

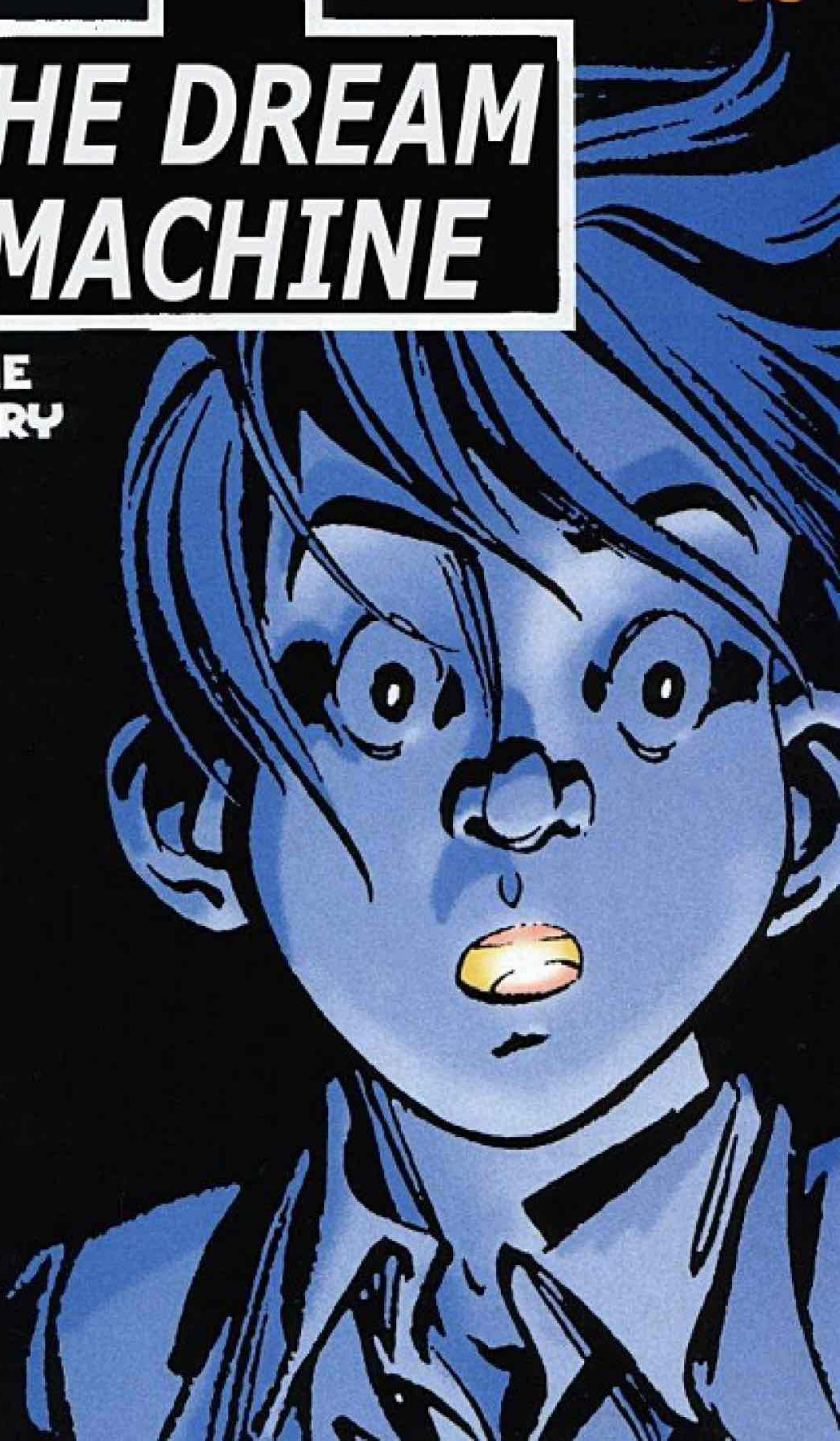
SPIROU & FANTASIO

46

***THE DREAM
MACHINE***

**TOME
JANRY**

DUPUIS



THE DREAM MACHINE

Story and Art: **TOME - JANRY**
Colours: **STEPHANE DE BECKER**
Translation: **ORDE**





WATCH THE
AIRPORTS!



CLOSE THE
BORDERS
AND PORTS...



CHECKPOINTS
ON ALL ROADS!

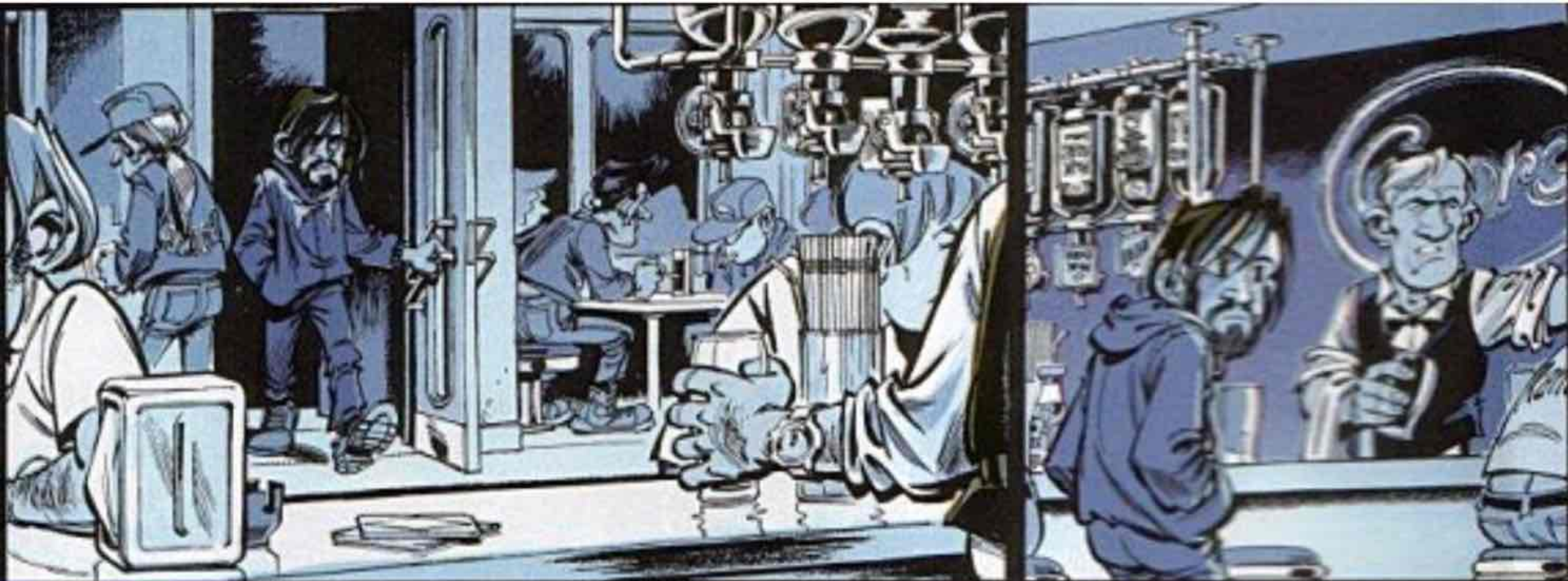


AND CANCEL ALL
THE TRAINS IF YOU
HAVE TO. BUT HE
MUST BE STOPPED



THIS MAN IS
DANGEROUS!







DANIEL?



VINCENT! THANK GOD!
YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON
I'VE GOT LEFT! THEY'VE
GOT EVERYONE ELSE...
WHAT'S WRONG?...



SORRY, DANIEL!



MY DOG! DON'T
SHOOT MY DOG!





PHEW! THAT GIRL! NOW SHE DOESN'T WANT TO BE CALLED SECCOTINE!

IT'S AS IF, ALL OF A SUDDEN, I DIDN'T WANT TO BE CALLED FANTASIO. THAT'S A GOOD POINT ACTUALLY, WHY DON'T PEOPLE USE MY CHRISTIAN NAME?

I SUPPOSE THEOPOLOUS OR BARNABAS FANTASIO ISN'T THAT BAD!

CAN YOU IMAGINE IT? "IGNATIUS" OR "COPERNICUS" SPIROU?

HURRY UP! OTHERWISE I KNOW A THEOPOLOUS WHO'S GOING TO MISS THE PLANE FOR HIS "CONFERENCE".

HAI THE PROUD AND SAVAGE BEAST SLUMBERS! I'M LEAVING THE HOUSE IN YOUR HANDS. TRY NOT TO GNAW THE GAS PIPES LIKE LAST TIME!

THAT FAR AWAY CONFERENCE LINE WASN'T TOO SMART, WHAT IF SHE FINDS OUT...

FINDS OUT WHAT, EXACTLY?

THAT A JOURNALIST NEEDS TO TAKE A BREAK? IT'S BEEN TEN YEARS SINCE I LAST WENT...

BiBiP
Bi tiuuu!
ooo

VROOOOOO HELLO! IT'S ME! ALREADY LEFT? I'LL MEET YOU AT THE AIRPORT **VROOOOO**

THESE MOBLOPHONES ARE QUITE GOOD. STILL I'M SURPRISED YOU CAN GET THEM FOR MOTORBIKES.



FANTASIO? WHERE IS HE?

AHI SECC... SOPHIE?

ERR... FANTASIO?

UP THERE! THIRTEENTH WINDOW ON THE RIGHT! THE ONE WHO LOOKS LIKE HE'S ON HOLIDAY.



OK, WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?



I'M INVESTIGATING A RESEARCH CLINIC.



THEY TEST EXPERIMENTAL DRUGS.



THEY ADVERTISE FOR VOLUNTEERS IN THE PAPERS.



ANY GUINEA-PIG WHO IS ACCEPTED GETS PAID...



...AND ARE CLEARLY TOLD TO KEEP QUIET.



THE TESTS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE SAFE BUT...



I'VE GOT MY DOUBTS ABOUT THEM... I TRIED TO FIND OUT MORE BY VOLUNTEERING...

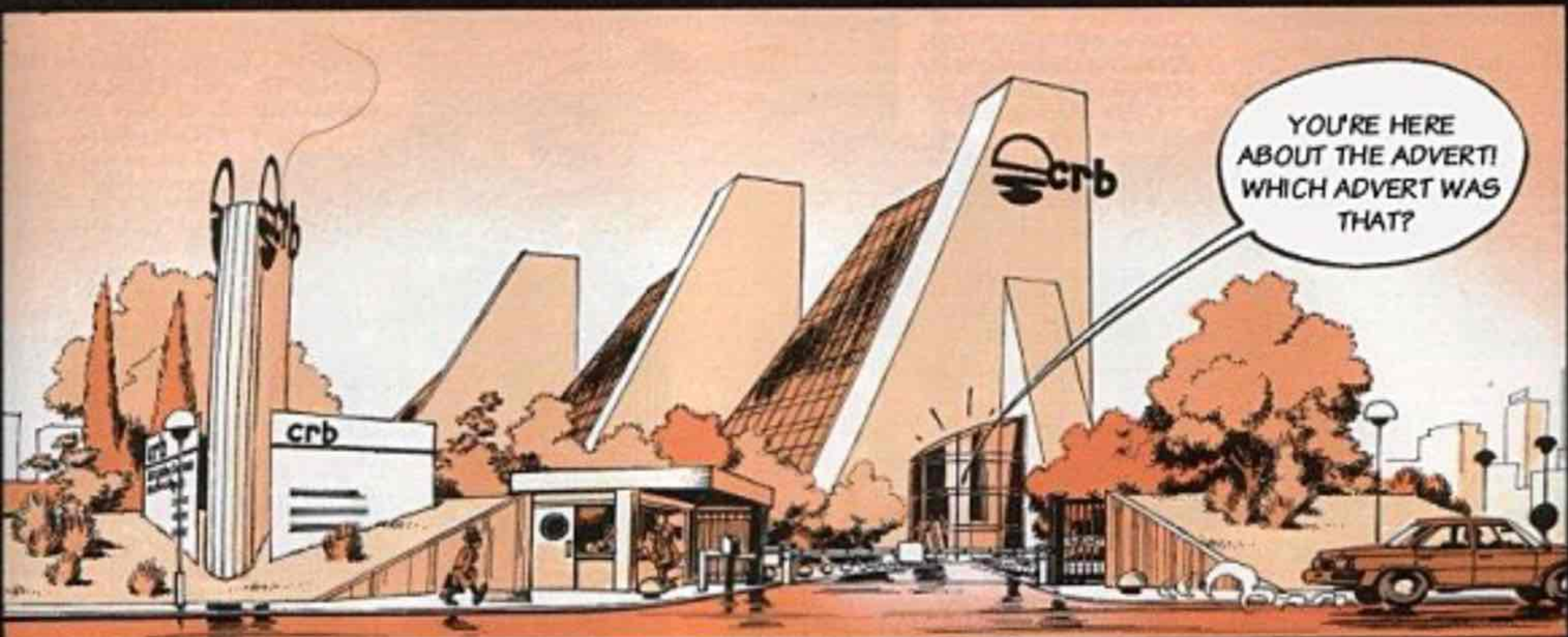


...BUT I ONLY MANAGED TO FIND OUT THAT THEY ONLY TAKE MEN. I THOUGHT FANTASIO MIGHT BE ABLE TO...



ERR, AND... ACTUALLY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING TOMORROW?





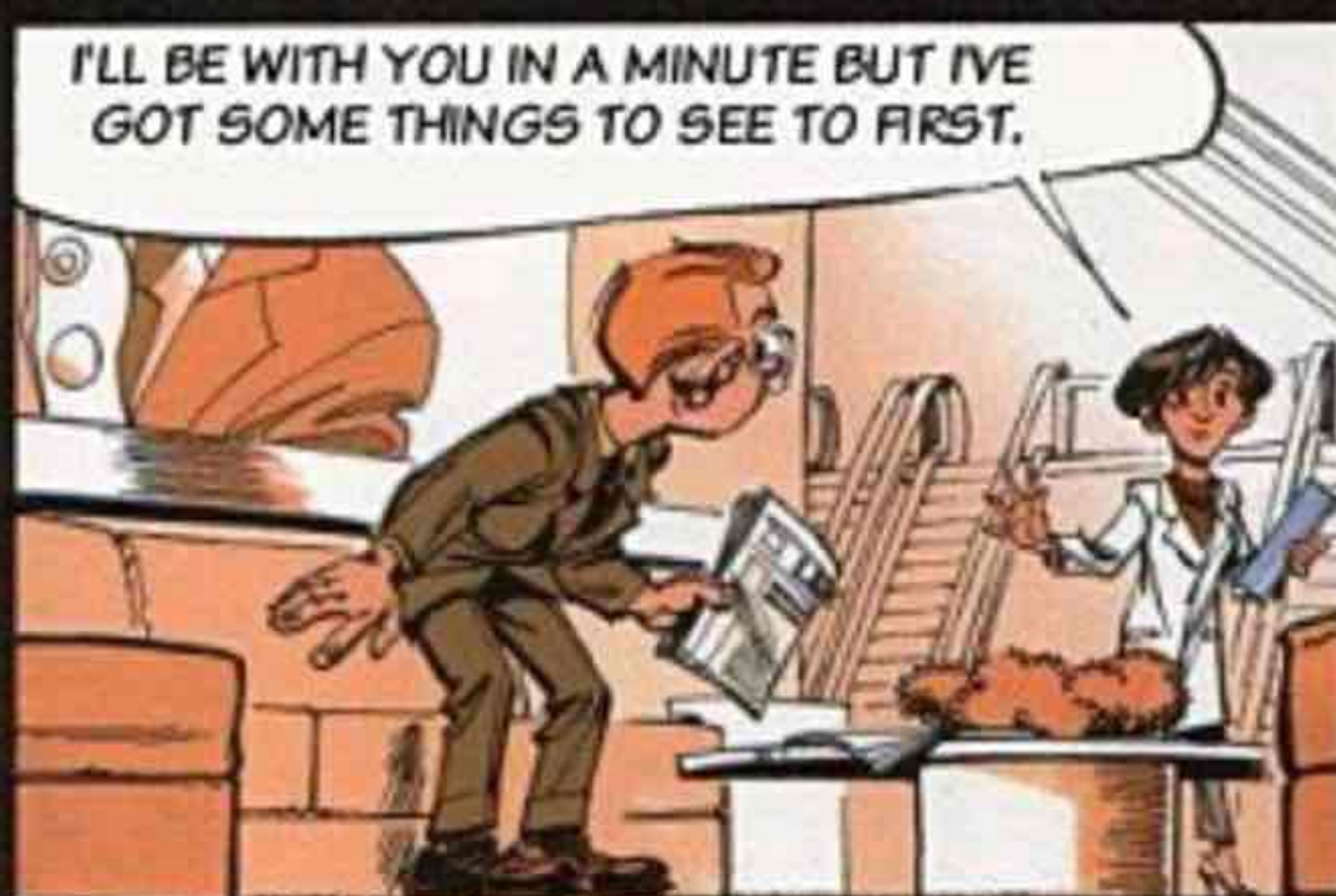
YOU'RE HERE ABOUT THE ADVERT!
WHICH ADVERT WAS THAT?



