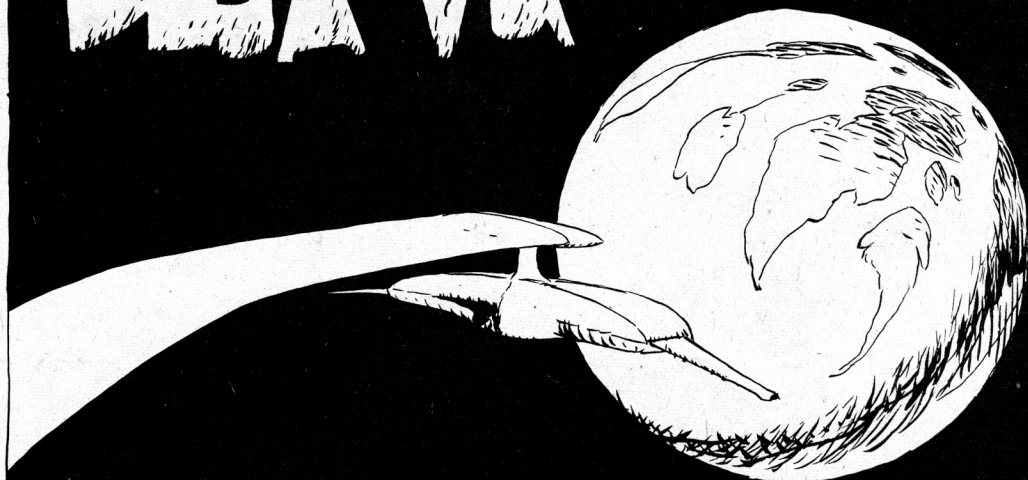


DEJA-VU



HE FELT HE'D BEEN HERE
BEFORE. LIKE THIS WAS ALL
HAPPENING **AGAIN**. . . .



STANDING OVER THE OBSERVATION
HOLE IT ALL SEEMED SO FAMILIAR.

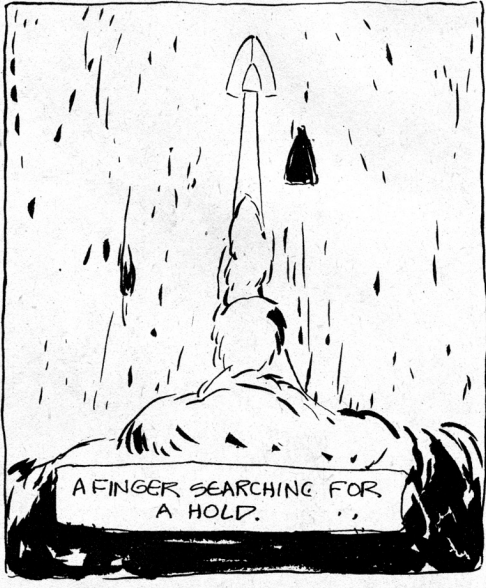


THE FRENCH
HAD A WORD
FOR IT...
DEJA-VU.

AFLASHING PATTERN IN THE SUNLIGHT OF ALDEBARAN.



A SILVER GLIDEPATH, A BLEACHED TRAJECTORY ARCHING IN TOWARD VIRGIN SOIL.



A FINGER SEARCHING FOR A HOLD.



THE FEELING OF RECOGNITION STILL HUNG OVER HIM.

AND HERE WAS LAND FOR
THE MULTITUDE OF HUMANITY
GROWING TOWARD THE
UNIVERSE.



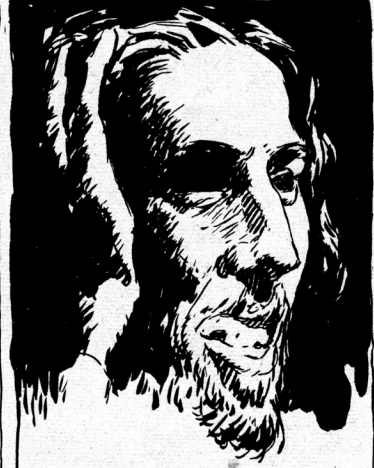
HE'D NEVER BEEN HERE.



