

# VAMPIRES OF NEW JERSEY

SIMPSON ■ COLE ■ BUANG

ISSUE # 1





# Vampires of New Jersey

Issue One

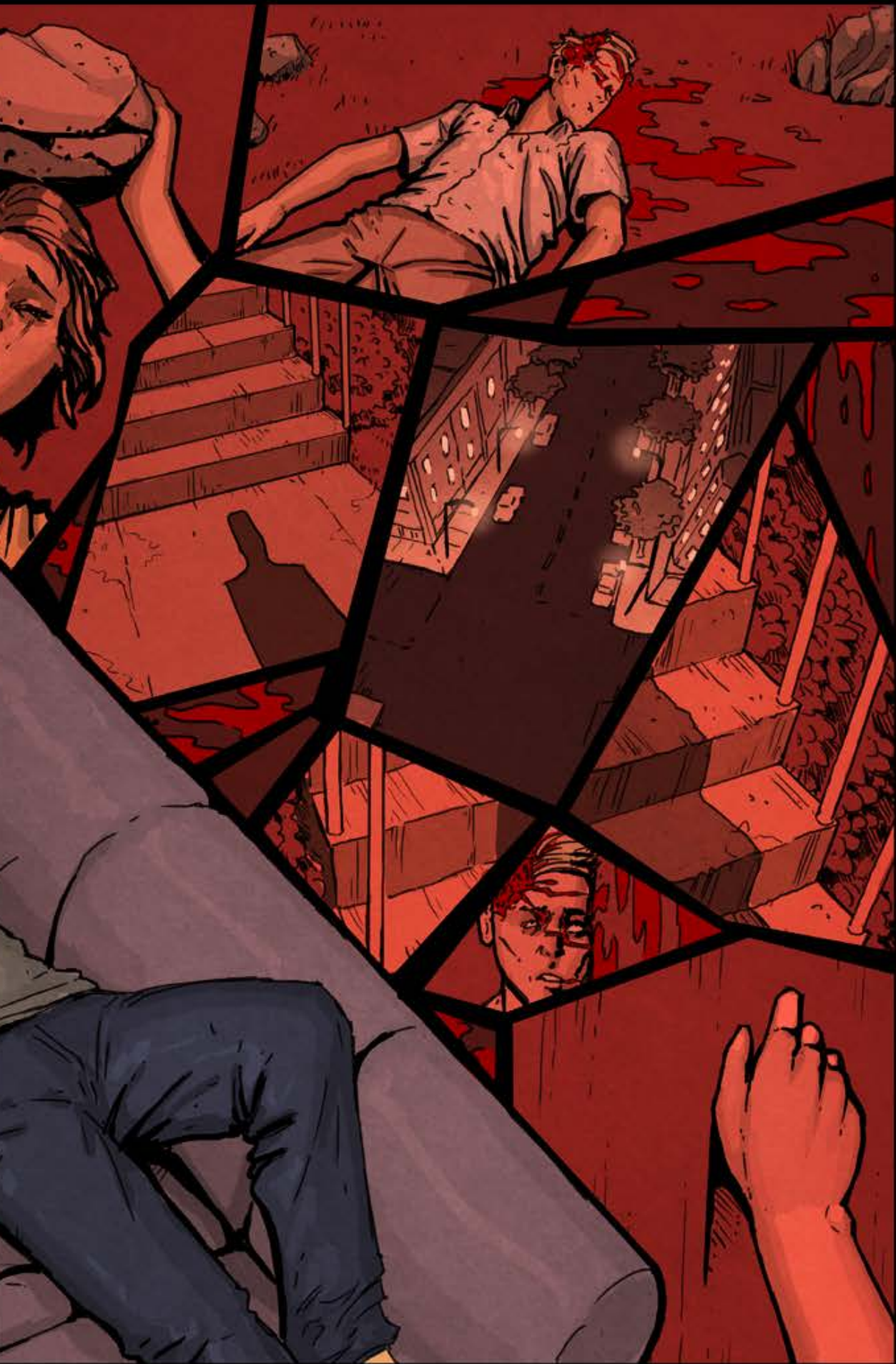


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SO DID YOUR CLEANING LADY DIE OR SOMETHING?

