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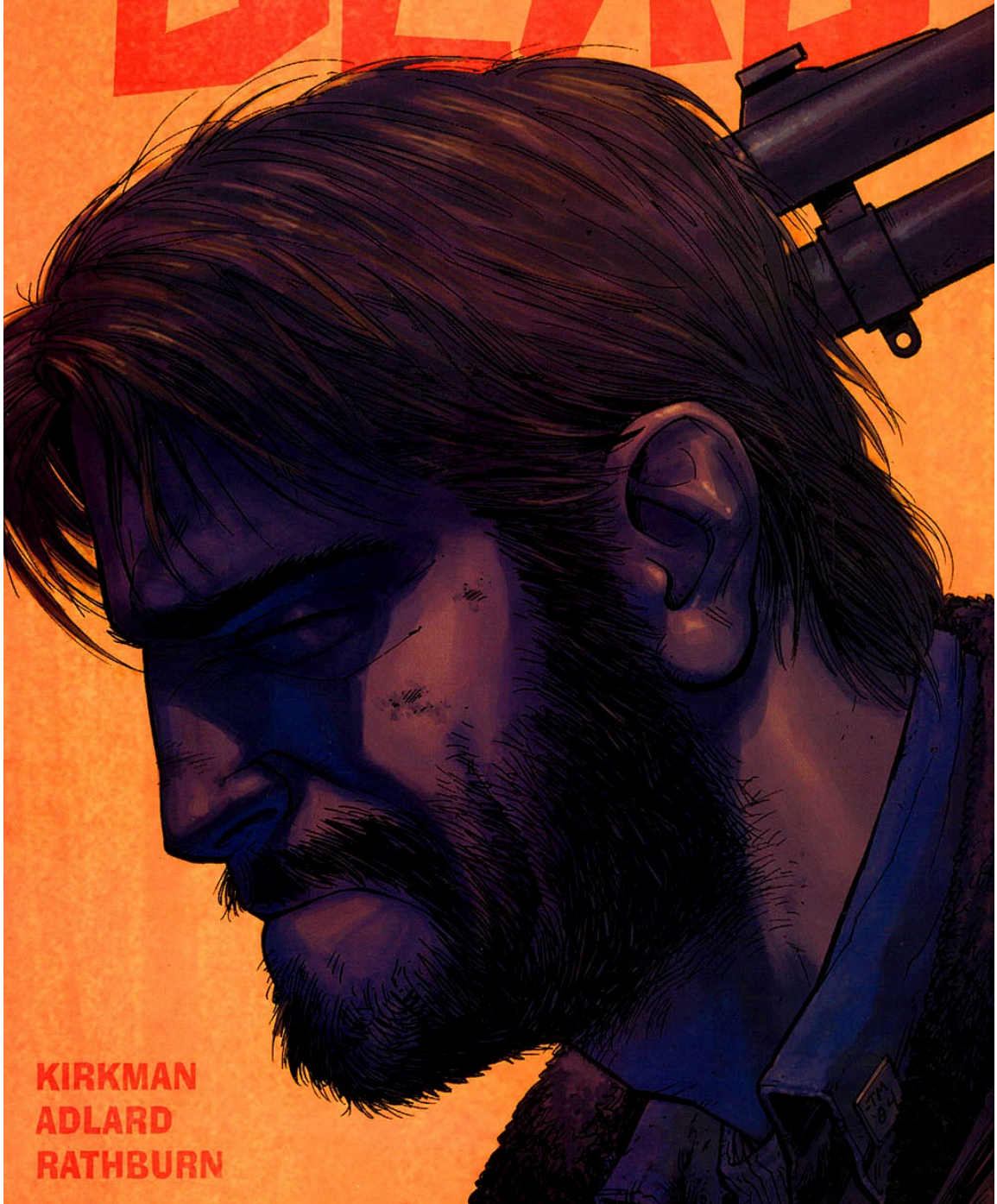
The Walking Dead - I

