

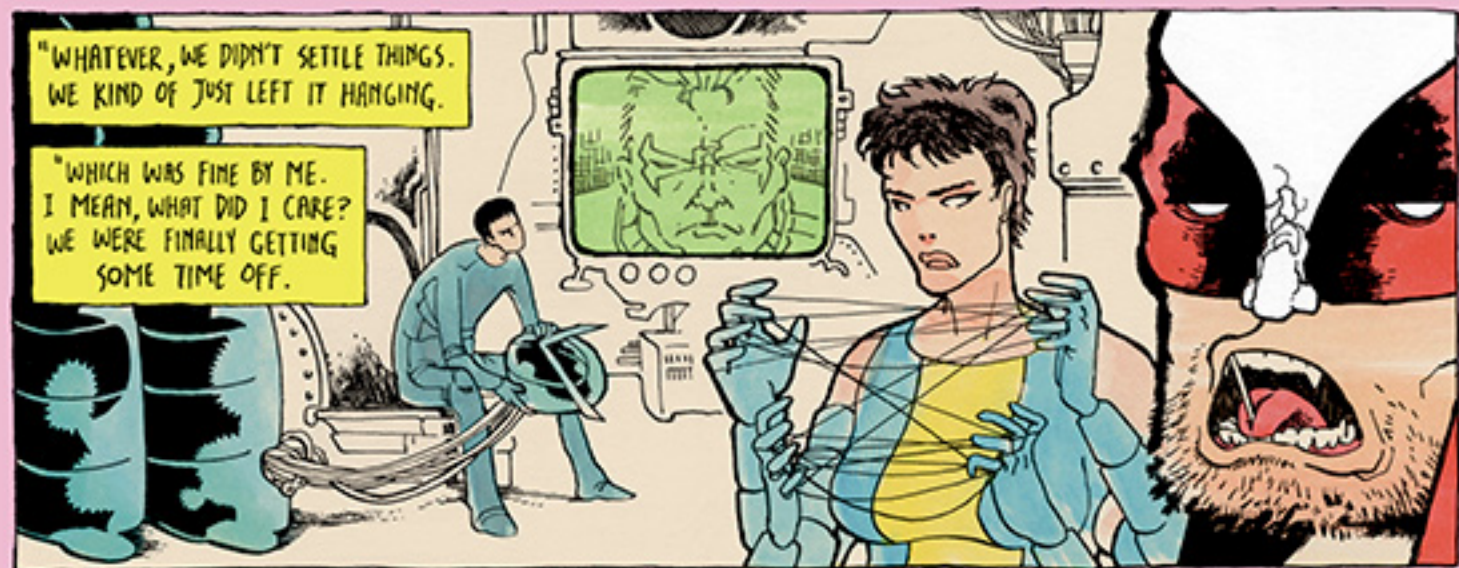


"OK, SO IT WAS AROUND THE TIME WE WERE IN LOS ANGELES, UH, NEGOTIATING WITH WHAT'S-THEIR-NAME--

"SUPER BODIED RENEGADES-- CABBOT'S BROTHER-- BRIGADE! RIGHT, BRIGADE. THAT'S IT.

"OF COURSE, WE WERE IN SOME CRAPPY BASEMENT MOST OF THE TIME. SILLY ME, THINKING BLOODSTRIKE HAD SOME NICER TRAVEL PERKS."

TAG, YOU'RE IT!



"WHATEVER, WE DIDN'T SETTLE THINGS.
WE KIND OF JUST LEFT IT HANGING.

"WHICH WAS FINE BY ME.
I MEAN, WHAT DID I CARE?
WE WERE FINALLY GETTING
SOME TIME OFF.



