STILLBORN
THE FIRST ZOMBIE

THE TRAP

Hunter S. Zombie • Phillip K.

STILLBORN
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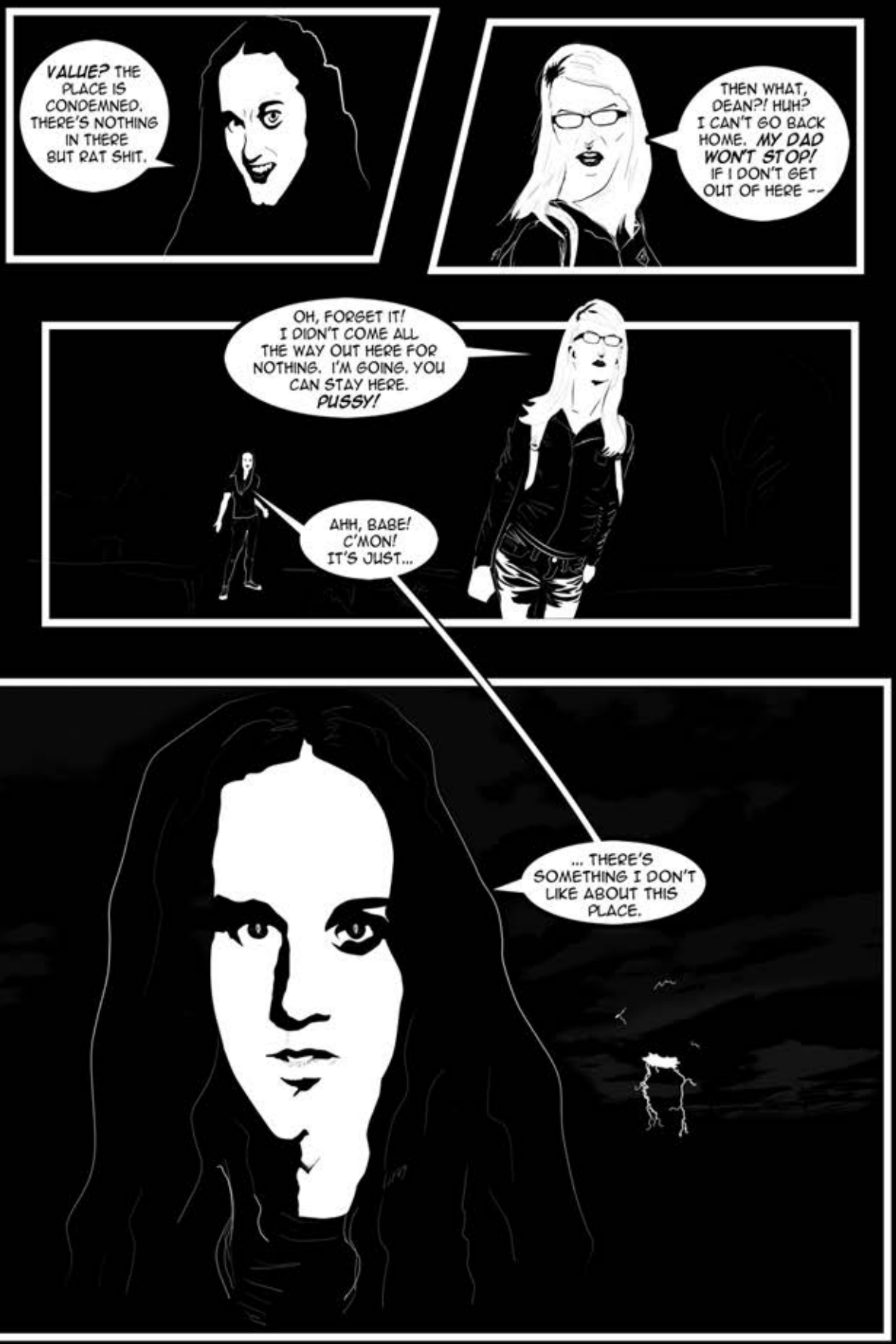
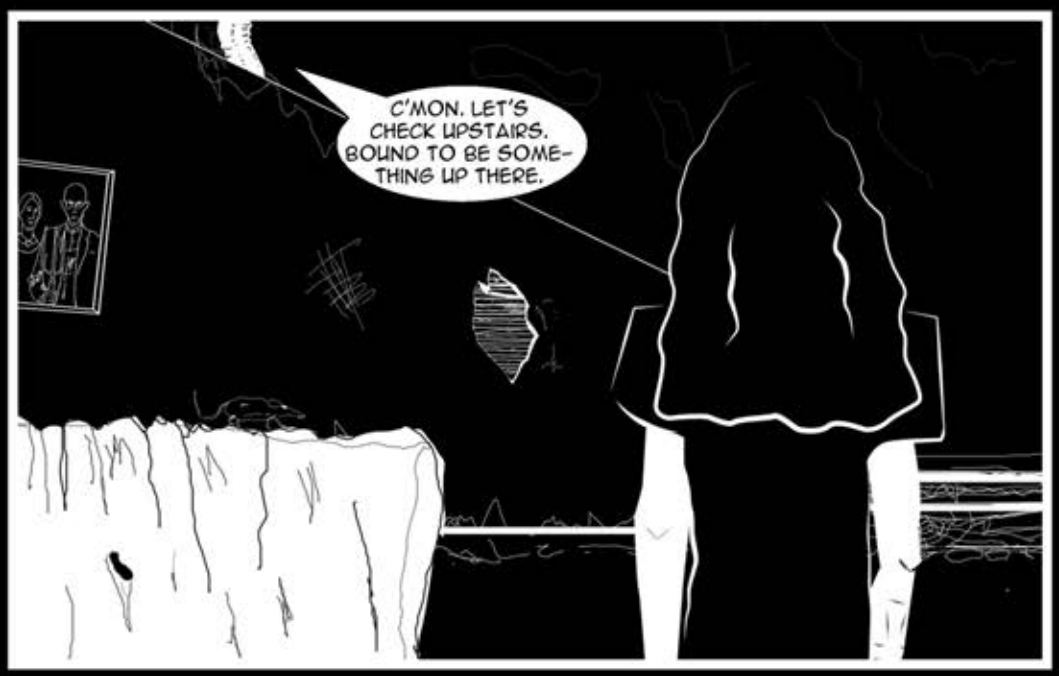
FOR
KRISSY
&
LILLY

CHAPTER 1
OUR STORY BEGINS IN A SMALL TOWN NEAR THE BORDER, TUCKED AWAY AMONGST THE HILLS.
HEAVEN'S GATE
POPULATION:16,126
LIKE MANY STORIES BEFORE IT, THERE ARE HEROES AND THERE ARE MONSTERS
BUT THIS STORY IS DIFFERENT.
IN THIS STORY, THE HEROES DIE AND THE MONSTERS REIGN OVER THE WORLD.

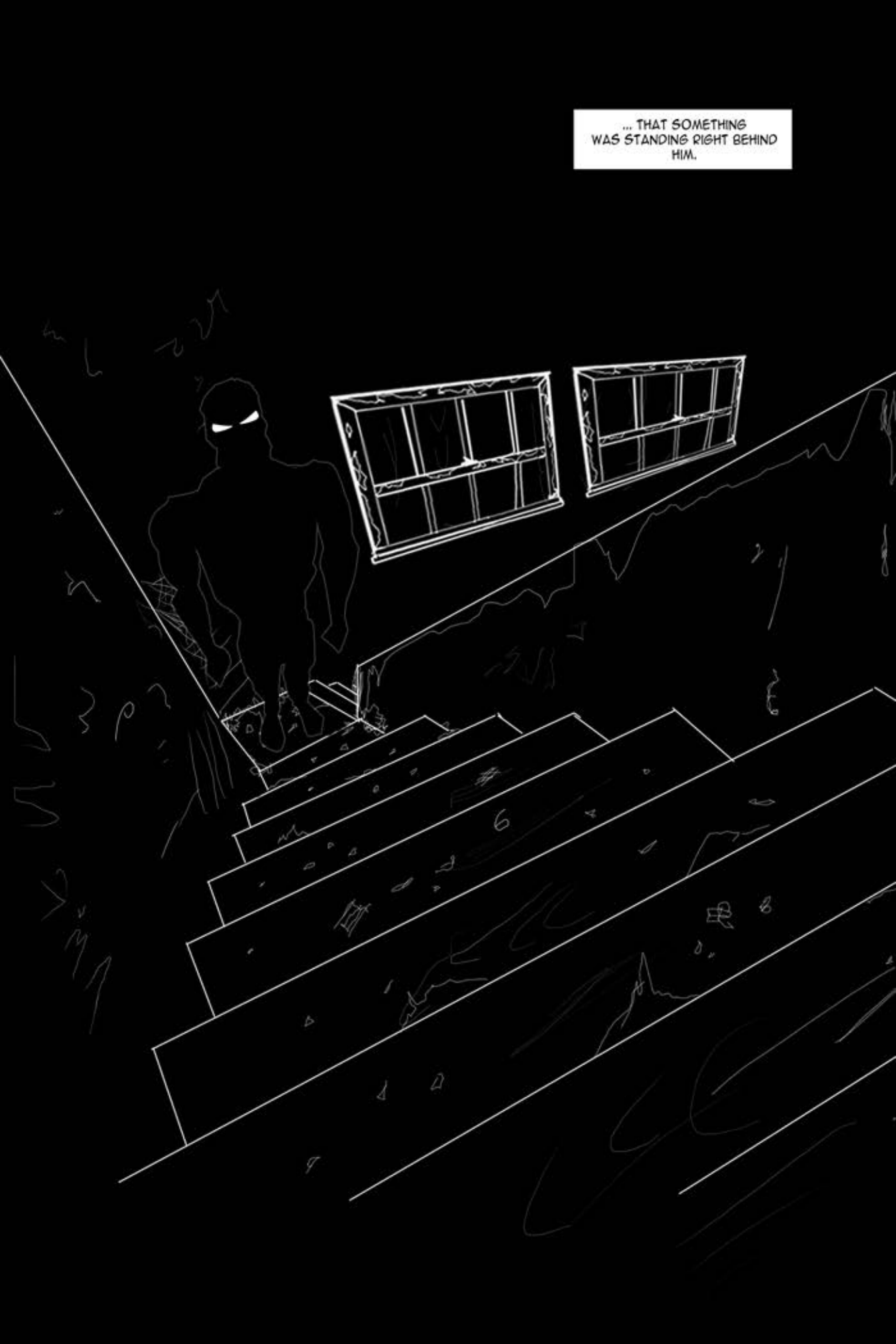
AT THE SOUTH EDGE OF TOWN, DYING FARMHOUSES BECAME THE HABITAT FOR VERMIN AND GHOSTLY RUMORS.
ONE PARTICULAR HOUSE WAS FAMOUS BY SUCH RUMORS THAT NO ONE DARE VENTURE INSIDE ITS HOLLOW REMAINS.
THAT IS, UNTIL NOW.
YOU WANT TO GO *IN THERE?*
THAT HOUSE HAS BEEN BOARDED UP FOR OVER *70 YEARS.* NO ONE'S BEEN INSIDE THIS *WHOLE TIME.* THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING OF VALUE IN THERE.


VALUE? THE PLACE IS CONDEMNED. THERE'S NOTHING IN THERE BUT RAT SHIT.
THEN WHAT, DEAN?! HUH? I CAN'T GO BACK HOME. MY DAD WON'T STOP! IF I DON'T GET OUT OF HERE --
OH, FORGET IT! I DIDN'T COME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE FOR NOTHING. I'M GOING. YOU CAN STAY HERE. PUSSY!
AHH, BABE! C'MON! IT'S JUST...
... THERE'S SOMETHING I DON'T LIKE ABOUT THIS PLACE.

RRRRRRTTTTTTTTTTTKKKKKKKKKK
SWEET. IT'S NOT EVEN LOCKED.
MAN, THIS PLACE IS CRAZY.
THIS PLACE IS A DUMP. CAN WE GO NOW?
AHHH!!
SLAM
JESUS, DEAN. YOU'RE SO JUMPY. CHILL.
CHILL?! SCREW YOU, CANDY! I DON'T NEED THIS CRAP!!
JUST HELP ME FIND ENOUGH FOR A BUS TICKET AND A MEAL. THEN, WE CAN GO.


C'MON. LET'S CHECK UPSTAIRS. BOUND TO BE SOME-THING UP THERE.

I BETTER GET LAID AFTER THIS.
ANGER HAD DISTRACTED DEAN'S THOUGHTS, MAKING HIM UNAWARE...


... THAT SOMETHING WAS STANDING RIGHT BEHIND HIM.

FOUR DOORS? ONE'S GOTTA BE LUCKY.
HUH?
GOTTA START SOMEWHERE.
HEY! WAIT UP!
TAKE A LOOK AT THIS...

