

THE HORDE

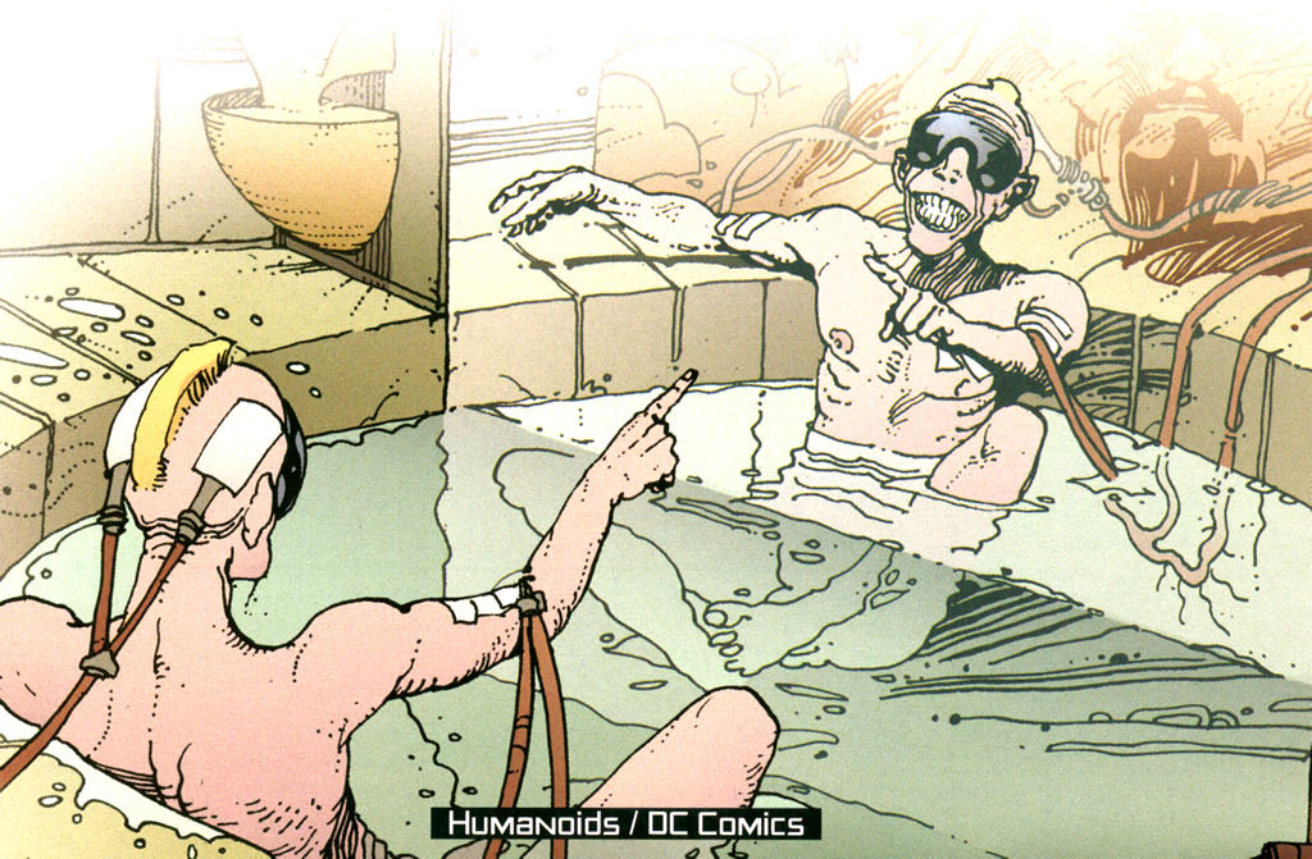
BARANKO



THE HORDE

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WHERE DOES THE DREAM END
AND REALITY BEGIN?

WHERE DOES REALITY END
AND THE DREAM BEGIN?

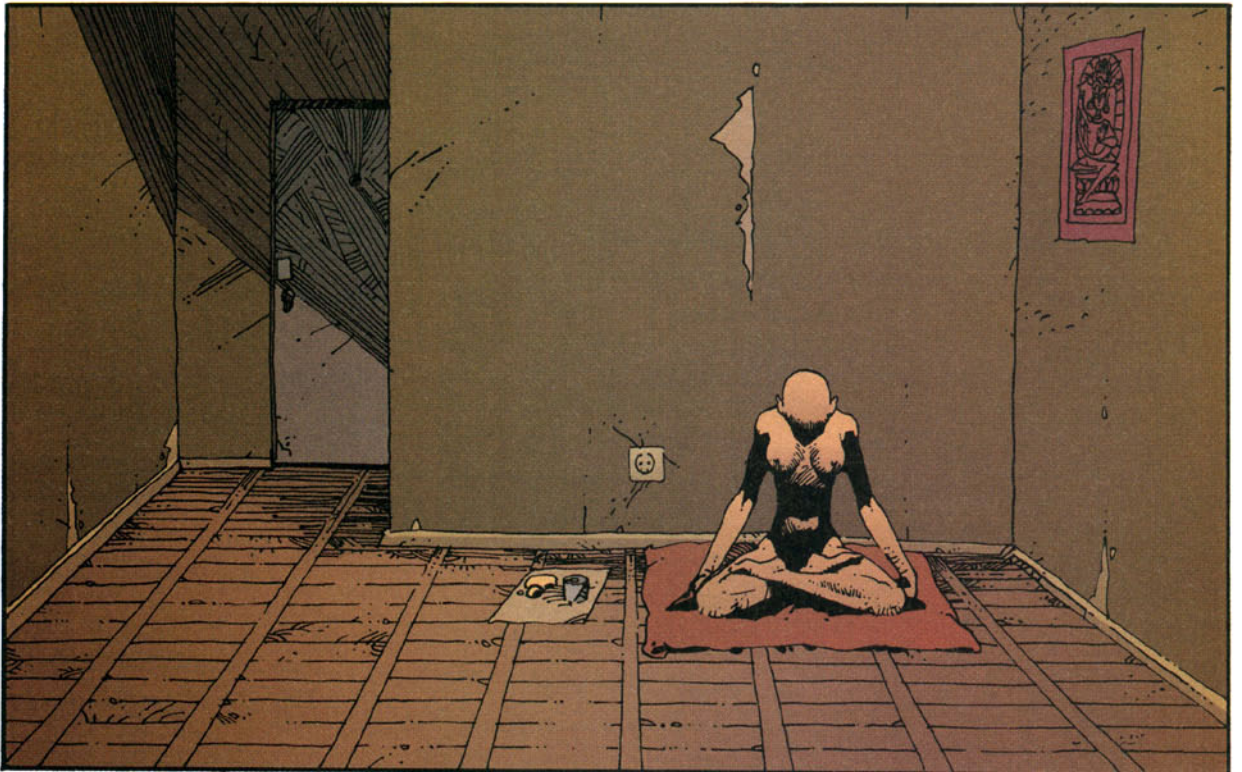
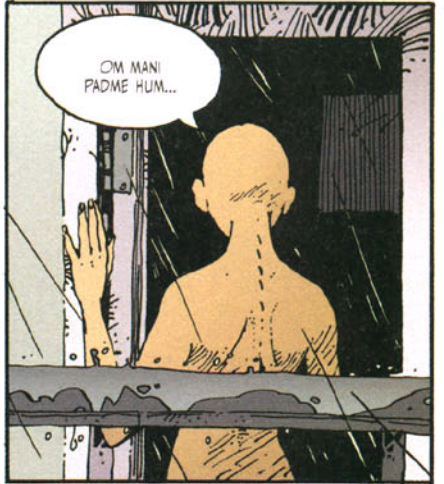
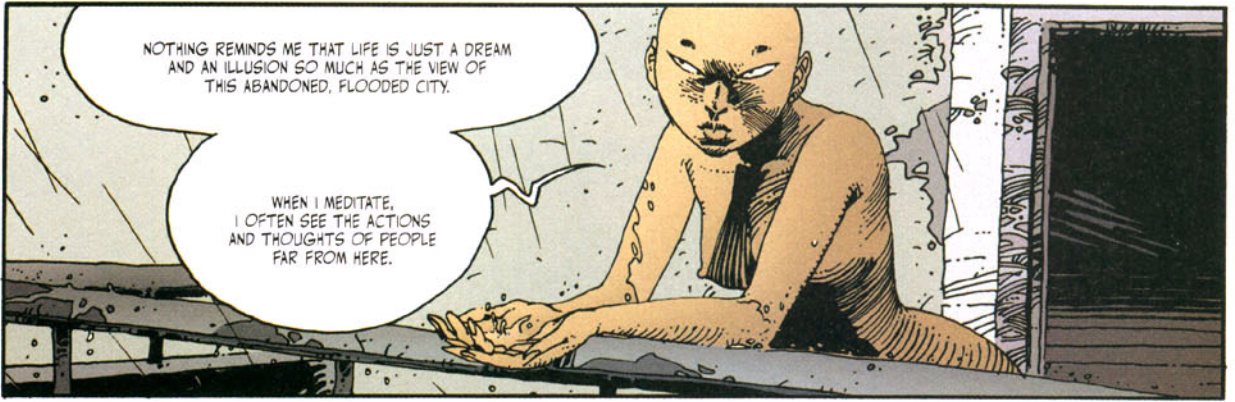
AND IS THERE ANY
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
THEM?

THEY SAY OUR
BODIES ONLY LIVE
ON THIS EARTH
BRIEFLY...

BUT... WHO KNOWS?

REPUBLIC OF TUVA, EASTERN
RUSSIA. SEPTEMBER 2040.





MOSCOW, THE KREMLIN.

Ток
Ток

COME
IN!

... EXTREMELY
CONTRADICTIONARY REPORTS
FROM THE BBC ABOUT
RUSSIAN DICTATOR IVAN
APELSINOV. AS HE DELVES
DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO
MYSTICISM, SOME SAY HE
HAS BECOME A VEGETARIAN,
OTHERS CLAIM HE HAS
PARTICIPATED IN
CANNIBALISTIC
RITUALS.

LET ME
PUT A QUESTION
TO YOU, GENERAL
VOLKOV. DO YOU
BELIEVE IN DESTINY,
IN FATE?

HEAR
THAT?
IT'S ABOUT
ME.





WHAT? DID YOU THINK I WAS GOING TO SHOOT YOU, GENERAL?



YOU ARE OFTEN UNPREDICTABLE, DICTATOR.



THAT'S A COMPLIMENT. WHEN I CAME TO POWER, I PROMISED THAT YOU WOULD NEVER BE BORED.



I REALIZED THIS WHEN I WAS TRIPPING ON LSD.

REAL MONGOLS HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS. THEY ARE A SYMBOL, AN ARCHETYPE, IF YOU WILL...



IT IS TIME TO SHOW THAT RUSSIA IS *NOT* THE DESCENDANT OF TINY *SLAVIC STATES* IN EASTERN EUROPE, BUT OF THE GOLDEN HORDE, WHICH UNITED EAST AND WEST! *PAN-MONGOLISM*, NOT *PAN-SLAVISM*, WILL LEAD US, JUST AS LEV NIKOLAEVICH GUMILYOV PROPHESED IN THE LAST CENTURY...

DO YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT? NO? WHERE'S YOUR IMAGINATION, COMRADES?

CHECHNYA MILITARY
UNIT # 1531582



CLIC!



HEH.
FUCK...



ONE
MORE?

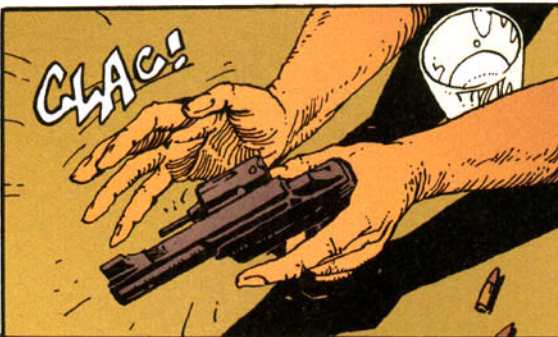


MY
TURN.

THE
VODKA'S
GONE.



CLAC!



HEY!
FUCKING
WARRIORS!
MORE
VODKA!





AND MAKE IT SNAPPY, YOU SHITHEADS!

HEY, GREENIE. GO GET VODKA.

YESTERDAY THE GUYS ON PATROL SAID THEY SAW A FLYING CHECHEN.



FUCKING LIARS. THEY WERE STONED.

WHO KNOWS? MAYBE THE CHECHENS MUTATED IN THE MOUNTAINS.



I THINK CHECHENS ARE A MYTH. NOBODY'S SEEN ONE OF 'EM SINCE THEY WERE NUKED IN THE 3RD CHECHEN WAR TEN YEARS AGO...



BANG!



OH, FUCK. GAME OVER.

HEY! GO SEE WHAT HAPPENED!



LOOK.
WHO'S
THAT?

SOME
BITCH.



HALT!

DON'T
SHOOT. I'M
JUST A POOR
WOMAN.



SHOW
YOUR
FACE!

WHAT'S
IN THE BOX?

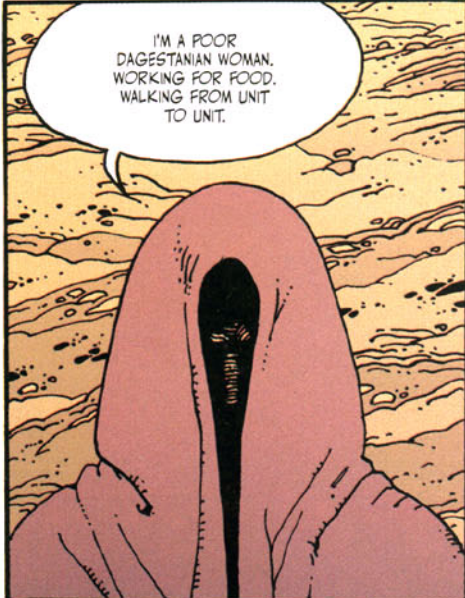


THIS IS
VODKA. BOYS. I'M
SELLING VODKA.

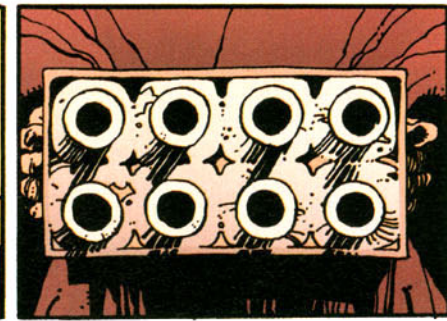
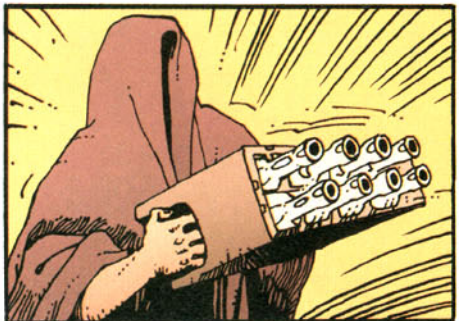


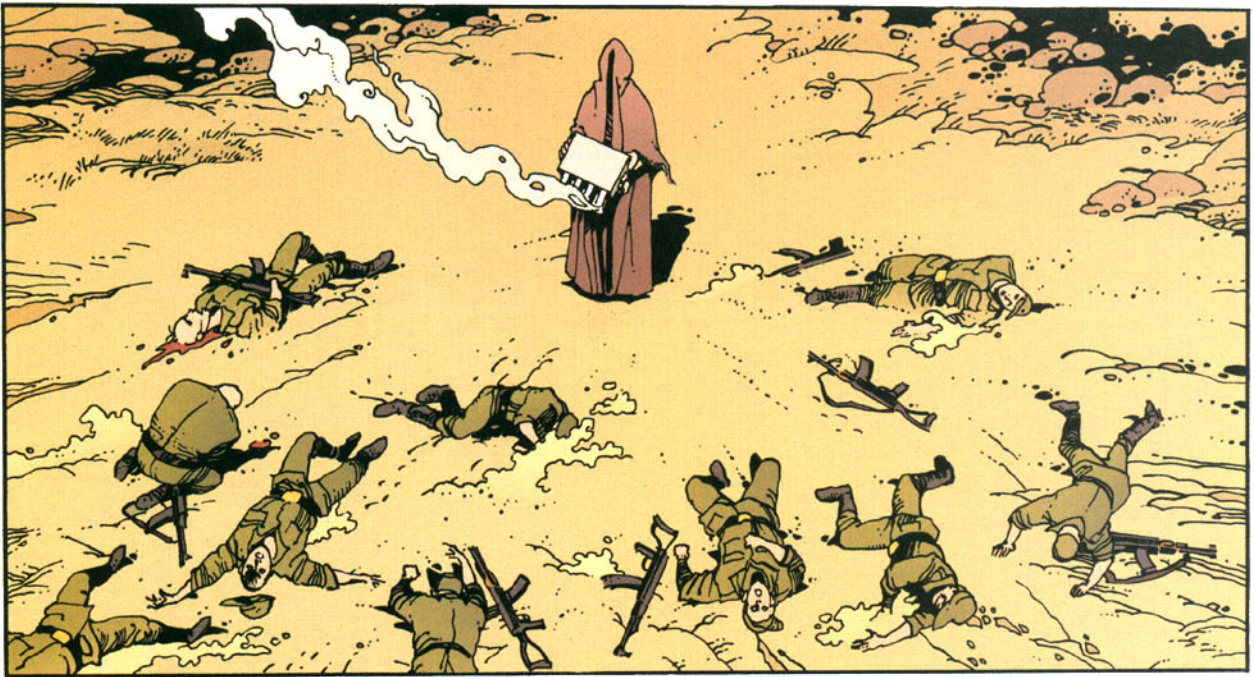
VODKA?

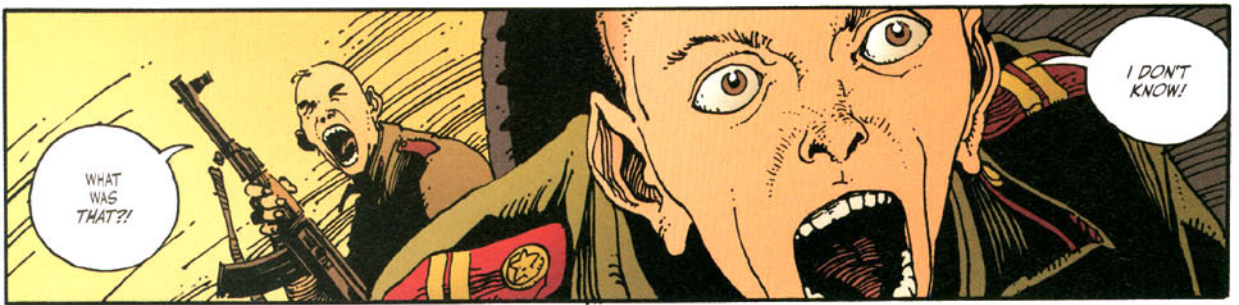
STAY WHERE
YOU ARE.



I'M A POOR
DAGESTANIAN WOMAN.
WORKING FOR FOOD.
WALKING FROM UNIT
TO UNIT.







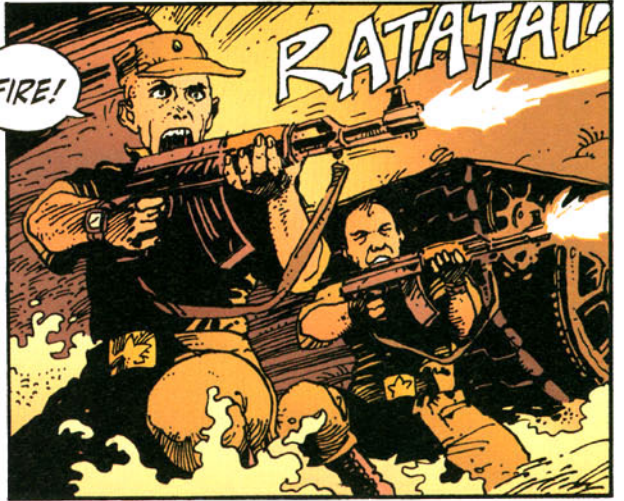
WHAT WAS THAT?!

I DON'T KNOW!



FIRE!

THERE HE IS.



RATATA!



WILL ONE OF YOUR BULLETS BLOW MY HEAD OPEN? I'VE GIVEN MYSELF UP TO ALLAH. UNLESS HE WISHES IT, NOT A HAIR WILL FALL FROM MY HEAD.



I FEEL SO HAPPY NOW...



THE DELIGHT OF MY SPIRIT HAS DEFEATED MY DESIRE TO LIVE!

HAH HAH HAH!



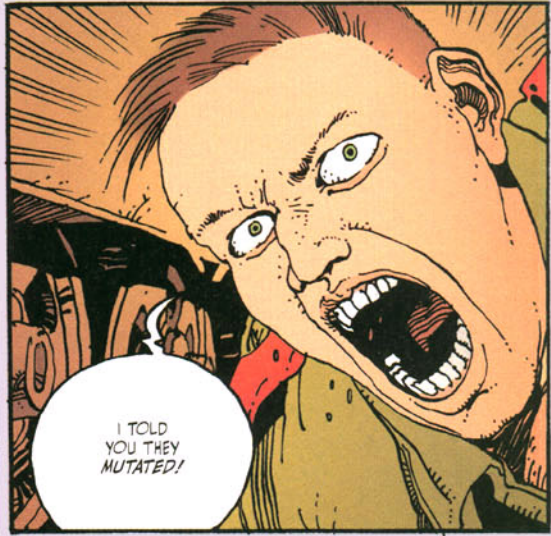
VZZZAT

AH.
THIS BULLET TELLS ME...



RATATATA

... THAT I SHOULD GET A MOVE ON.

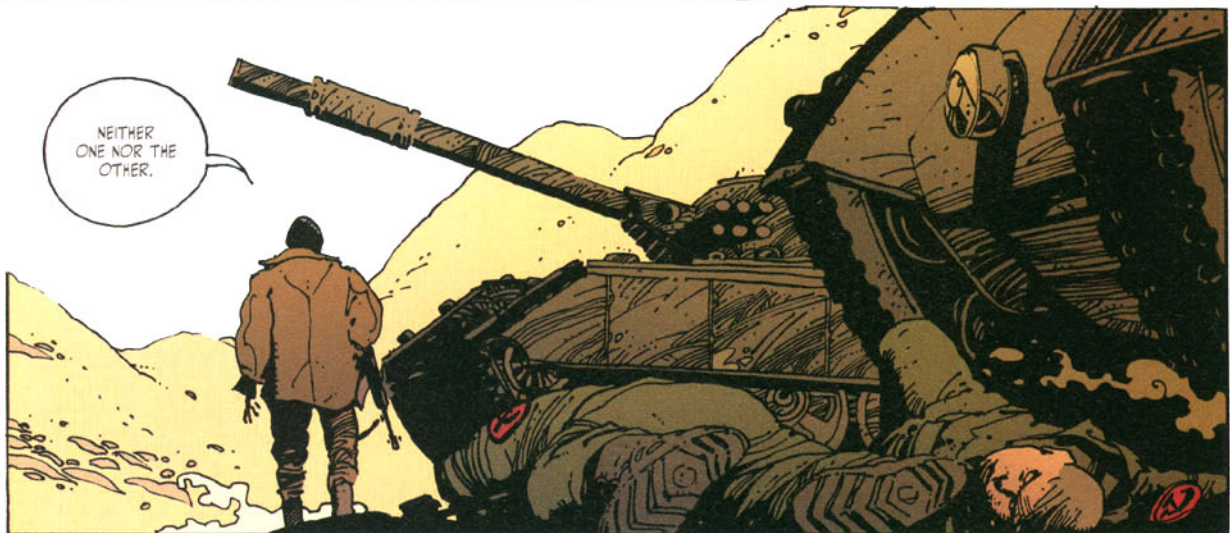


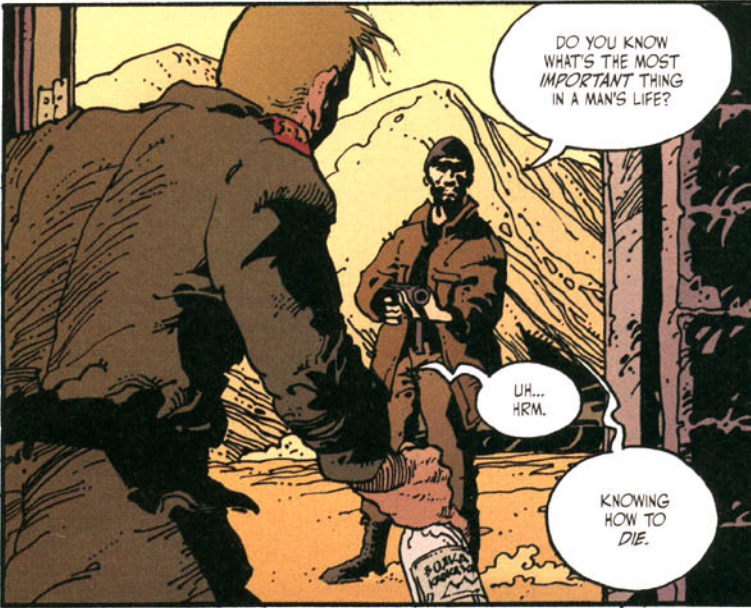
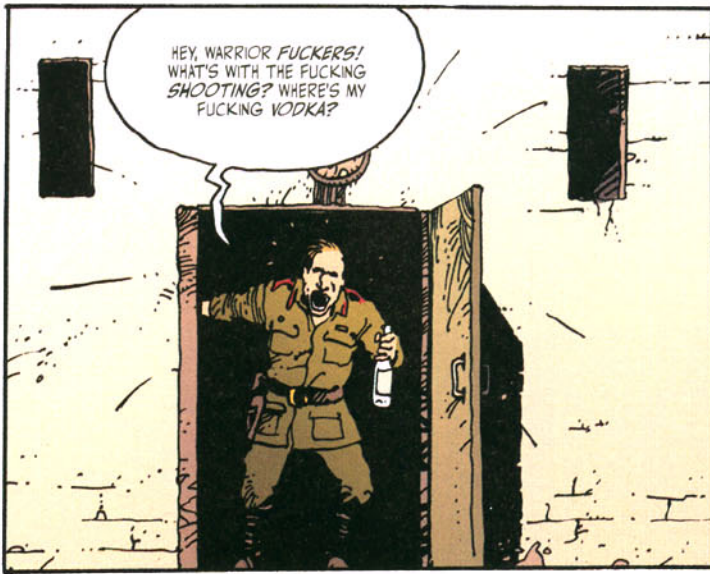
I TOLD YOU THEY MUTATED!

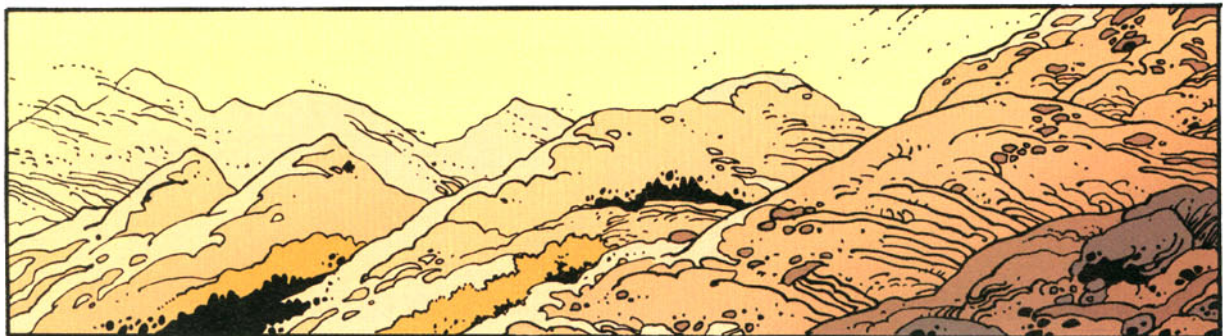


WHERE IS HE?

HE'S NOT HERE!







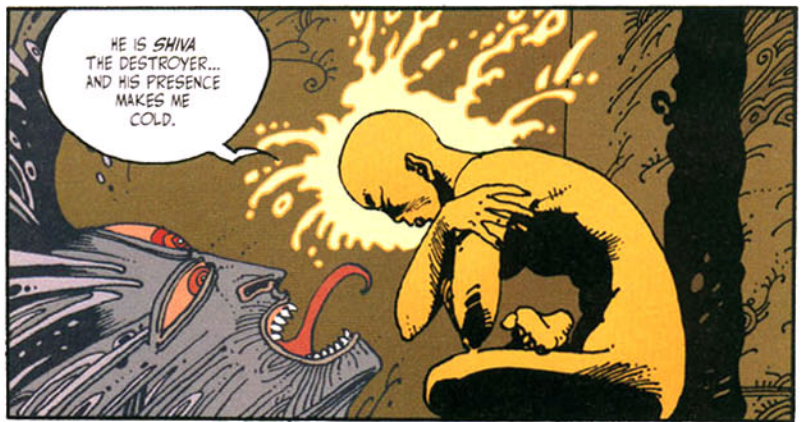


AGAIN I SEE EVENTS THAT HAPPEN FAR FROM ME AND I FEEL THE PAIN OF THE PARTICIPANTS. BUT EVERY THOUGHT CAST INTO THE WORLD CALLS FOR ITS OWN REFLECTION...THIS IS THE ONLY WAY THE WORLD CAN REMAIN IN BALANCE...



AND WHEN THE ONE WHO HAS POWER - MOVED BY GREED - ATTEMPTS TO LIVE ETERNALLY...

... AT THAT MOMENT, ANOTHER ONE - DETACHED AND FRIGHTENING - COMES INTO THE WORLD SEEKING DEATH.



HE IS SHIVA THE DESTROYER... AND HIS PRESENCE MAKES ME COLD.



BUT WHO MOVES THE PLAYERS? WHY DO THEY COME TO ME? WHO AM I IN THIS STORY?



MY QUEST IS TO UNDERSTAND.

OM MANI PADME HUM...

MOSCOW.

РОССИЯ
В ЕДИНОМ КУЛАКЕ!

ACCORDING TO THE LATEST REPORT, THE MUMMY OF ST. LENIN WAS STOLEN FROM ITS MAUSOLEUM BY HUMANOIDS IN A UFO. THE FLYING SAUCER DISAPPEARED WHILE HEADING SOUTH...

THE RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT SUSPECTS THE ISRAELI SECRET SERVICE, THE MOSSAD.

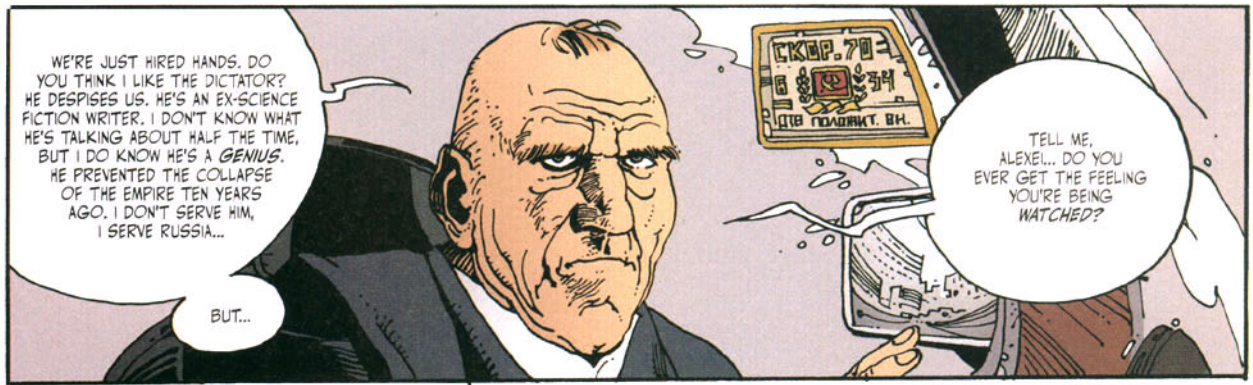
COMRADE GENERAL, DID YOU GIVE PERMISSION TO LEAK THIS INFORMATION TO THE MEDIA?

NO.

YOU KNOW, NOTHING SURPRISES ME ANYMORE. I GET THE FEELING IT'S ALL PART OF SOME MASTER PLAN...

... AND ONLY THE DICTATOR KNOWS WHAT THAT IS.

