

WE ALL HATE OURSELVES A LITTLE BIT.



SOME MORE THAN OTHERS.

OUR PASTS ARE DISAPPOINTED IN US.



OUR PRESENTS FEEL TRAPPED.

OUR FUTURE SELVES HAUNT US.

AND NOW VALENTINE RICHARDS RUNS FROM ALL THREE.



YOU TOLD US THAT WE WOULD BE FAMOUS.

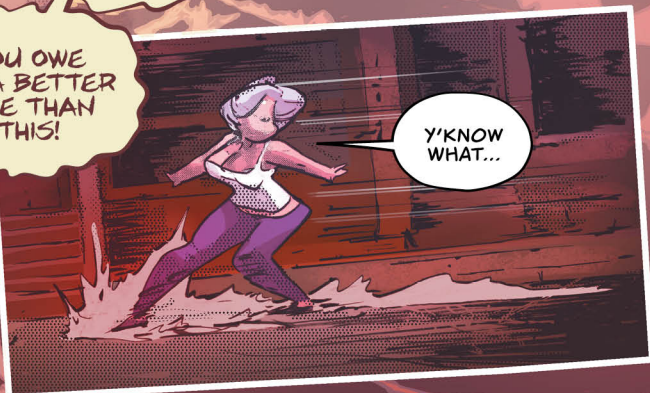
BUT YOU FUCKING WATCHED FROM THE SIDELINES.



YOU KEEP REPEATING THE SAME MISTAKES OVER AND OVER AGAIN.

YOU OWE US A BETTER LIFE THAN THIS!

Y'KNOW WHAT...



YOU SUCK!

I'M SORRY!



I DON'T OWE YOU...

...SHIT!

KRAK KRAK

BBLL-BBLL

VAL REMEMBERED THAT SHE HAD JUMPED INTO THE WATER LIKE A WARRIOR WOMAN TO SAVE ANTONIO LUNA.

FREE HIM FROM THE GRIPS OF HIS OWN HOSTILE MEMORY.

SHE REFUSED THIS WATERY GRAVE!





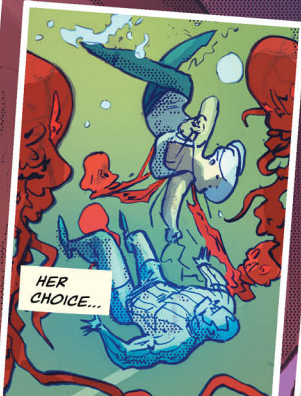
AND WITH THAT EPIC PUNCH VAL DEFEATED THE PAST THAT HAD ONCE HELD HER BACK!

BUT THAT MEANT AN EQUALLY VIOLENT RETURN TO THE REAL WORLD!

JUST IN TIME TO DIE.



BUT IT WASN'T REALLY...

