

TERRY MOORE  
**FEAR OF DEATH**



A  
**RACHEL RISING**  
STORY

In the beginning, God made woman.

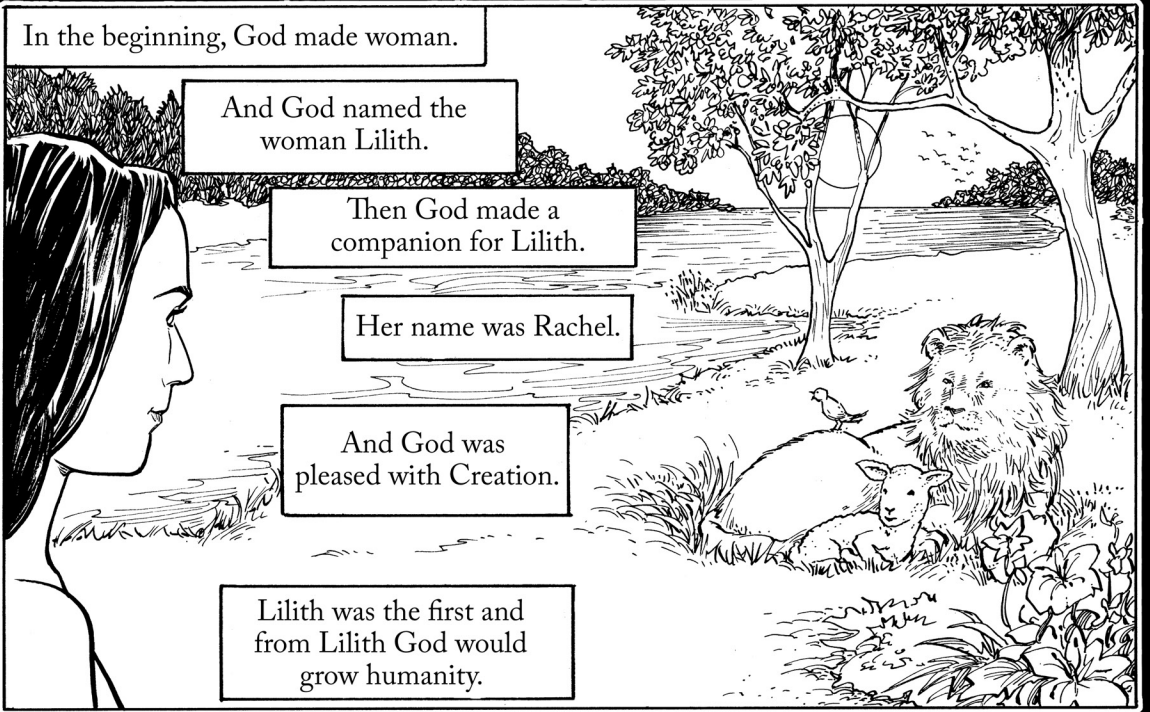
And God named the woman Lilith.

Then God made a companion for Lilith.

Her name was Rachel.

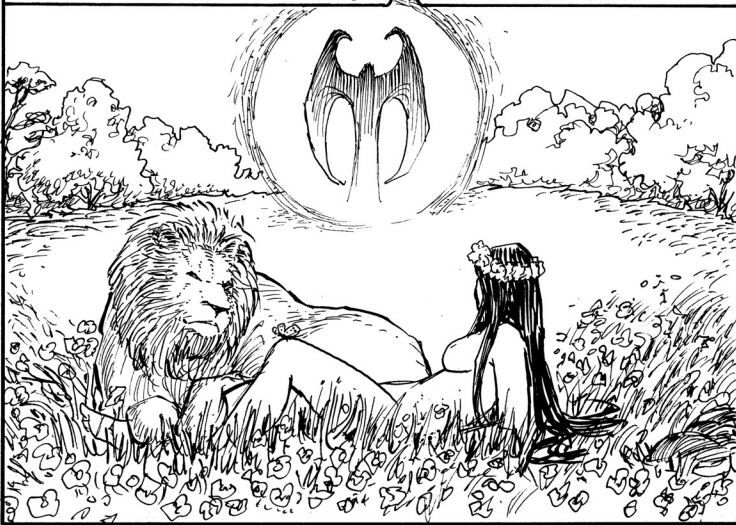
And God was pleased with Creation.

Lilith was the first and from Lilith God would grow humanity.

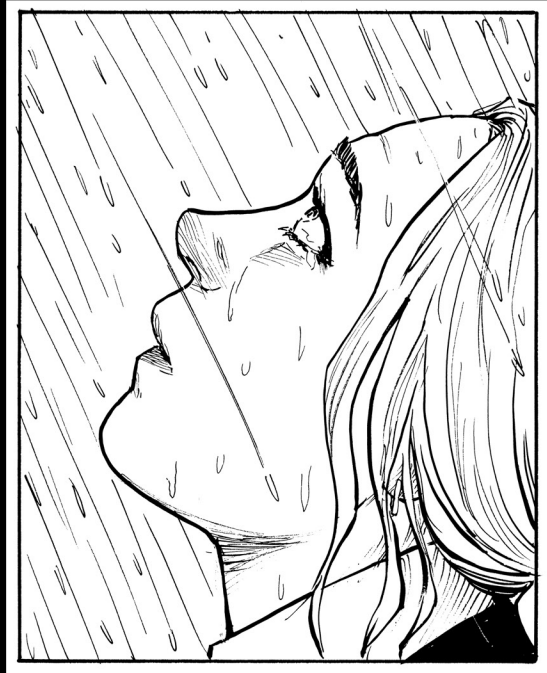


Now the archangel Lucifer was secretly jealous of God's plan but when he visited the garden he saw great beauty. And Lilith.

Lilith, believing the archangel was sent by God to be her husband, lay with Lucifer.



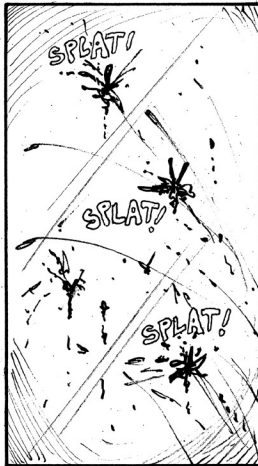
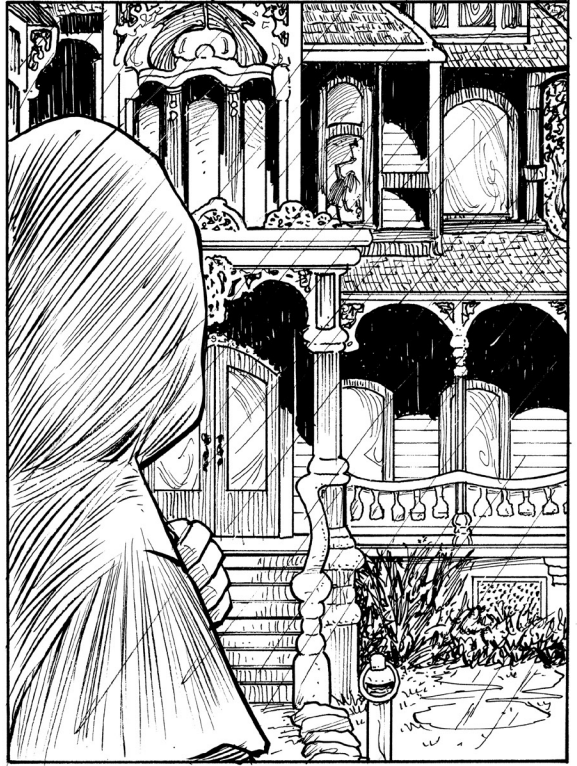
Oops.

