

a graphic novel **MISADVENTURE** by Max Gregory

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## Misadventure: a graphic novel

Art, Script & Edits: Max Gregory

### About the author:

Max Gregory is a free-lance  
illustrator whose work has appeared in various  
publications, for commercial and private clients.  
This is his first graphic novel.

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SOMEWHERE NEARBY,  
SOMETIME SOON ..



YOU KNOW THIS PART OF TOWN:  
ACROSS THE RAILROAD TRACKS..



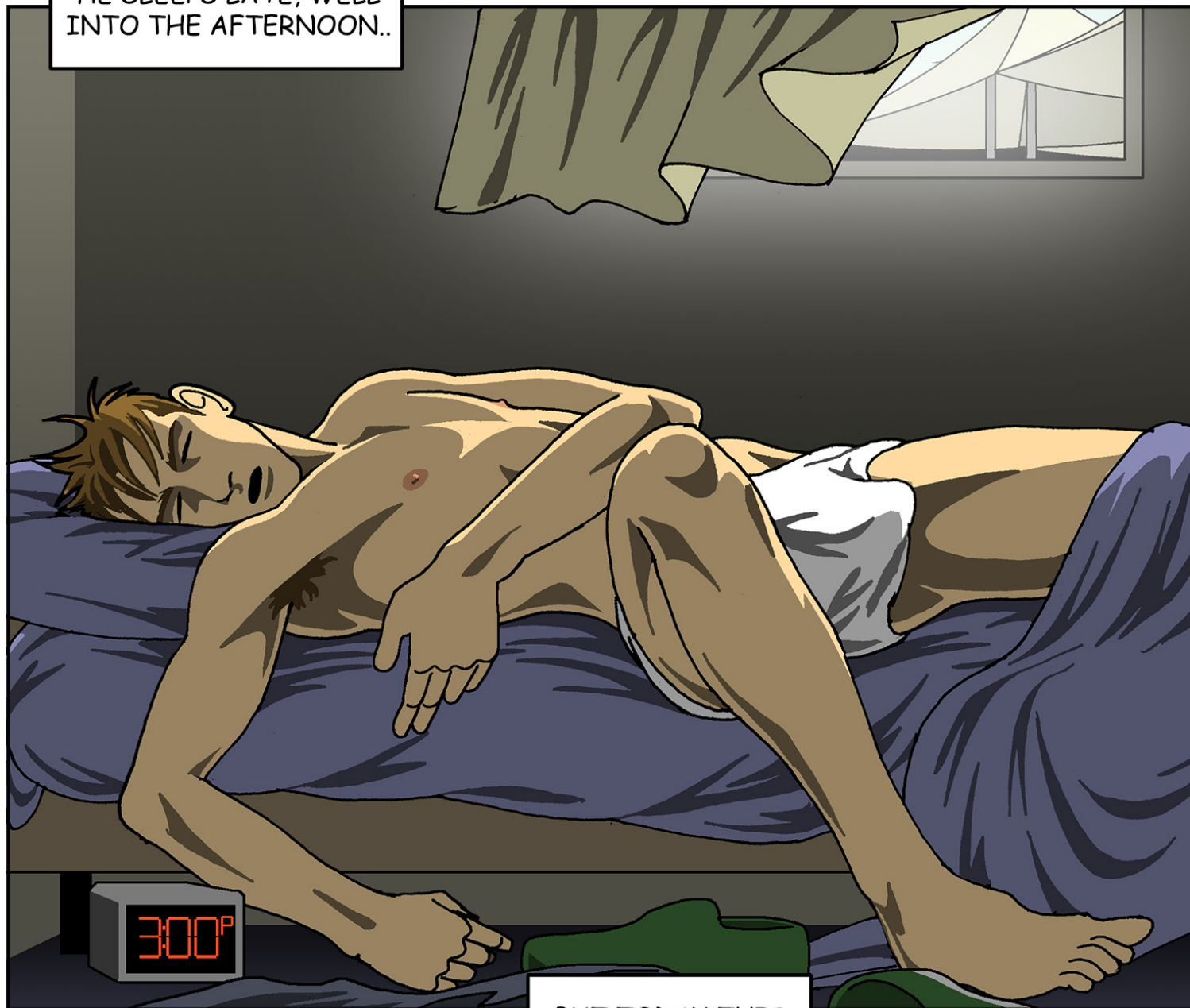
.. WHERE THROW-AWAY PEOPLE  
LIVE THROW-AWAY LIVES IN  
TRAILERS, SHACKS AND CARS.



HERE'S WHERE HIS  
EPIC STORY BEGINS.

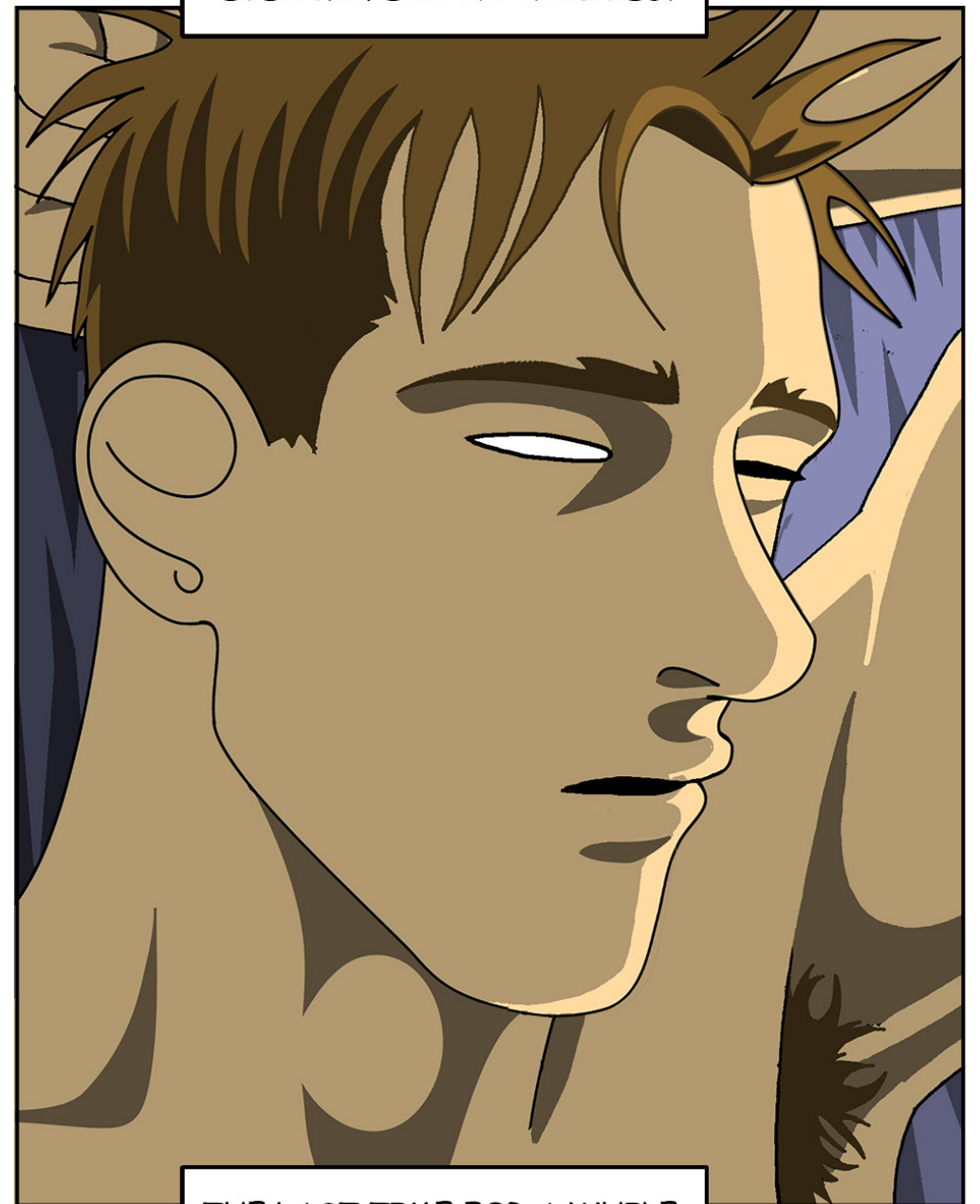


HE SLEEPS LATE, WELL  
INTO THE AFTERNOON..



BUT TODAY THIS  
WILL ALL CHANGE.

THIS IS THE LAST TIME HE'LL  
EVER WAKE UP IN THIS BED.



THE LAST TIME FOR A WHILE  
HE'LL BE IN ANY BED, PERIOD.



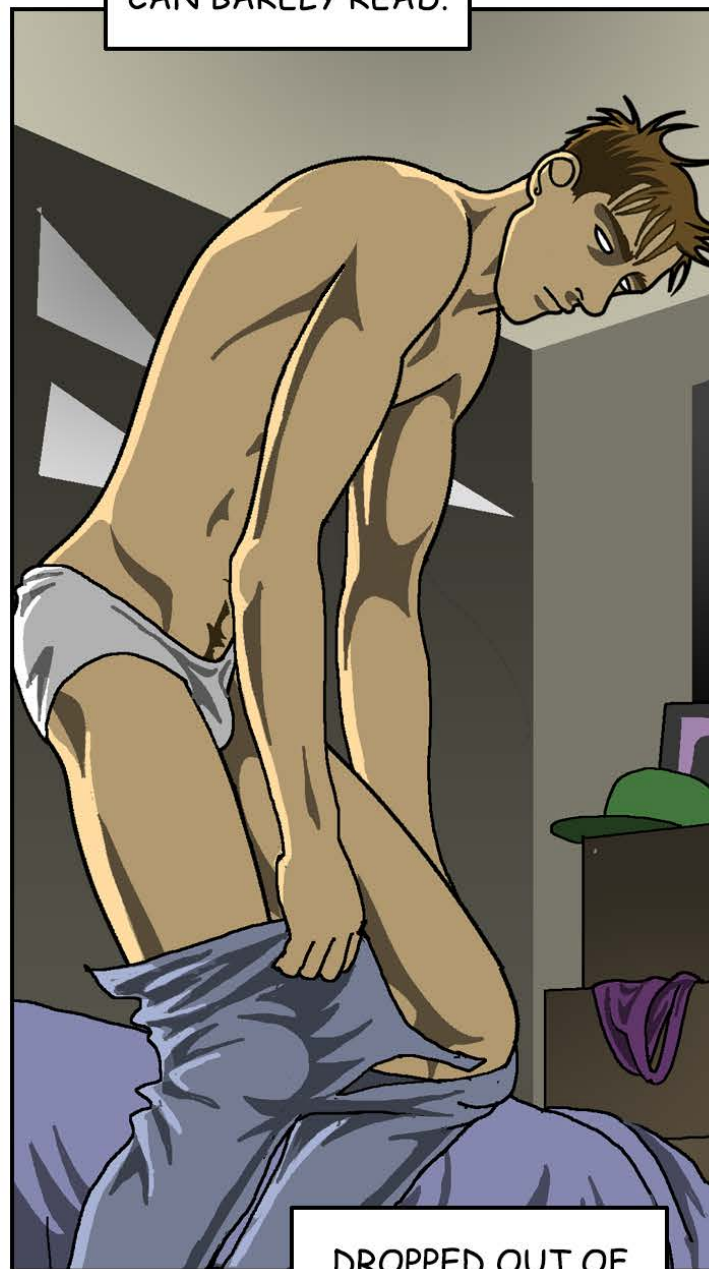
HE'S EIGHTEEN  
YEARS OF AGE.

