

RESISTANCE

BOOK 1



First Second

New York & London

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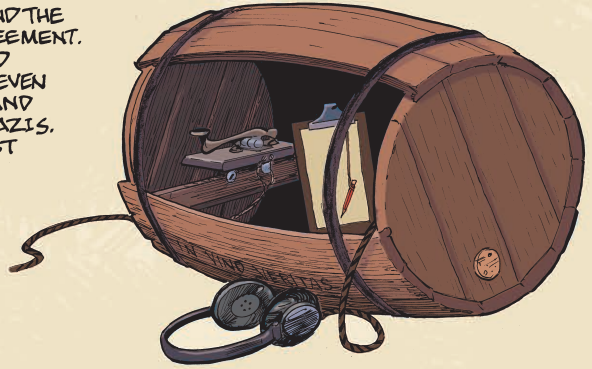
Hilary Sycamore

:01
First Second

WORLD WAR II BEGAN ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1939, WITH THE INVASION OF POLAND BY NAZI GERMANY AND RUSSIA. BUT IT WAS NOT UNTIL 1940 THAT THE GERMANS INVADIED FRANCE. THE FRENCH WERE FORCED TO SURRENDER WITHIN WEEKS.

ON JUNE 22, 1940, THE FRENCH AND THE GERMANS SIGNED AN ARMISTICE AGREEMENT. THE FRENCH WOULD STOP FIGHTING AND AGREE TO GERMAN DEMANDS. NOT EVEN A YEAR HAD PASSED SINCE FRANCE AND BRITAIN DECLARED WAR ON THE NAZIS. BUT FRANCE COULDN'T WIN AGAINST THE GERMAN ARMY.

FRANCE WAS DIVIDED INTO TWO ZONES: OCCUPIED, WHERE THE GERMANS WERE IN CHARGE, AND THE FREE, RUN BY THE NEW FRENCH GOVERNMENT, NOW IN VICHY.



THERE WERE MANY REASONS TO AGREE TO THIS PLAN. FRANCE WAS STILL RECOVERING FROM THE DEADLY BATTLES OF WORLD WAR I. IT SEEMED AS IF THE GERMANS WOULD WIN THIS SECOND WAR AND TO GIVE IN NOW, SOME BELIEVED, WOULD PROTECT FRANCE FOR THE FUTURE. ALSO, MANY OF THE FRENCH AGREED WITH NAZI IDEAS, OR WANTED A CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT, AND THERE WERE PEOPLE WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES TO MAKE MONEY.

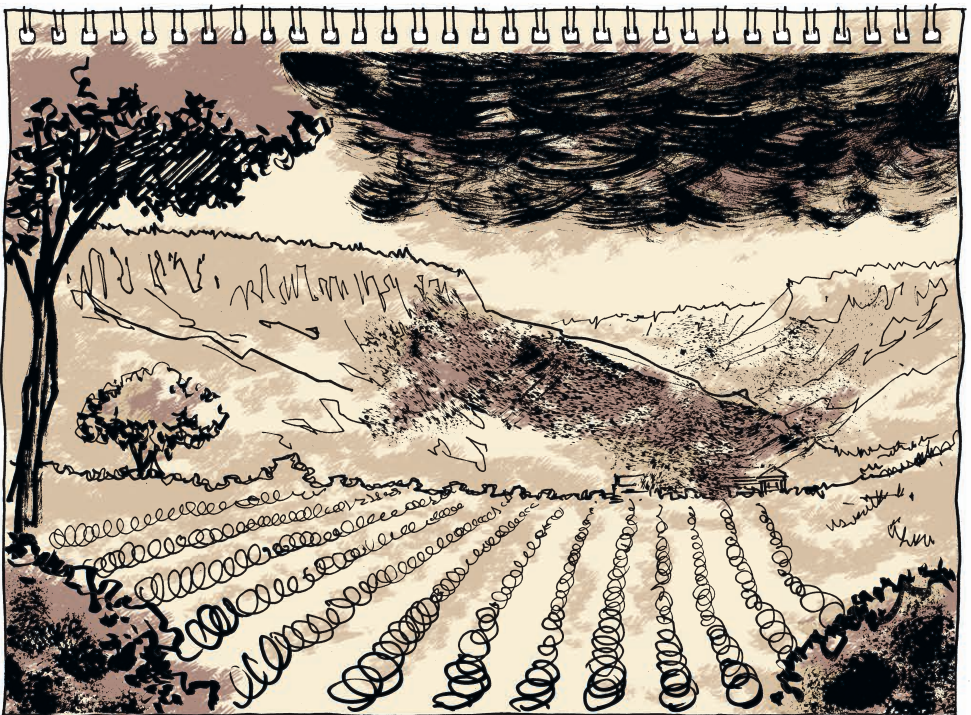


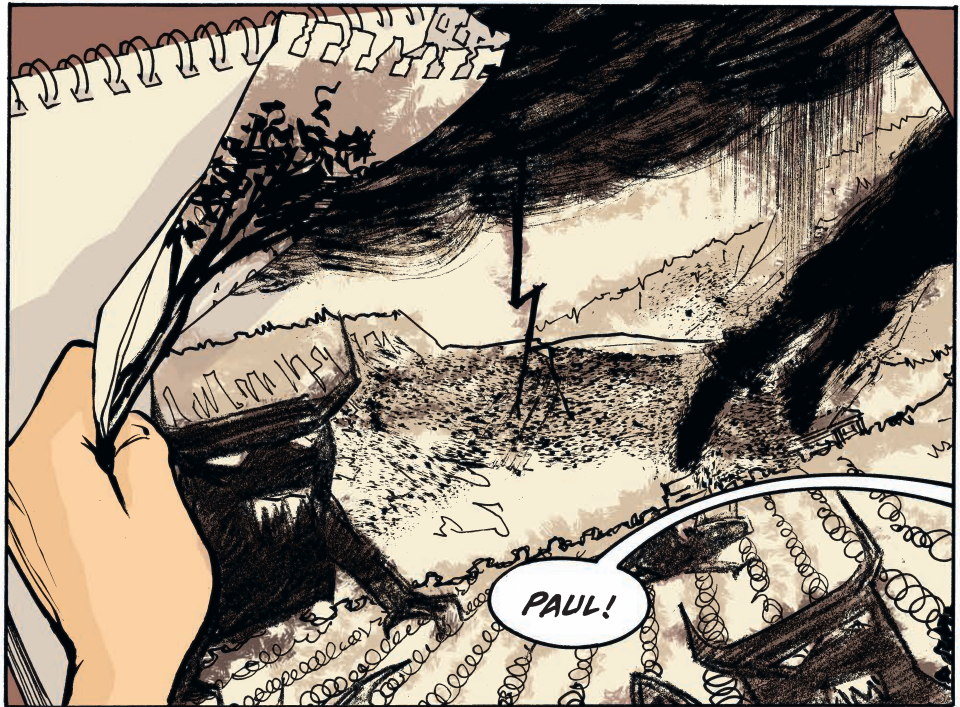
BUT THERE WERE THOUSANDS (SOME SAY TENS OF THOUSANDS) OF FRENCH MEN, WOMEN AND EVEN CHILDREN WHO RESISTED IN WAYS LARGE AND SMALL FROM THE BEGINNING. THEY JOINED WELL-ORGANIZED NETWORKS OR SIMPLY ACTED ON THEIR OWN.

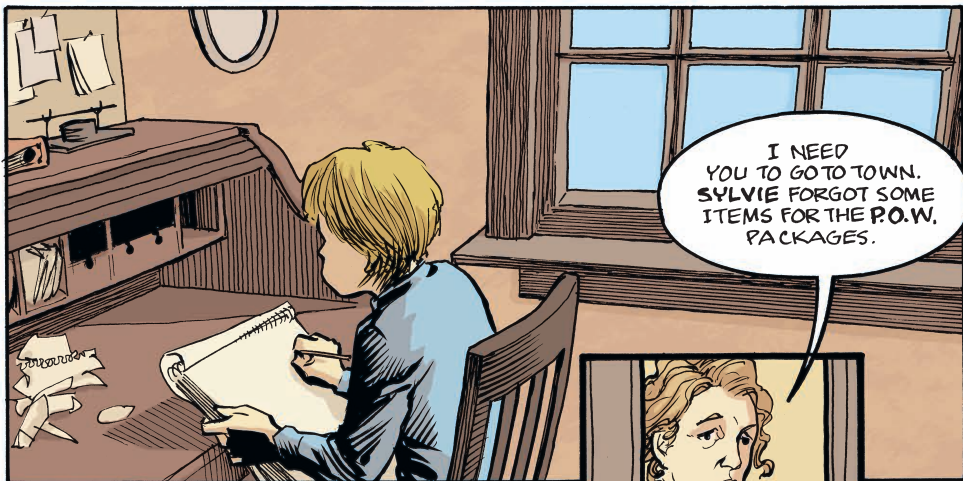
IN THE OCCUPIED ZONE, LIFE WAS SEVERELY RESTRICTED. CURFEWS, RATIONS, ROUND-UPS, ARRESTS, SEARCHES, AND EVEN TORTURE BECAME A WAY OF LIFE. THERE WERE GERMAN SOLDIERS EVERYWHERE. IN THE SOUTHERN "FREE" ZONE THERE WERE STILL SHORTAGES. STILL GERMANS PRESENT, BUT PEOPLE WERE NOT LIVING WITH THE SAME LEVEL OF FEAR AS THOSE NORTH OF THE DEMARCATION LINE. THEY WERE LIVING IN DEFEAT, BUT NOT LIVING UNDER OCCUPATION.

UNTIL 1942.









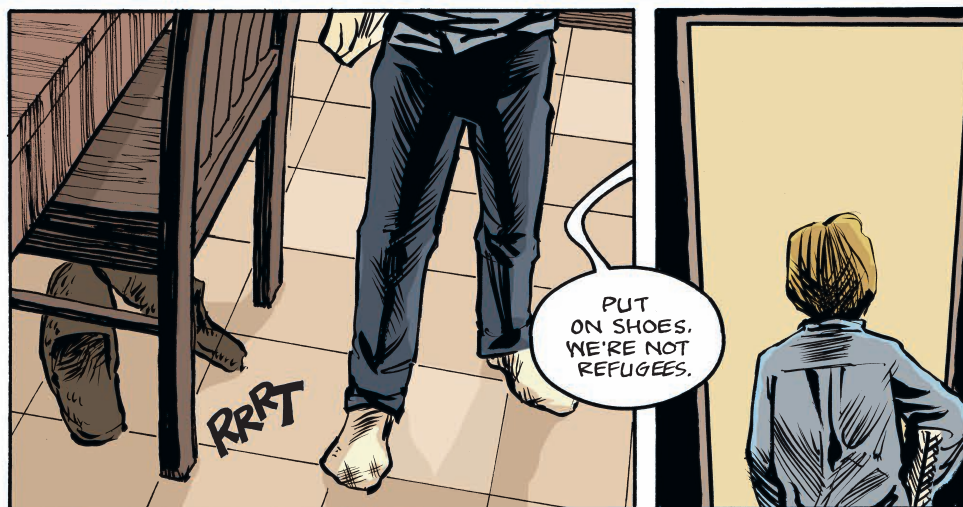
I NEED YOU TO GO TO TOWN. SYLVIE FORGOT SOME ITEMS FOR THE P.O.W. PACKAGES.



STOP BY THE LEVY'S. MAKE SURE MARIE ISN'T MAKING A PEST OF HERSELF.

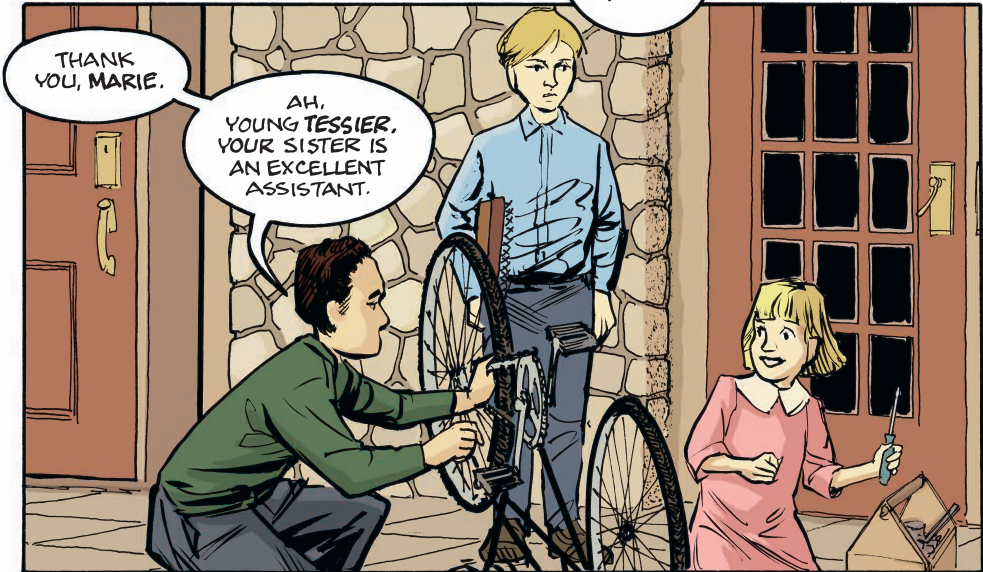
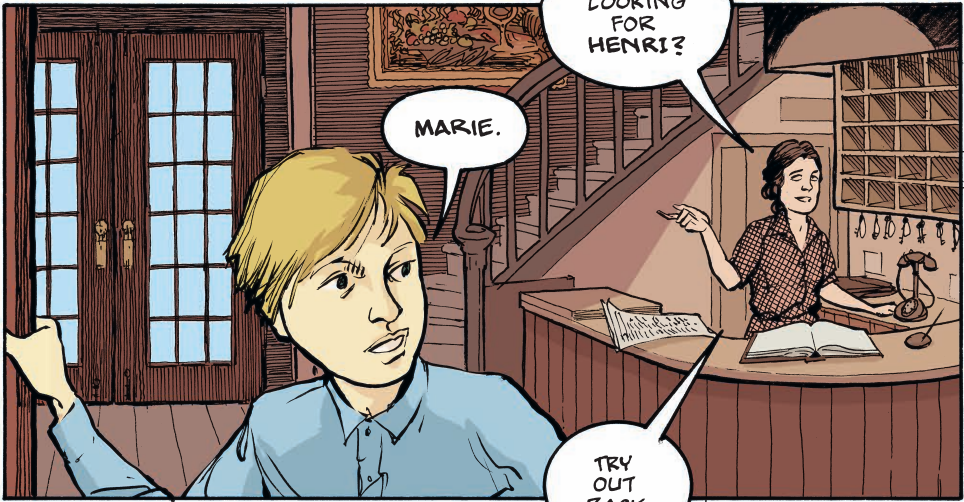
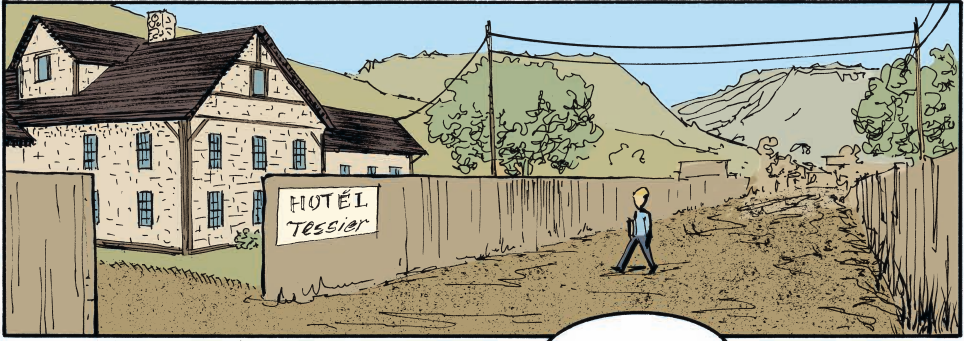
SO SHE CAN PESTER ME INSTEAD?

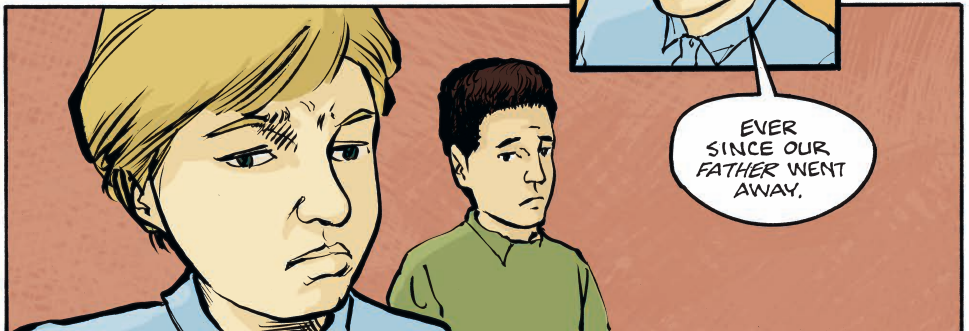
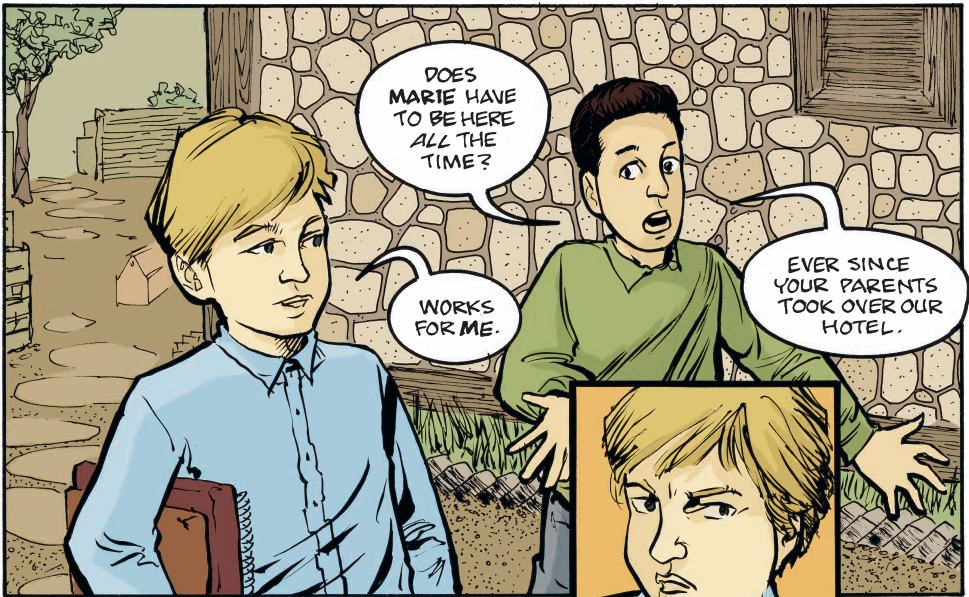
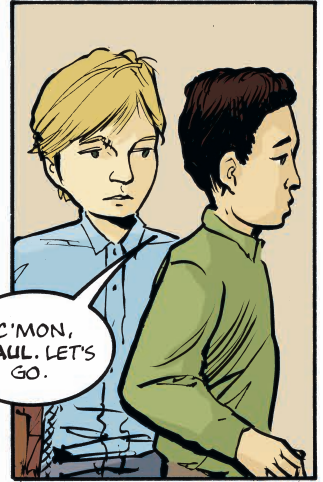
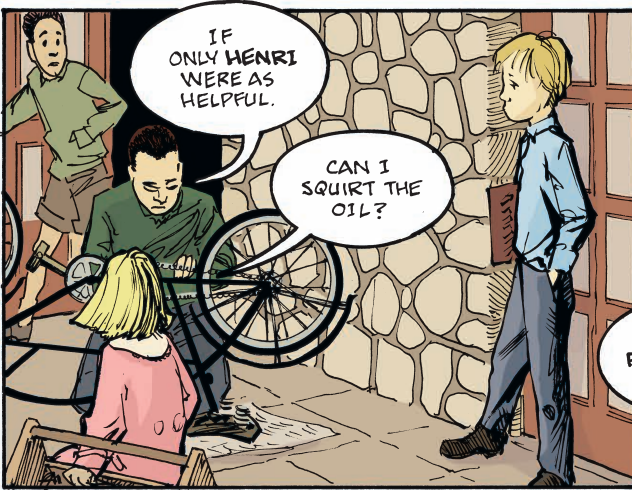
PAUL.

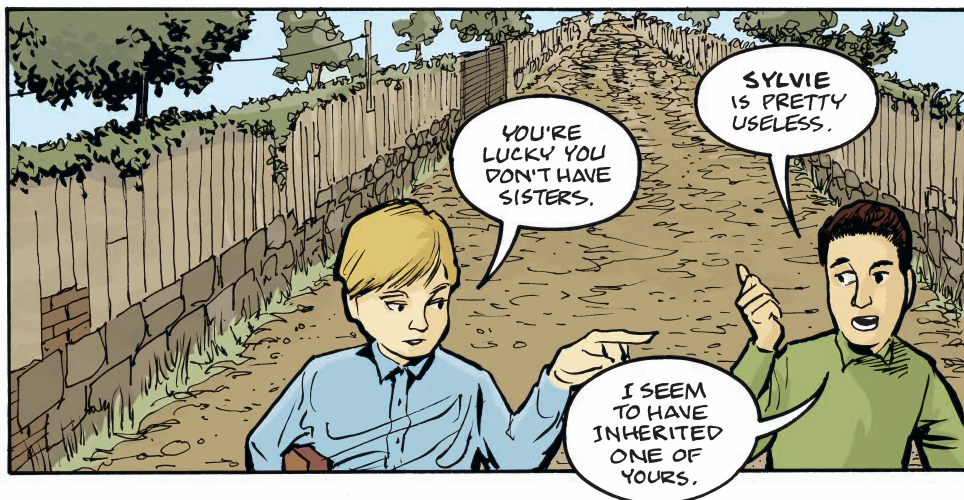
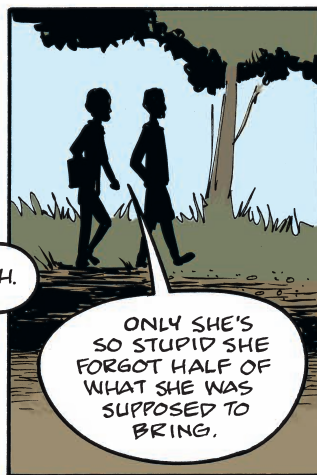
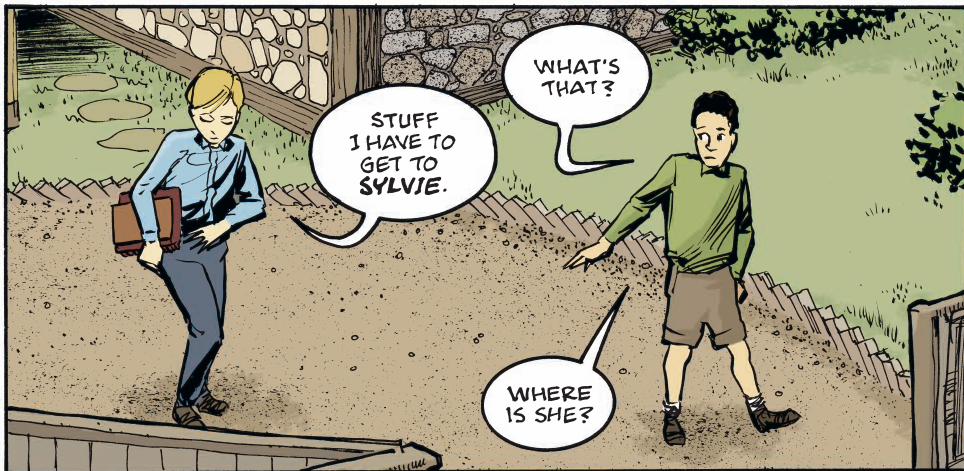


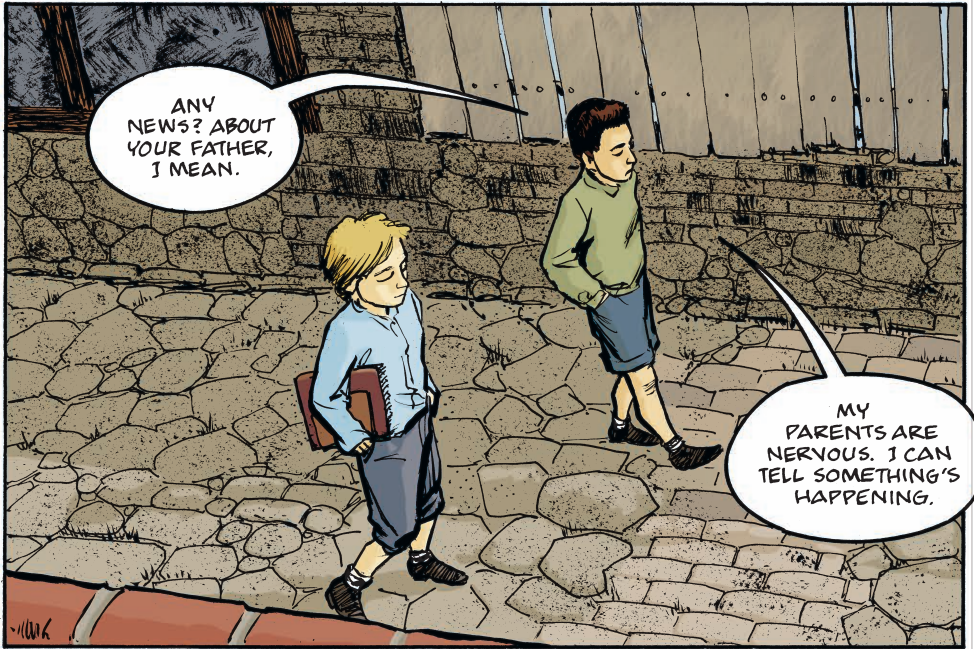
PUT ON SHOES. WE'RE NOT REFUGEES.

RRRT









ANY NEWS? ABOUT YOUR FATHER, I MEAN.

MY PARENTS ARE NERVOUS. I CAN TELL SOMETHING'S HAPPENING.



SOMETHING ALREADY HAPPENED.

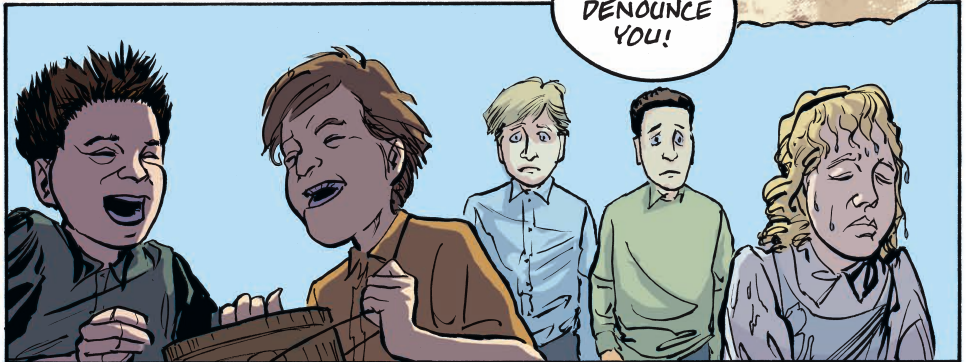
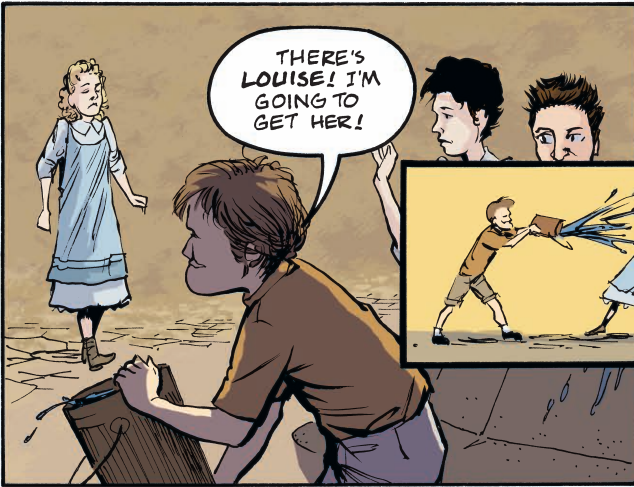


SOMETHING MORE. YOU DON'T KNOW. YOU'RE NOT JEWISH. YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.

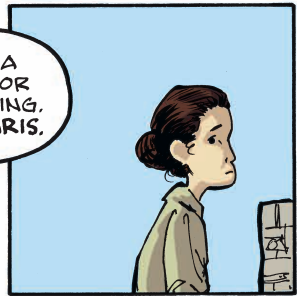
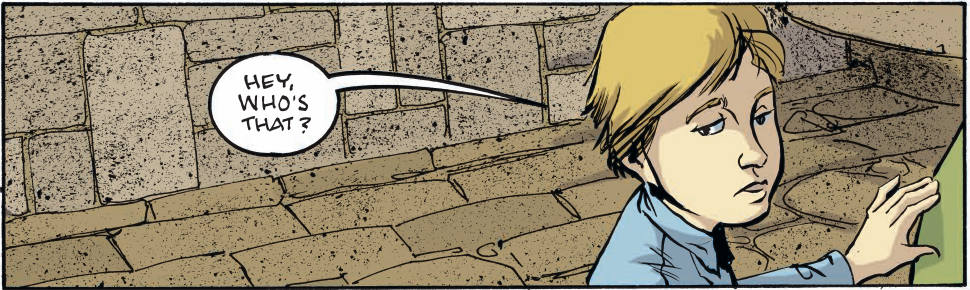
THAT'S RIGHT.

I HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

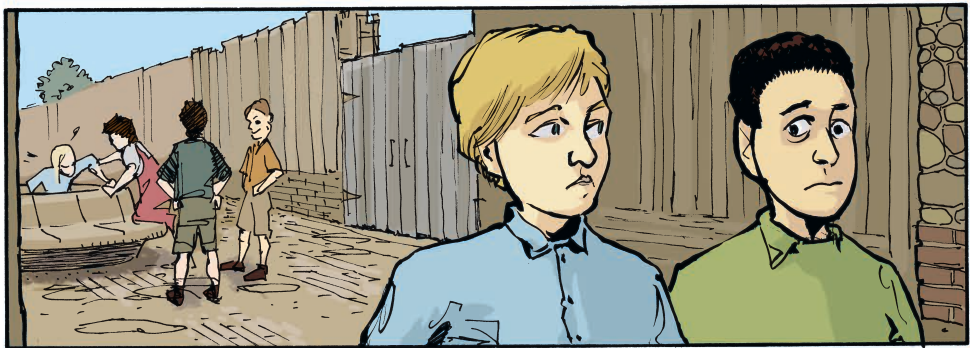
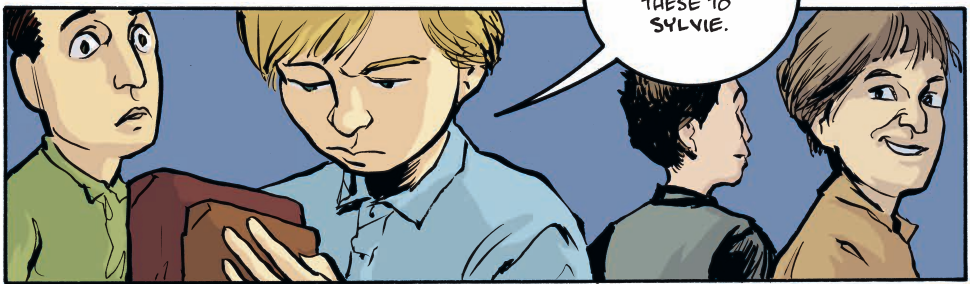
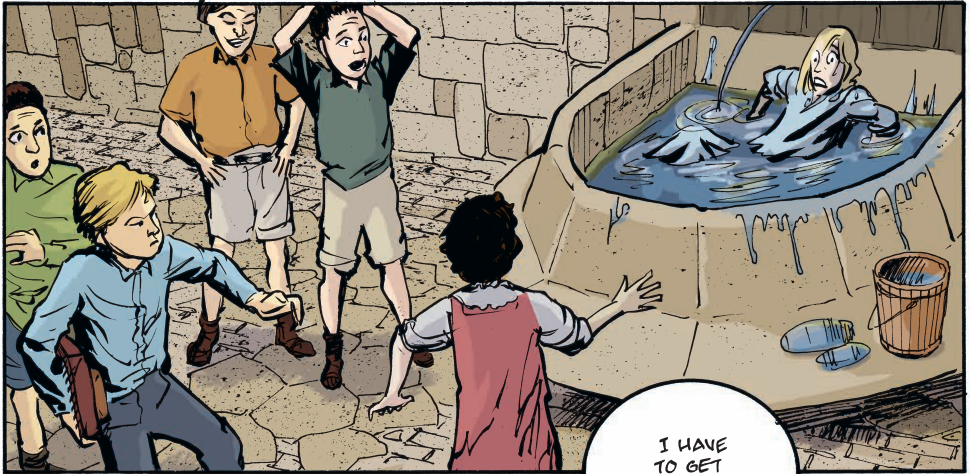


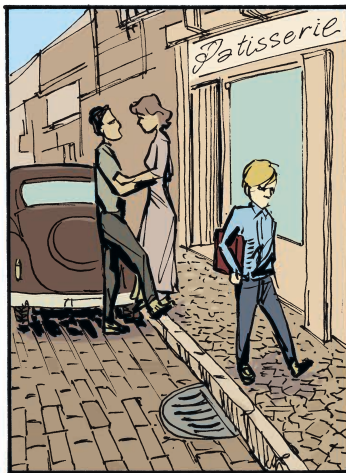
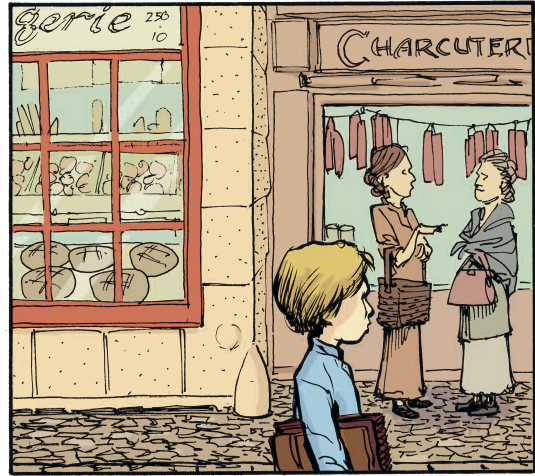


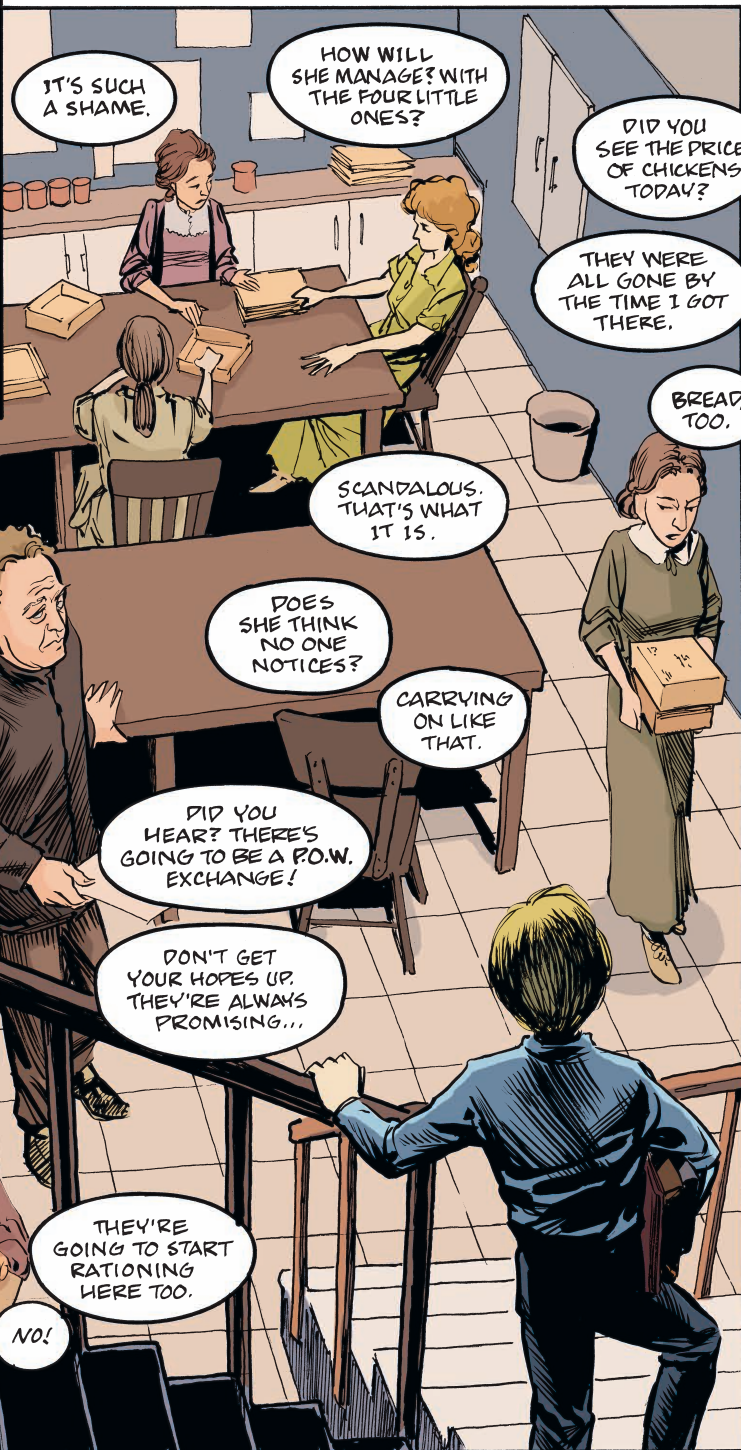
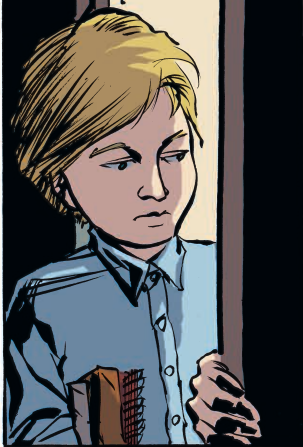












IT'S SUCH A SHAME.

