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APR U.S.

The SEASONS

RICK REMENDER • PAUL AZACETA
WITH MATHEUS LOPES

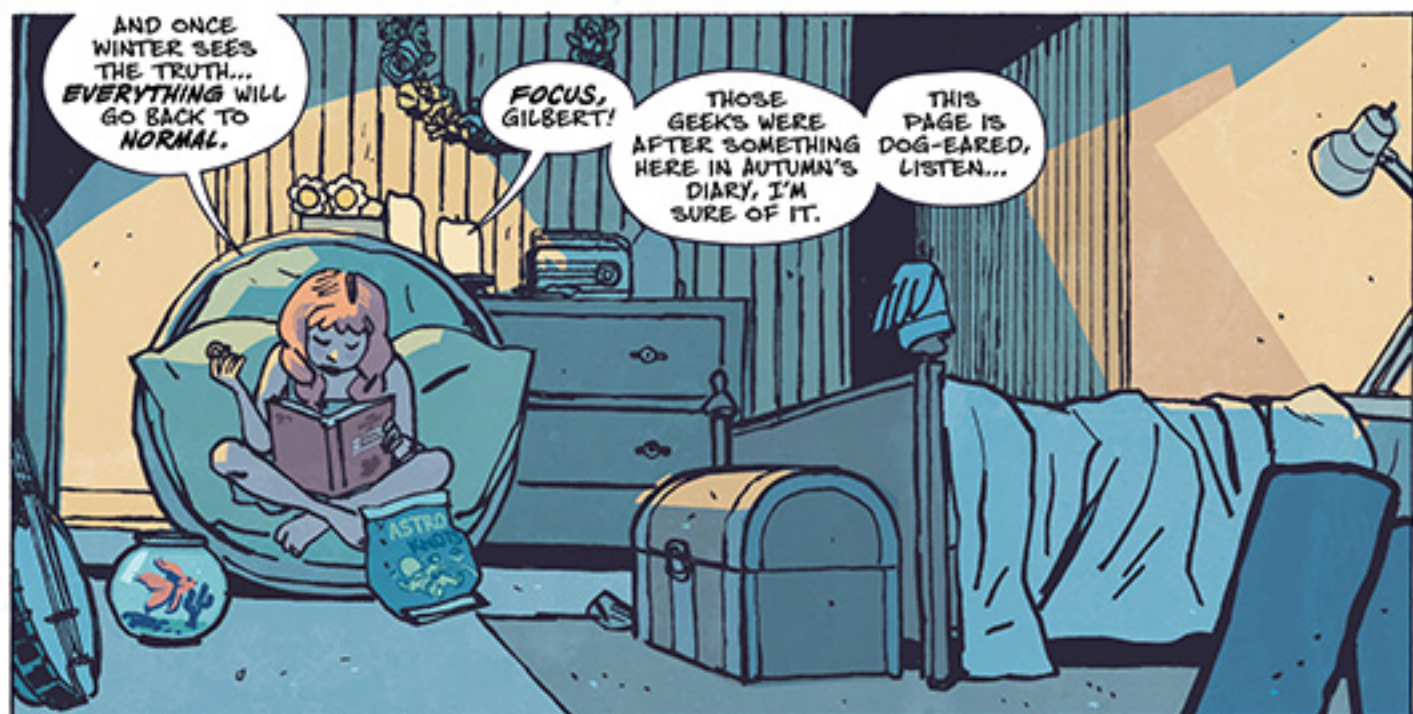




NO,
GILBERT--
I'M NOT
SCARED
AT ALL.

I LEAVE
THE JITTERY
BABY NERVES
TO YOU.

WE JUST
HAVE TO SORT
THIS SCREWY
MYSTERY...



AND ONCE
WINTER SEES
THE TRUTH...
EVERYTHING WILL
GO BACK TO
NORMAL.

FOCUS,
GILBERT!

THOSE
GEEKS WERE
AFTER SOMETHING
HERE IN AUTUMN'S
DIARY, I'M
SURE OF IT.

THIS
PAGE IS
DOG-EARED,
LISTEN...



APRIL 12, 1925, FOLLOWING
FATHER'S RESEARCH, I'VE FOUND
SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY
AND TROUBLING.

THE TRAIL
HAS TAKEN ME
FROM THE REMOTE
MONASTERIES IN
K'UNLU ASHATE TO
ANCIENT LIBRARIES
IN THE TIBETAN
METROPOLIS.



ALL PATHS
LEAD BACK TO
THE LEGEND
OF THE
WANDERER-
KING.

AS A
REPORTER,
I DEAL IN
FACTS, NOT
FOLKLORE, BUT I
CAN'T SHAKE
THIS TALE.

I'VE DISCOVERED
VERSIONS IN
NUMEROUS LANGUAGES
AND EACH ONE TELLS
THIS SAME STORY...



"WHILE A LIFE OF SUCH SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD SATISFY MOST, BENEATH OISIN'S NOBLE HEART GREW A RESTLESS AMBITION.

"HE YEARNED TO BE REVERED BEYOND HIS QUIET DOMAIN.

"AND SO HE SOUGHT THE AID OF A WITCH TO HELP.

"SHE WHISPERED TO HER KING OF A SISTER PRIESTESS KNOWN AS RYNLIDOR, IN A DISTANT DESERT.

