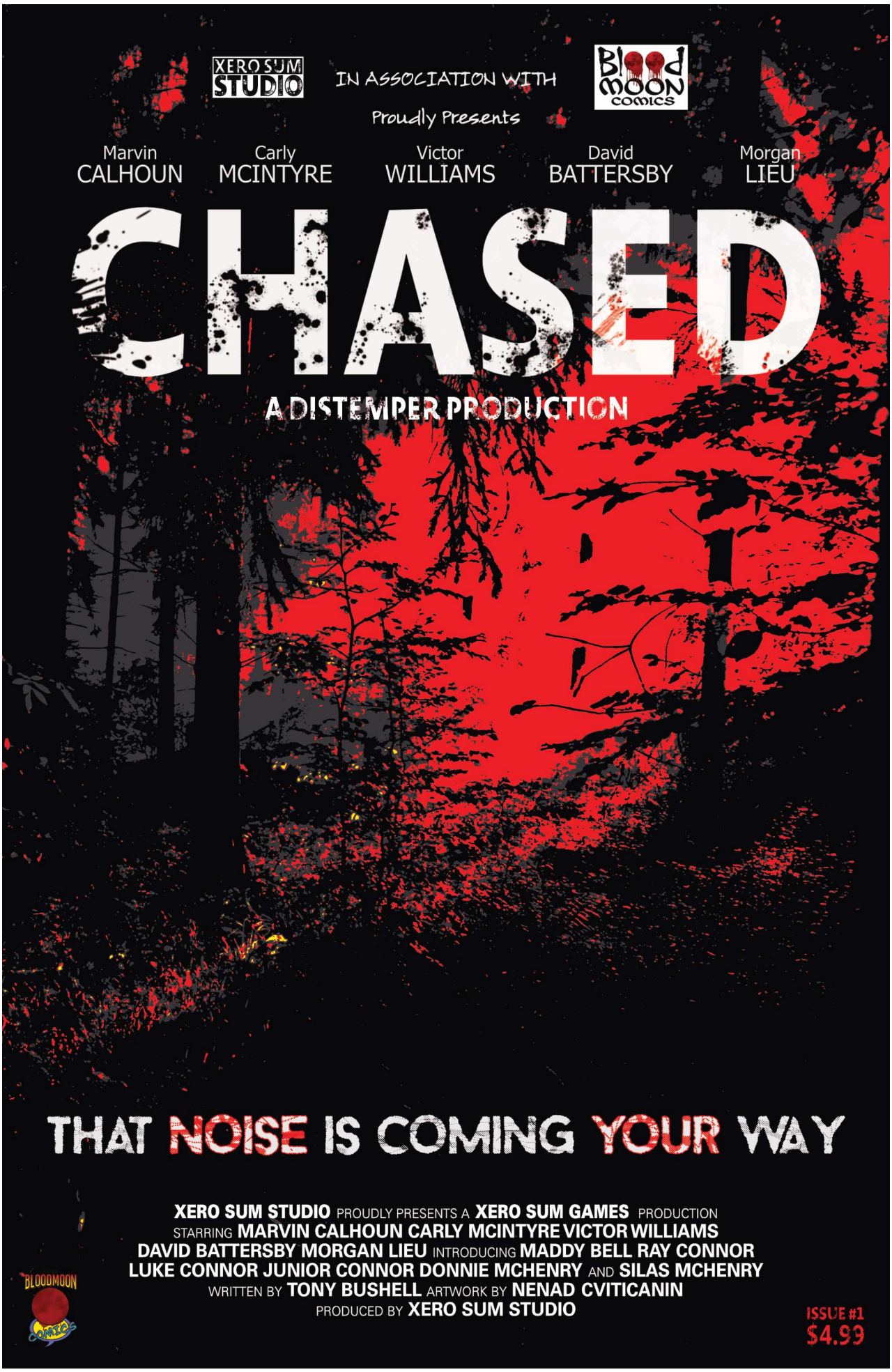
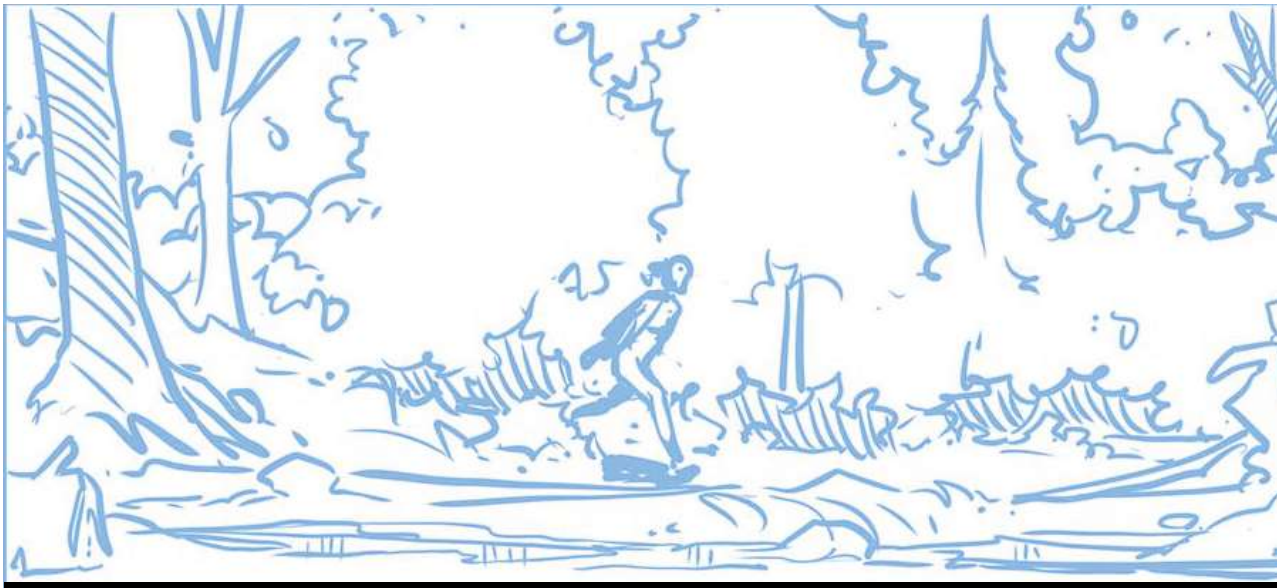

