

COMIC REPUBLIC

#5

# ERU



EZEKIEL

EZEKIEL



COMIC REPUBLIC  
#51

# ERU



EZECCU

EZECCU



COMIC REPUBLIC  
#5

# ERU



I HAVE DANCED WITH ALL THE HORRORS  
AND ALL THE SCREAMS,  
AND I HAVE NEVER LOST MY FOOTING  
-OZ EZEUGU

IN ORDER TO UNDERSTAND MY FEARS , I HAD TO  
GIVE IT A FACE , A NAME THAT WAS EERIELY  
FAMILIAR LIKE MY OWN NAME  
-TOBE MAX EZEUGU











# ERU

## HALF LIFE

**CREATED BY TOBE MAX EZEUGU WITH OZ EZEUGU**

WRITTEN AND PENCILED BY OZ EZEUGU  
LETTERING BY TOBE MAX EZEUGU  
COVER 1 AND 2 BY OZ EZEUGU  
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**#5**  
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# ERU

ERIC KUKOYI LIVES A LIFE UNLIKE ANY OTHER, AS THE VESSEL OF THE ENTITY OF FEAR HE HOLDS THE POWER TO WAKE YOUR WORST NIGHTMARES AND FEARS . OVER CENTURIES OLD WITH A THOUSAND NAMES AND A THOUSAND FORMS, THE PEOPLE OF THIS LAND CALL HIM ERU



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Our deliberate  
confrontation with  
FEAR, is as natural  
as  
FEAR  
ITSELF!



**AFE BABALOLA HALL**  
UNIVERSITY OF LAGOS.  
NIGERIA



I IMAGINE WHAT  
YOU SEE, INTERACT WITH  
AND EVEN IGNORE  
LEAVES A MARK ON  
YOUR MIND.

WITH PREFERENCES  
INFLUENCING YOUR VALUES  
AND THOSE VALUES  
BREEDING YOUR ASSOCIA-  
TIONS.

THOUGH I WALK THROUGH THE VALLEY  
OF THE SHADOW OF DEATH,  
I WILL **FEAR** NO ~~EVIL:~~  
~~FOR THOU ART WITH ME.~~





WE BUILD WALLS  
IN OUR PERSON WHEN  
THOSE VALUES ARE  
DISCARDED.



OFTEN DISCERNIBLE,  
OFTEN NOT.

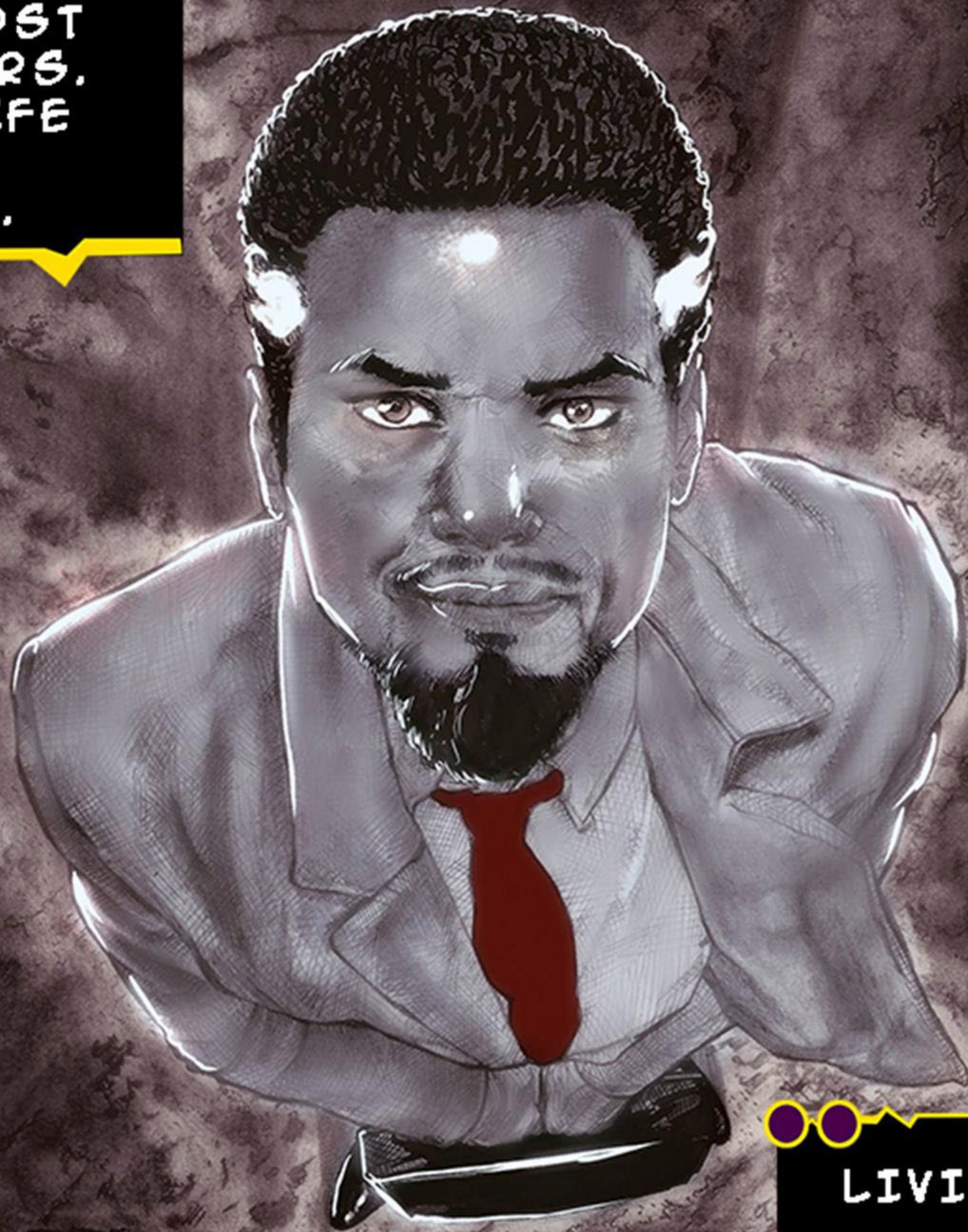


LIFE LEAVES A CARR-  
ESS ACROSS YOUR MIND  
WITH EACH PASSING DAY...



BUT NONE ON MINE.





LIKE THE ANT  
STILL GATHERING SAND  
FOR THE HILL AMIDST  
HIS DEAD BROTHERS,  
I'M LEFT WITH A LIFE  
THAT HAS BECOME  
A MUSCLE MEMORY.

LIVING...