YOU DON'T NEED TO  
KNOW HIS NAME.

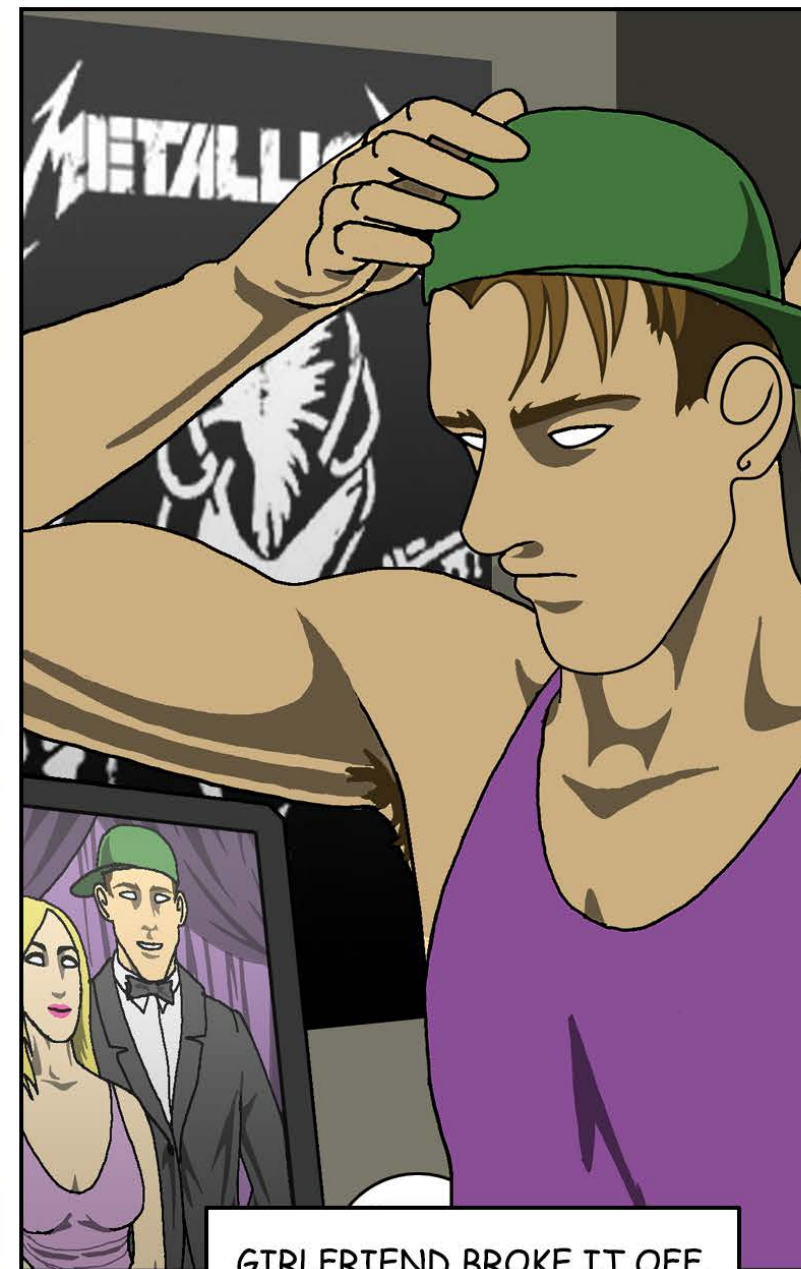


AFTER TODAY IT  
WON'T MATTER.

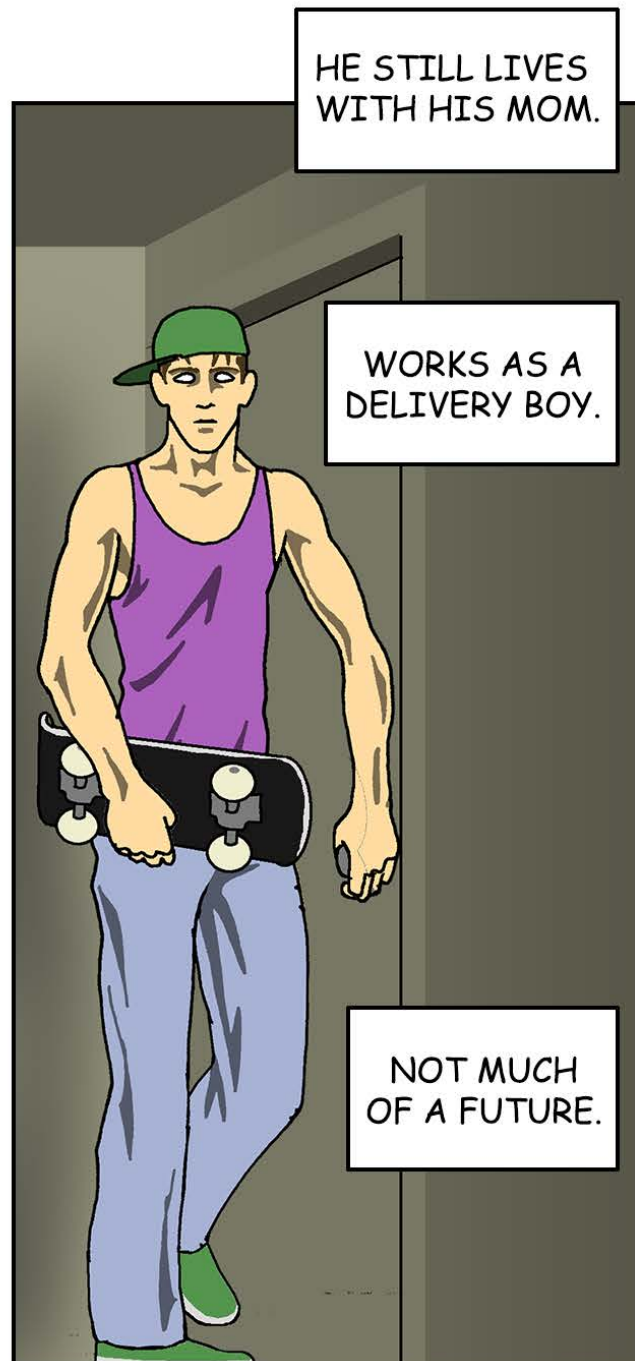
GOOD AT SPORTS,  
CAN BARELY READ.



DROPPED OUT OF  
HIGH SCHOOL AND  
NOBODY NOTICED.



GIRLFRIEND BROKE IT OFF,  
DIDN'T WANT TO BE WITH A  
PATHETIC LOSER LIKE HIM.



HE STILL LIVES  
WITH HIS MOM.

WORKS AS A  
DELIVERY BOY.

NOT MUCH  
OF A FUTURE.



HIS POPS WAS A  
MEAN DRUNK; RAN  
AWAY YEARS AGO.

MOM'S A OXY JUNKIE NOW,  
JUST SOBER ENOUGH TO  
CASH THE WELFARE CHECKS.



SHE'S SMACKED BY NOW, WHICH  
WILL MAKE THIS PRETTY EASY..







"IT'S BEEN JUST A WEEK SINCE THE NEW 'ZERO-TOLERANCE' POLICY TOOK EFFECT, BUT THE REGIME HAS BEGUN ENFORCING IT AT FULL STRENGTH!"



"UNDER THE TERMS OF THE POLICY, ANY MALE PERSON AGED 16 TO 50 IS UNDER MARTIAL LAW JURISDICTION. MANY HAVE BEEN ARRESTED."

## BREAKING NEWS 4:35 pm 84°F

### ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY TAKES EFFECT



- *Males of Military Age subject to:  
arrest without warrant  
enhanced interrogation  
military tribunal and sentencing*
- *Harsh sentences include:  
corporal and capital punishment  
penal servitude*
- *Curfew strictly enforced  
Violators will be apprehended*

...at two weeks ago, hundreds of men and boys have been arrested

"WE'VE ALSO HAD REPORTS OF BEATINGS AND LYNCHINGS BY EXUBERANT TROOPS-"

"SO ALL YOU GUYS OUT THERE, BE CAREFUL! STAY OUT OF TROUBLE!"



SHE'S NODDED OFF,  
SO SHE DOESN'T SAY,  
"GOODBYE, SWEETIE!"

"HAVE A GOOD DAY!"