Robert Kirkman

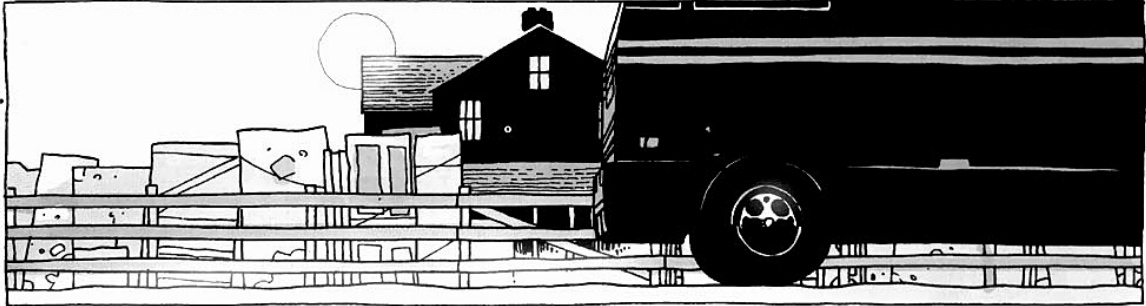


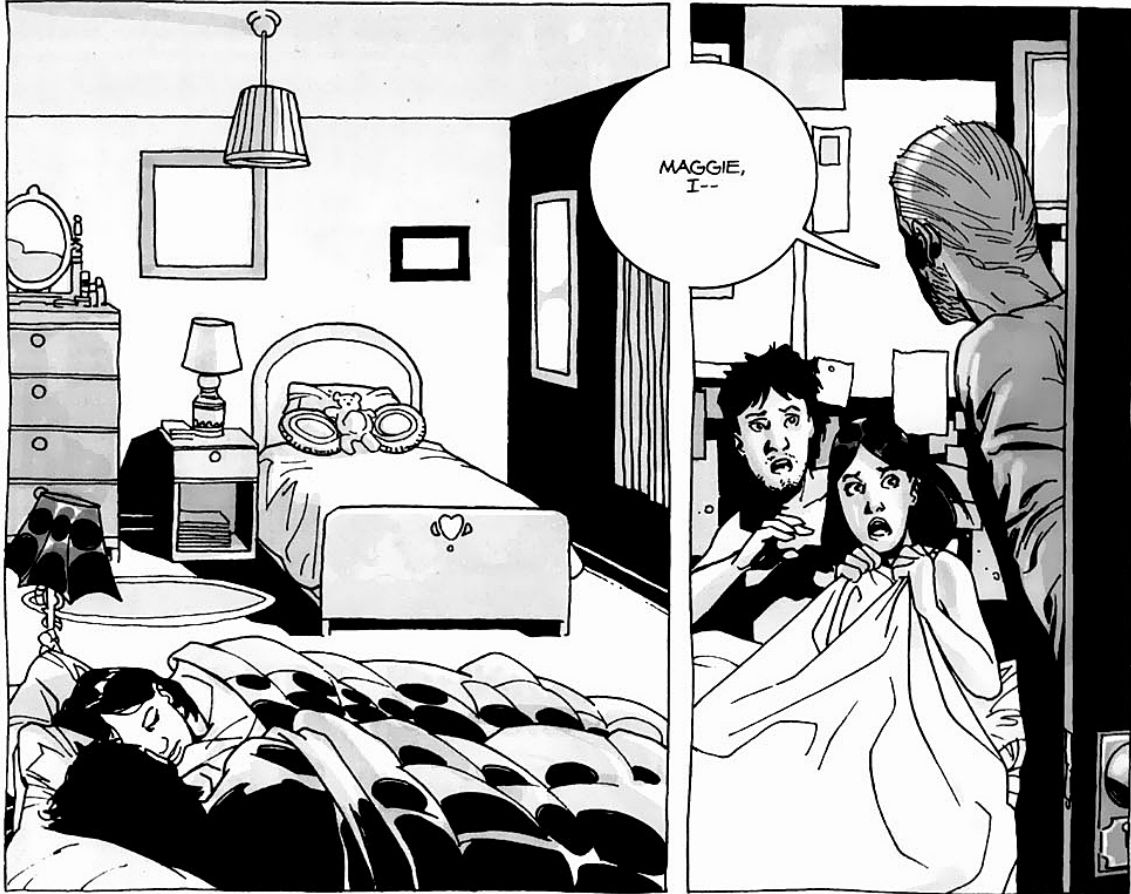
THE WALKING DEAD

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KIRKMAN
ADLARD
RATHBURN







DADDY--
NO!

AND YOU! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, MAGGIE? LACEY, ARNOLD, AND SHAWN HAVEN'T BEEN IN THE GROUND TWENTY-FOUR HOURS AND YOU'RE DOING THIS?

YOU MAKE ME SICK!



HEY!



GLENN AND I ARE IN LOVE, DADDY. I WANTED TO TELL YOU BEFORE BUT I JUST COULDN'T! WE LOVE EACH OTHER AND THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT THAT.

I'M NINETEEN!
I'M OLD ENOUGH TO DO WHATEVER I WANT!

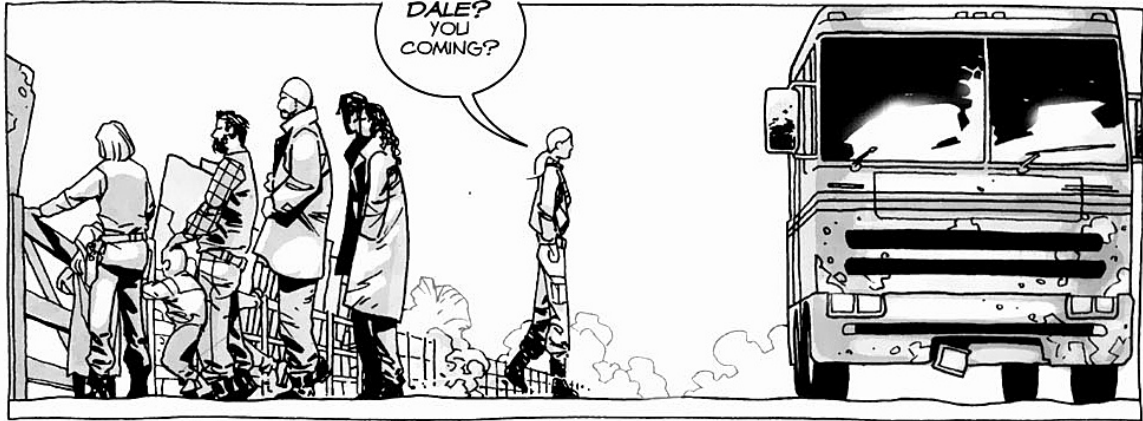
HE SLEPT HERE LAST NIGHT BECAUSE I ASKED HIM TO. I--I JUST... I'VE NEVER SLEPT ALONE IN THIS ROOM BEFORE!



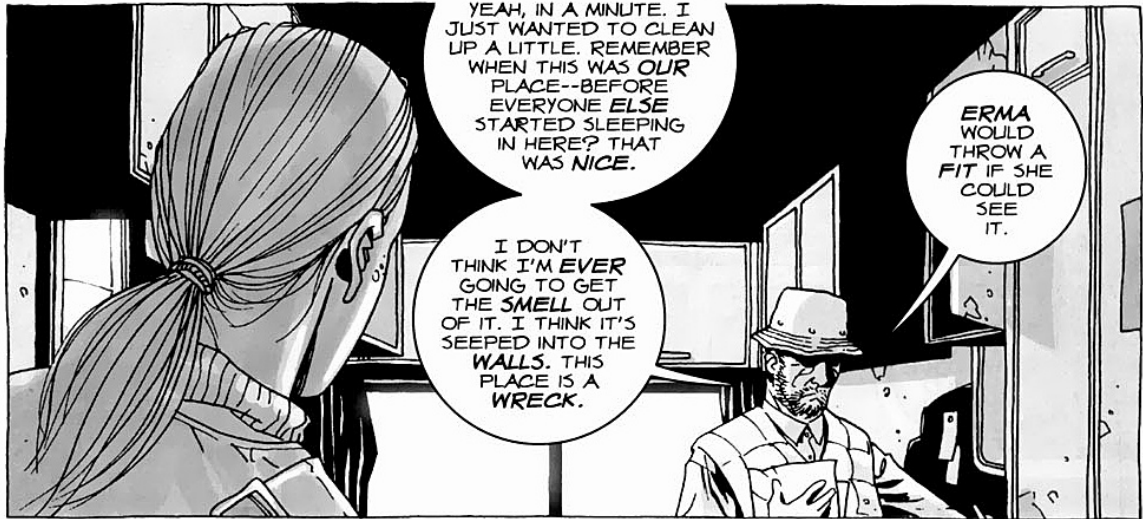
I COULDN'T-- NOT WITH LACEY GONE. I NEEDED SOMEBODY TO BE HERE.

