



THE WOMAN I BROUGHT IS OUR ONLY CHANCE TO STRAIGHTEN THIS ALL OUT. SHE'S WAITING OUTSIDE. I BELIEVE YOU KNOW HER AS...

HEY MOM, LOOK -- THE FOOTBALL THING'S WAKING UP!

MAXX! WHAT'S WITH THE LAMP SHADE?

HEY -- IT WAS YOUR IDEA, REMEMBER?

WELL, LET'S SEE IF WE CAN'T TWEAK IT A BIT.

LESSEE.....THERE!



YES!!! THE OLD MAXX'S BACK!

BUT YOU'RE STILL DAVE, TOO -- RIGHT?



WHO'S DAVE?

HEY THESE BUBBLES HAVE...



DADDY, WHAT'S HAPPENING?

SARA?

...BUGS IN 'EM?

MATTOX, COME HERE, DAMMIT!



OH GOD, IT'S THE URN! GLORIE, DON'T OPEN IT!!!!

...BUT THERE'S LIGHT INSIDE...



ARTIE, IT'S GETTING...

...BRIGHTER.



HEY LARRY -- WHAT HAPPENED? EVERYTHING'S SORT OF...

...DISAPPEARED.

WHAT DOES IRWIN SAY HAPPENED, JOHN?

WHO GIVES A RAT'S ASS!? HE COULD'VE MENTIONED THAT THE CREEP HE SENT US TO RUB OUT TURNS PEOPLE INTO BUGS, FER #@*!! CRISSAKE!!!

NOW, LARRY, I'M SURE MAJ. ROSENTHAL HAS A LARGER PLAN ON HIS MIND.

YEAH, MARK, YOU LOOK OLDER, TOO. IN YOUR TEENS, I'D SAY...

I SAW AN ANGEL, HIS NAME WAS IRWIN, AND HE SAID THESE BUBBLES RETURN US TO OUR UNBORN SELVES.

GLORIE, WHAT HAPPENED? I FEEL BIGGER.

GLORIE -- WAIT! WE'RE BREAKING APART!!!

IT'S OK, MARK. NOTHING CAN HURT US HERE -- IT'S SAFE! THE ANGEL SAID SO.

GREAT. WHAT GOOD IS THAT?

DON'T RESIST-- JUST FOLLOW YOUR BUBBLE, I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN, I PROMISE...

GLORIE'S STORY

LOOK IN YOUR BUBBLE CENTER, MARK, AND THE PAST WILL BECOME...

...CLEAR.

HI, GLORIE.

DADDY!!

HERE SWEETY. IT'S A PRESENT. IT HELPS YOU BREATHE.

THANKS, DADDY. ARE YOU GONNA STAY THIS TIME?

SURE, HONEY, IF YOU WANT.

LIES.

REMEMBER OUR SONG? "AS I WAS WALKING DOWN THE STREET LAST NIGHT..."

"...A PRETTY LITTLE GIRL CAME INTO SIGHT."

"I BOWED AND SMILED AND ASKED HER NAME,"

"SHE SAID, 'HOLD IT, BUD -- I DON'T PLAY THAT GAME.'"



DAD ALWAYS MANAGED
TO SAY WHAT PEOPLE
WANTED TO HEAR...

...THEN LEAVE THEM EMPTY HANDED.
Y'SEE, I BARELY REMEMBER MY REAL
DAD. HE WAS A FLIMFLAM MAN. I
NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN AFTER HE
GAVE ME THAT INHALER.