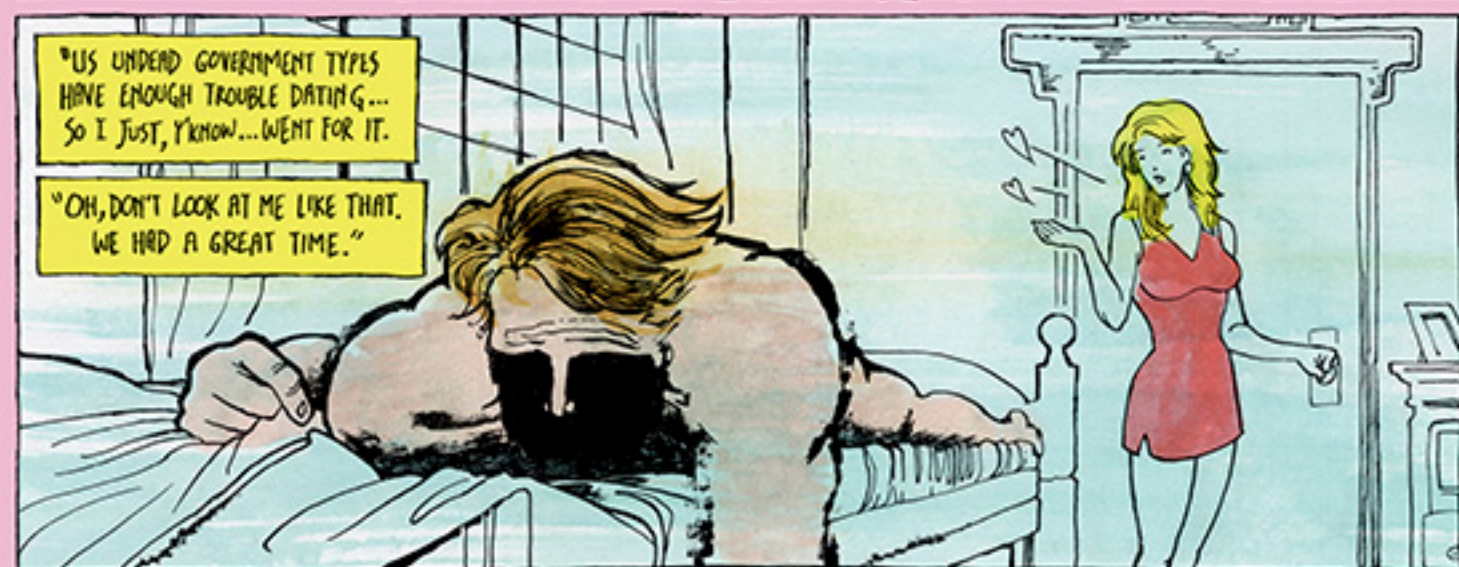
"SO I WENT TO MY FAVORITE
SINGLES BAR TO PLAY CATCH-UP.

"PICKED UP A REAL WINNER
ALMOST IMMEDIATELY.

"MAX.



"I KNEW AS SOON AS I
SAW MAX THAT
HE WAS THE ONE.



"US UNDEAD GOVERNMENT TYPES
HAVE ENOUGH TROUBLE DATING...
SO I JUST, Y'KNOW... WENT FOR IT.

"OH, DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT.
WE HAD A GREAT TIME."



TWO WEEKS?!

I CAN'T WAIT THAT LONG-- CALL ANOTHER SPECIALIST.

CAN'T YOU--

YES, I'VE BEEN MONITORING MY-- YES, JOHN.

STILL FATIGUED, YES. STUBBED MY TOE JUST NOW -- AND IT FELL OFF!

BARELY FELT A THING.



I SMELL LIKE ROTTEN MEAT NOW, JOHN.

GET ME AN APPOINTMENT NOW, JOHN.



IT'S ALL GOING TO BE FINE. I'LL BE NORMAL REAL SOON.

I JUST NEED ANSWERS-- WHEN I GET ANSWERS, I WILL --

THAT WILL TELL ME SOMETHING.

TELL ME WHY THIS HAPPENED TO ME.

WHY?!

WHO WAS THAT GIRL? SHE DID THIS TO ME.

SHE... USED ME. KILLED ME.



NO. NOT KILLED.

STILL ALIVE. STILL HERE.

CAN'T SIT AROUND WAITING FOR A SPECIALIST.

