

YOU KNOW WHEN IT FIRST HIT ME THAT THIS "PANDEMIC" THING MIGHT ACTUALLY BE REAL?

IT WAS TODAY.

I WALK INTO THE MCDONALD'S ON FRANKLIN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY, LIKE TWO O'CLOCK OR SOMETHIN'...AND IT'S EMPTY.

AND I DON'T JUST MEAN CUSTOMERS. I MEAN THERE'S **NOBODY**. DOORS OPEN, LIGHTS ON, FRYERS BEEPIN' LIKE CRAZY.

I KNEW THINGS WEREN'T, LIKE, **GREAT**, RIGHT? SEE HOSPITALS FILLIN' UP ON THE NEWS AND EVERYTHING.

BUT A **DESERTED MCDONALD'S** ON A **SATURDAY AFTERNOON**?

THAT'S SOME **END TIMES** SHIT.

WENDY'S IS BETTER, ANYHOW.

**BINNING
BONNING**







BOOM

SPACKK



KSSHHHH



NNNNNGGH!!

CLOP



CLOP



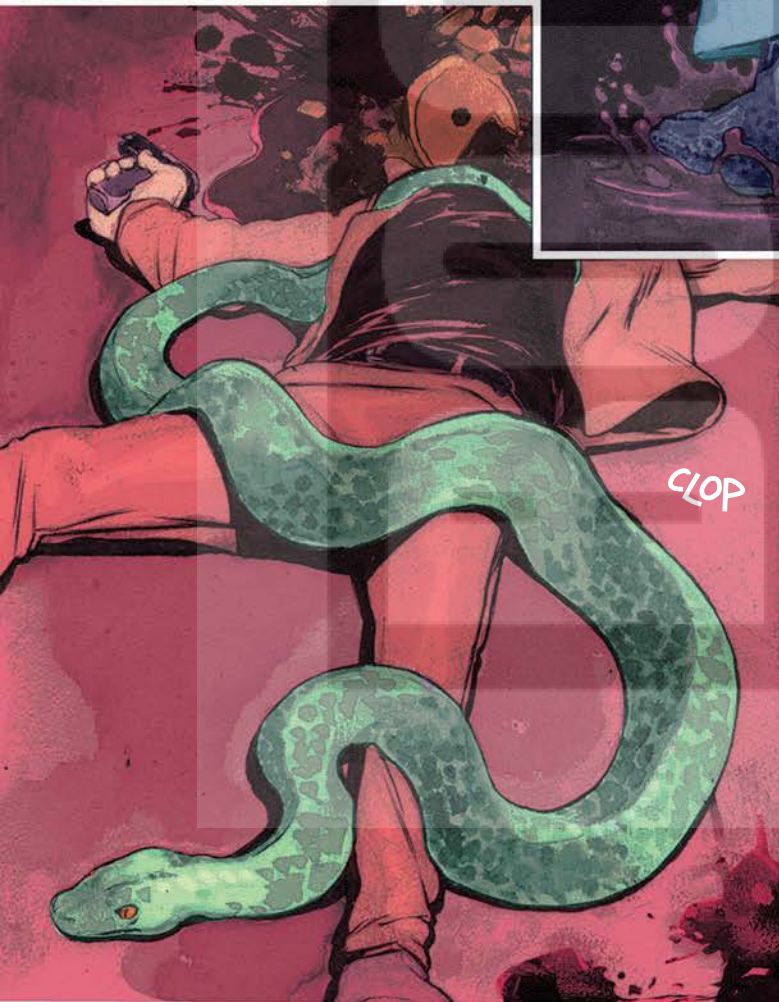
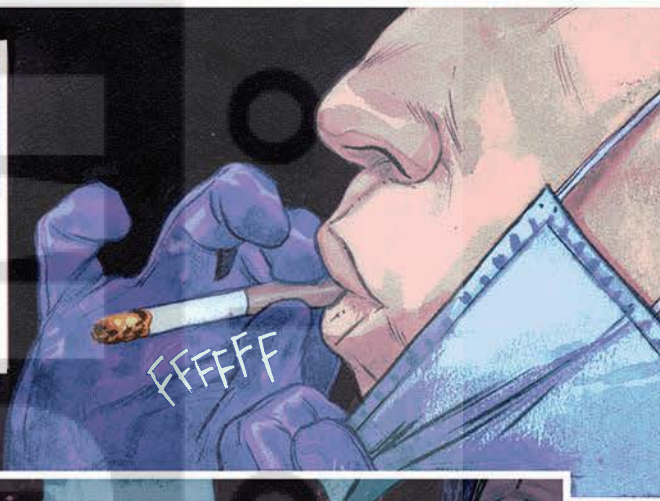
H-HOLY SHIT. YOU'RE HIM.
HE'S...HE'S UPSTAIRS, Y-YOU DON'T HAVE TO...

CLOP

H-HEY, C'MON, MAN. NO. WAIT.

