



44 WIP SUE TOWN KEN FAN

SIMON M. ATANA S.

SCRIPT
PANEL LAYOUT
COVER
TRANSLATION
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

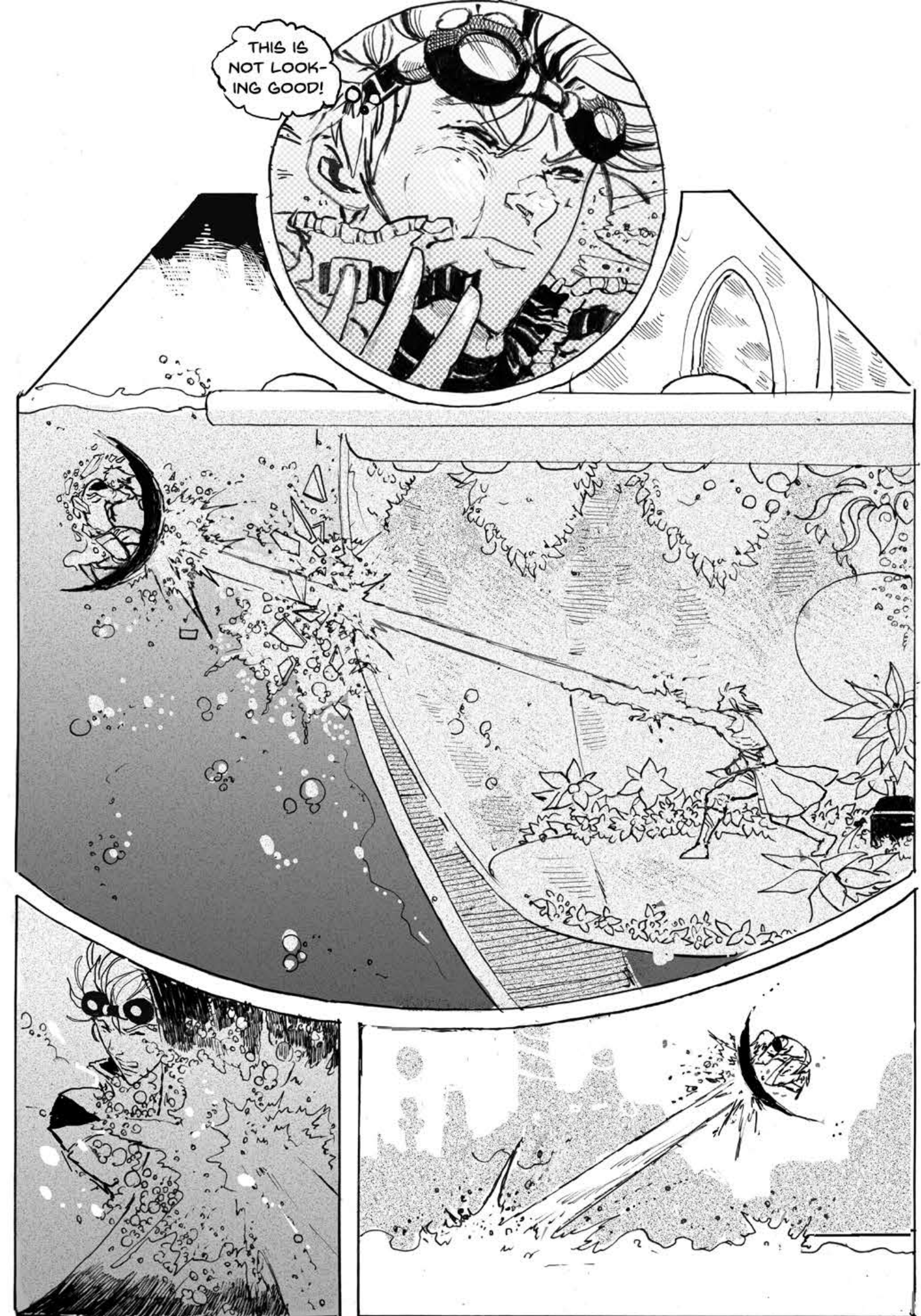
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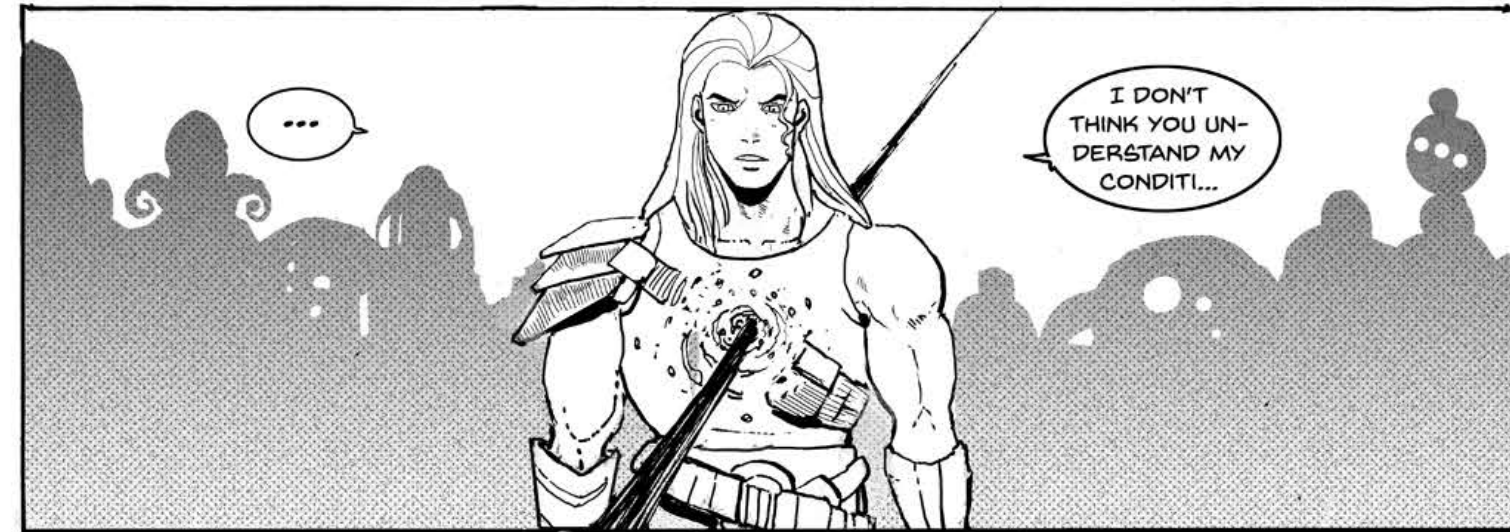
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OK. I KNOW THE STORY. YOU'RE GOING TO CAPTURE ME TO MAKE ME ANOTHER **SERVANT OF THE CITY**, RIGHT?

JACOB WAS TURNED INTO STONE IN SANTIAGO, I GET WATER...
COFF.



I DON'T THINK YOU UNDERSTAND MY CONDITI...



COFF
COFF!

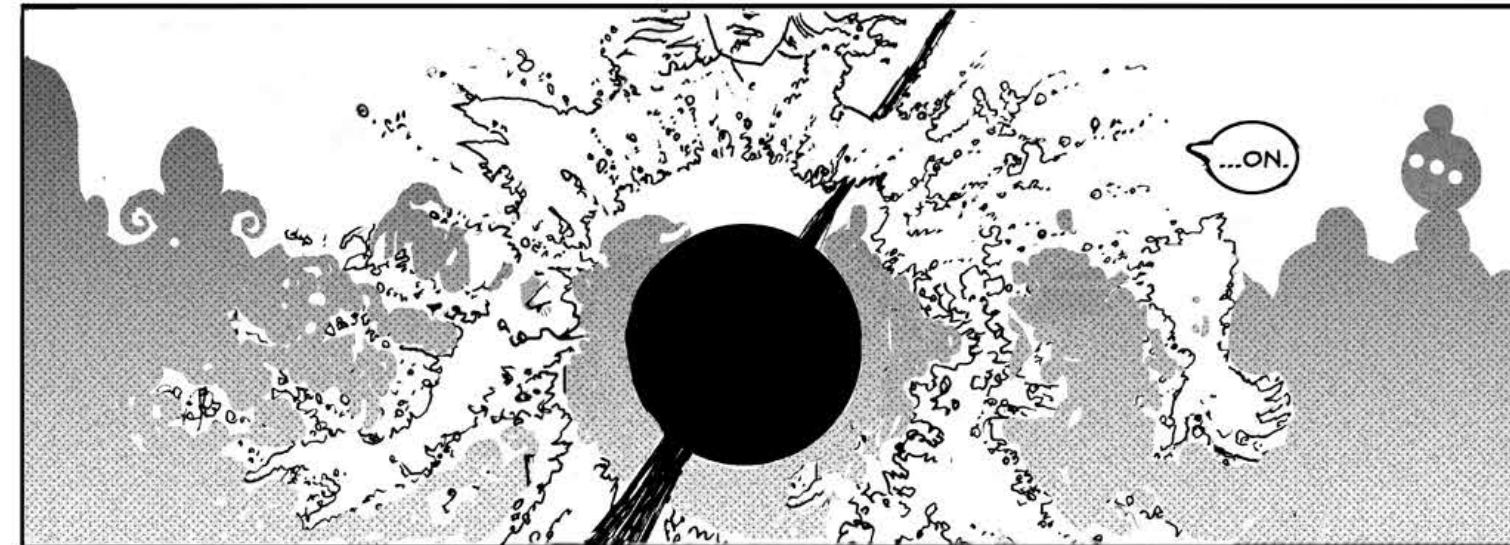


MRRPGG!



