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**FANTASY
SPECIAL**

THE MATURE ILLUSTRATED
FANTASY MAGAZINE



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**FEATURING THE GRAPHIC NOVEL:
A BIT OF MADNESS**

**PLUS STORIES BY
CROMWELL,
LIBERATORE AND OTHERS!**

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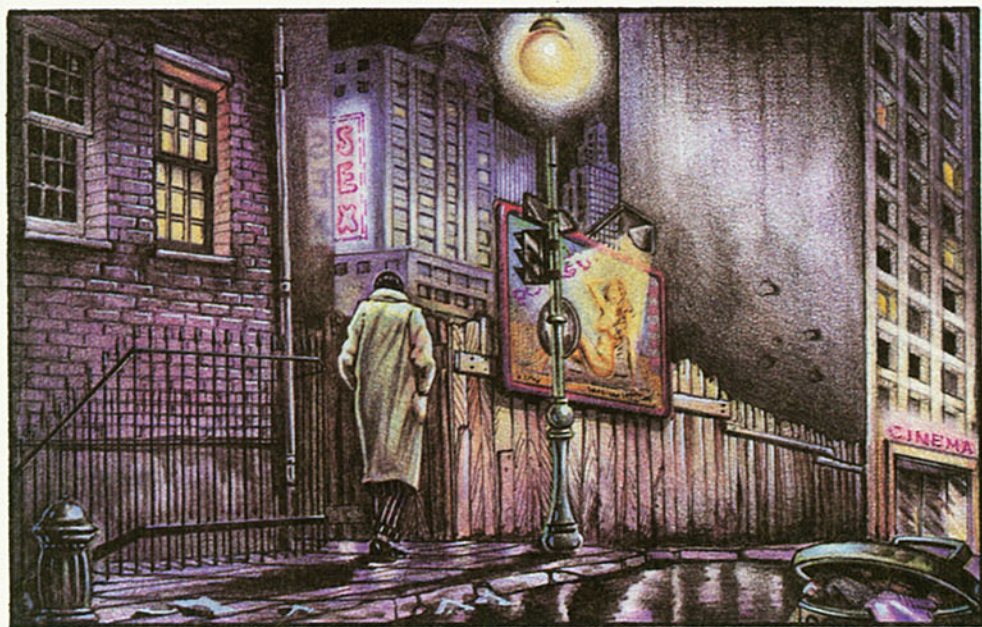
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a Humperdido! scan

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DREAMS OF GLORY

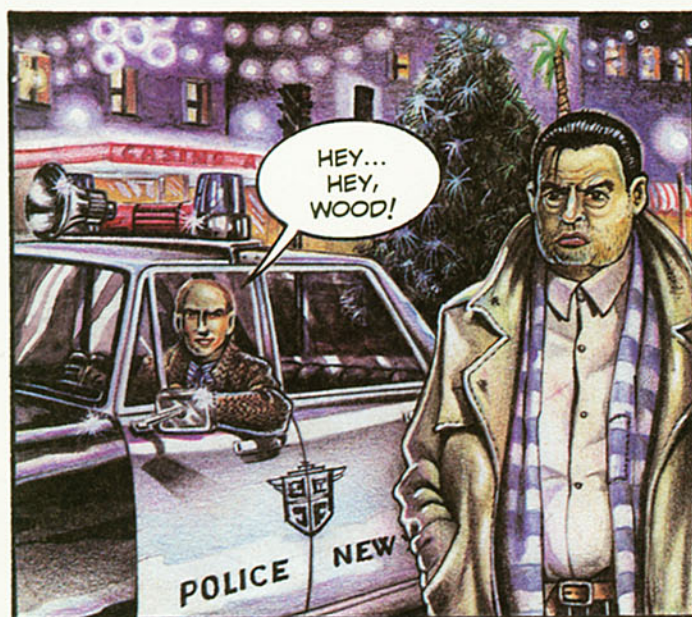
ROBERT WOOD. A COP WHO DECIDED TO QUIT THE FORCE TO BECOME A PRIVATE INVESTIGATOR AND GET RICH.

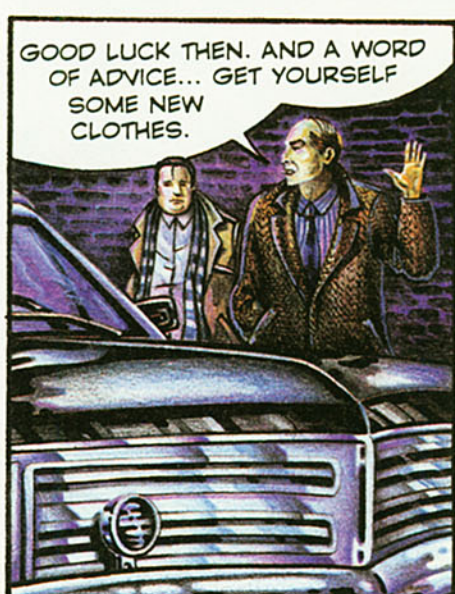


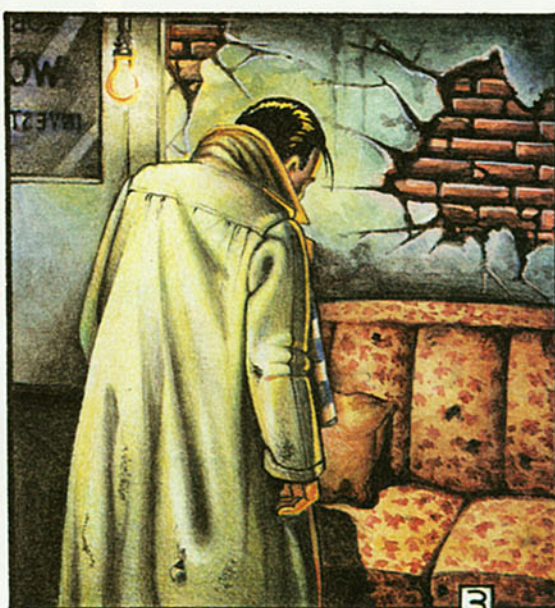
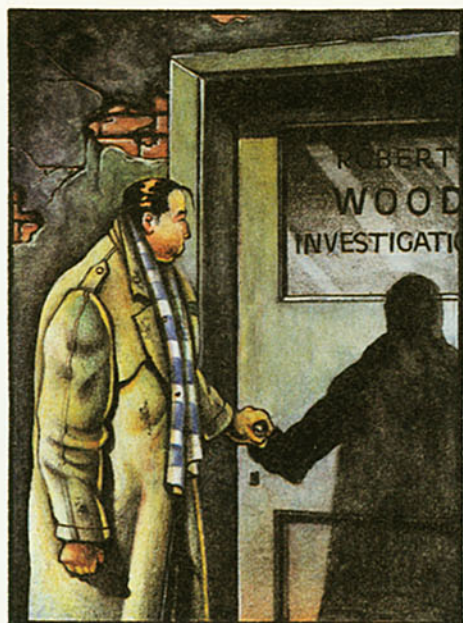
ROBERT WOOD, A PITIFUL PRIVATE EYE IN A CITY WHERE NOBODY SEEMED TO NEED HIS SERVICES.

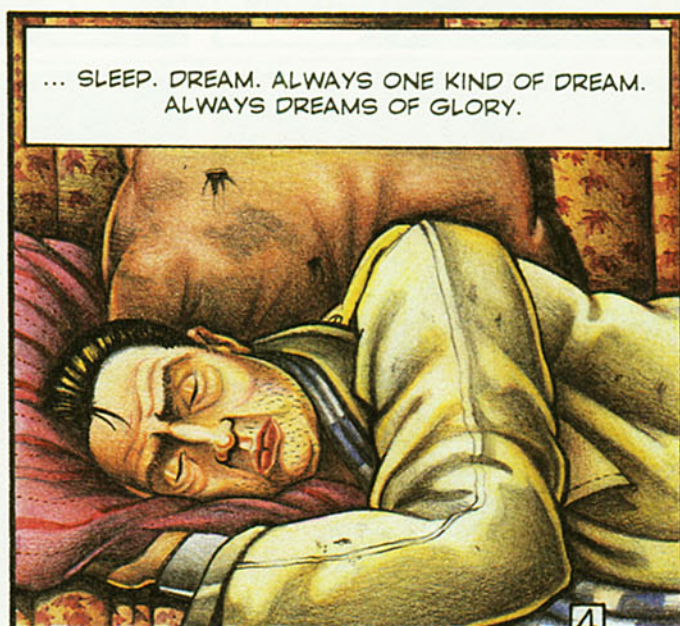


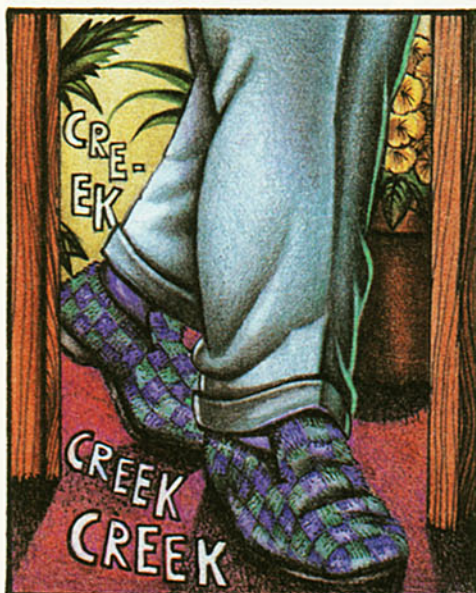
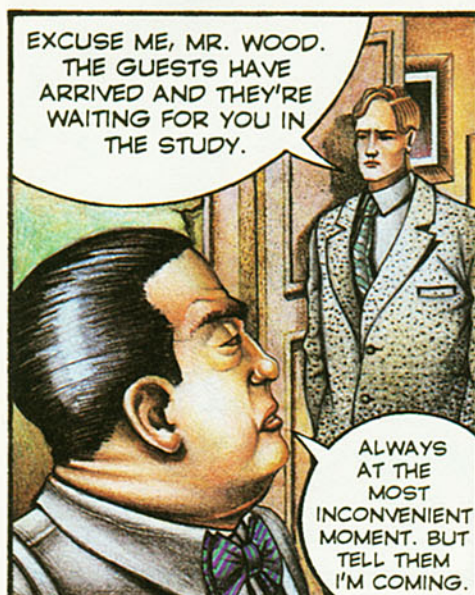
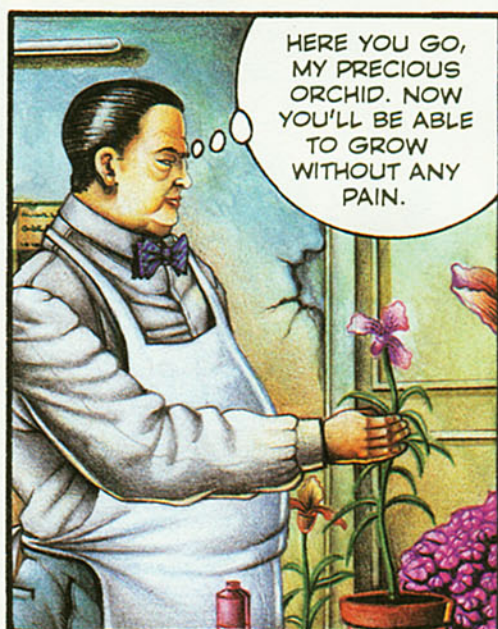
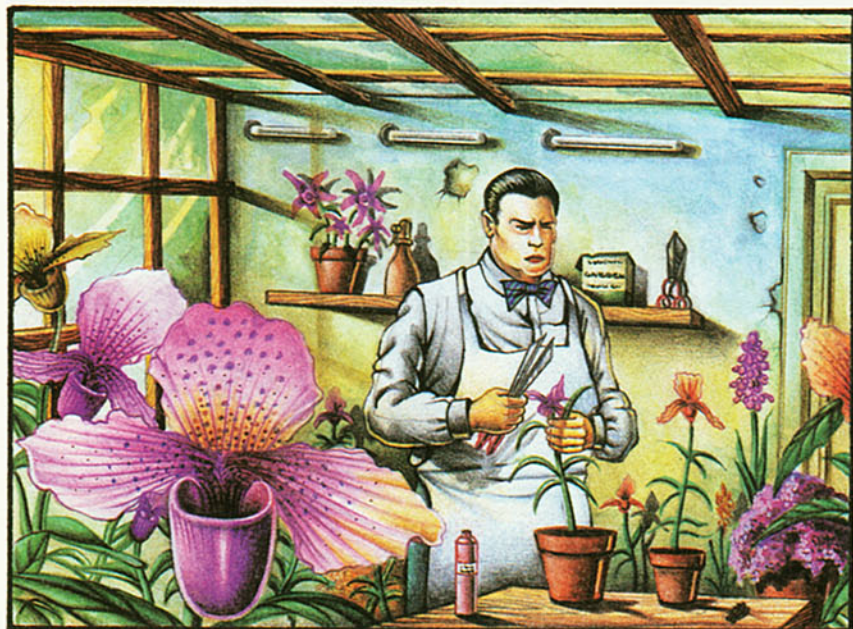
ROBERT WOOD, AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A SHORT STORY. A STORY-- LIKE THE NAME OF THAT OLD TV SERIES, SET IN THE "TWILIGHT ZONE".

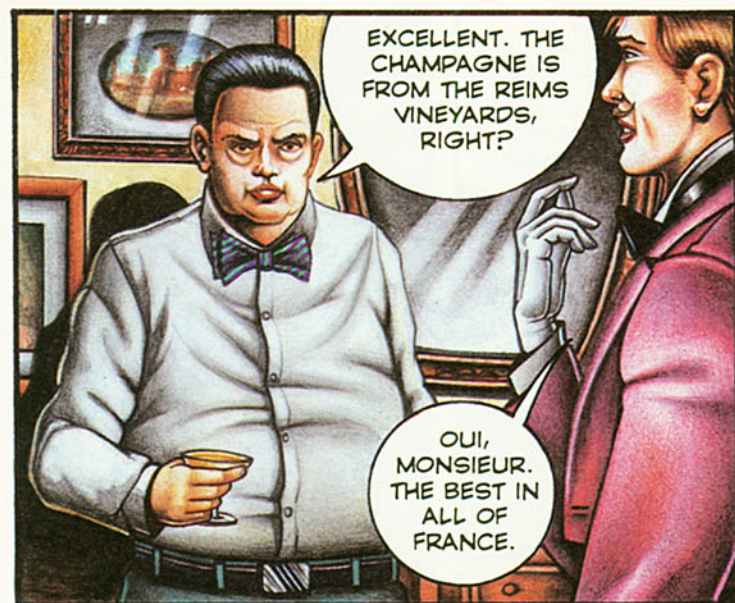
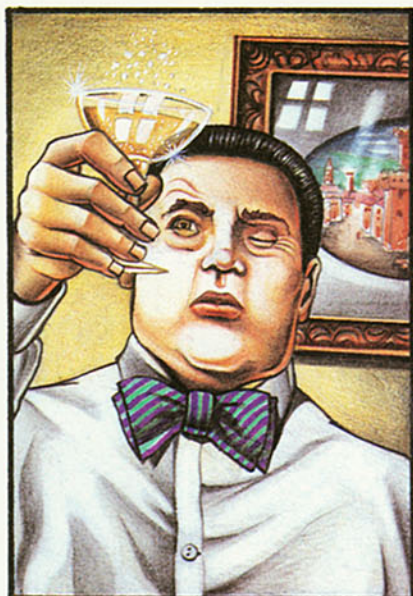


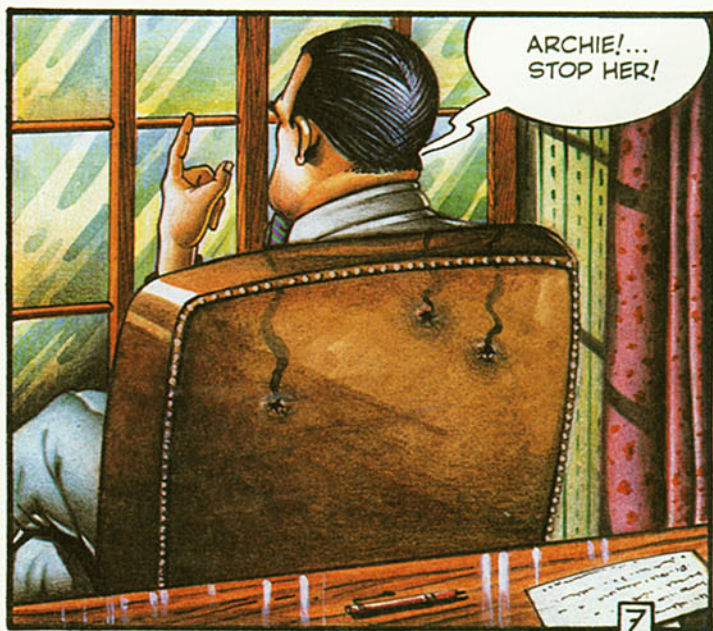
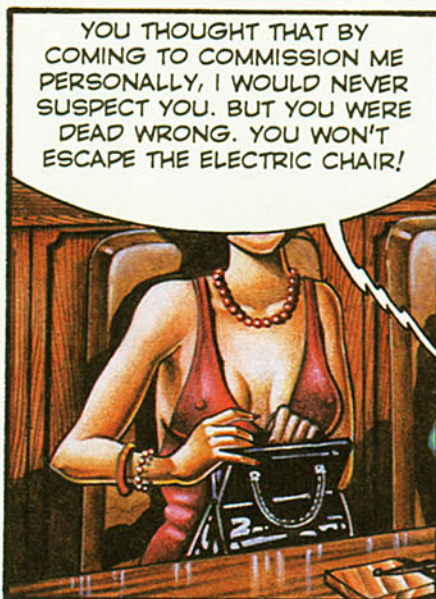
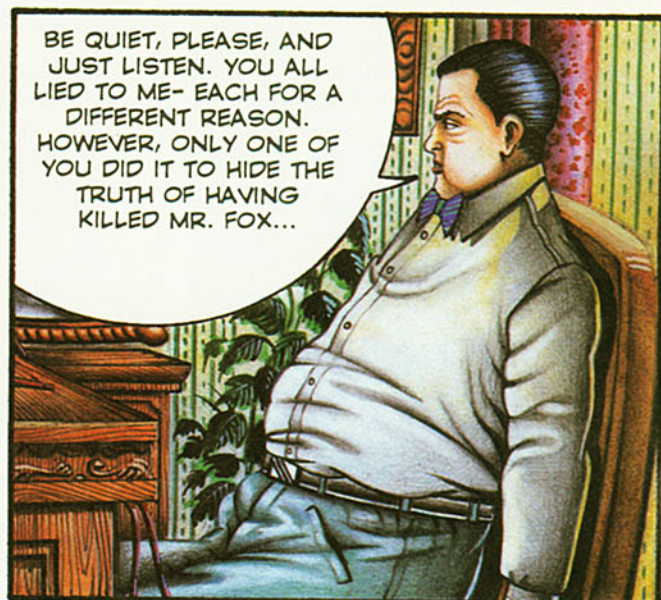
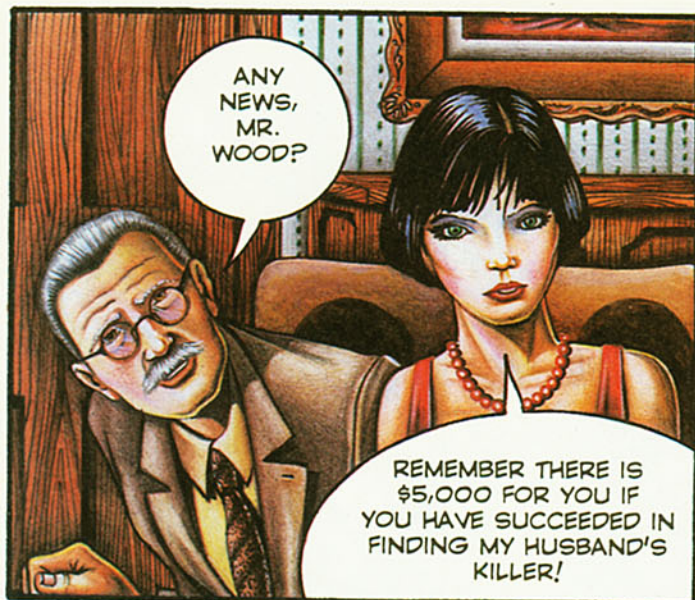


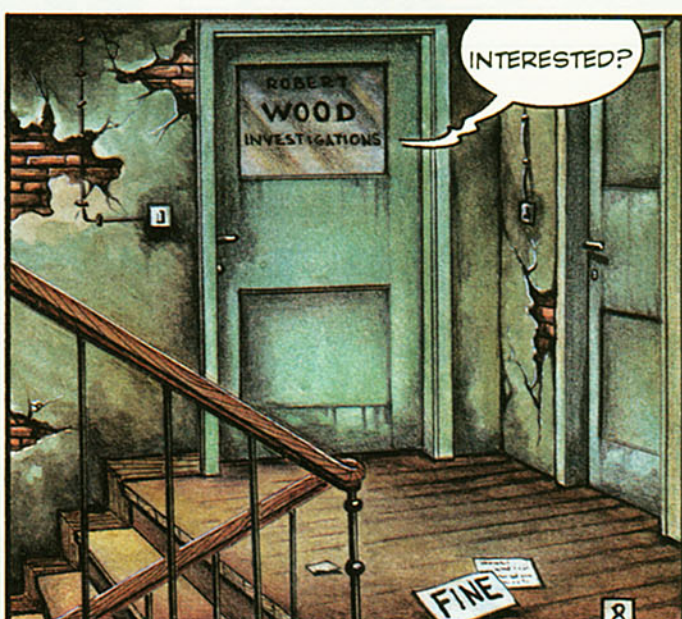








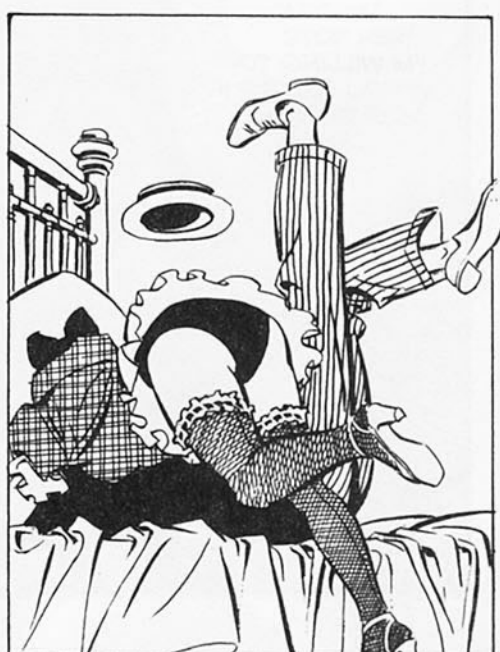


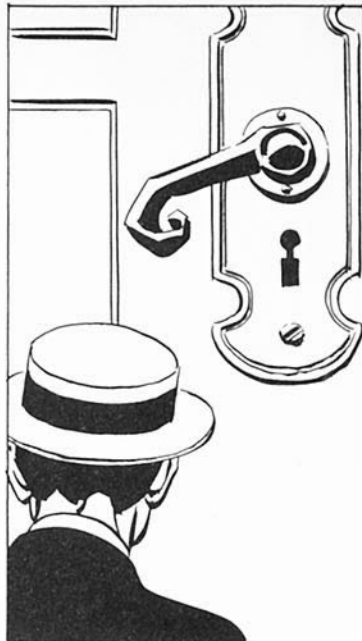


THE DOOR

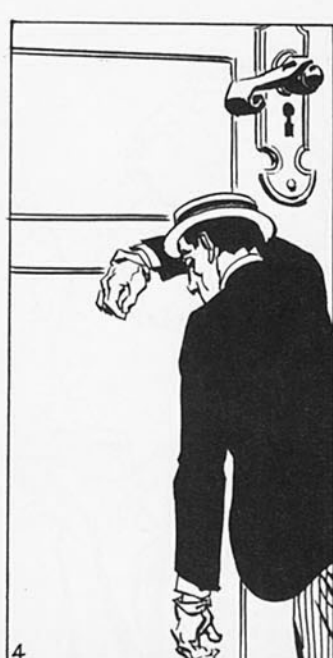
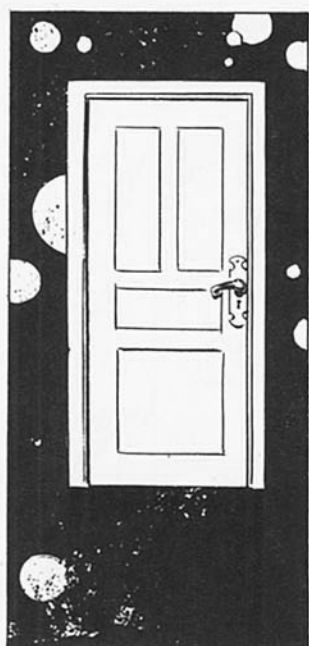


