DAY OF CHAOS: THE FOURTH FACTION

JOHN WAGNER ★ BEN WILLSHER ★ STAZ JOHNSON ★ COLIN MACNEIL ★ HENRY FLINT

JOHN WAGNER
Writer

BEN WILLSHER ★ STAZ JOHNSON
COLIN MACNEIL ★ HENRY FLINT
Artists

GREG STAPLES
Cover Artist

Creative Director and CEO: Jason Kingsley
Chief Technical Officer: Chris Kingsley
2000 AD Editor in Chief: Matt Smith
Graphic Novels Editor: Keith Richardson
Graphic Design: Simon Parr & Sam Howle
Reprographics: Kathryn Symes
PR: Michael Molcher
Original Commisioning Editor: Matt Smith

Originally serialised in *2000 AD* Progs 1700-1704, 1740-1751, 1753-1758 and *Judge Dredd Megazine* Issues 307-308 & 310. Copyright © 2010, 2011, 2013 Rebellion A/S. All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced without the express permission of the publisher. Names, character, places and incidents featured in the publication are either the product of the author's imagination or used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead (except for satirical purposes) is entirely coincidental.

Published by Rebellion, Riverside House,
Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES, UK.
www.rebellion.co.uk

For information on other *2000 AD* graphic novels, or if you have any comments on this book, please email books@2000ADonline.com

To find out more about *2000 AD*, visit www.2000ADonline.com

JUDGE DREDD

DAY OF CHAOS: THE FOURTH FACTION

JUDGE DREDD CREATED BY JOHN WAGNER & CARLOS EZQUERRA

THE CAUSE OF THE CHAOS

HOW ONE PIVOTAL ACTION IN JUDGE DREDD'S PAST LED TO THE LATEST MEGA-EPIC

By 1981 John Wagner and co-writer Alan Grant were getting a little concerned by how large Mega-City One had become. Extending along almost the entirety of the eastern seaboard from Florida in the south and well into Canada in the north, the two writers decided that the city was far too unmanageable, even for a force as powerful and effective as the Justice Department. It was clear that Mega-City One had to undergo some extensive downsizing – and so *The Apocalypse War* was born.

Animosity towards the Sovs had been hinted at in *Pirates of the Black Atlantic* (published in Progs 197-200, and collected in *Case Files* 04). But nine months later, the main event began. A multi-part prologue, *Block Mania* (published in Progs 236-244 and collected in *Case Files* 05), saw the start of what was to lead to an all-out attack on Mega-City One by its Sov Block counter-part, East-Meg One. A series of block-on-block riots suddenly start to occur across the Big Meg and it quickly becomes apparent that the widescale violence has been orchestrated by an outside influence. It is revealed that East-Meg superspy Orlok has poisoned the city's water supply with a drug designed to bring out the citizens most violent instincts.

With the Judges busy trying to contain the multiple block wars taking place in the city, East-Meg One is able to launch a successful nuclear attack, marking

the start of *The Apocalypse War* (Progs 245-270, collected in *Case Files* 05). Almost half of Mega-City One is destroyed before the East-Meg leadership send in an invading army. In total disarray and with no hope of support from Mega-City Two or Texas City, the East-Meggers are easily able to take over, while the surviving Judges including Dredd, Anderson and Hershey are forced underground to regroup and start a guerrilla war against the occupying force.

On 29th May 1982, Prog 266 came out, containing the 22nd part of *The Apocalypse War*, changing the perception and the world of *Judge Dredd* forever. Having successfully led a commando unit to seize an East-Meg missile silo, Dredd chooses to obliterate East-Meg One from the face of the Earth. This one controversial act has caused much debate amongst the *2000 AD* readership for many years and raises questions about morality and justice that few comic writers and publishers would dare to explore with their precious 'heroes'. It is clearly a standout moment in the history of *Judge Dredd*, *2000 AD* and Western comics in general.

There have often been repercussions caused by the events that transpired in *The Apocalypse War,* but no East-Meg retaliations have been as devastating to the citizens of Mega-City One as those that occur in *Day of Chaos*, thirty years after the first missiles flew...

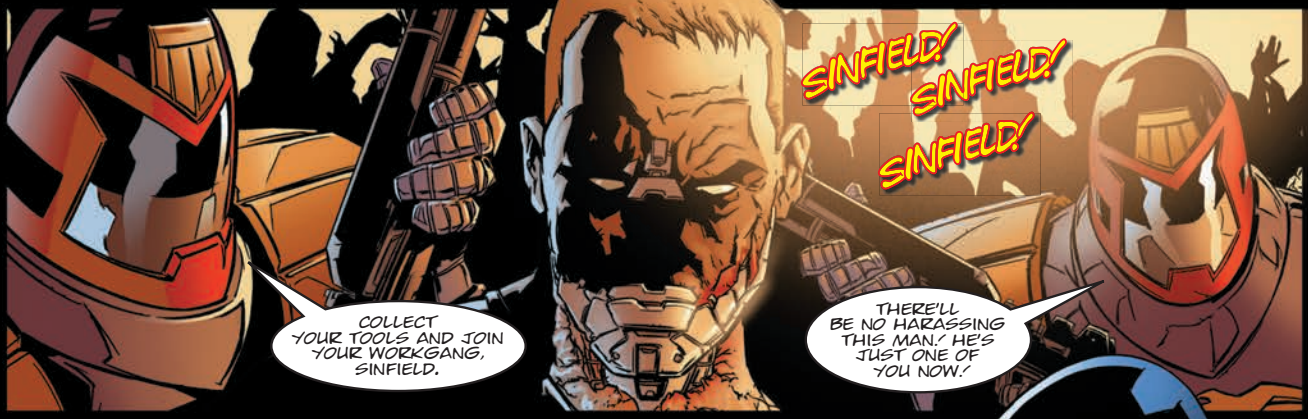
Keith Richardson
2012

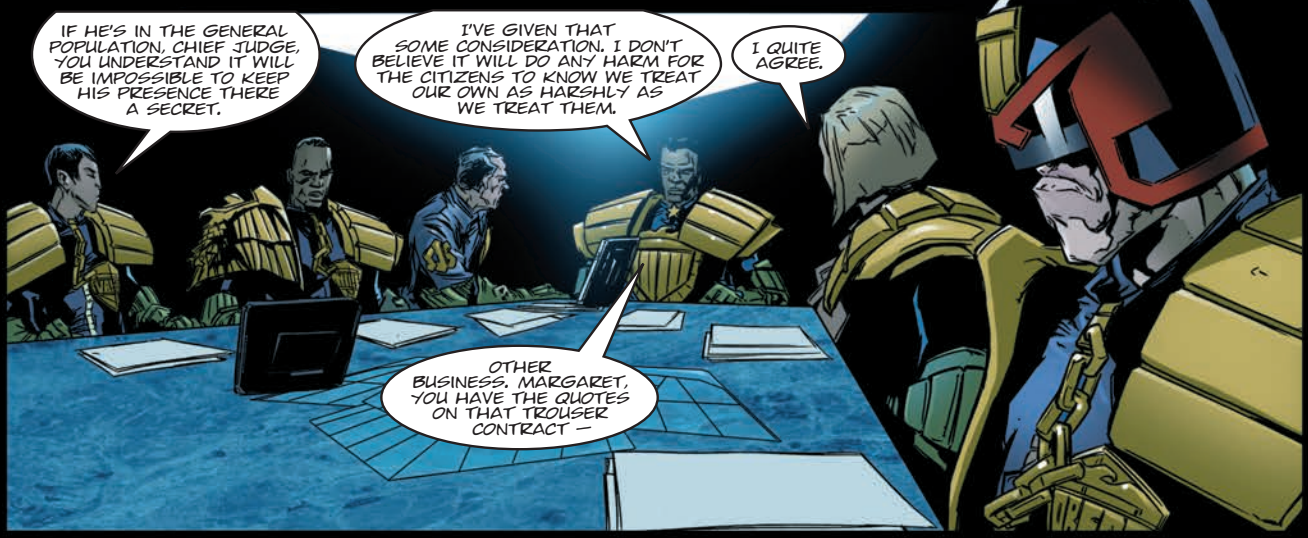
THE SKINNING ROOM

Script: John Wagner
Art: Ben Willsher
Colours: Chris Blythe
Letters: Annie Parkhouse

Originally published in *2000 AD* Progs 1700-1704

FIRST OFF, THIS MEETING SHOULD KNOW WE'VE RECEIVED WORD THAT FORMER CHIEF JUDGE **MARTIN SINFIELD** HAS ARRIVED ON **TITAN.**
HE WAS **PROCESSED** IMMEDIATELY AND ASSIGNED TO A WORK GANG.
SINFIELD!
HEY, CHIEF JUDGE, ANY CHANCE OF A FREE PARDON?
I'M AN INNOCENT MAN, CHIEF JUDGE! I WAS FRAMED!
I WAS FRAMED TOO!
SUCK THIS, CHIEF JUDGE!
SILENCE!
YOU'RE THE ONE THAT ISSUED MY **TITAN TICKET**, MARTY. HOW ABOUT THAT? NOW YOU'RE HERE I'VE GOT A FEELING WE'RE GOING TO GET REAL WELL ACQUAINTED!
ZUNK!
PUT HIM IN THE MEETH BOX!
ZUNK!
ZUNK!
THUD!


SINFIELD!
SINFIELD!
SINFIELD!
COLLECT YOUR TOOLS AND JOIN YOUR WORKGANG, SINFIELD.
THERE'LL BE NO HARASSING THIS MAN! HE'S JUST ONE OF YOU NOW!

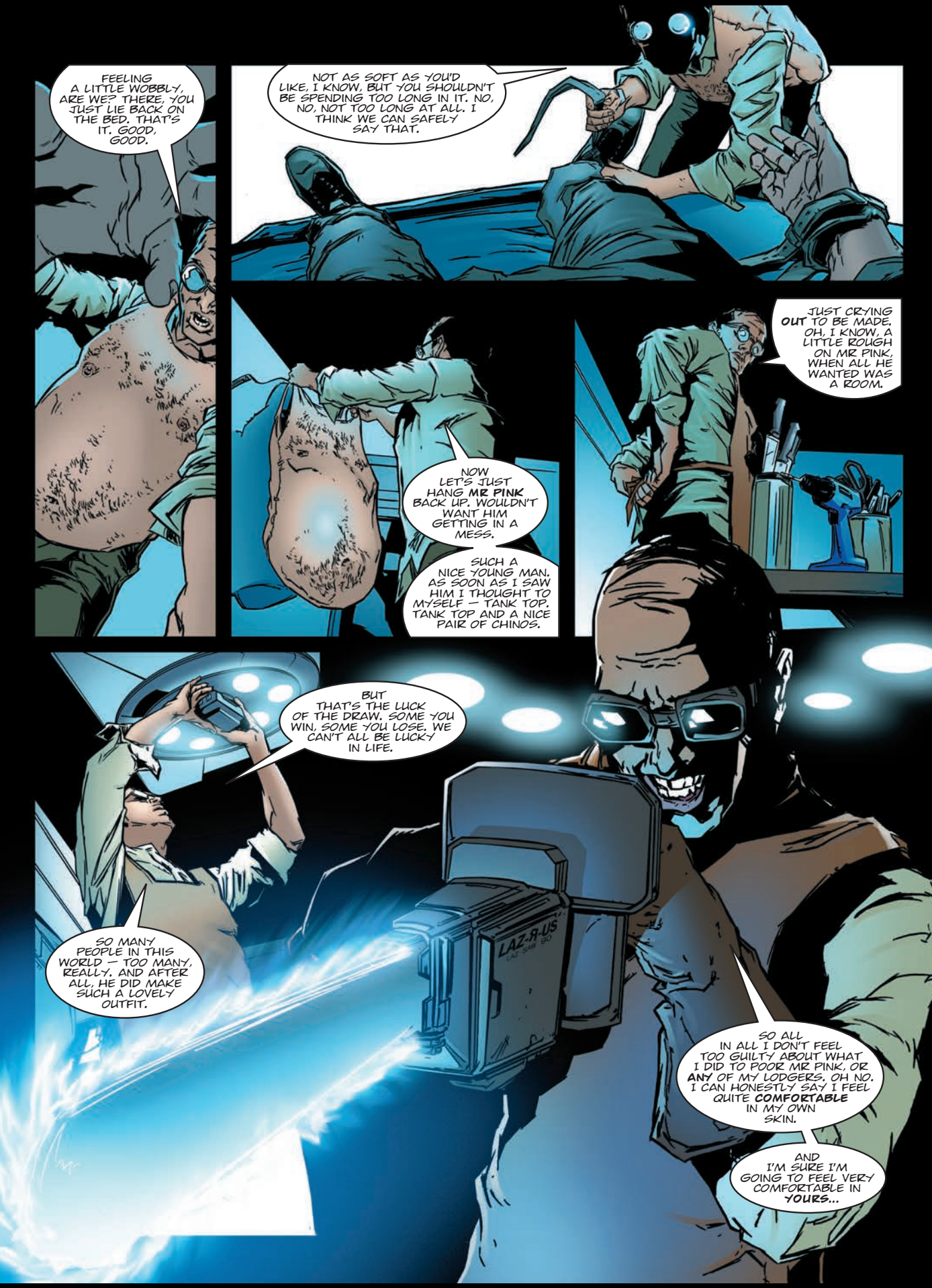

IF HE'S IN THE GENERAL POPULATION, CHIEF JUDGE, YOU UNDERSTAND IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP HIS PRESENCE THERE A SECRET.
I'VE GIVEN THAT SOME CONSIDERATION. I DON'T BELIEVE IT WILL DO ANY HARM FOR THE CITIZENS TO KNOW WE TREAT OUR OWN AS HARSHLY AS WE TREAT THEM.
I QUITE AGREE.
OTHER BUSINESS. MARGARET, YOU HAVE THE QUOTES ON THAT TROUSER CONTRACT —

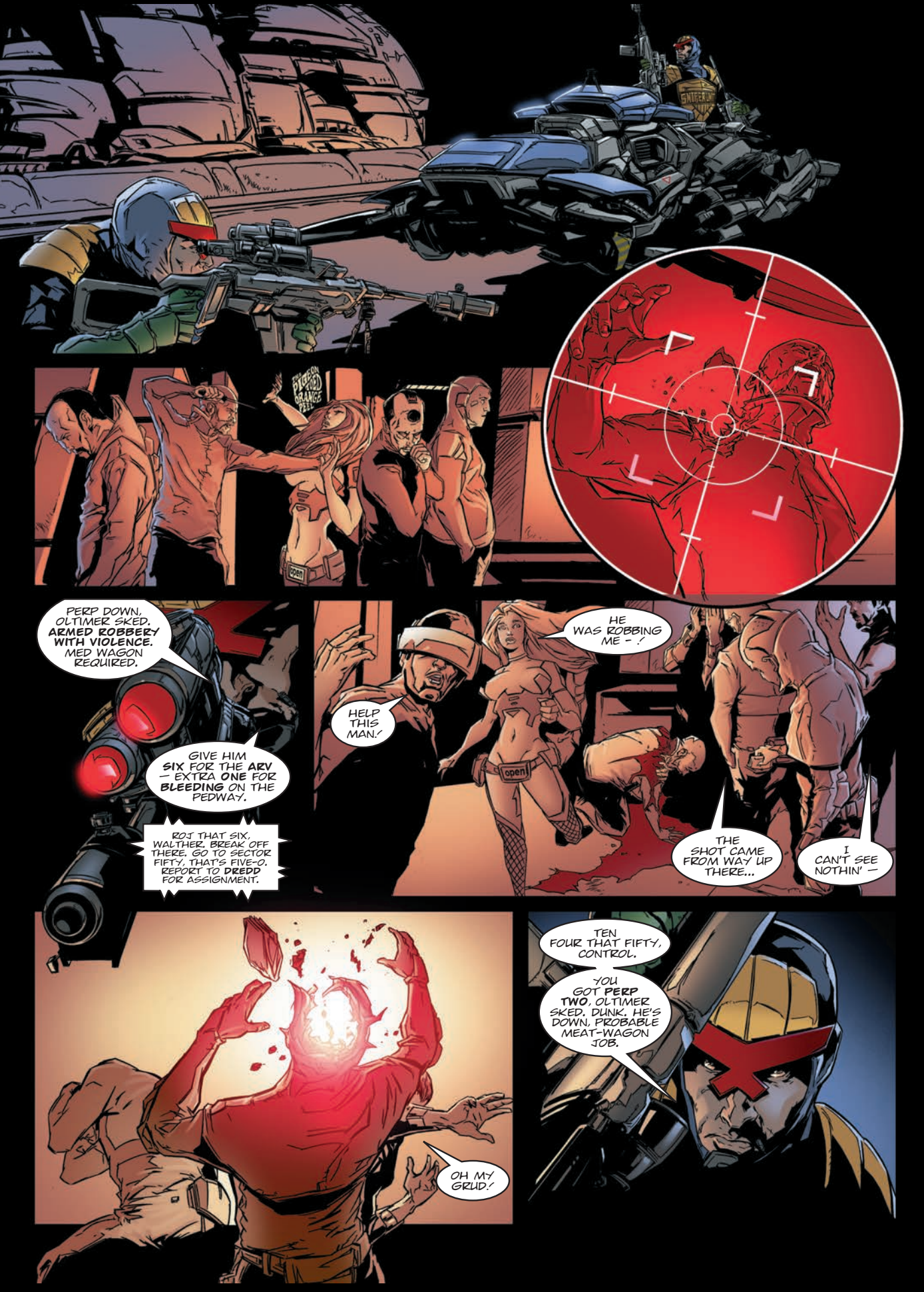
YET **ANOTHER** COUNCIL MEETING.
ANOTHER **ENDLESS** COUNCIL MEETING.
THE PRICE HE MUST PAY FOR ASSISTING FRANCISCO'S RETURN.
IT COULD BE WORSE. HE COULD BE SITTING IN FRANCISCO'S CHAIR.
THE NUMBER OF CRIMINAL-RELATED SURVEILLANCES DROPPED TO EIGHTY-FOUR PER CENT AT **PSU**, WHILE — AND I THINK **BUELL** WILL BACK ME UP ON THIS — THE NUMBER OF **INTERNAL** SURVEILLANCES — THAT IS, SURVEILLANCE SPECIFICALLY TARGETED AT **JUDGES** AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES — **ROSE** BY OVER FOUR HUNDRED PER CENT.
THIS IS UNDER SINFIELD?
HE SAW PLOTS AGAINST HIM FROM EVERY QUARTER. WITH GOOD REASON, AS IT TURNED OUT.

HE FEELS LIKE HIS BRAIN IS BEING SLOWLY SUCKED OUT THROUGH A STRAW.
SURELY THERE CAN'T BE SO MANY THINGS TO TALK ABOUT? SO MANY TEDIOUS, TEDIOUS THINGS TO TALK ABOUT.
THAT BRINGS US TO DREDD'S BUSINESS.
THE PROBLEM IS CLEAR. YOU'VE SEEN THE CRIME STATS.
THE CRIME STATS SEEM QUITE GOOD TO ME. IN FACT, THEY'VE NEVER BEEN BETTER.
SURE, THEY LOOK FINE, VASS — UNTIL YOU PROBE DEEPER. CRIMES AGAINST **MUTANTS** SINCE **EXPELLED** AREN'T RECORDED. SEVERAL CRIMES HAVE BEEN DOWNGRADED TO SIMPLE MISDEMEANOURS
WHAT WE HAVE IS A **CRIMEWAVE.** PUBLIC OBEDIENCE IS AT AN ALL-TIME **LOW.** UNDER SINFIELD THE CITY HAS DESCENDED TO A STATE OF NEAR-ANARCHY.
DREDD?
WHAT'S THAT – ?
THIS MOTION OF YOURS, **RE-IMPOSE ORDER** BY **CRACKDOWN.** DISCUSS.
IT'S SOMETHING I'VE NOTICED TOO.
THERE'S A CERTAIN AIR OF LAWLESSNESS ABOUT — CONTEMPT FOR AUTHORITY.
IT'S ALL TO DO WITH THE MUTANT SITUATION.
THE CITIZENS HAVE BEEN ALLOWED RATHER TOO MUCH LATITUDE, I THINK.
SO YOUR SOLUTION IS **CRACKDOWN?**
ZERO TOLERANCE, MAXIMUM PUBLICITY.
START WITH **SECTOR** 50 — THAT'S SHOWN THE HIGHEST **RISE** IN MAJOR CRIME OUTSIDE THE HAB ZONE — **AND** THEY HAVE AN EMPTY **ISO-BLOCK,** A FORMER MUTANTS-ONLY FACILITY, WAITING FOR OCCUPATION.
WE DRAFT IN EVERY AVAILABLE HELMET. WE BRING IN SENIOR CADETS FROM THE ACADEMY, USE ROBOTS WHERE APPLICABLE. WE SWAMP THE SECTOR, BOOK EVERY WORM THAT SQUIRMS.
WHEN WE'RE FINISHED WITH FIFTY, WE MOVE ON. WE KEEP DRIVING THE MESSAGE HOME — LET THE PEOPLE KNOW THE PARTY'S **OVER.**
YOU HAVE SOMEONE IN MIND TO ORGANISE THIS?
I... NATURALLY THOUGHT MYSELF.
OF COURSE, IT MAY BE NECESSARY TO MISS OUT ON A FEW OF THESE MEETINGS WHILE THE OPERATION IS ONGOING. WITH REGRET.
OH, I'M SURE WE CAN SPARE YOU FOR A WHILE — DESPITE YOUR VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.

GEIN
ROOM TO RENT
GENTLEMEN ONLY
see MR SKINNER
Apt 22390B,
HELLO, HELLO. I'M MR SKINNER. COME IN, COME IN.
YOU'VE COME ABOUT THE ADVERT, I SUPPOSE.
I PIN ONE UP SOMETIMES BY THE ZOOM STOP. YOU BROUGHT IT WITH YOU? GOOD, GOOD.
SIT DOWN, SIT DOWN.
CAN I GET YOU SOMETHING? A NICE CUP OF MOCK CHOC? A DRINK, PERHAPS? YES, YOU MUST HAVE A DRINK.
IT'S OLD MARYLAND, MADE RIGHT HERE IN SECTOR 50. RIGHT HERE.
SO, WHAT BRINGS YOU TO DEAR OLD FIFTY? NIFTY FIFTY, WE CALL IT. JUST BECAUSE IT RHYMES, REALLY. NOTHING PARTICULARLY NIFTY ABOUT IT.
ALL ALONE? OH DEAR. THAT'S A SHAME. AND YOU SAW MY ADVERT.
WELL, YES, I HAVE A VERY NICE ROOM. ONLY FOR THE RIGHT TYPE OF GENTLEMAN, OF COURSE.
BUT I CAN SEE YOU'RE AN OKAY GUY. A SQUARE JOE. AN UPRIGHT DWIGHT.
DRINK UP AND I'LL SHOW YOU THE ROOM.
ENJOY THAT? A LITTLE ON THE BITTER SIDE? THAT'S JUST THE WAY THEY MAKE IT THESE DAYS. IT'S THE FASHION. AND I KNOW A BIT ABOUT FASHION, OH YES.
WHERE'S THE DOOR, I HEAR YOU THINKING. THAT'S THE GIMMICK. SEE, I JUST TAP IN THE CODE ON THE CLOCK HERE —
YOU WOULDN'T KNOW IT WAS THERE. ISN'T THAT CLEVER?

COME IN, COME IN.
THIS IS WHERE I KEEP MY CLOTHES. MY **SPECIAL** CLOTHES.
I MAKE THEM MYSELF, YOU KNOW. LIKE I SAID, I KNOW A BIT ABOUT FASHION. AND I ALWAYS THINK NOTHING BEATS THE FEEL OF **SKIN.**
GOOD HONEST SKIN. MMMMM...


FEELING A LITTLE WOBBLY, ARE WE? THERE, YOU JUST LIE BACK ON THE BED. THAT'S IT. GOOD, GOOD.
NOT AS SOFT AS YOU'D LIKE, I KNOW, BUT YOU SHOULDN'T BE SPENDING TOO LONG IN IT. NO, NO, NOT TOO LONG AT ALL. I THINK WE CAN SAFELY SAY THAT.
NOW LET'S JUST HANG **MR PINK** BACK UP. WOULDN'T WANT HIM GETTING IN A MESS.
SUCH A NICE YOUNG MAN. AS SOON AS I SAW HIM I THOUGHT TO MYSELF — TANK TOP. TANK TOP AND A NICE PAIR OF CHINOS.
JUST CRYING **OUT** TO BE MADE. OH, I KNOW, A LITTLE ROUGH ON MR PINK, WHEN ALL HE WANTED WAS A ROOM.
BUT THAT'S THE LUCK OF THE DRAW. SOME YOU WIN, SOME YOU LOSE. WE CAN'T ALL BE LUCKY IN LIFE.
SO MANY PEOPLE IN THIS WORLD — TOO MANY, REALLY. AND AFTER ALL, HE DID MAKE SUCH A LOVELY OUTFIT.
LAZ-R-US
SO ALL IN ALL I DON'T FEEL TOO GUILTY ABOUT WHAT I DID TO POOR MR PINK, OR **ANY** OF MY LODGERS. OH NO. I CAN HONESTLY SAY I FEEL QUITE **COMFORTABLE** IN MY OWN SKIN.
AND I'M SURE I'M GOING TO FEEL VERY COMFORTABLE IN **YOURS...**


SNIPER
PERP DOWN, OLTIMER SKED. **ARMED ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.** MED WAGON REQUIRED.
GIVE HIM **SIX** FOR THE **ARV** — EXTRA **ONE** FOR **BLEEDING** ON THE PEDWAY.
ROJ THAT SIX, WALTHER. BREAK OFF THERE. GO TO SECTOR FIFTY, THAT'S FIVE-O. REPORT TO **DREDD** FOR ASSIGNMENT.
HELP THIS MAN!
HE WAS ROBBING ME – !
THE SHOT CAME FROM WAY UP THERE...
I CAN'T SEE NOTHIN' —
OH MY GRUD!
TEN FOUR THAT FIFTY, CONTROL.
YOU GOT **PERP TWO**, OLTIMER SKED. DUNK. HE'S DOWN, PROBABLE MEAT-WAGON JOB.

SET UP YOUR ROADBLOCKS AT MAJOR INTERSECTIONS, INTERCEPT TEAMS AT ALL APPROACH POINTS. ANY CREEP SEES THE BLOCK AND DIVERTS YOU'VE GOT PRESUMPTION OF GUILT.
LET'S MOVE!
STOP!
STOP!
JOHNSON, YOUR MANTAS ROUND CENTRAL ZOOM. SEAL OFF THE STATION. ANYONE TRIES TO LEAVE WITHOUT CLEARANCE, PULL 'EM UP OR BRING 'EM DOWN.
YO!
DREDD, WE HAVE ONE FIVE EXTRA HELMETS INCOMING FROM SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT.
DIVERT TO LOGAN, 'DUST ZONE 4. EXPECT TO LOCATE AND ERADICATE LARGE-SCALE ZZIZ OPERATION.
WALTHER, SNIPER. WHERE DO YOU WANT ME?
CROSBY HEIGHTS. BE ON WATCH SPECIALLY FOR ANTI-MUTANT ACTIVITIES. TWO LYNCHINGS IN BING LAST WEEK.
WE TALKING SHOOT TO KILL?
WE NEED TO SEND A MESSAGE. DON'T HOLD BACK IF APPROPRIATE.
HE'S COMMANDEERED UNITS FROM EVERY AVAILABLE SOURCE. HE'S CALLED IN SENIOR CADETS AND MANTAS.
IF HE HAS TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL OF FIVE, AT LEAST HE CAN USE THE POSITION TO RESTORE SOME GOOD OLD FASHIONED LAW AND ORDER.
THE MEDIA ARE READY NOW, SIR.

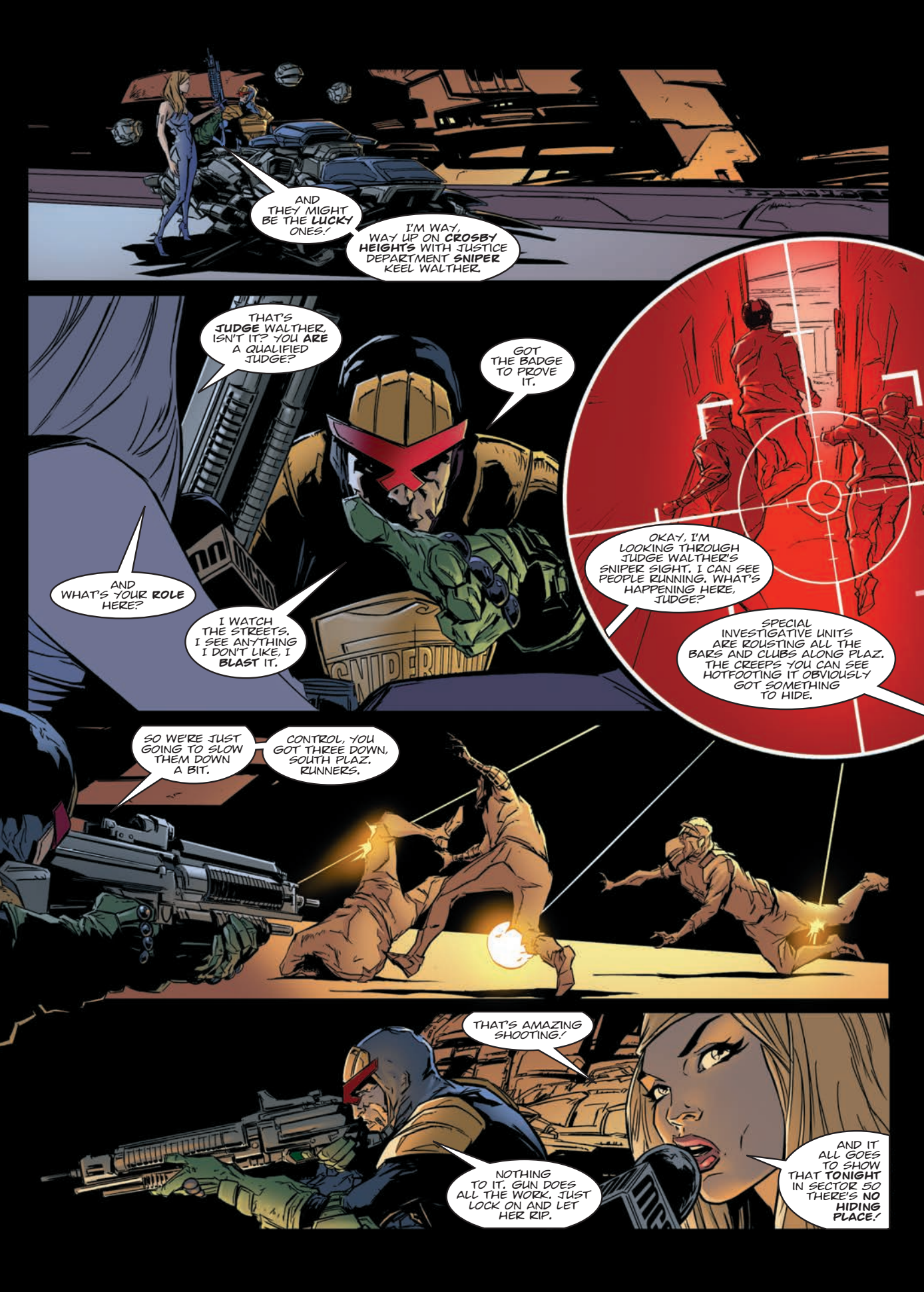
SECTOR 50 RESYK —
EVENING, SKIN.
HANK.
QUIET TONIGHT.
LULL BEFORE THE STORM. BIG CRACKDOWN GOING ON OUT THERE — JUDGES EVERYWHERE.
BEFORE LONG THIS BELT WILL BE WORKING OVERTIME.
THREE NIGHTS A WEEK SKINNER GOES TO WORK ON THE BIG MACHINE AT RESYK.
YO, SKIN.
JIM.
HEY, SKINNER, FRANCIS WANTS TO KNOW IF YOU CAN HANDLE HIS SHIFT TOMORROW.
TOMORROW'S SATURDAY — I GUESS THAT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
SKIN NEVER DOES ANYTHING ON SATURDAY NIGHT, DO YOU?
SOMETIMES I DO.

SOMETIMES HE DOES.' SKINNER, RANDY HERE GETS OUT MORE THAN YOU.
I'VE BEEN DANCING. I DANCED WITH A WOMAN.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
IT IS. FRANCIS AND ME TOOK HIM. I'M TELLIN' YOU.
THEY THINK HIM A REAL DULL SPUG. IF THEY COULD SEE HIM, ALL DRESSED UP, READY TO PARTY.
DRESSED TO KILL.
SADLY, THAT CAN NEVER BE.
SOME THINGS A MAN IS STILL BETTER AT THAN A ROBOT. MORE FLEXIBLE, YOU SEE. LIKE WHEN THE MACHINERY AT RESYK GETS BLOCKED UP.
THEN IT NEEDS A GOOD MAN TO GO IN THERE AND SORT IT OUT. A MAN WHO'S NOT AFRAID OF A LITTLE GORE.
AND SKINNER'S NOT AFRAID OF A LITTLE GORE. SKINNER'S ONLY PROBLEM IS HOW TO GET RID OF IT.
SO HIS LITTLE JOB AT RESYK SUITS HIM VERY WELL.

LAB TITAN!
28 years in captivity.
Free him by 2133!
JUDGE DREDD, WHY SECTOR 50?
FIFTY'S CRIME STATS ARE AMONG THE WORST IN THE CITY. WE HAVE PEAKS IN STREET CRIME, CRIMES AGAINST MUTANTS, CASUAL MURDER AND ARV.
HOW LONG DOES THE CRACKDOWN GO ON, SIR?
UNTIL THE MESSAGE GETS HOME.
THE BOT-CHANNEL
IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, THAT'S ZERO TOLERANCE. BREAK THE LAW — ANY LAW — AND THE LAW WILL BREAK YOU.

IT IS, INDEED, A BUSY NIGHT.
THE BLADES OF FIFTY'S ANTIQUE **ROTAVICERATOR** CLOG UP TIME AND AGAIN WITH THE WEIGHT OF FLESH AND BONE AND SINEW.
SKINNER WORKS AUTOMATICALLY, HIS THOUGHTS CONTINUALLY STRAYING TO THE **THOMSON** BOY — WHAT HE'LL **DO** WITH HIM WHEN HE GETS HOME...
FULLY CURED NOW, THE SKIN YOUNG AND FRESH AND UNBLEMISHED. UNHAPPILY, HARDLY SUFFICIENT FOR ANYTHING BUT THE SLIGHTEST GARMENT. HE HAD BEEN SLIM, NOT TO SAY UNDERNOURISHED.
HE DECIDES, IN THE END, ON A SHIRT — A **PLEATED** EFFECT USING STRIPS OF **SULIMON PATEL**, THE MATURE STUDENT WHO'D TURNED UP FOUR SUNDAYS AGO.
THE FRONT RUFFED, ELEGANT — THE COLLAR WIDE, BOLD, EDGED WITH PATEL. THE COLOUR CONTRAST MAKES A VERY PLEASING EFFECT. DEFINITELY ONE TO ENHANCE HIS SUMMER COLLECTION.
RAP RAP RAP
22389
OPEN UP! THIS IS THE LAW!
YOU WERE WARNED, CITIZEN!
STAND BACK! WE'RE COMING IN!
NO ONE HERE!
COULD BE HIDING! SEARCH IT!

HOW LONG DOES THE CRACKDOWN GO ON, SIR?
UNTIL THE MESSAGE GETS HOME. IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, THAT'S ZERO TOLERANCE.
BREAK THE LAW — ANY LAW — AND THE LAW WILL BREAK YOU.
WITH THAT JUDGE DREDD MAKES IT CLEAR — IT'S NO MORE MR NICE GUY! SECTOR 50 HAS SEEN NOTHING LIKE THIS SINCE THE SOV INVASION. JUDGES ARE OUT IN UNPRECEDENTED NUMBERS. THEY'RE HANDING OUT HEAVY SENTENCES FOR EVEN MINOR INFRACTIONS!
STOP!
MCNN
YOU, CITIZEN — WHAT'S YOUR CRIME?
I DIDN'T DO NO CRIME! I'M THE VICTIM!
EIGHTEEN MONTHS — INCITEMENT.
CREEPO THERE THOUGHT IT WAS FINE TO FLASH HIS CASH IN A KNOWN MUGGING BLACKSPOT.
THE TAP PAID WITH HIS LIFE. THE VICTIM'S GOING TO GET A LESSON IN CIVIC RESPONSIBILITY.
CONTROL, WE GOT ONE ARV MERCHANT FOR RESYK, BROOKER PASSAGE.
I'M HERE AT ISO-BLOCK 50. FORMERLY A MUTANTS-ONLY FACILITY, ONCE AGAIN IT IS RAPIDLY FILLING WITH NEW INMATES.
BEHIND ME YOU CAN SEE THEM HERDED FROM THE CATCH WAGONS IN DROVES — PERHAPS A LOVED ONE, A RELATIVE, SOMEONE YOU'VE BEEN MISSING - ?
SOME ARE CRYING, SOME DAZED, SOME BLOODIED AND CONFUSED. FOR MANY THAT FUN NIGHT OUT — PERHAPS EVEN THAT QUIET NIGHT IN — HAS ENDED WITH A LONG STRETCH IN AN ISO-CUBE.
ISO 50
HARD TARGET REPORTS:
MCNN
MEGA CITY NEWS NETWORK
07:13 ISO-BLOCK 50
BREAKING NEWS
Judicial crackdown continues
MCNN
FINANCIAL
Sump shares down 4 points • Umpty up 6 • Stark Enterpris


AND THEY MIGHT BE THE **LUCKY** ONES!
I'M WAY, WAY UP ON **CROSBY HEIGHTS** WITH JUSTICE DEPARTMENT **SNIPER** KEEL WALTHER.
THAT'S **JUDGE** WALTHER, ISN'T IT? YOU **ARE** A QUALIFIED JUDGE?
GOT THE BADGE TO PROVE IT.
AND WHAT'S YOUR **ROLE** HERE?
I WATCH THE STREETS. I SEE ANYTHING I DON'T LIKE, I **BLAST** IT.
OKAY, I'M LOOKING THROUGH JUDGE WALTHER'S SNIPER SIGHT. I CAN SEE PEOPLE RUNNING. WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE, JUDGE?
SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE UNITS ARE ROUSTING ALL THE BARS AND CLUBS ALONG PLAZ. THE CREEPS YOU CAN SEE HOTFOOTING IT OBVIOUSLY GOT SOMETHING TO HIDE.
SO WE'RE JUST GOING TO SLOW THEM DOWN A BIT.
CONTROL, YOU GOT THREE DOWN, SOUTH PLAZ. RUNNERS.
THAT'S AMAZING SHOOTING!
NOTHING TO IT. GUN DOES ALL THE WORK. JUST LOCK ON AND LET HER RIP.
AND IT ALL GOES TO SHOW THAT **TONIGHT** IN SECTOR 50 THERE'S **NO HIDING PLACE!**

GEIN
WE'VE CHOSEN **ED GEIN** FOR A FULL BLOCK **SHAKEDOWN.** WE'LL ENTER EVERY APARTMENT, QUESTION EVERY RESIDENT, DISPENSE JUSTICE WHERE ANY CRIME IS DETECTED.
ANY PARTICULAR REASON FOR GEIN?
BLOCKS ARE CHOSEN AT RANDOM. NEXT ONE COULD JUST AS EASILY BE **YOURS.**
MCN
DREDD
NOBODY HOME.
CITIZEN WORKS AT FIFTY **RESYK.**
CONTROL, CONTACT FIFTY RESYK. CHECK ON WHEREABOUTS OF CITIZEN SKINNER, MANFRED, 22390B GEIN.

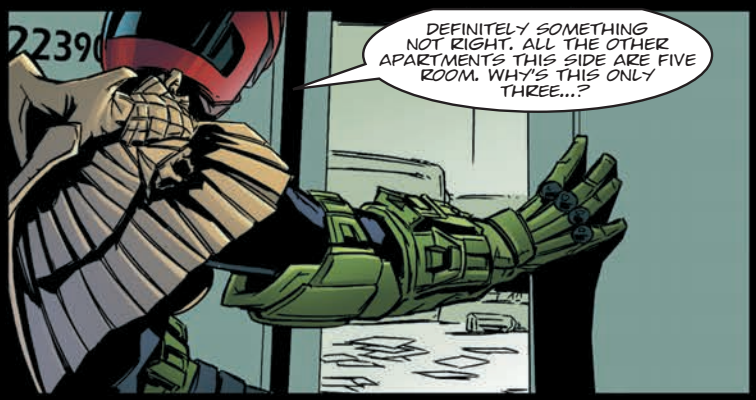
SKINNER LEFT WORK AT 06:30 HOURS, TOOK THE 714 WEST TO DAHMER STREET. SEEN ENTERING GEIN AT 06:53.
WONDER HE WASN'T CHECKED OUT EN ROUTE. MUST STILL BE IN THE BUILDING.
MANNY SKINNER
WE'LL PROBABLY COME ACROSS HIM. SEEMS LIKE A SOLID CITIZEN.
MANNY SKINNER
OBVIOUSLY HAPPY IN HIS WORK.
RESYK 50- EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR, 2130
LET'S CLOSE UP AND MOVE ON. YOU GOT A PROBLEM, RIGGS?
DEANS
JUST THINK IT'S A... KIND OF SMALL APARTMENT.
JUST ONE GUY — HOW MUCH SPACE DOES HE NEED?
I NEED A DRINK.!

HOVERBOWL
I'M HERE AT NIELSON STREET HOVERBOWL WHERE AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF **ARMED SUSPECTS** HAVE TAKEN REFUGE. JUDGES ARE **NOT** STANDING ON CEREMONY - .!
KERRUMBBBBLLLL

MEDLEY'S SQUAD, WE'RE FINISHED HERE. WHERE DO YOU WANT US?
GO TO LEVEL 41, FOUR ONE.

THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO CHECK. I'LL CATCH YOU UP.
OKAY, RIGGS. LEVEL 41.

IT HAD BEEN A CLOSE CALL. NEVER BEFORE HAS HE COME SO CLOSE TO DISCOVERY.


DEFINITELY SOMETHING NOT RIGHT. ALL THE OTHER APARTMENTS THIS SIDE ARE FIVE ROOM. WHY'S THIS ONLY THREE...?

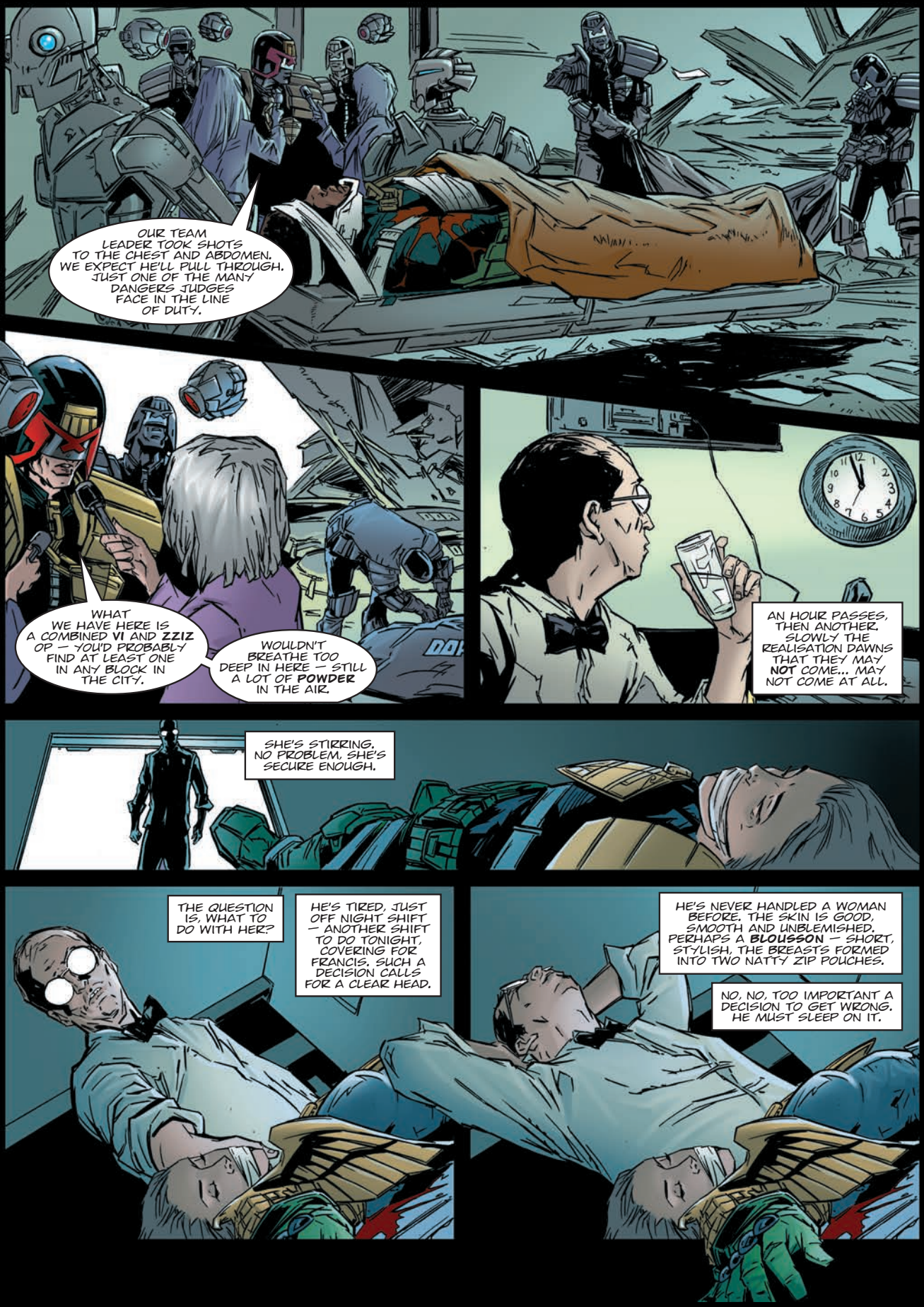
TAP TAP

TAP TAP
HOLLOW...
WHAT IN HELL'S NAME - ?
DROKK!
HE'S GOOD WITH THAT FLENSING TOOL.
UNHH!
THAT'S ONE THING THEY ALWAYS SAY ABOUT SKINNER. HE'S GOOD WITH THAT FLENSING TOOL...
BRIGGS

LIMPET CHARGES SET.!
4132 B
4132 B
00:08
BACK.!
FAWCCCCCM
ZZIZ.! RESPIRATORS.!
TEAM LEADER'S **DOWN**.! MEDS TO 4132B GEIN.!
MEANWHILE, MANY LEVELS BELOW —
UNNH.!

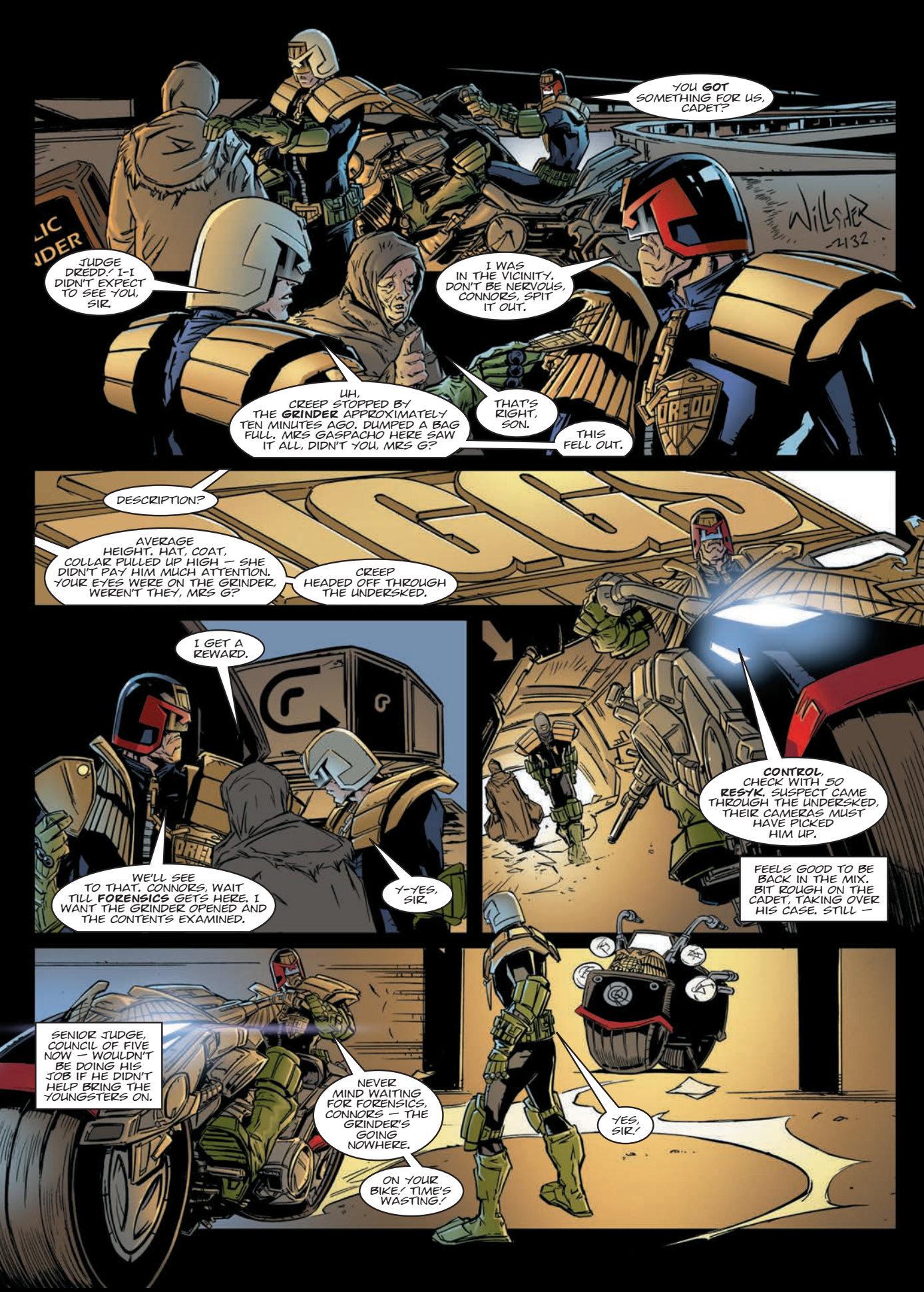
OH YES, SKINNER MAY NOT BE RUSSELL MUSCLE BUT HE'S GOOD WITH THAT FLENSING TOOL.
UNGH!

ONLY WHEN HE HAS HER SECURED DOES THE FULL ENORMITY OF WHAT HE'S DONE STRIKE HOME. A JUDGE — SUCH A HUE AND CRY THERE WOULD BE. WHY, OTHERS COULD BE ON THEIR WAY RIGHT NOW —
HE'D HAD NO CHOICE IN THE MATTER. SHE'D FORCED HIS HAND.
SOMETIMES THINGS HAPPEN THAT WAY. GO ALONG FOR YEARS WITHOUT A HITCH, THEN OUT OF THE BLUE LUCK TAKES A TURN FOR THE WORSE.
Urb Karlan:
THE BURNING MAN
ALL HE CAN DO IS COVER UP AS BEST AS HE CAN
BING BONG
COME ABOUT THE ROOM.
HEY, WHAT'S GOIN' ON ROUND HERE? JUDGES CRAWLIN' OUTA EVERY ORIFICE, MAN.
NO ROOM! GO AWAY!
SNATCH
OH GRUD!


