

# **The END TIMES of BRAHM & BEN**

**#1 of 4 for Image Comics**

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**First Full draft – 6/18/12**

**For Pencils by Remus Brezeanu**

**NOTES:**

LETTERING: Dialogue in COLOR is quite probably going to be rewritten. We would however like to see it in draft before deciding if there's an alternative.

## **PAGE ONE**

### **1.1**

Establishing shot of a small multi-unit residential building in a quieter residential section of a city, mid-day, the area experiences perfectly fine weather. Whatever the design for the building, our characters will soon need to step out the front door (of their unit) and face the street.

The setting for this whole story should be a recognizable slice of American reality. So, in general, we should see a mix of architectural and personal styles from the 'real world', while mostly avoiding visual markers that rule out possible settings (ala palm trees or snow).

BEN (from inside)      WHAT THE HELL?

### **1.2**

Inside the house – we reveal BEN. He's a clean-cut, thin young man. His usual earnestness and dry sense of humor lose out to his disappointed / discipline mode usually saved for his 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade classroom. Ben holds a pint of ice cream, and pulls a box of condoms out of a paper grocery store bag.

BEN                      HOW DOES "GROCERIES" TRANSLATE TO "CONDOMS AND COFFEE ICE CREAM"?

### **1.3**

Reverse angle: BRAHAM lounging around on the living room couch, playing video games. Braham most closely fits the dirty hipster type. At once, both clearly image-conscious and seemingly unkempt. He mostly carries himself with an air of self-satisfaction. This is no exception.

BRAHM                      BEN, THE ONLY THINGS I **USED** THIS WEEK WERE ICE CREAM, CONDOMS, AND COFFEE.

BRAHM                      **BUT** I ONLY HAD ENOUGH MONEY FOR TWO.

### **1.4**

Ben getting agitated, moves toward Braham with the coffee ice cream. Braham shrugs it all off.

BEN                      I TEACH CHILDREN WITH **SPECIAL NEEDS** FOR A LIVING, BRAHM. AND **YOU** ARE THE MOST RETARDED PERSON I'VE EVER MET.

BRAHM                      I THOUGHT YOU'D APPLAUD MY INGENUITY.

### **1.5**

Tight on Ben, he is not amused.

BEN                      GO TO HELL.

**PAGE TWO**

**Splash Page:**

A massive WHITE LIGHT emanates from Braham. He seems to be fading away inside of it (though his clothes *aren't* fading). Braham wears a look of shock and horror – whatever is happening, he's aware of it, and freaked-the-*fuck out*.

Ben recoils in shock and fear from the sidelines.

BRAHAM(disappearing)

HEY. YOU FEEL THAT?

**PAGE THREE**

**3.1**

Brahm's clothes fall to the ground where he had been standing

***NO DIALOGUE***

**3.2**

Ben stares in complete shock, mouth open.

***NO DIALOGUE***

**3.3**

Same framing; Ben nervous, almost scared to speak, but desperately trying.

BEN                                      UH...

**3.4**

Braham's clothes piled on the floor. A light vapor rises off them. Otherwise, there's no sign they aren't just errant laundry.

***NO DIALOGUE***

**3.5**

Ben startles at a shout from outside of the apartment.

OLD MAN(o.p.)                      AAAAAAHHH!

**3.6**

Ben runs across his apartment toward the voice.

BEN                                      BRAHAM?!

**3.7**

Ben has opened the door (out of the previous panel? Like a cartoon?). He stares at what's in front of him in shock.

***NO DIALOGUE***

**PAGE FOUR**

**4.1**

Ben's stands on his balcony to see CHAOS:

An OLD WOMAN on the sidewalk beams with the SAME WHITE LIGHT. She is almost entirely faded away. The OLD MAN beside her grabs onto her, but is unaffected.

OLD MAN

NORMA!!

**4.2**

A car cruising further down the same block – the SAME WHITE LIGHT consumes the driver.

RADIO

{music notes} *Jesus take the wheel...* {music notes}

**4.3**

The car – now driverless – swerves on the street. A woman runs out of her house in a panic.

WOMAN

***MY BABY! WHERE'S MY BABY?!!***

**4.4**

Detail shot; the front wheel of the car hits the curb and launches upward.

SFX

KRRRB!

**4.5**

The car flies through the Old Man, flipping him up like a rag doll, and crashes into a light pole.

SFX

DBBL-SAD!

**PAGE FIVE**

**5.1**

Skyscrapers; various office windows blast out white light. (One out of every 10 or so windows.)

LOCATION CAPTION	SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA
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**5.2**

A speed boat rushes toward a populated beach – white light and vapor rising from its driver seat. People in the water struggle to get out of the way as the boat knocks through them. On the sand, people are already running and screaming. A few other people (especially kids) are disappearing. Others are trampled in the panic.

LOCATION CAPTION	RIO DE JANEIRO, BRAZIL
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**5.3**

A congested, busy market in Istanbul; Everyone goes about their business as usual with no Raptures. Two people in the foreground chat with each other.

