

VERTIGO
DC COMICS

WARREN ELLIS • DARICK ROBERTSON • RODNEY RAMOS

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FEB 00

LATE EDITION

TRANSMETROPOLITAN

Having... it's a kind of resistance, one step at the notion of a new venue...

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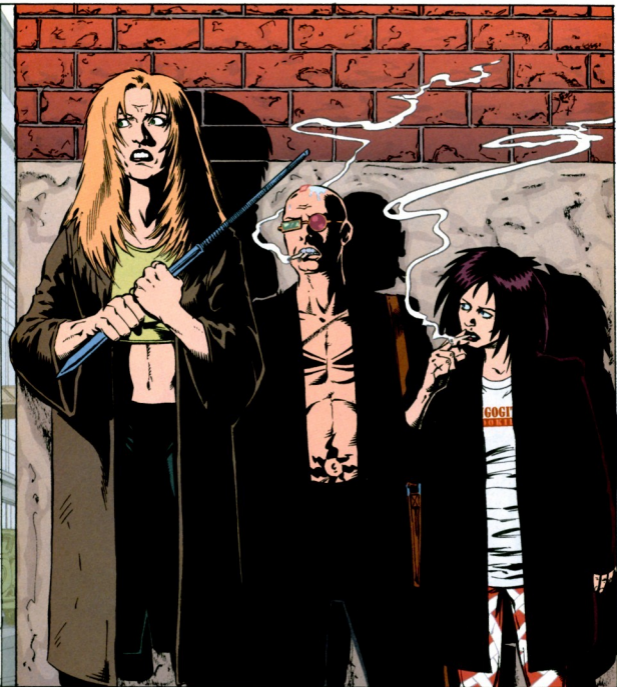


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WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT'S AROUND THAT CORNER BEFORE WE GO AROUND.

NOT CARRYING ANYTHING THAT CAN DO THAT. YOU?

NO, DAMNIT. AND WE CAN'T HAVE LONG BEFORE PEOPLE START LOOKING AT CAMERAS.



BECAUSE THERE ARE CAMERAS EVERYWHERE.

MIGHT WORK.



KEEP ROYCE ON THE LINE. TELL HIM WHERE WE ARE, AND TELL HIM HE NEEDS TO RUN A SEARCH-ENGINE CHECK ON PUBLIC OR FEED-SITE CAMERAS IN THE AREA.

HOLD ON.



THAT'S A LONG SHOT.

ONLY SHOT WE'VE GOT. UNLESS WE JUST RUSH AROUND THE CORNER AND PRAY.

AND YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD.

AND NEITHER DO I.



...OKAY. ROYCE SAYS HE'S FOUND AN AMFEED RANDOM CAMERA INFECTION TRAVELING THE BREEZE DOWN THE STREET. SHOULD BE HEADED THE WAY WE WANT TO GO.

TELL HIM TO BUY TIME ON IT, RIGHT NOW, AND PATCH THE IMAGERY TO HIS SCREEN.



YELENA, I SEE ONE POLICE CAR, A PLASTIC BARRICADE. TWENTY FEET AROUND THE CORNER, MAYBE LESS.

TWO COPS IN THE CAR, ONE FIGURE WANDERING AROUND BEHIND, PROBABLY ON THE PHONE.

EVERYTHING'S GONE TO HELL HERE, YELENA. GET HOME.



THANKS, BOSS.



I'M YOUR BOSS, YOU DISLOYAL LITTLE TOAD.

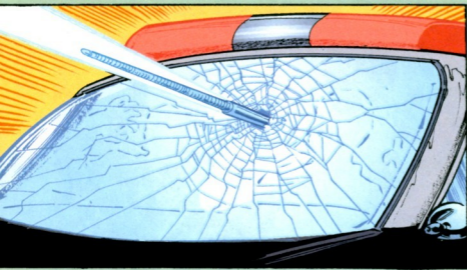
SHUT UP. COP CAR RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER, TWENTY FEET OR LESS, BEHIND A LIGHT BARRICADE. TWO COPS INSIDE, ONE BEHIND.



RIGHT.

WHEN I SAY "RUN LIKE FUCK AND COMMIT ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFFICER SEVERAL TIMES," RUN LIKE FUCK AND COMMIT ASSAULT ON A POLICE OFFICER SEVERAL TIMES.







UHHHHH--



CHRIST.

YOU KNOCKED THEM OUT. HOW'D YOU KNOCK 'EM OUT WITH A BOWEL DISRUPTOR? WHAT'S IT SET TO?

