

UPSURGE 24: en la memoria

SIMON M.

SCRIPT
PANEL LAYOUT
COVER

TRANSLATION
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

ATANA S.

PENCILS
INK

EMAIL: UPSURGECOMICS@GMAIL.COM

WEBPAGE: WWW.UPSURGE.ES/ENGLISH

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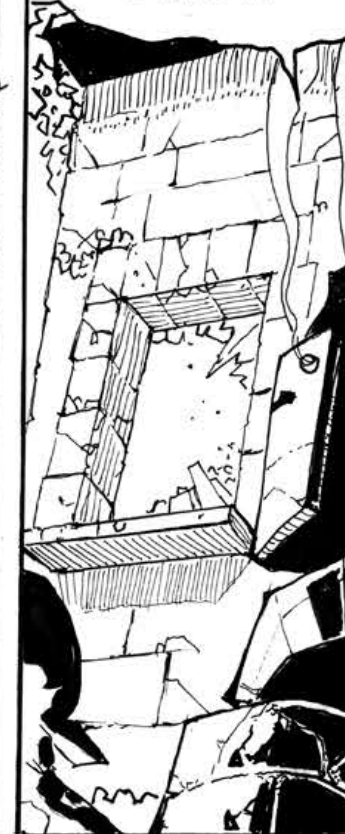
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WHERE ARE
THEY? THEM
THE ONES THAT
PUT THE SKY IN
FLAMES?



GOD PUNISHED
US, THAT'S ALL
I KNOW.



WE HAVE TO
RETURN THIS
CITY TO ITS
FORMER RA-
DIANCE.



THESE GUYS...
THEY DON'T SEEM
TO KNOW WHAT
THEY ARE...

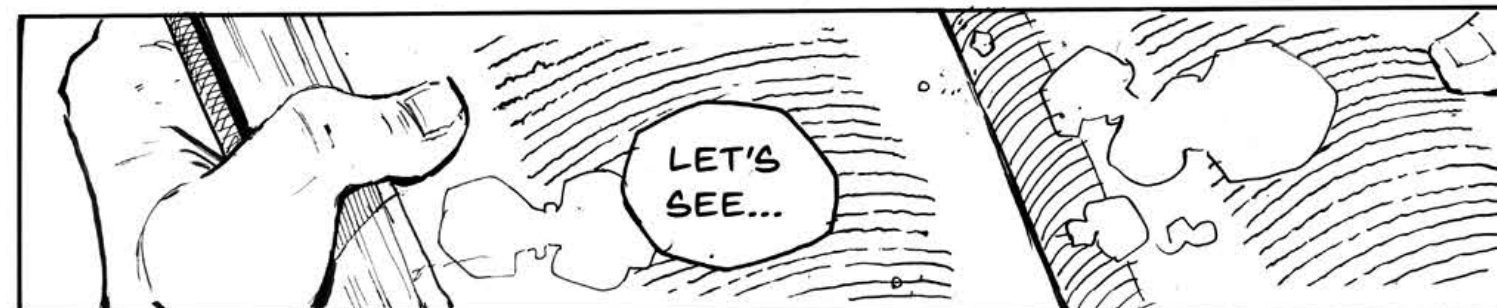


...COGNITIVE
DISSONANCE...

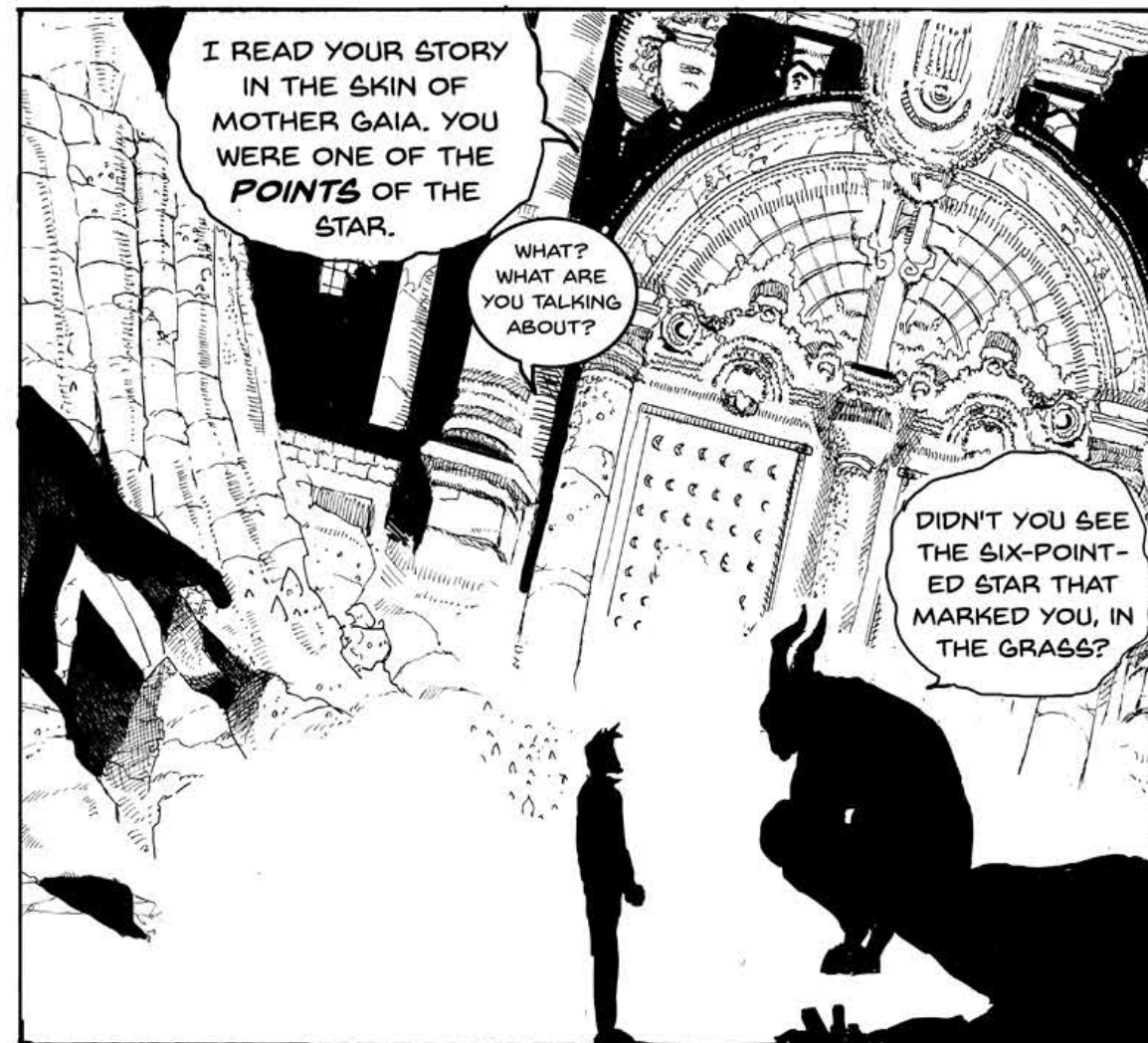
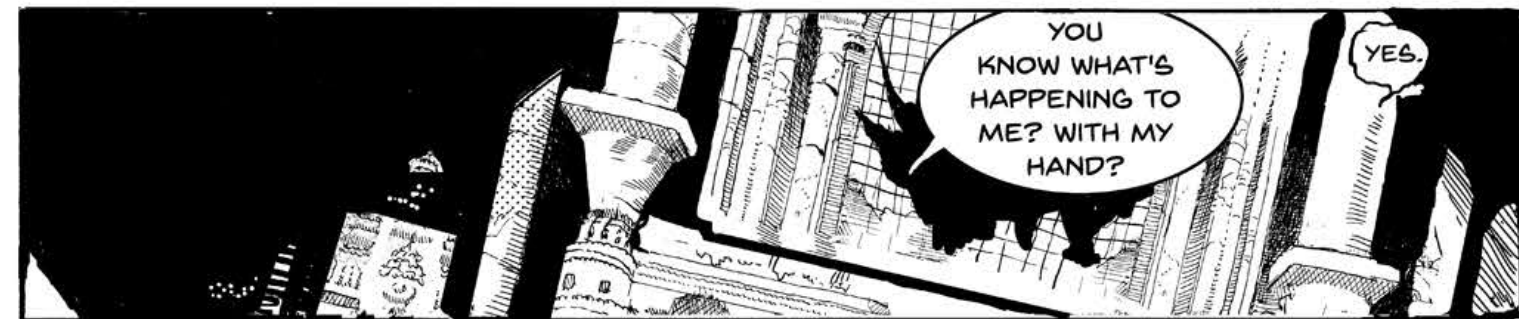
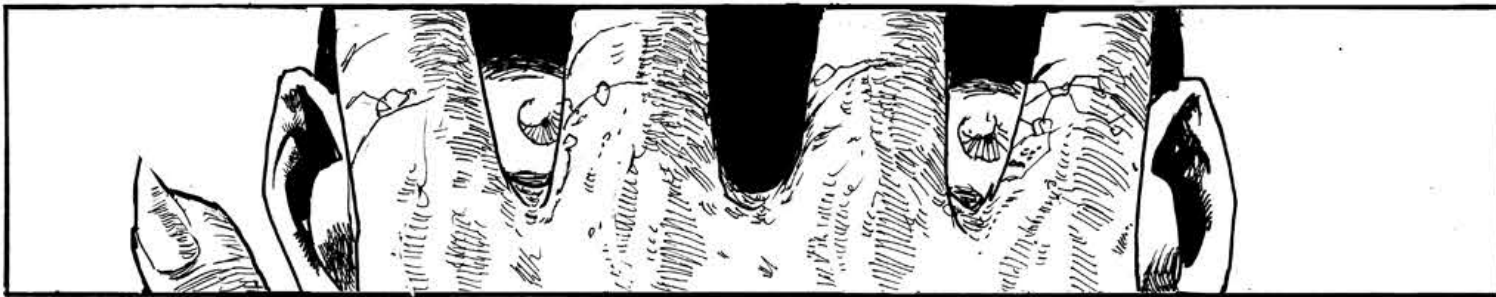
THEY'RE UNDER
A SPELL. THAT
MIST...