...





DALE?
YOU
COMING?



YEAH, IN A MINUTE. I JUST WANTED TO CLEAN UP A LITTLE. REMEMBER WHEN THIS WAS OUR PLACE--BEFORE EVERYONE ELSE STARTED SLEEPING IN HERE? THAT WAS NICE.

ERMA WOULD THROW A FIT IF SHE COULD SEE IT.

I DON'T THINK I'M EVER GOING TO GET THE SMELL OUT OF IT. I THINK IT'S SEEPED INTO THE WALLS. THIS PLACE IS A WRECK.



I'M SORRY. I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE IT WHEN I MENTION HER.

NO. SHE WAS YOUR WIFE. I UNDERSTAND. IT'S JUST THAT IT REMINDS ME THAT SHE'S ALWAYS ON YOUR MIND, AND I--

DON'T THINK OF IT THAT WAY, ANDREA. I WAS MARRIED TO ERMA FOR ALMOST FORTY YEARS. YOU CAN'T BE JEALOUS OF MY MEMORIES.

I KNOW, DALE... I KNOW.

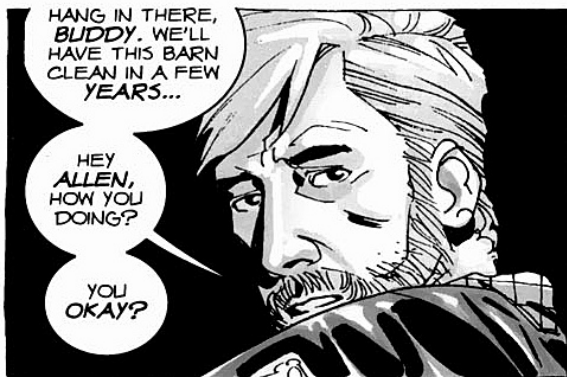
I LOVE YOU, ANDREA, I REALLY LOVE YOU.

I SWEAR.



I DON'T THINK THIS IS A ONE DAY JOB. NOT BY A LONG SHOT. I'M SORRY, MAN--BUT I THINK YOU'VE GOT A FEW MORE NIGHTS IN THE RV.

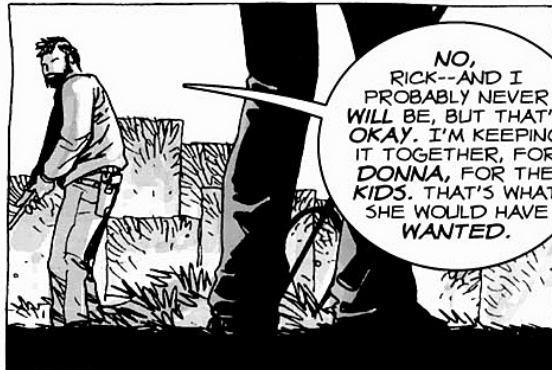
LOOKS THAT WAY TO ME TOO. ALTHOUGH, KNOWING THAT I'LL BE OUT OF THAT PLACE SOON WILL KEEP ME GOING. IT'LL BE GOOD TO KNOW I'VE GOT A PILE OF HAY WAITING TO REPLACE MY SPOT ON THE FLOOR IN FRONT OF THE COUCH.



HANG IN THERE, BUDDY. WE'LL HAVE THIS BARN CLEAN IN A FEW YEARS...

HEY ALLEN, HOW YOU DOING?

YOU OKAY?



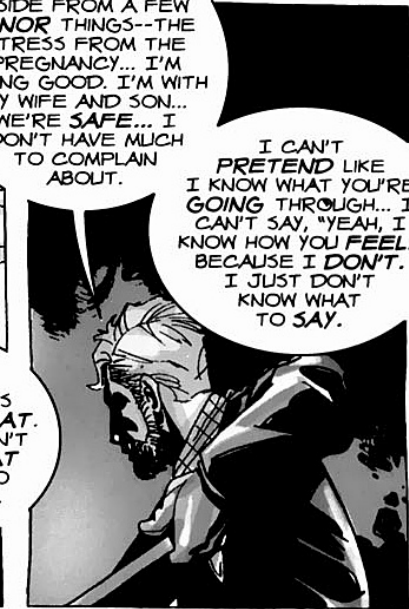
NO, RICK--AND I PROBABLY NEVER WILL BE, BUT THAT'S OKAY. I'M KEEPING IT TOGETHER, FOR DONNA, FOR THE KIDS. THAT'S WHAT SHE WOULD HAVE WANTED.



Y'KNOW--DONNA WAS EIGHT YEARS OLDER THAN ME. SHE WAS ALWAYS WISER--MORE LEVEL-HEADED... SHE ALWAYS KNEW WHAT TO DO, OR WAS ABLE TO CONVINCE ME THAT SHE DID. I DON'T KNOW HOW I'M GOING TO SEE THOSE BOYS TO ADULTHOOD WITHOUT HER. I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO, BUT I'M GOING TO TRY.

I'M GOING TO DO MY BEST.

FOR HER.

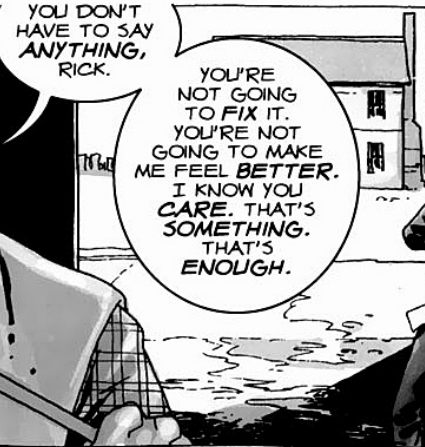


SORRY YOU ASKED?

