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SCRIPT PENCILS
PANEL LAYOUT INK
COVER
TRANSLATION
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

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"MIGUEL CALLED".



"HE SAYS YOU SHOULD REALLY GO TO THE NEXT... HIGH SOCIETY PARTY".



WHY WOULD YOU ACCEPT TO DO THAT TV INTERVIEW IS BEYOND ME.

WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH ANYTHING?

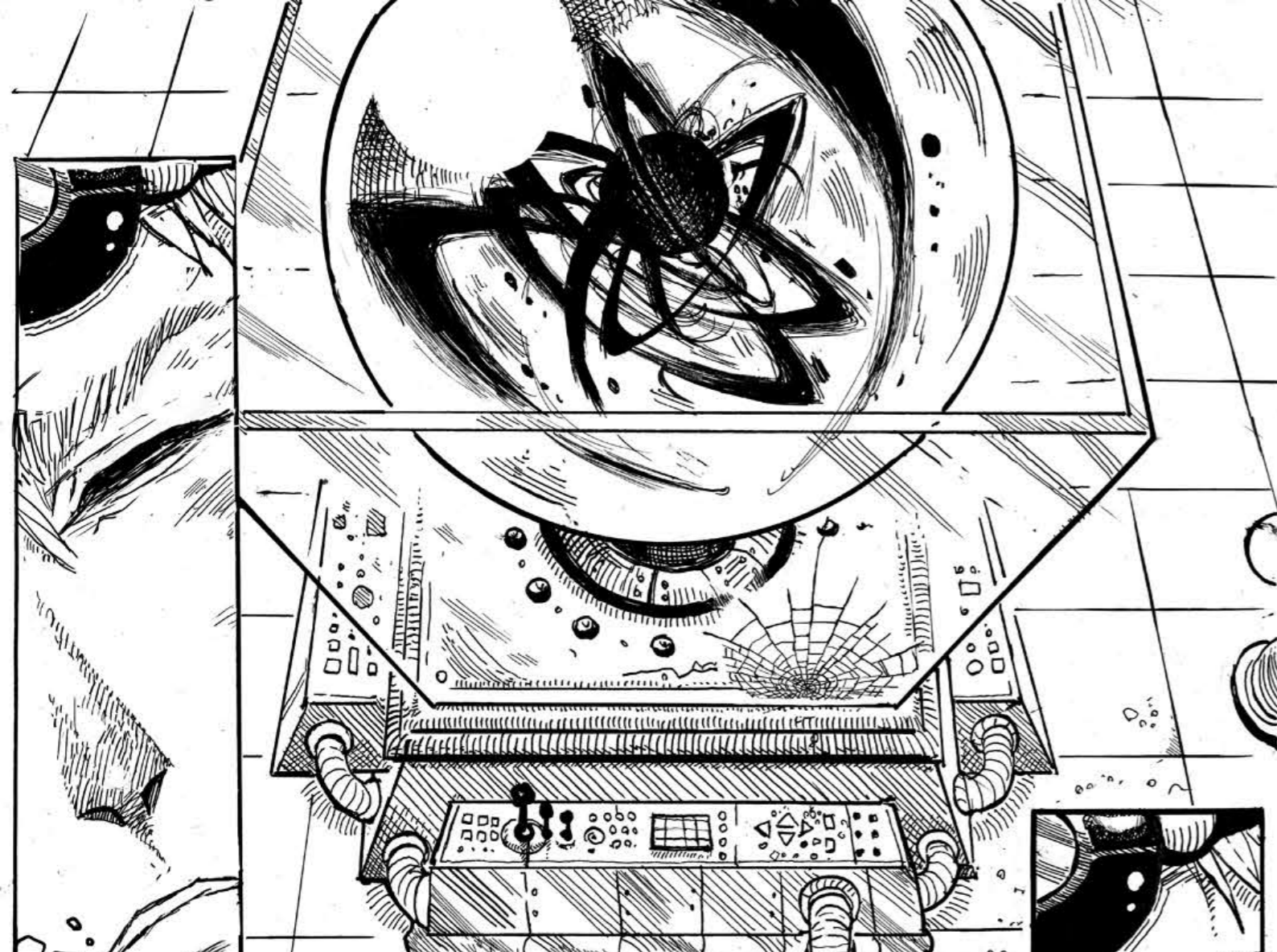


DON'T PLAY DUMB! YOU KNOW WHAT IT MEANS TO HAVE TO GO TO ONE OF THOSE... PARTIES.

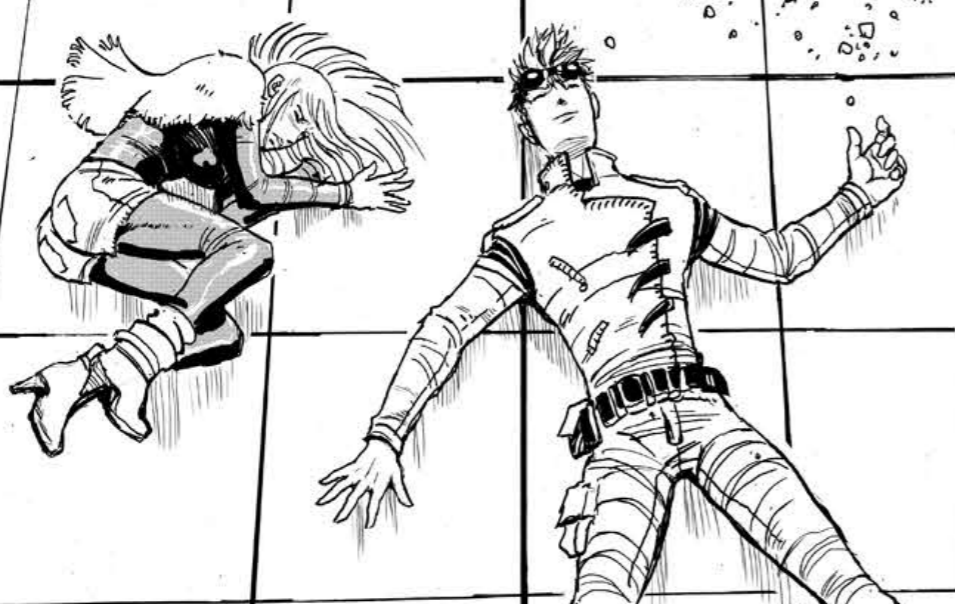


THE HERMITES WANT TO "TALK" TO YOU.





ADAM



YOU'VE MOMENTARILY LOST YOUR PROTECTION...

THEY HAVE SEEN YOU, ADAM...

