

HARD  
CASE



"HARD CASE MAY BE THE BEST NEW AMERICAN  
PUBLISHER TO APPEAR IN THE LAST DECADE."

• NEAL POLLACK IN THE STRANGER

# NORMANDY GOLD



MEGAN  
ABBOTT

ALISON  
GAYLIN

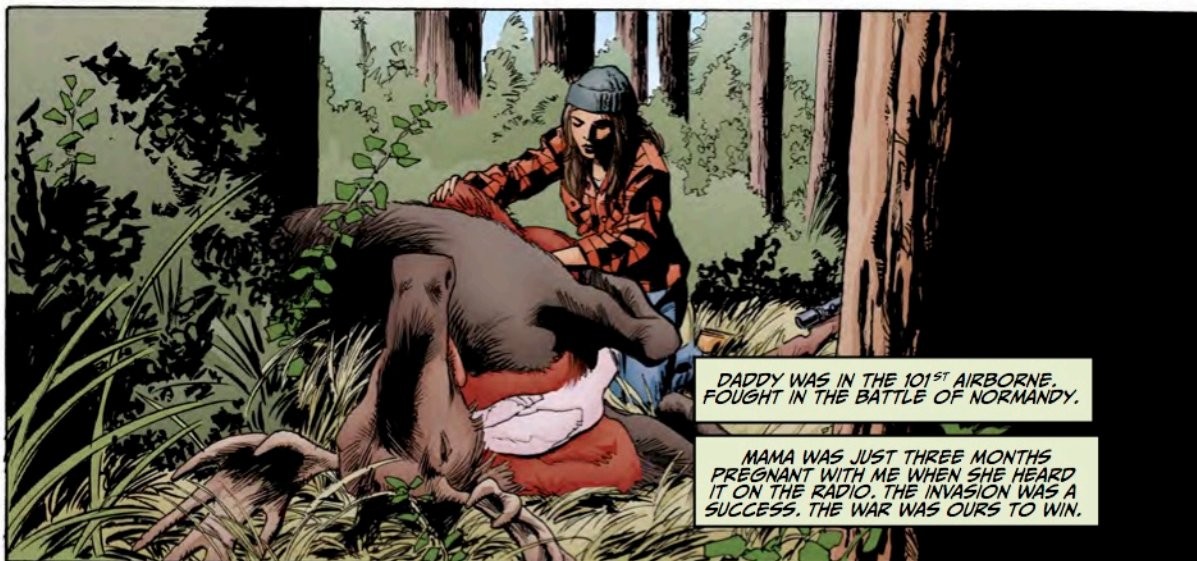
STEVE  
SCOTT

LOVERN  
KINDZIERSKI





THEY WERE GOING TO  
CALL ME VICTORY.



DADDY WAS IN THE 101<sup>ST</sup> AIRBORNE.  
FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE OF NORMANDY.

MAMA WAS JUST THREE MONTHS  
PREGNANT WITH ME WHEN SHE HEARD  
IT ON THE RADIO. THE INVASION WAS A  
SUCCESS. THE WAR WAS OURS TO WIN.



