



MY WIFE, KARLA, IS A MURDERER. THE MAN I THOUGHT COULD SAVE THIS CITY, KILLIAN, IS ABANDONING IT FOR A FANTASY.

AND WHILE MY WHOLE WORLD, OUR WORLD, SINKS CLOSER TO OBLIVION...

YOU ARE NOT THE ONLY MEMBER WITH A VOICE, DESMOND!

PERHAPS NOT, TAGE, BUT I'M THE ONLY ONE WITH SOMETHING TO SAY.



...THESE FOOLS ARGUE LIKE THERE'S NO SUFFERING ON THE STREETS BELOW.

CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY, DESMOND. LEST IT SLIP RIGHT INTO KILLIAN'S EAR.

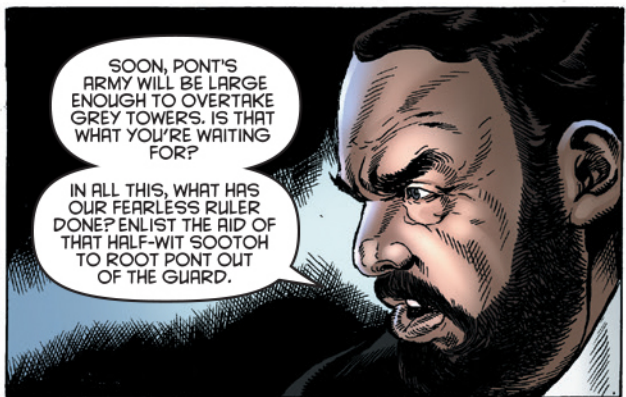
I'M NOT AFRAID OF A GUARD, YURETA. LET HIM TELL KILLIAN EVERYTHING.

AT LEAST THEN HE'LL HEAR SENSE FOR ONCE.



THINGS HAVE GOTTEN WORSE WITH BROTHER PONT. HE RECRUITS HUNDREDS OF NEW FOLLOWERS EVERY DAY.

WHAT PROOF DO YOU HAVE? HE HAS FOLLOWERS, BUT HOW CAN YOU CALL THAT AN ARMY?



SOON, PONT'S ARMY WILL BE LARGE ENOUGH TO OVERTAKE GREY TOWERS. IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE WAITING FOR?

IN ALL THIS, WHAT HAS OUR FEARLESS RULER DONE? ENLIST THE AID OF THAT HALF-WIT SOOTOH TO ROOT PONT OUT OF THE GUARD.



I'VE HIRED A TEAM OF MERCENARIES, FORMER GUARDS. THEY WILL HUNT PONT DOWN AND FINALLY KILL HIM FOR US.



ARE YOU SURE **NOW** IS THE RIGHT TIME TO TAKE ACTION?

THERE'S NEVER A PERFECT TIME FOR CHANGE. BUT I'M SURE THOSE WILLING TO RISK IT WILL RISE WITH ME.



THIS COUNCIL MAKES DECISIONS AS A GROUP. IF WE'RE GOING TO MOVE, WE HAVE TO MOVE **TOGETHER--**

KILLIAN GREY IS STILL THE SUPREME RULER.



A SUPREME RULER SHOULD DESTROY MEN LIKE PONT FOR EVEN THINKING THEY COULD RISE UP AGAINST US.