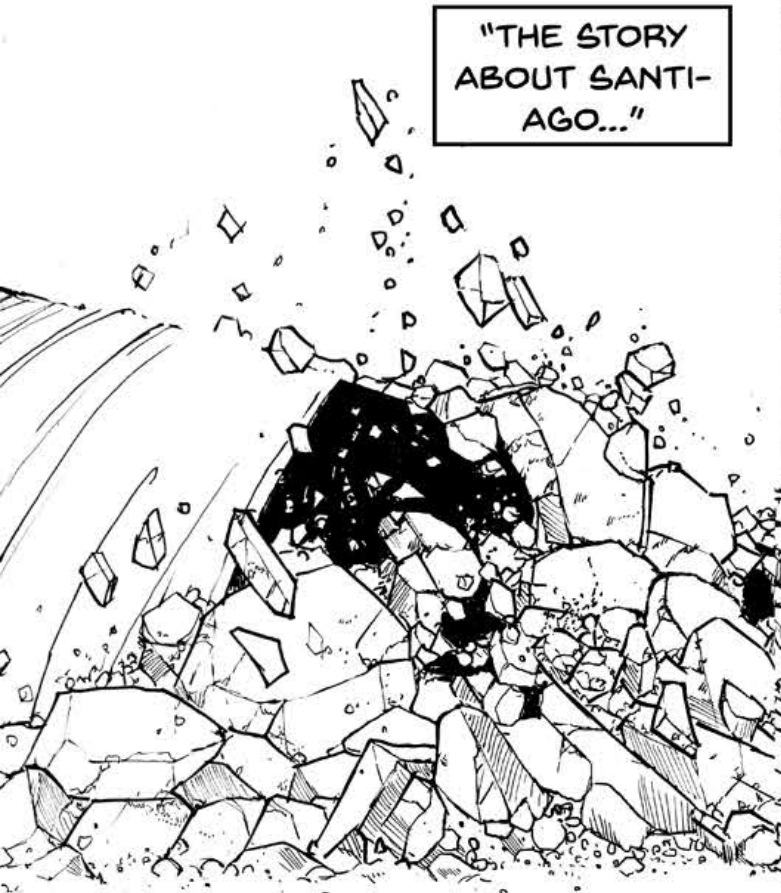
THE WHOLE
CITY IS
UNDER IT, I
SUSPECT.



LET'S
SEE...



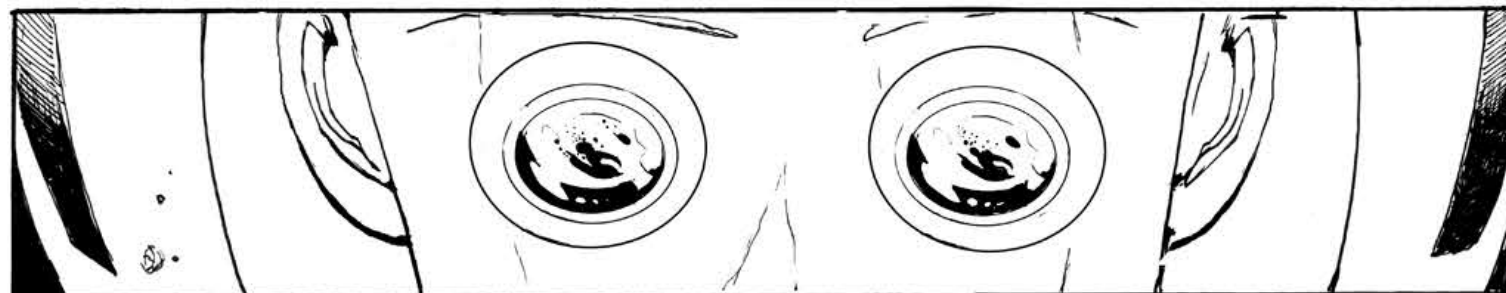
"THE STORY
ABOUT SANTI-
AGO..."