WAI--

SPLNNNK

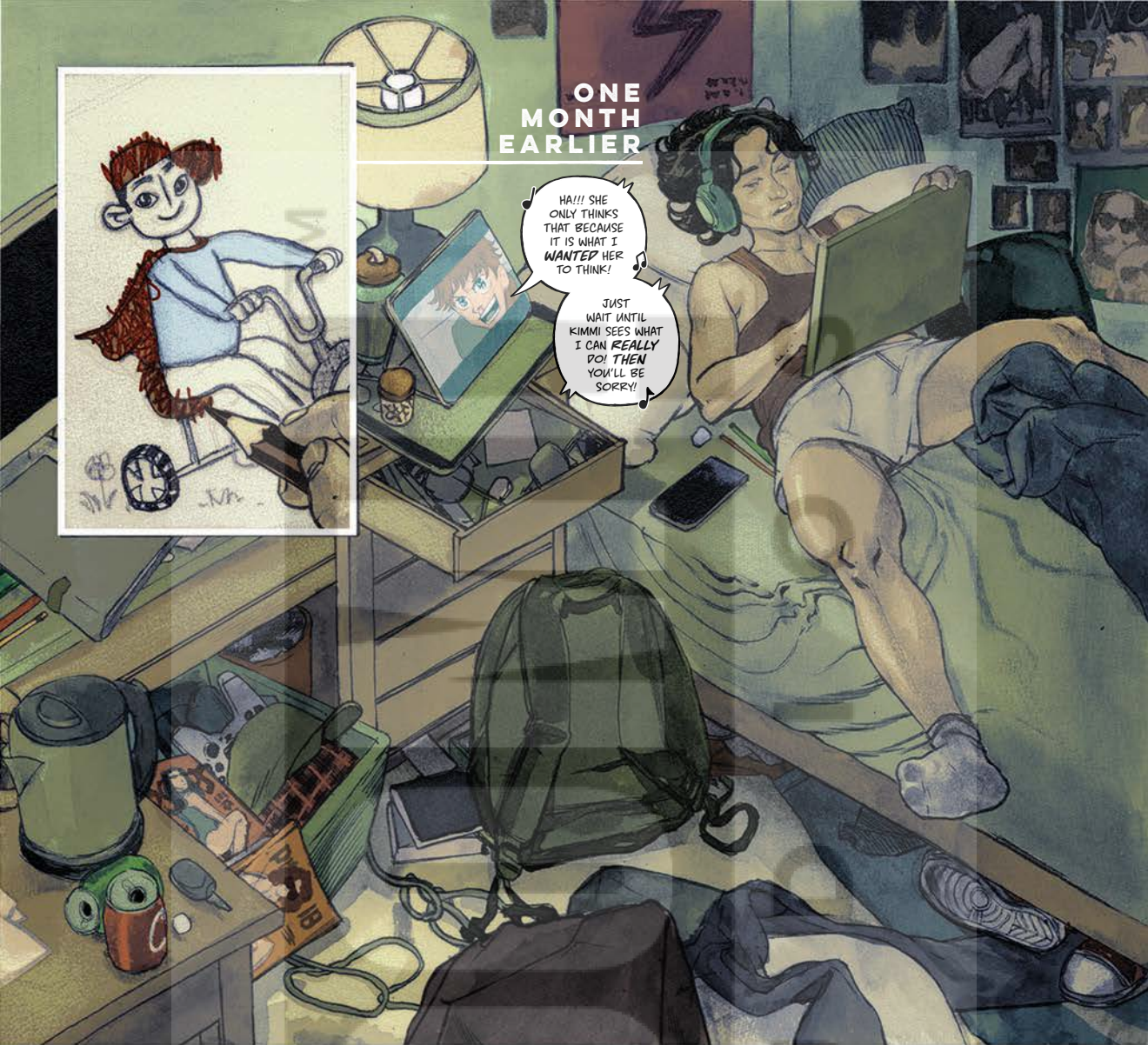


ONE
MONTH
EARLIER

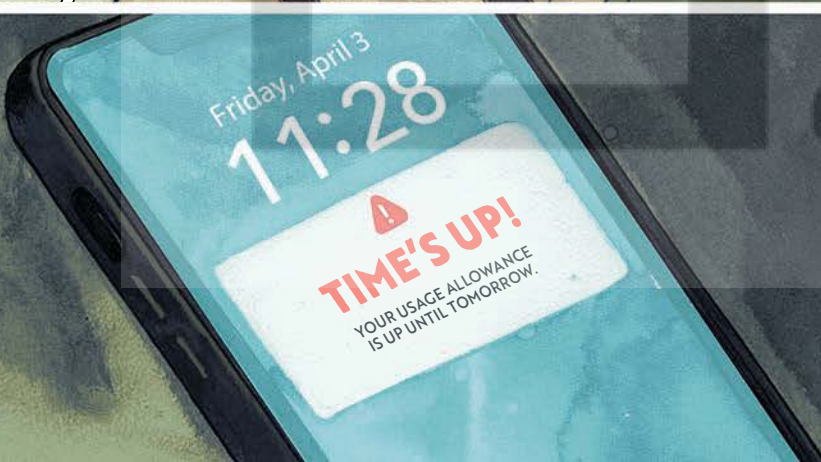


HA!!! SHE ONLY THINKS THAT BECAUSE IT IS WHAT I WANTED HER TO THINK!

JUST WAIT UNTIL KIMMI SEES WHAT I CAN REALLY DO! THEN YOU'LL BE SORRY!