XERO SUM STUDIO
IN ASSOCIATION WITH
BLOOD MOON COMICS
Proudly Presents
Marvin CALHOUN
Carly MCINTYRE
Victor WILLIAMS
David BATTERSBY
Morgan LIEU
CHASED
A DISTEMPER PRODUCTION
THAT NOISE IS COMING YOUR WAY
XERO SUM STUDIO PROUDLY PRESENTS A XERO SUM GAMES PRODUCTION
STARRING MARVIN CALHOUN CARLY MCINTYRE VICTOR WILLIAMS
DAVID BATTERSBY MORGAN LIEU INTRODUCING MADDY BELL RAY CONNOR
LUKE CONNOR JUNIOR CONNOR DONNIE MCHENRY AND SILAS MCHENRY
WRITTEN BY TONY BUSHELL ARTWORK BY NENAD CVITICANIN
PRODUCED BY XERO SUM STUDIO
BLOODMOON COMICS
ISSUE #1
$4.99



XERO SUM STUDIO

PRESENTS

DISTEMPER
CHASED

ISSUE #1

WRITER & LETTERER
TONY BUSHELL

ARTIST
NENAD CVITICANIN

VARIANT COVER ARTISTS
HERNÁN GONZÁLEZ
TONY BUSHELL

TO HELP TELL THE STORY, VISIT WWW.DISTEMPERVERSE.COM
THE DISTEMPERVERSE CREATED BY TONY BUSHELL

BLOOD MOON COMICS

The Dog Flu came out of no where and eviscerated humanity in a matter of months.

With almost 90% of mankind wiped out, polite society exited the building and took all the old rules with it.

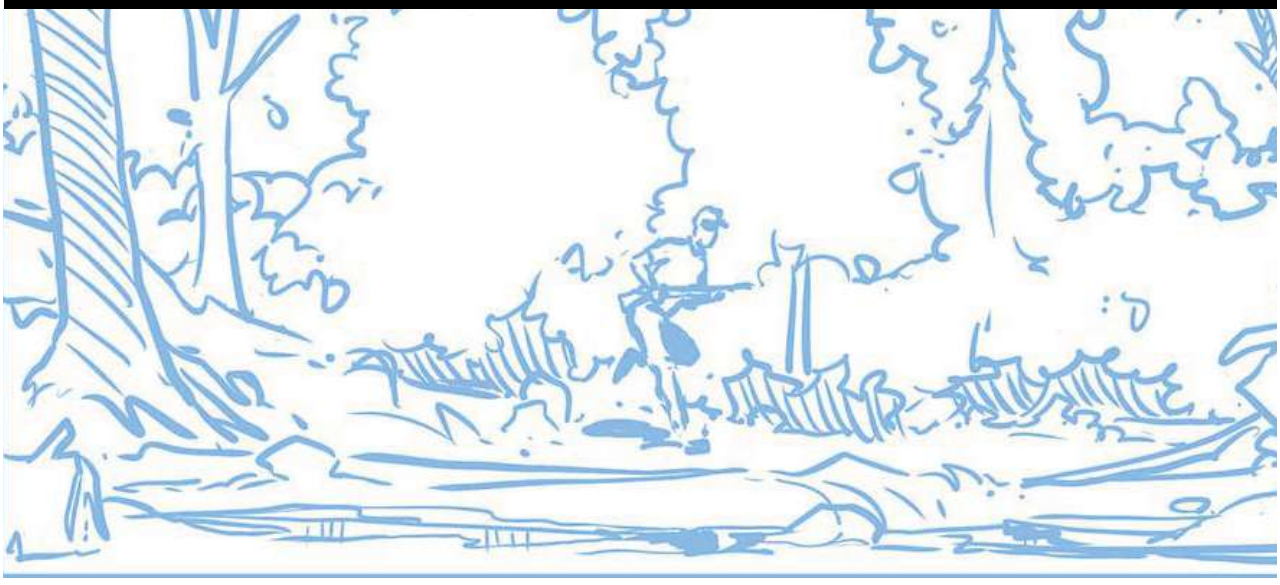
Now, a year on since the first death and anyone left alive has had to do bad things to make it this far.

