

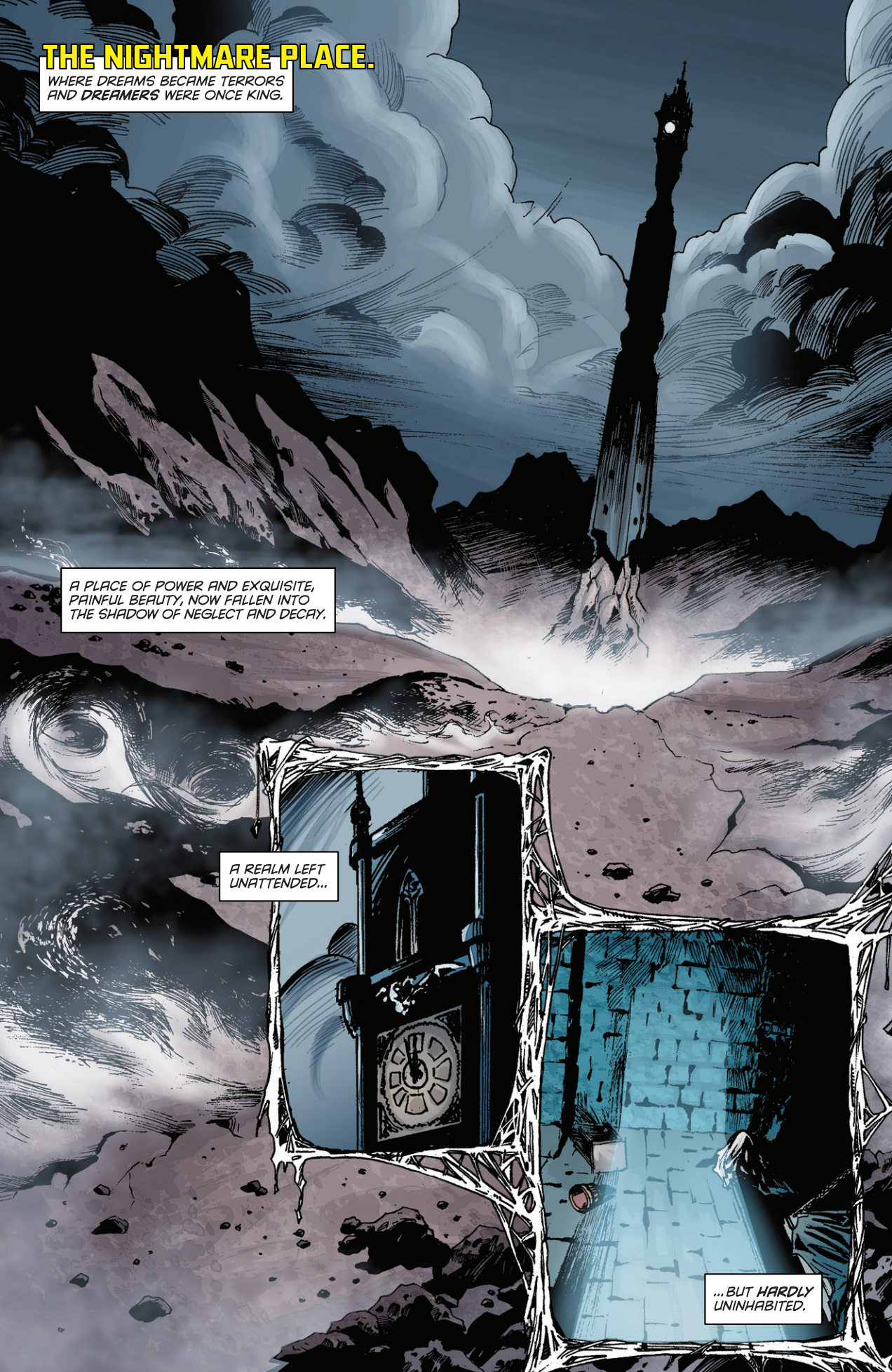
THE NIGHTMARE PLACE.

WHERE DREAMS BECAME TERRORS
AND DREAMERS WERE ONCE KING.

A PLACE OF POWER AND EXQUISITE,
PAINFUL BEAUTY, NOW FALLEN INTO
THE SHADOW OF NEGLECT AND DECAY.

