

**SAMURAI SPECIAL!**

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# METAXA

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THE ADULT ILLUSTRATED  
FANTASY MAGAZINE



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T. Giorello

Simon Bisley • Kevin Eastman

# FISTFUL OF BLOOD

"Yojimbo" collides with "Last Man Standing" in this insane goth horror, spaghetti Western, ripped from the minds and pencils of Kevin Eastman and comic book favorite, Simon Bisley.

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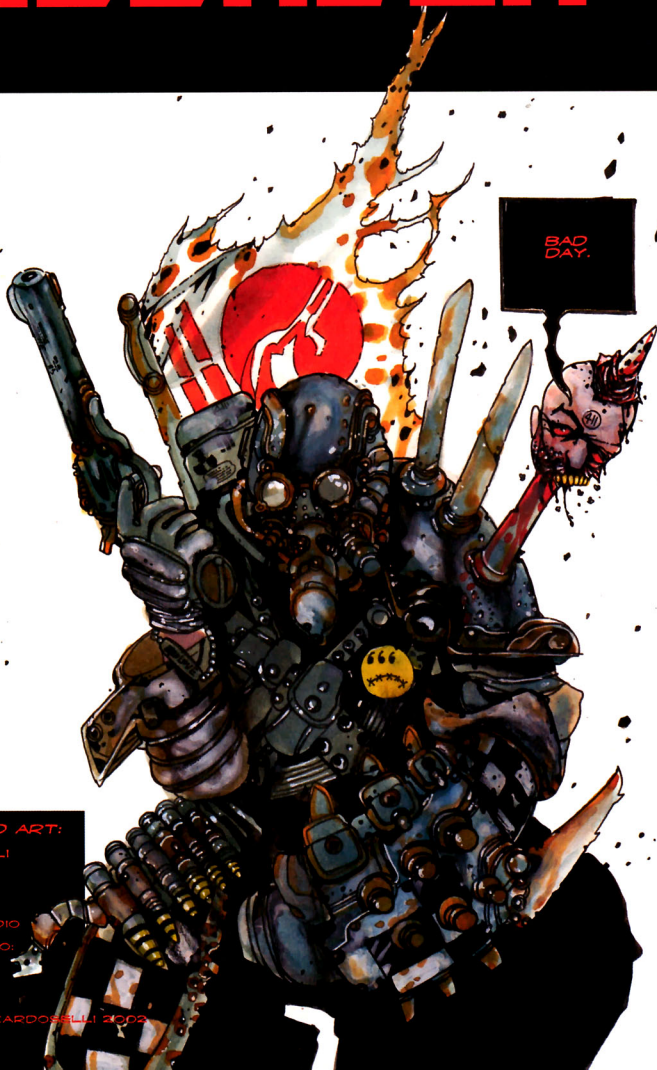
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The Immortal- The Eye of the Dragon by Eric Puech ©Editions SEFAM, 2001.

# DISORDER



BAD  
DAY.

STORY AND ART:  
STEFANO  
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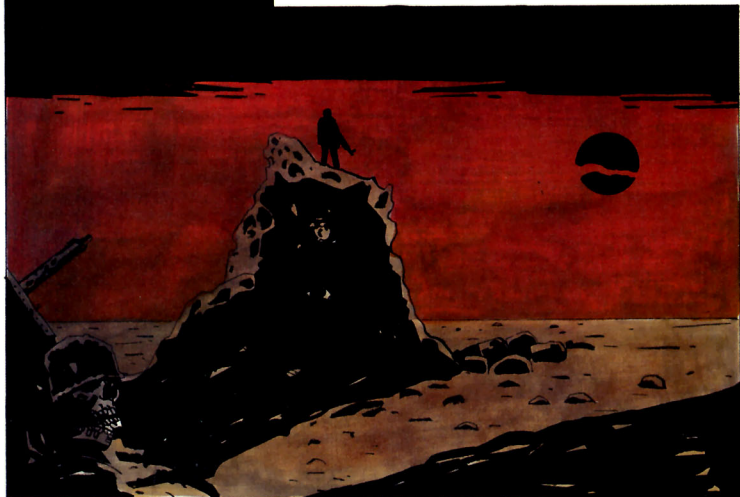
**"HILL"**

THERE ARE JUST A FEW  
MORE STEPS TO THE  
HILL.....

WE SACRIFICED  
OURSELVES  
TO GET TO  
THE GREEN  
HILL.

ALL OF MY FRIENDS  
PASSED AWAY  
IN THIS WAR.  
BUT IT WAS WORTH  
IT. WE WON.

GLORY AND  
PROSPERITY  
FOR MY COUNTRY.



# "JACOB"

JACOB, IT WAS A  
FUCKING BATTLE!  
BUT IT'S OVER NOW.  
LET'S GO BACK HOME  
TO OUR FAMILIES.



EHI, JACOB, THIS IS  
P.J. MY GIRLFRIEND.  
YOU KNOW, I WOULD  
MARRY HER IF THIS WAR  
DIDN'T BREAK OUT.

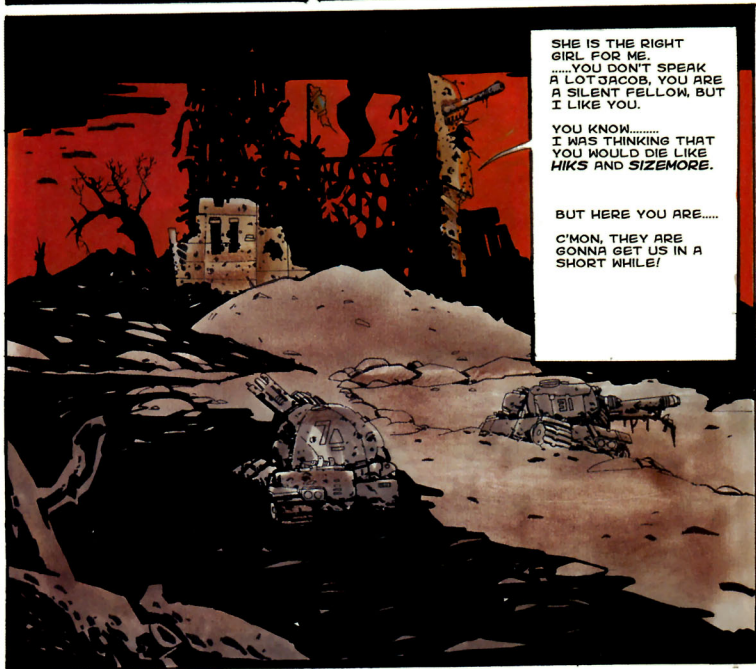


SHE IS THE RIGHT  
GIRL FOR ME.  
.....YOU DON'T SPEAK  
A LOT JACOB, YOU ARE  
A SILENT FELLOW, BUT  
I LIKE YOU.

YOU KNOW.....  
I WAS THINKING THAT  
YOU WOULD DIE LIKE  
HIKS AND SIZEMORE.

BUT HERE YOU ARE....

C'MON, THEY ARE  
GONNA GET US IN A  
SHORT WHILE!







YOU'LL NEVER GET  
THIS HILL, FUCKING  
BASTARDS!

CLACK KLANG

MY NAME IS SGT. SIZE-  
MORE AND THIS IS MY  
381 GUNMACHINE!!

KKAT TT  
KAT KAT  
KAT

COME AND DIE

KKTTT KNTTTT KNTTT





SHIT. C'MON  
SIZEMORE,  
DON'T PANIC.

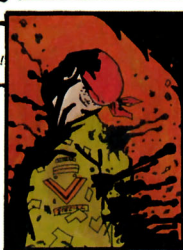


A SOLDIER HAS ALWAYS  
SOMETHING MORE...  
MY 85MM BULLSMOKE!

I TOLD YOU:  
YOU'LL NEVER  
GET THIS HILL!



FUCK YOU  
AND  
YOUR HILL!



THIS MOTHER SUCKER THINKS HE'S  
STILL AT WAR. I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW  
WHAT WAS GOING THROUGH HIS MIND.



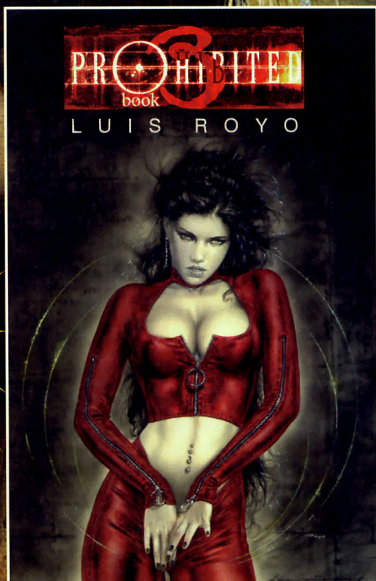
MY HIL...  
.....SIGH!

YOU'LL NEVER GET MY GREEN HILL,  
FUCKING SONS OF A BITCH, I STILL  
HAVE AN 80 MEGATON TINY JEWEL,  
FAREWELL IDIOTS, I'LL SEE YOU  
LATER...I'LL SEE YOU LATER IN.....  
....HELL!!



THE END-FOR NOW!

# NEW! ROY!

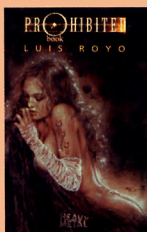


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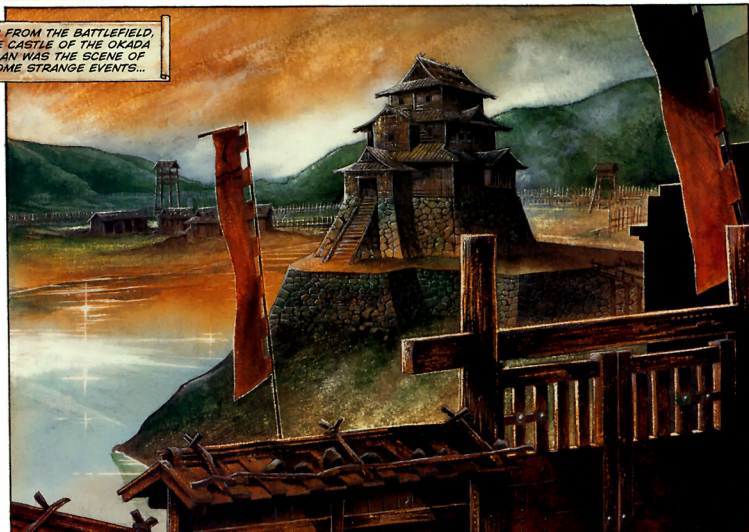


# KWAIDAN - THE SPIRIT OF THE LAKE

IN THE 12TH CENTURY, IN NORTHERN JAPAN,  
TWO RIVAL CLANS WERE ENGAGED IN A  
BLOODY WAR...



FAR FROM THE BATTLEFIELD,  
THE CASTLE OF THE OKADA  
CLAN WAS THE SCENE OF  
SOME STRANGE EVENTS...







LADY ORIN?...  
LADY ORIN!

LADY ORIN!



LORD SABURO HAS ARRIVED. HE WISHES TO SEE YOU.



TELL HIM I AM ILL. I HAVE NO WISH TO SEE HIM.



BUT HE HAS COME HERE ESPECIALLY...

THAT'S ENOUGH, ANJU! HE'S THE FIFTH SUITOR THAT WANTS TO SEE ME. I HAVE NOTHING BUT CONTEMPT FOR ALL THESE ARISTOCRATIC CULTURES.



NANKO-SAN HAS GONE AWAY TO FIGHT AGAINST OUR ENEMIES, AND I AWAIT HIS RETURN IMPATIENTLY. YOU KNOW THAT...!

AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR SISTER, LADY AKANE?



MY DEAR SISTER AKANE? HOW COULD I FORGET HER? SHE IS DYING OF JEALOUSY... AND YOU KEEP REMINDING ME OF IT!

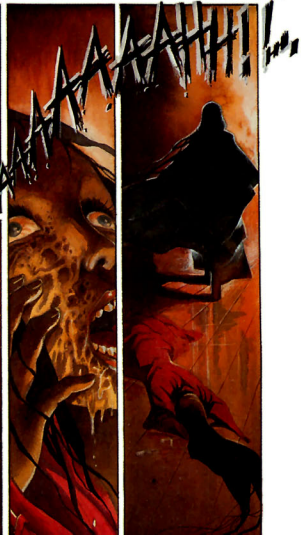
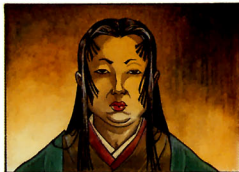


SHE HAS REGARDED ME AS HER RIVAL EVER SINCE I TOLD HER ABOUT MY FEELINGS FOR NANKO, AND YET, WHEN WE WERE CHILDREN, WE WERE AS CLOSE AS TWINS.



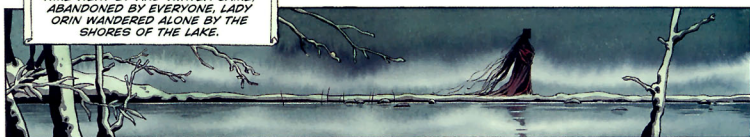
SO ALIKE THEN, AND SO DIFFERENT NOW!







TIME WENT BY AND WINTER CAME,  
ABANDONED BY EVERYONE, LADY  
ORIN WANDERED ALONE BY THE  
SHORES OF THE LAKE.



TO SLEEP  
TO DIE ALONE  
IN THE SHAD-  
OW OF THE  
REEDS...



FORGIVE  
ME...



...MY  
BELOVED.





YOU MUST BE  
SURPRISED TO SEE ME  
SEATED HERE, INSTEAD  
OF MY SISTER... BUT  
YOU'VE COME TOO LATE.

BELIEVING YOU HAD  
BEEN KILLED, ORIN TOOK  
HER OWN LIFE IN A  
MOMENT OF MAD GRIEF.  
HER BODY NOW LIES AT  
THE BOTTOM OF THE  
LAKE.

SUICIDE  
?!...

YES, THAT IS  
WHAT HAPPENED.

WAIT! DON'T  
LEAVE!

LEAVE ME  
ALONE!

WHY? WHY?  
YOU DIDN'T  
HAVE THE  
RIGHT TO DO  
THAT!

THE BRIGHT FLAME OF YOUR  
LOVE SHONE FORTH IN THE  
DARK DAYS OF ABSURD WAR-  
FARE, AND NOW SINCE YOU  
HAVE LEFT AND ENTERED THE  
NIGHT, I WILL FOLLOW YOU!!!

I LOVED YOU... AND  
YOU WERE SO... SO  
BEAUTIFUL...

AAAAAAAAAAAAAH!!



DON'T  
WEEP, MY  
LOVE...

...AND MAKE  
ALL OUR  
SORROWS  
VANISH.

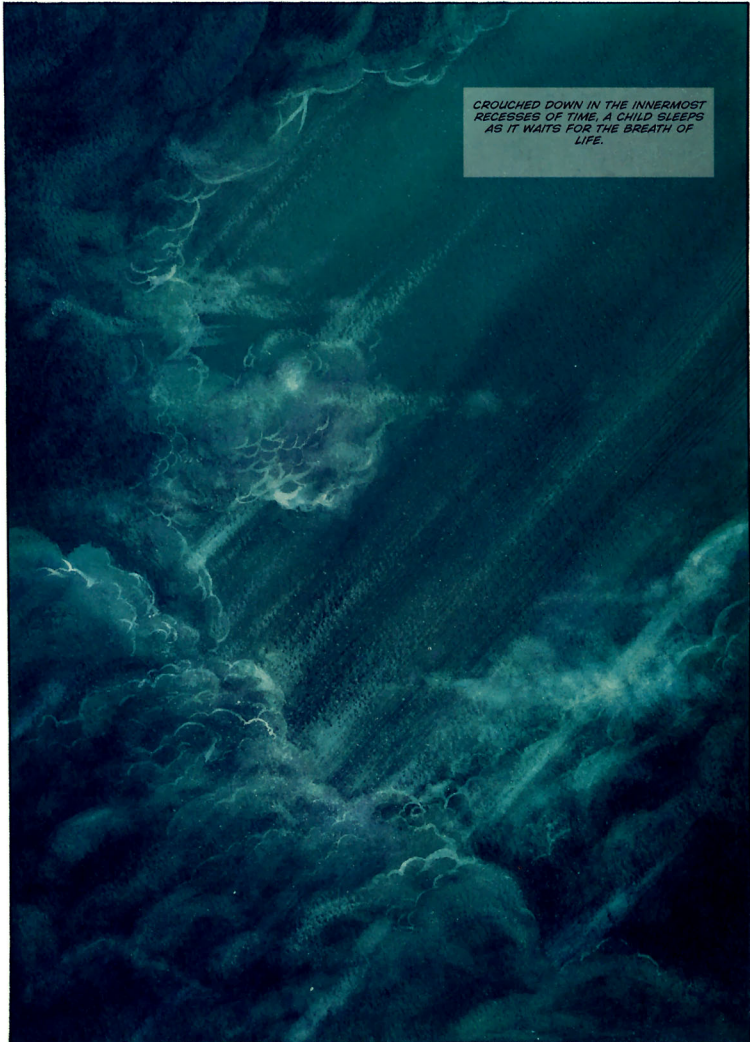
I PROMISE THAT  
EVERYTHING WILL BE  
ALL RIGHT, SOME  
DAY... A LITTLE GIRL  
WILL BE BORN. SHE  
WILL FIND THE  
LAKE...

AKANE, THE SOLE HEIRESS,  
WAS UNABLE TO KEEP OUT  
THE CONSTANT INVASIONS OF  
ENEMY CLANS.

SHE WANDERED  
ALONE THROUGH  
HER DOMAIN...

... UNTIL SHE DISCOVERED THE  
POWER OF THE LAKE...



The image is a large, vertical, rectangular panel filled with a dark, swirling, teal-colored abstract pattern. The pattern resembles smoke, mist, or perhaps a microscopic view of a fluid. In the upper right quadrant, there is a small, rectangular, light-colored box containing text. In the center of the panel, there is a faint, glowing, textured mass that looks like a cluster of cells or a small, intricate structure. The overall mood is mysterious and ethereal.

*CROUCHED DOWN IN THE INNERMOST  
RECESSES OF TIME, A CHILD SLEEPS  
AS IT WAITS FOR THE BREATH OF  
LIFE.*

A small, rectangular, light-colored box with a decorative border, containing text. It is positioned at the bottom left of the page, below the main image.

*TWO CENTURIES LATER...*











I'VE BROUGHT  
YOU A BOWL OF  
RICE. EAT, BEFORE  
YOU GO BACK TO  
THE VILLAGE!



HAVE  
SOME,  
SET-  
SUKE...



SHOW ME  
YOUR  
INJURY...

I WANT A  
MOMMY!



I MUST REMOVE  
YOUR MASK TO  
HEAL YOU.

WHY  
WOULDN'T  
SHE PLAY  
WITH ME?



'CAUSE  
OF MY  
FACE...?



...I MEAN,  
'CAUSE I  
HAVEN'T  
GOT ONE?



TELL ME,  
SANPEI-SAN,  
WAS SHE  
BEAUTIFUL?



AS BEAUTI-  
FUL AS A  
DREAM...







IT'S  
HERE.



I DON'T  
UNDER-  
STAND!?



THAT'S  
YOUR  
MOTHER'S  
GRAVE.



SHE DIED UNDER  
VERY STRANGE  
CIRCUMSTANCES  
WHILE GIVING BIRTH  
TO YOU...

I WAS THERE  
THAT DAY... BUT  
I TRIED TO  
FORGET...





TEN YEARS LATER...









USHIO!



HA HA HA!  
MY DEAR  
KWADANS-!  
YOU'RE SO BEAUTI-  
FUL! COME OUT OF  
THE SHADOWS...



YOU, TOO,  
LUSHIO,  
COME!



MY LOYAL  
L'EUTENANT.



DO YOU REMEMBER THAT  
FOGGY NIGHT...?

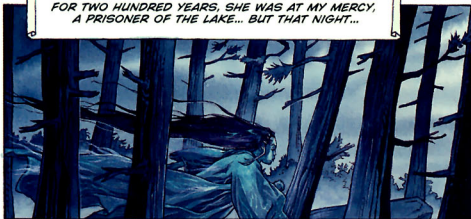


ALTHOUGH FIFTEEN YEARS  
HAVE GONE BY, I KNOW YOU  
HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN THAT  
NIGHT...





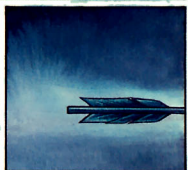
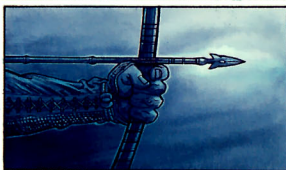
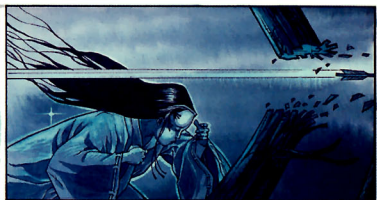
FOR TWO HUNDRED YEARS, SHE WAS AT MY MERCY,  
A PRISONER OF THE LAKE... BUT THAT NIGHT...



... MY SISTER THOUGHT  
SHE COULD GET AWAY  
FROM ME...



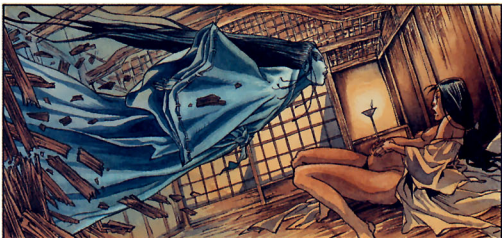
DESTROY MY ETERNITY! THAT'S WHAT SHE TRIED TO DO!  
SHE KNOWS THAT THE LAKE WATER IS HOLY BECAUSE HER  
SOUL IS IMPRISONED IN IT.



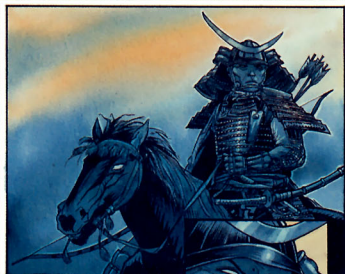
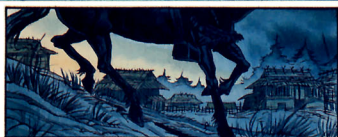


THE VILLAGE!  
AT LAST!

HOUNDED BY TIME, SHE SOUGHT A TINY,  
NEARLY FULL-FLEDGED CREATURE IN WHOM  
SHE COULD BE REBORN. HA HA HA!  
MY DEAR LITTLE SISTER! DAMNED FOR ALL  
ETERNITY!



SORRY, YOUNG  
MOTHER-TO-BE, BUT  
I HAVE NO CHOICE!...











