

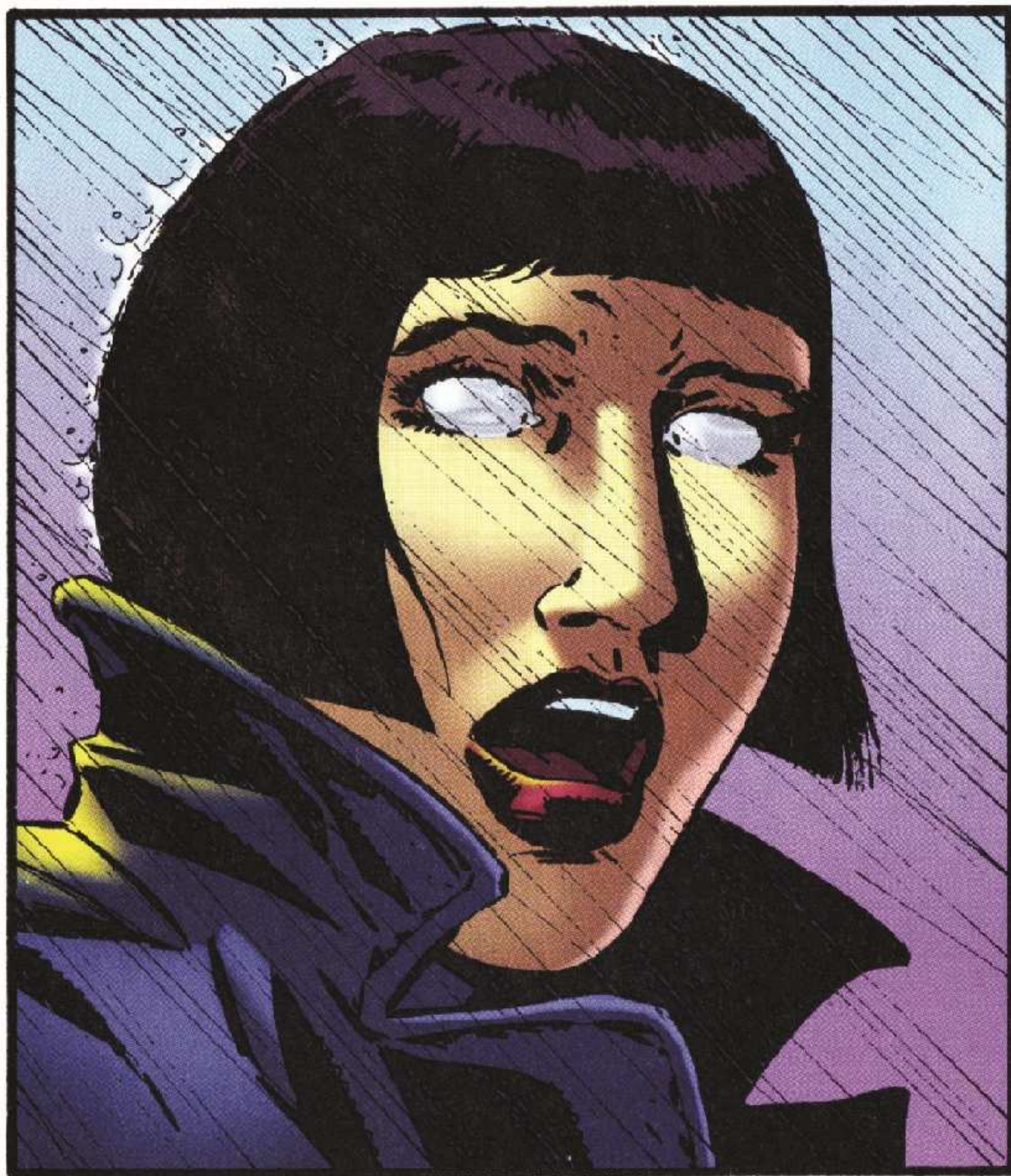


I AM NO LONGER CERTAIN WHAT A CITY IS.

POOR THING, OUTSIDE IN THIS WEATHER. YOU SHOULD BE IN AN INSTITUTION, DEAR.