Survivors have learned – many the hard way – that there are always consequences for doing something good in a bad world.

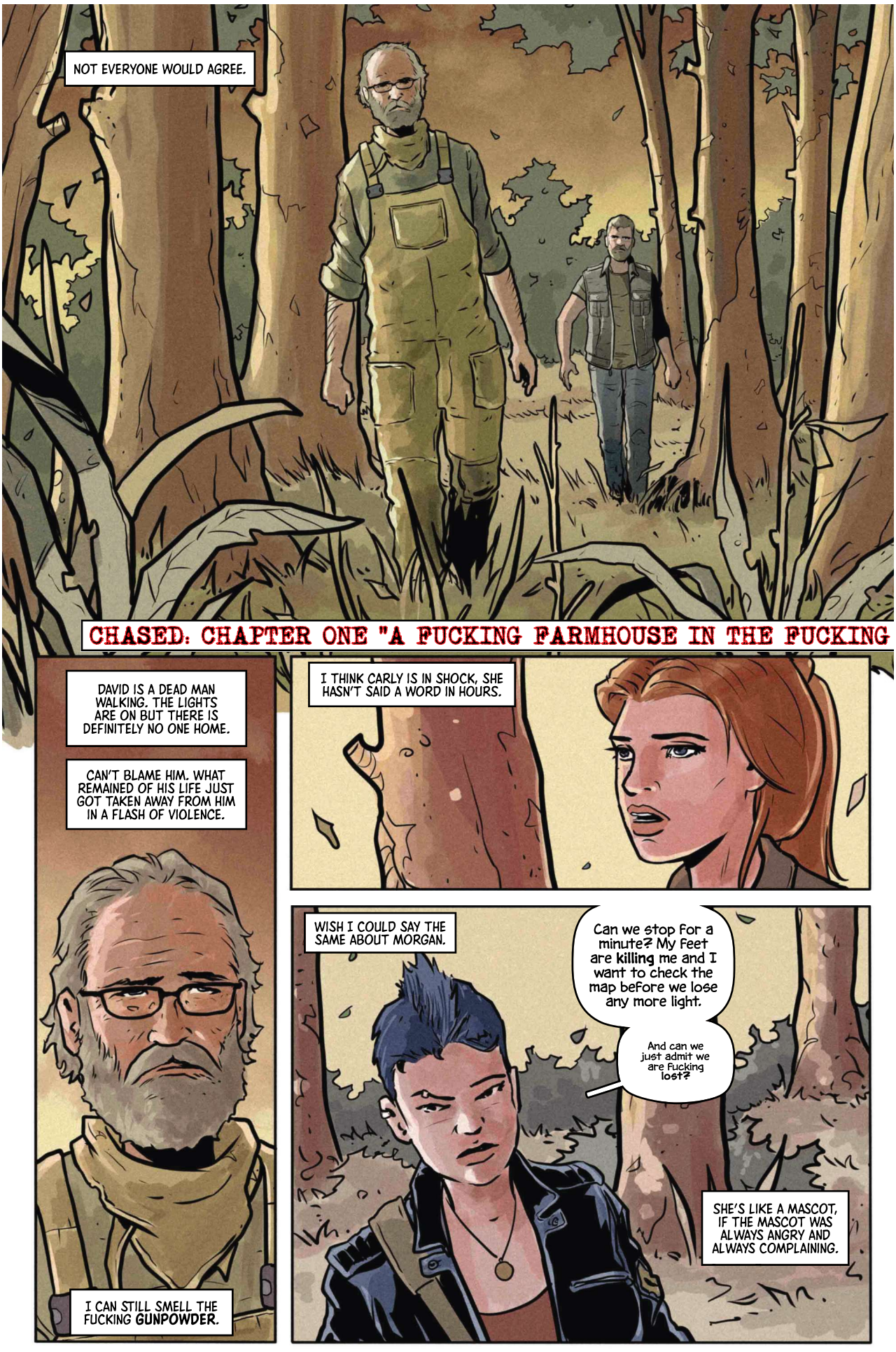
However, a group who are trying to put as much distance as possible between themselves and a catastrophic event in their recent past, are about to be starkly reminded of that fact.

