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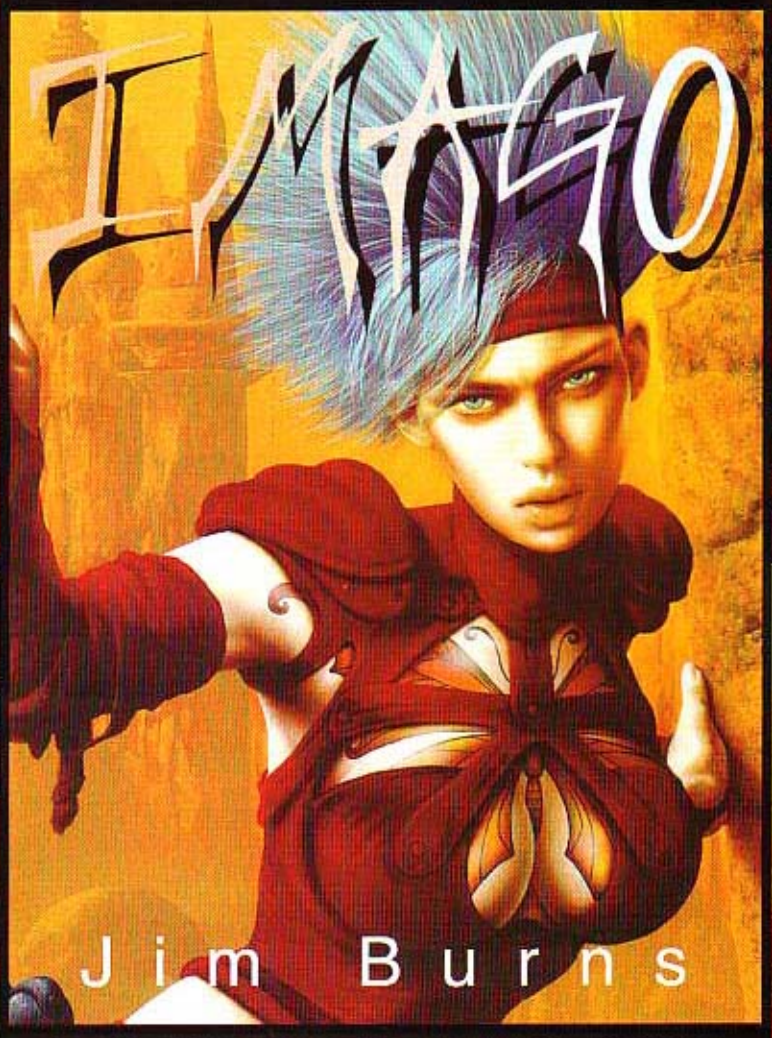

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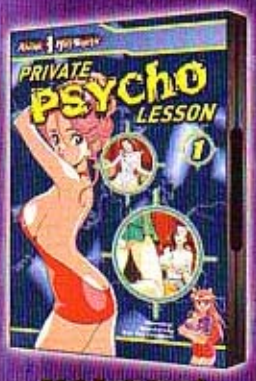

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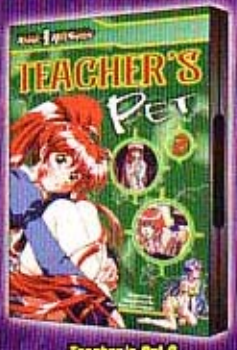

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Body-Building © SEFAM/ALBIN MICHEL BD, 1999, Autheman.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Hey Gang!

Welcome to the July issue of Heavy Metal, thrilled to have you back with us once again! This issue typically ships just before the San Diego Comic Convention and I always like to promote who's going to be there—but we don't have the final list yet! Gahh! I can tell you I'll be there, Simon Bisley will be there, and of course fan favorite "Howie"—but we're still waiting on confirmation from Lorenzo Sperlonga, Luis Royo, and we had word that "Keepers of the Maser" creator/artist Massimiliano Frezzato might come, but still waiting on the final word. Once we get the final list we'll post it on the website with signing days/times, so keep checking back there.

This month is a fun issue over all, but I always say that don't I? We tried something different with the feature story. We were working with a video game company, "Sammy Studios" that created a video game called "DarkWatch". We were going to tie in the release of the issue with the release of the game, which is a killer game by the way, but the company was sold at the last minute, and the game's release was pushed back a bit, but we still wanted to run the story because it is so cool. Some of the main characters (sexy babes of course) from the game are on the cover. Cool beans.

I love Arthur Suydam, and it seems a lot of Heavy Metal fans are as thrilled as I am to see him back in the magazine on a regular basis! This is the fourth "Mudwogs" installment since he's been back, and we've got more to come. Also returning, after being away too long is Tayyar Ozkan's "Caveman" series—we'll be sliding in more of his "shorts" as often as we can. Our ol' pal Carlo Bocchio brings us another twisted tale with "The Last Battle", as does my good buddy Nate Van Dyke with "Roadside Service." Great job boys, always glad to have you in da house.

One of the newest regulars, writer Eric James Kraus (who had his first story in our May 05 issue) has teamed up with artist Steven R Cobb again for another cool yarn with "Petra's Tale", and the fantastic trio of Corcal, Chevillard, and Palenstijn jump back on board with their third sweet short story for all their new U.S. fans. It seems we've got a reunion theme going here, as German writer Josef Rother pens another funky short for artist Eckart Breitschuh to render, and regulars Karl Kofoed and S.C. Ringgenberg deliver their usual top shelf goods.

The gallery this time out is as beautiful as they come as artist Lucio Parrillo shows off what he can do, and we've got two cool up and coming stars, Richard Santos as our featured artist, and Steven McMoorn on the back cover. Looking forward to your thoughts on the work of these gentlemen, as well as the final two shorts, "Body-Building" by Autheman, and "Trenches" by Damascus Mincemeyer.

Well that covers all the fun we have in store for you for this issue—besides reading Heavy Metal, I hope you all have gotten the chance to see some of the spring/summer blockbusters like "Sin City" and the final episode of "Star Wars" to name a few. The message boards on heavymetal.com have become a great "sounding off" place for movie and music reviews, so if you all have any thoughts on movies and music, from the big to the little, come on over and hang with the gang there—beside we always get a pile of new photo updates and original art for sale up each week. Cool beans.

Okay, I'm outta here for this month. See you in sixty days back here, or come see what I'm up to in my online gig, "What's On My Brain" on the site.

Cheers kids!

Kip Eastman

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear H.M,
I just read "Requiem #3: Dracula"... Oh my! Blew me away... I was looking about to see if I can get my hands on the others but I have only seen it in the original French version. My French is very, very poor... Anybody know where I can get my hands on the others in English.

—Tea

Dear Tea,
Thanks for your note about the third installment of "Requiem" featured in our January issue. It has quickly become one of the top stories/fan favorite of the magazine. "Requiem #1" ran in the March 2003 issue and "Requiem #2" ran in the March 2004 issue. We have issue #4 in house and plan to get that out as soon as possible. I understand that installment #5 has just been released in Europe. So we'll get that in the pipeline as well.

Dear H.M.,
Ahhhh... the Middle Earth Special featuring "Korrigans #2" and "A Bit of Madness #4" is incredible. Mosdi and Civiello never cease to put a smile on my face! Civiello makes me want to break all my pencils and inspires all at the same time. Great issue!

—AP Furtado

Dear AP,
I know what you mean, dude. I love Civiello's work and was thrilled to have the fourth and final installment of "A Bit of Madness" and the second and final installment of "Korrigans" both in the same issue. Looking forward to seeing what he does next.

Dear H.M.,
Uhh... the Middle Earth Special was not my cup of tea. The Special issues are often disappointing to me. Not enough short stories and no prose.

—Madbandit

Dear Madbandit,
Thanks for the input. That is the beauty of Heavy Metal. You might not care for one or more of the stories in the magazine or even dislike an entire issue. But it seems everybody tends to find a few gems in there. The coolest part is even if you dislike an entire issue, you'll still grab the next one to see what you can find. As far as the Specials go, in general we have gotten letters in the past that like the regular edition format better but we've gotten a lot more that like the "meat" of two full graphic novels in one themed issue. We'll keep doing the Specials for now unless there's a real uprising from the fans.

Dear H.M.,
I can half-agree with you about the Specials. I'd rather see more short stories (most of the time). But it's also a matter of taste. If I can get a big dose of someone like Civiello, there's no complaining here.
I forgot to mention the great cover by Bisley. Something I just noticed after having the magazine sitting on my desk for a day, is that besides the obviously "Julie" inspired elf... her dwarfish companions strike a similar likeness to "2 Drunk Idiots"! Very cool!

—Tweendude

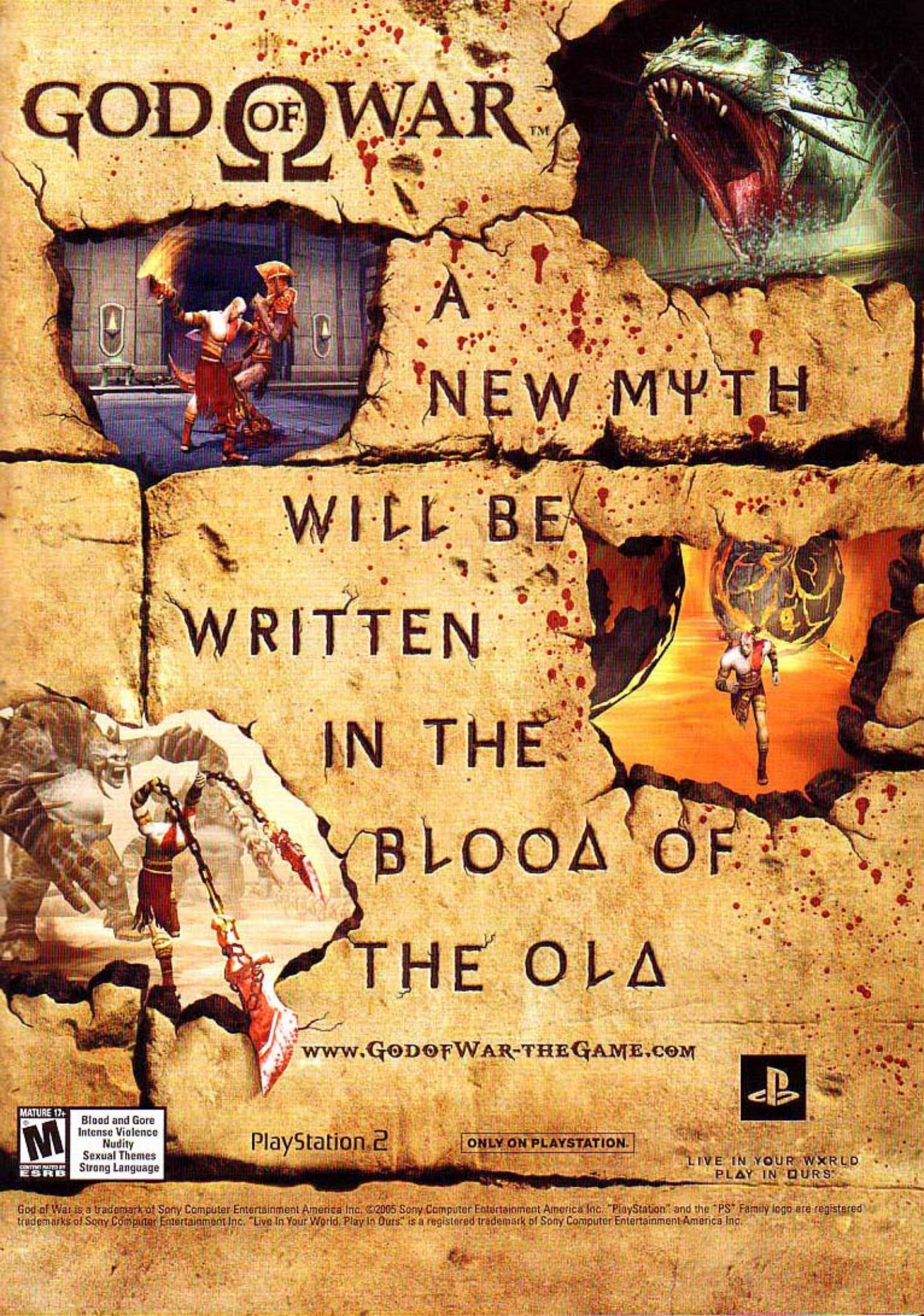
Dear Tweendude,
Thanks for the thoughts and love the fact that you spotted me, Simon and Julie as "Lord of the Rings" like characters on the cover. Cool beans!

Dear H.M.,
Go to www.badmovies.org to see reviews, audio and video clips of movies that haven't won the Oscars because of their campy style or no style at all. It's pretty cool. You should talk about it in the mag.

—Bandit

Dear Bandit,
Cool website. Everyone should check it out.

Check out our web-site at: www.heavymetal.com



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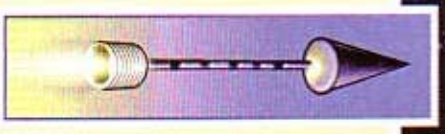
Inside: A ROGUE SINGULARITY

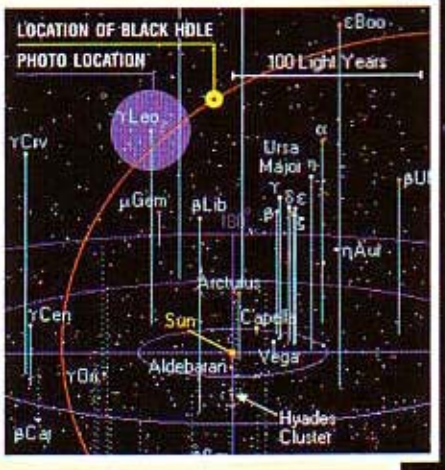
Scientists get a rare close-up look at a wandering 'black hole'.

"I THOUGHT MY EYES WERE PLAYING TRICKS ON ME..."

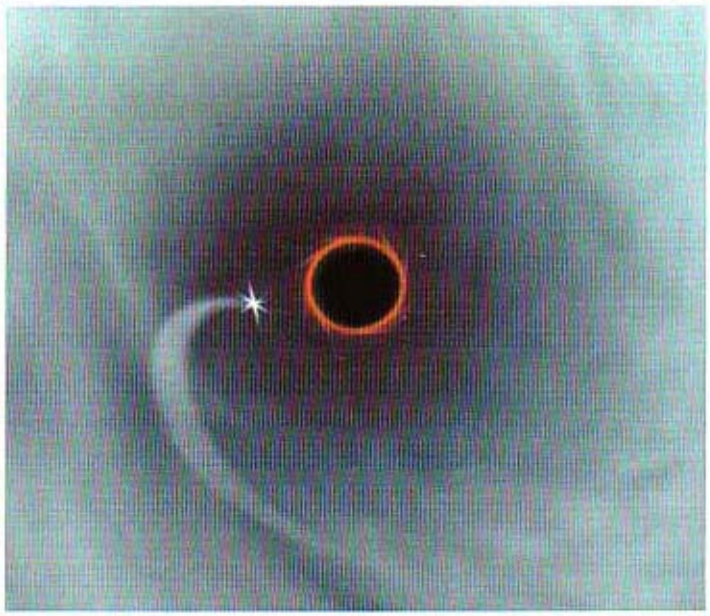


SPECIALLY DESIGNED PROBE - MEASURES TIME DISTORTIONS ENCOUNTERED ENTERING A GRAVITY WELL. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ONE HAS BEEN SENT INTO A BLACK HOLE.

The words of the captain of the Galactic Geographic research vessel *Carl Sagan* were echoed by the crew of her sister ship *Goddard*, when they too saw this "rogue" singularity for themselves. "It caught us by surprise," recalls Captain John Wysor, a lanky spacer pilot with over thirty years of deep space experience. "It caught us in a thermo-sleep," he recalls with a laugh. "We were headed right for it, coming out of Geedrive plannin' 't use the giant planet's gravs t' slow us down." Wysor raises a finger. " No ship'd ever seen one before. Comin' outa sleepy's no way to face something that needs exploring." Wysor smiles, recalling his crew's consternation. "We calmed down a bit when we learned it was small ... only a million suns, maybe. Our instruments put it on a path out of Federation lanes. No worries." Wysor takes a philosophical view now as he recalls the event that took a week from his life. "Two crews on two ships lost a week, preparing and launching probes into a black hole at close range," adds Wysor. "The probe being fired here is three meters long. Along its shaft neutronium microspheres sensed changes as it fell into the hole. The data was fired back to the *Goddard* by a ring of UV lasers in the probe's tail."



Only limited data was received, from the probe, yielding inconclusive results, but the hole is being tracked for future observation. The chart here shows that humans have little to fear from this marauding singularity. Nicknamed "Black Light" by those tracking her, this tiny bubble in time and space will follow its chosen path forever. "Nothing can make her change her course," Wysor notes with a wry smile, "unless it meets up with another, bigger, wandering singularity."



A TRIP TO INFINITY? A Geographic team's robotic probe begins a one-way journey into a 'rogue singularity' giving scientists an opportunity to test what happens when matter falls directly into a gravity well ... this one carrying the mass of several million suns.

The Galactic Geographic is designed written and illustrated by Karl Kofoed
www.GalacticGeographic.com

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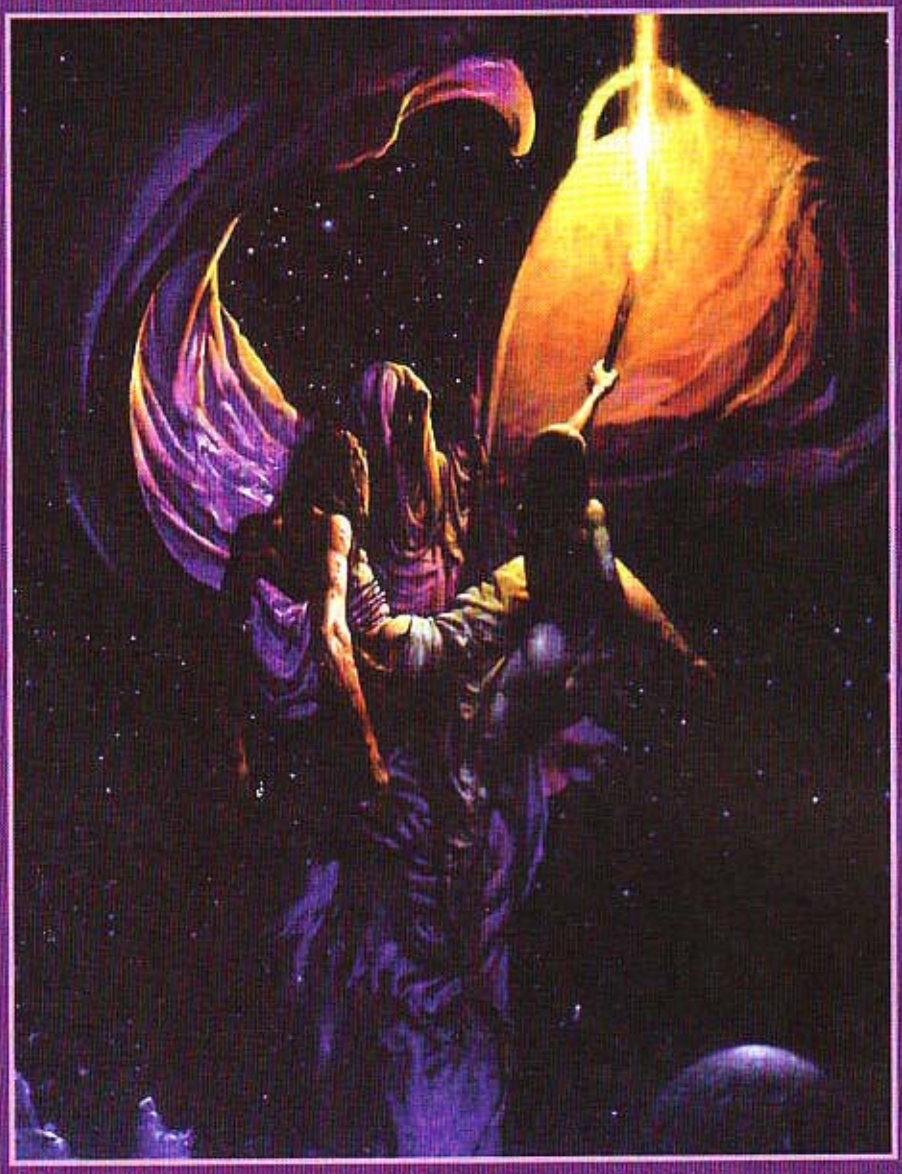

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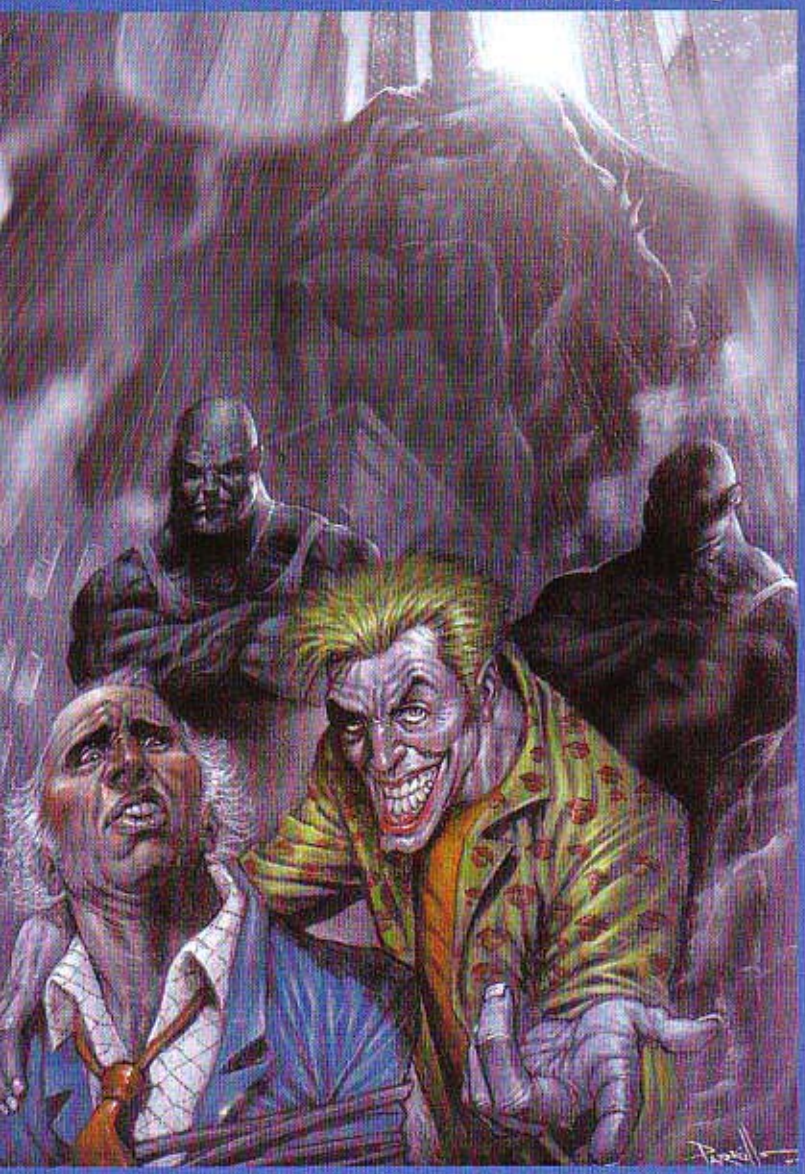
LUCIO PARRILLO

. . . WAS BORN ON JANUARY 30, 1974.

In 1990 he began working for the newspaper, *Il Cavatore*.

He also worked for the comic magazine, *Color*. At the same time he made some illustrations for the magazine, *Citta*. In 1994, he created various comic pages and covers for Big Publisher while also painting covers of *Alta Tensione*. Afterwards he drew many short stories and illustrated several posters for the publishing house, Zero Press.

Parrillo worked for the publishing house, Eura Editoriale. He painted the covers of *Lanciostory* and *Skorpio*,

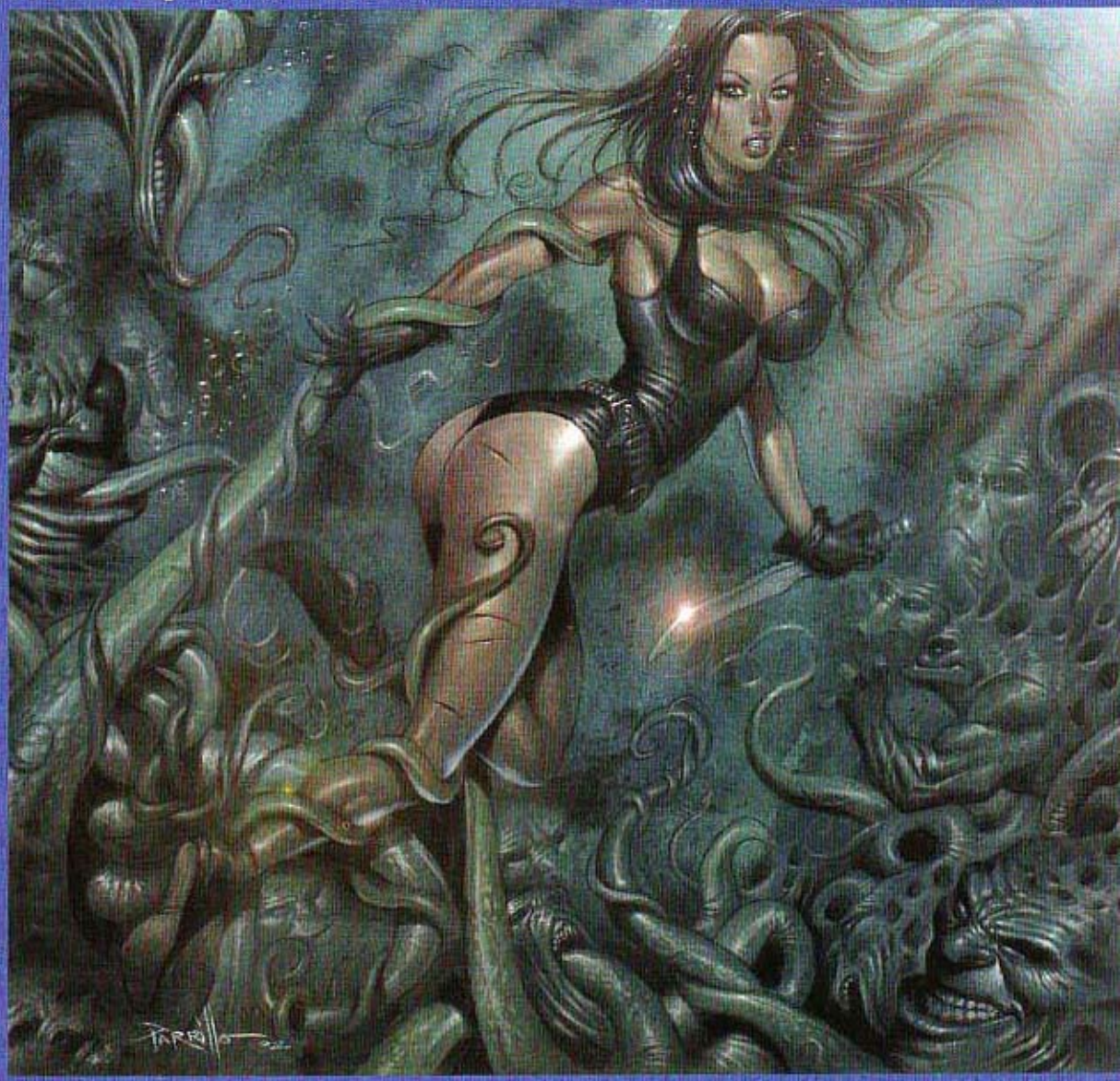


He painted all the covers of *Morrison* for King Comics, as well as many posters. He drew the complete first issue.

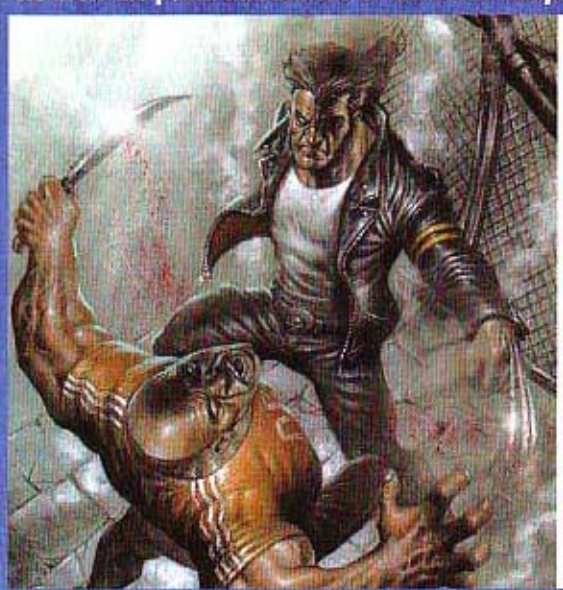
At the moment he is working for the American publisher, SQP.

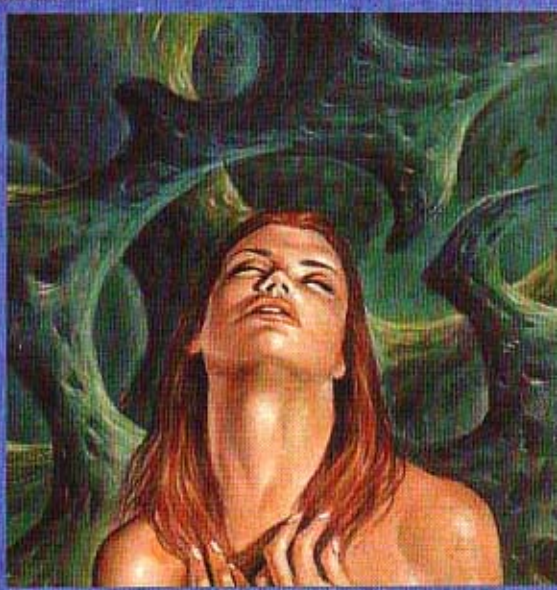
Parrillo has painted covers for CD games,

two of the most famous Italian comics magazines which other famous illustrators like Font, Salinas and Zanotto have worked for too.



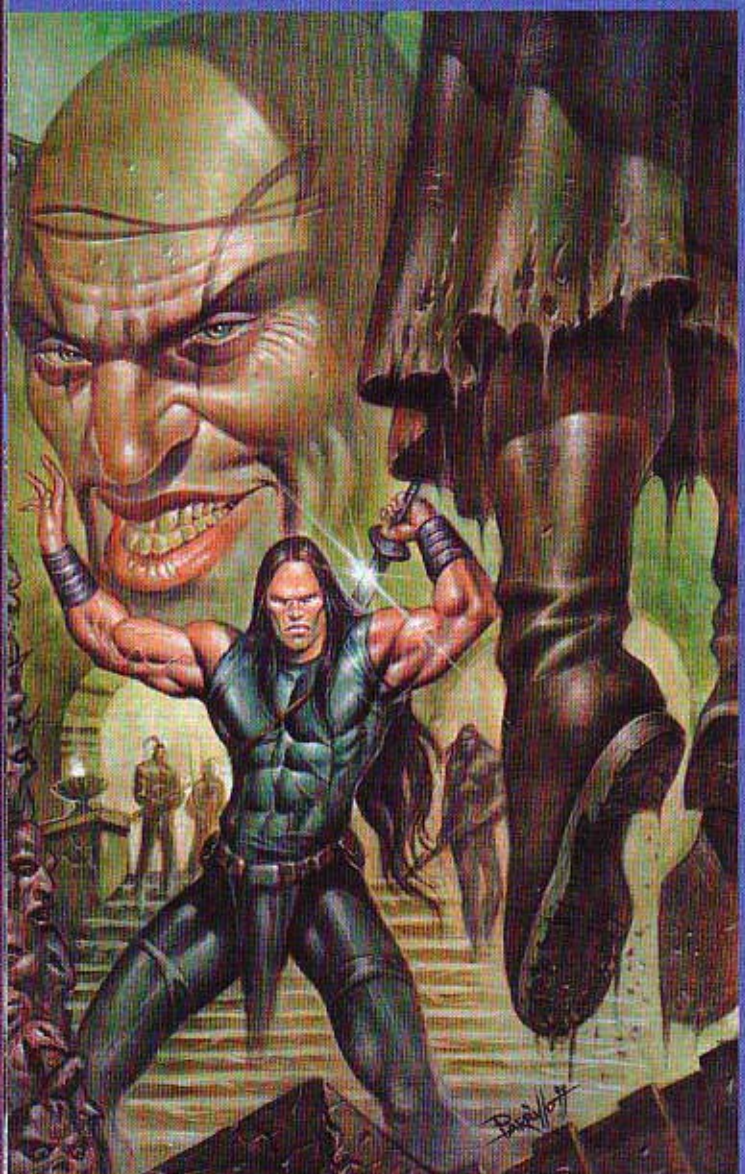
He drew the pencil illustrations of the books *Vampire Girls*, Coven 2, and Eternal *Temptation*.

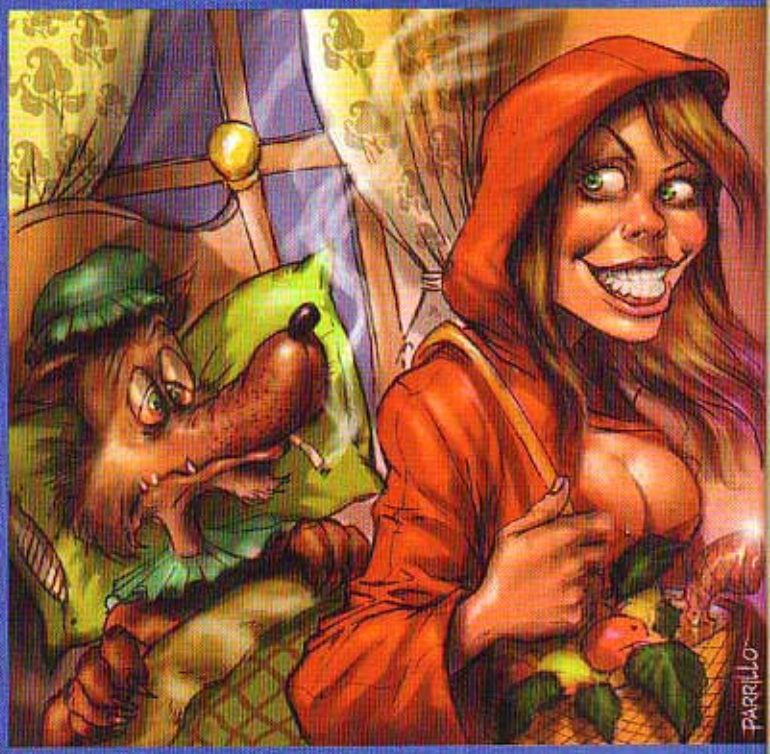




role games and comics for many European publishers in Germany, France, Italy, Sweden, and the USA.