OUR TEAM LEADER TOOK SHOTS TO THE CHEST AND ABDOMEN. WE EXPECT HE'LL PULL THROUGH. JUST ONE OF THE MANY DANGERS JUDGES FACE IN THE LINE OF DUTY.
WHAT WE HAVE HERE IS A COMBINED **VI** AND **ZZIZ** OP — YOU'D PROBABLY FIND AT LEAST ONE IN ANY BLOCK IN THE CITY.
WOULDN'T BREATHE TOO DEEP IN HERE — STILL A LOT OF **POWDER** IN THE AIR.
AN HOUR PASSES, THEN ANOTHER. SLOWLY THE REALISATION DAWNS THAT THEY MAY **NOT** COME... MAY NOT COME AT ALL.
SHE'S STIRRING. NO PROBLEM, SHE'S SECURE ENOUGH.
THE QUESTION IS, WHAT TO DO WITH HER?
HE'S TIRED, JUST OFF NIGHT SHIFT — ANOTHER SHIFT TO DO TONIGHT, COVERING FOR FRANCIS. SUCH A DECISION CALLS FOR A CLEAR HEAD.
HE'S NEVER HANDLED A WOMAN BEFORE. THE SKIN IS GOOD, SMOOTH AND UNBLEMISHED. PERHAPS A **BLOUSSON** — SHORT, STYLISH, THE BREASTS FORMED INTO TWO NATTY ZIP POUCHES.
NO, NO, TOO IMPORTANT A DECISION TO GET WRONG. HE MUST SLEEP ON IT.

WHEN HE WAKES IT'S BARELY TWO HOURS TILL HE'S DUE ON SHIFT.
HERE AT ISO-BLOCK 50 IT'S RAPIDLY NEARING CAPACITY.
SINCE THE CRACKDOWN BEGAN OVER 13,000 NEW ARRESTEES HAVE PASSED THROUGH ITS GRIM PORTALS.
LIVE
NEWS FEEDBACK
Judicial crackdown continues
mcnn
NEARLY TWELVE HOURS SINCE SHE FELL INTO HIS HANDS. SURELY NO ONE WILL COME NOW.
AH, YOU'RE AWAKE. GOOD, GOOD. I HOPE I DIDN'T CAUSE YOU TOO MUCH DISTRESS.
I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LEAVE YOU FOR A WHILE. JUST TIME FIRST TO GET YOU PREPARED.
DON'T WORRY, THIS WON'T HURT A BIT...
ZZZEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE
AT 19:00 HOURS ON THE SECOND DAY DREDD BRINGS THE CRACKDOWN TO A END.
TAKE AN HOUR TO REFUEL, CATCH UP ON SLEEP, THEN ALL UNITS ASSEMBLE IN SECTOR 14-1.
SIR —
WE HAVE AN OFFICER MISSING, SIR — RIGGS. WE'VE TRIED CONTACTING HER BUT SHE DOESN'T RESPOND.
WHEN DID THIS HAPPEN?
I'M NOT SURE, SIR. MEDLEY WAS IN CHARGE. WHEN HE GOT HIT WE WERE SPLIT UP — HALF WENT TO STRATEGIC RESERVE, HALF ON S&S DOWNTOWN. DIDN'T NOTICE SHE WAS MISSING TILL WE REGROUPED AT 18:30.
YES, SIR. I'M SORRY, IT'S MY FAULT, I SHOULD HAVE BEEN MORE ON THE BALL.
WHERE WERE YOU BEFORE? GEIN TOWER, WASN'T IT?
ALL RIGHT, IT'S DONE NOW. LET'S CONCENTRATE ON FINDING HER.

HE TAKES THE HOVERBUS TO SECTOR 50 RESYK. HE'S USED THE GARBAGE GRINDER BY THE VIADUCT MANY TIMES BEFORE —
— THOUGH NEVER WITH SUCH DANGEROUS ITEMS TO DISPOSE OF. THERE'D BE NO WAY OF EXPLAINING THIS AWAY.
VRWWWWWWWW
WHO'S YA MA-MA?!
NOT A JUDGE, THANK GRUD.
THE RISKS HE TAKES FOR HIS ART.
NOTHIN'. TIGHT LITTLE DREEP. WHY DON'T HE JUST DUMP IT LIKE EVERYONE ELSE?
HEY —
WELL, LOOK AT THAT.
BIGGS


YOU GOT SOMETHING FOR US, CADET?
JUDGE DREDD! I-I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU, SIR.
I WAS IN THE VICINITY. DON'T BE NERVOUS, CONNORS, SPIT IT OUT.
UH, CREEP STOPPED BY THE GRINDER APPROXIMATELY TEN MINUTES AGO. DUMPED A BAG FULL. MRS GASPACHO HERE SAW IT ALL, DIDN'T YOU, MRS G?
THAT'S RIGHT, SON.
THIS FELL OUT.
DESCRIPTION?
AVERAGE HEIGHT. HAT, COAT, COLLAR PULLED UP HIGH — SHE DIDN'T PAY HIM MUCH ATTENTION. YOUR EYES WERE ON THE GRINDER, WEREN'T THEY, MRS G?
CREEP HEADED OFF THROUGH THE UNDERSKED.
I GET A REWARD.
WE'LL SEE TO THAT. CONNORS, WAIT TILL FORENSICS GETS HERE. I WANT THE GRINDER OPENED AND THE CONTENTS EXAMINED.
Y-YES, SIR.
CONTROL, CHECK WITH 50 RESYK. SUSPECT CAME THROUGH THE UNDERSKED, THEIR CAMERAS MUST HAVE PICKED HIM UP.
FEELS GOOD TO BE BACK IN THE MIX. BIT ROUGH ON THE CADET, TAKING OVER HIS CASE. STILL —
SENIOR JUDGE, COUNCIL OF FIVE NOW — WOULDN'T BE DOING HIS JOB IF HE DIDN'T HELP BRING THE YOUNGSTERS ON.
NEVER MIND WAITING FOR FORENSICS, CONNORS — THE GRINDER'S GOING NOWHERE.
ON YOUR BIKE! TIME'S WASTING!
YES, SIR!

DREDD, LIGHTING'S TOO BAD TO GET A CLEAR **I.D.** — WE'RE TRYING TO ENHANCE THE PICTURES. BUT THERE'S ONLY **ONE** PERSON MATCHING YOUR DESCRIPTION IN THAT TIME FRAME AND THE CAMS TRACK HIM ALL THE WAY INTO **RESYK.**
YES, SIR. THAT'S **MANFRED SKINNER.** 'SKIN', WE CALL HIM FOR SHORT. HE'S OUR GO-TO GUY IN THE **GRINDERS.** THAT'S WHERE HE'LL BE. YOU WANT ME TO CALL HIM DOWN?
NEGATIVE. YOU GOT A HOME ADDRESS FOR HIM?
PETERSON. WHERE ARE YOU?
LEVEL 9, GEIN TOWER.
CHECK OUT APARTMENT 22390B.
I'M AT RESYK, PREPARING TO INTERVIEW THE RESIDENT, NAME OF **SKINNER**, MANFRED SKINNER. THINK IT **HIGHLY PROBABLE** HE'S IMPLICATED IN **RIGGS'** DISAPPEARANCE.
WHAT'S THE PLAN, CONNORS?
SIR?
THE PLAN OF ACTION. YOU'RE INVOLVED HERE. GET WITH IT.
UH, WE HAVE TO TAKE HIM ALIVE, SIR.
WHY?
HE MIGHT HAVE DONE SOMETHING WITH HER — ASSUMING HE'S THE ONE. WE MAY NEED HIM TO TALK.
OKAY, COVER THE GANTRY.

SKINNER.!
THIS IS JUDGE DREDD.! COME AND TALK TO ME, SKINNER.!
RIGGS.! ARE YOU HERE.?
22390 B
SKINNER.! DON'T MAKE THINGS WORSE FOR YOURSELF.!
BZINGGGG
HE KNOWS THE GAME IS UP. THEY'VE FOUND OUT.
THERE WILL BE NO ESCAPE FOR HIM. HE'S WELL AWARE OF THAT. NO ONE ESCAPES THE JUDGES ONCE THEY'RE ON TO YOU — ESPECIALLY DREDD. YET STILL SOME INSTINCT MAKES HIM FLEE.
CONNORS.! HE'S COMING YOUR WAY.!

NOTHING HERE.
YOU HEAR SOMETHING.?
Urb Karlan:
THE BURNING MAN
IT'S COMING FROM —
DROKK.!

STOP OR I'LL SHOOT!
LET THEM DO THEIR WORST. IT'S OVER.
HE THINKS OF ALL HIS CREATIONS, HIS ART, HIDDEN THERE IN THE SECRET ROOM, NEVER TO SEE IT AGAIN, NEVER TO RUN HAS HANDS OVER THAT PRECIOUS SKIN...
YET IT IS A REGRET TINGED WITH... YES, TINGED WITH PRIDE.
I WARN YOU — UNGG!
AT LEAST NOW THE CITY WOULD SEE — THE PEOPLE WOULD UNDERSTAND WHAT THEY HAD HAD IN THEIR MIDST.
SWEET MERCY! WHAT IS THIS - ?
SHE'S HERE!
UHHHH...
DREDD! WE FOUND HER! THERE'S A SECRET ROOM HERE! SHE'S ALIVE!
NNNNN...

DOESN'T LOOK TOO BAD. MED WAGON'S ON ITS WAY.
MAYBE NEXT TIME, CONNORS, YOU'LL COME IN A LITTLE SOONER WITH THE DAYSTICK.

LATER —
NEIGHBOUR SAYS HE USED TO PUT UP A NOTICE AT THE ZOOM — ROOM TO RENT.
THE SKINNING ROOM.
DOOR MECHANISM'S ON THE CLOCK THERE. PRETTY GOOD JOB, EXCEPT RIGGS FIGURED OUT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A BIGGER APARTMENT, WONDERED WHY.
SO SHE CAME BACK TO CHECK AND SKINNER CAUGHT HER UNAWARES.
SHE'S LUCKY TO BE ALIVE. HE WAS DUE ON NIGHT SHIFT, DIDN'T WANT TO RISK DAMAGING THE SKIN BY REMOVING IT IN A HURRY.

THE JOB AT RESYK SUITED HIM PERFECTLY. HE OBVIOUSLY STORED THE PARTS HERE AND DISPOSED OF THEM AT WORK WHEN SHIFTS ALLOWED.
THERE WAS A HOLD-ALL IN HIS LOCKER. I SENT IT TO SECTOR HOUSE FOR BLOOD AND DNA.

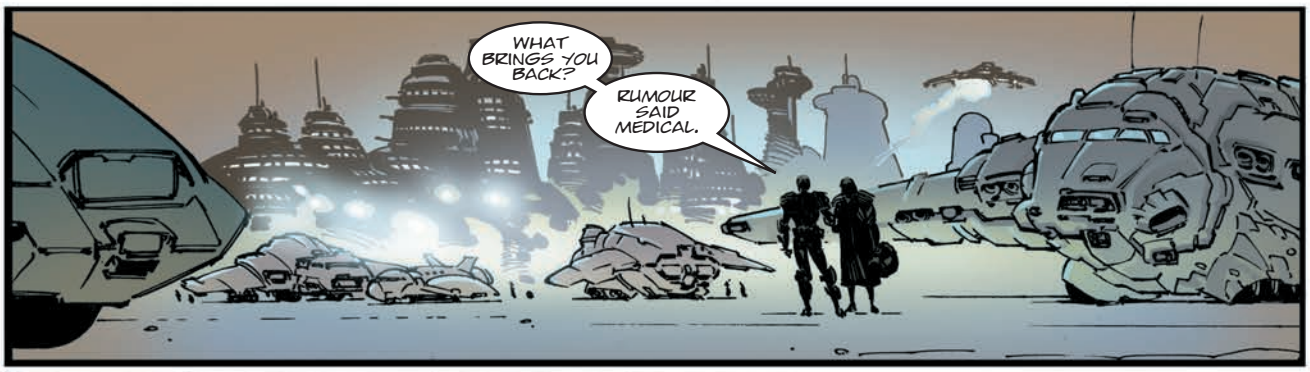
THEY'VE IDENTIFIED FOUR OF THE VICTIMS ALREADY. WHO KNOWS HOW MANY WE'LL FIND? HIS ACTIVITES GO BACK OVER YEARS.
I'M NO EXPERT, BUT SOME OF THIS STUFF LOOKS PRETTY GOOD. OUTSTANDING, ACTUALLY. GUY SURE COULD WORK WITH SKIN.
WELL, JUST DON'T FIGURE ON IT MAKING ANY CATWALK, PETERSON...

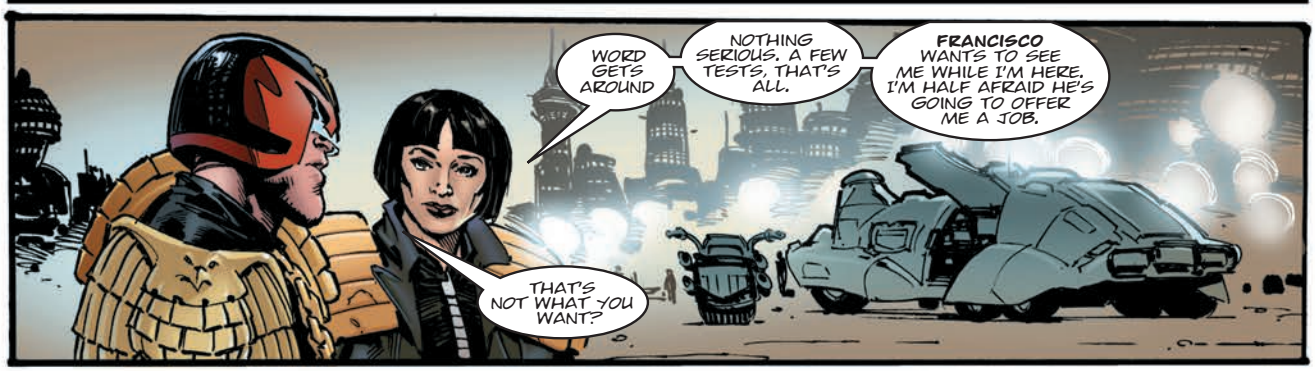
HOT NIGHT IN 95

Script: John Wagner
Art: Staz Johnson
Colours: Chris Blythe
Letters: Annie Parkhouse

Originally published in *Judge Dredd Megazine* Issues 307, 308 & 310

LOGAN?
JUST DROPPED BY TO SHOW YOU MY NEW ARM.
THEY'RE GROWING IT FROM MY OWN CELLS. FULLY ARTICULATED — LOOK, I CAN WIGGLE MY FINGERS.
FASCINATING.
WHEN IT'S GROWN ALL YOU'LL SEE IS A RIDGE WHERE IT JOINS. THEN THEY'LL DO MY LEG.
THE WONDERS OF MEDICINE.
YOU OUGHT TO LEAVE THAT OFF, GIVE IT SOME AIR.
GOT TO KEEP IT PROTECTED FOR NOW. BONES ARE STILL A LITTLE FRAGILE. I HAVE TO WORK OUT WITH IT — YOU KNOW, WEIGHTS AND STUFF.
SAY, MITKIN SAID YOU WERE GOING TO BE THE NEW **CHIEF** AT 95. I TOLD HIM NO CHANCE.
COUNCIL OF FIVE NOW, LOGAN.
CAN'T SHIRK **ALL** MY RESPONSIBILITIES. IT'S JUST TEMPORARY, TILL ASHTON RECOVERS.
WHY SHOULD THERE BE? WHAT IS THIS ANYWAY, THE SPANISH INQUISITION?
JUST KEEPING UP WITH DEVELOPMENTS. PAYS TO KNOW WHICH WAY THE WIND'S BLOWING THESE DAYS.
I PITY THEM. THEY WON'T KNOW WHAT HIT THEM.
I HEAR **HERSHEY'S** COMING IN TODAY. NO **CONNECTION**, IS THERE?
THERE'S SOMETHING IN THAT... NO, NO CONNECTION.
I THOUGHT I'D MEET HER AT THE SPACEPORT. SHE DESERVES SOME KIND OF RECEPTION, EVEN IF IT IS ONLY ME.
THROW HER A YO FROM ME. TELL HER ABOUT THE ARM.


WHAT BRINGS YOU BACK?
RUMOUR SAID MEDICAL.

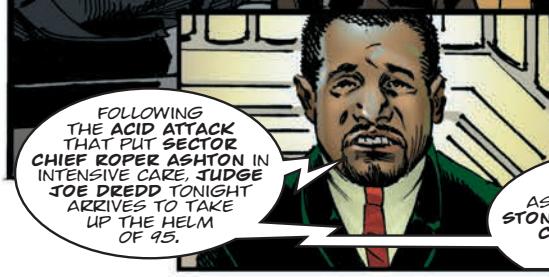

WORD GETS AROUND
NOTHING SERIOUS. A FEW TESTS, THAT'S ALL.
FRANCISCO WANTS TO SEE ME WHILE I'M HERE. I'M HALF AFRAID HE'S GOING TO OFFER ME A JOB.
THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU WANT?

IT'S BEEN A GOOD BREAK. I DIDN'T REALISE HOW MUCH I NEEDED ONE. TO BE HONEST I'M NOT SURE I'M READY TO COME BACK — NOT YET.

AND YOU — COUNCIL OF FIVE. NEVER THOUGHT THERE'D COME A DAY.
POLITICS. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES DIDN'T FEEL I HAD A CHOICE.

IT'S... BEARABLE. BETTER THAN THE ALTERNATIVE, CERTAINLY.
AND FRANCISCO?
HE'S OKAY. HE'S FINE. HE'S NOT YOU, OF COURSE, BUT HE'S SHAPING UP QUITE WELL — NOW WE'VE PUT THE SINFIELD EPISODE BEHIND US.

I'M AT 95 — TEMPORARY CHIEF. WHEN YOU'VE FINISHED YOUR BUSINESS, COME OVER. WE'LL PUT YOU ON A BIKE FOR AN HOUR OR TWO, SEE IF THAT DOESN'T GIVE YOU A TASTE FOR THE STREETS AGAIN.


FOLLOWING THE ACID ATTACK THAT PUT SECTOR CHIEF ROPER ASHTON IN INTENSIVE CARE, JUDGE JOE DREDD TONIGHT ARRIVES TO TAKE UP THE HELM OF 95.

HE'LL HAVE HIS HANDS FULL AS NEWS OF ANOTHER STONING COMES IN. HERE'S COLLY BRICEGROVE IN PRECINCT 11...

HERE IN THIS QUIET CORNER OF THE SECTOR ONLOOKERS WATCHED IN **HORROR** TODAY AS THE LATEST IN THIS **NEW WAVE** OF **OUTRAGES** TOOK PLACE.
THEY START SEEMINGLY FROM NOTHING, WITHOUT RHYME OR REASON. SOMEONE THROWS THE **FIRST STONE** AND THEN A KIND OF **MASS MADNESS** TAKES HOLD.
TODAY'S **VICTIM** WAS INNOCENT, LAW-ABIDING MOTHER OF TWELVE **HYDRA BLOCK.**
SURVEILLANCE VID
WHY WAS HYDRA BLOCK **PICKED OUT?** WHAT **WAS** IT THAT SINGLED HER OUT FROM THE CROWD, MARKED HER AS **TARGET?**
PERHAPS WE WILL NEVER KNOW. WHAT WE CAN SAY IS THAT SHORTLY AFTER 16:00 HOURS THE FIRST STONE STRUCK. IN LESS THAN TWO MINUTES, SURROUNDED BY A BAYING MOB, HYDRA LAY **DEAD** ON THE COLD SLAB.
JUDGES ARE USING THIS SURVEILLANCE VID TO MAKE A NUMBER OF **ARRESTS.**
JERKER MCKNEE, YOUR SHOP **SOLD** MANY OF THE **STONES** THAT WERE USED IN THE OUTRAGE.
YEAH, OUR STONES ARE POLISHED UP SO THEY FEEL GOOD TO HOLD. WE MARK THEM ALL 'NOT TO BE THROWN', OF COURSE — THEY'RE A **HAND** TOY, FOR FRIG'S SAKE. IS IT **OUR** FAULT IF SOME STUPID PEOPLE DECIDE TO **THROW** THEM?
STONES DON'T GROW ON **TREES.** POSSESSION OF STONES SHOWS CLEAR **INTENT.** ANYONE FOUND CARRYING A **STONE,** POLISHED OR OTHERWISE, WILL FACE **TWENTY YEARS'** ENCUBEMENT. **BE WARNED.**
MOVE!
ROYD
ASHTON HAD THE SECTOR RUNNING WELL. STATS WERE EXCELLENT. CRIME RATE WAS LOW, RATIO OF CRIMES SOLVED TO DETECTED FOURTEEN PER CENT UP ON AVERAGE.
BOTH WATCHES WERE LED BY FIRST-RATE COMMANDERS, MEN DREDD CAN RELY ON.

IT SHOULDN'T BE MUCH TROUBLE TO KEEP THINGS TICKING OVER TILL ASHTON RETURNS. WITH LUCK HE'LL GET IN PLENTY OF STREET TIME...
DELL, SIR.
THEY TELL ME YOU'LL ONLY TALK TO ME, DELL. SO TALK.

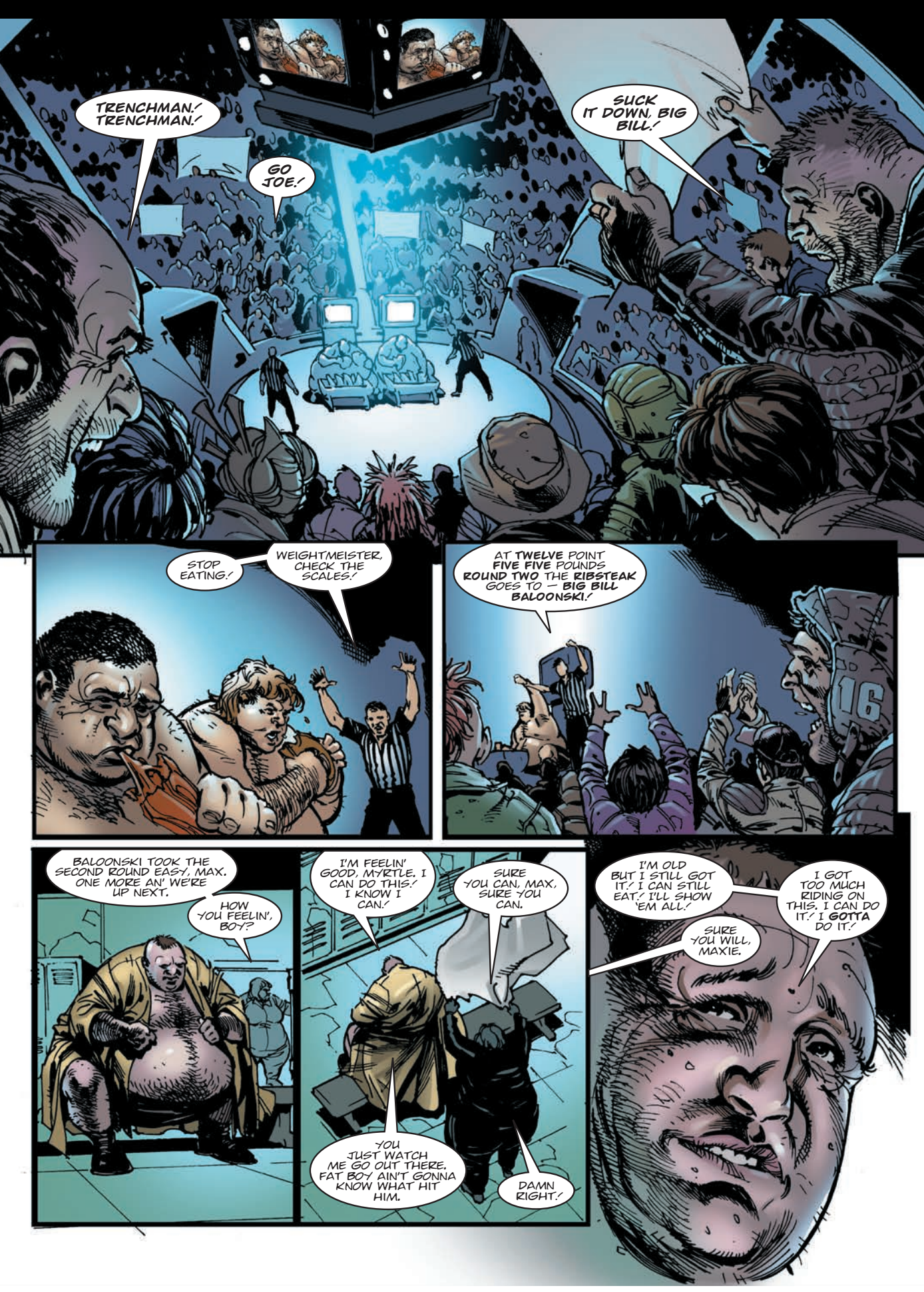
I... I DIDN'T EXPECT ANY OF THEM TO BELIEVE ME. I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF **YOU** WILL. I... I DID IT BECAUSE PEOPLE HAD TO KNOW WHAT HE WAS LIKE.
YOU'RE REFERRING TO SECTOR CHIEF ASHTON? YOU WERE AN AUXILIARY ASSIGNED TO HIS OFFICE.
SO WHAT **WAS** HE LIKE?
WHAT DID HE DO THAT WAS SO BAD YOU THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO THROW **ACID** IN HIS FACE?

WHEN WE WERE ALONE, LATE AT NIGHT, HE... HE WOULD MAKE ME DO THINGS. VILE THINGS.
I TAKE IT YOU'RE REFERRING TO ACTS OF A **LEWD** NATURE?
THAT — AND MORE.
I SEE. A WHOLE CATALOGUE OF SINS. ALL RIGHT, DELL, I'VE HEARD ENOUGH.

RIGHTLY, SUCH ALLEGATIONS AGAINST A SECTOR CHIEF SHOULD BE HANDLED BY **SJS** —
YOU DON'T WANT TO LISTEN EITHER! YOU'RE ALL THE **SAME**, YOU CLOSE RANKS!
CALL **GARCIA** AT **SJS**. TELL HER I WANT THIS DEALT WITH PRIORITY.
YES, SIR.
HE'S DEALT WITH ENOUGH PERPS TO KNOW THAT DELL IS LYING. HE WONDERS WHY?
NO DOUBT GARCIA'S PEOPLE WILL GET TO THE BOTTOM OF IT.

JUDGE HERSHEY — GOOD TO SEE YOU BACK, MA'AM.
THAT OFFER STILL OPEN?
THOUGHT YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO RESIST. I WAS GOING TO TAKE AN HOUR OR TWO ANYWAY TO FAMILIARISE MYSELF WITH THE SECTOR.

QUIET TONIGHT. A **STONING** EARLIER, BUT THAT'S WELL IN HAND. THE USUAL RUN OF PETTY CRIME AND MINDLESS VIOLENCE.
STILL, NO DOUBT **SOMETHING** INTERESTING WILL TURN UP.
TONITE!
PUT IT AWAY, B. TOO EARLY. WAIT TILL THE TIME.
EVER WONDER WHY WE'RE DOING THIS, **THERE'S** YOUR ANSWER. EVERYTHING YOU HATE ABOUT THE **MEGS** — GLUTTONY — WASTE — GREED — DEPRAVITY.
OH, YEAH, THEY GOT IT COMIN', MAN. THEY'VE SO GOT IT COMING.


TRENCHMAN.! TRENCHMAN.!
GO JOE.!
SUCK IT DOWN, BIG BILL.!
STOP EATING.!
WEIGHTMEISTER, CHECK THE SCALES.!
AT TWELVE POINT FIVE FIVE POUNDS ROUND TWO THE RIBSTEAK GOES TO — BIG BILL BALOONSKI.!
16
BALOONSKI TOOK THE SECOND ROUND EASY, MAX. ONE MORE AN' WE'RE UP NEXT.
HOW YOU FEELIN', BOY?
I'M FEELIN' GOOD, MYRTLE. I CAN DO THIS.! I KNOW I CAN.!
SURE YOU CAN, MAX, SURE YOU CAN.
YOU JUST WATCH ME GO OUT THERE. FAT BOY AIN'T GONNA KNOW WHAT HIT HIM.
DAMN RIGHT.!
I'M OLD BUT I STILL GOT IT.! I CAN STILL EAT.! I'LL SHOW 'EM ALL.!
SURE YOU WILL, MAXIE.
I GOT TOO MUCH RIDING ON THIS. I CAN DO IT.! I GOTTA DO IT.!

HE'S GOT STONES — STONES BURNING A HOLE IN HIS POCKETS.
HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA, A REAL LAUGH. EVERYONE WAS DOING IT, WHY SHOULDN'T HE?
BUT NOW HE'S OUT THERE AND A COUPLE OF JAYS GO WHIZZING BY HE STARTS TO GET WORRIED.
HE'S GOT TO GET RID OF THEM.
UNNH!
HEY, EVERYBODY, YOU SAW — I STONED HIM!
COME ON, WHAT ARE YOU WAITIN' FOR? LET'S GET HIM! OKAY? COME ON!
HUH?

GET HIM!
SCUZZBAG!
CONTROL, **STONING** IN PROGRESS, BLEACHER MALL!
ALL AVAILABLE UNITS!
HE'S HAD IT!
THAT'LL LEARN YOU, SCUMMER!
JAYS, MAN! SCRAMOLA!
JUST LIKE OLD TIMES!
ONLY THE DUMB CRIME HAS CHANGED!
YOU HEAR FIRING? THEY'VE **STARTED**!
NOT NECESSARILY — THERE'S **ALWAYS** SHOOTING IN THE MEGS.
IT'S TIME ANYWAY! LET'S GO!
YOU!

SEE, THEY AIN'T SUPERMEN.! THEY DIE LIKE ANYBODY ELSE.!
OH MY GRUD —
C-CALL THE LAW.!
LET'S GET ON WITH THIS.
AAAHHH.!
JOVIS.!
THEY'RE KILLING EVERYONE.! RUN.!

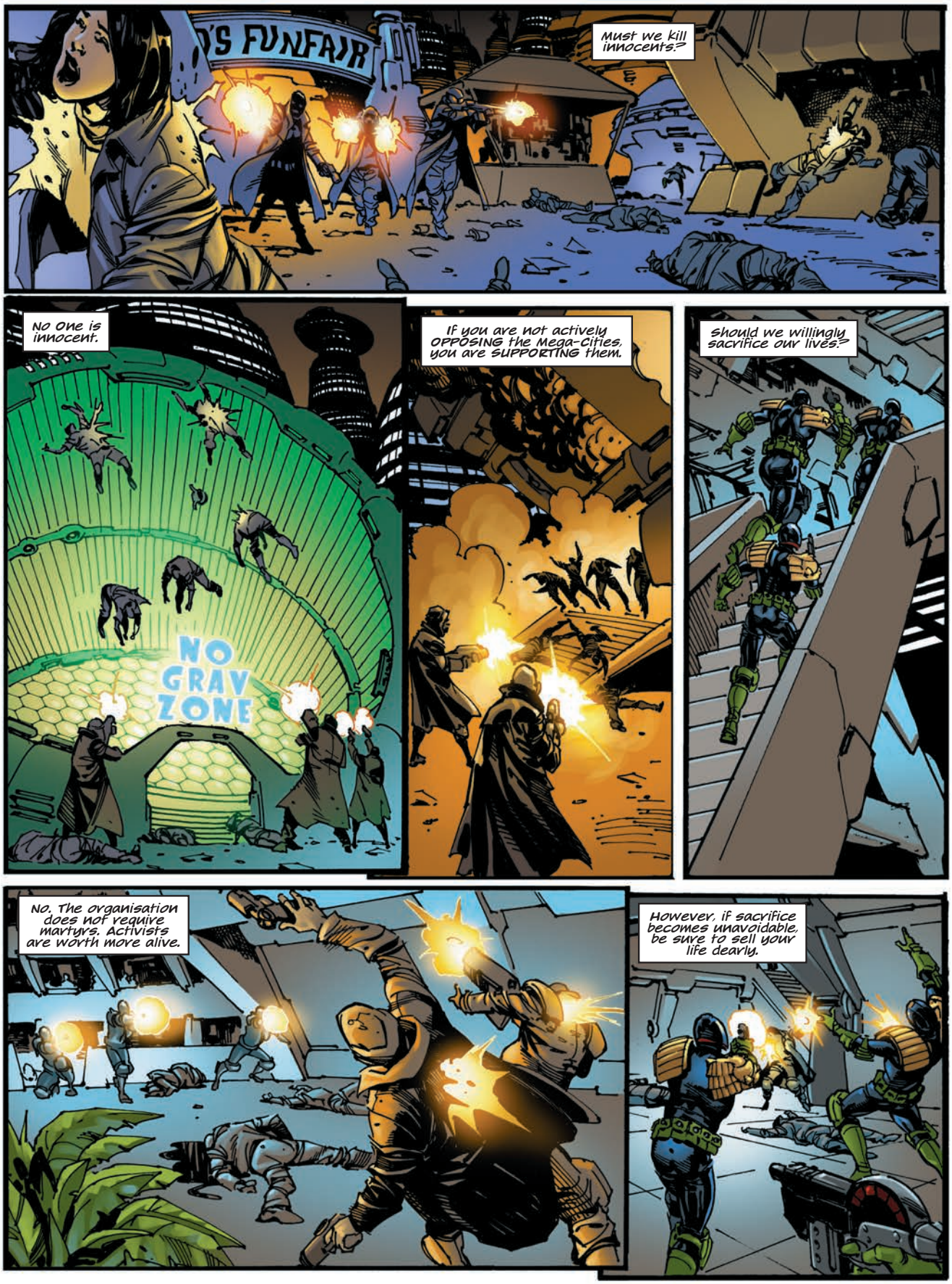
ALL UNITS, WE HAVE **SHOOTING**, GROVER WASHINGTON SQUARE AREA.!
ANY UNIT VICINITY JELLY BOWL.! CODE RED, **JUDGE DOWN.!**
REPORT OF **EXPLOSIONS**, SKEDSIDE, PRECINCT 3.!
WHAT THE HELL – ?
SURVEILLANCE CAMS SHOW ARMED GROUP, RATNER BLOCK PLAZ.! WE HAVE MULTIPLE CASUALTIES.!
VADDDCCCM
JUDGES ENGAGED IN **FIREFIGHT**, JOSEPHAT PEDWAY.! REINFORCEMENTS REQUIRED.!
SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING **BIG'S** GOING DOWN.!
LET'S FIND OUT.!
GUNMEN ATTACKING AMBULANCE, SKEDSIDE.!
SUSPECTED BOMBING, WALLBANGER'S.!

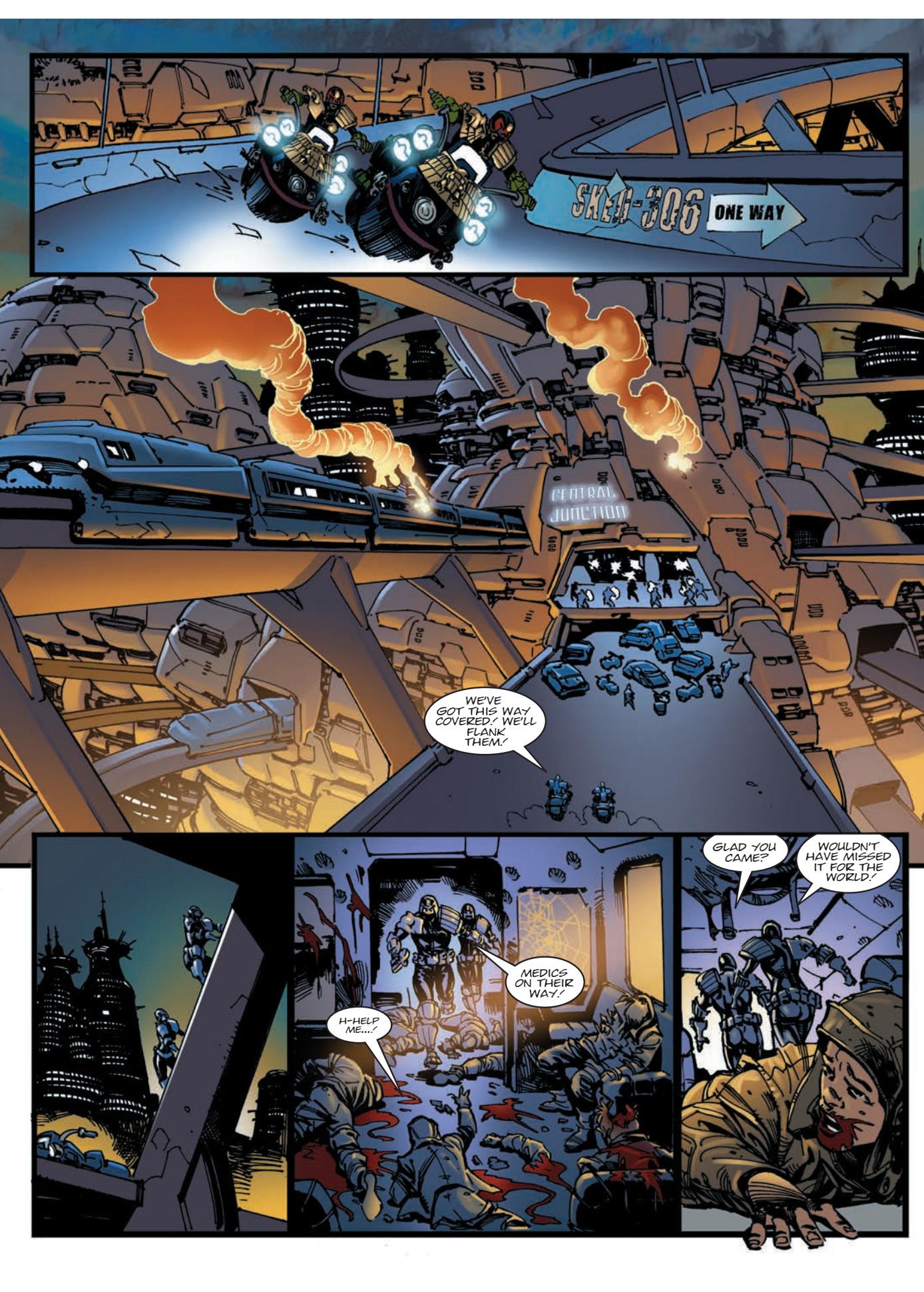
— VICINITY GROVER WASHINGTON SQUARE! HEAVILY ARMED AND FIRING AT RANDOM! CITIZENS DOWN!
GUNMEN ON LEVEL THREE — REPEAT, LEVEL THREE! APPROACH VIA SUCTAVATOR!
CREEPS ARE MAKING NO ATTEMPT AT DISGUISE! THEY MEAN TO GO DOWN KILLING!
CONTROL TO **SECTOR CHIEF DREDD** – !
CALM DOWN, CITIZEN! JUST TELL ME WHAT YOU SEE!
WE HAVE **ARMED ACTIONS** ACROSS THE SECTOR, CHIEF! SO FAR **NINE** SEPARATE INCIDENTS, SMALL AND WELL-ARMED GROUPS!
ANY **I.D.** ON THEM?
SOME ARE WEARING THE NAME **RAGE AGAINST THE MEGS**!
GET EVERY **AERIAL** UNIT OUT — EVERY **HELMET** YOU CAN BEG OR BORROW! DON'T HOLD BACK ON THIS!
YES, SIR.
LOOKS LIKE YOU **LUCKED IN**, HERSHEY! THE NIGHT JUST HOTTED UP!

OBJECTIVE: Spread FEAR and PANIC on the streets.
TACTICAL: 1. Attacks to be concentrated on most populous targets.
YOU! YOU GUYS ARE FREAKIN' CRAZY! STOP IT! GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE!
WE GOTTA GET OUTA HERE, MAN!
2. Optimise casualties. High body count is essential.
3. Spare no one.
WE GOT ZERO VISIBILITY HERE, CONTROL! WHERE ARE THOSE AERIAL UNITS?

INCOMING!
NOT INCOMING FAST ENOUGH!
I COUNT FOUR SHOOTERS!
WE HAVE HEAVY CASUALTIES, CONTROL! MEDS URGENTLY REQUIRED!
LET'S BACK OUT OF HERE!
WHAT ABOUT KRAMER?
HE'S FINISHED! FORGET HIM!

THIS IS H-WAGON.! THEY'RE USING CITIZENS AS SHIELDS.!
CITIZENS ARE EXPENDABLE.! TAKE THEM OUT.!
BUT, SIR —
HOW MANY MORE DO YOU WANT TO DIE? TAKE THEM OUT NOW.!
ALL OVER AT THE HYPERENA, CONTROL.! GIVE ME A STATUS UPDATE.!
WHERE THE HELL ARE THOSE MEDICS?
WE HAVE INCIDENTS AT GROVER WASHINGTON SQUARE, WALLBANGERS, FUNFAIR AT JOSEPHAT, RATNER, SKEDSIDE, JB WAY, CENTRAL JUNCTION AND PUTKIN.
A WELL-ORGANISED ATTACK. PLANNED OUT OF CITY, NO DOUBT.
AERIAL UNITS FROM 89, 94, 97 ARE ASSISTING. REINFORCEMENTS DRAFTED FROM ALL NEIGHBOURING SECTORS. WASHINGTON SQUARE UNDER CONTROL. LARGE CONTINGENT OPERATING AT CENTRAL JUNCTION. SURCAMS SHOW TEN PLUS. FIREFIGHT ONGOING.
WE'RE ON IT.! FORENSICS TO RUN I.D.S ON THESE CREEPS, PRIORITY ONE.! I WANT TO KNOW IF THEY'RE LOCALS OR IMPORTS.!
RAGE AGAINST THE MEGS


Must we kill innocents?
No one is innocent.
NO GRAV ZONE
If you are not actively OPPOSING the Mega-Cities, you are SUPPORTING them.
Should we willingly sacrifice our lives?
No. The organisation does not require martyrs. Activists are worth more alive.
However, if sacrifice becomes unavoidable, be sure to sell your life dearly.


SKEW-306
ONE WAY
CENTRAL JUNCTION
WE'VE GOT THIS WAY COVERED.! WE'LL FLANK THEM.!
H-HELP ME...!
MEDICS ON THEIR WAY.!
GLAD YOU CAME?
WOULDN'T HAVE MISSED IT FOR THE WORLD.!

No one is innocent. They keep telling themselves no one is innocent. They're not natural killers.
JELLY-BOWL
CONICE + MASCERS OF MASCICACION +
+ ALLCITY GORGE OUC + VOMIC DISPLAY
AND IT'S NECK AND NECK IN ROUND FOUR! FORMER ALL-PRO LIGHT HIPPOWEIGHT CHAMPION MAX CAPACITY MAKING THE BIG COMEBACK TONIGHT, BUT HE'S TWO-ONE DOWN AGAINST THE MIGHTY JAWS OF FAT BOY BOB — AND WITH SECONDS TO GO IT LOOKS LIKE FAT BOY IS INCHING AHEAD!
2.RIBS
FBB-13.19LBS
MC-13.21LBS
3.SWINKIES
FBB-8.87LBS
MC-6.91LBS
FBB-8.87LBS
MC-6.91LBS
HERE BESIDE ME IS FORMER FLAB STAR FRANK LUMPARD.
MAX WAS A GOOD EATER ONCE, LOU, BUT HE FAILED TO HOLD IT DOWN IN SPECTACULAR FASHION IN THE HEINZ SUPERSIZE AND ONCE THE HEAVES GET YOU, IT'S MENTALLY TOUGH TO GO FOR THAT BIG GORGE-OUT.
HOW TRUE THAT IS, FRANK! EVEN THOUGH HE EDGED FAT BOY IN THE RIBSTEAK HIS TOTALS HAVE BEEN WELL DOWN ON HIS BEST! AND — THERE'S THE BELL!

4.BLANCMANGE
FBB-14.63LBS
MC-14.54LBS
THE SCALES SHOW .09 IN IT.! THE REFEREE IS RAISING FAT BOY'S HAND.! IT'S ALL OVER FOR MAX CAPACITY.!
WAIT A MINUTE, LOU.! MYRTLE CAPACITY IS LODGING A PROTEST.!
LOOK AT ALL THAT GLOOP ON HIM.! WE DEMAND A WIPE DOWN.!

IT'S A WIPE DOWN, FRANK.! MAX'S WIFE AND TRAINER HAS SEEN A LOT OF FOOD SPILL ON FAT BOY AND SHE WANTS IT WIPED AWAY.! THERE'S GOING TO BE A DELAY HERE.!
Well, maybe B. B doesn't mind killing. Crazy, is B. But Zero and Jinga, they're just doing it because it's right.

Because it's got to be done.
How else can they fight the evil of the Megs?

LOVE YOU, B.
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS GETTING S-SERIOUS...
NOTHING YOU CAN DO FOR ME. YOU GO ON, I'LL... I'LL HOLD 'EM.
AND I'M HEARING THERE'S A LITTLE COMMOTION OUTSIDE! NO DOUBT THE USUAL PROTESTS FROM THE ANTI-FLAB BRIGADE! WELL, WE'RE JUST CARRYING ON REGARDLESS, FLAB FANS, BECAUSE WE DON'T CARE!
DAMN RIGHT, LOU! ON STAGE THE WIPERS ARE JUST CLEANING UP OUR EATERS FOR THE RE-WEIGH — AND JUST LOOK AT MAX CAPACITY!
LOOKS LIKE MAX IS HAVING TROUBLE KEEPING IT IN! HAS MAX CAPACITY REACHED OVER-CAPACITY?
HOLD IT DOWN, MAX! HOLD IT!
AFTER THE WIPE DOWN THE WEIGHTS HAVE BEEN CORRECTED! ROUND FOUR GOES TO —
1.BLANCMANGE
FBB-14.47LBS
MC-14.52LBS
1.BLANCMANGE
FBB-14.47LBS
MC-14.52LBS
OH! NOW IT'S FAT BOY'S TURN TO LODGE A PROTEST! TRAINER SKINNY MUFFIN IS APPROACHING THE REFEREE!
SKINNY'S SEEN MAX'S DISTRESS! HE'S TRYING TO DELAY THE VERDICT! IF MAX HEAVES BEFORE THE ANNOUNCEMENT, THE CONTEST GOES TO FAT BOY! IF MAX HOLDS ON WE'RE INTO A SUDDEN DEATH GORGE-OFF!

AND MAX IS LOOKING IN SEVERE DISTRESS! YES, HOLD ONTO YOUR HATS, FOLKS, BIG MAX COULD BLOW!
STAY STRONG, MAX!
DEATH TO THE MEGS!
MATCH REFEREE IVAN ONAN IS DISMISSING THE PROTEST!
AND ROUND FOUR GOES TO —
OH MY GRUD – !
AAAAHHH!
GEE, MAX, THIS WASN'T ON THE CARD – !

TERRORIST ATTACKS CONTINUE ACROSS THE CITY —
THE JELLY BOWL! THEY'RE BLASTIN' EVERYONE! GET HERE QUICK!
JUDGES ARE ON SCENE! KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN, CITIZEN!
The organisation does not require martyrs.' They'd all laughed about that one.
Don't require — but they sure get plenty.
Like the law is just going to let them walk away from this?
PEOPLE DYING ALL AROUND US AND STILL MAX CAPACITY IS HOLDING IT IN!
BUT HE CAN'T HOLD ON FOREVER, LOU, AND UNTIL THE REF DECLARES THIS ROUND OVER IT AIN'T OVER! CAPACITY COULD STILL LOSE THIS!
YOU GOTTA ANNOUNCE THE RESULT!
ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND? GET OUTA HERE!

Still, they'd never kidded themselves, never swallowed the company line. You weren't expected to, really. Everybody knew this was how it would end.
DUCK AND COVER, BABY!
It was a price they were willing to pay.
YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS TO MAX! I AIN'T GONNA LET HIM FAIL JUST 'COS YOU'RE TOO DAMN YELLOW TO DO YOUR DUTY!
L-L-LEMME GO!
MAKE THE ANNOUNCEMENT!
VAROOOOOM
SLUGHEX
AND-AND THE W-WINNER OF ROUND FOUR, THE BLANCMANGE — M-MUH-MUH-MAX CAPACITY!
THERE'S THE ROUND FOUR RESULT — AND WE'RE INTO A SUDDEN DEATH GORGE OUT!
AND LOOK OUT, YOUNG AND OLD!
HERE BLOWS BIG MAX - !

JET BARF!
IT'S A BIG ONE, LOU!
HUH?
SPLODDZZZZ

CAN'T FREAKIN' SEE —
UHH – .!
JINGA.!
YOU DID GOOD, KID. SHOWED THOSE MEGGERS.
His turn now.
He's tried to figure out good words to say, when the time comes. It's here now...
THIS IS FOR ALL THE LITTLE PEOPLE.!
EH?

IT'S GONE ALL QUIET, FRANK! FOR THOSE OF YOU JUST JOINING US WE'RE HERE AT THE JELLY BOWL WHERE WE'VE HAD A BIT OF AN INCIDENT!
THAT'S RIGHT, LOU! WE WERE AT TWO-ONE — NOW TWO-TWO — IN THE LIGHT HIPPOWEIGHT BOUT BETWEEN FAT BOY BOB AND MAX CAPACITY WHEN ALL HELL BROKE LOOSE!
MAYBE THERE IS A WAY OUT OF THIS!
IN THE RING I CAN SEE THE PARTICIPANTS PICKING THEMSELVES UP AND — UH-OH! FAT BOY'S TRAINER SKINNY MUFFIN IS LOOKING AGITATED THERE!
HE'S DEAD! DEAD! TAKEN IN HIS PRIME! OH WOE!
A TRAGEDY! AND IT CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING!
WH-WHAT?
FAT BOY AIN'T FIT TO CONTINUE! THE CONTEST GOES TO MAX CAPACITY!
GEE! I'M BACK INNA GAME!
PITY IT HADDA BE IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES...
EVERYBODY, KEEP YOUR HANDS WHERE WE CAN SEE THEM.
THIS WAY!