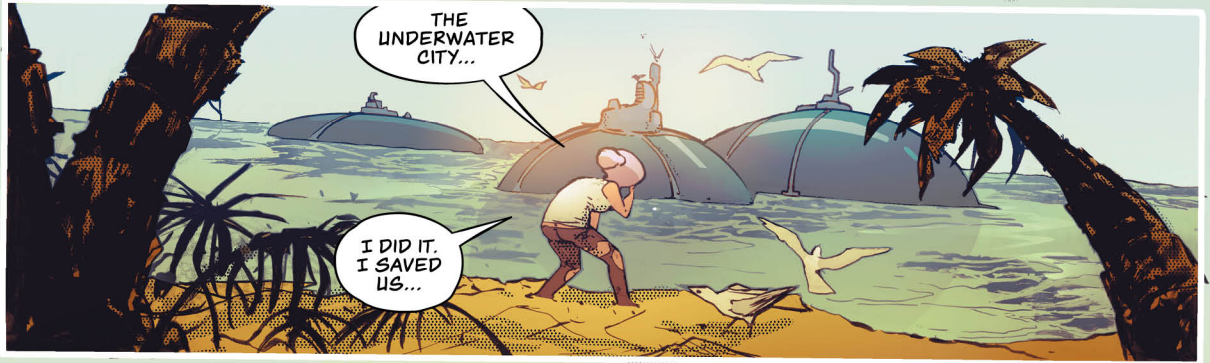
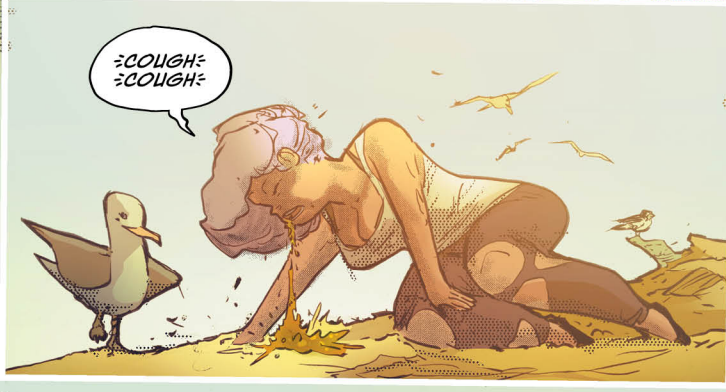
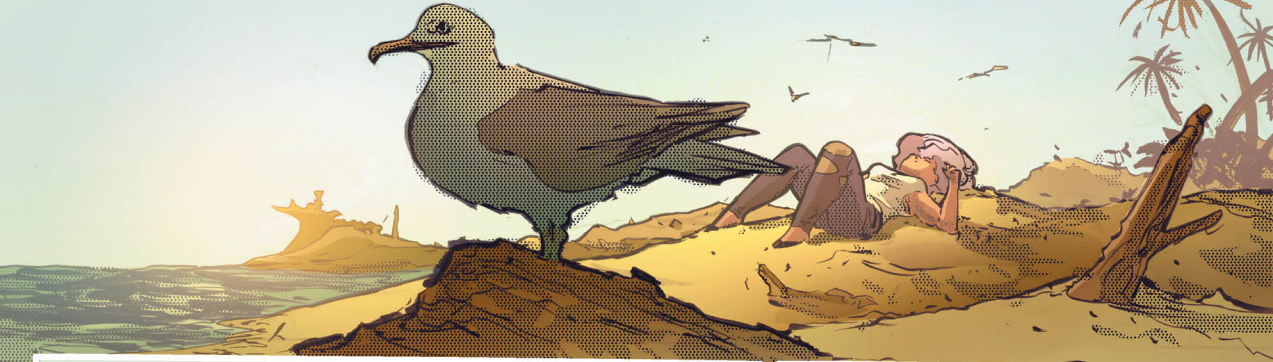