LOCATION CAPTION	ISTANBUL, TURKEY
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CUSTOMER 1	<So... anything exciting today?>
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CUSTOMER 2	<Nope.>
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**5.4**

Back in front of Ben & Braham's. Old man's hand reaches out from under the car.

LOCATION CAPTION	<del>BRAHAM &amp;</del> BEN'S PLACE
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OLD MAN	I... I think I'm... okay.
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**5.5**

The car EXPLODES – knocking backward from the balcony into his apartment.

SFX	CAR-BOOM!
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**PAGE SIX**

**6.1**

Ben on his back inside the apartment.

BEN                                      THAT WAS TOTALLY UNNECESSARY!

**6.2**

Same as previous; A bright light shines from off-panel. Ben perks up, aware of it, but hasn't yet turned to see...

BEN                                      ??

**6.3**

Braham, reappeared, naked & sitting on top of his clothes.

BRAHAM                                 OH, HEY! I'M BACK!

BRAHAM                                 THANK GOD.

**6.4**

Tight on Braham as he realizes...

BRAHAM                                 NO, WAITAMINUTE–

**6.5**

Indignant, naked Braham pointing upward.

BRAHAM                                 FUCK THAT GUY!

## **PAGE SEVEN**

### **7.1**

An overhead establishing shot: Ben & Braham are tiny figures strolling down their residential street. The surrounding streets & lawns are scattered with crashed and burning cars, screaming and panicked residents, and several other signs of Rapture chaos. If we can pull it off, it'd be great to have a propeller plane crashed into a house on the next street over.

CAPTION	LATER.
BEN BEN	OKAY. SO SOMETHING DEFINITELY HAPPENED. BUT WHAT MAKES YOU SO SURE YOU <b>RAPTURED</b> INTO <b>HEAVEN</b> ?
BRAHM	BECAUSE I WAS THERE, BEN. AND IT <b>HAPPENED</b> .
BEN	THERE WAS A BRIGHT WHITE LIGHT - AND YOU WERE GONE. BUT THAT COULD HAVE BEEN ANYTHING, RIGHT?
BEN	LIKE A...QUANTUM EVENT? OR YOU WERE ABDUCTED BY ALIENS!
BRAHAM BRAHAM	I <b>WISH</b> I WERE ABDUCTED. THAT SOUNDS COOLER. AND I DON'T MIND A LITTLE ASS PLAY.

### **7.4**

Oblivious (or callous) to the chaos around them, Braham's face lights up as he reaches down to the pile of clothes on the ground.

BRAHAM	HEY. FREE STUFF.
BEN BEN	WHAT IS <b>WRONG</b> WITH YOU?! <b>I'M</b> STILL FREAKED OUT. I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE SO <b>GLIB</b> ABOUT THIS.

### **7.5**

Braham standing back up, holding the pants, one hand digging in a pants pocket.

BRAHAM	OH, I'M <b>OVER</b> IT. YOU SAID I WAS GONE FOR, WHAT? THIRTY SECONDS? *HEY! CAR KEYS!
BRAHAM	IT WAS <b>WEEKS</b> UP THERE. I HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO DEAL WITH WHAT HAPPENED.

### **7.6**

Close-up on Braham - as earnest as we ever see him.

BRAHAM	<b>TRUST ME</b> , BEN.
BRAHAM	I NEVER BELIEVED IN HEAVEN. NEVER. BUT NOW – I'VE <b>BEEN</b> THERE. AND NOW I KNOW.
BRAHAM	HEAVEN IS REAL...



## **PAGE EIGHT**

### **8.1**

Close on Braham. For IMPACT. He's completely serious.

BRAHAM                      AND IT **SUCKS**.

### **8.2**

Ben pulls away from his friend in shock. Braham argues his case.

BEN                              YOU'RE A **MONSTER!**

BRAHAM                      BEN. IT'S **HORRIBLE**. IT'S JUST BRIGHT WHITE **EVERYTHING**, THE  
ANGELS ARE **CLINGY** –

BRAHAM                      AND YOU KNOW ALL THESE CLOTHES LYING AROUND?

### **8.4**

Braham standing naked in Heaven – surrounded by a bunch of hot naked people exchanging flirty looks. (But find creative ways to cover crotches and lady nipples. Use long hair, Heaven things, and cropping.)

CAPTION(BRAHAM)      THAT'S BECAUSE – FOR SOME FUCKING REASON – EVERYONE UP THERE  
IS **NAKED**.

CAPTION(BEN)              I'D HAVE THOUGHT YOU WOULD LOVE THAT.

### **8.5**

Braham standing naked in Heaven, looking disgusted & uncomfortable – surrounded by old & fat people; picking noses, scratching things, mouth breathing, and checking out Braham.

CAPTION(BRAHAM)      NOT LIKE THIS! EVERYONE **IN** HEAVEN WAS EITHER OLD, OR FAT – OR  
OLD AND FAT. THE ONLY REASON THEY **DIDN'T** SIN – IS BECAUSE NO  
ONE WOULD WANT TO SIN WITH THOSE PEOPLE.

### **8.6**

Ben stands with his hands on his hips, judging. Braham is still worked up. A SHADOWY FIGURE spies on them from around a corner. The guys fail to notice.

