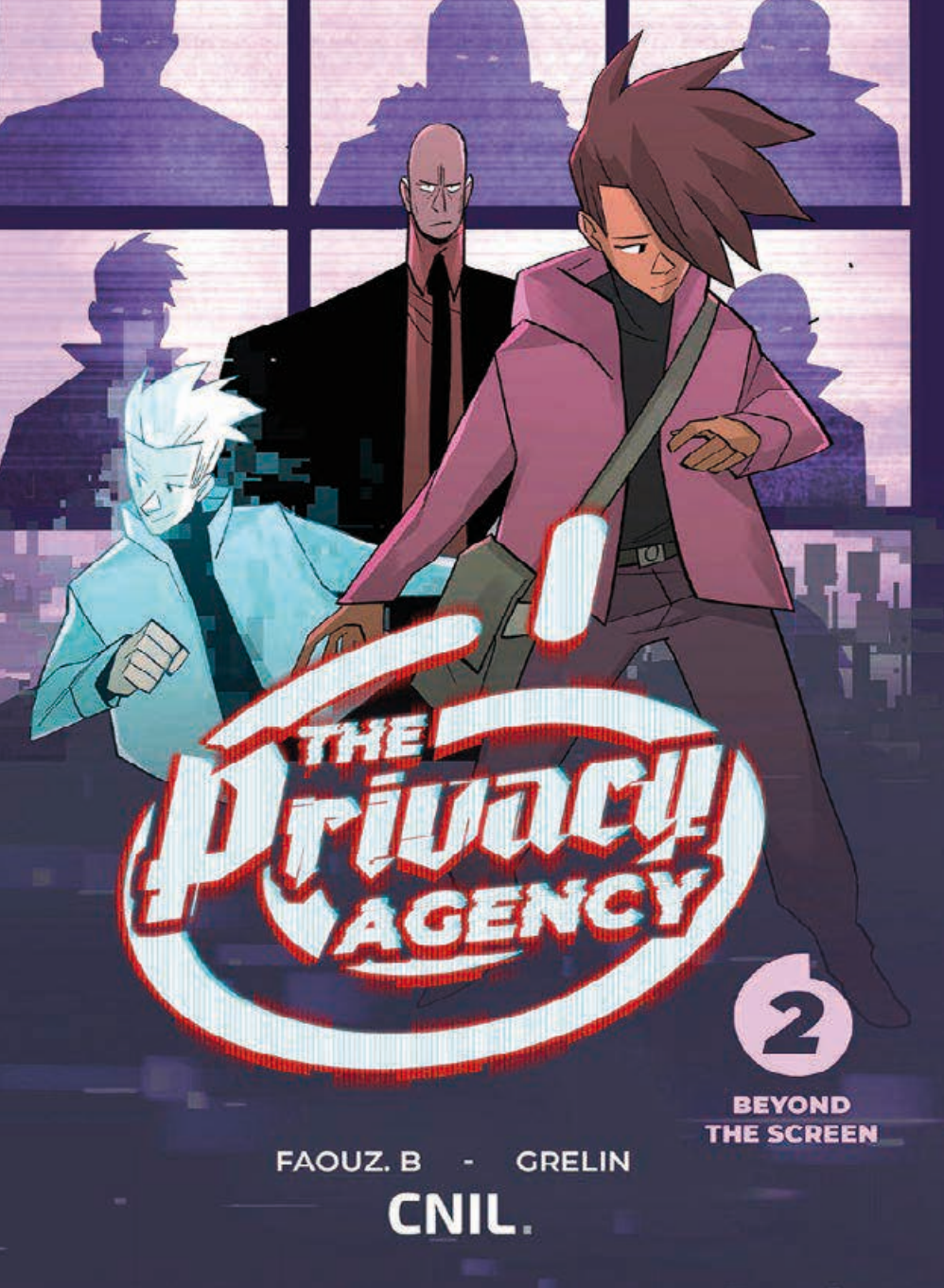
THE
Privacy
AGENCY
2
BEYOND
THE SCREEN
FAOUZ. B - GRELIN
CNIL.

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L'AGENCE
Privacy

Previously on
THE PRIVACY AGENCY - Volume 1
«The Shadow network»

Today's the day. Inaya, Agent Z of the Privacy Agency, is finally heading into the field.

With her colleague Isidore — Agent X — tagging along as a hologram, she dives into her investigation across several high schools.

Smart, seriously talented, and just a little bit clumsy, Inaya is about to crash into the lives of three teenagers: Lucas, Bryan, and Léna.

Together, they'll have to piece together what connects them — and answer one burning question:

Why did their names turn up on a list, buried in the ruins of a hideout belonging to none other than Daft Web, the internet's most dangerous cybercriminal?

Scan the QR code to access the CNIL website,
where you can download or read Volume 1 online.

You'll also find plenty of other tools to help you navigate the digital world safely.


1×
SLO-MO
VIDEO
PHOTO
PORTRAIT
SQU


HDR
TRAPCAT


HDR
TRAPCAT


TRAPCAT
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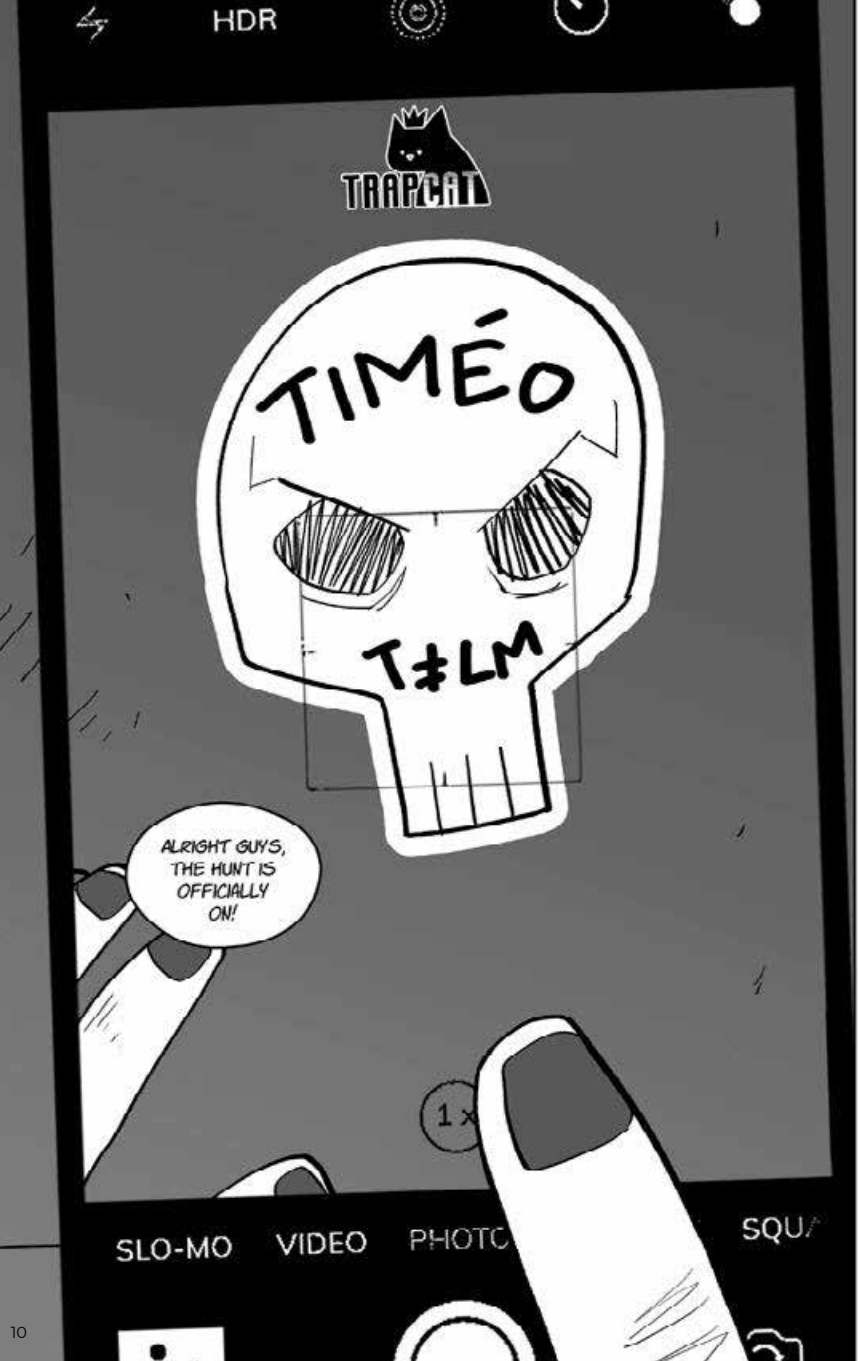
HDR
TRAPCAT
TIMÉO
T≠LM
ALRIGHT GUYS, THE HUNT IS OFFICIALLY ON!
1×
SLO-MO
VIDEO
PHOTO
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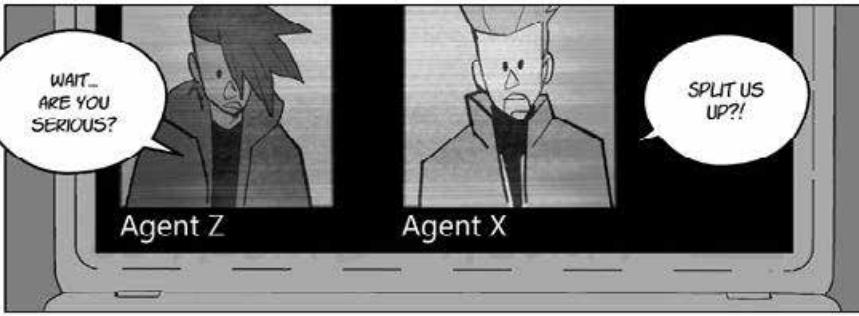
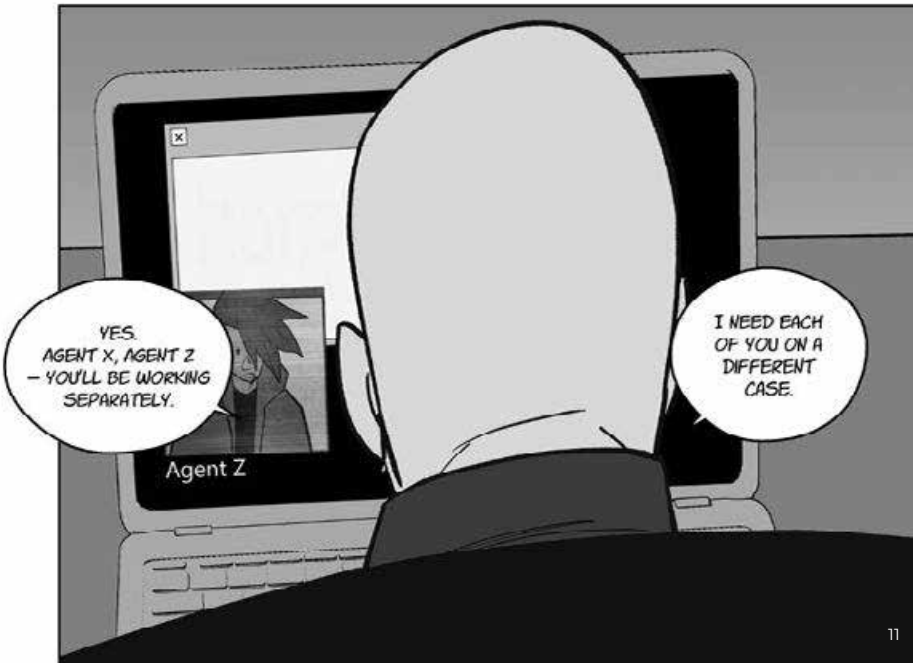

WAIT... ARE YOU SERIOUS?
Agent Z
Agent X
SPLIT US UP?!


YES. AGENT X, AGENT Z — YOU'LL BE WORKING SEPARATELY.
Agent Z
I NEED EACH OF YOU ON A DIFFERENT CASE.


AGENT X, YOU'LL CARRY ON INVESTIGATING DAFT WEB
YOUR LATEST FINDINGS ON THE THREE SITES POSSIBLY LINKED TO HIM ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT...


ALRIGHT... FINE, SIR. WHATEVER YOU SAY.


AND YOU, AGENT Z, WILL BE LOOKING INTO THIS NEW WAVE OF CHALLENGES ON TRAPCAT.


OH, YOU MEAN THOSE 'HUNTS'?


PRECISELY.


THEY'VE BEEN POPPING UP MORE AND MORE THESE PAST FEW MONTHS. AND WE GOT ALERTED JUST THIS MORNING. LOOKS LIKE A NEW HUNT HAS STARTED IN YOUR HOMETOWN.
AGENT Z, ANY CHANCE YOU'VE GOT FAMILY THERE? OR FRIENDS WHO COULD LET YOU STAY WHILE YOU INVESTIGATE?
AGENT Z ?
UH... YEAH...
AN AUNT? A COUSIN? A FRIEND?
TOASTIE... AN AUNT, SORT OF.


KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN SOMEDAY.
ATTENTION PLEASE, PLATFORM ONE: THIS TRAIN IS NOT IN PASSENGER SERVICE




WOOSHHHH


YOU AT THE STATION?
YEAH.


YOU'RE GOING BACK TO YOUR HOMETOWN. PRETTY NICE, ISN'T IT?
YEAH...
YOU SAID YOU HAD SOMEWHERE TO STAY, RIGHT?


YEAH... AT TOASTIE'S...
SO IF I GOT THIS RIGHT, TOASTIE'S YOUR BEST MATE'S MUM?

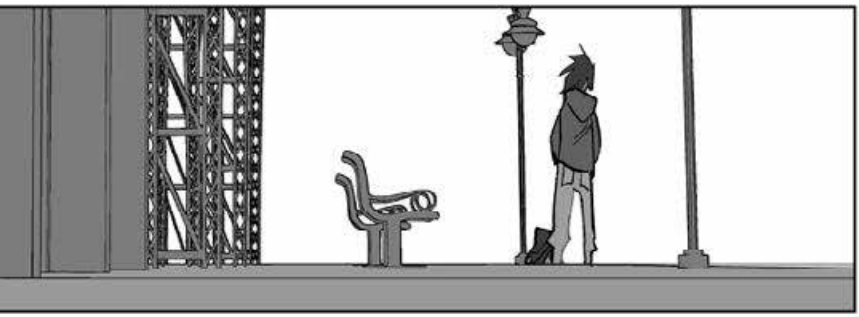

NOT JUST MY BFF*...
MY SISTER... MORE LIKE MY TWIN.
* BEST FRIEND FOREVER

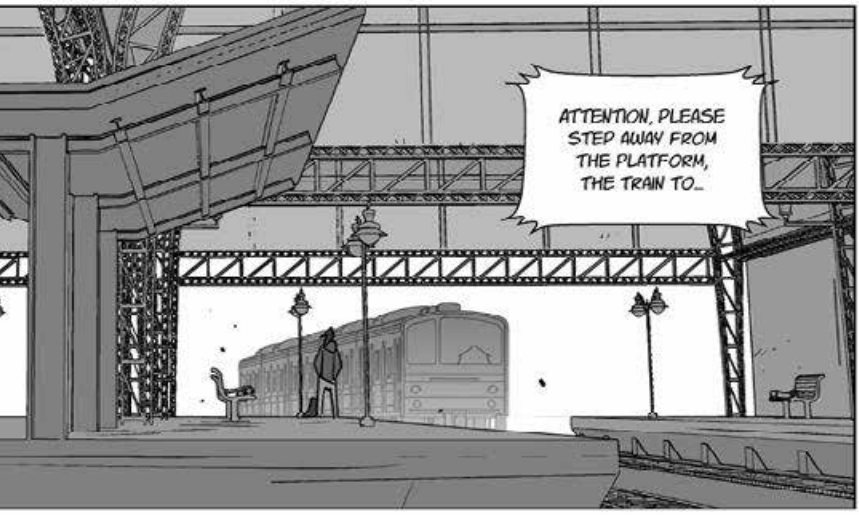

SO WHAT'S SHE DOING NOW?
THAT'S THE MAIN QUESTION...
WE WERE INSEPARABLE FROM DAYCARE ALL THE WAY THROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL... DESK NEIGHBORS AT SCHOOL. ALWAYS TOGETHER, EVEN ON WEEKENDS AND DURING VACATIONS.
AND?
AND... MY PARENTS GOT HOME LATE, AND TOASTIE OFTEN LOOKED AFTER ME AT HER PLACE.


WHEN I WAS REALLY LITTLE, AROUND THREE YEARS OLD, I COULDN'T SAY 'AUNT LINE' PROPERLY, SO...
SO... YOU'D SAY 'TOASTIE' AND IT STUCK?
YEAH.
INA, YOU'VE SEEMED DISTANT SINCE THE MEETING, WHAT'S GOING ON?
NO, DON'T WORRY. NOTHING SERIOUS.
OKAY... WHATEVER YOU SAY, BUT DON'T HESITATE TO CALL ME IF YOU NEED TO TALK, OKAY!


ISI. DON'T WORRY.
BESIDES, MY TRAIN'S ABOUT TO ARRIVE ANYWAY.
WELL, I'D BETTER RUN TOO THEN, I'VE GOT A VIDEO CALL STARTING SOON.
OKAY.
LATER !
LATER...






ATTENTION, PLEASE
STEP AWAY FROM
THE PLATFORM,
THE TRAIN TO...