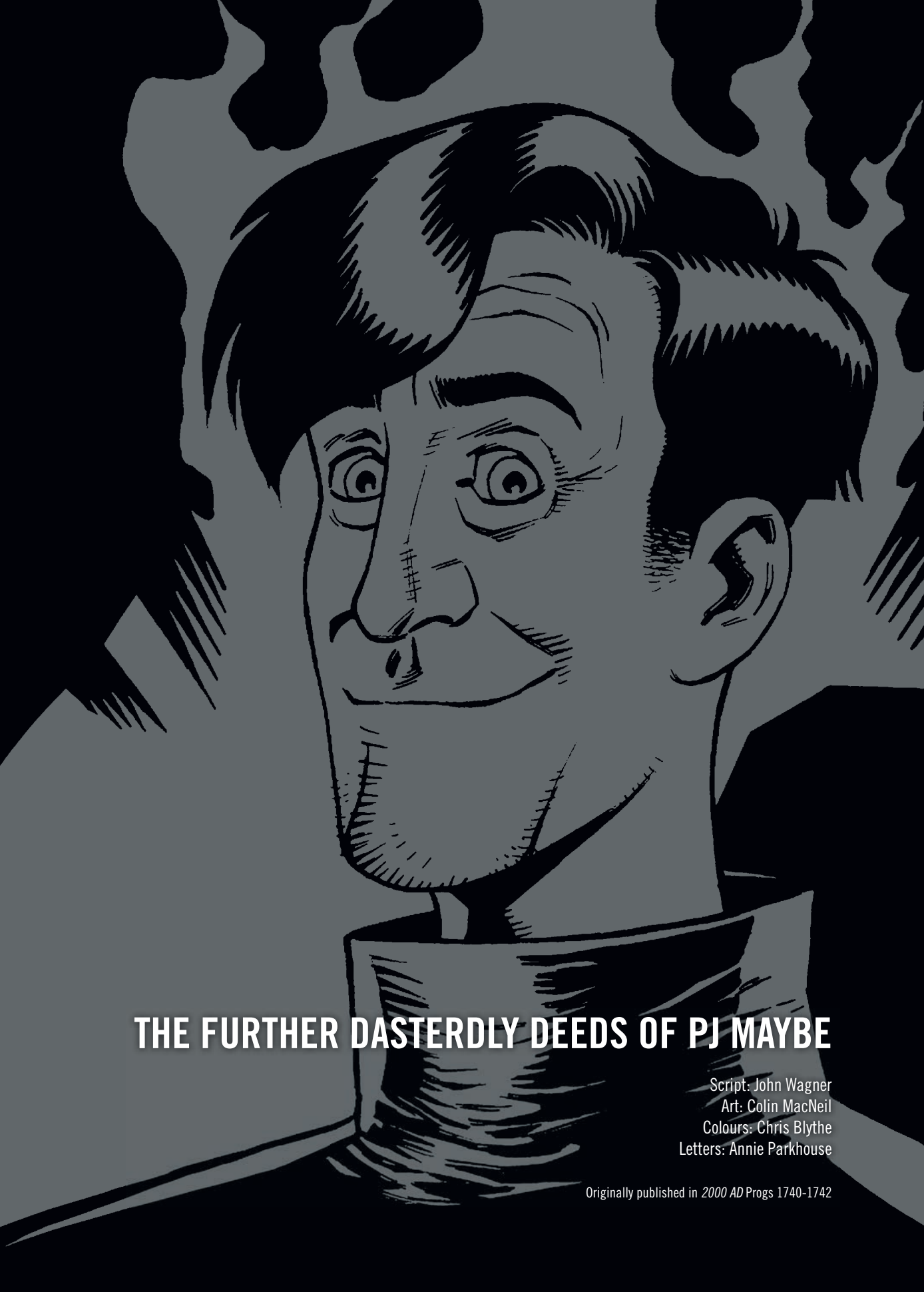
THEY'RE HARDLY INTO CENTRAL WHEN HERSHEY TAKES THE FIRST HIT.
PLATFORM-C36
C42
THE RAGERS AREN'T EXPECTING OPPOSITION FROM THEIR DIRECTION AND THEY NAIL TWO, MAYBE THREE IN QUICK TIME.
HERSHEY - .!
HERSHEY

THINK I CAN STILL USE IT.
CAN HAPPEN TO ANYONE. NOT BECAUSE YOU'RE RUSTY OR ANYTHING.
THANKS FOR THOSE WORDS OF SUPPORT.
THE SECOND WOUND, THOUGH, THAT'S THE BAD ONE.
JUST WHEN IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE GOT THE SITUATION WRAPPED UP —
STOP WHERE YOU ARE! FLAT ON THE FLOOR! DON'T COME ANY CLOSER!
YOU HEARD!
WE'LL WIN IN THE END, YOU KNOW.
WADDDDCCMM

WHEN THE DUST SETTLES HERSHEY'S LYING THERE WITH A LUMP OF THE CREEP'S JAW IN HER NECK
CODE RED, WE HAVE A BLEEDER! MEDICS REQUIRED! THAT'S IMMEDIATE!
Hard to believe, but maybe Zero's bucked the odds.
NO SIGN OF HIM!

No better place to lose himself than in a crowd.
The organisation has safe houses, sympathisers. They've been given numbers to memorise. Never thought he'd get a chance to use them.
SOMETHIN'S UP MY NOSE - !
GET A LOAD OF HIM!
EEWWW — THAT'S VOM!
HEY, SICKBAG!
SPONK
GET HIM!
KILL HIM!
STINK OF SICK! STINK OF SICK!
H-HEY - !

ALL SITUATIONS UNDER CONTROL. UNITS PURSUING FUGITIVES VICINITY JELLY BOWL, GROVER WASHINGTON SQUARE AND PUTKIN.
FULL CASUALTY REPORT AND RESPONSE STATS AS SOON AS YOU HAVE THEM.
SHE LOST A LOT OF BLOOD. IF YOU HADN'T CLAMPED THAT WOUND WE'D PROBABLY HAVE LOST HER.
I TRUST YOU FOUND YOUR EVENING INSTRUCTIVE.
IT'S BEEN LIKE A DREAM COME TRUE.
GLAD TO HEAR IT. WOULDN'T LIKE TO THINK IT HAD PUT YOU OFF.
ALTOGETHER, NOT THE BEST REINDUCTION TO THE STREETS —
CONTROL, I'M FINISHED HERE. STILL ALL QUIET?
AFFIRMATIVE.
VERY WELL. RETURNING TO SECTOR HOUSE.
WE HAVE REPORTS OF AN INCIDENT, HARDCRETE PLAZA. THAT'S ON YOUR ROUTE, CHIEF.
LOOKS LIKE ANOTHER STONING.
ROGER. ON MY WAY.!

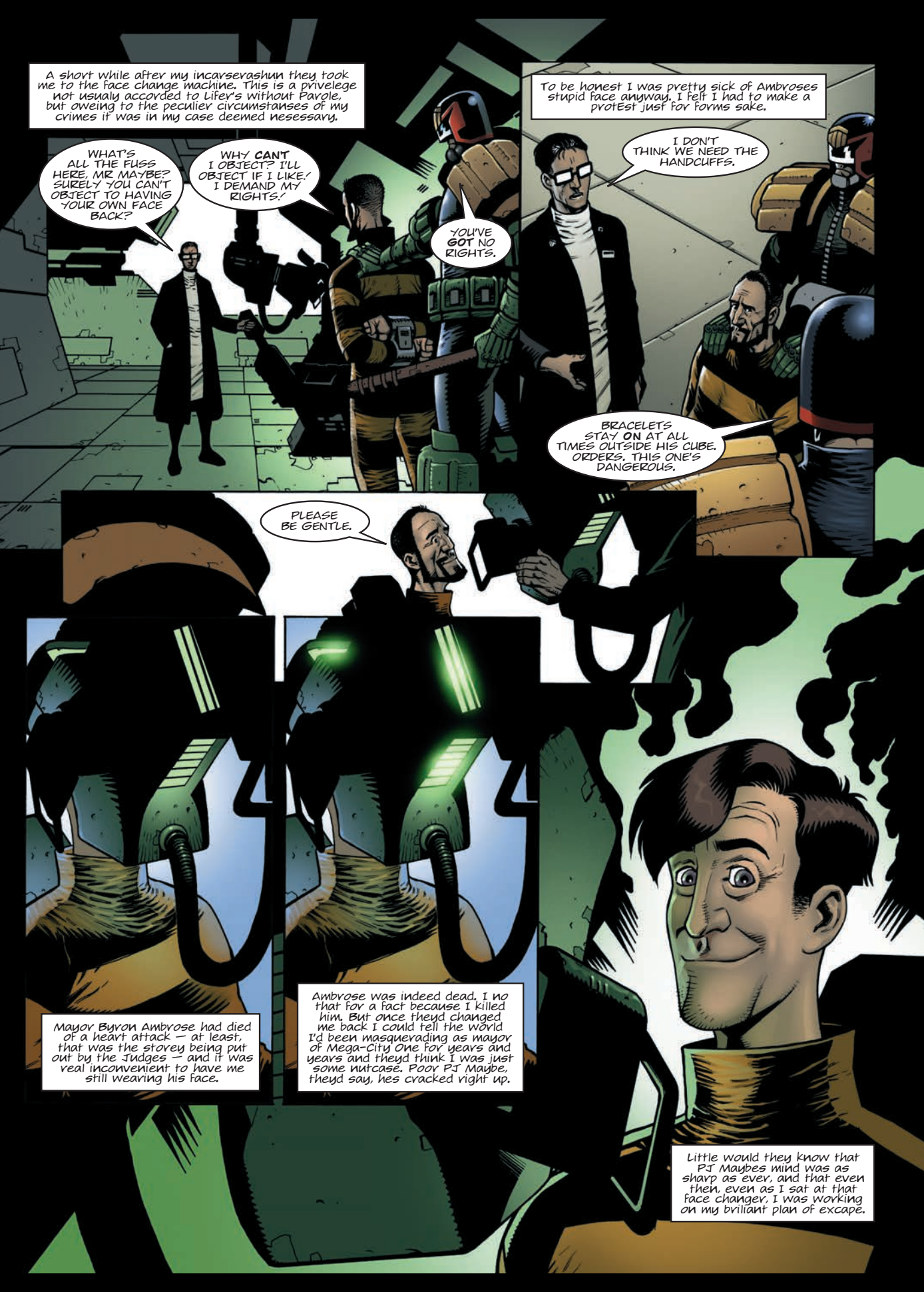


THE FURTHER DASTERDLY DEEDS OF PJ MAYBE

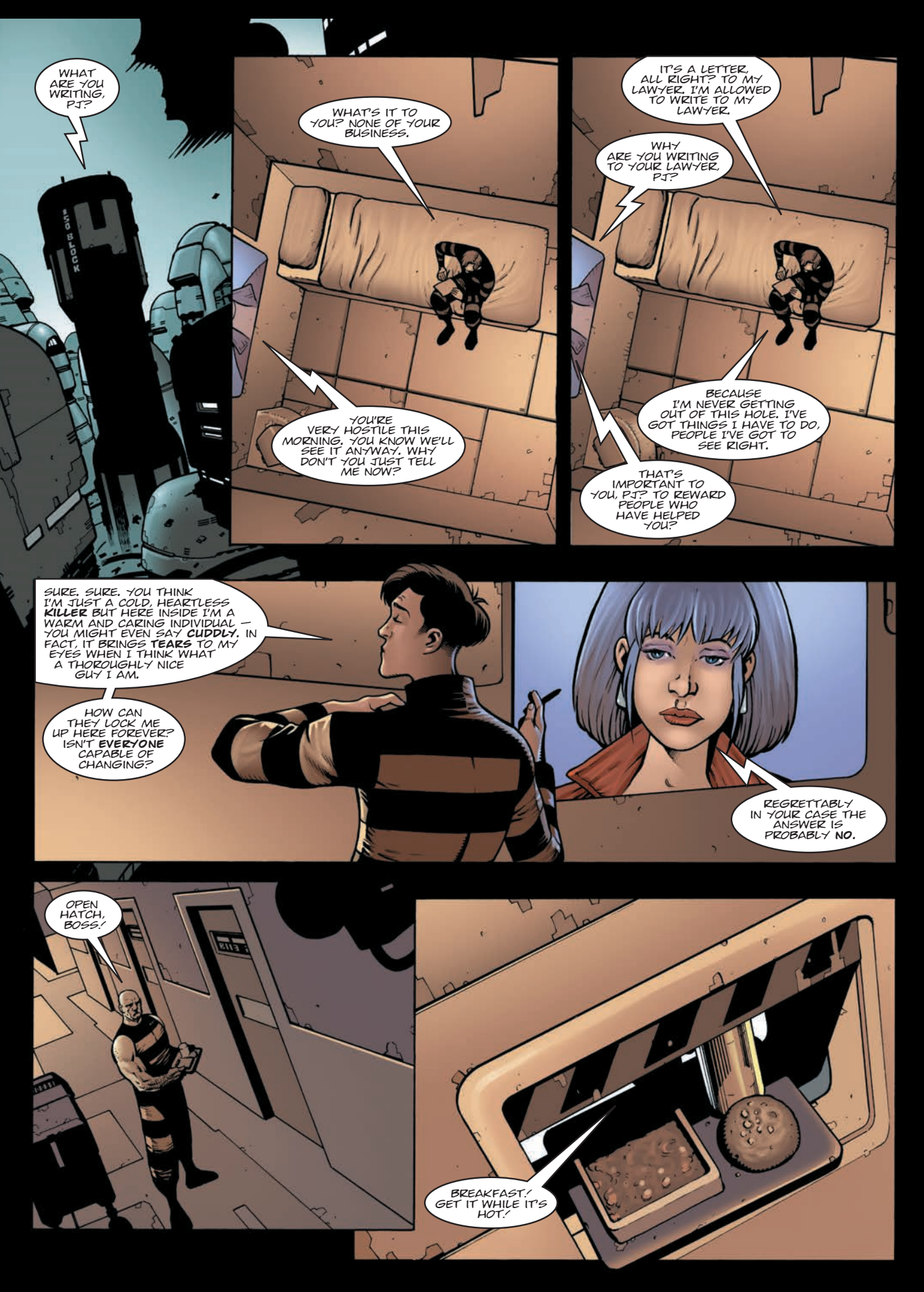
Script: John Wagner
Art: Colin MacNeil
Colours: Chris Blythe
Letters: Annie Parkhouse

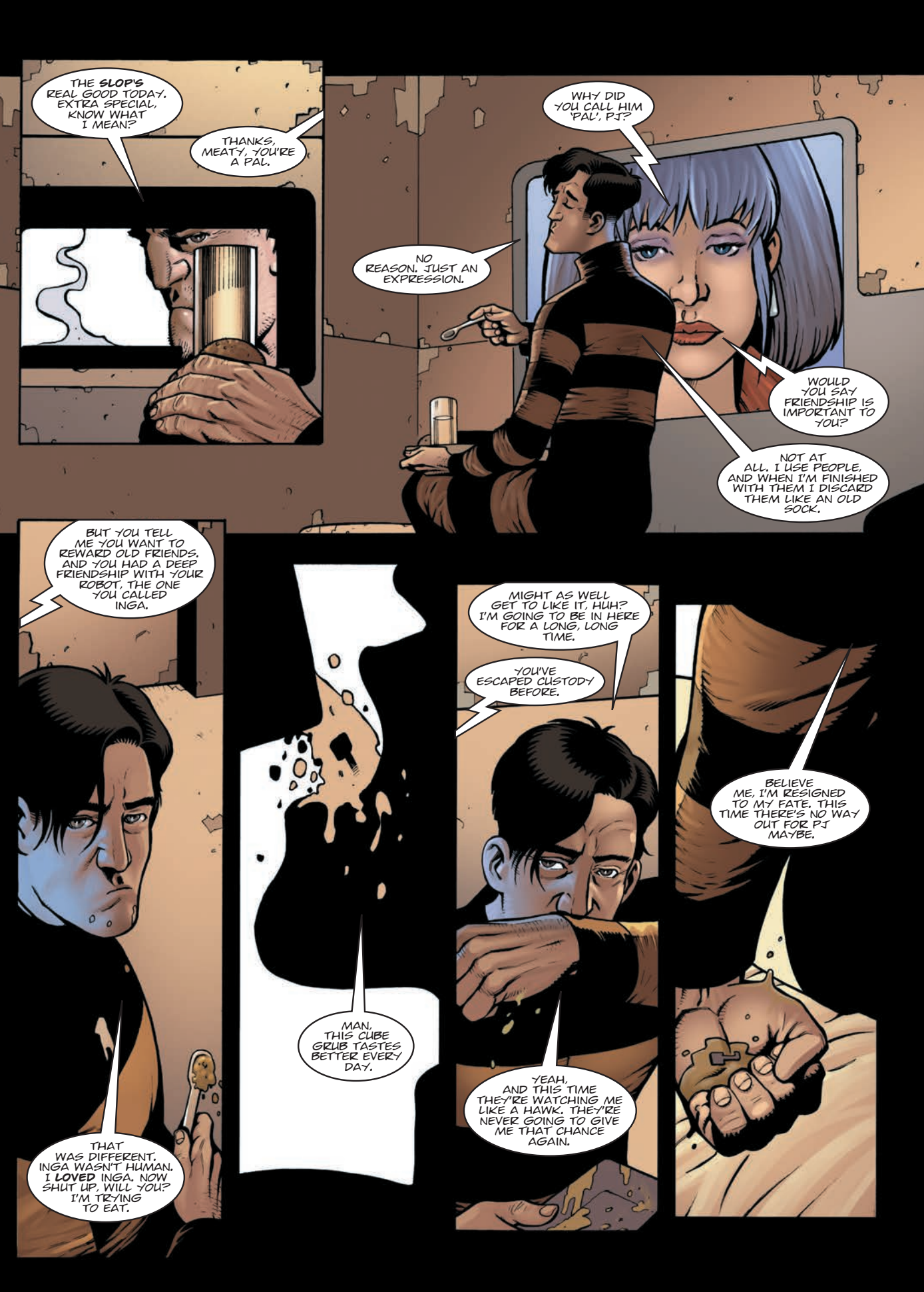
Originally published in *2000 AD* Progs 1740-1742

ISO-BLOCK 4 —
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME! I'M MAYOR BYRON AMBROSE AND I'M BEING HELD AGAINST MY WILL! I'VE DONE NOTHING! I'M INNOCENT! WON'T SOMEBODY HELP ME?
KEEP IT UP, PJ. NOBODY'S LISTENING.
MOVE ALONG!

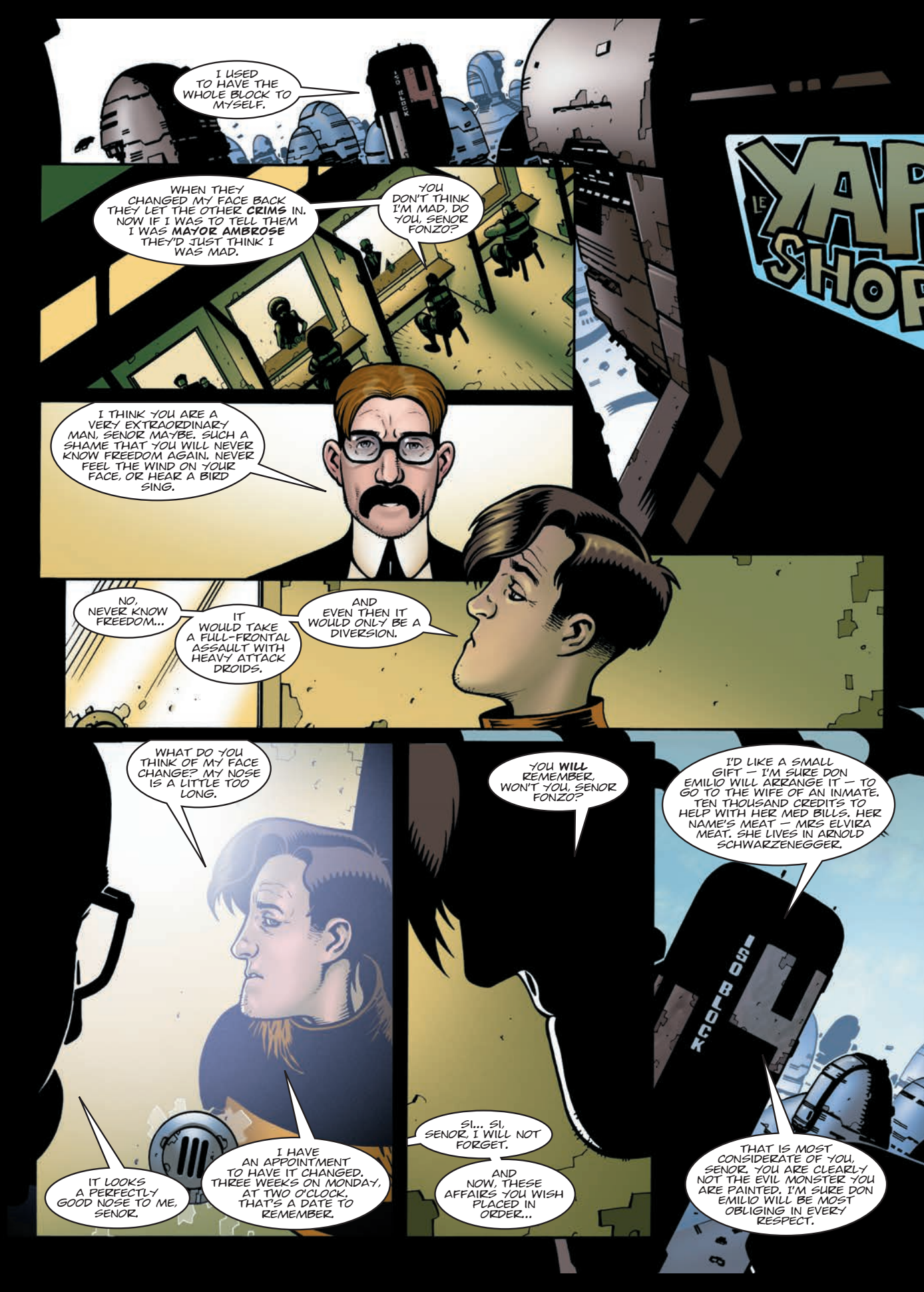

A short while after my incarserashun they took me to the face change machine. This is a privelege not usualy accorded to Lifer's without Parole, but oweing to the peculier circumstanses of my crimes it was in my case deemed nesessary.
WHAT'S ALL THE FUSS HERE, MR MAYBE? SURELY YOU CAN'T OBJECT TO HAVING YOUR OWN FACE BACK?
WHY CANT I OBJECT? I'LL OBJECT IF I LIKE! I DEMAND MY RIGHTS!
YOU'VE GOT NO RIGHTS.
To be honest I was pretty sick of Ambroses stupid face anyway. I felt I had to make a protest just for forms sake.
I DON'T THINK WE NEED THE HANDCUFFS.
BRACELETS STAY ON AT ALL TIMES OUTSIDE HIS CUBE. ORDERS. THIS ONE'S DANGEROUS.
PLEASE BE GENTLE.
Mayor Byron Ambrose had died of a heart attack — at least, that was the stovey being put out by the Judges — and it was real inconvenient to have me still wearing his face.
Ambrose was indeed dead. I no that for a fact because I killed him. But once theyd changed me back I could tell the world I'd been masquerading as mayor of Mega-City One for years and years and theyd think I was just some nutcase. Poor PJ Maybe, theyd say, hes cracked right up.
Little would they know that PJ Maybes mind was as sharp as ever, and that even then, even as I sat at that face changer, I was working on my briliant plan of excape.

GRAND HALL OF JUSTICE. MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF FIVE...
NEXT ITEM, PHILIP JANET MAYBE...
NOW THAT A FACE CHANGE HAS BEEN EFFECTED ON THE PRISONER THE PROPOSAL IS TO RE-OPEN ISO-BLOCK 4 FOR OTHER INMATES. COMMENTS? OBJECTIONS?
YOU ALL KNOW MY OPINION. IF MAYBE HAD BEEN EXECUTED LIKE HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE QUESTION WOULDN'T ARISE.
THE FACE CHANGE TOOK?
INDEED. HE'S BEEN RETURNED TO HIS NORMAL APPEARANCE.
I'LL SECOND THAT.
WE'VE TALKED ALL THIS THROUGH. THE DECISION'S BEEN MADE.
DREDD?
WE CAN DO WITH THE ADDED CUBE SPACE, THAT'S FOR SURE.
IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO CHANGE OUR MINDS. IF NONE OF YOU HAVE THE INCLINATION I'M HAPPY TO GO DOWN THERE RIGHT NOW AND CARRY OUT SENTENCE.
YOU KNOW THE SHRINKS ARE RUNNING A FIVE-YEAR STUDY ON HIM.
THEY'RE TRYING TO DISCOVER WHAT MAKES A COLD-BLOODED KILLER LIKE HIM TICK. THEY INTERVIEW HIM EVERY DAY. I THINK THAT'S IMPORTANT.
THEY WANT TO KNOW WHAT MAKES HIM TICK JUST LOOK AT THE CASE NOTES. PLENTY OF ENLIGHTENMENT THERE — PLENTY OF BODIES TOO.
AS LONG AS PJ MAYBE IS ALIVE, HE REMAINS A SERIOUS DANGER TO THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY.
ISO-BLOCK 4 IS MAXIMUM SECURITY. THERE'S NO POSSIBILITY OF ESCAPE. I REALLY DON'T SEE YOUR WORRY, DREDD.
WE STILL HAVE TWELVE ITEMS HERE —
LET HIM GO.
YOU CAN SEE HE HATES EVERY MINUTE OF THIS.
FINE. I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU, THEN. DON'T COME CRYING TO ME WHEN IT BLOWS UP IN YOUR FACES.
IF THERE'S NO FURTHER BUSINESS I'LL GET BACK ON THE STREETS.
WE'LL PROBABLY GET THINGS DONE MORE QUICKLY WITHOUT HIM.


WHAT ARE YOU WRITING, PJ?
WHAT'S IT TO YOU? NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
YOU'RE VERY HOSTILE THIS MORNING. YOU KNOW WE'LL SEE IT ANYWAY. WHY DON'T YOU JUST TELL ME NOW?
IT'S A LETTER, ALL RIGHT? TO MY LAWYER. I'M ALLOWED TO WRITE TO MY LAWYER.
WHY ARE YOU WRITING TO YOUR LAWYER, PJ?
BECAUSE I'M NEVER GETTING OUT OF THIS HOLE. I'VE GOT THINGS I HAVE TO DO, PEOPLE I'VE GOT TO SEE RIGHT.
THAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU, PJ? TO REWARD PEOPLE WHO HAVE HELPED YOU?
SURE. SURE. YOU THINK I'M JUST A COLD, HEARTLESS KILLER BUT HERE INSIDE I'M A WARM AND CARING INDIVIDUAL — YOU MIGHT EVEN SAY CUDDLY. IN FACT, IT BRINGS TEARS TO MY EYES WHEN I THINK WHAT A THOROUGHLY NICE GUY I AM.
HOW CAN THEY LOCK ME UP HERE FOREVER? ISN'T EVERYONE CAPABLE OF CHANGING?
REGRETTABLY IN YOUR CASE THE ANSWER IS PROBABLY NO.
OPEN HATCH, BOSS!
BREAKFAST! GET IT WHILE IT'S HOT!


THE SLOP'S REAL GOOD TODAY. EXTRA SPECIAL, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
THANKS, MEATY, YOU'RE A PAL.
WHY DID YOU CALL HIM 'PAL', PJ?
NO REASON. JUST AN EXPRESSION.
WOULD YOU SAY FRIENDSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO YOU?
NOT AT ALL. I USE PEOPLE, AND WHEN I'M FINISHED WITH THEM I DISCARD THEM LIKE AN OLD SOCK.
BUT YOU TELL ME YOU WANT TO REWARD OLD FRIENDS. AND YOU HAD A DEEP FRIENDSHIP WITH YOUR ROBOT, THE ONE YOU CALLED INGA.
THAT WAS DIFFERENT. INGA WASN'T HUMAN. I LOVED INGA. NOW SHUT UP, WILL YOU? I'M TRYING TO EAT.
MAN, THIS CUBE GRUB TASTES BETTER EVERY DAY.
MIGHT AS WELL GET TO LIKE IT, HUH? I'M GOING TO BE IN HERE FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.
YOU'VE ESCAPED CUSTODY BEFORE.
YEAH, AND THIS TIME THEY'RE WATCHING ME LIKE A HAWK. THEY'RE NEVER GOING TO GIVE ME THAT CHANCE AGAIN.
BELIEVE ME, I'M RESIGNED TO MY FATE. THIS TIME THERE'S NO WAY OUT FOR PJ MAYBE.

BUENOS DIAS, SENOR FONZO.
DON EMILIO?
BY THE POOL, SENOR. HE IS EXPECTING YOU.
SO?
IT IS HERE. IT CAME THIS MORNING.
ISO-BLOCK 4
MCIPS
Dear Senor Fonzo,
My name is PJ Maybe. You may have herd of me as I am a notorius murdrer whos name is feared the world over. But you will No me better as Don Pedro Montez, an identitty I used for several year's. Please menshun me to our mutual friend Don Emilio. I hope that unsitely growth on his left buttok is'nt still giving him trouble.
As circumstances now find me ocupying a cube in Iso-block 4 with no hope of releese, I have desided to put my affaires in order. To that end I would be greatful if you would do me the courtesy of coming to see me.
YOU THINK IT'S HIM?
HE KNOWS YOU WORK FOR ME. AND HE KNOWS ABOUT THE GROWTH. THAT'S PRIVILEGED INFORMATION. MONTEZ SAW IT ONCE, WHEN WE WERE... PLEASURING OURSELVES.
NO INSINUATIONS, FONZO. MUD WRESTLING WITH SOME NUNS, THAT'S ALL.
SI, SENOR.
SO... PJ MAYBE. MADRE GROD. I ALWAYS **KNEW** THERE WAS SOMETHING ABOUT MONTEZ... CUNNING DEVIL.
WHAT SHALL I DO, DON EMILIO?
I'LL ALWAYS BE IN HIS DEBT AFTER THAT BUSINESS IN RIO. HE KNOWS THAT. AND DON EMILIO LOPEZ HIDALGO IS A MAN OF HONOUR. IF I CAN HELP, I WILL.
GO AND SEE HIM. SEE WHAT HE WANTS. HE'S **UP** TO SOMETHING, FONZO, MARK MY WORDS. CUNNING DEVIL...


I USED TO HAVE THE WHOLE BLOCK TO MYSELF.
WHEN THEY CHANGED MY FACE BACK THEY LET THE OTHER **CRIMS** IN. NOW IF I WAS TO TELL THEM I WAS **MAYOR AMBROSE** THEY'D JUST THINK I WAS MAD.
YOU DON'T THINK I'M MAD, DO YOU, SENOR FONZO?
I THINK YOU ARE A VERY EXTRAORDINARY MAN, SENOR MAYBE. SUCH A SHAME THAT YOU WILL NEVER KNOW FREEDOM AGAIN. NEVER FEEL THE WIND ON YOUR FACE, OR HEAR A BIRD SING.
NO, NEVER KNOW FREEDOM...
IT WOULD TAKE A FULL-FRONTAL ASSAULT WITH HEAVY ATTACK DROIDS.
AND EVEN THEN IT WOULD ONLY BE A DIVERSION.
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MY FACE CHANGE? MY NOSE IS A LITTLE TOO LONG.
IT LOOKS A PERFECTLY GOOD NOSE TO ME, SENOR.
I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT TO HAVE IT CHANGED. THREE WEEKS ON MONDAY, AT TWO O'CLOCK. THAT'S A DATE TO REMEMBER.
YOU **WILL** REMEMBER, WON'T YOU, SENOR FONZO?
SI... SI, SENOR, I WILL NOT FORGET.
AND NOW, THESE AFFAIRS YOU WISH PLACED IN ORDER...
I'D LIKE A SMALL GIFT — I'M SURE DON EMILIO WILL ARRANGE IT — TO GO TO THE WIFE OF AN INMATE. TEN THOUSAND CREDITS TO HELP WITH HER MED BILLS. HER NAME'S MEAT — MRS ELVIRA MEAT. SHE LIVES IN ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER.
THAT IS MOST CONSIDERATE OF YOU, SENOR. YOU ARE CLEARLY NOT THE EVIL MONSTER YOU ARE PAINTED. I'M SURE DON EMILIO WILL BE MOST OBLIGING IN EVERY RESPECT.

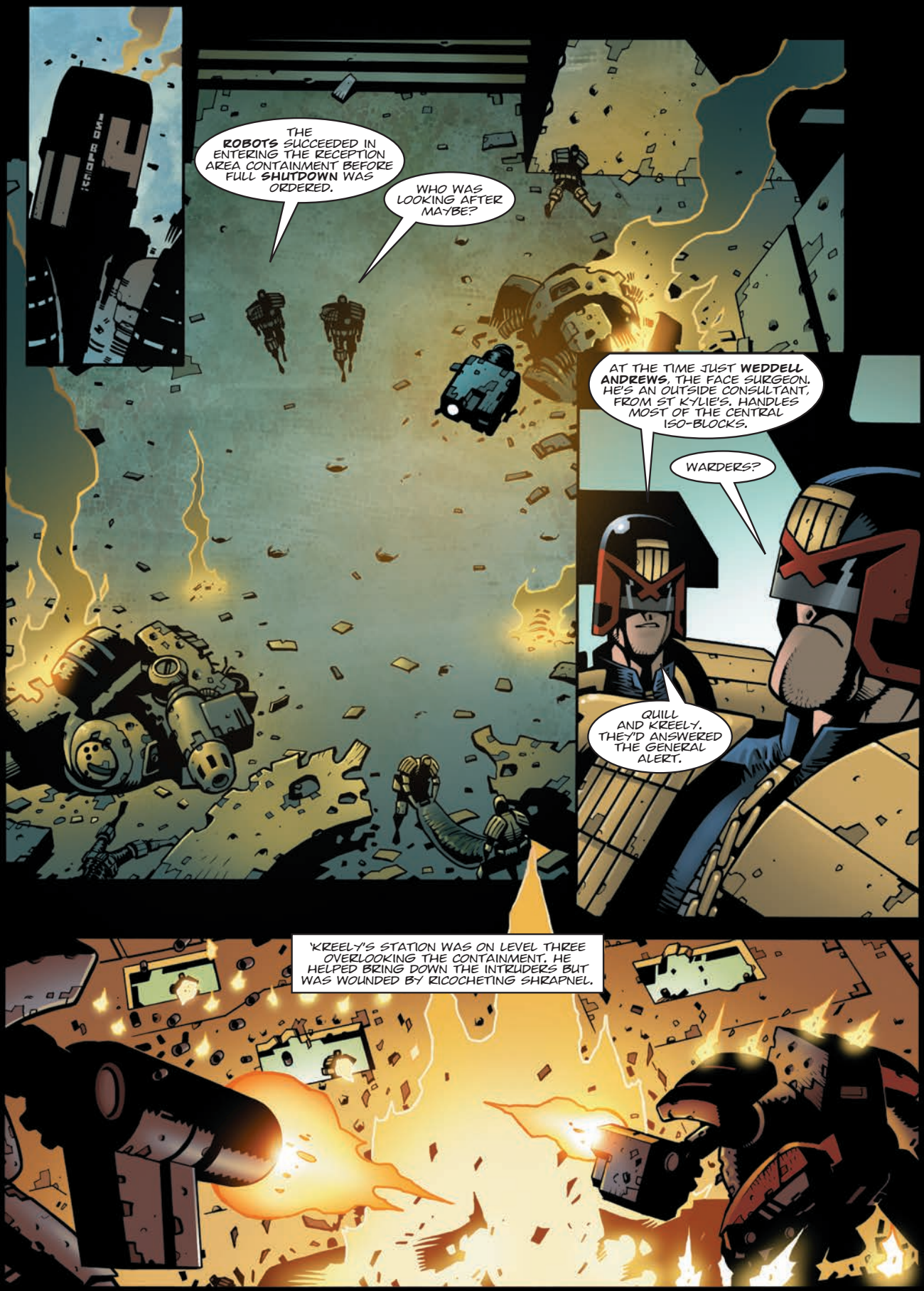
HE'S REQUESTING AN ASSAULT ON THE ISO-BLOCK. THE NINTH OF NEXT MONTH, AT TWO O'CLOCK.
WHAT TEMERITY! WHAT AN OPERATOR! YOU HAVE TO ADMIRE HIM, FONZO. THE MAN NEVER GIVES UP.
WHAT'S HE PLANNING, I WONDER?
I SAY DON'T DO IT, DON EMILIO. IT'S TOO RISKY. YOU DON'T NEED THIS MAN. HE IS IN NO POSITION TO HURT YOU.
YES, YES, BUT THERE IS **OBLIGATION**, FONZO. AND I AM INTRIGUED TO SEE WHAT HE WILL DO.
HAVE NO FEAR. THERE IS NO NEED TO SHOW MY HAND IN IT.
THE **HOVERPORTER** CAME OVERHEAD AT 14:11. THE GUARD TOWER FIRED WARNING SHOTS AND WHEN IT CONTINUED TO DESCEND DIRECTED FIRE AT THE VEHICLE.
WHERE WAS **MAYBE** AT THIS TIME?

MR MAYBE. DO COME IN.
I'VE RE-CHECKED ALL OUR REFERENCE AND I MUST SAY THE NOSE LOOKS QUITE IN PROPORTION TO THE FACE.
JUST SEEMS A LITTLE TOO BIG TO ME, DOC. IT'S REALLY GETTING ME DOWN.
VERY WELL, MR MAYBE, AS YOU LIKE. CAN'T HAVE DISAPPOINTED CUSTOMERS.
WOULD YOU SAY ABOUT THAT MUCH?
THAT WILL DO NICELY.
MAYBE P J
YOU SEEM RATHER NERVOUS, MR MAYBE. SURELY OUR FACE-CHANGE MACHINE ISN'T WORRYING YOU?
WELL, YOU KNOW. YOU CAN NEVER BE SURE WITH THESE THINGS...
RELAX, I NEVER LOSE A PATIENT.
14:11. They were late — if they were coming at all.
WE'LL JUST GET HER WARMED UP, SEND THE DETAILS OVER FROM THE HOLOGROMITER —
WHAT'S UP WITH YOU, MAYBE?
HOLY CREMOLA! WHAT'S GOING ON OUT THERE?
IT'S NOT RESPONDING! BRING IT DOWN!

'FIRE FROM THE GUARD TOWER BROUGHT THE HOVERPORTER DOWN, BUT COULD NOT PREVENT IT UNLOADING.'
THAT'S THE GENERAL ALERT.'
WE CAN'T LEAVE MAYBE.
HE'S UNDER RESTRAINT. HE CAN'T COME TO ANY HARM. GO, I'LL BE PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT HERE.
ARROOGAH HARROOGAH HARROOGA

THOSE ARE BELL AND WARREN MARK 9 COMBAT DROIDS. NOT EASY TO GET WITHOUT PROPER AUTHORISATION.
WE'RE LOOKING INTO IT.
AND FIND OUT WHERE THE HOVERPORTER CAME FROM.
YES SIR, WE'RE DOING THAT, SIR.
SORRY, I REALISE THIS IS ALL SECOND NATURE TO YOU, KOOPER. I'M JUST A LITTLE DISAPPOINTED THIS SHOULD HAVE HAPPENED IN THE FIRST PLACE.
YES SIR. BIT OF A FOUL-UP.
BOOM
GOODNESS! IT'S A WARZONE OUT THERE!

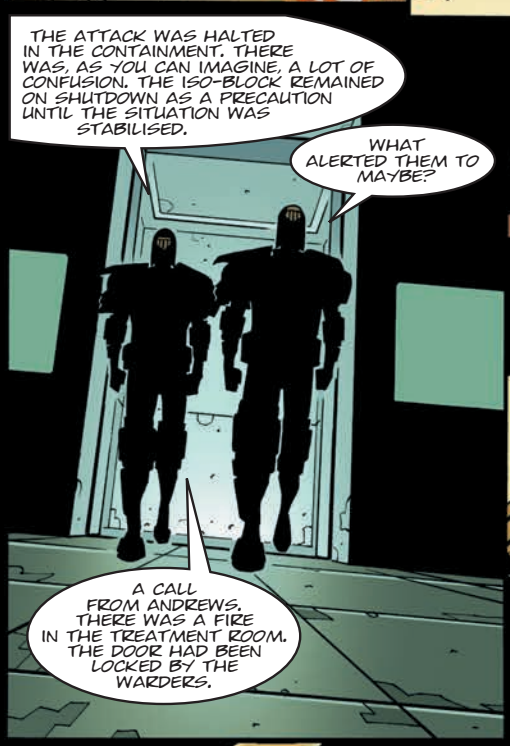
THEY'RE FIRING **MISSILES**! OH MY!
THEY MUST WANT SOMEONE OUT VERY BADL — **MR MAYBE**! WHAT THE DEVIL ARE YOU UP TO?
DAMNED KEY! COME ON! COME **ONNNN**!
SNIKK!
MR MAYBE, **DESIST**, I SAY!
CHUNK!
CHUNK!
THUNK!
WHAMMMK!


ISO BLOCK 4
THE ROBOTS SUCCEEDED IN ENTERING THE RECEPTION AREA CONTAINMENT BEFORE FULL SHUTDOWN WAS ORDERED.
WHO WAS LOOKING AFTER MAYBE?
AT THE TIME JUST WEDDELL ANDREWS, THE FACE SURGEON. HE'S AN OUTSIDE CONSULTANT, FROM ST KYLIE'S. HANDLES MOST OF THE CENTRAL ISO-BLOCKS.
WARDERS?
QUILL AND KREELY. THEY'D ANSWERED THE GENERAL ALERT.
'KREELY'S STATION WAS ON LEVEL THREE OVERLOOKING THE CONTAINMENT. HE HELPED BRING DOWN THE INTRUDERS BUT WAS WOUNDED BY RICOCHETING SHRAPNEL.

'QUILL WAS TRAPPED IN THE SOUTH ACCESS CORRIDOR WHEN THE BARRIERS CAME DOWN.'

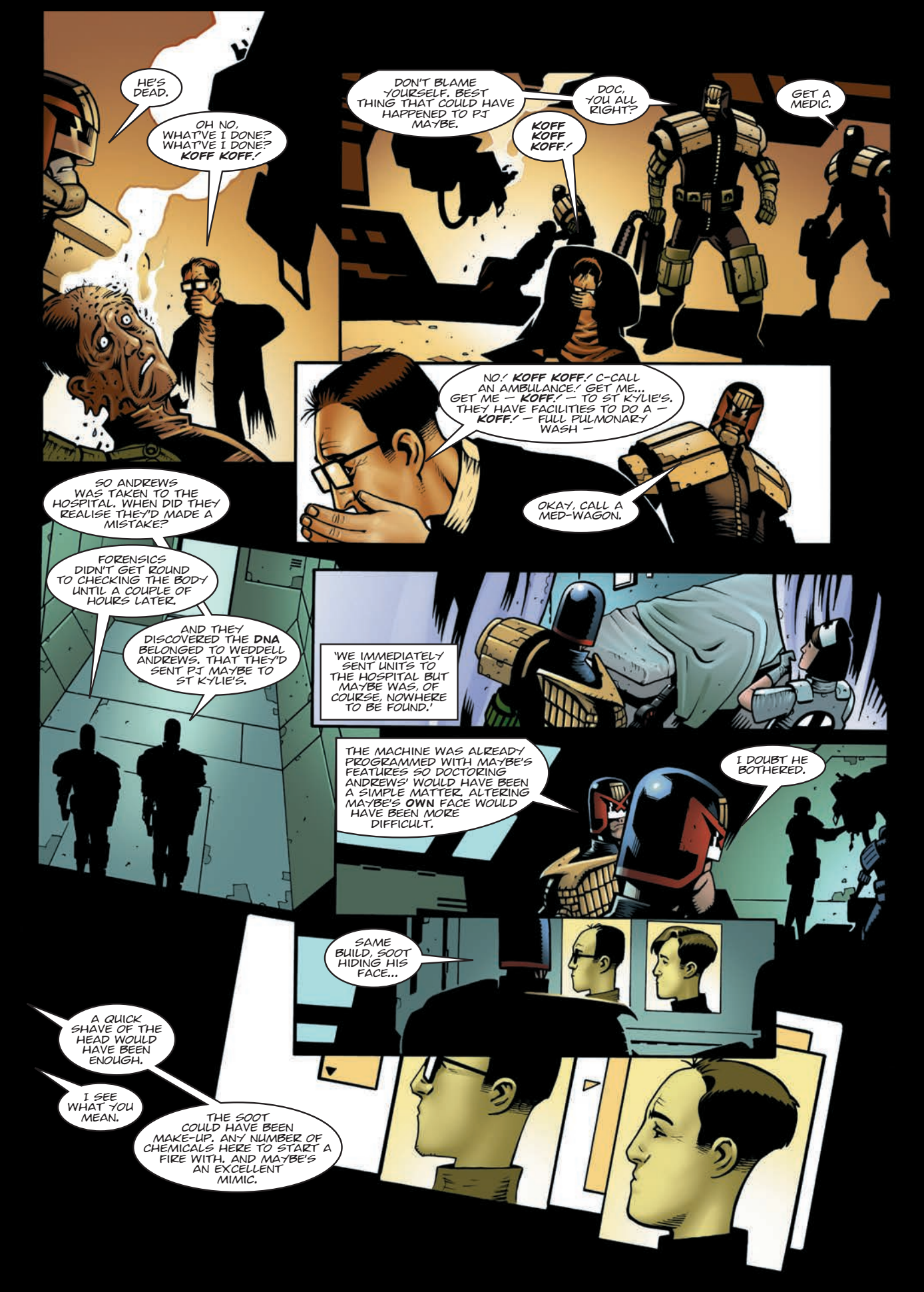
THEIR ORDERS WERE TO REMAIN WITH HIM AT ALL TIMES?
YES, SIR.

MAKE SURE THEY'RE PUNISHED. THREE YEARS MINIMUM.
YES, SIR.


THE ATTACK WAS HALTED IN THE CONTAINMENT. THERE WAS, AS YOU CAN IMAGINE, A LOT OF CONFUSION. THE ISO-BLOCK REMAINED ON SHUTDOWN AS A PRECAUTION UNTIL THE SITUATION WAS STABILISED.
WHAT ALERTED THEM TO MAYBE?
A CALL FROM ANDREWS. THERE WAS A FIRE IN THE TREATMENT ROOM. THE DOOR HAD BEEN LOCKED BY THE WARDERS.

OH, THANK GRUD.! KOFF.!

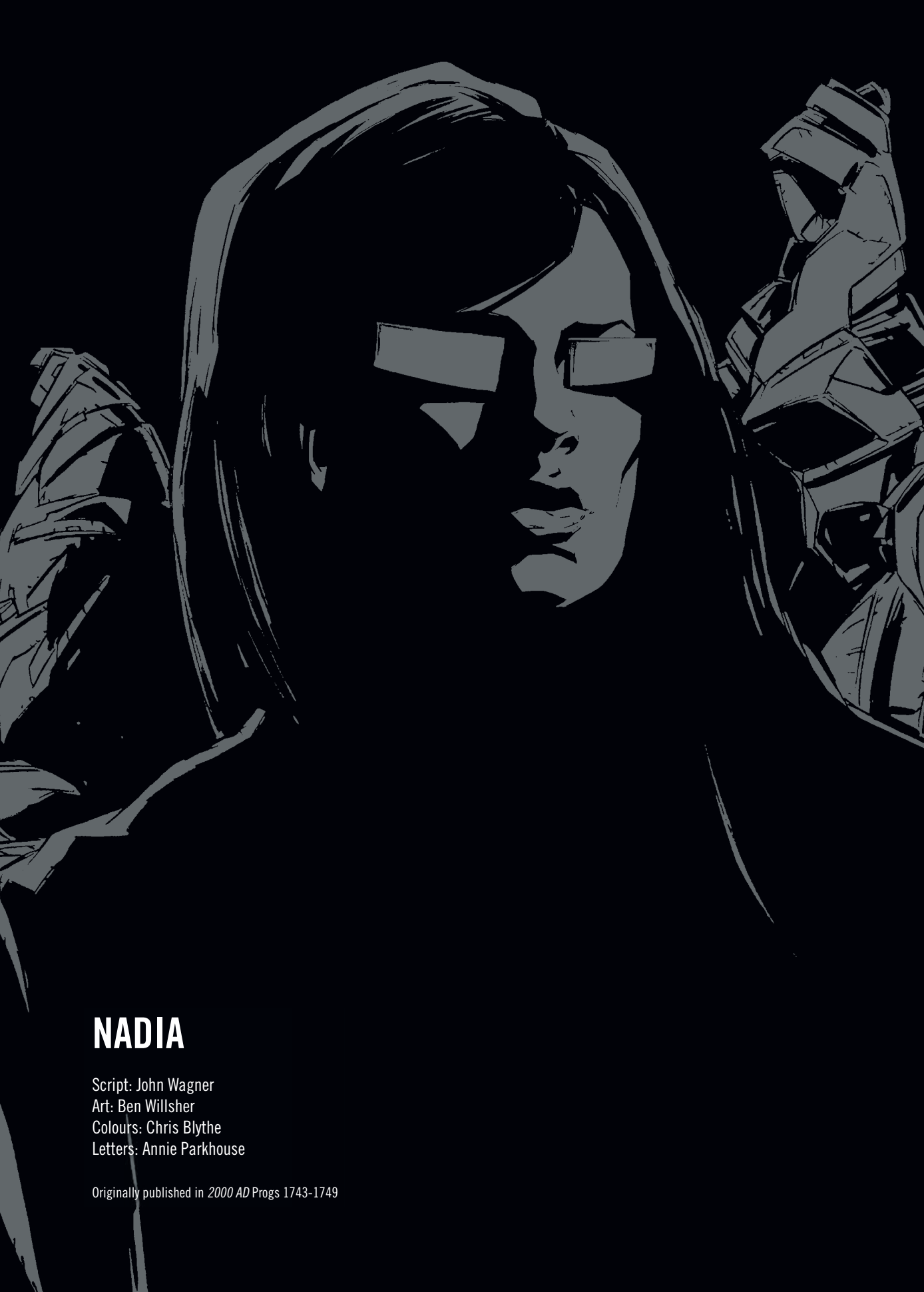
SOMETHING WENT WRONG.! I — KOFF.! — TRIED TO PUT IT OUT.!


HE'S DEAD.
OH NO, WHAT'VE I DONE? WHAT'VE I DONE? KOFF KOFF.!
DON'T BLAME YOURSELF. BEST THING THAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO PJ MAYBE.
DOC, YOU ALL RIGHT?
KOFF KOFF KOFF.!
GET A MEDIC.
NO.! KOFF KOFF.! C-CALL AN AMBULANCE.! GET ME... GET ME — KOFF.! — TO ST KYLIE'S. THEY HAVE FACILITIES TO DO A — KOFF.! — FULL PULMONARY WASH —
OKAY, CALL A MED-WAGON.
SO ANDREWS WAS TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL. WHEN DID THEY REALISE THEY'D MADE A MISTAKE?
FORENSICS DIDN'T GET ROUND TO CHECKING THE BODY UNTIL A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER.
AND THEY DISCOVERED THE DNA BELONGED TO WEDDELL ANDREWS. THAT THEY'D SENT PJ MAYBE TO ST KYLIE'S.
'WE IMMEDIATELY SENT UNITS TO THE HOSPITAL BUT MAYBE WAS, OF COURSE, NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.'
THE MACHINE WAS ALREADY PROGRAMMED WITH MAYBE'S FEATURES SO DOCTORING ANDREWS' WOULD HAVE BEEN A SIMPLE MATTER. ALTERING MAYBE'S OWN FACE WOULD HAVE BEEN MORE DIFFICULT.
I DOUBT HE BOTHERED.
SAME BUILD, SOOT HIDING HIS FACE...
A QUICK SHAVE OF THE HEAD WOULD HAVE BEEN ENOUGH.
I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN.
THE SOOT COULD HAVE BEEN MAKE-UP. ANY NUMBER OF CHEMICALS HERE TO START A FIRE WITH. AND MAYBE'S AN EXCELLENT MIMIC.

ER
ST SLIES
I new I had to put some distanse in befove the alarm went up.
Busses and zooms would have survaylance cams...
MAXIM
EP
PATZA PIZZA
Theyd find the scoober wherever I left it. I HAd to disappear without a trace. It was'nt going to be easy.
PARDON ME, SIR. BUT COULD YOU DIRECT US BACK ONTO THE CROSSTOWN SKED?
AS A MATTER OF FACT I'M HEADING THAT WAY MYSELF. WHY DON'T I HOP ON AND SHOW YOU?

