

VERTIGO  
DC COMICS

WARREN ELLIS • DARICK ROBERTSON • RODNEY RAMOS

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# TRANSMETROPOLITAN™

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WARREN ELLIS writes and DARICK ROBERTSON pencils

# MONSTERING!

RODNEY RAMOS - inker CLEM ROBINS - letterer NATHAN EYRING - color and separations

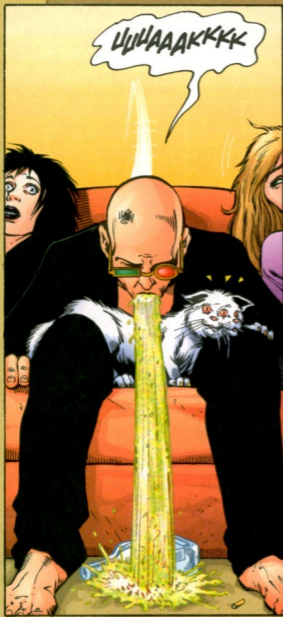
JIM LEE, cover artist CLIFF CHIANG - art editor STUART MOORE - editor TRANSMETROPOLITAN created by WARREN ELLIS and DARICK ROBERTSON

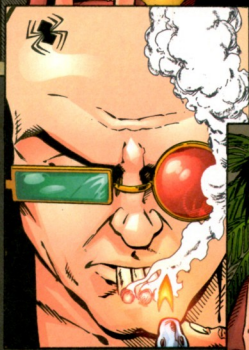
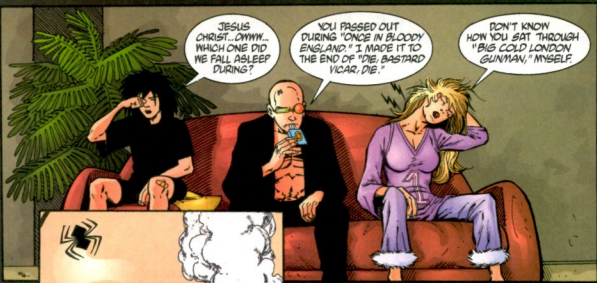


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PURITAN NEWS DATA FILTERING PRESENTS: SPIDER'S PERSONAL HOTMENU! ABUSE! VIOLENCE! LIES! THEFT! PEOPLE HAVING SEX!

PURITAN NEWS DATA FILTERING

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WELCOME AND GOOD DAY SPIDER JERUSALEM! SENATOR SWEENEY SCANDAL PURITAN NEWS search access

THIS MORNING: ESKIMO WINTER IMMIGRANT DIES IN POLICE CUSTODY; DERANGED ARTIFICIAL PENISES LOOSE IN WATER SUPPLY; CITY SENATOR IN CASH/POD/ CORRUPTION STORM--



# TARLETON SWEENEY

All about  
**TARLETON SWEENEY**  
Hosted by Clint Bell  
An In-Depth Interview  
with Full Biography

SENATOR  
TARLETON SWEENEY,  
WHO HAS PROVIDED  
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE  
TO THE STREETS OF  
VICARAGE HILL FOR  
FIFTEEN YEARS--

MY  
ENTIRE  
ASS.

--LABORS UNDER  
ACCUSATIONS OF COVERT  
PORNO FILM FUNDING, CASH-  
FOR-FILIBUSTER AND OTHER  
UNDECLARED EARNINGS  
AND GIFTS THIS  
MORNING--

Man for Spider  
POLITICAL SCANDALS  
POLITICAL CORRUPTION  
GOSSIP & INNUEENDO

WHERE ARE  
MY FILTHY  
ASSISTANTS?

MOVE YOURSELVES! WE'RE  
GOING MONSTERING!

WHAT IS IT?

YET.

PLAYING  
WITH SHOWER  
ATTACHMENTS.

TAKING  
A DUMP THE  
SIZE OF A  
BIRTHDAY  
CAKE.

HUH?

MONSTERING.  
FINE OLD JOURNAL-  
ISTIC ART, LIKE  
KUNG FU.

IT'S THE ART OF  
ABUSING PEOPLE. OF  
AMBUSHING THEM WITH  
QUESTIONS, FOLLOWING  
THEM WITH QUESTIONS,  
HOUNDING THEM WITH  
QUESTIONS, DRIVING  
THEM TO THEIR  
FLUCKING GRAVES  
WITH QUESTIONS.

IT'S SORT OF LIKE  
BEING A PHOTOGRAPHER,  
EXCEPT WE'VE NEVER YET  
KILLED ANY ROYALTY  
DOING IT.