HANG IN THERE, LÉON.

EVEN TRAITORS DESERVE **HELP**.



...ON.



COFF HFG
WHA...?

WHAT DID YOU DO?

HMMM.



NOTHING FOR YOU TO BE LIKE THIS.



MPGGHH!



FINE... FGF... THEN...



GAFGHH!!



FAMINES AGAIN. **BREADCRUMB THIEVES**, BRUNO.

IS IT ANY WONDER? EVEN LORDS WITH A COUPLE OF ACRES CHARGE **TAXES**.

FRANCE, 1788.



HAVE YOU HEARD THE RUMORS? THERE ARE BOURGEOISIE FINANCING THE **REVOLTS**. THEY WANT TO ELIMINATE THE SERVITUDE TO THE NOBLES!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. HOW CAN YOU DEFY AN ORDER THAT HAS **GIVEN** SO MUCH TO YOU?

THE DISTURBANCES ARE CONCENTRATED IN THE SOUTH. THEY SAY THAT A CERTAIN ROBESPIERRE IS BE-HEADING NOBLES, AND THAT THE PEOPLE ARE... ECSTATIC.

LÉON, THE PEOPLE ARE ATTACKING OUR SOLDIERS. SOMETHING... *SOMEONE* IS MANIPULATING THEM; A SERVANT SHOULDN'T HAVE THE **STRENGTH** TO DEFY THE CROWN.

WITNESSES REPORT THAT THE CHURCH OF RENNES HAS BEEN VANDALIZED. THAT'S **IMPOSSIBLE**. GOD PROTECTS THAT PLACE! YOU HAVE TO INVESTIGATE IT...

"IT'S A SACRED BUILDING!"

WHAT A STRANGE REACTION...

...DON'T WORRY. YOU WILL **DIE**, TO BE REBORN THROUGH THE BLESSING OF OUR TIDES. A LIFE SENTENCE.

YOU'LL HAVE A BODY OF OUR WATER, AND YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO GET OUT OF LYS.

LÉON!

COFF!

THE KING... SAUNIÈRE!

HOW...?

...DO YOU KNOW MY NAME?

HRHG...

HEY! HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME? LISTEN...!

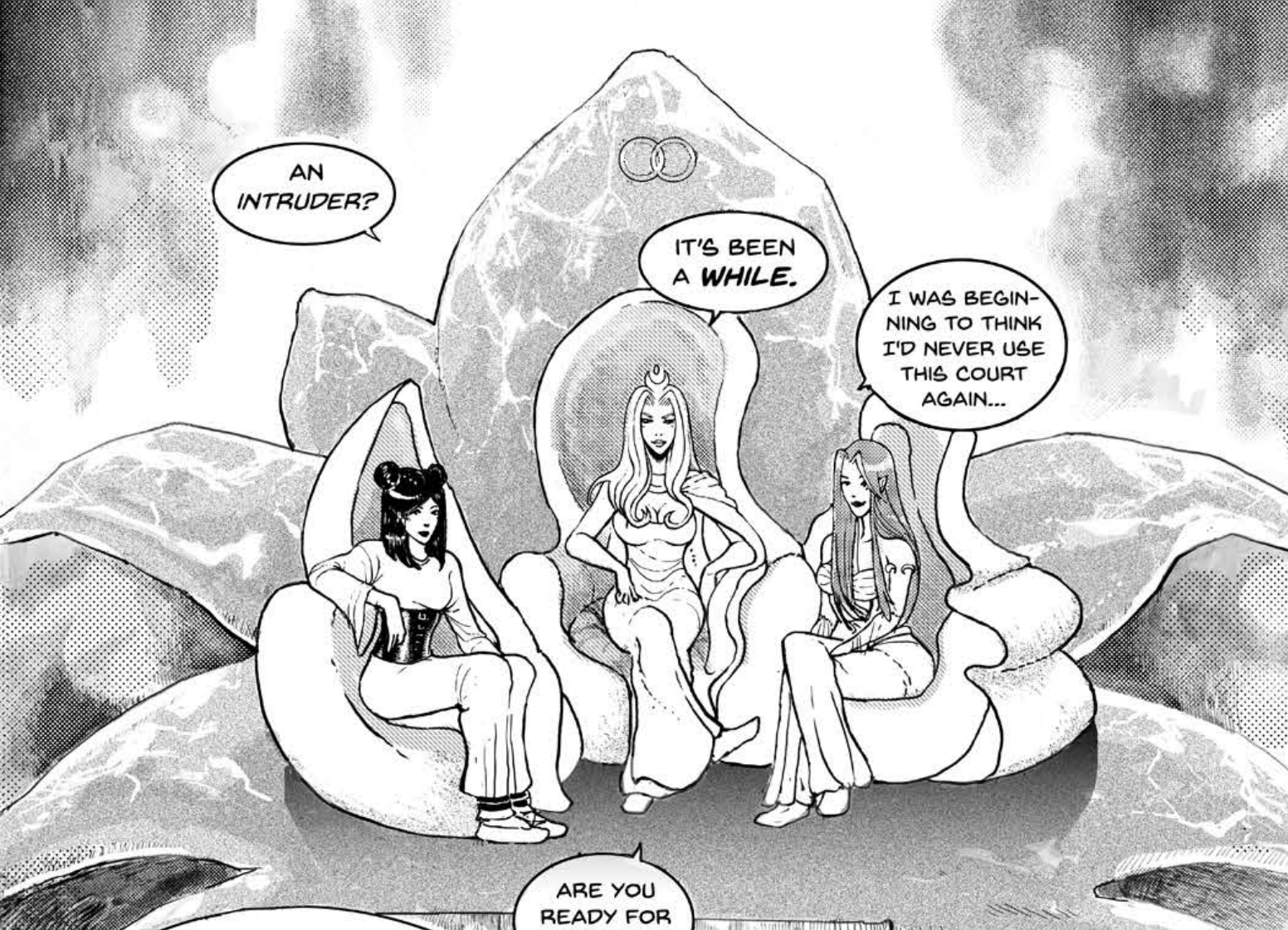
DAMN IT.

THE **HIGH PRIESTESS** WILL WANT TO SEE THIS BOY.

"I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO HELP PROLONG THIS **REPUGNANT CITY**".

ALTHOUGH, WITH SUCH CAPTORS...

IT'S REFRESHING TO SEE THAT WHEREVER YOU ARE, CERTAIN RACIAL **DYNAMICS** DON'T GO AWAY.



AN
INTRUDER?

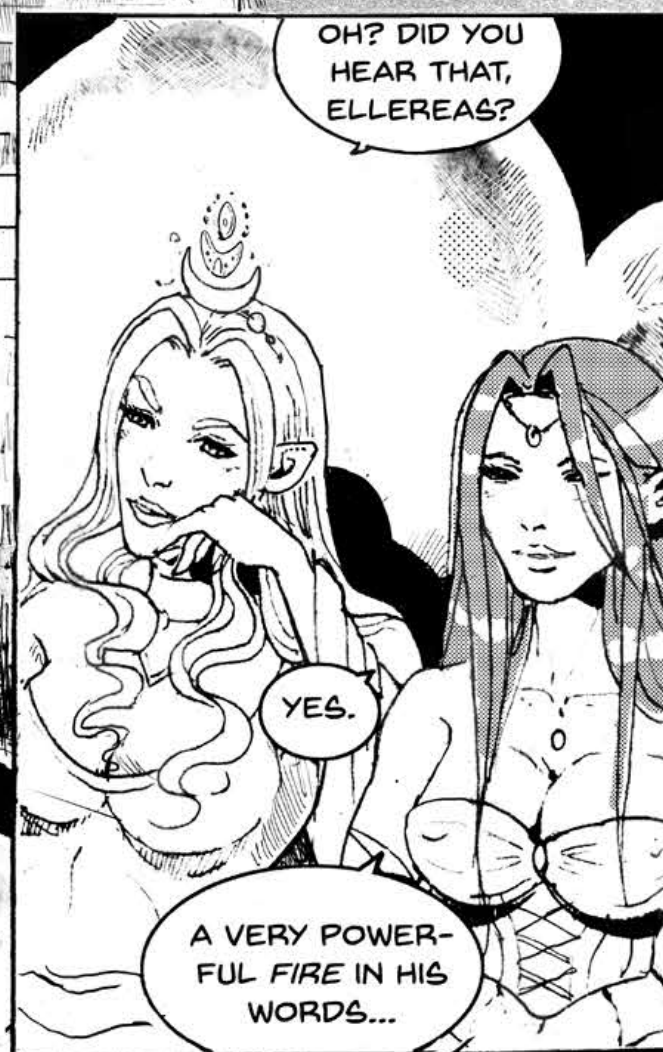
IT'S BEEN
A *WHILE*.

I WAS BEGIN-
NING TO THINK
I'D NEVER USE
THIS COURT
AGAIN...

ARE YOU
READY FOR
THE *TRIAL*?



SILENCE, QUEEN
OF LYS. I'M THE
ONE WHO'S COMING
HERE TO OFFER YOU
A *DEAL*.



OH? DID YOU
HEAR THAT,
ELLEREAS?

YES.

