

JANUARY 31,
1899 C.E.

CALCUTTA,
INDIA.

NOS ITERUM
OCURRET.

ETIAM--
CAN WE NOT
THIS TIME?

CAN WE
TAKE A
MOMENT?

IT'S ALMOST HERE.
A BRAND NEW
CENTURY.

TEMPUS
FUGIT.
FEELS MUCH
SHORTER.

WE WON'T
BE HERE TO
ENJOY IT,
ALISTAIR.

SO HAVE
A DRINK
WITH ME,
FULKI.

WE CAN KILL
ONE ANOTHER
AFTERWARDS.

I DON'T
DRINK.

WELL, I DO. AND I'M
TIRED. AND I'D LIKE TO
CELEBRATE BEFORE
I DIE.

PLEASE. I'LL
LET YOU WIN. CALL
IT A NEW WRINKLE
TO OUR LITTLE
GAME.

SOMETHING
TO TAKE
WITH US.

AMICE
VALE.

"I SHOT HER. DEAD.
THEN I DRANK. IT'S
POISON."

"OOH, I REMEMBER
THAT ONE. ON THE
ROOFTOP."

"WHO ARE YOU
THIS TIME?"

"FIREWORKS EXPLODING
ALL OVER. EVERYTHING'S
SO LOUD."

"YOU WERE CUTE
BACK THEN."

2016
C.E.

EVEN
IF YOU
CHEATED.

OH GOD, IT
HURTS. HELP.
STOP.

I'M DYING.
I DON'T WANT
TO--

SHHHH.
IT'S OKAY,
MALI. YOU'RE
OKAY.

I'VE GOT
YOU. NO ONE'S
GONNA HURT
YOU.

NOT
ANYMORE.

GOD HELP
THEM IF
THEY TRY.

YOU'RE
MINE, ALL
MINE.

~MNNNH~

... REALLY?
SO YOU
OWN ME?

I THOUGHT
YOU LIKED MY
INDEPENDENT
STREAK?

I SAID YOU
WERE A MOUTHY
CHICK. THAT'S
DIFFERENT.

UH-HUH,
YOU TALK
REAL
TOUGH.

WEAKLING.

"I LET YOU
WIN.

"CHEATER."

I DIDN'T THINK I'D
BE DOING THIS
AGAIN.



I TRIED THIS ONCE BEFORE
AND GAVE IT AWAY TO MY DAD,
STEPPAD. LORENA. SHE'S
HOLDING ONTO IT FOR YOU.
MY FINAL WORDS. HELPFUL
ADVICE I COULD PASS ON TO
MYSELF IN THE NEXT LIFE.



BUT I GUESS
I MESSED
THAT UP.

WE DID.
TOGETHER.

TESSA AND I, ME AND TESSA.
IT SHOULD FEEL WEIRD.
WEIRDER, I KNOW.

IN THE LAST MONTH
I'VE LOST MY HOME,
MY FRIENDS, MY DOG. MY
ENTIRE LIFE. BUT I'VE
NEVER BEEN HAPPIER.



WE'VE BEEN LOCKED UP HERE FOR
THE LAST TWO WEEKS. AND I'M NOT
SICK OF HER. THE OPPOSITE.

FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE
THIS ALL STARTED. MAYBE
EVER.

I FEEL...
COMPLETE.



BUT IT'S
TRUE.

UGH. CAN'T BELIEVE
I WROTE THAT.



THIS ALL FEELS
TOTALLY NORMAL. IT
FEELS RIGHT.





HOW WE
SURVIVED K.C.
IS A BLUR.



BRIGHT LIGHTS AND
A ROAR OF GUNFIRE
UNTIL THERE WAS NO
ONE LEFT STANDING.



BARELY
EVEN US.

STOP,
TESSA,
STOP!

WHAT I REMEMBER
MOST IS THAT LOOK IN
HER EYES. ANGER,
BLOODLUST.



DON'T
TOUCH
ME!

TESSA!
THEY'RE
DOWN. WE
DON'T HAVE
TO KILL
THEM.

