

grace

IB
13
MILTS
THAYER

grace

#13

written by ron milts and c. w. thayer
illustrated by c. w. thayer

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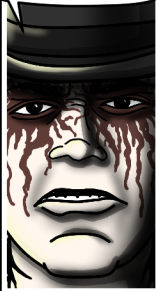
TUSITILA...
HOW ARE YOU,
OLD FRIEND?

WE MADE AN
AGREEMENT,
TUSITILA, AND
YOU MUST
FULLFILL IT.

YOU DO NOT
BELONG HERE.
YOU HAVE
STRAYED
FROM YOUR
TERRITORY...

I AM BOUND
TO NOTHING BUT
THE SOUL THAT
RESIDES WITHIN
THIS WOMAN.
AND I HAVE
SWORN TO
PROTECT IT.

THE COVENANT HAS
ALREADY BEEN BROKEN,
MY FRIEND. YOU HAVE
FAILED AND THERE IS
NOTHING LEFT FOR YOU TO
PROTECT. I ONLY NEED
THE TOTEM TO TAKE
THAT POWER.



YOU WILL
NOT TOUCH
HER.



HAVE IT YOUR WAY,
BUT ONCE I HAVE IT,
YOU'LL BE UNABLE
TO STOP ME.



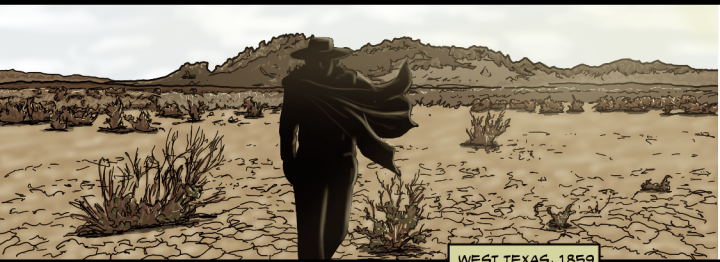
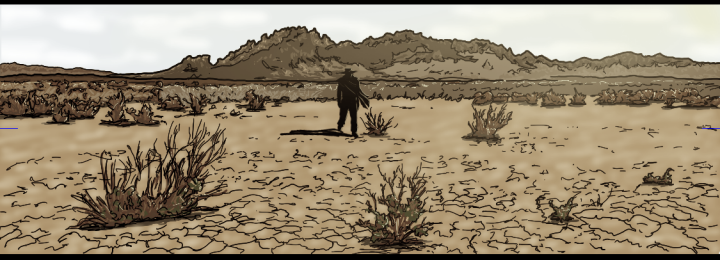
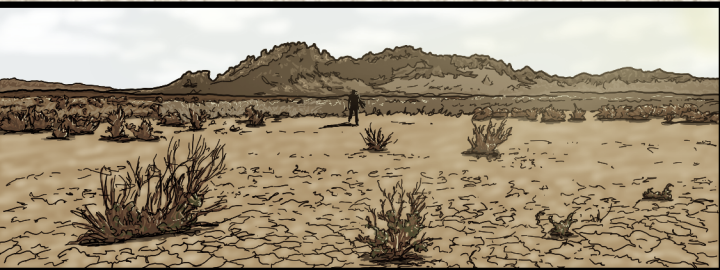




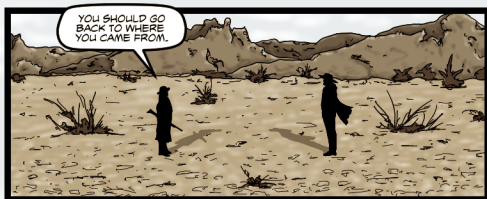




I HAVE SWORN
TO PROTECT
THIS SOUL. NOW
YOU WILL RETURN
FROM WHERE
YOU CAME.



WEST TEXAS, 1859







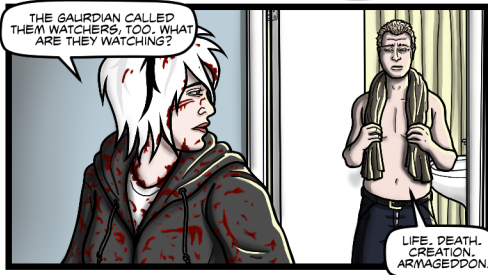
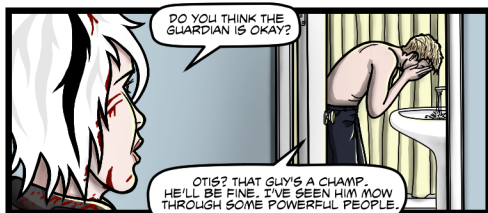
I KNOW WHERE HE IS. I ALWAYS KNOW...BUT HE WON'T BE EASY TO STOP. HE'S OLD AND CRAFTY. AND HE LIKES WHAT HE DOES. BUT I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT. IT'S TIME FOR HIM TO GO. I'LL HAVE TO CLEAR IT WITH MY HANDLER.

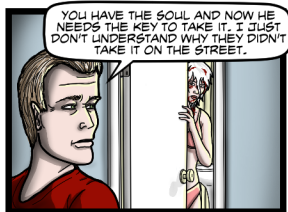
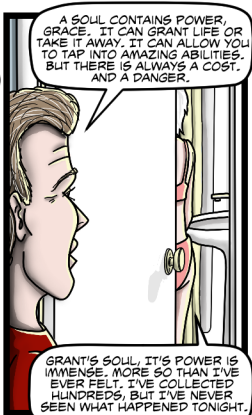
HOW WILL YOU DO IT?

