

Story and script: Diorgo Jonkers  
diorgo@gmail.com

**PAGE ONE** (six panels)

**Panel 1:** A couple, Neeva and Thomas are walking next to a river in the countryside. They are both in their early thirties, and warmly dressed. It is a cloudy, cold afternoon.

CAP/TITLE:  
The Dead Monkey

**Panel 2:** Thomas stops suddenly. Neeva is still walking and slightly ahead.

THOMAS:  
Neeva, wait.

NEEVA:  
What's it?

**Panel 3:** Thomas is sitting on a rock, starting to remove his shoe.

THOMAS:  
Stone in my shoe.

**Panel 4:** Neeva looks at the river.

NEEVA:  
Hey, there's something in the water.

**Panel 5:** She is standing on the river bank. A metal capsule is floating in the water, caught on a branch. There are strange patterns on the metal. The capsule is about one metre long.

**Panel 6:** She and Thomas are in the river, carrying the capsule towards the bank. They are knee-deep in the water.

**PAGE TWO** (five panels)

**Panel 1:** Close-up of the capsule lying on the ground. It has a glass front cover. Inside is a dead monkey.

**Panel 2:** Thomas looks shocked. They are both looking at the capsule.

THOMAS:  
Who'd do such a thing?

NEEVA:  
Prob'ly a mad scientist.

**Panel 3:** Thomas looks slightly cross. Neeva looks at him.

THOMAS:  
You know, sometimes--

NEEVA:  
I was just joking, Thomas. Stop taking everything so serious.

**Panel 4:** He points at the capsule with both hands open, palms facing up. She looks at him.

THOMAS:  
You don't think this is serious?

NEEVA:  
Someone gave their pet monkey a viking funeral. Very serious.

**Panel 5:** Close-up of the monkey's face.

THOMAS (OP):  
We'll have to call the police.

NEEVA (OP):  
They'll just tell us to bury it.

**PAGE THREE** (five panels)

**Panel 1:** They bend down to pick up the capsule.

THOMAS:

We can't leave it here. Some kids might find it.

NEEVA:

Hope it's not contaminated. Or a bomb.

**Panel 2:** Distant view of them carrying the capsule.

THOMAS:

Who the heck would put a monkey in a bomb?

NEEVA:

A mad scientist.

**Panel 3:** External view of a farmhouse.

CAP:

Later. One hour before sunset.

**Panel 4:** In the living room. Thomas is sitting alone in front of the television. He is wearing different clothes than before. He has a beer in his right hand, and his feet are resting on a small table. He is watching soccer.

SFX:

Ding-dong!

**Panel 5:** Thomas reaches for the front door handle.

**PAGE FOUR** (five panels)

**Panel 1:** The door is open. Focus on a tall woman standing in the doorway, her head almost reaching the top of the doorway. Her skin, hair and eyes are blue. Her eyes seem slightly too big. She is wearing a strange outfit, which looks almost like a fighter pilot's uniform. It has multiple pockets and bits of metal attached.

**Panel 2:** Thomas is staring at the woman. Her name is MJ.

THOMAS (thought):  
Must be a cosplayer.

THOMAS:  
Er, yes, can I help you?

MJ:  
I've lost something, and I believe it's here.

**Panel 3:** Thomas looks suspiciously at her. MJ stretches her arms wide to indicate the size of the container.

THOMAS:  
What did you lose?

MJ:  
A metal container, with a primate inside it.

**Panel 4:** Thomas steps aside for her to enter.

THOMAS:  
Yeah, we found it in the river. Please come in.

**Panel 5:** MJ is standing in the living room. She looks around. Thomas calls out towards the inside of the house.

THOMAS:  
Neeva, could you come here for a moment please!?

**PAGE FIVE** (six panels)

**Panel 1:** Neeva walks into the living room, wearing different clothes.

NEEVA:

Was someone at the--

**Panel 2:** Neeva stops in her tracks. She looks at MJ with wide eyes. Thomas looks at Neeva.

NEEVA:

--door?

THOMAS:

Neeva, this is...

**Panel 3:** MJ looks down at them. Neeva's one eyebrow is raised.

MJ:

MJ.

THOMAS:

She says the capsule and monkey belong to her.

NEEVA:

No shit?