IN THE PAPER: "VOLUNTEERS
WANTED FOR CLINICAL TRIALS.
FINANCIAL REWARDS." HERE, I'VE
CIRCLED IT.

AH!
OF COURSE!
THAT ADVERT!

TAKE A SEAT.



I'LL BE WITH YOU IN A MINUTE BUT I'VE
GOT SOME THINGS TO SEE TO FIRST.



THAT'S OK, I'VE
GOT SOMETHING
TO READ.



THAT'S IT THERE!

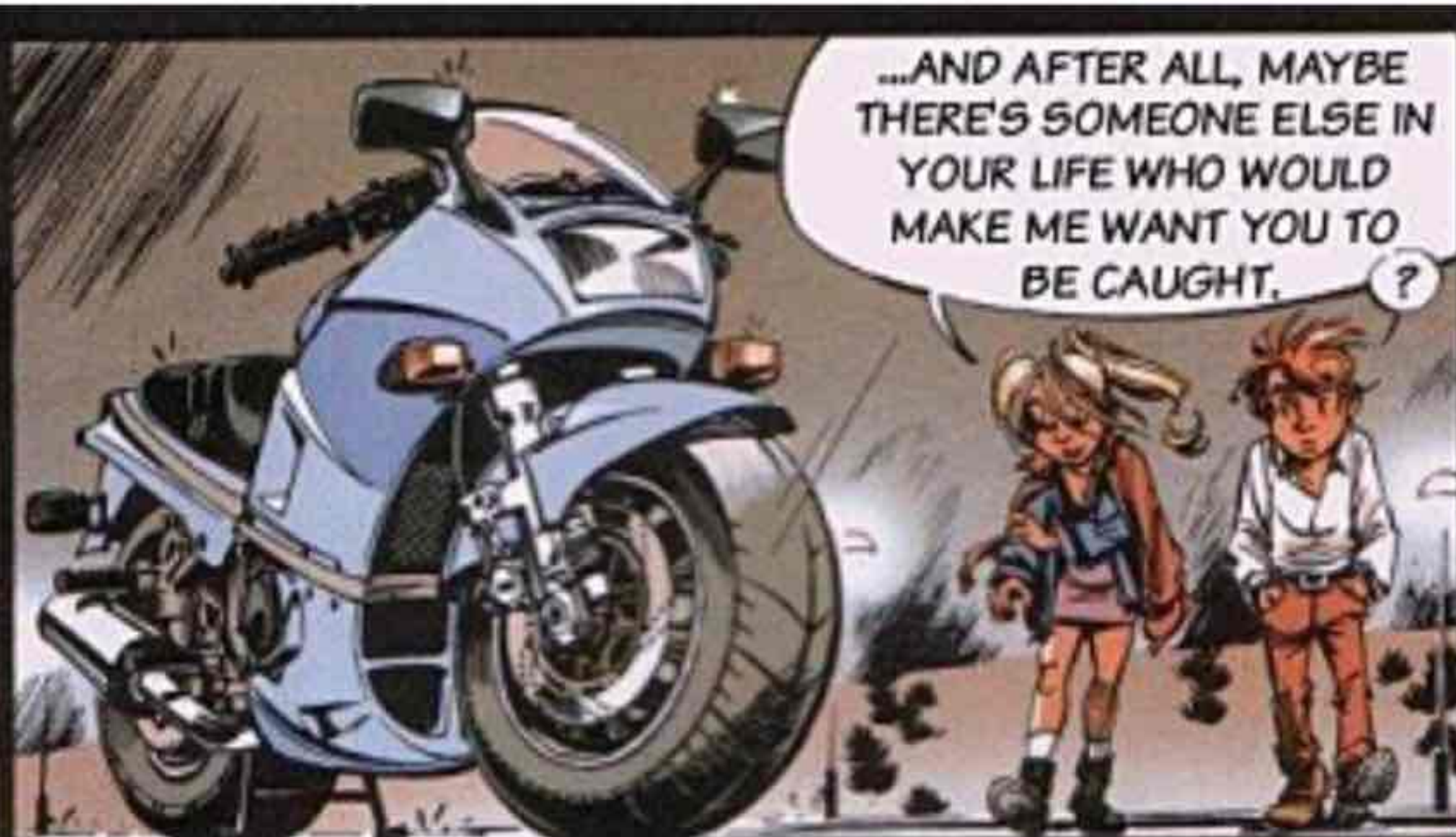


YOU'LL BE USING A FAKE IDENTITY - I'VE GOT
ALL THE DOCUMENTS YOU NEED, THEY JUST
NEED YOUR
PHOTO.

I SEE. AND IF I GET CAUGHT
YOU'LL COME AND VISIT ME..



I'M NOT SAYING IT WON'T BE RISKY BUT YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO IT.



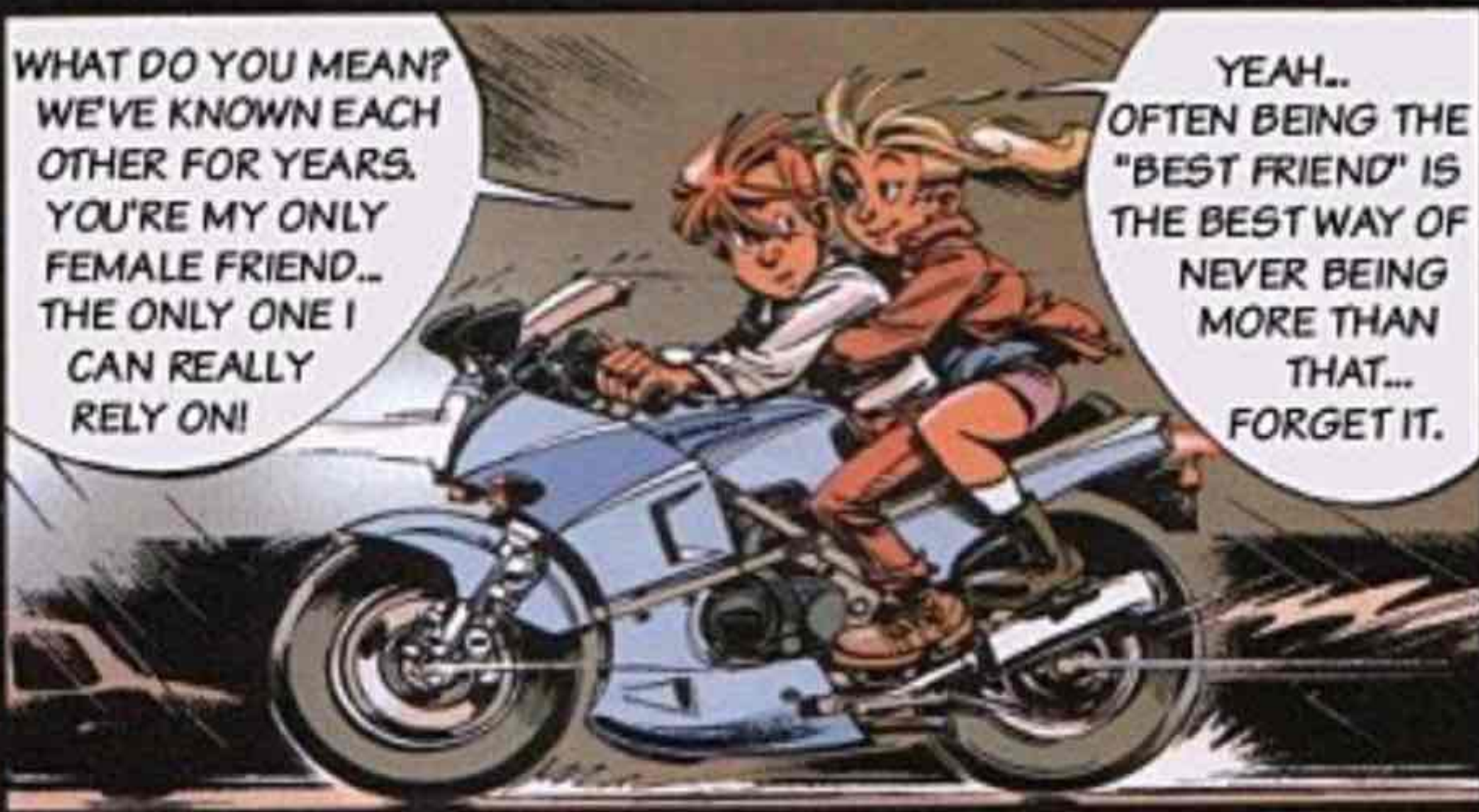
...AND AFTER ALL, MAYBE THERE'S SOMEONE ELSE IN YOUR LIFE WHO WOULD MAKE ME WANT YOU TO BE CAUGHT. ?



WHAT ARE YOU ON ABOUT? YOU KNOW THAT..

YOU ARE A CONFIRMED BACHELOR. I FORGOT!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? WE'VE KNOWN EACH OTHER FOR YEARS. YOU'RE MY ONLY FEMALE FRIEND.. THE ONLY ONE I CAN REALLY RELY ON!



YEAH.. OFTEN BEING THE "BEST FRIEND" IS THE BEST WAY OF NEVER BEING MORE THAN THAT... FORGET IT.



...ANYWAY, WE'VE GOT TO CUT THIS CONVERSATION SHORT!



NOW THEN KIDS!? RIDING WITHOUT HELMETS!? EVEN AT TWO IN THE MORNING THAT'S ILLEGAL. LET'S SEE SOME ID!

IT'S ALL MY FAULT, ERR...



I PERSUADED MR. SPIROU HERE..

"SPIROU"! THE REPORTER! THE ADVENTURER?



I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST A CHARACTER IN MY KID'S COMIC BOOKS. IF YOU COULD JUST SIGN A PAGE IN MY NOTEBOOK WE CAN FORGET ABOUT THIS.



I SUPPOSE YOU REALLY SHOULD REMAIN SINGLE. NO ONE IS PERFECT BUT JUST LET ME SAY THIS...



THANKS!



... SIR?...

HAVE YOU TAKEN PART IN ANY TRIALS
LIKE THIS BEFORE?

TO BE HONEST,
NO.



THE CLINIC PAYS
EACH CANDIDATE...
NOT BRILLIANTLY
BUT...



WERE NOT GOING TO INJECT YOU WITH A
VIRUS! LOTS OF PHARMACEUTICAL
COMPANIES DO THEIR PRE-RELEASE
TESTING ON HUMAN SUBJECTS.



MOST OF THE TIME IT'S HIGH
STREET PRODUCTS LIKE SUN
BLOCK, VITAMIN SUPPLEMENTS,
MOSQUITO REPELLENT...

WE'RE GOING
DOWN?



THE TESTING FACILITIES ARE
LOCATED IN THE BASEMENT.
WE'RE NEARLY THERE



JENNY! THIS IS
CONTROL PLEASE
TAKE OUR GUEST INTO
CORRIDOR 7!

CORRIDOR 7?
ERR.. OK!



THIS IS IT. AS I WAS SAYING TO YOU EARLIER...

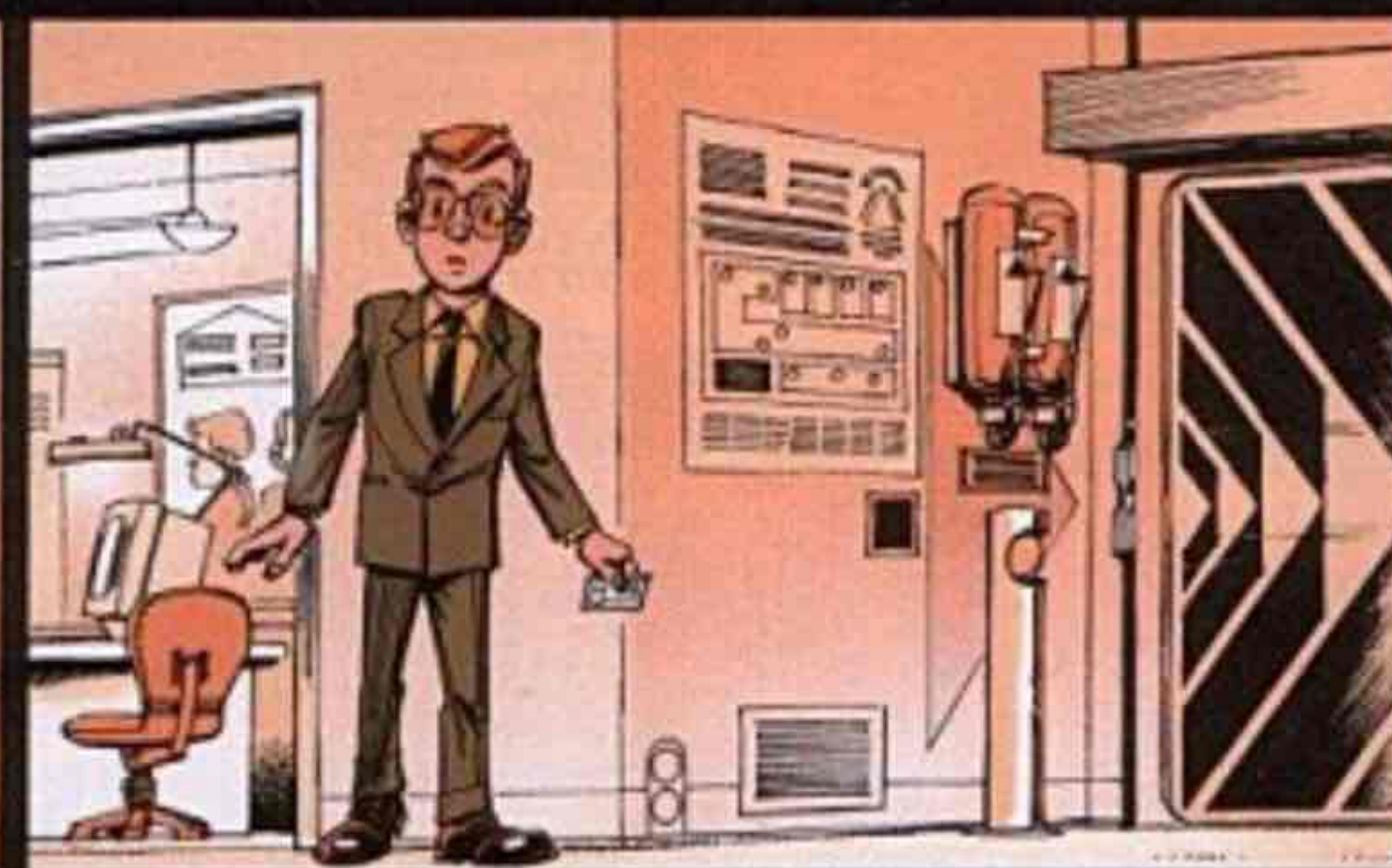


...MOST OF THE TESTS WE DO HERE AS PART OF THIS PROGRAM ARE
REALLY NOTHING MORE...



