

HOW DOES OUR BATCH OF CANDIDATES LOOK?

GOOD MEN. I LIKE MOST OF THE CANDIDATES FROM THE F.B.I. BUT—

BUT NONE OF THEM ARE KNOWN QUANTITIES. LAW ENFORCEMENT IS RISKY TO APPROACH. TOO MANY LAW AND ORDER IDEALISTS.

WELL, THIS IS MORE THAN KILLING. DO YOU WANT TO TRUST A MARINE WITH FIELD WORK?

MM. I'D RATHER TRY TO BUILD SOMEONE FROM THE GROUND UP. FULL TRAINING.

WELL, HERE'S A FAMILIAR NAME...

HM?

SERGEANT BLACK. RYAN PULLED HIS FILE. HE SAYS THEY'RE STEP-BROTHERS.

IS THAT JIM'S SON?

I THINK SO. BEEN THROUGH RANGER SCHOOL, IRAQ AND SOMALIA...

WHERE'S HE NOW?

FT. BRAGG.

FT. BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA.

POP

POP. POP

CEASE FIRE!

GOOD RUN.
EVERYONE ASSEMBLE
OUTSIDE.

SERGEANT
BLACK!

SIR!

MAJOR KANE WANTS
YOU TO REPORT TO
HIS OFFICE.

SOMETHING
UP, SIR?

DON'T KNOW,
SERGEANT.



KELSO? WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?



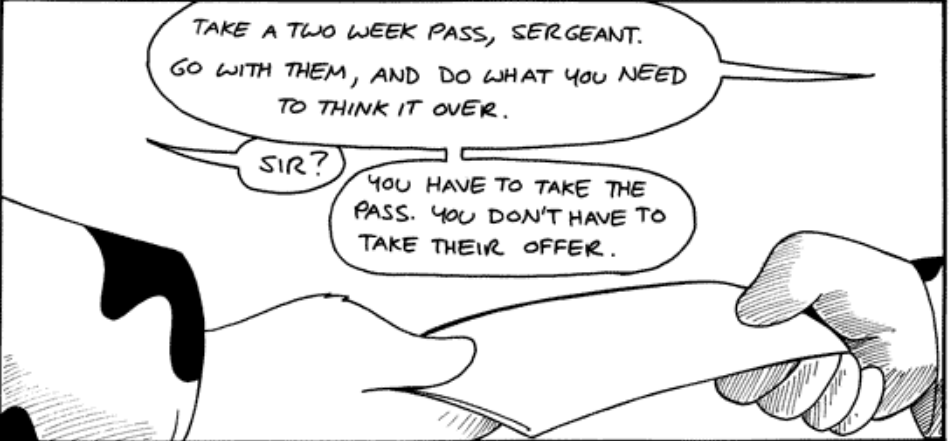
I'M GOING TO LET MR. HUNTER FILL YOU IN ON WHY WE'RE HERE.



WE'RE NOT HERE FOR PLEASANTRIES, SERGEANT. WE UNDERSTAND YOUR ARMY CONTRACT IS UP SOON, AND WE'VE COME TO OFFER YOU A JOB.

YOUR FATHER'S JOB.






TAKE A TWO WEEK PASS, SERGEANT.
GO WITH THEM, AND DO WHAT YOU NEED
TO THINK IT OVER.


SIR?

YOU HAVE TO TAKE THE
PASS. YOU DON'T HAVE TO
TAKE THEIR OFFER.



ALL RIGHT, WHAT IS THIS ALL ABOUT?
I THOUGHT I **WAS** IN MY FATHER'S
JOB—


NOT QUITE.



EXCUSE ME FOR BEING A
LITTLE RUDE. I THINK I'M
ENTITLED TO STRAIGHT
ANSWERS.

YOU'RE RIGHT,
FISK.

WE'LL TALK
WHILE WE
DRIVE.



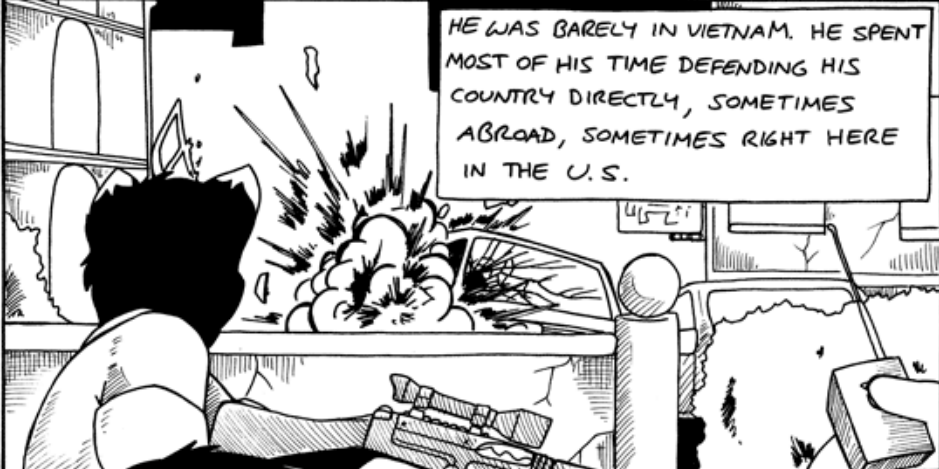
"BEING A SOLDIER WAS
YOUR FATHER'S COVER.
HE WAS EMPLOYED BY
OUR FRONT-COMPANY..."

