

#1

Grimm Fairy Tales presents:

Beyond Wonderland

Gregory • Leister • Ruffino


zenescope
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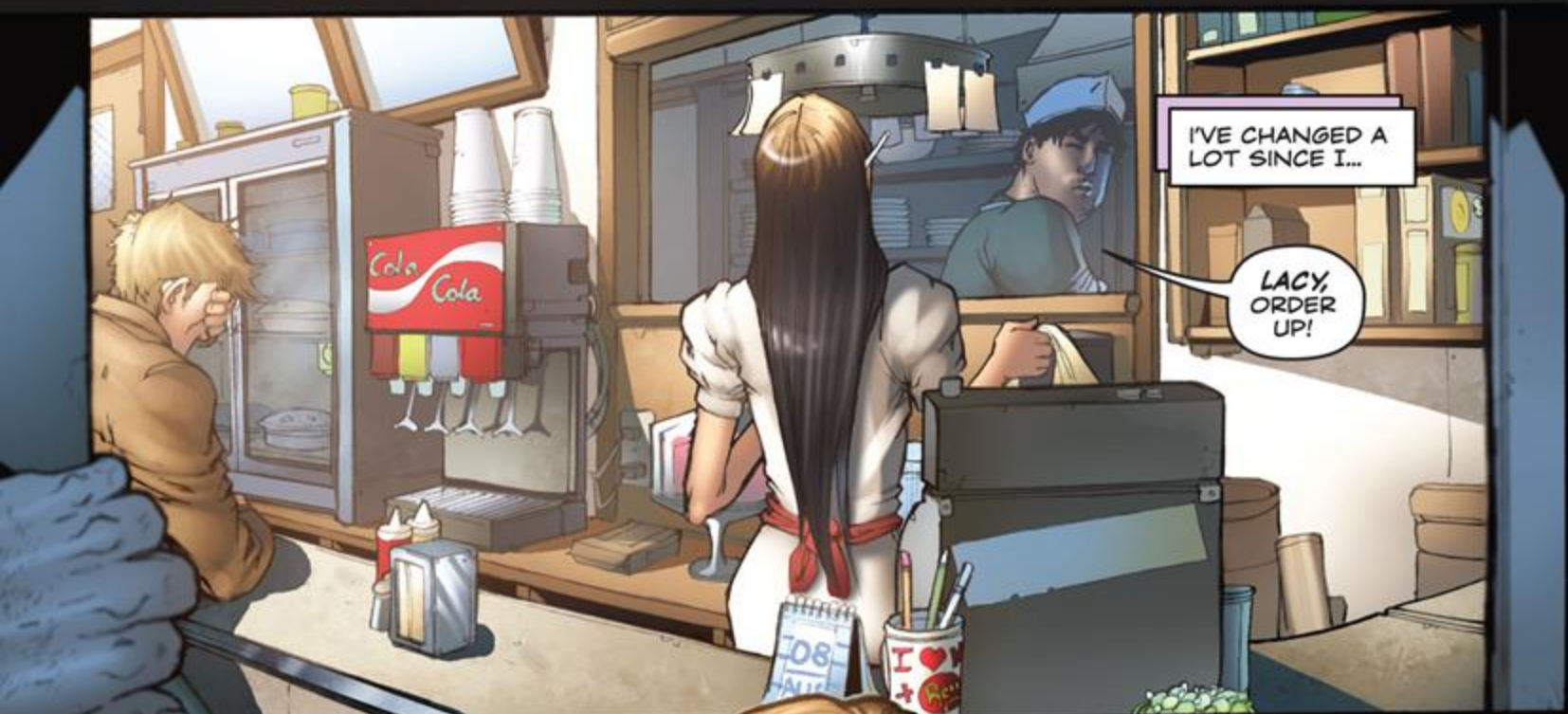
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ONCE UPON A TIME MY
NAME WAS CALIE LIDDLE.
I'VE CHANGED IT
SINCE THEN.

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YOU
ALRIGHT,
LACY?

LACY?

LACY, NOT
CALIE. CALIE
DOESN'T LIVE
HERE ANYMORE.