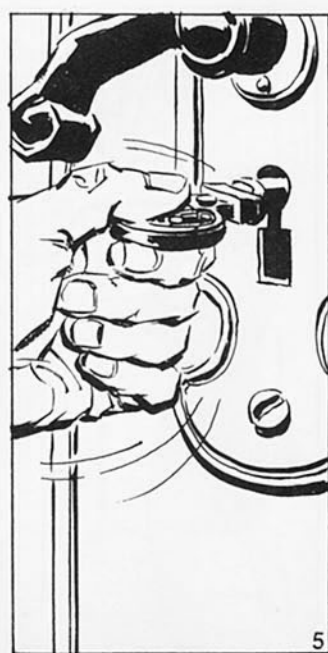
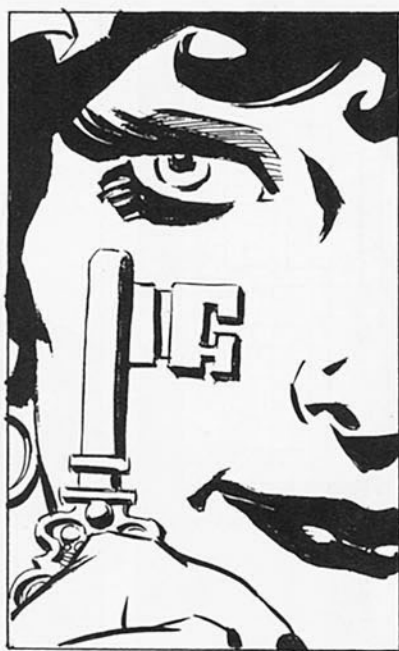
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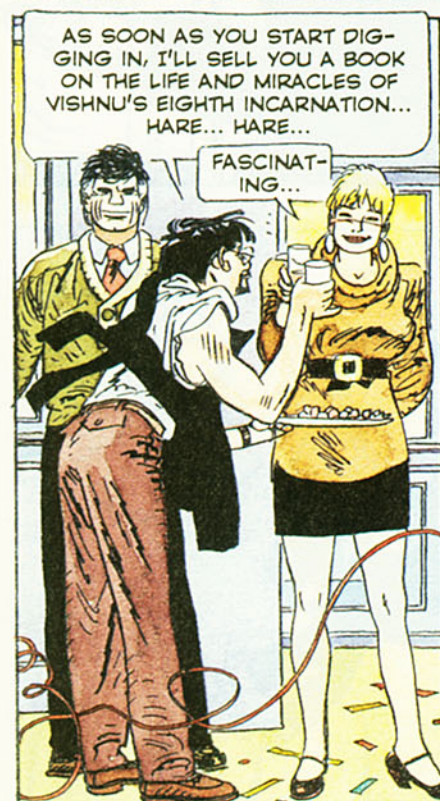






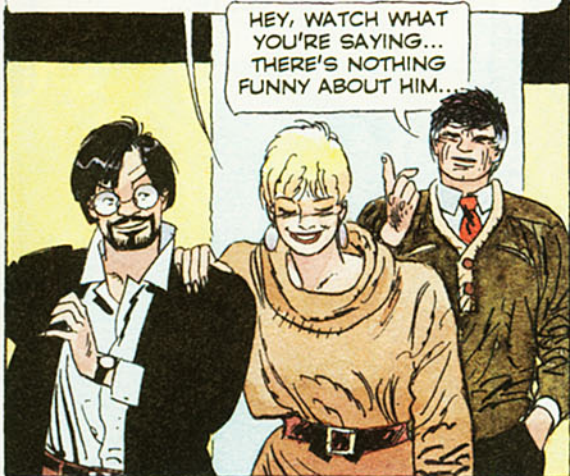
FINE

TAXI: THE PERFECT TACTIC



DO YOU MEAN THAT FUNNY GUY WHO SAID HE CAME FROM GANYMEDE, ONE OF JUPITER'S SATELLITES? FIRST HE CLAIMED HE WAS GOD, AND THEN HE SAID HE WAS THE SUPREME CHIEF OF THE INTER-PLANETARY FLEET...

HEY, WATCH WHAT YOU'RE SAYING... THERE'S NOTHING FUNNY ABOUT HIM...

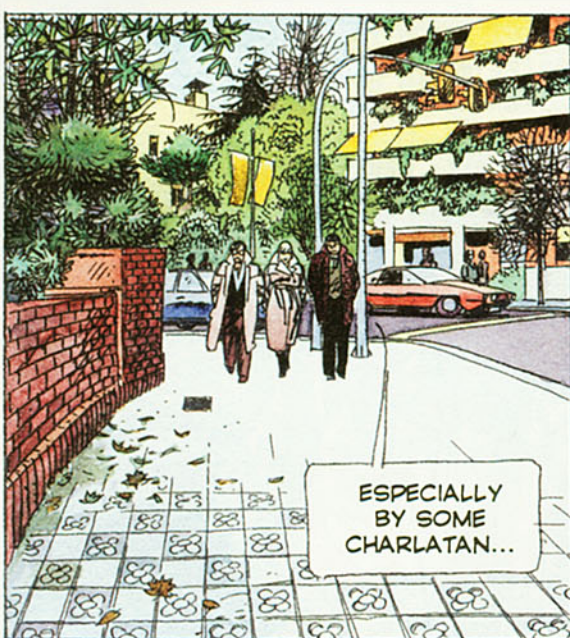


HE WOULD GLADLY BEAT UP A FOLLOWER WHO DARED CONTRADICT HIM...



ANY FOLLOWER WHO WAS DUMB ENOUGH TO BELIEVE IN THAT FARCICAL LEADER WAS JUST ASKING FOR IT...

DON'T SAY THAT, FELIX...! NO HUMAN BEING DESERVES TO BE BEATEN UP, FOR WHATEVER REASON!



ESPECIALLY BY SOME CHARLATAN...

JEEZ! IT'S HARD TO UNDERSTAND HOW SO MANY PEOPLE CAN BE SO GULLIBLE!

NOT REALLY...



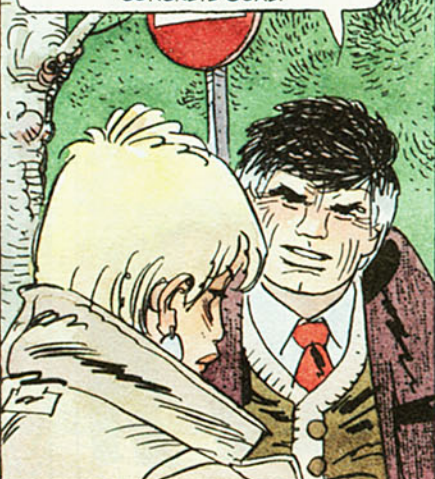
THE PRESENT SOCIAL SYSTEM ENCOURAGES EXTREME INDIVIDUALISM, WHICH IN TURN RESULTS IN INCREASED LONELINESS, WHICH MEANS ANXIETY, DESPAIR, PAIN...



IN RESPONSE TO ALL THIS, SECTS PROVIDE A GREGARIOUS, SEEMINGLY PROTECTIVE UNIVERSE.



THEY OFFER A COMFORTING SENSE OF HOPE IN PERSONAL SALVATION TO INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE IN DESPAIR AT THE PROSPECT OF AN UNCERTAIN PERSONAL FUTURE LACKING IN ANY SORT OF CONCRETE GOAL.



SECTS ARE ATTRACTIVE BECAUSE THEY PROVIDE A SINGLE GOAL: TOTAL SUBMISSION TO THE DOGMA DICTATED BY THE GOD-LEADER.



AND SO, IN ORDER TO GET MORE FOLLOWERS, SECTS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PEOPLE'S WEAKNESS, GULLIBILITY, TRUST AND PLAIN IGNORANCE...

AH, IGNORANCE! THE BANE OF HUMANITY!

AN IGNORANT PERSON IS A PERFECT VICTIM! YOU'RE DEFENSELESS IF YOU LACK ALL INFORMATION.

PEOPLE DON'T EVEN READ BOOKS ANYMORE! IT'S NOT SURPRISING THAT IGNORANCE IS ON THE RISE!

THOSE OF US WHO WORK IN THE MEDIA ARE PARTLY TO BLAME... IN ANY CASE, IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE HOW TO PROTECT THE IGNORANT FROM BEING HARASSED BY SECTS....

...BECAUSE AN IGNORANT PERSON IS EASY TO MANIPULATE...

HEY!

YOU GUYS! HANDS UP, YOU JERKS!

!!?

??!

!?

SPEAK OF THE DEVIL! WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT IGNORANT PEOPLE... AND THERE'S THE CHIEF IGNORAMUS!

SO, GOOFING OFF AGAIN INSTEAD OF WORKING?

TITO JUNEDA!...

HE'S JUST LANDED FROM GANYMEDE, IF NOT FROM FARTHER AWAY...

FELIX...! HE'S GOING TO HEAR YOU...

HI, TITO...

HI...

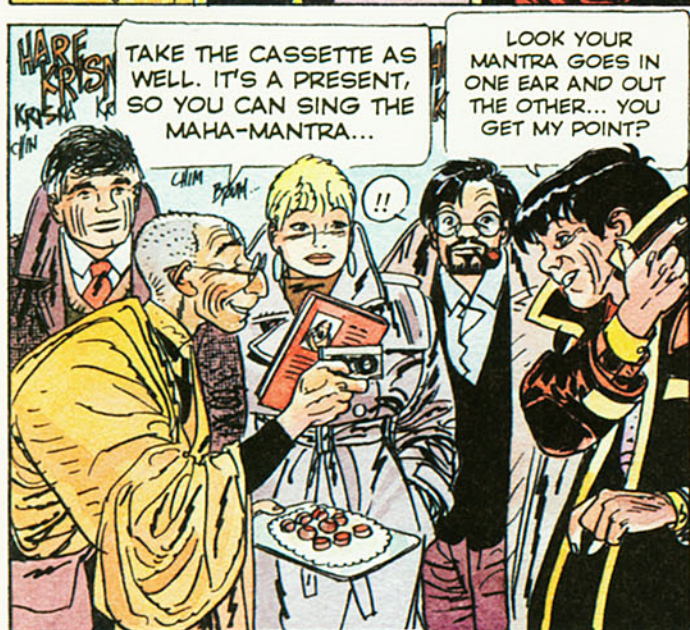
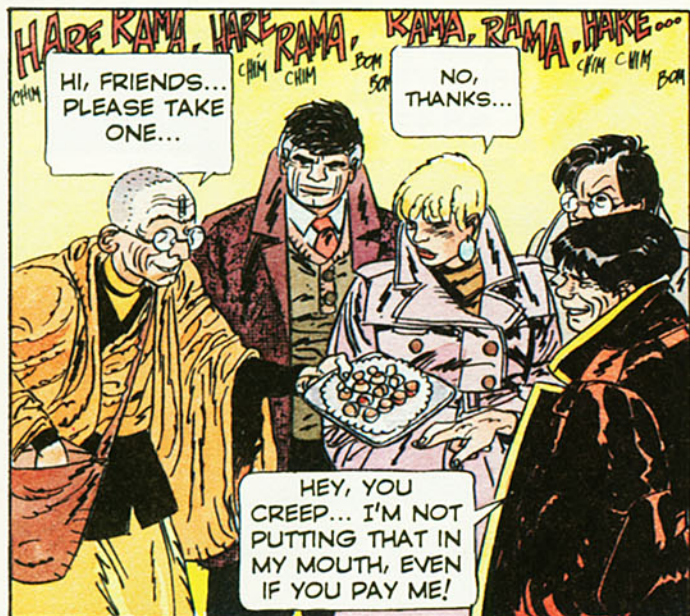
WHAT'S UP, GUYS? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE HAVING A SERIOUS CONVERSATION! FIXING ALL OF THE WORLD'S PROBLEMS, I'LL BET! BLAH, BLAH, BLAH!

HMPH!

HARE KRISNA, HARE KRISNA HARE ...

NOT REALLY... WE WERE TALKING ABOUT HOW NOTHING'S GETTING FIXED...

ACTUALLY, WE WERE TALKING ABOUT SECTS...



FIN



EARLY EVERY MORNING I WOULD PASS BY THE SHINY "LAYLAND BUFFALO" AUTOMOBILE THAT BELONGED TO HER...

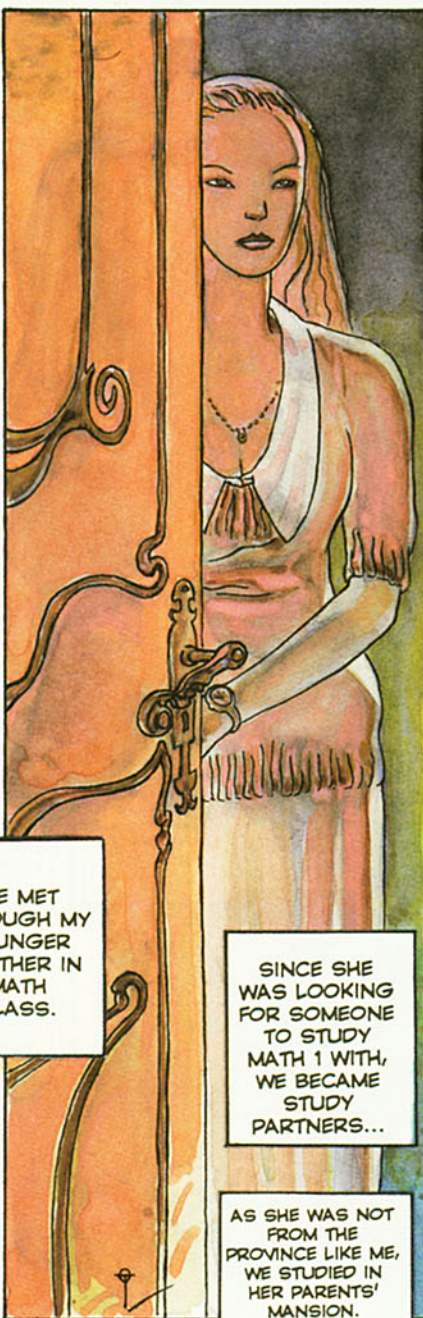
I WOULD STOP AT HER FRONT DOOR TO LOOK FOR A STONE...



... AND PUT IT IN MY POCKET.



WE MET THROUGH MY YOUNGER BROTHER IN MATH CLASS.



SINCE SHE WAS LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO STUDY MATH 1 WITH, WE BECAME STUDY PARTNERS...

AS SHE WAS NOT FROM THE PROVINCE LIKE ME, WE STUDIED IN HER PARENTS' MANSION.

WE STUDIED FROM SEVEN TO NINE, THEN BREAKFAST WOULD BE SERVED...



... AFTER, WE WOULD CONTINUE UNTIL ELEVEN.

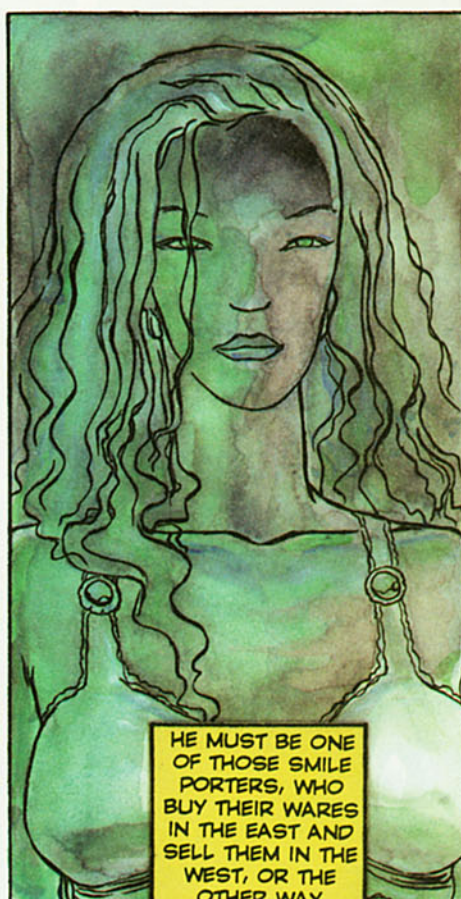
I KEPT THE STONE IN MY HAND THE ENTIRE TIME...



... AND IN CASE I DOZED OFF, IT WOULD FALL ON THE FLOOR AND WAKE ME UP BEFORE ANYONE NOTICED.



THE WEDGWOOD TEA-SET





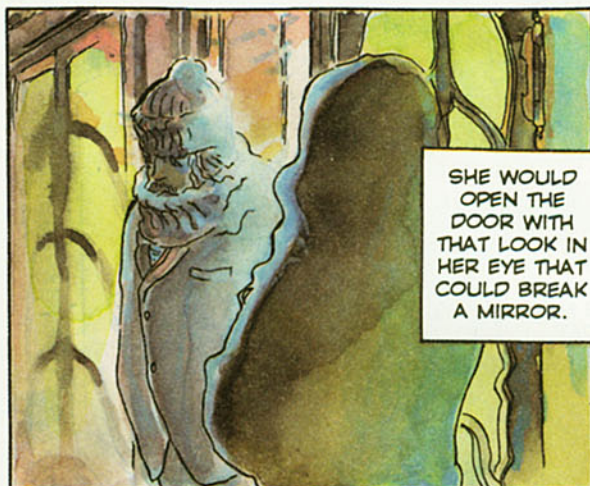
SHE RAN
INTO ME
WHEN IT
WAS TIME
FOR
MATH 2.



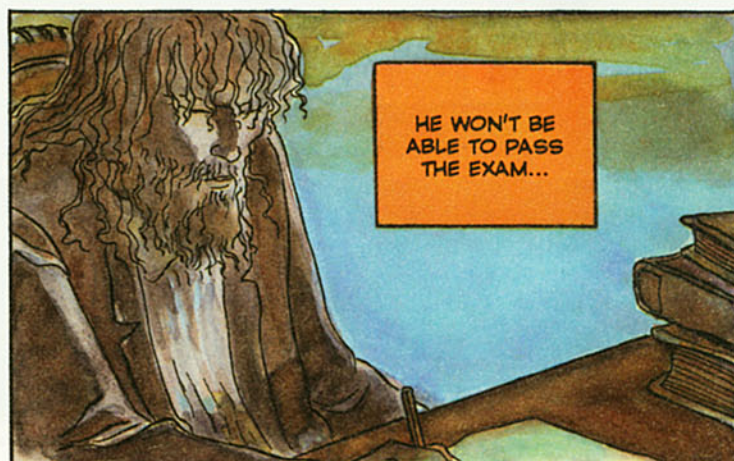
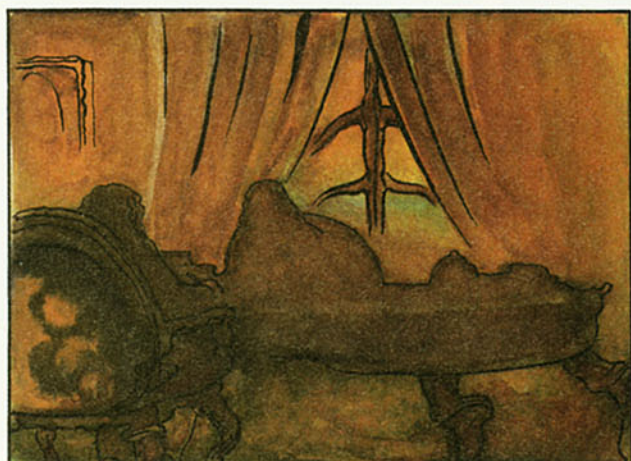
EVERYTHING
WAS AS
BEFORE.



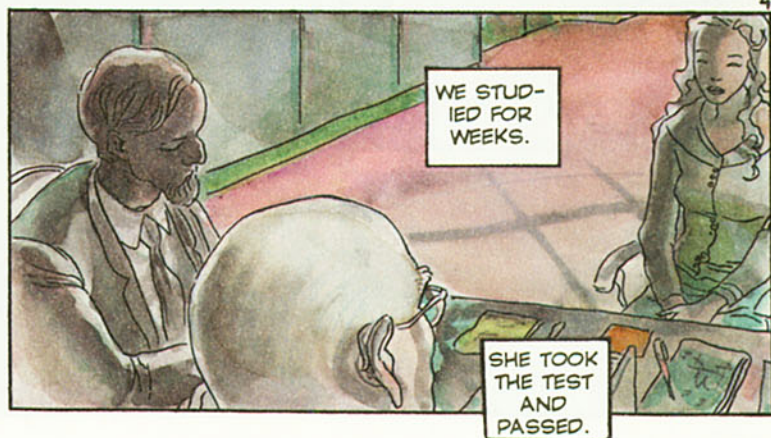
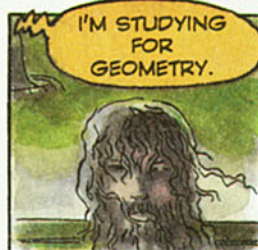
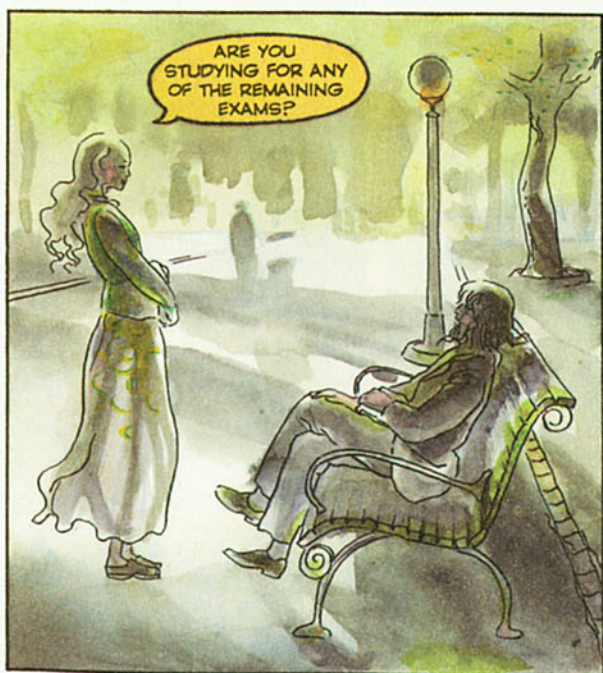
SHE WOULD
COME DOWN THE
STAIRCASE STILL
HALF ASLEEP.