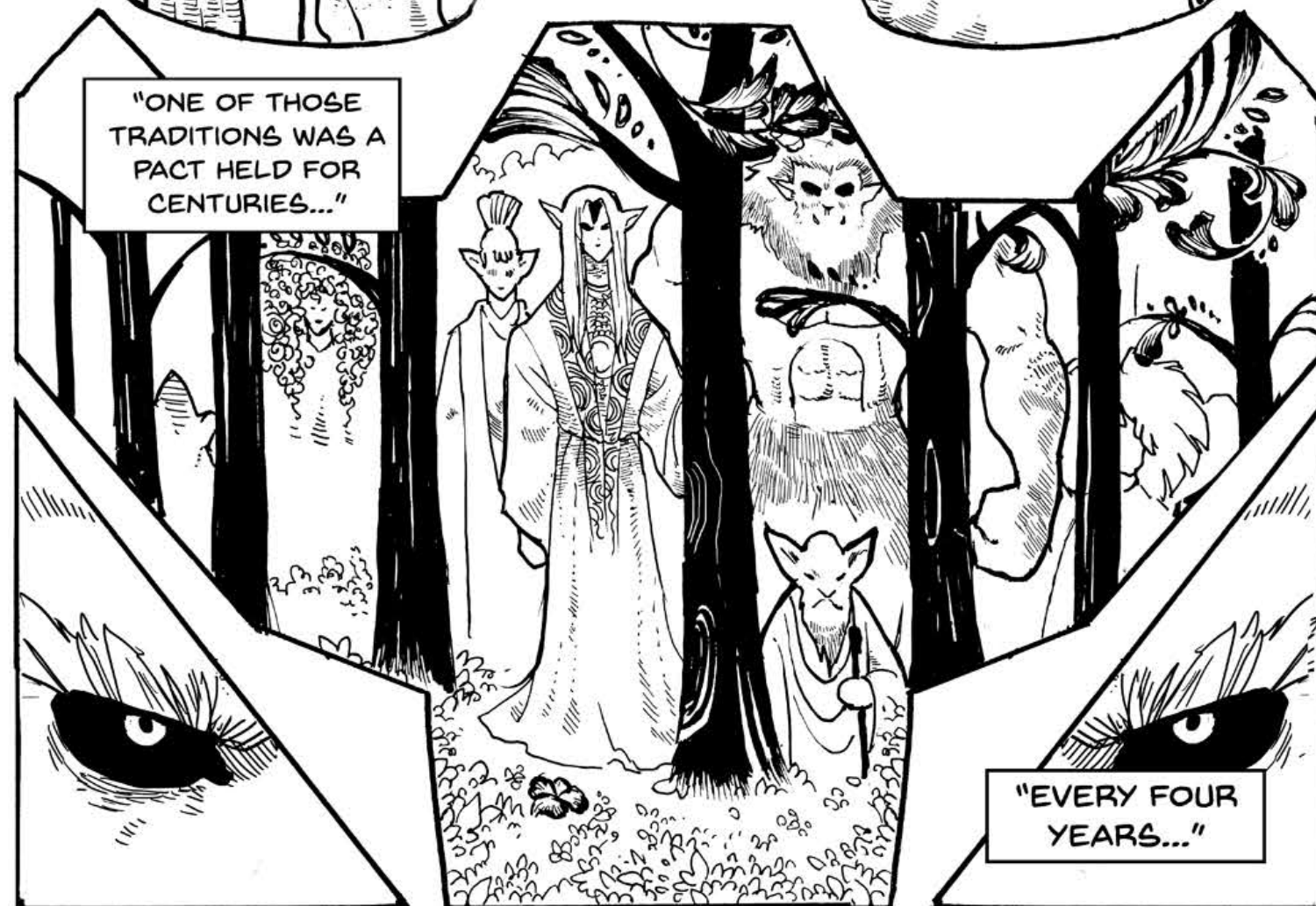
"IT WAS A PLACE
OF PILGRIMAGE.
CATHOLIC, OFFI-
CIALLY".



"IN TRUTH, SANTI-
GO WAS PART OF A
GROUP OF EUROPE-
AN CITIES WITH
SECRET, *MYSTICAL*
TRADITIONS. CA-
THOLICISM SIMPLY
APPROPRIATED AND
DILLUTED THEM..."



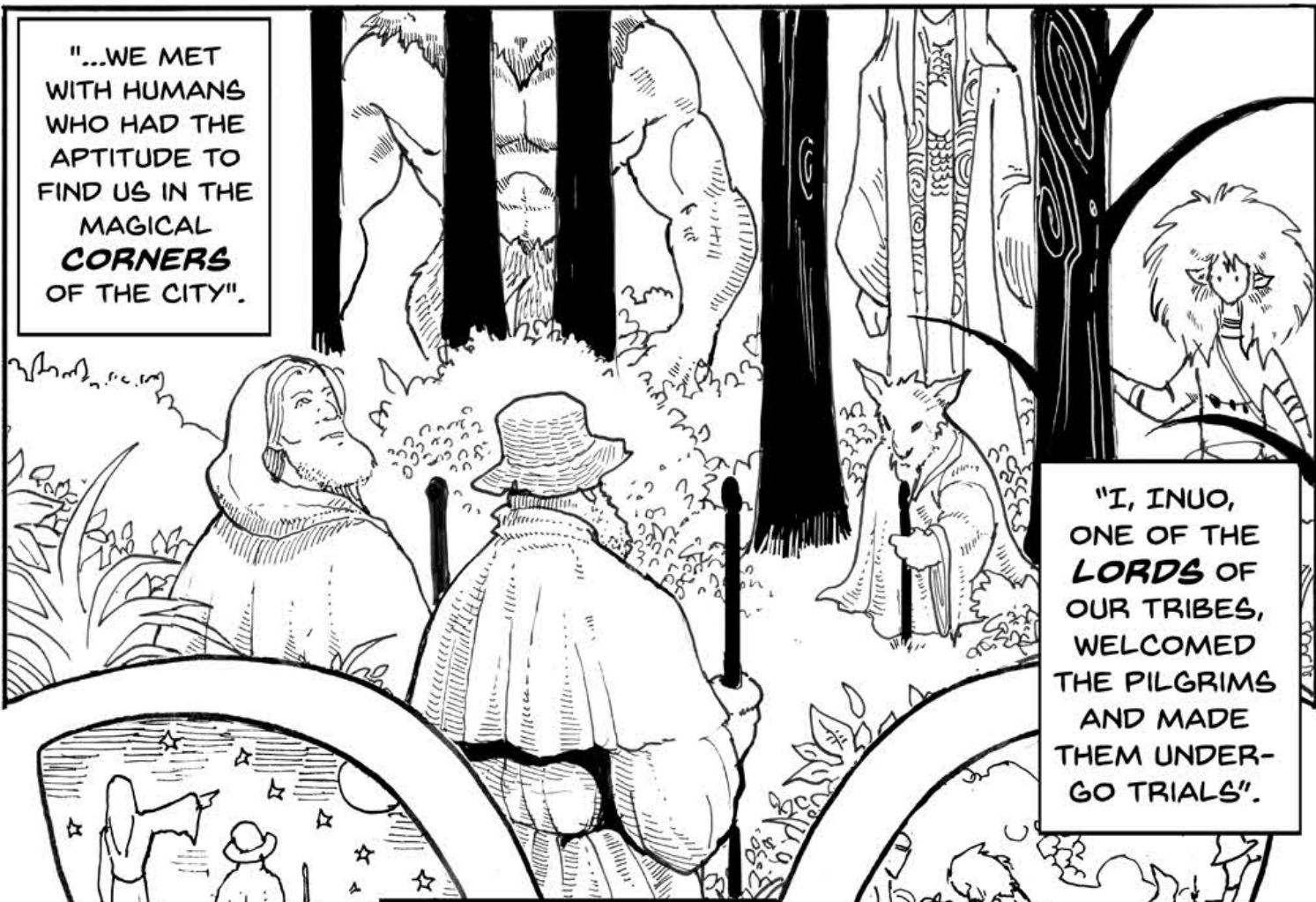
"ONE OF THOSE
TRADITIONS WAS A
PACT HELD FOR
CENTURIES..."