DEAN, YOU'VE GOT TO SEE THIS.
MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE CLOSET.

THE DOOR'S LOCKED. GIMME A HAND.

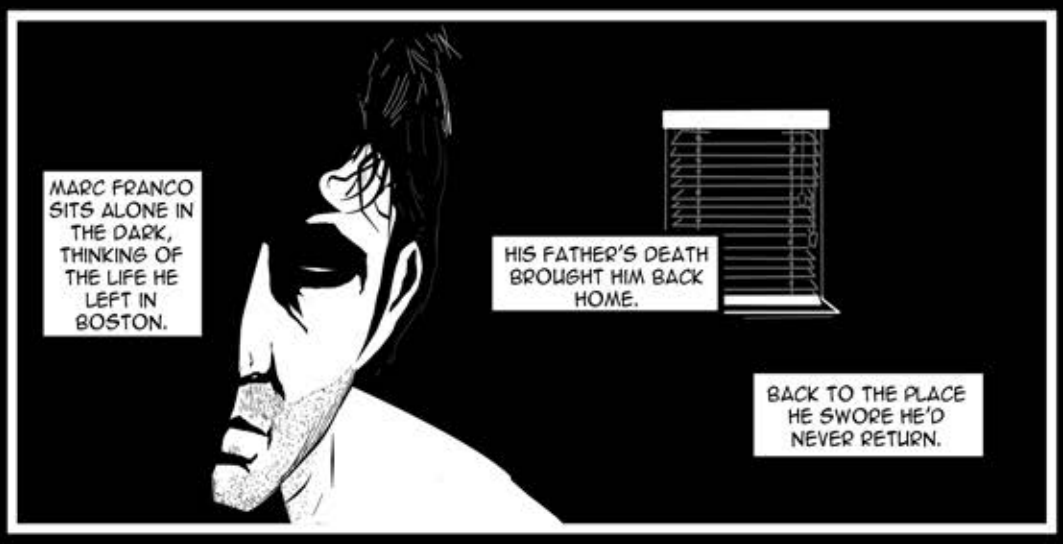
THIS IS A KID'S ROOM. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT TO FIND HERE?

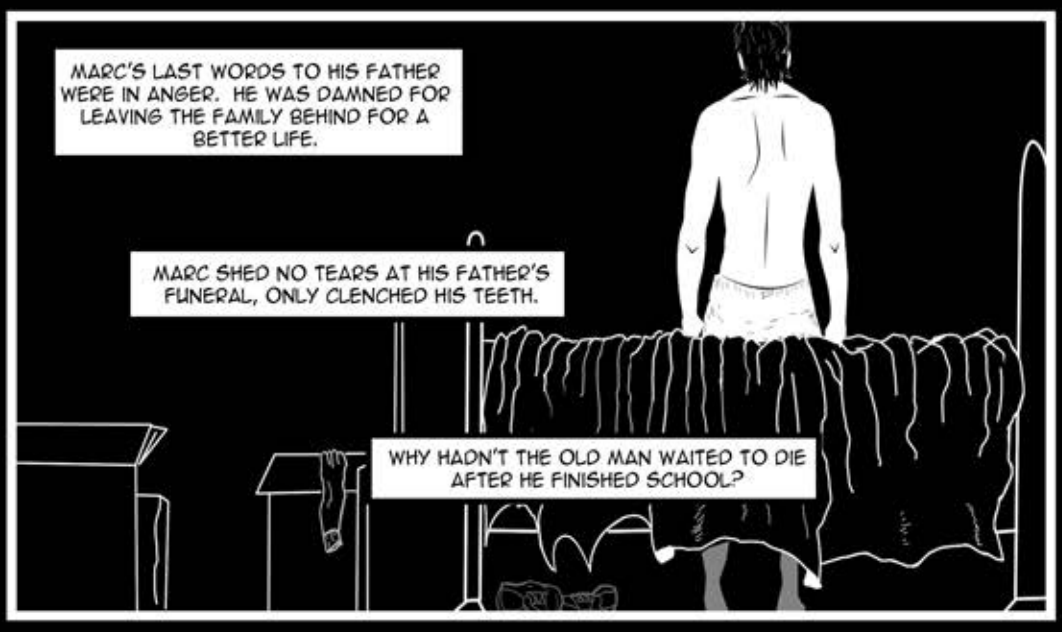
JUST GET OVER HERE AND HELP ME!
FROM MY VIEW, THAT SWEET ASS OF YOURS NEEDS MORE THAN HELP.
WHADDA YA' SAY WE PUT THAT BED TO USE?
C'MON. ONE LAST TIME BEFORE YOU SKIP TOWN.
CAN YOU KEEP IT IN YOUR PANTS --
DEAN, LOOK OUT!
WHAT!?

RRRRRRAAAAAAAHHHHHH

DEEEAAANN

3 MONTHS LATER





HARVARD

BEEP
BEEP
7:00AM
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
RADIO
FM
AM
7
BEEP
7:00AM
BEEP
BEEP
WAM
BEEP

THANKS FOR COMING BACK, MARC. EVERYONE AT THE SHOP REALLY APPRECIATES THE HELP.
SURE, GABE.
IS YOUR HAND OKAY?
IT'S FINE. JUST BUSTED IT UP WHILE MOVING.
Franco's Plumbing
WHICH WORK ORDER IS IT?
SHOULD BE AT THE BOTTOM.
Flip
Flip
FOUNDER'S GROVE? I THOUGHT THAT AREA WAS ABANDONED?

IT IS. SOME GUY IS TRYING TO SAVE THE PLACE FOR *"HISTORICAL PURPOSES"*. THE AGENT WANTS US TO EVAULATE THE PIPES.
WHAT THE HELL DOES HE WANT IT FOR? ALL THOSE HOUSES ARE *FULL OF RATS*. THE WHOLE AREA SHOULD BE BULLDOZED AND MADE PART OF THE CEMETERY.
THE CITY WAS GOING TO, BUT THIS GUY'S OBVIOUSLY GOT SOME MONEY. HE PERSUADED THEM TO HAVE US COME OUT AND *PROVE* THE PLACE IS SALVAGEABLE.
WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY SHOULD DO?
I SAY BURN IT DOWN AND BURY THE ASHES. LIKE YOU SAID, IT'S FULL OF RATS. CLEAN OUT THE VERMIN.

FOUNDER'S GROVE
DON'T WORRY. THIS WON'T TAKE LONG. WE'LL BE OUT BEFORE SUNDOWN.
IS THIS IT?
THAT'S IT, KID...
... THE OLD THOMAS PLACE.

WHAT IS THE AGENT GONNA DO WITH THIS PLACE? TRY AND SELL IT?

I DUNNO. HOPEFULLY, HE TAKES THE HEAP BACK TO NEW YORK WITH HIM.

THE AGENT'S FROM NEW YORK?
CLAIMS TO BE A RELATIVE OF THE THOMAS FAMILY. NO ONE'S HEARD OF 'EM. I DON'T THINK HE'S EVER BEEN OUT HERE.
HE'S NOT MEETING US? ISN'T HE WORRIED ABOUT SOMEONE BREAKING IN?
LOOK AT THIS PLACE, KID. NO ONE GOES IN HERE. I'D BE MORE WORRIED ABOUT BREAKING OUT.

THE HELL IS THAT?!

EEEERRRRRRRRKEEEKK

(SNIFF SNIFF)
SMELLS LIKE RAT SHIT.

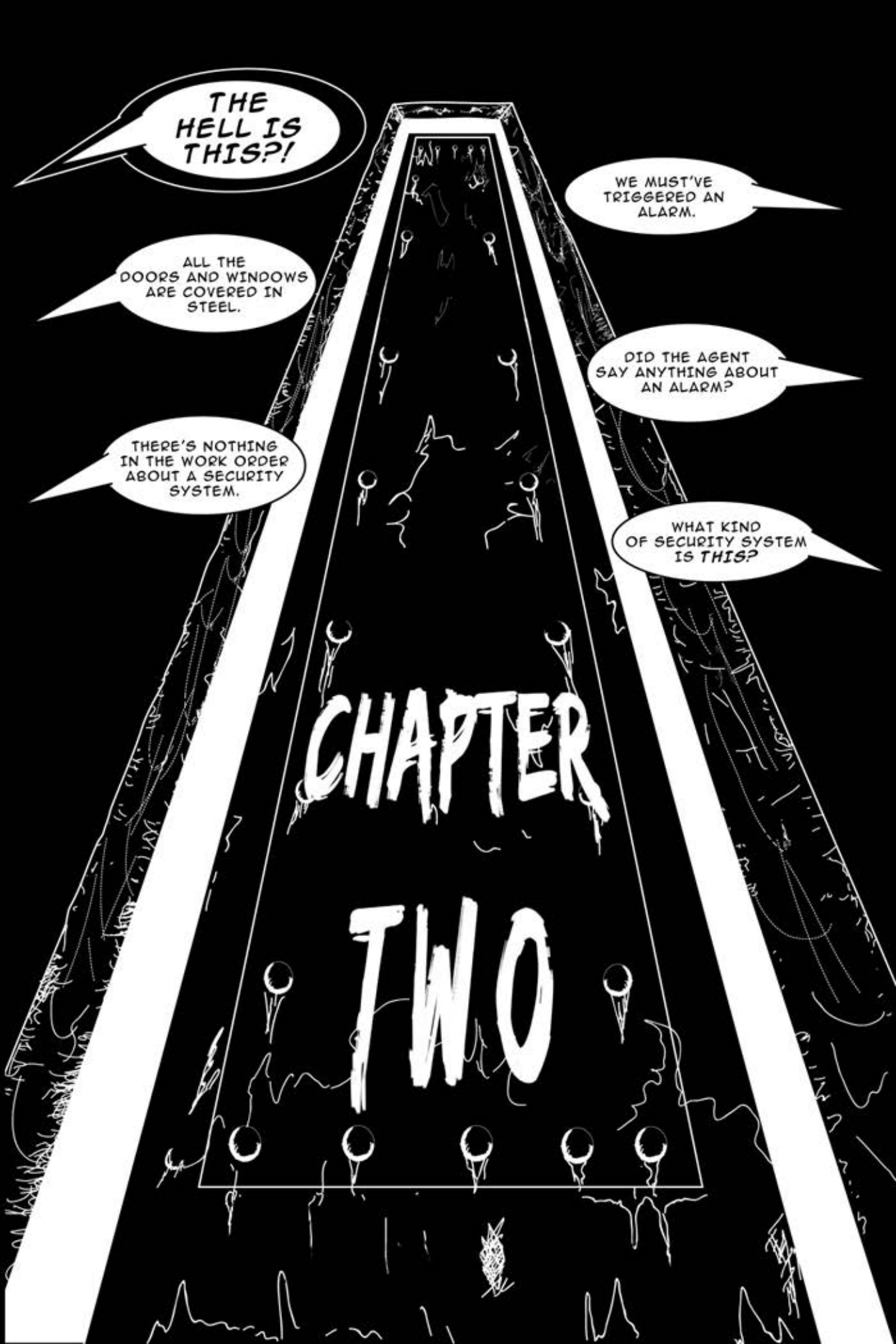
YOU MUST BE MARC FRANCO?
YES, SIR.
DANIEL CARTWRIGHT, CONTRACTOR. I WAS A FRIEND OF YOUR FATHER'S. MY CONDOLENCES.
THANKS.
WHAT BRINGS YOU BOYS OUT HERE?
WE GOT A CALL TO CHECK OUT THE HOUSE, SEE IF IT'S SALVAGEABLE.
SAME HERE. MY BOYS TOLD ME SOME AGENT CALLED TO CHECK OUT THE PLACE.
OH, THESE ARE MY RIGHT HANDS, NICK AND CARLOS.
NICE TO MEET YOU, MARC.
SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR DAD, MAN.
I WONDER WHO ELSE WAS INVITED OUT TO THIS SHINDIG.
EEEEEERRRRRRRRRRR

WELL, HOWDY, BOYS. LOOKS LIKE I'M THE LAST ONE TO THE PARTY.

HEY, SHORT STACK.
WHAT'S UP, EM?
NOT MUCH. I SEE EVERYONE SHOWED UP. "MR. NEW YORK" GOT Y'ALL OUT HERE TOO?
A LOTTA TROUBLE FOR NOTHIN'.
HEY, MARC. IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME. SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR DAD.
SEEMS EVERY-ONE IS.
HE WAS A GOOD MAN. EVERYONE AROUND HERE REALLY LOVED HIM.
WELL, LET'S GET THIS SHOW ON THE ROAD. I GOT A RACK OF RIBS WAITING FOR ME AT HOME.
HEY, GABE. WAIT UP. DON'T YOU FIND THIS ODD? WE ALL SHOW UP AT THE SAME TIME AND THE AGENT'S NOT EVEN HERE?
IT'S A LITTLE STRANGE, BUT IT'S NOTHING THAT HASN'T HAPPENED BEFORE.
SOMETHING'S WRONG. THIS DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.
MAYBE NOT, BUT THE MONEY IS. DON'T WORRY, KID...