ASIDE FROM A FEW MINOR THINGS--THE STRESS FROM THE PREGNANCY... I'M DOING GOOD. I'M WITH MY WIFE AND SON... WE'RE SAFE... I DON'T HAVE MUCH TO COMPLAIN ABOUT.

I CAN'T PRETEND LIKE I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING THROUGH... I CAN'T SAY, "YEAH, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL." BECAUSE I DON'T. I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

NO-- YEAH--IT'S NOT LIKE THAT. I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY TO YOU NOW.

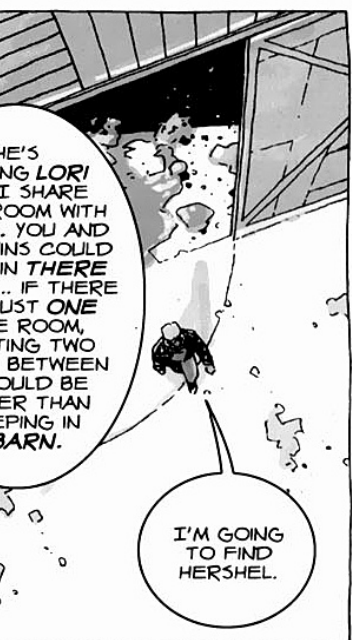


YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY ANYTHING, RICK.

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO FIX IT. YOU'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE ME FEEL BETTER. I KNOW YOU CARE. THAT'S SOMETHING. THAT'S ENOUGH.

OKAY. UNDERSTOOD.

I--



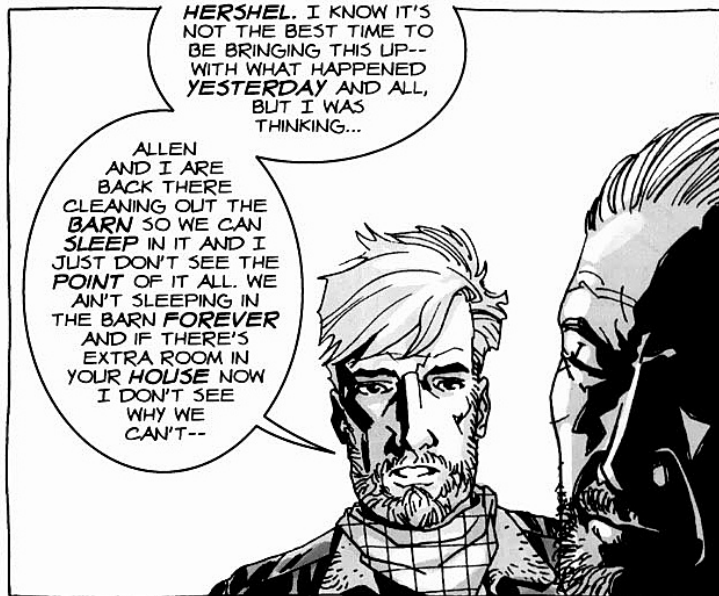
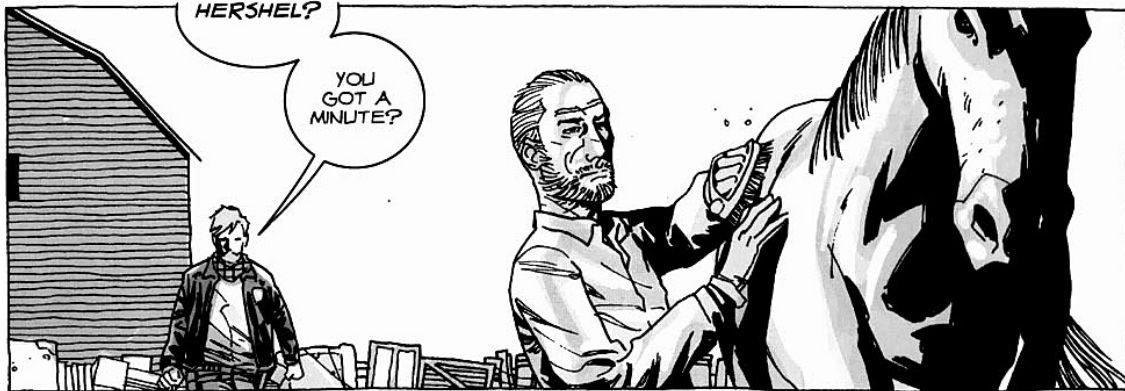
DAMMIT! THIS IS STUPID!

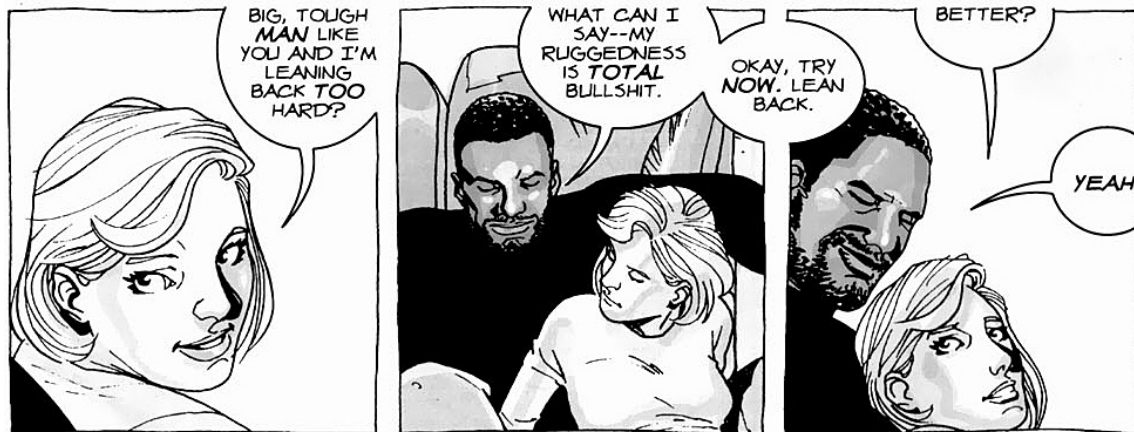
WE'RE CLEANING THIS PLACE UP SO WE CAN LIVE IN IT?! WE'RE GOING TO LIVE IN A BARN FOR THE REST OF OUR LIVES?!

