



SIMON M.

SCRIPT

PANEL LAYOUT

COVER

TRANSLATION

(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

EPILOGUE'S PENCILS

AND INK

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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 CAPTU-
RED YOUR PART-
NER. THE BALD
ONE.



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



WHAT?

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 **NUM-
BERS**. WE WON'T BE ABLE TO
DEFUSE THE SPELL IF THEY
FOLLOW US...



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



SO
WHAT?

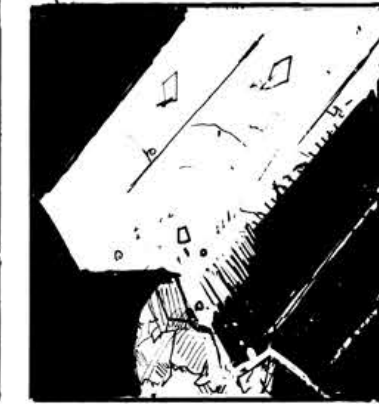


BELIEVE ME.
ADAM'S WHERE
THE MESS IS.



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...



AAAAAAAAAAAAAGH!!



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**.

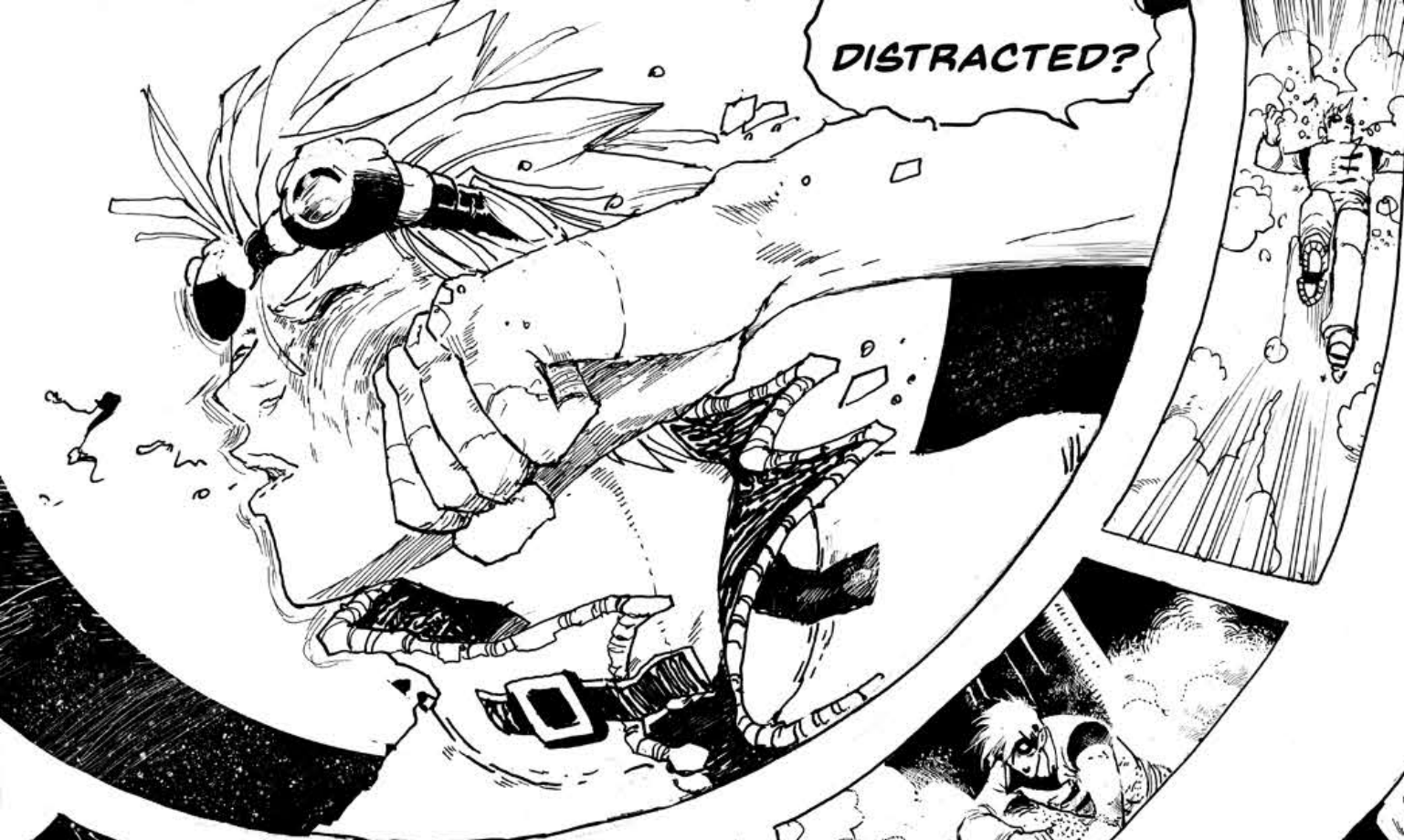


ADAM, HIS "MIND" HAS
CRACKS. DON'T LISTEN
TO HIM. WE WANT TO
REST, BUT OUR IMPERATIVE
IS TO MAKE SANTIAGO
A **LIVING CITY**.



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 BOD...?



DISTRACTED?



HOW LONG
HAVE YOU BEEN
HERE?

HAHA-
HAHAHA!



WHAT DOES
IT **MATTER**
TO YOU?



YOU HAVE
TO STOP
INUO. I WANT
TO REST.

RUNNING
AWAY,
ADAM?

RUN-
NING?



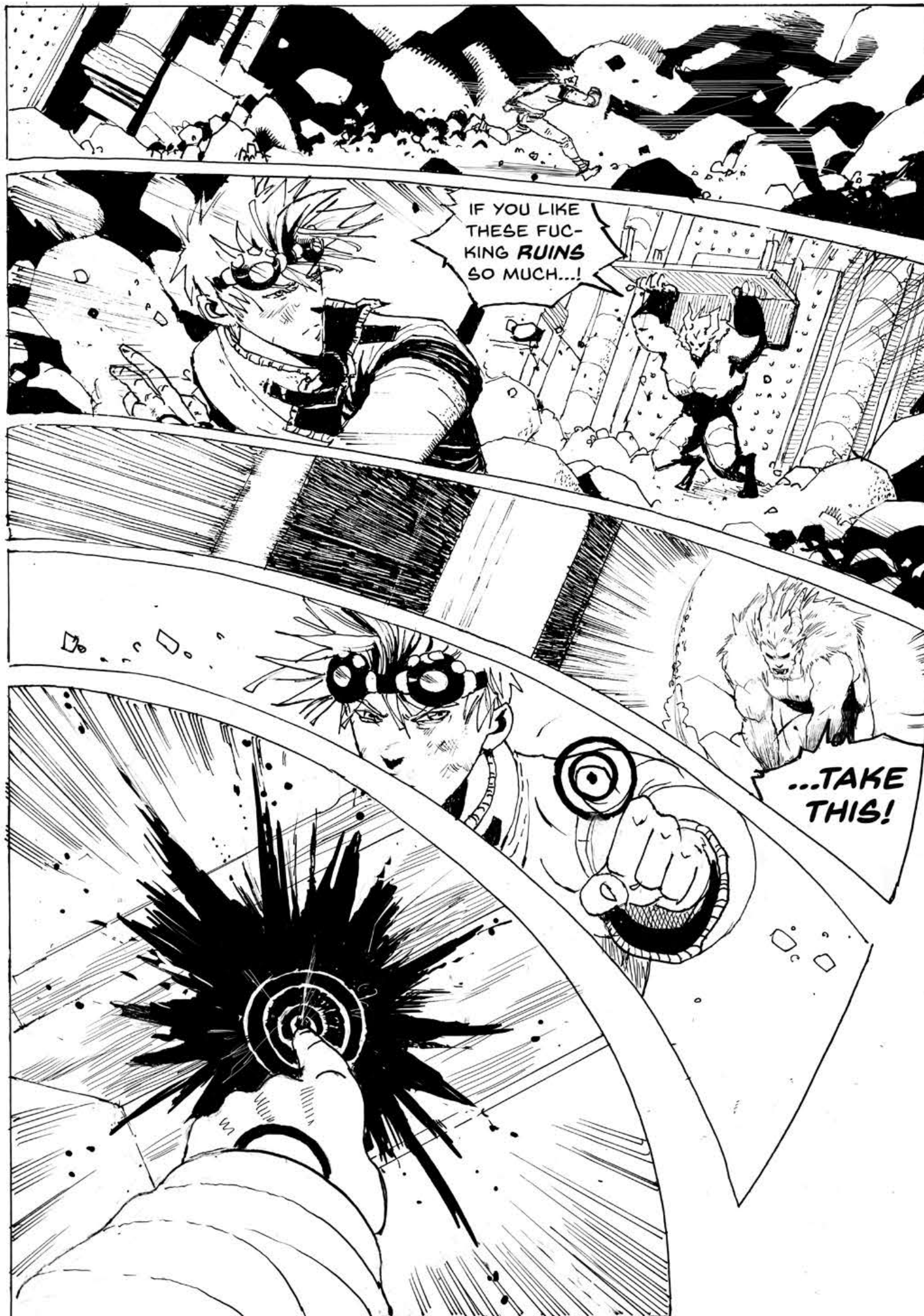
I JUST WANT
TO PRESERVE
THESE **RUINS** YOU
LOVE SO MUCH,
YOU CUNT!



