

ASSASSIN'S CREED THE FALL







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ASSASSIN'S CREED THE FALL: COLLECTED EDITION
Graphic design by **Studio Lounak**

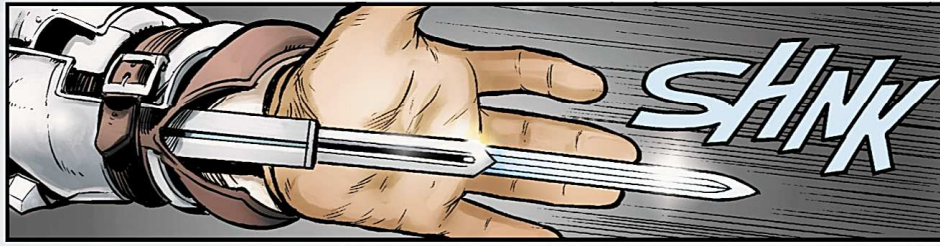
Ubisoft Entertainment
5505 boul. St-Laurent,
Montréal (Québec), H2T 1S6 - Canada.

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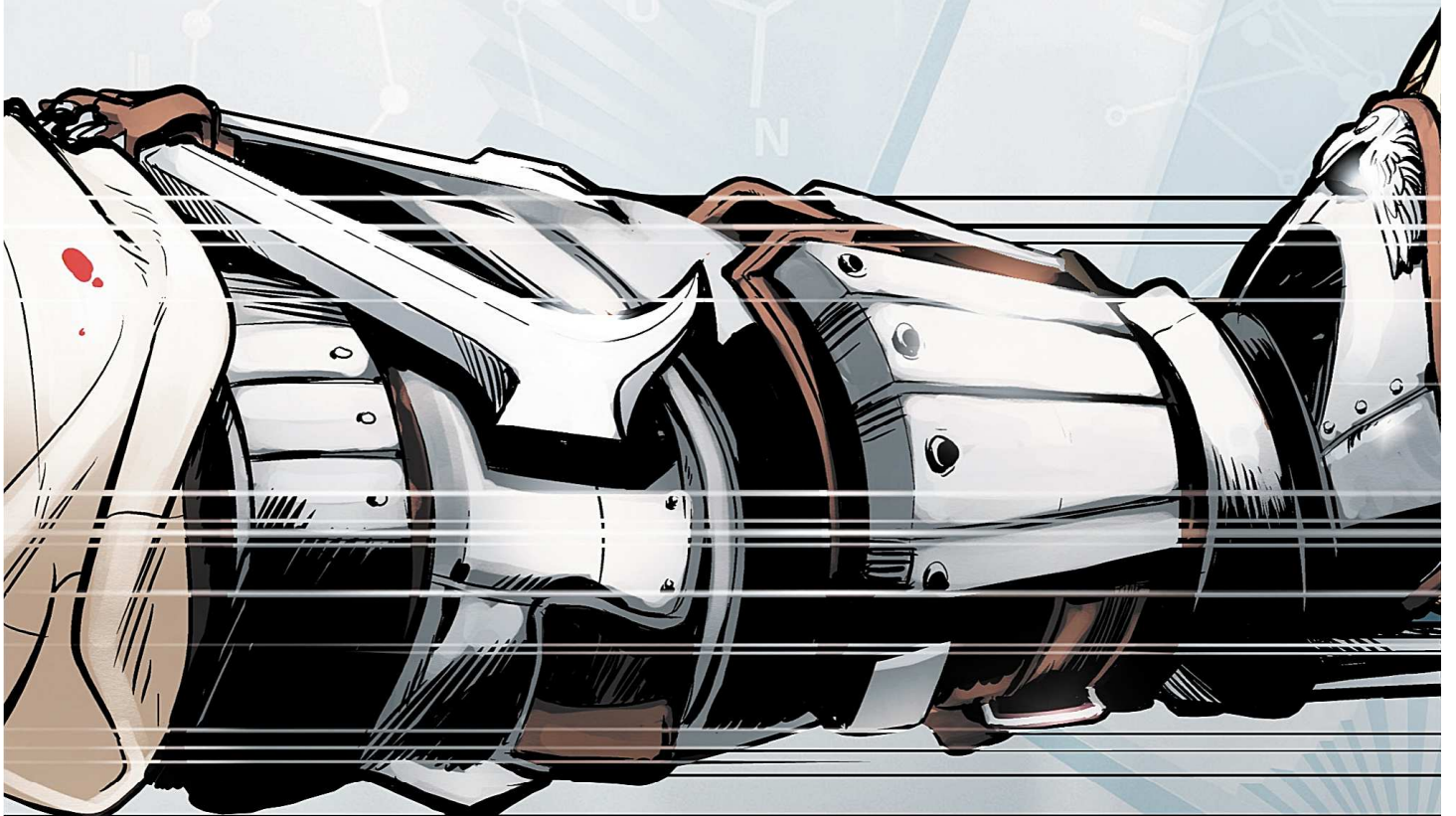
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ISBN 978-2-924006-01-6
PRINTED IN CANADA

FOREWORD BY COREY MAY

BRAND STORY DIRECTOR



You hear the word *transmedia* a lot these days. Most often in the form of a sales pitch. It's discussed in very methodical, logistical ways. Go ahead and google it. You get a Wikipedia definition. Then you get a Venn diagram. Continue further down the list and you'll see a lot of definitions and equations and marketing pitches. What you won't see is the any mention of quality. And what does it matter if a story is spread over the course of ten different mediums, by ten different entities if none of it is any good. You wind up spending more time retconning and insisting things aren't canon then you do allowing a narrative universe to flourish and grow. And so when I was first asked to meet with **Karl** and **Cameron**, I was sceptical. This was probably just going to be another in a long line of attempts to cash in on brand popularity. I could not have been more wrong. I had been in that first meeting all of five minutes before I knew that **THE FALL** was going to be something special.