WE RISK WASTING A HUGE AMOUNT OF TIME ON TRAINING.
YOU'RE THROWING OFF ALL OUR PROCESSES.
I KNOW. I KNOW, YOU WANT TO USE OTHER TOOLS. BUT OUR CLIENT INSISTED ON IAgØ.


THEN HE NEEDS TO BE WARNED ABOUT THE RISK: THE TIMELINES ARE GOING TO BLOW UP.


JUST FOCUS ON TRAINING YOUR TEAMS. I'LL HANDLE THE REST.
JUST KEEP IN MIND THE ONE AND ONLY GOAL OF OUR ORGANISATION:


SLIP THROUGH THE CRACKS AND PROFIT FROM THEM.








ALRIGHT. LET'S GET BACK ON TRACK.
Project
CONSTELLATION
Date
File n°
TOP SECRET


INAYETTE !


TOASTIE...






DRIIING



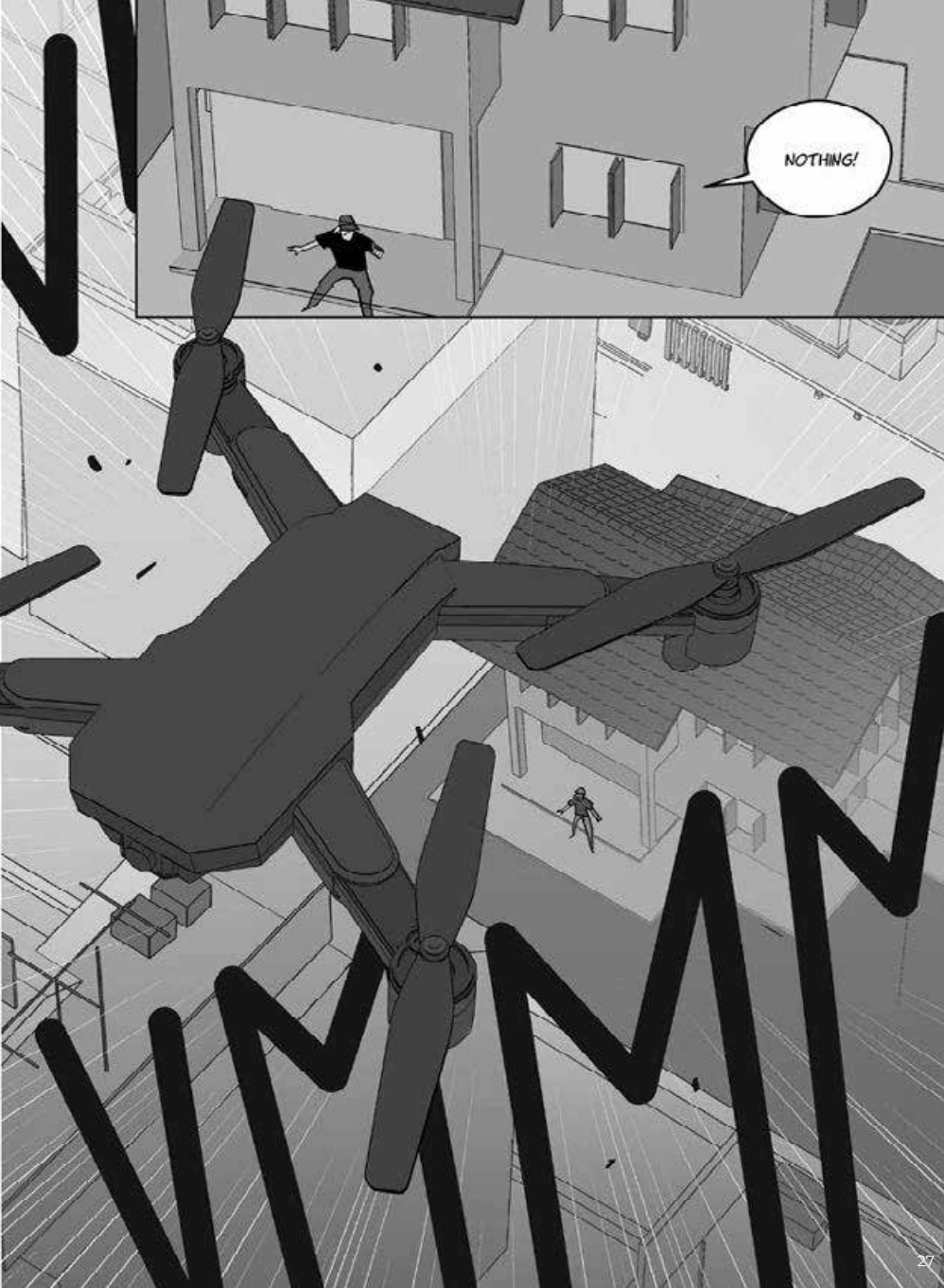



CLAC


SERIOUSLY, YOU GUYS AREN'T FUNNY.

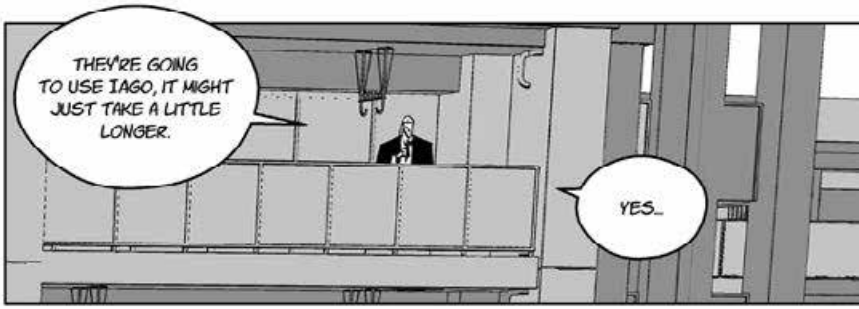

MY MOM WANTS TO CALL THE POLICE, SO YOU'D BETTER CUT IT OUT.


IT'S NOT FUNNY !
CAN YOU HEAR ME?!


NOTHING!


TAP
OI GUYS, THAT'S TEN MORE POINTS FOR OUR TEAM!!!
NICE ONE WOLF_VETO_666
TWIT
TAP
WITH THESE NEW POINTS...
THE PACK TAKES THE LEAD AGAIN!

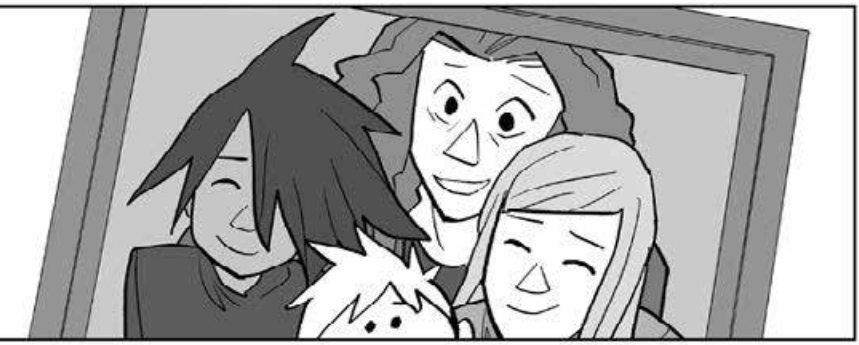



THEY'RE GOING TO USE IAGO, IT MIGHT JUST TAKE A LITTLE LONGER.
YES...


DON'T WORRY. EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL.
PERFECT. IN THAT CASE, I'LL GET BACK IN TOUCH WHEN WE LAUNCH THE NEXT WAVE.









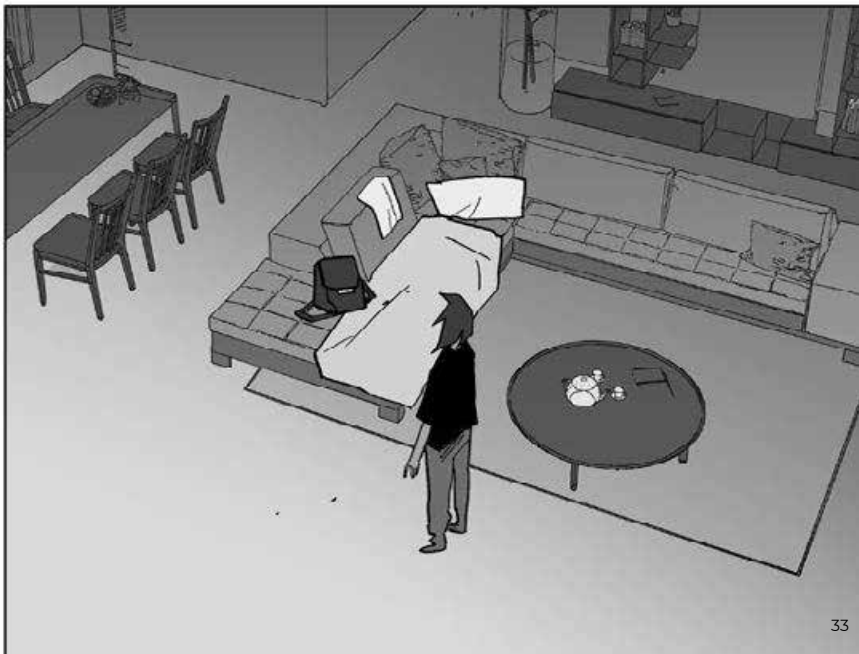

I WAS CONVINCED HE WAS PLAYING ON HIS HANDHELD CONSOLE, BUT NO, HE'S SNORING LIKE A CHAINSAW.


I BROUGHT SOME CLEAN SHEETS. YOU'LL SLEEP IN HER ROOM.
NO!
I'M SORRY...
I DON'T WANT TO SLEEP IN THERE...
I CAN'T SLEEP IN HER ROOM.
I'D RATHER SLEEP ON THE COUCH.
ALRIGHT THEN. IF THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT. HERE—THERE'S A PILLOW, SHEETS AND A DUVET.
AND TELL ME IF YOU NEED A BLANKET OR ANYTHING ELSE, ALRIGHT ?
YEAH. THANKS, TOASTIE.


SWEETHEART...
I HAVE TO ASK, EVEN THOUGH I THINK I ALREADY KNOW THE ANSWER...
SHE HASN'T GOT BACK IN TOUCH WITH YOU? NOT EVEN BY TEXT, EMAIL, SOCIAL MEDIA, OR PHONE?
NO. STILL NOT... I'M SORRY
DON'T BE. IT'S JUST THAT... I FELT LIKE I HAD TO ASK, WHICH IS SILLY, I KNOW.
IF SHE'D CALLED YOU, YOU'D HAVE TOLD ME, RIGHT?
OF COURSE.
YOU KNOW, IF I COME ACROSS A LEAD... IF I GET EVEN THE SMALLEST BIT OF INFO, YOU'LL BE THE FIRST TO KNOW.


I KNOW, I KNOW... ALRIGHT, I'LL LEAVE YOU BE. YOU'VE GOT A BIG DAY TOMORROW.
NIGHT, MY LITTLE INAYETTE.


NIGHT, TOASTIE.




ONLINE, SOME PEOPLE HAVE BAD INTENTIONS AND MAY TRY TO IMPERSONATE YOU OR BLACKMAIL YOU.
OTHERS WANT TO SCAM YOU OR DAMAGE YOUR REPUTATION.
TO DO THAT, SCAMMERS USE SEVERAL TECHNIQUES:
- CHANGING YOUR USERNAME AND PASSWORD ON AN ONLINE ACCOUNT, TO TAKE CONTROL OF IT
- SENDING YOU A VIRUS THROUGH A LINK IN A MESSAGE, TO ACCESS YOUR DEVICE
- SENDING YOU MESSAGES PROMISING EASY MONEY, TO GET YOU TO SEND THEM CASH
- SHARING EDITED IMAGES OR VIDEOS OF YOU
STAY ALERT!

AGENT-i

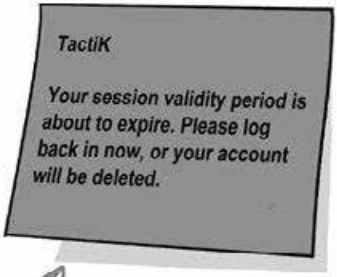
Fake Technical Support

A pop-up shows up on your screen (or a chat window opens with someone "calling" you) saying your computer's infected with a virus.



Phishing

Someone sends you a fake message (email, text, or private message) that looks like a real one, as if it were from your bank, your delivery company, or your school.



The most common methods

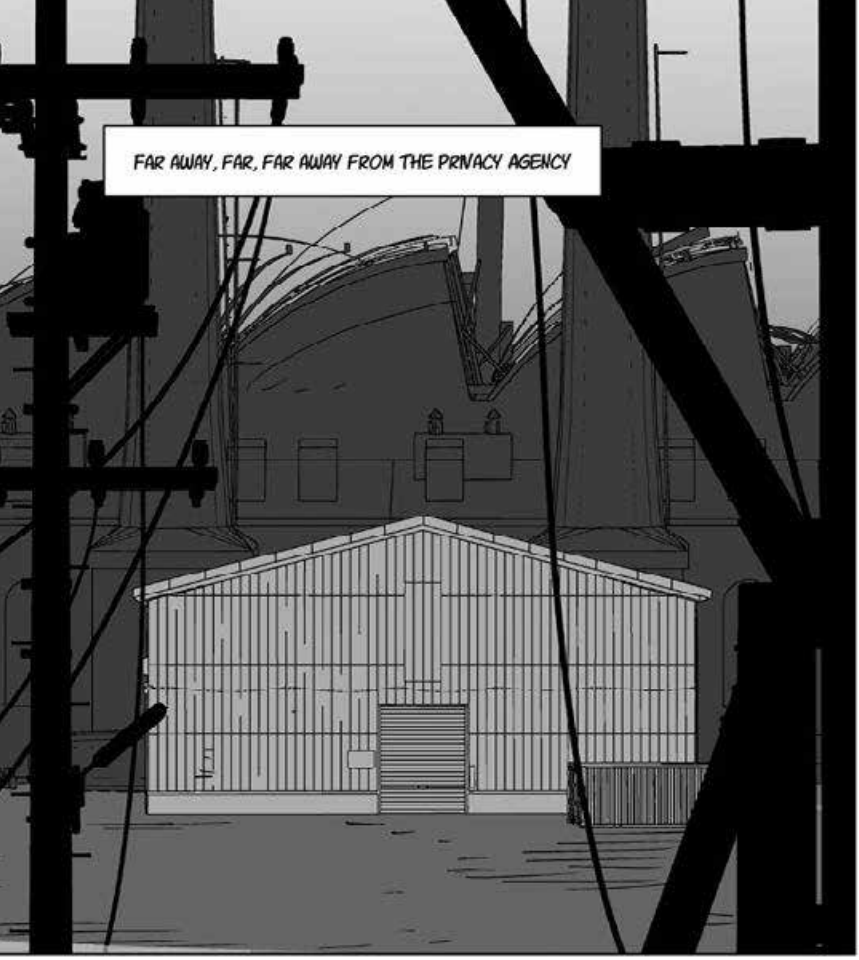
Financial Scam

You read a message or an ad promising some amazing investment opportunity. Spoiler: the whole point is to get you to send money you'll never see again.

Virus

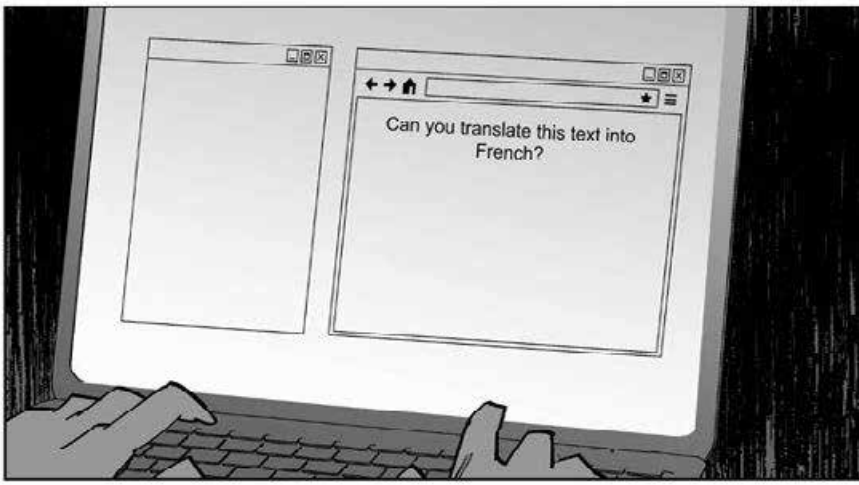
A malicious computer program gets into your phone or computer to take control of it. This can happen just from browsing a sketchy site — like one for downloading a movie or streaming a match.