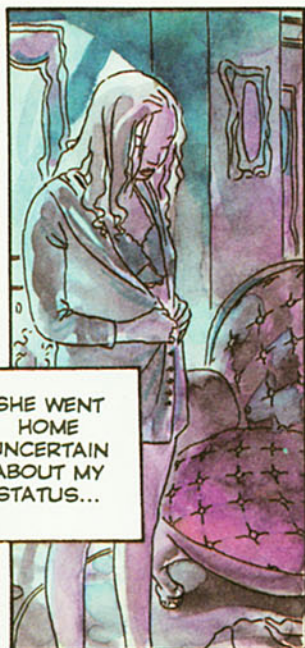


SHE WOULD
OPEN THE
DOOR WITH
THAT LOOK IN
HER EYE THAT
COULD BREAK
A MIRROR.



HE WON'T BE
ABLE TO PASS
THE EXAM...





SHE WENT HOME
UNCERTAIN
ABOUT MY
STATUS...



HE FORGOT
HIS NOTE-
BOOKS...



HE'S NOT
STUDYING
THE SAME
COURSES
AS ME!



SHE REMEM-
BERED THE END-
LESS HOURS OF
STUDYING...



... WHICH FOR HIM,
MUST HAVE BEEN A
POINTLESS EFFORT
WITH NO PURPOSE AT
ALL- A PURE WASTE
OF TIME...



... AND SHE
ASKED HERSELF
THE OBVIOUS
QUESTION:
WHY?



WHY
HAVE I
SPENT SO
MUCH
TIME WITH
HER...



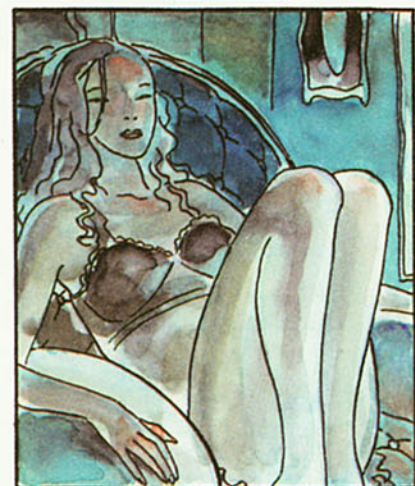
STUDYING THINGS
THAT HAVE
NOTHING TO DO...



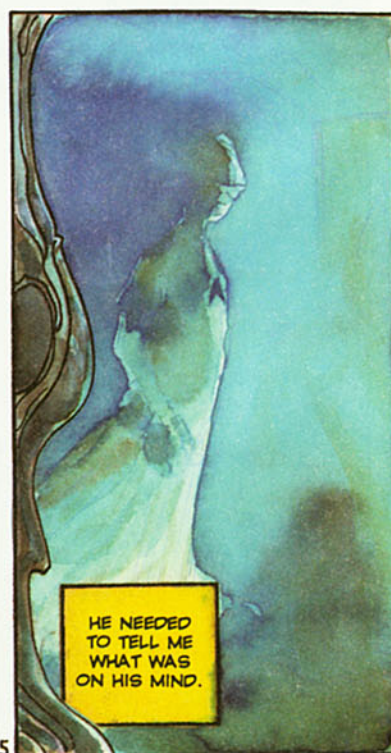
...WITH MY
INTERESTS...



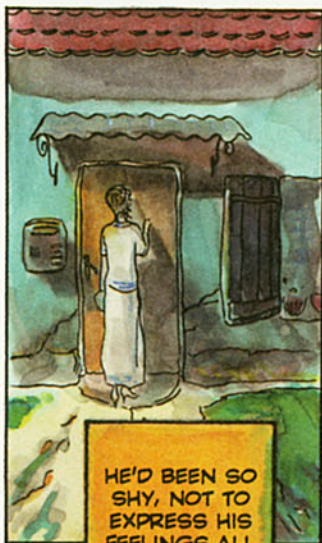
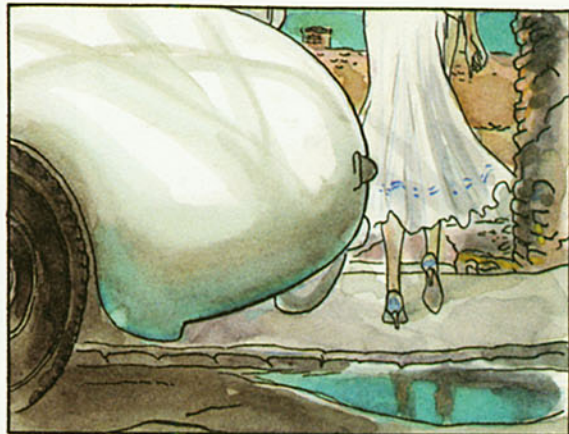
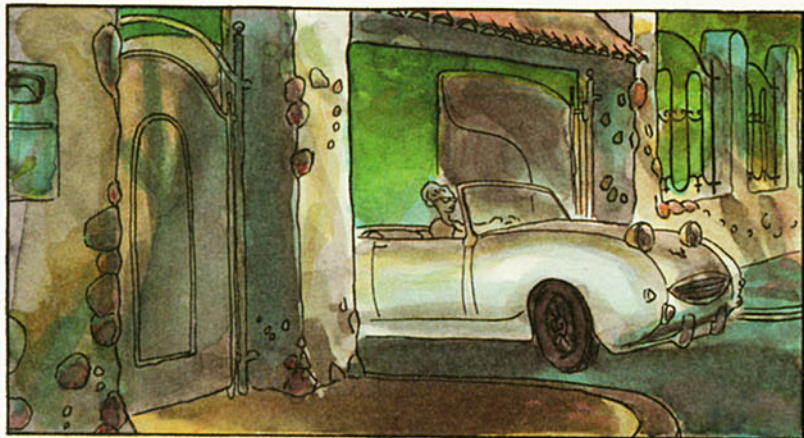
... AND THE
EXAMS I AM
TAKING?



ONE MUST
ALSO
CONSIDER
THE THINGS
THAT WERE
NOT SAID.



HE NEEDED
TO TELL ME
WHAT WAS
ON HIS MIND.



HE'D BEEN SO SHY, NOT TO EXPRESS HIS FEELINGS ALL THOSE YEARS.

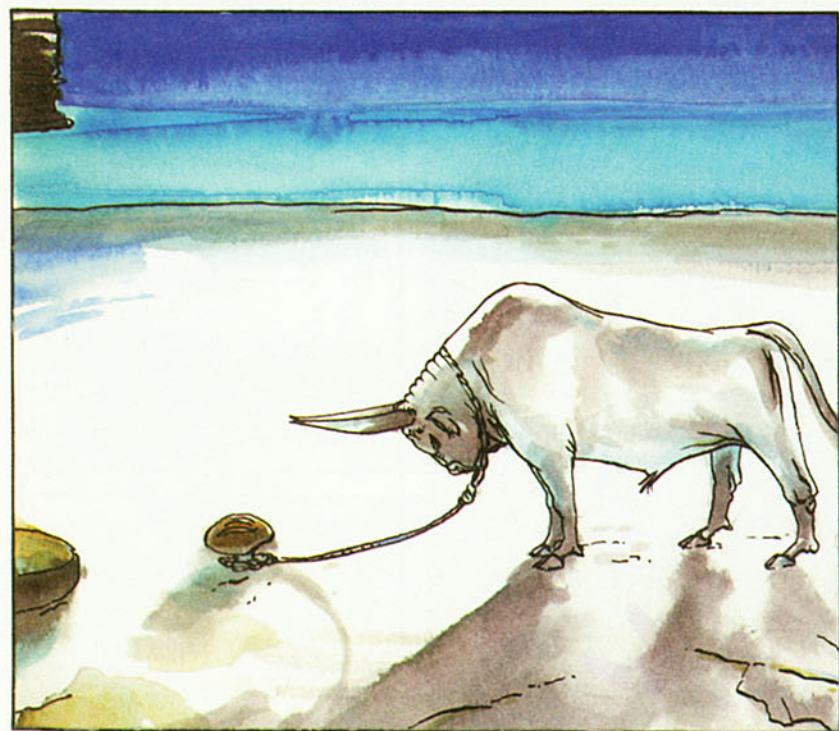
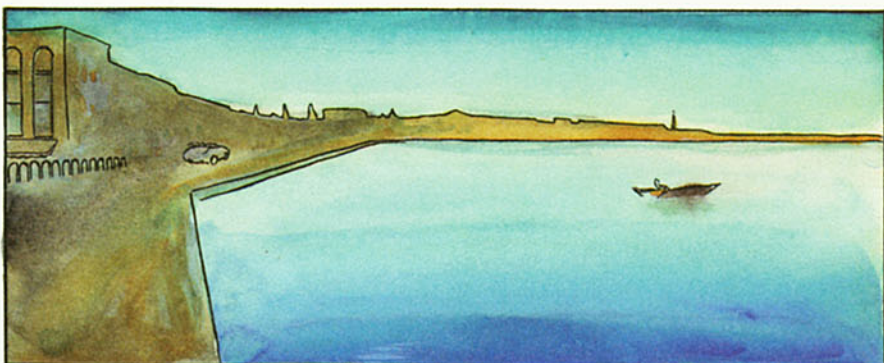
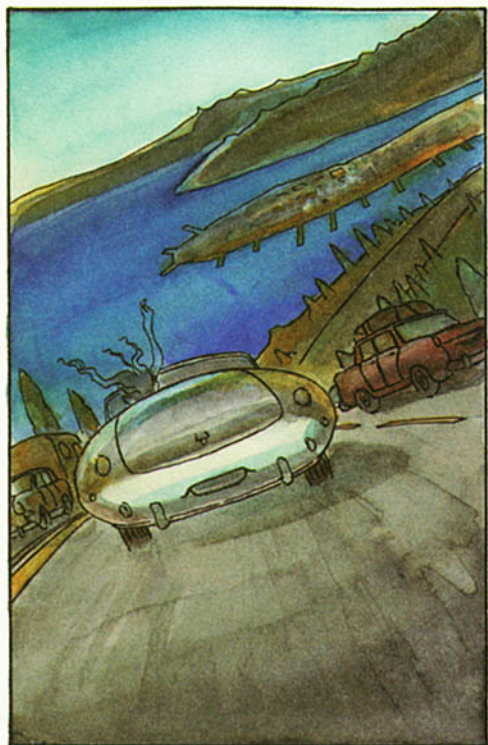


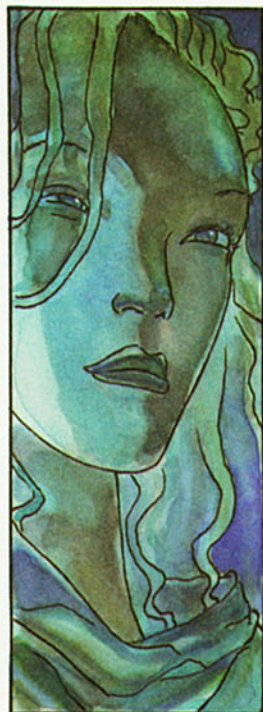
HE WENT HOME TO GREECE, MISS.



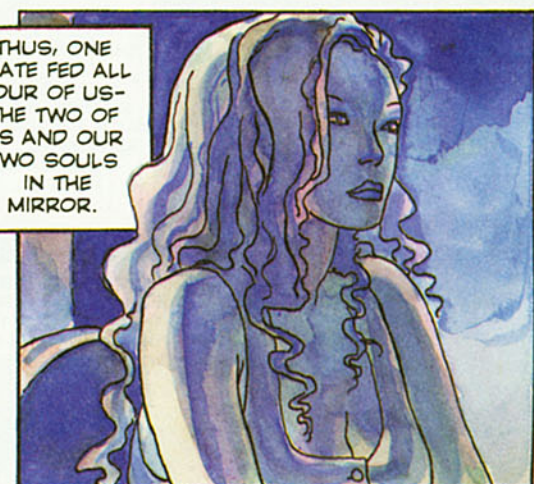
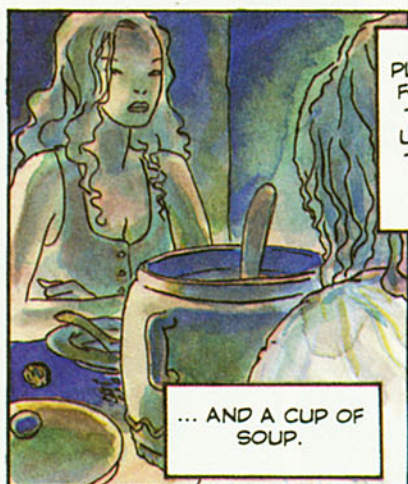
IT'S A VILLAGE NEAR THESSALONIKI.





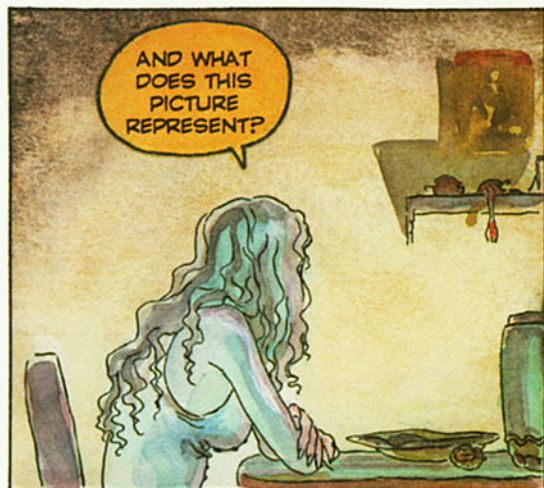


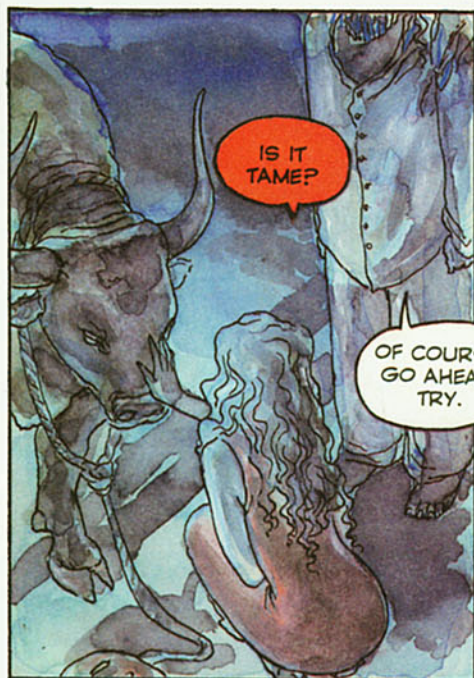
8



THUS, ONE PLATE FED ALL FOUR OF US- THE TWO OF US AND OUR TWO SOULS IN THE MIRROR.

... AND A CUP OF SOUP.





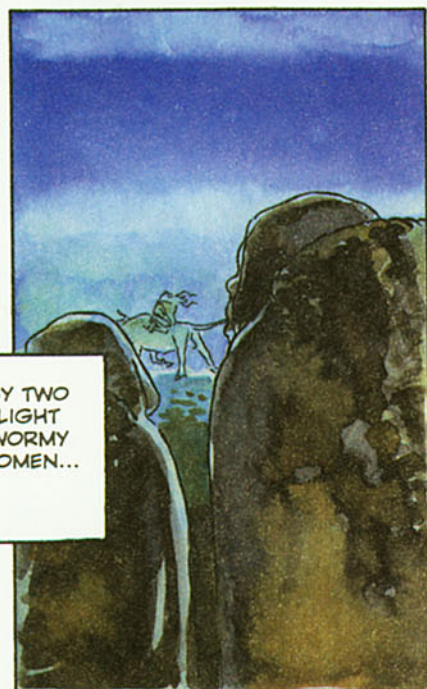


SITTING ON THE
DOUBLE LOVER,
SHE SAW THAT
WE PASSED BY A
FOREST
OF WHITE
CYPRESSES...

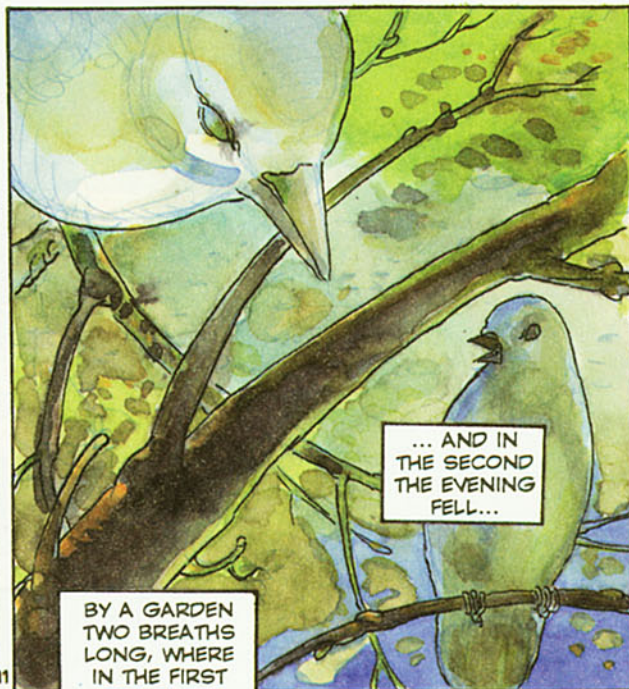
BY PEOPLE WHO
FED THEIR
SHADOWS TO
THE FIRE AND
BURNED THEM...



BY PEOPLE
GATHERING
DEW AND
STONES IN THE
SHORE...



BY TWO
LIGHT
WORMY
WOMEN...



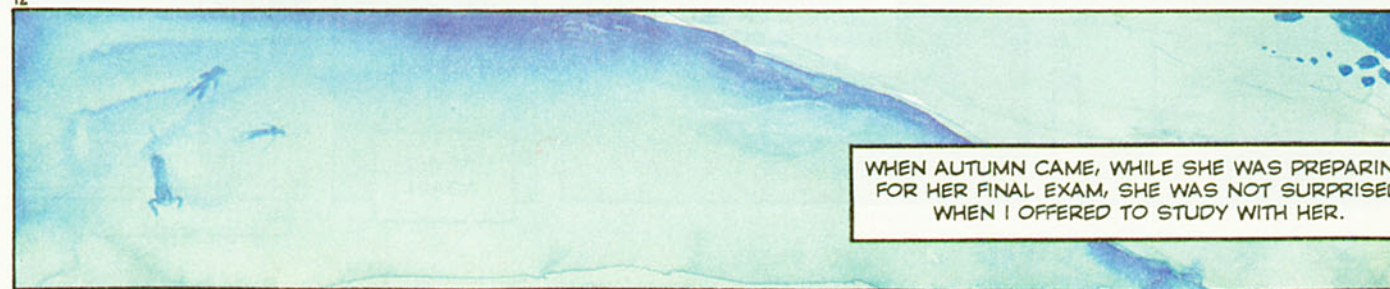
... AND IN
THE SECOND
THE EVENING
FELL...

BY A GARDEN
TWO BREATHS
LONG, WHERE
IN THE FIRST
BREATH THE
BIRDS SANG...



... IN THE FIRST
BREATH THE
FRUITS BLOOMED...

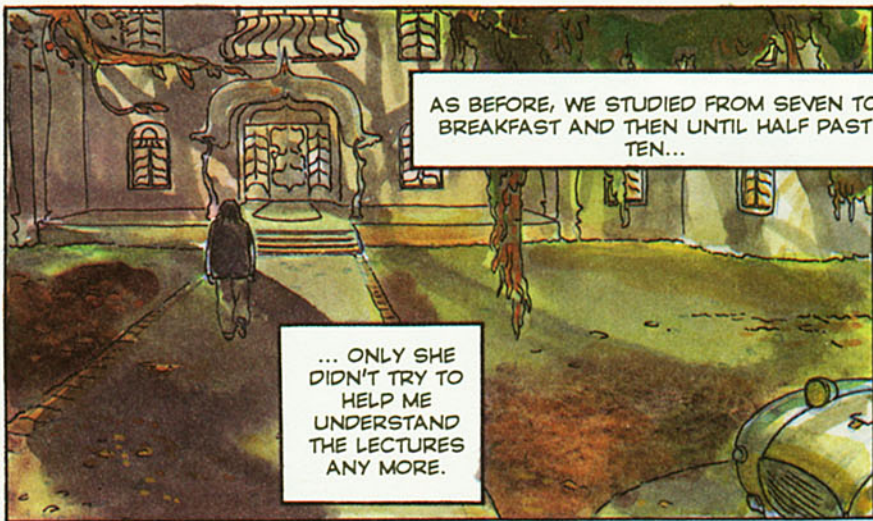
... AND IN THE
SECOND SNOW
TWIRLED BEHIND
THE WINDS.



WHEN AUTUMN CAME, WHILE SHE WAS PREPARING FOR HER FINAL EXAM, SHE WAS NOT SURPRISED WHEN I OFFERED TO STUDY WITH HER.



SHE DID NOT
MENTION THE
DISCOVERY
FROM MY
STUDENT I.D.

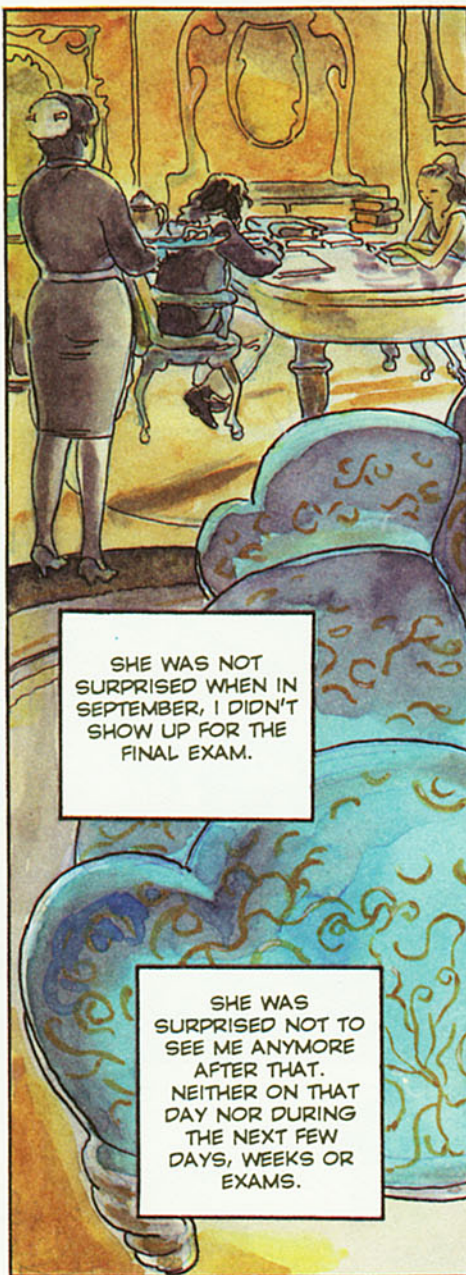


AS BEFORE, WE STUDIED FROM SEVEN TO
BREAKFAST AND THEN UNTIL HALF PAST
TEN...