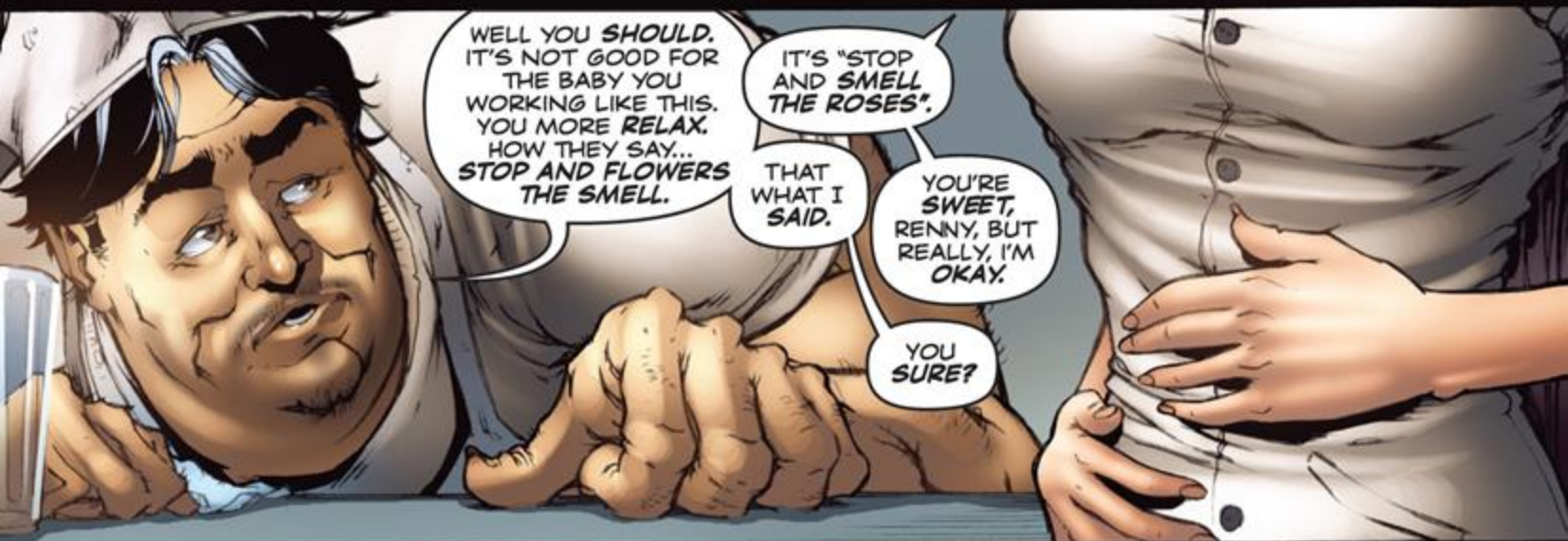
OH,
SORRY, I
DRIFTED
OFF.



S'OKAY. YOU
WORKING LOT
LATELY. MAYBE YOU
TAKE IT MORE
EASY? YOU KNOW,
WITH YOU WITH
BABY COMING
AND ALL.

I NEED THE
MONEY, RENNY.
I CAN'T AFFORD
TO TAKE IT
EASY.

I LIE. I HAVE MORE MONEY
THAN I KNOW WHAT TO DO
WITH. BUT I CAN'T TELL HIM
THAT. I CAN'T TELL HIM
THAT I NEED TO WORK 80
HOURS A WEEK JUST TO
STAY DISTRACTED.



WELL YOU **SHOULD**.
IT'S NOT GOOD FOR
THE BABY YOU
WORKING LIKE THIS.
YOU MORE **RELAX**.
HOW THEY SAY...
**STOP AND FLOWERS
THE SMELL.**

IT'S "STOP
AND **SMELL
THE ROSES**".

THAT
WHAT I
SAID.

YOU'RE
SWEET,
RENNY, BUT
REALLY, I'M
OKAY.

YOU
SURE?



THAT I'D DO JUST ABOUT ANYTHING TO AVOID
THE **DREAMS** THAT ARE WAITING FOR ME.

I'M
SURE.

WELL, AS LONG
AS YOU **SURE**. GET
GOOD NIGHTS
SLEEP. BUSY DAY
TOMORROW. LOT'S
THE **CUSTOMERS**.

I WILL.
AND
RENNY...



...THANKS.

Dear Calie,
I'm sorry but I just can't handle this
anymore. You need to get help. You need to
talk to someone who can help you with your
problem because God knows it's not me.

I tried to help.

I tried to be there for you.

But every time I get close
you push me away.

Dear Calie,
I'm truly sorry but I just can't handel this anymore. You need to get help. You need to talk to someubn who can help you with your problem because God knows it's not *me*. ~~I~~ tried to help. I tried to be there for you. time I get close u ~~just~~ just push me do open up... I can't talkin about

And when you do open up...

HEY,
MISTA...
CAN I
GET YOU
ANOTHER
CUP OF...

...I can't
understand
anything you're
talking about.

...TEA? HEY?
WHERE YOU
GO?

"HELLO? HELLO? IS
ANYONE THERE?"





AND ABOUT YESTERDAY... I'M SORRY, BRANDON. I DIDN'T MEAN TO YELL AT YOU. IT'S JUST HARD FOR ME... TO TALK ABOUT STUFF...