SCHRGH




PARRILLO

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PRINCESS 69: LESSON ONE
Intrigued by the hot erotic potential of the Gynmastics of Darkness, the board chairman's granddaughter Tomoni helps Nikusuke select unwilling ladies to be their first students. These young ladies are forced to learn the meaning of excruciating pleasure under Nikusuke's gymnastic training.
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PRINCESS 69: LESSON TWO
Madoka accidentally witnesses the secret practice session going down at the gymnasium. After deciding the police must be informed, she tells Wakana of her plans. Unfortunately, Wakana is already involved in the Gymnastics of Darkness and she warns Tomoni that their cover is about to be blown. After successfully kidnapping Madoka, Nikusuke decides it's Tomomi's turn for a lesson. The ladies join in torturing Tomomi in unspeakable ways.
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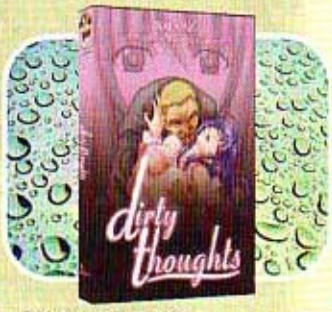

DIRTY THOUGHTS Professor Sayaka is a popular new girl on campus. She's well-liked and friendly to everyone. In fact, she's just a little too friendly. In the Dean's mind, she's a shameless flirt who needs to be put in her place. Maybe he's right. During Sayaka's last teaching position, she fell in love with one of her students, and the scandal forced her to leave. Now, Sayaka's being blackmailed into performing various sexy "services."
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KAMA SUTRA Deep in the ancient Himalayan Mountains, a beautiful princess is found preserved in the ice. The quirky Doctor Aikawa revives the sensual princess in his own special way. Meanwhile, his son, Ryu, falls for her. He decides he must master the 48 positions of the ancient art of love, as described in the Kama Sutra. A classic Go Nagai tale, always exotic, erotic, and entertaining.
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DOCTOR SHAMELESS The Doctor is in! A hospital is teetering on the brink of financial ruin. Enter Dr. Shinji Ishida, a doctor widely rumored to have engineered countless turnarounds at other failing hospitals. His methods are unorthodox... and intrusive... and sadomasochistic! Humiliation is his specialty and his cure-all. Now the patients can't get enough of being treated by Dr. Ishida, and shower money on the hospital to keep from being discharged.
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THE AFFAIRS The complete Affairs series in one package. Enjoy the corporate intrigue and sexual tension of Office Affairs, as the new recruit Ono learns that his female boss isn't only demanding in the office. In Co-ed Affairs, three young women explore their sexuality independent filmmaking, and each other.
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Two classic Kitty yarns! In Midnight Milk Party, a pretty college student with a spotless record lands herself in some trouble. When she decides to have one little adventure before graduation, it turns out to be one big problem. Her starring role in an adult film lands her plenty of admirers. In the second tale, two sisters attend the same college, one as a teacher and one as a student. Both of them date college boys the same age.
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PLEASURE PACK: VOLUME TWO
In Countdown to Delight, Motoki is a college student dutifully studying for his finals. But it's not easy when he can hear his sister enthusiastically making love to another woman next door, and his sexy tutor is dying to crack her whip harder on him. Crime of Passion finds Kanzaki You literally caught between a sexy older woman and his childhood love, Yuka.
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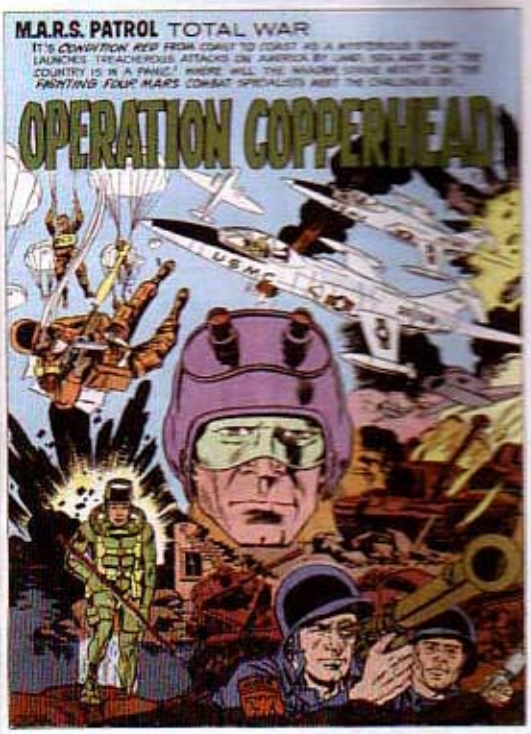
Wally Wood's "Total War" Revisited

You know, sometimes it's really fun to revisit things from your childhood. As a kid back in the mid-60's I stumbled on Wally Wood's *M.A.R.S. Patrol Total War* quite by accident, drawn by the cool battle scene on the cover. I quickly devoured that story and later went looking for more issues of that same comic even though I wasn't a collector yet. Since I couldn't find any issues at the local convenience store where I usually purchased all my comics and *Mad* magazines, I begged my dad to take me to a used magazine shop in downtown Abilene, Texas. (In the hoary days of the pre-comics shop era, that was your only real option if you were looking for back issues.) I excitedly dug through the stacks of moldering comics until I found another issue of *M.A.R.S. Patrol*, but once I got it home and read it, I realized, to my great disappointment, that it was drawn by another, lesser artist, not "the good guy" who had drawn all the realistic weapons, cool war machines and graceful, athletic figures in that first issue. Since Gold Key's artwork was never signed, I had no idea that the artist was Wally Wood, but I knew I liked this guy's work a lot. Flash forward about six or seven years, and I finally knew who Wally Wood was from seeing E.C. Comics reprints, and I suddenly realized why that first *M.A.R.S. Patrol* comic was so good.

Well, to make a long story short, late last year, Dark Horse Books reprinted Wood's three-issue stint on *M.A.R.S. Patrol* in nifty trade paperback, and unlike many childhood memories of rediscovered favorites, *M.A.R.S. Patrol* (or *Total War*) as it was originally called, is as fun to read as it ever was. This collection, labeled Volume I represents Wood's total contribution to the series, some three issues of story and art, complete with Gold Key's trademark painted covers, including at least one painted by Wood himself. In Wood's capable hands, this series was a mini-masterpiece of science-fiction carnage, action-packed and far darker than Gold Key's usual fare. The "Crab Invaders," bald, identically malevolent humanoids clad in spiffy purple uniforms, replete with night-vision goggles, are a brutal and ruthless enemy, willing to slaughter civilians at the drop of a hat or blow themselves up with grenades rather than be captured. And although Wood's multi-ethnic team (two whites, an Asian and a black man) of Marines, each a specialist in a different form of combat (one was a pilot, one a scuba diver, one was a paratrooper, etc.) manage to kick ass on the aliens through several battles, the aliens' brutal assaults cripple the world's industrial base and wreak havoc on every continent. Wood's three issues end with no guarantee that the intrepid M.A.R.S. (Marine Attack Rescue Service) warriors will triumph in the end.



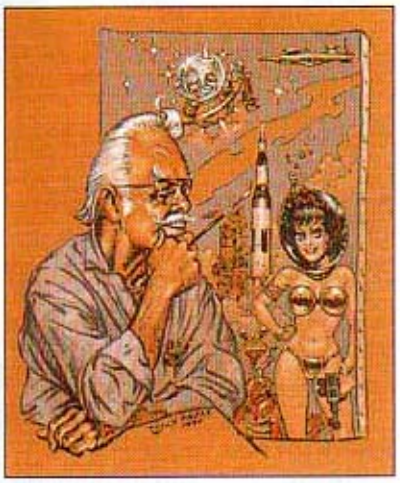
Wood fans will find much that is familiar, including stock shots of tanks, planes, weapons and certain poses that Wood used again and again in his comics and illustration work. Plus, the basic idea of rapacious alien invaders isn't that different from much of Wood's work for E.C. Comics, or even the *Mars Attacks* gum cards of the early 60s, for which he supplied the designs. Although it's never stated when the series takes place, it's obvious that it's supposed to be at least vaguely futuristic, since the good guys use video phones, a laser-equipped tank, VSTOL fighters and ducted-fan hovercrafts, and the aliens employ aerial reconnaissance drones and computer data analysis. And while some of the technology Wood used was far ahead of its time, most of the weaponry shown in the series isn't much more advanced than the machine guns, flamethrowers and bazookas Wood was drawing for Harvey Kurtzman's *Two-Fisted Tales* back in the 50s. And even if you're not a Wood fan yet, anyone who likes action-packed science fiction will enjoy this book. I give it my hearty endorsement to all *Heavy Metal* fans.

If you're already a Wood fan, or you just love kick-ass combat action, I give the *M.A.R.S. Patrol* reprint a hearty recommendation. This is one reprint that's definitely welcome, because this series is rather obscure and it can be hard to find decent copies of these 40-year-old comics. Production-wise, the book is very well done, with a nice intro by Batton Lash, an afterward by long-time Wood assistant Dan Adkins, and good reproduction, apparently shot from the original comics, instead of being re-colored. It's reasonably priced, too, at $12.95 for some 112 pages, including all three original covers. If your local comics shop doesn't carry it, you can order it from the Dark Horse web site (www.darkhorse.com). As always, tell 'em *Heavy Metal* sent you. ★

FRANK KELLY FREAS

LEGACY OF A FANTASY TITAN

AUGUST 27, 1922– JANUARY 2, 2005



Everyone's life is full of missed opportunities, and one I keenly regret now is that after I first met Kelly Freas and his lovely wife, Laura, at a San Diego Con a few years ago I never followed up that meeting with the interview I discussed doing with him. And I really should have; after all, Freas was one of the Grand Masters of Science Fiction and Fantasy Art, occupying that rarified plane inhabited by such giants as Frank R. Paul, Virgil Finlay, J. Allen St. John, Frank Frazetta, Roy Krenkel, and really only a handful of other artists of similar stature. While I'd always enjoyed Freas' work for various science fiction magazines and books, and *Mad*, in a vague sort of way, I confess I didn't really appreciate it fully until it was too late. As an art fan I've always preferred the grittier approach of someone like Frank Frazetta or Gary Gianni. But I hereby acknowledge my own shortsightedness and Kelly Freas' greatness; this man rocked as an artist. He could paint or draw literally anything no matter how bizarre or outlandish, and what's more, he'd make you believe it! Up until a few years ago, my favorite Freas painting, aside from his work for *Mad*, was his humorous portrait of a Martian that illustrated Frederic Brown's classic novel, "Martians, Go Home." (By the way, if you've never read this book, I urge you to get a copy and do so. It's a hoot, and Freas' cover illustration of a smiling Martian looking through a keyhole captures the book's wry humor perfectly.) But I digress. To paraphrase Shakespeare, I've come not bury Freas here, but to praise him. This classy, good-humored, mustachioed gent was one of the best fantasy and science fiction illustrators ever. And right now he is undoubtedly looking down on us now from some illustrator's Valhalla, with his brushes and easel, ray gun, sword and glass of bourbon close at hand.

So listen up, all you Metal-Heads reading this! If you're not familiar with Kelly Freas' work from his countless covers for a dazzling variety of science fiction novels or his seemingly endless string of covers for such sci-fi pulps such as *Astounding*, *Planet Stories*, *Fantastic Universe*, *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, or any of the others, then you need to track down these books of his work, *Frank Kelly Freas As He Sees It* (2000), *The Astounding Fifties* (1971), *The Art of Science Fiction* (1977) or *A Separate Star* (1984). Aside from his superbly imaginative alien worlds, pretty girls, and bizarre aliens, one quality that shines through much of Freas' work is his sense of humor. This humor is most notably on display in his covers for *Mad*, done during a five-year stint from 1957 through 1962, but it also sometimes peeked out unexpectedly in some of his "straight" science fiction art and commercial commissions. Many artists suffer for their art, but Kelly Freas' paintings always gave the impression (whether it was true or not) that he was having a cracking good time with his work. Indeed some of his commentary in *Frank Kelly Freas As He Sees It* confirms this impression: "Illustrating a story is almost always a pleasure. I say 'almost' because there are indeed some stories that are well nigh unillustratable. The best of those require that the artist…saturate himself with the story, enter its world, and find something relevant to draw." Of course the road to fantasy art immortality did have its share of potholes, as Freas noted later in the same book, "It can be extremely frustrating to have a vision of jewel-like clarity and glowing, luminous color turn into an amorphous mess of grayish mud somewhere between your head and the canvas. It happens. Don't fret – just scrape it off and start again. You have the vision. The vision *wants* to be realized. You provide the labor – and the patience. Oh yes – it's all right to swear a little and throw things, but do it quietly and in private." A diligent and hard-working professional, Freas would take great pains to make an image just right, on one occasion hiring a helicopter to take him high enough above L.A. to get the right angle on the city skyline, and once spent a week aboard a nuclear submarine researching an illustration assignment.

Freas broke into the professional arena in 1950 at the suggestion of one of his art school classmates, selling a painting he'd done as a school assignment, a spectral Pan dancing under a full moon, to the famed fantasy and horror pulp *Weird Tales*. From there he quickly found his niche doing science fiction covers and illustrations for legendary science fiction editor John W. Campbell's *Astounding* and many other sci-fi pulps. Although Freas had his disagreements with Campbell over the years, his association with the magazines Campbell founded lasted an astonishing 48 years! And Campbell certainly wasn't the only one who appreciated Freas' unique cover paintings and black-and-white illustrations. He had a small army of fans, and his work now hangs in many private and university collections and museums. During the course of his 60-year career, Freas wracked up 10 Hugo awards (he was nominated 20 times!), 3 Chesley Awards, 5 Locus Poll Awards, a Retro Hugo Award, and a Skylark Award. And he didn't just paint fantasy and sci-fi art, either. In addition to all of the genre books and magazines for which he provided covers and interior illustrations, his protean talents produced numerous private commissions, paintings of pretty girls on the noses of many WW II bombers, 500 portraits of saints for the Franciscan Book of Saints, album covers, gaming magazine covers, the design for the Skylab I mission patch, even paintings of organs for medical texts. No matter what the assignment, Frank Kelly Freas was a consummate professional, and the world of science fiction illustration will be all the poorer for his absence.

Kelly Freas' first wife Polly died in 1987, but he is survived by his second wife Laura and two children from his first marriage. ★

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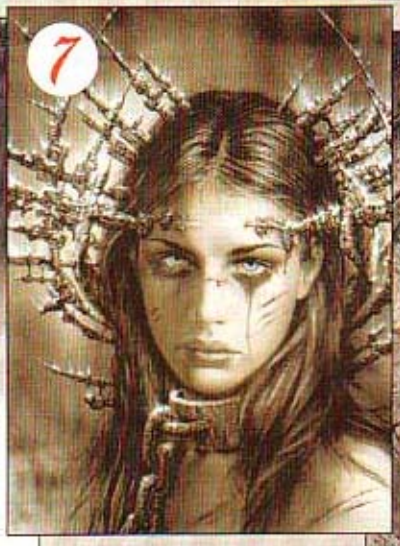

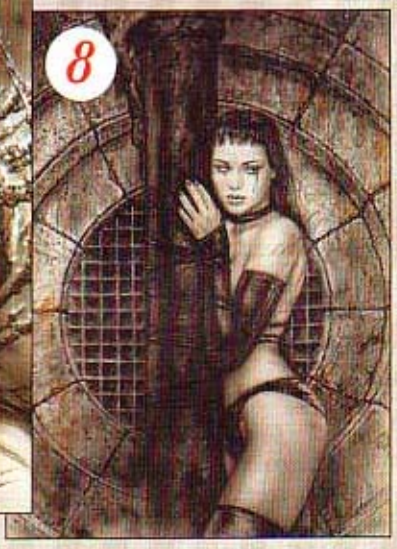

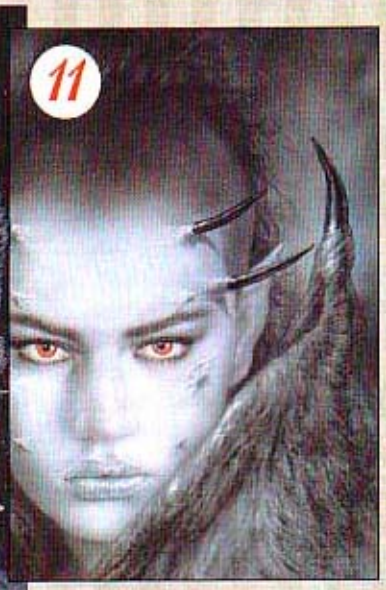

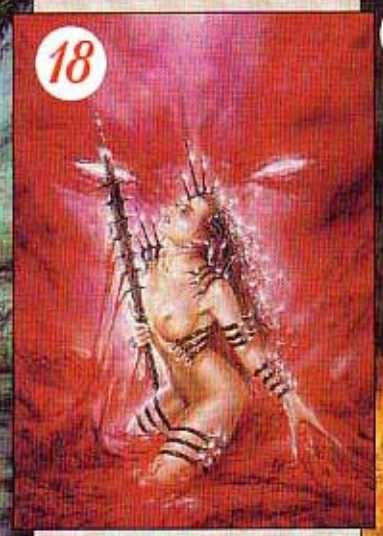

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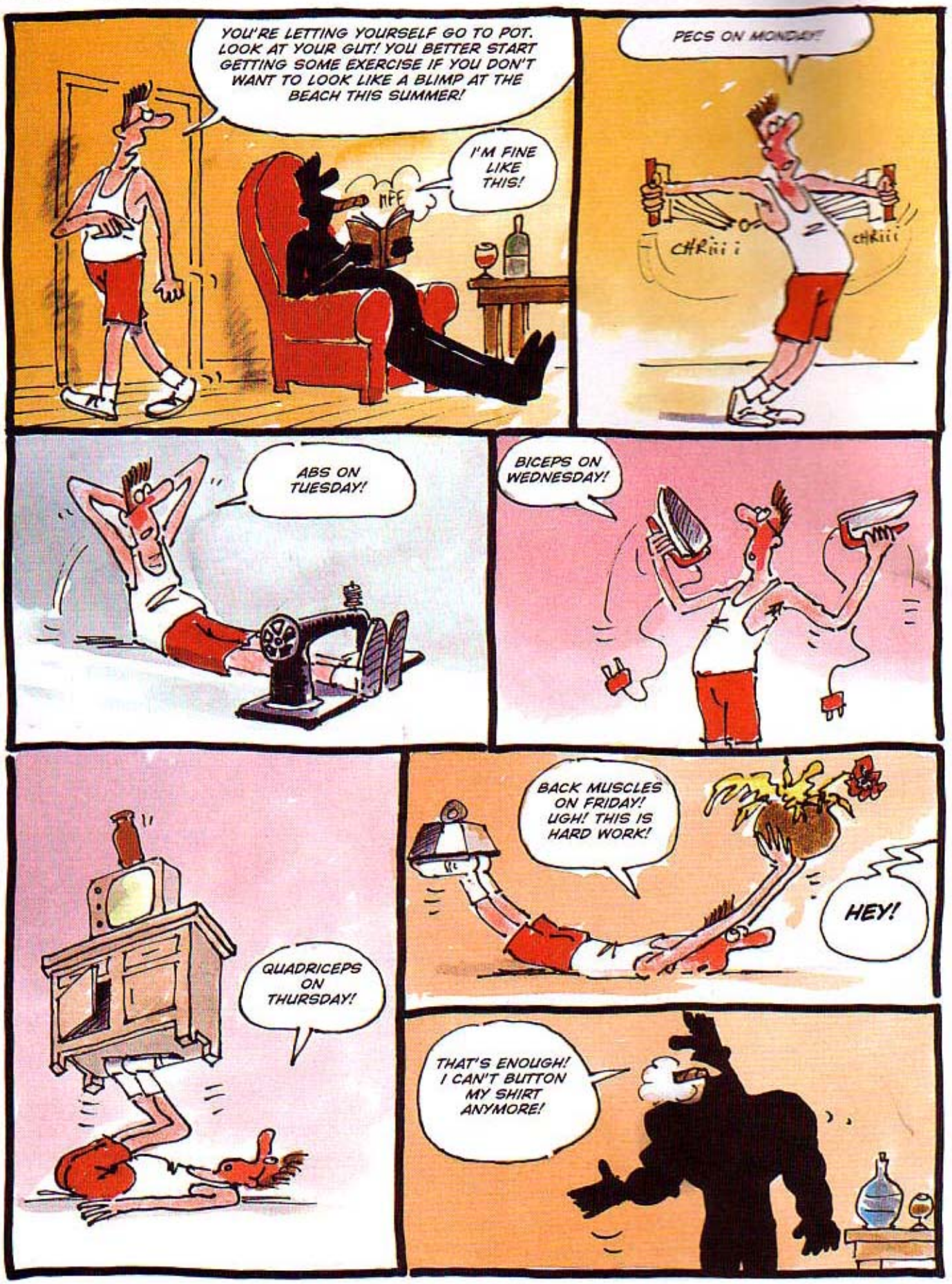

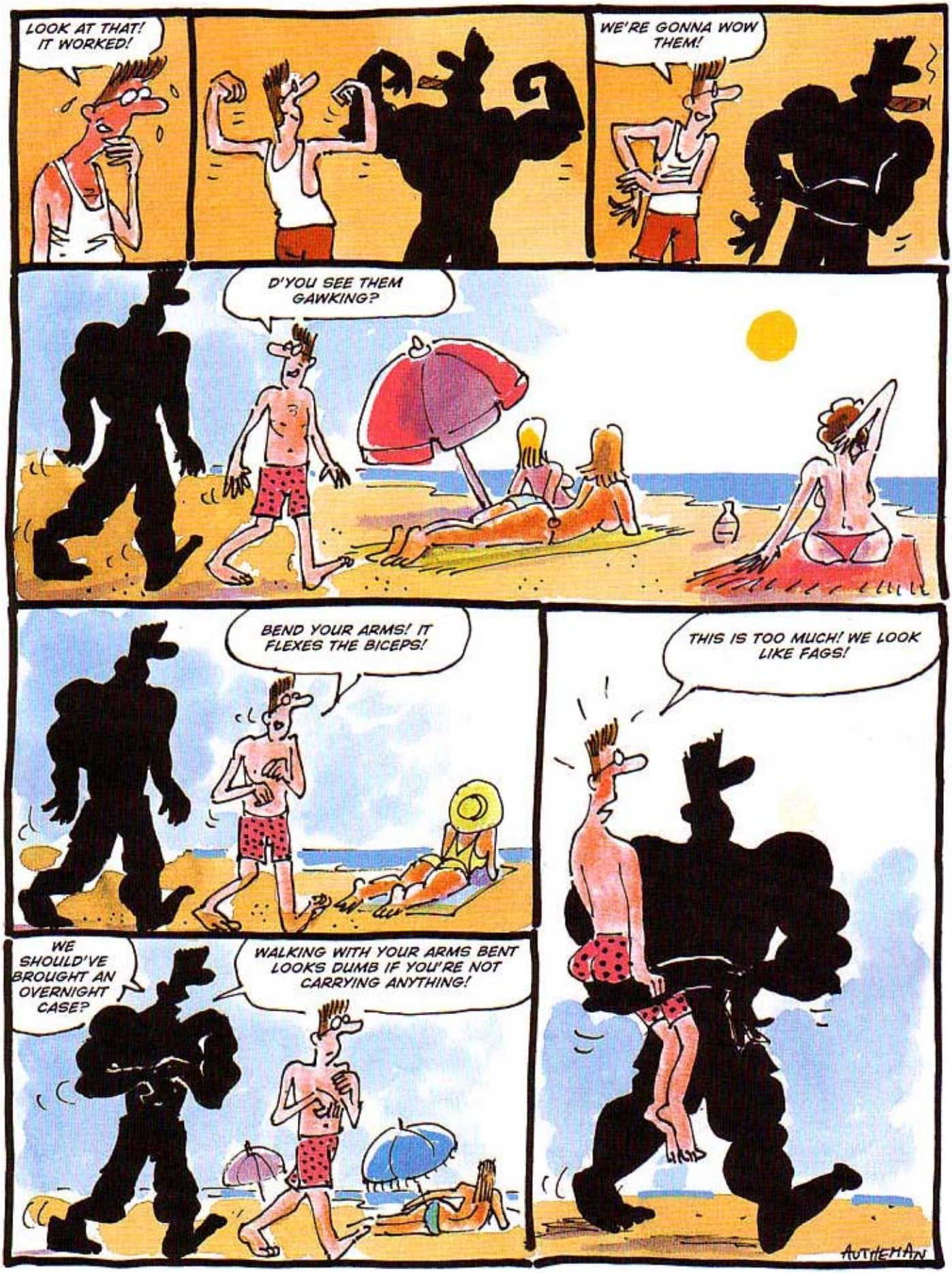
LOOK AT THAT! IT WORKED!
WE'RE GONNA WOW THEM!
D'YOU SEE THEM GAWKING?
BEND YOUR ARMS! IT FLEXES THE BICEPS!
THIS IS TOO MUCH! WE LOOK LIKE FAGS!
WE SHOULD'VE BROUGHT AN OVERNIGHT CASE?
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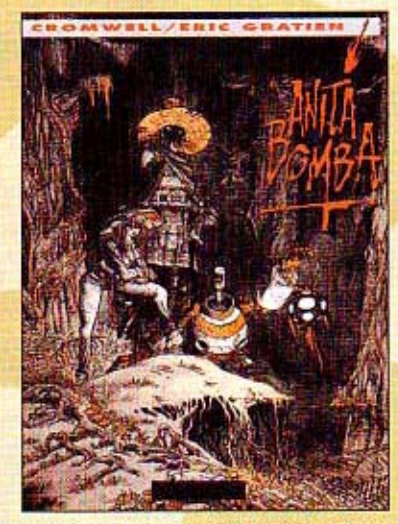

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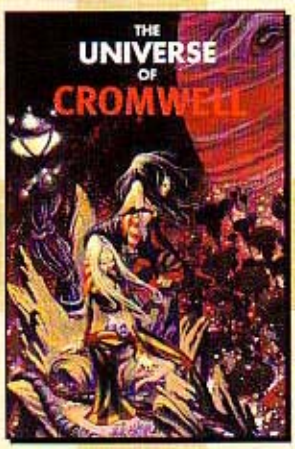
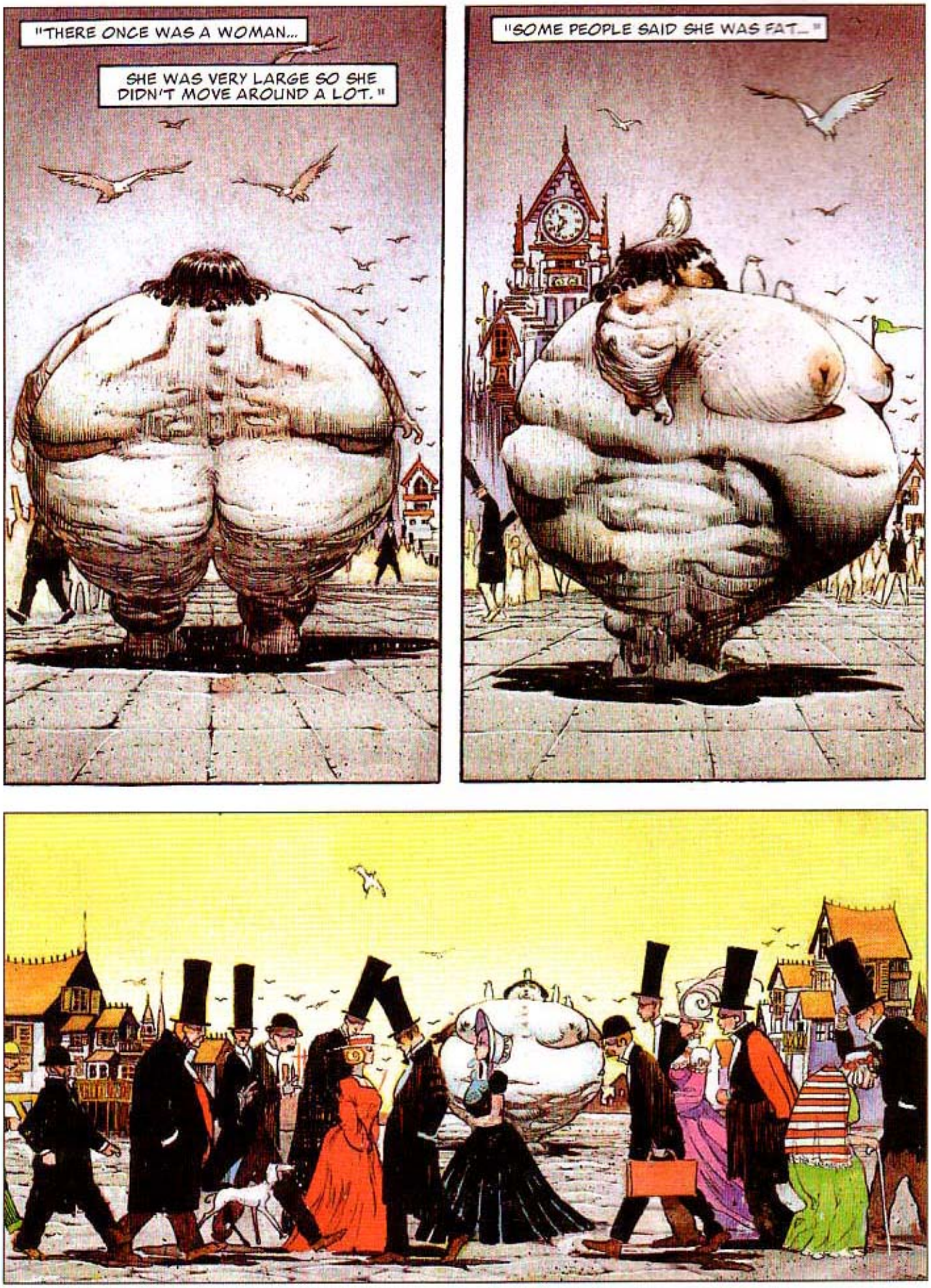


Featuring the artwork of Cromwell, the artist who brought us Anita Bomba.

"...THIS IS THE TALE OF 'FAT AND SKINNY'!
MUDWOG
BY ARTHUR SUYDAM


"THERE ONCE WAS A WOMAN...
SHE WAS VERY LARGE SO SHE DIDN'T MOVE AROUND A LOT."
"SOME PEOPLE SAID SHE WAS FAT..."

"SHE HAD NO HOME..."
"INSTEAD, FAT LIVED IN THE CENTER OF THE VILLAGE SQUARE WHERE SHE STOOD MOTIONLESS LIKE A STATUE FROM DAWN 'TIL DUSK...
"IT WAS AS IF SHE WERE INVISIBLE TO THE ENTIRE WORLD.
"NO ONE KNEW SHE WAS ALIVE...
"NO ONE LOVED HER...
"...SO SHE WAS VERY LONELY."

"ON HOT SUMMER DAYS, FAT STOOD ALONE IN THE BLAZING SUN WHILE OTHERS ENJOYED THE COOL RECLUSE OF A FROSTED MUG IN THE SHADE.

"COLD WINTERS PASSED SLOWLY, LIKE LONG MOMENTS ON THE CLOCK OF LIFE...ONE MOMENT NO DISTINGUISHABLE FROM THE NEXT...THIS YEAR THE SAME AS YEARS GONE BY.

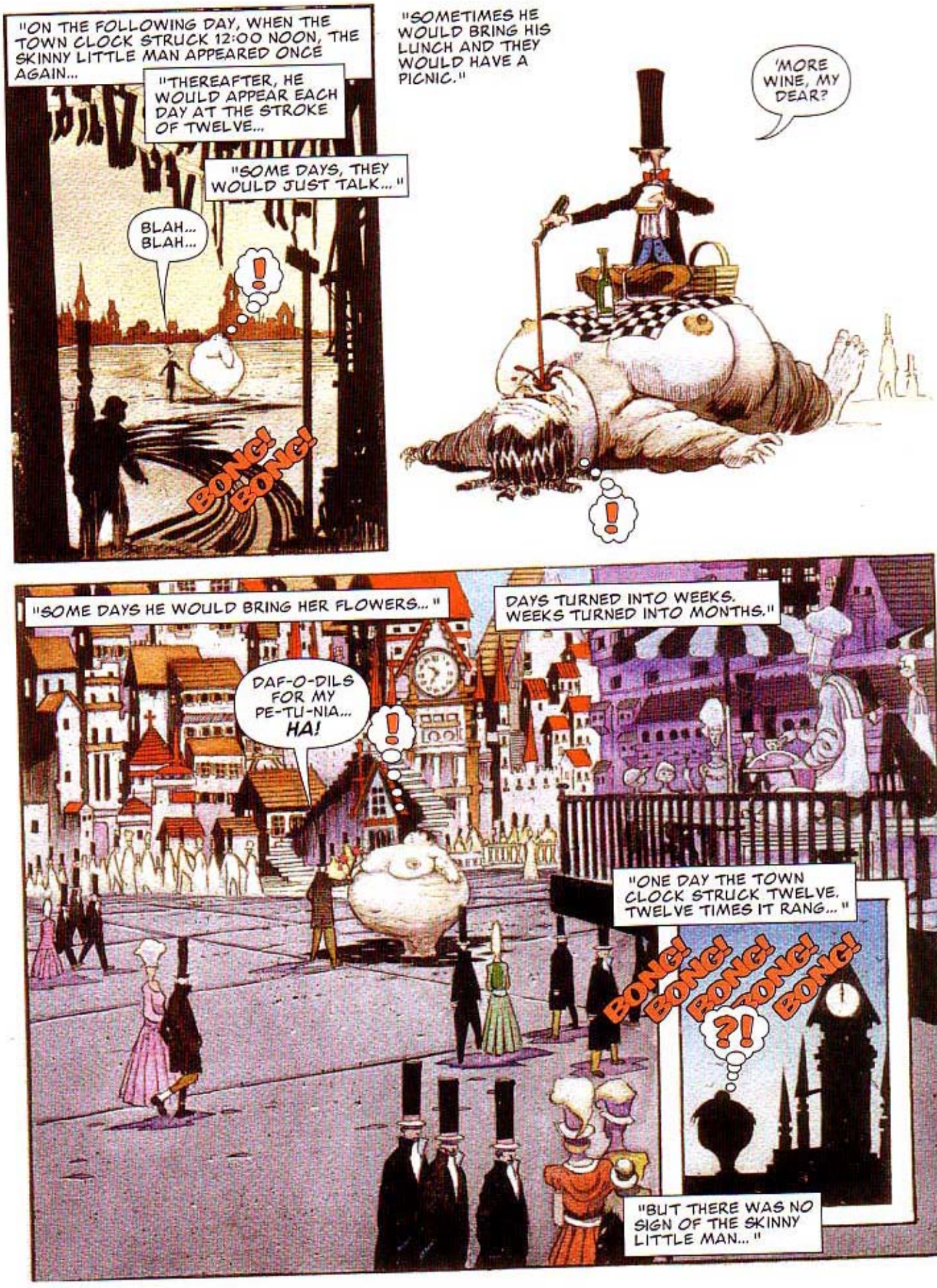
"THEN, ONE DAY...

"...SHE MET A MAN!

"HE WAS A VERY THIN LITTLE MAN...

...SOME PEOPLE SAID HE WAS SKINNY!"

SO THIN WAS THE LITTLE MAN, THAT WHEN HE TURNED TO THE SIDE IT APPEARED AS THOUGH THERE WERE NO ONE THERE AT ALL.
BLAH! BLAH!
BONG! BONG!
"HE SPOKE TO HER!... "
!
"NO ON HAD EVER SPOKEN TO HER BEFORE...
...AND SO SHE SOARED! "


"ON THE FOLLOWING DAY, WHEN THE TOWN CLOCK STRUCK 12:00 NOON, THE SKINNY LITTLE MAN APPEARED ONCE AGAIN...
"THEREAFTER, HE WOULD APPEAR EACH DAY AT THE STROKE OF TWELVE...
"SOME DAYS, THEY WOULD JUST TALK..."
BLAH... BLAH...
!
BONG! BONG!
"SOMETIMES HE WOULD BRING HIS LUNCH AND THEY WOULD HAVE A PICNIC."
'MORE WINE, MY DEAR?
!
"SOME DAYS HE WOULD BRING HER FLOWERS..."
DAF-O-DILS FOR MY PE-TU-NIA... HA!
!
DAYS TURNED INTO WEEKS. WEEKS TURNED INTO MONTHS."
"ONE DAY THE TOWN CLOCK STRUCK TWELVE. TWELVE TIMES IT RANG..."
BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG! BONG!
?!
"BUT THERE WAS NO SIGN OF THE SKINNY LITTLE MAN..."

"AT ONE, THE CLOCK RANG AGAIN...BUT THE SKINNY LITTLE MAN WAS NOWHERE IN SIGHT..."
BONG!
"HER HEART SANK...'I'LL NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN,' SHE THOUGHT TO HERSELF."
"THEN...WHEN THE CLOCK STRUCK THREE..."
HIYA, DOLL... GOIN' MY WAY?... HA HA!
HOW DO YOU LIKE THE WHEELS? PRETTY SNAZZY, HUH?
POD
SMOOCH!
SO YA MISSED ME, HUH?...YA BIG LUG!... HEH...HEH...HEH
VROOOOM!
BOY! THIS BABY CAN REALLY GO!
"FAT HAD NEVER BEEN TO THE OCEAN BEFORE... IT WAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL SITE SHE HAD EVER SEEN...AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HER LIFE... SHE WAS HAPPY!
OWCH!
YOU PRESENT A STRIKIN' FIGURE OF WOMANHOOD IN THAT SWIMSUIT I GOT YA, MY DEAR...
I'M PROUD TO BE SEEN IN YOUR COMPANY. YEP!

"THAT EVENING, THE LITTLE SKINNY MAN PROPOSED TO HER!"

BLAH! BLAH! BLAH!

"FAT LOVED HIM DEARLY AND AGREED T'BE HIS BRIDE.

"WAITING SEEMED AN UN-REASONABLE EXPECTATION AND SO..."

"SHE HAD NEVER MADE LOVE TO A MAN BEFORE...

WOOF!

OOG!

"IT WAS GOOD...

"BUT THE SKINNY MAN WAS SO TINY AND HER NEED FOR HIM WAS SO GREAT..."

HUP. BUP.

"SHE SQUEEZED HIM TIGHTLY!

"SHE DREW HIM INSIDE...

"HE SANK WITHIN...

"...AND HE WAS GONE!

"SOMETIMES A PASSERBY WOULD ASK ABOUT THE SKINNY LITTLE MAN...BUT HE WAS NEVER SEEN AGAIN!"