THANKS

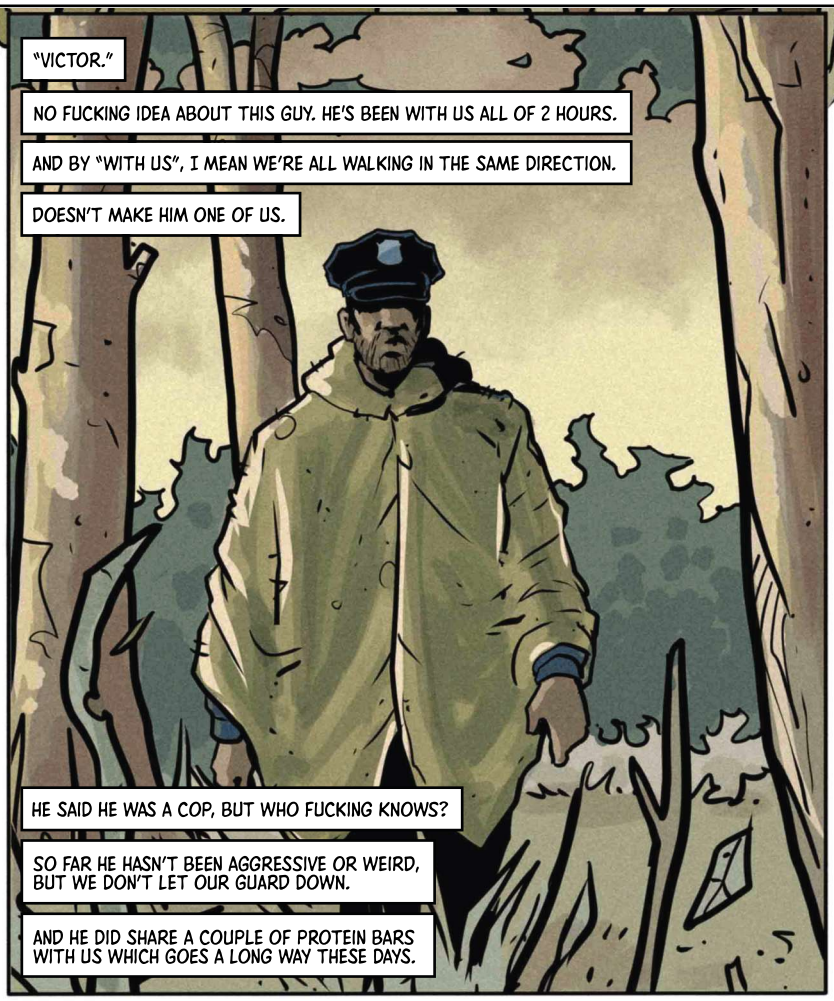
Thanks to Michele, Ellie and Jack (who gave me the space to get this song out of my head) and Matt Rowe, for being a constant co-conspirator.