I ONLY WANT THE **BEST** FOR YOU. YOU **KNOW** THAT, RIGHT?

YEAH, I KNOW.



I TALKED TO SOME OF THE **GUYS AT WORK** ABOUT IT AND...

...YOU **WHAT?!!**



CALIE... I JUST MEAN... WE WERE JUST TALKING ABOUT SHIT AND IT **CAME UP**, AND ONE OF THE GUYS SAID HIS WIFE WAS ON **ANTIDEPRESSANTS** AND THAT THEY HELPED OUT A LOT SO...

YOU TOLD THEM WHAT I TOLD YOU? ARE YOU **FUCKING DENSE?** WHAT DON'T YOU **UNDERSTAND** ABOUT THE PHRASE "YOU **CAN'T TELL ANYONE** WHAT I'M ABOUT TO TELL YOU?"



CALIE, I JUST...

JUST WHAT?

JUST... CALIE...

STOP CALLING ME THAT! IT'S LACY NOW! WHY IS THAT SO HARD FOR YOU TO GET?

YOU KNOW WHAT... **NEVER MIND, OKAY?** JUST NEVER MIND. I WAS JUST TRYING TO **HELP**.



TRYING TO **HELP?** I NEVER ASKED YOU FOR YOUR **FUCKING HELP** AND IF I KNEW **THIS** WAS YOUR IDEA OF **FUCKING HELPING** ME I **NEVER** WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU A **FUCKING THING!**

YOU NEED **HELP, CALIE.** THIS... ALL THIS... IT'S JUST... IT'S **CRAZY.**

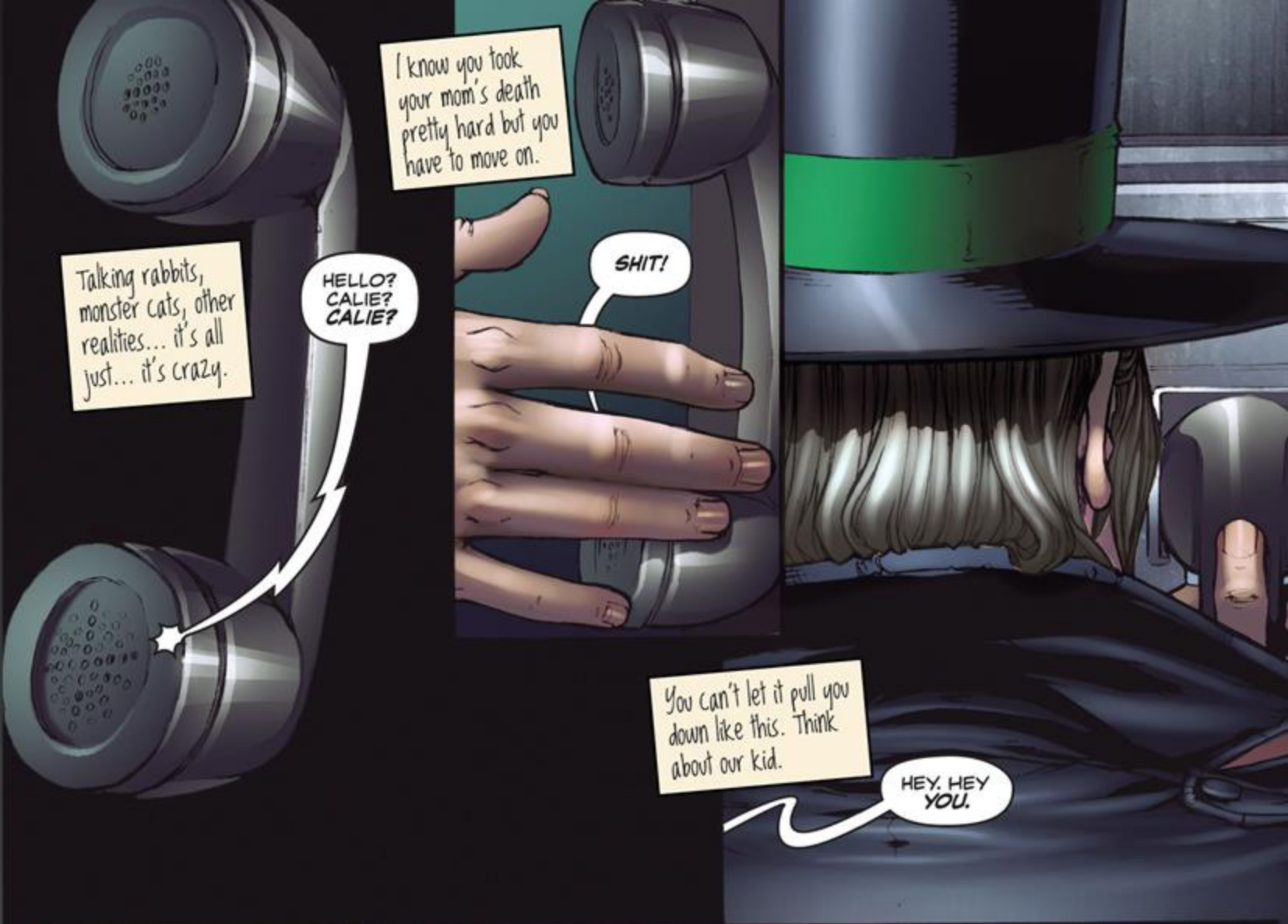
I'M NOT FUCKING CRAZY!!!!