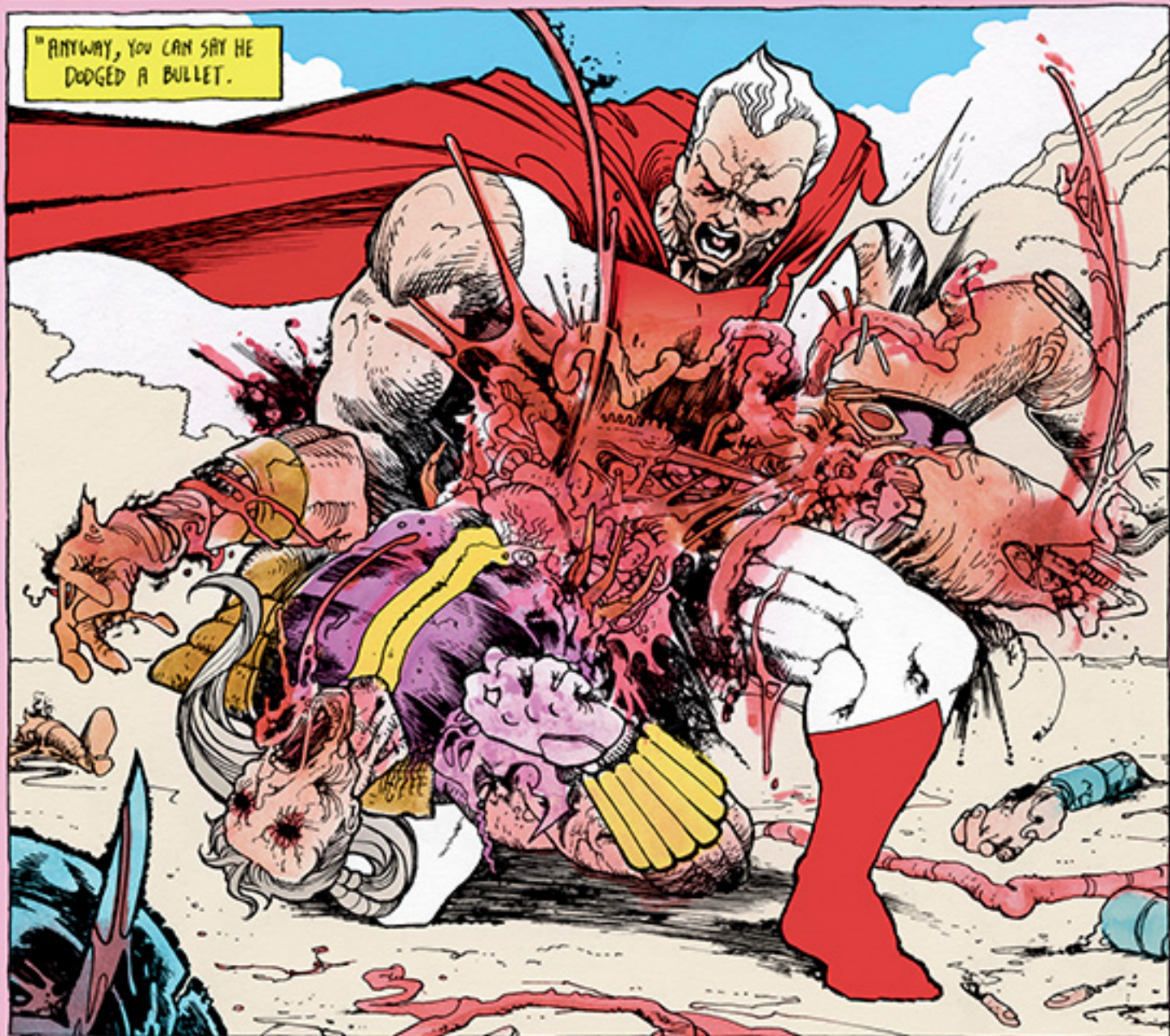
I HAVE TO FIND HER...

ONLY ONE PLACE... I CAN...

THINK OF.

"DOWNTIME WAS BRIEF, THOUGH. THE MORNING AFTER MAX-LIKE, RIGHT AFTER BREAKFAST--WE HAD THAT MISSION. THE ONE DEADLOCK SAT OUT--YEAH, I THINK IT WAS CHEST RECONSTRUCTION OR SOMETHING. LUCKY S.O.B.

"ANYWAY, YOU CAN SAY HE DODGED A BULLET.



"SINCE I WAS THE ONLY ONE NOT MUTILATED ON THAT MISSION, I HAD TIME TO KILL BETWEEN GIGS. I MEAN, YOU KNOW... THOSE PROJECT: BORN AGAIN BOYS SURE TAKE THEIR SWEET TIME.



"I WENT LOOKING FOR ANOTHER BOYFRIEND. IT'S GOOD TO SWITCH SPOTS ONCE IN A WHILE. KEEPS IT FRESH. AND YET, SOMETIMES IT'S YOUR OLD STOMPING GROUNDS THAT NEVER DISAPPOINT."