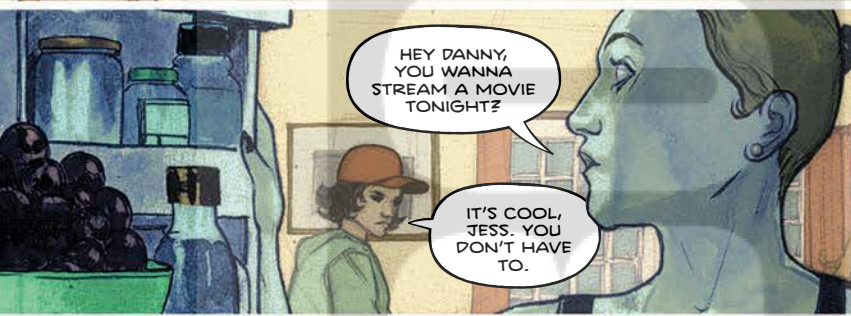
HAHAHA! YOU ARE SUCH A FOOL SHIN! OPEN YOUR EYES! IF KIMMI SAW THE REAL YOU, SHE'D--





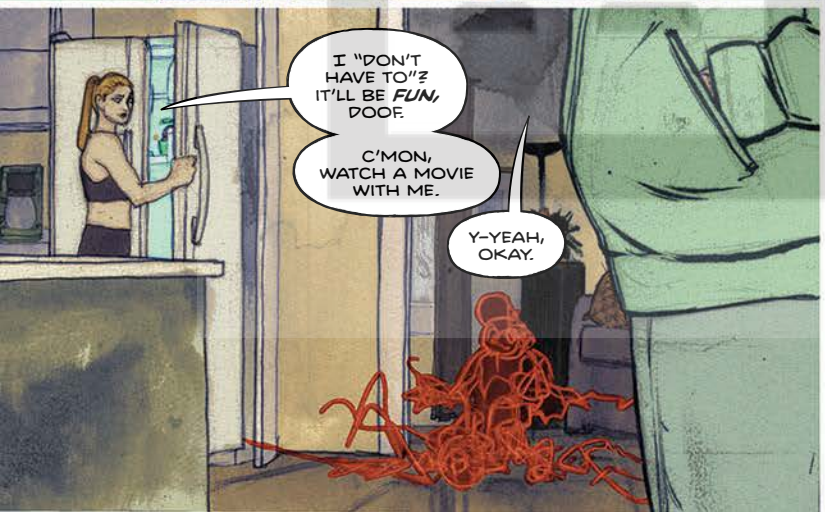
MORNING, SLEEPYHEAD! CAN I MAKE YOU SOME LUNCH?

I'VE GOT A SESSION IN A MINUTE, MOM. I'M GONNA RUN SOME DELIVERIES, GET SOME FOOD ON THE WAY.



HEY DANNY, YOU WANNA STREAM A MOVIE TONIGHT?

IT'S COOL, JESS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO.



I "DON'T HAVE TO"? IT'LL BE *FUN*, DOOF.

C'MON, WATCH A MOVIE WITH ME.

Y-YEAH, OKAY.

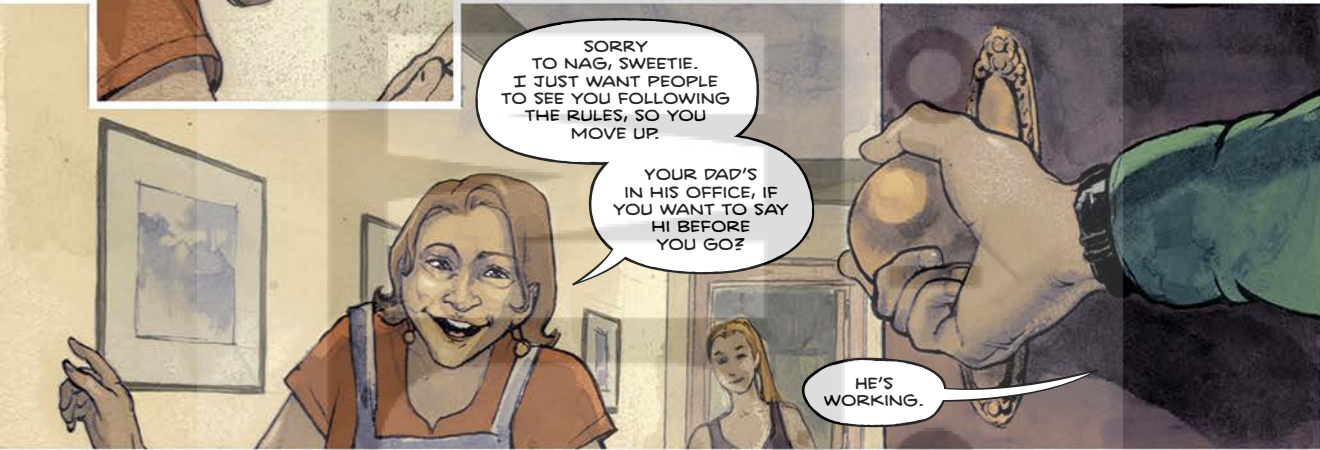


COOL. SEE YOU TONIGHT.



WEAR YOUR SEATBELT, DANNY. GOT YOUR MASK?

IT'S LITERALLY IN MY HAND. I'VE GOTTA GO, MOM.



SORRY TO NAG, SWEETIE. I JUST WANT PEOPLE TO SEE YOU FOLLOWING THE RULES, SO YOU MOVE UP.