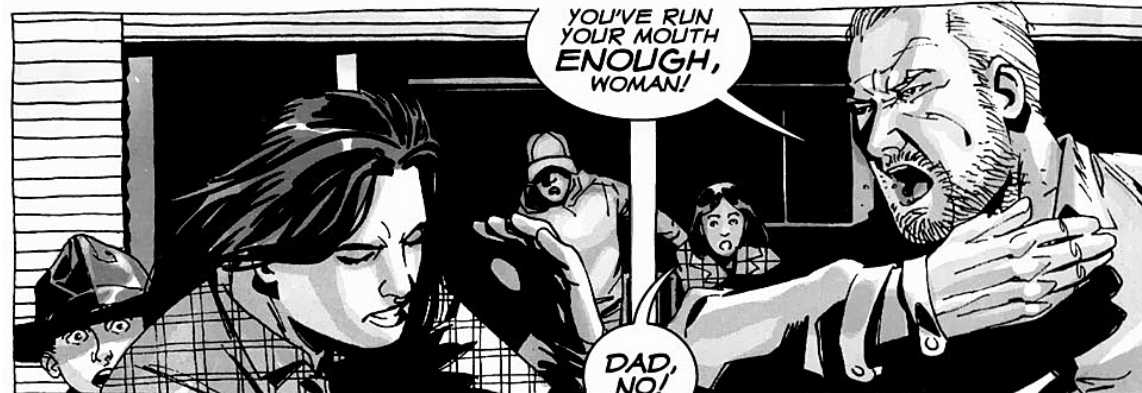
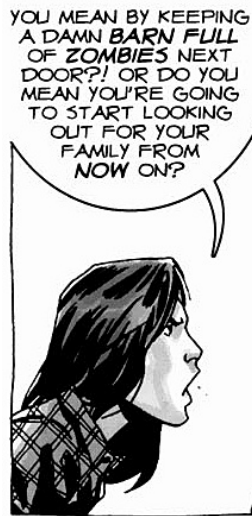
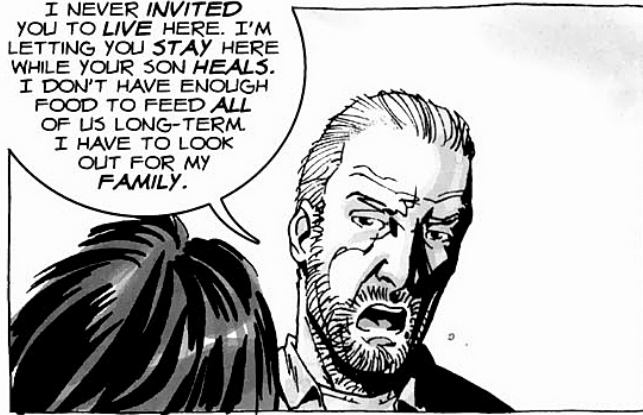
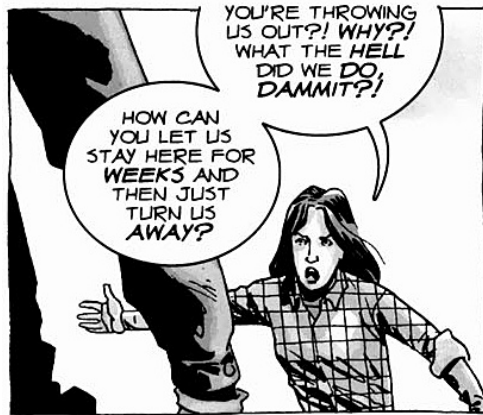
HERSHEL IS A REASONABLE GUY. I KNOW HE JUST LOST TWO OF HIS KIDS... BUT IF THERE'S EXTRA ROOM IN THAT PLACE I DON'T SEE WHY WE CAN'T STAY THERE.

HE'S LETTING LORI AND I SHARE THAT ROOM WITH CARL... YOU AND THE TWINS COULD SLEEP IN THERE WITH US... IF THERE WAS JUST ONE MORE ROOM, SPLITTING TWO ROOMS BETWEEN US WOULD BE BETTER THAN SLEEPING IN A BARN.

I'M GOING TO FIND HERSHEL.









THAT'S ENOUGH!



DON'T YOU FUCKING TOUCH ME!

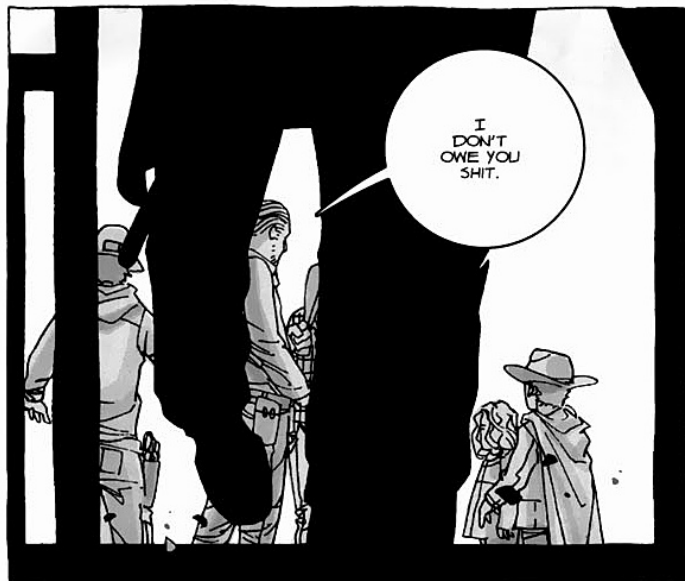


YOU WERE GOING TO HIT ME?! WHAT THE FUCK IS WRONG WITH YOU?!



I LOST **THREE** KIDS YESTERDAY, YOU STUPID BITCH! **THREE!** TODAY I FIND ONE OF YOU **FUCKING** MY DAUGHTER--THEN YOUR **HUSBAND** IS ASKING TO TAKE MY KIDS' **ROOMS!** AND NOW YOU'RE ON MY ASS BECAUSE I WON'T LET YOU **FREE-LOADERS** EAT ALL MY **DAMN** FOOD AND FILL UP MY **HOUSE!**

WHERE THE **HELL** DO YOU GET OFF?! THIS IS MY **FUCKING** HOUSE. I HAVE A **FAMILY** TO LOOK AFTER. I DON'T OWE YOU **SHIT!**



I DON'T OWE YOU SHIT.