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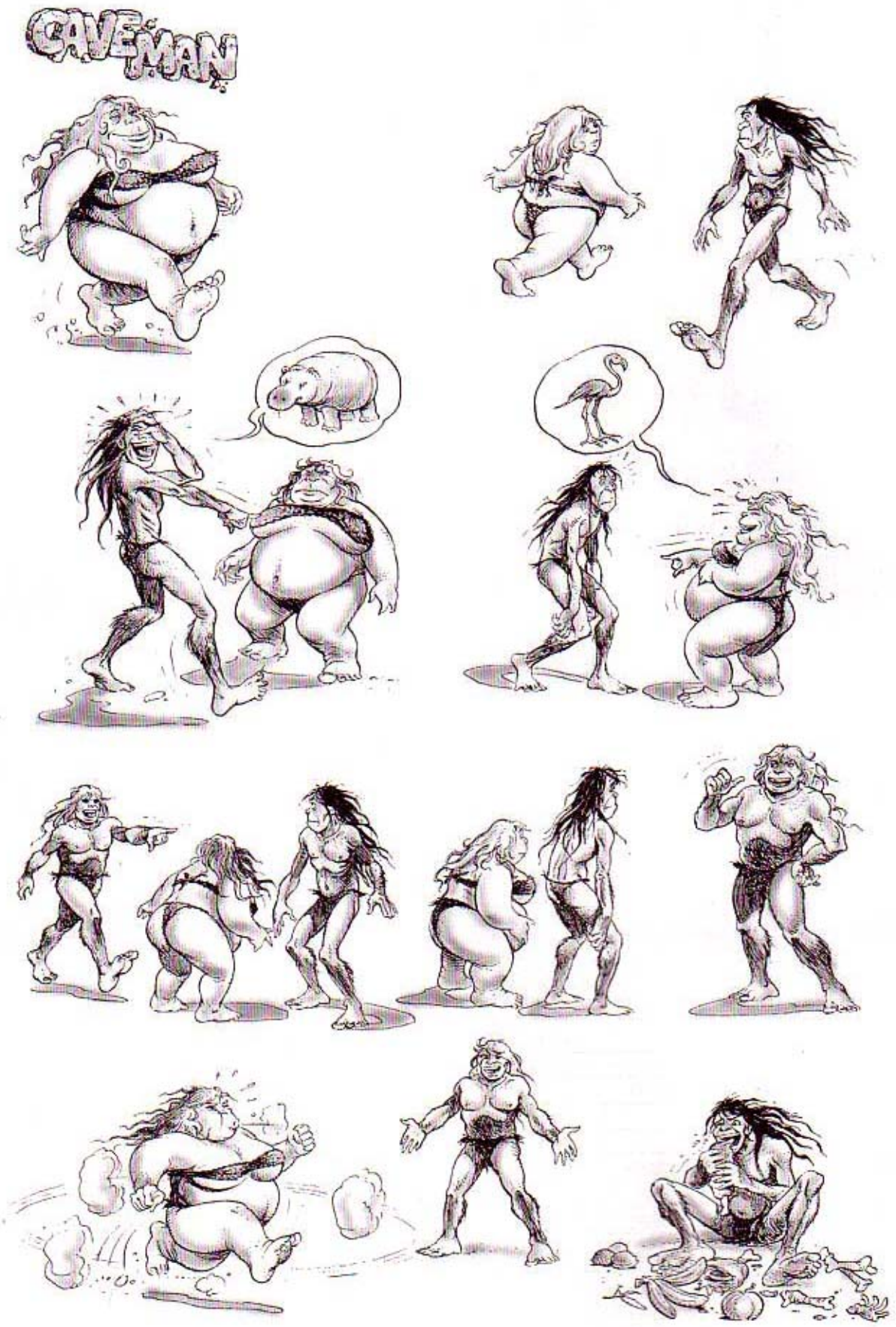
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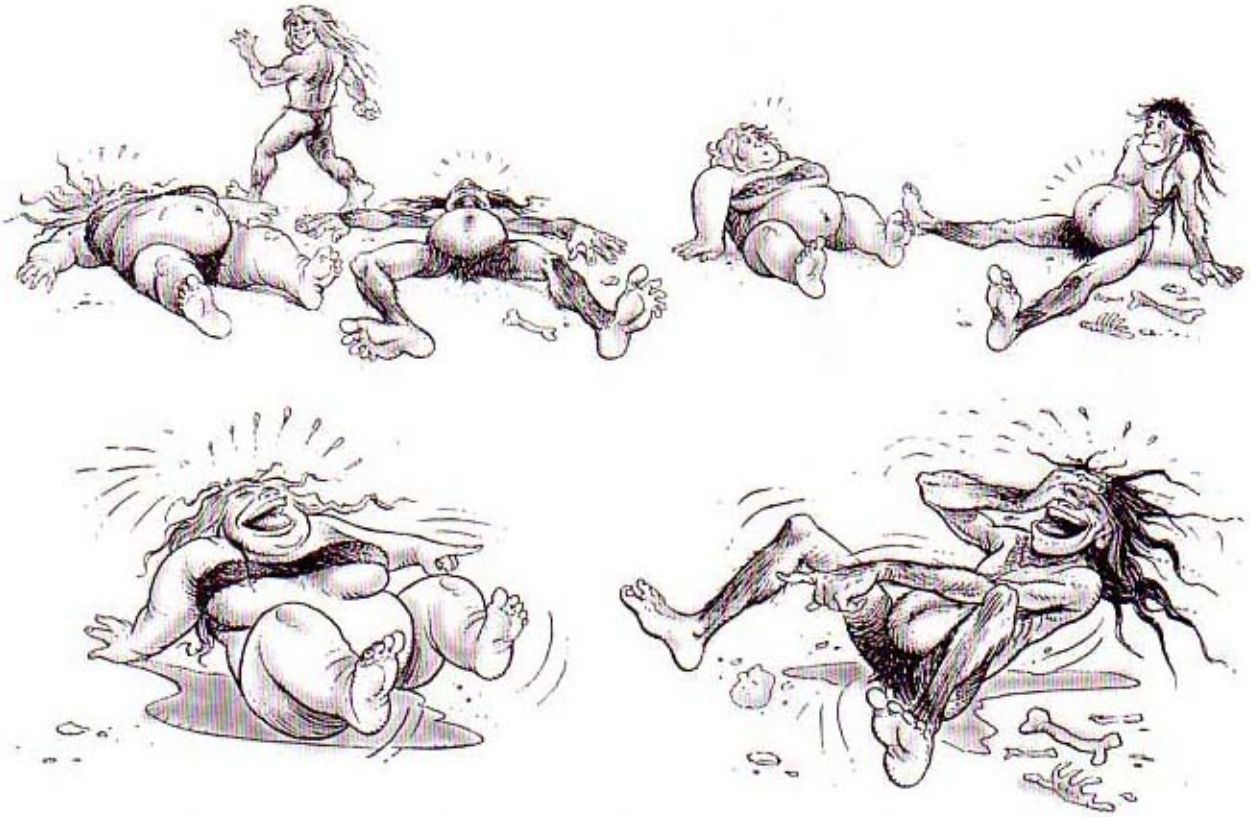

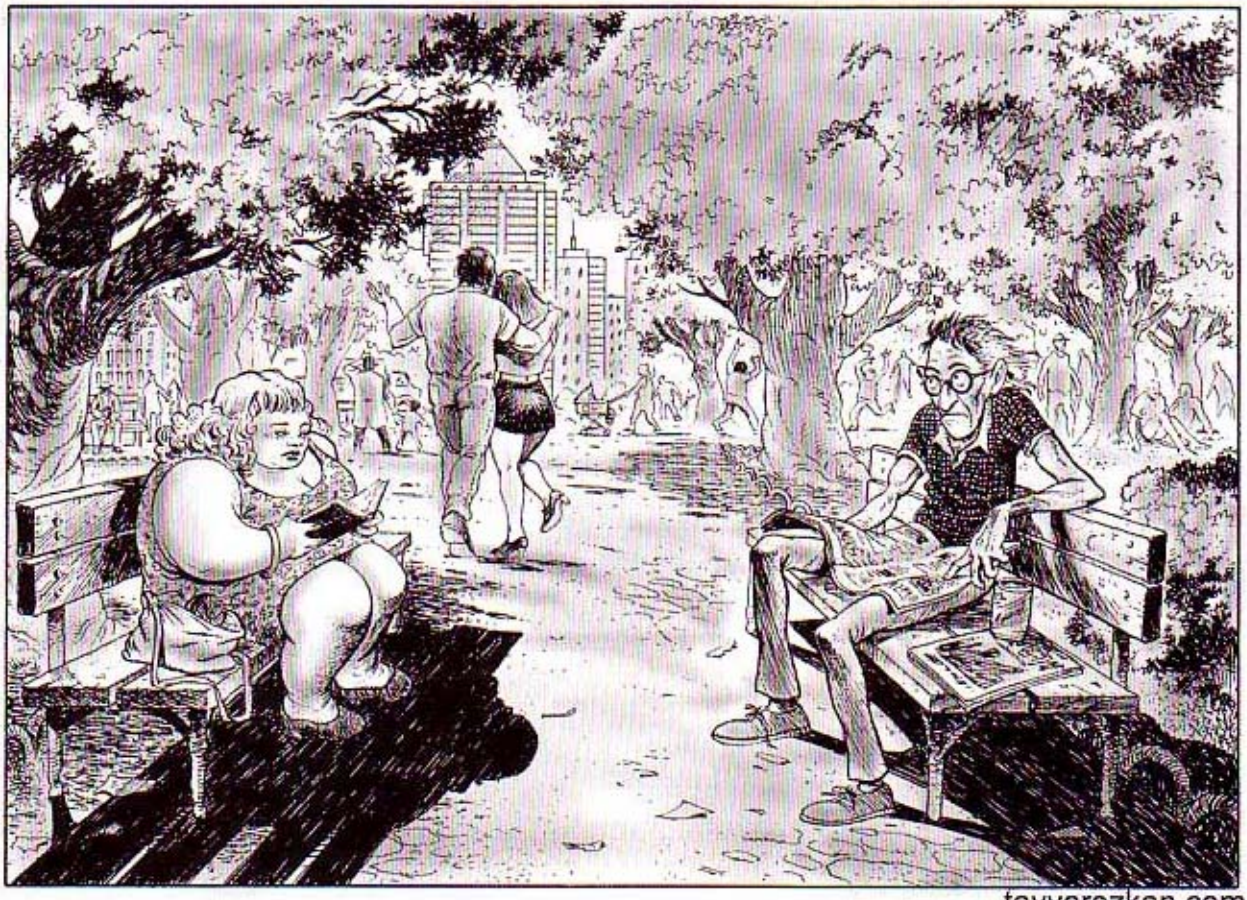

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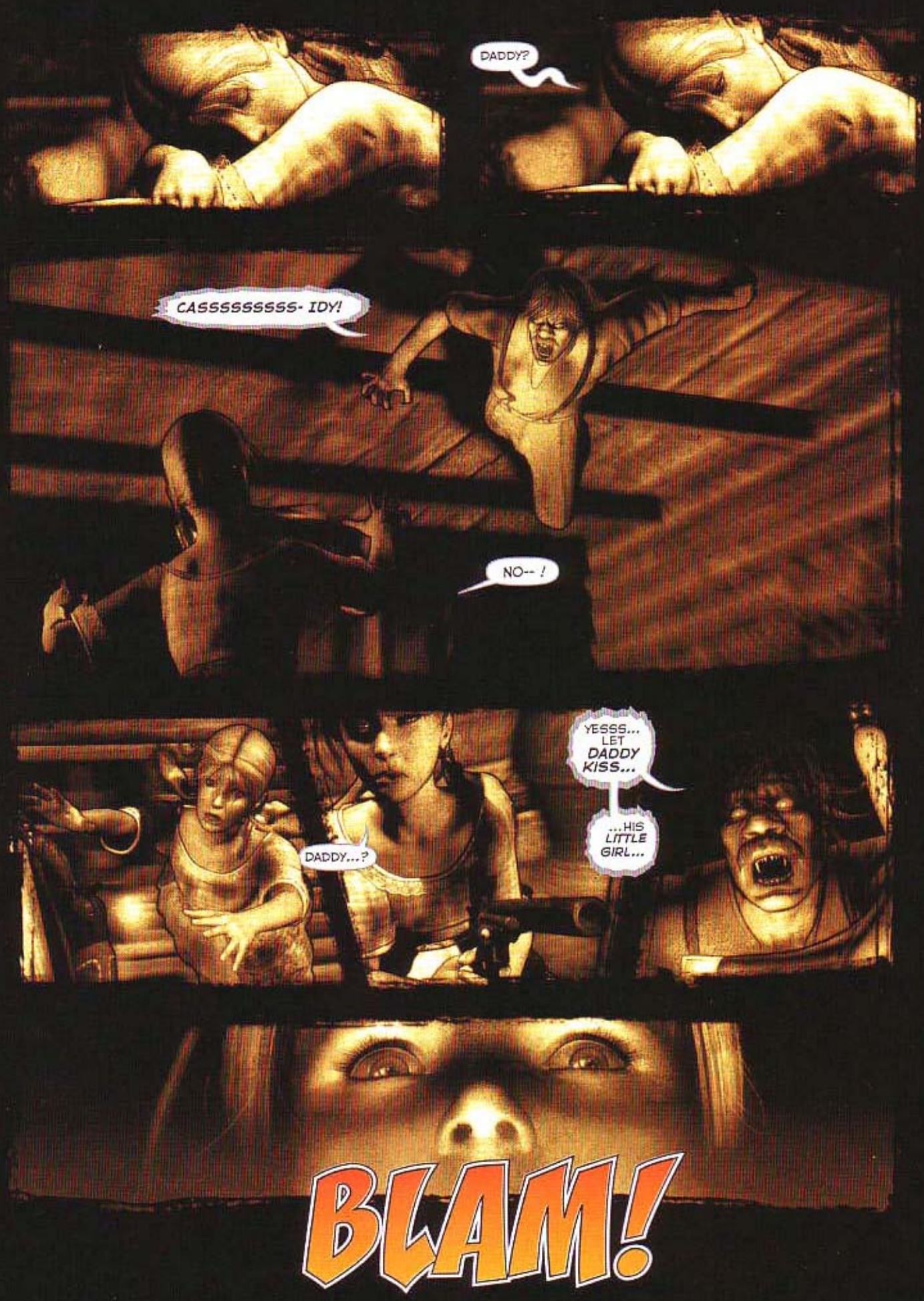
07/05

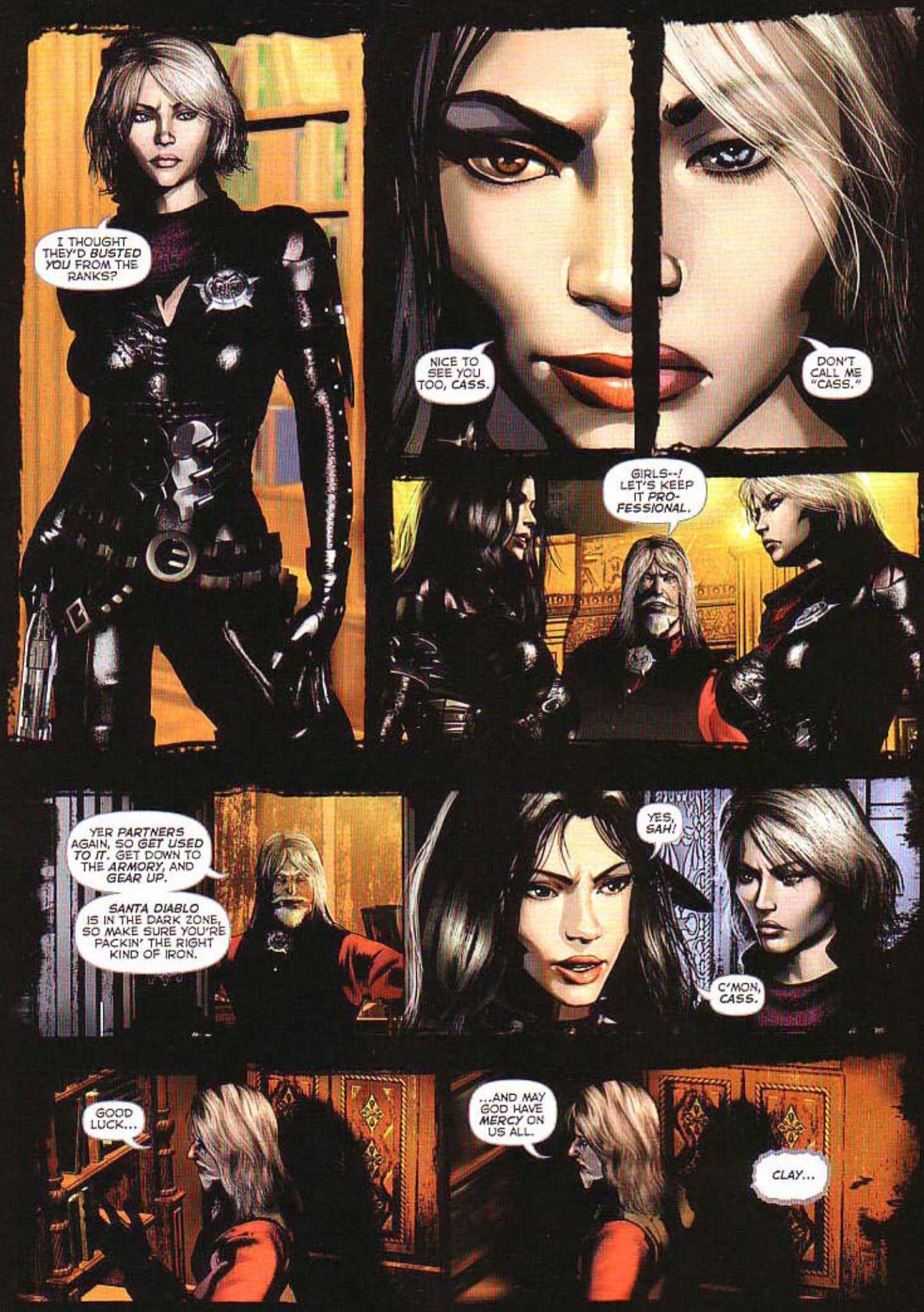
NEBRASKA TERRITORY. 1863.
YOU CLOSED THE CURTAINS.
SUN... HURTS MY EYES...
THEY'RE COMIN'! GOTTA SHOOT 'EM DOWN!!
SHHHH...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, DADDY.
I... NEED...
I NEED TO SLEEP, NOW.
YOU SHOULD TOO, CASSIDY.
PROMISE YOU WON'T DIE WHILE I SLEEP?
DADDY?
PROMISE.


DADDY?
CASSSSSSSSS- IDY!
NO-- !
YESSS... LET DADDY KISS...
...HIS LITTLE GIRL...
DADDY...?
BLAM!

BLAM!
THIRTEEN YEARS LATER.
AARGH!!
DARK-WATCH BITCH...
YOU HAVE ME BOUND...
...ENJOY YOURSELF, IT WON'T LAST.
MY BROTH-ERS WILL...
...DRINK YOUR SOUL.
BUSY.
GENERAL CARTWRIGHT NEEDS TO SEE YOU.
BLAM!
BLAM!
BLAM!
URK!
YOU REALLY HATE THEM, DON'T YOU?
SHOOTING RANGE
HATE WHO?
THE... VAMPIRES.

I'M A DARK-WATCH REG-ULATOR. IT'S MY JOB TO KILL BLOOD-SUCKERS.
WHETHER I HATE THEM OR NOT? THAT'S MY BUSINESS.
BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO THIS JOB, YOU CAN'T GET DISTRACTED. NOT BY WHAT THEY SAY, NOT BY WHAT THEY DO.
THEY'RE UN-DEAD. THEY CAN'T FEEL ANYTHING... AND THEY DEF-INITELY AIN'T IN-NOCENT VIC-TIMS.

THANK YOU FOR COMING, CASSIDY. I TRUST I DIDN'T TEAR YOU AWAY FROM SOMETHING IMPORTANT?
JUST GETTING IN SOME TIME ON THE RANGE, GENERAL.
WITH UNDEAD TARGETS, I AM SURE. THAT'S MY GIRL.
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS IS?
IS THIS A TRICK QUESTION?
ALL RIGHT. "IT LOOKS LIKE A PILE OF GOLD, SIR."
A CONVINCING FACSIMILIE... BUT NOT REAL.
IT'S BEEN TURNING UP ALL OVER, SPARKING A NEW GOLD RUSH.
WHO CARES? COUNTERFEITING IS TREASURY BUSINESS.
NOW, WHY WOULD SOMEONE WANT TO CREATE A FALSE GOLD RUSH?
NOT WHEN ALCHEMY CREATED THE GOLD. THAT MAKES IT DARKWATCH BUSINESS.
THAT... AND THE FACT THAT THE GOLD IS COMING OUT OF SANTA DIABLO.
TALA!


I THOUGHT THEY'D BUSTED YOU FROM THE RANKS?
NICE TO SEE YOU TOO, CASS.
DON'T CALL ME "CASS."
GIRLS--! LET'S KEEP IT PRO-FESSIONAL.
YER PARTNERS AGAIN, SO GET USED TO IT. GET DOWN TO THE ARMORY, AND GEAR UP.
SANTA DIABLO IS IN THE DARK ZONE, SO MAKE SURE YOU'RE PACKIN' THE RIGHT KIND OF IRON.
YES, SAH!
C'MON, CASS.
GOOD LUCK...
...AND MAY GOD HAVE MERCY ON US ALL.
CLAY...

...YOU HAVE... DONE WELL ...
I DONE WHAT I HAD TO, YOU GOD DAMNED DEMON.
NOW YOU OWN UP ON YOUR END OF THE DEAL.
CLAY, YOU HURT US. HAVEN'T WE ALWAYS GIVEN YOU EXACTLY WHAT YOU WANT--
--AND WHAT YOU NEED? IS OUR BARGAIN SO DIFFICULT TO KEEP THEN, DARLING?
GODDAMN YOU! I SENT MY TWO BEST REGULATORS TO SANTA DIABLO! NOW, TELL ME MORE ABOUT HIM-- ABOUT LAZARUS!
ALL IN GOOD TIME. FIRST--
--COME TO MOMMA.

YOU TAKING A *RAIL ROCKET?* NOW THAT'S A *MANLY* WEAPON.
DROP DEAD.
I LOVE YOU TOO. IS A *CROSS-BOW* MORE YOUR SPEED?
WHO DID YOU *SCREW* TO GET ANOTHER *FIELD ASSIGNMENT?* CARTWRIGHT?
MY TASTES RUN A *DIFFERENT DIRECTION.* AS *YOU* WELL *KNOW. HMMM.* SANTA DIABLO'S IN THE *DARK ZONE.* MAYBE *DYNAMITE* WOULD DO THE TRICK. *NOTHING'S* TOO BIG FOR THIS JOB.
EXCEPT YOUR *MOUTH.*
LET'S RIDE, CASS!
--STOP CALLING ME "CASS."

ONE WEEK LATER.
SANTA DIABLO. DOESN'T THAT MEAN "PILE OF DONKEY SHIT" IN SPANISH?
THAT ISN'T FUNNY. FOLKS CAME HERE FOR A BETTER LIFE. WHEN THE MINE PAID OUT THEY DID WHAT THEY HAD TO TO SURVIVE--
LIKE WHORING THEMSELVES OUT TO BLOOD-SUCKERS? YOU HEARD CARTWRIGHT. IT'S A DARK ZONE...
I KNOW THE DRILL-- "ISOLATE, INVESTIGATE, ELIMINATE."
YOU FORGOT "FORNICATE".
LOOSEN UP, CASS.
A TASTE OF FORBIDDEN FRUIT MIGHT JUST CHANGE YOUR RELIGION--
IT AIN'T THE LORD'S WORK DOWN YONDER. CHECK OUT THE GALLOWS.
"--SEEMS TO BE DOING DOUBLE DUTY AS A BLOOD COLLECTOR."
"GOOD EYE, PARD. LET'S HAVE US A POW WOW WITH THE MAN WITH THE LOCAL LAW."

HANGIN' RIFF RAFF GIVES A MAN A POWER-FUL THIRST.
YER NEXT, OUTLAW. YOU CAME LOOKIN' FOR GOLD AND WE NEED YOUNG BLOOD.
YOU AIN'T THE FIRST, NOR THE LAST. ALWAYS ANOTHER DRIFTER OUT THERE EAGER TO BELIEVE IN A NEW GOLD RUSH. IT'S A LAW O' NATURE...
THUNK!
AAGHH!
HOWDY, LAW DOG.
I CAN'T--
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY'LL DO TO ME...
WHERE DOES THE GOLD COME FROM?
FELLA WEARS A HOOD... AT THE BOR-DELLO...!
BUT I KNOW WHAT I'LL DO TO YOU...
HAVE MERCY.
SORRY, FRESH OUT.
HERE ARE THE RULES:
YOU TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW, AND MAYBE I DON'T KILL YOU.
GLITCH!

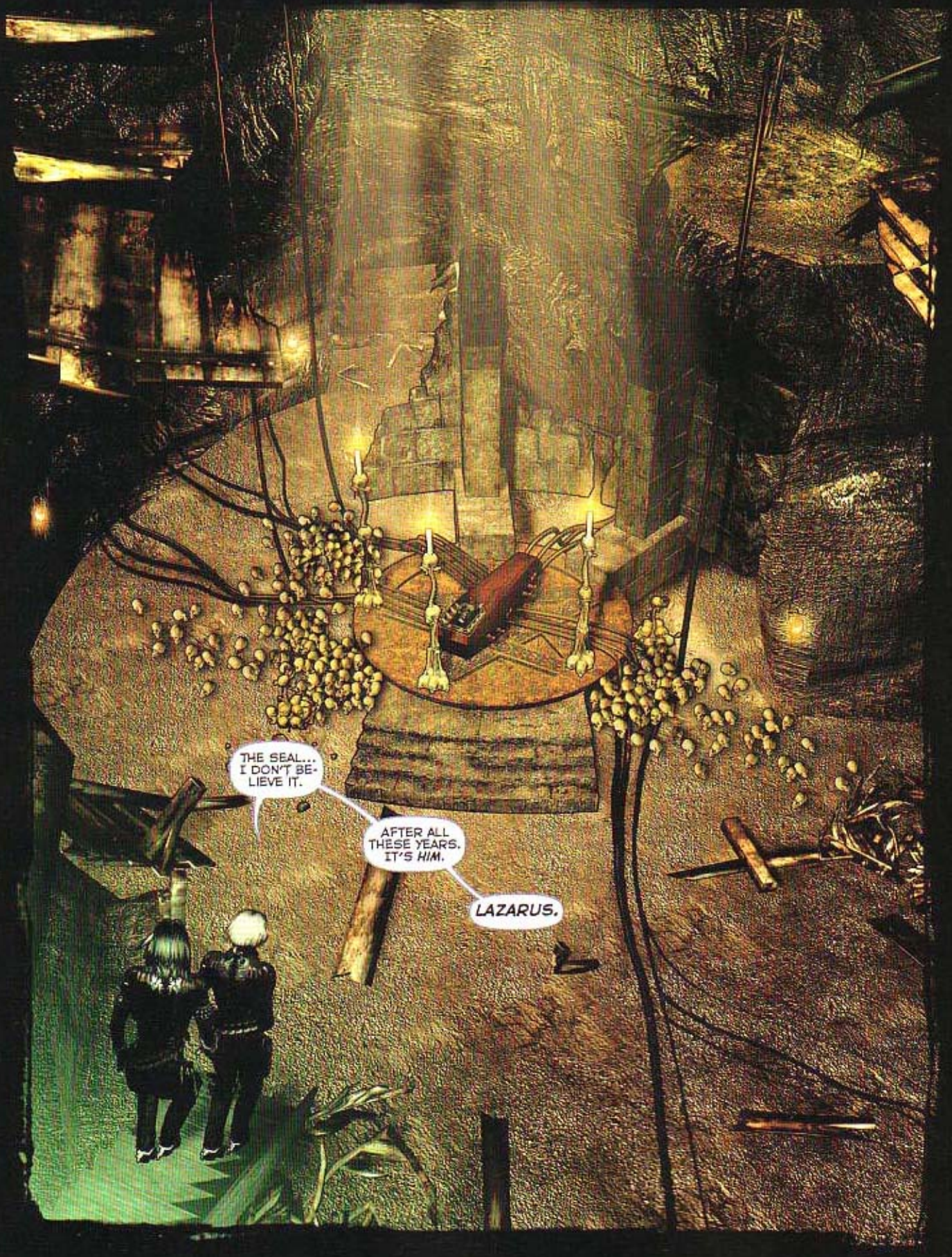
MUCH OBLIGED FOR THE KEYS, MA'AM.
YER WELCOME.
DAMNIT, TALA! YOU CAN'T JUST KILL INNOCENT MEN.
THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING.
HE WEREN'T SO INNOCENT, ANYWAYS.
I OWE YA.
LOOKS LIKE YOUR LUCKY DAY, MISTER...?
CROSS, JERICHO CROSS. AND YOU ARE... ONE FINE...
MY FACE IS UP HERE, MR. CROSS.
WHEN THE BLOOD FLOWS BACK INTO YOUR HEAD, I SUGGEST YOU HIGH-TAIL IT OUT OF TOWN. THERE'S NOTHING FOR YOU HERE.
NOTHING...
...EXCEPT MAYBE GOLD
Cantina
...AND NOW I KNOW RIGHT WHERE TO FIND IT.

A SALOON FOR VAMPIRES, WITH BLOOD ON TAP.
GOTTA LOVE THE PROMISE OF THE AMERICAN WEST.
FUNNY COSTUME YOU'RE WEARIN?
YOU WERE SAYIN'?
--BUT A NICE PIECE O MEAT--
BLAM
WELL, THAT WAS EASY...
HISSSSSSS
TOO EASY.
WE'VE GOT PROBLEMS.

SSSSSS
I'D MAKE FOR AN EXIT, LADIES!
OH SHIT.
THE WINDOW--
JUMP!
KRASH!
KA-BOOM!

LADIES.
LOOKS LIKE A *REWARD* MIGHT BE IN ORDER...
I'VE GOT YER REWARD RIGHT HERE...
WAIT.
IF IT'S *GOLD* HE WANTS, LET 'IM *EARN* IT.
RIDE NORTH TO SAN MIGUEL. TAKE THIS *BADGE* TO THE BLACK-SMITH'S SHOP AND TELL THEM THE *DARK-WATCH* NEEDS HELP.
THEY'LL SEE TO YER GOLD.
YOU AIN'T HERE WHEN I GET BACK, THERE'S GONNA BE *HELL* TO PAY.
IF WE AIN'T HERE WHEN YOU GET BACK...

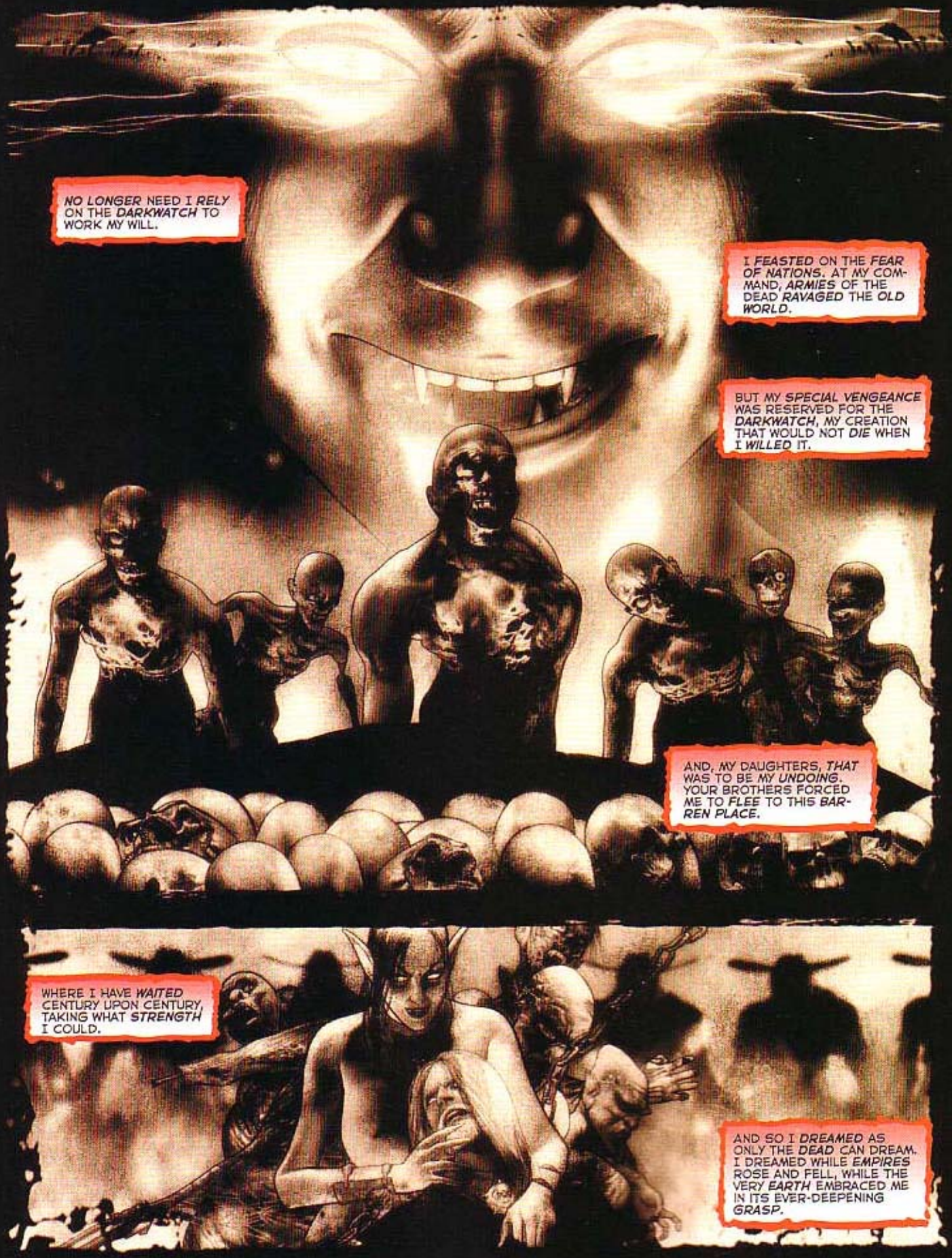
"...HELL IS WHERE YOU'LL FIND US."
THESE TUNNELS GO ON FOREVER...
RUMM RUMM
YOU HEAR THAT?
THEY'RE PUMPIN' BLOOD FROM EVERY CHURCH, SALOON AND OUTHOUSE IN TOWN...
RUMM RUMM RUMM
WHY?
THEY LIKE BLOOD? THEY ARE VAMPIRES, AFTER ALL.
IT'S MORE THAN THAT, TALA.
MUCH MORE.


THE SEAL... I DON'T BELIEVE IT.
AFTER ALL THESE YEARS. IT'S HIM.
LAZARUS.

WHO?
LAZARUS. THE FOUNDER. THE BETRAYER.
WE'VE GOT TO WARN--
STOP.
SLEEP.
DAUGHTERS OF THE DARKWATCH. YOU HAVE COME AT LAST.
I HAVE SO MUCH TO TELL YOU.

ONCE I WAS A MAN.
A FOOLISH MAN. A MAN WHO WANTED TO SAVE THE WORLD FROM DARKNESS WITH A FOOLISH ORGANIZATION CALLED DARKWATCH.
BUT I WAS A MORTAL MAN. AND I KNEW MY CRUSADE WOULD TAKE MANY LIFETIMES OF MEN.

TO CONTINUE MY FIGHT, I SURRENDERED MY SOUL.
WILLINGLY.
AND BECAME A GOD.

