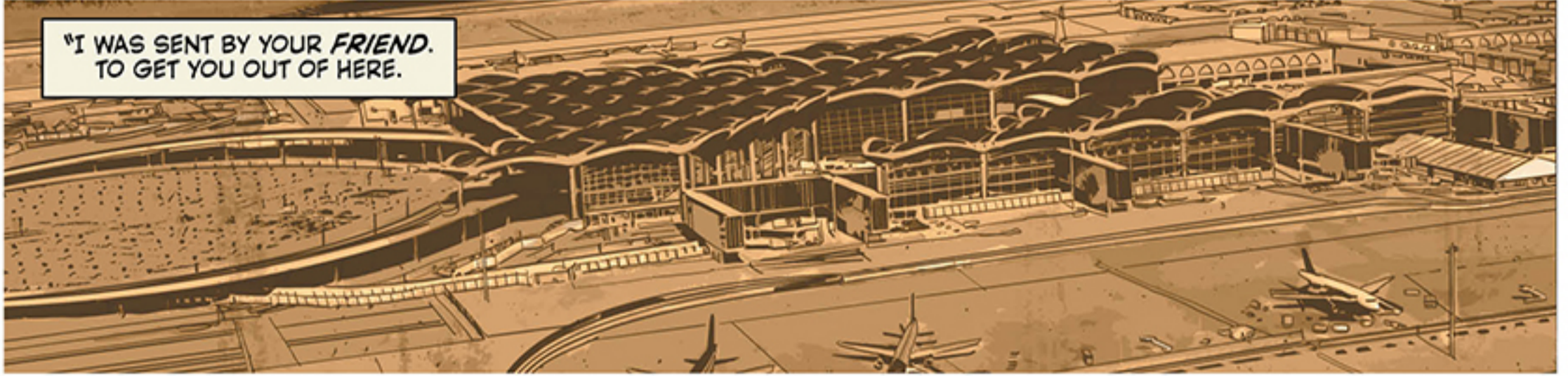




"MY NAME IS FRANKLIN."



"I WAS SENT BY YOUR *FRIEND*. TO GET YOU OUT OF HERE."



"*SOFIA AL AQANI*. SHE SENT ME."



"NOW, THEY'VE TOLD YOU A LOT OF THINGS HERE."

"YOU OBVIOUSLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO BELIEVE."



"SO I ASKED MS. AQANI TO TELL ME SOMETHING I COULD TELL YOU THAT MIGHT CONVINCe YOU I'M TELLING THE TRUTH."

"THAT WOULD CONVINCe YOU TO COME WITH ME BACK TO MS. AQANI."



"I HAVE A STORY HERE, THE STORY SHE GAVE ME."

"YOU WERE AN OFFICER IN SADDAM'S POLICE FORCE.

"YOU WORKED CRIMES, BUT HAD A REPUTATION FOR BEING A TALENTED INTERROGATOR.

"SOMETIMES SADDAM'S PEOPLE WOULD BRING YOU IN FOR POLITICAL CASES.