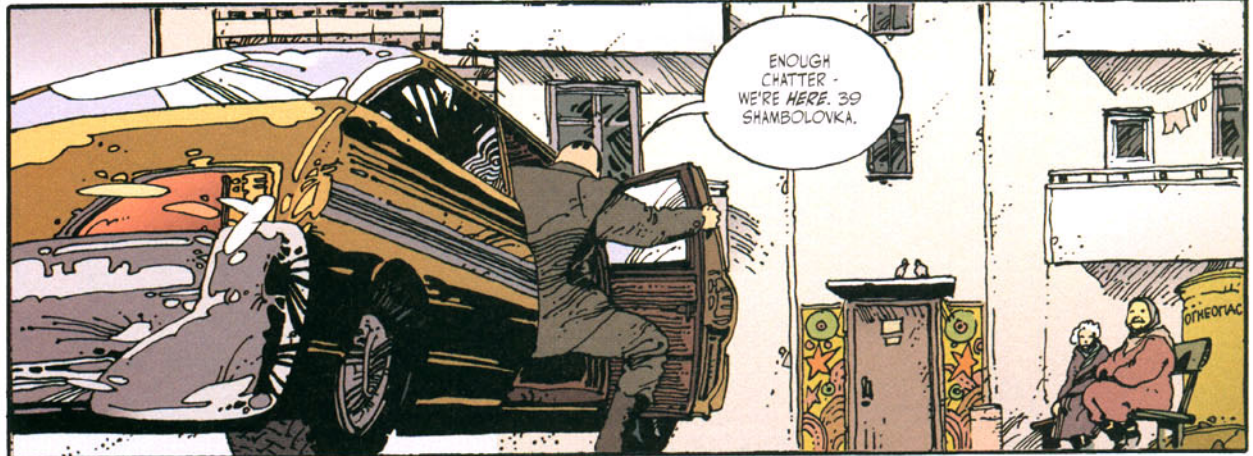
I DON'T GET IT. IF WE'RE NOT RUSSIA'S SECURITY SERVICE, WHO IS?



WE'RE JUST HIRED HANDS. DO YOU THINK I LIKE THE DICTATOR? HE DESPISES US. HE'S AN EX-SCIENCE FICTION WRITER. I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE'S TALKING ABOUT HALF THE TIME, BUT I DO KNOW HE'S A **GENIUS**. HE PREVENTED THE COLLAPSE OF THE EMPIRE TEN YEARS AGO. I DON'T SERVE HIM, I SERVE RUSSIA...

BUT...

TELL ME, ALEXEL... DO YOU EVER GET THE FEELING YOU'RE BEING WATCHED?



ENOUGH CHATTER - WE'RE HERE. 39 SHAMBOLOVKA.



KEEP YOUR FINGERS CROSSED.

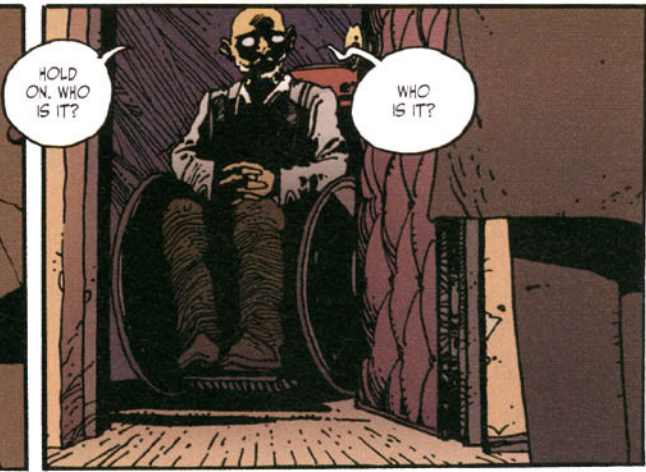
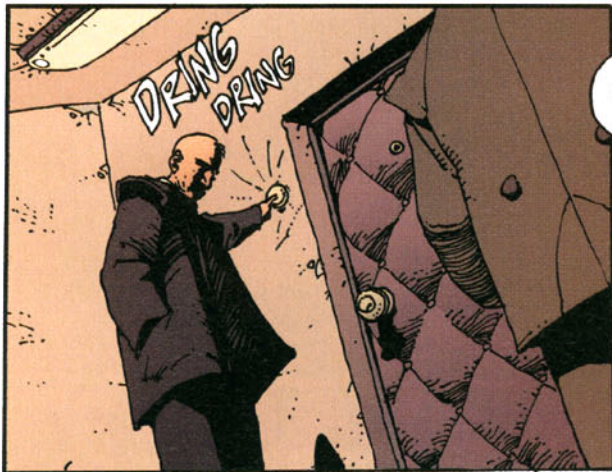


SHIT. ELEVATOR'S BROKEN.



SHIT. NINE FLOORS.

FUCK.



HOLD ON. WHO IS IT?

WHO IS IT?



HELLO, ARTEM FILIPOVICH. WE CALLED EARLIER.

WE'RE FROM THE NKVD. WE'D LIKE TO SPEAK WITH YOU ABOUT OLD TIMES. THIS IS GENERAL VOLKOV AND I'M MAJOR PSHENICHNY.



SURE, OF COURSE.

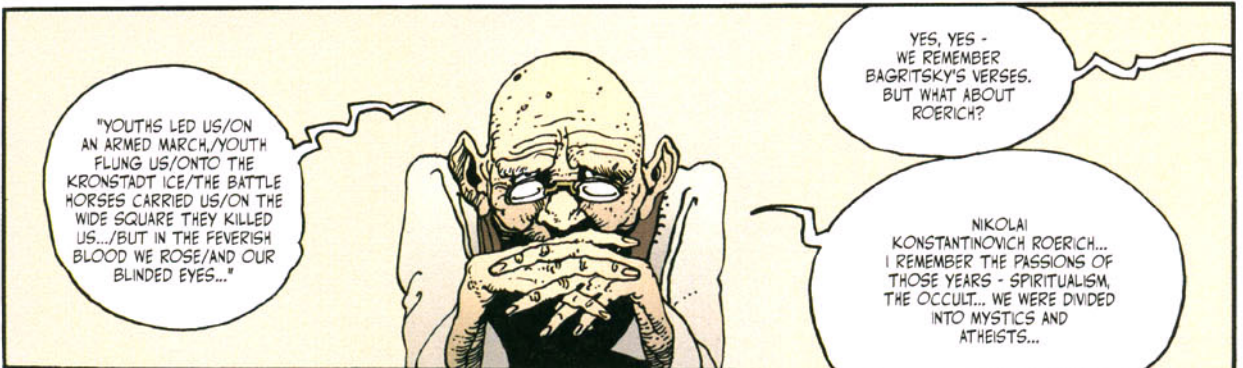
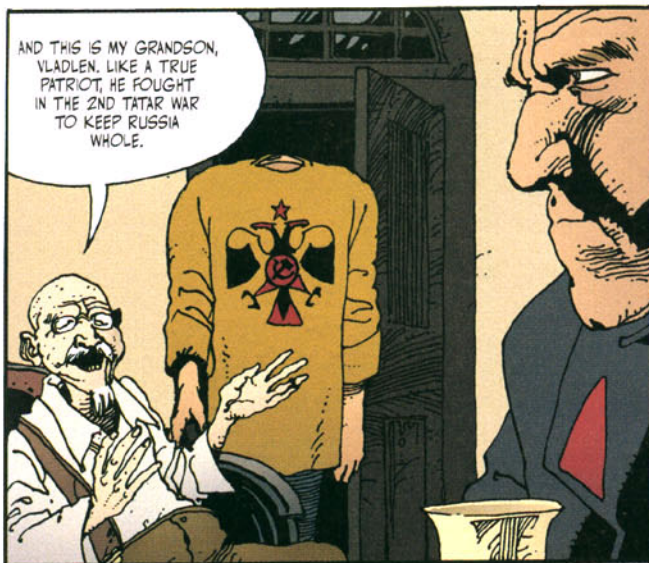


... WE HEAR YOU RECENTLY CELEBRATED YOUR 150TH BIRTHDAY. THAT'S A VENERABLE AGE.

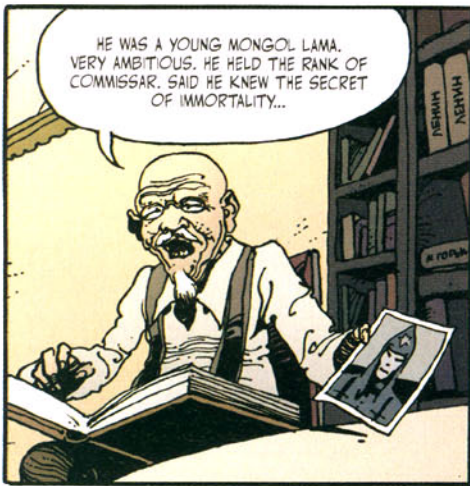
YES, I'VE BEEN AROUND A WHILE. HAVE SOME TEA? IT'S FASHIONABLE THESE DAYS TO OFFER ONE'S GUESTS HEROIN, BUT I'M OLD FASHIONED...



PLEASE COME IN.







HE WAS A YOUNG MONGOL LAMA, VERY AMBITIOUS. HE HELD THE RANK OF COMMISSAR. SAID HE KNEW THE SECRET OF IMMORTALITY...



AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, HE CLAIMED TO BE THE REINCARNATION OF GENGHIS KHAN.

HERE HE IS.



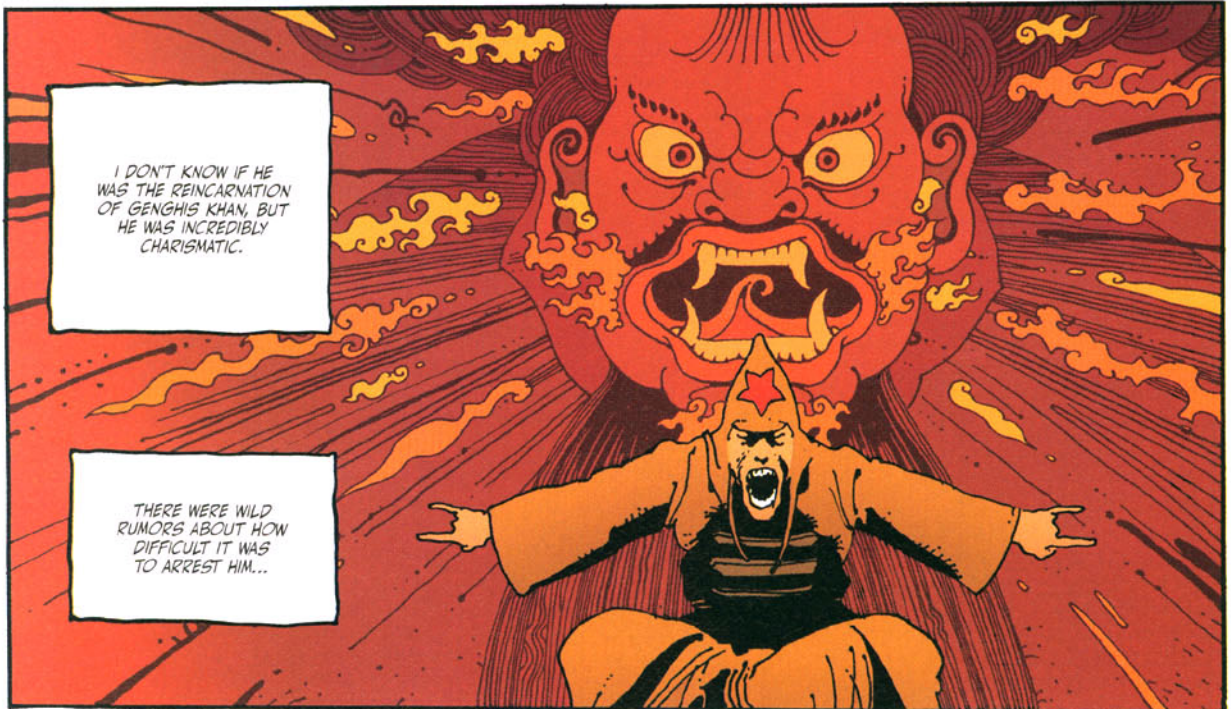
FOR MONGOLS, GENGHIS KHAN IS NOT JUST A FRIGHTENING HISTORICAL FIGURE. FOR THEM, HE IS SOMEWHERE BETWEEN DRACULA AND JESUS CHRIST.



NOYON WAS ACCUSED OF ATTEMPTING TO ASSASSINATE STALIN, OF TROTSKYISM, AND OF LEFTIST OPPORTUNISM.

HE MADE HIS MISTAKE WHEN HE ADVISED STALIN TO EAT THE MUMMY OF LENIN TO GAIN THE GREAT MAN'S WISDOM.

ACTUALLY, THAT'S AN OLD TRADITION OF THE BON-PO.



I DON'T KNOW IF HE WAS THE REINCARNATION OF GENGHIS KHAN, BUT HE WAS INCREDIBLY CHARISMATIC.

THERE WERE WILD RUMORS ABOUT HOW DIFFICULT IT WAS TO ARREST HIM...



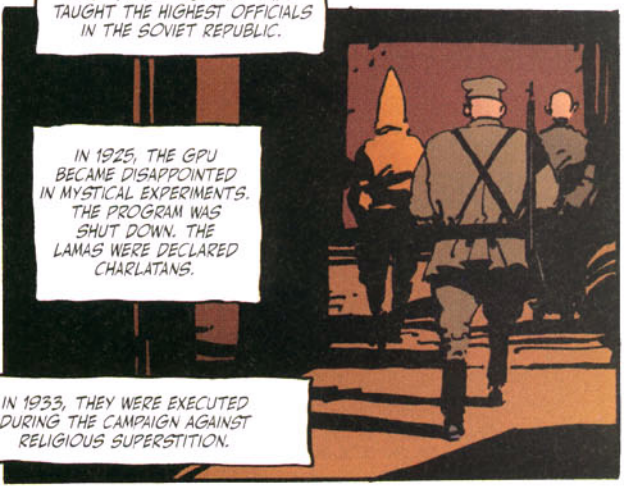
THE BON-PO SECT DOESN'T WAIT FOR THE GRACE OF GODS; IT ACTIVELY CREATES MIRACLES; MIRACLES SOVIET SCIENCE WILL SOON EXPLAIN. THEREFORE, WE INVITED THEM AS TEACHERS FOR THE YOUNG SOVIET REPUBLIC.

ROERICH ALSO BROUGHT A MESSAGE FROM TIBETAN MAHATMAS FOR MAHATMA LENIN, DECLARING THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE REVOLUTION.



A SPECIAL REVOLUTIONARY DETACHMENT OF MONGOLS WAS FORMED.

NOBODY KNOWS WHAT THEY TAUGHT THE HIGHEST OFFICIALS IN THE SOVIET REPUBLIC.



IN 1925, THE GPU BECAME DISAPPOINTED IN MYSTICAL EXPERIMENTS. THE PROGRAM WAS SHUT DOWN. THE LAMAS WERE DECLARED CHARLATANS.

IN 1933, THEY WERE EXECUTED DURING THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST RELIGIOUS SUPERSTITION.



VERY INTERESTING. BUT WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT...



LAMA NOYON?



OH.



IT'S A BIZARRE STORY. DO YOU WANT TO HEAR IT?

THAT'S WHAT WE CAME FOR, ARTEM FILLIPOVICH.

BUT IN 1930, HE WAS THE FIRST OF THE LAMAS TO BE EXECUTED.

CAPTAIN PETER KOLOKOLOV, THE MOST TRUSTED DISCIPLE OF THE LAMA, GOT PERMISSION TO TRANSPORT THE BODY TO UKRAINE, WHERE IT WAS BURIED.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE?

CAPTAIN KOLOKOLOV'S GRANDSON LIVES IN KIEV. OLEG KOLOKOLOV. HE CAN TELL YOU MORE THAN I.

HERE'S HIS ADDRESS.

THANK YOU, ARTEM FILIPPOVICH. YOU WERE VERY HELPFUL.

AGGH!







THE FIRST KNOWN INVASION FROM EAST TO WEST OCCURRED AROUND THE 7TH CENTURY B.C. THE SCYTHIANS, NOMADS FROM CENTRAL ASIA, SWEEP INTO EASTERN EUROPE.

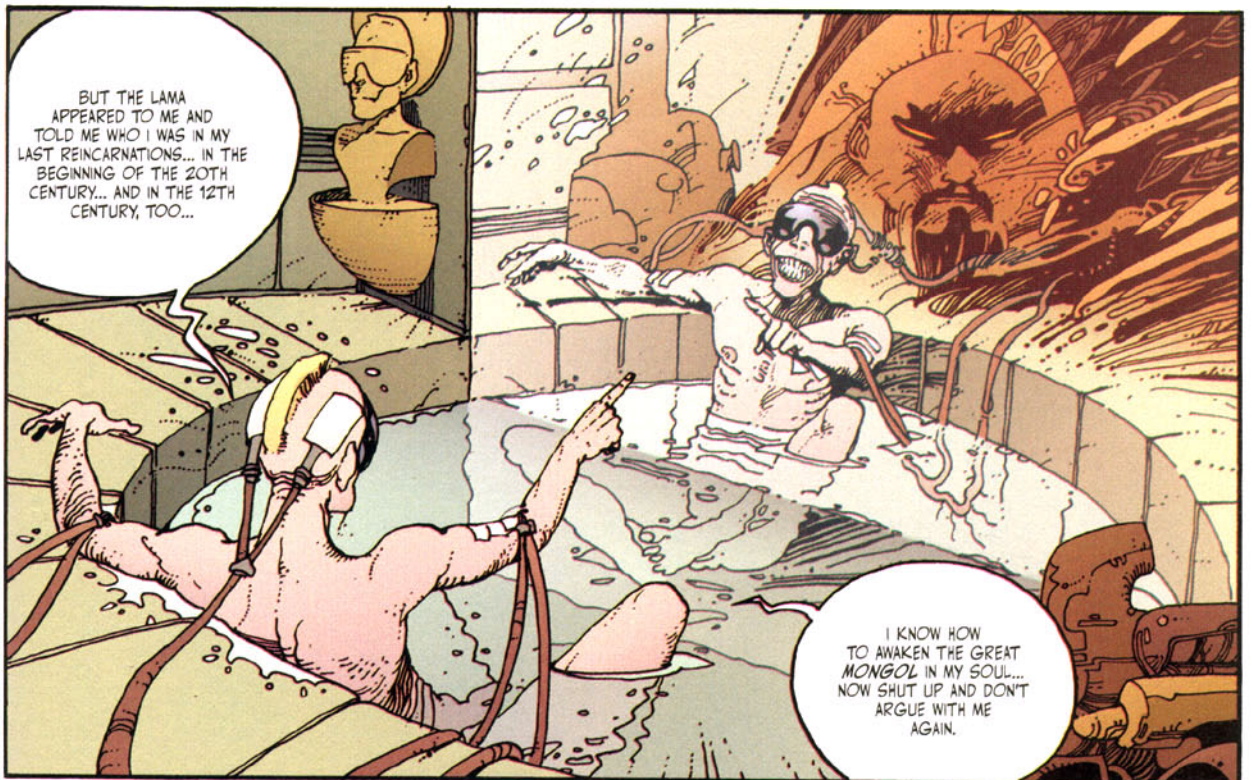
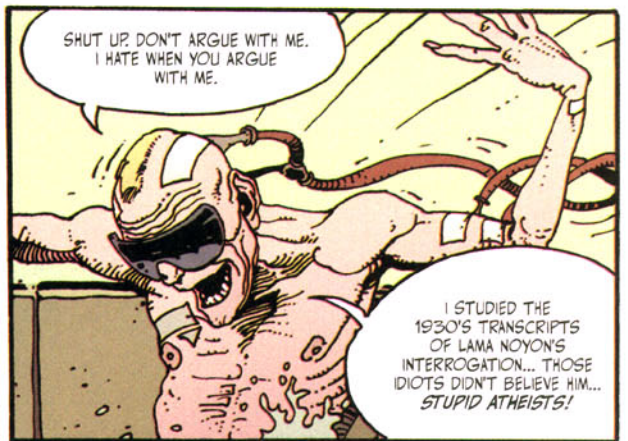
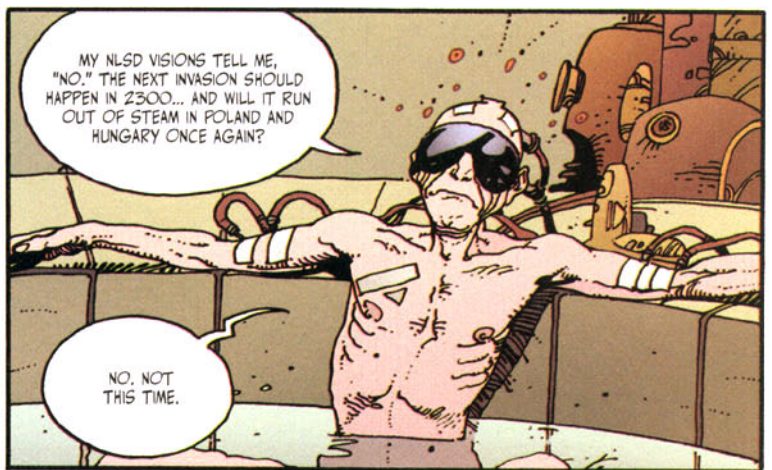


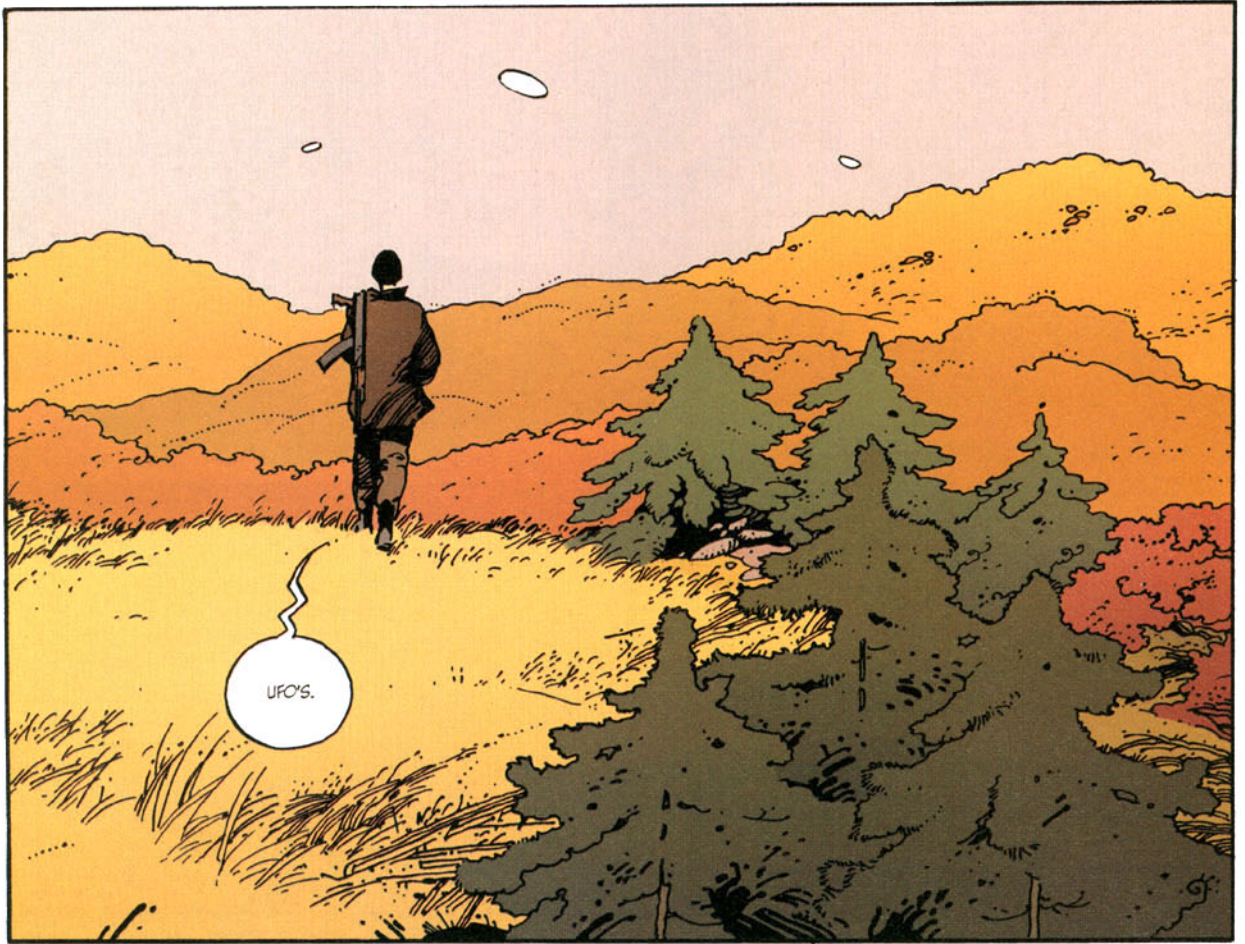
THE SECOND INVASION HAPPENED ABOUT 3RD CENTURY A.D. ARMIES OF HUNS TOOK THE SAME ROUTE AS THE SCYTHIANS DID A THOUSAND YEARS BEFORE THEM.

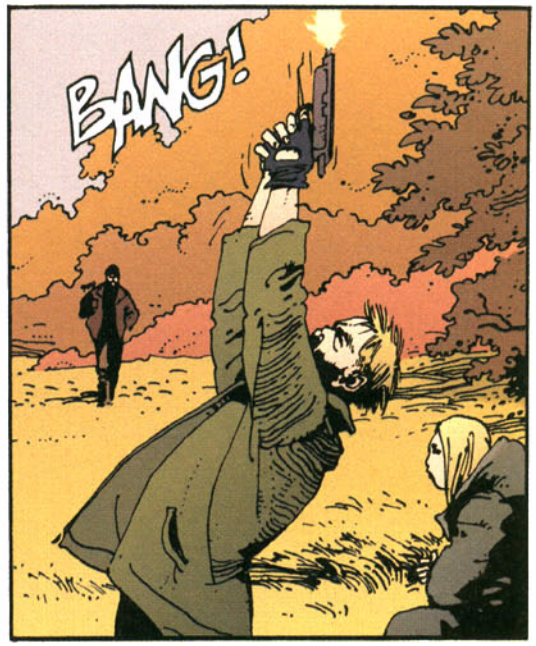


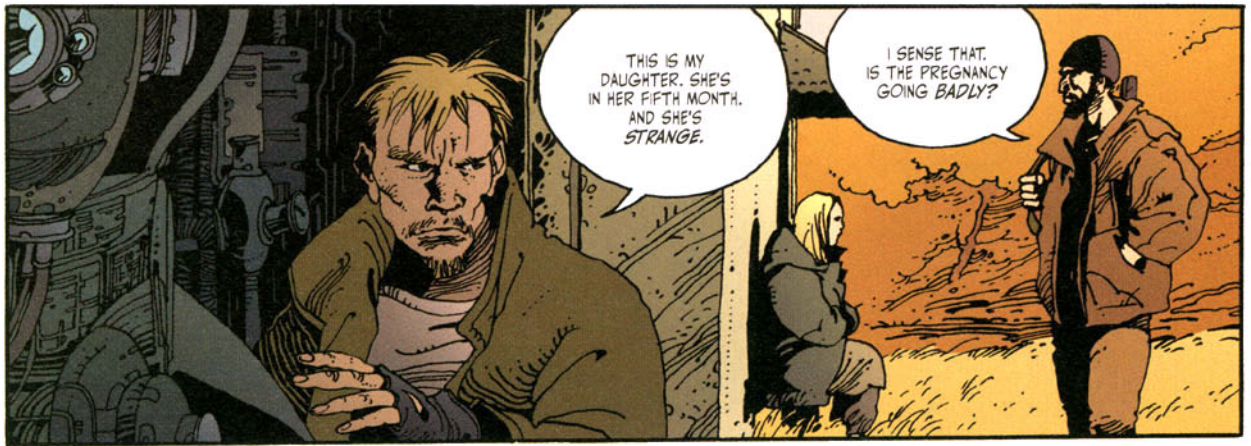
THE THIRD INVASION CAME IN THE 13TH CENTURY. THE MONGOLS ARRIVED ONE THOUSAND YEARS AFTER THE HUNS AND STOPPED IN THE SAME LANDS AS THEIR PREDECESSORS, POLAND AND HUNGARY.

EVERY THOUSAND YEARS...
AND THE SAME TERRITORIES...









THIS IS MY DAUGHTER. SHE'S IN HER FIFTH MONTH. AND SHE'S STRANGE.

I SENSE THAT. IS THE PREGNANCY GOING BADLY?



FUCKING HORRIBLY! THE ALIENS KNOCKED HER UP. SOMETIMES THEY KIDNAP PEOPLE IN THEIR SAUCERS.



THEY KIDNAPPED HER, TOO, AND RETURNED HER PREGNANT. WHO KNOWS WHAT SHE'LL GIVE BIRTH TO! WHAT A FUCKING LIFE.

GIVE ME YOUR RIGHT HAND.



YOU WILL BE A JEW. MORDECHAI GOLDSTEIN.



CITIZEN OF RUSSIA, D.O.B. 2005. YOUR FILES ARE OKAY.



50 RUBLES IN NEW CURRENCY.





COME NOW. I'LL TAKE YOU TO THE RAILWAY.

I THOUGHT CHECHENS DIDN'T EXIST ANYMORE. NOT FOR TEN YEARS.

MAYBE I'M THE LAST ONE.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

JOE.



JOE? THAT'S NOT A CHECHEN NAME.



ACTUALLY, I'M JHOKHAR. "JOE" FOR SHORT.

CHECHEN JOE? HAH HAH! WESTERN INFLUENCE, YEAH?



IN THE OLD DAYS, WE SMUGGLED DRUGS FROM KAZAKHSTAN. IT WAS A GOOD TIME.

UNTIL IVAN APELSINOV - THAT SON OF A BITCH - LEGALIZED ALL DRUGS. THEN ALL COUNTRIES LEGALIZED THEM. MY BUSINESS WENT DOWN THE FUCKING CRAPPER. NOW I DO THIS BULLSHIT...

FAKING DOCUMENTS. FUCKING LIFE.



THE CARGO TRAIN COMES THROUGH HERE.

GOOD.

SHOULD BE IN 15 MINUTES.



ANYTHING ELSE?

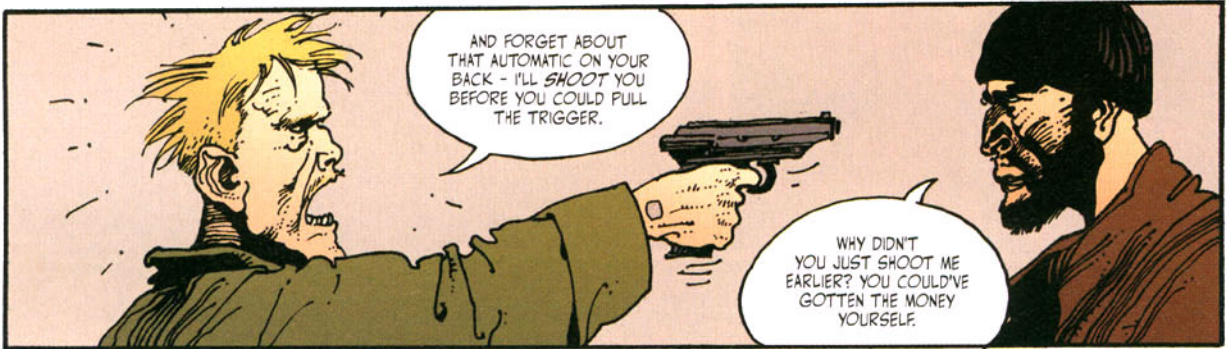
YES.



DON'T MOVE!



YOUR POCKETS ARE FULL OF MONEY. TAKE IT OUT AND GIVE IT TO ME - SLOWLY!



AND FORGET ABOUT THAT AUTOMATIC ON YOUR BACK - I'LL SHOOT YOU BEFORE YOU COULD PULL THE TRIGGER.

WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST SHOOT ME EARLIER? YOU COULD'VE GOTTEN THE MONEY YOURSELF.



I'M NOT LOW ENOUGH TO LOOT A CORPSE. DON'T WORRY, I'LL SHOOT YOU AFTERSWARDS ANYWAY.