HELLO? CALIE? CALIE?

SHIT.

CLICK!



Talking rabbits,
monster cats, other
realities... it's all
just... it's crazy.

HELLO?
CALIE?
CALIE?

I know you took
your mom's death
pretty hard but you
have to move on.

SHIT!

You can't let it pull you
down like this. Think
about our kid.

HEY. HEY
YOU.



YEAH, YOU. YOU
LOOKING FOR
SOME COMPANY
TONIGHT,
MISTER?

WHY, YES.
YES, I AM.



WHAT'S WITH
THE CAT?

OH, DON'T
MIND HIM. HE
AS HARMLESS
AS A KITTEN.
AREN'T YOU,
CHESHIRE?



WORRY
A LOT.

Do you want to end
up like your mother?
Do you? I hope not
but to tell you the
truth I don't even
know anymore.

I can't just stay here
and watch you lose more
and more of yourself.

CALIE... I
MEAN, LACY?
WHAT ARE
YOU...

NO. JUST
STOP.

I can't just stand here
and watch you lock me
out of your life and
expect me to just stand
here and wait for you to
get better.

I DON'T
WANT TO HEAR
ANYTHING YOU
HAVE TO SAY.

WILL YOU
LET ME
EXPLAIN?

NO. NO I WON'T LET YOU
EXPLAIN. YOU JUST DON'T GET IT.
I TOLD YOU, BRANDON. NO ONE
CAN KNOW WE ARE HERE. NO
ONE CAN KNOW ABOUT ME AND
THE STUFF I TOLD YOU.

CALIE...
PLEASE... YOU
CAN'T REALLY
BELIEVE...

THAT THERE ARE
PEOPLE LOOKING FOR
ME? YOU BETTER
BELIEVE I BELIEVE IT. I
KNOW IT AND I WON'T
TAKE THE CHANCE OF
THEM FINDING ME...
OR THE BABY.

LISTEN.

STOP.

JUST LISTEN
FOR ONE
MINUTE...

JUST
STOP.

THERE'S A
DOCTOR...

I DON'T
WANT...

HE'S GOOD. HE'S
HELPED OUT A
LOT OF PEOPLE
WITH PROBLEMS A
LOT WORSE THAN
YOURS...



WHAT?
WHAT DID
YOU SAY?

CALIE, I
DIDN'T
MEAN...



NO. YOU'RE *RIGHT*. I MEAN,
SERIOUSLY, LIKE I HAVE IT SO
BAD. IT'S NOT LIKE MY DAD WAS
A *DEVIAN*T *MAN* *WHORE* WHO
CHEATED ON MY *MOTHER* EVERY
CHANCE HE HAD OR THAT MY
MOM *KILLED* HERSELF, OR THAT
MY *PSYCHOPATHIC BROTHER*
KILLED MY DAD, OR THAT THERE'S
AN *ALTERNATIVE DIMENSION*
OBSESSED WITH EATING MY
SANITY AND STEALING
MY *SOUL*.

NOT TO
MENTION MY
GRANDFATHER
IS THE EVIL
DIMENSION'S
PIMP WHO
WOULD LIKE
NOTHING
BETTER THAN
TO SEND ME
BACK TO THE
CHARLES
MANSON
VERSION OF
DISNEYLAND.

OH,
WAIT... IT
LIKE THAT!



CLANG

GOD DAMNIT, CALIE.
WHY WON'T YOU LET
ME HELP YOU?





HELLO?

NO. I'M NOT GOING TO DO THIS. NOT AGAIN.

THIS ISN'T REAL. I KNOW I'M DREAMING AGAIN. IT'S NOT REAL.



THEN WHY ARE YOU SO SCARED, CALIE?



THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.

THERE'S EVERYTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.



THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.

I MISS MY MOM.

WHERE'S BRANDON?

THERE'S EVERYTHING TO BE AFRAID OF.

WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

WHERE'S THE BABY?

MAKE IT STOP.



MAKE IT STOP.

