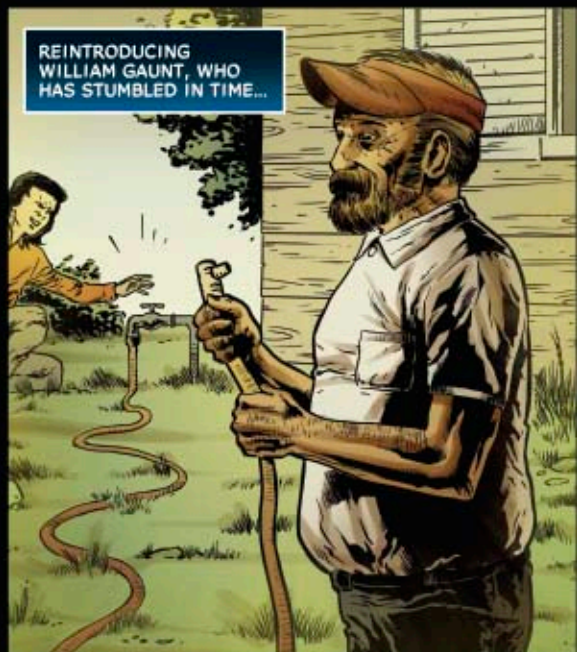
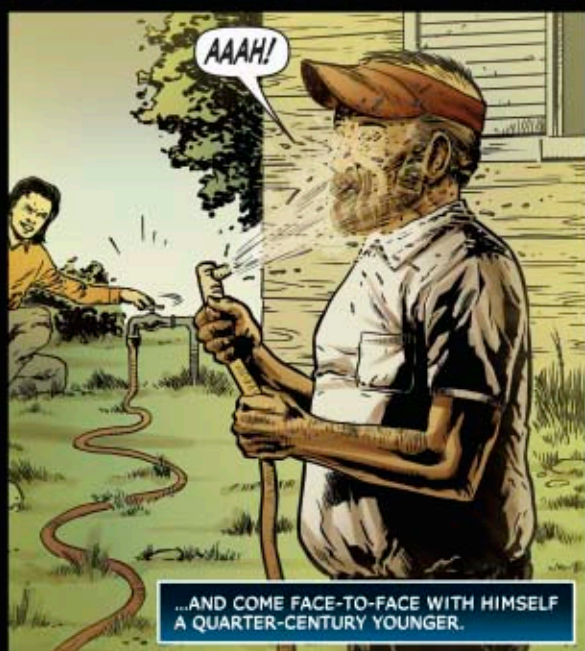


WELCOME BACK.

WE REJOIN A DISSIPATION  
IN PROGRESS.

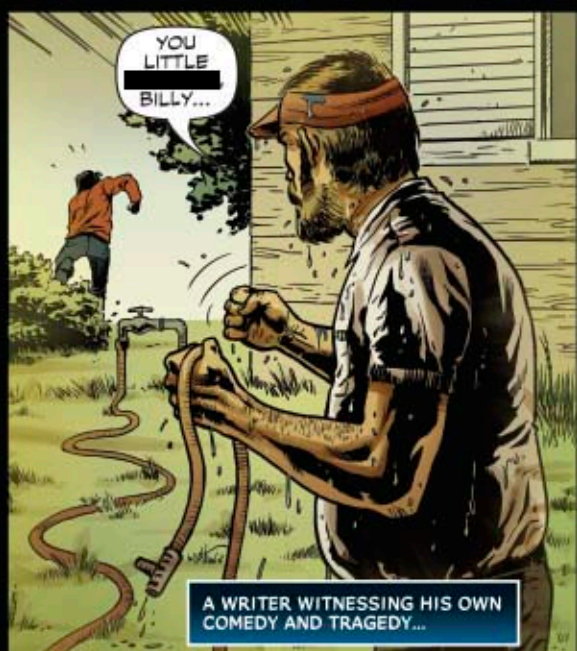


REINTRODUCING  
WILLIAM GAUNT, WHO  
HAS STUMBLER IN TIME...



