

**VERTIGO**

BOOK 1

I  
A M

Suggested for  
Mature Readers

**FREE**

**LEGEND**  
AWAKENING™



COVELL

# I AM LEGEND AWAKENING

## BOOK I

A deadly virus has taken hold of the world – rejected by a few (the immune), killing many (the dead), and leaving the rest (the infected) – who live on to hunt the living, after dark. The following are voices paying homage to Richard Matheson's classic novel. This is the experience of a dying mankind and the foretelling of a new world before we meet the legend, Robert Neville.

### LOSING VOICE: ETHAN'S STORY

Writer: Steve Niles  
Artist: Bill Sienkiewicz

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### DEATH AS A GIFT

Writer: Dawn Thomas  
Artist: Jason Chan

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### ISOLATION

Writer: Mark Protosevich  
Artist: David Levy

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### SACRIFICING THE FEW FOR THE MANY

Writer: Dawn Thomas  
Artist: Jason Chan

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### FIGHTING CHANGE

Writer: Richard Christian Matheson  
Artist: David Levy

Page 28

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IN ASSOCIATION WITH VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES A WEED ROAD/OVERBROOK ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION WILL SMITH "I AM LEGEND"

ALICE BRAGA DASH MIHOK MUSIC BY JAMES NEWTON HOWARD COSTUMES DESIGNED BY MICHAEL KAPLAN EDITED BY WAYNE WAHRMAN, A.C.E. PRODUCTION DESIGNER NAOMI SHOHAN  
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SCREENPLAY BY MARK PROTOSEVICH AND AKIVA GOLDSMAN PRODUCED BY AKIVA GOLDSMAN JAMES LASSITER DAVID HEYMAN NEAL MORITZ

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LOSING VOICE: ETHAN'S STORY  
MIAMI, FLORIDA



HONEY, I CANT RISK IT. I HAVE A MEETING WITH DAVE AND MARCY FOLLOWED BY A REGIONAL SALES CONFERENCE CALL. I CANT BE EVEN FIVE MINUTES LATE TODAY.

WE SHOULD TAKE THE STREETS TODAY.



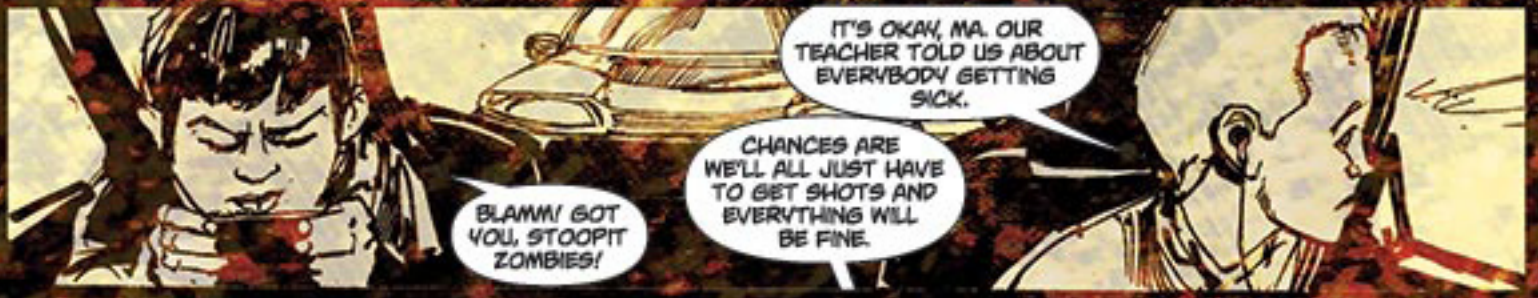
THERE'S NOTHING ON THE RADIO ABOUT TRAFFIC.

MEANING, THE FREEWAY WILL BE FASTER. I'LL CHECK ONLINE.



NOTHING. THE ONLY THING ANYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT ARE THE EVACUATIONS.

DOUG, NOT IN FRONT OF THE BOYS.



IT'S OKAY, MA. OUR TEACHER TOLD US ABOUT EVERYBODY GETTING SICK.

CHANCES ARE WE'LL ALL JUST HAVE TO GET SHOTS AND EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE.

BLAMM! GOT YOU, STOOPIT ZOMBIES!



MAYBE YOU WERE RIGHT, HON.