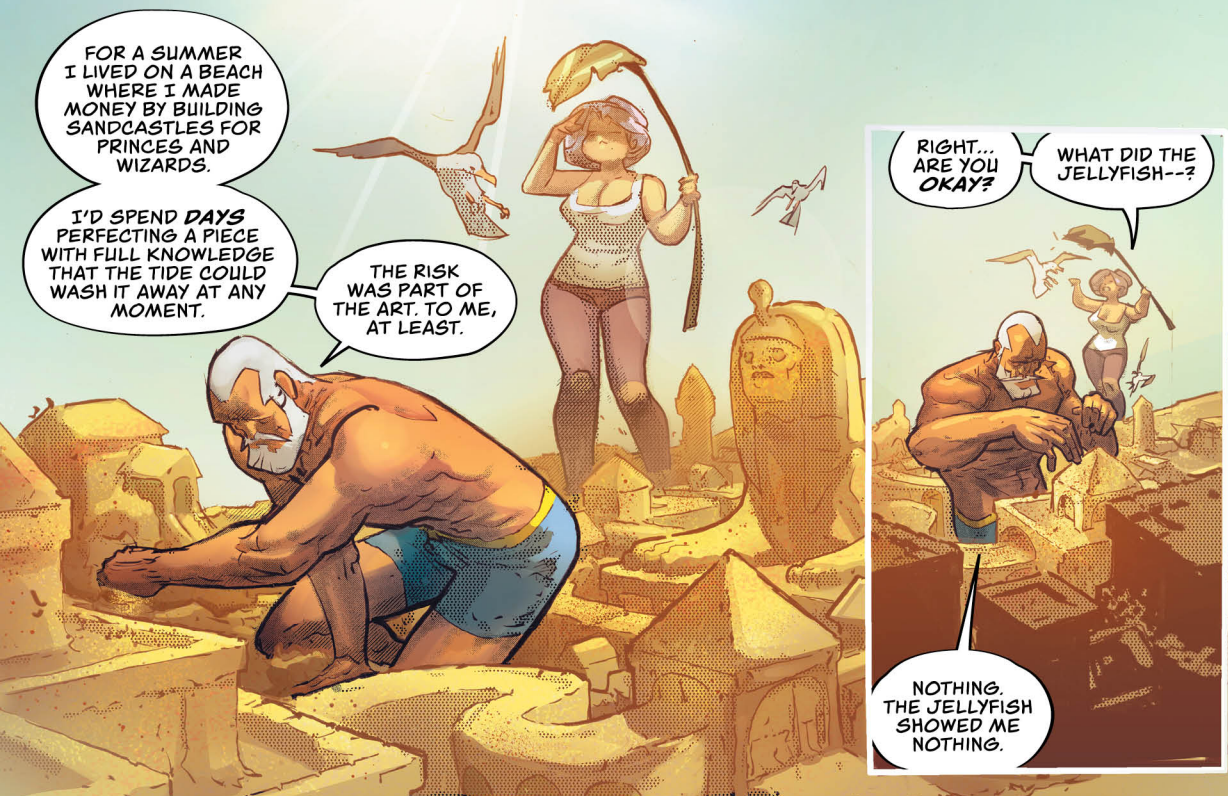
HER CHOICE...



...NOW WAS IT?







FOR A SUMMER I LIVED ON A BEACH WHERE I MADE MONEY BY BUILDING SANDCASTLES FOR PRINCES AND WIZARDS.

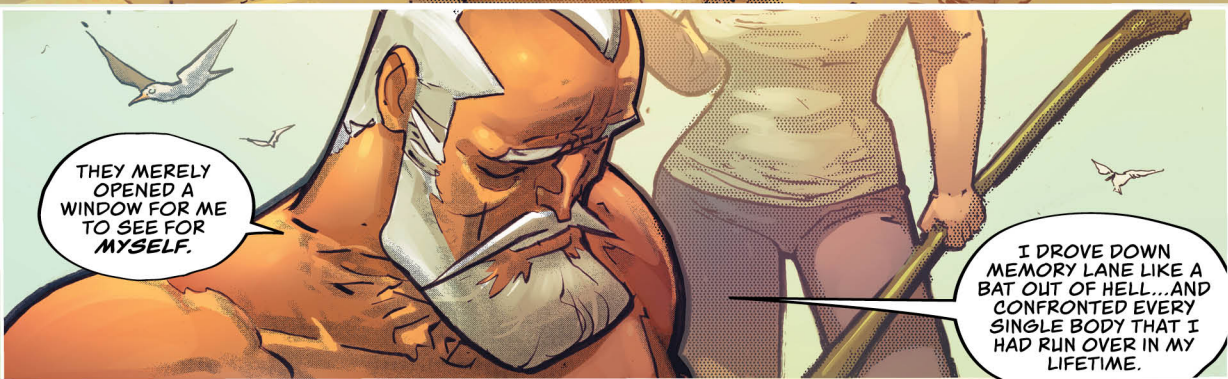
I'D SPEND DAYS PERFECTING A PIECE WITH FULL KNOWLEDGE THAT THE TIDE COULD WASH IT AWAY AT ANY MOMENT.

THE RISK WAS PART OF THE ART. TO ME, AT LEAST.

RIGHT... ARE YOU OKAY?

