An abstract painting featuring a central large yellow circle with concentric brushstrokes. Surrounding it are various other shapes and colors, including blue, red, and white, all created with expressive brushwork and splatters. The overall composition is dynamic and textured.

INSTITUTIONAL  
LEARNING FACILITIES  
ARE TRAPS INTENDED TO  
CONTROL THE MIND,  
SUBDUCE THE SOUL, AND  
KEEP YOU IN DEBT UNTIL  
YOU'RE TOO OLD TO  
CAUSE TROUBLE.





YOU'RE TOO SMART FOR THIS SHAWN.

YOUR PAPER ON SPECULATIVE QUANTUM PHYSICS WAS GROUND-BREAKING.

PROFESSOR MCCAULIN SAID IT WAS NONSENSE.

BECAUSE HIS THINKING HAS GROWN RIGID.

AND IF YOU DON'T RESIST THE SYSTEM YOU'LL END UP JUST LIKE HIM.

BUT THAT ASIDE, I AM GETTING A GOOD EDUCATION AT BERKELEY, DOCTOR MCKAY.

I'M NOT A DOCTOR, SHAWN.

I'D REFUSE THE TITLE EVEN IF I'D FINISHED SCHOOL.

TITLES ARE JUST CONSTRUCTS TO HELP US LABEL ONE ANOTHER, TO QUICKLY ASSESS WHAT SOMEONE IS WORTH WITHOUT THINKING TOO MUCH.



IT'S ALL

I DON'T DOUBT THAT YOU'LL LEARN A GREAT DEAL AT BERKELEY.

BUT STEP-BY-STEP, INCH-BY-INCH, THEY WILL KILL YOUR INGENUITY.

BRICK BY BRICK, THEY'LL ENCLOSE YOUR MIND.

TELLING YOU WHAT'S RIGHT TO THINK AND WHAT ISN'T.

BY THE TIME YOU GET OUT, YOU'LL NEVER PUSH THINGS AS FAR AS YOU COULD ON YOUR OWN.



YOU WON'T KNOW HOW.

YOU WON'T LET YOURSELF.



WHAT YOU'RE SUGGESTING...

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW HARD I'VE WORKED FOR THE LAST COUPLE OF YEARS?









THAT'S  
A [REDACTED]  
FANTASY, THAT'S  
NOT HOW  
IT WORKS  
ANYMORE.

THEY'VE  
RESHUFFLED  
THE DECK  
ON YOU.

THOSE  
KIND OF JOBS—  
THE FEW THAT  
REMAIN—PEOPLE  
ARE OUT THERE  
KILLING EACH  
OTHER FOR THEM.



SCOTT  
LOUDON, WHO  
I WENT TO  
SCHOOL WITH,  
HE FINISHED.

HE SPENDS  
HIS LIFE INVENTING  
BETTER FLAVORS OF  
DORITOS, THE BEST  
PAYING JOB FOR A  
MAN BURIED IN  
STUDENT LOANS.

IS THAT  
WHAT  
YOU WANT,  
SHAWN?



SIT IN SOME  
CORPORATE LAB,  
MANUFACTURING  
MORE ALLURING AROMAS  
TO TRICK PEOPLE INTO  
BUYING A NEW SOAP?



DROP  
OUT.

COME  
WITH ME.

EXPLORE  
THE FORBIDDEN  
SCIENCES THAT  
CAN LEAD TO  
ACTUAL CURES  
FOR WHAT AILS  
MANKIND.

THE  
CHOICE IS  
YOURS—



"--FRITO LAY OR FREEDOM?"

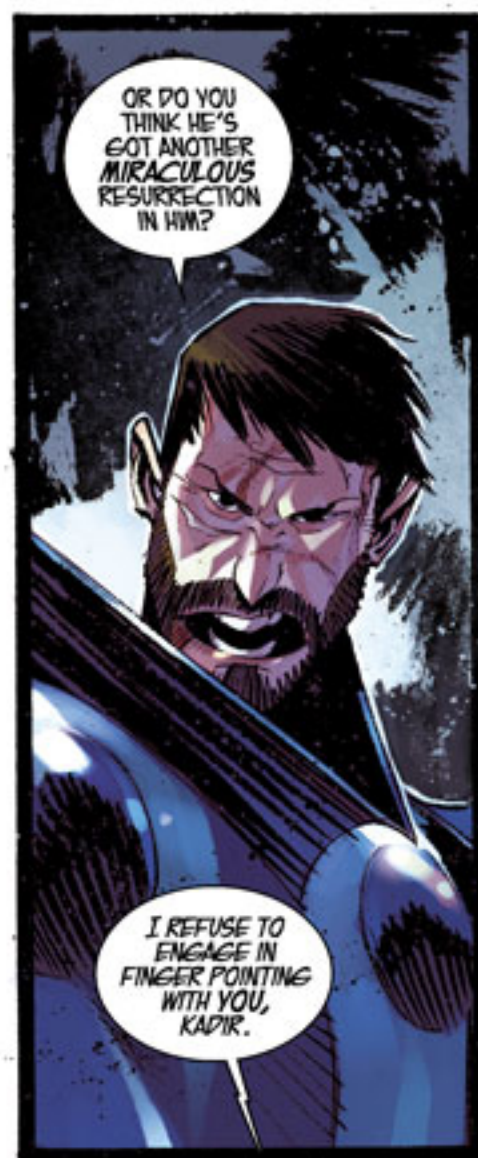
COOK UP SOME ZESTY HABANERA EXTREME RANCH CUMQUAT PORTITOS OVER THIS NIGHTMARE...