WITH BLOOD.

IT ALWAYS BEGINS AND ENDS WITH BLOOD.



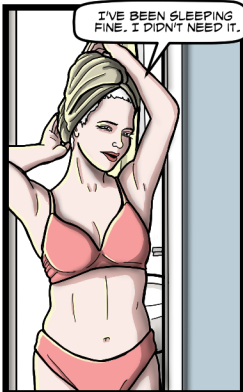




WHAT DO YOU MEAN? YOU SHOULD ALWAYS HAVE YOUR TOTEM, GRACE. ALWAYS.



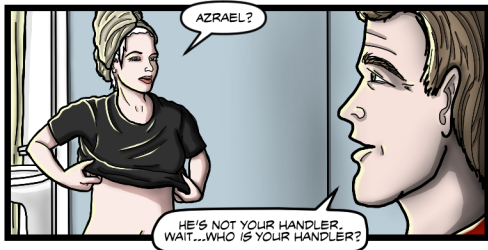
I'VE BEEN SLEEPING FINE. I DIDN'T NEED IT.



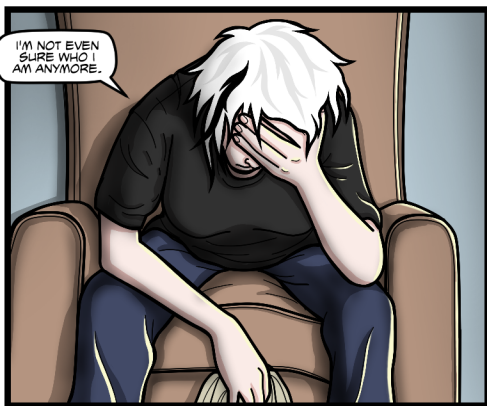
DIDN'T YOUR HANDLER EXPLAIN THIS TO YOU?



AZRAEL?



HE'S NOT YOUR HANDLER. WAIT...WHO IS YOUR HANDLER?





ARE YOU
OKAY?

WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?
I HAVE A KILL TO MAKE IN
THE NEXT TWO AND HALF
HOURS, AND I DON'T KNOW
HOW TO DO IT. I THOUGHT
I WAS FINE WITH ALL OF
THIS, BUT I'M NOT. I'M IN
OVER MY HEAD AND I DON'T
KNOW WHAT TO DO.

WHAT'S THE
BIG DEAL?




IT'S CHAD FROM WORK.
I HAVE TO KILL MY FRIEND.
HE'S A GOOD PERSON.



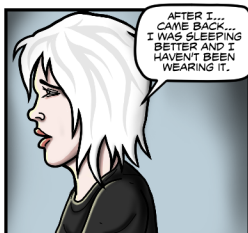
THAT IS NOT FOR YOU
TO DECIDE, GRACE.

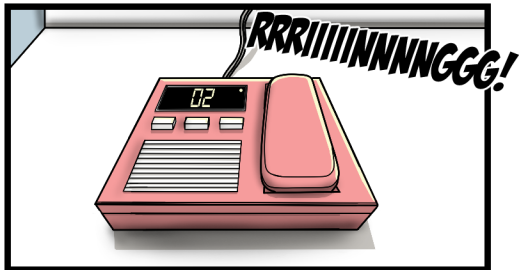


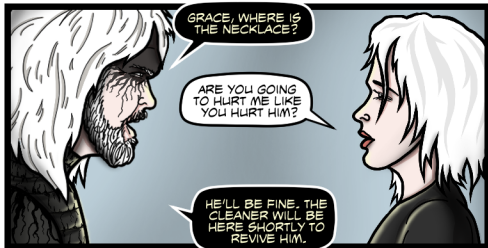
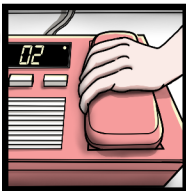
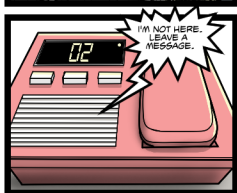


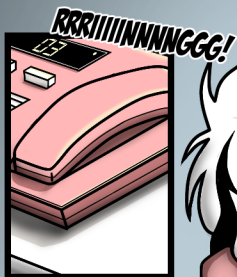
I'M NO HANDLER. NEVER HAVE BEEN.
COLLECTOR, I AM THE ANGEL OF DEATH.
YOU THREE HAVE UPSET THE BALANCE.
A PEACE WAS BARTERED AMONG THE MANY
FACTIONS...A PEACE THAT WAS SHATTERED
WHEN YOU COLLECTED THAT SOUL. NOW
YOU HAVE DOOMED ALL OF US BY YOUR
INEPTITUDE AND WILLINGNESS TO BE
FOOLED BY THE MACHINATIONS OF
PEOPLE SMARTER THAN YOU.











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grace died.

poor grace.

but she was given
the chance to return
to her life if she
agreed to deliver
the souls of the
irredeemable
to their final
judgment.

it always begins,
and ends,
with **blood**.

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BY RON MILTS AND C. W. THAYER

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