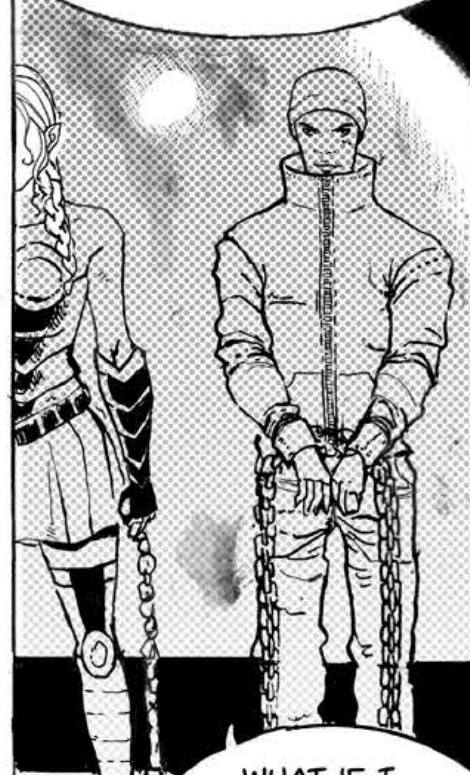
A VERY POWER-
FUL FIRE IN HIS
WORDS...

TELL ME, INTRUDER. DO YOU
UNDERSTAND YOUR SITUA-
TION?



LYS IS SUSTAINED BY
A SPELL THAT WE HAVE TO
REINFORCE *PERIODICAL-
LY*. IF YOU CAN'T PARTICI-
PATE IN THE RITUAL THAT
KEEPS US GOING...

...WE WILL KILL YOU AND
TRANSFER YOUR *CON-
SCIOUSNESS* TO A BODY OF
WATER OF LYS, TO LIVE PER-
PETUALLY AMONG US.



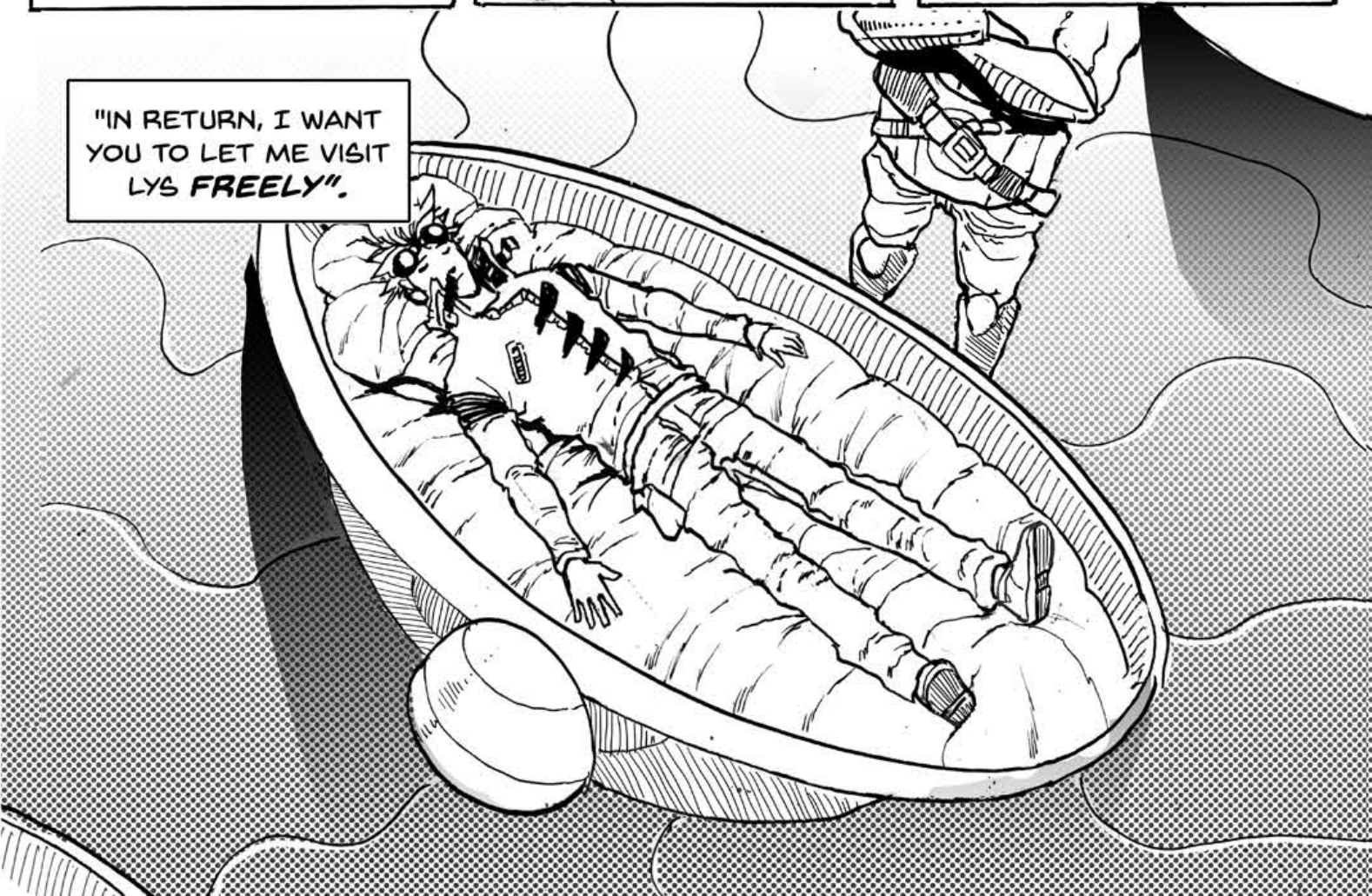
WHAT IF I
TOLD YOU THAT MY
OBLATION FOR LYS
IS ADAM, WHO CAR-
RIES THE HAND OF
SATAN?

HE'S BEEN TO
SANTIAGO, HE'S
FIGHTING THE
POWERS THAT
BE...



...I'M SURE HE HAS MORE
THAN ENOUGH *POWER*
TO GIVE YOU SEVERAL *DE-
CADES* OF ENERGY.

"IN RETURN, I WANT
YOU TO LET ME VISIT
LYS *FREELY*".





SURPRISED
WE'RE REBEL-
LING, ROYAL
GUARD?



WE FIGHT
YOUR WARS
AND YET YOU
IMPOSE TITHES
THAT LEAVE
US WITHOUT
BREAD.

THE FAMINES ARE AFFECTING ALL
OF FRANCE, BUT THE REVOLTS ALL
HAPPEN IN THE SOUTH. EVERY SINGLE
BEHEADING HAS HAPPENED NO FAR-
THER THAN 20 KILOMETERS
FROM RENNES!



I SAW THE FRONT
OF THE CHURCH! VEKAM
ADONAI? WHERE IS SAU-
NIÈRE? WHAT HAVE YOU
DONE TO HIM?



LÉON. THE CROWN
SENT YOU WITHOUT EX-
PLAINING WHO SAU-
NIÈRE REALLY IS,
DIDN'T IT?



J-JEAN?
I THOUGHT
YOU...!

DIED? NO. THAT'S
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO
ME IF I REMAINED IN SER-
VITUDE TO THE CHURCH AND
THE CROWN, LÉON. THERE
ARE NEW **TIDES** IN FRANCE.



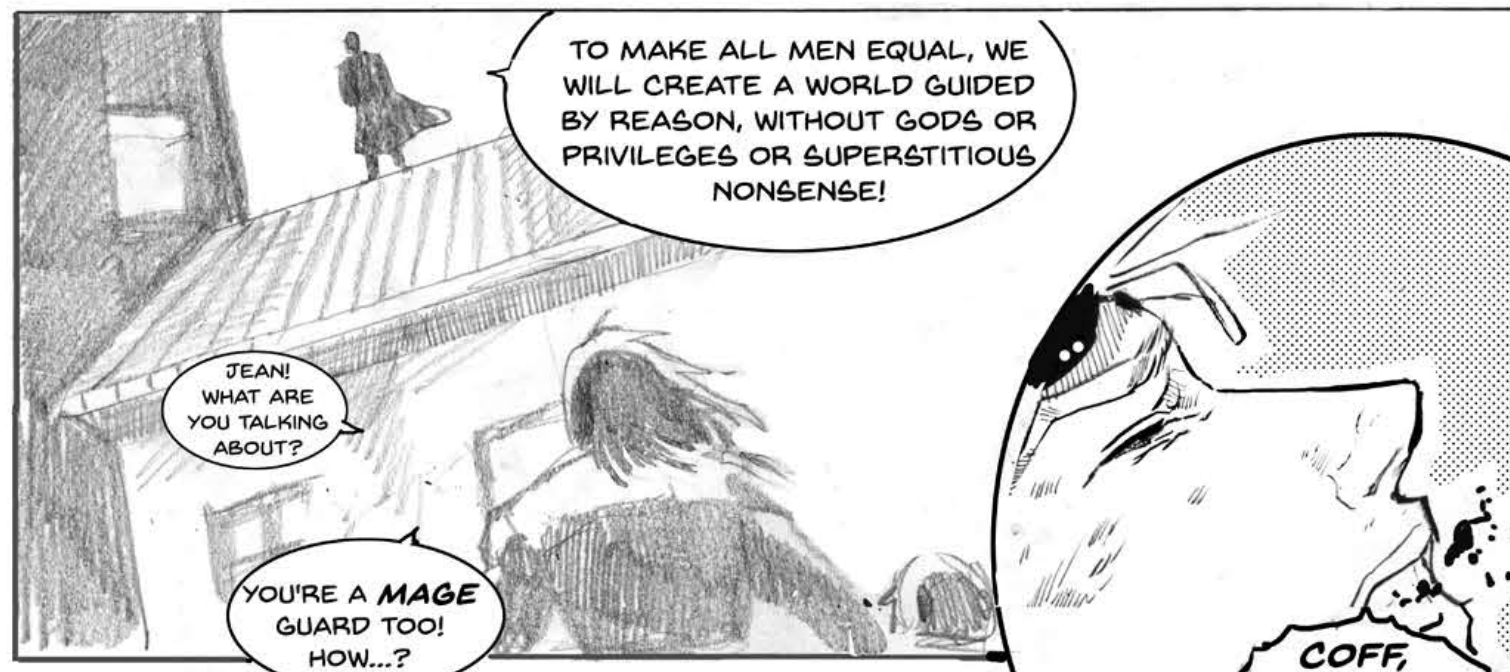
TIDES THAT WILL BRING DOWN THE
SYSTEM THAT HAS KEPT US
CHAINED.