BEN                              WOW.

BEN                              WELL, I'M NOT SURPRISED HEAVEN KICKED YOU OUT.

BEN                              JUST SURPRISED THEY **TOOK YOU** IN THE FIRST PLACE.

BRAHAM                      IT WAS A CLERICAL ERROR.

## **PAGE NINE**

### **9.1**

Ben is stunned in place a few steps behind Braham. Braham walks casually forward, pointing the car key 'unlock' out toward cars parked on the street.

BEN	<b>WAIT...WHAT?!</b>
BRAHAM	THEY TOOK ME ON A CLERICAL ERROR.
BRAHAM	APPARENTLY, THERE'S ANOTHER BRAHM CARLSON. WHO, I'M GUESSING, DOES NOT HAVE A <b>NUN FETISH</b> .

### **9.2**

We angle past the Shadowy figure. He's closer this time, but still unnoticed. From this angle, we see a *horn* on his forehead. *Meanwhile*, Ben has a minor freak out. Braham puts a hand on his shoulder.

BEN	HOW IS THIS HAPPENING?!
BEN	THIS IS TOO MUCH. THIS IS ALL <b>WAY</b> TOO MUCH.
BRAHAM	LOOK, WE WERE RAISED CATHOLIC – IT'S NOT LIKE WE WEREN'T WARNED ABOUT THIS.
BRAHAM	"AT THE END OF DAYS, GOD WILL SEPARATE THE RIGHTEOUS FROM THE WICKED"...

### **9.3**

Ben pleads; Braham gets distracted by a thought.

BEN	BUT I'M NOT WICKED! I'M RIGHTEOUS!
BRAHAM	HEY. THOSE ARE BOTH 80S SLANG TERMS. RADICAL.

### **9.4**

Close on Ben; starting to well up with disappointment.

BEN	SO WHY NOT ME? WHY DIDN'T I GET TO GO TO HEAVEN?
BEN	I'M A GOOD PERSON!

### **9.5**

*FLASHBACK* : Ben in college, with a joint in his mouth – he is clearly ripping a page out of the Holy Bible.

BEN	NO WORRIES! I GOT PLENTY.
BEN	I'LL ROLL YOU ONE!

CONTINUED OVER NEXT PAGE...

*PAGE NINE CONTINUED...*

**9.6**

Braham puts a hand on Ben's shoulder.

BRAHAM  
BRAHAM

YES. YES, YOU ARE A GOOD PERSON.  
BUT I GUESS YOU DIDN'T FOLLOW ALLTHE RULES. OR AT LEAST NOT THE  
RIGHT ONES.

**9.7**

Ben absorbs this.

SFX

**BWOOP-BOOP!**

**PAGE TEN**

**10.1**

Braham triumphantly opens the door of a car. Ben frantically waves him off.

BRAHAM                    HEY! CHECK OUT OUR NEW CAR!

BEN                        WOAH-WOAH! NO WAY! I'M NOT GETTING IN THAT!

BRAHAM                    WHAT? WHY?

BEN                        THAT'S ONE OF THE RULES! YOU'RE **STEALING** THAT CAR!

BRAHM                     FROM **A DEAD** GUY.

**10.2**

Ben, genuinely put off. The Shadowy figure watches.

BEN                        THAT KIND OF SOUNDS WORSE.

**10.3**

Angle past Shadowy Figure – we now see that he has a long 'devil' tail. Ben, talking to Braham, gestures.

BEN                        LISTEN. I'M JUST GONNA WALK HOME...

BRAHAM                    SERIOUSLY?

**10.4**

Ben turns away from the car. S.F. looks behind himself & notices his tail.

BEN                        YEAH. THERE'S A LOT I NEED TO THINK ABOUT...

BRAHAM                    OKAY. SUIT YOURSELF.

DEMON                     !!

**10.5**

Demon tucks his tail into the back of his pants. Braham drives off in his new car.

DEMON                     OH *SHIT* –

DEMON                     HOW LONG HAS THAT BEEN OUT?!



**PAGE TWELVE (6 panels)**

**12.1**

Ben clearly panics – he’s desperate to recover the moment with Laura

BEN            Laura!  
BEN            Um... I was just kidding!

LAURA        *Riiight...*

**12.2**

Ben gets self- conscious and awkward.

BEN            Well...it’s really good to see you!  
BEN            I mean, I didn’t know if you had been...  
BEN            You were one of the people I kept thinking about. *Calling.*

**12.3**

Laura touches his arm lightly, sweetly. Ben stares with nervous intensity at the point of physical contact.

LAURA        That’s sweet.  
LAURA        Of course, according to the school’s *phone tree* - you’re *supposed* to call me in an emergency.  
LAURA        So thanks for leaving me for *dead*.

**12.4**

Ben gets nervously apologetic. Laura laughs at him.

BEN            What?! I didn’t even know we *had* a phone tree!  
LAURA        Ben, I’m *kidding*.  
LAURA        You should *lighten up*. It’s not like it’s the *end of the world*.  
BEN            Isn’t it?