AAAH!

...AND COME FACE-TO-FACE WITH HIMSELF  
A QUARTER-CENTURY YOUNGER.



YOU  
LITTLE  
BILLY...

A WRITER WITNESSING HIS OWN  
COMEDY AND TRAGEDY...



I'M GONNA  
BEAT YOU TO  
DEATH...

HELLO AGAIN,  
GRANDPA.

...AND REMEMBERING  
THEIR PROPORTIONS.



# SHADOW AND SUBSTANCE

## "STUMBLING DISTANCE" CONCLUSION

YOU'RE TELLING ME YOU'RE GETTING DRUNK AT A DRIVE-IN MOVIE BY YOURSELF.

YEAH, HOW COOL IS THAT? THEY STILL HAVE THESE THINGS HERE!

THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS EMPHASIZING, WILLIAM. IT'S SAD.

COME ON, DOLL. AN ALL-NIGHT HORROR FEST.

IF YOU MISS YOUR FLIGHT BACK--

I'LL BE FINE.

YOU'RE NOT FINE. YOUR DRINKING'S OUT OF CONTROL, AND NOW YOU'RE STALKING SOME BOY WHO'S LIVING IN YOUR OLD HOUSE.





IT'S NOT SOME BOY. IT'S ME.

YOU'RE HAVING SOME KIND OF BREAKDOWN.



PRETEND YOU BELIEVE ME FOR A SECOND. HE NEEDS HELP.

YOU NEED HELP. I'M NOT DOING THIS.

I HAVE TO LEAVE THE DAY BEFORE HE DOES IT. BUT IF I CAN TALK TO HIM, STOP HIM FROM WHAT HE'S GOING TO TRY...



YOU [REDACTED], WILLIAM. FINE. YOU KNOW HE DOESN'T SUCCEED OR YOU WOULDN'T BE AROUND NOW.



AND IT'S ALL YOUR EXPERIENCES - INCLUDING THE PAINFUL ONES - THAT MAKE YOU WHO YOU ARE.

YOU CAN'T JUST GO BACK IN TIME AND ERASE THE BAD STUFF, WILLIAM.



THEN WHY AM I HERE, DOLL?

FOR A BOOK SIGNING THAT YOU MISSED BECAUSE YOU WERE PROBABLY DRUNK OR HUNG OVER. NOW GET SOME SLEEP, COME HOME AND DON'T RUIN OUR HOLIDAY PLANS.

I'M SERIOUS, WILLIAM.





HEY,  
THERE, MISTER  
GAUNT!



ROUGH  
ONE LAST  
NIGHT?

I DON'T  
KNOW, I KIND  
OF LIKED IT.



MAN, DO I  
MISS DRIVE-IN  
MOVIES.

THAT SO?

CRUNCH OF THE  
GRAVEL.. CHEAP HOT  
DOGS AT THE SNACK  
BAR. BAD MOVIES.  
PROJECTED ON FILM...

HUH. DOESN'T  
SOUND LIKE MUCH  
OF A THING TO GET  
NOSTALGIC ABOUT.

BELIEVE ME, I'M  
**NOT** THE NOSTALGIC  
TYPE. QUITE THE OPPOSITE.  
BUT THOSE WERE SOME OF  
THE FEW GOOD MEMORIES  
HERE.





SURE.

WELL, NOW THAT YOU'VE HAD YOUR LITTLE TASTE OF THE PAST, YOU READY TO TURN HER IN AND HEAD ON BACK?



NOT JUST YET, ACTUALLY.

OH?



CAN I RENT THE CAR FOR ANOTHER DAY? PROBABLY WON'T NEED IT THAT LONG.

SURE YOU CAN, MISTER GAUNT. STILL NO CHARGE. BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS YOUR FLIGHT BACK.



I'LL BE FINE. MUCH APPRECIATED.

BE SURE YOU DON'T MISS YOUR TRIP HOME. YOU UNDERSTAND?



I THINK I DO.