

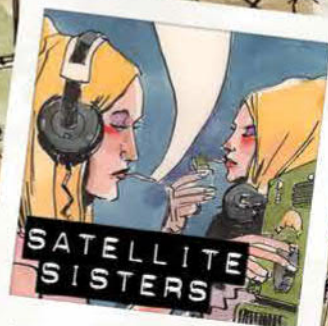
# Welcome back to the Grass Kingdom.



Gritty no-nonsense keeper of the junkyard. As handy with a shotgun as she is at rebuilding an engine.



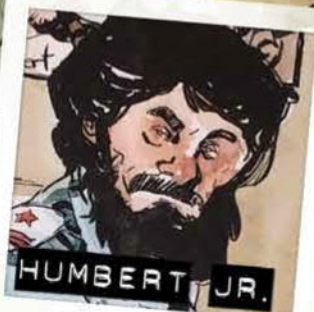
The "Bird Man." Austrian émigré who runs the bird sanctuary and is rumored to have disposed of several bodies via "aerial burial."



Orphaned twin sisters who run surveillance on the Kingdom for its own protection.



Runs the airport and keeps the planes running on time.



Sheriff of rival neighboring town Cargill and lifelong antagonist to all that the Grass Kingdom stands for.





**ARCHIE**  
Harboring a sordid past and trying to hold his family together. He's the guard of the Kingdom's watchtower.



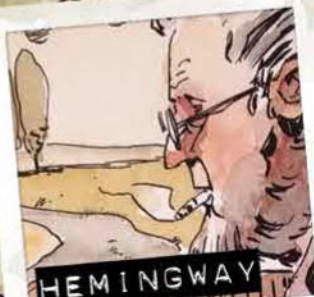
**PINBALL**  
Adopted son of Archie who spends most of his days with his best friend and partner in music, Ashur.



**ASHUR**  
Younger brother of Robert and Bruce. Best friend and musical compatriot of Pinball.



**PIKE**  
A First Nation resident and shop-keep who tends to let his actions (and knife) speak louder than his words.



**HEMINGWAY**  
Resident author working on a true crime novel based on the "Thin-Air Killer" and the surrounding mysteries that seem to be centered in the Grass Kingdom.



**BRUCE**  
Brother of Robert and Ashur. Prodigal son and sheriff returned to the Kingdom after being exiled from the neighboring town of Raven for alleged police brutality.

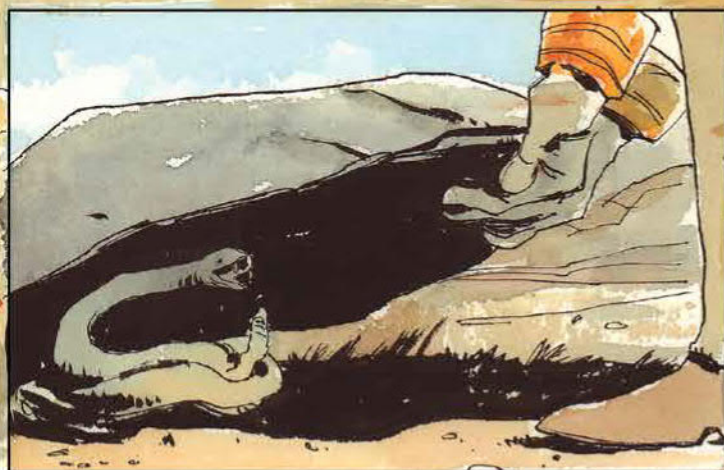


**ROBERT**  
Brother of Bruce and Ashur. Maintaining tenuous reins as the leader of the Kingdom while grieving the mysterious loss of his daughter and split with his ex-wife.



