



THE EMPTY MAN

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"I'VE ALWAYS FELT THAT THE CONTENTS OF THE HUMAN MIND WOULD BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO TRANSLATE."

EVEN IF YOU COULD SOMEHOW PEEK INTO ANOTHER'S THOUGHTS...

...YOU WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING AT.

SOUNDS ABOUT RIGHT.

YOU DO KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, DON'T YOU?

YOU TOUCHED ME... OUT IN THE OTHER WORLD... AND NOW YOU SEE WHAT I SEE.

I'M NO MIND READER, SON.

I CAN'T EXPLAIN HOW THIS IS HAPPENING ANY MORE THAN YOU CAN.

YOU SAID THAT THE FIRST TIME WE MET, I THINK.

OR MAYBE THIS IS OUR FIRST ENCOUNTER.

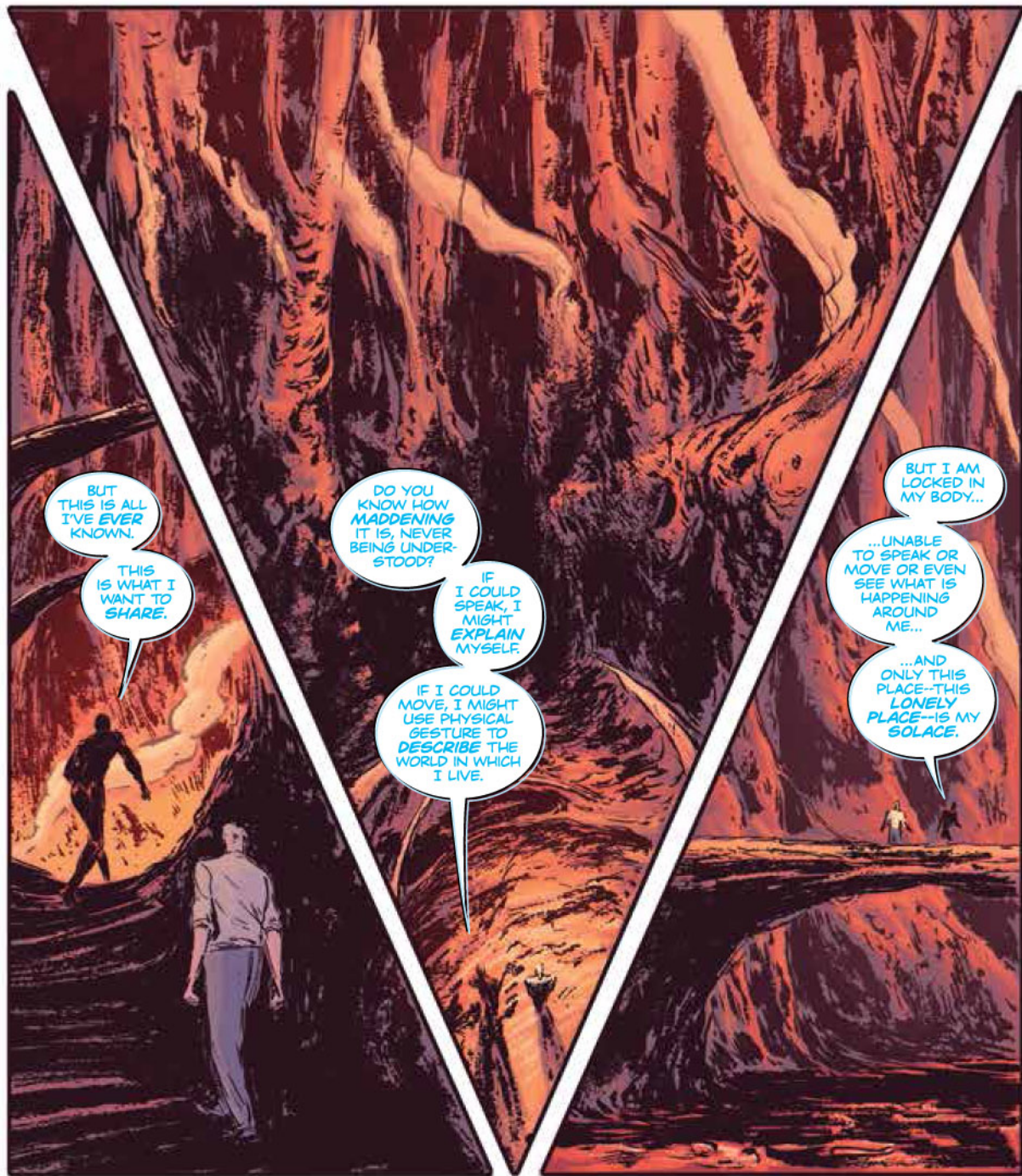
HAVE I ASKED YOU ABOUT MY SISTER YET?