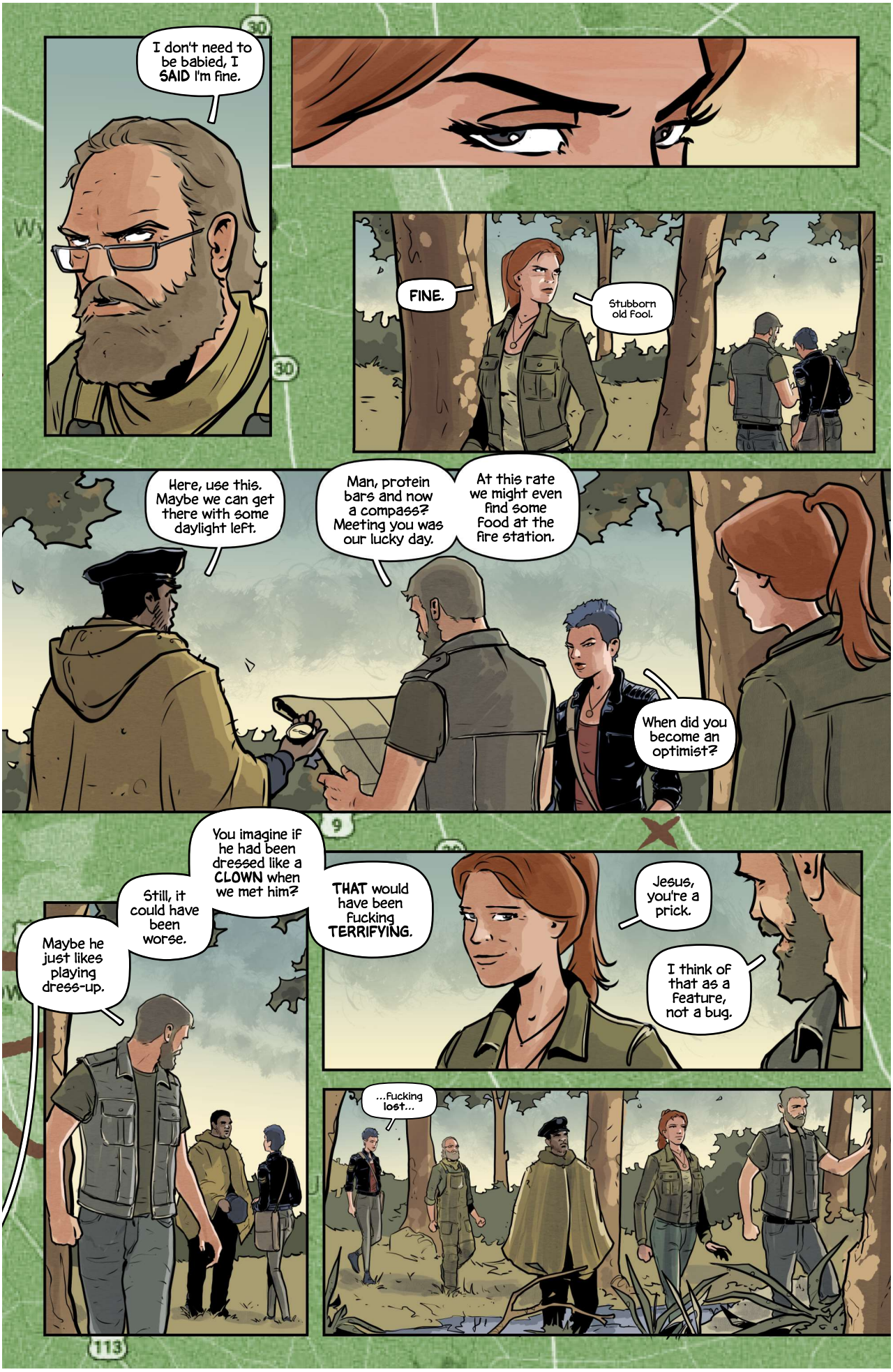
IT WAS SHOCKING JUST HOW QUICKLY EVERYTHING FELL APART.
IT WAS ALL SO FRAGILE THAT, MUCH LATER, SURVIVORS WOULD OFTEN WONDER OUT-LOUD HOW IT HAD MANAGED TO LAST AS LONG AS IT DID.
SOCIETY, THAT IS.
LESS THAN 10 MONTHS AFTER ANY OF US HAD FIRST HEARD OF THE DOG FLU, MORE THAN 7 BILLION PEOPLE WERE GONE.
IT ALL HAPPENED SO SUDDENLY THAT THE EMERGENCY SERVICES QUICKLY BECAME OVERWHELMED AND, WITH SO MANY DEAD BODIES, THERE WAS NO CHOICE BUT TO BURN THE CORPSES.
HOWEVER, WITH NO ONE LEFT TO CONTROL OR STAMP THEM OUT, THE FIRES SPREAD UNCHECKED, RAZING CITIES ALL OVER THE WORLD.
SOME ARE STILL BURNING.
WHICH SEEMS STRANGELY FITTING.
NOW, JUST OVER A YEAR ON FROM THE FIRST INFECTION AND MILLIONS MORE HAVE STARVED, DIED FROM EXPOSURE OR BEEN KILLED FOR THE FOOD IN THEIR HANDS.
EVERYTHING IS EITHER BROKEN OR IS WELL ON IT'S WAY TO BREAKING.
PRETTY MUCH EVERYTHING WE KNEW FROM BEFORE, OUR WHOLE WAY OF LIFE, IS GONE.
SHOPS. TELEPHONES. THE TV. THE INTERNET. HOSPITALS. POLICE. ARMIES.
GOVERNMENTS.
COUNTRIES.
ALL OF IT.
WHAT WE ARE LEFT WITH ISN'T VERY NICE, BUT IN THEORY, IT BEATS BEING DEAD.
IN THEORY.


NOT EVERYONE WOULD AGREE.
CHASED: CHAPTER ONE "A FUCKING FARMHOUSE IN THE FUCKING
DAVID IS A DEAD MAN WALKING. THE LIGHTS ARE ON BUT THERE IS DEFINITELY NO ONE HOME.
CAN'T BLAME HIM. WHAT REMAINED OF HIS LIFE JUST GOT TAKEN AWAY FROM HIM IN A FLASH OF VIOLENCE.
I CAN STILL SMELL THE FUCKING GUNPOWDER.
I THINK CARLY IS IN SHOCK, SHE HASN'T SAID A WORD IN HOURS.
WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME ABOUT MORGAN.
Can we stop for a minute? My feet are killing me and I want to check the map before we lose any more light.
And can we just admit we are fucking lost?
SHE'S LIKE A MASCOT, IF THE MASCOT WAS ALWAYS ANGRY AND ALWAYS COMPLAINING.