They understood **Assassin's Creed** as well as anyone who had been on the team for the seven plus years of its existence. The conversation was focused on how to tell new stories within it – building off of what had come before. It was a creative discussion, not a business or logistical one. And everything they had to say was awesome. Here we had an opportunity to work with some incredibly talented people to flesh out the **AC** universe with the introduction of a new storyline – but one which naturally and organically flowed back into the stories that had already been told. And to top it all off, they'd chosen a historical time period that was ripe for exploration – rife with conspiracy and intrigue (not to mention a **First Civ artifact!**). As the issues started coming together, it was obvious these guys were masters of their craft. So much so that I didn't want to see the series ended. Turns out I wasn't the only one, either. And so what started off as a one off experiment in transmedia storytelling has now grown into something bigger and better. And the reason for this is simple: they told a damn good story. One we all want to experience more of.

Corey May

September 13th, 2011

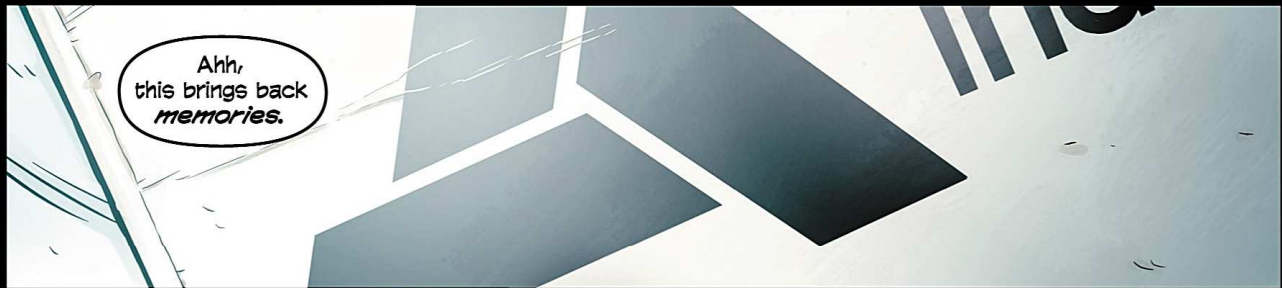




CHAPTER 1



Issue #1 Cover art by:
Kerschl-Stewart-Thomas



АААААА

Nikolai!

Nikolai,
what is it?
What is the
matter?

Alek.

But...
Alek is—

I see
him in my
dreams,
Anna.

He calls to me,
pleading for me to
help him. To save him
from the gallows.

And I
cannot.

Instead I see his fear, his
disappointment, as the noose
is put about his neck.

He looks to me and
raises a hand, pointing
a finger as the rope
snaps tight...

A year hence,
and still his ghost
finds me *guilty*.

Hush.
I will fetch some
water.

My father wanted this life, Anna, not I. He came to this country with a dream and made the *Narodnaya Volya* his cause.

I do not know if I have the strength to serve the Order of Assassins as he did.

But the Mentor himself has said that this is a time of great change. Russia will soon be strong and free from Imperial rule, an example to the world.

But I fear that I will fail our master again. And then what?

You will not fail, Kolya.

But Alek...

Aleksandr fought for the people, as you do.

He knew the importance of the mission and its risks.

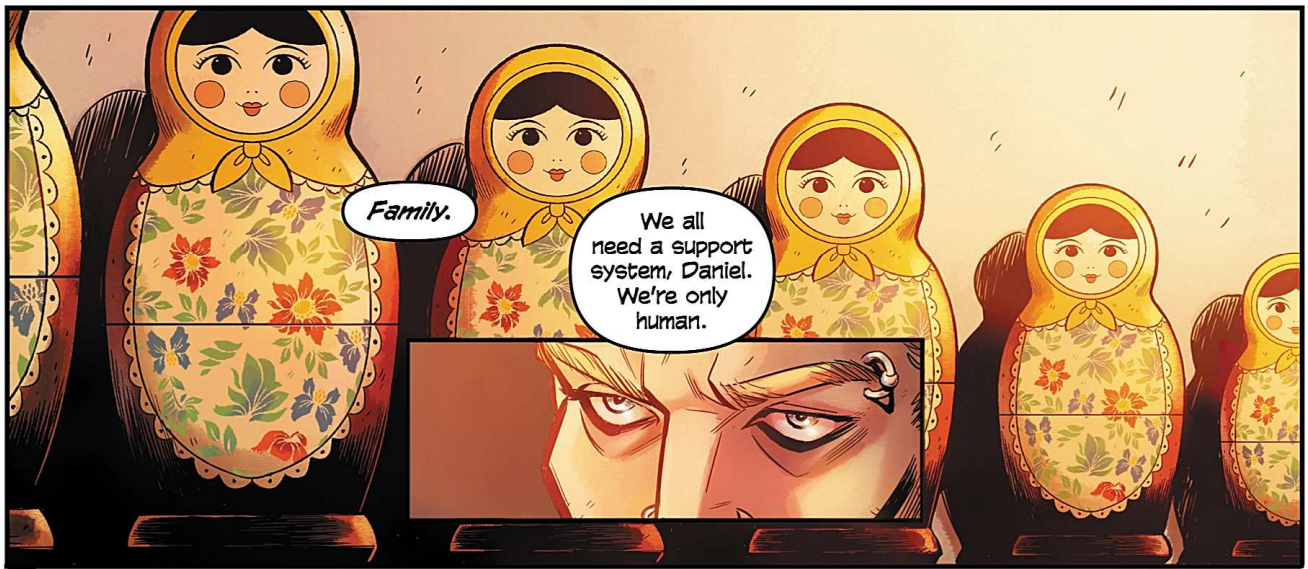
You will succeed for him. And if not for him, then for his brother, young Vladimir.

