Dirk Gently's
HOLISTIC DETECTIVE AGENCY

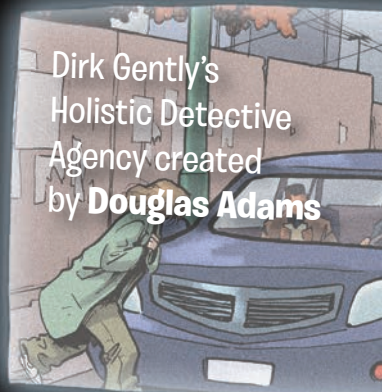## THE SALMON OF DOUBT
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Dirk Gently's
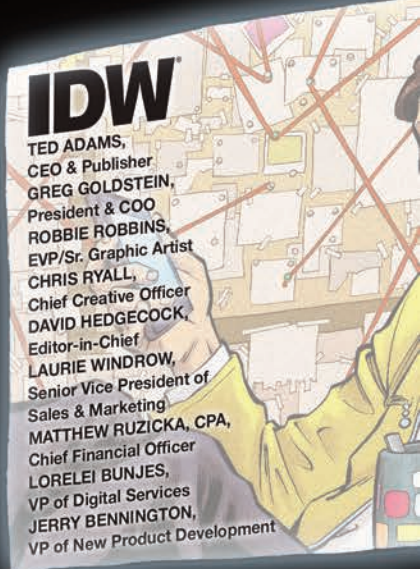Holistic Detective
Agency created
by **Douglas Adams**

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20 19 18 17   1 2 3 4

My name is Dirk Gently, and I'm a detective.

Not the usual kind of detective.

I do not concern myself with such petty things as fingerprint powder, telltale pieces of pocket fluff, or inane footprints.

I'm a *holistic* detective.

I'm glad you asked. The term holistic refers to my conviction in the **fundamental interconnectedness of all things.**

I see the solution to each problem as being detectable in the pattern and web of the whole.

The connections between causes and effects are often much more subtle and complex than you with your rough-and-ready understanding of the physical world might suppose.

You don't need to believe me, but what I'm telling you is true. Over the years I've used these methods to solve some very troubling cases.
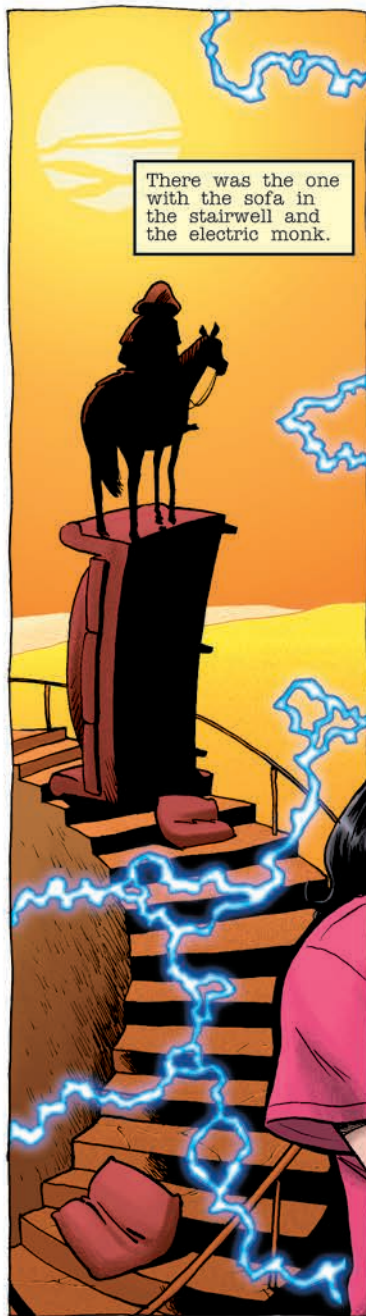
There was the one with the sofa in the stairwell and the electric monk.

There was the one with Thor.

Yes, Thor.

It was during that one that I met the nurse Sally Mills, who has proved a most excellent assistant.

Most recently, I've been involved in a case of interdimensional poaching.
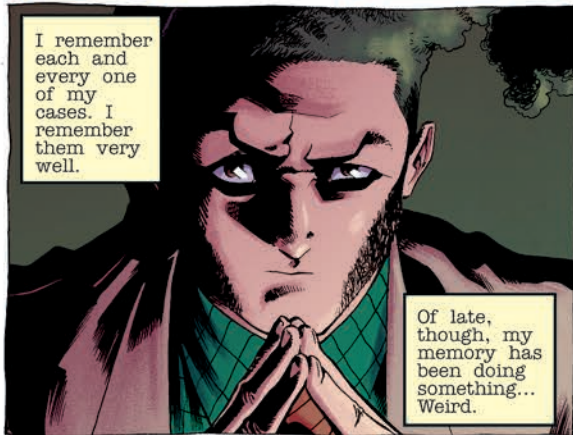
I remember each and every one of my cases. I remember them very well.