ENOUGH! I'M TAKING  
YOU BACK TO THE  
CASTLE, EVEN IF I HAVE  
TO DRAG YOU THERE!



COME  
ON!



FAREWELL,  
LITTLE GIRL!  
PART OF ME  
WILL LIVE ON IN  
YOU.



QUICK!

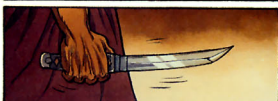
MAYBE  
SHE CAN  
STILL  
MAKE IT!



TOO LATE!  
BUT I CAN SAVE...



...THE  
CHILD.



HURRY, SANPEI!  
YOU CAN DO IT!

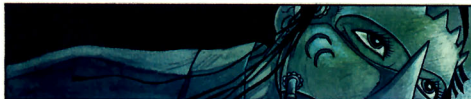


WHAT...?  
BY ALL THE  
KAMIS!



THE CHILD  
HAS NO... NO...

...FACE. AH, DEAR SISTER,  
YOU LEFT THAT MEMORY IN  
A DARK, HIDDEN RECESS  
OF YOUR MIND... IN A PLACE  
CALLED FORGETFULNESS.



THIS DESPERATE ACT IS  
UNFORGIVABLE IN THE EYES  
OF THE GODS AND YOU WILL  
NEVER BE REBORN TO A NEW  
LIFE. DISFIGURED FOR ALL  
ETERNITY, YOU WILL BE CON-  
DEMNED TO ROAM BETWEEN  
LIFE AND DEATH!

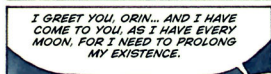
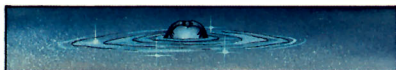


I DISFIGURED  
YOU, LITTLE  
SISTER. YOU WILL  
NEVER FORGET  
THAT...

...AND I WILL  
REMINDE YOU  
EVERY DAY AND  
NIGHT.











WHAT ABOUT YOU, ORIN? WHAT HAS BECOME OF YOUR ILLUSIONS? WHEN YOU COMMITTED SUICIDE, YOU CONDEMNED YOURSELF TO ROAM AMONG LOST SOULS. AND IN TRYING TO BE REBORN, YOU KILLED TWO INNOCENT CREATURES... WITH THE RESULT THAT THE GODS HAVE MADE ME THE GUARDIAN OF THE SACRED WATER. IRONIC, ISN'T IT?



DON'T REJOICE TOO SOON, AKANE! NOTHING IS EVER DEFINITIVE!



OH! I KNOW. TRUST ME, I'LL MAKE SURE NO ONE EVER FREES YOU OF YOUR CURSE!



BE THAT AS IT MAY, I WILL NOW BID YOU GOODBYE ...



I DON'T LIKE HER ATTITUDE! HER DISDAIN MAY BE A SIGN THAT SHE HASN'T LOST HOPE, BUT HOPE OF WHAT?...



BRING THE PRISONER TO ME!



COME TO ME, MISERABLE MORTAL!



DON'T BE AFRAID! LET'S PUT AN END TO YOUR PATHETIC EXISTENCE!

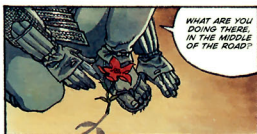


CONCENTRATE ON DEATH AS IT SURGES INTO YOU. IT'S A NECESSARY STEP TO ATTAIN THE LIFE YOU DREAM OF.

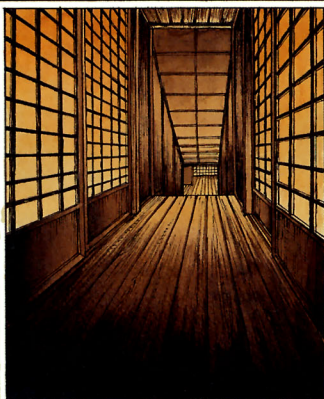
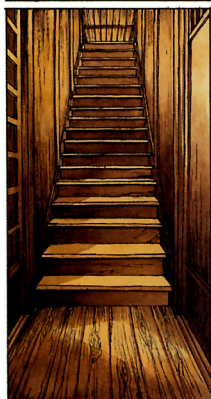


LET HIM FULLY APPRECIATE HIS FINAL MOMENTS, BEFORE HE JOINS OUR FAMILY.











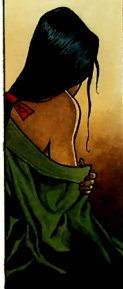


BUSINESS HAS BEEN BOOMING SINCE I STARTED TRADING WITH THE KOREANS. I'VE SOLD FIFTY THOUSAND RYOS OF FABRIC.

YOU'RE DAMN LUCKY.



AND YOU NEVER MISS A BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY?



HIA HA HA! GOOD ANALYSIS, MY DEAR KIYOMORI-SAN!



HEY, THERE'S BLIND SEMINARU.



STRANGE KID, IN SPITE OF HIS BLINDNESS, HE IS KNOWN AS A TALENTED PAINTER. HE SEEMS TO BE HAUNTED BY A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN...



...WHOSE LIKENESS HE PAINTS CONSTANTLY.



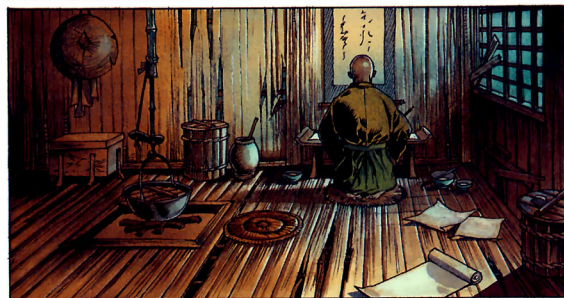
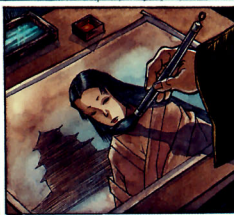
...?



HEY... MY SAKE!?



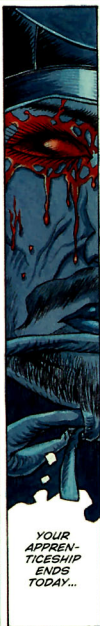
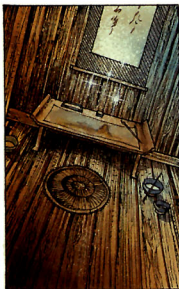
26.



WHO'S  
THERE?









WHERE...  
WHERE ARE  
WE GOING,  
MASTER?

TO THE PLACE  
WHERE LIGHT  
AND DARKNESS MEET...

I'M AFRAID  
I DON'T  
UNDERSTAND,  
MASTER...

BE PATIENT...  
YOU HAVE  
ALREADY UNDERSTOOD  
THE MOST IMPORTANT  
THING...

...TO RECOGNIZE  
SPECTERS AND TO  
PROTECT YOURSELF  
FROM THEM.

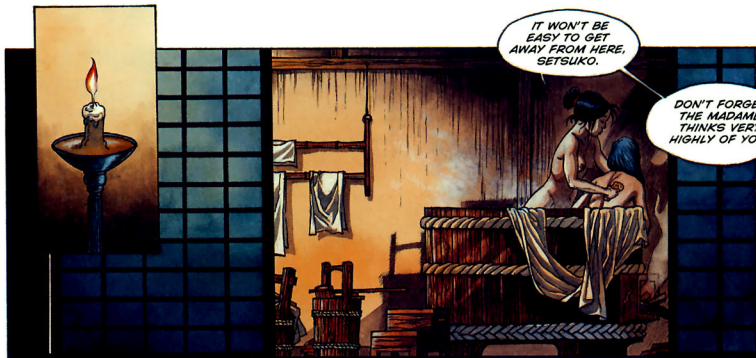
DO YOU  
KNOW THE PATH  
THAT LEADS TO  
DARKNESS?

YES,  
MAS-  
TER...

I MUST FOLLOW  
THE SCENT OF  
SULFUR AND  
BLOOD... WHICH  
WILL LEAD ME TO  
THE CASTLE AND  
THE LAKE...

GO TOWARD  
THE LIGHT,  
NOW...

...TAKE IT BY THE  
HAND AND TASTE  
IT...



IT WON'T BE  
EASY TO GET  
AWAY FROM HERE,  
SETSUKO.

DON'T FORGET  
THE MADAME  
THINKS VERY  
HIGHLY OF YOU!



OF ME OR OF THE MONEY  
THAT I BRING HER? I SERVE  
ONLY TO SATISFY PERVERSE  
CURIOSITY. I'VE HAD  
ENOUGH!



WHEN I WAS  
A CHILD, I  
USED TO  
DREAM...



...THAT I WOULD  
GO TO LAKE  
AMADA AND  
BATHE IN IT AND  
THEN A MIRACLE  
WOULD  
OCCUR.



I'VE HEARD ABOUT THE  
MIRACULOUS LAKE. MANY  
PEOPLE HAVE GONE THERE  
AND NEVER COME BACK. IT'S A  
FORBIDDEN AREA... PROTECTED  
BY THE KWAIDANS...



THEY SAY THAT  
A PRINCESS'S  
SOUL IS  
IMPRISONED  
THERE.



DON'T GO,  
SETSUKO!  
IT'S TOO  
DANGEROUS.



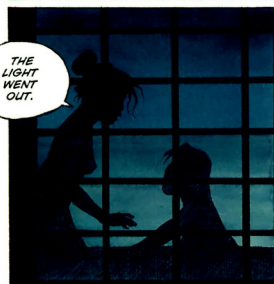
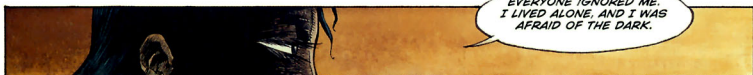
I'M NOT AFRAID OF  
GHOSTS.



AT HOME,  
THE VIL-  
LAGERS  
USED TO  
CALL ME...



...SETSUKO  
THE  
CURSED  
ONE.







HUH... I  
THINK I'M  
LOST...

YOU'RE IN  
THE PLEASURE  
DISTRICT, BLIND  
MAN.

MAYBE YOU'D  
LIKE TO  
SPEND A FEW  
RYOS, HUH?

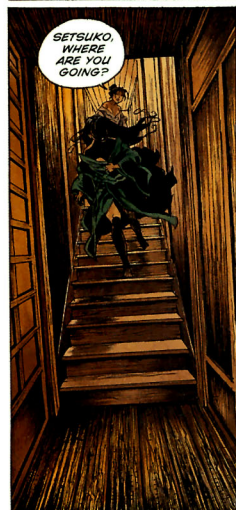


THE  
PAINTER  
P...



HEY, ARE YOU DEAF  
TOO, OR WHAT? IF  
YOU LIKE, I CAN GO  
SEE THE LADIES OF  
THE NIGHT WITH  
YOU!

AND IF YOU  
COULD LEND ME  
SOME CASH  
THAT WOULD BE  
MUCH APPRECI-  
ATED!



SETSUKO,  
WHERE  
ARE YOU  
GOING?

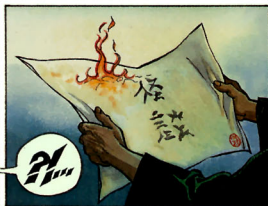


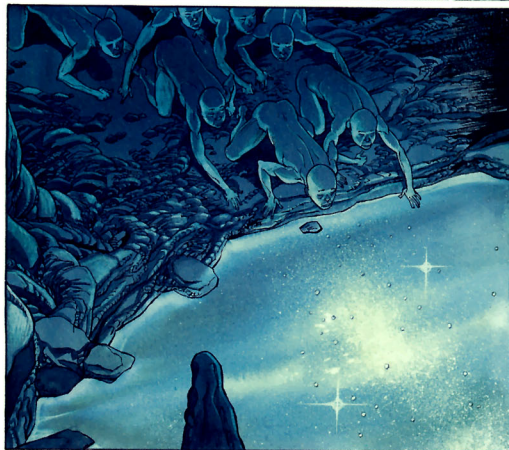
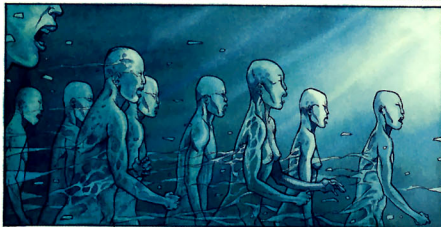
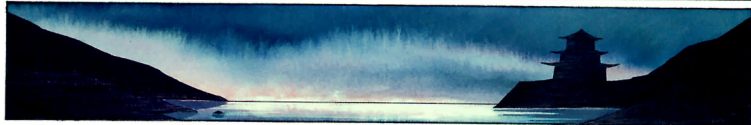
OKAY, FORGET  
IT. YOU'RE NOT  
MUCH FUN! I'LL  
CATCH UP WITH  
YOU AT HOME...

WHERE DO  
YOU LIVE?



TOO LATE!  
THEY'RE  
GONE!










ABANDON YOURSELVES TO  
ME, MY CHILDREN, AND I  
WILL LET YOU RELISH THESE  
MOMENTS OF HAPPINESS.



TAKE EVERYTHING  
LIFE HAS DENIED YOU  
AND ENJOY IT.



EVEN FOR ME,  
NOTHING  
REMAINS BUT...



...ILLU-  
SION.



NOW, LET US GATHER  
TOGETHER. SEE HOW,  
WITH THE PASSING OF  
TIME, OUR FAMILY HAS  
GROWN...

...AS HAS  
OUR  
POWER.

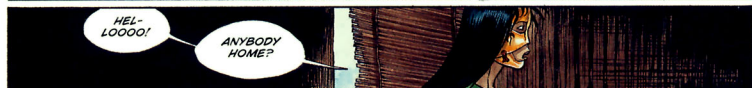


BESIDES, IF YOU  
WERE SO SCARED  
YOU COULD HAVE  
STAYED HOME!

HA, HA!  
VERY  
FUNNY!





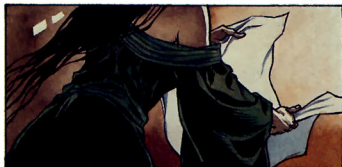




MY INTUITION WAS  
RIGHT! IT'S THE  
BLIND MAN'S  
HOUSE!



A BLIND  
PAINTER! HOW  
STRANGE...



AND HE'S  
GOOD! BUT  
HE ALWAYS  
PAINTS  
THE SAME  
WOMAN.



SHE'S  
BEAUTIFUL...  
BUT SHE LOOKS  
SO SAD.



WHAT'S  
COME OVER  
ME?

I'M CRYING LIKE A  
CHILD... AND FOR  
NO REASON! IT'S  
ALL BEYOND ME...  
FIRST THAT LET-  
TER, THEN THESE  
PICTURES...



HELP ME  
UNDER-  
STAND.



WHAT?! WHAT'S GOING ON?  
SHE NO LONGER HAS...?!

SHE  
HAS NO  
FACE!

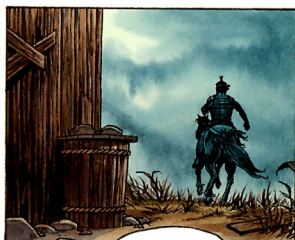


IT CAN'T BE A  
COINCIDENCE!  
SOMEONE IS  
TRYING TO...











A FEW DAYS  
LATER...

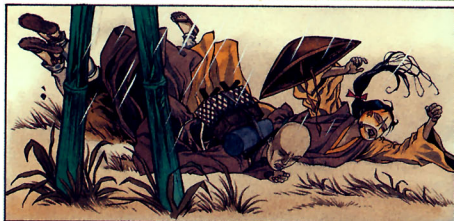


I'M TIRED  
OF WALKING,  
SEMINARU.

AND BESIDES,  
IT'S START-  
ING TO RAIN.

LET'S SEEK  
SHELTER IN  
THE FOREST.





SO WHY LOOK  
ELSEWHERE FOR WHAT  
I'VE GOT HERE WITH  
HIM...?





KISS  
ME!



BLOOD!? IT'S RAINING  
BLOOD!



HURRY,  
SETSUKO!

WE MUST  
GET OUT OF  
THE FOREST!



MY HANDS...?!  
THEY'RE  
COVERED  
IN BLOOD!



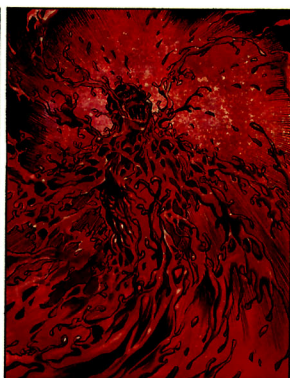
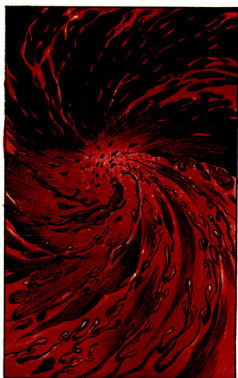
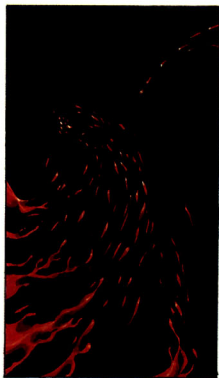
HURRY UP!



LOOK... IN  
FRONT OF  
US!?









AS LONG AS HE  
SEES THE  
SACRED TEXTS,  
WE'RE SAFE!  
YOU MUST  
TAKE YOUR  
CLOTHES OFF...

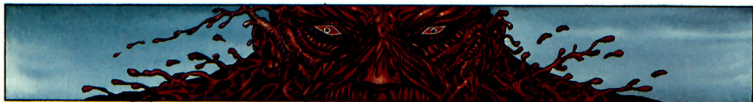
HURRY!



RUN,  
SET-  
SUKE!...







# ZOMBIE

SOME TRANSLATIONS AREN'T VERY RELIABLE. TAKE THE BIBLE, FOR EXAMPLE. HOW MANY TIMES HAS IT BEEN TRANSLATED? HOW CAN WE BE SURE WHAT THE ORIGINAL REALLY SAID?

CARGO-CRAFT  
MOBY DICK  
LANDING  
NOW...

WE'RE BRINGING  
YOU GOODIES  
FROM HOME,  
GUYS!

SHIT,  
THIS  
STINGS!

CONCENTRATED  
ANTISEPTIC.

WE DON'T WANT  
TO CONTAMINATE  
MARS WITH  
ANY OF OUR  
DISEASES...

MARS... IT'S HARD  
TO BELIEVE WE  
ALMOST FAILED TO  
CONQUER IT. AND IT  
WASN'T EVEN  
BECAUSE WE LOST  
SOME MAJOR WORLD  
WAR... NO, IT WAS  
JUST BECAUSE OF  
SOME STUPID  
BUDGET CUTS.

HE HAS SPENT  
HIS WHOLE LIFE  
IMAGINING AND  
DREAMING OF  
THIS MOMENT. HE  
HAS PRACTICED  
AND TRAINED  
CONSTANTLY. AND  
HE HAS FINALLY  
MADE IT.

MOBY DICK  
ROMERO



STOP  
PHILOSOPHIZING  
AND MOVE IT!

THE EXIT CHUTE HAS BEEN  
DEPLOYED, AND I'M SURE  
THE SETTLERS ARE  
IMPATIENT TO GREET US.

AFTER THIS TRIP  
AND A COUPLE  
MORE, I'LL HAVE  
ACQUIRED FIVE  
HUNDRED ACRES  
ON MARS...

...A DREAM COME  
TRUE! ON EARTH THE  
MOST I CAN HOPE  
FOR IS TO SHARE  
A ONE-BEDROOM  
APARTMENT.

CLUTCHING THEIR BELONGINGS,  
THE SETTLERS HAVE CROWDED  
INTO THE ARRIVALS' HANGAR. A  
COUPLE OF BODY BAGS ARE  
PILED UNCEREMONIOUSLY IN A  
CORNER. A FRIGHTENING  
SILENCE HOVERS UNCANNILY  
OVER THE SCENE.

BUT...

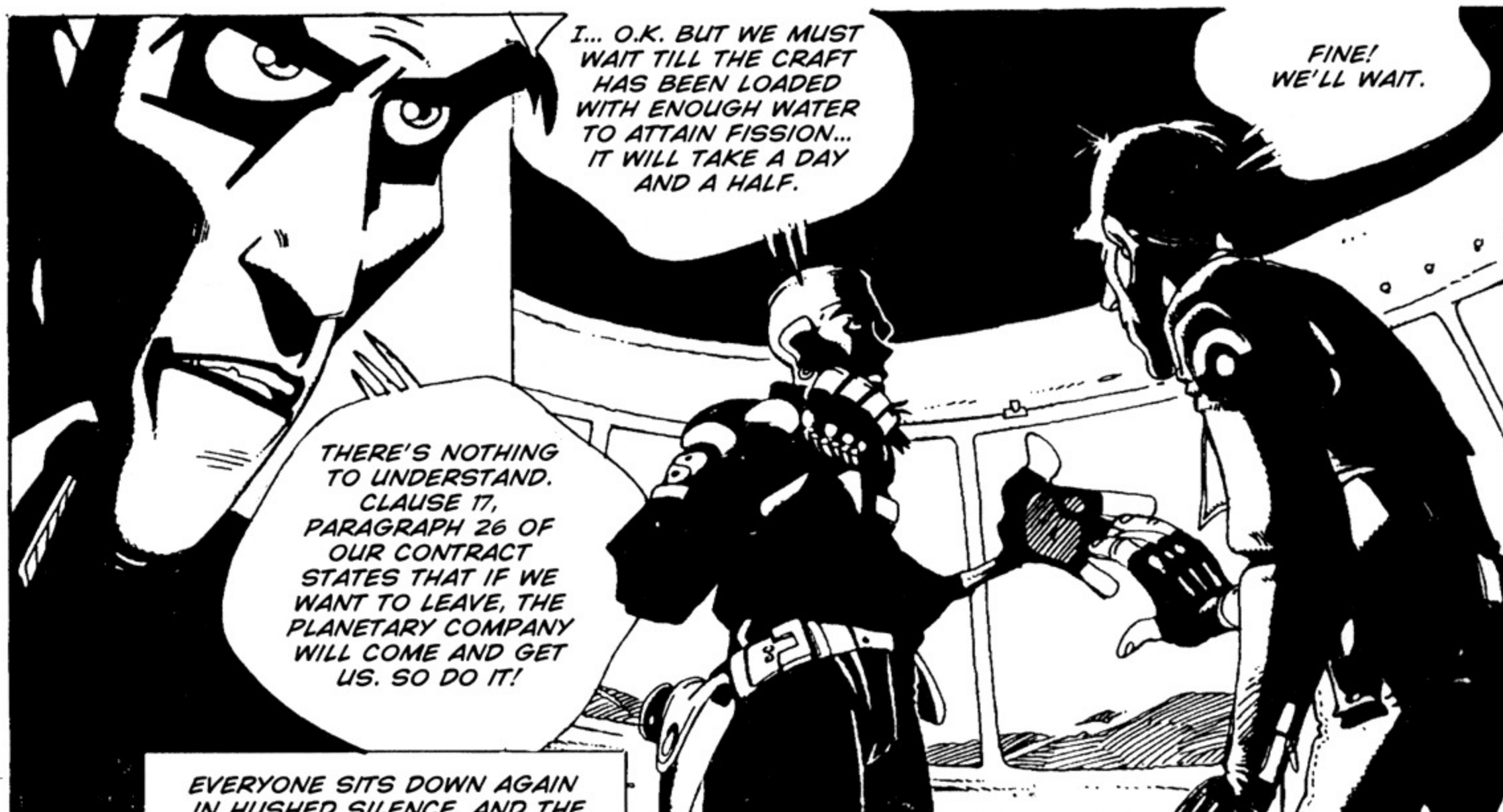
WHAT THE  
DEVIL WAS  
THAT...?