EVEN THE **ROCKS**
OF YOUR ASS ARE
WORTH MORE THAN
THE BULLSHIT
STORY YOU'VE
TOLD ME!



FRAG



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?

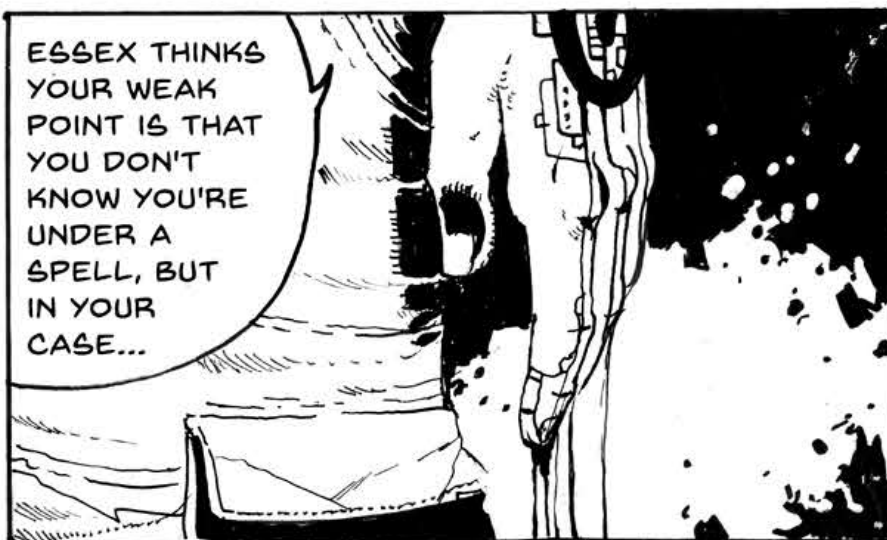


WHY TELL ME
YOUR STORY?

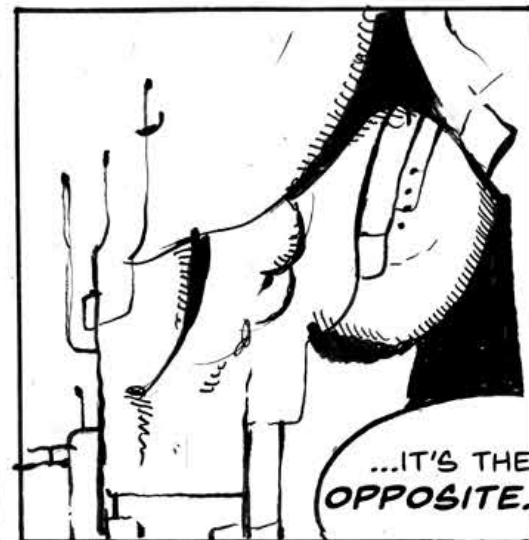
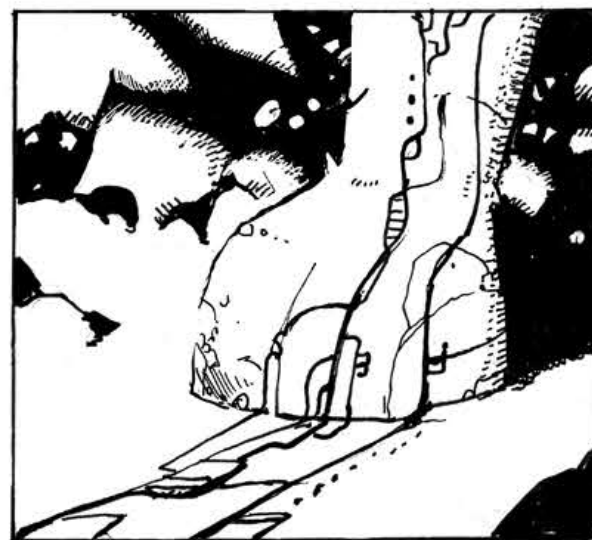
CYNICS
WOULD SAY IT'S
BECAUSE OF
SADISM.



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.



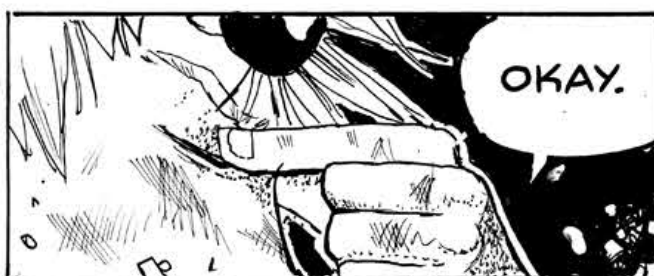
ADAM! THE GROUND ZERO OF THE SPELL HAS TO BE A PLACE WITH AN IMPORTANT **MYSTICAL CHARGE**. THE **EARTH ELEMENT** WILL BE THERE!



THE CATHEDRAL.