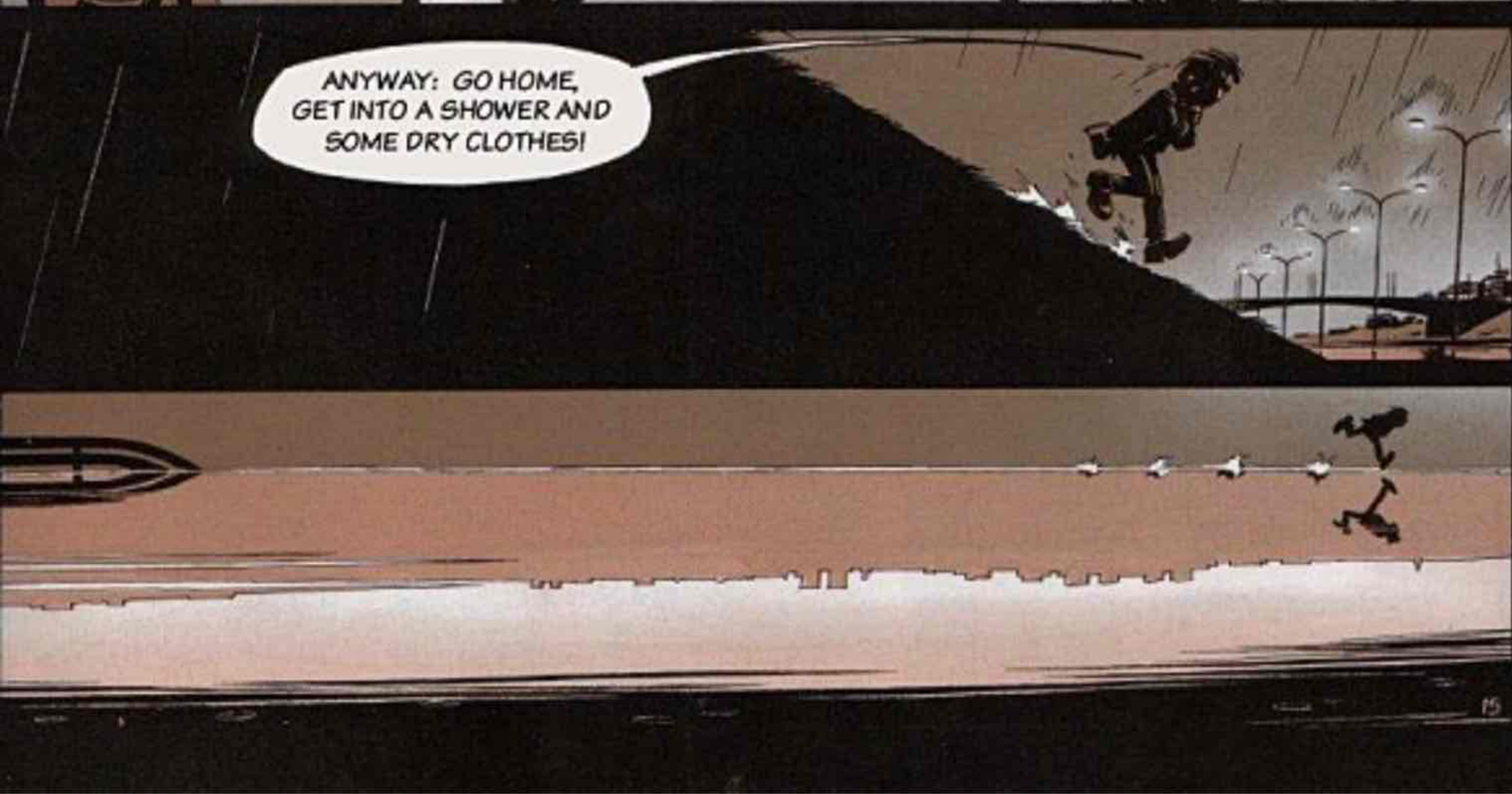
...THAN PURELY ROUTINE!

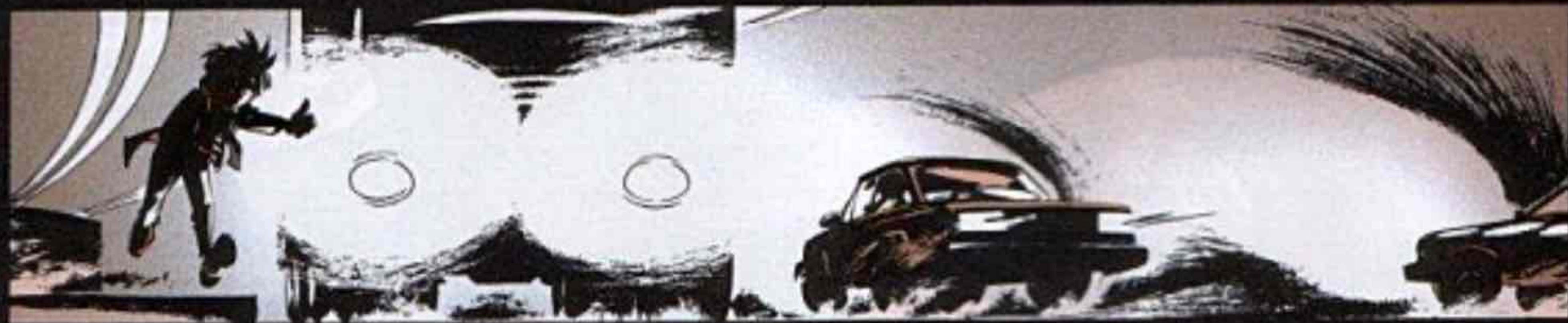












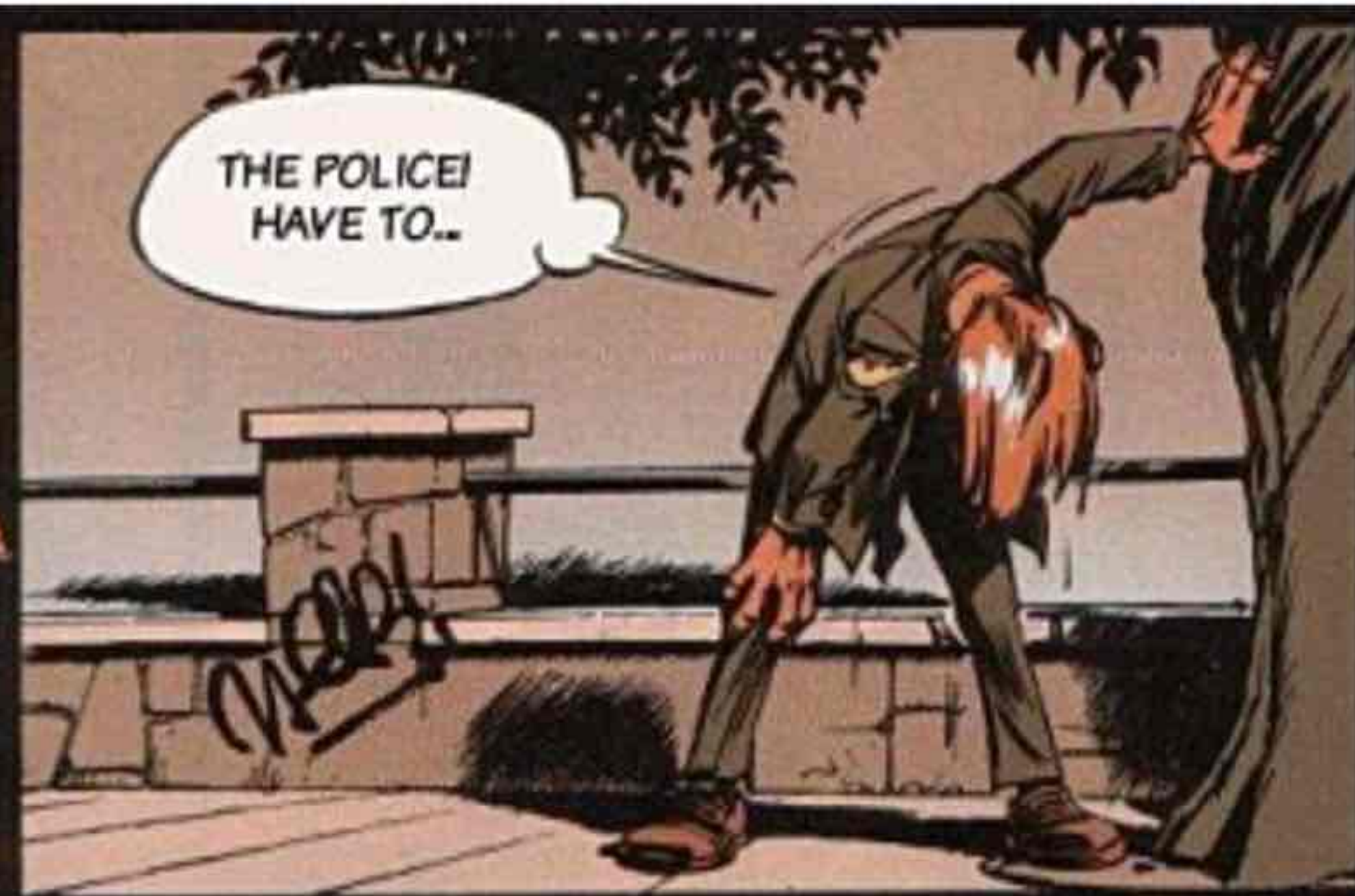




THEY REALLY
WANTED TO KILL
ME!! IT'S NOT
A DREAM!!



THE POLICE!
HAVE TO...



NO, THE ARTICLE!
I WAS INVESTIGATING IT FOR...
AN ARTICLE! THAT'S IT! IT WAS AN
ARTICLE FOR
SECCO...



... FOR **SOPHIE!!** IT'S HER!
SHE'S THE ONE WHO GOT ME
INTO THIS MESS!

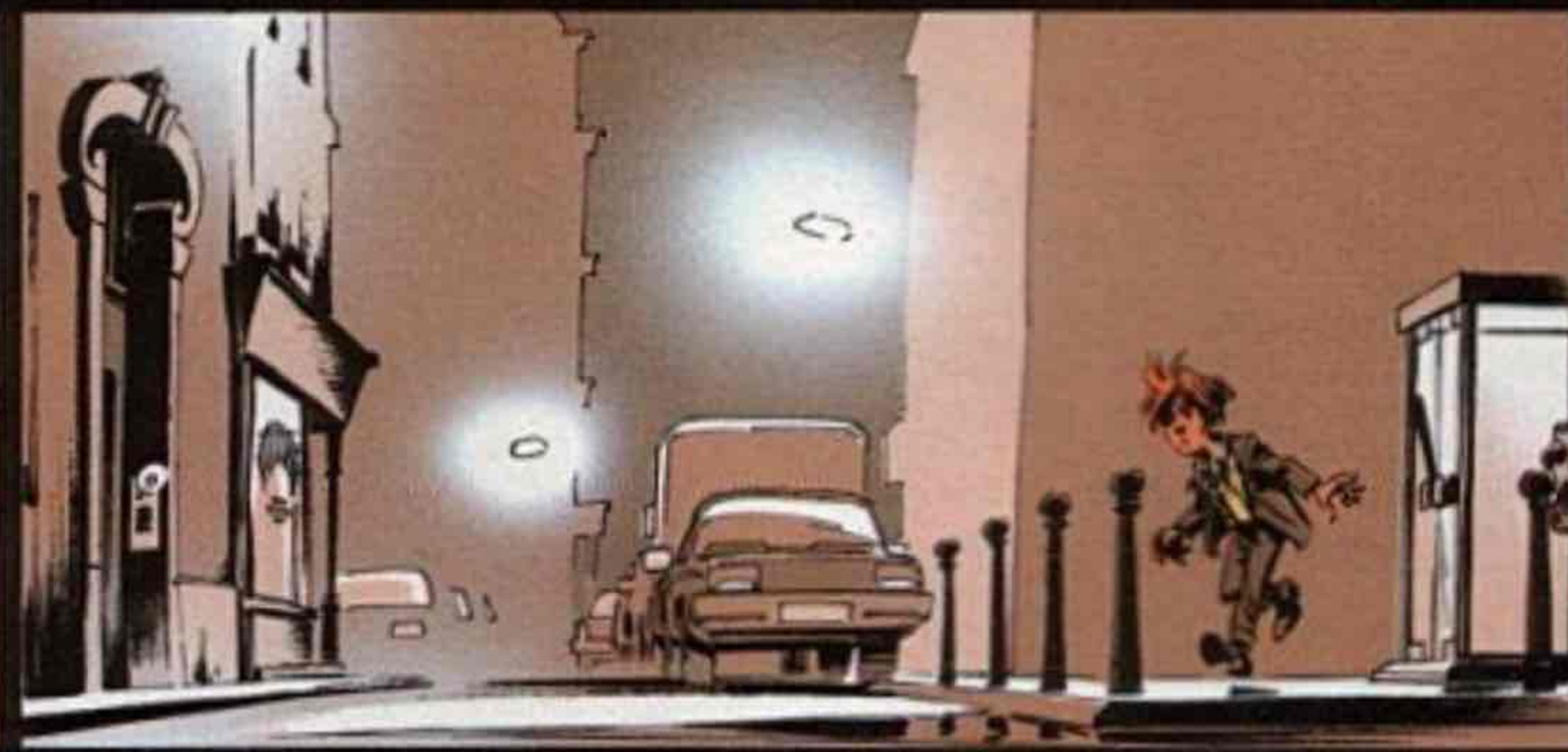
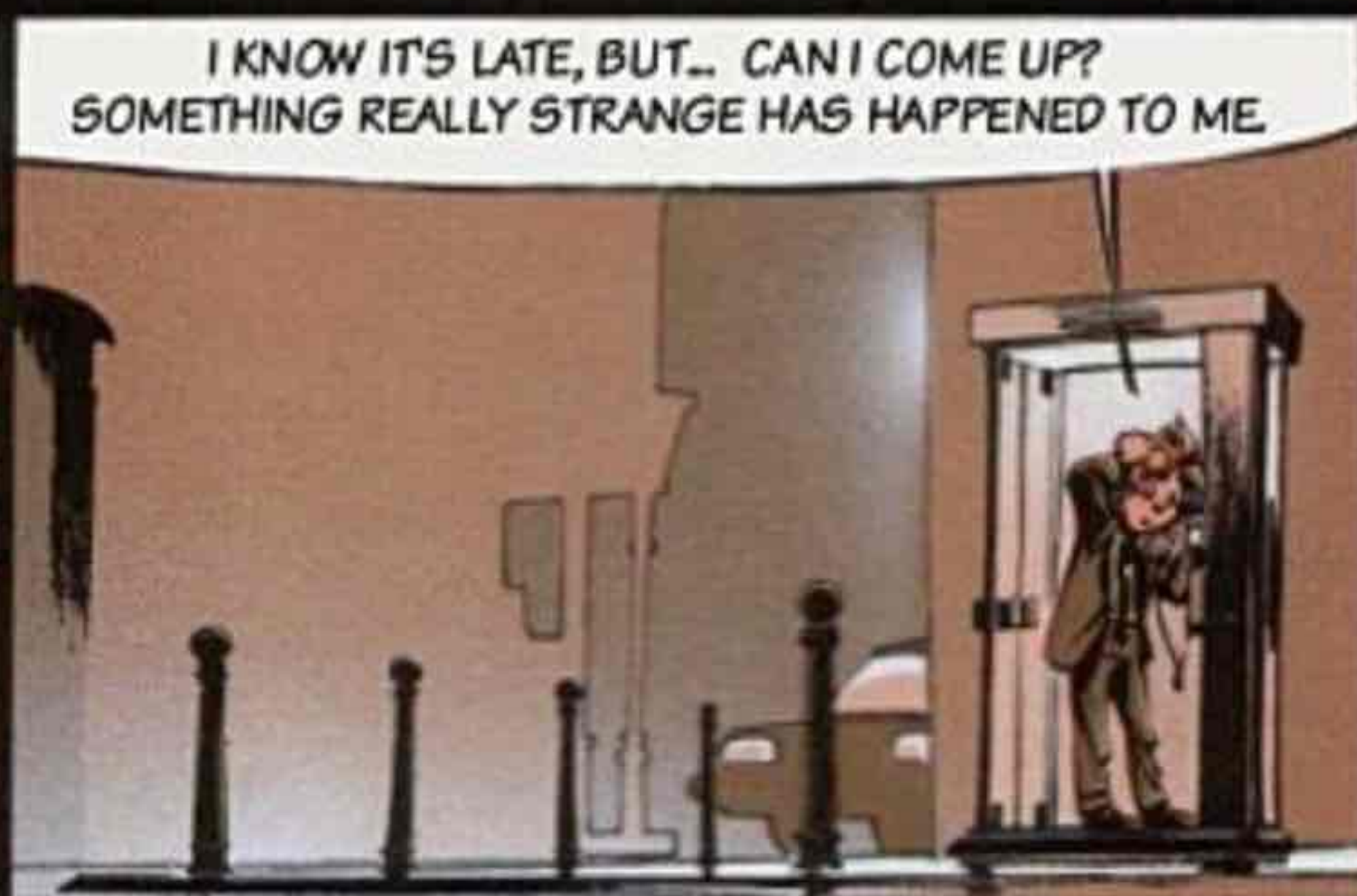


SHE'LL KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON...
HOW LONG HAS THIS BEEN GOING ON
FOR? I WONDER IF SHE'S WORRIED?





