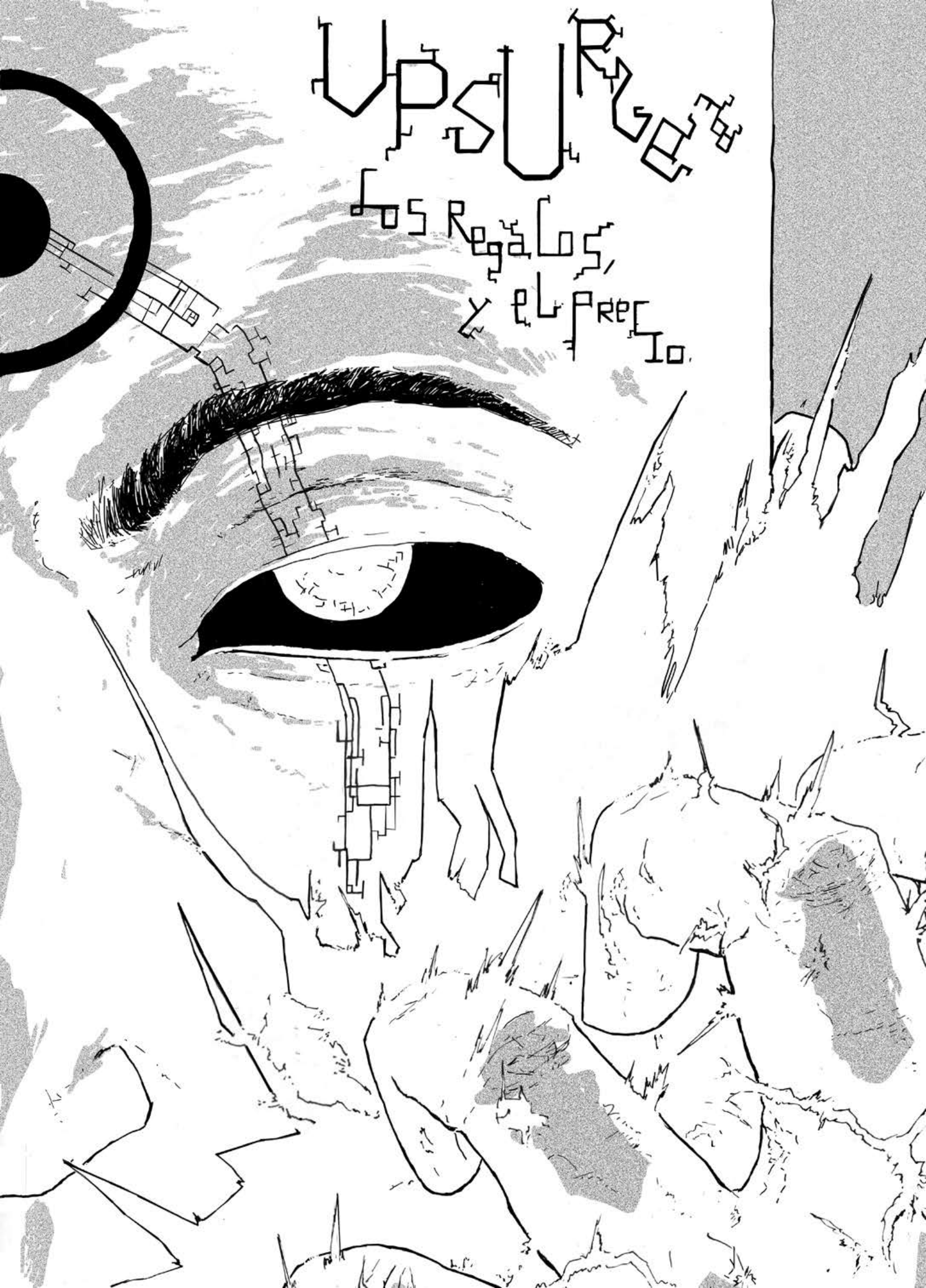


Upsurge

Los Regalos,
y el Precio.



SIMON M.

SCRIPT
PANEL LAYOUT
COVER

TRANSLATION
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

ATANA S.

