



AND THEN EMILY WAS GONE



JOHN LEES
IAIN LAURIE
MEGAN WILSON
COLIN BELL

EMILY LAURIE



AND THEN EMILY WAS GONE

STORY:

JOHN LEES

ART:

IAIN LAURIE

COLORS:

MEGAN WILSON

LETTERS:

COLIN BELL

COVER A

IAIN LAURIE

COVER B

RILEY ROSSMO

AND THEN EMILY WAS GONE ISSUE ONE COPYRIGHT © JOHN LEES AND IAIN LAURIE. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. NO PART OF THIS PUBLICATION MAY BE REPRODUCED OR TRANSMITTED, IN ANY FORM OR BY ANY MEANS (EXCEPT FOR SHORT EXCERPTS FOR REVIEW PURPOSES) WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE AUTHORS. ALL NAMES, CHARACTERS, EVENTS AND LOCALES IN THIS PUBLICATION ARE ENTIRELY FICTIONAL. ANY RESEMBLANCE TO ACTUAL PERSONS (LIVING OR DEAD), EVENTS OR PLACES, WITHOUT SATIRIC INTENT, IS COINCIDENTAL.

BONNIE SHAW IS WATCHING YOU.

PART ONE: THE BOX



MEANWHILE,
SOMEWHERE
ELSE...











You've not said a word since I let you in. Okay, you wanted to talk to me, here I am.

Talk.

I've read about you.

You were a famous policeman, you could find people that no one else could...

Heh... That was a long time ago.

Take a look around. I can't even find a remote these days.



So, sorry you came out here for nothing, but I'm in no position to help anyone.

Go home, Fiona.



I can't go home. I've run away, and they'll be looking for me.

I... I'm going to tell you about Emily.

"Emily and I come from Merksay, one of the Orkney Islands."

"For about as long as I can remember, she's been my best friend!"



"Neither of us really cared much for what the other girls were into."

"I love mysteries, crime stories. I've always wanted to be a detective."

"But a couple of weeks ago, something happened to Emily..."


Emily? Emily, you're scaring me. What's wrong?



Bonnie Shaw.


I've seen Bonnie Shaw.





"Bonnie Shaw is a boogey-man, an old folk tale from the Scottish islands."

"The story goes that Bonnie Shaw would visit parents in troubling times."



"He'd offer them a solution to their woes, but at a price..."

"In return, Bonnie Shaw wanted the parents to give him their child."

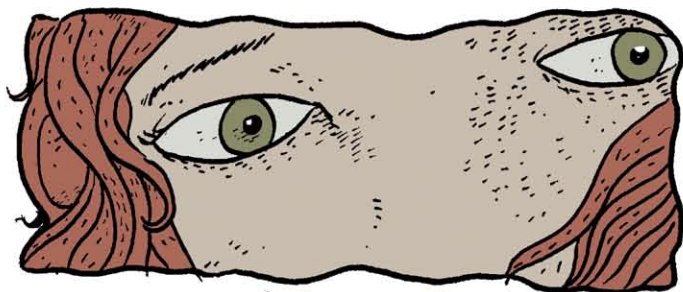
"It's just a silly story, the kind parents use to scare naughty children."