...AIN'T NOTHIN' GONNA HAPPEN.
WELL, AIN'T THIS A REGULAR GHOST HOUSE.
C'MON IN Y'ALL. NO BOOGEY MAN IN HERE.
LOOKS LIKE SOMEONE FORGOT TO CALL THE MAID. HA!
IT'S DARK IN HERE! I CAN'T SEE NOTHIN'!
KEEP YER PANTS ON. THERE'S A SWITCH RIGHT --
flick

...HERE.
DAN, WHAT DID YOU DO?!


THE HELL IS THIS?!
ALL THE DOORS AND WINDOWS ARE COVERED IN STEEL.
THERE'S NOTHING IN THE WORK ORDER ABOUT A SECURITY SYSTEM.
WE MUST'VE TRIGGERED AN ALARM.
DID THE AGENT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT AN ALARM?
WHAT KIND OF SECURITY SYSTEM IS *THIS*?
CHAPTER TWO

GET THAT DOOR OPEN!!!!

DAMN THING WON'T BUDGE. IT'S HEAVY AS HELL. MUST BE TEN INCHES THICK.

IS THERE ANY WAY TO TURN IT OFF?

SHOULD BE. THERE'S GOTTA BE A CONTROL PANEL SOMEWHERE.

THE LIGHT SWITCH DON'T DO NOTHIN'. IT'S DEAD.

DAN, DID THE AGENT SAY ANYTHING ABOUT CHANGES MADE TO THE HOUSE?

THEY DID SOME RENOVATIONS IN THE SEVENTIES, BUT NUTTIN' LIKE THIS.

LET'S FIND THE FUSE BOX, SEE IF WE CAN START IT UP.

HEY, GABE, DID THE AGENT SAY ANYTHING TO YOU ABOUT THIS?
NO.
GET 'EM ON THE HORN, SEE WHERE HE'S AT AND IF HE KNOWS HOW TO UNLOCK ALL THIS.
HMMM, THAT'S FUNNY.
WHAT IS IT?
I CAN'T GET A SIGNAL. NOT EVEN SERVICE.
TRY IT ANYWAY.
STILL NOTHIN'.
beep beep
HEY, MY CELL IS OUT, TOO.
I GOT NOTHIN' ON MINE!
THIS IS A SATELLITE PHONE AND I CAN'T EVEN GET A SIGNAL.
LOOKS LIKE WE'RE STUCK.
WAIT, DOESN'T THIS PLACE HAVE A PHONE?
THE LINE'S BEEN DISCONNECTED FOR DECDES.
ISN'T THAT WHY SHE'S HERE?

COULD YOU PATCH INTO THE PHONE AND SEE IF YOU CAN GET AN OUTSIDE LINE?
I'M ON IT. THE GRID SHOWED A WORKING LINE IN THE KITCHEN.
PERFECT.
I DON'T SEE A CONTROL PANEL OR UNIT ANY-WHERE.
IN THIS OLD PLACE? IT'S PROBABLY IN THE BASEMENT.
BAM

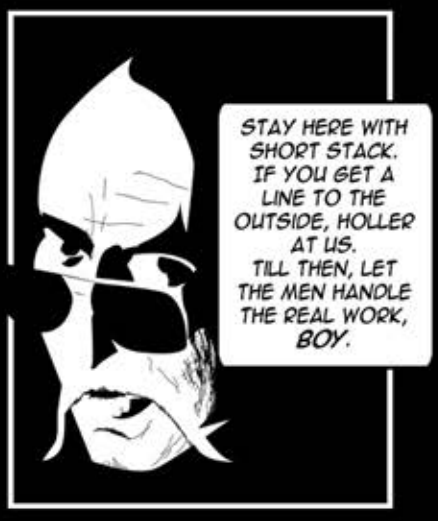
WHAT WAS THAT?
IT SOUNDED LIKE A PERSON.
BETTER GET READY.
THE HELL IS THAT?
BETSY.
BETSY?
A S&W .357 MAGNUM. RUBBER HANDLE, NICKEL PLATE FINISH WITH 6 ROUNDS THAT WILL KNOCK ANYONE'S ASS INTO NEXT WEEK.

IS THAT REALLY NECESSARY?
ALWAYS DO YOUR HOMEWORK BEFORE YOU COME TO ANY HOUSE, BOY. THESE HOMES HAVE BEEN SQUATTING GROUNDS FOR DRUG RUNNERS AND DRIFTERS. ALWAYS BE PREPARED.
C'MON NICK! CARLOS! LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH!

WHOSEVER UP THERE, THIS IS DANIEL CARTWRIGHT AND I AM ARMED! YOU CAN COME DOWN NOW AND SHOW YOURSELF OR I'M COMING UP!
THE DARKNESS CAST NO REPLY.
ALRIGHT, HAVE IT YOUR WAY! I'M COIMN' UP AND I'M BRINGIN' COMPANY!

C'MON NICK!
CARLOS!
LET'S GO!
THE REST OF YOU CAN STAY DOWN HERE.

WHAT FOR?


STAY HERE WITH SHORT STACK. IF YOU GET A LINE TO THE OUTSIDE, HOLLER AT US.
TILL THEN, LET THE MEN HANDLE THE REAL WORK, BOY.

THAT GUY'S AN ASSHOLE.
TOLD YA', PENDEJO.
WHAT'S THAT MEAN?
DUMB ASS. C'MON, LET'S GO CHECK ON EMILY.

C'MON OUT, WHEREVER YOU ARE!

eeeeeee

HUH?
click

IN THERE, BOYS.

I DON'T SEE ANYBODY.

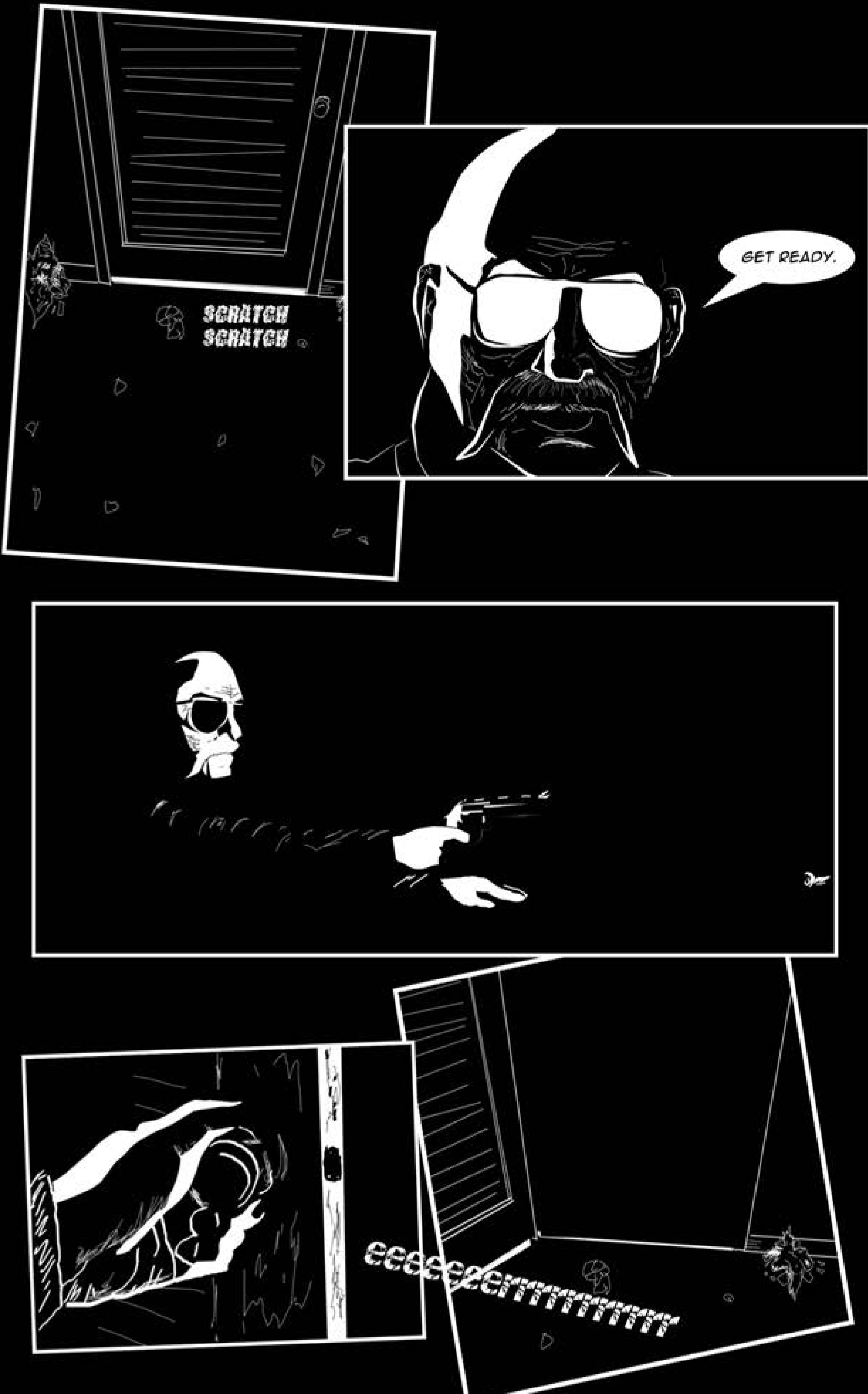
WHAT MADE THAT NOISE?

LOOK AT THE GROUND...

... THAT LAMP'S BUSTED. SOMEBODY KNOCKED IT OVER. YOU SEE ALL THOSE PIECES?

HE'S IN THERE.

THERE'S A TRAIL, LEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE CLOSET.


SCRATCH
SCRATCH
GET READY.
EEEEEEEERRRRRRRRRR

WELL, LOOKIE HERE...
SQWEEK SQWEEK
HEY THERE, LITTLE BUDDY.
SAY CHEESE.

C'MON...

Initialising connection test....
No connection found.

THIS IS BULLSHIT!

WHAT'S WRONG?

BEFORE I GOT HERE, I MADE SURE THERE WAS A WORKING LINE TO THE HOUSE, BUT I'M NOT GETTING A CONNECTION.
NOTHING AT ALL?
THE SYSTEM ISN'T EVEN RECOGNIZING THE MAIN LINE.
SO... WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

SOMEONE DISCONNECTED THE PHONE LINE FROM INSIDE THE HOUSE.
COULD IT HAVE HAPPENED WHEN DAN TRIPPED THE ALARM?
MAYBE.
SO, WE CAN'T REACH ANYONE ON THE OUTSIDE?
NOT BY PHONE.

WELL, THAT THING WON'T BUDGE.
YOU COULDN'T RIG A WIRE?
WHAT WIRE? THE WHOLE THING RUNS ON GEARS AND PULLEYS. IT'S NOT ELECTRICAL AT ALL.

YOU SURE?

I'VE BEEN IN A HUNDRED HOMES AND I'VE *NEVER* SEEN *ANYTHING* LIKE THIS. THE WHOLE SYSTEM LOOKS LIKE IT WAS PUT TOGETHER BACK WHEN THE HOUSE WAS BUILT.
I GUESS THEY DIDN'T WANT ANYONE GETTING IN.