And if not for them...

The Mentor has issued his instructions. Tomorrow I ride for Crimea.

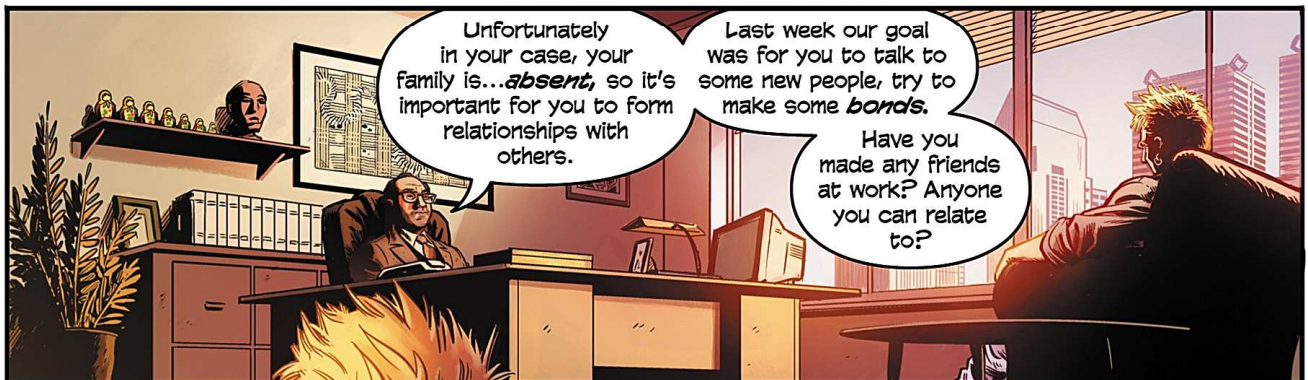
For the future.

For our children...



Family.

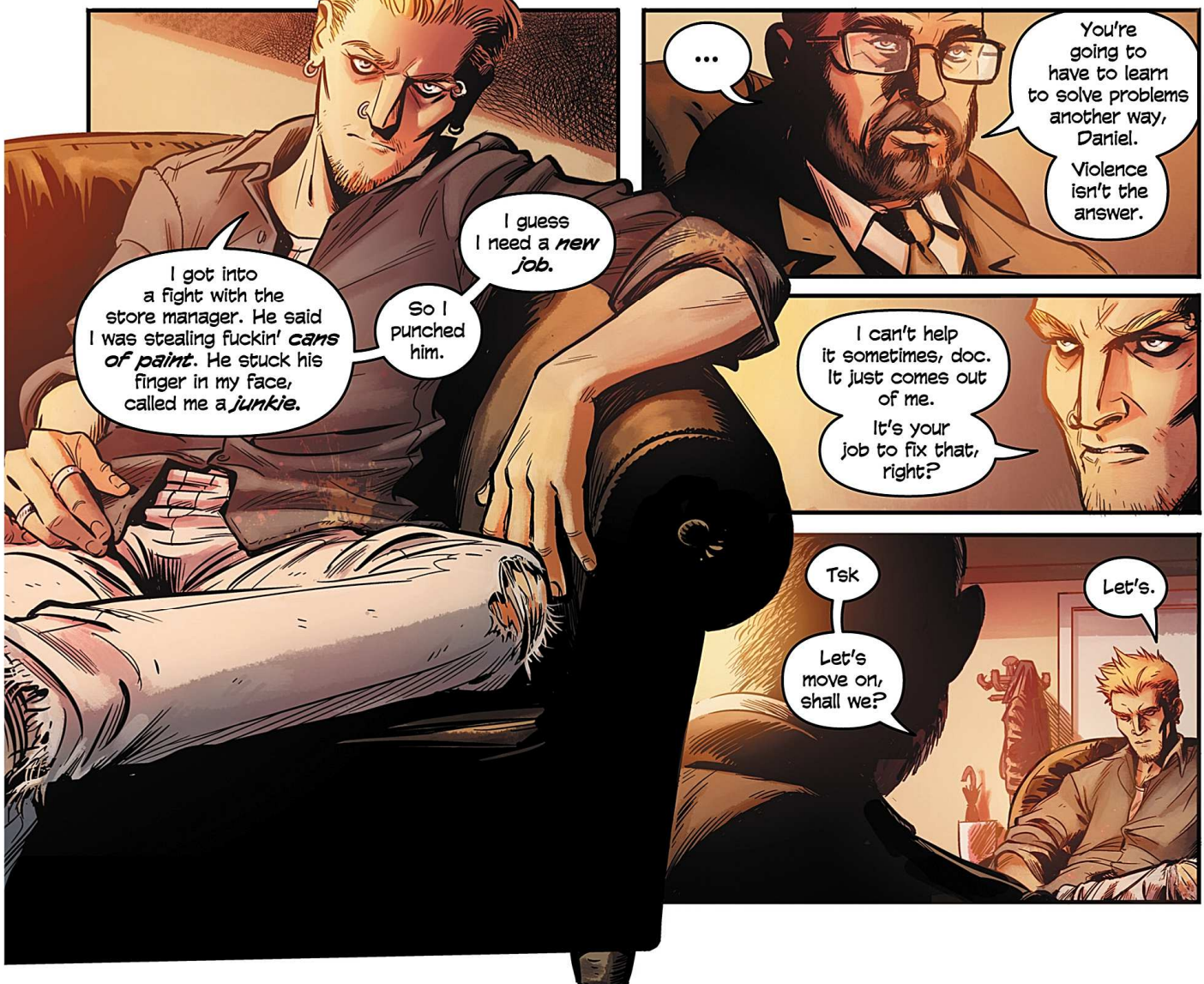
We all need a support system, Daniel. We're only human.