OR DEAD...  
ALL CLICHES OF  
TIMES BOOK

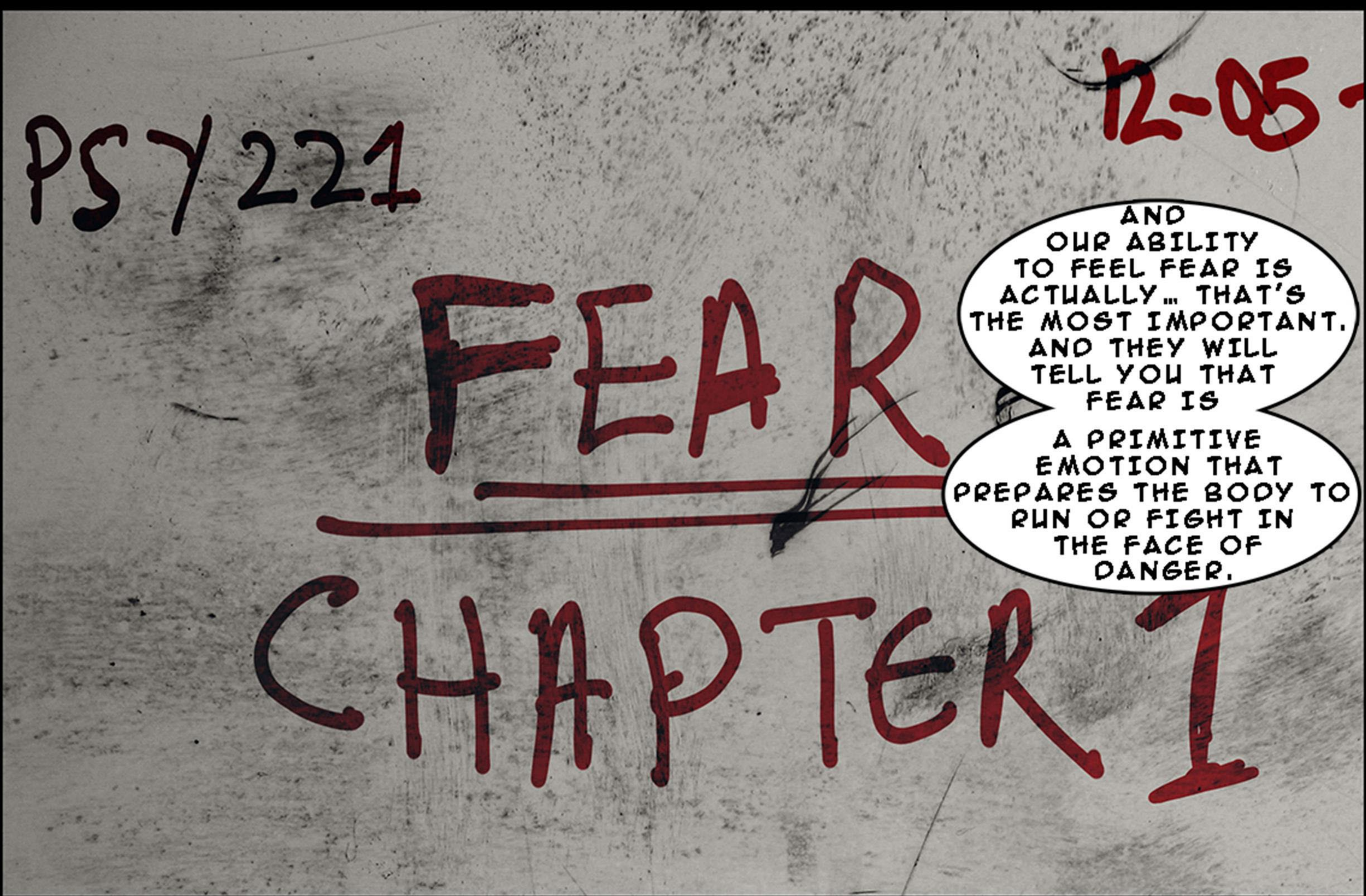




BUT THAT'S THE THING, HUMANS HAVE SURVIVED ON THE PLANET FOR A LOT OF REASONS.

A  
R  
A  
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H  
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B

3.5 to 6.1%  
of the population



PSY 221

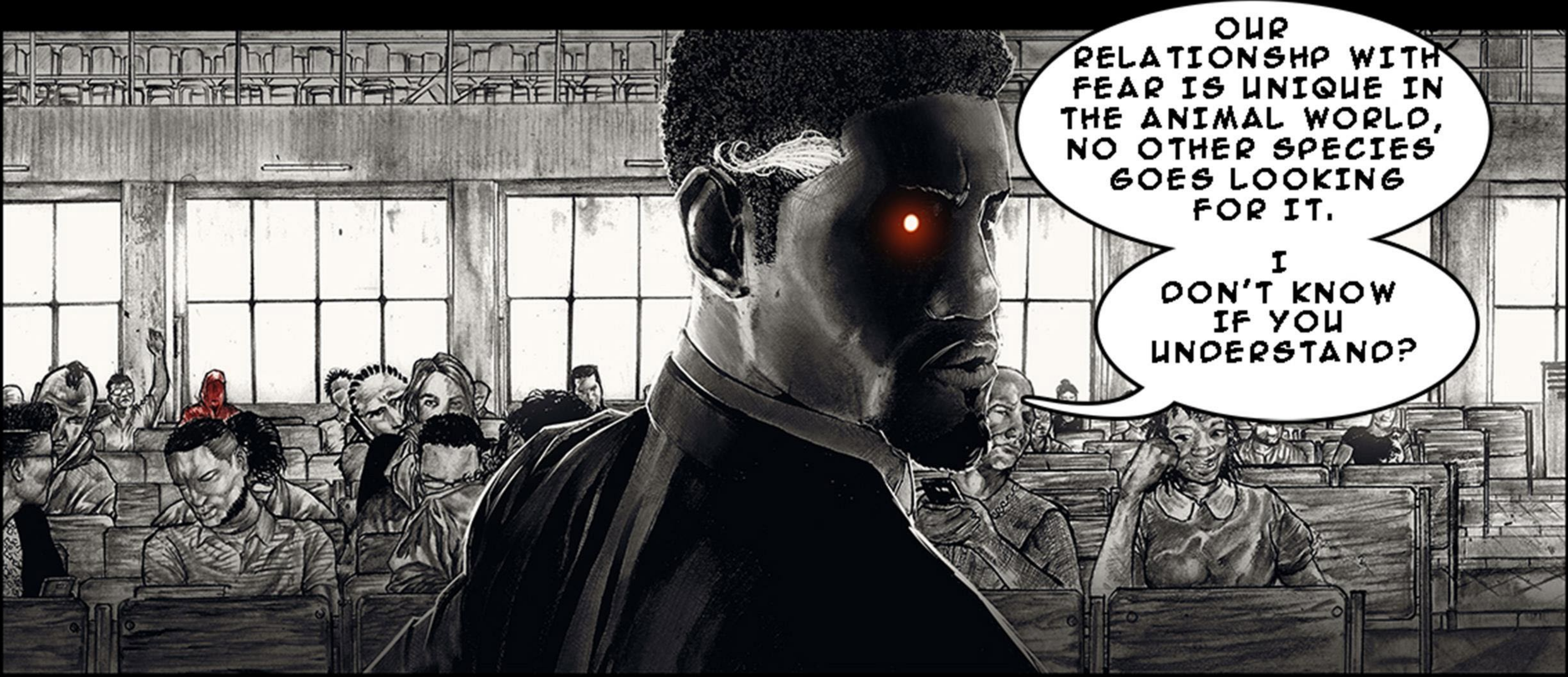
12-05-

FEAR

CHAPTER I

AND OUR ABILITY TO FEEL FEAR IS ACTUALLY... THAT'S THE MOST IMPORTANT. AND THEY WILL TELL YOU THAT FEAR IS

A PRIMITIVE EMOTION THAT PREPARES THE BODY TO RUN OR FIGHT IN THE FACE OF DANGER.



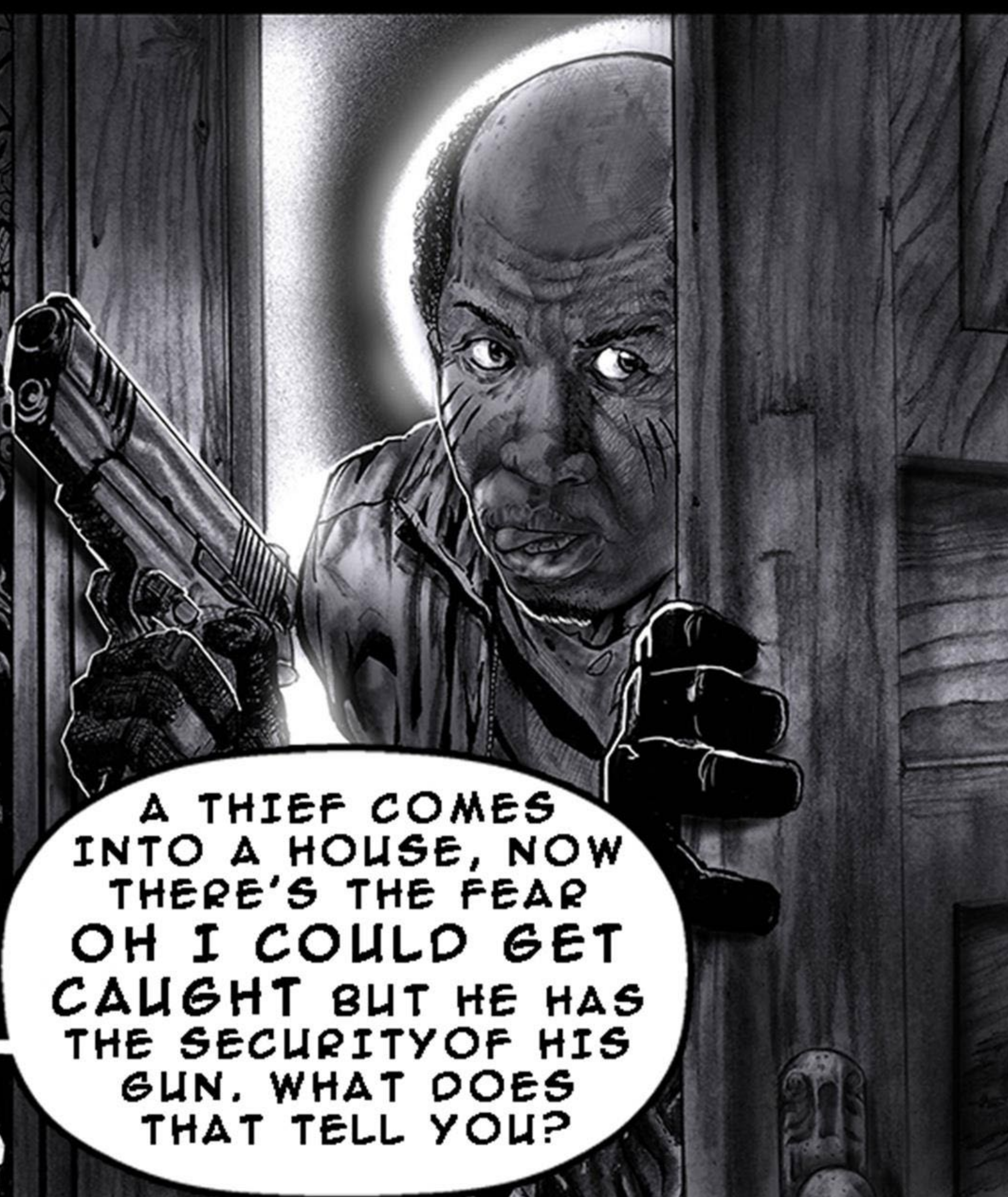
OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH FEAR IS UNIQUE IN THE ANIMAL WORLD, NO OTHER SPECIES GOES LOOKING FOR IT.