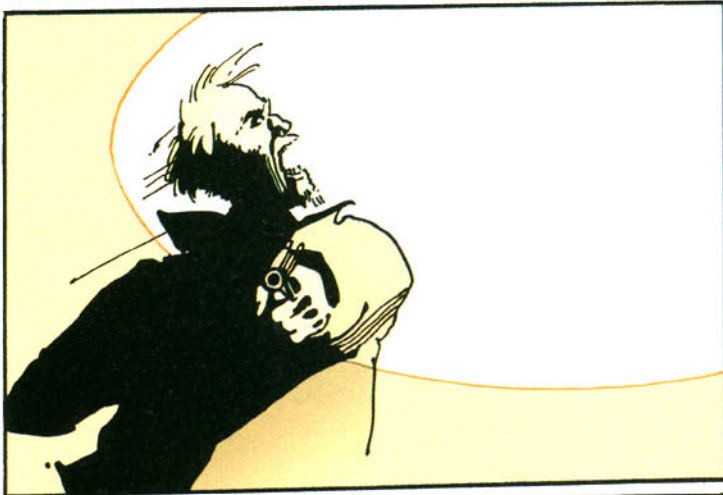
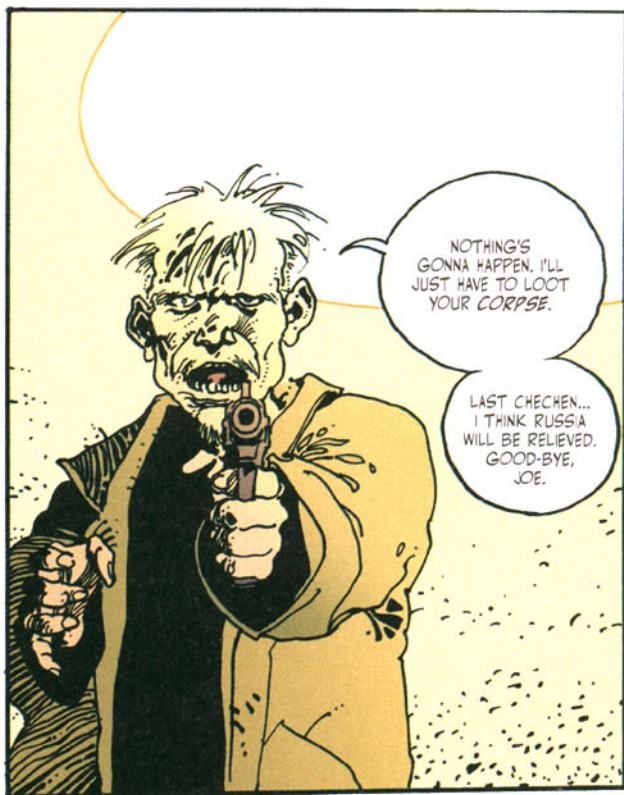


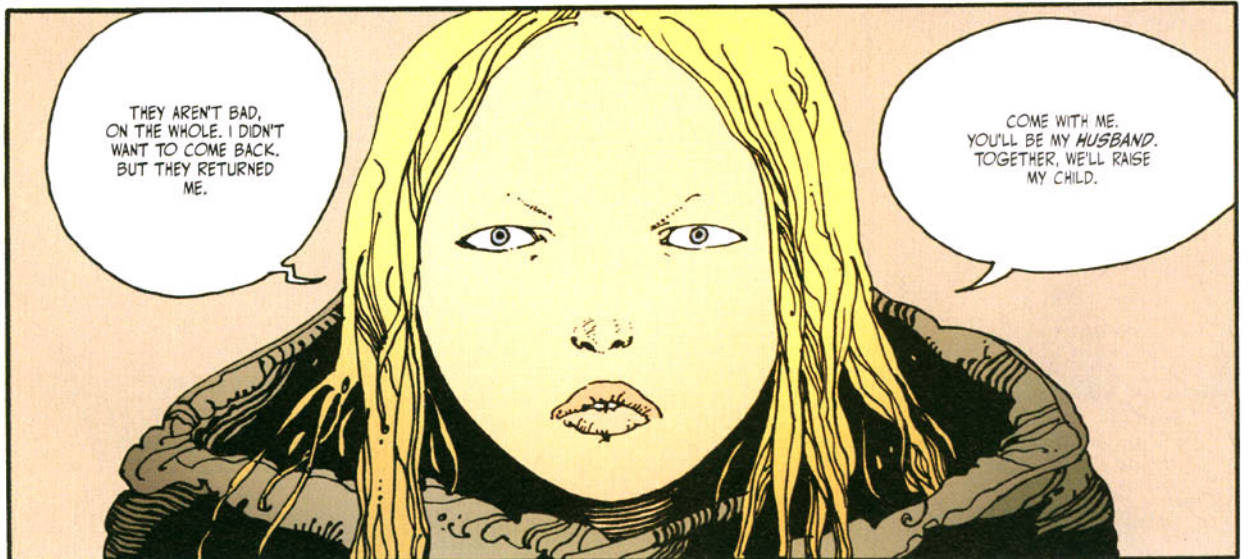
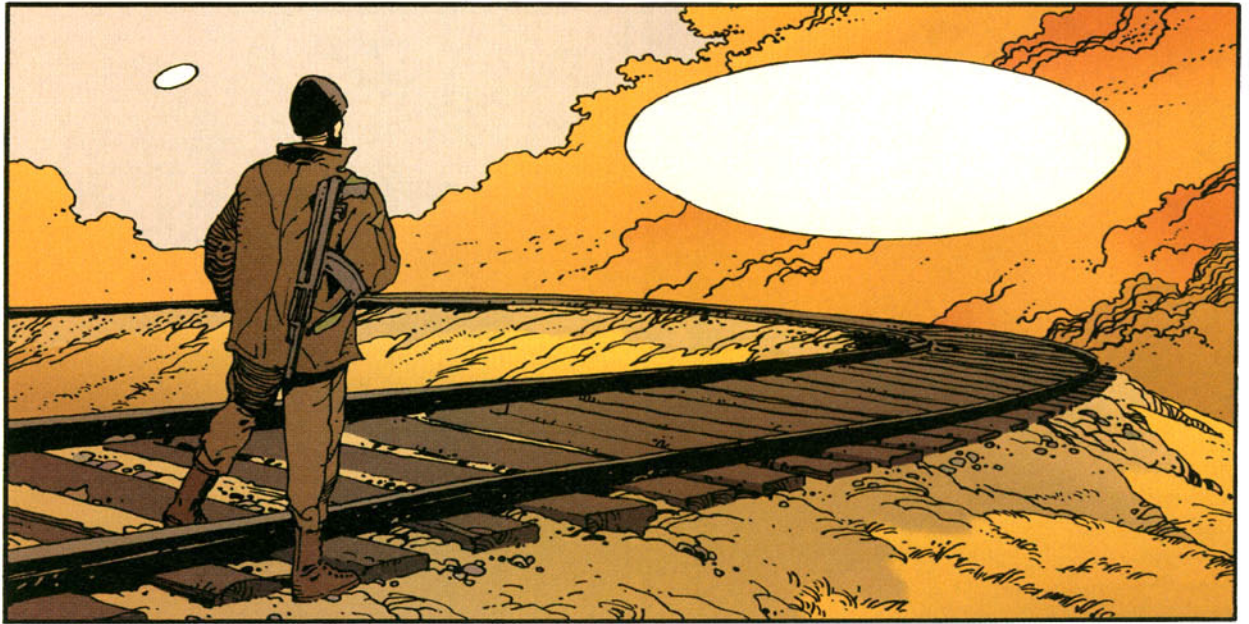
I GAVE UP MY LIFE TO HIM WHO RULES THE WORLDS. I HAVE NEITHER FEAR NOR DESIRE TO LIVE. I DIED A LONG TIME AGO.

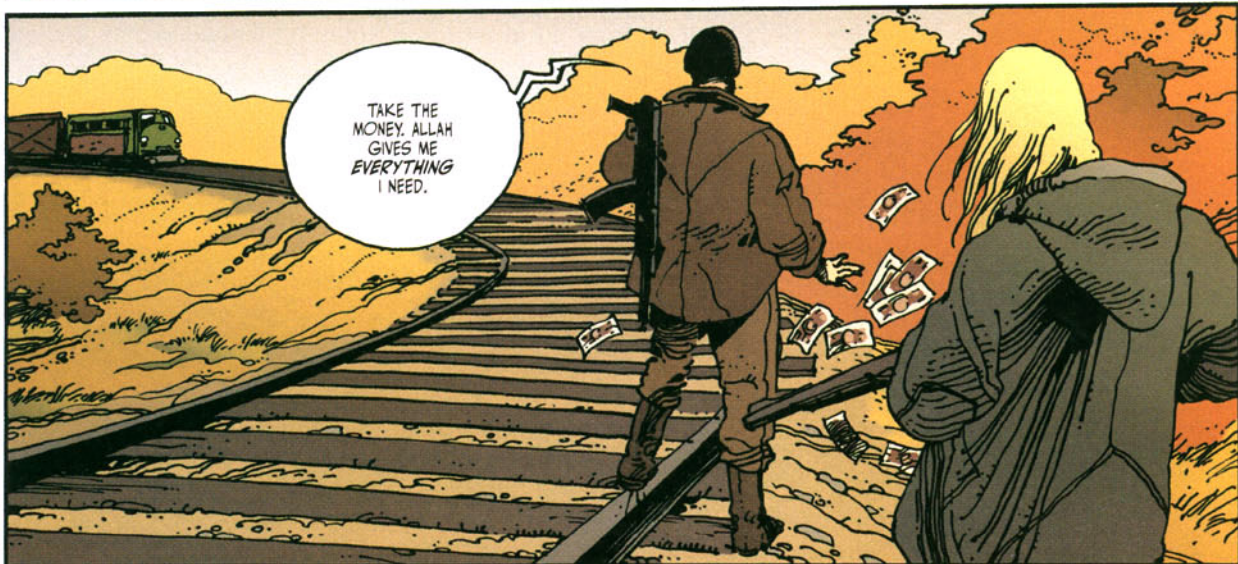


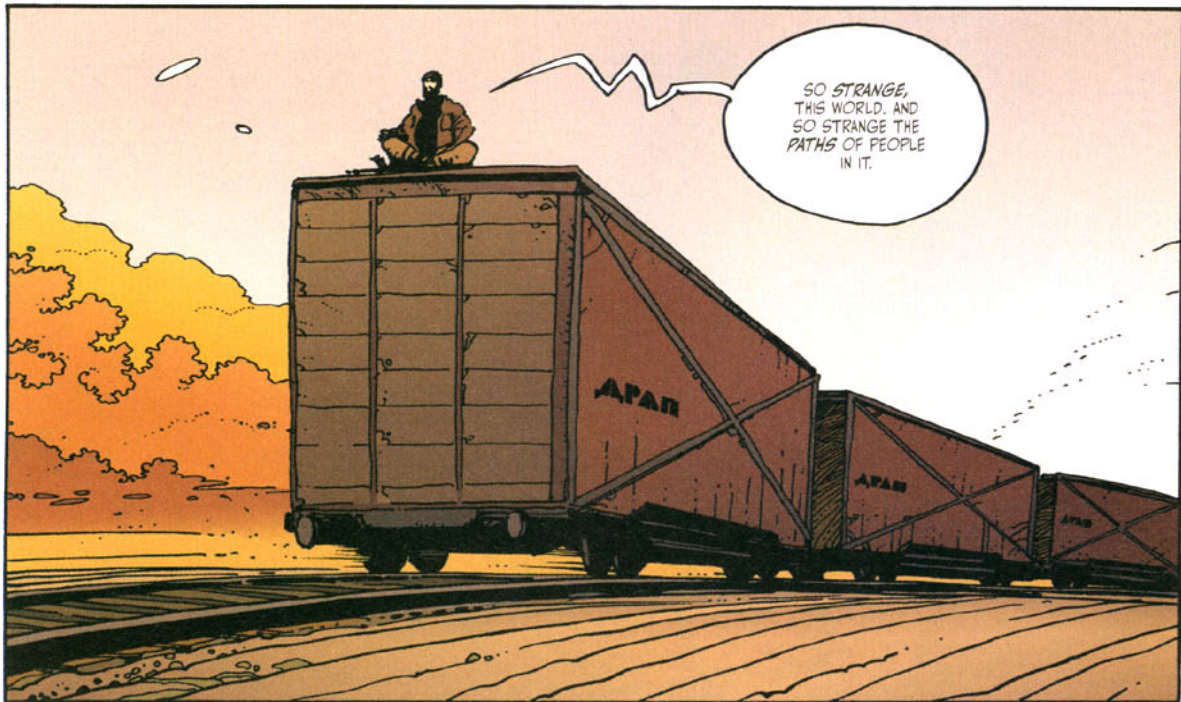
I DON'T EXIST.

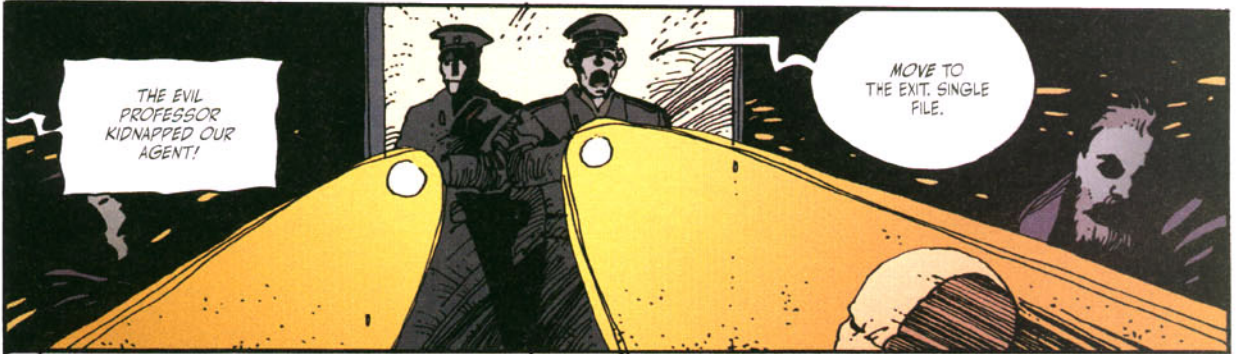
IF YOU WANT TO KILL ME, THAT'S YOUR BUSINESS, NOT MINE.













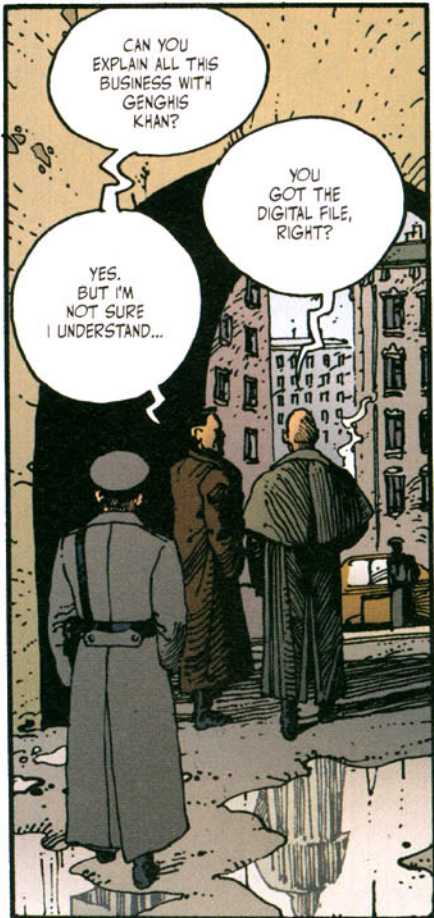
COMRADE GENERAL, WE'VE CLEANED OUT ANOTHER THEATER SHOWING ILLEGAL AMERICAN FILMS.

GOOD JOB.



NOTHING NEW REGARDING THE THEFT OF LENIN BY ALIENS?

NO.



CAN YOU EXPLAIN ALL THIS BUSINESS WITH GENGHIS KHAN?

YES, BUT I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND...

YOU GOT THE DIGITAL FILE, RIGHT?

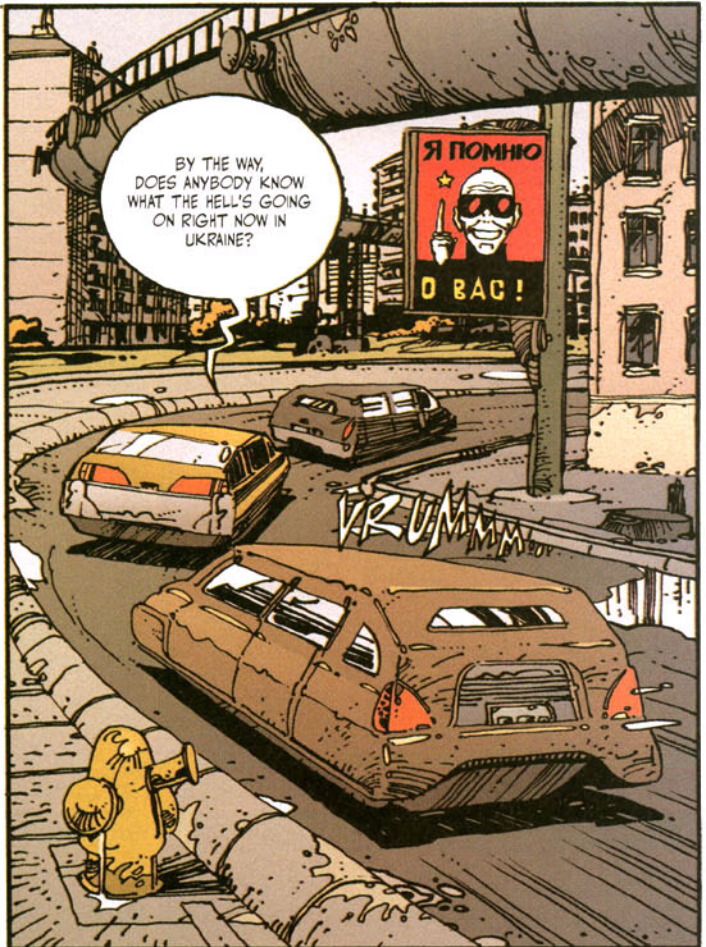
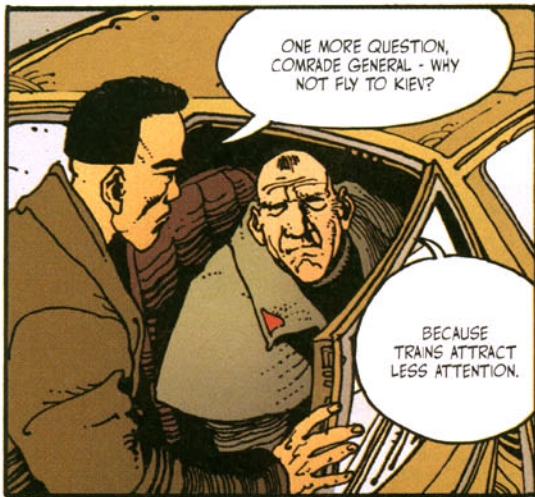
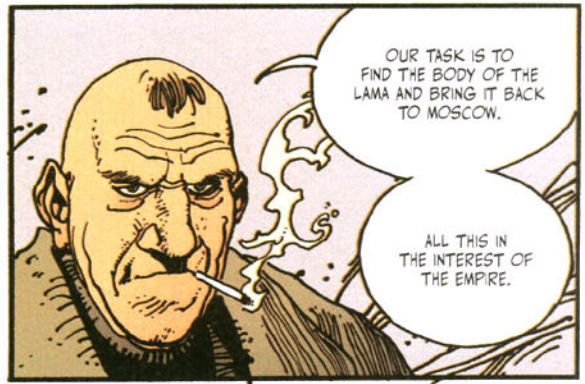
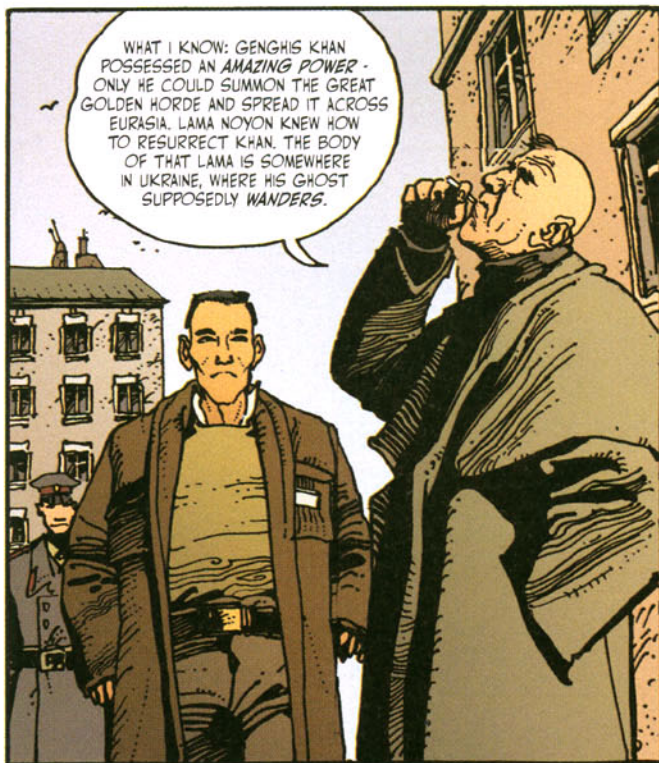


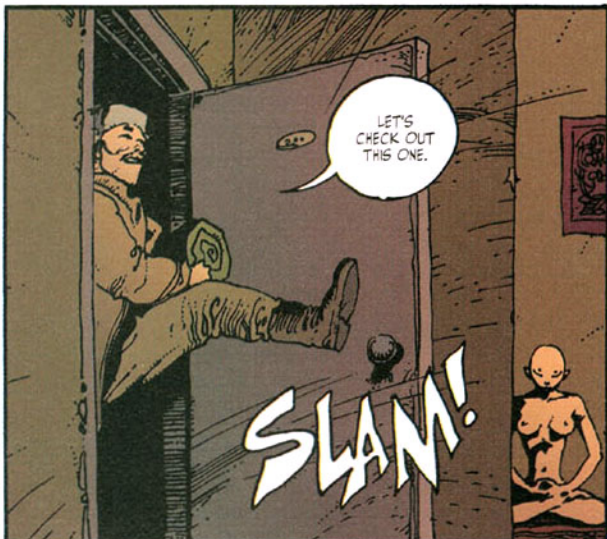
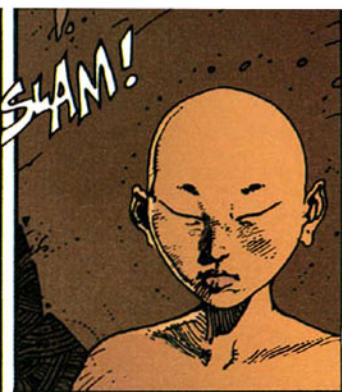
THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT'S WORRYING ME.

LET ME ASK YOU A QUESTION, COMRADE GENERAL...



I'M NOT ALL THAT CLEAR ON IT MYSELF... I'M FROM THE OLD SCHOOL OF SECRET SERVICE... YOU'D BETTER ASK ILYA SERBIN; HE'S GOING WITH US ON OUR ASSIGNMENT. HE'S A PERSONAL DISCIPLE OF THE DICTATOR AND HE'S *PSYCHIC*.







DON'T TOUCH HER. I'VE HEARD THEY'RE SAINTS. I'VE HEARD A TANTRIC CAN TURN A MAN INTO A RAT.

DO YOU BELIEVE THAT BULLSHIT?



HAVE YOU BEEN HERE LONG?



YOU MUST BE HUNGRY. HERE'S SOMETHING TO EAT.



DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS, I'VE DEVELOPED CONTROL OVER MY CONSCIOUSNESS AND REALITY. NOW GOD SENDS YOU TO SEE HOW MUCH I'VE LEARNED.



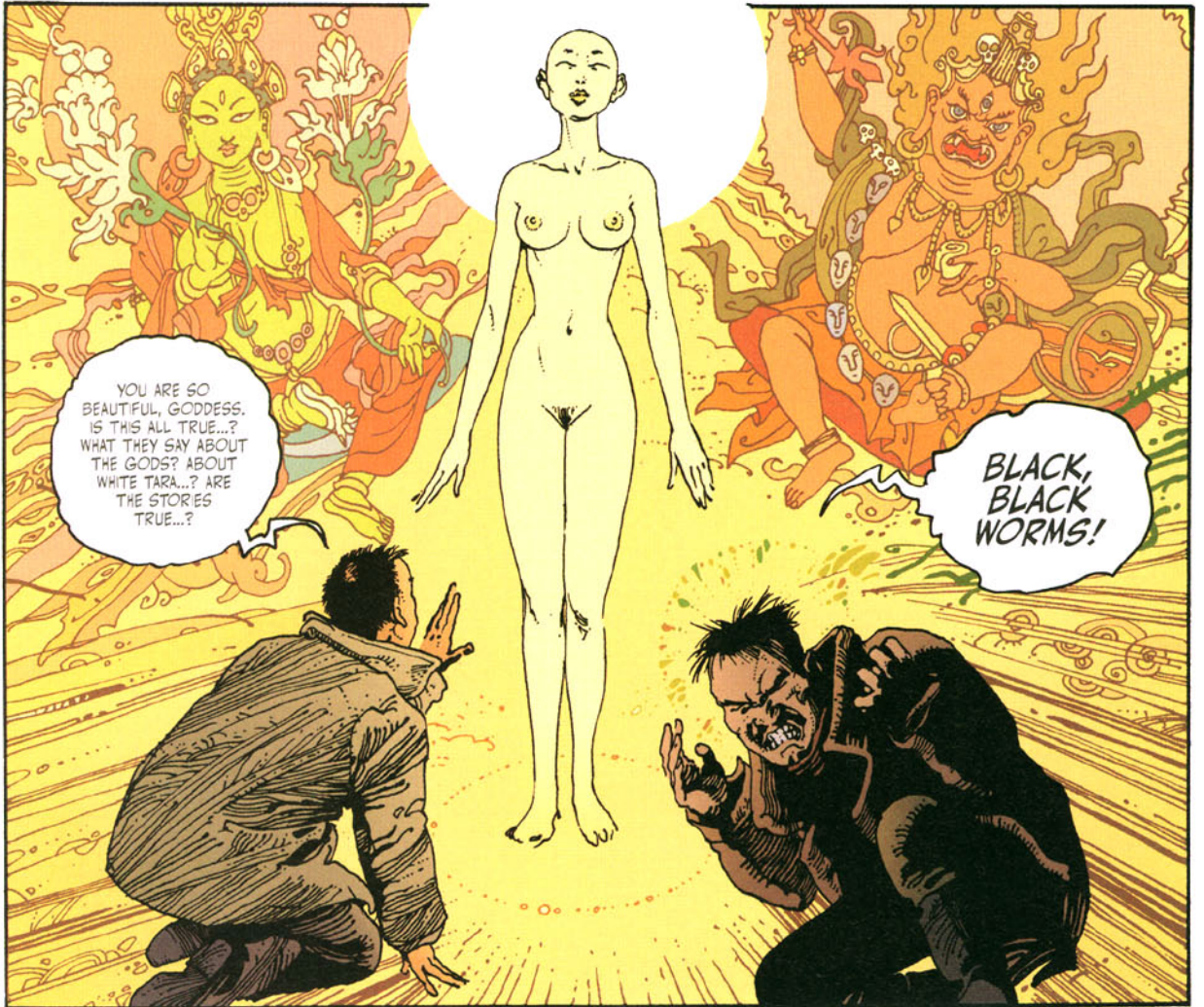
YOU'RE A DIFFICULT TEST.

YOUR SOULS ARE SO DIRTY, THEY PROVOKE HATRED IN ME.



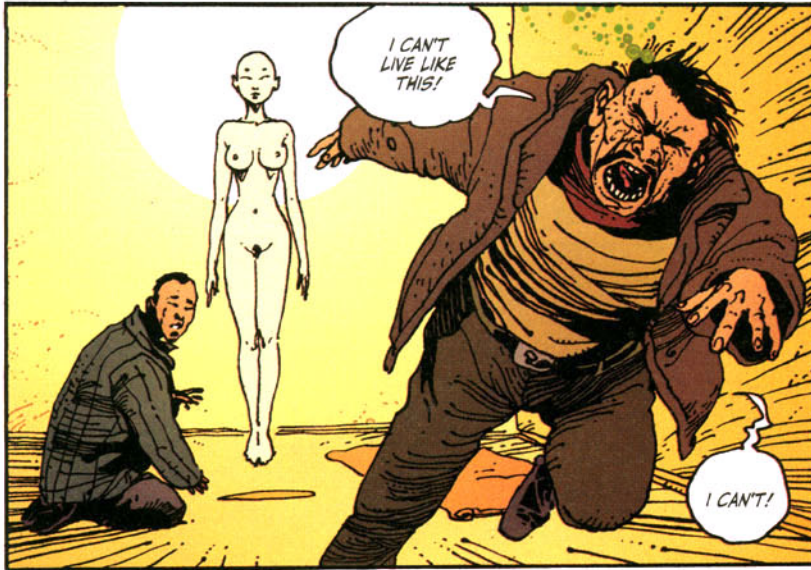
BUT I CAN STILL RESPOND WITH COMPASSION AND SHOW YOU TRUE REALITY.







I WANT TO HIDE FROM MYSELF!



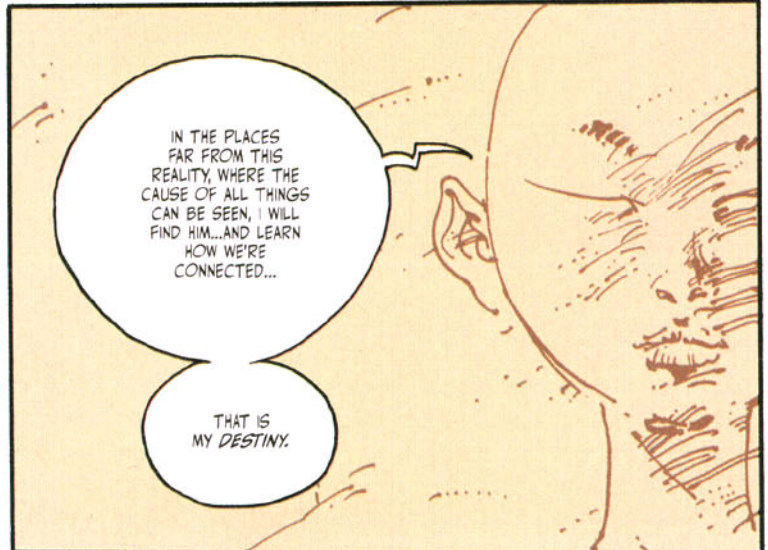
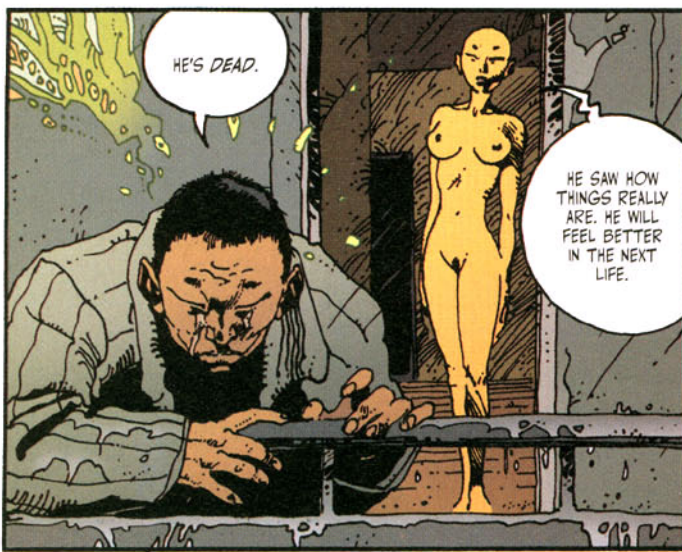
I CAN'T LIVE LIKE THIS!

I CAN'T!



POOR MAN, HE COULDN'T HANDLE THE TRUTH.







GREAT IDEAS
INSPIRE THE
PEOPLE'S SPIRIT.



A GREAT
EMPIRE HAS BEEN
CREATED.

LED BY ONE
WHO TRIUMPHED
OVER THE CYCLE
OF BIRTH AND
DEATH.

ONE WHOSE SPIRIT
ACHIEVED...

... WHOSE SPIRIT ACHIEVED...



IS THAT ME THERE? TRYING TO FLY?

THAT'S YOU.



WILL I DO IT?



MAYBE YOU WILL... OR MAYBE YOU'LL DIE.