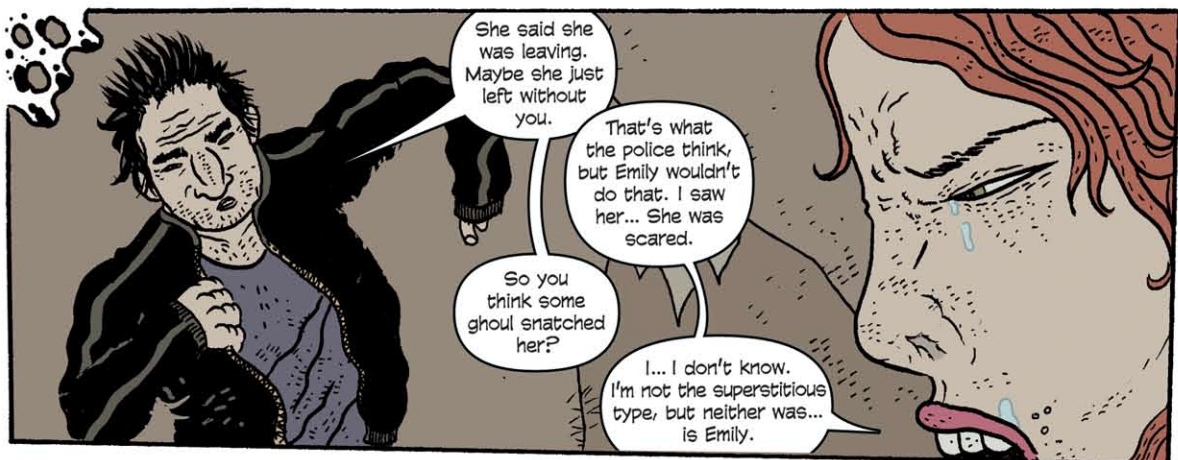
"You know--"

"Behave yourself, or Bonnie Shaw will take you away."



Will you come with me?





I looked back... In the past twenty years, eleven children have gone missing from Merksay, all written off as runaways. Something is very wrong.

But I can't go to the police and tell them Emily was snatched by a fairy tale...







Do you think Coffee Shop Girl could be a keeper, then?

I dunno, Louise. I'm keeping things casual, we'll see how it goes.

Just be careful. I know you've had a hard time putting yourself out there since Sarah. I just don't want to see you hurt again...

Thanks, mother.



You've been my best friend since we were little kids, I've earned the right to worry about you.

Just know that if you're worried about anything, don't feel like you have to keep it from me.

I'll be fine. Besides...



I never have been able to keep anything from you, have I?







Bloody hell, that was intense!

What happens now?

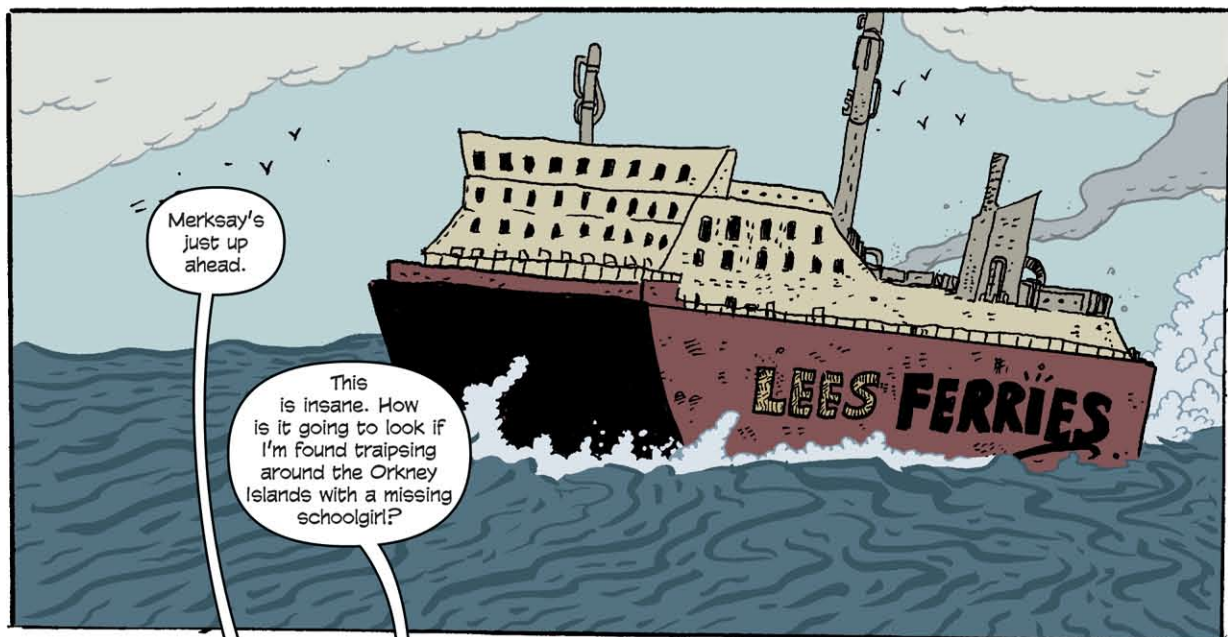


Now?