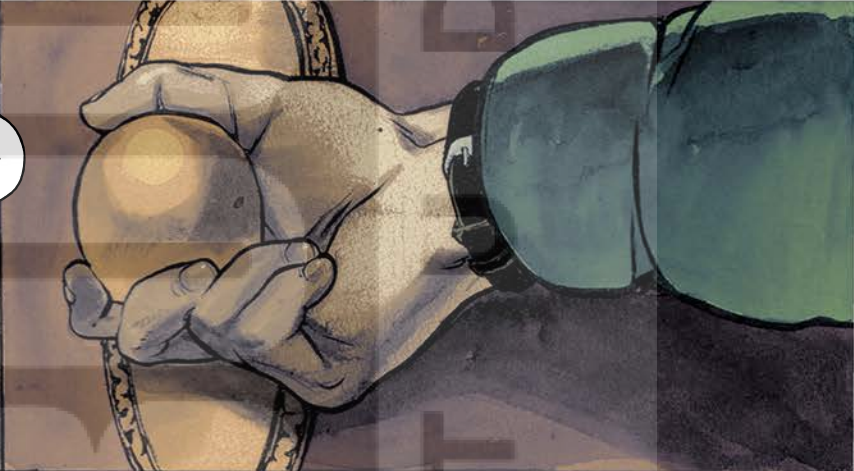
YOUR DAD'S IN HIS OFFICE, IF YOU WANT TO SAY HI BEFORE YOU GO?

HE'S WORKING.



I'M SURE HE'D STILL LIKE IT IF YOU--

IT'S FINE, MOM.



WHAT?!

"THEY MAKE ME SO TIRED ALL THE TIME, MAN."



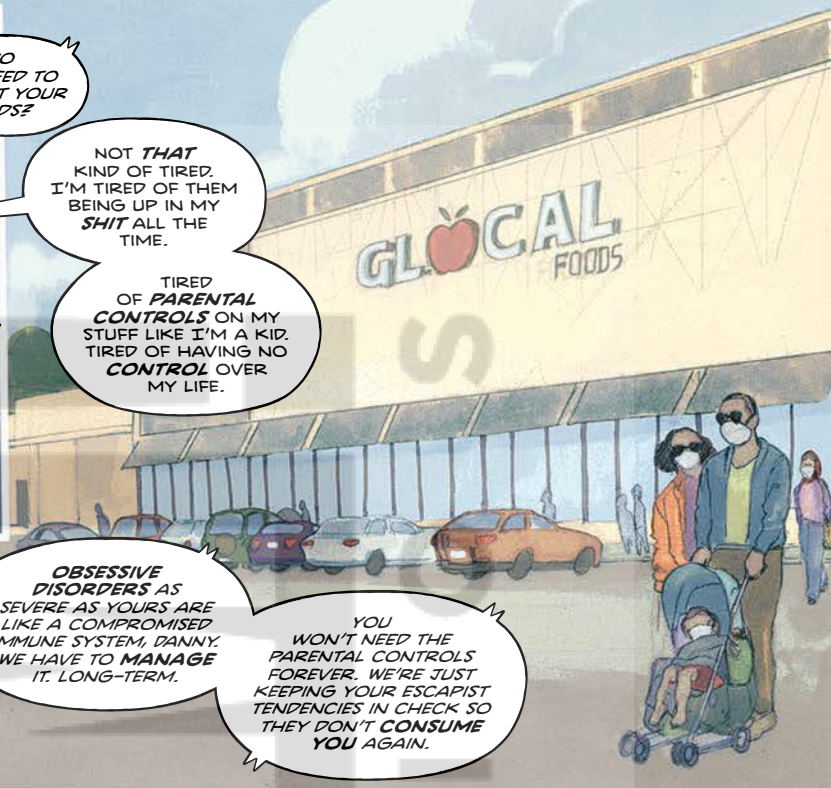
DO WE NEED TO ADJUST YOUR MEDS?

NOT THAT KIND OF TIRED. I'M TIRED OF THEM BEING UP IN MY SHIT ALL THE TIME.

TIRED OF PARENTAL CONTROLS ON MY STUFF LIKE I'M A KID. TIRED OF HAVING NO CONTROL OVER MY LIFE.

OBSESSIVE DISORDERS AS SEVERE AS YOURS ARE LIKE A COMPROMISED IMMUNE SYSTEM, DANNY. WE HAVE TO MANAGE IT. LONG-TERM.

YOU WON'T NEED THE PARENTAL CONTROLS FOREVER. WE'RE JUST KEEPING YOUR ESCAPIST TENDENCIES IN CHECK SO THEY DON'T CONSUME YOU AGAIN.



HOW'S THE DELIVERY JOB GOING?

IT'S FINE. IT'S... WHATEVER.

WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU LIKE ABOUT IT?



I LIKE...

...I LIKE WEARING THE MASK. EVEN WHEN OTHER PEOPLE DON'T WEAR THEIRS.



ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY DON'T.

I LIKE SEEING PEOPLE WHO CAN'T SEE ME. I COULD BE ANYONE UNDER HERE.



ANYONE I WANT TO BE.



BE CAREFUL WITH THOUGHTS LIKE THAT, DANNY. THAT'S STARTING TO SOUND LIKE ESCAPISM AGAIN.

»SIGH»

WE WANT YOU TO HAVE A FULFILLING, PRODUCTIVE LIFE. A REAL LIFE, IN THE REAL WORLD.



ARE YOU STILL USING YOUR SKETCHBOOK?

WHAT KIND OF THINGS FIND THEIR WAY ON THE PAGE THESE DAYS?



WHEN'S THE LAST TIME YOU SAW MATTY?



