

IT WAS A LATE AUTUMN
EVENING IN MAIDEN
SPRINGS, KENTUCKY.

SORRY
IT TOOK ME
A BIT, **MS.
GLASS.**

WHEN THE CHARGE IN THE
AIR TRANSITIONS FROM THE
COOL CALM OF NIGHT TO
THE ENERGETIC PROMISE
OF MORNING.

THINGS HAVE BEEN A LITTLE CRAZY
WITH THAT MISSIN' KID, AND THE
ACTIVE SHOOTER SITUATION
DOWN AT **CUMBERLAND
REGIONAL.**

ACTIVE
SHOOTER?
IS THAT WHY **DR.
SUTHERLAND**
DIDN'T TAKE MY
CALLS?

COULD BE THAT. COULD
BE THE LATE HOUR,
I SUPPOSE.

WELL, SINCE
HE DIDN'T ANSWER,
I TOOK IT INTO MY OWN
HANDS TO FIGURE OUT
WHY I PASSED OUT
COLD...JUST ASS OVER
TEA KETTLE FOR NO
REASON!

LORETTA GLASS WAS HERSELF
CAUGHT IN A TRANSITION, FROM
COMFORT OF TRUST...

TO THE UNEASINESS OF SUSPICION.

"**ROHYPNOL.**"
FOUND THE BOTTLE IN THE
GARBAGE. THAT'S THE STUFF THE
TEENAGERS USE TO **DATE RAPE**
EACH OTHER ISN'T IT? COUPLE
OF DOSES GOT INTO MY
EVENING TEA BAG.



NORMALLY, I'D POINT YOU
TOWARDS THE MAID, **AUGUST.**
BUT SHE'S A BIT ON THE
RETARDED SIDE.

SO, IT MUSTA BEEN
ONE OF THE **FEDERAL**
OFFICERS STAYING HERE.
SOME **MKULTRA** TYPE
EXPERIMENT I BET.

M-MELBA,
I'M COMING--

"CAN YOU IMAGINE?
THE FBI!"

"THESE DAYS, YOU
CAN'T EVEN TRUST
THE **HEROES** NOT TO
BE **MONSTERS.**"

I'M...
NH.





IT'S TOO
BAD ABOUT THE
FAMOUS POLLY
PEACHPIT.



HEARD HER NAME ON
THE NEWS AFTER ALL
THAT WENT DOWN IN
MINNESOTA, EVEN IF
THEY KEPT YOURS
OUTTA IT.

ANYWAY,
YOUR OLD
BOYFRIEND'S
MONSTER DID
HER GOOD.



NNH.

YEP. I SEEN
HER. PART OF MY JOB
CLEANIN' UP MESSSES IS
WATCHING OUT FOR TROUBLE
LIKE CURIOUS REPORTERS
AND FBI AGENTS AND
THE LIKE.

YOU'RE
THE FIRST WITH A
PET SPIDER-LADY
THOUGH.

BUT IF
I CAN SEE YOURS,
WELL, I GUESS
THAT MEANS YOU
KNOW.

ABOUT
THE FEARLESS
FOREST.

ABOUT MY
BEST FRIEND,
THE FRAIDY
CAT.



NNH. I KNOW YOU KIDNAP SCARED KIDS AND BURY THEM BENEATH THE FLOOR-BOARDS. I KNOW YOU'RE **MURDERERS**.

HMP. THAT'S WHAT **RANGER DAVE** SAID. HE SAID WE'D GONE TOO FAR FOR TOO LONG. HE TRIED TO STOP IT. PUT **UNCLE HARRY** OFF SCHEDULE AND MADE **FRAIDY ANTSY**.

DOC SUTHERLAND HAD TO PUT DUMB OL' **RANGER DAVE** IN A HOLE BY THE RIVER.

PEOPLE LIKE HIM CAN'T UNDERSTAND THE **BONA FIDE MIRACLE** THAT HAPPENED HERE.