SILENCE. NO VOICES.  
NOT EVEN A SLIGHT  
RUSTLING. TWO CHILDREN ARE  
GENTLY ROLLING A BALL  
TOWARD EACH OTHER. THAT  
IS ALL.

TAKE US  
AWAY FROM  
HERE.

THEY ALL STAND UP AND QUIETLY PICK UP  
THEIR BUNDLES. A MUTED, CONFUSED  
MURMUR IS THE ONLY NOISE THAT RISES  
FROM THE GROUP.

I DON'T  
UNDER-  
STAND...

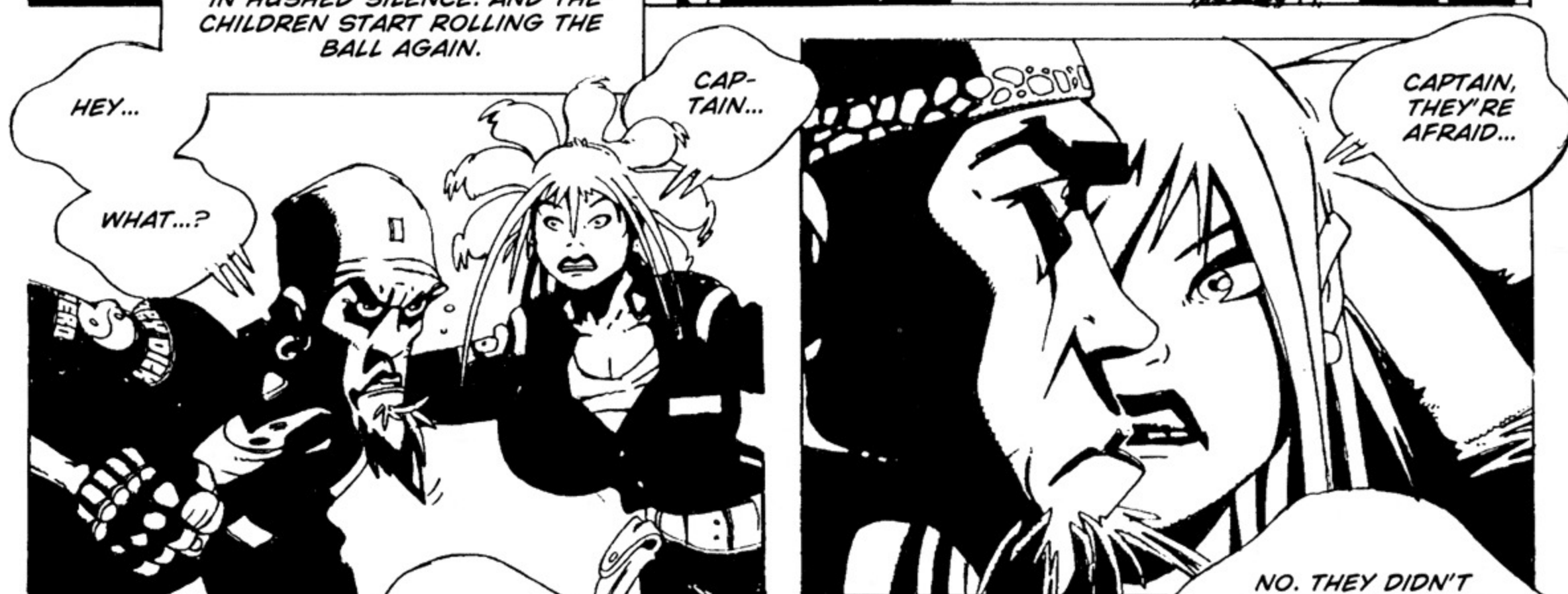


I... O.K. BUT WE MUST  
WAIT TILL THE CRAFT  
HAS BEEN LOADED  
WITH ENOUGH WATER  
TO ATTAIN FISSION...  
IT WILL TAKE A DAY  
AND A HALF.

FINE!  
WE'LL WAIT.

THERE'S NOTHING  
TO UNDERSTAND.  
CLAUSE 17,  
PARAGRAPH 26 OF  
OUR CONTRACT  
STATES THAT IF WE  
WANT TO LEAVE, THE  
PLANETARY COMPANY  
WILL COME AND GET  
US. SO DO IT!

EVERYONE SITS DOWN AGAIN  
IN HUSHED SILENCE. AND THE  
CHILDREN START ROLLING THE  
BALL AGAIN.

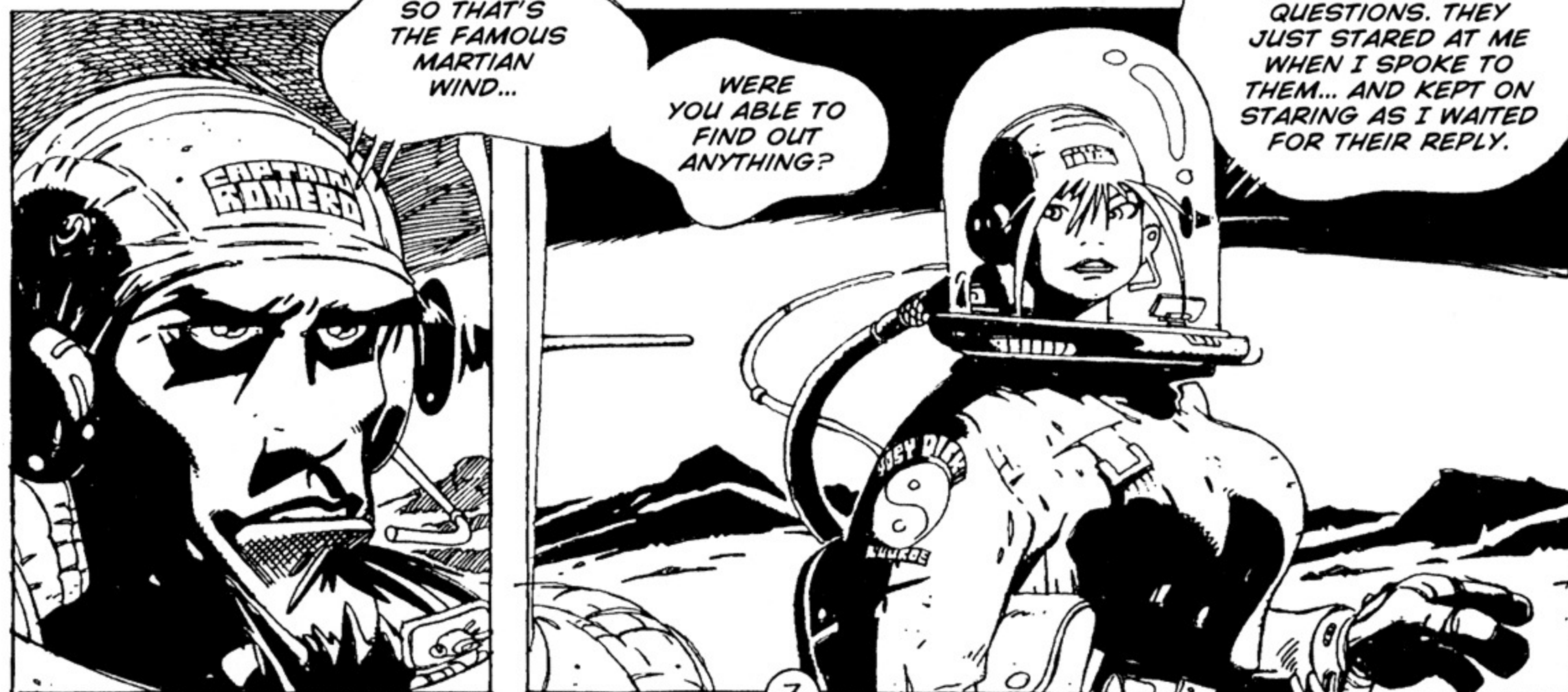


HEY...

WHAT...?

CAP-  
TAIN...

CAPTAIN,  
THEY'RE  
AFRAID...



SO THAT'S  
THE FAMOUS  
MARTIAN  
WIND...

WERE  
YOU ABLE TO  
FIND OUT  
ANYTHING?

NO. THEY DIDN'T  
EVEN ANSWER MY  
QUESTIONS. THEY  
JUST STARED AT ME  
WHEN I SPOKE TO  
THEM... AND KEPT ON  
STARING AS I WAITED  
FOR THEIR REPLY.



BUT  
SOMETHING  
HAPPENED...

AND WHATEVER IT WAS, IT  
SCARED THEM BADLY ENOUGH  
TO MAKE THEM GIVE UP THEIR  
PRIVILEGES, DECIDE TO GO  
BACK TO THEIR CUBBYHOLES  
ON EARTH, AND TAKE OUT A  
LOAN FROM THE COMPANY  
THAT MANY OF THEM WILL  
HAVE TO PASS ON TO THEIR  
CHILDREN.

WHAT ARE  
YOU LOOK-  
ING FOR?

THE CEMETERY.  
THREE ARE MISSING. I  
COUNTED THEM. TWO  
OF THEM ARE INSIDE,  
IN THE BODY BAGS.  
THE THIRD ONE MUST  
BE BURIED AROUND  
HERE...

THE ONLY EXPLANA-  
TION IS THAT THERE'S  
BEEN SOME SORT OF  
DISEASE...

...AND THEY WON'T  
TELL US ABOUT IT  
BECAUSE IF WE KNEW  
WE WOULDN'T TAKE  
THEM BACK....

IN FACT,  
WE COULDN'T  
GO BACK,  
EITHER!

SMART  
LADY!

THIS  
IS IT...

BUT... THIS  
GRAVE... IT'S  
BEEN DUG  
UP!

...SO THEY  
WERE...

...ATTACKED BY A  
PREDATOR. IT SEEMS  
THERE'S A CREATURE ON  
MARS THAT EATS HUMAN  
BEINGS. AND MAYBE  
HUNTS THEM TOO...

AND THAT'S WHY THEY  
WON'T TELL US ABOUT IT.  
IF WE KNEW THEY'D BEEN  
IN CONTACT WITH AN ALIEN  
LIFE FORM, WE'D HAVE TO  
KEEP THEM IN QUARANTINE  
HERE...

BUT THEY'RE MUCH  
TOO SCARED TO  
STAY...



HE LOOKS THROUGH THE WINDSCREEN AND SEES THEM STARING SILENTLY AT THE EXIT CHUTE. THEIR FEAR IS ALMOST PALPABLE.

JUST IN CASE... WE'D BETTER WAIT IN THE CARGO-CRAFT.

I'VE GOT A PLAN. I'LL TAKE THEM AWAY FROM HERE AND I'LL NOTIFY THE COMPANY. THEN, IF THERE'S ANY DANGER OF CONTAMINATION, WE'LL REMAIN IN LUNAR ORBIT UNTIL SOMEONE DECIDES WHAT TO DO.

CAPTAIN, I THINK YOU SHOULD HAVE A LOOK AT THIS...

THE MARTIAN WIND LIFTS UP CLOUDS OF DUST. A SMALL ROCK HITS THE STATION. WHEN THEY HEAR ITS THUD, THE SILENT CROWD HUDDLES UP, AS IF RESPONDING TO A SIGNAL... OR AS IF THEY FELT THREATENED BY ANY SOUND FROM OUTSIDE...

THERE IT IS AGAIN...

WHEN THE WIND DIES DOWN A BIT AND THERE'S LESS SAND IN THE AIR, THE SONAR DETECTS SOMETHING. IT SEEMS TO BE MOVING HAPHAZARDLY...

...YET EACH TIME WE PICK UP A SIGNAL, THE THING SEEMS TO HAVE MOVED CLOSER...

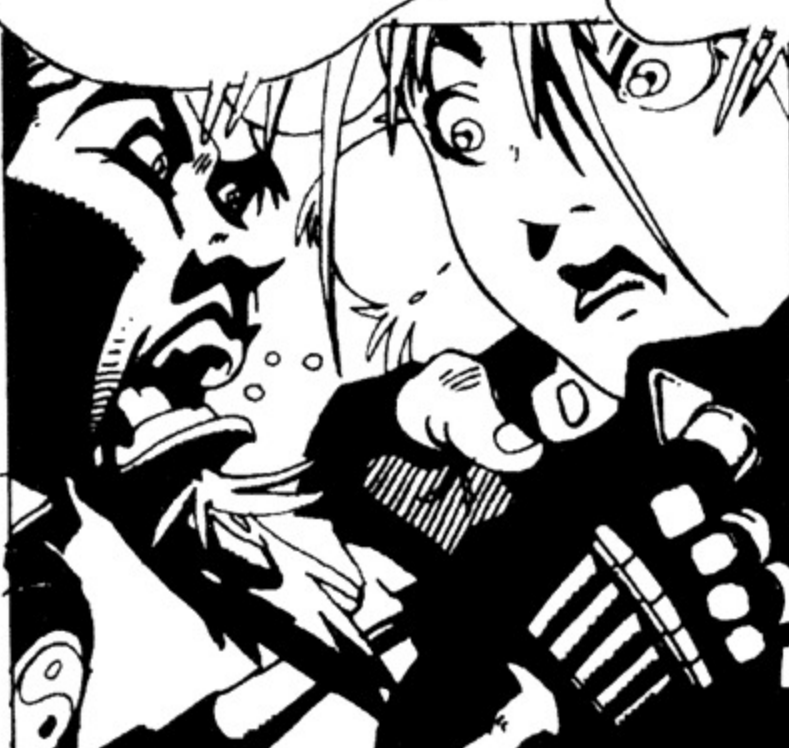
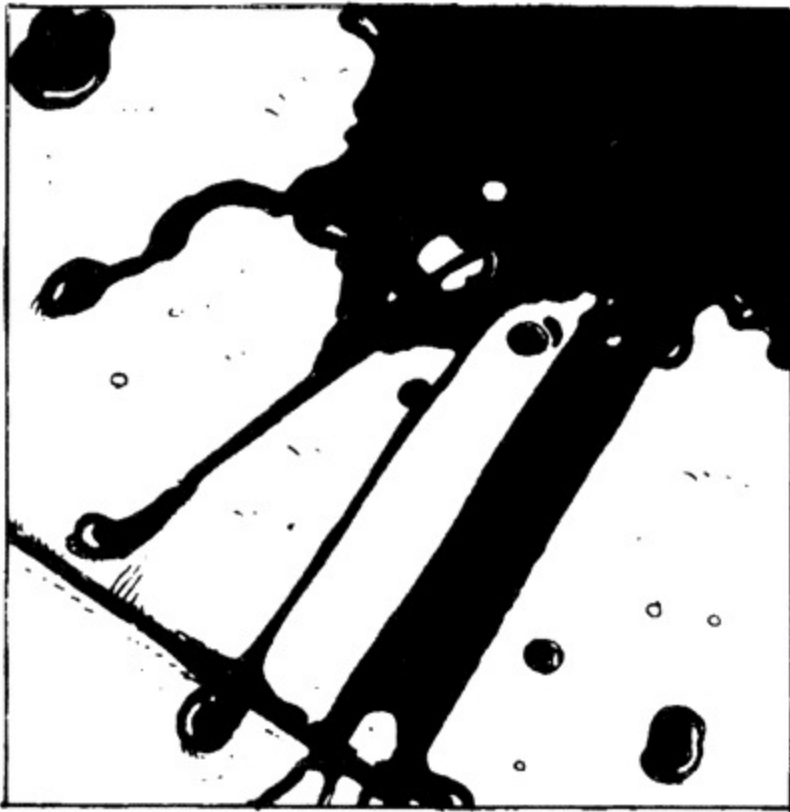
ACTIVATE ALL SECURITY SYSTEMS. AND EVERYONE GET THEIR GUNS OFF SAFETY.

THIS IS RIDICULOUS. WE FIND OUT ABOUT AN EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL LIFE FORM...

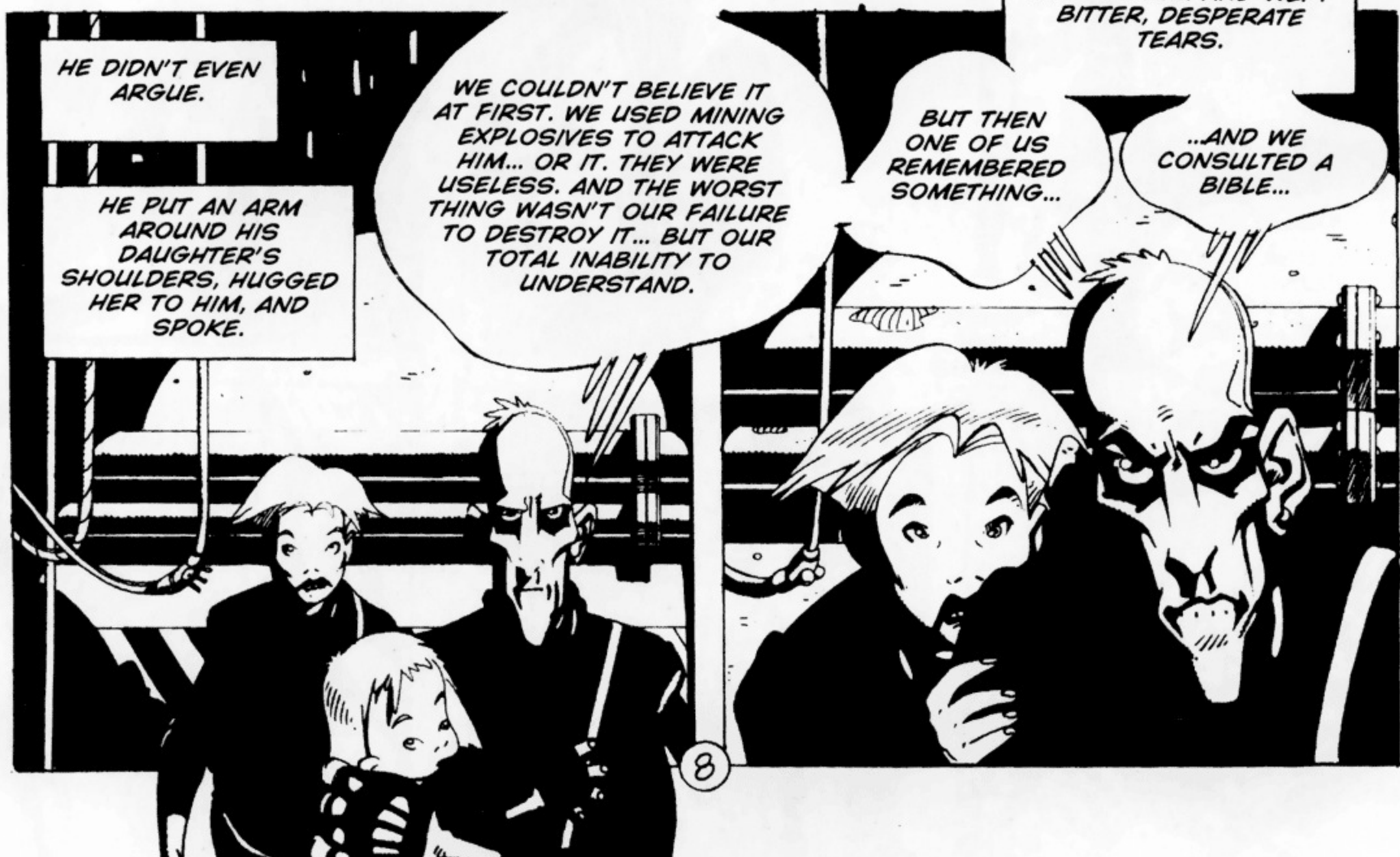
...AND THE FIRST THING WE DO IS PULL OUT OUR WEAPONS! BUT IF NOTHING CAN GET PAST OUR DEFENSE SHIELD...



















NO...

I SAID  
NO...

THE TWO MEN - OR WHAT  
IS LEFT OF THEM -  
ARE STUCK IN THE  
CHAOS OF PIPES IN THE  
CEILING.

IT'S DIFFICULT TO  
SQUEEZE A HAND  
BETWEEN TWO PIPES,  
EVEN TO MAKE  
REPAIRS.

BUT SOMEONE, OR  
SOMETHING, HAS STUCK  
THE TWO BODIES IN  
THERE, WHERE THEY'RE  
BEING CRUSHED AND  
BROKEN...

SHE ISN'T DEAD,  
AT LEAST SHE  
DOESN'T SEEM TO  
BE...

NO...

NOT  
HER...!

MOBY D  
ABU

PERHAPS THIS IS A NEW  
FORM OF DEATH, A  
SECRET, HIDDEN DEATH,  
WHICH DOES NOT  
ALLOW GRIEVING AND  
FORGETTING.



A NOISE RISES FROM THE WASTE AREA, AND A HAND STIRS AS IF IT WERE TRYING TO INDICATE SOMETHING. OR PERHAPS IT JUST SEEMS TO STIR.

DON'T WORRY...  
I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM...

IDIOTIC ANIMAL...

IT'S RUMMAGING THROUGH THE ROTTING LEFTOVERS OF THE GREENHOUSE CROPS.

THAT'S ALL HE NEEDS TO SEE.

COME HERE, DAMN YOU!

SHOW ME WHAT YOU GOT...!





THE FIGURE  
STANDS UPRIGHT.

AND THAT'S WHEN HE REALIZES  
THAT THIS CREATURE COVERED  
IN THE RED DUST OF MARS IS  
ACTUALLY HUMAN.

THEN IT TURNS TOWARD  
HIM AND HE SEES IT IS  
BURNED, SCORCHED BY THE  
LASER GUN, BLACKENED BY  
THE PLANET'S FROZEN  
ATMOSPHERE.

THE EYES SEEM TO DANCE  
IN THEIR SOCKETS. THE  
PARCHED LIPS CURL OVER  
THE TEETH, REVEALING THE  
GUMS. THE EMPTY, DRIED  
OUT VEINS IN THE NECK  
SHOW UP THROUGH THE  
BROKEN SKIN.