I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M EVEN SURPRISED AT MCKAY.



AND YOU, SHAWN, I HOPE YOU'RE HAPPY.

YOUR IMPASSIONED SANCTIMONY JUST GOT YOUR MENTOR KILLED.



OR DO YOU THINK HE'S GOT ANOTHER MIRACULOUS RESURRECTION IN HIM?

I REFUSE TO ENGAGE IN FINGER POINTING WITH YOU, KADIR.



ESPECIALLY AS I AM FIXING THE DAMAGE YOU DID TO THE PILLAR.

BUT I WOULD APPRECIATE YOU SHUTTING UP WHILE I DO.

SECONDED.



IF IT DOESN'T WORK, IF GRANT DOESN'T COME BACK, I WON'T BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS CHILDREN ANYMORE.

I PAID MY DUES.

MY PROMISE EXPIRED.





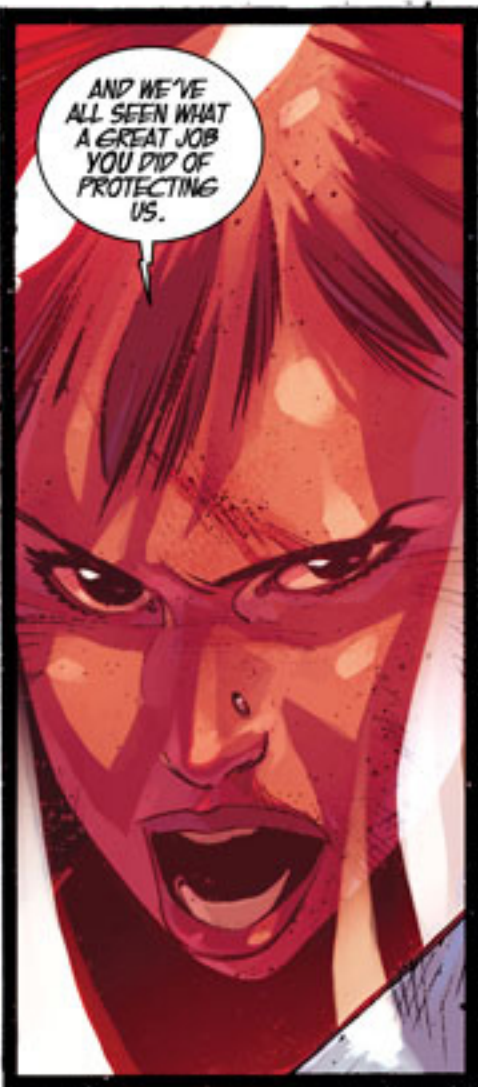
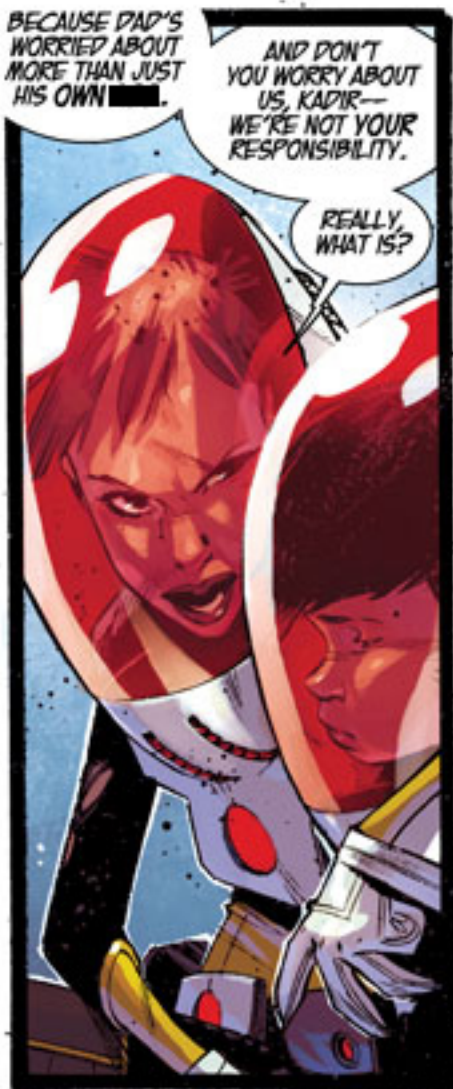
BUT...  
D-DAD'S  
COMING  
BACK,  
RIGHT?

HE'S COMING  
BACK AFTER HAVING  
SAVED THIS PLACE  
AND DONE SOME  
GOOD, NATE.

BECAUSE DAD'S  
WORRIED ABOUT  
MORE THAN JUST  
HIS OWN

AND DON'T  
YOU WORRY ABOUT  
US, KADIR—  
WE'RE NOT YOUR  
RESPONSIBILITY.

REALLY,  
WHAT IS?



AND WE'VE  
ALL SEEN WHAT  
A GREAT JOB  
YOU DID OF  
PROTECTING  
US.



THAT'S  
GOOD,  
PIA.

YOU'RE  
ANGRY. YOU  
HAVE EVERY  
RIGHT.

BUT MAYBE  
YOU'RE NOT  
MAD AT ME—



—MAYBE  
YOU'RE UPSET  
YOUR FATHER HAS,  
ONCE AGAIN,  
PRIORITIZED OTHER  
PEOPLE OVER HIS  
OWN CHILDREN.