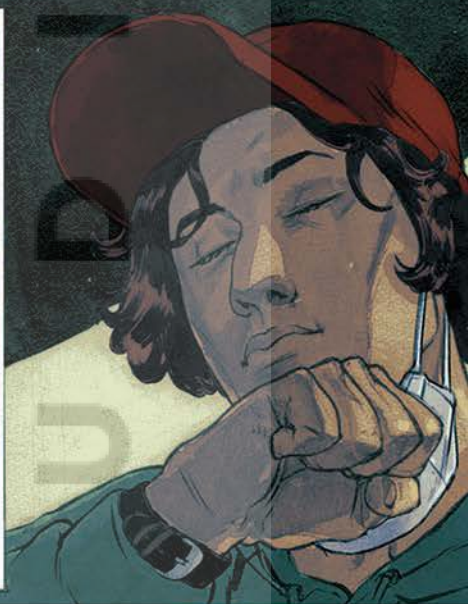
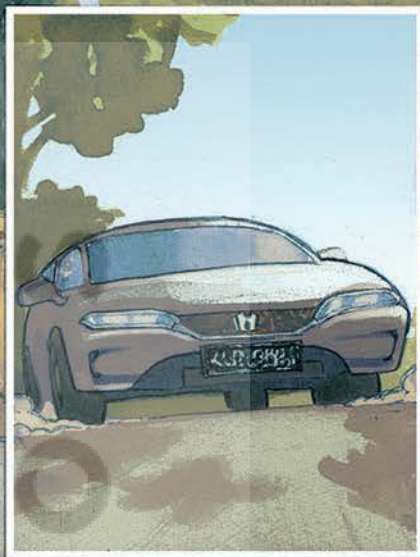
DANZ



DANZ YOU THERE?

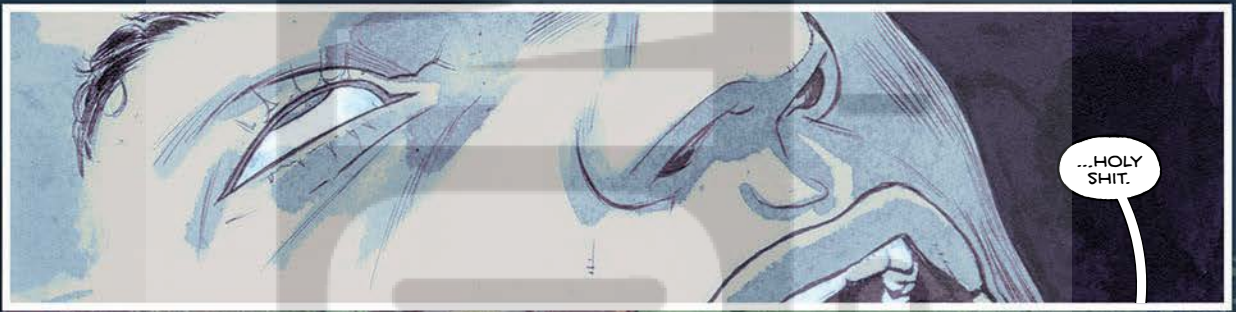


Friday, April 3
12:41
NEW DELIVERY;
Leo Black
3805 9th St.
Baltimore, MD 21225











911
EMERGENCY.
WHAT CITY ARE
YOU CALLING
FROM?

THERE'S A
GUY HERE WHO
NEEDS A...AN
AMBULANCE.



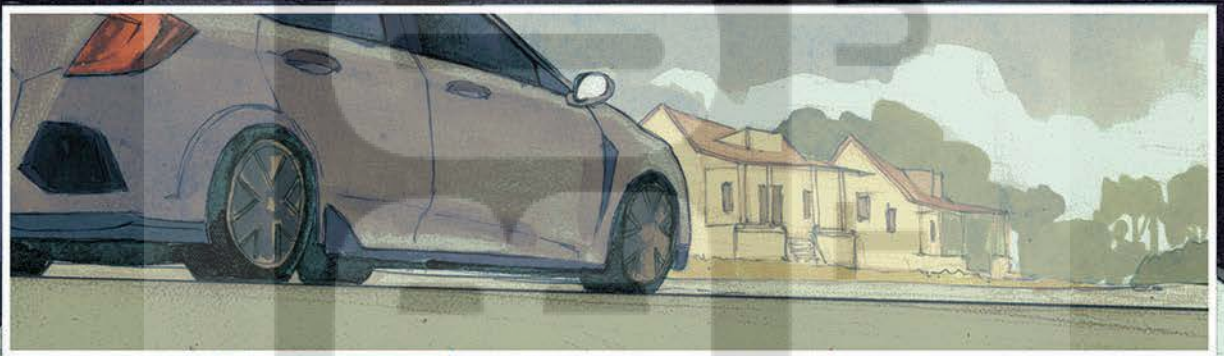
I-I
THINK.

WHAT
CITY, SIR?



SIR?







DANNY?
HOW WAS
WORK TODAY,
SWEETIE?



DANNY?

HEH.
WORK WAS...



...CRAZY.