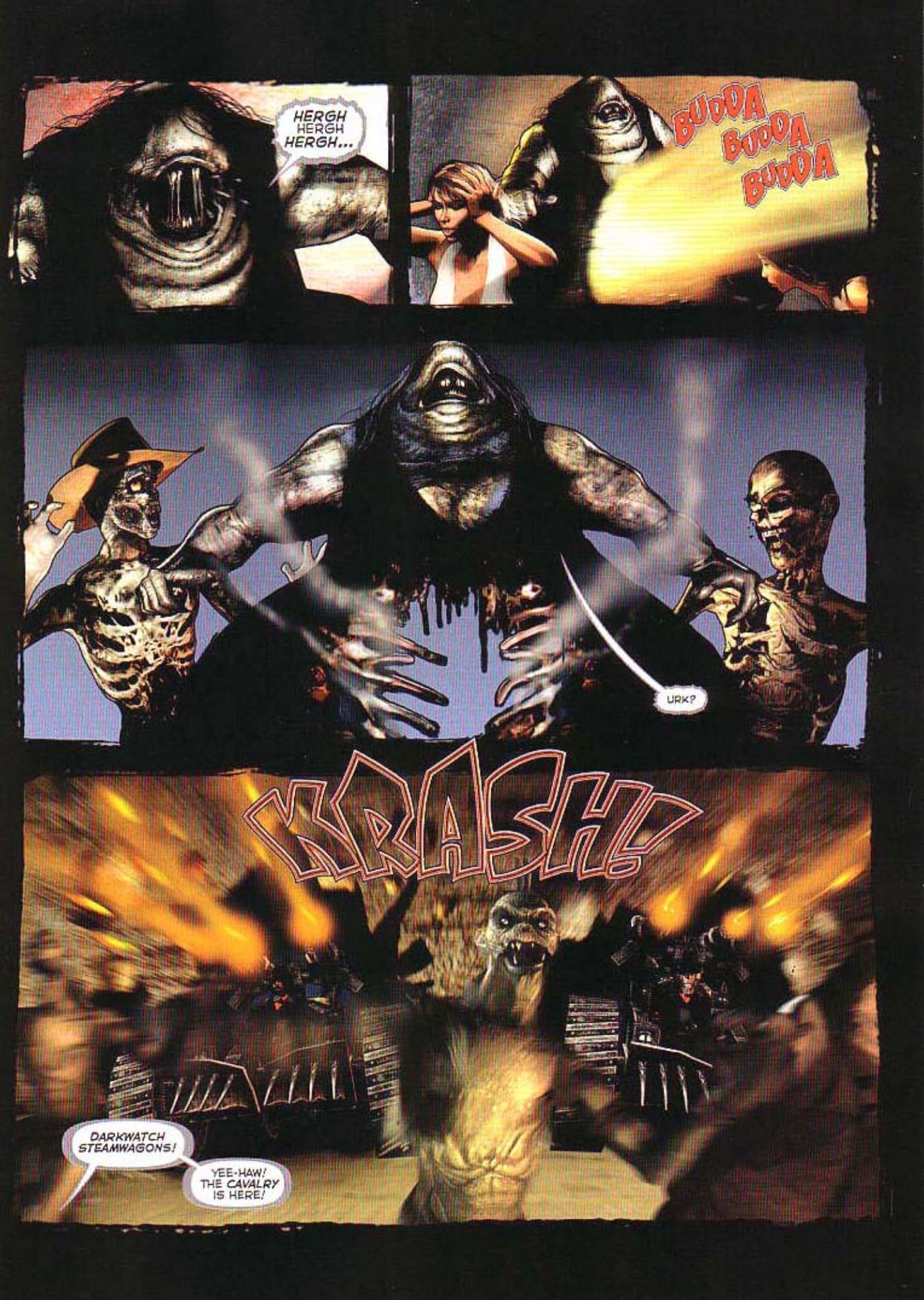

NO LONGER NEED I RELY ON THE DARKWATCH TO WORK MY WILL.
I FEASTED ON THE FEAR OF NATIONS. AT MY COMMAND, ARMIES OF THE DEAD RAVAGED THE OLD WORLD.
BUT MY SPECIAL VENGEANCE WAS RESERVED FOR THE DARKWATCH, MY CREATION THAT WOULD NOT DIE WHEN I WILLED IT.
AND, MY DAUGHTERS, THAT WAS TO BE MY UNDOING. YOUR BROTHERS FORCED ME TO FLEE TO THIS BARREN PLACE.
WHERE I HAVE WAITED CENTURY UPON CENTURY, TAKING WHAT STRENGTH I COULD.
AND SO I DREAMED AS ONLY THE DEAD CAN DREAM. I DREAMED WHILE EMPIRES ROSE AND FELL, WHILE THE VERY EARTH EMBRACED ME IN ITS EVER-DEEPENING GRASP.

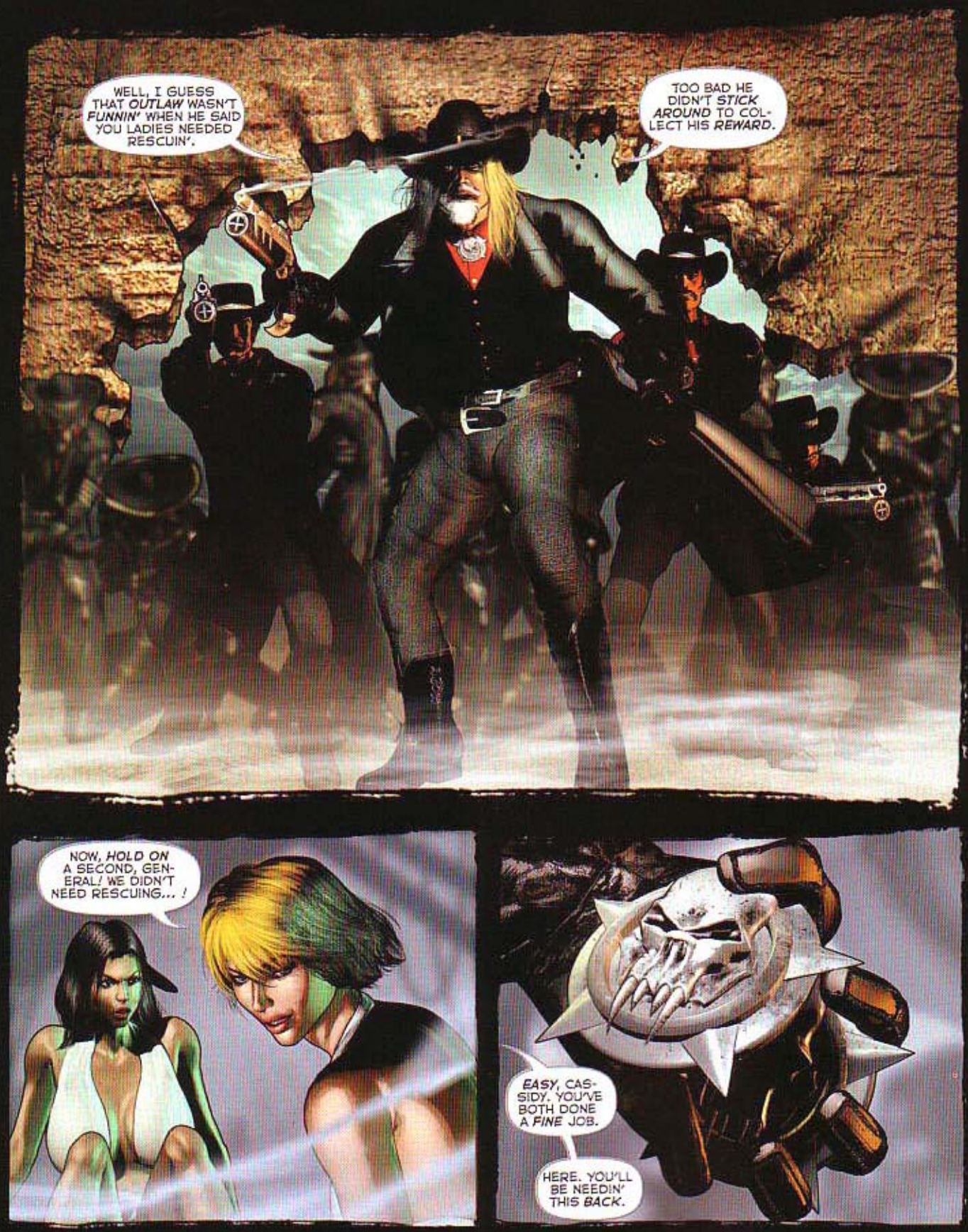
I DREAMED OF A NEWLY RISEN DARKWATCH, BENT TO MY WILL.
I DREAMED OF THE INSTRUMENT OF MY VENGEANCE, SPRUNG FROM THE GREED OF INNOCENT MEN. THAT OUTLAW YOU MET IN THE SALOON-- JERICHO CROSS-- WILL DO NICELY.
AND I DREAMED OF YOU, MY DARLINGS. WITHOUT YOU, MY DREAMS ARE ASHES.
SOON, I WILL WAKE.
WAKE...
WAKE.

JESUS, WHAT A NIGHTMARE-- SHIT!
'BOUT TIME YOU WOKE UP.
LAZARUS! WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM!
UNLESS WE CAN USE PUBIC HAIR AS A WEAPON, WE'RE DEAD MEAT.
IDEAS?
NAH. YOU?
NOPE.
SEEING AS HOW WE'RE ABOUT TO BE SACRIFICED, I GOTTA BE STRAIGHT WITH YOU.
...YAH?
I NEVER LIKED YOU.
AND YOU'RE A BLOODY BITCH.
SO, WE'RE GOOD?
GOOD.

WAIT? BLOOD-- THAT'S IT!
THE BLOOD-- IT WILL MAKE OUR WRISTS SLIPPERY!
GOT TO-- BREAK A PIPE!
ALMOST...
DID IT!!
OW.
NOW WHAT?
WE FIGHT!!

GOOD. THAT'S SOMETHING I KNOW HOW TO DO.
SPURG!
CRAK!
SOMETHING'S UP! THEY'RE FALLING BACK...
OOZER!
BREAK RIGHT!
DEATH BY SPIT. HOW EMBARRASSING.


HERGH HERGH HERGH...
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
URK?
KRASH!
DARKWATCH STEAMWAGONS!
YEE-HAW! THE CAVALRY IS HERE!


WELL, I GUESS THAT *OUTLAW* WASN'T *FUNNIN'* WHEN HE SAID YOU LADIES NEEDED RESCUIN'.
TOO BAD HE DIDN'T *STICK AROUND* TO COLLECT HIS *REWARD*.
NOW, *HOLD ON* A SECOND, GENERAL! WE DIDN'T NEED RESCUING... !
EASY, CASSIDY. YOU'VE BOTH DONE A *FINE* JOB.
HERE. YOU'LL BE NEEDIN' THIS *BACK*.

WAIT A SECOND--! THEY'RE RUNNIN' OFF WITH *LAZARUS'* COFFIN!
LOOKS LIKE *YOU* AND THE REST OF THE CAVALRY CAN HANDLE THE *CLEAN-UP* HERE, *GENERAL*.
TALA AND ME HAVE GOT A *STAGE* TO *CATCH!*

HYAH!
VROOM!
BOOM!
IT'S NO USE!
THAT THING'S ARMORED!
HANG ON!
YOU CRAZY--!
WE CAN'T RAM HIM!

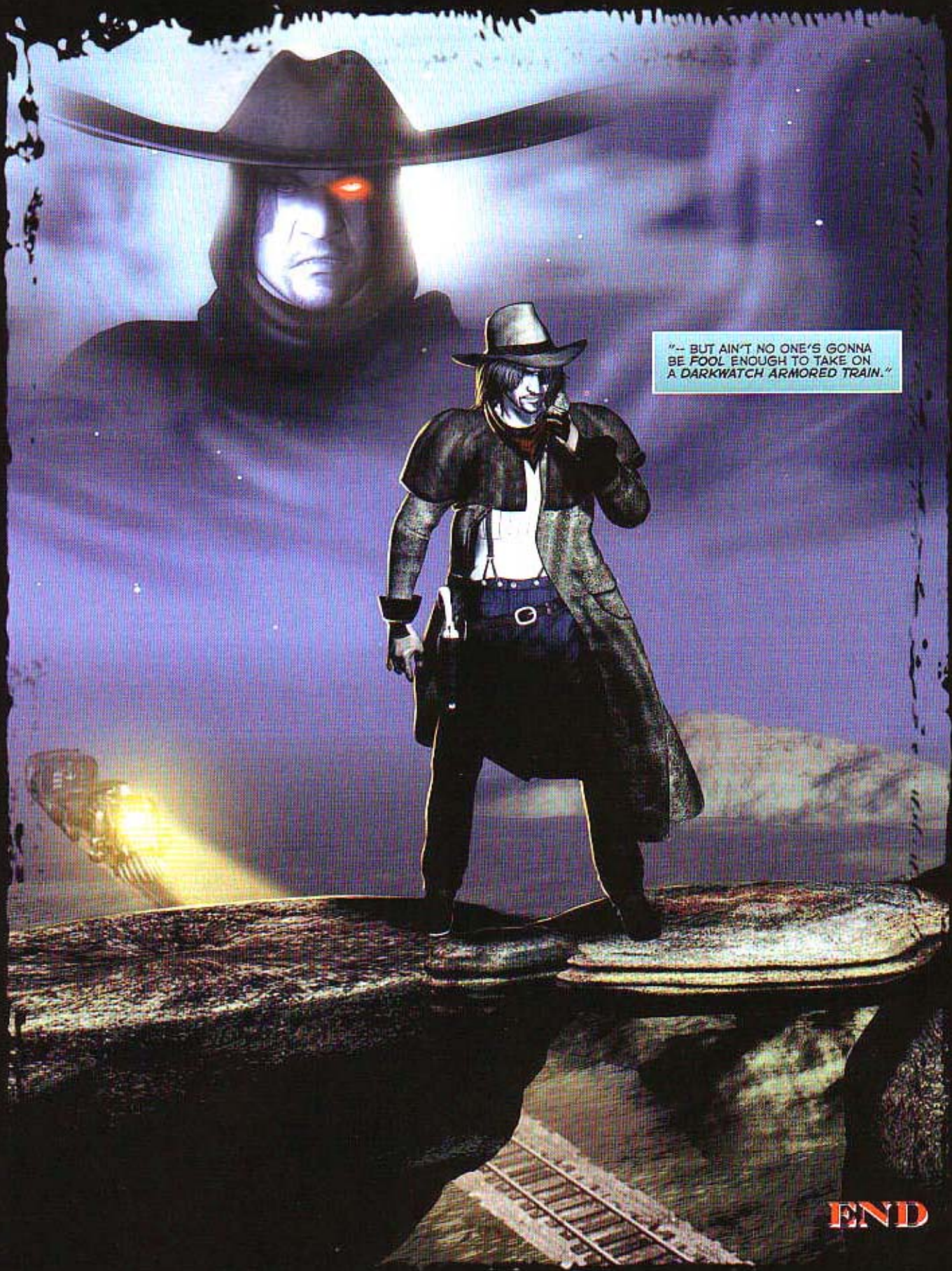
SSSSSSS
LOOK OUT!
SHOOT HIM, AL-READY!
DAMN GUN CAN'T AIM THAT LOW!
BOOM!
HOLD HER STEADY!

TALA!
STILL BREATHING...
HISSSSSSS
OK.
WE'LL DO THIS THE OLD FASHIONED WAY.
YOUR... MOVE...
DRAW!

BLAM!
THUD
NOW...
...LET'S SEE WHAT'S UNDER THAT HOOD.
MY GOD... NO...
DADDY...?
CASSIDY... THANK YOU...
I'M DYING, CASSIDY... FINALLY DYING.
TRY NOT TO HATE ME. I'VE BEEN SO SICK I NEEDED HELP.
YOU'RE NOT MY FATHER!
BEFORE I DIE...
...I WANT TO KISS MY LITTLE GIRL...

...ONE LAST TIME...
NO...!!!
BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!
TOLD YA THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING AS AN INNO-CENT MAN.
WAS HE REALLY YOUR FATHER?
NO...
...YES...!
IT'S ALL RIGHT, CASSIDY. LET IT OUT. LET IT ALL OUT.

LATER.
WE CAME OUT HERE LOOKIN' FOR GOLD, AND INSTEAD WE FOUND LAZARUS, MYSTERIOUS FORCES ARE AFOOT.
I SENT YOU ON THIS MISSION ... AFTER A TIP FROM A SOURCE I CAN'T REVEAL. IF I HURT YOU BY DOIN IT, THEN I'M SORRY...
WHICH IS AN OLD MAN'S WAY OF SAYIN'... YOU DONE GOOD, CASSIDY. I'M PROUD OF YOU.
I UNDERSTAND, SIR.
WHAT HAPPENED TO CROSS-- THE OUTLAW?
HE RABBITED. MARK MY WORDS, THAT'S THE LAST WE'LL EVER SEE OF THAT SCUM.
HE WAS A SNAKE, SNAKES HAVE THEIR USES, 'SPECIALLY WHEN YOU'RE FIGHTIN' SOMETHING WORSE THAN SNAKES--
--BUT WE'D BE LOST WITHOUT ANGELS LOOKIN' OUT FER INNOCENT MEN.
THERE AIN'T NO SUCH THING, GENERAL.
HA! WELL, OF COURSE THERE AIN'T!
BUT THAT DON'T STOP US FROM BELIEVIN' IN 'EM, DOES IT?
YOU SURE YOU'RE UP TO THIS COMMAND?
YES, SIR.
SHOULD BE A MILK RUN.
KEEP ALERT WHILE YOU TRANSPORT LAZARUS BACK TO THE CITADEL--


"-- BUT AIN'T NO ONE'S GONNA BE *FOOL* ENOUGH TO TAKE ON A *DARKWATCH ARMORED TRAIN.*"
END

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- ☐ **MARCH 2000** Brothers Hildebrandt cover! Gallery on Stacy E. Walker! "They're Only Memories" by Azpiri! Sha # 2 "Soul Wound"!
- ☐ **MAY 2000** Gypsy #3- "The Day Of The Czar"! "The Committment" by Azpiri! Cromwell! Trillo!
- ☐ **JULY 2000** Bisley cover! Stan & Vince! Gimenez!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2000** The end of the "Teddy Bear" series!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2000** Royo cover! Altuna! "The Keepers of the Maser 4 -The Iron Tower"!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2001** Caza! Boucq! Gimenez! Vega's, "The Air"!
- ☐ **MARCH 2001** The final graphic novel in the "Sha" series! Simon Bisley Cover
- ☐ **MAY 2001** Druuna is back in "The Forgotten Planet" by Serpieri! Liberatore! "Fistfull of Blood" by Simon Bisley and Kevin Eastman!
- ☐ **JULY 2001** Featuring the Graphic novel "24 Hour Man"! Boris Vallejo Cover! "Fistfull of Blood" continues by Simon Bisley and Kevin Eastman!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2001** Gypsy 4 - "Black Eyes"! Bisley! Gimenez! Trillo!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2001** "Yui-In Hell"! Pahek! Bisley! DeFelice!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2002-** Stan & Vince return with a new graphic novel, "The Bomb" Chichoni cover!
- ☐ **MARCH 2002-** Lorna returns in the new graphic novel, "The Ark" by Azpiri. Royo cover! Boucq! Pahek!
- ☐ **MAY 2002-** Stan & Vince! "Snake"! "Fistful of Blood"! "Choose Your Game"!
- ☐ **JULY 2002-** "The Spell of the Rhunes" by Pradier & Plumail! Trillo! Giorello!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2002-** Gypsy returns in "The White Wing"! "Fistful of Blood"!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2002-** Featuring the Graphic Novel, "Yu-My Promise to You!"! Cover by Julie Bell!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2003-** Azpiri returns with "Wet Dreams #2"! Alex Horley Cover! The final installment of "Fistful of Blood"!
- ☐ **MARCH 2003-** Featuring Requiem-Resurrection by Pat Mills!
- ☐ **MAY 2003-** #5 in Mazer series - Frezzato's Edge of the World!
- ☐ **JULY 2003-** Gimenez, Phek & Graphic Novel "Dreams of Blood"!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2003-** Graphic novel "The Regulator-Ambrosia" Plus Interview on Frazzeta
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2003-** Druuna is back in the graphic novel, "Clone"! Alex Horleycover!
- ☐ **JANUARY 2004-** Gypsy returns in "The Aztec Laugh"! Simon Bisley cover!
- ☐ **MARCH 2004-** "Requiem #2" by Mills and Ledroit! Jim Burns cover!
- ☐ **MAY 2004-** "Magika #2- The Fiery Verses"! Lorenzo Sperlonga cover!
- ☐ **JULY 2004-** "Yu #3- Assassins"! "Demon Winds #2" by Azpiri!
- ☐ **SEPTEMBER 2004-** "Regulator #2- Hestia"! "Demon Wind #3" by Azpiri! Royo cover!
- ☐ **NOVEMBER 2004-** Featuring the graphic novel, "The Mark of the Devil: The Scarlet Epic".
- ☐ **JANUARY 2005-** "Requiem #3- Dracula"! Mudwogs by Arthur Suydam!
- ☐ **MARCH 2005-** "Borgia" by Jodorowsky & Manara. "Mudwogs #2" by Arthur Suydam!

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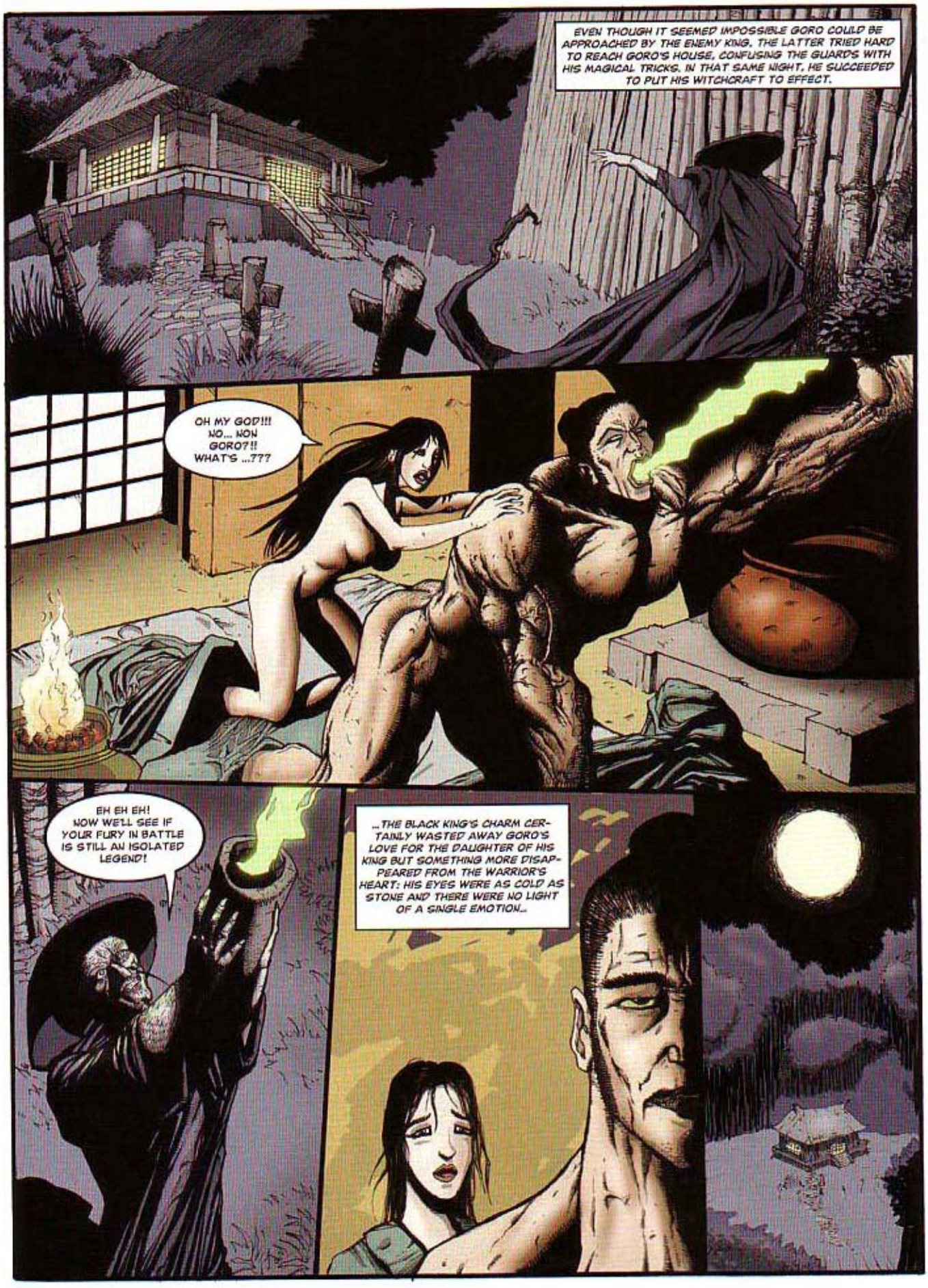
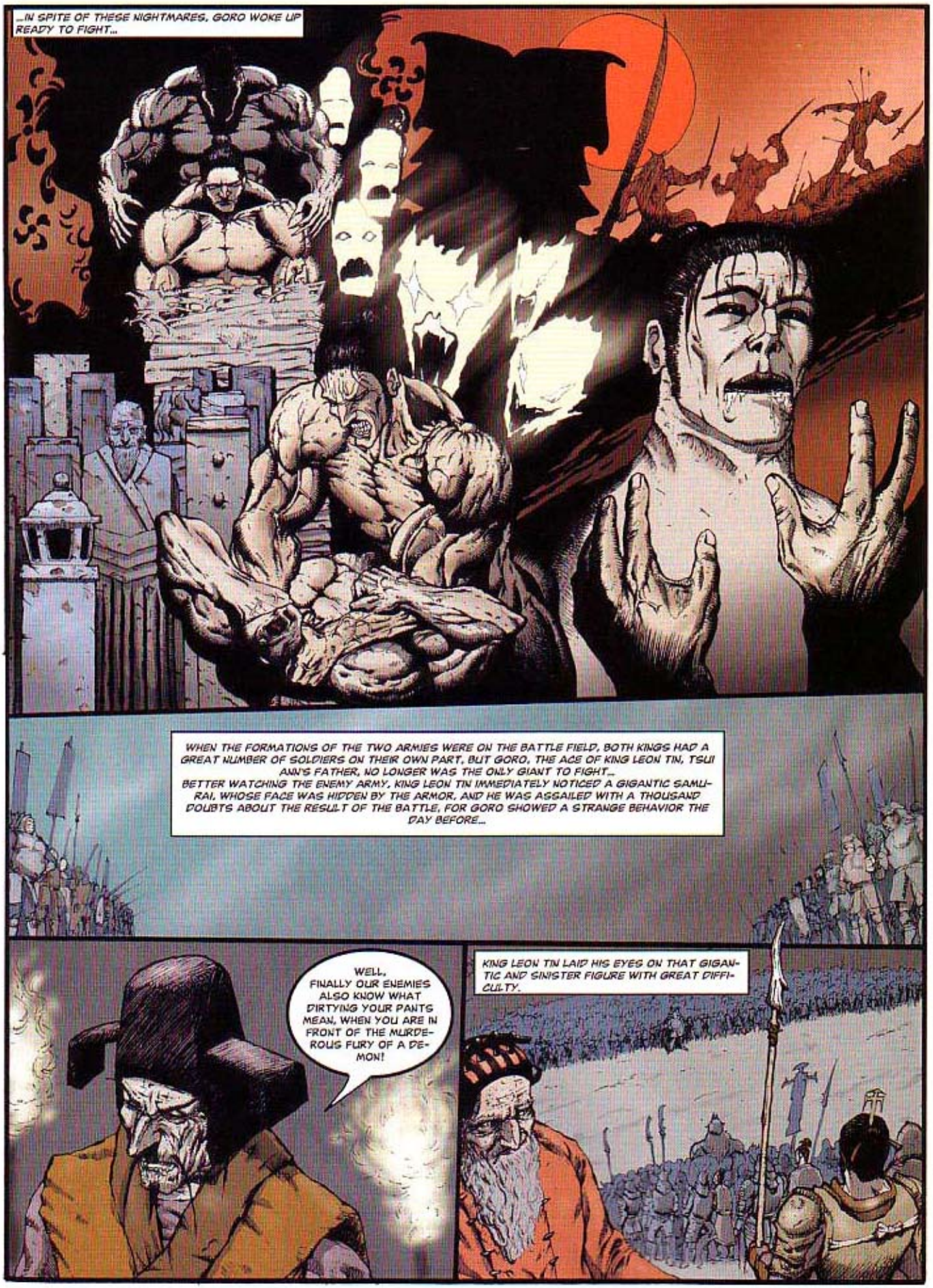
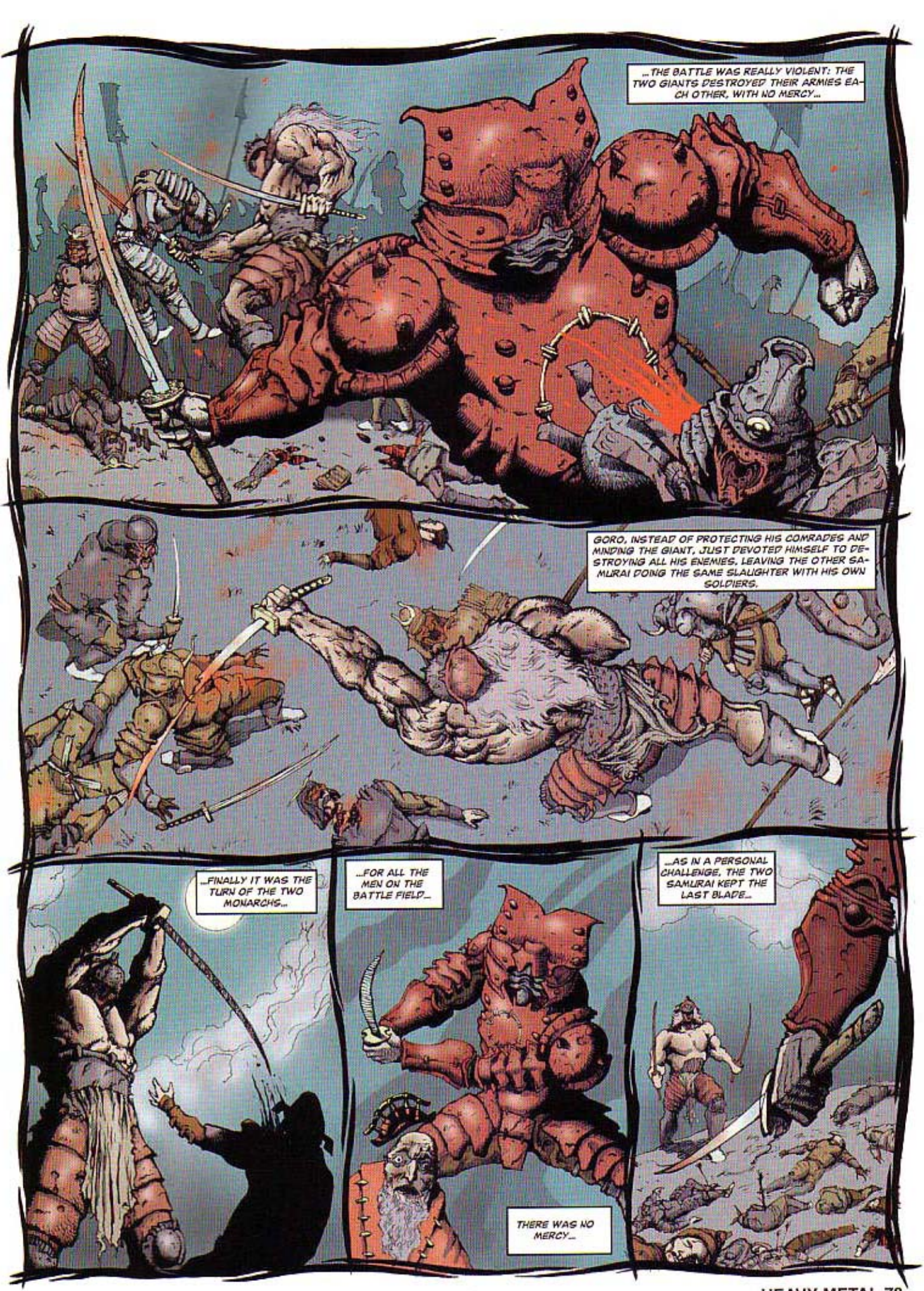
The Last Battle©
ART & STORY : CARLO BOCCHIO
TRANSLATION: MARZIA BORINO
COLORS: MAURO BALLONI
DAMN!!! WE MUST WITHDRAW, OR THAT BLOODY DEMON WILL KILL US ALL!
GORO, KNOWN AS "THE DEMON", WAS THE STRONGEST SAMURAI EVER LIVED IN JAPAN. HE LOVED HIS KING'S DAUGHTER, AND WHEN HE STRUGGLED AGAINST HIS ENEMIES, THIS LOVE WAS THE ONLY POWER ABLE TO GIVE HIM THE DESTRUCTIVE STRENGTH MAKING HIM LOOK LIKE THE REAPER IN THE CORN FIELD...


EVEN THOUGH IT SEEMED IMPOSSIBLE GORO COULD BE APPROACHED BY THE ENEMY KING, THE LATTER TRIED HARD TO REACH GORO'S HOUSE, CONFUSING THE GUARDS WITH HIS MAGICAL TRICKS. IN THAT SAME NIGHT, HE SUCCEEDED TO PUT HIS WITCHCRAFT TO EFFECT.
OH MY GOD!!! NO... NON GORO?!! WHAT'S ...???
EH EH EH! NOW WE'LL SEE IF YOUR FURY IN BATTLE IS STILL AN ISOLATED LEGEND!
...THE BLACK KING'S CHARM CERTAINLY WASTED AWAY GORO'S LOVE FOR THE DAUGHTER OF HIS KING BUT SOMETHING MORE DISAPPEARED FROM THE WARRIOR'S HEART: HIS EYES WERE AS COLD AS STONE AND THERE WERE NO LIGHT OF A SINGLE EMOTION...

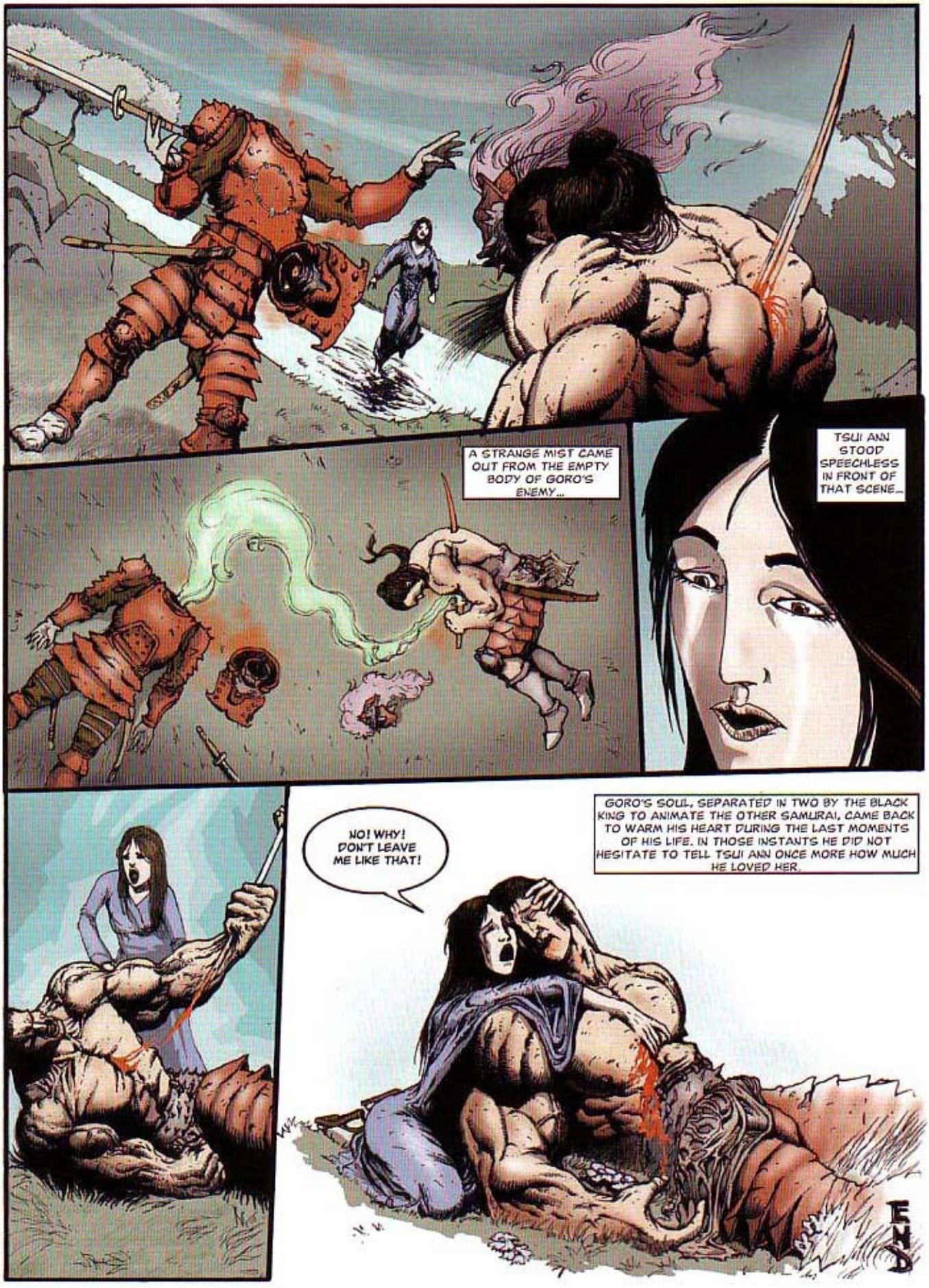
GORO WENT TO THE KING'S PALACE TO INSTRUCT AND ENCOURAGE HIS SOLDIERS FOR THE BATTLE, AS HE ALWAYS DID BEFORE EACH STRUGGLE. BUT NO EMOTION FILTERED OUT OF HIS WORDS...
...GORO USUALLY DID NOT WEAR A HELM BEFORE THE BATTLE. THE KING AND THE SOLDIERS JUST FOUND A SOLID AND INDIFFERENT BEING...
GORO, I KNOW ABOUT YOUR FIGHT WITH TSUI AIN, AND I HOPE THIS WILL NOT WEAKEN YOU DURING THE BATTLE...
...BUT THE GIANT DID NOT SLEEP ON IT...STRANGE NIGHTMARES RUSHED INTO HIS SLEEP: HE STRUGGLED AGAINST HIMSELF TO DEATH AND THE WINNING PART WAS A PALE COPY WITH NO DESIRE...
YES MY LORD, I'LL DO WHAT YOU ASK...
THE RESULT OF THE BATTLE MOSTLY DEPENDS ON YOU AND THIS COULD BE THE FINAL ONE. GO NOW AND REST UNTIL TOMORROW...