I head back to the office...



"...Then I get another job."



Merksay's just up ahead.

This is insane. How is it going to look if I'm found traipsing around the Orkney Islands with a missing schoolgirl?



You're investigating a crime.

I'm not a detective anymore! I started seeing... horrible things, and all they could tell me was that I'd had a spectacular nervous breakdown.

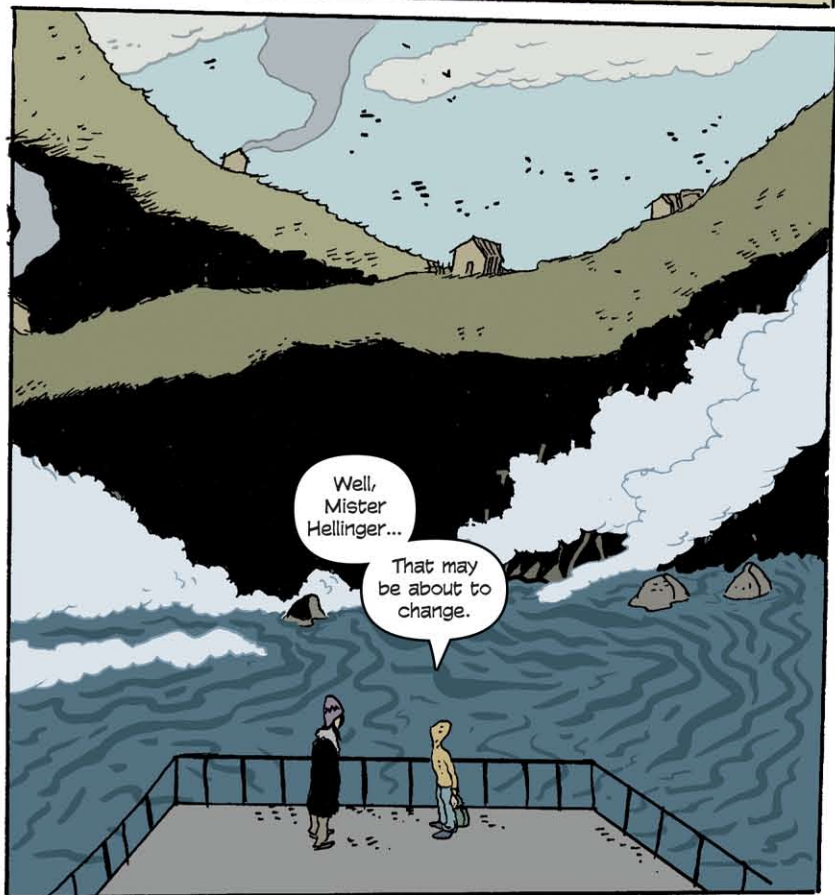
My whole life, my mind was my best asset. Now it's turned against me. I'm useless.



If you think you're such a lost cause, why didn't you just throw me out? Report me to the police? Why help me?