UM... IT SAYS "SHAT INTO UNCONSCIOUSNESS." NOW MOVE--

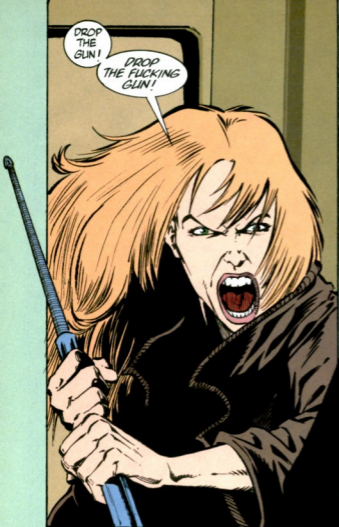


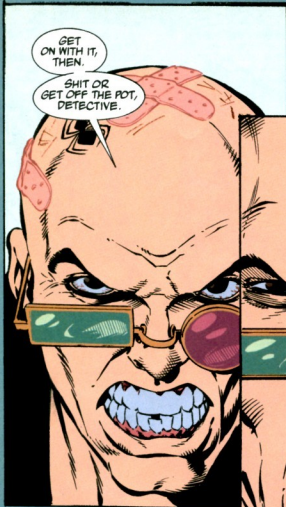
TOO LATE.



DETECTIVE
NEWTON.

MISTER
JERUSALEM.







I NEED TO SANITIZE THIS LOCATION IMMEDIATELY.



MY BACK WAS TURNED SLIGHTLY TOO LONG TO SEE OR CATCH YOU.

DESK SERGEANT'S FAULT FOR DETAILING ME HERE BECAUSE HE'D RUN OUT OF WARM BODIES, WHICH IS WHY MY BACK WAS TURNED. RUNNING MY CASE-LOAD BY PHONE.



PATROL CARS HAVE A SPECIFIED EMP BURSTER THAT SHOULD KNOCK OUT THE CAMERAS IN THE VICINITY. OUGHT TO WIPE THEIR MEMORIES AND BUFFERS TOO.

ASSHOLES SHOULD'VE USED IT THE NIGHT LOCKWOOD GOT KILLED.

INSTEAD OF PLAYING WITH THE G-READER NEWLY INSTALLED IN ALL PATROL VEHICLES.



GET OUT OF HERE.

GO WRITE A STORY.

LEAVE ME OUT OF IT.







REMEMBER:
A PARANOID IS
SIMPLY SOMEONE
IN POSSESSION
OF ALL THE
FACTS.





It's been a while since anyone tried to kill me.

A little less than two hours ago, CPD tried to silence the critics of their handling of the Lockwood case in a fairly original manner. They rounded them up and shot them. At this point, I have no idea how many casualties there are. I don't have time for that.



Because you need to know, now, that CPD have finally come unglued. They cannot survive this act of ultimate brutality. We cannot let them survive it.





STORY'S DONE AND SENT.

JUST IN TIME. TV NEWS FINALLY GOT SOME CAMERAS INTO DANTE STREET.

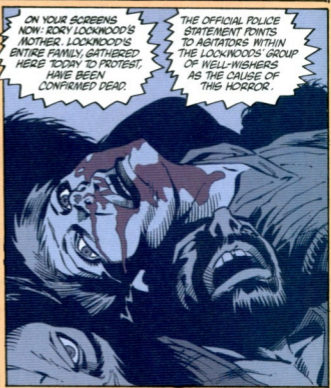


WITH THE CORDON AROUND DANTE STREET PRECINCT HOUSE LIFTED, THE SCENE THAT AWAITS US IS ONE OF CARNAGE AND LOSS...



SINCE WHAT CPD CLAIMS WAS A TERRORIST ACTUATION OF AN ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE BURSTER KILLED EVERY CAMERA IN THE VICINITY, THERE IS NO FOOTAGE OF THE ACTUAL EVENTS.

constant NEWS



ON YOUR SCREENS NOW: RORY LOCKWOOD'S MOTHER, LOCKWOOD'S ENTIRE FAMILY, GATHERED HERE TODAY TO PROTEST, HAVE BEEN CONFIRMED DEAD.

THE OFFICIAL POLICE STATEMENT POINTS TO AGITATORS WITHIN THE LOCKWOODS' GROUP OF WELL-WISHERS AS THE CAUSE OF THIS HORROR.



THEY RAN
A GAME ON US,
SPIDER.

WE FINALLY
JUST PISSED
THEM OFF
TOO MUCH.