**MARIA**  
Humbert Jr.'s estranged wife, still on the run and hiding out in the Kingdom.







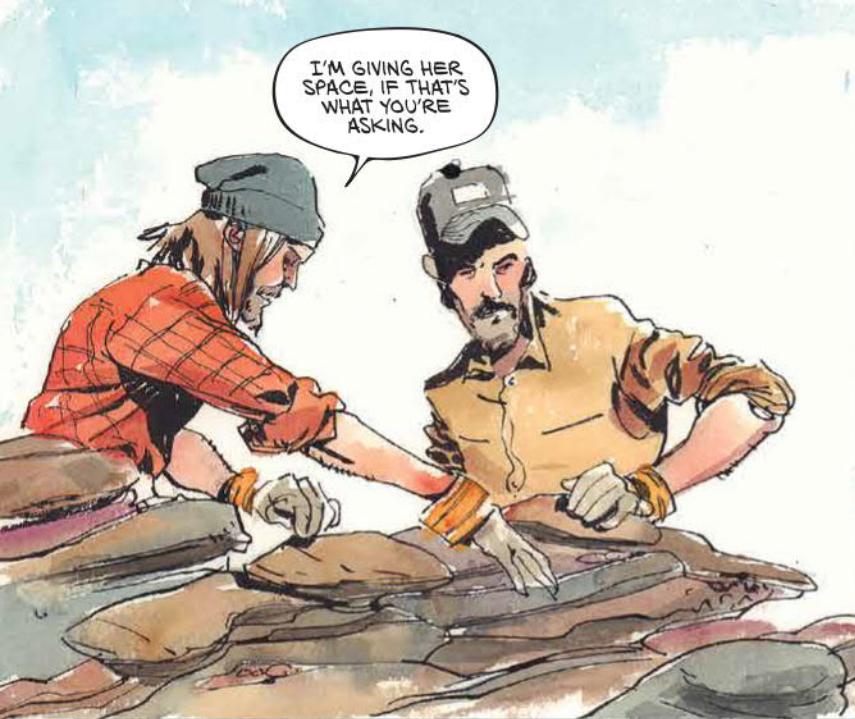
# chapter seven



HOW'S  
MARIA? SHE  
STILL STAYING  
AT YOUR  
PLACE?

YEAH.  
SHE'S DOING  
WELL.

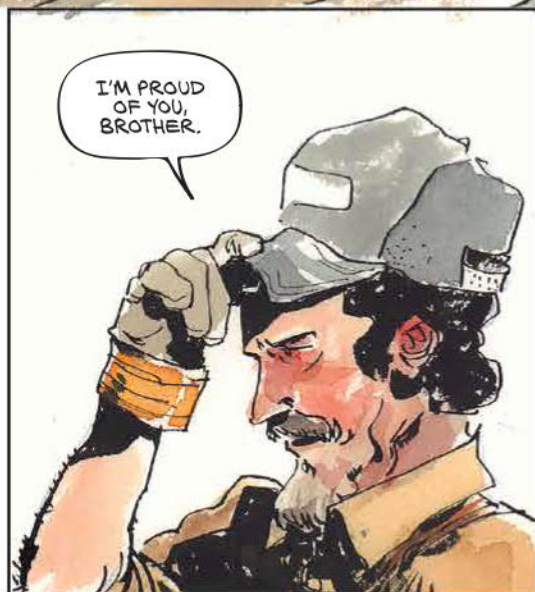




I'M GIVING HER SPACE, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE ASKING.