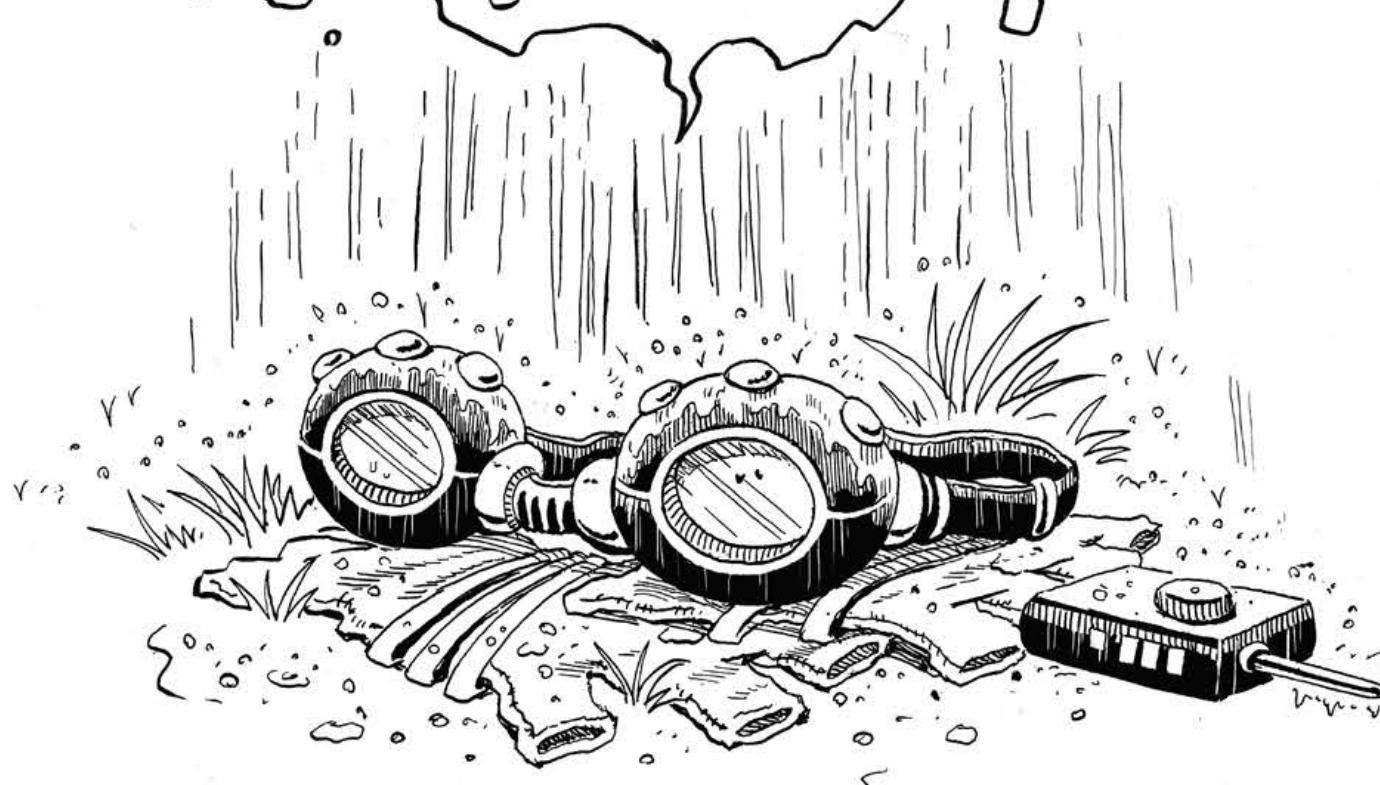
PENCILS
INK

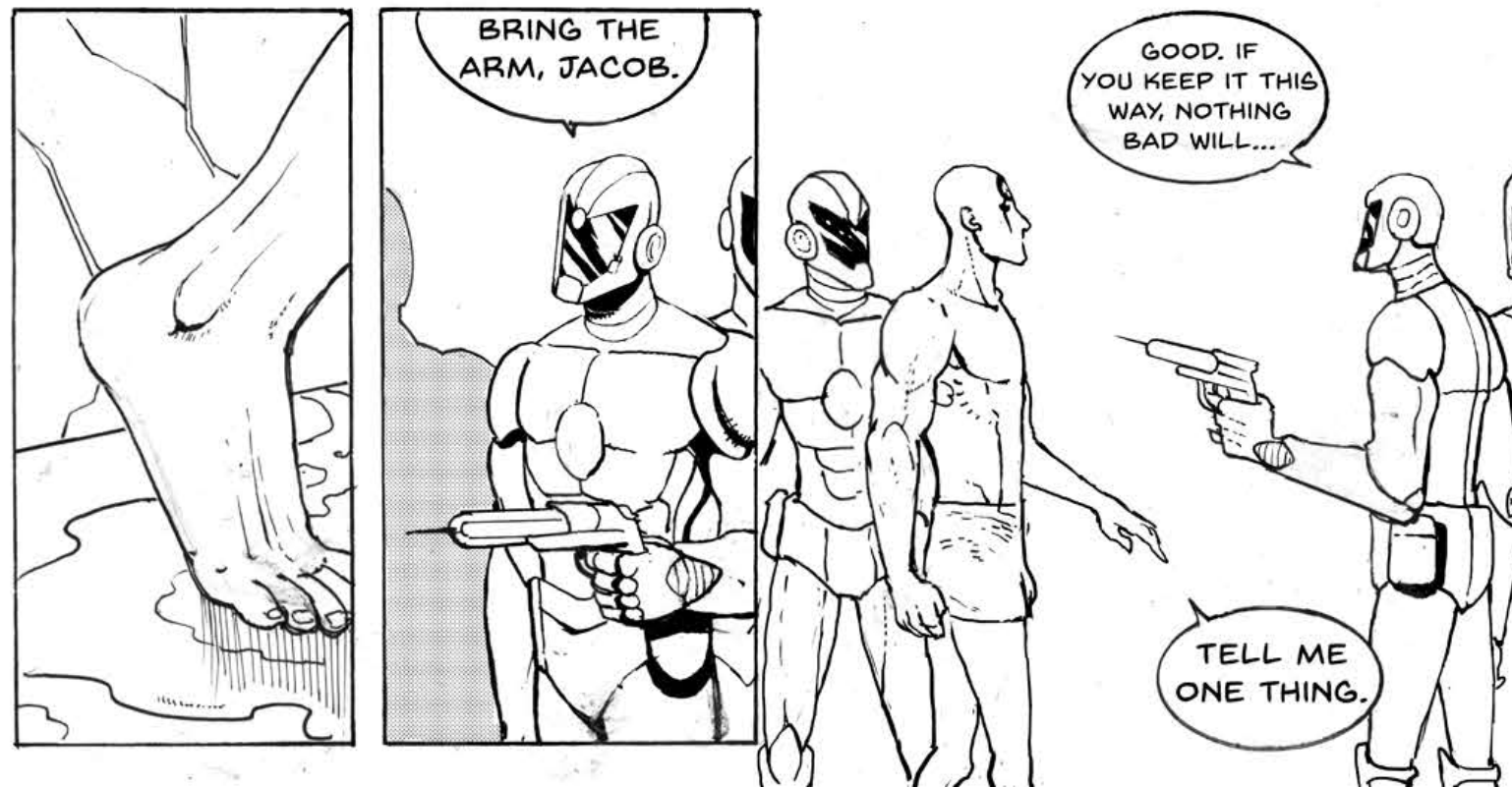
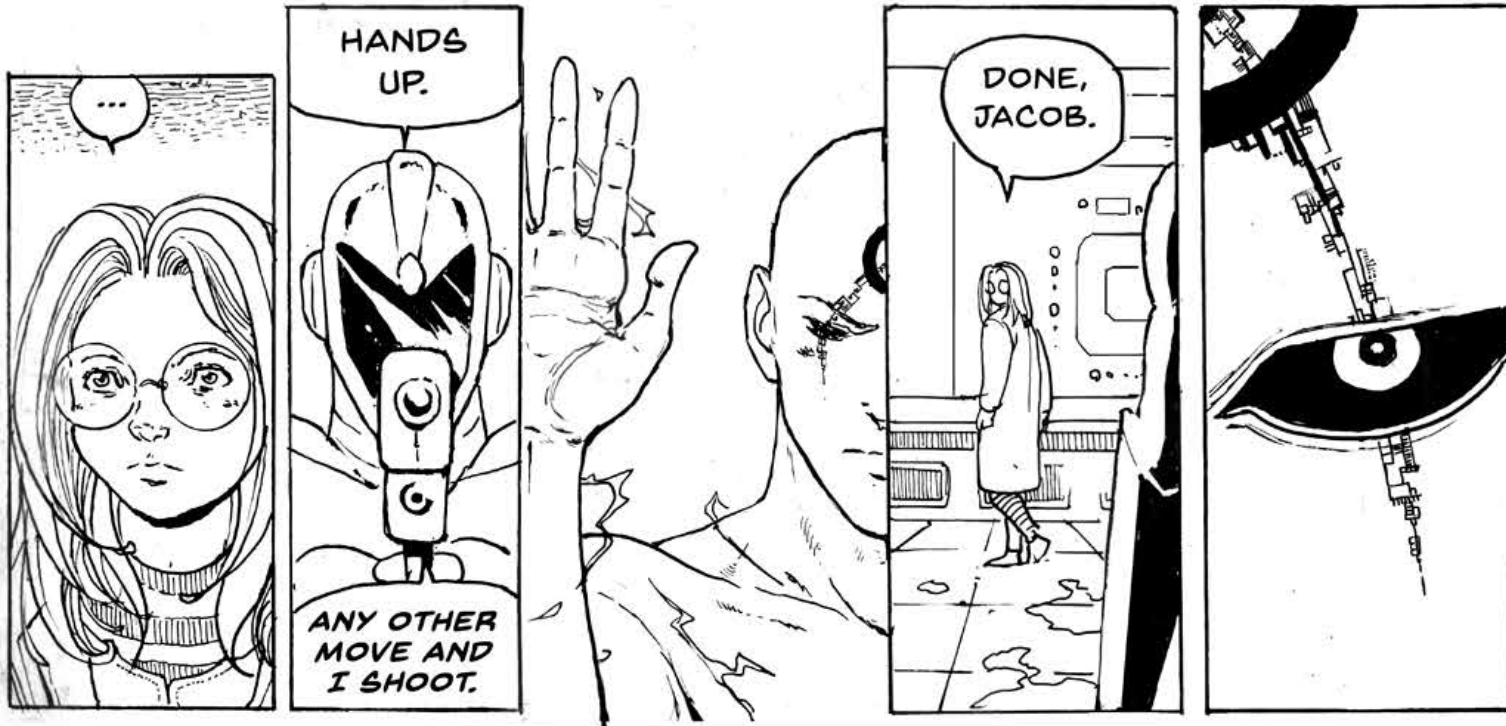
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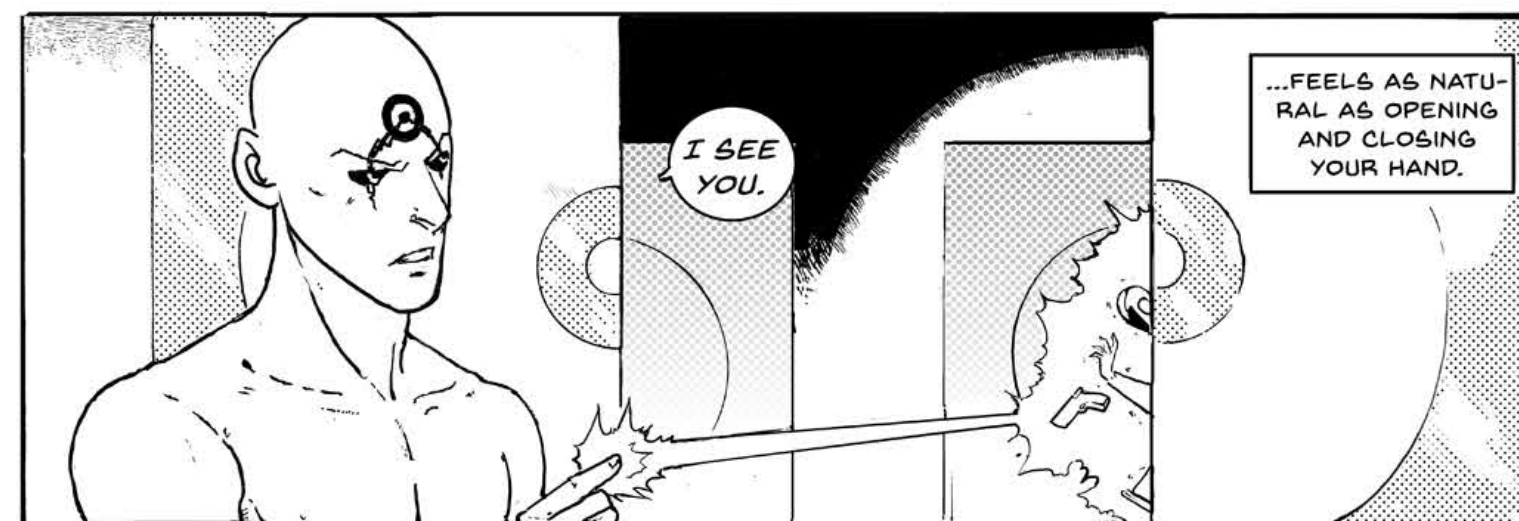
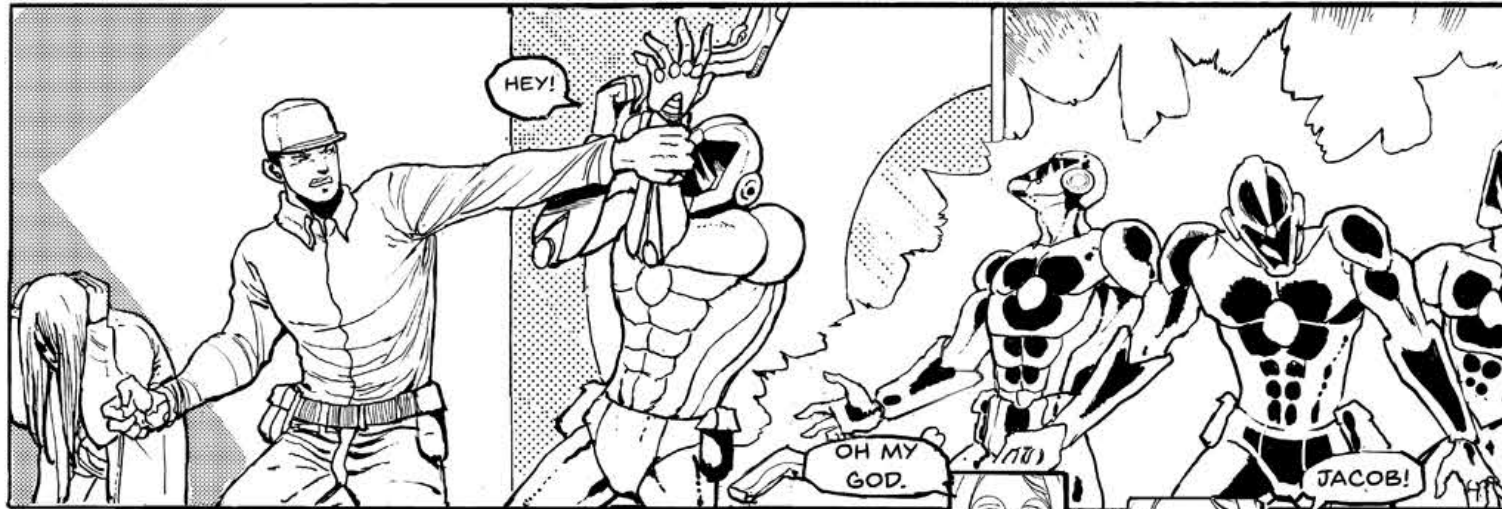
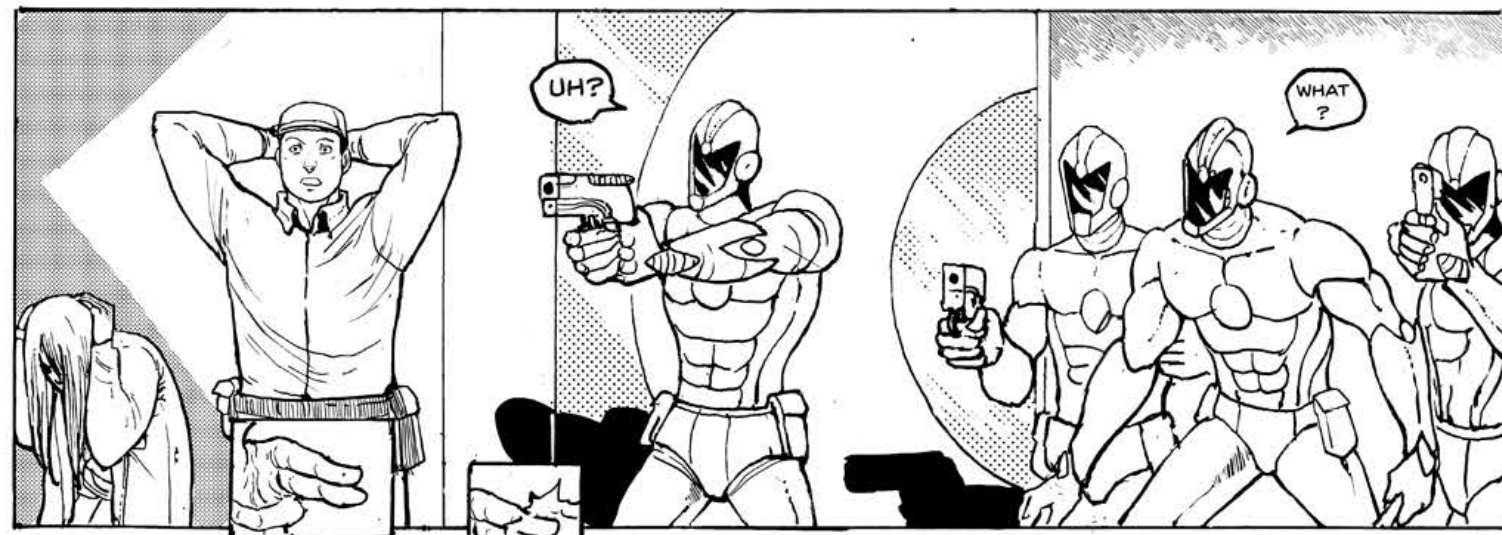
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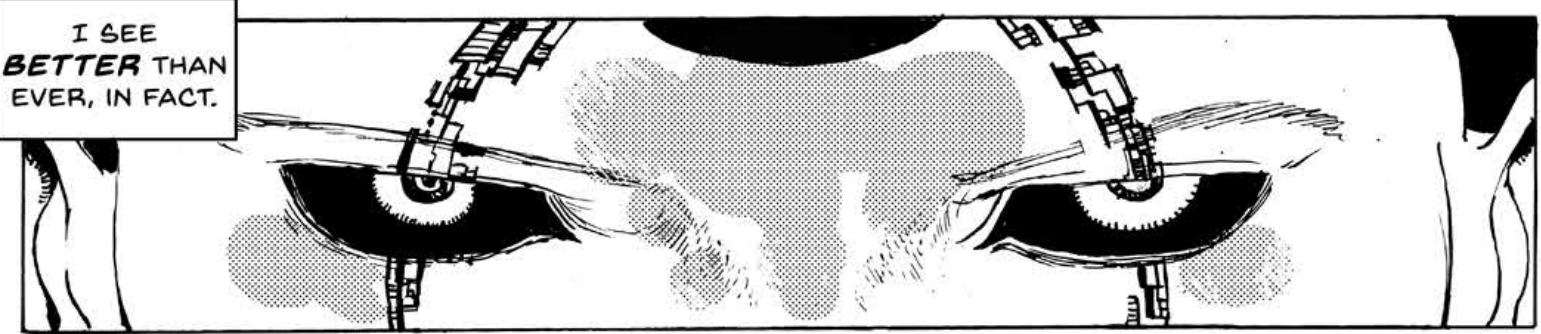
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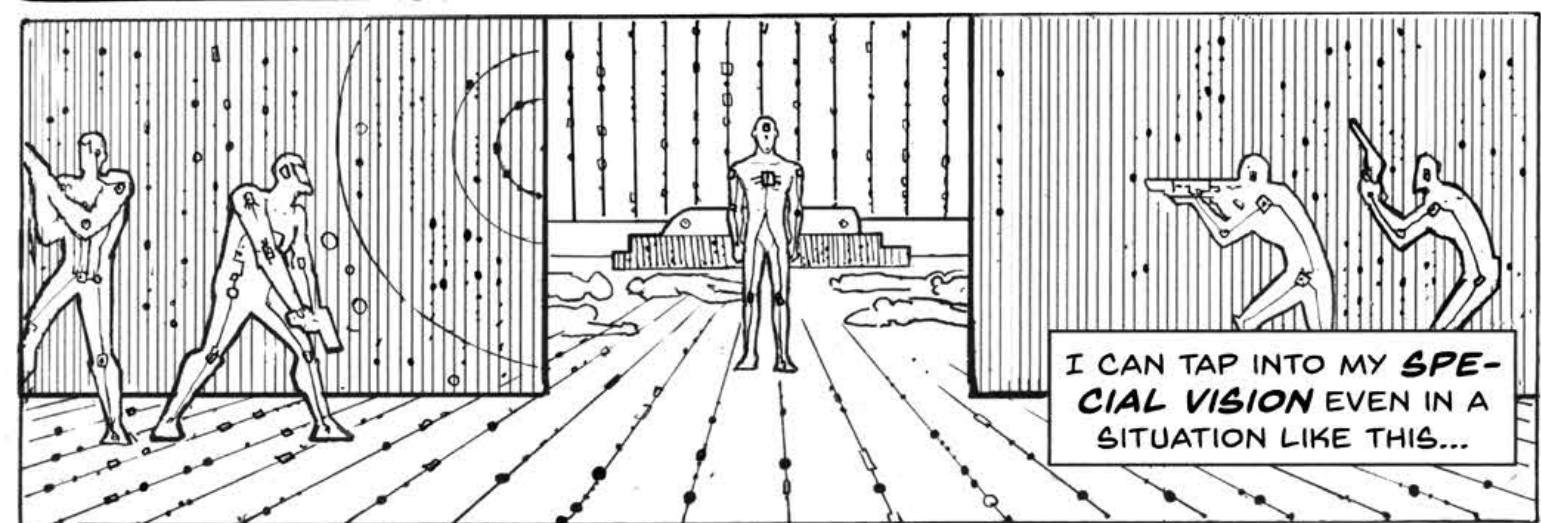