IT WOULD TAKE A FULL FRONTAL ASSAULT WITH HEAVY ATTACK DROIDS, AND EVEN THEN IT WOULD ONLY BE A DIVERSION.
SOMEONE ACTUALLY **WATCHED** THIS?
IT'S MARKED AS CHECKED AND APPROVED.
THREE WEEKS ON MONDAY, AT TWO O'CLOCK. THAT'S A DATE TO REMEMBER. YOU **WILL** REMEMBER, WON'T YOU, SENOR FONZO?
SI... SI, SENOR, I WILL NOT FORGET.
THAT DIDN'T MAKE THEM SUSPICIOUS?
I'D LIKE A SMALL GIFT — I'M SURE DON EMILIO WILL ARRANGE IT — TO GO TO THE WIFE OF AN INMATE. TEN THOUSAND CREDITS TO HELP WITH HER MED BILLS. HER NAME'S MEAT — MRS ELVIRA MEAT. SHE LIVES IN ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER.
THAT IS MOST CONSIDERATE OF YOU, SENOR. YOU ARE CLEARLY NOT THE EVIL MONSTER YOU ARE PAINTED. I'M SURE DON EMILIO WILL BE MOST OBLIGING IN EVERY RESPECT.
WHO'S THE INMATE HERE?
CLAUDE MEAT, AKA **MEATY.** HALFWAY INTO A NINE STRETCH FOR FORGERY. I HAVE HIM ISOLATED FOR QUESTIONING.
NO DOUBT HE PERFORMED SOME SERVICE. A FORGER — DOCUMENTS, PERHAPS.
HE HAD ACCESS TO THE MACHINE SHOP. I THOUGHT PERHAPS A **KEY** TO THE MANACLES. WE DON'T KNOW HOW MAYBE DID THAT.
THAT'S POSSIBLE. WHAT A FOUL-UP.!
CARRY ON HERE, KOOPER. LOOK INTO THIS **DON EMILIO** AND HIS HENCHMAN **FONZO.** HAVE A FULL DOSSIER ON MY DESK BY THE MORNING. I'M GOING TO HAVE A WORD WITH THE **WARDEN** ABOUT **STANDARDS** AT THIS ISO-BLOCK.
WE'VE GOT AN **ALL-UNITS** OUT ON HIM, SIR. WE COULD GET LUCKY.
KOOPER

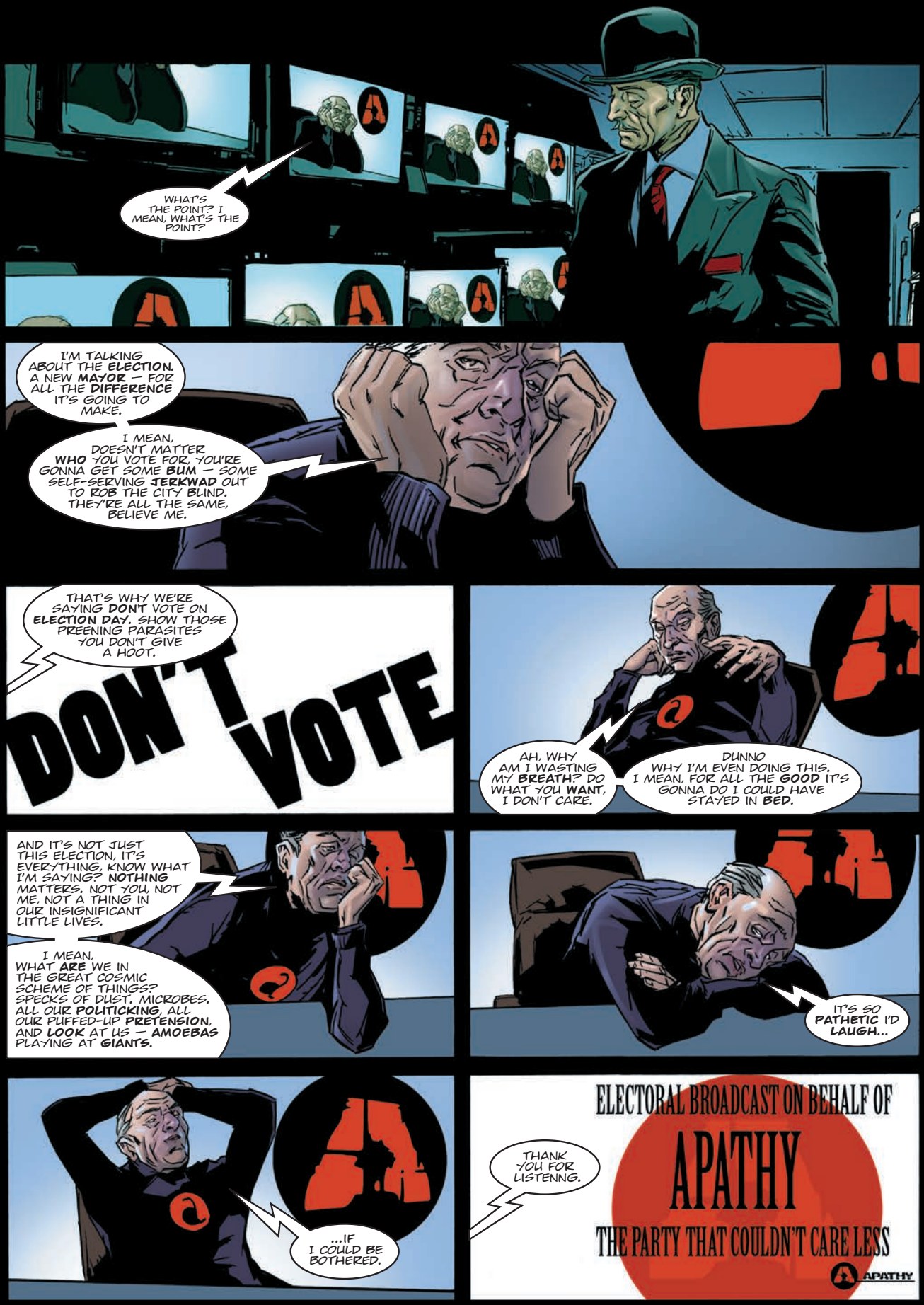
ALL UNITS, BE ON LOOKOUT FOR PJ MAYBE, ABSCONDED ISO-BLOCK 4. CHECK BIKE SCAN FOR STATS AND PHOTO LIKENESS. THIS IS PRIORITY ONE.
BE WARNED, MAYBE MAY BE ARMED AND IS HIGHLY DANGEROUS.
IT'S NOT HIM.
HOW CAN WE BE SURE? THIS CREEP'S THE MASTER OF DISGUISE.
It had been almost ridiculousley easy. The organs of laW and order are'nt all theyre craked up to be. Theyv got the citizen's living and trembling in fear — if only they new how incompetant they are.
But I new. PJ Maybe new.
Now I could relax in saftey and plan my next move. Not mayor again — theyd be watching for that. But somthing intresting.
Perhaps I should get out of the city altogether. That would be the safest opshun.
But no. This is where my destiny lie. This is my city, where I beloNg. And I will once again hold it in the palm of my hand.
But for now, for tonight, there was just me, the shampane, and freedom.'

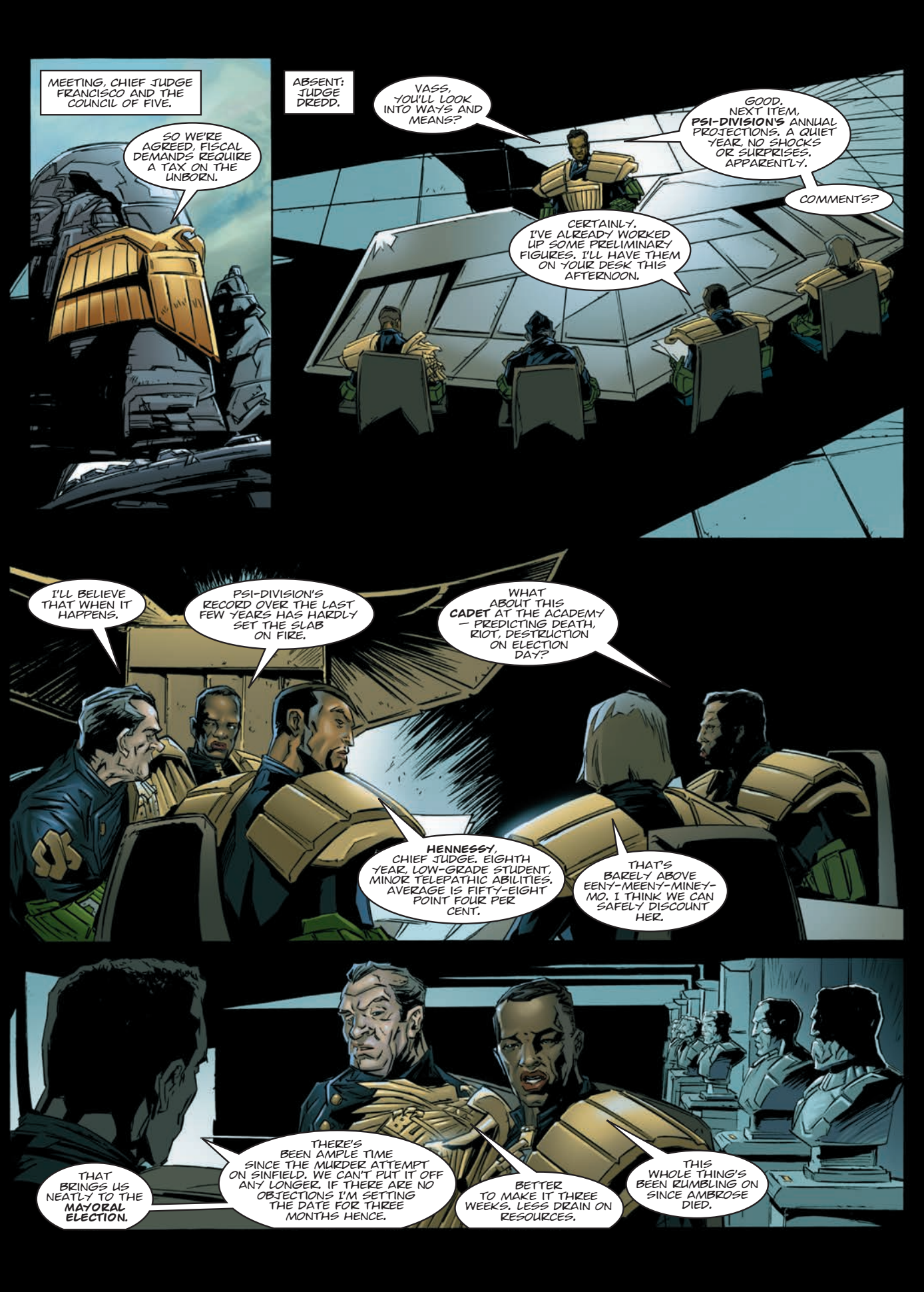


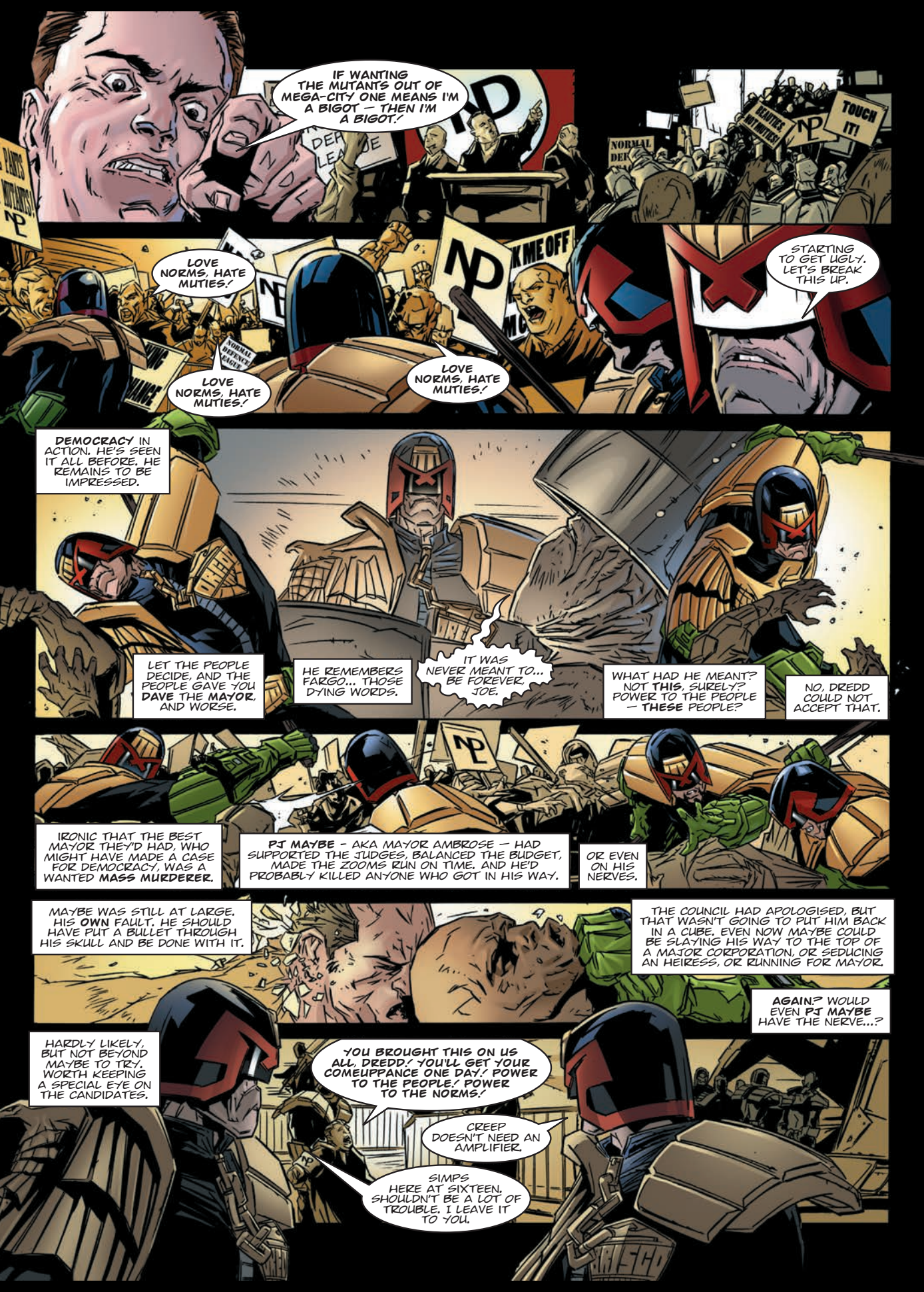
NADIA

Script: John Wagner
Art: Ben Willsher
Colours: Chris Blythe
Letters: Annie Parkhouse

Originally published in *2000 AD* Progs 1743-1749


WHAT'S THE POINT? I MEAN, WHAT'S THE POINT?
I'M TALKING ABOUT THE ELECTION. A NEW MAYOR — FOR ALL THE DIFFERENCE IT'S GOING TO MAKE.
I MEAN, DOESN'T MATTER WHO YOU VOTE FOR, YOU'RE GONNA GET SOME BUM — SOME SELF-SERVING JERKWAD OUT TO ROB THE CITY BLIND. THEY'RE ALL THE SAME, BELIEVE ME.
THAT'S WHY WE'RE SAYING DON'T VOTE ON ELECTION DAY. SHOW THOSE PREENING PARASITES YOU DON'T GIVE A HOOT.
DON'T VOTE
AH, WHY AM I WASTING MY BREATH? DO WHAT YOU WANT, I DON'T CARE.
DUNNO WHY I'M EVEN DOING THIS. I MEAN, FOR ALL THE GOOD IT'S GONNA DO I COULD HAVE STAYED IN BED.
AND IT'S NOT JUST THIS ELECTION, IT'S EVERYTHING, KNOW WHAT I'M SAYING? NOTHING MATTERS. NOT YOU, NOT ME, NOT A THING IN OUR INSIGNIFICANT LITTLE LIVES.
I MEAN, WHAT ARE WE IN THE GREAT COSMIC SCHEME OF THINGS? SPECKS OF DUST. MICROBES. ALL OUR POLITICKING, ALL OUR PUFFED-UP PRETENSION, AND LOOK AT US — AMOEBAS PLAYING AT GIANTS.
IT'S SO PATHETIC I'D LAUGH...
...IF I COULD BE BOTHERED.
THANK YOU FOR LISTENING.
ELECTORAL BROADCAST ON BEHALF OF
APATHY
THE PARTY THAT COULDN'T CARE LESS
APATHY


MEETING, CHIEF JUDGE FRANCISCO AND THE COUNCIL OF FIVE.
SO WE'RE AGREED, FISCAL DEMANDS REQUIRE A TAX ON THE UNBORN.
ABSENT: JUDGE DREDD.
VASS, YOU'LL LOOK INTO WAYS AND MEANS?
GOOD. NEXT ITEM, PSI-DIVISION'S ANNUAL PROJECTIONS. A QUIET YEAR, NO SHOCKS OR SURPRISES, APPARENTLY.
COMMENTS?
CERTAINLY. I'VE ALREADY WORKED UP SOME PRELIMINARY FIGURES. I'LL HAVE THEM ON YOUR DESK THIS AFTERNOON.
I'LL BELIEVE THAT WHEN IT HAPPENS.
PSI-DIVISION'S RECORD OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS HAS HARDLY SET THE SLAB ON FIRE.
WHAT ABOUT THIS CADET AT THE ACADEMY — PREDICTING DEATH, RIOT, DESTRUCTION ON ELECTION DAY?
HENNESSY, CHIEF JUDGE. EIGHTH YEAR, LOW-GRADE STUDENT, MINOR TELEPATHIC ABILITIES. AVERAGE IS FIFTY-EIGHT POINT FOUR PER CENT.
THAT'S BARELY ABOVE EENY-MEENY-MINEY-MO. I THINK WE CAN SAFELY DISCOUNT HER.
THAT BRINGS US NEATLY TO THE MAYORAL ELECTION.
THERE'S BEEN AMPLE TIME SINCE THE MURDER ATTEMPT ON SINFIELD. WE CAN'T PUT IT OFF ANY LONGER. IF THERE ARE NO OBJECTIONS I'M SETTING THE DATE FOR THREE MONTHS HENCE.
BETTER TO MAKE IT THREE WEEKS. LESS DRAIN ON RESOURCES.
THIS WHOLE THING'S BEEN RUMBLING ON SINCE AMBROSE DIED.


IF WANTING THE MUTANTS OUT OF MEGA-CITY ONE MEANS I'M A BIGOT — THEN I'M A BIGOT.!
TOUCH IT!
LOVE NORMS, HATE MUTIES.!
LOVE NORMS, HATE MUTIES.!
LOVE NORMS, HATE MUTIES.!
STARTING TO GET UGLY. LET'S BREAK THIS UP.
DEMOCRACY IN ACTION. HE'S SEEN IT ALL BEFORE. HE REMAINS TO BE IMPRESSED.
LET THE PEOPLE DECIDE, AND THE PEOPLE GAVE YOU DAVE THE MAYOR, AND WORSE.
HE REMEMBERS FARGO... THOSE DYING WORDS.
IT WAS NEVER MEANT TO... BE FOREVER, JOE.
WHAT HAD HE MEANT? NOT THIS, SURELY? POWER TO THE PEOPLE — THESE PEOPLE?
NO, DREDD COULD NOT ACCEPT THAT.
IRONIC THAT THE BEST MAYOR THEY'D HAD, WHO MIGHT HAVE MADE A CASE FOR DEMOCRACY, WAS A WANTED MASS MURDERER.
PJ MAYBE - AKA MAYOR AMBROSE — HAD SUPPORTED THE JUDGES, BALANCED THE BUDGET, MADE THE ZOOMS RUN ON TIME. AND HE'D PROBABLY KILLED ANYONE WHO GOT IN HIS WAY.
OR EVEN ON HIS NERVES.
MAYBE WAS STILL AT LARGE. HIS OWN FAULT. HE SHOULD HAVE PUT A BULLET THROUGH HIS SKULL AND BE DONE WITH IT.
THE COUNCIL HAD APOLOGISED, BUT THAT WASN'T GOING TO PUT HIM BACK IN A CUBE. EVEN NOW MAYBE COULD BE SLAYING HIS WAY TO THE TOP OF A MAJOR CORPORATION, OR SEDUCING AN HEIRESS, OR RUNNING FOR MAYOR.
AGAIN? WOULD EVEN PJ MAYBE HAVE THE NERVE...?
HARDLY LIKELY, BUT NOT BEYOND MAYBE TO TRY. WORTH KEEPING A SPECIAL EYE ON THE CANDIDATES.
YOU BROUGHT THIS ON US ALL, DREDD.! YOU'LL GET YOUR COMEUPPANCE ONE DAY.! POWER TO THE PEOPLE.! POWER TO THE NORMS.!
CREEP DOESN'T NEED AN AMPLIFIER.
SIMPS HERE AT SIXTEEN. SHOULDN'T BE A LOT OF TROUBLE. I LEAVE IT TO YOU.

ATLANTIC SPACEPORT —
HERE ON BUSINESS, MS TORSEN?
AND PLEASURE. BUSINESS AND PLEASURE, A BIT OF BOTH.
YOU'RE STAYING AT THE HIROSHIMA, SECTOR 1. YOU'VE BOOKED TWO TICKETS FOR A SHOW SATURDAY NIGHT. WHO WILL BE ACCOMPANYING YOU, MS TORSEN?
I DON'T KNOW. I DON'T USUALLY HAVE TROUBLE FINDING COMPANY.
YOU'RE ATTENDING UGLY-CON. WHAT'S YOUR INTEREST IN UGLY PEOPLE, MS TORSEN?
I'M IN COSMETICS. IMPORT. YOU COULD SAY I BROUGHT UGLY TO SCANDINAVIA.
I'M SURE THEY'RE GRATEFUL.
ROOM SERVICE.
NOK NOK
HOTEL HIROSHIMA
I'M DAVE, YOUR BELLHOP. I HOPE YOU HAD A GOOD FLIGHT. THEY SAY THOSE V69S ARE SO QUIET YOU CAN HEAR A PIN DROP.
I WAS ALL OUT OF PINS.

GOT YOU SOME COFFEE HERE.
GENUINE?
NO, MA'AM. IT'S NOT PERMITTED. THE TASTE IS PRETTY CLOSE, THOUGH. THERE'S SOME FOOD BARS AND HERE WE HAVE —
THE BLASTER'S CLEAN AND UNTRACEABLE. SAME WITH THE COM.
ONE SET OF KEYS IS FOR A BLACK SUPER 3 IN THE HIROSHIMA POD PARK. PLATE NUMBER'S ON THEM. THE SECOND SET'S FOR BUSINESS PREMISES, DEAD EASY ON SOUTH NYM. THERE'S NO SURVEILLANCE THE WHOLE BLOCK. ENTER VIA THE BACK, THROUGH THE PODWAY.
THE OTHERS?
THEY'VE BEEN NOTIFIED SOMETHING BIG'S GOING DOWN. THEY'RE READY.
WHEN ARE YOU OFF DUTY?
ELEVEN.
THEN ARRANGE A MEETING. LET'S SAY MIDNIGHT.
SHE WALKS TO THE VENUE, THE BETTER TO SOAK IN THE ESSENCE OF THIS PLACE. THE GREATEST OF THE MEGA-CITIES.
THE TRUDY
THE GREAT PARASITE.
A HUGE, INSATIABLE LEECH ON THE SKIN OF THE PLANET, SUCKING THE LIFEBLOOD FROM THE REST OF HUMANITY.
HELLO, DARLING.

HUH?
AAAHH – !
HHAAAHHHH!
KRAK!
JOVIS – JEEZ! WHO THE – ?
LET THEM CARRY ON, BLIND TO WHAT IS COMING. GIVE THEM NO WARNING. ONLY WHEN IT IS TOO **LATE** SHOULD THEY KNOW THAT THIS...
...THIS IS THE **EVE** OF **DESTRUCTION.**

DEAD EAST
South Nyin Street
DEATH WHERE IS THY STING?
WITH OUR TWO-FOR-ONE REMEMBRANCE SPECIAL
DEAD EAST
DEATH SINCE 2120
TAXIDERMY
ARRANGED

BOX.
COMRADE NADIA.

JERRY. JERRY AND KC RUN THE MEMORIAL BUSINESS. IT'S A GOOD FRONT FOR OTHER ACTIVITIES.
AND EVEN TURNING A PROFIT, I UNDERSTAND. YOU MUST HAVE A NATURAL APTITUDE.
GUESS I JUST LIKE DEAD PEOPLE. CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF THEM FROM THIS CITY.
IF WE DO OUR WORK WELL THERE WILL BE MORE THAN ANYONE CAN DEAL WITH.

GALAXY SENT YOU? HOW DO WE KNOW? YOU COULD BE A PLANT.
YOU KNOW SHE'S NOT A PLANT.
IT IS A REASONABLE QUESTION. I PREFER EVERYONE TO BE ON THEIR GUARD.
FOR THE MOMENT YOU MUST TAKE ME ON TRUST. WE ARE ALL ON TRIAL — YOU WITH ME, ME WITH YOU.
"SMITH" TO BE COLLECTED

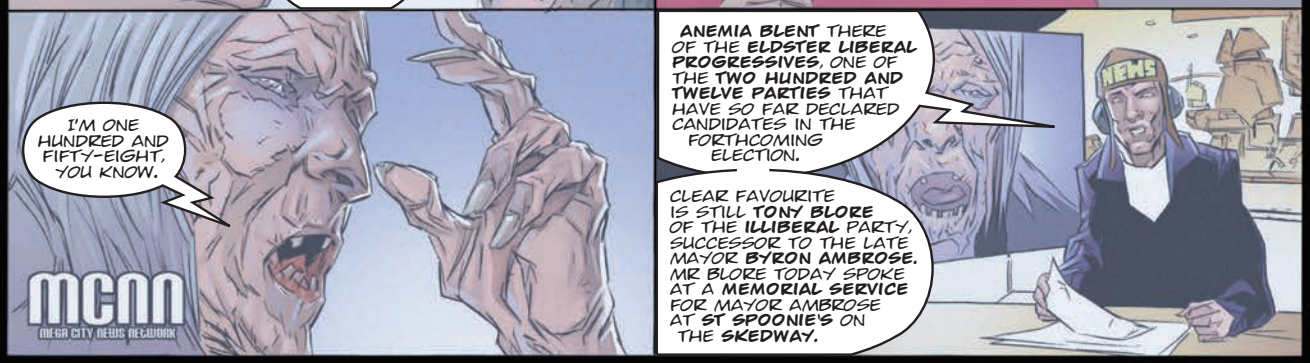
SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?
JOHN.
WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT YOU WILL KNOW.
I JUST WANT TO KNOW IF THIS IS GOING TO CAUSE A LOT OF HEAT. I'D LIKE TO GET MY GIRLFRIEND CLEAR.

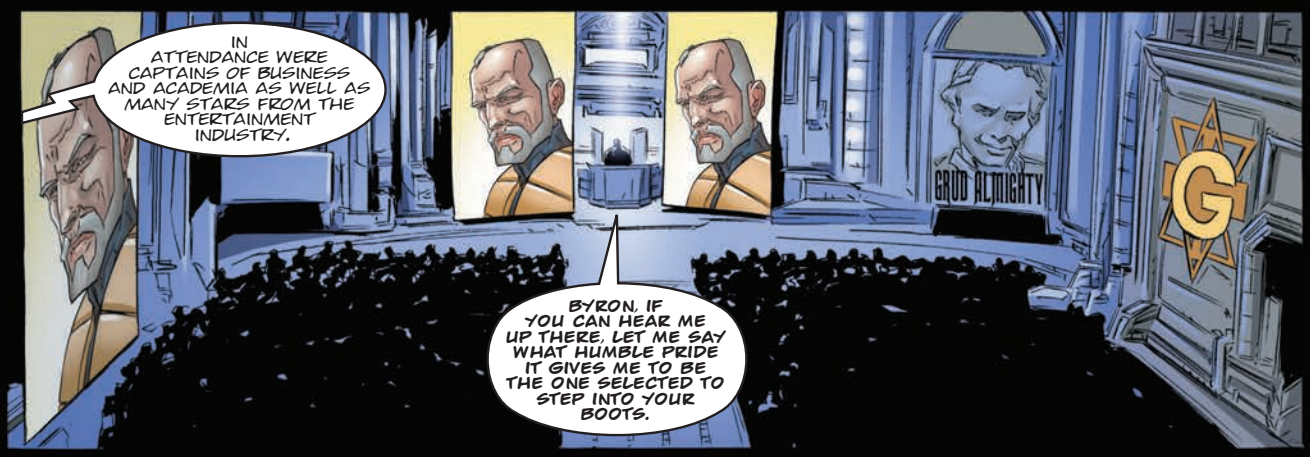
THIS MEGA-CITY GIRL — TREENA, THAT IS HER NAME, ISN'T IT?
YES.
YOU CARE FOR HER, JOHN?
I GUESS. SURE. YOU LIVE WITH SOMEONE YOU'D HAVE TO BE STONE NOT TO FEEL SOMETHING.

BUT TREENA DOESN'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE — WHERE YOU COME FROM?
OF COURSE NOT.
YOU HAVE NEVER EVEN HINTED? NEVER LET SOMETHING SLIP?
NO. I... I KNOW THE RULES.
THAT IS GOOD. WE MUST NOT GET TOO CLOSE TO THESE PEOPLE. WE MUST ALL KNOW THE RULES.

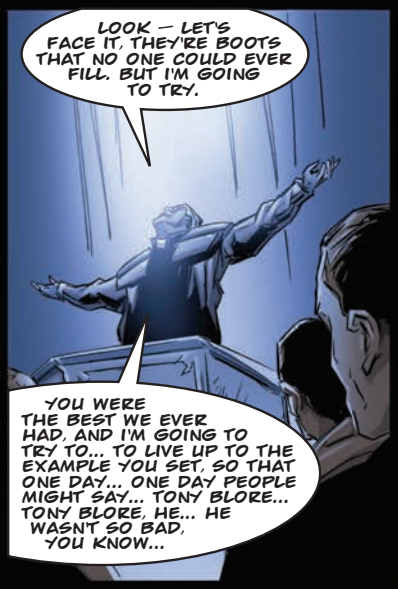
KRAK
BOX — DON'T!
NO —
YOUR LOYALTY IS ADMIRABLE, BUT MISPLACED. THIS MAN COULD HAVE GIVEN YOU ALL AWAY — MAY ALREADY HAVE DONE.
ELIMINATE THE GIRLFRIEND. SEARCH HIS APARTMENT. SEE THAT THERE IS NOTHING TO CONNECT HIM TO US.
WE ARE ABOUT TO SET IN MOTION A TRAIN OF EVENTS THAT WILL AT LAST **PUNISH** THIS CITY FOR THE **CRIME** IT HAS COMMITTED.
JOHN WAS A WEAK LINK. WE HAVE SUSPECTED IT FOR SOME TIME. REMEMBER WHY YOU ARE HERE. YOU CANNOT ALLOW YOUR ALLEGIANCE TO BE DIVIDED.

ANEMIA BLENT, YOU'RE STANDING FOR MAYOR ON A PLATFORM OF INCREASED BENEFITS FOR THE VERY, VERY OLD — AND FRANKLY NOT A LOT ELSE.
EH?
DO YOU FEEL OUR SENIOR SENIORS AREN'T GETTING A FAIR DEAL?
YES, I ATE THIS MORNING.
DESPITE THE NARROW FOCUS OF YOUR POLICIES, DO YOU FEEL THE STRENGTH OF THE ULTRA-GREY VOTE CAN CARRY YOU TO OFFICE?
EH? WHAT?
MCNN
MEGA CITY NEWS NETWORK


I'M ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-EIGHT, YOU KNOW.
ANEMIA BLENT THERE OF THE ELDSTER LIBERAL PROGRESSIVES, ONE OF THE TWO HUNDRED AND TWELVE PARTIES THAT HAVE SO FAR DECLARED CANDIDATES IN THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.
CLEAR FAVOURITE IS STILL TONY BLORE OF THE ILLIBERAL PARTY, SUCCESSOR TO THE LATE MAYOR BYRON AMBROSE. MR BLORE TODAY SPOKE AT A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR MAYOR AMBROSE AT ST SPOONIE'S ON THE SKEDWAY.
MCNN
MEGA CITY NEWS NETWORK
NEWS


IN ATTENDANCE WERE CAPTAINS OF BUSINESS AND ACADEMIA AS WELL AS MANY STARS FROM THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY.
BYRON, IF YOU CAN HEAR ME UP THERE, LET ME SAY WHAT HUMBLE PRIDE IT GIVES ME TO BE THE ONE SELECTED TO STEP INTO YOUR BOOTS.
GRUD ALMIGHTY
G

EXCUSE ME.


LOOK — LET'S FACE IT, THEY'RE BOOTS THAT NO ONE COULD EVER FILL. BUT I'M GOING TO TRY.
YOU WERE THE BEST WE EVER HAD, AND I'M GOING TO TRY TO... TO LIVE UP TO THE EXAMPLE YOU SET, SO THAT ONE DAY... ONE DAY PEOPLE MIGHT SAY... TONY BLORE... TONY BLORE, HE... HE WASN'T SO BAD, YOU KNOW...

MCNN
YOU'LL BE A LOT BETTER WHEN I CUT YOUR HEART OUT, YOU SLIMY LITTLE TOAD!

HE TAKES A CLASS AT THE ACADEMY OF LAW THREE TIMES A MONTH, WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES ALLOW.
FRANCISCO LIKES ALL THE COUNCIL TO DO THEIR BIT. GOOD FOR CADET MORALE.
ACADEMY OF LAW
ATTITUDE IS HALF THE BATTLE. HOW YOU CARRY YOURSELF, HOW YOU PROJECT YOURSELF TO THE PUBLIC.
BEFORE YOU SAY A WORD, A SUSPECT SHOULD KNOW TWO THINGS — ONE, HE CANNOT BEAT YOU. FURTHER RESISTANCE IS FUTILE. AGAINST YOU HE CAN NOT WIN.
TWO — THERE IS NO POINT IN HOLDING BACK INFORMATION. WHATEVER HE'S DONE, WHATEVER HE KNOWS, YOU WILL FIND OUT.

THE CHIEF JUDGE'S POLICY HAS MUCH TO COMMEND IT, OF COURSE, THOUGH HE CANNOT AVOID RESENTING THE TIME OFF THE STREETS.
SIR, AREN'T WE IN DANGER OF APPEARING HEAVY-HANDED?
IT'S A FINE LINE. BUT IF YOU'RE GOING TO CROSS IT, HEAVY-HANDED BEATS SOFT TOUCH EVERY TIME.
AND YOU CAN CONVEY THIS JUST BY THE WAY YOU STAND?

WORK ON YOUR APPROACH. THE INITIAL FACE TO FACE IS THE MOST VITAL PART OF THE INTERROGATION. AND REMEMBER, ATTITUDE COMES FROM WITHIN.
HE CAN.
UNLESS YOU KNOW THE SUSPECT CAN'T BEAT YOU, YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO CONVINCE HIM.

SIR, WE WERE TALKING ABOUT THE ELECTION IN THE DORM. THE CONSENSUS WAS THAT THE WHOLE THING WAS A WASTE OF TIME. THEY DON'T HAVE ANY POWER, SO WHAT'S THE POINT?
IT HAS THE APPEARANCE OF DEMOCRACY. IT KEEPS THEM HAPPY FOR THE MOST PART, AND IT'S FAR PREFERABLE TO THE REAL THING.

SIR, CAN I SPEAK TO YOU?
THAT APPEARS TO BE WHAT YOU'RE DOING.
I'M CARTER HENNESSY. I'M IN THE ACADEMY ON A PSI BURSARY. I HAVE ABOVE-AVERAGE PRECOGNITIVE POWERS.
AND?
WELL, RECENTLY I'VE BEEN GETTING THESE NIGHTMARES. THEY'VE STARTED HAPPENING ANYTIME, REALLY. I SEE THE CITY IN FLAMES, IT'S REALLY **CRAZY** ON THE STREETS. PEOPLE LIKE MAD DOGS. AND THEY'RE DYING ALL OVER THE PLACE...
ELECTION DAY. IT'S ALL HAPPENING ON ELECTION DAY.
YOU'VE TOLD YOUR SUPERVISOR AT **PSI-DIVISION** ABOUT THIS?
YES, SIR. HE KEEPS TELLING ME I'VE GOT TO BE MORE SPECIFIC.
YOU HAVE TO UNDERSTAND, HENNESSY, A LOT OF PRECOGS HAVE VISIONS. MOST OF THEM TURN OUT TO BE INACCURATE. JUST PLAIN WRONG.
YES, SIR.
YOU WANT US TO TAKE IT FURTHER YOU'VE GOT TO GIVE US MORE TO GO ON.
CONCENTRATE ON IT. WHY IS IT HAPPENING? WHAT'S BEHIND IT? LET ME KNOW IF YOU GET ANYTHING MORE.
SHE'S HERE WITH HER SISTER. BIT OF A DISAPPOINTMENT TO US, BOTH OF THEM. NOT LIVING UP TO EARLY PROMISE.
SHE SEEMED VERY SERIOUS. QUITE PERTURBED.
THAT'S HENNESSY.

CALL CAME IN FOR YOU. WE TOLD THEM YOU COULDN'T BE DISTURBED.
THEY FOUND A **MOPAD** BROKEN DOWN ON THE NORTH SKED, SECTOR 165, TWO BODIES INSIDE.
PJ MAYBE.
THEY FOUND PRINTS AND **DNA** ALL OVER THE MOPAD. HE DIDN'T TAKE ANY TROUBLE TO CONCEAL HIS PRESENCE.
THAT'S **MAYBE**, ALL RIGHT. HE LIKES US TO KNOW HE'S BEEN A BAD BOY.
CONTROL, THAT MOPAD ON THE NORTH SKED.! ON MY WAY.!
WILLSHER

WHAT IS HE – ?
SORRY TREENA
HENNESSY
NO! DON'T DO IT!
NO!
HENNESSY, TO WHAT DO WE OWE THIS INTERRUPTION?
ARE YOU QUITE WELL, CADET?
THEY'RE GOING TO KILL HER.
WHO?
IT'S THOSE VISIONS SHE'S BEEN HAVING, SIR. CALL HER PSI-DIVISION SUPERVISOR.
NO – JUDGE DREDD. HE SAID TO CALL HIM. HE SAID PARTICULARLY TO CALL HIM.

WHEN I AM ELECTED MAYOR I WILL TAKE BACK THE POWER FROM THE JUDGES! I WILL REINSTATE JURIES! EVERY CITIZEN WILL HAVE THEIR DAY IN COURT!
WHETHER THEY NEED IT OR NOT!
THE JUDGES WILL FOLLOW OUR ORDERS! THEY WILL BE REMINDED THAT THEY ARE OUR SERVANTS, NOT OUR MASTERS!
WHAT ABOUT THE MUTANTS?
MUTANTS WILL BE TREATED LIKE EVERY OTHER CITIZEN. ONE PERSON, ONE VOTE.
NORMAL DEFENCE LEAGUE
WRONG ANSWER!
MUTANTS OUT!
DEMOCRATS TOO!
CONTROL TO DREDD. WE HAVE A COMMUNICATION FROM THE ACADEMY. CADET HENNESSY HAS INFORMATION FOR YOU.
FIND OUT WHAT IT IS. I'LL ATTEND TO IT WHEN I CAN.
THEY SAY IT'S URGENT. REQUEST ATTENDANCE IMMEDIATELY.
THIS IS URGENT!
ALL RIGHT, DAMMIT. IT BETTER BE GOOD. ON MY WAY.

FORENSICS ARE STILL WORKING ON THE MOPAD. TRAFFIC'S SNARLED UP ALL ALONG THE GREAT WEST SKED.
THEY'D FOUND PJ MAYBE'S DNA AND PRINTS BELONGING TO 'MAYOR AMBROSE' — THEY'D STILL TO MAKE THE AMENDMENT AT CENTRAL RECORDS.
NAME IS PITCHER, SPIKE AND ADORA. BOUGHT THE MOPAD WITH THE PROCEEDS OF AN ACTION AGAINST QUEELY COMESTIBLES, MAKERS OF THE CONTAMINATED MUNCE PASTE THAT KILLED THEIR SON. BEEN TOURING SINCE '28.
BY THE STATE OF DECOMPOSITION FORENSICS SAY THEY'VE BEEN DEAD AT LEAST FOUR WEEKS.
THE MOPAD WAS SET TO RUN ON AUTOMATIC — WE WOULDN'T HAVE KNOWN ANYTHING WAS WRONG IF THE FUEL HADN'T EXPIRED ON THE SKED.
I'VE TRACED ITS ROUTE OVER THE TIME SINCE MAYBE ABSCONDED. YOU CAN SEE IT'S VISITED EVERY SECTOR APART FROM THE HAB ZONE, WITH NUMEROUS STOPS, USUALLY IN SPOTS WHERE CAMERA SURVEILLANCE IS POOR OR MISSING.
MAYBE WOULD HAVE HAD ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON EVERY SURVEILLANCE BLACKSPOT. SO HE COULD HAVE STEPPED OFF AT ANY ONE OF THESE STOPS.
IF YOU DON'T MIND, RUIS, I'D LIKE TO HAND THIS INVESTIGATION TO MY OWN PEOPLE.
BE MY GUEST. LOOKS LIKE A NO-HOPER TO ME. CREEP'S SMART.
STAY ON IT TILL YOU FIND HIM, LOGAN. YOUR ONE AND ONLY PRIORITY, UNDERSTOOD?
GOTCHA.
I'M GIVING YOU BEENY AND ROAKE. THEY BOTH HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH MAYBE. I'LL SPEAK TO THEIR SECTOR CHIEF.
DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE, COUNCIL OF FIVE. LIKE TRYING TO JUGGLE TOO MANY BALLS. HE HAS TO LEARN TO DELEGATE. AT LEAST WITH LOGAN AND THE OTHERS, HE'LL MAINTAIN A DIRECT LINE TO THE INVESTIGATION.

SHE COULDN'T BE NORMAL, THE WAY SHE SNAPPED JOHN'S NECK LIKE A TWIG.
STEWART LEE BLOCK
WILKSIDER
GM — HAD TO BE. SHE WAS ABOUT THE RIGHT AGE. MAYBE ONE OF THE LAST ON THE PROGRAMME.
FREAKIN' NADIA. SHE CHOSE ME FOR THIS OUT OF SPITE.
NOT SURE HER BRAIN WORKS THAT WAY.
I LIKED JOHN.
NOT OURS TO LIKE.
RAP RAP
MAYBE THAT'S HER POINT. KEEP YOUR MIND ON WHY WE'RE HERE.
TREENA, IT'S MIKE AND DEBBIE JONSON. WE'RE FRIENDS OF BILLY.
SOMETHING'S HAPPENED. WE NEED TO SPEAK TO YOU. IT'S IMPORTANT.
JOHN WASN'T HIS REAL NAME, OF COURSE. IT'S WHAT THE OTHERS KNEW HIM AS.
WHAT'S HAPPENED?
SHH. CLOSE THE DOOR.
BILLY WASN'T HIS REAL NAME EITHER. IT'S JUST WHAT TREENA KNEW HIM AS.
BILLY'S IN A BIT OF TROUBLE, TREENA. HE'S GOING TO HAVE TO LAY LOW FOR A WHILE.
WH-WHY?
MUTANT BUREAU.
HE WANTED US TO COLLECT SOME THINGS. HE SAID HE KEPT THEM HIDDEN SOMEWHERE. WHERE IS THAT, TREENA?
I DON'T UNDERSTAND. WHAT'S THE MUTANT BUREAU GOT TO DO WITH IT?
DIDN'T HE TELL YOU HE HAD FUNNY GENES?
THINK, TREENA, WHERE WOULD HE HIDE SOMETHING?

LET'S HEAR IT, HENNESSY.
HER NAME'S TREENA. SHE'S YOUNG, DARK HAIRED, QUITE PRETTY. I'M NOT SURE WHERE SHE LIVES — SOMEWHERE IN THE EAST SECTORS. LOW RENT. SHE'S GOING TO BE MURDERED.
WHO BY?
I CAN'T TELL YOU. A MAN, I THINK. I... I CAN'T PICTURE HIM CLEARLY, JUST THE GUN. IT'S AN ARMCO 419 WITH THE INFRA-RED CHARGE MODIFICATION.
WE COVERED HANDBLASTERS LAST SEMESTER.
WHEN'S THIS GOING TO HAPPEN?
I DON'T KNOW. TODAY, TOMORROW — SOMETIME SOON.
AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THIS IS CONNECTED TO THE OTHER PREDICTIONS YOU'VE MADE — THE ELECTION-DAY DISASTER?
IT IS. I KNOW IT. YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME.
IF YOU WANT ME TO TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY, HENNESSY, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO COME UP WITH A LOT MORE. AN ARMCO 419 IS NOT UNCOMMON, EVEN WITH THE IRC. PRETTY GIRL GETS MURDERED — HOW MANY OF THOSE DO YOU THINK WE GET EVERY DAY?
AND THIS IS IT? NO PLACE ELSE?
IT'S A SMALL APARTMENT. WHERE'S HE GOING TO HIDE ANYTHING? LOOK, I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANY OF THIS.
I KNOW. IT'S ALL KIND OF HARD TO TAKE IN.

NO! HE'S GOING TO DO IT - !
SHE'S DEAD.
HOW DO YOU KNOW?
I KNOW. HE KILLED HER. SHE'S DEAD.
I CAN DRAW HER. IS THAT ANY HELP?
WHAT A GOOD IDEA, CARTER.
HENNESSY IS QUITE A GIFTED GRAPHIST. NOT SOMETHING WE GENERALLY ENCOURAGE.
SHE HAS PROMINENT CHEEKBONES BUT THEY'RE NOT HIGH. JUST A SUGGESTION OF A DIMPLE ON THE CHIN. LIPS ARE FULL, QUITE WIDE
THAT'S HER.
ALL RIGHT, LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DO WITH IT...

HENNESSY'S DRAWING OF THE SUPPOSED VICTIM IS FED INTO JUSTICE DEPARTMENT'S CENTRAL COMPUTER. FEATURES ARE CALIBRATED ALLOWING A TEN PER CENT MARGIN FOR ERROR.
THERE ARE OVER EIGHT THOUSAND POSSIBLE MATCHES.
I GOT HER RIGHT. THAT'S THE FACE I SAW.
ALL RIGHT. COMPUTER, SHAVE THE MARGIN TO TWO PER CENT.
THIS TIME NINETY-SEVEN NAMES.
SPECIFY TREENA, TRINA, CHRISTINA, TRINABEL — ALL VARIATIONS.
THREE.
NOT HER.
IT'S NOT THEM EITHER. NONE OF THEM.
TRY MIDDLE NAMES. DID YOU TRY MIDDLE NAMES?
THAT'S IT! THAT'S HER!
MAYLENE KATARINA GRIGGS.
LIVES ALONE IN SHORT-LIFES IN SECTOR 34.
KATARINA — TREENA. THAT WORKS.
THERE'S A NUMBER. I'LL CALL. NO SENSE TAKING UP JUDGE DREDD'S TIME IF WE'RE MISTAKEN, IS THERE, HENNESSY?
BLEE BLEE BLEE BLEE

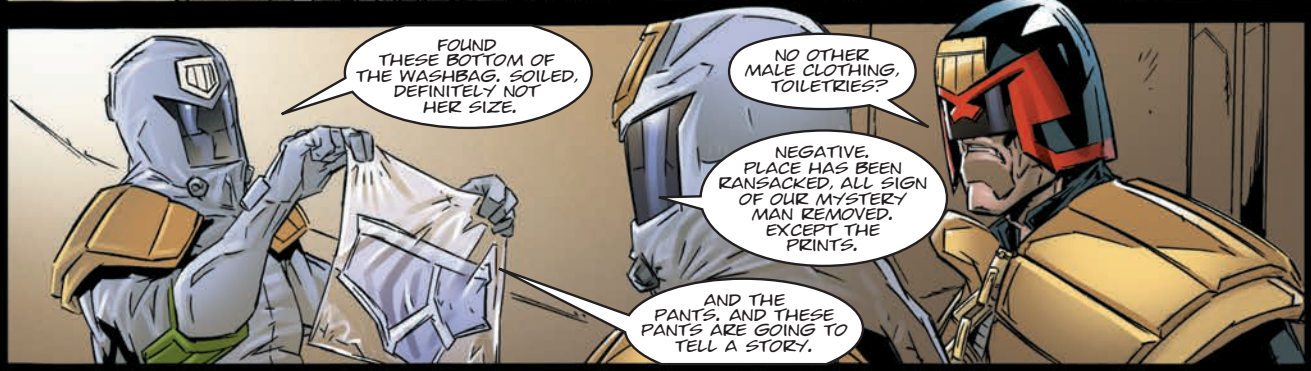
BLEE BLEE BLEE BLEE
NOT HOME OR..
COULD BE A LOT OF EXPLANATIONS.
ONLY HALF AN HOUR AWAY. I'LL CHECK IT OUT MYSELF.
STRAIGHT RUN THROUGH ON THE GREAT EAST SKED.
HE GIVES LITTLE CREDENCE TO THE CADET'S CLAIM. SHE HAS BEEN PERFORMING LITTLE ABOVE AVERAGE IN PRECOGNITIVE TESTS. ADOLESCENT ATTENTION SEEKING, PERHAPS.
THIS MAY WELL BE THE END OF HER.
DEAD EASY
South Nym Street
ELMORE YURGES, FORTY-THREE, FORMERLY DEPUTY CIVILIAN DIRECTOR OF THIS CITY'S BIO-WARFARE RESEARCH FACILITY.
WE HAVE INFORMATION THAT YURGES DEVELOPED A VARIANT OF THE PARASITIC MICRO-ORGANISM TOXOPLASMA GONDII, TRANSMITTED THROUGH THE AIR AND ESTIMATED TO BE FATAL IN NINETY-NINE POINT EIGHT PER CENT OF CASES.

IT SEEMS YURGES HAD SOME KIND OF **CONVERSION.** SOON AFTERWARDS HE **RESIGNED**, DESTROYING HIS NOTES AND ALL EXISTING CULTURES OF THE MICRO-ORGANISM. HE NOW HOLDS A CHAIR AT **ATLANTIC TECH.**
WHY THEY DID NOT SQUEEZE THE SECRET OUT OF HIM I FIND MYSTIFYING.
WE CERTAINLY SHOULD HAVE. BUT THOSE ARE THE FACTS.
I TELL YOU THIS BECAUSE YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT IT WHEN WE HAVE ASSISTED YURGES AND HIS FAMILY TO LEAVE THE CITY.
THEY WANT TO **DEFECT**?
THEIR WISHES ARE OF NO CONCERN TO US.
I GET YOU.
WHY NOT JUST SEND THEM TICKETS FOR A FOREIGN HOLIDAY AND PICK THEM UP ABROAD? EASY TO ARRANGE.
BECAUSE OF WHAT HE KNOWS THEY DO NOT PERMIT HIM TO LEAVE THE CITY. THEY WATCH HIM. THAT IS A FACTOR WE MUST BE AWARE OF.
WE HAVE BEEN OBSERVING THE FAMILY FOR SOME TIME.
WE KNOW THAT THEY HAVE PURCHASED FOUR TICKETS TO A THEATRE PRODUCTION TONIGHT. THAT IS WHEN YOU WILL DETAIN THEM.
SPEED IS OF THE ESSENCE. EVERYTHING WILL BE WORKED OUT TO A HIGH PRECISION. THERE WILL BE NO SURPRISES.
DAVE - !
KLIK
HUUHH - ?
OH NO! DON'T SHOOT!