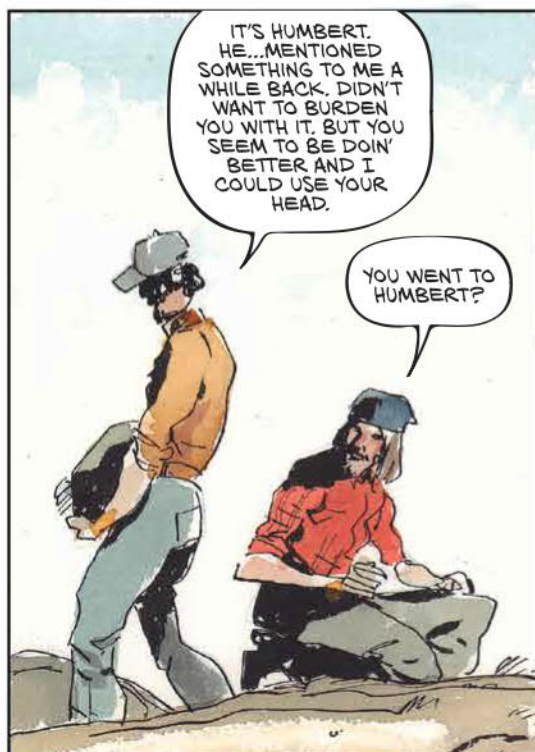
SHE'S BEEN THROUGH A LOT. LAST THING SHE NEEDS IS ME PUTTING ANY KIND OF PRESSURE ON HER.



I'M PROUD OF YOU, BROTHER.



SCREW YOU. I KNOW YOU DIDN'T COME OUT HERE TO TELL ME THAT...OR TO HELP WITH THE HEAVY LABOR. WHAT DO YOU WANT?



IT'S HUMBERT. HE...MENTIONED SOMETHING TO ME A WHILE BACK. DIDN'T WANT TO BURDEN YOU WITH IT, BUT YOU SEEM TO BE DOIN' BETTER AND I COULD USE YOUR HEAD.

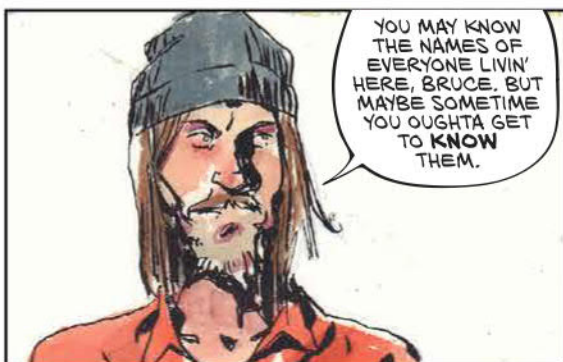
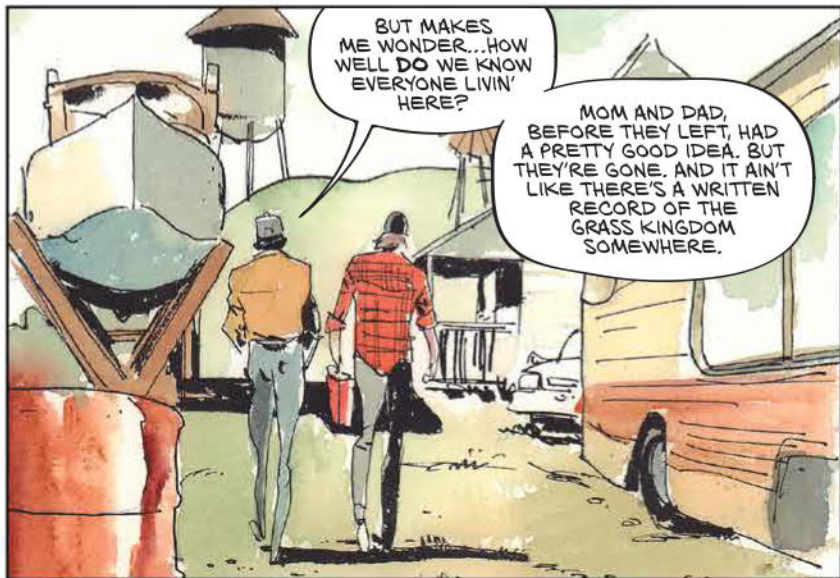
YOU WENT TO HUMBERT?



HUMBERT MADE SOME VAGUE REFERENCE TO A KILLER IN OUR MIDST. LIKE HE KNEW SOMEBODY HERE IN THE KINGDOM HAD DONE SOMETHIN'.