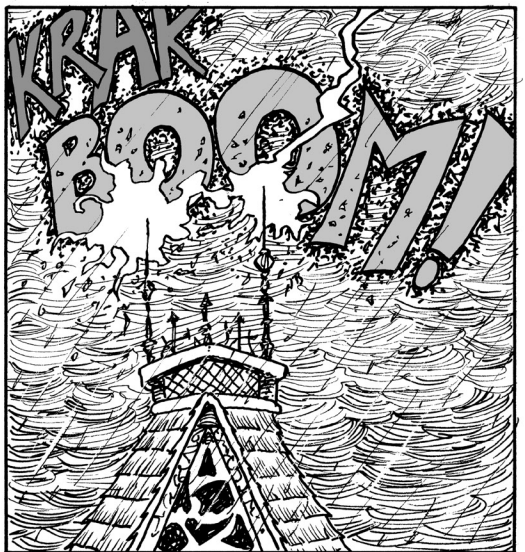
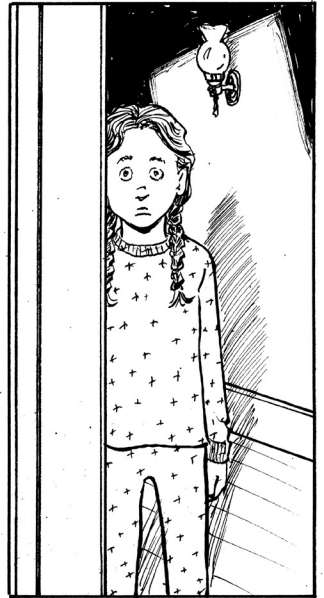


**“MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?  
WHY ARE YOU SO FAR FROM SAVING ME,  
SO FAR FROM MY CRIES OF ANGUISH?”  
—DAVID, PSALM 22**

MANSON, 1976



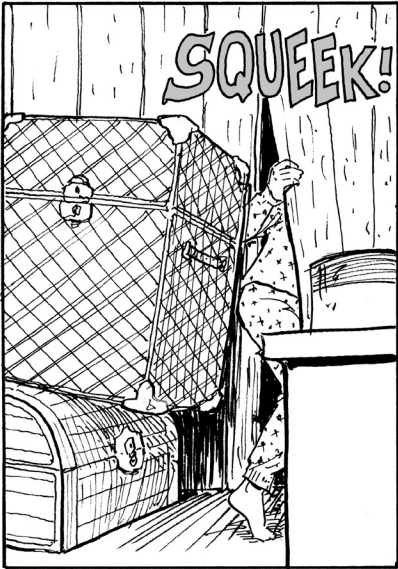




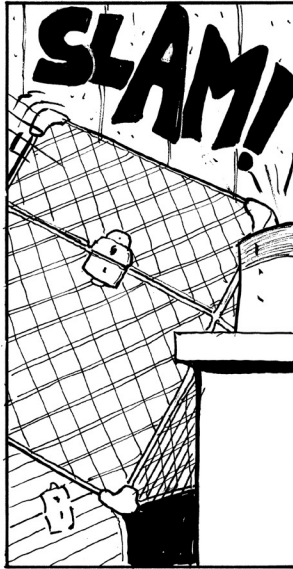


ZOE!

GET BACK HERE!



SQUEEK!



SLAM!



I SEE YOU, YOU LITTLE DEMON!

YOU CAN'T HIDE FROM ME!



COME OUT YOU WICKED...



WICKED! WICKED!  
WHAK! WHAK! WHAK!  
WHAK!  
AAEEEGH!



MOMMA, STOP!  
:SOB:

-PANT! PANT! PANT!

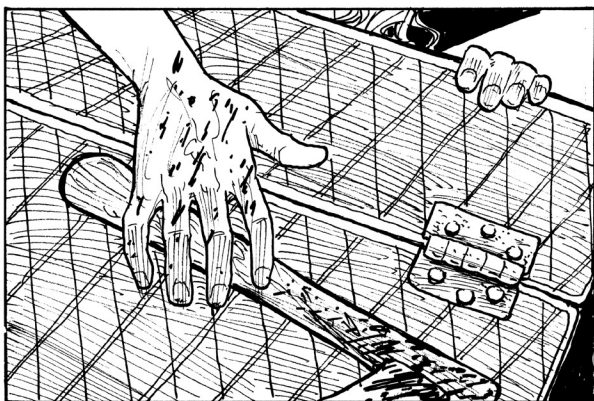


ZOE?

:SOB!:



OH MY GOD!



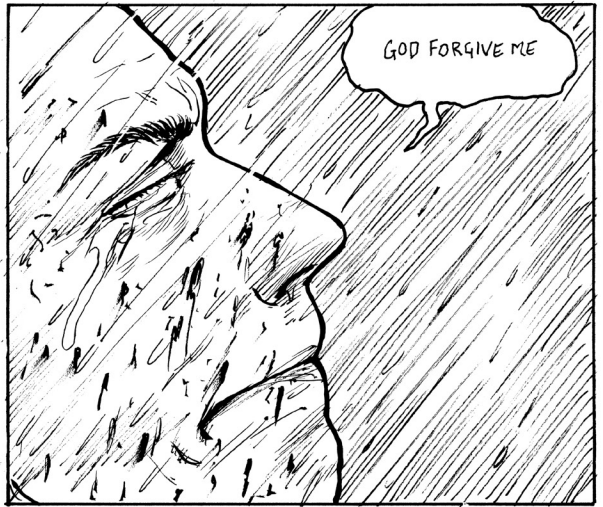
NO, NO, NO...



RRUMMBLE BOOM!