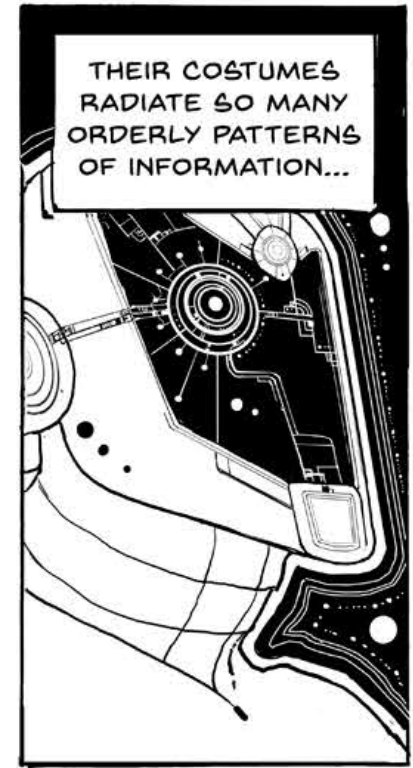




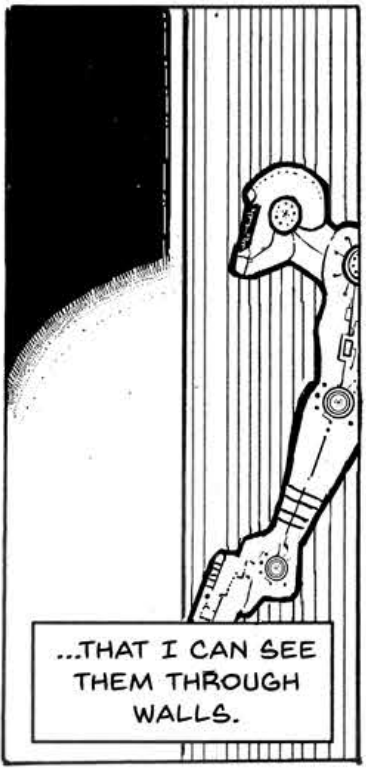
I SEE
BETTER THAN
EVER, IN FACT.



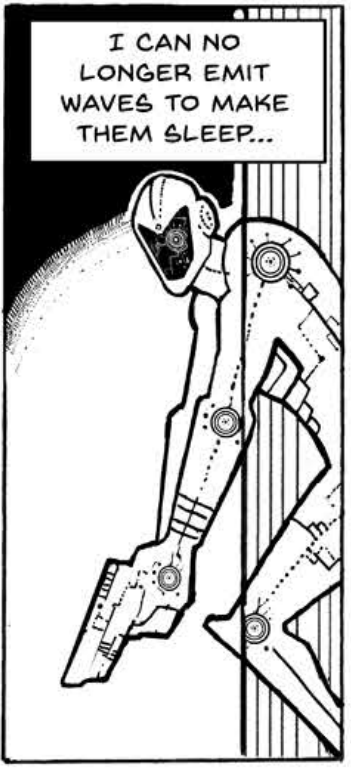
I CAN TAP INTO MY **SPE-**
CIAL VISION EVEN IN A
SITUATION LIKE THIS...



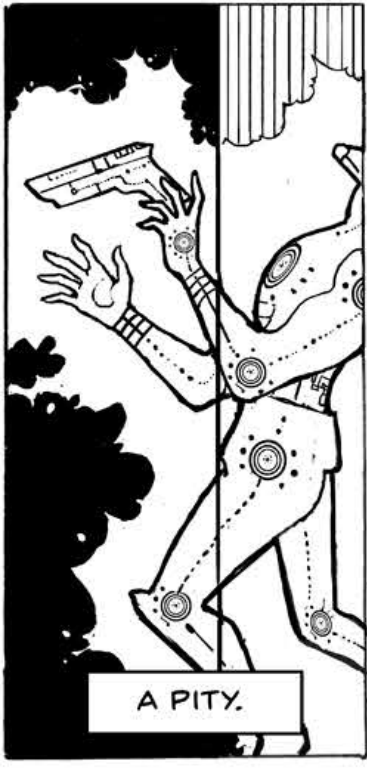
THEIR COSTUMES
RADIATE SO MANY
ORDERLY PATTERNS
OF INFORMATION...



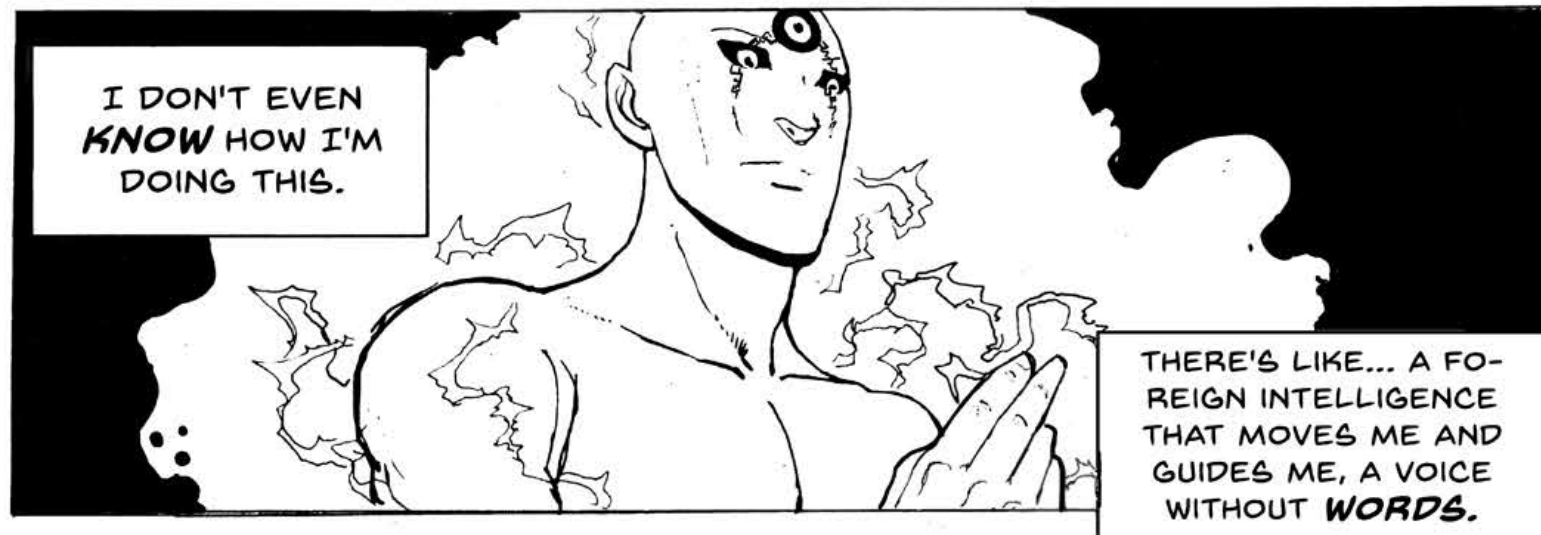
...THAT I CAN SEE
THEM THROUGH
WALLS.



I CAN NO
LONGER EMIT
WAVES TO MAKE
THEM SLEEP...



A PITY.



I DON'T EVEN
KNOW HOW I'M
DOING THIS.

THERE'S LIKE... A FO-
REIGN INTELLIGENCE
THAT MOVES ME AND
GUIDES ME, A VOICE
WITHOUT **WORDS**.



URGEIST,
SITUA-
TION?



THE NEURAL NET-
WORK HAS CAUGHT
QUITE A BIT OF
CHAOS AND BEWIL-
DERMENT.

~~POBES-~~
~~POBES-~~



SHOULD I SAVE
TWO, AT LEAST?

TRY NOT
...

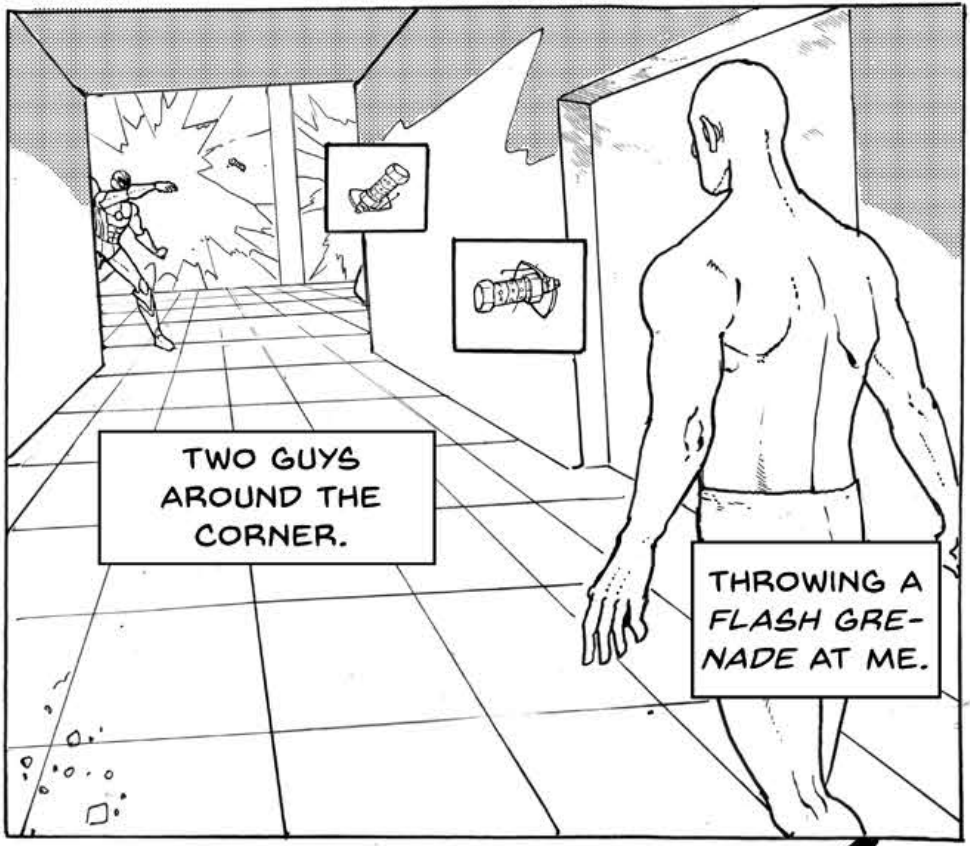
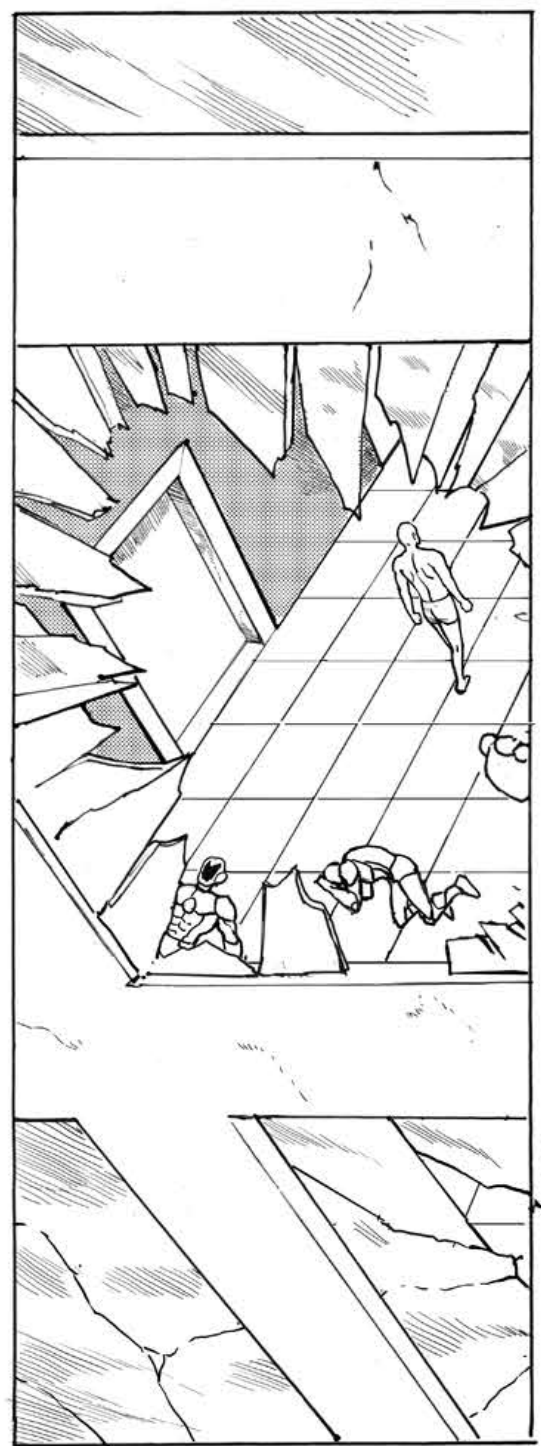