GOOD  
THINGS COME  
TO THOSE WHO  
WAIT.



GOOD MORNING, GOOD MORNING...

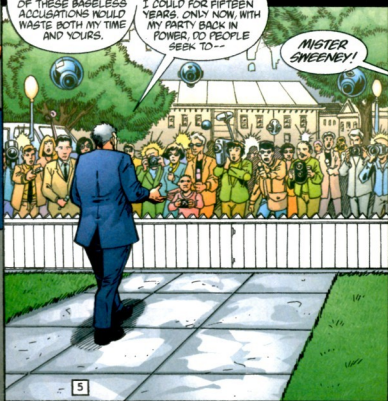
I HAVE A PREPARED STATEMENT ON THESE ALLEGATIONS IF YOU'D KINDLY AND QUIETLY LEND ME YOUR EAR...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE PRESS: TO ADDRESS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THESE BASELESS ACCUSATIONS WOULD WASTE BOTH MY TIME AND YOURS.

I HAVE SERVED MY PEOPLE IN CONGRESS AS WELL AS I COULD FOR FIFTEEN YEARS. ONLY NOW, WITH MY PARTY BACK IN POWER, DO PEOPLE SEEK TO--

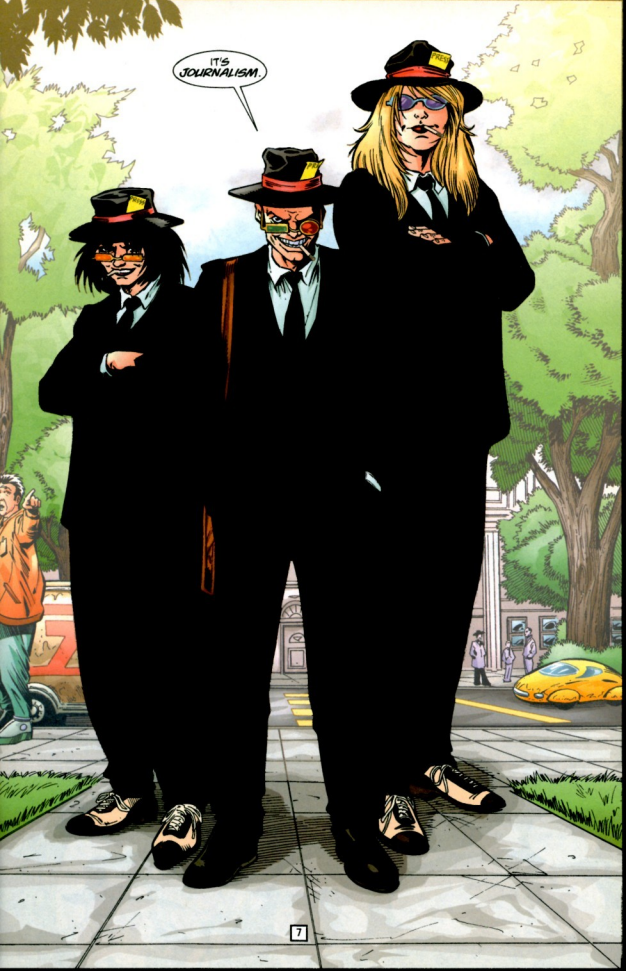
MISTER SWEENEY!

ANY RESPONSES FROM THE PRESS SHOULD IDEALLY GO TO MY OFFICE, OR MY SECRETARY SYSTEM AT AMFIBED SENATOR TARLETON SWEENEY...



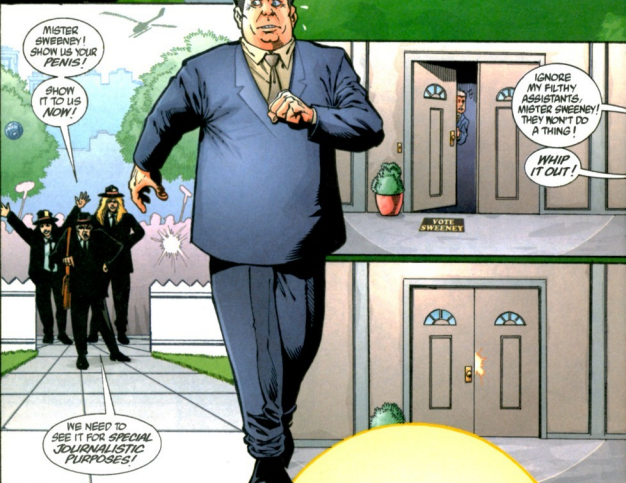


IT'S  
JOURNALISM.