**Panel 4:** Thomas looks at MJ's outfit.

THOMAS:

Your costume and monkey are well made. It looks real.

MJ:

Where is it?

**Panel 5:** Neeva tugs her head sideways. MJ looks determined.

NEEVA:

Cops told us to bury it. It's in the field.

MJ:

It's important that you take me to it at once.

**Panel 6:** Close-up of Thomas, he is rubbing his chin.

THOMAS:

Sure, I can take you. I'll get the shovel.

**PAGE SIX** (six panels)

**Panel 1:** Thomas leans towards Neeva. He looks solemn, she is grinning.

THOMAS:

I think you should stay here.

NEEVA:

No way. I want to see how deep this rabbit hole goes.

**Panel 2:** They are standing at the edge of an open field, next to a large tree. Thomas is digging.

**Panel 3:** Close-up of the hole. The monkey's head is visible among the soil. It has been buried without the capsule.

**Panel 4:** MJ kneels next to the hole. She is reaching down.

**Panel 5:** Focus on MJ, who is standing. She holds the monkey's body up, revealing a large hole in its stomach. Thomas and Neeva are off panel.

MJ:

They've already hatched.

THOMAS (OP):

What the?

**Panel 6:** Neeva and Thomas stare at the monkey's body, which is lying on the ground. The large hole in its stomach is clearly visible. MJ is off panel.

MJ (OP):

We have to find them before they multiply.

**PAGE SEVEN** (six panels)

**Panel 1:** MJ effortlessly breaks a branch off the tree. The branch has a few offshoots and leaves.

SFX:  
Crack!

**Panel 2:** She hands the branch to Neeva. The offshoots and leaves have been torn off.

NEEVA:  
What's this for?

MJ:  
In case the evil one attacks. The good one should be harmless.

**Panel 3:** She looks at Neeva and points to her own head. Thomas looks a little worried.

MJ:  
Aim for its head.

THOMAS:  
What about me?

**Panel 4:** MJ pulls a knife out of a pocket.

MJ:  
Hold out your hand.

**Panel 5:** Thomas holds out his right hand. He looks relieved.

**Panel 6:** MJ cuts his hand. He is surprised.

MJ:  
You'll be bait.

THOMAS:  
Ow!

NEEVA (OP):  
Bloody hell!

**PAGE EIGHT** (five panels)

**Panel 1:** Thomas holds his bleeding hand. He looks at MJ, he is unhappy.

THOMAS:  
You're not a cosplayer, are you?

MJ:  
No.

**Panel 2:** MJ and Thomas. She points to the field. He looks in the direction she is pointing.

MJ:  
Stand in the open. The blood will attract them.

THOMAS:  
What, by myself?

**Panel 3:** He looks at Neeva. MJ looks at him and pulls a small gun out of a pocket, in a non-threatening manner.

MJ:  
Yes. We'll hide and wait.

THOMAS:  
Maybe we should call the police?

**Panel 4:** MJ shakes her head. Neeva looks thoughtful.

MJ:  
It'll be dark by the time they arrive.

NEEVA:  
She's right.

**Panel 5:** MJ smiles at Thomas.

MJ:  
Don't worry. I have an impeccable aim.

**PAGE NINE** (five panels)

**Panel 1:** Thomas is standing alone in the middle of the field. He is standing on a patch of bare ground, which is surrounded by tall grass. He looks worried.

**Panel 2:** MJ and Neeva are lying among the tall grass, in hiding. MJ is holding the gun. Neeva's stick is lying next to her.

NEEVA:

Where are you from?

MJ:

Out of town.

NEEVA:

That's not really an answer.

**Panel 3:** Thomas turns his head. His eyes are wide.

THOMAS (whisper):

I hear something.

**Panel 4:** A blurry shape explodes out of the ground.

SFX:

Whoosh!

**Panel 5:** The blurry shape is leaping towards Thomas' bleeding hand.

THOMAS:

Gaahh!

**PAGE TEN** (six panels)

**Panel 1:** Close-up of Thomas' hand. A small creature is holding onto his hand. It looks like a cross between a lizard, squid and a hairy caterpillar. It is the size of a kitten.

NEEVA (OP, small):  
Oh shit!

**Panel 2:** Thomas' eyes are wide. His mouth is open. The creature is holding onto his hand, sucking the blood.

SFX:  
Slurp! Slurp! Slurp!

