

ISSUE
ONE



SAME
CITY
SAME
PEOPLE
A
DIFFERENT
PERSPECTIVE

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

SOME HEROES
HAVE PEOPLE.

HE SAVED
EVERYONE.

BUT COULDN'T
SAVE HIMSELF.

الدار البيضاء
CASABLANCA

— CHAPTER I — THE FALL OF MBIW —

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — THE ARGUMENT

CASABLANCA.
3:07 A.M.

Funny thing about this city...
even at three in the morning,
somebody needs something.

SAME CITY.
SAME PEOPLE.
A DIFFERENT
PERSPECTIVE.

SOME HEROES
HAVE PEOPLE.
HE SAVED
EVERYONE.
BUT COULDN'T
SAVE HIMSELF.





My daughter!
My daughter's
still inside!



Hey. Look at me.
What's her name?



Lina.
How old?
Seven.
Please...



Okay.
I'm bringing
Lina back to you.



I know.



SOME ROADS
END SUDDENLY.
BUT PEOPLE
STILL WAIT
TO BE FOUND.



Are you
MBIW?



Depends.
You gonna tell
everybody I looked
scared under there?



You look tired.



...That obvious?



A little.



Come on.
Your mom's waiting.



Lina...
My baby...



You're safe.

SAME CITY.
SAME PEOPLE.
DIFFERENT
STORIES.
THE SAME
REASON.

SO I MOVE
AGAIN.



IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 3

THE RESCUE
JUST ENDED.
BUT FOR SOME,
IT'S JUST
THE BEGINNING.

Can you come
to our
neighborhood?

MBIW!
My brother
needs help too!

My son
wants a picture!

Give him
some space!

الشرطة

It's fine.

Bro...
you alive?

Technically.

You said you
were coming
tonight.

I know.

You always say
"I know." Then
you disappear.

I gotta go.

Man, you're
doing too much.

I'll call you.

No you won't.
Just go.

EVERYWHERE
I LOOK...

...SOMEONE
STILL NEEDS
A HERO.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 4
THE FIRST CONTACT



What the—
Who are you?

Look at you.

SOME
REFLECTIONS
SHOW MORE
THAN YOUR
FACE.



...Who said that?

What is this?



You heard me.

You've been
hearing me for
a while.



Great.
Now I'm dreaming
while I'm awake.



No. I just
haven't slept.
That's it.



If that helps you sleep
at night, keep telling
yourself that.



Not helping.



SOME TRUTHS
DON'T KNOCK.
THEY ALREADY
LIVE INSIDE YOU.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 5
A DIFFERENT KIND
OF STRENGTH

SAME CITY.
SAME PEOPLE.
DIFFERENT
BATTLES.



Man...
you look
messed up.

Thanks.



No, I'm serious.
When did you sleep?



I slept.



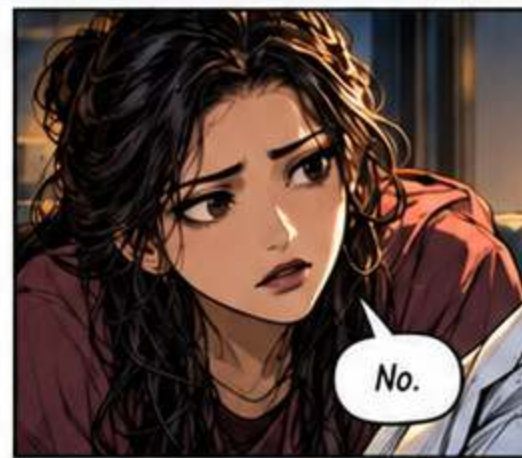
When?



...



Yeah.
That's what
I thought.



No.



What do you
mean, no?



Don't
answer it.



Someone
might need me.



And somebody else
might be able to
handle it.



What if
they can't?



And what if
you can't?



...



See?
You never think
about that.



IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 6

THE WEIGHT WE CARRY

Don't go in.
This building could
come down at
any second.

There are
people inside.
I can help.

I know.

Then why are
we standing here?

Because if it falls,
I lose them...
and I lose you.

Okay.

I'm not
like you.

But I know
they don't
have time.

SO HE GOES IN
ANYWAY.

...What is this?

They were right.
You shouldn't
have come in.

What are
you doing?

Stopping you.

Get off me.

HELP!
PLEASE!

Not now!
People are going
to die!

You're
already late.

What?

This building
is coming down.

Then let me
move!

Why?

...What do you
mean, why?

You don't
even know them.

Shut up.

MBIW.

I said
shut up.

These people have
nothing to do with you.

I don't need
to know them.

You know
you could die.

I know.

And you're
still going?

Yeah.

GHHH!

HE CHOOSES
ANYWAY.