...IN SPITE OF THESE NIGHTMARES, GORO WOKE UP READY TO FIGHT...
WHEN THE FORMATIONS OF THE TWO ARMIES WERE ON THE BATTLE FIELD, BOTH KINGS HAD A GREAT NUMBER OF SOLDIERS ON THEIR OWN PART, BUT GORO, THE ACE OF KING LEON TIN, TSUI ANN'S FATHER, NO LONGER WAS THE ONLY GIANT TO FIGHT...
BETTER WATCHING THE ENEMY ARMY, KING LEON TIN IMMEDIATELY NOTICED A GIGANTIC SAMURAI, WHOSE FACE WAS HIDDEN BY THE ARMOR. AND HE WAS ASSAILED WITH A THOUSAND DOUBTS ABOUT THE RESULT OF THE BATTLE, FOR GORO SHOWED A STRANGE BEHAVIOR THE DAY BEFORE...
WELL, FINALLY OUR ENEMIES ALSO KNOW WHAT DIRTYING YOUR PANTS MEAN, WHEN YOU ARE IN FRONT OF THE MURDEROUS FURY OF A DEMON!
KING LEON TIN LAID HIS EYES ON THAT GIGANTIC AND SINISTER FIGURE WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY.


...THE BATTLE WAS REALLY VIOLENT: THE TWO GIANTS DESTROYED THEIR ARMIES EACH OTHER, WITH NO MERCY...
GORO, INSTEAD OF PROTECTING HIS COMRADES AND MINDING THE GIANT, JUST DEVOTED HIMSELF TO DESTROYING ALL HIS ENEMIES, LEAVING THE OTHER SAMURAI DOING THE SAME SLAUGHTER WITH HIS OWN SOLDIERS.
...FINALLY IT WAS THE TURN OF THE TWO MONARCHS...
...FOR ALL THE MEN ON THE BATTLE FIELD...
...AS IN A PERSONAL CHALLENGE, THE TWO SAMURAI KEPT THE LAST BLADE...
THERE WAS NO MERCY...

A DEVASTATING PRIMORDIAL FURY UNCHAINED THE TWO DEMONS, EQUALLY ABLE AND STRONG...
TWO ASTONISHED EYES WATCHED THE BLOODY SCENE FROM A DISTANCE...
...THE TWO GIANTS HAD NO WORDS FOR EACH OTHER, NEITHER HATE NOR DERISION...
UNTIL A SUDDEN CLASH BROKE THE AIR AND THE GIRL, RUN TO THE FIELD AND FINDING HERSELF AMONG A STRETCH OF DEATH, STOOD IMPOTENT FACING THE END OF HER LAST HOPE...

NONE OF THEM HAD A POSSIBILITY TO SURVIVE: GORO WAS PIERCED THROUGH BY THE BLADE LIKE THE OAK PULLED DOWN BY THE LIGHTNING, THE OTHER, THE UNKNOWN ENEMY, HAD HIS HEAD CUT OFF BY HIS NECK...
- JOCCHIO -


A STRANGE MIST CAME OUT FROM THE EMPTY BODY OF GORO'S ENEMY...
TSUI ANN STOOD SPEECHLESS IN FRONT OF THAT SCENE...
NO! WHY! DON'T LEAVE ME LIKE THAT!
GORO'S SOUL, SEPARATED IN TWO BY THE BLACK KING TO ANIMATE THE OTHER SAMURAI, CAME BACK TO WARM HIS HEART DURING THE LAST MOMENTS OF HIS LIFE. IN THOSE INSTANTS HE DID NOT HESITATE TO TELL TSUI ANN ONCE MORE HOW MUCH HE LOVED HER.
END

EROS GRAPHIC NOVELS

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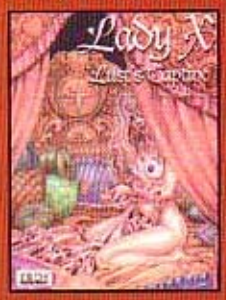

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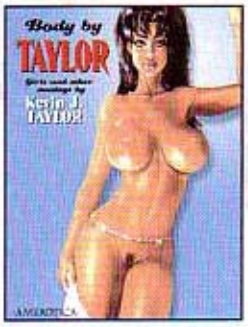

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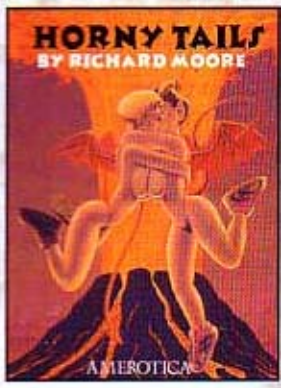

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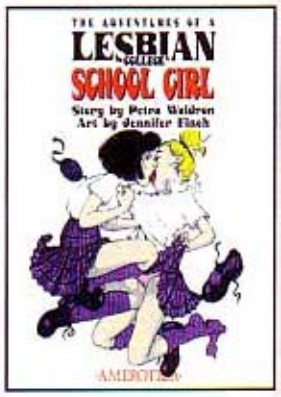

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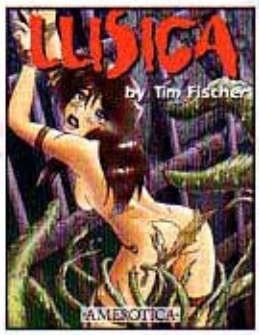

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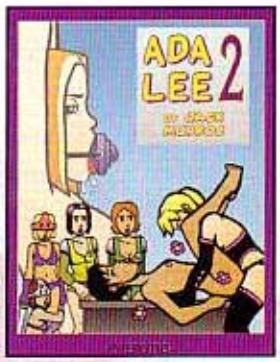

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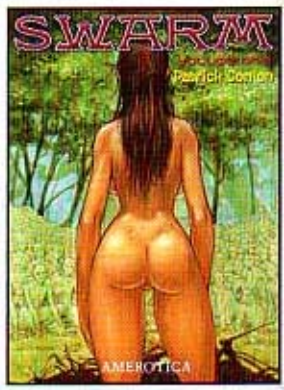

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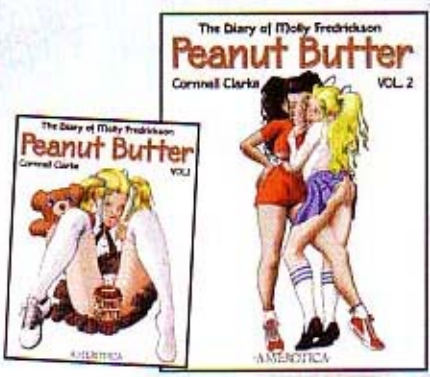

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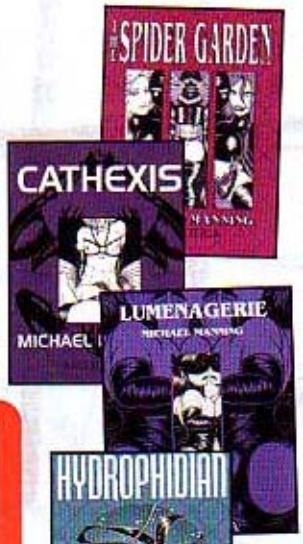

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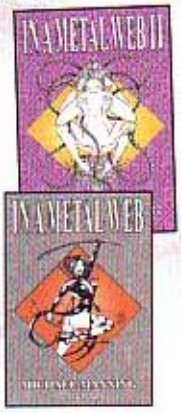

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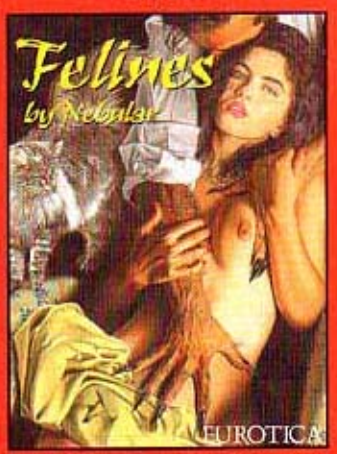

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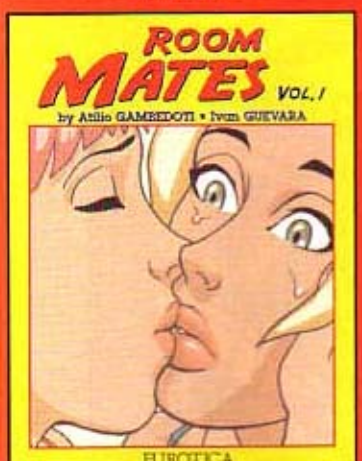

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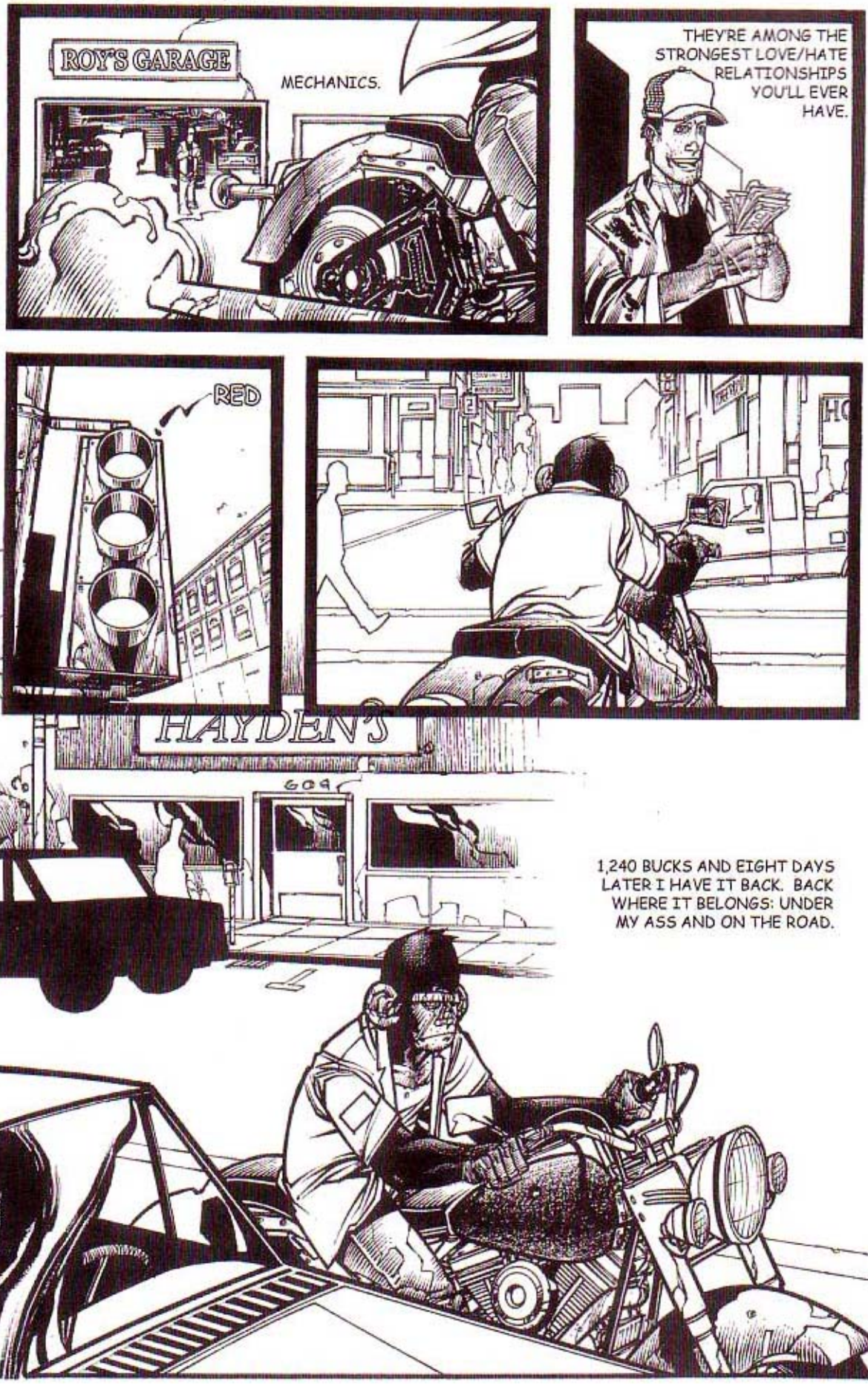
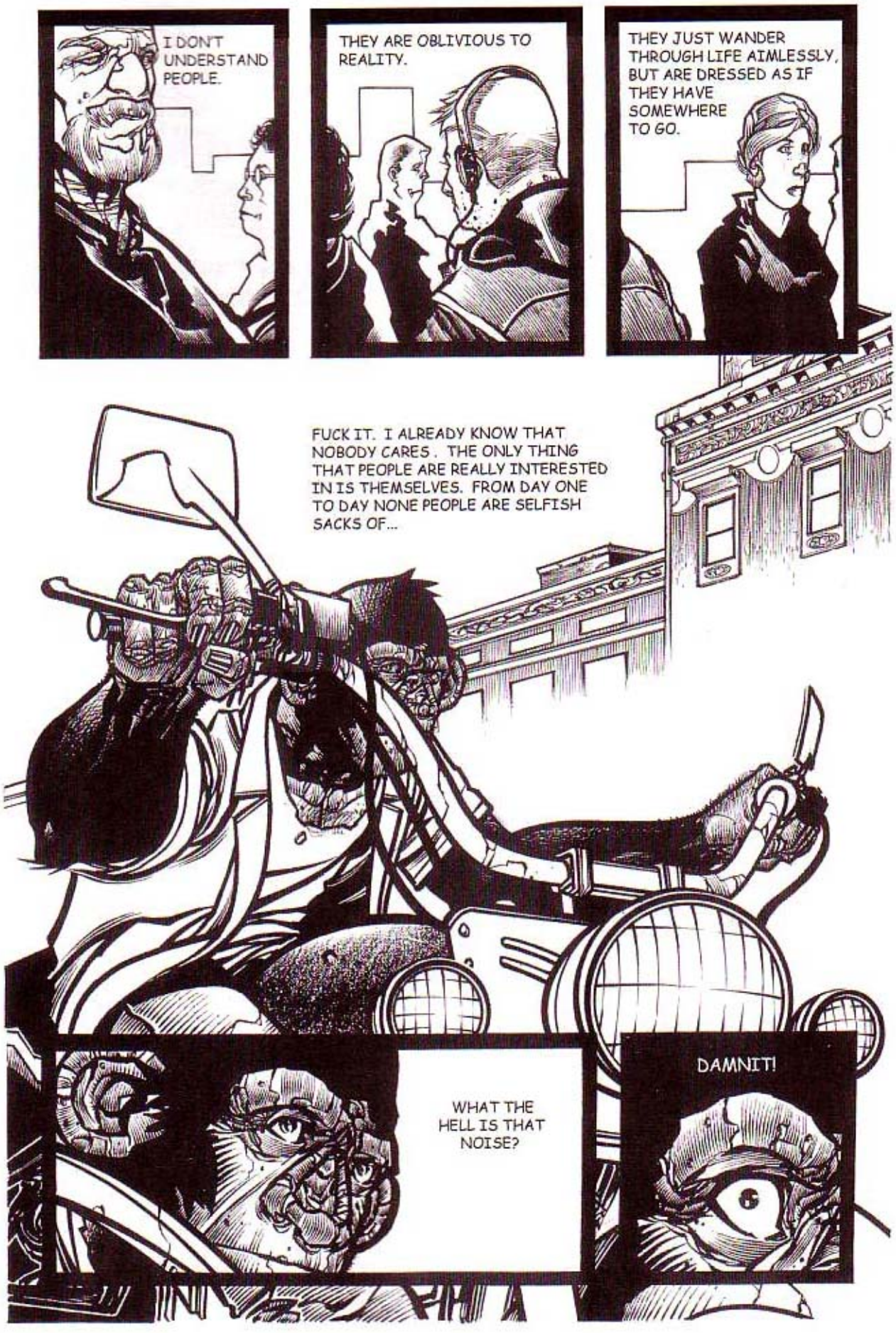
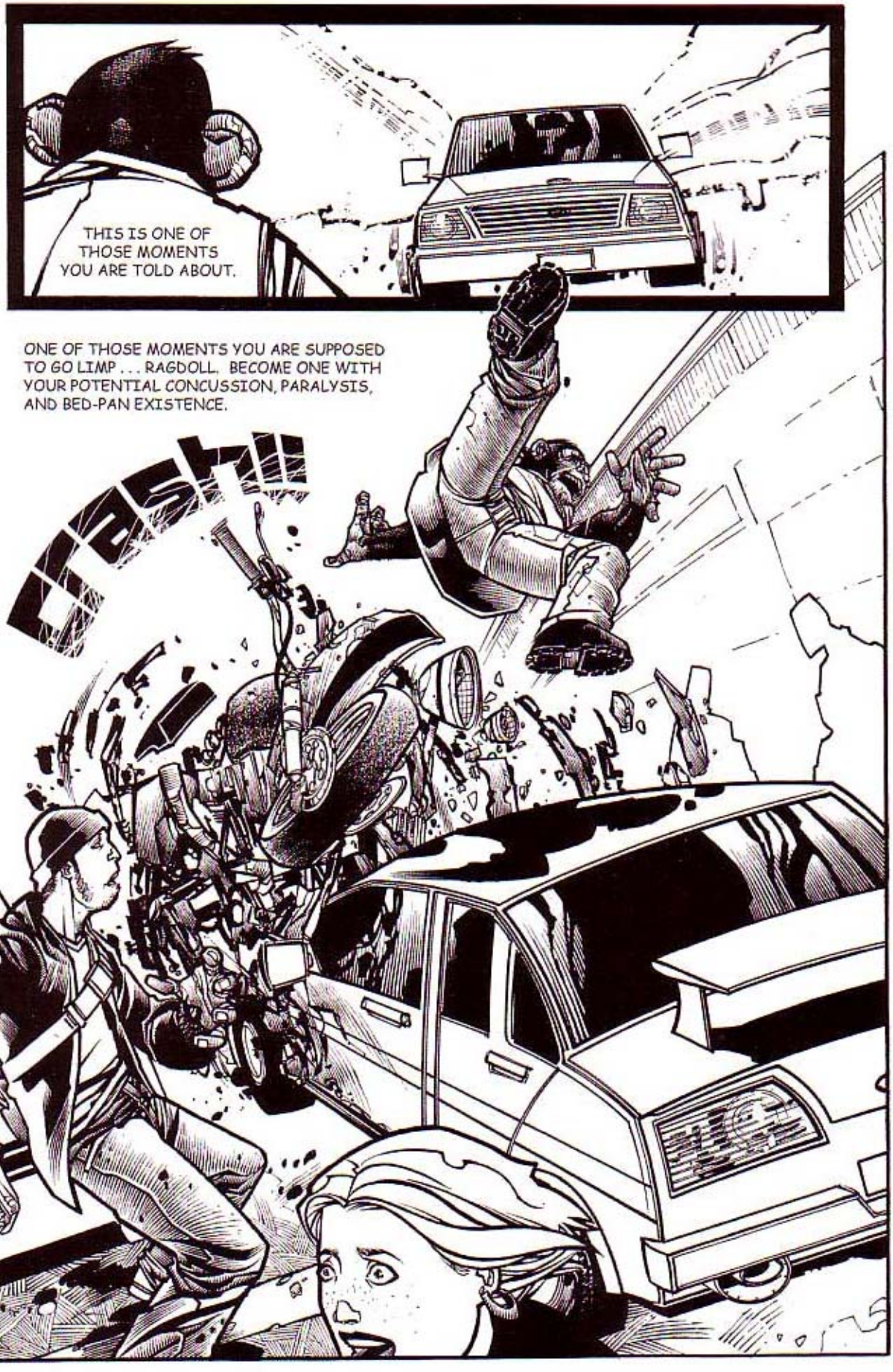
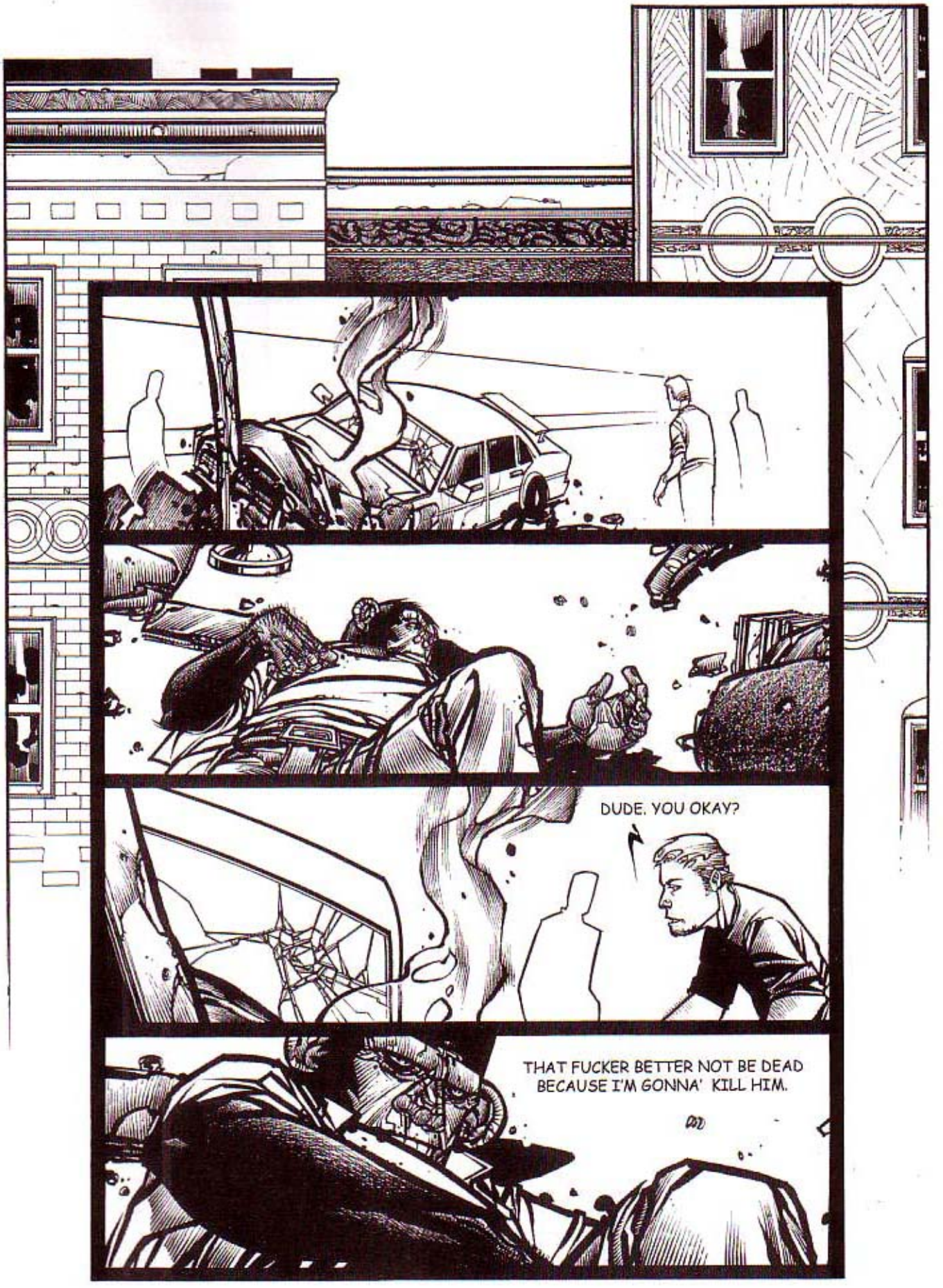
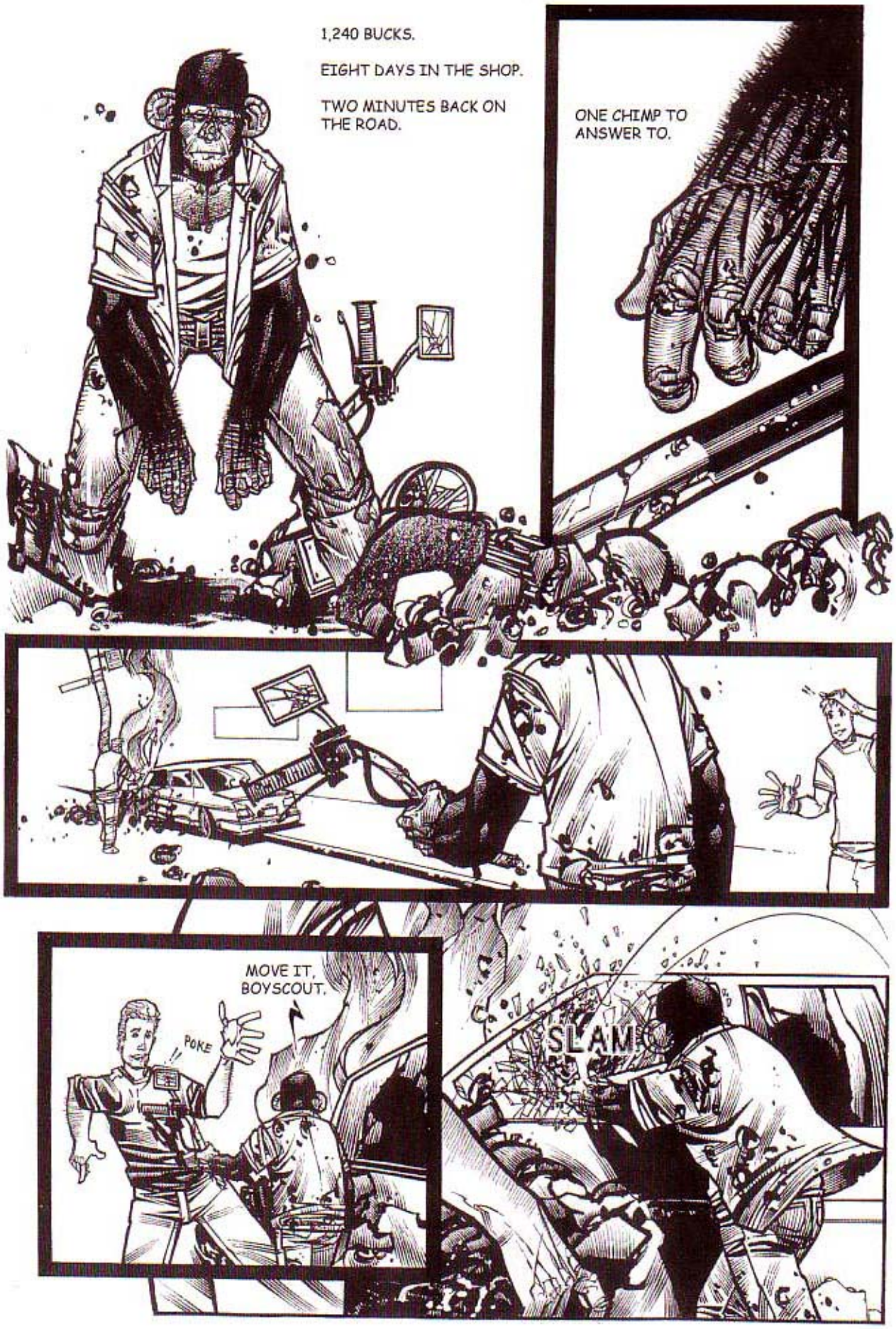
ROADSIDE ASSISTANCE



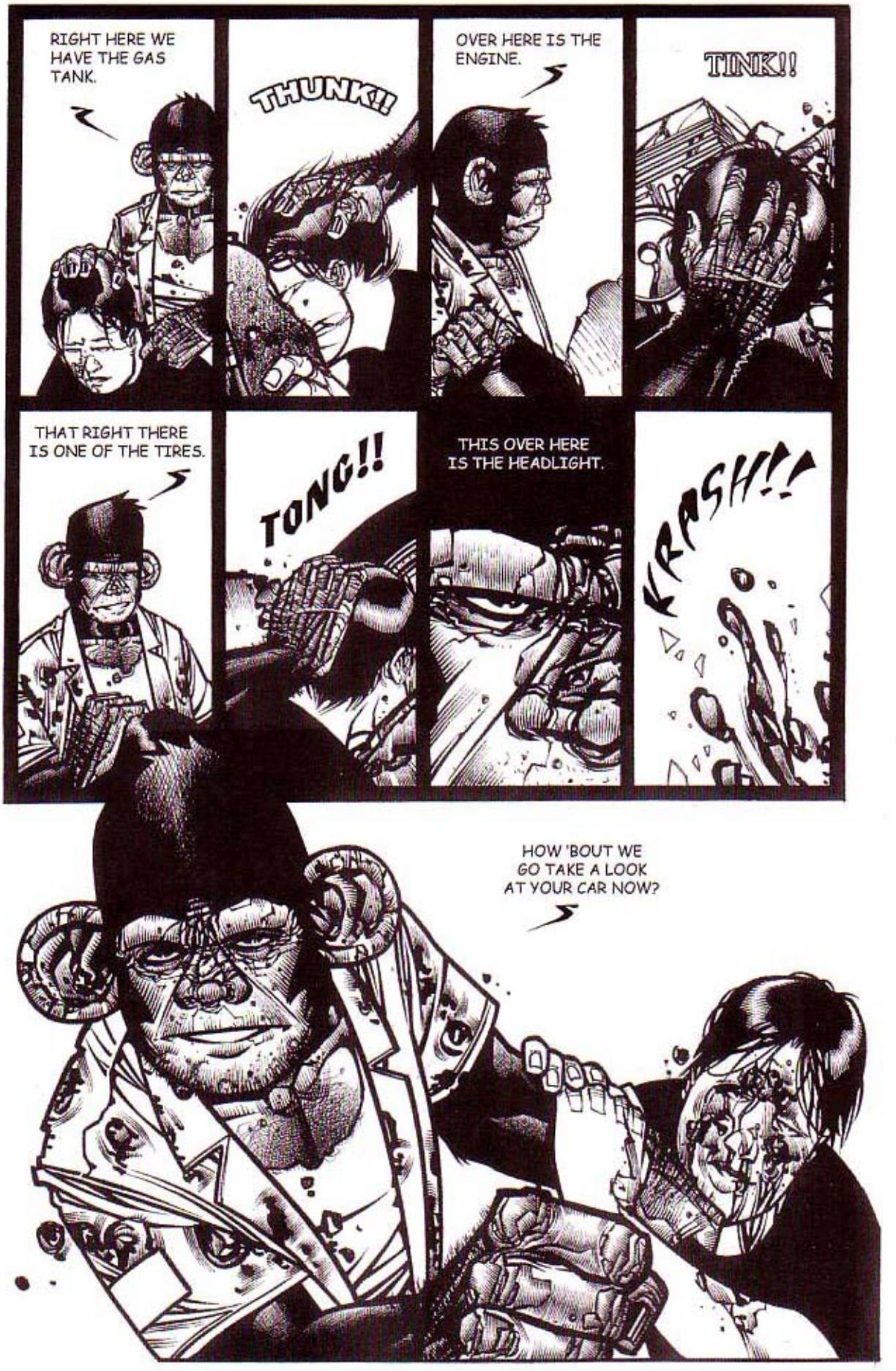

I DON'T UNDERSTAND PEOPLE.
THEY ARE OBLIVIOUS TO REALITY.
THEY JUST WANDER THROUGH LIFE AIMLESSLY, BUT ARE DRESSED AS IF THEY HAVE SOMEWHERE TO GO.
FUCK IT. I ALREADY KNOW THAT NOBODY CARES. THE ONLY THING THAT PEOPLE ARE REALLY INTERESTED IN IS THEMSELVES. FROM DAY ONE TO DAY NONE PEOPLE ARE SELFISH SACKS OF...
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT NOISE?
DAMNIT!

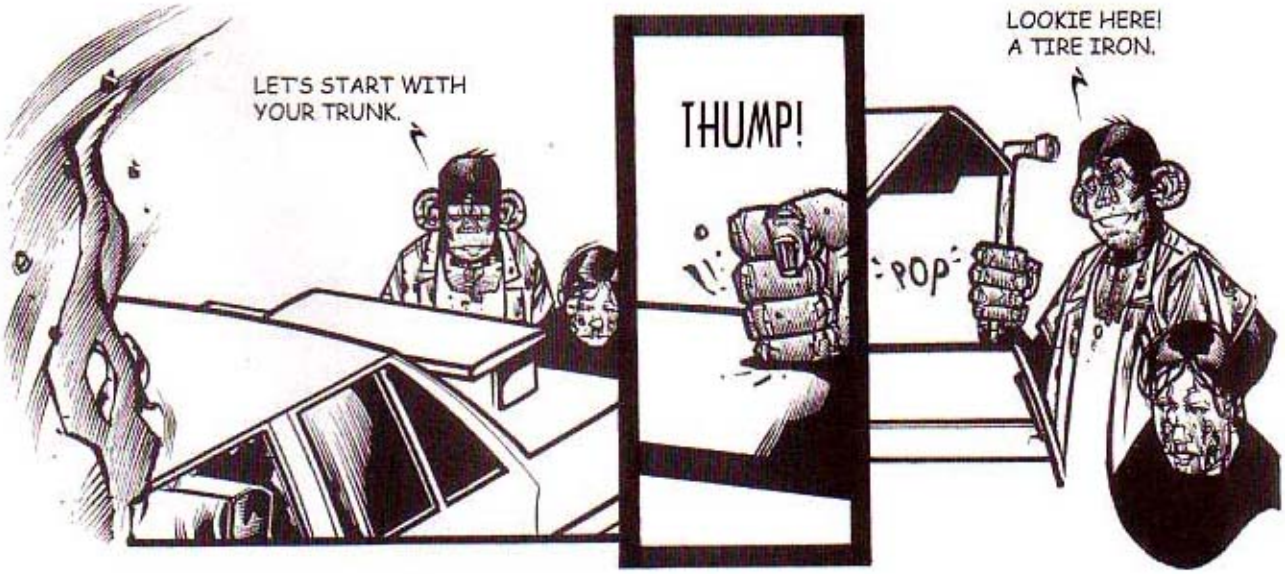

THIS IS ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS YOU ARE TOLD ABOUT.
ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO GO LIMP . . . RAGDOLL. BECOME ONE WITH YOUR POTENTIAL CONCUSSION, PARALYSIS, AND BED-PAN EXISTENCE.
CRASH!!

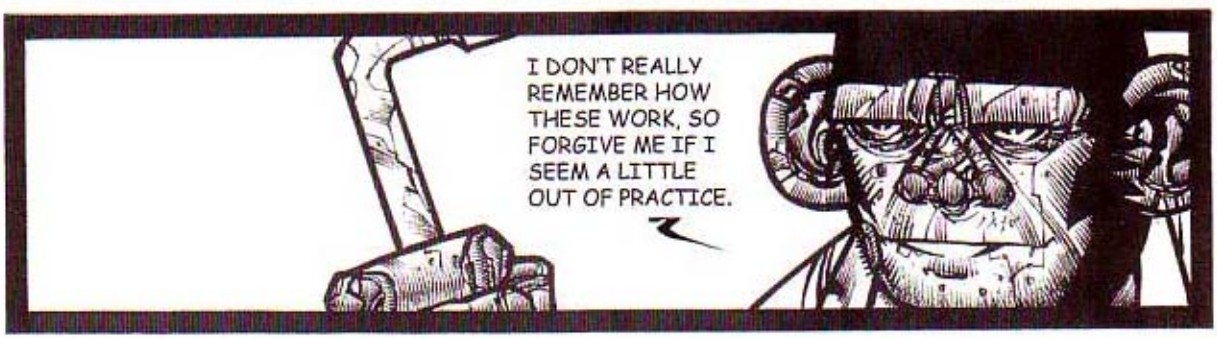

DUDE. YOU OKAY?
THAT FUCKER BETTER NOT BE DEAD BECAUSE I'M GONNA' KILL HIM.


1,240 BUCKS.
EIGHT DAYS IN THE SHOP.
TWO MINUTES BACK ON THE ROAD.
ONE CHIMP TO ANSWER TO.
MOVE IT, BOYSCOUT.
POKE
SLAM

KNOCK, KNOCK.
ME SO SOWWY.
COME ON OUT, YOU SONUVVABITCH. WE HAVE TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION AND COMPARE BUMPER SCRATCHES.
LET'S GO TAKE A LOOK AT MY BIKE FIRST. IT MAY NOT RESEMBLE MUCH NOW, BUT I ASSURE YOU IT'S ALL THERE.