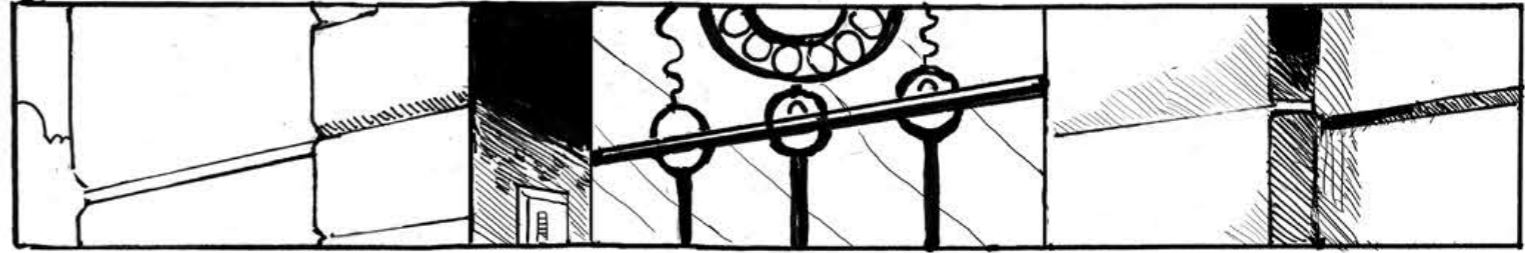


"CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?"

"ALL THE CATALAN HIGH SOCIETY IS HERE".

HOW DO YOU KNOW? EVERYONE'S WEARING MASKS!

FOR FUCK'S SAKE, I KNOW WE'RE ANTI-RIOT, BUT USE YOUR DEDUCTIVE SKILLS A LITTLE.





WHAT WAS THE POINT OF GETTING YOU OUT OF SNOWFLAKE'S RESCUE PICTURE IF YOU PUT YOURSELF IN DANGER VOLUNTARILY?



IT SEEMED A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THIS... ISN'T THAT WHAT WE DO, INVESTIGATE?



HOW'S YOUR GIRL-FRIEND?



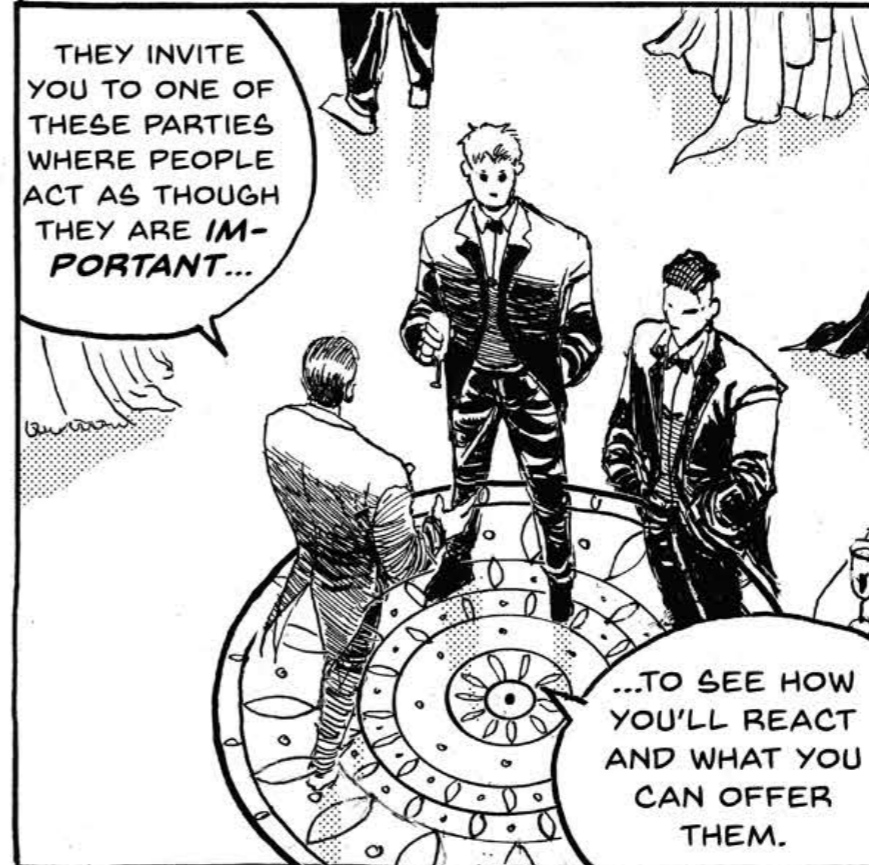
SHE'S NOT MY GIRL-FRIEND... SHE'S FINE.



...I TOLD HER I WAS PUSHED DUE TO THE MACHINE'S DEFENSE MECHANISMS...



I DON'T THINK SHE BELIEVED ME, BUT SHE GIVES ME THE VIBE THAT SHE LIKES THE MYSTERY AND CRAZY SHIT GOING ON AROUND ME, SO... WE ARE PROBABLY FINE.

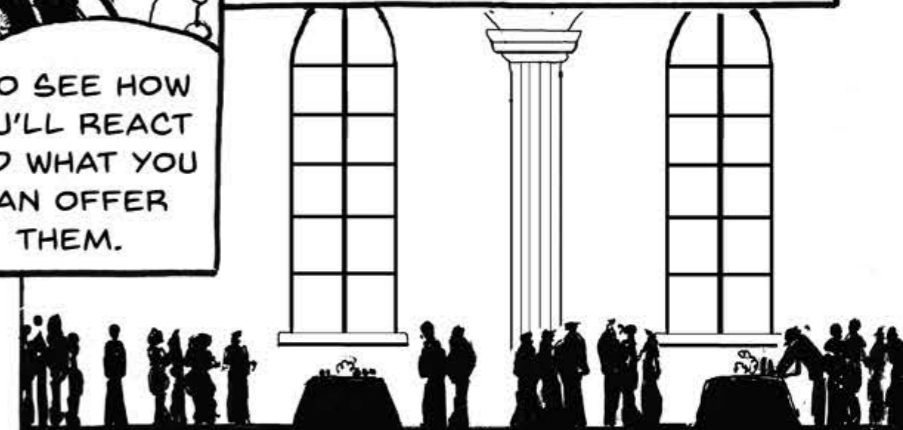


THEY INVITE YOU TO ONE OF THESE PARTIES WHERE PEOPLE ACT AS THOUGH THEY ARE IMPORTANT...

...TO SEE HOW YOU'LL REACT AND WHAT YOU CAN OFFER THEM.



WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? THESE PEOPLE HAVE MONEY, HOW ARE THEY NOT...?



MY ADVICE CONCERNING THE HEREMITES? LEAVE, NOW THAT YOU CAN STILL DO IT.

BUT SINCE YOU WON'T LEAVE, I'LL GIVE YOU ANOTHER ONE.



THE MOMENT YOU THINK YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THIS IS ABOUT, YOU'VE LOST.

NEVER STOP QUESTIONING.

AND NOW, TELL ME, WHAT OBLATION DID YOU BRING TO THEM?



OBLATION? OH, LIKE A GIFT...

ADAM SOUTHSON?
HE WAS ONE OF THE SUSPECTS OF UWANTE'S MURDER... WE KNOW WHERE HE IS.

IT'S GOOD INFORMATION BUT... IF ADAM IS STILL FREE, I DON'T THINK THEY'RE THAT INTERESTED IN...