**12.5**

Laura gestures off as she leans back on her bike. Ben tries to joke with her.

LAURA        Again – I was *kidding*. But I *should* get going.  
LAURA        I need to see if my grandma is *dead* or just not answering the phone.  
BEN            *Hilarious!*

**12.6**

Laura has an earnest expression. Ben is wide-eyed in discomfort and gesturing himself away.

LAURA        Actually, I was serious that time.  
BEN            Well! *See you in the teachers’ lounge!*

**PAGE THIRTEEN (five panels)**

**13.1**

Ben walks up to the outside of their apartment building. It's getting to be nighttime. But there is a warm glow coming from the still-burning car explosion earlier in the day (page 6). Ben opens the (street) front door, hanging and exhausted.

BEN (small) – “See you in the teachers’ lounge!”

BEN (small) - Jesus, Ben, you may as well cut it off and throw it away.

**13.2**

Reaching the top of the stairs to his apartment door – Ben perks up, alarmed. The DOOR LIES INSIDE THE APARTMENT, KNOCKED OFF ITS HINGES.

BEN – What the *hell?!!*

**13.3**

Ben runs inside, freaked out.

BEN – Brahm?! *Hello?!!*

BEN – If some criminal is in here...I just think you should know –

BEN - I have *mace!*

**13.4**

Ben turns over his shoulder at the sound of voices – still worried / scared. But it's just Brahm sitting calmly in the apartment (with beers). He's on the couch next to TIPUL. Tipul is our afro-haired “survivalist” guy, usually wearing camouflage pants. He's currently cutting up an apple with a huge hunting knife.

BRAHM – Mace? That's a really womanly defense.

TIPUL – Now if you said *a* mace – that would be tough.

TIPUL – You could borrow one of mine if you want.

BRAHM – “*One of*”?

**13.5**

Ben, still worried – gestures to the smashed door as he yells.

BEN – What happened to our door?!

**PAGE FOURTEEN (five panels)**

**14.1**

Brahm looks up as if Ben just asked the dumbest question, with one thumb pointing to Tipul. Tipul shrugs.

BRAHM – Tipul here kicked it in.

TIPUL – You guys weren't answering your doorbell.

**14.2**

Ben moves in closer to the guys. He's still yelling, but it's turned from fear to frustration.

BEN – We weren't *home!*

TIPUL – Well I know that *now*.

**14.3**

Ben stands, hands on his hips, sarcastic. Tipul gets up (stretching? Hands on back of his head?), totally casual. Brahm points off panel behind Ben.

BEN – Thank you for your concern, Tipul.

TIPUL – Oh, I wasn't *concerned* –

BRAHM – He was taking our *stuff*.

**14.4**

Angle up past a giant pile of video games, consoles, clothes, pillows, and canned / boxed food. Beyond it, Ben has turned to see the attempted robbery. He throws his hands up in the air, angry and defeated.

BEN – Why is that everyone's first reaction to this?!

**14.5**

Tipul puts a hand on Ben's shoulder. The other hand gestures innocently at Ben with the huge hunting knife (with half an apple impaled on the end). Ben can't (is too scared to) take his eyes off the knife near his face.

TIPUL – Hey – I'm a *survivalist*. Why do you think I went through militia training?

TIPUL – *Answer:*

TIPUL – Because I *knew* this day was *coming!*



**PAGE FIFTEEN (five panels)**

**15.1**

Ben seems surprised, softened. Tipul shoots him a “what, are you an idiot?” look.

BEN – *You* believed in the Rapture?

TIPUL – Hell no! I knew the *Apocalypse* was coming.

**15.2**

Tipul, now, stands in front of his imagined, ridiculous idea of how he hoped the world would end.

TIPUL – And actually, my money was on “escaped government virus”.

TIPUL – But I was *hoping* for a robot uprising.

**15.3**

Tipul glances over to Brahm – like he’s beginning to tell a ghost story, or initiate them into a secret society. Brahm finally leans forward on the couch – sternly serious.

TIPUL – But let’s say, for the moment, that what Brahm told me is *true* –

BRAHM – It *is*.

**15.4**

Tipul – still conspiratorially – shoots a sideways glance the other way (to Ben off-panel).

TIPUL – **What are you two going to *do* about it?**

**15.5**

Brahm & Ben exchange silent looks. For once, both guys look earnest and uncertain – as if genuinely hoping the other has an answer.

***NO DIALOGUE***

**PAGE SIXTEEN (six panels)**

**16.1**

Exterior of the elementary school Ben works at - MORNING. Letters on the building read: 'TAFT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL brought to you by McDONALDS!'.  
Near the sign stands a statue of a morbidly obese [President Taft](#) statue holding up [Happy Meals](#).