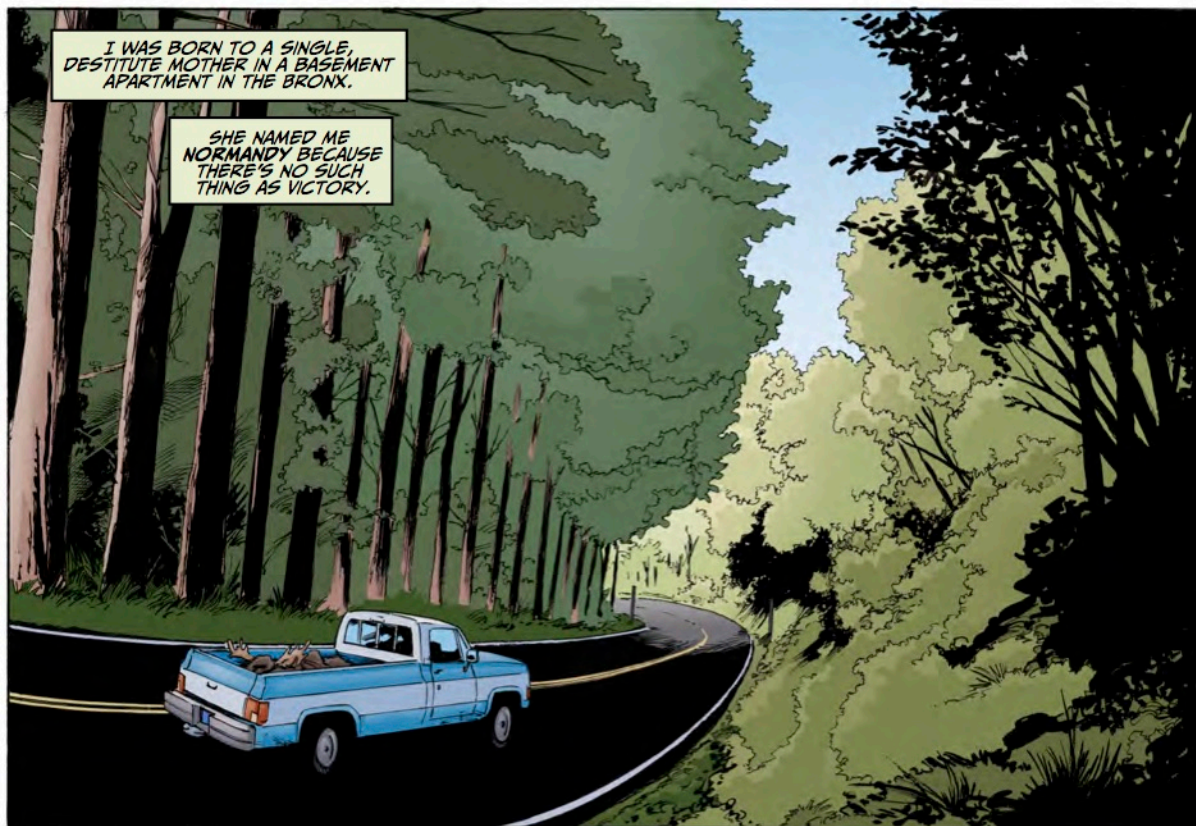
MAMA WROTE DADDY A LETTER:  
LET'S NAME OUR BABY VICTORY.  
SHE WILL GROW UP IN THE WARMTH  
OF OUR LOVE. WE WILL TEACH  
HER THAT ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE.



TWO WEEKS LATER, A SHINY  
BLACK SEDAN PULLED UP IN  
FRONT OF OUR HOUSE. A MAN IN  
UNIFORM GOT OUT OF THE CAR.  
BUT IT WASN'T DADDY.

IT WAS  
THE MAN WITH  
THE LETTER.