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

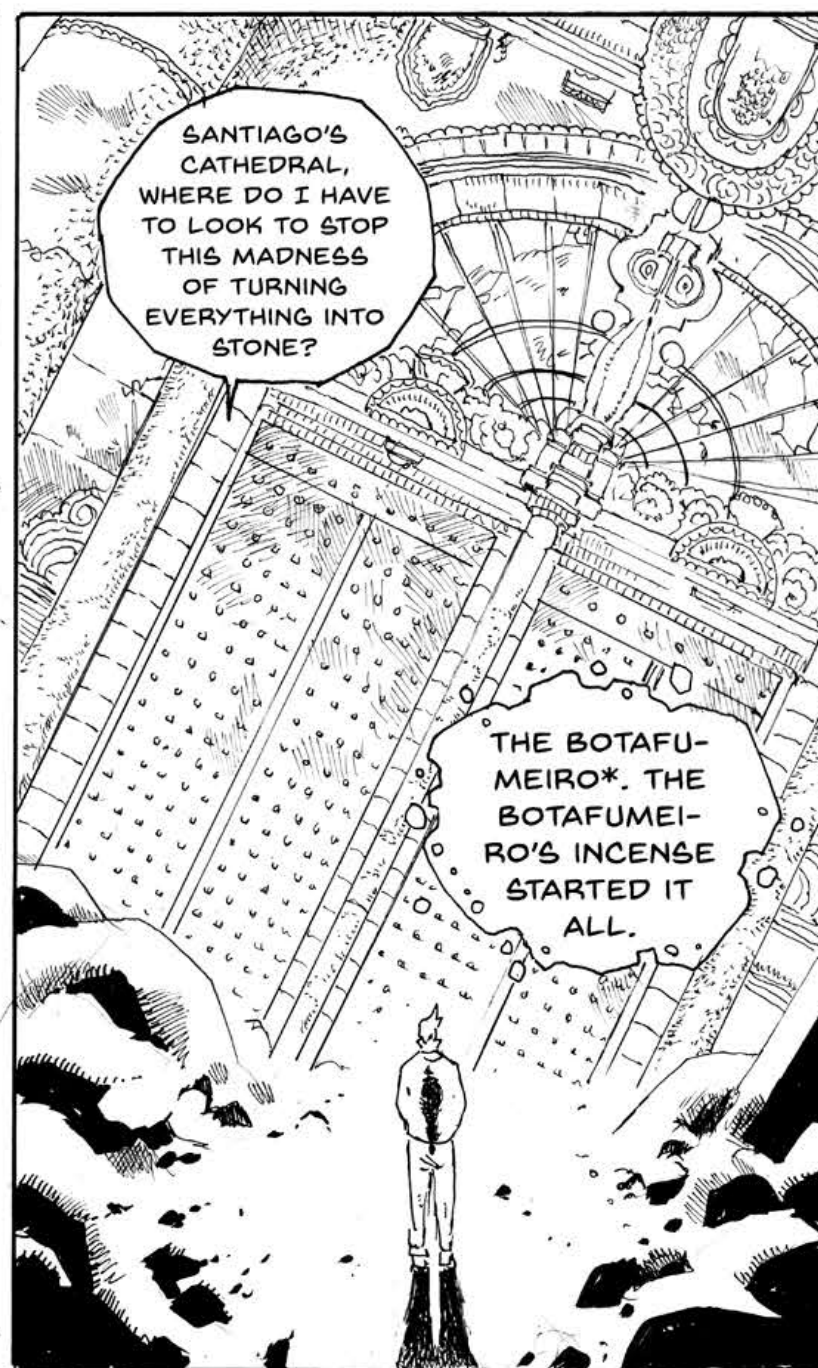
MAN, WHAT A DAY.



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.

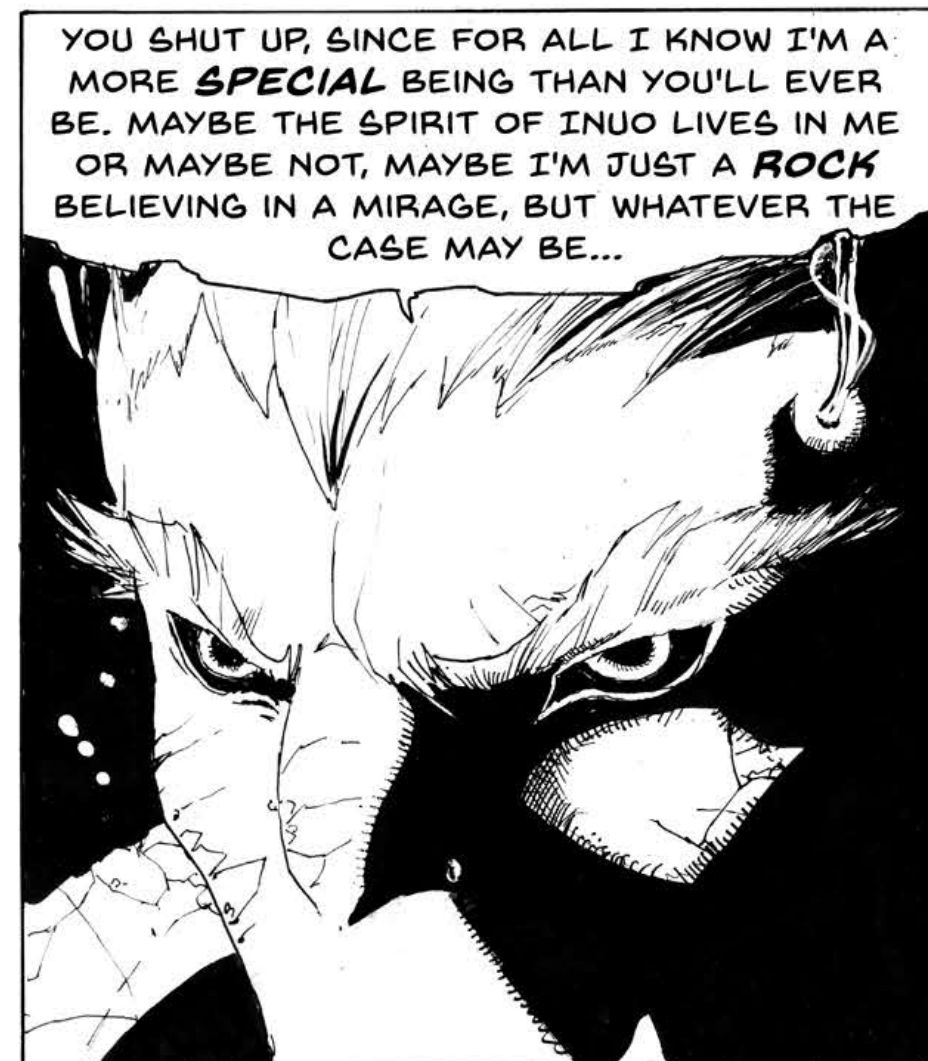


A GODDAMN IDIOT.

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 **DIFFE-
RENT?!**

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

I KNOW
ABOUT YOU
THREE, ADAM! YOU
HAVE NOT MADE A
SINGLE DECISION
THAT IS NOT CON-
DITIONED 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 PRO-
BLEMS!



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



UH...
WHAT?



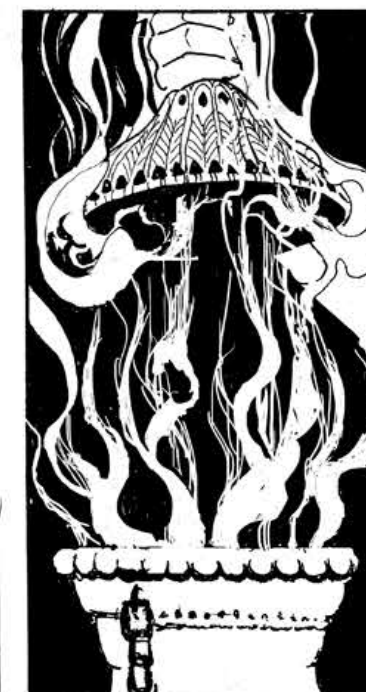
AND WHAT IF
I'M **RIGHT?**



...IT'S LIKE THREE-
DIMENSIONAL LAN-
GUAGE.



WHETHER IT WAS
THE-MAN-FROM-BE-
YOND-TIME OR NOT...



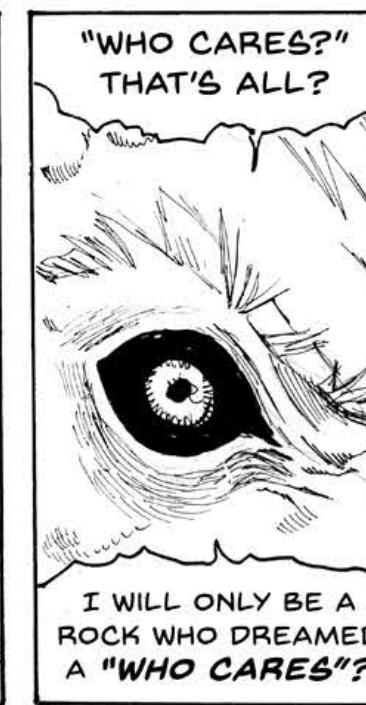
...SOMEONE HAD
ENOUGH POWER TO
ENCHANT AN ENTIRE
CITY FOR **CENTU-
RIES!**



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

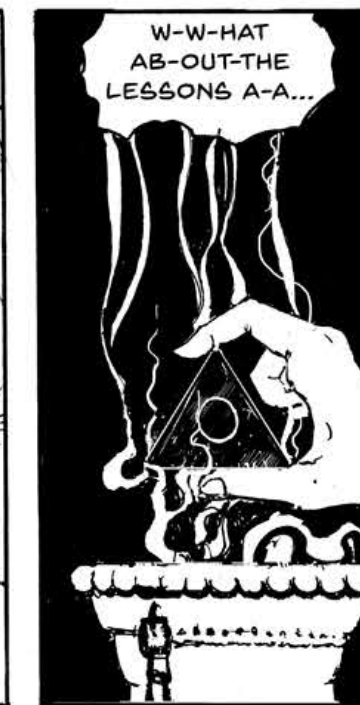


SOMEONE DID IT
LONG AGO. **WHO**
CARES?



