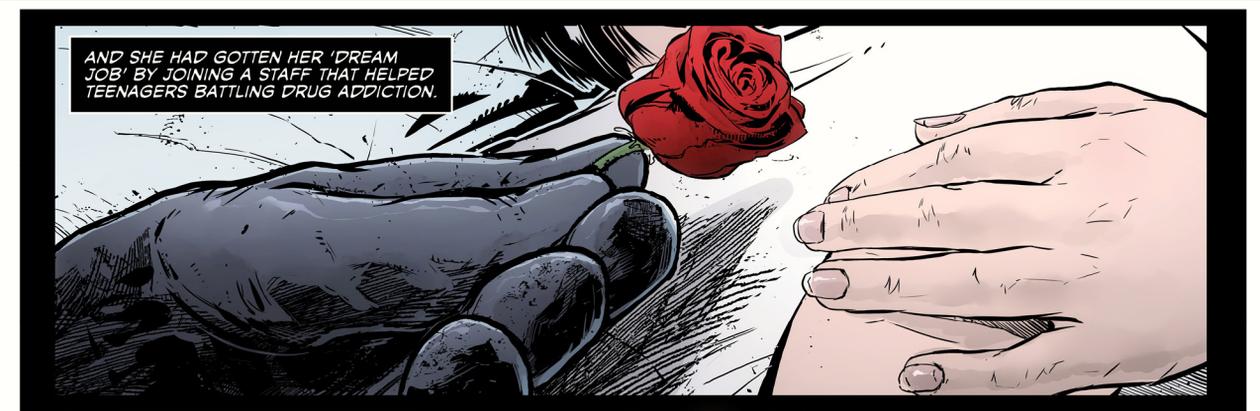




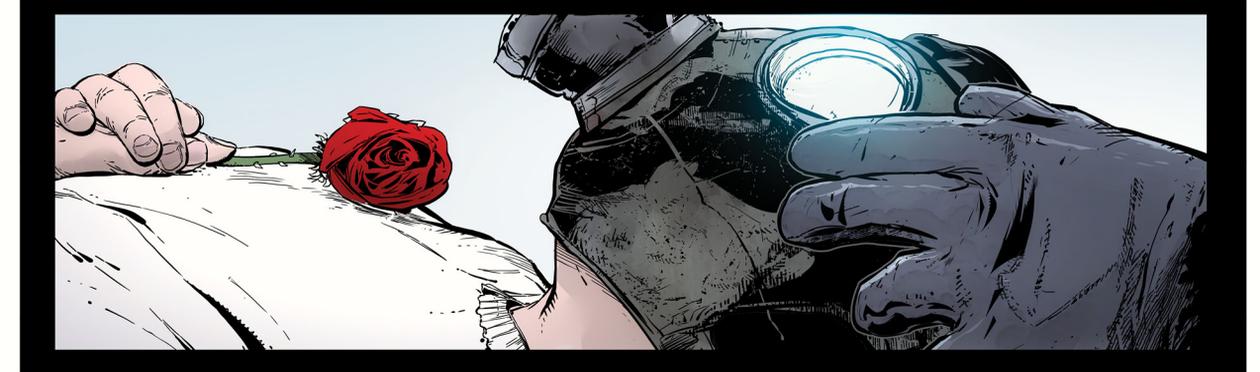
HER NAME WAS DR. EMMA CANTERI. ALL SHE EVER WANTED WAS TO HELP THOSE IN NEED. AS A YOUNG GIRL, SHE VOLUNTEERED AT AN ANIMAL SHELTER. IN HER TEENS, IT WAS A HOMELESS SHELTER. BY HIGH SCHOOL SHE KNEW SHE WANTED TO BE A DOCTOR. BY AGE TWENTY-EIGHT SHE WAS ONE.



AND SHE HAD GOTTEN HER 'DREAM JOB' BY JOINING A STAFF THAT HELPED TEENAGERS BATTLING DRUG ADDICTION.



