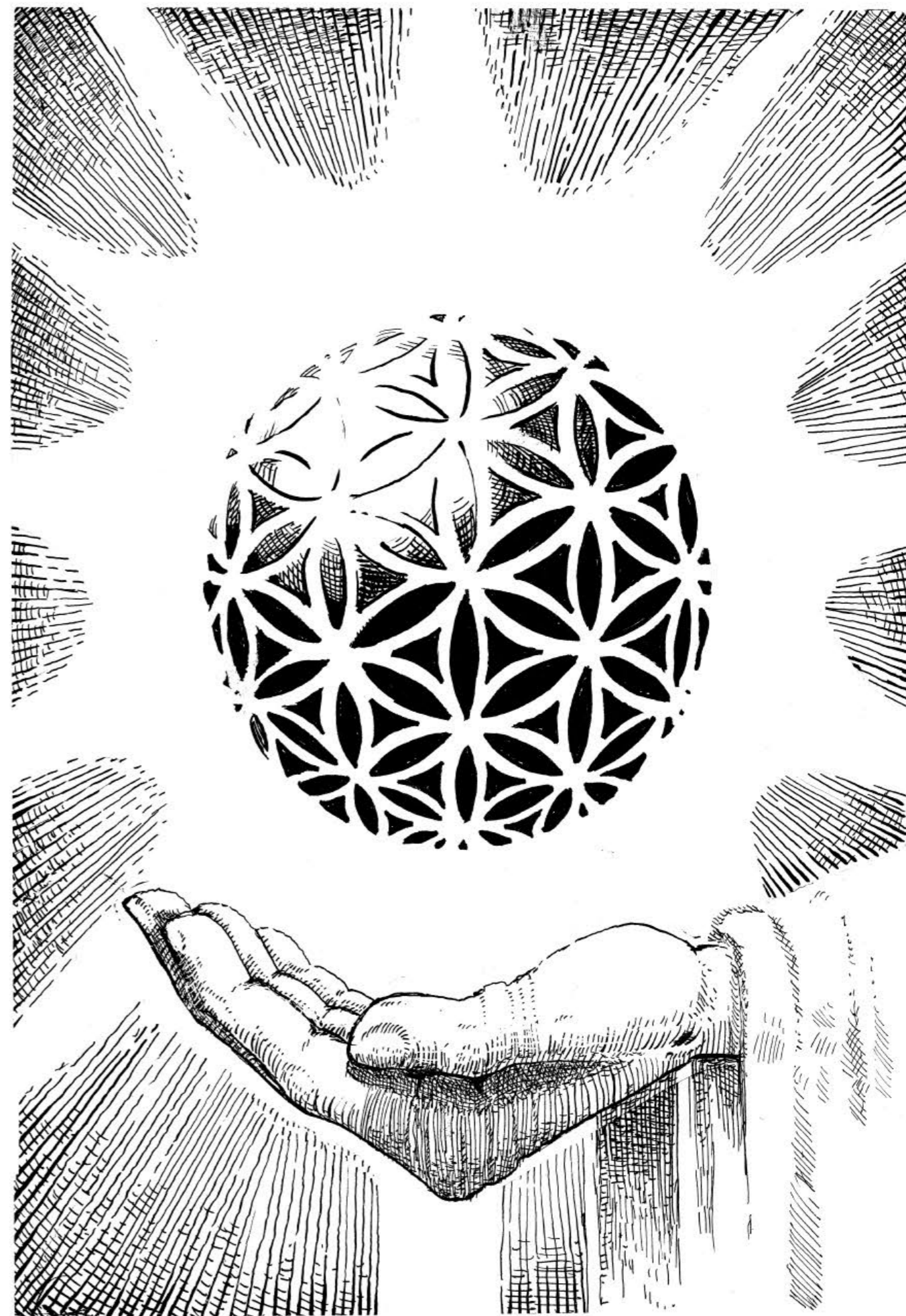
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YOU
SAID SO
YOUR-
SELF.



ONCE
YOU STEP
INTO
MAGICK
...



...YOU
DIE A
LITTLE
EVERY
DAY.



I GUESS IT
WAS ABOUT
TIME I EXPERI-
ENCED THAT,
HUH?

WE'RE BRINGING YOU A
SHOW JAM-PACKED OF
CONTENT TODAY, LOVERS
OF THE UNKNOWN!

WE ARE GOING
TO DISCUSS
THE CORRELATION BETWEEN
THE MAYAN
PROPHECIES,
THE BOOK OF
REVELATIONS
AND THE
ECONOMIC
CRISIS...

HRMM...

THEY'VE CALLED
ME AT SIX
O'CLOCK IN THE
MORNING...

DID YOU *KNOW*
THAT?

OF COURSE
YOU KNEW THAT.
THEY CALLED
YOU AT SIX
O'CLOCK TOO!

MOST PEOPLE
DON'T BELIEVE IN
MAGIC, FINE. BUT AS
SOON AS THEY SEE A
FUCKING HEXAGRAM,
THEY RUSH TO
CALL US...

...AT SIX
O'CLOCK
IN THE
MORNING.

AND YOU
LISTENING TO
THAT GARBAGE. IN
CASE THERE WAS
ANYONE LEFT WHO
DIDN'T THINK OF US
AS LUNATICS.

PROFESSOR
JUNCAL WILL BE
VISITING US TO
TALK ABOUT HIS
CONTROVERSIAL
STUDY ABOUT
THE *SOLAR*
ACTIVITY...

SO.
TELL
ME.

WHY
SHOULDN'T I
GRAB THAT
RADIO AND
STICK IT UP
YOUR *ASS*?

BECAUSE ALL YOUR RES-
PECT AND TOLERANCE, AND
THE PROFOUND LOVE YOU
PROFESS TO ME, PRE-
CLUDES YOU FROM IT.