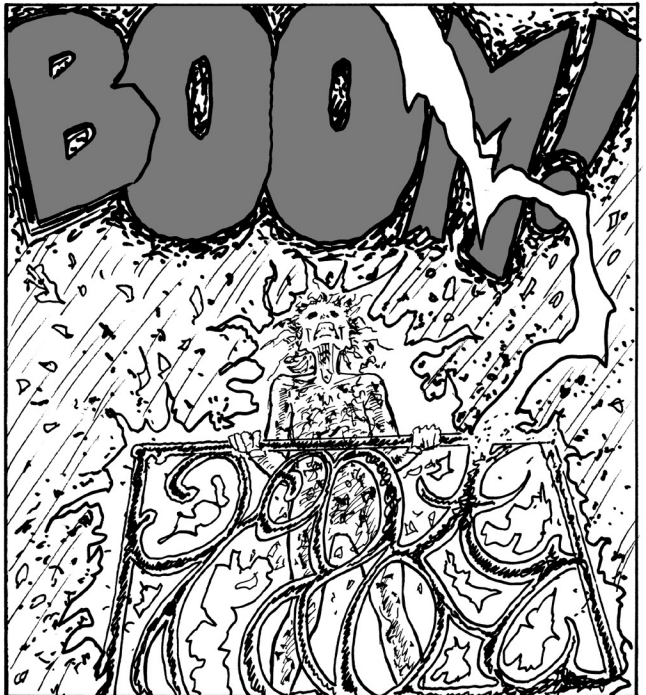
CLICK!



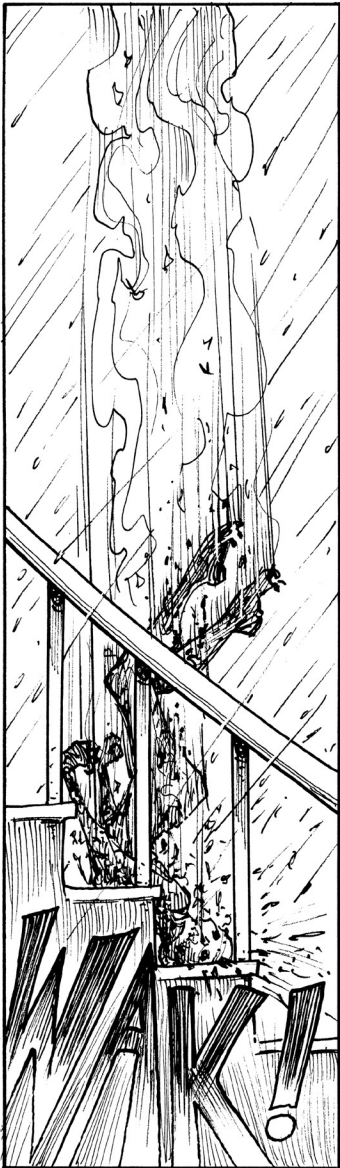
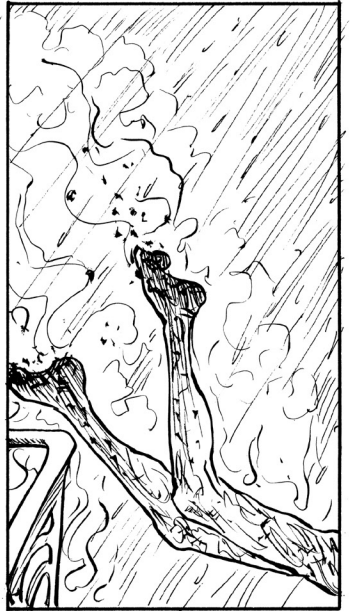
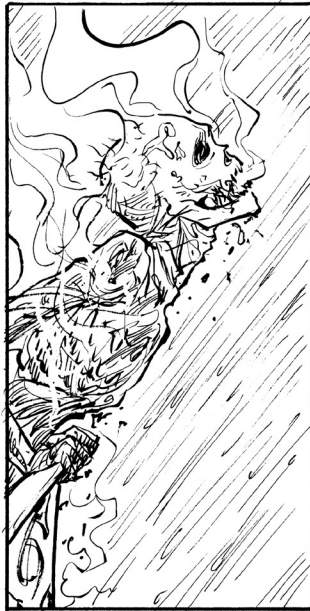
GOD FORGIVE ME

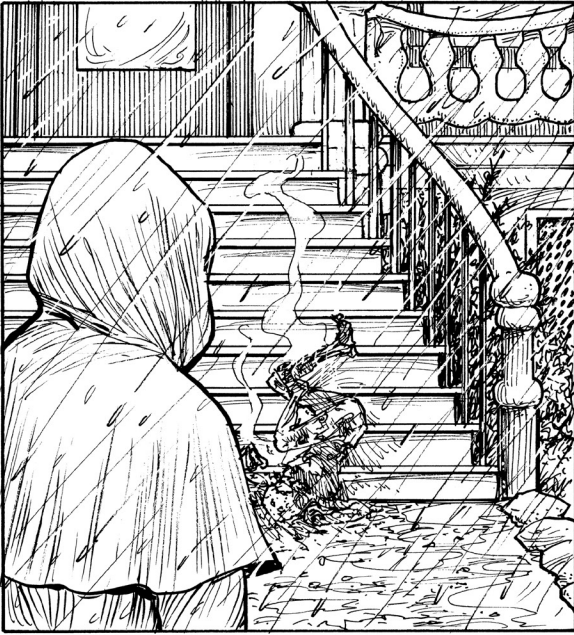


KRAA!  
TKK



BOOM!

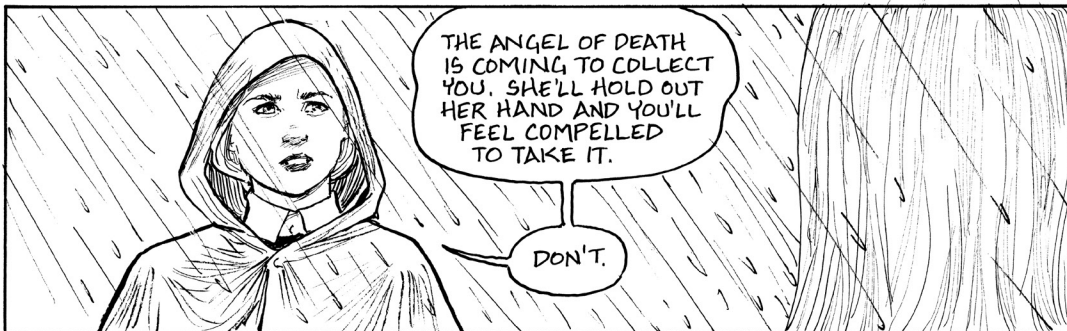






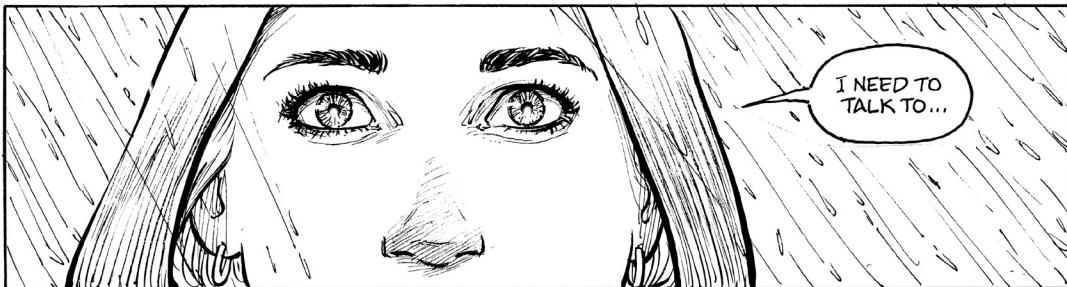
I SAW THIS COMING, MRS. MANN. YOUR MENTAL HEALTH WAS DECLINING FAST. IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE YOU SNAPPED...