GRABBING A CHUNK  
OF ROTTING MUD, THE  
CREATURE UTTERS ONE  
WORD...

RETURN...



AS I WAS  
TELLING YOU...

THE BIBLE  
SAYS, "DUST  
TO DUST: DUST  
YOU ARE AND  
DUST YOU  
SHALL  
BECOME..."

THE EARLY LATIN  
TRANSLATIONS OF THE  
BIBLE SAID, "YOU COME  
FROM DUST, AND TO  
DUST YOU SHALL  
RETURN..."

USS MOBY-DICK

BUT THE MOST  
ANCIENT  
TRANSLATIONS  
GIVE ANOTHER  
VERSION...

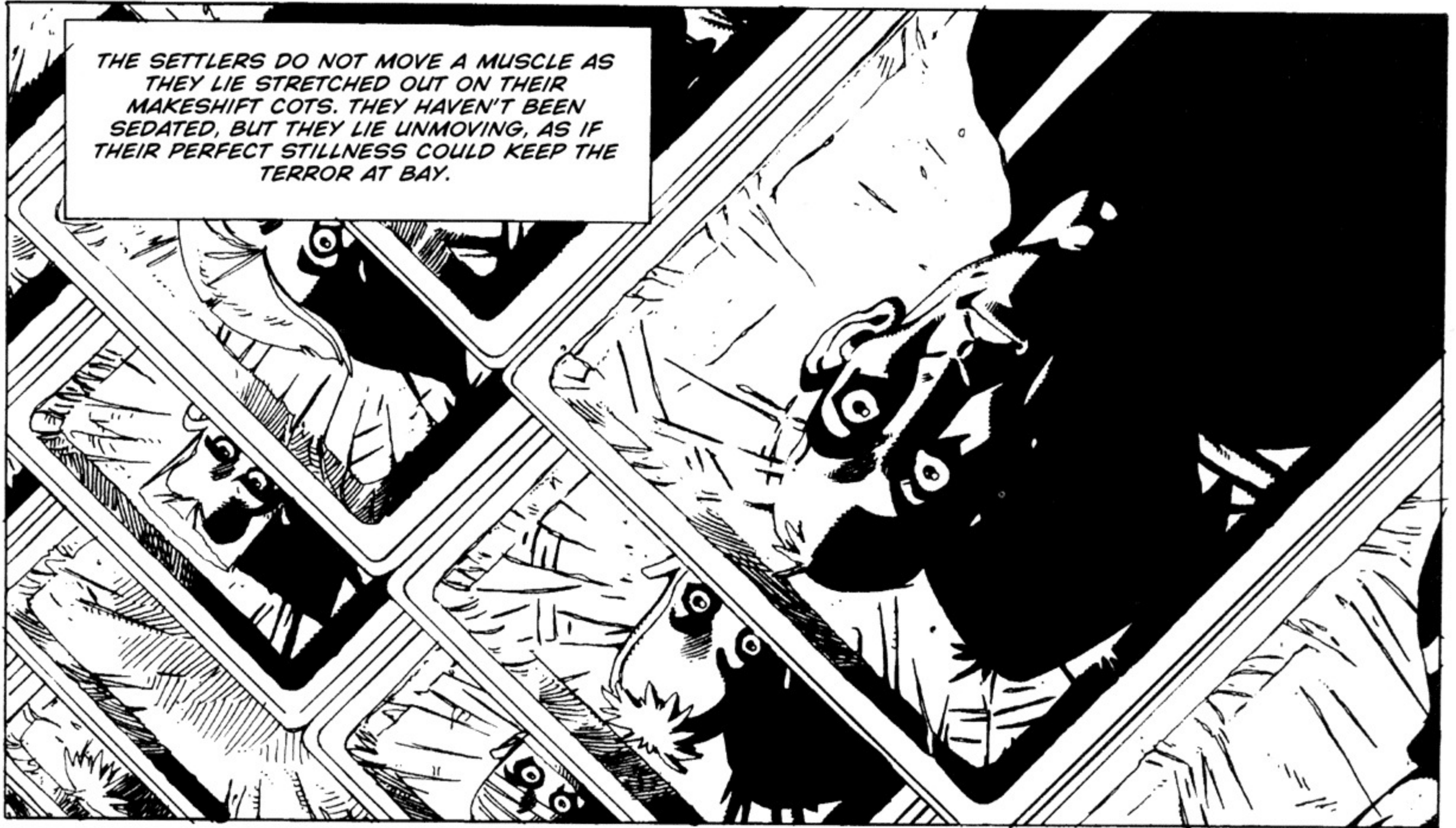
"FROM EARTH  
YOU CAME AND  
TO EARTH YOU  
SHALL  
RETURN."

YOU SEE?  
RETURN...  
TO EARTH...

IT DOESN'T  
MATTER WHERE  
IN THE UNIVERSE  
WE DIE... WE WILL  
EVENTUALLY RISE  
FROM OUR  
GRAVES... AND  
RETURN TO  
EARTH...



THE SETTLERS DO NOT MOVE A MUSCLE AS THEY LIE STRETCHED OUT ON THEIR MAKESHIFT COTS. THEY HAVEN'T BEEN SEDATED, BUT THEY LIE UNMOVING, AS IF THEIR PERFECT STILLNESS COULD KEEP THE TERROR AT BAY.



THE FIRST OFFICER, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN SEDATED. SHE KEEPS RUNNING HER HANDS OVER HER BODY, AS IF SHE WERE TRYING TO WIPE HER SKIN CLEAN OF SOME TERRIBLE IMPURITY.



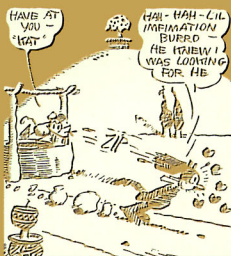
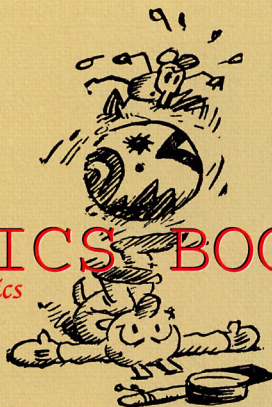
IN THE CORPSE STORAGE AREA, THE ZOMBIE FEELS THAT THE EARTH IS GETTING CLOSER BY THE MINUTE. AND, AT REGULAR INTERVALS, IT REPEATS THE SAME WORD, LIKE A MANTRA.

NEXT TO HIM, SOMETHING IS TRYING TO GET OUT OF ONE OF THE BAGS. IT KEEPS TUGGING AT THE ZIPPER FROM THE INSIDE.



# FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS

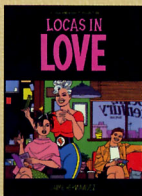
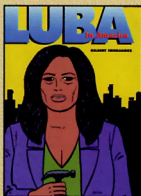
*A Century's Worth of Great Comics*





# LOS BROS HERNANDEZ

LUBA IN AMERICA / LOCAS IN LOVE / LOVE AND ROCKETS #1-6 / TALES FROM SHOCK CITY



Jaime, Gilbert and Mario Hernandez revolutionized comics in the 1980s with their sexy and provocative tales of L.A. punkettes and Central American villagers. Now in its second incarnation, *Love and Rockets* returns with three new serials (along with the usual surprises each issue), continuing the grand tradition they've trailblazed for twenty years and counting!

Los Bros were busy between the two series, of course — Jaime continued the adventures of his beloved characters in the stories collected in *Locas in Love*, which follows Maggie, Hopey and the gang as they chart their way through the murky grown-up world. Gilbert, meanwhile, forged ahead with his post-Palomar stories in *Luba in America*, weaving multiple plots and characters into a rich, multi-faceted tapestry. Need more? How about *Tales from Shock City*, which reprints the twisted sci-fi comics Gilbert and Mario published in *Mr. X* fifteen years ago — now re-written and re-drawn to fit into the Hernandez universe, plus an all-new six-page story! More love AND more rockets, courtesy of the Brothers Hernandez!

♦♦ LUBA IN AMERICA [LUBAC, \$19.95]

♦♦ LOCAS IN LOVE [LOCASZ, \$14.95]

♦♦ LOVE & ROCKETS VOL II #1-6 [LR2.01-6, \$3.95 EACH]

♦♦ TALES FROM SHOCK CITY [TSHOCK, \$3.95]

# DAN CLOWES

GHOST WORLD / LIKE A VELVET GLOVE... / 20TH CENTURY EIGHTBALL / DAVID BORING



The defining cartoonist of his generation hits the big time at last with a movie based on his acclaimed graphic novel *Ghost World*, which captures the mundane thrills and hourly tragedies of two teenage girls on the cusp of adulthood. Clowes' latest collection is *20th Century Eightball*, which collects the funniest and most outrageous humor pieces from the artist's landmark comic book *Eightball*. Speaking of which: *Eightball* #22 is here at last, containing 27 interrelated short strips which tell the story of a kidnapping in a small town. There's lots of other books still available as well, including *Like a Velvet Glove Cast in Iron*, a surreal and dreamlike trip into the dark underbelly of America, Clowes' landmark graphic novel *David Boring*, an apocalyptic tale of sex and longing (now available in softcover)!

♦♦ GHOST WORLD [GHOST, \$9.95]

♦♦ DAVID BORING [DAVIDS, \$16.95]

♦♦ 20TH CENTURY EIGHTBALL [20CEN, \$18.95]

♦♦ LIKE A VELVET GLOVE CAST IN IRON [VELVTS, \$19.95]

♦♦ EIGHTBALL #22 [EIG22, \$5.95]



www.fantagraphics.com



# KRAZY & IGNATZ

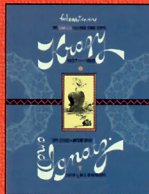
VOL. 1: "THERE IS A HEPPY LEND FUR, FUR AWAY"

VOL. II: "LOVE LETTERS IN ANCIENT BRICK"

Fantagraphics is proud to announce the return of the most coveted reprint series ever, containing the classic *Krazy Kat* Sunday strips, assembled by Bill Blackbeard and designed by acclaimed *Acme Novelty Library* cartoonist Chris Ware. Each volume collects a full two years' worth of full-page Sundays in black-and-white (the series originally ran in William Randolph Hearst's newspapers on the society pages without color), as well as bonus art and photography detailing the life and work of master cartoonist George Herriman!

→ KRAZY & IGNATZ VOL. 1: "THERE IS A HEPPY LEND FUR, FUR AWAY" (HRR11, \$14.95)

→ KRAZY & IGNATZ VOL. 2: "LOVE LETTERS IN ANCIENT BRICK" (HRR12, \$14.95)



## The very best new ALTERNATIVE comics

"Fantagraphics puts out the best comics in the world" — **WIRED** Magazine

# PETER BAGGE

HATE COLLECTION / BUDDY BITES THE BULLET / HATE ANNUAL #1-3

Generation X got the biographer it deserved in Peter Bagge's Hate comics. The books *Hey, Buddy!* and *Buddy the Dreamer* (which reprint stories from the original black-and-white issues) are stuffed with tales of pathetic drunks, bad rock 'n' roll, psychotic love affairs and minimum wage hell — think Archie comics on acid. *Buddy Go Home!*, *Buddy's Got Three Moms*, and the just released final book, *Buddy Bites the Bullet!*, which collect the full-color issues, follow Buddy back to New Jersey with his psychotic girlfriend Lisa. There's even some new *Hate*, with the new *Hate Annual!* Also available: *The Bradleys*, a sordid look at Buddy's teenage years (along with his dysfunctional family), and *Junior and Friends*, focusing on some of Bagge's most laughably pathetic characters — both series now available in affordable comics mini-series format!

→ HEY, BUDDY! (HRYBUD, \$12.95), SIGNED HARDCOVER (HEYBDC, \$35.00)

→ BUDDY THE DREAMER (BUDD, \$12.95)

→ SIGNED HARDCOVER (BUDDZ, \$35.00)

→ BUDDY GO HOME! (BUDDGO, \$16.95)

→ BUDDY'S GOT 3 MOMS! (BUDDGO, \$16.95)

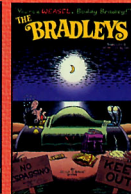
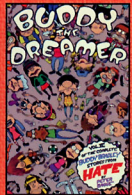
→ BUDDY BITES THE BULLET! (BUDBIT, \$16.95)

→ HATE ANNUAL #1 (HATA1, \$3.95)

→ HATE ANNUAL #2-3 (HATA2-3, \$4.95 EACH)

→ THE BRADLEYS #1-6 (BRAD1-6, \$2.95 EACH)

→ JUNIOR #1-5 (JUN1-5, \$2.95 EACH)



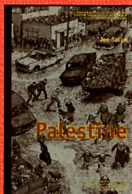
www.fantagraphics.com





# JOE SACCO

SAFE AREA GORAZDE / PALESTINE



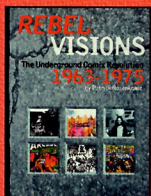
Sacco's work is a groundbreaking example of the kind of ambitious subject matter open to comics. For *Safe Area Gorazde*, a shocking and absorbing 220-page look at the war in Yugoslavia, Sacco spent a half-year in Bosnia in 1996, immersing himself in the human side of the conflict often missing from news coverage. His first major work of comics journalism, *Palestine*, is a powerful first-person account of life in the Occupied Territories of the West Bank. This book won Sacco nationwide recognition and an American Book Award.

♦♦ SAFE AREA GORAZDE: HARDCOVER [SAFEA], \$28.95

♦♦ PALESTINE [PAESC], \$24.95

# PATRICK ROSENKRANZ

REBEL VISIONS

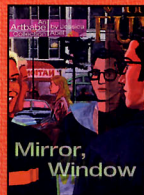
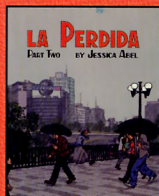


This impressive 240-page hardcover follows the movements of fifty artists during the heyday of the underground comix scene. Through in-depth interviews with the participants, meticulously-documented research and other materials, it offers an intimate look at a phenomenon that changed culture forever. Rosenkranz spent decades researching this book and acquiring the cooperation of every significant cartoonist working in the field. Copious illustrations and photographs throughout (many in color) make *Rebel Visions* the most comprehensive history of underground comix ever published.

♦♦ REBEL VISIONS: THE UNDERGROUND COMIX REVOLUTION 1963-1975 [REBVIS], \$39.95

# JESSICA ABEL

LA PERDIDA / MIRROR WINDOW



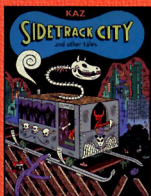
Jessica Abel returns to comics with *La Perdida*, a four-issue graphic novel! Carla, a culturally-Anglo American whose absentee father is Mexican, formed a romantic attachment to Mexico in her late teens, idolizing Frida Kahlo and trying lamely to learn Spanish. Then she meets a wealthy would-be Beat poet, and travels to Mexico to follow in the footsteps of William S. Burroughs and Jack Kerouac. Also: *Mirror, Window* is a 118-page softcover, with short stories of life and love that display Abel's wonderful artwork and keen ear for dialogue and character.

♦♦ LA PERDIDA #1-2 [LABL1-1-2], \$4.95 EACH

♦♦ MIRROR, WINDOW [MIRROW], \$12.95

# KAZ

UNDERWORLD / SIDETRACK CITY



Each collection of *Underworld* reprints a year and half's worth of New York cartoonist Kaz's hilariously punk weekly strip: It's a *Peanuts* for the manic-depressive. *Sidetrack City* collects Kaz's best and most surreal work from *Heavy Metal*, *National Lampoon*, *Details*, and elsewhere, including the epic title story, in a spiffy two-color format.

♦♦ UNDERWORLD [UNWDO], \$9.95

♦♦ UNDERWORLD 3: INK PUNK [UNW03], \$9.95

♦♦ UNDERWORLD 4: DUH [UNW04], \$9.95

♦♦ SIDETRACK CITY [SIDECK], \$9.95



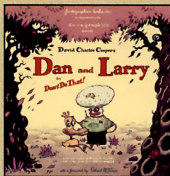
DAVE COOPER



SUCKLE / DAN AND LARRY / WEASEL #6

**Weasel** (which won the 1999 Harvey Award for "Best New Series") shines with Dave Cooper's careful attention to detail and lush design. The new sixth issue is a full color-collection of Cooper paintings, with an emphasis on the eroticism of everyday girls. **Suckle** is his first graphic novel, a surreal travelogue through sexual confusion and urban living. Finally, **Dan and Larry** is a twisted fable about an ugly duckling and the even uglier world around him – a darkly hilarious Cooper masterpiece!

- WEASEL #6 [WEAS6, \$12.95]
- RIPPLE [CRUMPLE, \$14.95]
- DAN & LARRY [CRUMPLE, \$14.95]



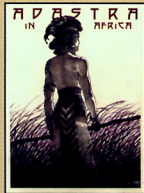
BARRY WINDSOR-SMITH



ADASTRA IN AFRICA / OPUS 1 AND 2 (AS SEEN IN IM!)

**Adastra in Africa**, presented in a deluxe hardcover format, is a continuation of sorts to Windsor-Smith's gone-but-not-forgotten series *Storyteller*, and features the "Young Gods" character Adastra in a magnificently drawn fable. **Opus 1** and **Opus 2** are the first in a projected multi-volume series that combines autobiography and philosophical musings from Windsor-Smith, accompanied by page after page of gorgeously shot art, including never-before-seen paintings, sketches, and comics pages. Each is over 160 pages long, full color throughout, and presented in a magnificent hardcover.

- ADASTRA IN AFRICA [ADASTR, \$15.00]
- BWS: OPUS 1 [OPUS1, \$39.95]
- BWS: OPUS 2 [OPUS2, \$49.95]



CHRIS WARE



JIMMY CORRIGAN

Winner of *The Guardian's* prestigious First Book award, this beautifully designed, 360-page hardcover collects Ware's critically-acclaimed tale of an awkward and lonely man, who reunites with his long-lost father's side of the family and lives to regret the experience. Spanning a hundred years, this book contains fold-out instructions, paper cut-outs and an official apology by the author, all complementing one of the most astonishing and absorbing graphic novels of the new millennium.

- JIMMY CORRIGAN [JIMMYC, \$29.95]



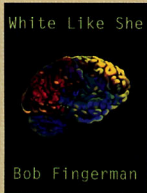
BOB FINGERMAN



BEG THE QUESTION / WHITE LIKE SHE

**Beg the Question** collects Fingerman's fan-favorite series *Minimum Wage* into a definitive 240-page hardcover, completely retouched with added greytone and almost 40 pages of new artwork, depicting an engaging tale of courtship and perversity in Manhattan. **White Like She** is a 96-page softcover that tells the story of a middle-aged black man who through a dizzying string of circumstances finds himself trapped in the body of a young white woman. Delving into race relations, political correctness, gender roles and sexual orientation, this book is an acerbic and compelling sci-fi thriller that paints an uneasy portrait of modern life.

- BEG THE QUESTION [BEGTHE, \$24.95]
- WHITE LIKE SHE [WHITE, \$12.95]



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# TONY MILLIONAIRE

MAAKIES / THE HOUSE ON MAAKIES CORNER



Eisner Award-winning Tony Millionaire hits the books at last with two collections of his popular weekly comic strip. These Chip Kidd-designed volumes focus on the adventures of an alcoholic, suicidal crow and his monkey pal, mixed with shockingly elegant depictions of nautical adventure. *Maakies* and the new hardcover *The House at Maakies Corner* combine the feel and spirit of early, classic newspaper strips with Millionaire's funny, bombastic and unpredictable sensibility.

•• MAAKIES [MAAKC, \$14.95]

•• THE HOUSE AT MAAKIES CORNER [HOUHMA, \$19.95]

# MONTE BEAUCHAMP

BLAB!

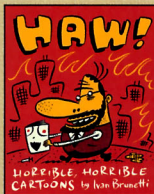


*Blab* is quite simply one of the most gorgeous, eye-popping anthologies of comics and illustrations being published today, a lush, cutting-edge collection of new works by some of the best contemporary artists. Each issue contains adventurous works by such creators as Drew Friedman, Peter Kuper, Laura Levine, Walter Minus, Gary Baseman, Sue Coe, Spain, the Clayton Brothers, and many more!

•• BLAB #10-13 [BLAB10-13, \$19.95 EACH]

# IVAN BRUNETTI

HAW! / SCHIZO #1-3



Ivan Brunetti's softcover volume, *Haw!*, contains almost a hundred pages of single-panel gag cartoons, each less morally excusable than the last, and definitely not for the weak at heart. Office water-cooler gags that could get you fired — buy one today! Back in print: all three issues of his legendary series *Schizo*, loaded with mmore bile and loathing than any other comic book.

•• HAW! [HAWC, \$8.95]

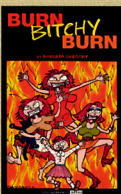
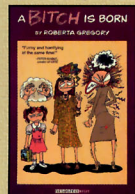
•• SCHIZO #1-2 [SCHZ1-2, \$3.95 EACH]

•• SCHIZO #3 [SCHZ3, \$3.50]

# ROBERTA GREGORY

A BITCH IS BORN / AS NAUGHTY AS SHE WANTS TO BE

AT WORK AND PLAY WITH BITCHY BITCH / BURN BITCH BURN / NAUGHTY BITS!



Who says feminists don't have a sense of humor? Roberta Gregory's *Naughty Bits* takes on modern life with its tales of Bitchy Bitch, the perennially pissed-off anti-heroine of the decade. *A Bitch Is Born* spans her life from her grade-school years, through her hippie period, and into the 9-to-5 office jungle. *As Naughty As She Wants to Be* contains all of Bitchy's raunchiest and most X-rated stories; *At Work and Play with Bitchy Bitch* follows her on a hellish vacation. *Bitchy Bitch's College Daze* is a flashback to the not-so-groovy '70s, and *Bitchy Butch* is devoted to her cranky dyke cousin. The latest volume, *Burn Bitchy Burn*, travels from Bitchy's modern-day world to the 12th century world of Witchy Bitch! Also available: issues of *Naughty Bits*, where all-new Bitchy stories appear quarterly!

•• A BITCH IS BORN [BITCH, \$9.95]

•• AS NAUGHTY AS SHE WANTS TO BE [NAUGH, \$9.95]

•• AT WORK AND PLAY WITH BITCHY BITCH [ATWOR, \$9.95]

•• BITCHY'S COLLEGE DAZE [BDAZE, \$9.95]

•• BITCHY BUTCH [BRUTCH, \$9.95]

•• BURN BITCHY BURN [BURNB, \$9.95]

•• NAUGHTY BITS #28-37 [NBITS28-37, \$2.95 EACH]

www.fantagraphics.com



# CHARLES BURNS

BIG BABY / SKIN DEEP / BLACK HOLE COMICS

The dark, psychological horror comics of Charles Burns is collected in a series of superbly produced hardcovers with a special cloth binding, new endpapers, and supplemental graphics. **Big Baby** collects all of Burns' horrific stories starring the inquisitive boy with a nose for mystery for the first time ever, while **Skin Deep** reprints Burns' *Dog Boy*, *Mister Blister*, and other strips. And don't miss **Black Hole**, his evolving, engrossing comic book tale of teenage sex, drugs, and disfiguring disease.