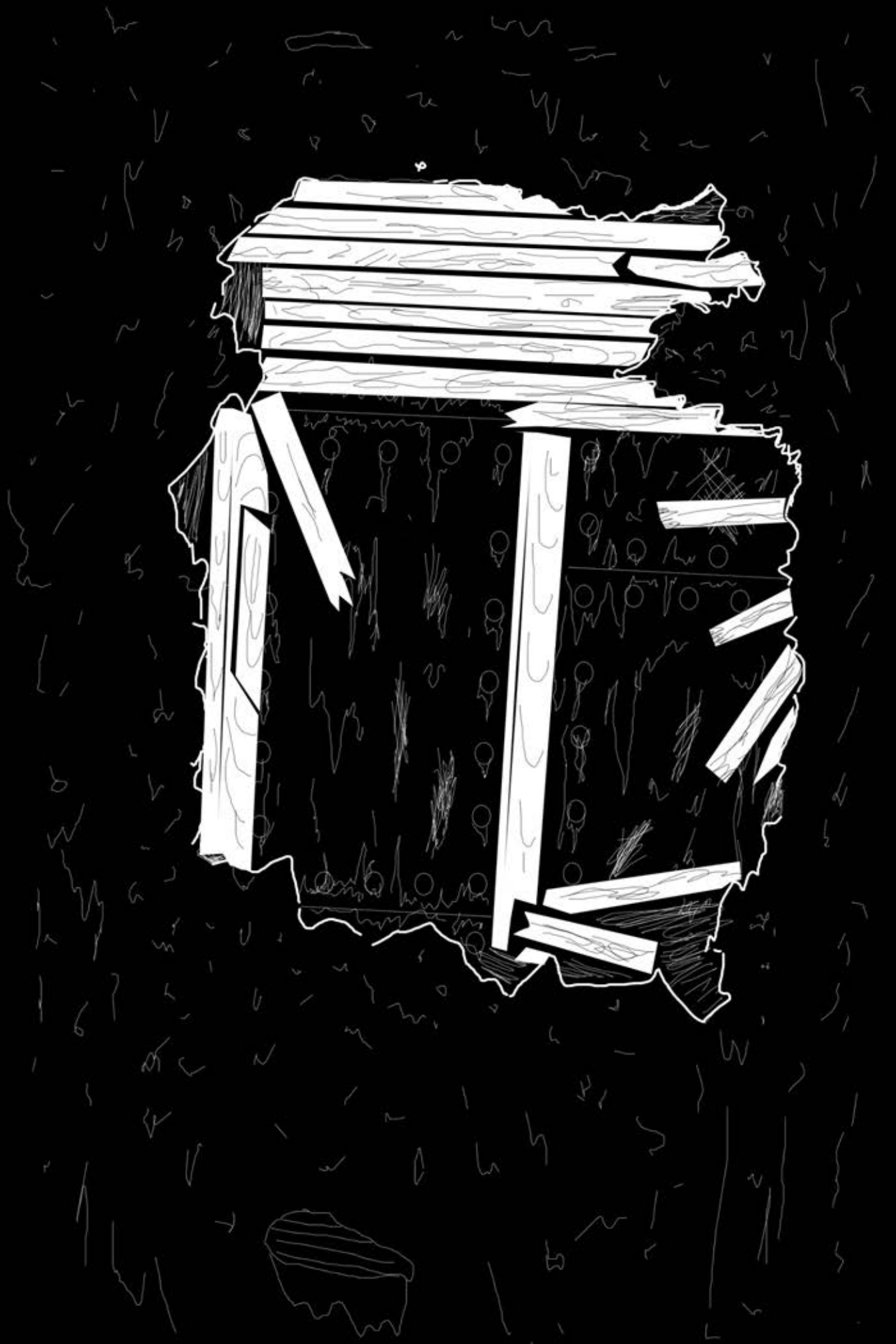
OR OUT.
BLAM
WHAT WAS THAT?!
IT CAME FROM UP-STAIRS! HURRY!
DON'T WORRY, EVERYBODY. I GOT THE BIG, BAD MOUSE.
IT WAS A MOUSE?

NOTHIN' I COULDN'T HANDLE. WHAT'S THE WORD WITH YOU? YOU REACH ANYBODY?
WE GOT NOTHING. NOT EVEN A TONE.
SHE THINKS THE LINE WAS CUT FROM INSIDE THE HOUSE.
THAT A FACT, SHORT STACK?
YEAH. IT'S THE ONLY EXPLANATION. WE HAD NO PROBLEMS SETTING UP A LINE, BUT NOTHING IS GETTING THROUGH. LIKE IT OR NOT, BUT WE'RE STUCK HERE.

THIS IS BULLSHIT! WE NEED OUTTA HERE!
TELL ME ABOUT IT.
WE CAN'T GET IN CONTACT WITH THE OUTSIDE?
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I'M SAYING. WE'RE ALONE IN HERE.
FUCK THIS!!! I'M BREAKIN' OUT!

OUTTA MY WAY!
NICK, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I CAN BUST THROUGH WALLS. I'VE DONE IT BEFORE.
YOU'RE NOT THINKING CLEARLY. WE CAN'T DO DAMAGE TO THE HOUSE --
WAM

WAM
WAM
WAM
IS THAT...
NO.
IT IS...
OH MY GOD...
SHIT.
WHAT THE FUCK?!!
WHAT THE FUCK?!!



THE WHOLE HOUSE IS ENCASED IN STEEL!
THAT'S WHY NOBODY COULD GET A SIGNAL. WE'RE TRAPPED IN A GIANT, METAL BOX.
WHAT IS THIS?! A HOMEMADE PRISON?!
IT'S THE DEVIL.
THE DEVIL?
END OF CHAPTER TWO

CHAPTER 3

LIKE I TOLD YOU, BOY, "DO YOUR HOMEWORK." THIS HOUSE USED TO BE OWNED BY A COUPLE OF DEVIL WORSHIPPERS. THEY DID ALL KINDS OF EVIL SHIT IN HERE.
ONE DAY A LOCAL BOY WENT MISSING.
NEIGHBORS SAID THEY HEARD SCREAMS COMING FROM INSIDE THE PLACE. SHERIFF CAME AND ARRESTED 'EM, DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO 'HOLD THEM', SO HE RAN 'EM OUT OF TOWN INSTEAD. SOME FOLKS SAY THEY CURSED THE PLACE BEFORE THEY LEFT.
LOOKS LIKE THEY DID MORE THAN THAT.

...THANKS FOR THE HISTORY LESSON. NOW, HOW ABOUT FINDING THE FUSE BOX?
LIKE I SAID, IT'S PROBABLY IN THE BASEMENT.

BASEMENT?! I AIN'T GOIN' DOWN INTO NO GODDAMN BASEMENT!
DAMN IT, NICK! GRÓW SOME BALLS!!
FUCK YOU, DAN! YOU GOT A GUN! I AIN'T GOT NO GUN! AND I AIN'T GOIN' DOWN INTO SOME DAMN DARK BASEMENT!!!
ANYONE ELSE?
FINE, SUSIE! STAY UP HERE. CARLOS, LET'S GET DOWN THERE AND GET THE LIGHTS ON.
SURE, BOSS.

SHOULDN'T WE ALL GO?
YOU KNOW, STICK TOGETHER.

AFRAID OF THE BOOGIE MAN, BOY?
DON'T WORRY. DANNY WILL GET YOU HOME SAFE TO YOUR MOMMY.

CARLOS AND I WILL BE BACK. UNTIL THEN, DON'T MOVE.

I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING DOWN HERE.
STAY CLOSE. LOTTA JUNK DOWN HERE.
SQUISH
AH HELL! CAREFUL. THERE'S SOME KIND MUCK ON THE GROUND.
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S SOME KIND OF WORK BENCH...
WHAT THE HELL IS THAT?

DAN, WHAT DO YOU MAKE OF THIS?
PROBABLY A GATEWAY TO HELL.
THEY SHOULD HAVE BURNED THIS PLACE DOWN.
AS SOON AS WE GET OUT, THAT'S THE FIRST THING I'M GONNA DO.
TILL THEN, LET'S FIND THAT DAMN FUSE BOX.
YOU CHECK AROUND THESE BOARDS, SEE IF THERE'S ANYTHING HIDING. I'M GOING TO CHECK OUT THESE BOXES IN THE BACK. HOLLER IF YOU FIND SOMETHIN'.
GOT IT, BOSS.
BUNCHA OLD JUNK.
BAM
WHAT'S THAT?

WIRES?
Electric Box
I FOUND IT!
GOOD.
MAN, I'VE NEVER SEEN ONE THIS OLD.
Electric Box
GUESS IT FINALLY KICKED OUT.
WHO LOCKS UP A FUSE BOX?
FREAKS.

CRACK IT OPEN.
CRACK
CCCRRREEEE
Electric Box
AAAKKKKK
MAN, LOOK AT THIS THING...

MAN, THIS IS REAL OLD. IT LOOKS LIKE IT HASN'T BEEN TOUCHED IN YEARS. I'M GONNA TRY AND FIX IT UP, BUT I CAN'T PROMISE ANYTHING.
DO WHAT YOU CAN--

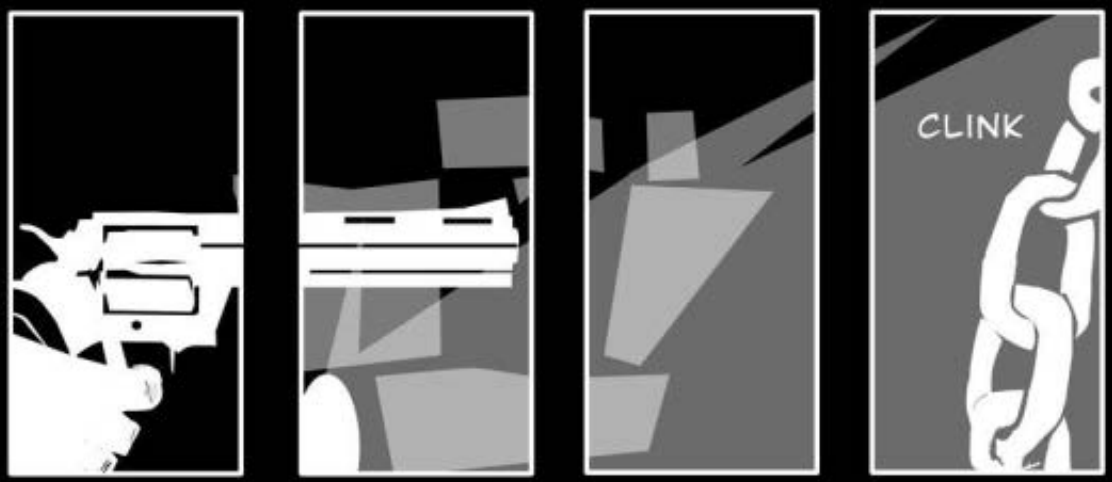
CLINK
HUH?

KEEP ON IT. I'M GONNA CHECK ON SOMETHIN'.

