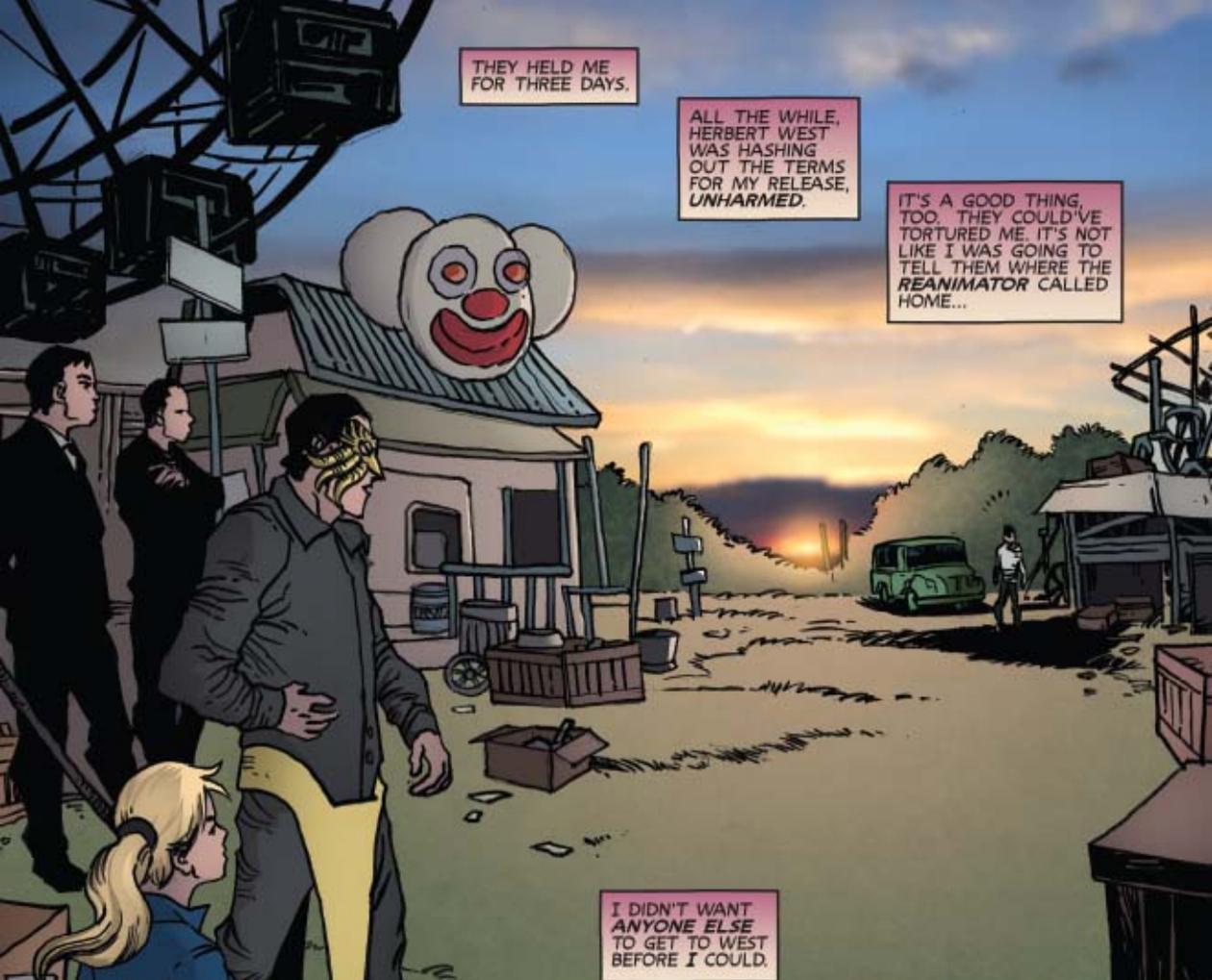


THEY HELD ME FOR THREE DAYS.

ALL THE WHILE, HERBERT WEST WAS HASHING OUT THE TERMS FOR MY RELEASE, UNHARMED.

IT'S A GOOD THING, TOO. THEY COULD'VE TORTURED ME. IT'S NOT LIKE I WAS GOING TO TELL THEM WHERE THE REANIMATOR CALLED HOME...



