Series ! Edge of Sanity

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**Severed Souls** explores a secretive underworld where supernatural abilities are explained by the age of a person's soul. The oldest souls are the most powerful and gain stronger abilities with each new life. **Ancient Souls** are not only the explanation for historical mysteries, mythology and folklore but are responsible for all supernatural and metaphysical phenomena we question in the modern world. As you'll discover, each powerful **Ancient Soul** has vivid flashbacks recounting their own fantastic past lives within the pages of Severed Souls. We invite you to explore how each of these character's past histories, and powerful supernatural abilities, have roots within our past, and consequences on the modern day tale.



#### **Issue 1: The Ancients**

2nd Edition

The Order of the Revenant

Where do I begin? Let's see... Witches, monsters, magic, demons - all real.

It actually goes further than that. Doors to other worlds. Beings in other realities. It's true. Like worlds that overlap our reality. You just don't know it - you can't 'see' it - but it's all around us.

But, I see them - The doors, the other planes, angry spirits, whatever. I see a lot of things. And the crazy part? I really wish I didn't. I'd rather just be 'normal', you know? Trust me, this 'amazing' ability really isn't worth it.

Maybe I should just start at the very beginning. You wanted to hear the whole story, right?

Gotta go way back in history - five thousand years to be exact. Remember, it's all about **Ancient Souls**. The oldest souls are the strongest and most unstable. So, first, let me tell you about this, uhh - how should I describe him?? **Psychopath**. Yeah, you see, being an Ancient can mess you up. You can go insane. It's true what they say, 'power corrupts, absolute power'-- yada yada.

But anyway, his name is **Menes** - sounds just like the word 'Menace' - Which actually couldn't be a more appropriate name for a really disgusting dirtbag who has deeply wronged all - and I do mean ALL - of humanity for centuries. 'Evil' doesn't really cover it.

In fact, powerful demons would be jealous of all he's done - and what he's about to do.

--If he can pull it off.

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And it would bring so much death.

> Permanent Death.