Unfortunately in your case, your family is...*absent*, so it's important for you to form relationships with others.

Last week our goal was for you to talk to some new people, try to make some *bonds*.

Have you made any friends at work? Anyone you can relate to?



I got into a fight with the store manager. He said I was stealing fuckin' *cans of paint*. He stuck his finger in my face, called me a *junkie*.

So I punched him.

I guess I need a *new job*.



...

You're going to have to learn to solve problems another way, Daniel.

Violence isn't the answer.

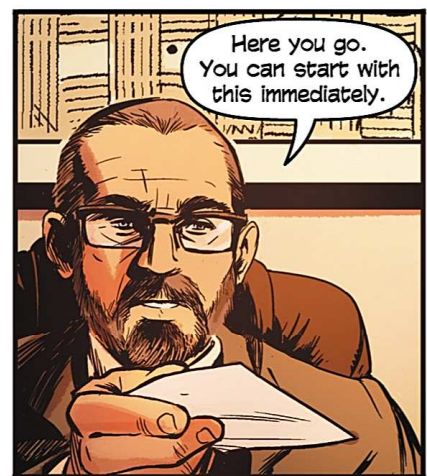
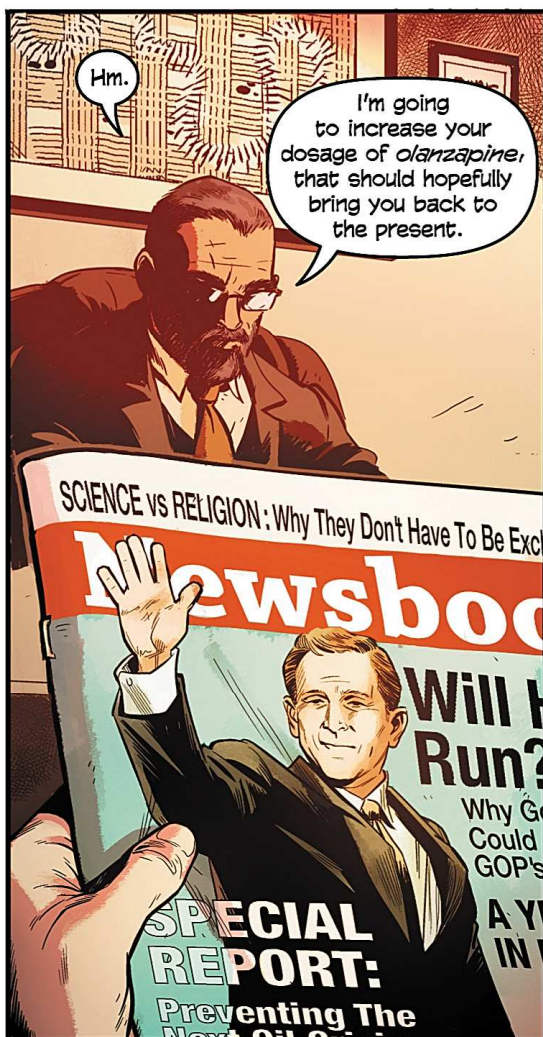
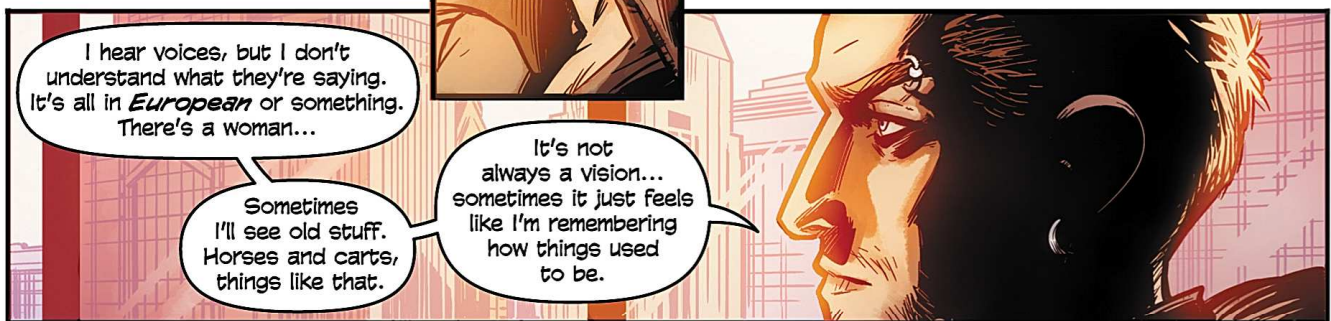
I can't help it sometimes, doc. It just comes out of me. It's your job to fix that, right?