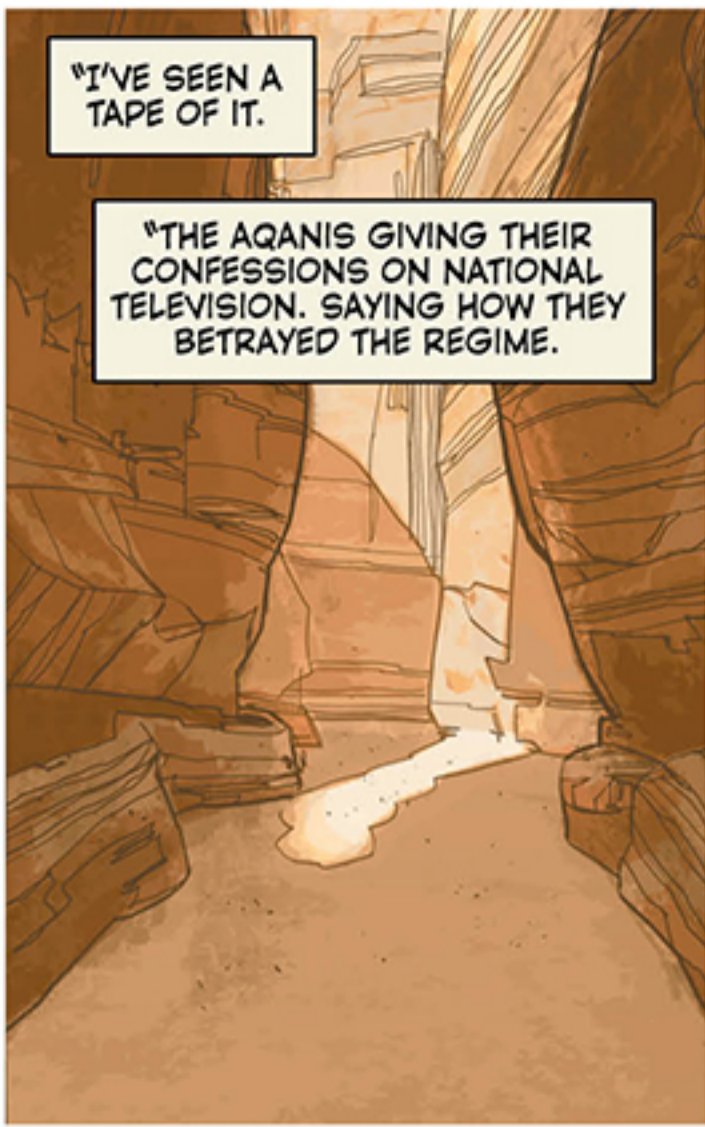


"ABOUT TWENTY YEARS AGO YOU WERE PUT IN CHARGE OF THE TEAM THAT INTERROGATED MS. AQANI'S FATHER AND GRANDFATHER.

Let Us Go

Tom King: Writer Mitch Gerads: Artist
John Paul Leon: Cover Artist Travis Lanham: Letters
Jamie S. Rich: Editor Molly Mahan: Associate Editor
SHERIFF OF BABYLON created by King and Gerads





"I'VE SEEN A TAPE OF IT.

"THE AQANIS GIVING THEIR CONFESSIONS ON NATIONAL TELEVISION. SAYING HOW THEY BETRAYED THE REGIME.



"AND SOMEBODY HAD TO BE BEHIND THAT, RIGHT?"

"I MEAN, THEY DIDN'T *REALLY* BETRAY THE REGIME.



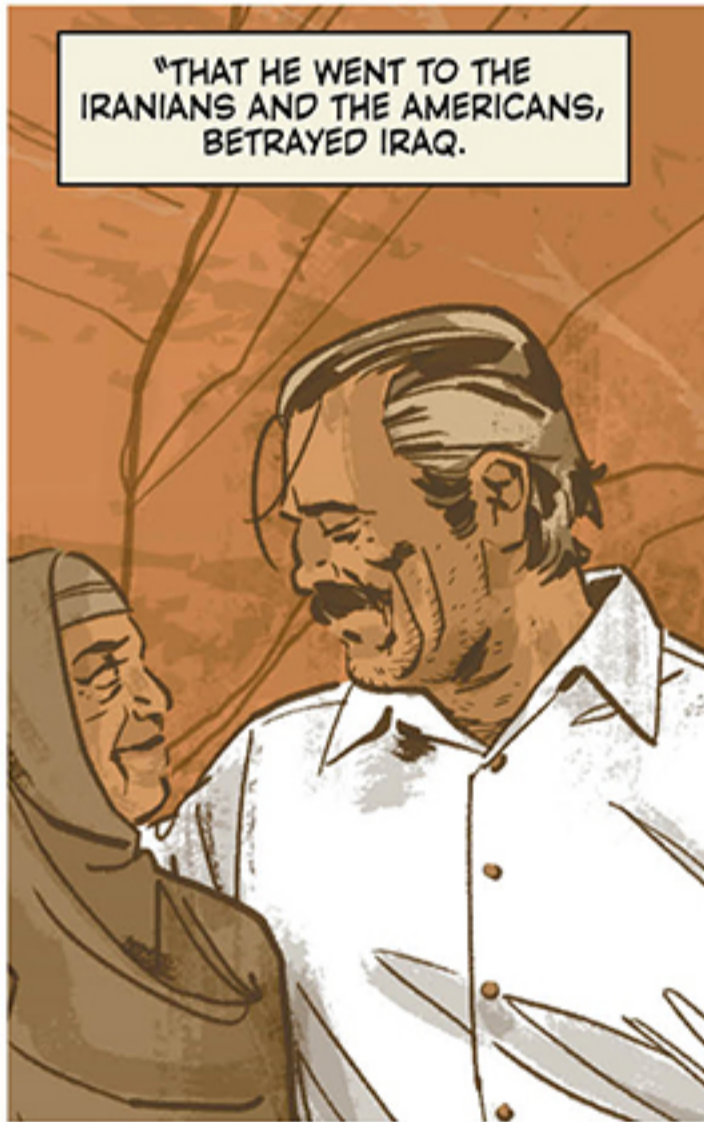
"THE OLD MAN WAS THE WORLD'S MOST DEDICATED ISLAMIC NATIONALIST.