...TO GET
SEE...



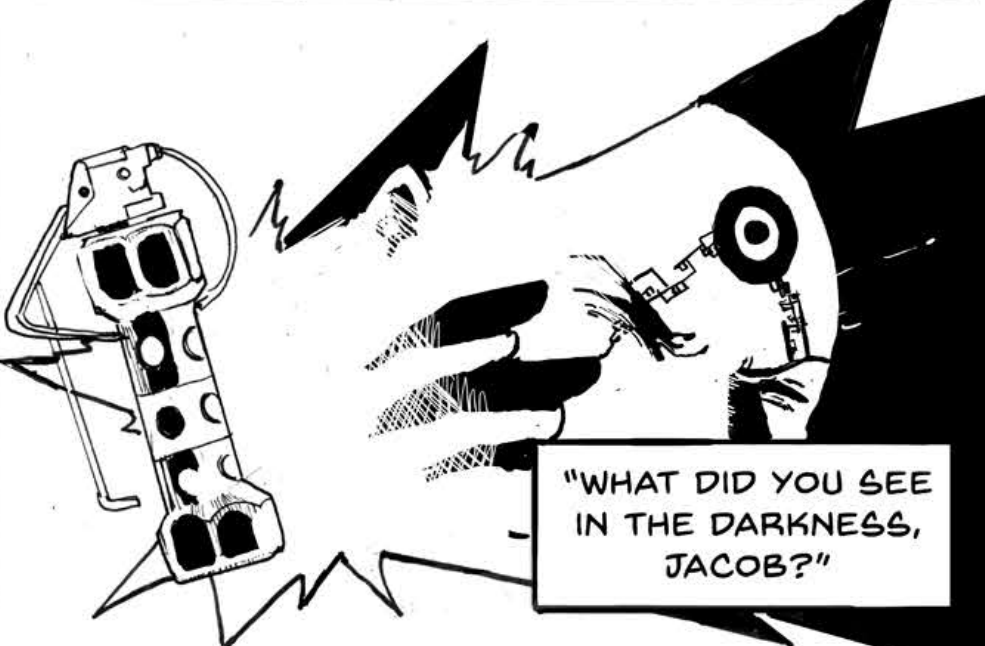
DONE.

WHERE
...?

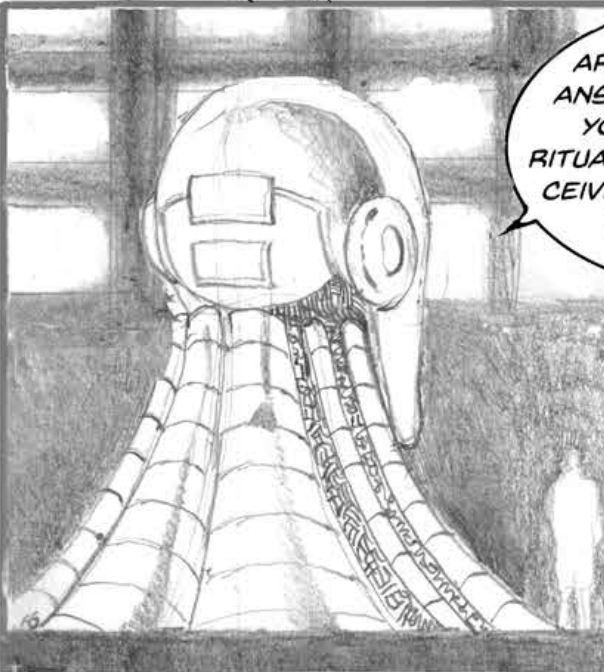


TWO GUYS
AROUND THE
CORNER.

THROWING A
FLASH GRE-
NADE AT ME.



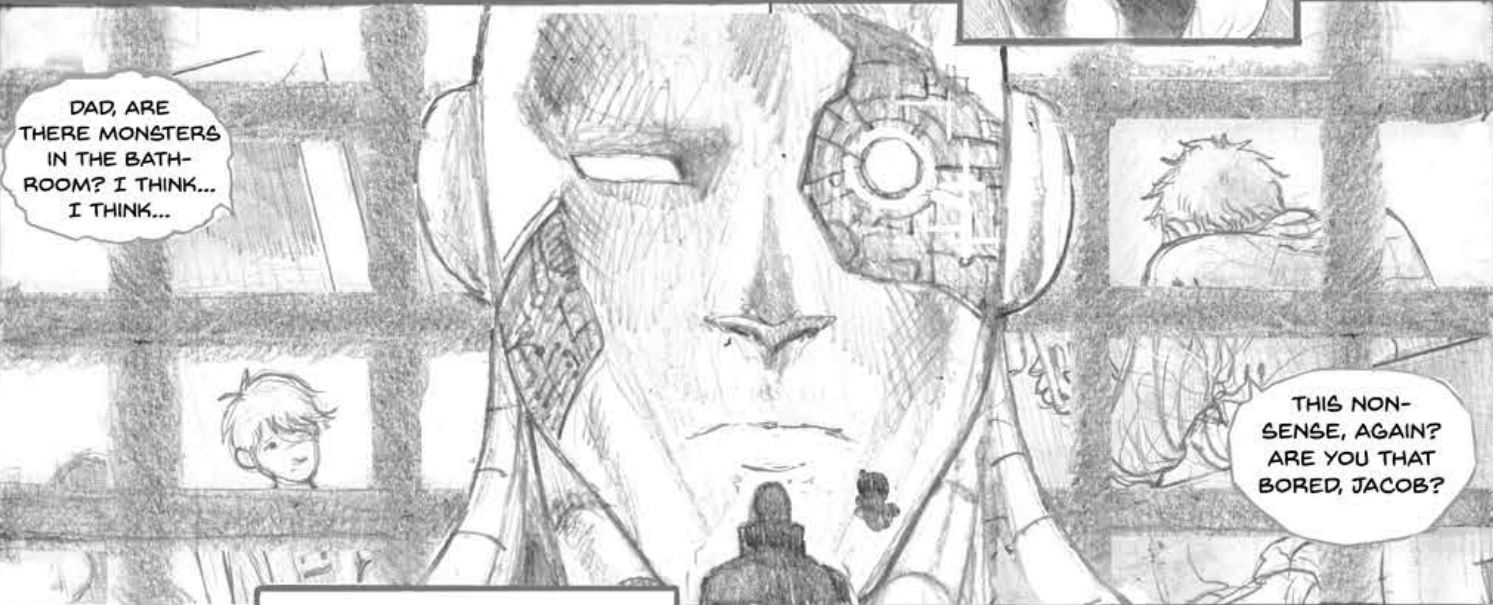
"WHAT DID YOU SEE
IN THE DARKNESS,
JACOB?"



ARE YOU GOING TO ANSWER NOW OR ARE YOU PAUSING THIS RITUAL, UNTIL AFTER RECEIVING YOUR GIFTS ON THE MATERIAL PLANE?



I...



DAD, ARE THERE MONSTERS IN THE BATHROOM? I THINK... I THINK...


THIS NON-SENSE, AGAIN? ARE YOU THAT BORED, JACOB?

MONSTERS IN THE BATHR... ARE YOU DOING IT TO GET ATTENTION?



JACOB!

YOU CAUGHT THE DRAMATIC SIDE OF YOUR MOTHER? IS THAT IT, YOU WANT TO BE THE CENTER OF ATTENTION?




JACOB, AREN'T YOU GONNA CLOSE THE RITUAL OF THE SECOND DOOR?



I CAN'T, CREEPER.

I CAN'T ANSWER THE QUESTION.



YOU BLIND ME? YOU'RE WEARING **METAL** ARMOR, YOU IDIOTS. ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SHOOT IN YOUR DIRECTION AND LET CONDUCTIVITY DO THE REST!

"BESIDES, I'VE GOT THE OPERATION TOMORROW. I NEED... TO PREPARE... SO THAT EVERYTHING **GOES WELL...**"



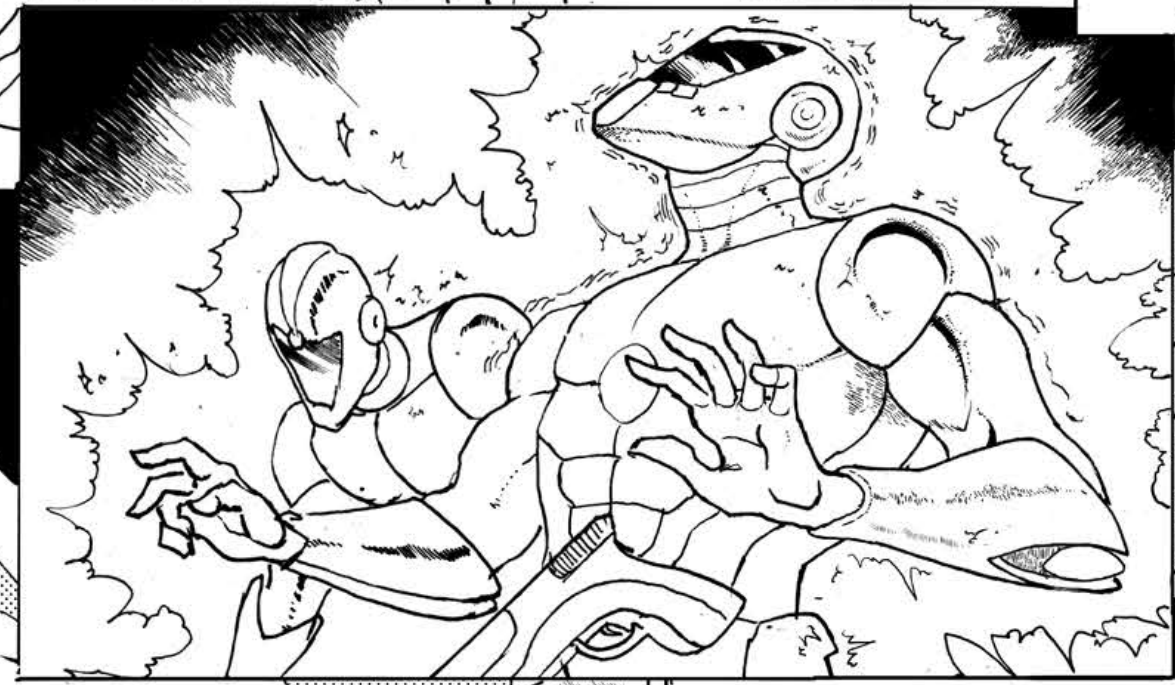
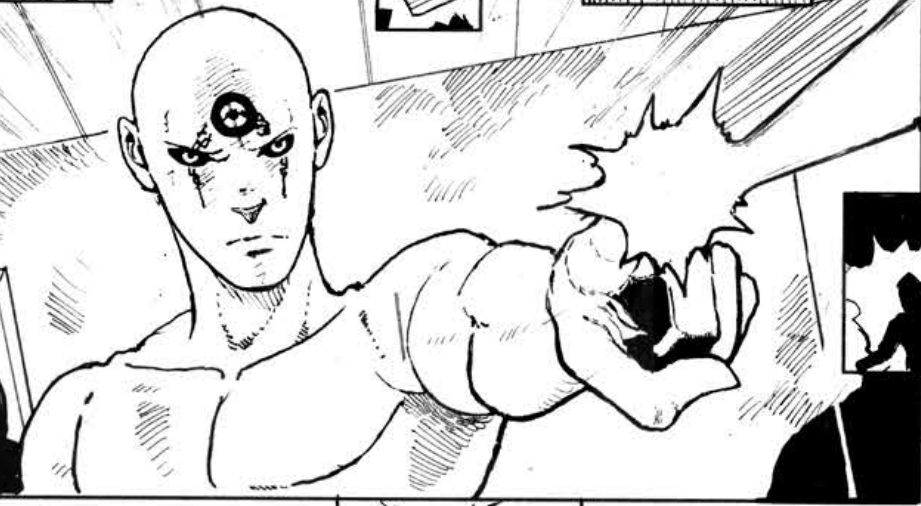
I FEEL
ENDLESS **EN-
ERGY** IN ME.