I'M DOWN-
STAIRS, IN
THE PHONE
BOOTH...



PUT IT OUT! HE'S BACK.





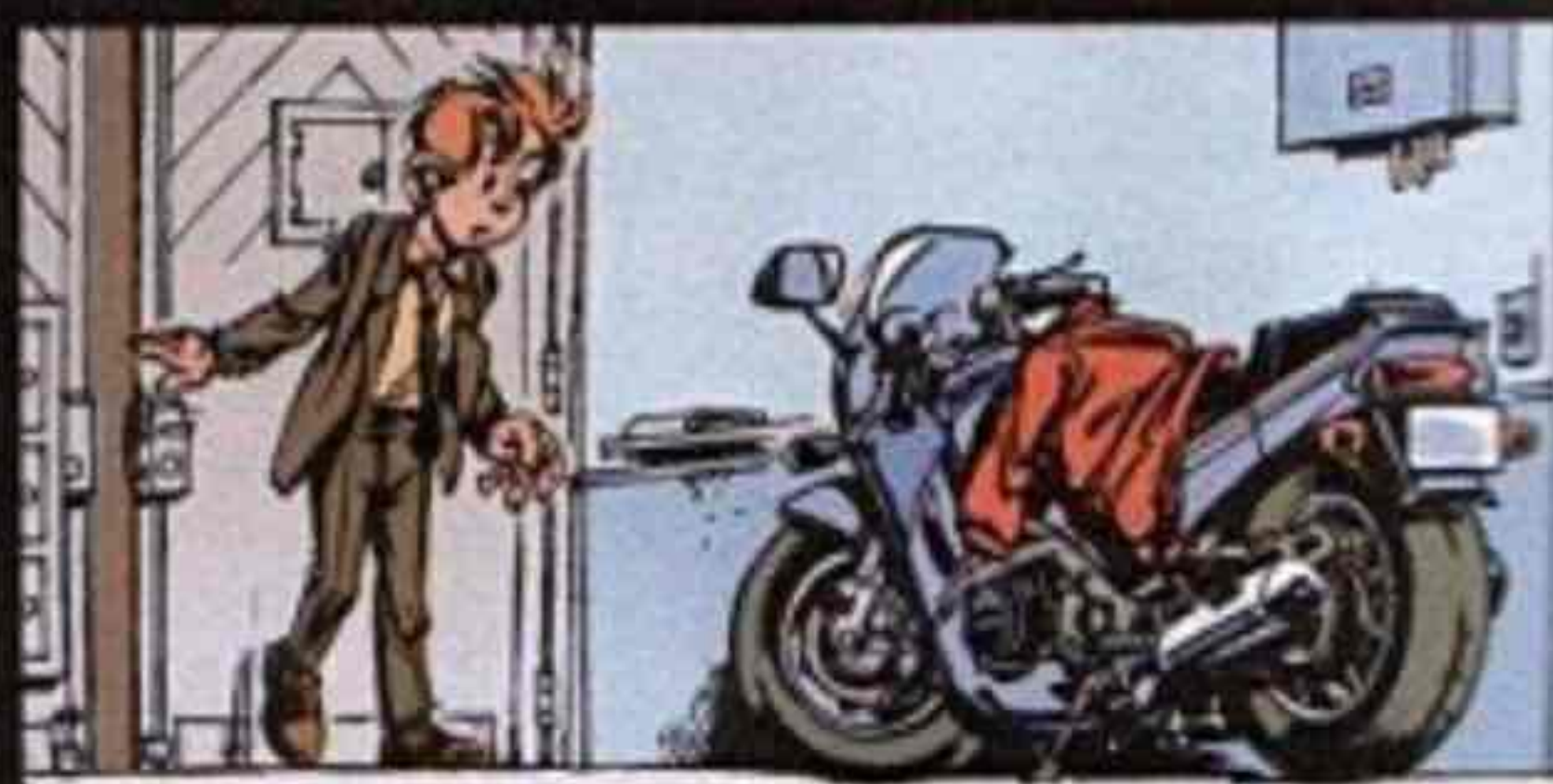
WELL DONE MISSI! YOU PLAYED YOUR
PART PERFECTLY!



NOW FORGET
ABOUT US.

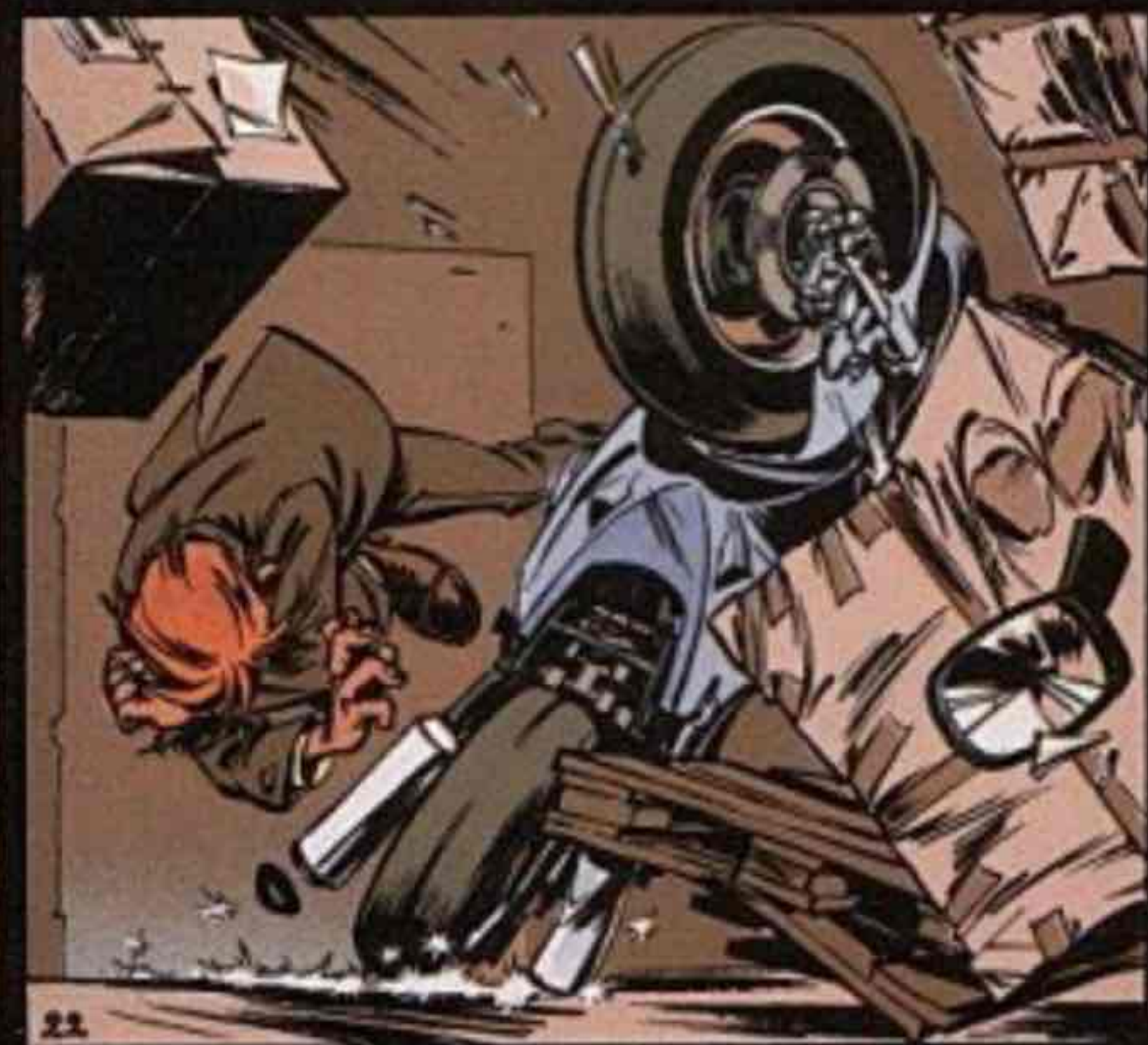
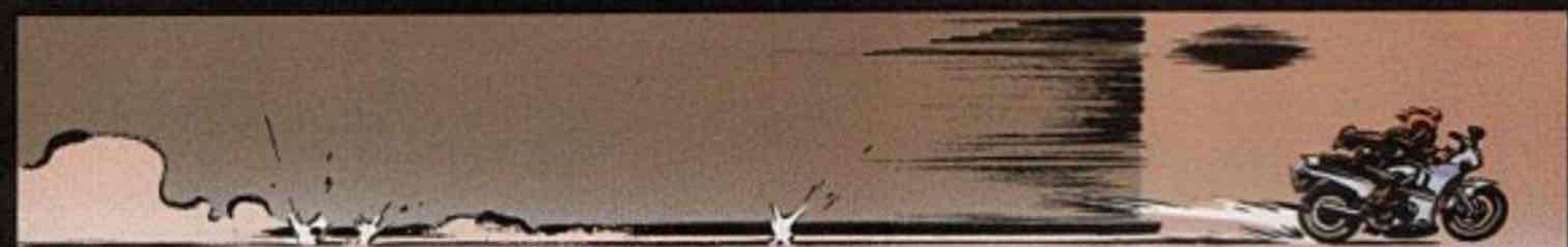


WE'LL TAKE CARE
OF THE REST.



?







OF COURSE, HA HA!
I'M JUST HAVING A STUPID
NIGHTMARE!



I'LL LET
YOU IN.



WAKE ME UP!
IT'S OVER!



I'M NOT PLAYING
YOUR GAME
ANYMORE!



WAKE...



KSSSS!



PLEASE..
WAKE ME UP!

THIS IS YOUR LAST WARNING! DROP YOUR WEAPONS!



SIR?...

PLAY IT COOL.
THE STAKES HAVE
JUST GONE UP.



WE'RE NOT GOING TO OFFER YOU ANY RESISTANCE. BUT I STRONGLY ADVISE YOU TO CALL THIS NUMBER.



THEY WERE WAITING FOR ME! AND SECCOTINE KNEW THEY HAD SET A TRAP...



IT WAS IN HER VOICE. SHE GAVE ME UP. I DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT...

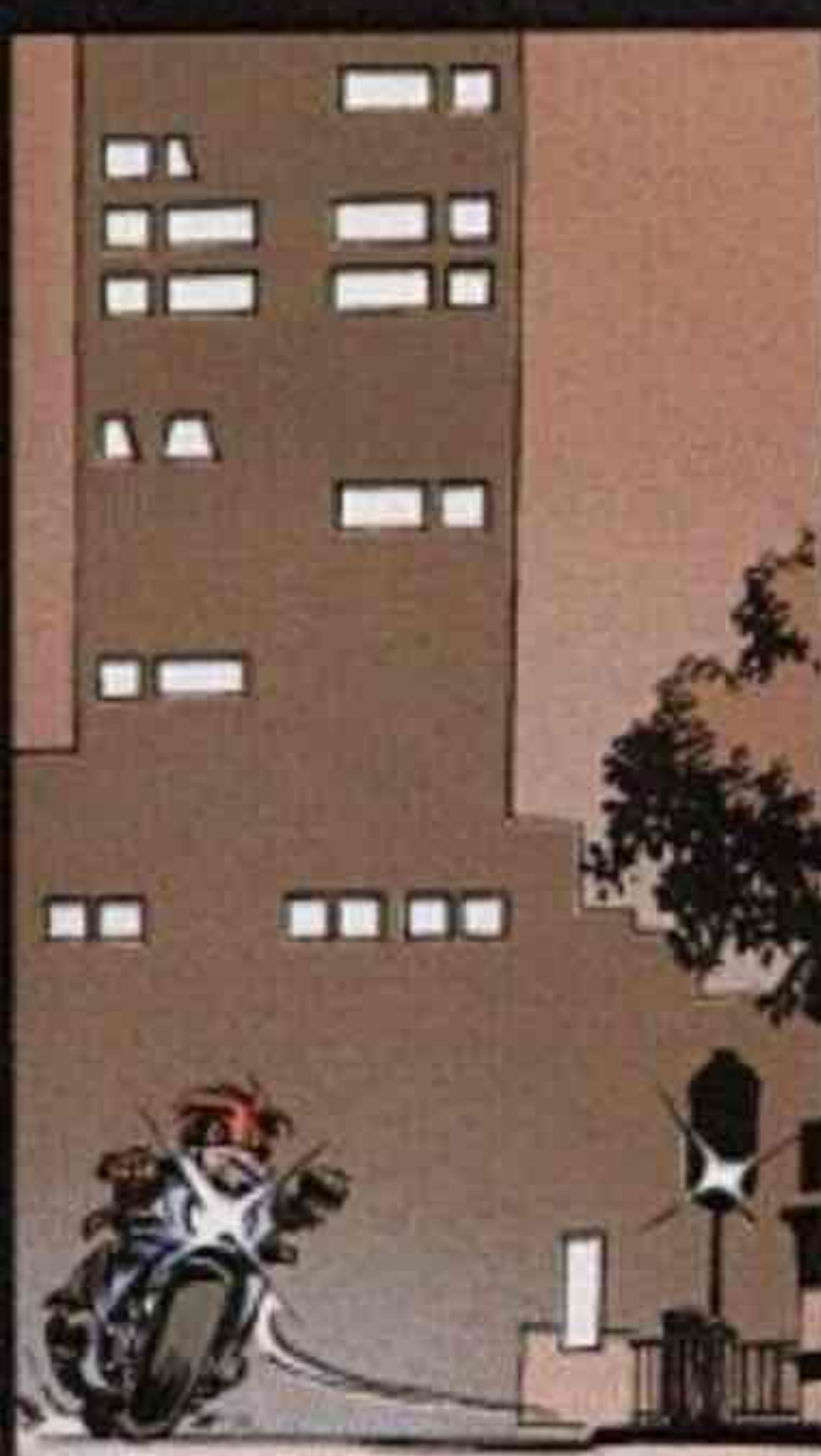


AFTER ALL SHE WAS THE ONE WHO GOT ME INTO THIS. NOW IT'S UP TO ME WHERE DID ALL THIS START?



THE CLINIC. THAT'S WHERE THIS ALL STARTED.







I'M MAD!
THAT'S IT...
UNLESS...



NO, IT MUST BE MY
MEMORY! THIS IS THE
WORST TIME TO BE...



I'LL START BY NOT TALKING
TO MYSELF. MEMORY LOSS...
MAYBE IT'S A SIDE EFFECT
OF THE...