Of late, though, my memory has been doing something... Weird.

Yes, *even for me*, weird.

I have of late, I know not why, been reliving bad memories.

DIRK GENTLY'S HOLISTIC DETECTIVE AGENCY

THE SALMON OF DOUBT, CHAPTER 1

CAN'T GO HOME AGAIN

The things I'm remembering are all incidents from my childhood.

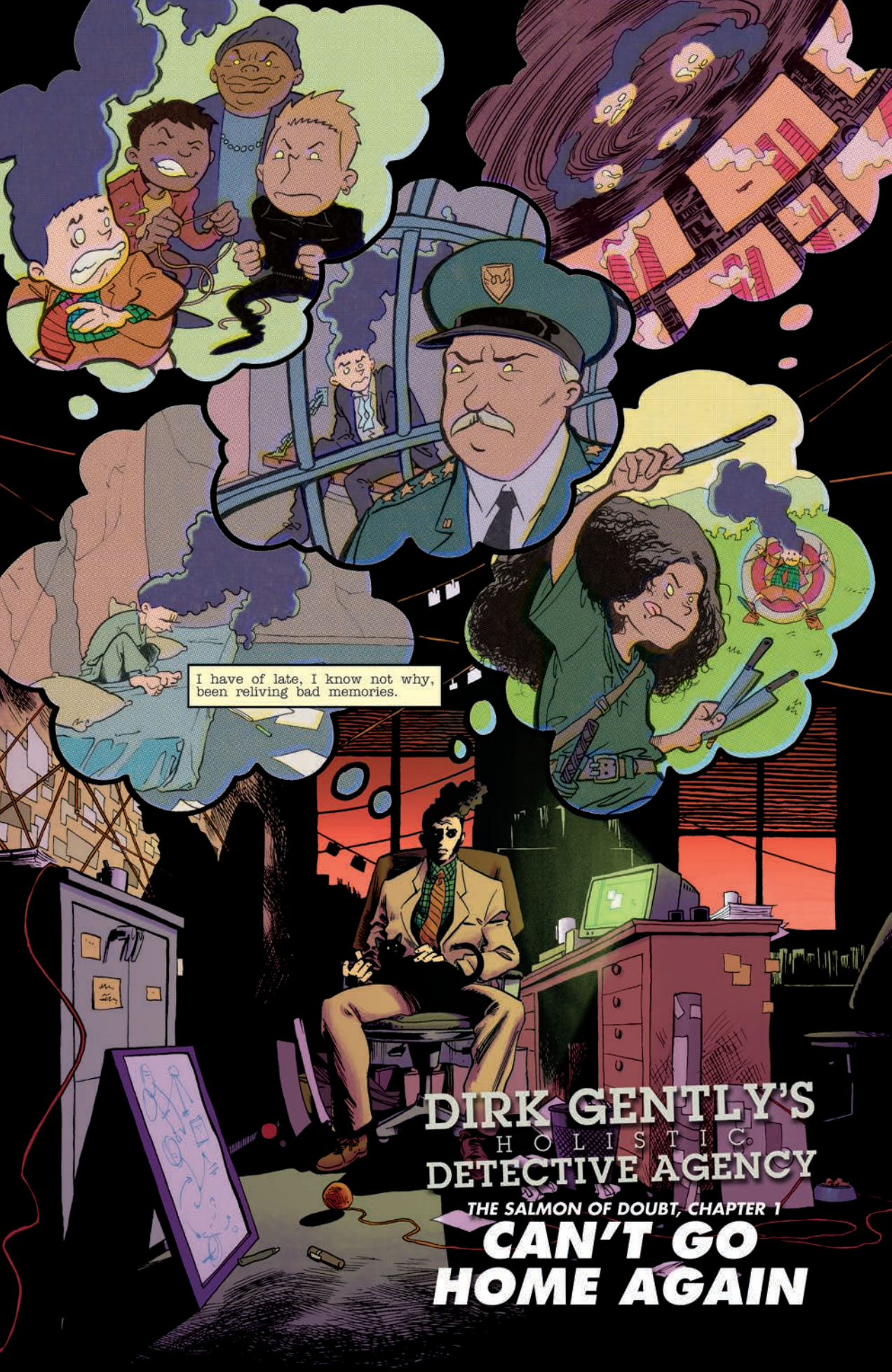The trouble is, none of these things ever happened.