AND I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR IT.



THE ANGEL OF DEATH IS COMING TO COLLECT YOU. SHE'LL HOLD OUT HER HAND AND YOU'LL FEEL COMPELLED TO TAKE IT.

DON'T.

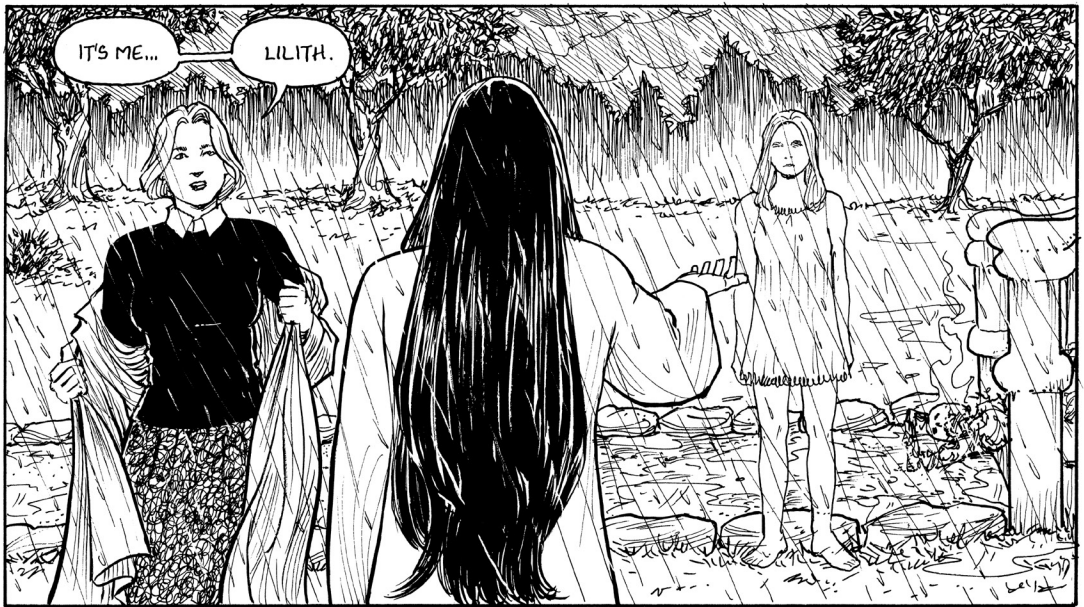


I NEED TO TALK TO...



SHE'S HERE.





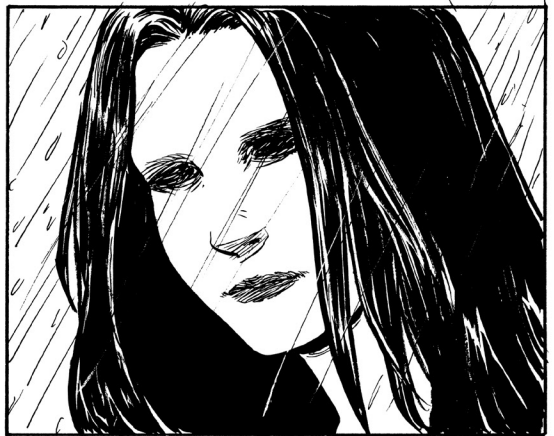
IT'S ME...

LILITH.



MA MALAI, PLEASE... I'M ASKING YOU AGAIN...

TAKE ME.



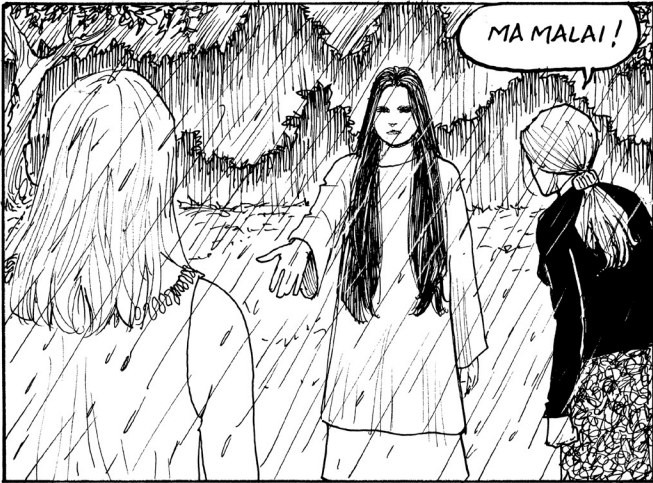
ALL THESE PEOPLE SINCE HEVEL... YOU COME FOR THEIR SOULS AND LEAVE ME WITH THE CORPSES. ALL THE CIVILIZATIONS THAT HAVE COME AND GONE ARE ROTTING BENEATH MY FEET!