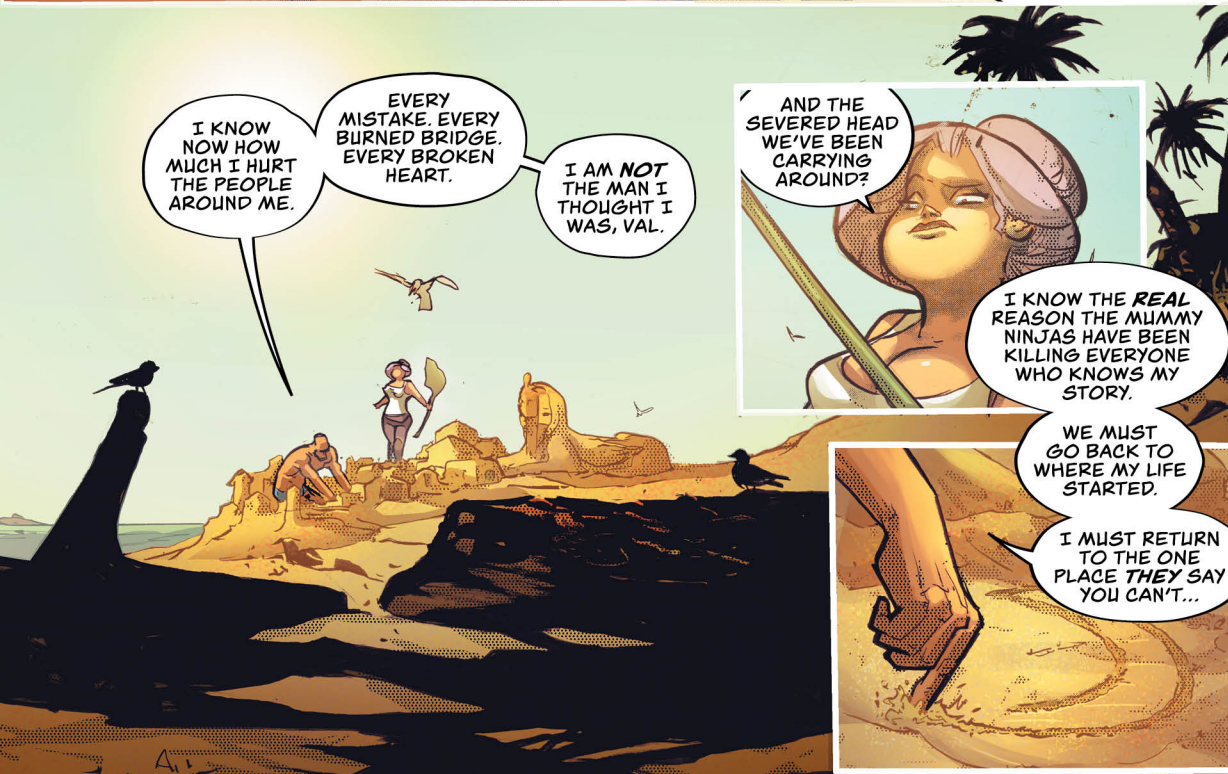
WHAT DID THE JELLYFISH--?

NOTHING. THE JELLYFISH SHOWED ME NOTHING.



THEY MERELY OPENED A WINDOW FOR ME TO SEE FOR MYSELF.

I DROVE DOWN MEMORY LANE LIKE A BAT OUT OF HELL...AND CONFRONTED EVERY SINGLE BODY THAT I HAD RUN OVER IN MY LIFETIME.



I KNOW NOW HOW MUCH I HURT THE PEOPLE AROUND ME.

EVERY MISTAKE. EVERY BURNED BRIDGE. EVERY BROKEN HEART.

I AM *NOT* THE MAN I THOUGHT I WAS, VAL.

AND THE SEVERED HEAD WE'VE BEEN CARRYING AROUND?

I KNOW THE *REAL* REASON THE MUMMY NINJAS HAVE BEEN KILLING EVERYONE WHO KNOWS MY STORY.

WE MUST GO BACK TO WHERE MY LIFE STARTED.

I MUST RETURN TO THE ONE PLACE *THEY* SAY YOU CAN'T...