"DOING
WHAT?"


"ANYTHING THAT NEEDED TO BE DONE. THERE
ARE THINGS THAT A BUREAUCRATIC GOVERNMENT
AGENCY CAN'T DO EFFICIENTLY AND IN A
TIMELY FASHION."

"ILLEGAL THINGS?"


"BATTLEFIELDS AREN'T JUST
JUNGLES AND DESERTS WITH
UNIFORMED SOLDIERS AT
WAR."



HE WAS BARELY IN VIETNAM. HE SPENT MOST OF HIS TIME DEFENDING HIS COUNTRY DIRECTLY, SOMETIMES ABROAD, SOMETIMES RIGHT HERE IN THE U.S.




HE COULD HAVE PICKED UP A PHONE ANYTIME AND CALLED YOUR MOTHER. BUT HE KNEW HER SAFETY, AND YOURS, DEPENDS ON HER NOT KNOWING.




SO, HE WAS SOME
KIND OF C.I.A. SPOOK?

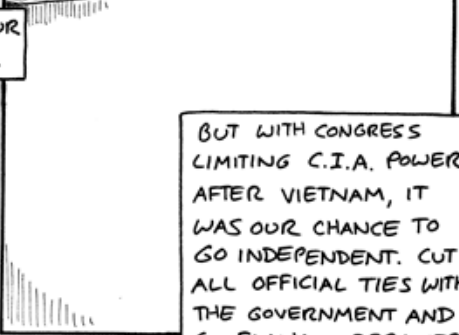
UNFORTUNATELY, WE WERE TIED INTO
THE C.I.A.'S OPERATIONS DIVISION
AT FIRST...




AS THE SOVIETS COULD
COMPROMISE THE C.I.A.
THEY COULD ALSO
COMPROMISE US.



THIS LEAD TO YOUR
FATHER'S DEATH.




BUT WITH CONGRESS
LIMITING C.I.A. POWER
AFTER VIETNAM, IT
WAS OUR CHANCE TO
GO INDEPENDENT. CUT
ALL OFFICIAL TIES WITH
THE GOVERNMENT AND
GO FULLY UNDERCOVER.



YOU RUN YOUR OWN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE, WITH OPERATIONS, PRIVATELY?

WITH DETAIL I CAN'T GO INTO WITHOUT A COMMITMENT FROM YOU...

... YES.



THE POINT IS, FISK, WE DEFEND THIS COUNTRY IN WAYS THE GOVERNMENT EITHER CAN'T OR WON'T.

WE JOINED THE SERVICE ORIGINALLY FOR THAT REASON.



IT'S ALL UP TO YOU.

YOU CAN GO ON TO DO SOMETHING ELSE, MAYBE TO LEAD A RELAXED LIFE. YOU CAN CONTINUE YOUR MILITARY SERVICE... I HEAR THE NEW ADMINISTRATION IS INTERESTED IN A MORE ACTIVE ROLE IN BOSNIA...

... OR, YOU CAN BE ON THE REAL FRONT LINES, DEFENDING US AGAINST THE ENEMIES THAT NEVER MAKE THE NEWS.



ONE OF THOSE KINDS OF JOBS?

YES.

WHERE IS IT?

IT'S IN THE WASHINGTON AREA, BUT IT INVOLVES A LOT OF TRAVEL.

IF IT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO DO, YOU SHOULD TAKE IT.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

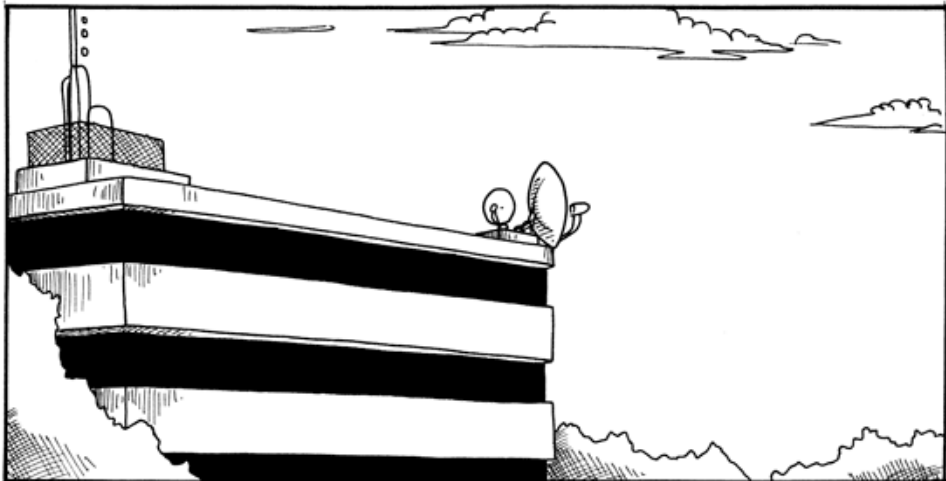
I CAN'T...