IT'S HARD TO SAY.



TELL ME... AND ONLY ME...

WHAT COULD POSSIBLY KILL ME?



IT'S UP TO YOU. MAYBE PEN AND INK.

CHEERS.



WHAT PEN?

WHERE ARE YOU?



?

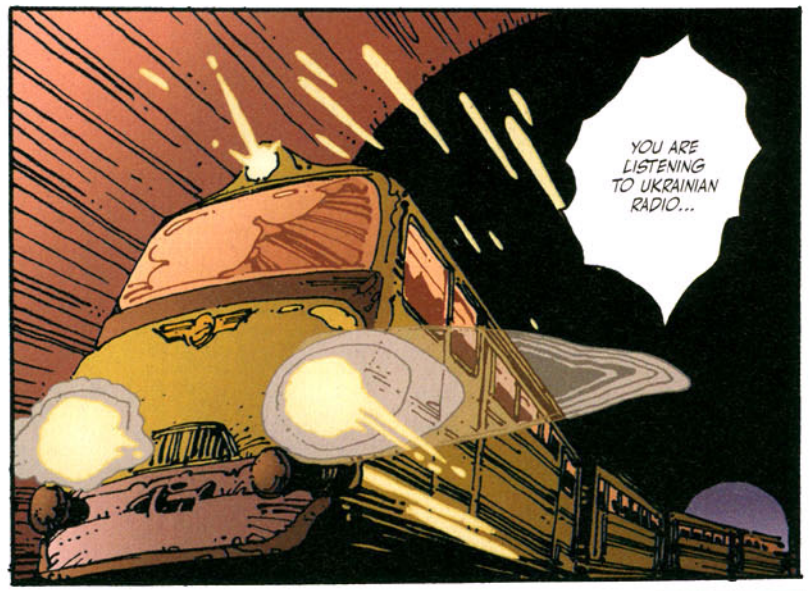


COMMISSAR NOYON?!

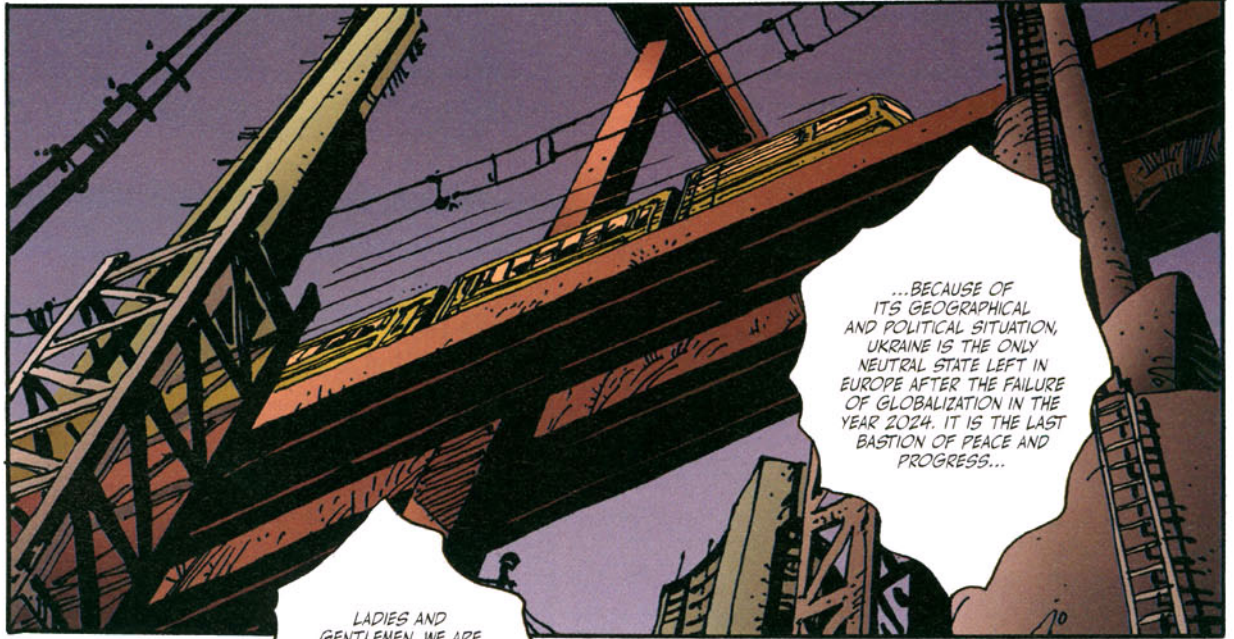


HE'S DEAD!





YOU ARE LISTENING TO UKRAINIAN RADIO...



...BECAUSE OF ITS GEOGRAPHICAL AND POLITICAL SITUATION, UKRAINE IS THE ONLY NEUTRAL STATE LEFT IN EUROPE AFTER THE FAILURE OF GLOBALIZATION IN THE YEAR 2024. IT IS THE LAST BASTION OF PEACE AND PROGRESS...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, WE ARE NOW APPROACHING THE UKRAINIAN FRONTIER.



I HATE UKRAINIAN.

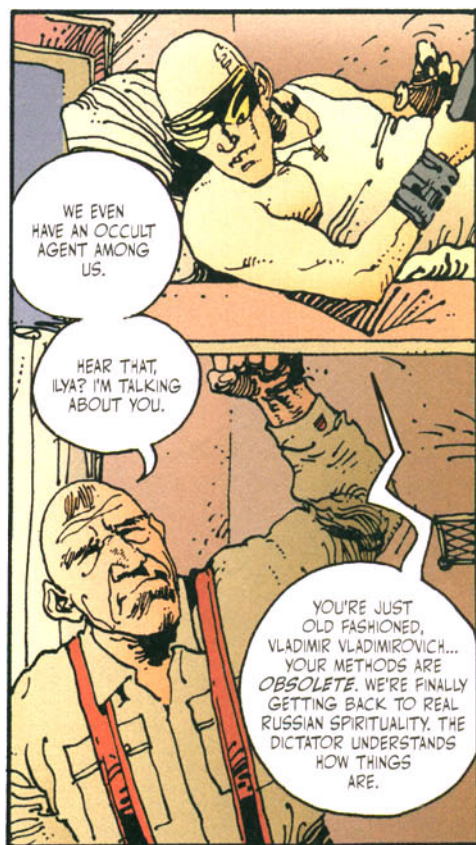


IT SOUNDS LIKE A PARODY OF RUSSIAN. WHY DO WE STILL PUT UP WITH THEIR INDEPENDENCE?



OUR AGENT IN KIEV'S ALREADY GATHERED SOME INFORMATION BUT COULDN'T TRANSMIT IT BECAUSE OF A BAD CONNECTION.

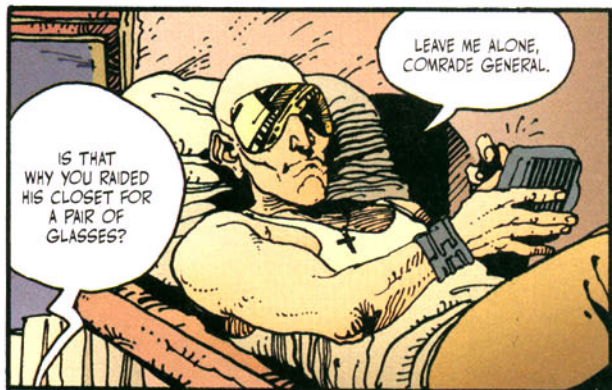
NOTHING FUCKING WORKS...THE WORLD WIDE WEB'S FALLING APART... TECHNOLOGY'S IN THE SHITCAN. EVERYBODY'S A *SORCERER* NOW. IT'S THE DARK AGES ALL OVER AGAIN.



WE EVEN HAVE AN OCCULT AGENT AMONG US.

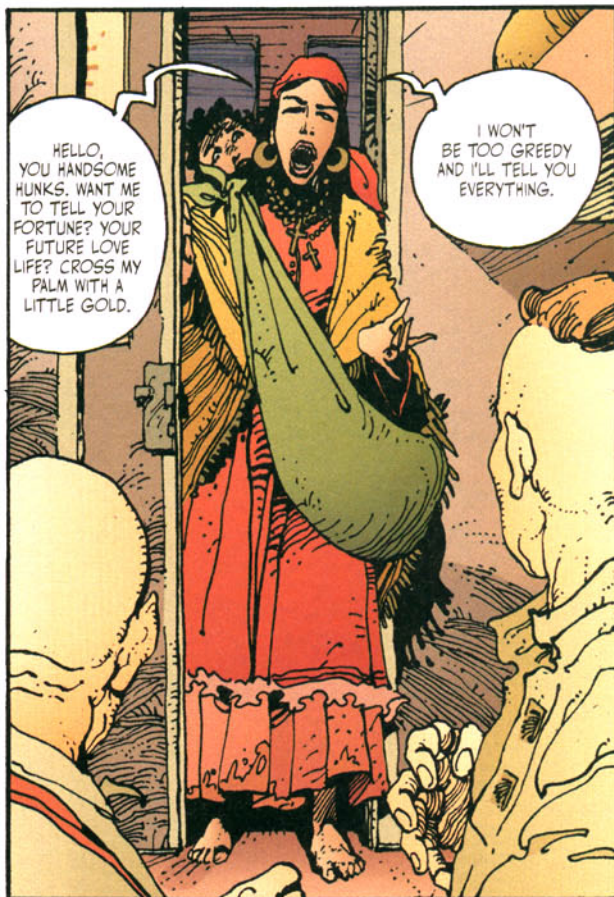
HEAR THAT, ILYA? I'M TALKING ABOUT YOU.

YOU'RE JUST OLD FASHIONED, VLADIMIR VLADIMIROVICH... YOUR METHODS ARE *OBSOLETE*. WE'RE FINALLY GETTING BACK TO REAL RUSSIAN SPIRITUALITY. THE DICTATOR UNDERSTANDS HOW THINGS ARE.



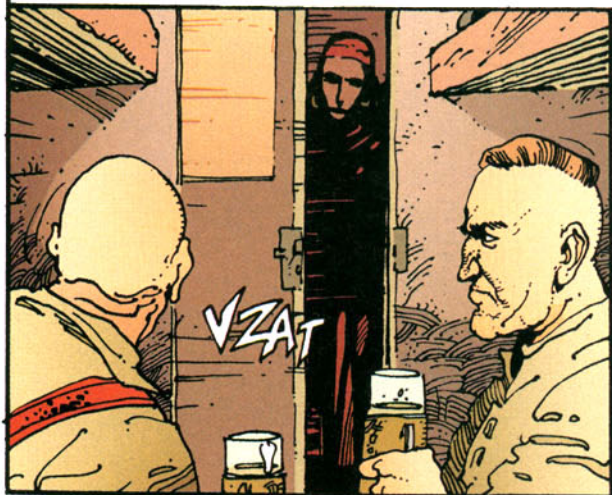
LEAVE ME ALONE, COMRADE GENERAL.

IS THAT WHY YOU RAIDED HIS CLOSET FOR A PAIR OF GLASSES?

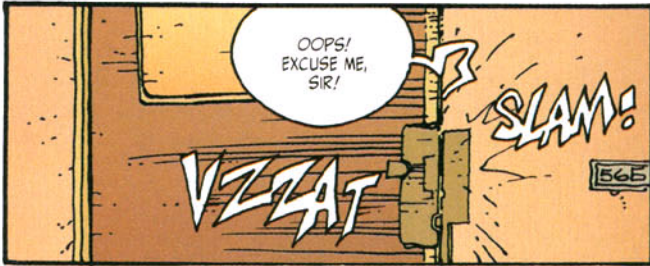


HELLO, YOU HANDSOME HUNKS. WANT ME TO TELL YOUR FORTUNE? YOUR FUTURE LOVE LIFE? CROSS MY PALM WITH A LITTLE GOLD.

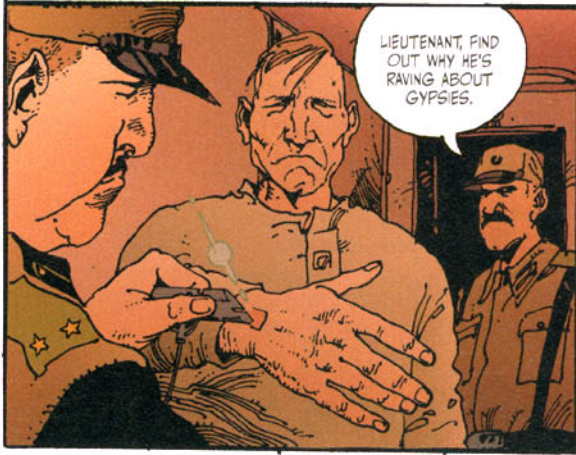
I WON'T BE TOO GREEDY AND I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTHING.



VZAT









CATCHING A GYPSY'S NOT SO EASY - THEY'RE SORCERERS. COMPARED TO THEM, YOUR RUSSIAN DICTATOR'S A BABE IN THE WOODS.



LOOK, FORGET ABOUT YOUR GYPSY AND I'LL FORGET ABOUT YOUR OUTBURST. JUST LEAVE ME SOMETHING TO REMEMBER YOU BY...



AH, MONGOL TUGRIKS. THE ONLY CURRENCY WORTH ANYTHING NOWADAYS.



BY THE WAY YOUR FINGER IS BLEEDING. YOU SHOULD TAKE CARE OF THAT...



STEP BACK ABOARD THE CAR! LEAVING THE TRAIN IS PROHIBITED!

THAT'S GOLDSTEIN. HE'S THE ONE WHO SOLD LENIN'S MUMMY TO THE HUMANIDS ON THE UFO. THE RUSSIAN DICTATOR HIMSELF DISSEMINATED HIS IMAGE. THAT'S HOW WE CAUGHT HIM.

COLONEL BUZUN'S COMING TO INTERROGATE THE CREEP TOMORROW.



WHAT A BIZARRE HALLUCINATION!
WHAT HAPPENED TO MY FINGER?



AND WHO IS THAT MAN?



THE GYPSY BITCH DISAPPEARED, COMRADE GENERAL, AND I HAD TO PAY OFF THE UKRAINIAN BORDER GUARDS SO THEY'D LEAVE US ALONE.

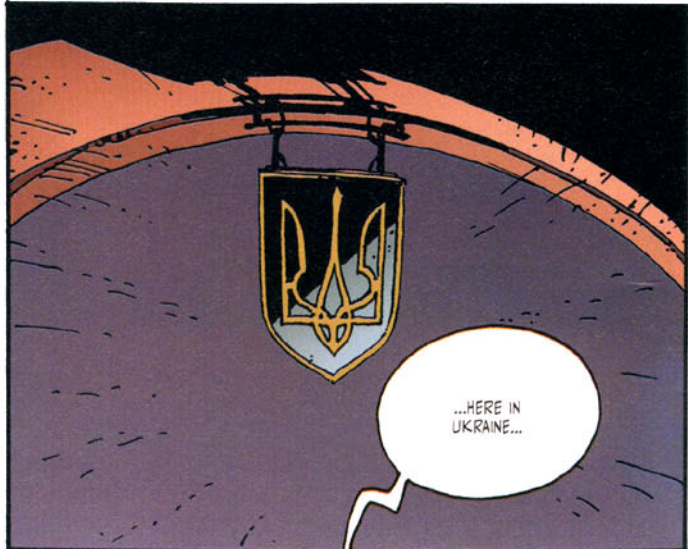


WE SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED THIS. THE CONSTELLATION TAURUS, WHICH SYMBOLIZES UKRAINE, IS...

SHUT UP, ILYA.



THIS IS A BAD START TO OUR MISSION...



...HERE IN UKRAINE...



WE PERFORMED ZYKR EVERY DAY FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

BEFORE THE THIRD CHECHEN WAR, THE WAHHABITES BANNED ZYKR. NOW THERE'S NOBODY LEFT TO BAN IT.

WE ASKED ALLAH TO SHOW THE WAY TO HEAVENLY CHECHNYA...THE PLACE WHERE ONLY WARRIORS WITH NEITHER AFFECTION NOR REGRET CAN ENTER.

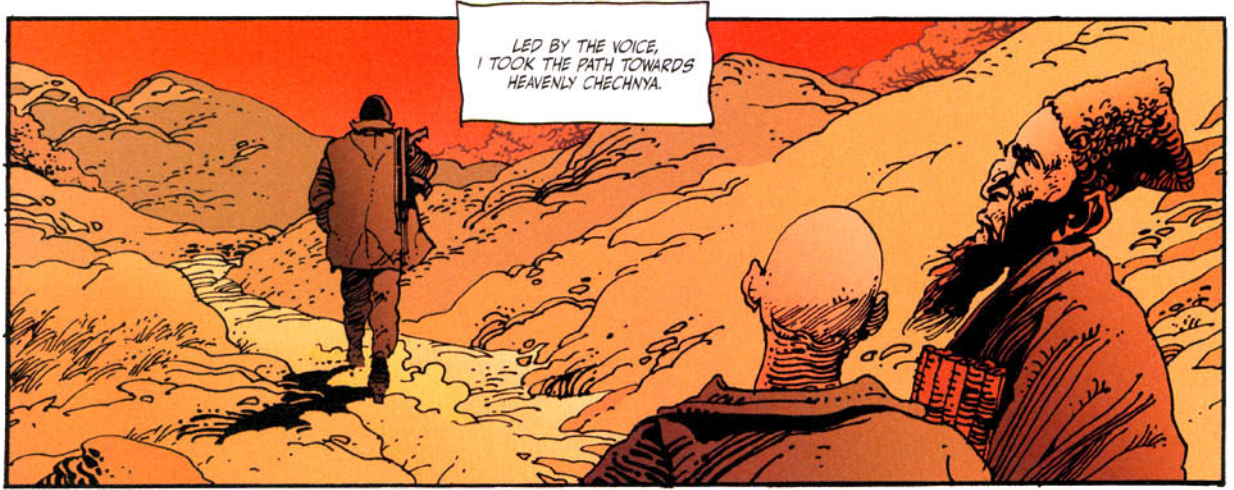
WE WERE NINE LOST DERVISHES WHO BELIEVED IN HEAVENLY CHECHNYA. PROBABLY THE ONLY CHECHENS WHO SURVIVED THE NUCLEAR BOMBING.



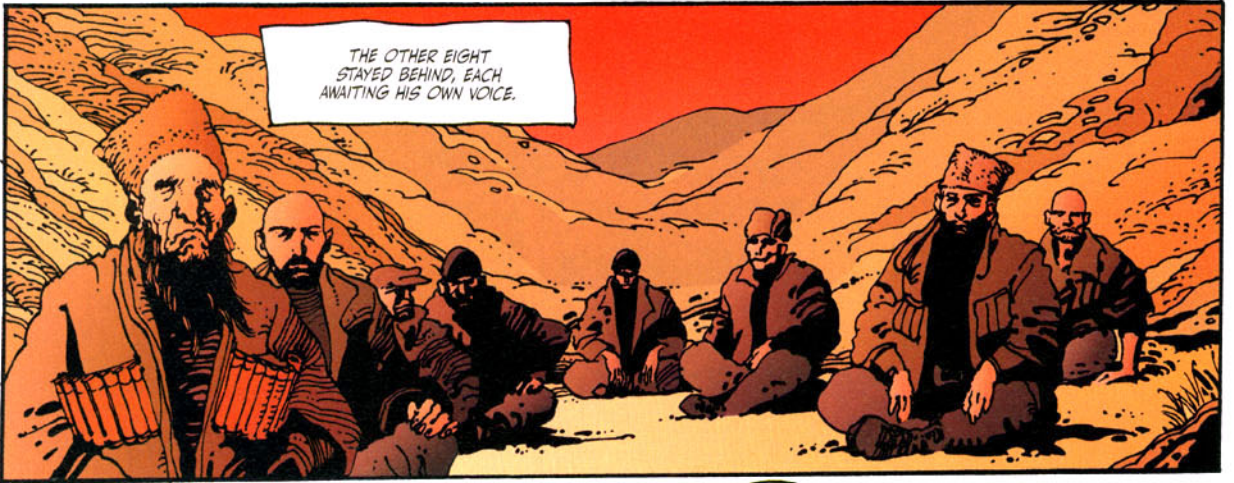
ONE OF THE NINE HEARD THE VOICE.



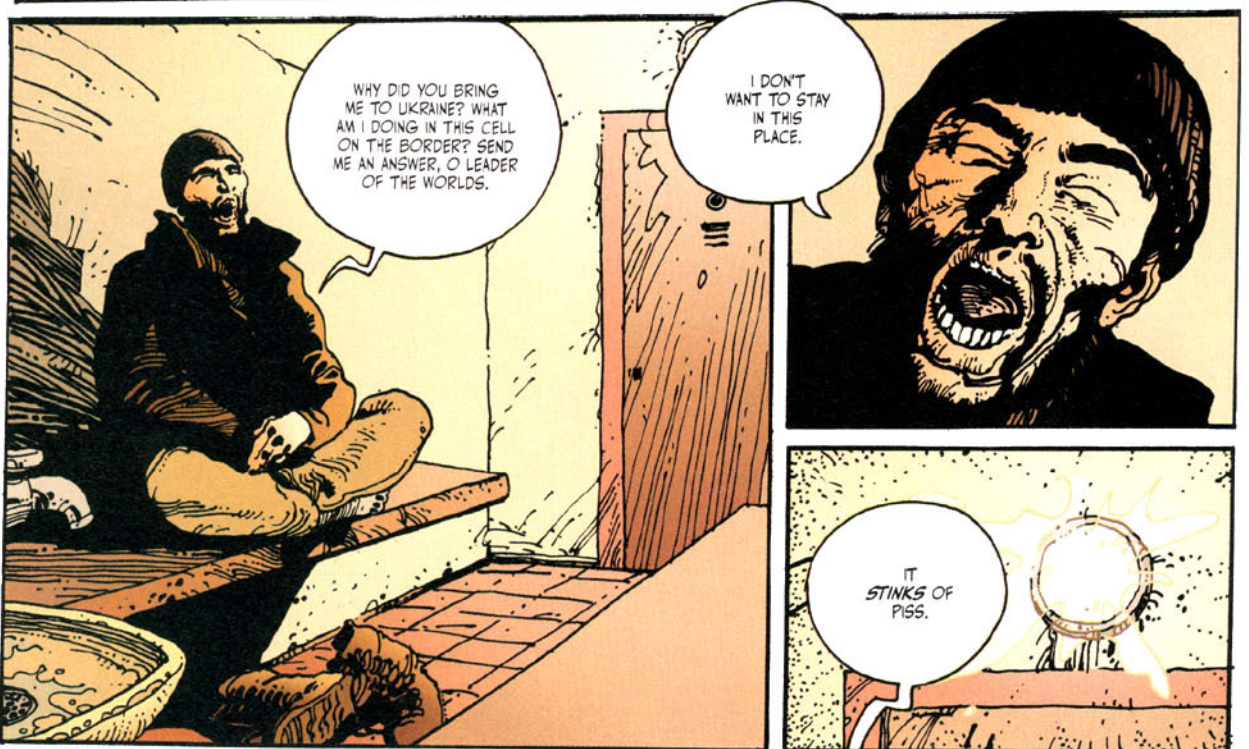
ME.



LED BY THE VOICE,
I TOOK THE PATH TOWARDS
HEAVENLY CHECHNYA.

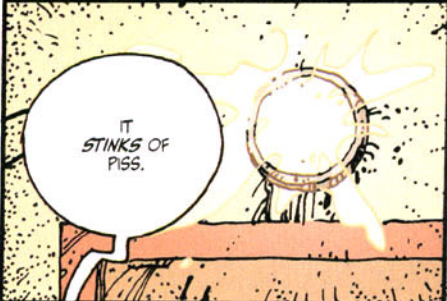


THE OTHER EIGHT
STAYED BEHIND, EACH
AWAITING HIS OWN VOICE.



WHY DID YOU BRING
ME TO UKRAINE? WHAT
AM I DOING IN THIS CELL
ON THE BORDER? SEND
ME AN ANSWER, O LEADER
OF THE WORLDS.

I DON'T
WANT TO STAY
IN THIS
PLACE.



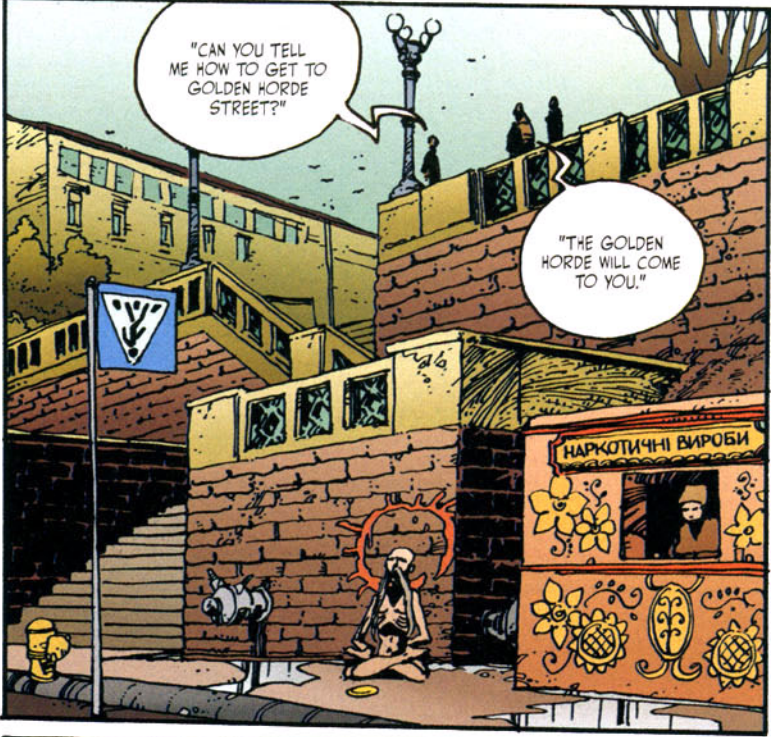
IT
STINKS OF
PISS.



KIEV, UKRAINE.
0500 HOURS.

I'M CATCHING
A SIGNAL. HE'S
COMING.

FINALLY.



"CAN YOU TELL
ME HOW TO GET TO
GOLDEN HORDE
STREET?"

"THE GOLDEN
HORDE WILL COME
TO YOU."



ARE YOU
HERE ABSOLUTELY
LEGALLY THIS
TIME?

YES.
SO FAR...



GOOD. THIS DISK CONTAINS
ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED
ON KOLOKOLOV'S DESCENDANT
AND THE BODY OF
THE MONGOLOID.

FAREWELL.



EXCUSE ME...
ARE YOU SOME
SORT OF AMERICAN
DEMOCRACY
FREAK?



IN A WAY, I'M A
GENETIC CLONE OF
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

...NO SHIT...



IN 2003, WESTERN SCIENTISTS HAD AN INSPIRATION - THEY CALLED IT "THE RETURN OF THE GREATS." THEY CLONED US AND SENT US OUT INTO THE WORLD.

BUT EVENTUALLY THE TRUTH BECAME SELF-EVIDENT - MARX, CAESAR AND OTHERS LIKE THEM WERE MEN OF THEIR OWN TIME. EVERYONE LOST INTEREST. BUT WE'RE STILL HERE.



OF ALL THE CLONES, ONLY ISAAC NEWTON WAS A TRUE GENIUS... BUT HE'S MAD, TOTALLY INSANE. AND NOW THE LAW'S AFTER HIM; HE'S IN HIDING.



I'D HATE TO RUN INTO HIM, COMRADES. OR HIS NEW SCIENTIFIC THEORIES.

FAREWELL AGAIN.

**ГОБЕРУШЕННО
СЕКРЕТНО**



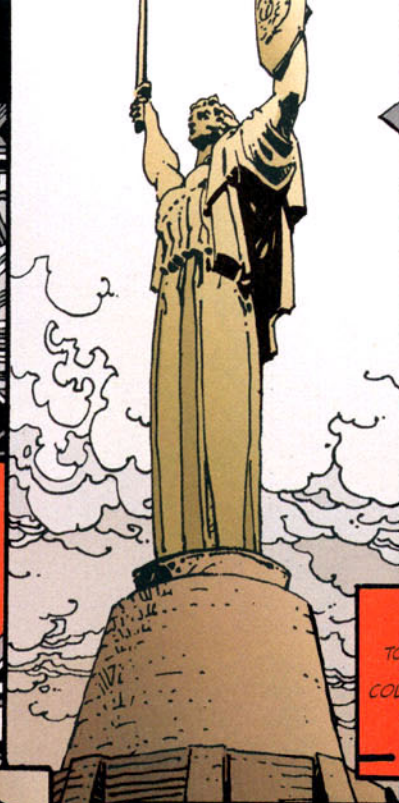
CAPTAIN PETER KOLOKOLOV ESCORTED LAMA COMMISSAR NOYON'S BODY FROM MOSCOW TO KIEV IN 1930. ACCORDING TO NOYON'S WISHES IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING HIS DEATH, HE WAS BURIED AT THE TOP OF THE HILL IN KIEV'S PECHERSK DISTRICT.

TOP SECRET -
GENERAL VOLKOV &
GROUP - EYES ONLY





CLASSIFIED SOURCES REVEAL THE LAMA WAS FOLLOWING A MYSTICAL DOCTRINE THAT HE TAUGHT TO A GROUP OF SOVIET OFFICERS IN THE 1920'S.



CAPTAIN KOLOKOLOV WAS THE BEST AND FAVORITE DISCIPLE OF THE LAMA. CAPTAIN KOLOKOLOV WAS EXECUTED DURING THE STALINIST PURGES OF 1937.



IN THE 1970'S, A MUSEUM DEDICATED TO THE SECOND WORLD WAR OPENED ON THE PECHERSK HILLS. AND IN 1985, A COLOSSAL SCULPTURE - THE MOTHERLAND - WAS BUILT ON THE GROUNDS OF THE MUSEUM...RIGHT OVER THE LAMA'S BURIAL PLACE.



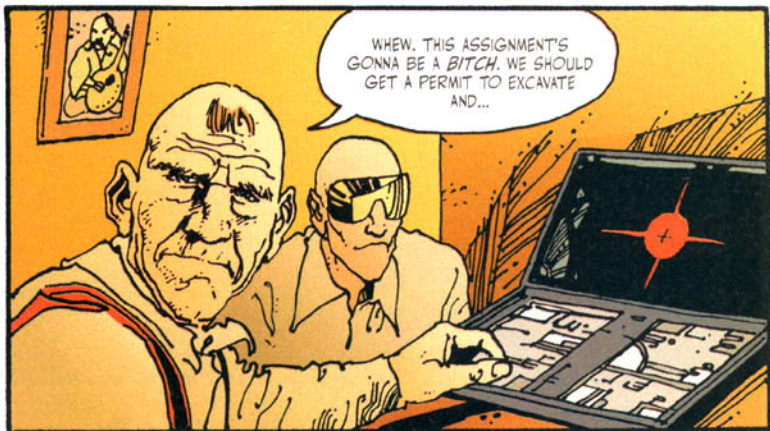
IN 2055, OLEG KOLOKOLOV, THE LAST DESCENDENT OF CAPTAIN PETER KOLOKOLOV, UNEXPECTEDLY APPEARED. CITING THE NOYON FAMILY WILL AND THE WISHES OF THE LAMA'S MYTHICAL "WIDOW" (HER EXISTENCE IS HIGHLY DOUBTFUL), HE INSISTED ON EXCAVATING BENEATH THE SCULPTURE TO SEARCH FOR THE LAMA'S REMAINS.



HOWEVER, IN OCTOBER 1932

THAT'S IT.

GOOD LUCK, COMRADES.



WHEW. THIS ASSIGNMENT'S GONNA BE A BITCH. WE SHOULD GET A PERMIT TO EXCAVATE AND...



DEAR BOYS,
SHOULDN'T
YOU VISIT
COMMISSAR
NOYON'S WIDOW
FIRST? I CAN
TELL YOU
EVERYTHING.



