

EINBAHNSTRASSE,
GERMANY, 23
YEARS AGO.



«IS THIS YOUR WAY OF DEALING WITH A PROBLEM, ASTRID?»*

«REFUSING TO SPEAK TO YOUR THERAPIST?»

«IT WASN'T MY IDEA TO BE HERE, DR. LEHMANN.»

*Translated from German.
--Editor



«I SEE NO REASON FOR EXCESSIVE FORMALITY.»

«YOU MAY REFER TO ME AS INGRID.»

«WHAT **ARE** YOU HERE FOR, YOUNG LADY, DO YOU IMAGINE?»



«WELL, I EXPECT IT'S BECAUSE MY FAMILY BELIEVES I STABBED MY FATHER.»

«BUT YOU DISAGREE.»

«I DO.»



«AND YET, YOUR FATHER IS IN A COMA AS WE SPEAK.»

«MY FATHER'S DEAD, PERHAPS LONG DEAD.»

«MAY I GO?»



<LET'S MAKE AN AGREEMENT, THEN.>

<YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK HAPPENED THAT NIGHT.>

<THEN YOU MAY GO PLAY WITH YOUR FRIENDS.>



<I DON'T "PLAY," DOCTOR. I PREPARE.>

<AND I DON'T HAVE ANY FRIENDS.>

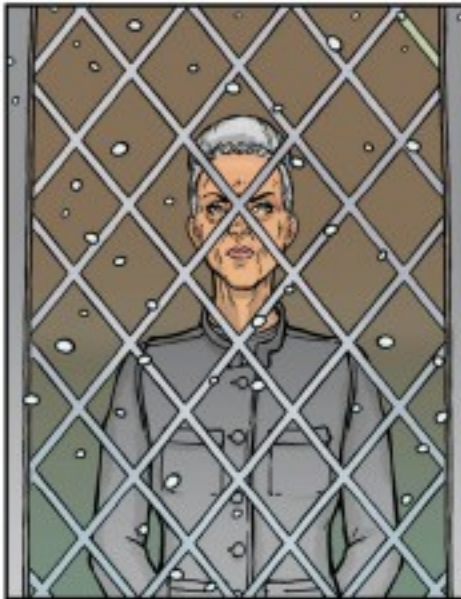
<BUT AS YOU WISH.>



<I BELIEVE A DEMON POSSESSED MY FATHER, ATE HIS ESSENCE, SENT HIM TO HELL, AND RIDES HIS SHELL LIKE A TODDLER ON A BICYCLE.>

<SO I STABBED HIM.>

<AND I'D DO IT AGAIN.>



<A DEAL IS A DEAL.>

<DO YOU HAVE A COAT?>

<NO.>



<YOU MAY BORROW THIS. I EXPECT IT TO BE CLEANED AND RETURNED NEXT SESSION.>

<I'D LIKE TO DISCUSS YOUR THEORY IN SOME DETAIL.>

THE DAMNED LAY DYING

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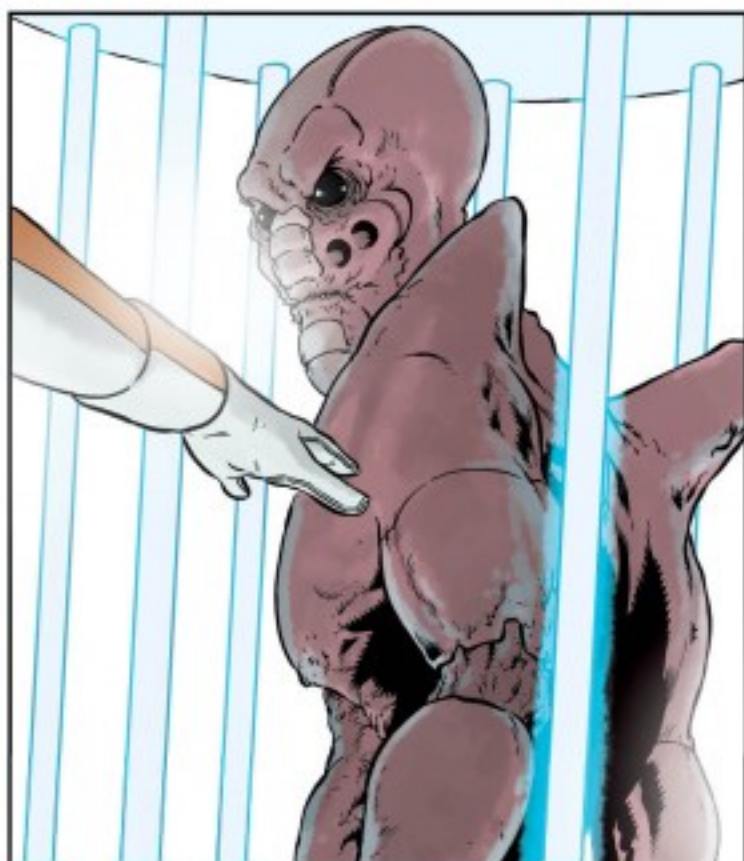
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HOWELL
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CLEAN ROOM
created by
Gail Simone







PLEASE HURRY, MS. CAPONE. THERE'S SOME URGENCY REQUIRED HERE.

CONSIDERING TODD HAS A BULLET WOUND, I'D TEND TO **AGREE**, MS. MUELLER.

ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER, MISS. STEADY WINS THE RACE.

I HATE SNOW, TODD. I HATE IT. **HATE.**



OH. THAT'S CORRECT.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING, TODD?

CONSIDERING I'M SHOT AND PROBABLY GOING TO JAIL FOR ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION...

...SURPRISINGLY WELL.



NONSENSE. YOU'RE UNDER MY PROTECTION AS OF TEN MINUTES AGO.

YOU AND YOUR WIFE WILL COME WORK FOR ME, IN CHICAGO.

WE'LL SAY NO MORE ABOUT IT.



UM.

I THINK OUR WOULD-BE OSWALD HAS SOMETHING TO SAY, ASTRID.

MM?



I... MS. MUELLER, I CAN'T...

BLESS YOU.

BLESS YOU FOREVER.