**MISTER SWEENEY!**



MISTER SWEENEY!  
SHOW US YOUR  
PENIS!

SHOW  
IT TO US  
NOW!

IGNORE  
MY FILTHY  
ASSISTANTS,  
MISTER SWEENEY!  
THEY WON'T DO  
A THING!

WHIP  
IT OUT!

WE NEED TO  
SEE IT FOR SPECIAL  
JOURNALISTIC  
PURPOSES!

YOU  
FRIGHTENED  
HIM OFF!

HAHAHAHAHA

THORRY.

YOU DIDN'T  
HAVE TO DO THAT GNASHING  
CHEWING MIME WITH THOSE GODDAMN  
THINGS. HIS DICK'S PROBABLY RETRACTED  
UP INTO HIS STOMACH NOW. WE'LL  
NEVER GET AT IT.



# Sweeney Performs in Porn Film *maybe*

JERUSALEM



IT BEGINS.

WHAT NEXT?

OH, WE HAVE TO CRANK THIS UP TO WAGNERIAN PROPORTIONS, CHANNON.

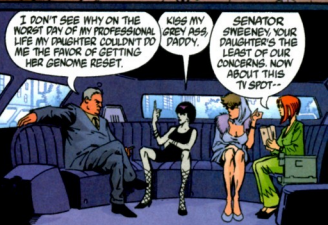
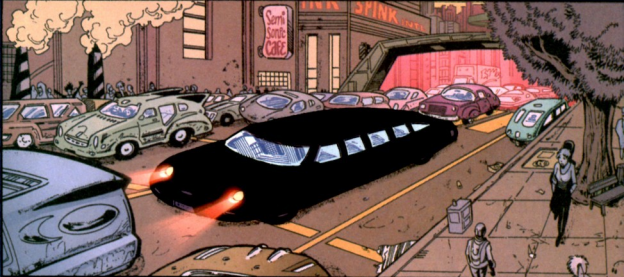
THIS ENTIRE CITY IS BUYING FOR HIS PRICK, FOR GOD'S SAKE! HOW MUCH MORSE CAN WE MAKE IT?



OKAY, FORGET I SAID ANYTHING. STUPID QUESTION.

WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP IN DESTROYING THE POOR FUCKER'S LIFE?





I DON'T SEE WHY ON THE WORST DAY OF MY PROFESSIONAL LIFE MY DAUGHTER COULDN'T DO ME THE FAVOR OF GETTING HER GENOME RESET.

KISS MY GREY ASS, DADDY.

SENATOR SWEENEY, YOUR DAUGHTER'S THE LEAST OF OUR CONCERNS. NOW ABOUT THIS TV SPOT--



IT'S NOT THE LEAST OF MY CONCERNS. I'M TOLD TO GO ON TV WITH MY FAMILY TO PLEAD INNOCENCE AND MY DAUGHTER TELLS ME SHE GREW A BACKUP VAGINAL ORIFICE THIS MORNING--

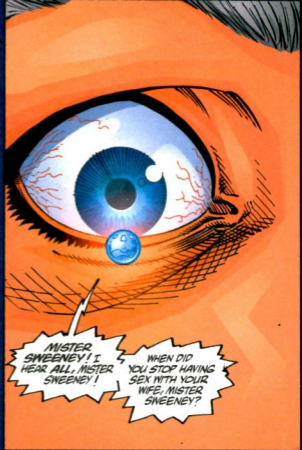
WANNA SEE IT, DADDY? WANNA FILM IT FOR YOUR SICKO PALS?

NOT THAT HE KNOWS WHAT A VAGINAL ORIFICE LOOKS LIKE ANYMORE.

FOR GOD'S SAKE, DEBORAH--



--WHAT'S THAT?



MISTER SWEENEY! I HEAR ALL, MISTER SWEENEY!

WHEN DID YOU STOP HAVING SEX WITH YOUR WIFE, MISTER SWEENEY?



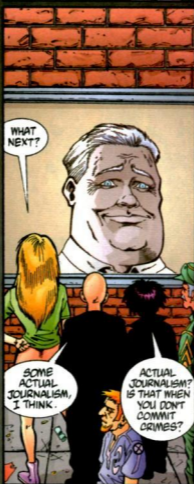
NOOOOOOOO



MISTER SWEENEY! TELL ME OF YOUR WIFE'S VAGINAL ORIFICE, MISTER SWEENEY!