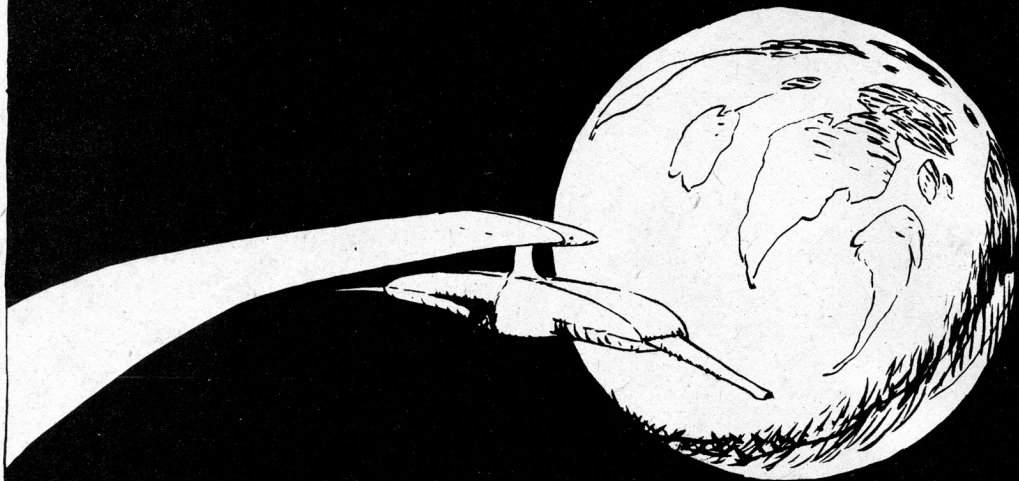
HE REMEMBERED THAT
AS A CHILD HE HAD
THIS FEELING ALSO
FROM TIME TO TIME.



HE HAD A WILD THEORY
THEN ABOUT THE UNIVERSE
AS A FOURTH DIMENSIONAL
RECORD THAT HAD BEEN
SCRATCHED SO IT GOT
STUCK OCCASIONALLY.



HE LAUGHED. AFTER
ALL THIS WAS A NEW
WORLD. MAN HAD
NEVER SET FOOT HERE
BEFORE. BUT LOOKING
OUT. . .



HE FELT HE'D BEEN HERE
BEFORE. LIKE THIS WAS ALL
HAPPENING **AGAIN**.



STANDING OVER THE OBSERVATION
HOLE IT ALL SEEMED SO FAMILIAR.