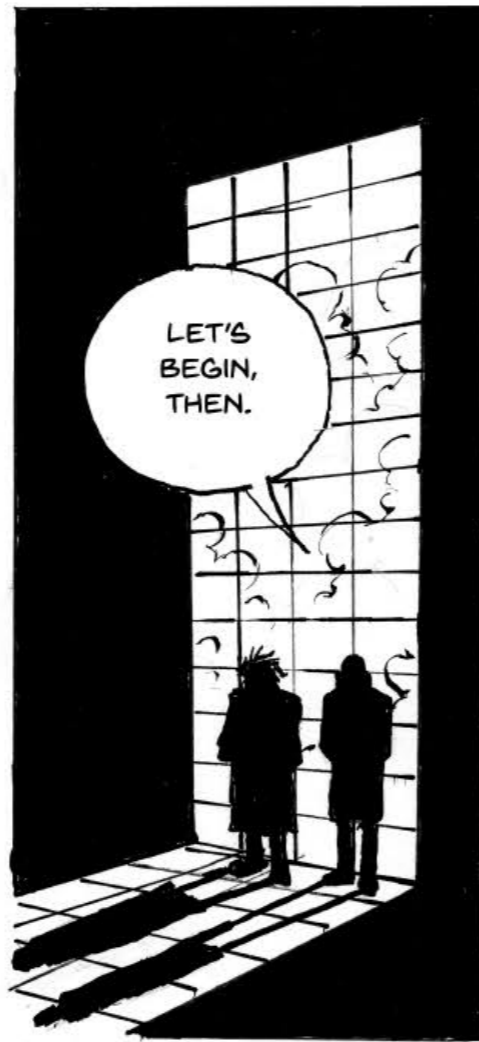
BESIDES, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM
WITH GARBAGE? JUNG'S ANALYTI-
CAL PROCESS REVOLVED AROUND
OBSERVING ONE'S PSYCHIC GAR-
BAGE. NOTHING IS WASTED EVER.

... AND
WE'LL END
WITH OUR
UFO
REPORT.
LET'S
START!

WITH THE THREAT OF ANOTHER RECESSION FOR THE NEXT YEAR, THE ALREADY MYTHICAL 2012, IT IS **CLEAR** THAT THE END TIMES, AS PREDICTED BY THE MAYANS, ARE ALREADY HERE...



LET'S BEGIN, THEN.



ISN'T IT A SIGN OF THE APOCALYPSE, LIVING IN A PERPETUAL CYCLE OF ECONOMIC CRISIS AND CUTBACKS?



HOW CAN THEY TELL US THAT PROGRESS MEANS APPLYING AUSTERITY POLICIES THAT SET US BACK DECADES?



WHEN, OTHER THAN IN DEATH, IS PAIN A SYMPTOM OF **PROGRESS**?





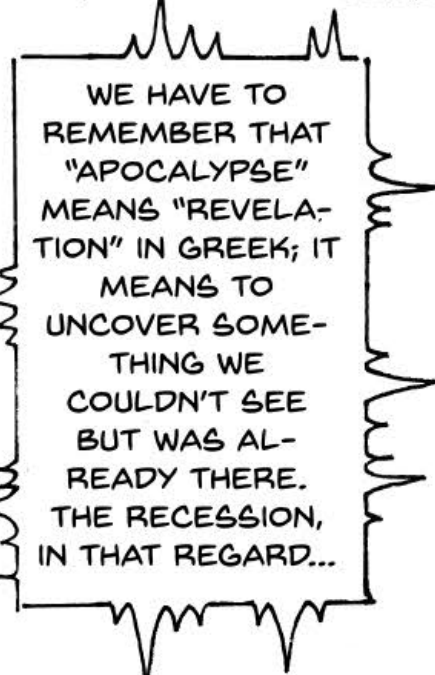
UHM...
THIS HEXA-
GRAM...



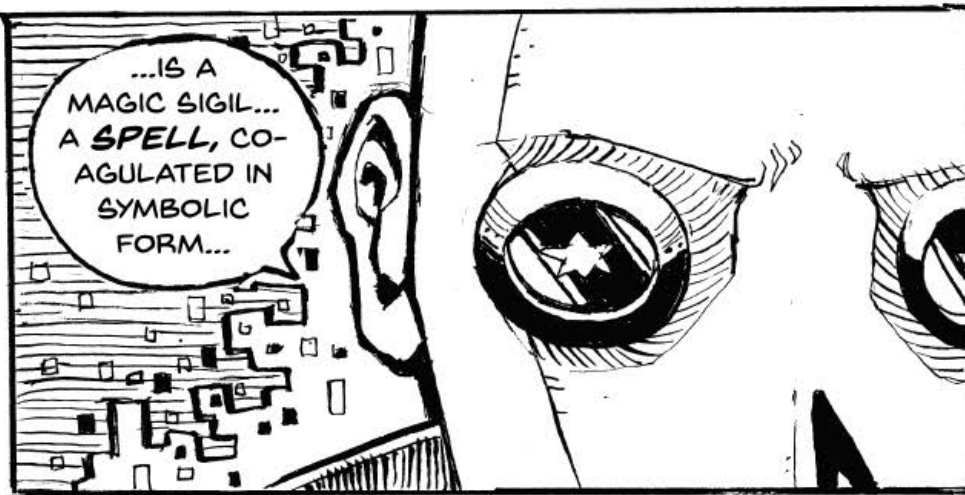
EVERYTHING IS
HOLLOW AND
DEVOID OF
MEANING, EXACT-
LY AS TOLD IN
THE BOOK OF
REVELATIONS.



...CONTORTED
FACIAL EXPRESSION,
INWARD-LOOKING
STARE...



