



The sky over the Louvre

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A Graphic Novel

LOUVRE

MUSEE DU
LOUVRE
EDITIONS

Comics Lit

Chapter VII • The 28th of Frimaire, Year II

At the Club of the Cordeliers, Danton and Robespierre are facing off. The subject they're debating divides them more than the Terror does. The question is an ideological one for the Montagnards.

PROCLAIM ALL RELIGIONS FREE! DO YOU WANT TO BRING GOD BACK AMONGST US, MAXIMILIEN?





AND PERHAPS PUT A PHRYGIAN
CAP ON HIM? HAVE HIM SING
"THE CARMAGNOLE"?



I WANT WHAT THE PEOPLE
WANT. WHAT THEY NEED.



TOO BAD GOD DOESN'T
HAVE A HEAD! WE KNOW
FULL WELL WHAT WE'D
DO WITH IT!

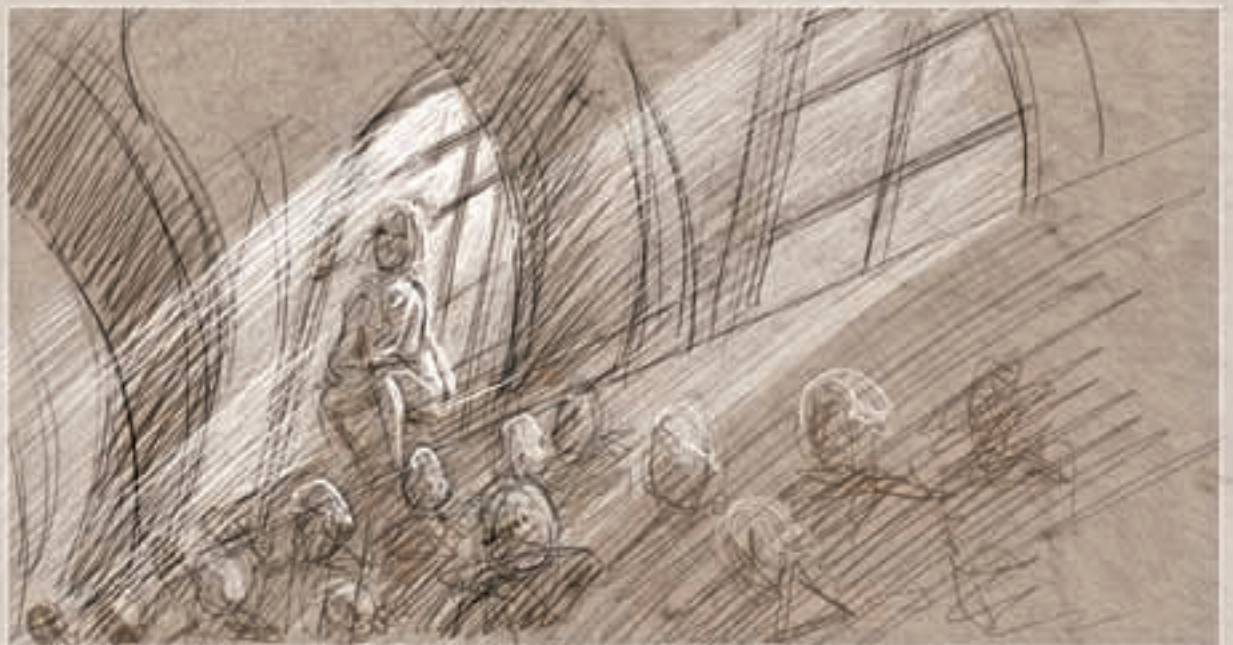


AND TO SAY THAT THE
PEOPLE RECOGNIZE
THEMSELVES IN HIM!

DO YOU FIND
HIM VULGAR?



WORSE! THE
VERY FACE OF
CORRUPTION.



Later, when the meeting ends, Robespierre takes David aside. The polemic launched by Danton spawned a sterile debate, which stirred up the assembly of Jacobins. But the Incorruptible, as usual, doesn't become flustered and reflects out loud. He comes back to his obsession.



Chapter VIII • The 8th of Nivôse, Year II

At the National Convention, they learn of the death of a brave

thirteen-year-old. Beneath the posthumous portraits of Le Peletier and Marat, both assassinated, a uniformed general reads the dispatch that relates the heroic deeds of the new martyr. In the galleries, the delegates' emotions run very high.

WHEN HE RECEIVES THE FINAL BLOWS, WHILE HOLDING THE TWO HORSES BY THEIR BRIDLE, HE ANSWERS THE ONE WHO'D COME FORWARD TO MAKE HIM SURRENDER THEM, "FOR YOU, YOU DAMNED BANDIT, THE MAJOR'S HORSES AND MY OWN! GO AHEAD!..."



I THINK YOU'VE
READ INCORRECTLY,
GENERAL.