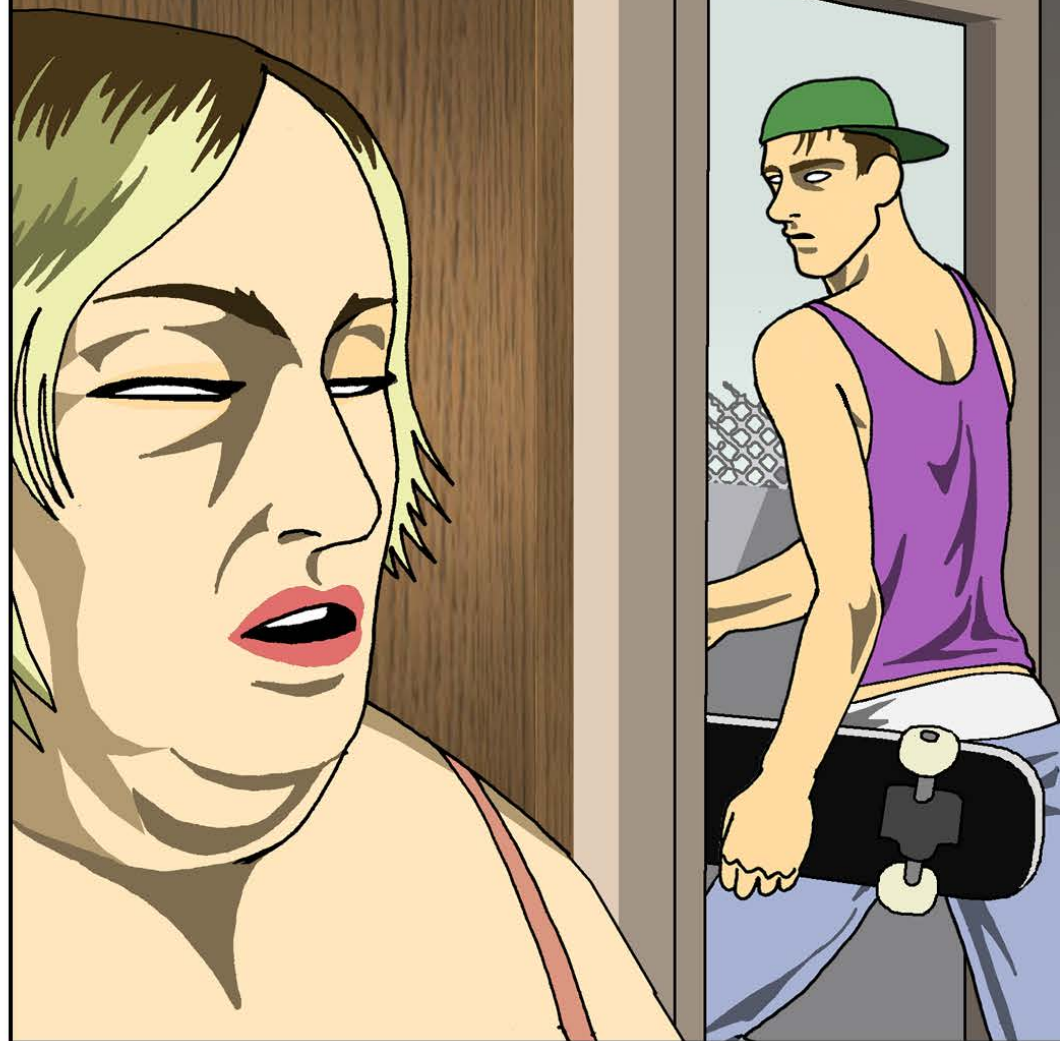
"BE CAREFUL."

HE DOESN'T VOTE. DOESN'T WATCH  
THE NEWS. DOESN'T KNOW HOW  
GOVERNMENT WORKS. HE DOESN'T  
PAY ATTENTION TO THAT STUFF.

IF HE DID, HE'D KNOW  
THAT A MILITARY COUP  
HAS OCCURED, AND THE  
NATIONAL GOVERNMENT  
IS NOW CONTROLLED BY  
A DICTATOR CALLED THE  
"MOST HIGH COMMANDER."

THE DICTATOR HAS PLEDGED  
TO ELIMINATE THOSE WHO  
MIGHT BE THREATS TO THE  
STABILITY OF HIS REGIME.

YOUNG, LOWER CLASS CIVILIAN  
MEN ARE CONSIDERED POTENTIAL  
ENEMY COMBATANTS; SUSPECTS.





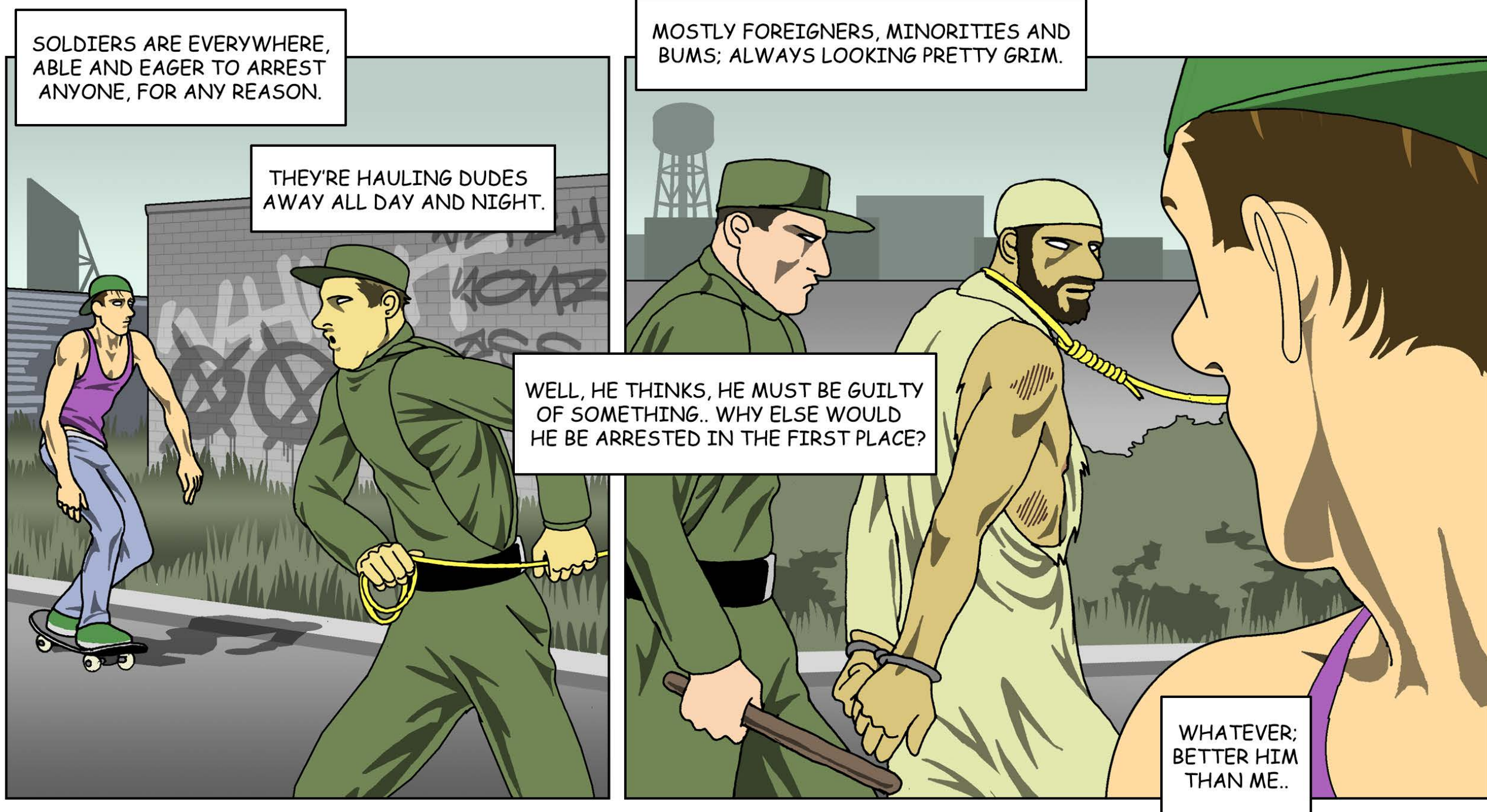
SOLDIERS ARE EVERYWHERE,  
ABLE AND EAGER TO ARREST  
ANYONE, FOR ANY REASON.

THEY'RE HAULING DUDES  
AWAY ALL DAY AND NIGHT.

WELL, HE THINKS, HE MUST BE GUILTY  
OF SOMETHING.. WHY ELSE WOULD  
HE BE ARRESTED IN THE FIRST PLACE?

MOSTLY FOREIGNERS, MINORITIES AND  
BUMS; ALWAYS LOOKING PRETTY GRIM.

WHATEVER;  
BETTER HIM  
THAN ME..





THE EASIEST THING IS  
NOT THINK OF IT AT ALL.

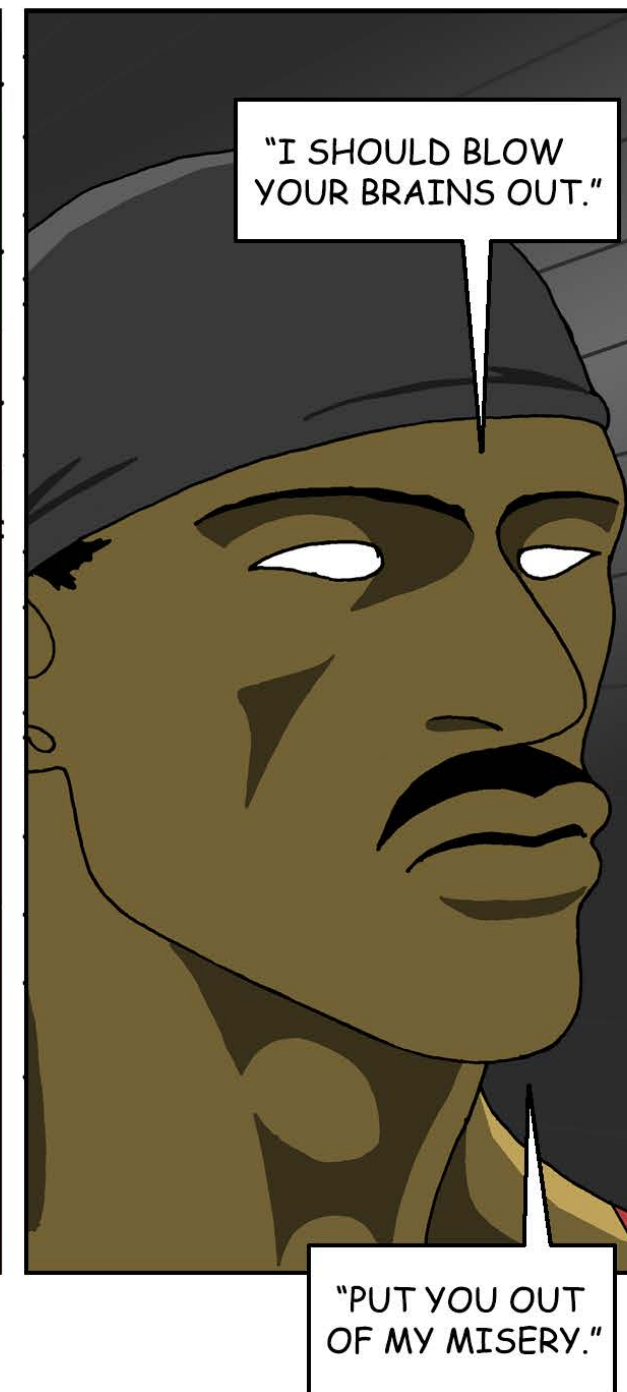


RIGHT NOW, HE HAS OTHER  
BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF.