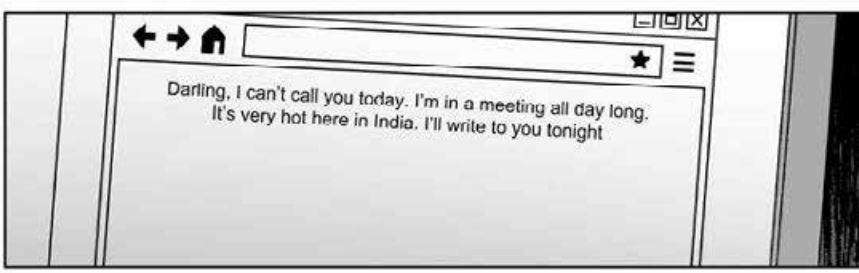

IN GREEK MYTHOLOGY, IT IS SAID THAT TO MAKE UP FOR HIS BROTHER EPIMETHEUS'S MISTAKE, THE TITAN PROMETHEUS CLIMBED UP TO THE SUN TO LIGHT A TORCH.
HE THEN GAVE THE SACRED FIRE TO MEN, THOSE POOR CREATURES WITHOUT CLAWS OR FANGS.
THANKS TO FIRE, MEN COULD SURVIVE... FIRE WAS USED TO FIGHT OFF FEROCIOUS ANIMALS AND THE COLD OF WINTER.
YEARS PASSED, THEN CENTURIES, THEN MILLENNIA.
FIRE HELPED MEN. THANKS TO IT, THEY COULD COOK FOOD. THANKS TO IT, THEY COULD TRAVEL, EXTEND THEIR REACH, AND CONQUER EVER MORE TERRITORY.
THANKS TO FIRE, THEY CREATED POTTERY, THEN METALLURGY...
BUT ALSO FIRES, PYRES, AND CANNONS.
EVERY MAJOR NEW INVENTION OR TECHNOLOGY UPENDS THE COURSE OF HUMANITY: THE WHEEL, THE PRINTING PRESS, THE STEAM ENGINE, NUCLEAR ENERGY, COMPUTING, OR AI.
TECHNOLOGIES ARE TOOLS IN HUMAN HANDS, AND AS SUCH, THEY CAN EITHER HELP HUMANITY OR ENSLAVE IT.


FAR AWAY, FAR, FAR AWAY FROM THE PRIVACY AGENCY






Can you translate this text into French?


Darling, I can't call you today. I'm in a meeting all day long.
It's very hot here in India. I'll write to you tonight


MANON'S HIGH SCHOOL.
MANON ?
DO WE KNOW EACH OTHER?
LISTEN, THIS IS GOING TO SOUND STRANGE, BUT I WANT TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT THE HUNT ON TRAPCAT. THE ONE YOU FELL VICTIM TO.

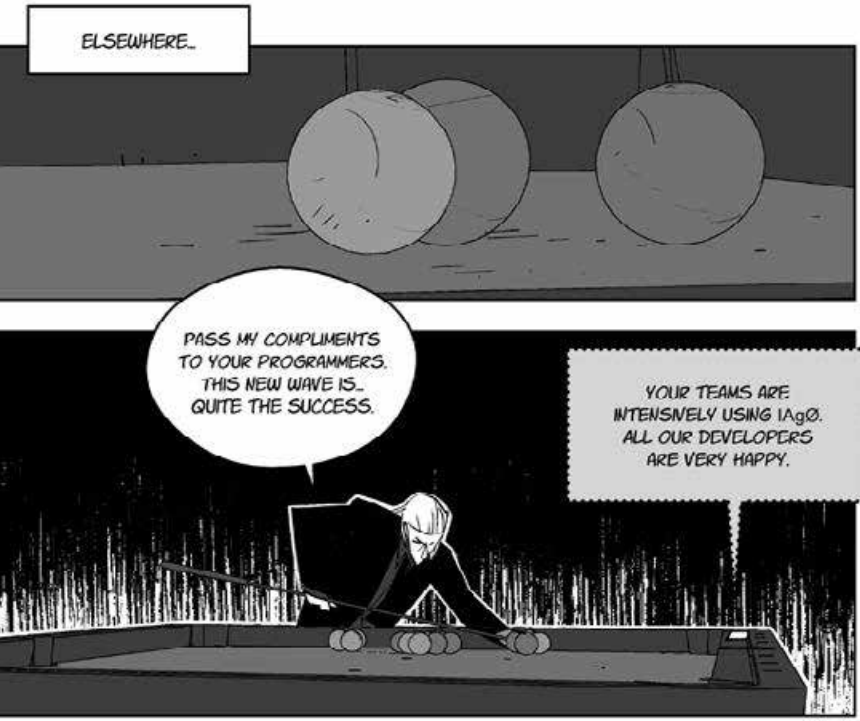

WHY?
WAIT, ARE YOU A VICTIM TOO?
NO. NOT ME, BUT I KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS...
AH... I SEE... OKAY, I'M LISTENING.
DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU WERE TARGETED?


BECAUSE THEY'RE JUST A BUNCH OF JEALOUS LOSERS?!


SERIOUSLY, YOU DON'T THINK THERE'S ANOTHER REASON?
AN EXPLANATION?


NO IDEA... I JUST REMEMBER IT WAS HELL AT THE TIME, IT HAPPENED RIGHT AFTER MY PARENTS' DIVORCE.
FOR HOW LONG ?
THESE IDIOTS KEPT RINGING THE DOORBELL DAY AND NIGHT. THEY'D STICK SKULL STICKERS ON THE DOOR OR WRITE NASTY THINGS.


THREE MONTHS. ONE DAY, IT JUST STOPPED, ALL OF A SUDDEN. THEY STOPPED FOLLOWING ME ON THE STREET, STOPPED COMING TO STICK THEIR STICKERS ON OUR DOOR. THEY JUST MOVED ON TO SOMETHING ELSE.
THEY PROBABLY FOUND ANOTHER TARGET.
ANOTHER TARGET...


ELSEWHERE...
PASS MY COMPLIMENTS TO YOUR PROGRAMMERS. THIS NEW WAVE IS... QUITE THE SUCCESS.
YOUR TEAMS ARE INTENSIVELY USING IAgØ. ALL OUR DEVELOPERS ARE VERY HAPPY.


THE TOOL IS POWERFUL. PHOTOS, DEEPFAKES, VIDEOS. THE RESULTS ARE LIVING UP TO OUR EXPECTATIONS.


YOU KNOW VERY WELL IT'S A WIN-WIN. IF OUR AI PERFORMS WELL, YOU GAIN IN PRODUCTIVITY. AND IF YOU GAIN IN PRODUCTIVITY, YOU'LL KEEP USING OUR LITTLE IAgO...
THIS WAS A TEST... A CONCLUSIVE TEST. WE'LL NOW BE ABLE TO MOVE ON TO THE NEXT STEP, BECAUSE YOU SEE...
OUR CALCULATIONS GO FURTHER THAN THAT, MY FRIEND.
MEANING?
MY ORGANISATION AND I WISH TO INVEST IN YOUR COMPANY.
PERFECT! YOU WANT IN?

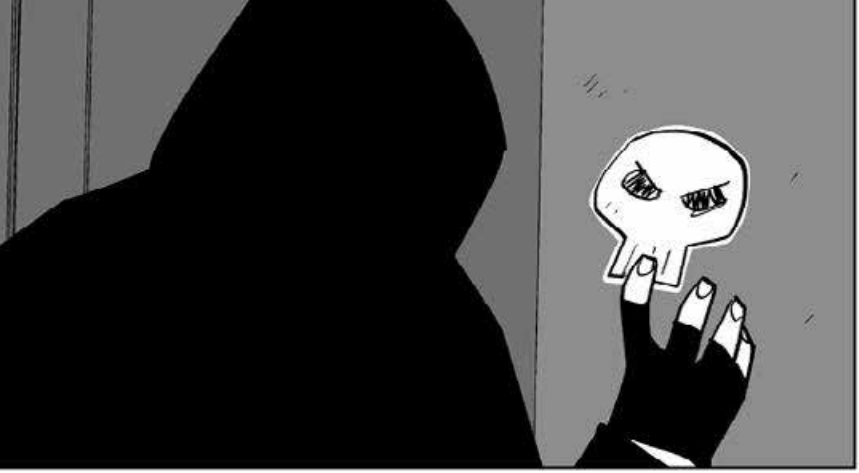

NO...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
CAN YOU HEAR ME? I'M LOSING YOU HERE. WHAT DO YOU WANT?
WE'RE GOING TO TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR COMPANY.


IS THAT YOUR MUM OVER THERE?
YEAH. ALWAYS ON HER PHONE. YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES I WONDER WHO'S THE MOST CHILDISH BETWEEN ME AND HER...
SEE, YOU DON'T NOTICE BUT SHE'S PISSED AT ME.
WHY ?
BECAUSE I ASKED FOR A DESIGNER BAG.
AND ? DID SHE BUY IT ?

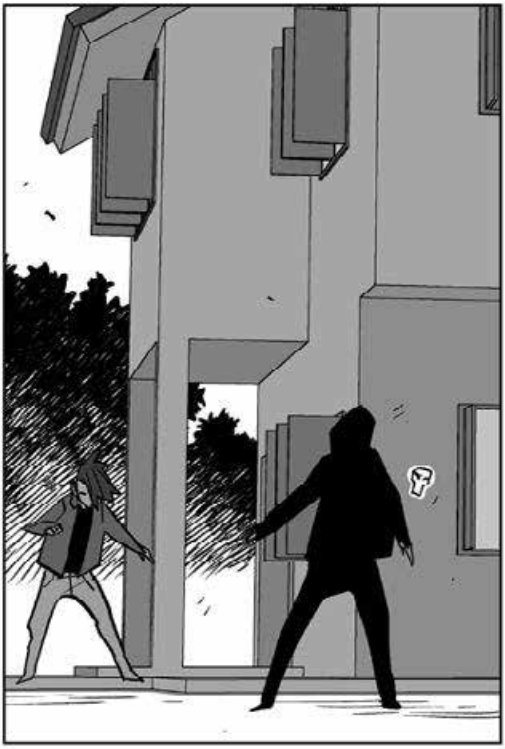

NO. AND I MADE THE MISTAKE OF TELLING HER IT WAS EASIER TO GET A DECENT GIFT LAST YEAR. WHEN SHE WAS WITH MY DAD...
INSTEAD OF WITH THAT LEECH.
YOU THINK YOUR MOM'S HAVING MONEY PROBLEMS?
MY MOM? I DON'T KNOW... WHAT I DO KNOW IS THAT HER NEW GUY ALWAYS NEEDS MONEY.
ANYWAY, I GOTTA GO. BYE!
BYE MANON.


VRRR


AGENT I ?
COULD YOU SEND ME THE ADDRESS OF THE SECOND VICTIM, PLEASE?




HEY!
YOU THERE!




STOP, PLEASE!
DON'T HAVE TIME!
I NEED TO TALK TO YOU.
I'VE GOT NOTHING TO TELL YOU.












STO– STOP! I'VE GOT A CRAMP.
OKAY, CAN WE TALK NOW?
FINE. YOU WIN! I GIVE UP!
DAMN. I'VE GOT NO LUNGS LEFT...
YOU CRAZY PSYCHO... WHY'D YOU CHASE ME? I WAS SO FREAKED OUT.
WHY DO YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS TAG AND STICK STUFF ON TIMÉO'S DOOR?
WHAT? SERIOUSLY, THAT'S REALLY WHY YOU FOLLOWED ME? TO ASK ME A QUESTION ?
IT'S JUST A GAME.

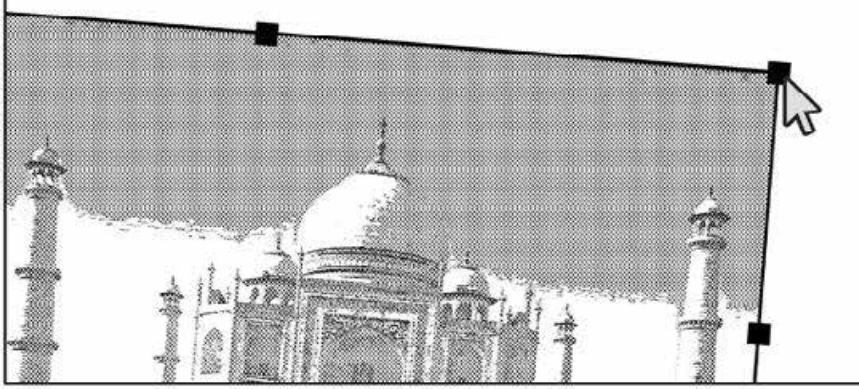

WHAT KIND OF GAME ?
IT'S A CHALLENGE ON TRAPCAT.
AND WITH THESE NEW POINTS MY TEAM THE PACK IS GOING TO WIN !
AREN'T YOU SCARED OF GETTING CAUGHT ?
OH COME ON, CHILL OUT !
WE JUST DO IT FOR FUN.
SO... TELL ME HOW THIS TRAPCAT CHALLENGE WORKS.
WHY? YOU INTERESTED? YOU WANT TO PLAY?
YOU WANT TO JOIN THE PACK?


THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY.


TAP
TAP
TAP


Tadjmaal
TAP TAP


Taj Mahal
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

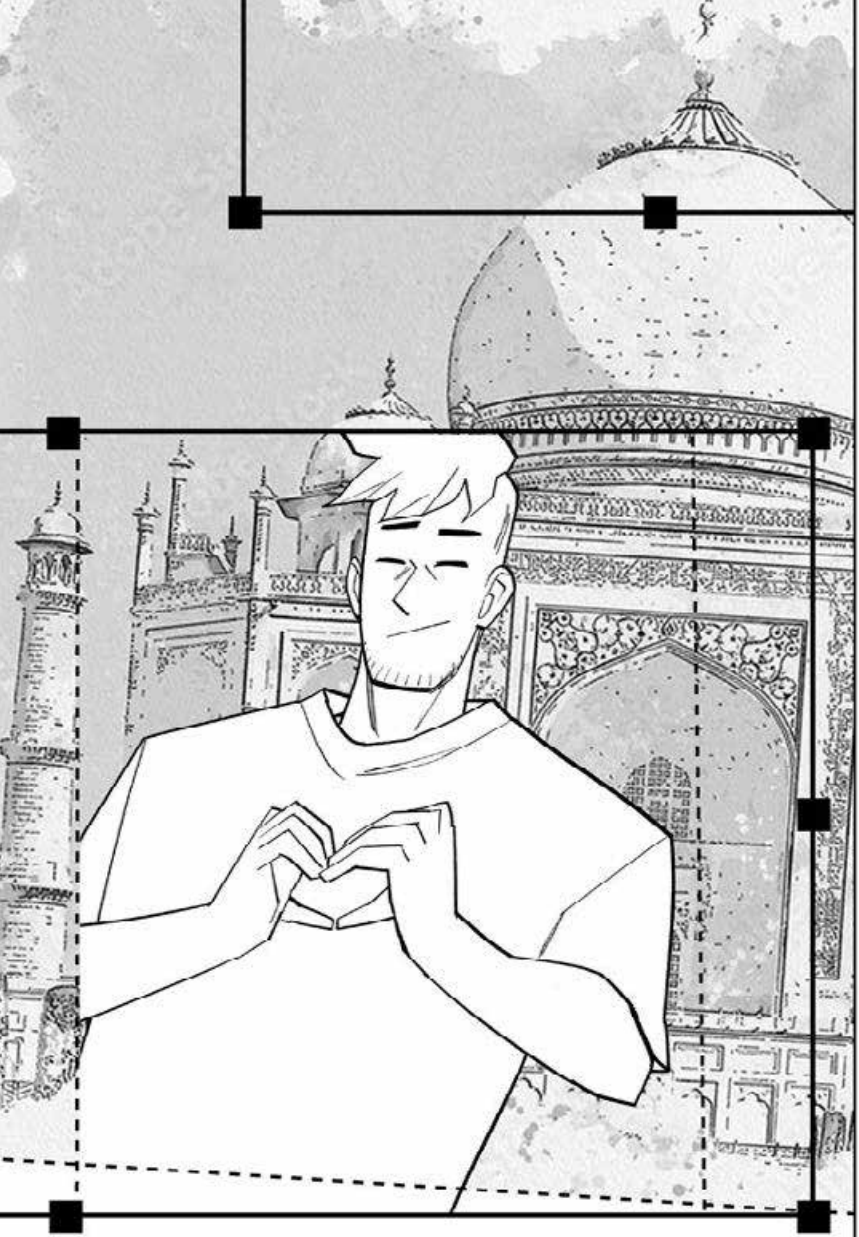




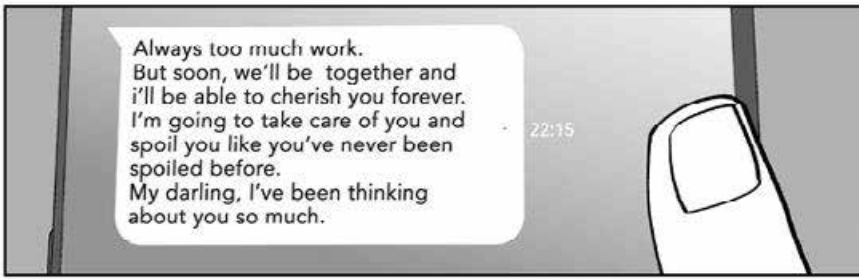
L'HOMME EST AU PREMIER PLAN DEVANT LE TAJ MAHAL

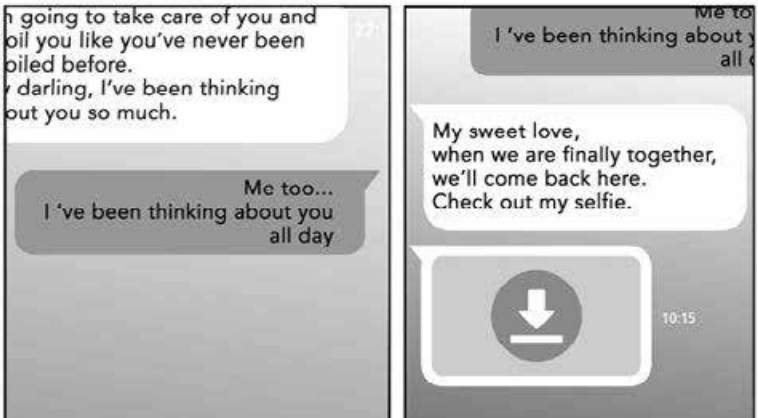









Always too much work.
But soon, we'll be together and i'll be able to cherish you forever.
I'm going to take care of you and spoil you like you've never been spoiled before.
My darling, I've been thinking about you so much.
22:15