I GOT THOSE DANCING FEET THOSE MAZEY CRAZY DANCING FEET!
HE'S A COMBINED ANIMATION/INTERNMENT. YOU HIT THE CONTROL PAD.
SOME REPAIR JOB THIS IS GOING TO BE.
JERRY, CHECK THAT NO ONE HEARD THOSE SHOTS.
LET THIS BE THE LAST SURPRISE. WE HAVE WORK TO DO...
WE PUT THE TIME OF DEATH AT BETWEEN AN HOUR TO AN HOUR AND A HALF AGO.

I THINK I CAN NAIL THAT ONE DOWN PRETTY PRECISELY. PRECOG AT THE ACADEMY SAW IT. TIME OF DEATH ABOUT TEN PAST MIDDAY.
YOU DON'T SAY? ANY OTHER LITTLE GEMS?
NOT AS YET.

WE'RE WORKING ON THE PRINTS. BUT I CAN TELL YOU WHEN WE'VE ELIMINATED THE VIC'S WE HAVE NUMEROUS OTHERS, MAINLY ONE INDIVIDUAL, PROBABLY MALE. YOU SAID SHE LIVED ALONE?
IT'S WHAT RECORDS SAY, DOESN'T MEAN IT'S TRUE. WE'RE INTERVIEWING OTHER RESIDENTS.
WE'VE RUN THE PRINTS. GOT IDS ON A COUPLE — THE MOTHER, THE NEIGHBOUR FROM 16K, A MRS OBIAH — BUT ZERO ON THIS CHARACTER. AN ILLEGAL, OUT-OF-TOWNER MAYBE.


FOUND THESE BOTTOM OF THE WASHBAG. SOILED, DEFINITELY NOT HER SIZE.
NO OTHER MALE CLOTHING, TOILETRIES?
NEGATIVE. PLACE HAS BEEN RANSACKED, ALL SIGN OF OUR MYSTERY MAN REMOVED. EXCEPT THE PRINTS.
AND THE PANTS. AND THESE PANTS ARE GOING TO TELL A STORY.

THE FACTS: KILLER OR KILLERS ARRIVED, RANSACKED THE APARTMENT, MURDERED THE OCCUPANT AND LEFT IN BROAD DAYLIGHT, PRESUMABLY LOADED DOWN. SOMEONE MUST HAVE SEEN SOMETHING.
HAVEN'T SEEN A THING, OFFICER. LIKE A DRINK?

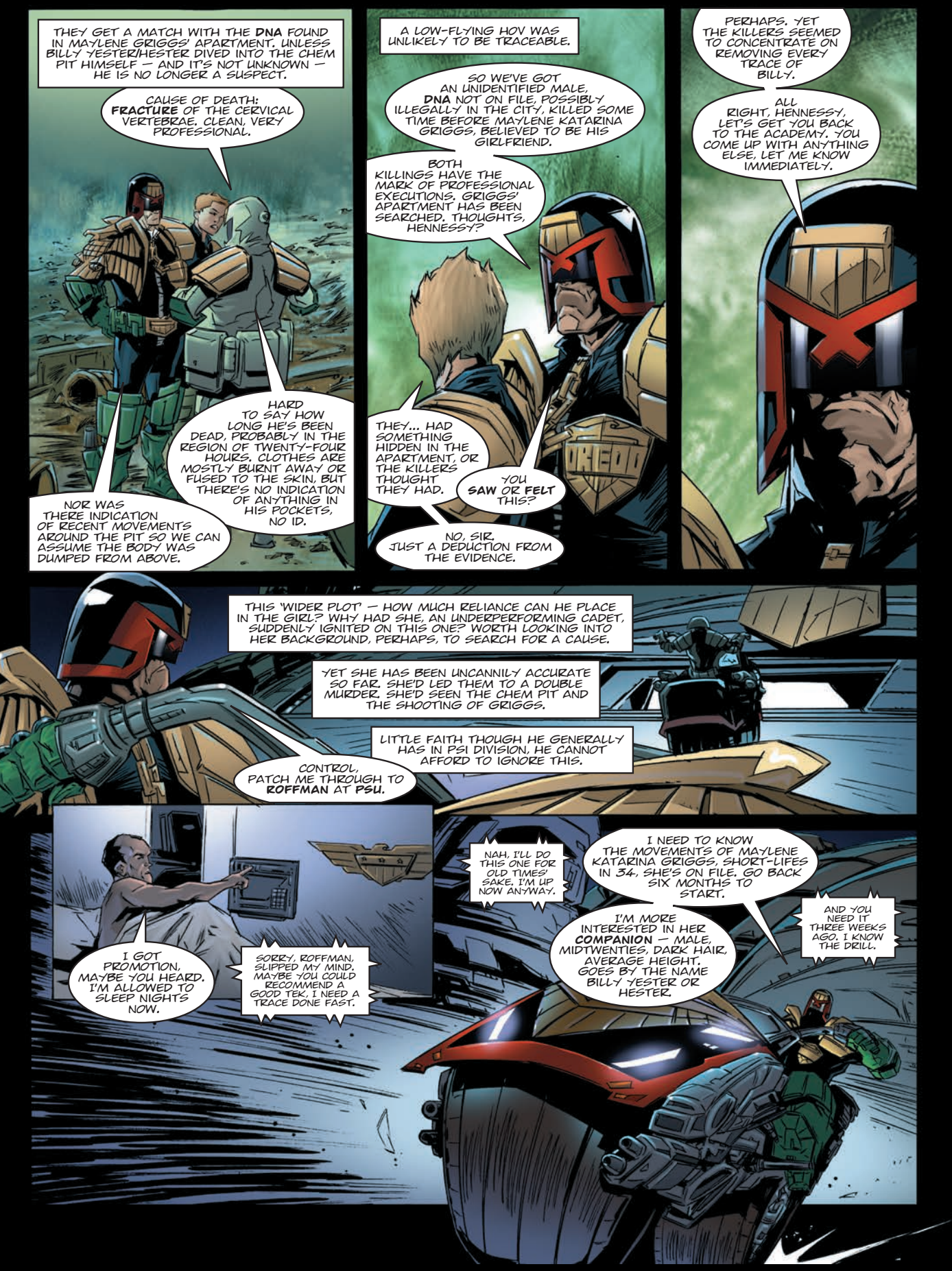
YEAH, YEAH, MAYBE I HEARD SOMETHING. WHAT THE HELL, YOU HEAR ALL SORTSA NOISE. WE DON'T GET INVOLVED. AIN'T THAT RIGHT, HON?
YEAH, NO, WE DON'T GET INVOLVED.

I DON'T TALK TO NO LAW.
YOU'RE ABOUT TO START, SONNY.

OH YES, I SAW HIM QUITE OFTEN, SINCE HE MOVED IN. BILLY WAS HIS NAME — BILLY, UH... YESTER, I THINK. YESTER, HESTER. A NAME LIKE THAT. NICE FELLA. THEY SEEMED TO GET ON SO WELL.
YOU NEVER HEARD THEM ARGUING? NEVER ANY VIOLENCE BETWEEN THEM?

SO A BULLSEYE FOR HENNESSY. IMPRESSIVE, CONSIDERING HER PAST PERFORMANCE. YET HE CAN SEE NOTHING TO LINK IT TO THIS WIDER PLOT, THIS DISASTER SHE PREDICTS FOR THE CITY.
AT THE MOMENT IT LOOKS LIKE NOTHING MORE THAN A SIMPLE DOMESTIC. THEY HAVE A ROW, THIS BILLY YESTER — OR HESTER — KILLS TREENA GRIGGS AND CLEARS OFF WITH HIS POSSESSIONS.
AND YET...
DREDD
WE'VE SUCCESSFULLY ISOLATED DNA FROM THE PANTS. NOTHING ON FILE, BUT IT BEARS OUT OUR ILLEGAL THEORY. SUBJECT IS OF SLAVIC GENETIC TYPE.
RIGHT, WE PUT OUT AN ALL UNITS FOR HIM. TALK TO THE OTHER RESIDENTS AGAIN, BRING IN GRAPHICS DROIDS, SEE IF YOU CAN GET A LIKENESS.
PSU CAN LOOK INTO THE GIRL'S MOVEMENTS. SOME SECURITY CAM MUST HAVE PICKED UP THE BOYFRIEND.
CONTROL TO DREDD. WE HAVE A RELAY FROM JUDGE GALLOW AT THE ACADEMY.
PATCH HIM THROUGH.
AH, DREDD, I DON'T SUPPOSE THE NAME BILLY MEANS ANYTHING TO YOU.
IT DOES? IT'S JUST THAT OUR YOUNG HENNESSY HERE HAS HAD ANOTHER, WELL... REVELATION. YES, YES, SHE'S RIGHT HERE, I'LL PUT HER ON.
THERE'S A CHEM PIT. THERE WAS A CITY BLOCK IN THE DISTANCE, I THINK IT WAS MILTON TOWER. WE STUDIED IT WHEN WE WERE COVERING MASS SUICIDES.
THERE'S A BIG DIGGER DREDGING IT. YOU'RE THERE WATCHING AND... AND ME TOO. IT'S PULLING OUT A BODY. IT'S HIM. YOU'RE LOOKING FOR HIM. IT'S BILLY.
I THINK I KNOW WHERE YOU MEAN, HENNESSY. PICK UP A BIKE FROM THE POOL, MY NAME AS AUTHORISATION. I'LL BE THERE IN THIRTY.
DON'T SEE WHY WE SHOULD BUCK THE PREDICTION...

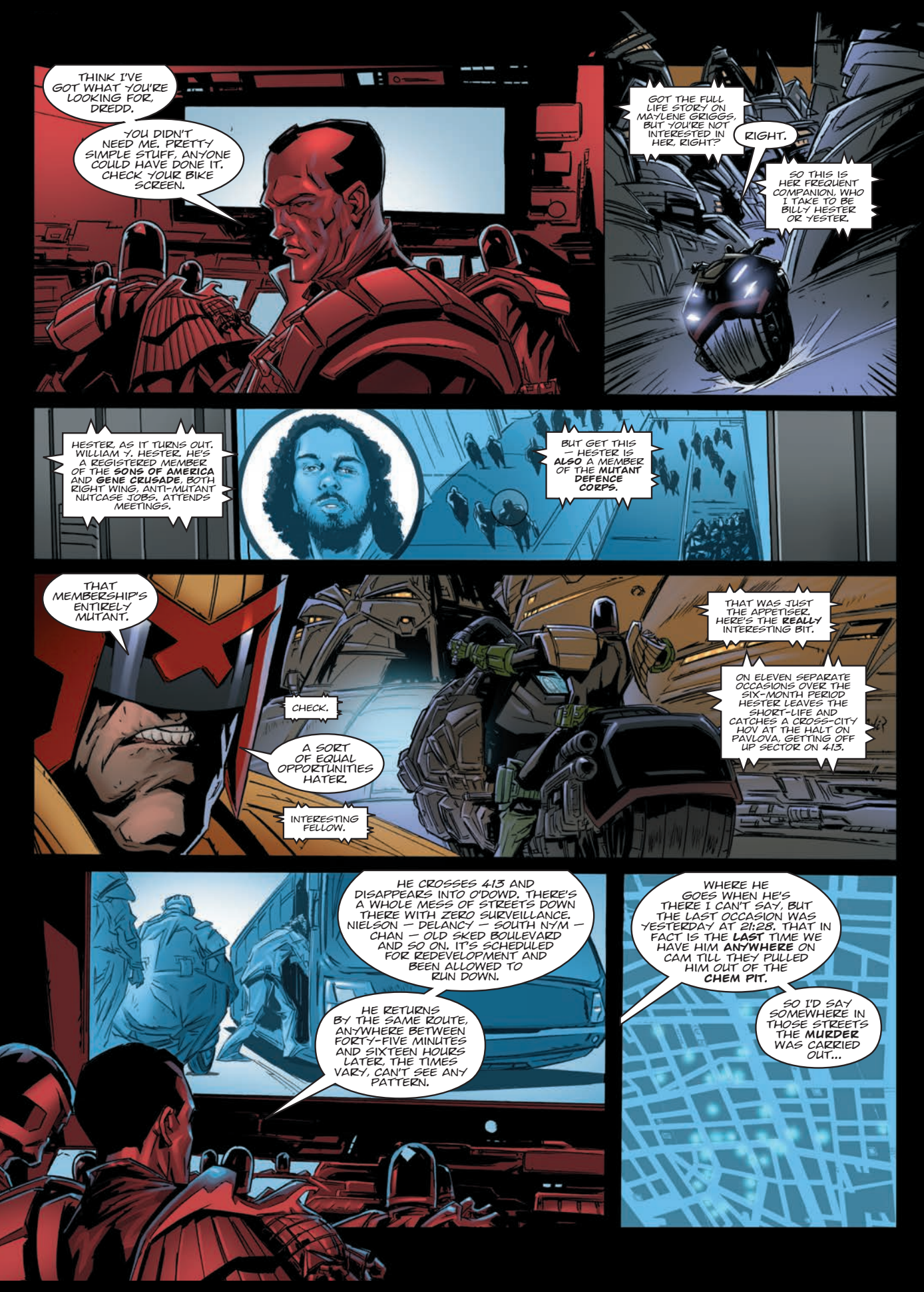
YOU'RE ON THE BUTTON AGAIN, HENNESSY.
PICKING UP ANYTHING MORE?
NO.
SO ASSUMING THIS IS **BILLY HESTER**, OR **YESTER**, OR WHATEVER HIS NAME IS — THE BOYFRIEND OF **TREEN GRIGGS** — HOW DO THESE MURDERS CONNECT TO THE **BIG** PLOT?
I... I DON'T KNOW.
BUT YOU THINK THEY ARE CONNECTED?
YES, YES, I'M SURE OF IT.
YOU'LL SEE A LOT WORSE IF YOU EVER MAKE THAT FULL EAGLE.
WE'LL WAIT FOR FORENSICS.


THEY GET A MATCH WITH THE DNA FOUND IN MAYLENE GRIGGS' APARTMENT. UNLESS BILLY YESTER/HESTER DIVED INTO THE CHEM PIT HIMSELF — AND IT'S NOT UNKNOWN — HE IS NO LONGER A SUSPECT.
CAUSE OF DEATH: FRACTURE OF THE CERVICAL VERTEBRAE. CLEAN. VERY PROFESSIONAL.
HARD TO SAY HOW LONG HE'S BEEN DEAD, PROBABLY IN THE REGION OF TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. CLOTHES ARE MOSTLY BURNT AWAY OR FUSED TO THE SKIN, BUT THERE'S NO INDICATION OF ANYTHING IN HIS POCKETS, NO ID.
NOR WAS THERE INDICATION OF RECENT MOVEMENTS AROUND THE PIT SO WE CAN ASSUME THE BODY WAS DUMPED FROM ABOVE.
A LOW-FLYING HOV WAS UNLIKELY TO BE TRACEABLE.
SO WE'VE GOT AN UNIDENTIFIED MALE, DNA NOT ON FILE, POSSIBLY ILLEGALLY IN THE CITY, KILLED SOME TIME BEFORE MAYLENE KATARINA GRIGGS, BELIEVED TO BE HIS GIRLFRIEND.
BOTH KILLINGS HAVE THE MARK OF PROFESSIONAL EXECUTIONS. GRIGGS' APARTMENT HAS BEEN SEARCHED. THOUGHTS, HENNESSY?
THEY... HAD SOMETHING HIDDEN IN THE APARTMENT, OR THE KILLERS THOUGHT THEY HAD.
YOU SAW OR FELT THIS?
NO, SIR. JUST A DEDUCTION FROM THE EVIDENCE.
PERHAPS. YET THE KILLERS SEEMED TO CONCENTRATE ON REMOVING EVERY TRACE OF BILLY.
ALL RIGHT, HENNESSY, LET'S GET YOU BACK TO THE ACADEMY. YOU COME UP WITH ANYTHING ELSE, LET ME KNOW IMMEDIATELY.
THIS 'WIDER PLOT' — HOW MUCH RELIANCE CAN HE PLACE IN THE GIRL? WHY HAD SHE, AN UNDERPERFORMING CADET, SUDDENLY IGNITED ON THIS ONE? WORTH LOOKING INTO HER BACKGROUND, PERHAPS, TO SEARCH FOR A CAUSE.
YET SHE HAS BEEN UNCANNILY ACCURATE SO FAR. SHE'D LED THEM TO A DOUBLE MURDER. SHE'D SEEN THE CHEM PIT AND THE SHOOTING OF GRIGGS.
LITTLE FAITH THOUGH HE GENERALLY HAS IN PSI DIVISION, HE CANNOT AFFORD TO IGNORE THIS.
CONTROL, PATCH ME THROUGH TO ROFFMAN AT PSU.
I GOT PROMOTION, MAYBE YOU HEARD. I'M ALLOWED TO SLEEP NIGHTS NOW.
SORRY, ROFFMAN. SLIPPED MY MIND. MAYBE YOU COULD RECOMMEND A GOOD TEK. I NEED A TRACE DONE FAST.
NAH, I'LL DO THIS ONE FOR OLD TIMES' SAKE. I'M UP NOW ANYWAY.
I NEED TO KNOW THE MOVEMENTS OF MAYLENE KATARINA GRIGGS, SHORT-LIFES IN 34, SHE'S ON FILE. GO BACK SIX MONTHS TO START.
I'M MORE INTERESTED IN HER COMPANION — MALE, MIDTWENTIES, DARK HAIR, AVERAGE HEIGHT. GOES BY THE NAME BILLY YESTER OR HESTER.
AND YOU NEED IT THREE WEEKS AGO. I KNOW THE DRILL.

ATLANTIC TECH
AW, MOM, I WANT TO STAY AND PLAY WITH LUCINDA.
YOU PLAY WITH LUCINDA TOO MUCH. I'M SORRY WE EVER GOT HER FOR YOU.
WE'RE ALL GOING TO HAVE A FAMILY NIGHT OUT FOR ONCE, BRUCE, OKAY?
THEY'RE MOVING.
KILLING JOHN HAD BEEN A CRUDE LESSON, BUT EFFECTIVE. THEY FEAR HER NOW. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THEY FEAR HER MORE THAN THE JUDGES.
YOU SEE THE SPY CAMERAS? ONE OVERHEAD, ONE UP AHEAD OF THEM.
YOUR EYES MUST BE BETTER THAN — WAIT --
RIGHT, I SEE THEM.
HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT THE THEM? HAVE WE GOT SOMEONE ON THE INSIDE?
THAT IS INFORMATION YOU DO NOT REQUIRE.
ADHERING TO PREDICTED ROUTE. ESTIMATE THREE MINUTES. ARE YOU IN POSITION?
COMING UP.

GO!
JERRY KNOWS WHERE TO WAIT?
I DAMN WELL HOPE SO.
IN POSITION NOW.
APPROACHING YOU NOW, BEHIND THE SHAPIRO VAN. STAY IN COVER.
HOLD IT STEADY.
YOU'VE GOT TO GET CLOSER, NADIA.
DO WHAT I SAY.
WE'VE LOST NUMBER TWO CAM.

YOU'RE CLEAR TO GO.
NUMBER ONE'S GONE! SOMETHING'S UP!
JUST SIT TIGHT AND YOU WON'T BE HURT.
OH MY GRUD - !
SKREEEEEEEEEEEE

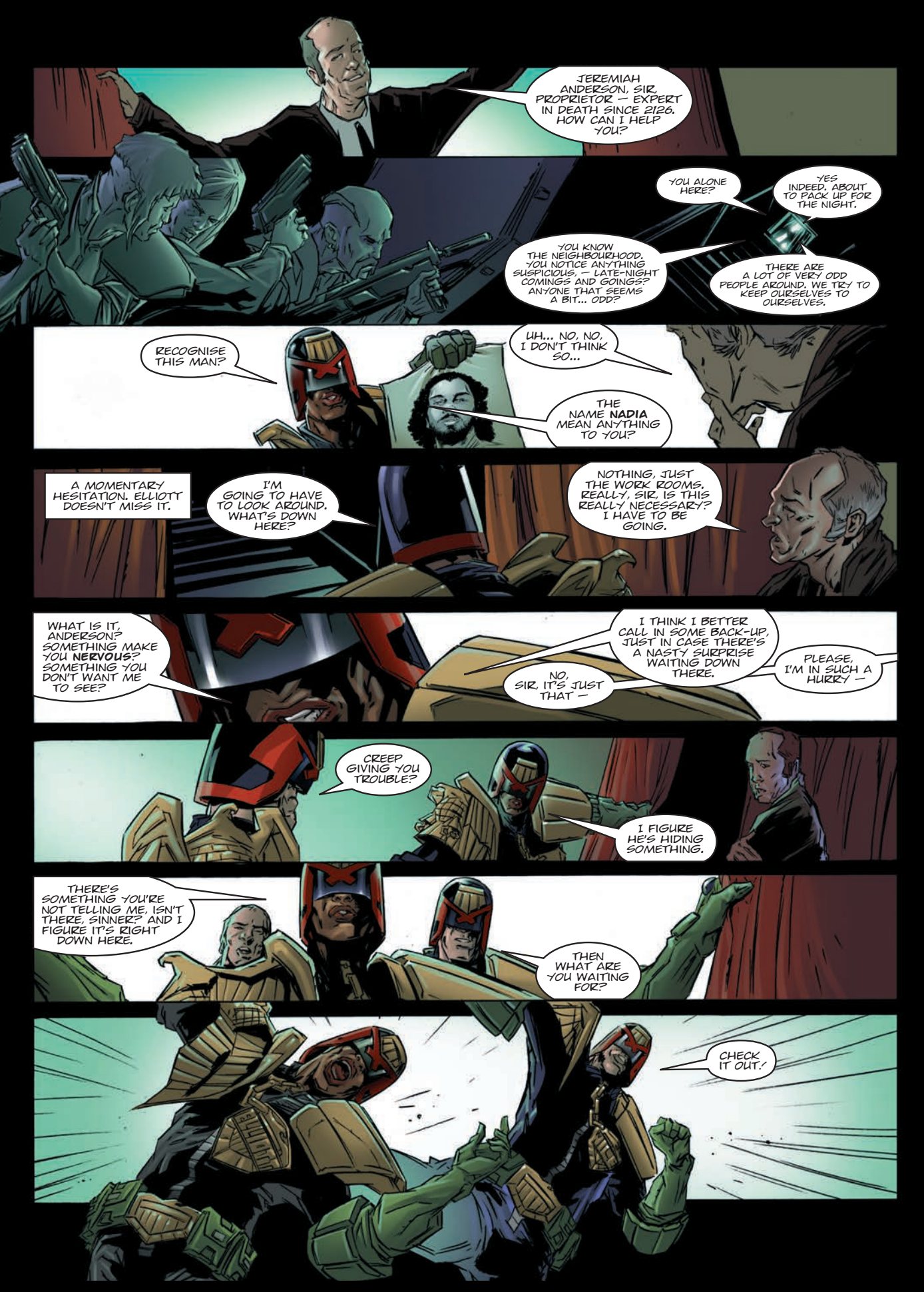

THINK I'VE GOT WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, DREDD.
YOU DIDN'T NEED ME. PRETTY SIMPLE STUFF, ANYONE COULD HAVE DONE IT. CHECK YOUR BIKE SCREEN.
GOT THE FULL LIFE STORY ON MAYLENE GRIGGS, BUT YOU'RE NOT INTERESTED IN HER, RIGHT?
RIGHT.
SO THIS IS HER FREQUENT COMPANION, WHO I TAKE TO BE BILLY HESTER OR YESTER.
HESTER, AS IT TURNS OUT. WILLIAM Y. HESTER. HE'S A REGISTERED MEMBER OF THE **SONS OF AMERICA** AND **GENE CRUSADE**, BOTH RIGHT WING, ANTI-MUTANT NUTCASE JOBS. ATTENDS MEETINGS.
BUT GET THIS — HESTER IS **ALSO** A MEMBER OF THE **MUTANT DEFENCE CORPS.**
THAT MEMBERSHIP'S ENTIRELY MUTANT.
CHECK.
A SORT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES HATER.
INTERESTING FELLOW.
THAT WAS JUST THE APPETISER. HERE'S THE **REALLY** INTERESTING BIT.
ON ELEVEN SEPARATE OCCASIONS OVER THE SIX-MONTH PERIOD HESTER LEAVES THE SHORT-LIFE AND CATCHES A CROSS-CITY HOV AT THE HALT ON PAVLOVA, GETTING OFF UP SECTOR ON 413.
HE CROSSES 413 AND DISAPPEARS INTO O'DOWD. THERE'S A WHOLE MESS OF STREETS DOWN THERE WITH ZERO SURVEILLANCE. NIELSON — DELANCY — SOUTH NYM — CHAN — OLD SKED BOULEVARD AND SO ON. IT'S SCHEDULED FOR REDEVELOPMENT AND BEEN ALLOWED TO RUN DOWN.
HE RETURNS BY THE SAME ROUTE, ANYWHERE BETWEEN FORTY-FIVE MINUTES AND SIXTEEN HOURS LATER. THE TIMES VARY, CAN'T SEE ANY PATTERN.
WHERE HE GOES WHEN HE'S THERE I CAN'T SAY, BUT THE LAST OCCASION WAS YESTERDAY AT 21:28. THAT IN FACT IS THE **LAST** TIME WE HAVE HIM **ANYWHERE** ON CAM TILL THEY PULLED HIM OUT OF THE **CHEM PIT.**
SO I'D SAY SOMEWHERE IN THOSE STREETS THE **MURDER** WAS CARRIED OUT...

THE ACADEMY OF LAW —
IT'S JUST A NAME. IT KEEPS GOING ROUND AND ROUND IN MY HEAD. NADIA.
THAT'S ALL. I DON'T HEAR A VOICE OR ANYTHING, I DON'T SEE ANYONE. NADIA, NADIA, NADIA...
COULDN'T BE 'NADA' — NOTHING?
NO, DEFINITELY NADIA.
AND YOU THINK IT'S CONNECTED?
YES. HOW IT FITS IN I DON'T KNOW...
I'M SORRY, IT'S NOT VERY MUCH, IS IT? I'M WASTING YOUR TIME.
EVERY SCRAP OF INFORMATION HELPS, HENNESSY. I'M MORE THAN PLEASED WITH WHAT YOU'VE GIVEN US.
THANK YOU, SIR.
HE HAS NINETY PLUS HELMETS AT HIS DISPOSAL. ONE OF THE FEW PERKS OF COUNCIL STATUS — NO MORE PLEADING FOR BODIES.
WE HAVE THE WHOLE GRID CLOSED OFF. NOBODY GETS IN OR OUT WITHOUT BEING CHECKED. NOW WE GO PROPERTY TO PROPERTY, SYSTEMATIC.
WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?
THAT I CAN'T TELL YOU.

WHAT I CAN SAY IS THAT SOMEWHERE BETWEEN HERE AND OLD SKED APPROXIMATELY TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AGO AN UNIDENTIFIED MALE KNOWN AS **BILLY HESTER** WAS MURDERED.
HESTER MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN A WIDER PLOT DIRECTED AGAINST THIS CITY. RELEVANT DATA IS ON YOUR BIKE COMPUTERS, READ IT.
SHOW HESTER'S FACE AROUND, SEE WHO REACTS. HESTER WAS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF **SONS OF AMERICA**, **GENE CRUSADE** AND THE **MUTANT DEFENCE CORPS**.
A MUTANT HATER WITH PRO-MUTANT SYMPATHIES?
OR SOMEONE WHO FOUND IT USEFUL TO WALK BOTH SIDES OF THE PED. TAKE A SPECIAL INTEREST IN ANYONE WITH CONNECTIONS TO THOSE ORGANISATIONS.
ONE FINAL THING. WE HAVE A NAME: **NADIA**.
GET OUT OF HERE.' **MOVE**.'
WATCH YOUR SPEED.
WHAT THE HELL'S THE MATTER?
THERE'S ABOUT FIFTY JUDGES BACK THERE. THEY **KNOW** ABOUT US. THEY **KNOW**.'
'HOW **COULD** THEY?'
I DON'T KNOW, BUT I **HEARD** THEM.
WELL, I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING.
THEY MUST HAVE FOUND JOHN — THEY **NAMED** HIM AS BILLY HESTER. AND THEY KNOW ABOUT **YOU**.
NONE OF US SAID ANYTHING. IT HAS TO BE JOHN — HE LEFT SOMETHING. WE MISSED SOMETHING.
WE'VE GOT TO ABORT. THE WHOLE AREA'S CORDONED OFF, EVERYWHERE'LL BE SWARMING WITH JUDGES. **DREDD'S** IN CHARGE.' BLOODY DREDD.'

DREDD... THE NAME BRINGS THE TASTE OF BILE TO HER MOUTH. THEY ALL HAVE REASON TO HATE IT.
THEY CANNOT KNOW THAT WE HOLD YURGES. THERE WILL BE NO TALK OF ABORTING OUR TASK. THERE IS A WAY.
JERRY, EXTINGUISH THE SHOP LIGHTS.
WE MUST MOVE YOU SOONER THAN EXPECTED.
WHEN YOU AWAKE YOU WILL BE IN A BETTER PLACE, BE REASSURED IN THAT.
THEY DO NOT PUBLICISE THE ABDUCTION OF THE YURGES FAMILY, BUT THE ALARM IS RAISED ON JUDICIAL NETWORKS. ALL PORTS OF EXIT ARE PUT ON EXTREME ALERT.
YURGES HAS KNOWLEDGE USEFUL TO TERRORISTS AND ENEMIES OF THE CITY. VITAL HE IS FOUND.
MASSAGE IN A BOT-HOLE
IF THE INCIDENT REGISTERS WITH DREDD IT IS ONLY ON THE PERIPHERY OF HIS MIND. HE IS FOCUSED ON HIS OWN CASE, LITTLE REALISING THAT HE MAY INADVERTANTLY BE CLOSING IN ON THE OTHER.
ZZIZ DEN UP ON THE FOURTH. ANOTHER TWO UPSTAIRS.
LOAD 'EM UP AND BACK ON THE SEARCH. PRIORITY ONE.
YES, SIR.

ELLIOTT, 344 SOUTH NYM. NO RESPONSE FROM DEAD EASY. CAN'T SEE ANY SIGN OF LIFE. GOING TO OVERRIDE AND TAKE A LOOK.
THAT'S A ROJ. LOGGED AT 2201.
I'M TELLING YOU, WE'RE NEVER GOING TO GET THEM THROUGH.
YOU BEGIN TO WORRY ME, DAVE.
SO MUCH NEGATIVITY.
THAT'S THE DOOR!
CHAPEL OF DEATH
THIS IS THE LAW! IS THERE ANYONE ON THESE PREMISES?


JEREMIAH ANDERSON, SIR, PROPRIETOR — EXPERT IN DEATH SINCE 2126. HOW CAN I HELP YOU?
YOU ALONE HERE?
YES INDEED. ABOUT TO PACK UP FOR THE NIGHT.
YOU KNOW THE NEIGHBOURHOOD. YOU NOTICE ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS, — LATE-NIGHT COMINGS AND GOINGS? ANYONE THAT SEEMS A BIT... ODD?
THERE ARE A LOT OF VERY ODD PEOPLE AROUND. WE TRY TO KEEP OURSELVES TO OURSELVES.
RECOGNISE THIS MAN?
UH... NO, NO, I DON'T THINK SO...
THE NAME NADIA MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU?
A MOMENTARY HESITATION. ELLIOTT DOESN'T MISS IT.
I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LOOK AROUND. WHAT'S DOWN HERE?
NOTHING, JUST THE WORK ROOMS. REALLY, SIR, IS THIS REALLY NECESSARY? I HAVE TO BE GOING.
WHAT IS IT, ANDERSON? SOMETHING MAKE YOU NERVOUS? SOMETHING YOU DON'T WANT ME TO SEE?
I THINK I BETTER CALL IN SOME BACK-UP, JUST IN CASE THERE'S A NASTY SURPRISE WAITING DOWN THERE.
NO, SIR, IT'S JUST THAT —
PLEASE, I'M IN SUCH A HURRY —
CREEP GIVING YOU TROUBLE?
I FIGURE HE'S HIDING SOMETHING.
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT TELLING ME, ISN'T THERE, SINNER? AND I FIGURE IT'S RIGHT DOWN HERE.
THEN WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
CHECK IT OUT!

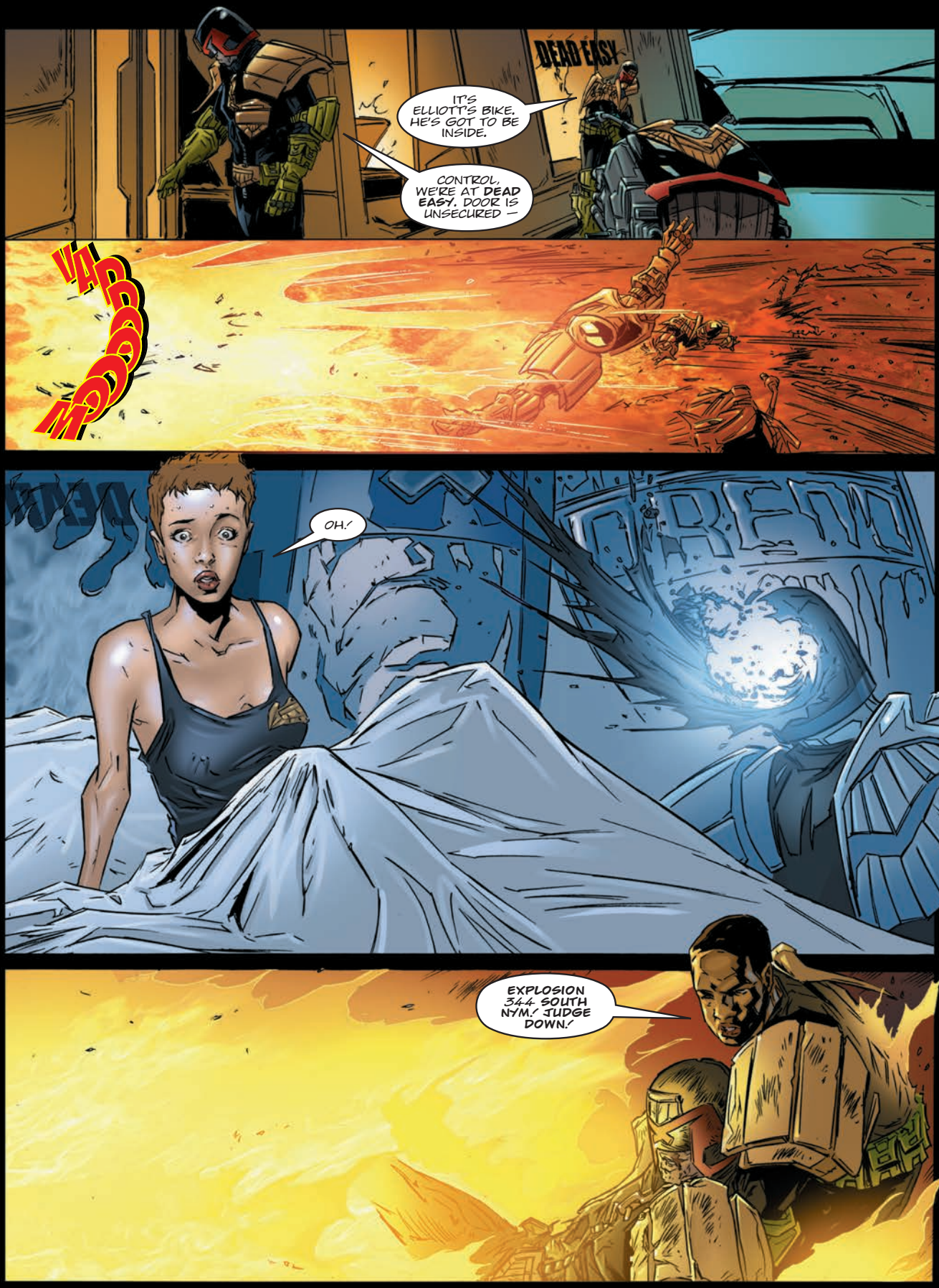
HOLD YOUR FIRE!
NO...
YES.
BLAM
I WAS ONLY NEXT QUAD WHEN I GOT YOUR CALL. IT'S HELL OUT THERE. MAKE THIS QUICK.
LOAD UP THE CASKETS. HURRY.
YOU HAVE AN INFORMER.
WE SUSPECTED SO.
NOT WHO YOU THINK. KID AT THE ACADEMY, PSI.
SHE PICKED UP ON YOUR MAN IN THE CHEM PIT. SHE'S TYING IT TO SOME TERRIBLE DISASTER. NO ONE GAVE HER MUCH CRED TILL DREDD.
FOLLOW JUDGE WILE. ALL IS ARRANGED AT THE OTHER END. YOU WILL NOT BE RETURNING HERE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU'RE NOT COMING?
I MUST REMAIN. I HAVE ONE MORE TASK TO CARRY OUT.
THOUGH HER ORDERS FORBID IT, IT IS TOO GOOD AN OPPORTUNITY TO LET PASS...

WITH A JUDGE ESCORT, THE **KIDNAPPERS** SLIP UNHINDERED THROUGH THE SEARCH CORDON, THE CAPTIVE SCIENTIST AND FAMILY ABOARD.
URB KARLAN
ALEXANDER MINTO HUGHES
BIG 6
AMBULANCE
ST. ELMO'S AMBULANCE
WHILE AT **DEAD EASY**, THE FUNERAL PARLOUR, THE WOMAN CALLED **NADIA** TAKES THE NECESSARY STEPS.

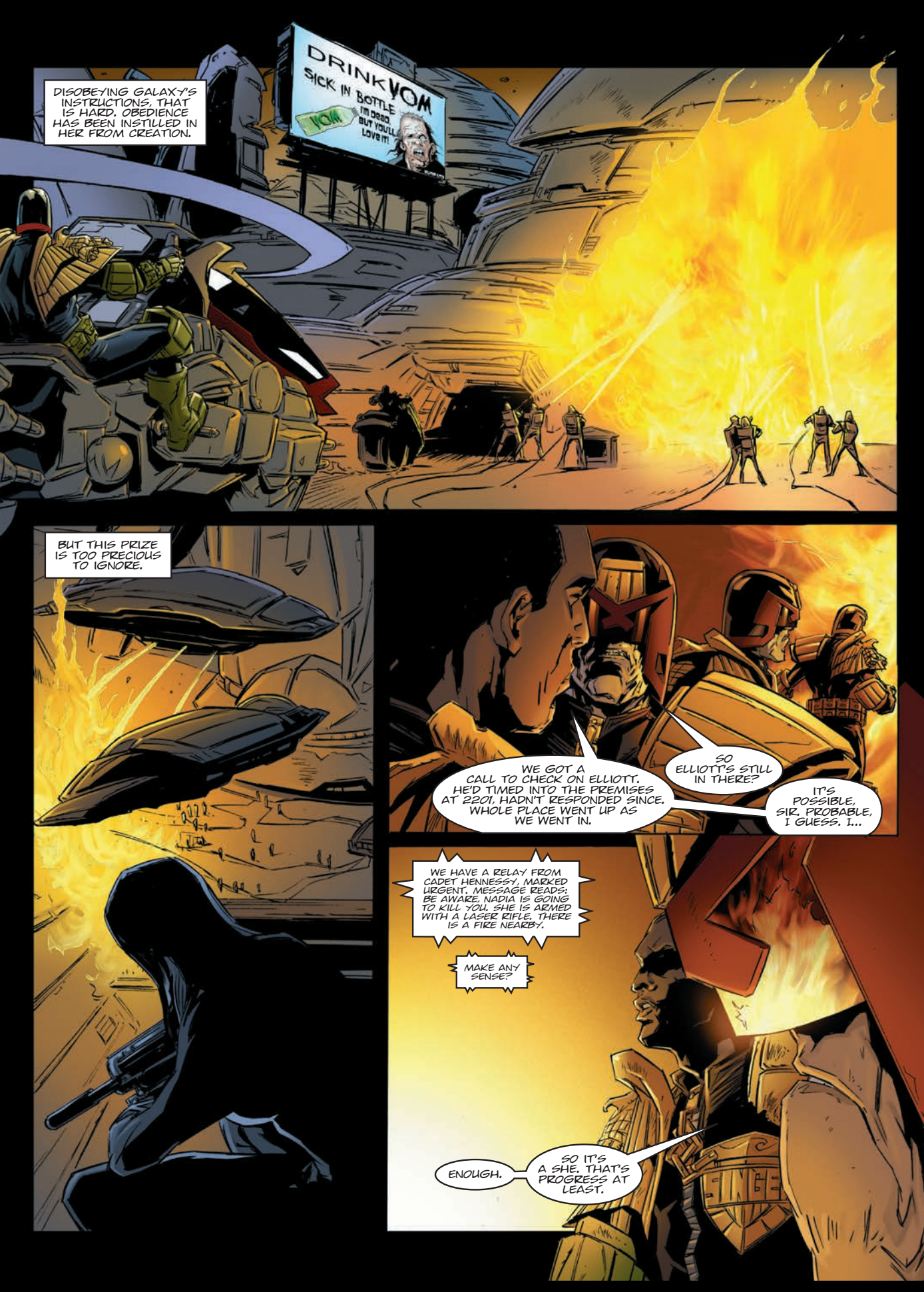
CHECKPOINT AHEAD.
REMEMBER, THEY DON'T TAKE US ALIVE.
ST. ELMO'S AMBULANCE
LET THEM PASS.
KILL THE ST ELMO'S.
THIS IS WHERE WE PART COMPANY. KEEP STRAIGHT ON THREE HUNDRED, RIGHT ON ZIMMER. THAT'LL BRING YOU OUT NEAR THE SKED.
UNLESS THAT PRECOG'S PICKED UP ON YOU, YOU OUGHT TO BE IN THE CLEAR.
A COMFORTING THOUGHT.
COMFORTING TOO TO KNOW THEY HAD A TAME JUDGE ONSIDE. LIKE A SPREADING CANCER THEY HAVE REACHED INTO EVERY PART OF THIS SOCIETY.
AND ONCE THEIR CARGO IS DELIVERED, THE INFECTION WILL BE TERMINAL.

BUT NADIA... NADIA HAS MORE IMMEDIATE RETRIBUTION IN MIND.
WHO WATCHES THE WAT
WHO WOULD???
...MA-MA MIGHT!!
DIRTY FRANK PROLAPSE
WILLSHER

DEAD TASTY


DEAD EASY
IT'S ELLIOTT'S BIKE. HE'S GOT TO BE INSIDE.
CONTROL, WE'RE AT DEAD EASY. DOOR IS UNSECURED —
VAROOOM
OH!
EXPLOSION 344 SOUTH NYM! JUDGE DOWN!

ON MY WAY!
H-WAGON, REPORT!
SOMETHING, HENNESSY?
SHE'S GOING TO KILL HIM!
WHO'S GOING TO KILL WHO?
NADIA. IT'S NADIA. SHE'S NOT NORMAL. SHE HATES HIM. SHE'S GOING TO KILL HIM.
WHO?
JUDGE DREDD! I SAW IT! I SAW BLOOD —


DISOBEYING GALAXY'S INSTRUCTIONS, THAT IS HARD. OBEDIENCE HAS BEEN INSTILLED IN HER FROM CREATION.
DRINK VOM
SICK IN BOTTLE
VOM
I'M DEAD BUT YOU'LL LOVE IT!
BUT THIS PRIZE IS TOO PRECIOUS TO IGNORE.
WE GOT A CALL TO CHECK ON ELLIOTT. HE'D TIMED INTO THE PREMISES AT 2201. HADN'T RESPONDED SINCE. WHOLE PLACE WENT UP AS WE WENT IN.
SO ELLIOTT'S STILL IN THERE?
IT'S POSSIBLE, SIR. PROBABLE, I GUESS. I...
WE HAVE A RELAY FROM CADET HENNESSY, MARKED URGENT. MESSAGE READS: BE AWARE, NADIA IS GOING TO KILL YOU. SHE IS ARMED WITH A LASER RIFLE. THERE IS A FIRE NEARBY.
MAKE ANY SENSE?
ENOUGH.
SO IT'S A SHE. THAT'S PROGRESS AT LEAST.

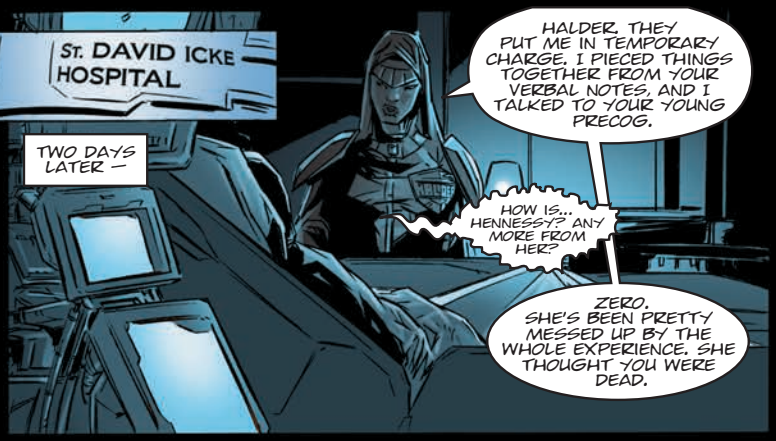
IT'LL BRING A LUMP TO YOUR THROAT!
SO MUCH BLOOD ON THIS MAN'S HANDS.
SIR - !
DREDD

A PASSING JUDGE INTERCEPTS THE SHOT MEANT FOR DREDD —
GET DOWN!
THE SECOND FARES A LITTLE BETTER —
UNNH!
HALF-BLINDED BY BLOOD AND BRAIN MATTER, DREDD CAN'T BANK ON ACCURACY —
BDAM BDAM BDAM
— BUT HEATSEEKERS FIND THEIR MARK.

THERE HE GOES!
IT'S A WOMAN!
CEASE FIRING!
SIR, LET ME LOOK AT THAT —

LATER! TEND TO SINGER!
ONE LAST CHANCE.
SHE'S DEAD.
DO NOT TENSE UP. DO NOTHING TO BETRAY YOUR INTENTIONS. PREPARE YOURSELF.
WHO WAS SHE, SIR?
NADIA, I ASSUME.
THEN MOVE, SO SWIFTLY YOUR HAND IS JUST A BLUR —
— AND THE OLD DEVIL DOESN'T REACT SO QUICKLY ANYMORE.

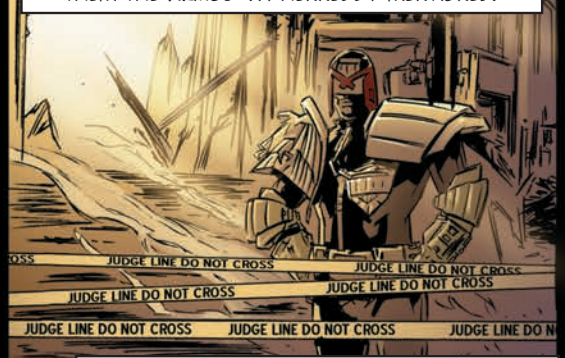
TAKE HER DOWN!
HER WORK IS NOT FINISHED. ONE GOOD TWIST OF THE BLADE —
DAMN! SHE'S SOLID STEEL!
— BUT THE OPPORTUNITY NEVER COMES.
MED WAGON! NOW!



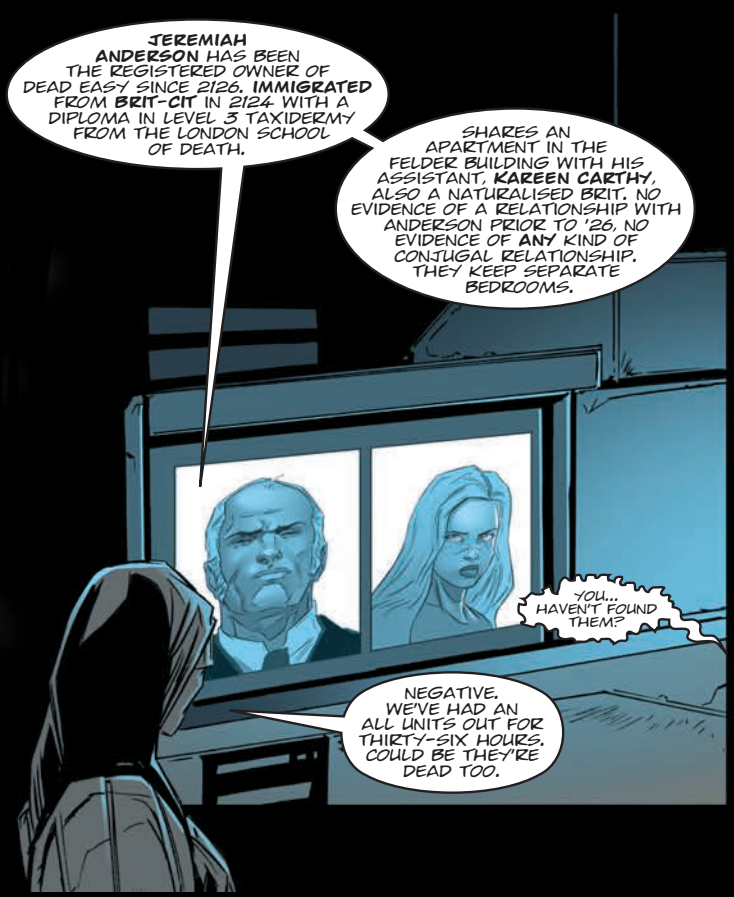
'THE FIRE AT **DEAD EASY** WAS DELIBERATE. ACCELERANT WAS **MYLOPROFENE**, SPLASHES OF THE SAME ACCELERANT ON **NADIA'S** SKIN AND CLOTHES. WE'RE ASSUMING SHE'S NADIA — IT WILL DO AS WELL AS ANYTHING.

