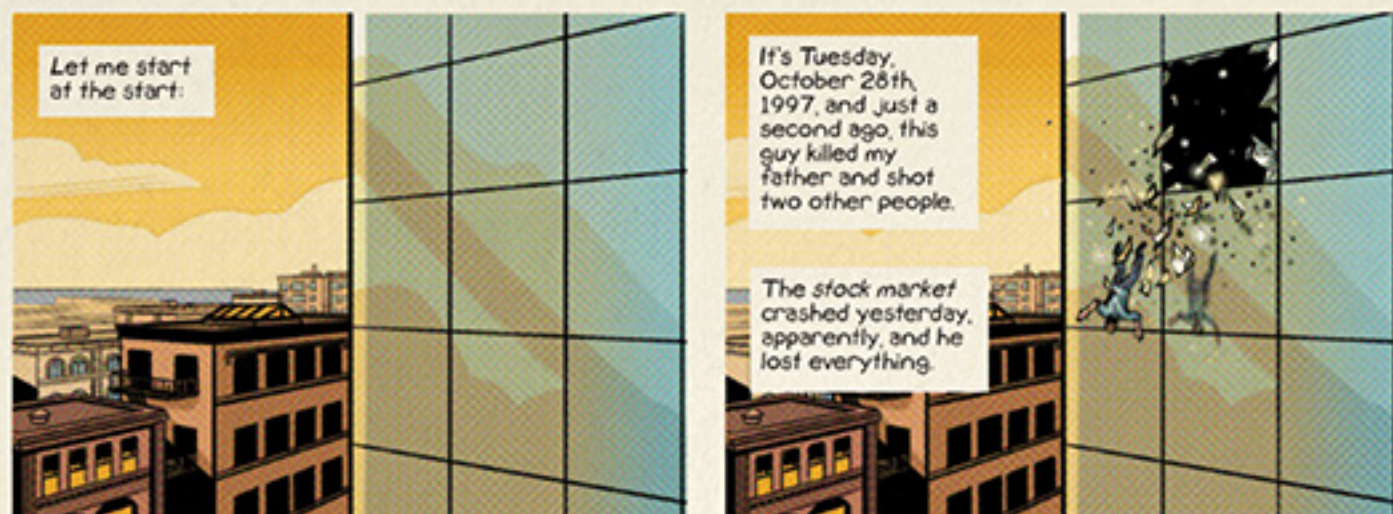


Before the stars came to be, there was the **STOCK MARKET!!!**

It **CRASHED** one day, and this guy, high on cocaine and broke as a joke, went crazy and shot people.



This is one of the book's many moments of **VERY, VERY SUBTLE META COMMENTARY** on its themes of trouble vs. desire, want vs. need, the nature of love vs. the nature of greed, and other conflicting opposites of that sort. I mean, look at that subtle-ass shit right there.

**BAM.** We got us a **THEME.**

Anyway, that lady's dad got killed, and we meet her as a child, the day it happened. Also, not for nothing, but her future BF is over there in the red jacket. **(FORESHADOWING)**





So anyway **SUZANNE** aka **SUZIE** aka **SUZE** most of the time but we're not great with consistency and her **MOM** deal with the loss in their own ways. Mom hits the sauce extra hard. And Suze...?



**SHE** discovers that when water hits her **CHA-CHA** just right she has an **ORGASM**. But even **MORE** amazing...?



**TIME STOPS**. Which is weird, right? In a comic, it's all frozen images, but you're supposed to be able to tell when frozen means, like, **FROZEN-FROZEN**, I guess? That's what the squiggly lines are for, the weird lighting. Anyway, Suze calls this **BEING IN THE QUIET**.

So, and again we're into **THEMATIC METAPHOR TERRITORY** here, when Suze has sex, which **SHOULD** bring you closer to someone, it actually manages to **PUSH HER AWAY**. This is confusing and distancing to young Suze as her sexual identity comes into focus over the next several years until she's legal because this isn't that kind of book Gerry Jesus **CHRIST** you sicken me.



So one night Suze hooks up with a guy named **JON**, and it turns out **JON IS THE SAME WAY SHE IS**, and when HE has an orgasm, time stops too, and when they have **NEAR-SIMULTANEOUS ORGASMS**, they can enter "the Quiet" together.