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU UNDERSTAND?





OUR DELIBERATE CONFRONTATION WITH FEAR IS AS NATURAL AS FEAR ITSELF. OKAY...GOOD, HERE'S AN EXAMPLE...



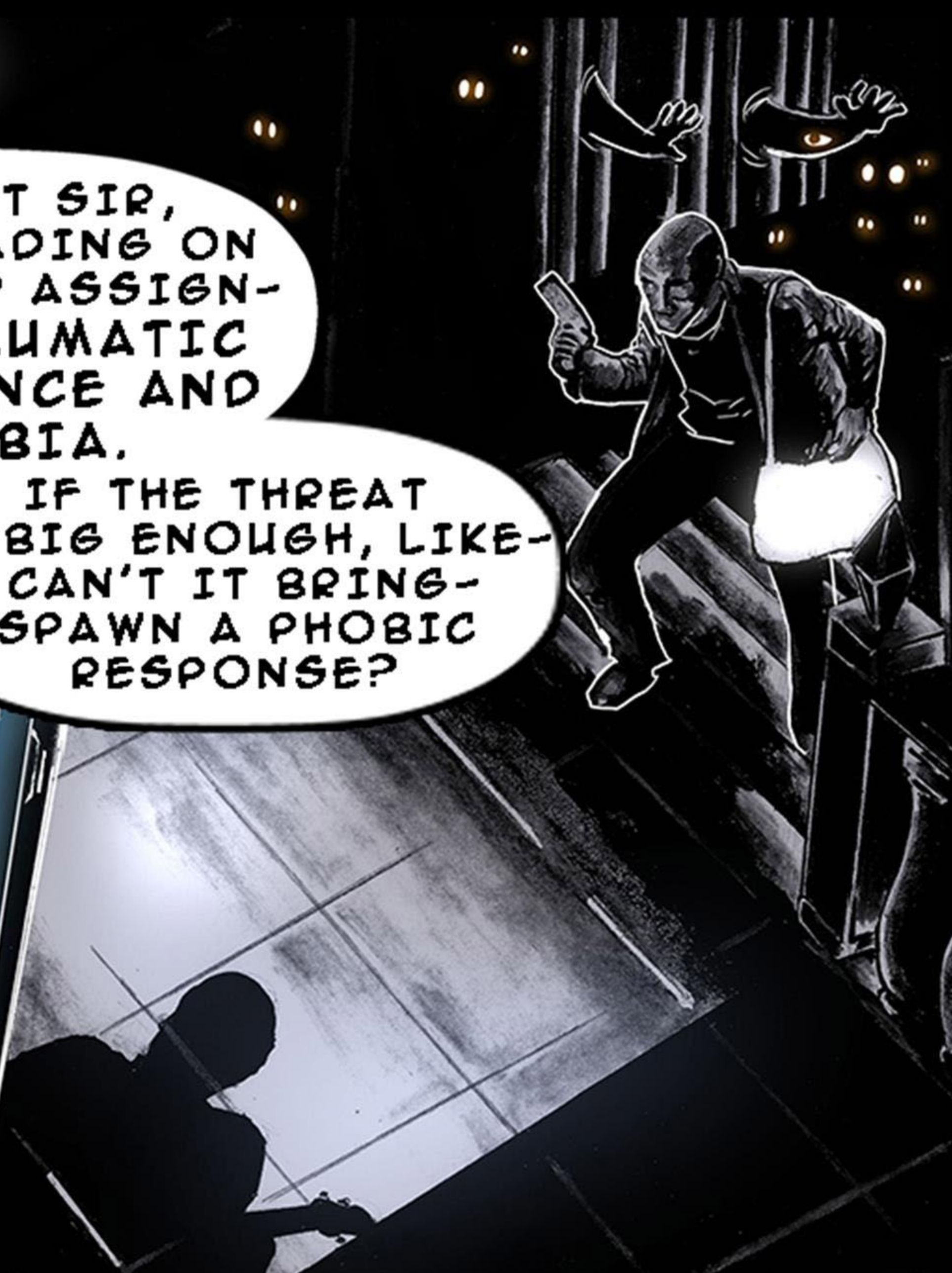
A THIEF COMES INTO A HOUSE, NOW THERE'S THE FEAR OH I COULD GET CAUGHT BUT HE HAS THE SECURITY OF HIS GUN. WHAT DOES THAT TELL YOU?



UM... BUT SIR, I WAS READING ON THAT YOUR ASSIGNMENT TRAUMATIC EXPERIENCE AND PHOBIA.



IF THE THREAT IS BIG ENOUGH, LIKE-CAN'T IT BRING-SPAWN A PHOBIC RESPONSE?