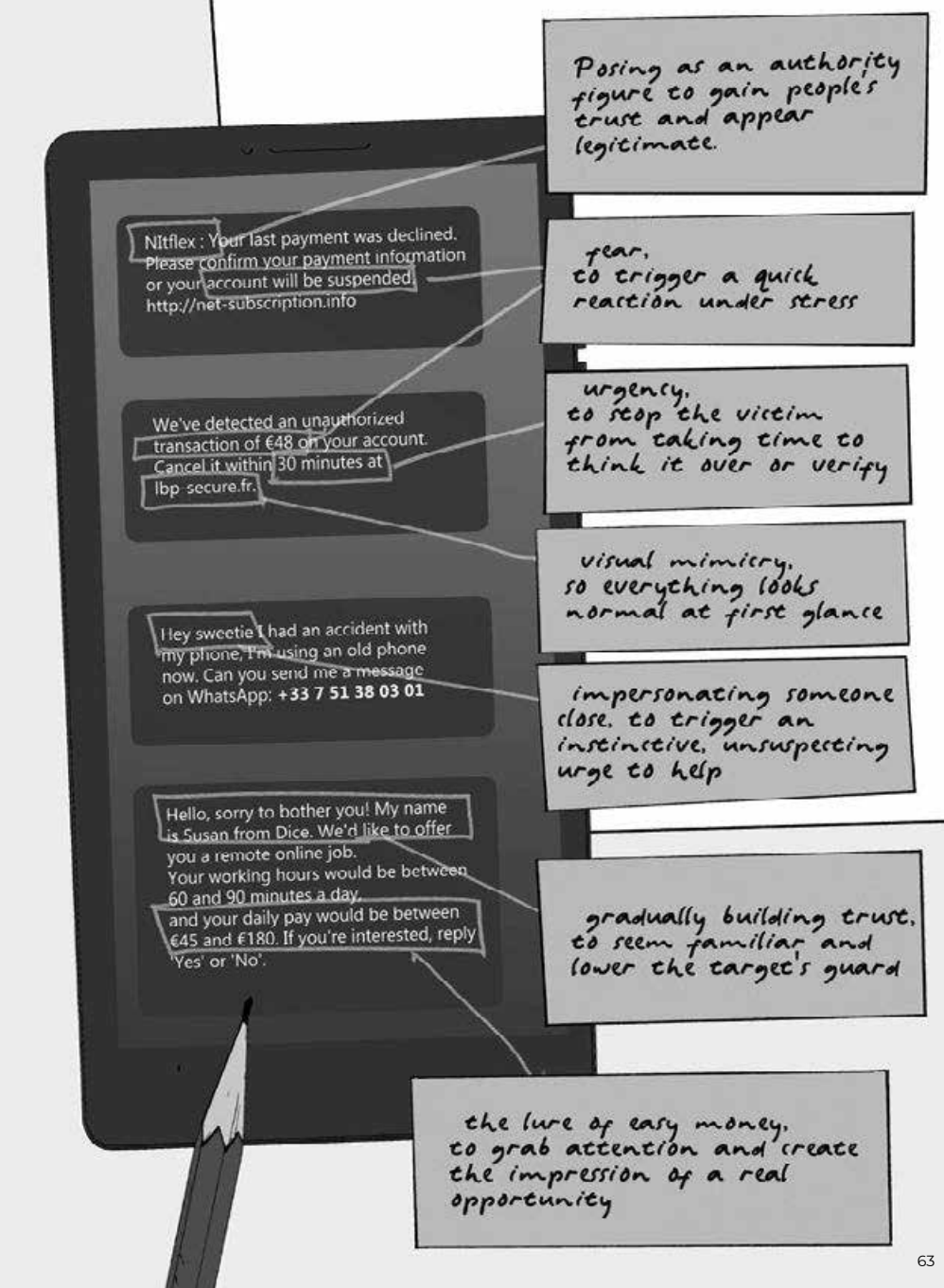

going to take care of you and
oil you like you've never been
oiled before.
darling, I've been thinking
out you so much.
Me too...
I 've been thinking about you all day
I 've been thinking about
My sweet love,
when we are finally together,
we'll come back here.
Check out my selfie.
10:15






FOR SCAMS TO WORK, THE PEOPLE BEHIND THEM PLAY ON OUR EMOTIONS TO MAKE US LOWER OUR GUARD.
ANYONE CAN BECOME A VICTIM, BECAUSE THERE ARE COUNTLESS TRICKS, AND SCAMMERS ADAPT THEIR STRATEGIES TO FIT EACH VICTIM'S PROFILE.

AGENT-i


NItflex : Your last payment was declined. Please confirm your payment information or your account will be suspended. http://net-subscription.info
We've detected an unauthorized transaction of €48 on your account. Cancel it within 30 minutes at lbp-secure.fr.
Hey sweetie I had an accident with my phone, I'm using an old phone now. Can you send me a message on WhatsApp: +33 7 51 38 03 01
Hello, sorry to bother you! My name is Susan from Dice. We'd like to offer you a remote online job.
Your working hours would be between 60 and 90 minutes a day,
and your daily pay would be between €45 and €180. If you're interested, reply 'Yes' or 'No'.
Posing as an authority figure to gain peoples trust and appear legitimate.
fear, to trigger a quick reaction under stress
urgency, to stop the victim from taking time to think it over or verify
visual mimicry, so everything looks normal at first glance
impersonating someone close, to trigger an instinctive, unsuspecting urge to help
gradually building trust, to seem familiar and lower the target's guard
the lure of easy money, to grab attention and create the impression of a real opportunity

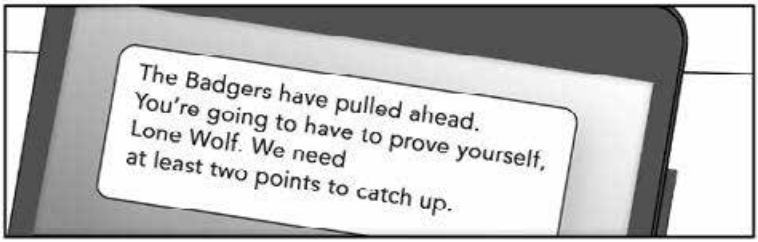

MOM SAYS WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG, YOU USED TO GET UP TO ALL KINDS OF TROUBLE WITH MY BIG SISTER.
YOUNG ?
I MEAN WHEN YOU WERE MY AGE.
THAT'S BETTER.
WE HAD THREE MAIN GAMES.

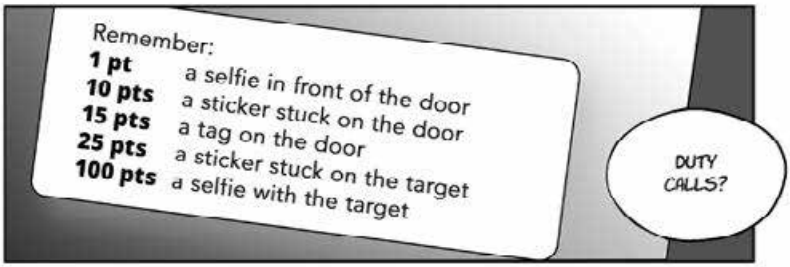

THE FIRST WAS BIKE RACING —
WE'D STAY IN THE PARK FOR HOURS,
AND WE WERE USUALLY NECK AND NECK.
THE SECOND WAS THE CANDY RACE;
YOUR BIG SISTER WAS THE CHAMPION...
SHE COULD SCARF DOWN
AN INSANE AMOUNT OF CANDY.


THE THIRD GAME WAS CLIMBING. THAT ONE, I WAS THE BIG WINNER. I WAS ALWAYS THE FASTEST TO TOUCH THE CEILING.
REALLY?
REALLY FOR REAL! LOOK, RIGHT THERE!


STOP BUGGING HER WITH ALL YOUR QUESTIONS.
DON'T WORRY, HE'S NOT BUGGING ME.
STILL, HE'S GOING TO GO DO HIS HOMEWORK NOW.
INAYETTE, YOUR PHONE JUST BEEPED. YOU GOT A MESSAGE.

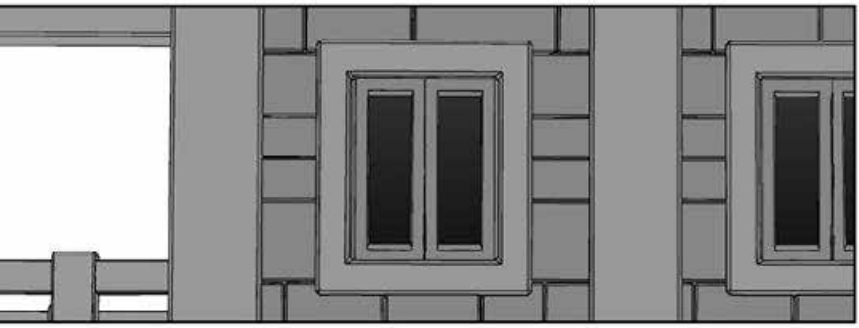

Ranking
BADGERS
101 pts
THE PACK
99 pts
ZOMBIZ
77 pts
TRAPCAT

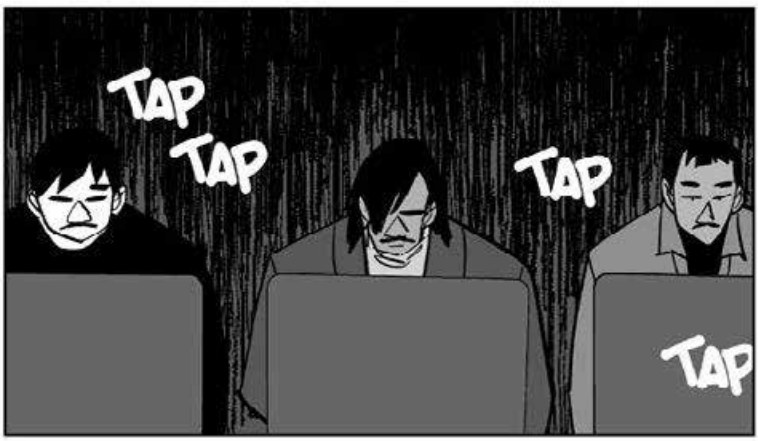

The Badgers have pulled ahead.
You're going to have to prove yourself,
Lone Wolf. We need
at least two points to catch up.


Remember:
1 pt a selfie in front of the door
10 pts a sticker stuck on the door
15 pts a tag on the door
25 pts a sticker stuck on the target
100 pts a selfie with the target
DUTY CALLS?

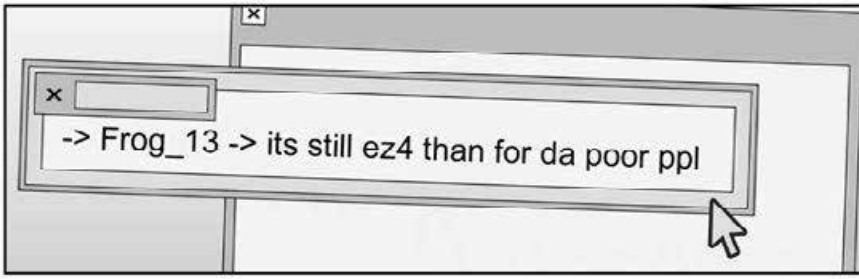

SORT OF.
SEE YOU TONIGHT !

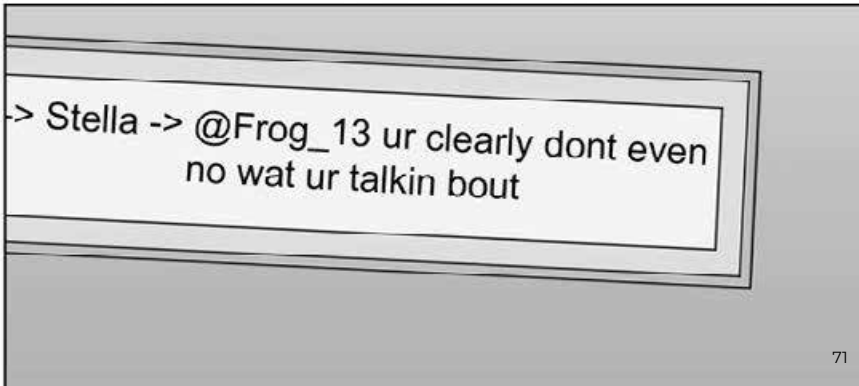

SLAVERNIE ORIENTALE

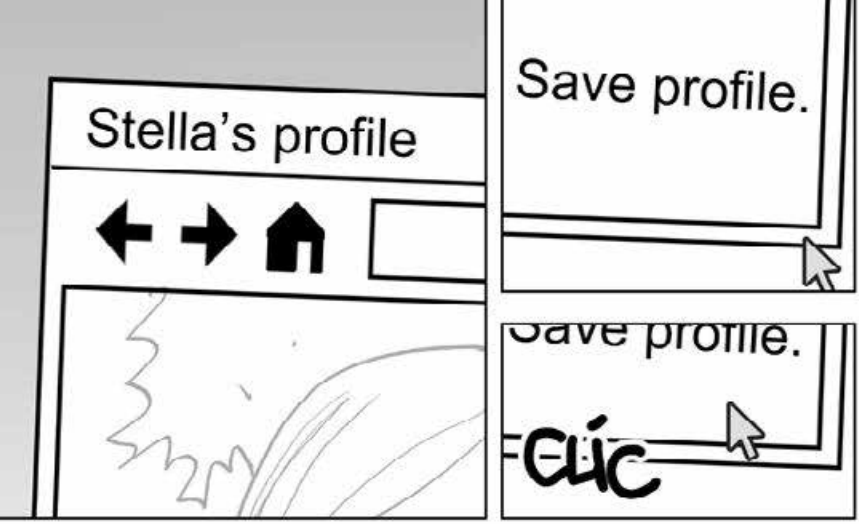



TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

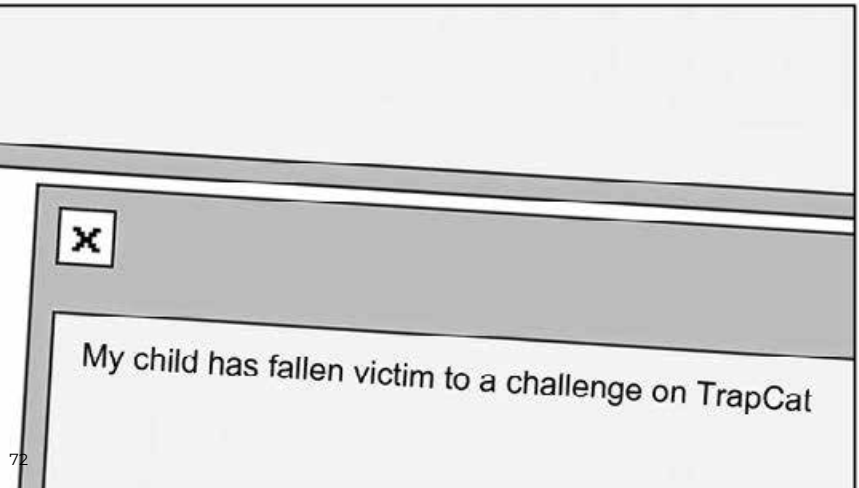

-> Le divorce c'est pas plus facile chez les riches.
-> Divorce isn't any easier for the rich.
-> Scheidung ist auch für Reiche nicht einfacher.
-> Per i ricchi il divorzio non è più facile.

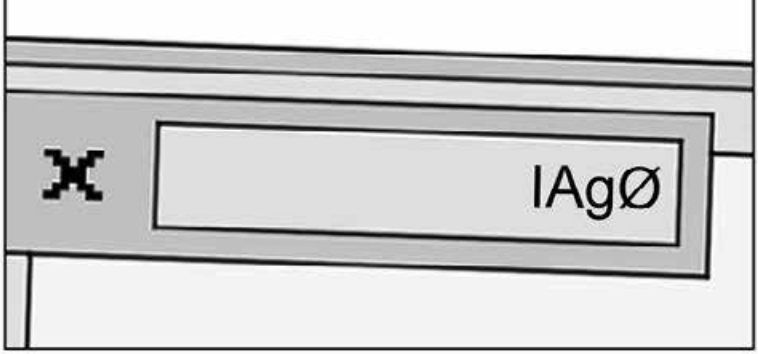

-> Frog_13 -> its still ez4 than for da poor ppl

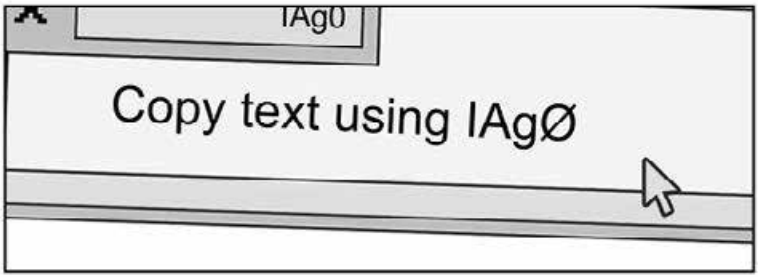

-> Stella -> @Frog_13 ur clearly dont even no wat ur talkin bout


Stella's profile
Save profile.
Save profile.
CLIC


TAP
TAP


My child has fallen victim to a challenge on TrapCat





-> OPTION 1

My daughter was also a victim of this challenge, feel free to reach out if you'd like to talk about it.

-> OPTION 2

-> My son was also a victim of this challenge, feel free to reach out if you'd like to talk about it.