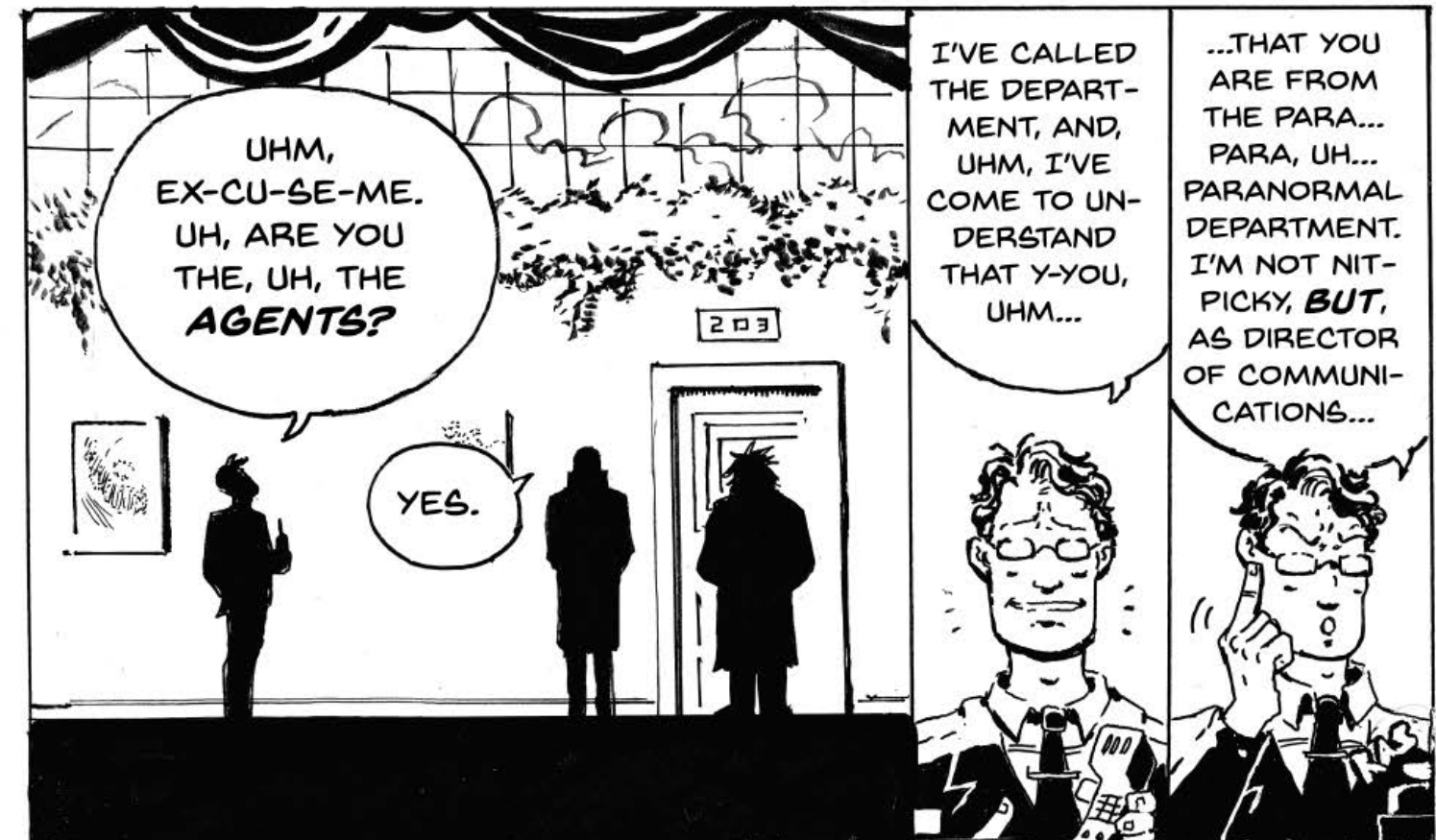
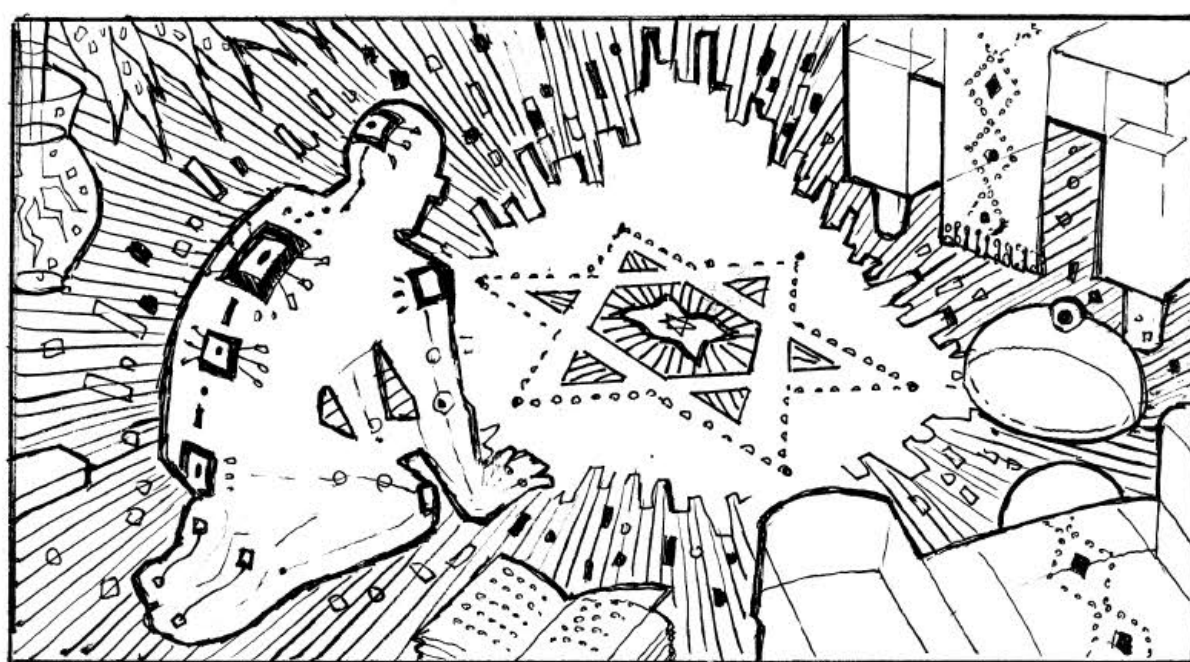
WE HAVE TO
REMEMBER THAT
"APOCALYPSE"
MEANS "REVELA-
TION" IN GREEK; IT
MEANS TO
UNCOVER SOME-
THING WE
COULDN'T SEE
BUT WAS AL-
READY THERE.
THE RECESSION,
IN THAT REGARD...



...IS A
MAGIC SIGIL...
A *SPELL*, CO-
AGULATED IN
SYMBOLIC
FORM...



...THE ROOM IS ALMOST
UNTOUCHED. SOME DISORDER
HERE AND THERE, BUT NO SIGNS
OF VIOLENCE...



UHM,
EX-CU-SE-ME.
UH, ARE YOU
THE, UH, THE
AGENTS?

YES.

I'VE CALLED
THE DEPART-
MENT, AND,
UHM, I'VE
COME TO UN-
DERSTAND
THAT Y-YOU,
UHM...