HOW WILL SHE MANAGE? WITH THE FOUR LITTLE ONES?

DID YOU SEE THE PRICE OF CHICKENS TODAY?

THEY WERE ALL GONE BY THE TIME I GOT THERE.

BREAD, TOO.

SCANDALOUS. THAT'S WHAT IT IS.

DOES SHE THINK NO ONE NOTICES?

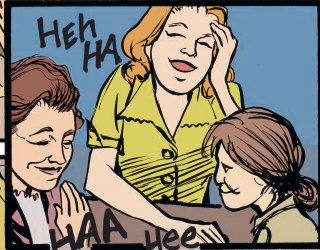
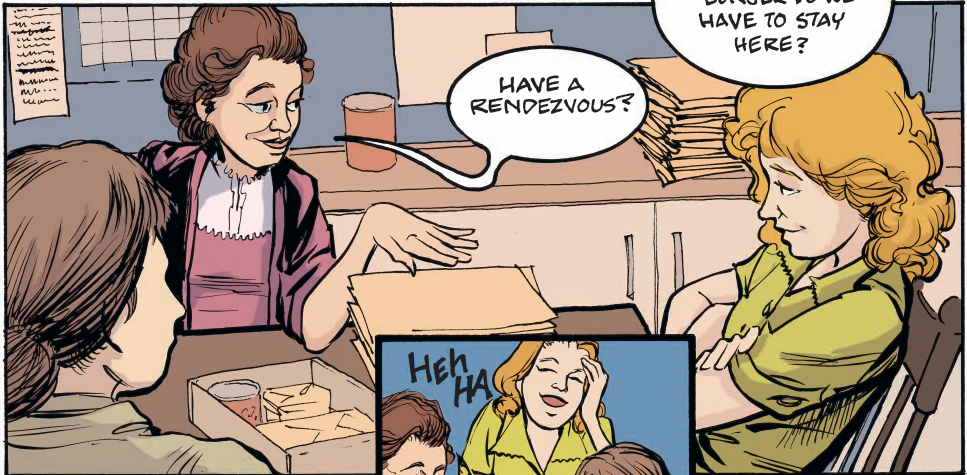
CARRYING ON LIKE THAT.

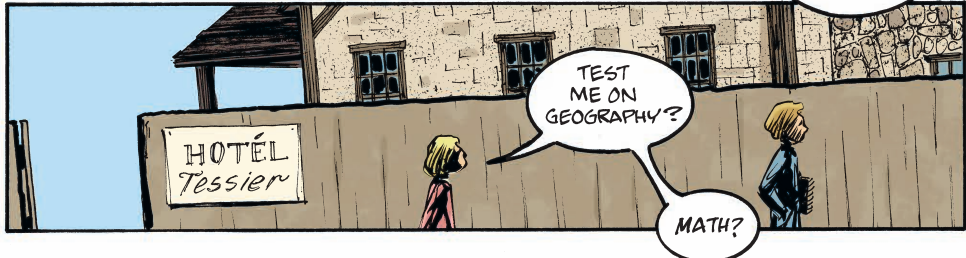
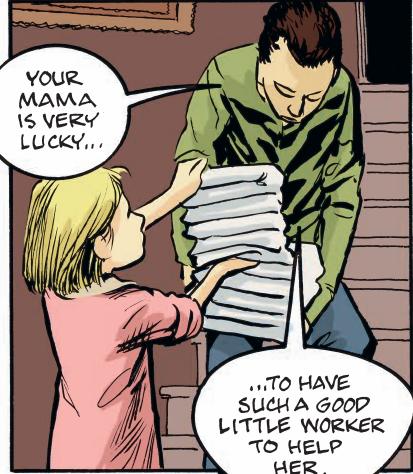
DID YOU HEAR? THERE'S GOING TO BE A P.O.W. EXCHANGE!

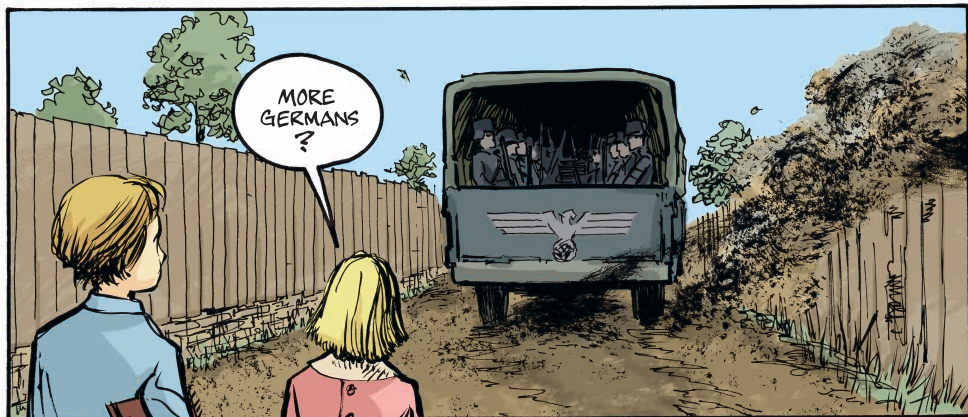
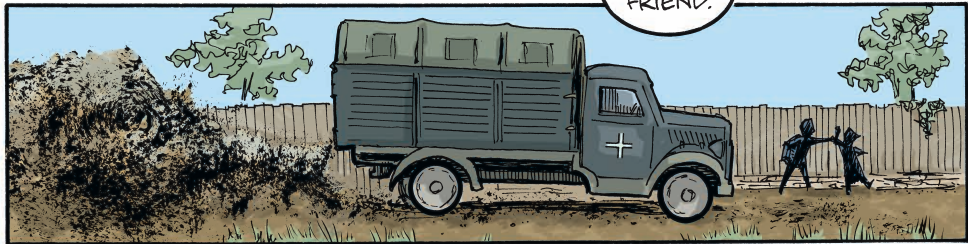
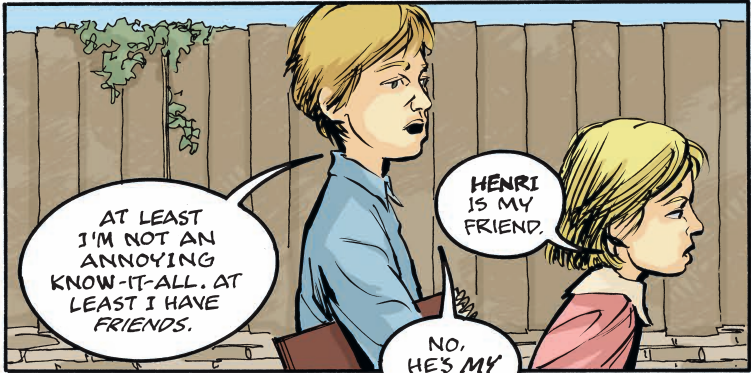
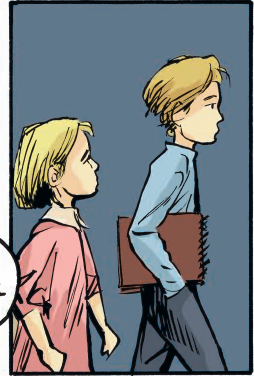
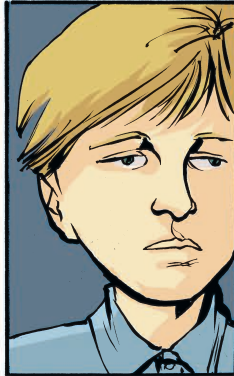
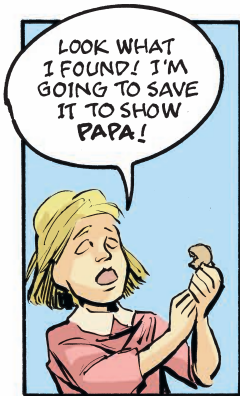
DON'T GET YOUR HOPES UP. THEY'RE ALWAYS PROMISING...

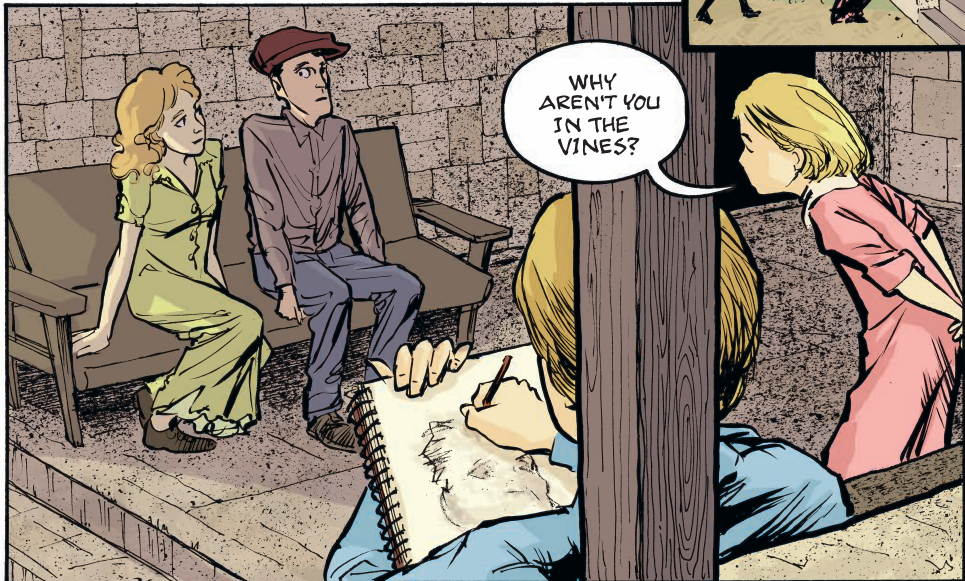
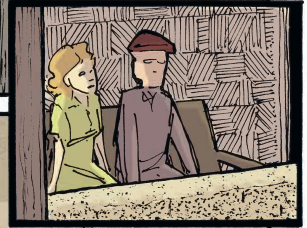
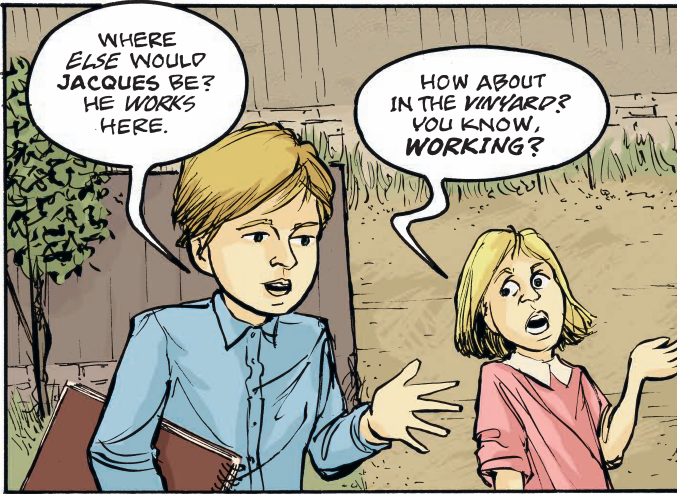
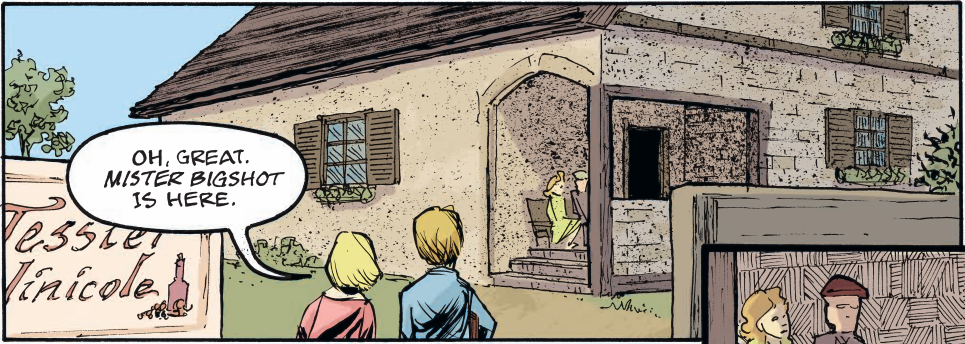
THEY'RE GOING TO START RATIONING HERE TOO.

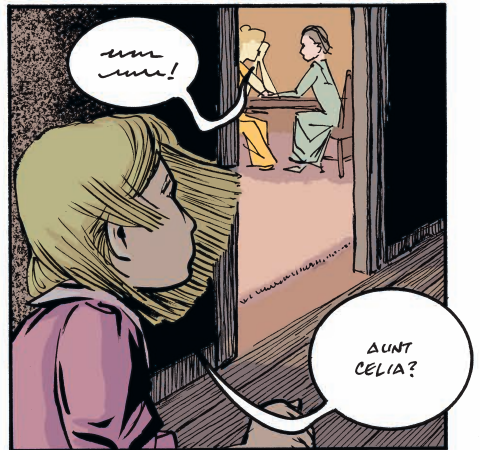
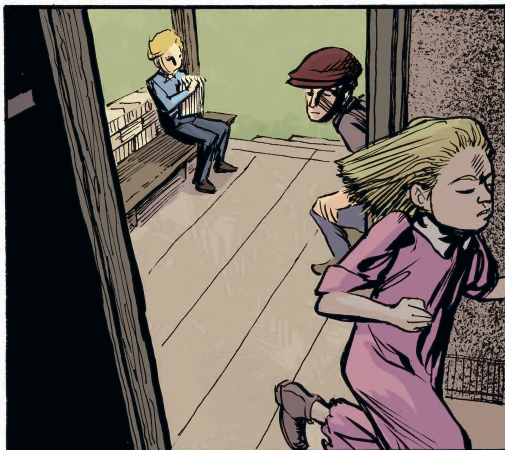
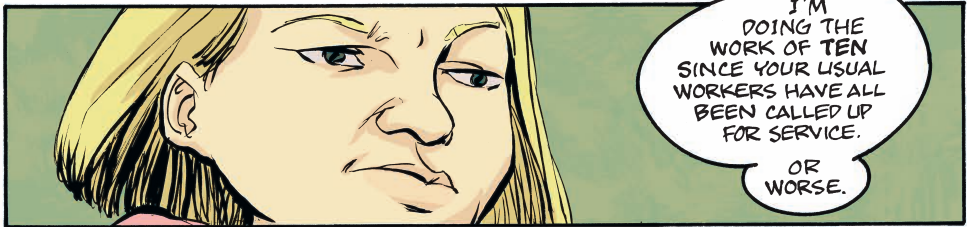
NO!

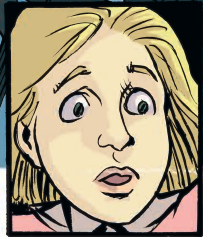
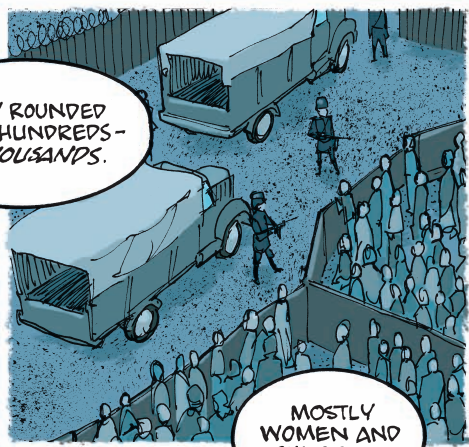
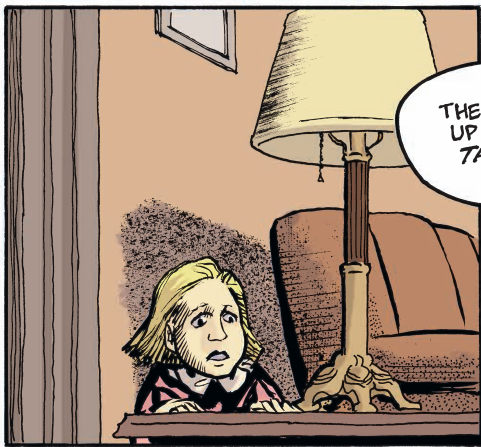
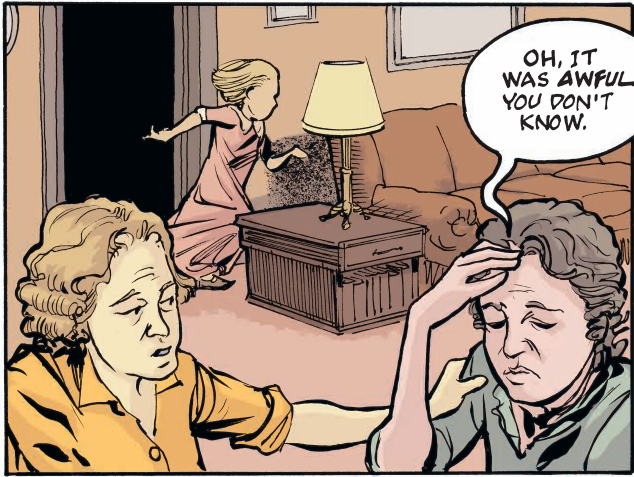


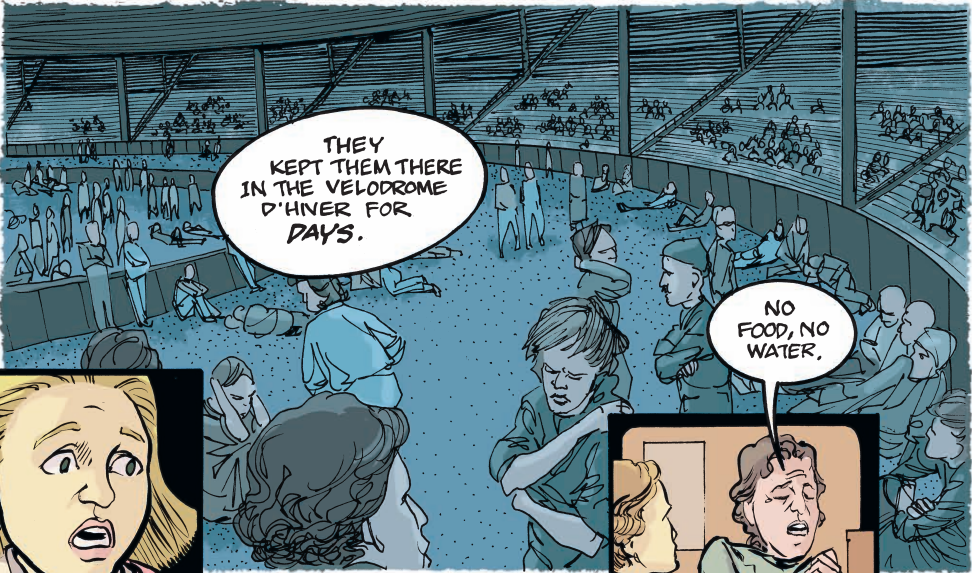






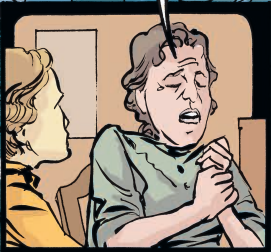




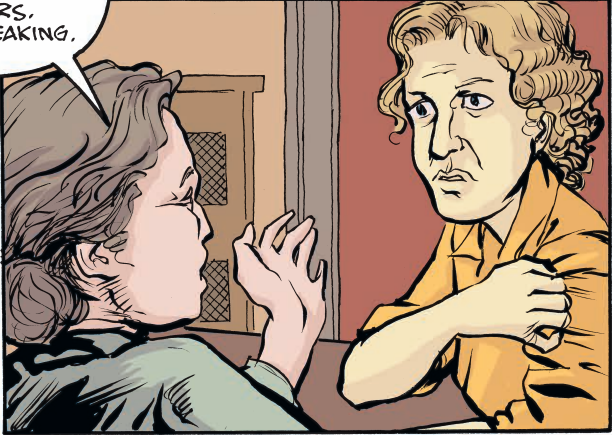


THEY KEPT THEM THERE IN THE VELODROME D'HIVER FOR DAYS.

NO FOOD, NO WATER.

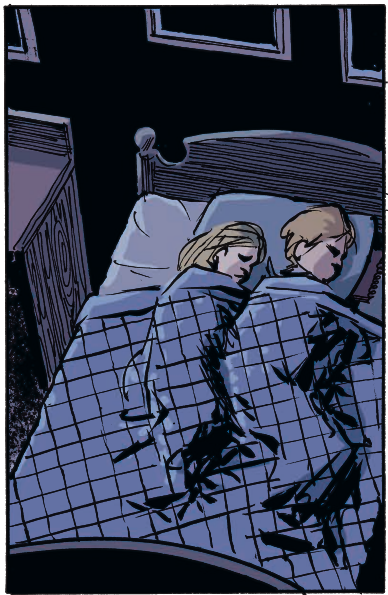
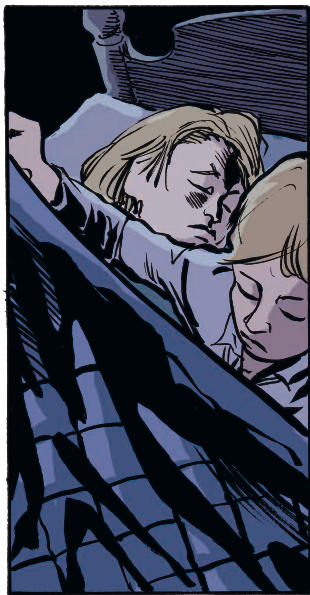
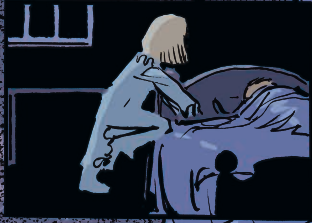


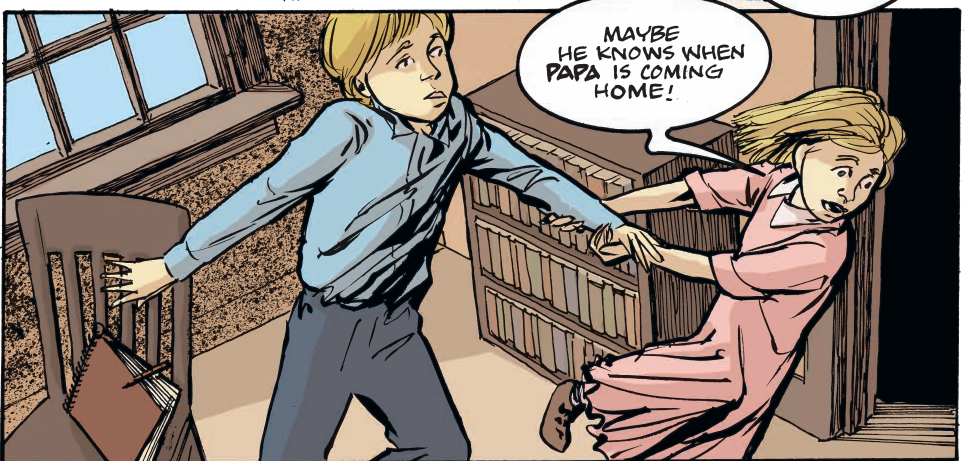
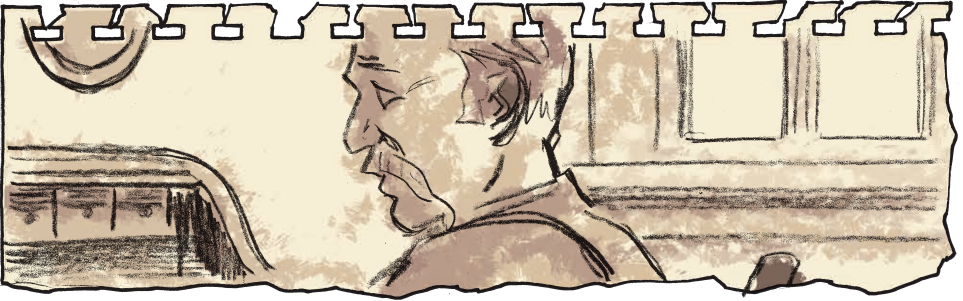
TAKING CHILDREN AWAY FROM THEIR MOTHERS. HEARTBREAKING.

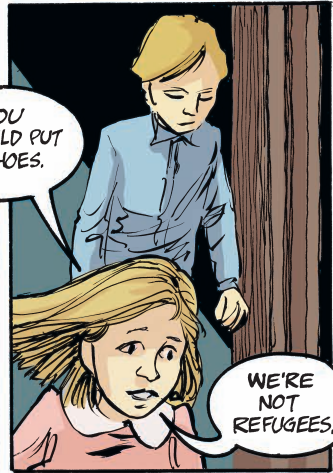
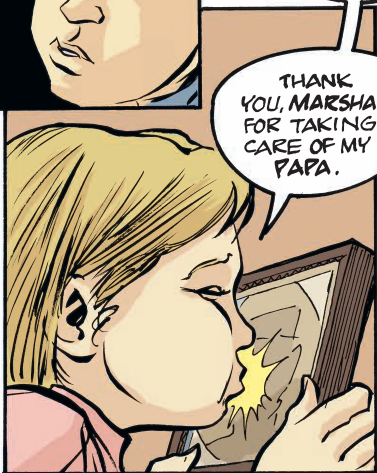
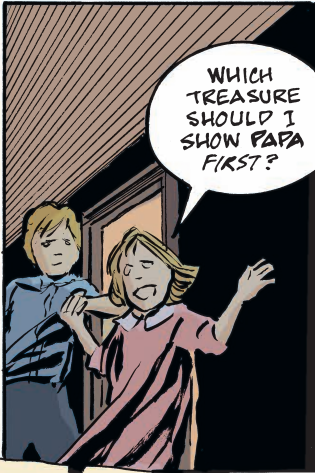


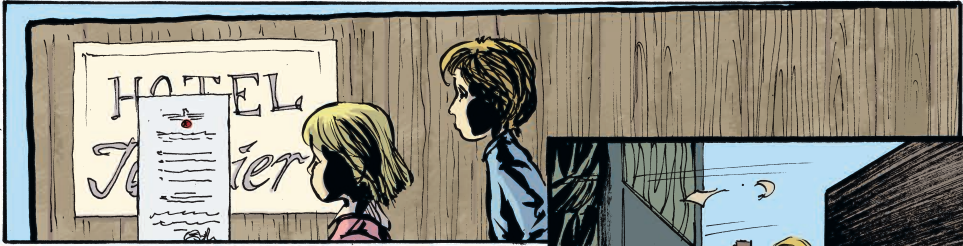


THAT NIGHT...



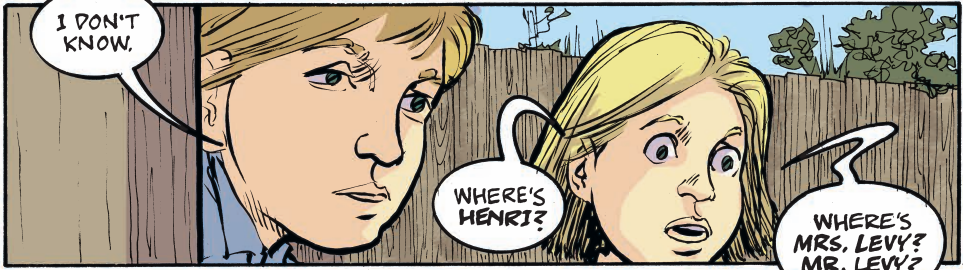






WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

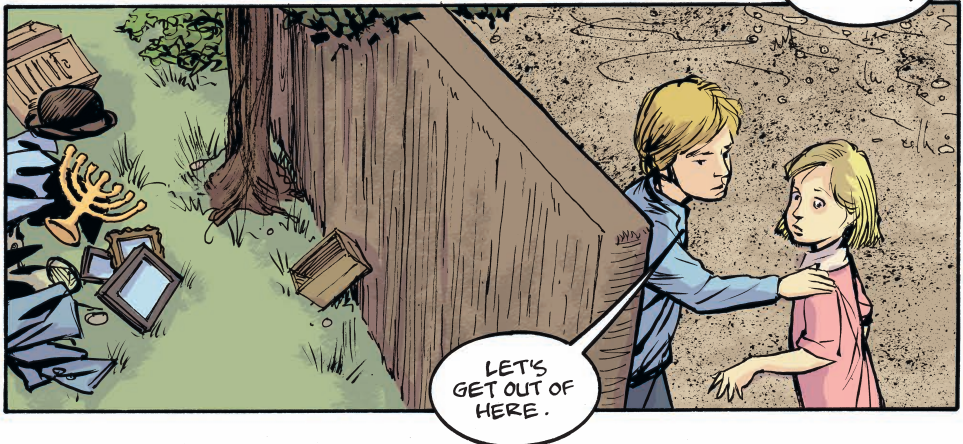
ISN'T THAT OUR HOTEL'S DOES MAMA KNOW?



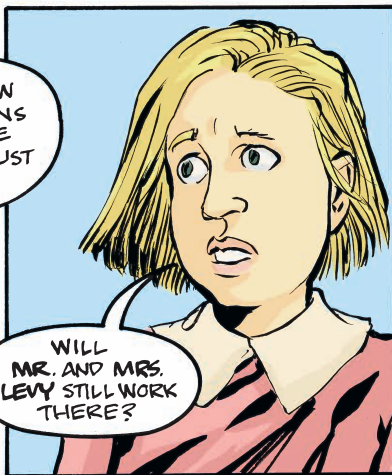
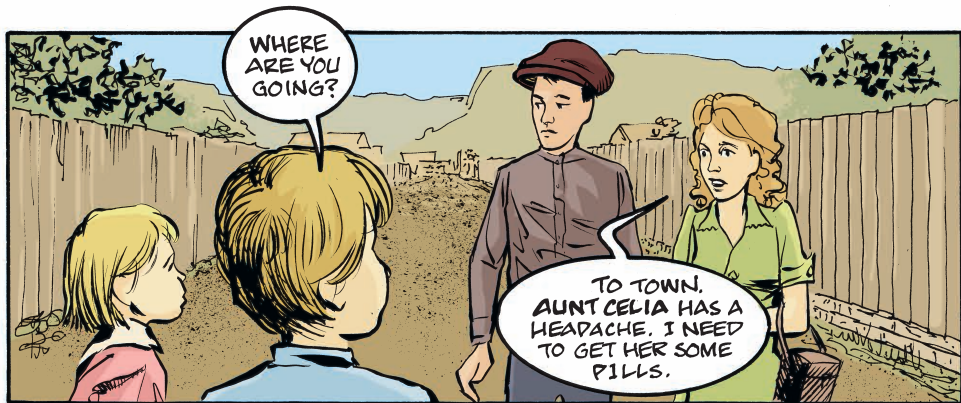
I DON'T KNOW.

WHERE'S HENRI?

WHERE'S MRS. LEVY? MR. LEVY?

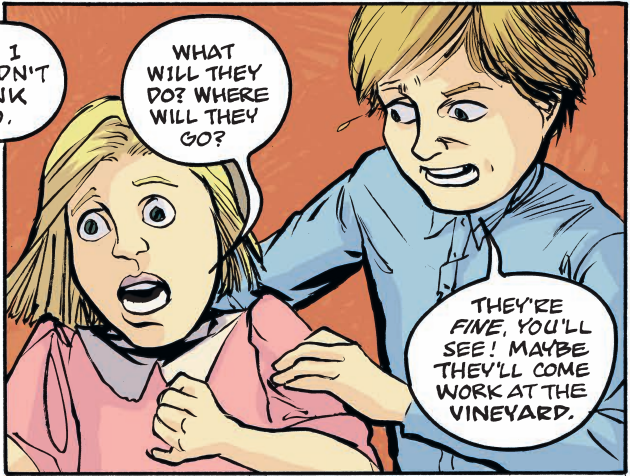


LET'S GET OUT OF HERE.





NO. I WOULDN'T THINK SO.



WHAT WILL THEY DO? WHERE WILL THEY GO?

THEY'RE FINE, YOU'LL SEE! MAYBE THEY'LL COME WORK AT THE VINEYARD.



NO, PAUL, THEY WON'T.



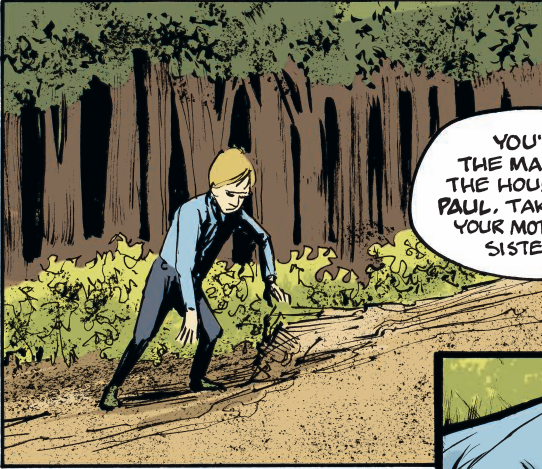
HOW COULD YOU DO THAT?