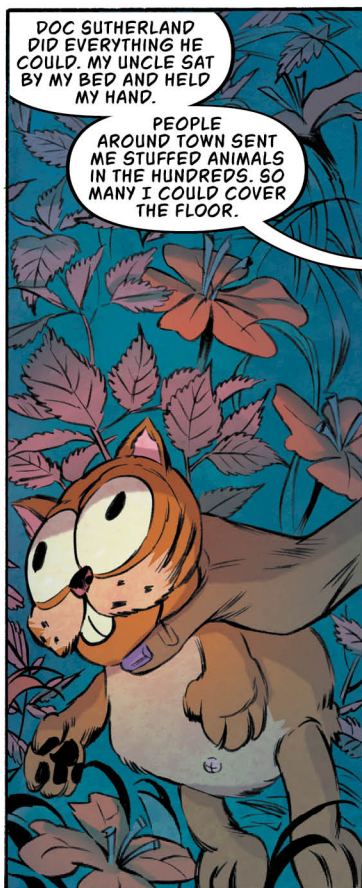
BUT YOU **CAN** UNDERSTAND MY STORY, MELBA. YOU'RE ONE OF THE FEW.



THIS HERE STORY STARTS WITH **FACIOSCAPULOHUMERAL MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY**.

THAT'S A WHOLE BUNCH OF LETTERS TO MEAN I WAS GOING DEAF AND BLIND.

FIVE YEARS OLD, AND I WAS LIVING HERE IN THE HOSPITAL WITH THE DARKNESS CLOSING IN ON ME.



DOC SUTHERLAND DID EVERYTHING HE COULD. MY **UNCLE SAT** BY MY BED AND HELD MY HAND.

PEOPLE AROUND TOWN SENT ME STUFFED ANIMALS IN THE HUNDREDS. SO MANY I COULD COVER THE FLOOR.



BUT ALL THAT STUFFING COULDN'T COVER UP MY FEARS AND LONELINESS.



IF I WAS GONNA
BE AS BRAVE AS
I NEEDED TO BE...
IF I WAS GONNA
SURVIVE...

I NEEDED
TO GO WHERE
I COULD BE A LITTLE
GIRL WITHOUT ALL
THE MEDICINES
AND THE DYING
PEOPLE.



SO
I MADE
A PLACE
UP.

HAHAHA

HAHA!

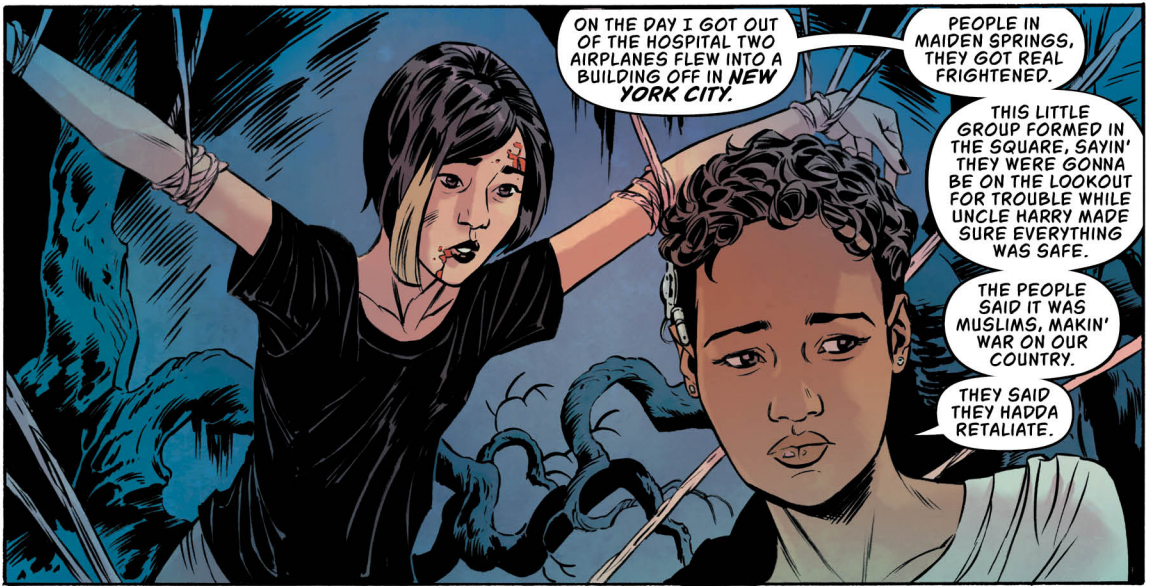
FRAIDY
AND ME HAD SUCH
GOOD TIMES HERE,
RUNNING THROUGH THE
TIGER LILIES, SWINGING
FROM THE YARN
TREES.

SUCH
GOOD TIMES,
I FORGOT TO BE
SCARED.