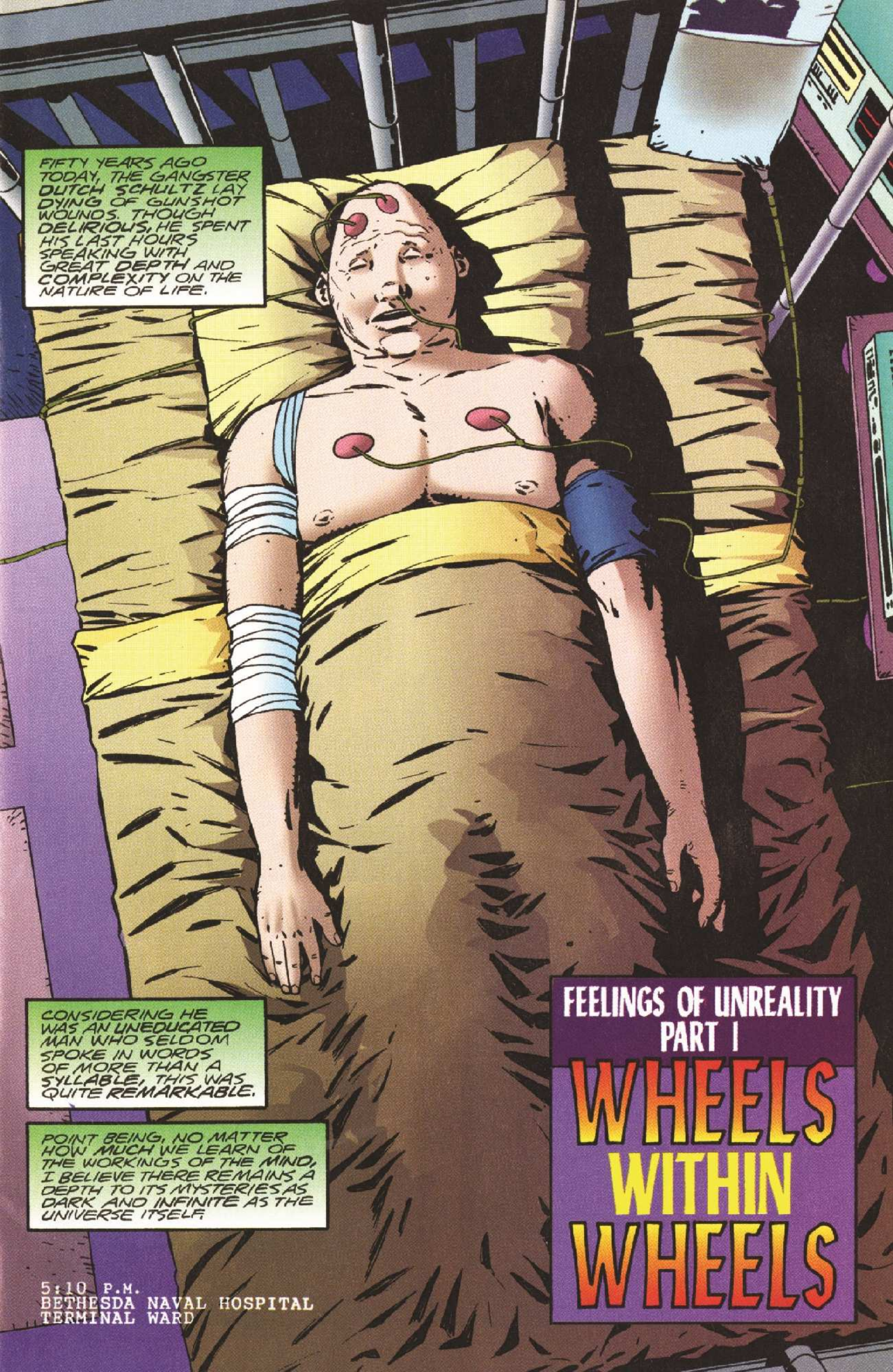
I'M SORRY. THIS IS ALL I HAVE FOR YOU.



FOR YOU.

FOR YOU.

FOR YOU.

A man with a mustache and a small goatee lies in a hospital bed, appearing unconscious. He is wearing a yellow hospital gown and has several red circular electrodes attached to his forehead and chest. Wires connect these electrodes to medical equipment. He has a blue blood pressure cuff on his left arm and a white bandage on his right arm. The bed has a yellow pillow and a brown blanket. In the background, there are medical monitors and a white cylindrical object.

FIFTY YEARS AGO TODAY, THE GANGSTER DUTCH SCHULTZ LAY DYING OF GUNSHOT WOUNDS. THOUGH DELIRIOUS, HE SPENT HIS LAST HOURS SPEAKING WITH GREAT DEPTH AND COMPLEXITY ON THE NATURE OF LIFE.

CONSIDERING HE WAS AN UNEDUCATED MAN WHO SELDOM SPOKE IN WORDS OF MORE THAN A SYLLABLE, THIS WAS QUITE REMARKABLE.

POINT BEING, NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE LEARN OF THE WORKINGS OF THE MIND, I BELIEVE THERE REMAINS A DEPTH TO ITS MYSTERIES AS DARK AND INFINITE AS THE UNIVERSE ITSELF.

5:10 P.M.
BETHESDA NAVAL HOSPITAL
TERMINAL WARD

FEELINGS OF UNREALITY
PART I

WHEELS
WITHIN
WHEELS

"FOR SIX DAYS, I'VE BEEN LISTENING TO AN ENDLESS STREAM OF LANGUAGE PRODUCED BY A DYING MIND.

"UNLIKE OTHER MODERN CANNIBALS, WHO ACT OUT OF A PERVERTED SEXUAL IMPULSE, HE DEVOURED HIS VICTIMS BELIEVING HE'D ACQUIRE THEIR MEMORIES AND ABILITIES.

"DOCTOR ENOCH IS SUCCLIMBING TO KURU, A DISEASE HE LIKELY CONTRACTED BY EATING HUMAN BRAINS.

"GIVEN THE INSIGHTS HE DISPLAYED IN ALASKA*--SOME VERSION OF HIS THEORY MAY WELL BE CORRECT.

*AS REVEALED IN THE X-FILES #8-9.

"I'VE HEARD HIM SPEAK WITH THE VOICE OF AN AZTEC PRIEST, AN ARCHEOLOGIST, EVEN A PIZZA BOY.

"HIS LAST MEAL INTERESTS ME MOST: GENERAL SHADEN-FREUD--A MEMBER OF THE INNER GOVERNMENT WHOSE SECRETS I'VE WORKED SO HARD TO UNLOCK.



"IT IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE MOST UNUSUAL TESTIMONY I'VE EVER TAKEN. I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF MY NICKNAME CHANGED FROM 'SPOOKY' TO 'MAD.'

"BUT PERHAPS IN A WORLD WHERE 65% OF THE POPULATION BELIEVES IN FLYING SAUCERS, AND UNOFFICIAL GOVERNMENT POLICY IS TO DENY EVERYTHING...

"...MADNESS IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM."