"ONLY SHE COULD ENSURE HIS DEEDS BE KNOWN WIDE AND FAR.

"OISIN JOURNEYED FOR YEARS THROUGH WILD, UNFORGIVING LANDS.

"YET, IN EACH TOWN HE PASSED, HE WAS A STRANGER.

"LIVING ONLY TO FUEL HIS THIRST FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT...

"UNTIL AT LAST, WEARY YET DETERMINED...

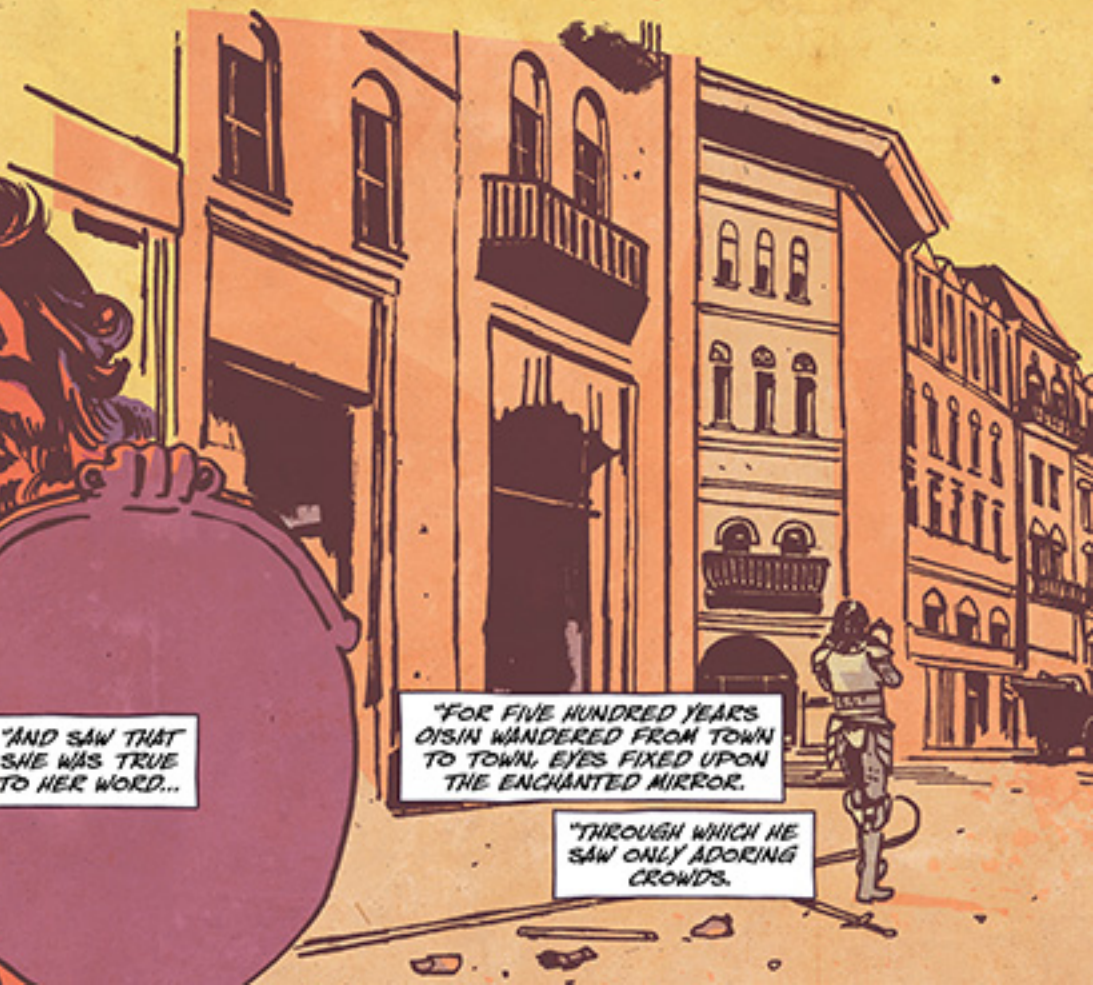


"HE UNTHINKINGLY SNATCHED THE MIRROR AND LOOKED UPON IT.

"AND SAW THAT SHE WAS TRUE TO HER WORD...

"FOR FIVE HUNDRED YEARS OISIN WANDERED FROM TOWN TO TOWN, EYES FIXED UPON THE ENCHANTED MIRROR.

"THROUGH WHICH HE SAW ONLY ADORING CROWDS.





"AFTER FIVE CENTURIES HAD PASSED, OISIN RETURNED--ANCIENT AND FRAIL--GRINNING BLINDLY INTO HIS MIRROR.

"HE DID NOT STRUGGLE AS HE WAS PLACED IN THE ORNATE SARCOPHAGUS.

"HE HAD WHAT HE WANTED AND NOTHING ELSE MATTERED.

"THE PRIESTESS SMILED AS THE LID CLOSED, SEALING HIS FATE.

"SHE KINDLY THANKED HIM FOR RELEASING HER FROM A SIMILAR BARGAIN SHE HAD STRUCK EONS PRIOR."



JEEPERS!

WHAT A YARN!

THE WANDERER-KING **MUST** HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH THIS WHOLE CREEPY MESS!