WE NEVER SAID YOU DID, HERSHEL.

WE THOUGHT YOU WERE LETTING US STAY HERE. YOU NEVER MENTIONED THIS BEING TEMPORARY, GODDAMN IT.



DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT IT'S LIKE OUT THERE? HUNTING FOR FOOD? CRAMMING INTO THAT FUCKING RV? GETTING ATTACKED BY THOSE MONSTERS AT EVERY GODDAMN TURN?



NOT.

MY.

PROBLEM.

I'VE GOT TO LOOK OUT FOR MY KIDS.

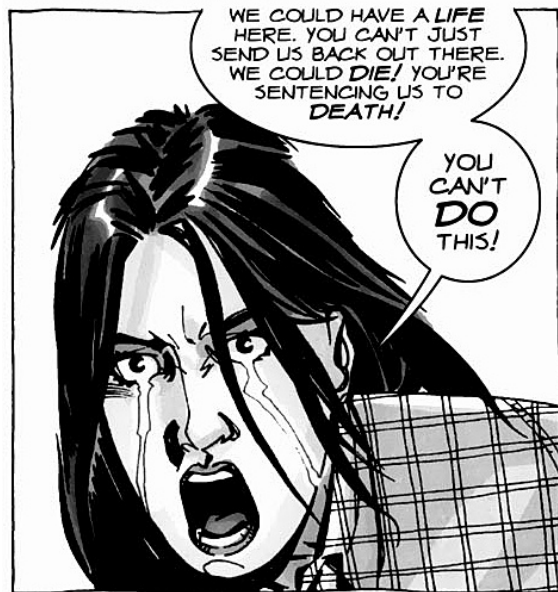


WHAT ABOUT OUR KIDS?

YOU'VE GOT A FENCE--A HOUSE--YOU'RE SAFE HERE. WE COULD HELP YOU GROW MORE FOOD IN THE SUMMER, WE COULD MAKE IT WORK!

WE COULD HAVE A LIFE HERE. YOU CAN'T JUST SEND US BACK OUT THERE. WE COULD DIE! YOU'RE SENTENCING US TO DEATH!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS!



LORI, PLEASE.

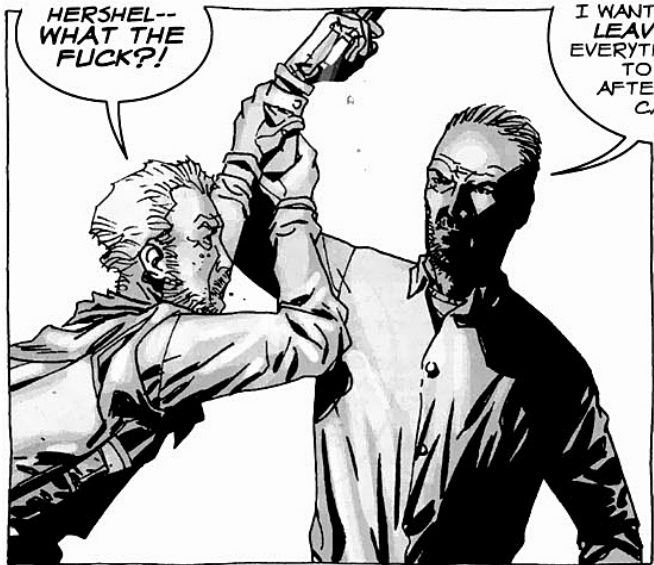
IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY.





I WANT YOU OUT OF HERE.

RIGHT NOW.



HERSHEL-- WHAT THE FUCK?!

I WANT THEM TO LEAVE, OTIS. EVERYTHING WENT TO HELL AFTER THEY CAME.



WE WERE DOING FINE BEFORE THEY GOT HERE.



THEY FUCKED EVERYTHING UP.



FINE. WE'LL LEAVE.

WE'RE LEAVING.



HERSHEL?
YOU IN THERE?
I WANNA TALK
TO YOU.

I AIN'T
GOT NO
CLUE WHAT'S
RUNNING AROUND
IN YOUR HEAD,
MAN--BUT
YOU COULDA
SHOT THAT
MAN.

YOU
HEAR
ME IN
THERE?



MAN, I UNDERSTAND
YOU WANTING THEM TO
GO--BUT THAT AIN'T
NO WAY TO BE TREATIN'
ANYBODY. YOU GOTTA
APOLOGIZE TO RICK
BEFORE HE GOES,
MAN.

YOU
GOTTA--

YOU IN
THERE?



HERSHEL?



HERSHEL!



I WAS GOING TO
SHOOT THAT MAN, OTIS.
I WAS GOING TO PULL
THAT TRIGGER IF HE
RESISTED IN ANY WAY.
I WANTED THEM
TO LEAVE THAT
BAD.



I
ALMOST
PULLED
THE TRIGGER.
I ALMOST
KILLED A
MAN.



I
THINK
I'VE
LOST MY
MIND.



DID YOU SAY GOODBYE TO THAT GIRL?

NO.

NO? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?



I'M NOT GOING. I'M IN LOVE, RICK--OR AS CLOSE AS I'M LIABLE TO GET. I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL EVER FIND ANOTHER WOMAN LIKE MAGGIE. SHE TALKED IT OVER WITH HER FATHER... HE SAID IT'S OKAY.



I'M NOT LEAVING.

OH, GLENN... I... UH.



I THINK PART OF THE REASON I DIDN'T HAVE ANY PROBLEMS RUNNING INTO ATLANTA FOR SUPPLIES WAS BECAUSE I DIDN'T REALLY CARE IF I LIVED OR DIED. I WAS SCARED...BUT I DIDN'T CARE THAT I WAS SCARED. I THINK I ALMOST WANTED TO DIE--JUST TO GET IT OVER WITH.

I DON'T FEEL THAT WAY NOW. NOT WITH MAGGIE.

I GOTTA STAY, RICK. I DON'T WANT TO FEEL LIKE THAT ANYMORE. I DON'T WANT TO BE ALONE.