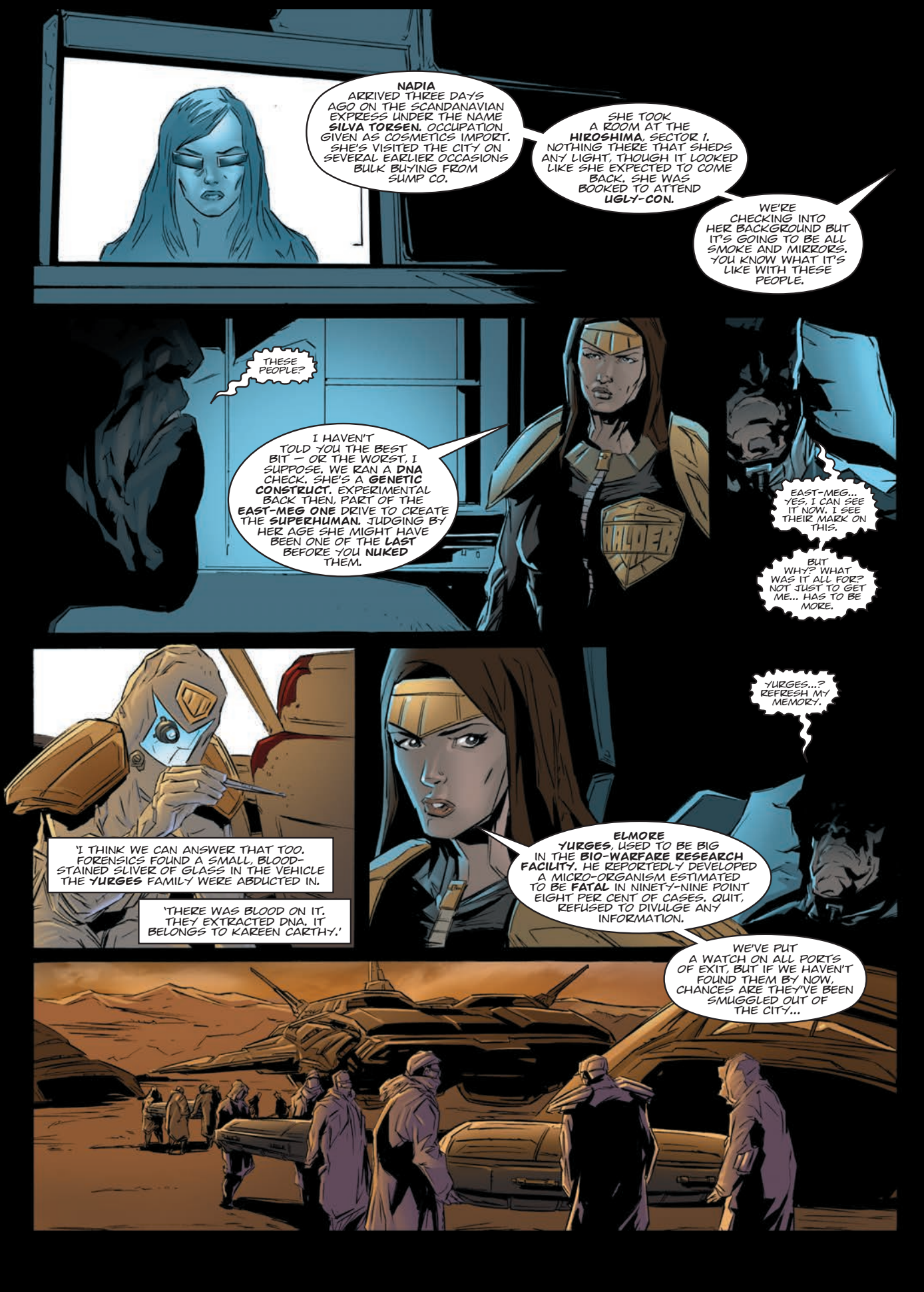
'DESTRUCTION WAS NEAR TOTAL, BUT THEY DID FIND REMAINS OF A HYPODERMIC SYRINGE BELIEVED TO CONTAIN **COMATIN**, THE **SLEEP** DRUG, NOT SOMETHING YOUR AVERAGE MORTICIAN HAS USE FOR. APART FROM ELLIOTT THERE WERE OTHER **HUMAN REMAINS**, BUT THEY'VE BEEN IDENTIFIED AS BUSINESS RELATED.

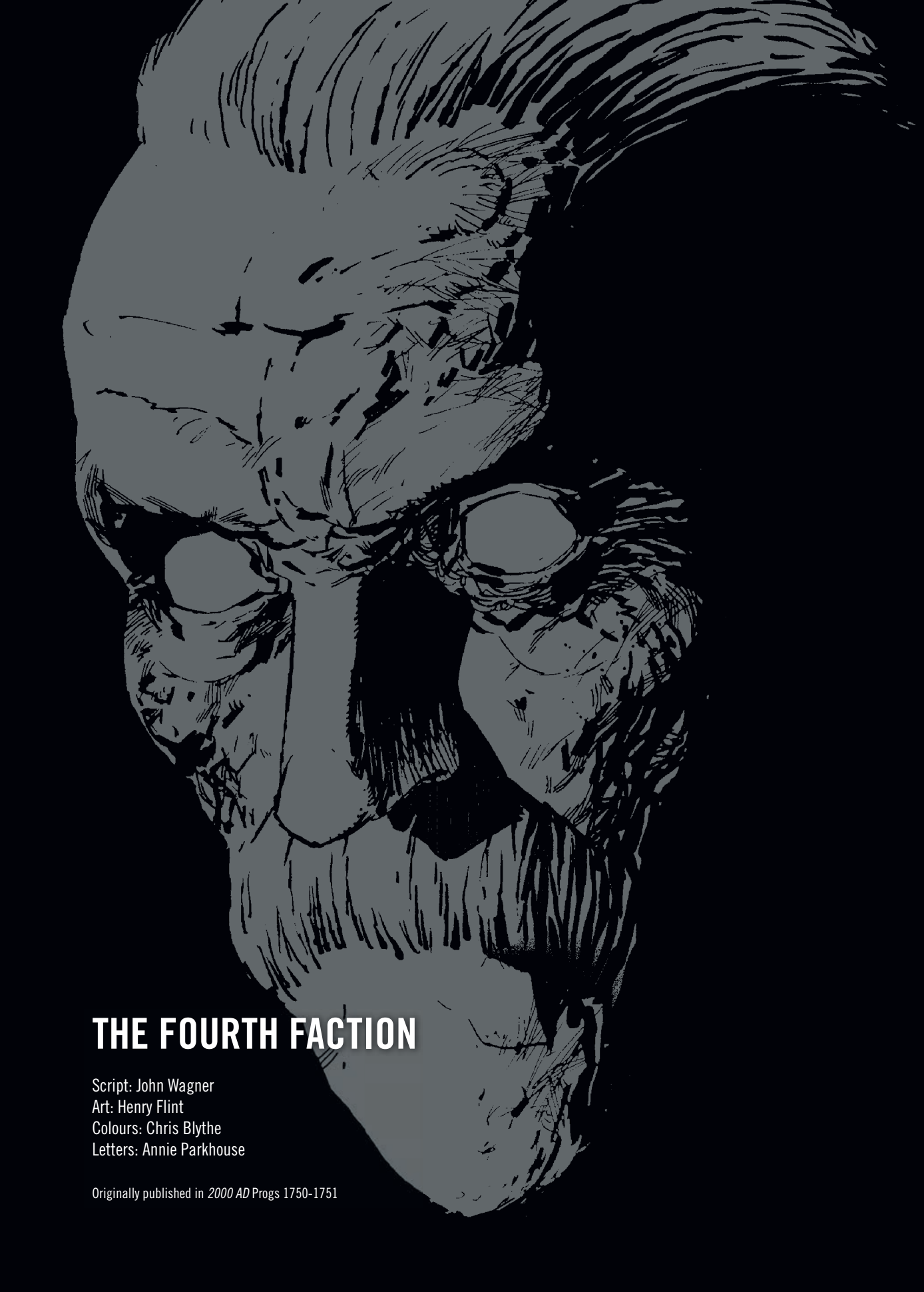
'THE **SAFE** IN THE UPSTAIRS OFFICE CONTAINED FALSE IDS AND OTHER DOCUMENTS FOR **KAREEN CARTHY** AND **JEREMIAH ANDERSON**, PAYCARDS AND CASH TO THE VALUE OF TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND CREDITS, AND TWO **HANDBLASTERS**, NEITHER OF THEM THE **ARMCO** 419 HENNESSY MENTIONED.



'THOUGH WE CAN'T **DEFINITELY** LINK **BILLY HESTER** TO THE PREMISES, I THINK IT'S SAFE TO ASSUME THAT'S WHERE HE WAS **MURDERED**. I TAKE HIM TO BE A MEMBER OF THE GROUP WHO FOR SOME REASON BECAME EXPENDABLE.'




NADIA ARRIVED THREE DAYS AGO ON THE SCANDANAVIAN EXPRESS UNDER THE NAME SILVA TORSEN. OCCUPATION GIVEN AS COSMETICS IMPORT. SHE'S VISITED THE CITY ON SEVERAL EARLIER OCCASIONS BULK BUYING FROM SUMP CO.
SHE TOOK A ROOM AT THE HIROSHIMA, SECTOR 1. NOTHING THERE THAT SHEDS ANY LIGHT, THOUGH IT LOOKED LIKE SHE EXPECTED TO COME BACK. SHE WAS BOOKED TO ATTEND UGLY-CON.
WE'RE CHECKING INTO HER BACKGROUND BUT IT'S GOING TO BE ALL SMOKE AND MIRRORS. YOU KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE WITH THESE PEOPLE.
THESE PEOPLE?
I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU THE BEST BIT — OR THE WORST, I SUPPOSE. WE RAN A DNA CHECK. SHE'S A GENETIC CONSTRUCT. EXPERIMENTAL BACK THEN, PART OF THE EAST-MEG ONE DRIVE TO CREATE THE SUPERHUMAN. JUDGING BY HER AGE SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE LAST BEFORE YOU NUKED THEM.
EAST-MEG... YES, I CAN SEE IT NOW. I SEE THEIR MARK ON THIS.
BUT WHY? WHAT WAS IT ALL FOR? NOT JUST TO GET ME... HAS TO BE MORE.
'I THINK WE CAN ANSWER THAT TOO. FORENSICS FOUND A SMALL, BLOOD-STAINED SLIVER OF GLASS IN THE VEHICLE THE YURGES FAMILY WERE ABDUCTED IN.
'THERE WAS BLOOD ON IT. THEY EXTRACTED DNA. IT BELONGS TO KAREEN CARTHY.'
YURGES...? REFRESH MY MEMORY.
ELMORE YURGES, USED TO BE BIG IN THE BIO-WARFARE RESEARCH FACILITY. HE REPORTEDLY DEVELOPED A MICRO-ORGANISM ESTIMATED TO BE FATAL IN NINETY-NINE POINT EIGHT PER CENT OF CASES. QUIT, REFUSED TO DIVULGE ANY INFORMATION.
WE'VE PUT A WATCH ON ALL PORTS OF EXIT, BUT IF WE HAVEN'T FOUND THEM BY NOW, CHANCES ARE THEY'VE BEEN SMUGGLED OUT OF THE CITY...



THE FOURTH FACTION

Script: John Wagner
Art: Henry Flint
Colours: Chris Blythe
Letters: Annie Parkhouse

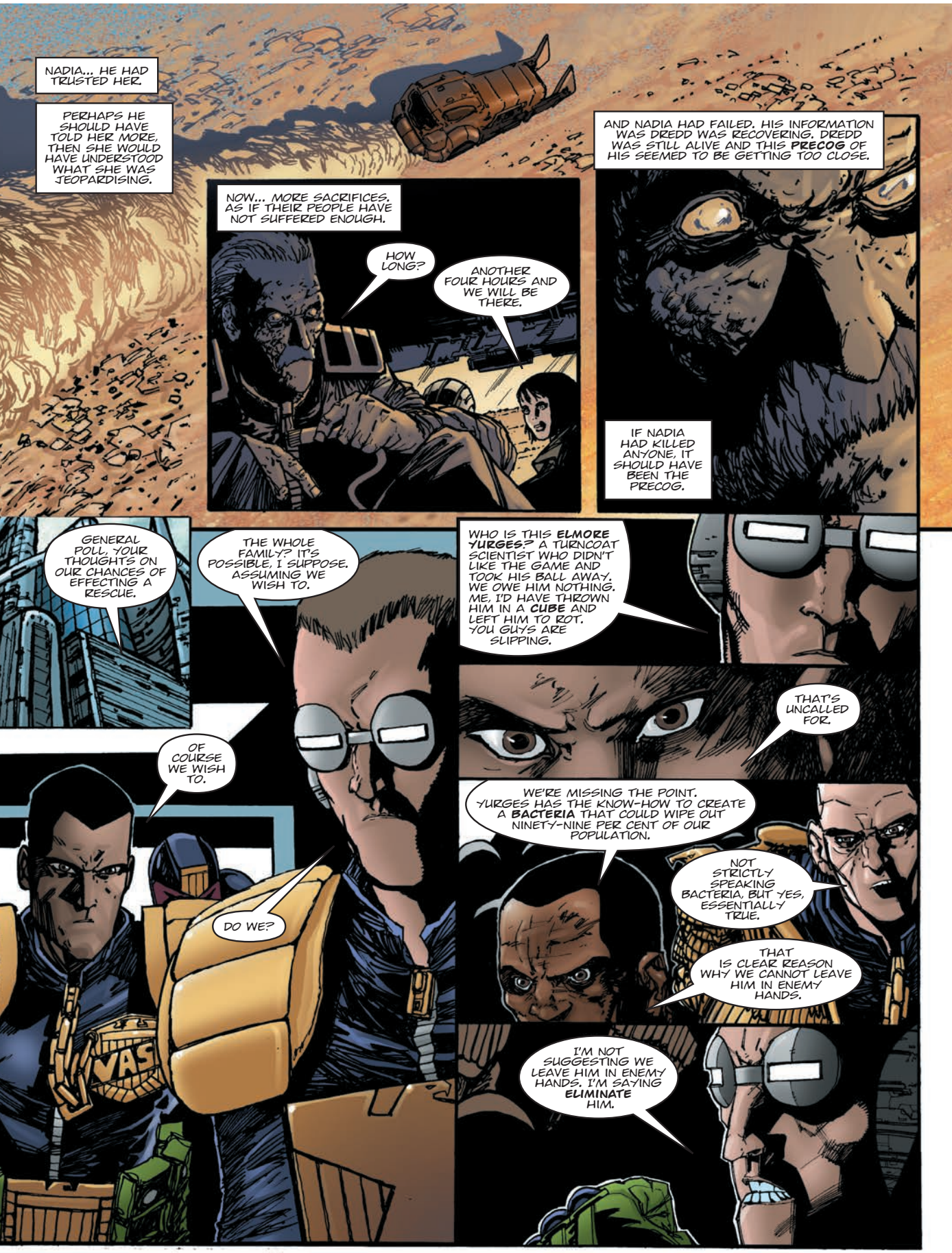
Originally published in *2000 AD* Progs 1750-1751

THEY BROKE DOWN ON THE PLAIN SOUTH OF NOVIGRAD.
THE OLD TRABANT.
HOVERJETS ARE CLOGGED. I'LL HAVE TO REAM THE FILTERS.
HOW LONG?
HALF AN HOUR AT MOST, COLONEL.
WE'RE TOO FAR AWAY, YEVGENY.
NEVER TOO FAR AWAY, GALINA. IN OUR HEARTS.
I MEAN, YOU COULDN'T SEE IT FROM HERE, THE CITY. IF YOU COULD SEE.
IT'S ONLY DEPRESSING ANYWAY. I CRY EVERY TIME I THINK OF IT.
HE'D HAD ANOTHER TRABANT ONCE, THE STAFF CAR. A LITTLE V-WING THAT COULD BARELY GET OFF THE GROUND, THAT CHUGGED AND SHOOK AND RATTLED LIKE A STEAM ENGINE.
HE REMEMBERED THAT DAY SO WELL. HOW COULD HE FORGET IT?
I'LL NEVER FIX THIS, SIR.
DAMNED IRRITATING.
HEAP OF DUNG, SIR. SHOULD NEVER HAVE REVIVED THEM.
I'LL CALL THE BUREAU.
BORISENKO, FORGET YOUR CAR! DREDD'S DONE FOR US ALL!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

SNEKOV'S SHROUD!
SIR! LOOK AWAY!
I SEE IT AS A MERE SKIRMISH, GALINA, IN A WAR THAT IS NOT YET OVER.
I'LL WAIT IN THE TRABANT.

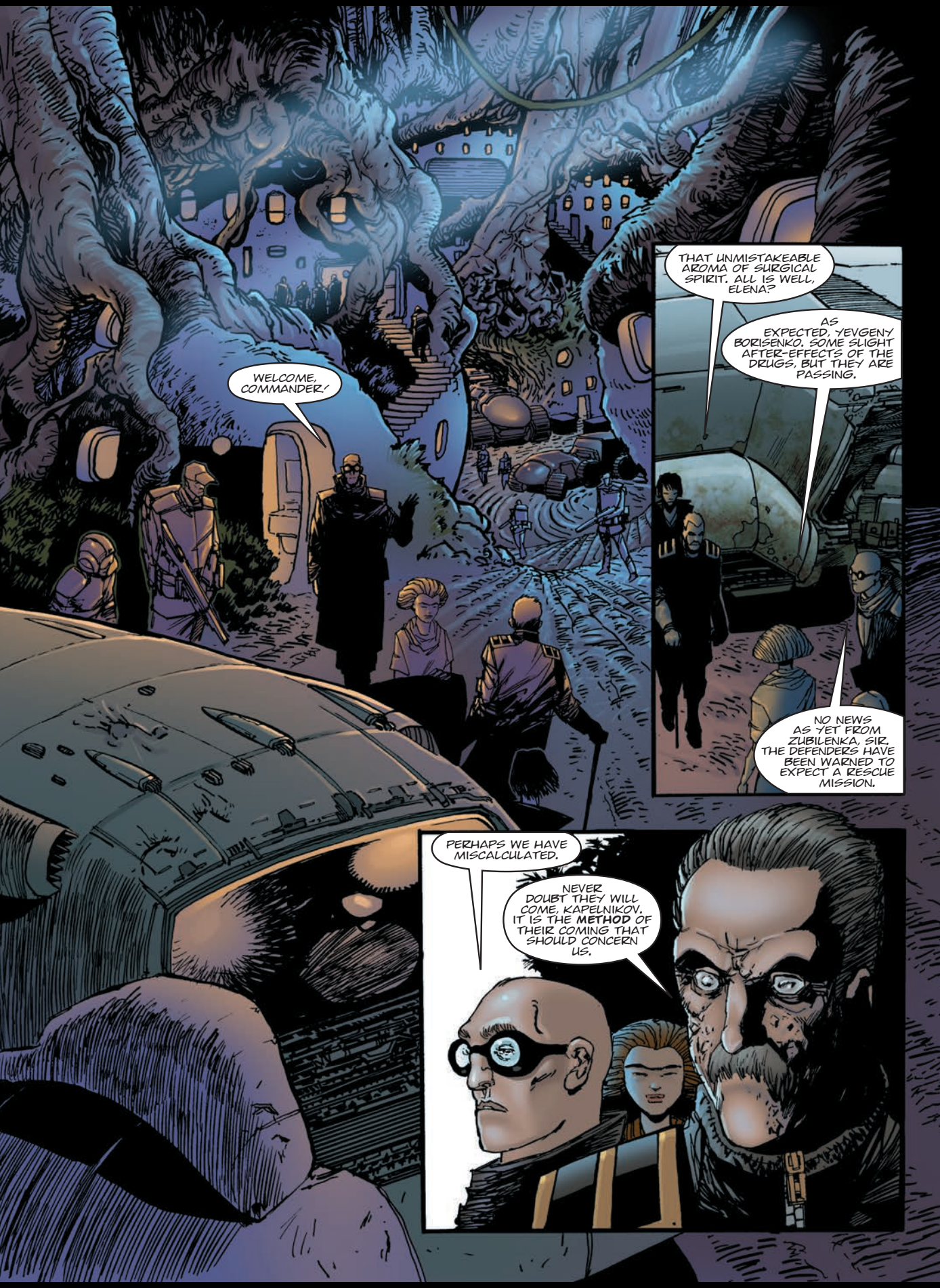
GRAND HALL OF JUSTICE —
WHAT EVIDENCE WE HAVE SUGGESTS THE YURGES FAMILY WAS SMUGGLED OUT OF THE CITY IN CASKETS, DRUGGED.
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC DEFENCE COMMITTEE —
YOU'RE SURE THEY'RE OUT OF THE CITY AT ALL? WE'VE BEEN KEEPING A CLOSE EYE ON ALL PORTS OF EXIT.
SADLY RATHER TOO LATE IN THE DAY. THE ABDUCTORS WERE GEARED TO MOVE FAST.
DREDD —
HE INSISTED ON SITTING IN, SIR. OPERATION ON THE LARYNX YESTERDAY, STILL NOT PERMITTED TO SPEAK.
OF COURSE, DREDD. GOOD TO SEE YOU UP AND ABOUT.
GET HIM A CHAIR.
WE BELIEVE THE CASKETS WERE BROUGHT IN VIA ONE OF THE BALTIC DOCKS AND DRIVEN EAST BY PRIVATE LOADER. QUITE A FEW SYMPATHISERS OPERATE OUT OF THE BALDOCKS. WE PUT OUT WORD TO EVERY AGENT ON THE GROUND.
LAST WEEK WE RECEIVED A MESSAGE FROM THE AGENT CODENAMED GORKI. HE'D NOTICED INCREASED ACTIVITY IN AND AROUND THE DP SETTLEMENT THEY CALL ZUBILENKA —
— A LARGE INFLUX OF ARMED MILITIA CAMPED IN AND AROUND THIS FORTIFIED COMPOUND HERE.
THESE IMAGES ARE TAKEN FROM SPACE. WE NEEDED TO FIND OUT MORE. WE ASKED GORKI TO TRY TO GET INSIDE. THIS HE WAS RELUCTANT TO DO, UNDERSTANDABLY. HE DID, HOWEVER, MANAGE TO BRIBE ONE OF THE MILITIA.

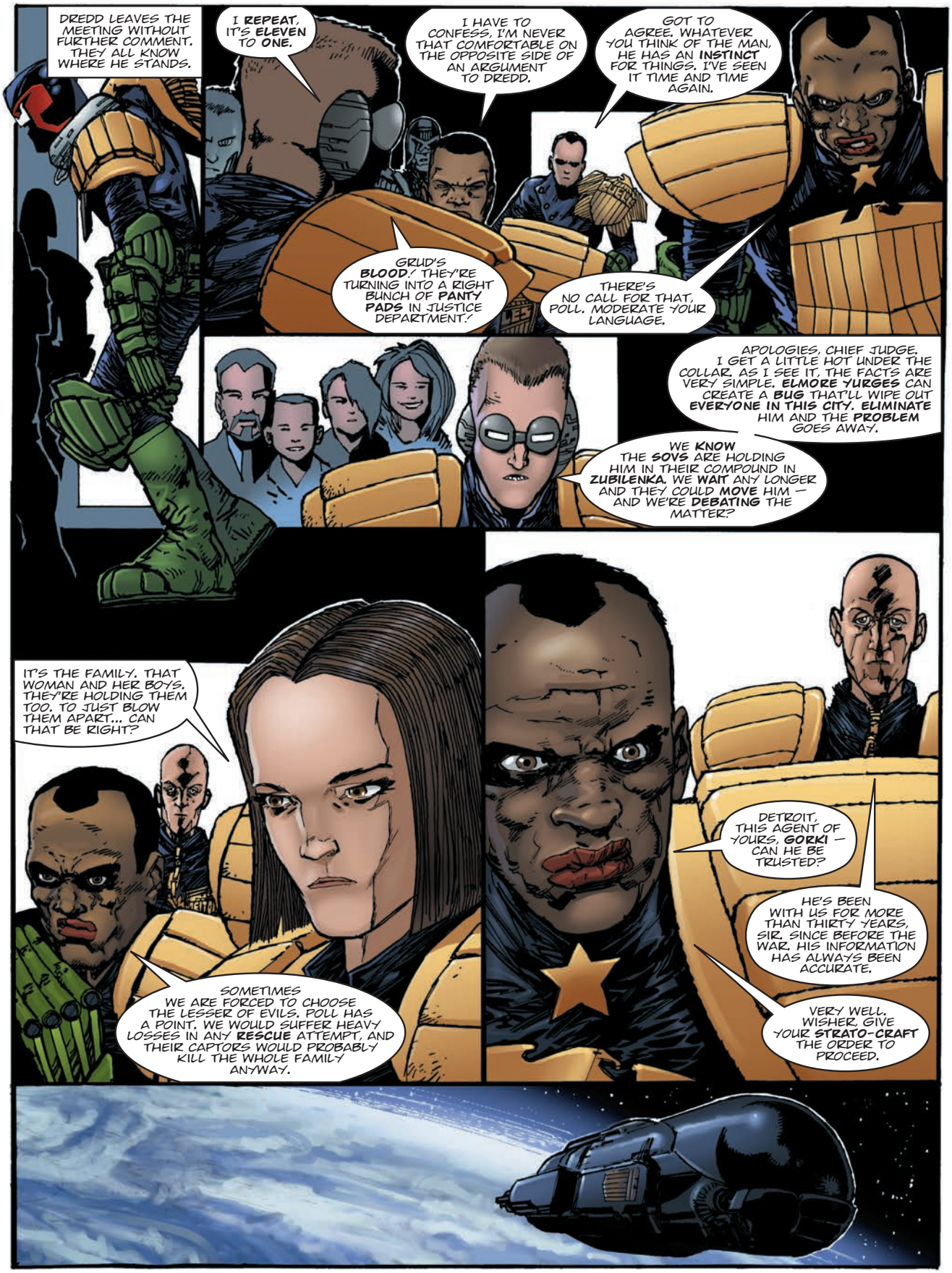
YESTERDAY WE RECEIVED THESE PICTURES.
WE'VE HAD THEM EXPERTLY EXAMINED. THE CASKETS ARE **FISHER** 407S, MEGA-CITY ONE MANUFACTURE, A MODEL **DEAD EASY** USED FREQUENTLY. INDEED, THERE WERE FOUR LISTED IN THEIR STOCK INVENTORY.
AND THESE WERE IN THE COMPOUND?
YES, CHIEF JUDGE, IN A STOREROOM THERE. OF COURSE WE CAN'T EXAMINE THEM FORENSICALLY, BUT THERE'S MORE.
THEN THERE CAN'T BE ANY DOUBT.
DAMN SOVS, THEY NEVER LEARN.'
WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE PEOPLE HOLDING THEM?
I APOLOGISE FOR THE QUALITY OF THE IMAGES BUT I THINK WE CAN BE FAIRLY SURE THAT IS **ELMORE YURGES.**
DEMELDA YURGES AND HER SONS APPEAR TO BE KEPT SEPARATELY.
YEVGENY BORISENKO, CODENAME **GALAXY.**
AS YOU KNOW, AFTER THE **DESTRUCTION** OF **EAST-MEG ONE** THE REMNANTS OF THEIR MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITIES SPLIT INTO FOUR SEPARATE GROUPS. THREE OF THEM LATER FORMED A LOOSE ALLIANCE AND CONTINUE TO PRESENT THE OCCASIONAL PROBLEM.
THE **FOURTH FACTION** UNDER BORISENKO HAS BEEN RELATIVELY QUIET UP TILL NOW.
BORISENKO IS KNOWN AS A PLANNER, A LONG-TERM STRATEGIST. A COLONEL IN **INTELLIGENCE** BEFORE THE WAR, HE WAS THE LIAISON WITH THE MILITARY'S **GM** PROGRAMME —
THIS WOULD TIE IN WITH **'NADIA'**, YOUR WOULD-BE ASSASSIN, DREDD.


NADIA... HE HAD TRUSTED HER.
PERHAPS HE SHOULD HAVE TOLD HER MORE, THEN SHE WOULD HAVE UNDERSTOOD WHAT SHE WAS JEOPARDISING.
NOW... MORE SACRIFICES. AS IF THEIR PEOPLE HAVE NOT SUFFERED ENOUGH.
HOW LONG?
ANOTHER FOUR HOURS AND WE WILL BE THERE.
AND NADIA HAD FAILED. HIS INFORMATION WAS DREDD WAS RECOVERING. DREDD WAS STILL ALIVE AND THIS **PRECOG** OF HIS SEEMED TO BE GETTING TOO CLOSE.
IF NADIA HAD KILLED ANYONE, IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE PRECOG.
GENERAL POLL. YOUR THOUGHTS ON OUR CHANCES OF EFFECTING A RESCUE.
THE WHOLE FAMILY? IT'S POSSIBLE, I SUPPOSE. ASSUMING WE WISH TO.
OF COURSE WE WISH TO.
DO WE?
WHO IS THIS **ELMORE YURGES?** A TURNCOAT SCIENTIST WHO DIDN'T LIKE THE GAME AND TOOK HIS BALL AWAY. WE OWE HIM NOTHING. ME, I'D HAVE THROWN HIM IN A **CUBE** AND LEFT HIM TO ROT. YOU GUYS ARE SLIPPING.
THAT'S UNCALLED FOR.
WE'RE MISSING THE POINT. YURGES HAS THE KNOW-HOW TO CREATE A **BACTERIA** THAT COULD WIPE OUT NINETY-NINE PER CENT OF OUR POPULATION.
NOT STRICTLY SPEAKING BACTERIA, BUT YES, ESSENTIALLY TRUE.
THAT IS CLEAR REASON WHY WE CANNOT LEAVE HIM IN ENEMY HANDS.
I'M NOT SUGGESTING WE LEAVE HIM IN ENEMY HANDS. I'M SAYING **ELIMINATE** HIM.

LET ME EXPLAIN IT TO YOU. THE COMPOUND IS CRAWLING WITH ARMED FIGHTERS — I SEND TROOPERS IN THERE WE'RE GOING TO LOSE PLENTY, AND I MEAN PLENTY. AND THE RUSSKIES WILL PROBABLY KILL THE WHOLE FAMILY ANYWAY OUT OF SPITE.
WISHER HERE'S GOT A STRATO-CRAFT OVERHEAD NOW. HE CAN GUARANTEE NO ONE LEAVES THAT COMPOUND ALIVE.
A COUPLE OF PHOTON TORPEDOES AND THE JOB'S DONE. QUICK, CLINICAL, NO RISK TO OUR OWN PEOPLE.
IT'S A QUESTION OF BALANCE — MY BOYS' LIVES AGAINST A BUNCH OF PINKOS WHO DIDN'T KNOW WHERE THEIR LOYALTIES LAY — AND FRANKLY, I'M NOT WILLING TO SEE MY BOYS DIE FOR THAT.
WE KNOW WHERE THEY ARE. WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO DILLY DALLY. WE HAVE TO ACT NOW. WHAT'S YOUR DECISION?
IT'S HARD TO ARGUE WITH YOUR LOGIC, GENERAL. BUT THE WIFE — THE CHILDREN — NO MATTER WHAT YOU THINK OF ELMORE YURGES, THEY'RE TOTALLY INNOCENT.
IT SEEMS HARSH, AND YET... FACED WITH THE ALTERNATIVE...
WE HAVE OVER FOUR HUNDRED MILLION CITIZENS. THROW THEIR LIVES INTO THE EQUATION AND POLL'S ARGUMENT IS IRREFUTABLE. MAY I SUGGEST, CHIEF JUDGE, THAT WE TAKE A SHOW OF HANDS.
THAT'S ALMOST UNANIMOUS. DREDD? YOU'RE AGAINST?
WHAT — THE MAN WHO NUKED EAST-MEG ONE HAS QUALMS?
I DISAGREE. IN THIS CASE I THINK OUR INFORMATION IS ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE.
CHIEF JUDGE, THE VOTE IS OVERWHELMING. MAY WE TAKE IT THIS MISSION IS GO?
UNITS ON THE GROUND- ONLY WAY TO BE SURE.
DREDD

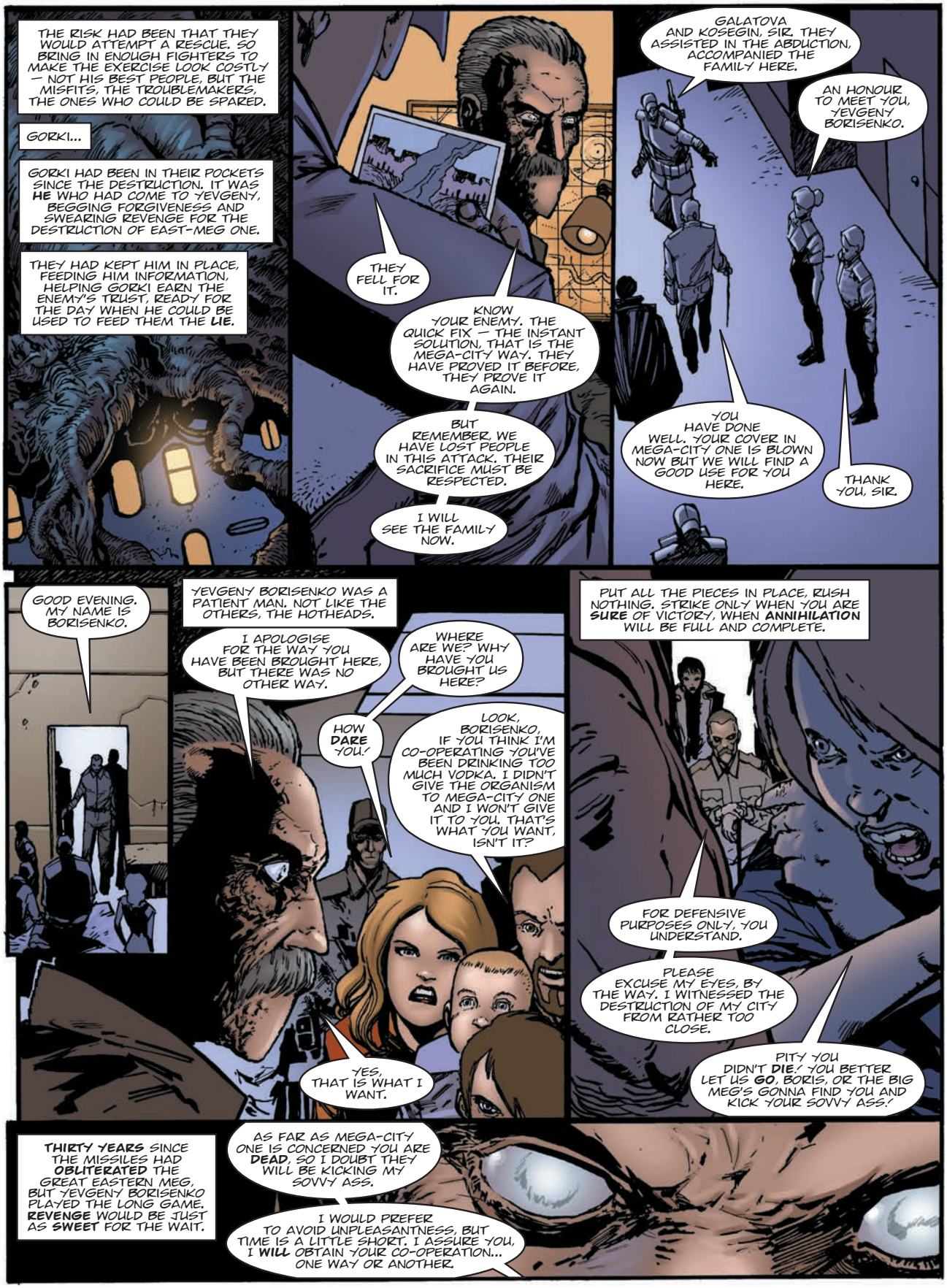
THEY REACHED THE FOREST BEFORE DARK. ALL DAY WITHOUT ANOTHER BREAKDOWN, UNTIL AT LAST THE TREES CLOSED IN AROUND THEM.
GALAXY. REPEAT, GALAXY.

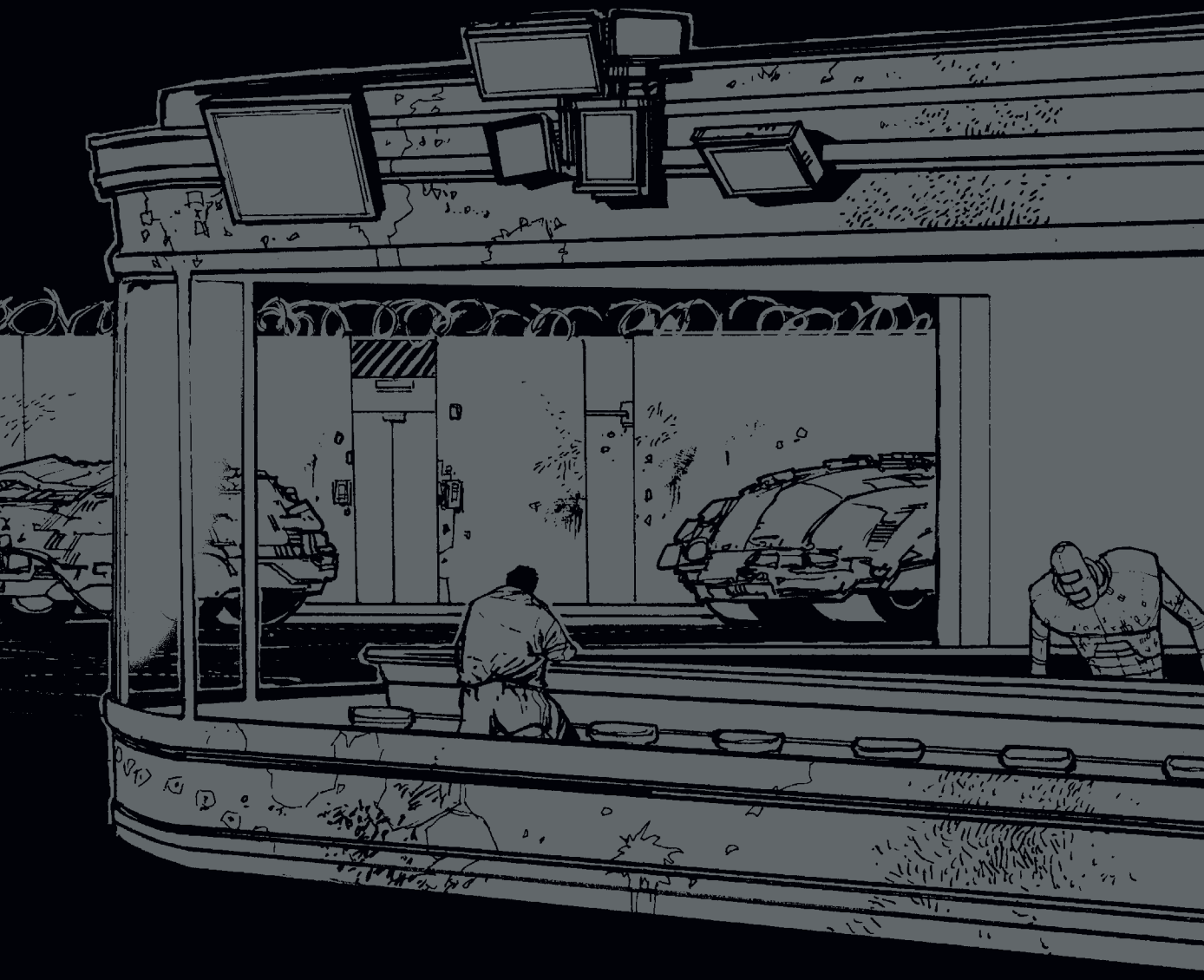

WELCOME, COMMANDER!
THAT UNMISTAKEABLE AROMA OF SURGICAL SPIRIT. ALL IS WELL, ELENA?
AS EXPECTED, YEVGENY BORISENKO. SOME SLIGHT AFTER-EFFECTS OF THE DRUGS, BUT THEY ARE PASSING.
NO NEWS AS YET FROM ZUBILENKA, SIR. THE DEFENDERS HAVE BEEN WARNED TO EXPECT A RESCUE MISSION.
PERHAPS WE HAVE MISCALCULATED.
NEVER DOUBT THEY WILL COME, KAPELNIKOV. IT IS THE **METHOD** OF THEIR COMING THAT SHOULD CONCERN US.


DREDD LEAVES THE MEETING WITHOUT FURTHER COMMENT. THEY ALL KNOW WHERE HE STANDS.
I REPEAT, IT'S ELEVEN TO ONE.
I HAVE TO CONFESS, I'M NEVER THAT COMFORTABLE ON THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF AN ARGUMENT TO DREDD.
GOT TO AGREE. WHATEVER YOU THINK OF THE MAN, HE HAS AN INSTINCT FOR THINGS. I'VE SEEN IT TIME AND TIME AGAIN.
GRUD'S BLOOD! THEY'RE TURNING INTO A RIGHT BUNCH OF PANTY PADS IN JUSTICE DEPARTMENT!
THERE'S NO CALL FOR THAT, POLL. MODERATE YOUR LANGUAGE.
APOLOGIES, CHIEF JUDGE. I GET A LITTLE HOT UNDER THE COLLAR. AS I SEE IT, THE FACTS ARE VERY SIMPLE. ELMORE YURGES CAN CREATE A BUG THAT'LL WIPE OUT EVERYONE IN THIS CITY. ELIMINATE HIM AND THE PROBLEM GOES AWAY.
WE KNOW THE SOVS ARE HOLDING HIM IN THEIR COMPOUND IN ZUBILENKA. WE WAIT ANY LONGER AND THEY COULD MOVE HIM — AND WE'RE DEBATING THE MATTER?
IT'S THE FAMILY. THAT WOMAN AND HER BOYS. THEY'RE HOLDING THEM TOO. TO JUST BLOW THEM APART... CAN THAT BE RIGHT?
SOMETIMES WE ARE FORCED TO CHOOSE THE LESSER OF EVILS. POLL HAS A POINT. WE WOULD SUFFER HEAVY LOSSES IN ANY RESCUE ATTEMPT, AND THEIR CAPTORS WOULD PROBABLY KILL THE WHOLE FAMILY ANYWAY.
DETROIT, THIS AGENT OF YOURS, GORKI — CAN HE BE TRUSTED?
HE'S BEEN WITH US FOR MORE THAN THIRTY YEARS, SIR. SINCE BEFORE THE WAR. HIS INFORMATION HAS ALWAYS BEEN ACCURATE.
VERY WELL. WISHER, GIVE YOUR STRATO-CRAFT THE ORDER TO PROCEED.

WHO MOVED THIS FURNITURE?
YOUNG POPOV, SIR. HE'S BEEN CLEANING WHILE YOU WERE AWAY.
IN FUTURE SEE THAT NO ONE IS ALLOWED IN UNLESS GALINA IS HERE TO SUPERVISE.
YES, SIR. SORRY, SIR.
IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER HAD NADIA NOT DISOBEYED ORDERS,
SO YOU HAVE SAID, YEVGENY.
BETTER THAT THEY DID NOT KNOW **WHO** WAS HOLDING ELMORE YURGES. HOW TRUE THE OLD MAXIM — **NO** PLAN SURVIVES CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY.
AND YEVGENY BORISENKO WOULD NOT BE THE MAN HE WAS UNLESS HE HAD PREPARED FOR IT.

OF COURSE THE ENEMY WOULD NOT REST UNTIL THEY FOUND YURGES. SO GIVE THEM WHAT THEY WANT.
THIS JUST IN, SIR.
IT IS FROM IVAN. A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE COMPOUND IN ZUBILENKA. EXCEPT THERE **IS** NO COMPOUND.
HUH! IF **WE** HAD SUCH FIREPOWER!

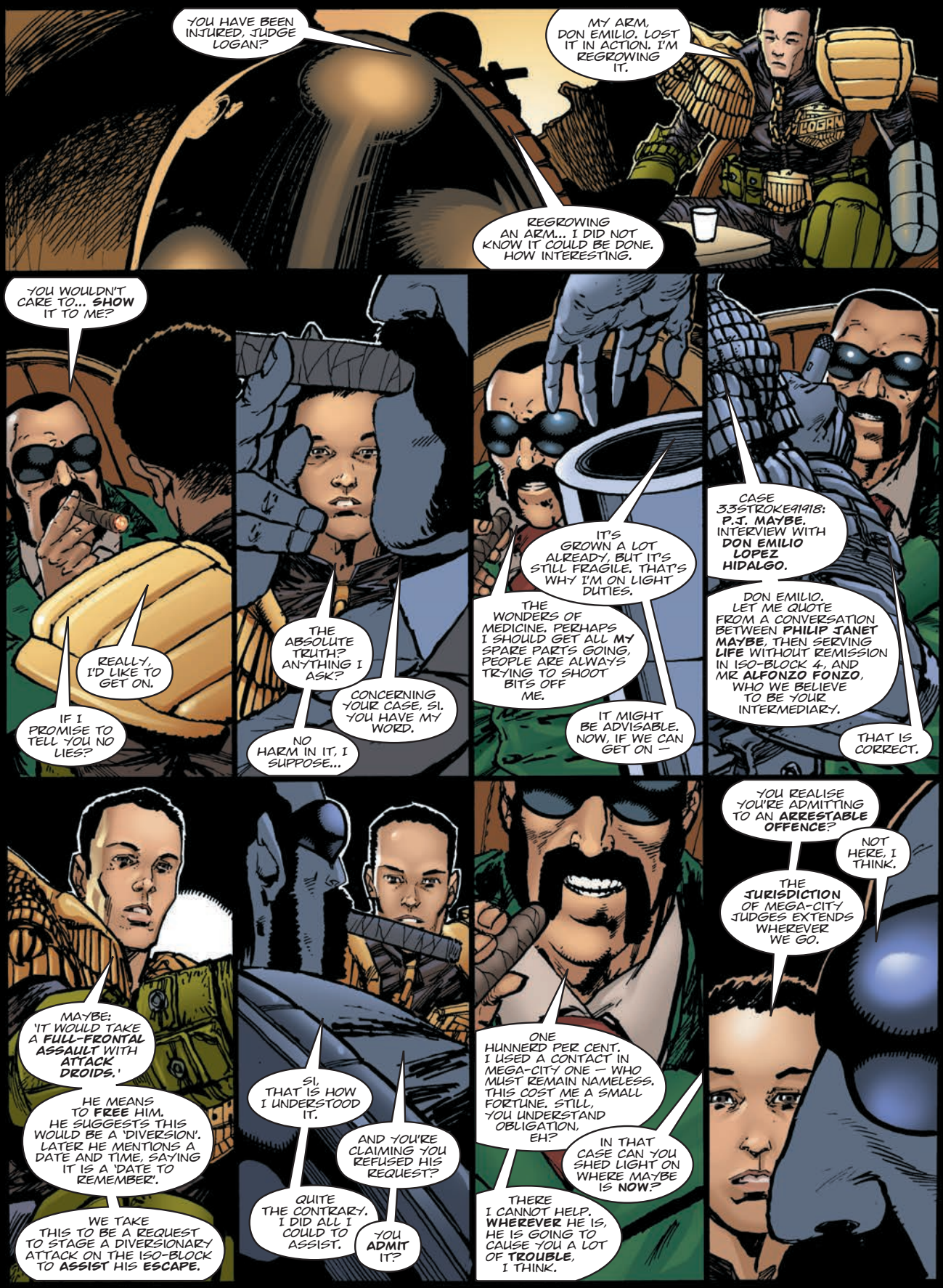

THE RISK HAD BEEN THAT THEY WOULD ATTEMPT A RESCUE. SO BRING IN ENOUGH FIGHTERS TO MAKE THE EXERCISE LOOK COSTLY — NOT HIS BEST PEOPLE, BUT THE MISFITS, THE TROUBLEMAKERS, THE ONES WHO COULD BE SPARED.
GORKI...
GORKI HAD BEEN IN THEIR POCKETS SINCE THE DESTRUCTION. IT WAS HE WHO HAD COME TO YEVGENY, BEGGING FORGIVENESS AND SWEARING REVENGE FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF EAST-MEG ONE.
THEY HAD KEPT HIM IN PLACE, FEEDING HIM INFORMATION, HELPING GORKI EARN THE ENEMY'S TRUST, READY FOR THE DAY WHEN HE COULD BE USED TO FEED THEM THE LIE.
THEY FELL FOR IT.
KNOW YOUR ENEMY. THE QUICK FIX — THE INSTANT SOLUTION, THAT IS THE MEGA-CITY WAY. THEY HAVE PROVED IT BEFORE, THEY PROVE IT AGAIN.
BUT REMEMBER, WE HAVE LOST PEOPLE IN THIS ATTACK. THEIR SACRIFICE MUST BE RESPECTED.
I WILL SEE THE FAMILY NOW.
GALATOVA AND KOSEGIN, SIR. THEY ASSISTED IN THE ABDUCTION, ACCOMPANIED THE FAMILY HERE.
AN HONOUR TO MEET YOU, YEVGENY BORISENKO.
YOU HAVE DONE WELL. YOUR COVER IN MEGA-CITY ONE IS BLOWN NOW BUT WE WILL FIND A GOOD USE FOR YOU HERE.
THANK YOU, SIR.
GOOD EVENING. MY NAME IS BORISENKO.
YEVGENY BORISENKO WAS A PATIENT MAN. NOT LIKE THE OTHERS, THE HOTHEADS.
I APOLOGISE FOR THE WAY YOU HAVE BEEN BROUGHT HERE, BUT THERE WAS NO OTHER WAY.
WHERE ARE WE? WHY HAVE YOU BROUGHT US HERE?
HOW DARE YOU!
LOOK, BORISENKO, IF YOU THINK I'M CO-OPERATING YOU'VE BEEN DRINKING TOO MUCH VODKA. I DIDN'T GIVE THE ORGANISM TO MEGA-CITY ONE AND I WON'T GIVE IT TO YOU. THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, ISN'T IT?
YES, THAT IS WHAT I WANT.
PUT ALL THE PIECES IN PLACE, RUSH NOTHING. STRIKE ONLY WHEN YOU ARE SURE OF VICTORY, WHEN ANNIHILATION WILL BE FULL AND COMPLETE.
FOR DEFENSIVE PURPOSES ONLY, YOU UNDERSTAND.
PLEASE EXCUSE MY EYES, BY THE WAY. I WITNESSED THE DESTRUCTION OF MY CITY FROM RATHER TOO CLOSE.
PITY YOU DIDN'T DIE! YOU BETTER LET US GO, BORIS, OR THE BIG MEG'S GONNA FIND YOU AND KICK YOUR SOVVY ASS!
THIRTY YEARS SINCE THE MISSILES HAD OBLITERATED THE GREAT EASTERN MEG, BUT YEVGENY BORISENKO PLAYED THE LONG GAME. REVENGE WOULD BE JUST AS SWEET FOR THE WAIT.
AS FAR AS MEGA-CITY ONE IS CONCERNED YOU ARE DEAD, SO I DOUBT THEY WILL BE KICKING MY SOVVY ASS.
I WOULD PREFER TO AVOID UNPLEASANTNESS, BUT TIME IS A LITTLE SHORT. I ASSURE YOU, I WILL OBTAIN YOUR CO-OPERATION... ONE WAY OR ANOTHER.