SWEENEY'S KID'S A TRANSIENT PESTERED BY DADDY FOR HOME VIDEOS, THAT'S RIGHT... AND WIFE'S GAGGING FOR IT BUT SWEENEY WON'T PLAY... THAT'S RIGHT, ANONYMOUS TIP...

# THE RECORD with ROBERT McX





MISTER SWEENEY!

YOU CAN'T JUST SHIT ALL OVER THE PRESS, MISTER SWEENEY! WE HAVE QUESTIONS!

WHY DID YOU HOLD UP DEBATE ON THE INTELLIGENT SEXUAL CULTURE SCHEME IN THE SENATE WHEN YOU WERE MAKING PORNO?

MISTER SWEENEY!

FROM UGLY LIFE RETAIL: THE HOLOGRAPHIC USER INTERFACE HEAD BUG™ FACE FIRST FOR FINE JOURNALISTS!



OKAY, OKAY... WE'LL DO SOME ACTUAL JOURNALISM LATER.

WAITER! I'LL HAVE ANOTHER BOTTLE OF CHILEAN MERLOT, THE RASPBERRY PAYLOVA, TEN MINUTES OF ORAL SEX AND AN AMBULANCE, PLEASE.



I'M TRYING TO WORK OUT-- :LURP:--

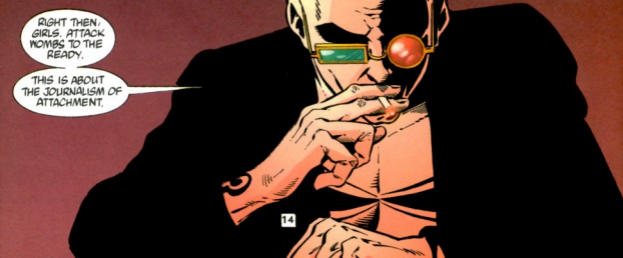
DON'T BELCH ON THE FUCKING CIGARETTES, YELENA...

SHUT IT. I'M TRYING TO WORK OUT WHAT GOOD WE'RE DOING.



OKAY, SWEENEYS OBVIOUSLY SOME KIND OF HIRED PRICK. BUT READING HIS CONVERSATIONS OFF WINDOGLASS, SHOUTING QUESTIONS FROM INSIDE HIS TOILET--

--WHAT ARE WE ACHIEVING HERE?



RIGHT THEN, GIRLS. ATTACK NOMBS TO THE READY.

THIS IS ABOUT THE JOURNALISM OF ATTACHMENT.

MONSTERING IS, ULTIMATELY, ABOUT GIVING A SHIT.

IT'S ABOUT GIVING SOMETHING BACK TO THESE BASTARDS, THESE PEOPLE WHOM WE SOMEHOW LET RUN OUR GODDAMN LIVES FOR US.

GIVING THEM A TASTE OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE US.

EVERY LAW THAT CURBS MY BASIC HUMAN FREEDOMS; EVERY LIE ABOUT THE THINGS I CARE FOR; EVERY CRIME COMMITTED AGAINST ME BY THEIR POLITICS--

THAT'S WHAT MAKES ME GET UP AND HOUND THESE FUCKERS, AND I'LL DO THAT UNTIL THE DAY I DIE, OR UNTIL MY BRAIN DRIES UP OR SOMETHING.



THAT'S WHAT WE ACHIEVE. WE SHOW THEM THEY'RE ACCOUNTABLE.

WE SHOW THEM THAT JUST AS THEY TRY TO HERD US BACK INTO CAGES OF QUIET MEDIOCRITY, WE CAN CHASE THEM BACK TO FUCKING HELL WITH THE TRUTH.

IT'S THE JOURNALISM OF ATTACHMENT. IT'S CARING ABOUT THE WORLD YOU REPORT ON.

SOME PEOPLE SAY THAT'S BAD JOURNALISM, THAT THERE SHOULD BE A DETACHED, COLD, UNBIASED VIEW OF THE WORLD IN OUR NEWS MEDIA.

AND IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT, THERE ARE SECURITY CAMERAS EVERYWHERE THAT YOU COULD WATCH TAPES OF.

I WANT TO SEE HUMANS TALKING ABOUT HUMAN LIFE, PERSONALLY.

I WANT TO SEE PEOPLE LIKE ME, RISING UP WITH HATE, LAYING ABOUT THEM WITH FIERY EYES AND STEAMING GENITALIA--

I WANT TO SEE PEOPLE WHO GIVE A SHIT ABOUT THE WORLD. I WANT...