THERE
WAS AN ATTEMPT
AT STORMING THE
PRECINCT HOUSE. THE
POLICE FELL INTO
SIEGE PROCEDURE
AT THAT TIME. THERE
WAS A SHOT FROM
THE CROWD.

NO ONE
SURVIVED
THIS RIOT.



EASY,
YELENA...WE'RE
OKAY...



WE'RE
PRETTY FUCKING
FAR FROM OKAY
RIGHT NOW. DON'T
YOU GET IT?

THIS IS
OUR FAULT.

WE DID
THIS.

SPIDER
WROTE THE PIECE
THAT THREW THE SHIT
AT THE FAN. THEN
EVERYONE THREW A
PIECE, ALL THE
PRESS.

SO THEY
ROUNDED US ALL
UP IN ONE PLACE--
EXACTLY BECAUSE OF
THE PIECE. THE
HUMILIATION WE
HEAPED
ON THEM--





ROUNDED US ALL UP INTO ONE PLACE AND KILLED US.



PHONE.

IT'S ROYCE. I'LL TRANSFER YOU TO THE HOUSE PHONE.

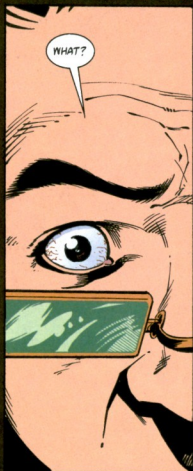


ROYCE?

NOW DON'T YOU DARE ASK ME WHERE YOUR FUCKING COLUMN IS, YOU SON OF A BITCH, I JUST SENT YOU A MOTHERFUCKER OF A PIECE...



WHAT?



A "D-NOTICE,"
NEW INVENTION
FROM THE
WHITE HOUSE.

STORIES
CONSIDERED DANGEROUS
TO LOCAL AND NATIONAL
SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL
STANDING CAN AND WILL BE
SPIKED BY THE CALLAHAN
ADMINISTRATION.

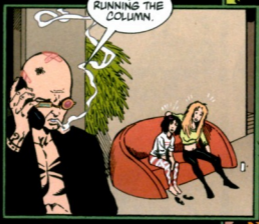


THEY
PUT A D-NOTICE
ON YOUR COLUMN,
SPIDER.



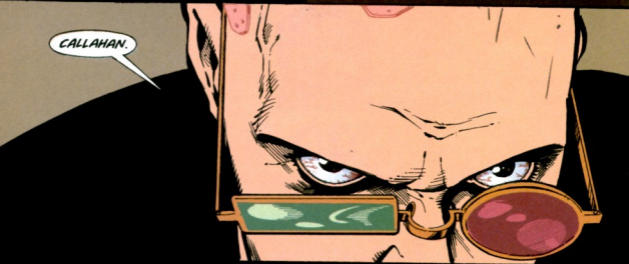
THE PAPER IS
LEGALLY CONSTRAINED
FROM RUNNING THE
COLUMN.

I CAN'T
DO A DAMN
THING ABOUT
IT, SPIDER.
THEY'VE
FUCKED US.



YOU'RE NOT
RUNNING THE
COLUMN.





CALLAHAN.

YOU TWO!

CHANNON, YOU TAKE YELENA OUT TOMORROW WITH MY CREDIT CARDS AND YOU BUY WEAPONS FOR THE BOTH OF YOU.

YOU NEVER GO ANYWHERE UNARMED AGAIN. I MEAN IT. GUNS. ALWAYS. DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

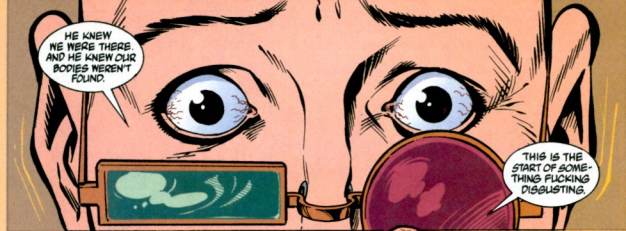
YES, DAMNIT --EASE OFF--

YES-- OHVV--

I WILL NOT "EASE OFF."

THE SMILER BANNED THE COLUMN. THE ONLY PIECE OF NEWS THAT ACTUALLY SAID WHAT HAPPENED ON DANTE STREET AND HAD IT KILLED.

HOW DID HE EVEN KNOW I WAS WRITING IT? HOW DID HE KNOW I WAS THERE?



HE KNEW WE WERE THERE. AND HE KNEW OUR BODIES WEREN'T FOUND.

THIS IS THE START OF SOMETHING FUCKING DISGUSTING.



GUNS. SEE TO IT.