KNOCK
KNOCK


ARE YOU GUYS GOING TO LEAVE ME ALONE?!
WHO ARE YOU ?
A FRIEND OF MANON'S.
OF WHO ?


MANON, YOU KNOW... LET'S JUST SAY SHE WENT THROUGH THE SAME THING AS YOU.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
THE IDIOTS RINGING THE DOORBELL AND STICKING STUFF ON THE DOOR?
EXACTLY.
AND THEN ONE DAY, OUT OF NOWHERE, THEY STOPPED.
LUCKY HER.


PERSONALLY I FEEL LIKE IT'S NEVER GOING TO STOP.
YOU'LL SEE, SOONER OR LATER THEY'LL MOVE ON TO SOMETHING ELSE.
DOESN'T MATTER ANYWAY, SOON IT WON'T MATTER...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN ?
LOOK AROUND YOU. WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LEAVE THE HOUSE. I'M SO PISSED!
WHAT ABOUT YOUR MOM? AREN'T YOU STAYING WITH HER?
ANYWAY... I'M GOING BACK TO MY DAD'S. HE'S GOT A BIG HOUSE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.


STAY WITH MY MOM? NO WAY...
SHE WON'T HAVE ROOM FOR ME. SHE'S RENTING A STUDIO APARTMENT.


IS SHE HAVING MONEY PROBLEMS?
MY DAD SAYS SHE MESSED EVERYTHING UP.
IT'S SCARY, THEY ARGUE EVEN MORE NOW THAN BACK DURING THE DIVORCE.

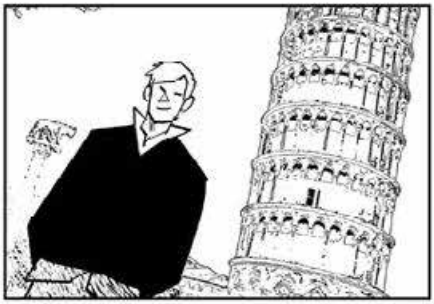

I'M SORRY...
OKAY, I'M NOT TRYING TO KICK YOU OUT, BUT I'VE GOT BOXES TO FINISH!


YOU KNOW... IT WAS NICE OF YOU TO COME BY AND SUPPORT ME.

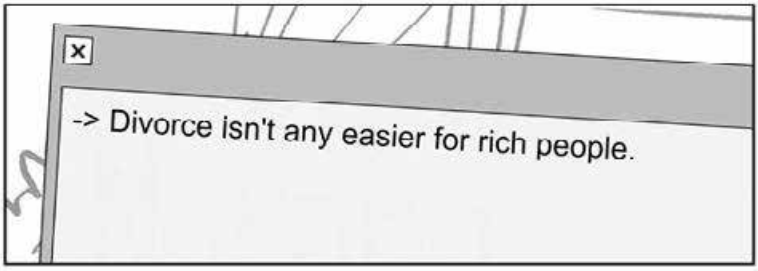

YOU'RE GONNA LAUGH... AT FIRST, WHEN YOU KNOCKED ON THE DOOR, I THOUGHT YOU WERE PART OF THEIR CRAZY LITTLE GROUP.


ME, WITH THEM? HA HA HA... YOU'RE FUNNY!!!
I'M NOTHING LIKE THEM...
UM... BEFORE I GO... I JUST HAVE ONE LITTLE THING TO ASK YOU... WOULD IT BE OKAY IF...


AGENCY HEADQUARTERS



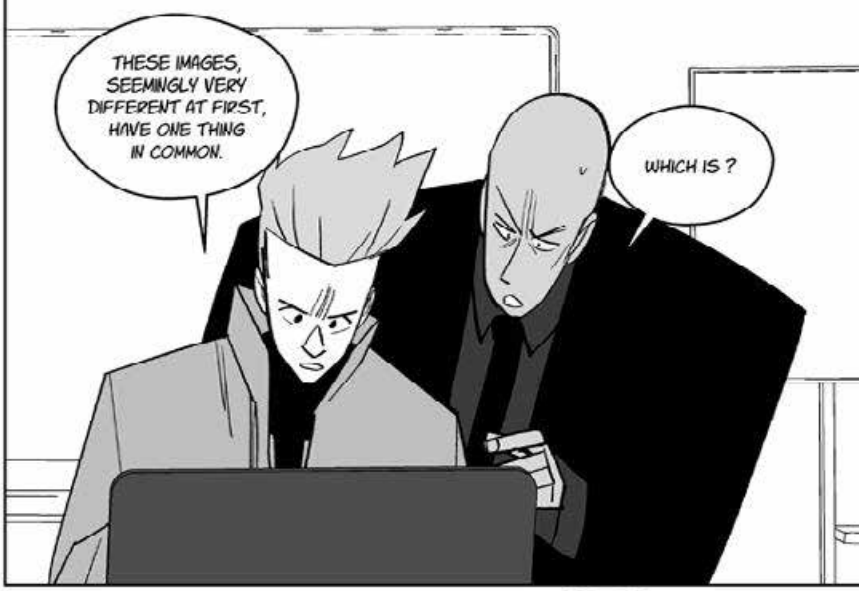



x
-> Divorce isn't any easier for rich people.


BINGO,
I THINK I'M ONTO
SOMETHING...


AGENT X,
SO IT'S TRUE,
YOU'VE GOT
SOMETHING
NEW?


I LOOKED INTO
SITES AFFILIATED
WITH DAFT WEB
AND I STUMBLED
ONTO THIS!
TAKE A LOOK.


THESE IMAGES, SEEMINGLY VERY DIFFERENT AT FIRST, HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON.
WHICH IS ?


THESE IMAGES ARE FAKES, AND THEY WERE MADE USING A GENERATIVE AI:
IAgØ

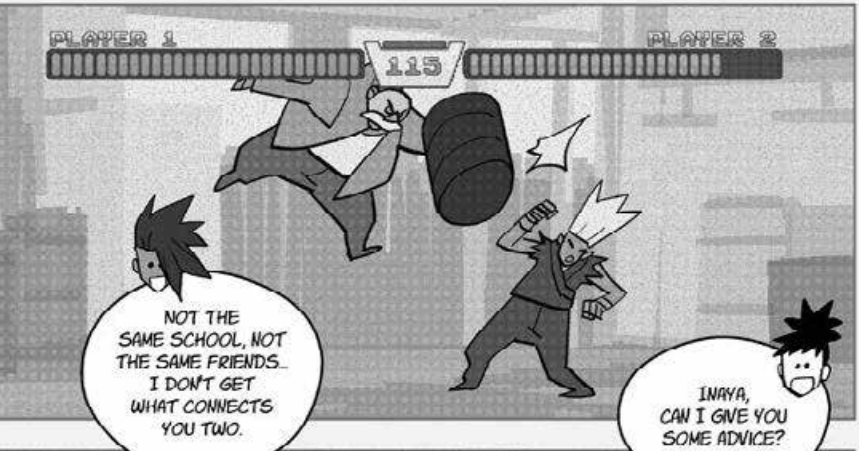

SO... IF I UNDERSTAND CORRECTLY, SEVERAL SITES LINKED TO DAFT WEB ARE USING THE SAME GENERATIVE AI?


YES, AN AI THAT'S BARELY USED AND UNKNOWN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC. SO, BY GETTING CLOSE TO THE COMPANY THAT RUNS IAGO, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO TRACE IT BACK TO HIM...
WELL DONE, AGENT X!
AGENT I, I HAVE A HUNCH, BUT IT MIGHT TAKE A WHILE.
TAKE ALL THE TIME YOU NEED. YOU'RE A BRILLIANT INVESTIGATOR, SO... INVESTIGATE!

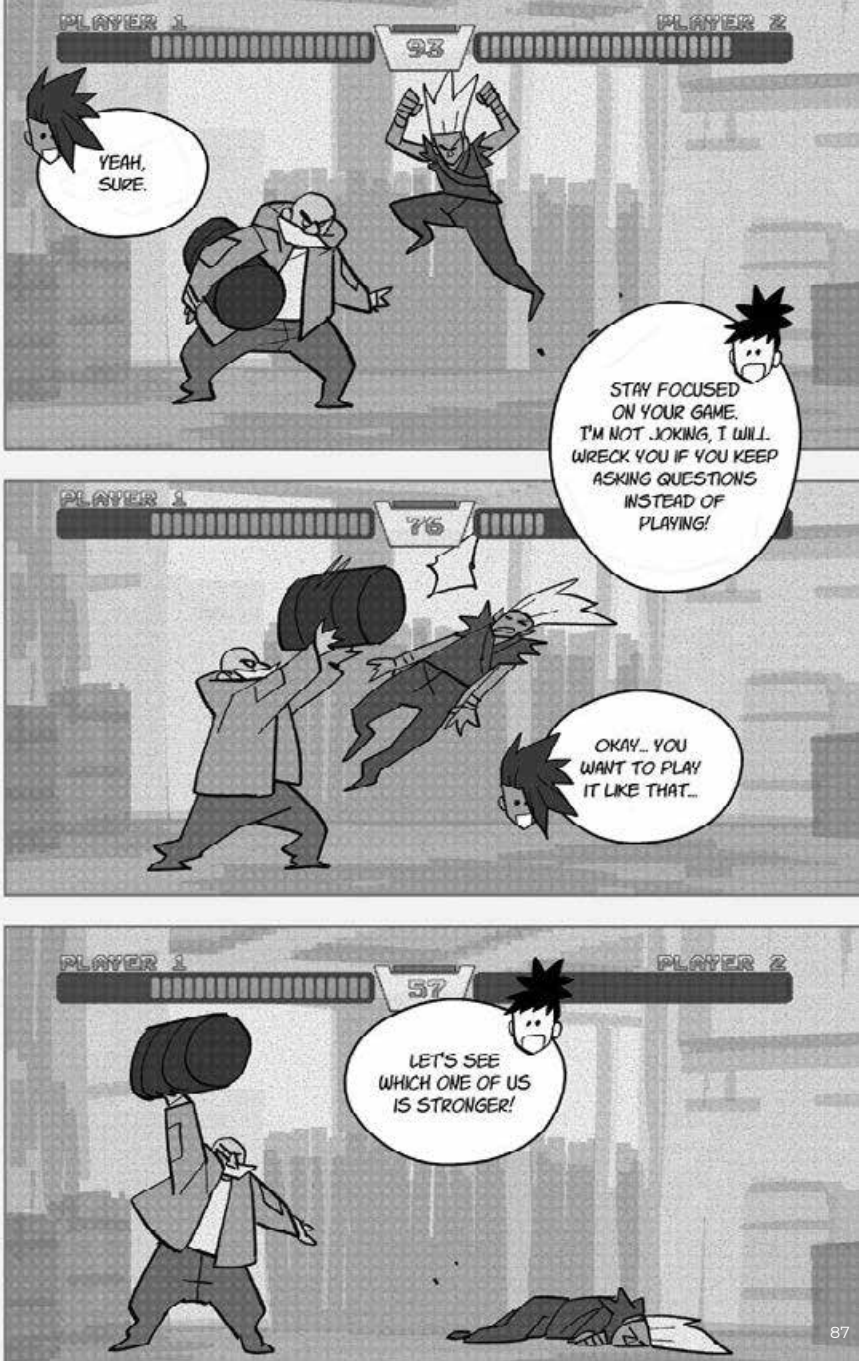

AT MANON'S
READY


FIGHT


PLAYER 1
120
PLAYER 2
SO YOU DON'T KNOW THIS TIMEO?
NEVER HEARD OF HIM.


PLAYER 1
115
PLAYER 2
NOT THE SAME SCHOOL, NOT THE SAME FRIENDS... I DON'T GET WHAT CONNECTS YOU TWO.
INAYA, CAN I GIVE YOU SOME ADVICE?


PLAYER 1
102


PLAYER 1
93
PLAYER 2
YEAH, SURE.
STAY FOCUSED ON YOUR GAME. I'M NOT JOKING, I WILL WRECK YOU IF YOU KEEP ASKING QUESTIONS INSTEAD OF PLAYING!
PLAYER 1
76
OKAY... YOU WANT TO PLAY IT LIKE THAT...
PLAYER 1
57
PLAYER 2
LET'S SEE WHICH ONE OF US IS STRONGER!


INAYETTE? IS YOUR INVESTIGATION GOING WELL?


TOASTIE...
I'M SORRY...
I'M SO SORRY


INA,
SWEETHEART,
WHAT'S WRONG?


THE DAY...
THE DAY SHE LEFT...
I DIDN'T SEE IT COMING.


INA... DON'T SAY SUCH NONSENSE. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO BLAME YOURSELF FOR. YOU TWO WERE AT DIFFERENT SCHOOLS.
I SWEAR, I'M THE WORST FRIEND ON EARTH.


WE CAN'T TURN BACK TIME.
SNIFF... UNFORTUNATELY.


YOU KNOW... WHEN SHE LEFT, I FELL INTO A KIND OF DEPRESSION.
GABRIEL CRIED A LOT. HIS BIG SISTER WAS GONE AND HIS MOM HAD BECOME A SHADOW OF HERSELF.
I WAS LIKE A MACHINE. I DID EVERYTHING ON AUTOPILOT.
I WANTED TO UNDERSTAND, SO I STARTED READING PARENTING BLOGS. I'D WATCH VIDEOS ALL NIGHT OF TESTIMONIALS FROM RUNAWAY KIDS. THERE WERE TONS OF PEOPLE WHO'D BEEN THROUGH THE SAME THING.
IT WAS AWFUL FOR EVERYONE.
BUT I WAS VULNERABLE, AND SOME PEOPLE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THAT.
I KNOW...
BUT THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT TIME HAS DONE ITS WORK AND HEALED SOME OF THE WOUNDS.
I'M SURE OF IT TOO. AND WE'LL THROW A HUGE PARTY.
DEEP IN MY HEART, I'M CERTAIN SHE'LL COME BACK... ONE DAY.
YES, IT'LL BE A CELEBRATION.

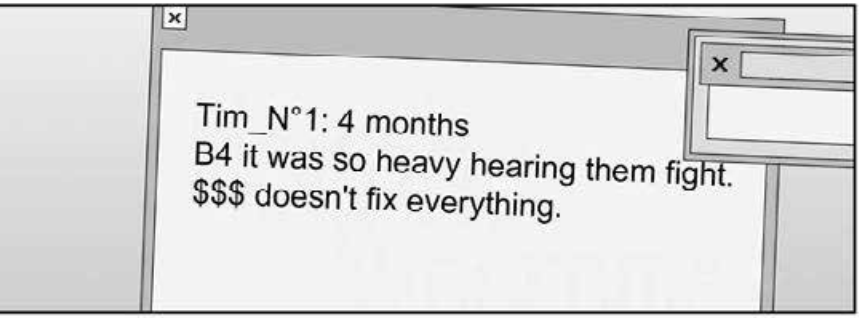

SO STRONG!
HEY GUYS, WHO'S THE BOSS?
YEAH, THANKS TO LONE WOLF THAT'S A HUNDRED MORE POINTS FOR OUR TEAM!!!
GUYS, WITH THESE NEW POINTS... THE PACK IS CRUSHING THE BADGERS AND THE ZOMBIZ!



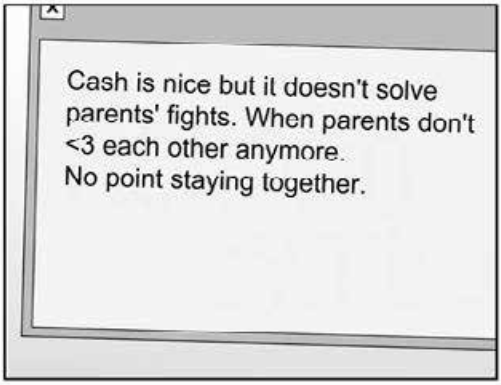


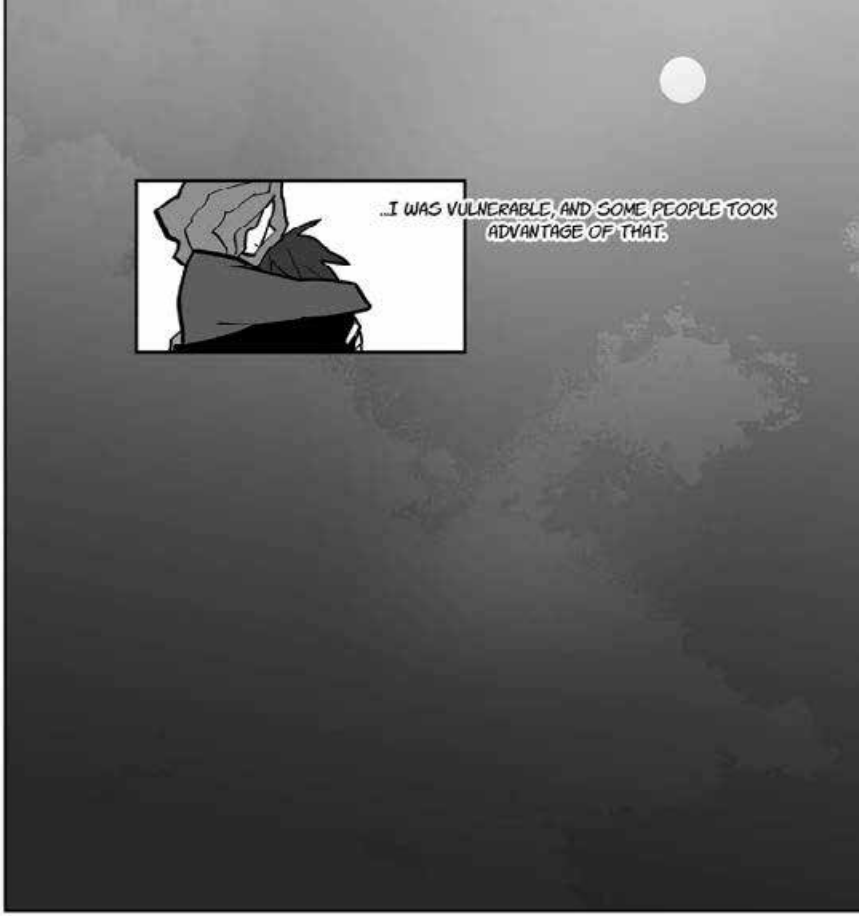


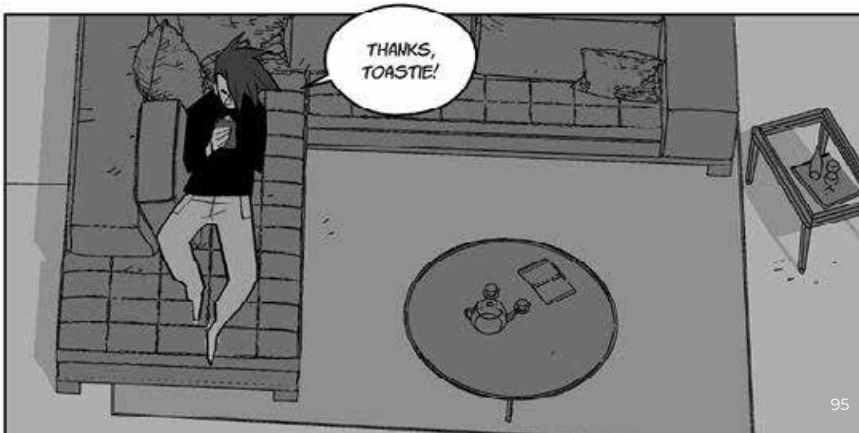

EUREKA !


