

PAGE ONE (five panels)

Panel 1. Jessica, a blonde woman in her 30's, sits alone on a bed cross-legged and with her back to us. The room is hers from when she was a child. There are posters and photographs of 80's and 90's teen heartthrobs adorning the walls. The bedspread, the rug, and most objects in the room are faded and washed out.

CAP:

It's not like dreaming. When you're in a dream time passes quickly or slowly, depending on the dream. Here you can feel every minute.

Panel 2. The same woman is now walking through a park. The park also looks faded, with the colors extremely muted and with an almost sketchy quality to it. The area immediately around her is clearer than the rest of the park.

CAP:

That first year before I met Marcus was the hardest. I was all alone. Wandering through my memories.

Panel 3. Back in the same bedroom as Panel 1, Jessica is sitting on the bed looking at the walls. The walls and the pictures on walls are moving and changing, as Jessica rearranges them with her mind.

CAP:

I discovered that I could control the world around me, do whatever I wanted. It made things better.

Panel 4. Jessica is in the bedroom still. The walls are now painted a pale green and are decorated very tastefully. The room is now very much an adult bedroom. Marcus, a man in his 30's with long black hair and glasses, stands in the doorway.

MARCUS:

Looks good in here, Jess. You ready to go play pirates now?

Panel 5. Close up on Jessica. She's turned towards Marcus and is smiling at him.

CAP:

And when I met Marcus, things became infinitely better.

JESSICA:

Absolutely.

PAGES TWO AND THREE (four panels) - Splash page with some small inserts.

Panel 1. Main splash spanning both pages. A large pirate ship crashes over a wave just off the coast of New York City, and in the background, we can see clearly see modern day Manhattan. Marcus is manning the wheel of the ship, while Jessica is serving as captain while wearing a lavish pirate outfit complete with captain's hat and a sword. The crew of the ship are anthropomorphized animals; a panda bear, tiger, grizzly bear, a couple penguins, a giraffe, and a turtle. They are all dressed like pirates and working on the ship, but all of them could still be described as cute and even cuddly. In the distance, there is another pirate ship firing cannonballs at their ship.

**CAP:**

Like one day, when pirates were trying to invade New York. Marcus came up with the idea that the best way to fight pirates... was with pirates.

Panel 2. (Small insert into the main splash page) Jessica is shouting orders to her crew while brandishing her sword.

**JESSICA:**

It's time to chase these scoundrels out of here! Fire the starboard cannons!

Panel 3. (Small insert) Some members of the crew are cheering while the rest are loading the cannons and getting them into position.

**CREW:**

YAR!!

Panel 4. (Small insert) Marcus is turned towards Jessica and smiling.

**MARCUS:**

"Scoundrels"? You really gotta work on your pirate talk.

PAGE FOUR (3 panels)

Panel 1. Jessica and Marcus' pirate ship is firing at the other pirate ship. The other ship is retreating, and is sailing away from the harbor. Cannonballs are flying back and forth between them.

CAP:

That was such an amazing day.

CREW:

(small bubble coming from the ship): They're retreating! YAR!!

Panel 2. Back on Jessica and Marcus' pirate ship. Jessica and Marcus are cheering and celebrating with mugs in their hands, as the crew around them are celebrating and dancing. A couple of the crew are playing instruments off to the side, as a party has already broken out on the deck.

CAP:

In the short time that I've known Marcus, we've been through so many memorable adventures.

Panel 3. Marcus is wearing a tuxedo and tied to a chair in the middle of a room filled with ninjas. Jessica is smashing through the skylight dressed like Emma Peel (of the Avengers tv show) or something roughly similar but still screams "superspy". Jessica has two guns that she's firing into the crowd of ninjas, who are leaping at her with swords.

CAP:

Like when Marcus was kidnapped by ninja superspies.

PAGE FIVE (3 panels)

Panel 1. Jessica and Marcus are seated at a table with elegant place settings and an elaborate spread, on top of Mount Everest. They are wearing what can best be described as "formal parkas" as they eat this refined meal on the peak of the mountain. This can be as absurd as possible.

CAP:

Or our dinner dates at the summit of Everest.

Panel 2. Jessica and Marcus are in scuba gear and swimming along the bottom of the ocean alongside Mermaids and Mermen. The ocean floor has all sorts of treasure chests and gleaming gold pieces littering it. In the background, the gleaming city of Atlantis can be seen.

CAP:

The day that we spent in Atlantis visiting the royal family.