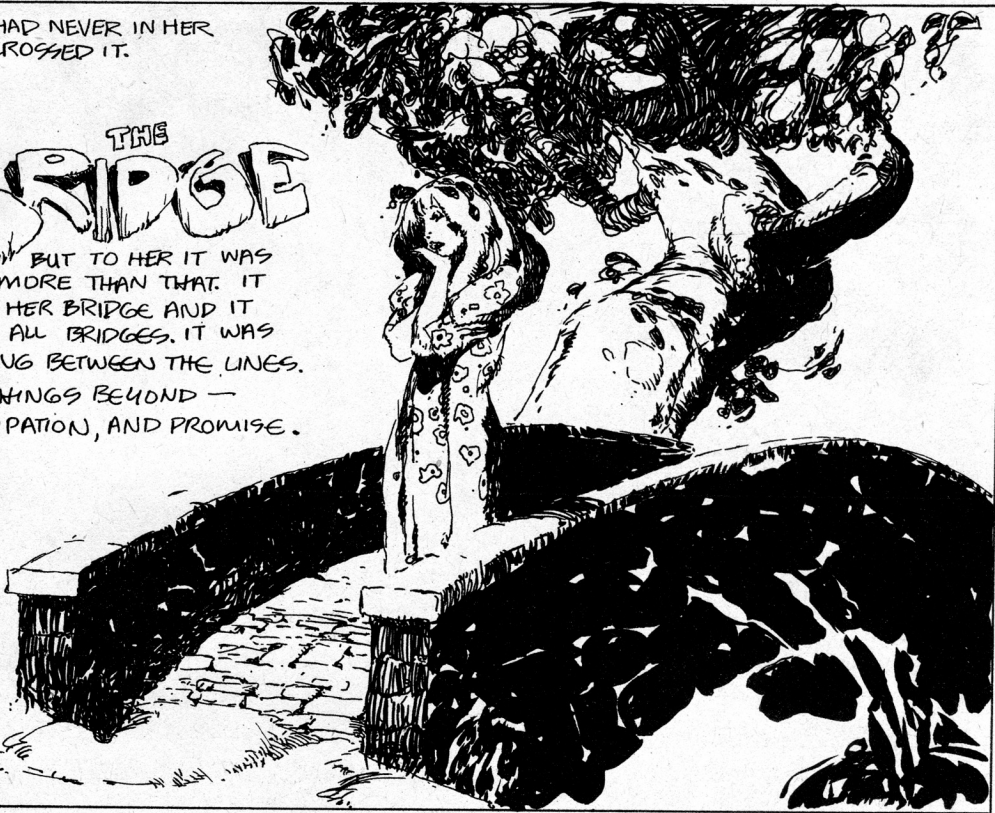
THE FRENCH
HAD A WORD
FOR IT...
DEJA-VU.



SHE HAD NEVER IN HER
LIFE CROSSED IT.

THE BRIDGE

BUT TO HER IT WAS
MORE THAN THAT. IT
WAS HER BRIDGE AND IT
WAS ALL BRIDGES. IT WAS
A THING BETWEEN THE LINES.
ALL THINGS BEYOND —
ANTICIPATION, AND PROMISE.



SHE WOULD COME AT MIDNIGHT
WHEN THE LAND WAS ASLEEP
AND STAND THERE ON THE BRIDGE.
NAKED IN STARLIGHT.



AND IT WAS JUST HOPE, HER
AND THE BRIDGE.





AND AS A CHILD SHE HAD COME ALSO.
SNEAKING OVER ROOFTOPS AND THROUGH
FIELDS OF PROMISE AND DEW.



TO STAND AND LOOK AND
LISTEN AND FEEL — HER
HEAD FILLED WITH WONDER
AT WHAT MIGHT LAY BEYOND.

AND ONCE ...



SHE HAD
LOVED BENEATH
A RAINBOW.



IT WAS LAST NIGHT THAT THE STORM
ROLLED IN.



AND THE SKY REACHED DOWN TO
LICK THE LAND.



THEY WOULD, SHE KNEW,
BUILD A NEW BRIDGE NOW.
ONE THAT WOULD BE STRONG
AND BRIGHT AND BIG. IT
WOULD BE THEIR BRIDGE
AND WOULD CERTAINLY BE
A LOT EASIER TO CROSS...
... FOR THEM.



guarantee

SHE FELT HER HEARTBEAT DOUBLING AS THE SIRENS WAILED EVEN CLOSER.



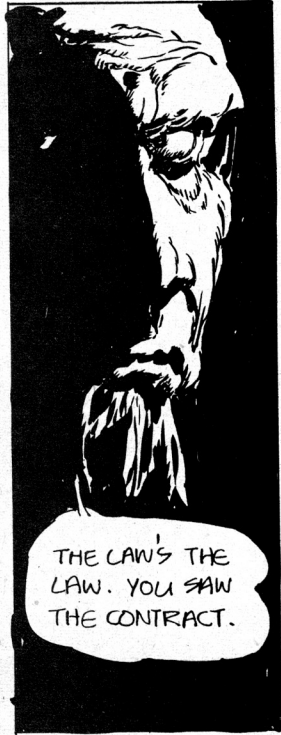


WE GOT HER?