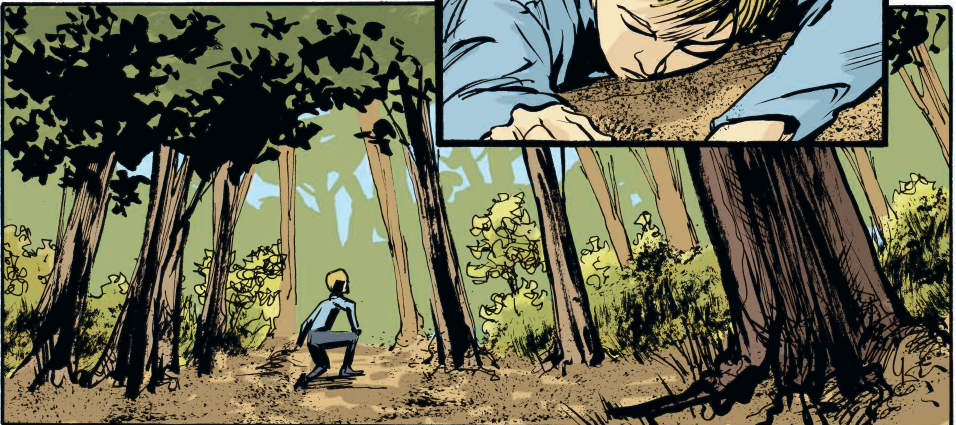
HE TOLD HER THE TRUTH!

WHICH SHE'LL HEAR SOON ENOUGH WITH ALL HER EAVESDROPPING. WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO WHEN SHE FINDS OUT THEY'VE BEEN TAKEN?



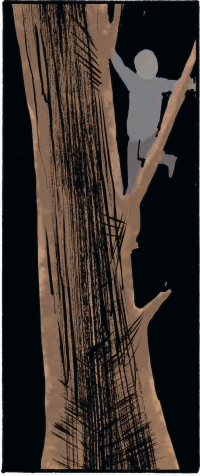


YOU'RE THE MAN OF THE HOUSE NOW, PAUL. TAKE CARE OF YOUR MOTHER AND SISTERS.



MARIE?

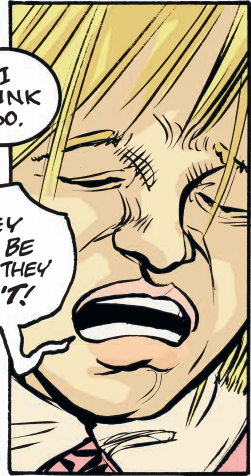




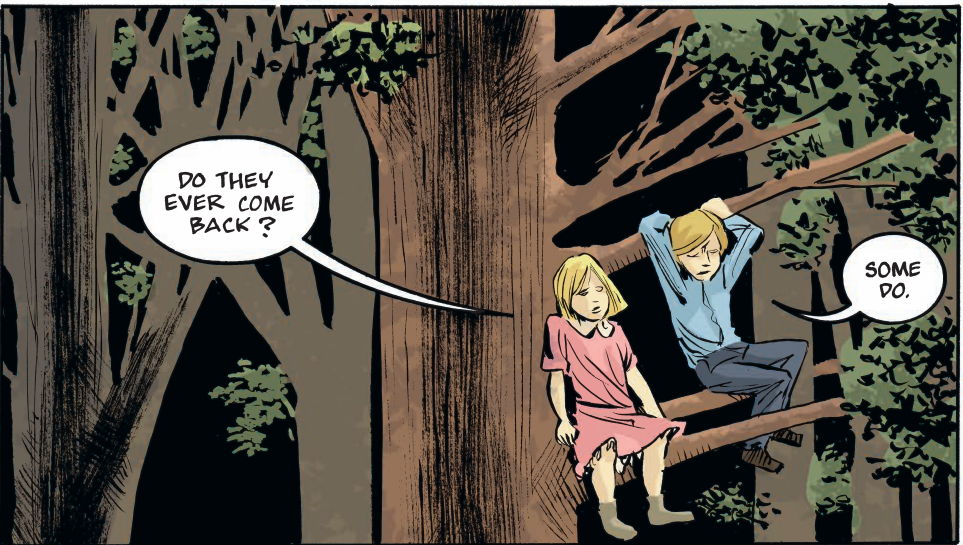
THEY'RE GONE AREN'T THEY?

I THINK SO.

THEY CAN'T BE GONE! THEY CAN'T!

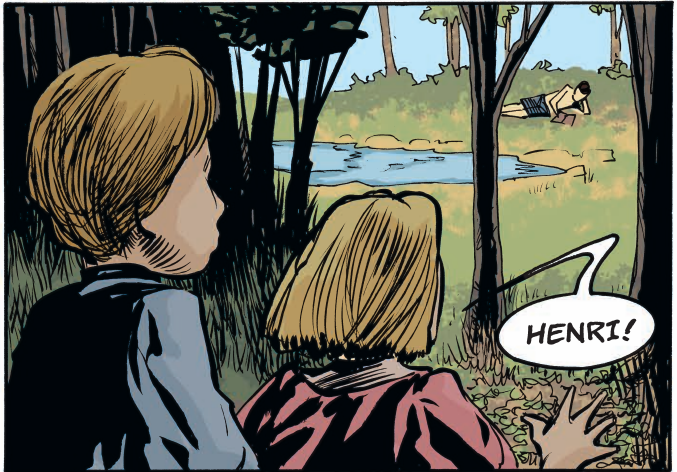
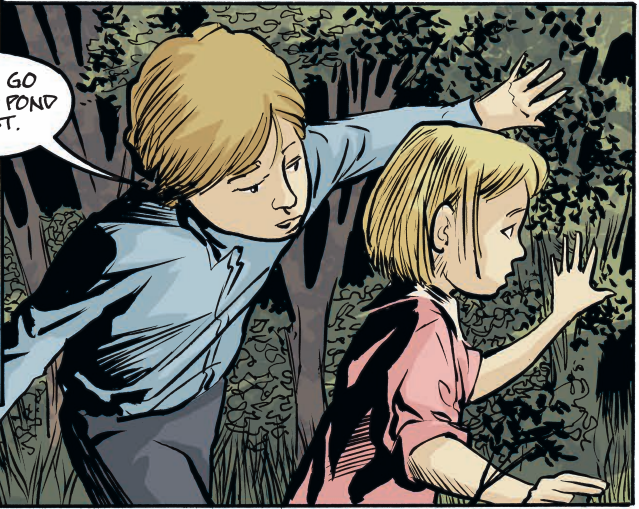
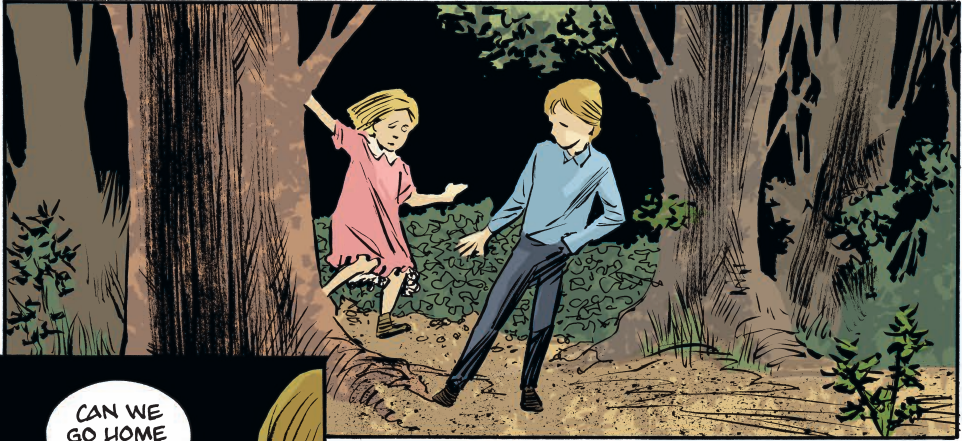


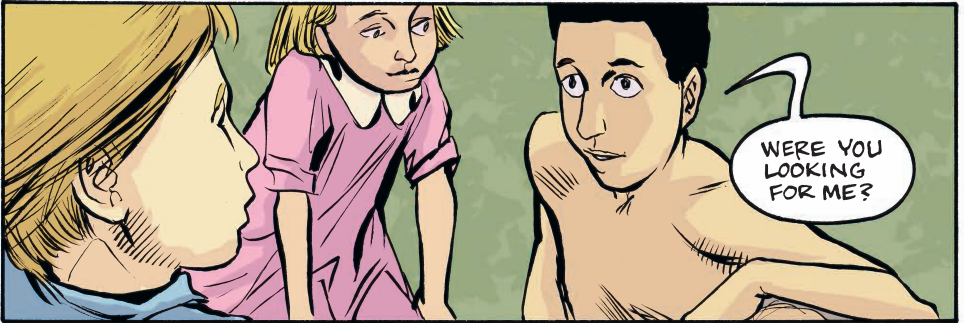
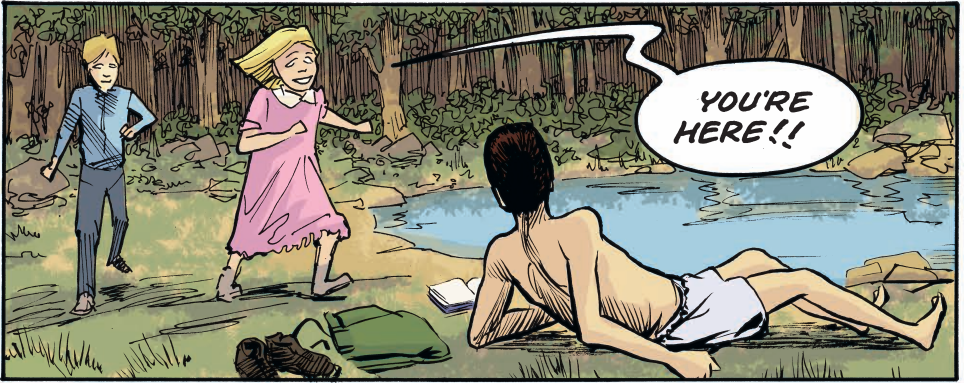
EVERYONE GOES AWAY.

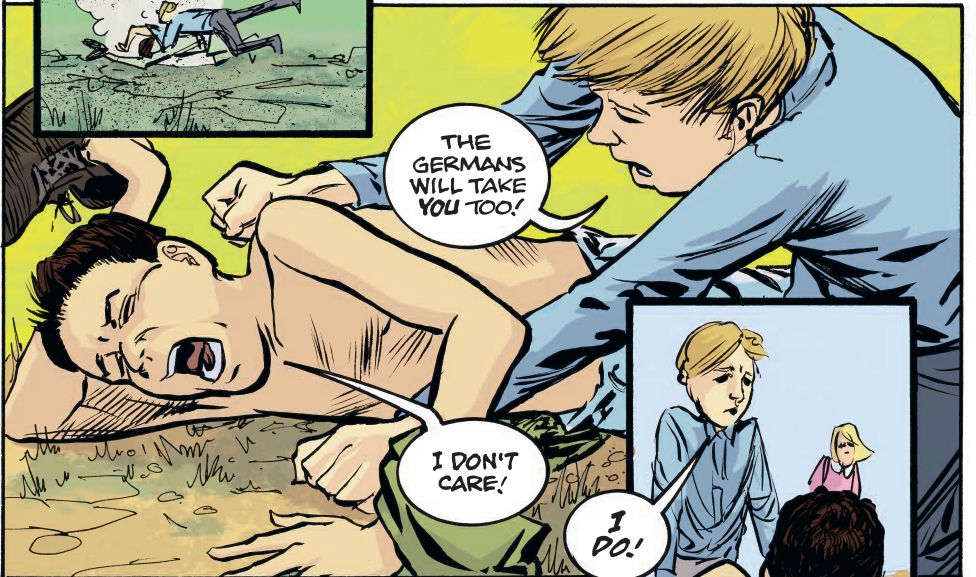
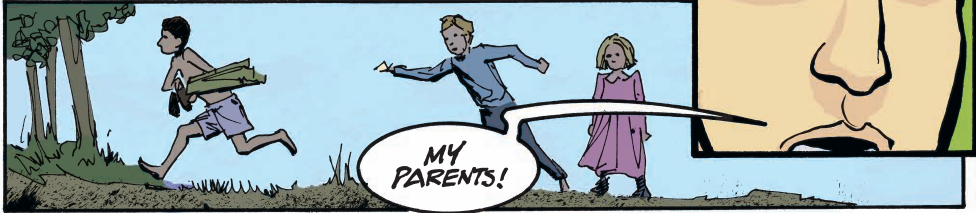
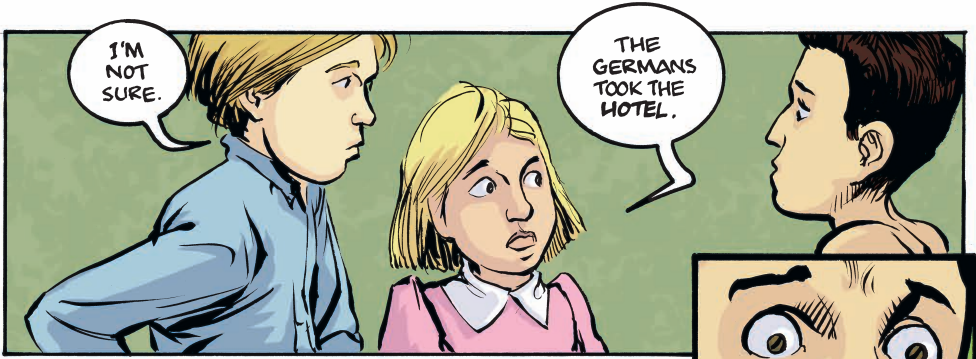


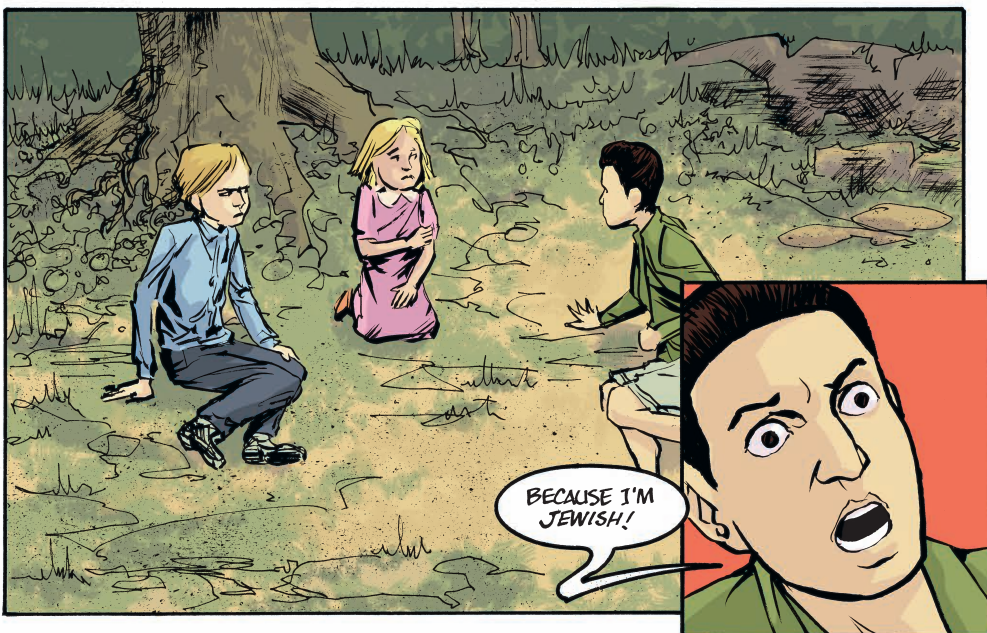
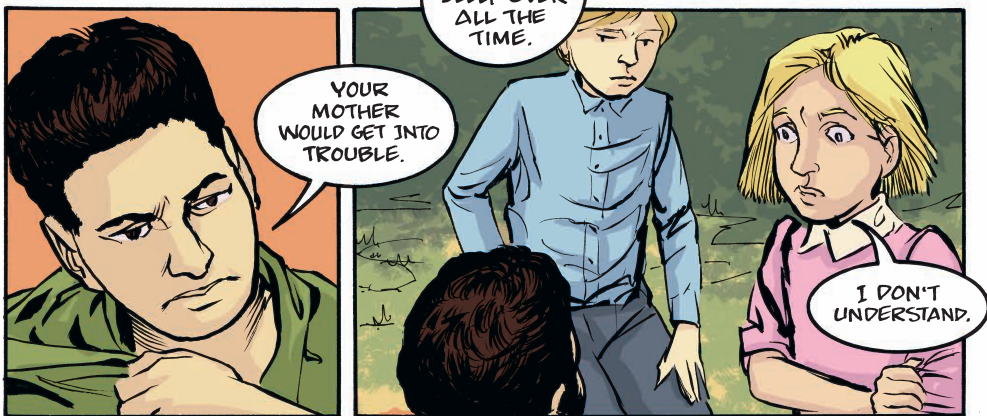
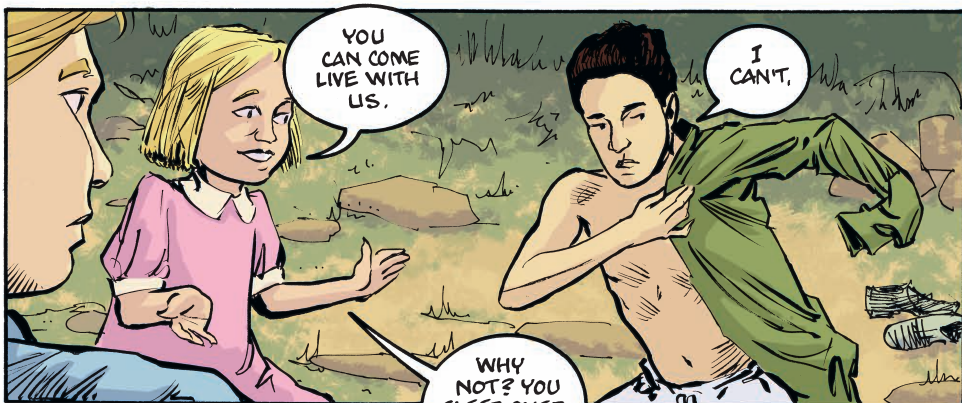
DO THEY EVER COME BACK?

SOME DO.





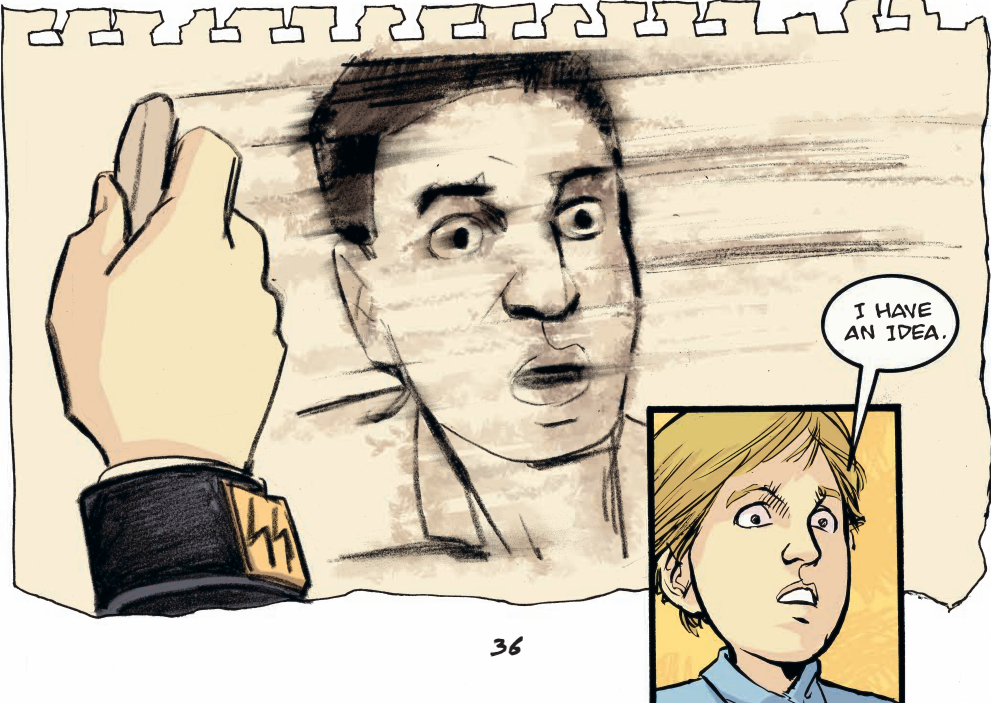






THAT'S STUPID!

I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS HAPPENING!



I HAVE AN IDEA.



YOU HATE THE CAVES.
WHY ARE WE HERE?

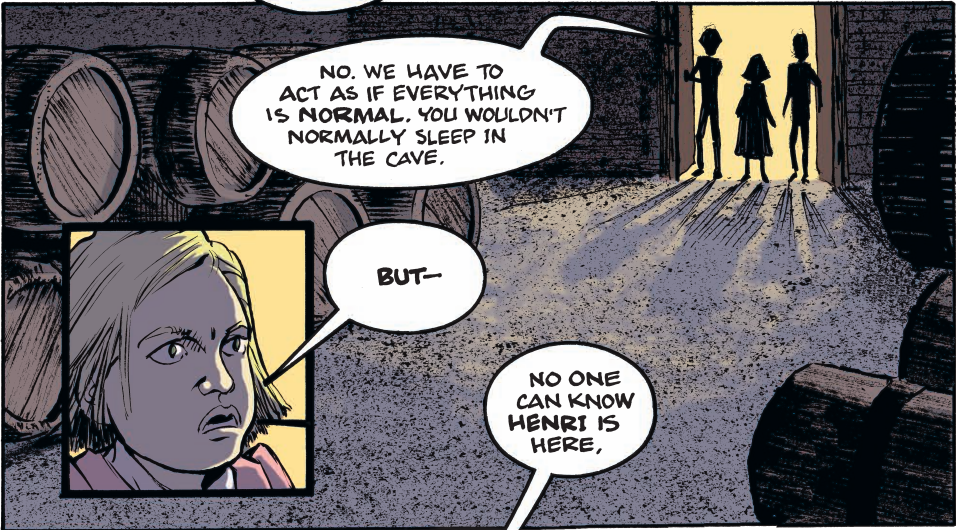
THIS IS WHERE HENRI CAN STAY.



WHAT?

WE'LL BRING YOU EVERYTHING YOU NEED.

I WANT TO STAY HERE TOO!

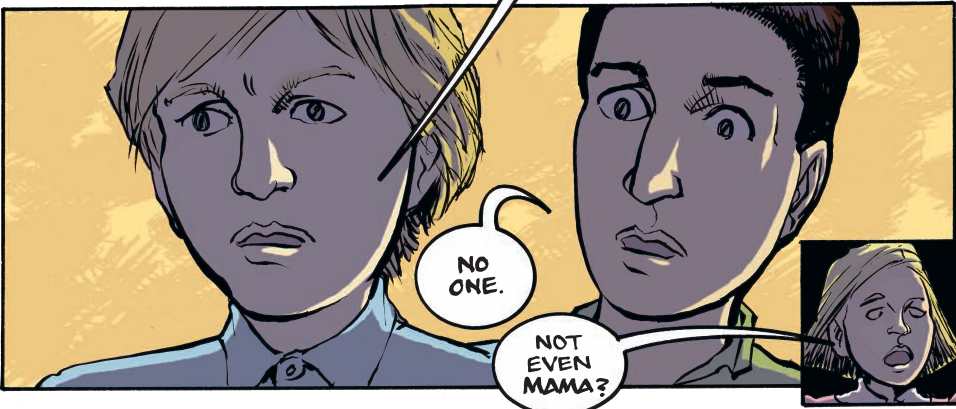


NO. WE HAVE TO ACT AS IF EVERYTHING IS NORMAL. YOU WOULDN'T NORMALLY SLEEP IN THE CAVE.



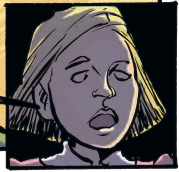
BUT--

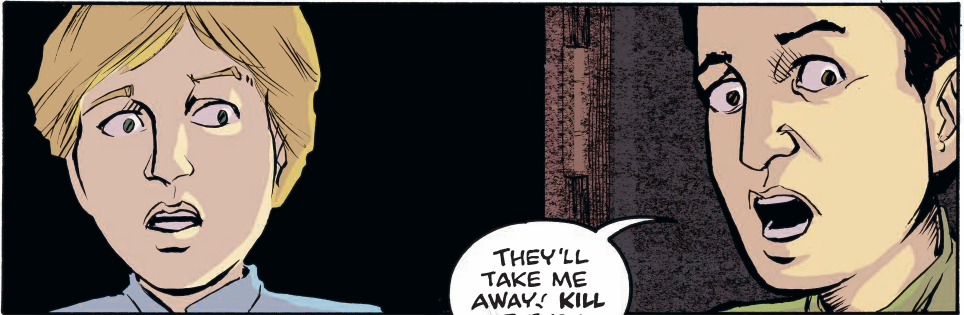
NO ONE CAN KNOW HENRI IS HERE.

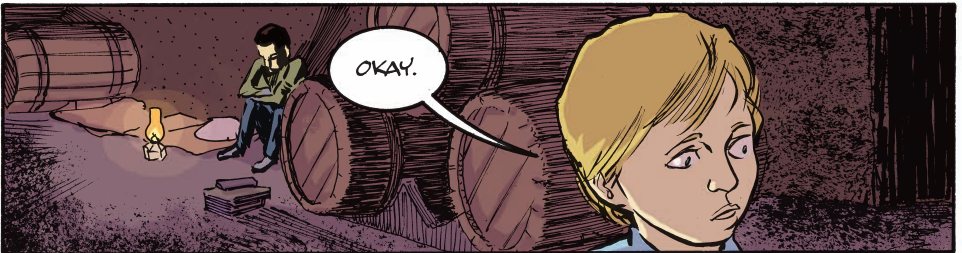
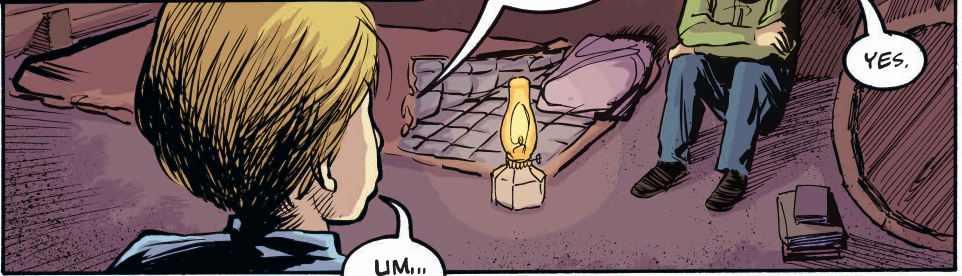
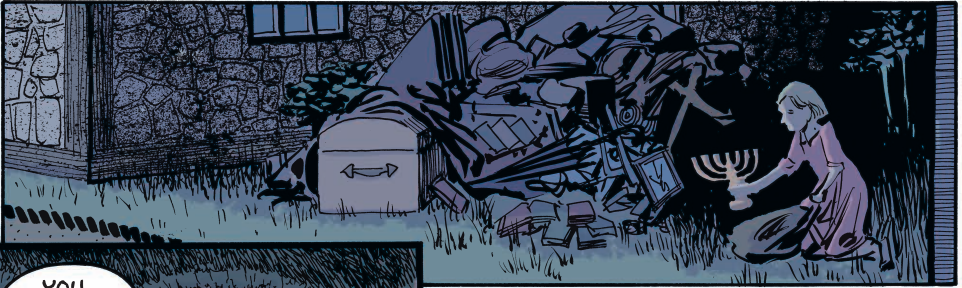


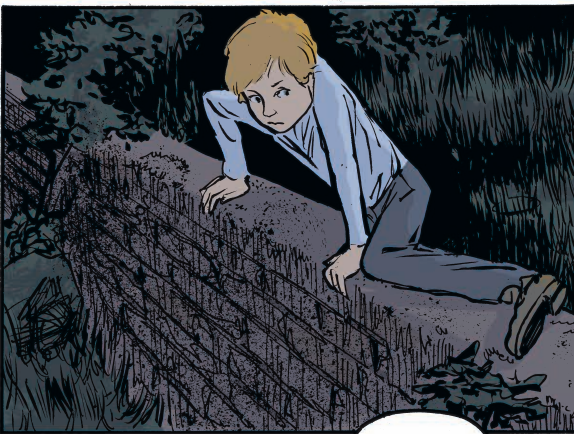
NO ONE.

NOT EVEN MAMA?







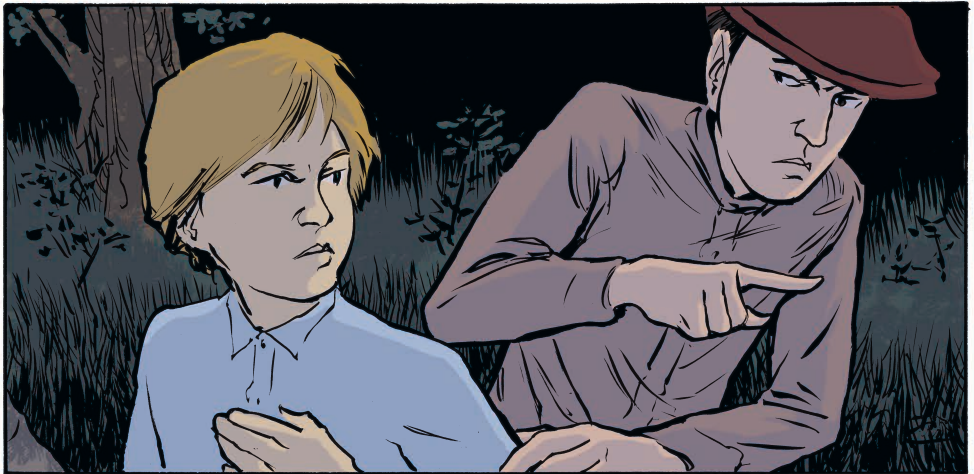


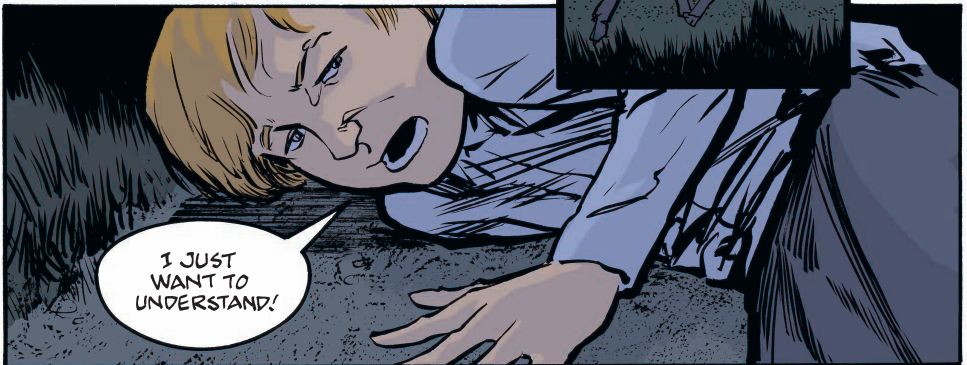
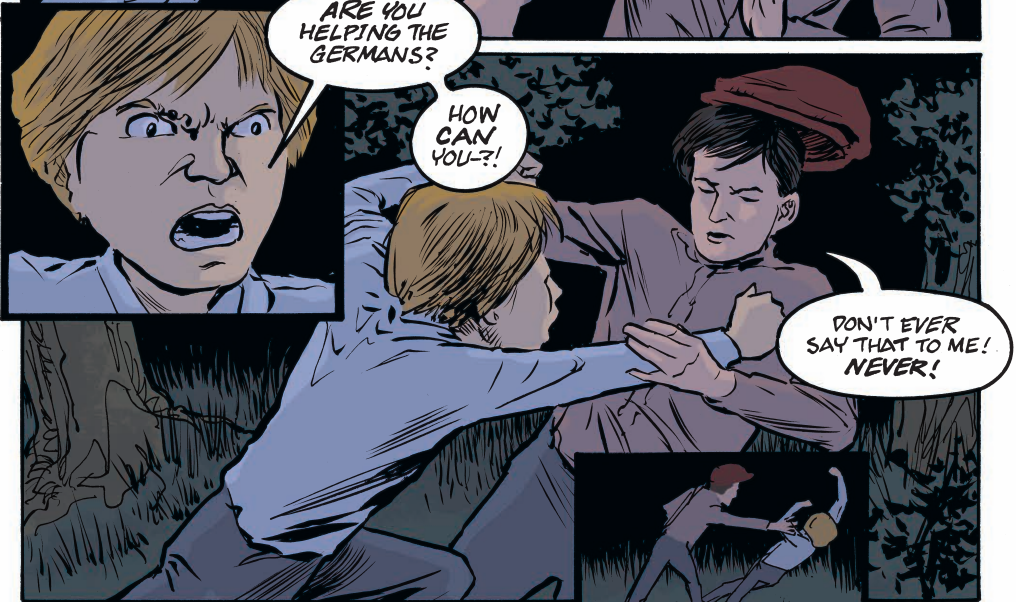
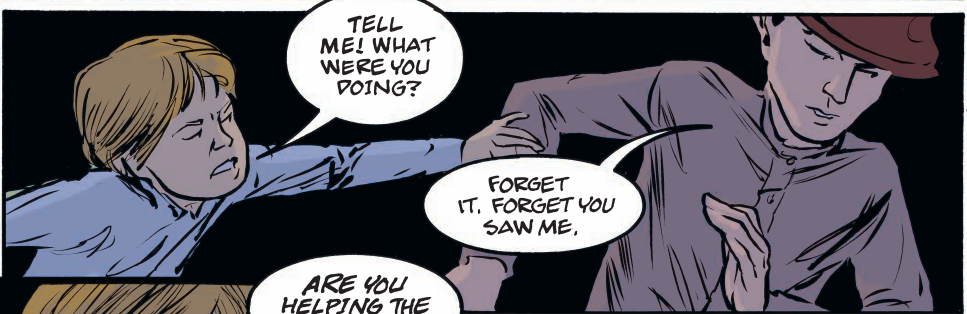
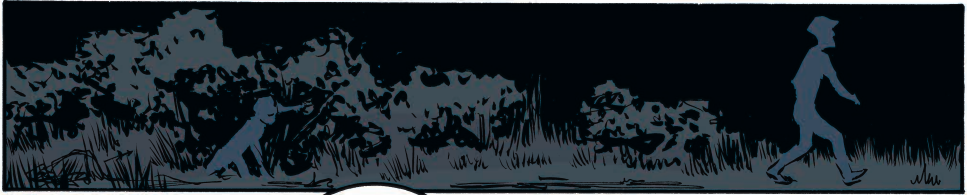
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?



STOP!
IT'S ME!
PAUL!