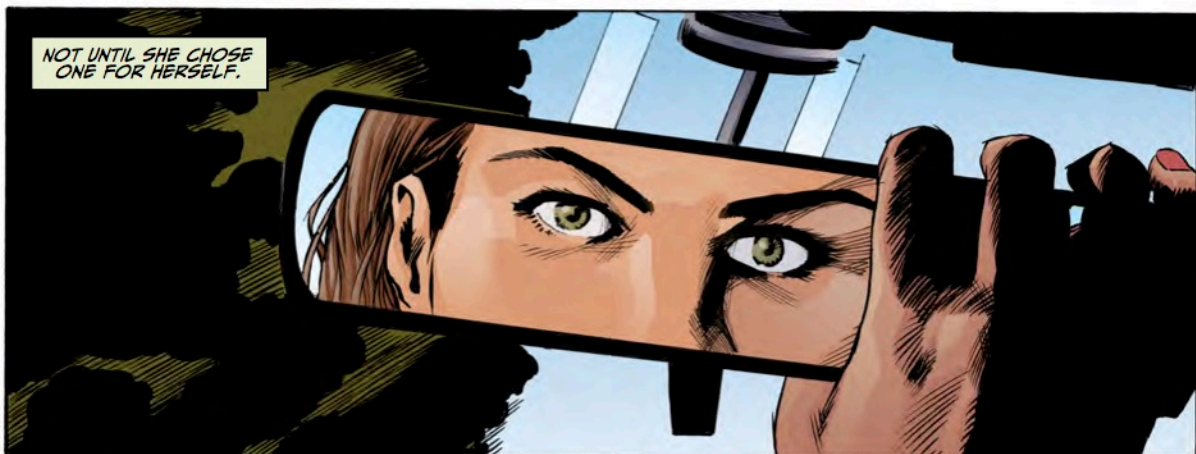


I WAS BORN TO A SINGLE,  
DESTITUTE MOTHER IN A BASEMENT  
APARTMENT IN THE BRONX.

SHE NAMED ME  
NORMANDY BECAUSE  
THERE'S NO SUCH  
THING AS VICTORY.



MY LITTLE SISTER WAS  
BORN SIX YEARS LATER.  
WHO THAT DADDY WAS,  
WE NEVER KNEW. FOR A  
LONG TIME, LITTLE SIS  
DIDN'T HAVE A NAME.



NOT UNTIL SHE CHOSE  
ONE FOR HERSELF.





LILAP  
LILA, IS THAT  
YOU?

NORMANDY?  
IT'S SO GOOD  
TO HEAR YOUR  
VOICE.

LIKE SO MUCH IN  
LIFE, IT STARTED  
WITH A PHONE CALL.

I'D BARELY SPOKEN TO  
DELILAH IN THE 12 YEARS SINCE  
I RAN AWAY FROM HOME,  
LEAVING HER WITH MAMA.



IT FELT LIKE YESTERDAY.  
IT FELT LIKE FOREVER.

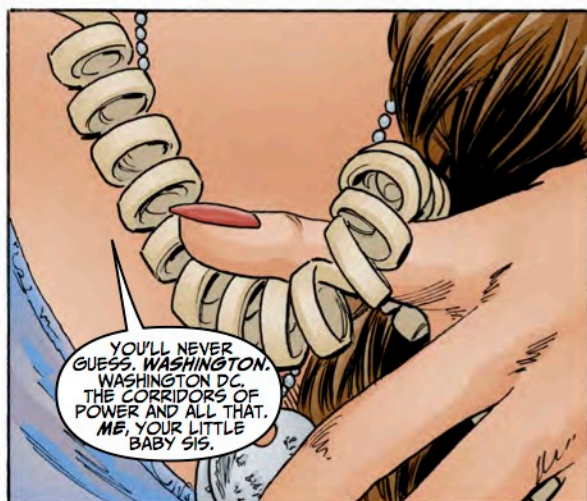
LILA,  
ARE YOU  
OKAY?

BETTER  
THAN OKAY SIS.  
I'M IN LOVE WITH  
A WONDERFUL MAN.  
HE'S MARRIED, BUT  
HE'S LEAVING HIS  
WIFE FOR ME  
AND...



... AND WE'RE  
GOING TO GET  
MARRIED. I'VE  
NEVER BEEN  
SO HAPPY IN  
MY—

LILA,  
WHERE ARE  
YOU?