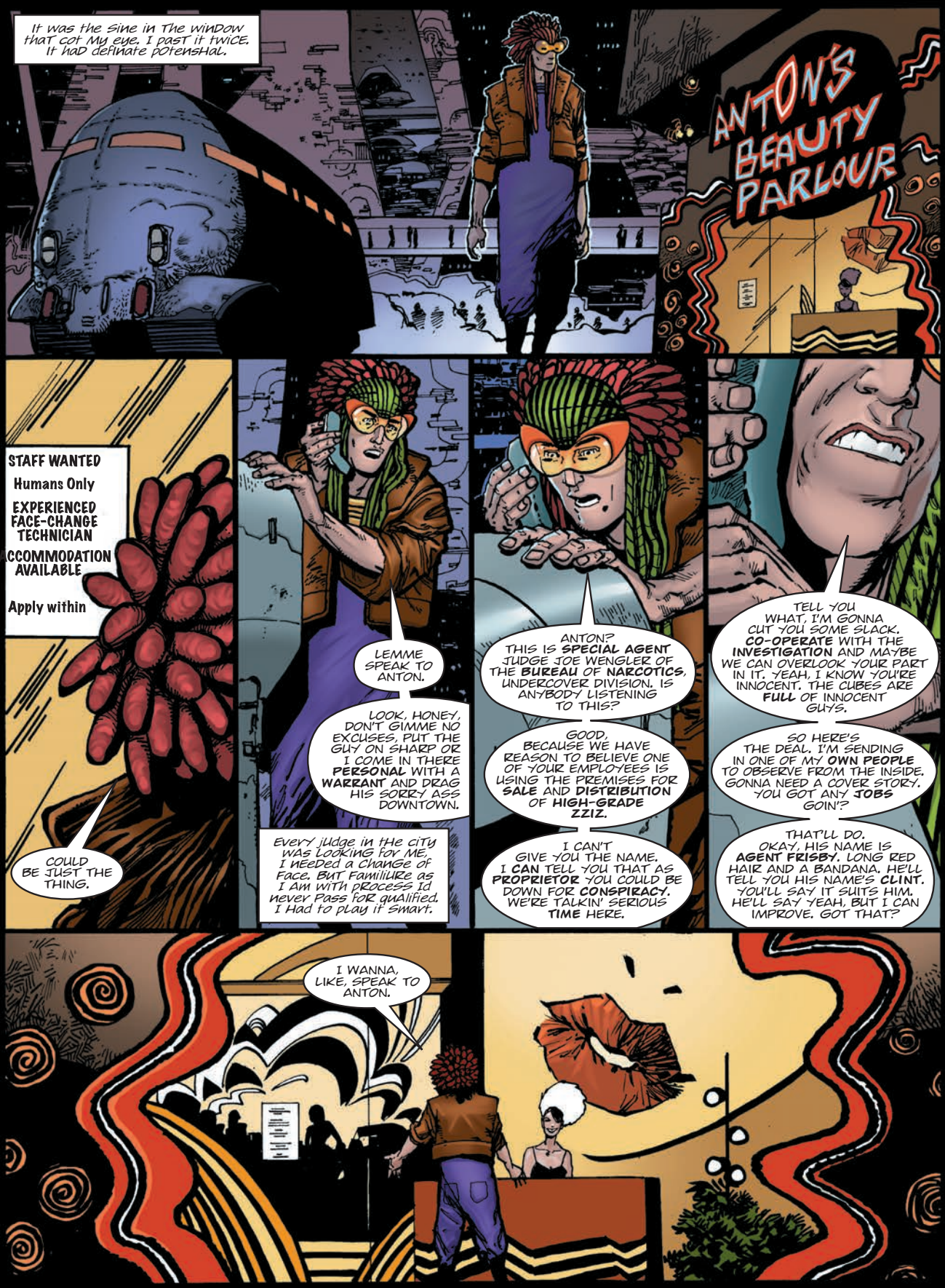
ELUSIVE

Script: John Wagner
Art: Henry Flint
Colours: Chris Blythe
Letters: Annie Parkhouse

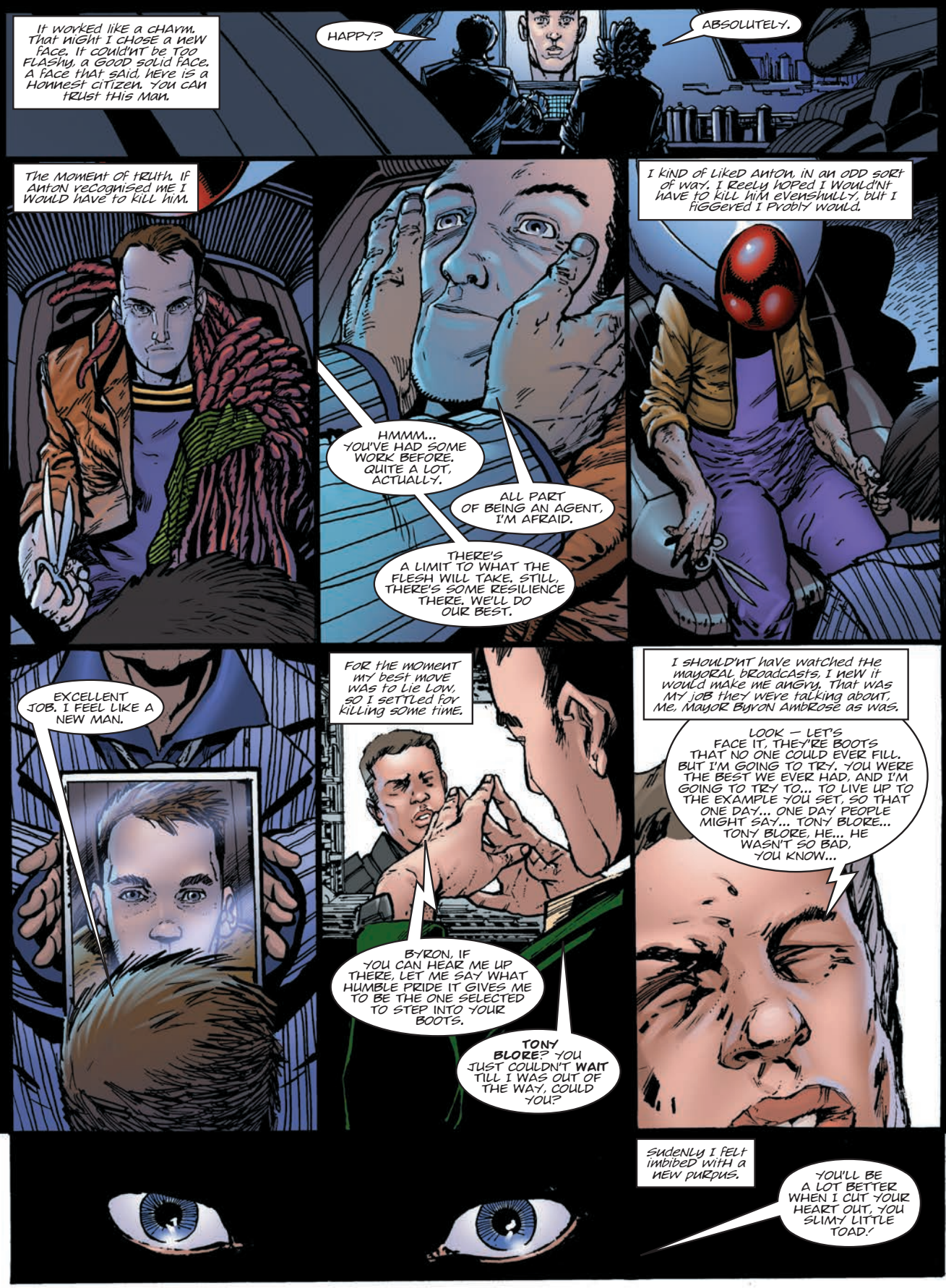
Originally published in *2000 AD* Progs 1753-1758


YOU HAVE BEEN INJURED, JUDGE LOGAN?
MY ARM, DON EMILIO. LOST IT IN ACTION. I'M REGROWING IT.
REGROWING AN ARM... I DID NOT KNOW IT COULD BE DONE. HOW INTERESTING.
YOU WOULDN'T CARE TO... SHOW IT TO ME?
REALLY, I'D LIKE TO GET ON.
IF I PROMISE TO TELL YOU NO LIES?
THE ABSOLUTE TRUTH? ANYTHING I ASK?
CONCERNING YOUR CASE, SI. YOU HAVE MY WORD.
NO HARM IN IT, I SUPPOSE...
IT'S GROWN A LOT ALREADY, BUT IT'S STILL FRAGILE. THAT'S WHY I'M ON LIGHT DUTIES.
THE WONDERS OF MEDICINE. PERHAPS I SHOULD GET ALL MY SPARE PARTS GOING, PEOPLE ARE ALWAYS TRYING TO SHOOT BITS OFF ME.
IT MIGHT BE ADVISABLE. NOW, IF WE CAN GET ON —
CASE 33STROKE91918: P.J. MAYBE. INTERVIEW WITH DON EMILIO LOPEZ HIDALGO.
DON EMILIO. LET ME QUOTE FROM A CONVERSATION BETWEEN PHILIP JANET MAYBE, THEN SERVING LIFE WITHOUT REMISSION IN ISO-BLOCK 4, AND MR ALFONZO FONZO, WHO WE BELIEVE TO BE YOUR INTERMEDIARY.
THAT IS CORRECT.
MAYBE: 'IT WOULD TAKE A FULL-FRONTAL ASSAULT WITH ATTACK DROIDS.'
HE MEANS TO FREE HIM. HE SUGGESTS THIS WOULD BE A 'DIVERSION'. LATER HE MENTIONS A DATE AND TIME, SAYING IT IS A 'DATE TO REMEMBER'.
WE TAKE THIS TO BE A REQUEST TO STAGE A DIVERSIONARY ATTACK ON THE ISO-BLOCK TO ASSIST HIS ESCAPE.
SI, THAT IS HOW I UNDERSTOOD IT.
AND YOU'RE CLAIMING YOU REFUSED HIS REQUEST?
QUITE THE CONTRARY. I DID ALL I COULD TO ASSIST.
YOU ADMIT IT?
ONE HUNNERD PER CENT. I USED A CONTACT IN MEGA-CITY ONE — WHO MUST REMAIN NAMELESS. THIS COST ME A SMALL FORTUNE. STILL, YOU UNDERSTAND OBLIGATION, EH?
IN THAT CASE CAN YOU SHED LIGHT ON WHERE MAYBE IS NOW?
THERE I CANNOT HELP. WHEREVER HE IS, HE IS GOING TO CAUSE YOU A LOT OF TROUBLE, I THINK.
YOU REALISE YOU'RE ADMITTING TO AN ARRESTABLE OFFENCE?
NOT HERE, I THINK.
THE JURISDICTION OF MEGA-CITY JUDGES EXTENDS WHEREVER WE GO.

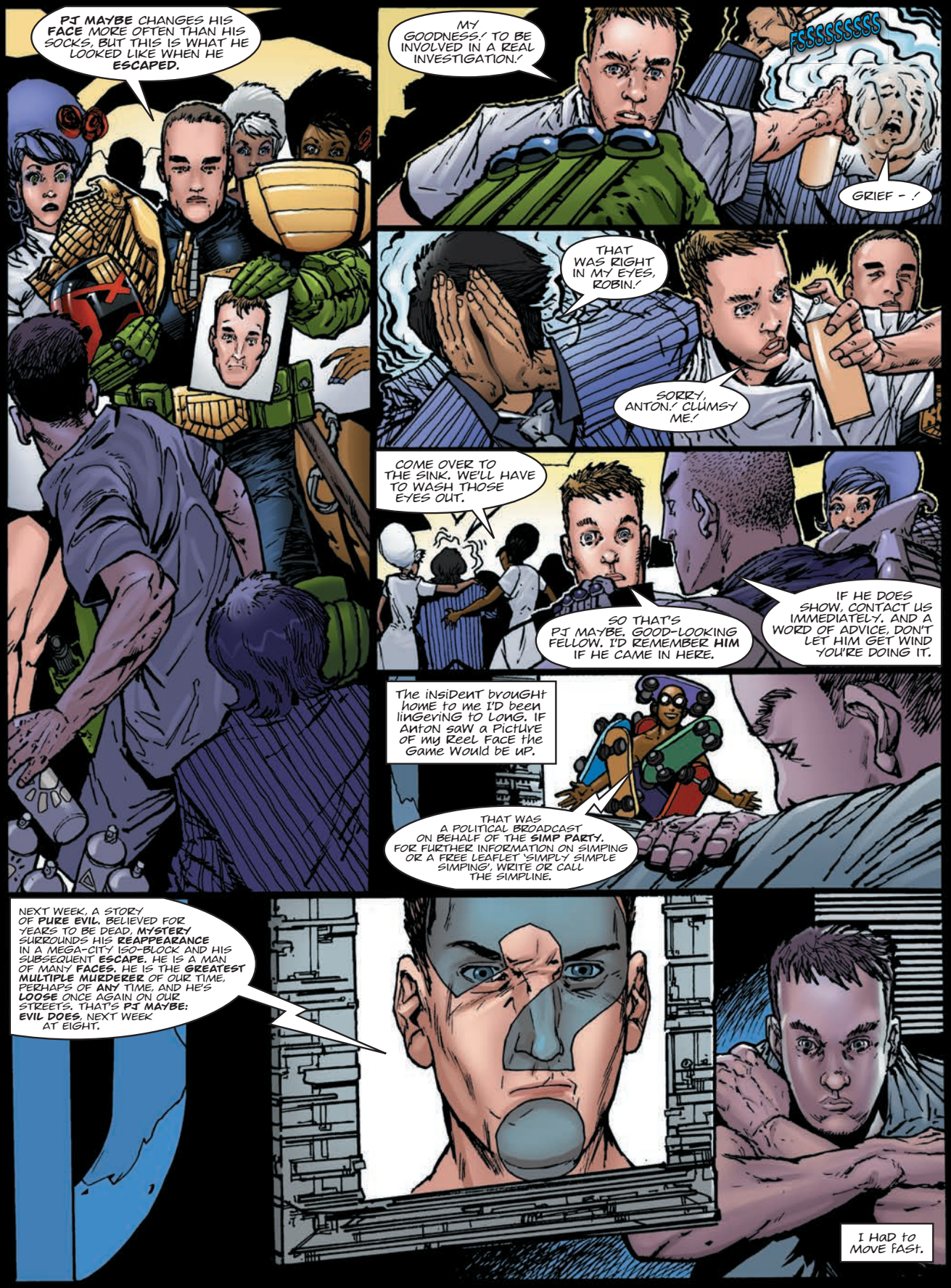
I HESITATE TO CONTRADICT A GUEST IN MY HOME, JUDGE LOGAN, BUT I THINK WE MUST AGREE THERE ARE SOME PLACES WHERE EVEN THE **SHORT** ARM OF THE LAW CANNOT REACH.
YOU TOOK NO FURTHER ACTION AGAINST HIDALGO?
DIDN'T SEEM ADVISABLE.
OKAY, WE'LL MARK HIM DOWN FOR ATTENTION AT A LATER DATE. LET'S CONCENTRATE ON **MAYBE.**
WE'VE BEEN CHECKING OUT **BOARDING HOUSES, RENTAL ROOMS** AND **FACE-CHANGE PARLOURS** ALONG THE ROUTE OF THE MOPAD. NOT A LOT ELSE TO WORK WITH, REALLY.
WE KNOW THAT ON DAY ONE **MAYBE** ACCESSED INFORMATION ON CITY **SURVEILLANCE** BLACKSPOTS.
THE SITE IS RUN FROM OUT OF CITY, NOT A LOT WE CAN DO TO STOP THEM.
THE BODIES IN THE MOPAD. BY WEEK TWO THE **SMELL** WOULD HAVE BEEN UNBEARABLE.
GOOD POINT.
SO...?
THE LOCATIONS WERE PROGRAMMED INTO THE **AUTOPILOT.** IN THE **THIRTY-THREE DAYS** BEFORE THE MOPAD WAS FOUND IT VISITED **ALL** OF THEM — SOME OF THEM **TWICE.**
BEENY FIGURED WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON STOPS IT MADE IN **WEEK ONE.**

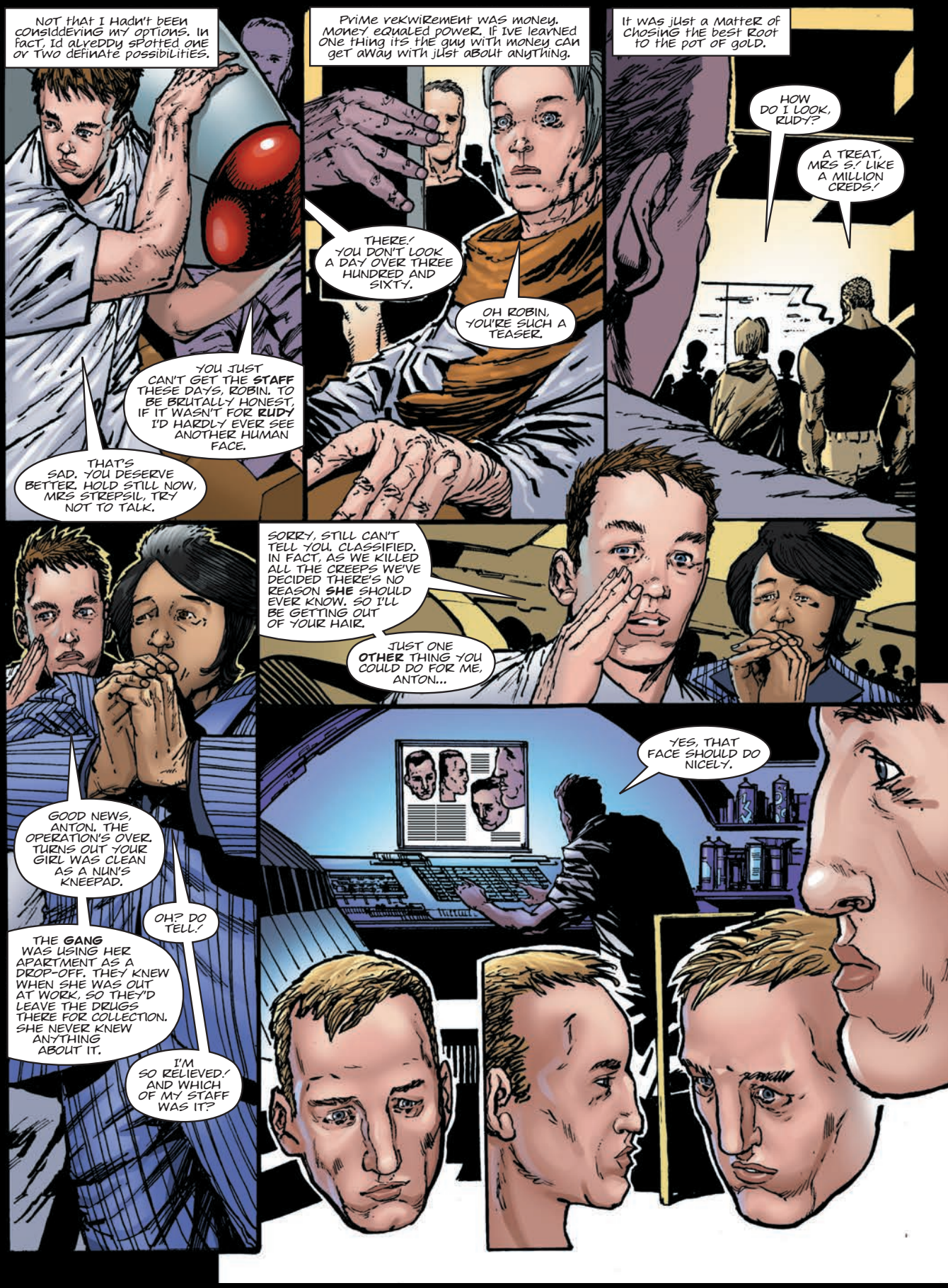

It was the sine in the window that got my eye. I past it twice. It had definate potenshal.
ANTON'S BEAUTY PARLOUR
STAFF WANTED
Humans Only
EXPERIENCED FACE-CHANGE TECHNICIAN
ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE
Apply within
COULD BE JUST THE THING.
LEMME SPEAK TO ANTON.
LOOK, HONEY, DON'T GIMME NO EXCUSES, PUT THE GUY ON SHARP OR I COME IN THERE **PERSONAL** WITH A **WARRANT** AND DRAG HIS SORRY ASS DOWNTOWN.
Every judge in the city was looking for me. I needed a change of face. But familiure as I am with process Id never pass for qualified. I had to play it smart.
ANTON? THIS IS **SPECIAL AGENT** JUDGE JOE WENGLER OF THE **BUREAU** OF **NARCOTICS**, UNDERCOVER DIVISION. IS ANYBODY LISTENING TO THIS?
GOOD, BECAUSE WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE ONE OF YOUR EMPLOYEES IS USING THE PREMISES FOR **SALE** AND **DISTRIBUTION** OF **HIGH-GRADE ZZIZ.**
I CAN'T GIVE YOU THE NAME. I **CAN** TELL YOU THAT AS **PROPRIETOR** YOU COULD BE DOWN FOR **CONSPIRACY.** WE'RE TALKIN' SERIOUS **TIME** HERE.
TELL YOU WHAT, I'M GONNA CUT YOU SOME SLACK. **CO-OPERATE** WITH THE **INVESTIGATION** AND MAYBE WE CAN OVERLOOK YOUR PART IN IT. YEAH, I KNOW YOU'RE INNOCENT. THE CUBES ARE **FULL** OF INNOCENT GUYS.
SO HERE'S THE DEAL. I'M SENDING IN ONE OF MY **OWN PEOPLE** TO OBSERVE FROM THE INSIDE. GONNA NEED A COVER STORY. YOU GOT ANY **JOBS** GOIN'?
THAT'LL DO. OKAY, HIS NAME IS **AGENT FRISBY.** LONG RED HAIR AND A BANDANA. HE'LL TELL YOU HIS NAME'S **CLINT.** YOU'LL SAY IT SUITS HIM. HE'LL SAY YEAH, BUT I CAN IMPROVE. GOT THAT?
I WANNA, LIKE, SPEAK TO ANTON.

AND WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?
OH DEAR, OH DEAR. I FEAR VERY LITTLE. A WALKING DISASTER ZONE.
I COME ABOUT THE JOB, MAN.
OH! OH WOW! FAR OUT! A SKIN-U-RIN 4-09. WORKED ONE OF THESE LITTLE BEAUTIES FOR THREE YEARS IN KATMANDU — THE SPA OF THE ETERNAL LIGHTNESS.
YOU? WHY, THAT'S ONE OF THE PREMIER TREATMENT CENTRES IN THE WORLD.
NOT SO PREMIER NOW, MAN, NOT SINCE THEY LOST THEIR STAR FACE-FIXER. ALL I WANTED WAS A BIGGER CELL AN' A BIT LESS OF THE BELL RINGING, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
HMMPH.
BUT I CAN SEE YOU AND ME ARE GONNA GET ALONG SWELL. THE NAME'S CLINT.
PRIVATE
UH, CLINT. UH, OH... IT-IT SUITS YOU.
YEAH, BUT I CAN IMPROVE. SO HOW ABOUT YOU AN ME DISCUSSING THIS FURTHER WHILE WE CHECK OUT THE ACCOMMODATION?
YEAH, IT AIN'T THE NAGASAKI BUT IT'LL DO.
BUT... BUT I REALLY DO NEED A FACE-CHANGE TECHNICIAN.
WORRY NOT. LIKE I SAID I'M FULLY QUALIFIED. GOT A LITTLE PROBLEM, THOUGH, ANTON. THE SUSPECT, I THINK SHE MIGHT HAVE RECOGNISED ME. GONNA NEED A FACE CHANGE MYSELF.
HERE'S THE PLAN — I HIDE UP HERE TODAY AND TONIGHT AFTER HOURS YOU DO THE DEED. YOU KNOW HOW TO WORK THE MACHINE?
YES, BUT, DEAR BOY —
DON'T DEAR BOY ME, ANTON. THIS IS SERIOUS BUSINESS. SOMEBODY COULD GET KILLED. DO YOU KNOW IF THE WOMAN IS ARMED?
BU-BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO SHE IS.
NO, OF COURSE YOU DON'T. JUST TESTING. OKAY, TOMORROW THE STORY WILL BE YOU GAVE CLINT THE HEAVE AND I'M THE NEW GUY. I'M ROBIN.


It worked like a charm. That night I chose a new face. It couldn't be too flashy, a good solid face. A face that said, here is a honnest citizen. You can trust this man.
HAPPY?
ABSOLUTELY.
The moment of truth. If Anton recognised me I would have to kill him.
HMMM... YOU'VE HAD SOME WORK BEFORE. QUITE A LOT, ACTUALLY.
ALL PART OF BEING AN AGENT, I'M AFRAID.
THERE'S A LIMIT TO WHAT THE FLESH WILL TAKE. STILL, THERE'S SOME RESILIENCE THERE. WE'LL DO OUR BEST.
I kind of liked Anton, in an odd sort of way. I reely hoped I would'nt have to kill him evenshully, but I figgered I probly would.
EXCELLENT JOB. I FEEL LIKE A NEW MAN.
For the moment my best move was to lie low, so I settled for killing some time.
BYRON, IF YOU CAN HEAR ME UP THERE, LET ME SAY WHAT HUMBLE PRIDE IT GIVES ME TO BE THE ONE SELECTED TO STEP INTO YOUR BOOTS.
TONY BLORE? YOU JUST COULDN'T WAIT TILL I WAS OUT OF THE WAY, COULD YOU?
I should'nt have watched the mayoral broadcasts, I new it would make me angry. That was my job they were talking about. Me, Mayor Byron Ambrose as was.
LOOK — LET'S FACE IT, THEY'RE BOOTS THAT NO ONE COULD EVER FILL. BUT I'M GOING TO TRY. YOU WERE THE BEST WE EVER HAD, AND I'M GOING TO TRY TO... TO LIVE UP TO THE EXAMPLE YOU SET, SO THAT ONE DAY... ONE DAY PEOPLE MIGHT SAY... TONY BLORE... TONY BLORE, HE... HE WASN'T SO BAD, YOU KNOW...
Sudenly I felt imbibed with a new purpus.
YOU'LL BE A LOT BETTER WHEN I CUT YOUR HEART OUT, YOU SLIMY LITTLE TOAD!

In the day's that followed plans started to turn in my mind. Meanwhile I kept up my fixional identity.
WE'LL HAVE THOSE UNSIGHTLY LUMPS REMOVED IN A TRICE.
Having changed my face so often I have developed some skill on the machine. Even so, mistakes do happen —
IT HURRTTTTTS!
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
SWITCH IT OFF!
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY, MRS BREWSTER. JUST A LITTLE GLITCH. YOU HAVE A NICE CUP OF SOMETHING AND CATCH YOUR BREATH, AND WHEN YOU'RE FINISHED I'LL PUT THINGS RIGHT MYSELF.
HOW MUCH LONGER IS THIS GOING TO GO ON?
THE SUSPECT'S PLAYING IT REAL CRAFTY. NATURE OF THE GAME. JUST HAVE TO KEEP HER UNDER OBSERVATION, WAIT FOR THE MISTAKE.
WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, JUDGE?
I'M INVESTIGATING THE ESCAPE OF A DANGEROUS CRIMINAL. I WANT TO KNOW IF YOU OR ANY OF THE STAFF HAVE SEEN THIS MAN.
ROAR
I DON'T RECOGNISE HIM.
HE LOOKS SO GENTLE. WHAT DID HE DO?
ISN'T THAT PJ MAYBE, THE NOTORIOUS MASS MURDERER?
THAT'S HIM. AND BELIEVE ME, HE'S ANYTHING BUT GENTLE.
WHAT ABOUT YOU TWO? HAVE A GOOD LOOK AT THIS FACE...


PJ MAYBE CHANGES HIS FACE MORE OFTEN THAN HIS SOCKS, BUT THIS IS WHAT HE LOOKED LIKE WHEN HE ESCAPED.
MY GOODNESS! TO BE INVOLVED IN A REAL INVESTIGATION!
FSSSSSSSS
GRIEF - !
THAT WAS RIGHT IN MY EYES, ROBIN!
SORRY, ANTON! CLUMSY ME!
COME OVER TO THE SINK. WE'LL HAVE TO WASH THOSE EYES OUT.
SO THAT'S PJ MAYBE. GOOD-LOOKING FELLOW. I'D REMEMBER HIM IF HE CAME IN HERE.
IF HE DOES SHOW, CONTACT US IMMEDIATELY. AND A WORD OF ADVICE, DON'T LET HIM GET WIND YOU'RE DOING IT.
The insident brought home to me I'D been lingering to long. If Anton saw a picture of my reel face the game would be up.
THAT WAS A POLITICAL BROADCAST ON BEHALF OF THE SIMP PARTY. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON SIMPING OR A FREE LEAFLET 'SIMPLY SIMPLE SIMPING', WRITE OR CALL THE SIMPLINE.
NEXT WEEK, A STORY OF PURE EVIL. BELIEVED FOR YEARS TO BE DEAD, MYSTERY SURROUNDS HIS REAPPEARANCE IN A MEGA-CITY ISO-BLOCK AND HIS SUBSEQUENT ESCAPE. HE IS A MAN OF MANY FACES. HE IS THE GREATEST MULTIPLE MURDERER OF OUR TIME, PERHAPS OF ANY TIME, AND HE'S LOOSE ONCE AGAIN ON OUR STREETS. THAT'S PJ MAYBE: EVIL DOES, NEXT WEEK AT EIGHT.
I HAD to MOVE FAST.


NOT THAT I HADN'T BEEN CONSIDDERING MY OPTIONS. IN FACT, ID ALREDDY SPOTTED ONE OR TWO DEFINATE POSSIBILITIES.
YOU JUST CAN'T GET THE **STAFF** THESE DAYS, ROBIN. TO BE BRUTALLY HONEST, IF IT WASN'T FOR **RUDY** I'D HARDLY EVER SEE ANOTHER HUMAN FACE.
THAT'S SAD. YOU DESERVE BETTER. HOLD STILL NOW, MRS STREPSIL, TRY NOT TO TALK.
PRIME REKWIREMENT WAS MONEY. MONEY EQUALED POWER. IF IVE LEARNED ONE THING ITS THE GUY WITH MONEY CAN GET AWAY WITH JUST ABOUT ANYTHING.
THERE! YOU DON'T LOOK A DAY OVER THREE HUNDRED AND SIXTY.
OH ROBIN, YOU'RE SUCH A TEASER.
IT WAS JUST A MATTER OF CHOSING THE BEST ROOT TO THE POT OF GOLD.
HOW DO I LOOK, RUDY?
A TREAT, MRS S! LIKE A MILLION CREDS!
SORRY, STILL CAN'T TELL YOU. CLASSIFIED. IN FACT, AS WE KILLED ALL THE CREEPS WE'VE DECIDED THERE'S NO REASON **SHE** SHOULD EVER KNOW. SO I'LL BE GETTING OUT OF YOUR HAIR.
JUST ONE **OTHER** THING YOU COULD DO FOR ME, ANTON...
GOOD NEWS, ANTON. THE OPERATION'S OVER. TURNS OUT YOUR GIRL WAS CLEAN AS A NUN'S KNEEPAD.
OH? DO TELL!
THE **GANG** WAS USING HER APARTMENT AS A DROP-OFF. THEY KNEW WHEN SHE WAS OUT AT WORK, SO THEY'D LEAVE THE DRUGS THERE FOR COLLECTION. SHE NEVER KNEW ANYTHING ABOUT IT.
I'M SO RELIEVED! AND WHICH OF MY STAFF WAS IT?
YES, THAT FACE SHOULD DO NICELY.

I desided not to kill Anton. The judges would investegate and find my prints all over the place anyway. What wood be the point?
ANTON URLINGER? YOU'RE THE ONE MADE THE CALL?
I'M HE.
It was a bit of a first for me. Normaly I kill just for the principal of it. But like I said I kind of liked the guy.
AGENT FRISBY WAS HIS NAME. HE CALLED HIMSELF CLINT. THAT WAS THE NAME HE USED WHEN I CHANGED HIS FACE.
YOU CHANGED HIS FACE?
THEN HE BECAME ROBIN. HE WAS AN AGENT FOR THE BUREAU OF NARCOTICS UNDERCOVER DIVISION. AT LEAST, THAT'S WHAT HIS BOSS TOLD ME.
HIS BOSS?
I wonder if Im getting to nice.
SPECIAL AGENT WENGLER. I... I SUPPOSE THAT WAS ROBIN TOO. THAT'S WHY I CHANGED HIS FACE, TO HELP THEIR INVESTIGATION. AND LET HIM LIVE IN THE UPSTAIRS FLAT. OH DEAR, I SUPPOSE I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT.
THAT CLINT?
HE HAD LONG RED HAIR.
AND WORE CRAZY GLASSES.
WHEN DID YOU BEGIN TO SUSPECT THAT CLINT OR ROBIN WASN'T ALL HE PRETENDED TO BE?
LAST NIGHT I LET HIM HAVE THE SPARE KEYS. HE SAID HE NEEDED TO CHANGE HIS FACE AGAIN, FOR ANOTHER INVESTIGATION.
HE COULD WORK THE MACHINE?
NOT LIKE A PROPER TECHNICIAN BUT HE HAD A GOOD WORKING KNOWLEDGE, AS LONG AS YOU KEPT AN EYE ON HIM.
THIS MORNING WHEN I CAME IN I FOUND THIS.
SO HE'S CHANGED HIS FACE AGAIN.
THE MACHINE MUST HAVE A RECORD OF IT.
ANTON- CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY. P.J. MAYBE
SADLY, NO. HE'S REMOVED THE MEMORY.

AND THIS IS THE FACE YOU SAW?
THAT'S HIM. OH, I SHUDDER JUST TO THINK HOW CLOSE I CAME.'
I'LL CALL IN FORENSICS.
SEVERAL GOOD SETS OF PRINTS HERE. IT'S **MAYBE**, ALL RIGHT.
IT'S THE FIRST BREAK WE'VE HAD. HE HASN'T GOT MUCH OF A HEAD START.
HE'S HAD ALL NIGHT. THAT'S USUALLY ENOUGH FOR PJ MAYBE.
KEEP LEFT
LEMME SPEAK TO MRS STREPSIL.

DON'T GIMME YOUR SASS, BUDDY, OR MAYBE YOU WANNA SEE THE INSIDE OF A CUBE, HUH?
THIS IS RUDY, ISN'T IT? WE KNOW ALL ABOUT YOU. THINK WE DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO WITH OLD MRS STREPSIL, YOUNG BUCK LIKE YOU? SO PUT HER ON SHARP OR I COME IN THERE WITH A WARRANT AND DRAG YOUR SORRY ASS DOWNTOWN.
It worked with Anton, didnt see why it would'nt work again.
SOMEONE FOR YOU, MRS S. SOUNDS OFFICIAL.
MRS ALLEGRA STREPSIL? THIS IS JUDGE MITCH MITCHELL OF THE UNDERCOVER DIVISION. SORRY ABOUT CONTACTING YOU ON THE COM BUT IT'S BETTER IF I'M NOT SEEN.
TELL RUDY TO TAKE A HIKE. WHAT I'M ABOUT TO SAY IS FOR YOUR EARS ONLY.
YEAH, I'LL WAIT.
MRS STREPSIL, THIS NEWS MAY BE DISTRESSING. WE HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE YOUR LIFE MAY BE IN DANGER.
OH DEAR.
NOT TO PUT TOO FINE A POINT ON IT, MRS STREPSIL, YOU'VE BEEN MARKED FOR MURDER.
EXCUSE ME A MOMENT, MRS STREPSIL.
TREEBURG, FRIES, EXTRA SAUCE.
CAN I REFILL YOUR CUP, SIR?
THANKS.
SORRY ABOUT THAT, JUST SPEAKING TO ONE OF MY ASSOCIATES. WE HAVE ADDITIONAL CONFIRMATION FROM ANOTHER INFORMANT NOW.
I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND, WHO'S GOING TO MURDER ME? I'M NOT AFRAID. I HAVE RUDY. HE'S BIG AND STRONG, HE'LL PROTECT ME.
MRS STREPSIL, RUDY IS OUR PRIME SUSPECT.
RUDY? SURELY NOT.
HIS REAL NAME IS ZORBA MCMENEMY. HE'S GOT A STRING OF CONVICTIONS FOR FRAUD AND VIOLENCE. YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT THAT, DID YOU?
OH MY!
WE KNOW HE PURCHASED A STRONG POISON AT PETS N' PESTS LAST THURSDAY. I MUST CAUTION YOU, DO NOT EAT ANYTHING THAT HE PREPARES. REPEAT, ANYTHING.
OH... OH MY HEART!
MRS STREPSIL, TRY TO HOLD YOURSELF TOGETHER. IT'S VITAL. LISTEN, I'M GOING TO SEND ONE OF MY OWN PEOPLE IN THERE AS YOUR BODYGUARD. BUT THERE'S SOMETHING YOU'VE GOT TO DO FIRST. YOU'VE GOT TO FIRE RUDY.
OHHH!

YOU'VE GOT TO BE STRONG, MRS STREPSIL. I DON'T THINK HE'LL TRY ANYTHING NOW. HE'S NOT READY YET. AND HE KNOWS WE'RE WATCHING HIM. THE LONGER YOU LEAVE IT THE MORE DANGER YOU'RE IN.
I waited in the cafe till I saw Rudy leave. I didnt want him seeing my new face.
WAITER!
SECTOR 1
BLACK ATLANTIC
STATUE OF JUSTICE
BLOCK WAR BROOM SQUAD
AGENT OZENDALE FOR MRS STREPSIL. TELL HER JUDGE MITCHELL SENT ME.
YES, SIR. SHE'S EXPECTING YOU, SIR.
PLEASE COME IN.
DON'T MIND IF I DO.
AGENT OZENDALE, MA'AM.
OH! OH!
SOMETHING WRONG, MRS STREPSIL?
NO, NOT WRONG. IT'S JUST THAT YOU... YOU BEAR AN UNCANNY RESEMBLANCE TO MY... TO MY DEAR LATE HUSBAND.
YOU DON'T SAY? THERE'S A COINCIDENCE...

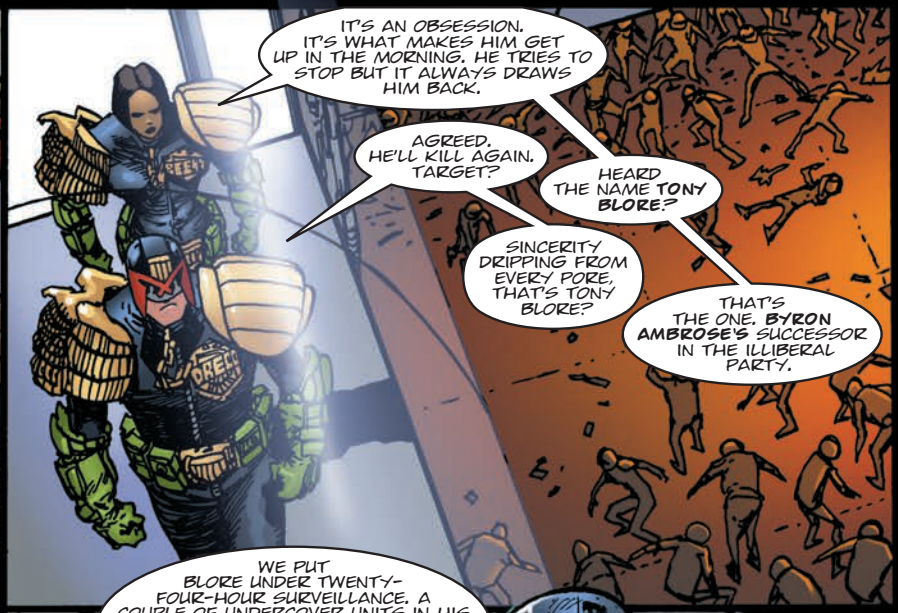
PEOPLE NOT ROBOTS
PECK
PICK PAUL PECK
WORK FOR ALL
IF I AM ELECTED MAYOR I WILL CALL FOR THE TOTAL ABOLITION OF ROBOTS IN THE WORKPLACE! SO SAY IT FIVE TIMES FAST, PEOPLE —
PICK PAUL PECK OF THE PEOPLE PARTY AND THE PEOPLE WILL PREVAIL!
SHORTLY AFTER GIVING THIS SPEECH PEOPLE PARTY CANDIDATE PAUL PECK WAS CRUSHED TO DEATH BY A RUNAWAY SLAB-ROLLER. THE SLAB-ROLLER HAS BEEN TAKEN AWAY FOR QUESTIONING.
THE UNFORTUNATE DEATH OF A SINGLE, PERIPHERAL CANDIDATE, THE CHIEF JUDGE'S OFFICE SAID THIS EVENING, IS NOT SUFFICIENT REASON TO DELAY THE FORTHCOMING MAYORAL ELECTION.
ANTU'S BEAUTY PARLOUR
ELSEWHERE, A NARROW ESCAPE FOR FUGITIVE MURDERER PJ MAYBE WHO, JUDGES BELIEVE, HAS BEEN MASQUERADING AS A FACE-CHANGE TECHNICIAN.
JUDGES ARRIVED AT A CITY BEAUTY PARLOUR THIS MORNING TO FIND THE ELUSIVE MAYBE HAD ONCE AGAIN SLIPPED THEIR NET.
The elusive Maybe — I liked that. It made me sound like the scarlet pimpernell or something.
I SEE PJ MAYBE IS ON THE LOOSE AGAIN. I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY DIDN'T PUT HIM TO DEATH WHEN THEY HAD HIM.
IT PUZZLED US IN UNDERCOVER DIVISION. THAT ELUSIVE DEVIL'S GIVEN US A LOT OF TROUBLE OVER THE YEARS.
They seek him here they seek him there The judges seek him everywhere. Is he in heaven, is he in hell?
No, hes at Mrs Strepsils, doing quite well.
ANOTHER BISCUIT, MRS STREPSIL?
THANK YOU, GREGORY. AND PLEASE, CALL ME ALLEGRA.

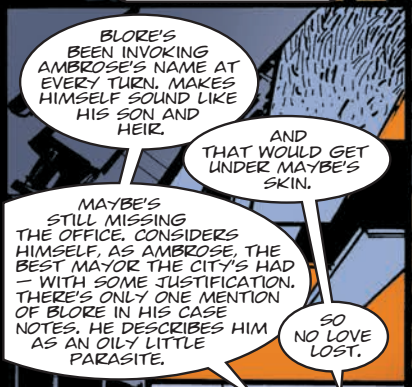
MY LIFE! THAT'S ANTON'S! THAT'S WHERE I GO!
YOU DON'T SAY.
THIS IS MAYBE'S LAST-KNOWN IDENTITY, THOUGH WE DOUBT IT'S THE FACE HE'S WEARING NOW. WE'RE FAIRLY CERTAIN HE USED THE PARLOUR'S EQUIPMENT TO ALTER HIS APPEARANCE AGAIN.
LOGAN
OH MY! THAT'S ROBIN! HE DID MY FACE YESTERDAY! TO THINK - !
YOU HAD A VERY LUCKY ESCAPE, ALLEGRA. A VERY LUCKY ESCAPE. THE MAN'S A HEARTLESS KILLER.
ELUSIVE, TOO.
THE JUDGES WILL QUESTION ANTON'S CUSTOMERS. WHEN THEY COME DON'T MENTION ME. I DON'T WANT THEM TO KNOW I'M HERE.
BUT YOU'RE A JUDGE TOO.
TRUE. BUT JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME, WE'VE GOT A FEW BAD APPLES IN THE BARREL. THAT'S WHY UNDERCOVER DIVISION LIKES TO KEEP OPERATIONS TO OURSELVES.
AFTER ALL, WE WOULDN'T WANT ANYTHING BAD HAPPENING TO YOU, DEAR, DEAR ALLEGRA.
I DON'T UNDERSTAND, GREGORY, WHY WOULD RUDY WANT TO KILL ME? WE GOT ON SO WELL.
THAT'S WHAT HE WANTED YOU TO THINK. WE KNOW HE'S A PAID-UP MEMBER OF KILL THE RICH. THEY HATE BILLIONAIRES LIKE YOU.
I on the other hand loved billionairs. I figgeved I might have to marry the old girl to get my hands on it, but I could live with that.
MONTY, FRESH TOWELS FOR GREGORY'S ROOM. AND BRING THE KEY TO THE CONNECTING DOOR. HE MAY NEED TO HAVE... ACCESS TO ME DURING THE NIGHT.
YES, MADAM.
After all, it would only be until she met with her fatal acident.
DON'T WORRY, ALLEGRA. YOU'LL BE SAFE. NO ONE WILL EVER HURT YOU AS LONG AS I'M HERE.
OH, GREGORY.

YOU WILL BE PRESENTED WITH A VARIETY OF TARGETS. THE CHOICE TO SHOOT IS YOURS, THE CHOICE OF PROJECTILE IS YOURS. RAPID FIRE OR SINGLE SHOT, BOTH ARE PERMITTED.
MEGA-C ACADEM OF LAW
DREDD
BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF CONFUSION, VOICE COMMANDS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE. THE CHARGE IN YOUR **HI-EX** HAS BEEN REDUCED. **RICOCHET** BULLETS WILL NOT FUNCTION BECAUSE OF THE ABSORBENT WALL BUT YOU WILL BE GRADED ON THEIR USE.
YOU WILL BE ASSESSED FOR SPEED, ACCURACY AND CORRECT USAGE OF YOUR WEAPON. THE TEST BEGINS **NOW.**
HI-EX.!

BDAM
GUNTER SHOT A CIT.
GUNTER'S GONNA GET IT.
VILLAS, YOU USED RICOCHET ON 3. ACCEPTABLE, BUT YOUR AIM WAS OFF. A SAFER CHOICE WOULD HAVE BEEN ARMOUR-PIERCING.
TOO SLOW ON THE STUTTER GUNNER. YOU WERE MEAT. A LOT OF WORK NEEDED. 37.
OLSAVSKI, GOOD CHOICES, WORK ON YOUR ACCURACY. 49.
GUNTER —
I THOUGHT I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF A SUICIDE BELT, SIR.
THAT'S RIGHT, YOU DID.
THE REST OF YOU HAVE BEEN MARKED DOWN FOR MISSING IT. GOOD DECISION, GUNTER. DESPITE THE VOICE COMMAND ON THE HI-EX, 61.
BEENY.
HOW'S TEACHING?
IT'LL DO TILL I'M STREET FIT. SO?
WE CHECKED OUT CUSTOMERS AND STAFF AT ANTON'S, WE'VE BEEN OVER WHAT SURVEILLANCE FOOTAGE THERE IS A THOUSAND TIMES. NOBODY WE CAN IDENTIFY AS PJ MAYBE.
HE'S ELUSIVE, THAT'S CERTAIN.

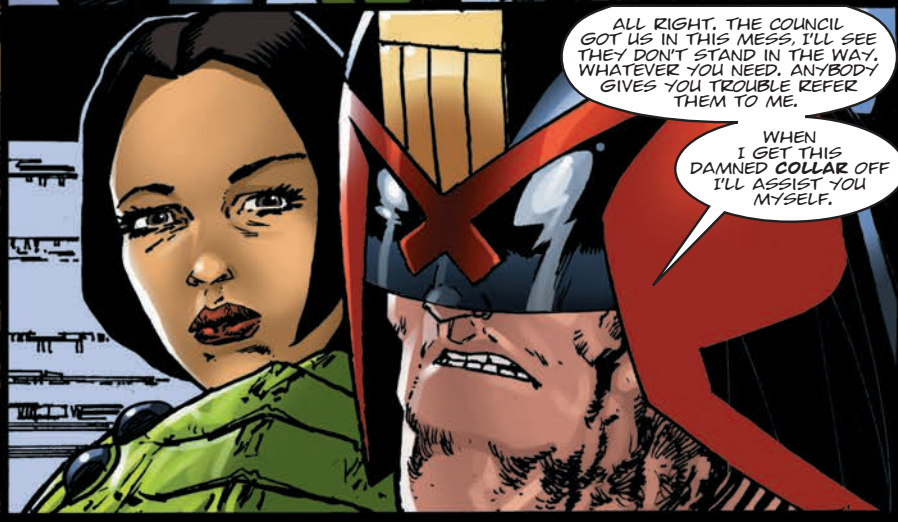
IT DOESN'T HELP THAT WE DON'T KNOW WHAT HE LOOKS LIKE. IF HE'S TRUE TO FORM HE'LL HAVE FOUND A BOLTHOLE SOMEWHERE. WE COULD SEARCH TILL DOOMSDAY AND NEVER GET NEAR HIM. MY THINKING IS OUR BEST CHANCE IS TO **ANTICIPATE** HIM.
POWER — MONEY — MURDER. THESE ARE THE THINGS WE KNOW HE LIKES. THE FIRST TWO AREN'T THAT EASY TO GET A HOOK ON. BUT **MURDER**, NOW...


IT'S AN OBSESSION. IT'S WHAT MAKES HIM GET UP IN THE MORNING. HE TRIES TO STOP BUT IT ALWAYS DRAWS HIM BACK.
AGREED. HE'LL KILL AGAIN. TARGET?
HEARD THE NAME **TONY BLORE**?
SINCERITY DRIPPING FROM EVERY PORE, THAT'S TONY BLORE?
THAT'S THE ONE. **BYRON AMBROSE'S** SUCCESSOR IN THE ILLIBERAL PARTY.

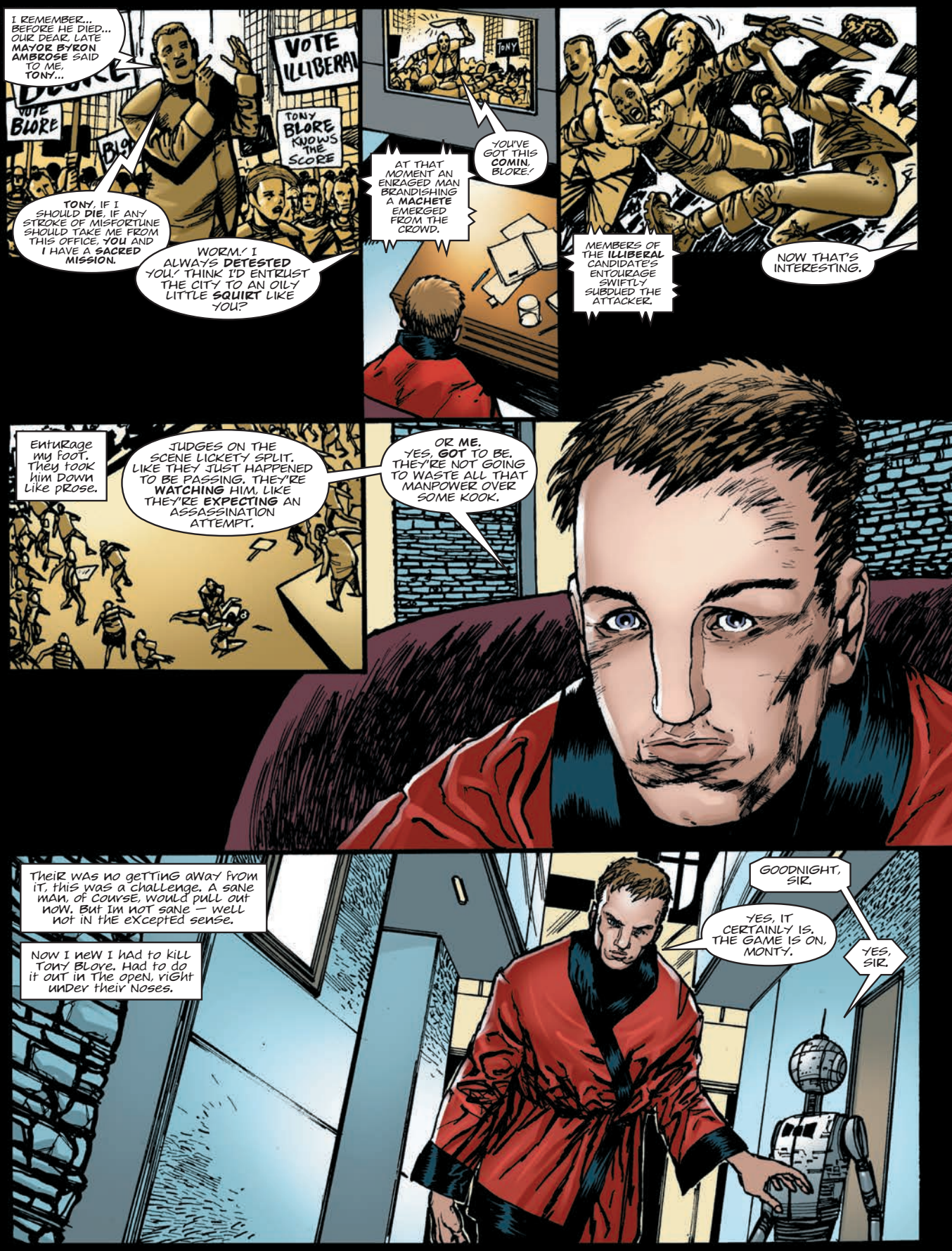

BLORE'S BEEN INVOKING AMBROSE'S NAME AT EVERY TURN. MAKES HIMSELF SOUND LIKE HIS SON AND HEIR.
AND THAT WOULD GET UNDER MAYBE'S SKIN.
MAYBE'S STILL MISSING THE OFFICE. CONSIDERS HIMSELF, AS AMBROSE, THE BEST MAYOR THE CITY'S HAD — WITH SOME JUSTIFICATION. THERE'S ONLY ONE MENTION OF BLORE IN HIS CASE NOTES. HE DESCRIBES HIM AS AN OILY LITTLE PARASITE.
SO NO LOVE LOST.