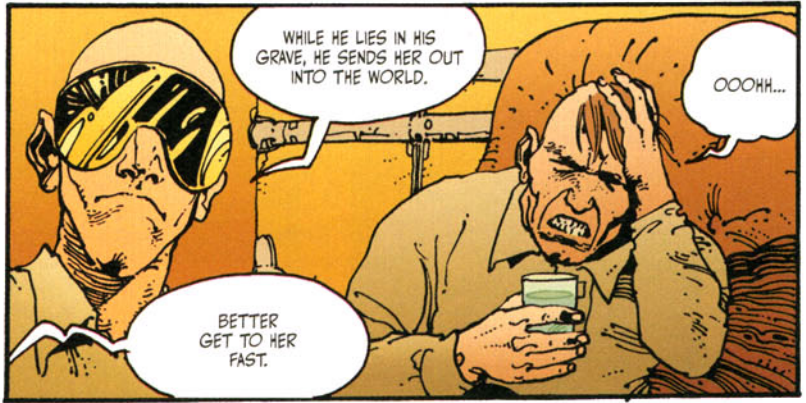
MY NAME IS
SHAKTI NOYON.
MY ADDRESS:
SHEVCHENKO
BLVD 12, APT 9.



CAN YOU
REMEMBER THAT?
I'LL BE EAGERLY
AWAITING YOUR
ARRIVAL. I LOVE
A MAN IN UNIFORM.



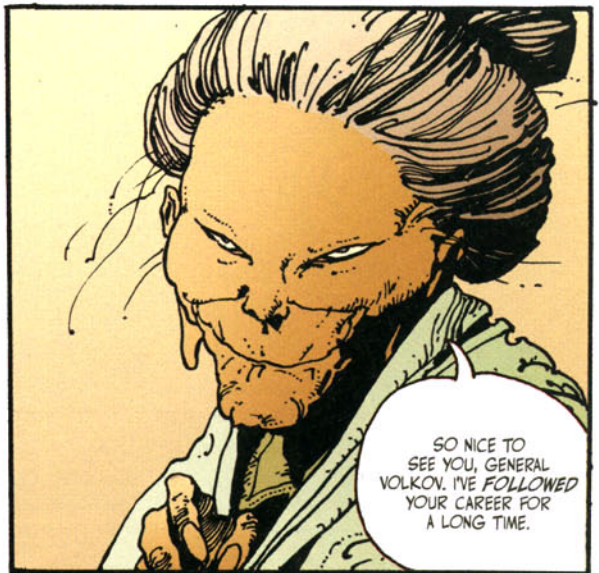






СЮДА НАКТО НЕ ХОАМТ!

!



SO NICE TO SEE YOU, GENERAL VOLKOV. I'VE FOLLOWED YOUR CAREER FOR A LONG TIME.



AND ILYA SERBIN, SUCH A FAST LEARNER.



AND HERE'S RENAT KALGANOV. SO CUTE, PRETENDING TO BE MY DESCENDANT.

COME IN. WE'RE ALL HERE FOR THE SAME THING.



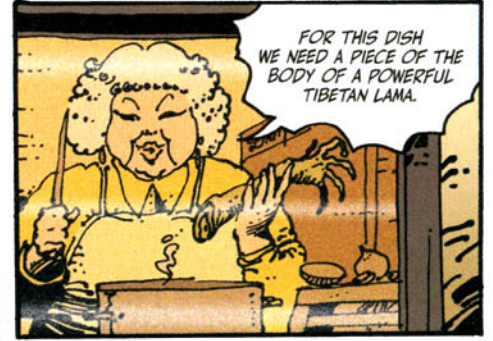
BY THE WAY, MY REAL GREAT-GRANDCHILD IS SITTING AND MEDITATING SOMEWHERE IN TUVA RIGHT NOW.

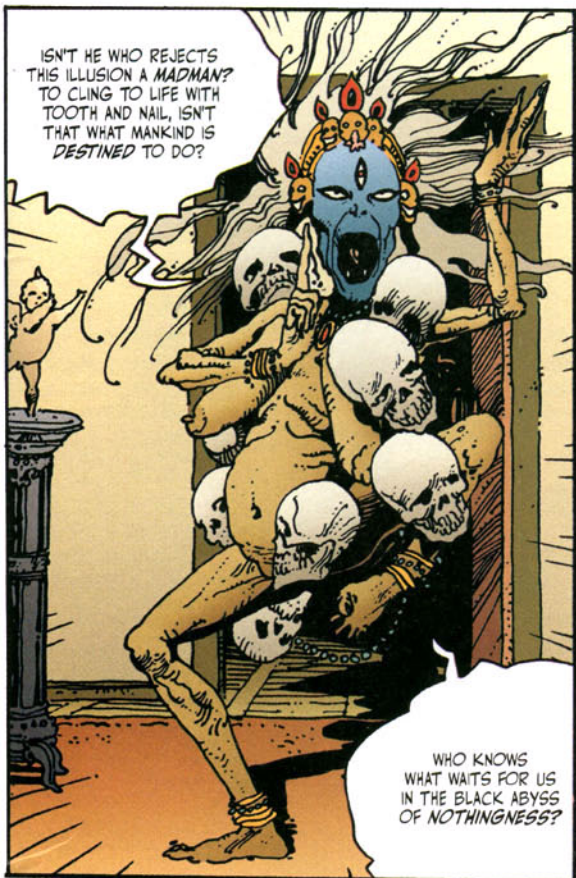
SHE SEEKS ENLIGHTENMENT. HA HA! WHO NEEDS ENLIGHTENMENT NOW? EVERYBODY WANTS IMMORTALITY.

...A PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTING HEALTHY AND TASTY FOOD...

WAIT FOR ME HERE.

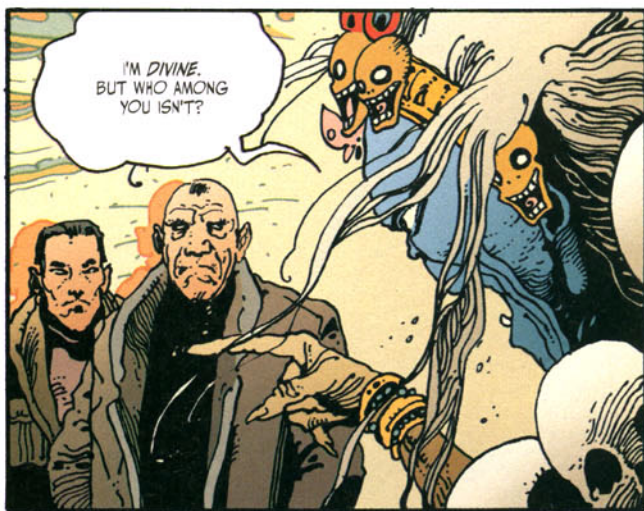
SURE, MRS. NOYON.





ISN'T HE WHO REJECTS THIS ILLUSION A MADMAN? TO CLING TO LIFE WITH TOOTH AND NAIL, ISN'T THAT WHAT MANKIND IS DESTINED TO DO?

WHO KNOWS WHAT WAITS FOR US IN THE BLACK ABYSS OF NOTHINGNESS?



I'M DIVINE, BUT WHO AMONG YOU ISN'T?



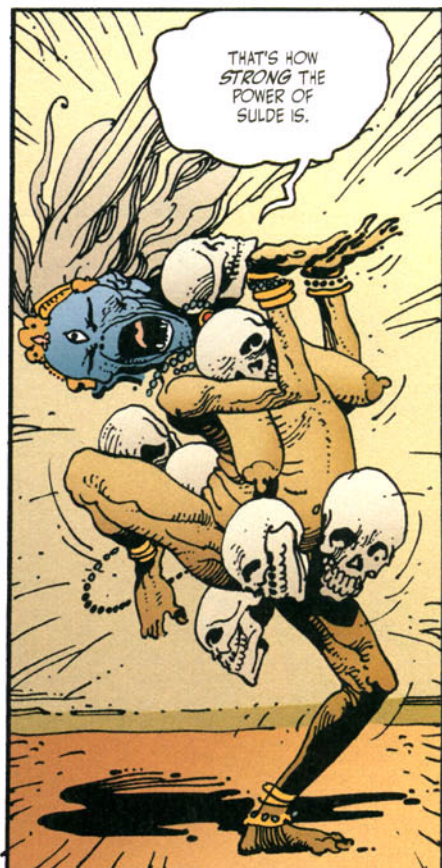
GENGHIS KHAN UNDERSTOOD THIS BECAUSE HE HAD "SULDE," A GOD'S THIRST FOR POWER THE THIRST FOR DOMINATION.



AS FOR ME... I DON'T EXIST. I'M MERELY THE MANIFESTATION OF A DEAD LAMA'S THOUGHTS.



AND YET, HERE I AM.



THAT'S HOW STRONG THE POWER OF SULDE IS.



NOW AT LAST THERE'S A MAN STRONG ENOUGH IN SPIRIT AND THOUGHT TO UNITE WITH THE SOULS OF NOYON AND GENGHIS KHAN - NAN APELSINOV!!

CAN WE BELIEVE HER, COMRADE GENERAL?



WHAT WAS THAT, RENAT?



HUM...

WHAT DO WE DO NOW, MRS. NOYON?



LEAVE ME THIS CUTIE...RENAT. HE'LL HELP ME WITH THE RITUAL.

OH!?

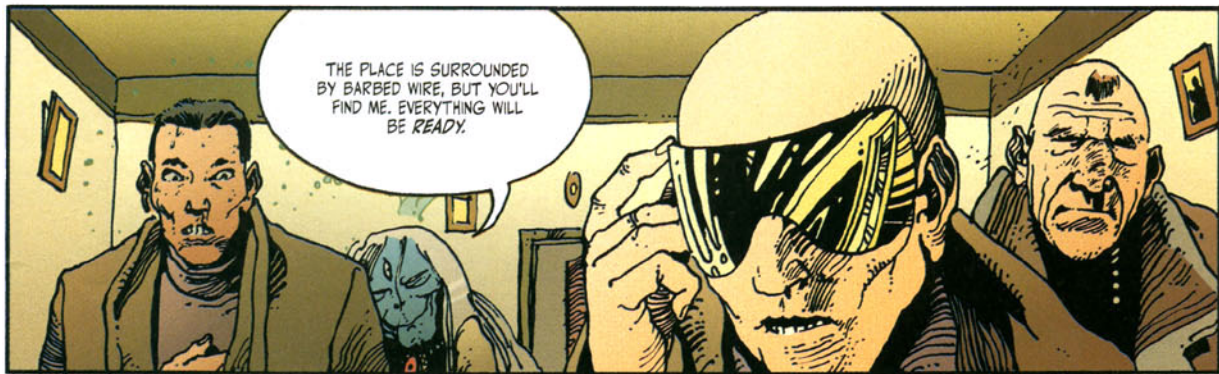


RENAT, STAY HERE AND ASSIST MRS. NOYON.

Y...YES, SIR.



MEET ME TONIGHT AT 11:00 AT THE RESTROOMS NEAR THE ENTRANCE TO THE LAMA'S BURIAL SITE.



THE PLACE IS SURROUNDED BY BARBED WIRE, BUT YOU'LL FIND ME. EVERYTHING WILL BE READY.



DID I DO THE RIGHT THING, ILVA?

YES, COMRADE GENERAL.



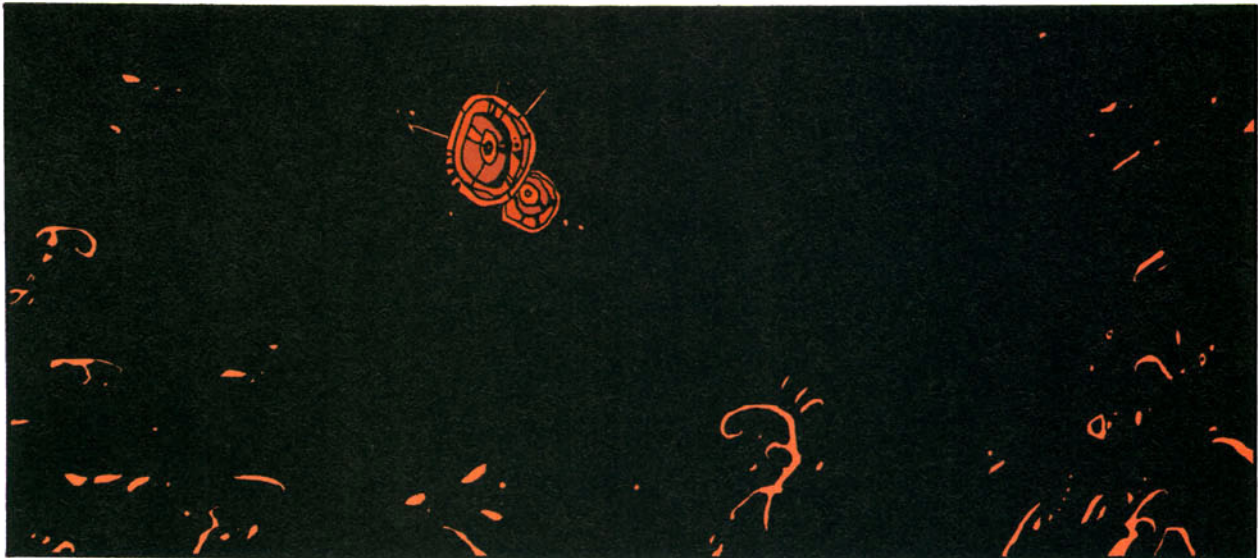
I DON'T UNDERSTAND THIS WORLD. I HATE LIVING IN THESE TIMES.

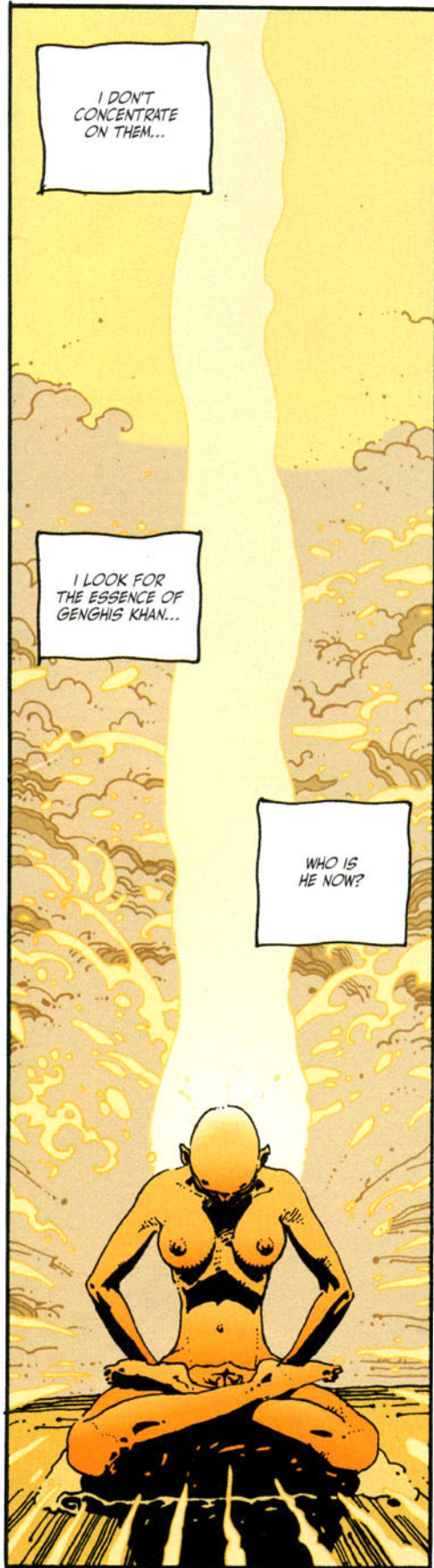
THESE ARE GREAT TIMES, COMRADE GENERAL.



IS EVERYTHING IN ORDER?

I'M NOT SURE I CAN ANSWER THAT QUESTION.





I DONT
CONCENTRATE
ON THEM...

I LOOK FOR
THE ESSENCE OF
GENGHIS KHAN...

WHO IS
HE NOW?



GENGHIS KHAN...
THE CONQUEROR
OF THE UNIVERSE...
THE INCARNATION
OF SULDE...



AFTER HIS EARTHLY
DEATH, HIS ENRAGED
SPIRIT DEMANDED
BLOODY SACRIFICE...



PUNISHING.
MERCILESS.

BY THE WAY,
HOW DID HE DIE?



WHAT NONSENSE!
THESE ARE ONLY THE
MANIFESTATIONS OF FEARS
AND THOUGHTS PEOPLE
HAVE ABOUT HIM.

GET
AWAY!



I BURN THESE
IMAGES AND
MOVE FURTHER
ON...



CLOSER...
CLOSER...

WHAT
IS THIS?

TELL ME...



...MY GENERALS...

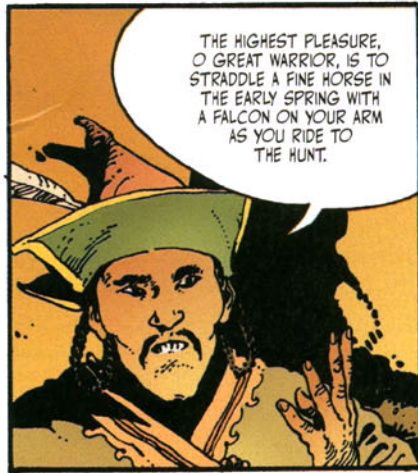
WHAT WOULD
YOU SAY...

...IS A
MAN'S...

...GREATEST
PLEASURE?



YOU,
BOGURTCH.
ANSWER ME
FIRST!



THE HIGHEST PLEASURE,
O GREAT WARRIOR, IS TO
STRADDLE A FINE HORSE IN
THE EARLY SPRING WITH
A FALCON ON YOUR ARM
AS YOU RIDE TO
THE HUNT.



AND YOU,
BOGORUL?

TO MAKE LOTS OF
CHILDREN FROM
BEAUTIFUL WIVES.
TO REACH FORTY
YEARS - THE AGE
OF WISDOM. TO LIE
IN MY YURT,
DRINKING KUMYS,
WEALTHY,
RESPECTED AND
SURROUNDED
BY GRAND-
CHILDREN.



YOU, SUBUDAY-
BAHATUR?

TO FALL IN
LOVE FOR THE
FIRST TIME AT
THE AGE OF
FIFTEEN WITH
A BEAUTIFUL
GIRL, TAKE
HER UPON
MY HORSE
AND GALLOP
FAR TO THE
STEPPES.



ENOUGH!

THIS IS THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN
BEING GREAT AND BEING
INSIGNIFICANT.

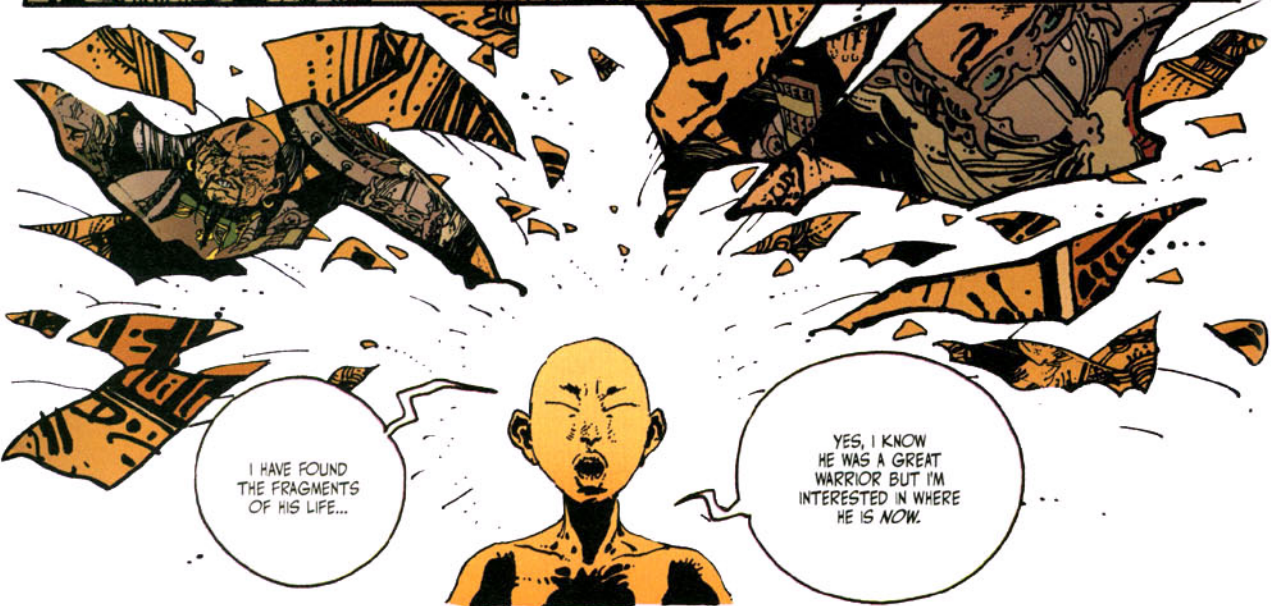
THE GREATEST
PLEASURE IS TO SUPPRESS
THE REBEL. TO DRIVE HIM BEFORE
YOUR HORSE, TO TAKE EVERYTHING
HE POSSESSES. TO SEE THE FACES
OF THOSE DEAR TO HIM WASH IN
TEARS. IF I THOUGHT LIKE YOU,
WERE WOULD THE MONGOLS BE?
WHO WOULD EVER HAVE
HEARD OF US?



THAT IS THE REAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BEING GREAT AND BEING INSIGNIFICANT.

OH GREAT WARRIOR!

OH CONQUEROR OF THE UNIVERSE!

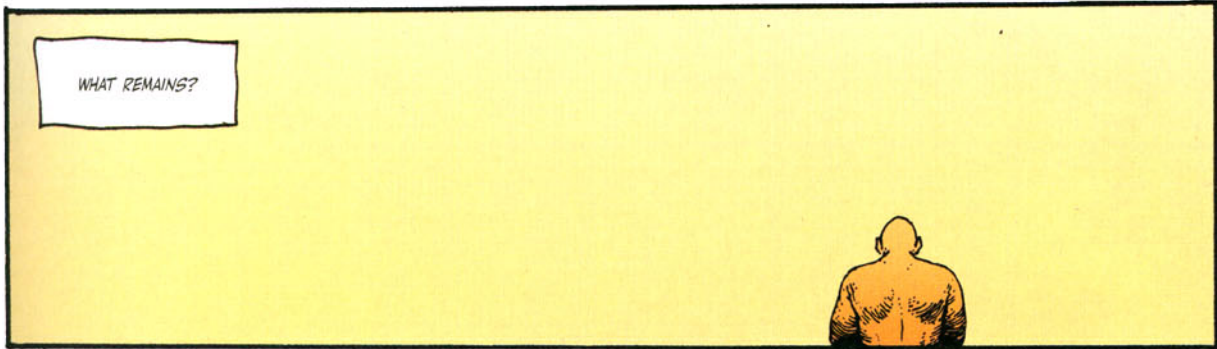


I HAVE FOUND THE FRAGMENTS OF HIS LIFE...

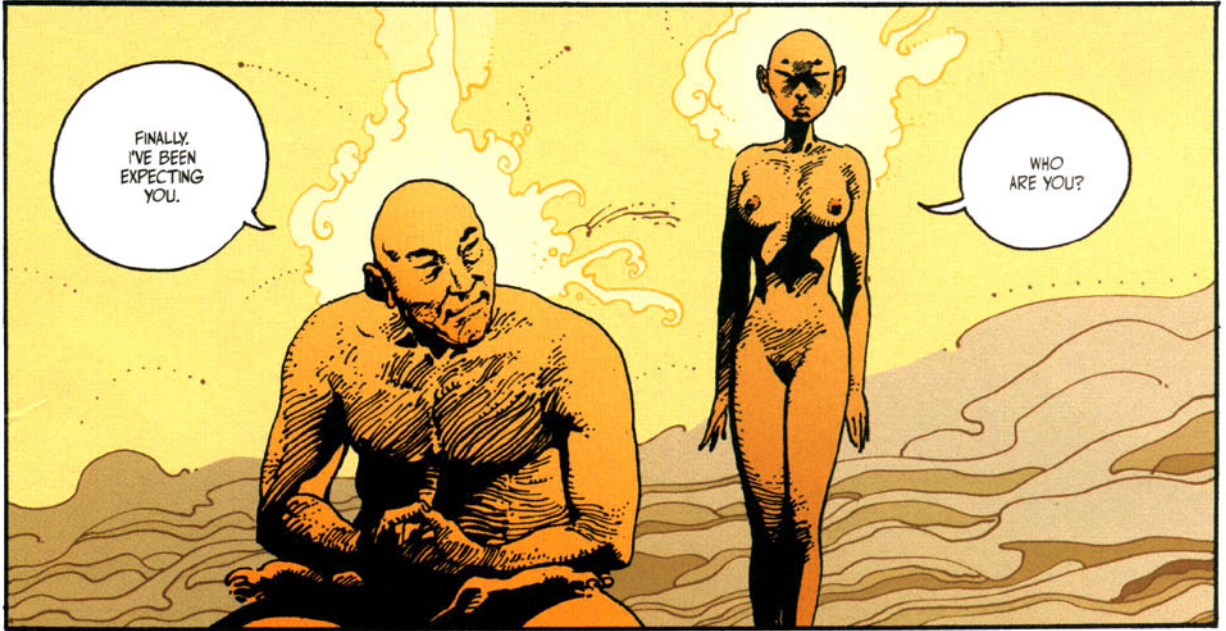
YES, I KNOW HE WAS A GREAT WARRIOR BUT I'M INTERESTED IN WHERE HE IS NOW.



AND WHEN ALL IMAGES TURN TO ASHES...



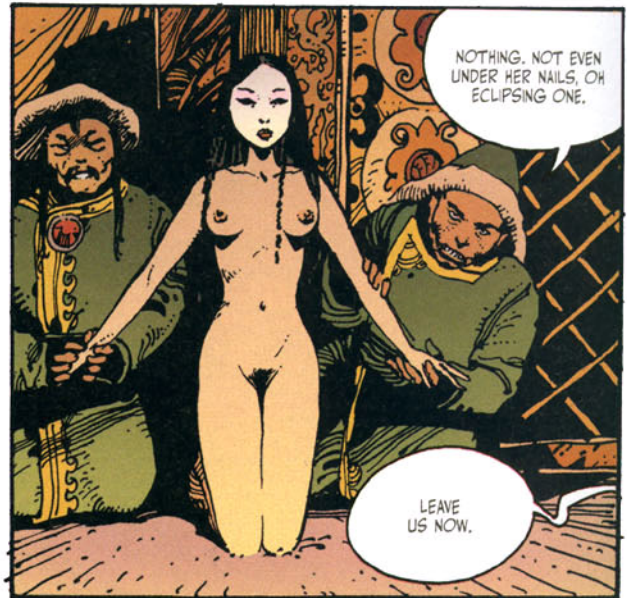
WHAT REMAINS?







DO IT.



NOTHING. NOT EVEN UNDER HER NAILS, OH ECLIPSING ONE.

LEAVE US NOW.



LISTEN TO ME, MY BEAUTY...



YOU WILL BEAR ME A SON, MY BEAUTY, THE GREATEST OF MY SONS.

I WILL PASS THE BLISSFUL GIFT OF SULDE TO HIM.



?



I AM NOT SATISFIED WITH THE SONS I HAVE...



AH! GUARDS!!
GUARDS!!



AAARH!



HERE,
HERE! FASTER!



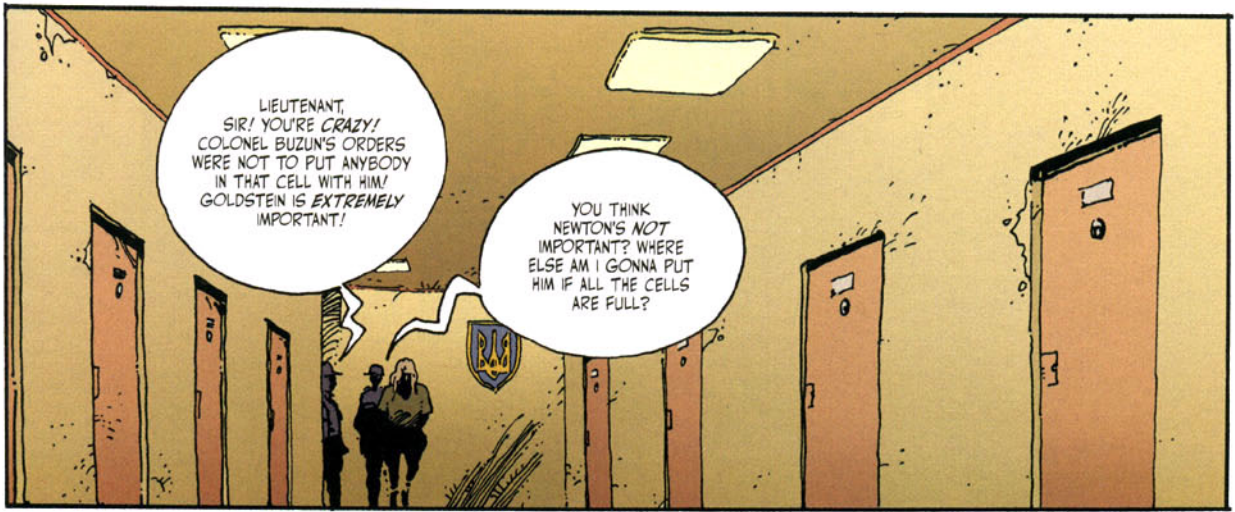
OH CONQUEROR
OF THE UNIVERSE...
HE'S DEAD.



THAT'S HOW I DIED IN THAT LIFE. THE
TANGUT QUEEN HAD A DEADLY POISON
HIDDEN IN HER TEETH. THE PLACE WHERE
SHE DROWNED HERSELF WAS LATER
NAMED KHATUN-MYUREN - RIVER
OF THE QUEEN.



NOW I RECOGNIZE YOU. I KILLED
YOU EIGHT HUNDRED
YEARS AGO.



LIEUTENANT,
SIR! YOU'RE *CRAZY!*
COLONEL BUZUN'S ORDERS
WERE NOT TO PUT ANYBODY
IN THAT CELL WITH HIM!
GOLDSTEIN IS *EXTREMELY*
IMPORTANT!

YOU THINK
NEWTON'S *NOT*
IMPORTANT? WHERE
ELSE AM I GONNA PUT
HIM IF ALL THE CELLS
ARE FULL?



JUST DO
ME A FAVOR,
SERGEANT -
SHUT UP!

WHEN
COLONEL BUZUN
FINDS OUT ABOUT
THIS IN THE MORNING,
HE'LL *RIP* US NEW
ASSHOLES!

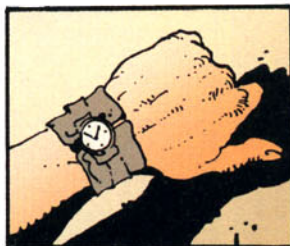
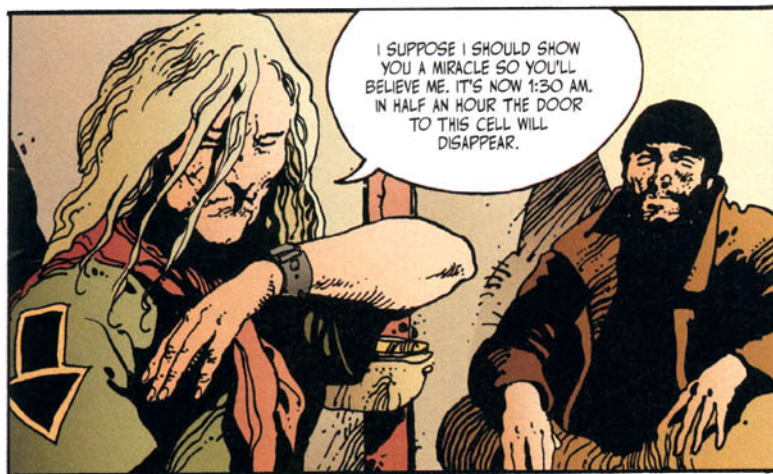


WE'LL MOVE HIM
SOMEWHERE ELSE
BEFORE BUZUN ARRIVES.
BUT FOR NOW THEY CAN
STAY TOGETHER.