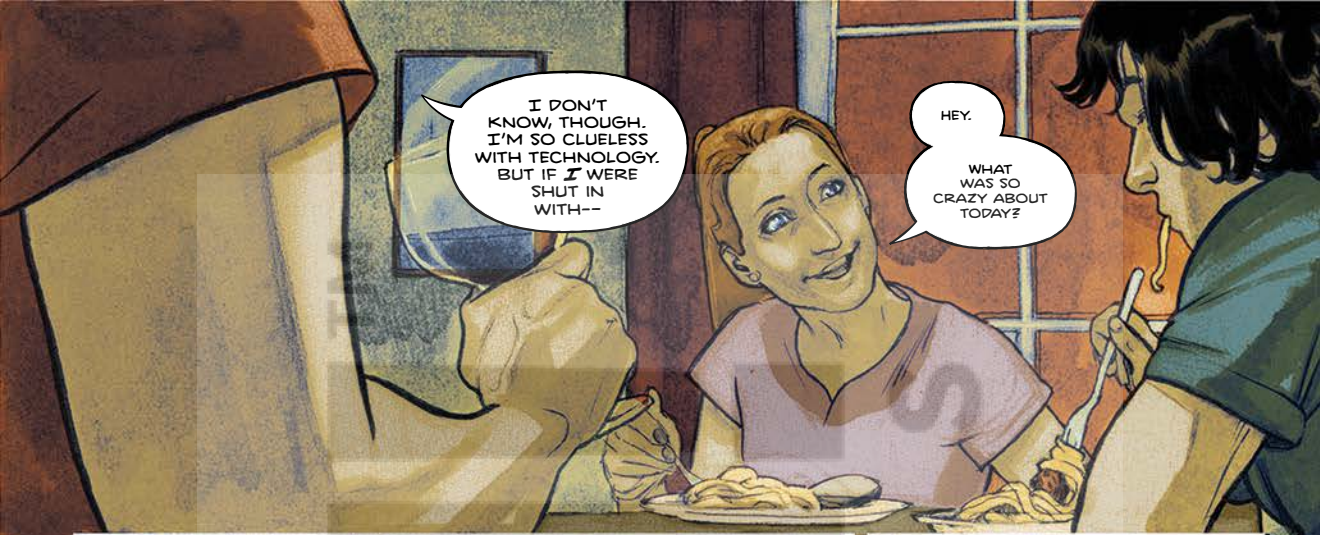
THAT'S
AN OMINOUS
CHUCKLE.

DOES THAT
MEAN IT WAS
FUN, THEN? ARE
YOU MAKING
FRIENDS?



I MEAN...**NO**,
MOM. I DELIVER
GROCERIES. I DON'T
REALLY **TALK** TO
ANYONE.

WELL,
EVERYONE'S JUST
SO **SHUT IN** NOW. IF
YOU MAKE A LITTLE
CONVERSATION THEY
MIGHT GIVE YOU...A
BETTER **SCORE**, OR
HOWEVER THEY
DO IT.



I DON'T KNOW, THOUGH. I'M SO CLUELESS WITH TECHNOLOGY. BUT IF *I* WERE SHUT IN WITH--

HEY.
WHAT WAS SO CRAZY ABOUT TODAY?



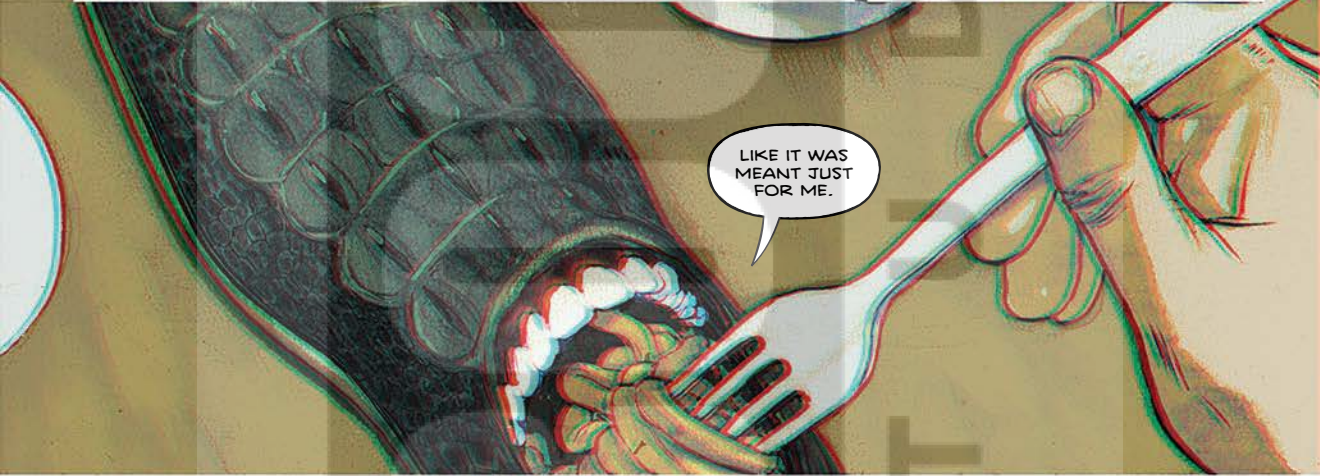
I FOUND SOMETHING.

YEAH? YOU GONNA TELL ME OR WHAT?

I DON'T KNOW IF I SHOULD.



IT FEELS PERSONAL. LIKE IT WOULD *CHEAPEN* IT TO TELL ANYONE.



LIKE IT WAS MEANT JUST FOR ME.



DID YOU DO ANY *DRAWINGS* AT WORK?



WHAT?



DAD? DON'T.

HOW DO YOU KNOW I'VE BEEN DRAWING? ARE YOU SEARCHING MY ROOM AGAIN?

IT'S MY HOUSE.

DAD.



THOSE DRAWINGS ARE FOR MY SESSIONS. THEY'RE NOT FOR Y--

WHY IS MATTY ON A TRICYCLE, DAN?