"...AND ITS
FALL".

"EVERY FOUR
YEARS..."

"...WE MET WITH HUMANS WHO HAD THE APTITUDE TO FIND US IN THE MAGICAL CORNERS OF THE CITY".



"I, INUO, ONE OF THE LORDS OF OUR TRIBES, WELCOMED THE PILGRIMS AND MADE THEM UNDERGO TRIALS".

"IF THEY PASSED THOSE TRIALS, WE TAUGHT OUR WISDOM: HEALING TECHNIQUES, CONCOCTIONS TO ACCESS THE ASTRAL PLANE, THE HIDDEN MEANING OF THE CONSTELLATIONS..."



"WE SPOKE TO THEM OF SPELLS AND OMENS AND PORTENTS, OF HOW TO INTERPRET DREAMS..."

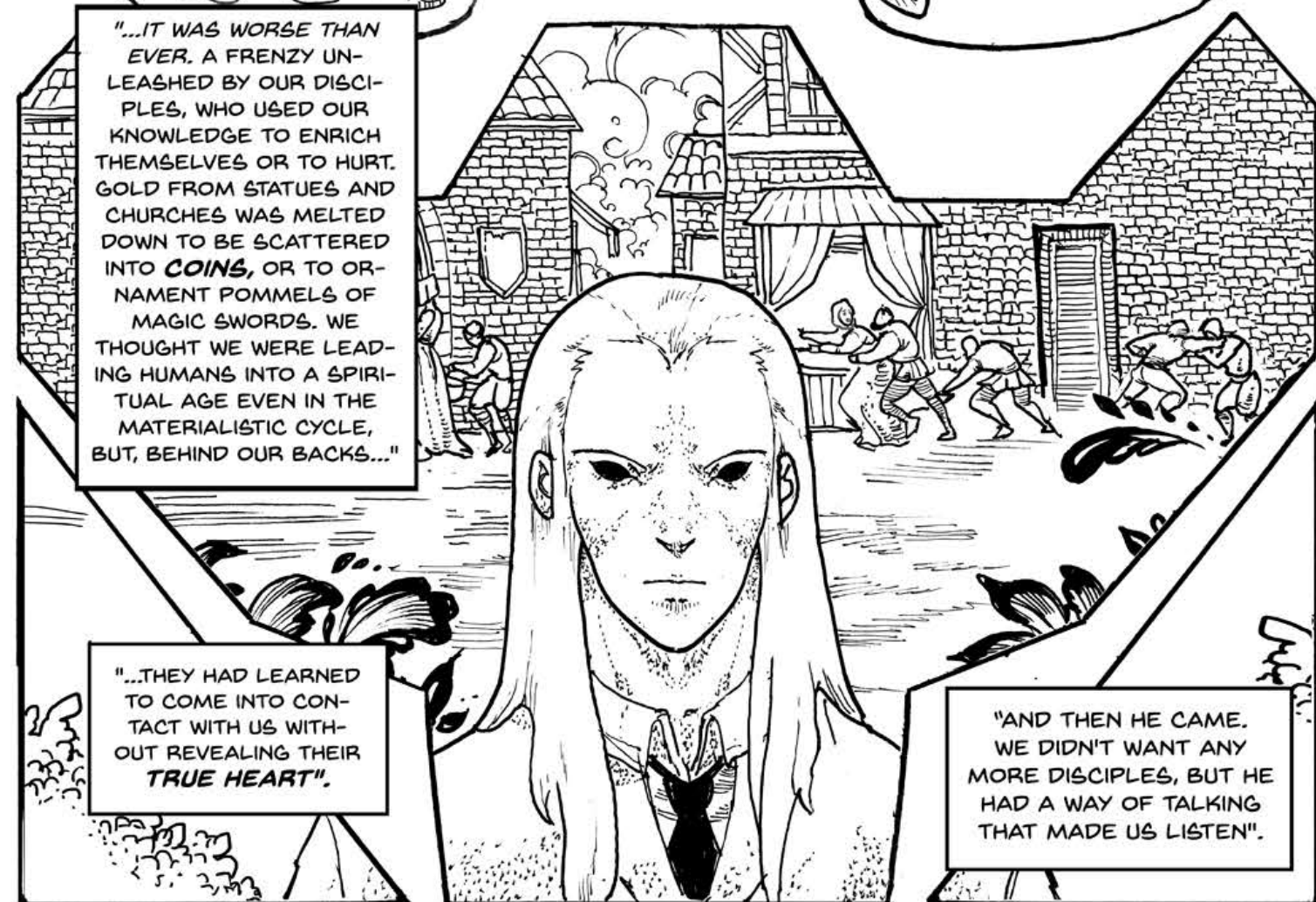
"IN EXCHANGE FOR OUR KNOWLEDGE, THE HUMANS PLEDGED ABSOLUTE **LOYALTY** TO OUR PEOPLE. OUR GIFTS WOULD MAKE THEM IMPORTANT, BUT THEY WOULD BE TIED TO US. WE WANTED MORE INFLUENCE IN THEIR WORLD... TO LEAD THEM TO A BETTER WORLD. SO WE BELIEVED. MORE AND MORE HUMANS WERE SEEING US, MORE AND MORE WERE LEARNING; HOW COULD WE THINK WE WERE DOING SOMETHING WRONG?"



"PEOPLE STARTED TO KNOW ABOUT US, CALLING US **ELVES** OR **FAIRIES**".

"WE ARE NOT LIKE THE GODS, WE LIVE VERY, VERY CLOSE TO THE MATERIAL PLANE, BUT OUR INFLUENCE IS NOT CONSTANT: THERE ARE CYCLES OF SPIRITUALITY AND CYCLES OF **MATERIALISM**, AND THE STARS WERE DICTATING A NEW ERA OF THE LATTER, AND WHEN IT CAME..."

"...IT WAS WORSE THAN EVER. A FRENZY UNLEASHED BY OUR DISCIPLES, WHO USED OUR KNOWLEDGE TO ENRICH THEMSELVES OR TO HURT. GOLD FROM STATUES AND CHURCHES WAS MELTED DOWN TO BE SCATTERED INTO **COINS**, OR TO ORNAMENT POMMELS OF MAGIC SWORDS. WE THOUGHT WE WERE LEADING HUMANS INTO A SPIRITUAL AGE EVEN IN THE MATERIALISTIC CYCLE, BUT, BEHIND OUR BACKS..."



"...THEY HAD LEARNED TO COME INTO CONTACT WITH US WITHOUT REVEALING THEIR **TRUE HEART**".

"AND THEN HE CAME. WE DIDN'T WANT ANY MORE DISCIPLES, BUT HE HAD A WAY OF TALKING THAT MADE US LISTEN".