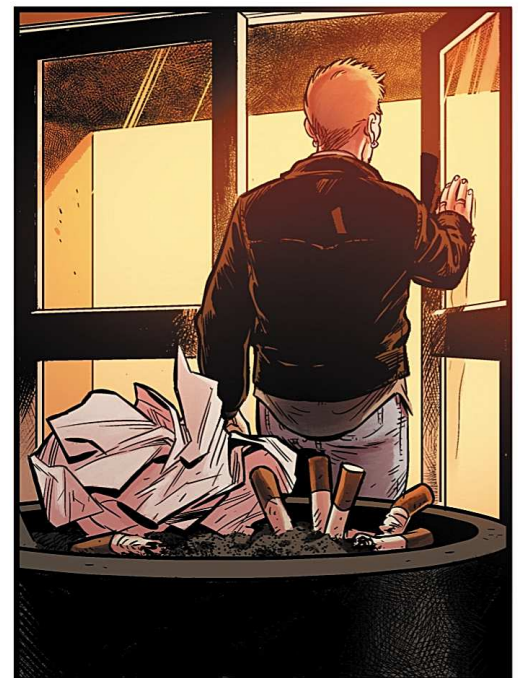
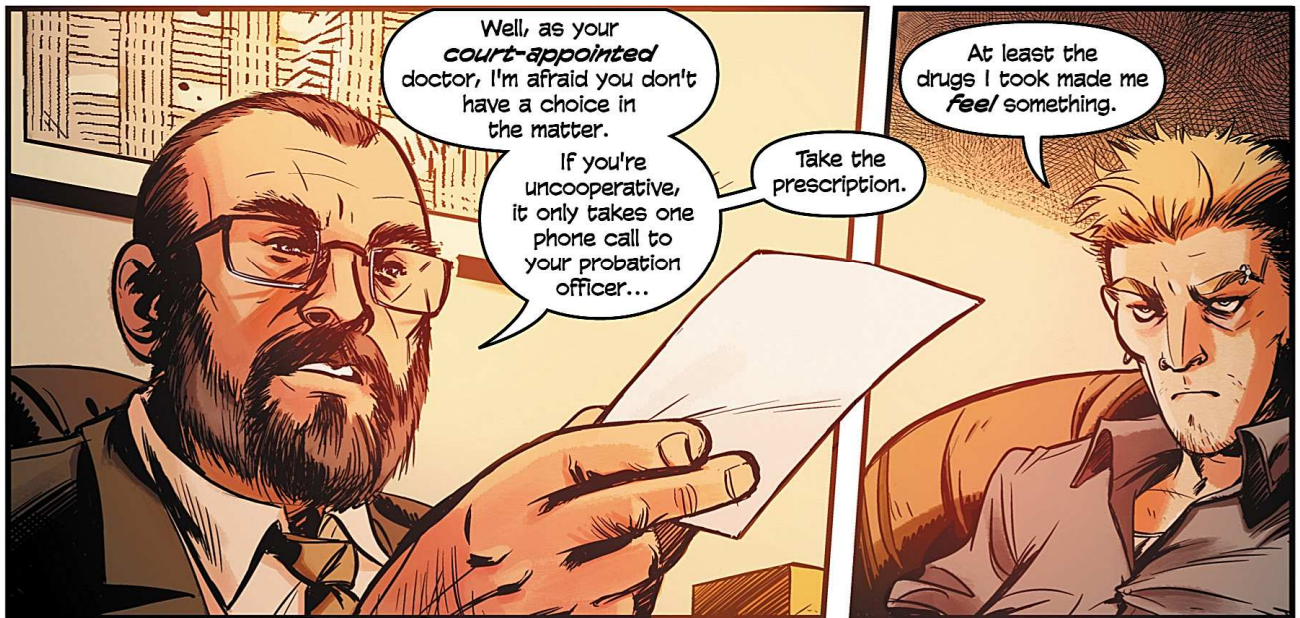


Tsk

Let's move on, shall we?

Let's.





...so I told him to shove his prescription up his fat ass!

You shoulda seen his face!

Fuckin' jackass shrink.

So...you're telling me that you went off your *anti-psychotic* medication.

Damn right! I don't need that shit!

Yeah... you can take your hand off me now.

Get lost, creep.

Oh, please.

With you??

Ahahaha

fkkgoddambtchz

...gotta piss...