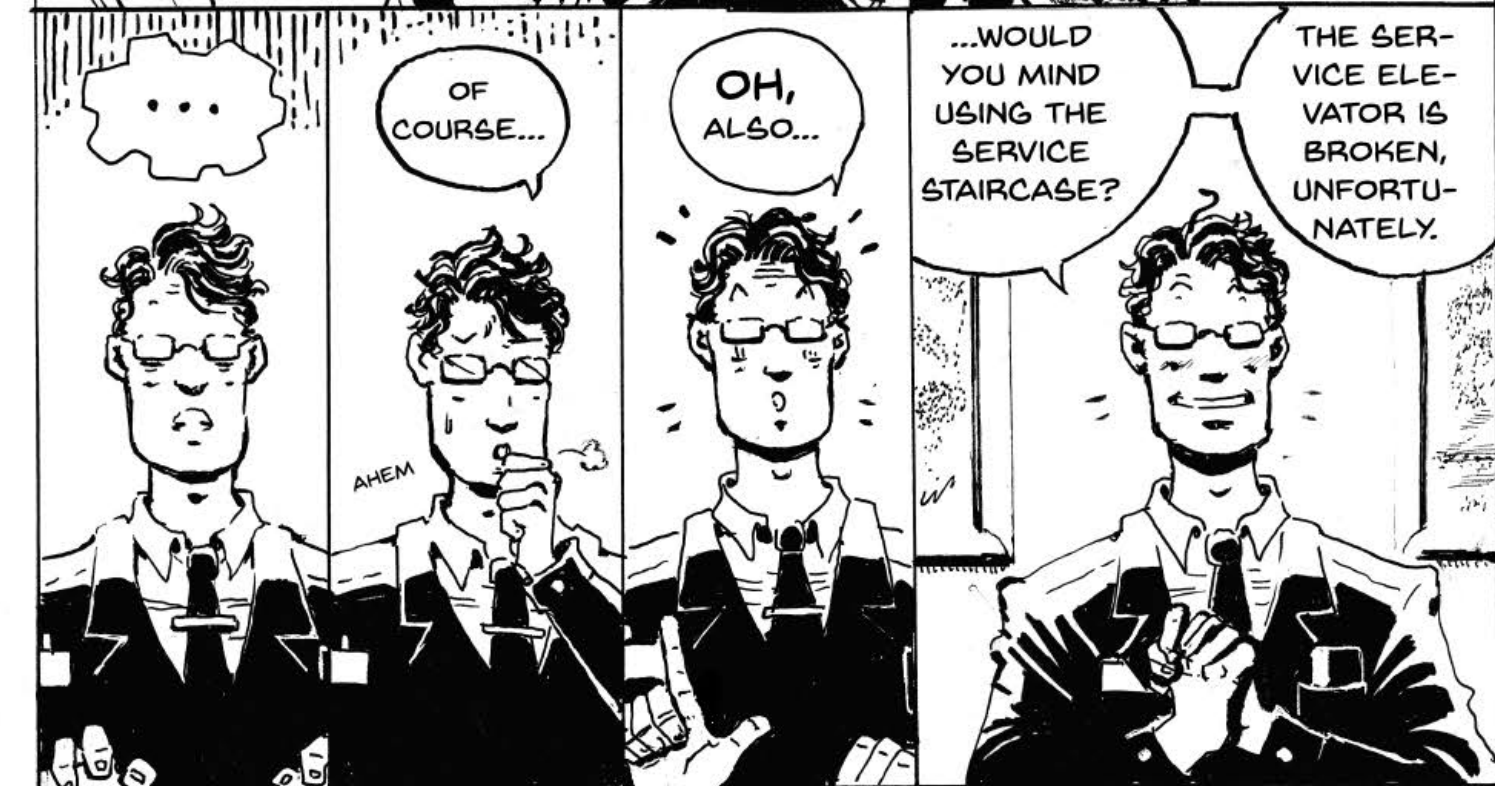
...THAT YOU
ARE FROM
THE PARA...
PARA, UH...
PARANORMAL
DEPARTMENT.
I'M NOT NIT-
PICKY, *BUT*,
AS DIRECTOR
OF COMMUNI-
CATIONS...



LET ME TAKE A GUESS: YOU
WANT REAL POLICE, AIN'T THAT
SO, MR. STUTTER?

ESSEX...

BUT THEY CAN ONLY
CONCLUDE NATURAL
DEATH IN SPITE OF THE
SCREAMS AND THE DE-
STRUCTION. WHO IS
FUCKED UP ENOUGH
TO SEE THAT THE KILLER
IS A DEMON EVOKED
FROM A SMALL SYM-
BOL ON A FUCKING
PIECE OF PAPER?