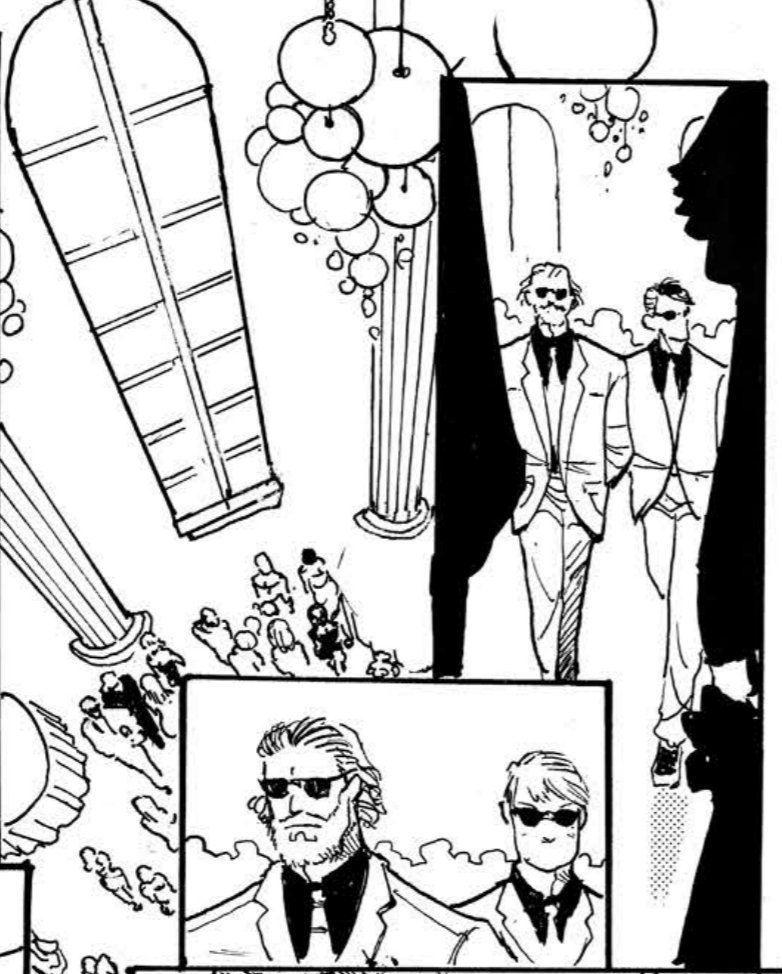
LOOK, LEAVE IT TO ME. IF IT'S WORTH ANYTHING, THEY'LL CONTACT YOU.

HOPEFULLY I'LL GET YOU A BETTER DEAL THAN WHAT YOU WOULD'VE GOTTEN IF THEY MET YOU ALONE, LADIES.

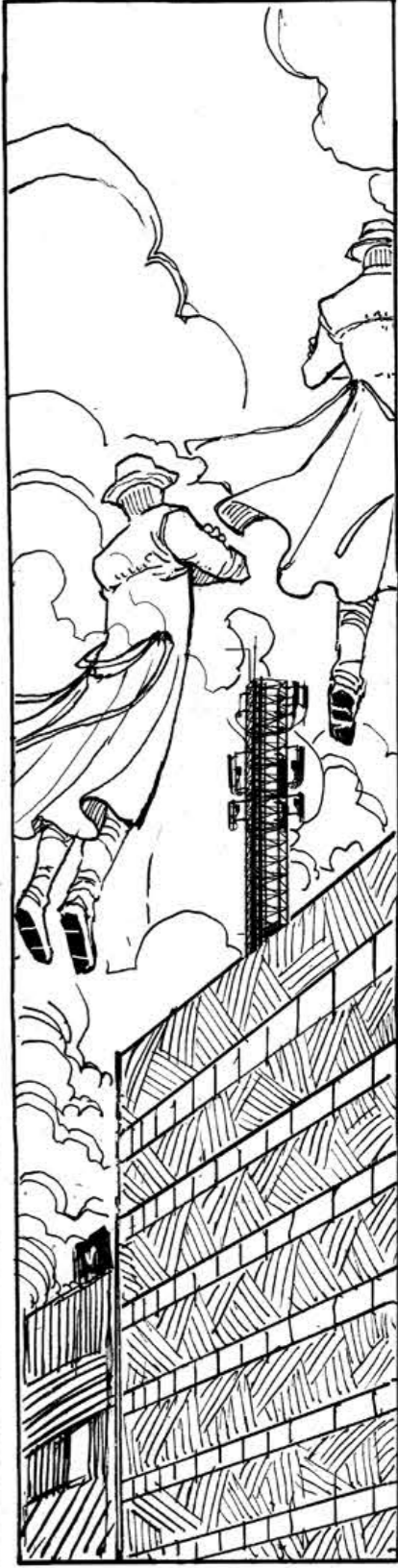
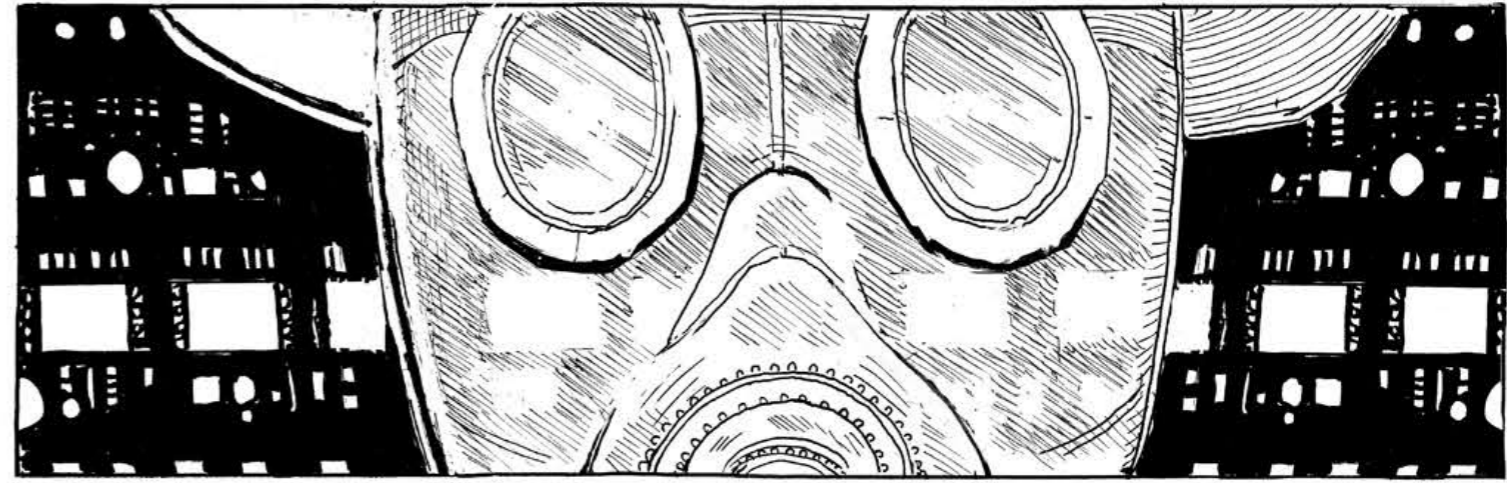