"HIS PHILOSOPHY WAS THE BAATH PARTY IN THE BEGINNING.

"SADDAM STARTED AS AN AQANI BODYGUARD.



"I MEAN TO GET *AL AQANI* TO SAY WHAT HE SAID...



"THAT HE WENT TO THE IRANIANS AND THE AMERICANS, BETRAYED IRAQ.



"THAT WHOLE CONFESSION HAD TO COME FROM SOMEWHERE.

"HAD TO.



"AND I GUESS IT CAME FROM YOU.




"ANYWAY, LIKE YOU KNOW, THEY KILLED THE AQANIS RIGHT AFTER THAT.



"AND THEIR FAMILIES. KIDS AND WIVES.

"MS. AQANI WAS A CHILD AT SCHOOL IN AMERICA. SO ONLY SHE SURVIVED.




"AFTER 9/11, MS. AQANI WAS ON A COMMITTEE IN THE U.S. WORKING TO FIND A SOLUTION FOR THE SADDAM PROBLEM.

"WHEN SHE GOT A LETTER FROM YOU, POSTDATED FROM JORDAN.



"YOU SAID YOU'D PARTICIPATED IN THE INTERROGATION OF HER FAMILY.



"YOU SAID YOU KNEW THEY WERE NOT GUILTY.

"SAID YOU WERE FORCED INTO IT, BUT YOU DIDN'T FEEL FORCED.

"MS. AQANI HAD TROUBLE EXPLAINING THIS PART.

"ANYWAY, IN THE LETTER, YOU SAID YOU WERE SORRY.

"THAT YOU HAD SEEN HER ON THE TELEVISION WHILE ON VACATION WITH YOUR FAMILY.



"A SANCTIONED VACATION, A VISIT WITH JORDANIAN INTELLIGENCE.

"WHERE THEY LET YOU BRING YOUR FAMILY.

"YOUR WIFE. YOUR THREE DAUGHTERS.



"IN THE LETTER,
YOU ASKED HER
TO FORGIVE YOU.



"AND YOU ASKED
IF YOU COULD DO
ANYTHING TO
HELP HER.

"TO MAKE UP
FOR WHAT YOU
HAD DONE. WITH
HER FAMILY.



"YOU GAVE HER AN
E-MAIL ADDRESS.

"RAFCOLON34@HOTMAIL.COM.

"AND YOU AND
MS. AQANI STARTED
TALKING REGULARLY.



"AFTER A FEW MONTHS,
SHE ASKED YOU TO HELP
HER GET INFORMATION.

"TARGETS, PLACES
THAT WOULD HELP IN
THE CASE OF INVASION.



"YOU HELPED HER,
PROVIDING GPS
COORDINATES FOR
SEVERAL LOCATIONS.



"SECURITY
INSTALLATIONS,
THE HOUSES OF
SADDAM'S
PEOPLE.

"LOCATIONS YOU
KNEW THROUGH
GUARD DUTY YOU'D
DONE ON OCCASION.