

APPALACHIAN APOCALYPSE!

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APPALACHIA 1864

HALLELUJAH,
SALVATION
AND GLORY!



FOR THE
LORD OUR GOD
IS MIGHTY!



STEADY
BOYS!









PUT IT IN YOUR SPIRIT!
SHOUT TO THE LORD TONIGHT!



HONOR AND POWER!
HALLELUJAH!

STACK THEM MEN!
STACK 'EM HIGH!

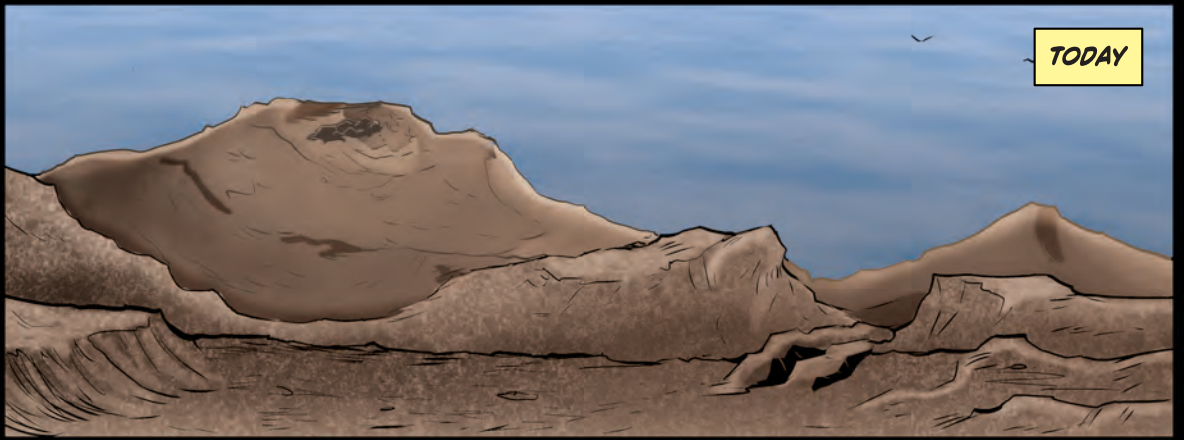


EVERYBODY TO JESUS,
HALLELUJAH!



TELL THEM OF US,
SON...







DANG! I TOLD YOU, MR. ASSLAN...

T'AIN'T NOthin' LIKE SOME GOOD OLE TENNESSEE-N-TEE TO MAKE A HOLE WHEN YOU NEED ONE, HUH GEORGE?



THANK YOU, CALEB... ~~COUGH COUGH~~ BUT IT'S DOCTOR ASSLAN, NOT...OH, NEVER MIND. LET'S GET TO WORK.



CALEB! SKELETONS, LOTS OF 'EM...

WHAT IN THE WORLD HAPPENED HERE, MR. ASS-LAN?

YOU TWO ARE BEING PAID WELL TO KEEP QUIET. NOT A WORD ABOUT THIS TO ANYONE.



THIS OLE MOUNTAIN BE THE GATEWAY TO HELL, GEORGE.



"MY GOD, NEIL!"



"AFTER MOSES'S DEATH, HIS BODY AND THE STAFF WERE INTERRED WITHIN A SARCOPHAGUS.



"WHICH EVENTUALLY FOUND ITS PERMANENT RESTING PLACE INSIDE SOLOMON'S TEMPLE.



"HOWEVER, IN THE 6TH CENTURY BC, NEBUCHADNEZZAR INVADDED JUDEA. HIS PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WAS OBTAINING MOSES'S 'STAFF OF GOD.'



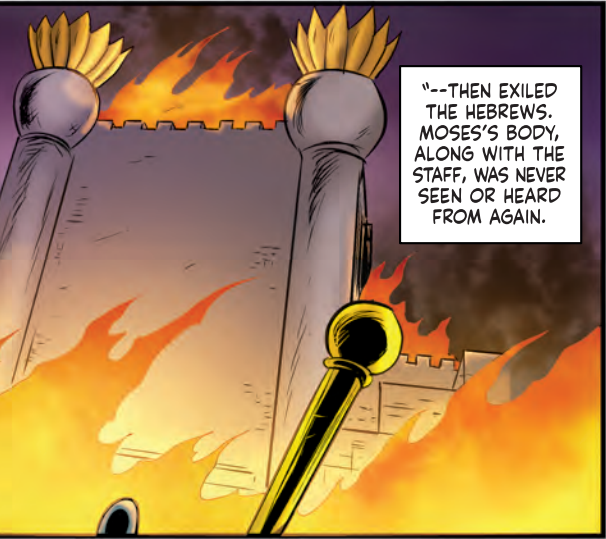
"BUT HE WAS TOO LATE AS THE PHARISEES HAD ALREADY REMOVED THE SARCOPHAGUS AND BURIED IT IN SECRET.



