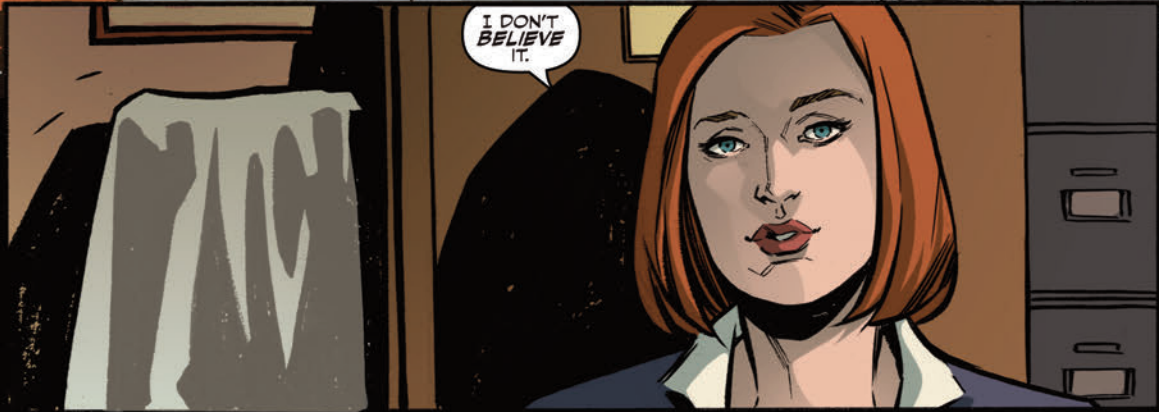


FBI HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, D.C.
9:16 A.M.



I DON'T BELIEVE IT.



THAT'S PRETTY MUCH THE SAME THING YOU SAID THE LAST TIME YOU FIRST WALKED THROUGH THIS DOOR.

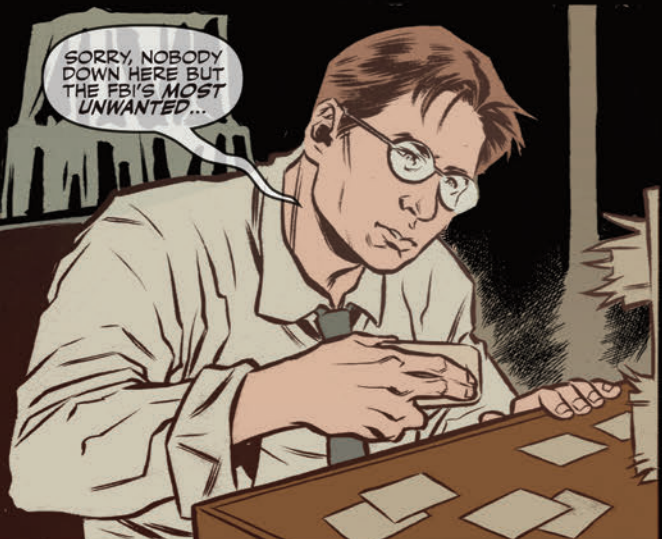
I KNOW... BUT I'D EXPECT OFFICE SPACE TO BE AT MORE OF A PREMIUM THIS FAR INTO THE 21ST CENTURY.



COME ON, SCULLY... DIDN'T YOU FIND ME *DASHING* AS I EXAMINED PHOTOGRAPHIC SLIDES OF THE PARANORMAL AND THE PARANOID?

I FOUND YOU *ODD*... BUT *SINCERE*.

AND AT LEAST A *LITTLE* FULL OF YOURSELF, AT TIMES.



SORRY, NOBODY DOWN HERE BUT THE FBI'S *MOST UNWANTED*...



WHAT ARE YOU DOING...?

MULDER, WE HAVE A *MEETING* UPSTAIRS.

HOLD ON A SECOND.



IF WE'RE GOING TO DO THIS, SCULLY, WE MIGHT AS WELL PUT ON A *BRAVE* FACE.



STILL
I WANT TO BELIEVE



AS ONE LAST ORDER OF BUSINESS TODAY, I'D LIKE TO PERSONALLY EXTEND A "WELCOME BACK" TO AGENTS FOX MULDER AND DANA SCULLY.

YOUR EXPERIENCE AND SPECIALIZED EXPERTISE WILL, NO DOUBT, BE AN ASSET TO THE BUREAU GOING FORWARD.

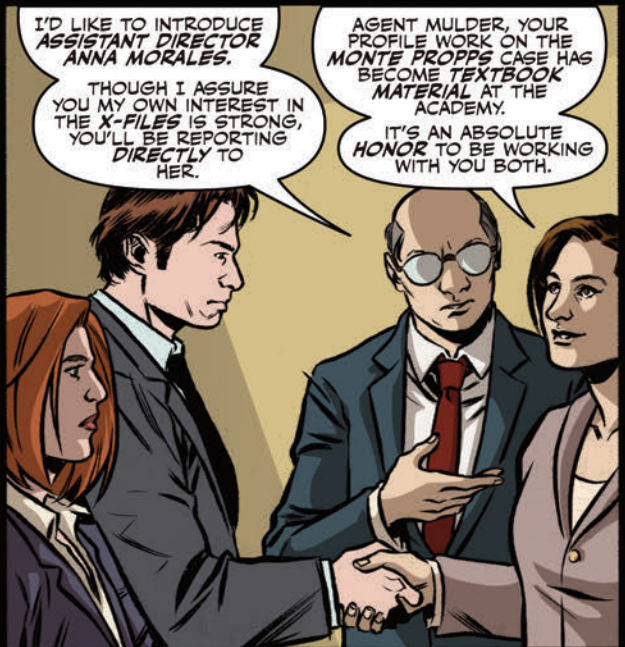


IF THEY GIVE ME A GOLD WATCH, I'M PUTTING IT UP ON EBAY.