MARARA ARABAHARA

# SEVERED SOULS

The Order of the Revenant

ISSUE #1 - 2ND EDITION - STORY AND ART BY JAY GILLESPIE





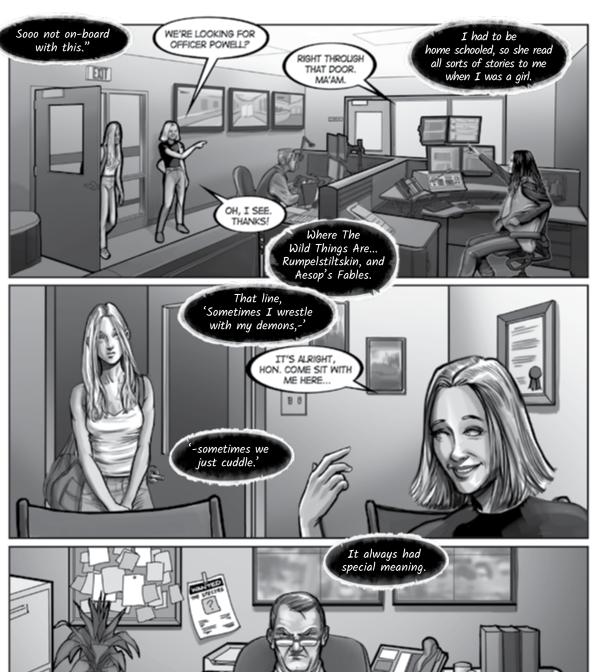




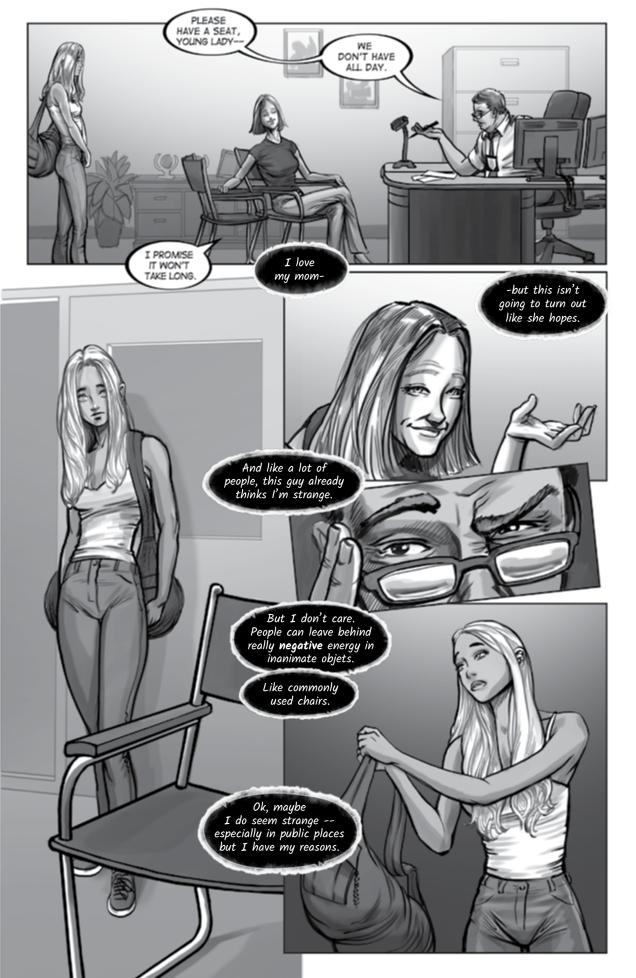


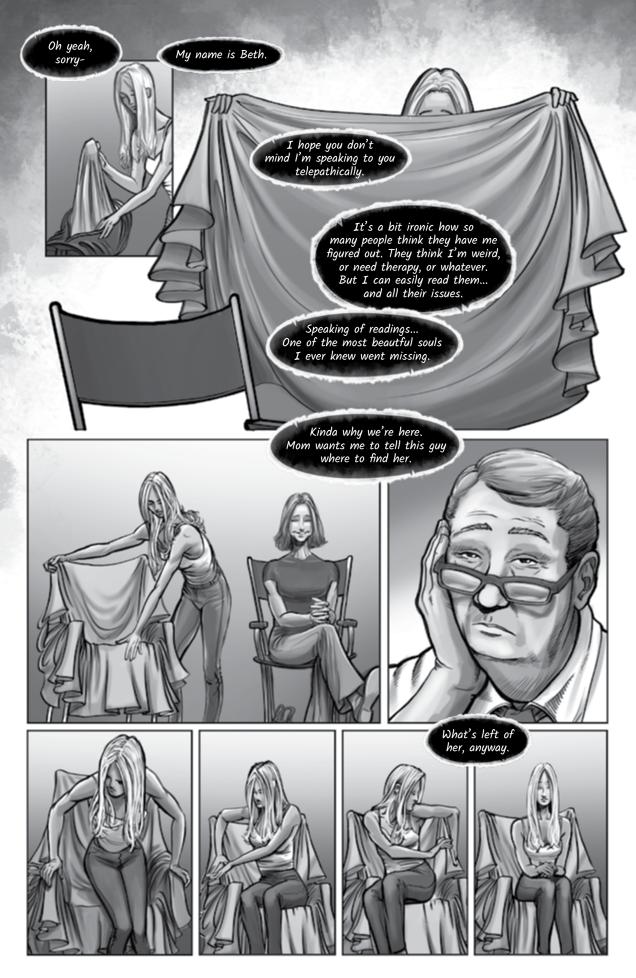


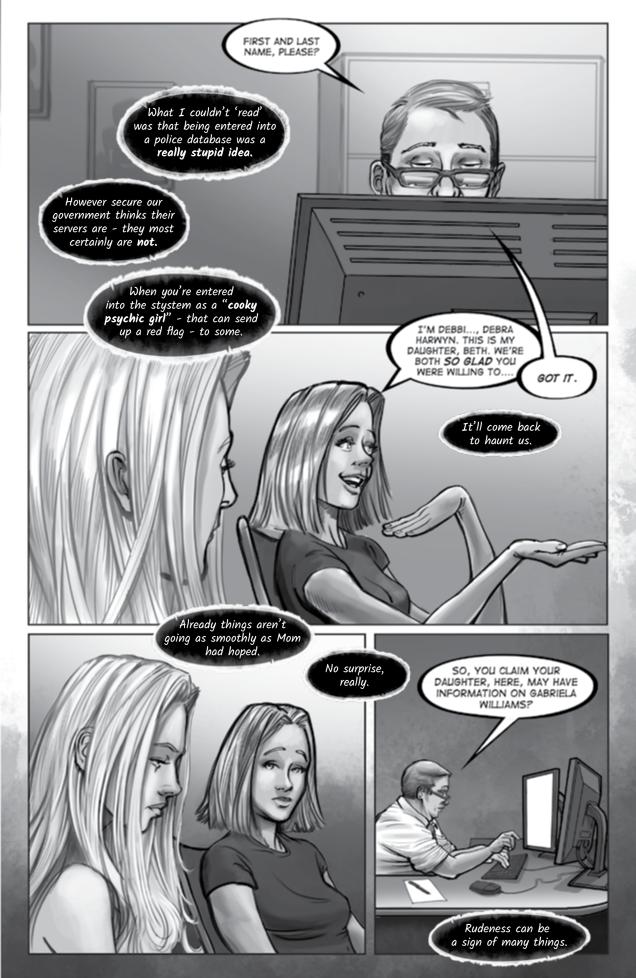


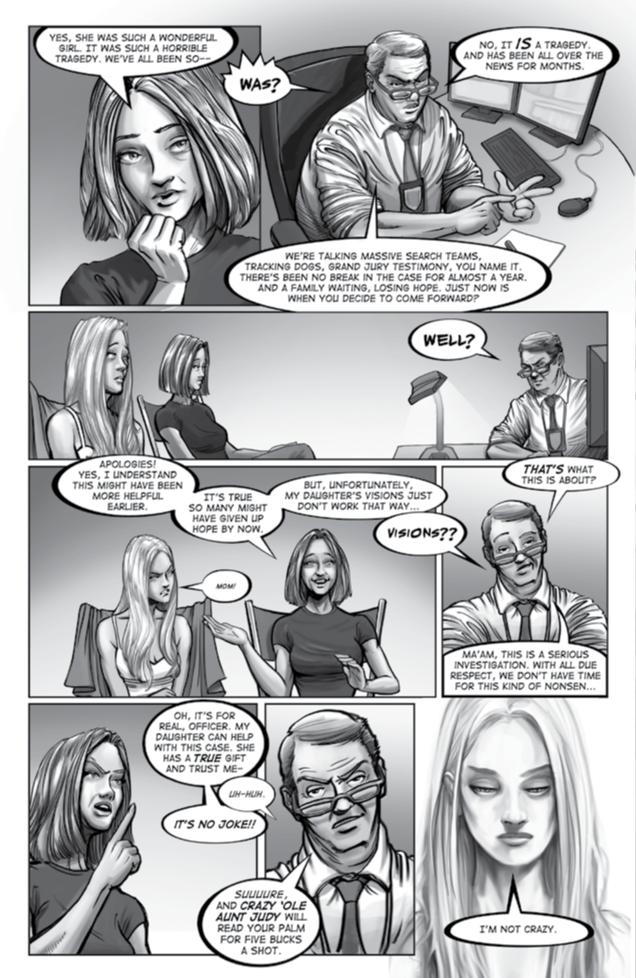








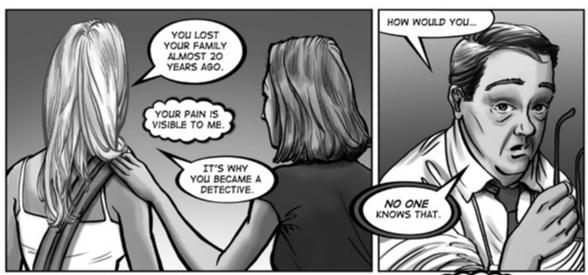














## HER BODY IS

AT THE ABANDONED TRAIN STATION NORTH OF HERE. SHE WAS SHOVED INTO THE BACK OF A TRUCK WITH OTHER GIRLS. MOST OF THEM WERE TOO SCARED, BUT NOT GABBY.

SHE BADLY HURT ONE OF THE MEN AND ALMOST ESCAPED. THEY CAUGHT UP TO HER AND ... LEFT HER THERE TO DIE.