Tim_N°1: 4 months
B4 it was so heavy hearing them fight.
$$$ doesn't fix everything.


Ma-yes-Ma-no: 8 months


Cash is nice but it doesn't solve parents' fights. When parents don't <3 each other anymore.
No point staying together.


...I WAS VULNERABLE, AND SOME PEOPLE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THAT.


THANKS, TOASTIE!


THE REAL TARGETS OF THESE HUNTS AREN'T THE TEENS.

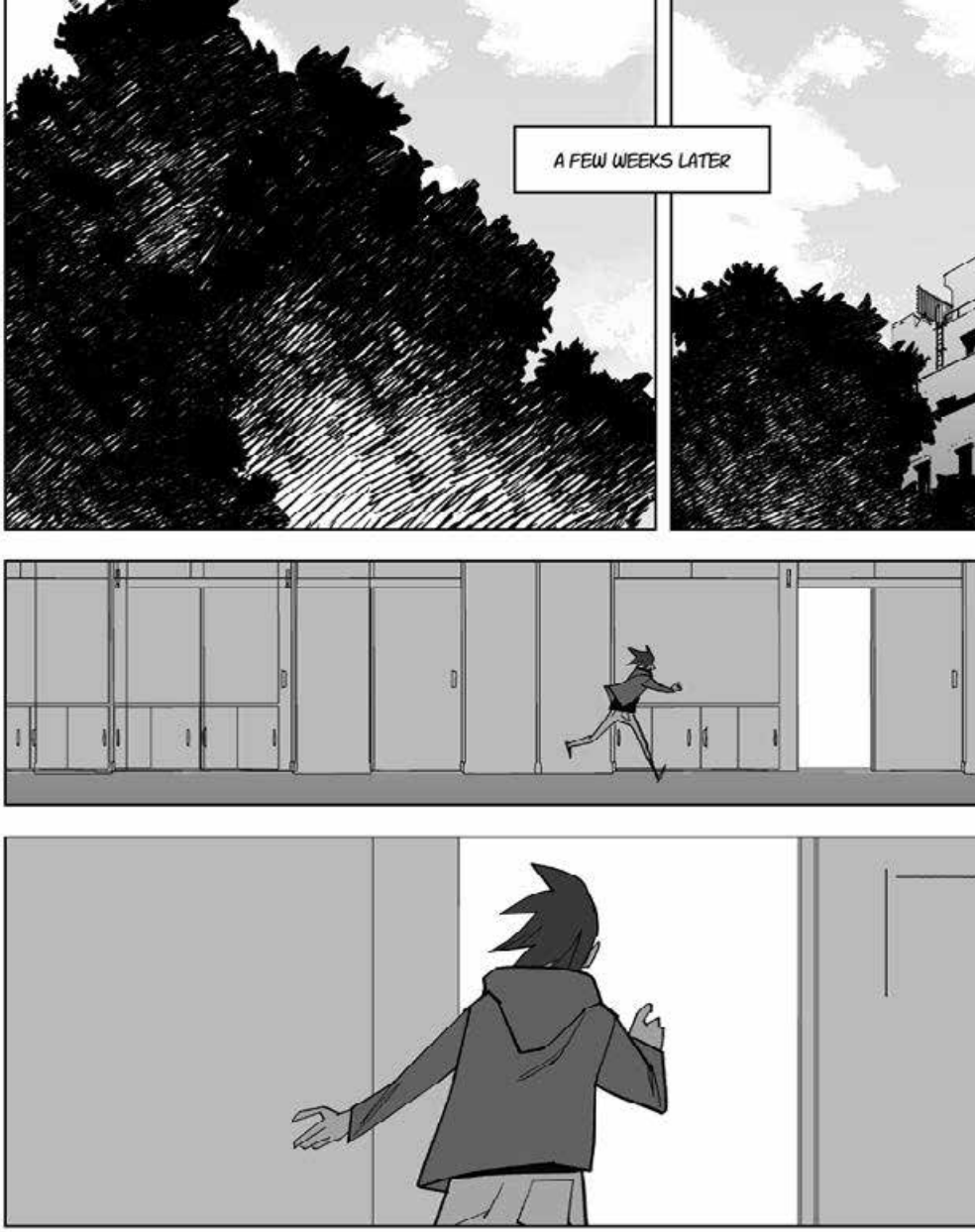

THEY'RE THE PARENTS!


TODAY, IT'S EASY TO CREATE A FAKE VIDEO OF SOMEONE TO SPREAD FALSE INFORMATION!
YOU CAN MAKE THEM SAY ANYTHING YOU WANT, TO TRIGGER A STRONG EMOTION AND MAKE THE TARGET REACT.

AGENT-i



Scammers can then use this video to pose as someone else and lower your guard, in order to extort money or personal data from you, or to manipulate your opinion with false information.

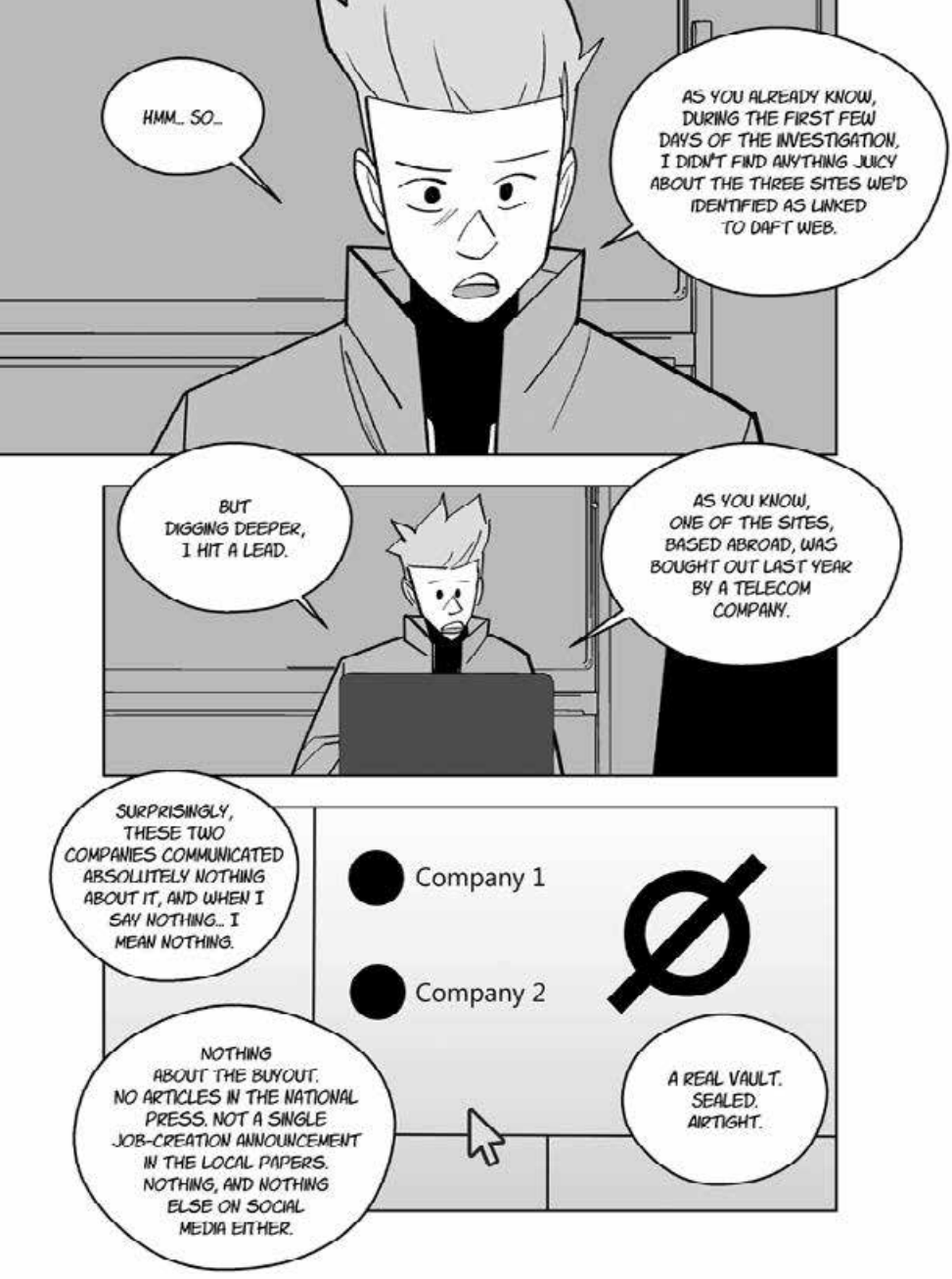

A FEW WEEKS LATER


HEY EVERYONE!




HEY INA.
HELLO INAYA.


HELLO AGENT Z.
ACCORDING TO YOUR LATEST MESSAGES, YOU'VE MADE REAL PROGRESS, AND YOU'VE EVEN COME UP WITH A THEORY.
WE'RE LISTENING.
ISI, YOU GO FIRST.


HMM... SO...
AS YOU ALREADY KNOW, DURING THE FIRST FEW DAYS OF THE INVESTIGATION, I DIDN'T FIND ANYTHING JUICY ABOUT THE THREE SITES WE'D IDENTIFIED AS LINKED TO DAFT WEB.
BUT DIGGING DEEPER, I HIT A LEAD.
AS YOU KNOW, ONE OF THE SITES, BASED ABROAD, WAS BOUGHT OUT LAST YEAR BY A TELECOM COMPANY.
SURPRISINGLY, THESE TWO COMPANIES COMMUNICATED ABSOLUTELY NOTHING ABOUT IT, AND WHEN I SAY NOTHING... I MEAN NOTHING.
Company 1
Company 2
NOTHING ABOUT THE BUYOUT. NO ARTICLES IN THE NATIONAL PRESS. NOT A SINGLE JOB-CREATION ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE LOCAL PAPERS. NOTHING, AND NOTHING ELSE ON SOCIAL MEDIA EITHER.
A REAL VAULT. SEALED. AIRTIGHT.

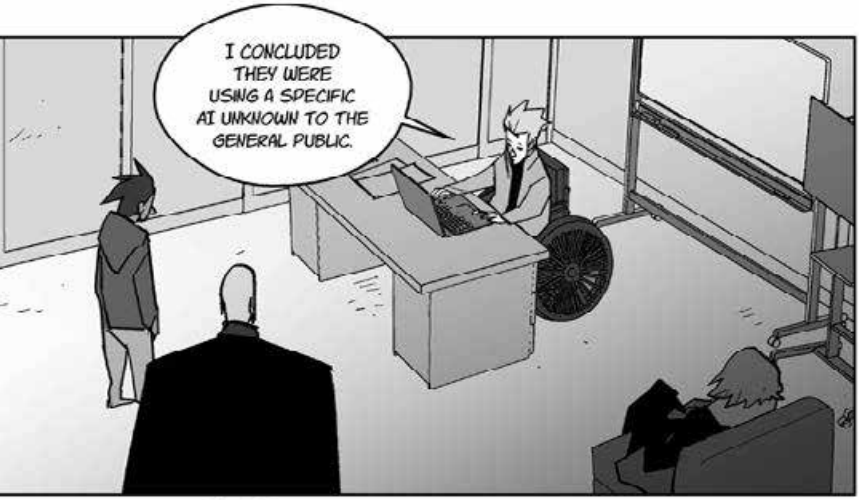

WANT TO KNOW WHAT I THINK?
IT'S WAY TOO SHADY.
YEAH.
I TRACED THE LEGAL OWNER — A PRETTY LOW-PROFILE GUY.
UP UNTIL LAST YEAR, HIS SOCIALS WERE CLEAN. HIS PUBLIC IMAGE WAS FLAWLESS.
A LOCAL ENTREPRENEUR, HEAD OF A TYPICAL SMALL BUSINESS. A SIMPLE, ORDERLY LIFE.


THEN, NO DOUBT ABOUT IT, THERE WAS A TURNING POINT.
HE STARTED SHOWING OFF UNPRECEDENTED WEALTH ONLINE – PURCHASES FROM LUXURY BOUTIQUES
TRIPS TO COUNTRIES FLAGGED BY INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR MONEY LAUNDERING.
HIS LIFESTYLE CHANGED RADICALLY.
I FOLLOWED THESE VARIOUS POSTS AND EVENTUALLY STUMBLED ON THE KEY...
A SILLY LITTLE VIDEO – A VIDEO OF AN EMPLOYEE'S BIRTHDAY PARTY, FILMED ON THE COMPANY'S PREMISES.
I WATCHED IT ON LOOP, FRAME BY FRAME, SCANNING FOR THE SMALLEST CLUE... AND I FINALLY SPOTTED THE SCREEN OF ONE OF THE PROGRAMMERS.


YOU COULD MAKE OUT A PAUSED IMAGE WITH A SUBTITLE.
I TRANSLATED THE TITLE AND TRACKED DOWN THE VIDEO.


THE VIDEO EXISTS IN SEVERAL LANGUAGES – DUTCH, ITALIAN, SPANISH, GERMAN... FRENCH – AND IT'S ALWAYS THE SAME TEENAGER.
YOU GUESSED IT, THIS TEENAGER DOESN'T EVEN EXIST, AND THE VIDEOS ARE ENTIRELY GENERATED BY AN AI.


SO I KNEW ONE THING: THIS COMPANY USES AN AI. THE PROGRAMMER'S SECOND SCREEN SHOWED FRAGMENTS OF SEVERAL PROMPTS, BUT THE INTERFACE ITSELF WAS COMPLETELY UNFAMILIAR TO ME.

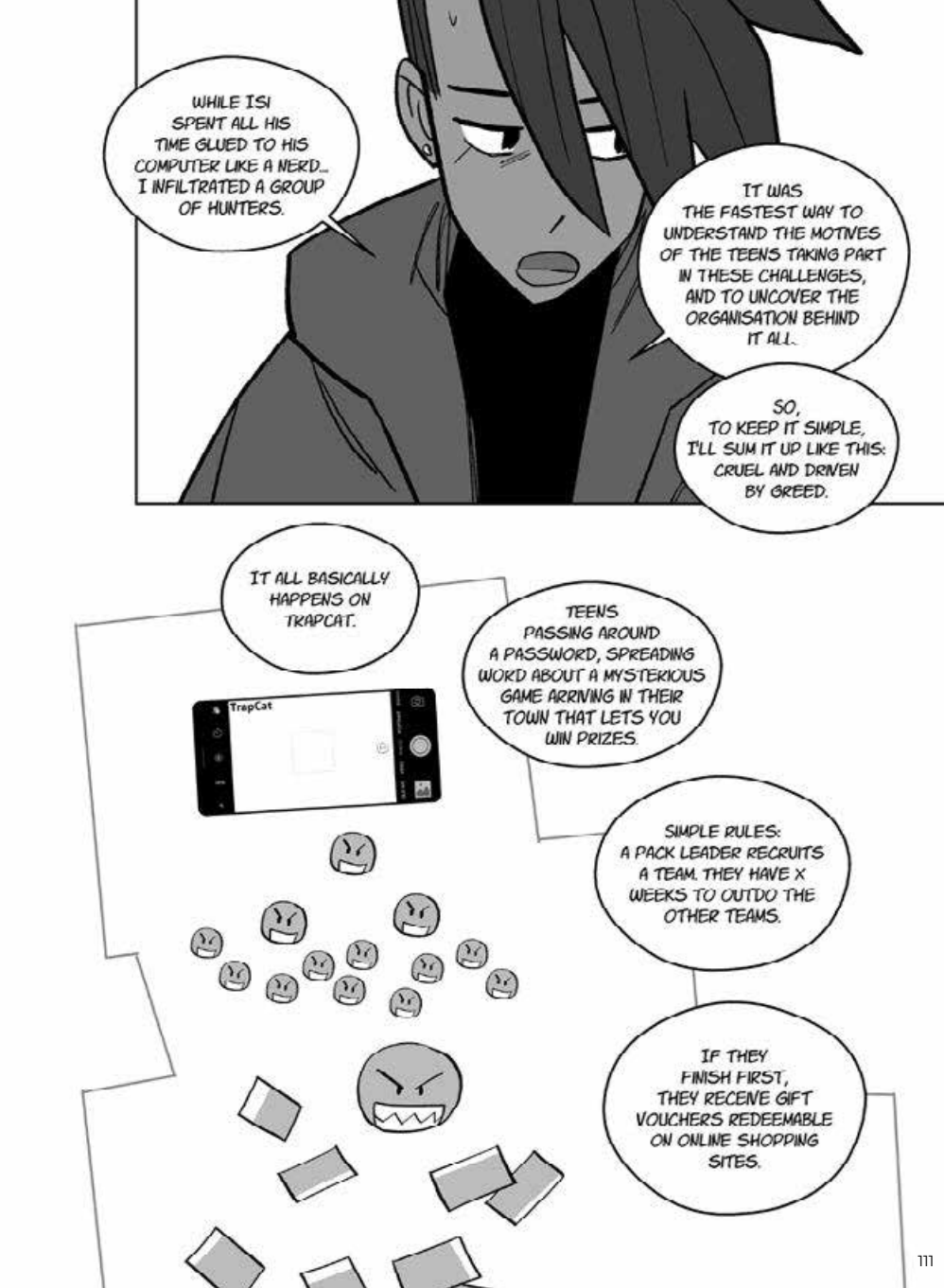

I CONCLUDED THEY WERE USING A SPECIFIC AI UNKNOWN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.