Panel 3. Jessica and Marcus are now in Elizabethan era London. They are both dressed in Elizabethan style clothing, and they are walking down the street and talking with William Shakespeare and Queen Elizabeth.

CAP:

Or the month that we spent vacationing through time.

PAGE SIX (5 panels)

Panel 1. On the surface of the moon, Jessica and Marcus are sitting on the surface and leaning up against a crater. Marcus is stretched out with his arms above his head. Jessica is looking up, smiling broadly. Even though they are on the moon, they are dressed in regular clothes and can breathe and talk normally.

CAP:

And today, Marcus and I are relaxing on the Moon before our dinner.

MARCUS:

Can I ask you something, Jessica?

JESSICA:

Of course.

MARCUS:

Why are we doing this?

Panel 2. View from behind Jessica and Marcus, angled up with just their silhouettes visible. In front of them, we see a gorgeous view of the Earth that takes up most of the night sky in front of them. It should be as beautiful and picturesque as possible, a view that is absolutely stunning and awe inspiring. Jessica has turned towards Marcus, and her arm is outstretched gesturing towards the Earth.

JESSICA:

Come on. This is the best view in the universe. Why would we want to be anywhere else?

Panel 3. Close up on Marcus. He's smiling at Jessica, and his face is illuminated by the glow of the Earth.

MARCUS:

I know. But it's just... I mean, I don't know... Wouldn't you be happier having a tea party with Burt Reynolds, or being a princess in a castle or something like that?

Panel 4. View overhead looking down on them, close up on Jessica. Jessica has stretched out and is laying down almost completely on the surface of the moon, with her head propped up on the base of the crater resting there.

JESSICA:

I've never been all that interested in princesses really. I've never really been all that girly pretty much my whole life. It used to drive my mom crazy, but... I just was happier doing something exciting. Like playing pirates and superheroes.

Panel 5. Same view, but zoomed out a bit so that Jessica and Marcus are both in view. Marcus is still sitting up and staring off into space (literally).

JESSICA:

Why?

MARCUS:

I was just wondering. You're just so... unique. I've never met anyone like you before. You know, in a good way. What I mean is...

PAGE SEVEN (6 panels)

Panel 1. The view has shifted to behind them again, a similar view to 6.2. But in the sky there are now large letters, which should fill up the area around them. The words are drifting in as if from another world. The words should be difficult to make out fully what they say. Marcus and Jessica cover their ears. The Words read "Jessica. How are you feeling today?".

MARCUS:

It's back again. Hasn't happened in a while though. Jessica?

JESSICA

I'm alright. I am.

Panel 2. Very small panel. A red sedan is careening off of a road during a rain storm. The car is starting to flip over.

Panel 3. Close up on Jessica. She's covering her ears and has shut her eyes tight.

JESSICA:

I'm fine. Just stop asking!

Panel 4. Very small panel. The red sedan has gone off the road and is flipping over and over. The panel is starting to white out around the edges and in the corners.

Panel 5. An even closer view on Jessica's face. She is now screaming with her eyes and ears covered. The edges and corners are continuing to white out, as it's filling more of the panel.

JESSICA:

STOP!!!

Panel 6. Very small panel. The panel is almost whited out entirely, but we can almost make out the red sedan which has now crashed at the bottom of the hill it was rolling down.

PAGE EIGHT (5 panels)

Panel 1. Jessica and Marcus are suddenly back in Jessica's room. Jessica is uncovering her ears and opening her eyes. Marcus is very surprised, since he did not know that they were teleporting back to her room.

MARCUS:  
Whoa!

JESSICA:  
We're back.

MARCUS:  
What was all of that?

Panel 2. Jessica has turned away from him. She's almost crying, but is holding the tears back.

JESSICA:  
It was nothing. Don't worry about it.

Panel 3. Marcus has walked up right behind Jessica. He puts his hand on her shoulders.

MARCUS:  
That wasn't nothing. I saw it in my mind, Jessica. I saw the same things that you saw. And I want to know what it was.

Panel 4. View in front of them. Jessica has pulled away from Marcus and is crossing the room away from him. There are tears rolling down her cheeks now.

MARCUS:  
Why don't we ever drive anywhere, Jessica? Why is it always a pirate ship, or a jet pack, or a covered wagon? Never a car. Why?

JESSICA:  
Just stop it.

MARCUS:  
Why?!