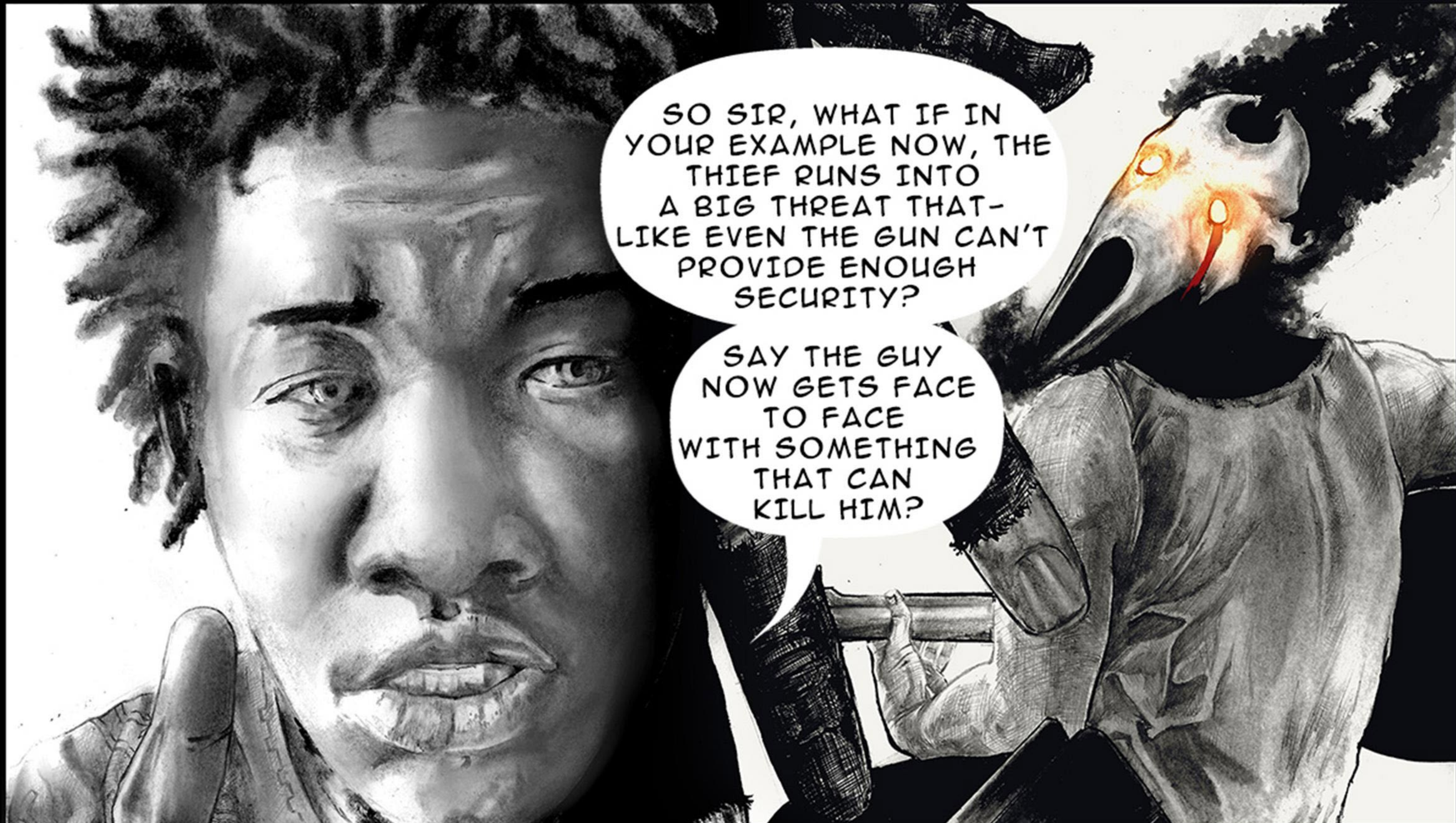
YES.



AS WE GO THROUGH LIFE WE'RE CONFRONTED WITH A SET OF DOORS- IF YOU LIKE, EACH OF WHICH REPRESENTS A CERTAIN FEAR.

SOMETIMES WE CAN'T HELP BUT OPEN THOSE DOORS SOMETIMES WE WISH WE HADN'T.





SO SIR, WHAT IF IN YOUR EXAMPLE NOW, THE THIEF RUNS INTO A BIG THREAT THAT-LIKE EVEN THE GUN CAN'T PROVIDE ENOUGH SECURITY?

SAY THE GUY NOW GETS FACE TO FACE WITH SOMETHING THAT CAN KILL HIM?



WELL, WHEN SUCH A THREAT APPEARS, THE BRAIN'S FEAR CENTRE; THE AMYGDALA, SNAPS INTO ACTION.

BUT SEE THE THING WITH PHOBIAS IS THAT AFTER THAT ONE CHANCE ENCOUNTER, ELEMENTS RELATING TO IT BECOME THE PHOBIA NO MATTER HOW IRRATIONAL THEY ARE.

THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE PEOPLE HAVING A PHOBIA OF HOUSES, DOMATOPHOBIA, AFTER- SAY A HAUNTED HOUSE SCARE.

BUT THESE FEARS ARE IRRATIONAL BECAUSE AT THE POINT WHEN EXPERIENCED... THERE MOST LIKELY IS NO REAL THREAT.





WE UNDERSTAND FROM OUR LAST CLASS, WHERE WE TALKED ABOUT THE AMYGDALA, WE SAID FEAR IS AN INNATE EMOTION--

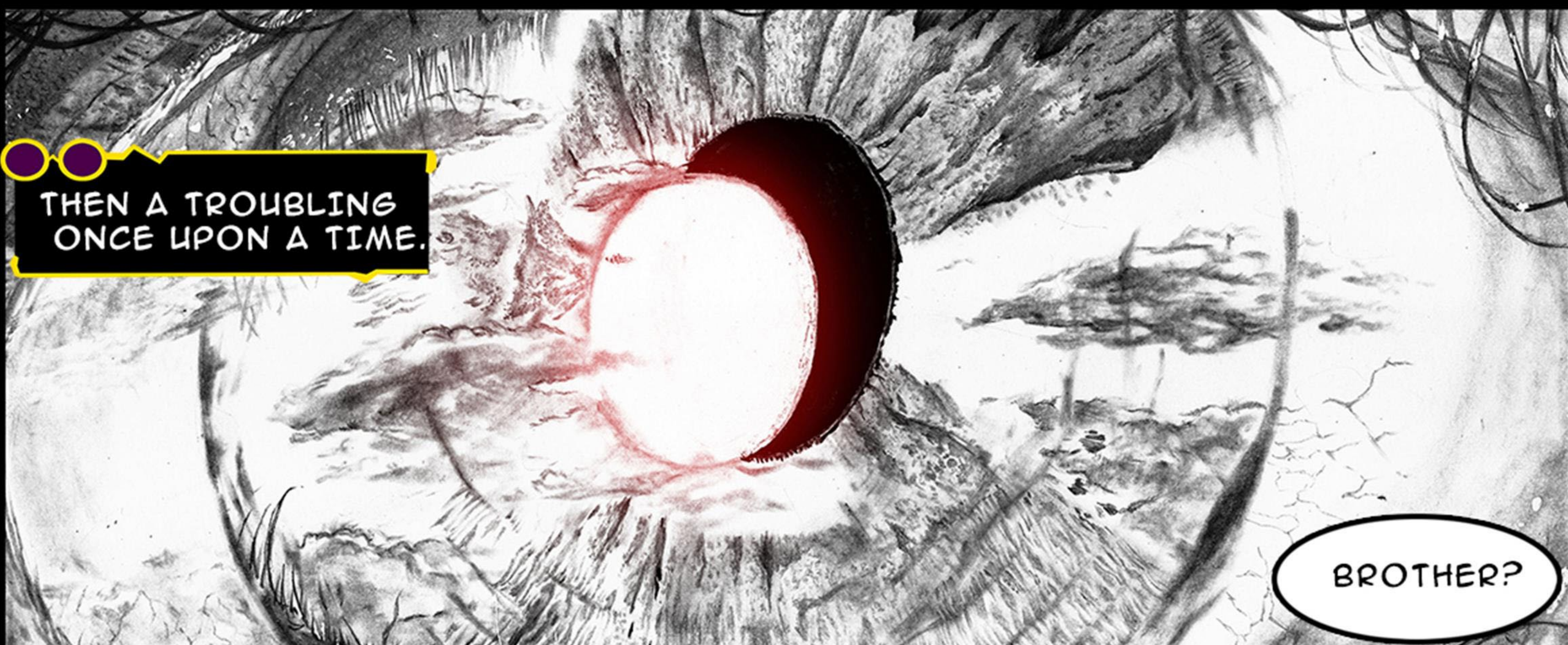
THE BACK SPACE KEY IS TAPPED...



THE CHAPTER OF CLICHES TAKES AN EDIT...



A NEW STORY STARTS...



THEN A TROUBLING ONCE UPON A TIME.

BROTHER?





I REMEMBER  
MOGADISHU 1993, IT SEEMS  
AS FRESH AS YESTERDAY. WE  
WENT IN AFTER XANAAQ  
WHEN HE FIRST ESCAPED  
HIS FIRST HOST.