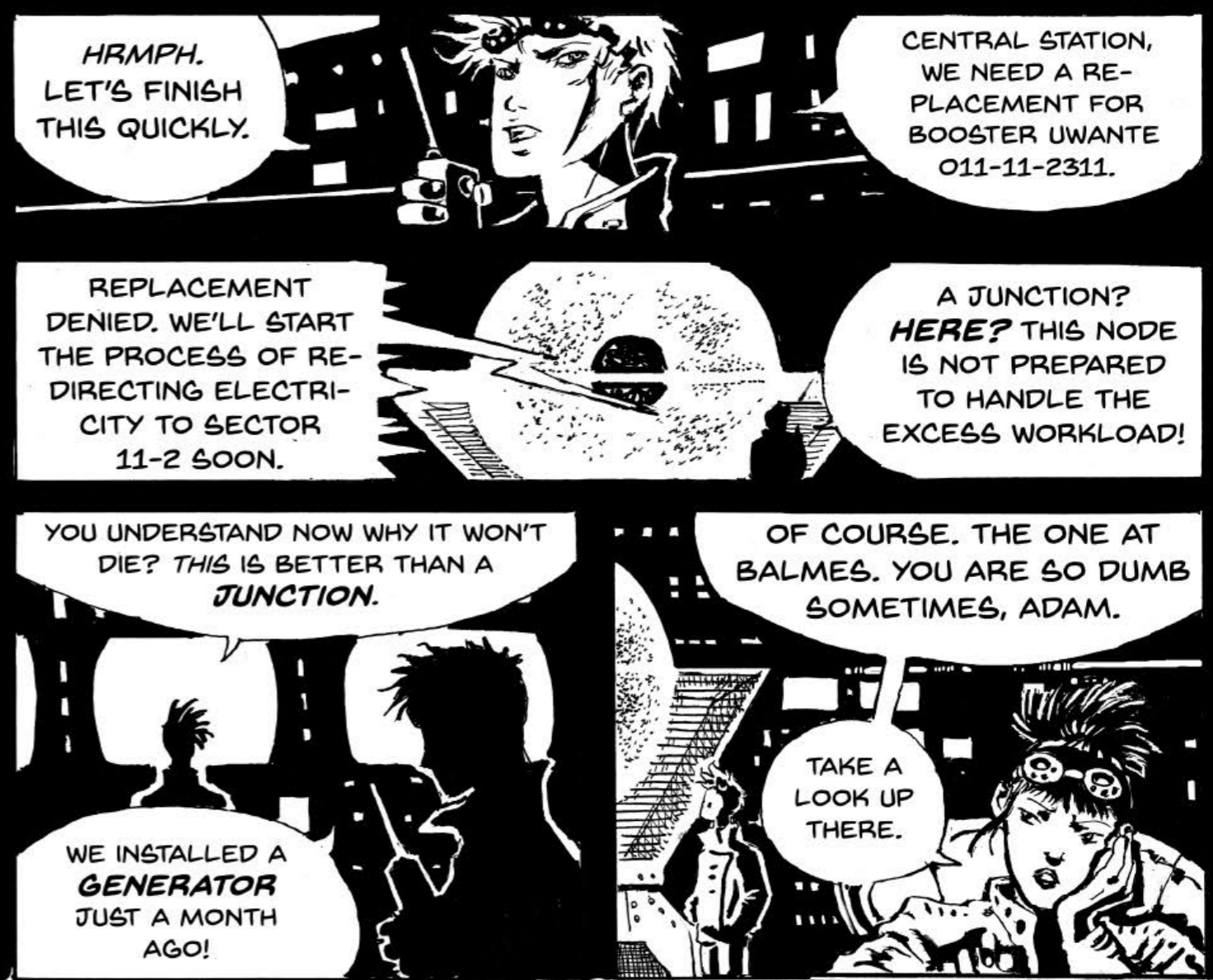
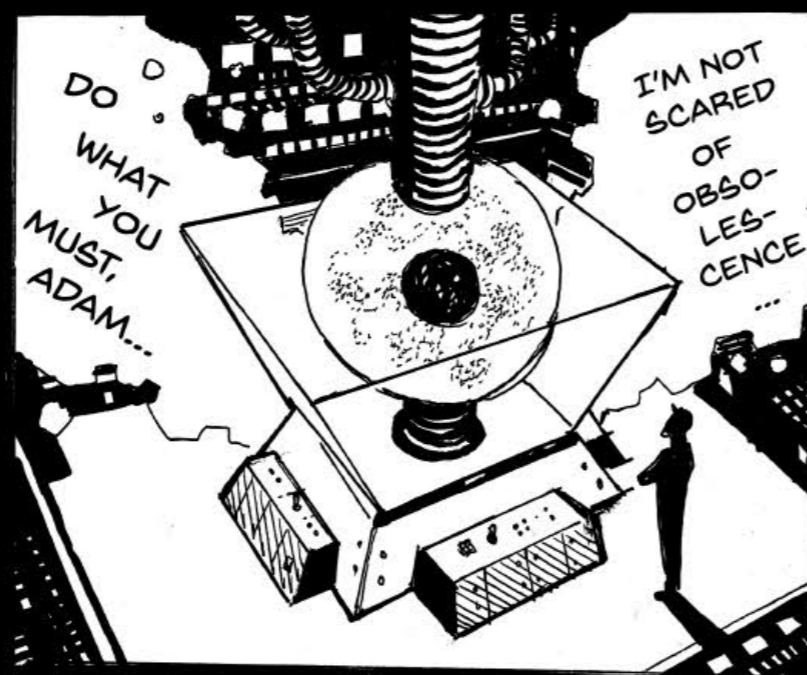


OF
COURSE...

OH,
ALSO...

...WOULD
YOU MIND
USING THE
SERVICE
STAIRCASE?

THE SER-
VICE ELE-
VATOR IS
BROKEN,
UNFORTU-
NATELY.



ADAM, ARE YOU COMING TO THE BAR?

MIKI AND THE REST WILL BE THERE.

ADAM?

YOU KNOW, WE WERE THE FIRST CITY TO SELL PUBLIC SPACE TO MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES.

THEY SAID THAT WOULD FIX EVERYTHING!

DUDE, NOT AGAIN... COME ON...

NO MASTER MAGICK

THE CRISIS. THE FUCKING CRISIS.

THEY DISCOVERED THE MAGIC WORD ALRIGHT.

DO NOT KICK ME!

THANK YOU.

AS I'VE ALREADY SAID, I'M FROM THE DEPARTMENT...

...OF MAGIC AND PARANORMAL AFFAIRS, YEAH.

WHAT? (IT'S YOUR BOSS, FROM THE SET). "WHY DOES THE GENERALITAT* ALLOW OUR EXIS...

THERE'S NO REASON TO TALK LIKE...

THAT'S IT, I'VE HAD ENOUGH! AND YOU OF ALL PEOPLE ASKING ME THAT, WHEN YOUR ASS IS FULL OF GRANTS FROM THE GENERALITAT!

FUCK YES THERE IS! ALWAYS THE SAME BULLSHIT! DIDN'T YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT ELIYA?

WELL, HE SUFFERED A MAGICAL ATTACK AND HE'S AS DEAD AS JULIUS CAESAR! AND IT'S US, NOT THE REGULAR COPS, THE ONES WHO DISCOVERED IT!

DO YOU THINK I'VE OFFENDED CUNI? I WAS VERY HAPPY TO APPEAR ON HIS SHOW...

H-HEY, GIVE ME MY MIC...