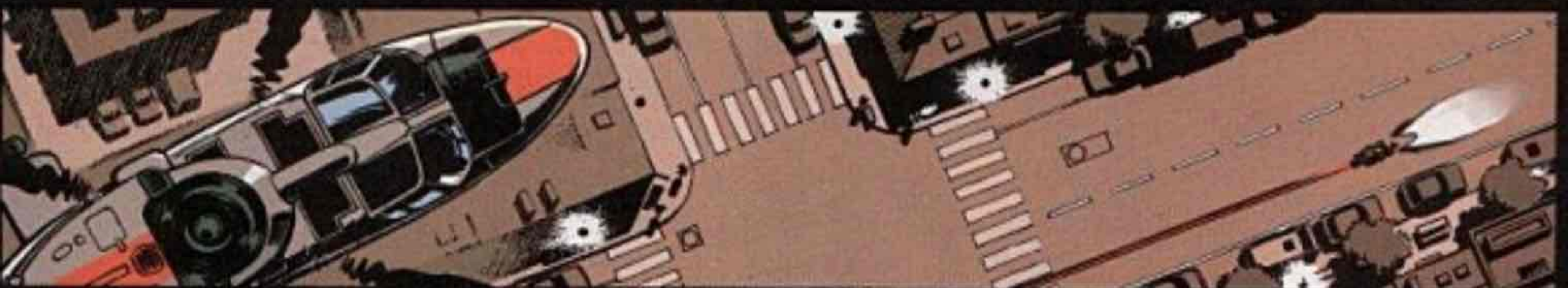
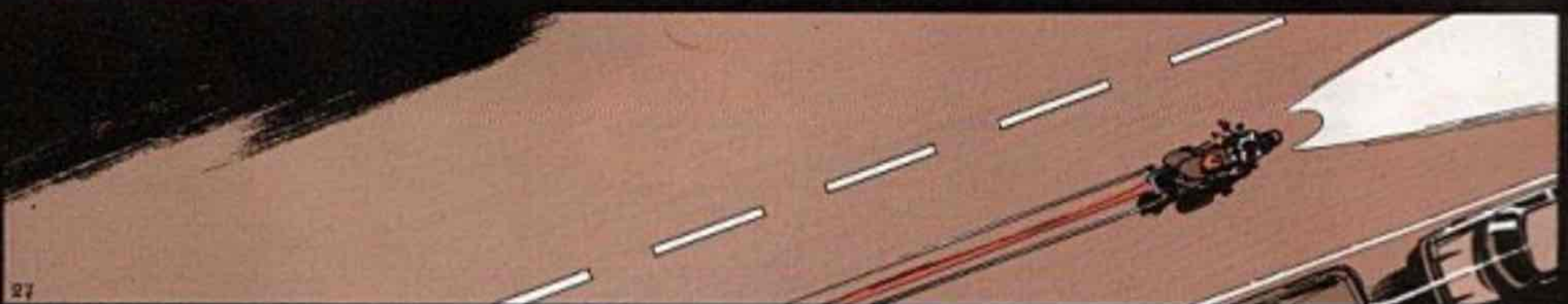
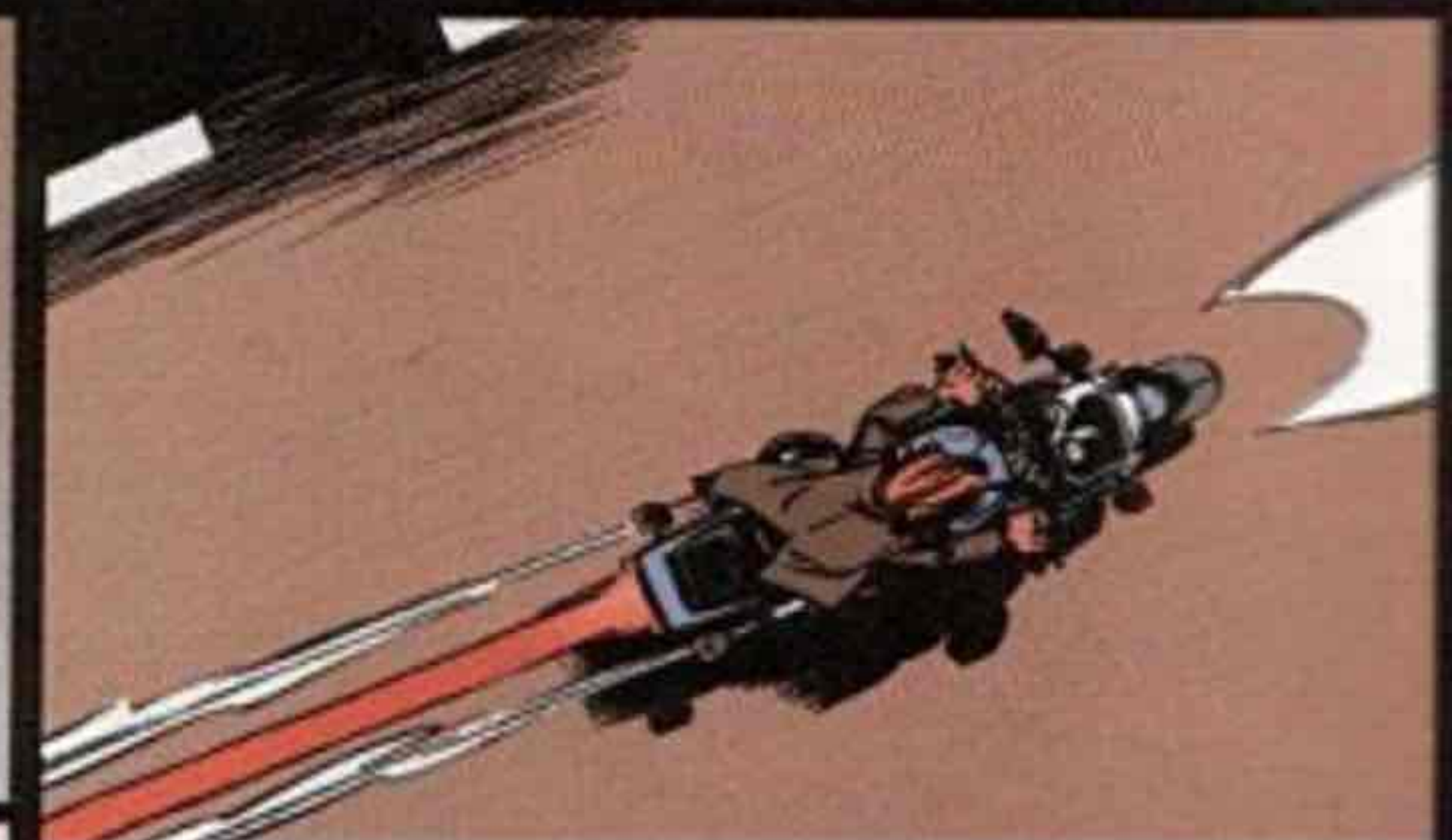
NO, THEY
DIDN'T...



TCHiii



THE WOMAN AT THE
CLINIC! SHE GAVE ME
HER SWIPE-CARD.





SUN-RAY TO UNIFORM-SIX
STAND BY TO FOR A
RED INSERTION.



RED INSERTION!
UNDERSTOOD, SUN-RAY.
WAITING FOR YOUR
SIGNAL.



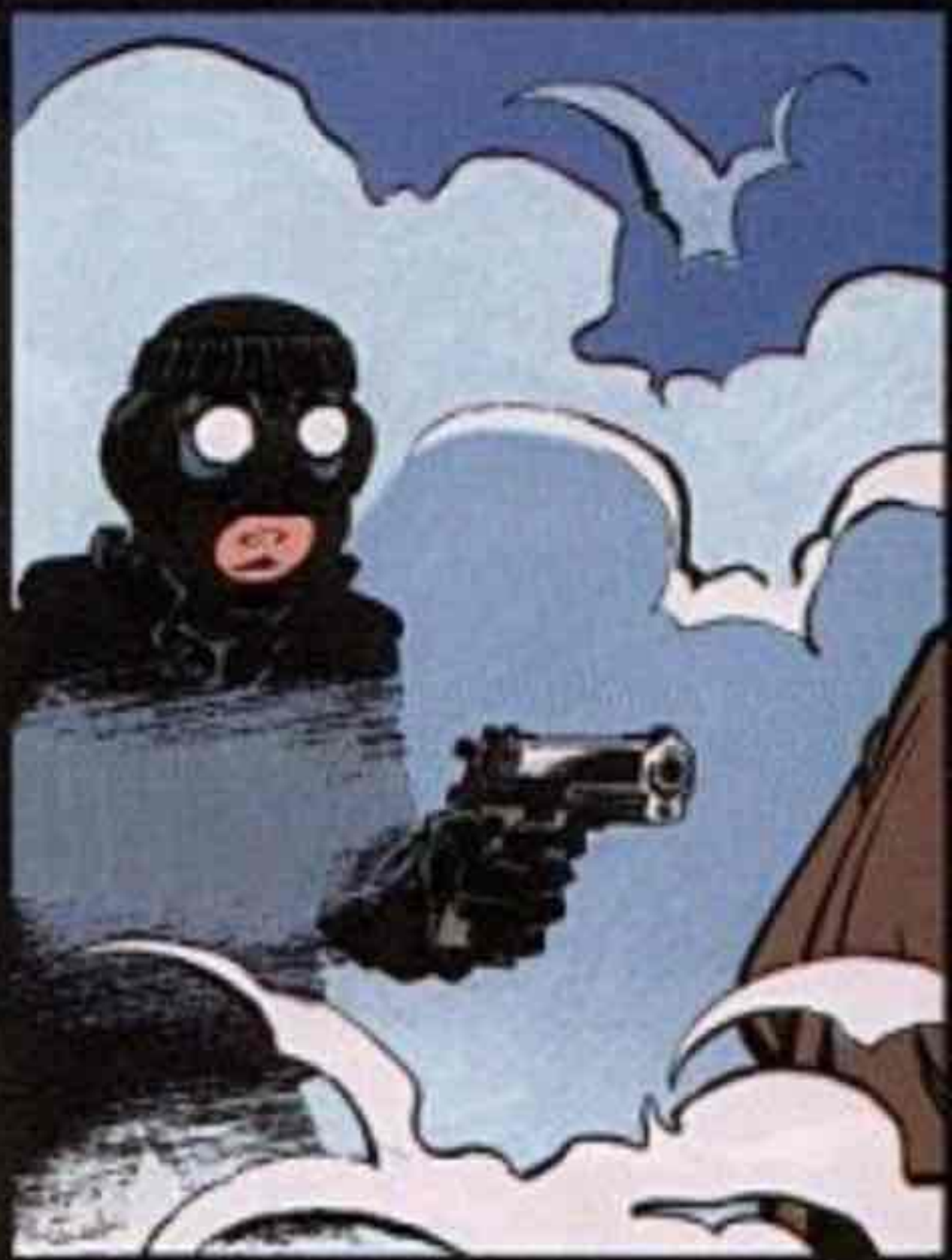
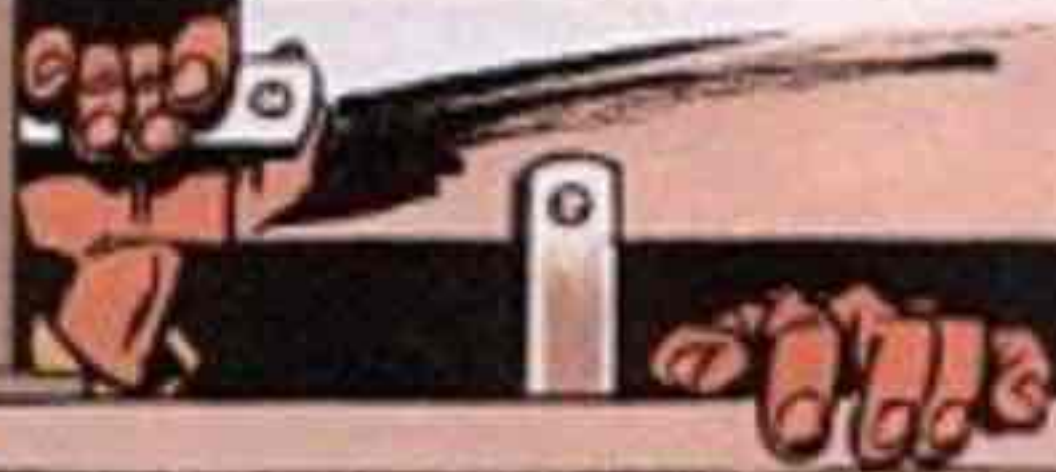
THAT'S DEFINITELY
HER. TOP FLOOR...

- THOMAS J.
- CRIVAN S.
- CLAVE M.
- STENLIN K.
- LAUREN W.
- ROSEN J.F.
- BERNARD I.



HMM.. IT'S
A BIT TOO LATE
TO BE RINGING
DOORBELLS.





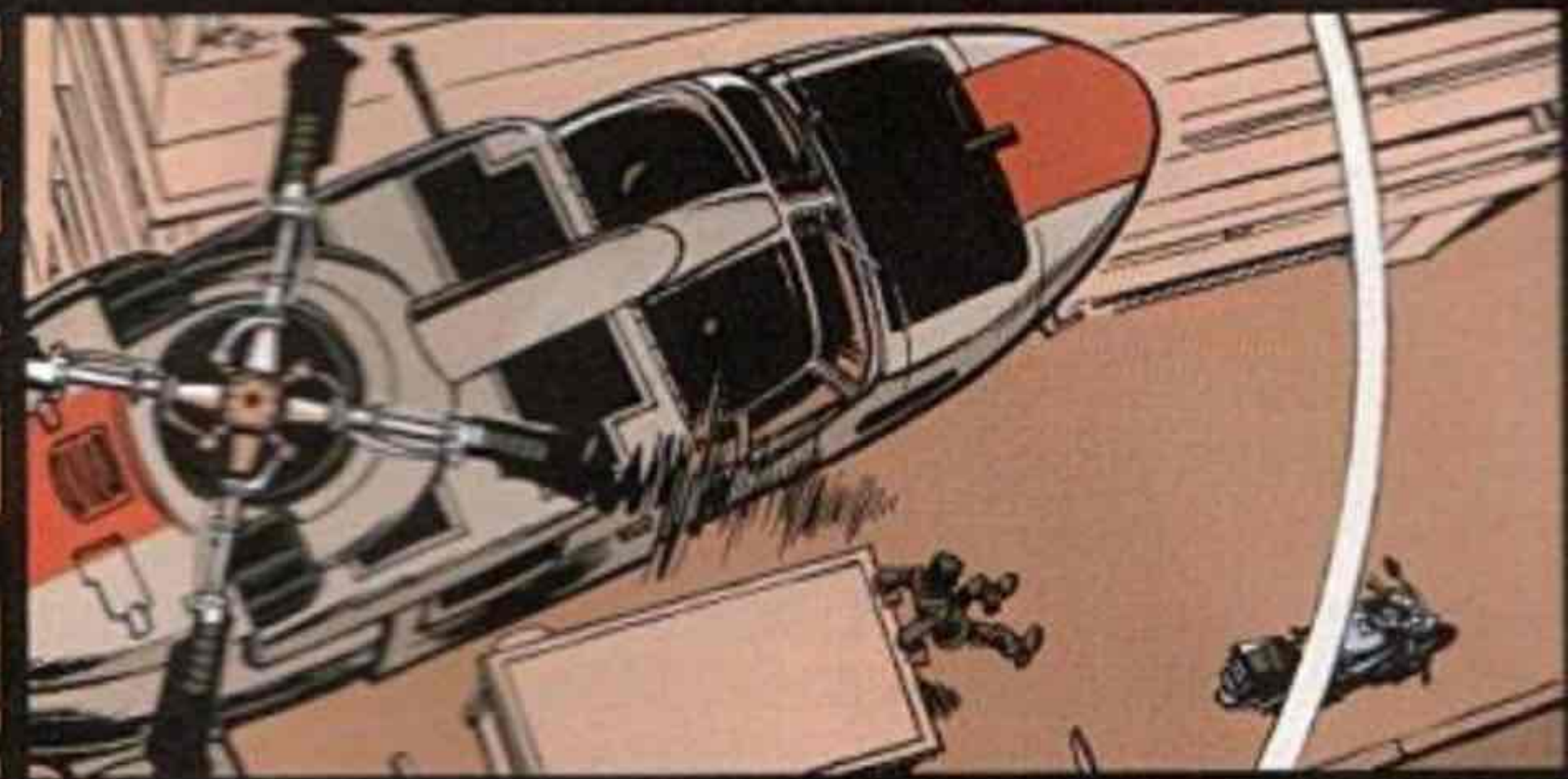
HELLO? ANY ONE HOME?

ERR...
MISS? MISS
SIMMONDS?

FSHSHSHA

SHHSHHHSSHHHHSHHSHH





SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.
ONE OF THE GUYS IS
OUT ALREADY.