RIGHT HERE WE HAVE THE GAS TANK.
THUNK!!
OVER HERE IS THE ENGINE.
TINK!!
THAT RIGHT THERE IS ONE OF THE TIRES.
TONG!!
THIS OVER HERE IS THE HEADLIGHT.
KRASH!!
HOW 'BOUT WE GO TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR CAR NOW?


LET'S START WITH YOUR TRUNK.
THUMP!
POP
LOOKIE HERE! A TIRE IRON.


I DON'T REALLY REMEMBER HOW THESE WORK, SO FORGIVE ME IF I SEEM A LITTLE OUT OF PRACTICE.

KRACK!
KRACK!!

KRACK!!!

YOU AREN'T ALREADY QUITTING ON ME, ARE YOU? I'M THE ONE WHO GOT RUN OVER. YOU WANT TO TRY APOLOGIZING TO ME IN ENGLISH AGAIN? TELL ME HOW SOWWY YOU ARE.
COME ON. TRY IT.
gurgle.
NOT GOOD ENOUGH.
NIGHT, NIGHT

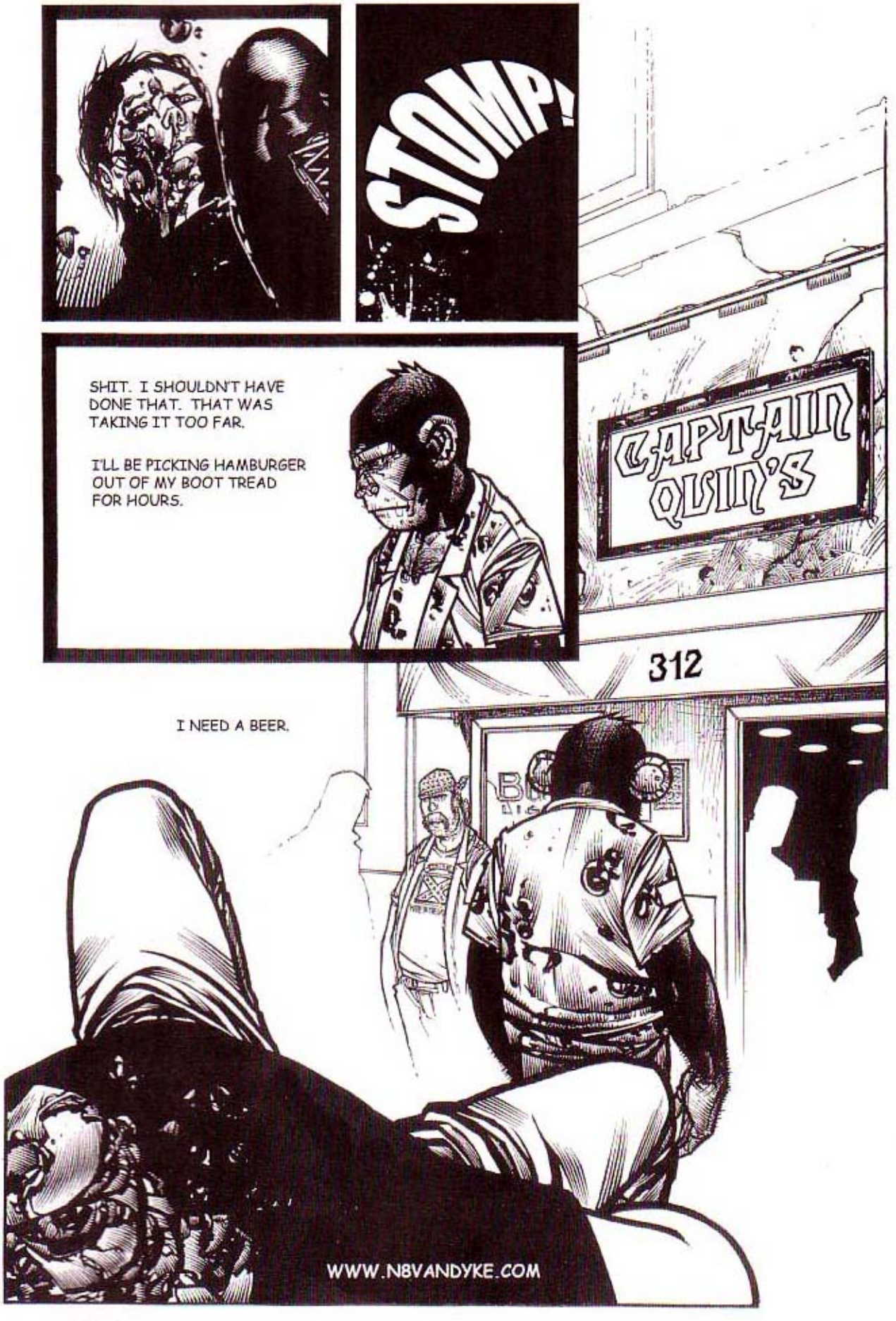

STOMP!
SHIT. I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT. THAT WAS TAKING IT TOO FAR.
I'LL BE PICKING HAMBURGER OUT OF MY BOOT TREAD FOR HOURS.
CAPTAIN QUIN'S
312
I NEED A BEER.
WWW.N8VANDYKE.COM

illustration by Erich von Gotha
From Janice Unveiled

TROUBLES OF JANICE 2

(Erich von Gotha) Taken from the best pages of Marquis de Sade. Janice must undergo the ultimate test: to be offered by her husband to clientele of a very exclusive brothel.

62 pgs $ 12.95

TROUBLES OF JANICE 3

(Erich von Gotha) This brilliant graphic novel contains highly explicit scenes of oral, anal, lesbian and group sex, as well as a strong emphasis on sadomasochism – NOT for the fainthearted

64 pgs $ 14.95

JANICE UNVEILED

(Erich Von Gotha)Fans of The Troubles of Janice will love this colorful sketchbook. Large (9 3/4" x 13") with a hard cover, this gem is full of sketches and paintings from the popular comix series.

60 pgs $ 19.95

HOT GRAPHIC NOVELS

THE EDUCATION OF SOPHIE

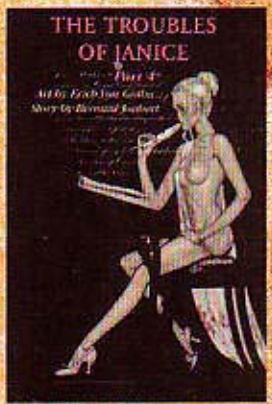
(Erich Von Gotha) Willing to further her sensual discoveries, Sophie is caught in a whirlwind of sexual activity that take her from the first steps to an advanced degree in pervery.

46 pgs $ 12.95

TWENTY

(Erich von Gotha) From the mind, pen, and brushes of Erich Von Gotha, this new book features "Twenty", a young woman on a journey of sensual discoveries.

64 pgs $ 14.95



TROUBLES OF JANICE 4

(Erich von Gotha) Janice finds herself free. Her enemies are all dead, her husband left her his fortune, but England and its uptight manners will reject her, so she decides to leave for Venice. The Italian city that welcomes the widow with open arms and legs and.... By the way, two pages of this volume were misprinted in the original German. We hope that doesn't break your concentration.

64 pgs $ 14.95

DREAM OF CECILIA

(Erich Von Gotha) A woman floats from dream to dream visiting a wide range of sexual variations. Barbarian fantasies blend with urban scenes in the painted style of von Gotha.

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(Jacobsen) Celine is a horny young woman who's looking for a real man... and finds one, a Master who turns her into a full time slave.
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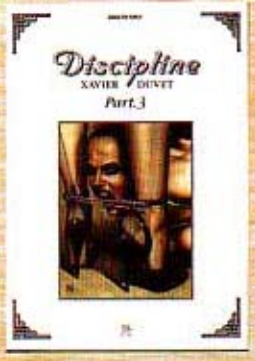

DISCIPLINE VOL 3
(Xavier Duvet) Learn how Mistress Dominique almost came to be a woman, told through some of the hottest scenes of domination, dildo play, and foot worship, painted in vibrant colors.
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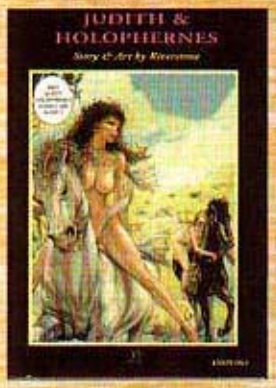
DISCIPLINE VOL 1 $ 12.95
DISCIPLINE VOL 2 $ 12.95

NAIMAH
(Fildor and Shiny Beast) Naimah, the woman warrior, drifting in a world where sexual stimulation is happening at every moment, where spells and curses, and large quantities of Hot Sex make for one of the wildest titles ever.
46 pgs $ 12.95
NAIMAH 2
46 pgs $ 12.95

SEX ATTACK
(Fildor & Vitus) Aliens attack the Earth by turning on Earthlings' libidos... and the movie star shows up and they start getting it on until the aliens show up and they start getting it on with the Earthlings...
50 pgs $ 14.95



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ERIKA (Fattori) You met her in "Fairy Dreams & Wet Memories". Now here she is again - Erika - a young woman who knows how to enjoy the beautiful body she generously shares.
48 pgs $ 13.95

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(Peter Riverstone) A biblical epic based on a fantasized misreading of Chapters 38 and 39 of Genesis. Painted in glowing colors by the artist of Nagarya, this new book brings a story of sex and death where de Sade meets de Mille.
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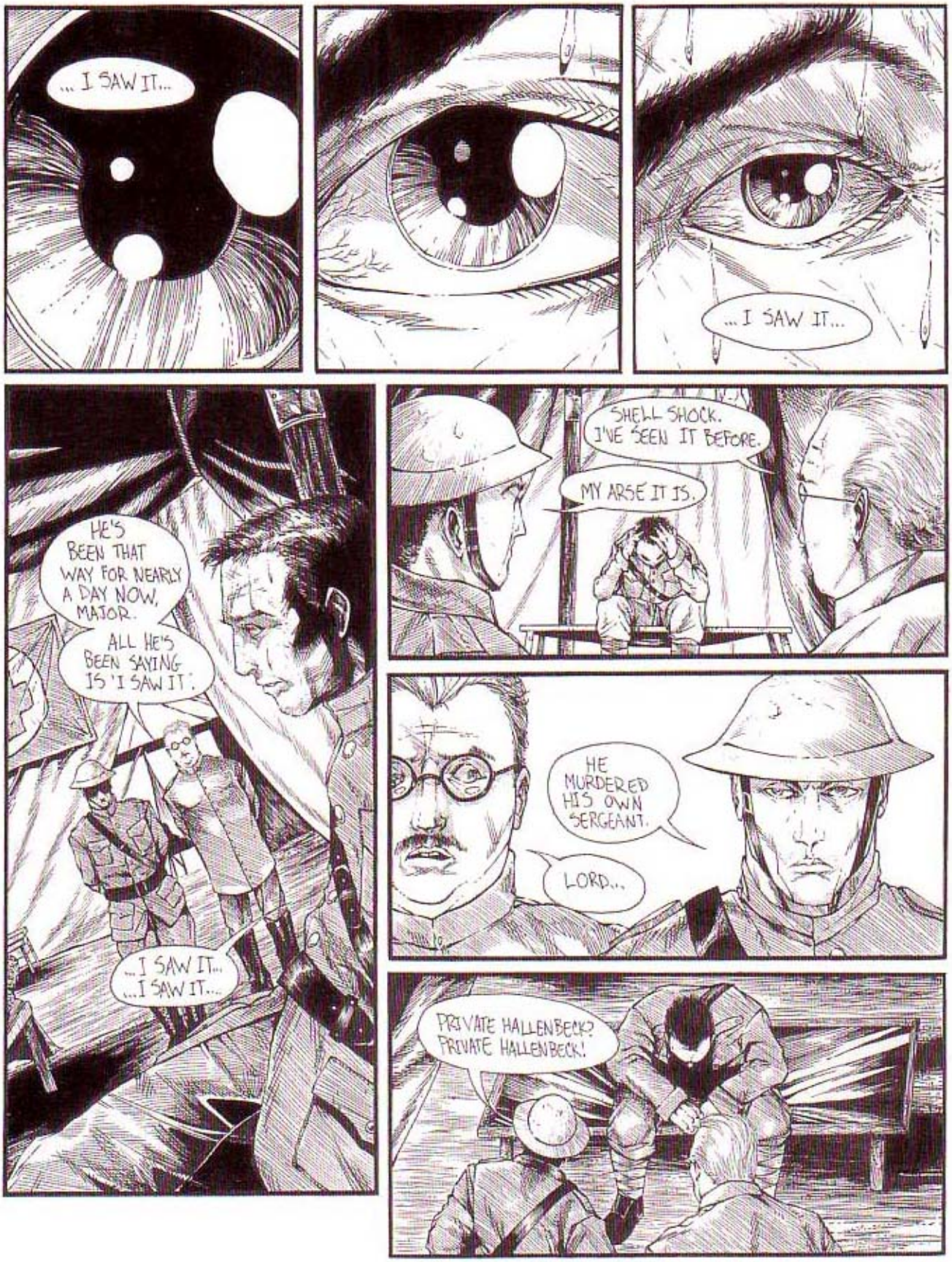
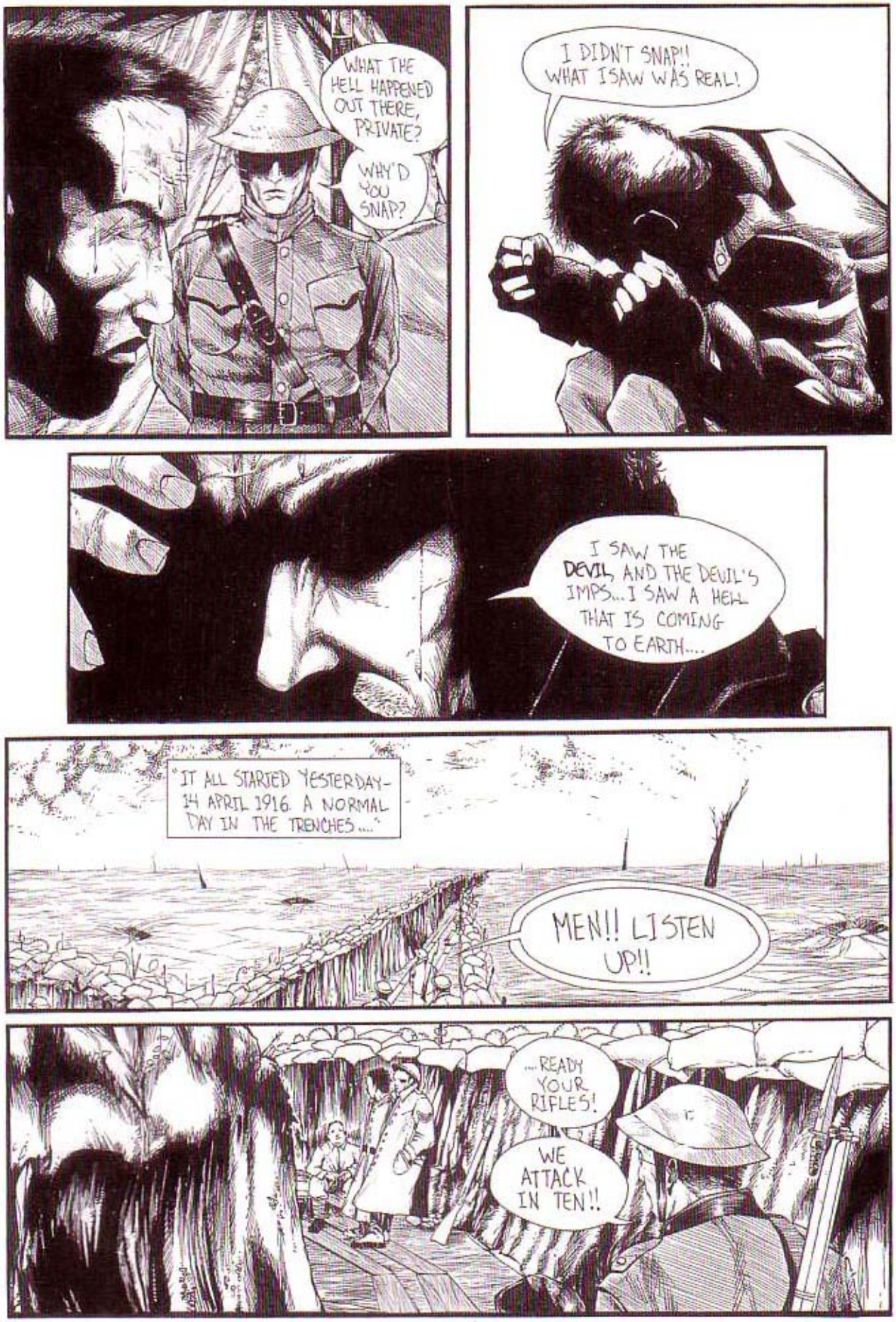
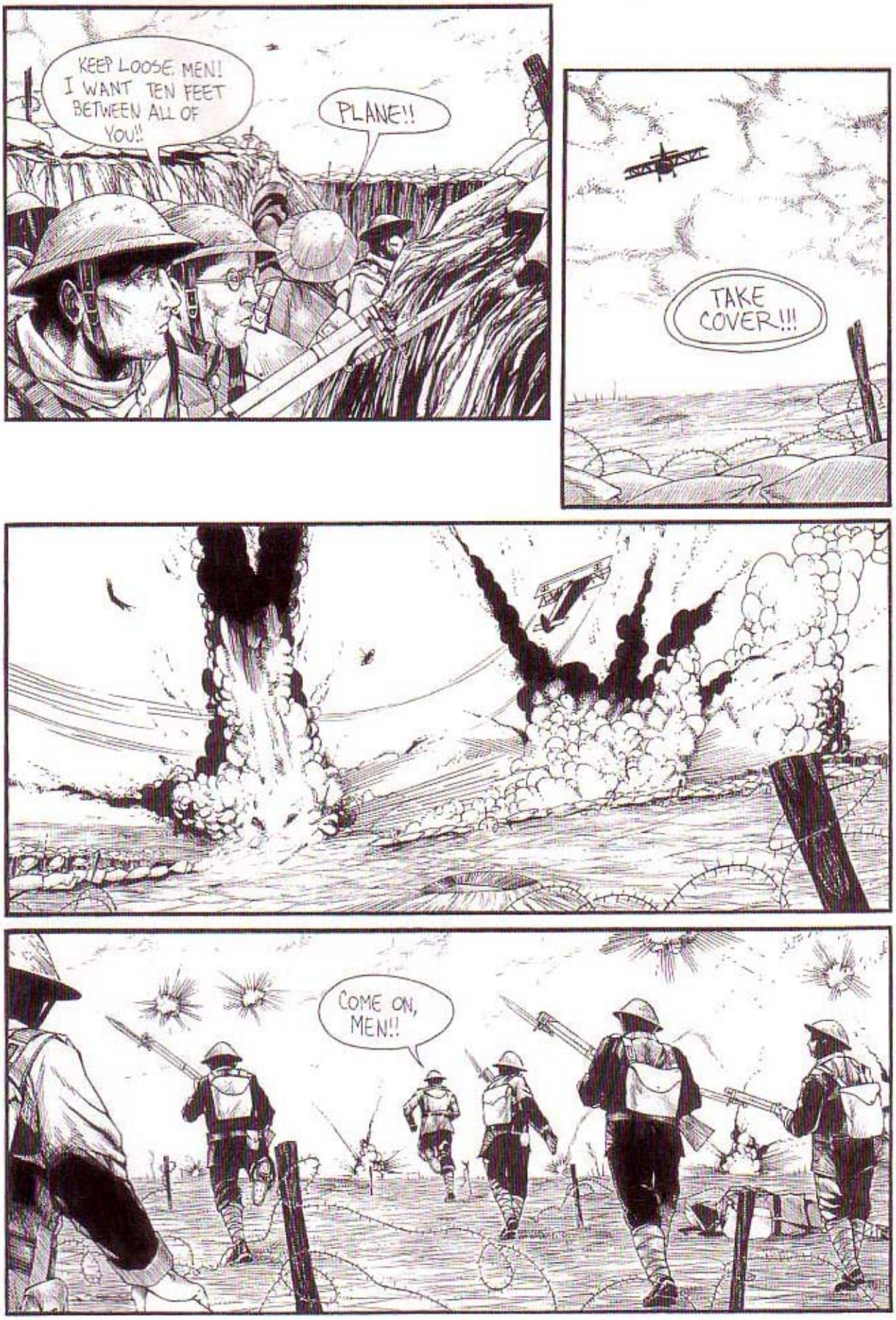
TRENCHES

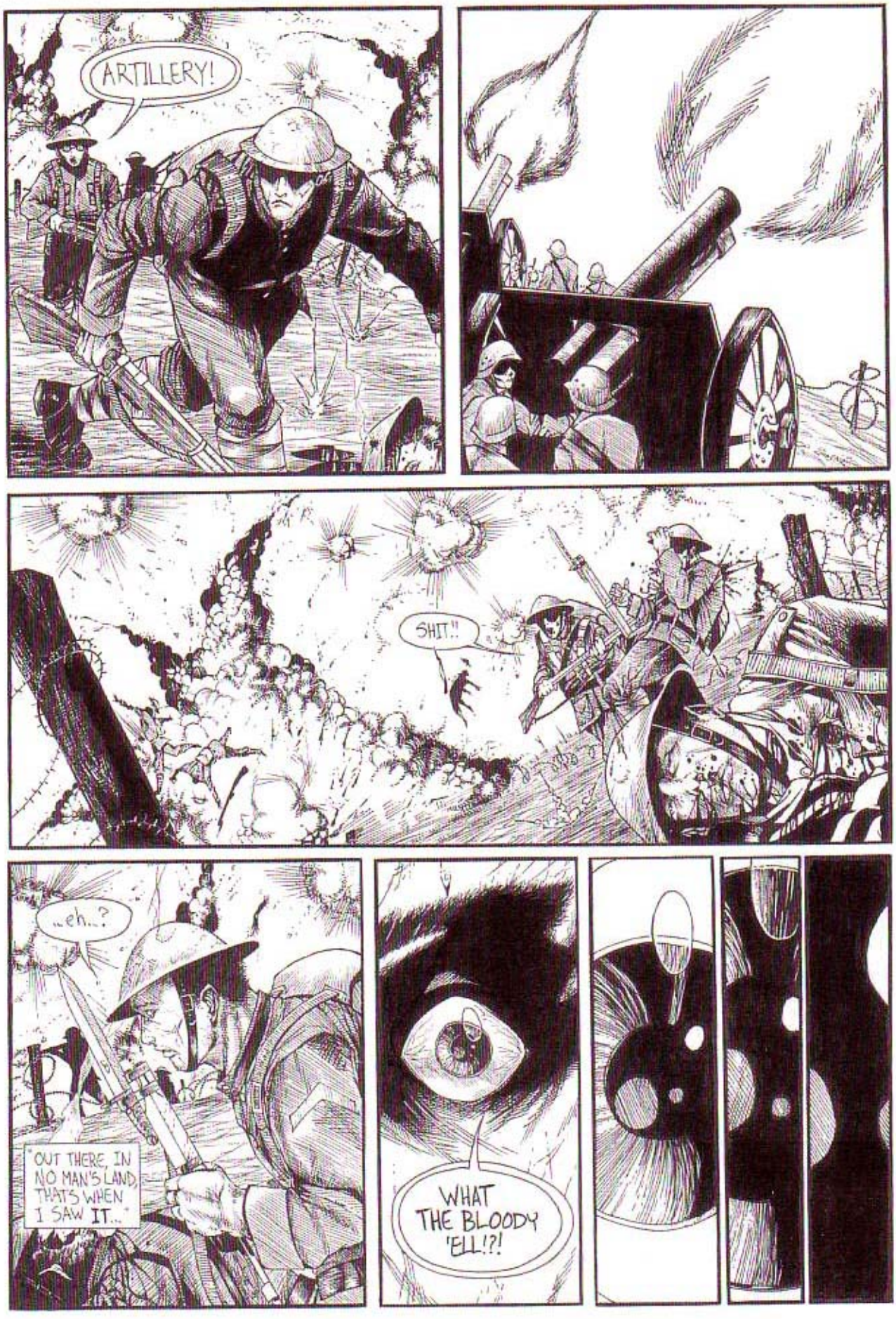
STORY AND ART:
DAMASCUS MINCEMEYER

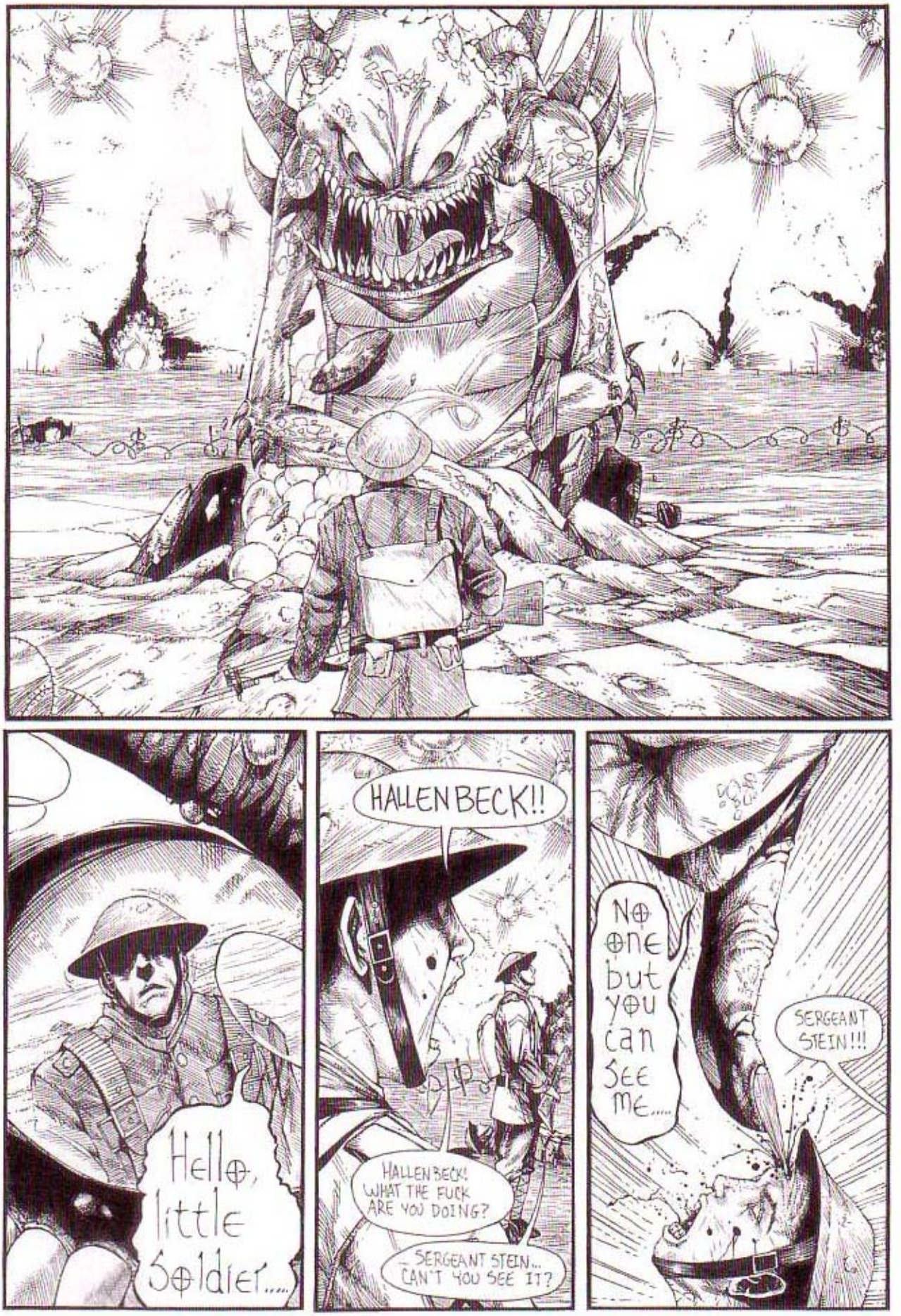



WHAT THE HELL HAPPENED OUT THERE, PRIVATE?
WHY'D YOU SNAP?
I DIDN'T SNAP!! WHAT I SAW WAS REAL!
I SAW THE DEVIL AND THE DEVIL'S IMPS... I SAW A HELL THAT IS COMING TO EARTH....
"IT ALL STARTED YESTERDAY- 14 APRIL 1916. A NORMAL DAY IN THE TRENCHES...."
MEN!! LISTEN UP!!
...READY YOUR RIFLES!
WE ATTACK IN TEN!!

"...MY DEAREST LOVE..."
ly dear
still
"I AM IN THE TRENCHES STILL..."
"...BUT I LONG TO SEE YOUR LOVELY FACE AGAIN..."
HEY, HALLENBECK!!
INCOMING!!
...ack!...
DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE CAP'N, HALLENBECK?
NO, SERGEANT STEIN...
CHRIST, PRIVATE, GET YOUR SHIT TOGETHER. WE GO OVER THE TOP IN TEN MINUTES.
...STEIN... YOU'RE A FUCKIN' ARSE-HOLE...
MEN!! READY YOURSELVES!! GLORY WAITS FOR YOU IN THOSE GERMAN TRENCHES!!
YOU'RE FUNNY, CAP'N.


KEEP LOOSE, MEN! I WANT TEN FEET BETWEEN ALL OF YOU!!
PLANE!!
TAKE COVER!!!
COME ON, MEN!!


ARTILLERY!
SHIT!!
..eh...?
"OUT THERE, IN NO MAN'S LAND, THAT'S WHEN I SAW IT..."
WHAT THE BLOODY 'ELL!?!


Hello, little Soldier....
HALLENBECK!!
HALLENBECK! WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING?
SERGEANT STEIN... CAN'T YOU SEE IT?
No one but you can see me....
SERGEANT STEIN!!!

Humans..... always the wars, and always thinking you start them,
YOU BLOODY BASTARD!!
We started this great war, like all past ones, and the next as well. Ah, that war shall be our triumphant hour.
...L-L-LIAR!!
...SEE...
"I SAW IMAGES, PICTURES IN MY MIND'S EYE... I SAW MEN DRAPED IN BLACK.... EVIL MEN...
"...I SAW FACTORIES BUILT TO DISPOSE THE DEAD.
"...I COULD TASTE THE ASHES FROM THE SMOKE-STACKS IN MY MOUTH....

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED AFTER THAT....
...I WOKE UP HERE IN THE HOSPITAL...
...EVERYONE'S SAYING I KILLED SERGEANT STEIN.
...BUT IT DID- ...AND I SAW IT...
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME, PRIVATE HALLENBECK.
STRANGE STORY, EH DOCTOR?
OH, YES. WHAT WILL BECOME OF HIM NOW?
FIRING SQUAD, MOST LIKELY.
DO YOU THINK THERE'S ANY TRUTH TO HIS TALE?
TRUTH?
PLEASE, DOCTOR-
ANOTHER GREAT WAR? PEOPLE HERDED INTO CAMPS? FACTORIES TO BURN THE DEAD?
-THAT COULD NEVER HAPPEN.
·END·

THE BEST IN FANTASY, EROTIC

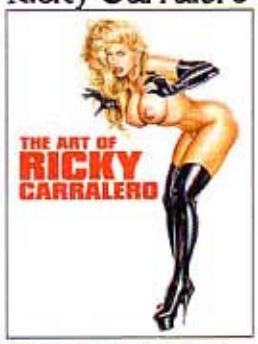
Faerie Lust 1

For all those who think elves are just a cheap source of non-union labor for Santa and cookie manufacturers, think again! Fantasy writer and illustrator Melanie Kiegerman Fersko has been showcasing the sexier and feminine side of these mystical creatures with great success. This is an all-new book of illustrations that's Melanie's most torrid collection yet! Intro by fellow artist and fan George Perez. 64pgs black and white plus color covers.

BattleAx

If you like your savage barbarians feral and your amazon beauties breath-taking - Brocal's the mart 64 pgs black and white plus color covers.

Ricky Carralero



Ricky Carralero can create white-hot hotties with gravity-defying D-cups! You can go blind staring at this incredible artwork! 48pgs full color.

Art of Del Nido

Jose DelNidop is one of Europe's most prolific and talented fantasy artists! His demon-women are creatures of terrible beauty! 128pgs full color.

Archie Dickens 1

Old school pin-up art from one of the original masters! Archie Dickens puts very proper British reserve into his lovely ladies! 48pgs full color.

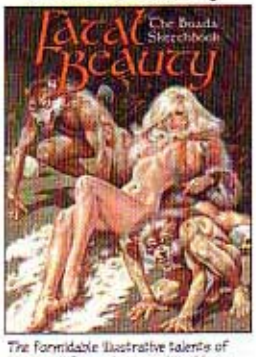
Dorian 2

Dorian Cleavenger is one of the most amazing artists of his generation! Jaw-dropping portraits of impossibly beautiful women! 128pgs in full color.

Art of Drudwyn

Erik Drudwyn takes the best of reality, and makes it the ULTIMATE fantasy! Women you will NOT meet in the real world, on view now! 48pgs in full color.

Fatal Beauty



The formidable illustrative talents of Boada are finely showcased in this collection of fantasy and action art. 64 pgs black and white plus color covers.

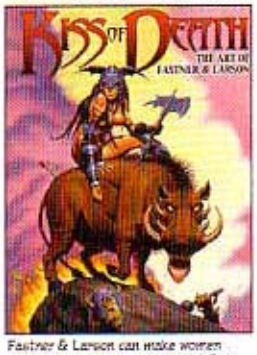
Daniel Horne

Artist, painter, sculptor - Daniel Horne is an artist of awesome abilities. Contains sketches, pencils, and more. 64 pgs black and white plus color covers.

Art of Jon Hul

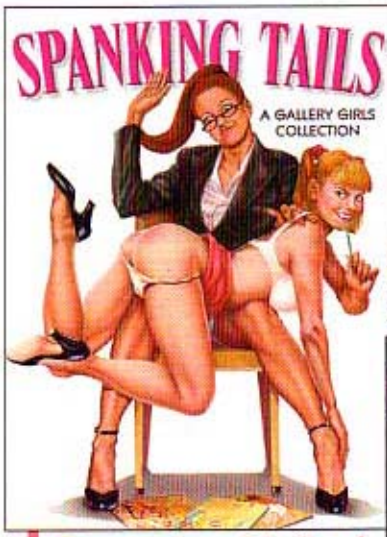
Photo-realistic females so lovingly painted, you'll think they pop right off the page! Jon Hul is a master of the too-good-to-be-true! 104pgs in full color.

Kiss of Death



Fastner & Larson can make women look so good and so well-armed! Cute and deadly, that's how they like 'em! 72pgs b&w plus color section.

Spanking Tails 1



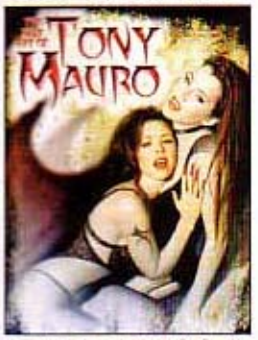
Oh, you can talk, talk, talk 'til you're blue in the face, and then you HAVE to lay down some smacktime where it counts! And if two young ladies of legal age mutually consent to perform such disciplinary action on each other, well then there SHOULD be a team of artists ready at the pencil to enshrine the moments! See some outstanding cheek-heating and bottom-tanning by such experts as Mitch Byrd, Pelaez, Arantza, Pedro Cuevas, DeSimone, Sosa, and more! Being punished was never this much fun! 64pgs black and white plus color covers.

& PIN-UP ART - SQP HAS IT ALL!

Masquerade

This art of Maren contains many excellent examples of his fantasy, horror, and science-fiction artwork. 64 pgs black and white plus color covers.

Art of Mauro



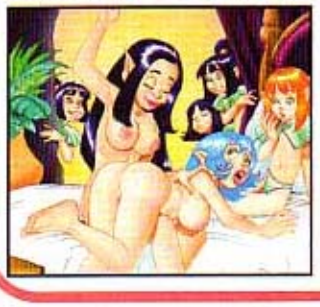
Tony Mauro has a real taste for female vampires, and paints them so realistically, you might want to cover your neck while enjoying them! 48pgs in full color.

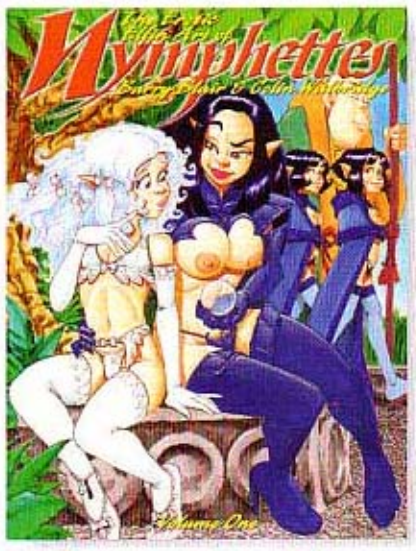
Metamorphosis

Artist Matt Hughes blends beauty with beast to create haunting portraits of surreal delights! Half-human, half-creature - all amazing! 48pgs in full color.