YOU SAID YOU WOULDN'T GO IN MY ROOM ANYMORE. YOU SAID--

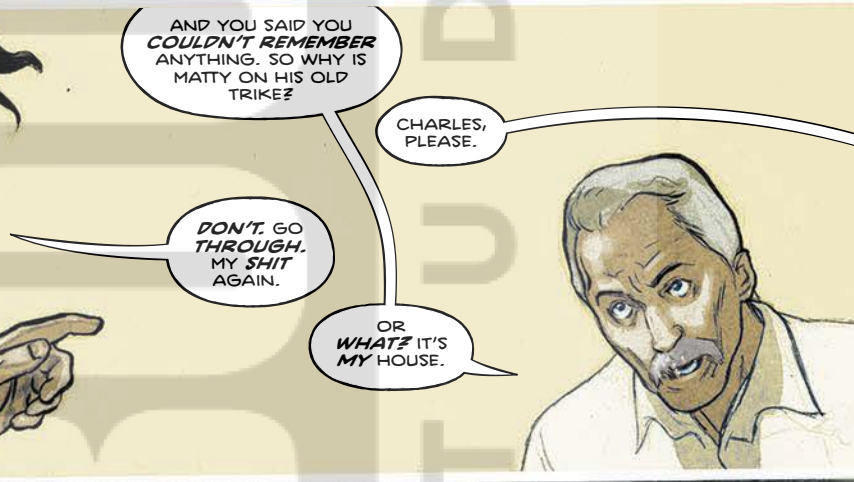


AND YOU SAID YOU **COULDN'T REMEMBER** ANYTHING. SO WHY IS MATTY ON HIS OLD TRIKE?

CHARLES, PLEASE.

DON'T GO THROUGH MY SHIT AGAIN.

OR WHAT? IT'S MY HOUSE.



SCREW THIS.

IGNORE HIM, DANNY. LET'S GO START THAT MOVIE, YEAH?

I'D JUST LIKE TO KNOW WHY HIS BROTHER'S ON A TRIKE IN THOSE DRAWINGS. IF HE REALLY DOESN'T REMEMBER, LET HIM ANSWER THAT **ONE QUESTION**.

SINCE HIS BROTHER APPARENTLY **VANISHED** INTO THIN FUCKING--





@\$#!



STRUCK
A NERVE,
HUH?

CHARLES,
SHUT UP.

NO,
IT'S GOOD.
FINALLY.



DROP
THE *FARCE*,
DAN.



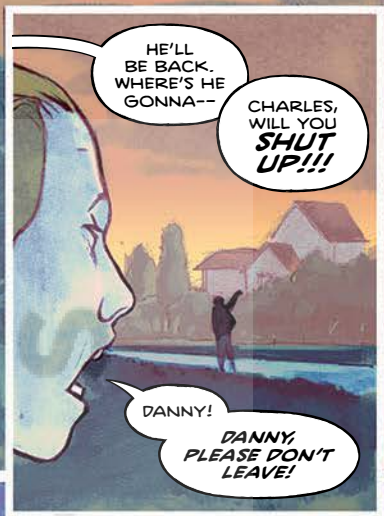
SHOW US
WHO YOU *REALLY*
ARE UNDER
THERE.



HE'LL BE BACK.

DANNY, SWEETIE, COME BACK INSIDE! IT'S SUPPOSED TO RAIN TONIGHT!

DANNY!



HE'LL BE BACK. WHERE'S HE GONNA--

CHARLES, WILL YOU SHUT UP!!!

DANNY!

DANNY PLEASE DON'T LEAVE!