***NO DIALOGUE***

**16.2**

Inside a sparse, run-down Teacher's Lounge – a handful of teachers and staff sit around shell-shocked. They all look a little shaken, tired, or confused – except for one fat teacher who eats away contentedly. In the foreground, Ben stands pouring himself coffee as he addresses our DONORS/Teachers

*BEN – Dialogue to be finalized as Ben talks to our donor/teachers.*

*BEN – intro teacher donors by name*

**16.3**

LAURA – the object of Ben's affection (and the girl we had you sketch those many months ago) – stands smiling at Ben. She's the gym teacher and looks fit in her short gym shorts and school polo shirt. Ben is barely in the panel – this is Laura's showcase – but we can see him standing straighter and puffing out his chest a little (threatened by the fact that she's more athletic than him).

**LAURA**            Hey, Ben. Glad to see you survived the...*whatever the hell* happened.

**BEN**                Oh! Hi Laura!

**BEN**                Don't see you much in the teacher's lounge! How's gymnasium...*ing?*

**16.4**

Ben hands her the cup he just poured.

**LAURA**            Fine, I guess. I just tried to sneak in here to grab a cup of coffee.

**BEN**                Here! Have *this*. I mean, I made it for you.

**LAURA**            Are you sure? I saw you pour it. And there's none left.

**BEN**                No! That was an *accident* - I didn't even *want* coffee.

**16.5**

Ben pours out a carafe of milk-ness.

**BEN** - Here. This is what I really wanted. Protein.

**LAURA** - Ben? That's half-and-half.

**16.6**

Ben drinks and makes a sickened face.

**BEN** - Oh...yeah, I know. But I'm an optimist. So I think of it as half-full...half.

**PAGE SEVENTEEN (six panels)**

**17.1**

Laura turns around to talk to others. Ben throws the mug out over his shoulder and looks like he's about to vomit.

LAURA - I was kind of surprised they're starting school already.

DONOR1 - Because of the people disappearing?

DONOR2 - Yeah! We got *three* days off for 9/11. This is a gyp!

**17.2**

Laura tries to carefully broach a difficult subject.

LAURA - So... did any of you know someone who disappeared?

**17.3**

Donor1 shrugs. The fat guy looks up, worried.

DONOR1 - Two of my neighbors. And an aunt I don't talk to.

FAT GUY - Well, I've been calling this girl, Moneequa, but she hasn't called me back.

DONOR 1 - Yeah... that doesn't necessarily mean she went missing.

**17.4**

Donor2 leans in, talking quieter, and looks concerned.

DONOR2 - I hear Mr. Jenkins vanished.

BEN - From the third grade class?

DONOR2 - Yeah. With his whole family.

**17.5**

Ben, Laura, and the teachers exchange uncomfortable, uncertain glances.

***NO DIALOGUE***

**17.6**

The Fat teacher barks out his insensitive remark without any second thought or concern for social decorum. If other teachers are visible, they can't believe what they're hearing / have shocked expressions.

FAT GUY - Good! That guy was a *dick*.

FAT GUY - Real "holier-than-thou".

## **PAGE EIGHTEEN**

### **18.1**

Ben tries to break the uncomfortable moment by chiming in. Whatever teachers we see / Laura consider what he's saying.

BEN - So! Um... Do you guys really think any kids will come in today?

LAURA - Well, I'm sure some *parents* will keep them at home –

BEN - No. I mean – these are just *kids*. So you have to *hope* they were all *taken*, right?

### **18.2**

Everyone stares at him, agape.

DONOR2 - Dude. What the fuck is *wrong with you?*

### **18.3**

Donor1 indignantly points his question at Ben. Donor2 turns, more out of intellectual curiosity to correct Donor1. And the Fat Guy looks at them like both like they're idiots (as he talks with his mouth full of food).

DONOR1 - Why would *hope* that a child was abducted by *aliens*?!

DONOR2 - What?! I heard it was spontaneous combustion.

FAT GUY - Guys! That's ridiculous! Glenn Beck said it was Chinese satellite lasers controlled by George Soros.

### **18.4**

Ben gestures – cutting them all off. This is serious to him – *they all need to know!* But Donor2 just looks confused.

BEN - Guys - it was *the Rapture!* You know, like in the *Bible*.

DONOR2 - The Bible?

### **18.5**

Ben is getting worked up, carried away with his own line of thought.

BEN - All the good people were taken into Heaven.

BEN - And kids are *good*, right? I mean – even the *bad kids* aren't really *evil*.

*CONTINUED over next page...*

PAGE EIGHTEEN continued...

**18.6**

Ben is getting scared again as he hears his own words and realizes their dire consequences. He's almost yelling with the terrifying realization.

BEN – But for the *rest* of us – I keep thinking that this is our *last chance*. We need to get our spiritual houses in order!

BEN – We gotta get right with God – or go to *Hell!*

**18.7**

Donor1 steps up to Ben and gently puts a hand on his chest to interrupt. Ben is caught off guard, and shoots Donor1 a curious look.

DONOR1 - Okay, Ben? I have to stop you right there. This is a *public school*.

DONOR1 - Technically, we can't even acknowledge that religion *exists*.

**PAGE NINETEEN (five panels)**

**19.1**

Ben stands in between Laura and the Fat teacher.

LAURA - I never knew you were *religious*.

BEN - I'm not! I *wasn't*.

BEN - That's why I'm still here!