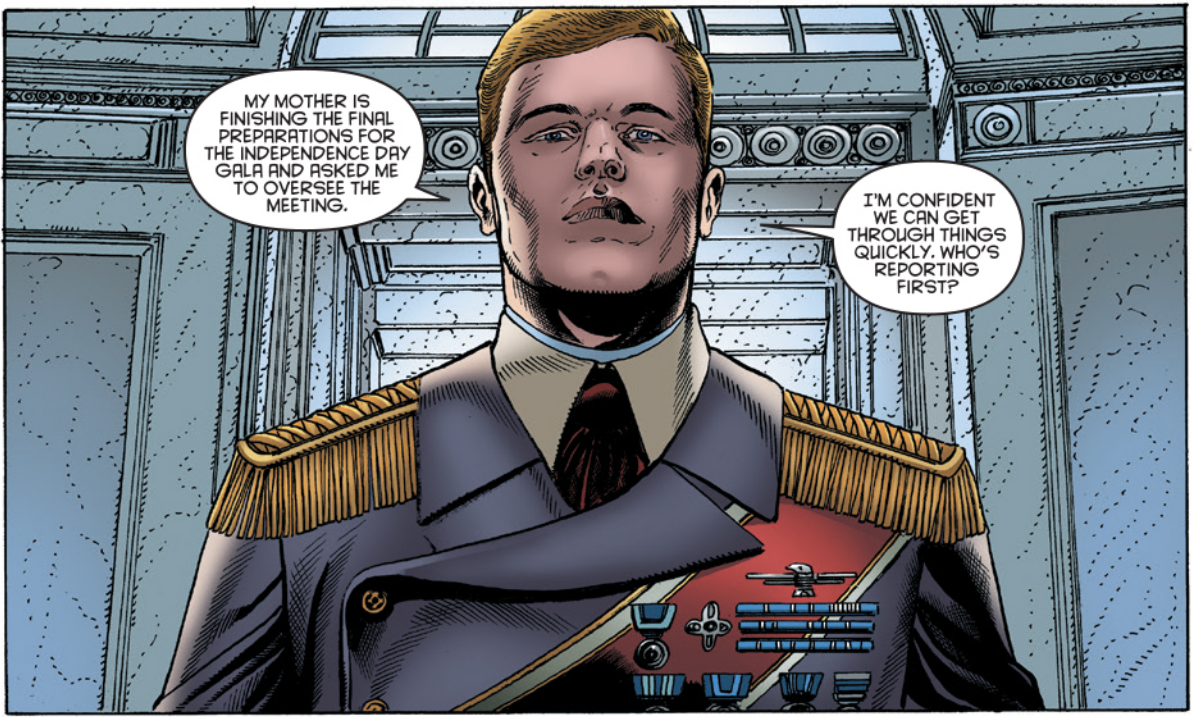


AND IF OURS CAN'T EVEN BE BOTHERED TO SHOW UP, THEN **WE--**

YOUR HIGHNESS!



I'M SORRY. WAS I INTERRUPTING SOMETHING?



MY MOTHER IS FINISHING THE FINAL PREPARATIONS FOR THE INDEPENDENCE DAY GALA AND ASKED ME TO OVERSEE THE MEETING.

I'M CONFIDENT WE CAN GET THROUGH THINGS QUICKLY. WHO'S REPORTING FIRST?



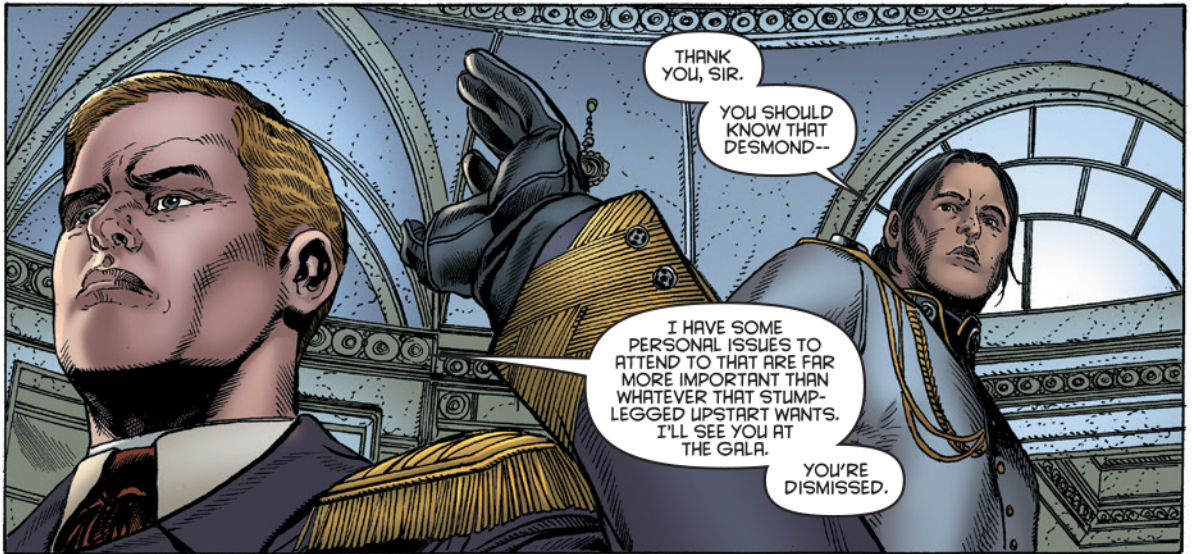
QUICKLY INDEED, SIR. AS THIS MEETING BEGAN NINETY MINUTES AGO...

...IT HAS JUST FINISHED.



EVEN BETTER. I NEED THE ROOM.

TAKE SOME TIME OFF, SANDER. YOU'VE BEEN WORKING TOO HARD. I CAN SEE IT ON YOUR FACE.



THANK YOU, SIR.

YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT DESMOND--

I HAVE SOME PERSONAL ISSUES TO ATTEND TO THAT ARE FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN WHATEVER THAT STUMPLEGGED UPSTART WANTS. I'LL SEE YOU AT THE GALA.