FRANCE WILL BE
THE BEGINNING OF A
NEW WORLD.



WE WILL
TEACH THE
FRENCH PEOPLE
THAT KINGS HAVE
NO DIVINE AURA,
THAT NO MAN
SHOULD BE ABOVE
ANY OTHER. NO
ONE IS **SPECIAL!**

FOR TOO
LONG WE'VE
LIVED IN AN IRRAT-
IONAL WORLD
WHERE KINGS HA-
VE DIVINE RIGHTS
THAT PLACE THEM
ABOVE OTHERS,
LIKE THEY DON'T
EAT AND BREATHE
LIKE THE REST
OF US!



TO MAKE ALL MEN EQUAL, WE
WILL CREATE A WORLD GUIDED
BY REASON, WITHOUT GODS OR
PRIVILEGES OR SUPERSTITIOUS
NONSENSE!

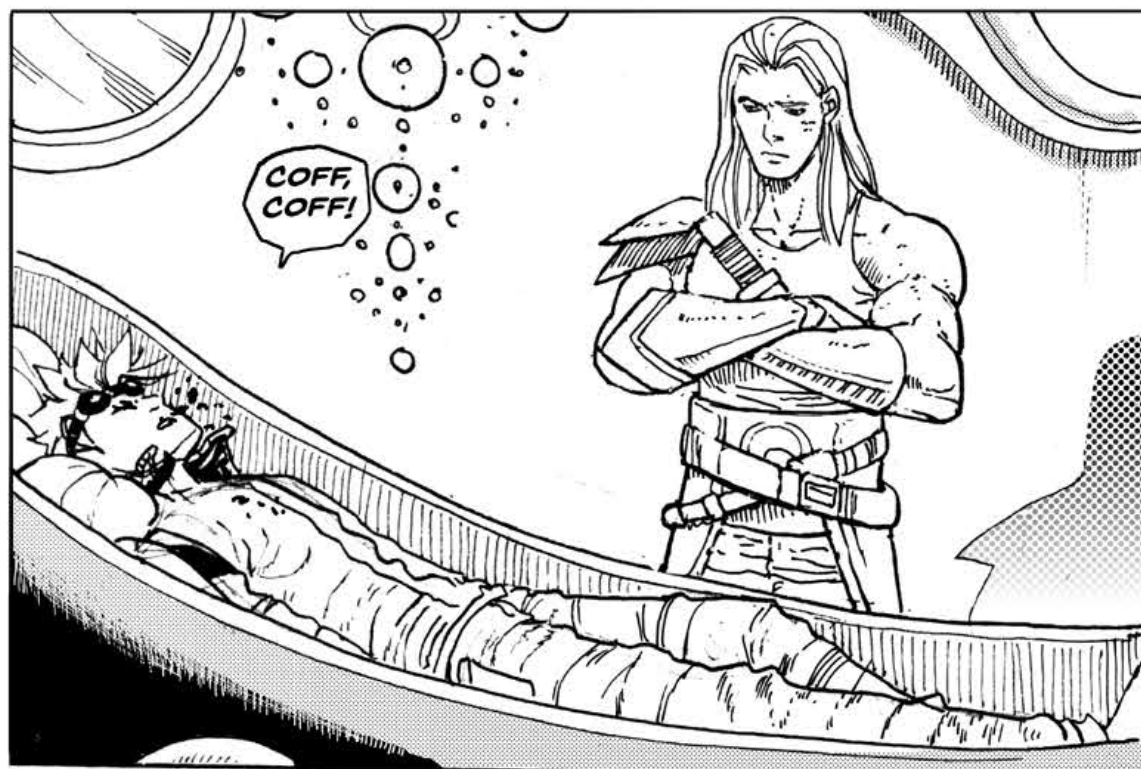
JEAN!
WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?

YOU'RE A **MAGE**
GUARD TOO!
HOW...?

WHAT
ARE YOU TAL-
KING ABOUT,
JEAN?

ROBESPIERRE,
THE JACOBIANS, EVEN THE
CORDELIERS WORK UNDER SAU-
NIÈRE'S PLAN, WHETHER THEY KNOW
IT OR NOT. THEY ARE ALL GOING TO
CONTRIBUTE TO THE FALL OF THE
CATHOLIC CHURCH AND THE
NOBLES... **THE CROWN.**

**COFF,
COFF!**

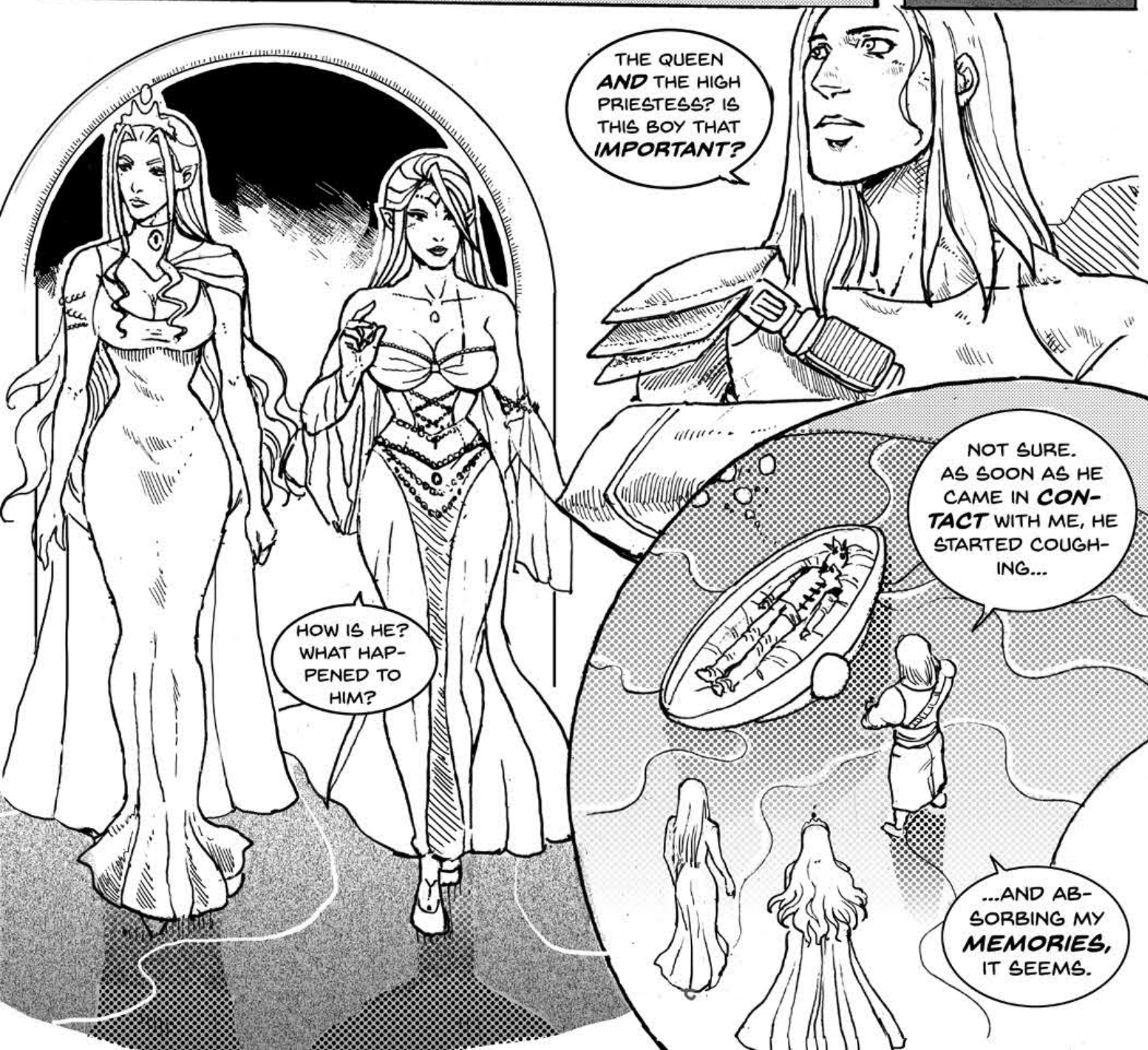


COFF, COFF!



LÉON!

IS THE
INTRUDER
HERE?



THE QUEEN
AND THE HIGH
PRIESTESS? IS
THIS BOY THAT
IMPORTANT?

HOW IS HE?
WHAT HAP-
PENED TO
HIM?