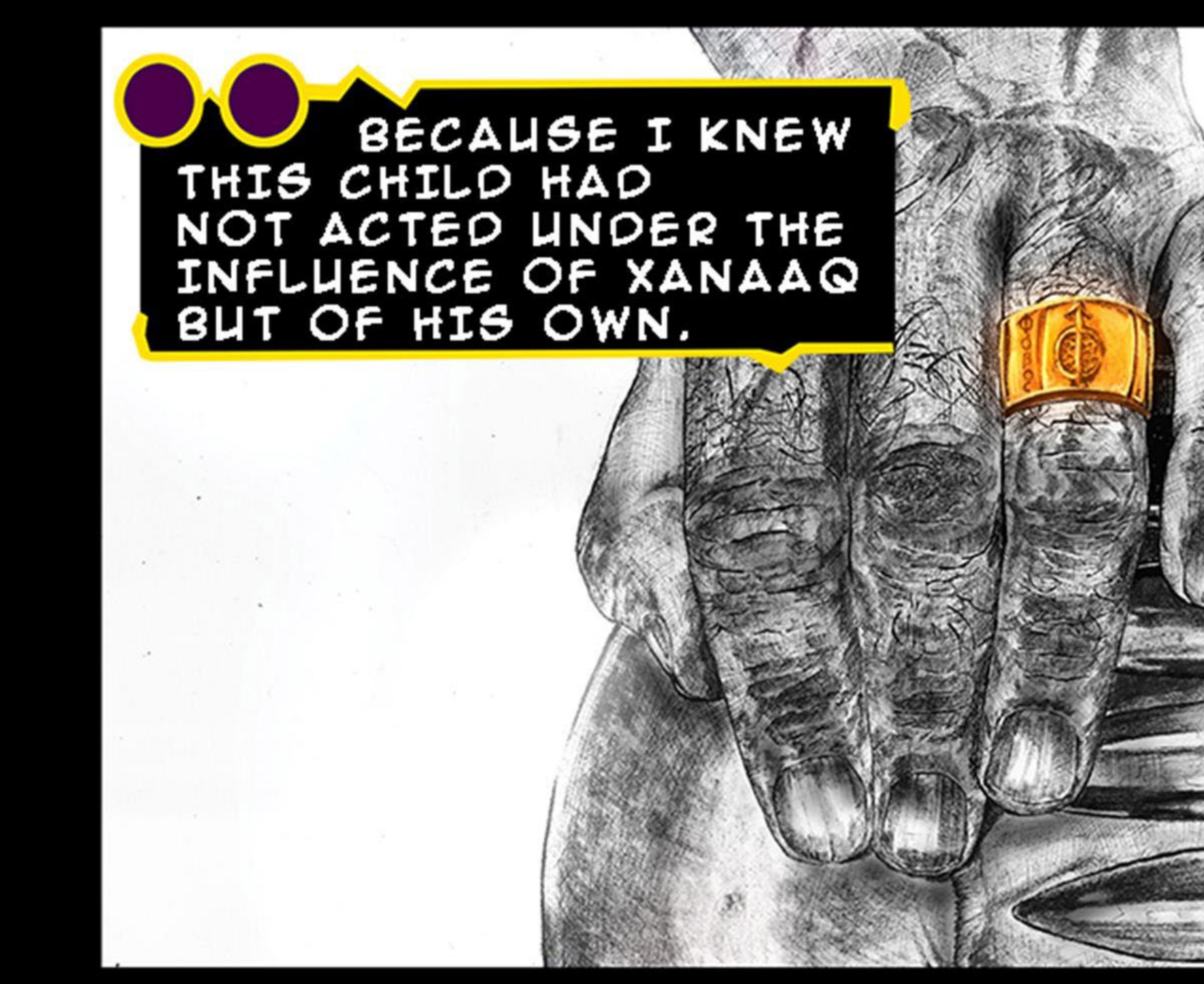
WE SAW AS HE  
MADE THE SOMALIANS  
AND AMERICAN  
SOLDIERS BLOODY  
THEMSELVES...

THEN... THIS YOUNG  
BOY JUST STOOD IN THE  
FIELD OF... MESS, CRYING,  
BEATEN AND BLOODIED.

I WENT TO HIM  
AND I SAW AROUND  
HIM WHAT HE HAD  
DONE WITH HIS OWN  
BARE HANDS.



THERE HE WAS  
STANDING IN A FIELD,  
A FIELD OF ... BODIES...  
AND... I REMEMBER... I...  
I WAS CONFUSED.




BECAUSE I KNEW  
THIS CHILD HAD  
NOT ACTED UNDER THE  
INFLUENCE OF XANAAQ  
BUT OF HIS OWN.



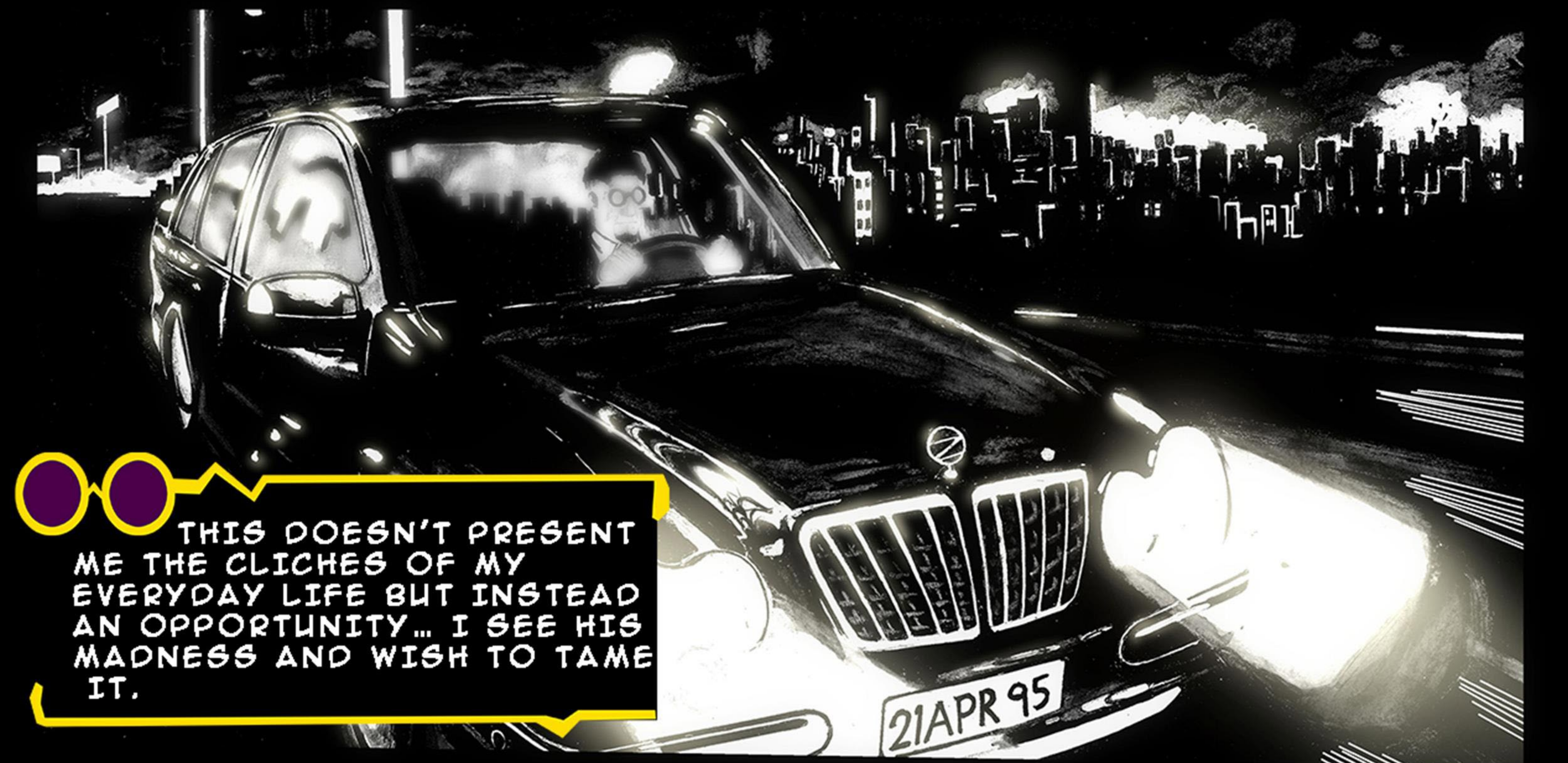
I KNEW IT  
WAS HIM

THE NEXT  
EIDOS OF ANGER.






I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE MADNESS I BROUGHT INTO HIS LIFE...MADNESS CAN BE RELATIVE AN OVERDOSE PROVES TRAUMATICALLY LETHAL



THIS DOESN'T PRESENT ME THE CLICHES OF MY EVERYDAY LIFE BUT INSTEAD AN OPPORTUNITY... I SEE HIS MADNESS AND WISH TO TAME IT.



BUT IN ALL HONESTY I FIND MYSELF FASCINATED BY IT AS I AM GUILTY.