A couple having near-simultaneous orgasms is somehow the hardest part of this book for people to go along with. Stopping time with your **COOTER?** Fine. Getting off near the same time as your partner? **WHOA CRAZY WEIRD.**



What we're saying is, fellas (because you know it's mostly dudes who are failing their ladies), c'mon, **CHRIST** better.



So Jon and Suze don't just **HAVE SEX** and **FREEZE TIME**, they **HAVE SEX, FREEZE TIME** and **ROB THE BANK**. That's right, the **VERY BANK** that Suze informed us will take everything we love (**LIKE HER FATHER**) back on page two, remember?!?!?!?!?

See, for Suze, it's bad enough what happened to her dad, but now the bank is **FORECLOSING ON THE LIBRARY SHE WORKS AT**, and that is some bull up with which she will not put. And Jon?



Check it —**JON WORKS AT THE BANK**. So: sex, freeze time, steal from the bank, pay the bank back under the guise of paying the library's mortgage. Get it? "**SEX CRIMINALS.**" It's our title!



But where there are Sex Criminals...

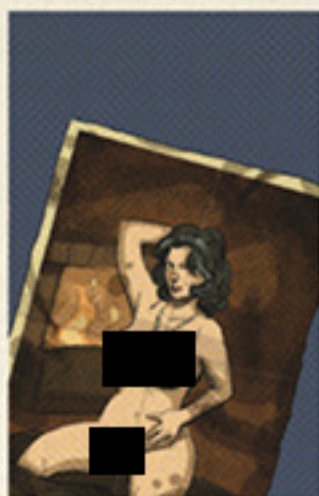
**...THERE ARE SEX COPS?!?**

There are indeed. And they monitor people like Suze and Jon to make certain they don't get up to precisely the kind of horny hubbub our two lovesick wackadoos engage in postcoitally.

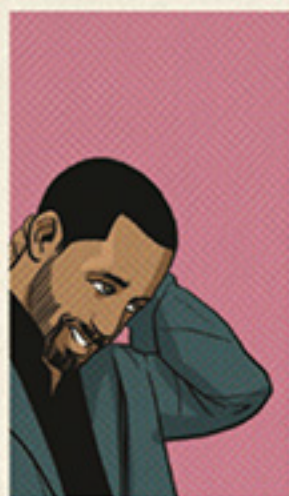
Acting without any apparent sanction from any actual legal entity, these are our bad guys. We call them **KEGELFACE** (her name is **MYRTLE SPURGE**, which is a plant, you can Bing it), **BUSDRIVER** (left) and **THE FANCY MAN (AKA KUBER BADAL)** (right).



Along the way we've met some more good guys, too, like **DR. ANA KINCAID**, a one-time adult-film star who performed under the nom-de-boink **JAZMINE ST. COCAINE**, now a doctor of **HOROLOGY**, which, I swear to god, is the study of time.



Oh, as it happens, her picture was what Jon was looking at the first time he, y'know.



We've also met **ROBERT RAINBOW**, an old friend of Jon's and an OB-GYN; Jon's shrink **DR. DAVID DAVIS**; and Suze's BFF **RACHELLE JACKSON**, who was, until the end of our last issue more or less, dating Robert. Cute couple. They were nice together. Oh well.



So the Sex Police try to stop Jon and Suze from robbing BankCorp, and Jon and Suze give them the slip. But it doesn't end there.



Kegel can't stop [redacted] with Jon, and reminds him she knows who he is and what he can do. And Jon starts to lose it a little...



Jon turns the tables on Kegelface and the Sex Police. If they can harass him, he can harass them. Unbeknownst to Suze, Jon breaks into Kegelface's house.



There he finds files filled with information on all **KINDS** of people like them —people Kegel and her cronies have found who experience the same kind of time-freezing, orgasm-linked phenomena as Jon and Suze. People like...

**ANA** (yes, our post-porn professor friend), who wanders post-orgasmic frozen time as a weird kind of spirit-thing that can float through walls. Jon's dick glows, Ana turns into an energy ghost, [redacted] is all [redacted] up and [redacted]