OF COURSE. I MUST HAVE.

CHEMICALS IN THE BRAIN... SYNAPTIC MISFIRES... INTRUDING DREAMS OR NIGHTMARES...

WHEN YOU LOOK AROUND...WHAT YOU'RE SEEING...IS DIFFERENT THAN WHAT I SEE.

THIS IS YOUR PERSONAL INTERPRETATION OF MY WORLD.





YOU ARE
A MAN OF
FAITH,
YES?

YOU ARE A
SHEPHERD IN
SEARCH OF A
FLOCK?

AND
YOUR GOD
IS THE
CREATOR?



LOOK
AROUND
YOU,
REVEREND.

ALL
THAT YOU
SEE...

...WHETHER
YOU
UNDERSTAND
IT OR NOT...

...WAS
CREATED
BY ME.

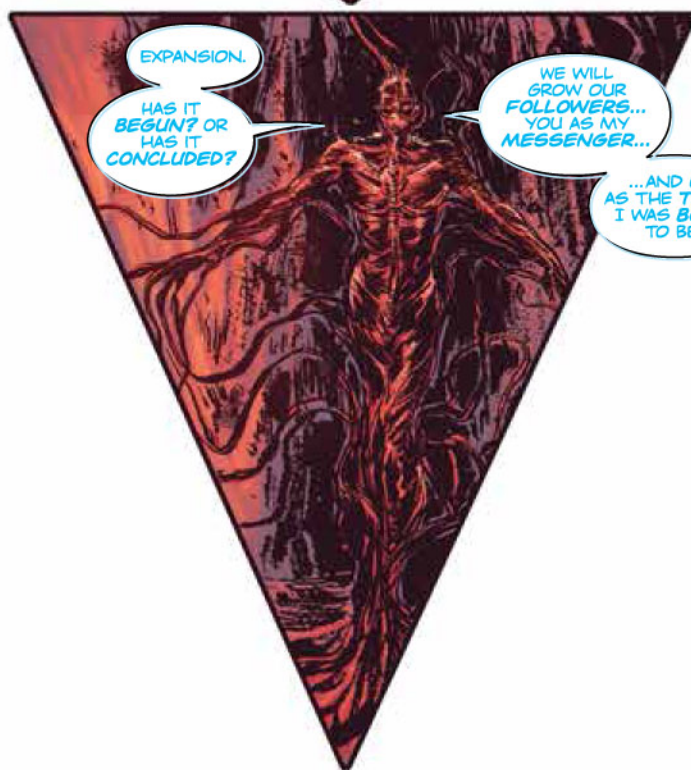


I DON'T
WANT TO BE
LONELY.

I WANT TO
COMMUNICATE.



AND
YOU...WANT
TO GROW
YOUR
FLOCK.



EXPANSION.

HAS IT
BEGUN? OR
HAS IT
CONCLUDED?

WE WILL
GROW OUR
FOLLOWERS...
YOU AS MY
MESSENGER...

...AND ME
AS THE THING
I WAS BORN
TO BE.

...THE BODIES OF SEVERAL PEOPLE, ALL ALLEGEDLY MEMBERS OF A SUPPORT GROUP FOR THOSE SUFFERING FROM SYMPTOMS RELATED TO THE EMPTY MAN, WERE REMOVED FROM THE HOUSE THIS EVENING...



...THE CAUSE OF THE RIOTING IS UNKNOWN, ALTHOUGH SEVERAL WITNESSES REPORT THAT THE RIOTERS WERE CHANTING...

...ANOTHER INSTANCE OF VANDALISM IN THE CITY HAS RESIDENTS WORRIED THAT THE VIRUS IS SPREADING AT AN ALARMING...



...THE FIRE BROKE OUT AT A PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY...

...AND LOCAL
HUNTERS CLAIM
TO HAVE KILLED
THE LEGENDARY
"JERSEY DEVIL"...



...FLIGHT 324 CAME
DOWN MOMENTS AFTER
THE PILOT RADIOED IN,
REPORTEDLY CLAIMING
THAT THE EMPTY MAN
WANTED HIM TO CRASH
THE PLANE...

"THESE
INCIDENTS ARE
OCCURRING WITH
FRIGHTENING
FREQUENCY. THIS
IS AN EPIDEMIC,
AND IT IS GETTING
WORSE!"



"BUT IF WE
DO WHAT YOU'RE
SUGGESTING...IF
WE QUARANTINE
INDIVIDUALS WHO
EXHIBIT PSYCHIC
ABILITIES...WE
WOULD HAVE
WIDESPREAD
PANIC."

"I'M NOT SO
SURE, MARGARET.
CHINA HAS
INSTITUTED SIMILAR
PROGRAMS, AND THEY
REPORT A 22%
REDUCTION IN
EMPTY MAN
EVENTS."