At least not to me.

WHAT'S THE CHILDHOOD OF A HOLISTIC DETECTIVE LOOK LIKE, ANYHOW? DID YOU DISCOVER LOTS OF TANGENTIAL CONNECTIONS AT PREP SCHOOL?

EVERYONE'S MAKING WITH THE INTERCONNECTED GAGS THESE DAYS.

I GREW UP ON THE SMARTER SIDE OF TRANSYLVANIA. TO A PERFECTLY ORDINARY ENGLISH MOTHER WITH DENTAL ISSUES.

WHAT ABOUT YOUR FATHER? WAS HE TRANSYLVANIAN?

I SUPPOSE SO. BUT I DON'T REMEMBER HIM AT ALL.

WHEN I WAS 7, MY MOTHER, WHO BY THAT STAGE WAS INCREASINGLY... DISTRACTED, RETURNED TO ENGLAND AND DISPATCHED ME TO A MID-RANK, UNREMARKABLE BOARDING SCHOOL.

THAT'S SO YOUNG TO BE SENT AWAY FROM YOUR PARENTS.

OH, YOU KNOW, IT WASN'T ALL BAD.
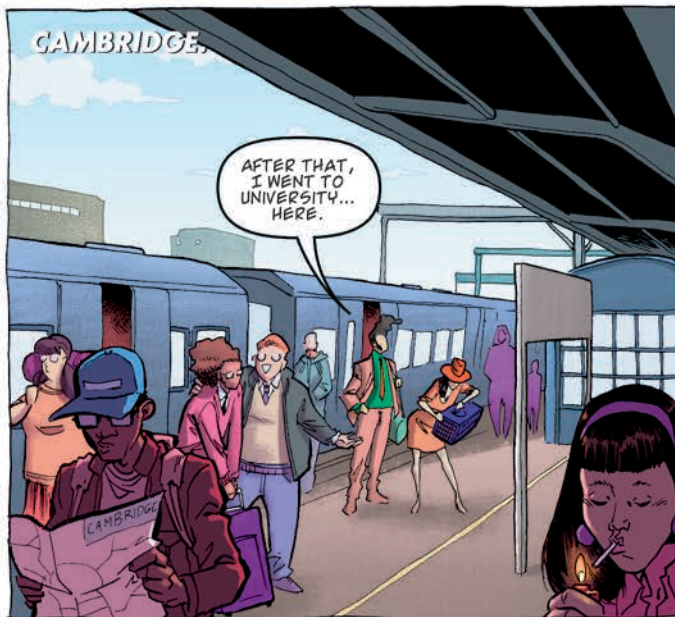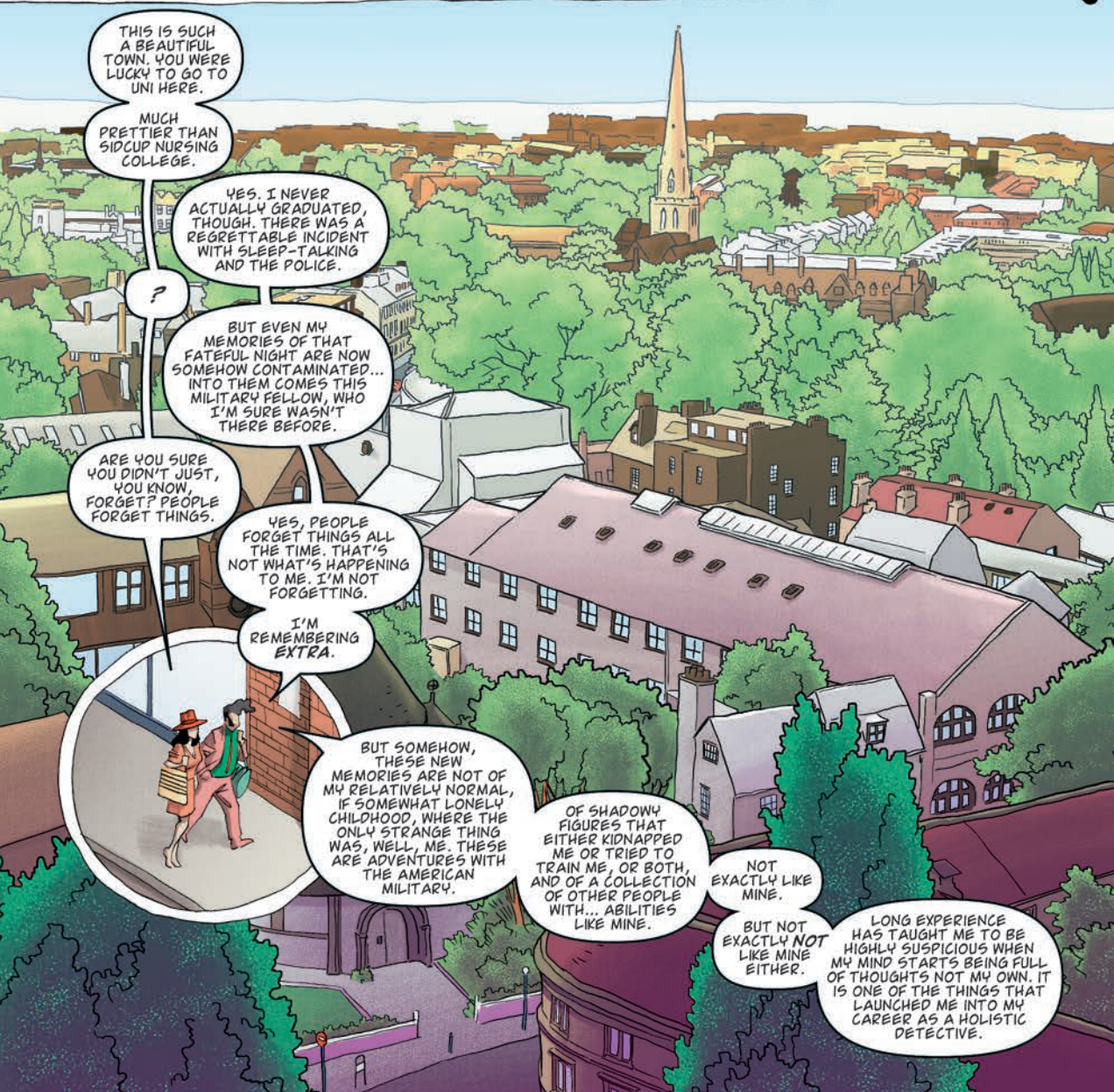
CAMBRIDGE.