... ONLY SHE
DIDN'T TRY TO
HELP ME
UNDERSTAND
THE LECTURES
ANY MORE.



AND I STAYED FOR
AWHILE AFTER HALF
PAST TEN SO THAT I
COULD BE NEAR HER.



SHE WAS NOT
SURPRISED WHEN IN
SEPTEMBER, I DIDN'T
SHOW UP FOR THE
FINAL EXAM.

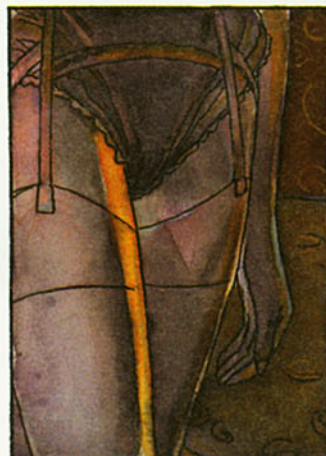
SHE WAS
SURPRISED NOT TO
SEE ME ANYMORE
AFTER THAT.
NEITHER ON THAT
DAY NOR DURING
THE NEXT FEW
DAYS, WEEKS OR
EXAMS.



NEVER
AGAIN.



CONFOUNDED,
SHE CON-
CLUDED THAT
HER ASSUM-
PTIONS ABOUT
MY FEELINGS
WERE
CORRECT.



PUZZLED BY NOT BEING ABLE TO UNDERSTAND, ONE MORNING SHE SAT IN THE ROOM WHERE WE STUDIED TOGETHER ALL THOSE YEARS.

HER GAZE FELL ON THE DISHES OF A WEDGWOOD TEA SET ON THE TABLE THAT HAD BEEN LEFT OVER FROM BREAKFAST.



THEN SHE UNDERSTOOD.

MONTHS, DAY BY DAY...

... WITH AN INFINITE WASTE OF TIME AND ENERGY...

... I WORKED WITH HER JUST TO GET A HOT BREAKFAST EVERY MORNING.



THE ONLY MEAL I COULD AFFORD IN THOSE YEARS. REALIZING THAT, SHE ASKED HERSELF ONE MORE QUESTION:

IS IT POSSIBLE THAT I ACTUALLY HATED HER?

EUROPE IS HER NAME.
MINE IS BALKAN.



AMANITE AND TEQUILA

VERY
PROMISING!

I AIN'T
SCARED OF
NO ONE ON
A HARLEY
DAVIDSON.

AND IF I DIE
TOMORROW, IT
WON'T BE TO
NO ONE'S
SORROW.

MARCH 2977

AS EVERYONE KNOWS...

...WHEN YOU
SING OFF-KEY...

YOU ALWAYS ATTRACT ATTENTION.

I CARE
LESS ABOUT
LIFE THAN
MY TERRIBLE
WIFE.

PAN

WOW!
A HOLE IS THE
HEAD IS BETTER
THAN A HOLE IN
THE HEAD!
HE HE HE!

YEAH!
THIS HOLE IN
THE HEAD IS
WORTH A GREAT
SET OF WHEELS.

HUH?
WHAT?...
THIS SET OF
WHEELS??

WELL...
HAD
TO BRING HIM
IN ALIVE TO
GET THE
REWARD...

FLAP
FLAP

AARGH!

RELAX, TEQUILA!
THESE WHEELS ARE WORTH
A LOT MORE THAN THE
REWARD. SINCE YOU'VE LOST
YOUR LEG AND YOUR TRUCK,
WELL...

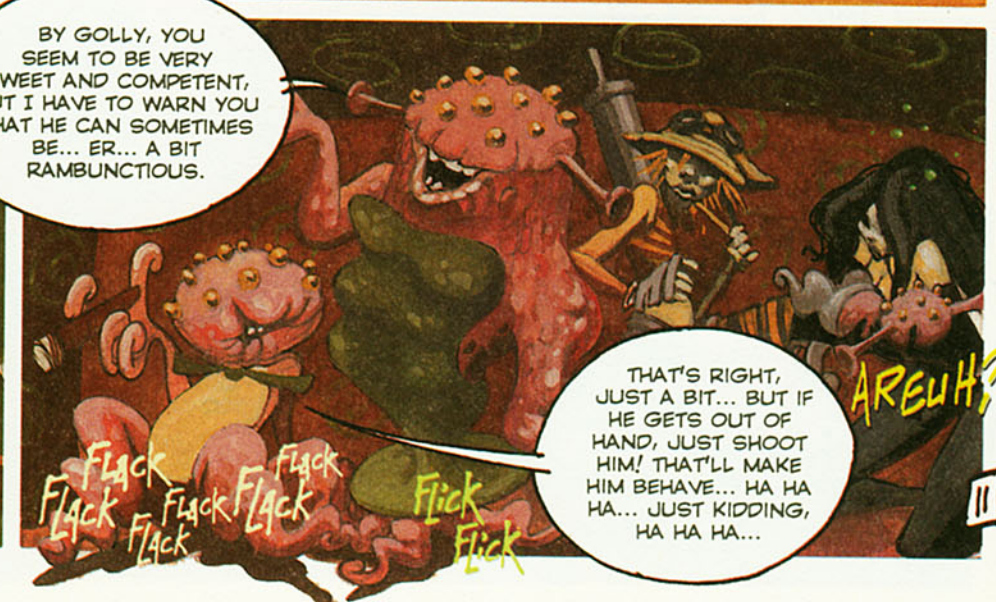
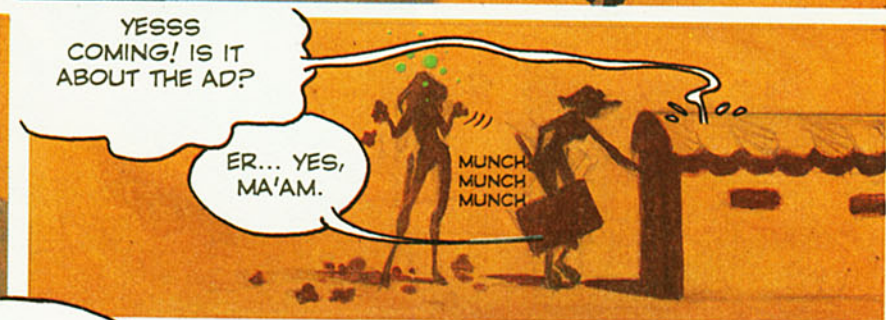
WHAT?!...
WHAT THE
FUCK'VE
YOU DONE,
AMANITE?

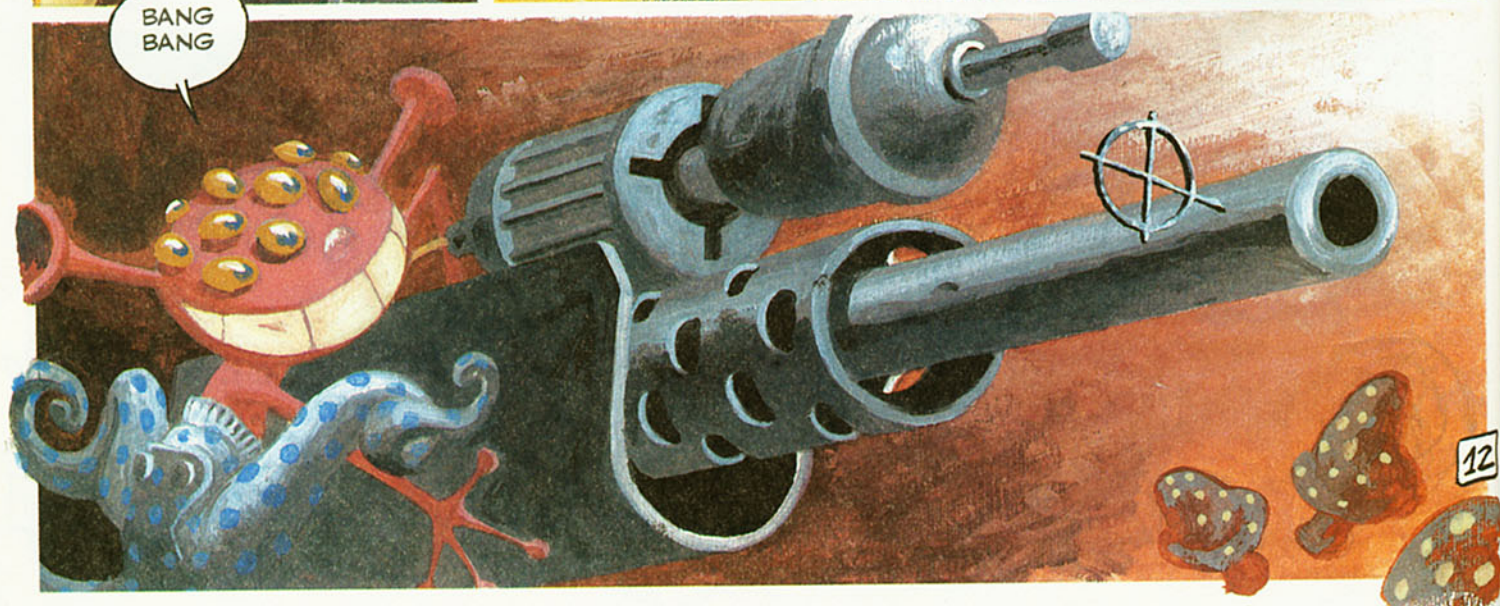
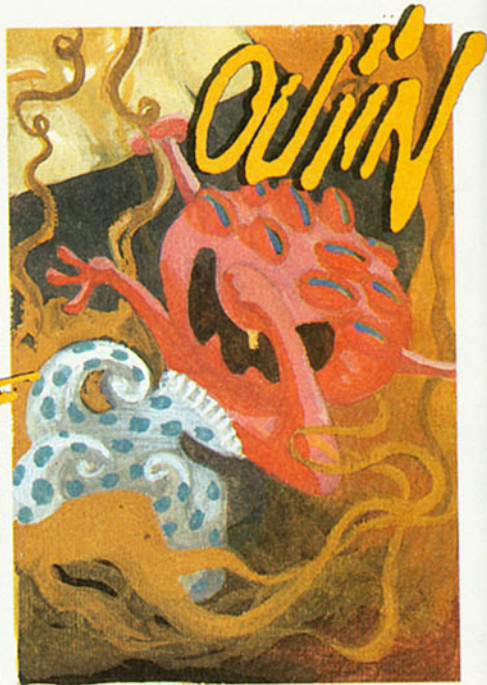
WELL?

HOP ON!

OO!

VROOM VROOM
VROOM VROOM





HOLY
SHIT
HOLES!

HEY!

HELL! HE'S
HEADING
STRAIGHT FOR
OUR HOG!

WHAT ARE WE
GOING TO DO
NOW, AMANITE?

I SHOULD
NEVER HAVE GOT
RID OF MY GUN...

SORRY, ALL THIS IS
MY FAULT. I'LL TRY
AND MAKE IT UP TO
YOU...

BABBBYYY
COME
BACK!!!

BÉBÉÉÉÉ

PUFF.

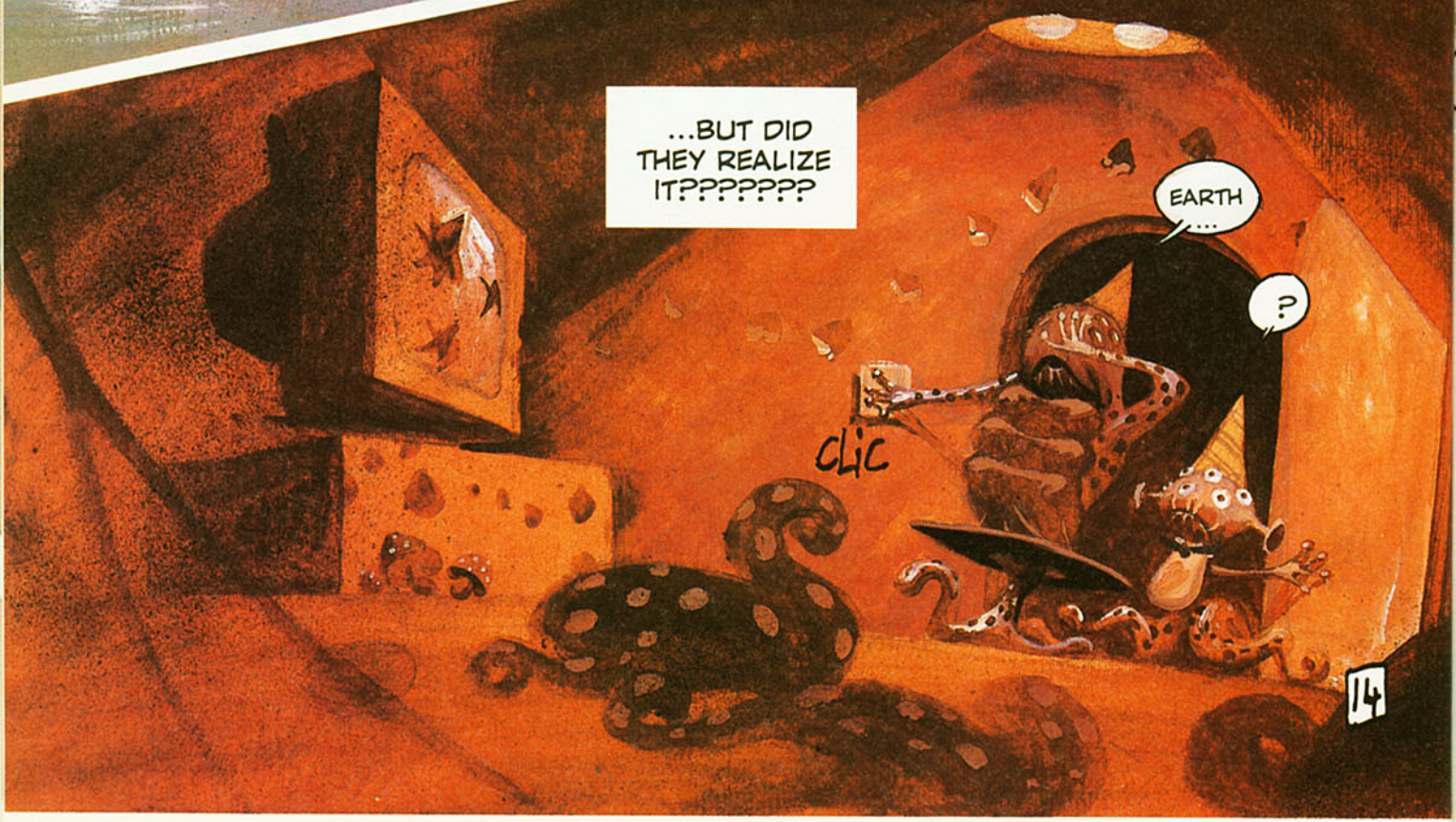
Kraic Kraic
Kraic Kraic



THIS TIME AMANITE AND
TEQUILA SPENT LONGER
ON THE ROAD...

COME
BACK, IT'S
TIME FOR
MILKY-
POO!

CRACK



...BUT DID
THEY REALIZE
IT????????

EARTH...

?

CLIC

THE CHASE CARRIED ON TILL DAY BREAK.



GASP! THE KID DON'T LIKE MY TITS, THEY'RE TOO SMALL.

SIGH...

MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH

Kraic Kraic Kraic Kraic

PUFF

I HOPE YOU REALIZE, AMANITE, THAT WE'RE REALLY IN THE SHIT NOW... PUFF! HOW ARE WE GOING TO EXPLAIN THIS?...

TITS!

THE HOG!

WATCH OUT FOR THE GUN, AMANITE!

HERE, LITTLE ONE, GIVE THE BIG GUN TO AUNTIE AMANITE, AND YOU CAN SUCK ON HER TIT.

ISN'T HE CUTE?

THIS IS THE LAW! DON'T NO ONE MOVE!

THE WHAT... ?

SNIF

NO!

IT'S ALL OURS!

KAPOW

OOOPS!

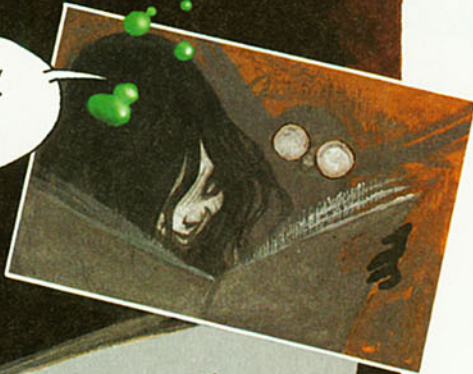
BOOOM

?

?



GOODIE,
A NEWS-
PAPER!



WHAM

HAVE YOU SEEN THESE
GIRLS?

TEQUILA,
DO YOU
WANT ME TO
READ YOU
YOUR HORO-
SCOPE?

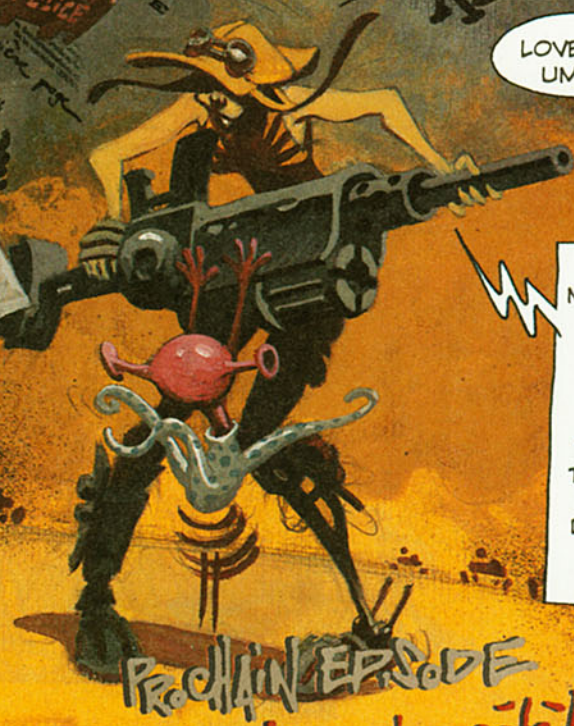
VIRGO...
OOH, DOES-
N'T LOOK
GOOD.

SHUD-
DUP!

FINANCIAL
SITUATION...
ZILCH...

SHUDDUP, I SAID.

LOVE LIFE,
UMM...

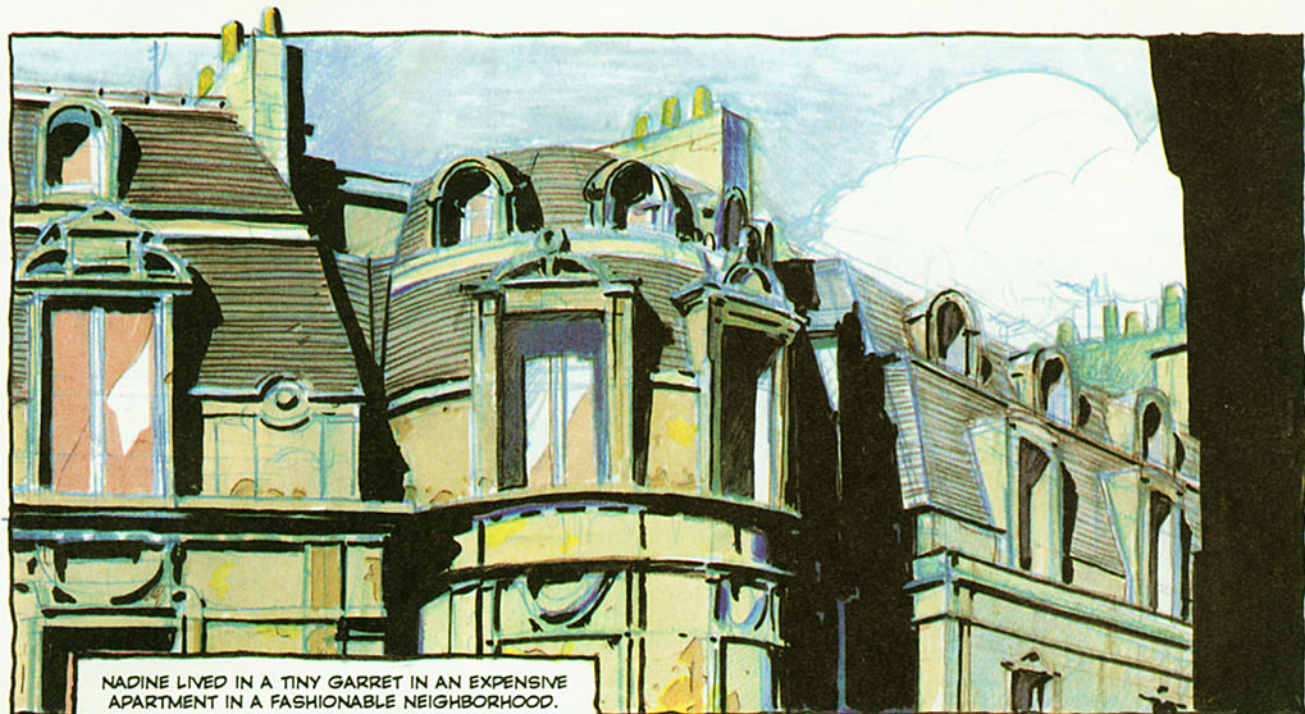


SHUDDUUUP!
MONEY I AIN'T GOT,
LOVE I'LL NEVER
HAVE, AND YOU,
YOU LITTLE SHIT,
IT'S TIME WE
DUMPED YOU.
YOU'RE TOO MUCH
TROUBLE. AND GIVE
ME BACK MY GUN,
D'YA HEAR? IT'S MY
BREAD 'N BUTTER,
MY ONLY FRIEND!

PROCHAIN EPISODE
la rencontre du célèbre JEAN FLAMME

KRAICKRAIC

URBAN LEGEND

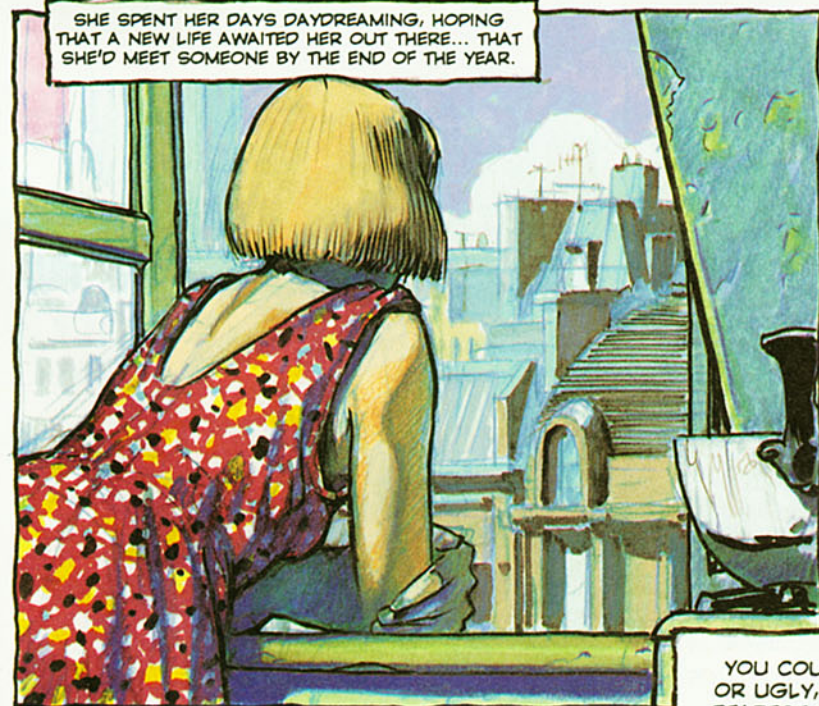


NADINE LIVED IN A TINY GARRET IN AN EXPENSIVE APARTMENT IN A FASHIONABLE NEIGHBORHOOD.