NO. I AM ALWAYS THIS NEAT. WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE ANYWAY? WHAT'S GOING ON AT WORK?



THE USUAL CRAP. RYAN IS MAD AT EVERYBODY FOR SLACKING OFF AND HIS BOSS IS BLAMING HIM.



YEAH. SHIT ROLLS DOWN HILL.



THAT IS FOR SURE.



SO WHY ARE YOU HERE?

I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE OUT WITH FRED OR WANDA DRINKING OR SOMETHING.



I WAS OUT AND THOUGHT I WOULD DROP BY. YOU HAVE BEEN OUT OF ACTION FOR A FEW DAYS. WHAT'S UP WITH THAT? YOU GOING TO BE OKAY?



YEAH. I JUST CAUGHT A BUG. PROOFREADING AT THE PAPER ALL DAY IS NO FUN. I WANT TO REALLY WRITE SOMETHING THAT WILL MOVE PEOPLE.

CHANGE THE WORLD?

MAYBE.

THE WORLD IS CHANGING ALL THE TIME. YOU JUST NEVER NOTICE IT. MOST PEOPLE DON'T ANYWAY.

MOST PEOPLE GOT BILLS TO PAY AND MOUTHS TO FEED. I GOT NOTHING GOING ON AS OF TODAY. MY PARENTS ARE GONE AND MY BROTHER IS OUT WEST.



INDIANA?

YEAH. INDIANA PENNSYLVANIA. I WENT TO IUP.

RIGHT. I FORGOT ABOUT THAT.





SO ...

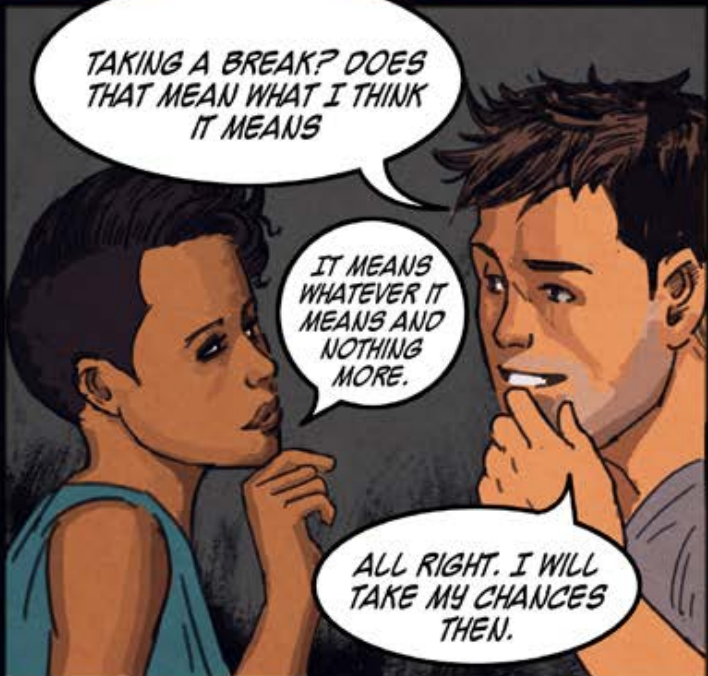


...YOU FEEL GOOD ENOUGH TO GO OUT?



WHAT'S THE CATCH? YOU NEED ME TO STAND IN FOR FRED?

NO. FRED AND I ARE TAKING A BREAK.



TAKING A BREAK? DOES THAT MEAN WHAT I THINK IT MEANS

IT MEANS WHATEVER IT MEANS AND NOTHING MORE.

ALL RIGHT. I WILL TAKE MY CHANCES THEN.



YOU GOT THAT RIGHT.











YOU LOOK A MESS.



YES.



YOU STILL THINK I TALK TOO MUCH?



WHY DID YOU COME HERE ANYWAY?



I ONLY CAME HERE FOR ONE REASON.



AND THAT IS?



THIS.