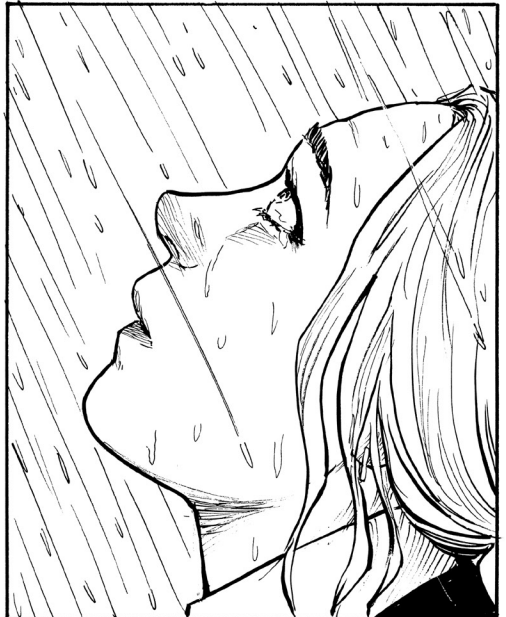
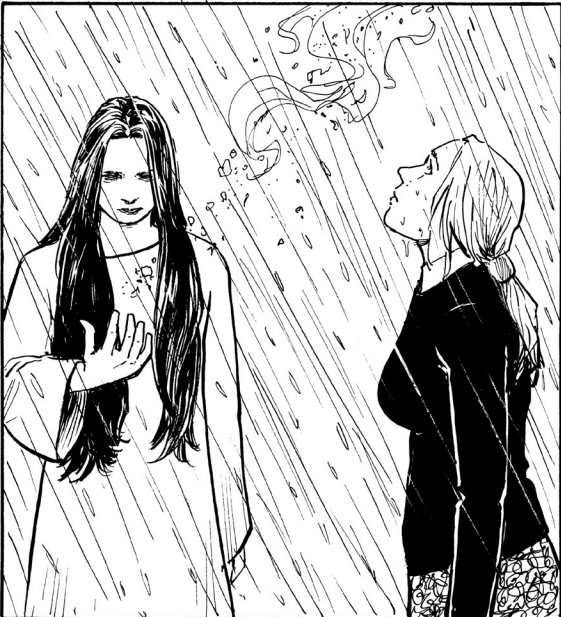
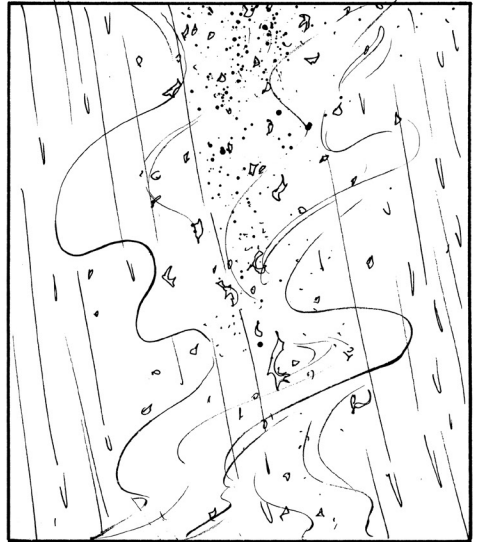
THE EARTH ISN'T A GARDEN ANYMORE, IT'S A MASS GRAVE!

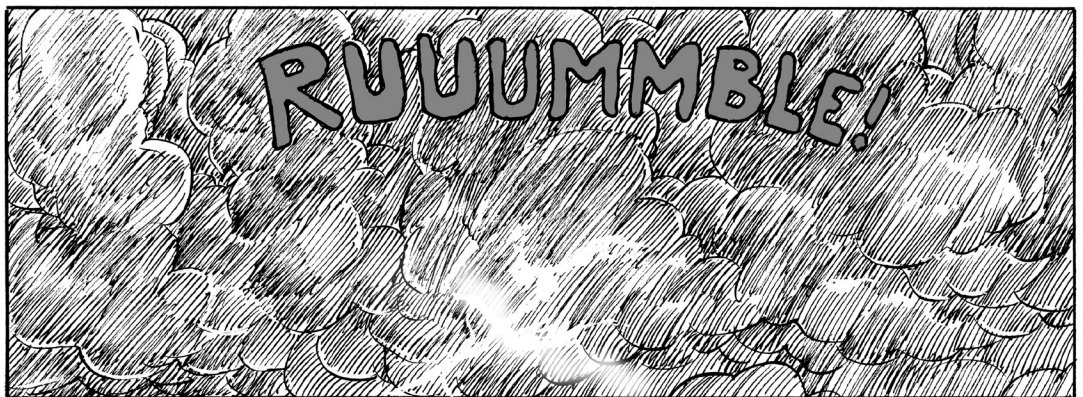


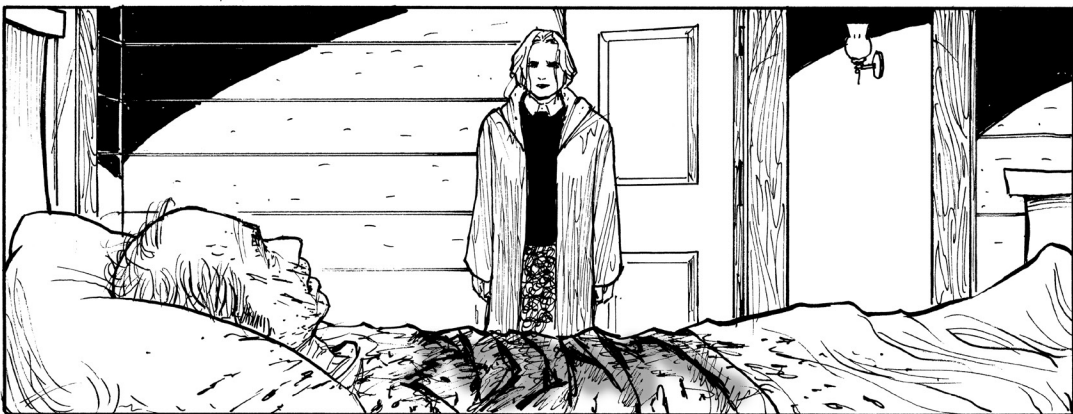
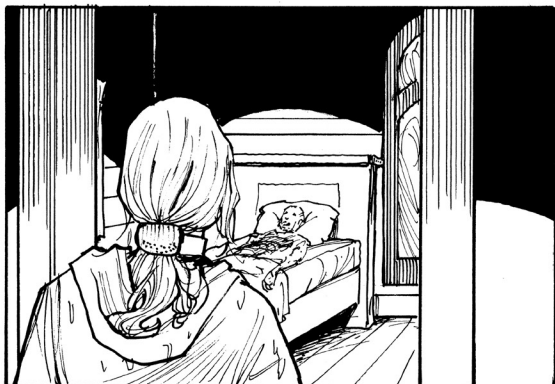
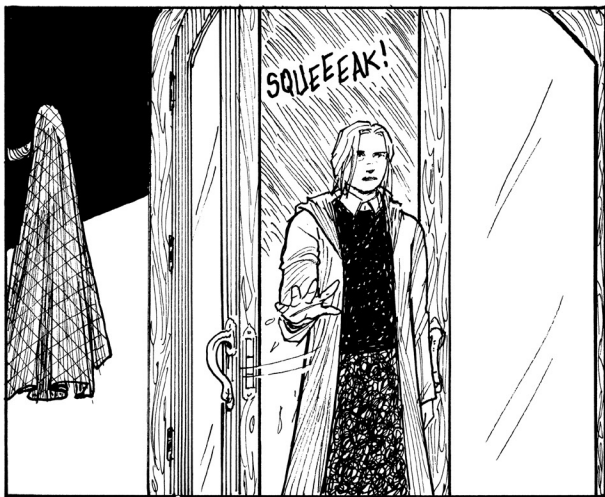
MA MALAI, I KNOW IN MY HEART GOD DID NOT INTEND FOR ME TO SUFFER LIKE THIS. I AM LILITH... THE FIRST! MADE BY GOD... NOT BY THE SEED OF MAN!