"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-I-ST...



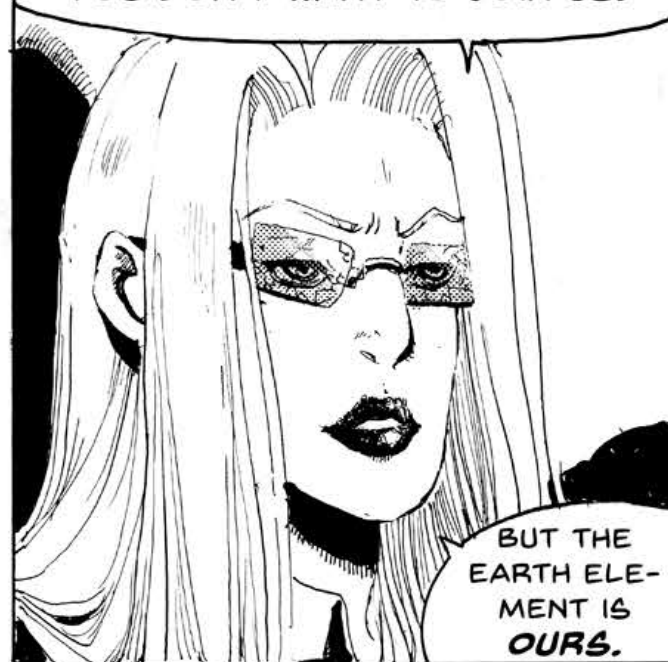
THEY L-LIS-LIST-
LI-LI-S-STEE-N...



I-I-I...



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



BUT THE
EARTH ELE-
MENT IS
OURS.

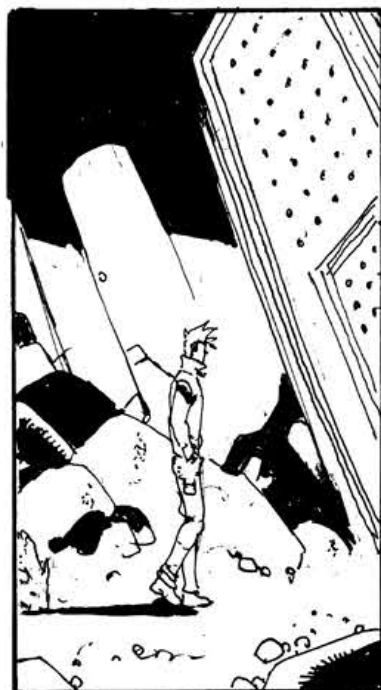
WE CAN
FIGHT,
ADAM.



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



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



FUCK.



NOW
WHAT.



HELLO,
ADAM.



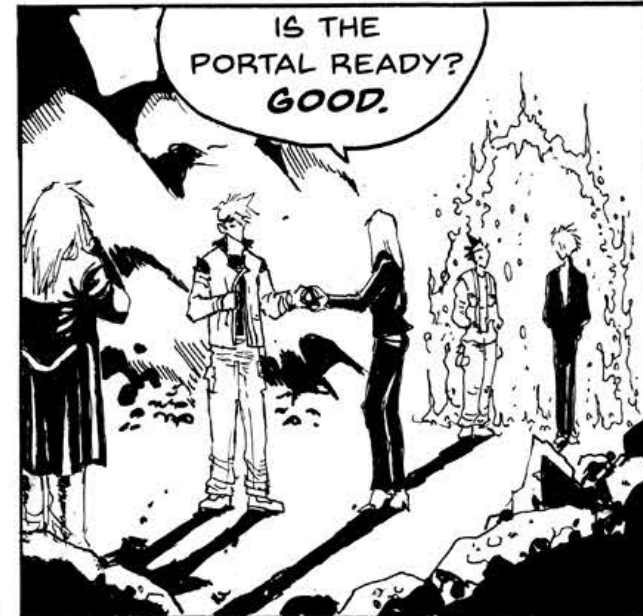
AND YOU THINK
YOU'RE GONNA
FIND OUT BY GI-
VING IT AWAY?!



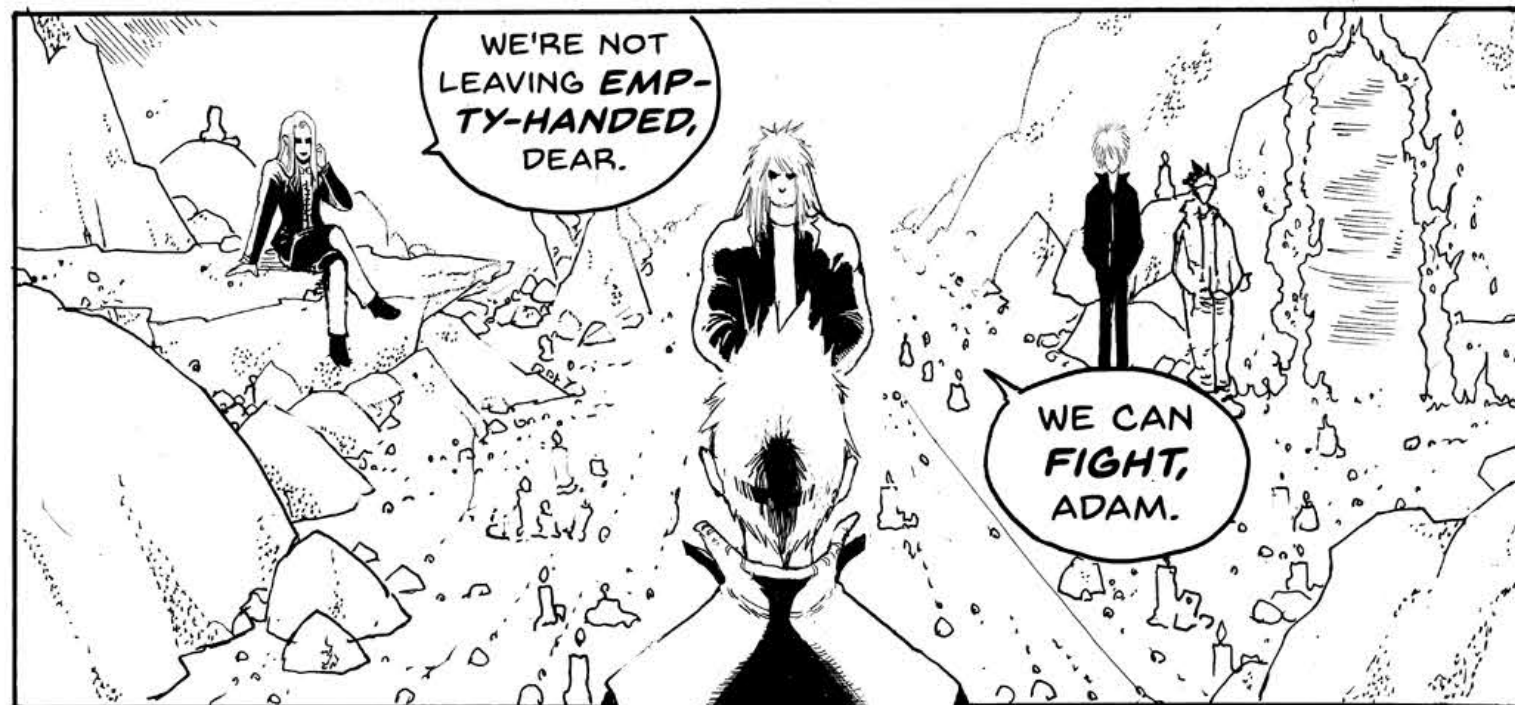
HERE
YOU
GO.