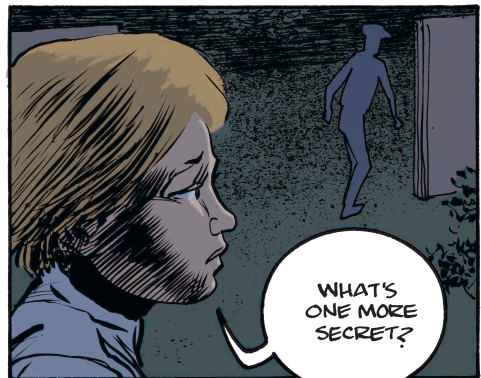
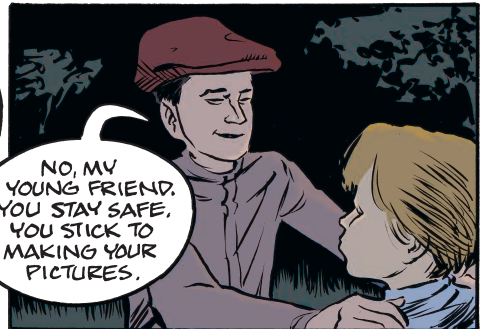


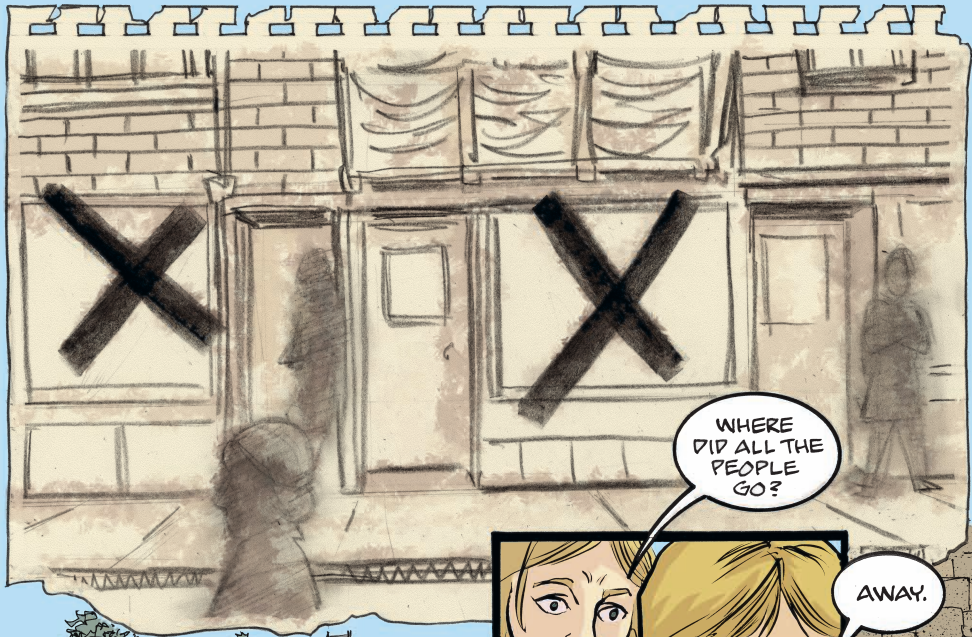
ALL RIGHT...



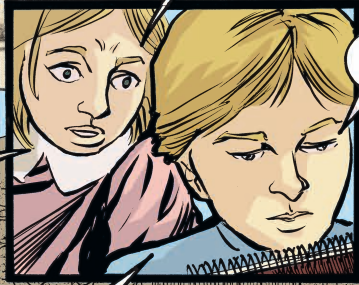
PRECISELY.

AND YOU WERE...





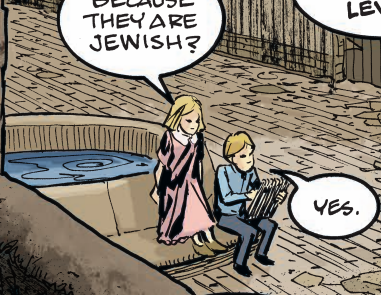
WHERE DID ALL THE PEOPLE GO?



AWAY.

LIKE MR. & MRS. LEVY?

BECAUSE THEY ARE JEWISH?



YES.

YES.



IS IT BAD TO BE JEWISH?



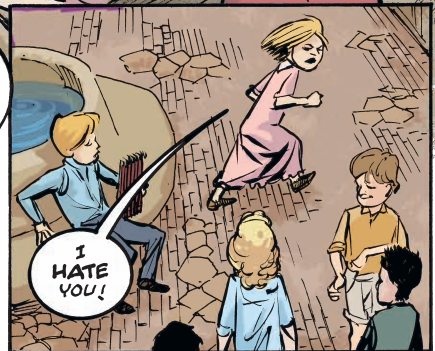
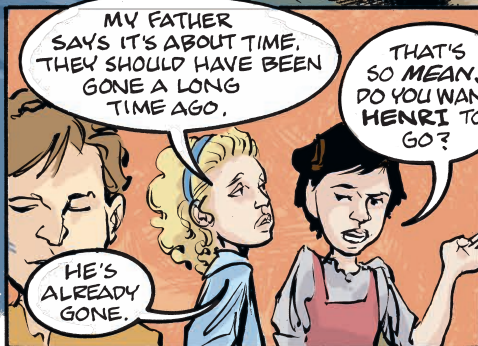
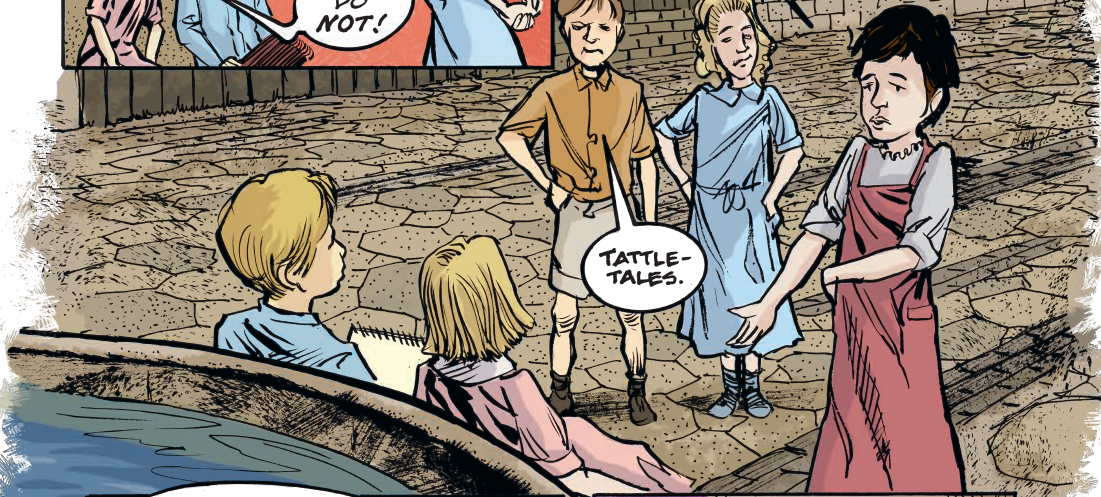
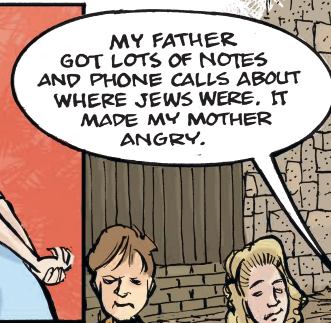
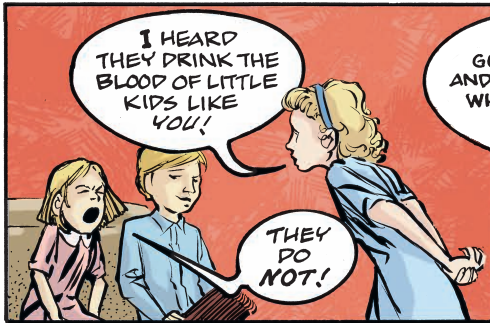
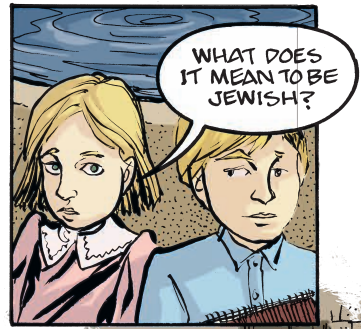
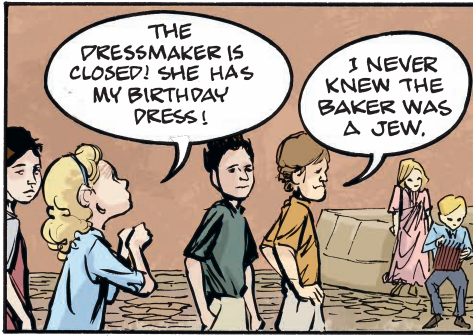
OF COURSE NOT.

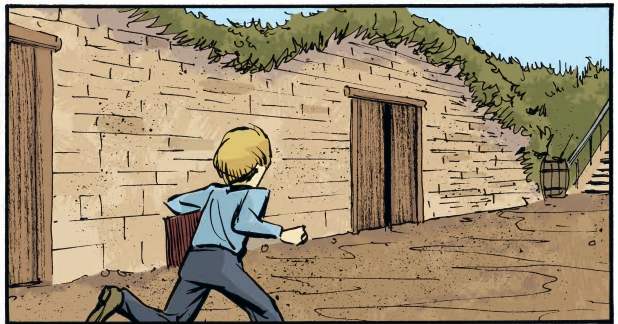
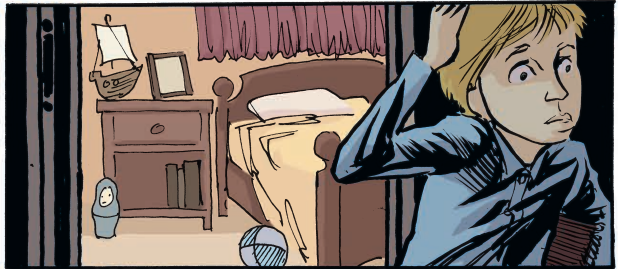
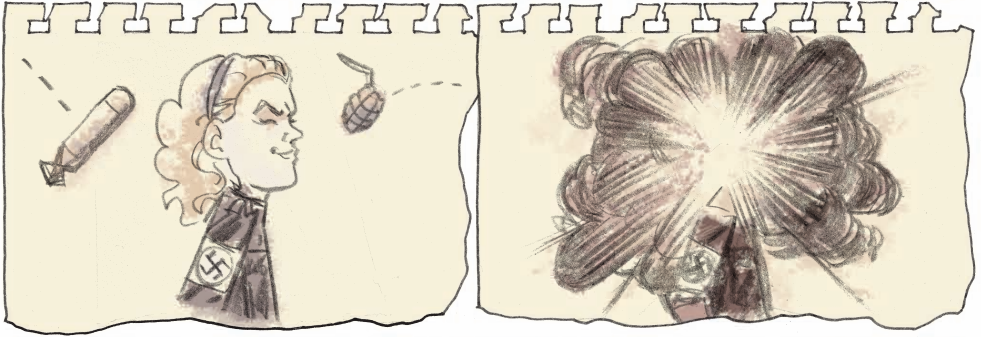
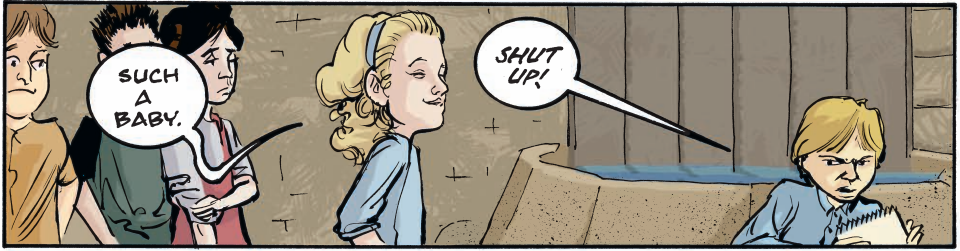


THEN WHY?



I DON'T KNOW!








WELL, SOME PEOPLE DON'T EAT CERTAIN FOODS.

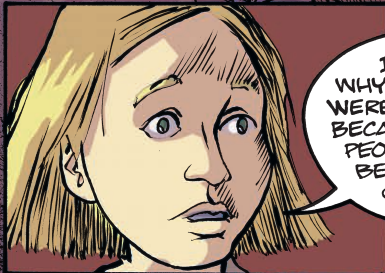
I DON'T EAT BEETS. THEY'RE NASTY.

AND WE GO TO SYNAGOGUE INSTEAD OF CHURCH, ONLY WE HARDLY EVER WENT. JUST A FEW TIMES A YEAR—ON CERTAIN HOLIDAYS.



DOES THAT MEAN YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD?

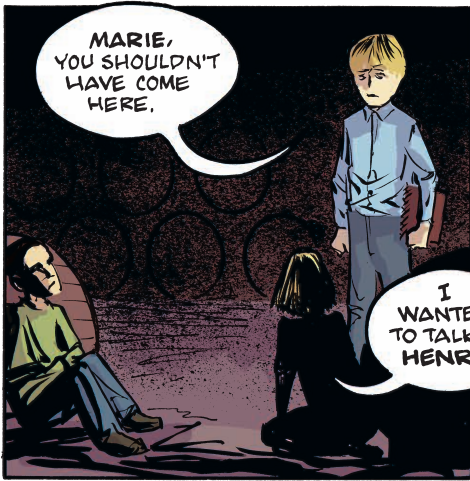
I'M NOT SURE WHAT I BELIEVE ANYMORE.



IS THAT WHY YOUR PARENTS WERE ARRESTED? BECAUSE JEWISH PEOPLE DON'T BELIEVE IN GOD?



DON'T BE STUPID.



MARIE,
YOU SHOULDN'T
HAVE COME
HERE.

I
WANTED
TO TALK TO
HENRI.



WE CAN'T
DRAW ATTENTION
TO THE CAVE,
REMEMBER?

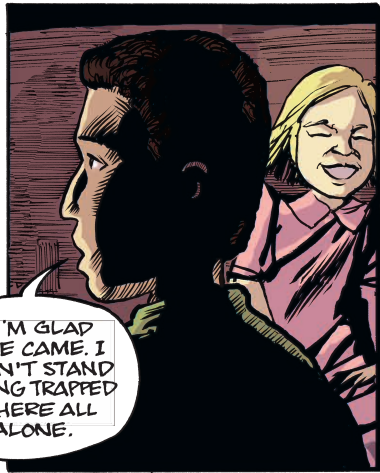
IT'S A
SECRET.



I DIDN'T
TELL
ANYONE.



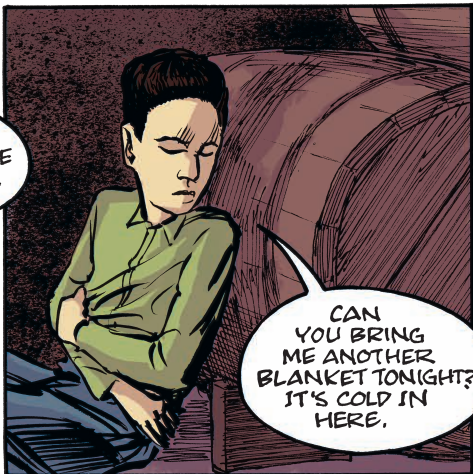
BUT...
JUST
DON'T DO IT
AGAIN.



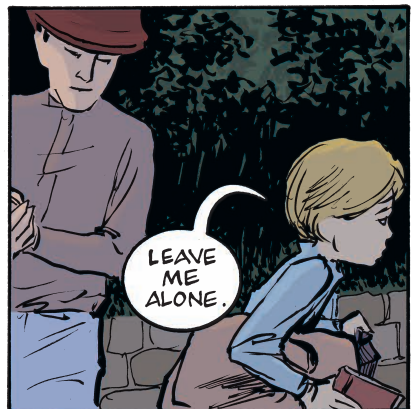
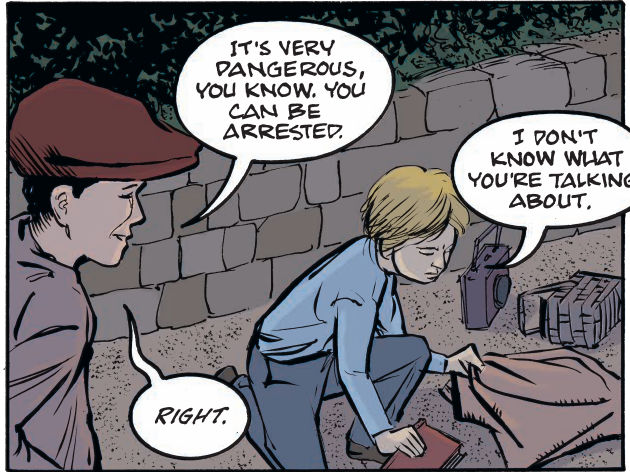
I'M GLAD
SHE CAME. I
CAN'T STAND
BEING TRAPPED
IN HERE ALL
ALONE.

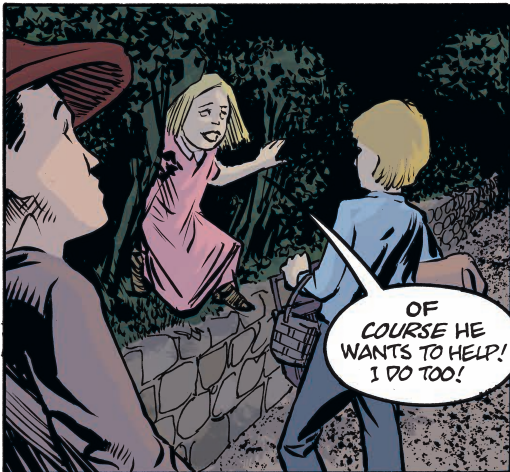


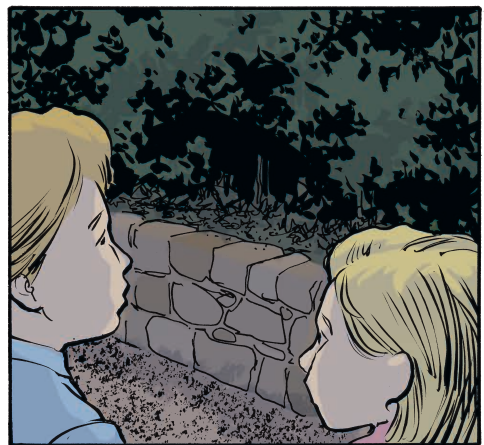
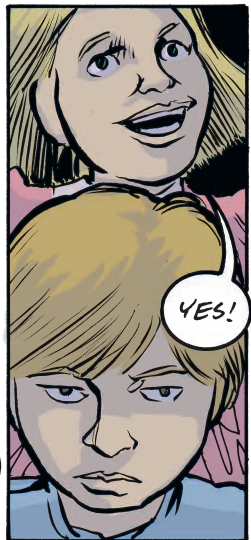
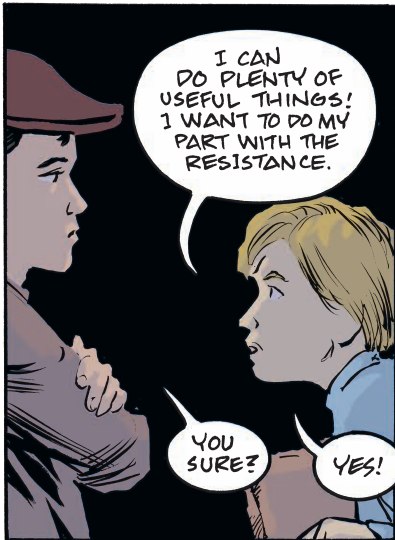
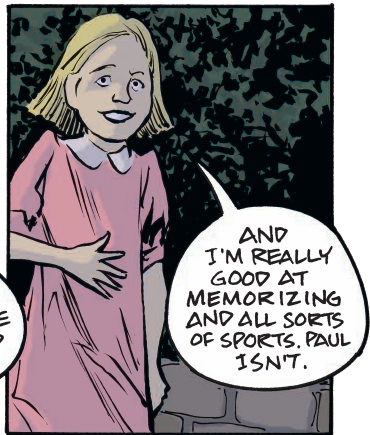
WE
HAVE TO BE
CAREFUL.

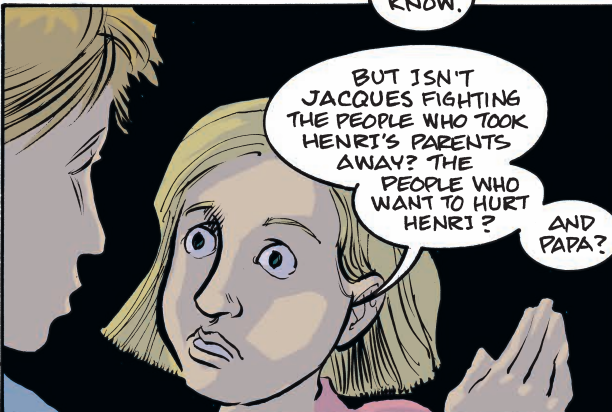
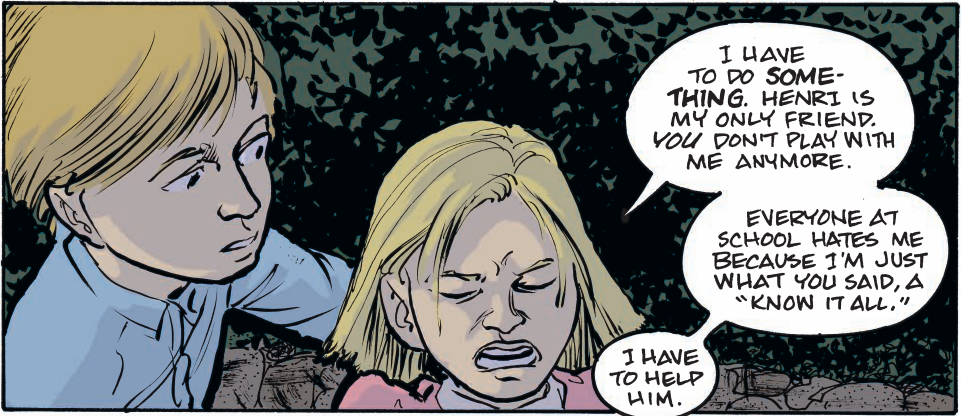


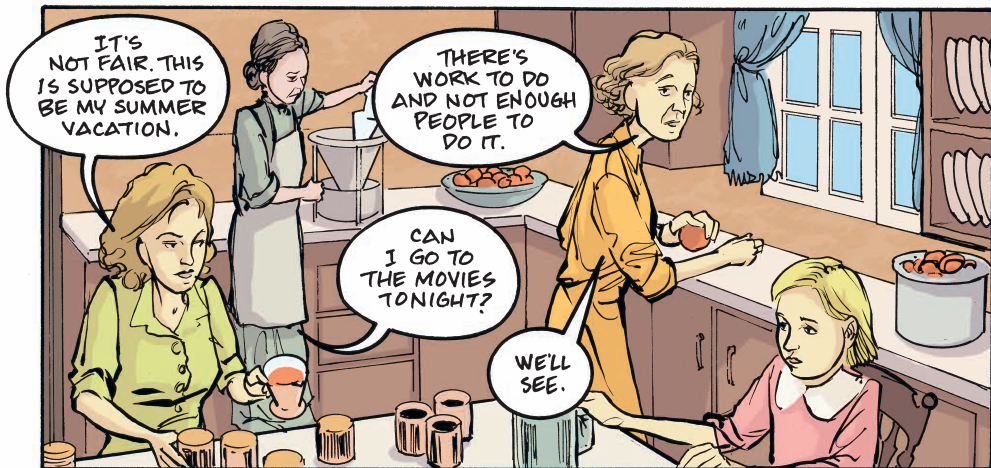
CAN
YOU BRING
ME ANOTHER
BLANKET TONIGHT?
IT'S COLD IN
HERE.

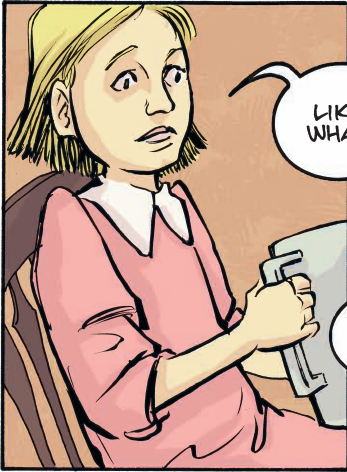








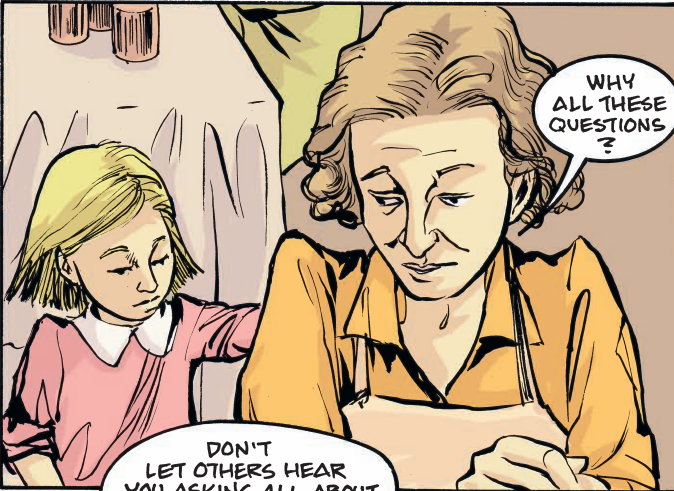




LIKE WHAT?

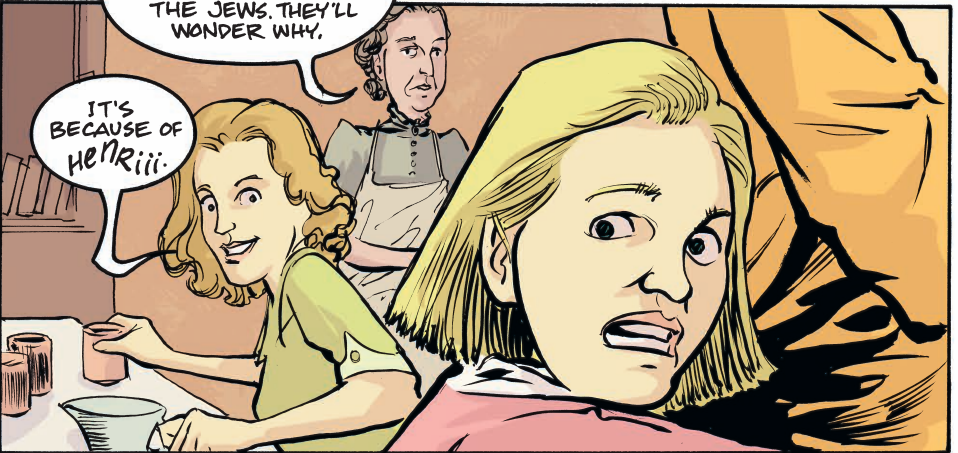
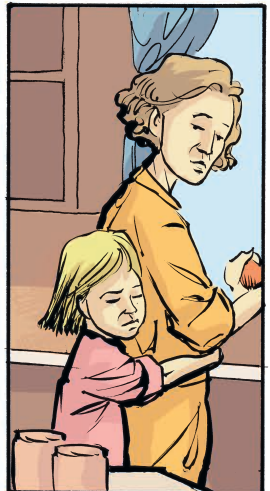


REALLY, WHAT A CONVERSATION.



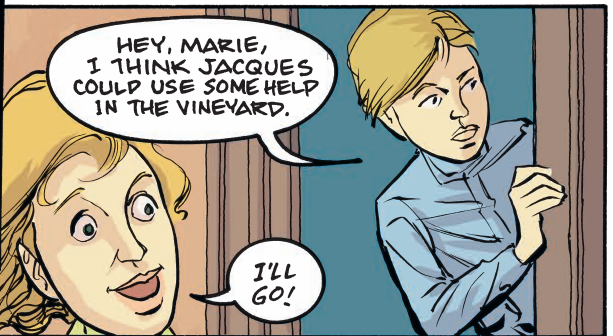
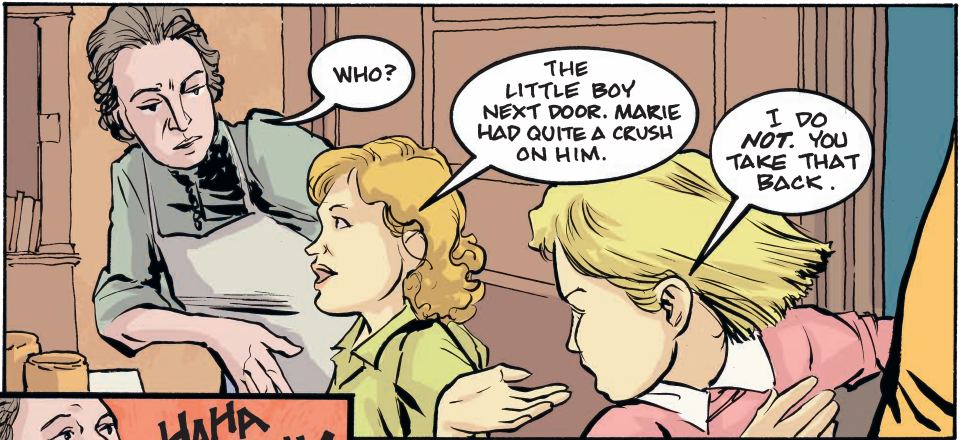
WHY ALL THESE QUESTIONS?

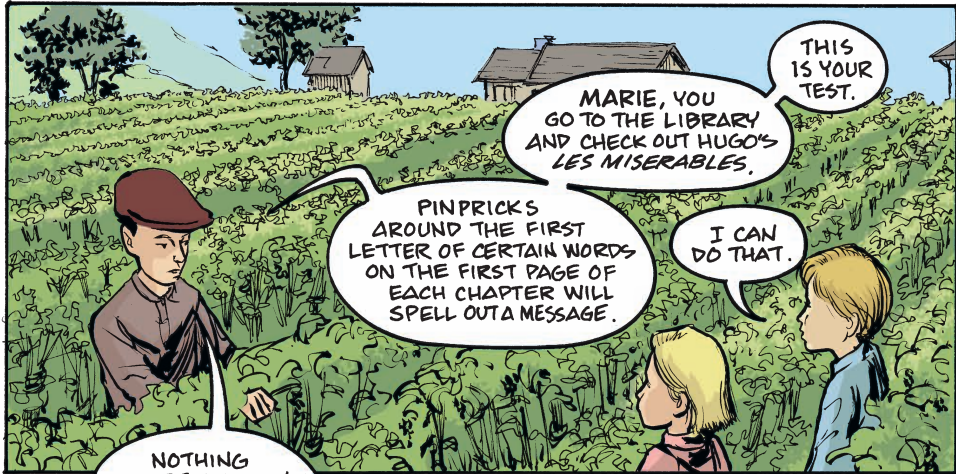
DON'T LET OTHERS HEAR YOU ASKING ALL ABOUT THE JEWS. THEY'LL WONDER WHY.



IT'S BECAUSE OF HENRIIII.

IT'S BECAUSE OF HENRIIII.





THIS IS YOUR TEST.

MARIE, YOU GO TO THE LIBRARY AND CHECK OUT HUGO'S LES MISERABLES.

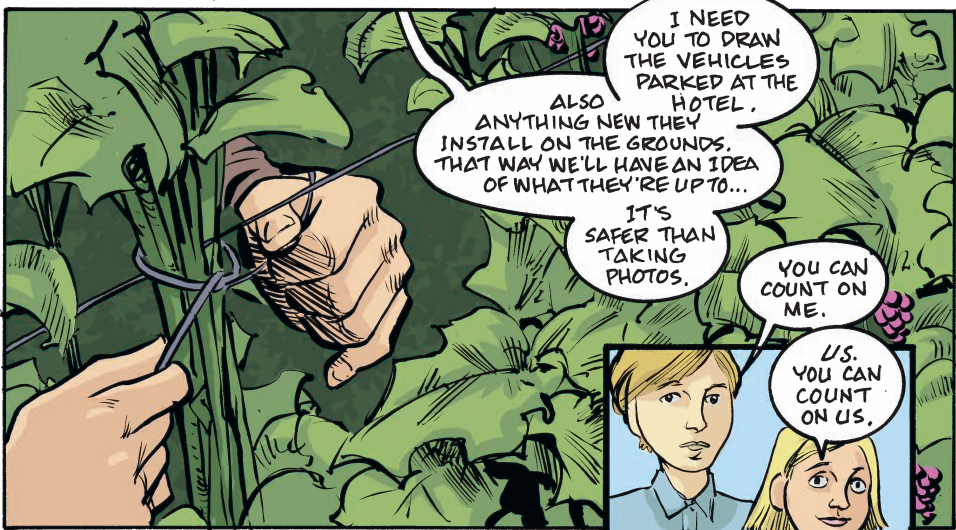
PINPRICKS AROUND THE FIRST LETTER OF CERTAIN WORDS ON THE FIRST PAGE OF EACH CHAPTER WILL SPELL OUT A MESSAGE.

I CAN DO THAT.

NOTHING CAN BE WRITTEN DOWN. MARIE IS BEST FOR THAT.



I HAVE A JOB FOR YOU TOO. SOMETHING WHERE YOUR SKILLS AS AN ARTIST WILL COME IN HANDY.



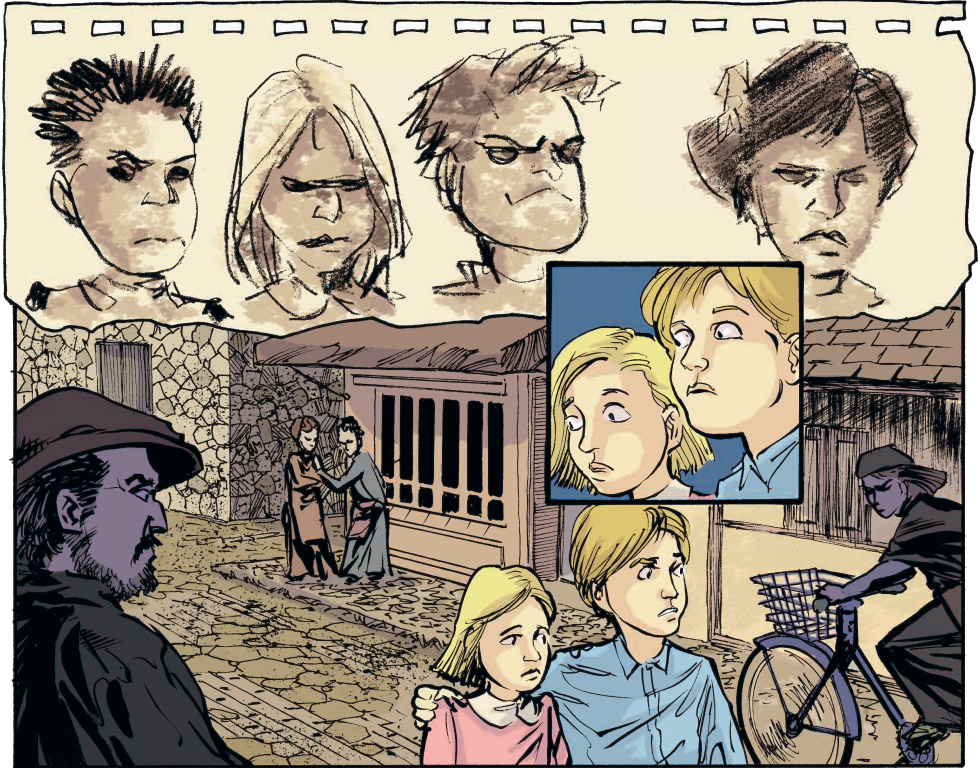
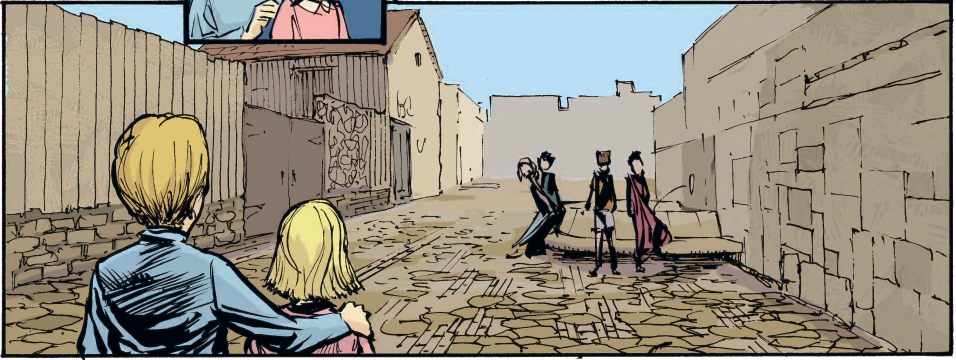
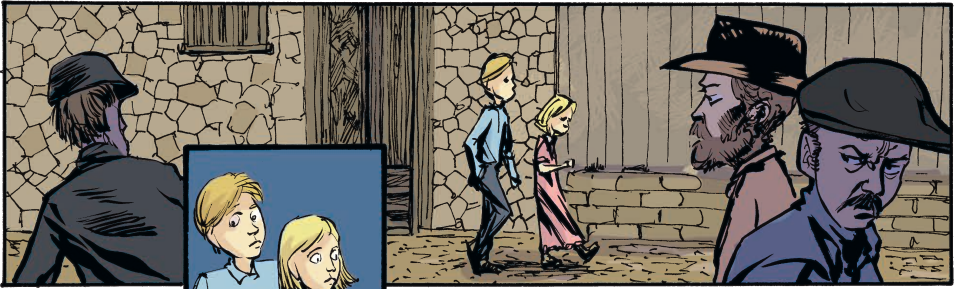
I NEED YOU TO DRAW THE VEHICLES PARKED AT THE HOTEL. ALSO ANYTHING NEW THEY INSTALL ON THE GROUNDS. THAT WAY WE'LL HAVE AN IDEA OF WHAT THEY'RE UP TO...