MAKE IT STOP.

WHERE'S BRANDON?

MAKE IT STOP.

I CAN'T HEAR MYSELF THINK.

WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

IS IT EVER GOING TO END?

MAKE IT STOP.

WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME?

THAT'S EVER TO BE

MAKE IT STOP.

MAKE IT STOP.



MAKE IT STOP!

I CAN'T HEAR MYSELF THINK.

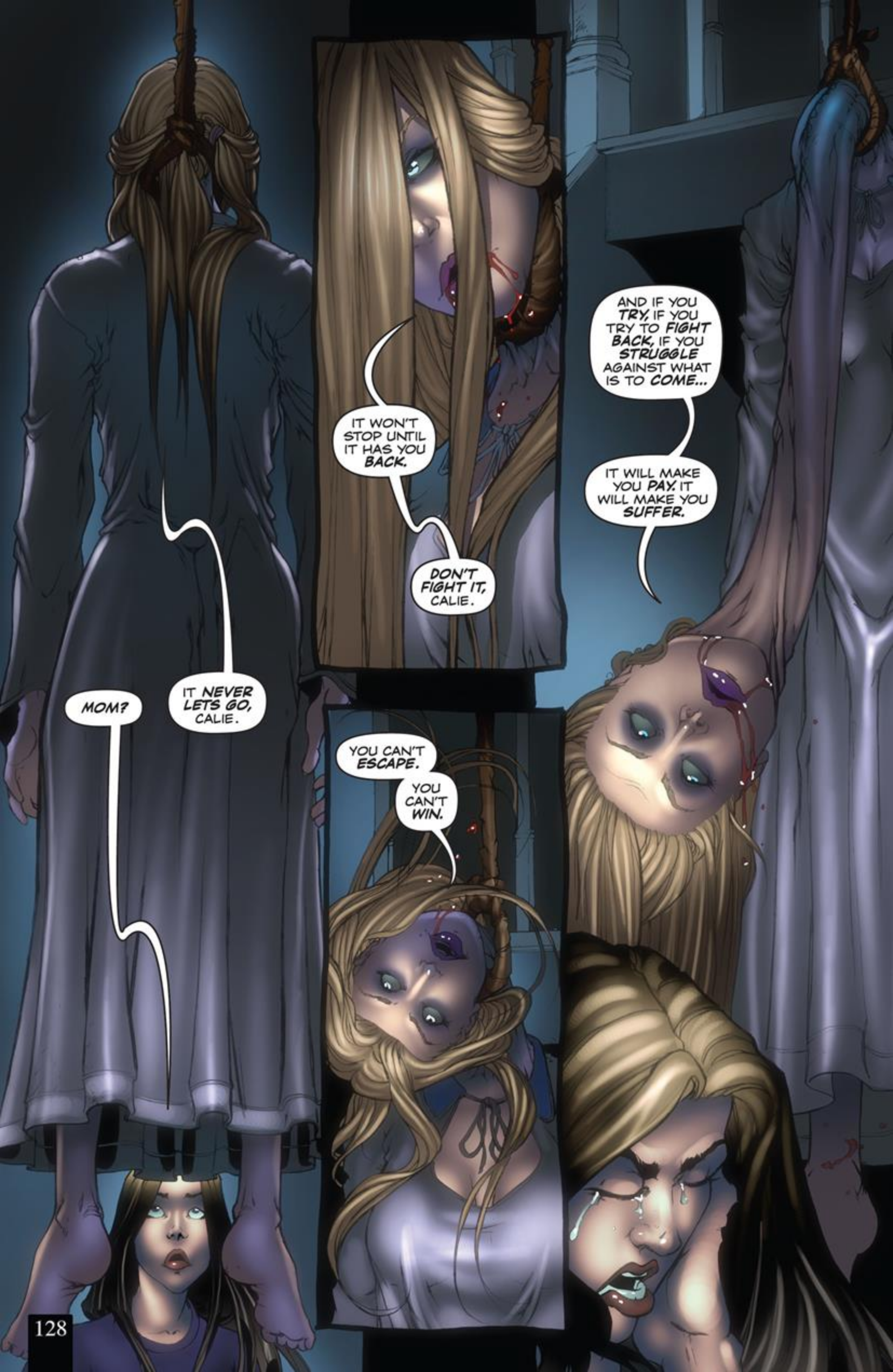
WHERE'S BRANDON?

WHAT AM I DOING HERE?



CALIE.

...NO. IT'S CAN'T BE.



IT WON'T
STOP UNTIL
IT HAS YOU
BACK.

DON'T
FIGHT IT,
CALIE.

AND IF YOU
TRY, IF YOU
TRY TO FIGHT
BACK, IF YOU
STRUGGLE
AGAINST WHAT
IS TO COME...