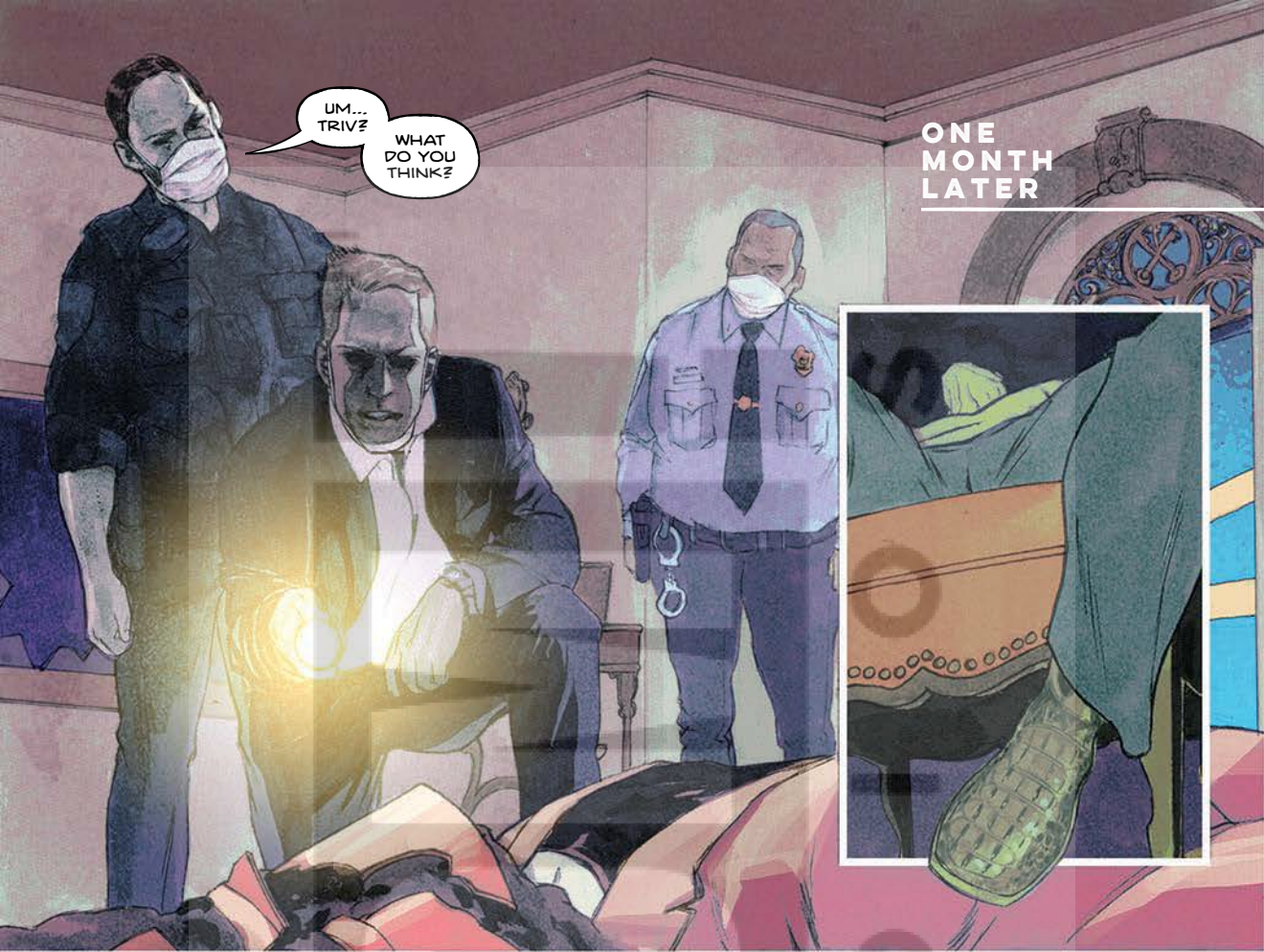


"DANNY!"



"DETECTIVE?"

"DETECTIVE TRIVOSONNO?"



UM...
TRIV?

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?

ONE
MONTH
LATER



THANKS FOR
COMING, TRIV.
BLOODBATH,
HUH?

THERE'S A
THIRD BODY
UPSTAIRS.

THREE
SHOTS FIRED
DOWN HERE, WE
THINK. ONE ROUND'S
LODGED IN THE CAGE,
ONE IN THE WOOD
PANELING. WE'RE
LOOKING FOR
THE LAST
ONE.

BALTIMORE
POLICE



DON'T GO UP. STAY OFF THE STAIRS.

WHAT? WHY?

"THERE ARE *BOOTPRINTS*."



OH SHIT. DO YOU THINK...

WAS THIS *HIM?* THE GUY EVERYBODY'S SO SCARED OF?



"IT'S HIM."



CRACK



THE UNIS ON WILKINS ARE CALLING HIM '*CROCODILE*.'

NOT MUCH OF A DESCRIPTION TO GO ON YET.



"JUST THAT HE'S
A TALL GUY..."

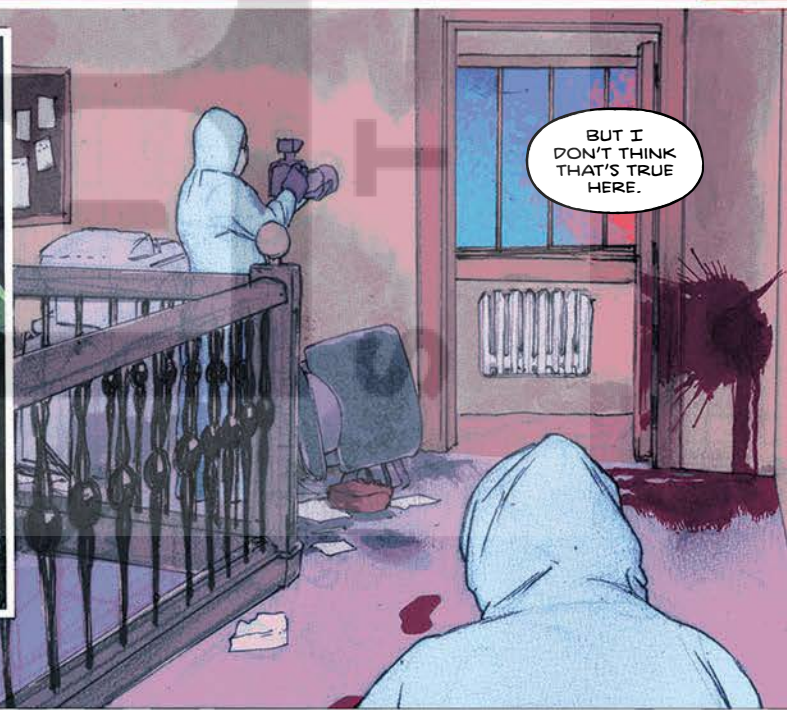


...IN **BLACK
CROCODILE SKIN
BOOTS.**



THESE
BOOTPRINTS
ARE **ALL OVER**
THE CRIME
SCENE.

THAT KIND
OF DISREGARD
USUALLY MEANS THE
GUY **WANTS** TO
BE CAUGHT.



BUT I
DON'T THINK
THAT'S TRUE
HERE.

"I DON'T THINK THIS GUY CARES WHAT ANYONE SEES OR THINKS."



"THIS FEELS WEIRD TO SAY, BUT...I THINK WE'RE WATCHING SOMEBODY FIND HIS CALLING."



"GETTING COMFORTABLE IN HIS OWN SKIN."



TO BE CONTINUED.