

UPSURGE 20:

INTERLUDIO I

SIMON M.
SCRIPT
PANEL LAYOUT
COVER
TRANSLATION
(SORRY, ENGLISH SPEAKERS)

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YOU HAVE SUPERHUMAN SPEED TOO?

IF I KNEW THAT YOU CAN GET THIS POWER WITHOUT FORMING A PACT WITH DEMONS I WOULD HAVE CONSIDER IT!

HAHAHAHAHA! TAKE THIS!

LET'S SEE, WHERE DO I BEGIN?

I WAS GOING TO USE MY SUMMER VACATION TO EXPLORE THE ***POWERS*** I GOT FROM... WELL... A WEIRD BOOK I DOWNLOADED FROM THE INTERNET...

IN IT, THERE WAS A RITUAL... THE ***RITUAL OF THE DOOR***. IT SOUNDED SO STUPID, I HAD TO TRY IT. SO I DID. SAID THE WORDS, DID THE VISUALIZATIONS.

THEN I OPENED MY EYES. NOTHING HAPPENED, IN THE BEGINNING. BUT, WHEN I TURNED ON THE TV... *YOUNG HEROES* WAS ON AND... MY HEAD WAS FLOATING LIKE IN THE RITUAL... AND ALL OF A SUDDEN I WAS IN THE TV, IN THE BACK-GROUNDS OF THE SHOW, ALBEIT WITH SOME CHANGES. LIKE, WHAT YOU SEE ON THE TV IS ONLY THE ***GOOD*** PARTS, YOU KNOW?

PIP

WHILE I WEAR THEM, I HAVE SUPERSPEED, LIKE HIM (THOUGH NOT AS FAST). BEST SHOES I'VE EVER HAD, IN MY OPINION.

ANYWAY, I SAW THUNDER'S SHOES (HE'S ONE OF THE SUPERHEROES OF THE SHOW), AND TOOK THEM.

HA HA HA

OH, YEAH... THIS GUY. I'VE YET TO WRITE WHAT'S ***HE*** DOING HERE, RIGHT?

HE'S THE CONSEQUENCE OF INVESTIGATING SOME RUMORS ABOUT SATANIC RITUALS... PEOPLE ON THE INTERNET SWEARED THAT, AFTER EXECUTING A RITUAL, A GUY BECAME SUPER-STRONG AND MUSCULAR...

...ARE YOU USING OUR TEACHINGS TO ***RAISE THE DEAD***?

...WHAT?

AS IF ALL THAT WASN'T STRANGE ENOUGH...

IF WE CAN LET OURSELVES BE POSSESSED BY DEMONS,

WHY DON'T ***RESURRECT*** THE DEAD?

...I FOUND A GROUP OF GUYS WHO WERE INVESTIGATING THESE RUMORS TOO... AND ALL OF THEM HAD POWERS.

TONY, SUPER-STRENGTH.

RUTH, TELEPATHY.

MIKE AND NIA, TWO BROTHERS THAT GENERATE ENERGY WHEN THEY ARE CLOSE TO EACH OTHER (YUP, THEY FIND IT LAME TOO).

THEIR POWERS... IT SEEMS THEY COME FROM SOME ***EXPERIMENTS***... ALL OF THEIR PARENTS WORK WITH THE GOVERNMENT, I THINK...

THEY ASSUMED THAT MY ABILITIES CAME FROM "SOME PILLS".

(I DID NOTHING TO REFUTE IT, BY THE WAY. THE RITUAL OF THE DOOR HAS YOU TAKING A ***VOW OF SILENCE*** "TO THOSE WHO HEAR BUT DON'T LISTEN", SO... JUST IN CASE.)

KEEP YOUR FOCUS IN BRINGING THE POWER OF LOW-RANK DEMONS TO YOUR BODY.

DON'T TRY MAGIC ABOVE YOUR SKILL, IT'LL BITE YOU IN THE ASS.

C'MON, GO TO THE MANOR.

AND I WOULD BE REALLY HAPPY BEING ABLE TO TALK, ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY DON'T BELIEVE THAT THESE GUYS' ABILITIES TRULY COME FROM SOME FORM OF ***BLACK MAGIC.***

YOU'RE NOT COMING?

JUST A SECOND.

HH.

BAD LUCK, CHIEF.

YOU WERE GOING TO BE REVIVED, AND NOW YOU'RE A TOILET.