NO, GLENN... I COMPLETELY UNDERSTAND. I WANT YOU TO BE HAPPY.

I AM HAPPY. I DIDN'T THINK IT WAS POSSIBLE, BUT I AM.

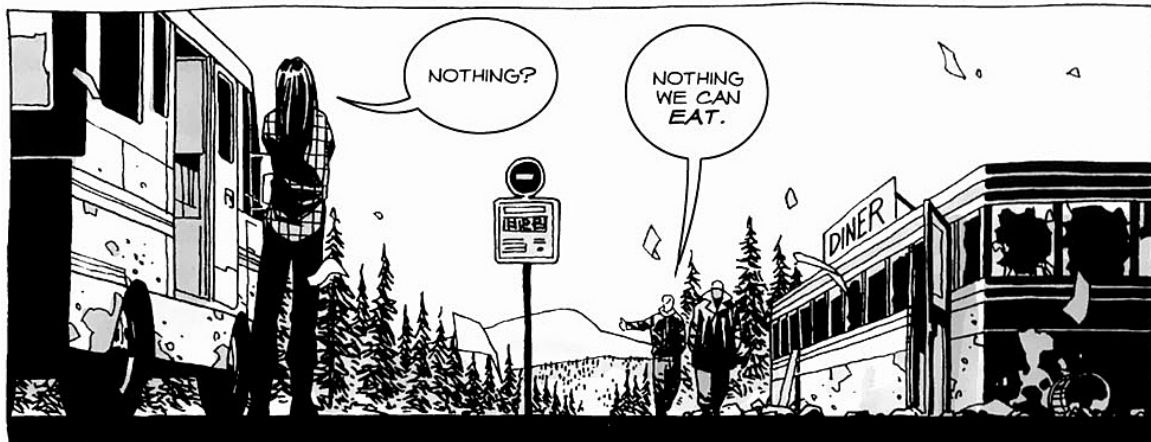


YOU WANT TO COME IN, SAY GOODBYE TO EVERYONE?

NO. JUST GO. I'M TERRIBLE WITH GOOD-BYES.









WE'RE OUT OF GAS. WE HAVEN'T SEEN ANY STRANDED CARS FOR A WHILE. I WANT EVERYONE TO SPREAD OUT, LOOK FOR CARS, ANYWHERE. IF YOU SEE ANY NEARBY HOUSES, LET US KNOW, THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING AROUND HERE WE COULD AT LEAST SPEND A FEW NIGHTS IN TO GET OUT OF THE RV.

KEEP YOUR GUNS HANDY. IF YOU SEE ANY ZOMBIES, DON'T LET YOURSELF GET SURROUNDED. DON'T FORGET, WE'RE SMARTER AND FASTER. DON'T LOSE YOUR COOL. RUN IF YOU HAVE TO.

IF YOU FIND ANY FOOD... BRING IT BACK SO WE CAN SHARE IT. REMEMBER THE KIDS.

IF YOU FIND ANYTHING, FOOD, GAS, WATER, OR SHELTER, COME BACK TO THE RV AND HONK THE HORN. ALLEN WILL BE HERE WITH THE KIDS.



IF YOU DON'T FIND ANYTHING, BE BACK HERE BEFORE DARK.

WE'VE ONLY GOT A FEW HOURS.



FINALLY, ALONE TIME.

DON'T GET ANY IDEAS. I'M STARVING. WE'RE NOT DOING ANYTHING UNTIL WE FIND SOME FOOD.

IF I COULD GET AWAY WITH IT... I'D GNAW A PIECE OFF OF YOU.



FUNNY GIRL.

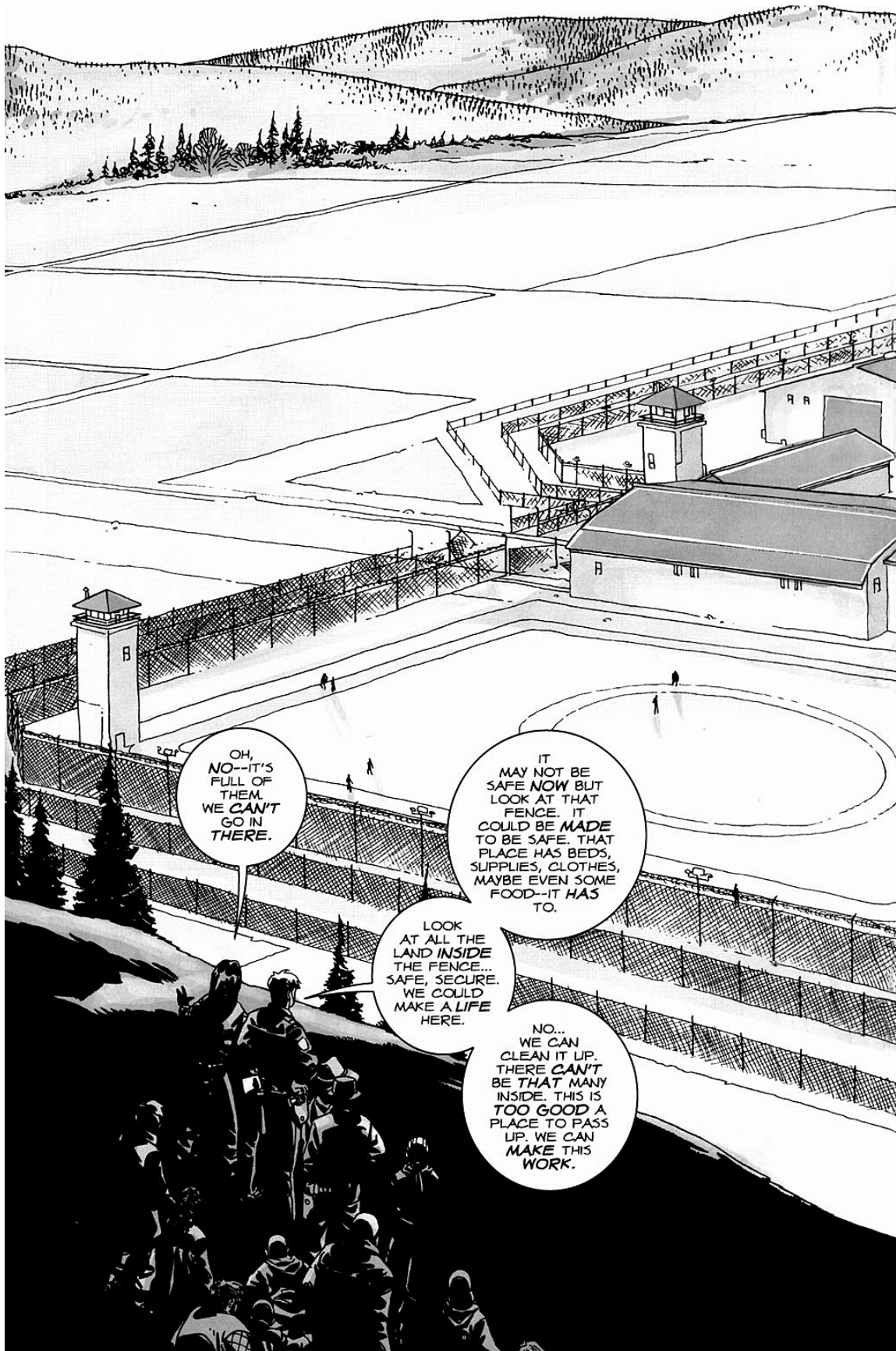
YOU KIDS THESE DAYS--I JUST DON'T GET YOUR HUMOR.



UH-HUH.

ANOTHER DAY WITHOUT FOOD AND NONE OF US WILL BE LAUGHING.



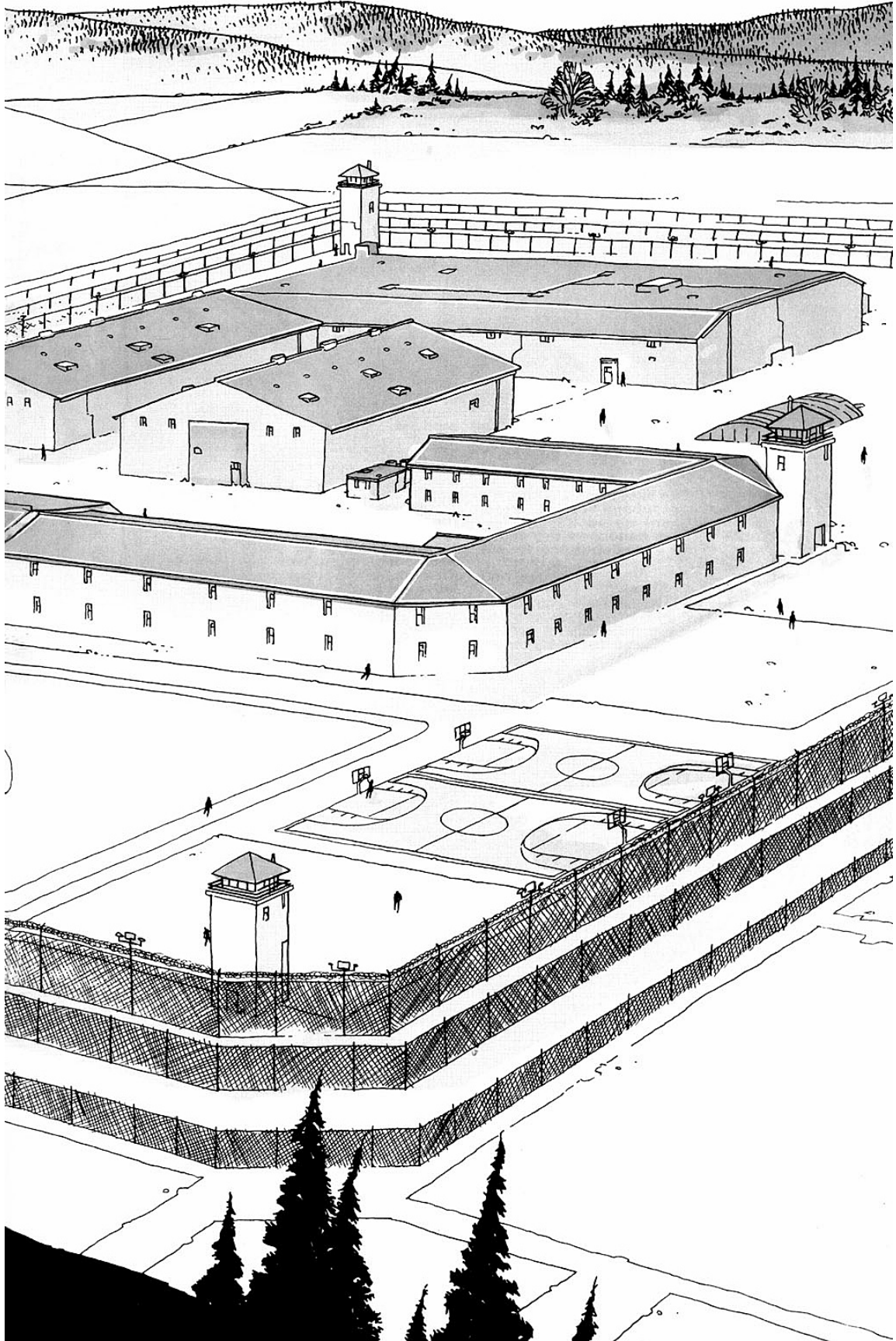


OH,
NO--IT'S
FULL OF
THEM.
WE CAN'T
GO IN
THERE.

IT
MAY NOT BE
SAFE NOW BUT
LOOK AT THAT
FENCE. IT
COULD BE MADE
TO BE SAFE. THAT
PLACE HAS BEDS,
SUPPLIES, CLOTHES,
MAYBE EVEN SOME
FOOD--IT HAS
TO.

LOOK
AT ALL THE
LAND INSIDE
THE FENCE...
SAFE, SECURE.
WE COULD
MAKE A LIFE
HERE.

NO...
WE CAN
CLEAN IT UP.
THERE CAN'T
BE THAT MANY
INSIDE. THIS IS
TOO GOOD A
PLACE TO PASS
UP. WE CAN
MAKE THIS
WORK.





IT'S
PERFECT.

WE'RE
HOME.