A REALM LEFT
UNATTENDED...

...BUT HARDLY
UNINHABITED.





MASSSTERRR?

WE HAVE
SSSEARCHED FOR
YOU...FOR SSSO
LONG...

BUT
WHYSSSS ARE
YOU HERE...

...AND HOW DID
THISSSS COME
TO BE...?

MASSSTERRR...?

...ARE YOU
THERE...?

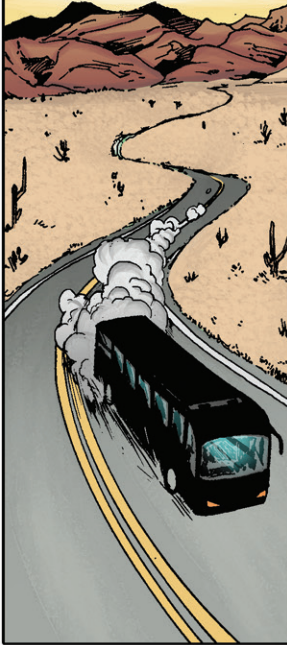
**TWENTY
MILES OUTSIDE
LAS VEGAS...**



A PLACE OF
TEMPTATIONS AND
TEMPTRESSES.

OF SINNERS
AND SINS.

YOU REMEMBER THEM
LIKE LOST CHILDREN.



LIKE THE SWEETEST
DREAMS, AND THE
MOST BEAUTIFUL
NIGHTMARES.



YOU CALL
THIS FRUIT?
ALL I SEE ARE
GRAPES AND
CHERRIES.

THE RIDER ON
THIS CONTRACT
CALLS FOR
MELONS!



BIG,
JUICY...

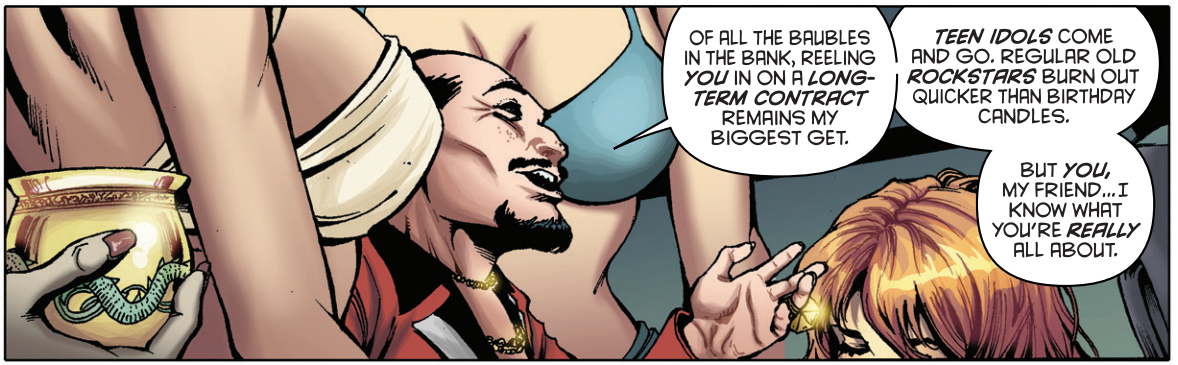
...SLOPPY
MELONS!



MAYBE YOU
SHOULD
RENEGOTIATE,
LUCIUS.

IF YOU
DON'T LIKE
THE TERMS,
I MEAN.

HO! IT
SPEAKS!



OF ALL THE BAUBLES IN THE BANK, REELING YOU IN ON A **LONG-TERM CONTRACT** REMAINS MY BIGGEST GET.

TEEN IDOLS COME AND GO. REGULAR OLD *ROCKSTARS* BURN OUT QUICKER THAN BIRTHDAY CANDLES.

BUT YOU, MY FRIEND... I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE *REALLY* ALL ABOUT.



NOW HOW ABOUT A LITTLE LESS *LIP* AND A LITTLE MORE *STAGECRAFT*, HUH?

YOU SIGNED A CONTRACT TOO, AFTER ALL!



ONE DAY, WHEN THIS IS ALL OVER AND I'M *FREE* AGAIN...

I'M GOING TO *KILL* YOU, LUCIUS.