IT'S SAFER THAN TAKING PHOTOS.

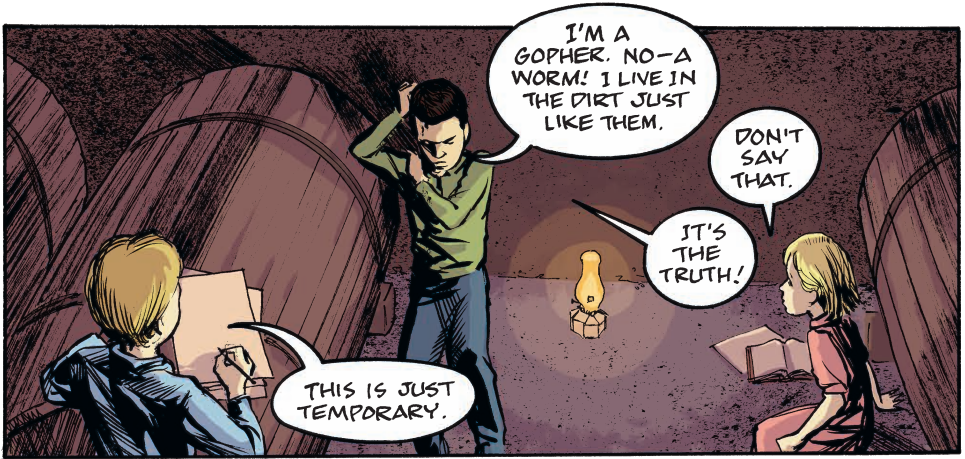
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME.



U.S. YOU CAN COUNT ON US.







I'M A GOPHER. NO—A WORM! I LIVE IN THE DIRT JUST LIKE THEM.

DON'T SAY THAT.

IT'S THE TRUTH!

THIS IS JUST TEMPORARY.



UNTIL WHEN? AND WHAT KIND OF FUTURE IS THERE FOR ME?



DON'T YOU WORRY, HENRI! EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT!



YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS TO BE HUNTED. TO BE IN FEAR FOR YOUR LIFE EVERY MINUTE OF EVERY DAY — HATED JUST BECAUSE OF WHO YOU ARE! TO NOT KNOW FROM ONE MOMENT TO THE NEXT IF...

...whether...



HENRI...





THESE ARE ALL OF PAPA.



GIVE ME THOSE!



DON'T BE MAD AT PAUL. HE REALLY IS TRYING TO HELP YOU. ME TOO, BUT I'M NOT ALLOWED TO TELL...

WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT?



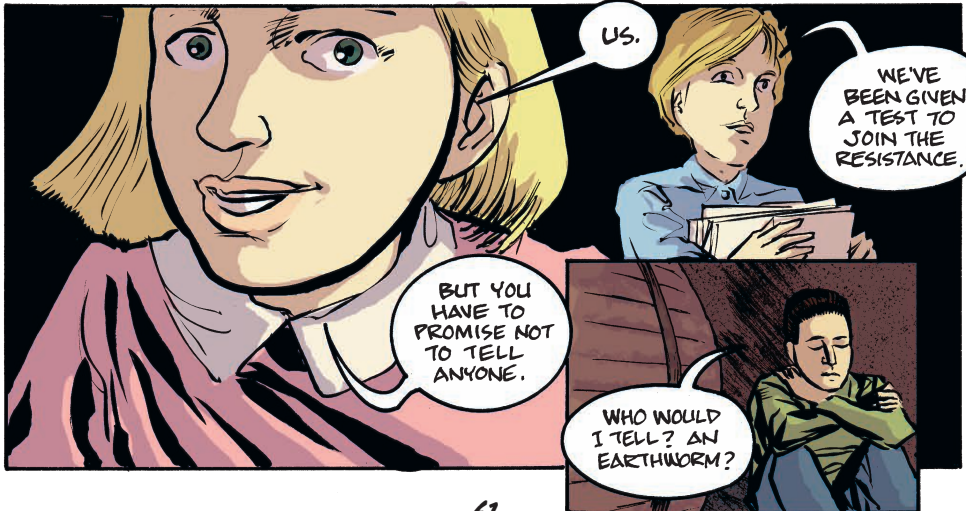
I'M NOT SUPPOSED TO TELL YOU THIS, BUT THERE ARE PEOPLE STILL FIGHTING THE GERMANS.



YES. THE BRITISH, THE AMERICANS—AND THEY ARE ALL BOMBING FRANCE.



NO—FRENCH PEOPLE.

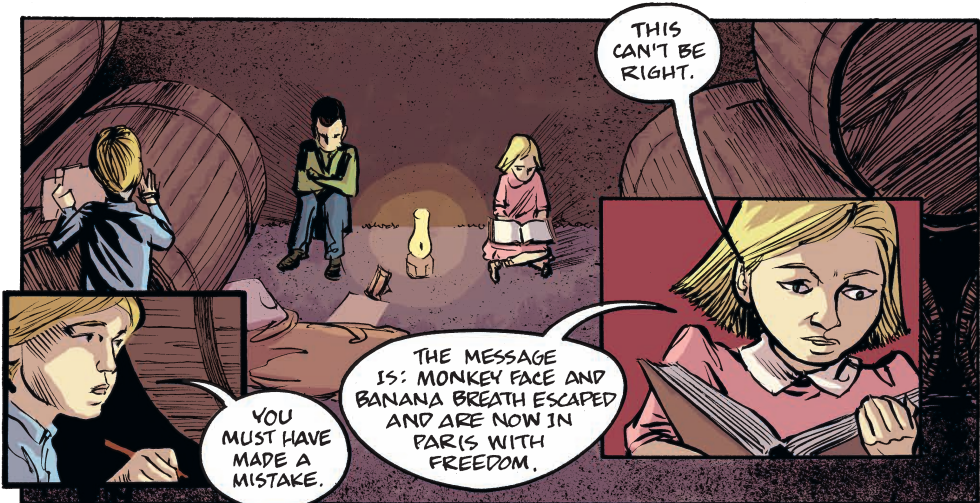


US.

WE'VE BEEN GIVEN A TEST TO JOIN THE RESISTANCE.

BUT YOU HAVE TO PROMISE NOT TO TELL ANYONE.

WHO WOULD I TELL? AN EARTHWORM?



THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT.

YOU MUST HAVE MADE A MISTAKE.

THE MESSAGE IS: MONKEY FACE AND BANANA BREATH ESCAPED AND ARE NOW IN PARIS WITH FREEDOM.



WHAT'S WRONG?



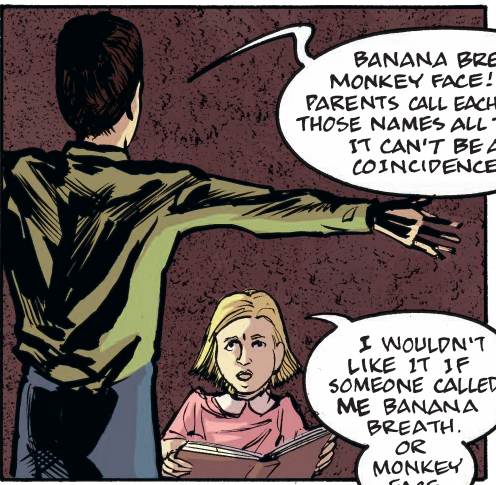
THOSE NAMES!

ARE YOU SURE THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS?

I'M SURE.



SURE IT'S WRONG!

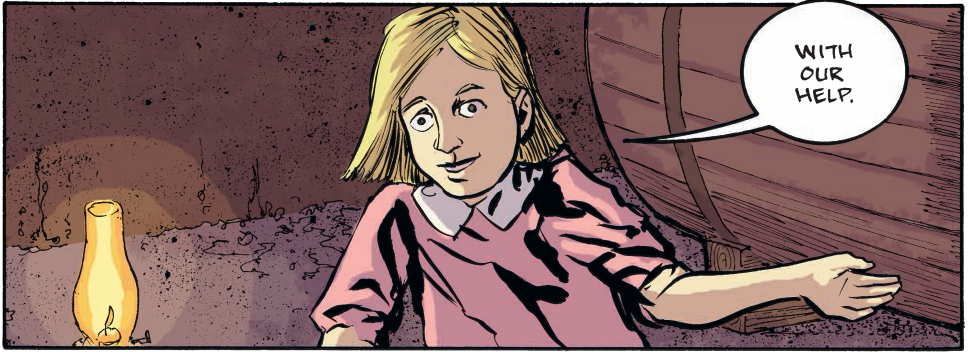
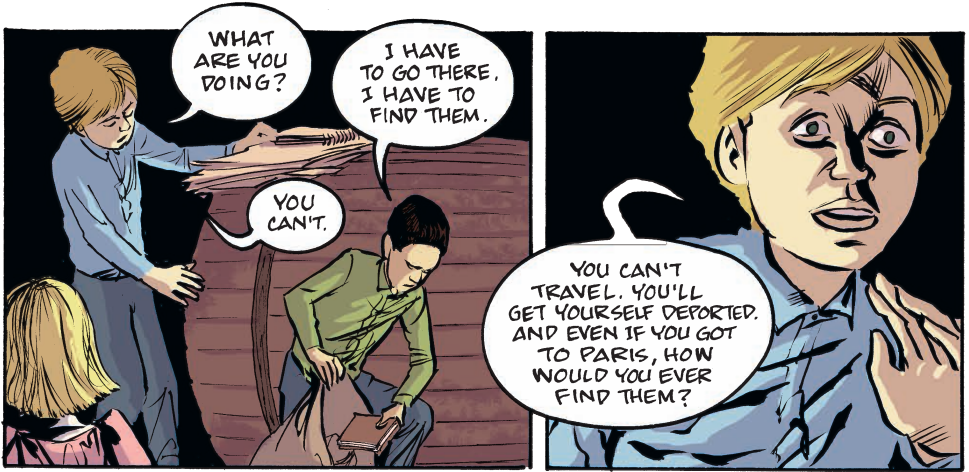


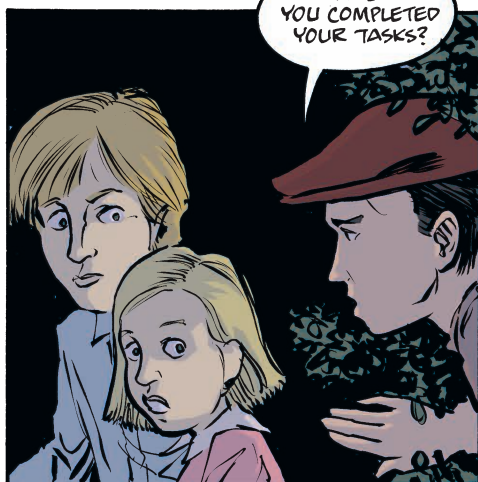
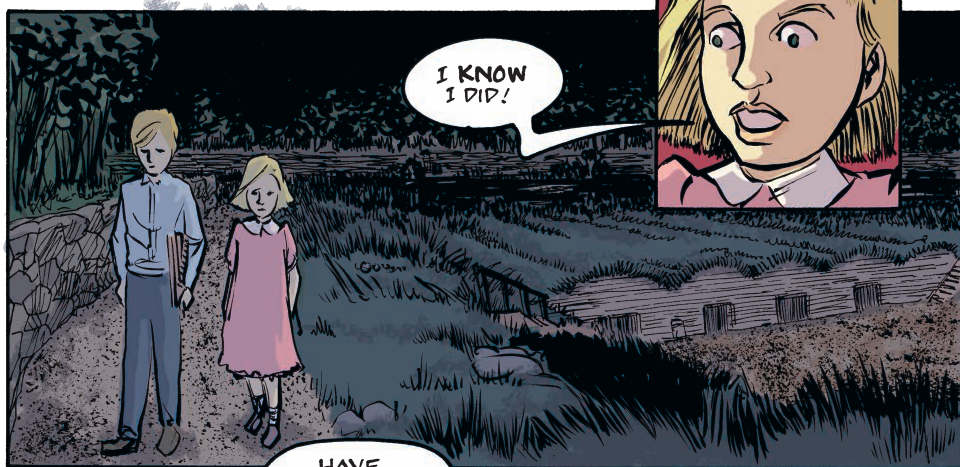
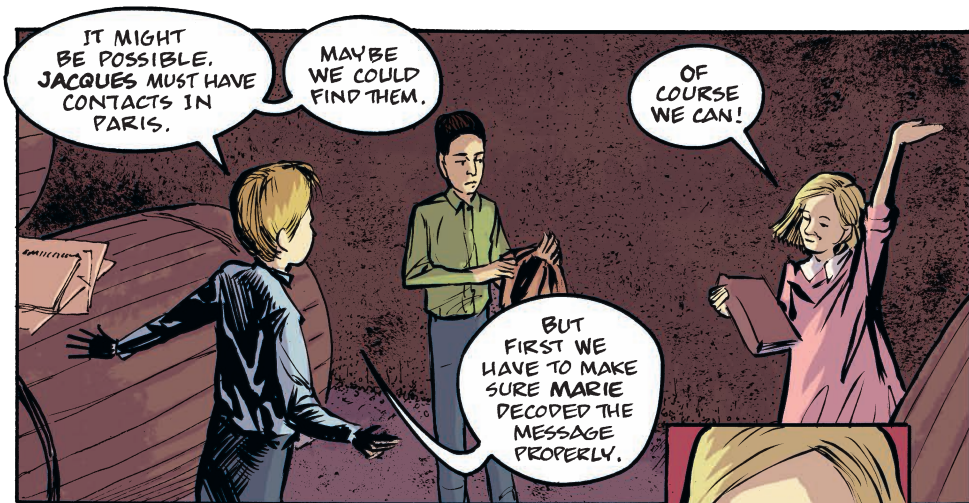
BANANA BREATH! MONKEY FACE! MY PARENTS CALL EACH OTHER THOSE NAMES ALL THE TIME! IT CAN'T BE A COINCIDENCE!

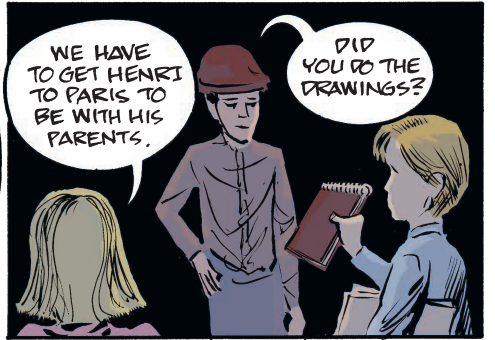
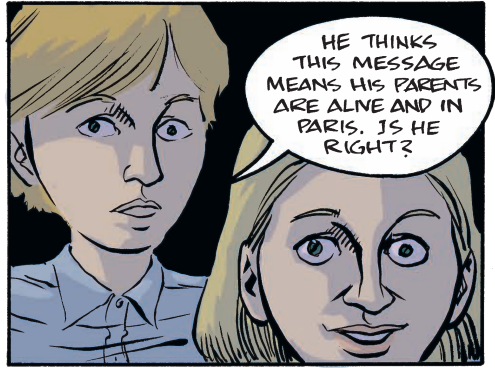
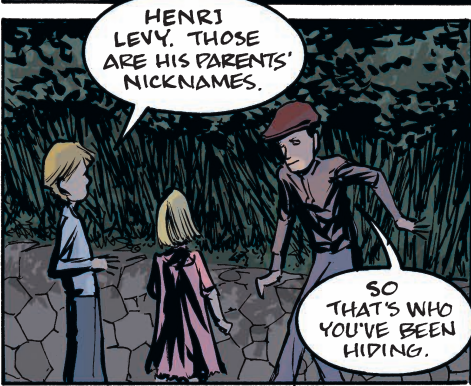
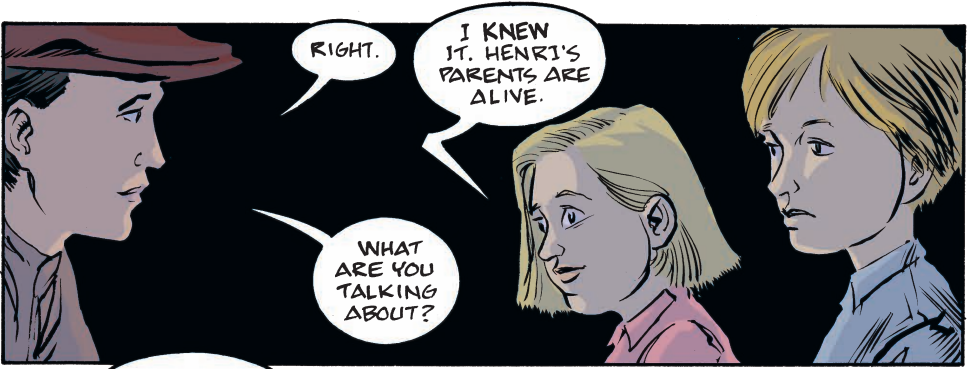
I WOULDN'T LIKE IT IF SOMEONE CALLED ME BANANA BREATH. OR MONKEY FACE.

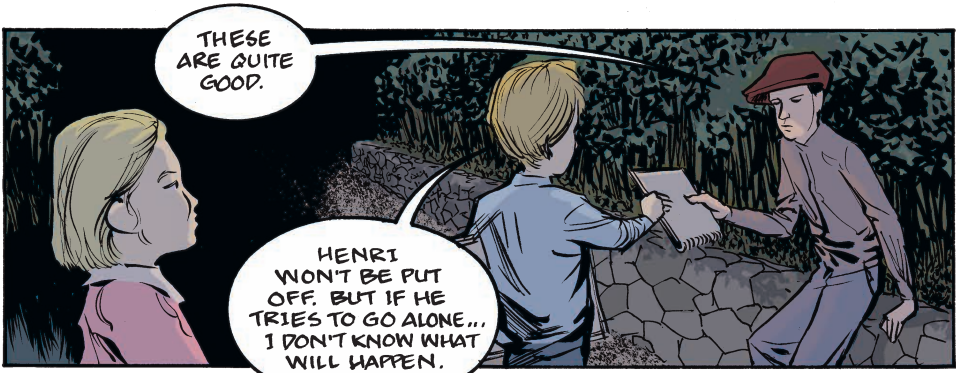


DON'T YOU SEE? THIS MEANS MY PARENTS ARE ALIVE AND IN PARIS!



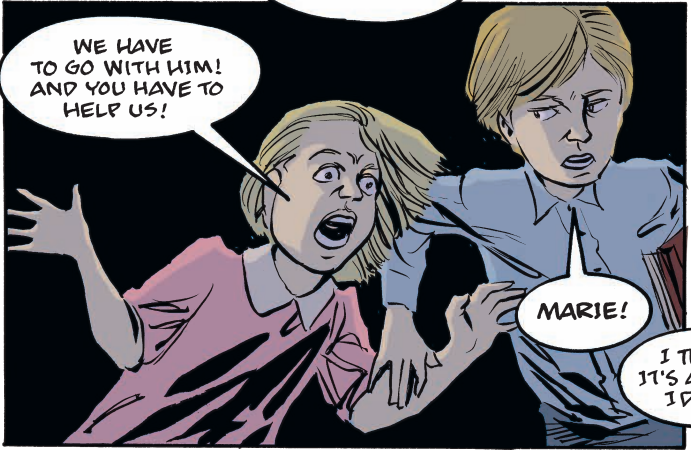






THESE ARE QUITE GOOD.

HENRI WON'T BE PUT OFF. BUT IF HE TRIES TO GO ALONE... I DON'T KNOW WHAT WILL HAPPEN.



WE HAVE TO GO WITH HIM! AND YOU HAVE TO HELP US!

MARIE!

I THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA.



YOU DO?

WE NEED TO GET INFORMATION TO PARIS. WHY NOT SEND KIDS RIGHT UNDER THE GERMANS' NOSES?



WHAT DO WE TELL OUR MOTHER? WE CAN'T JUST DISAPPEAR!

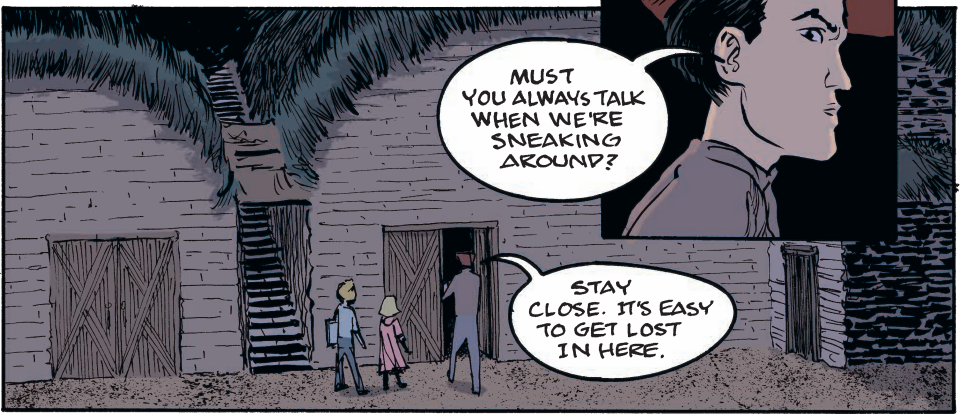
WE'LL COME UP WITH A PLAN. BUT NOW I NEED YOUR HELP WITH SOMETHING.



WHERE ARE WE GOING?

TO THE CHARPENTIER WINERY.

WHY?

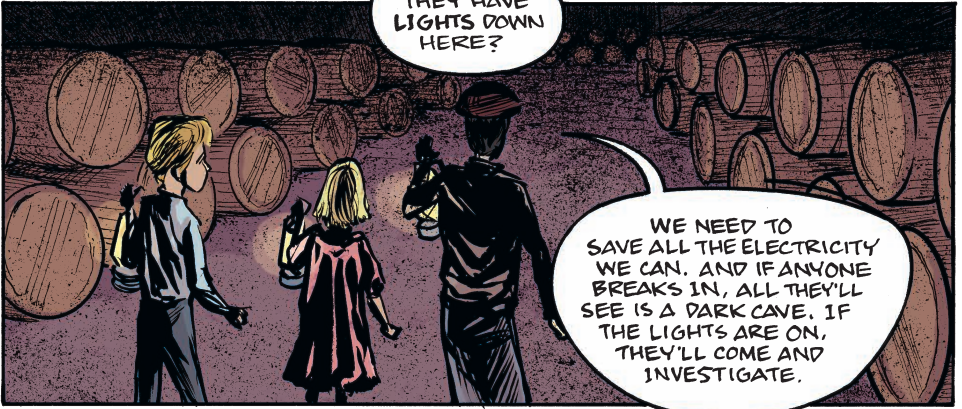


MUST YOU ALWAYS TALK WHEN WE'RE SNEAKING AROUND?

STAY CLOSE. IT'S EASY TO GET LOST IN HERE.



DON'T THEY HAVE LIGHTS DOWN HERE?



WE NEED TO SAVE ALL THE ELECTRICITY WE CAN. AND IF ANYONE BREAKS IN, ALL THEY'LL SEE IS A DARK CAVE. IF THE LIGHTS ARE ON, THEY'LL COME AND INVESTIGATE.



WHY IS ALL THIS STUFF DOWN HERE?

TO KEEP IT OUT OF GERMAN HANDS. THEY TAKE ANYTHING THEY WANT.

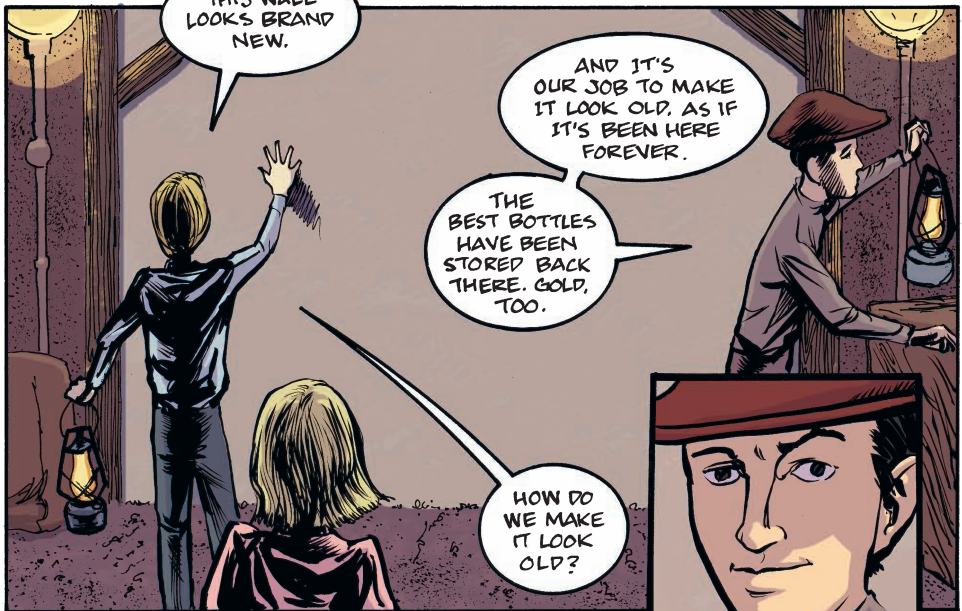
YOUR FRIEND HENRI IS IN GOOD COMPANY. EVEN THE SAINTS HAVE GONE UNDERGROUND.



WE'RE FAR ENOUGH IN.

CLACK

THIS WALL LOOKS BRAND NEW.



AND IT'S OUR JOB TO MAKE IT LOOK OLD, AS IF IT'S BEEN HERE FOREVER.

THE BEST BOTTLES HAVE BEEN STORED BACK THERE. GOLD, TOO.

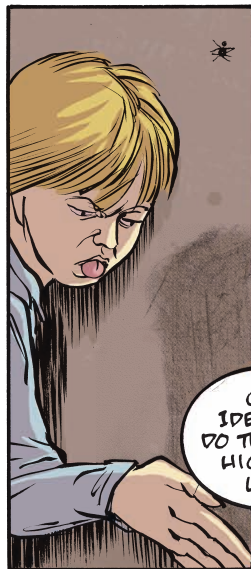
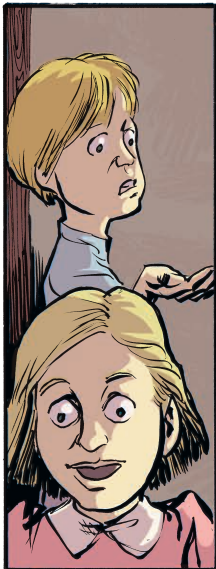
HOW DO WE MAKE IT LOOK OLD?





WITH HELP FROM OUR CREEPY CRAWLER FRIENDS.

OUR FRIEND HERE WILL SPIN A WEB. AND ONCE WE GET ENOUGH WEBS GOING, THE WALL SHOULD LOOK LIKE ALL THE OTHERS.

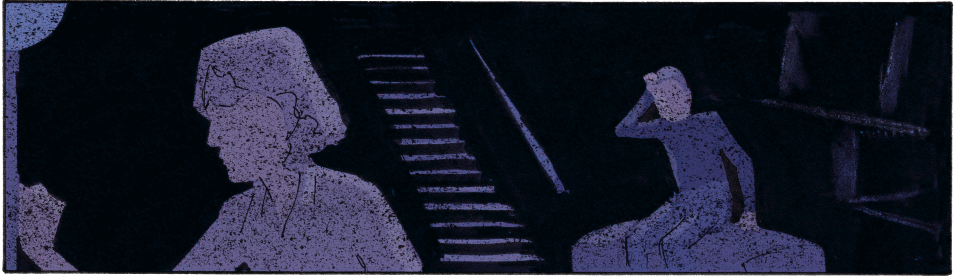


GOOD IDEA. I'LL DO THE SAME HIGHER UP.



FOOTSTEPS!

CLICK





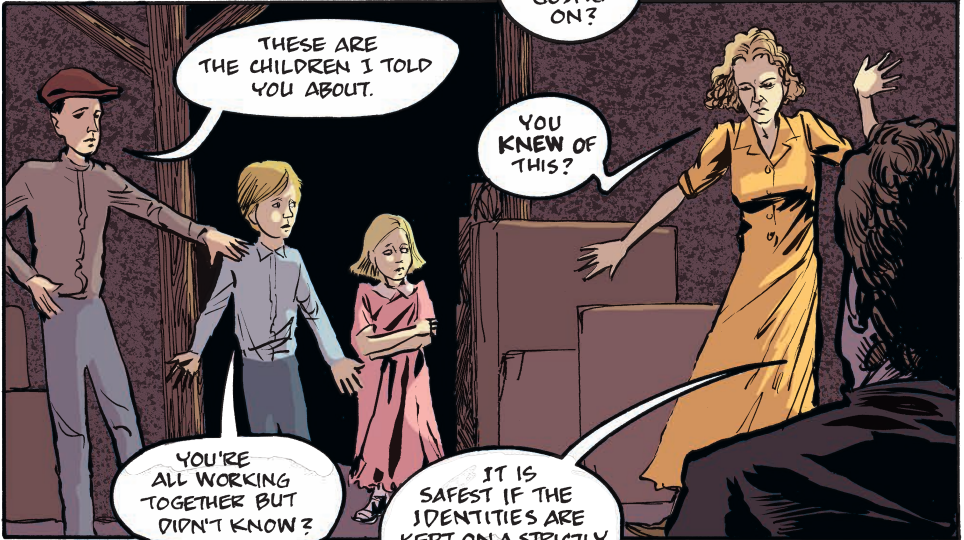
MADAME
TESSIER!



WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?



JACQUES,
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?



THESE ARE
THE CHILDREN I TOLD
YOU ABOUT.

YOU
KNEW OF
THIS?

YOU'RE
ALL WORKING
TOGETHER BUT
DIDN'T KNOW?

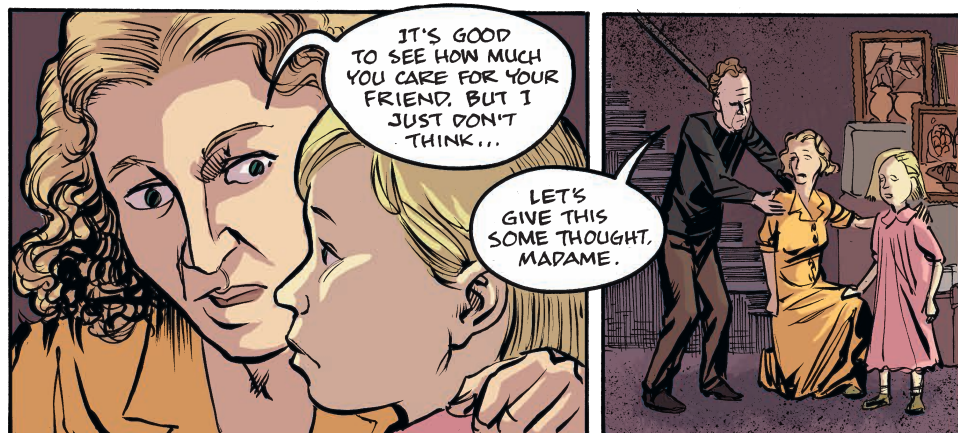
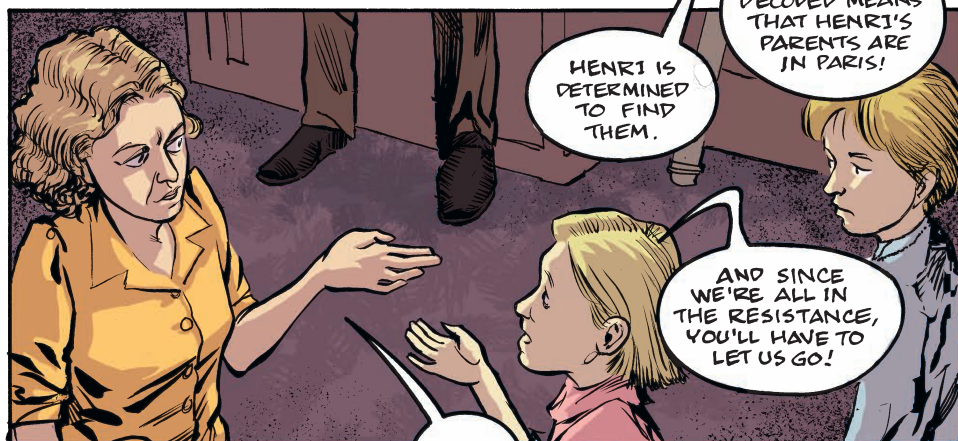
IT IS
SAFEST IF THE
IDENTITIES ARE
KEPT ON A STRICTLY
NEED-TO-KNOW
BASIS.



MAMA,
THIS IS
PERFECT.

NOW
WE CAN
SAVE HENRI
FOR SURE!



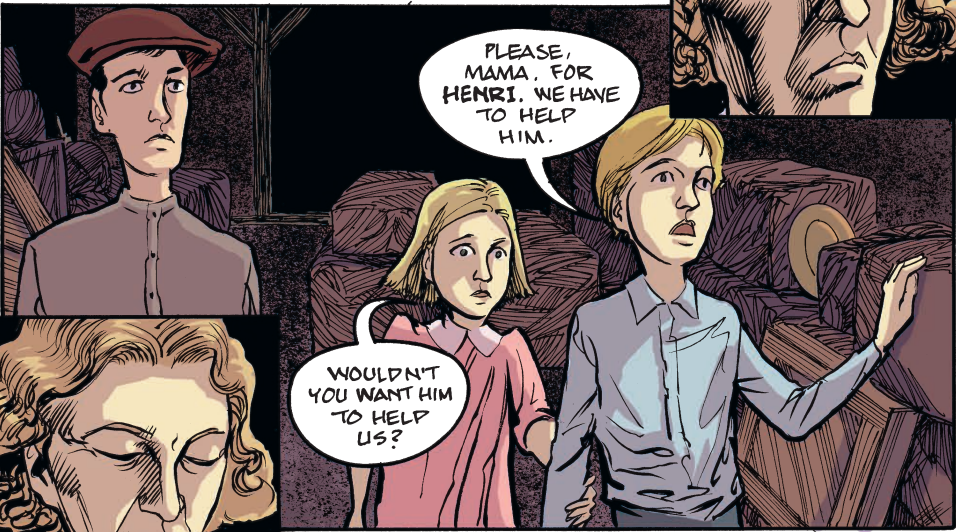




WE NEED TO GET INFORMATION TO PARIS. NO ONE WILL SUSPECT CHILDREN AS OUR COURIERS.