IT WILL MAKE
YOU PAY. IT
WILL MAKE YOU
SUFFER.

MOM?

IT NEVER
LETS GO,
CALIE.

YOU CAN'T
ESCAPE.

YOU
CAN'T
WIN.



JUST LIKE
IT MADE ME
SUFFER.

WHY CAN'T
YOU *SEE*?
WHEN ARE
YOU GOING TO
REALIZE THAT
RESISTANCE
IS FUTILE?

WHEN ARE
YOU GOING
TO...

...WAKE
UP.



CALIE?
CALIE!

NO! NO!

IT'S OKAY.
IT WAS
JUST A
DREAM.

SOMETHING'S
COMING,
BRANDON.
SOMETHING
BAD.

CALIE...



YOU GOT TO **BELIEVE**
ME, BRANDON. YOU
HAVE TO. I'M **NOT**
CRAZY. THERE'S REALLY
SOMETHING THERE...
IT'S WAITING,
WATCHING... TRYING
TO **GET IN**.



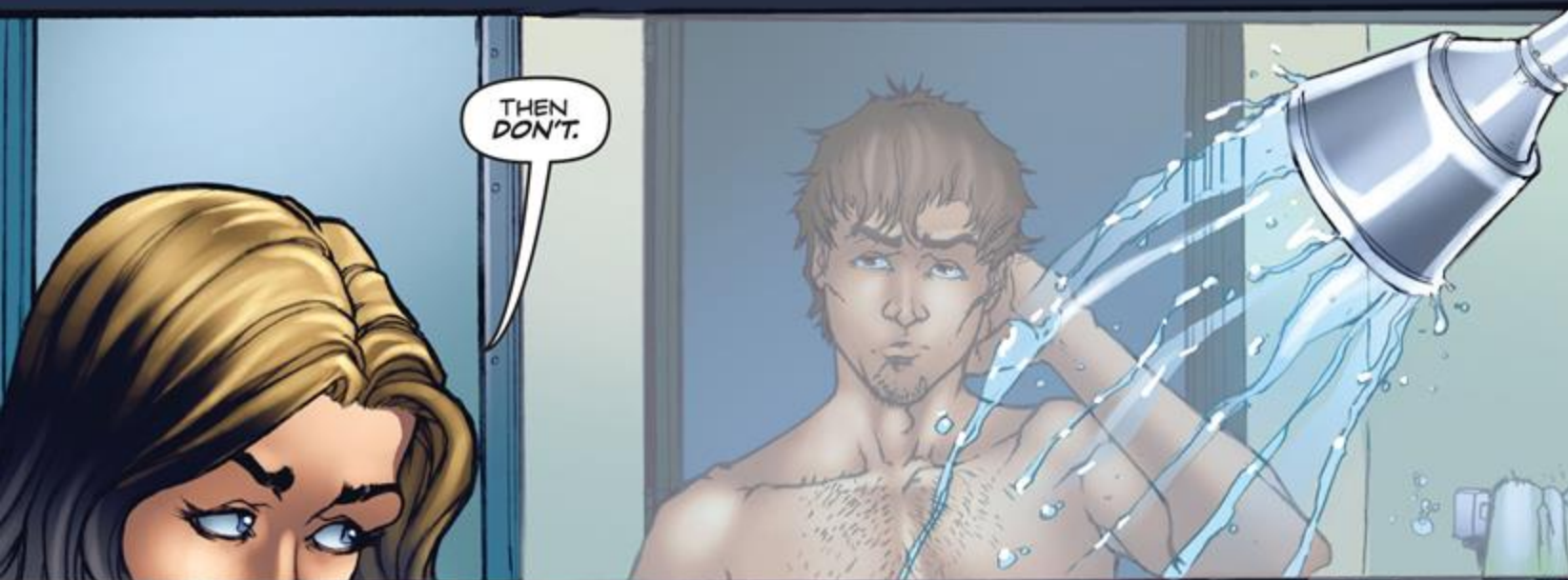
OKAY. THAT'S
ENOUGH. I
CAN'T TAKE THIS
ANYMORE.