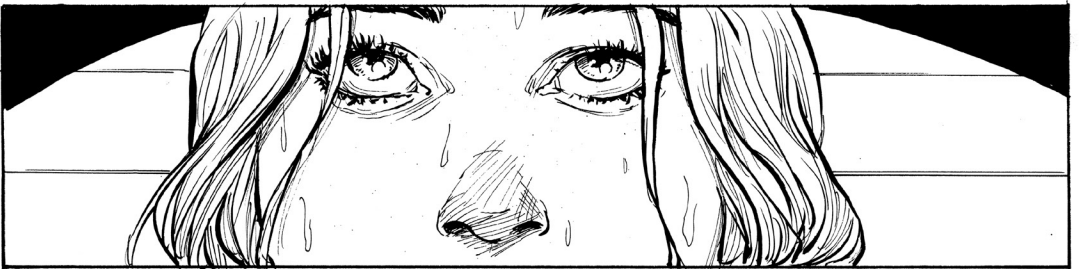
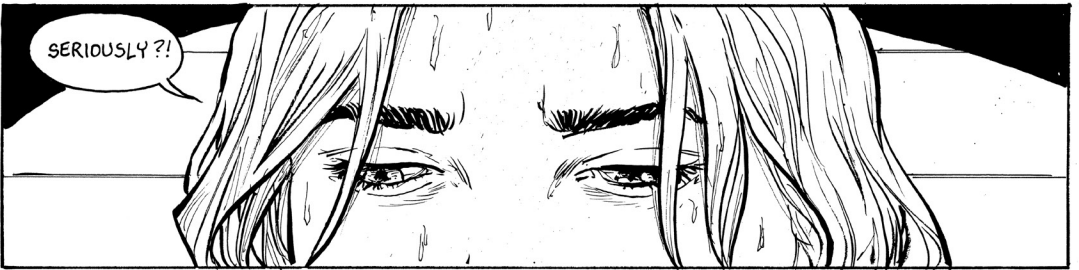
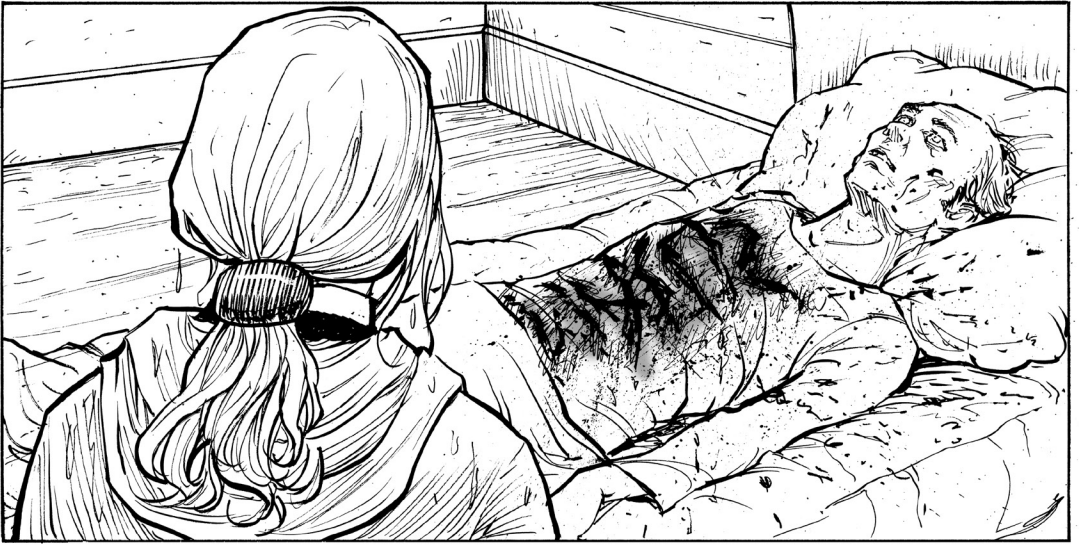
I DON'T BELONG HERE ANYMORE!

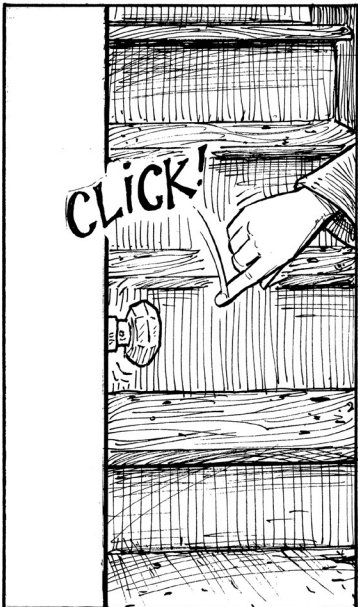
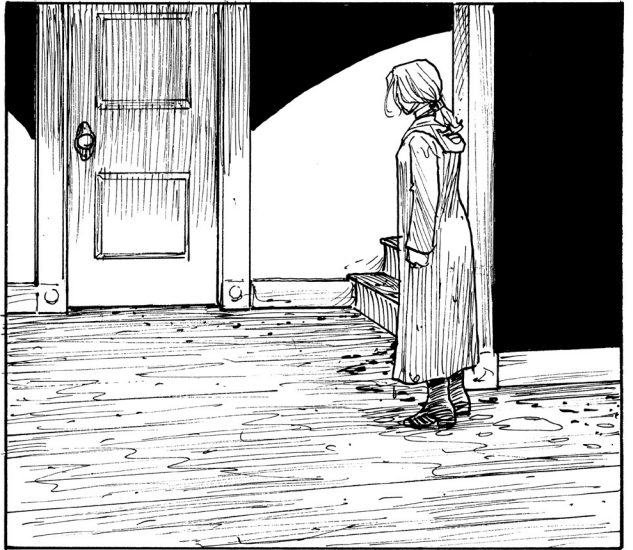
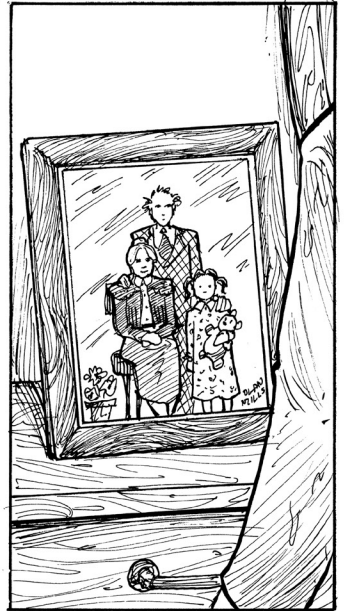