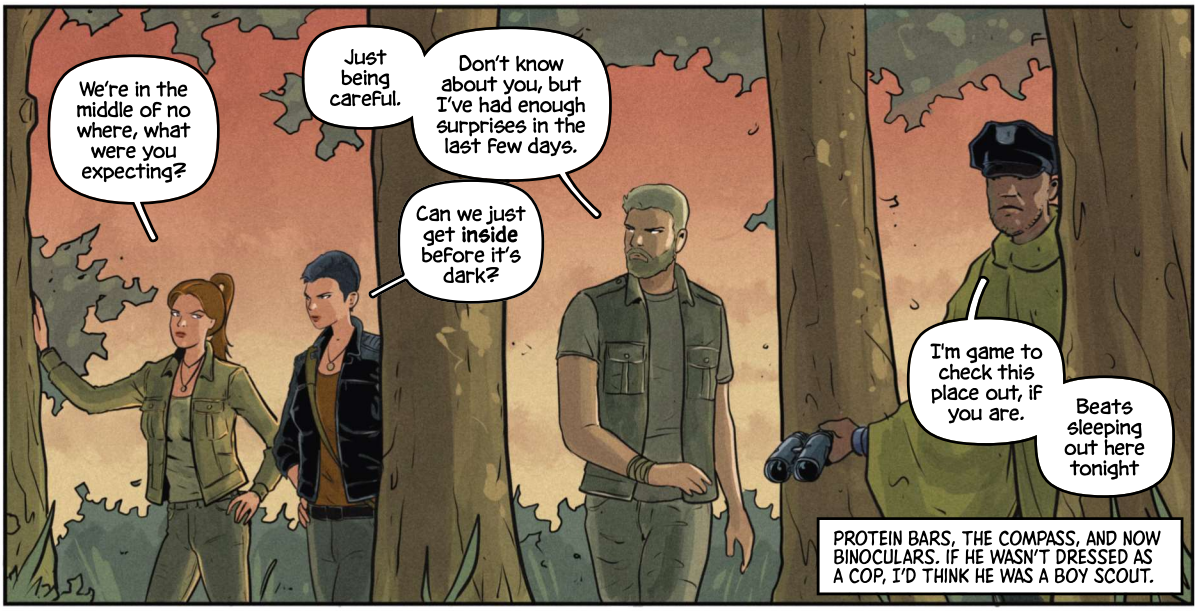
WOODS?" WRITTEN BY TONY BUSHELL ART BY NENAD CVITICANIN

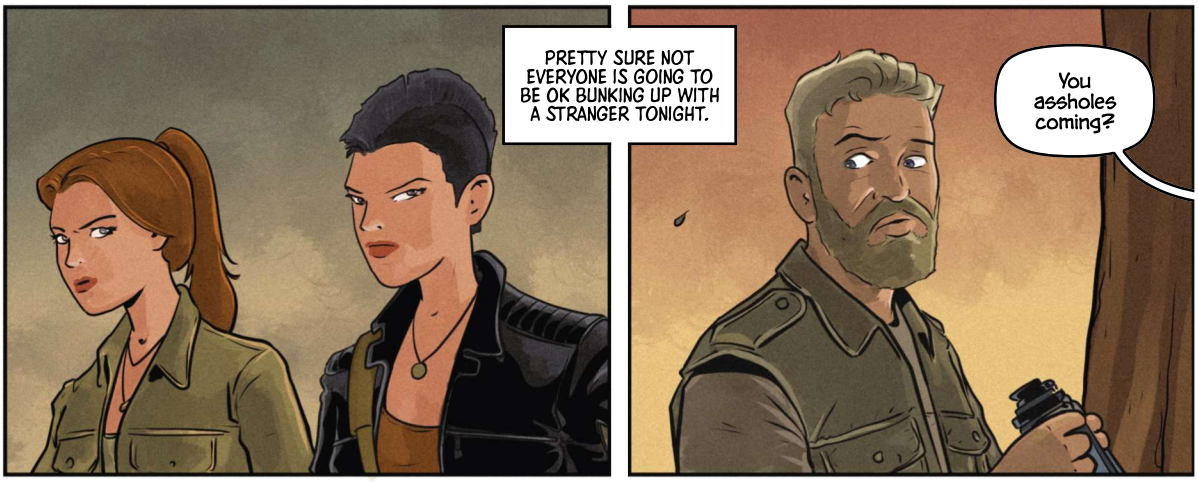


Here, you should drink.
I'm fine.
You won't be if you don't drink something.
- can't be any more than a mile ahead.
What can't?
Redden Forest fire-station. We won't make it to the coast tonight but we can stop there and head out at first light.
Better than sleeping under the stars in this weather.
Around the same time you appointed yourself the group bitch.
How's your uncle doing?
About as well as you'd expect.
if we can get some food inside him and some sleep, he'll be okay.
I DON'T THINK EITHER OF US BELIEVE THAT, BUT NEITHER OF US WANT TO ADMIT IT OUT LOUD.
What about the new guy? You trust him?
Nope.
Do you think he was really a cop?
Who the fuck knows?