WE PUT BLORE UNDER TWENTY-FOUR-HOUR SURVEILLANCE. A COUPLE OF UNDERCOVER UNITS IN HIS CLOSE-SUPPORT TEAM. DISCREET SPY CAMS, AERIAL COVER EVERYWHERE HE GOES. HELMETS ON TAP READY TO MOVE ANY TIME DAY OR NIGHT.
COULD BE LONG TERM.
IT'S POSSIBLE.
EXPENSIVE...
I'M CALCULATING MAYBE WON'T BE ABLE TO HOLD OFF FOR THAT LONG. GOT TO BE BEFORE THE ELECTION.

RIOT SIM


ALL RIGHT. THE COUNCIL GOT US IN THIS MESS, I'LL SEE THEY DON'T STAND IN THE WAY. WHATEVER YOU NEED. ANYBODY GIVES YOU TROUBLE REFER THEM TO ME.
WHEN I GET THIS DAMNED **COLLAR** OFF I'LL ASSIST YOU MYSELF.

Putting on Allegras dear husbands face proved a smart move. She was putty in my hands. In fact two weeks after I moved in to the strepsil manshun we tied the not.
I convinced hey to fly us in secret to Cuidad Baranquilla where thro old contacts I obtained new papers. Important, I said, to hide my true identity in case her would-be asassins realised judges were watching. I was now Roberto Smith, beach attendant. We had a lovely wedding on the beach at Slotter Bay.
Of our wedding night, well, a gentlemen does'nt tell. Lets just say for a 97 year old, she was liveley.
BACK IN THE CITY. OH, I WAS FORGETTING, YOUR FIRST VISIT, ROBERTO.
DON'T YOU WORRY, WE'LL SOON GET YOU A RESIDENCY PERMIT. CITIZENSHIP, TOO. I HAVE QUITE A LOT OF INFLUENCE, YOU KNOW.
THAT WOULD BE KIND, MY DEAR. BEST NOT TO USE MY OWN SOURCES IN CASE I GIVE THE GAME AWAY.
I had desided to postpone Allegras acident for a while. Truth was, I kind of liked the old girl. I guess I am going a bit soft.
IT'S LATE, MY DEAR. YOU'RE TIRED. YOU GO OFF UP, I'LL JOIN YOU SOON.
But in any case I had other fish to fry.
TONY BLORE
It was only a few week's till the electshun. There was'nt much time. I had to figger out the best way to kill Tony Blore...

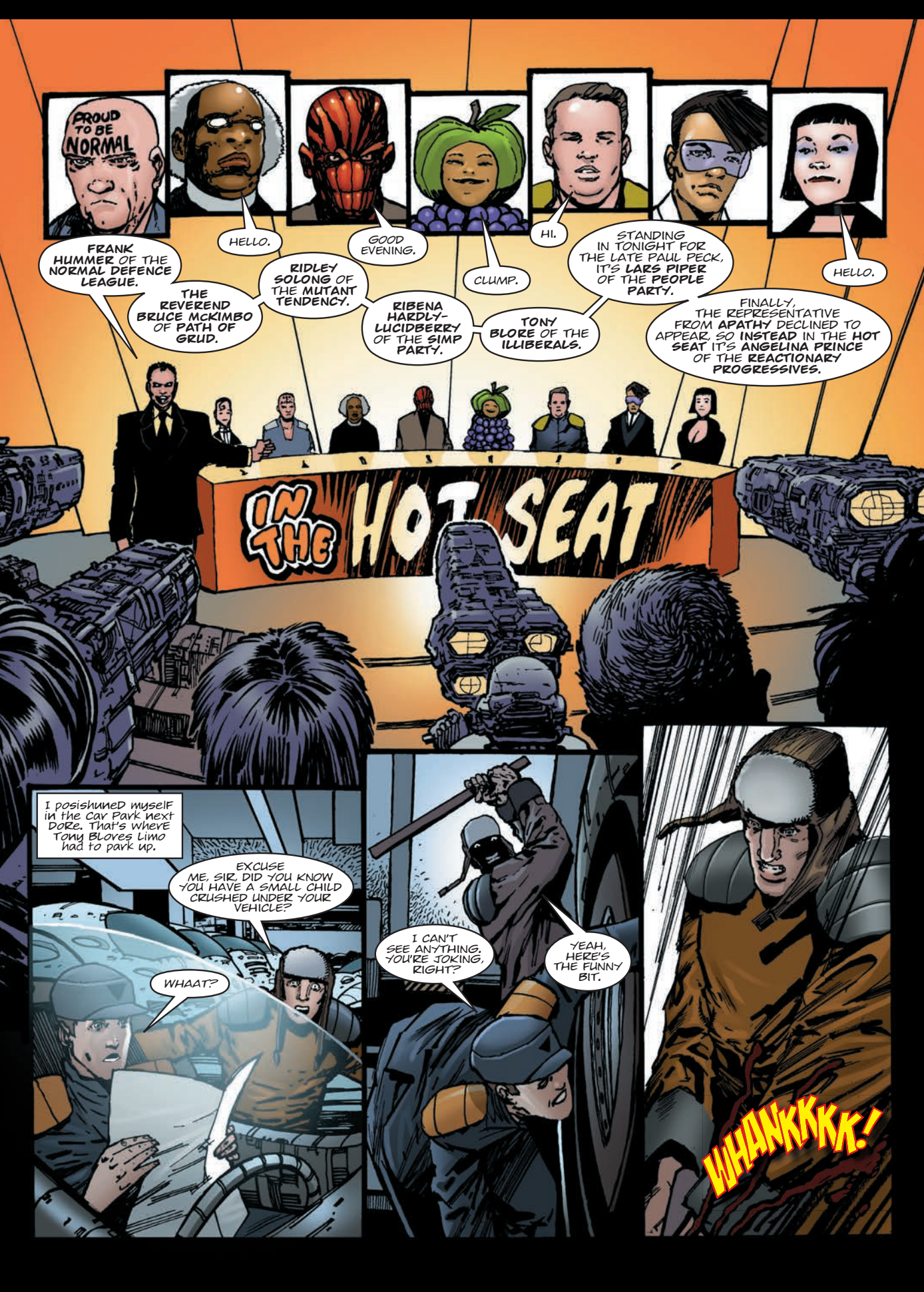

I REMEMBER... BEFORE HE DIED... OUR DEAR, LATE MAYOR BYRON AMBROSE SAID TO ME, TONY...
VOTE BLORE
VOTE ILLIBERAL
TONY BLORE KNOWS THE SCORE
TONY, IF I SHOULD DIE, IF ANY STROKE OF MISFORTUNE SHOULD TAKE ME FROM THIS OFFICE, YOU AND I HAVE A SACRED MISSION.
WORM! I ALWAYS DETESTED YOU! THINK I'D ENTRUST THE CITY TO AN OILY LITTLE SQUIRT LIKE YOU?
TONY
YOU'VE GOT THIS COMIN, BLORE!
AT THAT MOMENT AN ENRAGED MAN BRANDISHING A MACHETE EMERGED FROM THE CROWD.
MEMBERS OF THE ILLIBERAL CANDIDATE'S ENTOURAGE SWIFTLY SUBDUED THE ATTACKER.
NOW THAT'S INTERESTING.
EnturRage my foot. They took him Down Like pRose.
JUDGES ON THE SCENE LICKETY SPLIT. LIKE THEY JUST HAPPENED TO BE PASSING. THEY'RE WATCHING HIM, LIKE THEY'RE EXPECTING AN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT.
OR ME. YES, GOT TO BE. THEY'RE NOT GOING TO WASTE ALL THAT MANPOWER OVER SOME KOOK.
Their was no getting away from it, this was a challenge. A sane man, of course, would pull out now. But Im not sane — well not in the excepted sense.
Now I new I had to kill Tony Blove. Had to do it out in The open, right under their Noses.
GOODNIGHT, SIR.
YES, IT CERTAINLY IS, THE GAME IS ON, MONTY.
YES, SIR.

SO YOU THOUGHT YOU'D JUST DECAPITATE TONY BLORE — THERE, IN FRONT OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.
I AIN'T MAKING NO APOLOGIES!
IT'S TOO LATE FOR APOLOGIES. YOU'RE GOING TO THE PSYCHO CUBES.
HEIGHT, BUILD, DNA, PRINTS — NOTHING TALLIES. IT'S NOT MAYBE. WE'VE GOT A COMPLETE I.D.: AMOS PRATT, 48, LONG-TERM RESIDENT KRAVITZ STACKERS.
WE MAY HAVE TIPPED OUR HAND.
DO WE CALL OFF THE SURVEILLANCE? GRAND HALL'S GIVING ME BIG GRIEF OVER COSTS.
NO, LET IT RUN. KNOWING MAYBE, IT MAY MAKE THE PROSPECT MORE ALLURING.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, ROBERTO?
A LITTLE WORK ON A NEW CASE, MY DEAR.
A NEW CASE?
YES, SOME GOOD NEWS. WE'VE **ARRESTED** THE RINGLEADERS OF YOUR MURDER PLOT. THEY'VE BEEN **SENTENCED** TO **TWENTY** TO **LIFE**, RUDY AMONG THEM. YOU'RE NO LONGER IN DANGER.
THAT'S WONDERFUL NEWS.
I'M WORKING ON A NEW EAVESDROPPING DEVICE. IF IT ALL GOES TO PLAN I'M GOING TO GIVE A BUNCH OF FRAUDSTERS A NASTY SHOCK.
YOU'RE SO CLEVER!

To the studeos —
CHLORIS — LAST SUMMER CHUCK TOLD YOU THE RASH ON HIS GROIN WAS A PLASTEEN ALLERGY. CHUCK WAS LYING. YOUR QUESTION ON LOVE ME, LOVE ME NOT IS — WHAT WAS THE REAL CAUSE OF THE RASH AND WHAT POTENTIALLY SERIOUS MEDICAL CONSEQUENCES MIGHT THERE BE FOR YOU?
GIRLS TEAM MAY CONFER.
GIRLS
BOYS
YOU DIRTY STINKING RAT! I KNEW IT WASN'T NO ALLERGY!
CAN YOU GIVE US A CLUE, BOB?
CAN I HELP YOU, SIR?
OH DEAR. CAUGHT.
THIS IS THE STUDIO WHERE THEY MAKE IN THE HOT SEAT, ISN'T IT? I WAS JUST TRYING TO TAKE A LOOK. IT'S MY FAVOURITE PROGRAMME.
I'M SORRY, SIR, THE STUDIO IS LOCKED.
THAT'S A SHAME. I WONDER IF —
— FIVE HUNDRED CREDS MIGHT OPEN IT?
JUST FOR A FEW MINUTES. JUST TO TAKE A LITTLE LOOK.
JUST FOR A FEW MINUTES, SIR. NO HARM DONE, I SUPPOSE.

OH, WONDERFUL! WONDERFUL!
I WONDER IF I MIGHT... SIT IN THE SEATS?
HOT SEAT
SURE.
OH MY! THERE HE IS AGAIN!
WHO? WHAT?
THE MUTANT. I SAW HIM THROUGH THE WINDOW. I SAW HIM EARLIER, SNEAKING IN. HE LOOKED UP TO NO GOOD.
A MUTIE, HUH? I'LL GIVE HIM A MUTATION. YOU WAIT HERE, SIR.
The seats were padded. It was easy to slip the flatpax in underneath. They wouldn't feel any thing when they sat on them.
My reeding and riting may not be that good but I've always been a whiz at sience.
ANY LUCK?
NAH! WHAT DID HE LOOK LIKE, THIS MUTIE?
REALLY UGLY. BUT AREN'T THEY ALL?
I DO HOPE YOU FIND HIM. MUTANTS DISGUST ME. WE OUGHT TO PUT THEM ALL IN CRUSHERS AND CRUSH THEM LIKE BUGS.
DAMN RIGHT. FREAKIN' DREDD TO BLAME FOR IT. OUGHTA CRUSH HIM TOO.
DON'T TELL HIM I SAID THAT.
PERISH THE THOUGHT.

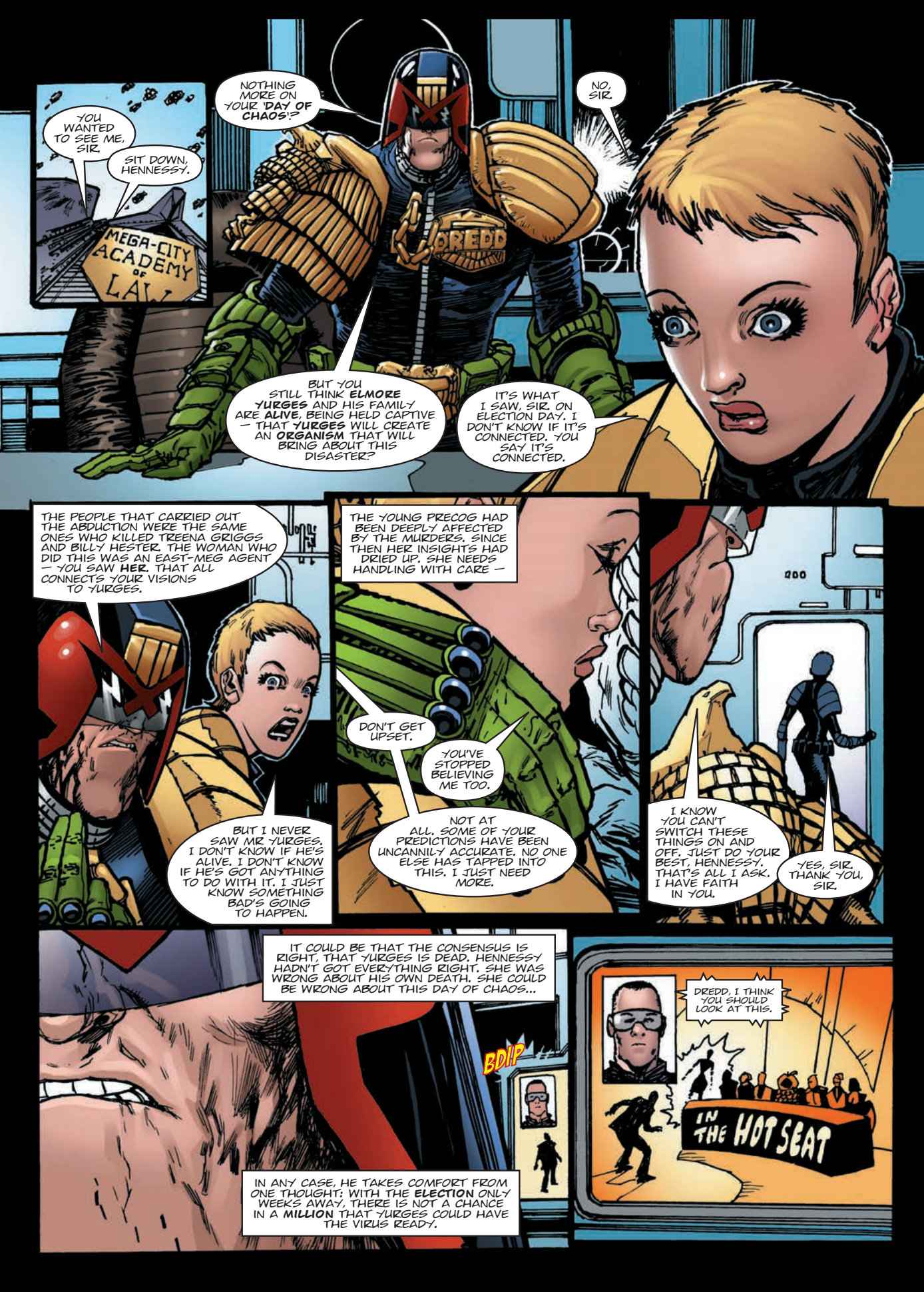
TONIGHT, LIVE FROM STUDIO 2, IT'S IN THE HOT SEAT!
HOVER 9. GOAT INCOMING, ETA STUDIOS THIRTY SECONDS.
CHANNEL YOU
MAN IN THE GREEN OVERJAK, CONTROL. GO IN CLOSE ON HIS RIGHT HAND.
PISTOL CAM. POINT AND SHOOT.
DRIVER IS INSTRUCTED TO DROP GOAT AT THE FRONT. HE'LL MAKE AN INVITING TARGET. ALL UNITS, BE ALERT.
ROAKE — ROW K, END SEAT YOUR SIDE. IS THAT A MAN IN A WIG?
THAT'S AFFIRMATIVE.
NO WAY IT'S MAYBE UNLESS HE'S BEEFED UP SUDDEN.
TONIGHT IN THE HOT SEAT, EIGHT LEADING CANDIDATES IN THE MAYORAL ELECTION, NOW THREE SHORT WEEKS AWAY.
EDITH TOFU OF THE VEGAN FRINGE.
HELLO.


PROUD TO BE NORMAL
FRANK HUMMER OF THE NORMAL DEFENCE LEAGUE.
HELLO.
THE REVEREND BRUCE MCKIMBO OF PATH OF GRUD.
GOOD EVENING.
RIDLEY SOLONG OF THE MUTANT TENDENCY.
CLUMP.
RIBENA HARDLY-LUCIDBERRY OF THE SIMP PARTY.
HI.
TONY BLORE OF THE ILLIBERALS.
STANDING IN TONIGHT FOR THE LATE PAUL PECK, IT'S LARS PIPER OF THE PEOPLE PARTY.
HELLO.
FINALLY, THE REPRESENTATIVE FROM APATHY DECLINED TO APPEAR, SO INSTEAD IN THE HOT SEAT IT'S ANGELINA PRINCE OF THE REACTIONARY PROGRESSIVES.
IN THE HOT SEAT
I posishuned myself in the car park next DoRe. That's where Tony Blores Limo had to park up.
EXCUSE ME, SIR, DID YOU KNOW YOU HAVE A SMALL CHILD CRUSHED UNDER YOUR VEHICLE?
WHAAT?
I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING. YOU'RE JOKING, RIGHT?
YEAH, HERE'S THE FUNNY BIT.
WHANKKKK!

FIRST QUESTION TONIGHT FROM SYNTHIA CARPER OF SECTOR 217. SYNTHIA SAYS: WHAT ABOUT THE MUTANTS?
WELL, WHAT ABOUT THEM?
FRANK HUMMER OF THE NDL, YOU'RE IN THE HOT SEAT.
NO MUTIES, PERIOD. GET 'EM OUT. WE NEVER ASKED FOR 'EM, WE DON'T WANT 'EM.
PROUD TO BE NORMAL
RIDLEY SOLONG OF THE MUTANT TENDENCY — YOU'RE NOT WANTED.
OH, WE KNOW THAT VERY WELL.
THE DAY THAT HATE MONGERS LIKE FRANK HUMMER GET THEIR WAY WILL BE A SAD DAY FOR MEGA-CITY ONE.
RIBENA HARDLY-LUCIDBERRY OF THE SIMP PARTY, YOU DON'T LIKE SAD DAYS.
CLUMP.
OH REALLY, LET'S TRY TO KEEP THE LEVEL OF DEBATE ABOVE THE CHILDISH.
TONY BLORE OF THE ILLIBERALS.
LOOK, IF YOU WANT TO KNOW HOW TO DEAL WITH THE MUTANT QUESTION, YOU NEED ONLY FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF MY LATE, DEAR FRIEND BYRON AMBROSE —
THERE HE GOES AGAIN!
YOU LITTLE PUNK. YOU'RE NOT FIT TO LICK BYRON AMBROSE'S U-FRONTS.
OH, YOU ARE SO GOING TO GET IT.
EDITH TOFU OF THE VEGAN FRINGE, YOU'RE IN THE HOT SEAT!
BAWOOOOM

COME IN, NUMBER 7.
DEAR GRUD - !
BAWCCCCCM
REMAIN IN YOUR SEATS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN. DON'T PANIC.
OH GRUD, LET GO!
CAN'T MOVE!
I-I'M STUCK!
PROUD TO BE NORMAL
THIS IS A MUTIE TRICK!

The gloo I used was activated by body heat. After about ten minutes they'd be stuck fast.
YOU'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF THAT CHAIR!
LOGAN, I TAKE IT YOU'RE WATCHING THIS.
MED-WAGONS ON THEIR WAY. WE'VE GOT THE STUDIO COMPLEX SEALED OFF.
Frank Hummer of the Norm Defense Leage, your in the HOT SEAT!
BAWCCCCCM
UNFF!
PLEASE HURRY!
YOUR PANTS ARE STUCK! WE'VE GOT TO GET YOU OUT OF THEM!
BAWCCCCCM
OH MY GRUD! OH MY SWEET GRUD!
GET HIM OUT! GET HIM TO HIS CAR!
CLUMP.
DRIVER! BACKSTAGE ENTRANCE, THIRTY SECONDS!
RESPONDING.
Of course, they had no idea the person driving phony Tonys car was little old me.

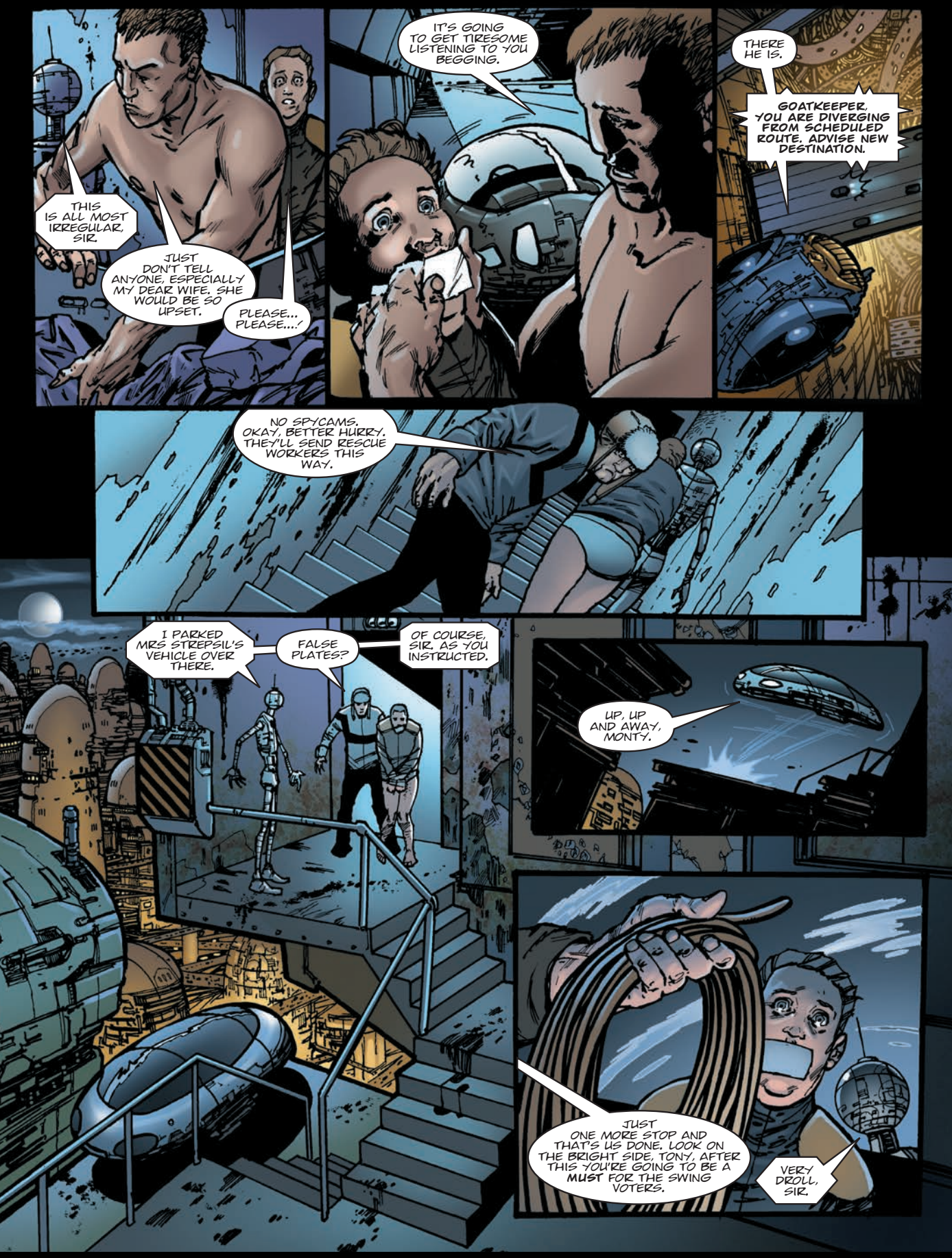

YOU WANTED TO SEE ME, SIR.
SIT DOWN, HENNESSY.
MEGA-CITY ACADEMY OF LAW
NOTHING MORE ON YOUR 'DAY OF CHAOS'?
NO, SIR.
DREDD
BUT YOU STILL THINK ELMORE YURGES AND HIS FAMILY ARE ALIVE, BEING HELD CAPTIVE — THAT YURGES WILL CREATE AN ORGANISM THAT WILL BRING ABOUT THIS DISASTER?
IT'S WHAT I SAW, SIR. ON ELECTION DAY. I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S CONNECTED. YOU SAY IT'S CONNECTED.
THE PEOPLE THAT CARRIED OUT THE ABDUCTION WERE THE SAME ONES WHO KILLED TREENA GRIGGS AND BILLY HESTER. THE WOMAN WHO DID THIS WAS AN EAST-MEG AGENT — YOU SAW HER. THAT ALL CONNECTS YOUR VISIONS TO YURGES.
BUT I NEVER SAW MR YURGES. I DON'T KNOW IF HE'S ALIVE. I DON'T KNOW IF HE'S GOT ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT. I JUST KNOW SOMETHING BAD'S GOING TO HAPPEN.
THE YOUNG PRECOG HAD BEEN DEEPLY AFFECTED BY THE MURDERS. SINCE THEN HER INSIGHTS HAD DRIED UP. SHE NEEDS HANDLING WITH CARE —
DON'T GET UPSET.
YOU'VE STOPPED BELIEVING ME TOO.
NOT AT ALL. SOME OF YOUR PREDICTIONS HAVE BEEN UNCANNILY ACCURATE. NO ONE ELSE HAS TAPPED INTO THIS. I JUST NEED MORE.
I KNOW YOU CAN'T SWITCH THESE THINGS ON AND OFF. JUST DO YOUR BEST, HENNESSY. THAT'S ALL I ASK. I HAVE FAITH IN YOU.
YES, SIR. THANK YOU, SIR.
IT COULD BE THAT THE CONSENSUS IS RIGHT, THAT YURGES IS DEAD. HENNESSY HADN'T GOT EVERYTHING RIGHT. SHE WAS WRONG ABOUT HIS OWN DEATH. SHE COULD BE WRONG ABOUT THIS DAY OF CHAOS...
BDIP
IN ANY CASE, HE TAKES COMFORT FROM ONE THOUGHT: WITH THE ELECTION ONLY WEEKS AWAY, THERE IS NOT A CHANCE IN A MILLION THAT YURGES COULD HAVE THE VIRUS READY.
DREDD, I THINK YOU SHOULD LOOK AT THIS.
IN THE HOT SEAT

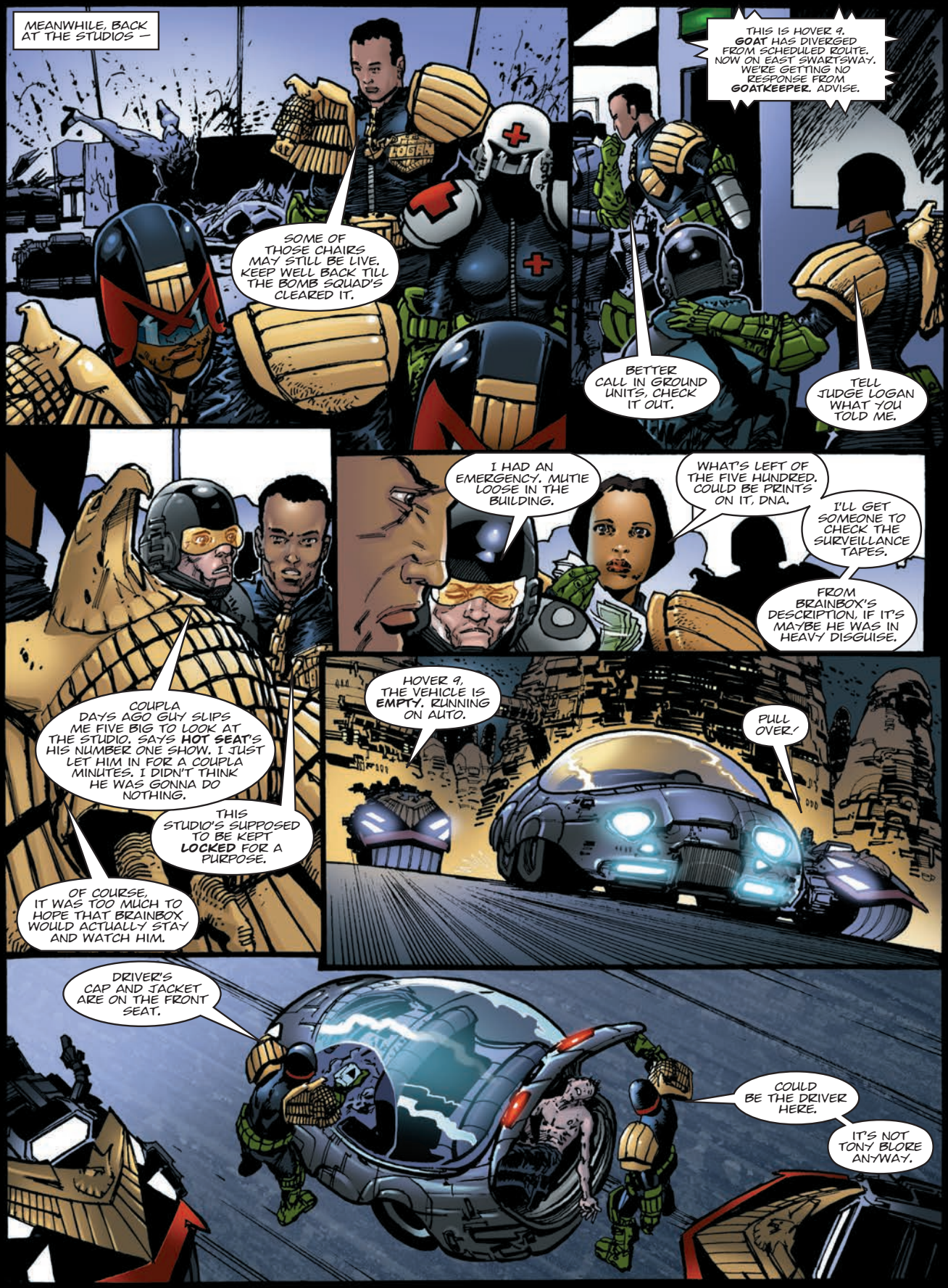
THE STUDIO'S SEALED OFF. WE'LL MOVE THE AUDIENCE AND STAFF, KEEP EVERYONE UNDER GUARD UNTIL THEY CAN BE ELIMINATED AS SUSPECTS.
IF IT IS MAYBE. WE CAN'T IGNORE THE POSSIBILITY THAT IT'S SOME OTHER MANIAC.
YOU THINK MAYBE'S STILL IN THE BUILDING?
THERE'S THE CAR!
GO!
GOAT IS MOVING.
HOVER 9. WE HAVE HIM.
NOW ON SOUTH SKED, HEADING EAST. WHERE IS THE GROUND ESCORT?
NEEDED AT THE STUDIO. CONTACT LOCAL SECTORS FOR BACK-UP.

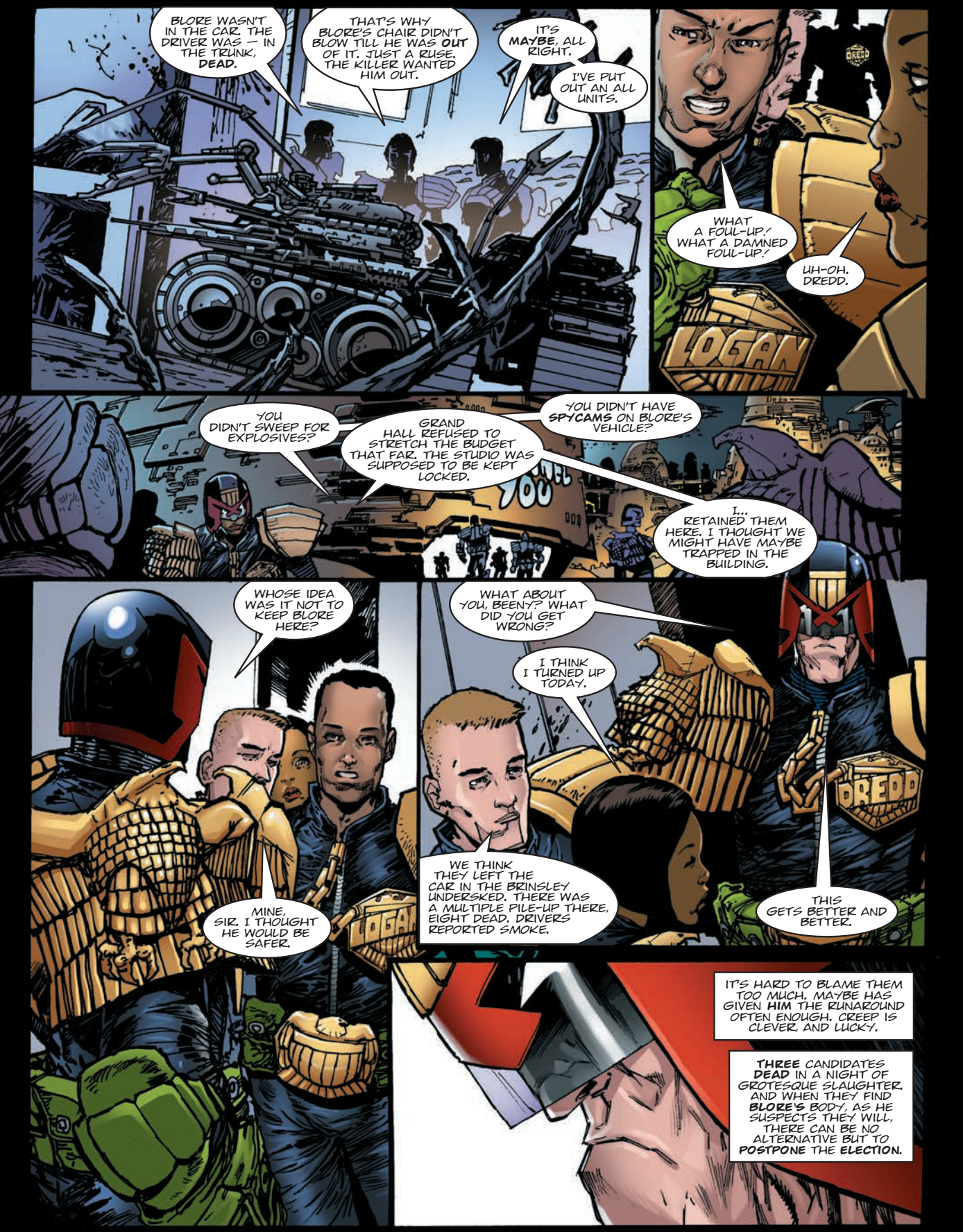
WELL, IT'S TONY BLORE.
YOU'RE NOT MY DRIVER. WHERE'S MY NORMAL DRIVER?
YOUR NORMAL DRIVER IS IN THE TRUNK. I KILLED HIM.
I'M YOUR ABNORMAL DRIVER.
VERY FUNNY. I CAN DO WITHOUT ANY INSOLENCE AFTER WHAT I'VE SEEN.
SOME SHOW, HUH? THAT'S WHAT I CALL IN THE HOT SEAT.
YOU'RE SICK.
FUNNY, THOUGH, WHY THEY DIDN'T BLOW YOUR BUTT OFF. DIDN'T THAT STRIKE YOU AS ODD? I MEAN, IF I WAS GOING TO KILL ANYONE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN YOU. IF FACT, I AM GOING TO KILL YOU.
I'VE HAD QUITE ENOUGH! I WANT YOUR NAME.
BY ALL MEANS. IT'S MAYBE — PJ MAYBE. BUT YOU KNOW ME BETTER AS BYRON AMBROSE.
MAYOR AMBROSE, YOUR MENTOR — YOUR FATHER FIGURE — YOUR BEST FRIEND. BUT WE KNOW WHAT BYRON REALLY THOUGHT OF YOU, DON'T WE, TONY?
YOU'RE MAD! I'M CALLING FOR HELP!
ZZZZZZTTTTT
UNNNNNHH!
TONY, TONY, TONY.
THAT'S RIGHT, RELAX. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO NOW. YOUR FATE IS SEALED. AND I HAVE SOMETHING VERY NICE PLANNED FOR YOU...

Once I had Tony Blove in the car he was mine to play with.
I COULD HAVE KILLED YOU AT THE STUDIO, BUT I WANTED IT TO BE A BIT **SPECIAL**. MORE HANDS ON, KNOW WHAT I MEAN?
WHUH — WHUH — WHO...?
I TOLD YOU, I'M **PJ MAYBE**. I USED TO BE **BYRON AMBROSE**, THE MAYOR. THAT'S WHY YOU GOT ON MY **NERVES**, PRETENDING WE WERE BEST PALS. IT'S YOUR OWN FAULT YOU'RE GETTING THIS.
GOATKEEPER, YOU ARE **DIVERGING** FROM SCHEDULED ROUTE. ADVISE NEW DESTINATION.
NO RESPONSE.
HE'S IN THE UNDERSKED. CATCH HIM THE OTHER SIDE.
I'M GOING TO TELL THE CAR TO MAKE A BRIEF STOP THEN CARRY ON WITHOUT US.
If they were trailing us with spycams I figgered the smoke would give me some cover.
FWCOMPHHH

GRUD - !
SKKRRREEEEE
SKKASSHHH
GOOD EVENING, SIR.
SERVICE VEHICLES ONLY
EVENING, MONTY.


THIS IS ALL MOST IRREGULAR, SIR.
JUST DON'T TELL ANYONE, ESPECIALLY MY DEAR WIFE. SHE WOULD BE SO UPSET.
PLEASE... PLEASE...!
IT'S GOING TO GET TIRESOME LISTENING TO YOU BEGGING.
THERE HE IS.
GOATKEEPER, YOU ARE DIVERGING FROM SCHEDULED ROUTE. ADVISE NEW DESTINATION.
NO SPYCAMS. OKAY, BETTER HURRY. THEY'LL SEND RESCUE WORKERS THIS WAY.
I PARKED MRS STREPSIL'S VEHICLE OVER THERE.
FALSE PLATES?
OF COURSE, SIR. AS YOU INSTRUCTED.
UP, UP AND AWAY, MONTY.
JUST ONE MORE STOP AND THAT'S US DONE. LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE, TONY, AFTER THIS YOU'RE GOING TO BE A MUST FOR THE SWING VOTERS.
VERY DROLL, SIR.


MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE STUDIOS —
SOME OF THOSE CHAIRS MAY STILL BE LIVE. KEEP WELL BACK TILL THE BOMB SQUAD'S CLEARED IT.
THIS IS HOVER 9. **GOAT** HAS DIVERGED FROM SCHEDULED ROUTE. NOW ON EAST SWARTSWAY. WE'RE GETTING NO RESPONSE FROM **GOATKEEPER**. ADVISE.
BETTER CALL IN GROUND UNITS, CHECK IT OUT.
TELL JUDGE LOGAN WHAT YOU TOLD ME.
I HAD AN EMERGENCY. MUTIE LOOSE IN THE BUILDING.
WHAT'S LEFT OF THE FIVE HUNDRED. COULD BE PRINTS ON IT, DNA.
I'LL GET SOMEONE TO CHECK THE SURVEILLANCE TAPES.
FROM BRAINBOX'S DESCRIPTION, IF IT'S MAYBE HE WAS IN HEAVY DISGUISE.
COUPLA DAYS AGO GUY SLIPS ME FIVE BIG TO LOOK AT THE STUDIO. SAYS **HOT SEAT**'S HIS NUMBER ONE SHOW. I JUST LET HIM IN FOR A COUPLA MINUTES. I DIDN'T THINK HE WAS GONNA DO NOTHING.
THIS STUDIO'S SUPPOSED TO BE KEPT **LOCKED** FOR A PURPOSE.
OF COURSE, IT WAS TOO MUCH TO HOPE THAT BRAINBOX WOULD ACTUALLY STAY AND WATCH HIM.
HOVER 9, THE VEHICLE IS **EMPTY**. RUNNING ON AUTO.
PULL OVER!
DRIVER'S CAP AND JACKET ARE ON THE FRONT SEAT.
COULD BE THE DRIVER HERE.
IT'S NOT TONY BLORE ANYWAY.


BLORE WASN'T IN THE CAR. THE DRIVER WAS — IN THE TRUNK, DEAD.
THAT'S WHY BLORE'S CHAIR DIDN'T BLOW TILL HE WAS OUT OF IT. JUST A RUSE. THE KILLER WANTED HIM OUT.
IT'S MAYBE, ALL RIGHT.
I'VE PUT OUT AN ALL UNITS.
WHAT A FOUL-UP! WHAT A DAMNED FOUL-UP!
UH-OH. DREDD.
YOU DIDN'T SWEEP FOR EXPLOSIVES?
GRAND HALL REFUSED TO STRETCH THE BUDGET THAT FAR. THE STUDIO WAS SUPPOSED TO BE KEPT LOCKED.
YOU DIDN'T HAVE SPYCAMS ON BLORE'S VEHICLE?
I... RETAINED THEM HERE. I THOUGHT WE MIGHT HAVE MAYBE TRAPPED IN THE BUILDING.
WHOSE IDEA WAS IT NOT TO KEEP BLORE HERE?
MINE, SIR. I THOUGHT HE WOULD BE SAFER.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, BEENY? WHAT DID YOU GET WRONG?
I THINK I TURNED UP TODAY.
WE THINK THEY LEFT THE CAR IN THE BRINSLEY UNDERSKED. THERE WAS A MULTIPLE PILE-UP THERE, EIGHT DEAD. DRIVERS REPORTED SMOKE.
THIS GETS BETTER AND BETTER.
IT'S HARD TO BLAME THEM TOO MUCH. MAYBE HAS GIVEN HIM THE RUNAROUND OFTEN ENOUGH. CREEP IS CLEVER, AND LUCKY.
THREE CANDIDATES DEAD IN A NIGHT OF GROTESQUE SLAUGHTER. AND WHEN THEY FIND BLORE'S BODY, AS HE SUSPECTS THEY WILL, THERE CAN BE NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO POSTPONE THE ELECTION.

BREAKFAST IS SERVED.
GOOD-O! I'M AS HUNGRY AS A HORSEFLY!
AS THE SUN'S RAYS ROSE THIS MORNING BYSTANDERS WERE HORRIFIED TO SEE THE BODY OF TONY BLORE SWINGING BENEATH THE NEW BYRON AMBROSE BRIDGE, BRINGING THE NIGHT'S TOLL OF HORROR TO FOUR.
MR BLORE WAS THE FRONT RUNNER IN THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION, WHICH IS NOW CERTAIN TO BE POSTPONED YET AGAIN.
OH MY, HOW GHASTLY!
IRONIC THAT MR BLORE SHOULD BE FOUND HANGING FROM THE BRIDGE DEDICATED TO HIS FORMER LEADER AND MENTOR.
JUDGES BELIEVE THE MURDERS TO BE THE WORK OF TERRORIST GROUPS, SO FAR NONE HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY.
SO, THEY'RE NOT GOING TO ADMIT I DID IT.
YOU DID IT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN, ROBERTO?
JUST MY LITTLE JOKE. AS IF I COULD COMMIT SUCH A GHASTLY ACT WHEN I'M SO FULL OF LOVE FOR YOU.
OH ROBERTO...
Anyway, what did it matter? They new it was me. That was enough. I'd announced myself. PJ Maybe was back.
Time now to sit back and quietly enjoy the froots of married life. But theyd no I was out Here somewhere, waiting till the mood took me... cunning — dangerous — elusive.

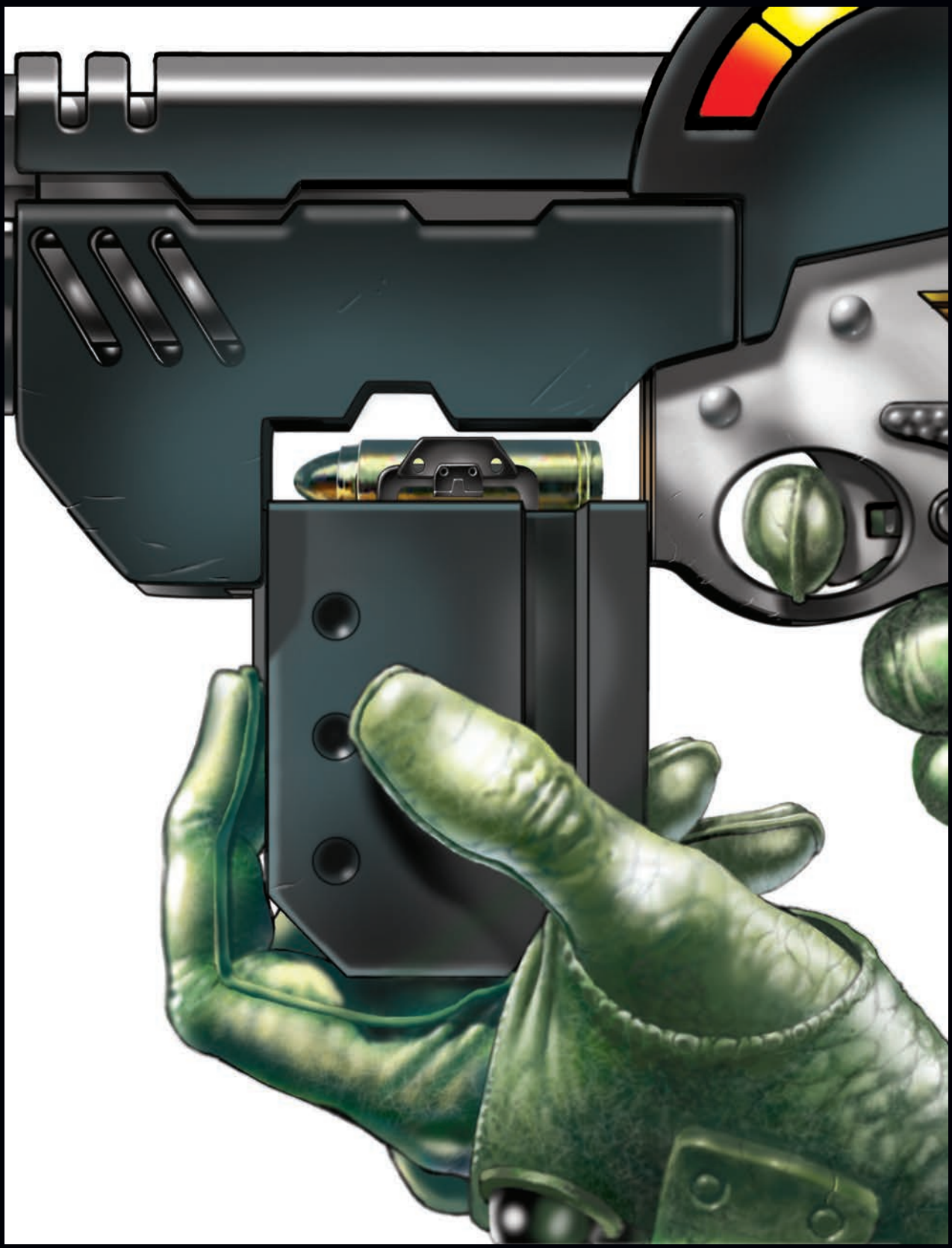
GALLERY

2000 AD Prog 1743: Cover by **Clint Langley**

2000 AD Prog 1749: Cover by **Garry Brown**

DESIGNATED
THRILL-POWER AREA
2000 AD

2000 AD Prog 1750: Cover by **Greg Staples**



2000 AD Prog 1755: Cover by **Cliff Robinson**

Judge Dredd Megazine Issue 308: Cover by **Clint Langley**

JOHN WAGNER

John Wagner has been scripting for *2000 AD* for more years than he cares to remember. His creations include *Judge Dredd, Strontium Dog, Ace Trucking, Al's Baby, Button Man* and *Mean Machine*. Outside of *2000 AD* his credits include *Star Wars, Lobo, The Punisher* and the critically acclaimed *A History of Violence*.

HENRY FLINT

Henry Flint, winner of the National Comics Awards for Best Comic Artist 2004, is one of the Galaxy's Greatest Comic's rising superstars. Co-creator of *Sancho Panzer*, Shakara, and the fan-favourite strip, *Zombo*, his incredibly versatile pencils have also graced *A.B.C. Warriors, Judge Dredd/Aliens, Deadlock, Judge Dredd, Rogue Trooper, Nemesis the Warlock, The V.C.'s* and *Venus Bluegenes*. He has even written a *Tharg's Alien Invasions strip*! He has also worled on several American comics, including *Omega Men*, *Haunted Tank* and *Fear Itself: Fearsome Four*. Away from the comics industry, Henry produced art of the cover of DJ Food's 2012 album, *The Search Engine.*

STAZ JOHNSON

Stewart "Staz" Johnson started his artistic career working on RPG magazines. From there he got work at Marvel UK where he worked on weekly comic book series such as *Transformers* and *Action Force*. Having worked on the majority of Marvel's A-list titles such as *Thor, The Avengers* & *Spider-Man*, he moved over to DC Comics, working on several *Batman* titles. His work for *2000 AD* includes *Judge Dredd, Future Shocks, Rogue Trooper* and the strip *Killer* which he co-created with Steve Moore.

COLIN MACNEIL

Since joining *2000 AD* in 1986 **Colin MacNeil** has worked on many strips, including *Chopper*: *Song of the Surfer* and the infamous death of Johnny Alpha in *Strontium Dog*: *The Final Solution*. He went on to collaborate with John Wagner on the award-winning *America* for the *Judge Dredd Megazine*. He has also worked on *Shimura, Maelstrom* and *Fiends of the Eastern Front*: *Stalingrad*, and, outside of the Galaxy's Greatest Comic, provided the atmospheric artwork on *Bloodquest* for Games Workshop. He also enjoys creating large abstract paintings. He says it's art therapy!

BEN WILLSHER

Ben Willsher got his break in comics in the ground-breaking *Deadline* magazine (home of *Tank Girl*), before being stolen by the world of computer games, where he has worked as an Art Director for many years. However, the lure of Comics was too strong and he came back to *2000 AD* and has drawn *Future Shocks*, *Pulp Sci-Fi*, *Tharg's Terror Tales*, *Sinister Dexter*, *Damnation Station*, but he is probably best known for his work on *Judge Dredd*. He most recently revived the uber cool grifter *Lenny Zero*, with original creator Andy Diggle.

Beyond his accomplishments in the world of comics he has also worked in film, television and the music industry, and is heavily involved in the World of *Doctor Who*, where he has illustrated work for the Time Lord luminaries such as Russell T Davies, Mark Gatiss, and comic giant Neil Gaiman.