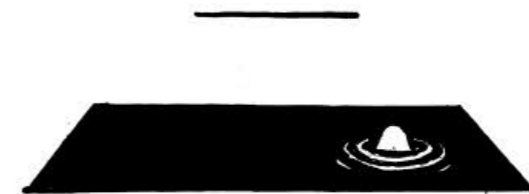
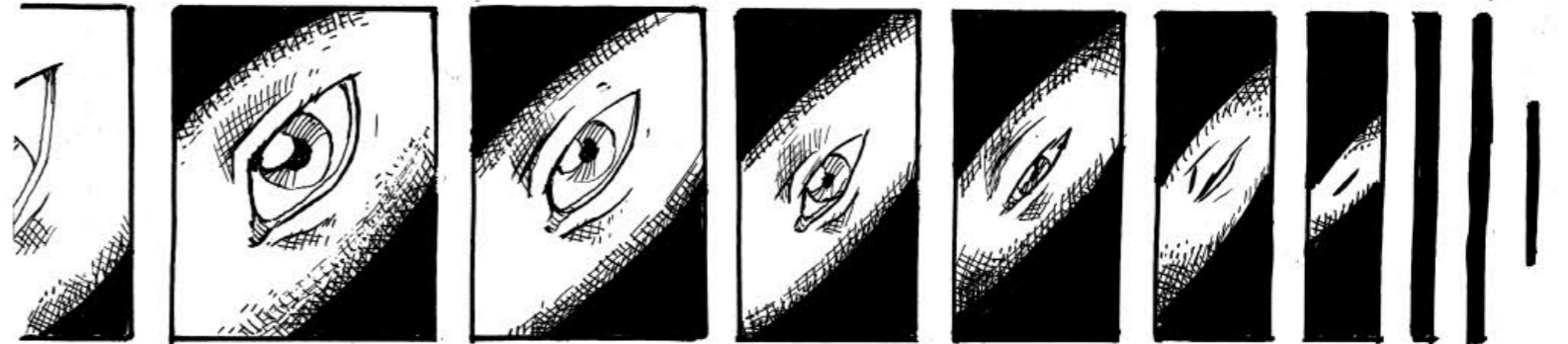
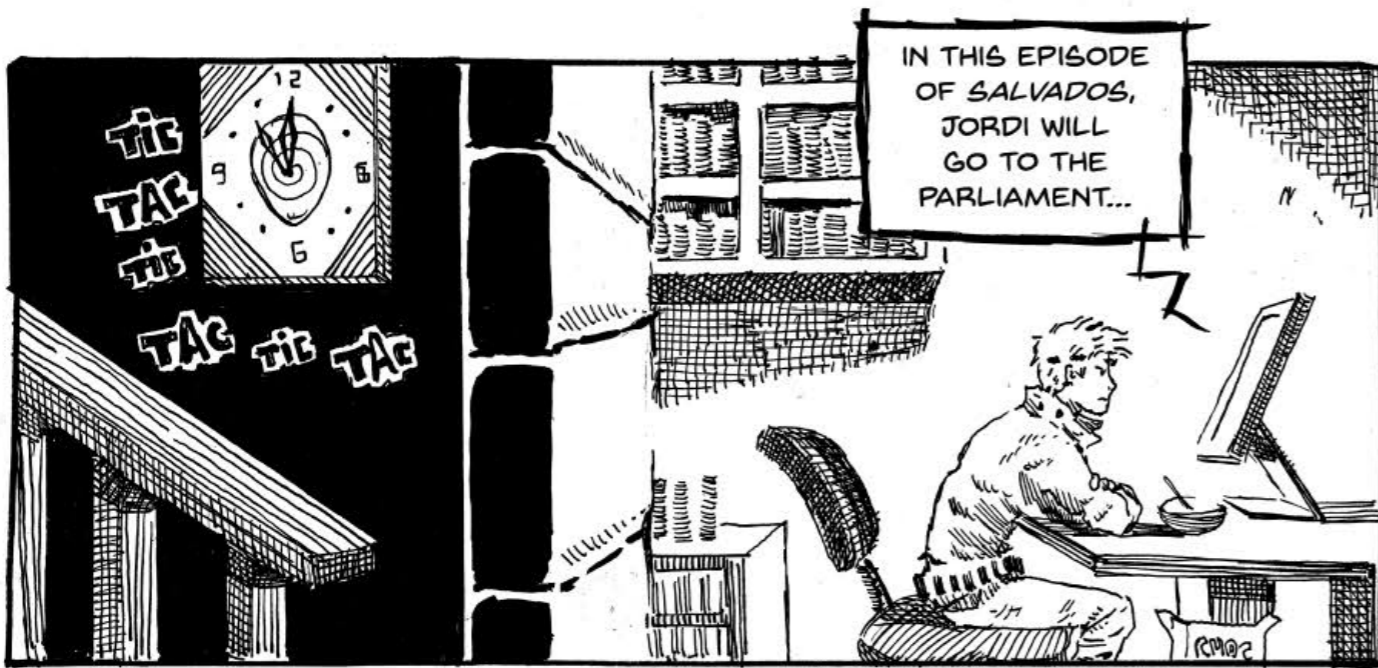
I DO WHAT I WANT!

BUT IF YOU UNPLUG IT, NO ONE WILL HEAR YOU!

THAT'S WHY I'M SHOUTING!

AND YES, IT IS ELIYA UWANTE, THE STEVE JOBS OF AFRICA! THE GUY WHO CREATED THE GENERATORS THAT HEAT YOUR FAT FUCKING ASS!

WHO CARES? TOMORROW, WHEN WE ARE FIRED, NOTHING WILL MATTER ANYMORE.



SIGURD!

WHAT'S UP, DUDE.

KIDS, YOU HAVE YOUR SNACKS ON THE TABLE...

OR ARE YOU THE ONE WHO'S FUCKING ME OVER?

BUT WHY...? CAN'T YOU DO ANYTHING TO STOP IT?

WHAT?!

THEY'RE USING YOU.

WHAT?!

THEY'RE USING YOU.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING, VISITING ME THROUGH **HERE?**

WHY HAVEN'T YOU COME IN **PERSON?**

HA!
I PREFERRED... A DREAMY OCCASION SUCH AS THESE.

(SORRY FOR THE JOKE)

I HAVE COME TO WARN YOU.

ARE YOU DOING THE HUMANITIES COURSE?

ABOUT WHAT?

THEY'RE GOING TO **ACCUSE** YOU.

THERE'S GOING TO BE A MAGICAL ATTACK. THEY ARE GOING AFTER **ELIYA UWANTE...** AND THE HEREMITES HAVE FALSIFIED THE EUROPEAN UNION'S LIST OF ILLEGAL MAGES SO THAT **YOU** ARE THE ONLY ONE AROUND HERE.

REALITY IS SAFE AGAIN
THANKS TO MISTER

WHAT?

ARE YOU
CRAZY?!

THIS IS THE SHIT
THE **HEREMITES**
FORCE YOU TO DO?!
OR THE **CABALISTS?!**
OR THE **EBI*?!**

ARE
THESE YOUR
**FUCKING
DREAMS?**

DESTROYING
OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES?
MY LIFE?

YOU ARE
NOT ONE
TO TALK!

ALL THIS
TIME I'VE BEEN
AWAY, WHAT
HAVE **YOU** BEEN
DOING?

I'M
DOING YOU
A FAVOR!

AND WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE WITH
THAT POWER?

YOU WERE
THE ONE WHO
TOLD ME
ABOUT **MAGIC!**
AND YOU SAID
THAT WITH THIS
POWER, YOU
COULD HAVE
ANYTHING.