FAT GUY - If that were true. I don't know why *I'd* still be here -

FAT GUY - I'm a *good person!*

**19.2**

FLASHBACK: Fat Guy stands by an open trash can (that he had been digging through) holding a pair of women's panties to his nose. His other hand holds his cell phone.

FAT GUY - Well, you're still not answering your phone I guess....

FAT GUY - But I think you're home. It *looks like* you're home.

**19.3**

Bell goes off – people start moving.

SFX - BRRRRRIIIINGG

LAURA – Well, that's the bell. "Once more into the breach!"

BEN - Oh *hey* – is everyone still going bowling this week?

**19.4**

Leaving the teacher's lounge, Donor1 turns to Ben, earnestly. Ben yells frustrated that they missed his point.

DONOR1 – Are your people...allowed to bowl?

BEN - I'm not religious!

**19.5**

The creepy angel watches Ben walk down the hallway.

***NO DIALOGUE***

**PAGE TWENTY (six panels)**

**20.1**

Inside Brahm's bedroom – an unmade bed sits on the floor (with no frame) but the walls are lined with piles of awesome stuff (recently stolen). Multiple giant flat-screen TVs, original art, a Big Boy statue, a ton of high-end liquor bottles – anything impressive you can think of and want to draw. In the middle of all of this a hot, mostly-undressed young woman scrambles to grab her clothes. Brahm is hazy and hung over, sitting up on his bed.

AMBER - God, sorry. I think I turned off the alarm.

BRAHM - No sweat. It'll be fine.

**20.2**

Brahm edges Amber out from his bedroom, into main apartment.

AMBER - I'd just hate for you to be stuck on Earth because of me.

**20.3**

Brahm keeps scooting her toward the front door as she's getting dressed.

BRAHM - Don't worry. It'd be worth it.

**20.4**

Amber stops in doorway to the apartment building's stairs (from 11.2). She flirts at Brahm.

BRAHM - It was great meeting you...

AMBER - ...Amber.

**20.5**

Brahm lifts the free-standing door, as if walling off Amber into the hallway. He's over this.

BRAHM - To be honest, I wasn't even trying.

**20.6**

Brahm turns around, startled by the voice coming from off-panel.

TIPUL(o.p.) - You really should get that door fixed.

TIPUL(o.p.)- And you *shouldn't* be telling everyone you were Raptured.

**PAGE TWENTY-ONE (five panels)**

**21.1**

Tipul sits on the living room couch in clothes *the exact same color* as the couch.

BRAHM- Jesus! I didn't even notice you there!

**21.2**

Brahm responds in his usual smarmy way.

BRAHM- I didn't tell her about the Rapture. I told I was an astronaut.  
BRAHM- Which is much more believable.

**21.3**

Tipul is up and standing proud.

BRAHM- Also, what the hell are you doing here?  
TIPUL- I've decided it makes strategic sense to team up. To survive the Apocalypse.  
TIPUL- Your time in Heaven offers valuable Intel. But unlike you, I'm not a fucking moron.

**21.4**

Brahm raises an eyebrow as Tipul pokes him in the chest, stern.

BRAHM - You really know how to sweet talk a girl.  
TIPUL- If we're going to stick together through this, I can't risk you dragging me down.  
TIPUL- Especially when the zombies show up.

**21.5**

Brahm: equal parts scared and confused.

BRAHM- *Zombies?*





**PAGE TWENTY-THREE (seven panels)**

**23.1**

Ben glances back toward his classroom as the two men stand in the hall. The Angel is really trying to be warm and enthusiastic. We can have fun with what posters or banners are hanging in the school hallway. If you have ideas, Remus, that'd be great. Otherwise, draw in some blank space and we can fill them in during lettering.

ANGEL I just wanted to say that I heard what you said in the *teachers' lounge*.  
ANGEL And I believe you're *right*. This *is* your last chance to repent.

BEN Yeah. I don't get how everyone else is so *blasé* about it!

ANGEL Human beings have a remarkable capacity for self-deception.  
ANGEL All the more reason we should help each other on our paths. So if you ever want to *talk* – it would be nice to get to know you *Biblically*.

**23.2**

Ben backs off, points at the Angel who gestures in a "What did I do?" kind of way.

BEN What?!

ANGEL Your thoughts. On *The Bible*?

BEN Okay, you need to stop using *euphemisms*. You're not good at them.

**23.3**

The Angels gets sassy, and Ben is shocked to realize his own error.

ANGEL Excuse me, but I wasn't the one who blasphemed just because a fellow Christian wanted to give me a *backrub*!

BEN Oh, man...  
BEN You're *right*. This might be harder than I thought.

**23.4**

Ben, heavy hearted, steps back to his classroom – hand on the door. The Angel touches him one last time and offers a creepy smile.

ANGEL Good thing you've got me to keep you honest, then?

BEN Thanks, Joe.  
BEN I should get back into class.

ANGEL We'll talk soon.

***CONTINUED over next page...***

**PAGE TWENTY-THREE continued...**

**23.5**

In the hall, the Angel puts his head down and prays (hands together) as Ben's door shuts.

ANGEL                      Are you there, God?