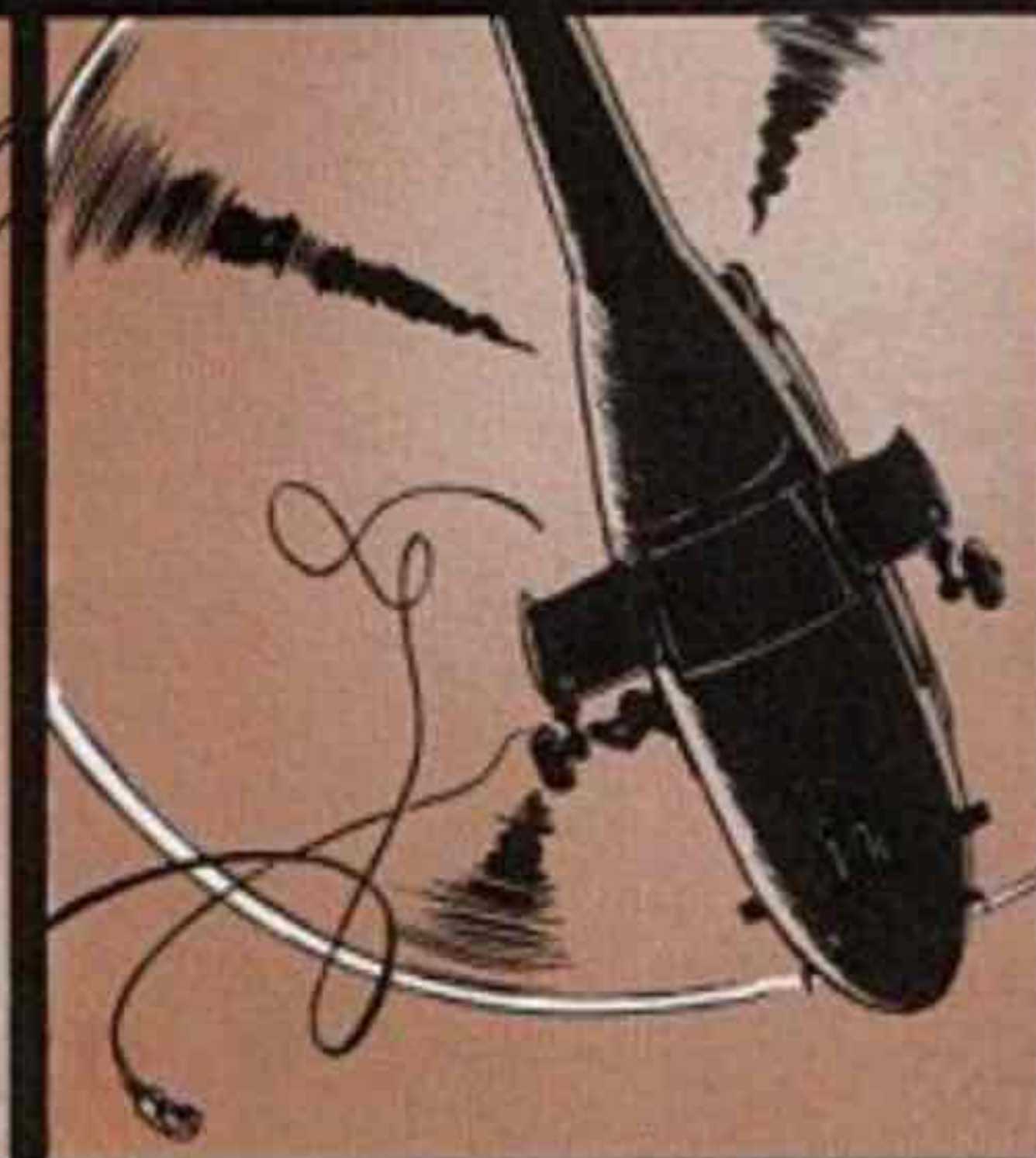
STOP! STOP! IT'S HIM,
HE.. HE'S HAD US!



UNIFORM-SIX
TO ALL UNITS!
THE TARGET IS
MOBILE!



THE CABLE!
RELEASE THE
CABLE!



WHERE IS HE?
WHERE IS HE?
ANY ONE GOT
A VISUAL?



GROUND UNITS!
ALERT THE
GROUND UNITS!

THIS MAN IS DANGEROUS!



...AND IT WAS WITH THESE EXACT WORDS THAT THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE ANNOUNCED THIS MORNING THE LARGEST NATIONWIDE MAN HUNT EVER MOUNTED BY THE POLICE AND ARMED FORCES.



THE MINISTRY IS EXPECTED TO RELEASE MORE DETAILS IN DUE COURSE AND WE ARE STILL TRYING TO ASCERTAIN WHAT HAS PROVOKED SUCH A LARGE SCALE MOBILIZATION..



...BUT IT MUST BE A SIGNIFICANT THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY. FURTHER DETAILS OF THE SUSPECT WILL BE BROADCAST AS SOON AS WE HAVE THEM.

WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS, SECRETARY GENERAL.



WE'RE CLOSING FACTORIES BUT THE BARRACKS ARE FILLING UP. MY PARTY WILL BE PRESENTING A MOTION TO..

PROFESSOR! YOUR PSYCHIATRIC OPINION?

IT'S OBVIOUSLY VERY DIFFICULT TO SAY. HE MAY BE SUFFERING FROM A PSYCHOSIS THAT VARIES BETWEEN PARANOIA AND SCHIZOPHRENIA. HE MUST BE FEELING ALONE AND ALIENATED.



WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR OVER AN HOUR FOR SOME NEWS AND, FOR THE SAFETY OF MY TWO CHILDREN, I SAY IT'S TIME WE TOOK THIS PERVERT OFF THE STREETS FOR GOOD!



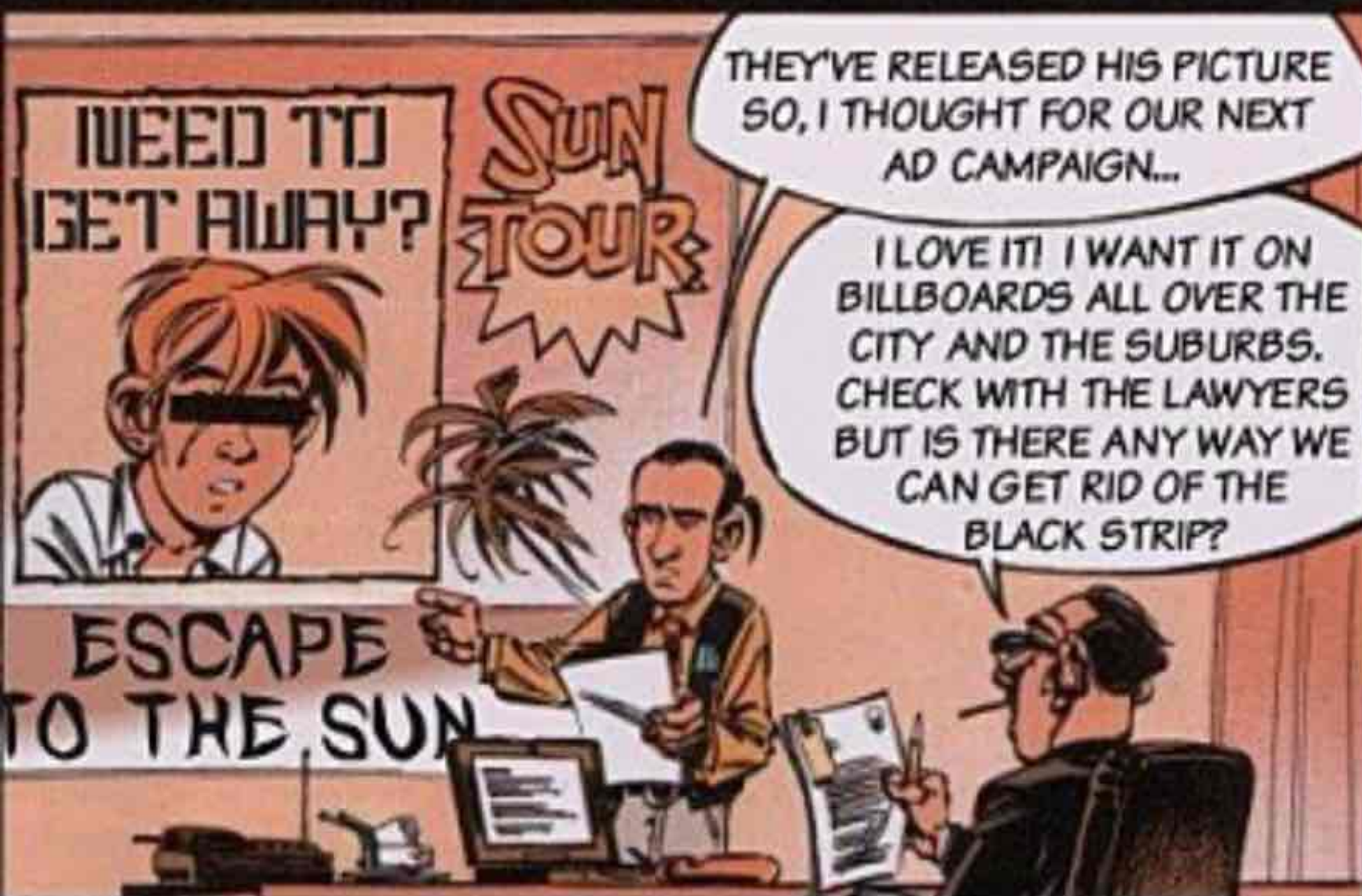
AND NOW: TRASH SHELTER WITH THEIR HIT RUNNING IN THE NIGHT, GOOD ADVICE IF YOU COME ACROSS THE WANTED MAN IN A DARK ALLEY, YO!



NEED TO GET AWAY?

SUN TOUR

ESCAPE TO THE SUN



THEY'VE RELEASED HIS PICTURE SO, I THOUGHT FOR OUR NEXT AD CAMPAIGN...

I LOVE IT! I WANT IT ON BILLBOARDS ALL OVER THE CITY AND THE SUBURBS. CHECK WITH THE LAWYERS BUT IS THERE ANY WAY WE CAN GET RID OF THE BLACK STRIP?

THIS MAN IS DANGEROUS.



DANGEROUS



DANGEROUS!

FANTASIO! HIS
NAME IS FANTASIO.

HE SHOULD BE A GUEST AT YOUR
HOTEL. TELL HIM THAT SPIROU RANG
FOR HIM. IT'S URGENT, THAT'S RIGHT!

ON THE NUMBER
I GAVE YOU, IT'S
A MOBILE.



HELLO, CONTROL? YEAH, THIS IS 7161
I'M STATIONED OUTSIDE THE FANTASIO
RESIDENCE. NOPE, NOTHING TO REPORT.

NO MOVEMENT, NO
LIGHTS, NOTHING..

JUST WAITING TO BE
RELIEVED! HA HA HA!
AIN'T IT JUST!

OOPSI! THAT WOULD REALLY
GIVE THE GAME AWAY!

SPIP?

THE ANSWER PHONE.
THERE'S A
MESSAGE!

clac

IT'S FANTASIO! JUST
LETTING YOU KNOW THAT
I GOT YOUR MESSAGE.

FANTASIO!

I COULDN'T GET YOU ON THE
NUMBER YOU GAVE ME.

DAMN, THE MOBILE!
I LEFT IT ON THE BIKE!
STILL NOT USED TO
THOSE THINGS!

I'M GOING TO SUGGEST SOMEWHERE YOU CAN
MEET ME, BUT I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET THERE FOR
A WHILE. WRITE THIS DOWN... ARE YOU READY,
YOU'LL BE SURPRISED!

AFTER WHAT'S HAPPENED LATELY
NOTHING WOULD BE SURPRISING!

BE-BIP!
BE-BIP!

?

SPIPI?

WHERE'S HE GONE?
HE MUST BE STARVING
BY NOW...

WELL, IF
EVEN HE'S
AVOIDING ME
THEN THE ONLY
THING... OH,
AND... IT'S NOT
TIME TO BE
PLAYING
HIDE-AND-
SEEK.

BE-BIP!
BE-BIB!

I'M OFF! I'VE GOT SOMEWHERE TO BE.
IF WE DON'T SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN,
FIND YOURSELF A COMPANION OF
YOUR OWN SPECIES.

THE HUMAN RACE
ISN'T VERY FRIENDLY.

BE-BIP!
BE-BIP!

THIS IS THE BIKE...
BUT THAT MEANS...
THE FUGITIVE...
HE MUST BE...

WELCOME TO
YOUR VOICEMAIL.
YOU HAVE
ONE NEW
MESSAGE.

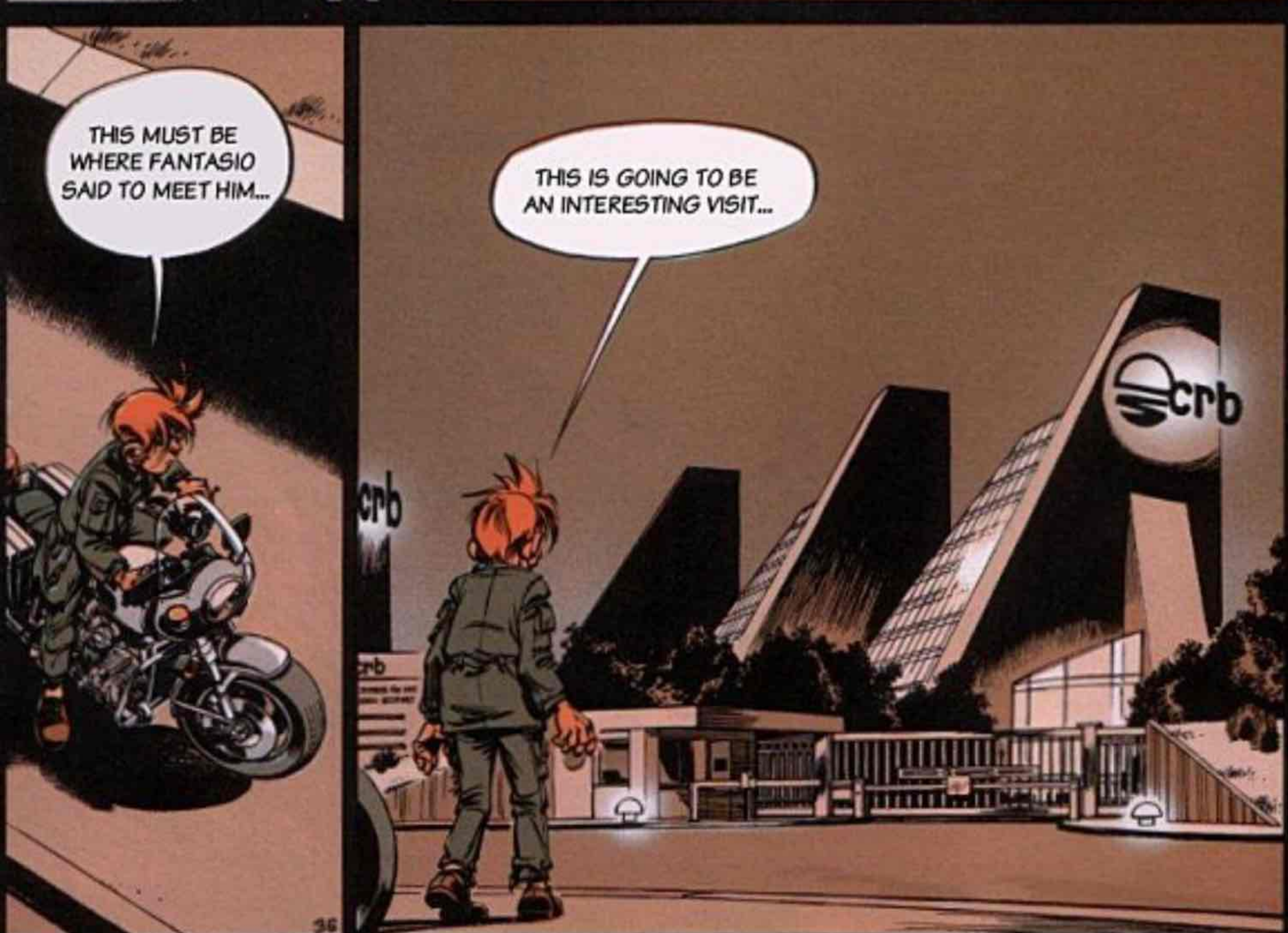
WHAT THE...

THE LOCAL PATROLMAN! THE WAY
THINGS ARE GOING HE'S GOING
TO SHOOT ME WITHOUT
A WARNING!

CLICK!