I've got you.
Hold on.
I'm here.

SOME PEOPLE
ARE STILL WORTH
SHOWING UP FOR.



Sit down.

I'm fine.

You're
bleeding through
the suit.

It'll heal.

That doesn't
mean it doesn't
hurt.

You know
normal people are
allowed to say something
hurts, right?

Sounds
inefficient.

That was
almost funny.

He's trying to
tell you something.

I heard him.

You heard
the words.

You didn't hear
what he meant.

And now
you're a therapist?

No.

Good.

But you need one.

Shut up.

SOME
WOUNDS
ARE LOUD.

OTHERS
SPEAK
SOFTER.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 8
THE ARGUMENT

SAME
MINDS.
SAME MAN.
DIFFERENT
TRUTHS.

SAME
QUESTIONS.
A DEEPER
MAN.

Alright.
Enough.

What are you?

You know.

No.
I really don't.

I'm the part
of you you never
let speak.

...Wow.

What?

Very dramatic.

You joke when
you're uncomfortable.

And you talk like
an Instagram quote
with anger issues.

What?

You laughed.

Nothing.

You laughed inside.

You're tired.

Everybody's tired.

No.

Everybody sleeps.

What do you want
from me?

I want you to stop
pretending this is normal.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 9
THE ARGUMENT
CONTINUES

People
need me.

People
use you.

Not
everyone.

I didn't
say everyone.

Then stop
talking to me like
I'm an idiot.

I never said
you were.

You know
what I mean.

I'm saying you know
exactly who takes
advantage of you...
and you let them.

What am I supposed
to do? Ask people if they
deserve help first?

No.

Then what?

Help them.

Just stop carrying
their whole lives
on your back.

You make
everything
sound easy.

You make
everything
harder than
it has to be.

SAME
CITY.
SAME
QUESTIONS.
STILL
A HERO.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 10
WARNING SIGNS

CASABLANCA.
LATER THAT MORNING.

Multiple emergencies
have been reported
across the city...

MULTIPLE EMERGENCIES REPORTED ACROSS CASABLANCA
FIRES | VEHICLE CRASHES | STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE | MULTIPLE INJURIES

SAME CITY.
SAME PEOPLE.
A DIFFERENT
PERSPECTIVE.

TROUBLE
DOESN'T
ANNOUNCE
ITSELF.

IT JUST
STARTS
SOMEWHERE.

Tell me
you're not
going.

I'm going.

Of course
you are.

What do you
want me to say?

I want you to say,
just once, somebody
else can handle it.

What if
they can't?

You always say that.
Like you're the only
person in this city.

I never said that.

You live like it.

I gotta go.

...I know.

THE CALL ENDS.

She's afraid.

I know.

For you.

Am I what?

Are you?

Afraid for yourself.

SAME
WARNINGS.
SAME DUTY.

SAME CITY.
SAME PEOPLE.
THE SIGNS ARE LOUDER NOW.

AND SOMEONE
STILL NEEDS
A HERO.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 11
THE CATASTROPHE

CASABLANCA.
DIFFERENT PLACES.
SAME NIGHT.
EVERYTHING AT ONCE.

DISPATCH:
Explosion
downtown!

DISPATCH 2:
Structural
collapse near
the port!

PORT DE
CASABLANCA

DISPATCH 3:
We have
civilians
trapped!

DISPATCH:
MBIW, where
are you?

Send me
everything.

DISPATCH:
Everything?

Everything.

DISPATCH:
There's
too much.

Send it.

DISPATCH:
You can't respond
to all of this.

I said
send it.

There it is.

What?

That thing
you do.

What thing?

The second something
becomes impossible,
you decide it's your
responsibility.



IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 12
TOO MANY PEOPLE

CASABLANCA.
SAME NIGHT.
NOT OVER YET.

My wife is
still inside!

Which floor?

Fourth!

My father's
in the
basement!

DISPATCH:
MBIW, there's a bus
trapped under debris
three kilometers east.

I'm busy!

DISPATCH:
There are
children on it.

Choose.

Shut up.

You have to.

I said
shut up.

If you stay,
they might die.

If you leave,
these people might.

...Shut up.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 13
THE CHOICE

CASABLANCA.
SAME NIGHT.
PEOPLE STILL
NEED SAVING.



Go!
We've got
this!



The supports
aren't stable!



MBIW!
GO!



Are we
going to die?



No.



Promise?



...



...Yeah.



Don't promise that.



I don't want
to hear you.



DISPATCH:
MBIW...



...What?



What
happened?

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 14
FOUR MINUTES

CASABLANCA.
FOUR MINUTES LATER.
SAME NIGHT.
SAME CITY.



IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION
ISSUE 1 — PAGE 15
THE CITY TURNS

CASABLANCA.
THE DAY AFTER.
A CITY IN PAIN.
A HERO IN QUESTION.

ANCHOR:
Questions are now
being raised about
MBIW's decisions
during the disaster.

MBC

CASABLANCA DISASTER: HERO OR FAILURE?

LIVE

QUESTIONS GROW AFTER PORT COLLAPSE

PORT COLLAPSE:
6 DEAD

HERO
OR
FAILURE?

THE COST OF HEROISM?

MBC

SAME
CITY.
SAME
PEOPLE.
DIFFERENT
WORDS
NOW.

COMMENTATOR:
He was seen leaving
one rescue site shortly
before part of the
structure collapsed.

ANCHOR:
To respond to
another emergency.

COMMENTATOR:
Yes. But six people
died at the location
he left.

COULD HE
HAVE SAVED THEM?

6 DEAD
12 INJURED
MANY STILL MISSING

MBC

A HERO'S LIMITS?

CITIZEN:
My son is alive
because of MBIW.
I'll never forget
that.

REPORTER:
Do you blame
MBIW?

...I don't know
who else to blame.

Why didn't
he save them all?

NOT
GOOD
ENOUGH

If he's that
powerful, why did
anyone die?

HEROES
DON'T
WALK AWAY

SAME
POWER
MORE
LIVES!

"MBIW FAILED
THE PEOPLE?"

MBC NEWS

"SIX DEAD AFTER
HE LEFT SITE"

ATV

"HERO OR
SELFISH?"

Global 24

PUBLIC ANGER GROWS

TRUST IN MBIW
FALLS

Turn it off.

No.

You already
know what
happened.

I want to
hear them.

Why?

They have
a right to
be angry.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 16
THE PRESS

SAME CITY.
SAME PEOPLE.
DIFFERENT
QUESTIONS.

CASABLANCA.
LATER THAT MORNING.

REPORTER:
Why did you leave
that building?

There was
another emergency.

REPORTER 2:
Do you regret
the decision?

People were going
to die in both places.

SOMETIMES
THE TRUTH
LANDS DIFFERENTLY
THAN YOU INTEND.

THE CROWD
GOES QUIET.

So you chose
who lived?

No...
that's not what I meant.

No.

But that's
effectively what
happened.

REPORTER 2:
And the six
who died?

I went where I thought
I could save the most people.

REPORTER:
MBIW?

...I'm sorry.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 17
THE GIRLFRIEND

CASABLANCA.
LATE NIGHT.
SAME CITY.
A DIFFERENT KIND
OF BATTLE.

SAME MAN.
SAME CITY.
SOME THINGS
STILL HURT.
SOME THINGS
STILL HEAL.

THIS TIME,
HE'S NOT
ALONE.



Put the phone
down.

Why?

Because
you've been reading
the same garbage
all day.

They're
talking about me.

They're talking
about a version of you
they made up.

Six people
died.

And how many
are alive because
of you?

Don't do that.

Do what?

Don't count
the people
I saved.

Why?

Because it doesn't
bring the others back.

And you can't
bring them back.

That's
the problem.

No. The problem is
you judge yourself like
you're supposed to
be God.

Don't say that.

Then stop holding
yourself responsible
for everything.

You're not God.

You're mine.

1:42

You save people.
That's who you are.
Let me be here
for the rest.

SAME FIGHTS.
A DIFFERENT
TOMORROW.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 18

IMAM DEFENDS HIM

SAME CITY.
SAME NIGHT.
SAME THOUGHTS.
DIFFERENT BATTLE.

SOME WOUNDS
DON'T BLEED
ON THE OUTSIDE.

She's right.

Don't start.

You saved
thousands.

And six died.

Yes.

Aren't you supposed
to be the cold one?
Why are you
defending me?

I'm not.

Then what
are you doing?

Giving you
the truth.

And what's
the truth?

They loved you
when you made
them feel safe.

Enough.

And the second you
reminded them you
can't stop everything—

Enough.

—they needed
someone to blame.

SHUT UP!

There.

What?

That anger.

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 19
BOUNDARIES

SAME PLACE.
SAME MINDS.
DIFFERENT LINES.



IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 20

THE BREAKDOWN

VOICE 1:
Where were
you?

VOICE 2:
You could've
saved her!

VOICE 3:
My father
trusted you!

SAME
CITY.
SAME
QUESTIONS.
A LOUDER
SILENCE.

VOICE 4:
If you're so
powerful, why
did anyone die?

Stop...

I said stop.

They can't
hear you.

Shut up.
You too.

Then stop
listening.

I can't.

Yes, you can.

No.
You don't
understand.

I understand
better than
anyone.