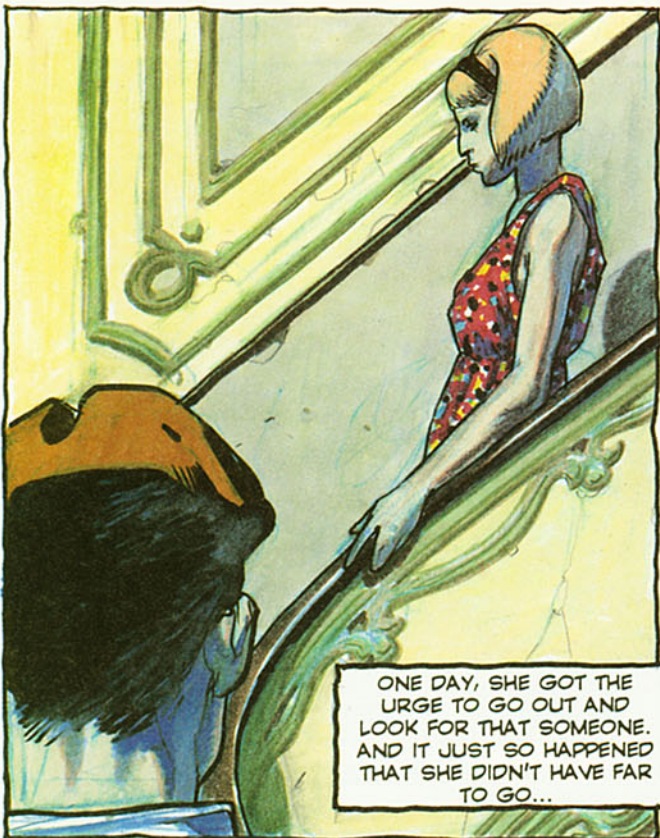


HER NEEDS WERE FEW.

SHE SPENT HER DAYS DAYDREAMING, HOPING THAT A NEW LIFE AWAITED HER OUT THERE... THAT SHE'D MEET SOMEONE BY THE END OF THE YEAR.



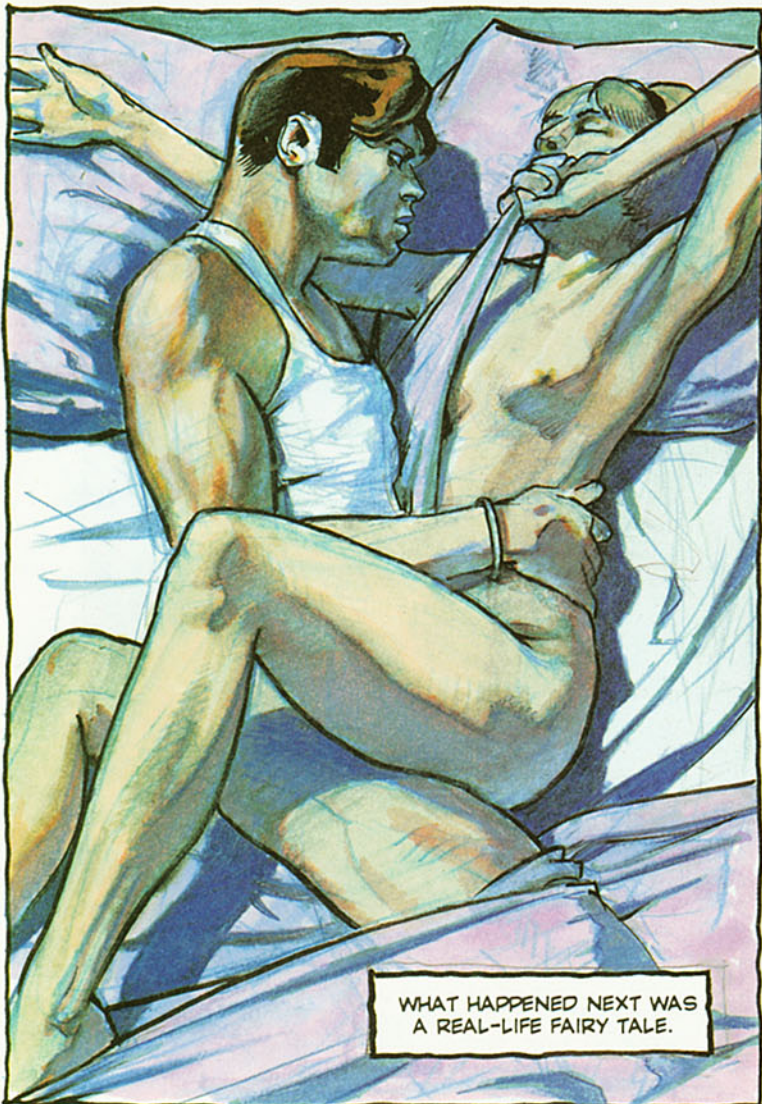
YOU COULDN'T SAY SHE WAS PRETTY OR UGLY, SMART OR DUMB... AND HER DEAREST WISH WAS TO MEET SOMEONE LIKE HERSELF.



ONE DAY, SHE GOT THE URGE TO GO OUT AND LOOK FOR THAT SOMEONE. AND IT JUST SO HAPPENED THAT SHE DIDN'T HAVE FAR TO GO...



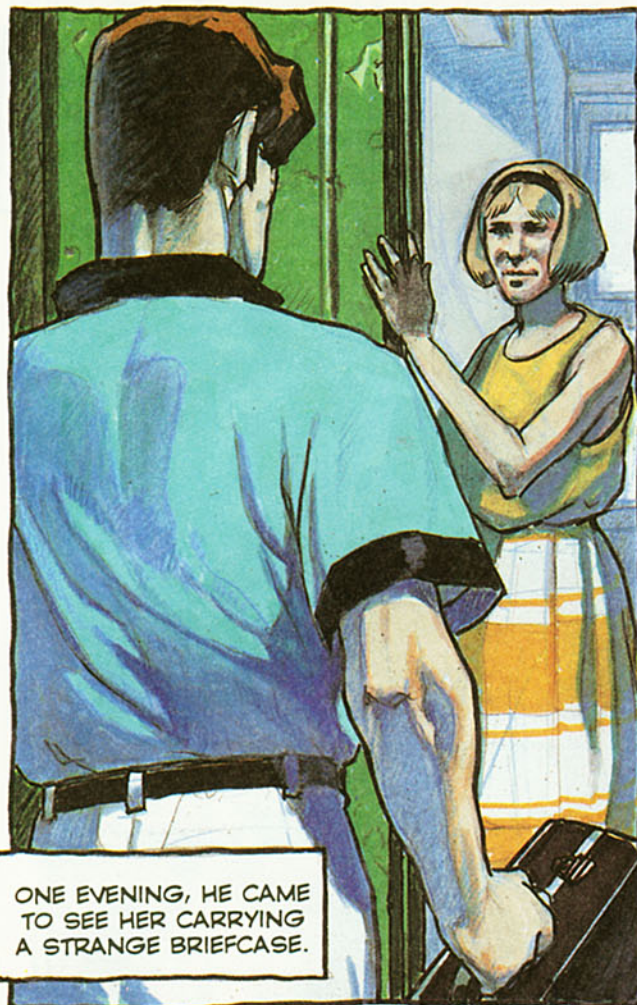
HIS NAME WAS PAUL AND HE WAS LOOKING FOR A ROOM TO RENT FOR HIS YOUNGER BROTHER WHO WAS HIS WARD.



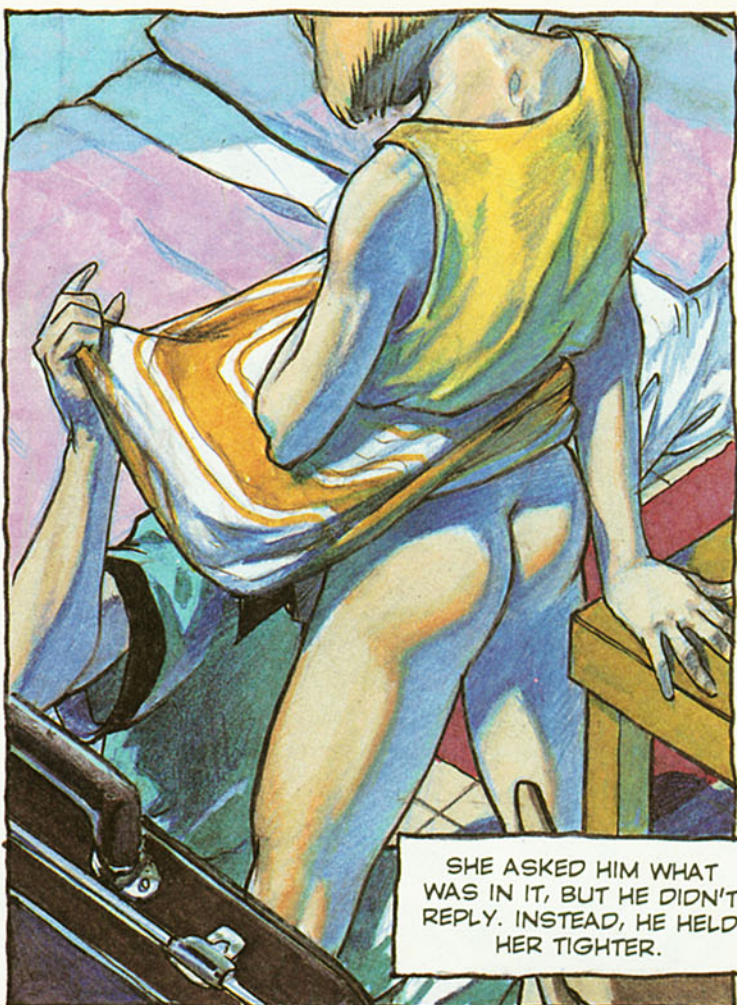
WHAT HAPPENED NEXT WAS A REAL-LIFE FAIRY TALE.



WHY BOTHER LOOKING FOR HAPPINESS ELSEWHERE WHEN IT COMES KNOCKING AT YOUR OWN DOOR?



ONE EVENING, HE CAME TO SEE HER CARRYING A STRANGE BRIEFCASE.



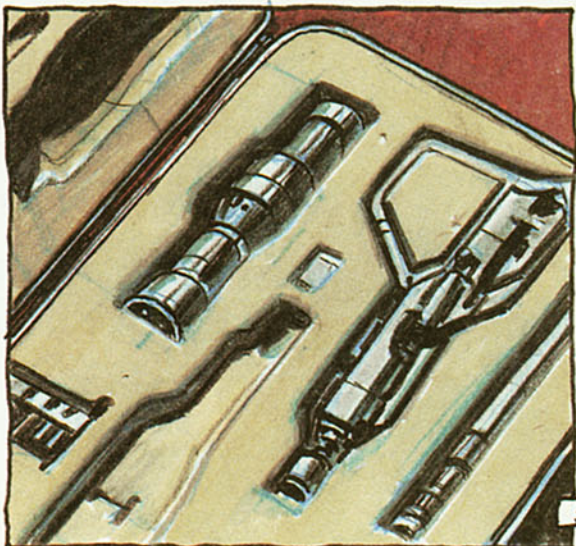
SHE ASKED HIM WHAT WAS IN IT, BUT HE DIDN'T REPLY. INSTEAD, HE HELD HER TIGHTER.

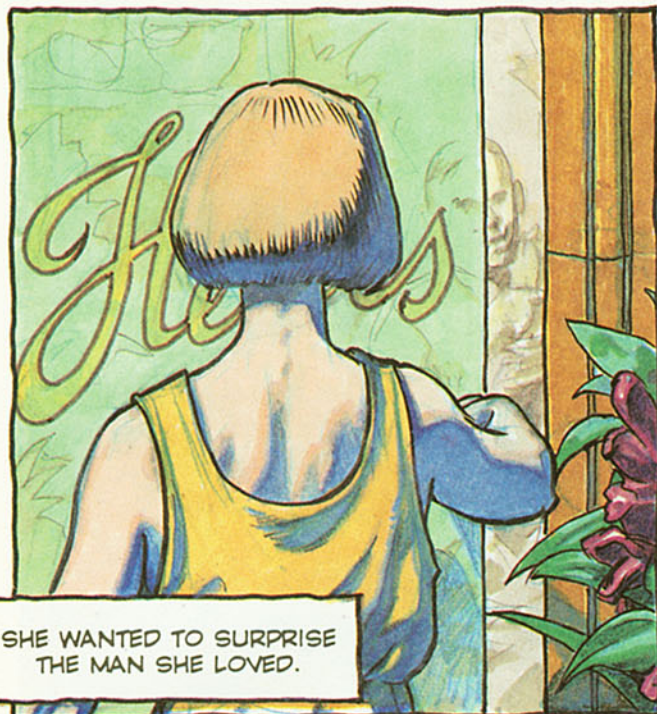


AFTER THEY'D MADE LOVE, HE FELT LIKE SMOKING A CIGARETTE. "DON'T MOVE. I'LL GO AND BUY SOME," SHE SAID.



SHE WASN'T SURE WHAT HE SMOKED. SHE BOUGHT SOME ENGLISH CIGARETTES.





SHE WANTED TO SURPRISE
THE MAN SHE LOVED.



BUT HE HAD
DISAPPEARED, AND SO
HAD THE BRIEFCASE.
SOMETHING TOLD HER
THAT SHE WOULD
NEVER SEE HIM AGAIN.

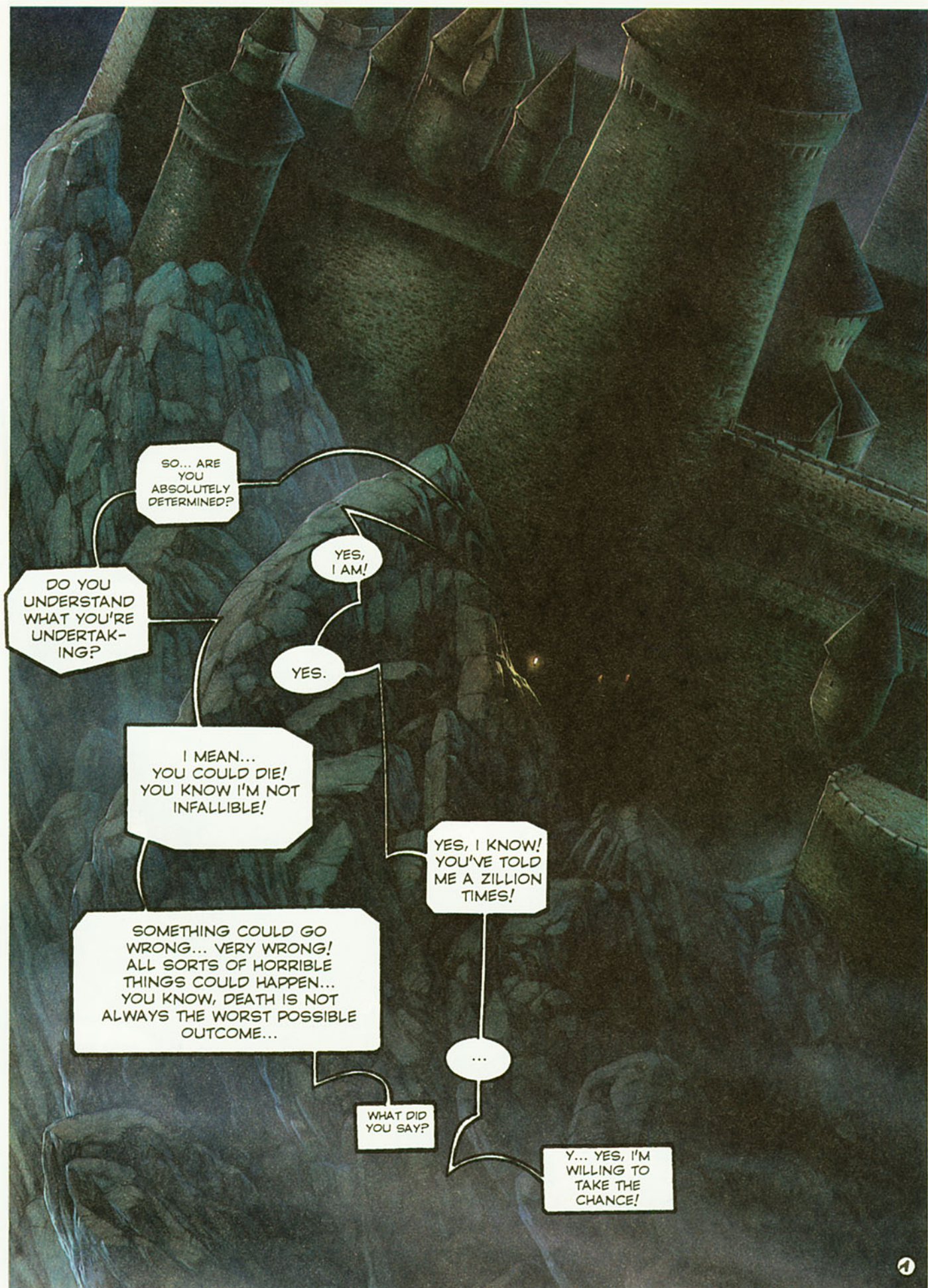


THEY ASKED NADINE THOUSANDS
OF QUESTIONS. SHE WOULD HAVE
PLENTY OF TIME TO REPLY TO ALL OF
THEM BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR.



WHY BOTHER LOOKING FOR HAPPINESS
ELSEWHERE WHEN IT COMES KNOCKING
AT YOUR OWN DOOR?

BEAUTY OR THE BEAST



SO... ARE
YOU
ABSOLUTELY
DETERMINED?

DO YOU
UNDERSTAND
WHAT YOU'RE
UNDERTAK-
ING?

YES,
I AM!

YES.

I MEAN...
YOU COULD DIE!
YOU KNOW I'M NOT
INFALLIBLE!

YES, I KNOW!
YOU'VE TOLD
ME A ZILLION
TIMES!

SOMETHING COULD GO
WRONG... VERY WRONG!
ALL SORTS OF HORRIBLE
THINGS COULD HAPPEN...
YOU KNOW, DEATH IS NOT
ALWAYS THE WORST POSSIBLE
OUTCOME...

WHAT DID
YOU SAY?

...

Y... YES, I'M
WILLING TO
TAKE THE
CHANCE!



OH,
DEAR...

I'VE BEEN LIVING
DOWN HERE FOR SO
LONG, CONCOCTING
PHILTRES AND POTIONS
TO SATISFY THE
WEIRDEST REQUESTS...

... BUT I'D NEVER
YET COME ACROSS
SUCH RECKLESS
INSANITY!




THEN...
LET'S
GIVE IT A
TRY!

BUT IF
THINGS GO
AWRY...

... I WILL
NOT BE HELD
RESPONSIBLE!
HAVE I MADE
MYSELF CLEAR?

I'M
SORRY,
BUT...

... I HAVE
NO OTHER
CHOICE.
YOU'RE MY
LAST HOPE!




NO ONE
WILL BLAME
YOU...

... AND
THANKS!



ALL RIGHT,
THEN, HURRY UP!
LET'S GET TO
WORK!

THE CREATION OF
A REJUVENATION
POTION REQUIRES
A LOT OF TIME AND
EFFORT...



IT WILL BE
A LONG,
ARDUOUS
TASK!

LET'S HOPE
THIS IS
GOING TO
WORK!

UHH...

OUHM...

AAH!
AT LAST!

I WAS
GETTING
WORRIED!



SO, TELL
ME... HOW
DO YOU
FEEL?



OOOH!
UH!

I FEEL...
PAIN...
EVERYWHERE!

AH!
WHAT A
HEADACHE!

WELL... IT'S TO
BE EXPECTED,
CONSIDERING
WHAT YOU'VE
BEEN THROUGH.

IT TOOK ME
THREE DAYS
JUST TO WAKE
YOU UP!



HAS IT
WORKED?

YES!



QUICK,
GIVE ME A
MIRROR!

HERE!



ISN'T IT
AMAZ-
ING?!?



WHA...
HEY... I'M
18 AGAIN!
YOU HAVE
GIVEN ME BACK
MY BEAUTY! I
AM SPEECH-
LESS!

YOU HAVE
GIVEN ME
BACK MY
BEAUTY!



EXCEL-
LENT!

NOW LET'S
JUST WAIT
AND SEE IF
MY SWINE OF
A HUSBAND
WILL CHASE
AFTER THE
YOUNG
SERVANT
GIRLS!

WHAT?



AHEM...
NO...
NOTHING...
I...

OH, MADAM, THANK YOU!
THANK YOU WITH ALL MY
HEART!! YOU'VE MADE ME
HAPPY AND HOPEFUL AGAIN!
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO
REPAY YOU...!



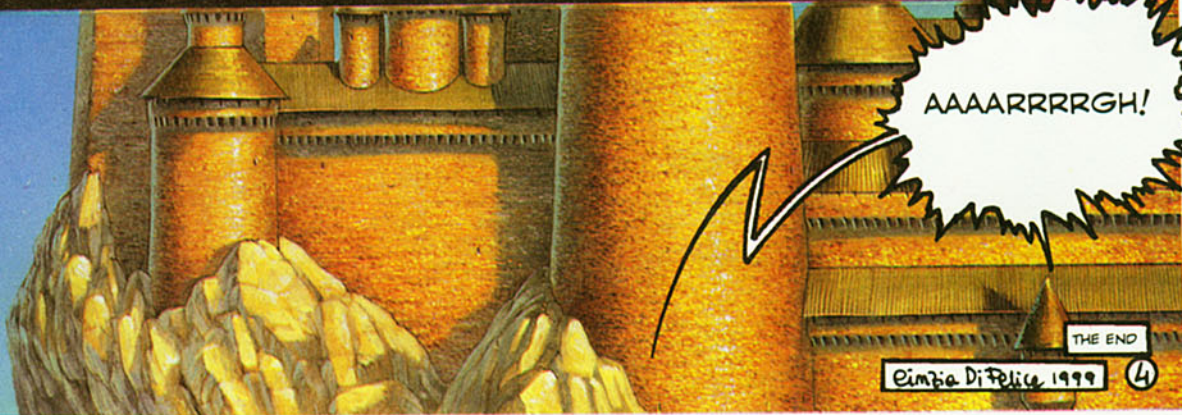
AIIIIII!

OH MY
GOD!



?

DAMN!
JUST WHEN I
THOUGHT I'D
GOT IT
RIGHT!



AAAARRRRGH!



I, H, AM NOT ABOUT TO BE
CORNERED INTO CREATIVITY...
MY DRAWINGS ARE NON-VERBAL
MONUMENTS, ARE WINDOWS,
ALTARS TO ADVENTURES...



WHAT MAKES YOU THINK
THAT I LIVE ALONE...
I QUAKE IN MY OWN
SOLITUDE...