•• BIG BABY [BIGBA, \$24.95]  
•• SKIN DEEP [SKIND, \$24.95]

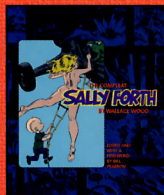
•• BLACK HOLE #1-3, 6-10 [BLAH1-3, 6-10 \$4.50 EACH]  
•• BLACK HOLE #4, 5 [BLAH4-5, \$3.95 EACH]



# WALLACE WOOD

THE COMPLEAT SALLY FORTH / COMPLEAT CANNON

Legendary EC comics artist Wally Wood may be gone, but his groundbreaking adult comic strips will live forever in these two new oversized softcovers! **The Compleat Sally Forth** stars a buxom (and frequently naked) young woman, and her adventures in the Army, in a gut-busting satire *Mad Magazine* could only dream of getting away with, while the long-awaited **Compleat Cannon** collects Wood's hard-boiled, tits-and-guns spy thriller. Enjoy!



•• COMPLEAT SALLY FORTH [SALLC, \$19.95]  
•• COMPLEAT CANNON [CANNC, \$19.95]

# RICK ALTEGOTT

DOOFUS OMNIBUS

A slap-happy goon with a predilection for women's "stinkies" snatched from the laundry basket, Doofus is the most disarming comic-book hero you'll see this decade – and the meticulous, EC-inspired art only makes it worse. The release of the **Doofus Omnibus** collects just about every Doofus story ever created, complete with 24 color pages, resulting in the book you'll be most likely to hide when your respectable friends come to visit. It should go without saying this stuff is too funny for words! **Raisin Pie** is Altergott's new series, created in collaboration with fellow indy comix superstar Ariel Bordeaux, which spotlights an all-new Doofus tale not found in the *Omnibus*!



•• DOOFUS OMNIBUS [DOOFUS, \$16.95]  
•• RAISIN PIE #1 [RAISF, \$3.95]



# RICHARD SALA

EVIL EYE / PECULIA

In the grand tradition of Edward Gorey and Charles Addams (with a touch of cheesecake thrown into the mix), **Peculia** is a 104-page collection of tales starring a precocious adventuress exploring a world of monsters, evil geniuses and other nasties. **Evil Eye**, Sala's new continuing series, features a thrilling serialized graphic novel, "Reflections in a Grass Scorpion," as well as the sexy tales of "Peculia."



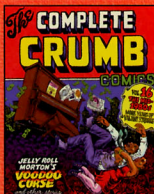
•• EVIL EYE #2-7 [EVL2-7, \$2.95 each]  
•• EVIL EYE #8-9 [EVL8-9, \$3.50 each]  
•• PECULIA [PECUL, \$12.95]



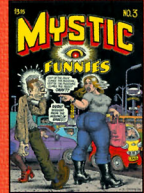
# ROBERT CRUMB



THE BOOK OF MR. NATURAL / THE LIFE AND DEATH OF FRITZ THE CAT  
MYSTIC FUNNIES #3 / COMPLETE CRUMB COMICS VOL. 6 / COMPLETE CRUMB COMICS VOL. 13-16



Pantagraphics is proud to publish the works of the legendary cartoonist R. Crumb, one of America's most original, trenchant, and uncompromising satirists. *The Book of Mr. Natural* collects both Crumb's classic '60s and '70s tales of the sage and his more recent, more outrageous '90s stories (as seen in the movie Crumb). *The Life and Death of Fritz the Cat* reprints the essential stories of Crumb's most famous character from the '60s. Crumb's new *Mystic Funnies* #3 contains his most outrageous work in years, and collectors will enjoy the deluxe, 128-page *Complete Crumb Comics*, Vol. 6, which features him at the peak of his early-'70s counterculture period, and Vol. 13-16, which cover his work from the late '70s to the mid '80s, including many rare pieces you'll never see anywhere else.



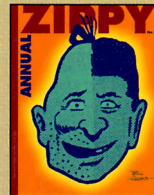
- THE BOOK OF MR. NATURAL (MNST, \$12.95)
- FRITZ THE CAT (FRITZ, \$9.95)
- MYSTIC FUNNIES #3 (MYST3, \$3.95)
- COMPLETE CRUMB 6 SOFTCOVER (CRO6, \$19.95)
- COMPLETE CRUMB 13 SOFTCOVER (CR13, \$19.95) / HARDCOVER (CR13H, \$39.95)
- SIGNED HARDCOVER (CR13S, \$75.00)
- COMPLETE CRUMB 14 SOFTCOVER (CR14, \$19.95) / HARDCOVER (CR14H, \$39.95)
- SIGNED HARDCOVER (CR14S, \$75.00)
- COMPLETE CRUMB 15 SOFTCOVER (CR15, \$19.95) / HARDCOVER (CR15H, \$39.95)
- SIGNED HARDCOVER (CR15S, \$75.00)



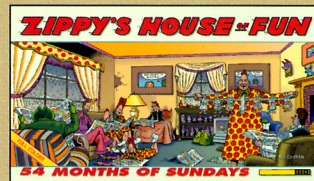
# BILL GRIFFITH

ARE WE HAVING FUN YET? / ZIPPY'S HOUSE OF FUN / ZIPPY QUARTERLY / ZIPPY ANNUAL NO. 1

Bill Griffith's original Pinhead is available in an array of formats for every taste and budget, starting with *Zippy Annual No. 1*, which collects the hilarious newspaper strips from 1998 and 1999 in one book to guide us into a new century. The next volume, *Zippy Annual 2001*, covers the period from Fall of 2000 to the Fall of 2001, while *Zippy Annual 2002* will get you caught up all the way to last Fall! There's also the 128-page all-original pocketbook-size *Are We Having Fun Yet?*, and the deluxe, full-color, oversized *House of Fun* collection of Zippy Sundays!



- ZIPPY ANNUAL NO. 1 (ZIPAN1, \$19.95)
- ZIPPY ANNUAL 2001 (ZIPAN2, \$19.95)
- ZIPPY ANNUAL 2002 (ZIPAN3, \$19.95)
- ARE WE HAVING FUN YET? (AREHE, \$12.95)
- ZIPPY'S HOUSE OF FUN (ZIPHF, \$39.95)

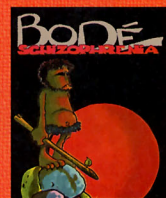
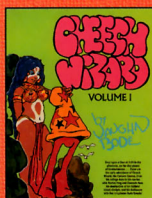


# SUBVERSIVE UNDERGROUND COMIX

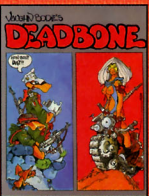
## VAUGHN BODÉ



BODÉ EROTICA VOL. 1-4 / BODÉ DIARY SKETCHBOOK VOL. 1-3  
LIZARD ZEN / CHEECH WIZARD / DEADBONE / JUNKWAFFEL / SCHIZOPHRENIA



The baddest of the underground bad boys, Bode left a stamp on pop culture, with his nubile and pliant "broads" and lecherous lizards, that can still be felt today. Dig on *Bode Erotica*, which reprints his classic, full-color sex strips from *Cavalier* magazine. *Junkwaffel* highlights his satirical/political SF work, often in full color as well. *Cheech Wizard* reprints the adventures of the big-hatted "gooroo," and *Deadbone* showcases Bode's fantasy world with a series of delicately-penciled strips. *Lizard Zen* and the new book *Schizophrenia* features the rarest and most obscure of Bode's work, and for the hardcore fans there's the *Diary Sketchbook* collections, with hundreds of never-before-printed Bode sketches and strips.

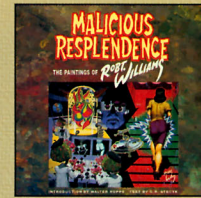
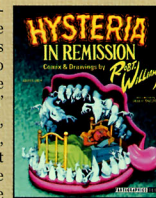


- LIZARD ZEN (LIZZEN, \$9.95)
- BODE EROTICA VOL. 1-4 (BODE1-3, \$12.95 EACH; BODE4, \$14.95)
- BODE DIARY SKETCHBOOKS VOL. 1-3 (DIARY1-3, \$9.95 EACH)
- JUNKWAFFEL VOL. 2 (JUNKO2, \$12.95)
- DEADBONE (DEADB, \$9.95)
- CHEECH WIZARD (CHEEL, \$9.95)
- SCHIZOPHRENIA (SCHPHR, \$14.95)

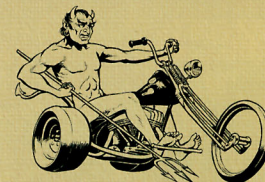
## ROBERT WILLIAMS

MALICIOUS RESPLENDENCE / HYSTERIA IN REMISSION

*Malicious Resplendence* is a magnificent 300-page retrospective, printed in a coffee-table-size 12" x 12" format, that looks back at the entire career of modern master of Williams, with over 150 paintings reproduced in glorious detail and impeccable color. The book also features substantial historical and critical essays on Williams, rare shots of preliminary sketches and other art, photos from Williams' archives, and much more. The new 300-page companion volume, *Hysteria in Remission*, collects Williams' comics and drawings, including all of his contributions to *ZAP*, *Arcade*, and many more (most of which has been out of print for more than twenty-five years). The book also includes loads of previously unpublished work, including the full-color storyboards for a proposed animated *ZAP* movie! We even have copies remaining of the limited-edition hardcover, signed by Williams himself.



- MALICIOUS RESPLENDENCE HARDCOVER (MALIC, \$79.95)
- HYSTERIA IN REMISSION SIGNED HARDCOVER (HYSTSZ, \$74.95)
- HYSTERIA IN REMISSION SOFTCOVER (HYSTER, \$29.95)







# EROS GRAPHIC NOVELS



## BIRDLAND

*Love & Rockets* co-creator Gilbert Hernandez's voyeuristic foray into the lives of strippers, bodybuilders, psychiatrists, and horny little aliens — now complete in one 104-page volume! Very explicit and very funny!

♦♦ BIRDLAND COLLECTION [BIRDC, \$14.95]

## YOUNG WITCHES VOL. 1

An intense gothic tale of a very "special" school in Victorian England, where bodacious babes are initiated into the art of the sex goddess Ishtar. Art by international sex comics sensation F. Solano Lopez. Now expanded to include new X-rated scenes!

♦♦ YOUNG WITCHES [YOUNC, \$16.95]



## YOUNG WITCHES VOL. 2:

### LONDON BABYLON

EROS's most popular sex-comix series goes even more extreme as Lilian and Agatha head off for London, where they run into Sigmund Freud, Sherlock Holmes, and a certain razor-wielding maniac!

♦♦ YOUNG WITCHES VOL. 2: "LONDON BABYLON" [YWLBC, \$19.95]



## YOUNG WITCHES VOL. 3:

### EMPIRE OF SIN

The Witches return, this time in a desperate fight against an ancient Egyptian necromancer, intent on sacrificing Lilian as a vessel for the snake-god Set. The girl's strangest adventure yet, and this one is printed in **FULL COLOR!**

♦♦ YOUNG WITCHES VOL. 3: "EMPIRE OF SIN" [YWEMC, \$16.95]



## 2 HOT GIRLS ON A HOT SUMMER NIGHT

A delightful, time-hopping series with a British flavor, starring two monumentally endowed (we're talking Russ Meyer types here) Limey lovelies who want nothing more than to ravish one another.

♦♦ 2 HOT GIRLS ON A HOT SUMMER NIGHT [2HOTC, \$12.95]



## IRONWOOD

Follow the swashbuckling adventures of Dragavon, gambler, rogue, and womanizer, as he fights, fornicates, and flees his way through thickets of menace, danger, and quivering flesh. Superb fantasy illustration by Bill Willingham make this a visual treat.

♦♦ IRONWOOD, VOL. 1-2 [IRONH1-2, \$16.95 each]

## HERE COME THE LOVEJOYS

Bruce McCorkindale's raunchy, hilarious satire of sexual promiscuity in suburbia, which stars a depraved family of sexoholics, is finally available in a 160-page soft-cover collecting all six issues of the sold-out original comic book series!

♦♦ HERE COME THE LOVEJOYS [HEREC, \$18.95]



## LIZ & BETH

Liz and Beth are from gay Par-ee, and that should tell you all you need to know about this authentically French erotic series. Wall-to-wall sex, lovingly delineated by G. Levis, available in three volumes.

♦♦ LIZ & BETH VOL. 1-3 [LIZBC, LIZC2, LIZC3, \$12.95 EACH]





# EROS GRAPHIC NOVELS



## SMALL FAVORS

Colleen Coover's fan-favorite series, which stars a perpetually horny bi-chick and her even hornier "guardian angel," gets the graphic novel treatment with a volume that collects #1-4 of the original series plus a generous collection of bonus art!

♦♦ SMALL FAVORS VOL. 1 (SMALC, \$14.95)



## XXX-WOMEN

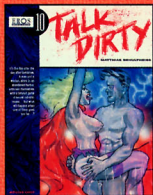
Sexier than Superman! Weirder than the Watchmen! More depraved than the Dark Knight! Novel-length superhero saga starring three buxom superhumans with an axe to grind, with superbly realistic illustration by Spanish superstar Ponteriz!

♦♦ XXX-WOMEN (XXXWC, \$16.95)

## TALK DIRTY

Unbearably intense sci-fi psycho-thriller, rendered in stunning gray tones by German cartoonist Matthias Schultheiss. When does a game stop being a game — and what are the consequences? Includes color pages.

♦♦ TALK DIRTY (TALC, \$16.95)



## RAMBA

Italian smutmasters Delizia, Rossi, and Valdambri team up on this extremely violent and quite explicit

series about a chopper-riding, blade-wielding killer-for-hire-cum-slut. Much of the artwork has a polished Brian Bolland look to it. Five complete stories in each volume!

♦♦ RAMBA BOOK 2 (RAMC2, \$13.95)  
♦♦ RAMBA BOOK 3 (RAMC3, \$14.95)



## TANA'S SECRET WORLD

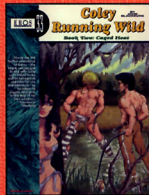
Meet the beautiful young daughter of a Peruvian sorcerer, whose path to destiny leads her to a sacred dreamworld composed of sexual energy and desire! Fine, detailed art compliments this absorbing tale of love and lust.

♦♦ TANA'S SECRET WORLD (TANAS, \$14.95)

## GHITA

Back in print after a prolonged absence — and with lots of new, extra art and photos! Wrongfully deprived of her throne, the she-warrior Ghita of Alizarr enlists an army of lizard-man mercenaries to regain her crown in this sexy, legendary adventure tale.

♦♦ GHITA (GHITA, \$24.95)



## COLEY RUNNING WILD: VOLS. 1, 2, 4

He's a voodoo sex god with the body of an Adonis, and he's the star of Eros's first bi-appealing graphic novel series. The first two volumes are reprinted from the legendary out-of-print *Return to Voodoo Island*, *Idol of Flesh*, *Web of Evil*, and *Deathsnake* comics, with some new material by writer/artist John Blackburn; volume

4 is all-new, straight to graphic novel, and chronicles Coley's return to his hometown.

♦♦ COLEY RUNNING WILD (COLEY, \$16.95)  
♦♦ COLEY RUNNING WILD 2 (COLEC2, \$16.95)  
♦♦ COLEY RUNNING WILD 4 (COLEC4, \$18.95)



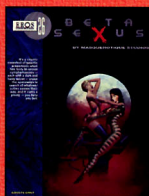
# EROS GRAPHIC NOVELS



## MARA OF THE CELTS

Dennis Cramer's series' tenth year is celebrated with this collection of all-new art, and stories, featuring contributions by Cramer, Jeff Jones, Tim Morris and Phil Brucato!

♦♦ MARA 10TH ANNIVERSARY (MARAX, \$16.95)



## BETA SEXUS

In the near future, a vampire and a succubus have gone off-world to find sex that's out-of-this-world! But something from their past on Earth threatens their happiness. An erotic action-adventure.

♦♦ BETA SEXUS COLLECTION (BETAC, \$13.95)

Slick, fast-paced, funny, and sexy, this double-sided book collects two full-length adventures of the crimefightin' Domino Lady (the original *Domino Lady* series, plus *Domino Lady's Jungle Adventure*). Ron Wilber draws some buxom women, and there's plenty of nudity in these stories...

♦♦ DOMINO LADY (DOMIC, \$14.95)



## HOT NIGHTS IN RANGOON

It's an all-you-can-eat exotic, erotic buffet in this spicy story of international intrigue set amidst Asian brothels filled with shadowy sirens and horny gangsters... Imported from France, so you know it's oo-la-la!

♦♦ HOT NIGHTS IN RANGOON COLLECTION (RANGC, \$11.95)



## HOUSEWIVES/MORE

### HOUSEWIVES/HOUSEWIVES AND HOT MOMS AT PLAY

Recalling the silky style of classic pin-up illustrators, Rebecca's three volumes of illustrations depict the dirtiest fantasies of horny housewives with some of the most sensuous artwork ever to appear in our catalog!

♦♦ HOUSEWIVES AT PLAY (HWOUS, \$9.95)

♦♦ MORE HOUSEWIVES AT PLAY (MHOUSE, \$9.95)

♦♦ HOUSEWIVES AND HOT MOMS AT PLAY (HWMOMC, \$9.95)



## FINGER FILTH

The deluxe anthology from Bob (*Beg the Question*) Fingerman's dirty dark side. Mixing loose and lewd sex action with a slathering of saucy, satirical humor, this includes Fingerman's color work for *Penthouse*, *Hot Talk*, and *High Times*.

♦♦ FINGER FILTH (FINGF, \$16.95)

## DIARY OF A DOMINATRIX

You've been bad... very bad. And you deserve everything that's coming to you. But you need the kind of help only this comic can offer you: true stories, inside tips, helpful suggestions. This collects the entire mini-series by Molly Kiely, plus lots of additional material!

♦♦ DIARY OF A DOMINATRIX COLLECTION (DDOMC, \$14.95)



## SIZZLIN' SISTERS

This rack-tacular series features five red-hot tales of big-breasted, women-loving women, illustrated by master craftsman Art Wetherell and written with joyous lechery in mind. Great bouncy jugs of goodness!

♦♦ SIZZLIN' SISTERS (SIZZC, \$16.95)





# EROS GRAPHIC NOVELS



**YUPPIES, REDNECKS AND LESBIAN BITCHES FROM MARS**  
How could you possibly go wrong with a title like this? The story and art in this post-apocalyptic interplanetary fantasy are by Kyle Goulet and Rob Kalmbach. Reprints the first four issues of the out-of-print comic book series!

➡ YUPPIES, REDNECKS COLLECTION [YUPFC, \$14.95]

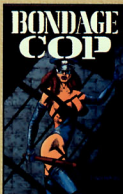
**HAREM NIGHTS**  
Fans of the slave-girl genre can't do any better than this sumptuous tome, detailing the erotic travels of Tatia — a gorgeous harem slave under a nefarious spell that forces her to achieve orgasm with a willing partner each day...or die!

➡ HAREM NIGHTS COLLECTION [HAREC, \$14.95]



**BONDAGE COP**  
The thin blue line happens to be a G-string in this new, all-original graphic novel from veteran EROS creator Ron (*Domino Lady, Hell's Mistress*) Wilber. You have the right to remain silent, and to enjoy the hell out of this sexy romp in which the perpetrators don't get off — but the arresting officer does!

➡ BONDAGE COP [BCOP, \$12.95]



**RAZMATAZ**  
Mark Beachum's thrilling tale of sex and treachery introduces an ass-kicking buxom beauty — Razmataz works as a stripper by night, but when the sun comes up she wages a one-woman war against the seedy underworld of organized crime!

➡ RAZMATAZ [RAZMA, \$8.95]



**STRIP SEARCH**  
Famed mainstream cartoonist Ernie Colón gets his freak on with an explicit, 48-page, hard-boiled sex thriller, starring a tough private dick who penetrates the seediest levels of the city's sexual underworld, braving danger in search of a crazed millionaire's wife!

➡ STRIP SEARCH [STRPS, \$9.95]

**KUNG FU GIRL**  
Kono Yaro and Suke Bei return with a new 80-page graphic novel, featuring a sexy crime fighter with more than a few kinks up her sleeve, and three beautiful students who know how to get their licks in as well!

➡ KUNG FU GIRL [KUNFG, \$12.95]



**INSATIABLE**

From Italy's legendary *Selen* magazine — original publisher of *Vixen* — comes this stunning collection of erotic shorts that will render you insatiable, with 13 thrilling tales to dazzle and arouse. Cheating wives, profligate husbands, and more!

➡ INSATIABLE [INSAT, \$12.95]



**XXX-FILES**

In this 92-page softcover, FBI special agents Vole and Dooley put their asses (and more) on the line to solve a wild and wet mystery, in this erotic sci-fi conspiracy tale! Plus: a complete back-up story starring the Women in Black! Paranoid fantasy with a kinky twist.

➡ XXX FILES [XXXFC, \$14.95]



**DIRTY STORIES**

Peter Bagge, Dan Clowes, Al Columbia, Dave Cooper, Mary Fleener, Roberta Gregory, Dylan Horrocks, Pat McEown, Tony Millionaire, Brian Ralph, Richard Sala, Steven Weissman, Bill Wray, cover artist Rick Altergott, and many other cartoonists brighten up the funnest, sexiest alternative-sex anthology series in years!

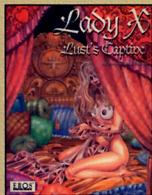
➡ DIRTY STORIES 2 [DIRTS2, \$13.95]  
➡ DIRTY STORIES 3 [DIRTS3, \$13.95]

**DOC DARE**  
The second FULL-COLOR extravaganza from Penthouse Comix/EROS features stunning art by veteran cartoonist Gray Morrow, put in the service of a great yarn about a 1939 scientist who has developed a serum that gives her the strength of 50 men...whenever she has sex!

➡ DOC DARE [DDARE, \$18.95]



# EROS GRAPHIC NOVELS



**LADY X: LUST'S CAPTIVE**  
Manara, Saudelli, Casotto — the Italians have given us some of the most accomplished erotic artists ever, and Giovanni Degli Esposti is the latest name to add to the list! Follow the sordid tale of Madame de Beauflleur as she is wrongly accused of murder and flees Paris, only to fall into the carnal claws of debauched dukes, lesbian nuns, and more!