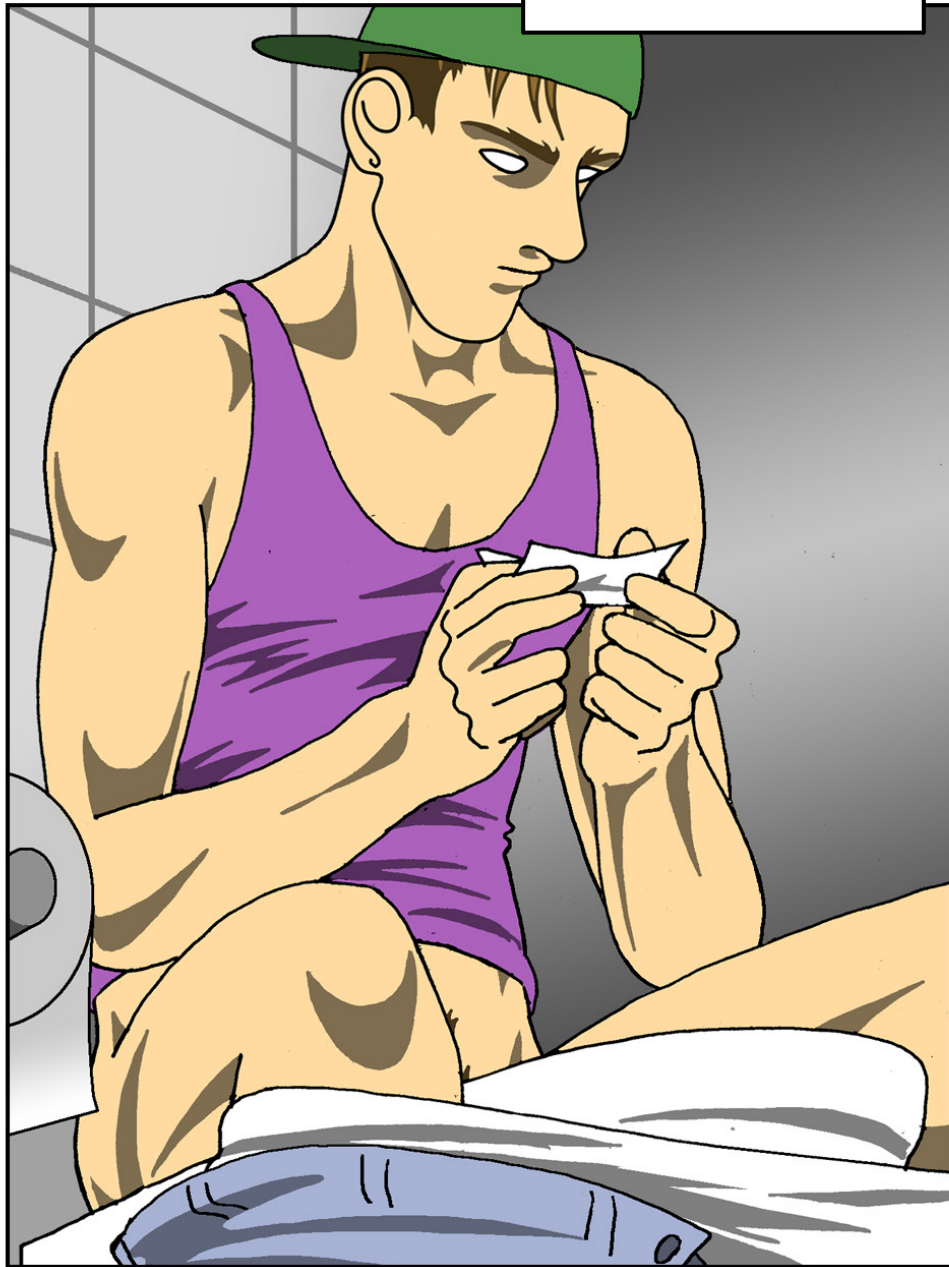


"FUCK OFF, ASSHOLE."





HE NEEDS A LITTLE  
ATTITUDE BOOSTER.







MILITARY TROOPS HAVE  
MADE CAMP IN PARKS AND  
FIELDS. THEY'RE OUT OF  
CONTROL. VIGILANTES.



HE REGRETS DECIDING TO  
WALK THROUGH THE PARK.  
IT WAS A SHORTER WAY.

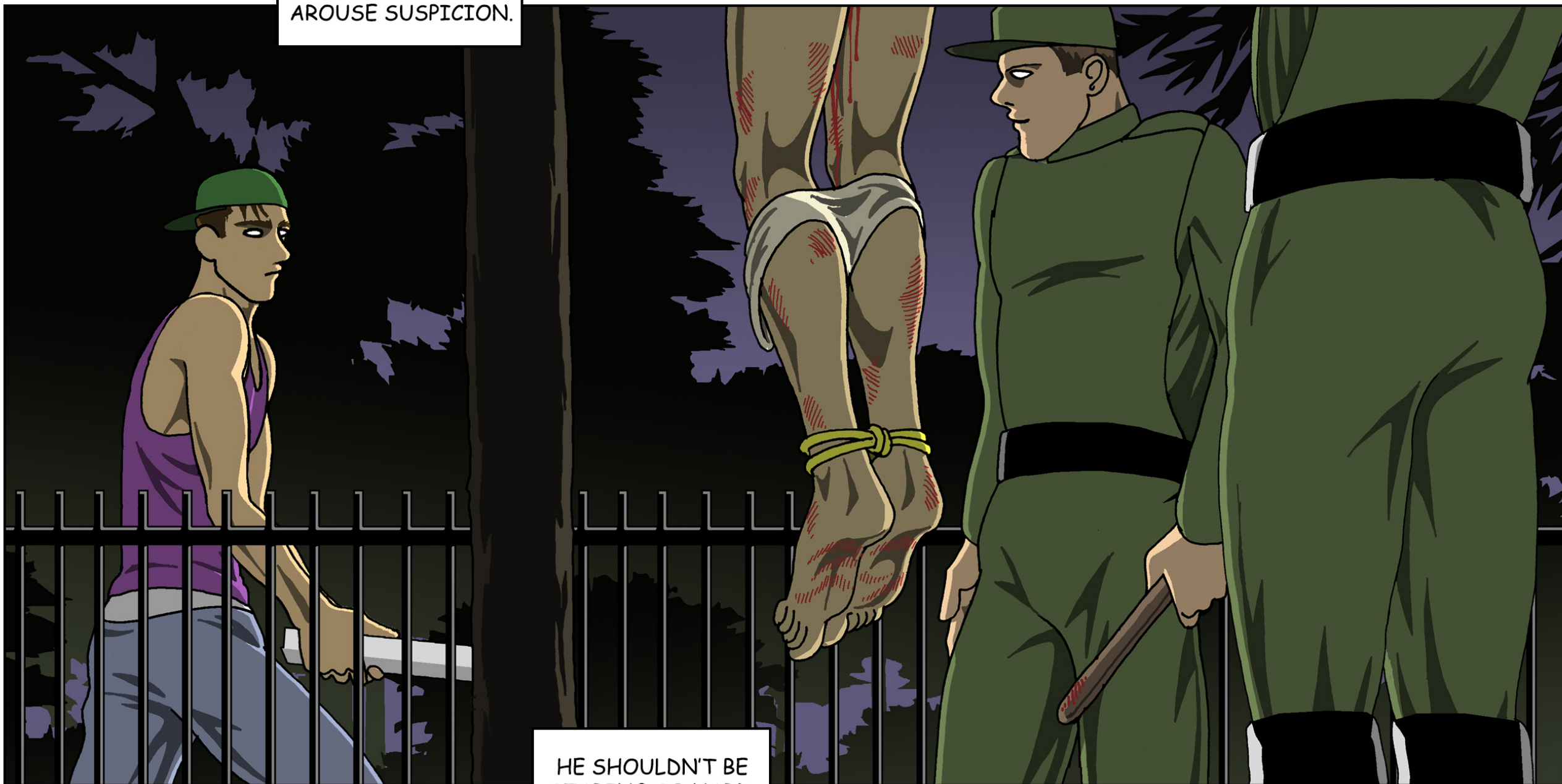
THE POT IS MAKING  
HIM FEEL PARANOID.



BUT TOO LATE NOW TO  
TURN AROUND WITHOUT  
APPEARING SUSPICIOUS.



YOU DON'T WANT TO  
AROUSE SUSPICION.



HE SHOULDN'T BE  
STARING SO HARD.

THIS IS THE PLACE.



HE HAS A WIERD FEELING,  
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.

"PIZZA?"