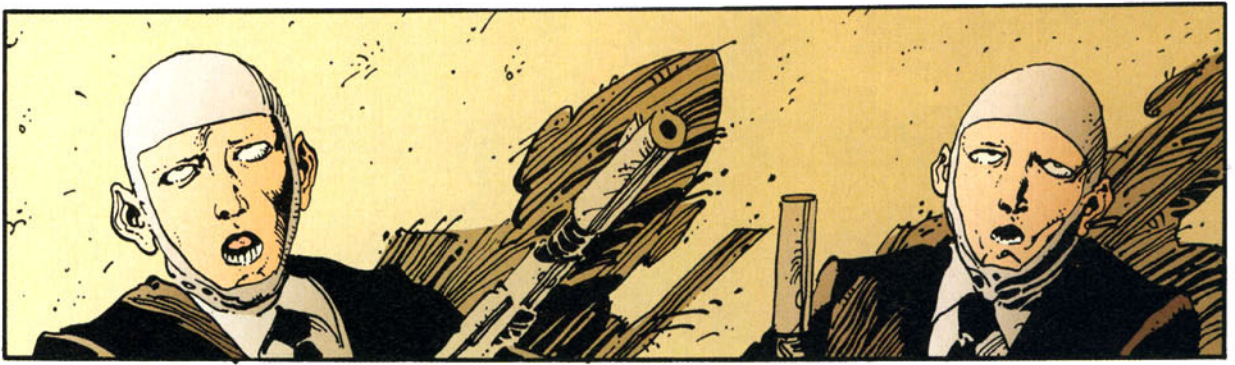
DON'T PISS
YOUR PANTS,
SERGEANT.
EVERYTHING'LL
BE OKAY.











YOUR DISCIPLES AREN'T ALIVE -
THEY'RE DJINNS. I SENSED IT
IMMEDIATELY; YOU LEAD THEM
WITH YOUR THOUGHTS.



WHEN
I KICKED YOU,
THEY FROZE LIKE
STATUES. NATURALLY.
THEY'RE DJINNS.



WHAT DO
WE DO NOW,
TEACHER?



NOTHING,
ANYMORE.

SCRITCH

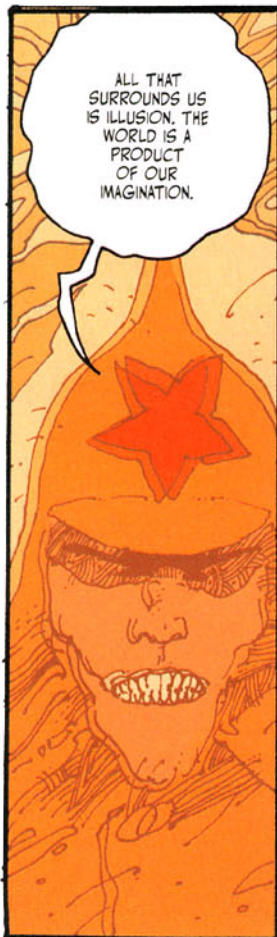


GGGguy...

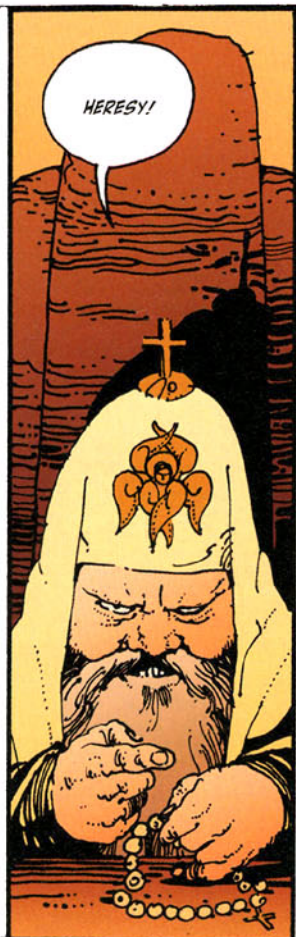




INTERESTING...
IF NEWTON HADN'T
DISCOVERED THE LAW
OF GRAVITY, WOULD
PEOPLE FLY LIKE
BIRDS?



ALL THAT
SURROUNDS US
IS ILLUSION. THE
WORLD IS A
PRODUCT
OF OUR
IMAGINATION.



HERESY!



YOUR DREAMS OF DEATH
FROM PEN AND INK COME
FROM YOUR PAST AS A
WRITER. YOU STILL BELIEVE
THE PEN IS A MIGHTY
WEAPON.



DEVILISH
HERESY!



SOMETHING STRANGE HAS BEEN GOING ON THESE LAST FEW DAYS. HE WHOSE IDEAL IS DEATH IS COMING TOO CLOSE... EVEN UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF NLSD, YOU WON'T SEE ME...

EVEN WITHOUT DRUGS, I CAN SEE YOU, DEMON. I SEE YOU WITH MY SPIRITUAL EYES.



HOW IS THAT? WITHOUT DRUGS?



YOU DIDN'T TAKE THEM AGAIN TODAY, PATRIARCH? AND WHAT ABOUT YOUR PRAYERS?



GO AND PRAY FOR ME AS ONLY THE PATRIARCH CAN!!



AT THIS VERY MOMENT, YOUR PEOPLE APPROACH THE HUGE IDOL... SOON THEY'LL BE SWEEPED UP IN BATTLE... WATCH OUT FOR PENS, APELSINOV...

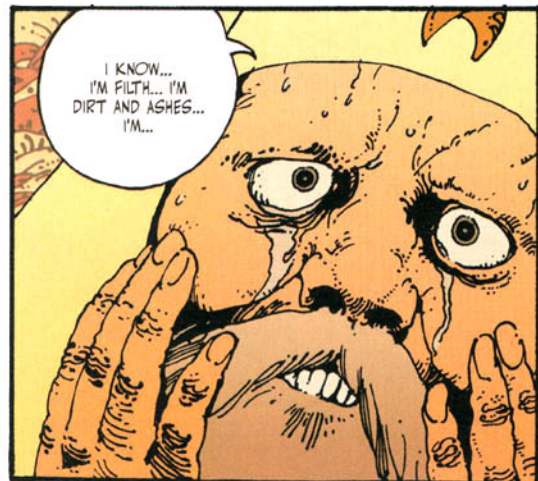
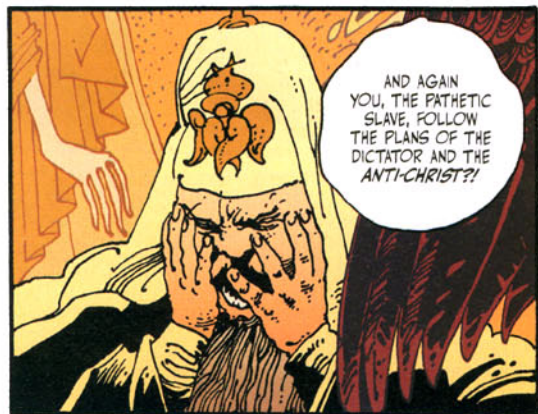


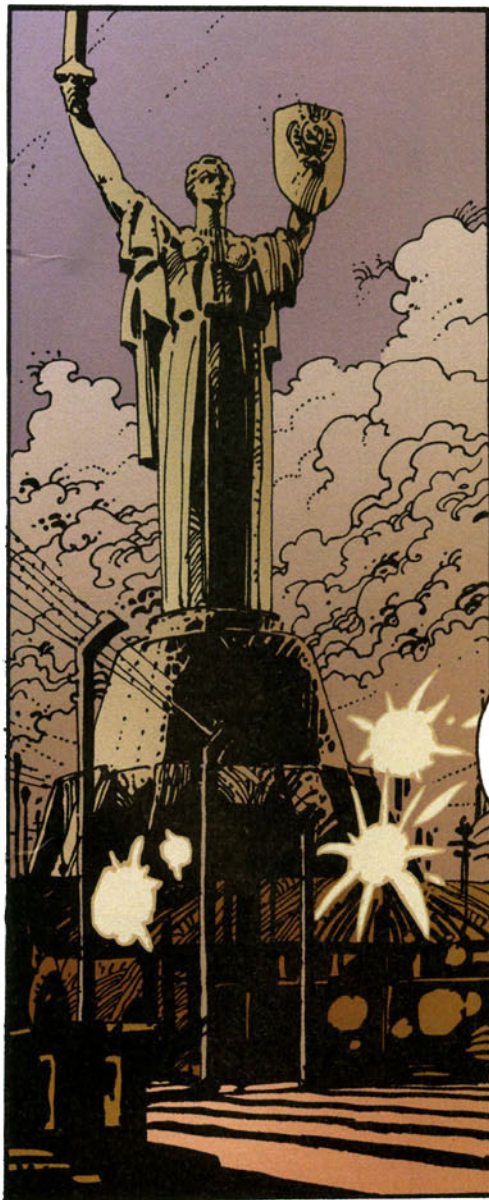
NO!
NO MORE VISIONS!

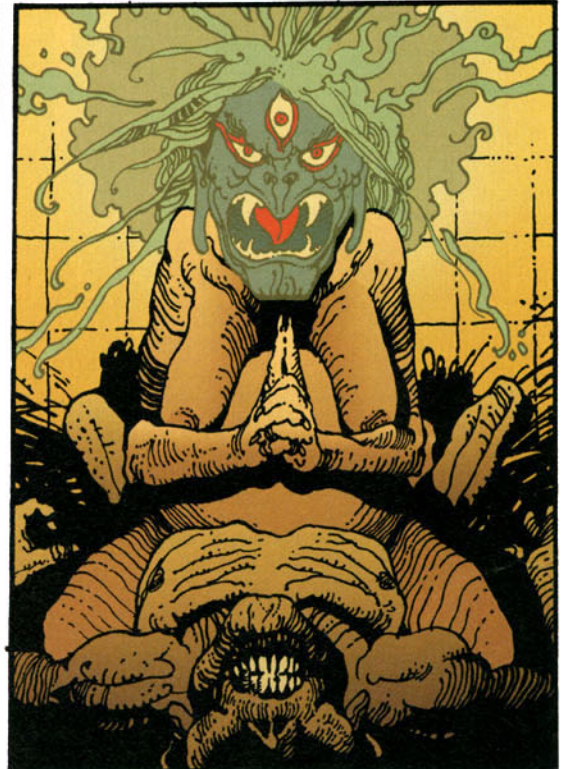
NO!



OH LORD. HAVE MERCY!











ONE QUESTION:
WHY HERE IN THE UKRAINE AND NOT SOMEWHERE ELSE?



BECAUSE THE UKRAINE IS THE CRACK BETWEEN THE WORLDS. THE CRACK BETWEEN RUSSIA AND EUROPE, EAST AND WEST, THE LEFT AND RIGHT HEMISPHERES OF THE BRAIN...



YOU KNEW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN, ILYA...

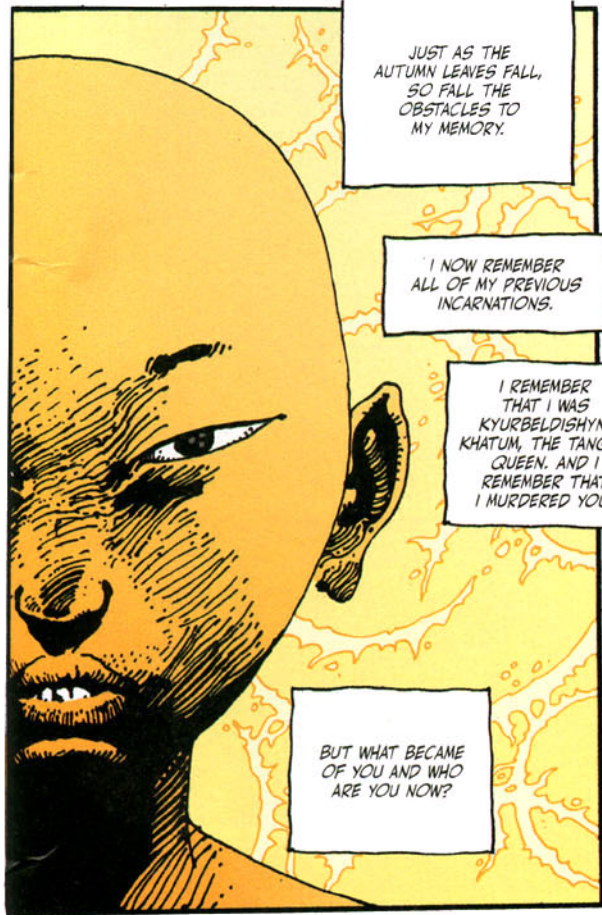
LOOK UP!



EVEN THEY CAME HERE...AND THEY ALWAYS KNOW WHERE TO GO...



THE VOICE HAS GUIDED ME WELL. MY FINAL QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED. THIS IS MY DESTINATION...



JUST AS THE
AUTUMN LEAVES FALL,
SO FALL THE
OBSTACLES TO
MY MEMORY.

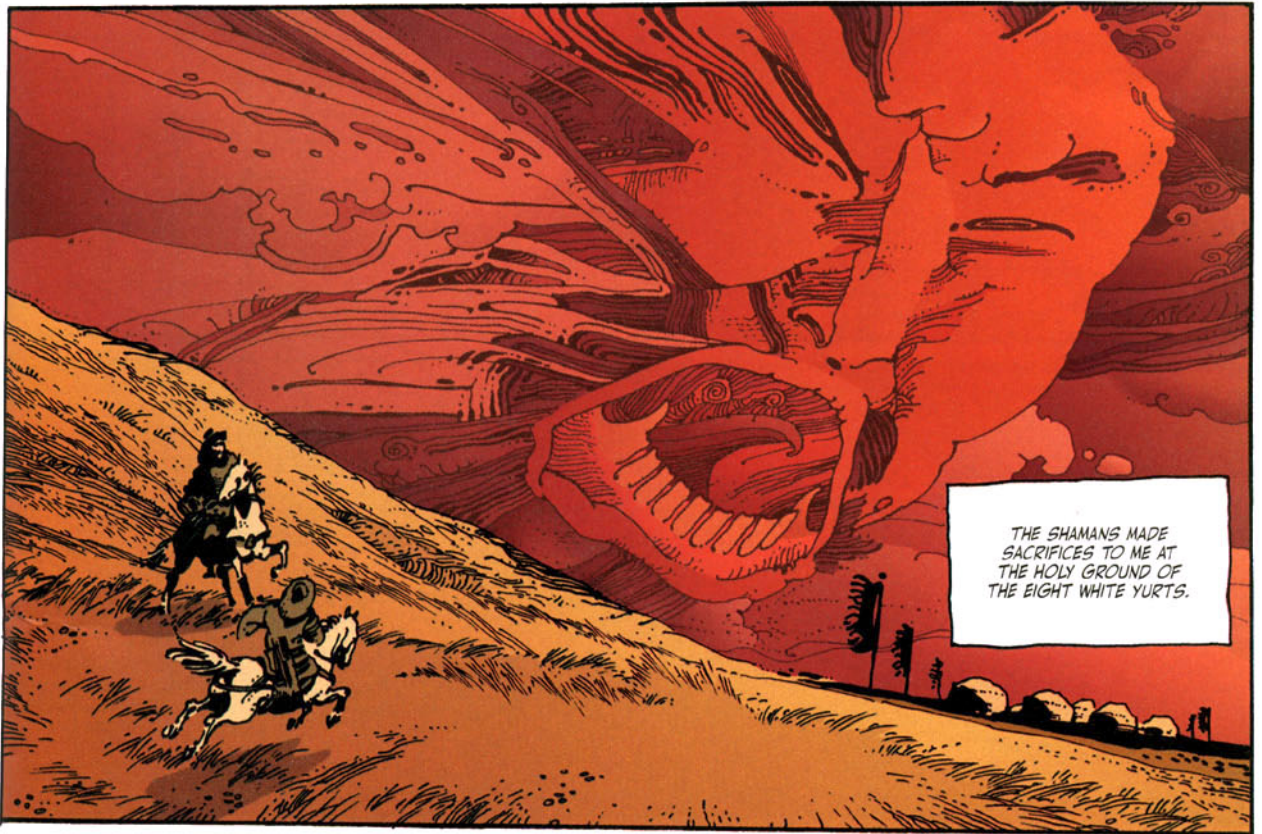
I NOW REMEMBER
ALL OF MY PREVIOUS
INCARNATIONS.

I REMEMBER
THAT I WAS
KYURBELDISHYN-
KHATUM, THE TANGUT
QUEEN. AND I
REMEMBER THAT
I MURDERED YOU.

BUT WHAT BECAME
OF YOU AND WHO
ARE YOU NOW?



AFTER MY DEATH, ALL THAT
REMAINED OF ME WAS MY THIRST
FOR POWER. I BECAME HALF-GOD,
HALF-DEMON, POSSESSED BY SULDE.



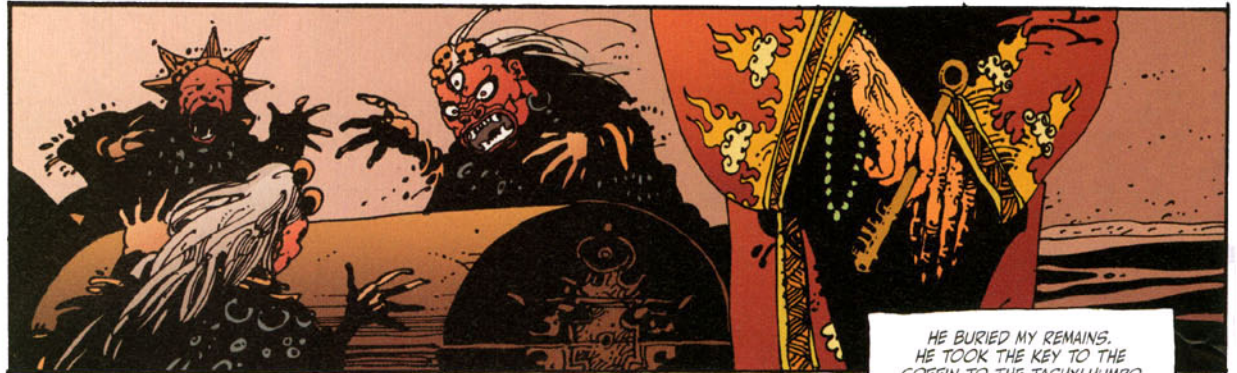
THE SHAMANS MADE
SACRIFICES TO ME AT
THE HOLY GROUND OF
THE EIGHT WHITE YURTS.



THEN THE PANCHEN-LAMA CAME FROM TIBET.



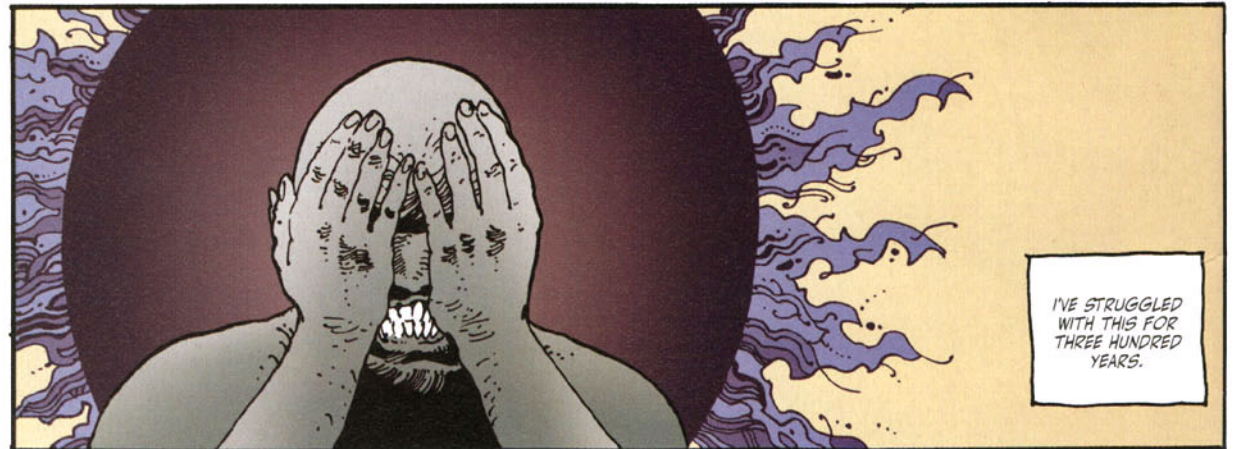
HE MEDITATED ON THE BANKS OF THE RIVER KERULEN. HE DID NOT FEAR ME.



HE BURIED MY REMAINS. HE TOOK THE KEY TO THE COFFIN TO THE TASHYLUHUMPO MONASTERY IN TIBET..



SINCE THEN, I HAVE SAT HERE TRYING TO RESTRAIN MY SULDE. I CREATED IT WITH MY OWN WILL, LONG AGO, BUT NOW IT'S BROKEN AWAY FROM ME AND CAREENS THROUGH THE WORLD, JUMPING FROM ONE BODY TO ANOTHER.



I'VE STRUGGLED WITH THIS FOR THREE HUNDRED YEARS.

LAMA NOYON WAS ONE OF THE STRONGEST INCARNATIONS OF SULDE.



HE USED THE PAINTER ROERICH TO PENETRATE RUSSIA.



THE RUSSIAN DICTATOR IS HIS LATEST PERSONIFICATION...



AND I NO LONGER HAVE THE POWER TO STOP THIS SUCCESSION OF BIRTHS.



YOU REJECTED YOUR FEMALE HALF AND BECAME WEAK AND INSANE.

THE MALE HALF ALWAYS WANTS TO CONQUER AND DESTROY...



EIGHT HUNDRED YEARS AGO YOU WANTED ME TO BEAR YOU A SON. DO YOU REMEMBER?

I WILL NOT BEAR A SON FOR YOU, BUT I WILL HELP YOU TO BE BORN ANEW.



DID YOUR PANCHEN-LAMA EVER TELL YOU ABOUT TANTRAS?

FORGET EVERYTHING YOU EVER KNEW...





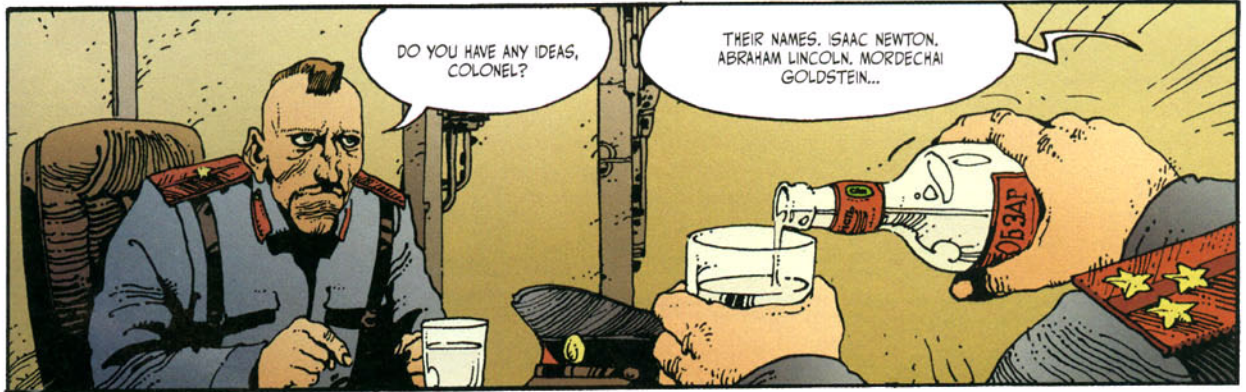


HIS NAME WAS
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

THIS IS HIS
PHOTO.



STEP
INTO MY OFFICE,
MAJOR.



DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEAS,
COLONEL?

THEIR NAMES. ISAAC NEWTON,
ABRAHAM LINCOLN, MORDECHAI
GOLDSTEIN...



IT'S THE
GLOBAL JEWISH
CONSPIRACY,
MAJOR.



GLUP.



DID YOU KNOW THAT THE MASON'S
ARE IN BED WITH THE ELDERS
OF ZION?



I ALWAYS
KNEW THAT A WORLD
CONSPIRACY EXISTED.
NOBODY BELIEVED
ME.



BUT I'M USED TO TRUSTING MY
OWN INTUITION. MY FAMILY LIVED IN
A VILLAGE NEAR CHERNOBYL.

IN 1987, THEY TOLD MY PARENTS THAT THEY COULDN'T STAY THERE ANYMORE. BUT MY MOTHER, A SIMPLE, HONEST WOMAN, KNEW THEY WERE CHEATING HER.

THEY HAD MADE UP SOME RIDICULOUS STORY TO GET THE LAND. SOMETHING ABOUT AN ACCIDENT AND RADIATION THAT NOBODY COULD EVEN SEE.

MY PARENTS REFUSED TO LEAVE.

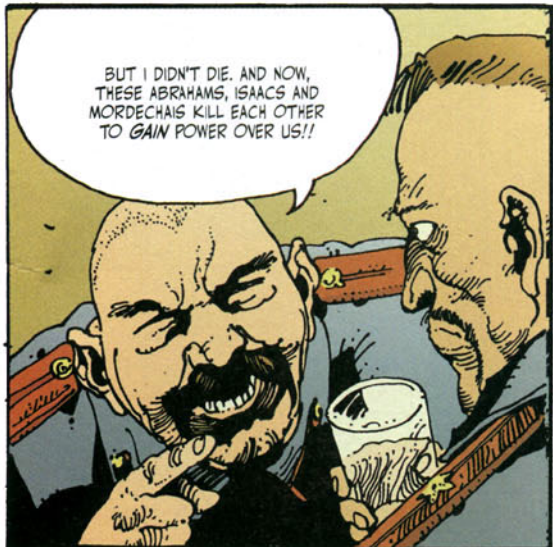
I WAS BORN IN THE CHERNOBYL ZONE.

I DISCOVERED MY SPECIAL TALENTS AT AN EARLY AGE.

THEN EVERYBODY DIED. EXCEPT ME.

WE HAD A REAL PARADISE THERE. THE SUNFLOWERS GREW BIGGER THAN ANY IN THE WORLD.

THEY SAID IT WAS BECAUSE OF THE RADIATION BUT I KNEW THAT THE JEW-MASONS POISONED EVERYBODY. THEY WANTED OUR LAND.









FOLLOW ME, MY CHILDREN.



THIS IRON LADY KEEPS THE EMBRYO OF THE NEW EMPIRE BENEATH HER FEET.

EMPIRE - IT IS GREATNESS. PEOPLE WANT TO FEEL THE GREATNESS.



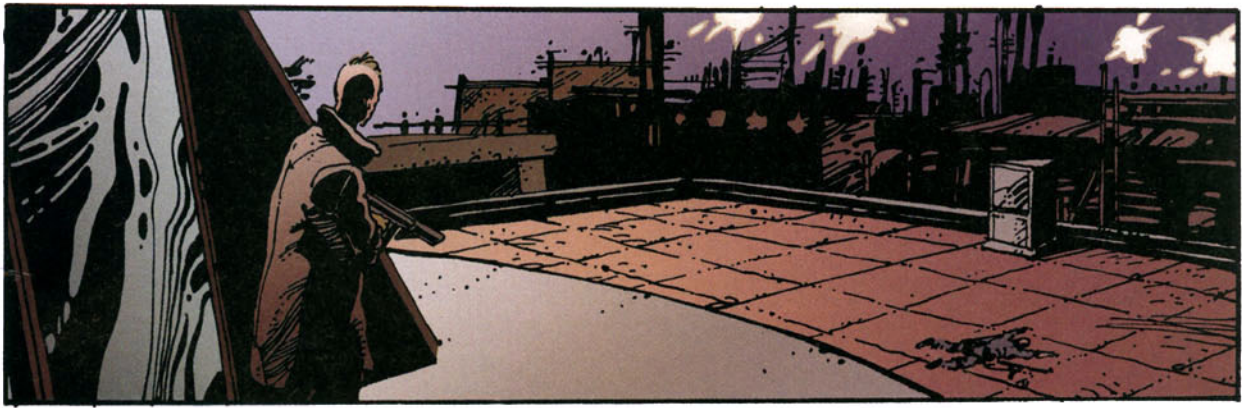
EMPIRE - IT IS FEAR. PEOPLE WANT TO FEEL THE FEAR.



STAY HERE. DEMONS COULD APPEAR AT ANY MOMENT.



HERE'S THE ELEVATOR. WE MUST GO DOWN TO RISE IN SHINING GLORY.









OKAY, SO MAYBE IT WASN'T SO SMART OF ME TO WASTE THE RED TENTACLES OF MAHAKHALI ON THE FIRST SON OF A BITCH WE RAN INTO.



WHEN YOU MEET *GOD*, PUT IN A GOOD WORD FOR DAMNED SOULS LIKE US.

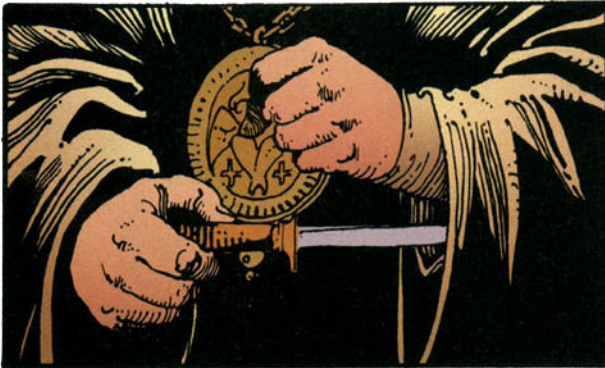
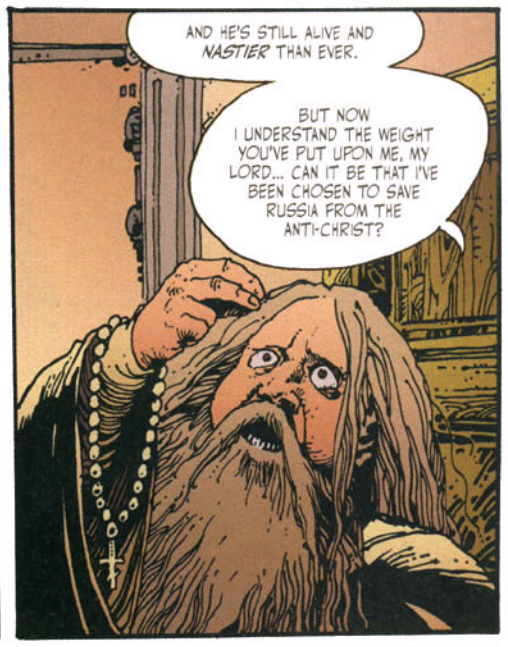
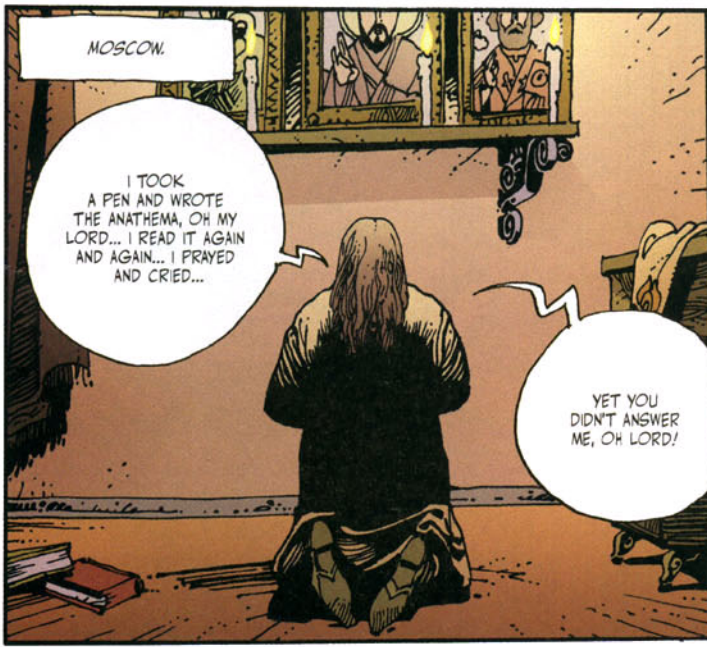


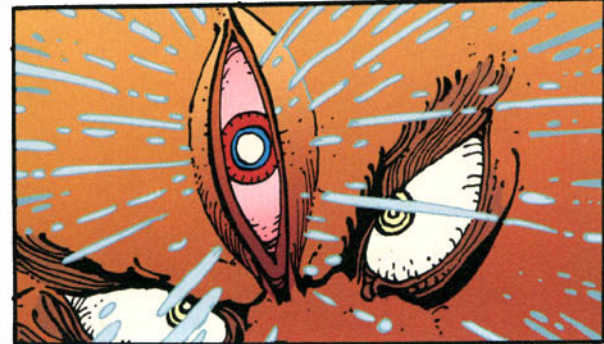
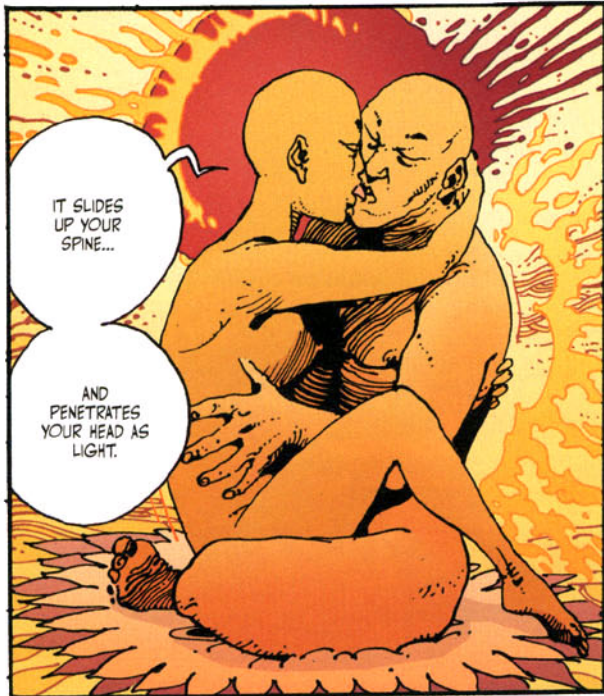
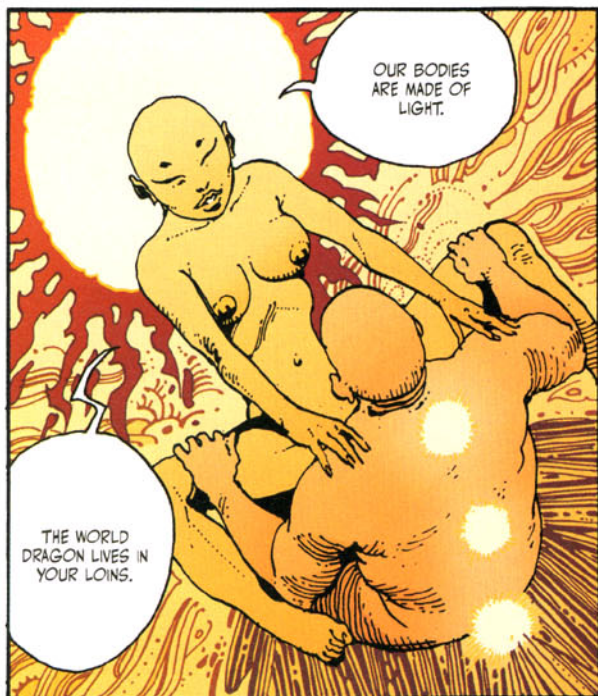
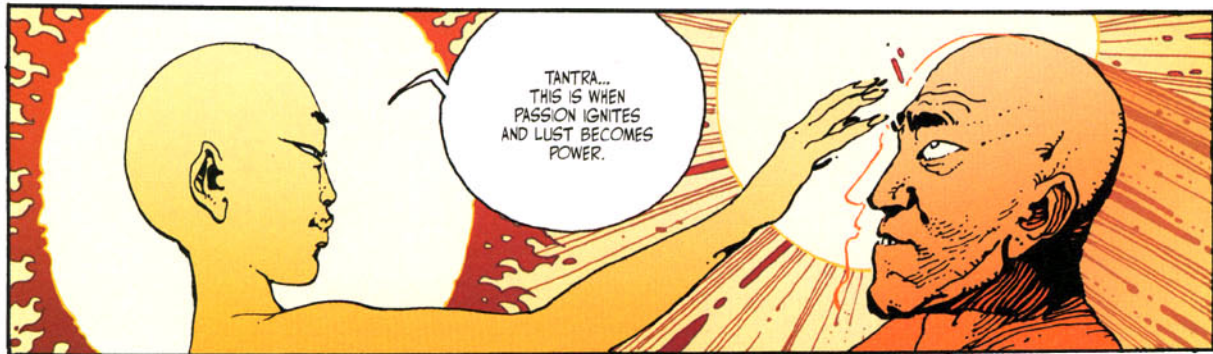
YOU GOT IT.