ZIP!

HEH. NOT LIKE YOU'RE GONNA COMPLAIN.

WHAT A ***JERK.***

ALLISON, WE'VE FOUND THE MANOR WHERE THE CULT ***MEETS!*** I'M IMPLANTING YOU THE MEMORY OF THE WAY THERE.

OK. I'M FOLLOWING SOME OF THE MEMBERS... I THINK THEY'RE ALSO HEADING THERE.

RUTH?

BE CAREFUL.

OH, PLEASE. THEY'RE JUST A BUNCH OF FANATICS WITH ACCESS TO SUPERDRUGS OR SOMETHING. ***SIGIL OF M***, I THINK THEY CALL THEMSELVES. THEY'RE NUTS!

I'M SERIOUS!

MY FATHER'S THE SAME, IT'S ALL DAWKINS THIS AND DAWKINS THAT, THE MYSTERIES OF THE WORLD ARE ALL HOAXES OR SCAMS.

"SKEPTICS".

THEY COULD HAVE THE UFO'S IN THEIR FACE AND IT'D STILL BE "GAS POCKETS CAUSING LIGHT DISTORTIONS".

SOMETHING VERY WEIRD IS GOING ON AND ***NO ONE*** WANTS TO SEE IT! MAYBE IT'S TRUE THAT THE SUN IS CHANGING...

RGFF

DON'T THEY SEE THE DANGER IN IGNORING THESE THINGS?

PIP

OH GOD. OH SHIT. WHAT DID I JUST DO?

GOOD-BYE!

RUNRUN-RUNRUN-RUNRUN

WHY AM I THE ONLY ONE AROUND WHEN WEIRD STUFF HAPPENS?

THOSE GUYS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO RE-SURRECT THE DEAD!

AAAAAAAA

AND JUST THEN, RUTH CONTACTS ME.

WITH A *PSYCHIC SCREAM.*

SHE WASN'T EVEN ASKING FOR HELP. JUST *SCREAMING.*

RUTH?

JUST *SCREAMING* ...

...AS IF... ...AS IF...

ZOOM!

HERE. IN THE HOUSE. THEY.

YOU'RE HERE.

I'M HERE NOW, RUTH.

DO YOU HEAR ME?

RUTH?

ARE YOU THERE?

OH GO...!

I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON... SHE DOESN'T MOVE, ***NO ONE*** DOES. THEY ALL HAVE A VACANT LOOK.

RUTH? RUTH?

WHY DON'T YOU...?

HAVEN'T YOU SEEN WASHINGTON'S ***MONUMENT***?

IT CRACKED. IT'S OUR ***CHANCE.***

I KNOW, BUT THE INNER CIRCLE...

...ARE COMPLETELY DISCONNECTED FROM REALITY. THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE.

BUT, SPAIN? YOU WILL REALLY GO TO SPAIN? YOU WON'T HAVE ACCESS TO THE POWER OF THE BEAST, THERE...

DON'T WORRY, I'LL TAKE MY ***HUSBAND*** WITH ME.

YOU KNOW YOU NEVER GOT INTO THE INNER CIRCLE FOR THINGS LIKE ***THAT***, RIGHT?

BECAUSE I USE MY HUSBAND'S CONDITION TO OBTAIN SOME SUPPLEMENTARY POWER?

WE ALL REMEMBER YOUR MOCKERY ABOUT HIS INFERTILITY.

IS MOCKERY ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU THINK THAT... WHAT, THAT I LEFT HIM COMATOSE? WHAT DO YOU THINK I AM, A MONSTER?

...SO YOU'RE REALLY GOING TO GRAB ***SATAN'S HAND***? THEY SAY IT GIVES BLACK VIBRATIONS...

THAT MAY BE THE KEY TO OBTAIN THE ***EARTH ELEMENT***, AND ONE OR THE OTHER MAY BE OF USE TO SUBJUGATE THAT DAMNED BEAST. WHAT'S THE POINT OF HAVING IT, OTHERWISE?

WE HAVE TO TRY.

ANYWAY, WHAT DO WE ***DO*** WITH THE GOVERNMENT'S KIDS?

YOU'VE GOT 'EM DEEP INSIDE NIGHTMARES; THEY WON'T EVER RECOVER.