IS THE
PORTAL READY?
GOOD.



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



WE CAN
FIGHT,
ADAM.

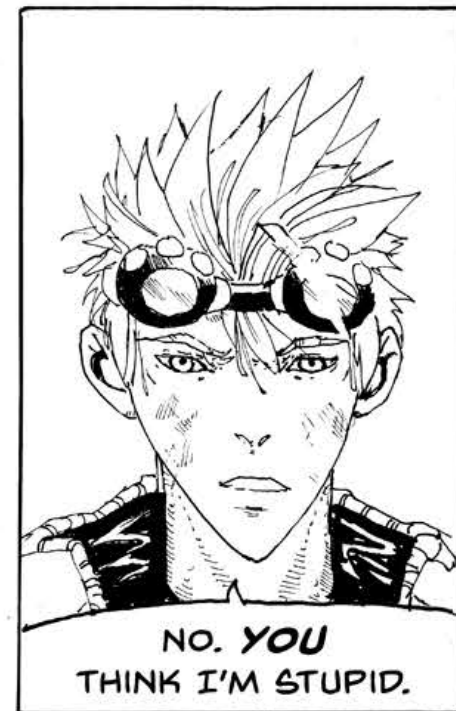


SEE YOU,
IF YOU'RE
STILL **ALIVE**
BY THEN.

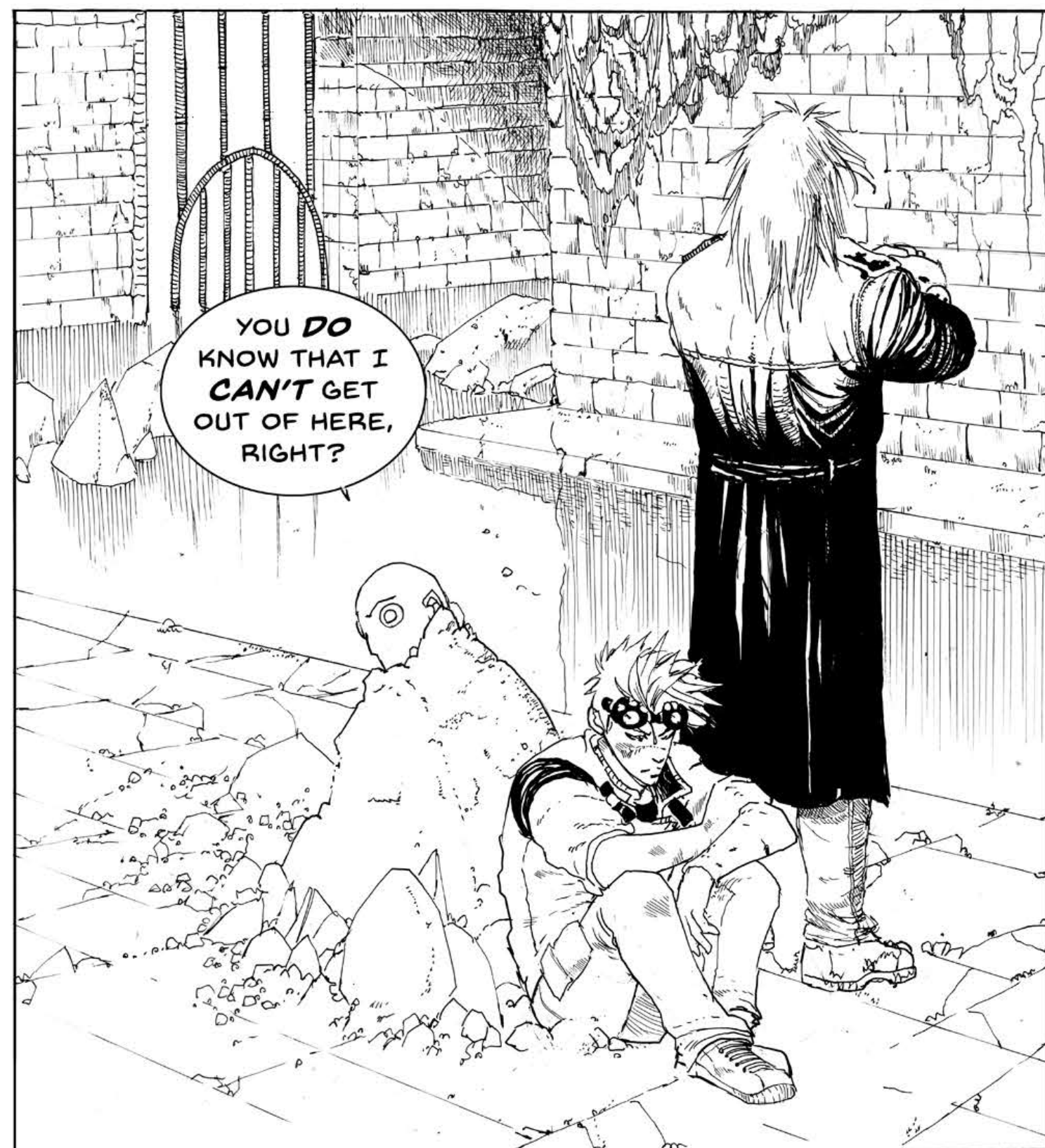
YOU'RE **STUPID**,
ADAM.



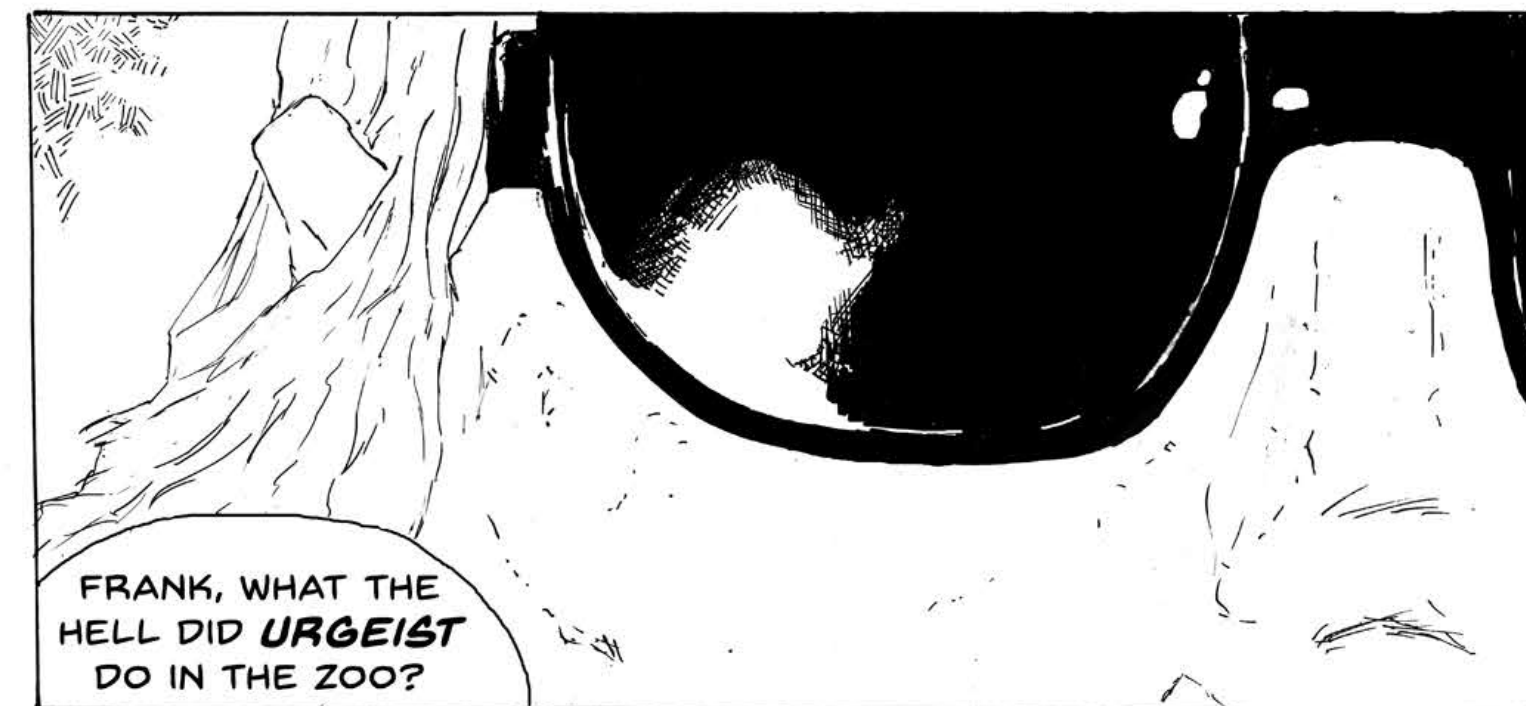
NO. **YOU**
THINK I'M **STUPID**.