I WANT TO SEE POSSESSED JOURNALISTS! YES!

POSSESSED BY ANCIENT VOLCANO GODS FROM THE POLYNESIAN ISLANDS, HAVING VAST BREASTS AND IMPROBABLE PENISES AT THE SECRET CHIEFS OF THE WORLD--

CALM DOWN NOW, COME ON--

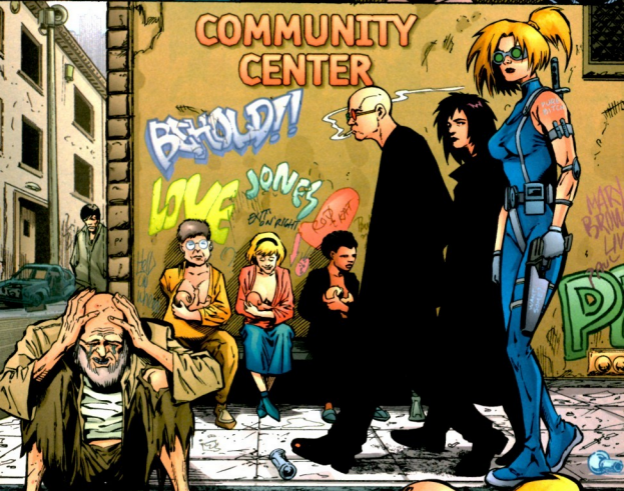
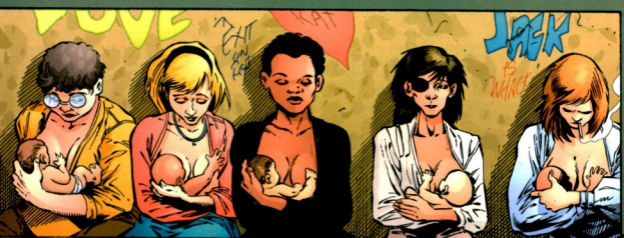
EASY, SPIDER, EASY--YOU'RE GONNA BURST A VEIN--

--NAKED GLOWING GOD-JOURNALISTS BROWN-TROUSERING THE NAUGHTY TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY, A NEW PLANET EARTH--

WAITER!

FRESH UNDERWEAR, SEVEN BLANKETS, AND A BUCKET OF MOIST TOWELETTES!





YOU BRING US TO THE NICEST PLACES.

I DON'T BRING YOU ANYWHERE IF I CAN HELP IT. YOU TWO NEVER BEHAVE YOURSELVES IN PUBLIC.

WE DON'T?



SHUT UP.

WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE?

WHAT EVERYONE ELSE SHOULD'VE DONE.

THE SCENE OF THE CRIME.



THIS IS WHERE SWEENEY'S PORNO FILMS WERE SUPPOSEDLY MADE.

HOW DO YOU KNOW?

HAD SOME OLD CONTACTS IN THE SEX BUSINESS. THEY TELL ME SWEENEY HAD MORE THAN ONE FILM MADE HERE.



YOU FUCKING BASTARD, JERUSALEM.



YOU BRING THESE TWO GORGEOUS BITS OF STUFF HERE AND EXPECT ME TO TALK BUSINESS?

FUCKING GORGEOUS.

HOW MUCH TO GET 'EM TO PLAY TOGETHER WHILE WE JERK OFF OVER 'EM, eh? eh?



FILTHY ASSISTANTS, MEET MR. GRISHAM.

GRISHAM HAS BEEN THE CITY'S CHIEF PORNOGRAPHER FOR SOMETHING LIKE A HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS NOW.

NO ONE GETS OFF IN THIS TOWN WITHOUT HIM KNOWING ABOUT IT.



AH, BUT YOU WANTED TO MEET ME OUT OF YOUR PROFOUND CONCERN FOR THE CONDITION OF POLITICS IN THE CITY TODAY, AND SO SOON AFTER THE ELECTION, TOO.

"DEMOCRACY IS THE THEORY THAT HOLDS THAT THE COMMON PEOPLE KNOW WHAT THEY WANT AND DESERVE TO GET IT GOOD AND HARD."

MENCKEN.

AND, THANKS TO HIS ROGUE SECRETION-DWELLING NANOSENSORS, THAT IS LITERALLY TRUE IN OVER EIGHTEEN CITY DISTRICTS.