...EVEN
IF
THERE'S
A **PRICE.**

YOU PICK A BORING JOB
AND AN IRRELEVANT LIFE!
22 FUCKING YEARS OLD
AND YOU FUCKING THINK
LIKE AN OLD MAN! ARE
YOU **STUPID?**

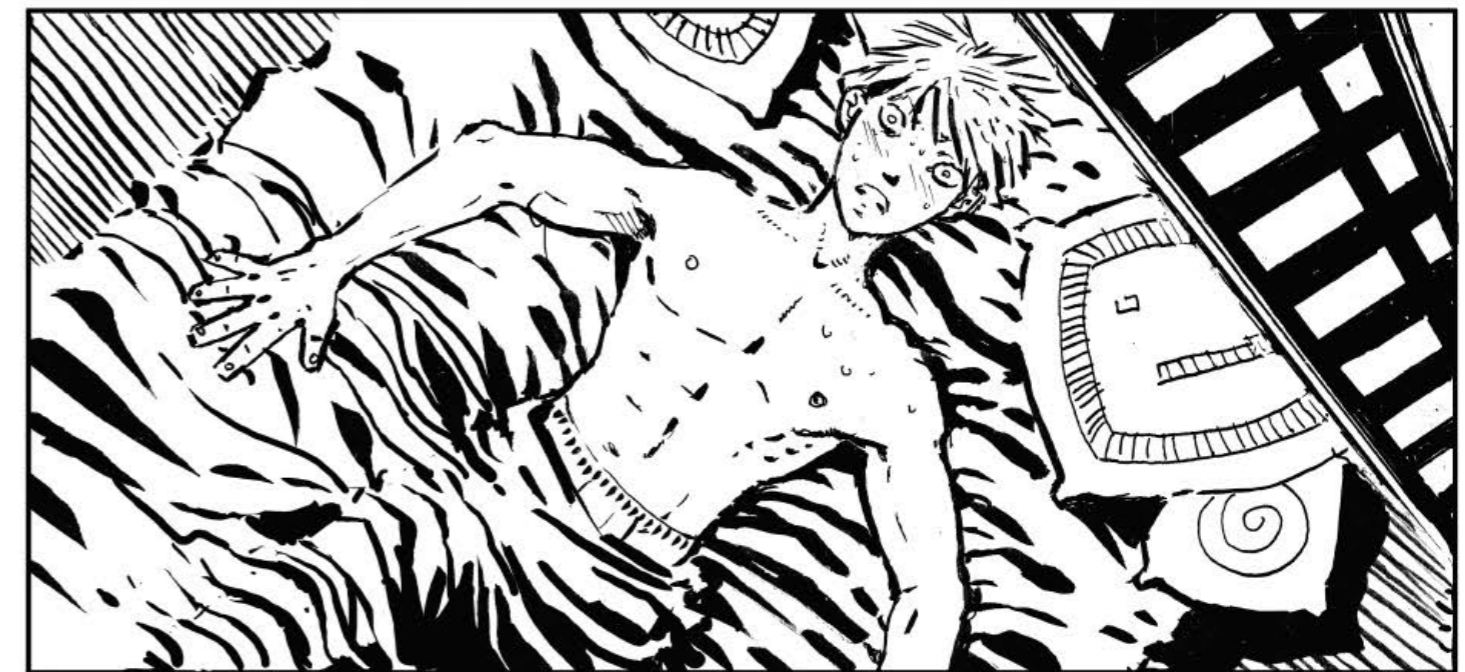
YOU SAY THIS
BULLSHIT IN
FRONT OF THE
MIRROR EVERY
MORNING, RIGHT,

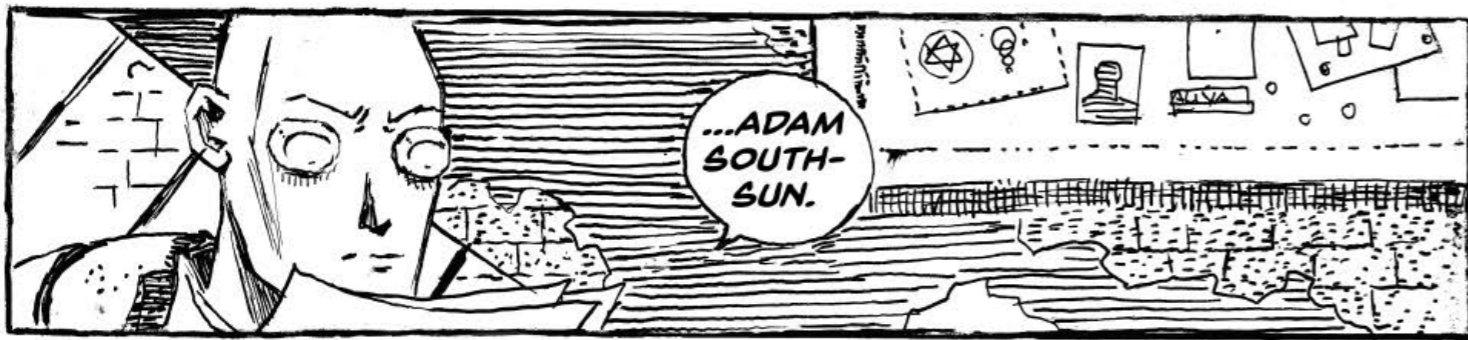
WHATEVER,
ADAM.

THIS IS
JUST A
WARNING.

(SIGURD?)

**YOUR LAST
CHANCE.**





...ADAM SOUTH-SUN.



ADAM, COME ON, STAY WITH US TODAY. YOU'VE BEEN SUCH A DOWNER ALL FUCKING DAY!

HAVE SOME FUN!

NOPE, SORRY.

I HAVE TO SAY GOOD-BYE TO AN OLD FRIEND.



SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?

A LIST OF ILLEGAL MAGES? AND ONLY ONE IN BARCELONA! BUT... THERE ARE BARELY ANY UNIVERSITIES THAT MAKE YOU AN OFFICIAL MAGE!



IT'S JUST LIKE MY FATHER SAID. EVERYTHING IS A TRICK OF WORDS.

AH, WHATEVER. I HAVE AN UNREAD NOTE. MAYBE IT'S N-TECH INDUSTRIES...