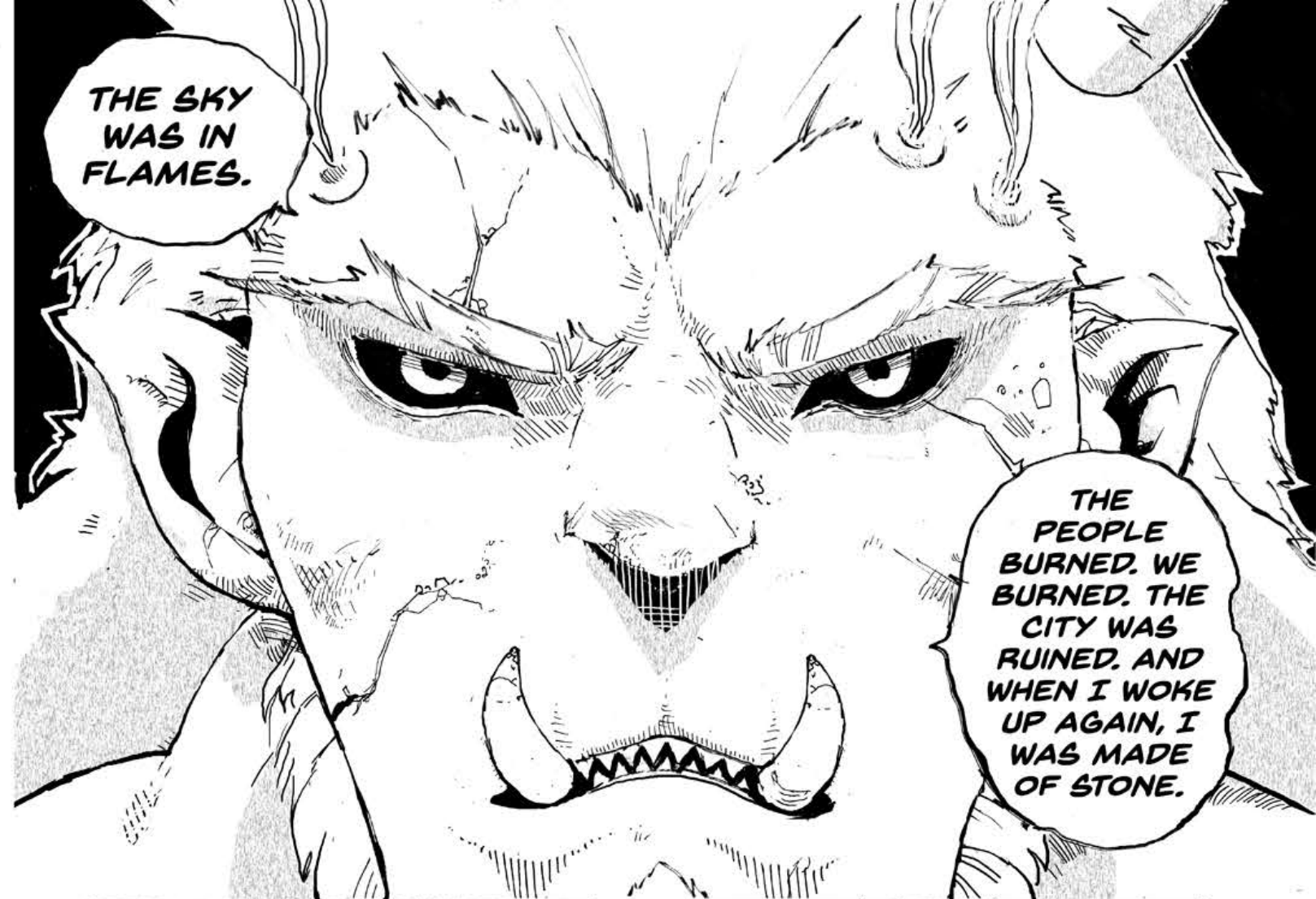
"HE SAID HE WAS THE-MAN-FROM-BEYOND-TIME. HE DEEMED THAT IN THE CONTACT BETWEEN US AND THE HUMANS, WE HAD BECOME MORE LIKE THEM THAN THEM LIKE US, AND THAT THAT'S WHY WE COULDN'T SEE THE COMING CATAclySM".

"THE SKY, HE SAID, WAS GOING TO BE FILLED WITH FLAMES, AND WE WERE LUCKY THAT HE HAD A REMEDY".

"HE SHOWED US THE **ELEMENT OF EARTH**, AND HE SANG MAGIC SONGS SO ADVANCED THAT HIS LANGUAGE WAS THREE-DIMENSIONAL".

"HE DID THE RITUAL INSIDE SANTIAGO AND LEFT IMMEDIATELY, TO PROTECT **OTHER CITIES**".

"SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, THE NIGHT BECAME DAY. THE SCREAMS OF THE PEOPLE RIVALLED THE ROAR OF THE GROUND TEARING ITSELF APART..."