"INFURIATED, THE BABYLONIAN KING DESTROYED THE GREAT TEMPLE--



"--THEN EXILED THE HEBREWS. MOSES'S BODY, ALONG WITH THE STAFF, WAS NEVER SEEN OR HEARD FROM AGAIN.



"UNTIL THE 1853 OTTOMAN DISCOVERY OF THE 'CATAFALQUE WITH NO NAME' IN THE VALLEY OF MOUNT NEBO IN MODERN-DAY JORDAN..."



"...AND ITS CURIOUS 'THEFT' ONE YEAR LATER."



"ONLY TO ARRIVE IN SAVANNAH HARBOR ABOARD THE FRENCH SLAVE SMUGGLER *GRIETELY*."



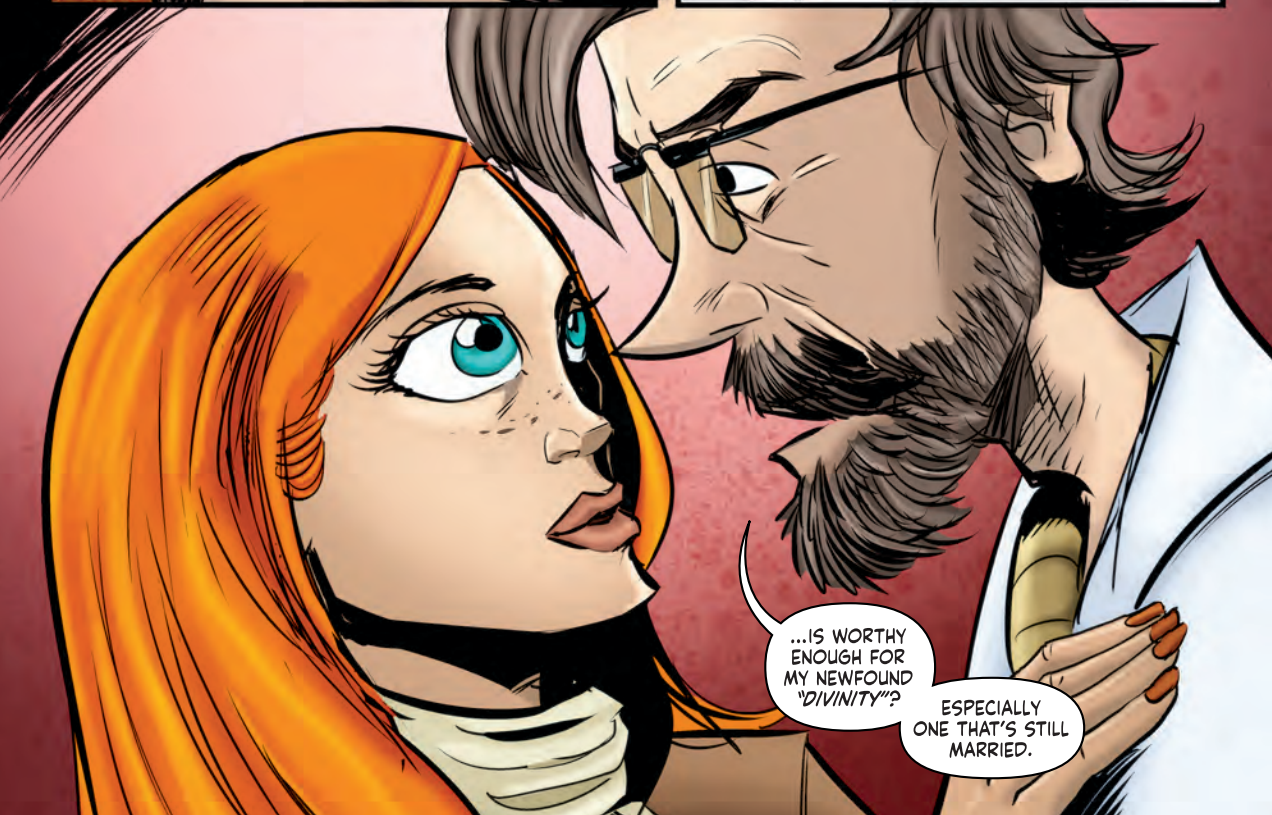
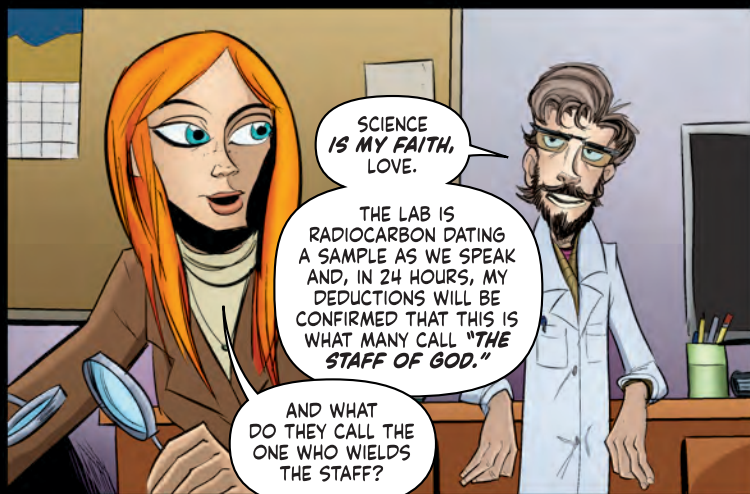
"ITS RECIPIENT WAS A NOTORIOUS TENNESSEAN SLAVE HUNTER AND PLANTATION MANAGER, *BILL MILLS*."