**THE NOWHERE KINGDOM.  
\*RIPIR ADOHI.**



\*RIPIR ADOHI-LITERALLY MEANS 'NOWHERE KINGDOM' IN ENOCHIAN TEXT





**KNOCK  
KNOCK.**

**SHE RESPONDS.**



**BUT...**

**≡ SIGH ≡  
A  
TOILET!**



**ADOHI, YOU  
HAVE FORGOTTEN  
HOW TO ARRANGE  
YOURSELF AGAIN,  
ABI?**



**GOOD.**



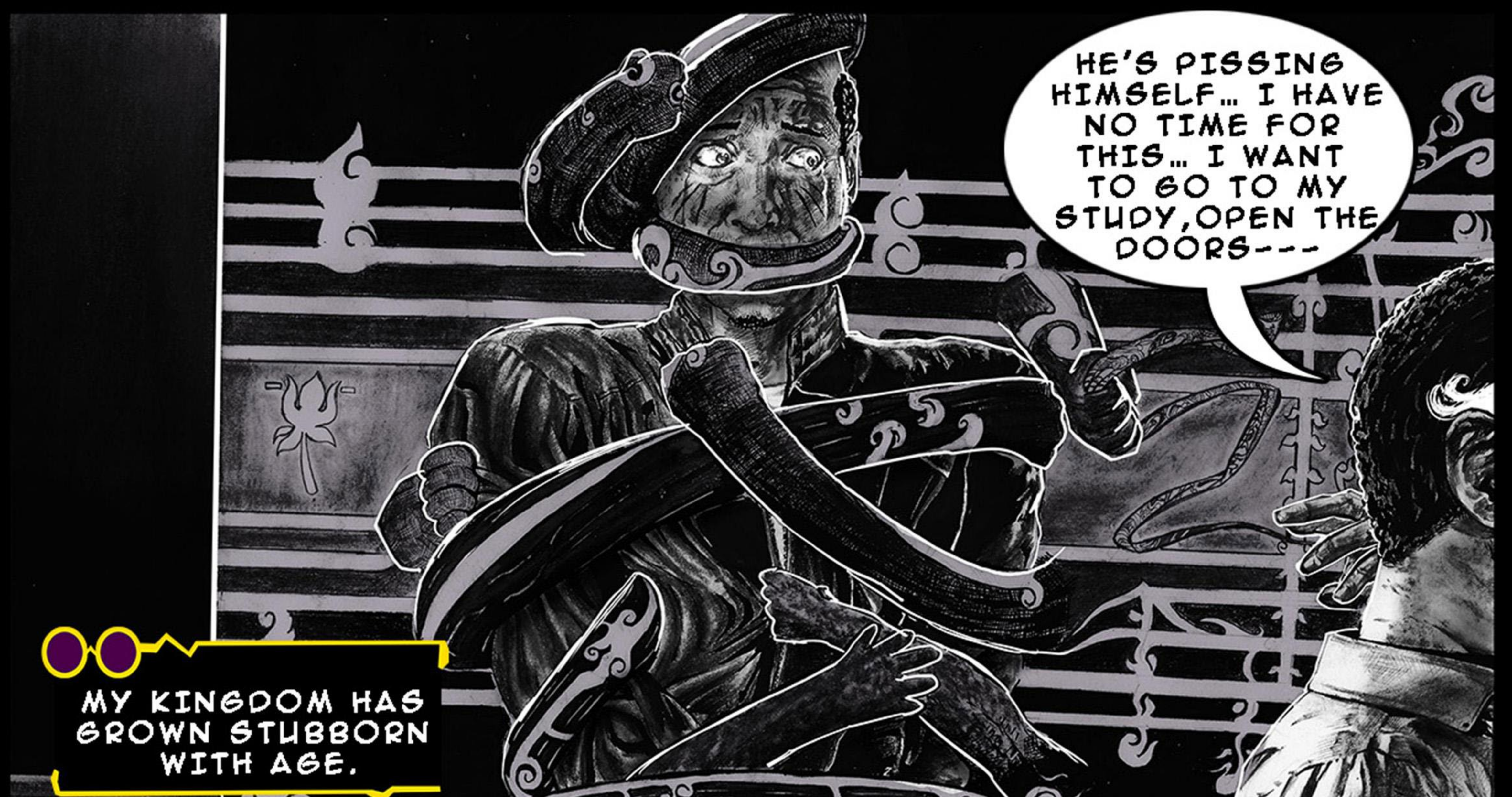


YOU'RE CLEANING THE HOUSE BY THIS TIME-

THAT WHAT HAPPENED?



\*SIGH\*  
YOU STILL KEPT HIM... I THOUGHT I TOLD YOU TO DROP HIM OUTSIDE?



HE'S PISSING HIMSELF... I HAVE NO TIME FOR THIS... I WANT TO GO TO MY STUDY, OPEN THE DOORS---

MY KINGDOM HAS GROWN STUBBORN WITH AGE.





“PASSING  
EndWORLD  
NEVER  
ends  
well”





TO THE GALLERIA, AND CALL ADAMU FOR ME.

IT'S A LONG WALK TO MY STUDY.



MASTER, SHE TOLD ME YOU CALLED?

HERE, YOU MUST BE HUNGRY.

RIPIR ADOHI PEELS THROUGH THE MANY ROOMS TO MAKE IT SHORTER... IT NEVER REALY IS...

POE  
ONCE  
UPON A  
MIDNIGHT  
DREARY  
WHILE I  
PONDERED  
WEAK  
AND  
WEARY

FORGOTTEN



SAMSUNG

Galaxy Note8

Do Bigger Things







MASTER,  
THE SUN...  
YOU'VE--

I KNOW.  
I KNOW.  
I KNOW.



IT'S AS RED  
AS MY APPLE, AS  
STRAWBERRIES,  
ROSES... TOO BAD  
ONLY WE  
CAN SEE  
IT.

MASTER...  
YOUR BROTHER,  
WE MUST GO.



XANAAQ IS COME...  
BLOOD BOILING AND  
GARGLING HIS OWN  
WILD SPIT...  
MY BROTHER.

YOUR EIDOLON  
CANDLES...

THE FIRES OF  
XANAAQS CANDLE  
ARE ALL READY  
DANCING,  
DANCING





YOU'VE  
POURED IT ON  
EVERY OTHER  
COUNTRY AND THE  
WAX DIDN'T SPILL SO  
IF IT'S FALLING  
ON SOMALIA  
ONLY...

BADHOON  
HAS HIM ON  
A LEESH.



DOUBT?

NOSTALGIA...

SO YOU  
UNDERSTAND WHY  
WE MUST HURRY,  
OUR FASTEST ROUTE  
IS THROUGH--

DON'T SAY  
IT!

END  
WORLD.



HE!  
HE!  
HE!



I WILL  
CALL THE  
OTHERS...

JARUMI  
ALAKALA!!