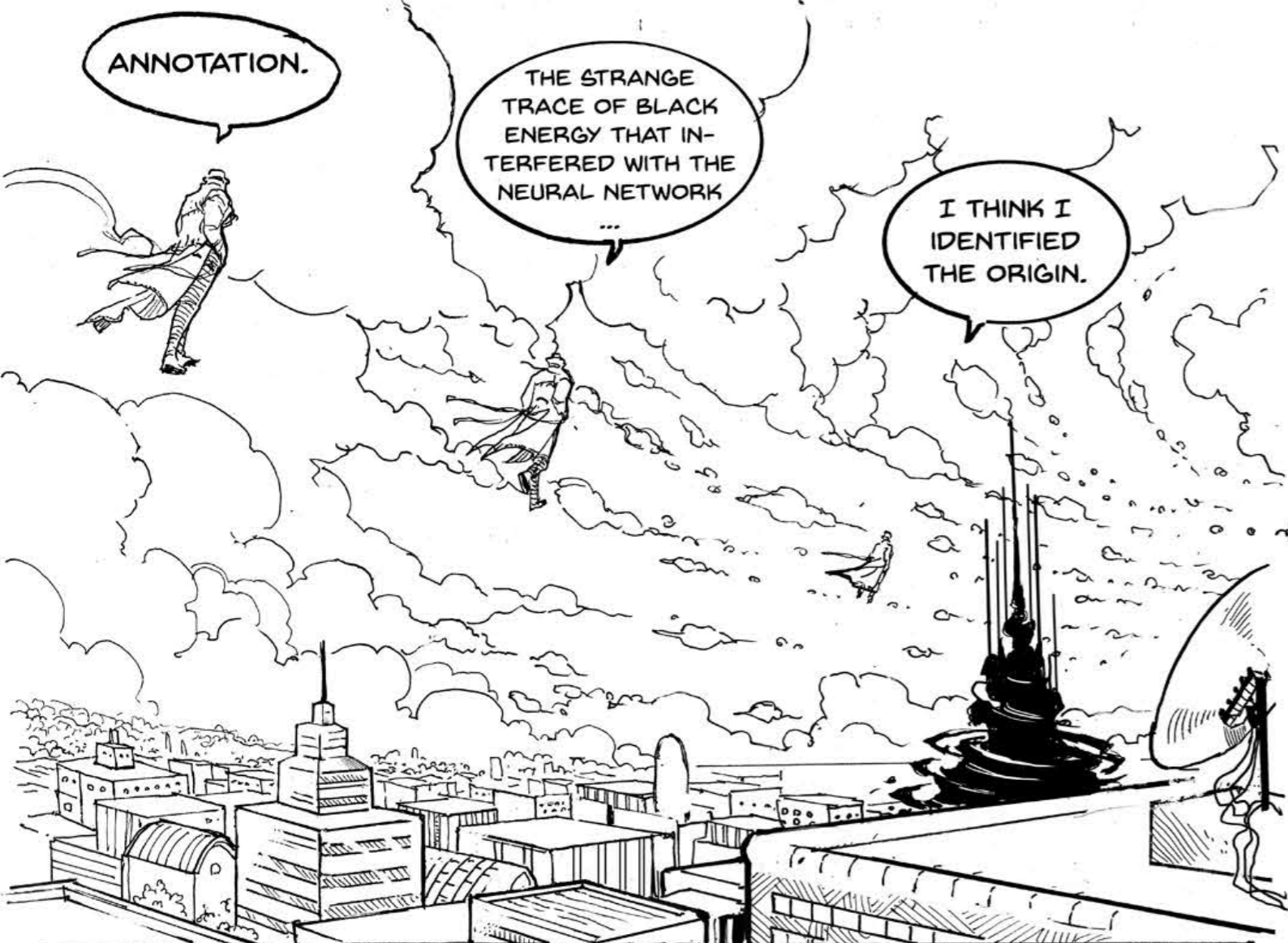
TALKING ABOUT THE DEVIL... SEE THOSE TWO?

"THOSE ARE THE REAL HERMITES".



THOSE GUYS WITH THE WHITE SUITS WALKING TOWARDS US?





ANNOTATION.

THE STRANGE TRACE OF BLACK ENERGY THAT INTERFERED WITH THE NEURAL NETWORK ...

I THINK I IDENTIFIED THE ORIGIN.

THIS BLACK ENERGY HAS TAKEN ROOT HERE.

IT IS, HOWEVER, *RESIDUE*, NOT GENERATOR.

YOU ALSO HAVE IT IN YOU, CHANGING AND STRENGTHENING YOURSELF.

... ASTRAL BEING ...

IT HAS A VERY STRANGE TEXTURE... HALF NIGHTMARE HALF PARADISE...

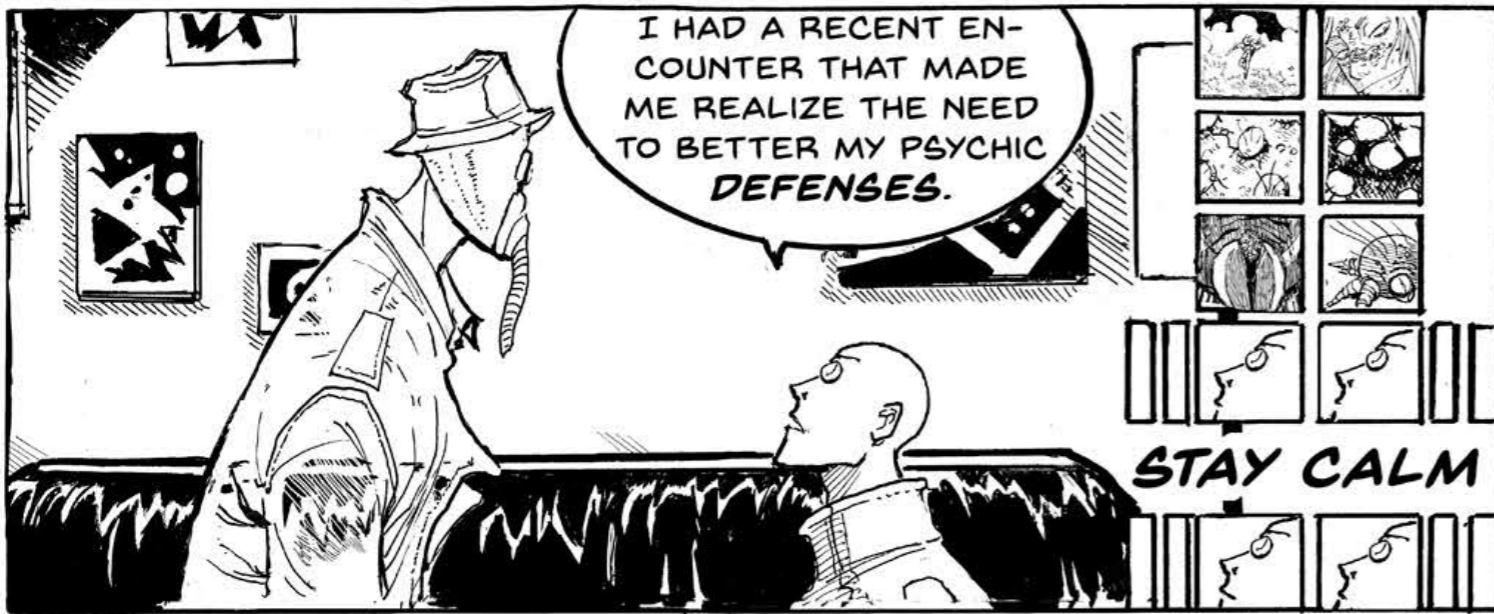
HMM ...



