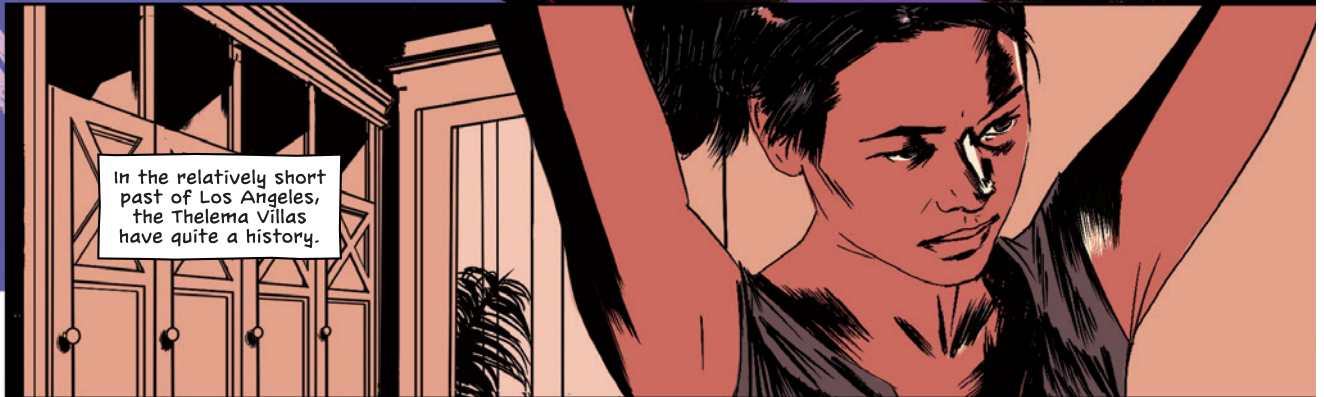




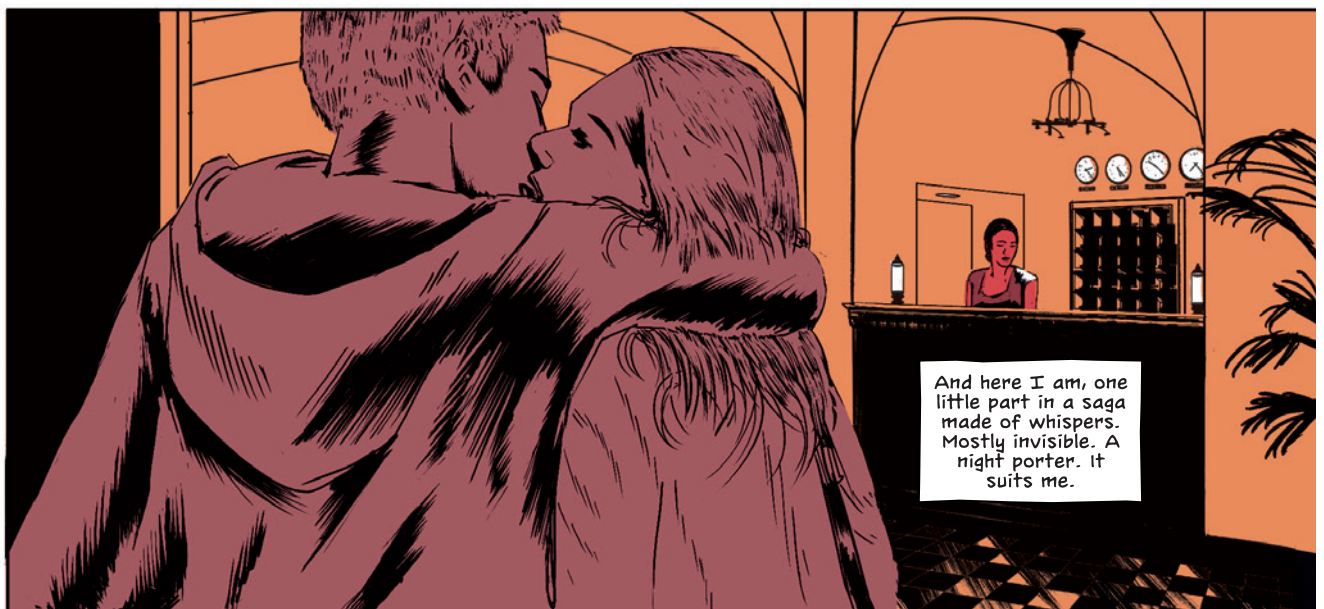
I work nights.



In the relatively short past of Los Angeles, the Thelema Villas have quite a history.



And here I am, one little part in a saga made of whispers. Mostly invisible. A night porter. It suits me.