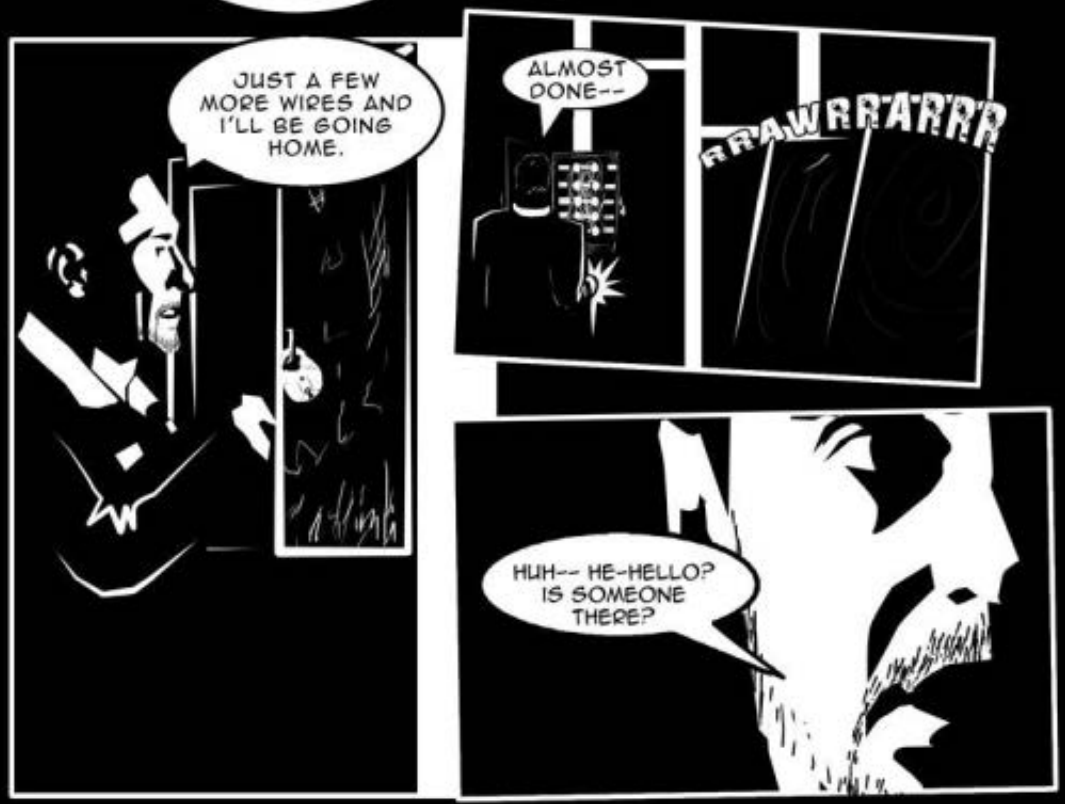
CLINK

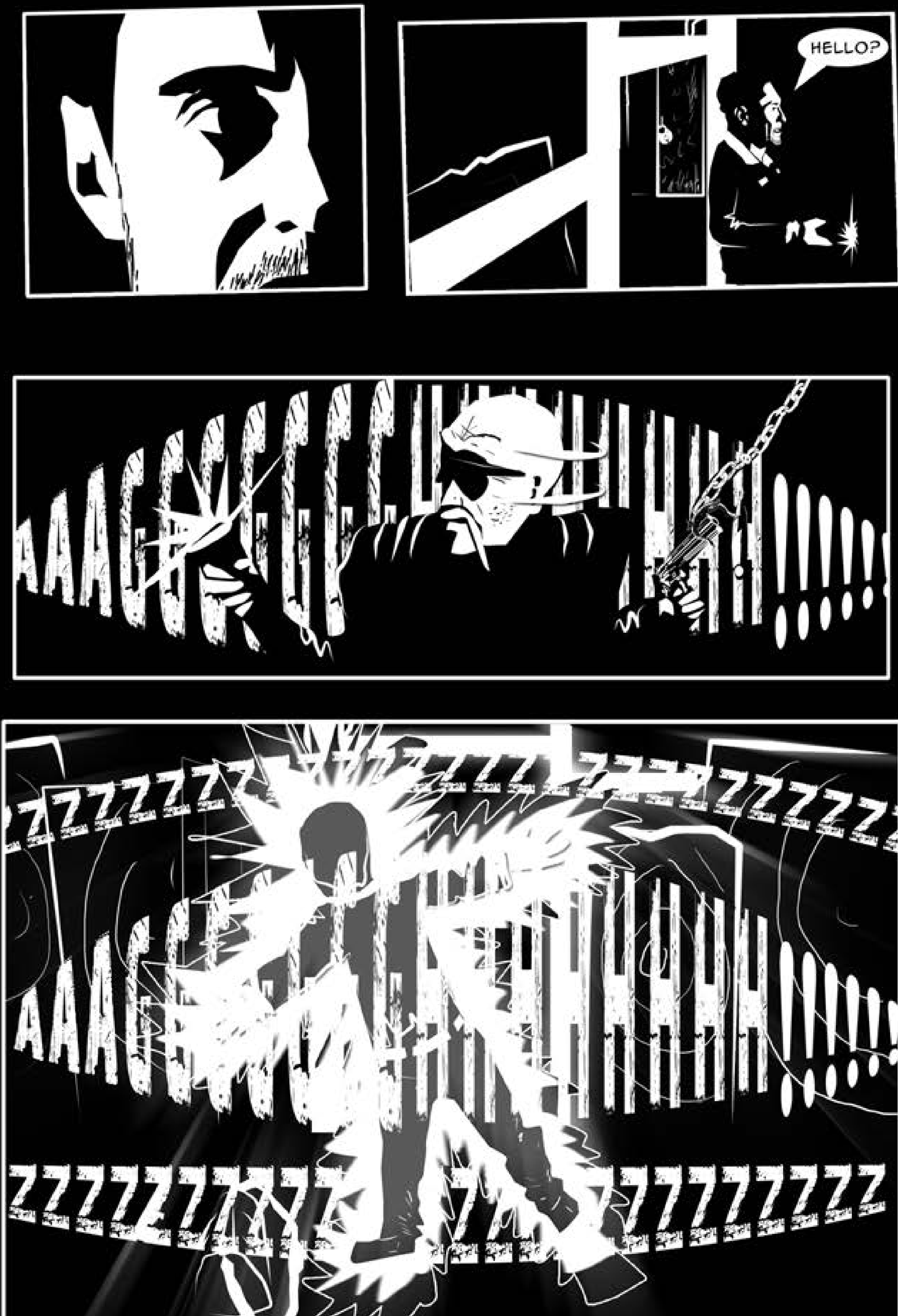
CLINK

WHAT THE HELL DO WE HAVE HERE?


CLINK

WELL, WELL, WELL...
LOOKS LIKE THE DEVIL'S BEEN KEEPING PRISONERS.


JUST A FEW MORE WIRES AND I'LL BE GOING HOME.
ALMOST DONE--
RRAWRRARRR
HUH-- HE-HELLO? IS SOMEONE THERE?


HELLO?

THE LIGHTS ARE COMING ON!
AND OFF.
Electric Box
HOLD ON CARLOS!!!!
GAP
GOTCHA!
OH NO...

...CARLOS.

WHAT'S GOING ON?! WE HEARD A SCREAM AND--
JESUS!
WHAT HAPPENED?
YOU TELL ME! ONE MINUTE HE'S WORKING ON THE FUSE BOX. THE NEXT, HE'S...
..LIKE THIS.
WE NEED TO GET THE FUCK OUT OF HERE!
YA' THINK, DUMBASS?!
JUST CALM DOWN.

SHORT STACK!
YEAH.
C'MERE. LET'S SEE IF THERE'S ANYWAY TO FIX THIS MESS.
LET ME SEE IF I CAN HELP.
I LEFT MY TOOLS UPSTAIRS. I THINK I'VE GOT SOMETHING ON ME.
I GOT A UNIVERSAL IN MY POCKET. I'LL PUT BETSY AWAY AND GET IT.

JESUS.
IT'S FRIED. EVEN IF WE COULD REPLACE THE FUSES, THE GROUND WIRES ARE USELESS. THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN GET THE ELECTRICITY BACK ON WITHOUT REPLACING THE WHOLE SYSTEM
WHERE DO THESE WIRES GO?
THERE AIN'T SOME WAY TO JIMMY-RIG THIS THING?
LOOK AT THE DAMAGE, DAN. HIS SKIN MELTED IN WITH THE WIRES.
I'M NOT SO SURE WE'RE LOOKING IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
WHERE IN THE HELL...
...DOES THIS GO?
HEY!
WHAT IS IT?
I SAW SOMEONE.

I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING.
I DON'T SEE SHIT.
THE SMOKE IS TOO THICK.
I SAW SOMEONE.

GET THAT FUSE BOX WORKIN'!!!

CALM YOUR ASS DOWN, NICK!

WE'RE TRYING TO GET THE DAMN THING FIXED.
WE'RE WORKING ON IT. PANIC WON'T SOLVE A DAMN THING.

FIX IT! IT'S THE ONLY WAY OUTTA HERE!

NO, IT ISN'T.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I'LL SHOW YOU.
UPSTAIRS
SEE? IT'S ALL JUST GEARS. LIKE AN OLD PULLEY SYSTEM. IF THIS WERE ELECTRICAL, IT WOULD'VE OPENED WHEN THE BOX GOT FRIED. THE FAIL SAFE WOULD'VE TRIGGERED EVERYTHING TO OPEN UP.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE A PLUMBER?
I'M A LOT OF THINGS, KID. AND ONE OF THEM IS BEING ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN THAT THIS SYSTEM IS NOT ELECTRICAL. IT'S OPERATED MANUALLY LIKE AN OLD ELEVATOR.
BUT IF IT'S MANUAL, WHO PULLED THE LEVER AND LOCKED US IN?
FUCK WHO PULLED IT! WHERE THE HELL IS IT?!

CRASH
WHAT WAS THAT?
CAME FROM THE LIVING ROOM.
LET'S GO FIND OUT.

OH MY GOD...
THIS AIN'T GOOD.
IS THAT REAL?
JESUS, MARY AND JOESPH.
OH BOY.

WHO DO YOU THINK IT IS?

IT CAME FROM UPSTAIRS.
EVERYBODY STAY CLOSE BEHIND.
SLAM
HE'S IN THERE.

GET READY.

EEEEEERRRRRRRRRRRR

OH MY GOD...

WHO IN THE HELL COULD DO THIS TO A PERSON?
I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO US.
END OF CHAPTER THREE

CHAPTER FOUR

NICK, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
AH, WHAT THE HELL IS HE DOING NOW?
I WANT OUT OF THIS HOUSE!!!
I'M GONNA TEAR THIS DOOR DOWN!!!
WAM
NICK, THAT WON'T WORK!
NICK, GODDAMN IT!! GET YOUR SHIT TOGETHER!
QUIT THIS BULLSHIT AND GET YOUR ASS BACK--

GET OFF ME!!!
AAAAAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHH!!!
I WANT OUT!! I WANT OUT OF THIS HOUSE!!!
I GOT IT! I GOT IT! I CAN SEE THE LIGHT! I CAN SEE IT!
HEY, THE DOOR FRAME OPENED UP---
SSHHKKK
UH OH
SHHRRKKK

AAGGHHH
SSSCHHHTTNNNNKKK

SPLLAATTT
I'M GOING TO DIE HERE.
SSHHHNNNKKKK
SSPPLLLAAATTT

HMPPHH
THE LORD IS MY--
PRAYING.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
WE NEED MORE THAN PRAYERS.
WATCH YOUR TONGUE, BOY! WE'RE IN THE DEVIL'S HOUSE. YOU NEED ALL THE GOD YOU CAN GET.
THERE IS NO GOD AND THERE IS NO DEVIL! A PERSON IS DOING THIS, YOU IGNORANT BASTARD! A PERSON! I SAW THEM!
YOU SAW THE DEVIL'S TRICKS! FAITH IN GOD AND OLD BETSY IS WHAT'S GOING TO SAVE US!
OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HOLLOW BE THY NAME...
THAT RELIGIOUS NUT-JOB IS GOING TO GET US KILLED QUICKER.
HEY, MARC, HE'S RIGHT. WE NEED ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET.
YEAH, JUST LOOK AT YOU.
I'M FINE.
IF WE STAY TOGETHER, WE-- WE CAN KILL THIS GUY AND GET OUT.

GGGGRRAAAAAAA
THE HELL IS THAT?

CREEAAAAKKKKKK

WHAT THE FUCK...

CCCRRRRRRR
STOP RIGHT THERE OR I'LL SHOOT!
RAWR
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
GET UPSTAIRS! GO!!!!!

DAN, C'MON!
BLAM
BLAM
DIE, YOU DEMON MONSTER!
GGGGG
RRRRRRRRRR
BLAM
BAM
AAA
RRRHHH
AH HELL.

THIS ONE'S LOCKED.
SAME HERE.
I'LL CHECK THIS ONE.
IT'S OPEN! EVERYONE IN HERE! QUICK!!!
DAN! WE GOT A ROOM! TURN LEFT!!
GRRHHH
GET READY TO SHUT THAT DOOR!

SHUT IT!
SLAM
GABE, GIMME A HAND!
WHAT'S HE DOING?
HE'S NOT TRYING TO GET IN.
SSSHHH LISTEN.
COME OUT....
COME OUT!
GABE, HELP ME PUSH THIS DRESSER IN FRONT OF THE DOOR.
WE NEED TO FIGURE OUT WHO THIS GUY IS.
YOU MEAN, "WHAT" THIS *THING* IS.

DAN, I THOUGHT YOU SHOT HIM.
I DID. GOT THE FUCKER RIGHT IN THE HEAD.
IF YOU SHOT HIM IN THE HEAD, HOW IS HE STILL WALKING?
IT'S A DEMON! IT'S NOT HUMAN!
DEMONS DON'T EXIST!
YOU CALLIN' ME A LIAR, BOY?!
NO! I'M SAYING DEMONS DON'T EXIST, YOU SUPERSTITIOUS ASSHOLE!
I'M GONNA SMACK THAT MOUTH RIGHT OFF YA'. TEACH YA' SOME MANNERS.
TRY IT.
BOTH OF YOU JUST STOP!
DAN, I BELIEVE YOU.
WHAT?
AFTER WHAT I'VE SEEN, I'M WILLING TO GO ON A LITTLE FAITH HERE.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE--
HEY, YOU SAW THAT THING. YOU SAW DAN SHOOT IT. NOW, I DON'T CARE WHAT EITHER OF YOU "THINK" IT IS. I JUST WANT TO GET OUT BEFORE IT GETS IN.
HOW? HE'S GOT US TRAPPED.
WE HAVE TO FIND THE CONTROLS. WE FLICK THE SWITCH, THIS WHOLE PLACE OPENS UP. SINCE WE HAVEN'T BEEN IN HERE BEFORE, THIS WOULD BE A GOOD PLACE TO START LOOKING.

HEY Y'ALL...
LOOK WHAT I FOUND UNDER THE BED.
IT'S THE DEED TO THE LAND. IT SAYS THE OWNERS ARE A JAMES AND RUTH THOMAS.
THIS MUST BE THEM.
THE PHOTO IS DATED APRIL 8, 1933.
THERE'S ALSO A DEATH CERTIFICATE FOR A HUNTER THOMAS. BORN AND DIED ON APRIL 5, 1933. IT SAYS THE BABY WAS STILLBORN.
THE PAPER IS FROM JUNE 1938. THE STORY ON THE FRONT IS ABOUT A MISSING BOY. THE NAME IS... HAROLD MILLS.
"MILLS"? RELATIVE OF YOURS?
I DON'T KNOW.