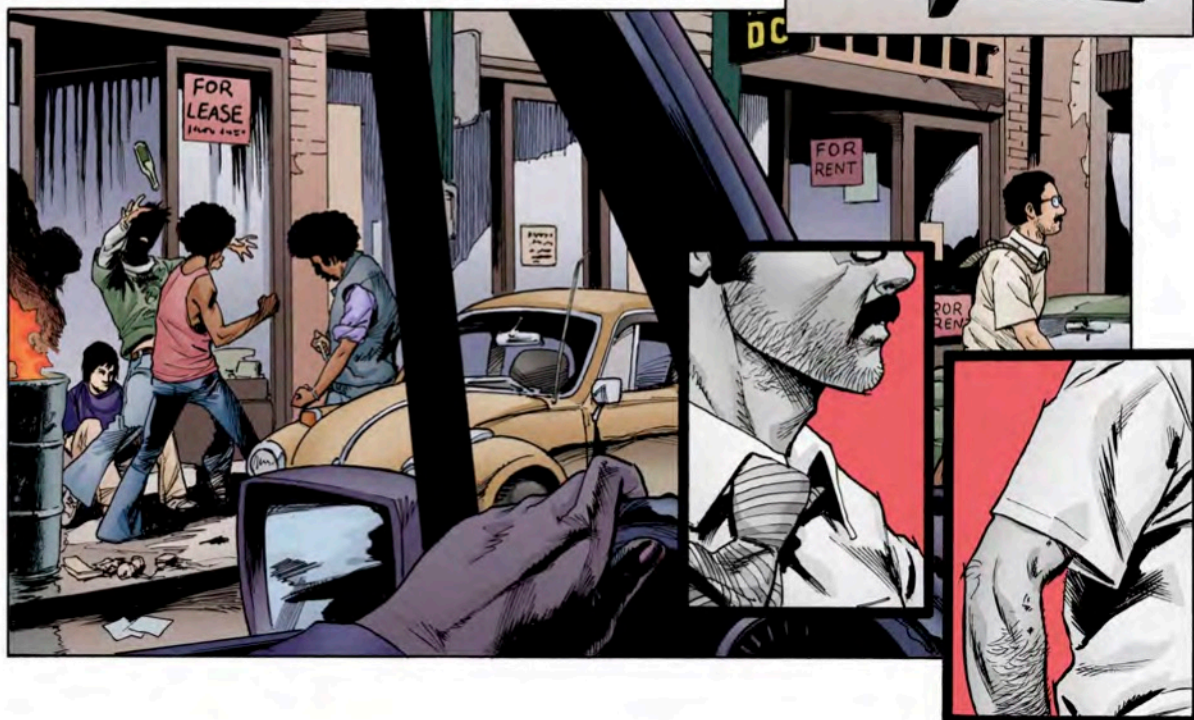
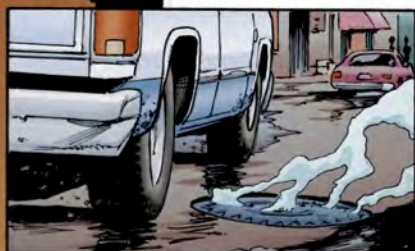
YOU'LL NEVER  
GUESS. WASHINGTON.  
WASHINGTON DC.  
THE CORRIDORS OF  
POWER AND ALL THAT.  
ME, YOUR LITTLE  
BABY SIS.