SO, IT OCCURRED TO ME, IF A CLEVER MAN REALLY WAS FUNDING PORNO WHILE TRYING TO FILIBUSTER SEX LEGISLATION OUT OF EXISTENCE, AND THAT GOT LEAKED--

I LEAKED IT, BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE WOULD KNOW SHIT ABOUT IT.

BUSTED. LET'S GO--

NO, THIS IS BACKGROUND, STRICTLY OFF THE RECORD. THAT'S ALWAYS BEEN MY DEAL WITH GRISHAM.

WE HAVE JOURNALISTIC ETHICS, YELENA. PUT YOUR ATTACK WOMB AWAY.




MEET MELISSA. SHE LIVES IN THIS HOUSE. THIS IS THE BERLITZ-ABRAMS DISTRICT. THAT RING ANY BELLS, LADIES?

ROUND ABOUT THE TIME WHEN MELISSA HAD JUST GOTTEN OLD ENOUGH TO GET HERSELF DRINKS OF WATER FROM THE FAUCET, AN AUTONOMY-TERRORIST GROUP DROPPED INTELLECT SUPPRESSANT INTO THE WATER SUPPLY.

SHE'S NOT BRIGHT. SHE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND MUCH. SHE'S POOR AND SHE GETS FUCKED UP A LOT.





BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, SHE'S INCREDIBLY FLEXIBLE, NOT TOO CHOOSY, AND COMES LIKE A BANSHEE. SO IT WORKED OUT OKAY IN THE END.

SWEENEY MADE MORE THAN ONE MOVIE HERE. THERE WERE SEVERAL PRIVATE-CONSUMPTION JOBS, AND HE STIFFED ME ON PAYMENTS.

AND THAT AFTER I PAID HIM, MY GOD.

HOLD ON. NEW MACHINE HERE PICKING ME ABOUT...THERE WE GO.

SO...I THOUGHT SO. YOU PAID HIM TO FILIBUSTER OUT THE INTELLIGENT SEXUAL CULTURE SCHEME.

SURE I DID. SEXUAL FREEDOM, THE ERASURE OF TABOO BY EDUCATION, THE INTELLIGENT DISCUSSION OF SEXUAL MORES...THESE THINGS ARE NO GOOD TO A PORNographer, SPIDER.

IF IT AIN'T KIND OF CREEPY AND DIRTY AND MYSTERIOUS AND FORBIDDEN, GUNS DON'T GET OFF.

I'M MY OWN FORM OF GOVERNMENT, SPIDER. I NEED TO KEEP PEOPLE STUPID AS MUCH AS THE SMILER DOES.

PICTURE. TIMECODE STAMP.

WHAT?



KNOW WHAT THIS IS?

IT'S A G-READER. READS GENOMES, HUNTS DOWN ROGUE SCRAPS OF GENETIC STRUCTURE, THAT SORT OF THING. THESE THINGS ONLY HIT THE STREETS A WEEK OR TWO BACK.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT EXACTLY WAS GOING ON HERE... BUT SHE'S GOT SCRAPS OF SWEENEY CLINGING TO HER.



AND SO DO YOU.

KNOW WHAT THE BEST THING ABOUT G-READERS IS?

ADMISSIBLE IN COURT.



AND SO'S THIS. VOICE RECORDING WITH GPS AND WORLD-CLOCK STAMP AND SEAL.



WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR JOURNALISTIC ETHICS, YOU LITTLE MOTHERFUCKER?



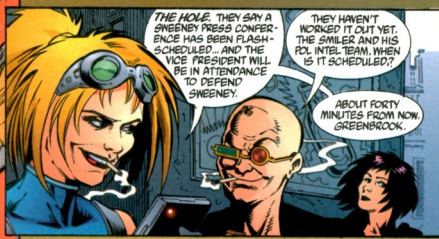
THE TRUTH, GRISHAM. THAT'S ALL I NEED.



WE COULDN'TVE DONE ALL THAT FIRST?

YOU PEOPLE JUST DON'T WANT ME TO HAVE FUN, DO YOU?

WHAT'RE YOU READING, CHANNON?



THE HOLE. THEY SAY A SWEENEY PRESS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN FLASH-SCHEDULED... AND THE VICE PRESIDENT WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE TO DEFEND SWEENEY.

THEY HAVEN'T WORKED IT OUT YET. THE SMILER AND HIS POL. INTEL TEAM. WHEN IS IT SCHEDULED?

ABOUT FORTY MINUTES FROM NOW. GREENBROOK.



WE CAN JUST MAKE THAT.

IF YOU'RE WITH ME.



END