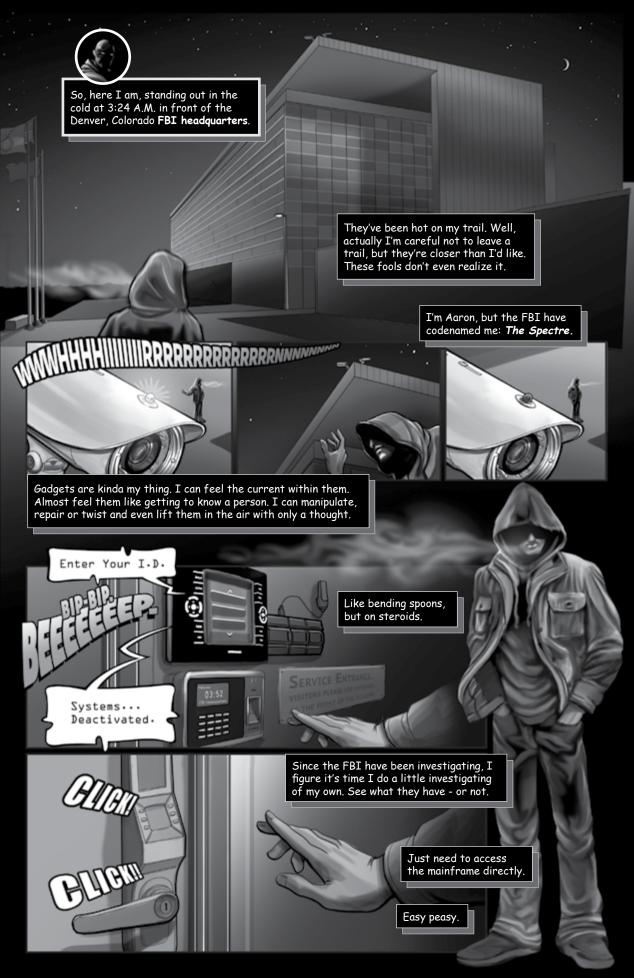












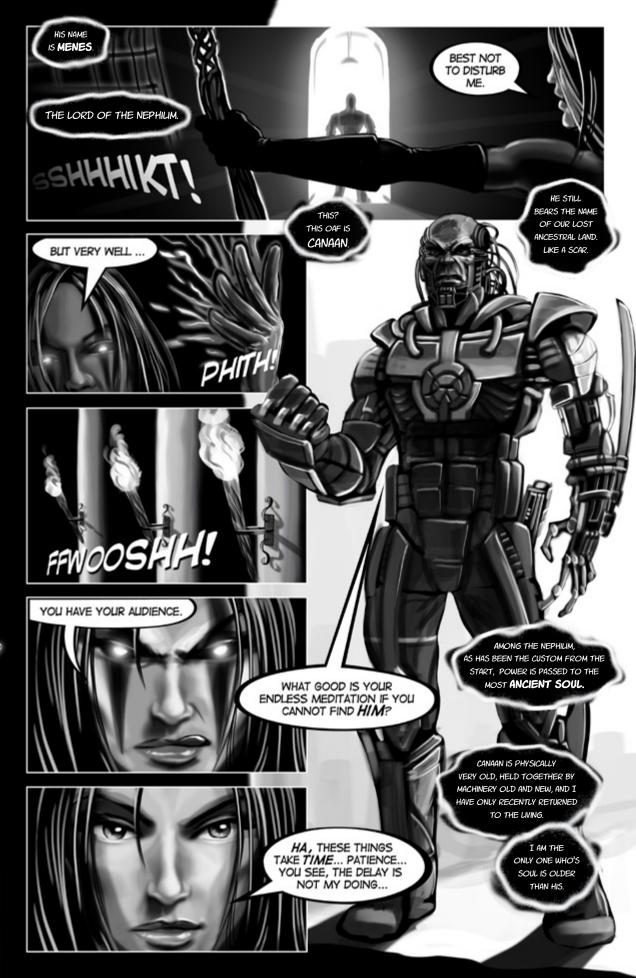






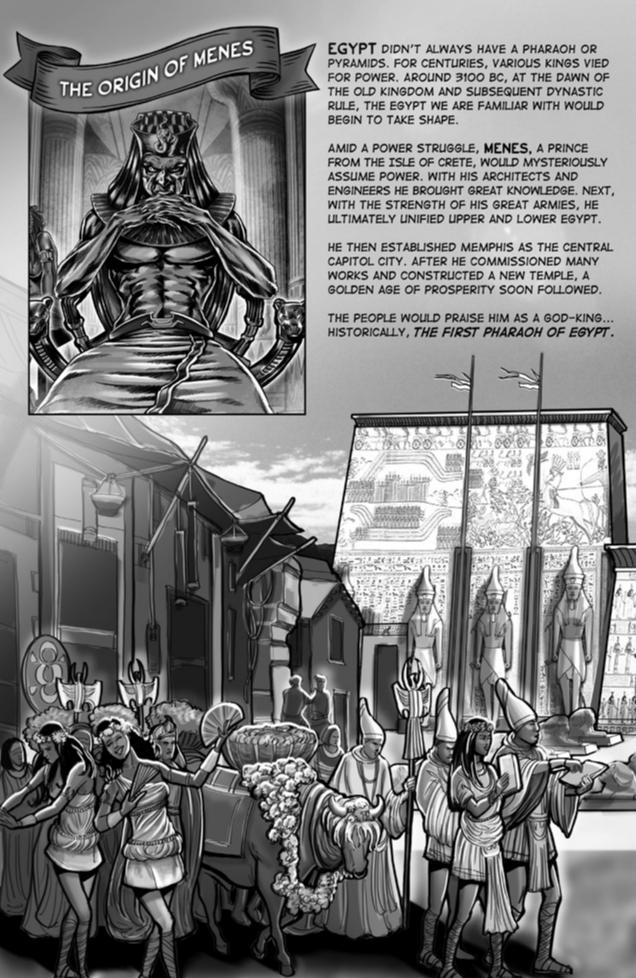












BUT THERE WAS MORE. AS AN ANCIENT SOUL, MENES ASSURED VICTORY FOR HIS ARMIES AND FORCED ANY DETRACTORS TO FALL IN LINE. MENES FREQUENTLY EXECUTED HIS ENEMIES PUBLICLY. A BRUTAL EXAMPLE TO ANY OPPONENTS. WITH THIS POWER, NONE DARED CHALLENGE HIM. CONTROL WAS ABSOLUTE.

AND HE WOULD NOT DIE. GENERATIONS WOULD PASS. INDIVIDUALS WOULD LIVE THEIR ENTIRE LIFE NEVER KNOWING ANOTHER PHARAOH. THOUGH HIS REIGN BEGAN BENEVOLENTLY, AS DECADES DRAGGED ON, THE CRUEL REALITY OF HIS OPPRESSIVE REIGN WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO IGNORE.

THE LONGER HE LIVED, THE MORE OBSESSED WITH IMMORTALITY MENES BECAME. THOUGH ALREADY CONSIDERED AN EQUAL TO THE GODS, HE HAD NO INTENTION OF JOINING THEM IN THE HEAVENS. ULTIMATELY, EGYPTIAN CULTURE WOULD BE FOREVER CHANGED BY HIS BELIEFS OF THE AFTERLIFE.

HOWEVER, HIS OBSESSION WITH THE GODS AND IMMORTALITY WOULD LEAD TO HORRIBLE EXPERIMENTS AND THE DEATH OF THOUSANDS OF SLAVES AND CAPTURED ENEMY SOLDIERS. EVENTUALLY, NOT EVEN HIS OWN PEOPLE WOULD BE SPARED. HIS MONUMENTS BECAME A TERRIBLE REMINDER OF THE DEATH AND DARKNESS HE VISITED UPON THE LAND.

TRADITIONALLY, EVERY 3 YEARS, MENES LOYAL PRIESTS AND FOLLOWERS WOULD PERFORM THE SED FESTIVAL IN HONOR OF THE PHARAOH. USUALLY A VERY WELCOME EVENT, THE PEOPLE NO LONGER APPRECIATED THE PROMISE OF LIMITED FOOD AND DRINK PROVIDED DURING DAYS OF CONTINUOUS FESTIVITIES AND BRIEF TASTE OF FREEDOM. THERE WAS A DARK BLIGHT LIPON THE LAND. MENES HAD BECOME EVIL INCARNATE.