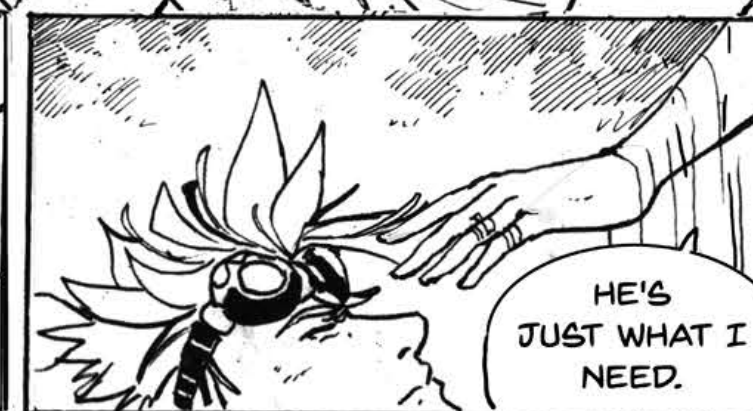
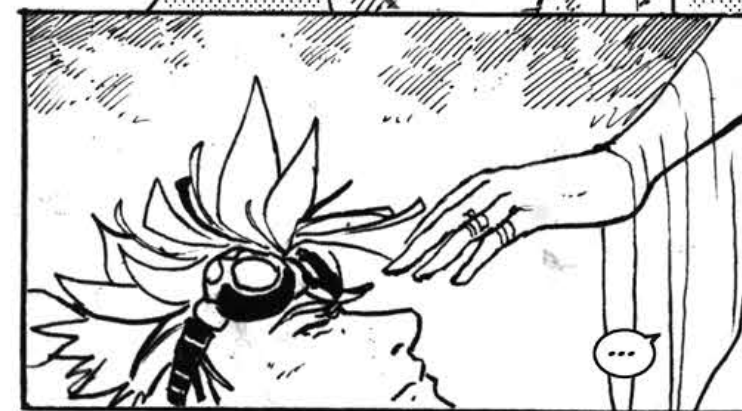
NOT SURE.
AS SOON AS HE
CAME IN **CON-
TACT** WITH ME, HE
STARTED COUGH-
ING...

...AND AB-
SORBING MY
MEMORIES,
IT SEEMS.

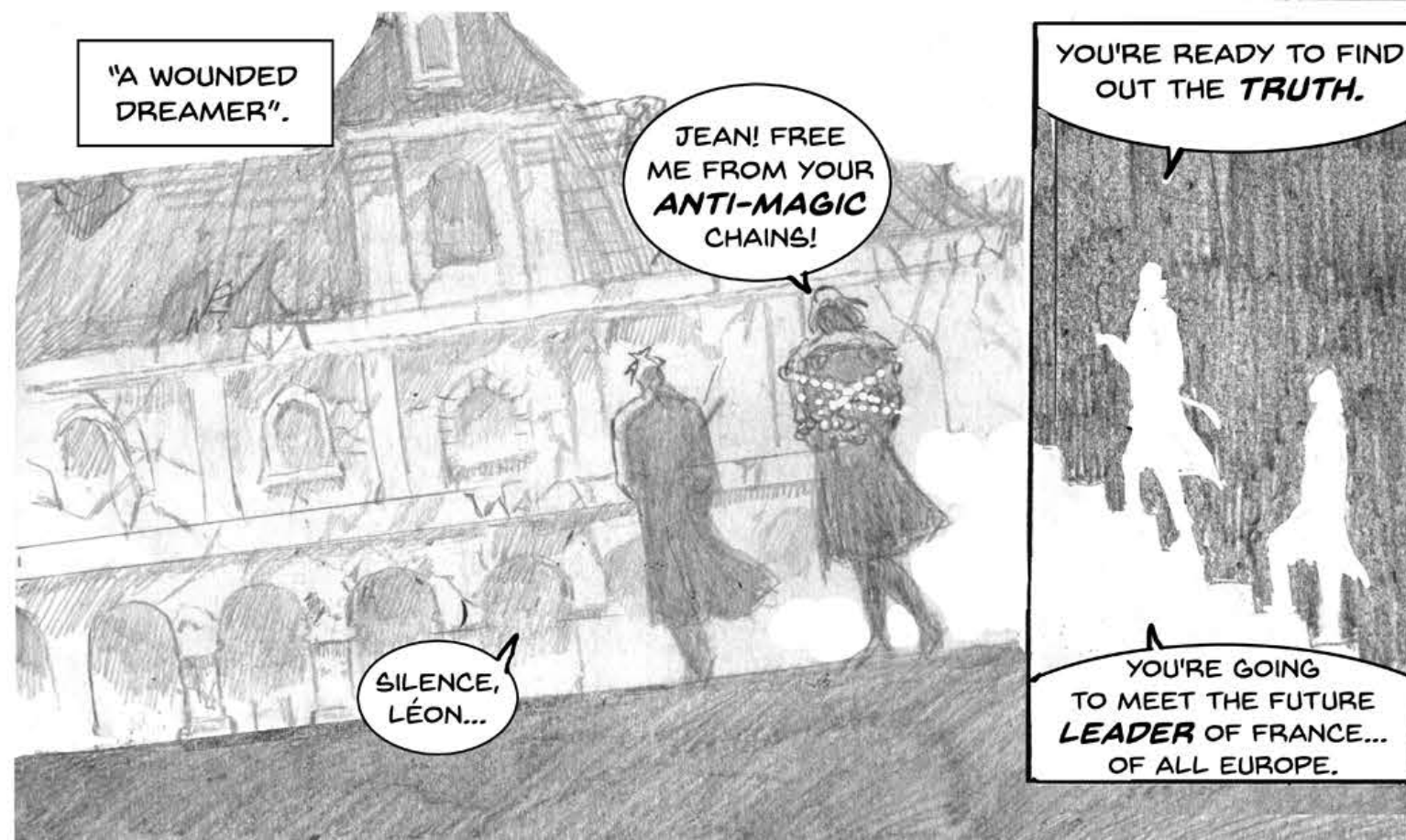


WHAT DO
YOU THINK,
ELLEREAS?

DO YOU THINK HE
HAS THE ABILITY TO
PARTICIPATE IN THE
RITUAL WITH YOU, OR AT
LEAST ONE OF YOUR
STUDENTS?



HE'S
JUST WHAT I
NEED.