Part of my job is to not notice the famous people. They tell me I'm a natural at that. I prefer books.



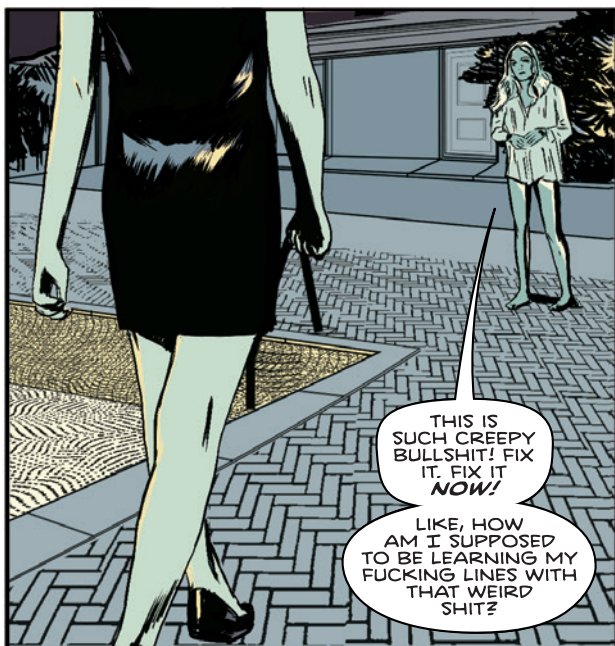
I've always liked nights. I've never slept well. And sometimes a hotel at night is the quietest job in the world.



FRONT DESK. HOW MAY I ASSIST YOU...? ROOM 708? TRY TO BE CALM PLEASE. I'LL BE RIGHT THERE. PLEASE UNDERSTAND, THIS ROOM WAS CHOSEN FOR YOU.



The only really tough part of my job was dealing with Room 708.



THIS IS SUCH CREEPY BULLSHIT! FIX IT. FIX IT NOW!

LIKE, HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO BE LEARNING MY FUCKING LINES WITH THAT WEIRD SHIT?

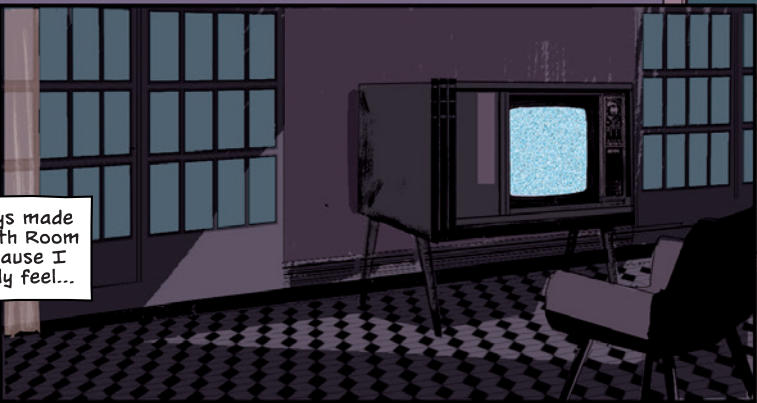


I APOLOGIZE. MADAME PERSONALLY REQUESTED THIS ROOM FOR YOU. SHE HAD HOPES YOU WOULD FIND IT ENLIGHTENING. PLEASE RETURN TO THE LOBBY, WHERE MY ASSOCIATE WILL ASSIST YOU FURTHER.

FUCK THIS. I AM NOT STAYING HERE.



They always made me deal with Room 708. Because I didn't really feel...



...I didn't feel like it got to me. It was just part of the job.



There were things about the Villas you had to accept. Weird architecture, certain formalities and rules. And then there were the rumors about the T.V. in Room 708.



Fleeing Europe to Mexico in WWII, the Surrealist painter Remedios Varo stayed at the hotel in 1941. It's said she filled a sketchbook of drawings of what she saw on the T.V. but to this day no one's ever seen it.



In 1978 while traveling back from playing Japan, it was rumored the musician Kate Bush had an encounter in Room 708. She called the front desk asking if it was unusual for the television to talk to you. She refused assistance, giggling, "it's quite alright, we're fine."