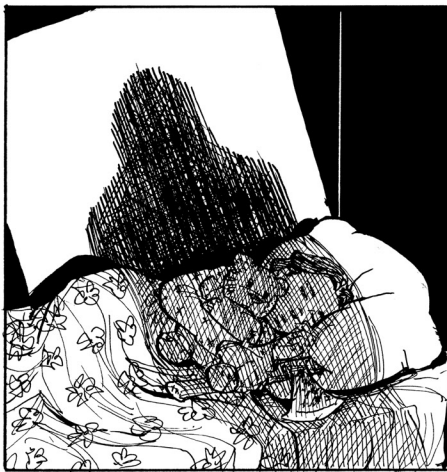




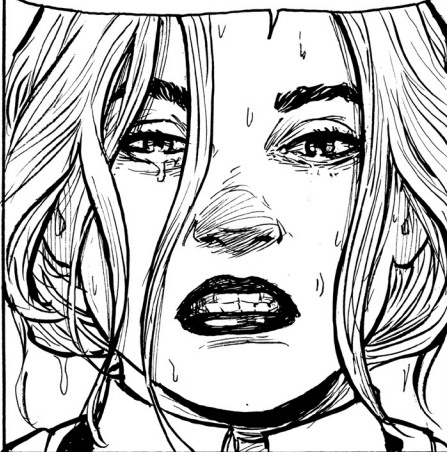








HERE'S WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN... YOU'RE GOING TO STAY WITH THIS CHILD SO I KNOW WHERE TO FIND YOU, I'M GOING TO FIND MY SISTER AND MAKE SURE HER NEXT LIFE IS HERE IN MANSON. AND WHEN SHE IS OF AGE AGAIN...



I WILL SUMMON MY COVEN FROM THEIR GRAVES AND TOGETHER WE WILL USE THE SINS OF THIS TOWN TO SCORCH THE EARTH. AND THERE IS NO ONE TO STOP US, YOU WERE RIGHT ALL ALONG, MALUS...



CONTINUED IN RACHEL RISING





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Publisher

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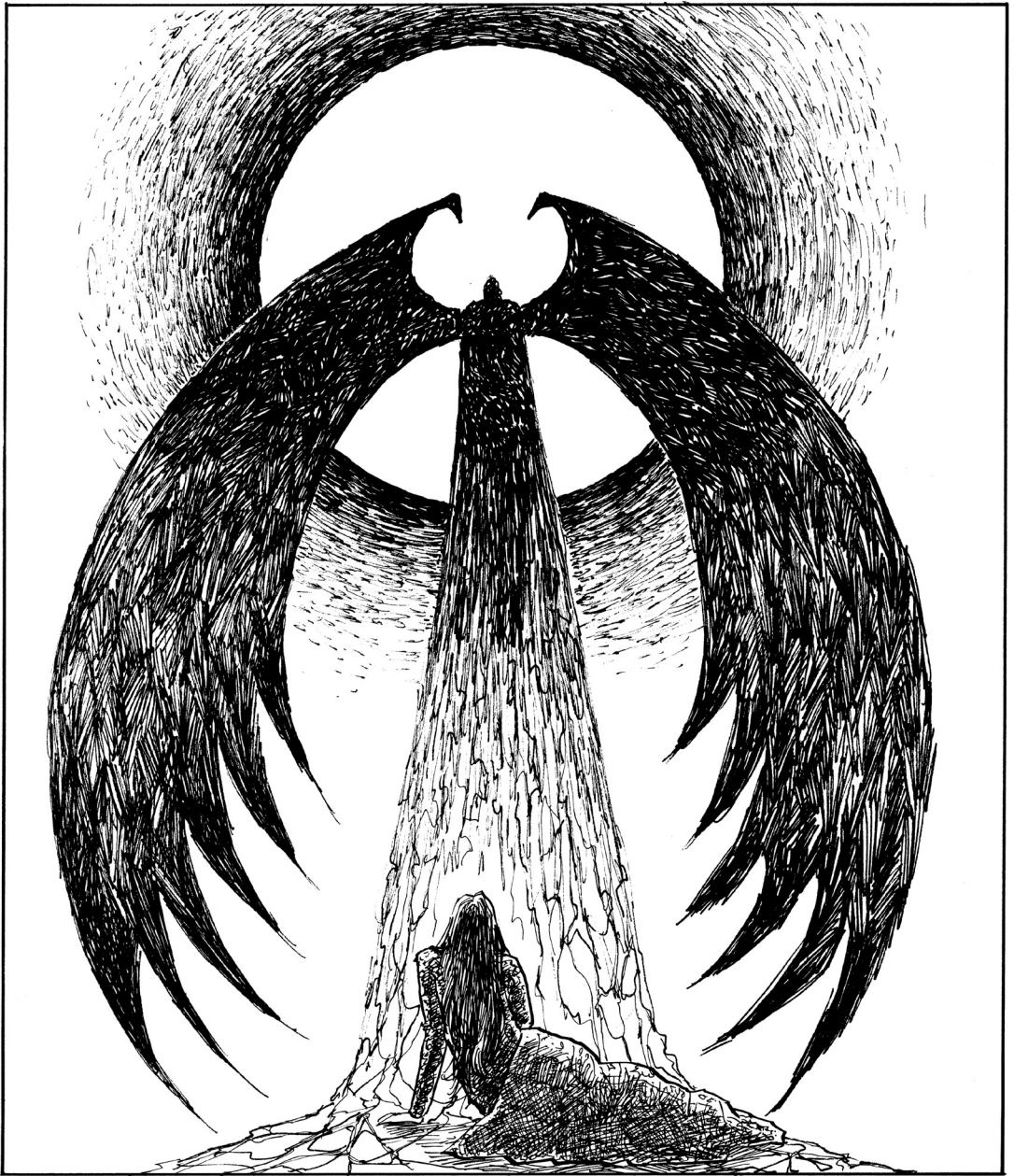
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# FEAR OF DEATH

## Sketchbook





Rachel Rising begins with Rachel clawing her way out of a shallow grave in the woods while a woman watches from a distance. This immediately raises a lot of questions, first of which is how did Rachel come back from the dead? The answer will be found in Lilith, the woman watching from a distance. In her mythology Lilith was the first human, handmade by God. In my version, God then made Lilith a sister, Rachel. When Lucifer saw Lilith it was lust at first sight and the archangel let Lilith believe he was meant to be her husband. When God asked Rachel where Lilith could be found Rachel lied to protect her sister. God of course found Lilith and Lucifer and punished them both by banishing them from heaven. Lucifer could not return and Lilith would never get there... she was forbidden to die because on the other side of death was God... and God did not want her.

For Rachel's lesser sin the punishment was less severe. She was also banned from entering the kingdom of Heaven but she was permitted to die and live again, over and over for eternity. She has experienced countless lives and seen the good in mankind. Lilith, on the other hand, has seen the worst of us and by the time our story begins in Rachel Rising she has clearly had enough.

As for Lucifer, he has spent his time here wreaking havoc. He's had many names but in ancient times he was called Malus, the Latin word for Evil.