I don't need to be babied, I SAID I'm fine.
FINE.
Stubborn old fool.
Here, use this. Maybe we can get there with some daylight left.
Man, protein bars and now a compass? Meeting you was our lucky day.
At this rate we might even find some food at the fire station.
When did you become an optimist?
You imagine if he had been dressed like a CLOWN when we met him?
Still, it could have been worse.
Maybe he just likes playing dress-up.
THAT would have been fucking TERRIFYING.
Jesus, you're a prick.
I think of that as a feature, not a bug.
...fucking lost...
113

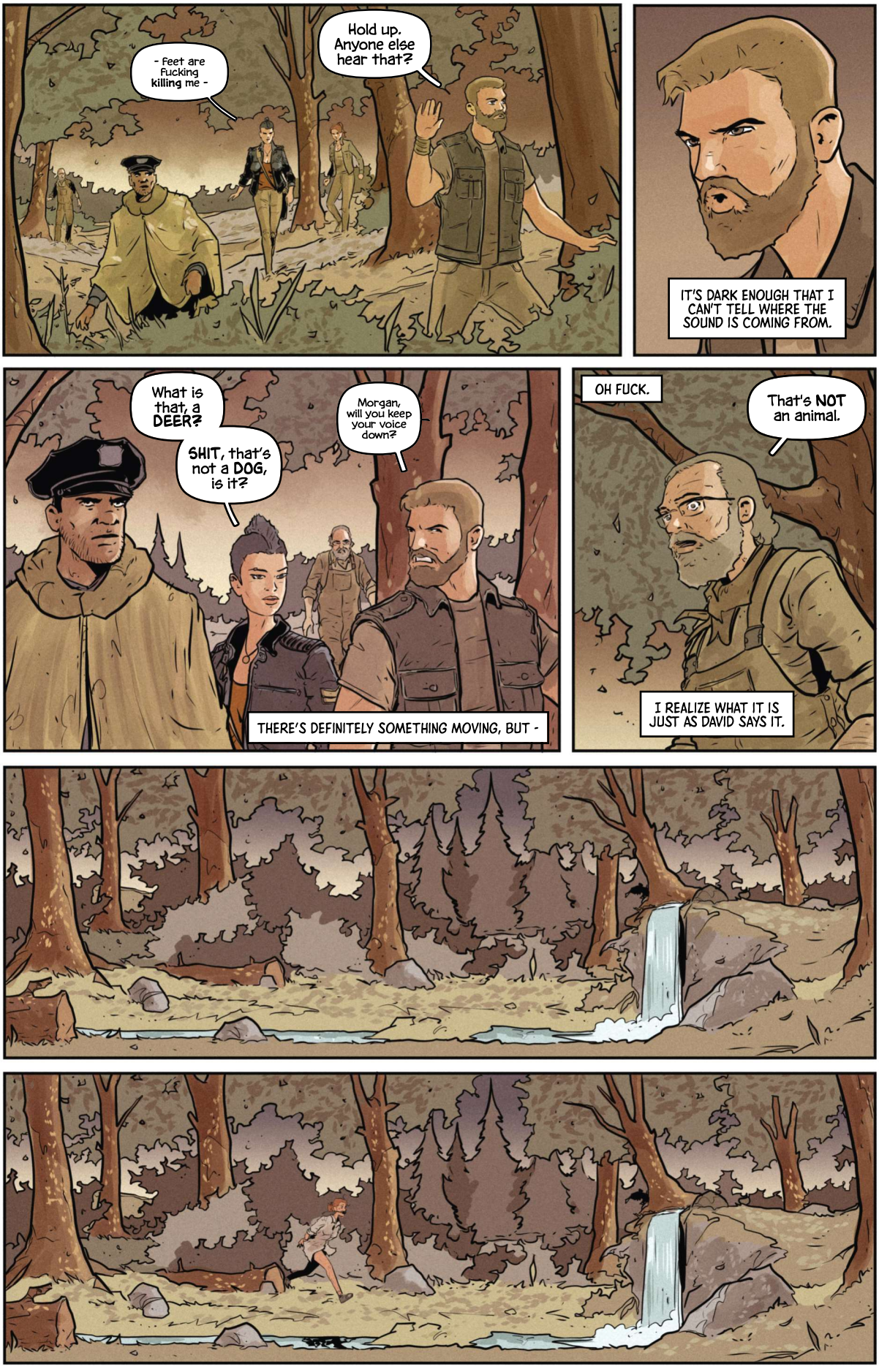
Looks quiet enough.