MY THOUGHTS OPEN & CLOSE
THE AIR WITH FREEDOM,
TRUE AIR-CONDITIONING...



I ROOM WITH FREEDOM
& FEAST WITH SPACE...
SPACE, THE UNFINISHED
FRONTIER,



- LIVING & BREATHING THE UN-
IMAGINABLE... CLUTTERED WITH
POSSIBILITIES WHICH GLOW IN MY
MOURNINGS,



- IN MY AFTERNOONS, AND INTO
THE OUTER REACHES OF MY DARKEST,
DEMON-INFESTED EVENINGS...

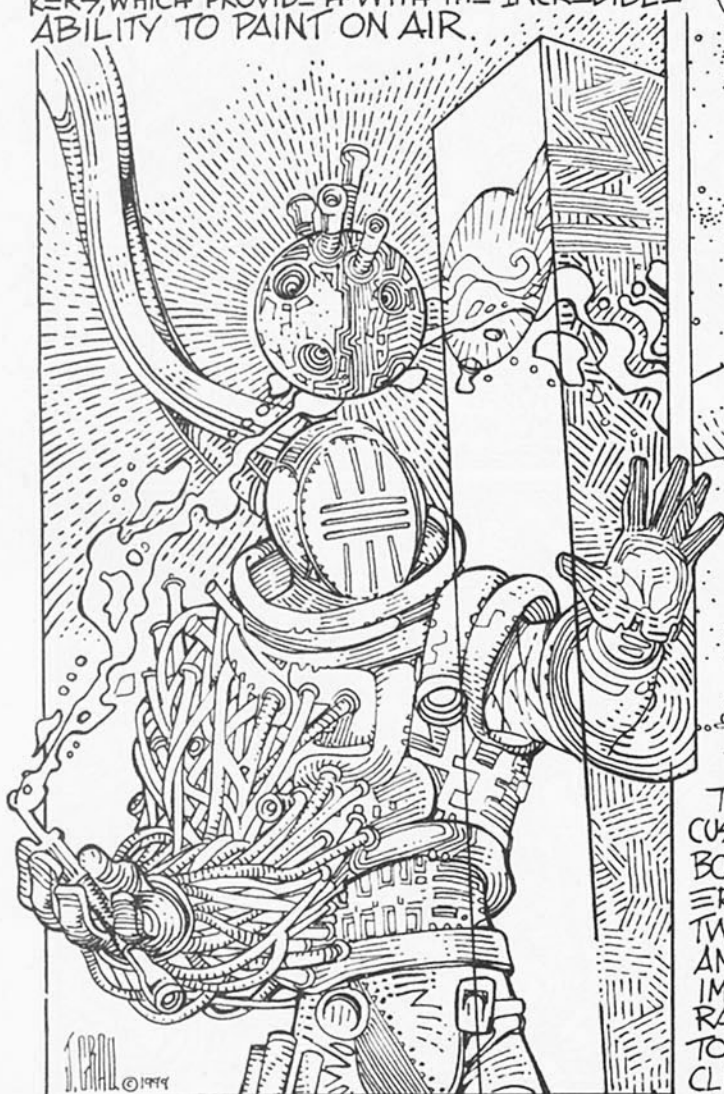
A MAJOR CRISIS IS ABOUT TO UNDO THE ARTISTIC TEMPERAMENT & CREATIVE ORDER OF A LONE 4TH DIMENSIONAL CHARACTER, SIMPLY KNOWN AS H. H, THE ARTIST, THE VISUALIST, LOCKED IN A KIND OF SELF-IMPOSED EXILE, AFTER BEING ALMOST ENTIRELY WASTED BY HIS OWN VISUAL DEMONS, CONFRONTS ONE OF HIS OWN EARLIER DREAM REFUGES, HIS CHILDHOOD SELF, AN UNAPPARENT TWO-DIMENSIONAL DISTRACTION.



THIS ENCOUNTER IS ACTUALLY AN INADVERTENT WAY STATION TO A CRUCIAL DISCOVERY. THE DISCOVERY OF A COLLECTION OF TOOLS, SIMPLY TAGGED "MAGIC MARKERS" WITH SCARCELY ENOUGH TIME OR CREATIVE ENERGY TO COLLECT HIMSELF, H, THE VISUALIST, PROCEEDS TO USE THE MARKERS, WHICH PROVIDE H WITH THE INCREDIBLE ABILITY TO PAINT ON AIR.



THIS STROKE OF INGENUITY HAS SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS. H EVENTUALLY CREATES & THEN BOLDLY CONFRONTS ONE OF HIS OWN AIR GENERATED DEMONS, A MONSTROSITY FROM THE TWELFTH DIMENSION & BEYOND. IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS, H DOES TRIUMPH, HOWEVER, ONE VERY IMPORTANT CONSEQUENCE OF THESE OUTRAGEOUS EVENTS FORCES H TO ACCEPT & TO HARNESS HIS OWN UNCONTROLLABLE INCLINATION TO TAMPER WITH ANY & ALL UNKNOWN NIGHTMARES CAGED IN HIS ARTISTIC SOUL.



I, H, AM NOW THE SUFFERER,
HAVING STORMED A TEMPORARY SPELL
OF MOTION SICKNESS...

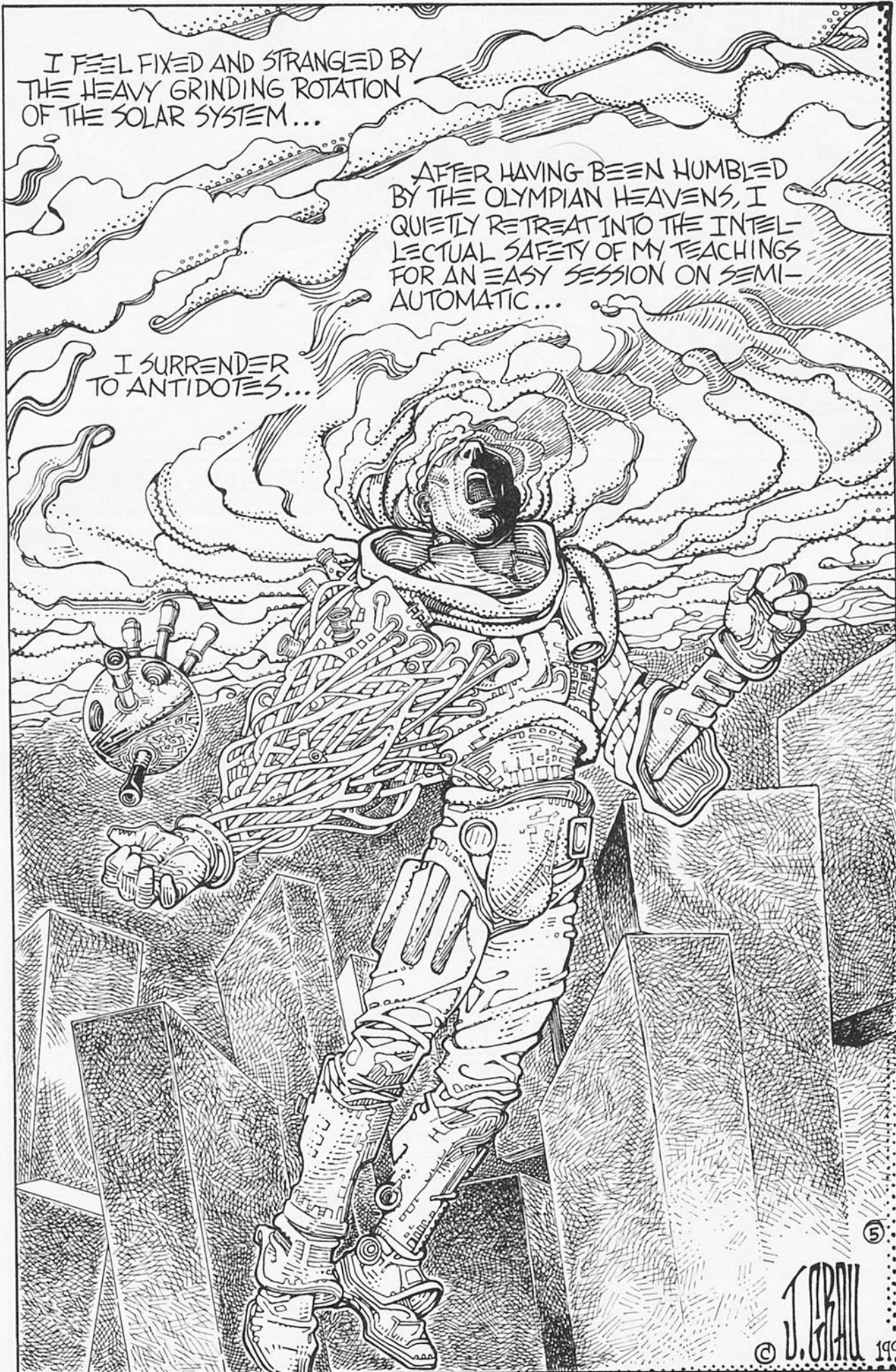


I HAVE ACHIEVED A VARIATION ON
WEIGHTLESSNESS, GROUNDED IN A
CONCRETE TANK CROWDED WITH DIS-
TRACTIVE & NOT SO SECRET DELUSIONS
OF GRANDEUR...

I FEEL FIXED AND STRANGLLED BY
THE HEAVY GRINDING ROTATION
OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM...

AFTER HAVING BEEN HUMBLLED
BY THE OLYMPIAN HEAVENS, I
QUIETLY RETREAT INTO THE INTEL-
LECTUAL SAFETY OF MY TEACHINGS
FOR AN EASY SESSION ON SEMI-
AUTOMATIC...

I SURRENDER
TO ANTIDOTES...



A BIT OF MADNESS



ALL HALLOW'S EVE IS
A MAGICAL EVENING,
FOR IT MARKS THE
BEGINNING OF OUR
JOURNEY!



BUT THIS TIME, WE'RE
LEAVING EARLIER!

WHY?

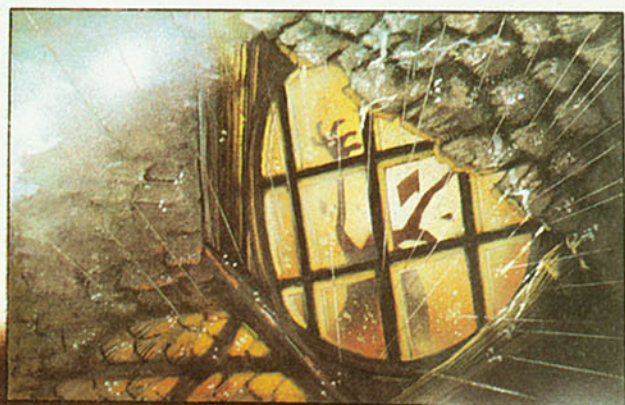


NO ONE KNOWS!...



EXCEPT THE
QUEEN.





BY THE
DANNAMS'
TRUNKS!!
WHAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM NOW,
PLICHWOCK?


IT'S A MIRACLE
THAT IN SPITE OF
THIS RACKET THE
TROLLS AND
GOBLINS HAVEN'T
TURNED UP YET!...

...AND IF
YOU KEEP ON
ROUSING THE
WHOLE FOREST,
WE'RE GOING TO
END UP AT THE
BOTTOM OF A
MINE SHAFT!




HEY, IGGUK,
ARE YOU
LISTENING
TO ME?

NO ONE IS
INTERESTED IN
YOUR STORIES
ANYMORE.



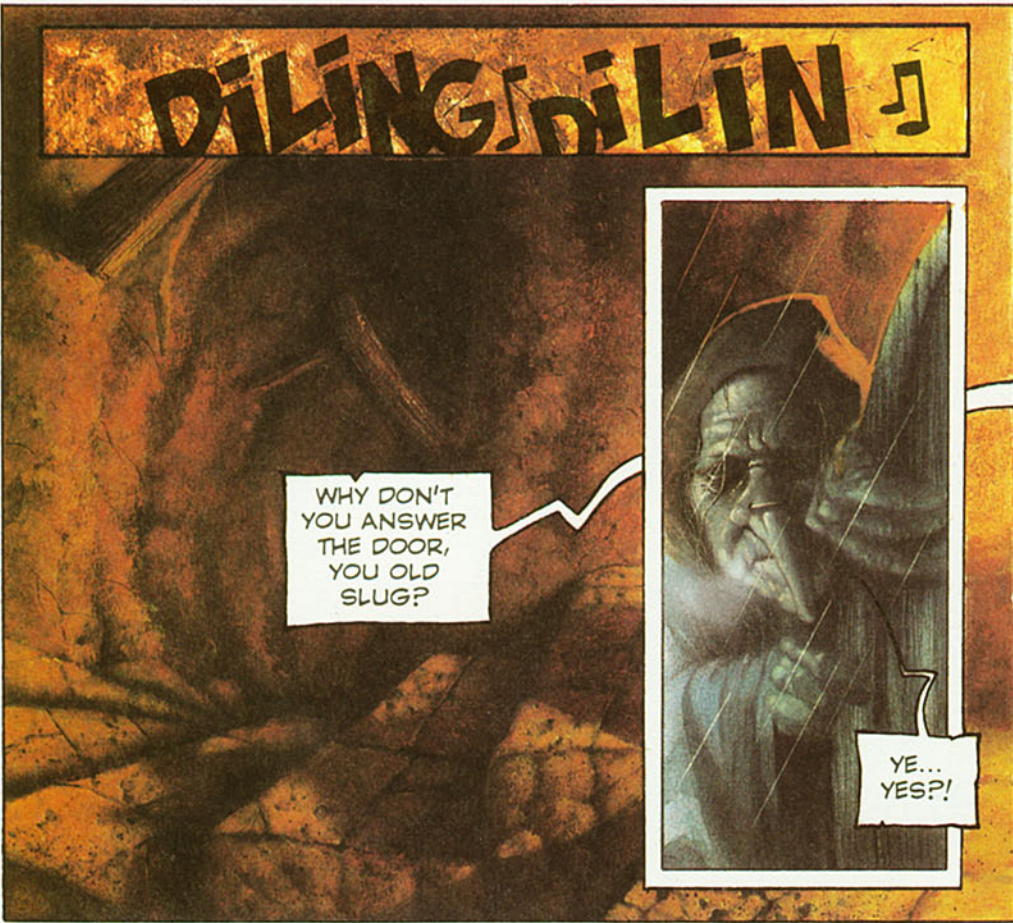
EVEN YOU ARE
STARTING TO
FORGET! SO THEN
YOU THROW A
TANTRUM AND SHOUT
AT EVERYONE! BUT
THAT'S OKAY!

HUH?!



PPFFT...
SHUT UP,
OLD BIDDY...

DILING! DILIN!



WHY DON'T
YOU ANSWER
THE DOOR,
YOU OLD
SLUG?


YE...
YES?!





IT'S ME, MRS.
PLICHWOCK!
IT'S AENGYS!

AENGYS?!
COME IN,
LITTLE ONE,
COME IN
QUICKLY!



I'M GLAD YOU
CAME! THE OLD
GROUCH IS IN
A TERRIBLE
MOOD!

BY THE ELVES
OF THE
FOREST! I
DON'T THINK I
CAN DO MUCH
ABOUT THAT!



HUH?

AENGYS!




SO, MY
FRIEND,
WHAT HAVE
YOU
BROUGHT US
TODAY?

DO YOU HAVE
ANY JUICY NEW
ANECDOTES FOR
ME? YOU KNOW
HOW MUCH I
ENJOY THEM!



I'M
AFRAID
NOT...

I'M ON
A VERY
IMPORTANT
MISSION...



I'VE JUST COME
FROM THE QUEEN'S
COURT!... MY
MISSION IS TO
ANNOUNCE A
MAJOR EVENT TO
HER PEOPLE!



WE MUST
ALL MEET AT
THE COURT
AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE!

OH? BUT
WHAT'S SO
URGENT?

WELL... UMM...
WE'RE
LEAVING!




WHAT?


B... BUT WHY?
WHY DOES THE
STUPID QUEEN WANT
TO LEAVE SO EARLY?
SHE CAN'T CHANGE
THE ORDER OF
THINGS!

GRMPH!!
THAT'S
TERRIBLE!


AND WHAT ABOUT
THE GREAT
CONJUNCTION OF
EVENTS? HAS SHE
FORGOTTEN ALL
ABOUT THAT? HUH?



MASTER
IGGUK!! THIS IS
A ROYAL DECISION!
MAYBE THE
QUEEN FEARS
SOME DANGER?



SURE... DON'T MAKE
ME LAUGH! ANYWAY,
THE GREAT CON-
JUNCTION HASN'T
OCCURRED YET!



DRAT, DRAT! ROYAL
DECISION OR NOT,
I DON'T CARE! I'M
STAYING PUT! I'M AN
ELFIN ALCHEMIST
AND NOT SOME
ROAMING WAYFARER!

AENGYS!!
YOU'LL LEAVE
TOMORROW
WITH KAIA...

BUT,
IGG...

I SAID,
SHUT
UP!

LET'S GET
SOME
SLEEP
NOW...



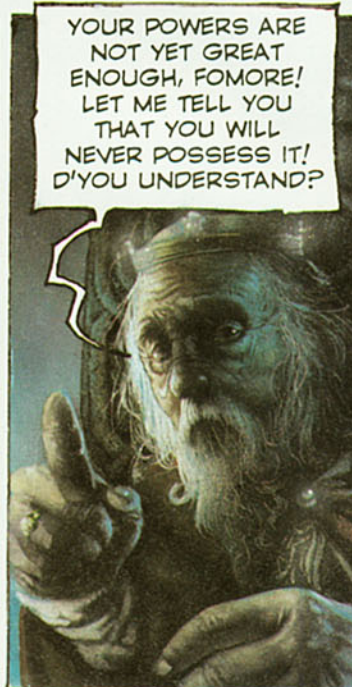


POWER!

THAT'S WHAT
YOU'VE
COME FOR,
RIGHT?



YOU THINK YOU
CAN TAKE OUR
MOST PRIZED
POSSESSION
WITHOUT PAYING
THE PRICE...?



YOUR POWERS ARE
NOT YET GREAT
ENOUGH, FOMORE!
LET ME TELL YOU
THAT YOU WILL
NEVER POSSESS IT!
D'YOU UNDERSTAND?



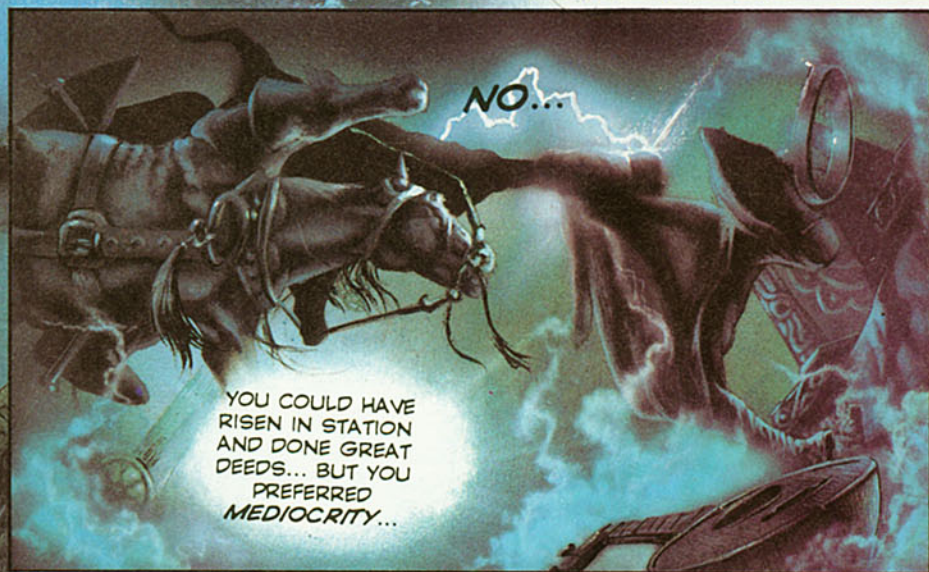
NEVER!



HEE, HEE,
HEE,
OLD FOOL...



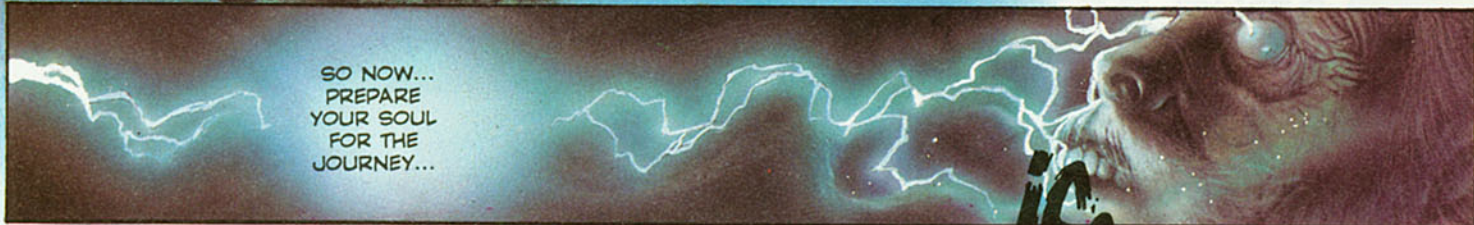
WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?
COMPASSION? I LEAVE
TO THE WEAK WHAT
BELONGS TO THE WEAK!
IF YOUR QUEEN COULD
SEE YOU...



NO...

YOU COULD HAVE
RISEN IN STATION
AND DONE GREAT
DEEDS... BUT YOU
PREFERRED
MEDIOCRITY...

SO NOW...
PREPARE
YOUR SOUL
FOR THE
JOURNEY...



AAHAHH!!
MINE, AT LAST...
TAKE WHAT BY
RIGHT IS
YOURS...



THANKS FOR
EXPRESSING YOUR
AFFECTION, IGGUK!
BUT I'M MORE INTER-
ESTED IN KNOWING
WHAT YOU THINK OF
THIS NIGHT...

WELL, SO
FAR I
HAVEN'T
FELT
SCARED...

YEAH,
AENGYS.

ALL I FELT WAS
THAT... WAS THAT
I DIDN'T GET TO
FINISH MY BOOK...
GROWL...

OH NO!
HURRY UP,
YOU OLD
OWL!

STOP PLAYING
THE FOOL,
IGGUK! I KNEW
YOU COULD FEEL
THAT OUR TREE
WAS SAD, JUST
LIKE I DID...

YES, KAIA, YES...
I'M SUFFERING
TOO! OH, MY LAST
CHAPTER! I'M SO
HUMILIATED!

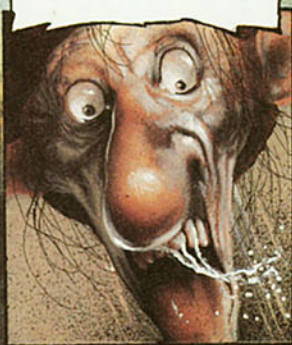
IS IT STILL FAR TO
THE QUEEN'S
COURT, AENGYS?
BECAUSE WITH A
LARGE SLUG
LIKE...

OH?!
MY
GAWD!



AAAAH!

BY THE ELVES OF
THE FOREST!



THE
GOBLINS!



THE... G...
GOB...
THE GOB-
LINS...

I WARNED YOU!
YOUR RACKET
ROUSED ALL
THE GOBLINS
IN THE NEIGH-
BORHOOD!