BUDDUMP



wohhh
fuck

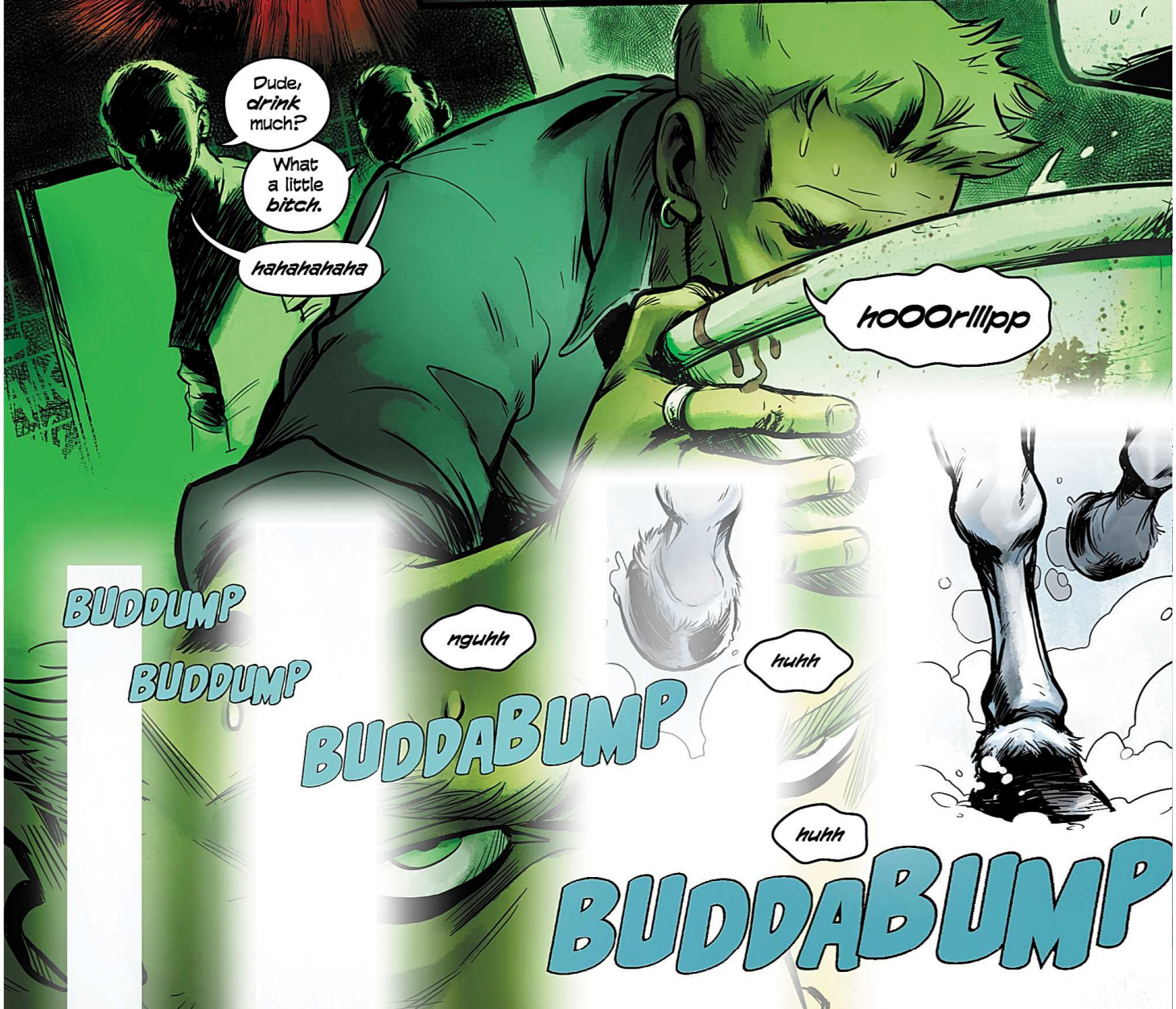
BUDDUMP

uhhhnn

-telling you man,
that chick is good
to go.

Yeah, I'm gonna put
a couple more drinks in
her just so she doesn't
change her mind, know
what I'm sayin'?

Hahahahaha



Dude,
drink
much?

What
a little
bitch.

hahahahaha

hoOOOrllpp

BUDDUMP

BUDDUMP

BUDDABUMP

nguhh

huhh

huhh

BUDDABUMP

OCTOBER 15, 1888

FOR THE EYES OF
NIKOLAI ORELOV.
OF UTMOST URGENCY.
DESTROY IMMEDIATELY
AFTER READING.

OUR BROTHERS IN THE ROYAL
HOUSE HAVE INFORMED US
THAT THE TSAR ALEXANDER III
WILL BE RETURNING TO
ST. PETERSBURG FROM A
FAMILY RETREAT IN CRIMEA
ON OCTOBER 17.

THE BROTHERHOOD'S SUCCESS
WITH THE REMOVAL OF THE
PREVIOUS TSAR DID MUCH TO
PREVENT FURTHER TEMPLAR
CONTROL OF RUSSIA AND THE
NEIGHBOURING REGIONS.

THOUGH IT MAY NOT BE EVIDENT TO THE
SHORT-SIGHTED, THE MENTOR PREDICTS
THAT WESTERN EUROPE IS APPROACHING A
CRITICAL JUNCTION. THE TSAR'S CURRENT
DIRECTION GIVES US REASON TO BELIEVE
THAT THE RUSSIAN AUTOCRACY WILL BE
STRENGTHENED RATHER THAN TEMPERED,
AS WE HAD HOPED.

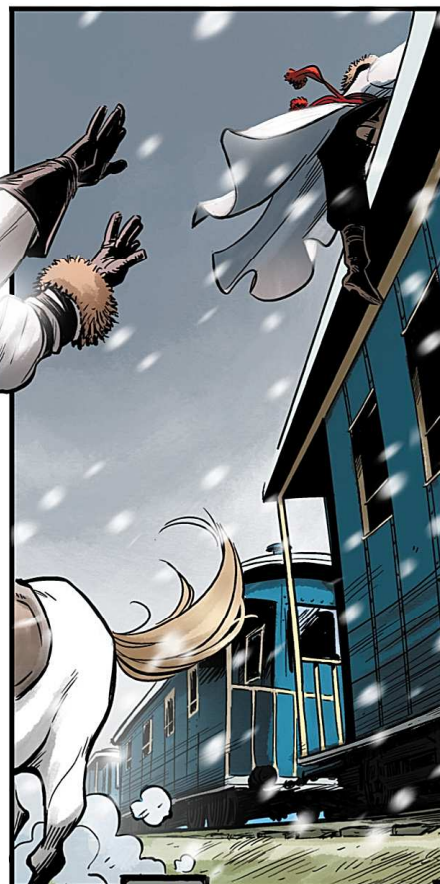
BUDDABUMP
BUDDABUMP
BUDDABUMP

PHWEEEEE

AS SUCH, WE CAN
WASTE NO TIME IN
PLAYING OUR HAND.



THE MENTOR HAS REQUESTED YOUR SERVICE, BROTHER ORELOV.