WHAT'S WITH THIS HOUSE THAT EMITS SO MUCH FORCE?



WHY CAN'T I READ YOUR MIND?



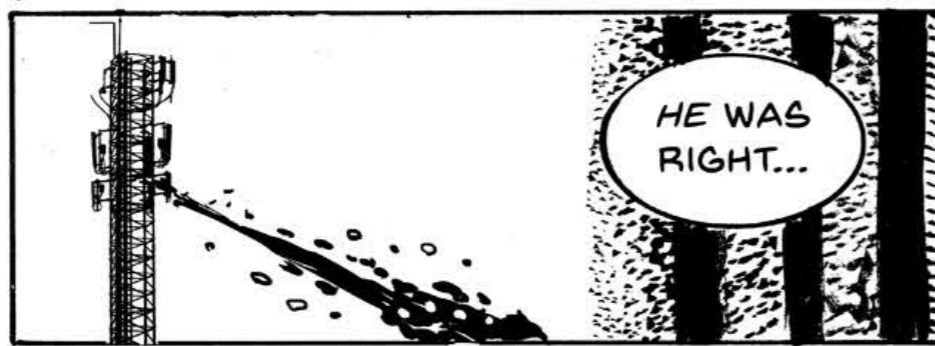
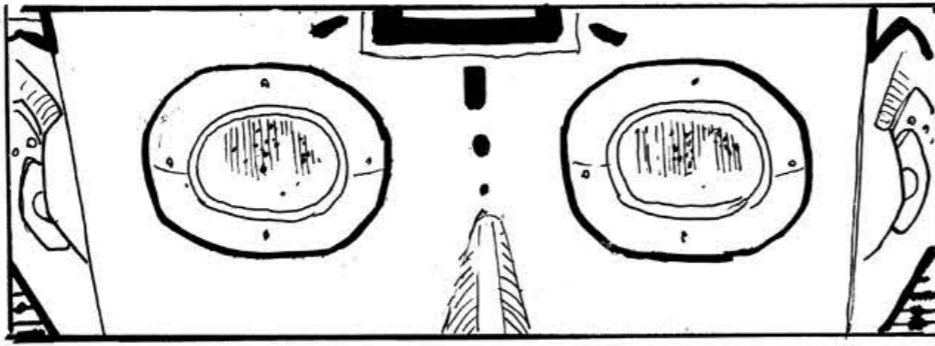
I HAD A RECENT ENCOUNTER THAT MADE ME REALIZE THE NEED TO BETTER MY PSYCHIC DEFENSES.

STAY CALM



TELL ME... THIS ENERGY, IS ITS ORIGIN A PERSON?

I THINK SO AT TIMES, BUT THE CLOSER I AM, THE MORE IT REPELS ME...

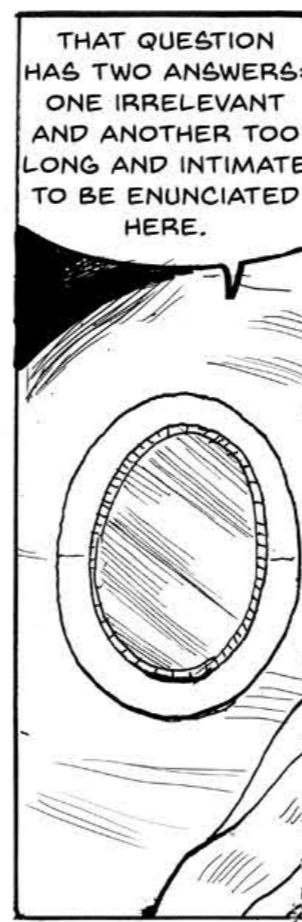


HE WAS RIGHT...



SOMETHING'S GOING ON WITH THE CELL TOWERS...

YOU ARE USING THEM TO AMP UP YOUR TELEPATHIC CAPABILITIES... WHO ARE YOU?



THAT QUESTION HAS TWO ANSWERS: ONE IRRELEVANT AND ANOTHER TOO LONG AND INTIMATE TO BE ENUNCIATED HERE.

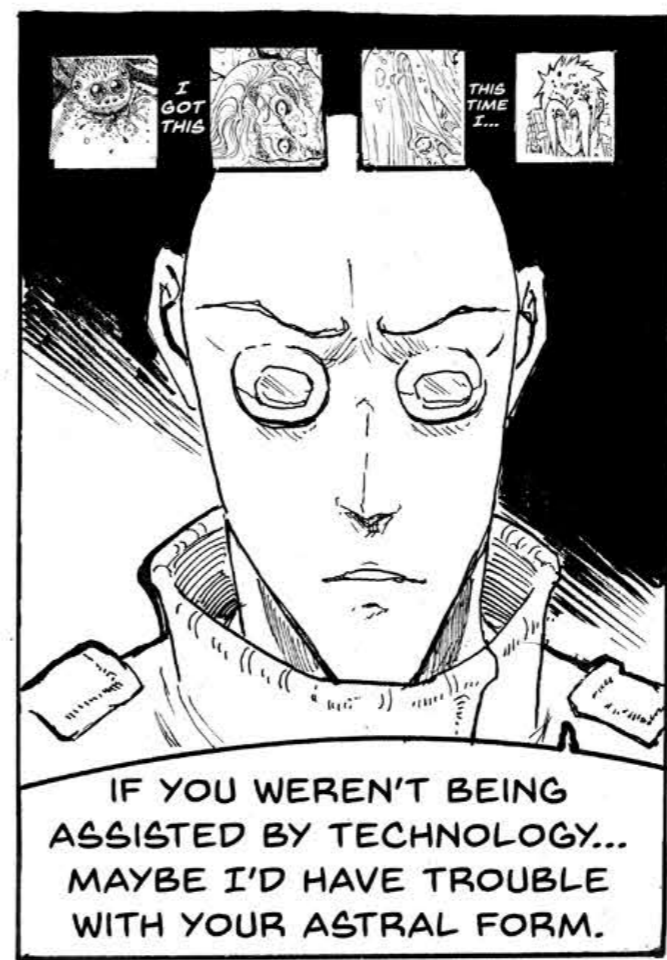


SLEEP.