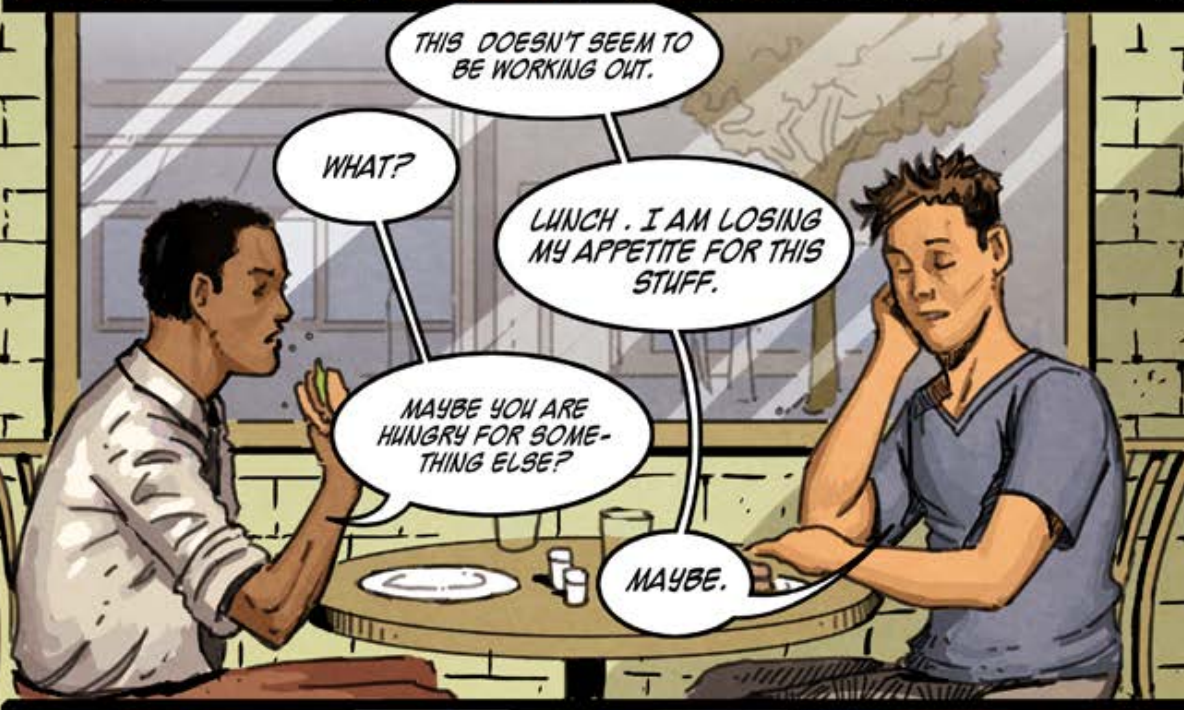
THAT WAS NICE.













NO SHE CALLED OUT. WHY?

IS KAREN IN TODAY?

I SAW HER YESTERDAY.



WHERE?



AT MY APARTMENT AND THEN WE WENT OUT.



YOU MUST HAVE BEEN DREAMING. SHE WORKED LATE LAST NIGHT.



REALLY? HOW LATE?

SUPER LATE. LIKE 3 AM WITCHING HOUR LATE. SHE HAD A STORY SHE WANTED TO FINISH.



ABOUT WHAT?

I DON'T KNOW SHE WOULD NOT TELL BUT SHE SAID IT WOULD KNOCK MY SOCKS OFF OR BLOCK MY COCKS OFF OR SOMETHING.



I SWEAR I SAW HER LAST NIGHT. IT SEEMED VERY REAL.

MAYBE THAT IS PART OF YOUR PSYCHOSIS OR WHATEVER SHIT YOU GOT GOING THIS MONTH.



I WAS SICK AND I DON'T FEEL MYSELF TODAY.

JUST FINISH THE DAY AND GO HOME AND SLEEP IT OFF. THAT'S MY ADVICE.

SOUNDS LIKE A PLAN.



DO YOU SEE THAT GUY?



YES. A FRIEND OF YOURS? HE IS MACKING PRETTY HARD.

GOOD. I AM NOT BEING PARANOID THEN.

NO YOU ARE BEING PARANOID BUT HE IS DEFINITELY WATCHING YOU.



I AM OUT OF HERE.