We're in the middle of no where, what were you expecting?
Just being careful.
Don't know about you, but I've had enough surprises in the last few days.
Can we just get **inside** before it's dark?
I'm game to check this place out, if you are.
Beats sleeping out here tonight
PROTEIN BARS, THE COMPASS, AND NOW BINOCULARS. IF HE WASN'T DRESSED AS A COP, I'D THINK HE WAS A BOY SCOUT.


PRETTY SURE NOT EVERYONE IS GOING TO BE OK BUNKING UP WITH A STRANGER TONIGHT.
You assholes coming?

WHETHER OR NOT THIS **IS** OUR LUCKY DAY REMAINS TO BE SEEN --
-- BUT AT LEAST THIS PLACE DOESN'T REEK OF CORPSES.
THAT'S A WIN.

All looks to be in pretty good shape. I guess this was too far off the beaten path to get looted.
Or there was nothing here worth taking.
OR, there was nothing here worth taking.
Talking of nothing, that's what we have to eat.
You armed?
I have my service pistol, but I'm out of rounds. You?
Nope
Nothing? Just those shitty looks you all been giving me?
Nothing. It's a long st-
Save it, we're losing light. I got this, too.
Cool. Let's hope we get lucky and find a slow-moving rabbit willing to be sacrificed for the cause.
That's a BIG fucking knife.
I saw it.
You REALLY think you're going to catch something this late with no guns?
MOVE, before someone suggests eating YOU.
THAT'S NOT SOMETHING TO JOKE ABOUT THESE DAYS.
NOT AFTER WE HEARD ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN SWEDEN.
BUT I SWEAR HE ALMOST SMILES.
He's right, you know. We're not going to catch ANYTHING.
Fuck him.
And maybe you could try FORAGING instead of BITCHING?
Good old Marv. NEVER miss a chance to be a prick.
I've told you, FEATURE, not a bug.


- feet are fucking killing me -
Hold up. Anyone else hear that?
IT'S DARK ENOUGH THAT I CAN'T TELL WHERE THE SOUND IS COMING FROM.
What is that, a DEER?
SHIT, that's not a DOG, is it?
Morgan, will you keep your voice down?
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING MOVING, BUT -
OH FUCK.
That's NOT an animal.
I REALIZE WHAT IT IS JUST AS DAVID SAYS IT.

CHASED

~~AVAILABLE IN AUGUST FROM BLOOD MOON COMICS~~

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE DIFFERENT?

THIS WAS JUST THE START OF THE **DISTEMPER** STORY.

IN ADDITION TO THIS COMIC BOOK, **DISTEMPER** IS ALSO A **TABLETOP ROLEPLAYING GAME (TTRPG)** WHICH PUTS **YOU**, AS A PLAYER, AT THE CENTER OF THE ACTION.

LAUNCHING ON KICKSTARTER IN Q3 2023, THE **DISTEMPER CORE RULEBOOK** PROVIDES ALL THE RULES, MECHANICS, TOOLS, AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR A GROUP OF 2-6 PLAYERS TO RECREATE THE EVENTS SHOWN IN THIS ISSUE, OR TO TELL THEIR OWN UNIQUE STORIES SET AGAINST THE BACKDROP OF EVENTS IN THE COMIC.

TO TRY OUT THE **DISTEMPER TTRPG,** THERE IS A **JUMPSTART** AVAILABLE (**"EMPTY"**) THAT INCLUDES BOTH A COMIC BOOK SHORT STORY AND THE RULES REQUIRED FOR A GROUP TO PLAY THROUGH THE STORY IN AN HOUR OR TWO.

ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS A **QUICKSTART** AVAILABLE WHICH PROVIDES AN ABBREVIATED VERSION OF THE RULES AND MECHANICS AND ALLOWS GROUPS TO TELL THEIR OWN STORIES.

BOTH ARE AVAILABLE AS FREE DOWNLOADS FROM:

WWW.DRIVETHRURPG.COM
WWW.ITCH.IO
WWW.DISTEMPERVERSE.COM

~~WWW.DISTEMPERVERSE.COM~~

~~#DISTEMPERVERSE~~

CHASED

dis·tem·per / dis-'tem-per /
noun: distemper
1. a viral disease of some animals, especially dogs and other canines,causing fever, coughing and catarrh.
2. Political or civil disorder.

transitive verb: distempered; distempering; distempers
1. to throw out of order
2. Derange, unsettle

SURVIVING IN A WORLD WHERE 90% OF HUMANITY HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT INSIDE OF A YEAR BY H7Z4 (ALSO KNOWN AS THE DOG FLU, OR THE DISTEMPER) IS ALREADY BRUTALLY HARD, BUT IT BECOMES EXPONENTIALLY DEADLIER FOR A GROUP OF SURVIVORS WHO ARE UNWITTINGLY DRAGGED INTO A LIFE OR DEATH STRUGGLE WITH A FAMILY OF PSYCHOPATHS LIVING IN THE FOREST...

BLOOD MOON COMICS

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