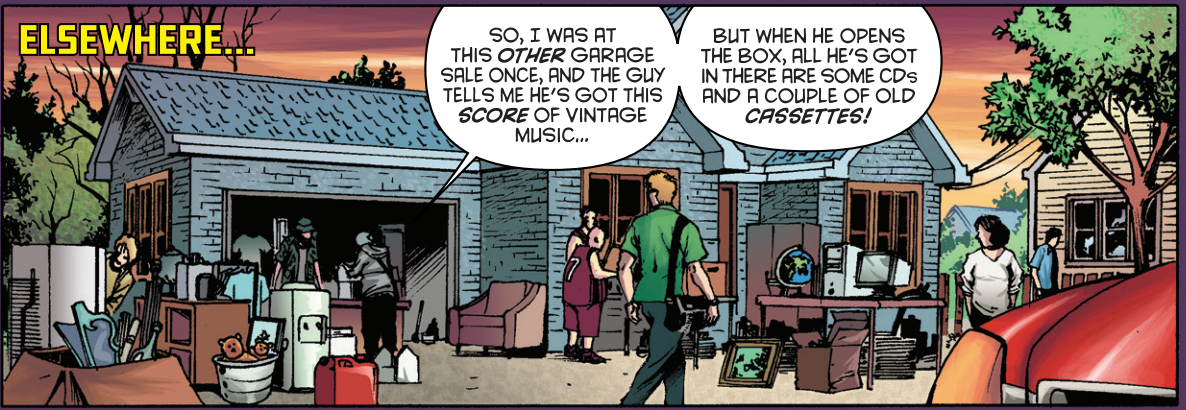
PROMISES, PROMISES...

NOW STRAP ON A SET AND *SADDLE UP*, A.C....

"...YOU'VE GOT A *SHOW* TO DO!"



ELSEWHERE...



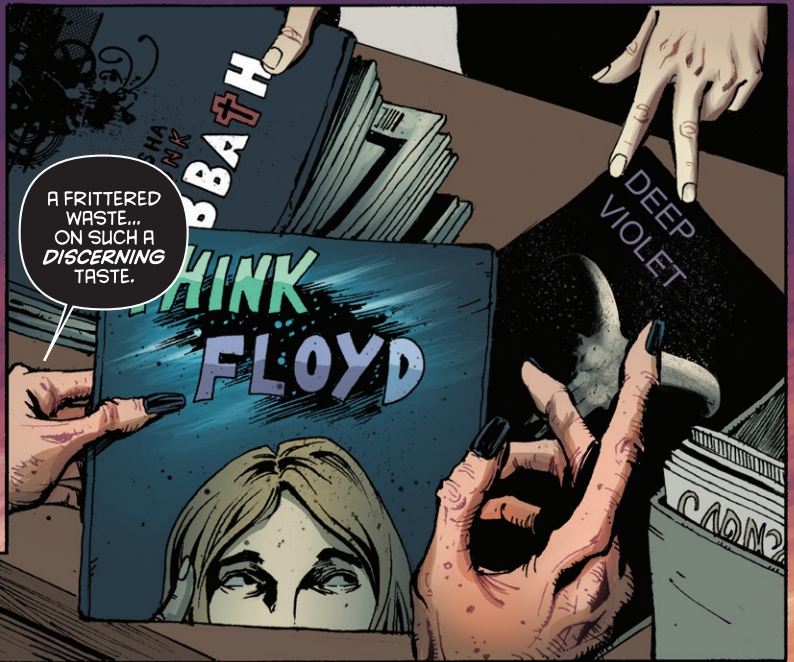
SO, I WAS AT THIS *OTHER* GARAGE SALE ONCE, AND THE GUY TELLS ME HE'S GOT THIS SCORE OF VINTAGE MUSIC...

BUT WHEN HE OPENS THE BOX, ALL HE'S GOT IN THERE ARE SOME CD'S AND A COUPLE OF OLD CASSETTES!



SO I ASKED HIM, "WHY DON'T YOU MAKE ME A MIX TAPE WHILE YOU'RE AT IT!"

YOU GET IT? A MIX TAPE?



A FRITTERED WASTE... ON SUCH A DISCERNING TASTE.



EXCUSE ME... DO YOU THINK I COULD TAKE A LOOK AT--

SORRY, KID. THESE ARE TAKEN.