Panel 5. Jessica is yelling and the room around Jessica and Marcus is blowing apart and the walls are flying out away from them. There is a massive thunderstorm outside the house, with rain pouring down. There is also a red sedan parked outside the house, but far enough away to be undamaged by the flying debris.

Lucid - Warwick Johnson 9

JESSICA:  
STOP!!!

PAGE NINE (6 panels)

Panel 1. Jessica and Marcus are now standing in the ruins of what was once her bedroom and her house. Marcus has his head covered to protect himself, and is bending over to shield himself more. Jessica has seen the red sedan and is walking over to it, through the destruction. She is in a daze, and in complete shock as the memories start slowly fading back in and she remembers what happened. The rain is still pouring down, and there is lightning in the sky.

JESSICA:

I remember... We were on our way to the movies... it was pouring down rain but we decided that we should go anyway.

MARCUS:

Jessica?

Panel 2. View from the other side of the car. Jessica is standing next to it now, and Marcus is running over to her across the ruined house. Marcus is still a ways off, but closing the distance. Jessica is almost in a trance as she continues talking.

JESSICA:

Robert drove. I insisted that he do it. I told him that I was scared to drive myself, but I knew he could do it.

Panel 3. Jessica has changed the world around them again, and teleported her and Marcus into the car, driving down the road. The rain is coming down in sheets now, blanketing the car and the world around them. Marcus is driving, a stand-in for Robert. There should be some sense that Marcus is almost a puppet as Jessica re-creates the accident for herself.

JESSICA:

The rain was really coming down. We could barely see anything. And neither could ... could the truck th... that...

MARCUS:

Don't fight it Jessica. It's important to remember what happened.

Panel 4. Marcus' point of view. Jessica is visibly upset, and crying. She looks absolutely terrified, and unable to continue. Time has stopped for them with rain drops suspended in mid-air, as Jessica has paused the world around them.

JESSICA:

I'm scared, Marcus... I don't want to face it. I can't.

Panel 5. Jessica's point of view. Marcus is turned to look at her. He is concerned but encouraging, trying to get her to open up to him more. In the background, there is a large

white truck with it's headlights on that is driving fast towards their path. The truck is close enough to them that it is very clear that the truck is going to crash into them.

**MARCUS:**

You can do it. I know you can. You can face it. I'm here for you. Everything will be fi-

Panel 6. Exterior of the car. The truck has slammed into the front of their car, and the sedan is already starting to skid off the road. There is quite a bit of debris flying off of the car from the impact, showing that it was a high speed collision.

PAGE TEN (7 panels) - These panels should mirror the small panels from Page Seven.

Panel 1. This panel mirrors 7.2, but is larger and cleaner so we can see everything as the red sedan careens off the road. The white truck is spinning out on the road, but is not in as much danger as the sedan is.

Panel 2. Small panel. Close up on a heart rate/life signs monitor from a hospital. The heart rate is at a low, constant rate, with a few spikes spaced out.

SFX:

Beep. ... Beep...

Panel 3. This mirrors 7.4, the sedan has gone off the road and is flipping over and over, with debris and glass flying off of the car as it crashes.

Panel 4. Small Panel. Close up on the heart rate/life signs monitor. The heart rate is now very elevated, as the spikes are closer and higher.

SFX:

Beep Beep. Beep Beep.

Panel 5. This mirrors 7.6 but without the whiting out. The sedan has come to a halt while upside down, and the car is brutally mangled. All of the windows are shattered, the sides are smashed in, and the roof has been crushed. Several of the wheels have broken off, and the axels are twisted and mangled.

Panel 6. Small Panel. Close up on the monitor again. The heart rate is now incredible high, as the spikes of her heart rate are right on top of each other and much higher. Her heart rate is almost "through the roof", and going off the charts.

SFX:

**BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP-BEEP**

Panel 7. The panel is blacked out. There are doctors and nurses that are yelling to each other, hence the captions, as Jessica wakes up from a coma.

CAP 1:

Bring the cart in here, now!

CAP 2:

Is she waking up, doctor?

CAP 3:

Jessica?! Jessica, can you hear me?

Lucid - Warwick Johnson 13

CAP 4:

Nurse, I need a sedative. Now!

CAP 5:

Jessica?