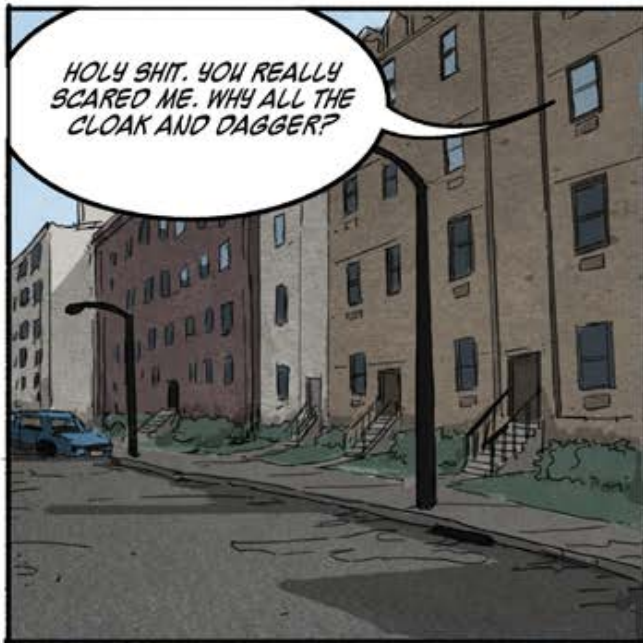
REALLY DUDE? WHAT DO I TELL THE BOSS?



TELL HIM I GOT SOMETHING TO DO.

SURE THING.





HOLY SHIT. YOU REALLY SCARED ME. WHY ALL THE CLOAK AND DAGGER?



YOUR FATHER WANTED ME TO CHECK UP ON YOU. ARE YOU OKAY?



NO. I AM DEFINITELY NOT OKAY. WHY DIDN'T DAD JUST CALL ME?

CASS, YOU KNOW HOW WE FEEL ABOUT PHONES WITH FAMILY BUSINESS. ESPECIALLY WITH THIS NSA CRAP. EVERYBODY HEARS EVERYTHING.

THOUGHT THAT WAS OVER. I THOUGHT WE WERE LEGIT NOW.



WE ARE. CLEAN AS A WHISTLE. BUT PEOPLE STILL LISTEN.

WHAT PEOPLE?



PEOPLE. TRUST ME. ANYWAY, WHAT IS GOING ON WITH YOU? YOU STILL AT THAT NEWS JOINT?



YEAH. I AM STILL ON STAFF THERE. I WRITE ABOUT WHAT PEOPLE NEED TO KNOW.



AS LONG AS THEY DON'T KNOW TOO MUCH. YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?



NOBODY CARES ABOUT THE FAMILY BUSINESS. THAT IS OLD NEWS. DEAD AND BURIED.

AND IT NEEDS TO STAY THAT WAY. OKAY?

OF COURSE. ANYTHING FOR YOU UNCLE.



YOU GOT RATS.



I DON'T THINK SO.



I SMELL A BIG ONE.



SIT TIGHT. I WILL BE RIGHT BACK.



BE CAREFUL.



I ALWAYS AM.





NO IT'S NOT.  
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

LOOK OUT THE WINDOW.

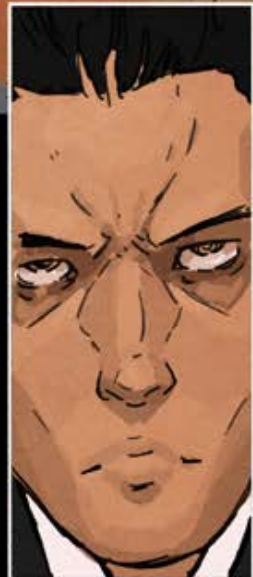
DO YOU SEE WHAT I AM TALKING ABOUT?  
YEAH. SURE I DO KID.



YOU NEED A STIFF DRINK AND A GOOD NIGHT SLEEP.

WHAT'S IN YOUR FRIDGE?  
I DON'T KNOW. I FORGET.







...FEELING OKAY?

I AM FINE. JUST A LITTLE HUNGRY.



WHEN YOU ARE DONE I  
NEED TO HAVE A SITDOWN  
WITH YOU. OKAY?



OH YEAH. NO  
PROBLEM.



WE HAVE A  
PROBLEM HERE.







SO.



YOU LOOK MUCH BETTER. WE NEED TO TALK BUT YOU NEED TO RELAX AND LISTEN TO WHAT I AM TELLING YOU.