I KEPT INVESTIGATING AND LOOKED THROUGH THE PUBLIC POSTS OF SEVERAL PEOPLE IDENTIFIED AS EMPLOYEES OF THE COMPANY.


additional research
JACK.


WHEN THEY TALKED ABOUT WORK, THEY SEEMED TO JOKE AROUND WITH EACH OTHER. THEY OFTEN REFERENCED SOMEONE CALLED JACK. JACK THIS, JACK THAT.
JACK MESSED UP ALL DAY. JACK'S DRIVING ME CRAZY. JACK GLITCHED. AT FIRST I THOUGHT HE WAS THEIR SUPERVISOR.
BUT ONE MORNING, SOMEONE – MAYBE AN INTERN – POSTED A QUESTION, A TINY LITTLE QUESTION: ISN'T THERE A SPECIALIZED FORUM SOMEWHERE WITH TIPS ON lAgØ ?
BY THE TIME I'D READ AND TRANSLATED IT, THE MESSAGE HAD BEEN DELETED.
THEIR ACHILLES' HEEL...

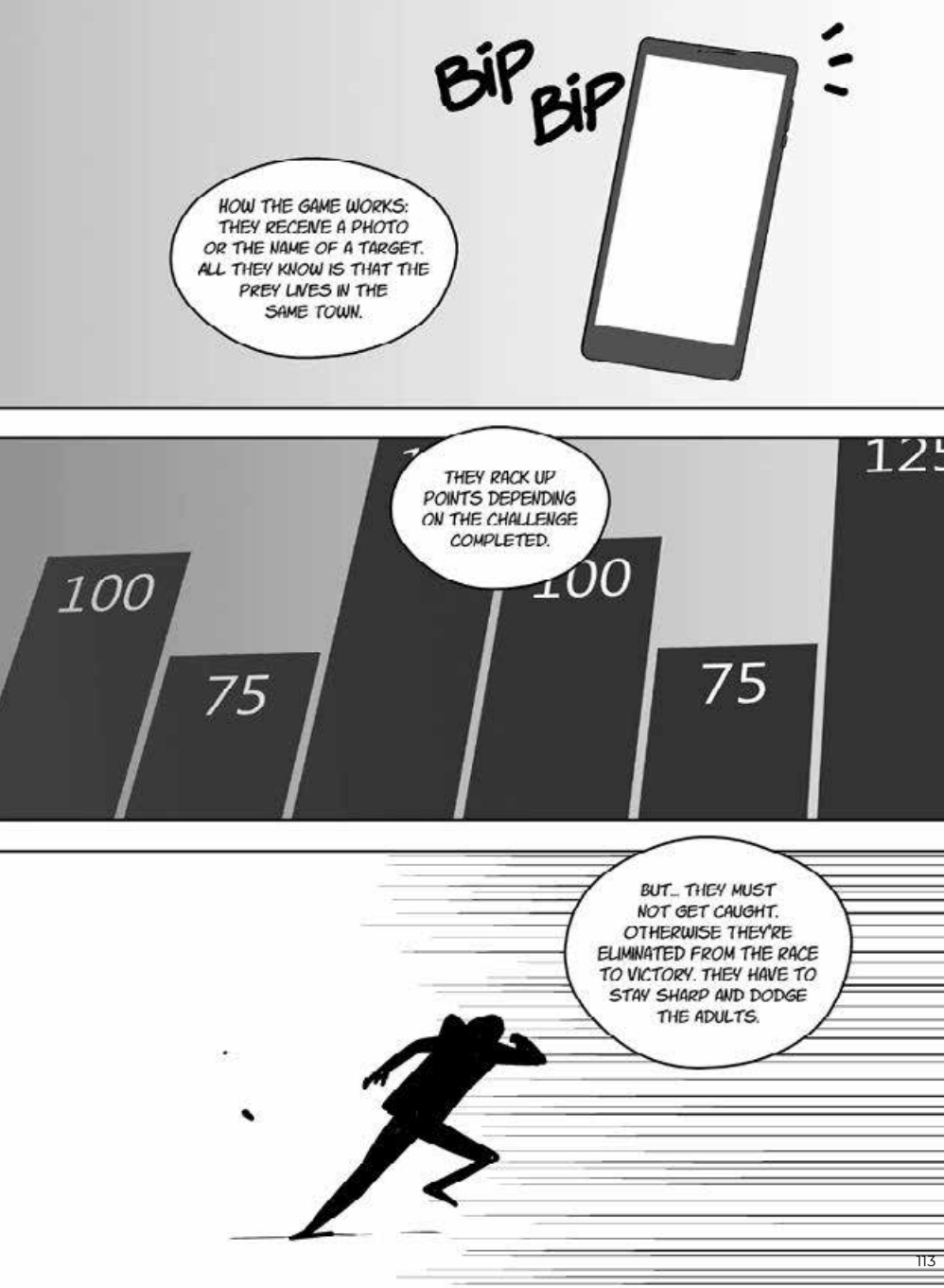

EXACTLY. I CAME ACROSS SEVERAL ARTICLES FROM THE PAST TWO OR THREE YEARS, ON TECH SITES, MENTIONING THE ARRIVAL OF THIS AI, ESPECIALLY FOR CREATING RETOUCHED IMAGES WITH MINIMAL PROMPTS.
AND I ALSO FOUND AN INTERVIEW WHERE THE CEO SAID HIS GROUP WANTED TO RAISE FUNDING.
VERY WELL, CAN WE GET TO YOUR CONCLUSION, AGENT X?
SORRY, SIR...
NOT JUST YET — I'LL HAND IT OVER TO AGENT Z FIRST.
OKAY, HERE GOES.


WHILE ISI SPENT ALL HIS TIME GLUED TO HIS COMPUTER LIKE A NERD... I INFILTRATED A GROUP OF HUNTERS.
IT WAS THE FASTEST WAY TO UNDERSTAND THE MOTIVES OF THE TEENS TAKING PART IN THESE CHALLENGES, AND TO UNCOVER THE ORGANISATION BEHIND IT ALL.
SO, TO KEEP IT SIMPLE, I'LL SUM IT UP LIKE THIS: CRUEL AND DRIVEN BY GREED.
IT ALL BASICALLY HAPPENS ON TRAPCAT.
TRAPCAT
TEENS PASSING AROUND A PASSWORD, SPREADING WORD ABOUT A MYSTERIOUS GAME ARRIVING IN THEIR TOWN THAT LETS YOU WIN PRIZES.
SIMPLE RULES: A PACK LEADER RECRUITS A TEAM. THEY HAVE X WEEKS TO OUTDO THE OTHER TEAMS.
IF THEY FINISH FIRST, THEY RECEIVE GIFT VOUCHERS REDEEMABLE ON ONLINE SHOPPING SITES.



1 pt: a selfie in front of the door
10 pts: a sticker stuck on the door
25 pts: a tag stuck on the target
100 pts: a selfie with the target




BIP BIP
HOW THE GAME WORKS: THEY RECEIVE A PHOTO OR THE NAME OF A TARGET. ALL THEY KNOW IS THAT THE PREY LIVES IN THE SAME TOWN.
THEY RACK UP POINTS DEPENDING ON THE CHALLENGE COMPLETED.
100
75
100
75
125
BUT... THEY MUST NOT GET CAUGHT. OTHERWISE THEY'RE ELIMINATED FROM THE RACE TO VICTORY. THEY HAVE TO STAY SHARP AND DODGE THE ADULTS.


WHO ARE THE TARGETS? WHY WERE MANON OR TIMÉO CHOSEN?

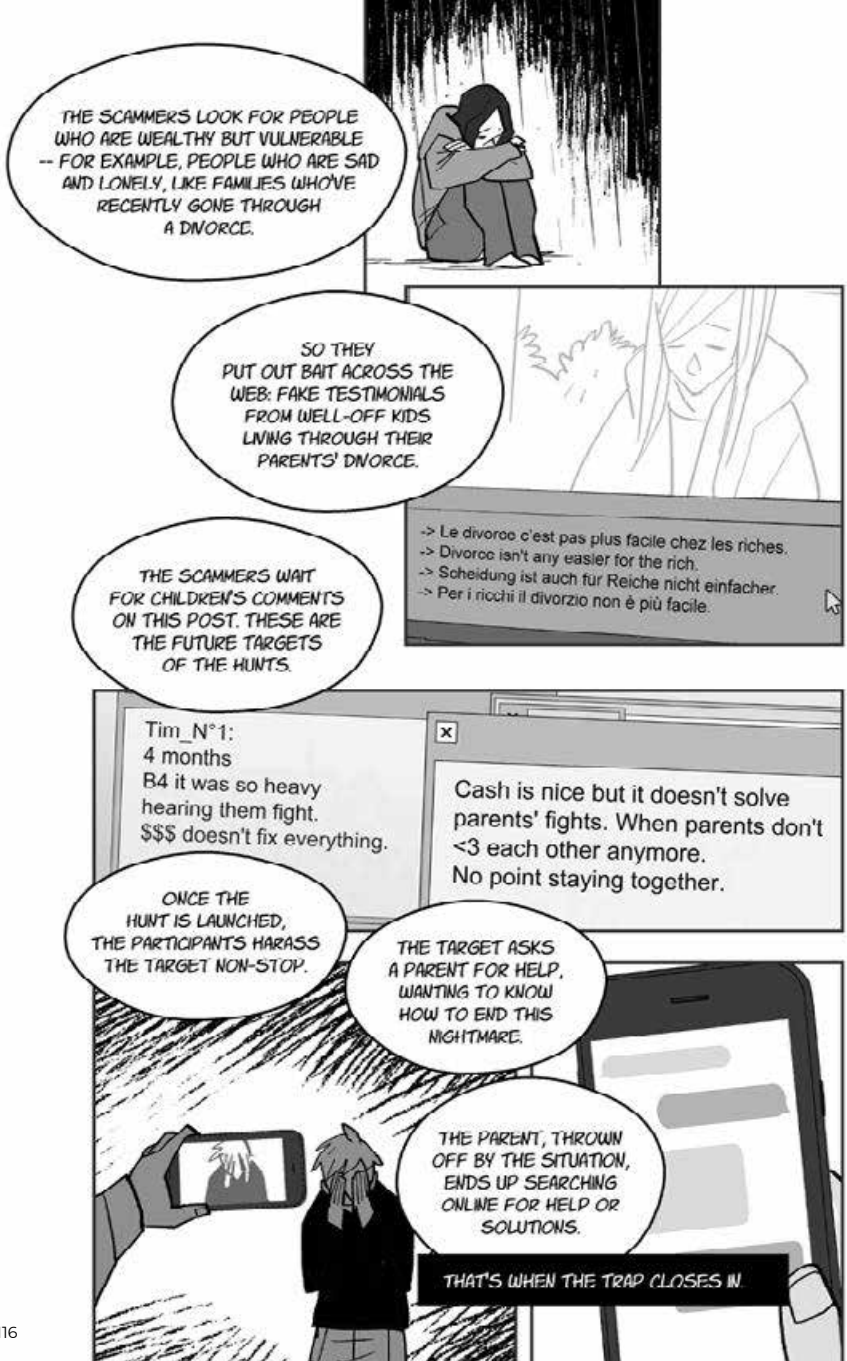

THE HUNTERS DON'T KNOW – NOT EVEN THE TEAM CAPTAINS – AND HONESTLY, THEY COULDN'T CARE LESS.
FOR THEM, IT'S USUALLY MUCH SIMPLER. THE TARGETS ARE THE TARGETS. PERIOD.

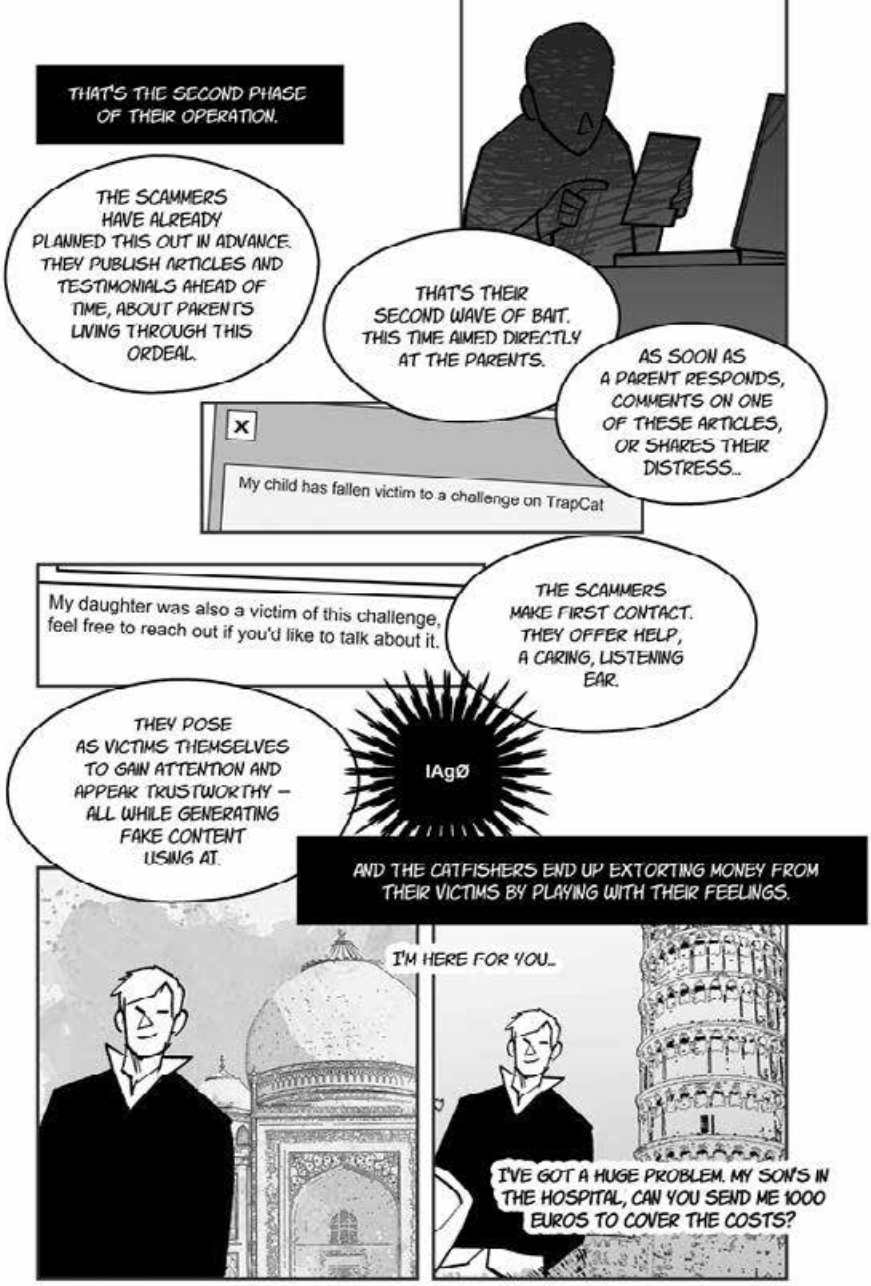

THEY JUST GOT MANON'S NAME, AND A FEW WEEKS LATER, TIMÉO'S PHOTO. THE TEAMS ORGANISED ONLINE, THE HUNT BEGAN, THE TEAMS PUSHED THEMSELVES TO OUTDO EACH OTHER, AND IN THE END, THE WINNING TEAM GOT PRIZES.
TEENS BULLYING TEENS. THE BULLIED TEENS SHARE ONE THING IN COMMON: THEY TEND TO COME FROM WELL-OFF FAMILIES WITH RECENTLY DIVORCED PARENTS.
THAT'S THE STORY THEY KEEP REPEATING TO AVOID THE TRUTH. THE REALITY IS A LOT LESS FUN – IT'S BULLYING.
BUT THE TEENS AREN'T ACTUALLY THE REAL TARGETS. THE REAL TARGETS ARE...