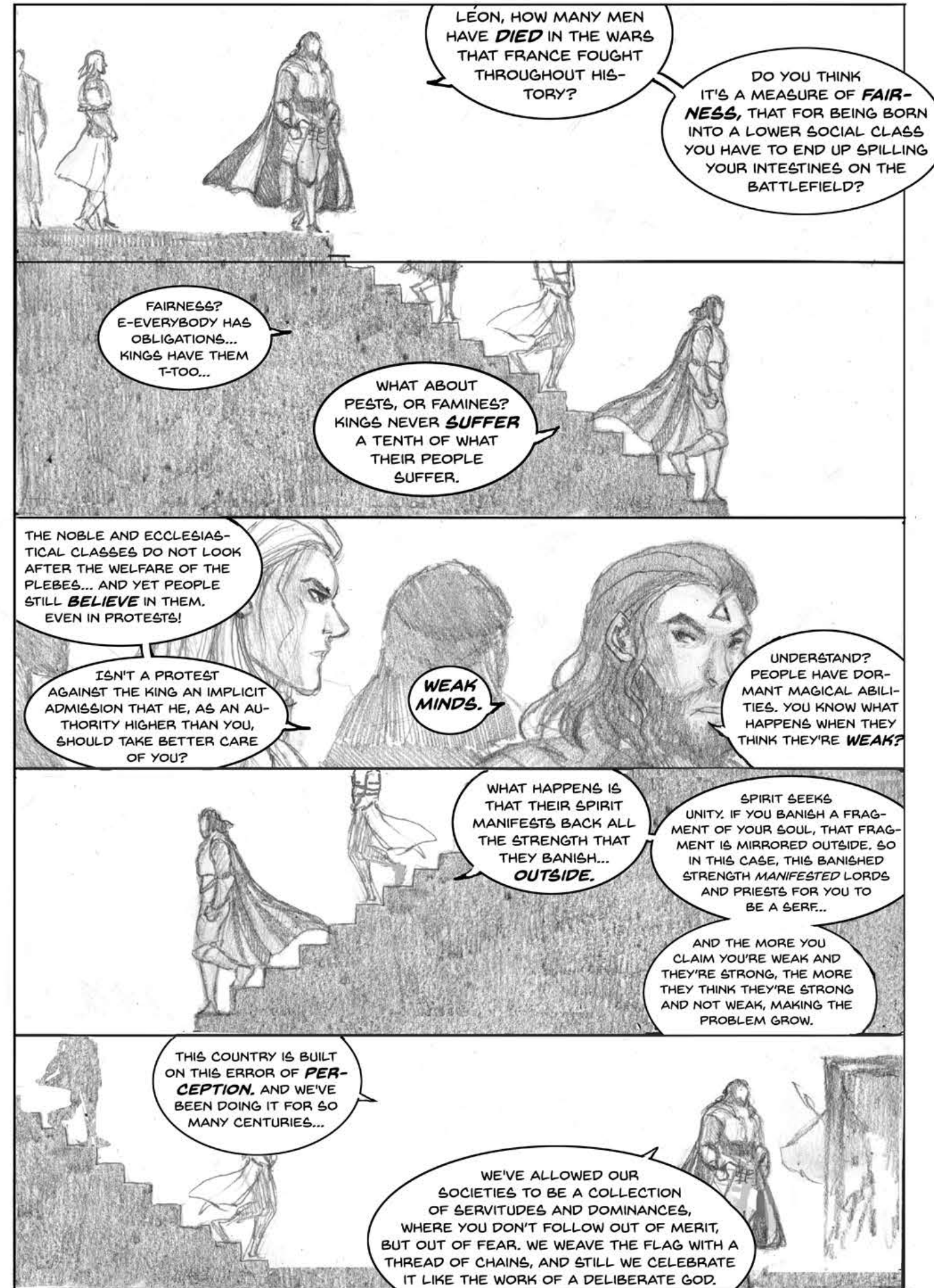
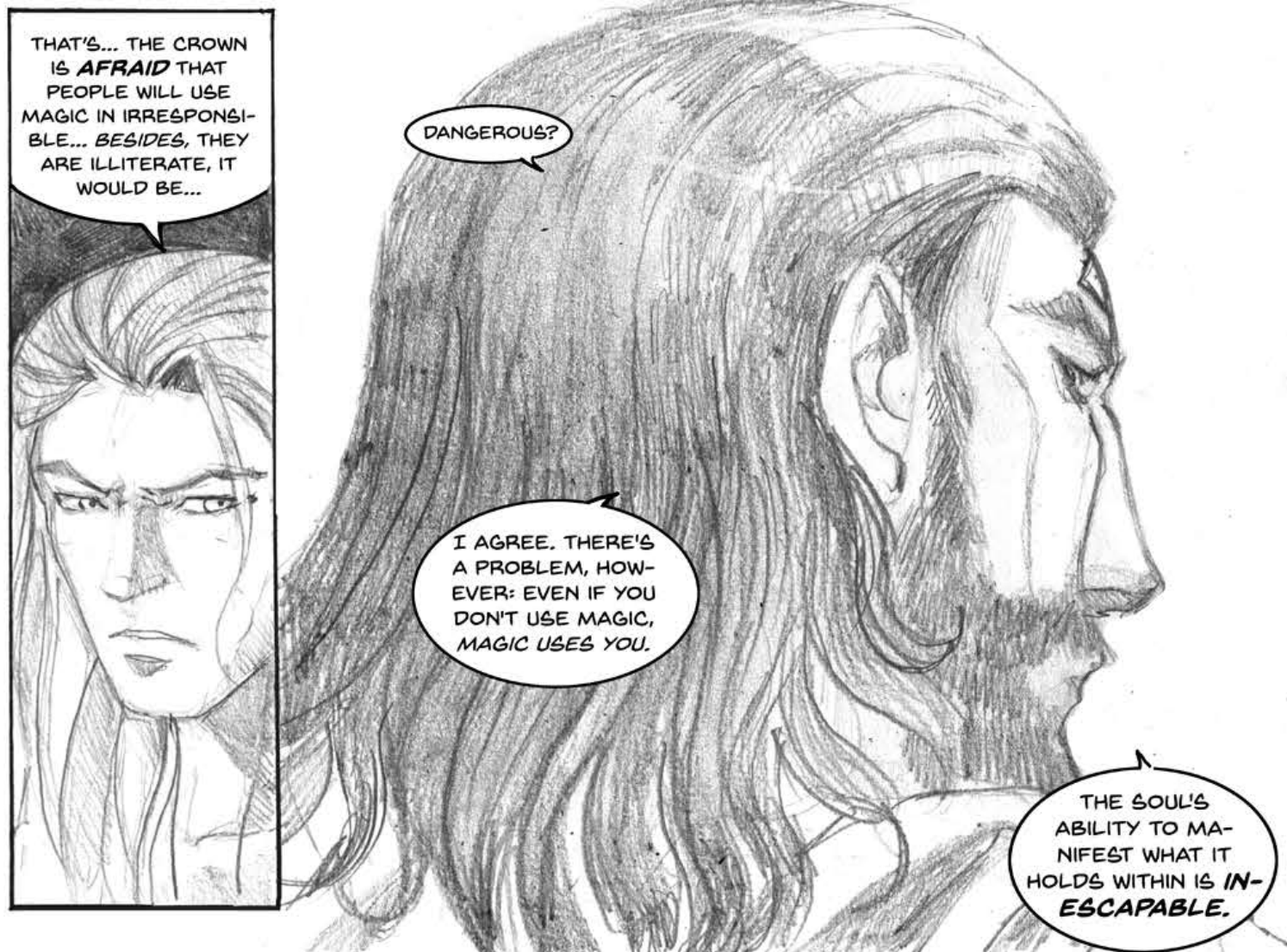
"A WOUNDED
DREAMER".

JEAN! FREE
ME FROM YOUR
ANTI-MAGIC
CHAINS!

SILENCE,
LÉON...

YOU'RE READY TO FIND
OUT THE **TRUTH**.

YOU'RE GOING
TO MEET THE FUTURE
LEADER OF FRANCE...
OF ALL EUROPE.





THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO END WITH A CORRUPT SPIRIT, BOY. AND THAT CORRUPTION WILL ALWAYS **MANIFEST** ITSELF.

THE WEAK BELIEVE THAT BEING WEAK MAKES THEM **GOOD**, BECAUSE THEY DO NOT COMMIT THE SINS OF THE STRONG. TO THEM, THE SIN OF COWARDICE IS A VIRTUE.



SO WHAT...?

LISTEN. YOU FOCUS YOUR SPIRIT TO EXERCISE MAGIC DELIBERATELY, THEY DO IT UNKNOWINGLY. THE FEAR, THE EXCUSES THEY USE TO JUSTIFY NOT DOING THE RIGHT THING...

...IT BECOMES AN **INVOLUNTARY SPELL**, A DAILY RITUAL THAT **CALLS** FOR UNJUST LEADERS, BECAUSE THEIR IDEA OF GOODNESS DEPENDS ON BECOMING PERPETUALLY VICTIMIZED BY EVERYTHING THEY REJECT IN THEMSELVES.



THE PROBLEM IS THAT THIS DRAMA WILL NEVER END. PEOPLE DON'T HAVE THE ABILITY TO **MANAGE** THEIR LATENT MAGICAL POWERS...

...AND THE POWERFUL HAVE TAKEN GOOD ADVANTAGE OF IT.



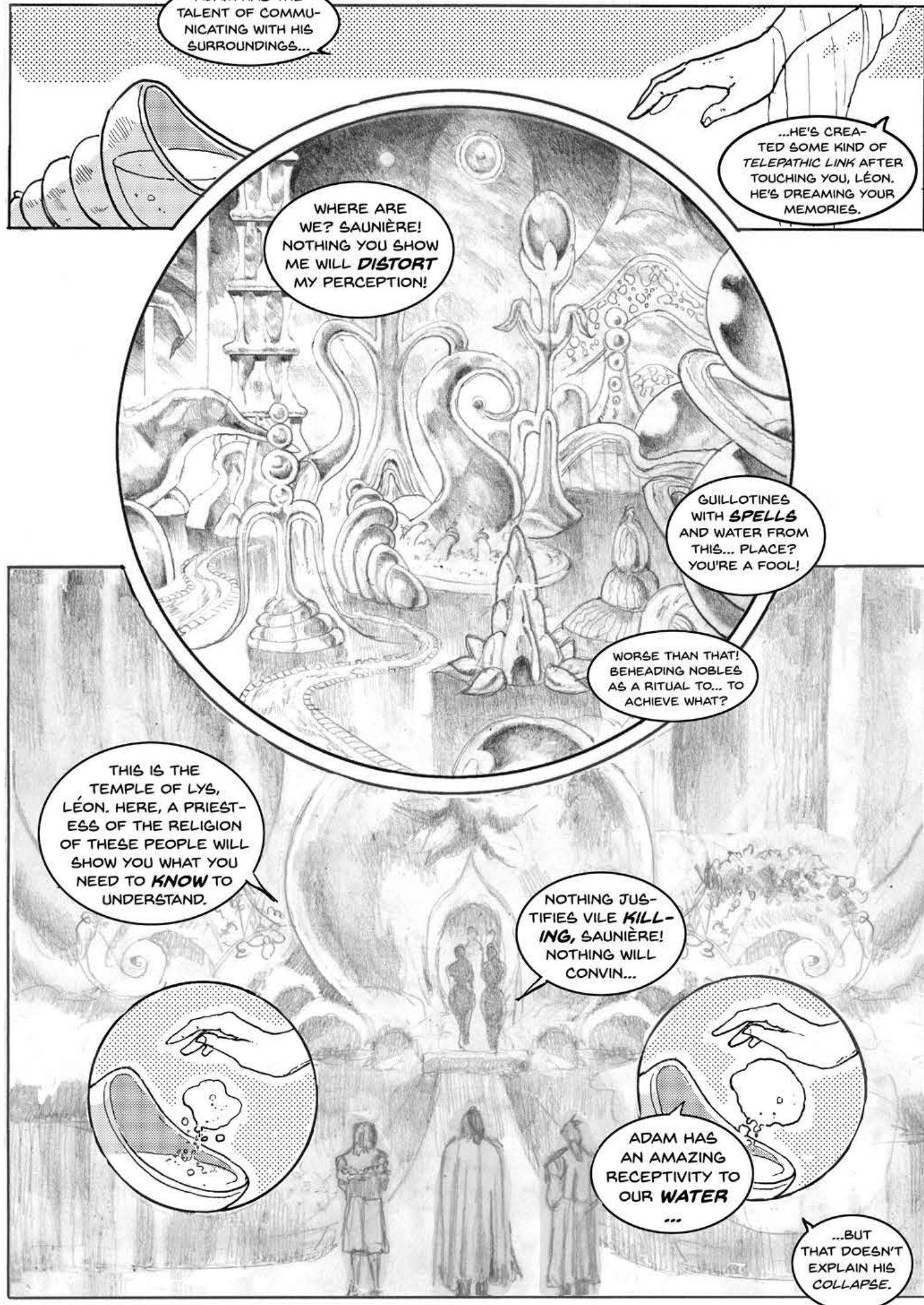
IT'S EASIER TO RECEIVE PAIN FROM THE **OUTSIDE** THAN TO CONFRONT THE PAIN FROM THE **INSIDE**.