\*GUARDIANS OF NIGHTMARES

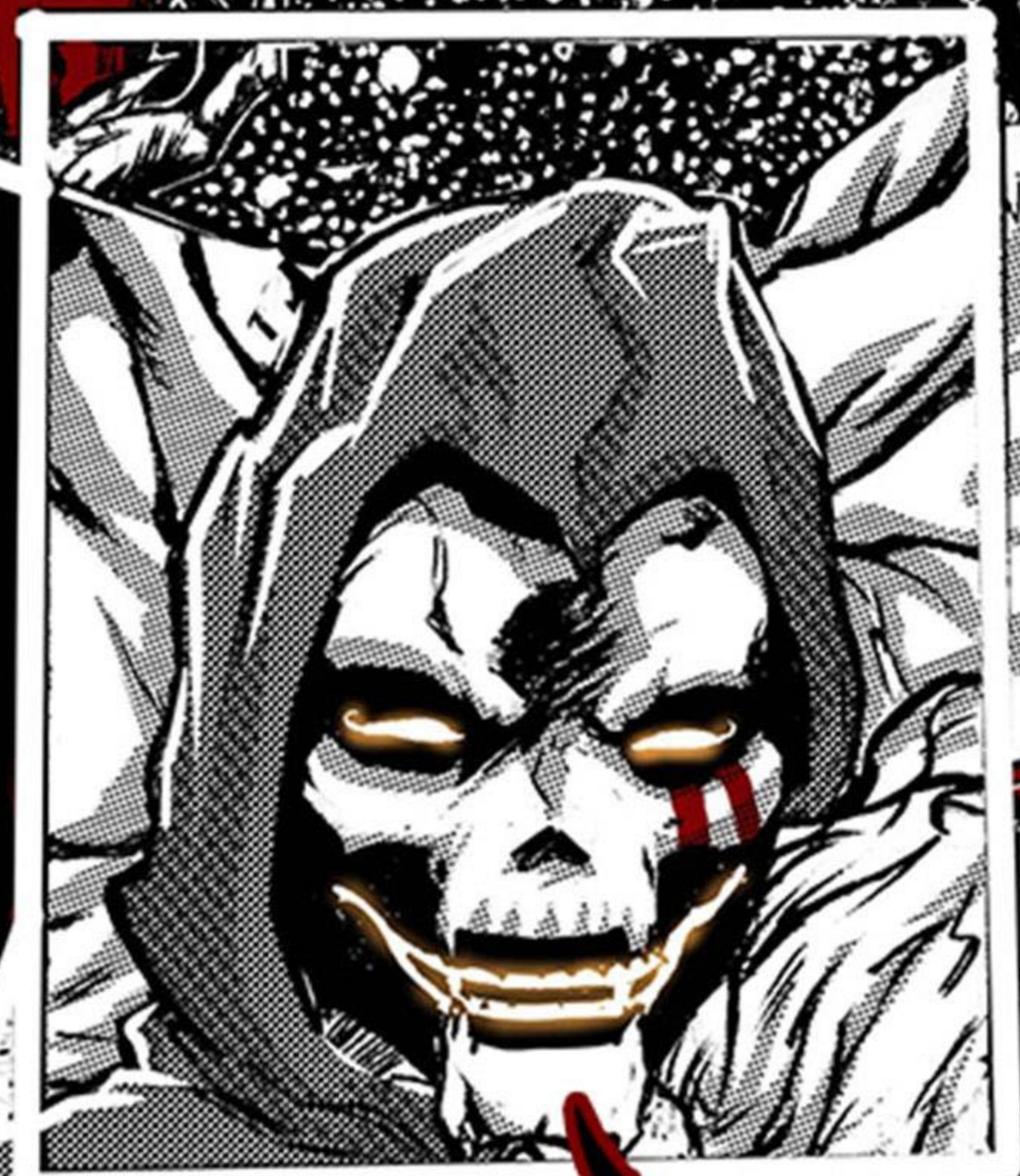


THE PALE MAN

ADIMU EYO  
OBA EGUNGUN

MADAM  
KOI KOI

OJUJU  
CALABAR



PASSING  
ENDWORLD...  
NEVER ENDS  
WELL.

ERU, EIDOS OF FEAR,  
THE COMPOSER OF  
SCREAMS.



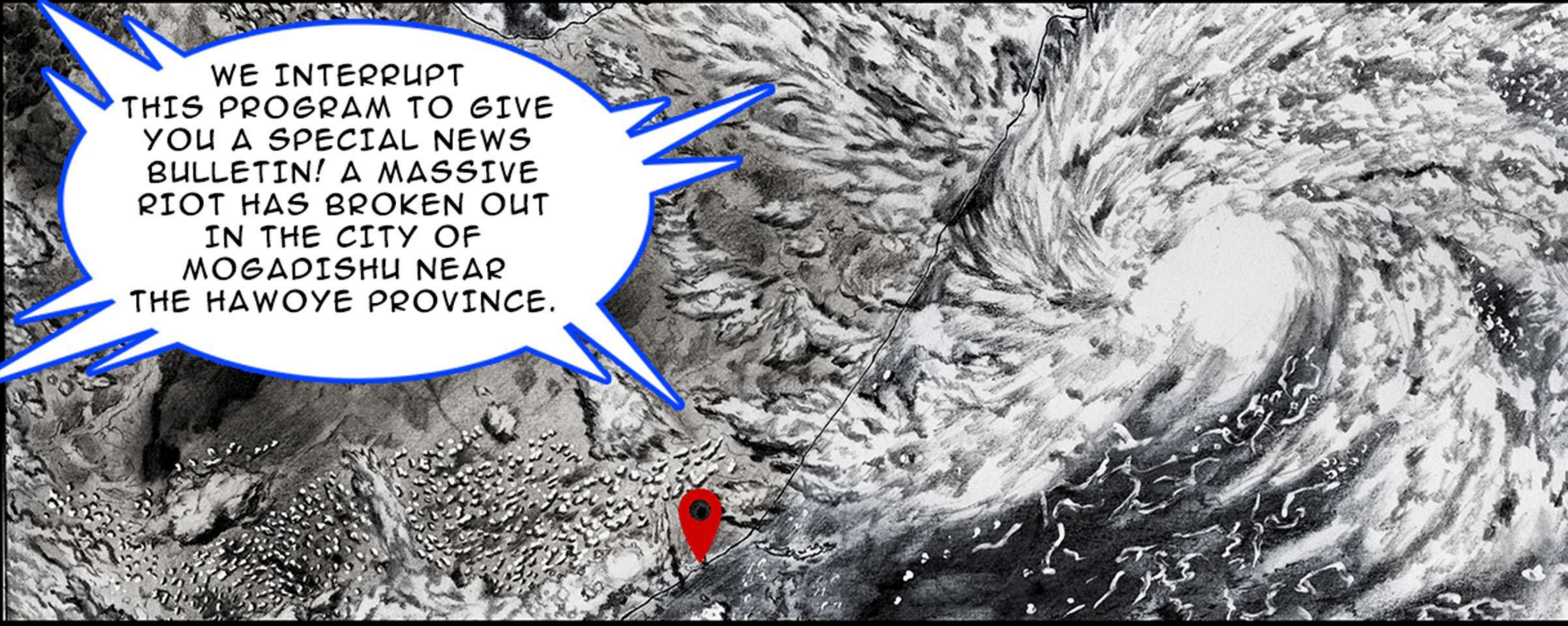




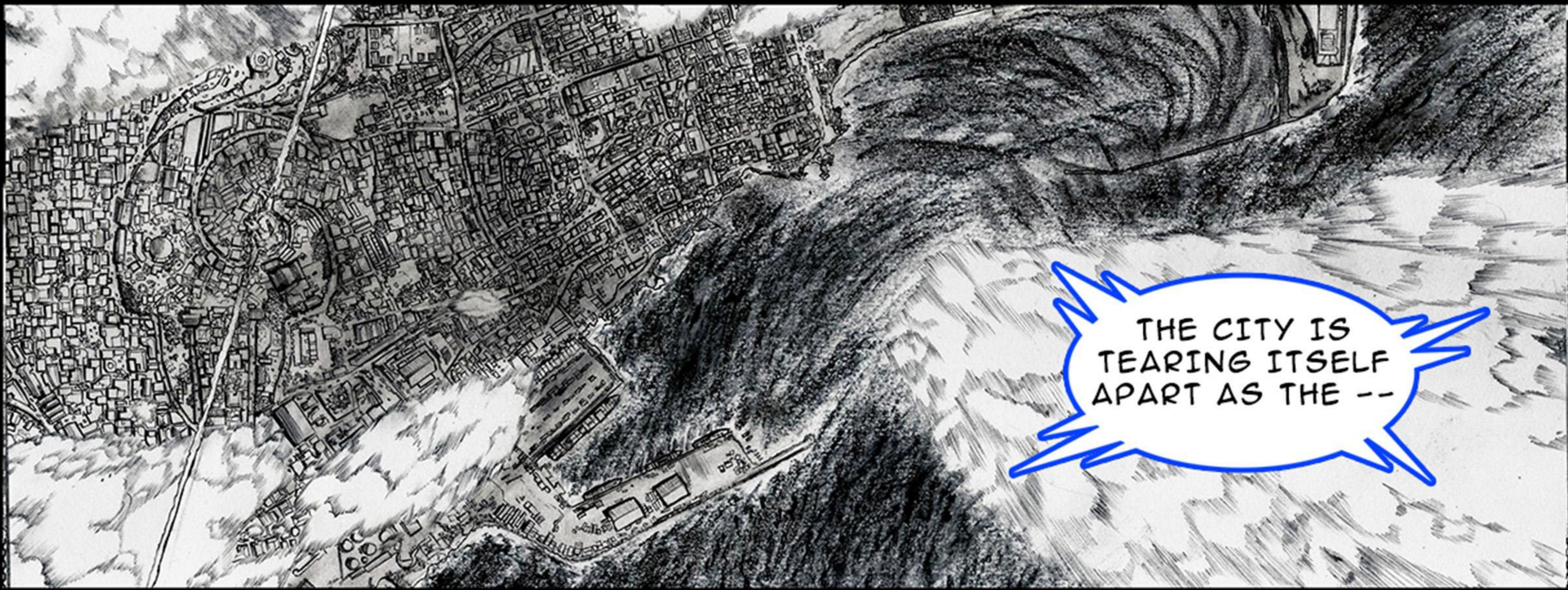
i seek to turn your steps  
into the best path  
instead of into this  
one of EVIL  
— Aeschylus



WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM TO GIVE YOU A SPECIAL NEWS BULLETIN! A MASSIVE RIOT HAS BROKEN OUT IN THE CITY OF MOGADISHU NEAR THE HAWOYE PROVINCE.