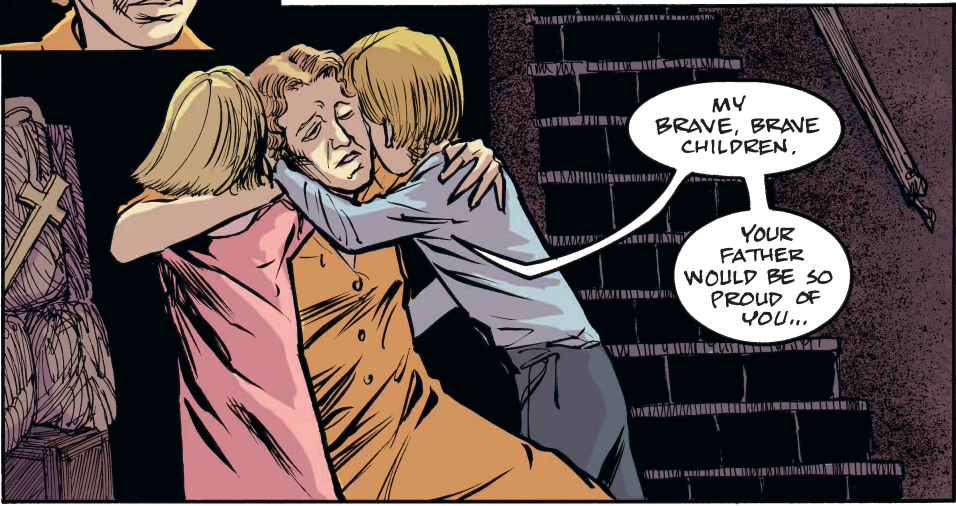
I WON'T RISK MY CHILDREN'S LIVES—

IT IS SAFER FOR YOUR FAMILY IF HENRI LEAVES TOWN.



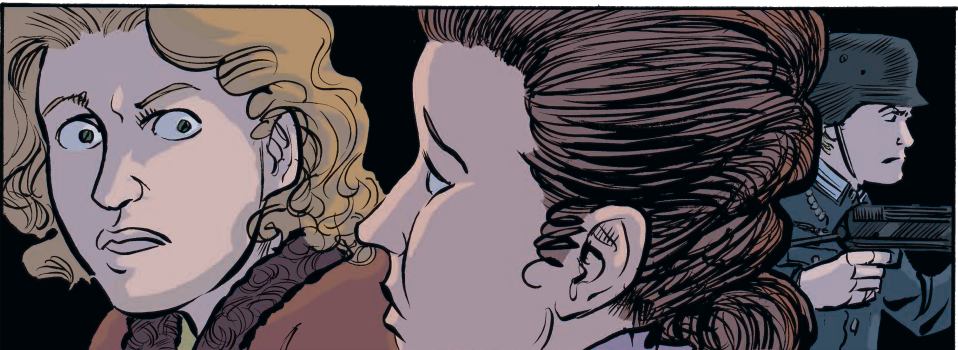
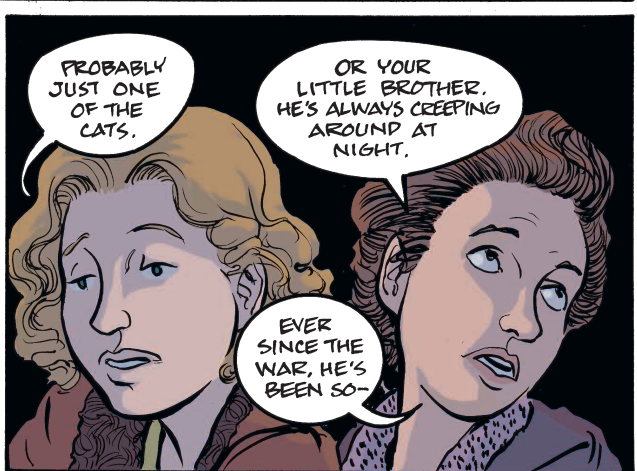
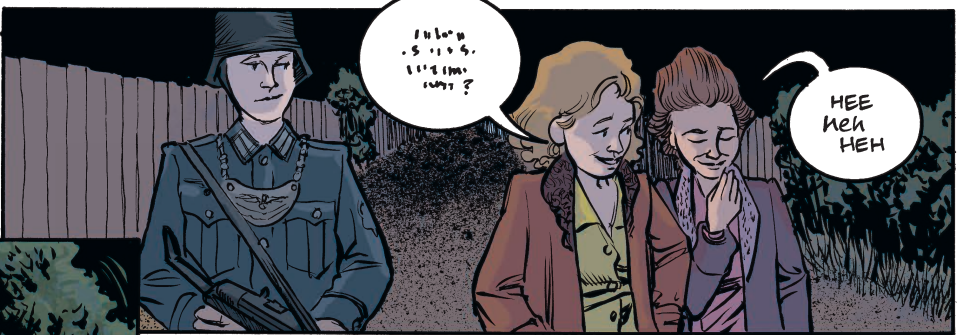
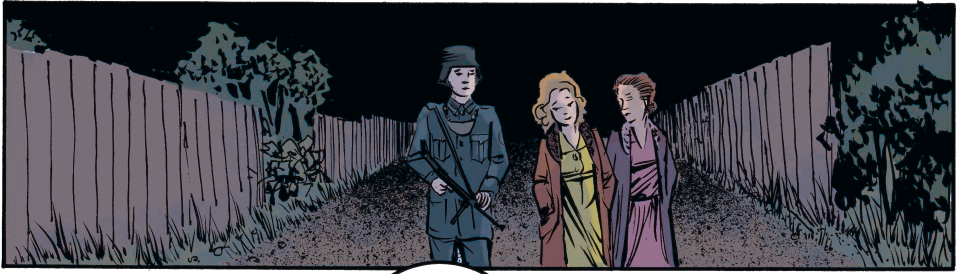
PLEASE, MAMA. FOR HENRI. WE HAVE TO HELP HIM.

WOULDN'T YOU WANT HIM TO HELP US?



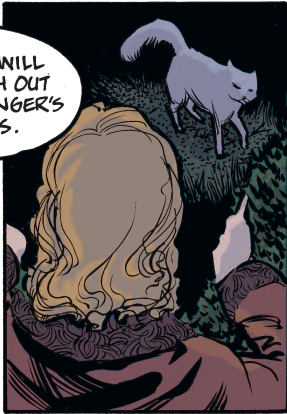
MY BRAVE, BRAVE CHILDREN.

YOUR FATHER WOULD BE SO PROUD OF YOU...





MILKY WILL
SCRATCH OUT
A STRANGER'S
EYES.



SILLY THING.
DID YOU CATCH
THAT SCARY
TWIG?



YOU SEE?
JUST A LITTLE
KITTY.



THEN
I SAY GOOD
NIGHT.





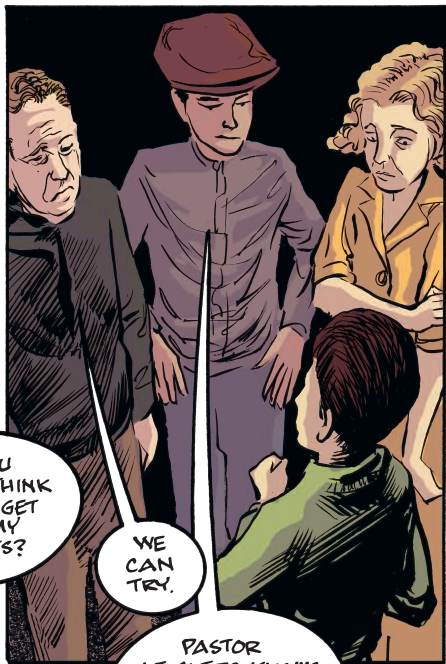
YOU SHOULD HAVE COME TO ME.



PAUL SAID IT HAD TO BE A SECRET.

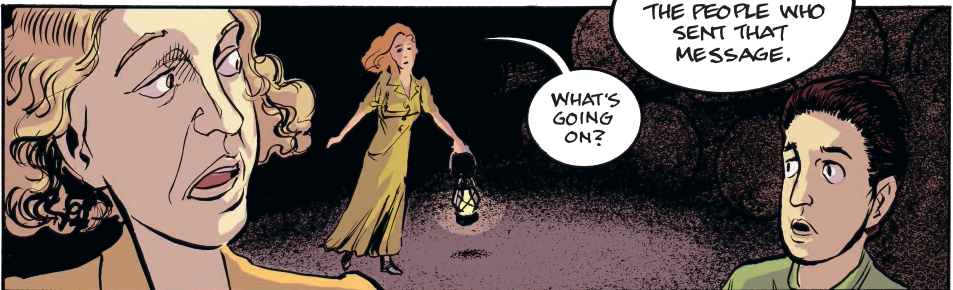
WE DIDN'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO GET IN TROUBLE.

DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN GET ME TO MY PARENTS?



WE CAN TRY.

PASTOR LE CLERC KNOWS THE PEOPLE WHO SENT THAT MESSAGE.



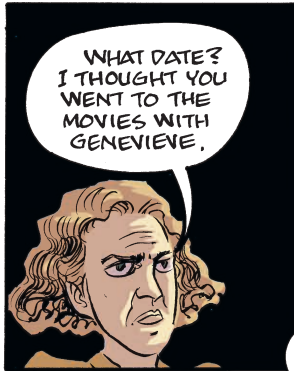
WHAT'S GOING ON?



COUNT ME IN!



HOW WAS YOUR DATE TONIGHT?



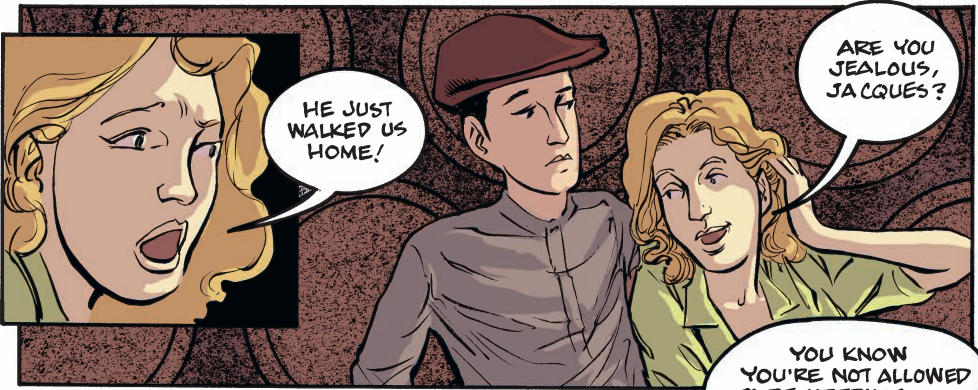
WHAT DATE? I THOUGHT YOU WENT TO THE MOVIES WITH GENEVIEVE.



I DID.



WHAT ABOUT THE YOUNG GERMAN?



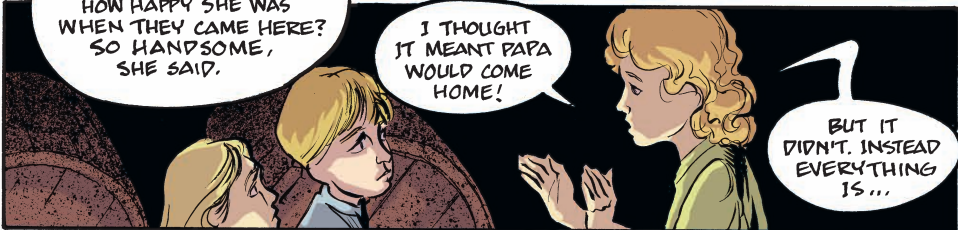
HE JUST WALKED US HOME!

ARE YOU JEALOUS, JAQUES?

YOU KNOW YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO BE KEEPING COMPANY WITH BOYS. ESPECIALLY THEM.

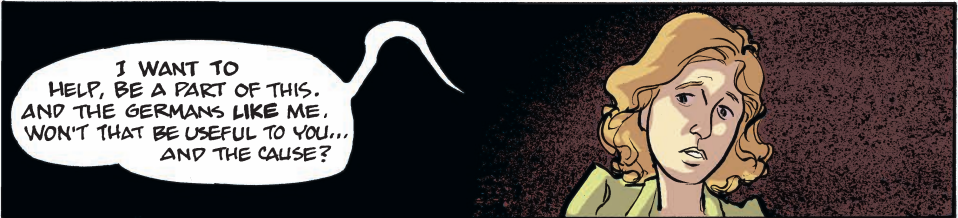


SHE LOVES THE SOLDIERS! REMEMBER HOW HAPPY SHE WAS WHEN THEY CAME HERE? SO HANDSOME, SHE SAID.

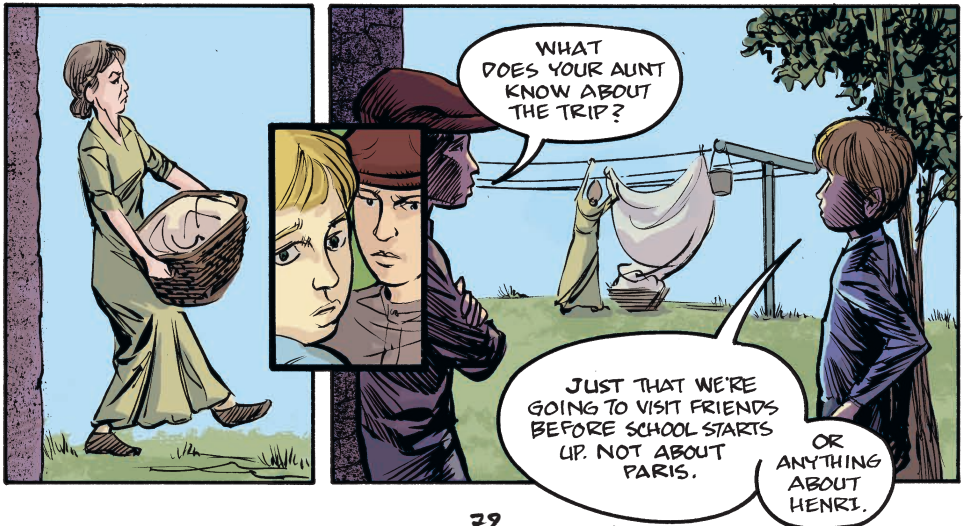
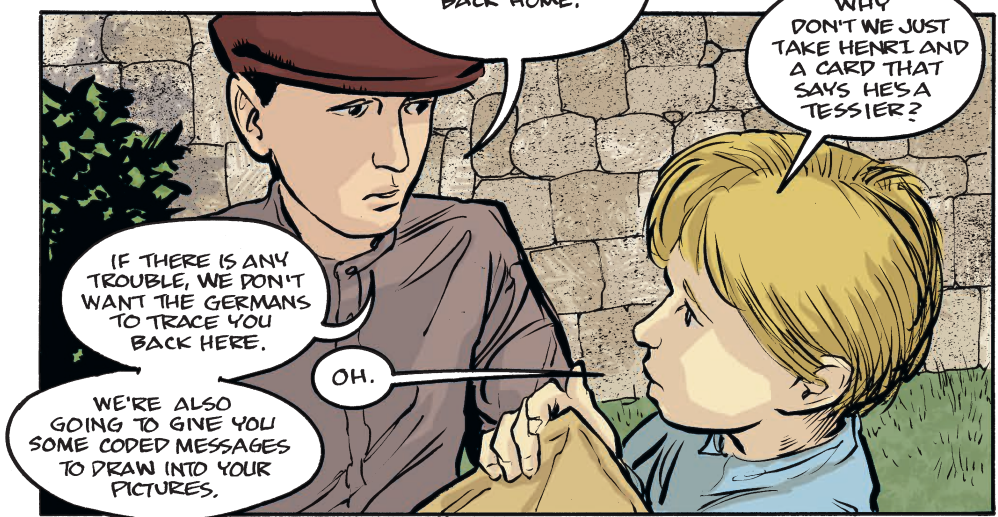
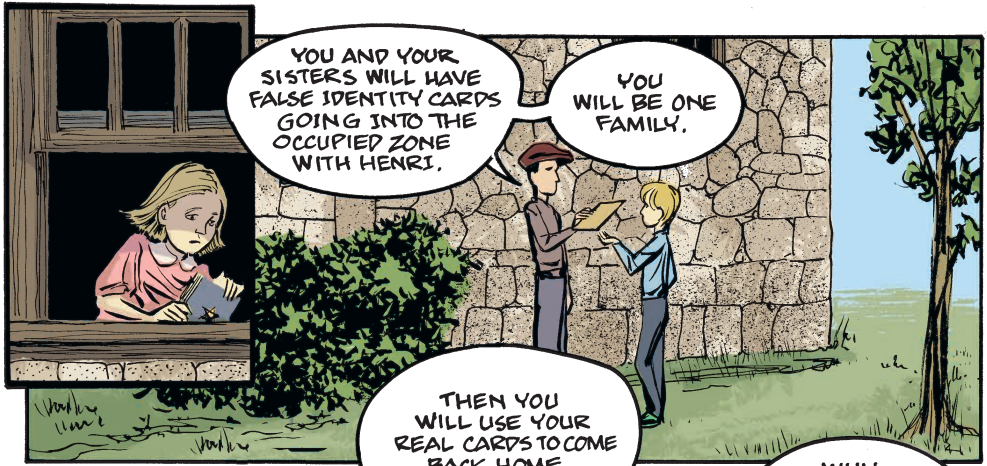


I THOUGHT IT MEANT PAPA WOULD COME HOME!

BUT IT DIDN'T. INSTEAD EVERYTHING IS...



I WANT TO HELP, BE A PART OF THIS. AND THE GERMANS LIKE ME. WON'T THAT BE USEFUL TO YOU... AND THE CAUSE?

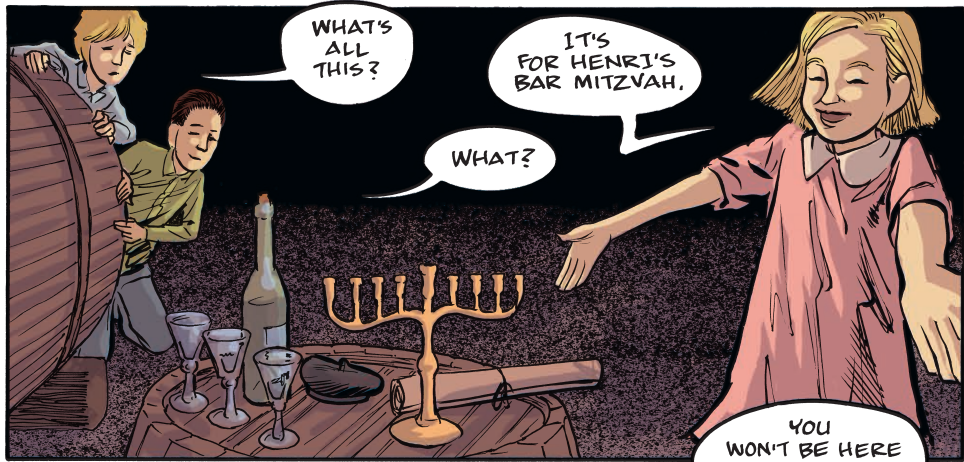




HENRI'S LAST NIGHT IN THE CAVE.

SEE, THESE ARE RADIO FREQUENCIES, AND THESE ARE SOME KIND OF COORDINATES.

READY.

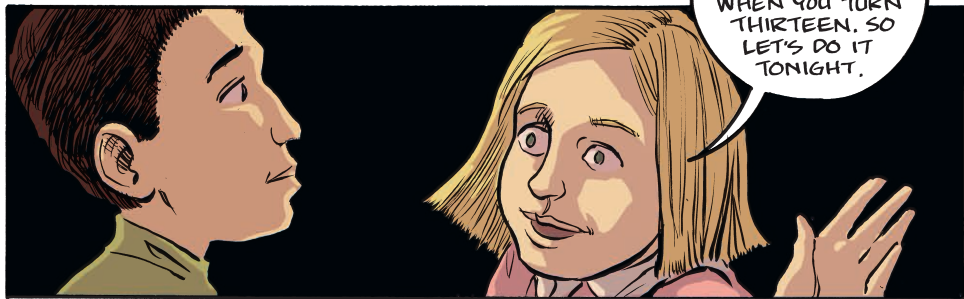


WHAT'S ALL THIS?

IT'S FOR HENRI'S BAR MITZVAH.

WHAT?

YOU WON'T BE HERE WHEN YOU TURN THIRTEEN. SO LET'S DO IT TONIGHT.



YOU WON'T BE HERE WHEN YOU TURN THIRTEEN. SO LET'S DO IT TONIGHT.



THIS ISN'T FOR—

THIS IS WONDERFUL, MARIE, THANK YOU.

I THINK I GOT SOME THINGS WRONG.

THAT'S OKAY.



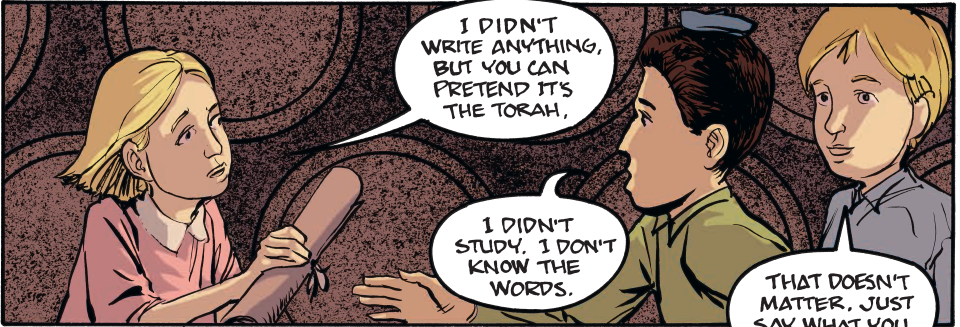
I COULDN'T FIND ONE OF THOSE LITTLE HATS.

YARMULKE.

THIS IS FROM MY TEDDY BEAR.



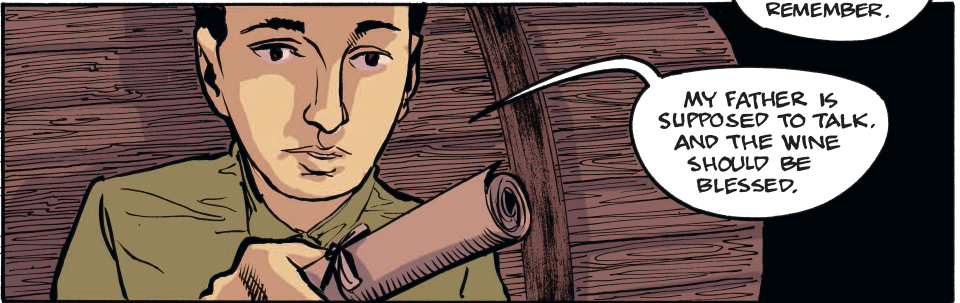
IT'S PERFECT, MARIE. I AM AS FRENCH AS I AM JEWISH.



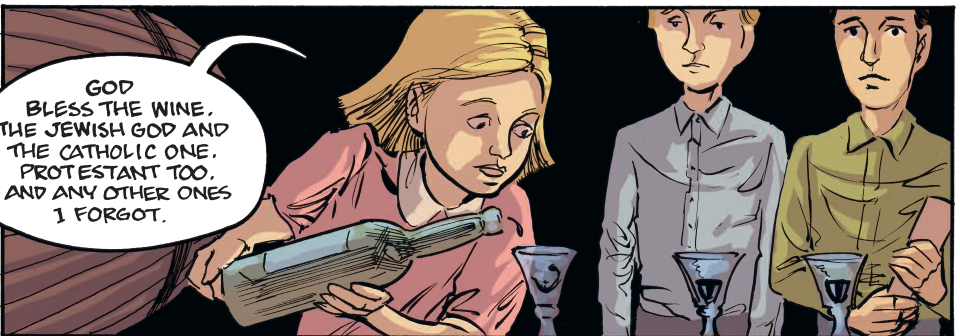
I DIDN'T WRITE ANYTHING, BUT YOU CAN PRETEND IT'S THE TORAH.

I DIDN'T STUDY. I DON'T KNOW THE WORDS.

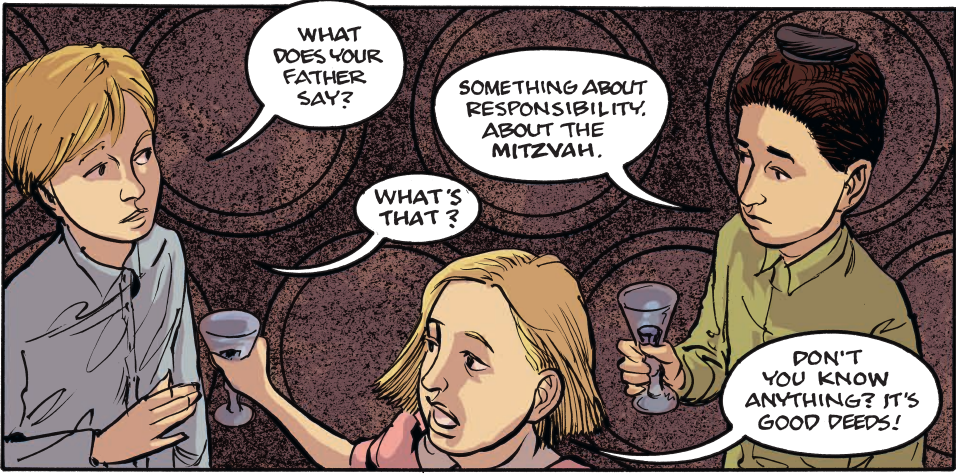
THAT DOESN'T MATTER. JUST SAY WHAT YOU REMEMBER.



MY FATHER IS SUPPOSED TO TALK. AND THE WINE SHOULD BE BLESSED.



GOD BLESS THE WINE. THE JEWISH GOD AND THE CATHOLIC ONE. PROTESTANT TOO. AND ANY OTHER ONES I FORGOT.



WHAT DOES YOUR FATHER SAY?

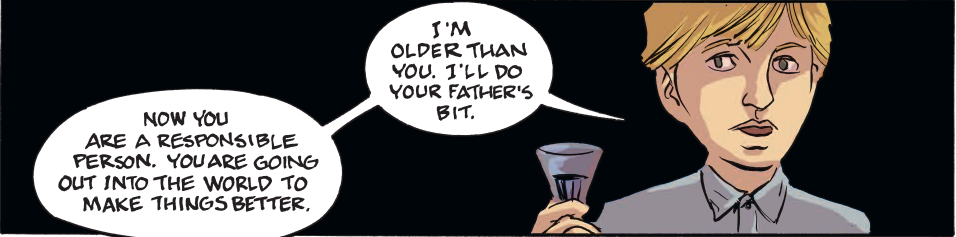
SOMETHING ABOUT RESPONSIBILITY, ABOUT THE MITZVAH.

WHAT'S THAT?

DON'T YOU KNOW ANYTHING? IT'S GOOD DEEDS!



GOD WANTS US TO PERFORM GOOD DEEDS - TO REPAIR WHAT'S BROKEN, TO MAKE THINGS BETTER IN THE WORLD.



I'M OLDER THAN YOU. I'LL DO YOUR FATHER'S BIT.

NOW YOU ARE A RESPONSIBLE PERSON. YOU ARE GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD TO MAKE THINGS BETTER.



I AM A MAN.

THE BIG DAY.



HE'S GONE!
HENRI - HE'S
NOT IN THE
CAVE!



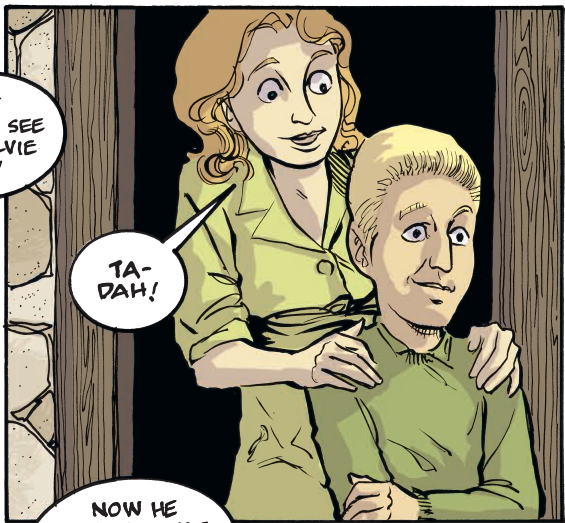
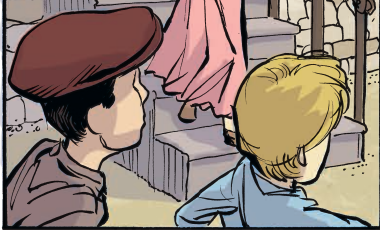
WHAT?



AS SOON
AS AUNT
CELIA LEFT, I
WENT TO GET HIM.
HE'S NOT IN
THERE!



WAIT
'TIL YOU SEE
WHAT SYLVIE
DID!

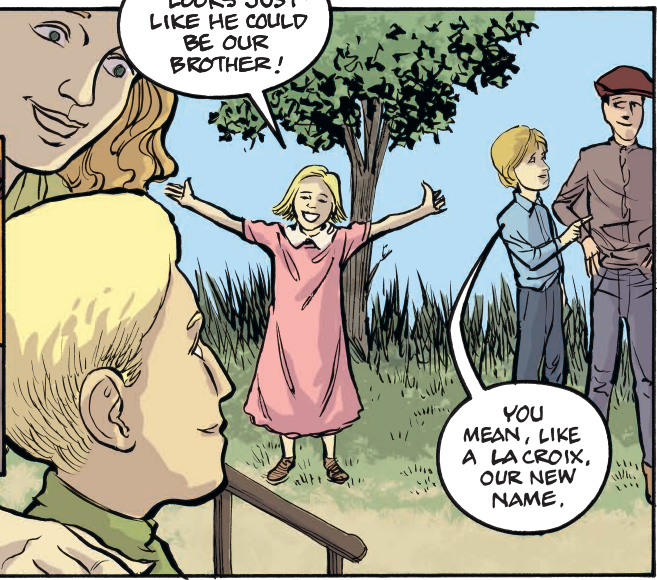


TA-
DAH!

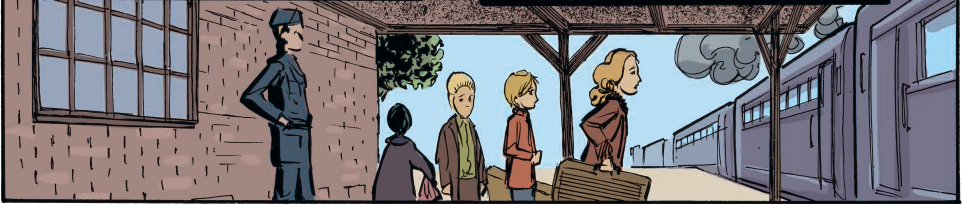
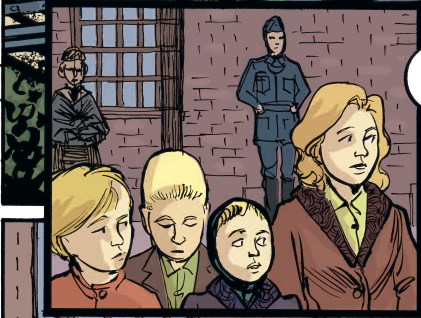
NOW HE
LOOKS JUST
LIKE HE COULD
BE OUR
BROTHER!

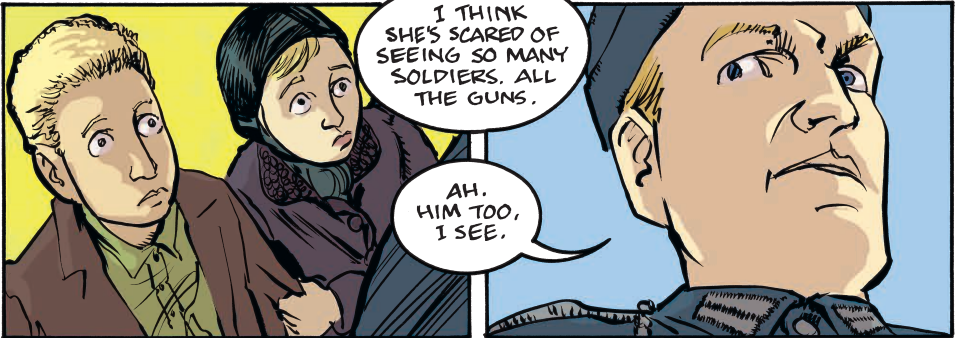


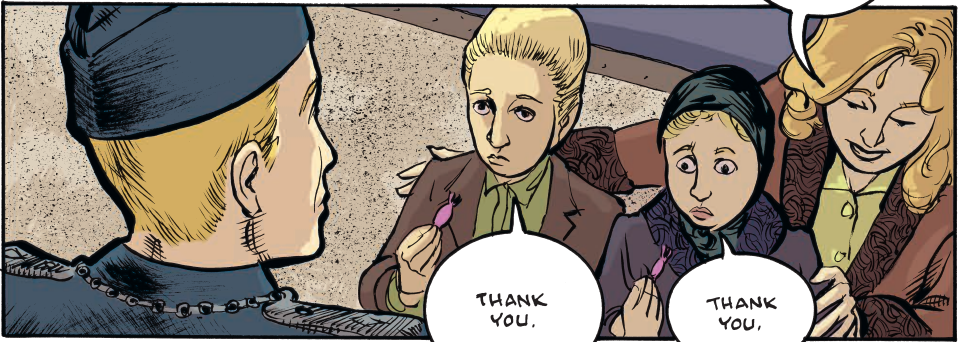
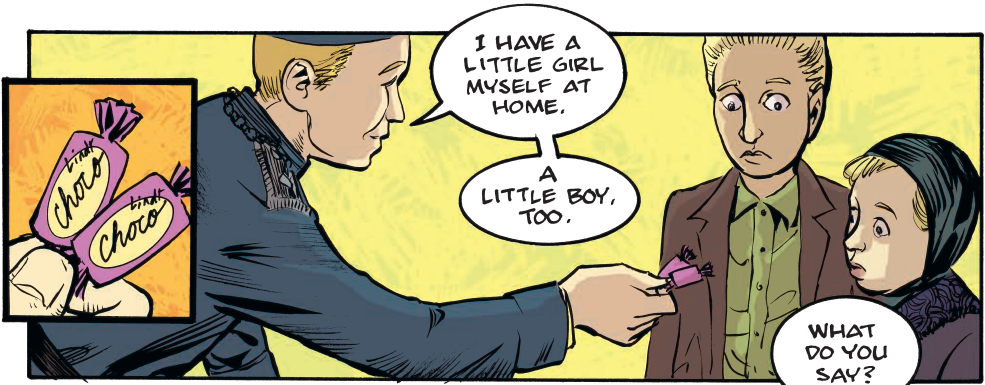
HENRI,
YOU LOOK JUST
LIKE A
TESSIER.