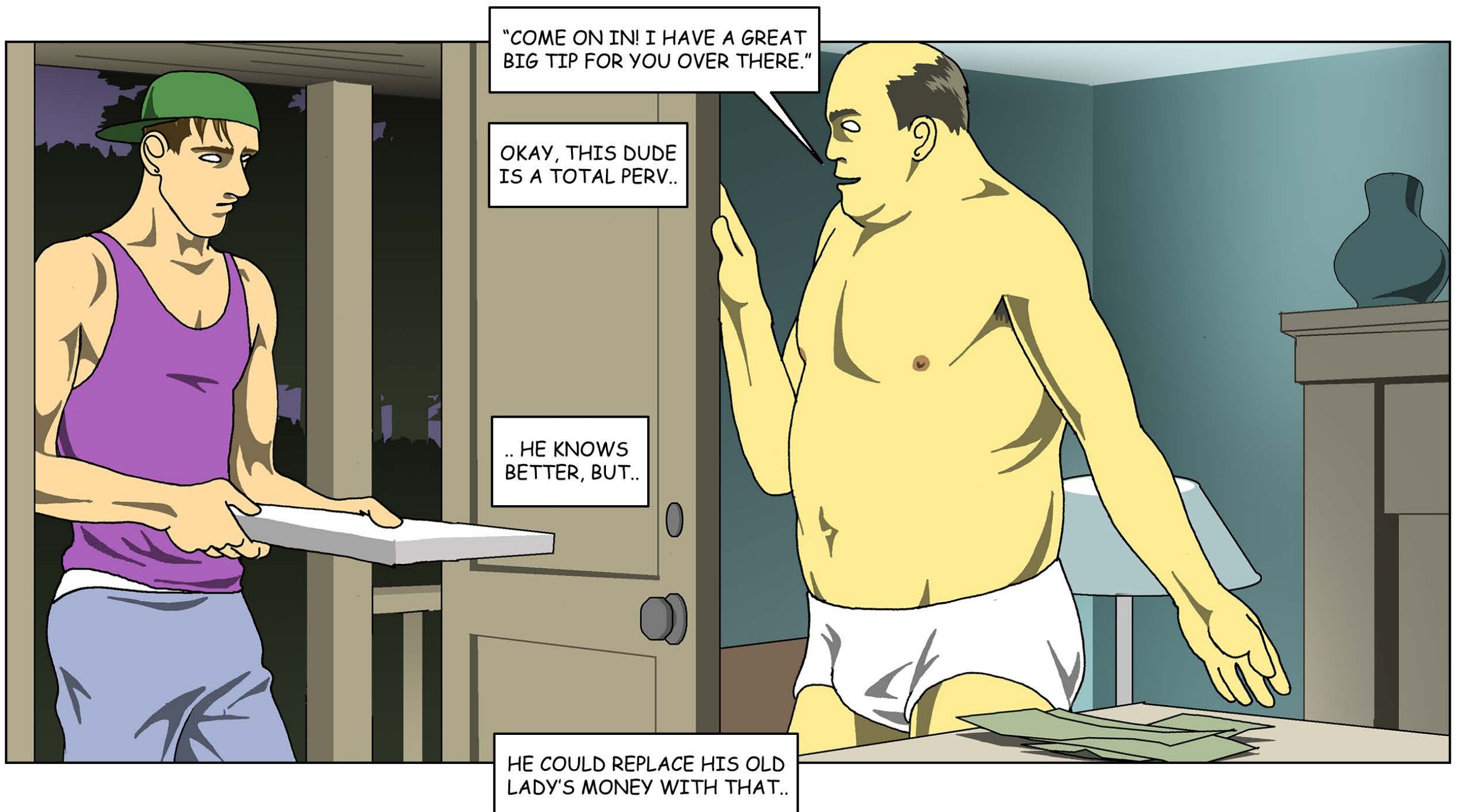


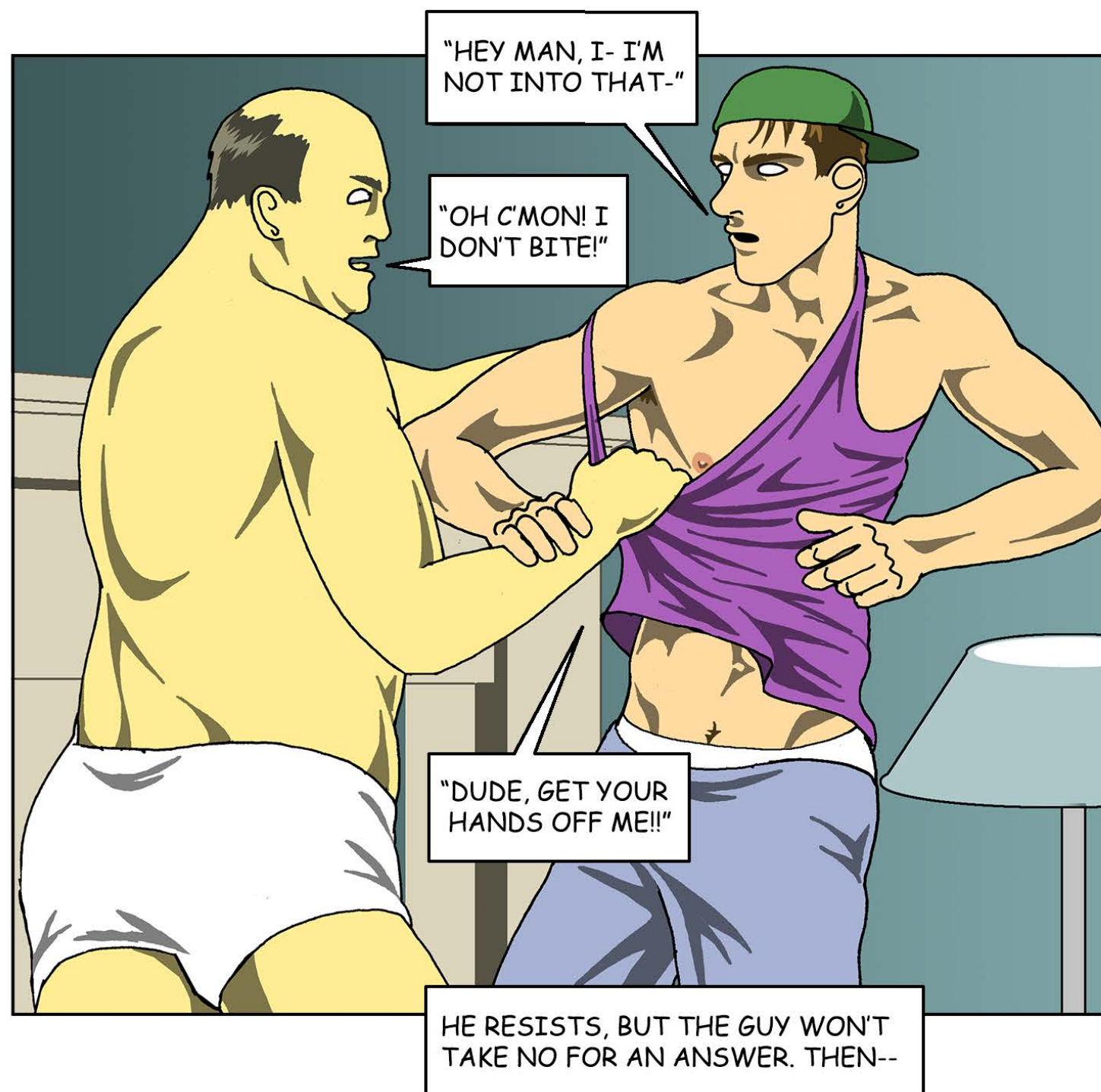
YOU FUCKING  
KIDDING ME?

"YOU'RE  
FINALLY  
HERE."





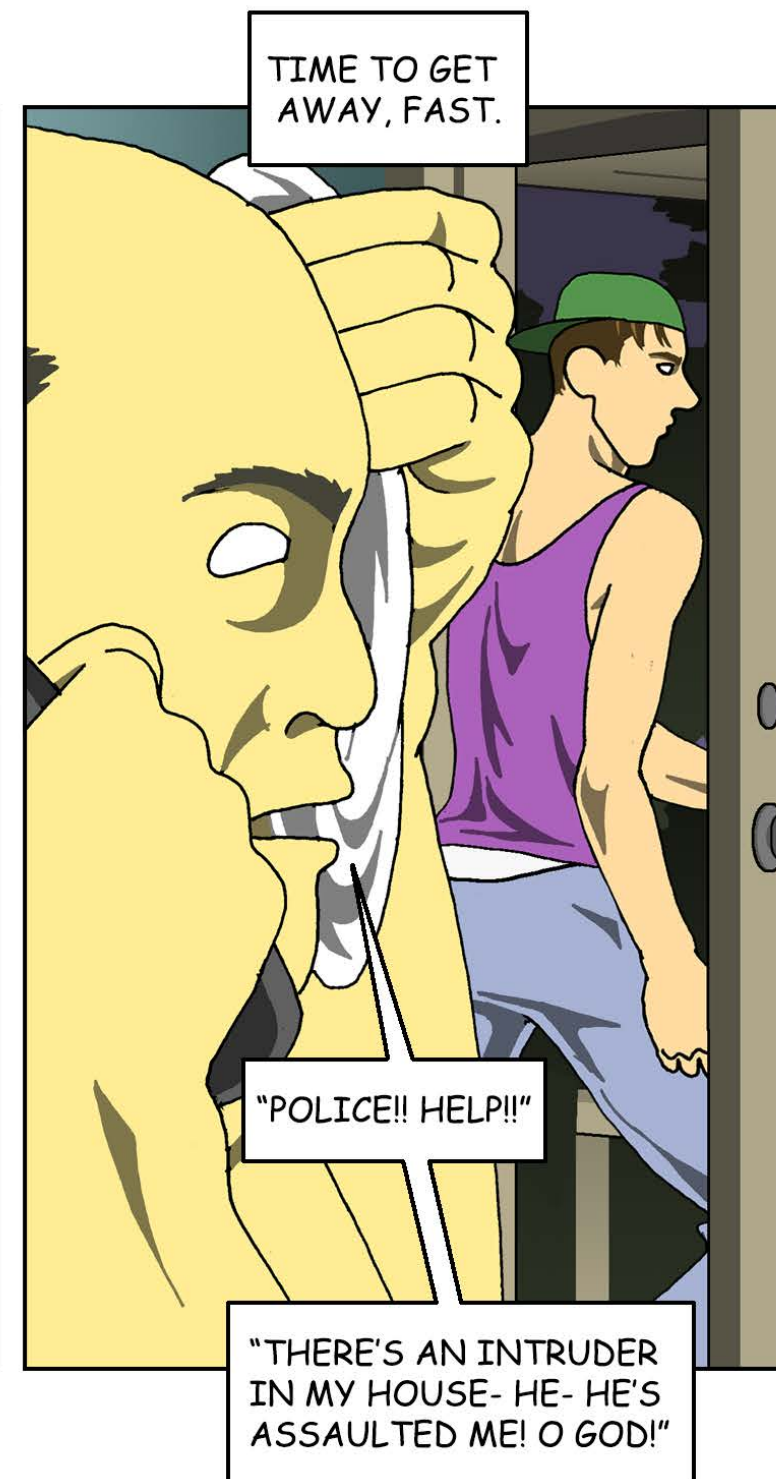








HE DOESN'T MEAN TO  
HIT HIM THAT HARD,  
BUT IT'S DONE NOW.