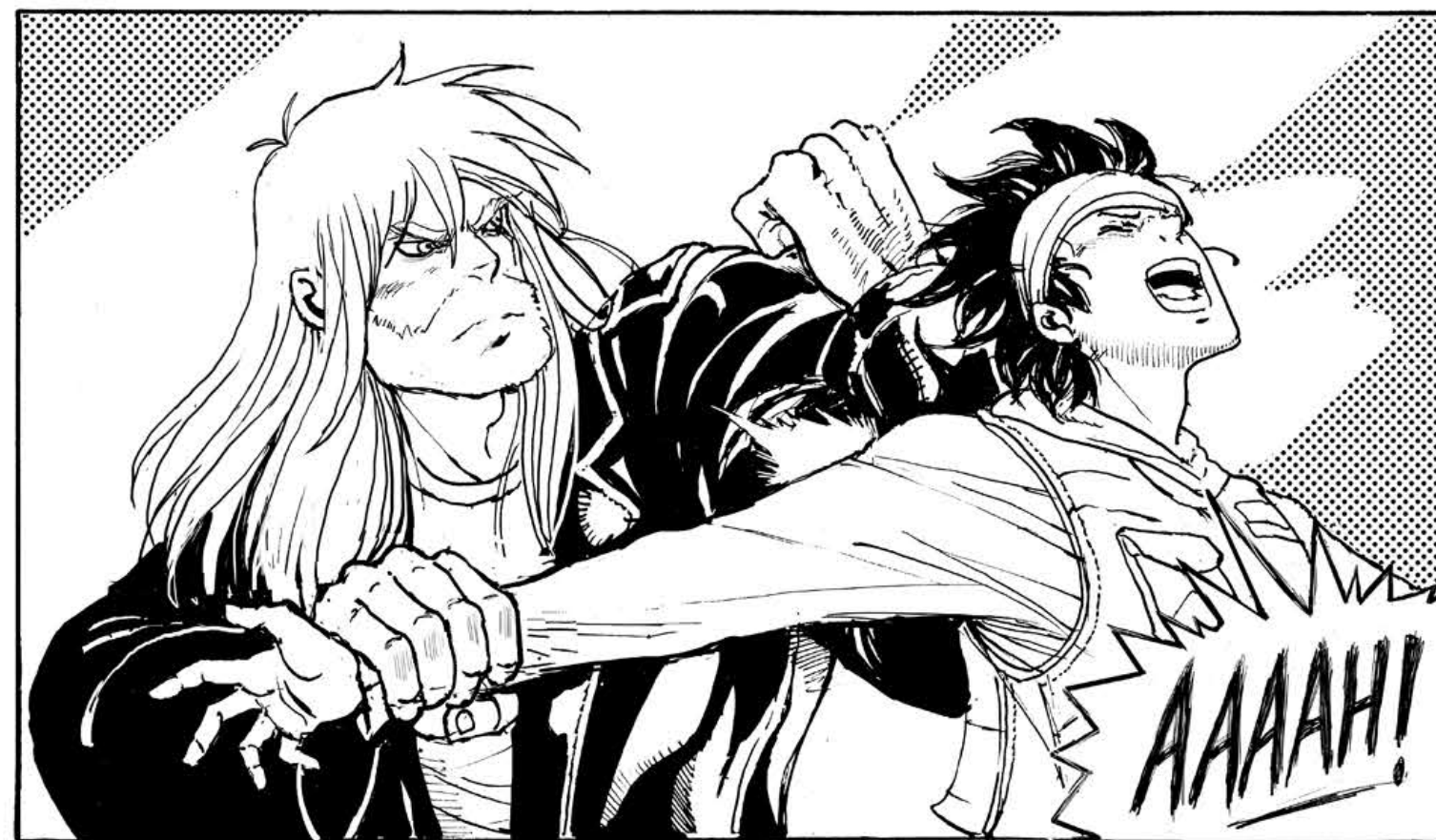
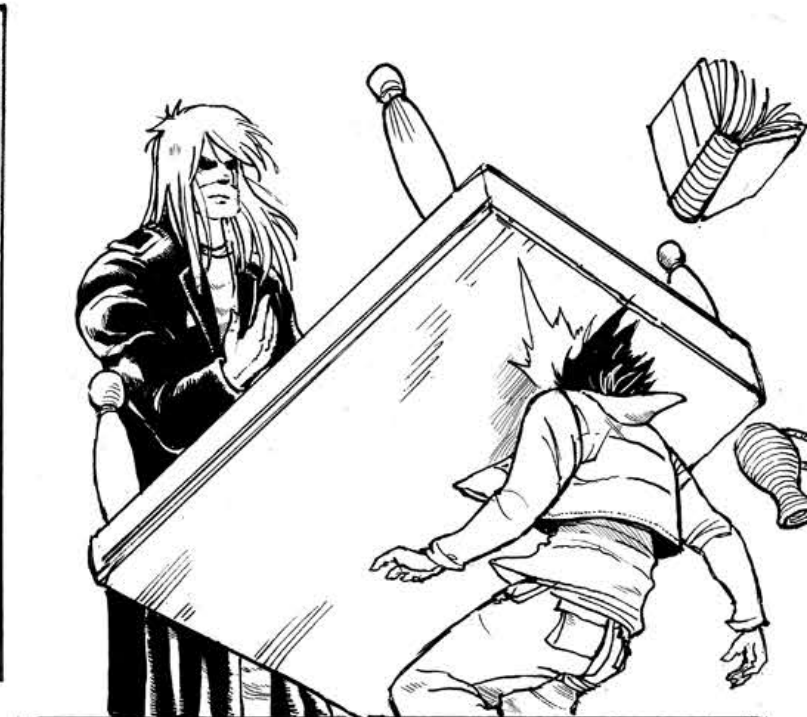
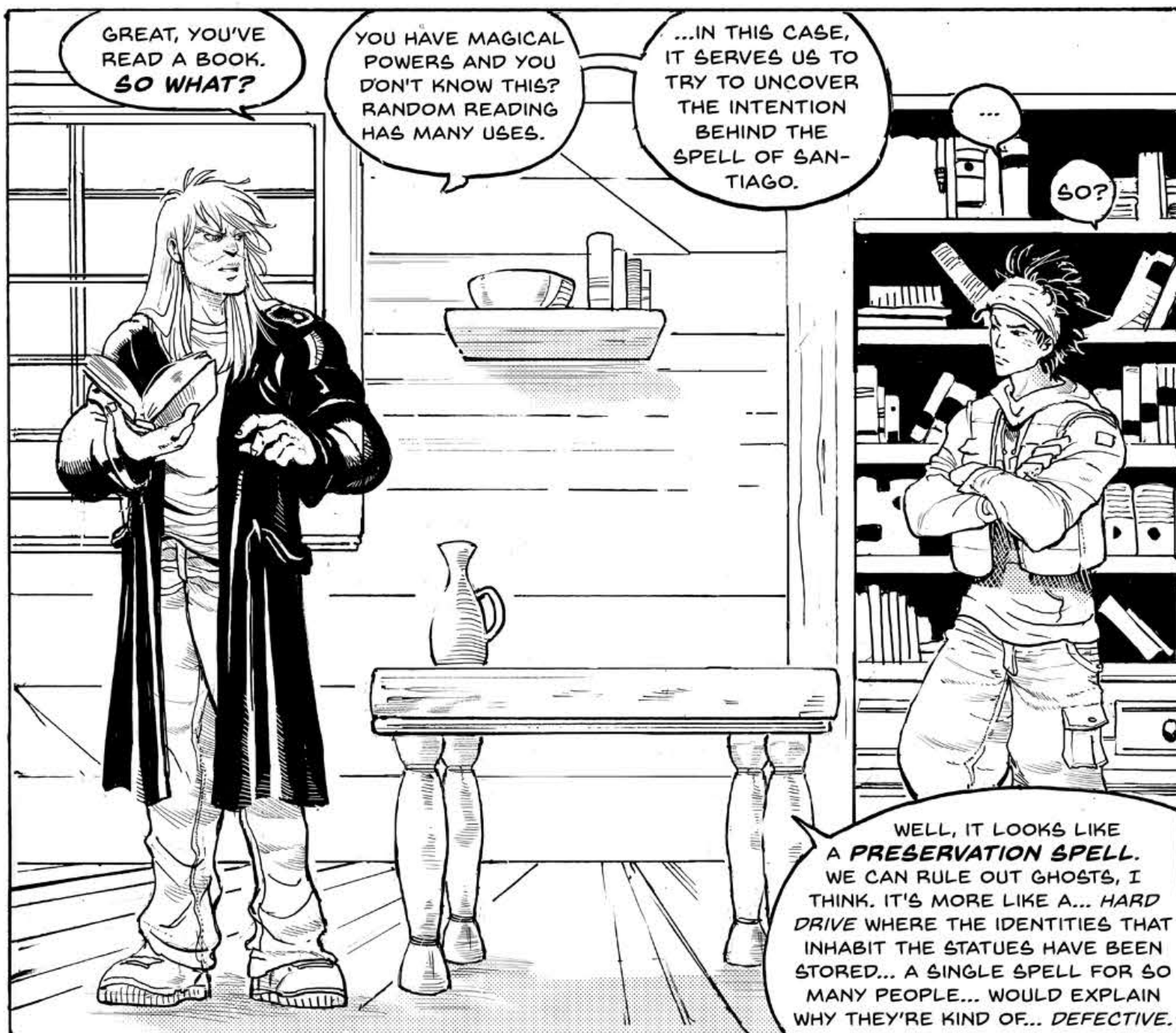
THE SKY WAS IN FLAMES.

