

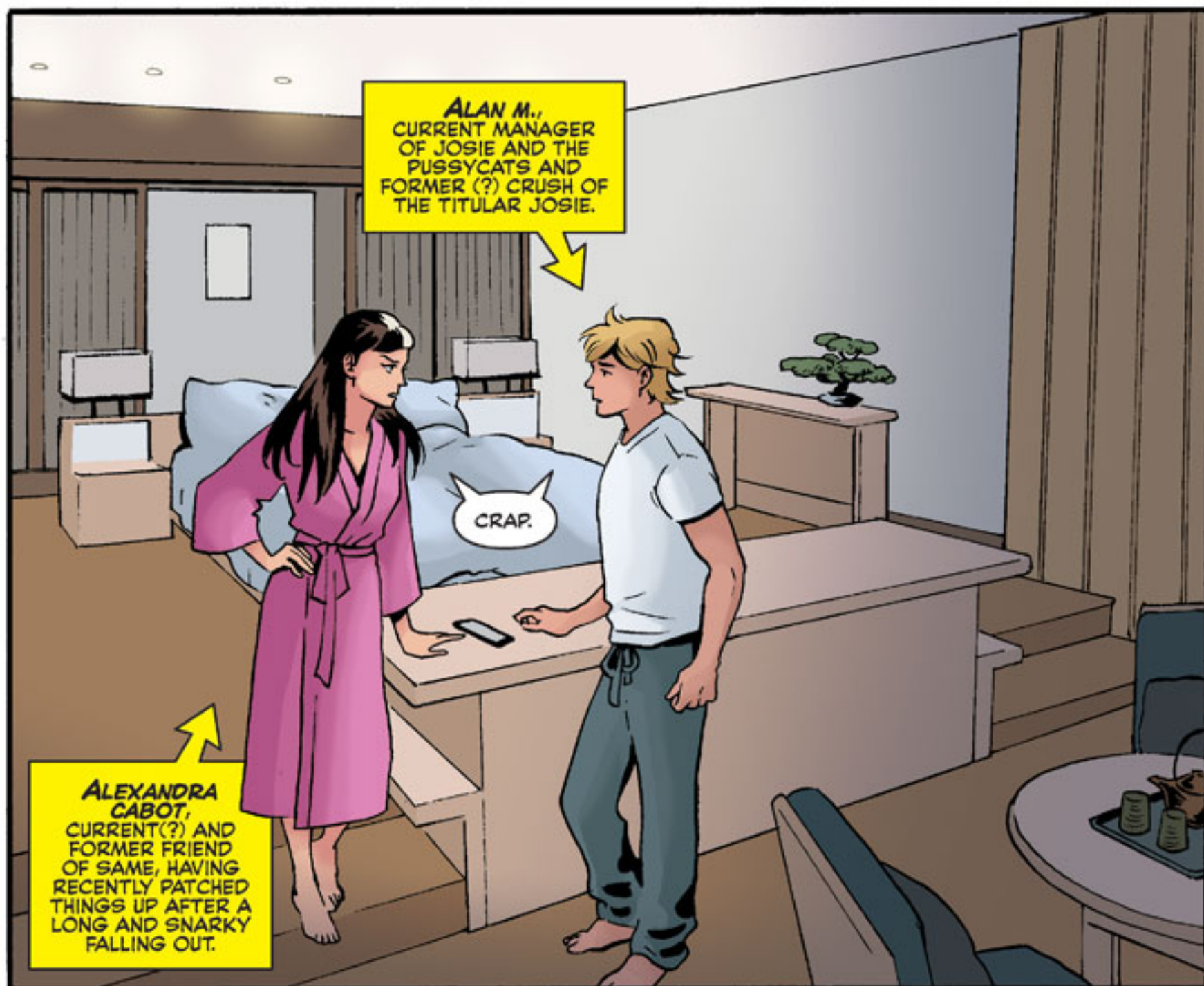
THE AKIYAMA HOTEL,
TOKYO. ROOM 328.



ALAN M.,
CURRENT MANAGER
OF JOSIE AND THE
PUSSYCATS AND
FORMER (?) CRUSH OF
THE TITULAR JOSIE.

CRAP.

**ALEXANDRA
CABOT,**
CURRENT(?) AND
FORMER FRIEND
OF SAME, HAVING
RECENTLY PATCHED
THINGS UP AFTER A
LONG AND SNARKY
FALLING OUT.



THE LOBBY
OF THE
AKIYAMA
HOTEL.

THANK YOU
SO MUCH, AGAIN,
JOSIE, FOR BRINGING
US ALONG. IT'S A
HUGE HONOR.

YEAH, IT WAS
REAL NICE OF YOU.
I THINK WE COULDA
MADE IT ON OUR OWN
IN A FEW YEARS, BUT
THIS IS NICE.

ARCHIE ANDREWS,
QUINTESSENTIAL
BOY NEXT DOOR.
THIS COMIC HAS
HIS NAME ON IT.
THE BAND HAS HIS
NAME ON IT, TOO!

JUGHEAD JONES.
OCCASIONALLY LACONIC,
BECAUSE MOUTH-TIME
SPENT ON NON-BURGERS
IS WASTED MOUTH-TIME.