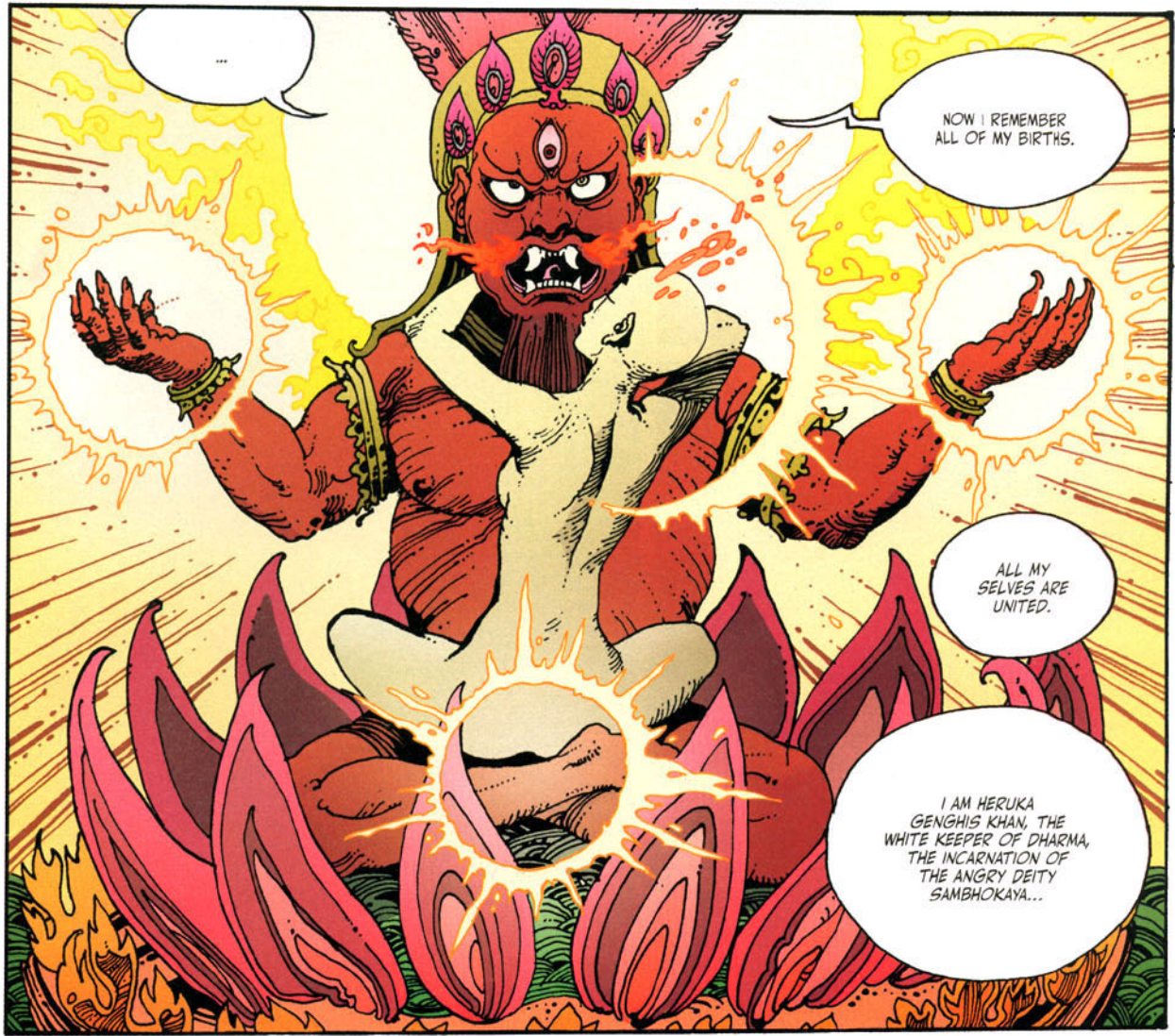


WE ARE ALL JUST LETTERS IN THE BOOK OF ALLAH... TELL ME, MY GUIDING VOICE, WHAT AWAITS ME ON THE FINAL PAGE?







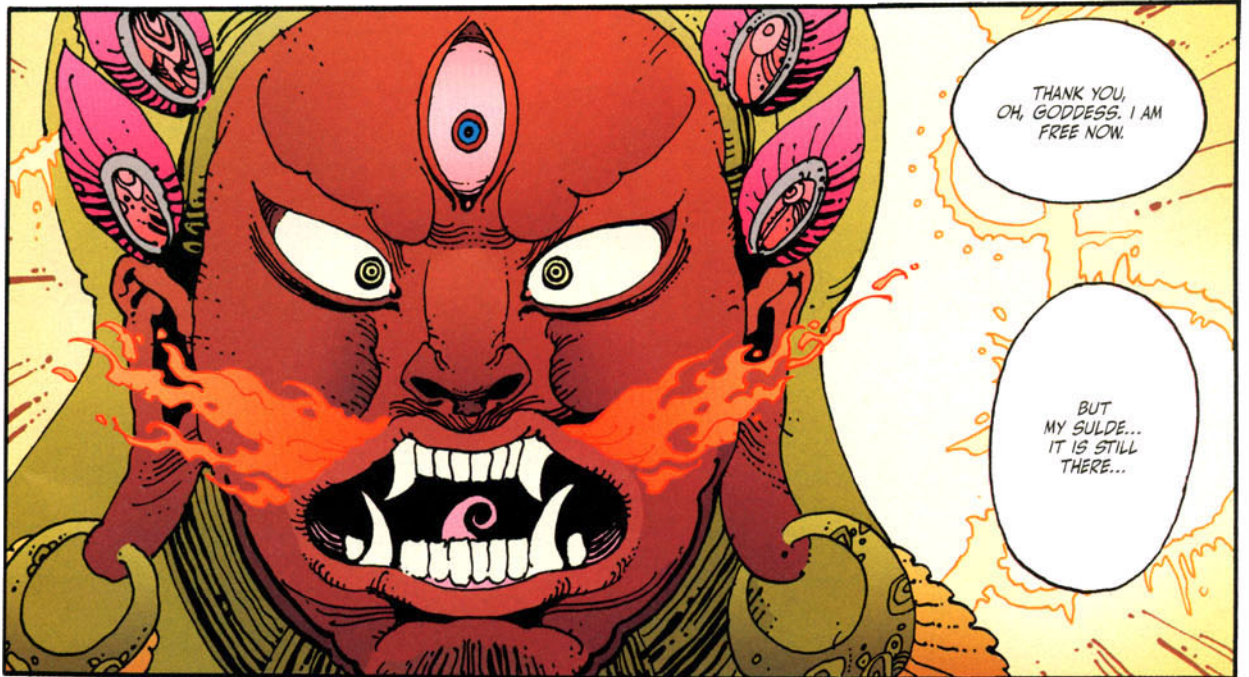


...

NOW I REMEMBER
ALL OF MY BIRTHS.

ALL MY
SELVES ARE
UNITED.

I AM HERUKA
GENGHIS KHAN, THE
WHITE KEEPER OF DHARMA,
THE INCARNATION OF
THE ANGRY DEITY
SAMBHOKAYA...



THANK YOU,
OH, GODDESS. I AM
FREE NOW.

BUT
MY SULDE...
IT IS STILL
THERE...



RIGHT
HERE?



EVER SINCE THE
BURIAL OF THE LAMA
ONE HUNDRED TEN YEARS
AGO, HIS BODY HAS BEEN
MOVING UPWARD... UPWARD
TOWARD THE SURFACE
OF THE EARTH... SEVERAL
CENTIMETERS EACH
YEAR.



PREPARING
TO MEET ITS
LIBERATORS.



AND TODAY,
IT WAITS FOR
YOU.



OH GREATEST
ONE. WE CAME
TO FULFILL
DESTINY. WE
CAME FOR...

PHTT/
DIR/ SHUT UP..



FOR AGES,
MY LIPS COULD
NOT FORM
WORDS...

FOR AGES,
THEY COULD
NOT FEEL
KISSES...

HEH HEH
HEH...



IS THE NEW
INCARNATION OF
GENGHIS KHAN READY
TO RECEIVE
SULDE?

YES,
GREAT
LAMA.



THEN WE
DEPART IMMEDIATELY.
MY BODY WANTS TO
BE EATEN.



COME
TO ME...



MY
LOVE.



THE DICTATOR IS
WAITING. EVERYTHING'S
READY.



WAIT.



I SENSE... IN THE PLACE WHERE TIME DOESN'T EXIST... GENGHIS KHAN...

HE UNITES WITH THE WOMAN...



NO!
NO!!!



AND THEY'RE... DRAINING MY POWER... CUTTING MY CONNECTION WITH THE DICTATOR... THEY ARE...

BREAKING THE CIRCLE!



GET AWAY! I DIDN'T RETURN TO THE WORLD JUST FOR YOU FOOLS!

?!



IT'S TOO LATE TO GIVE THE DICTATOR THE POWER OF SULDE... I MUST FIND ANOTHER...



AND HERE HE IS.



PUT
DOWN YOUR
WEAPONS.



GREETINGS,
SHIVA THE DESTROYER.
YOUR FATALISM IS
PERFECT, AND IT WILL
BE REWARDED.



WHAT ARE YOU
TALKING ABOUT?
THE VOICE BROUGHT
ME HERE AND...

I KNOW
PERFECTLY WELL
WHO YOU ARE. ALL
THE OTHERS ARE
PRETENDERS. SULDE
BELONGS TO
YOU.



BUT LAMA,
WE...



SHUT
UP!!!

WHO
ARE WE TO
QUESTION THE
WHIMS OF
KARMA?!

SULDE IS THE RAVEN-
OUS HUNGER FOR
POWER! IT DOESN'T
CARE WHO POSSESS-
ES IT! THE IMPOR-
TANT THING IS TO
FIND THE VESSEL
THAT WILL CARRY IT
IN THIS WORLD!



LISTEN TO ME,
MOUNTAIN MAN. THEY
ANNIHILATED YOUR COUNTRY.
WHETHER OR NOT YOU
MEDITATE, YOU ALWAYS
HAVE REVENGE IN YOUR
SOUL, DON'T
YOU?

TAKE SULDE
INSIDE OF YOU.
VENGEANCE.



YOU WILL BURN
DOWN THEIR CITIES.
YOU WILL DESTROY
THEIR COUNTRIES.

MILLIONS
WILL FOLLOW
YOU.

DON'T YOU
WANT THIS?



YES.



YES?



NO.



GLORY TO ALLAH, GOOD AND MERCIFUL. HE STOPPED ME. HE LED MY HEART. DID YOU THINK I WOULD TRADE HEAVENLY CHECHNYA FOR SUCH A SIMPLE PLEASURE?

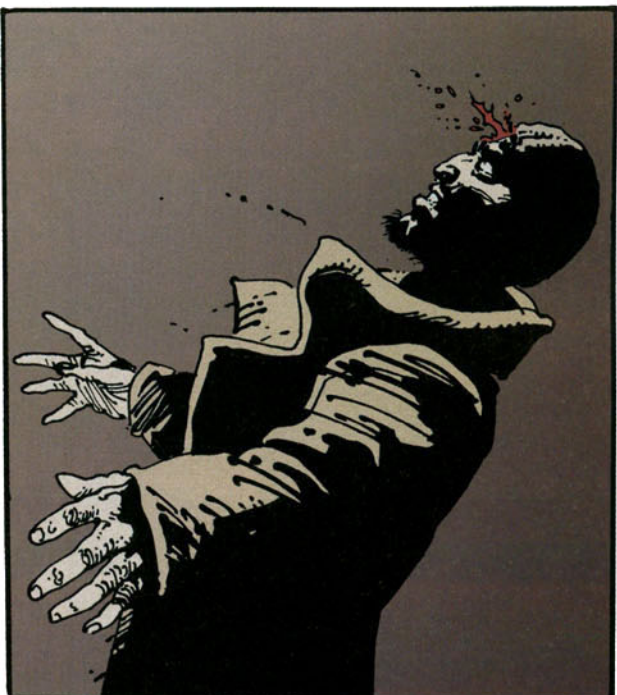


HEH HEH EH... THEN ALL OF THIS WAS IN VAIN. AND I'M JUST A PIECE OF ROTTEN FLESH.

DO AS THE VOICE TELLS YOU.

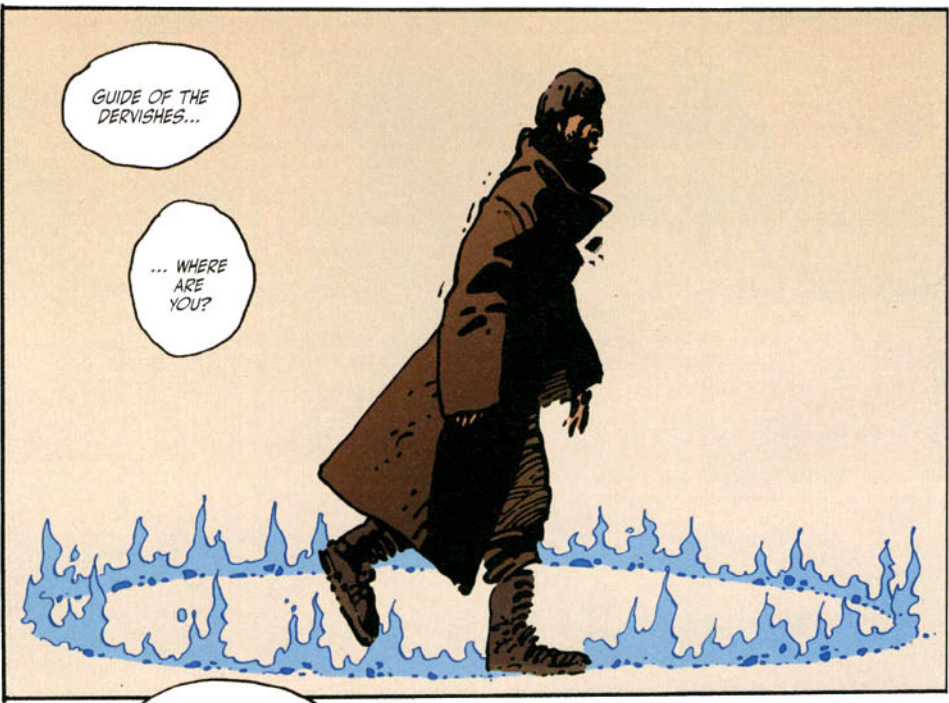








MOST ANCIENT KHYZR...



GUIDE OF THE DERVISHES...

... WHERE ARE YOU?



YOU'VE DONE WELL, JHOKHAR. YOU RESISTED TEMPTATION.



YOU RESISTED PASSION.

YOU REJECTED FEAR.

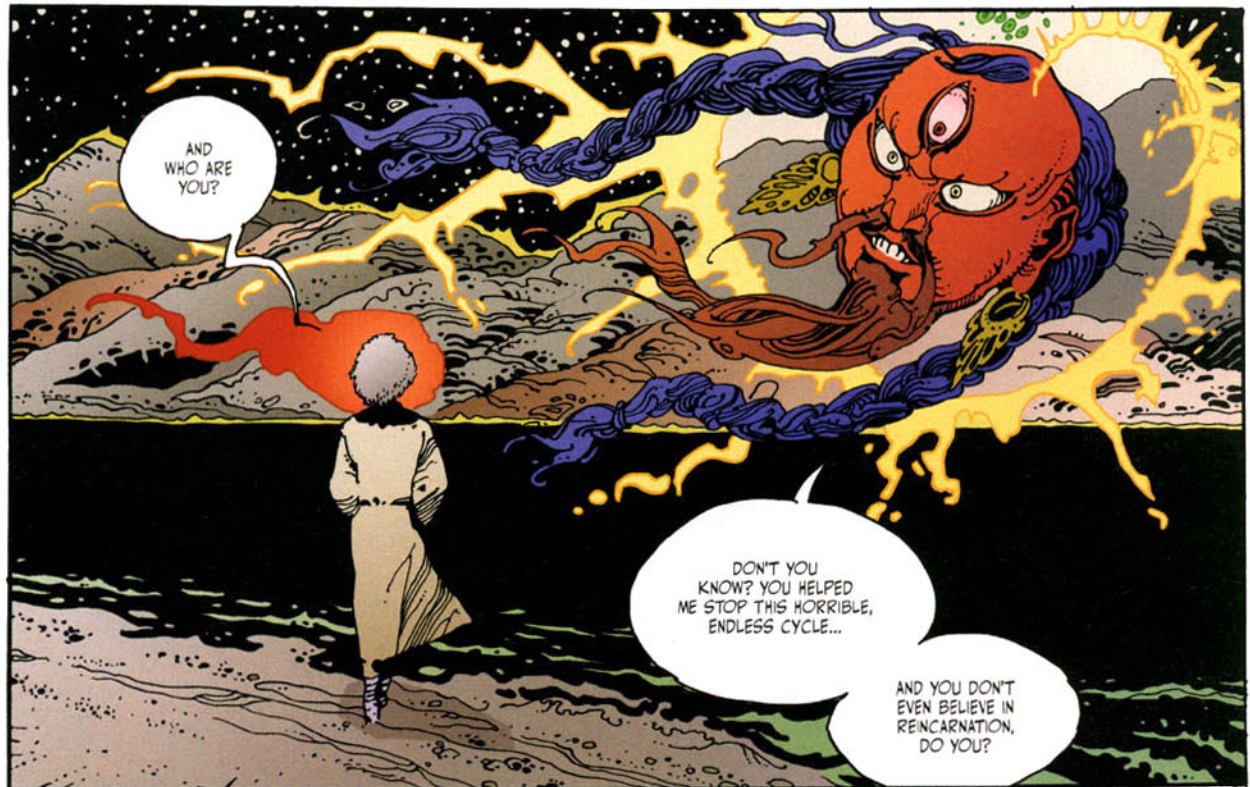
YOU LEARNED TO DISTINGUISH THE LIVING FROM THE DEAD.

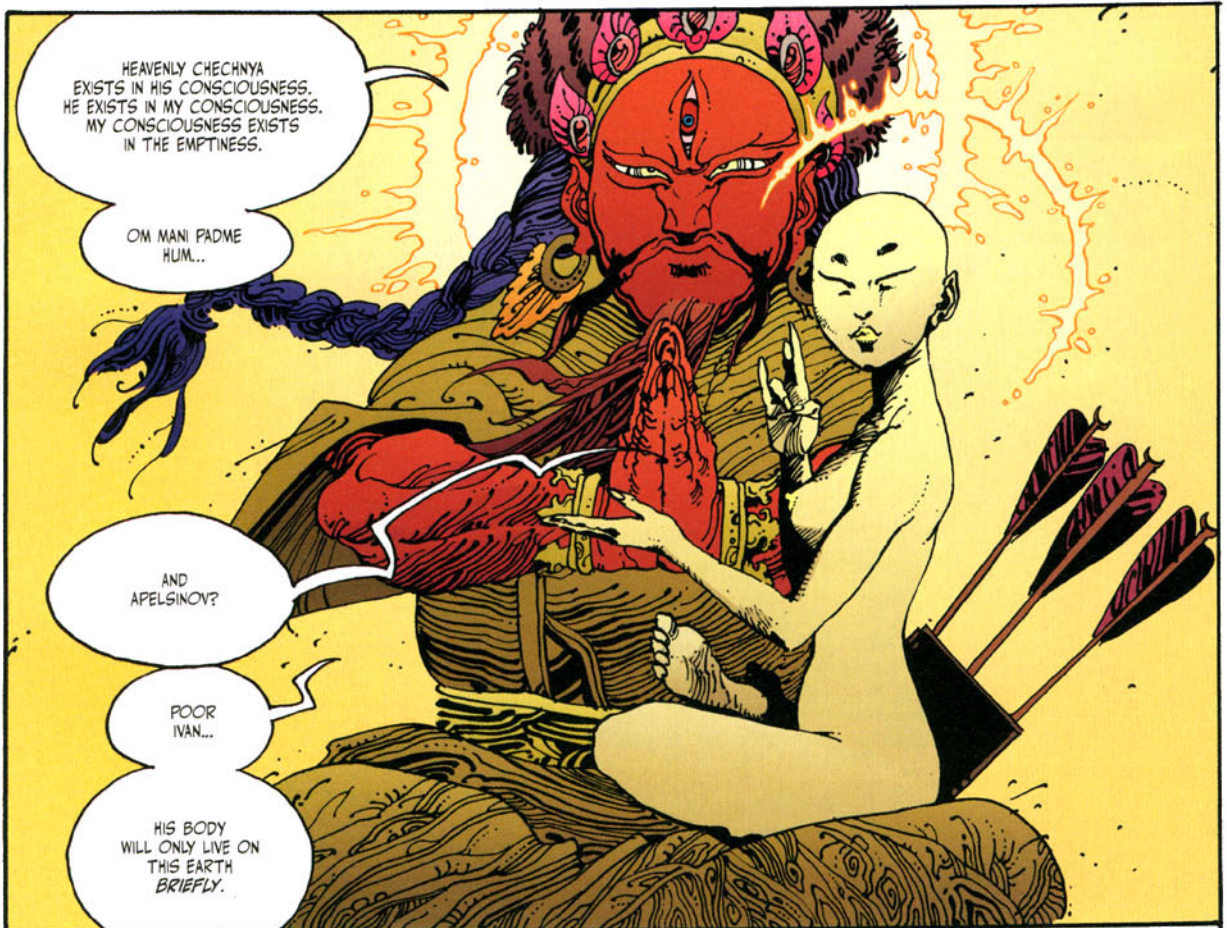
MOST ANCIENT KHYZR...



YOU WERE THE BALANCE ON THE SCALES OF THE WORLD.

...WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH?









FOR THE LAST TIME,
I ORDER ALL MEMBERS OF THE
JEW-MASONIC GROUP...



I'LL
SHOW YOU
BASTARDS...



EAT MAGNETIC BULLETS,
SHITHEADS!

RATATA TATA



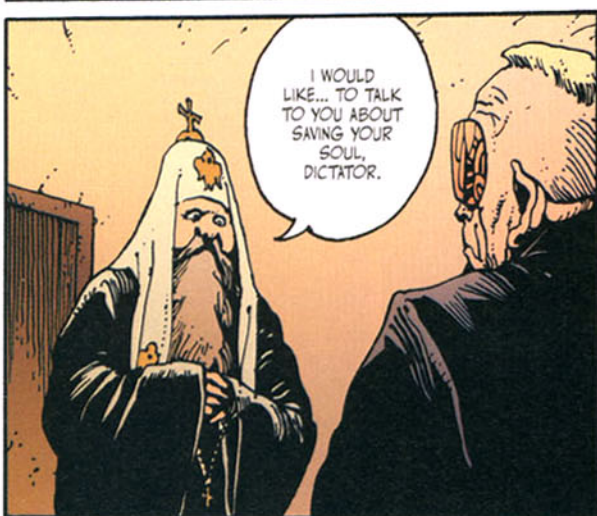
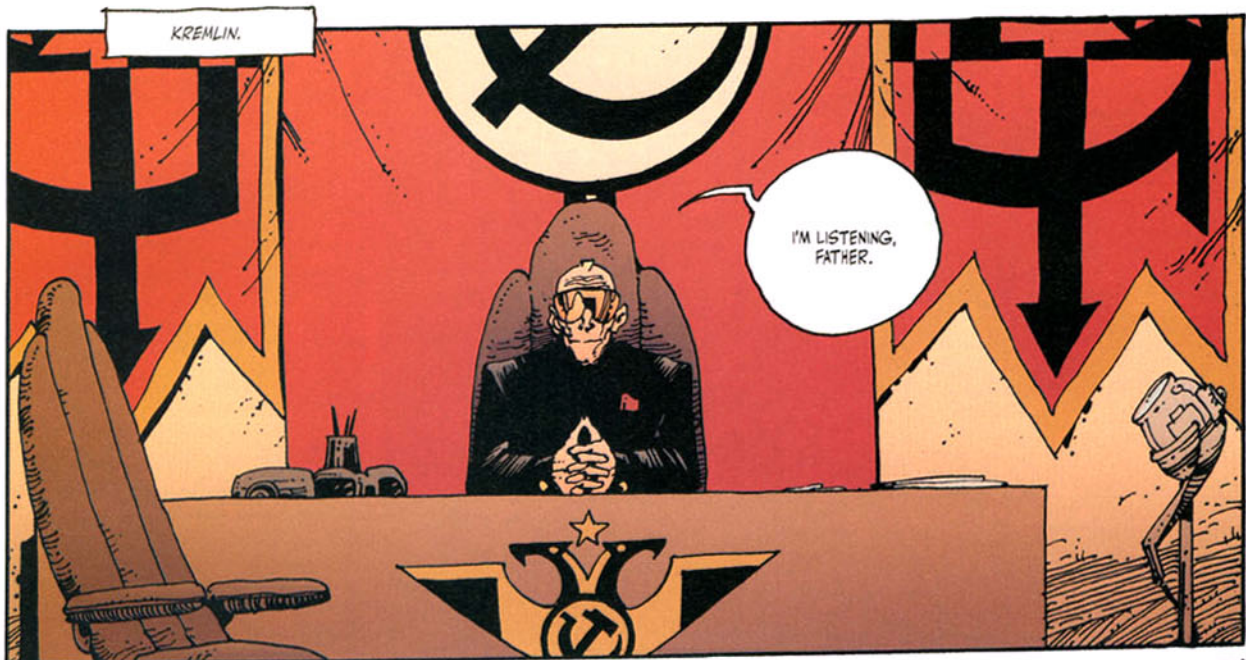
RATATA TATA TATA TATA



THERE'S ONLY ONE SHOOTING AND
HE DOESN'T KNOW...

GET
BACK!







DON'T YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU WILL GO TO HEAVEN WHEN YOU DIE? WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO REPENT YOUR SINS?

AREN'T YOU AFRAID THAT THE FIRES OF HELL WILL SWALLOW YOU FOR YOUR TRANSGRESSIONS?



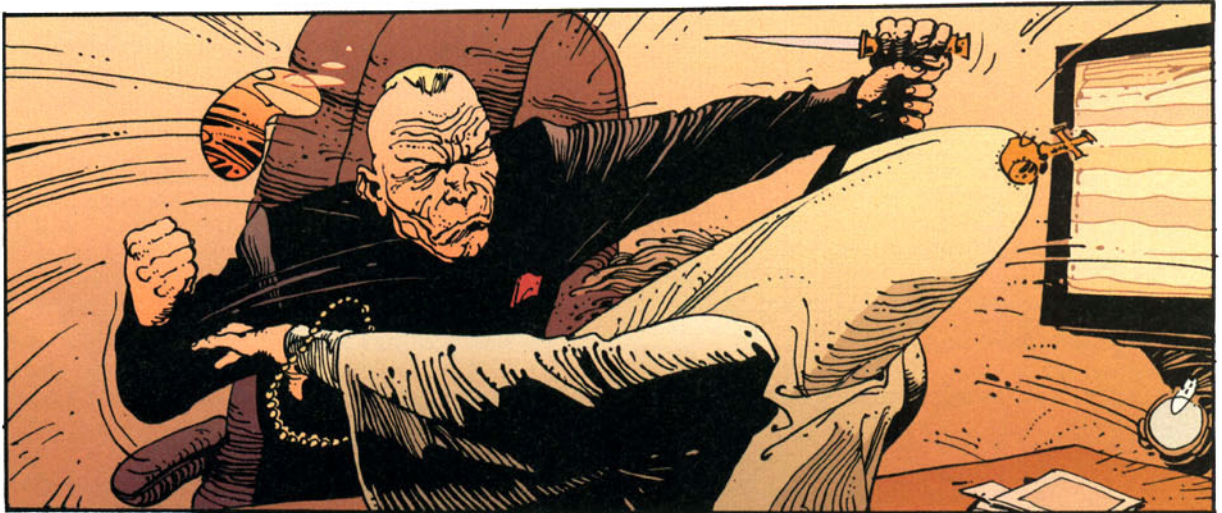
I APPRECIATE YOUR INTEREST, PATRIARCH, BUT LET ME TELL YOU A SECRET: I'M NOT GOING TO DIE.