NO. NOT THIS TIME.



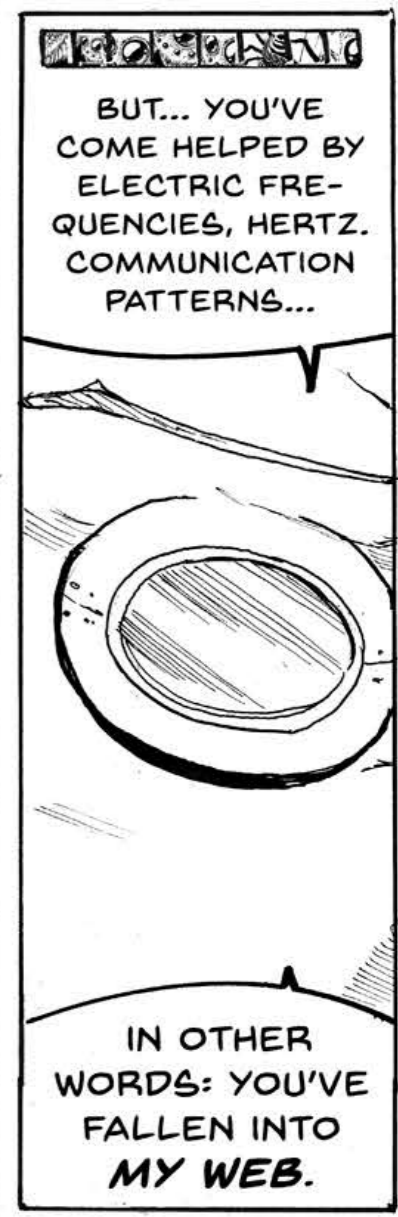
...



IF YOU WEREN'T BEING ASSISTED BY TECHNOLOGY... MAYBE I'D HAVE TROUBLE WITH YOUR ASTRAL FORM.

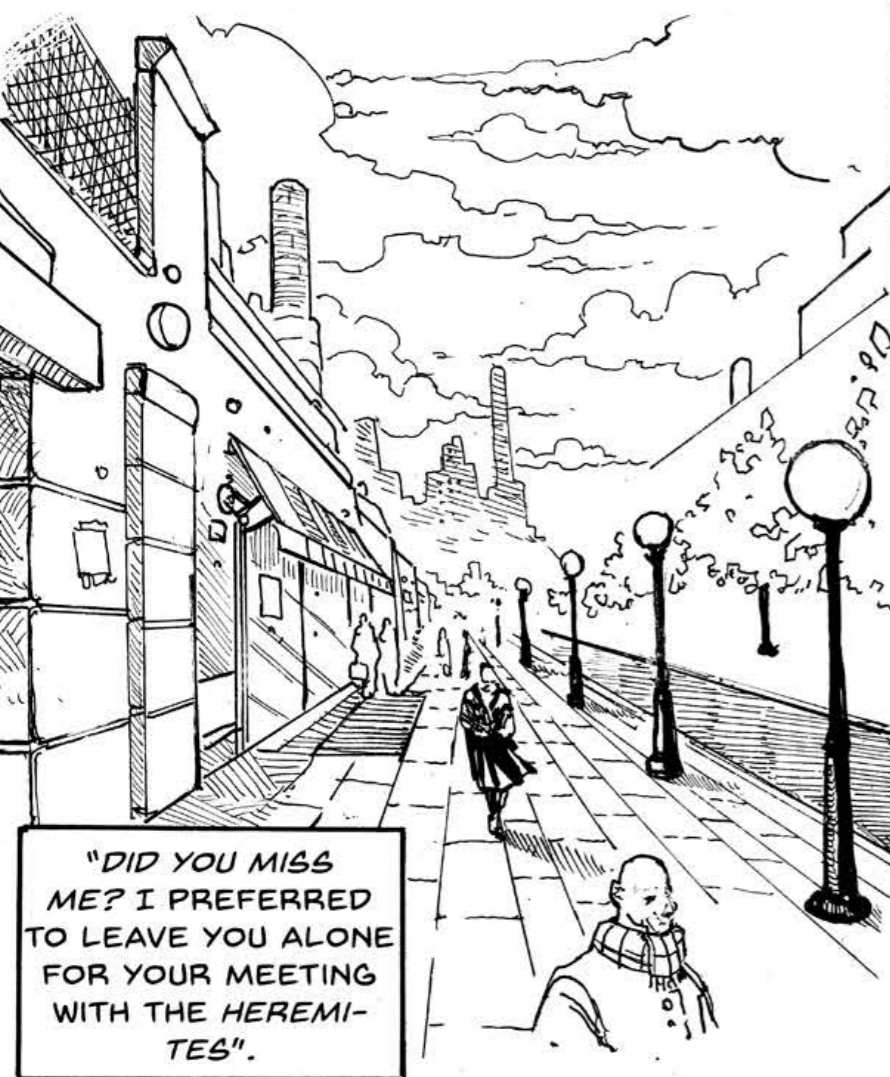
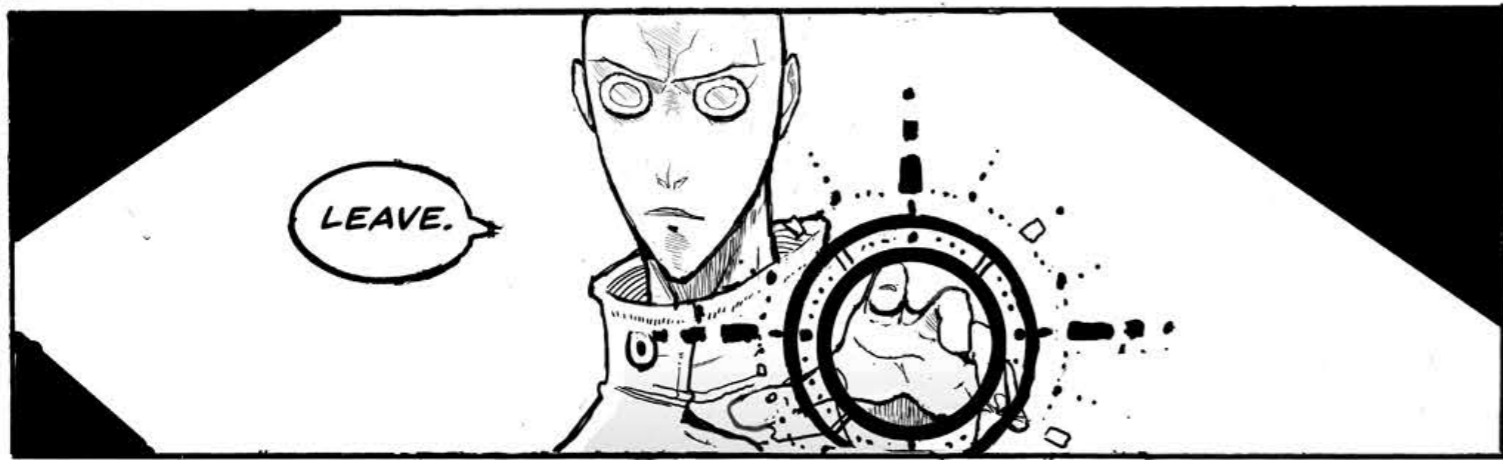
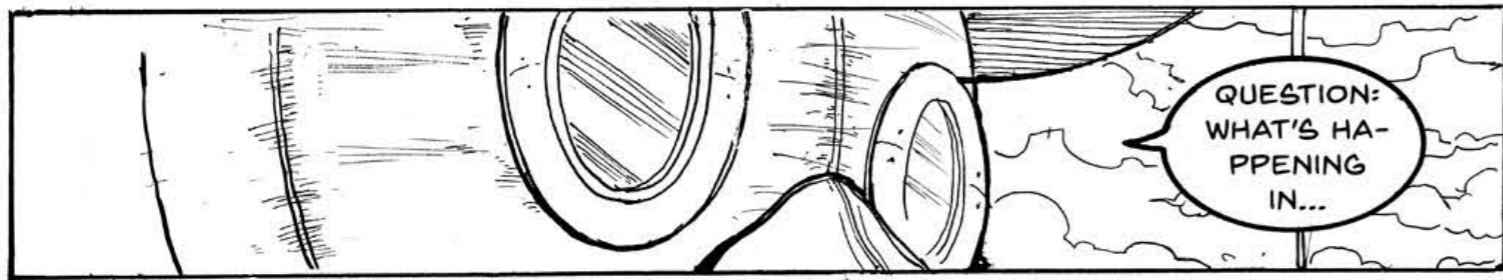