MOM, THERE'S A NAKED LADY RUNNING--

ETHAN, NOT NOW. MOMMY'S DRIVING.





HONK  
HONK

CRASHED

MAYBE WE SHOULD HAVE STAYED ON THE STREETS.

AT LEAST WE'RE MOVING, DOUG. I'LL GET OFF THE NEXT EXIT WE REACH.

GOOD IDEA, HON.



...BE IN AS SOON AS I CAN AND I'M SURE MYERS CAN TAKE THE MEETING...WHAT DO YOU MEAN HE CALLED IN SICK? WHAT ABOUT...

ETHAN, LUKE, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GET YOUR FATHER TO WORK FIRST, SO YOU'RE BOTH GOING TO BE LATE FOR SCHOOL, OKAY?

COOL.

IT IS NOT COOL, ETHAN.

SURE IT IS, MOM.



YOU'RE GONNA GET IT ONE OF THESE DAYS, MISTER.

I KNOW.

BLAMM!  
BLAMM!  
TAKE THAT!





**BOOP**

I BET EVERYBODY'S RUNNING LATE TODAY.

TRY THE RADIO AGAIN. SEE WHAT THEY'RE SAYING.



NOTHING. IT'S DEAD. YOU GETTING ANYTHING ON THAT HEADSET OF YOURS, ETHAN?

THIS IS NOT A TEST. THIS IS THE EMERGENCY BROADCAST SYSTEM.

THE BROADCASTERS OF YOUR AREA, IN VOLUNTARY COOPERATION WITH THE FEDERAL STATE...



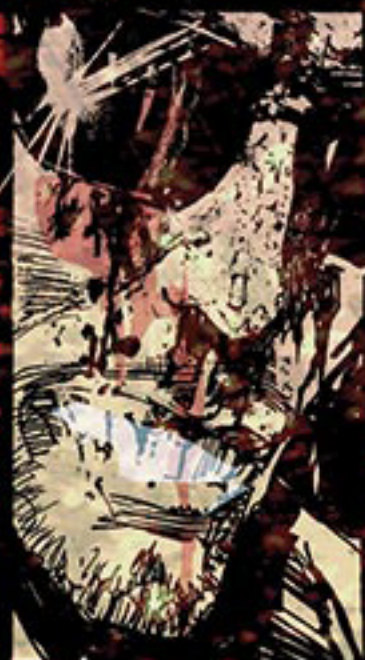
...AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES, HAVE DEVELOPED THIS SYSTEM TO KEEP YOU INFORMED...



...IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY.



PLEASE STAND BY FOR INFORMATION, NEWS OR INSTRUCTIONS.



THIS IS NOT A TEST.





SIX HOURS LATER...

...SETTING DARK...

...HUNGRY...

...RUNNING OUT OF GAS...

...ONE STATION SAYS EVACUATE, ANOTHER SAYS STAY IN YOUR HOME...



DOUG, I HAVE TO TURN OFF THE CAR. THE LIGHT CAME ON.

ROLL DOWN THE WINDOWS...

DON'T ROLL THE WINDOWS DOWN, MOM! SOMETHING'S GOING ON!



OH JESUS, DOUG. IT'S HAPPENING, ISN'T IT?

LET'S NOT JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS. LET'S WAIT AND HEAR WHAT THEY HAVE TO SAY.

MOM... DAD?!

WHO ARE THOSE PEOPLE?


ROLL UP YOUR WINDOWS.






EVERYBODY...  
STAY CALM. I'M  
GOING TO HAVE  
A LOOK.


I'M  
SCARED!




DOUG, BE  
CAREFUL!



NOBODY  
CAN TOUCH  
ME AS LONG AS I  
HAVE MY TRUSTY  
NINE IRON.




ETHAN...  
I'M SCARED.



I SEE  
PEOPLE OUTSIDE.  
WHAT ARE THEY  
DOING?!

THEY'RE JUST  
STRETCHING THEIR  
LEGS. WE'RE SAFE  
HERE, LITTLE  
BRO.

MOM...  
LOOK BEHIND  
YOU.



DON'T PLAY  
GAMES NOW,  
ETHAN.





**AAAAHHHHH!!!**











FOLLOW ME!



IT'S GOING TO BE OKAY, LUKE. GO UNDER THE TRUCK. THEY WON'T LOOK THERE.