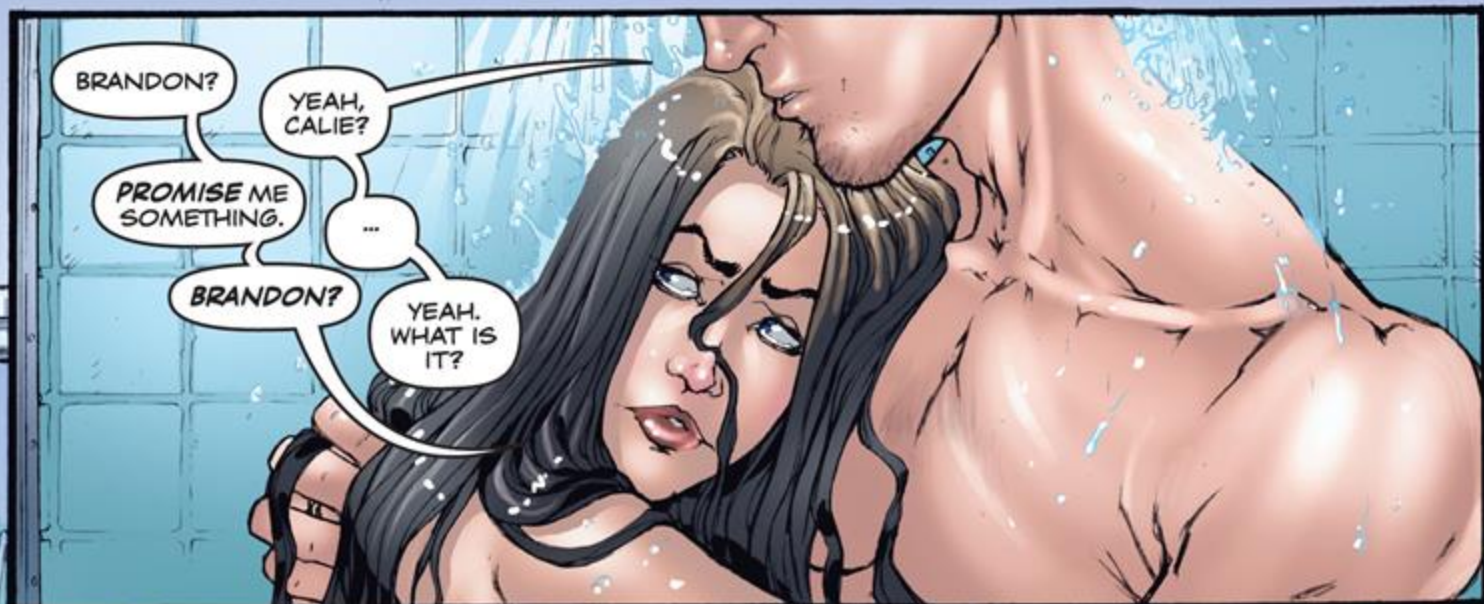
BRANDON,
PLEASE. I'M
NOT MAKING
ALL THIS UP.

THAT'S WHAT I'M
AFRAID OF. THAT YOU
REALLY **BELIEVE** ALL
THIS... THIS...



...**MADNESS**. I...
I JUST... I
CAN'T. OKAY? I
JUST CAN'T.





BRANDON?

YEAH, CALIE?

PROMISE ME
SOMETHING.

...

BRANDON?

YEAH.
WHAT IS
IT?



PLEASE...
DON'T
LEAVE
ME.

THERE'S A SILENCE BETWEEN US NOW. SOMETHING THAT WAS NEVER THERE BEFORE.

I LOVE YOU, BRANDON. I REALLY DO.

YEAH... I KNOW.

THE SILENCE IS BROKEN WITH THE THREE WORDS I NEVER THOUGHT I WOULD EVER SAY AGAIN.

HE'LL STAY. I KNOW HE WILL. HE KNOWS I LOVE HIM.

I LOVE YOU TOO.

HE KNOWS HOW HARD IT'S BEEN FOR ME TO LET MYSELF GET CLOSE TO HIM... ESPECIALLY AFTER EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED.

IT WASN'T UNTIL TONIGHT THAT I REALIZED HOW MUCH I NEED HIM IN MY LIFE. RIGHT NOW, HE'S ALL I GOT. AND I'LL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO KEEP HIM IN MY LIFE.

EVEN IF IT MEANS SEEING A DOCTOR ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.

I know you'll probably hate me for this but I hope you understand.

I want to be there for our kid... I want to be there for you...

...but until you decide to get some help I won't stand by and watch you destroy yourself.