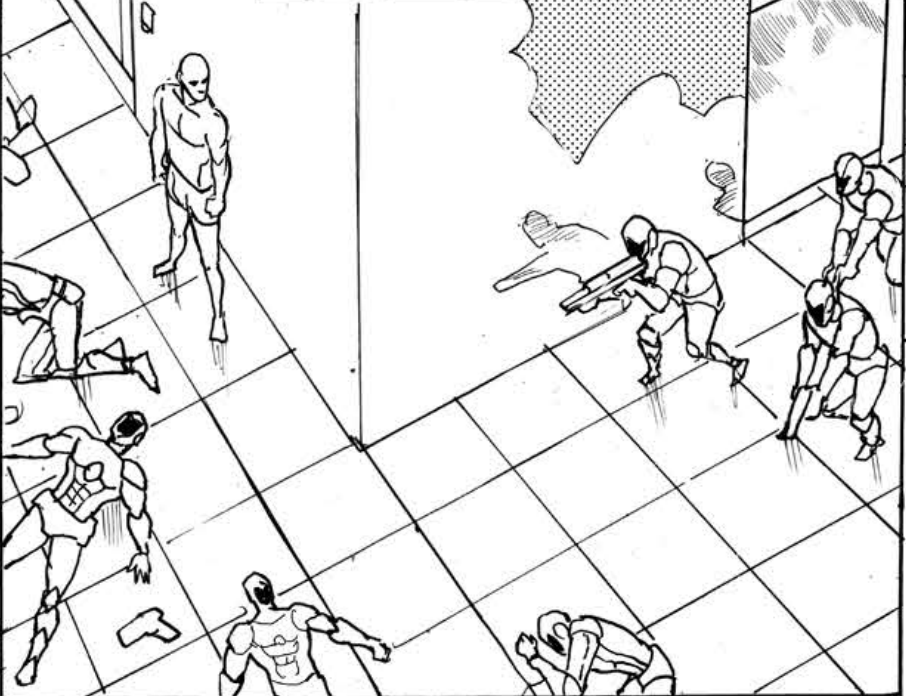
URGEIST?



IS THIS WHAT
HAPPENS WHEN YOU
OPEN THE **SECOND
DOOR?**



OOF ...
THE HEAD...
DOESN'T
STOP VIBRAT-
ING...



IT'S
OVER.

ESSEX... I CRITICIZED
YOU SO MUCH... I
DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT
THIS **POWER...** AND
THIS **WEIGHT...**

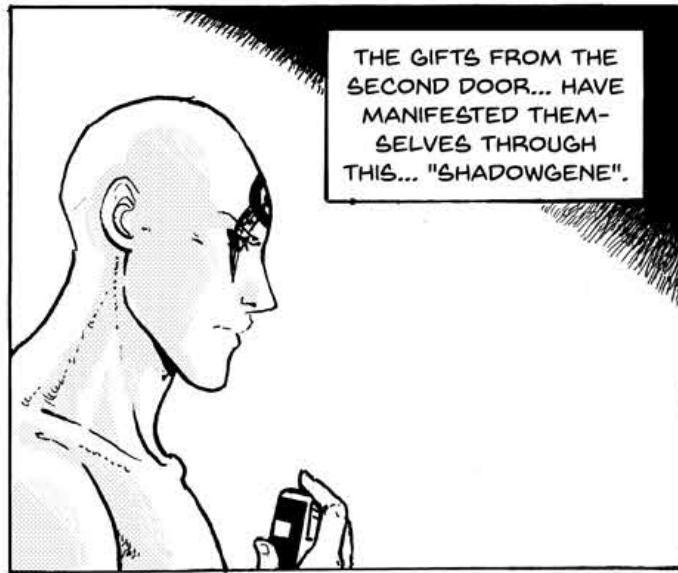


SECURITY.
IT'S **DONE.**

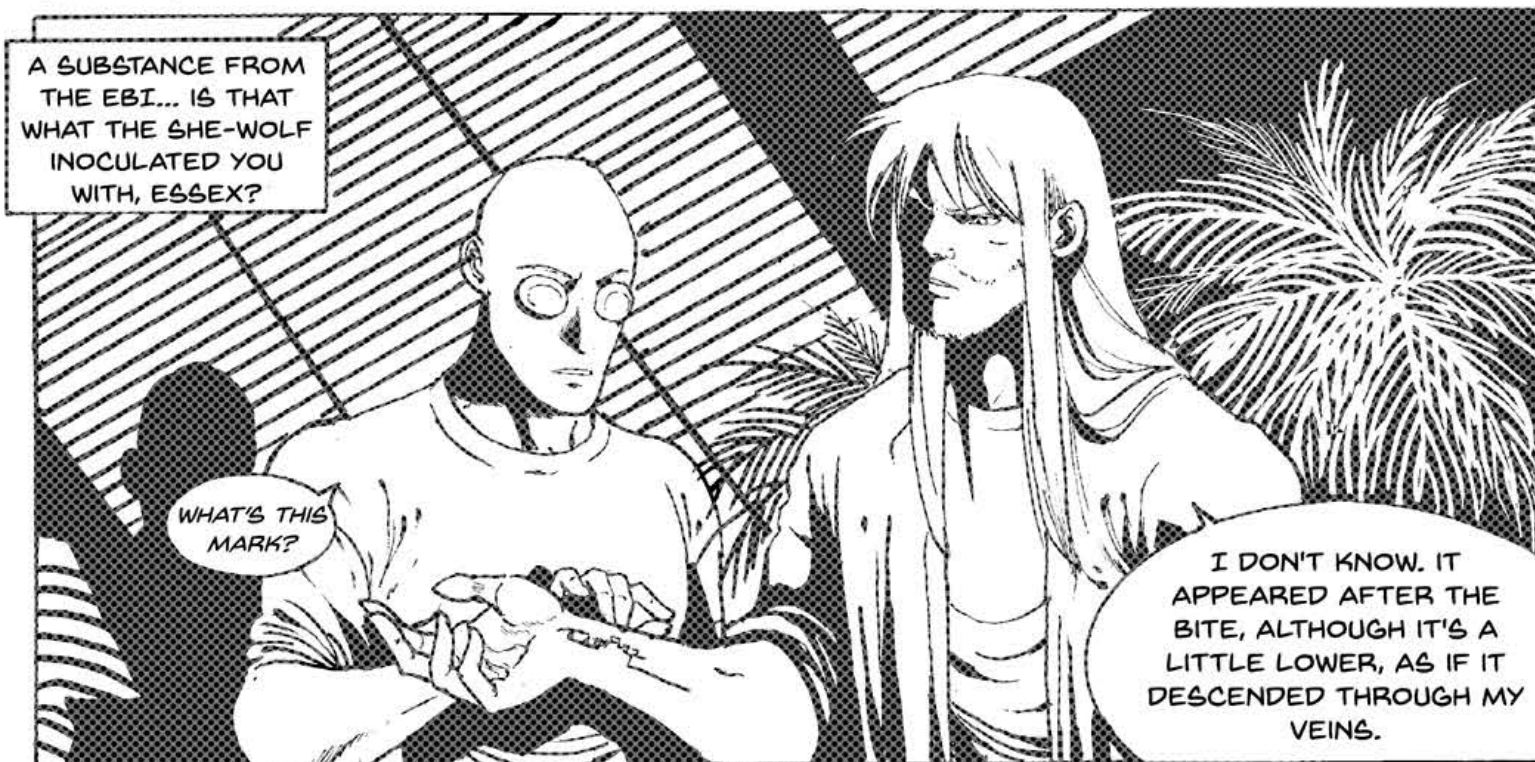




ALL CLEAR.



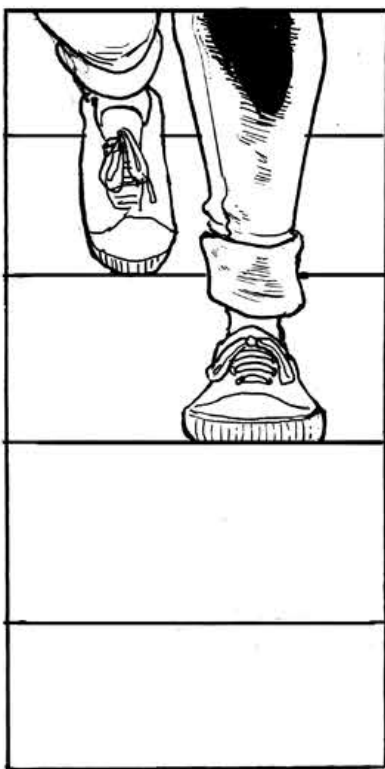
THE GIFTS FROM THE SECOND DOOR... HAVE MANIFESTED THEMSELVES THROUGH THIS... "SHADOWGENE".



A SUBSTANCE FROM THE EBI... IS THAT WHAT THE SHE-WOLF INOCULATED YOU WITH, ESSEX?

WHAT'S THIS MARK?

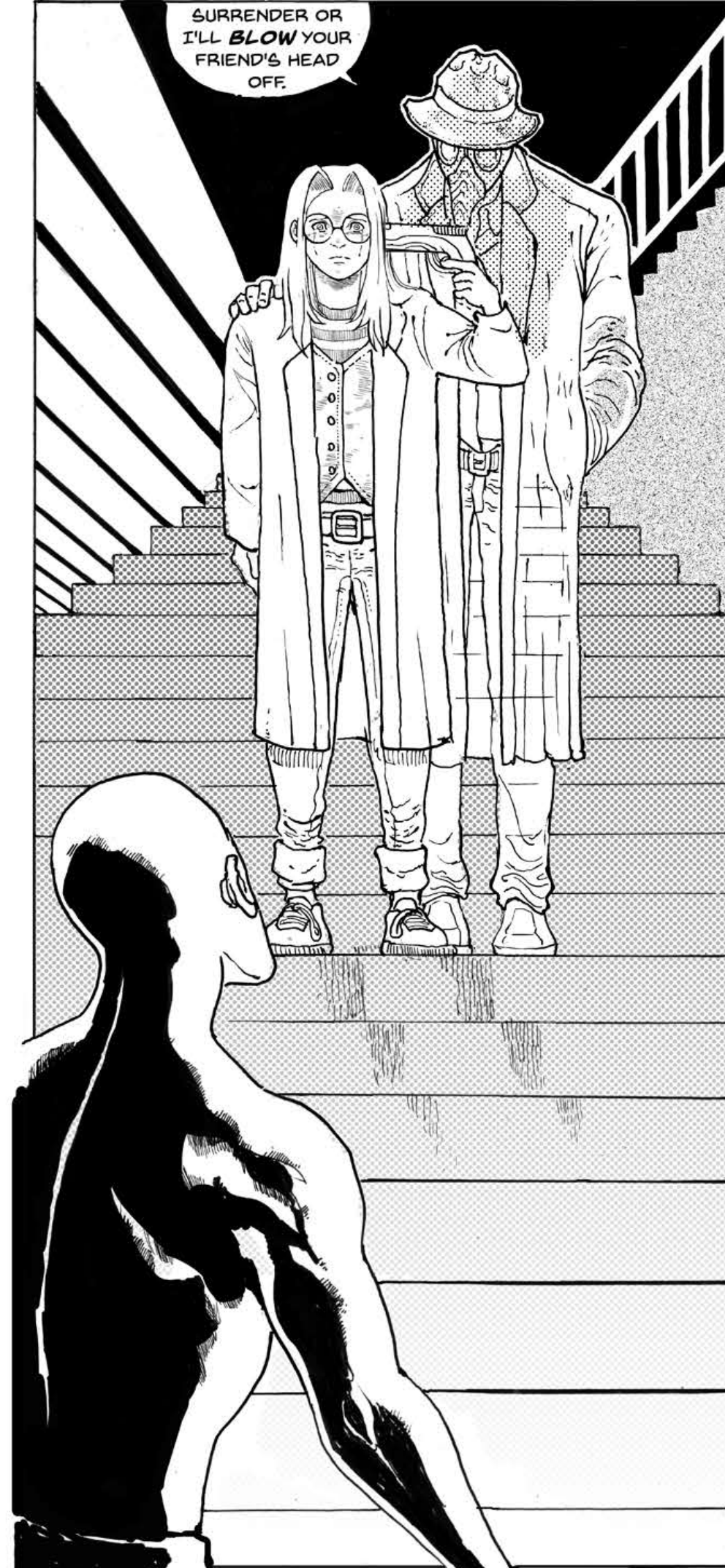
I DON'T KNOW. IT APPEARED AFTER THE BITE, ALTHOUGH IT'S A LITTLE LOWER, AS IF IT DESCENDED THROUGH MY VEINS.