THE PARENTS.

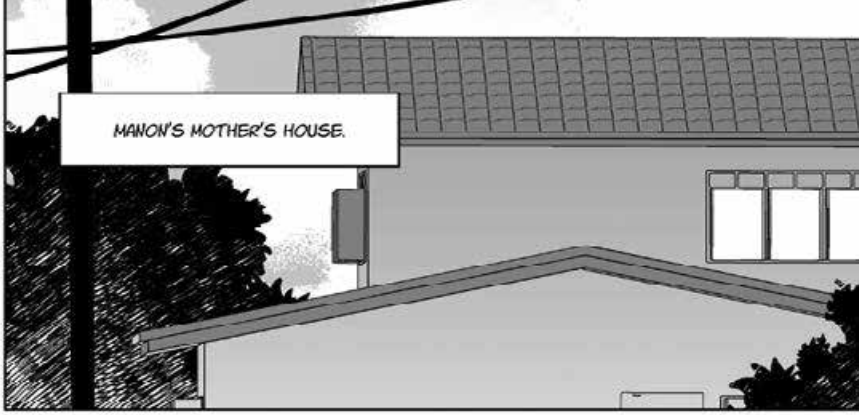

THE PROCESS IS REPEATED FROM CITY TO CITY – A POST APPEARS ON SOCIAL MEDIA MENTIONING THE HUNT. PEOPLE LEAVE COMMENTS.
WHEN THE MOM OR DAD OF A TARGETED TEEN LEAVES A COMMENT, THE MECHANISM KICKS IN.


SOMEONE REACHES OUT TO THE PARENT ONLINE – SOMEONE CLAIMING TO HAVE GONE THROUGH THE EXACT SAME ORDEAL THEMSELVES, IN ANOTHER CITY.


THE SCAMMERS LOOK FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE WEALTHY BUT VULNERABLE -- FOR EXAMPLE, PEOPLE WHO ARE SAD AND LONELY, LIKE FAMILIES WHO'VE RECENTLY GONE THROUGH A DIVORCE.
SO THEY PUT OUT BAIT ACROSS THE WEB: FAKE TESTIMONIALS FROM WELL-OFF KIDS LIVING THROUGH THEIR PARENTS' DIVORCE.
-> Le divorce c'est pas plus facile chez les riches.
-> Divorce isn't any easier for the rich.
-> Scheidung ist auch für Reiche nicht einfacher.
-> Per i ricchi il divorzio non è più facile.
THE SCAMMERS WAIT FOR CHILDREN'S COMMENTS ON THIS POST. THESE ARE THE FUTURE TARGETS OF THE HUNTS.
Tim_N°1:
4 months
B4 it was so heavy
hearing them fight.
$$$ doesn't fix everything.
Cash is nice but it doesn't solve parents' fights. When parents don't <3 each other anymore.
No point staying together.
ONCE THE HUNT IS LAUNCHED, THE PARTICIPANTS HARASS THE TARGET NON-STOP.
THE TARGET ASKS A PARENT FOR HELP, WANTING TO KNOW HOW TO END THIS NIGHTMARE.
THE PARENT, THROWN OFF BY THE SITUATION, ENDS UP SEARCHING ONLINE FOR HELP OR SOLUTIONS.
THAT'S WHEN THE TRAP CLOSES IN


THAT'S THE SECOND PHASE OF THEIR OPERATION.
THE SCAMMERS HAVE ALREADY PLANNED THIS OUT IN ADVANCE. THEY PUBLISH ARTICLES AND TESTIMONIALS AHEAD OF TIME, ABOUT PARENTS LIVING THROUGH THIS ORDEAL.
THAT'S THEIR SECOND WAVE OF BAIT. THIS TIME AIMED DIRECTLY AT THE PARENTS.
AS SOON AS A PARENT RESPONDS, COMMENTS ON ONE OF THESE ARTICLES, OR SHARES THEIR DISTRESS...
My child has fallen victim to a challenge on TrapCat
My daughter was also a victim of this challenge, feel free to reach out if you'd like to talk about it.
THE SCAMMERS MAKE FIRST CONTACT. THEY OFFER HELP, A CARING, LISTENING EAR.
THEY POSE AS VICTIMS THEMSELVES TO GAIN ATTENTION AND APPEAR TRUSTWORTHY – ALL WHILE GENERATING FAKE CONTENT USING AI.
IAgØ
AND THE CATFISHERS END UP EXTORTING MONEY FROM THEIR VICTIMS BY PLAYING WITH THEIR FEELINGS.
I'M HERE FOR YOU...
I'VE GOT A HUGE PROBLEM. MY SON'S IN THE HOSPITAL, CAN YOU SEND ME 1000 EUROS TO COVER THE COSTS?


CHIEF,
THIS PATTERN KEEPS REPEATING. I STARTED CHECKING, AND IT'S PLAYING OUT ACROSS THE WHOLE COUNTRY. THERE'S A PLAN BEHIND ALL OF THIS. IT'S SPREADING SYSTEMATICALLY, CITY BY CITY, REGION BY REGION.
AGENT Z,
AGENT X,
YOU'VE DONE REMARKABLE INVESTIGATIVE WORK.


MANON'S MOTHER'S HOUSE.






STILL WITH THAT LEECH?
NOT NOW...
SORRY, MY BAD. WRONG WORD.
HONESTLY, HE'S CLOSER TO A TICK. OR BETTER YET, A VAMPIRE.


WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU? WORRIED ABOUT YOUR INHERITANCE?
YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT MONEY AT BREAKFAST NOW, JUST LIKE YOUR FATHER.
I...
MOM, I DON'T WANT US TO FIGHT,
I'M NOT JUST WORRIED FOR MYSELF, I'M WORRIED ABOUT YOU TOO.
FOR WHEN YOUR HANDSOME MYSTERY MAN STOPS GIVING ANY SIGN OF LIFE... AND I'M THE ONE WHO HAS TO SCRAPE YOU BACK TOGETHER.

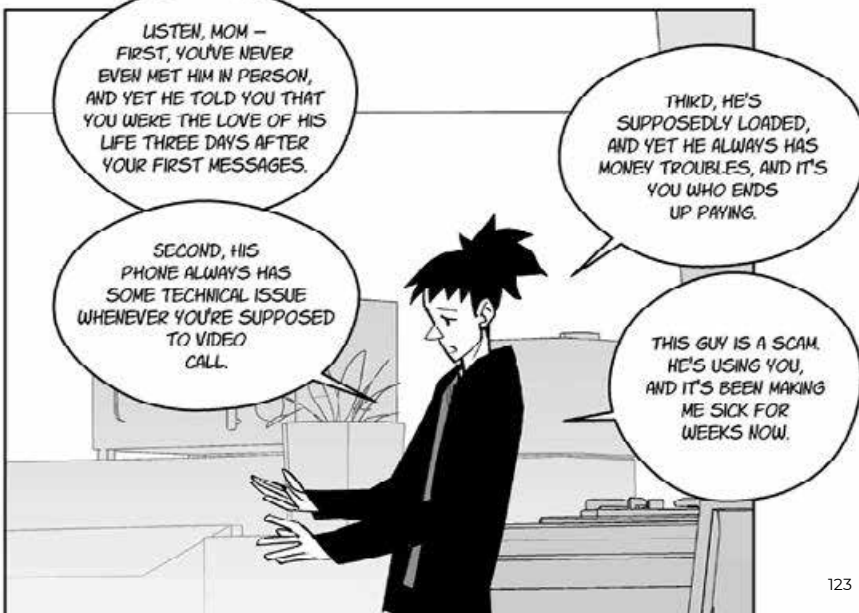

AND WHAT WOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT IT?
THE VAMPIRE WILL LEAVE YOU ALONE ONCE HE'S DRAINED YOUR BANK ACCOUNT. THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL DO...
WHO?
SCAMMERS.


THE WHAT?
ARE YOU SERIOUS RIGHT NOW, YOU REALLY DON'T KNOW?
THEY'RE PROFESSIONAL CON ARTISTS.
I'D READ STUFF ONLINE ABOUT IT, BUT IT WAS A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH A FRIEND THAT CONFIRMED MY SUSPICIONS.


NO, THAT'S NOT IT, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND.


YEAH, I KNOW THIS ISN'T GOING TO MAKE YOU HAPPY, BUT...
HONESTLY, DEEP DOWN, HAVEN'T YOU EVER WONDERED? NOT EVEN ONCE?




LISTEN, MOM — FIRST, YOU'VE NEVER EVEN MET HIM IN PERSON, AND YET HE TOLD YOU THAT YOU WERE THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE THREE DAYS AFTER YOUR FIRST MESSAGES.
SECOND, HIS PHONE ALWAYS HAS SOME TECHNICAL ISSUE WHENEVER YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO VIDEO CALL.
THIRD, HE'S SUPPOSEDLY LOADED, AND YET HE ALWAYS HAS MONEY TROUBLES, AND IT'S YOU WHO ENDS UP PAYING.
THIS GUY IS A SCAM. HE'S USING YOU, AND IT'S BEEN MAKING ME SICK FOR WEEKS NOW.


MA... I AGREE IT'S STRANGE, BUT I DON'T THINK YOU SHOULD WORRY OVER NOTHING... OR MAYBE I REALLY AM THE QUEEN OF FOOLS.


NO, YOU'RE NOT STUPID, THIS HAS HAPPENED TO TONS OF PEOPLE. THIS GUY, OR RATHER, THESE GUYS, THEY JUST FEED OFF PEOPLE'S PAIN. THEY'RE LIKE PREDATORS, THEY TARGET THE MOST VULNERABLE PERSON.


EVEN THE PHOTOS HE SENT YOU, I BET THEY'RE FAKE.

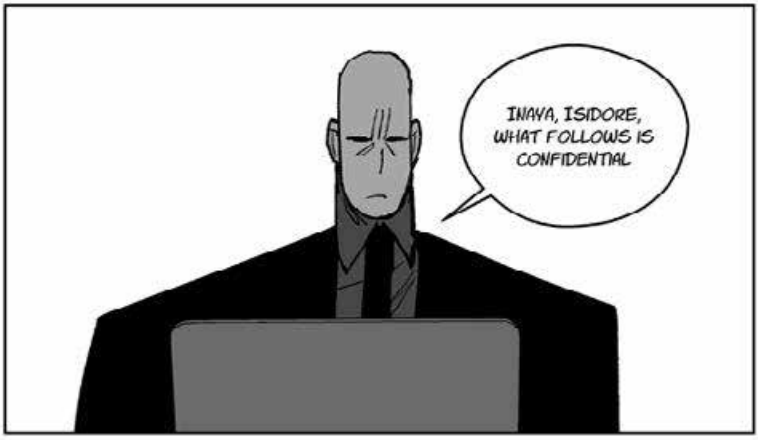

LOOK AT THIS PHOTO, HE SENT IT TO ME THIS MORNING, HE'S IN ITALY.


OKAY... DO YOU HAVE ANOTHER PHOTO, ANOTHER PICTURE OF HIM?
HERE, LOOK, THERE'S THIS ONE.


NO BUT... ARE YOU SERIOUS?!
MOM, YOU REALLY DON'T SEE IT?
SEE WHAT?
THE IMAGE IS EDITED, HE'S JUST SLIGHTLY SHIFTED IN THE SECOND PHOTO, BUT OTHER THAN THAT. LOOK!
SAME HAND POSITION, SAME HAIRCUT, SAME SHIRT. ONLY THE COLOR CHANGED, BUT THE FOLDS ARE IDENTICAL, EVEN THE LIGHT IS THE SAME, THE SHADOW HERE.


YOUR MOM REALLY IS A FOOL.
BREAKING NEWS : NOBODY'S PERFECT...
EXCEPT ME, OBVIOUSLY...




INAYA, ISIDORE, WHAT FOLLOWS IS CONFIDENTIAL


TOP SECRET
WHICH IS WHY AGENT D IS HERE.


AGENT X, AGENT Z, FIRST OF ALL, I WANT TO CONGRATULATE YOU. MISSION AFTER MISSION, YOU KEEP MANAGING TO IMPRESS ME.
AND I KNOW I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE...
BUT UNFORTUNATELY, I'M NOT HERE JUST TO SHOWER YOU WITH COMPLIMENTS.


AS YOUVE UNDERSTOOD... THIS IS SERIOUS.
WHAT YOU FOUND IS INDEED ONE LINK IN A CHAIN.
THE ESSENTIAL MISSING PIECE WE NEEDED TO UNDERSTAND THE FULL SCOPE OF THE PLAN.


IT'S TIME TO TELL YOU ABOUT PROJECT CONSTELLATION.

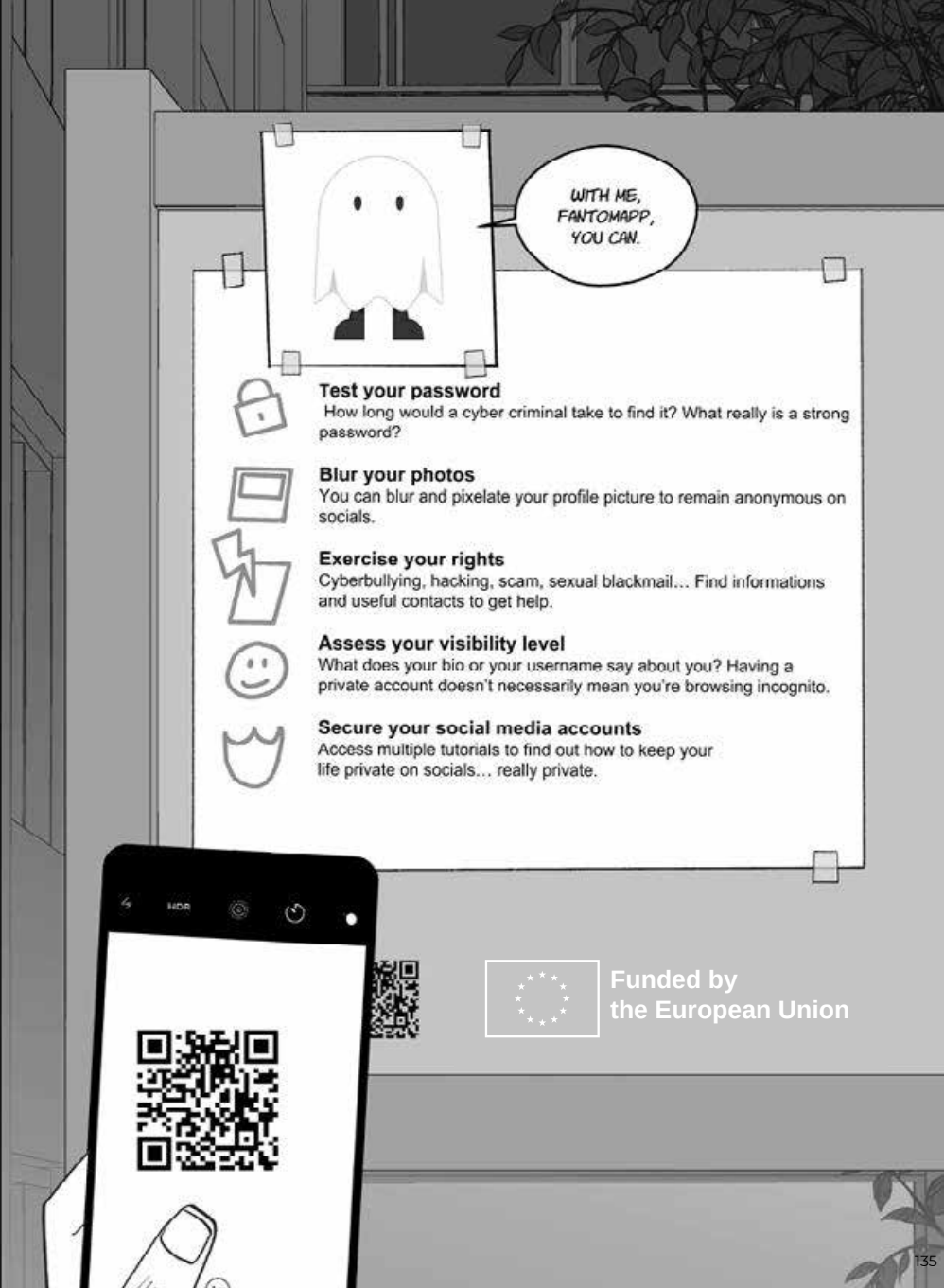





WHO WAS THAT GUY? SOMEONE NEW?


WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO CALL HIM?
AGENT 2-B?


OH COME ON, OBVIOUSLY – IT'S FANTOMAPP!
FantomApp


WITH ME, FANTOMAPP, YOU CAN.
Test your password
How long would a cyber criminal take to find it? What really is a strong password?
Blur your photos
You can blur and pixelate your profile picture to remain anonymous on socials.
Exercise your rights
Cyberbullying, hacking, scam, sexual blackmail... Find informations and useful contacts to get help.
Assess your visibility level
What does your bio or your username say about you? Having a private account doesn't necessarily mean you're browsing incognito.
Secure your social media accounts
Access multiple tutorials to find out how to keep your life private on socials... really private.
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A- Mysterious hunts launched on TrapCat are terrorising Inaya's (Agent Z) hometown.

B- Thousands of miles away, people with bad intentions are using IAg0 to carry out their schemes.

C- At Privacy Agency headquarters, Isidore (Agent X) continues tracking down the mysterious Daft Web.

At first glance, these three stories seem pretty unrelated.

But what happens when you dig into the depths of this investigation?

What if they were connected?

That's what you'll discover in this new volume of ***Privacy Agency.***

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