

The White Tower.

Three
separate
envoys...

All with
the same
response.





You send them off whole -- full of purpose -- and just look what comes back.

Less.

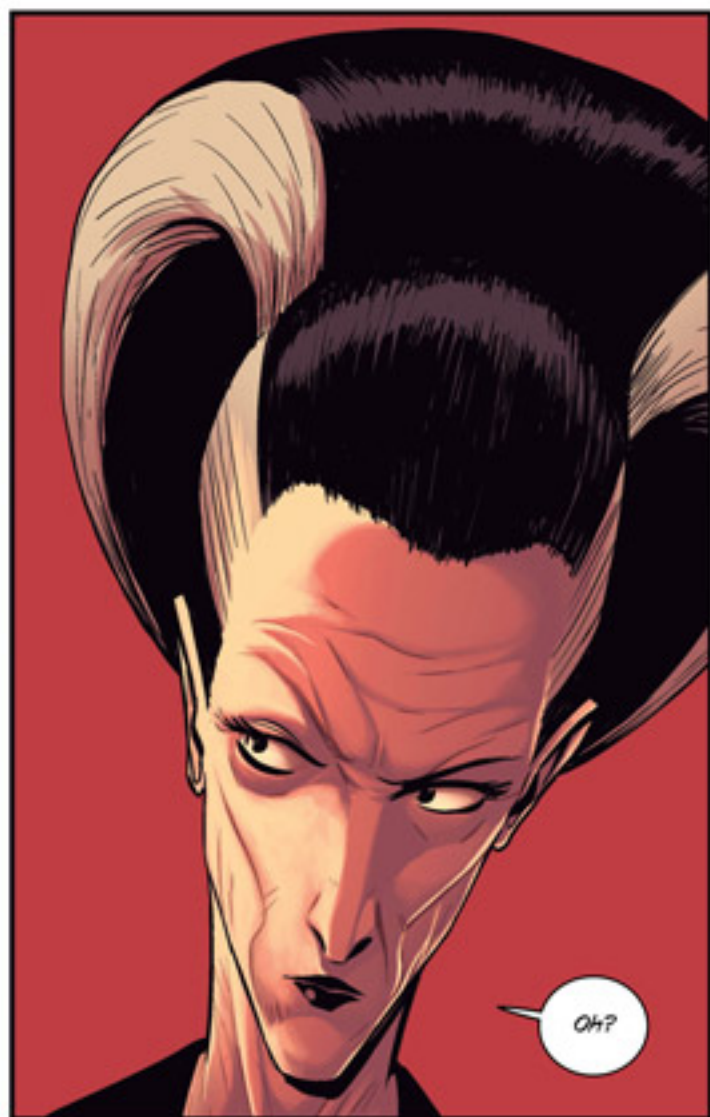


Have their heads sent to their families, and arrange a memorial...

Along with, I suppose, my condolences. Or send money. Whichever. I don't care.



Actually, ma'am, it's not all heads this time.



OH?



That one's a head. And that's a head. But that one is...various parts of Ambassador Merritt. Including a bit of his torso, I think. Or a butt...

It's hard to tell.



Hmm.

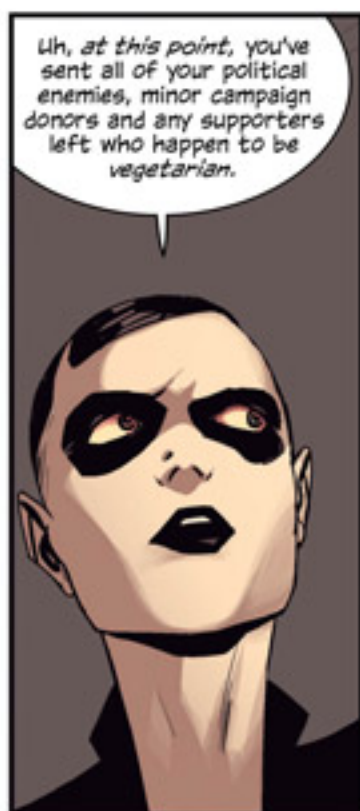


Oh, well...

Diplomacy is a war of attrition. If I just keep sending people, then eventually the Endless Nation is going to have to talk to one of them.

And through them, to me.

Who's next on the list?

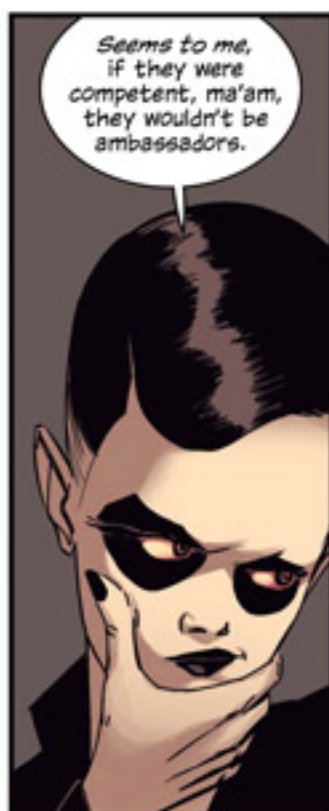


Uh, at this point, you've sent all of your political enemies, minor campaign donors and any supporters left who happen to be vegetarian.



Damn.

My entire kingdom for one, competent, meat-eating Ambassador.



Seems to me, if they were competent, ma'am, they wouldn't be ambassadors.



Yes. You just might have a point. I need to think outside the box.