THAT'LL BE ALL, FOLKS.



AGENTS, COULD I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU BOTH?



I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ANNA MORALES.

THOUGH I ASSURE YOU MY OWN INTEREST IN THE X-FILES IS STRONG, YOU'LL BE REPORTING DIRECTLY TO HER.

AGENT MULDER, YOUR PROFILE WORK ON THE MONTE PROPPS CASE HAS BECOME TEXTBOOK MATERIAL AT THE ACADEMY.

IT'S AN ABSOLUTE HONOR TO BE WORKING WITH YOU BOTH.



NICE WATCH.



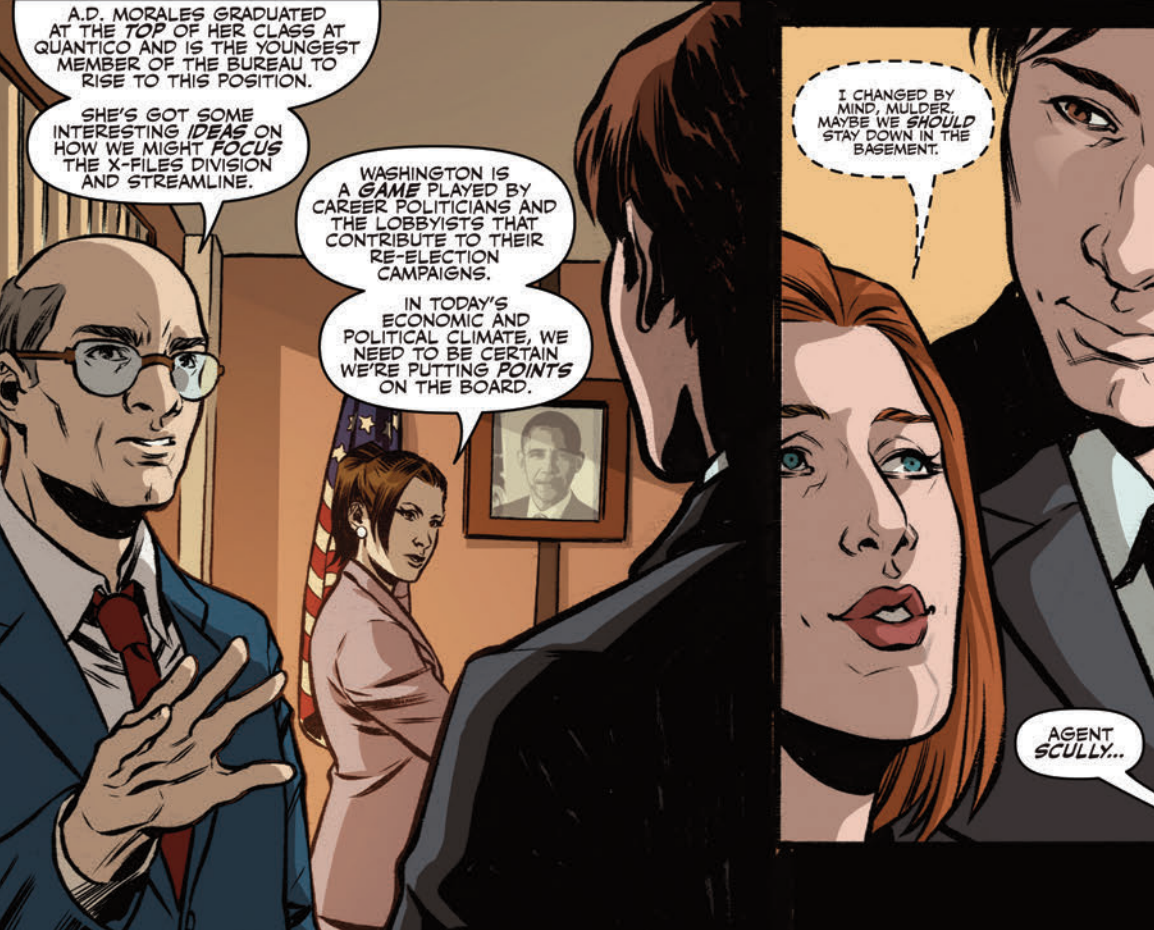
AS YOU MIGHT IMAGINE, POTENTIAL "X-FILES" HAVE PILED UP OVER THE LAST FEW YEARS.

I'M PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN *OLD CASES* THAT HAVEN'T BEEN CLOSED.