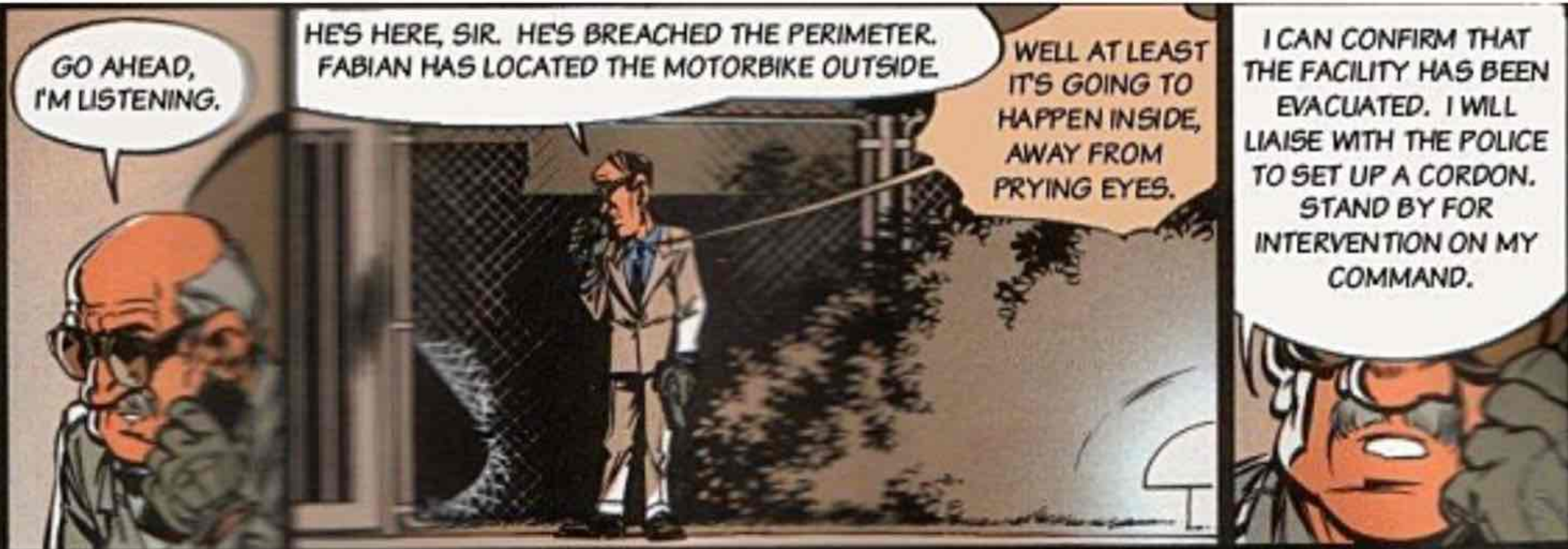
DAMN! NOT
LOADED!

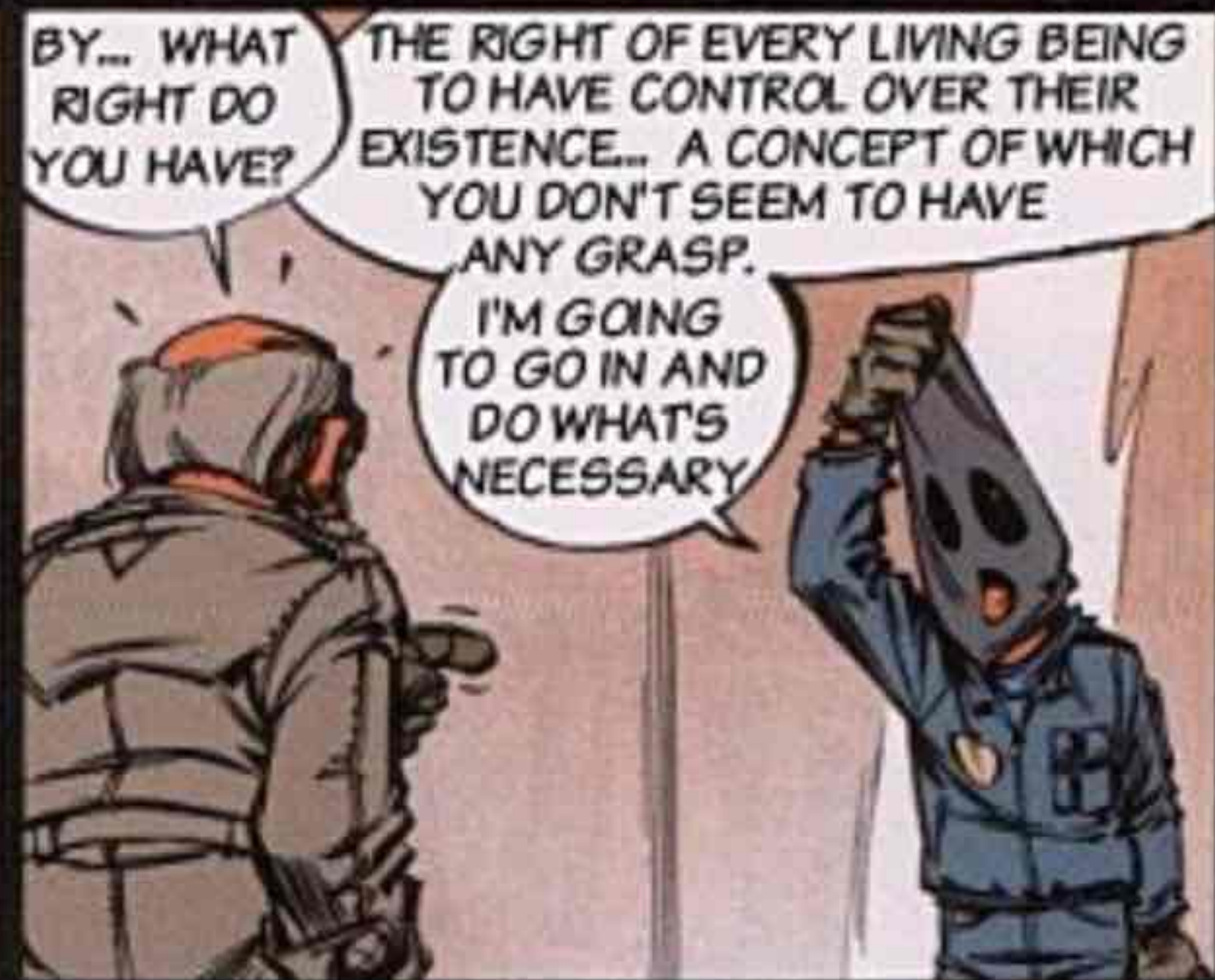
COMFORTABLE BUT STILL POWERFUL.
I PREFERRED THE OTHER ONE.

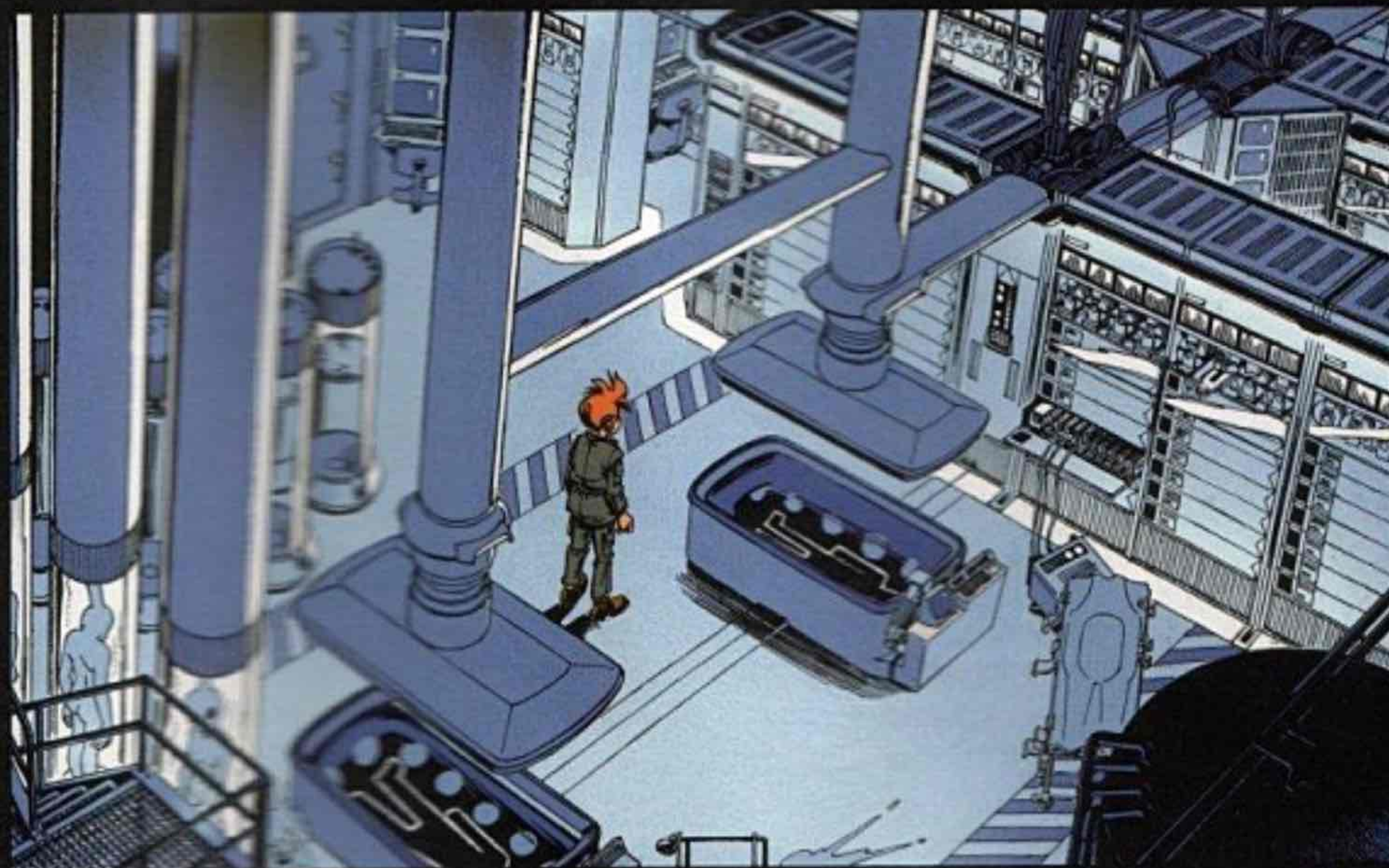
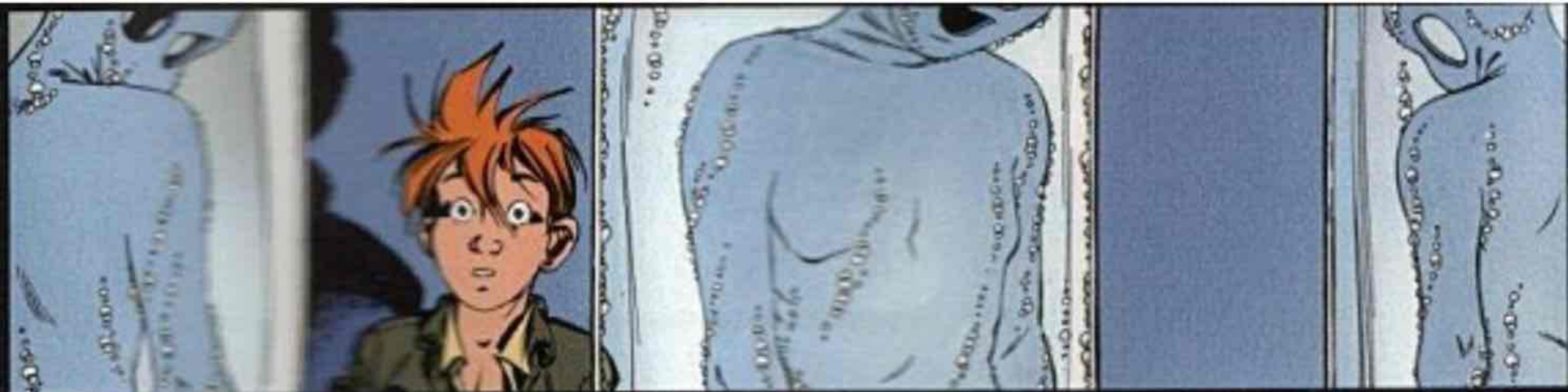


THIS MUST BE
WHERE FANTASIO
SAID TO MEET HIM...

THIS IS GOING TO BE
AN INTERESTING VISIT...







I GUESS YOU'VE
WORKED IT OUT
NOW.



IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO ACCEPT IT
MYSELF. IF YOU'RE AS COMPLETE AS
THEY SAY YOU ARE THEN WE SHARE
THE SAME RESENTMENTS
RIGHT NOW.



BUT?? WHO?!
WHO AM I?

A COPY? AN ANDROID? A REPLICANT?
THEY'VE NOT FOUND ANY VERY INTERESTING
WAYS TO DESCRIBE THEIR LITTLE MIRACLE.
THEY NEEDED A MODEL AND I WAS... WELL...
WE WERE RIGHT.

THAT'S ABSURD! WHY?! EVERYONE WHO'S
COME NEAR ME HAS BEEN TRYING TO KILL ME!

FIRSTLY TO PROTECT THE SECRET.
SECONDLY FOR REASONS OF NATIONAL
SECURITY. AND FINALLY TO PROTECT THE
GENERAL POPULATION, THAT'S GENERALLY
THE PRETEXTS THEY USE IN THESE
SITUATIONS. IN ANY CASE THEY DON'T
THINK YOU EXIST. YOU ARE A
MACHINE. A MACHINE THAT
DREAMED OF LIFE!

NO! I'M ALIVE! YOU'RE THE GROTESQUE
COPY! STAY AWAY FROM ME!

THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I WOULD
SAY. BUT IT'LL TAKE SOME TIME
TO UNDERSTAND, YOU WERE
BORN HERE A FEW DAYS AGO.

MEMORIES,
EMOTIONS,
EVERYTHING
CAME FROM
HERE.

I NEED SOME
HELP... YOU
TOO, YOU'VE
COME HERE
TO...

YOU NEED
TO DISAPPEAR,
THERE CAN
ONLY BE ONE
SPIROU.

I HOPE I'VE
CHOSEN THE
RIGHT ONE!

EVERYTHING'S
READY, WE CAN'T
HANG AROUND
CHATTING!

COME ON YOU. AND TAKE THAT
BEWILDERED LOOK OFF YOUR FACE OR
I'LL CHANGE MY MIND.

THIS IS
WHERE WE
SPLIT... NO
REGRETS?

PLENTY. STARTING WITH NOT BEING
ABLE TO PUT A STOP TO THIS
EARLIER. HOWEVER, THERE IS
ONE CONSOLATION.

YOU'VE GOT NO
IDEA WHAT GOES ON
IN THE PLACES THEY'VE
BEEN KEEPING ME
WHILST THEY WERE
LOOKING FOR MY
ALTER EGO...



LET'S GO. WE'VE
GOT A LOT TO DO
AND NOT MUCH
TIME!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND... WHY ARE YOU HELPING
ME NOW THAT YOU'VE...