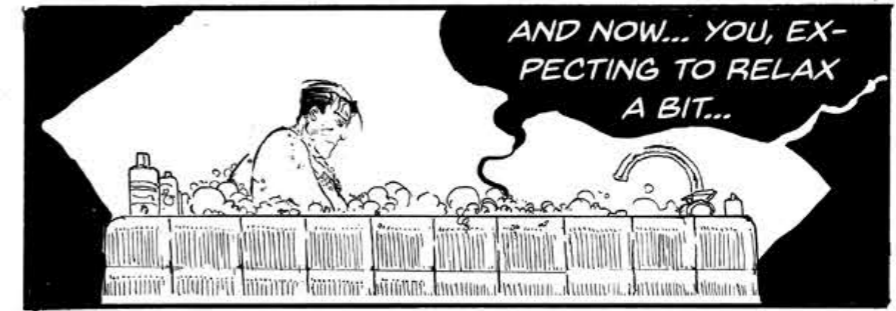
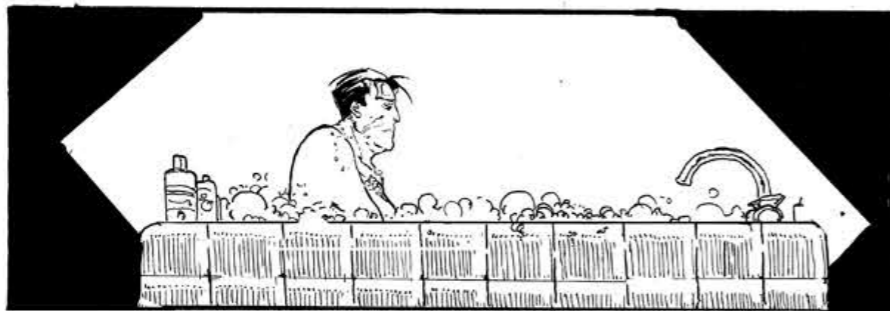
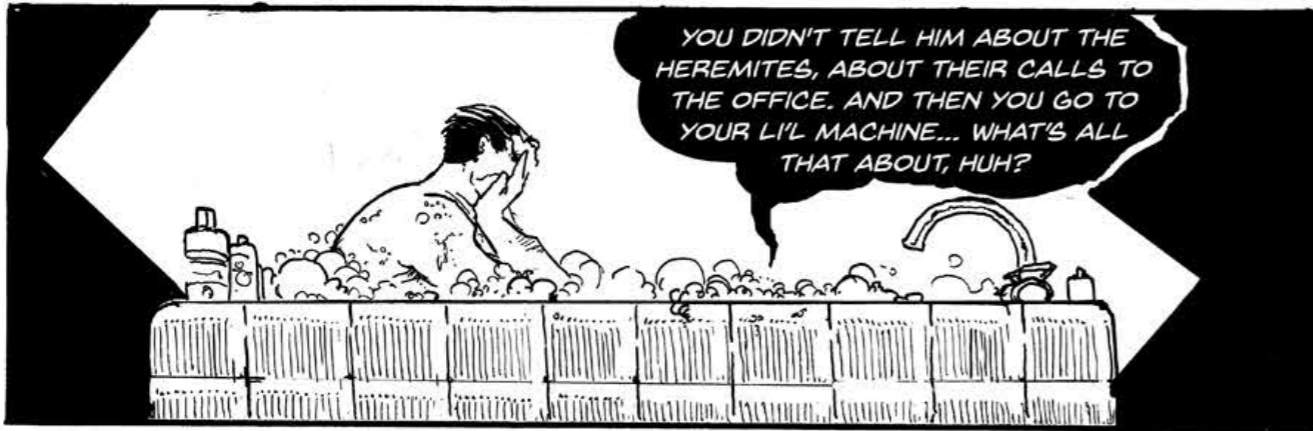
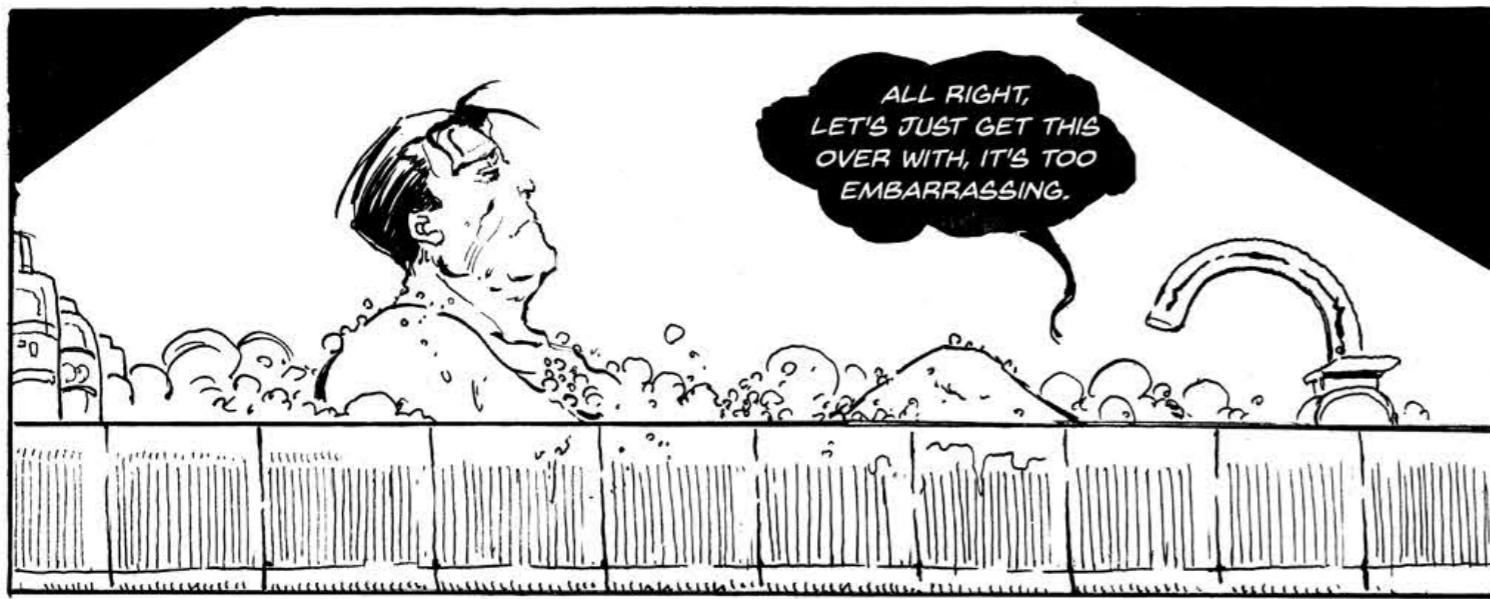
THE BANISHMENT SPELL WOULD TAKE ME LONGER, AND YOU MIGHT'VE BEEN ABLE TO RESIST THE ACT.