I **WON'T** KEEP YOU FROM THE WORK YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED.

BUT I'LL KEEP A PLACE FOR YOU HERE, WHENEVER YOU'RE AROUND.

THANK YOU, BETH.





THIS ISN'T LANGLEY,
BUT WE CAN SEE IT FROM
HERE.

THERE'S A FILE
WITH YOUR "OFFICIAL"
JOB ON THE
TABLE.

OR MORE
EXACTLY: YOUR
COVER.



IS THIS VERY LARGE NUMBER
MY REAL SALARY?

YES. BUY YOURSELF
A FEW NICE SUITS TO
LOOK THE PART.

YOU'RE ONE OF OUR
INVESTMENT SCOUTS, NOW.
WELCOME TO THE
COMPANY.

WE'RE STARNES AND DYE, INCORPORATED. A SIMPLE, SMALL INVESTMENT FIRM THAT DOES MOST OF ITS BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS OVER THE PHONE AND COMPUTER.

WE'RE SMALL AND COMMON ENOUGH TO NOT DRAW NOTICE, WITH OUR SMALL COMMISSION FEES FUNDING OUR OTHER OPERATIONS.



THIS IS KAREN HAGEL. SHE WORKS CLOSELY WITH YOUR KIND OF OPERATIONS, WHEN SHE ISN'T TRACKING THE SPENDING OF BAD GUYS AND KEEPING OUR TECHNOLOGY UP TO SPEED. WE PAY HER IN COFFEE AND CANDY BARS.

VERY FUNNY.



KAREN, THIS IS FISK BLACK. HE'S GOING TO BE OUR NEW AGENT.

OH, HE'S REPLACING YOU, JOE?

YEP.

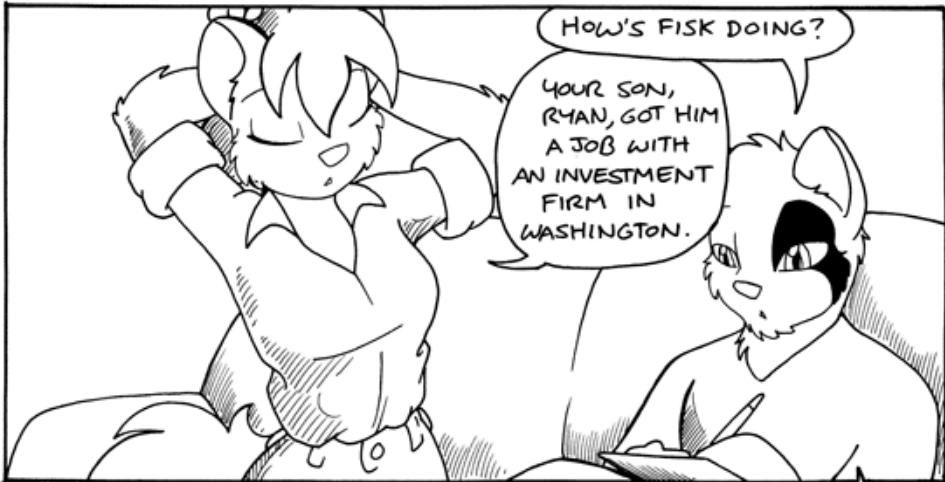


YOU'RE RETIRING?

NO. KELSO IS. I'M TAKING HIS JOB.













WE'RE GOING TO NEW YORK CITY.
WE'LL GET YOU SOME CLOTHES TO
HIDE YOUR BUILD, AND HEAD
TO J.F.K.

WE'RE FLYING
SOMEWHERE?

YES. I CAN'T TEACH
GOOD FIELD CRAFT IN THE
U.S. IT'S TOO... UH...
STABLE.

TOO
SAFE.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?
WHERE ARE YOU
FROM?

WHO DO
YOU WORK
FOR?

THERE ARE BOARDING PASSES
ON THE TABLE. YOU'LL SEE.

IT'S IMPORTANT TO KNOW
DANGER, AND NOT TO
IMAGINE IT. IT'S VITAL TO
GO WHERE SOME SORT OF
CIVILIZATION ASSAINS A
SAVAGERY INTENT ON
DESTROYING IT.

YOU WILL HAVE TO
GET USED TO SILENT
BATTLE, AND AMONGST
CITIES AND POPULATION.

IT IS NOT THE
OPEN DESERT
SAND.