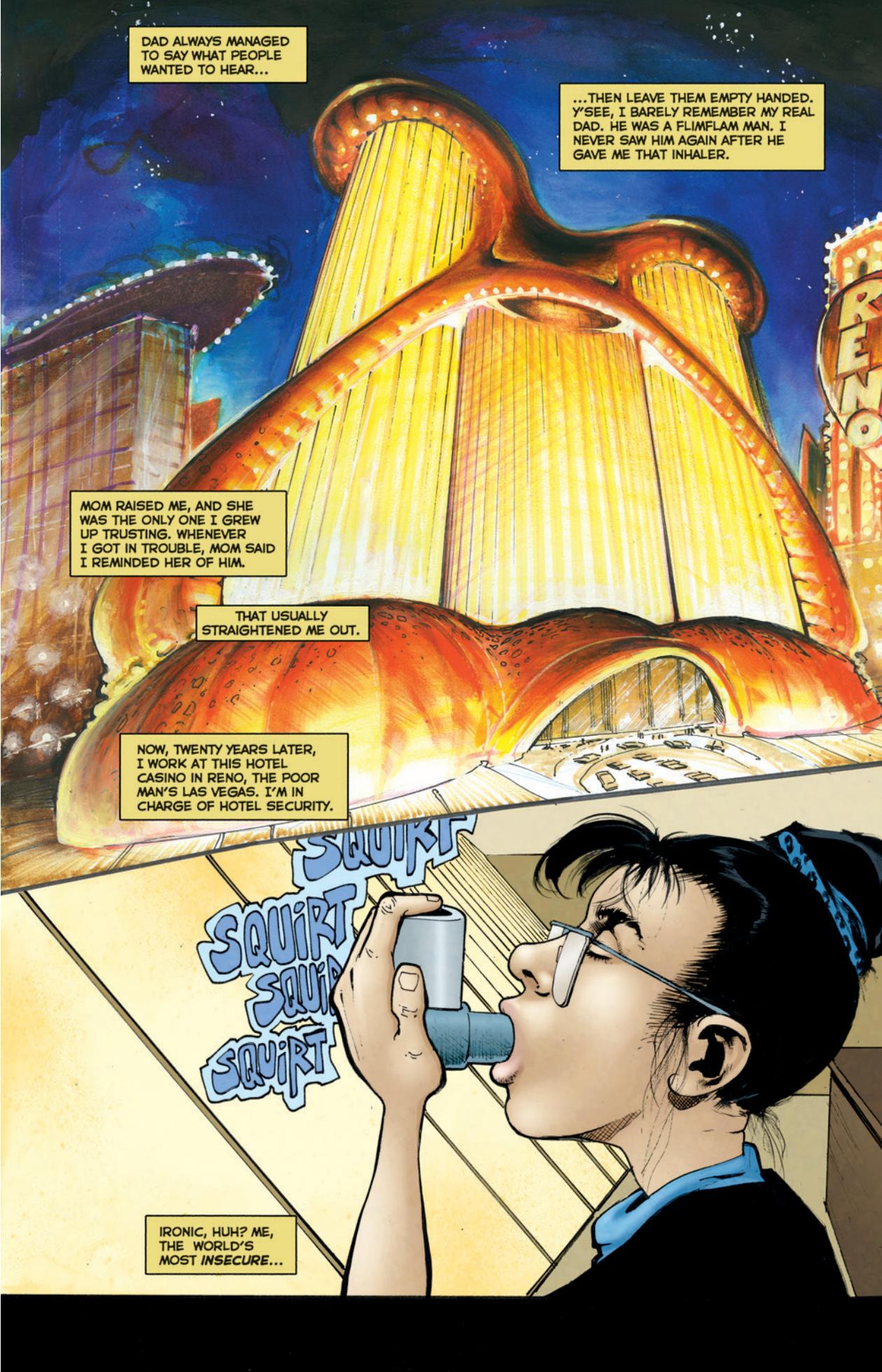
MOM RAISED ME, AND SHE
WAS THE ONLY ONE I GREW
UP TRUSTING. WHENEVER
I GOT IN TROUBLE, MOM SAID
I REMINDED HER OF HIM.

THAT USUALLY
STRAIGHTENED ME OUT.

NOW, TWENTY YEARS LATER,
I WORK AT THIS HOTEL
CASINO IN RENO, THE POOR
MAN'S LAS VEGAS. I'M IN
CHARGE OF HOTEL SECURITY.

SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SQUIRT
SQUIRT

IRONIC, HUH? ME,
THE WORLD'S
MOST INSECURE...





SHOULD WE BE IN BLAUFUS' OFFICE WHILE HE'S GONE?

ALICE, HE LEFT ME IN CHARGE, REMEMBER?

IT'S STILL HIS NAMEPLATE ON THE DESK.