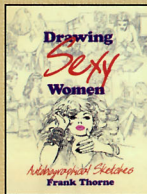
♦♦ LADY X: LUST'S CAPTIVE [LADYX, \$14.95]

## SEX INC.

Watch the prostitutes Maria, Virginia, Miss Domino, and their friends form a panoply of pleasures in this 128-page graphic novel with a superbly detailed stippled art style. 30-page pin-up section!



♦♦ SEX, INC. [SEXIN, \$14.95]



## DRAWING SEXY WOMEN

Part autobiography, part drawing lesson, and part sketchbook, this lush little hardcover from *Ghita*, *Lann* and *Iron Devil* creator Frank Thorne is chock full of magnificent drawings by one of the true masters of the female form.

♦♦ DRAWING SEXY WOMEN [DRAWS, \$19.95]

## VIXXXEN

Selen is a famous, real-life European porno star willing to drop to her knees at the slightest provocation — and she provokes plenty! These two graphic novels are **FULL COLOR**, rendered by the finest in Italian artists, and follow Selen on her adventures. If she's Selen, you'll be buyin'!

♦♦ VIXXXEN VOL. 2-3 [VIXX2-3, \$14.95 EACH]

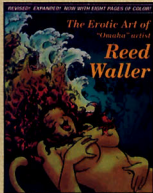


## The Hottest *EROTICA* from around the world!

# REED WALLER



Collected Omaha, Vol. 1 / Omaha The Cat Dancer comics / The Erotic Art of Reed Waller



The erotic funny-animal soap-opera novel *Omaha* was a breakthrough for erotic comics, merging top-notch writing and explicit art! In the second series, Omaha and Chuck were reunited as a loving (very loving!) couple trying to wend their ways through the intrigues of Mipple City. *The Collected Omaha*, Vol. 1 gathers the earliest stories — you never forget the first time! Finally, *The Erotic Art of Reed Waller* contains 120 pages of sexy, explicit drawings and sketches, plus eight pages of full-color "Grلز R Us" strips from the pages of *Barely Legal*!

♦♦ COLLECTED OMAHA, Vol. 1 [OMAC1, \$15.95]

♦♦ OMAHA VOL. 2: #1-4 [cm2.1-cm2.4, \$2.50 each]

♦♦ EROTIC ART OF REED WALLER [EROT1, \$19.95]

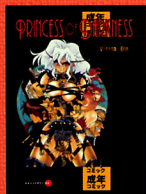


www.eroscomix.com





# EROS GRAPHIC NOVELS



## PRINCESS OF DARKNESS

This newly-collected tour-de-force of sex and violence, courtesy of manga artist Yuichiro Tanuma, tells the tale of a luscious young woman, an ancient and powerful spirit - and the supernatural evil they've teamed up to defeat. Wild, darkly erotic manga as you like it!

♥♥ PRINCESS OF DARKNESS [PRINCC, \$19.95]

## COUNTDOWN: SEX BOMBS

From the kissing-cousin tale of "Lonely Night Bird" to the searing ride down "Virgin Road," these tales by *Temptation* creator Hiroyuki Utagane will jolt you! Now a full-length animated film!

♥♥ COUNTDOWN: SEX BOMBS COLLECTION [SEXBC, \$19.95]



## NEW BONDAGE FAIRIES: BOOK ONE

Pam and Pfil are two luscious, winged vixens who put their sexual overdrives to good and gooeey use in Kondom's legendary *Bondage Fairies* series. This thick, handsome collection reprints the MangEroica *NBF* comics in a deluxe format!

♥♥ NEW BONDAGE FAIRIES COLLECTION [NEFNC1, \$19.95]



## SILKY WHIP

With sex-crazed babes, virginal rich bitches degraded by cruel gangs and more, *Silky Whip* mixes kinky action with gorgeous art in truly amazing ways! This new graphic novel collects all five issues of the first series.

♥♥ SILKY WHIP VOL. 1 [SPUNC, \$19.95]

## SECRET PLOT VOL. I & II

This was the #1 erotic comic of 1995 in Japan — and one look at NeWMen's incredible artwork will tell you XXX-actly why! Follow the down and dirty adventures of two high school teachers as they subject the "cream" of their senior class to some "special" education.

♥♥ SECRET PLOT VOL. 1-2 [SEPC1, SEPC2, \$13.95 EACH]



## SUPER TABOO

These twin tomes bring together the torrid, taboo-shattering sexual antics of the incestuous Sakagami family in deluxe, pervy-perfect bound collections. Horny neighbors, phone sex, hot-for-teacher action, and plenty of all-in-the-family screwing make for an outrageous tour de fiction!

♥♥ SUPER TABOO VOLUME VOL. 1 [SUPEC, \$19.95]



## BONDAGE FAIRIES EXTREME

What's better than a brand new series of Bondage Fairies stories? A brand new series with several pages of COLOR in each, that's what! And wait 'til you see the wicked-nurse character, Urushira!

♥♥ BONDAGE FAIRIES EXTREME #1-14 [BFEKT1-14, \$9.50 each]



## SLUT GIRL

Artist Itoishi Ihsa gets his raunch on in this superb series! In the first issue, our heroine Sayoko shows a virgin college boy the time of his life and takes revenge on her boss's sexually-harassing son. And there's five more issues where that came from!

♥♥ SLUT GIRL #1-6 [SLGRI-6, \$3.95 EACH]

## CO-ED SEXXTASY

Follow the erotic adventures of Nami, a shy young co-ed with a super-kinky boyfriend! Watch as she slowly (well, not so slowly) turns from repressed young woman into a total nympho, doing things she'd hardly dared dream about!

♥♥ CO-ED SEXXTASY #1-14 [COSEKI-9, COSE10-14, \$3.50 Each]



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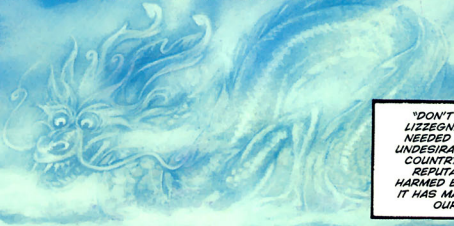
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"DON'T BE OFFENDED, SIGNORE LIZZEGNI, BUT SO FAR WE HAVEN'T NEEDED ANYONE'S HELP TO EXPEL UNDESIRABLE INDIVIDUALS FROM OUR COUNTRY. SO OUR PROFESSIONAL REPUTATION HAS BEEN GREATLY HARMED BY THE PRESENT SITUATION. IT HAS MADE US FEEL WE HAVE LOST OUR MASTER'S TRUST..."



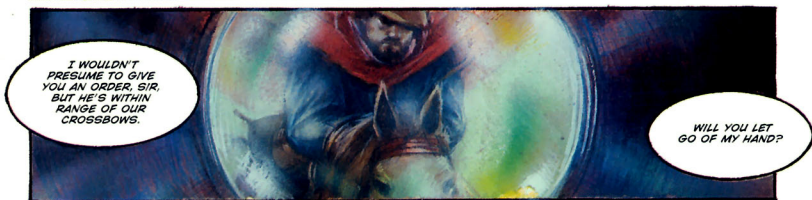
OH, ZANINI, FORGET YOUR GRUDGE AND HELP OUR FRIEND PREPARE HIS MATERIAL: HE IS ON HIS WAY!



AH! HE'S A STRANGE ONE! HE'S IN A GREAT HURRY TO GET TO FLORENCE SO HE CAN SPREAD HIS RUMORS... LUCKILY, OUR FRIEND LIZZEGNI IS THERE TO TAKE CARE OF HIM AND HIS GOSSIP! HIS HIGHNESS NEED NOT LOSE ANY SLEEP...

OUCH!!

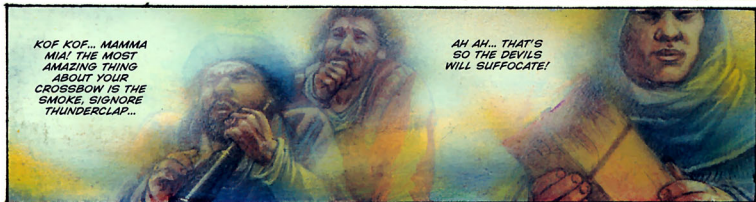
I HAD ALREADY TOLD YOU, SIGNORE ZANINI...





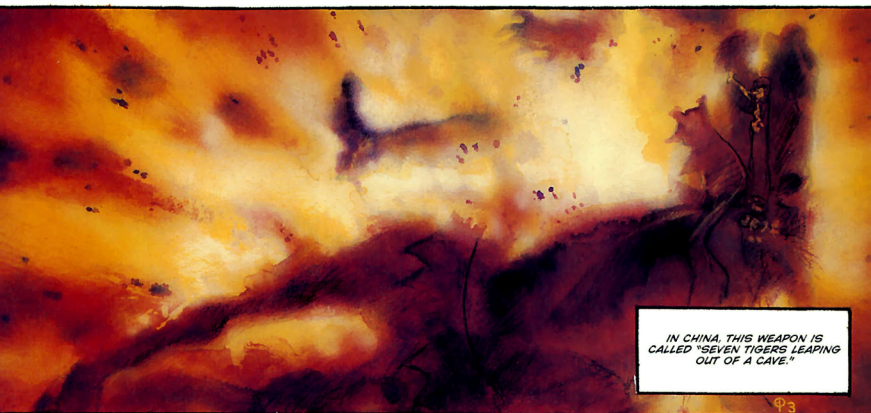


AS YOU'LL SOON  
SEE, IT'S A  
WELL-DESERVED  
NAME.



KOF KOF... MAMMA  
MIA! THE MOST  
AMAZING THING  
ABOUT YOUR  
CROSSBOW IS THE  
SMOKE, SIGNORE  
THUNDERCLAP...

AH AH... THAT'S  
SO THE DEVILS  
WILL SUFFOCATE!



IN CHINA, THIS WEAPON IS  
CALLED "SEVEN TIGERS LEAPING  
OUT OF A CAVE."



STRANGE AS IT MAY SEEM,  
THAT'S WHAT REALLY  
HAPPENED!!! THE SPY AND  
HIS HORSE JUST VAN-  
ISHED! SCATTERED INTO  
THOUSANDS OF TINY  
PIECES!!!

I SWEAR  
THAT'S THE  
TRUTH, LORD  
BATTISTA...

I'D NEVER SEEN AN  
EXPLOSION LIKE THAT  
BEFORE! LIKE BEING  
IN THE DRAGON'S  
MOUTH! TERRIFYING!

MY BROTHER IS RIGHT!  
WE'D NEVER SEEN ANYTHING  
LIKE THAT! I DON'T KNOW  
WHERE YOU FOUND THAT  
CHINESE, BUT I'LL WAGER  
THERE'S NOT ANOTHER ONE  
LIKE HIM, EVEN IN THE LAST  
CIRCLE OF HELL!

AND HE'S ALWAYS SO  
ICILY CALM! HE JUST  
STARES AT YOU...  
AND MAKES YOUR BLOOD  
RUN COLD!

WELL...

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR REPORT,  
SIGNORI. YOU MAY GO NOW,  
BUT DON'T FORGET... DON'T  
BREATHE A WORD TO ANYONE  
ABOUT THE CHINESE! HE DOESN'T  
EXIST!!! IS THAT CLEAR?

YOU KNOW  
OUR MOTTO...

"AS SILENT AS  
THE GRAVE."





EXPLODING ARROWS...  
NOW WE'VE SEEN  
EVERYTHING!! WHY NOT  
CELEBRATE WITH SOME  
FIREWORKS WHILE  
WE'RE AT IT?

THE REVIVAL OF VENICE'S  
GREATNESS REQUIRES TACT  
AND DISCRETION. TOO MANY  
POWERFUL PEOPLE, INCLUD-  
ING THE POPE, ARE JUST  
WAITING FOR US TO MAKE A  
MISTAKE AND STUMBLE...



MY  
RESPECTS,  
FATHER.

YOU ARE BACK,  
MY SON! SO  
ALL THE TASKS  
HAVE BEEN  
COMPLETED.



NOW WE'LL BE ABLE  
TO FIND YOUR TWO  
BROTHERS AT THE  
OTHER END OF THE  
EARTH.





YOU SEE, MY CHILDREN,  
WATER (JUST LIKE THE MOON)  
IS A MIRROR THAT MAKES US  
LOOK WITHIN, AND SO ALLOWS  
US TO SEE FARTHER.



IT'S SOFT WAVES WASH  
OUR MINDS OF THE USELESS  
THOUGHTS THAT BESET THEM  
MOST OF THE TIME, SO WE CAN  
CONCENTRATE... YOU JUST HAVE  
TO TRY HARD ENOUGH. THE MAS-  
TER'S GREATEST ENEMY IS THE  
SCATTERING OF HIS MIND, AS  
YOU WELL KNOW...

YES, FATHER.  
THAT'S WHAT YOU  
HAVE TAUGHT US.

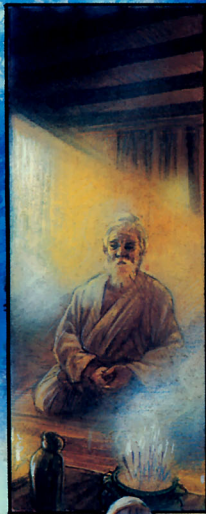


WELL, LET'S SEE NOW...  
HOW FAR HAVE YOUR  
BROTHERS GOT IN THEIR  
RESEARCH? AH, I BELIEVE  
THEY'VE FINISHED!

SO... THIS IS THE HERMIT'S  
HUT WHERE YOU'VE BEEN  
HIDING FOR SO MANY YEARS!  
I CAN REMEMBER YOU IN  
MORE PALATIAL SETTINGS,  
MY FRIEND...

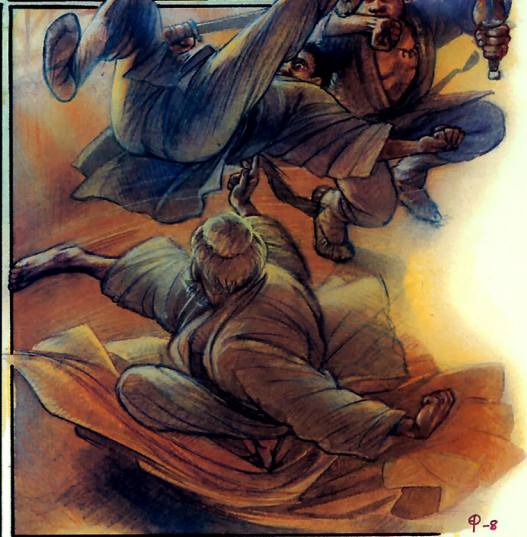
IN ORDER TO ESCAPE FROM  
ME TWENTY YEARS AGO, YOU  
CLIMBED THE MOUNTAIN, A  
GREAT HONOR, WHICH I  
SCARCELY DESERVED... AND  
WHICH WAS TOTALLY USE-  
LESS, SINCE I HAVE FOUND  
YOU AGAIN! MY SONS DID A  
GOOD JOB!

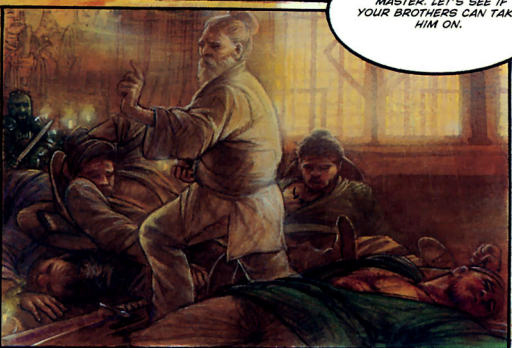




"ZI-HSIAO-GUAN," OR THE  
HERMITAGE OF PURPLE  
EMPTINESS. SO YOU'VE  
ESCAPED INTO THE TAO...

HAVE THESE MANY YEARS  
OF MEDITATION SLOWED  
DOWN YOUR REFLEXES?  
HOW HAVE YOU NOURISHED  
YOUR SOLITUDE DURING  
YOUR WITHDRAWAL FROM  
THE WORLD?

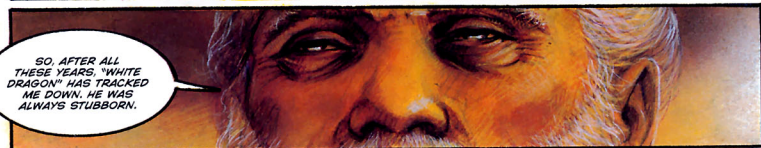








NIGHTTIME  
VISITORS. I SHOULD  
HAVE KNOWN...



SO, AFTER ALL  
THESE YEARS, "WHITE  
DRAGON" HAS TRACKED  
ME DOWN. HE WAS  
ALWAYS STUBBORN.



A ONE-TRACK  
MIND!

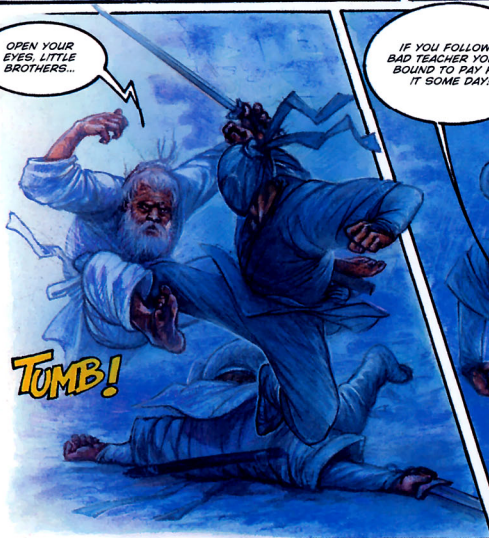


...IN THE DAYS WHEN HE WAS JUST  
A YOUNG IMPERIAL BUREAUCRAT,  
HIS EXPERTISE IN THE MARTIAL  
ARTS HAD ALREADY EARNED  
HIM THE NICKNAME OF "WU-DI,"  
MEANING "UNRIVALED."



OPEN YOUR  
EYES, LITTLE  
BROTHERS...

**TUMB!**



IF YOU FOLLOW A  
BAD TEACHER YOU'RE  
BOUND TO PAY FOR  
IT SOME DAY!







IDIOTS! IF YOU THINK  
YOU CAN HARM ME WITH  
YOUR PATHETIC MOVES, YOU  
CAN THINK AGAIN. PAIN HAS  
NO HOLD OVER ME! THE  
TECHNIQUES YOUR FATHER  
TAUGHT YOU ARE THE  
ONES...

**Pok!**



...I TAUGHT  
HIM!



**AARGH!!!**

**SCHRUNK!**



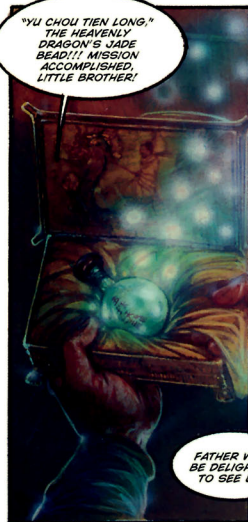
VENERABLE MASTERS,  
YOUR INSIGNIFICANT, UNTALENTED  
MERCENARIES HUMBLY REQUEST  
YOUR PERMISSION TO LEAVE NOW  
SO WE CAN RETURN TO OUR  
OCCUPATIONS.

FINE! GET OUT  
OF OUR SIGHT,  
PEASANTS!



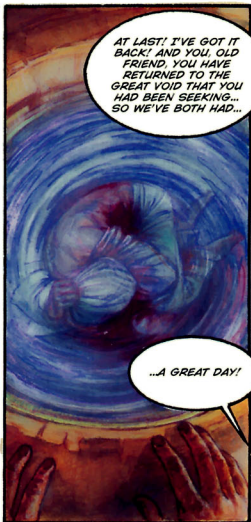
IS THAT  
IT?

YES! IT WAS ALL HIDDEN  
AT THE FEET OF QIN SHI  
HUANG TI, THE FIRST EXALT-  
ED EMPEROR. HERE ARE THE  
MANUSCRIPTS BY THE  
ANCIENT MASTERS... AND  
THE CHEST CONTAINING...



"YU CHOU TIEN LONG,"  
THE HEAVENLY  
DRAGON'S JADE  
BEAD!!! MISSION  
ACCOMPLISHED,  
LITTLE BROTHER!


FATHER WILL  
BE DELIGHTED  
TO SEE US.



AT LAST! I'VE GOT IT  
BACK! AND YOU, OLD  
FRIEND, YOU HAVE  
RETURNED TO THE  
GREAT VOID THAT YOU  
HAD BEEN SEEKING...  
SO WE'VE BOTH HAD...


...A GREAT DAY!





YOU'LL SEE... MY FATHER REALLY IS AN EXTRAORDINARY PERSON, EVEN THOUGH HE IS NOW JUST AN OLD HERMIT WHO LIVES UP IN THE MOUNTAINS. HE ONCE HELD A VERY IMPORTANT POSITION... HE WAS A GREAT SCHOLAR IN THE IMPERIAL COURT, BUT HE NO LONGER LIKES TO TALK ABOUT THOSE DAYS. DID I TELL YOU THAT HE USED TO CALL ME "XIAO HOU ZI"?

"LITTLE MONKEY"?"  
HOW SWEET...  
WHAT ABOUT YOUR MOTHER?



SHE DIED SHORTLY AFTER I WAS BORN... THAT MAY BE WHY MY FATHER LEFT THE COURT...

HMM... I HOPE YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN MY LESSONS, MY FRIEND...

HUH?

YOUR LESSONS? WHAT LESSONS, AMORE?



HEY THERE, DOG NOSE. YOU'RE INSULTING ME. BY PUTTING YOUR DIRTY BARBARIAN ASS IN MY FAVORITE PLACE!! BOW DOWN IN THE DUST AND BEG ME TO FORGIVE YOU!!!



WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY YOUR "FAVORITE PLACE"? SINCE WHEN HAS A LACKEY LIKE YOU BEEN ALLOWED TO FILL HIS FACE AT THE SAME TABLE AS HIS MASTER? IF THAT'S THE CASE, THEN THE SUN RISES IN THE WEST AND THE EMPEROR HIMSELF WALKS ON HIS HEAD!

WHAT? HOW DARE YOU INSULT ME?!

**POK!**

I'LL EVEN DARE REMODEL YOUR FACE TO MAKE YOU MORE PRESENTABLE WHEN YOU GO TO MEET YOUR ANCESTORS!



NO, NO, NO... YOU'RE GOING ABOUT IT ALL WRONG, ALESSANDRO...

JUST LOOK AT US... BARBARIANS FIGHTING LIKE OLD CRONES!!

**SHUNK!**



UHH...  
WU-  
LIN...

...I COULD USE SOME HELP!