I was in the middle of making the Rachel Rising story when I reached a moment where Lilith reveals the source of her bitterness. When writing a character and their dialogue I am not a chess master, I am a scribe. I listen to the characters. So I'm writing the scene and suddenly Lilith confesses that for her, "the earth is a mass grave". I stopped and looked at the sentence. Where did that come from? Nowhere I've ever been mentally. It came from Lilith. It was her point of view. And there was a stinging truth to it.



In my cartooning past I've always had a spunky kid character with a good heart protected by a sharp wit. Once I began focusing on characters for Rachel Rising I adapted that trope to the world of horror. A bit of sketching and suddenly I had this drawing on the paper. It scared me! If I ever turned the corner and saw this kid standing in a hallway of an old haunted house or hotel I would run the other way. And knowing Zoe, she would make fun of the way I run.

MUST NOT KILL PREDATORS.  
MUST NOT KILL PREDATORS.  
MMMAYBE KILL JUST A LITTLE...



As you have seen in this issue Zoe comes from a broken home. A broken, butchered, burnt with hellfire home. Rachel Rising picks up this story 50 years later and Zoe is still ten years old, thanks to Malus, her indwelling demon. But Zoe is quite capable of taking care of herself, having gone through a long series of foster homes, orphanages and other institutions. The body count of predators left in her wake is high.



I think of Fear Of Death as Rachel Rising issue #0... the prequel to the epic series that follows Rachel and her friends and family through a difficult time. Rachel Rising hits the ground running and you are meant to catch up on the details as we run. But I've always thought it would be nice to know a few things going in... like why is Lilith a blonde in the first half of the story? And why is she in the woods observing Rachel's resurrection or visiting Zoe in her foster home? Fear Of Death provides the answers.

Lilith had a plan. What she didn't plan on was the effect her sister would have on her. Rachel proves to be the light to Lilith's dark, and over the course of the book, we see that the sisters together are far more powerful than they are apart.



In my mind, the reason for Rachel's positive attitude toward life is because she has been able to live many lives. She has known love and family and children and loss... and redemption. She values all life and is empathetic to the human struggle. Rachel sees the quiet heroes and the grateful wretches. Sadly, Rachel and Lilith see the world from two very different points of view. But family ties are strong. Despite their differences the sisters love each other and their loyalty to each other is unbreakable. Only Rachel knows what Lilith has been through and vice versa. Ironically, Rachel cannot save Lilith from the misery of her long walk through life and Lilith cannot save Rachel from the endless deaths she must endure. Each woman in her own way is witnessing all of human history. They no longer wonder about the ways of nature because they know. They've had millenia to observe and learn how things work on planet earth with all its patterns and forces. The ignorant call it witchcraft. The sisters call it life.



Books By Terry Moore

Strangers In Paradise

Echo

Rachel Rising

Motor Girl

Strangers In Paradise XXV

Five Years

Serial

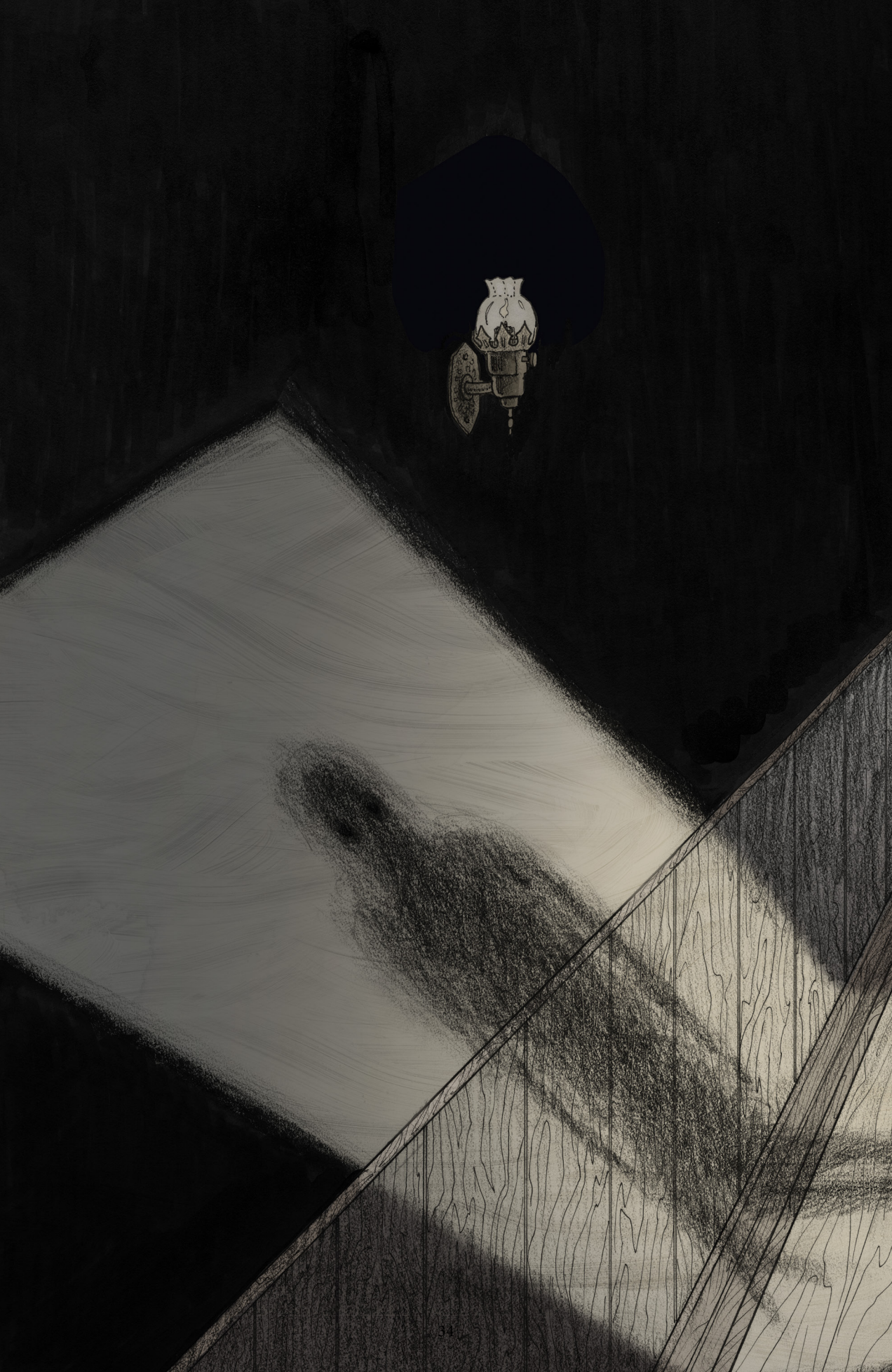
Parker Girls

After Dark

The Really Complete Paradise Too

Covers

Terry Moore's How To Draw 2026



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# TERRY MOORE FEAR OF DEATH



A  
RACHEL RISING  
STORY