JUST LOOK DOWN AT THE LOBBY. TO BUST A SCAM, YOU'VE GOT TO THINK LIKE A SCAM ARTIST. WHAT DO YOU SEE?



HOW BOUT THE OLD GUY IN SUSPENSERS WITH THE KID?

GOOD. WHAT ABOUT THEM?

LOOKS LIKE HE'S SELLING THE KID SOMETHING.

RIGHT. IS THE MARK BUYING?

CAN'T TELL -- CAN'T HEAR THEM...

FORGET THE WORDS -- WATCH THE BODY LANGUAGE.



THE OLD GUY'S WORKING ONE OF HIS SCAMS, PROBABLY THE ENVELOPE SCAM -- HE'S GIVING THE MARK SOME B.S. ABOUT ONLY BEING IN TOWN FOR THE AFTERNOON AND NEEDING A HOOKER. BUT HE'S AFRAID HE'LL GET ROLLED. SO, "WILL THE MARK HOLD IT TILL HE GETS BACK?" THIS IS THE COME-ON.



WHY DOESN'T HE KEEP IT IN THE HOTEL SAFE?

NO TIME. HE JUST WANTS TO GET LAID AND CATCH HIS FLIGHT, HE SAYS.



OH. IS THIS WHERE THAT "SHILL" COMES IN AS A THIRD PARTY, MAKING IT SEEM REAL?

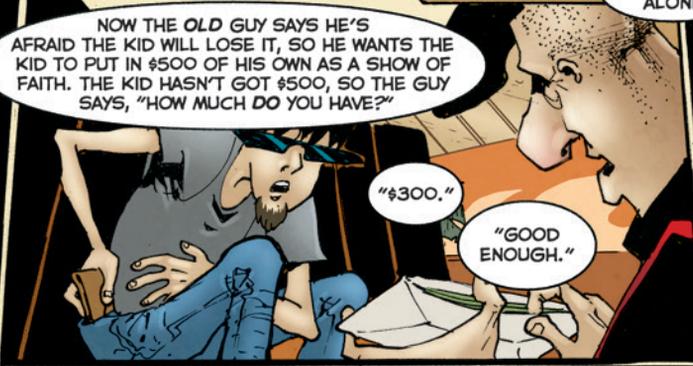
THIS GUY'S WORKING IT ALONE.



THE OLD GUY SHOWS THE MARK \$500 HE HAS IN AN ENVELOPE FOR THE KID TO HOLD.

IT'S REAL?

YEP. HAS TO BE.



NOW THE OLD GUY SAYS HE'S AFRAID THE KID WILL LOSE IT, SO HE WANTS THE KID TO PUT IN \$500 OF HIS OWN AS A SHOW OF FAITH. THE KID HASN'T GOT \$500, SO THE GUY SAYS, "HOW MUCH DO YOU HAVE?"

"\$300."

"GOOD ENOUGH."



SEE HOW EAGER THE MARK IS TO COME UP WITH ENOUGH MONEY TO GIVE AWAY?



OK, CHARLEY, PETE, STAND BY. I'LL TELL YOU WHEN.

THE OLD GUY WARNS THE KID ABOUT KEEPING THE ENVELOPE IN HIS BACK POCKET -- "TOO EASY TO STEAL," HE SAYS.

HE'S DOIN' IT. THE KID, I MEAN MARK, PUT HIS MONEY INSIDE, GLORIE!

SEE -- HE USES THAT AS AN EXCUSE TO MAKE -- THE SWITCH. OK GUYS, PICK HIM UP.



THAT'S ENOUGH FOR NOW. YOU BETTER GET BACK TO THE FRONT DESK.

THANKS, GLORIE. THAT WAS PRETTY COOL. BUT YA BETTER MOVE THAT NAME PLATE, OR PEOPLE WILL THINK YOU'RE BLAUFUS. BYE.



OK, BUDDY, GIVE THE KID HIS ENVELOPE AND LET'S GO.

UH...



DON'T WORRY KID -- MY BUDDIES HERE NEED ME RIGHT NOW -- I'LL BE BACK...



BUT MAC, THIS ENVELOPE'S...

...EMPTY...