I DID SOME POKIN' AROUND, BUT YOU KNOW HOW IT IS 'ROUND HERE. PEOPLE KEEP THEIR MOUTHS SHUT. S'WHAT KEEPS US SAFE, USUALLY.







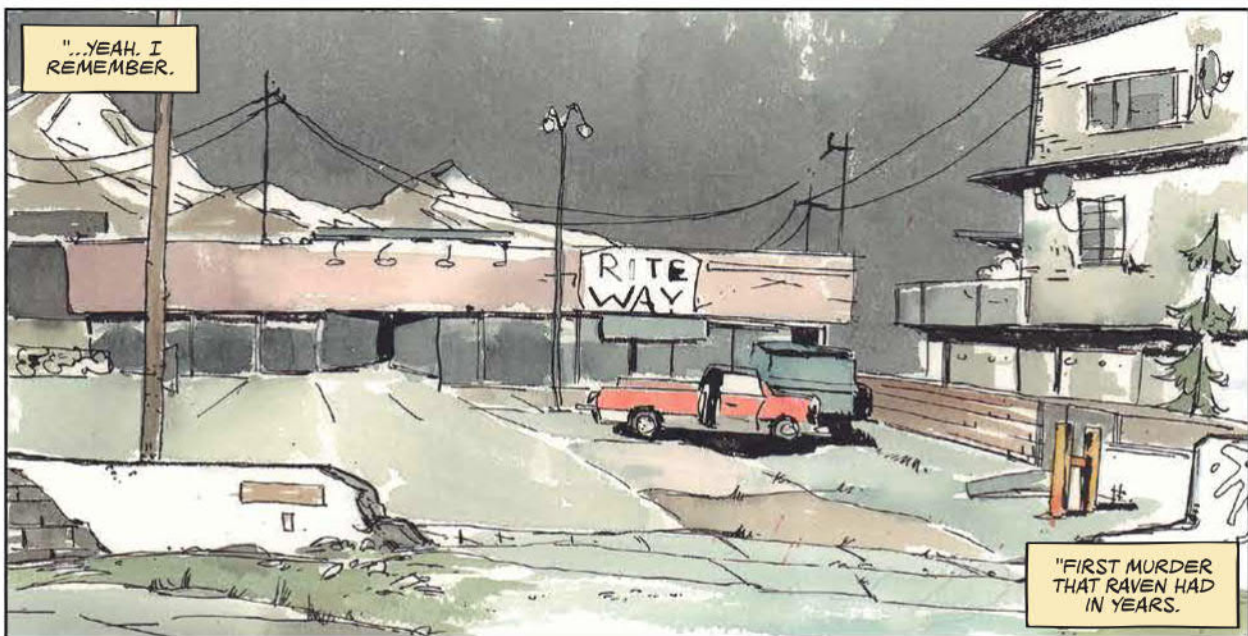








"...YEAH. I  
REMEMBER.



"FIRST MURDER  
THAT RAVEN HAD  
IN YEARS.

"YOUNG GUY. NOT  
AN ENEMY IN THE  
WORLD. SON OF A  
WELL-TO-DO  
FAMILY.



"DAMNEDEST THING  
I EVER SAW.  
POOR KID."





"VERY LITTLE EVIDENCE. COUPLE ELECTRICAL CORDS USED TO BIND HIM UP AND STRANGLE HIM. BRUTAL WORK. SOMEBODY KNEW WHAT THEY WERE DOING.



"VICTIM WAS FROM A RICH FAMILY, BUT HE LIKED TO SLUM IT. HUNG AROUND THIS LOW-RENT APARTMENT BUILDING.



"WORD WAS HE'D ACQUIRED A TASTE FOR METH."



"AND MAYBE THE FELLA THAT SOLD IT TO HIM."

HELLO?! POLICE.



WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU, OFFICER?