I'M SCARED. I WANT MOM.



SMIFFE YEAH, I GUESS.

THEN STICK WITH ME.









LOOK, A KID. HE LOOKS CLEAN.

LOAD HIM INTO THE EVAC.



IT'S OKAY, KID. WE'RE HERE TO HELP. COME ON UP. WE'LL TAKE YOU WITH US. ARE YOU ALONE?

WHAT'S THE MATTER... CAN'T SPEAK ENGLISH?

CAN YOU EVEN TALK?



GUESS NOT.

WELL, SIT TIGHT, KID. YOU'RE IN FOR QUITE A RIDE.

**THE END**



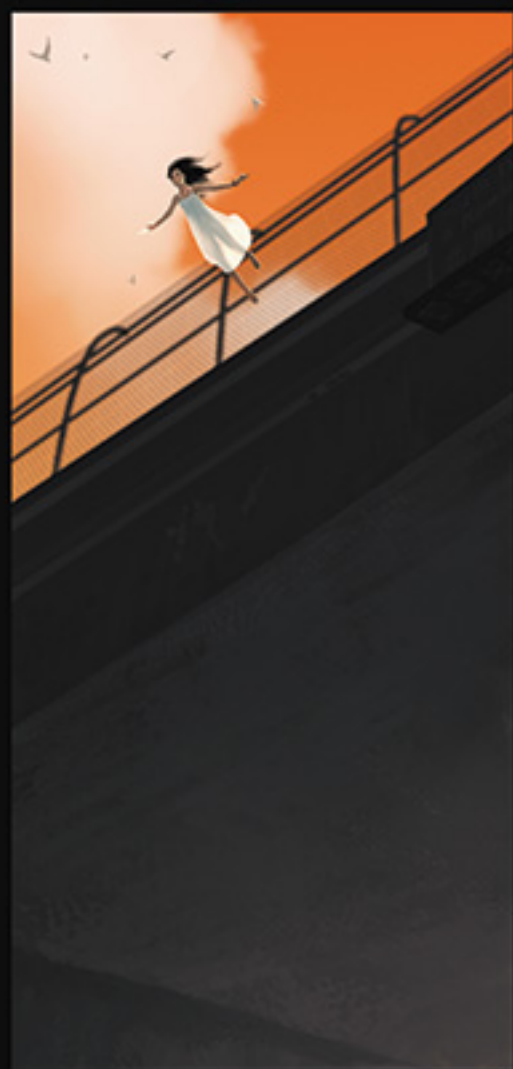


**DEATH AS A GIFT**  
HONG KONG, CHINA













ISOLATION  
FLORENCE, COLORADO



THEY CALLED IT  
THE ALCATRAZ  
OF THE ROCKIES.

ADX  
FLORENCE.


THE MOST SECURE  
PRISON FACILITY IN  
THE UNITED STATES.



IT HOUSED  
430 INMATES.

GANG LEADERS,  
SERIAL KILLERS,  
MOB BOSSES.

THUNK!



THE WORST  
OF THE  
WORST.

AND  
ME.











MY NAME IS  
JOHN EDWARD LORD.

TIME MAGAZINE  
ONCE CALLED ME  
"THE MOST HATED  
MAN IN AMERICA."

We are told that our votes, our  
voices are power, but that is a lie told  
by our corrupt leaders. In truth, to them  
we are nothing but cannon fodder.  
Like to think we are  
never - pride ourselves  
spirits - but this be  
a sweet cube of sugar  
keep us happy - America  
wake up. And take  
subversive, dangerous a

RIGHTS!

AT LEAST  
I MADE THE  
COVER.

YOU  
CANNOT  
DEPRIVE  
ME OF  
FOOD AND  
WATER!

I HAVE  
RIGHTS!

RIGHTS!

RIGHTS!





BUT SIR, YOU HAVE TO APPRECIATE THE IRON.



MOVIE STARS, POLITICIANS, AND CORPORATE CEOs HIDING OUT IN A PRISON.

MILLIONAIRES LIVING IN THE CELLS WHERE WE KEPT THE SCUM OF THE EARTH.



I'VE NO TIME FOR IRONY, COLONEL.

THIS VIRUS IS SPREADING LIKE WILDFIRE.



BESIDES, IT'S A MOOT POINT.