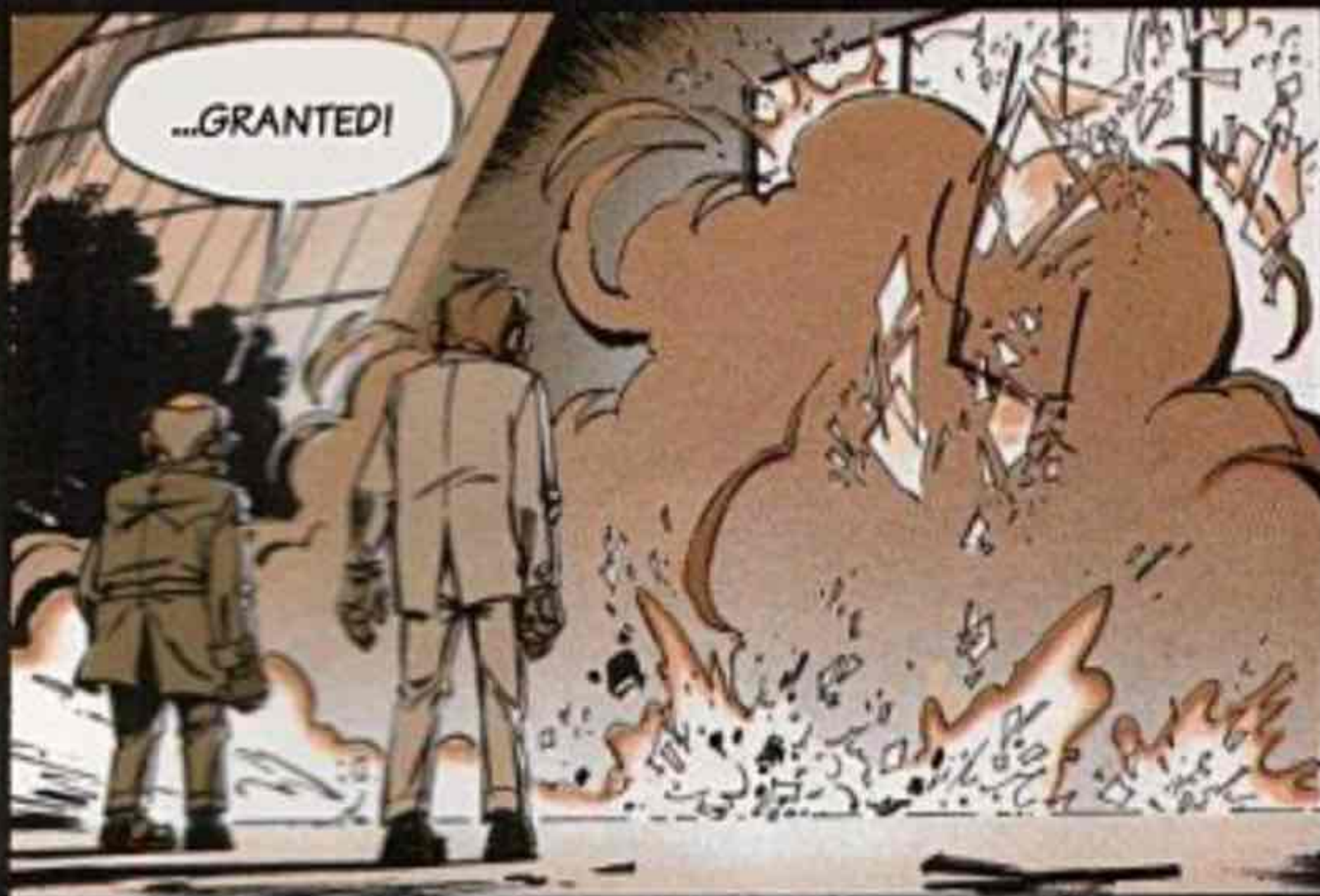
WE DON'T
ALWAYS CHOOSE
OUR DESTINY.



SIR, THIS HAS GONE ON
LONG ENOUGH, DO I
HAVE PERMISSION TO...



...GRANTED!



SIR! SIR!

WE'VE INTERCEPTED THIS ONE BUT WE DON'T KNOW WHICH ONE IT IS...

LET HIM GO!

WHAT WAS THE MEANING OF THE EXPLOSION? WHAT HAPPENED?

EVERYTHING WENT UP. IT'S ALL GONE INCLUDING THE... "OTHER". THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED, WASN'T IT?

IT SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED LIKE THAT! YOU'VE RUINED YEARS OF RESEARCH AND MILLIONS HAVE GONE UP IN SMOKE! THIS... IT WILL TAKE A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT OF TIME TO...

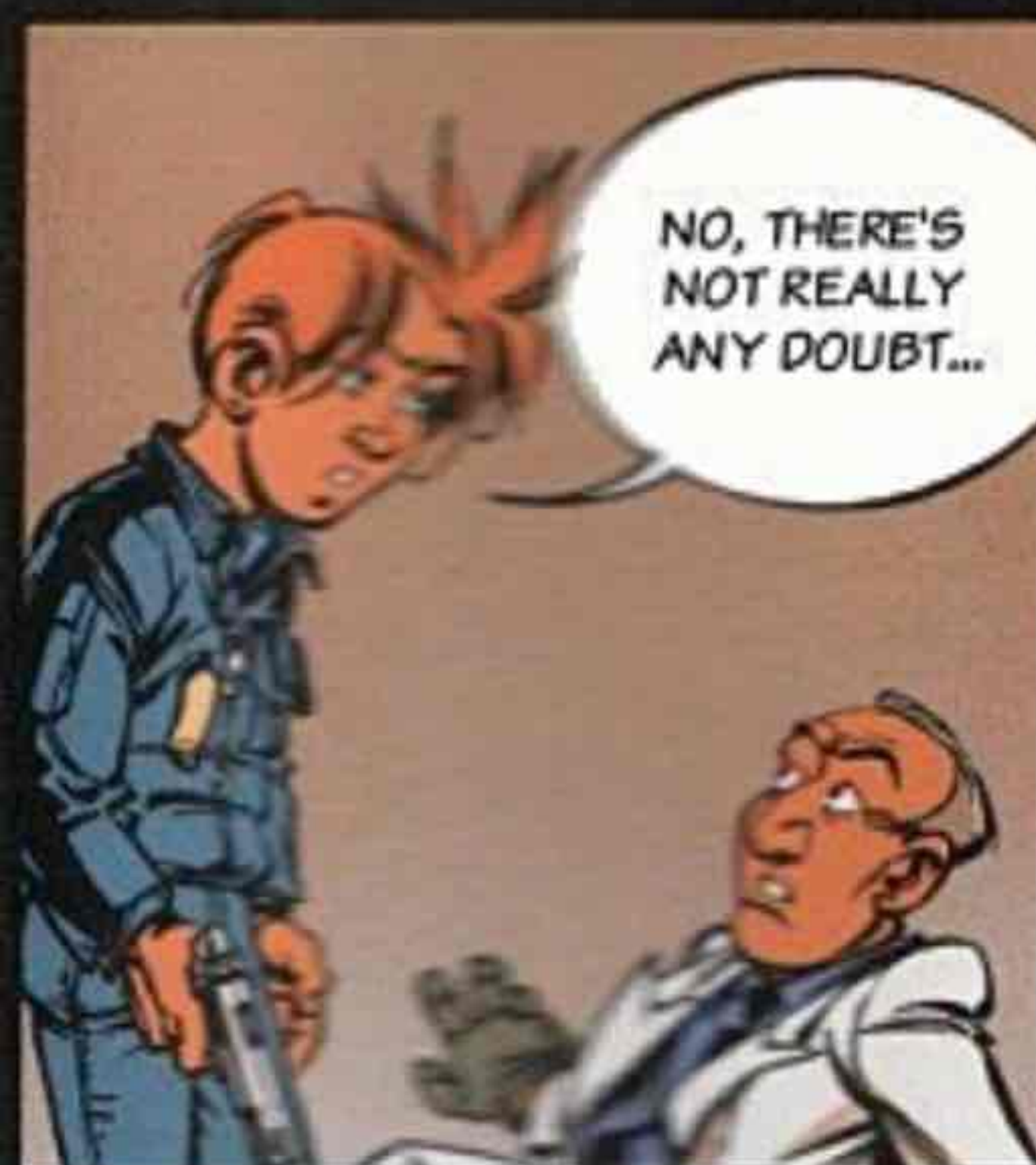
..PLAY GOD GAMES WITH LIFE AGAIN? I'M READY FOR A REMATCH.

THIS STILL ISN'T CLEAR.

...THERE'S A CHANCE HE'S THE REPLICANT... THERE'S AN EASY WAY TO FIND OUT!



AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, WHAT'S YOUR SKIN MADE OF? FLESH OR SYNTHETIC? I'M TEMPTED TO FIND OUT...



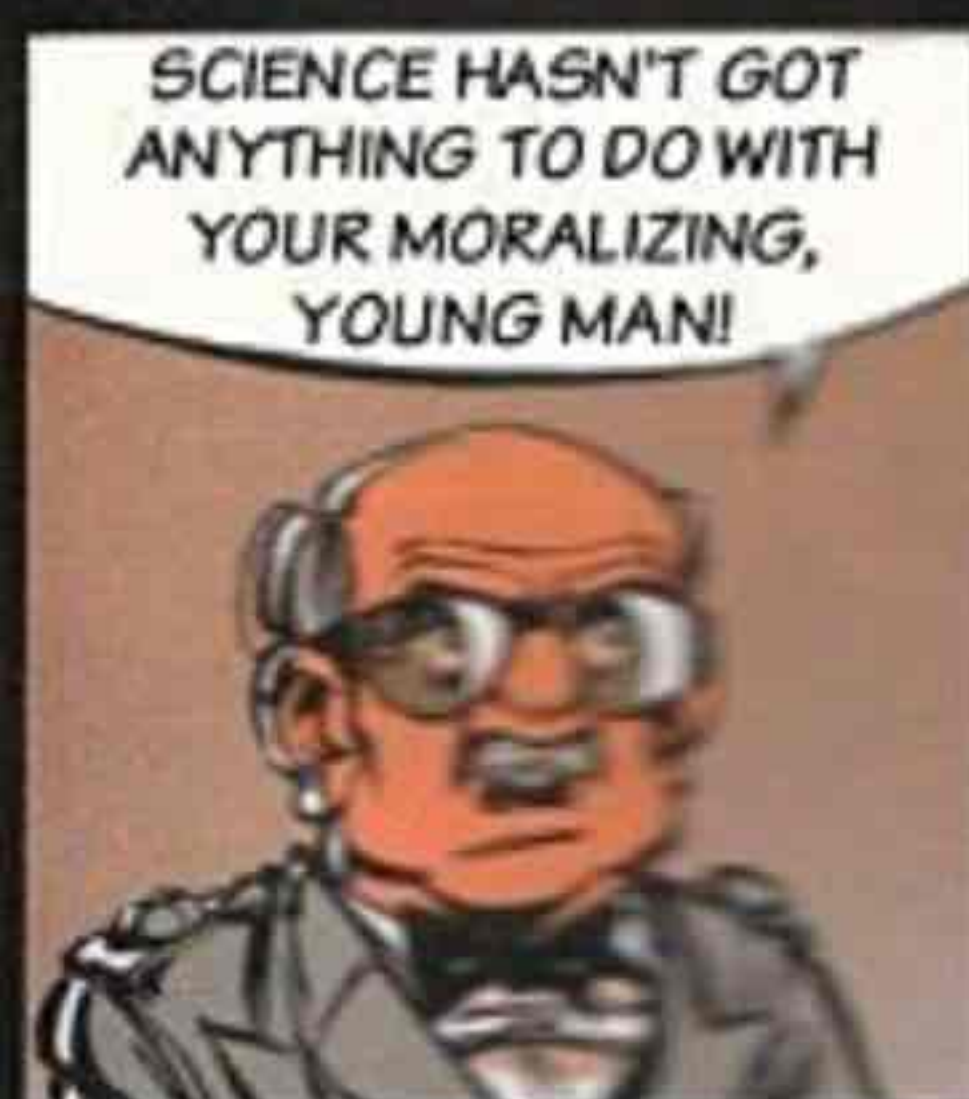
NO, THERE'S
NOT REALLY
ANY DOUBT...



NO MACHINE IS
CAPABLE OF BEING
THAT CALCULATING
AND COLD.



WHOEVER SAID
THAT LAUGHTER WAS
MAN'S DOMAIN
SHOULD HAVE ADDED
CYNICISM, GREED AND
CONTEMPT FOR LIFE
IN GENERAL...

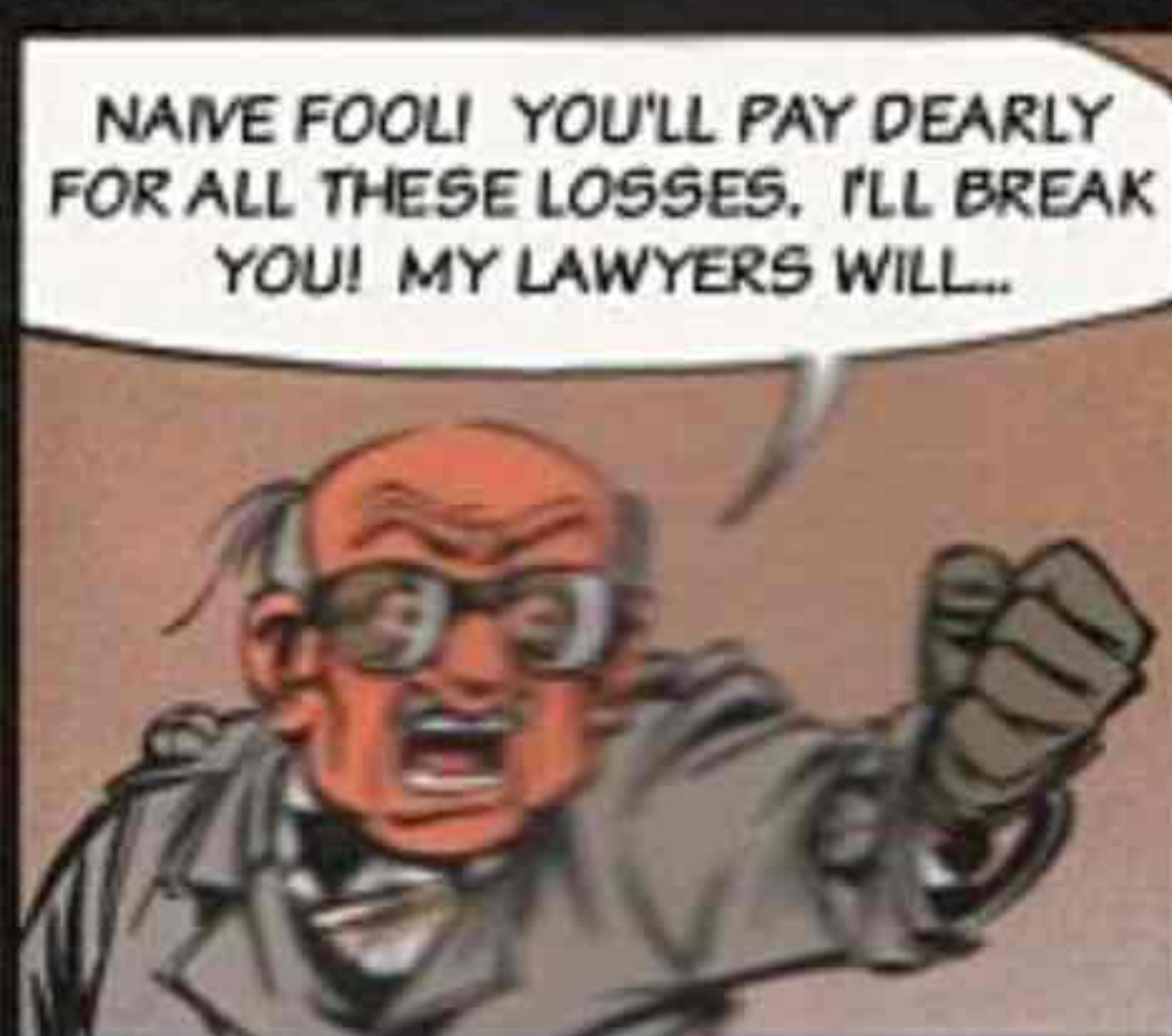


SCIENCE HASN'T GOT
ANYTHING TO DO WITH
YOUR MORALIZING,
YOUNG MAN!



PROGRESS MARCHES
ON. IT REQUIRES
SACRIFICES!

WHAT PROGRESS? THE ENORMOUS PROFIT
THAT THIS INVENTION WILL GENERATE?



NAIVE FOOL! YOU'LL PAY DEARLY
FOR ALL THESE LOSSES. I'LL BREAK
YOU! MY LAWYERS WILL...



THEY'LL BE TOO BUSY,
PROFESSOR BIRTH
TRYING TO EXPLAIN WHY
THERE ARE SO MANY
FINANCIAL IRREGULARI-
TIES IN YOUR
ACCOUNTS.



SIMMONDS! YOU INSIGNIFICANT LITTLE
UPSTART! YOU'VE BETRAYED ME!
YOU'RE DISMISSED!



I WORK FOR THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE, THIS
IS A GOOD CHANCE TO SEE IF THERE IS ANY
IN THIS COUNTRY.

GULF OF OMAN, SEVERAL DAYS LATER...