"'BLOODY BILL' IS FOREVER INFAMOUS AS ONE OF THE MOST BRUTAL CONFEDERATE OFFICERS OF THE CIVIL WAR."



"AS FOR THE SARCOPHAGUS, BLOODY BILL BROUGHT IT TO APPALACHIA AND, TO KEEP ITS SECRETS SAFE FROM THE INVADING YANKEES, BURIED IT WITHIN *BALD MOUNTAIN*."

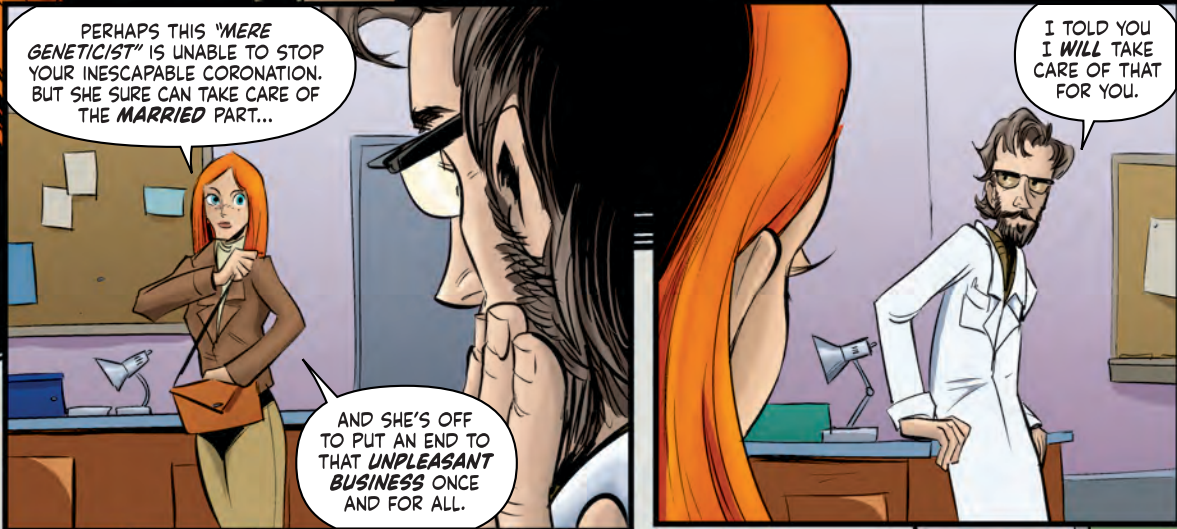






Ouch!