Noda

The shimmering line between pleasure and pain has never been so skillfully illustrated! Noda is the new king of kink! 104pg in full color.

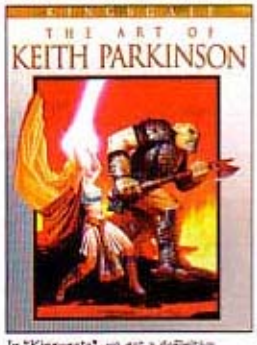




Nymphettes

Artists Barry Blair and Colin Walbridge have created a cottage industry of illustrating fantasy for the entire world! Their work is an integral part of on the on-line phenomenon "Realm Walkers". Now they turn their fevered imaginations to the carnal side of role playing, and present the first volume of their "Nymphettes". Nubile young elfin warriors and maidens, in various states of ecstasy and undress, battle and triumph! 48pgs full color.

Art of Parkinson



In "Kingsgate", we get a definitive showcase of Keith Parkinson's finest works to date! A must for all fantasy art Fans! 128pgs in full color.

Art of Posada

Seamlessly blending feverish fantasies with photo-realistic detail, Drew Posada achieves staggering results! Fantasy made REALLY real! 48pgs in full color.

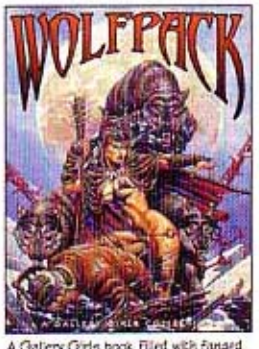
Savage Hearts 2

Clyde Caldwell is one of the premiere giants in fantasy and role-playing illustration. This second volume shows even more! 72pgs b&w plus color.

Art of Sperlonga

Italians didn't invent sex, but they sure did perfect it! Lorenzo Sperlonga gives his women sensual heat and stunning beauty! 104pgs in full color.

Wolfpack 1



A Gallery Girls book. Filled with fanged creatures and women who control them! Art by Byrd, Pelaez, Meriggi, more. 64 pgs black and white plus color covers.

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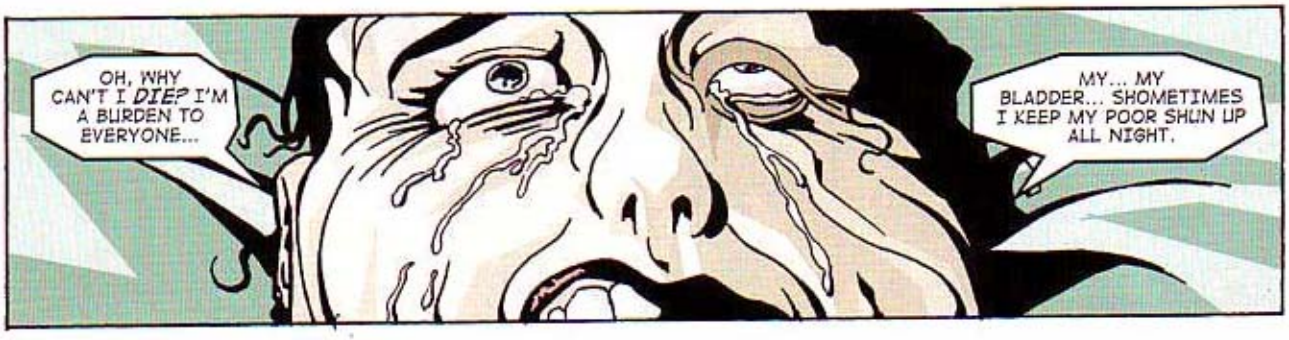
A MOTHER'S LOVE
BY JOSEF ROTHER (SCRIPT) AND ECKART BREITSCHUH (ART)
HAVE I EVER TOLD YOU HOW MY SHTROKE CAME ABOUT, DOCTOR?
YES, YOU HAVE, MRS. GRUBB. HUNDREDS OF TIMES TO BE EXAC--
SHAMUEL WANTED TO LEAVE HISH POOR MOSHER, WANTED TO MOVE INTO HISH OWN APARTMENT.
DIDN'T YOU, SHAMUEL?
YES.
YES, MOTHER, I DID.
HE BROKE MY HEART. MY ONLY SHUN! AND SHEN SHUH SHTROKE... SHUH SHTROKE...
MOTHER, PLEASE...
MOTHER...
BUT I FORGIVE YOU, SHAMUEL. YOU SHTAID WISH ME, WHEN I NEEDED YOU. YOU DIDN'T LEAVE ME AFTER ALL, MY DEAR SHAMUEL.
I FORGIVE YOU. A MOSHER'SH LOVE WILL ALWAYSH FORGIVE.

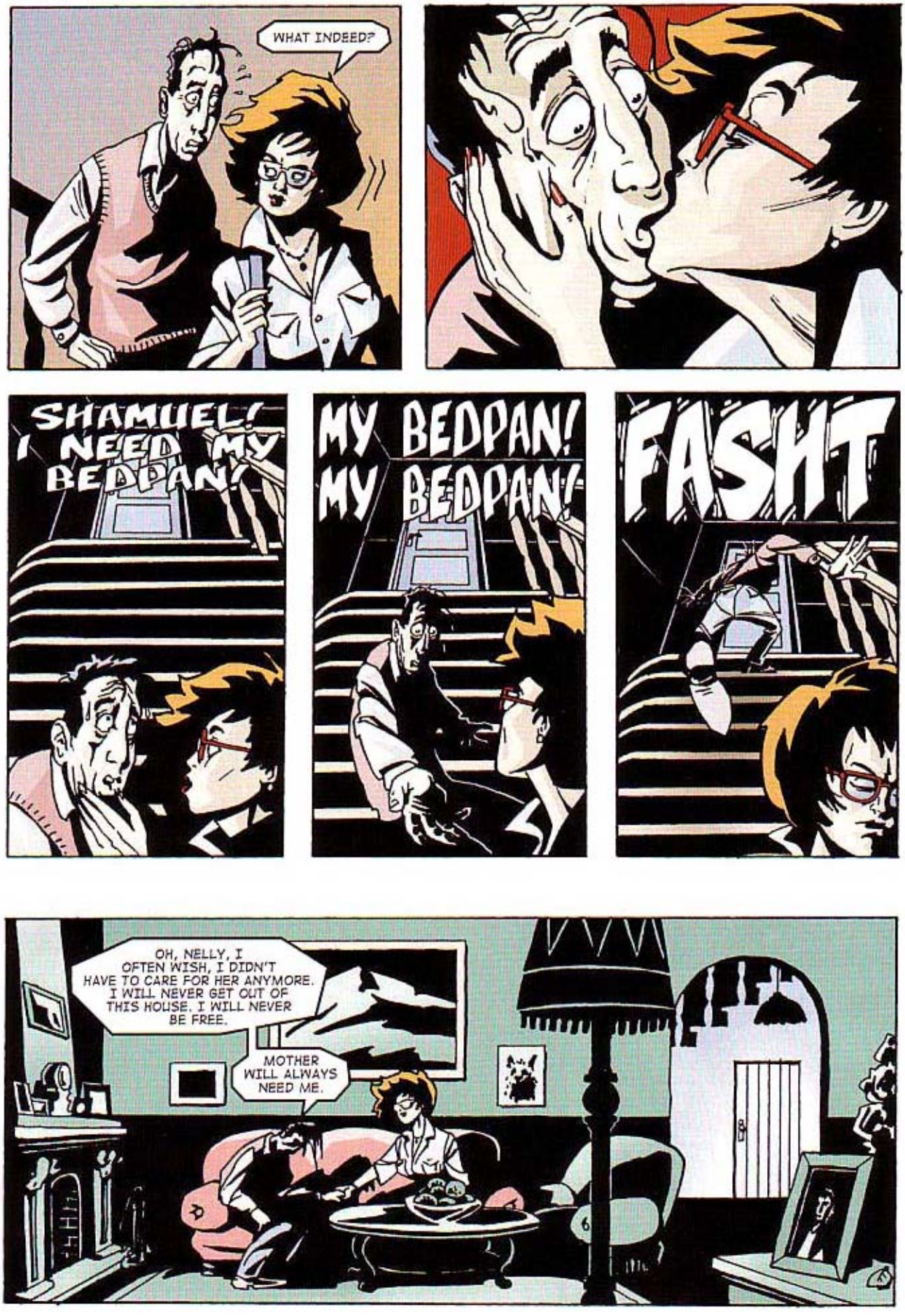
WELL, YOU'RE HEALTHY AS A HORSE, MRS. GRUBB.
I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED, IF YOU LIVED ANOTHER TWENTY YEARS.
ANOSHER TWENTY YEARSH? LIKE SHISH?


OH, WHY CAN'T I DIE? I'M A BURDEN TO EVERYONE...
MY... MY BLADDER... SHOMETIMES I KEEP MY POOR SHUN UP ALL NIGHT.

POOR SHAMUEL, BUT WHAT AM I TO DO?

YOU'RE SHO GOOD TO ME.

THANK YOU FOR GOING TO ALL THE TROUBLE AND VISITING EVERY DAY, DOCTOR OLSEN.
I REALLY DON'T KNOW, WHAT I WOULD DO WITHOUT YOU.

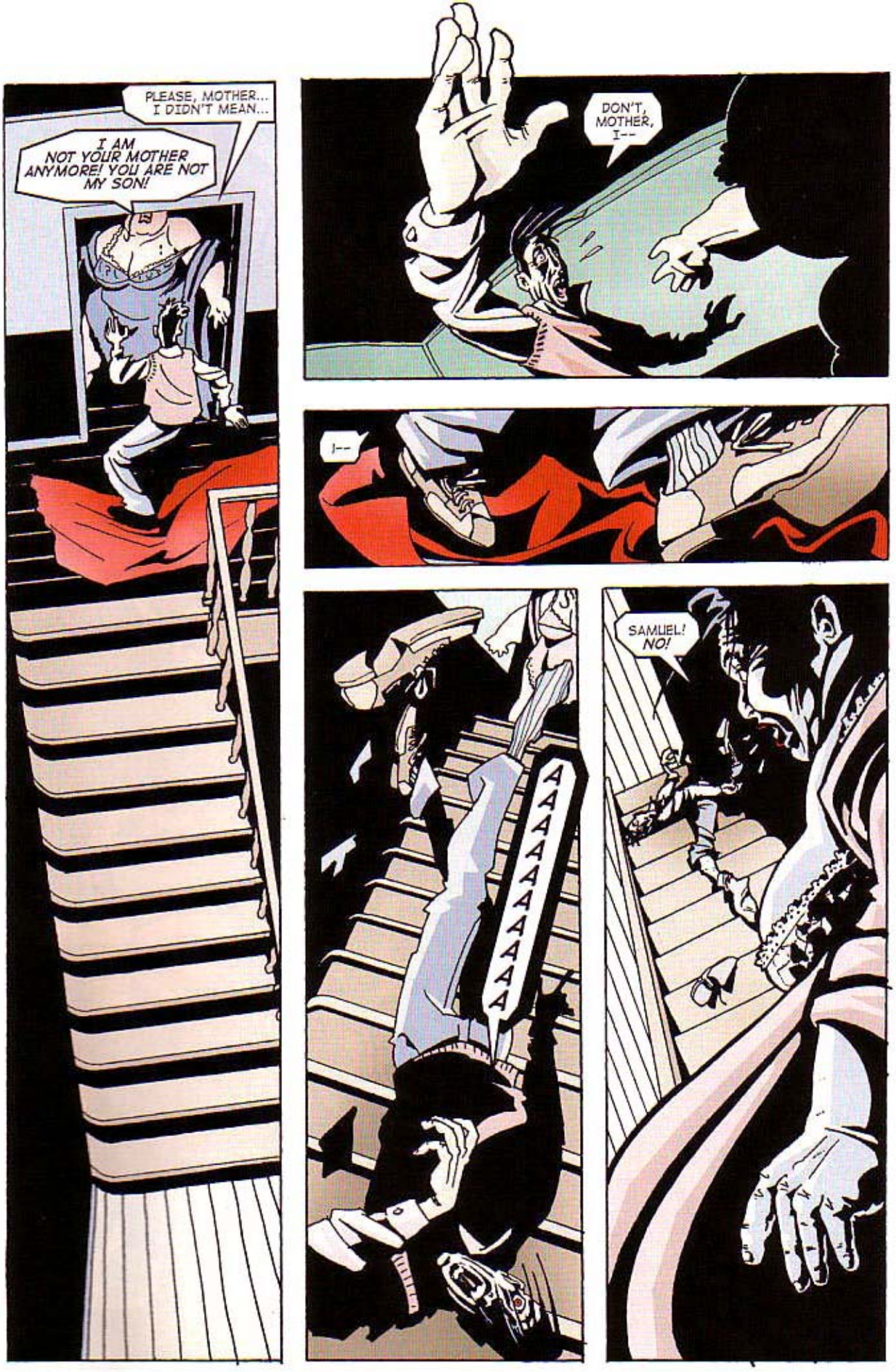

WHAT INDEED?
SHAMUEL! I NEED MY BEDPAN!
MY BEDPAN! MY BEDPAN!
FASHT
OH, NELLY, I OFTEN WISH, I DIDN'T HAVE TO CARE FOR HER ANYMORE. I WILL NEVER GET OUT OF THIS HOUSE. I WILL NEVER BE FREE.
MOTHER WILL ALWAYS NEED ME.

SOMETIMES...
SOMETIMES I WISH SHE WAS DEAD.
MY POOR SAM...
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING I CAN DO FOR YOU.
WHAT ISH SHISH?
DON'T WORRY, MRS. GRUBB, THIS WILL HELP YOU SLEEP.

I DON'T WANT TO SLEEP, YOU LITTLE SLUT!
EEEEEEEE
NELLY!
NELLY! I'M COMING!
I'LL--

NELLY!
THUD
YOU KILLED HER!
AND YOU SENT HER TO KILL ME!
NELLY... NELLY...
IS THIS YOUR THANKS FOR A LIFETIME THAT I SACRIFICED TO YOU?
BUT I FORGIVE YOU.
YOU ARE MY SON AFTER ALL. YOU ARE ALL THAT I HAVE.
I FORGIVE YOU, SAMUEL.
I FORGIVE YOU.
YOU KILLED HER!

YOU FAKED YOUR STROKE TO KEEP ME IN CHAINS!
AND YOU KILLED THE WOMAN I LOVED!
CLANG
MOTHER...?
OH GOD, WHAT HAVE I DONE...?
YOU DOG!
YOU SPRANG FROM THIS WOMB.
I GAVE YOU LIFE...
MOTHER... MOTHER... I...
...AND I CAN GIVE YOU DEATH!

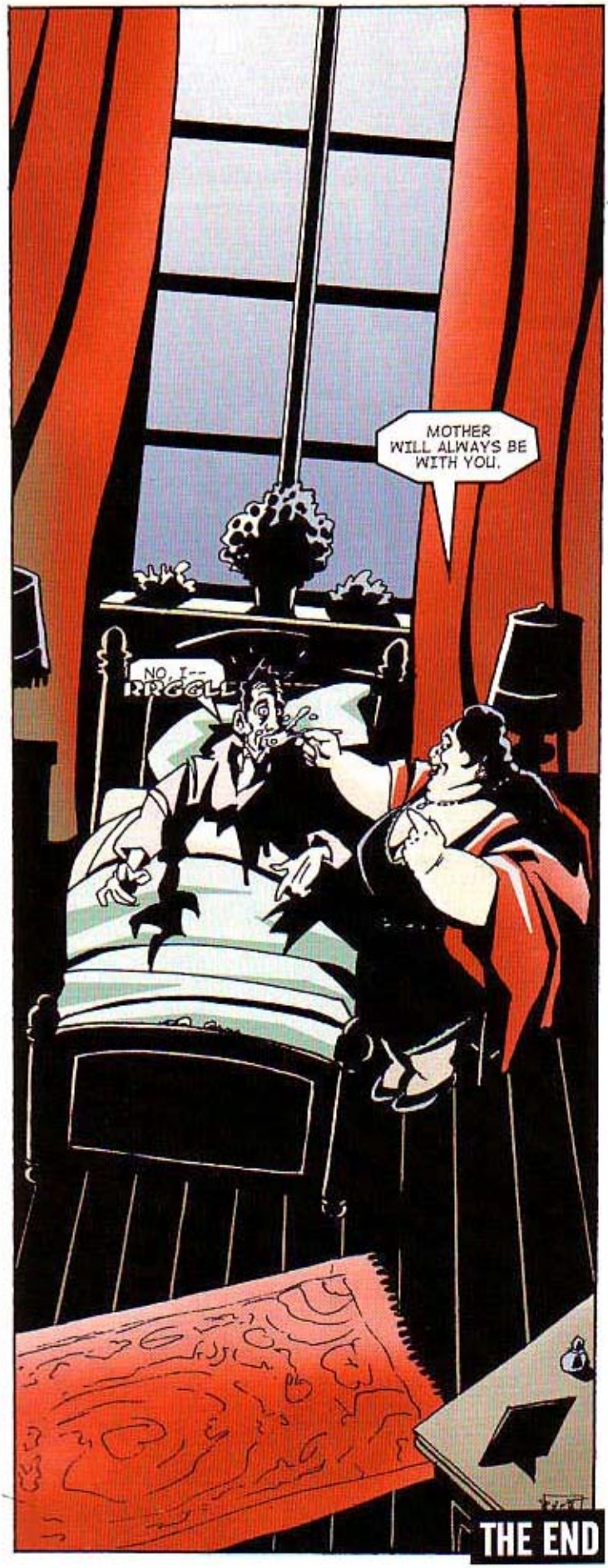

PLEASE, MOTHER... I DIDN'T MEAN...
I AM NOT YOUR MOTHER ANYMORE! YOU ARE NOT MY SON!
DON'T, MOTHER, I--
I--
AAAAAAAAA
SAMUEL! NO!

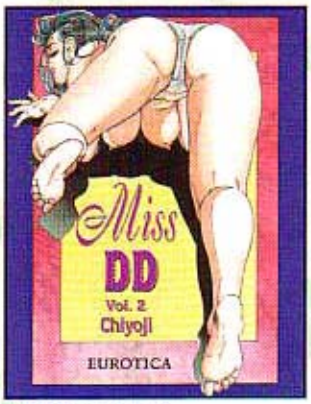
SAMUEL!
OH GOD! MY SON! MY SON!
MY SON!
MY SON...
YOU'RE BACK!
YOU'RE BACK AT LAST.

MOTHER... WHAT...?
DON'T EXERT YOURSELF, SAMUEL. YOU ARE STILL WEAK...

MY... MY LEGS... I CAN'T FEEL MY...
THE DOCTORS SAID YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO WALK AGAIN.

BUT DON'T WORRY, SAMUEL. I HAVE FORGIVEN YOU FOR ALL THE BAD THINGS THAT YOU DID.
AND I WILL CARE FOR YOU.
PLIP
PLIP


MOTHER WILL ALWAYS BE WITH YOU.
NO, I--
RRGGLL
THE END



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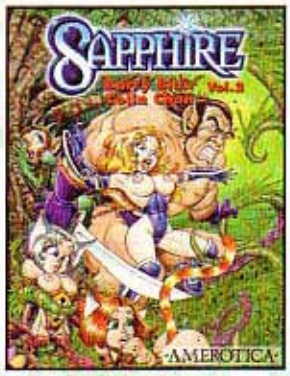

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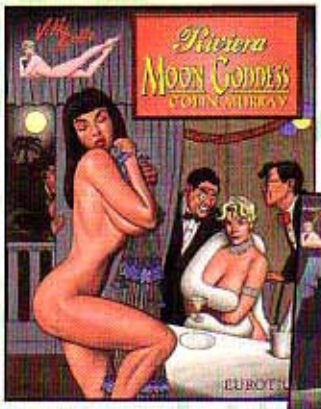

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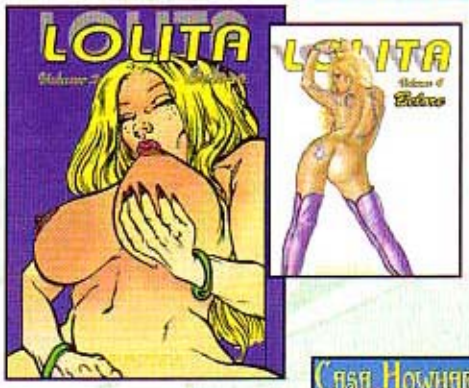

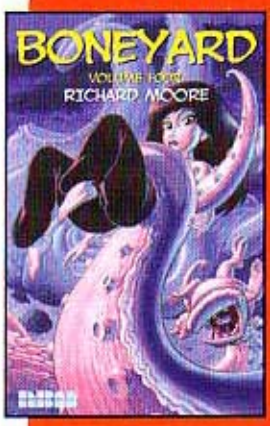

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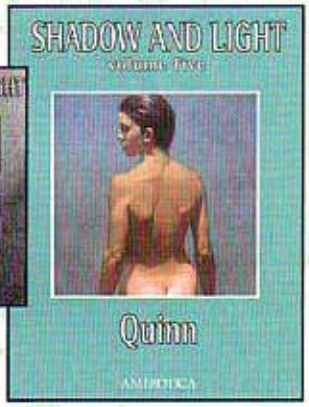

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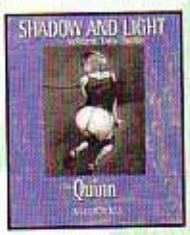

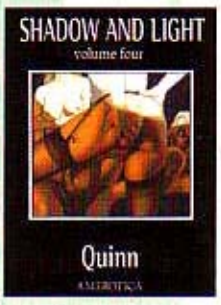

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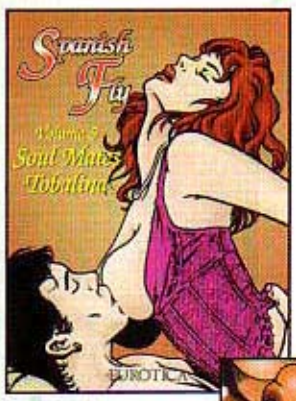

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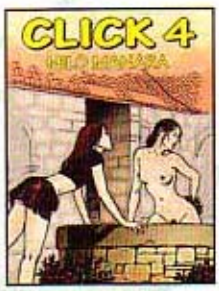

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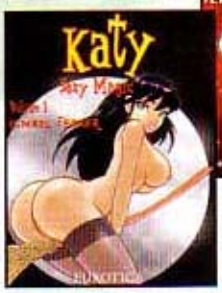

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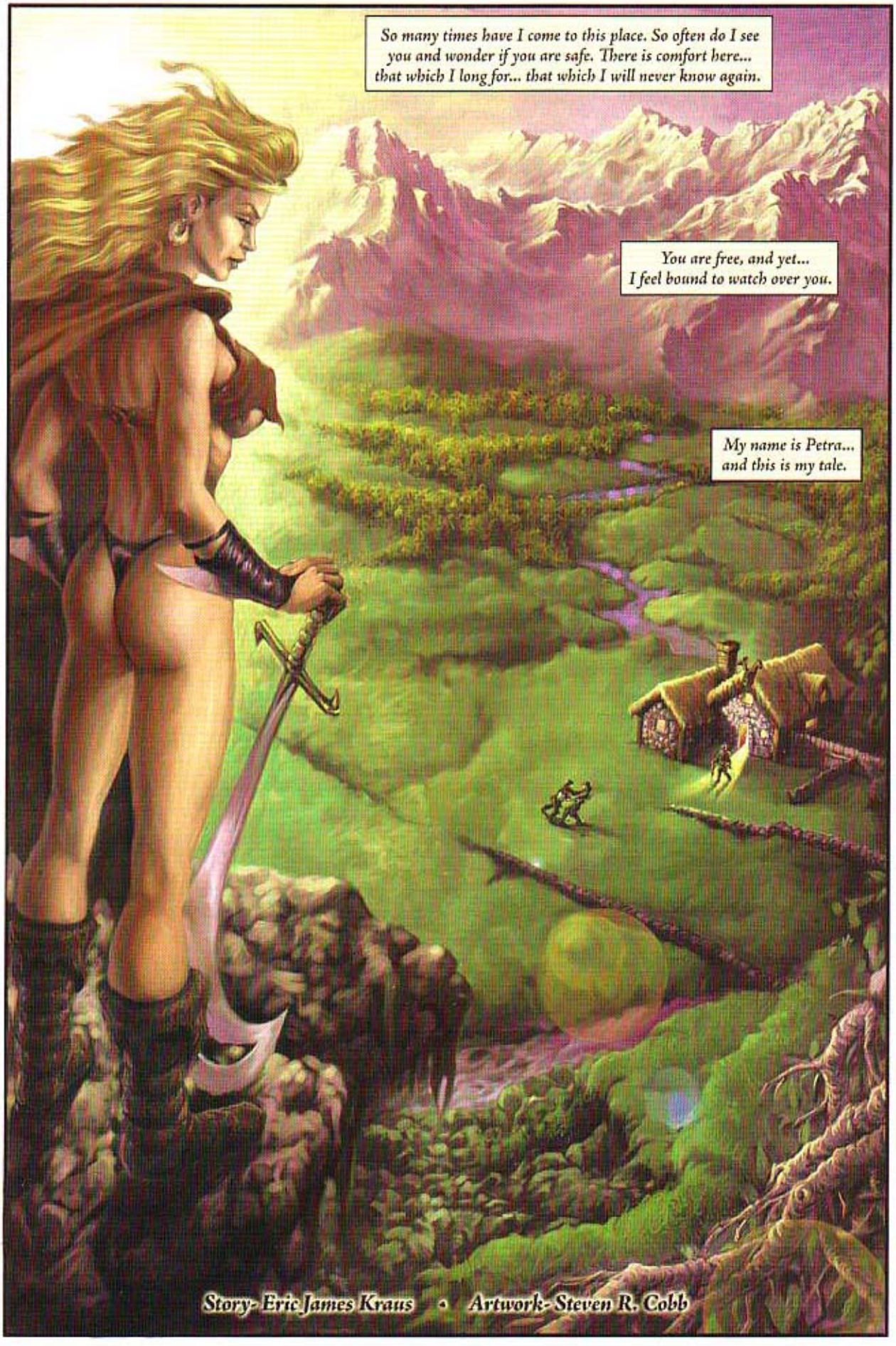
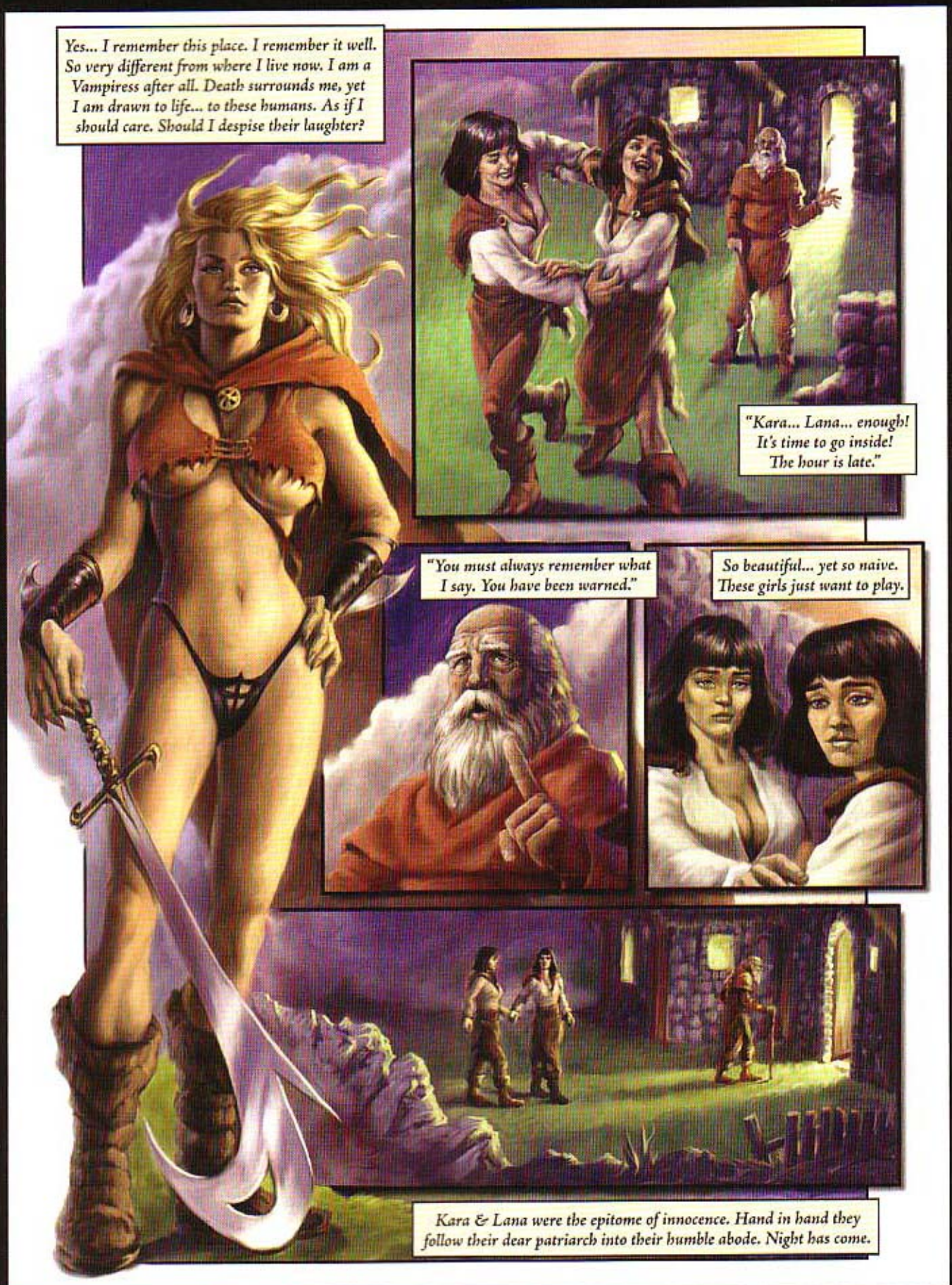
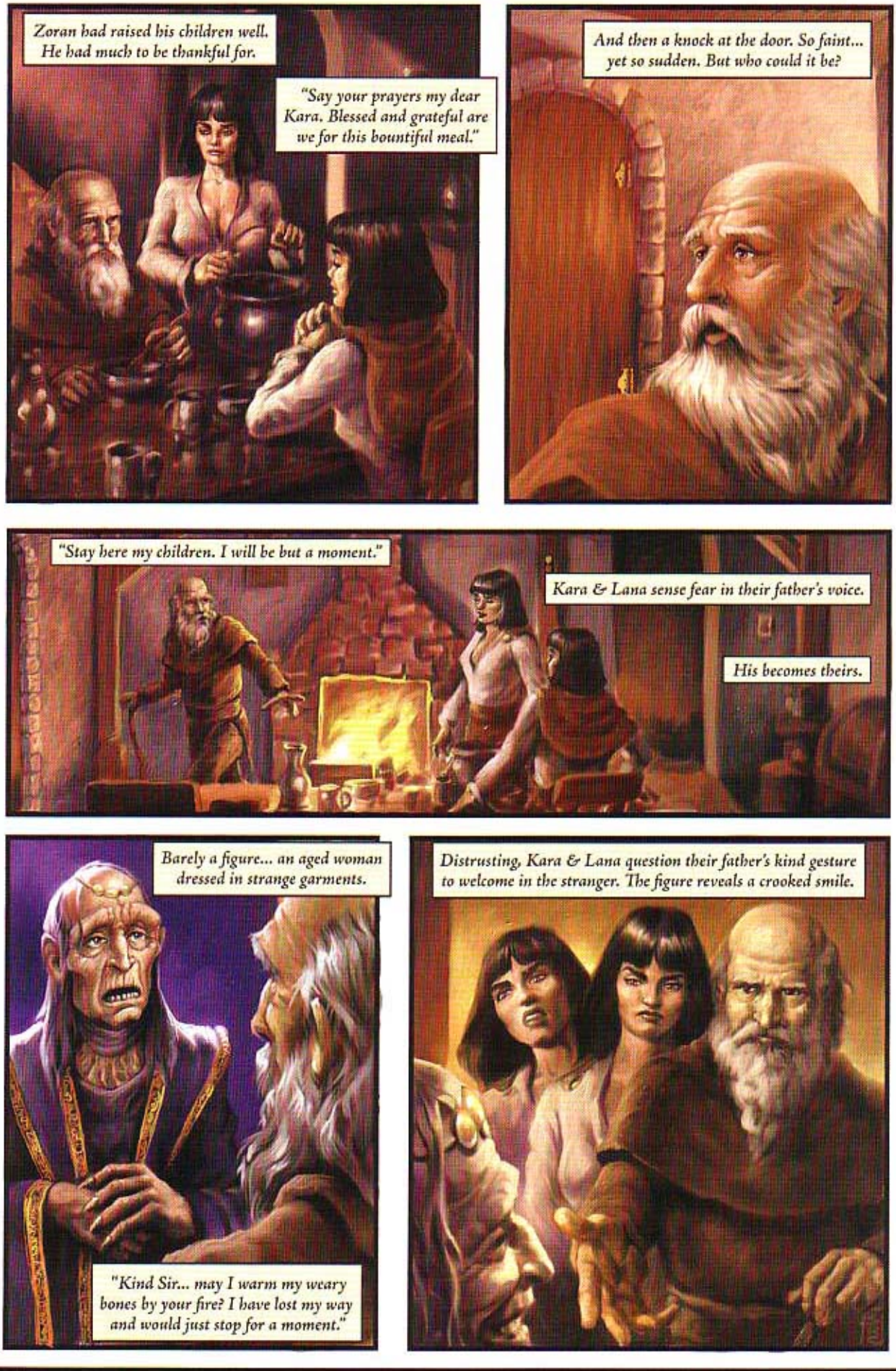
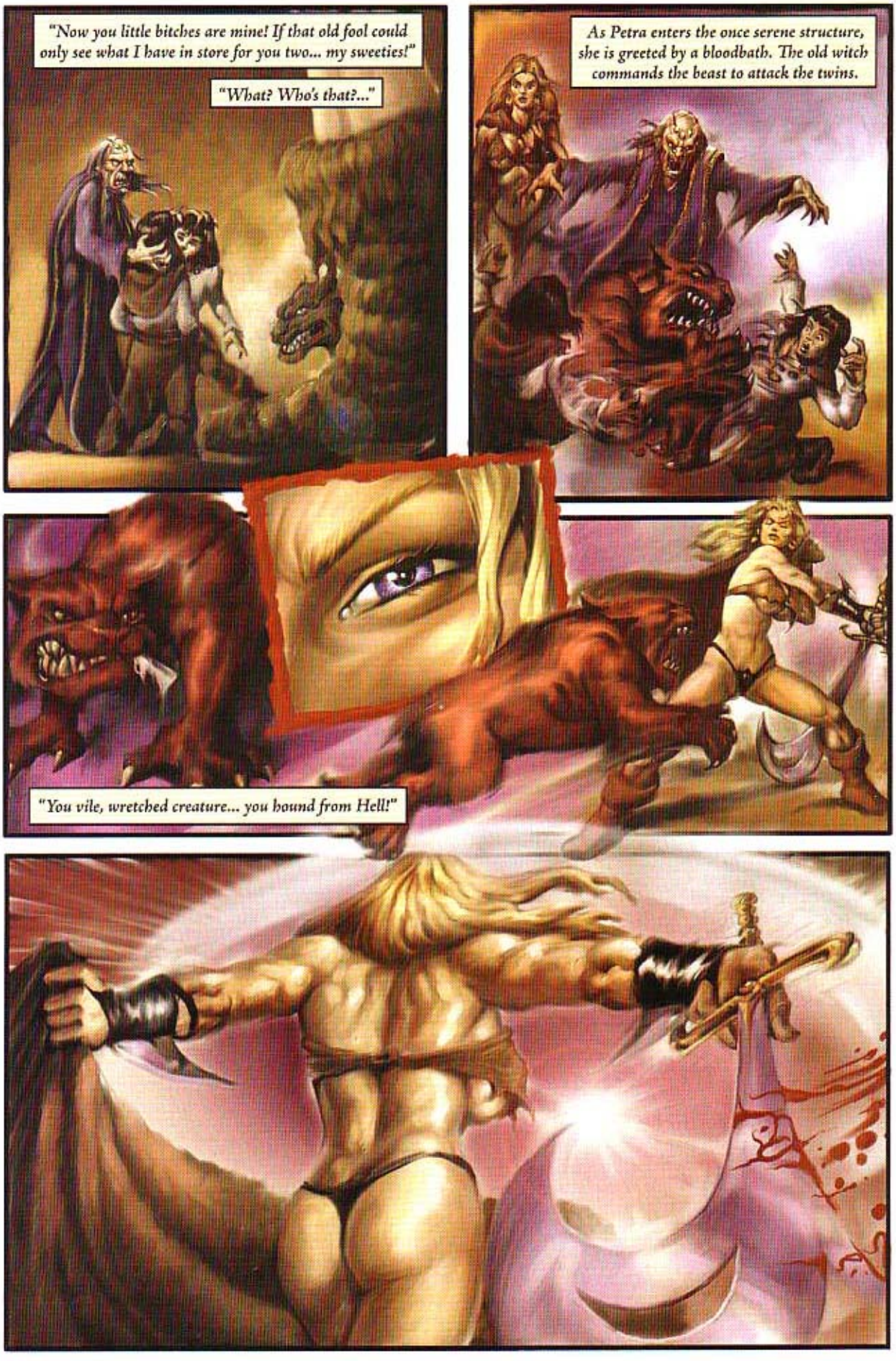
Petra's Tale

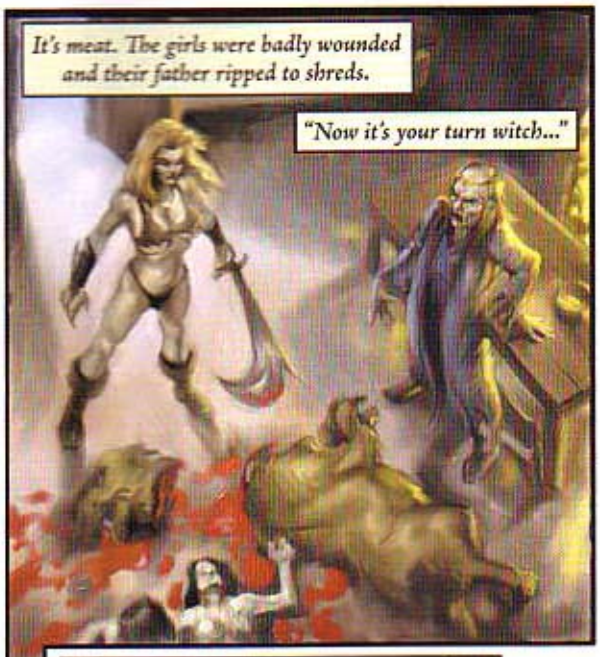

So many times have I come to this place. So often do I see you and wonder if you are safe. There is comfort here... that which I long for... that which I will never know again.
You are free, and yet... I feel bound to watch over you.
My name is Petra... and this is my tale.
Story- Eric James Kraus • Artwork- Steven R. Cobb


Yes... I remember this place. I remember it well. So very different from where I live now. I am a Vampiress after all. Death surrounds me, yet I am drawn to life... to these humans. As if I should care. Should I despise their laughter?
"Kara... Lana... enough! It's time to go inside! The hour is late."
"You must always remember what I say. You have been warned."
So beautiful... yet so naive. These girls just want to play.
Kara & Lana were the epitome of innocence. Hand in hand they follow their dear patriarch into their humble abode. Night has come.