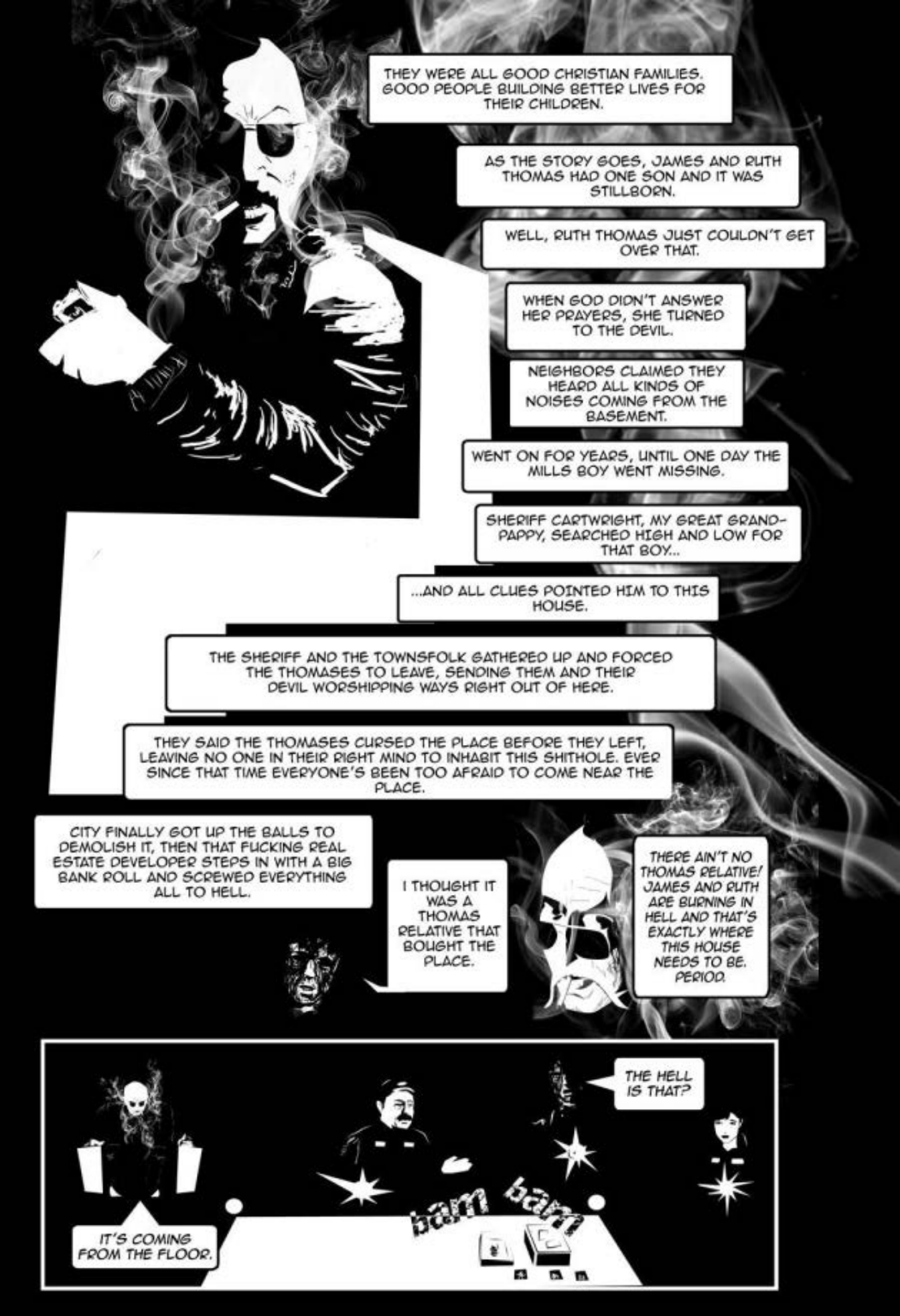
WAIT, IF THE BABY DIED THREE DAYS BEFORE THE PICTURE, THEN WHOSE BABY ARE THEY HOLDING?

THEY AIN'T HOLDIN' NO BABY!

I TOLD THE MISSES I'D QUIT, BUT CONSIDERING THE CIRCUMSTANCES, I BELIEVE I'M ENTITLED.

DAN, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS HOUSE? WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

HEAVEN'S GATE WAS FOUNDED BACK IN THE 1920'S WHEN EVERYONE WAS MOVING OUT WEST FOR FARMING. A GROUP BUILT THIS TOWN UP FROM NOTHIN'. THE FOUR FOUNDING FAMILIES WERE THE CARTWRIGHTS...
... THE FRANCOS..
...THE MILLS..
..AND THE THOMASES.


THEY WERE ALL GOOD CHRISTIAN FAMILIES. GOOD PEOPLE BUILDING BETTER LIVES FOR THEIR CHILDREN.
AS THE STORY GOES, JAMES AND RUTH THOMAS HAD ONE SON AND IT WAS STILLBORN.
WELL, RUTH THOMAS JUST COULDN'T GET OVER THAT.
WHEN GOD DIDN'T ANSWER HER PRAYERS, SHE TURNED TO THE DEVIL.
NEIGHBORS CLAIMED THEY HEARD ALL KINDS OF NOISES COMING FROM THE BASEMENT.
WENT ON FOR YEARS, UNTIL ONE DAY THE MILLS BOY WENT MISSING.
SHERIFF CARTWRIGHT, MY GREAT GRAND-PAPPY, SEARCHED HIGH AND LOW FOR THAT BOY...
...AND ALL CLUES POINTED HIM TO THIS HOUSE.
THE SHERIFF AND THE TOWNSFOLK GATHERED UP AND FORCED THE THOMASES TO LEAVE, SENDING THEM AND THEIR DEVIL WORSHIPPING WAYS RIGHT OUT OF HERE.
THEY SAID THE THOMASES CURSED THE PLACE BEFORE THEY LEFT, LEAVING NO ONE IN THEIR RIGHT MIND TO INHABIT THIS SHITHOLE. EVER SINCE THAT TIME EVERYONE'S BEEN TOO AFRAID TO COME NEAR THE PLACE.
CITY FINALLY GOT UP THE BALLS TO DEMOLISH IT, THEN THAT FUCKING REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER STEPS IN WITH A BIG BANK ROLL AND SCREWED EVERYTHING ALL TO HELL.
I THOUGHT IT WAS A THOMAS RELATIVE THAT BOUGHT THE PLACE.
THERE AIN'T NO THOMAS RELATIVE! JAMES AND RUTH ARE BURNING IN HELL AND THAT'S EXACTLY WHERE THIS HOUSE NEEDS TO BE. PERIOD.
IT'S COMING FROM THE FLOOR.
bam bam
THE HELL IS THAT?

Bär
Bär
RRIPP
AARRRRAA
GRRRR
HE'S DIGGING HIS WAY IN!
BAM
OUTTA THE WAY, BOY!
ME AND BETSY ARE GONNA FINISH THIS.
BLAM
BLAM
BINK
HOLD STILL!
BLAM
CLICK CLICK
UH OH.
HEH
HEH
EMPTY.
CRACK

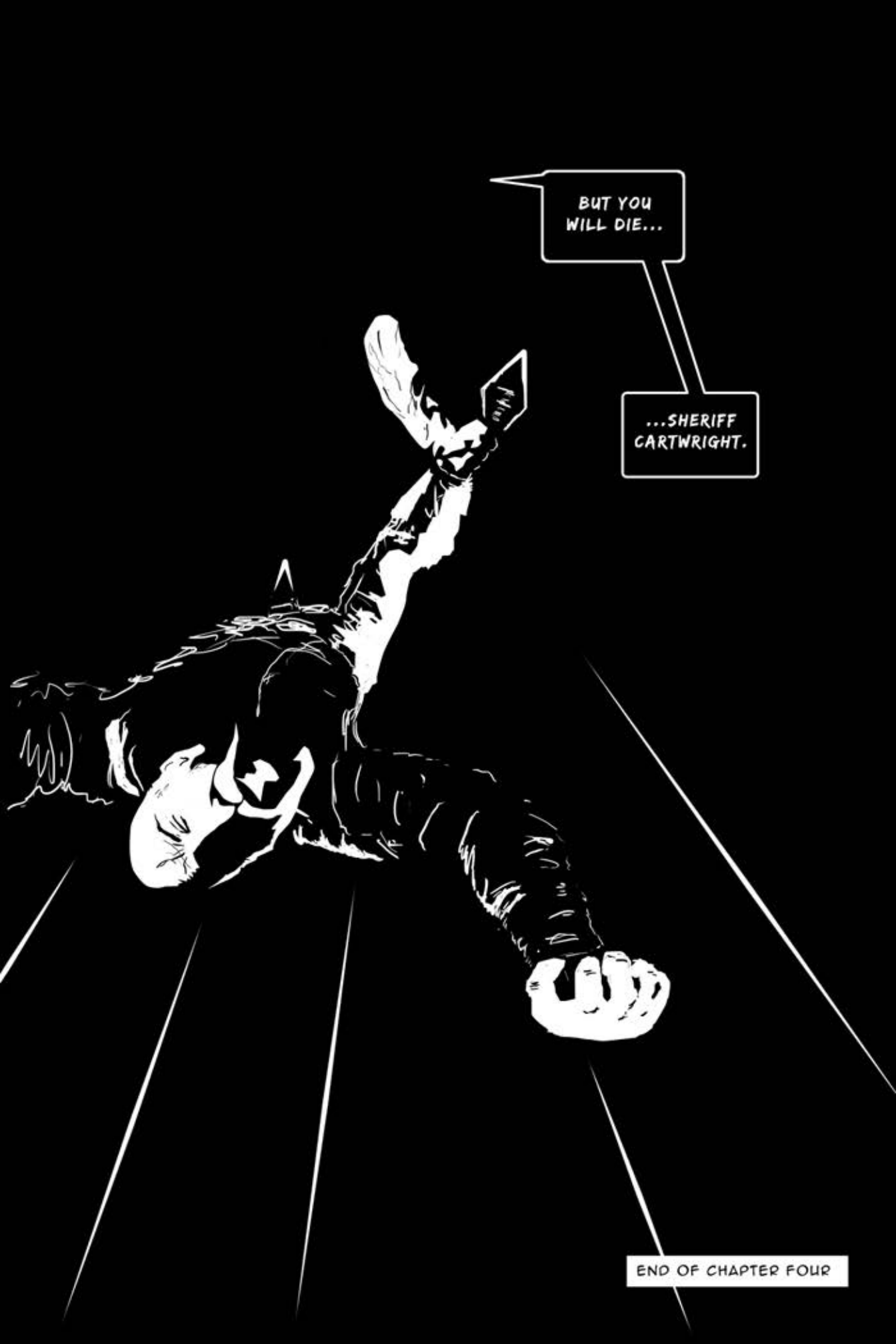
CRACK
AGGHH

WHERE IS EVERYBODY?!
I GOT EMILY!
YOU OKAY?
CAN ANYONE SEE HIM?
I'VE BEEN BETTER.
I'M OKAY.
SAME HERE.
IS EVERYBODY OKAY?
GABE, LOOK OUT!

AAAAGGGGGGHHHHH!