They believed
in me.

And you made
their belief your
responsibility.

...I wanted
to be enough.

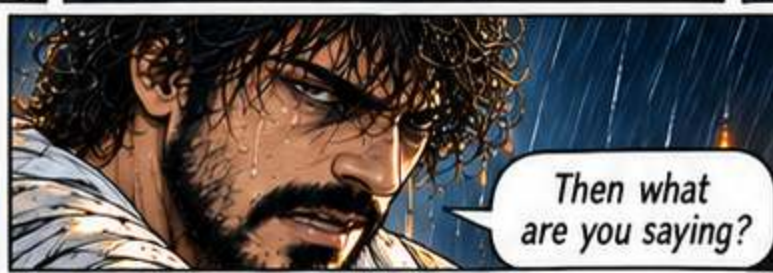
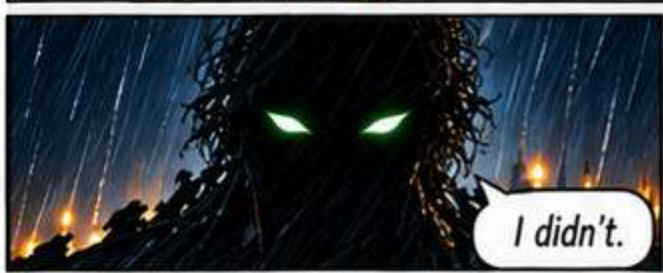
Has anyone ever
been enough
for everyone?

...

IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 21
THE CONFESSION



IMAM

DAYS BEFORE REINCARNATION

ISSUE 1 — PAGE 22
WHERE IMAM CAME FROM

And become you?

You say that
like you don't
know me.

I don't.

You do.

Every time you wanted
to say no and said
yes instead.

Every time somebody
crossed a line and you
forgave them because
losing them scared you.

Every time you were
angry and smiled anyway.

Enough.

That's where
I came from.

So you're
everything wrong
with me?

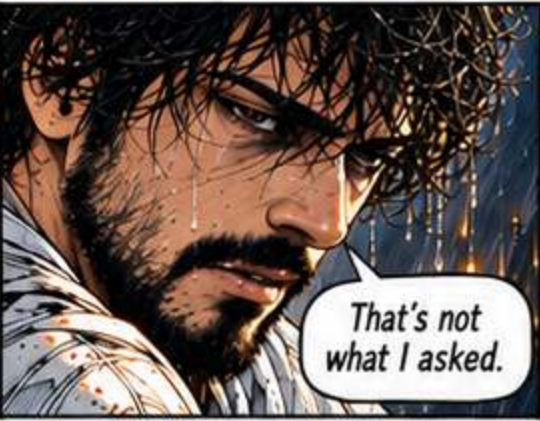
No.

I'm everything
you kept
locked away.



If I let you in...
what happens to me?

You rest.



That's not
what I asked.



I know.



Do I disappear?



No.



How do I know
you're telling
the truth?



You don't.



Finally.
An honest answer.



One condition.



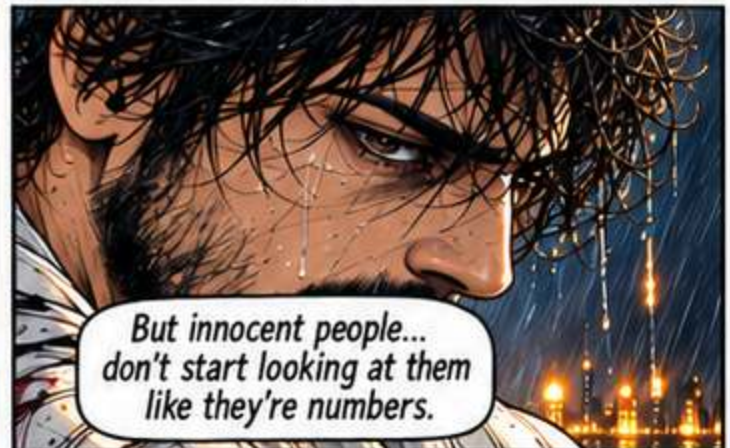
I'm listening.



Don't forget why
I helped people.



Be harder. Say no.
Get angry. I don't care.



But innocent people...
don't start looking at them
like they're numbers.



Promise me.



No.



But I'll remember.



...Good enough.





So this is it?

For now.

I still
don't like you.

I didn't
ask you to.

You got
a name?

İMAM.

İMAM?

Yes.

Dramatic.

You'll survive.

Will I?

Okay.

Just...
don't waste
what I gave you.

I won't.



MBIW DIDN'T DIE.

HE JUST STOPPED
FIGHTING.

AND FROM THAT
FRACTURE...

İMAM BEGAN.