I'VE ALWAYS WONDERED IF THE BLOOD OF FOREIGNERS WAS THE SAME COLOR... WE'LL SOON FIND OUT...



A GREAT WARRIOR  
SUCH AS YOURSELF  
SHOULDN'T WASTE TIME  
WITH AN OBSCURE  
IMPERIAL BUREAUCRAT...  
LET GO!

AAYA!

HEY YOU, YOU LITTLE  
BROTHEL FLOWER,  
STAY OUT OF MY  
BROTHER'S  
BUSINESS!

OH? SO THIS  
STINKING  
BRUTE HAS A  
BROTHER?

TAKE ADVANTAGE  
OF THE FACT THAT  
YOU CAN STILL  
TALK AND MAKE  
WISECRACKS...

HEY!

POK!

...TO SHOW  
SOME  
RESPECT!!!

LITTLE BITCH,  
I'M GOING TO  
TEACH YOU...

KRONCH!

BEFORE WE  
TAKE THIS  
FASCINATING  
CONVERSATION  
ANY FURTHER...



...I MUST LET YOU  
KNOW THAT I AM THE  
ONLY DAUGHTER OF  
MASTER ZHANG  
KONG-MI...

...A.K.A. THE MASTER OF  
PEERLESS PURITY. TONIGHT  
MY FRIEND HERE AND I ARE  
DINING WITH HIM IN THE  
MOUNTAINS WHERE HE  
LEADS THE LIFE OF A  
HERMIT.

OOOH!!! THE  
DAUGHTER OF  
THE SAINT FROM  
THE MOUNTAINS!  
ARE YOU IN  
TROUBLE!

OH  
NO!

HA! HA! THEY'RE  
AFRAID OF  
EVERYTHING!

SHAME ON US, LITTLE SISTER!  
WE'VE BEHAVED LIKE STUPID PIGS!!!  
I, LEE THE SEVENTH, AND MY  
BROTHER, LEE THE EEL, IMPLORE YOUR  
FORGIVENESS! PARDON US FOR  
FAILING TO RECOGNIZE COURAGE AND  
VIRTUE WHEN THEY STOOD BEFORE  
OUR VERY EYES!

SHAME ON  
US!

ACCEPT OUR  
HUMBLE APOLOGIES  
BY DRINKING THREE  
CUPS OF RICE WINE  
WITH US.



WHOOA! YOU'VE LED US TO A VERY NARROW TRAIL, CARA MIA! I MUST CONFESS THAT THE SIGHT OF THE RAVINE RIGHT NEXT TO MY HORSE'S HOOVES IS NOT VERY REASSURING... I GUESS YOUR FATHER DOESN'T GET MANY VISITORS WHO JUST DROP IN!

MY HEAD'S A BIT FUZZY FROM ALL THE ALCOHOL I DRANK... I THOUGHT WE'D NEVER GET AWAY FROM LEE THE SEVENTH... LEE THE SEVENTH PLAQUE OF EGYPT!!! ALL THAT RICE WINE... LUCKILY WE DRANK HIM UNDER THE TABLE!

WE'RE ALMOST THERE. DON'T LOSE HEART!

I CAN'T SAY I LIKE THIS BRIDGE...

DON'T WORRY. IT'S HELD UP FOR MORE THAN A THOUSAND YEARS. AND YOU'LL SEE THAT THE PLACE WHERE MY FATHER LIVES WILL DO WONDERS FOR YOUR MENTAL PEACE AND TRANQUILITY.

YEAH... YOU'RE NOT LIKELY TO BUMP INTO ANOTHER LEE THE SEVENTH HERE!!!

FATHER!!!

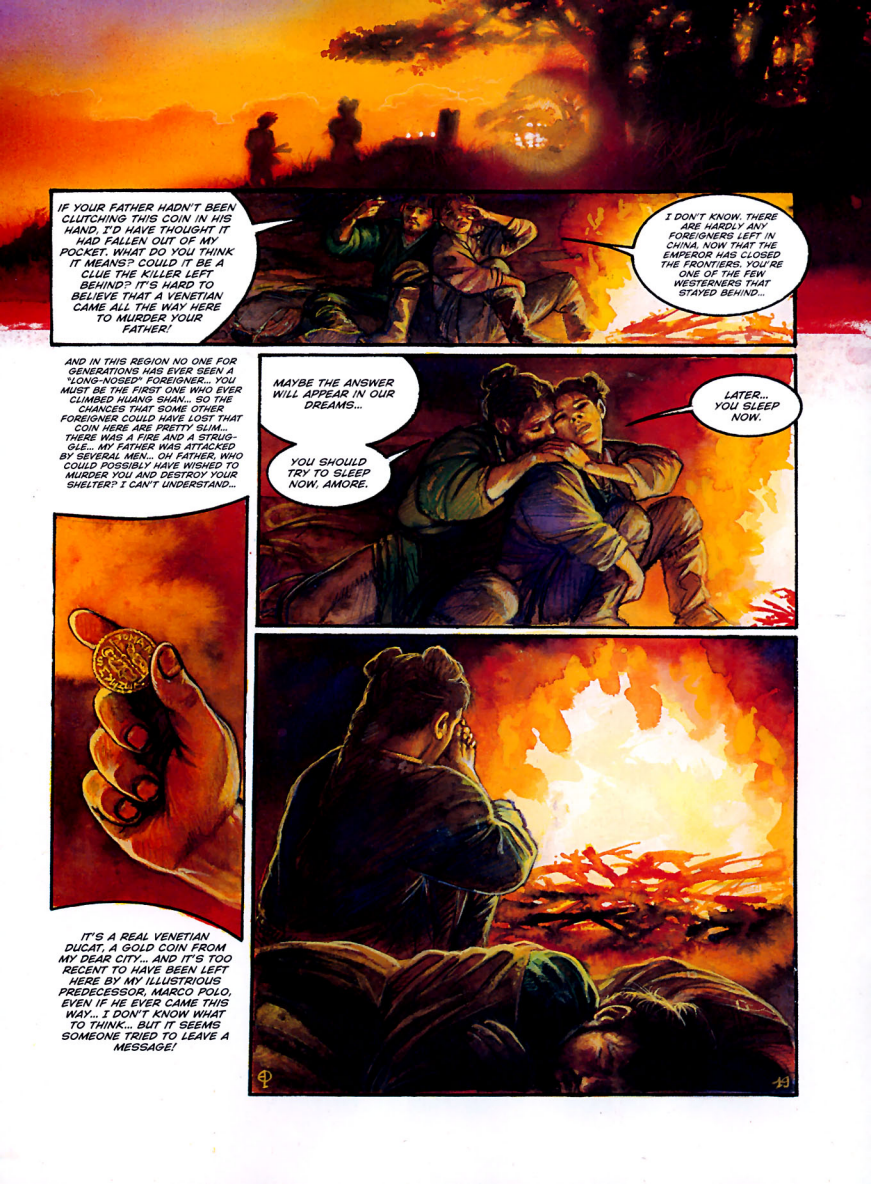
WHAT HAPPENED HERE? EVERYTHING HAS BURNED DOWN!

OH MY GOD!

WU-LIN, YOUR FATHER...

HEY... FATHER?

HE'S DOWN BELOW ON THE LEDGE... I'M SO SORRY...



IF YOUR FATHER HADN'T BEEN CLUTCHING THIS COIN IN HIS HAND, I'D HAVE THOUGHT IT HAD FALLEN OUT OF MY POCKET. WHAT DO YOU THINK IT MEANS? COULD IT BE A CLUE THE KILLER LEFT BEHIND? IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT A VENETIAN CAME ALL THE WAY HERE TO MURDER YOUR FATHER!

I DON'T KNOW. THERE ARE HARDLY ANY FOREIGNERS LEFT IN CHINA NOW THAT THE EMPEROR HAS CLOSED THE FRONTIERS. YOU'RE ONE OF THE FEW WESTERNERS THAT STAYED BEHIND.

AND IN THIS REGION NO ONE FOR GENERATIONS HAS EVER SEEN A "LONG-NOSED" FOREIGNER... YOU MUST BE THE FIRST ONE WHO EVER CLIMBED HUANG SHAN... SO THE CHANCES THAT SOME OTHER FOREIGNER COULD HAVE LOST THAT COIN HERE ARE PRETTY SLIM... THERE WAS A FIRE AND A STRUGGLE... MY FATHER WAS ATTACKED BY SEVERAL MEN... OH FATHER WHO COULD POSSIBLY HAVE WISHED TO MURDER YOU AND DESTROY YOUR SHELTER? I CAN'T UNDERSTAND...

MAYBE THE ANSWER WILL APPEAR IN OUR DREAMS...

YOU SHOULD TRY TO SLEEP NOW, AMORE.

LATER... YOU SLEEP NOW.



IT'S A REAL VENETIAN DUCAT, A GOLD COIN FROM MY DEAR CITY... AND IT'S TOO RECENT TO HAVE BEEN LEFT HERE BY MY ILLUSTRIOUS PREDECESSOR, MARCO POLO, EVEN IF HE EVER CAME THIS WAY... I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO THINK... BUT IT SEEMS SOMEONE TRIED TO LEAVE A MESSAGE!







WAKE UP, ALESSANDRO! WAKE UP! I'VE HAD A VISION... MY FATHER WAS SHOWING ME SOMETHING...



HUH?  
YOUR FATHER?  
A VISION?

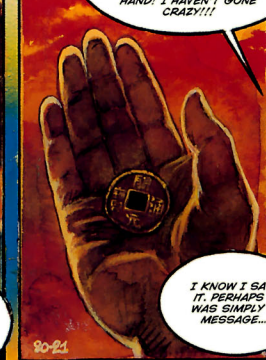
YES! HE SHOWED ME TWO HORSEMEN GALLOPING MADLY TOWARD THE WEST. THEY STOPPED AT A CITY IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEA... A CITY WHOSE EMBLEM IS THE LION... THAT'S YOUR CITY, ISN'T IT?



UH... THE DESCRIPTION IS ACCURATE. VENICE IS A MARVELOUS CITY IN THE MIDDLE OF A LAGOON, AND THE LION IS THE SYMBOL OF SAINT MARK, THE PATRON SAINT...

THAT MEANS THAT SOME VENETIANS REALLY DID COME HERE TO MURDER YOUR FATHER, OR PERHAPS THEY ORDERED HIS ASSASSINATION. THE DUCAT WOULD CONFIRM THIS...

SANTA MADONNA! LOOK AT THIS COIN! IT'S JUST AN ORDINARY BRONZE CHINESE COIN!! BUT I WASN'T DREAMING EARLIER! I REALLY HAD A GOLD DUCAT IN MY HAND! I HAVEN'T GONE CRAZY!!!



I KNOW I SAW IT. PERHAPS IT WAS SIMPLY A MESSAGE...





SIGNORE BATTISTA,  
SOON WE'LL BE IN SIGHT  
OF THE LIDO. YOUR CITY  
WELCOMES YOU!

MOLTE  
GRAZIE,  
CAPITANO.

I HOPE MY FAMILY  
HAS RECEIVED THE  
LETTER I SENT THEM  
INFORMING THEM OF  
MY ARRIVAL.

UMMM...

IT WAS REALLY NICE  
OF THE CAPTAIN TO LET  
US HAVE HIS CABIN!

HIS SHIP IS PART OF  
THE FLEET MY FATHER  
OWNS...



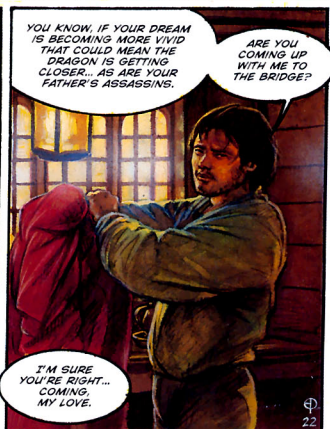
ALESSANDRO, I'VE DREAMT  
AGAIN OF THE HORRIBLE  
DRAGON MY FATHER SHOWED  
ME. THIS TIME IT WAS EVEN  
MORE VIVID AND FRIGHTENING  
THAN USUAL. NOT AT ALL LIKE  
OUR AUSPICIOUS CHINESE  
DRAGONS...

SYMBOLS HAVE  
DIFFERENT MEANINGS  
IN DIFFERENT CULTURES.

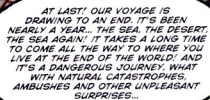
YOU KNOW, IF YOUR DREAM  
IS BECOMING MORE VIVID  
THAT COULD MEAN THE  
DRAGON IS GETTING  
CLOSER... AS ARE YOUR  
FATHER'S ASSASSINS.

ARE YOU  
COMING UP  
WITH ME TO  
THE BRIDGE?

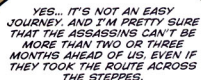
I'M SURE  
YOU'RE RIGHT...  
COMING.  
MY LOVE.



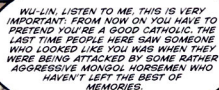




AT LAST! OUR VOYAGE IS DRAWING TO AN END. IT'S BEEN NEARLY A YEAR... THE SEA, THE DESERT, THE SEA AGAIN! IT TAKES A LONG TIME TO COME ALL THE WAY TO WHERE YOU LIVE AT THE END OF THE WORLD! AND IT'S A DANGEROUS JOURNEY, WHAT WITH NATURAL CATASTROPHES, AMBUSHES AND OTHER UNPLEASANT SURPRISES...



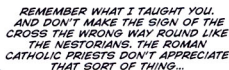
YES... IT'S NOT AN EASY JOURNEY, AND I'M PRETTY SURE THAT THE ASSASSINS CAN'T BE MORE THAN TWO OR THREE MONTHS AHEAD OF US, EVEN IF THEY TOOK THE ROUTE ACROSS THE STEPPES.



WU-LIN, LISTEN TO ME, THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT: FROM NOW ON YOU HAVE TO PRETEND YOU'RE A GOOD CATHOLIC. THE LAST TIME PEOPLE HERE SAW SOMEONE WHO LOOKED LIKE YOU WAS WHEN THEY WERE BEING ATTACKED BY SOME RATHER AGGRESSIVE MONGOL HORSEMEN WHO HAVEN'T LEFT THE BEST OF MEMORIES.



YES, MASTER!



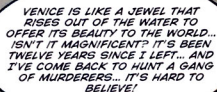
REMEMBER WHAT I TAUGHT YOU, AND DON'T MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS THE WRONG WAY, ROUND LIKE THE NESTORIANS. THE ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIESTS DON'T APPRECIATE THAT SORT OF THING...




AH YES! TOP TO BOTTOM... LEFT TO RIGHT!



AND WITH THE OTHER HAND, DEAR!



VENICE IS LIKE A JEWEL THAT RISES OUT OF THE WATER TO OFFER ITS BEAUTY TO THE WORLD... ISN'T IT MAGNIFICENT? IT'S BEEN TWELVE YEARS SINCE I LEFT... AND I'VE COME BACK TO HUNT A GANG OF MURDERERS... IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE!



YOU'VE BEEN GONE  
FOR TWELVE YEARS,  
ALESSANDRO!  
TWELVE LONG YEARS!

I PRAYED TO OUR LADY  
EVERY SINGLE DAY FOR YOUR  
SAFE RETURN. I NEVER SLEPT  
WITHOUT FIRST PLACING YOU  
UNDER HER PROTECTION, AND  
NOW HERE YOU ARE!

TWELVE YEARS,  
SANDRINO...

ANTONELLA,  
PLEASE LET ME  
TALK TO HIM...

THE RETURN OF  
THE PRODIGAL  
SON!

YES, MOTHER,  
I'M...

YES,  
MOTHER,  
I...

MOTHER, I'M  
NOT ALONE!

SANDRO, WHAT  
DO YOU MEAN  
BY YOUR "LADY  
FRIEND"?

MY WIFE,  
MOTHER.

FATHER, MOTHER,  
BROTHERS, LET ME  
INTRODUCE YOU TO  
MY LADY FRIEND. HER  
NAME IS ZHANG  
WU-LIN.

"LAO-  
MU WAN-  
FU..."

WHAT'S HE  
GOING ON  
ABOUT?

"WU-LIN, THIS IS MY  
MOTHER, ANTONELLA, MY  
FATHER, MATTEO, AND MY  
BROTHERS, GIROLAMO AND  
DOMENICO!"

"I'M HONORED  
TO MEET YOU."

SANTA MADONNA!  
HE IS MARRIED! AND  
WITH A BARBARIAN!  
I'M GOING TO DIE OF  
SHAME!

SHE THANKS ALL  
OF YOU FOR YOUR  
WARM WELCOME.

TONIGHT, MY SON, WE  
WILL CELEBRATE YOUR  
RETURN. YOU WILL TELL US  
ALL ABOUT YOUR TRAVELS  
IN FARAWAY LANDS. I'M  
SURE YOU HAVE SEEN MANY  
MARVELS THAT DESERVE  
SERIOUS ATTENTION. OUR  
GUESTS ARE IMPATIENT TO  
HEAR YOU.



DIAYOLO!!! IF SHE BELONGS TO A CULTURE THAT IS AS ELEGANT AND REFINED AS YOU CLAIM, HOW COME SHE EATS WITH THOSE INSTRUMENTS OF TORTURE? IT'S BEYOND ME!

BROTHER, IT IS AN ART THAT DEMANDS A GREAT DEAL OF PATIENCE AND DEXTERITY...

OH, I GIVE UP! I'VE ONLY MANAGED TO COVER MYSELF WITH FOOD!

AS WELL AS WITH RIDICULE, MY CLUMSY HUSBAND!

PAY ATTENTION TO HOW SHE HOLDS HER CHOPSTICKS. THE FIRST ONE IS HELD FIRMLY, LIKE A SCRIBE HOLDS HIS PEN. THE SECOND ONE REMAINS MOBILE, LIKE A BIRD'S BEAK...

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INDULGENCE, CECILIA. MY ANGEL! BUT I'D LIKE TO SEE YOU GIVE IT A TRY!

THAT'S WHAT DISTINGUISHES GREAT TRAVELERS FROM COMMON MORTALS - THEIR ABILITY TO ADOPT THE MOST PICTURESQUE OF BARBARIAN CUSTOMS, ISN'T THAT SO, MY SON?

NOT ON YOUR LIFE, MY LOVE!

HE'S TAKEN MORE THAN THEIR CUSTOMS FROM THOSE CHINESE BARBARIANS...

ALESSANDRO, CONTINUE YOUR STORY. WE HAVE NEVER GONE BEYOND ALEXANDRIA...

HEY, SPEAK FOR YOURSELF! I'VE NEVER BEEN FARTHER THAN THE LIDO!

YOU'RE MISTAKEN ABOUT WU-LIN, MOTHER. SHE'S THE PERFECT DAUGHTER-IN-LAW FOR YOU. SINCE SHE DOESN'T SPEAK YOUR LANGUAGE, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO DISAGREE WITH YOU!

PLEASE EXCUSE ME, BUT I MUST GO OUT AND BREATHE THE VENETIAN AIR AT NIGHTFALL!

I UNDERSTAND YOU, MY SON! I'LL COME WITH YOU.

HE'S ALREADY TOLD US SO MUCH ABOUT CHINA THAT SOON HE'LL BE NICKNAMED SANDRO 'IL MILLION,'<sup>1</sup> LIKE OLD MARCO POLO, HAAAA!

<sup>1</sup>"IL MILLION": "THE MILLIONAIRE" WAS MARCO POLO'S NICKNAME. IT WAS USED TO MEAN "BRAGGART."

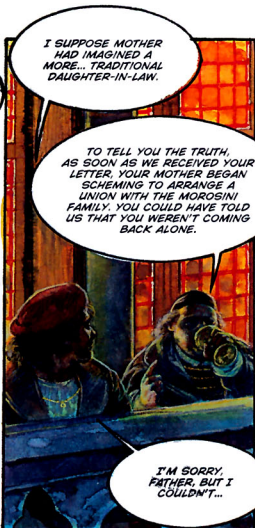


AH! WHAT A PLEASANT BREEZE! I HAD ALMOST FORGOTTEN THE SMELL OF THE GRAND CANAL!

AH, YES, THIS UNIQUE SCENT... A SUBTLE BLEND OF SLUDGE AND ROTTING WOOD. HOW COULD ONE LIVE FAR AWAY FROM IT?

I CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR LADY FRIEND. SHE'S CHARMING AND... DISCREET.

DON'T WORRY, YOUR MOTHER WILL LIKE HER BETTER ONCE SHE LEARNS OUR LANGUAGE. YOUR MOTHER JUST NEEDS A LITTLE TIME TO GET USED TO THE IDEA...



I SUPPOSE MOTHER HAD IMAGINED A MORE... TRADITIONAL DAUGHTER-IN-LAW.

TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH, AS SOON AS WE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER, YOUR MOTHER BEGAN SCHEMING TO ARRANGE A UNION WITH THE MOROSINI FAMILY. YOU COULD HAVE TOLD US THAT YOU WEREN'T COMING BACK ALONE.

I'M SORRY, FATHER, BUT I COULDN'T...



WE CAME BACK TO FIND HER FATHER'S MURDERER. I KNOW IT SEEMS UNBELIEVABLE, BUT IT'S THE TRUTH...

PA... PARDON ME? WHAT DID YOU SAY?



THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T MENTION HER IN MY LETTER. YOU SEE, THE PERSON I'M LOOKING FOR IS DOUBTLESS HIGHLY INFLUENTIAL.

BUT THAT... HEY!

WELL, WELL... THE BATTISTAS, FATHER AND SON, DEEP IN CONSPIRACY!



MATTEO, I FRIGHTENED YOU! I'M SORRY...

KOF! KOF!

CONRAD! YOU ALMOST GAVE ME A HEART ATTACK!

MASTER ARKHEIM, YOU CAME!



I'M GREATLY  
MOVED BY YOUR  
PRESENCE, MY  
MASTER!

SANDRO, I CARE  
FOR YOU AS IF YOU  
WERE MY OWN SON!  
MY MISERABLE STATE  
OF HEALTH KEPT ME  
FROM GREETING YOU  
AT THE DOCK, BUT I  
DIDN'T WANT TO MISS  
YOUR PARTY!

OLD JOKER!  
YOU'RE AS  
STRONG AS A  
ROCK!

I HEARD THAT YOU HAD  
BECOME AN IMPERIAL  
BUREAUCRAT IN CHINA!  
BRAVO! A TALENTED MAN  
LIKE YOU ALWAYS  
FINDS HIS PLACE! I  
CONGRATULATE YOU.

KOF! KOF!...  
EXCUSE ME.

I OWE IT ALL TO YOUR ACCOUNTS OF  
YOUR EXPERIENCE AS AN AMBASSADOR...