**Panel 3:** Thomas faints.

**Panel 4:** Neeva starts getting up. MJ grabs her arm.

MJ:  
Wait, that's the good one. It won't hurt him.

NEEVA:  
It is hurting him!

**Panel 5:** MJ peers through the tall grass.

MJ:  
No, he fainted.

**Panel 6:** Close-up of Neeva's face. She looks worried. She is biting her lip.

**PAGE ELEVEN** (six panels)

**Panel 1:** Bird's-eye view of Thomas lying on the ground. The good creature is still attached to his hand.

SFX:  
Slurp!

**Panel 2:** Same as previous panel, but a small mount of dirt has appeared about five metres from him.

SFX:  
Slurp!

**Panel 3:** Same as previous panel, the mount of dirt is moving towards Thomas. It leaves a trail of disturbed soil. The good creature has stopped sucking the blood. It is looking at the moving mount of dirt.

**Panel 4:** Focus on the evil creature crawling out of the mount of dirt. It looks similar to the good creature, but it is a different colour.

**Panel 5:** The evil creature crawls towards Thomas' bleeding hand. The good creature scatters away.

**Panel 6:** The evil creature is next to Thomas' hand. It opens its mouth wide, revealing a row of sharp teeth. Its mouth is big enough to bite off at least one of Thomas' fingers.

**PAGE TWELVE** (six panels)

**Panel 1:** The evil creature turns its head in alarm. Its mouth is still wide open.

NEEVA (OP):  
Getawayfromhimyoupieceofshit!

**Panel 2:** Focus on MJ, who is kneeling on one leg. She fires her gun.

SFX:  
Phut!

**Panel 3:** The evil creature leaps towards the hole in the mount of dirt, from which it emerged earlier. A dart barely misses it.

SFX (small):  
Phut!

**Panel 4:** Another dart hits it in the side. It is still in mid-air, near the mount.

SFX:  
Thud!

**Panel 5:** It falls on the ground, missing the hole. The dart still in its side.

**Panel 6:** MJ and Neeva are running towards Thomas.

**PAGE THIRTEEN** (six panels)

**Panel 1:** MJ leaps through the air.

**Panel 2:** She lands with her foot on the ground, just missing the evil creature who is rolling out of the way.

**Panel 3:** The evil creature dives into the hole.

**Panel 4:** It is moving along the same path it created earlier.

**Panel 5:** Neeva slams the end of the stick into the ground, blocking the creature's path.

SFX:  
Thud!

**Panel 6:** The creature erupts out of the ground, towards Neeva.

SFX:  
Whoosh!

**PAGE FOURTEEN** (five panels)

**Panel 1:** She whacks it with the stick.

SFX:  
Whack!

**Panel 2:** MJ shoots the creature, as it flies through the air. The dart hits it.

SFX:  
Phut!

SFX:  
Thud!

**Panel 3:** The creature lands on the ground. Two darts are sticking out of it.

**Panel 4:** Similar to previous panel. The creature is lying on the ground, unconscious.

**Panel 5:** Neeva is standing next to Thomas. He is still out on the ground. The good creature has returned, and is sucking blood from his hand.

SFX:  
Slurp! Slurp! Slurp!

**PAGE FIFTEEN** (five panels)

**Panel 1:** Neeva is helping Thomas get up. She has a small smile. The creature is no longer on his hand.

NEEVA:

Up we go.

THOMAS:

I had a strange dream.

**Panel 2:** MJ is standing, holding a creature in each hand. The evil creature is still unconscious.

THOMAS (OP):

Oh.

**Panel 3:** MJ looks at Neeva. Neeva looks a little guilty.

MJ:

Where's the container? I need it to transport them.

NEEVA:

It's in our backyard. We put some plants in it.

**Panel 4:** View from behind them. They are walking towards the farmhouse. MJ is carrying the creatures. Neeva is helping Thomas, who is still light-headed. The sun is starting to set.

MJ:

Get him to a hospital. They must disinfect his hand.

THOMAS:

What are we gonna tell them?

**Panel 5:** In a hospital's examination room. A nurse is looking sarcastically at Thomas and Neeva. The nurse is holding Thomas' wounded hand. She is wearing rubber gloves.

NURSE:

Really? A baby monkey with a knife defending its dead mother?

CAP:

The end.