THAT'S
CUTE,
REG.

WE'RE
GLAD TO HAVE YOU!
BUT I HONESTLY DON'T
HAVE TIME TO TEACH ANY
MORE *MUSIC-PROTAGONISTS*
LIFE LESSONS, SO REGGIE'S
JUST GOING TO HAVE TO
FIGURE HIS OWN LIFE
OUT.

SHE REALLY
DOESN'T. *VALERIE*,
BASS, JOSIE AND
THE PUSSYCATS.

THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
SACRIFICE.

NO ONE
MENTIONED
A SACRIFICE! I
DIDN'T BRING MY
CEREMONIAL
KNIFE!

IF THERE'S
PERSONAL SACRIFICE
INVOLVED HERE, I'M
CHARTERING A JET BACK
TO RIVERDALE *THIS*
INSTANT.

C'MON,
RONNIE, HOW
OFTEN DO YOU
GET TO GO TO
JAPAN?

QUARTERLY,
ON BUSINESS
WITH DADDY.

REGGIE MANTLE,
BASICALLY
NEGA-ARCHIE.

JOSIE, OF JOSIE AND THE
PUSSYCATS FAME. VOCALS
AND LEAD GUITAR, FREQUENT
BENEFICIARY OF *VALERIE*'S
WISDOM. GROWING AS
A PERSON, AND DOING
PRETTY ALL RIGHT!

MELODY, DRUMMER OF
JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS.
YOU'RE ALMOST CERTAINLY
SAFE FROM HER CEREMONIAL
KNIFE, DEAR READER.

BETTY COOPER,
REAL DRAG ON
VERONICA'S WORSE
TENDENCIES, TO
EVERYONE'S
BENEFIT.

VERONICA
LODGE,
YOU GET THE
PICTURE.

LEAVE IT TO RIVERDALE KIDS TO TRAVEL HALFWAY AROUND THE WORLD TO ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING CITIES IN THE WORLD AND SPEND THE ENTIRE TIME **BEING POLITE TO ONE ANOTHER.**

ALEXANDER CABOT III.
ALEXANDRA'S BROTHER. NEVER AT RISK OF BEING POLITE TO ANYONE. FORMER ANTARCTIC DESPOT, RECENTLY DEPOSED BY POLAR BEARS AND PUSSYCATS.

NICE OF YOU TO JOIN US, ALAN. YOU REALIZE YOUR WARDS ARE IN A COUNTRY WHERE THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THEY'RE DOING, OR EVEN SPEAK THE LANGUAGE?

GAIKOKUJIN, JIBUN WA JIBUN NO TAME NI UE!*

*SPEAK FOR YOURSELF, FOREIGNER!

Ah, SORRY ABOUT THAT. OVERSLEPT.

WHAT ARE YOU EVEN DOING HERE, ALEXANDER?

AFTER OUR PREVIOUS MISUNDERSTANDING--

YOU MEAN "FELONY KIDNAP-PING."

--I'D LIKE TO MAKE THINGS UP TO THE PUSSYCATS. I FIGURED YOU COULD USE A GUIDE DURING YOUR TIME IN TOKYO, AND I HAPPEN TO HAVE EXCELLENT CONTACTS IN THE AREA.

PLEASE DO NOT BE THOSE BORING FOREIGNERS WHO VISIT A NEW COUNTRY AND ONLY GO TO THEIR HOTEL!

WHSSSSH

TRY TO DIG DEEP PAST YOUR MOST GAUCHE IMPULSES TO FIND THE HUMAN CURIOSITY THAT HELPED OUR SPECIES SURVIVE!

Hm, THE FORCE IS STRONG IN THIS ONE.

WHA-?!

FINE, ALEXANDRA. LET'S MEET THIS "CONTACT" OF ALEXANDER'S.

WONDERFUL! ALAN, FEEL FREE TO HANG BACK AND GET SOME MORE REST.

HEY!

WHAT'S THAT OLD SAYING? NINE'S COMPANY, TEN'S A CROWD?

THERE IS NO WAY THAT'S THE SAYING!



PUSSYCATS, ARCHIES.
MEET MY GOOD FRIEND,
CLOSE BUSINESS ASSOCIATE,
AND MULTIMILLION-DOLLAR
IMAGE-CRAFTING GENIUS,
TETSUYA NAKAMURA.

EXCELLENT TO MEET YOU, ALL
OF YOU. ALEXANDER HAS TOLD ME SO
MUCH ABOUT JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS,
AND I LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING TO
KNOW THE ARCHIES.

TO BE FAIR,
THERE'S NOT THAT
MUCH TO KNOW
ABOUT US.



DON'T
BE RUDE,
JUGHEAD!

IN FAIRNESS,
I DID SPEND MY
TEENS IN A RATHER
TYPICAL AMERICAN
SUBURB, TOO.



NOW, IF YOU WILL
JOIN ME, IT IS MY
UNDERSTANDING YOUR
GROUPS ARE IN THE
MARKET FOR SOME
NEW CLOTHES.

YOU'RE IN JUST THE
RIGHT PLACE, AS **HARAJUKU**
IS EVEN MORE FAMOUS THAN
I AM FOR FASHION.