AND THOUGH TENSIONS WERE HIGH, THE PEOPLE DARED NOT REVOLT. THE WEAKER MENES BECAME WITH AGE, THE MORE HIS POWER WAS WIELDED AS A REMINDER NOT TO CHALLENGE HIS RULE - FOR A TIME.



# SEVERED SOULS

The Order of the Revenant

Ancient Souls explain all supernatural human abilities: Magic, Witchcraft, Psychic abilities and much more.

In this series, each character possessing an Ancient Soul has amazing flashbacks linking them to pivotal past events, unsolved mysteries and archetypal creatures. They are linked to famous individuals from history, mythological or factual, good or evil, who's particular talents and abilities were later explained-away as nonsense by future generations.

Some souls never return. Some Ancients, who've returned multiple times, have sought immortality to break the cycle. A few have discovered there is a Multiverse of other worlds lying just beyond the Veil of human comprehension. These Ancients intend to go there, exploit it, absorb it and reinvent themselves, no matter what consequence may befall the realm of our own existence.

No matter how many innocents may die, they seek the ultimate power - a higher, non-corporeal existence - at any cost. No matter how many Demons or Beings of other terrible realms might be unleashed, they'll stop at nothing.

This is only the beginning. Will anyone stand in their way?



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On the left is Ylem, one of the main characters hunted by the Nephilim and a hero in the making.

Next is Tyria, a modern-day witch and a ward of the Nephilim whenever the wherabouts of their true leader is unknown.

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