KEEP QUIET, YOU
YELLOW-LIVERED
SCUM... SINCE I
ROUSED THEM,
I'LL FIND A WAY
TO DIVERT THEIR
ATTENTION...

I
SAID...



IS HE
CRAZY OR
WHAT?...



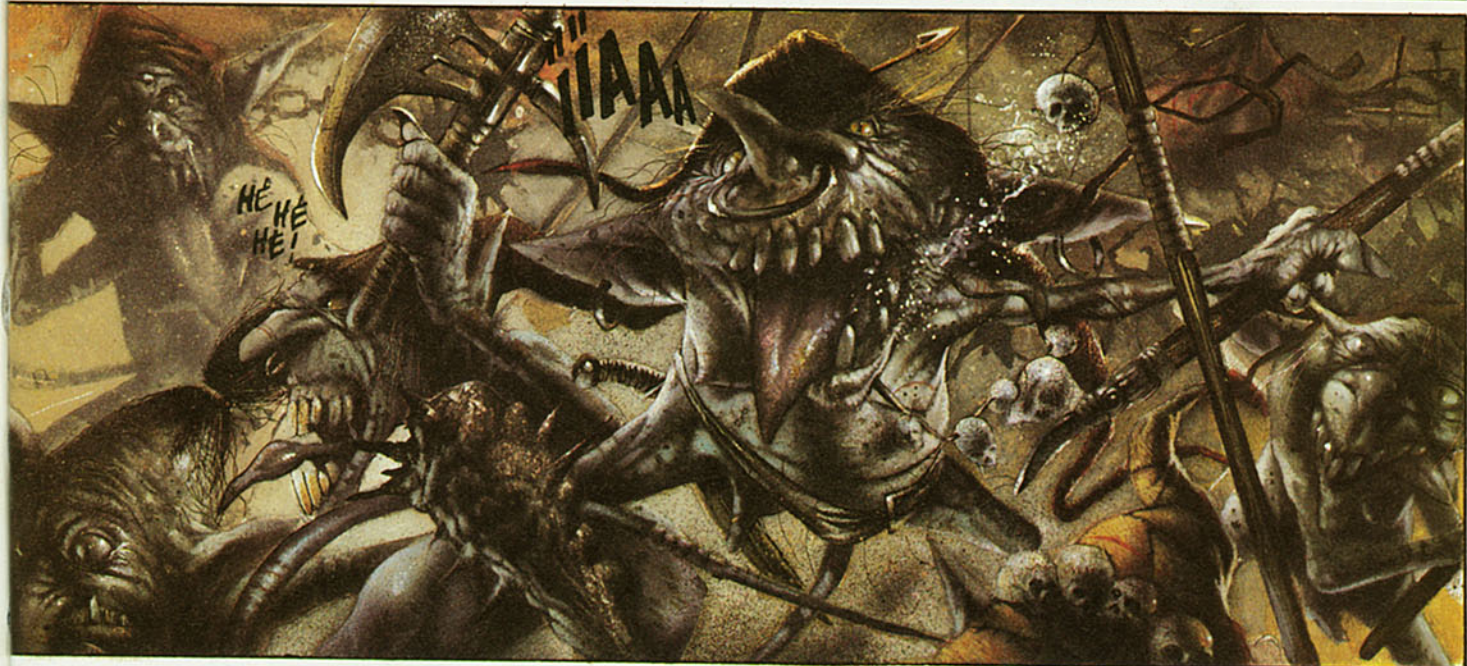
DO YOU HAVE
A BETTER
IDEA?
AHAAA!!



BUT... WHAT
ARE YOU
WAITING
FOR? GO ON!
MOVE!

AENGYS, TAKE
KAIA WITH
YOU. WE'LL
MEET UP
LATER ON...

OH!



HE HE HE!

VIAAA



CHOPE!
CHOPE!

BOUFFE
BOUFFE!



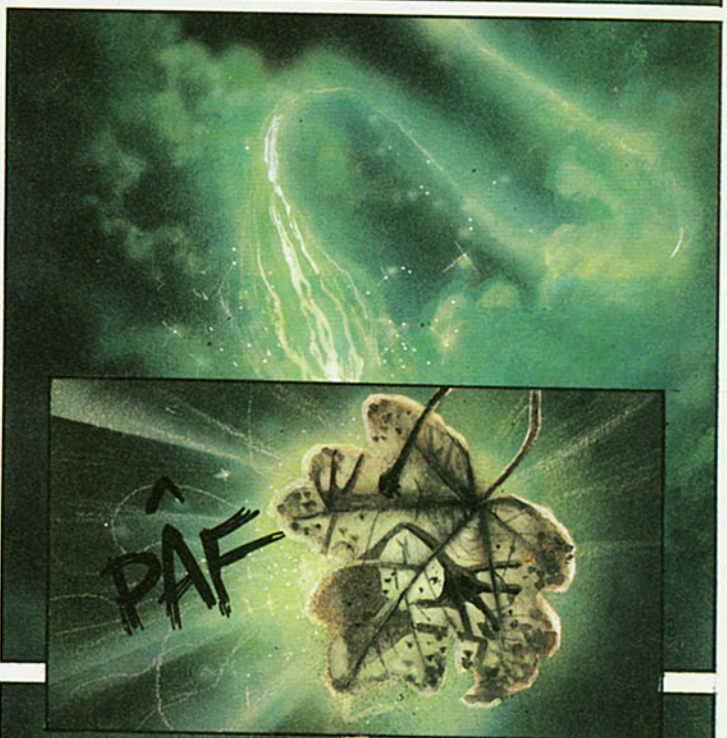
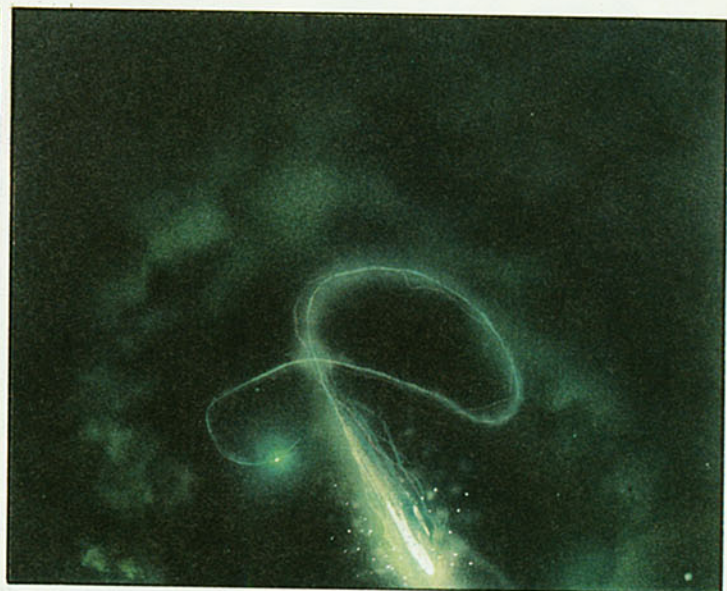




AAAAAAHH!...
HOW
AWFUL!

AND WHAT THE
HELL WAS THAT?
IS SOMEONE OUT
THERE USING
ME FOR TARGET
PRACTICE?! I
ALMOST GOT HIT!
SKEWERED ELF!
THAT'S ENOUGH!

WHAT? IT'S GET-
TING WORSE...
SOMETHING TELLS
ME I SHOULD GET
OUT OF HERE!
THIS SEEMS TO BE
THE PLAYGROUND
OF THE GODS!...







KAIA?!
AENGYS?!

GROWL...
ARE WE EVER
IN A BLOODY
MESS!

D'YOU
UNDER-
STAND
ANYTHING,
FIZ?

A BUNCH OF GOBLINS
WERE AFTER ME!
NOTHING UNUSUAL
ABOUT THAT, I GUESS...
BUT JUST WHEN THEY
WERE ABOUT TO BASH
MY HEAD IN... CRASH!
BAM! EVERYTHING
SEEMED TO EXPLODE!

WHEN I
OPENED MY
EYES, THEY'D
ALL BEEN
TURNED INTO
A PULP!

DEMONIC
QUEEN!

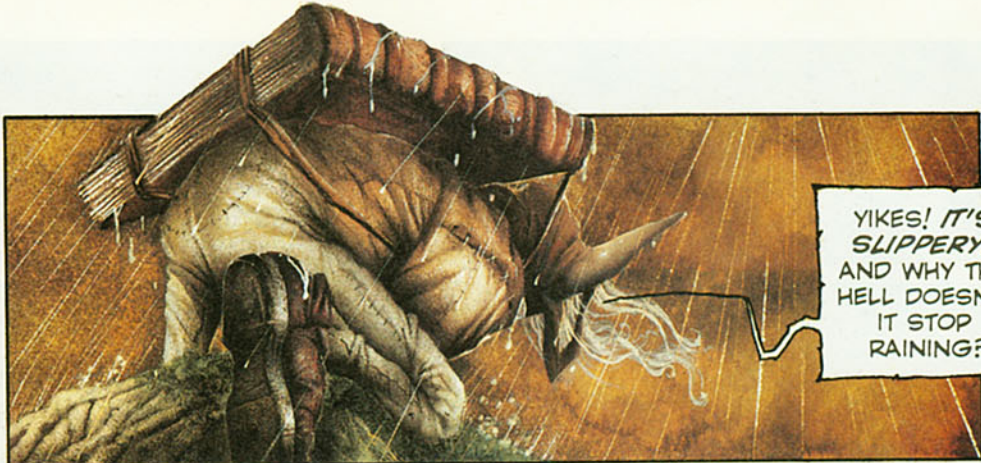
OH NO,
THAT'S ALL
WE NEED!

IT'S ALL
HER
FAULT...

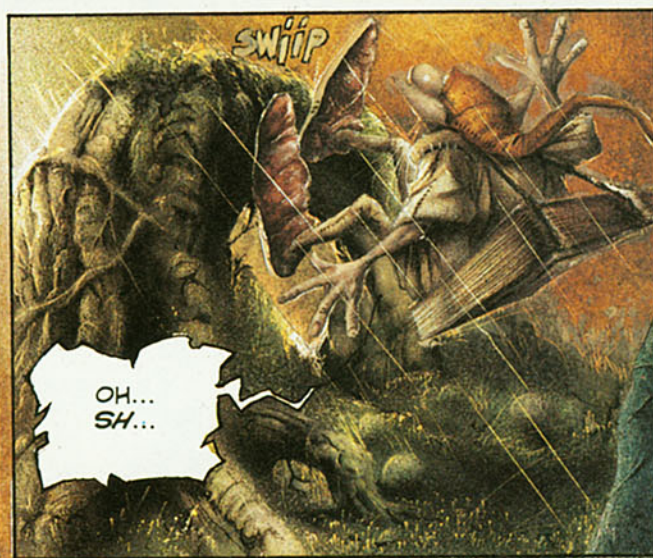
...THE
FAULT OF
THAT KID!



DAMN,
DAMN,
DAMN!



YIKES! IT'S
SLIPPERY!
AND WHY THE
HELL DOESN'T
IT STOP
RAINING?



OH...
SH...



...IIIIIT!

Po!



TROLL
TURDS!
TROLLS!



Po!
Po!

BETTER BE
CAREFUL! THIS
COULD BE ONE
OF THEIR
BOOBY TRAPS!

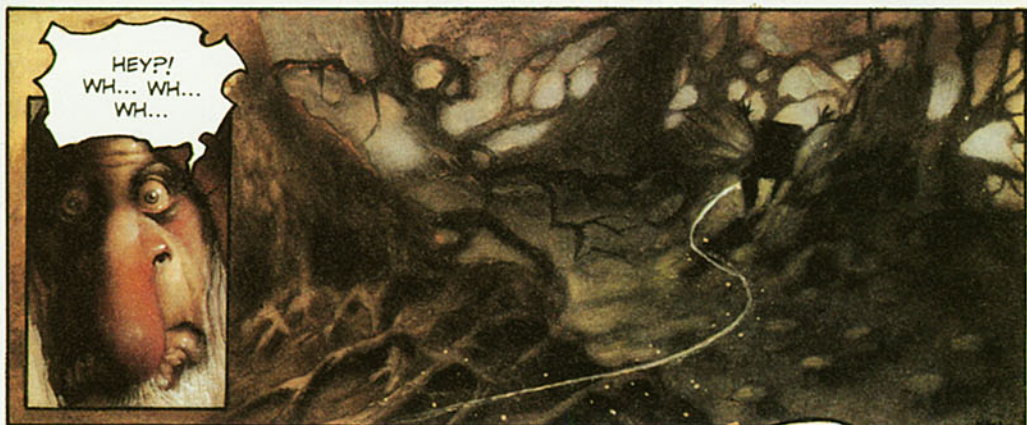


OKAY, FIZ,
LET'S GET
OUTTA
HERE... YOU
NEVER
KNOW...

PSTTT!

HEY?!

?



YES...
TROLL ALL
ALONE...

TROLL SAW
VOID... BIG
BLACK
HOLE...

BROTHERS THINK IT
IS NIGHT TIME AND
HAVE PARTY... SO I
SEE THEIR EYES! THE
TROLLS IS CRAZY!
EYES DEAD! AND DAY
RETURN!

YES... SADLY...
OH MISERY!
POOR TROLL...
OH...

AND THEY
WERE
CHANGED
TO STONE,
RIGHT?

NOT
RIGHT!

NOW... LITTLE
TROLL ALL
ALONE... NO
MORE BROTHERS!
SNIFF! ALL
ALONE...

UNFORTU-
NATELY, I
CAN'T HELP
YOU, TROLL...

OH?...

...BUT COME
WITH US!
WE'RE GOING
TO SEE THE
QUEEN!

REAL-
LY?!

WELL THAT
TAKES CARE OF
THAT! AND
NOW, TROLL,
LET ME INTRO-
DUCE MYSELF...

I'M IGGUK!
GREAT ELFIN
STORYTELLER
AND MOST
RENOWNED
WRITER...

...AAAAHA...
PLEASED TO
MEET YOU, MR.
FIZ, MR. IGGUK!
MY NAME IS
DOM! DOM THE
TROLL...

IGGUK? HOW
COME NIGHT
AND DAY HERE
AT SAME TIME?
HUH? TELL ME!

I DUNNO... THE
QUEEN SHOULD
BE ABLE TO
ANSWER ALL
YOUR QUES-
TIONS. SHE
MUST KNOW...

AND THIS IS
FIZ, LITTLE
NIGHT
LIGHT!...





HEE HEE
HEE. ME
TOO, FIZ...

IGGUK?!
FRIENDS FIZ
AND DOM...
HUNGRY!...

OH, THANKS FOR
REMINDING ME! IT
HAD SLIPPED MY
MIND! SORRY,
FRIENDS! WE'RE
GOING TO STOP
WALKING THROUGH
ALL THESE ROOTS...



...OH?!
LOOK!
THERE...
LOTS OF BIG,
SOFT MUSH-
ROOMS!...



DAMN, DAMN,
DAMN... THIS
PLACE REMINDS
ME OF
SOMETHING...

DOESN'T
MATTER,
IGGUK!

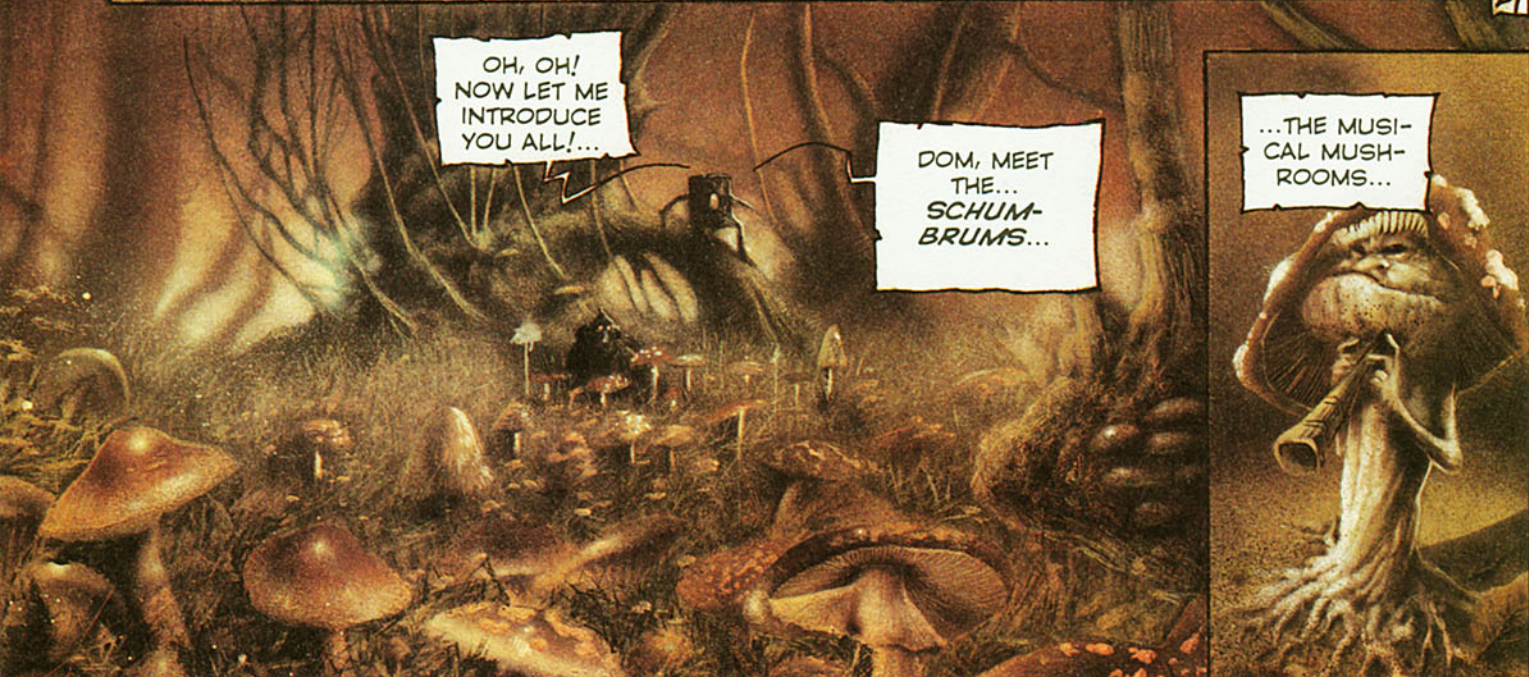
DOM ONLY
KNOW THIS
VERY COM-
FORTABLE
FOR NAP!...



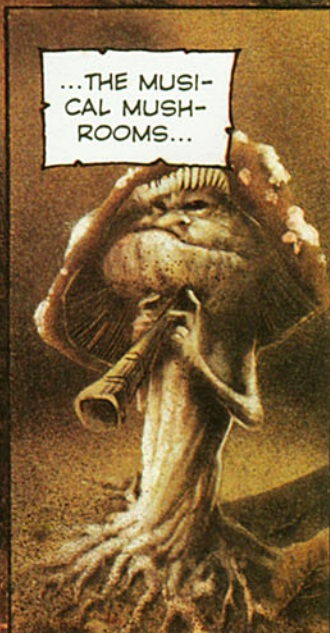
BIG RED
ONE...
PERFECT FOR
LITTLE TROLL...
YES... VERY
GOOD...



NO,
DOM!
WAIT!



DOM, MEET THE... SCHUM-BRUMS...





RUMOR HAS IT
THAT THEIR SONGS
ARE ENTHRALLING!
BE CAREFUL THEY
DON'T BEWITCH
YOU!...

HEE, HEE,
HEE! DOM
LIKE
MUSIC!...

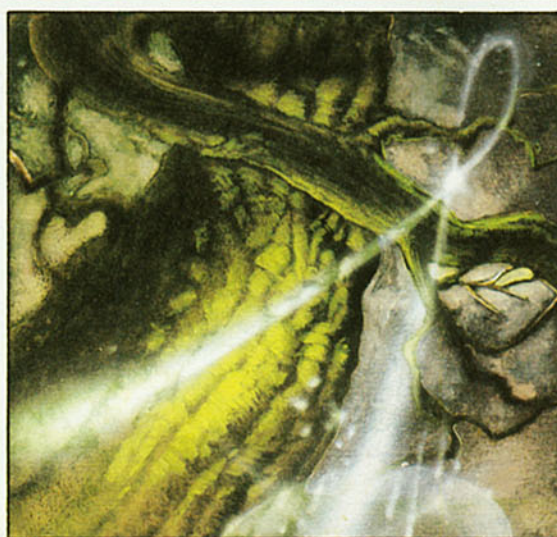


...BUT I THINK
SOMEONE'S
ALREADY BEEN
CHARMED! AM
I RIGHT,
FIZ?...

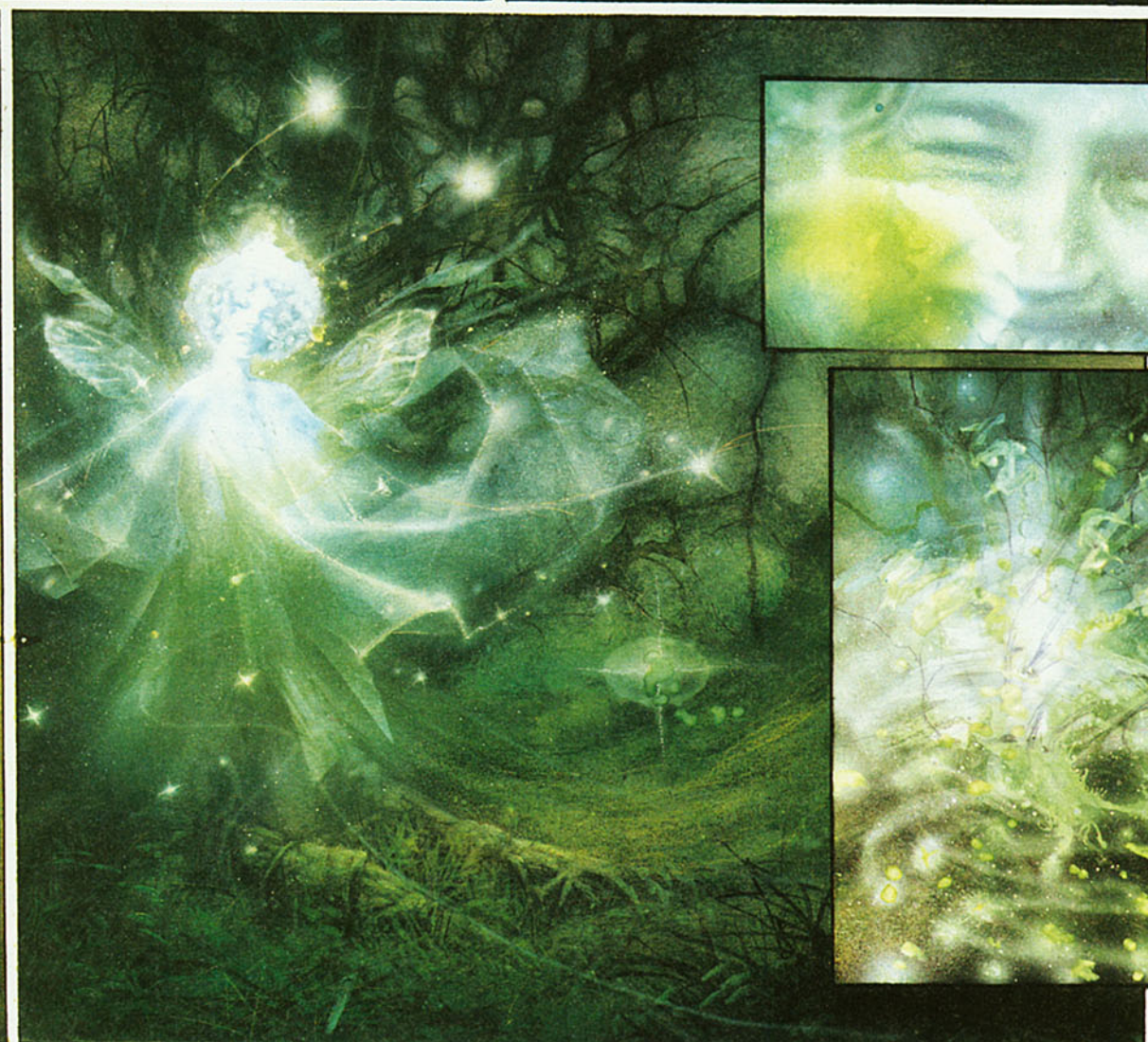


C... COME
BACK, FIZ...
HAVE YOU
GONE
CRAZY?...