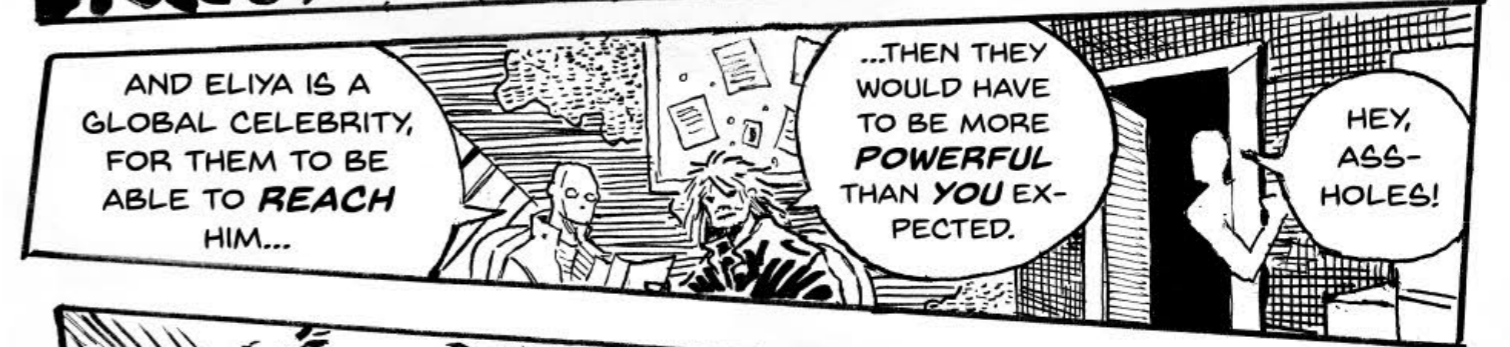
ESSEX... SINCE YOU TRIED TO INVESTIGATE ABOUT YOUR FATHER... YOU KNOW...

I'M NOT SAYING THIS DOESN'T SMELL BAD, BUT THE HERMITES FALSIFYING EBI DATA?... THIS IS TOO BIG!



LET ME SEE... WHAT'S THIS?

THIS IS JUST A TINY...



AND ELIYA IS A GLOBAL CELEBRITY, FOR THEM TO BE ABLE TO REACH HIM...

...THEN THEY WOULD HAVE TO BE MORE POWERFUL THAN YOU EXPECTED.

HEY, ASS-HOLES!



THIS IS JUST...

...A TINY STAR...



HERE, PICTURES OF ADAM WHAT'S-HIS-NAME LEAVING BARCELONA AND POSING FOR THE CAMERA!

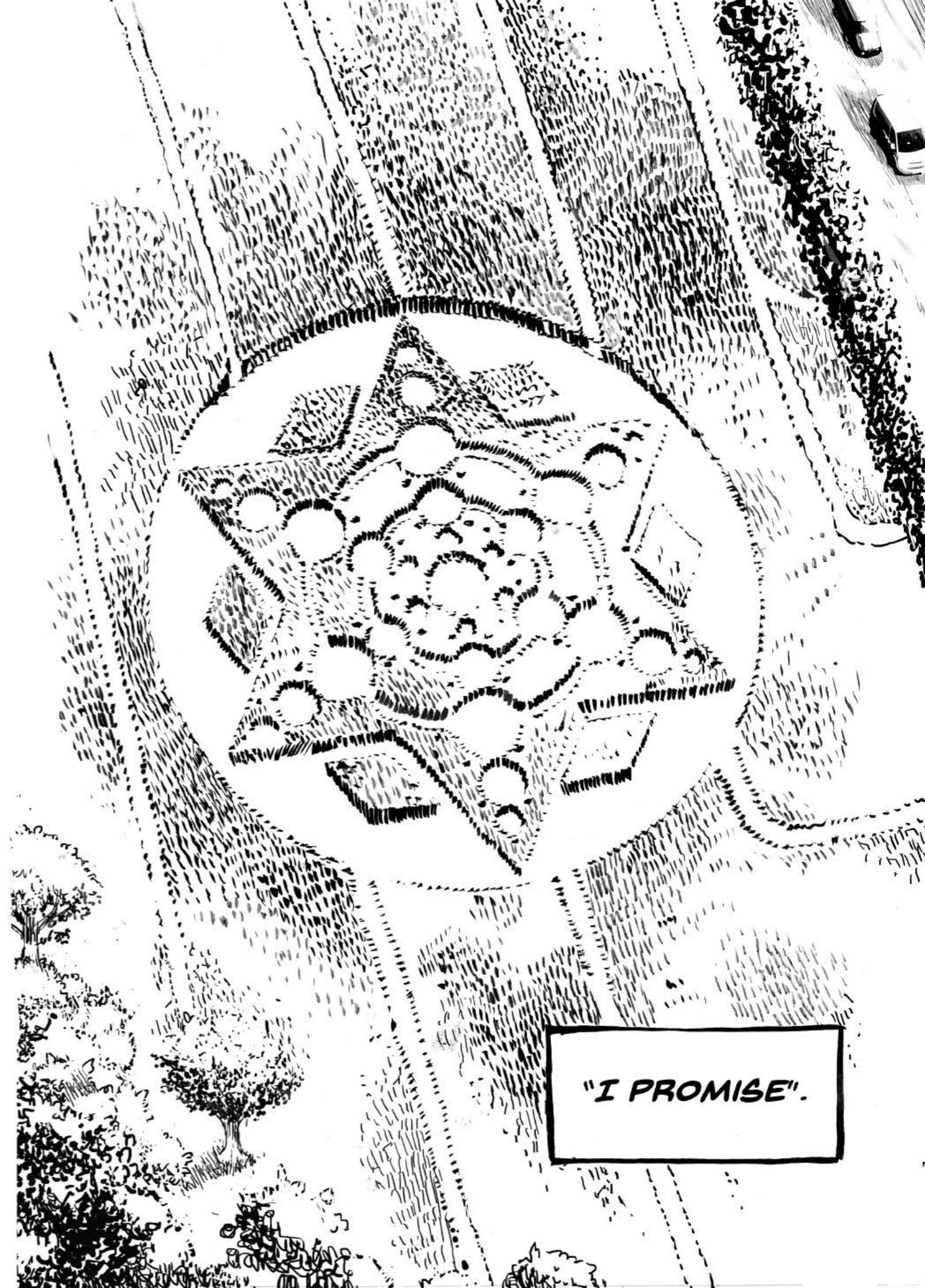
IT'S A...

AGH



AND NOW THEY BRING HIM TO US...

...ON A SILVER PLATTER.



...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**

OUR FACEBOOK -> **FACEBOOK.COM/UP-SURGECOMIC**

THROW SOME PEANUTS TO THE APE -> **TWITTER.COM/SIMONOGATARI**