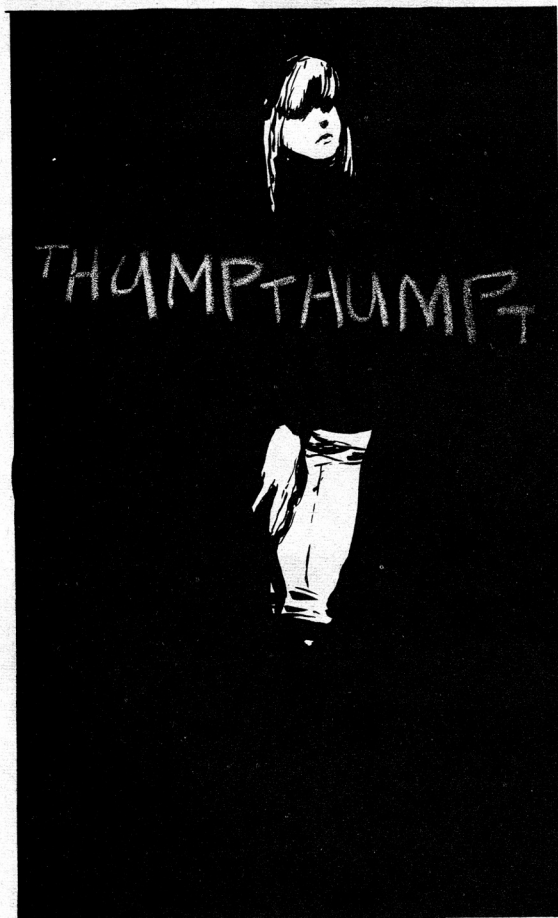
I GUARANTEE IT!



YOU SURE THIS THING'S MORAL?



THE LAW'S THE LAW. YOU SAW THE CONTRACT.

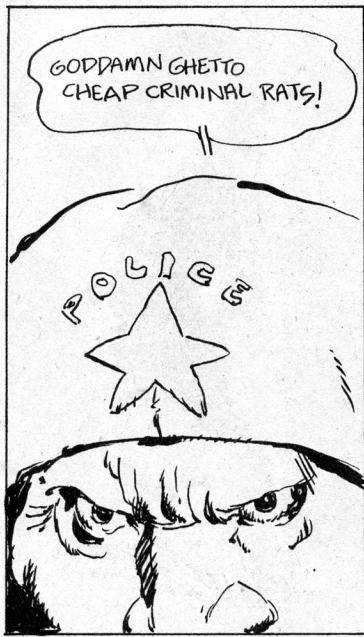


THUMP THUMP



YES, MORALITY IS THE LETTER OF THE LAW.

COME ON. WE'VE GOT TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO LET THE INTERRUPTER DO ITS JOB.



DEATH



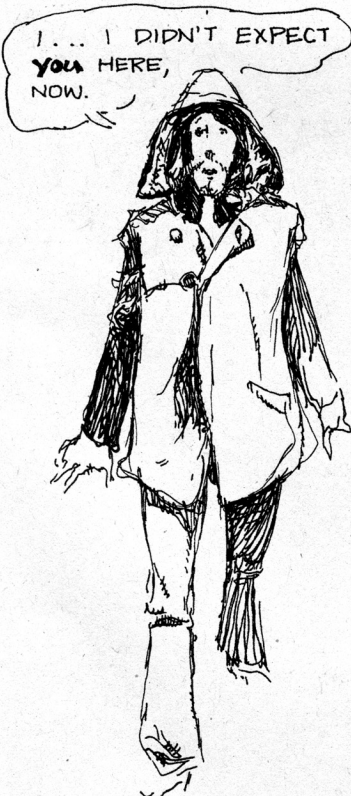
HE HAD LIVED **TWICE** IN HIS LIFE, IN BETWEEN THE **FEAR** AND THE **EXPECTATION** . . .