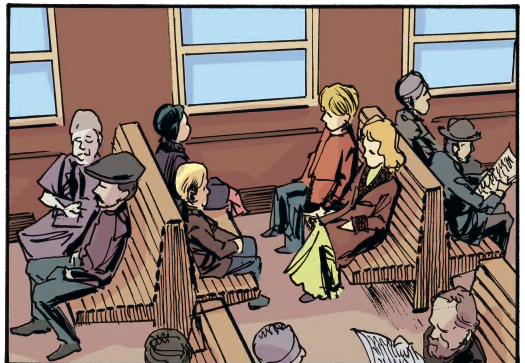


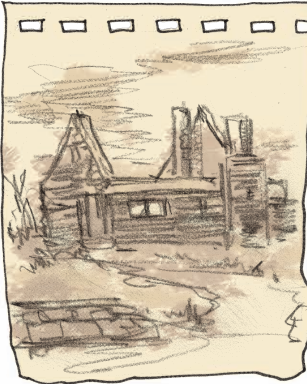
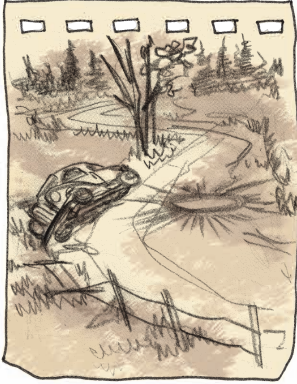
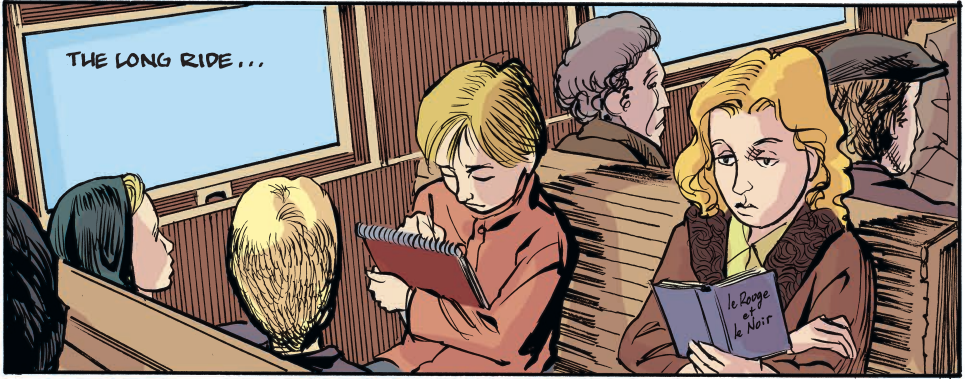
YOU
MEAN, LIKE
A LA CROIX,
OUR NEW
NAME.



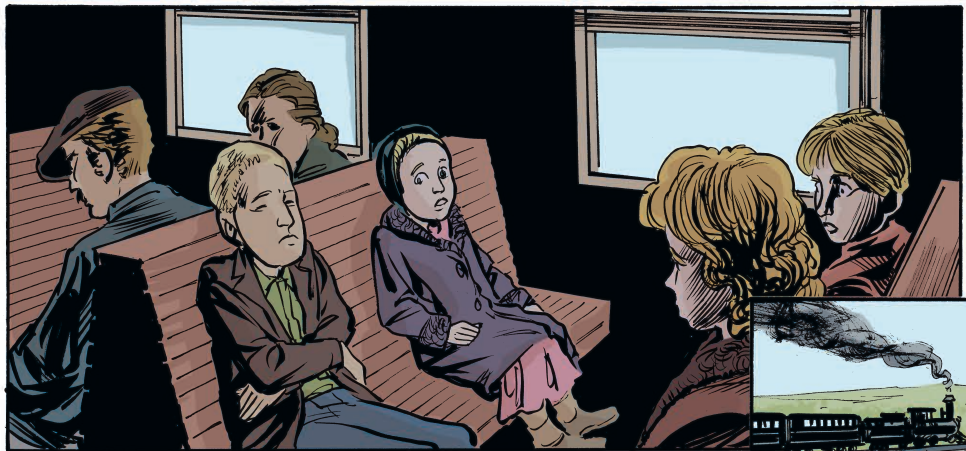


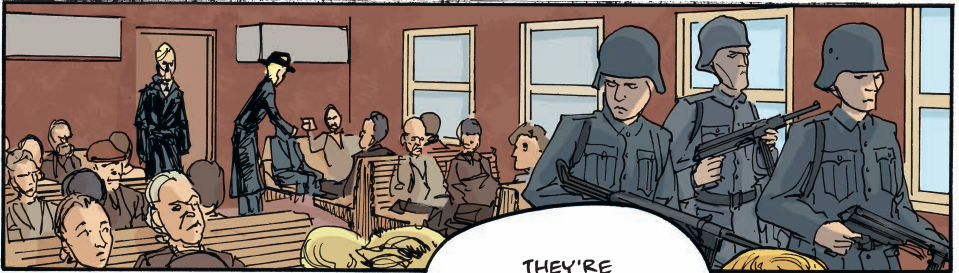
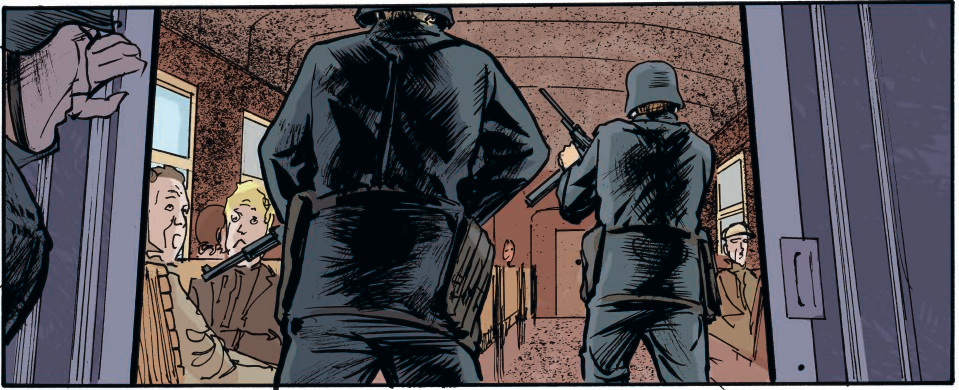
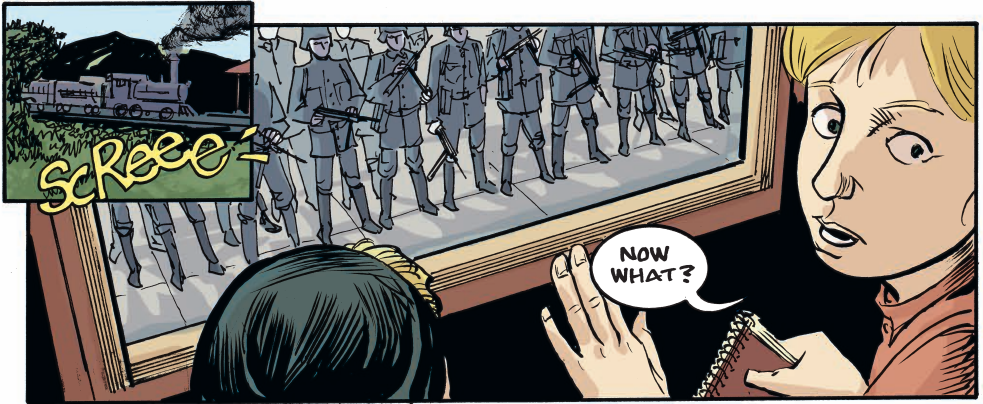




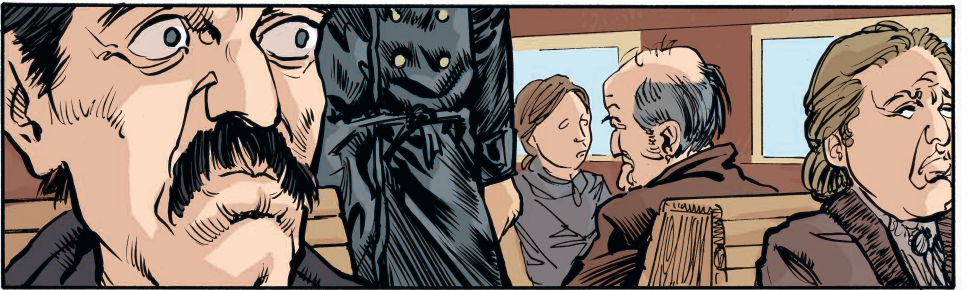
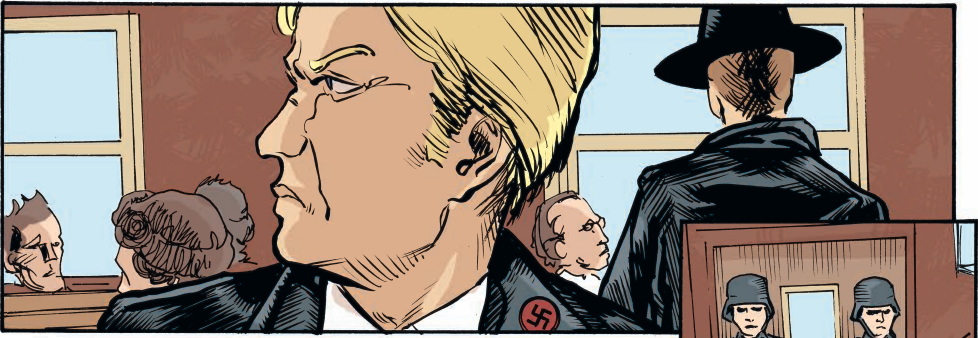




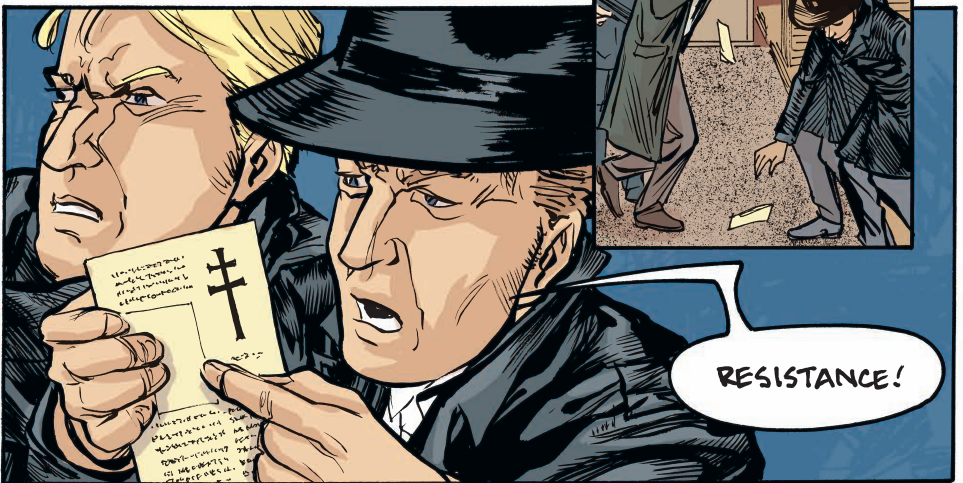
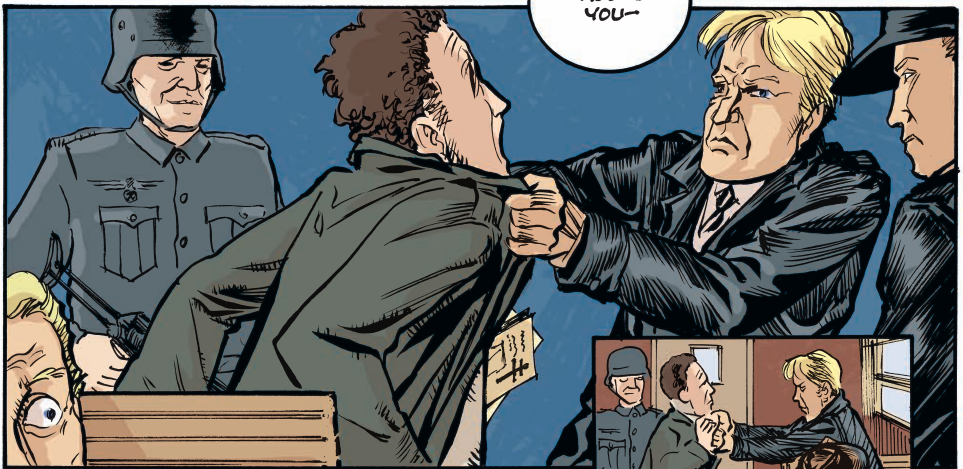


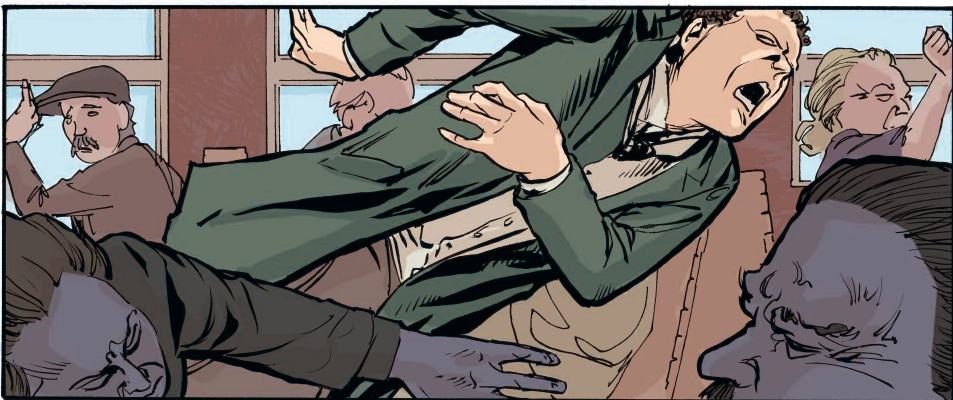


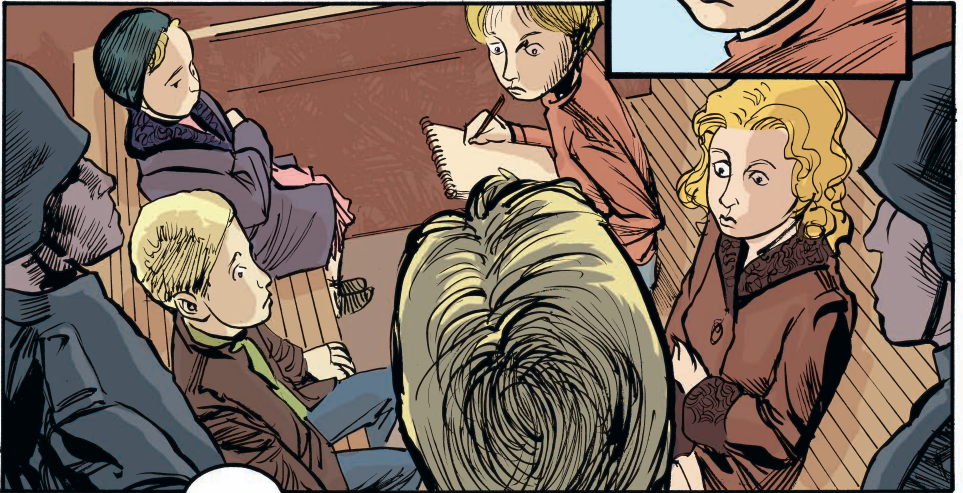
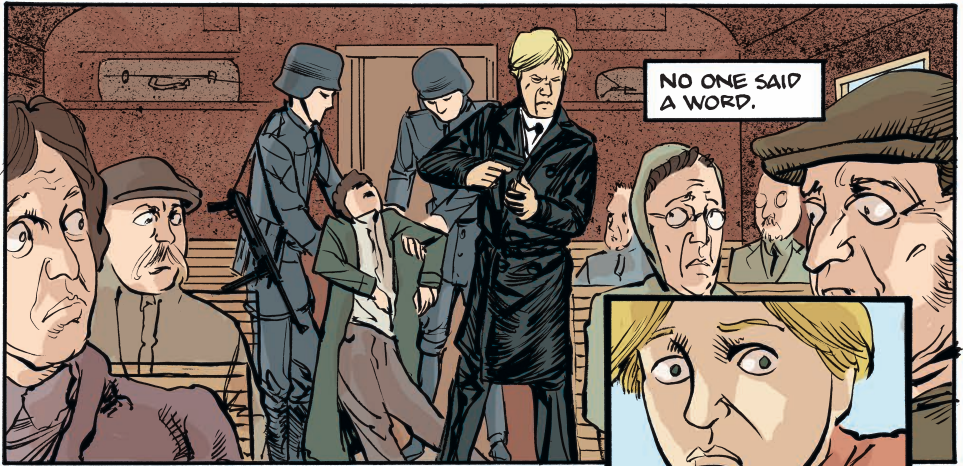






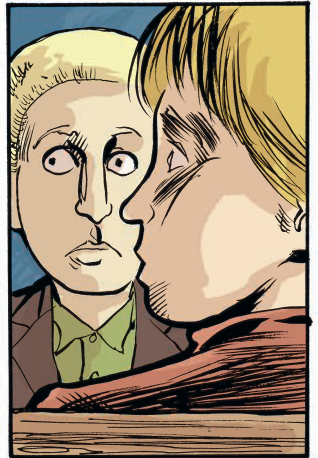
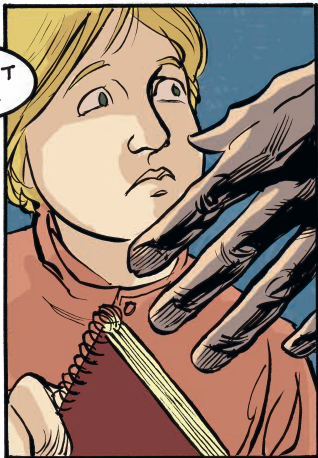


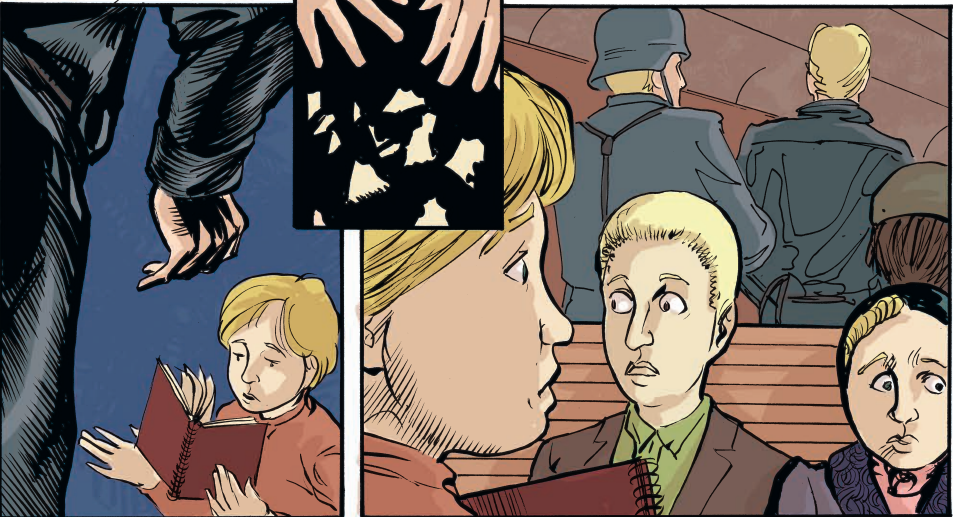
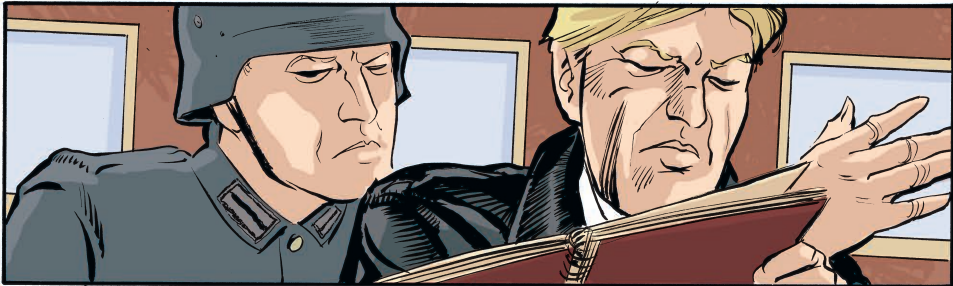


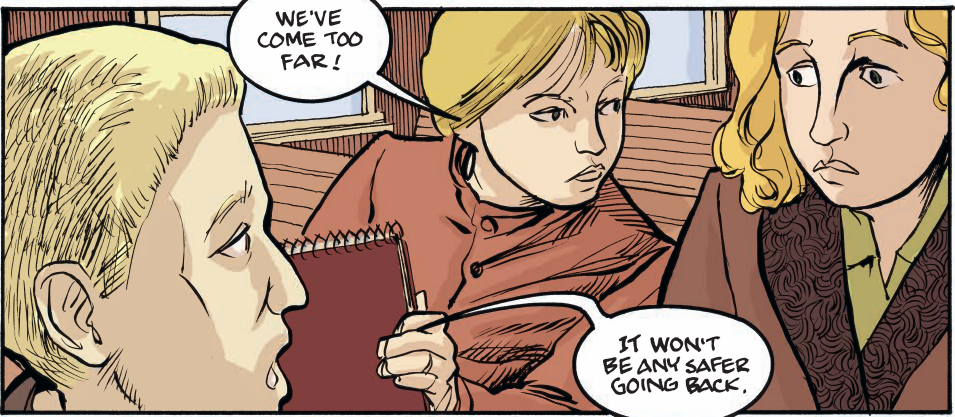
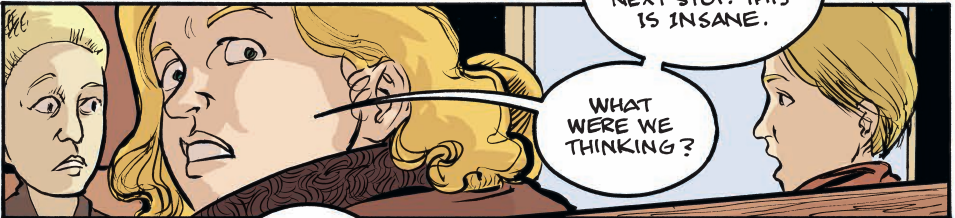


YOU!

HAND IT OVER.





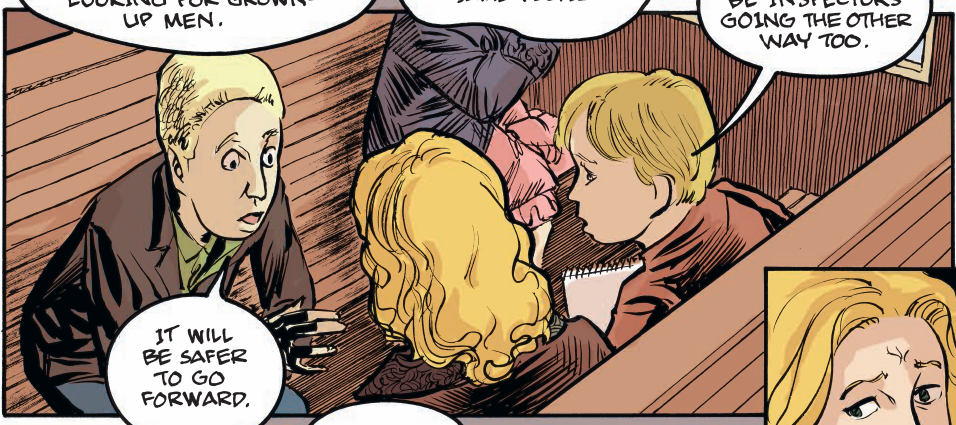




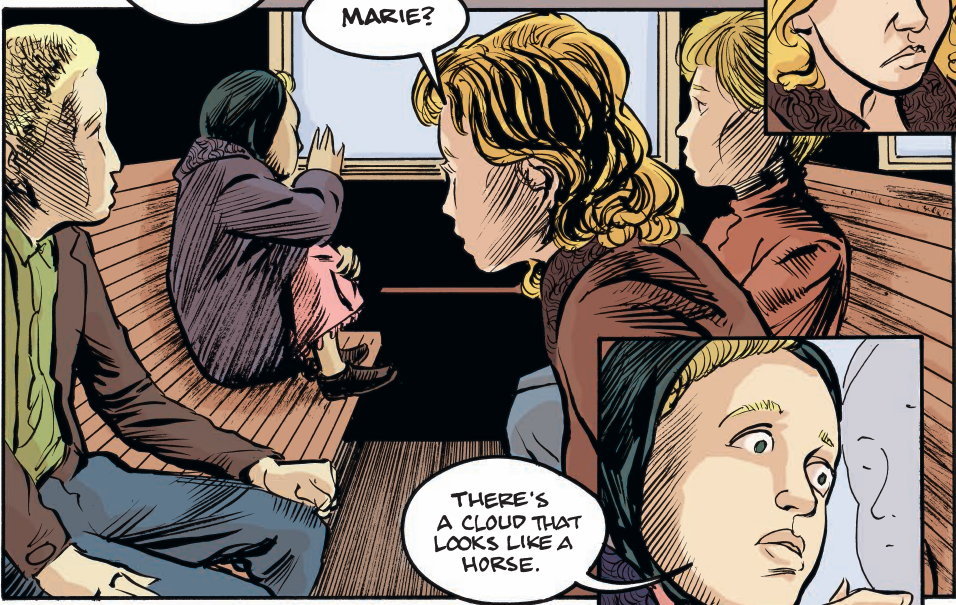
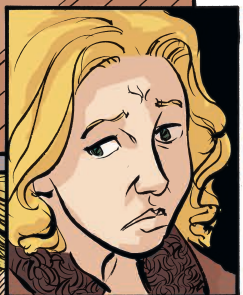
DON'T YOU SEE? THEY'RE NOT LOOKING FOR KIDS LIKE US, THEY'RE LOOKING FOR GROWN-UP MEN.

THEY'RE LOOKING FOR THE RESISTANCE, THE SAME PEOPLE—

THERE WILL BE INSPECTORS GOING THE OTHER WAY TOO.



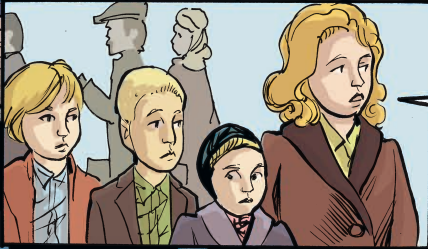
IT WILL BE SAFER TO GO FORWARD.



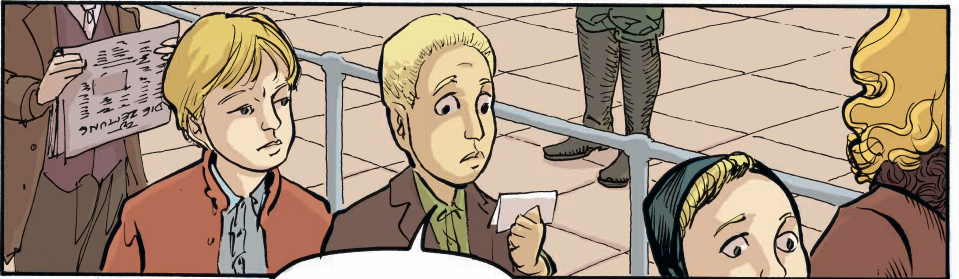
MARIE?

THERE'S A CLOUD THAT LOOKS LIKE A HORSE.





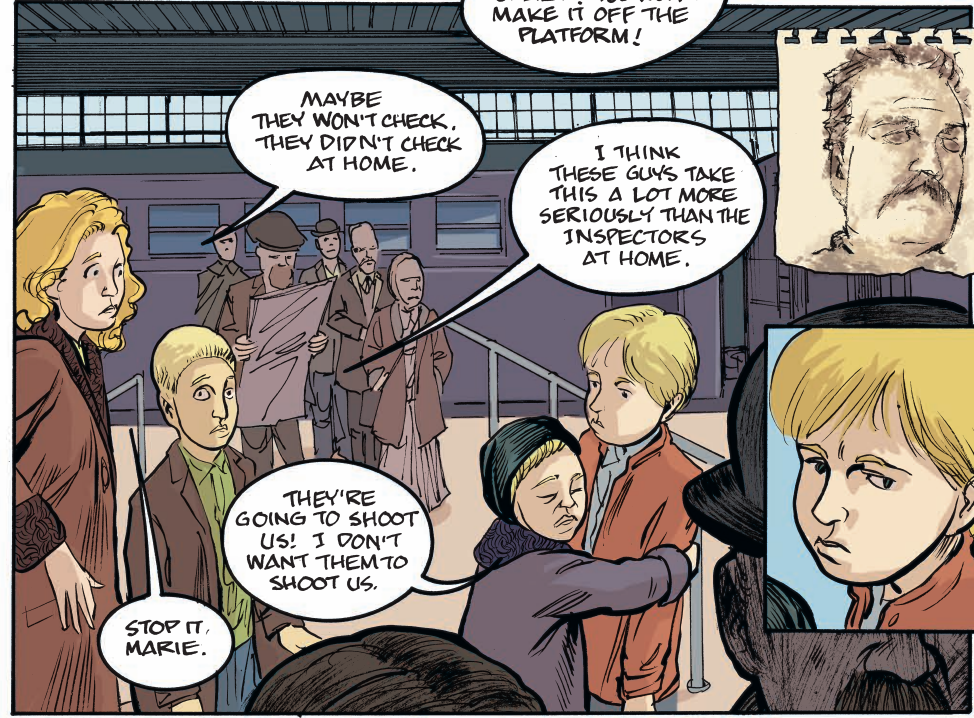
GET YOUR PAPERS READY, I WANT TO GET OUT OF HERE FAST.

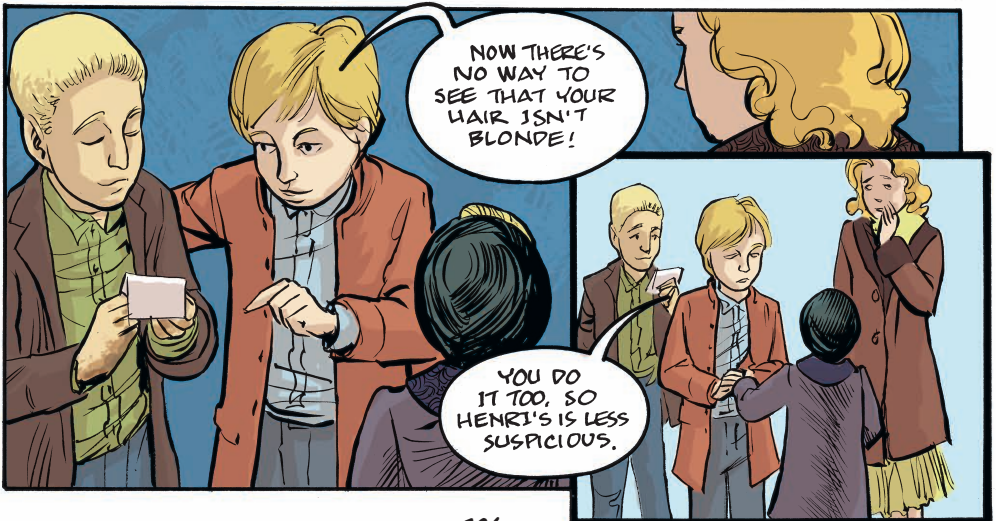
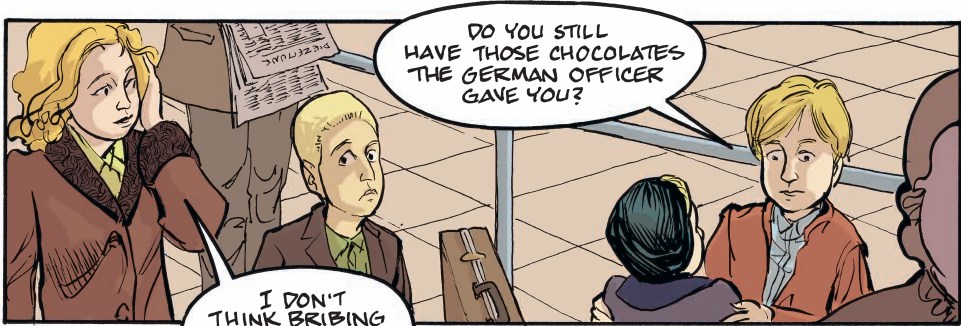


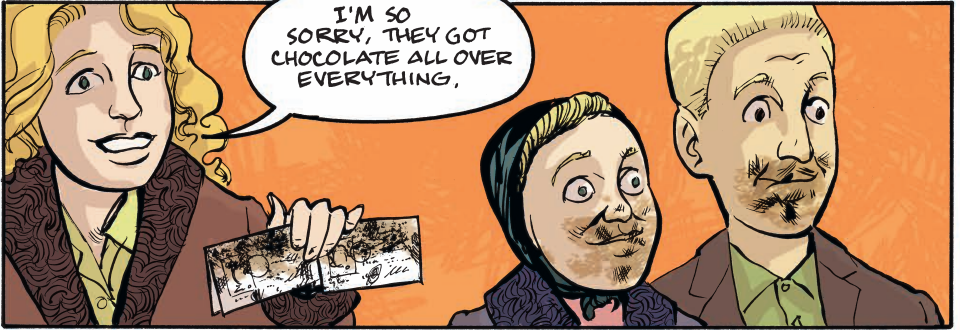
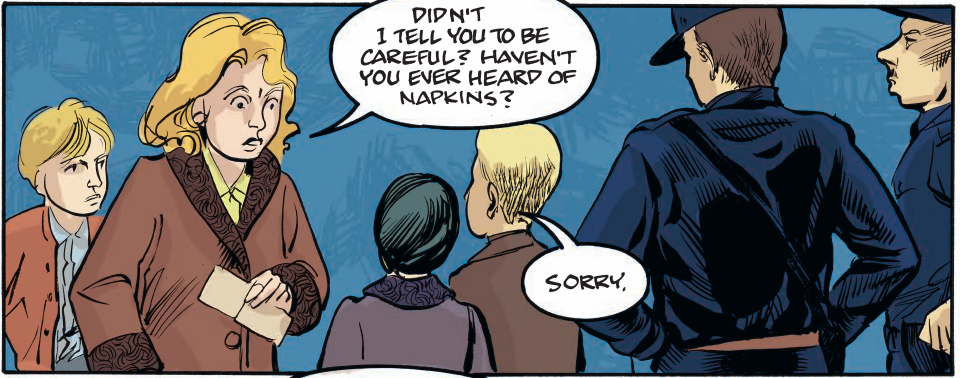
JASPER LA CROIX, JASPER LA CROIX.

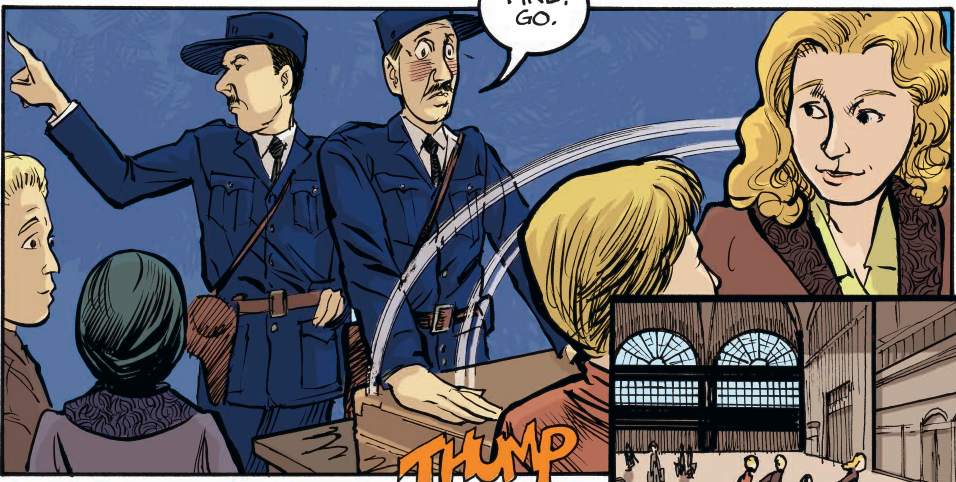
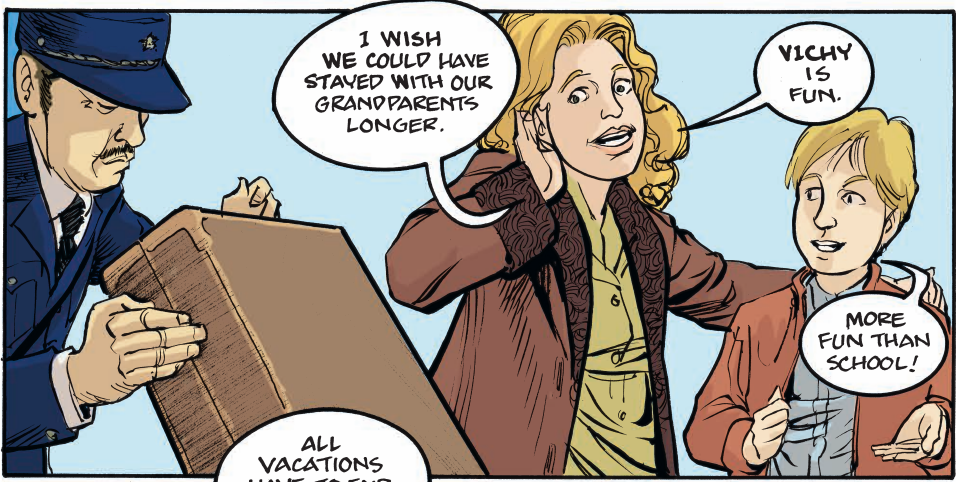


OH NO!