HELLO
THERE!
FIIIZ?





ENOUGH!

HOW CAN
ANYONE BE
THAT DUMB?
WHAT AN
IDIOT!

IT CAN'T GO
ON LIKE
THIS! WE
MUST DO
SOMETHING!

YOU! YOU
STINKING
CREATURE!
I'LL SHOW
YOU!

CHTAC

Biiii?

POU'kk

HA HA!...
GOT YOU,
YOU VERMIN!

GET
OUT!

SCHBO

kkk!

NICODEMUS!
NICODEMUS,
MY
DARLING...

COME
TO
MOMMY!

...FLY AWAY,
DARLING, AND
BRING BACK
THAT SCUM!

GO ON
THEN!

AND
HURRY UP,
SLOW
POKE!






LEMME
DOWN,
YOU
IDIOT!



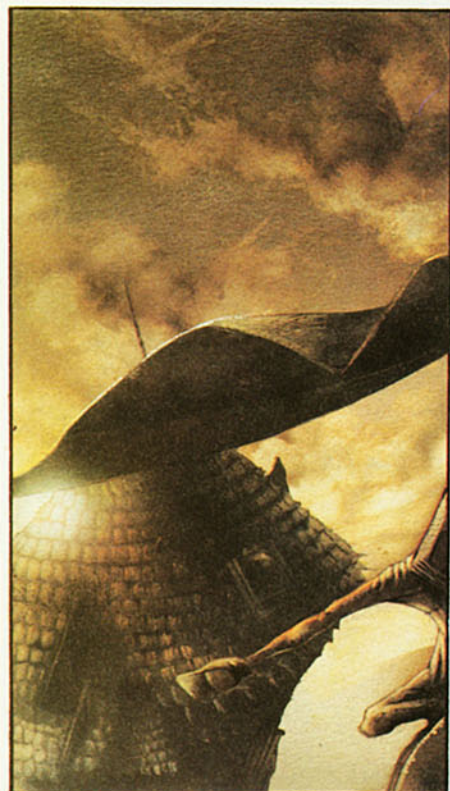
HEY!
STOP IT!!

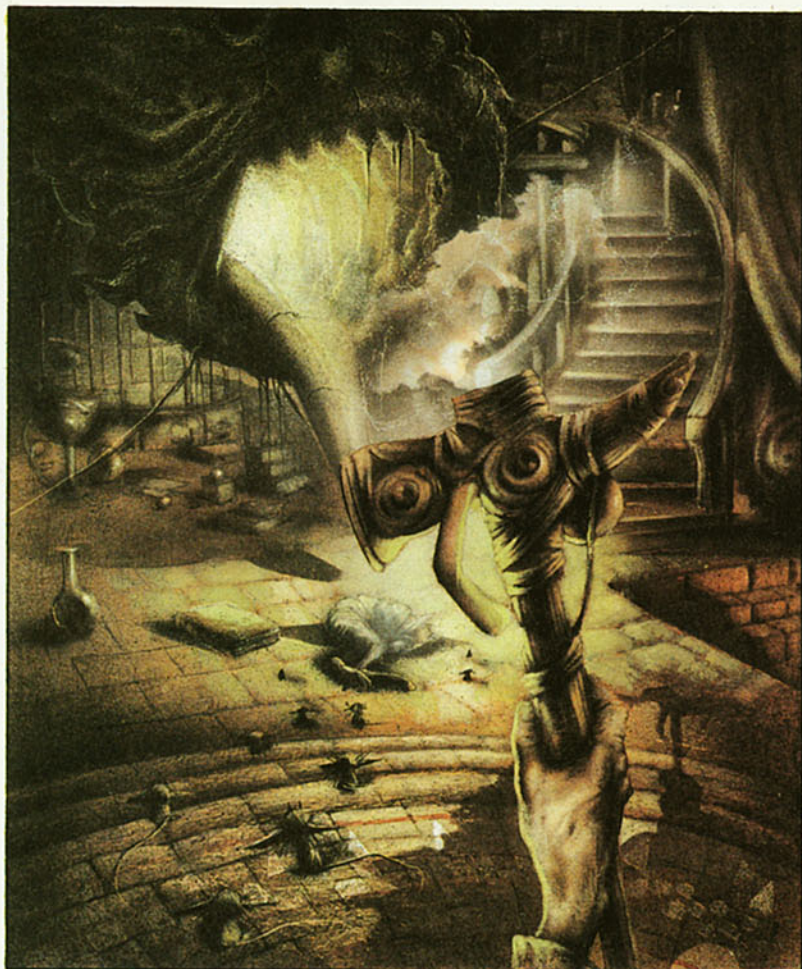
I TAKE BACK
WHAT I SAID...
YOU'RE NOT
AN IDIOT!
THAT'S A
GOOD BOY...



WHERE
ARE YOU
TAK... OOH!







YOU'RE
ENDEARINGLY
EMOTIONAL,
IGGUK
PLICHWOCK!

YOU... YOU
ARE HUMAN,
AREN'T YOU,
MA'AM?

HOW
ASTUTE!

AND YOU,
MY FRIEND,
ARE LATE!...

OKAY!
WE'VE
CHATTED
ENOUGH...

COME
HERE!



NOW THEN,
PLICHWOOD,
DON'T LOSE
HEART! SEE THIS
MACHINE?



SIT DOWN
INSIDE THE CIR-
CLE, AND DON'T
LET ANYTHING
SURPRISE YOU!




...MMM?!

AAAHH!



THE...
THE MAG
TURED!





THE GREAT WAR WAS A TERRIBLE MISTAKE! THE HUMANS THOUGHT THAT THE FAIRIES POSSESSED GREAT MAGICAL POWERS WHICH WERE BEYOND THEIR UNDERSTANDING AND THEREFORE HOSTILE.

FACED WITH THE EXTENT OF THE CATASTROPHE, TWO DELEGATIONS WERE SENT TO NEGOTIATE...

THE... PACT... GRANTED THE QUEEN AND HER COURT THE RIGHT TO TRAVEL ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD... AND TO GO TO A SECRET DESTINATION...

THE PACT!

THE GREAT CONJUNCTION!

ONLY OUR QUEEN KNOWS OUR DEPARTURE DATE, AND IT WILL TAKE US BUT ONE NIGHT TO REACH OUR DESTINATION!

THE PACT WAS OFFICIALLY SIGNED AND WITNESSED BY THE HIGHEST ELFIN AND HUMAN AUTHORITIES IN THE LAND. TO SHOW HER GOOD FAITH, THE QUEEN PLEDGED THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING IN THE WORLD...

...THE HEART OF A FAIRY!

A CRYSTAL HEART!

MADAM, I'M FAMILIAR WITH THE STORY, FOR I TRANSCRIBED IT. I'M THE ELFIN STORYTEL...



SHUT UP, YOU MISERABLE IMBECILE!

YOU KNOW NOTHING OF THE TERRIBLE DEEDS THAT WERE DONE!

...LISTEN...

...AND THEN ALL OF HUMANITY SHIVERED WITH DESIRE... THE CRYSTAL QUICKLY FADED FROM HUMANS' FERTILE IMAGINATION...

...FOR GREED HAD ALREADY APPEARED AMONG HUMANKIND... AND THEN ANOTHER, GREATER EVIL REARED ITS UGLY HEAD... THE LUST FOR POWER!

UNFORTUNATELY, NO SINGLE PLACE COULD HOUSE SO MUCH ENERGY. AND THAT WAS WHEN THE MOST TERRIBLE OF TEMPLES WAS PROPOSED: A HUMAN RECEPTACLE! A LIVING TEMPLE MADE OF A YOUNG PERSON'S BODY...

THEY SAID IT WOULD BE A PERFECT HIDING PLACE! A PANTHEON OF SHAME, WAITED UPON BY A USELESS PUPPET! NOTHING MORE!

...HE WAS SO YOUNG... AND SO GUILTY! THAT'S RIGHT... GUILTY OF BEING INNOCENT!

OHH, NO! WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

THE EQUILIBRIUM OF THE ENTIRE UNIVERSE IS NOW THREATENED!!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND ANYTHING? CAN'T YOU FEEL THE EARTH COMPLAINING? THE EARTH IS TREMBLING BECAUSE IT IS UNDER ATTACK!

A DEMONIC FORCE IS ATTACKING HER INNER STRENGTH: THE CRYSTAL IS NO LONGER PROTECTED!

DARK CLOUDS ARE GATHERING AT THE GATES OF THE HUMAN UNIVERSE...

"DOKKALFAR" TOLLS IN THE NIGHT, ECHOING THROUGH MAG MELL...

THE FAIRIES ARE DYING...

A TERRIBLE PROSPECT! WHAT WE SO GREATLY FEARED HAS FINALLY OCCURRED: THE CRYSTAL WAS STOLEN TODAY!

BRUTUS!
PIG OF
MISFORTUNE,
BE STILL!

IGGUK, GET IN
THE CART!...
WE'RE FINALLY
LEAVING...

AND... ER...
DO YOU
KNOW WHERE
WE'RE
GOING?

I DON'T KNOW...
HMPH...
NOTHING! BUT
EVERY PROBLEM
HAS A SOLUTION!

BRUTUS!

ROIN

GO ON THEN!
MOVE ALONG,
FATSO!

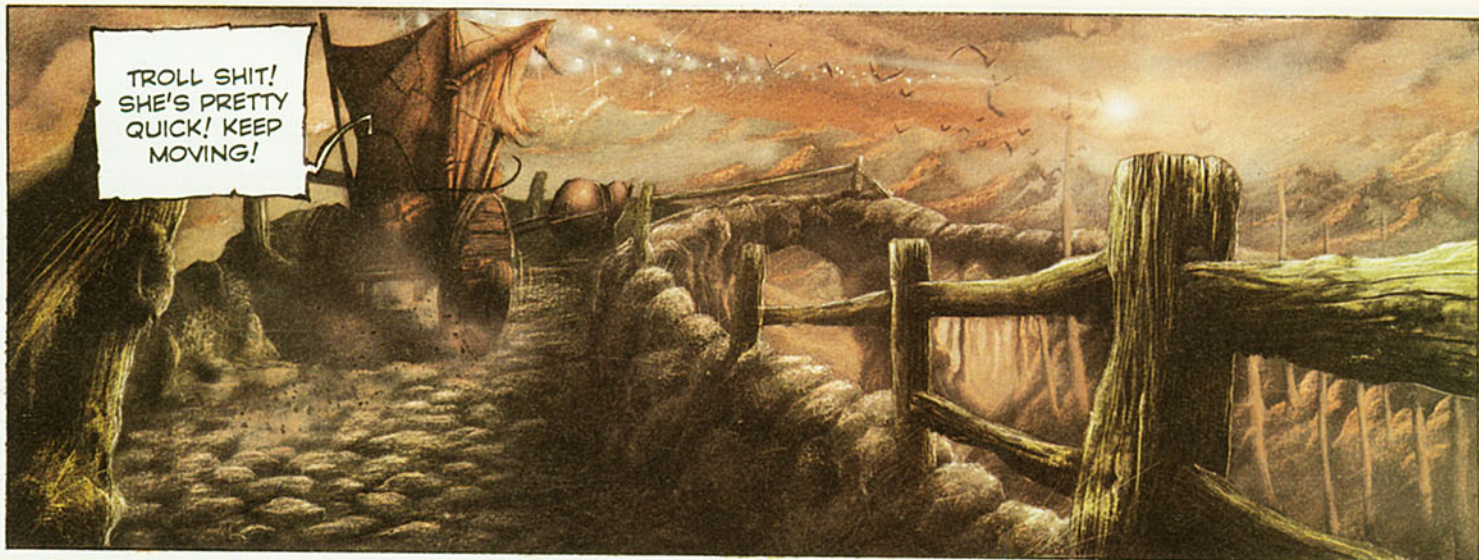
GRÔU!

...LOOK...
THERE'S
THE
SOLUTION!

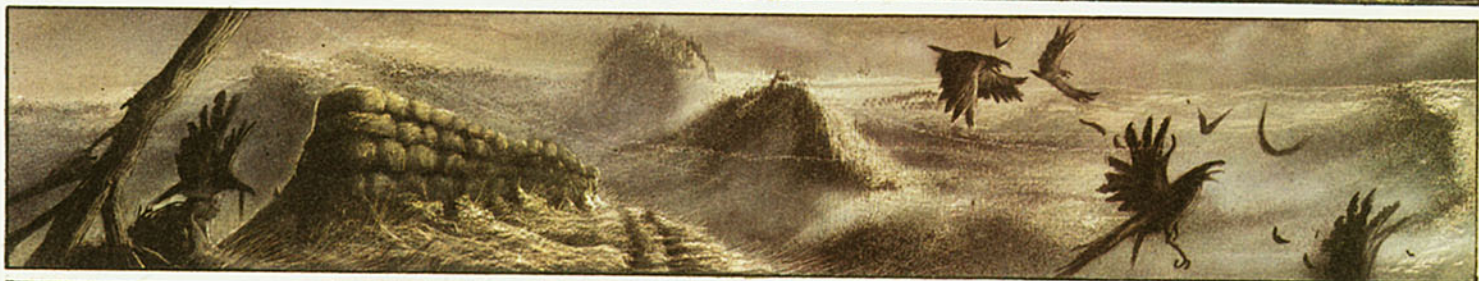
MAGIC!
NO EXCEP-
TION TO THE
RULE!

A
FEATH-
ER?





TROLL SHIT!
SHE'S PRETTY
QUICK! KEEP
MOVING!





...WE'RE TAKING
A LONG TIME,
DON'T YOU THINK?
OH DEAR, OH
DEAR..

AND I'M
COLD!...
AREN'T YOU?

DO YOU THINK
KAIA AND
AENGYS ARE
ALREADY
THERE, UP ON
THE HILL?

UMM... BIG
PEOPLE LIKE
YOU DON'T EAT
LITTLE PEOPLE
LIKE US, DO YOU,
HUH?

HOW OLD
ARE YOU?
YOU MUST
BE GETTING
ON...

GROWL!
ALL THIS JUST
BECAUSE OF A
DUMB QUEEN...
DUMB AND
STUBBORN!

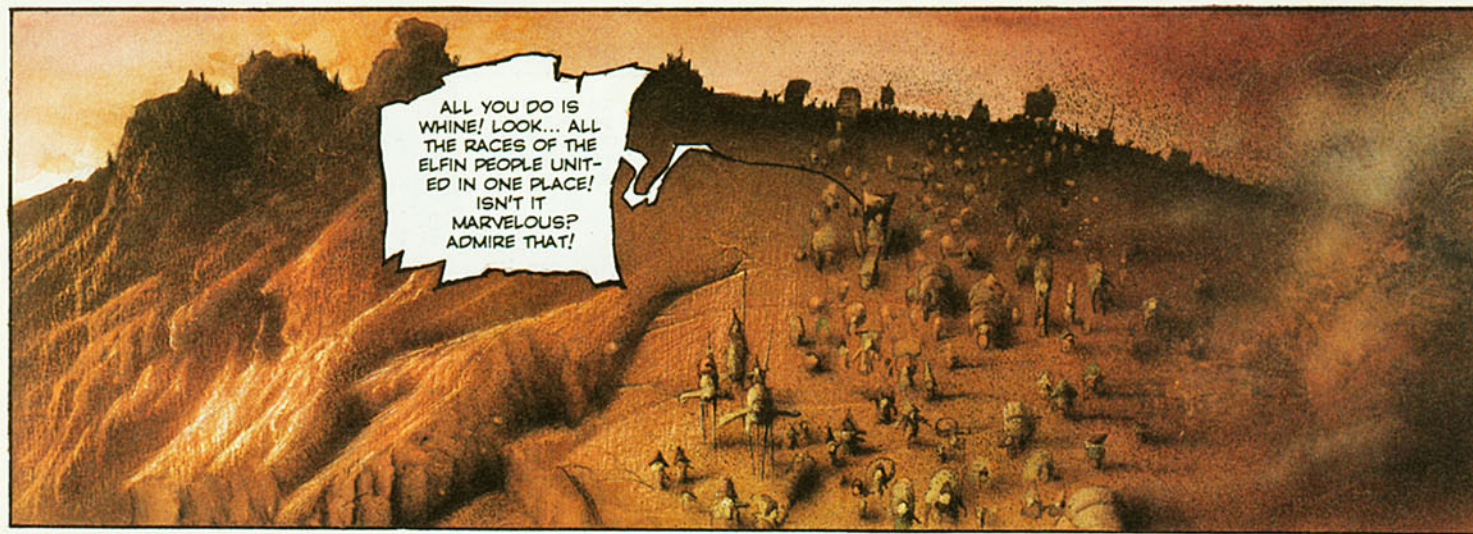
IGGUK! STOP
WHINING!
WHAT YOU'RE
SAYING IS
BLASPHEMOUS!

LOOK, I WAS
FORCED TO
LEAVE MY
PRECIOUS
WORK, AND
LOOK AT ME
NOW!

OOOHH?!
POOR
SWEET
LITTLE
THING!
HOW SAD!
MY, MY!

L... LOOK!
WE'VE
ARRIVED!
THERE'S THE
HILL!

BAH! IT'S
UGLY! THAT'S
NOT HOW I
HAD IMAGINED
IT!



ALL YOU DO IS
WHINE! LOOK... ALL
THE RACES OF THE
ELFIN PEOPLE UNIT-
ED IN ONE PLACE!
ISN'T IT
MARVELOUS?
ADMIRE THAT!



WOW!...
THE QUEEN
SEEMS TO LIKE
THE OLD
STYLE!

THIS IS A PRIME
EXAMPLE OF
ELFIN STYLE!
APPRECIATE IT!



KAIA?!



IT'S NO USE.
FOR THE TIME
BEING, WE
MUST CONCEN-
TRATE ON OUR
MISSION!



KAIA
!?



ER... DO
YOU KNOW
WHERE THE
DOORBELL
IS?

LET'S GO
IN NOW!



A WISE GUY,
HUH? WELL
KEEP THE
JOKES TO
YOURSELF
'CAUSE...

HA HA
HA! VERY
FUNNY!

...WE'RE
GOING
IN!



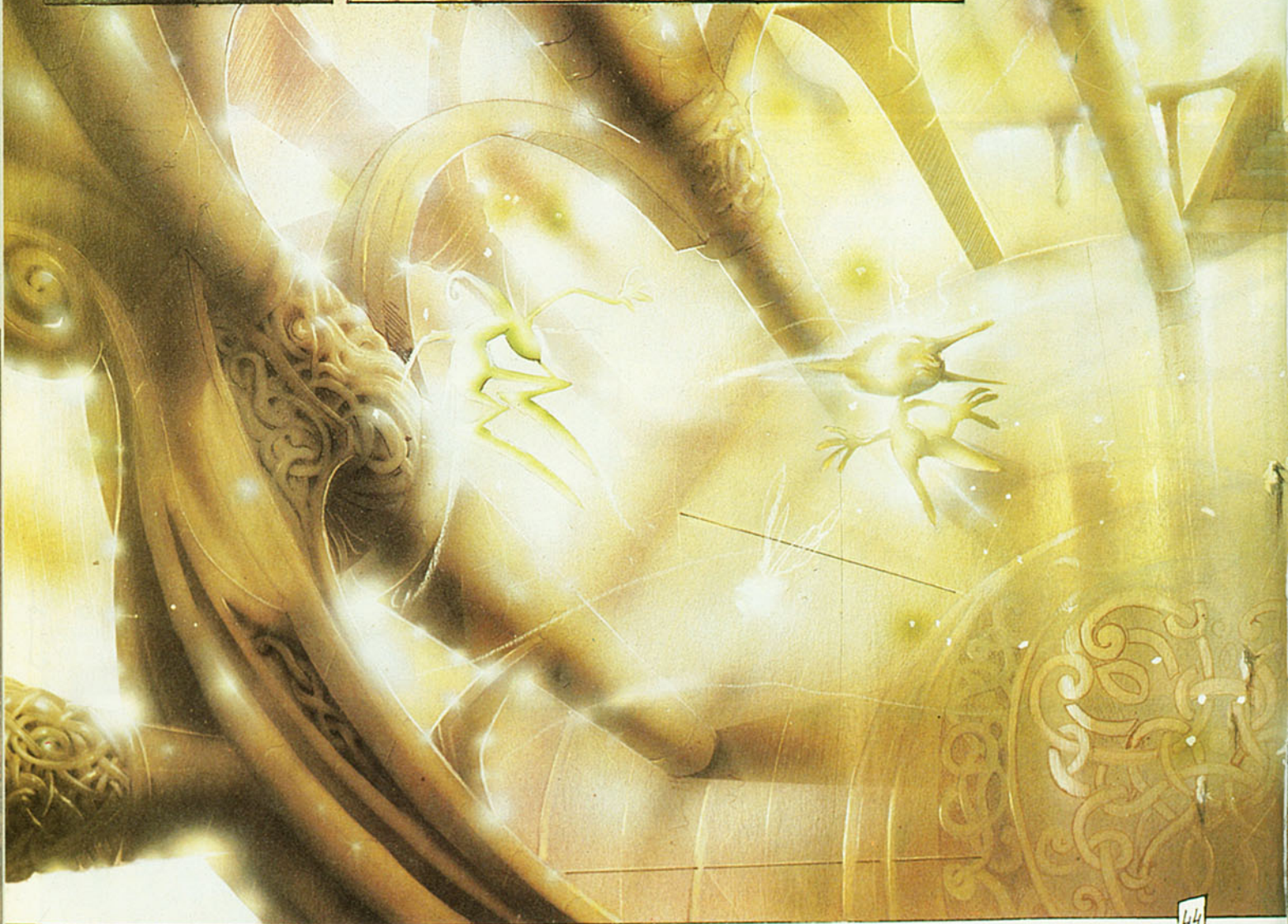
GLANG

SO...
HAD
ENOUGH?!



?

CRii...zzz





I SEE THE
QUEEN STILL
LIKES
OLD-STYLE
FURNITURE...



BUT THIS IS
HUGE...!



DO YOU KNOW
WHO YOU'RE
TALKING TO?
I'M MR. IGGUK
PLI...

OH?!
LOOK!



THE
FAIRIES!



THEY'RE
DYING!



THE
QUEEN?

THE
QUEEN?

MAN 89-396-



SO...
THE QUEEN OF
THE FAIRIES IS
NO MORE!...

END OF
SEASON.