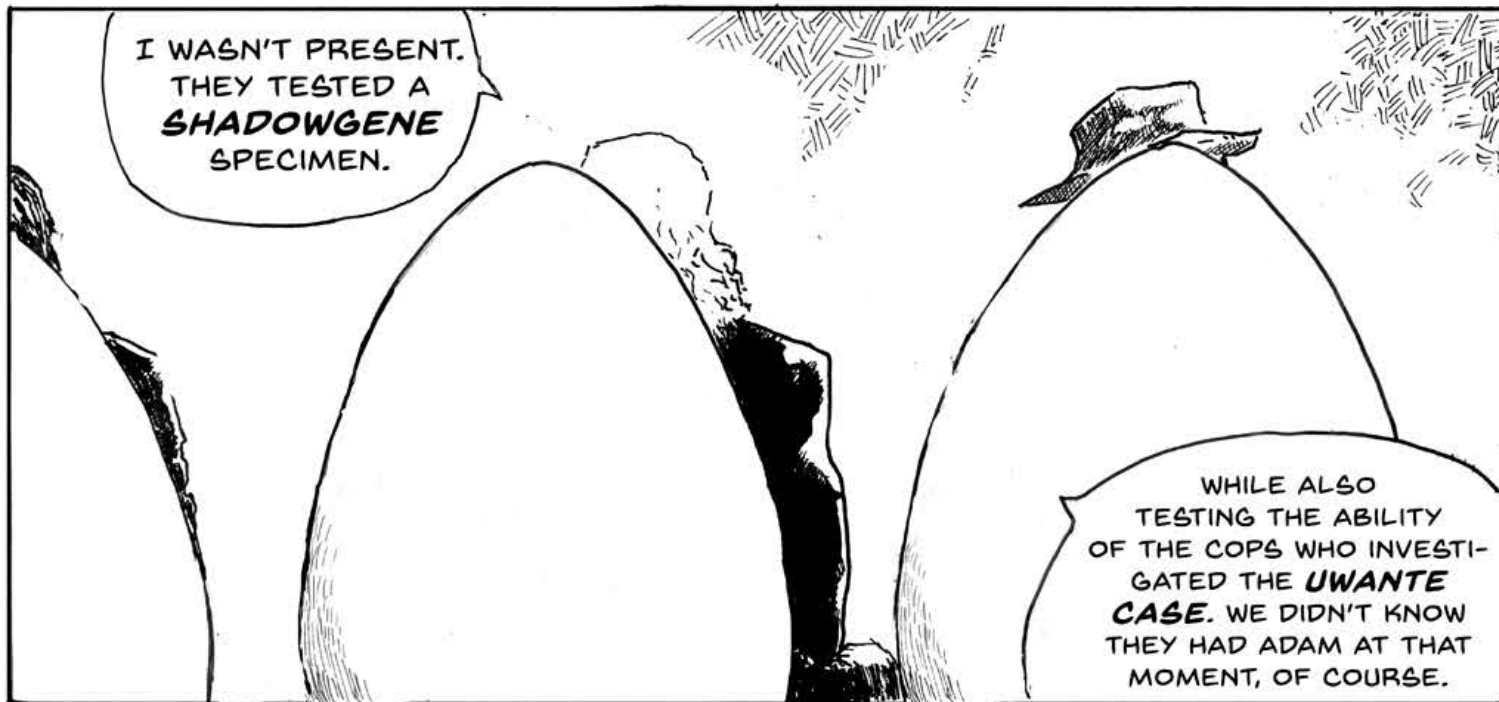






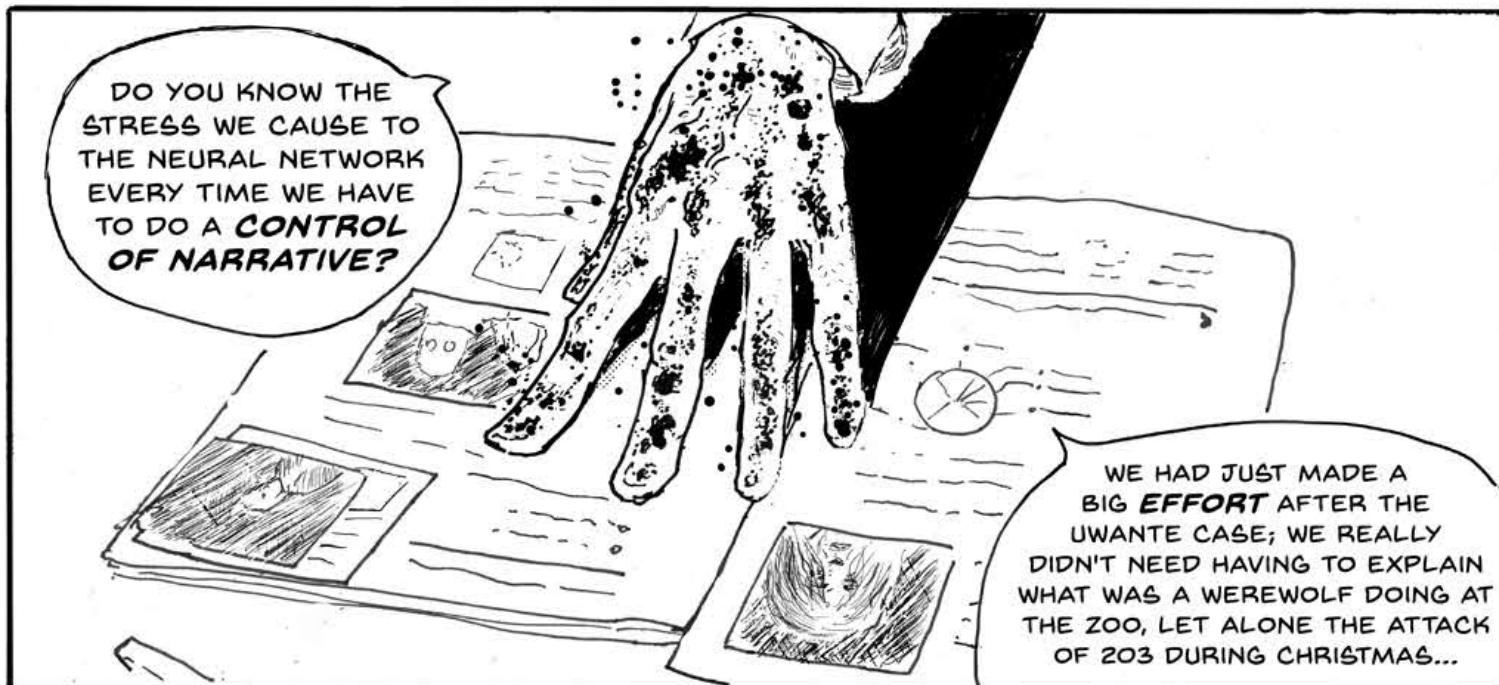
EPILOGUE





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.