TIME TO GET  
AWAY, FAST.

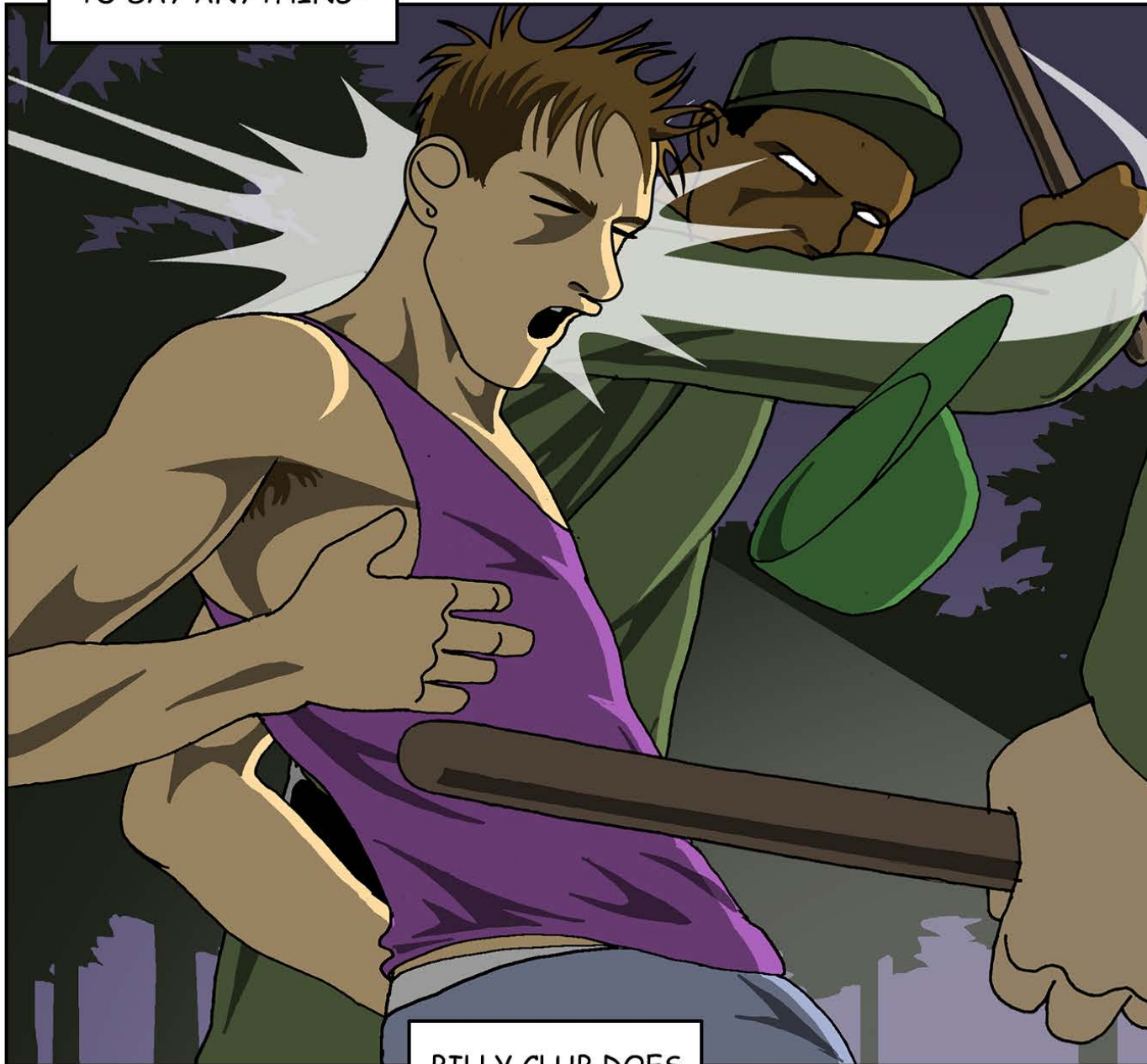
"POLICE!! HELP!!"

"THERE'S AN INTRUDER  
IN MY HOUSE- HE- HE'S  
ASSAULTED ME! O GOD!"





BUT HE DOESN'T GET  
TO SAY ANYTHING-



BILLY CLUB DOES  
ALL THE TALKING.

AND THAT'S IT.



HE'S IN CUSTODY.

HIS ADVENTURE BEGINS..

MARSHALL LAW MEANS THERE'S  
NO COURT TRIAL AND NO JUDGE.  
SOLDIERS DECIDE IT ALL NOW.



THE HIGH COMMANDER HAS  
ENCOURAGED MORE ARRESTS.  
MORE CONVICTED CRIMINALS  
MEANS HE'S REDUCING CRIME.

"INCOMING!! WHO FEELS  
LIKE CHICKEN TONIGHT?"



A MILITARY TRIBUNAL  
NEEDS ONLY THREE OR  
MORE SOLDIERS, ANY  
THAT MAY BE AROUND.

IT'S VERY RARE THAT  
A DEFENDENT IS SET  
FREE. ALMOST NEVER.



A FEW MINUTES LATER:

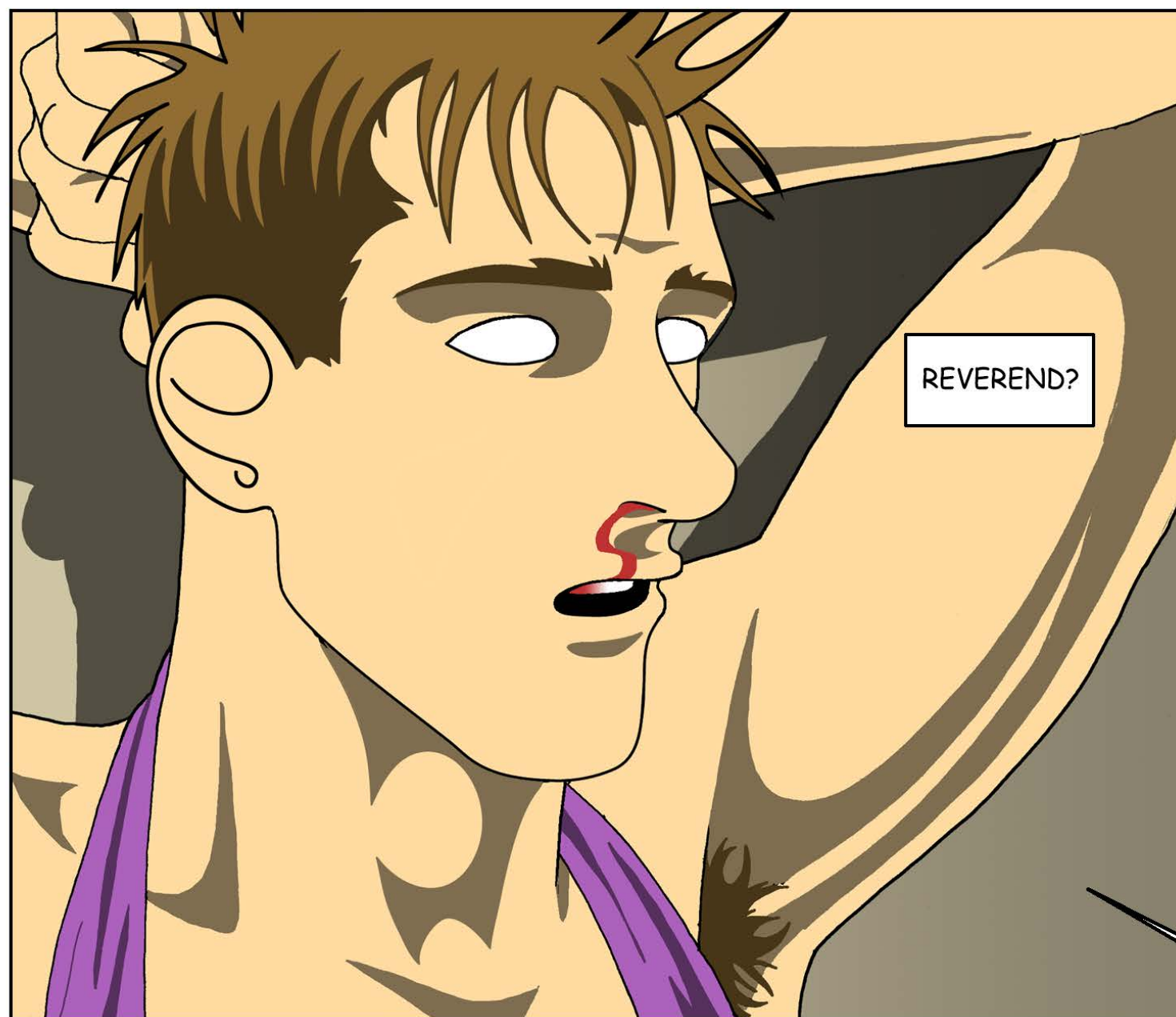


THE SPOTLIGHT BLINDS HIM  
BUT HE RECOGNIZES THE VOICE.

"THAT'S HIM, OFFICERS.  
THAT'S THE YOUNG MAN  
WHO ASSAULTED ME."

"I THANK GOD YOU  
BROUGHT HIM IN."

"TELL US EXACTLY WHAT  
HAPPENED, REVEREND."



REVEREND?