TAKE A SEAT.

OK.



HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT YOUR FAMILY TREE?

I KNOW MY GREAT GRAND PARENTS CAME TO NEW JERSEY FROM ITALY AND THAT MY DAD AND MOM GREW UP HERE.

GOOD. DO YOU REMEMBER ANY STORIES ABOUT YOUR GREAT GRANDMOTHER?

YEAH. SOME PEOPLE SAID SHE COULD PUT A SPELL OR RATHER A CURSE ON YOU IF YOU CROSSED HER.



MY DAD. A LONG TIME AGO.

WHO TOLD YOU THAT?



OK. YOUR FAMILY GOT IN A DISAGREEMENT WITH ANOTHER FAMILY MANY YEARS AGO IN THE OLD COUNTRY.

ALL RIGHT.

AND SOME OF THESE DISAGREEMENTS FOLLOWED THEM HERE.



TO NEW JERSEY?

RIGHT

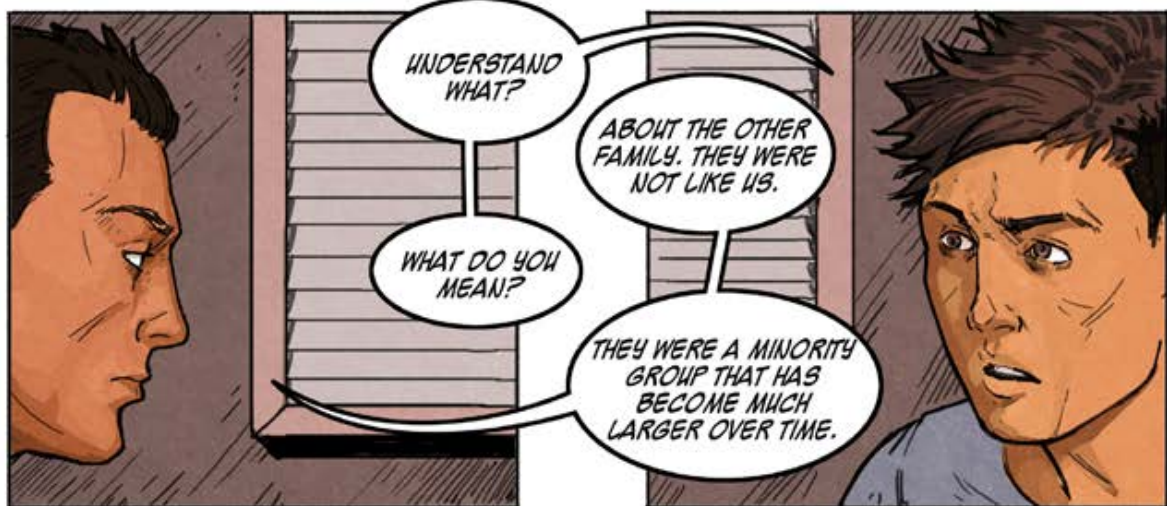


FROM OVER 100 YEARS AGO?

OLD IDEAS NEVER DIE HARD.

WHO EVEN REMEMBERS THIS STUFF?

SOMEBODY DID AND YOU NEED TO UNDERSTAND.



UNDERSTAND WHAT?

ABOUT THE OTHER FAMILY. THEY WERE NOT LIKE US.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

THEY WERE A MINORITY GROUP THAT HAS BECOME MUCH LARGER OVER TIME.



YOU MEAN LIKE THE HISPANICS, OR ASIANS, OR BLACKS? WE HANDLED THIS TYPE OF PROBLEM BEFORE. AN EYE FOR AN EYE OR MAKE AN OFFER.



THIS IS DIFFERENT.

HOW?

THIS GROUP ONLY WANTS BLOOD.





YOUR GREAT GRANDMOTHER WAS A BEAUTIFUL GIRL WITH MANY SUITORS IN HER DAY...



...BUT HER FATHER WAS VERY PICKY ABOUT WHO SHE SHOULD BE WITH.

SHE RAN AWAY WITH A YOUNG BOY WHO SEDUCED HER AND PROMISED HER THE WORLD.



IT WAS ONLY AFTER THAT SHE FOUND OUT.



FOUND OUT WHAT?



NO...