FRAIDY CAT
TOOK IT ALL AWAY
AND I GUESS THAT GAVE
MY BODY THE CHANCE
TO FOCUS ON GETTIN'
BETTER.

DR. SUTHERLAND
SAID HE'D NEVER
SEEN SUCH A
THING.



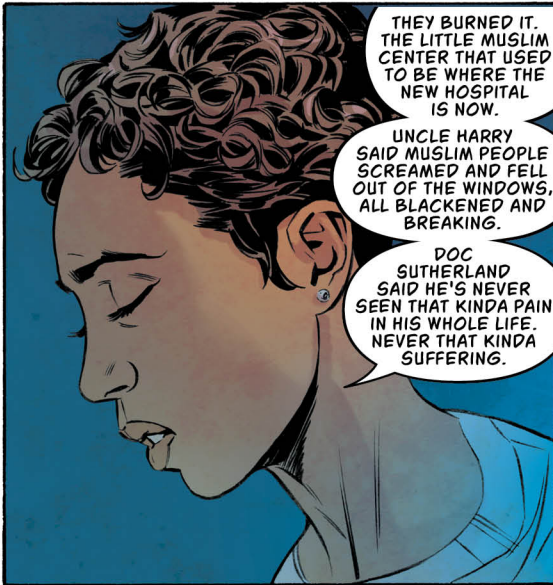
ON THE DAY I GOT OUT OF THE HOSPITAL TWO AIRPLANES FLEW INTO A BUILDING OFF IN NEW YORK CITY.

PEOPLE IN MAIDEN SPRINGS, THEY GOT REAL FRIGHTENED.

THIS LITTLE GROUP FORMED IN THE SQUARE, SAYIN' THEY WERE GONNA BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR TROUBLE WHILE UNCLE HARRY MADE SURE EVERYTHING WAS SAFE.

THE PEOPLE SAID IT WAS MUSLIMS, MAKIN' WAR ON OUR COUNTRY.

THEY SAID THEY HADDA RETALIATE.



THEY BURNED IT. THE LITTLE MUSLIM CENTER THAT USED TO BE WHERE THE NEW HOSPITAL IS NOW.

UNCLE HARRY SAID MUSLIM PEOPLE SCREAMED AND FELL OUT OF THE WINDOWS, ALL BLACKENED AND BREAKING.

DOC SUTHERLAND SAID HE'S NEVER SEEN THAT KINDA PAIN IN HIS WHOLE LIFE. NEVER THAT KINDA SUFFERING.

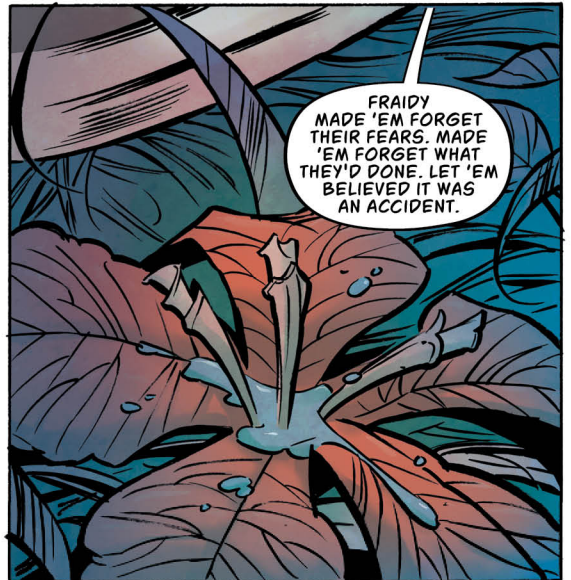


WHEN EVERYTHING CALMED DOWN, PEOPLE STARTED TO REALIZE WHAT THEY'D DONE, EVEN IF UNCLE HARRY MADE IT LOOK LIKE AN ACCIDENT.

EVERYONE STARTED TO TURN ON EACH OTHER. SOME SAID THEY'D GO TO THE FBI. WE ALMOST LOST IT ALL.



SO I DID FOR THEM WHAT I'D DONE FOR ME. I GAVE THEM THE FEARLESS FOREST. I GAVE THEM THE FRAIDY CAT. I GAVE MY SPECIAL FRIEND TO THE WHOLE TOWN.



FRAIDY MADE 'EM FORGET THEIR FEARS. MADE 'EM FORGET WHAT THEY'D DONE. LET 'EM BELIEVED IT WAS AN ACCIDENT.