AFTER THAT, I WENT TO UNIVERSITY... HERE.

BERNICE!

DON'T WORRY, BERNICE ALWAYS TURNS UP.

SHE'S PROBABLY JUST KEEN TO SAY HI TO HER FRIENDS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF THEORETICAL PHYSICS.

IF YOU SAY SO.

THAT CAT HAS ALWAYS BEEN WEIRD.

THIS IS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL TOWN. YOU WERE LUCKY TO GO TO UNI HERE.

MUCH PRETTIER THAN SIDCUP NURSING COLLEGE.

YES. I NEVER ACTUALLY GRADUATED, THOUGH. THERE WAS A REGRETTABLE INCIDENT WITH SLEEP-TALKING AND THE POLICE.

?

BUT EVEN MY MEMORIES OF THAT FATEFUL NIGHT ARE NOW SOMEHOW CONTAMINATED... INTO THEM COMES THIS MILITARY FELLOW, WHO I'M SURE WASN'T THERE BEFORE.

ARE YOU SURE YOU DIDN'T JUST, YOU KNOW, FORGET? PEOPLE FORGET THINGS.

YES, PEOPLE FORGET THINGS ALL THE TIME. THAT'S NOT WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME. I'M NOT FORGETTING.

I'M REMEMBERING *EXTRA*.

BUT SOMEHOW, THESE NEW MEMORIES ARE NOT OF MY RELATIVELY NORMAL, IF SOMEWHAT LONELY CHILDHOOD, WHERE THE ONLY STRANGE THING WAS, WELL, ME. THESE ARE ADVENTURES WITH THE AMERICAN MILITARY.

OF SHADOWY FIGURES THAT EITHER KIDNAPPED ME OR TRIED TO TRAIN ME, OR BOTH, AND OF A COLLECTION OF OTHER PEOPLE WITH... ABILITIES LIKE MINE.

NOT EXACTLY LIKE MINE.

BUT NOT EXACTLY *NOT* LIKE MINE EITHER.

LONG EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT ME TO BE HIGHLY SUSPICIOUS WHEN MY MIND STARTS BEING FULL OF THOUGHTS NOT MY OWN. IT IS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT LAUNCHED ME INTO MY CAREER AS A HOLISTIC DETECTIVE.