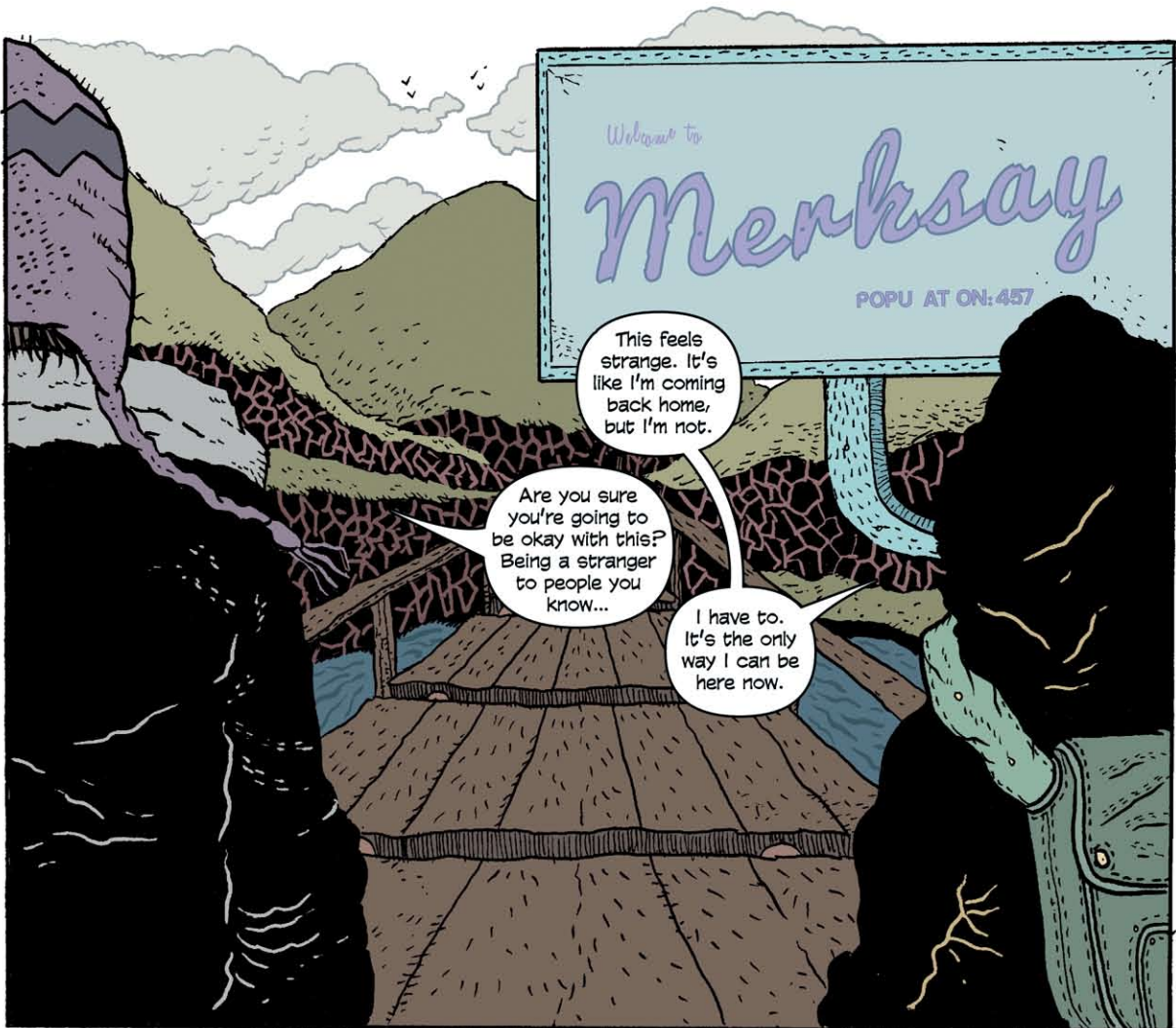
Honestly? It's you. Since I met you...

I've not seen a single monster.