WE CAN'T CHANGE THAT. BUT WE COULD CHANNEL THAT DESIRE FOR WEAKNESS INTO SOMETHING BETTER, SOMETHING MORE **CONSTRUCTIVE**...



...FOR AS BAD AS WHAT I HAVE SAID ABOUT THE PEOPLE IS, IN CHURCHES AND PALACES, SOMETHING FAR MORE **REPUGNANT** IS BEING DONE.

IT'S TIME TO **CUT THE CHAINS, KID.**



ADAM HAS THE TALENT OF COMMUNICATING WITH HIS SURROUNDINGS...

...HE'S CREATED SOME KIND OF TELEPATHIC LINK AFTER TOUCHING YOU, LÉON. HE'S DREAMING YOUR MEMORIES.

WHERE ARE WE? SAUNIÈRE! NOTHING YOU SHOW ME WILL **DISTORT** MY PERCEPTION!

GUILLOTINES WITH **SPELLS** AND WATER FROM THIS... PLACE? YOU'RE A FOOL!

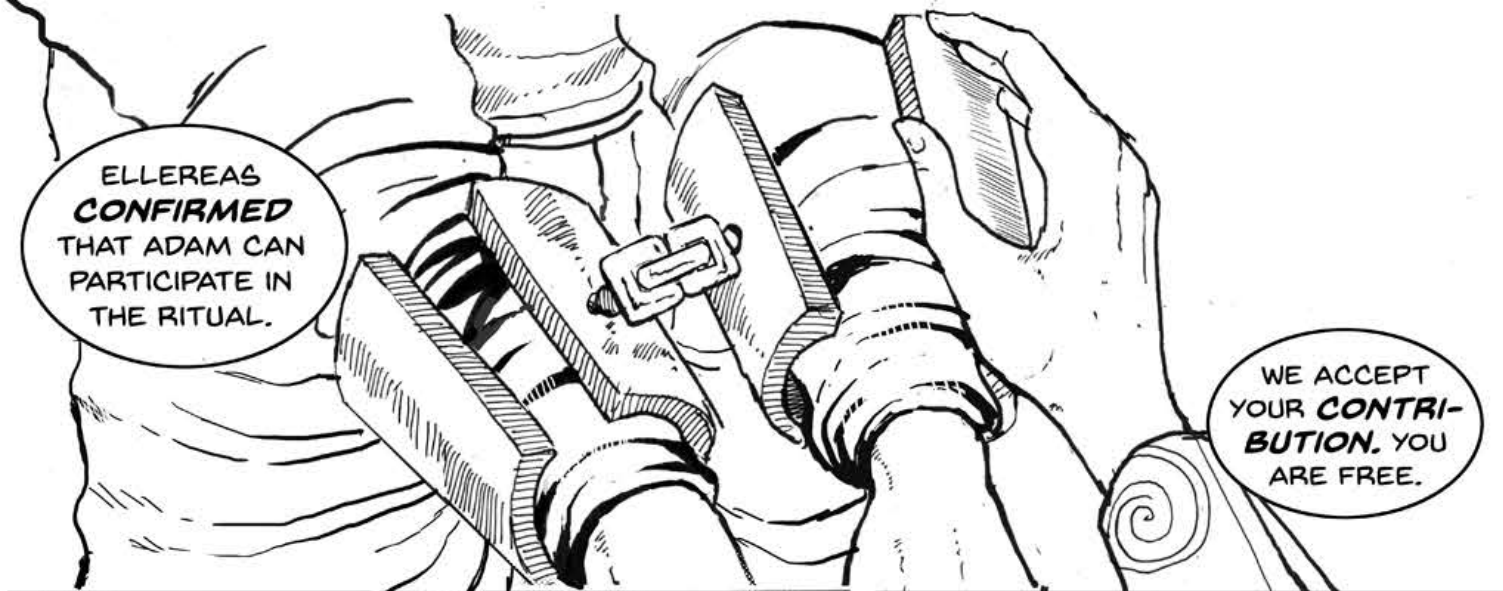
WORSE THAN THAT! BEHEADING NOBLES AS A RITUAL TO... TO ACHIEVE WHAT?

THIS IS THE TEMPLE OF LYS, LÉON. HERE, A PRIESTESS OF THESE PEOPLE WILL SHOW YOU WHAT YOU NEED TO **KNOW** TO UNDERSTAND.

NOTHING JUSTIFIES VILE **KILLING**, SAUNIÈRE! NOTHING WILL CONVIN...

ADAM HAS AN AMAZING RECEPTIVITY TO OUR **WATER** ...

...BUT THAT DOESN'T EXPLAIN HIS COLLAPSE.



ELLEREAS
CONFIRMED
THAT ADAM CAN
PARTICIPATE IN
THE RITUAL.

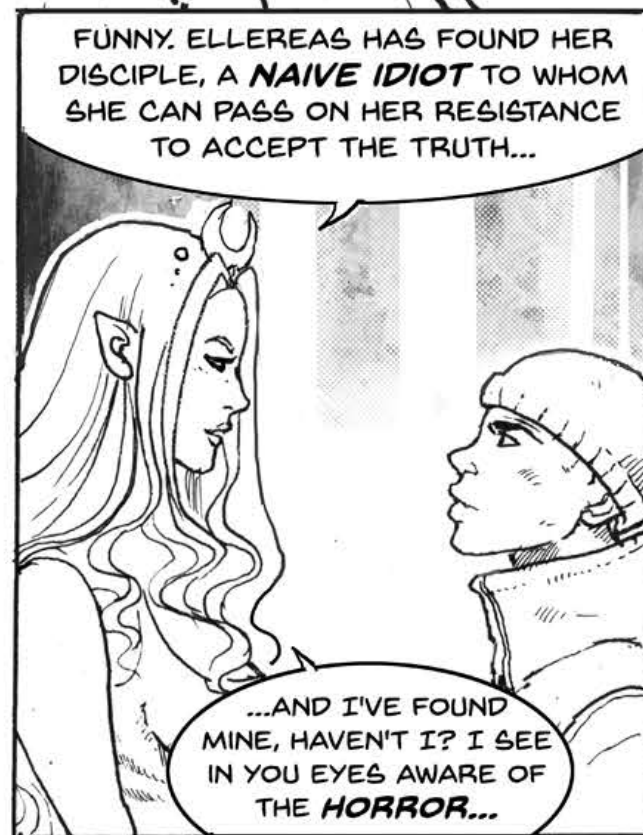
WE ACCEPT
YOUR **CONTRI-
BUTION**. YOU
ARE FREE.



YOU CAN TRAVEL
AROUND THE CITY
AS YOU **PLEASE**.

WITH
GUARDS?

OF
COURSE.



FUNNY. ELLEREAS HAS FOUND HER
DISCIPLE, A **NAIVE IDIOT** TO WHOM
SHE CAN PASS ON HER RESISTANCE
TO ACCEPT THE TRUTH...

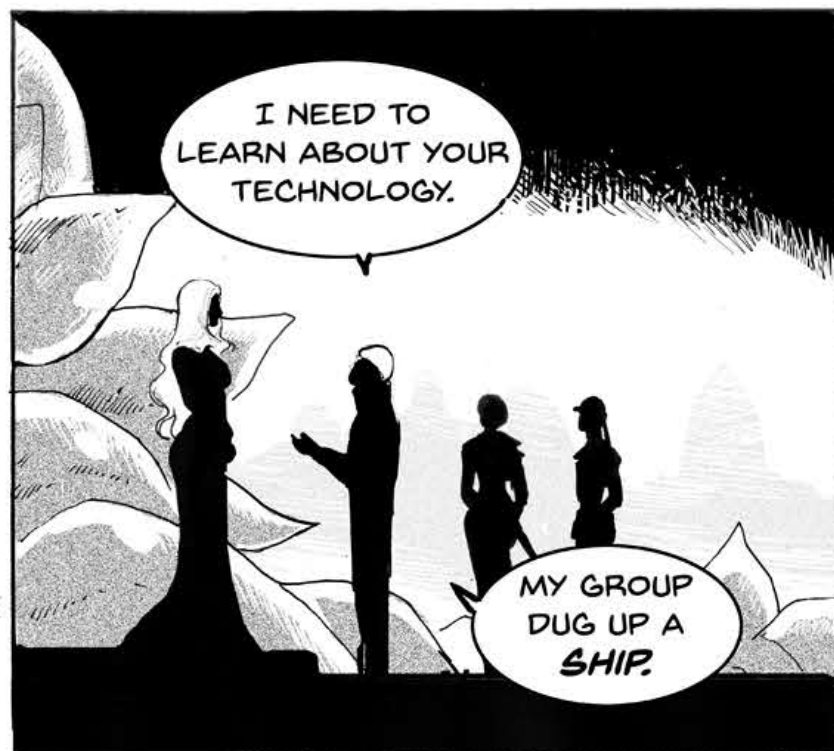
...AND I'VE FOUND
MINE, HAVEN'T I? I SEE
IN YOUR EYES AWARE OF
THE **HORROR**...



WHY DID YOU
COME TO LYS,
GREG?