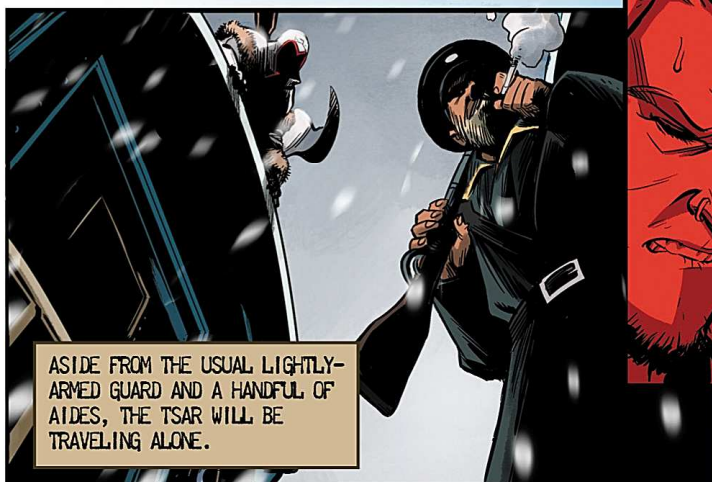


WAAAAA

YOU ARE TO BOARD THE IMPERIAL TRAIN EN ROUTE TO ST. PETERSBURG. CHOOSE OPEN COUNTRY SO AS NOT TO ATTRACT ATTENTION.



hrrgg



ASIDE FROM THE USUAL LIGHTLY-ARMED GUARD AND A HANDFUL OF AIDES, THE TSAR WILL BE TRAVELING ALONE.







AND AT ALL COSTS
REMAIN UNSEEN.

ha ha
ha

HA HA



ALEXANDER IS A FORMIDABLE MAN,
BUT THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE
WILL WORK IN YOUR FAVOUR.

guy's a
mess

hey, watch
where you're

get away
from me

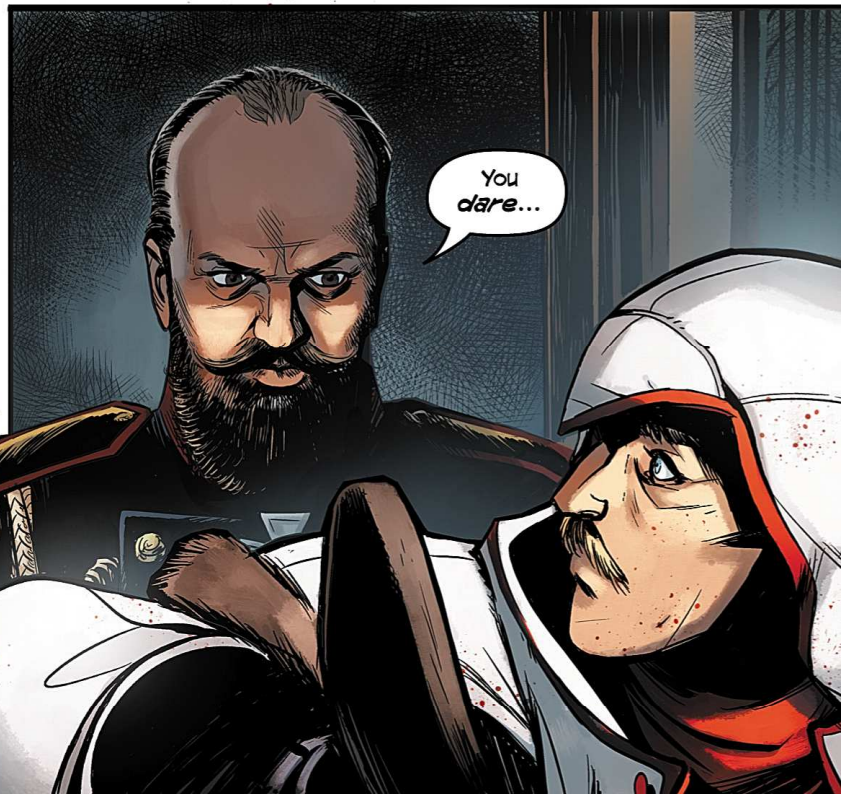
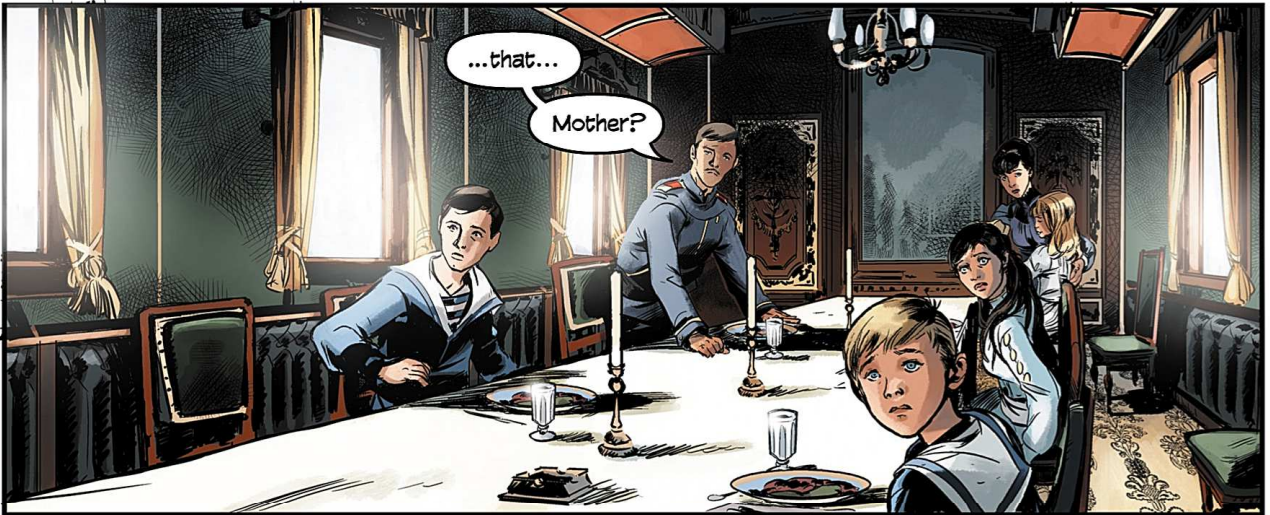
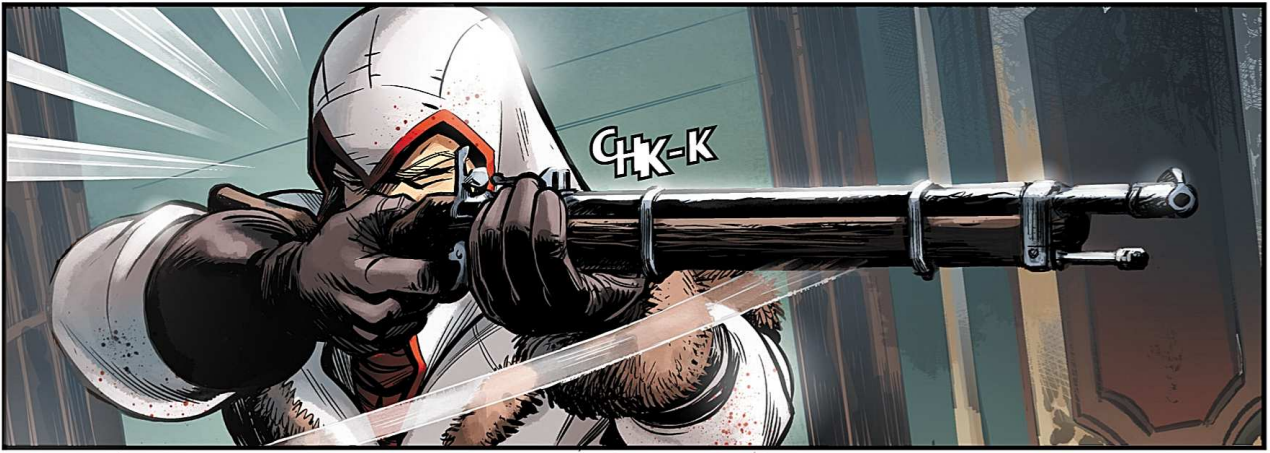