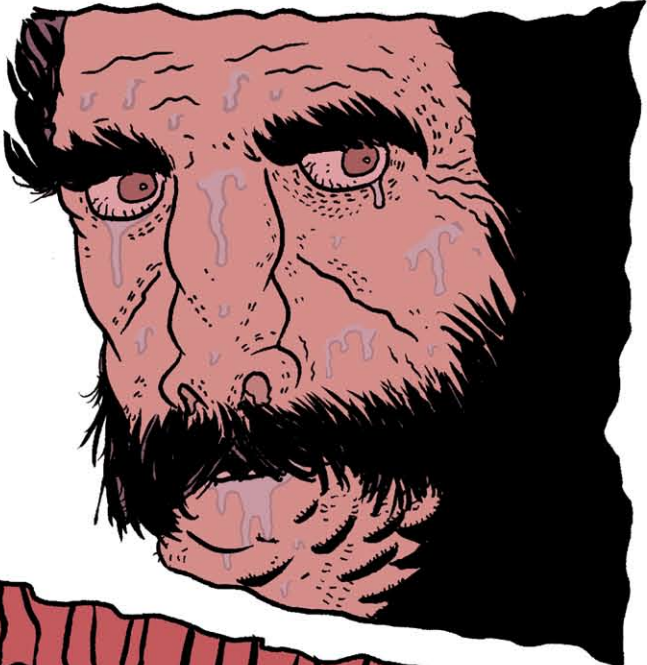
Well, Mister Hellinger...

That may be about to change.









What's in the box?!



What's in the box?!

WHAT'S IN THE BOX?!



NEXT: WHAT'S IN THE BOX.





MERKSAY STORIES **FISHERMAN BILL**

BILL TINNEY WAS BORN ON THE ISLE OF MERKSAY IN THE SUMMER OF 1951. FISHING WAS NOT AN UNCOMMON PROFESSION FOR MEN OF HIS GENERATION, BUT FOR SOME REASON BILL ACQUIRED THE NICKNAME "FISHERMAN BILL" ABOVE ALL OTHERS WHO SHARED HIS TRADE. IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT THIS WAS DOWN TO THE FACT THAT, MORE THAN ANY OTHER, HE LOOKED THE PART OF A FISHERMAN, AND ALWAYS SMELLED OF THE SEA. OR IT COULD BE THAT FAR BEYOND A PROFESSION, FISHERMAN BILL SEEMED TO LIVE FOR THE SEA. HE WOULD BE SEEN AT ALL HOURS OUT ON HIS LITTLE BOAT, FROM THE EARLIEST CRACK OF DAWN TO THE DEAD OF NIGHT. SOME SAID THAT HE EVEN USED TO SLEEP ON HIS BOAT OVERNIGHT, THE WATER ROCKING HIM LIKE A CRADLE. HIS BIZARRE SCULPTURES MADE FROM FISH CARCASSES WERE THE TALK OF THE TOWN AND THE CLOSEST MERKSAY HAS COME TO A CONTEMPORARY ART SCENE. THEN ONE NIGHT BILL CAUGHT A FISH AND IT SAID SOMETHING EVIL TO HIM AND NOW BILL DOESN'T FISH.

GO TO VISITMERKSAY.COM OR MIXTRIBE.COM FOR MORE MERKSAY STORIES.

AND THEN EMILY WAS GONE TRADE PAPERBACK AVAILABLE NOW!

A haunted former police detective goes in search of a missing girl, and finds Hell instead.

"GROTESQUERIES UNIMAGINABLE..."



MULTIVERSITY

"CREEPY AS @#\$!..."



COMIC BASTARDS

"A SPIRAL DOWNWARDS INTO MADNESS..."



NEED TO CONSUME

"DISTURBING AND UNSETTLING..."



NEWSARAMA

"UNNERVING AND ENGAGING..."



BIG COMIC PAGE

"A SURREAL, WAKING NIGHTMARE..."