COLORADO'S BEEN DESIGNATED A HOSTILE TERRITORY. OPERATION "SAFE HAVEN" IS TODAY DEEMED NON-VIABLE.




WERE YOU ABLE TO REACH WARDEN HALLORAN?

NO, SIR. WE LOST CONTACT WITH HIS CONVOY.

OH, WELL.


GET ON THE HORN WITH THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS. MAKE SURE THEY SHUT DOWN THE POWER GRID FOR THE ENTIRE STATE.






FOR THREE DAYS  
I HAD NO WATER.


NO FOOD EITHER, BUT  
YOU CAN LIVE FOR  
WEEKS WITHOUT FOOD.



WITH DEHYDRATION YOU  
SUFFER TERRIBLE HEADACHES,  
NAUSEA, CONSTIPATION, DELIRIUM,  
FATIGUE, AND SEIZURES.




YOU WANT  
TO CRY BUT  
YOU HAVE  
NO TEARS.




I LONGED  
FOR DEATH.  
ENCOURAGED  
IT TO  
TAKE ME.


Click!



BUT IT DID  
NOT COME.



SOMEWHERE,  
SOMEHOW,  
THE POWER  
WENT OUT.



AND SINCE  
EVERY LOCK IN  
ADX FLORENCE IS  
ELECTRONICALLY  
CONTROLLED,  
I WAS SAVED.





MOST WOULD HAVE VIEWED SUCH AN EVENT AS AN ACT OF "DIVINE INTERVENTION."



BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE IN AN INTERVENTIONIST GOD.

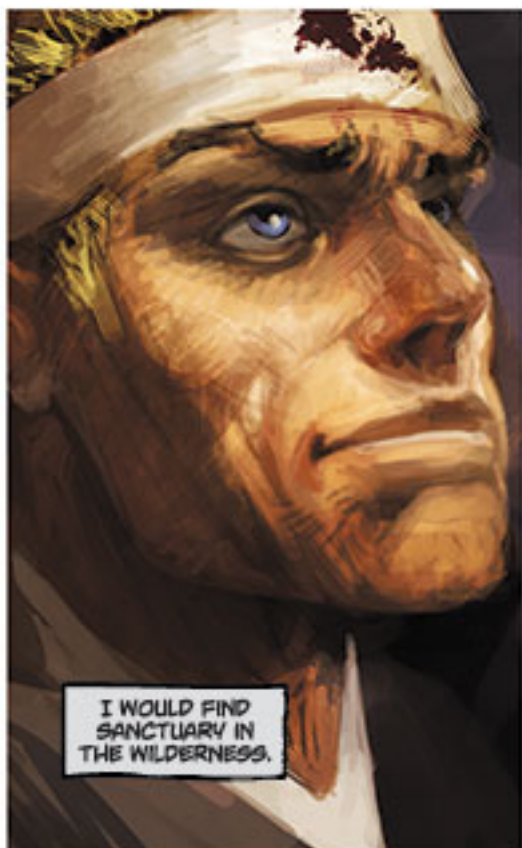


I FEEL EACH MAN CONTROLS HIS DESTINY.



I WAS FREE. THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERED.

AND WITH FREEDOM CAME OPPORTUNITY.



I WOULD FIND SANCTUARY IN THE WILDERNESS.



FINISH MY BOOK. MY MANIFESTO. MY DREAM.



IN TIME, I WOULD BE SEEN AS THE THOMAS JEFFERSON OF A NEW GENERATION.
















SIX YEARS AGO I WAS  
CONVICTED FOR COMMITTING  
TERRORIST ACTS AGAINST THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.




THE COURTS FAILED  
TO SEE THAT IT WAS  
NOT TERRORISM.

IT WAS  
PATRIOTISM.



MY BELOVED  
COUNTRY HAD  
BECOME CORRUPT,  
DECADENT, AND  
MORALLY BANKRUPT.



A CESSPOOL  
OF EVIL.





AMERICA  
NEEDED TO BE  
DESTROYED.



SO IT COULD  
BE REBORN.

**SLAM**



BUT THERE WILL  
BE NO PHOENIX  
RISING FROM  
THE FLAMES.