PRECISELY BECAUSE THEY ARE MENTALLY CRIPPLED I PROPOSE AN ACT OF ***COMPASSION***: USE THEM FOR SOME RITUAL WITH THE NOVICES.

WELL, WELL.

THERE'S ANOTHER KID OVER HERE!

SHOULD I ***BREAK*** HER NECK?

DON'T WORRY CHILD, THERE IS NO NEED.

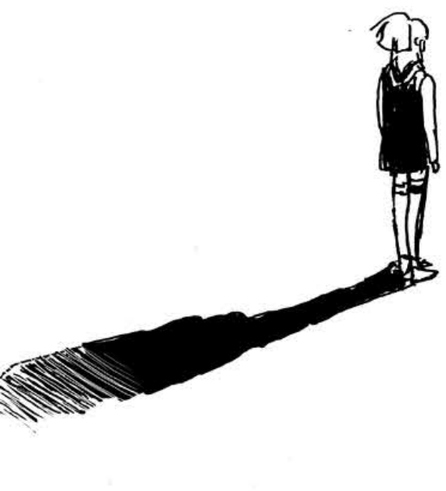
CLAC

Richard Dawkins the selfish gene

NOTHING MATTERS.

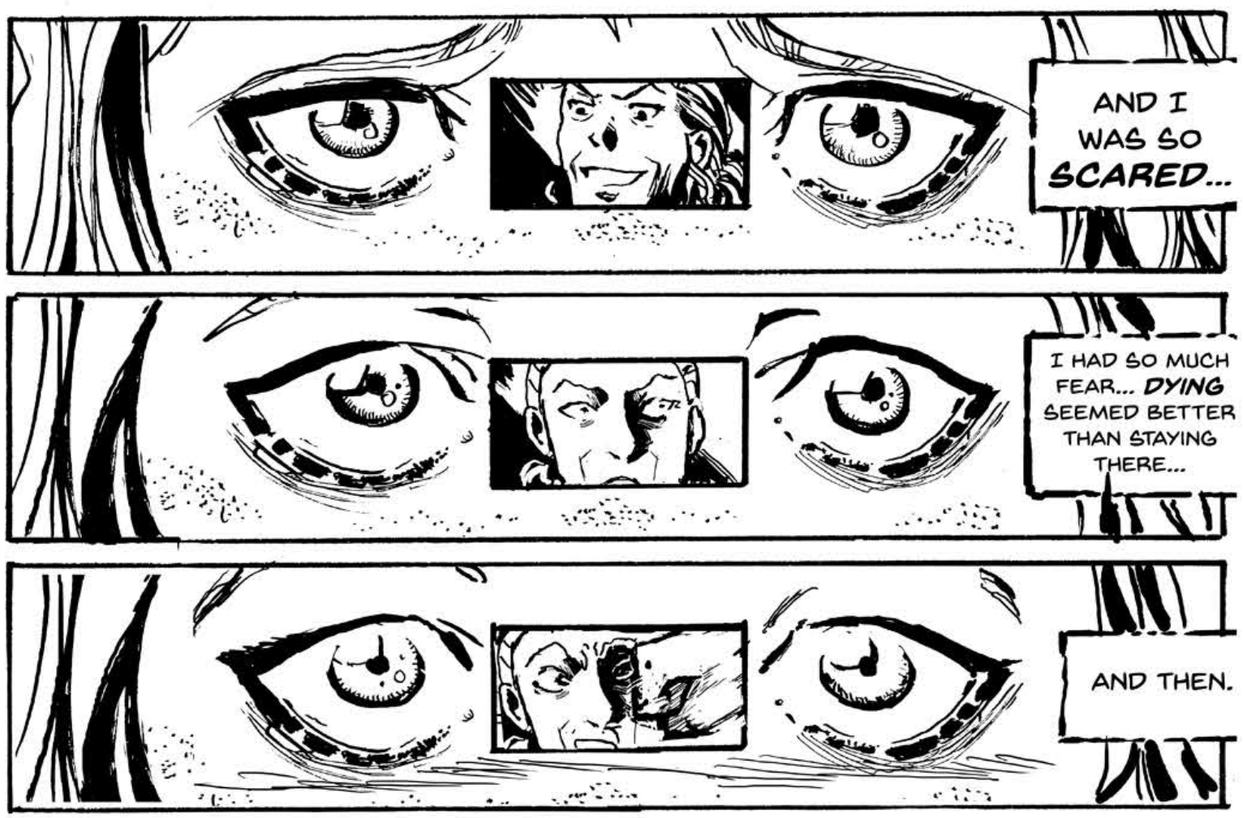
FOR A MOMENT...

