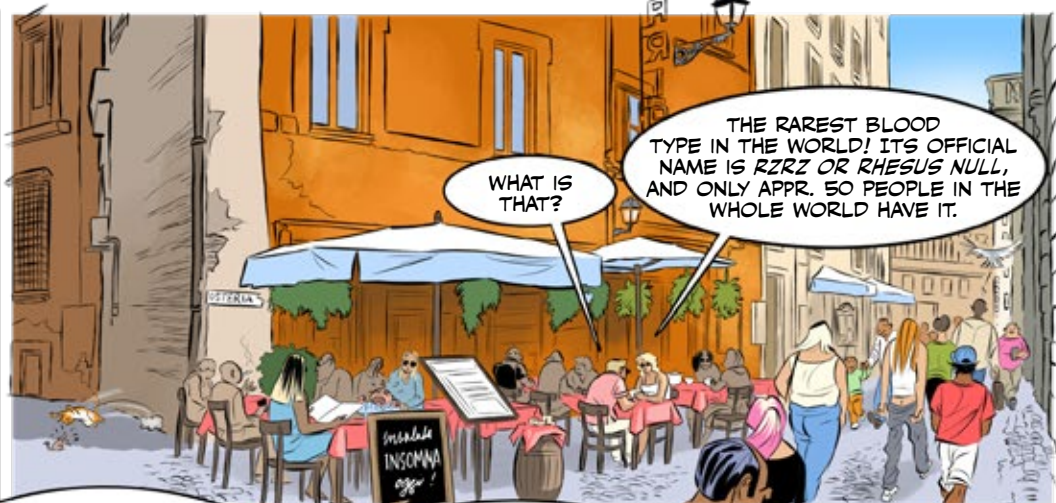




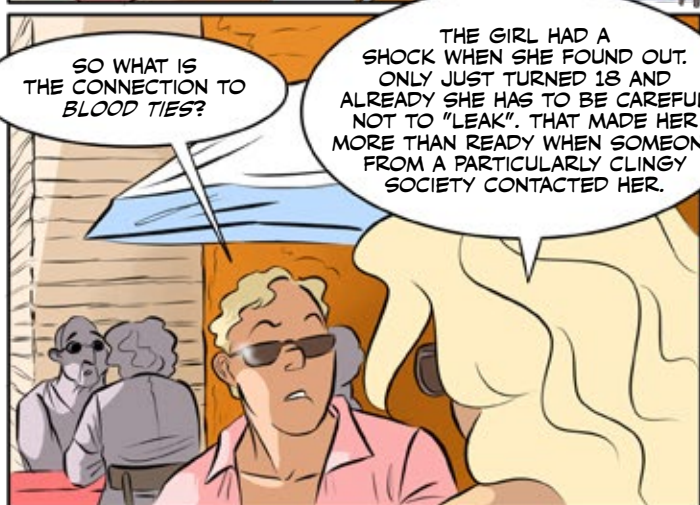
BELLE'S HALF-SISTER HAS GOLDEN BLOOD???

YUP.



WHAT IS THAT?

THE RAREST BLOOD TYPE IN THE WORLD! ITS OFFICIAL NAME IS RRRZ OR RHESUS NULL, AND ONLY APPR. 50 PEOPLE IN THE WHOLE WORLD HAVE IT.



SO WHAT IS THE CONNECTION TO BLOOD TIES?

THE GIRL HAD A SHOCK WHEN SHE FOUND OUT. ONLY JUST TURNED 18 AND ALREADY SHE HAS TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO "LEAK". THAT MADE HER MORE THAN READY WHEN SOMEONE FROM A PARTICULARLY CLINGY SOCIETY CONTACTED HER.

BY THE WAY, WHERE IS EUGENE?

HE'S TAKING A DOUBLE SHIFT.

HMPP CHICKEN!

>CHUCKLE!<

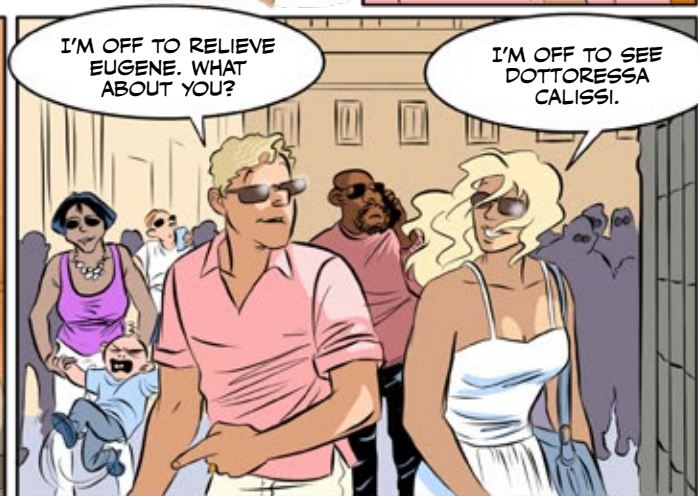


YOU HAVE TO RELIEVE HIM SOON. HE NEEDS TO SLEEP, AND YOU NEED TO BRIEF HIM ON THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT.