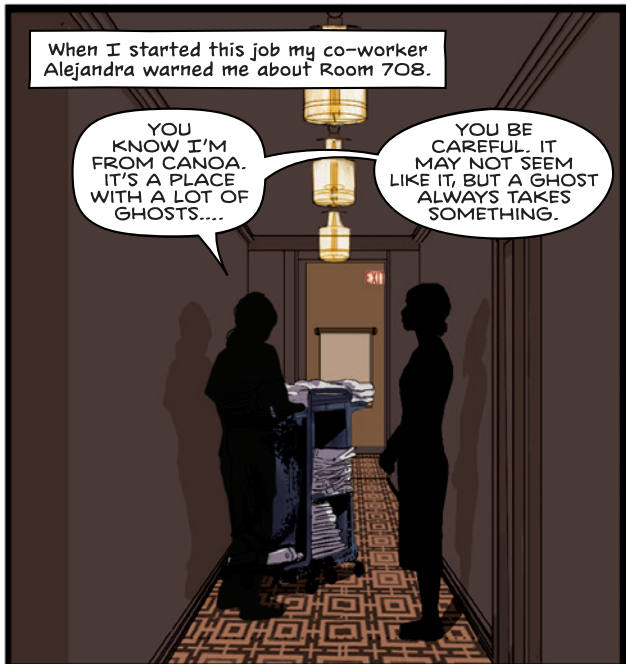
In the 80s, horror filmmaker Barry Niles would claim he spent an entire week talking to the T.V. and wrote three screenplays in three days. Many believe it was accomplished with an absurd amount of cocaine, but he would always ascribe it to voices he heard in the room. One of those movies, *Haunt Dogs*, is now widely regarded as his masterpiece.

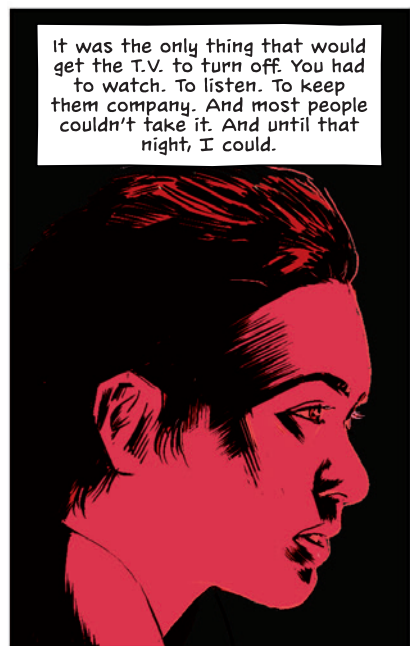
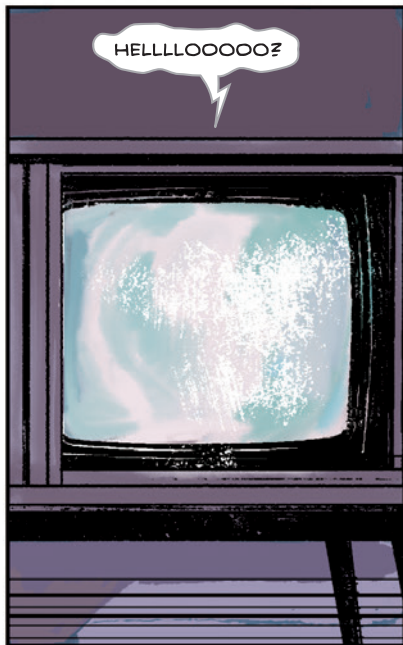


When I started this job my co-worker Alejandra warned me about Room 708.

YOU KNOW I'M FROM CANOA. IT'S A PLACE WITH A LOT OF GHOSTS.....

YOU BE CAREFUL. IT MAY NOT SEEM LIKE IT, BUT A GHOST ALWAYS TAKES SOMETHING.







EUN-JI?



OUR FAMILY IS CURSED, EUN-JI. WE SEE THINGS.



IT SCARES PEOPLE.



I hadn't spoken to Mom in twelve years. I didn't know if she was still alive. I knew Dad was gone.



I wish I could've seen Dad, too.



I quit that night.



Alejandra told me later that the T.V. stopped working when I left. They replaced it. No more complaints.

She was right. Ghosts take something from you.



You can take something from them, too.



Whenever it's night now, and I look into a TV, watch a movie, hear a radio, I see them.

I listen. I witness. I learn things about the city, about the past. Secret things.



I work nights.

And now...

...I'm looking for work.





# WORK NIGHTS

AARON STEWART-AHN is a filmmaker and writer who has wanted to write comics all his life. He co-wrote Panos Cosmatos' movie MANDY & is currently finishing a documentary about police brutality & protests in NYC. He also writes journalism, worked at Rockstar Games & sometimes with bicycles.

He is full of [@somebadideas](#).

SUNANDO C is an illustrator based in Bangalore, India. He likes cake, dogs and coffee. He likes to draw grounded real-world settings and genres like crime and horror. He is currently working on a crime-noir comic, HOMETOWN, that he plans to self-publish. His desert-island comic is Batman: Year One.

He can be found on Twitter and Instagram [@sunandoisms](#) and on Tumblr at [sunandodraws.tumblr.com](#)