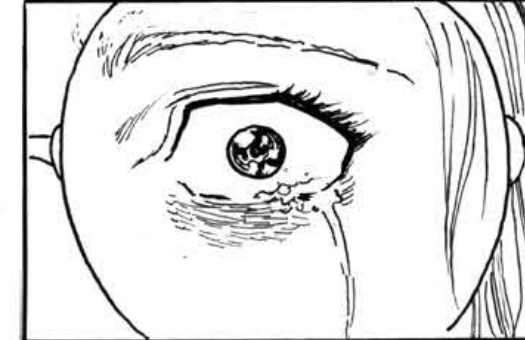
I KNOW YOU'RE GOING TO SEE ME...



...SO I'LL STOP TRYING TO HIDE MY PRESENCE.



SURRENDER OR I'LL **BLOW** YOUR FRIEND'S HEAD OFF.



NO.

YOU AGAIN... NO.



YES. AGAIN. I CAN'T MANIPULATE YOU AS LONG AS I'M ASSISTED BY THE CELL TOWERS, BUT... TURNS OUT I DON'T NEED IT.

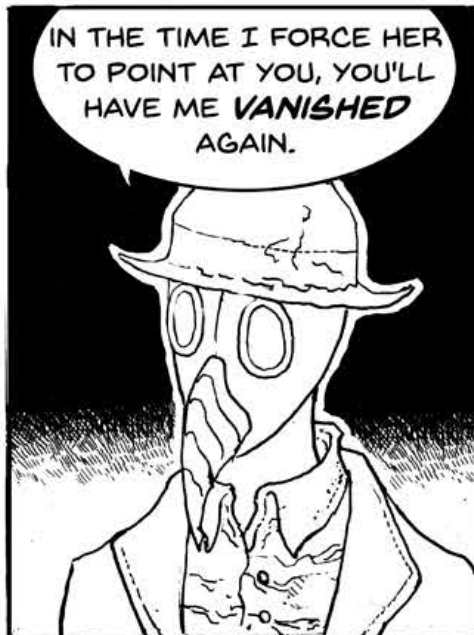
SO... TAKE ONE OF THE ANESTHETIC GUNS AND INJECT YOURSELF.



LEAVE HER ALONE. **SHOOT ME INSTEAD!**



SHOOT
YOU?



IN THE TIME I FORCE HER
TO POINT AT YOU, YOU'LL
HAVE ME **VANISHED**
AGAIN.



AFTER ALL, I AM ASSISTED
BY FLOWS OF INFORMATION
ALL TOO FAMILIAR TO
YOU...



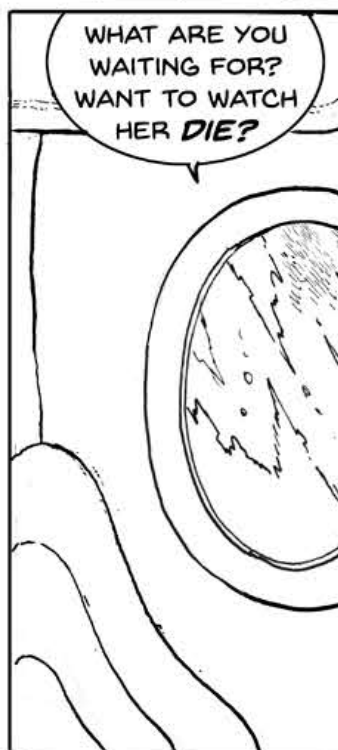
GAME'S
OVER,
JACOB.



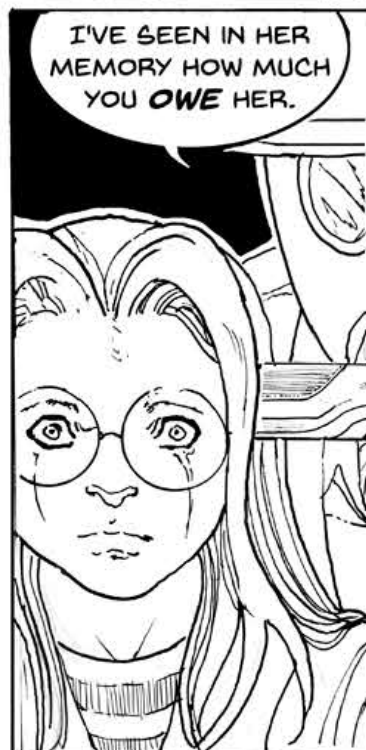
GRAB THE GUN
BACK THERE AND
INJECT YOUR-
SELF.



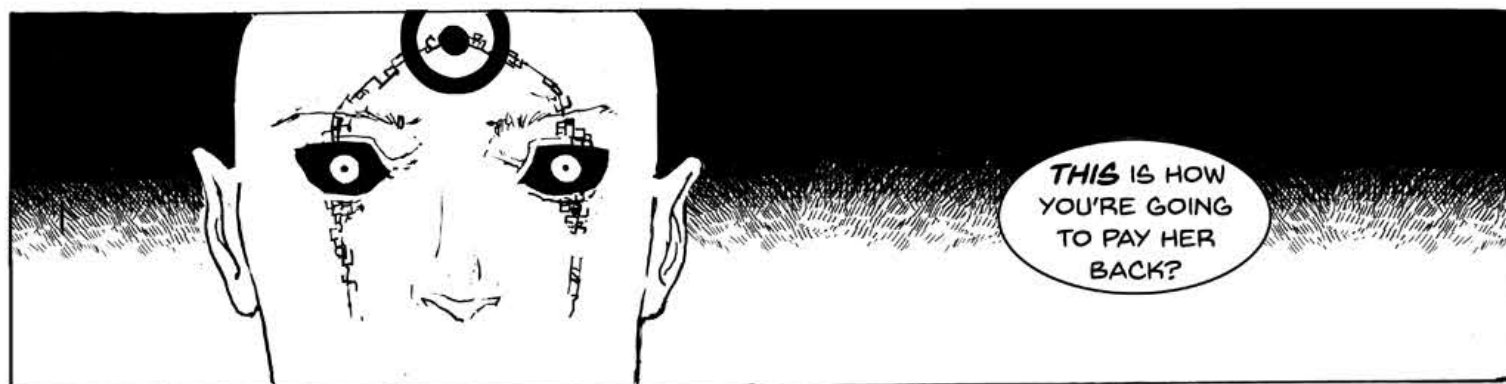
...



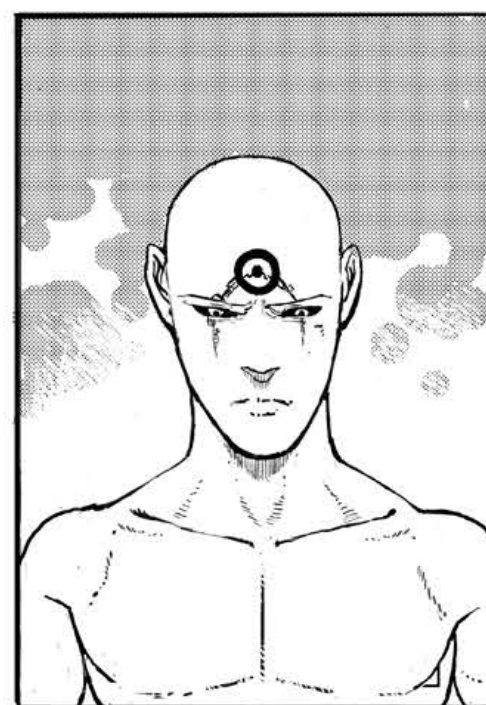
WHAT ARE YOU
WAITING FOR?
WANT TO WATCH
HER **DIE?**



I'VE SEEN IN HER
MEMORY HOW MUCH
YOU **OWE** HER.



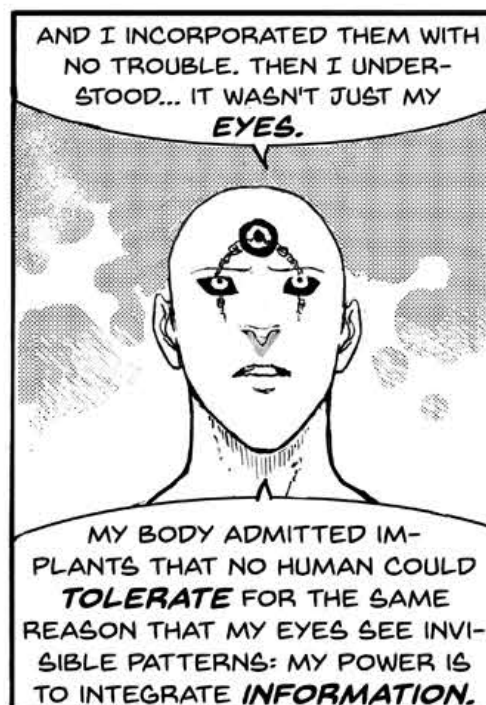
THIS IS HOW
YOU'RE GOING
TO PAY HER
BACK?



I WON'T SAY
IT AGAIN,
JACOB.



UNLIKE ESSEX, MY
POWERS... WERE VERY
SUBTLE. I SAW... FLOWS...
THAT I COULDN'T INTERPRET.

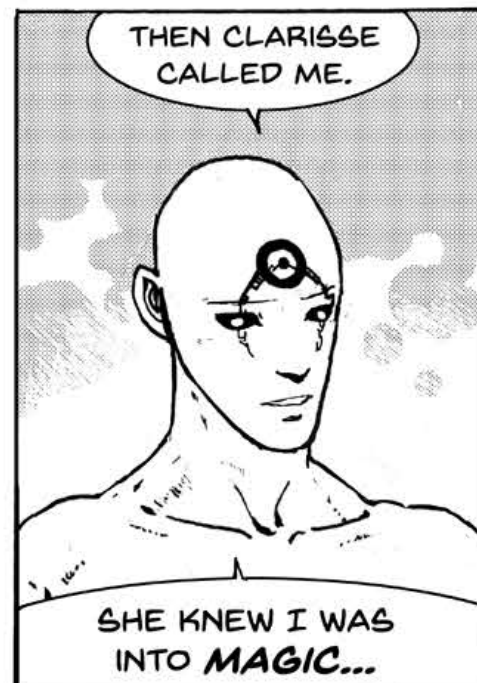


AND I INCORPORATED THEM WITH
NO TROUBLE. THEN I UNDER-
STOOD... IT WASN'T JUST MY
EYES.

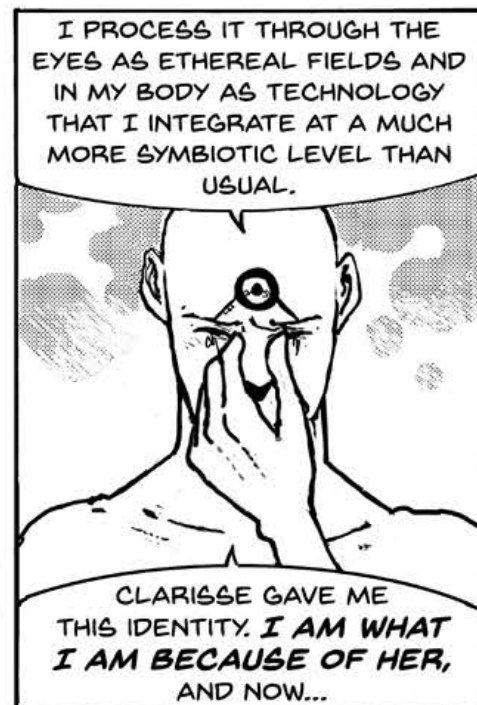
MY BODY ADMITTED IM-
PLANTS THAT NO HUMAN COULD
TOLERATE FOR THE SAME
REASON THAT MY EYES SEE INVI-
SIBLE PATTERNS: MY POWER IS
TO INTEGRATE **INFORMATION**.