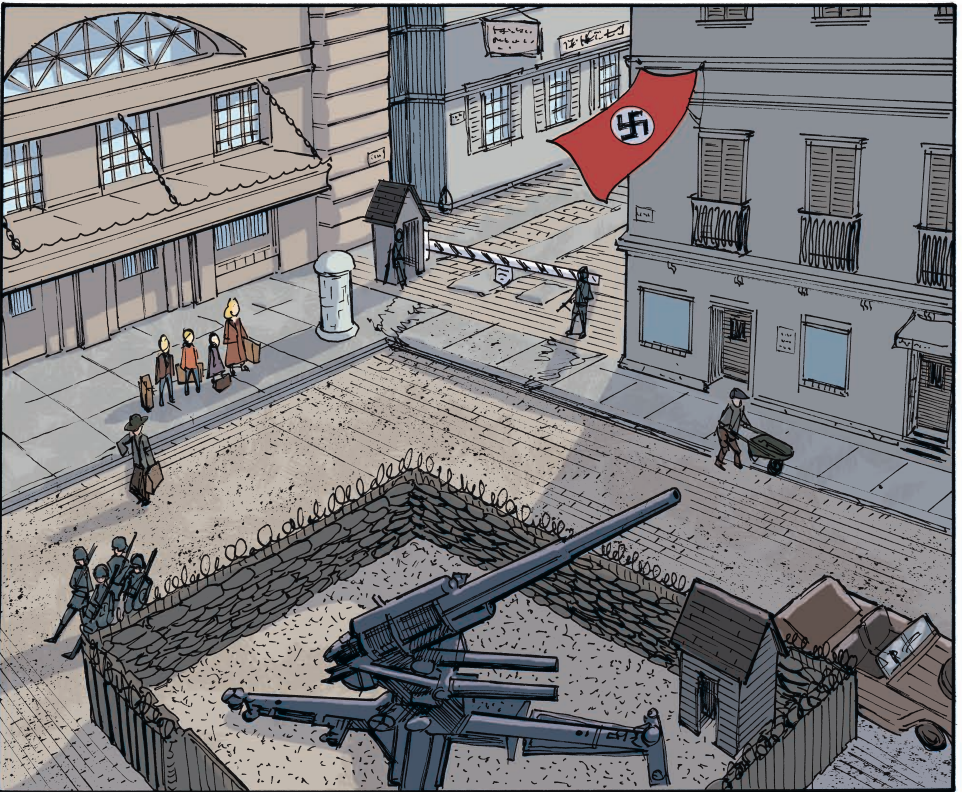
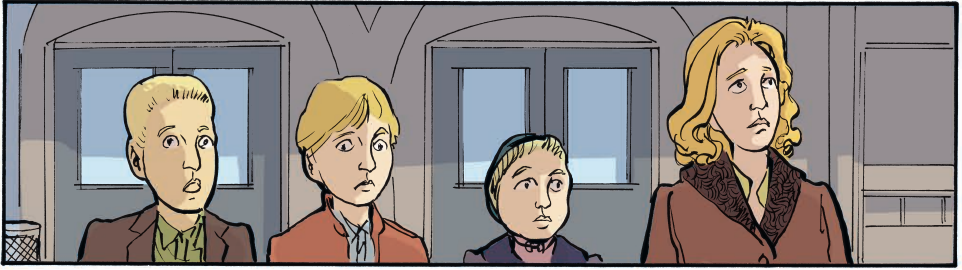


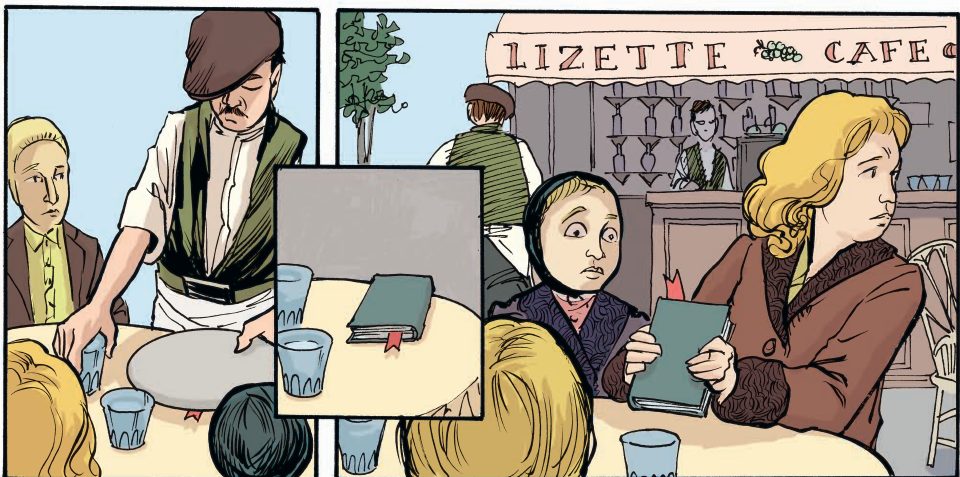
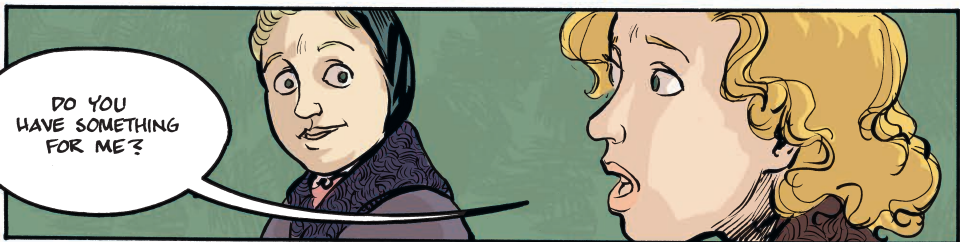


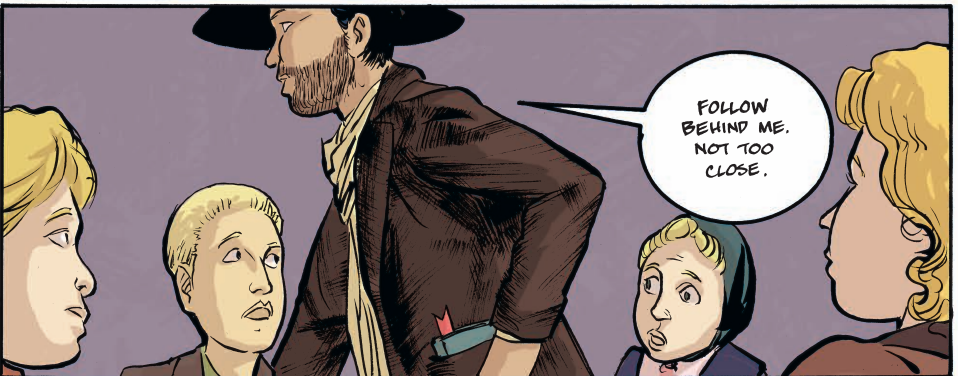
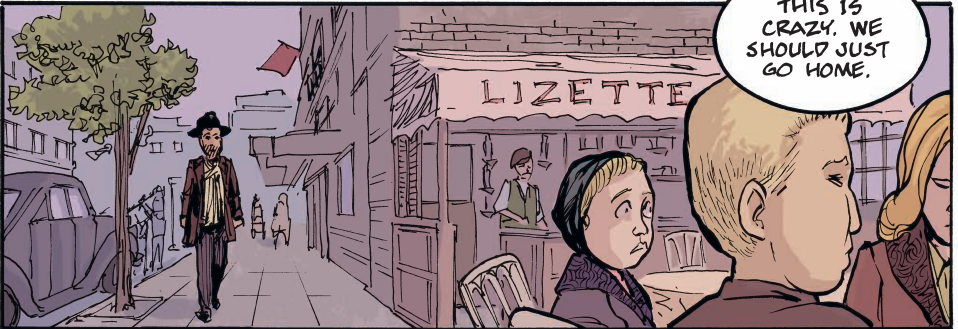
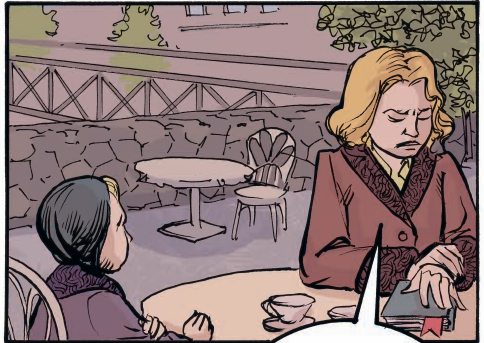
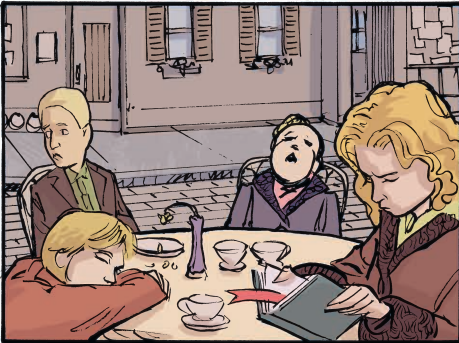
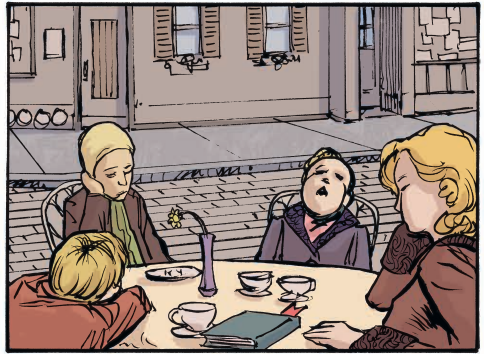
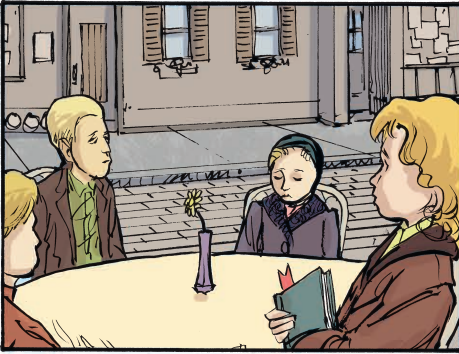


THUMP

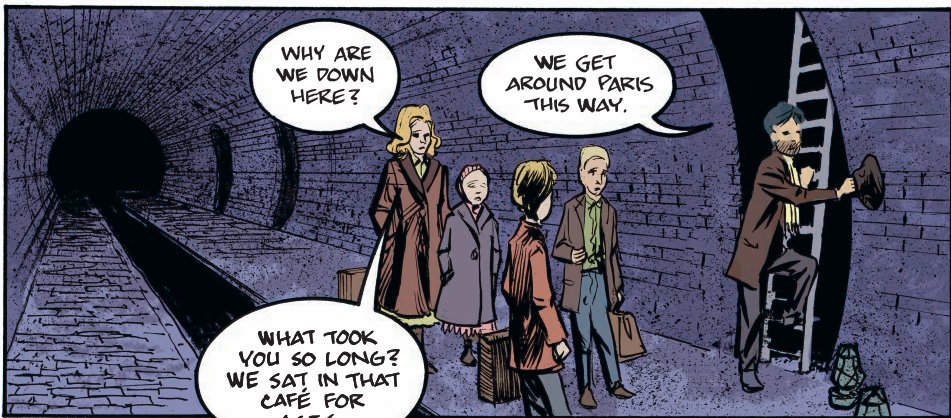












WHY ARE WE DOWN HERE?

WE GET AROUND PARIS THIS WAY.

WHAT TOOK YOU SO LONG? WE SAT IN THAT CAFÉ FOR AGES.

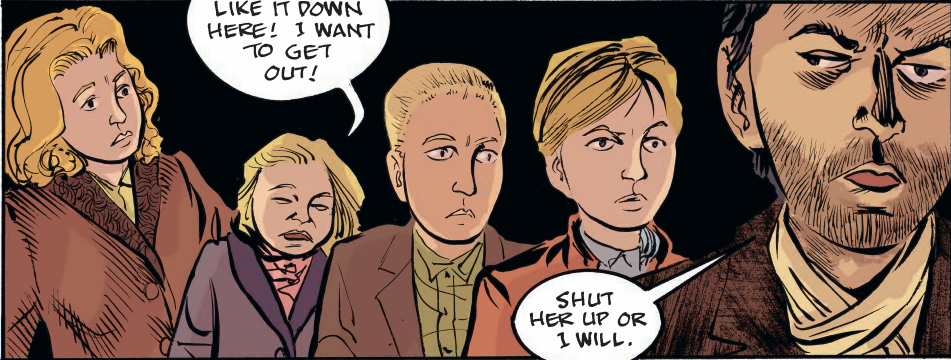


SORRY FOR THE INCONVENIENCE. I THOUGHT I SHOULD KEEP YOU ALIVE.

THERE WAS A KNOWN AGENT IN THE CAFÉ. HE MAY KNOW MY IDENTITY. IF YOU WERE SEEN WITH ME, YOU'D BE INSTANTLY SUSPECTED, DESPITE YOUR AGES.



I DON'T LIKE IT DOWN HERE! I WANT TO GET OUT!



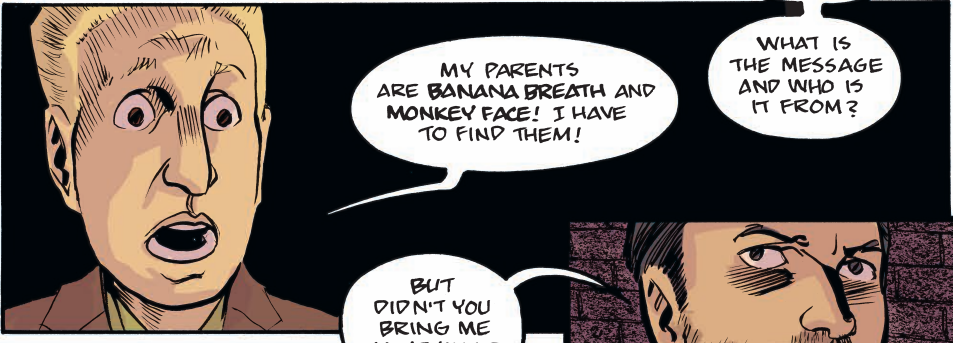
SHUT HER UP OR I WILL.



IT'S SAFER DOWN HERE, MARIE.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME?

I GO BY OREGANO.



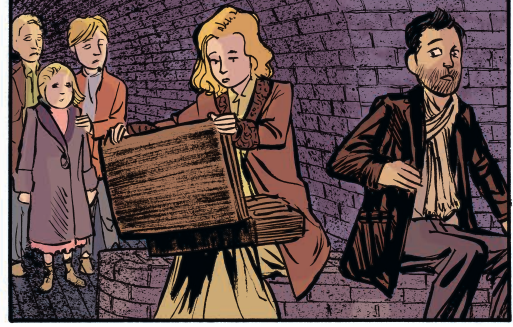
MY PARENTS ARE BANANA BREATH AND MONKEY FACE! I HAVE TO FIND THEM!

WHAT IS THE MESSAGE AND WHO IS IT FROM?

BUT DIDN'T YOU BRING ME ANYTHING?



YES...

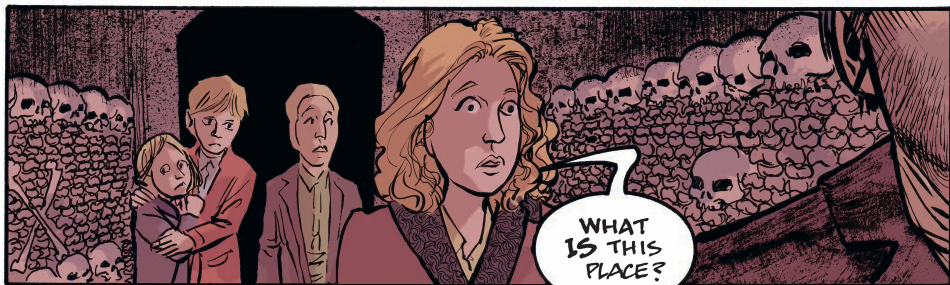


THAT WAS A SMART HIDING PLACE. SOMETIMES OFFICERS DON'T SEARCH A LADY'S... ER... PERSONAL ITEMS.

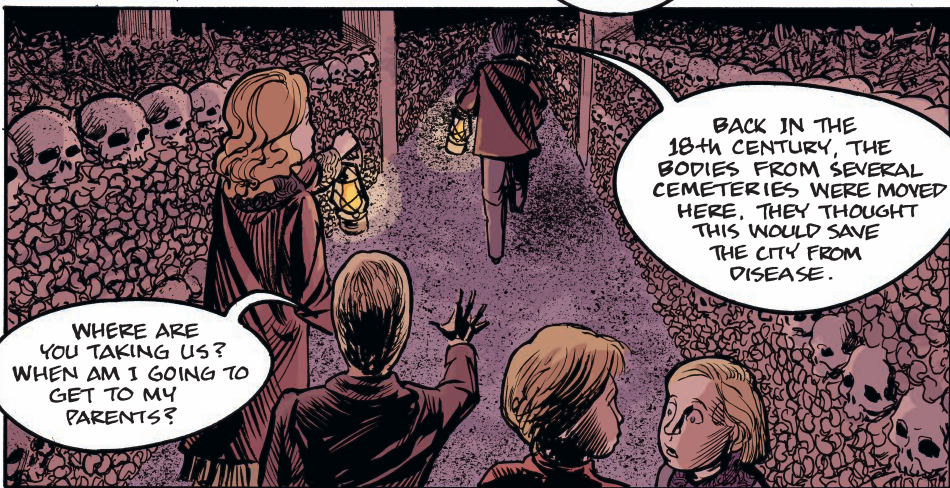


AND HELP MAKE CROSSING THE BORDER EASIER.





WHAT IS THIS PLACE?



BACK IN THE 18TH CENTURY, THE BODIES FROM SEVERAL CEMETERIES WERE MOVED HERE. THEY THOUGHT THIS WOULD SAVE THE CITY FROM DISEASE.

WHERE ARE YOU TAKING US?
WHEN AM I GOING TO GET TO MY PARENTS?

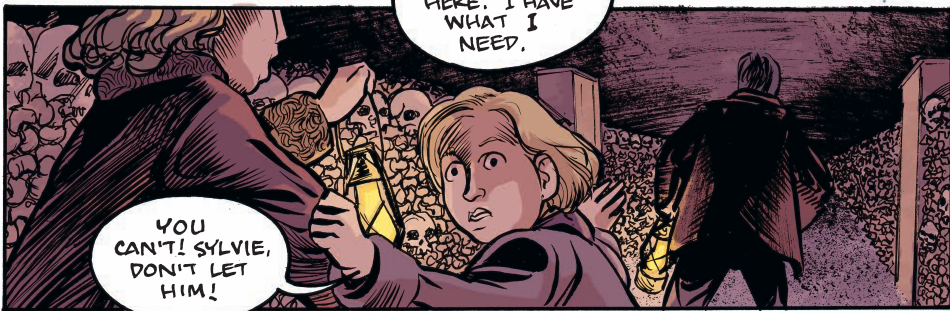


YOU ASK TOO MANY QUESTIONS.

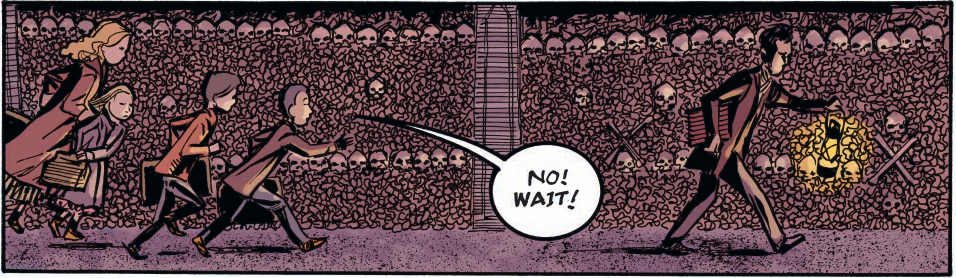
AND YOU NEVER ANSWER THEM!



I COULD JUST LEAVE YOU HERE. I HAVE WHAT I NEED.



YOU CAN'T! SYLVIE, DON'T LET HIM!





PAPA!
MAMAN!

HOW?
HOW DID—

MY
BABY! WHAT
HAPPENED
TO YOUR
HAIR?

IT WAS
SYLVIE'S IDEA,
TO MAKE ME
LOOK LIKE A
TESSIER!

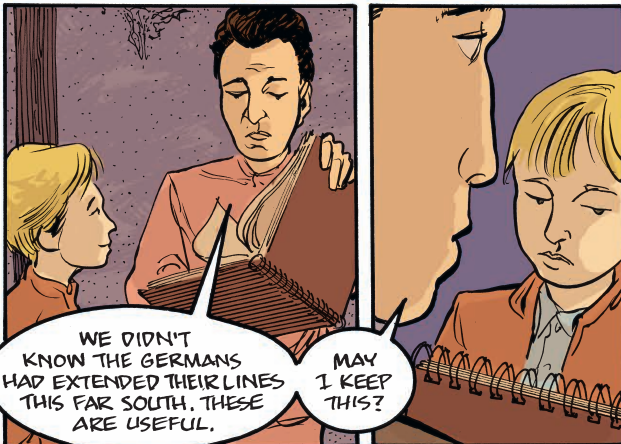
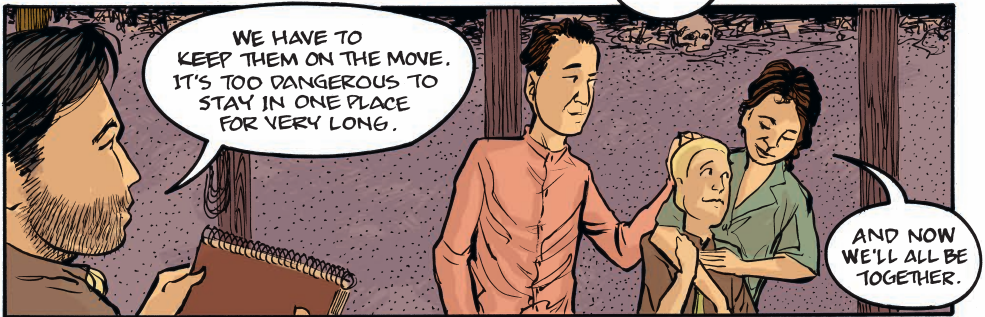
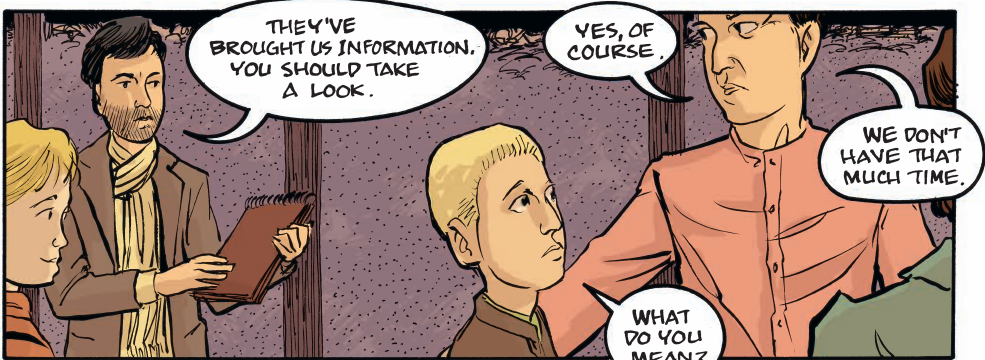
THEY
SHOT HIM!
RIGHT IN FRONT OF
EVERYBODY!

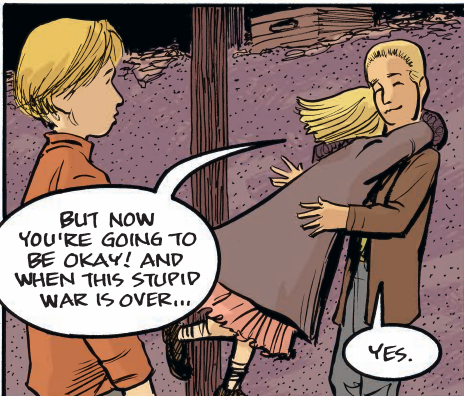
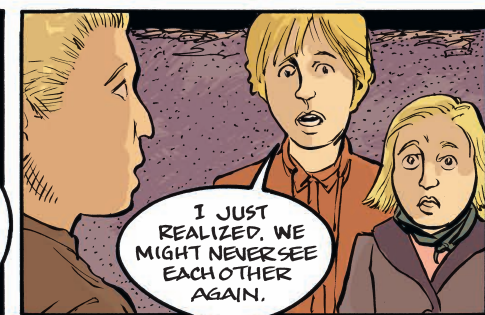
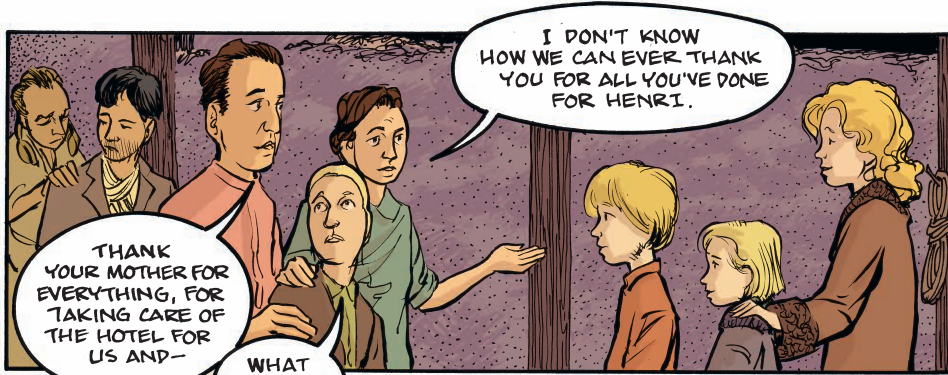
WHO?
WHO GOT
SHOT?

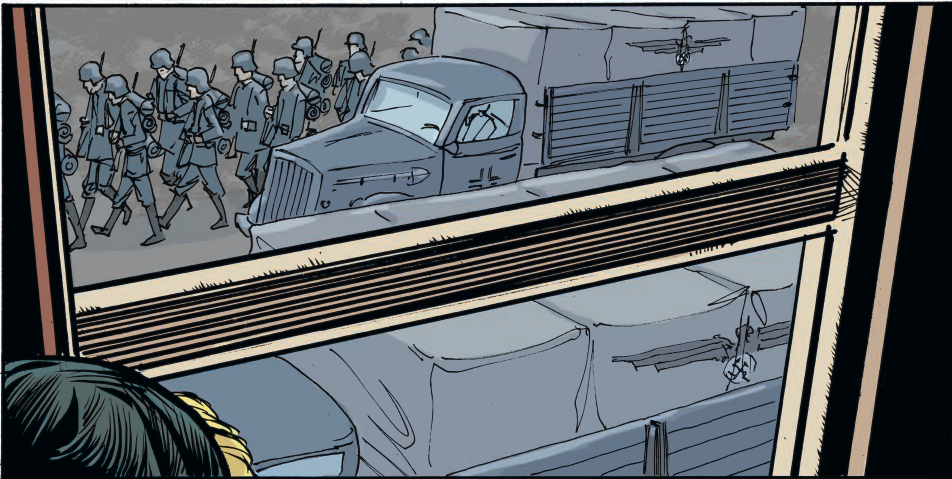
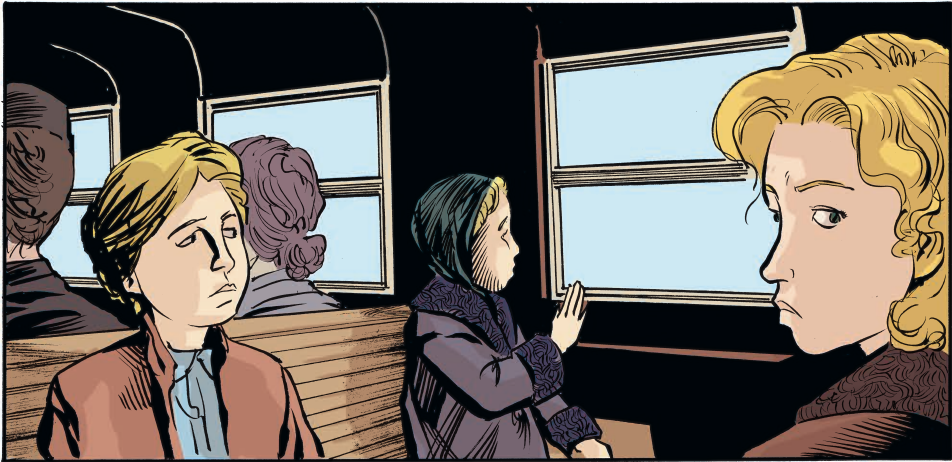
A MEMBER OF THE
RESISTANCE.

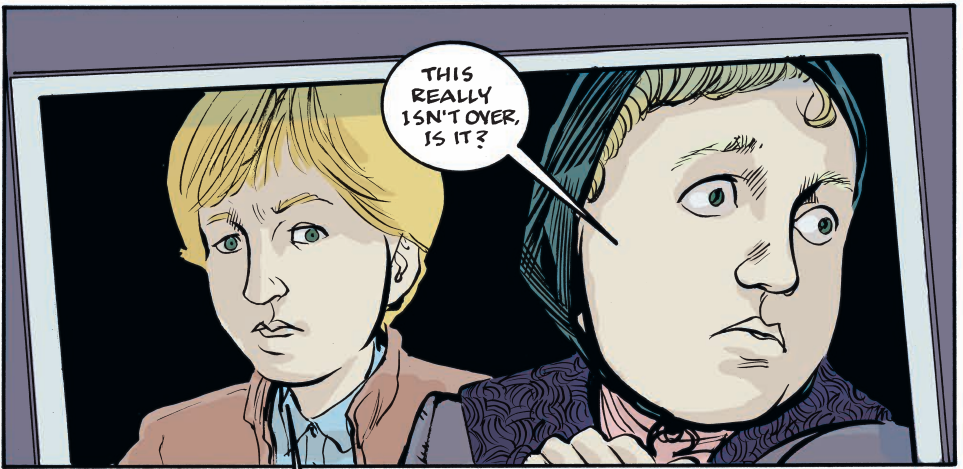
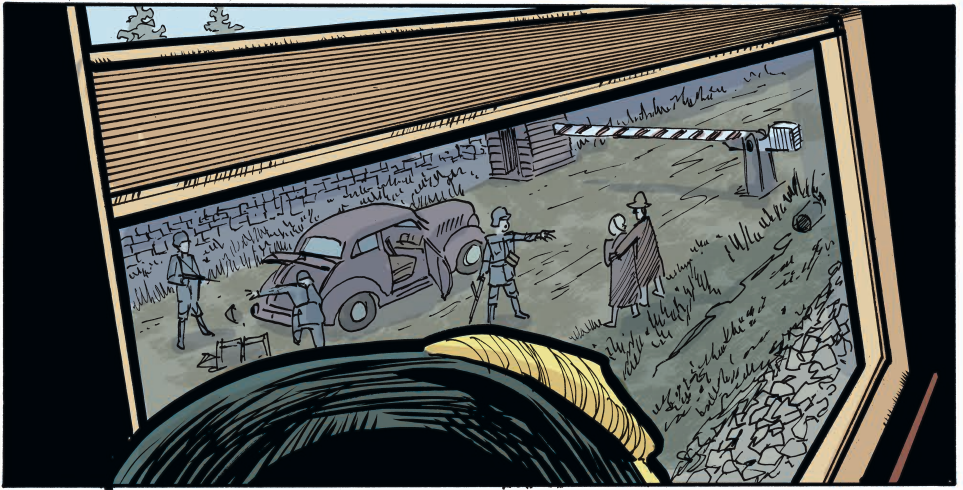
IT ISN'T
JUST US THEY'RE
AFTER,
IS IT?

NO,
NOT JUST
US.









—AUTHOR’S NOTE—

There is no simple history of the Resistance in France during World War II. That’s because resistance took many forms. There were well-organized secret paramilitary groups (who didn’t always work together, and often disagreed about strategy); there were the Maquis, who were much more casually structured and often used guerrilla tactics; and finally, there were ordinary people who took action where they could to oppose the puppet Vichy government and the German occupiers.

This last group, perhaps, would be described as part of a resistance movement, rather than as members of “the Resistance.” But all risked their lives, putting themselves—and perhaps others—in danger, and were crucial in the fight to liberate France.

Looking back, it may be easy to say that the only right action was to resist the German invaders, and to condemn those who didn’t. But the definitions of who was a collaborator and who was a resistor are not so clear-cut. If a farmer made a big profit by selling to the Germans rather than to his hungry neighbors, he might have been considered a collaborator. After all, he was working with and helping the Germans. But this same farmer may also have been hiding forbidden radios, newspapers, or even Resistance fighters—putting his own life in danger.



And Resistance operatives, as brave as they were, weren’t saints. They could be petty, vindictive, and sometimes used the Resistance as an excuse to steal or fight. Complicating things further, conditions in France were always changing. How French people felt and what they believed in 1940 were not necessarily the same in 1944.

History as written has a way of seeming clear, even inevitable. Yes, there may be different versions of “the truth,” but there are definite winners and losers, friends and enemies, loyalties and betrayals.

History as lived is anything but clear! There is no way to watch the events unfold and make

decisions based on somehow knowing what the outcome will be. Living history is messy, filled with missteps, confusion, mistakes, and choices made on the fly, in the moment, on the spot—with consequences that can be unpredictable and unintended.

Living in a country that has never been occupied, like the U.S., it is hard to imagine the pressures people faced. These pressures were both external (physical threats, lack of food, disappearing neighbors) and internal (fear, family loyalty, national pride, belief systems) and they influenced the choices people made. What seems obvious to us now was probably not at all obvious to anyone then.



If the Vichy government brought peace and saved lives, perhaps that wasn't such a terrible thing. If the British and the Americans bombed your town as they attacked German operations in your country, or demolished the roads they (and you) used, would you welcome them as heroes? If a daring sabotage of a train station by the Resistance resulted in the Germans taking revenge by executing forty townspeople, was it really a good move to make?

But what if you did nothing? How could you allow an invading army to take what you and your family owned, change your way of life, kill your friends, neighbors, and family members? Destroy everything you believed in, everything that mattered to you? What then?

Each French citizen, from the oldest great-grandmother to the youngest child, faced decisions like these on a daily basis. Each had their own story, their own personal concerns to weigh, risks to assess with no idea of how things would turn out, or even what the next day would bring. Sometimes those choices were regrettable, sometimes noble. All were difficult.