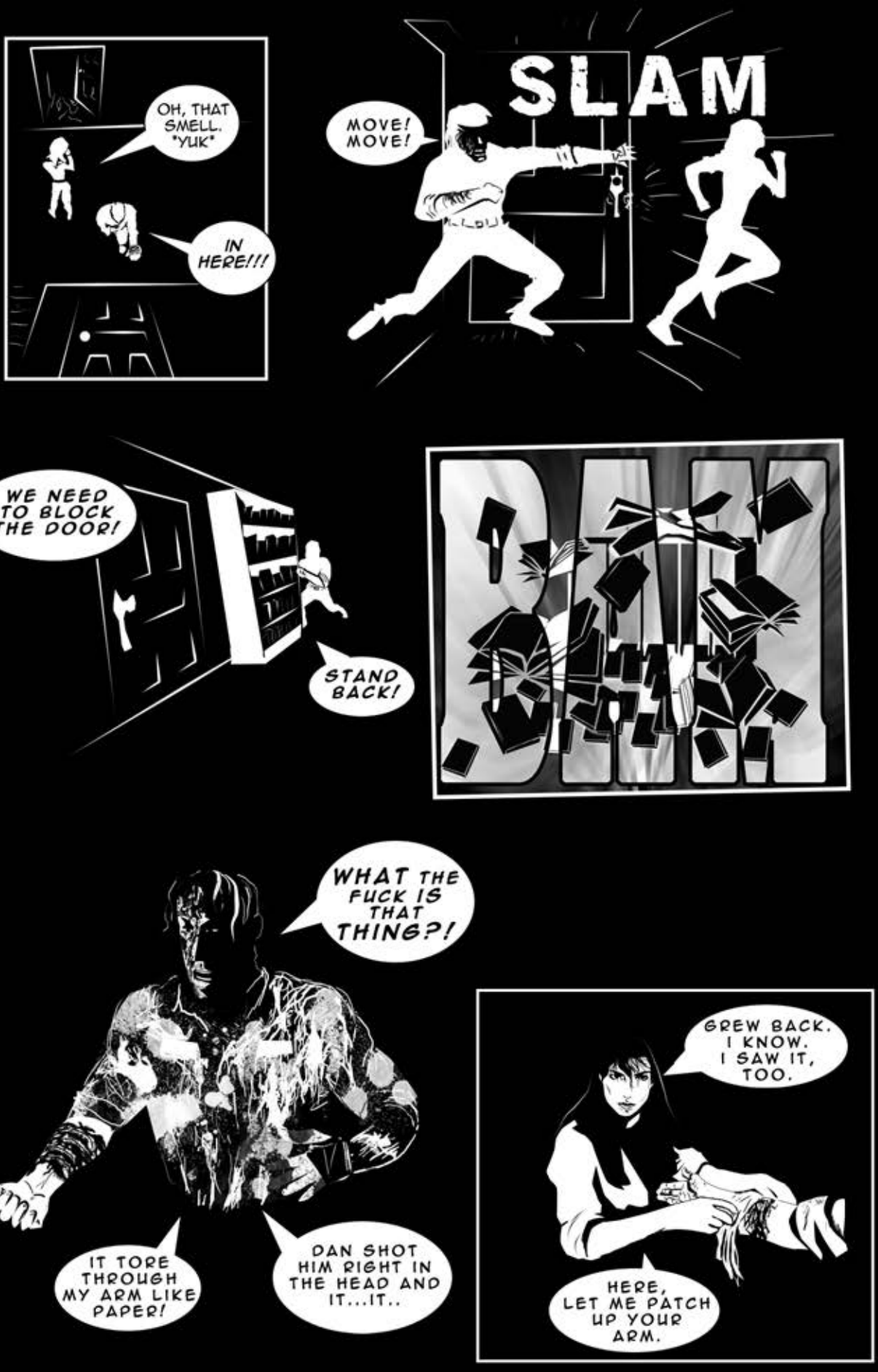
YOU FUCKING MONSTER!
I'LL KILL YOU---
SLASH
AAAGGGRHHHHH
RRWWAARRR
SMACK
WAM
click
I'M GONNA SEND YOU BACK TO THE PIT YOU CRAWLED OUT OF.
BLAM
RRAAAAWWWRRRR
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

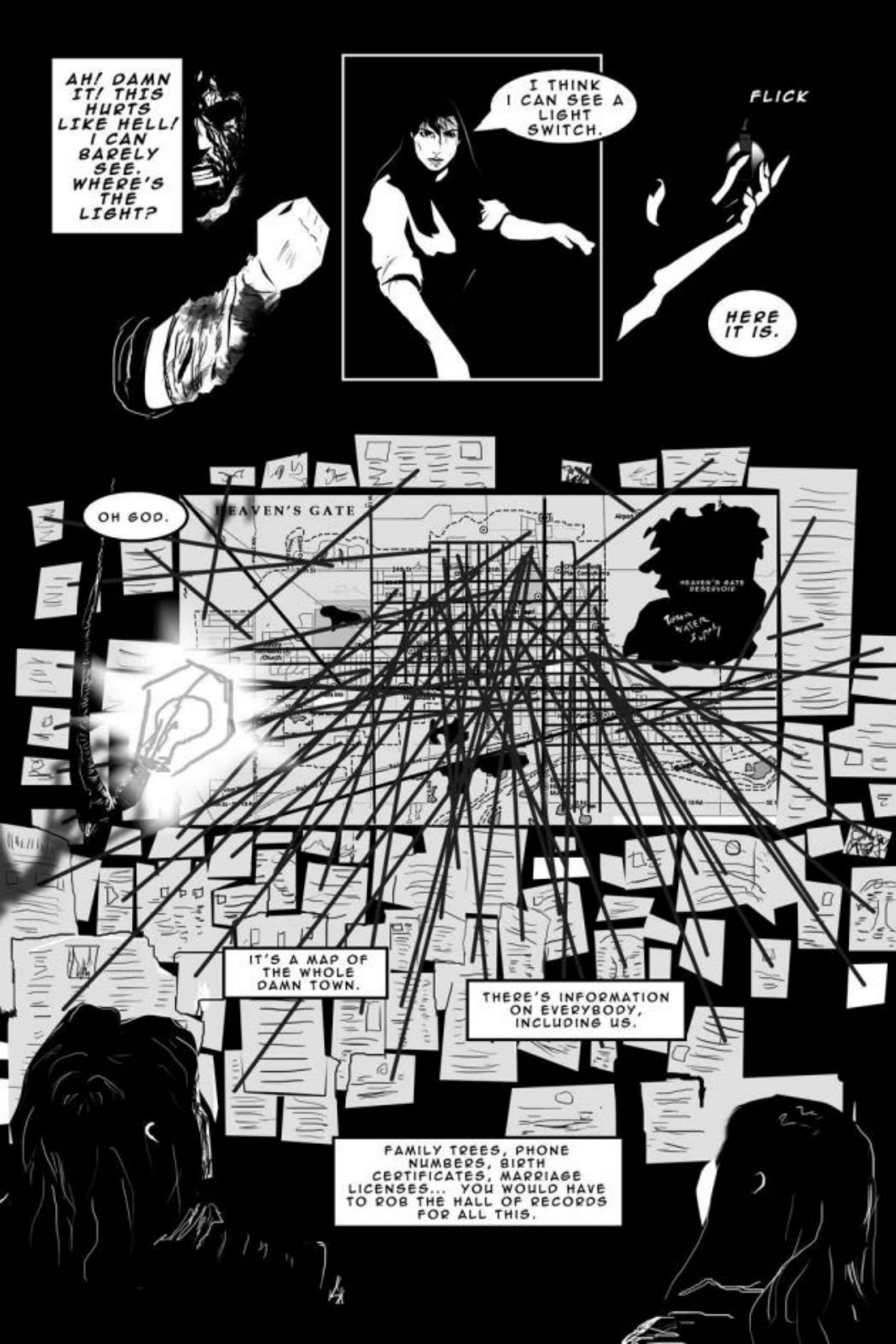
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM!
WE HAVE TO!
BLAM
DON'T YOU EVER FUCKING DIE?!
BLAM
CLICK
CLICK
NO.
WAM
RAAAAA

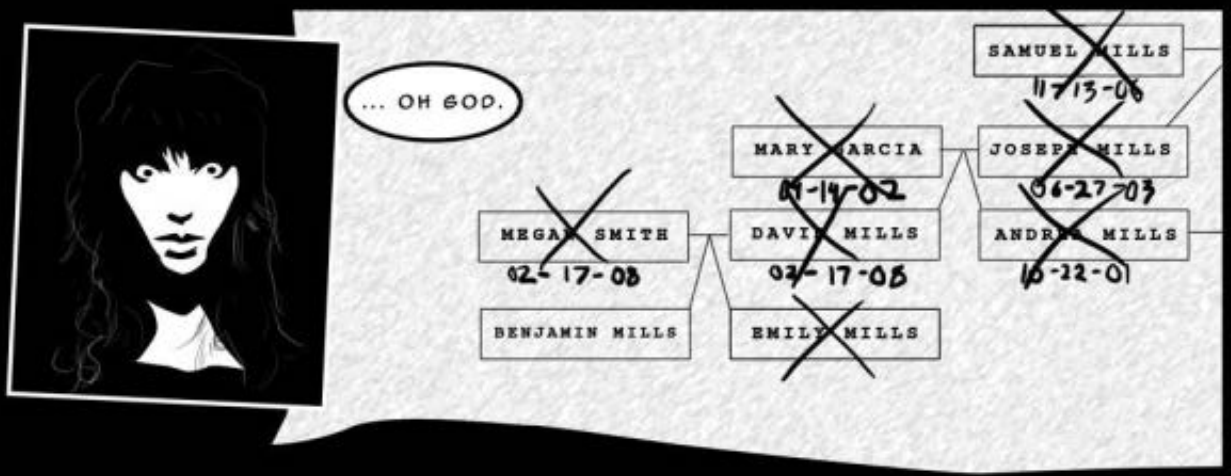

BUT YOU WILL DIE...
...SHERIFF CARTWRIGHT.
END OF CHAPTER FOUR

CHAPTER 5
MARC, HE TOOK DANIEL! WE HAVE TO GO BACK!
HE CAN TAKE CARE OF HIMSELF! RUN!!!

QUICK! IN HERE!
WHAM
OH GOD...


OH, THAT SMELL. "YUK"
IN HERE!!!
MOVE! MOVE!
SLAM
WE NEED TO BLOCK THE DOOR!
STAND BACK!
BAM
WHAT THE FUCK IS THAT THING?!
IT TORE THROUGH MY ARM LIKE PAPER!
DAN SHOT HIM RIGHT IN THE HEAD AND IT...IT..
GREW BACK. I KNOW. I SAW IT, TOO.
HERE, LET ME PATCH UP YOUR ARM.


AH! DAMN IT! THIS HURTS LIKE HELL! I CAN BARELY SEE. WHERE'S THE LIGHT?
I THINK I CAN SEE A LIGHT SWITCH.
FLICK
HERE IT IS.
OH GOD.
HEAVEN'S GATE
"HEAVEN'S GATE RESERVOIR"
IT'S A MAP OF THE WHOLE DAMN TOWN.
THERE'S INFORMATION ON EVERYBODY, INCLUDING US.
FAMILY TREES, PHONE NUMBERS, BIRTH CERTIFICATES, MARRIAGE LICENSES... YOU WOULD HAVE TO ROB THE HALL OF RECORDS FOR ALL THIS.

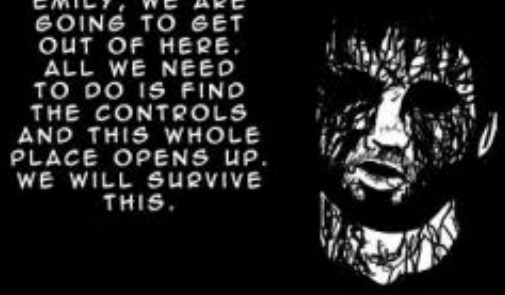

... OH GOD.
SAMUEL MILLS
11/13-06
MARY MARCIA
11-14-02
JOSEPH MILLS
06-27-03
MEGA SMITH
02-17-08
DAVI MILLS
02-17-08
ANDRE MILLS
10-22-01
BENJAMIN MILLS
EMILY MILLS

WHAT'S THE DATE BELOW THEIR NAMES?

THAT'S THE DAY THEY DIED.

OH... I'M SORRY.

MARC, I.. I CAN'T DIE.


EMILY, WE ARE GOING TO GET OUT OF HERE. ALL WE NEED TO DO IS FIND THE CONTROLS AND THIS WHOLE PLACE OPENS UP. WE WILL SURVIVE THIS.

WHAT CONTROLS? WE'VE SEARCHED THIS WHOLE HOUSE AND FOUND NOTHING.

WE DIDN'T SEARCH THE BASEMENT.

NO. THIS THING IS UNSTOPPABLE. OUR BEST CHANCE IS TO SNEAK PAST HIM, QUIETLY.

OUR EYES WILL ADJUST TO THE DARK, SO WE'LL BE ABLE TO MOVE AROUND QUICKER.

JUST IN CASE, WE SHOULD BRING A WEAPON. I FOUND NICK'S CROWBAR IN THE RUBBLE.

GOOD. STAY CLOSE BEHIND ME.

I THINK I CAN SEE... BOXES.

THERE ARE BOXES LYING AROUND EVERYWHERE.

I DON'T THINK THE BOXES ARE GONNA GIVE US MUCH TROUBLE.

WAIT A SECOND...

ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
NO.
WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU TO A HOSPITAL.
DANIEL, WHERE DID HE GO?
DOWN THERE...
I THINK I SHOULD GO ALONE.
NO WAY.
ARE YOU SURE?
I'D RATHER GO DOWN SWINGING.

STAY CLOSE TO THE WALL. WE CAN USE IT TO GUIDE OUR WAY IN.
CAN YOU SEE ANYTHING?
THE LIGHTS?!
HE KNOWS WE'RE HERE!