BUT... YOU'VE COME HELPED BY ELECTRIC FREQUENCIES, HERTZ. COMMUNICATION PATTERNS...

IN OTHER WORDS: YOU'VE FALLEN INTO MY WEB.







"YOU PROMISE?"



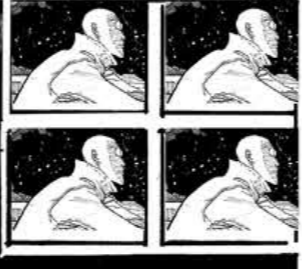
CALM DOWN, YOU DID WELL.



I WAS IN YOUR MIND, IACOBUS.



DO YOU WANT TO JUMP?



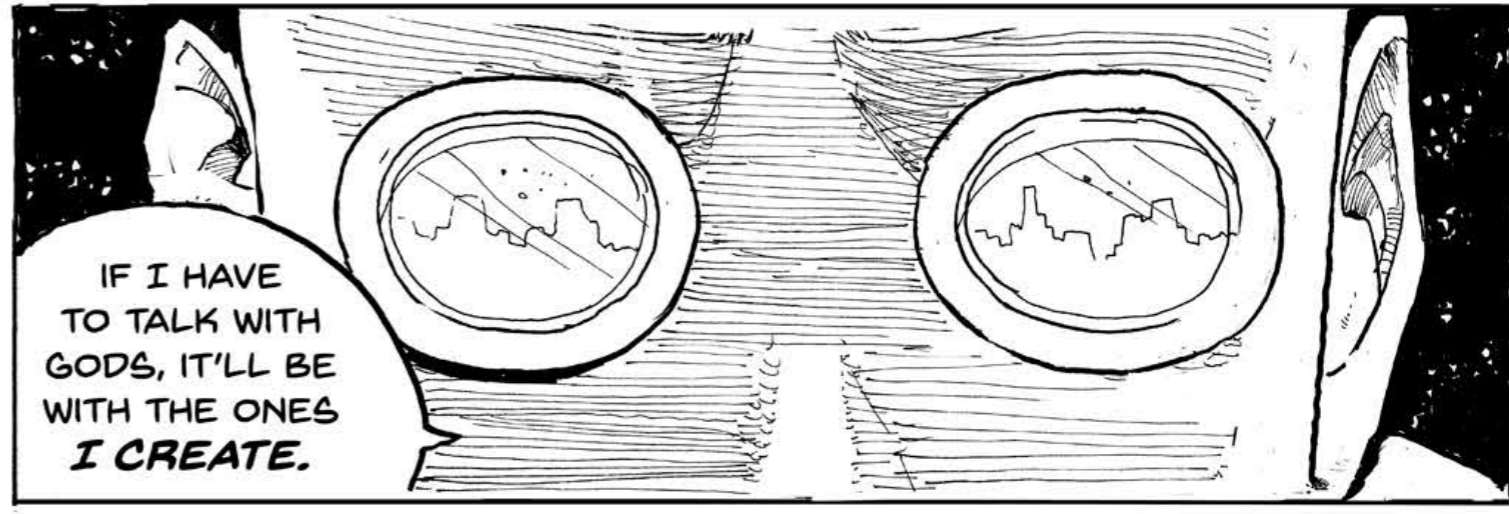
WHY DID YOU CREATE... WHAT WAS IT... CREEPER, TRUE? CREEPER AND ALL THE OTHER GODS OF SILICON AND SILICONE.

BECAUSE OF THINGS LIKE THIS RIGHT HERE. I DON'T WANT ANYONE ELSE IN MY MIND.



DID ALL OF YOU GET A DAY OFF AT THE CIRCUS OR WHAT? YOU'RE THE SECOND FREAK VISITING ME TODAY.

WHAT CAN I SAY, YOUR TACITURN DEMEANOR TURNS US INTO SHAMELESS SLUTS.



IF I HAVE TO TALK WITH GODS, IT'LL BE WITH THE ONES I CREATE.



WHY DID YOU INVENT YOUR OWN GODS, JACOB?

AND HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT?



DOES IT WORK? CAN YOU SUMMON THEM AS IF THEY WERE REGULAR GODS?

SURE. GODS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN SUPERMEMES, MEGAIDEAS.

WHO CARES WHAT NAME YOU GIVE TO THE IDEA OF RAGE, TO THE IDEA OF LOVE?



WHY ALL THIS INTEREST?

PLAIN ADMIRATION. SINCE I BECAME FLESH, DOING THINGS IS MORE DIFFICULT.



IF YOU *KNEW* WHAT I'VE HAD TO DO...

PUMPING INFORMATION OUT OF A GUY ON THE VERGE OF SUICIDE... IT WAS *UNEXPECTEDLY DIFFICULT*. I USED TO BE ABLE TO SEE YOUR WHOLE MIND, BUT NOW...



...I JUST SEE THE *SURFACE*. STILL, BETTER THAN BEING AN UNSTABLE IDEA JUST ONE FART AWAY FROM RETURNING TO THE ASTRAL PLASM, HUH?



ANYWAY. JACOB.

WE SHOULD TALK.

...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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