THEN CLARISSE
CALLED ME.

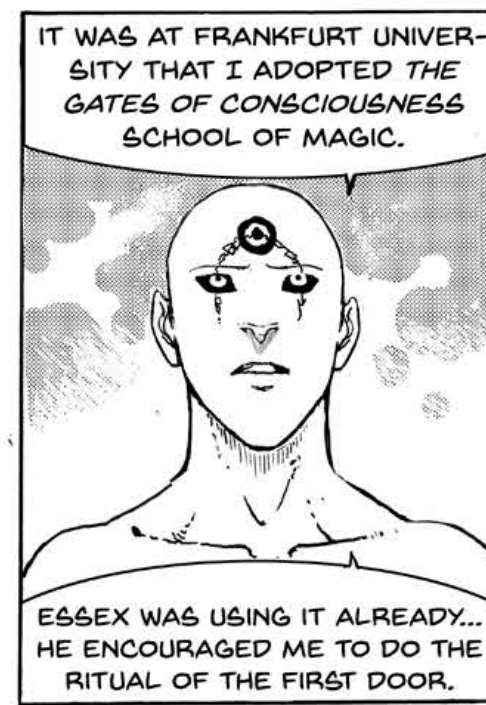


SHE KNEW I WAS
INTO **MAGIC**...



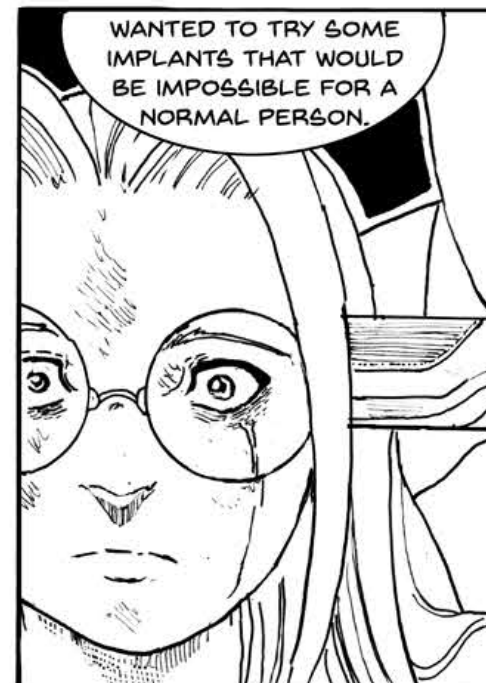
I PROCESS IT THROUGH THE
EYES AS ETHEREAL FIELDS AND
IN MY BODY AS TECHNOLOGY
THAT I INTEGRATE AT A MUCH
MORE SYMBIOTIC LEVEL THAN
USUAL.

CLARISSE GAVE ME
THIS IDENTITY. **I AM WHAT
I AM BECAUSE OF HER,**
AND NOW...

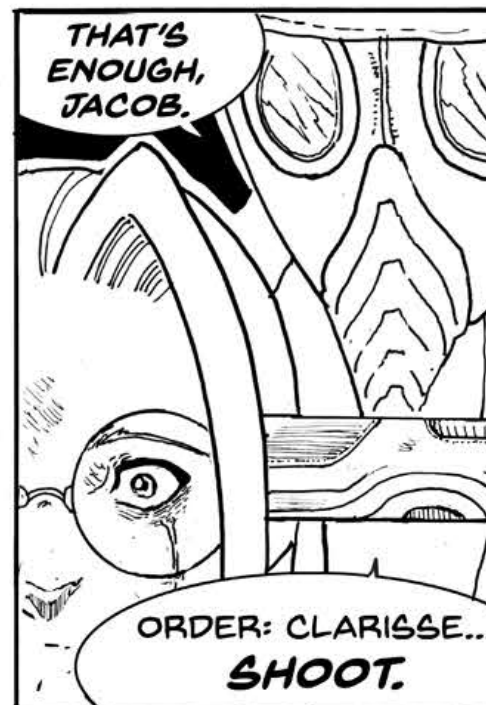


IT WAS AT FRANKFURT UNIVER-
SITY THAT I ADOPTED THE
GATES OF CONSCIOUSNESS
SCHOOL OF MAGIC.

ESSEX WAS USING IT ALREADY...
HE ENCOURAGED ME TO DO THE
RITUAL OF THE FIRST DOOR.

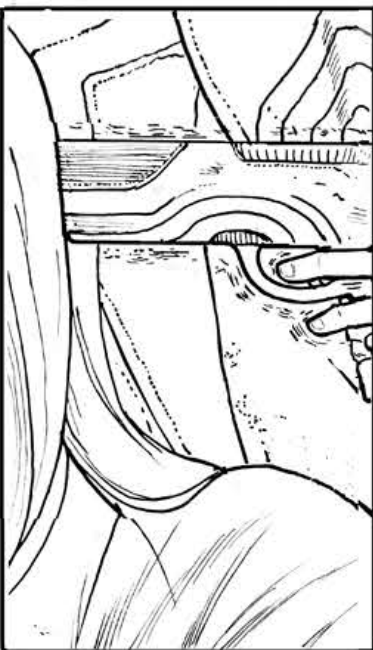
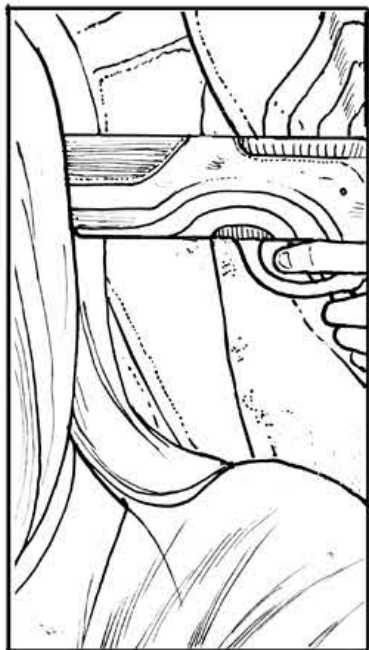


WANTED TO TRY SOME
IMPLANTS THAT WOULD
BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR A
NORMAL PERSON.

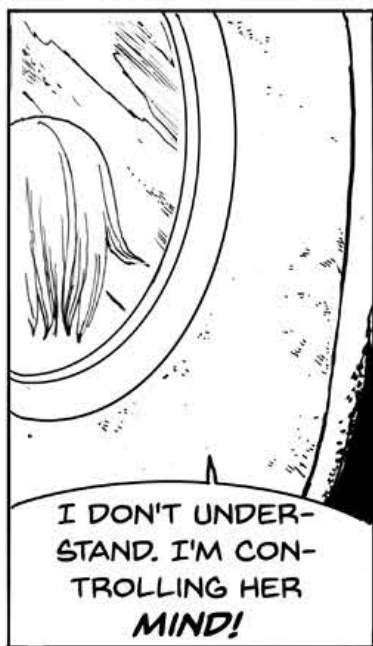
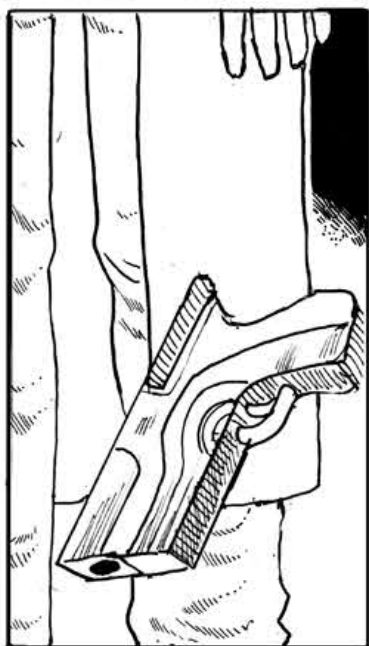


**THAT'S
ENOUGH,
JACOB.**

ORDER: CLARISSE...
SHOOT.



WHAT?
SHE'S RE-
SISTING?

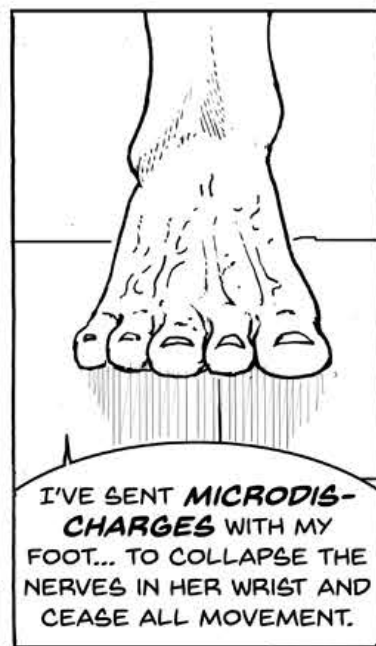


I DON'T UNDER-
STAND. I'M CON-
TROLLING HER
MIND!



YES.

AND I HER **BODY.**



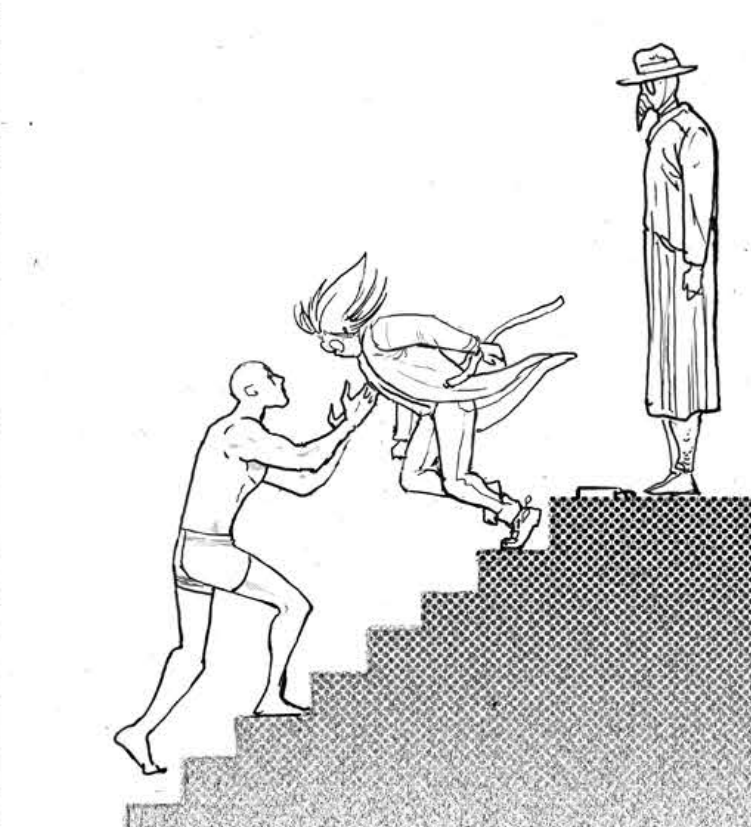
I'VE SENT **MICRODIS-
CHARGES** WITH MY
FOOT... TO COLLAPSE THE
NERVES IN HER WRIST AND
CEASE ALL MOVEMENT.



THOSE
EYES...



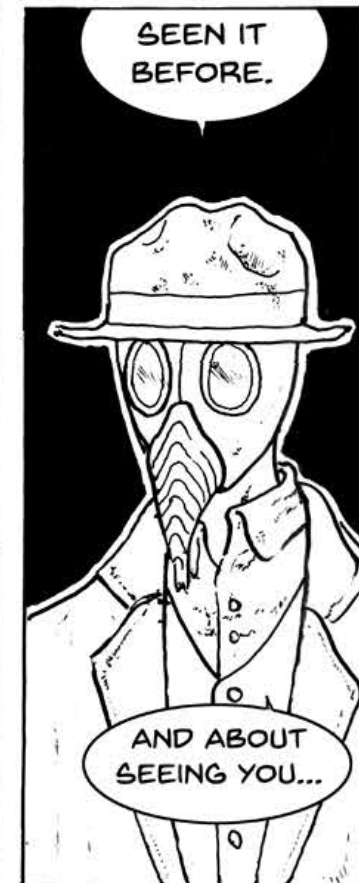
...I MADE
THEM.



PRAY WE NEVER SEE
EACH OTHER IN
PERSON.