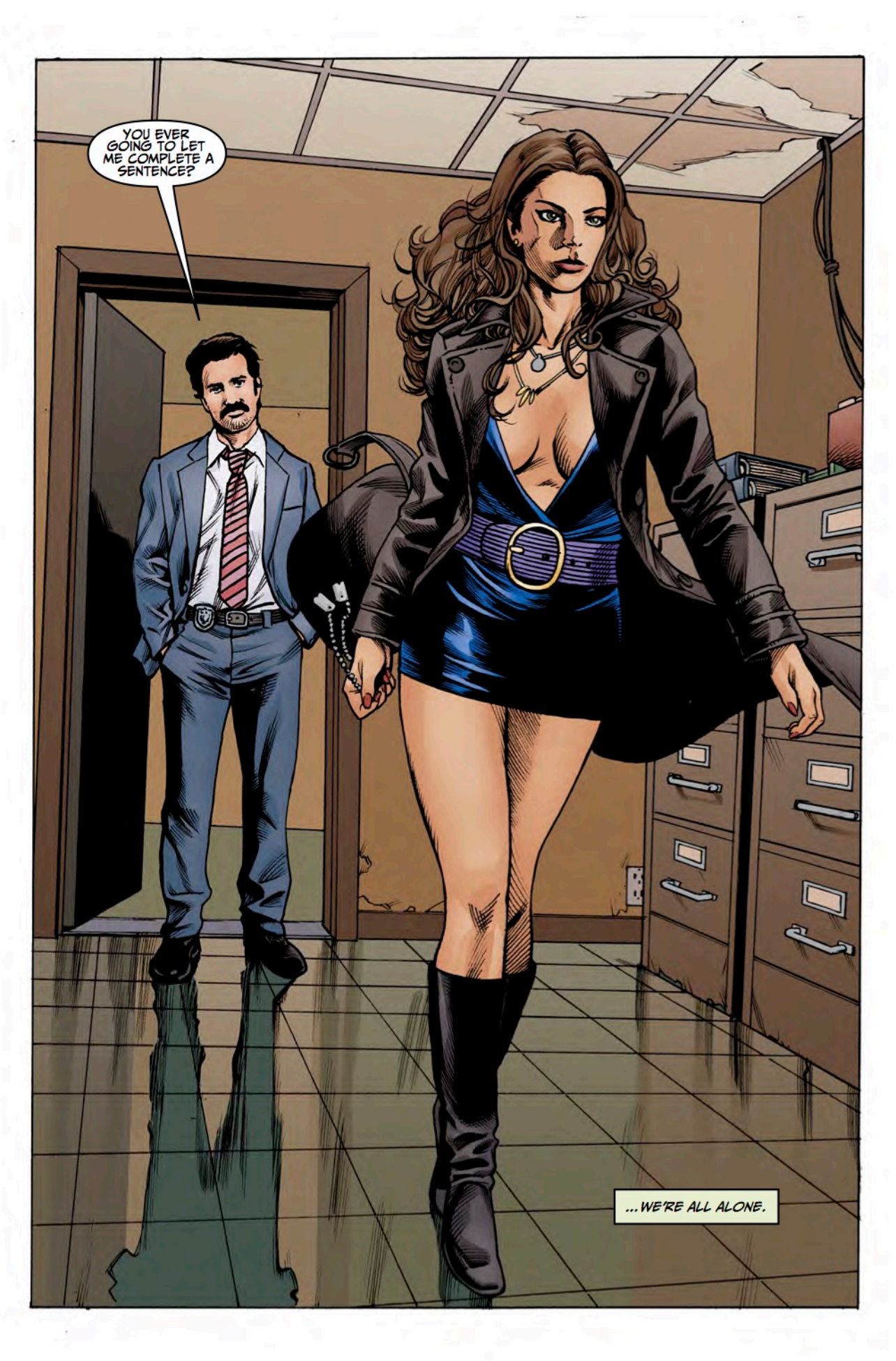
I... I  
DIDN'T FORGET  
YOU, LILA.

I KNOW  
YOU DIDN'T. AND I  
NEVER BLAMED YOU  
FOR LEAVING HOME.  
NOT EVEN FOR A  
SECOND.