JESUS... WHAT IS THIS PLACE?
IT'S A GIANT CAVE UNDER THE HOUSE.
HOW LONG DID TAKE TO MAKE ALL THIS?
THIS GUY MUST HAVE HAD A LOT OF TIME ON HIS HANDS.
WHY HASN'T HE ATTACKED US?
WHERE IS HE?
I'LL TAKE A LOOK IN THIS ONE.
I THINK I CAN SEE...
WHAT? WHAT DO YOU SEE?
COFFINS. I THINK I FOUND THE GRAVES OF JAMES AND RUTH THOMAS.
I THOUGHT DANIEL SAID THAT THE THOMAS COUPLE LEFT TOWN.
HE LIED.
WHY?
THERE'S A LOT MORE TO THIS WHOLE STORY THAN WE'VE BEEN TOLD. I THINK --
GGGRRAAA

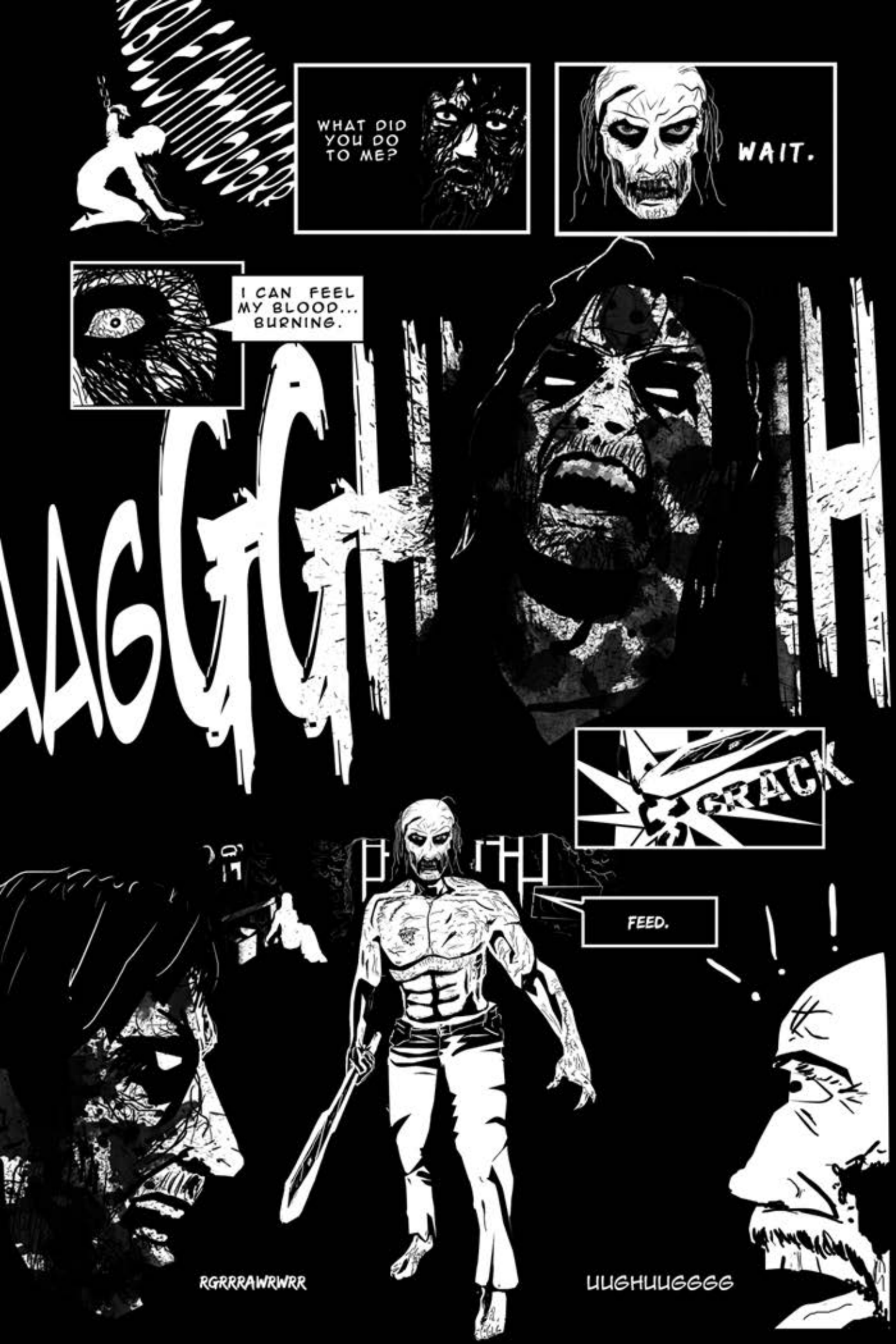
RWWAARRRR
RRRWAAAAWWWWR
I THINK IT'S COMING FROM THE CAVE AT THE END.
OH JESUS...
LOOK AT ALL THESE PEOPLE. HE'S BEEN KILLING EVERYONE IN TOWN. HE'S PUT THEM ALL... IT'S A ...IT'S A TROPHY ROOM.

THE NAMES ARE ENGRAVED ALONG WITH A DATE. JUST LIKE THE NAMES UPSTAIRS.
THERE'S TWO MORE CAVES. CAN YOU SEE HIM AT ALL?
NO. TAKE A LOOK DOWN THERE AND I'LL SEARCH THIS ONE. JUST HOLLER IF YOU HEAR ANYTHING.
THERE'S A LADDER IN HERE.
THIS EXPLAINS HOW HE'S BEEN GETTING AROUND THE HOUSE.
DID YOU FIND ANYTHING?
BINGO.

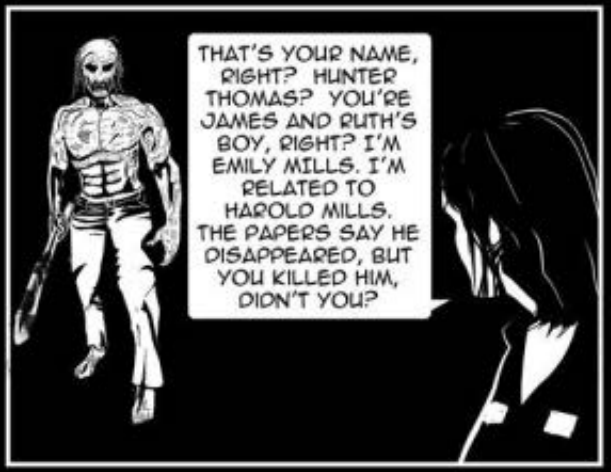
EMILY, GET IN HERE. I FOUND IT.
THANK GOD.
LET'S GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE.
RUMBLE RUMBLE
WHAT WAS THA--
OH NO.
WAM
...OH...MY HEAD...
WAKE UP.
WAKE UP.

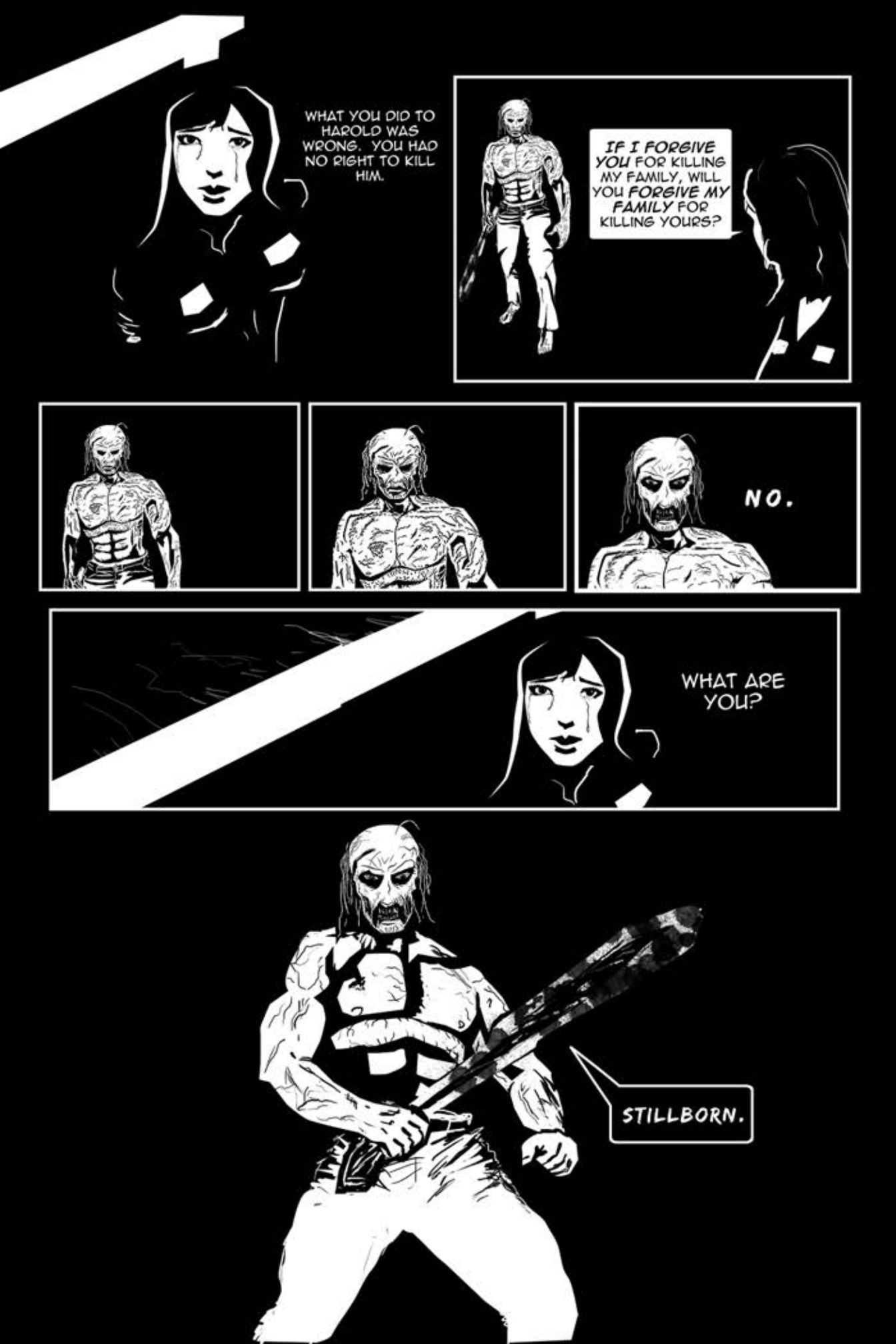
YOU FUCKIN' DEVIL! I REBUKE IN THE NAME OF GOD AND ALL THAT IS HOLY, YOU SOUL-SUCKIN' PIECE OF SHIT!
UHHH....
SHERIFF CARTWRIGHT IS YOUR FAMILY.
YOUR FAMILY TOOK MY FAMILY.
NOW I'M TAKING YOURS.
AAGGGHHH
CRACK
BAM
...BUT WE DIDN'T KILL ANYBODY. WE DIDN'T HURT ANYONE.
NOT KILLED.
HANGED.
SHOT.
AND BURNED.
KILLING US WON'T FIX WHAT OUR ANCESTORS DID.

QUIT WASTIN' YER BREATH! THEY GOT WHAT THEY DESERVED! BUNCHA DEVIL WORSHIPPERS! YOU ALL BELONG IN HEL--
SGFFRHH
GULP
SHUT UP.
AAGG
UGHGHHH
USELESS.
WHAT DO YOU WANT?!
rrriipppp
NO!
DRINK.
GRGLGGLG


WHAT DID YOU DO TO ME?
WAIT.
I CAN FEEL MY BLOOD... BURNING.
CRACK
FEED.
RGRRRAWRWRR
UUGHUUGGGG

OH GOD. MARC, WHAT HAS HE DONE TO YOU?




WHAT YOU DID TO HAROLD WAS WRONG. YOU HAD NO RIGHT TO KILL HIM.
IF I FORGIVE YOU FOR KILLING MY FAMILY, WILL YOU FORGIVE MY FAMILY FOR KILLING YOURS?
NO.
WHAT ARE YOU?
STILLBORN.

COMING SOON
STILLBORN
BOOK II
RAISING THE
DEAD
END OF
THE TRAP

GIVE GEORGE ROMERO HIS MONEY!

In 1968, George A. Romero, along with his production company, Image Ten, made the infamous film "Night of the Living Dead."

What most people don't know is that George and the rest of his crew did not register for the copyrights to the film.

The copyright that was placed under the film's original title, "Night of the Flesh Eaters", but was removed by the film's distributor, the Walter Reade Organization. When the title of the film was changed, they never put the copyright symbol on the new title.

This made "Night of the Living Dead" public domain.

The film's rights were immediately taken by other distributors, never giving George, or his crew, a single dime for their work.

Had George gotten the copyrights, he would possibly be a billionaire and every zombie movie, book, comic or game would have had to pay George royalties for his creation of the modern zombie.

In order to fix this, the creators of "Stillborn: The First Zombie" are giving 10% of every dollar made to George A. Romero.

Whenever someone buys a copy of Stillborn, we will be sending George his share of the brilliant monsters he created.

Help us Give George Romero his Money Back and encourage others to do the same.

-Hunter S. Zombie & Phillip K.