I DIDN'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO GET TO WEST BEFORE I COULD.

AND SO WE FINALLY MEET, DR. WEST.

WE'VE BROUGHT THE GIRL. SHE'S IN GOOD SHAPE, AS PROMISED.

SO... WILL YOU LIVE UP TO YOUR END OF THE BARGAIN?

TO GIVE YOU COMPLETE ACCESS TO MY LAB? THE MANUFACTURE OF EUNIQUE AT YOUR DISPOSAL, MY VERY LIFE'S WORK UNDER YOUR THUMB?

I THINK NOT.

I TEND TO COME INTO CONFLICT WITH PERSONS OF AUTHORITY.

YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY IN A POSITION TO NEGOTIATE.

OH, I DISAGREE.

BECAUSE I KNOW WHAT YOU CRAVE...AND IT'S NOT MY OPERATION.

YOU WANT POWER.



YOU'VE BEEN ABUSING THE EUNIQUE. YOUR... ENTHUSIASM GIVES IT AWAY.

I'M SURE YOU'VE EXPERIENCED **ALL SORTS** OF PSYCHIC PHENOMENA.

WELL, THIS VIAL WILL MULTIPLY YOUR PROGRESS A **THOUSAND TIMES** OVER.

A VIAL THAT I COULD DROP TO THE GROUND, AND YOU'D LOSE FOREVER.

WHAT YOU OFFER... SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.

HOW DO I KNOW THIS ISN'T A **DOUBLE-CROSS**?

YOU'RE RIGHT, A SLOW-ACTING POISON WOULD BE EASY ENOUGH TO SYNTHESIZE...

...BUT I'LL PROVE THAT I MEAN YOU NO HARM.

SEE? NOW WE'LL SHARE THE SAME EFFECTS, ONCE THEY KICK IN.

AND THEY **WILL** KICK IN, I ASSURE YOU...

...ALTHOUGH THIS DEMONSTRATION HAS COST YOU HALF ITS POTENCY.

SO, THE **NEW TERMS**.

I'LL LEAVE WITH THE YOUNG LADY, YOU CAN ENJOY A SHINY NEW FIX, AND WE'LL RETURN TO OUR PREVIOUS BUSINESS ARRANGEMENT.

OTHERWISE? I SMASH THE VIAL TO BITS.



I SENSE ENERGY EMANATING FROM THAT VIAL.

POSSESSING THAT VIAL--IT'S THE WILL OF CTHULHU, I KNOW IT.

THEN I'D ADVISE THAT YOU TAKE IT.

AS LONG AS HELL STILL PRODUCE OUR ELNIQUE...

...WE'LL HAVE ANOTHER CHANCE TO TRACK HIM DOWN.



WE ACCEPT.

TAKE HER, AND LET'S HAVE BYGONES BE BYGONE.

AND SO, I MAKE MY WAY BACK TO MY SAVIOR...



...AND I FEEL MY SKIN CRAWLING MORE, WITH EACH STEP I TAKE.



IT'S BEEN A PLEASURE.

NOW THE HARD PART BEGINS.



SOMEHOW I NEED TO GET THE DROP ON DR. WEST, AND THEN MAKE HIM TALK.

I NEED TO KNOW WHY HE TURNED MY POOR NATHAN INTO A MONSTER.



THANKS FOR THE SAVE.

DON'T MENTION IT...

...AND DON'T STRUGGLE.

MMMPH!!

I WOULDN'T WANT YOU HURT.

JUST LET THE CHLOROFORM DO ITS WORK.



NNNMPH

NNNMPH!!!

YOU \_\_\_\_\_

SLEEP, SUSAN.

SLEEP.



GRRRAARRR...

...WUZZAT?

OMIGOD!

WHAT THE HELL?

GET IT OFF ME.



GET IT OFF ME!



MY APOLOGIES, SUSAN.

I'D HOPED NOT TO DISTURB YOU, BUT THIS ONE'S A BIT UNRULY.

WHY AM I BOUND TO THIS GURNEY?

GIVE ME A MOMENT.

I'LL RETURN, AND ALL YOUR QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED.