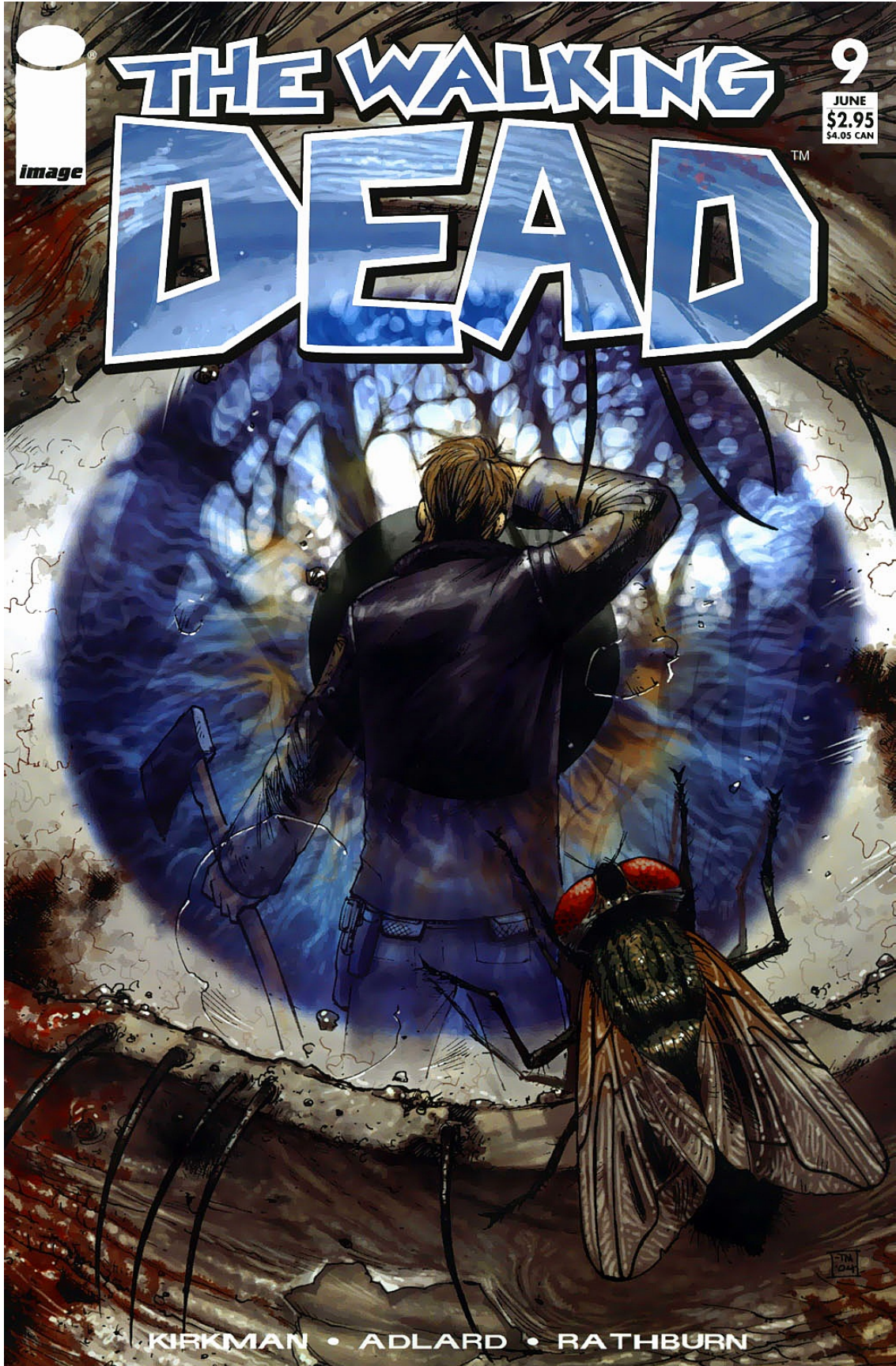


A decorative blue floral border with intricate scrollwork and leaf patterns, framing the central text.

09

The Walking Dead - I

Robert Kirkman



i
image

THE WALKING DEAD

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SHHHH

YOU'LL WAKE HIM UP.



OH, SORRY. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN UP?



A FEW MINUTES... A HALF HOUR, I WASN'T REALLY KEEPING TRACK. NOT TOO LONG.

LOOK AT HIM, SO PEACEFUL. HE HASN'T SLEPT LIKE THIS SINCE WE LEFT HARRISON COUNTY.



I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW HARD ALL THIS HAS BEEN ON HIM, SHANE--JIM AND AMY... ALL OF IT. HELL, LORI... I DON'T KNOW HOW I'M COPING WITH IT.



THAT'S WHAT I'VE BEEN THINKING ABOUT. THIS NEW BABY WILL NEVER KNOW WHAT THE WORLD WAS LIKE, HELL... CARL WON'T REALLY REMEMBER MUCH OF IT HIMSELF BEFORE TOO LONG.

HE'LL NEVER KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO GET HIS DRIVER'S LICENSE, OR GO SEE A MOVIE WITH A GIRL.



RICK, DO YOU THINK WE'LL EVER BE ABLE TO FIX EVERYTHING?



I DON'T KNOW.

I HOPE SO.





WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

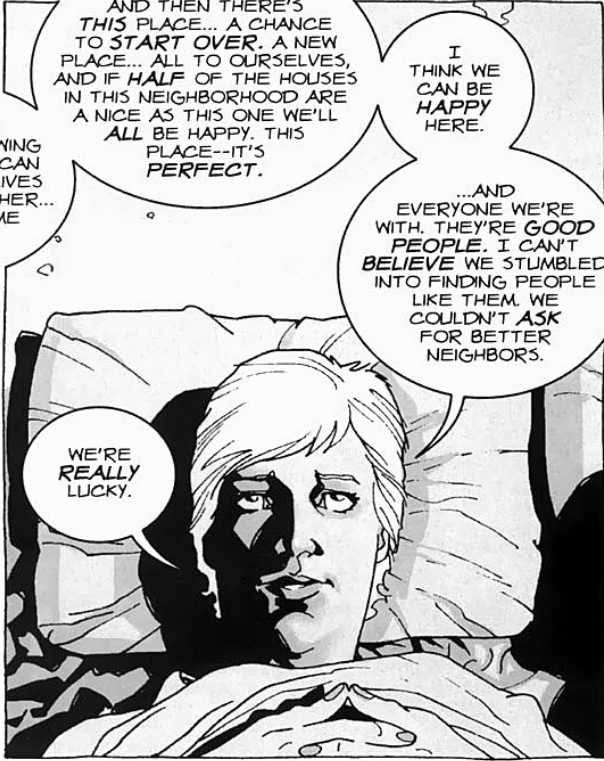
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE AWAKE.

SURPRISE.



I WAS JUST THINKING ABOUT ANDREA AND DALE... THEY BOTH LOST SOMEONE THEY LOVED... SOMEONE VERY CLOSE TO THEM. IT HIT THEM HARD, WE SAW THAT... BUT THEY EVENTUALLY PULLED OUT OF IT. SEEING THEM TOGETHER LAST NIGHT-- THEY'RE HAPPY.

SEEING THEM--KNOWING THAT THEY CAN PUT THEIR LIVES BACK TOGETHER... IT GIVES ME HOPE.



WE'RE REALLY LUCKY.

AND THEN THERE'S THIS PLACE... A CHANCE TO START OVER, A NEW PLACE... ALL TO OURSELVES, AND IF HALF OF THE HOUSES IN THIS NEIGHBORHOOD ARE AS NICE AS THIS ONE WE'LL ALL BE HAPPY. THIS PLACE--IT'S PERFECT.

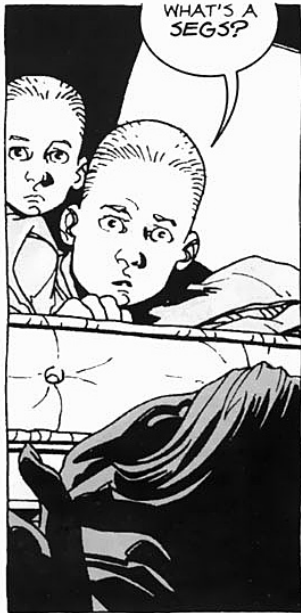
I THINK WE CAN BE HAPPY HERE.

...AND EVERYONE WE'RE WITH, THEY'RE GOOD PEOPLE. I CAN'T BELIEVE WE STUMBLED INTO FINDING PEOPLE LIKE THEM. WE COULDN'T ASK FOR BETTER NEIGHBORS.



YOU WANT TO HAVE SEX?

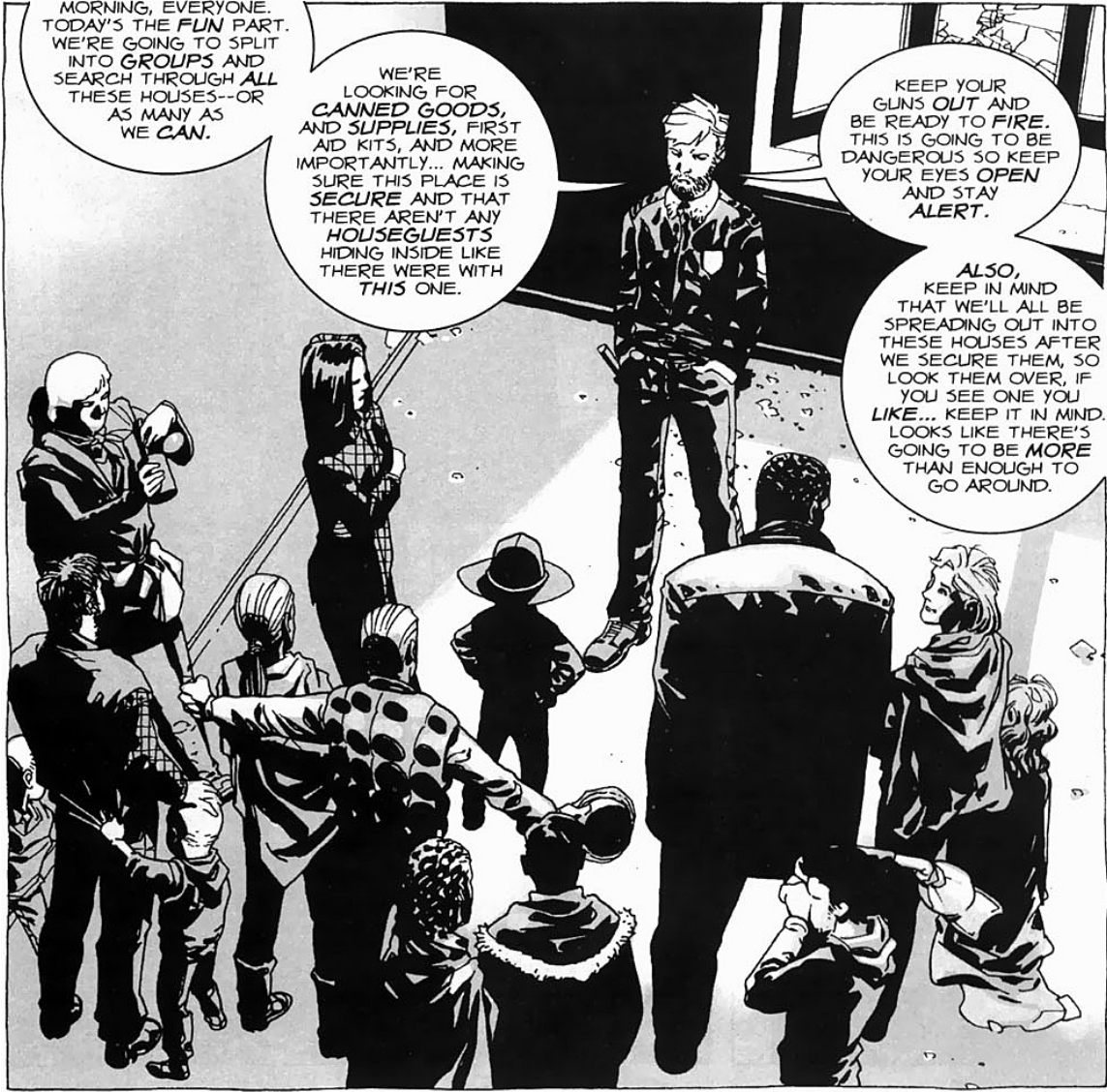
YOU'RE RIGHT. IF THIS WORKS OUT WE'VE GOT IT MADE. IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE SEEN YOU THIS HAPPY, DONNA.



WHAT'S A SEGS?



THAT ANSWER YOUR QUESTION?



MORNING, EVERYONE. TODAY'S THE FUN PART. WE'RE GOING TO SPLIT INTO GROUPS AND SEARCH THROUGH ALL THESE HOUSES--OR AS MANY AS WE CAN.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR CANNED GOODS, AND SUPPLIES, FIRST AND KITS, AND MORE IMPORTANTLY... MAKING SURE THIS PLACE IS SECURE AND THAT THERE AREN'T ANY HOUSEGUESTS HIDING INSIDE LIKE THERE WERE WITH THIS ONE.

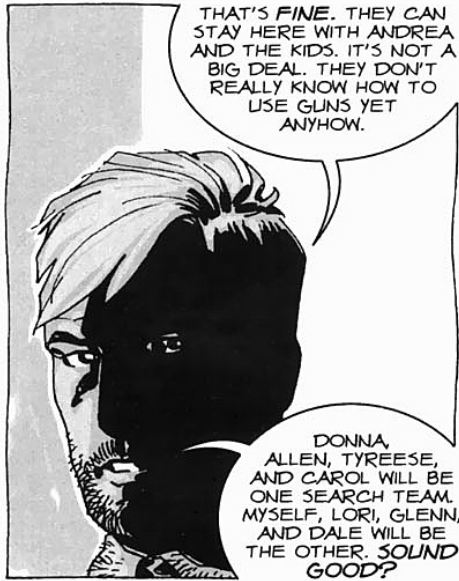
KEEP YOUR GUNS OUT AND BE READY TO FIRE. THIS IS GOING TO BE DANGEROUS SO KEEP YOUR EYES OPEN AND STAY ALERT.

ALSO, KEEP IN MIND THAT WE'LL ALL BE SPREADING OUT INTO THESE HOUSES AFTER WE SECURE THEM, SO LOOK THEM OVER, IF YOU SEE ONE YOU LIKE... KEEP IT IN MIND. LOOKS LIKE THERE'S GOING TO BE MORE THAN ENOUGH TO GO AROUND.



DAD, CAN CHRIS AND I STAY HERE? WE'RE SCARED. WE DON'T WANT TO GO SEARCHING THROUGH DARK HOUSES.

PLEASE?



THAT'S FINE. THEY CAN STAY HERE WITH ANDREA AND THE KIDS. IT'S NOT A BIG DEAL. THEY DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO USE GUNS YET ANYHOW.

DONNA, ALLEN, TYREESE, AND CAROL WILL BE ONE SEARCH TEAM. MYSELF, LORI, GLENN, AND DALE WILL BE THE OTHER. SOUND GOOD?



OKAY. I'M GOING TO GO GET TYREESE A GUN OUT OF THE RV.



MY TEAM, LET'S START ACROSS THE STREET. TYREESE, YOUR CREW WILL TAKE NEXT DOOR. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK WITH THAT GUN.

SWEEP THE YARDS REAL QUICK. JUST GIVE THEM A ONCE OVER BEFORE WE GO IN THE HOUSES.



THIS IS GOING TO BE SO FUN... LIKE ONE OF THOSE HOME SHOWS BUT BETTER.

YEAH, ASSUMING THESE HOUSES ARE ALL EMPTY.



CAROL AND I ARE GOING TO CHECK THE BACKYARD. SHOULDN'T TAKE A SECOND.



OKAY. WE'LL GO CHECK AROUND BY THE GARAGE.

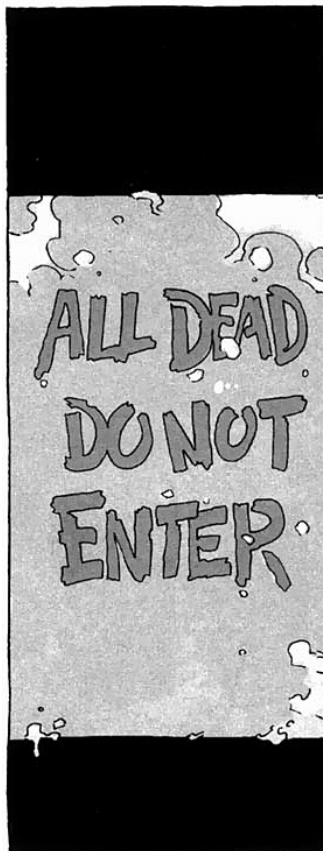
ACTUALLY. I'M GOING TO GET A PEEK INSIDE.



BE CAREFUL, HON'. DON'T GO ALL THE WAY IN YET. JUST LOOK IN THE WINDOWS OR SOMETHING. WAIT UNTIL TYREESE HAS HIS GUN AND WE CAN ALL GO IN.



YOU WORRY TOO MUCH.







DON'T SHOOT!!
DON'T FIRE YOUR
GUNS!!

WHATEVER
YOU DO,
DON'T
SHOOT!



GET
AWAY
FROM
HER!!



ALLEN, NO!
THERE'S NOTHING YOU
CAN DO FOR HER NOW!
YOU'LL JUST GET
YOURSELF
KILLED!

ENGHE



RI AM!

NOOO!



WE NEED TO GET OUT OF HERE. NOW.



WHAT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN? IS SOMETHING GOING ON?



YES. WE NEED TO BE IN THE RV AND OUT OF HERE RIGHT NOW.

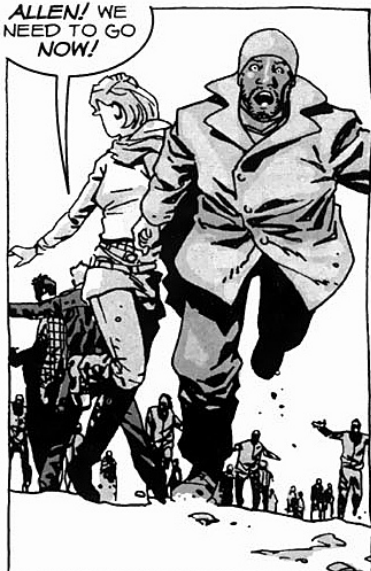


OH, SHIT!

GO! GET EVERYONE INTO THE RV. I'LL GET ALLEN.



ALLEN! WE NEED TO GO NOW!



NO. I CAN'T-- NOT WITHOUT HER. JUST LEAVE ME RICK.

LEAVE ME HERE.

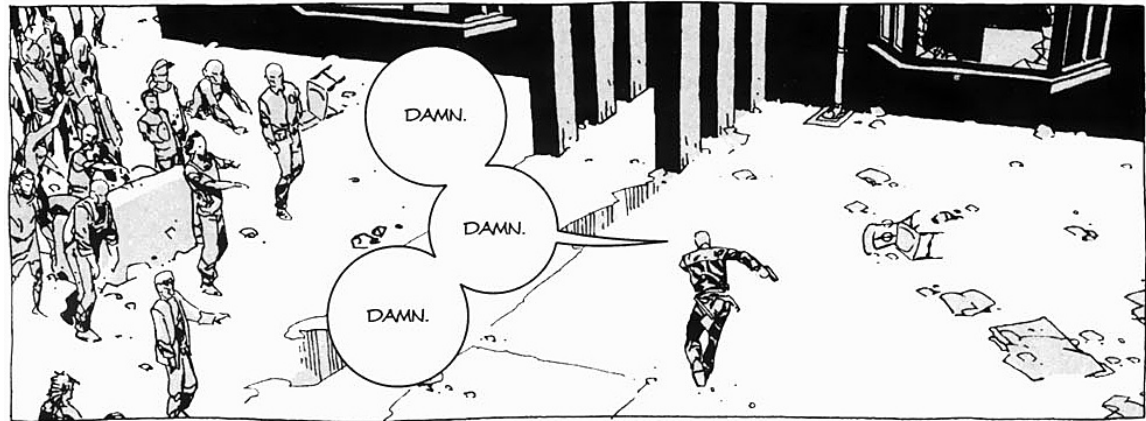


NO, GODDAMMIT!! THINK OF YOUR KIDS, ALLEN! THEY NEED A FATHER! THEY NEED YOU! NOW MORE THAN EVER!

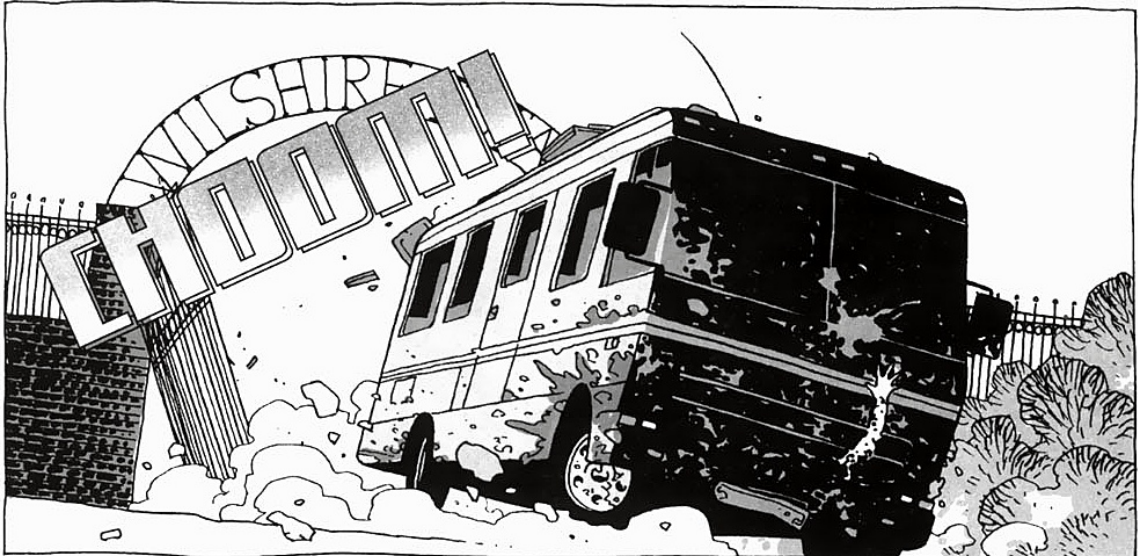
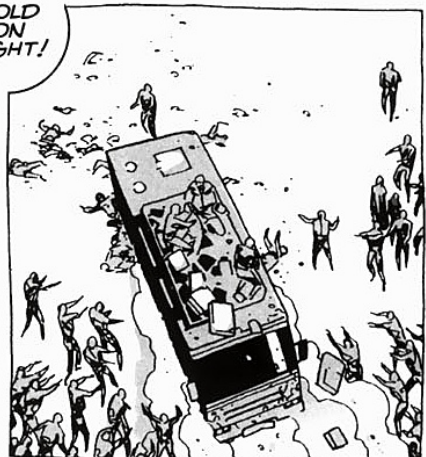
I WON'T LEAVE YOU HERE.

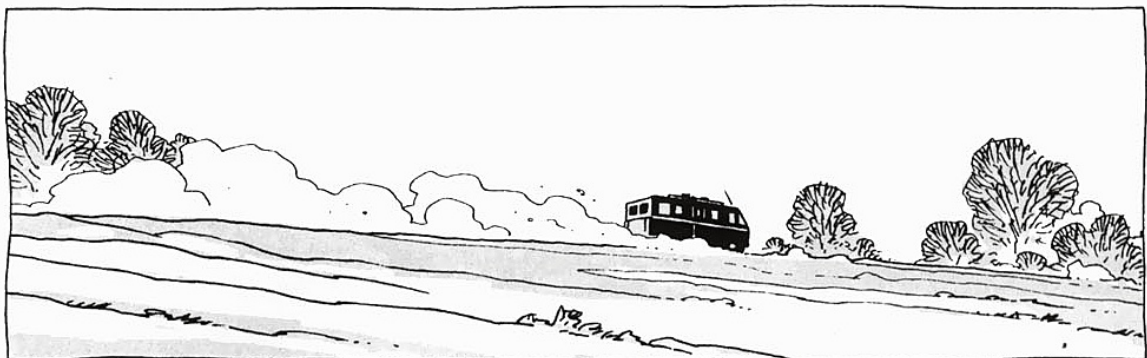
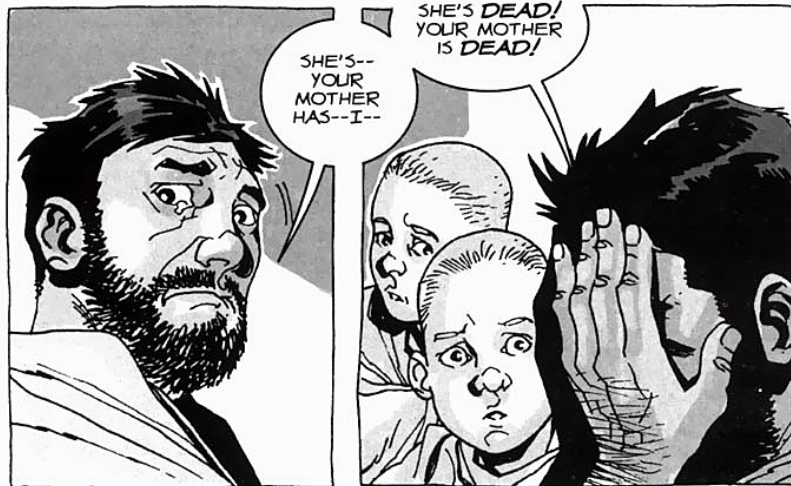














I'M SORRY, ALLEN. I JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

THEN DON'T SAY ANYTHING. JUST LEAVE ME ALONE.