THE PEOPLE BURNED. WE BURNED. THE CITY WAS RUINED. AND WHEN I WOKE UP AGAIN, I WAS MADE OF STONE.



THE MEMORY OF... NO... THE MEMORY, IN STONE, SUFFERS...

THE MEMORY, IN STONE, RESISTS TIME.



YOU DIS-
LOCATED
MY...!

GOOD.
YOU'VE
DONE NO-
THING BUT
MESS WITH
OUR
PLANS.

TALK.

"WANT ME TO
KEEP GOING?
TALK".

...THE
EARTH ELE-
MENT.

A MAGICAL
ARTIFACT. AN
OLD ITEM...

IT IS SAID THAT
THE ONE WHO HAS IT HAS
CONTROL OVER THE MATE-
RIAL ASPECTS, IF HE KNOWS
HOW TO USE IT: MONEY, SE-
CURITY, INFLUENCES...

WHY CHASE
US, THEN?

ARTIFACTS
LIKE THE HAND OF
SATAN FUNCTION LIKE
ACCESS KEYS TO
THE FORBIDDEN
CITIES. YOU CAN
ENTER WITHOUT
THEM, BUT...

DO YOU
EVER WONDER WHY
YOU NEVER SEE
PEOPLE WITH
OUR POWERS
ON TV?

THE **HERE-
MITES**, THE
EBI*, THE
CULT OF THE
ONE...

ASIDE FROM WHAT
FOOL SAYS, WE
WANTED TO HELP
YOU, ESSEX.

EVERYONE
WANTS TO
RECRUIT
PEOPLE WITH
MAGICAL TA-
LENTS...

*EUROPEAN BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

...WHILE KEEPING
YOU IN THE **SHA-
DOWS**, SO THAT
YOU DON'T SPREAD
"DANGEROUS IDEAS"
TO EVERYONE
ELSE.

AND ANY POSSIBILI-
TY OF A **SPIRITUAL
REVOLUTION** IN THE
WORLD VANISHES.

HMM. I STUDIED
MAGIC AT AN
OFFICIAL UNI-
VERSITY, KIDDO.
UNTIL I GOT IN-
VOLVED WITH
ADAM, NO ONE
GAVE A FUCK...

OF COURSE. BECAUSE AS LONG
AS YOU KEPT A LOW PROFILE AND
YOUR POWERS WEREN'T TOO OB-
VIOUS, THERE WAS NO PROBLEM.

I'LL TAKE YOUR BULL-
SHIT AS A SIGN OF
COOPERATION.

= SNIFF =

STAND UP, KID.
I'LL PUT YOUR
SHOULDER IN
PLACE.

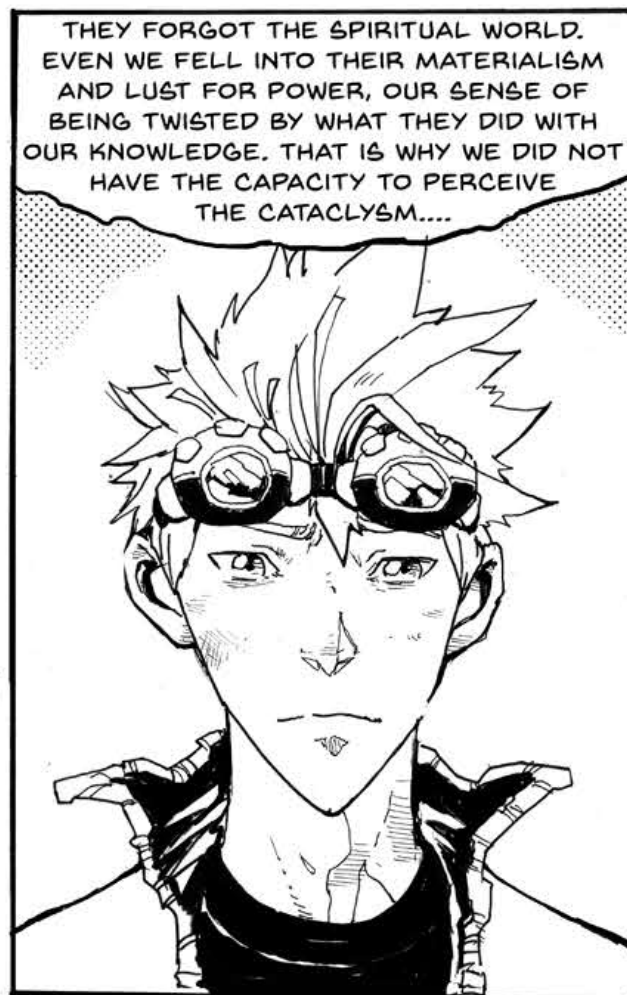


DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE STORY?

DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHY SANTIAGO FELL?

YEAH, LIKE IN **LORD OF THE RINGS** RIGHT? PROGRESS CORRUPTS AND ELVES ARE WISE.

NO.



THEY FORGOT THE SPIRITUAL WORLD. EVEN WE FELL INTO THEIR MATERIALISM AND LUST FOR POWER, OUR SENSE OF BEING TWISTED BY WHAT THEY DID WITH OUR KNOWLEDGE. THAT IS WHY WE DID NOT HAVE THE CAPACITY TO PERCEIVE THE CATAclysm....



WE FORGOT THE **DREAM** WORLD.



POWER, MONEY... WHETHER YOU HAVE TOO MUCH OR TOO LITTLE, IT MAKES YOU FORGET WHAT'S IMPORTANT. THEY **DIS-SIPATE** THE SPIRIT.

LET'S GO INSIDE.



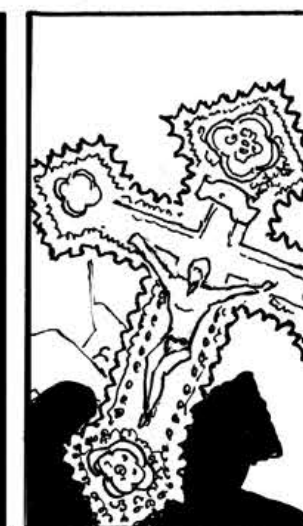
YOUR STORY IS INTEGRATED INTO A **MYSTICAL GEOMETRY**.

A GEOMETRY IN WHICH YOU ARE MANIPULATED BY EVERYONE, USED, BECAUSE YOU HAVE NOTHING TO FIGHT FOR BEYOND WANTING TO DO "GOOD", AS IF THAT MEANT SOMETHING... YOUR VOID ATTRACTED HARD-SHIPS INTO YOUR LIFE...

BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW YOUR SELF, PEOPLE CAN CORRUPT YOUR **NAME**.



YOU CAN'T DEFEND YOURSELF BECAUSE YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU NEED TO PROTECT.



YOU DON'T HAVE **DREAMS** TO GUIDE YOU.



TELL ME, WHO ARE YOU REALLY?



DID YOU FORGET?



EVERY TIME I SAY WHAT I REALLY THINK, **SOMETHING BAD** HAPPENS.

IS THAT REASON ENOUGH TO GIVE UP?

WHAT WAS YOUR DREAM, BOY?

HOW WAS YOUR LIFE IN THE **DREAM WORLD**?

DUDE... I'M 22 YEARS OLD...

AH, TIME **INTER**S EVERYTHING, HUH?



WHEN I WAS LITTLE, THERE WAS THIS COMIC BOOK, MR. MAGICK.