SLAP



PERHAPS THIS "MERE GENETICIST" IS UNABLE TO STOP YOUR INESCAPABLE CORONATION. BUT SHE SURE CAN TAKE CARE OF THE MARRIED PART...

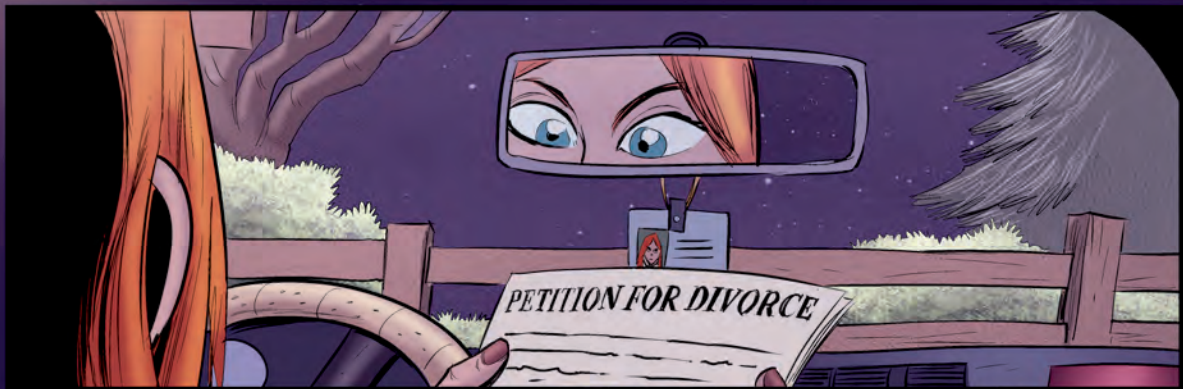
I TOLD YOU I *WILL* TAKE CARE OF THAT FOR YOU.

AND SHE'S OFF TO PUT AN END TO THAT UNPLEASANT BUSINESS ONCE AND FOR ALL.



OF COURSE YOU WILL. AND THE TWO HILLBILLIES YOU ENTRUSTED TO GUARD YOUR *DISCOVERY OF THE CENTURY* AREN'T DRUNKER THAN COOTER BROWN RIGHT NOW.

COOTER WHO?







YO, HAYSEED. TAKE YOUR HANDS OFF MY WIFE.



LET ME GO, YOU RED-NECKED SON-OF-A-BITCH!



WARNED YA...



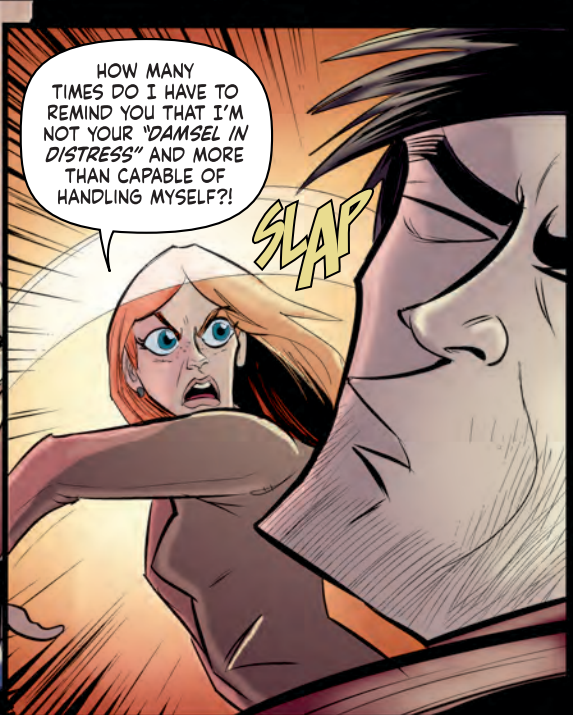
THUP!