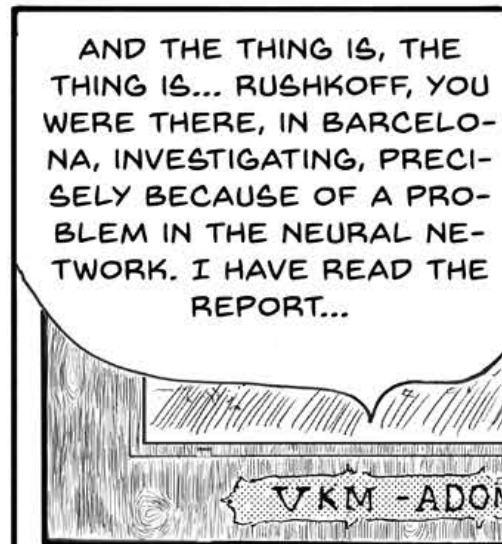


DO YOU KNOW THE STRESS WE CAUSE TO THE NEURAL NETWORK EVERY TIME WE HAVE TO DO A **CONTROL OF NARRATIVE**?

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...

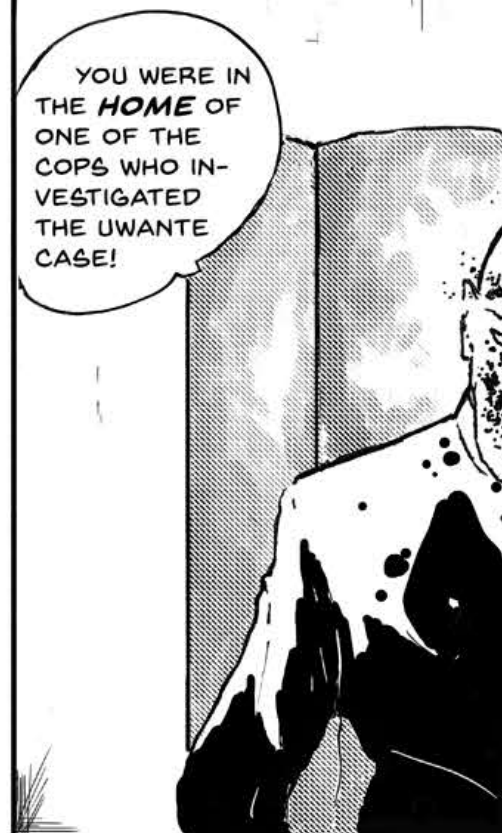


HEY, HEY. I DIDN'T CAUSE ANY DAMAGE TO THE PUBLIC PROPERTY, THAT WAS ADAM.



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



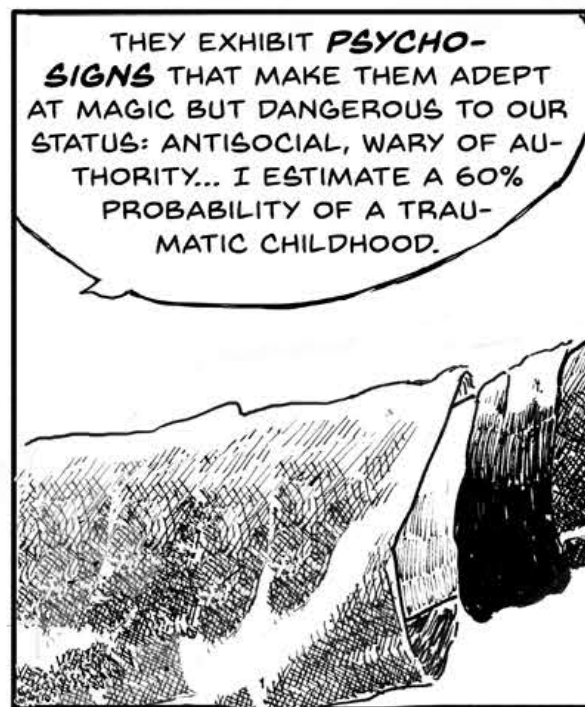
YOU WERE IN THE **HOME** OF ONE OF THE COPS WHO INVESTIGATED THE UWANTE CASE!



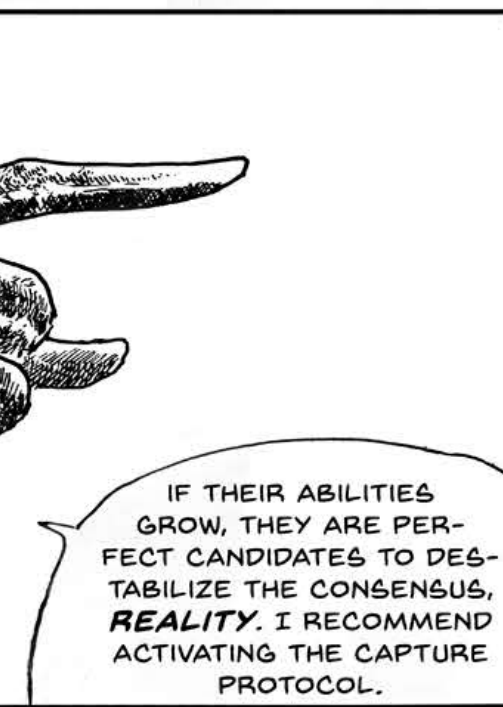
JUSTIFICATION: EXTENDING MY **TELEPATHIC CAPACITY** THROUGH THE NEURAL NETWORK LEAVES ME WITH LITTLE POWER, IF I HAVE TO MAINTAIN ALL THE USUAL **PROTOCOLS** RUNNING THROUGH MUCH OF EUROPE. I SENT A REPORT. IN ADDITION, THE ABILITY OF THESE SUBJECTS IS GREATER THAN ANTICIPATED.



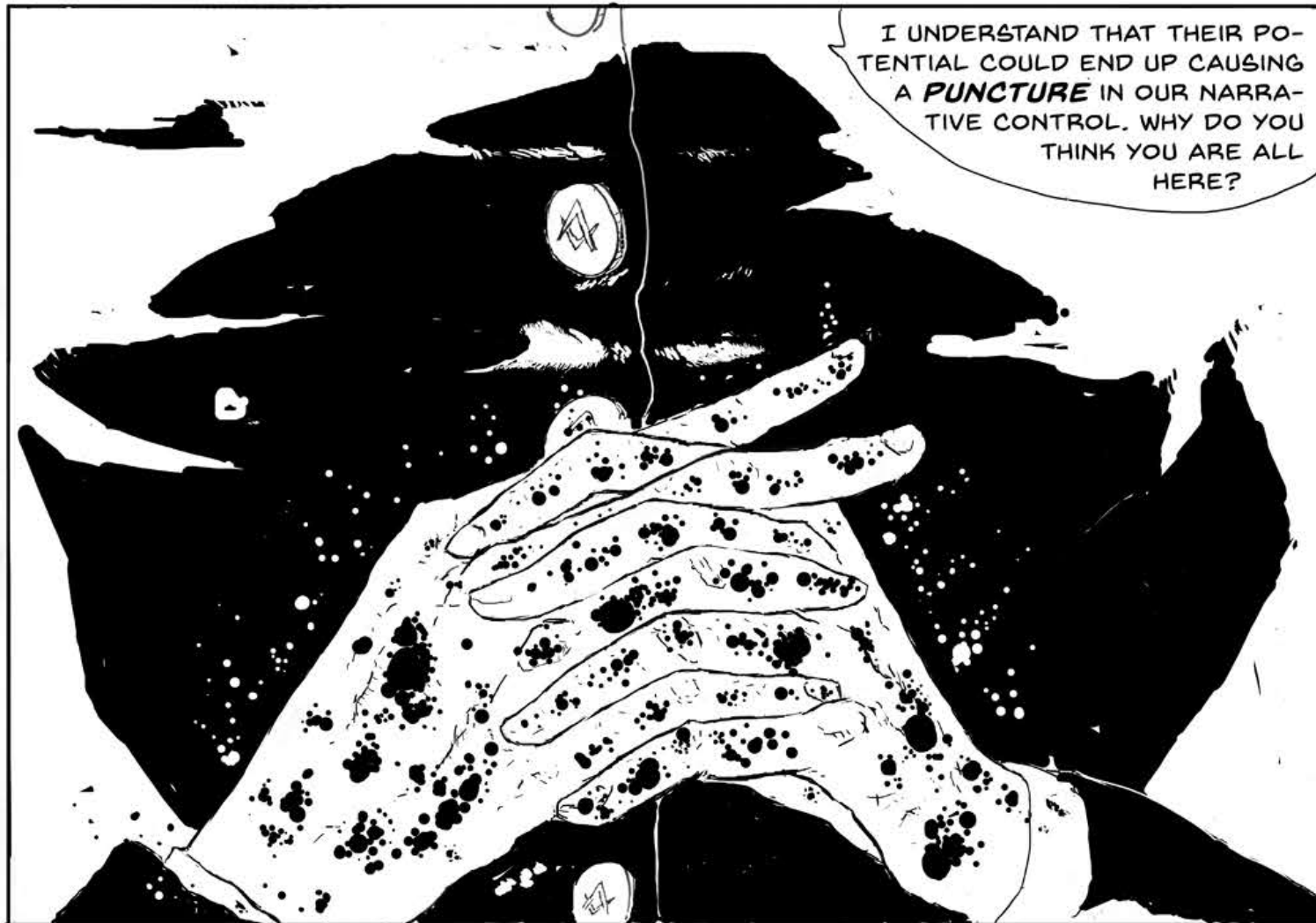
I RECOMMEND A REANALYSIS: I SUSPECT THAT THE ENERGY RELEASED BY THE SUBJECT ADAM IS STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF THE THREE, BY CONSTANT EXPOSURE.