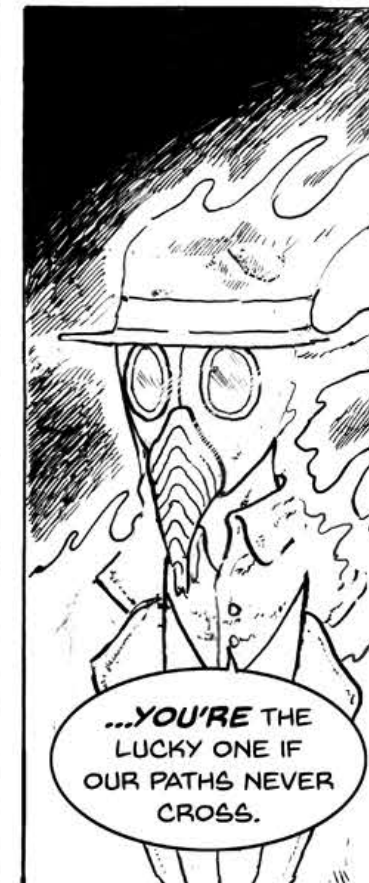


YOU GET A
LITTLE POWER
AND YOU BECOME
A BULLY.

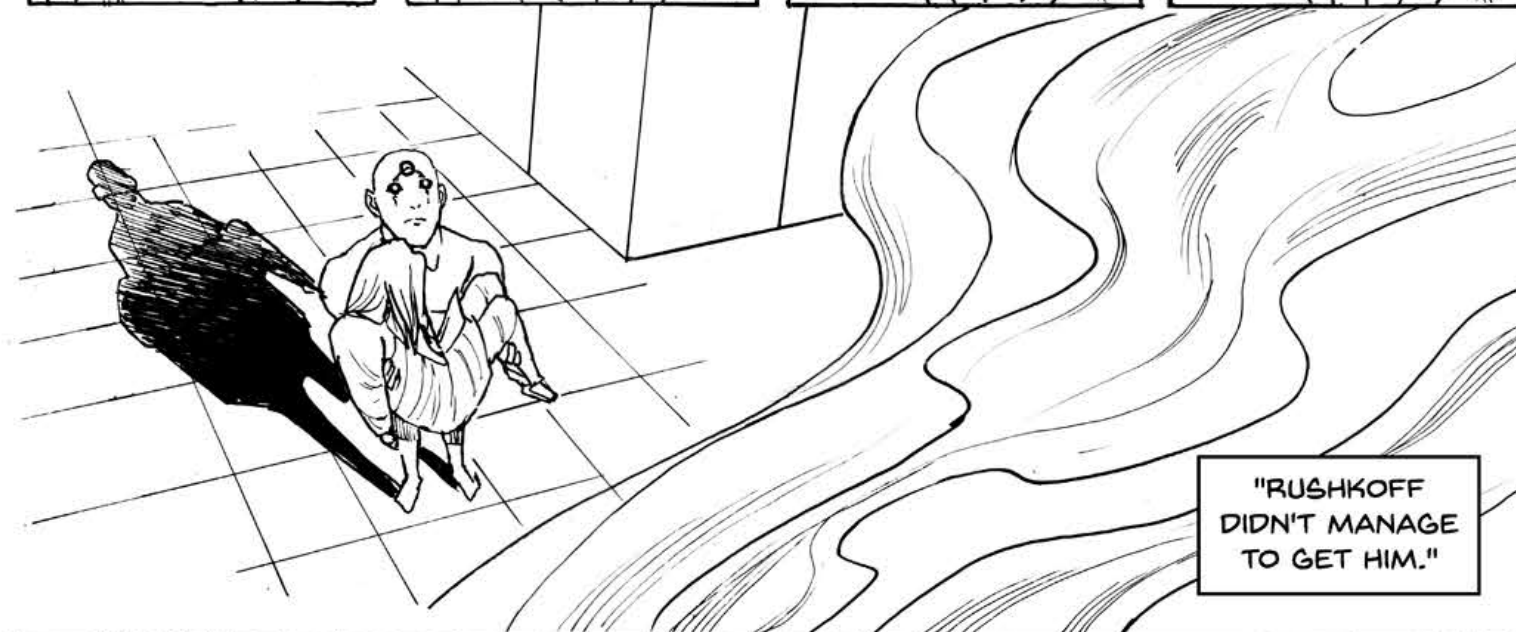


SEEN IT
BEFORE.

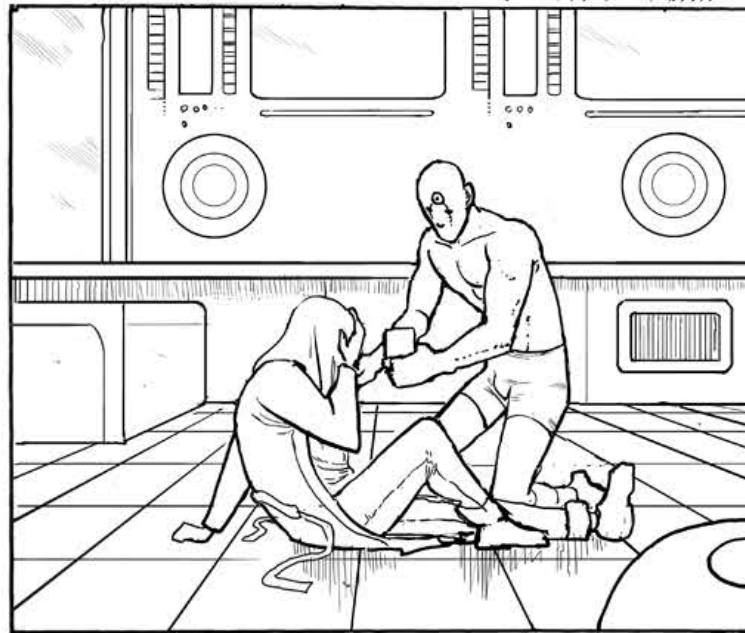
AND ABOUT
SEEING YOU...



...YOU'RE THE
LUCKY ONE IF
OUR PATHS NEVER
CROSS.



"RUSHKOFF
DIDN'T MANAGE
TO GET HIM."

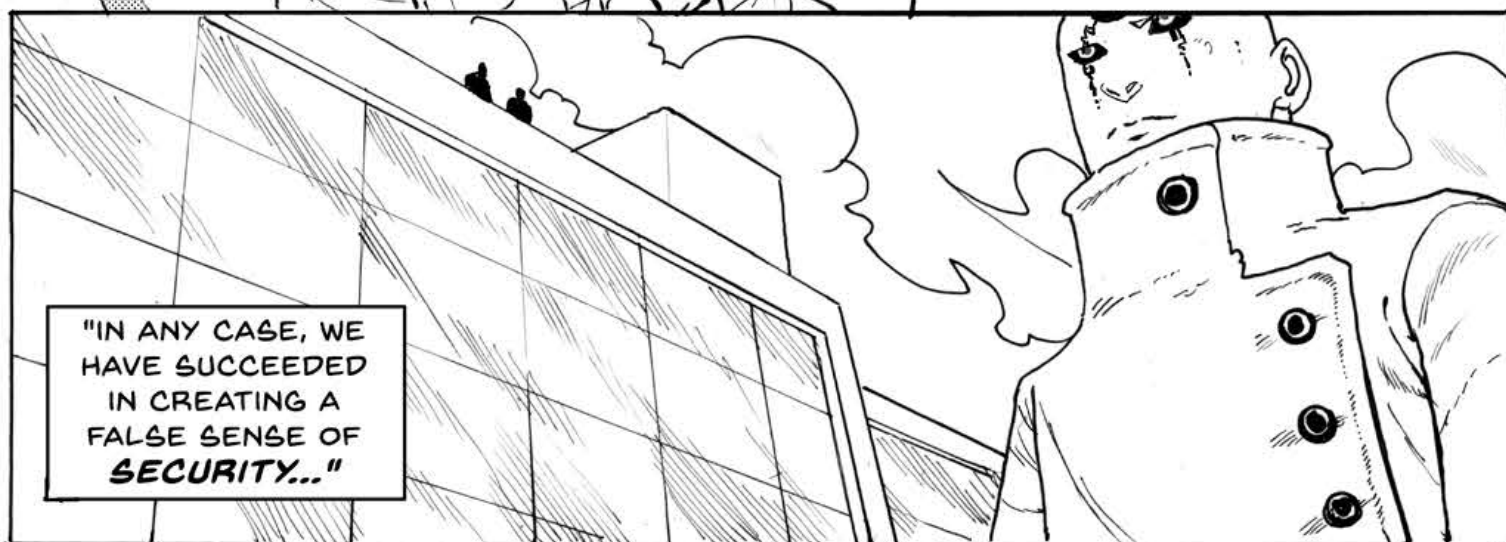


"HE SPENT SEVERAL
HOURS HELPING TO
STEAL THE EXO-
SUITS TECHNOLOGY
FROM US..."

"JACOB TOLD HER HE HAD TO LEAVE SO THAT HE DIDN'T KEEP PUTTING HER IN **DANGER**."



"OBVIOUSLY, HE DIDN'T TELL HER WHERE HE WAS GOING."

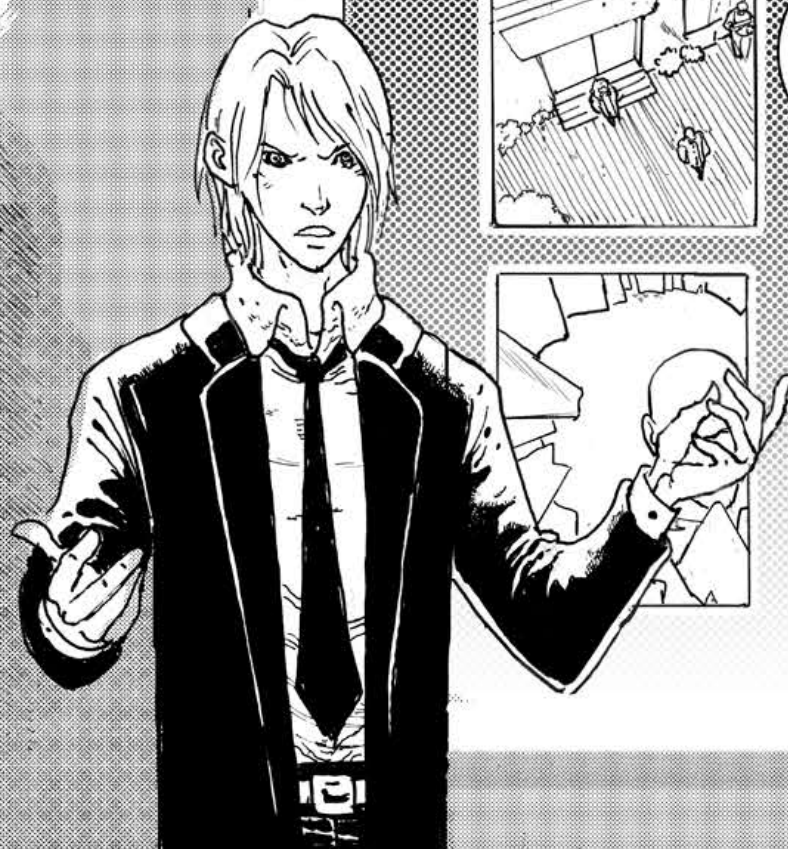


"IN ANY CASE, WE HAVE SUCCEEDED IN CREATING A FALSE SENSE OF **SECURITY**..."

...AND WE'VE EXPLORED THE CHANGES AND ADAPTATION OF THE **SHADOWGENE** IN JACOB.

HOWEVER CAUTIOUS HE MAY BE, SOONER OR LATER HE WILL MEET WITH THE **OTHER TWO**...

...AND WE'LL CAPTURE THEM AT THAT MOMENT.



ACCORDING TO FRANK, ADAM WENT MISSING ON SEVILLE. HOW'S HE GONNA **MEET** JACOB?



SO...THIS IS IT? WE GAVE THIS GUY **SHADOWGENE** JUST FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF... CAPTURING **TWO** OUT OF THREE?



IT'S COMPLICATED TO PROCEED WITH SUCH **STRICT** LIMITS ON PUTTING CIVILIANS WITHOUT MAGICAL TALENTS AT RISK.

IF YOU KNEW ALL THE PEOPLE WE'VE **NEEDED** TO EXPERIMENT WITH THE **SHADOWGENE**...



...



ABOUT ADAM, I CAN...

FRANK, NO. THIS IS EXACTLY THE STUFF HE...



DURING MY MISSION IN SEVILLE, I... ONE OF MY BODIES... ACCESSED ADAM'S **MEMORIES**. I THINK WE CAN DESIGN A PLAN...



HIS **MEMORIES**?



...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!

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

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