WITH ALL DUE RESPECT... I THINK THAT IT WILL TAKE MORE THAN A *CLOSURE RATE* TO FULLY JUDGE THE EFFICACY OF THE X-FILES DIVISION.

IT'S THE VERY *PARANORMAL* NATURE THAT MAKES THEIR *INVESTIGATION* SO DIFFICULT TO CHARACTERIZE AS DEFINITELY "OPEN" OR "CLOSED."



A.D. MORALES GRADUATED AT THE *TOP* OF HER CLASS AT QUANTICO AND IS THE YOUNGEST MEMBER OF THE BUREAU TO RISE TO THIS POSITION.

SHE'S GOT SOME INTERESTING *IDEAS* ON HOW WE MIGHT *FOCUS* THE X-FILES DIVISION AND STREAMLINE.

WASHINGTON IS A *GAME* PLAYED BY CAREER POLITICIANS AND THE LOBBYISTS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR RE-ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

IN TODAY'S ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CLIMATE, WE NEED TO BE CERTAIN WE'RE PUTTING *POINTS* ON THE BOARD.

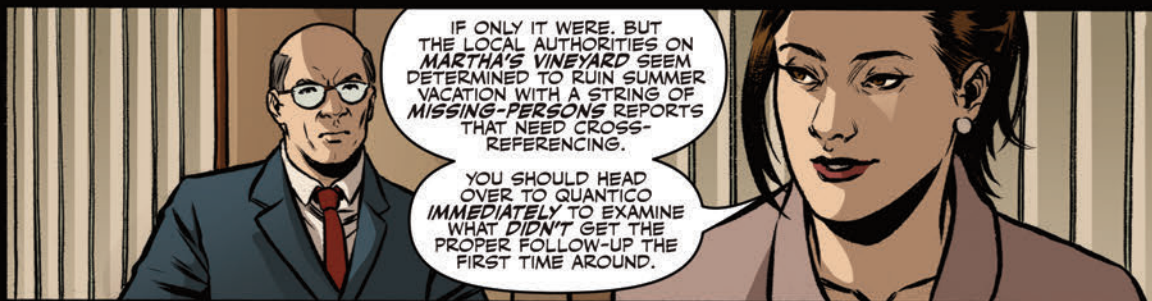
I CHANGED BY MIND, MULDER. MAYBE WE *SHOULD* STAY DOWN IN THE BASEMENT.

AGENT SCULLY...



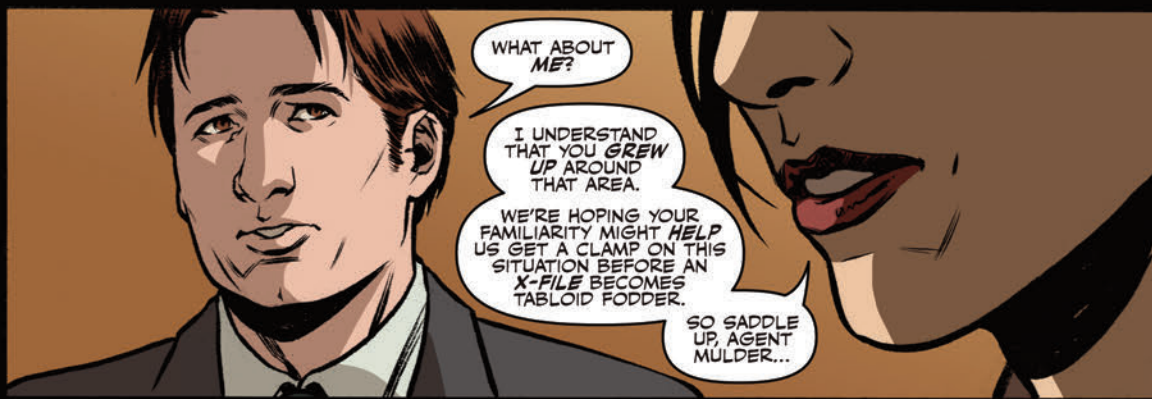
...YOUR **MEDICAL BACKGROUND** CAN, HOPEFULLY, HELP DETERMINE HOW THIS STUBBORN CASE MIGHT BEST STAY CLOSED.

IS THIS SOME KIND OF JOKE?



IF ONLY IT WERE. BUT THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES ON **MARTHA'S VINEYARD** SEEM DETERMINED TO RUIN SUMMER VACATION WITH A STRING OF **MISSING-PERSONS** REPORTS THAT NEED CROSS-REFERENCING.

YOU SHOULD HEAD OVER TO QUANTICO IMMEDIATELY TO EXAMINE WHAT **DIDN'T** GET THE PROPER FOLLOW-UP THE FIRST TIME AROUND.



WHAT ABOUT **ME?**

I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU **GREW UP** AROUND THAT AREA.

WE'RE HOPING YOUR FAMILIARITY MIGHT **HELP** US GET A CLAMP ON THIS SITUATION BEFORE AN **X-FILE** BECOMES TABLOID FODDER.

SO SADDLE UP, AGENT MULDER...



...YOU'VE GOT A **PLANE** TO CATCH.