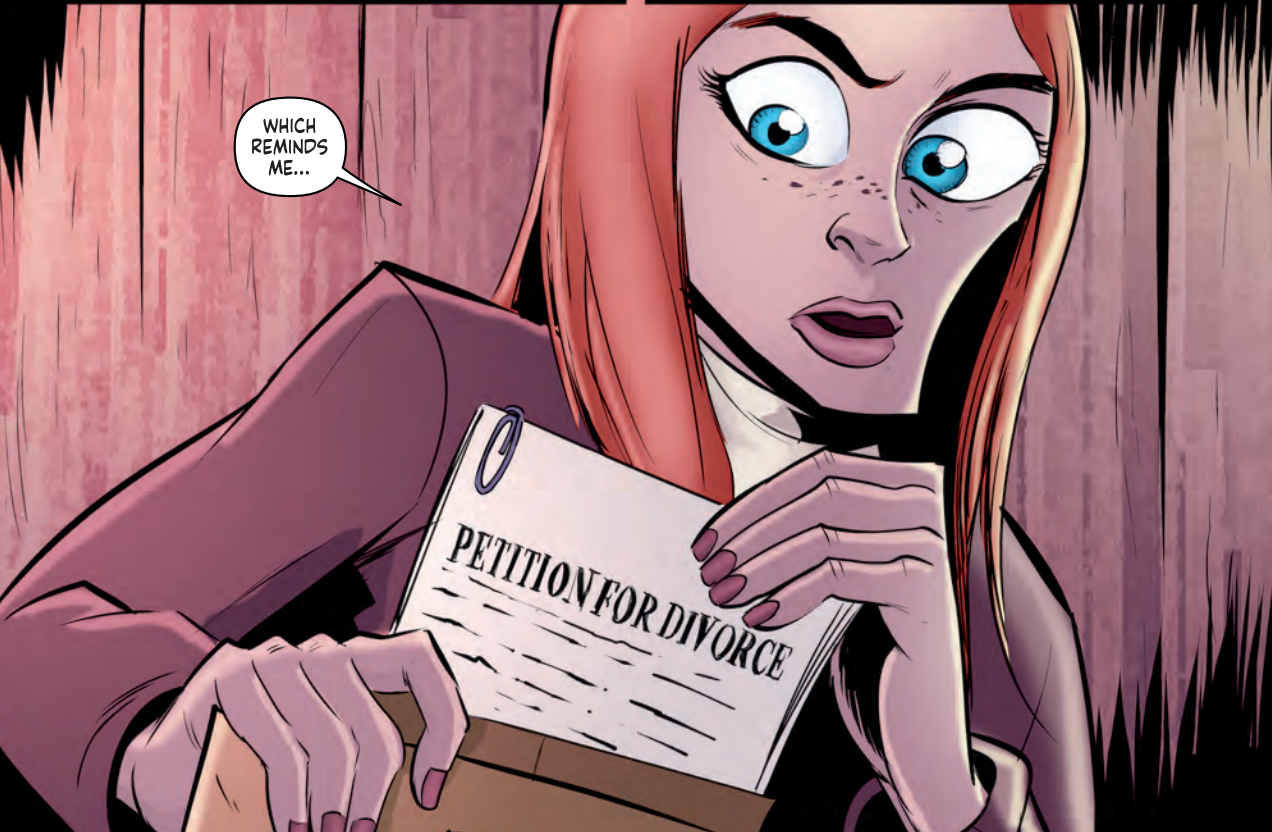
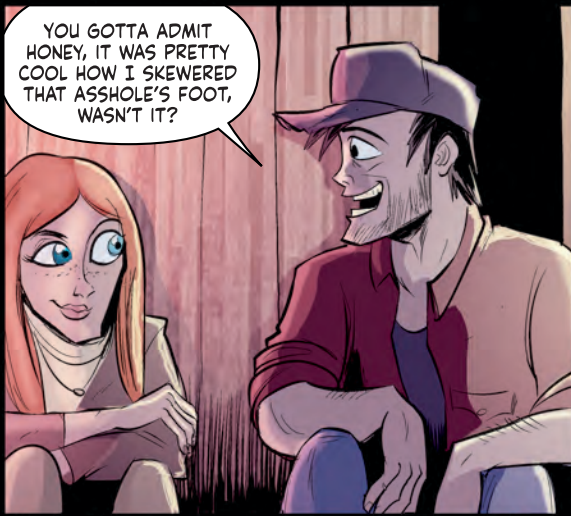
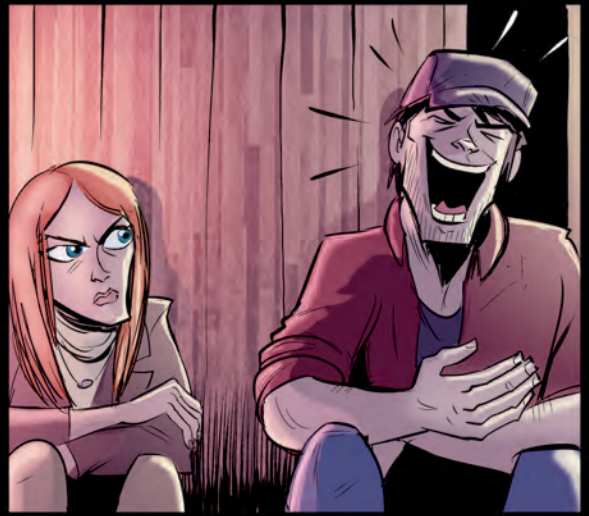
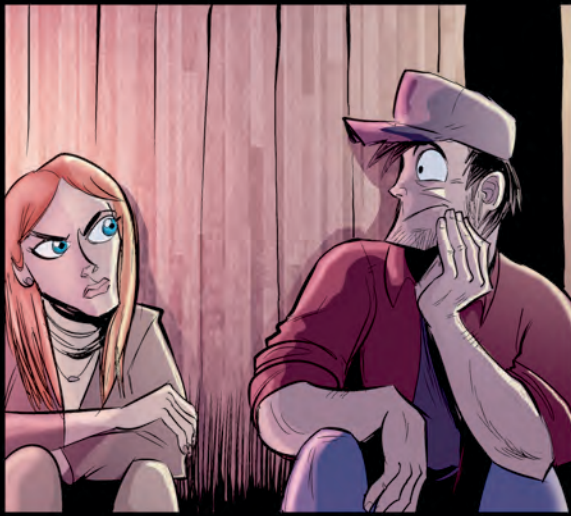
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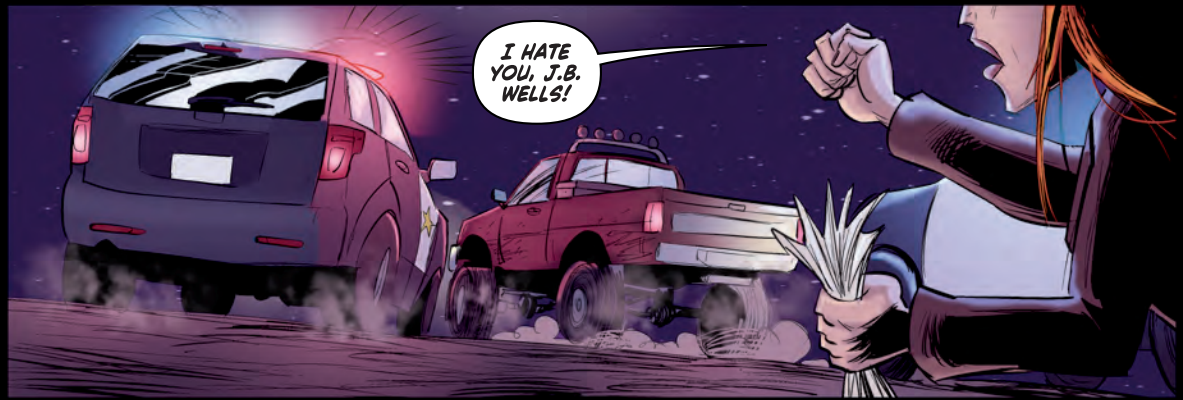
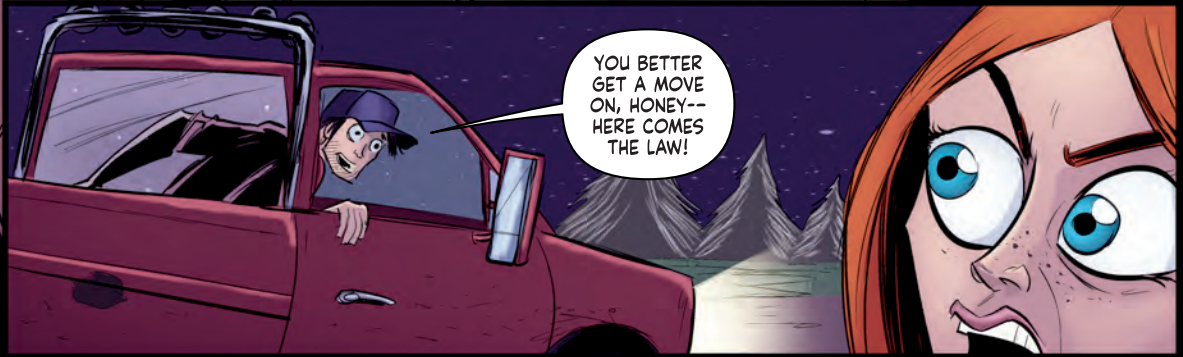