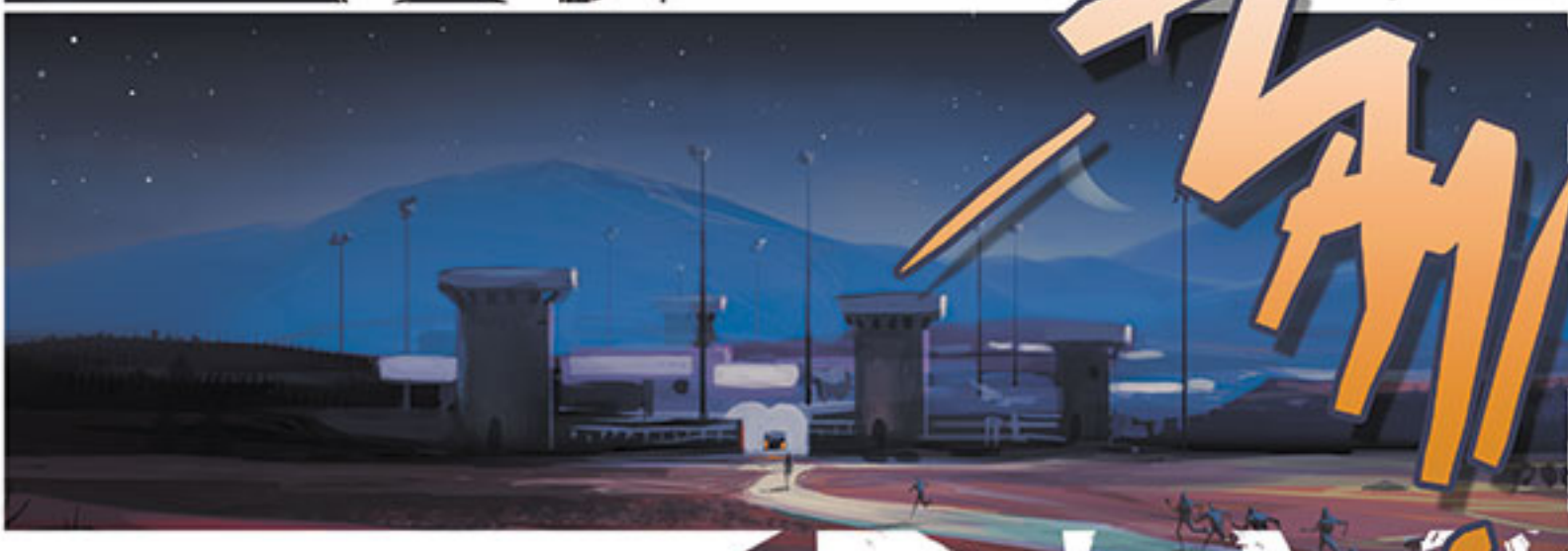
NOT  
NOW.



THE DREAM  
IS OVER.