POP CULTURE UNCOVERED

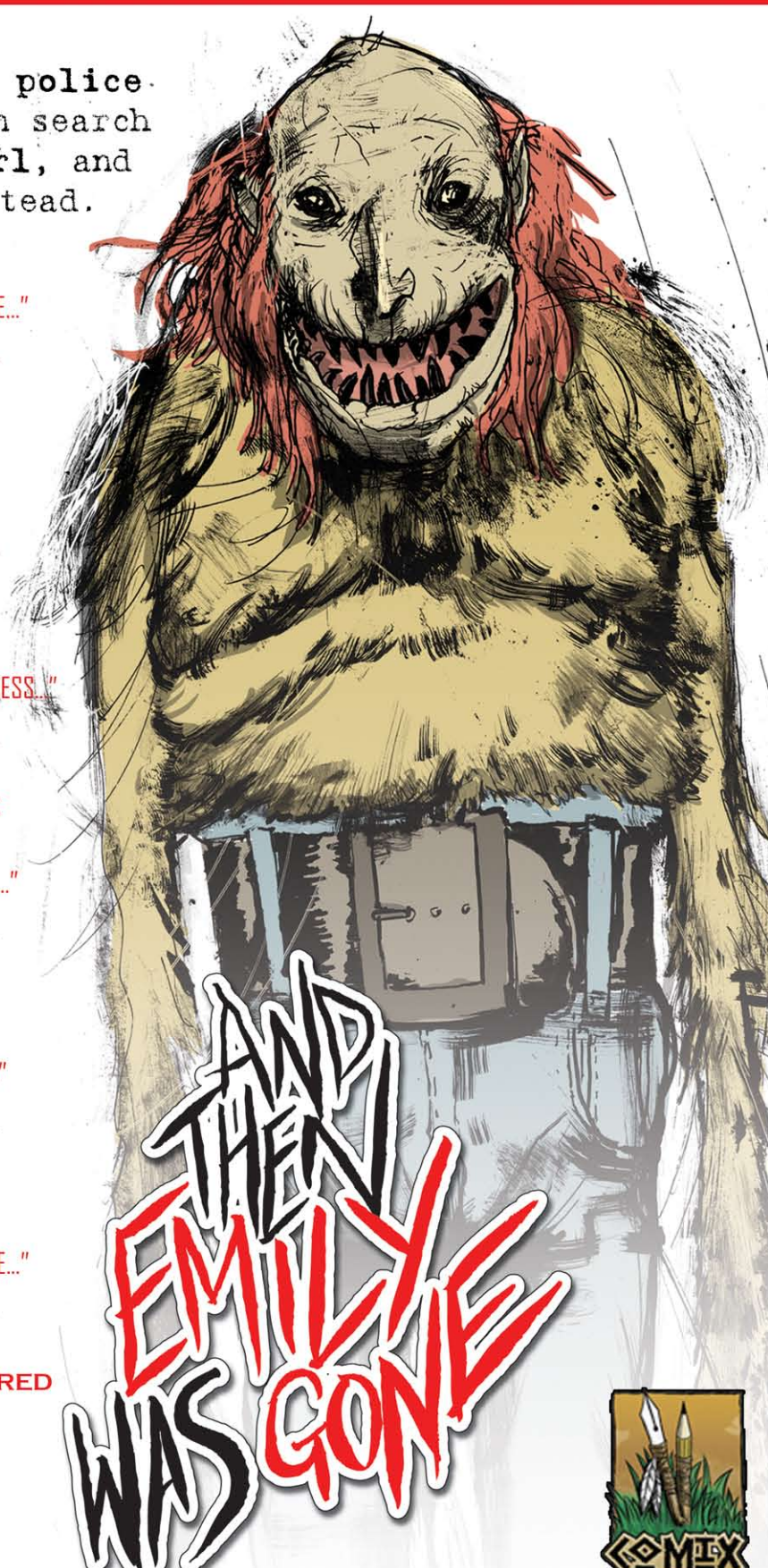
JOHN LEECH

IAN LAURIE

AND THEN EMILY WAS GONE



facebook.com/andthenemilywasgone



"GROTESQUERIES UNIMAGINABLE

INHABIT THESE PAGES."

- MULTIVERSITY COMICS