...I SAW MY LIFE FROM OUTSIDE... I SAW A DINNER THAT NEVER ENDS, AND MY FATHER... HAD A ***HOLE*** IN HIS CHEST, AND I KNEW HE WAS DISAPPOINTED IN ME FOR CHOOSING FINE ARTS... AND HE ACTED SO LIFELESS AND HIS EYES DIDN'T SHINE.





I SAW... I SAW MYSELF FIGHTING WITH HIM... ME TELLING HIM ABOUT MY ABILITIES, AND HIM NOT BELIEVING THEY COME FROM MAGIC SO HE TAKES ME TO A ***LAB***... I SEE THEM MAKING TEST AFTER TEST TO KNOW WHY I CAN DO WHAT I CAN DO...





YES, I DEBATED AN ASTROLOGER THE OTHER DAY. CAN YOU ***BELIEVE*** IT, IN THIS DAY AND AGE?

DID YOU SEE IT, ALLISON? IT'S ON THE WEB. IT HAS 2000 VIEWS!

YOU ONLY FOCUSED ON THAT SUN SIGN NONSENSE THAT EVEN ASTROLOGERS DON'T USE! HOW CAN YOU CRITICIZE SOMETHING YOU HAVEN'T BOTHERED TO ***LEARN***?

WHAT DOES IT

I'M SO ***TIRED*** OF THIS.

MENT OF CELES-TIAL BODIES...

DAD, YOU DON'T EVEN ***KNOW*** HOW ASTROLOGY WORKS.

YOU SHOULD TAKE YOUR FATHER'S WORK MORE SERI-OUSLY, ALLY.

THE WORLD IS FULL OF IGNORANCE AND PRE

TO

THEY HAVEN'T SEEN WHAT I HAVE SEEN. AND I WOULD NEVER TELL THEM, EITHER. WHY WOULD I? THEY WOULD CAUSE A SCENE AND LOOK AT ME LIKE I'M ***CRAZY.***

HOW WOULD YOU EX-PLAIN THAT HORRIBLE OLD WITCH'S HALLUCI-NATIONS? HOW WOULD YOU EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED TO MY GROUP, HUH?

TONY WOKE FROM THE TRANCE AND STARTED TO SELF-HARM. MIKE AND NIA ARE ON A PSYCH WARD, HIM CATATONIC AND HER WITH CONSTANT PSYCHOTIC BREAKS. AND RUTH...

OH, ***GOD.***

...DOUG HAS INVI- D HIS ULD GO DURING MY SUMMER VACATION...

I'VE DECIDED TO ACCEPT AUNT MELISSA'S PRO-POSAL AND GO TO FRANCE.

WHAT? ALL OF A SUDDEN?

ALLY, EUROPE'S IN ***CRISIS!***

I WAITED IN MY ROOM TILL I HEARD THEM LEAVE.

WE'RE GOING TO FRANCE. END OF *AUGUST*, PROBABLY.

SO WE HAVE SOME TIME BEFORE TO SEE IF YOUR AMNESIA, Y'KNOW, HEALS ITSELF OR WHATEVER. IF NOT...

FRANCE IS ONE OF THE COUNTRIES WITH MORE PRESENCE OF THE CULT OF THE ONE. MAYBE WE CAN LEARN SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR IDENTITY THERE...

THE FEW CHURCHES OF YOUR CULT HERE IN THE STATES DON'T ORDAIN PRIESTS, AND THEY ARE SO STINGY WITH PERSONAL INFORMATION... I DON'T EVEN HAVE YOUR LAST NAME. I WOUDLN'T EVEN HAVE YOUR NAME, IF IT WASN'T FOR THE TOMBST...

THHAN... THHHAAAN-KKYYY...

HE EATS A LOT, AND FAST...

STILL CAN'T SPEAK WELL, HUH?

...IT'S STRANGELY RELAXING.

...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!

LINKS:

OUR PATREON -> ***PATREON.COM/UPSURGE***

OUR FACEBOOK -> ***FACEBOOK.COM/UPSURGECOMIC***

THROW SOME PEANUTS TO THE APE -> ***TWITTER.COM/SIMONOGATARI***