I'M JUST WORRIED ABOUT HIM.

WHAT GOOD IS THAT GOING TO DO? THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO TO "FIX" ALLEN IS TO BRING BACK HIS WIFE... AND WE CAN'T DO THAT.

JUST LET HIM MOURN--FOR AS LONG AS IT TAKES. YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO LOSE A SPOUSE, RICK. HE'S GOING THROUGH HELL RIGHT NOW. I KNOW.



THERE'S NO GREEN BEANS...THERE'S NO CORN. HELL... WE'RE ALMOST OUT OF EVERYTHING.

IF ONLY WE COULD HAVE GRABBED THE CANNED FOOD OUT OF THAT HOUSE BEFORE WE LEFT.

JESUS... WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?



BE CAREFUL
GUYS... BE
READY FOR
ANYTHING.



DAMN.

ANYTHING
THAT WASN'T
TAKEN WAS
DESTROYED.
WHY THE HELL
WOULD ANYONE
DO THIS?



WHO KNOWS...
SHIT. THIS
IS NOT
GOOD.



HOW
THE HELL
ARE WE GOING
TO MAKE IT
WITHOUT ANY
FOOD?

I SEE
LOTS OF
HUNTING
IN OUR
FUTURE.



WE SHOULDN'T BE OUT TOO LONG. EVEN IF WE DON'T FIND ANYTHING WE'LL BE BACK BEFORE IT GETS DARK.

IF YOU SEE ANYTHING, FIRE A SHOT, WE'LL BE BACK HERE AS SOON AS WE CAN.

WE'LL BE FINE. AS LONG AS YOU GO GET US SOMETHING TO EAT.

I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.



CAN I COME TOOP? I CAN HELP. I SHOOT REAL GOOD.



I KNOW. YOU CAN COME WITH US, BUT DON'T SHOOT UNLESS I TELL YOU TO. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT THAT IF WE DO FIND SOMETHING YOU DON'T SCARE IT OFF.



OKAY, DAD.

ALL RIGHT, WE'RE GOING. KEEP AN EYE ON ALLEN WHILE WE'RE GONE, OKAY, HON'?



WHO KNOWS WHAT'S GOING THROUGH HIS HEAD RIGHT NOW.

I'M AFRAID HE MAY HURT HIMSELF... OR WORSE.



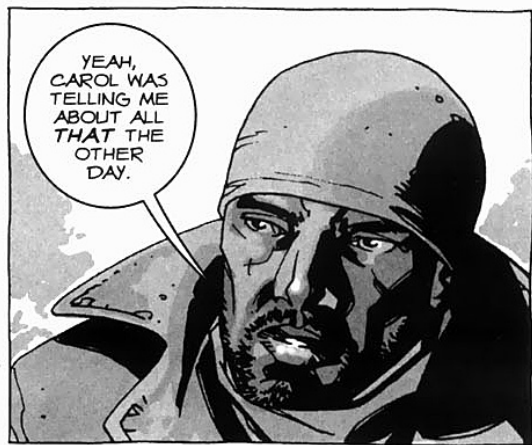
DO YOU REALLY
THINK ALLEN
MIGHT HURT
HIMSELF?

HE
WANTED ME
TO LEAVE HIM
FOR DEAD BACK
AT THOSE HOUSES
A WEEK AGO. I
DON'T KNOW WHAT
THE MAN'S GOING
THROUGH... I
DON'T KNOW
WHAT HE'S
CAPABLE
OF.



I DON'T THINK HE
COULD HURT ANYONE
ELSE. ALLEN IS A
GOOD FATHER, AND
AN ALL AROUND GREAT
GUY. I DON'T THINK
IT'LL GO THAT
FAR.

I
GOTTA SAY,
THOUGH...
AFTER WHAT
HAPPENED WITH
SHANE... I
JUST DON'T
KNOW
ANYMORE.



YEAH,
CAROL WAS
TELLING ME
ABOUT ALL
THAT THE
OTHER
DAY.



SHHH!

DID
YOU
HEAR
THAT?



I
THINK
THERE'S
SOMETHING
OUT THERE
UP AHEAD
OF US.