**23.6**

A LIGHT SHINES DOWN on him, and he looks upward.

ANGEL                      It's *me* – Margaret!

FROM ABOVE              DON'T BE QUEER ABOUT THIS, JOSIAH.

**PAGE TWENTY-FOUR (six panels)**

**24.1**

Over-turned recycling bin on a front lawn. Amid the trash, bags, and boxes the morning's newspaper headline lies prominently. LETTERING: "MILLIONS VANISH Still No Explanation"

*NO DIALOGUE*

**24.2**

Pan up, to see that TIPUL and BRAHM digging through recycling bin several houses away. Tipul pulls out bottles and places them in an over-flowing box Brahm carries. Several other bins are flipped and littered around the neighborhood.

TIPUL-            So, I stayed up all night reading Revelations.  
TIPUL-            From *The Bible* –

BRAHM-           I *know* what the Book of Revelations is.

**24.3**

Tipul points a broken bottle for emphasis.

TIPUL-            The point is, it says that after the Rapture - *the dead will rise*.

**24.4**

Brahm and Tipul stare at each other; Tipul deadly serious, and Brahm as if he's listening to a moron.

*NO DIALOGUE*

**24.5**

Same as previous.

TIPUL-            *Zombies*.

BRAHM-           That's not what that means.

**24.6**

Brahm starts walking again, Tipul shouts from where he was standing.

TIPUL-            I bet you would have said the *Rapture* was an allegory, right?  
TIPUL-            But it *wasn't!* This shit is *real*.

TIPUL-            So when it comes to "rising dead" I don't want us to get caught with our pants around our ankles.

BRAHM-           What are you and I doing in that metaphor?

## **PAGE TWENTY-FIVE & TWENTY-SIX**

### **24.1**

In the top left corner, Tipul ushers us into his nightmare vision of the end of the world. I don't know if you want a free-floating round panel, just his head floating over the rest of the page, or some other visual cue in the classic comic book move of someone narrating the images in their head...

TIPUL            You don't get it, Brahm.  
TIPUL            This is *much bigger* than whether or not you want to go back to Heaven –

### **24.2**

**The big, widescreen image across the top half of both pages:** Our heroes imagine the Final War between Heaven and Hell. Go CRAZY! But the image here should be a melee of glorious angels with flaming swords, demonic violence, and some helpless humans caught in the middle, terrified. This should be a place for you to really show off.

TIPUL(narr)-    There's going to be a *war* between Heaven and Hell.  
TIPUL(narr)-    A war for the souls of everyone left on Earth.

### **24.3**

A HUGE heavy-metal / fantasy art DEMON lords over the burnt rubble of a city – smaller demons wreaking havoc around him. Possibly a few women are in slave-Princess Leia-type costumes around his feet.

TIPUL(narr)-    For seven years, the whole world will fall under the will of ***The Antichrist!***

### **24.4**

Floating Brahm face. Raised eyebrow expression that says "Oh, wait a second..." Ideally, we'll think he's concerned – only to realize at the end of the issue that he's actually intrigued. :

BRAHM            Oooh...crap! I forgot about the Antichrist.

### **24.5**

Dead rising from graves.

TIPUL(narr)      *Then* – after the seven years of "Tribulation" - comes "Judgment Day."  
TIPUL(narr)      And *that's* when *the dead are gonna be resurrected!*

**PAGE TWENTY-SEVEN (three panels)**

**27.1**

Tipul leads Brahm down his (Tipul's) driveway to a large shed/garage. Brahm seems particularly struck by Tipul's statement.

BRAHM- You're *really* hung up on the zombie part, aren't you?

TIPUL- So if there really is gonna be some crazy war to decide my fate-

**27.2**

Tipul unlocks a large padlock on the large wooden door(s) while Brahm lifts the huge box of bottles.

TIPUL(narr)- I'm not gonna sit on the *sidelines* and miss all the *fun*.

BRAHM- Digging bottles out of the trash is fun for you, huh?

TIPUL- No. But without *targets*-

**27.3**

BIG PANEL: Tipul has opened his shed to reveal an insane stockpile of weapons. This shed should be lined with shotguns, swords, chainsaws, axes – basically anything you might be able to use to kill a zombie. This is a paranoid man's preparation for the End Times. (Without the canned food.) Tipul stands proudly before it, presenting. Brahm is shocked.

TIPUL- You can't have *target practice*.

BRAHM- Is it weird that I just got a boner?

TIPUL- It would be weird if you *didn't*.

**PAGE TWENTY-EIGHT (six panels)**

**28.1**

Guys out drinking and eating at an open-air bar/grill's HAPPY HOUR! Brahm eyes a cute girl across the way while Tipul eats food off Ben's plate. The girl is our EXTRA DONOR – JENNIFER.

BRAHM                      Hey. Is that gym teacher you're in love with still here?

BEN                              Laura. Yeah. And at first I was really happy to see her. But then I realized –

BEN                              - that means she *couldn't get into Heaven*.

BEN                              But *who knows why!* She could be a *serial killer*. Or a *Holocaust-denier!*

**28.2**

Ben turns around to see Tipul eating his fries (or whatever). Tipul is frozen – only half sorry/considerate.