THIS WAS HER CALLING, HER PURPOSE IN LIFE. IT'S ALSO WHERE SHE MET A PATIENT NAMED CYAN FITZGERALD, A YOUTH WHO HAD LOST HER MOTHER AND WAS RECENTLY IN THE NEWS FOR DISAPPEARING FROM THE FACILITY DR. CANTERI WORKED AT.



SADLY, IT WAS MEETING AND HELPING CYAN THAT HAS NOW COST DR. CANTERI HER LIFE.

OR RATHER THE INFORMATION SHE HAD GATHERED FROM HER MEETINGS WITH CYAN.



I WILL NOT FORGET WHAT YOU'VE DONE FOR ME TODAY. THE SACRIFICE YOU'VE MADE TRYING TO PROTECT THOSE WHO NEED IT THE MOST.

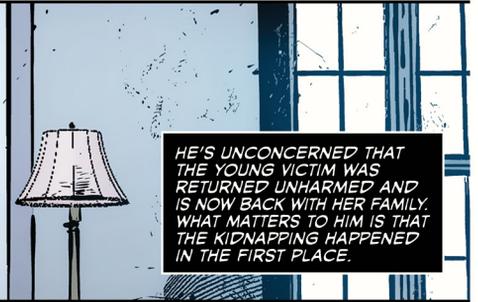
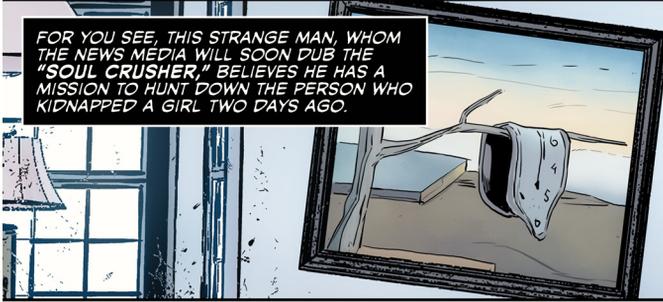
I'M SURE THE YOUNG CYAN GIRL WILL ALSO BE ETERNALLY GRATEFUL TO YOU.



ESPECIALLY ONCE I FIND HER TORMENTOR.



FOR YOU SEE, THIS STRANGE MAN, WHOM THE NEWS MEDIA WILL SOON DUB THE "SOUL CRUSHER," BELIEVES HE HAS A MISSION TO HUNT DOWN THE PERSON WHO KIDNAPPED A GIRL TWO DAYS AGO.



HE'S UNCONCERNED THAT THE YOUNG VICTIM WAS RETURNED UNHARMED AND IS NOW BACK WITH HER FAMILY. WHAT MATTERS TO HIM IS THAT THE KIDNAPPING HAPPENED IN THE FIRST PLACE.



HIS JOB IS TO FIX THINGS.

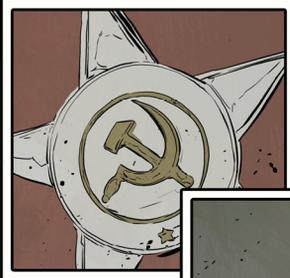


AND HIS LEVEL OF CONFIDENCE AT DOING SO ALLOWS HIM TO SIMPLY WALK OUT THE FRONT DOOR OF DR. CANTER'S HOUSE DESPITE THE FACT HE'D STRANGLER HER TO DEATH.

CHINATOWN. FRED'S
MILITARY SUPPLY STORE.



Jesus.
270 dollars?!
I don't even know
what it is.



ANY IDEA
WHERE A PERSON
WOULD ACQUIRE
A MASK LIKE
THAT?

I CHECKED
MY DATABASE, BUT
SOMETHING
THAT VINTAGE--
THOSE ARE HARD TO
COME BY.

SO, YOU
THINK IT'S
AUTHENTIC?



FOR SURE.
FROM THE DESIGN
OF THE RESPIRATOR,
IT WAS MOST LIKELY
MADE IN POLAND
AROUND 1910.