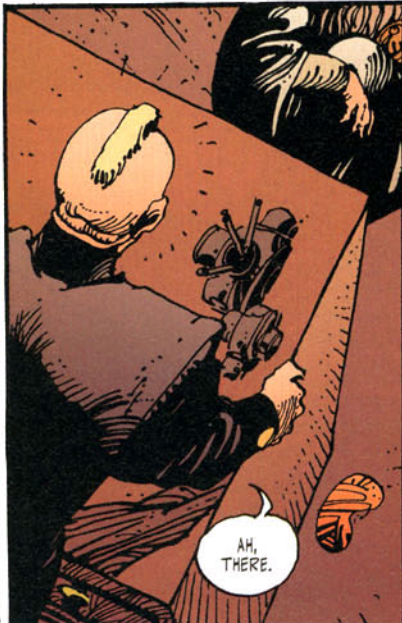
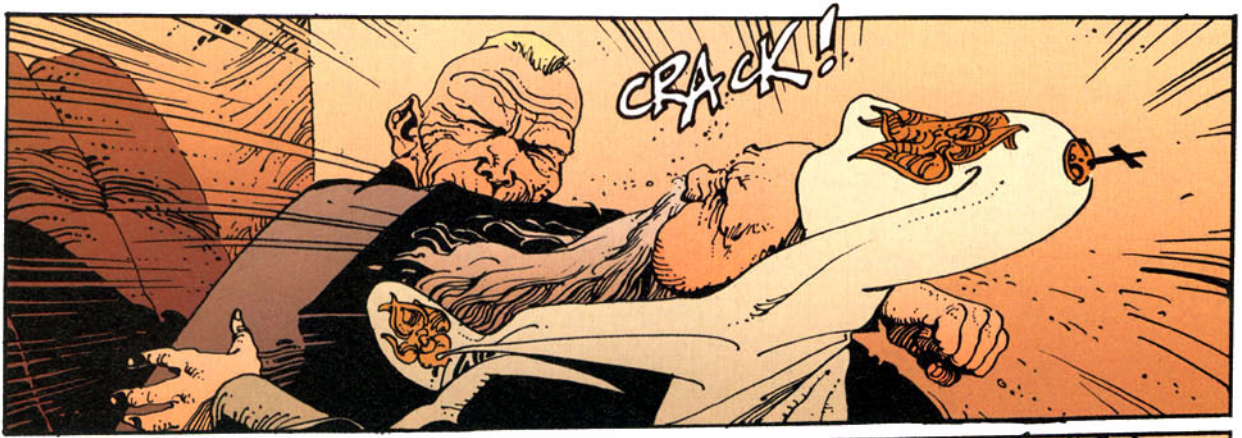


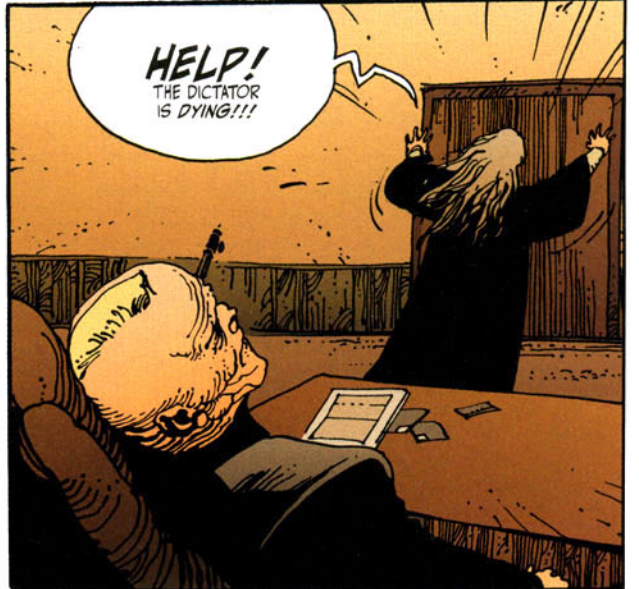
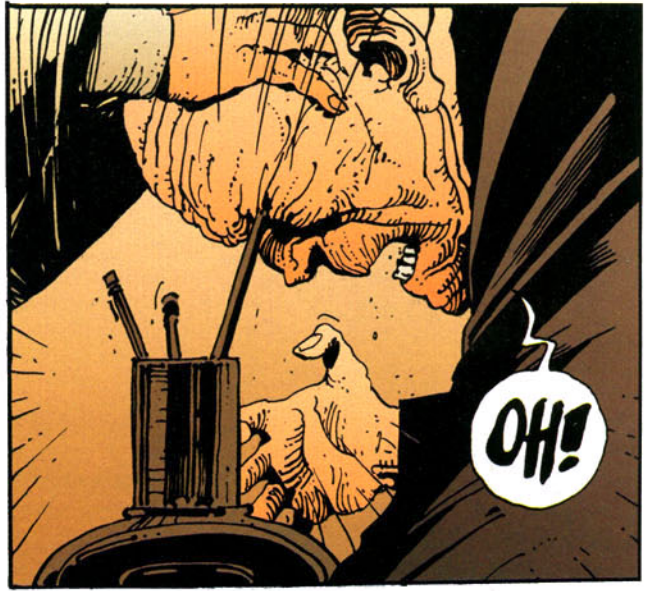
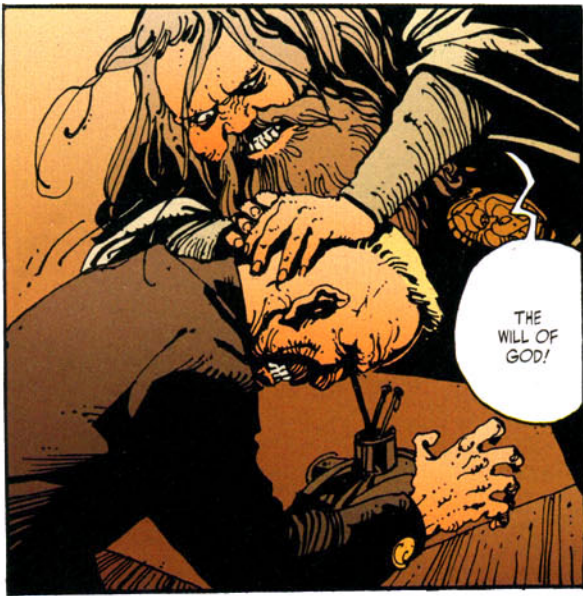
AREN'T YOU GLAD TO HEAR THAT?

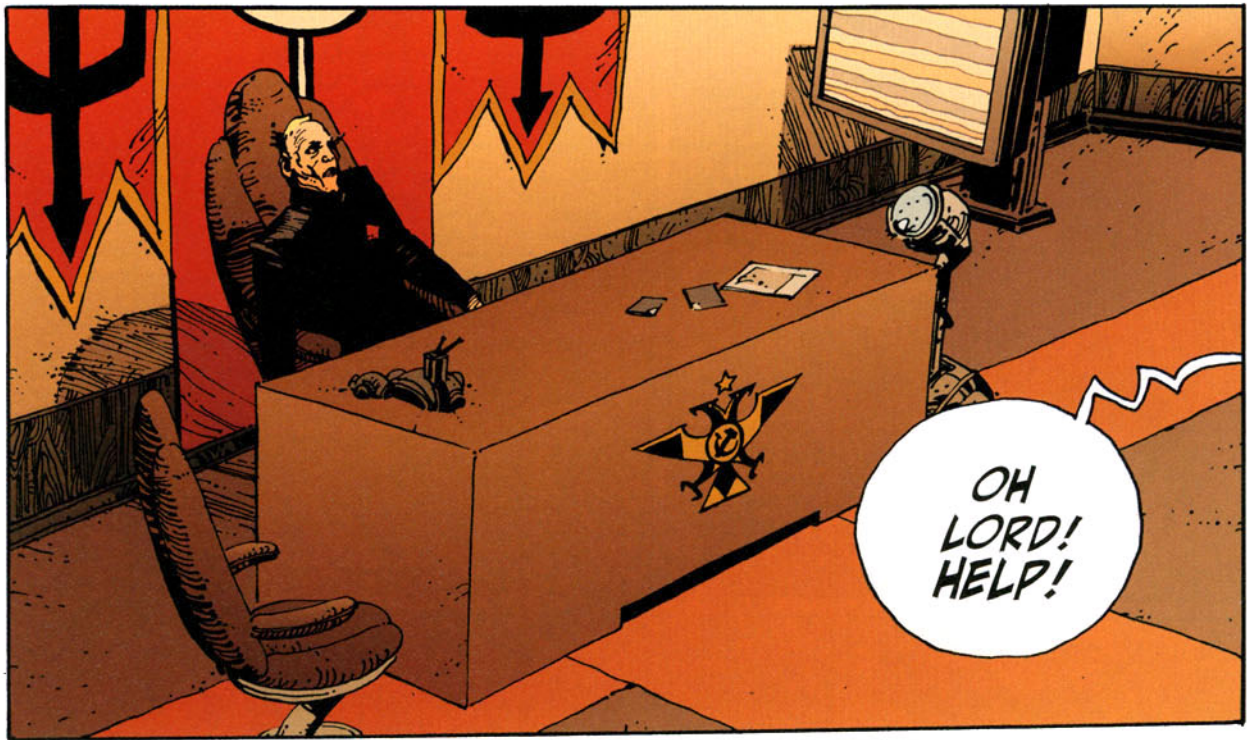


BLASPHEMY!!!











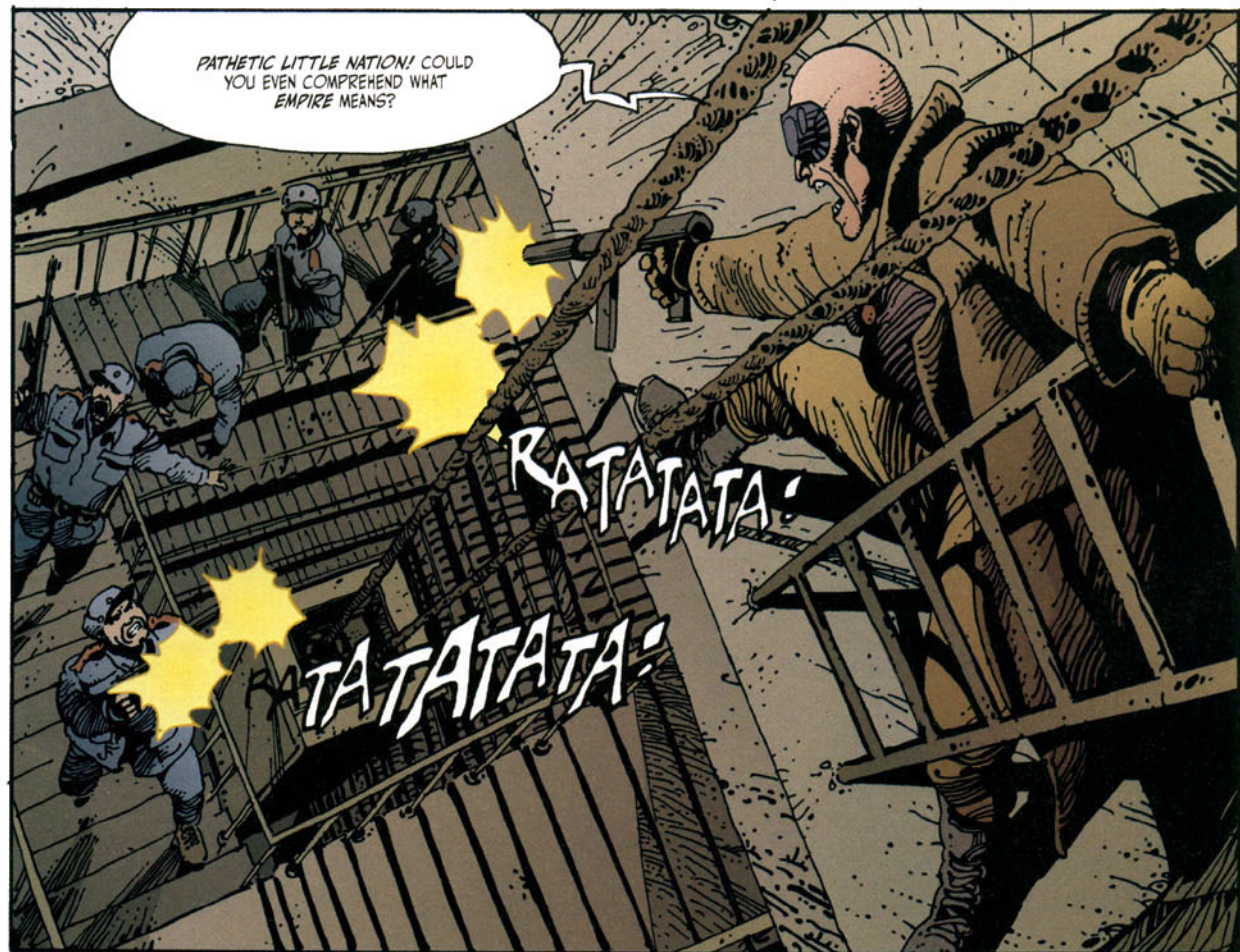
THE FATHER OF THE NATION!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!!



TAKE HIM ALIVE!
THE CHOPPER'S ON ITS WAY.



SONS OF BITCHES. I HATE THEM.



PATHETIC LITTLE NATION! COULD YOU EVEN COMPREHEND WHAT EMPIRE MEANS?

RATATATA!

TATATATA!



ZOOONG!
ZOOONG!

EMPIRE!!



THE FATHER OF THE PEOPLE.



THE FATHER OF THE PEOPLE, THE TEACHER.



DAMN!
HE'S GOING UP!
USE THE TRANG GUN.



HE'S DEAD!







VLADIMIR
ILYCH LENIN?!



YOU'RE
SURPRISED?

YES, ALIENS
KIDNAPPED MY BODY
FROM THE MAUSOLEUM,
AS YOU'VE PROBABLY
HEARD. AND HERE
I AM.



BUT WHO ARE THEY?
AND WHY?

I'VE NEVER
SEEN THEM. THEY'RE
VERY DIFFICULT TO
UNDERSTAND.



FOR EXAMPLE,
THEY IMPREGNATED
SOME GIRL NEAR
STAVROPOL.



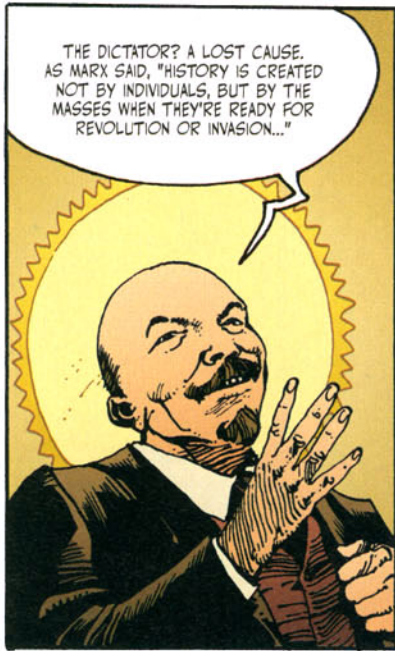
WILL SHE
BEAR THE NEW
SAVIOR OF HUMANITY?
WHO KNOWS? THEY'RE
EXPERIMENTING...
JUST AS I DID
IN 1917.



IT HASN'T BEEN EASY
FOR ME HERE. I USED
TO BE AN ATHEIST. NOW
I'M STUCK WITH THIS
HORRIBLE HALO. WHAT
CAN I DO? THE RUSSIANS
CANONIZED ME, MADE
ME A SAINT.

BUT
WHAT ABOUT THE
DICTATOR?

CAN WE
HELP HIM?



THE DICTATOR? A LOST CAUSE. AS MARX SAID, "HISTORY IS CREATED NOT BY INDIVIDUALS, BUT BY THE MASSES WHEN THEY'RE READY FOR REVOLUTION OR INVASION..."



AND BEING THE REINCARNATION OF GENGHIS KHAN - IT'S NOT SUCH A BIG DEAL. IF YOU ONLY KNEW WHO I WAS IN MY LAST INCARNATION.



BUT NOW THAT THE DICTATOR'S DEAD, HE'LL BE COMING TO VISIT ME.

VISIT YOU?

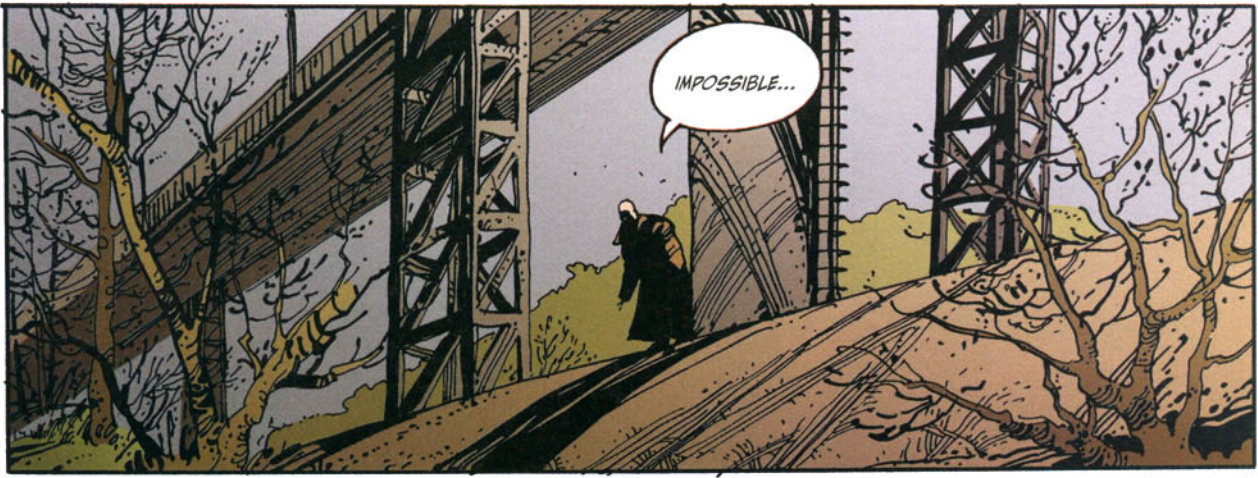


SURE. BECAUSE NOW I'M MORE OSIRIS, THE GOD OF THE DEAD, THAN LENIN. WHAT DID YOU EXPECT, AFTER I WAS A MUMMY FOR SO LONG?



FAREWELL, YOUNG MAN.







THROW IT DOWN.
NOW!

SURE.
SURE.



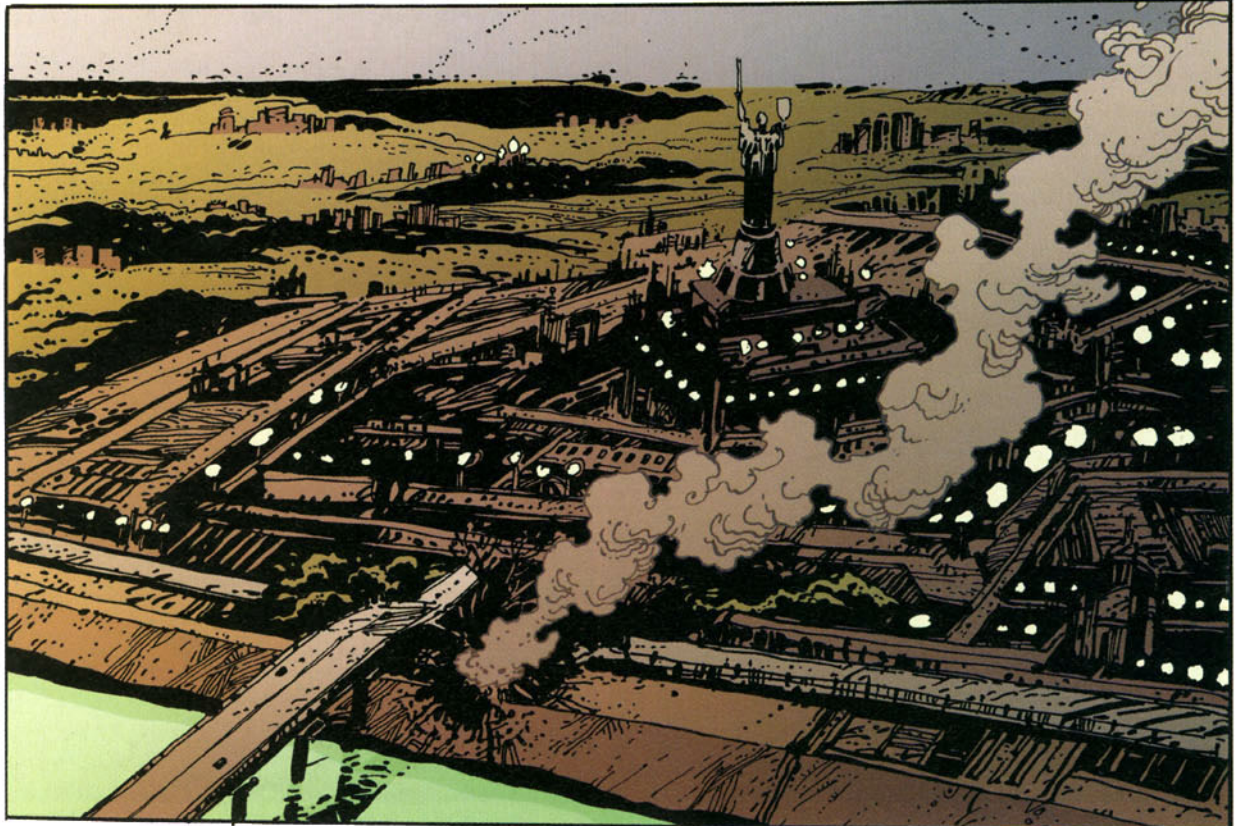
HERE IT IS.



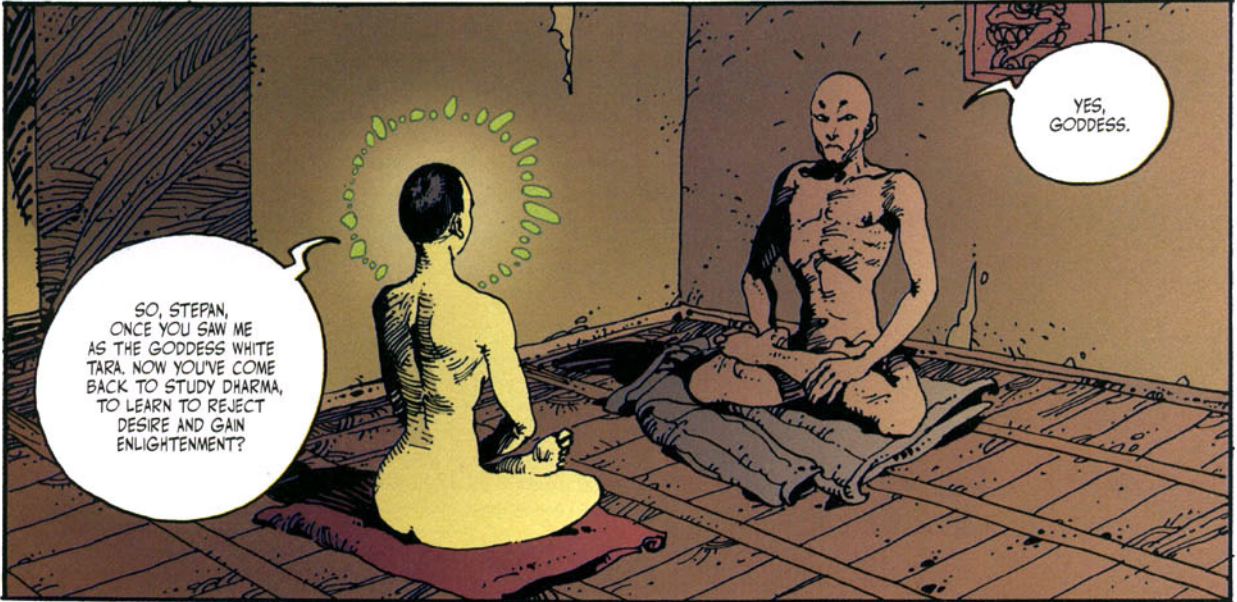
BUT
THAT'S
NOT...



BROUUMM!



KYZYL, TUNA REPUBLIC.



SO, STEPAN, ONCE YOU SAW ME AS THE GODDESS WHITE TARA. NOW YOU'VE COME BACK TO STUDY DHARMA, TO LEARN TO REJECT DESIRE AND GAIN ENLIGHTENMENT?

YES, GODDESS.



GOOD. THEN TELL ME, WHAT WAS THIS STORY ALL ABOUT?



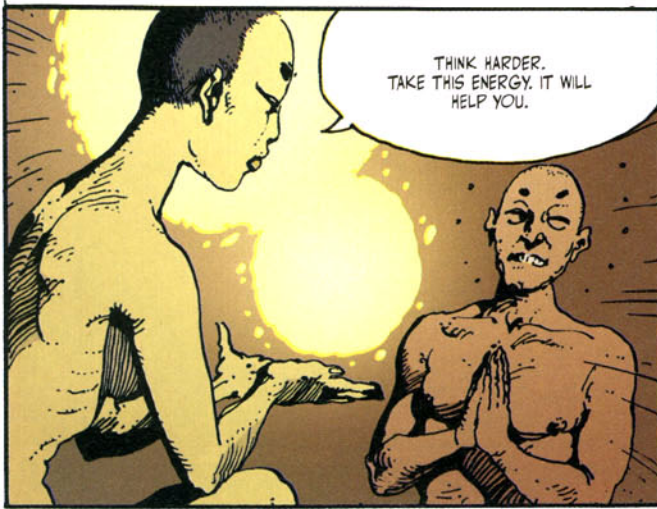
HMMM. THAT EVERYTHING SHOULD BE IN BALANCE OR THE WORLD WILL FALL APART?



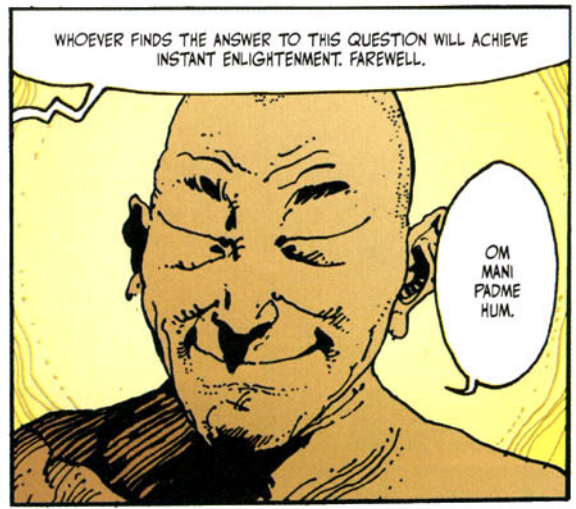
THINK HARDER.



MAYBE...HEH...TO SAVE YOUR SOUL YOU SHOULD FUCK THE GODDESS?

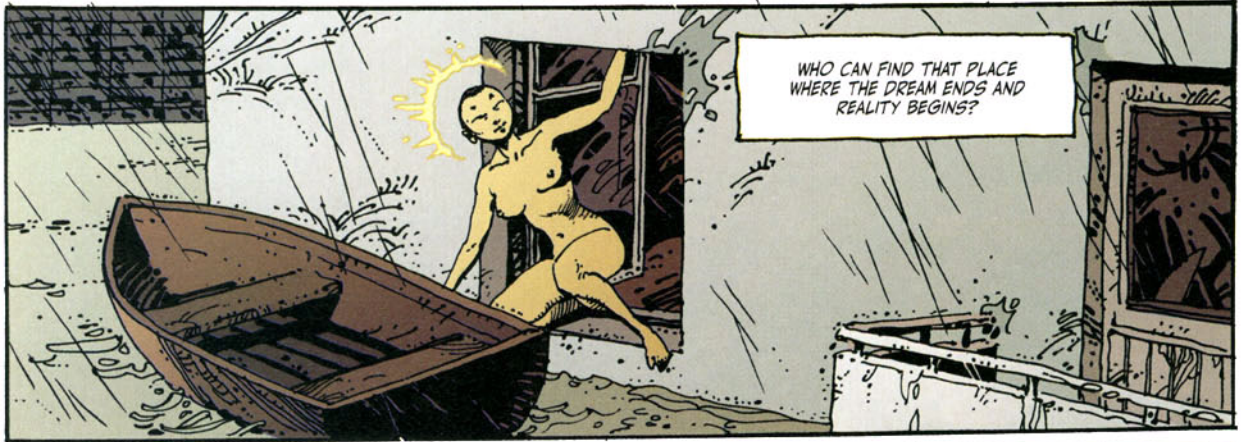


THINK HARDER.
TAKE THIS ENERGY. IT WILL
HELP YOU.

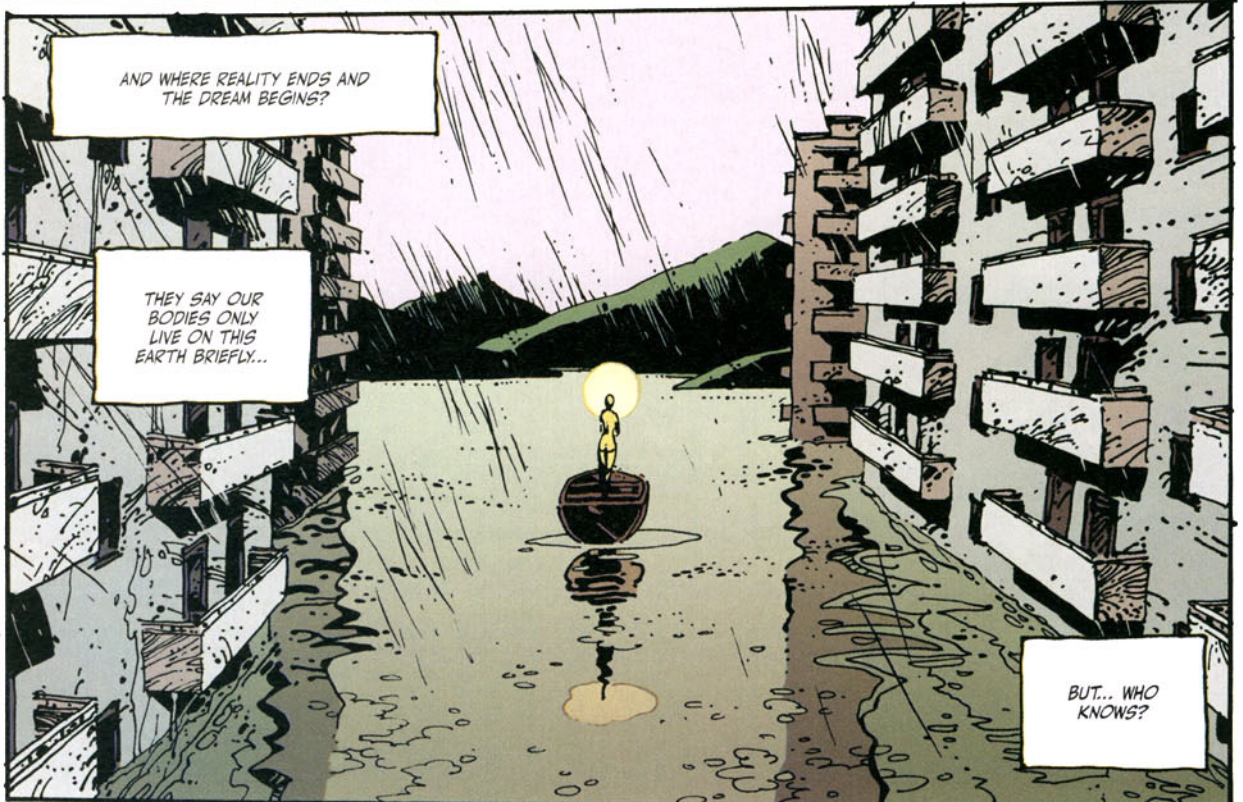


WHOEVER FINDS THE ANSWER TO THIS QUESTION WILL ACHIEVE
INSTANT ENLIGHTENMENT. FAREWELL.

OM
MANI
PADME
HUM.



WHO CAN FIND THAT PLACE
WHERE THE DREAM ENDS AND
REALITY BEGINS?



AND WHERE REALITY ENDS AND
THE DREAM BEGINS?

THEY SAY OUR
BODIES ONLY
LIVE ON THIS
EARTH BRIEFLY...

BUT... WHO
KNOWS?



Cover: French graphic novel edition *"L'EMPEREUR-OCEAN #1 LA HORDE"*



Cover: French graphic novel edition **"L'EMPEREUR-OCEAN #2 RÉINCARNATION"**



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Ukrainian writer/artist Igor Baranko was born in Kiev during the Cold War. After attending art school, Baranko served for two years in the Soviet Army, where he developed a great hatred of military life. He won the US Immigration Lottery in 1999, allowing him to move to the United States and has been creating graphic novels ever since, collaborating with Alexandro Jodorowsky in **METAL HURLANT MAGAZINE**, Jean-Pierre Dionnet on the sequel to Enki Bilal and Dionnet's **EXTERMINATOR 17** and creating his own epic, **THE HORDE**, his commentary on the clashing of cultures, beliefs and ideologies.

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