TIPUL(muffled)              *Rr a mff dffr.*

BEN                              *Hey!*

TIPUL(muffled)              mm....You gonna eat these?

**28.3**

Brahm blatantly checks out JENNIFER at her seat at the bar. She's ignoring him.

BRAHM                              Ben – her still being here is *great news!* That means she *puts out!*

BRAHM                              All the *prudes* are *gone!* Trust me. There were *no sluts* in Heaven.

**28.4**

Tipul is open-mouthed with the shock of realization. He also still has half-chewed food hanging out of it. Ben does *not* think this is funny.

TIPUL                              *Holy crap.* You're right!

BEN                                      I'm not trying to get *laid!*

BEN                                      Random sex is probably the reason I'm not *in Heaven* right now!

**28.5**

Brahm puts a sad, sympathetic hand on Ben's shoulder.

BRAHM                              Ben. I've been your best friend for long enough to know you've *never* had random sex.

**28.6**

Brahm gets carried away – excited about what this could mean! He puts an arm around each guy.

BRAHM                              The slut *percentage* just shot through the *roof!* You can't keep thinking in a pre-Slut-Boom mentality!

BRAHM                              In fact, it's a *whole new world!* And we have the chance to *shape it!*

**PAGE TWENTY-NINE (six panels)**

**29.1**

Ben pouts. Brahm pulls out a wallet that STUFFED to the brim with credit cards falling out – Brahm is holding one card in the other hand and reading it. Tipul has a judgmental expression.

BEN Just because God took the Evangelicals into heaven, doesn't mean the rest of us should live like *animals*.

BRAHM So you don't want Mr... Matthew Peterson to pay for your *delicious dinner*?

TIPUL(small) *Eh. The fries were mushy.*

**29.2**

Ben, angry at this point, grabs the basket away. Brahm stares in amused disbelief.

BEN *Jimminie Christmas! Then stop eating them!*

BRAHM Did you just say "Jimminie Christmas"?

**29.3**

IN AN ALLEY across from the restaurant, A Ring of Fire has opened – and the handsome DEMON emerges from it as a portal. We see his tail hanging out again as we angle past him. He's watching Ben and the other guys.

BEN I decided not to swear anymore, okay?

BEN(smaller) At least the blasphemous ones.

**29.4**

The guys at their table don't notice the Demon across the street, watching them from the shadows.

BRAHM You said "Christmas". That's at least taking the *idea* of Christ in vein.

BEN Oh, crap! Jimminie...*Crickets*?

TIPUL I wouldn't even worry. Yelling "Jesus" doesn't mean Jesus *the guy*.

TIPUL Like "God damn it" – you're not asking God to send a sandwich to hell. It doesn't mean anything.

**29.5**

The Demon steps out of the shadows and moves toward our guys with purpose – about to cross the street.

TIPUL "Jesus" is like "gay" and "retarded".

BEN Did you just call Jesus –

***CONTINUED over next page...***



***PAGE TWENTY-NINE continued...***

**29.6**

A local news van pulls up and stops directly between the guys and the Demon.

**PAGE THIRTY (five panels)**

**30.1**

The Demon backs away from the news van as two people start to get out of it. He doesn't want to end up on camera.

DEMON(small) Jimminie Christmas!

**30.2**

Brahm spots the news crew as they set up across the street and he perks up, excited.

BRAHAM The world is trying to go back to *normal*.  
BRAHAM But this is the *beginning of the end of the world!*

BEN What are you getting at?

BRAHAM Everyone else may be afraid to embrace this –  
BRAHAM - but *I'm not*.

**30.3**

The news reporter is our final DONOR – KIRK MASON. He's set up in front of the camera woman, (OUR EXTRA DONOR SUZI) beginning a broadcast.

KIRK This is Kirk Mason reporting live from downtown.  
KIRK Three days after millions of people vanished, and the world still searches for answers. People are just beginning to return to their daily lives –

**30.4**

Brahm steps up and drunkenly interrupts the broadcast.

BRAHAM I interrupt this broadcast to bring you *important, breaking news!*

**30.5**

BIG PANEL: Kirk is caught off guard, and looks shocked to the camera as Brahm pulls the microphone and tells the home viewer what's 'really' going on.

KIRK Uh, sir, *please* –

BRAHAM I *know* what happened to all the people who disappeared--  
BRAHAM They were *Raptured*.  
BRAHAM Because *this*, friends, is the beginning of *Armageddon*. The end of the world started *three days ago*, and you're *watching television!*  
BRAHAM But not *me*. I'm gonna *do something about it--*

**PAGE THIRTY-ONE (splash page)**

Brahm speaks proudly and point-blank into the camera – he gives the President Richard Nixon double-peace signs.

Behind him, we see Ben doing a spit-take with his beer. Tipul pops up out of his seat, cheering.

BRAHM            My name is Braham Carlson. And I'm officially declaring my candidacy –  
BRAHM            **As ANTI-CHRIST of this APOCALYPSE!**

TO BE CONTINUED...