YOU'RE DISMISSED.



SOMETHING IS WRONG...VERY, VERY WRONG. I CAN FEEL IT. I KNOW IT IN MY GUT.

I CAN'T! I DON'T KNOW HOW!

JOM, YOU KNOW HOW TO SOLVE THIS. IT'S THE SAME THING YOU DID IN PROBLEM FIVE.



EVEN THE WALLS CAN'T PROTECT US WHEN THE THREAT COMES FROM WITHIN.

IT'S TOO HARD.

IF ARITHMETIC WAS EASY, EVERYONE WOULD BE A NUMBERS EXPERT.



EVEN KNOWING A LITTLE BIT OF MATH IS A HUGE ADVANTAGE, JOM.

WITH THAT, YOU CAN DO GREAT THINGS.



JOM! GO WASH UP. DINNER'S ALMOST READY.



THANK YOU FOR HELPING HIM, SANDER. HE MAY NOT SEEM LIKE IT, BUT I KNOW JOM'S GRATEFUL.

I'M NOT MUCH HELP. HE ALREADY KNOWS MORE THAN ME.



WELL, I BAKED YOU AN EXTRA ROLL ALL THE SAME. THERE MIGHT EVEN BE SOME JAM AROUND HERE IF YOU PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT.

THANKS, TERNA. THEY LOOK GREAT. I'LL TRY ONE LATER.

SANDER, YOU NEED TO EAT.



PUNISHING YOURSELF ISN'T GOING TO HELP KARLA.

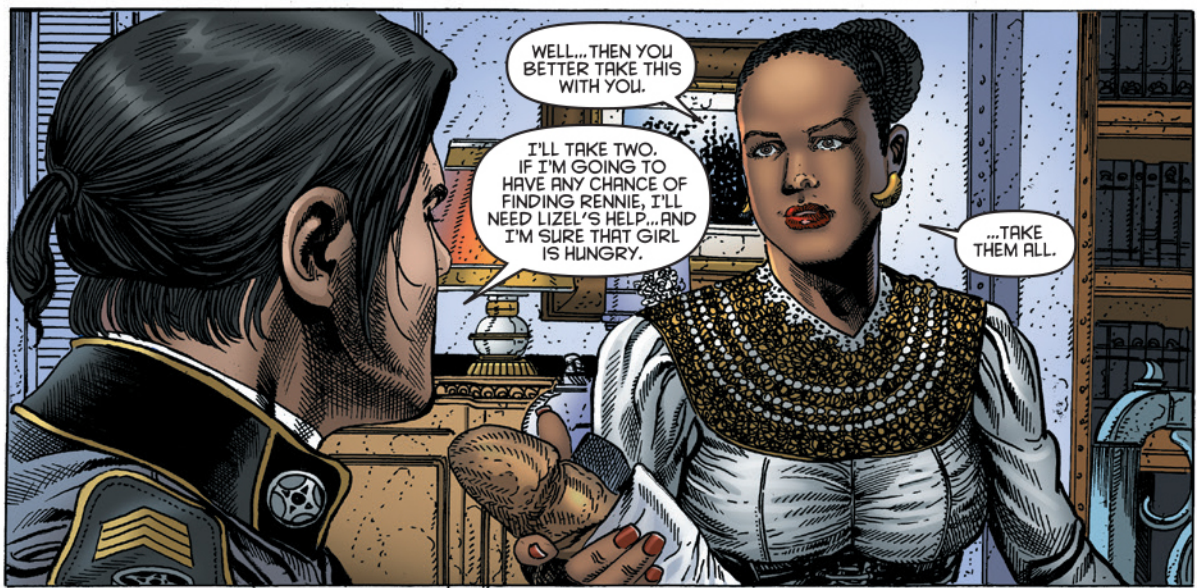
YOU DIDN'T SEE HER, TERNA. IT'S LIKE IT WASN'T HER. IF I HAD GOTTEN TO HER SOONER, MAYBE SHE WOULDN'T HAVE BECOME... SOMEONE ELSE.

HEY, LOOK AT ME. WHAT HAPPENED TO HER IS NOT YOUR FAULT.



MAYBE NOT. BUT I STILL HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO MY SON.

HE DESERVES TO BE HERE. HE DESERVES TO BE SAFE. HE DESERVES TO HAVE THIS LIFE, TOO.



WELL... THEN YOU BETTER TAKE THIS WITH YOU.

I'LL TAKE TWO. IF I'M GOING TO HAVE ANY CHANCE OF FINDING RENNIE, I'LL NEED LIZEL'S HELP... AND I'M SURE THAT GIRL IS HUNGRY.

...TAKE THEM ALL.