I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT THAT IDEA ALWAYS **FASCI**NATED ME. BUT... WELL... PEOPLE... THEY LOATHE...



I NEVER UNDERSTOOD THAT **CYNI**-CISM... BUT I SUPPOSE I GAVE IN TO IT AND I SAID TO MYSELF, IF I CAN'T CHANGE THE WORLD, AT LEAST I CAN ENTERTAIN IT, SO I STARTED TO PRACTICE THE OTHER MAGIC, THE ONE ABOUT CARD TRICKS AND ILLUSIONS...



I HAD BEEN PRACTICING FOR MONTHS WHEN THE TEACHER TOLD US TO DO SOME PRESENTATIONS IN FRONT OF THE CLASS... GREAT, I THOUGHT, I CAN SHOW EVERYTHING I'VE LEARNED.



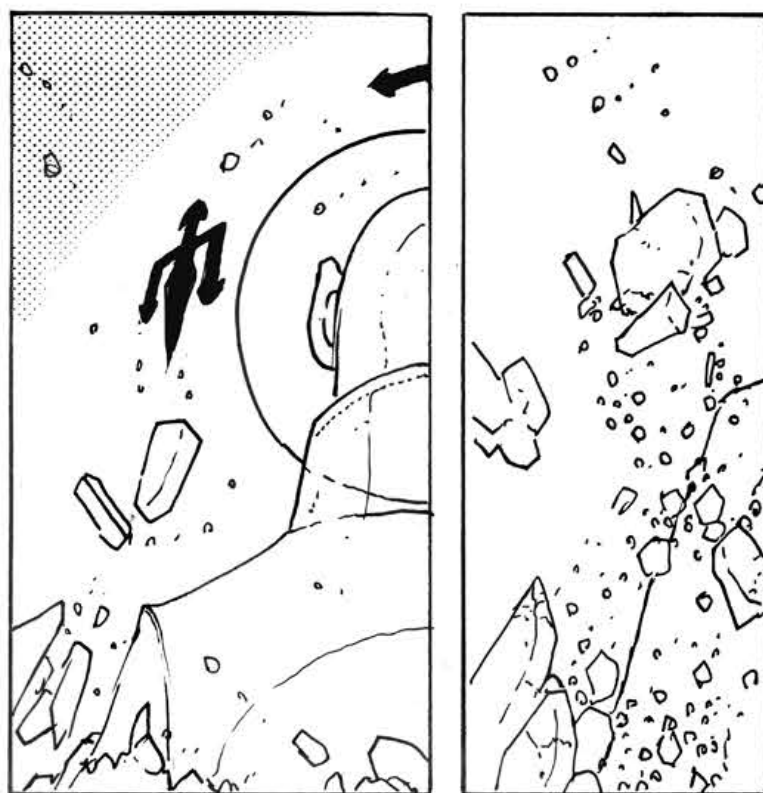
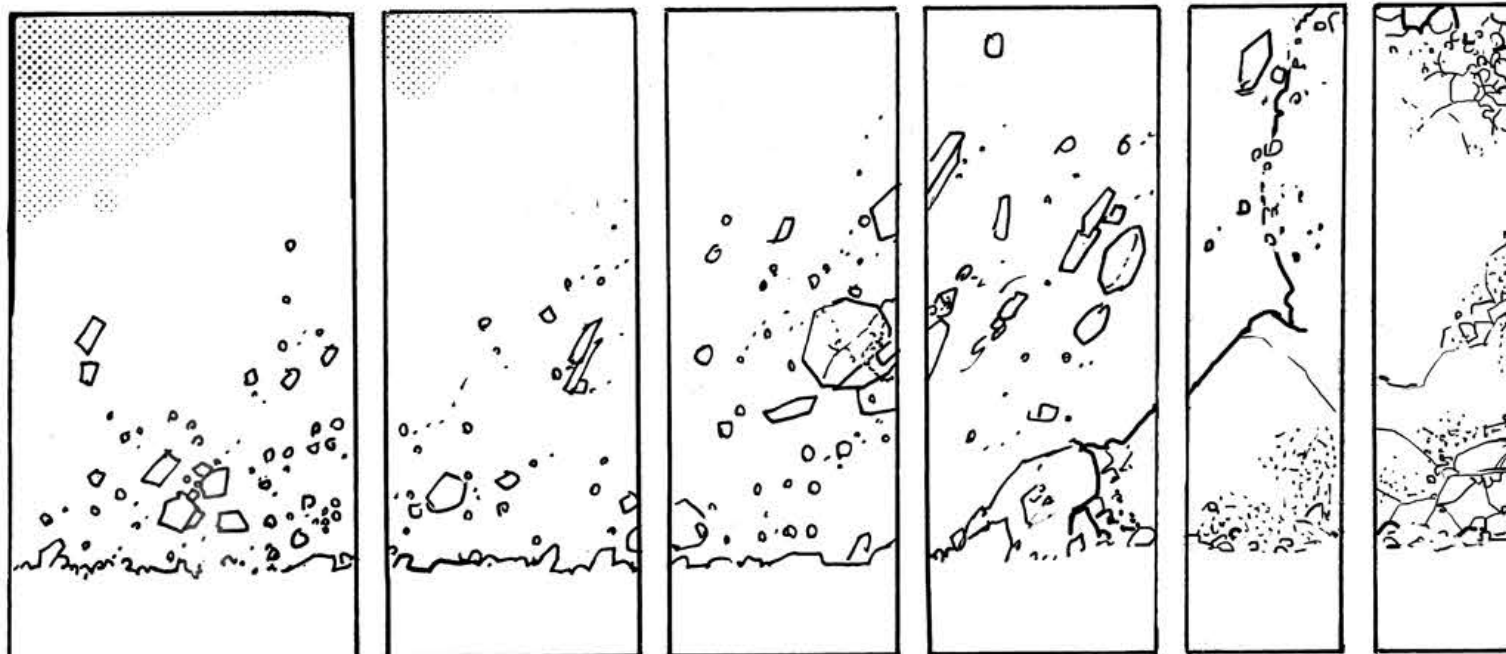
THEY LAUGHED AT ME, OF COURSE. THEY LAUGHED SO HARD THAT I GOT ANGRY AND STARTED INSULTING THEM... AND THEN THEY BEAT ME UP. I WAS LIKE NINE, TEN YEARS OLD... FROM THEN ON I WAS THE OUTCAST OF THE CLASS, THEY INSULTED ME EVERY DAY...



"COWARD, FAGGOT..." THINGS GOT PRETTY UGLY. AND ONE OF THOSE DAYS, ONE OF THE QUIETER ONES CAME AND SAID: "YOU KNOW **SIGURD** IS THE ONE WHO LAUGHS AT YOU THE MOST, BEHIND YOUR BACK, RIGHT? HE'S ALWAYS IMITATING YOUR SHITTY TRICKS".

SIGURD WAS THE ONLY FRIEND I HAD, AND UNTIL ALL THAT HAPPENED, HE WAS MORE OF AN OUTCAST THAN I WAS. I TOLD HIM WHAT THAT KID TOLD ME, AND HE SAID HE HAD **NO IDEA** WHAT I WAS SAYING. IT MADE SENSE, WHAT WOULD HE GAIN BY DOING THAT?





...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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