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.

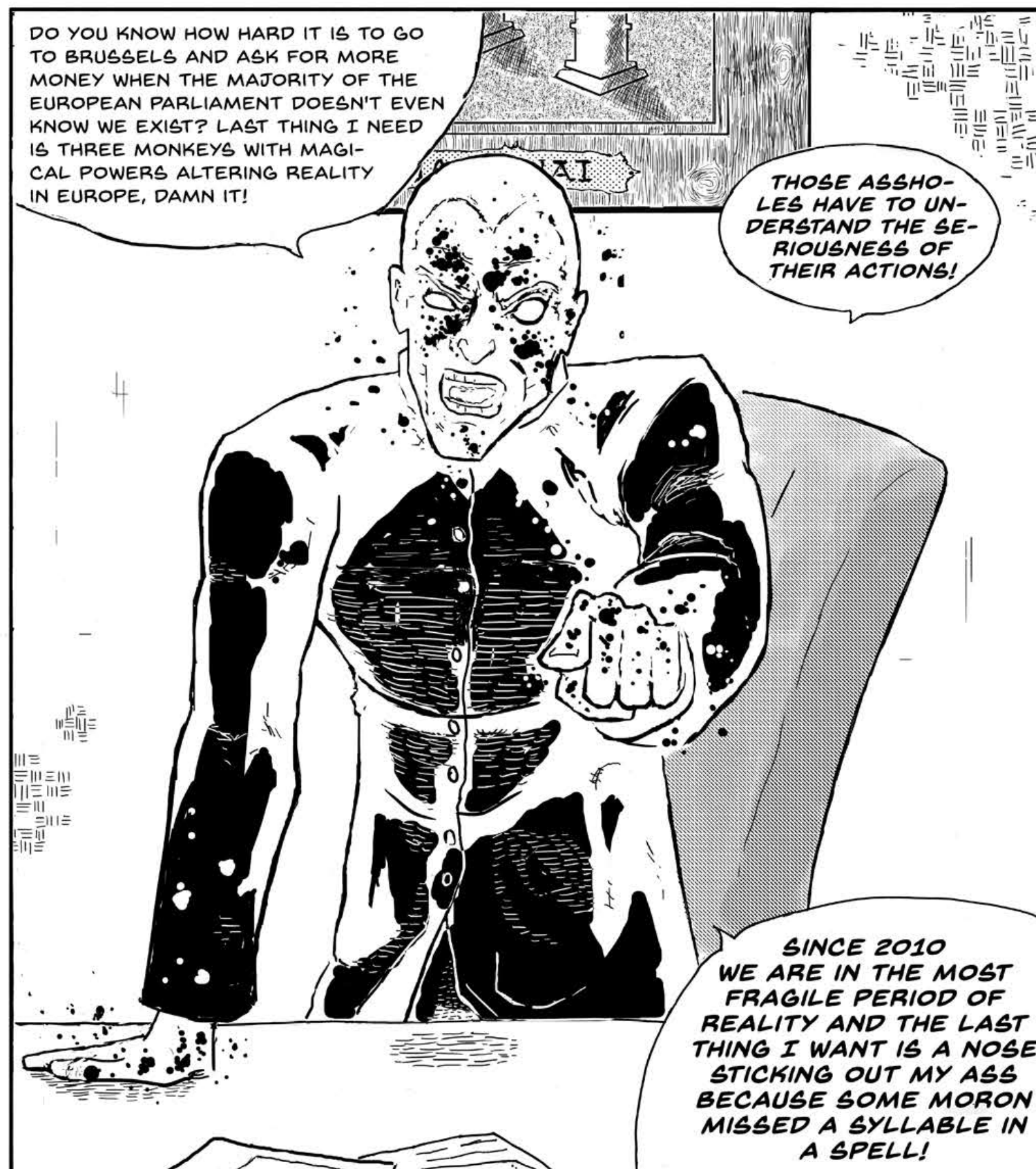


I UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR POTENTIAL COULD END UP CAUSING A **PUNCTURE** IN OUR NARRATIVE CONTROL. WHY DO YOU THINK YOU ARE ALL HERE?



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!

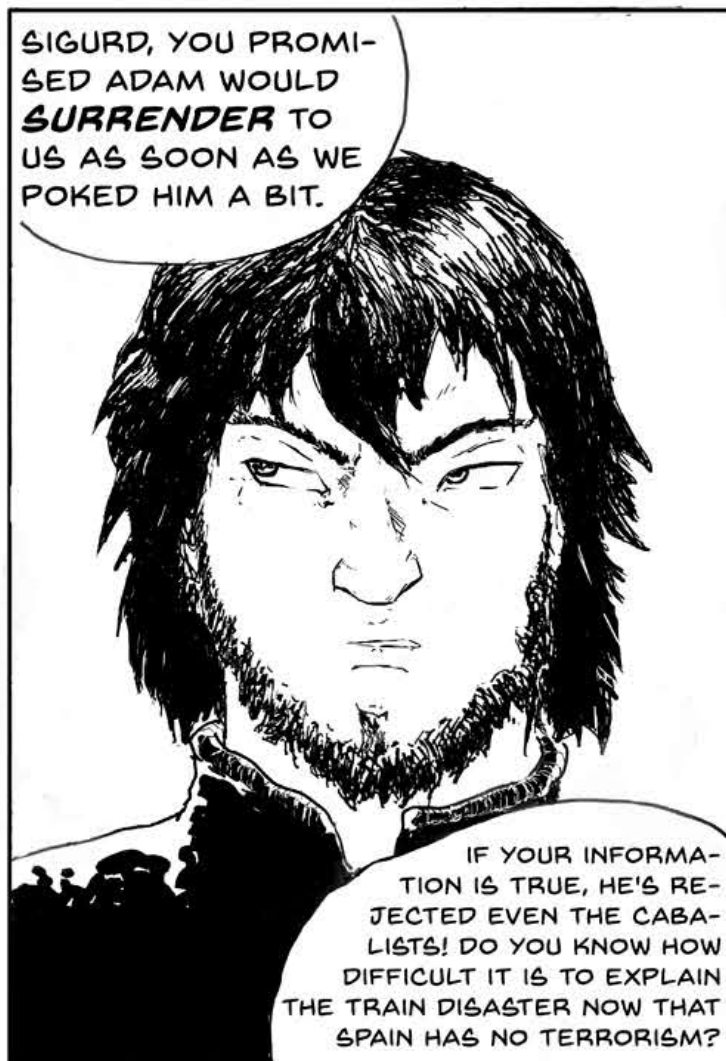
THE LONGER THEY'RE LOOSE IN SPAIN, THE MORE LIKELY THEY ARE TO INOCULATE OTHERS WITH AN INTEREST IN **MAGIC**!



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

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