ONCE AS A CHILD, AND ONCE IN A WOMAN'S ARMS.



AND HE WAS **LOST** WHEN THE STORM CAME UP.

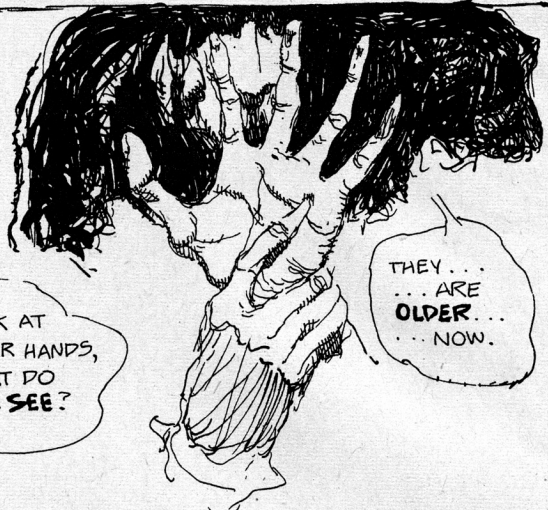




WHO DO YOU THINK I AM?



YOU... YOU'RE DEATH, OF COURSE.



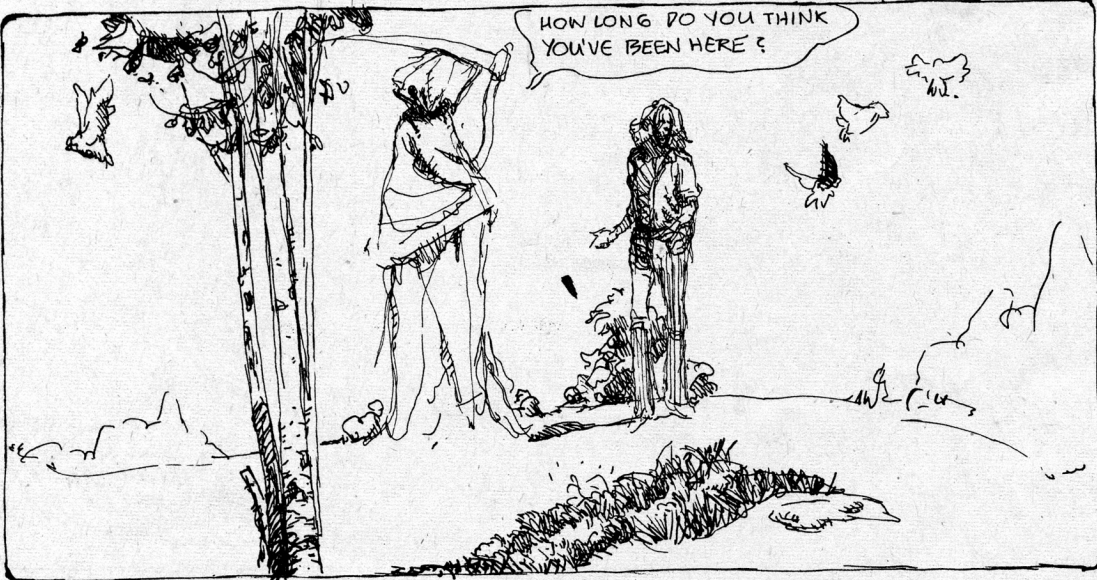
LOOK AT YOUR HANDS, WHAT DO YOU SEE?

THEY... ARE OLDER... NOW.

YOU'RE TAKING MY LIFE AWAY! STOP IT! STOP IT!



HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU'VE BEEN HERE?





I'VE MISSED SOMETHING...

SHHH!
LISTEN,
THE
STARS
ARE
MOVING.



BUT I CAN'T
HEAR STARS...



EVERYTHING'S
CHANGING.



THE WORLD ENDS A
MILLION TIMES A DAY,
AND NEVER ENDS AT
ALL.