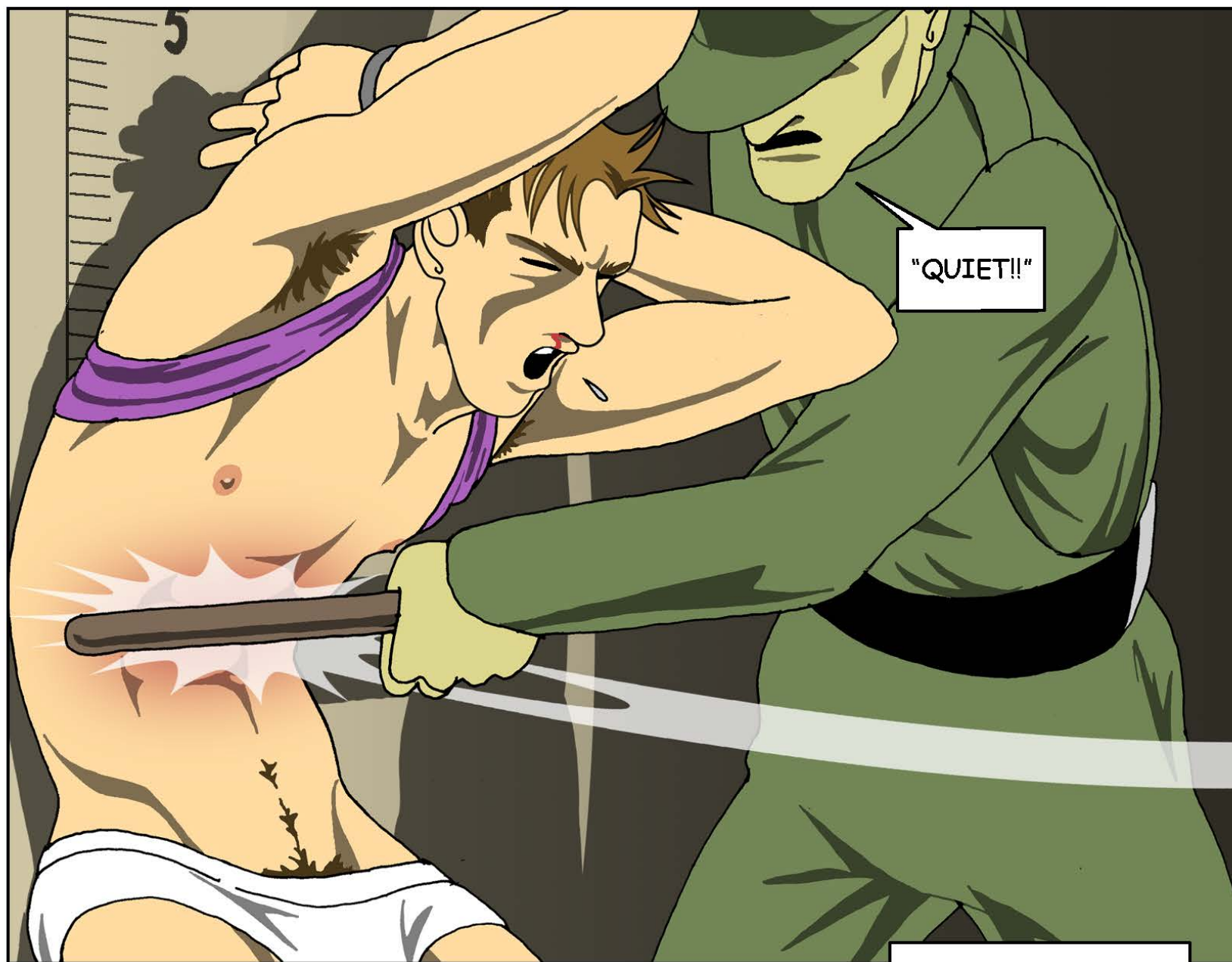


"HE KNOCKED ON THE DOOR  
ASKING FOR MONEY, AND I  
HONESTLY TRIED TO HELP-"

"BUT HE WANTED MORE. HE  
HIT ME ON THE HEAD AND  
TOOK EVERYTHING I HAD!"

"TH- THAT'S NOT TRUE! I-"





THE DEFENSE RESTS.

"WE FIND THE ACCUSED  
GUILTY OF ASSAULT AND  
ROBBERY! YOU ARE NOW  
A PRISONER, AND YOU  
WILL REMAIN SILENT!"



"I THINK SOME PRISON TIME  
WILL BE VERY GOOD FOR HIM."



TRIAL AND JURY COMPLETE:  
HE'S OFFICIALLY A CONVICT.  
THE SENTENCE? OPEN-ENDED.

HIS MIND IS  
RACING NOW.

HE COULD  
CALL SAL?

HE WOULDN'T COME.

HIS MOM WILL  
GET WORRIED.

SHE'LL COME  
PICK HIM UP.

YEAH, SURE  
SHE WILL.

HE MAY HAVE TO  
STAY THE NIGHT.

"ALLAHU AKBAR."

"SUBHANA  
RABBIYAL  
ADHEEM."

"WELL WELL. LOOK  
WHAT THE FUCKIN'  
CAT DRAGGED IN!"



OF ALL THE BAD LUCK: LOCKED  
UP ALL NIGHT WITH THIS ASS.

"WHAT, THEY CATCH YOU WORKING  
GLORY HOLES AT THE MEN'S ROOM?"



"THAT'S ALRIGHT, YOU  
CAN BLOW ME INSTEAD.  
WE'VE GOT ALL NIGHT."

"ANYWAY, THEY MAY CUT OUR  
RODS OFF IN THE MORNING."



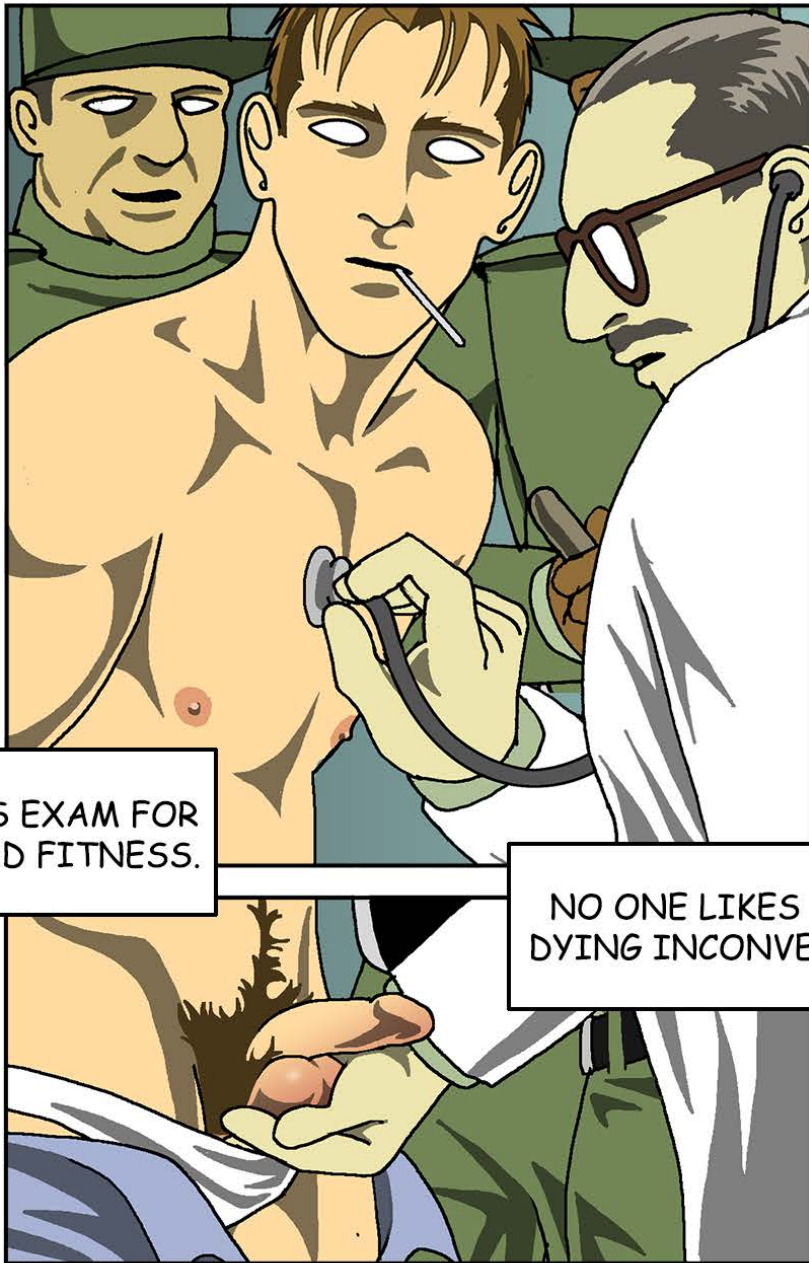




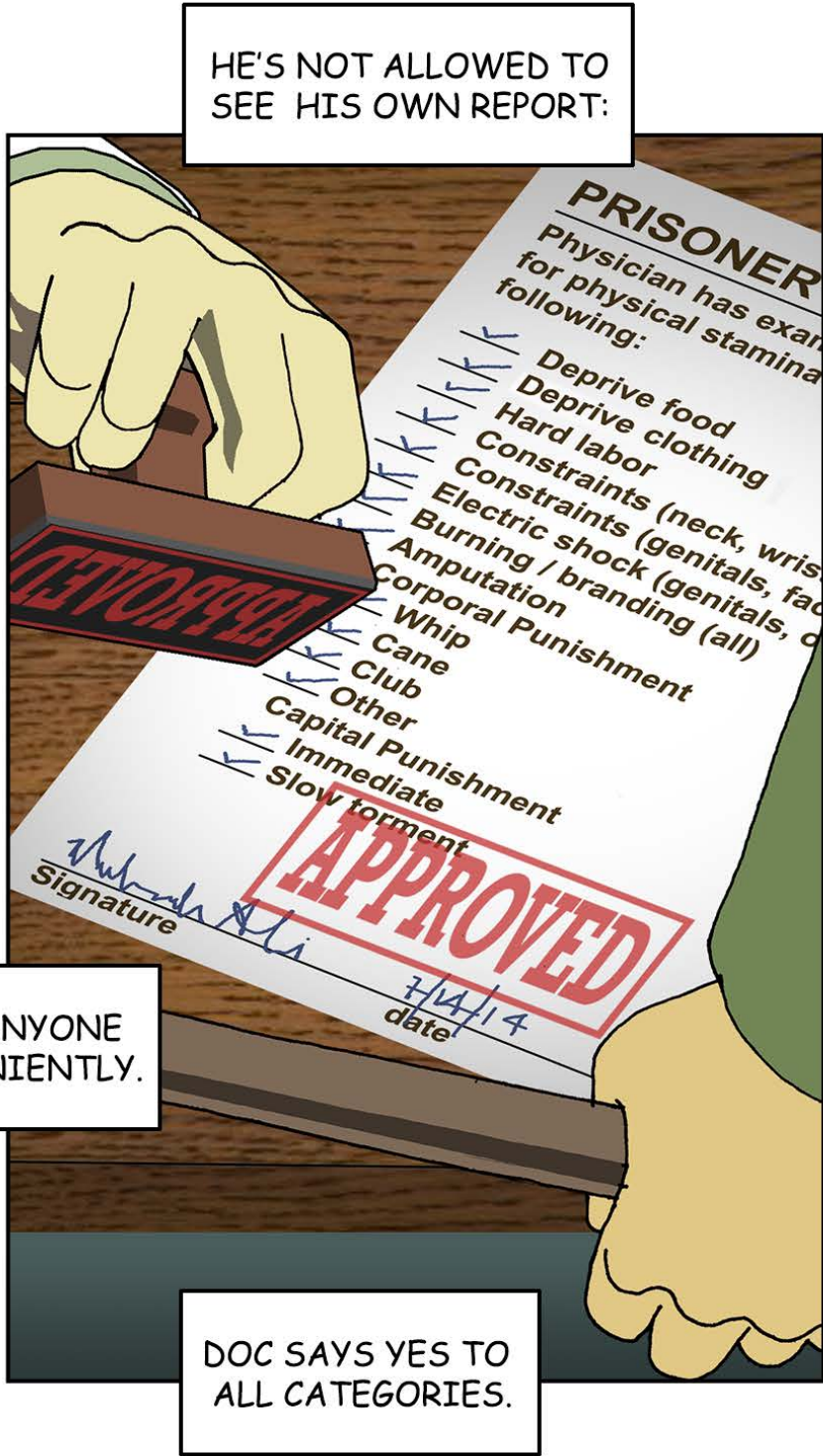




A DOCTOR'S EXAM FOR HEALTH AND FITNESS.