AND HOW MUCH I RECOGNIZED
MYSELF IN THEM.



A CONSPIRACY
OF TWO.

WE DID THE THING WE WERE NEVER
SUPPOSED TO DO. WALKED AWAY.
WENT AWOL. TOGETHER.

WHILE EVERY SEQUEL ON
BOTH SIDES WOULD COME
LOOKING FOR US.



I COULDN'T GO BACK TO
ANYTHING I KNEW. I WAS
TOTALLY ALONE, EXCEPT
FOR HER.

TAKE US
SOMEWHERE
CLEAN. QUIET. WITH
PAINKILLERS.



AND, IF ANYTHING, SHE WAS
BETTER THAN ADVERTISED.



TESSA TOOK CHARGE. SHE GOT US A DOCTOR, GOT US STABILIZED.

CAME UP WITH A PLAN TO SNEAK OUT OF TOWN.



SHE WASN'T GOOD WITH PEOPLE. I HANDLED THAT END.

WE HAVE A FEAR OF CROWDS. SO IF YOU GET US EVERYTHING ON THIS LIST, WE'LL GIVE YOU THREE TIMES THAT CASH.

UH-HUH. YOU GOT IT.

...THE HELL'S "TAHINI"?



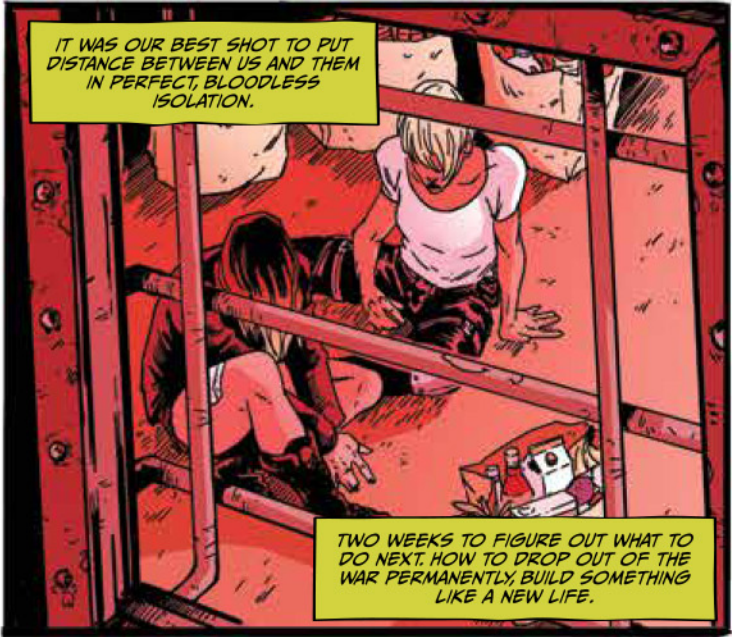
THINGS GET BLURRY AGAIN, PAINKILLERS PUMPING THROUGH MY SYSTEM.

I'M GRATEFUL. I'M NOT SURE I WOULD HAVE DONE WHAT CAME NEXT. NOT WITHOUT THAT UNREALITY TO HELP PUSH ME.



TESSA'S IDEA. A SAFEHOUSE, ONE OF A DOZEN ROLLING ACROSS AMERICA AT ANY GIVEN MOMENT, JUST ANOTHER BOXCAR EXCEPT FOR SEQUELS WHO KNOW WHAT TO LOOK FOR.

SHE'D DONE A SCARY AMOUNT OF HOMEWORK. SHE SEEMED TO KNOW EVERYTHING.



IT WAS OUR BEST SHOT TO PUT DISTANCE BETWEEN US AND THEM IN PERFECT, BLOODLESS ISOLATION.

TWO WEEKS TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO NEXT. HOW TO DROP OUT OF THE WAR PERMANENTLY, BUILD SOMETHING LIKE A NEW LIFE.



ZERO DISTRACTIONS.

EXCEPT FOR EACH OTHER.