**SH**

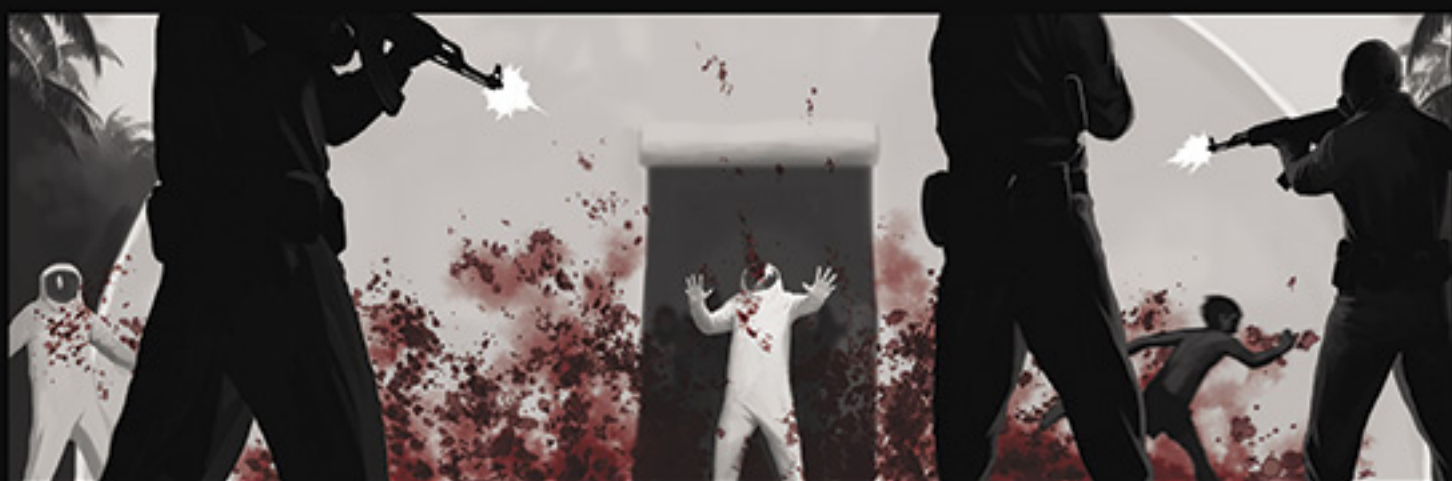




SACRIFICING THE FEW FOR THE MANY  
SOMEWHERE IN CENTRAL AMERICA













FIGHTING CHANGE  
QUEENS, NEW YORK


EVERY STORY HAS  
AN ANOMALY THAT SETS  
IT APART FROM THE REST.  
I AM THAT EXCEPTION.

NINETEEN  
HOURS. TOO  
GODDAMN  
LONG.

STARVING.








STABBING  
VICTIM, CORNER  
OF OLIVE AND TENTH.  
BODY IN ALLEY.  
AVAILABLE UNITS  
RESPOND.



POR FAVOR,  
AVUDAME  
DIOS MIO.

...FOURTEEN  
BLOCKS.



• DAYS SINCE: 44  
• TIME SINCE LAST ONE: 19 HRS  
• VICTIM: Stabbed  
• WHERE: Olive and Tenth



DEAD AN HOUR.  
BODY COULD BE  
INFECTED.

GOTTA  
BURN HER.

I DON'T HAVE TIME!  
NEED IT NOW!

NO TENGO  
MÁS TIEMPO!

BITCH  
GOT OFF  
EASY.

GUESS  
THIS WAS HER  
LUCKY DAY.

SHE WAS  
PRETTY.

PRETTY  
STILL DIES.

GOTTA  
GET TO THE  
DUMP BEFORE  
SUNSET.

THEY'RE GONE...  
DO IT NOW...



LAY  
DOWN  
IN IT...  
AHORA!

IT'LL COME.  
CONCENTRATE!

THE PAIN! I  
CAN FEEL IT!

THE  
RUSH...

STRONGER.

BETTER.

FORGIVE  
ME, GOD.

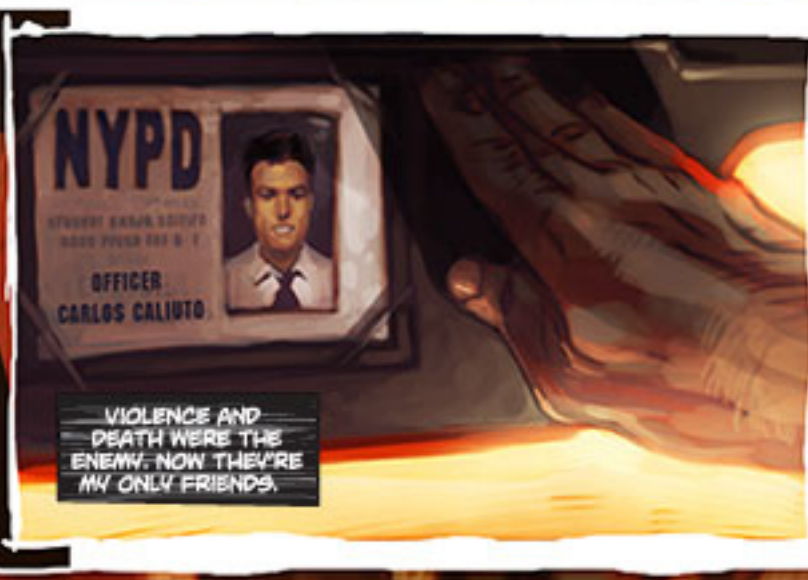
PERDÓNAME,  
DIOS.



GOTTA KEEP MOVING.

...DAYS SINCE...  
-TIME SINCE LAST ONE:  
-VICTIM: Stabbed  
-WHERE: Olive St + 4th

SURVIVING.





W I L L S M I T H

THE LAST MAN

ON EARTH

IS NOT

ALONE



december

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