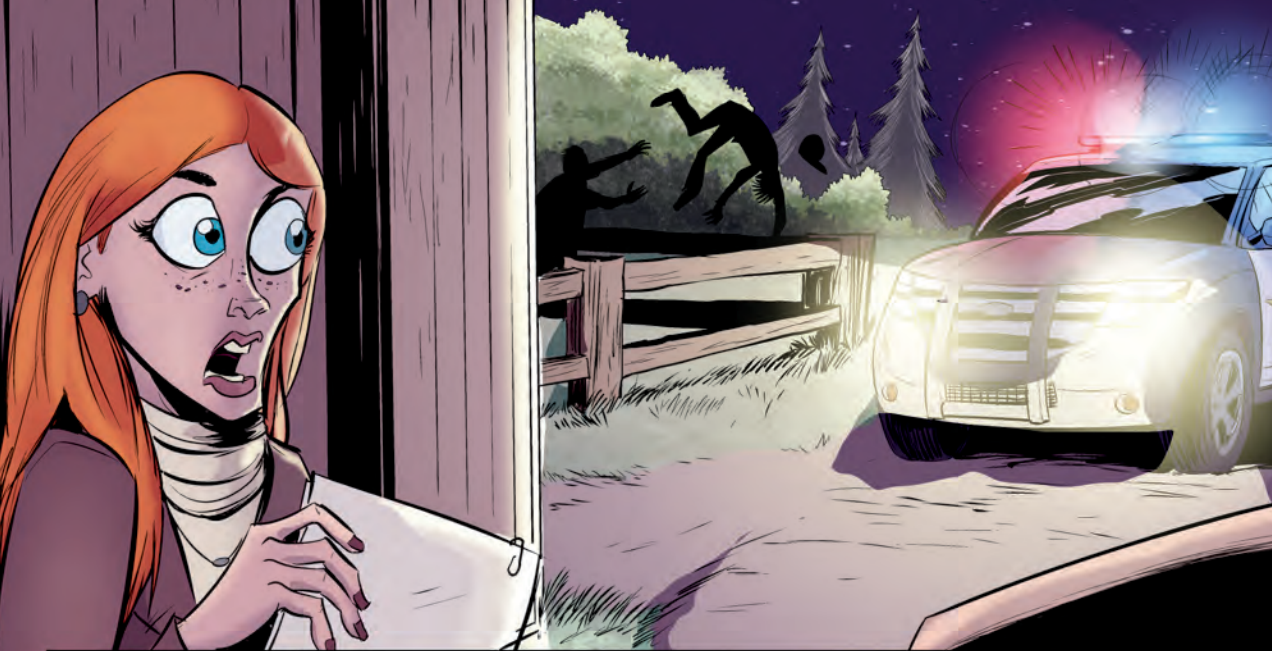


YOU'RE WELCOME.



HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO REMIND YOU THAT I'M NOT YOUR "DAMSEL IN DISTRESS" AND MORE THAN CAPABLE OF HANDLING MYSELF?!







BALD MOUNTAIN.



AND THE LORD WILL SEND A PLAGUE ON ALL THE NATIONS THAT FOUGHT AGAINST JERUSALEM. THEIR PEOPLE WILL BECOME LIKE WALKING CORPSES, THEIR FLESH ROTTING AWAY. THEIR EYES WILL ROT IN THEIR SOCKETS, AND THEIR TONGUES WILL ROT IN THEIR MOUTHS. ON THAT DAY THEY WILL BE TERRIFIED, STRICKEN BY THE LORD WITH GREAT PANIC. THEY WILL FIGHT THEIR NEIGHBORS HAND TO HAND.



MY LORD, WHAT HAVE THEY DONE?

TO BE CONTINUED...