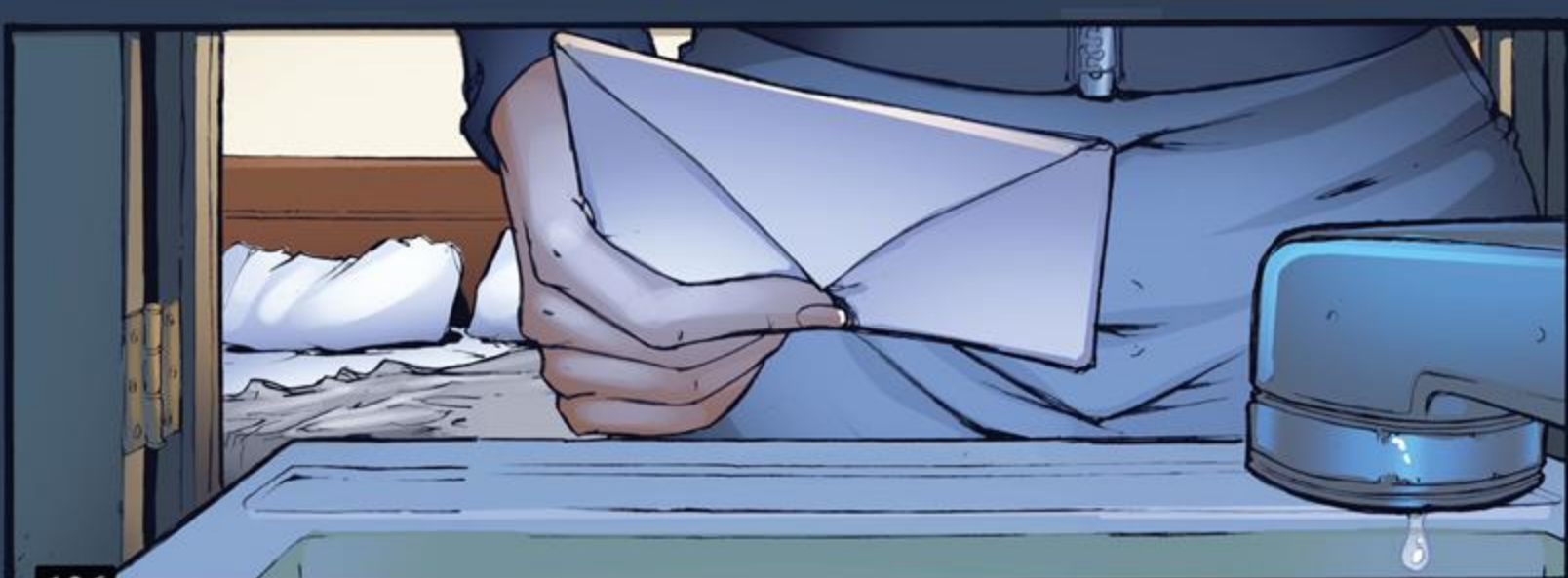
I just can't.

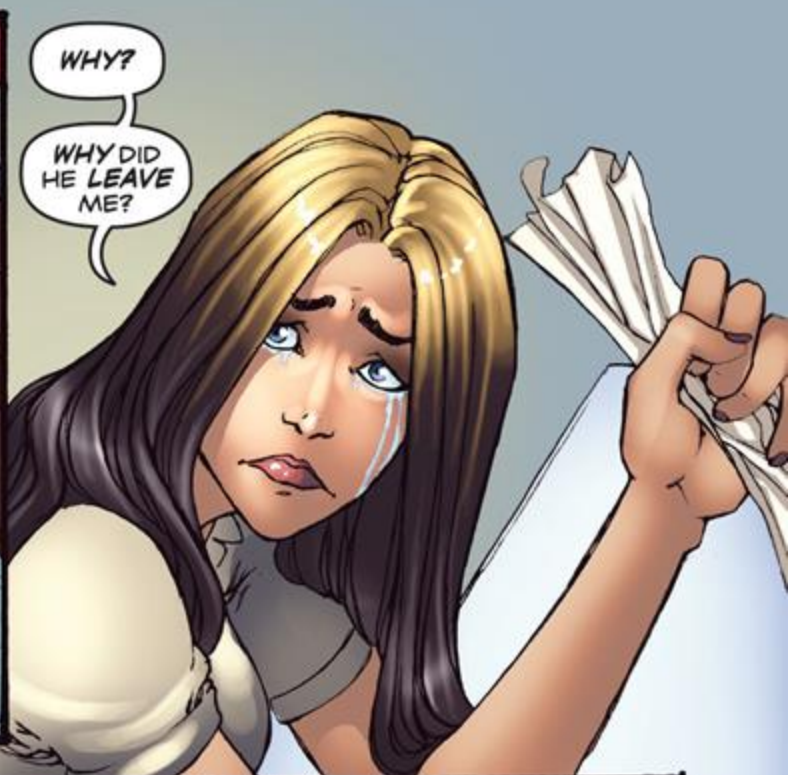
WHAT AM I THINKING? I CAN'T DO THIS. I CAN'T LEAVE HER. FOR GOD'S SAKE...

...SHE'S HAVING MY BABY.











*"Downtown she's walking alone on a street
Won't look in the eye of the stranger she sees
She thinks she's alone in a world gone insane
What she doesn't know is we all feel the same."*

- "Try" by Kalan Porter

TO BE CONTINUED...