I'LL START OVER...SURROUNDED BY BANDITS WHO
THREATENED HIM WITH DEATH ON THE ONE HAND AND
ON THE OTHER DEMANDED THAT HE CRY "LONG LIVE
THE KING!" HE PAID WITH HIS LIFE FOR HAVING CRIED
OUT "LONG LIVE THE REPUBLIC!"



THIS YOUNG MARTYR SUPPORTED HIS
MOTHER THROUGH HIS LABOR. IT'S NOT
POSSIBLE TO CHOOSE A MORE BEAUTIFUL
EXAMPLE OF VIRTUE!! ONLY THE FRENCH
HAVE THIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD HEROES!



FOR THE YOUNG BARA, I PROPOSE A
CEREMONY WORTHY OF HIS DEATH!!
AND THE HONORS OF THE PANTHEON!!



THAT CHILD, THAT MARTYR
MUST HAVE HIS IMAGE PAINTED
BY THE BRUSHES OF THE
ILLUSTRIOUS DAVID!!



DAVID, IT'S FOR YOU
TO IMMORTALIZE THE
YOUNG BARA DYING FOR
THE REPUBLIC!

MAY HE TAKE HIS PLACE
HERE, AT THIS ASSEMBLY,
BETWEEN MARAT AND
LE PELETIER!



YES, DAVID! DO HIS
PORTRAIT FOR US, WHICH
WE'LL ENGRAVE, SO IT
WILL MAKE THE ROUNDS
IN SCHOOLS!

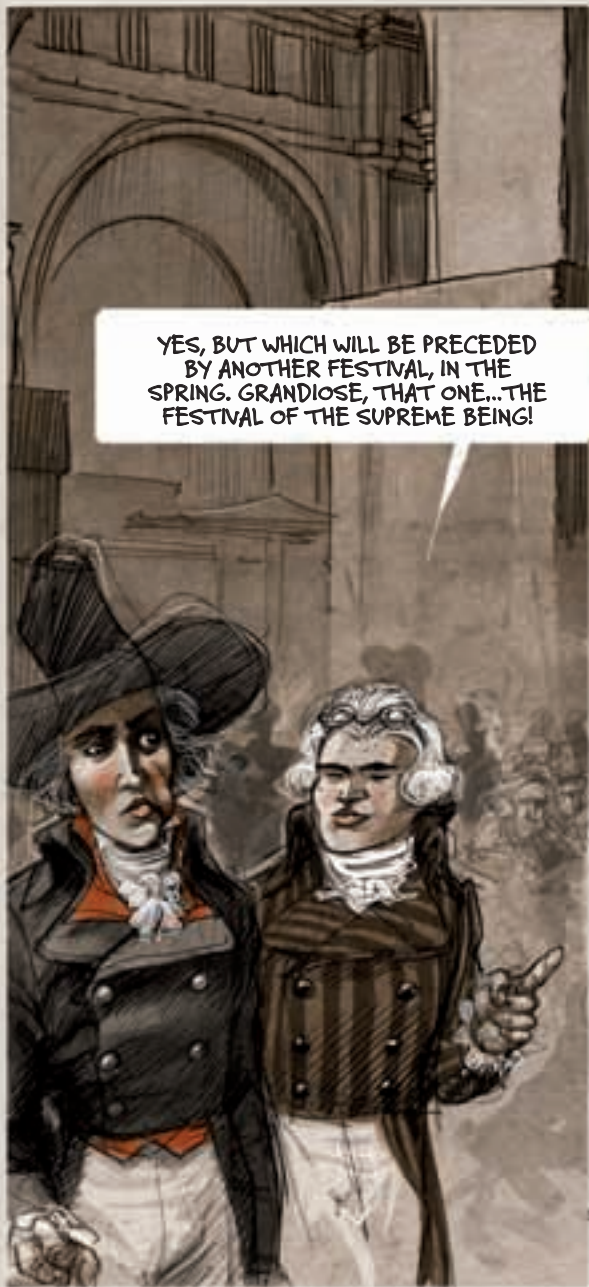
I ACCEPT, FOR THOSE ARE THE
DEEDS THAT I LOVE TO DEPICT!





YES, WE'LL HAVE TO DEVOTE A GREAT FESTIVAL TO HIM, ALSO, IN THE SUMMER. YOU'LL TAKE CARE OF THAT, TOO, OF COURSE, DAVID.

A FESTIVAL FOR THE YOUNG BARA?



YES, BUT WHICH WILL BE PRECEDED BY ANOTHER FESTIVAL, IN THE SPRING. GRANDIOSE, THAT ONE...THE FESTIVAL OF THE SUPREME BEING!



SPEAKING OF WHICH, HAVE YOU FOUND ITS MODEL?

ART IS AN ENDLESS QUEST, MAXIMILIEN.

They'll speak no further of it for several weeks.