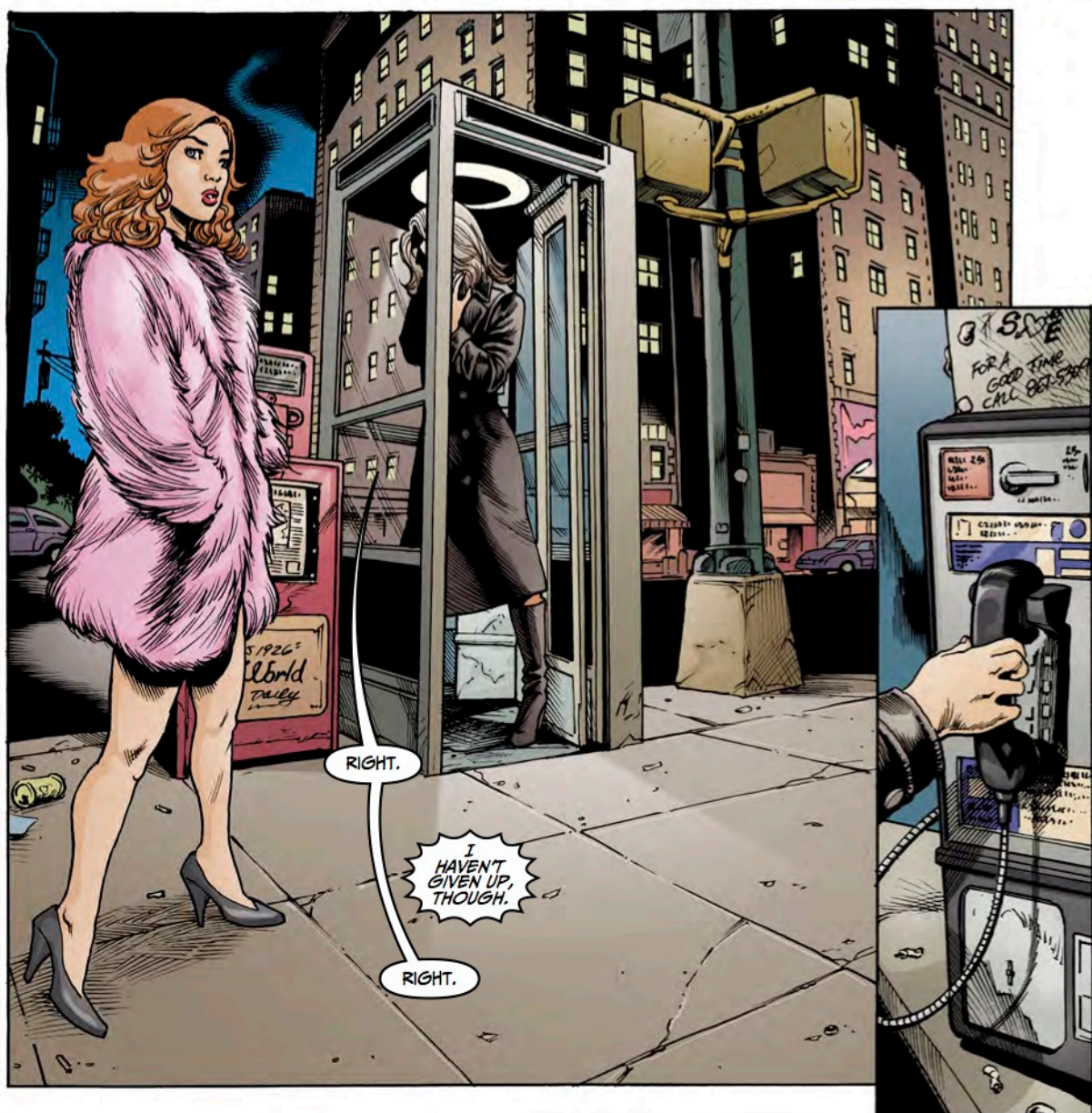
YOU EVER  
GOING TO LET  
ME COMPLETE A  
SENTENCE?

... WE'RE ALL ALONE.





WE CAN'T  
FIND HER. THOSE  
NAMES, NONE OF THEM  
ARE REAL, AND THEY'VE  
GOT ME ON 15 OTHER  
CASES THEY ACTUALLY  
GIVE A DAMN ABOUT—  
SORRY ....



RIGHT.

I  
HAVEN'T  
GIVEN UP,  
THOUGH.

RIGHT.