PAGE ELEVEN (6 panels)

Panel 1. Side view of Jessica in a hospital bed. She should look frazzled and very pale, almost ugly even, compared to how she looked in the dream world. She has scars on her arms and one on her neck from the crash, but they have healed and are already fading. She has been in a coma for 2 years, so everything about her should look a little sickly. She is wearing a robe over her hospital gown, and is resting with her eyes closed. On the right hand side of the panel, there is a doctor standing and waiting to talk to her. She is holding a chart in her hands. Only the doctor's arms and torso are visible in the panel. There is a curtain dividing Jessica's side of the room from the other patient's, and we can see a shadow of the other coma patient on the curtain. It is a man's shadow.

DOCTOR (OP):

How are you feeling this morning?

JESSICA:

Better. I mean, you know... than I was.

Panel 2. The doctor has now sat in the chair next to Jessica. Closer view. Jessica has opened her eyes and turned towards the doctor. Jessica looks very weary, and her eyes are red as if she was crying.

JESSICA:

It's just hard. My husband is dead and I've missed the last couple years of my life. I don't know what to do now.

DOCTOR:

Don't worry. We have counselors to help you through this. I know what a difficult time this is for you.

Panel 3. Close up on Jessica's face. She is starting to cry again.

JESSICA:

Thank you. You all took such good care of me.

Panel 4. View has switched to the other side of Jessica. The doctor is standing now, and getting ready to walk out the door. She is kind of plain looking, a late 30's Middle Eastern/Indian descent woman with her hair put up in a bun. She is gesturing towards Jessica.

DOCTOR:

We'll talk more about this later. Right now, you need to get your rest. We'll be moving you upstairs soon, and then Marcus will have the room back to himself again.

JESSICA:

Wait! What did you just say?

Panel 5. Close up on the doctor. She is puzzled and looking at Jessica.

DOCTOR:

We keep all of our coma patients together, so you'll be moving to a different floor. There aren't any new patients, so Mr. Robinson is going to be alone again- Hey!

Panel 6. Jessica has jumped out of bed and is trying to pull the curtain open. Her legs are still not used to moving, and she is stumbling as she does so. The doctor is running over to her, trying to stop her.

JESSICA:

Marcus!

DOCTOR:

You shouldn't be out of bed yet!

PAGE TWELVE (3 panels)

Panel 1. View on Jessica and the doctor, with the Coma patient just out of view. The curtain is now open, and Jessica is looking at the coma patient with shock on her face. The doctor is trying to pull her back the bed, but Jessica is resisting.

JESSICA:

This.. this is impossible.

DOCTOR:

Jessica, I have to insist that you get --

JESSICA:

-- How long has he been here?

Panel 2. Close up on Jessica and the doctor. The doctor is very concerned, and looking at Jessica like she's crazy. Jessica is turned towards the doctor now, and very demanding.

JESSICA:

How long?!

Panel 3. View on the Coma patient. It's Marcus from the dream world. He's hooked up to heart rate monitors, a breathing apparatus, and a feeding tube. Jessica is standing right next to the bed, with the doctor beside her.

DOCTOR:

Marcus has been here for almost ten years now.

PAGE THIRTEEN (6 panels)

Panel 1. Establishing shot, just outside the hospital. It is late that night, the moon has risen and is just over the hospital. We see one window that is still illuminated by a lamp from inside the room. It is Jessica and Marcus' room.

Panel 2. The curtain between Jessica and Marcus' sides of the room is open. Jessica has pulled a chair up to Marcus and is sitting in it. She is leaning over to him. They are both slightly shadowed, as the lamp above them casts a long glow over them.

JESSICA:

Marcus? Marcus, it's Jessica.

Panel 3. Close up on the side of Marcus' head. Jessica has leaned in close to his ear, and is whispering into it. We can only see Jessica's lips, and a few wisps of hair that are cascading around her face as she leans in to her.

JESSICA:

I know that you can hear me. I just wanted you to know that I am here for you. I'll be waiting for you. You just have to wake up.

Panel 4. Interior of Marcus' mind/dream world, view from behind Marcus. Marcus is standing in the middle of a city, in the middle of a street with cars around him. He is looking up into the sky, where we see the large letters (the same as from 7.1) in the sky. He is the only one that notices them. We can make out the words that the letters spell this time. The letters read "I'll be waiting for you".

Panel 5. A close up on Marcus' face in the dream world still. He is still looking up at the sky, and there is a smile on his face.

Panel 6. Small panel. It is a close-up of Marcus' heart rate monitor. His heart rate is slow for the first half of the panel, but it is speeding up as there are more peaks that are closer together.

SFX:

Beep. Beep. Beep-Beep-Beep

The End