STRIKE SWIFTLY,
BROTHER ORELOV.

door's *that*
way, man.



...introduce you
when we arrive home.
I'm certain that--



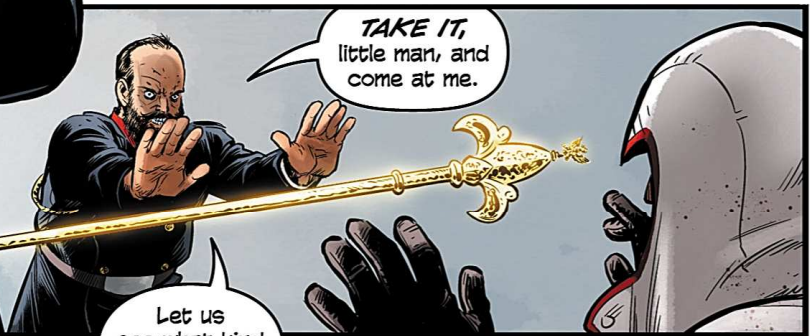




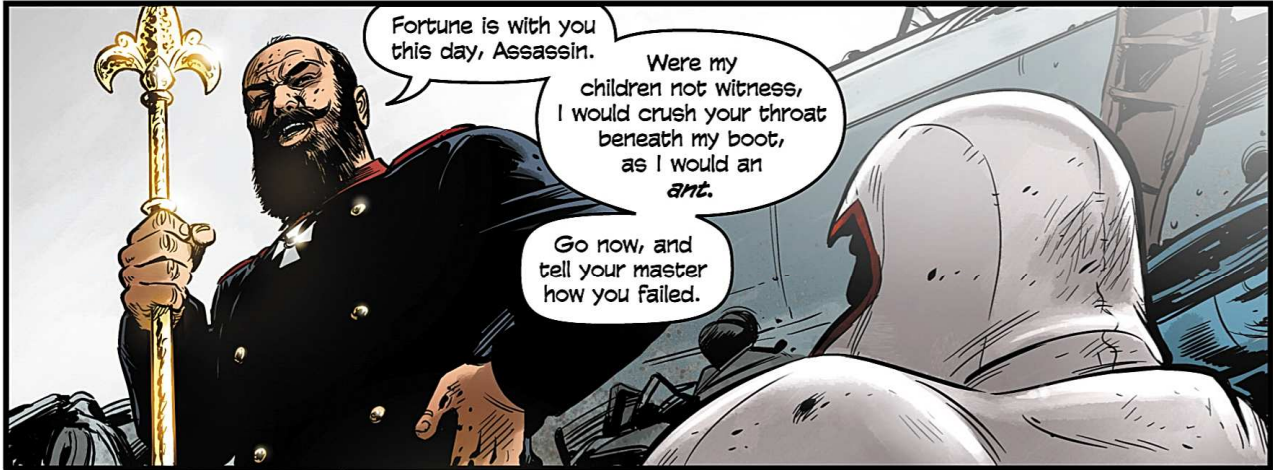




I have power he never dreamed of. You can strike at me a *thousand times* and you will never succeed.













To the compound. Bellamy is going to be so *pissed* at you, whoever you are.

You *never* kill an innocent, that's the first rule! Didn't you learn *anything*?



You're *one* of us, right?

You're an *Assassin*.