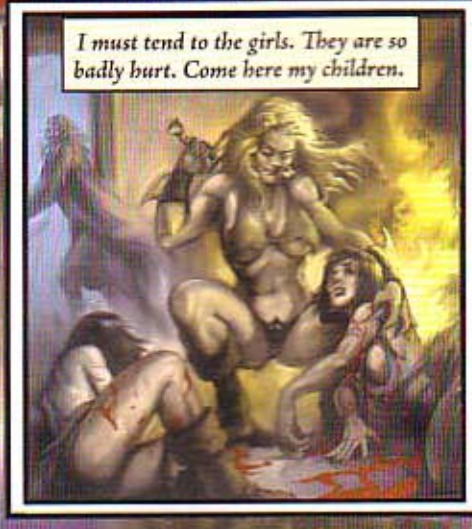

Zoran had raised his children well. He had much to be thankful for.
"Say your prayers my dear Kara. Blessed and grateful are we for this bountiful meal."
And then a knock at the door. So faint... yet so sudden. But who could it be?
"Stay here my children. I will be but a moment."
Kara & Lana sense fear in their father's voice.
His becomes theirs.
Barely a figure... an aged woman dressed in strange garments.
"Kind Sir... may I warm my weary bones by your fire? I have lost my way and would just stop for a moment."
Distrusting, Kara & Lana question their father's kind gesture to welcome in the stranger. The figure reveals a crooked smile.

"Kind Sir, may I also welcome in my beast. He's tired too but has a much greater hunger..."
"For Man Flesh!!!"
The beast lunges...

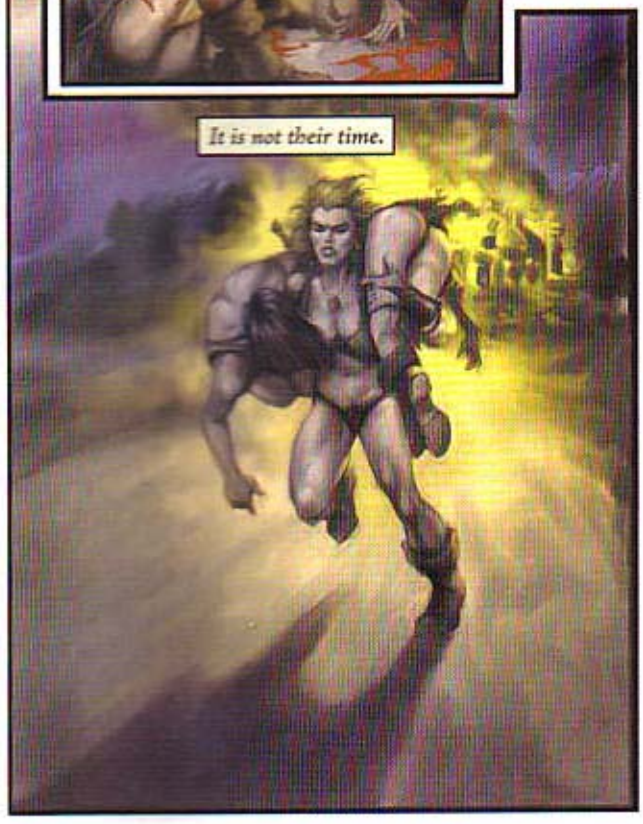

"Now you little bitches are mine! If that old fool could only see what I have in store for you two... my sweeties!"
"What? Who's that?..."
As Petra enters the once serene structure, she is greeted by a bloodbath. The old witch commands the beast to attack the twins.
"You vile, wretched creature... you hound from Hell!"

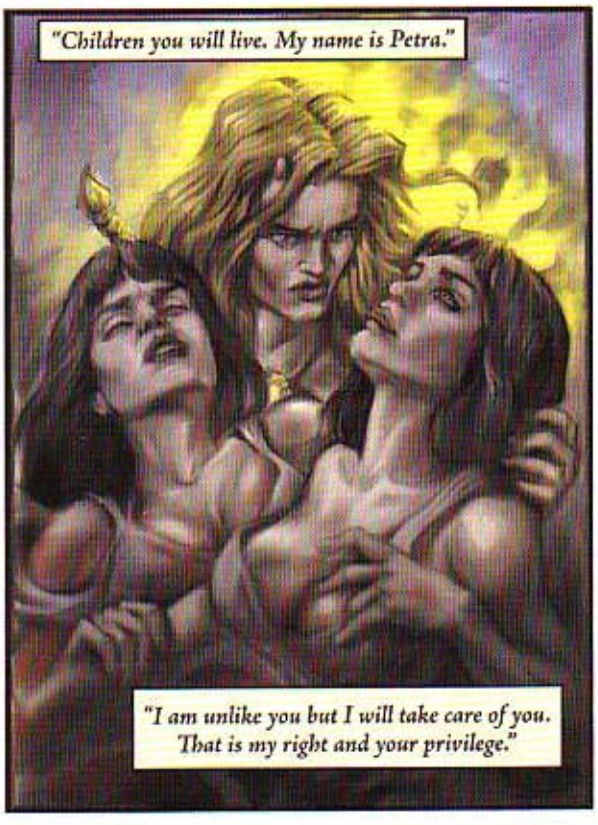

It's meat. The girls were badly wounded and their father ripped to shreds.
"Now it's your turn witch..."

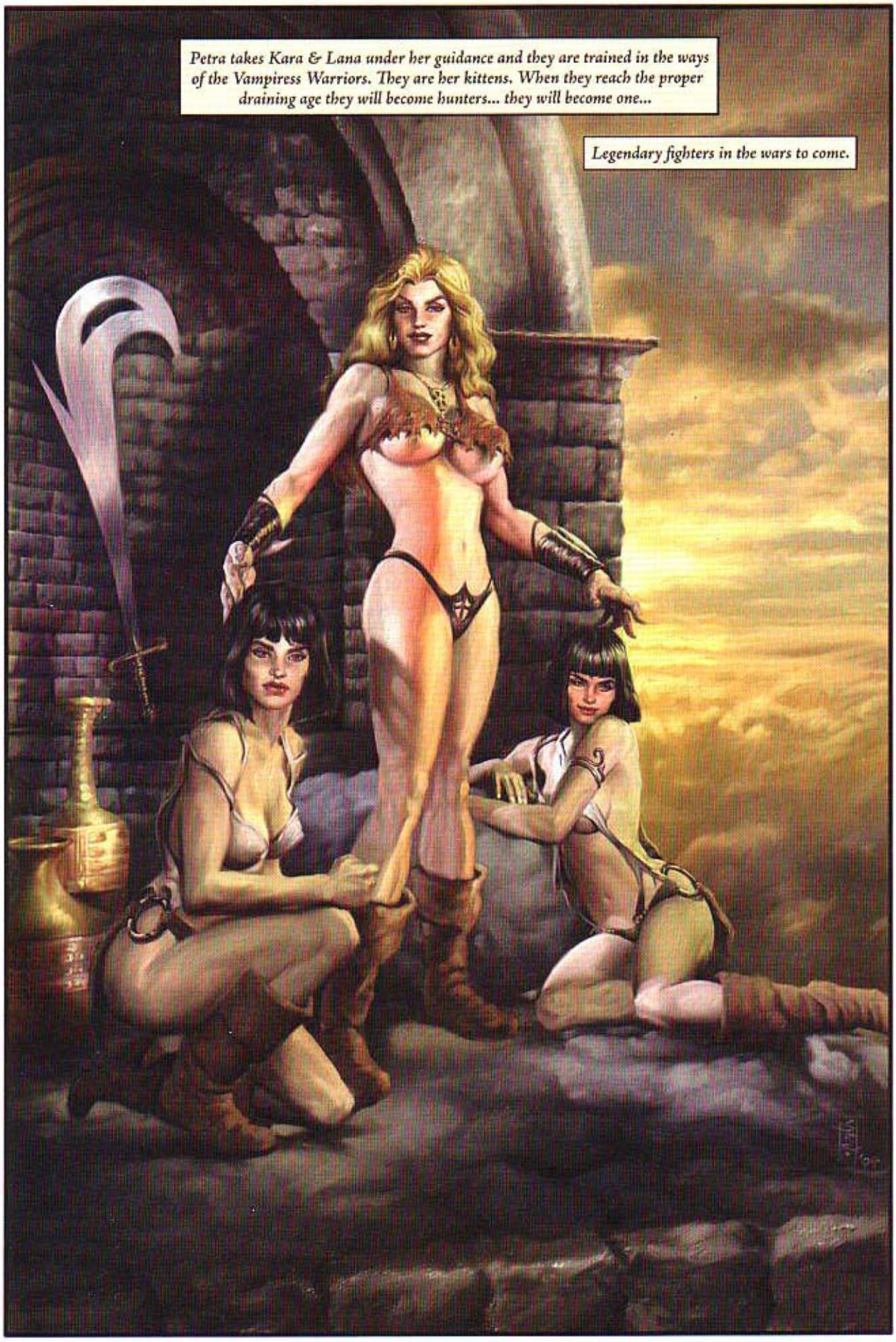
Suddenly the hell-spawn wench creates a fire-spun diversion, instantly igniting the parched walls.


I must tend to the girls. They are so badly hurt. Come here my children.

I must drain them so that they stay alive.
No...


It is not their time.


"Children you will live. My name is Petra."
"I am unlike you but I will take care of you. That is my right and your privilege."


Petra takes Kara & Lana under her guidance and they are trained in the ways of the Vampiress Warriors. They are her kittens. When they reach the proper draining age they will become hunters... they will become one...
Legendary fighters in the wars to come.

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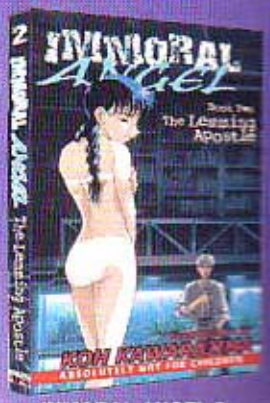

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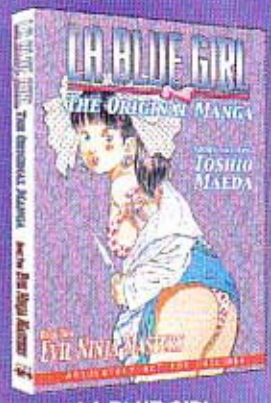

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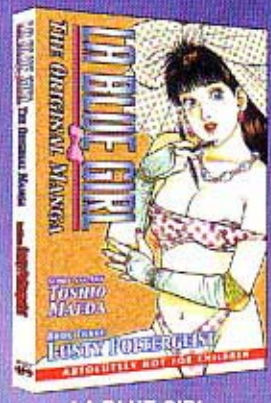

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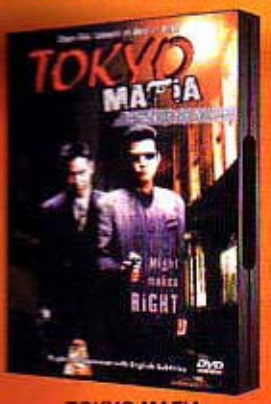

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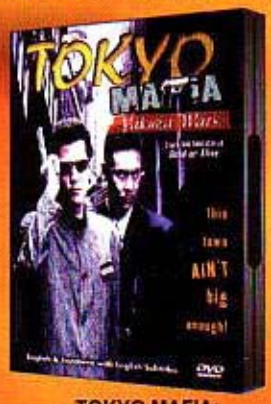

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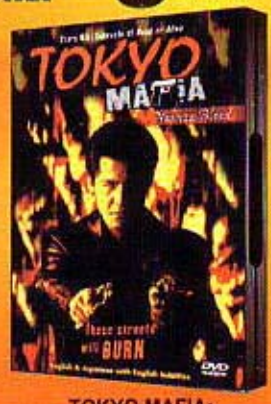

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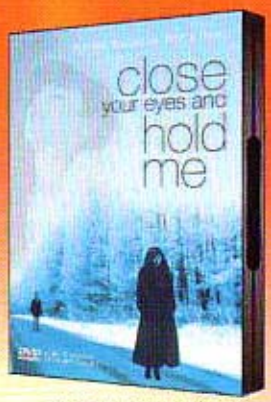
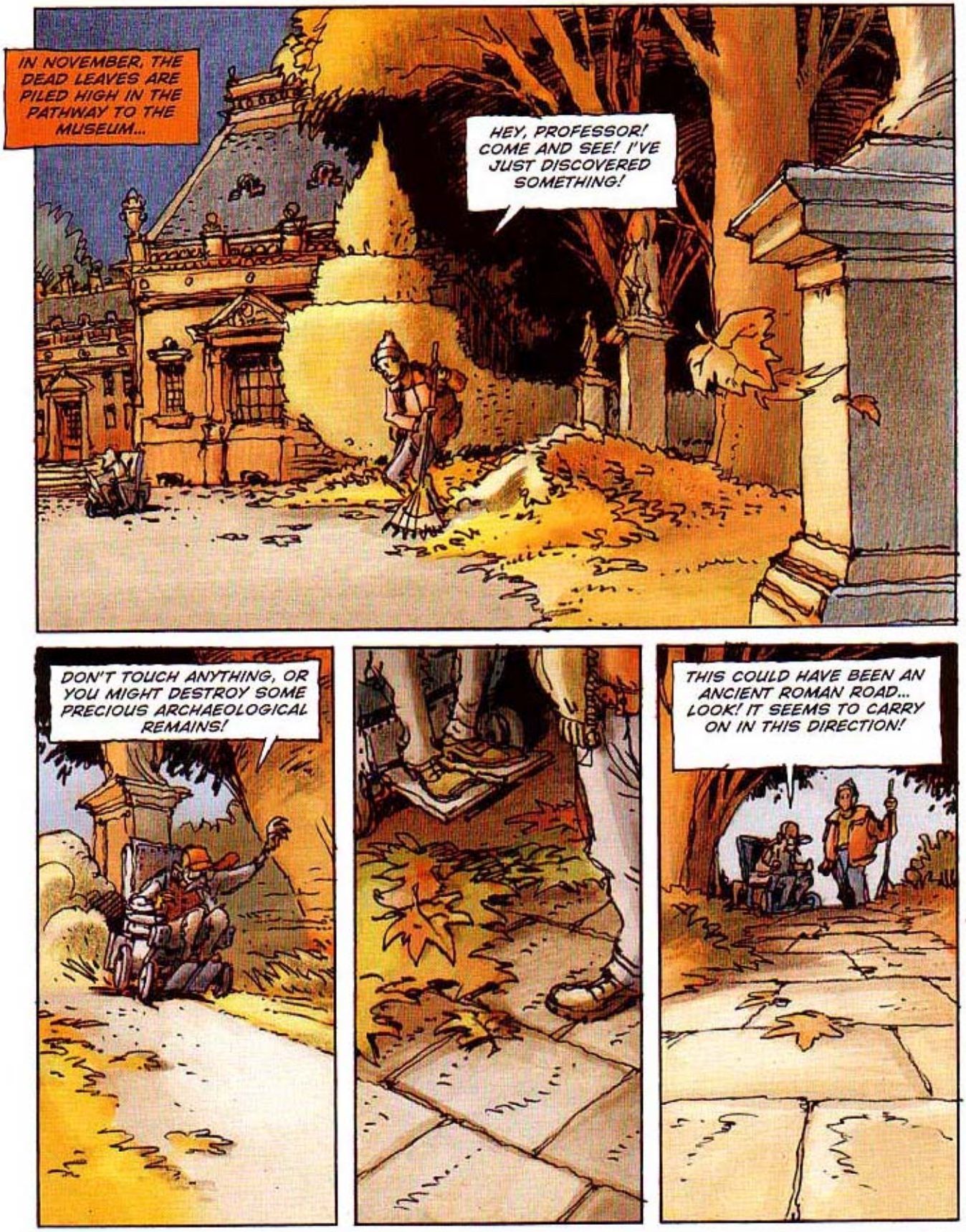
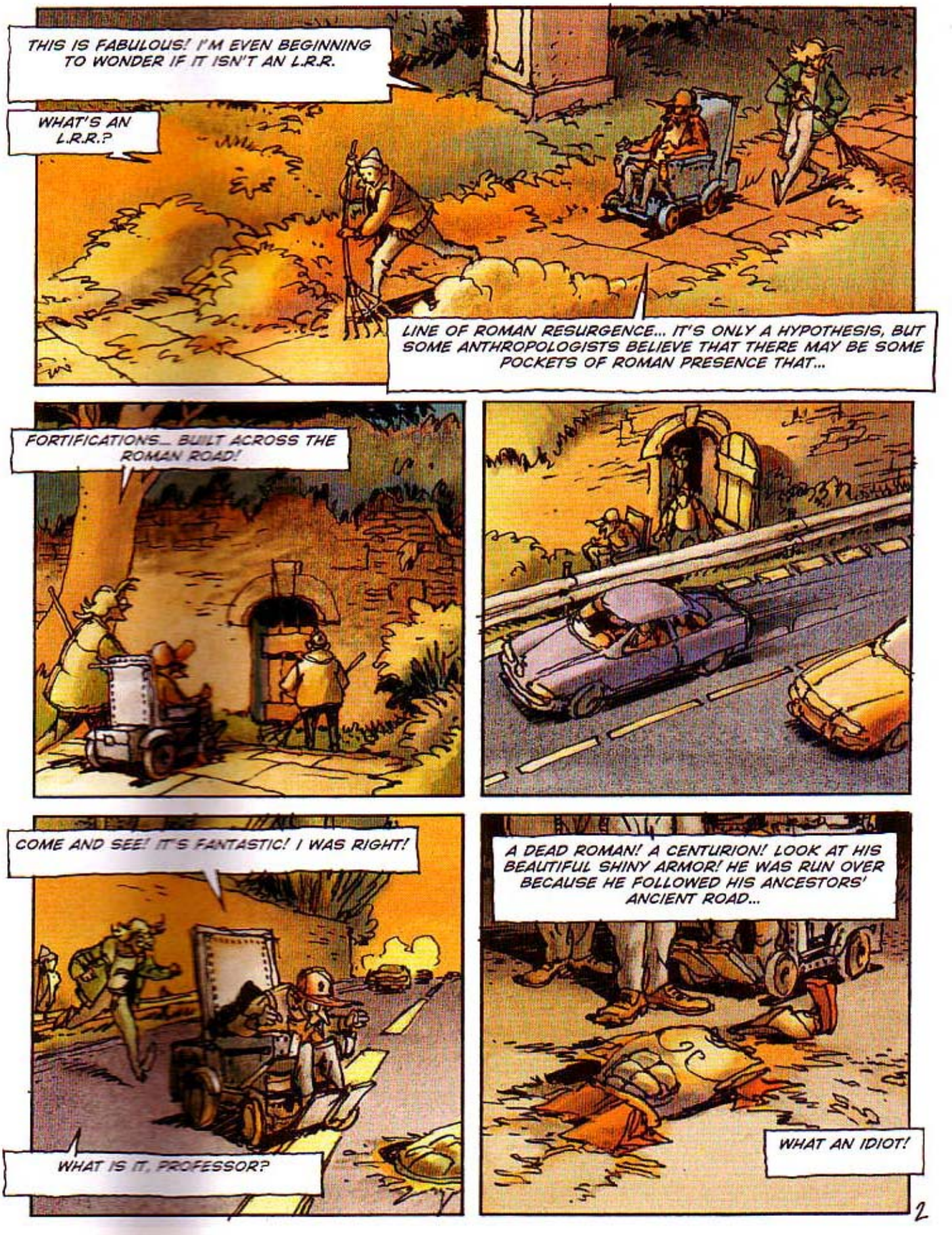


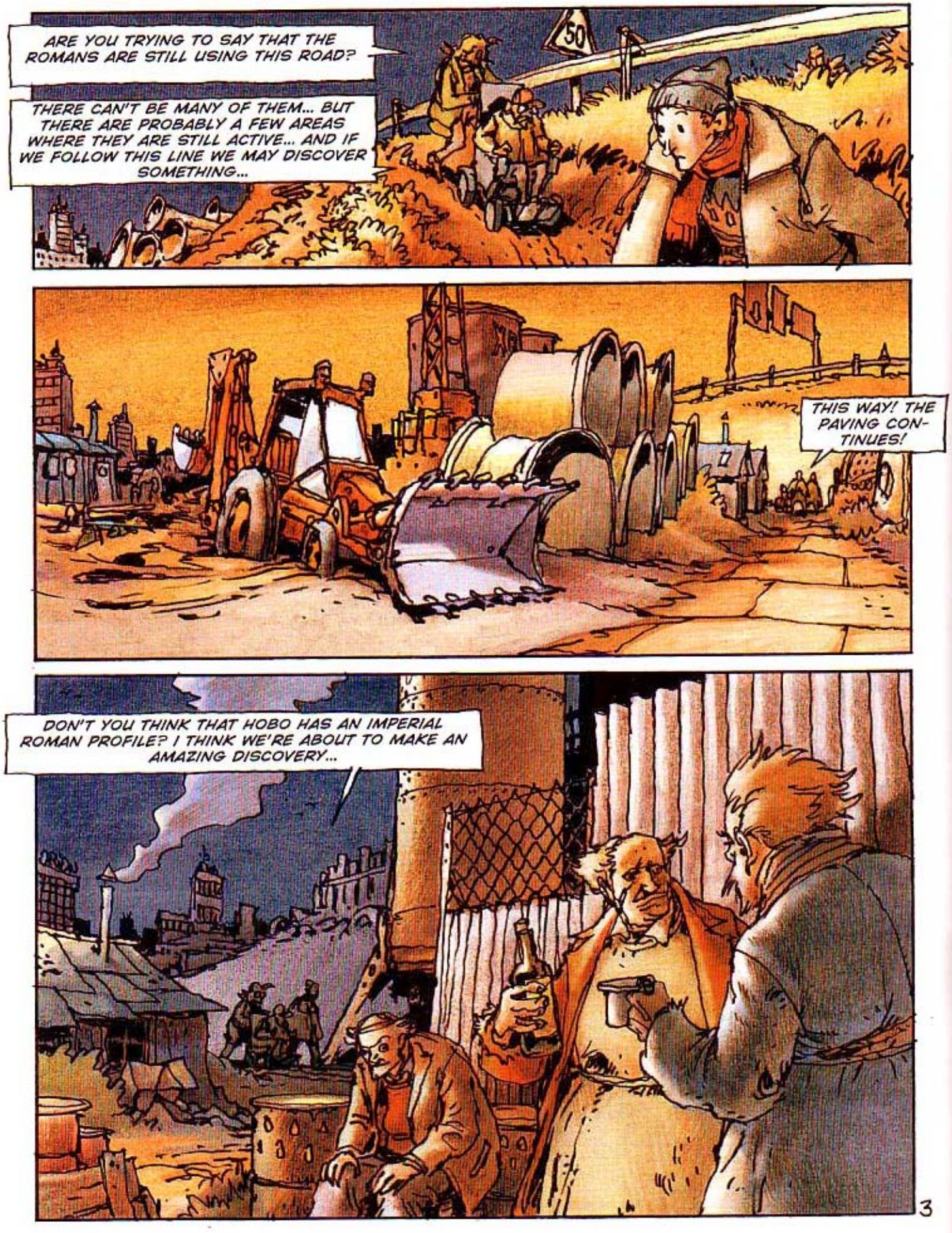
CLOSE YOUR EYES AND HOLD ME

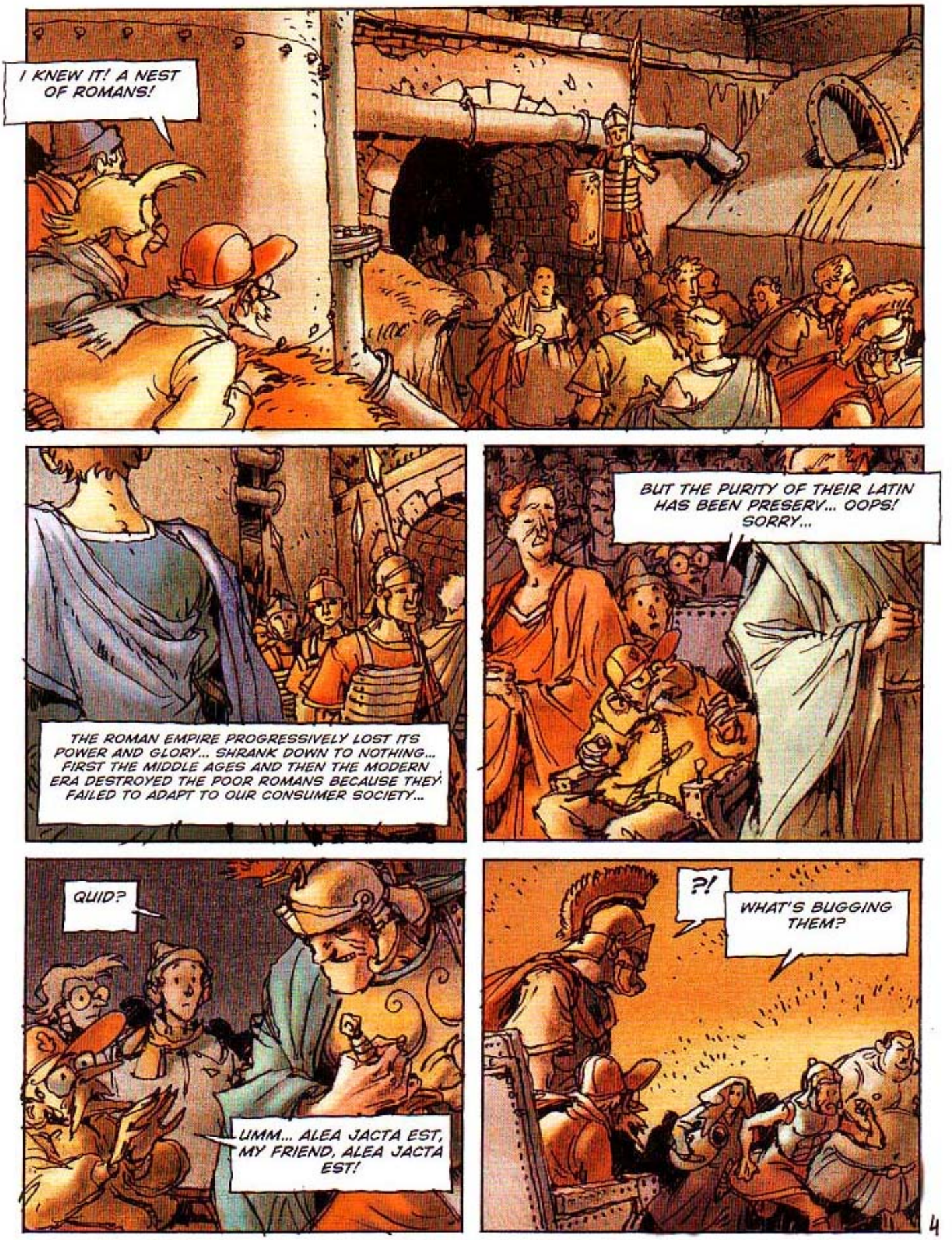
THE DIMENSION TRAVELERS

PLANETARY ARCHIVES- THE ROMANS



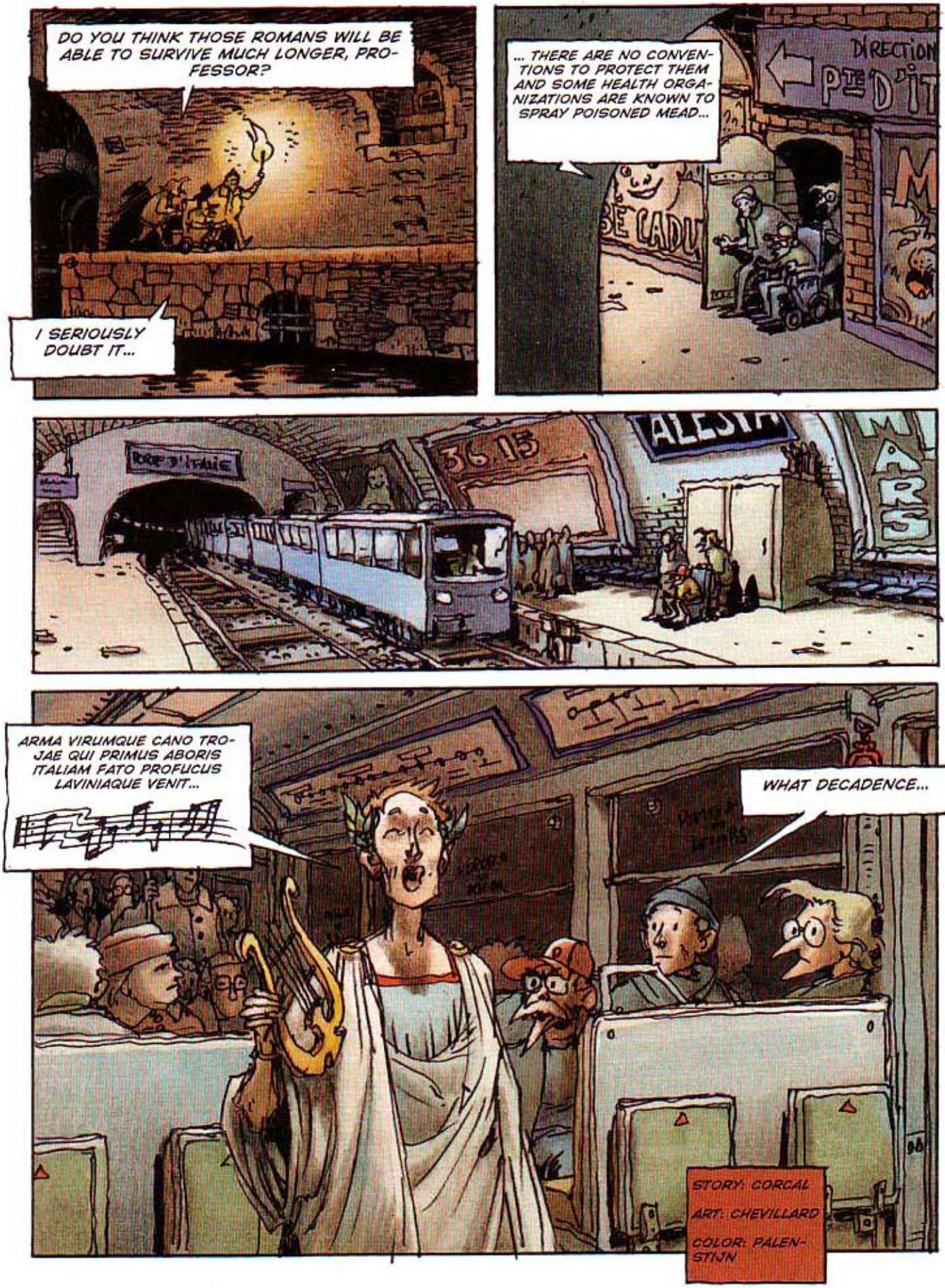

THIS IS FABULOUS! I'M EVEN BEGINNING TO WONDER IF IT ISN'T AN L.R.R.
WHAT'S AN L.R.R.?
LINE OF ROMAN RESURGENCE... IT'S ONLY A HYPOTHESIS, BUT SOME ANTHROPOLOGISTS BELIEVE THAT THERE MAY BE SOME POCKETS OF ROMAN PRESENCE THAT...
FORTIFICATIONS... BUILT ACROSS THE ROMAN ROAD!
COME AND SEE! IT'S FANTASTIC! I WAS RIGHT!
WHAT IS IT, PROFESSOR?
A DEAD ROMAN! A CENTURION! LOOK AT HIS BEAUTIFUL SHINY ARMOR! HE WAS RUN OVER BECAUSE HE FOLLOWED HIS ANCESTORS' ANCIENT ROAD...
WHAT AN IDIOT!
2


ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY THAT THE ROMANS ARE STILL USING THIS ROAD?
THERE CAN'T BE MANY OF THEM... BUT THERE ARE PROBABLY A FEW AREAS WHERE THEY ARE STILL ACTIVE... AND IF WE FOLLOW THIS LINE WE MAY DISCOVER SOMETHING...
50
THIS WAY! THE PAVING CONTINUES!
DON'T YOU THINK THAT HOBO HAS AN IMPERIAL ROMAN PROFILE? I THINK WE'RE ABOUT TO MAKE AN AMAZING DISCOVERY...
3


I KNEW IT! A NEST OF ROMANS!
THE ROMAN EMPIRE PROGRESSIVELY LOST ITS POWER AND GLORY... SHRANK DOWN TO NOTHING... FIRST THE MIDDLE AGES AND THEN THE MODERN ERA DESTROYED THE POOR ROMANS BECAUSE THEY FAILED TO ADAPT TO OUR CONSUMER SOCIETY...
BUT THE PURITY OF THEIR LATIN HAS BEEN PRESERV... OOPS! SORRY...
QUID?
UMM... ALEA JACTA EST, MY FRIEND, ALEA JACTA EST!
?!
WHAT'S BUGGING THEM?

THEY'RE BEING GAULED...
... BY THE GAULS!
LET'S TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION TO SLIP INTO THE CATA-COMBS...
DID YOU SEE THAT? A TRIBUNE WITH A CELL PHONE?!
AN OBVIOUS SIGN OF THEIR DECLINE! BESIDES, HE WAS SPEAKING IN A VERY IMPURE FORM OF LOW LATIN...
5

WHAT A BUNCH OF SADISTS!
AMAZING! DO YOU THINK EVOLUTION HAS REDUCED THE SIZE OF THEIR LIONS?
AND THEY THROW CHRISTIAN DWARFS TO THEM!
6


DO YOU THINK THOSE ROMANS WILL BE ABLE TO SURVIVE MUCH LONGER, PROFESSOR?
I SERIOUSLY DOUBT IT...
... THERE ARE NO CONVENTIONS TO PROTECT THEM AND SOME HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS ARE KNOWN TO SPRAY POISONED MEAD...
DIRECTION
PTE D'IT
M
BE CADU
PORTE D'ITALIE
3615
ALESIA
MARS
ARMA VIRUMQUE CANO TROJAE QUI PRIMUS ABORIS ITALIAM FATO PROFUCUS LAVINIAQUE VENIT...
WHAT DECADENCE...
STORY: CORCAL
ART: CHEVILLARD
COLOR: PALENSTIJN

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