THE CITY IS TEARING ITSELF APART AS THE --



WE TAKE YOU NOW TO MOGADISHU, THE DETAILS ARE NOT AVAILABLE, THEY WILL BE IN A FEW MINUTES--



Photo courtesy of Cassandra Mark

Death, down the... brought the once peace... WERE ARE OUR HEROES? as mogadishu, most have... either diplomatic intercontinental woes, most have... barely been seen for a year plus, at this time the world... saving. if even a piece of it is to be found standing then we must all... we must go to somalia, to mogadishu and quarantine those infected as this...



**THUM!**

XANAAQ, EIDOS OF ANGER.  
THE MADNESS OF SPITEFUL  
EYES: FORM THREE

**RRRAAAGH!**

**THUM!**

**THUM!**

EVERY ONE  
STEADY YOUR-  
SELVES ...DO  
NOT STOP BEATING  
THOSE DRUMS!

WE WILL  
HOLD HIM  
WHILE YOU  
PREPARE  
THE SEAL.

I SEEK TO  
TURN YOUR  
STEPS...

**THUM!**

**THUM!**

**THUM!**





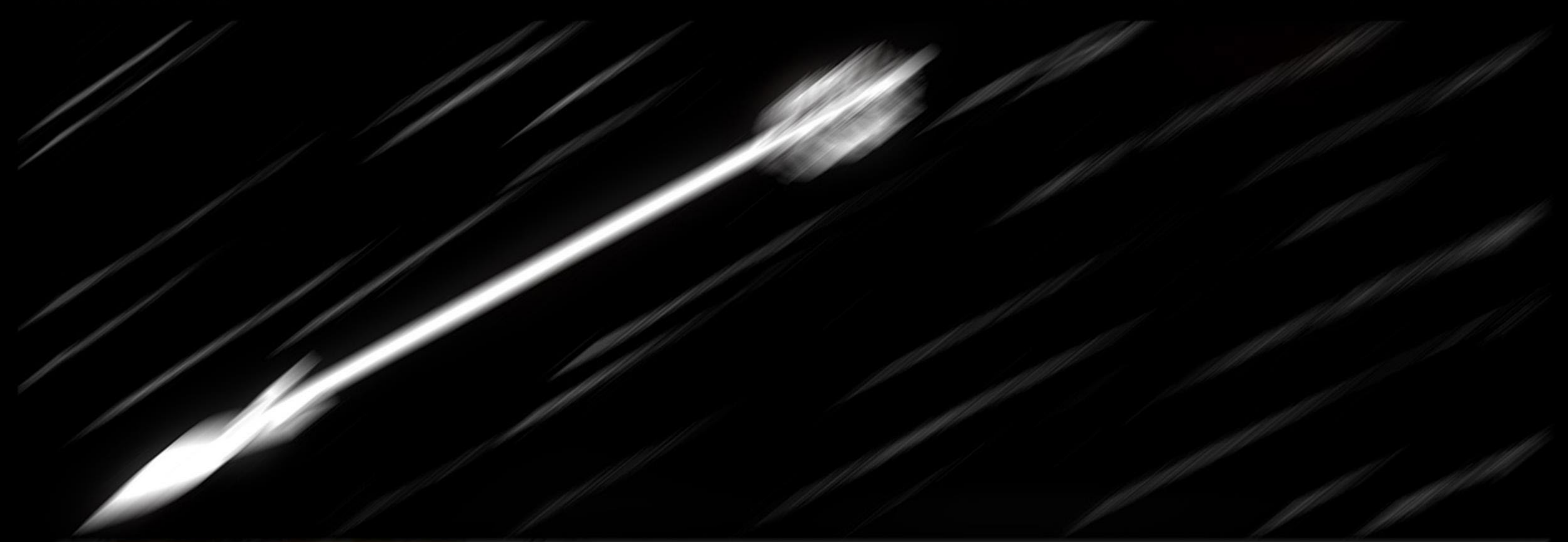
THE CHAINS  
ARE GROWING  
WEAKER EVEN AS  
WE BEAT... HE MUST  
NOT ENTER FORM  
FOUR, BADHOON!



♪ INTO THE  
BEST PATH...  
♪

TIGHTENING  
NOOSE!  
MADLY YANKING  
NOOSE!







# VISIONARY

the awakening

COMIC REPUBLIC #1



# OUT NOW

KALEJAYE . OBENDE . EZEUGU . BALOGUN





FIRST THE  
\*BLOOD PRIEST  
FAILS ME, NOW  
THE \*TOBAN FARTA!  
MUST I DO EVERYTHING  
MYSELF?

JARUMI CADHADII,  
XANAAQ IS NOT  
GOING ANYWHERE  
WITH YOU.



# TALKING DRUM

**W**HAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF? IT'S A QUESTION MOST PEOPLE ARE NEVER REALLY WILLING TO ANSWER, AND EVEN IF THEY DO, THEY ANSWER FALSELY. BECAUSE TO US, OUR FEARS ARE A SIGN OF WEAKNESS AND TO SOME PEOPLE BEING WEAK IS SOMETHING THEY NEVER WANT TO BE SEEN AS. SO WE PRETEND, WE LIE, WE HIDE BEHIND MASKS- ONE LIVING IN THE LIGHT AND ONE COWERING IN THE SHADOWS AT DARK; HALF LIVES. IT IS TRUE COURAGE THAT A PERSON HAS. TO ACKNOWLEDGE THE EXISTENCE OF FEAR AND NOT BLINK.

WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF REALLY?

...A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO COMIC REPUBLIC. TO CASSANDRA MARK, MY PARENTS WHO ALWAYS SHOW THEIR UNDYING SUPPORT, BALOX, OZ AND ALL THE ERU FANS.

TOBE EZEUGU

CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER/CREATIVE DIRECTOR

**WHEN FACED WITH  
ABSOLUTE FEAR, THERE  
ARE ONLY TWO TRUE  
OPTIONS.**

**F**OR CYNTHIA AJUZIE. YOU PUSHED ME INTO MAKING THIS HAPPEN. VERY FEW KNOW WHAT INSPIRATION YOU WHISPERED INTO MY PEN AND PAPER.

AND FOR MY FAMILY AT THE REPUBLIC, WHO CHRISTENED ME MAD AND KEPT QUIET ABOUT MY AKWARD ACTS: JIDE MARTIN, EDUVIE MARTIN, TOBE 'MAX' EZEUGU, MICHAEL BALOGUN, WALE AWLENJE, AKINTOBA KALEJAYE, YUSSUF ADELEYE, FRANKLIN IKECHUKWU, KELECHI ISAAC, STANLEY STANCH OBENDE, CASSANDRA MARK, SAMUEL IWUNZE, TOBECHUKWU NWANKWERE AND JEDIDIAH ORAKPO. OH AND TO MY MOTHER AND FATHER WHO'S SIMPLE WORDS " YOU CAN" WAS THE LITTLE INGREDIENT TO MY EFFORT. FOR THIS I SAY THANK YOU AND... IYALAYA ANYBODY!

OZ EZEUGU  
HEAD EDITOR



COMIC  
REPUBLIC™



# Hero Kekere

featuring ERU



HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARTY

AGAIN, WELCOM TUU HAWA COSTOOM PARRI. WE ARE CHOOSING THE BEST COSTOOM OUT-FEET OF THE YEAR. UP NEXT, WE HAFF HAWA NEXT CONTESTANT: ERU!



AHN HA! ERU, WHERRISS YUUR COSTOOM NA? SHEY RATS HAFF CHOP EET?



AYAM ALWAYS WEARING EET!





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