...WAIT... "BLOOD TIES"!



YES, EXACTLY. I THINK WE FINALLY FOUND A CLUE TO THE NAME OG AIM OF THE SECT.



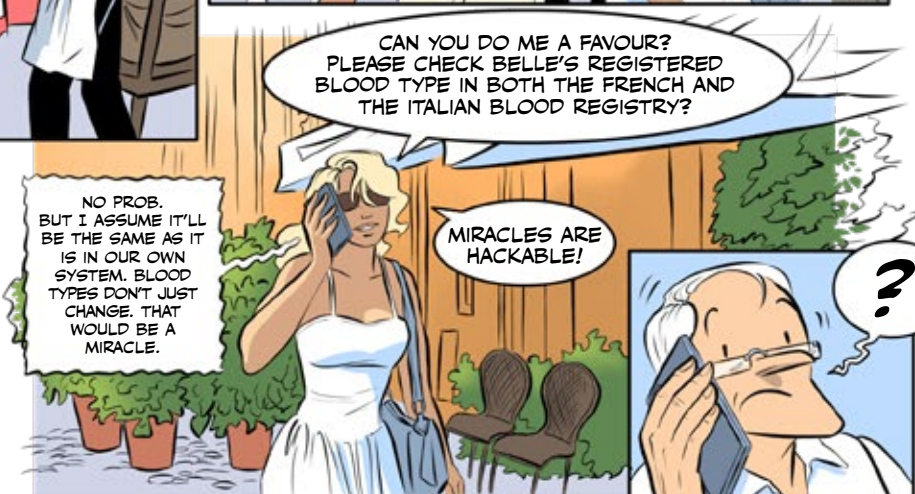
I'M OFF TO RELIEVE EUGENE. WHAT ABOUT YOU?

I'M OFF TO SEE DOTTORRESSA CALISSI.



DATAMICK?

NO PROB. BUT I ASSUME IT'LL BE THE SAME AS IT IS IN OUR OWN SYSTEM. BLOOD TYPES DON'T JUST CHANGE. THAT WOULD BE A MIRACLE.



CAN YOU DO ME A FAVOUR? PLEASE CHECK BELLE'S REGISTERED BLOOD TYPE IN BOTH THE FRENCH AND THE ITALIAN BLOOD REGISTRY?

MIRACLES ARE HACKABLE!



?

HEH! I THOUGHT SO.

BELLE HAS HACKED HER OWN BLOOD TYPE REGISTRY AND CHANGED IT FROM A RH+ TO AB RH-, THE SECOND RAREST BLOOD TYPE IN THE WORLD.

THIS MADE BLOOD TIES CONTACT HER THE WAY THEY CONTACTED ENRICHETTA WHEN HER RARE BLOOD TYPE WAS REGISTERED. THE SECT IS SELECTIVELY GOING FOR PEOPLE WITH THE RAREST BLOOD TYPES IN THE WORLD.



BLOOD TYPE?, YOU'RE SAYING THAT BLOOD TYPE IS THE SELECTION CRITERION OF THE SECT?

LOOKS LIKE IT. PARTICULARLY GOLDEN BLOOD IS IN HIGH DEMAND.

...STILL IT IS UNCLEAR WHY THE SECT IS HANGING OUT AT CASTEL SANT'ANGELO.

THAT IS, INDEED, STRANGE...

...I WONDER, COULD IT BE BECAUSE OF IL PASSETTO DI BORGO?

IL PASSETTO WAS BUILT TO BE AN ESCAPE ROUTE GOING DIRECTLY FROM THE CASTEL TO THE VATICAN!

??
WHY?

HMMM... I CAN ACTUALLY GET YOU ACCESS TO THE RAPHAEL ROOM THIS AFTERNOON.

???
FANTASTIC!

... YES, AT 2 O'CLOCK A NEW PUBLICATION OF THE VATICAN IS BEING INTRODUCED AT A RECEPTION. I CAN GET YOU TWO TICKETS. REMEMBER TO COVER UP SHOULDERS AND KNEES... AND BAGS ARE NOT ALLOWED.