NO ONE LIKES ANYONE DYING INCONVENIENTLY.





NOW HE CAN HEAR THE CROWD,  
LOUD, LIKE AT A BOXING MATCH.



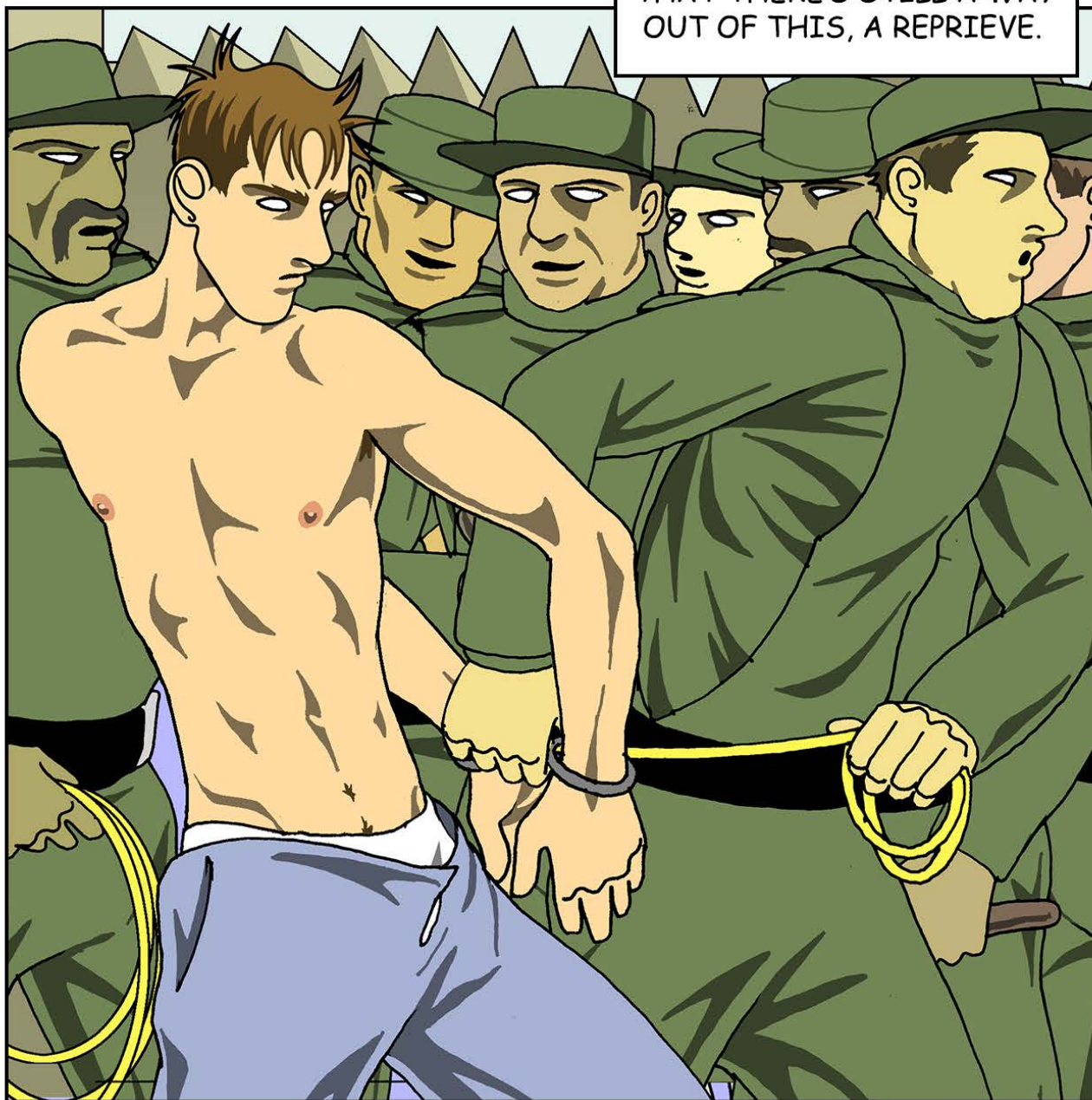
THEN HE SEES IT--



--HE SUDDENLY GETS IT.



IN A PANIC, HE'S THINKING  
THAT THERE'S STILL A WAY  
OUT OF THIS, A REPRIEVE.



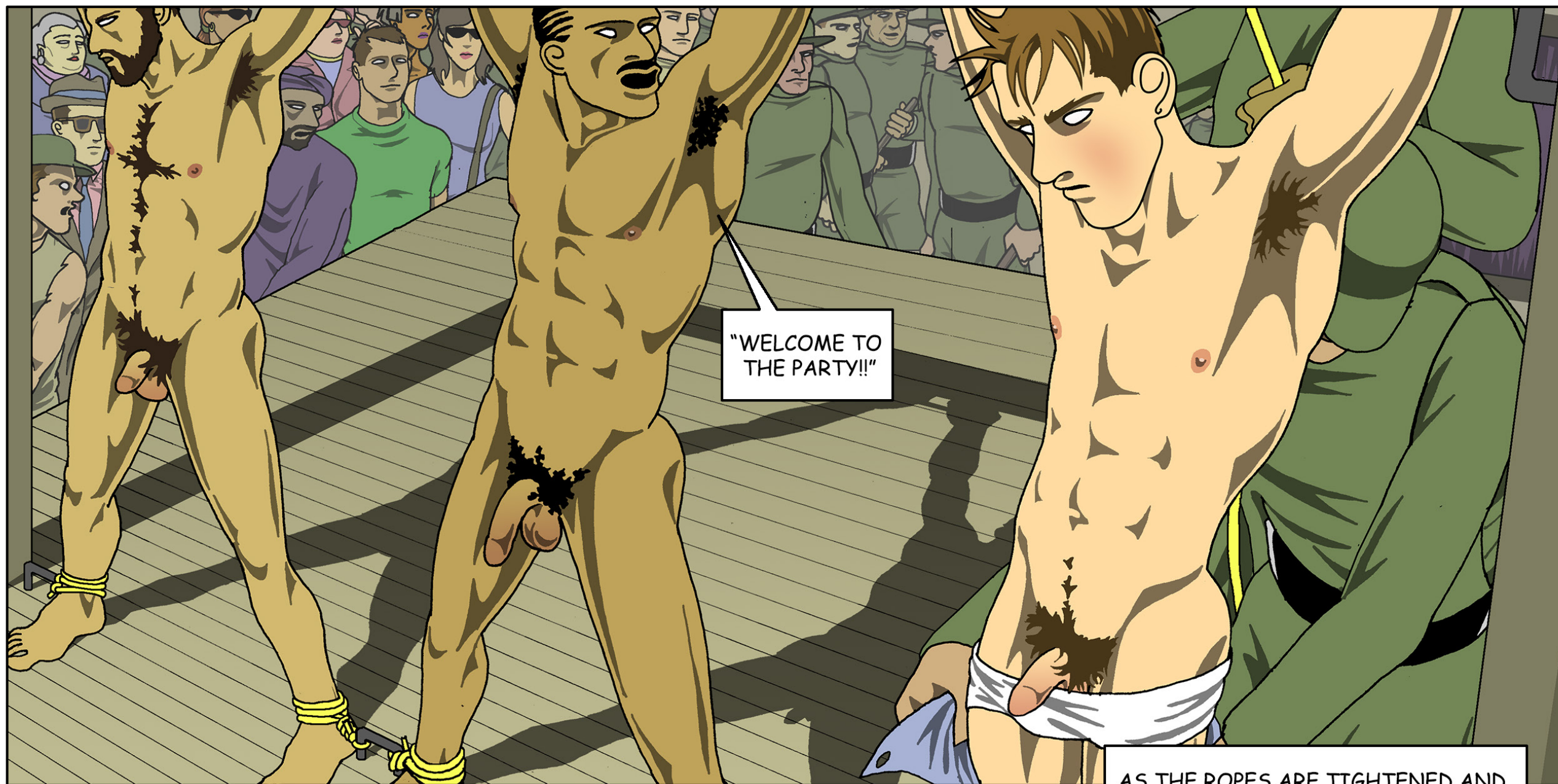
BUT THERE WILL BE NO APOLOGY,  
NO PARDON, AND NO WAY OUT.



HE TAKES A DEEP BREATH.

THE MOST HE CAN DO, FROM  
HERE ON IN, IS TO TRY TO  
KEEP FROM FALLING APART.





"WELCOME TO  
THE PARTY!!"

AS THE ROPES ARE TIGHTENED AND  
ALL OF HIS CLOTHES ARE STRIPPED  
AWAY, A HARSH REALITY IS CLEAR:



LIFE AS HE KNEW IT IS OVER;  
THAT TEENAGE LOSER IS GONE.



TO THIS MOB,  
HE'S FAMOUS.

HE'S NAKED DUDE NUMBER THREE,  
READY OR NOT FOR WHAT'S NEXT.





**MISADVENTURE**

CONTINUES in CHAPTER 2