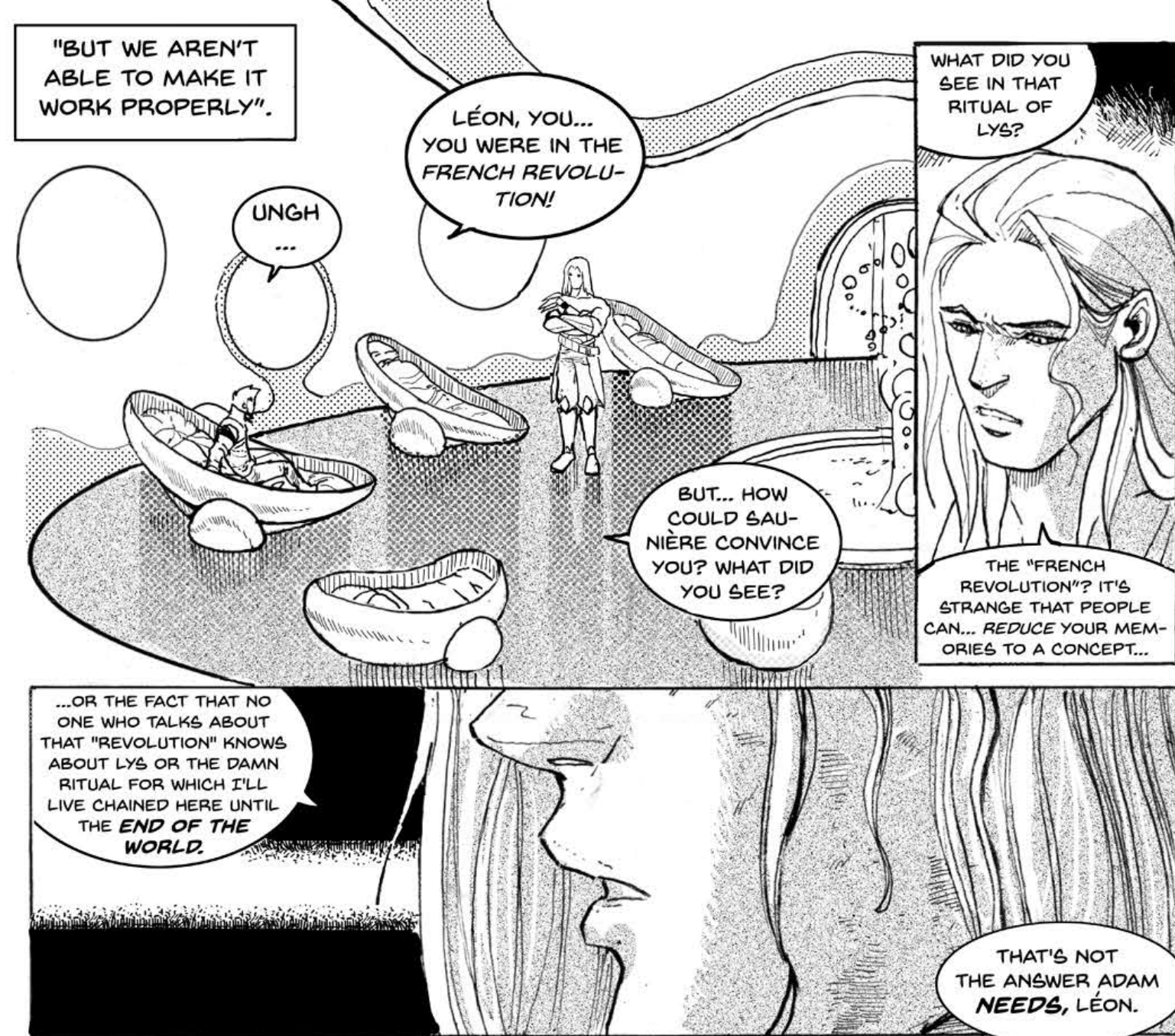


HEH.



I NEED TO
LEARN ABOUT YOUR
TECHNOLOGY.

MY GROUP
DUG UP A
SHIP.



"BUT WE AREN'T
ABLE TO MAKE IT
WORK PROPERLY".

UNGH
...

LÉON, YOU...
YOU WERE IN THE
FRENCH REVOLU-
TION!

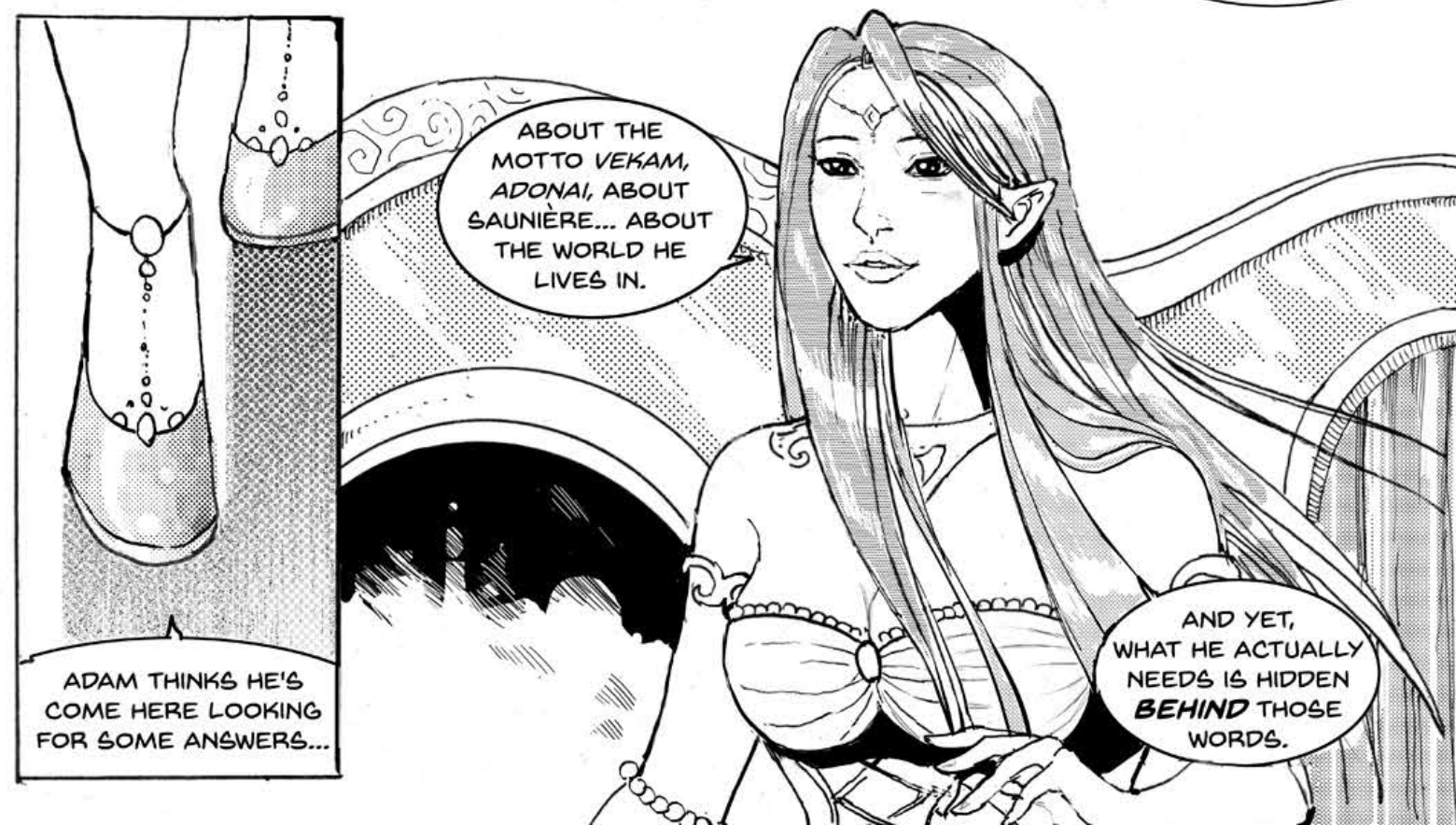
BUT... HOW
COULD SAU-
NIÈRE CONVINCE
YOU? WHAT DID
YOU SEE?

WHAT DID YOU
SEE IN THAT
RITUAL OF
LYS?

THE "FRENCH
REVOLUTION"? IT'S
STRANGE THAT PEOPLE
CAN... REDUCE YOUR MEM-
ORIES TO A CONCEPT...

...OR THE FACT THAT NO
ONE WHO TALKS ABOUT
THAT "REVOLUTION" KNOWS
ABOUT LYS OR THE DAMN
RITUAL FOR WHICH I'LL
LIVE CHAINED HERE UNTIL
THE **END OF THE
WORLD**.

THAT'S NOT
THE ANSWER ADAM
NEEDS, LÉON.



ABOUT THE
MOTTO VEKAM,
ADONAI, ABOUT
SAUNIÈRE... ABOUT
THE WORLD HE
LIVES IN.

ADAM THINKS HE'S
COME HERE LOOKING
FOR SOME ANSWERS...

AND YET,
WHAT HE ACTUALLY
NEEDS IS HIDDEN
BEHIND THOSE
WORDS.

SOMEONE CAUSED YOU SUCH A DEEP SHOCK YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO YOU ARE ANYMORE... AND YOU THINK THAT UNDERSTANDING THIS WILL MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND YOURSELF.

BUT WHAT YOU NEED IS TO COME HOME.

ONLY THEN WILL YOU STOP FEELING EMPTY.

COME WITH ME TO PERFORM THE RITUAL, ADAM.

YOU'LL SOLVE EVERYTHING THERE. YOU'LL UNDERSTAND WHY YOU ALWAYS FEEL DISPLACED...

...AND YOU'LL GET ANSWERS ABOUT YOUR PERSECUTORS THAT CAN **CHANGE YOUR WORLD PERMANENTLY.**

ARE YOU... HITTING ON ME?

...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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