AFTER MANY ADVENTURES,  
PROVIDENCE MADE ME SAVE  
THE LIFE OF THE SON OF THE  
PREFECT OF NAN-JIN, THE  
SOUTHERN CAPITAL. IT WAS FAR  
FROM BEING A GLORIOUS  
EXPLOIT! WE HID DURING AN  
ATTACK BY BANDITS. BUT,  
TO SHOW HIS GRATITUDE, THE  
PREFECT TOOK ME INTO HIS  
SERVICE.

TSS TSS...  
SO, PLEASE,  
TELL ME...

KOF... KOF... EXCUSE  
ME AGAIN... THIS DAMN  
COUGH DOESN'T LET  
UP... PLEASE CONTINUE,  
SANDRO... KOF... KOF...

LET'S GO INSIDE,  
MY FRIEND. THIS NIGHT  
AIR IS GOING TO BE  
THE DEATH OF YOU!

KOF... KOF...  
HAVE NO FEAR  
OF THAT, MY  
FRIEND...

TELL ME ABOUT THE  
YOUNG LADY YOU'VE  
BROUGHT WITH YOU,  
SANDRO...

WITH PLEASURE! MY WIFE'S NAME IS  
ZHANG WU-LIN. HER FATHER WAS AN  
EMINENT TAOIST MONK. I MET HER IN  
MY MASTER'S HOME. SHE WAS  
ATTACHED TO HIS HOUSEHOLD AS HIS  
WIFE'S DOCTOR. SHE EXCELS IN THE  
ART OF MEDICINE. PERHAPS SHE WILL  
BE ABLE TO CURE YOU OF YOUR  
ILLNESS...

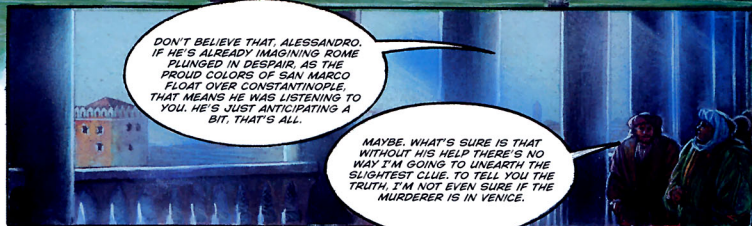
KOF... KOF...  
PERHAPS, MY  
YOUNG FRIEND.

PERHAPS SHE KNOWS HOW TO  
CURE OLD AGE?



THAT OLD FOX OF DIEGO!  
HE THINKS HE CAN USE THE  
CHINESE TO CATCH THE TURKS  
UNAWARES...

I DON'T THINK HE  
REALLY LISTENED TO  
WHAT I SAID, FATHER...



DON'T BELIEVE THAT, ALESSANDRO.  
IF HE'S ALREADY IMAGINING ROME  
PLUNGED IN DESPAIR, AS THE  
PROUD COLORS OF SAN MARCO  
FLOAT OVER CONSTANTINOPE,  
THAT MEANS HE WAS LISTENING TO  
YOU. HE'S JUST ANTICIPATING A  
BIT, THAT'S ALL.

MAYBE. WHAT'S SURE IS THAT  
WITHOUT HIS HELP THERE'S NO  
WAY I'M GOING TO UNEARTH THE  
SLIGHTEST CLUE. TO TELL YOU THE  
TRUTH, I'M NOT EVEN SURE IF THE  
MURDERER IS IN VENICE.

LET ME REASSURE YOU,  
SANDRO. THE DOGE AND THE  
COUNCIL OF TEN HAVE AN  
EXCELLENT INTELLIGENCE  
NETWORK. IF THERE WAS  
ANOTHER VENETIAN IN CHINA  
WHILE YOU WERE THERE, YOU CAN  
BE SURE THEY'D KNOW  
ABOUT IT.

I HOPE SO,  
BECAUSE  
UNLESS THERE'S  
A MIRACLE...

HEY, IT SEEMS WE  
CAUGHT MASTER ARKHEIM  
RED-HANDED REMINISCING  
NOSTALGICALLY.



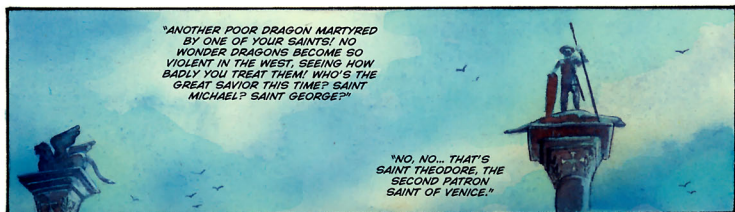
"AH, THERE THEY ARE,  
MY FRIEND! IT WAS A GREAT  
PLEASURE TO TALK TO YOU.  
I HOPE I DIDN'T OFFEND  
YOUR EARS WITH MY RUSTY  
CHINESE..."

"VENERABLE, MASTER. YOU  
EXPRESS YOURSELF IN THE  
LANGUAGE OF A TRUE  
SCHOLAR. THE EMPEROR HIM-  
SELF WOULD BE MISTAKEN  
ABOUT YOUR ORIGINS..."

AHA! IN SPITE  
OF HIS DRIED-  
OUT APPEARANCE,  
HE'S STILL GOT  
PLENTY OF FIRE  
IN HIM!

SO IT  
WOULD  
SEEM!







"I HAVEN'T MENTIONED THE IMMORTAL JEWEL TO THE DOGE. I JUST TOLD HIM THAT YOUR FATHER'S MURDERER STOLE A VERY PRECIOUS RELIC... THAT'S ALL. IF I'D TOLD HIM THE TRUTH, HE WOULD HAVE LOCKED ME UP, OR EVEN WORSE..."

"YOU DID WELL, ESPECIALLY SINCE THE PERSON WE'RE SEEKING HAS SURELY ALREADY MADE USE OF IT!! ALESSANDRO, I HAVE THE FEELING WE'VE BEEN FOLLOWED SINCE WE LEFT THE PALACE!"

"NO, WE HAVEN'T... YOU'RE JUST HIGHLY SENSITIVE TO THE SOUL OF VENICE. DON'T WORRY. SPYING, HERE, IS PRACTICED AS ASSIDUOUSLY AS A RELIGION. AND YOUR FACE AROUSES CURIOSITY."

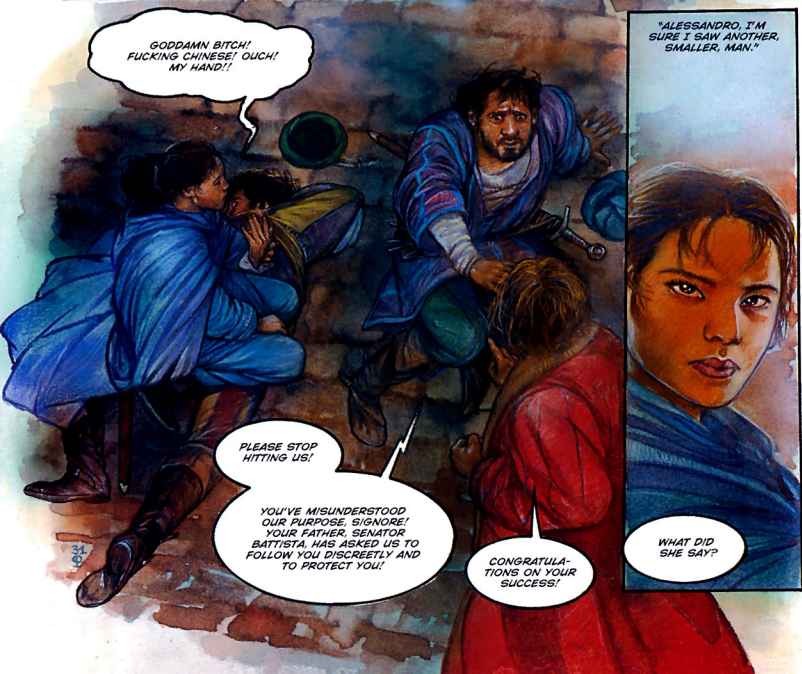
"NO, NO! IT'S SOMETHING ELSE!"

"ALL RIGHT. THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY OF MAKING SURE. FOLLOW ME!"

"WELCOME TO MY CHILDHOOD PLAYGROUND, WU-LIN! A REAL LABYRINTH!!!"

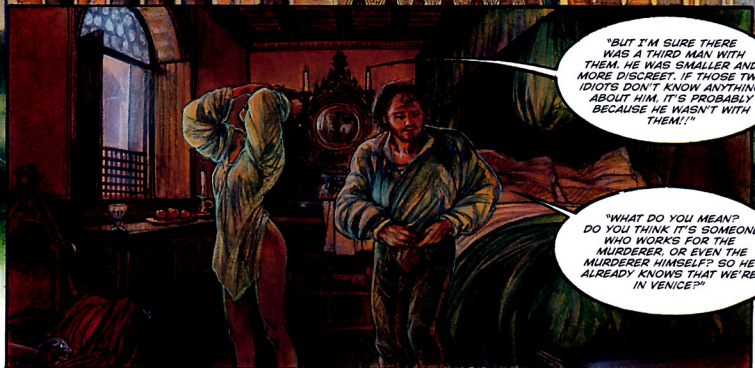








"I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE YOU WERE MISTAKEN. THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO FOLLOWED US YESTERDAY WERE THOSE TWO IDIOT GANDOLFI BROTHERS. THERE WERE NO OTHER SHADOWS WITH THEM!!"



"BUT I'M SURE THERE WAS A THIRD MAN WITH THEM. HE WAS SMALLER AND MORE DISCREET. IF THOSE TWO IDIOTS DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT HIM, IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE HE WASN'T WITH THEM!!"

"WHAT DO YOU MEAN? DO YOU THINK IT'S SOMEONE WHO WORKS FOR THE MURDERER, OR EVEN THE MURDERER HIMSELF? SO HE ALREADY KNOWS THAT WE'RE IN VENICE?"



"I DON'T KNOW, BUT I CAN FEEL THE PRESENCE OF THE 'EVIL DRAGON.' MAYBE HE CAN TOO..."

"SANDRO, THERE HE IS!!"



"LOOK, THAT'S HIM!"

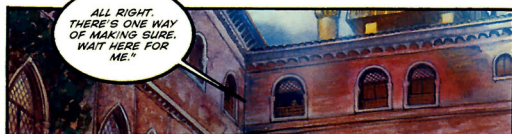


"HIM? YOU MEAN THE MURDERER?"



"HE'S THE ONE WHO FOLLOWED US YESTERDAY. I RECOGNIZE HIM."





ALL RIGHT.  
THERE'S ONE WAY  
OF MAKING SURE.  
WAIT HERE FOR  
ME."



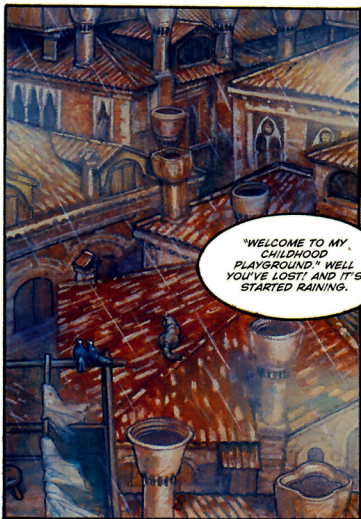
HE DIDN'T WAIT  
FOR ME, OF COURSE.  
BUT HE CAN'T BE  
FAR.



RUN ALL YOU LIKE,  
BUT I'M GOING TO  
CATCH UP WITH  
YOU...



...AND MAKE YOU  
LOSE YOUR LOVE OF  
SPYING...



"WELCOME TO MY,  
CHILDHOOD  
PLAYGROUND." WELL  
YOU'VE LOST! AND IT'S  
STARTED RAINING.



YOU'RE RIGHT  
AGAIN, MY LOVE...  
AS USUAL! THAT  
GUY DIDN'T GO  
THIS WAY...

OH CHRIST! WHY  
DID YOU COME  
BACK? WHY?

WHAT?  
WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?



SANDRO, YOU  
MISERABLE CREATURE!  
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?!

GIROLAMO? WHAT  
HAPPENED? WHAT'S ALL  
THE COMMOTION?  
WHAT'S THE MEANING  
OF ALL THOSE GUARDS?

SIGNOR  
ALESSANDRO...  
IT'S TERRIBLE...  
TERRIBLE.



OH, SIGNORE,  
MAY THE  
MADONNA  
PROTECT YOU.  
IT'S TERRIBLE!

I'M GOING TO  
PRAY FOR YOUR  
SALVATION,  
SIGNORE.

WHAT? WHAT'S  
GOING ON  
HERE?!



SANDRO, MY POOR  
LITTLE BROTHER!  
WHAT HAVE YOU  
DONE...? WHAT HAVE  
YOU DONE?!



WHAT ARE YOU GOING  
ON ABOUT?! WHAT?!  
ARE YOU GOING TO TELL  
ME WHAT'S GOING  
ON HERE?!

IT'S YOUR WIFE,  
SANDRO.  
IT'S YOUR  
WIFE!!





WU-LIN?  
WHAT  
HAPPENED TO  
HER?




FATHER?  
MOTHER?

SANDRO, YOU BROUGHT  
THIS VIPER INTO OUR HOUSE,  
AND SHE'S KILLED YOUR FATHER!!  
YOU OPENED OUR DOOR TO HER!  
I CURSE YOU, SANDRO. OUR HOME  
HAS BEEN CURSED SINCE YOU  
BROUGHT THIS WHORE INTO IT.  
THIS SHE-DEVIL! SHE'S KILLED  
YOUR FATHER, SANDRO!!

SANDRO,  
ONE OF THE  
SERVANTS SAW  
HER. SHE HAS  
ESCAPED.

WU-LIN?  
FATHER?





IT'S ALL  
BECAUSE OF  
YOU, SANDRO!  
I CURSE YOU!

FATHER?  
BUT WHAT...  
WU-LIN??!



CALM DOWN,  
MOTHER!  
PERHAPS HE MADE  
A MISTAKE...

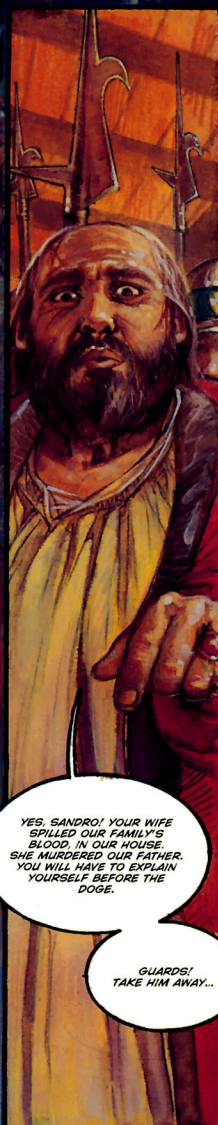
I CURSE YOU,  
SANDRO!  
SHE KILLED  
YOUR FATHER.  
IT'S ALL YOUR  
FAULT!



IT'S TRUE, SIGNORE.  
I SAW HER!  
SHE MURDERED  
YOUR FATHER.

I'M SORRY...

YOU'RE LYING.  
IT CAN'T BE...



YES, SANDRO! YOUR WIFE  
SPILLED OUR FAMILY'S  
BLOOD IN OUR HOUSE.  
SHE MURDERED OUR FATHER.  
YOU WILL HAVE TO EXPLAIN  
YOURSELF BEFORE THE  
DOGE.

GUARDS!  
TAKE HIM AWAY...



"...LAVANDOSE LE MANI E' IL VOLTO BELLO,  
VIDI MIA DONNA IN UN BIANCO  
GUARNELLO,  
ALLORA DISSI: BEN S' TROVA!  
NON ME RISPOSE A QUELLO.  
COPERTO GLI PIEDI, CH'ERA  
DISCALZATA..."

ISN'T THAT  
OUR NOBLE  
FOREIGNER,  
TANINO?

A LITTLE BIRD THAT  
FELL OUT OF ITS NEST,  
AND THAT WE FOUND,  
ZANINI...

LET'S SEE...  
WE'RE NOT  
REALLY OBLIGED  
TO TAKE HER  
BACK RIGHT  
AWAY, RIGHT?

YOU'RE READING MY  
MIND!! WE CAN SPEND  
SOME TIME WITH HER...  
AS PENANCE, OF  
COURSE!

MADONNA,  
SHE'S  
GORGEOUS!!

HEY, BEAUTIFUL, I'LL  
SHOW YOU THAT I'VE  
GOT LOTS OF WAYS OF  
FLOWING FOREIGN LAND.  
COME CLOSER NOW...

WOW! IT LOOKS  
LIKE SHE'S GOING TO  
DANCE FOR US! I SAY,  
SHE'S A COURTESAN!!

MAYBE IT'S  
A CHINESE  
CUSTOM...

GREAT  
CUSTOM!

"\*AS SHE WAS WASHING HER HANDS AND HER BEAUTIFUL FACE  
I SAW THAT MY LADY WORE A PLAIN WHITE PETTICOAT  
SO I SAID TO HER, SUCH HAPPINESS IT IS, IN THIS PLACE TO MEET!  
BUT SHE REPLIED NOT A WORD AND COVERED HER BARE FEET..."  
(MEDIÆVAL VENETIAN SONG)





THERE ARE "YE XING KE"  
HERE. SO MY HUNCH  
WAS CORRECT: THE WHITE  
DRAGON IS HERE, IN VENICE.  
AND YOU'RE GOING TO TAKE  
ME TO HIM!!

WE'RE THE DRAGON'S  
SHADOWS. AND YOU'RE  
RIGHT, HE'S HERE.

AND OUR MASTER WILL  
CONTEMPLATE YOUR  
FEATURES AT HIS LEISURE...

...WHEN WE  
BRING HIM YOUR  
HEAD!!

**SHTOMP!**

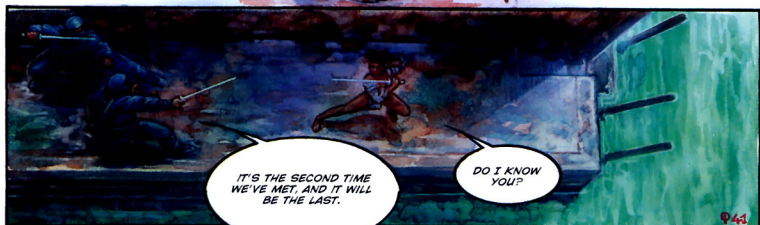
IT'S NOT OVER  
YET!



I'LL MAKE YOU  
TAKE ME TO  
HIM!

THANK US, KID!  
YOU'LL SOON GET TO  
SEE YOUR FATHER. BE  
SURE TO SAY HELLO TO  
HIM FOR US!

**KLING!**



IT'S THE SECOND TIME  
WE'VE MET, AND IT WILL  
BE THE LAST.

DO I KNOW  
YOU?



**KLONG!**

WE MET IN A  
VILLAGE AT THE  
FOOT OF HUANG  
SHAN.

HUANG  
SHAN?!?!

YOU WERE HELPING YOUR  
FRIEND FIGHT AGAINST A FAT  
HUNCHBACK AND HIS BROTHER.  
THE PEASANTS ENJOYED YOUR  
PERFORMANCE. YOUR FATHER  
WAS HIGHLY RESPECTED.

SO... IF YOU  
WERE THERE...

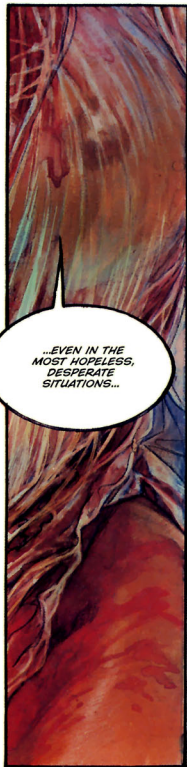
YES, I KILLED YOUR  
FATHER. AND NOW  
IT'S YOUR TURN.

**SHRUNK!**

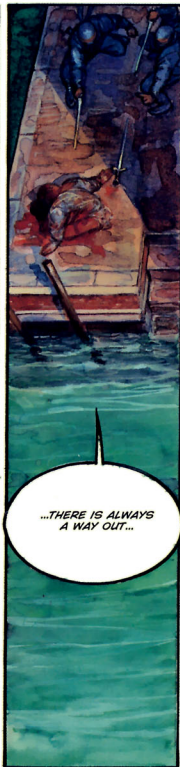


YOU GO NO FARTHER.  
YOU MUST FACE DEATH.

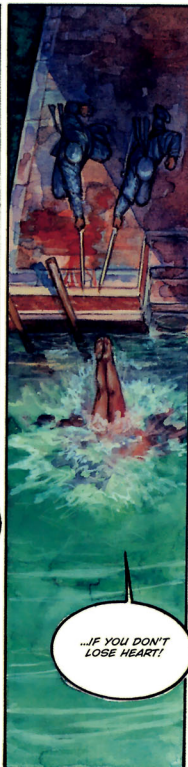
NO. MY FATHER  
ONCE TOLD ME  
THAT...



...EVEN IN THE  
MOST HOPELESS,  
DESPERATE  
SITUATIONS...



...THERE IS ALWAYS  
A WAY OUT...



...IF YOU DON'T  
LOSE HEART!







WHEN YOU CAME BACK TO VENICE,  
ALESSANDRO BATTISTA, WE WELCOMED  
YOU WITH OPEN ARMS. WE WERE  
WILLING TO FORGET THE EVENTS THAT  
LED TO YOUR EXILE. DO YOU ACCEPT  
THAT WE - BOTH YOUR FATHER AND I -  
WERE VERY MAGNANIMOUS?

AND THIS IS  
HOW YOU THANK US -  
WITH THIS CRIME?  
I CURSE YOU!

YOU HAVE TAKEN  
ADVANTAGE OF OUR  
KINDNESS AND  
GENEROSITY. YOU HAVE  
TRICKED US, LULLING  
US WITH TALES ABOUT  
HYPOTHETICAL  
ALLIANCES WITH THE  
CHINESE TO OVER-  
THROW THE TURKS. YET  
AT THE SAME TIME YOU  
WERE RESPONSIBLE  
FOR BRINGING THE  
DEVIL INTO THE VERY  
HEART OF OUR CITY. WE  
STRIP YOU OF YOUR  
VENETIAN CITIZENSHIP  
AND OF ALL YOUR  
RIGHTS. YOU ARE NO  
LONGER ONE OF US. IN  
OTHER WORDS, YOU  
ARE NOTHING!



THE PUBLIC PROSECUTOR  
MUST NOW EXAMINE THIS  
SINISTER CASE, EVEN AT  
THE PRICE OF EVOKING  
THE CRUCIAL "QUESTION,"  
BECAUSE BEHIND THIS  
HIDEOUS MURDER WE  
DETECT A HATEFUL  
HERESY!...



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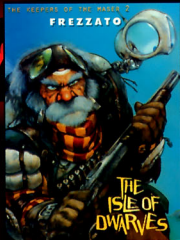
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