



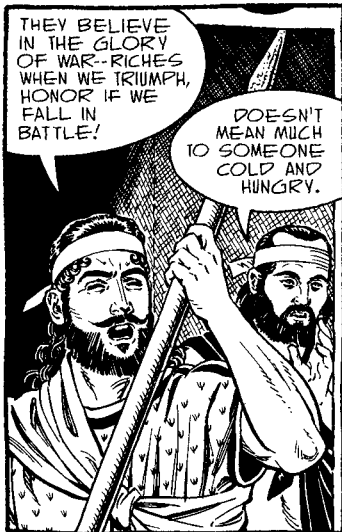
AGAMEMNON, LISTEN TO ME.

YOU CAN FORCE THE KINGS OF THE ACHAEANS TO GO TO TROY--YOU'RE THE HIGH KING, COMMANDER OF THE ARMY, YOU CAN INVOKE THE GODS AND LEVY FINES. BUT IF OUR FIGHTING MEN DON'T BELIEVE IN THIS CAUSE, YOU'VE LOST ALREADY.



CAREFUL WHAT YOU SAY TO ME, ODYSSEUS.

YOU NEED TO FIND SOMETHING FOR THE MEN TO RALLY AROUND--FOR THEM TO BELIEVE IN... NOT TRADE ROUTES OR TAXES OR RANK AMONG KINGS, BUT SOMETHING THEY CAN SEE AND TOUCH.



THEY BELIEVE IN THE GLORY OF WAR--RICHES WHEN WE TRIUMPH, HONOR IF WE FALL IN BATTLE!

DOESN'T MEAN MUCH TO SOMEONE COLD AND HUNGRY.



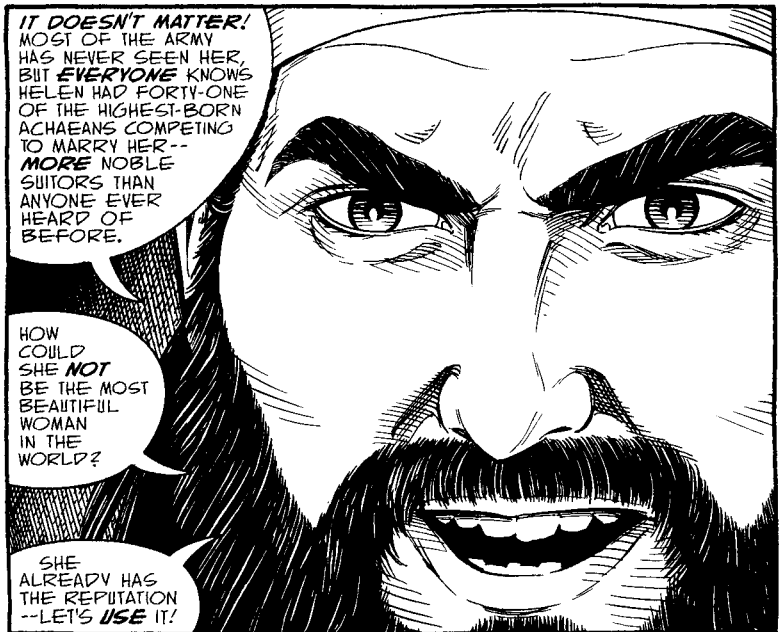
THEN THEY'LL FIGHT FOR THEIR WOMEN AND CHILDREN. NO ACHAEAN HOUSEHOLD IS SAFE IF WE LET THE TROJANS GET AWAY WITH PLUNDERING MENELAUS.



YES, THAT'S BETTER. DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT TYNDAREUS TOLD THE ACHAEANS WHEN HE WANTED A HUSBAND FOR HELEN?



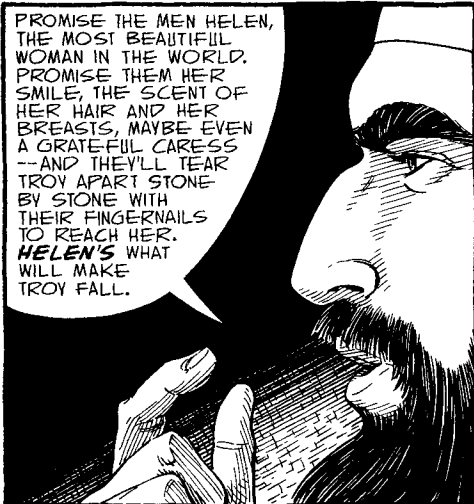
HE SAID SHE WAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN THE WORLD, AND SHE IS BEAUTIFUL, BUT I'M NOT SURE SHE'S THE MOST--



IT DOESN'T MATTER! MOST OF THE ARMY HAS NEVER SEEN HER, BUT EVERYONE KNOWS HELEN HAD FORTY-ONE OF THE HIGHEST-BORN ACHAEANS COMPETING TO MARRY HER-- MORE NOBLE SUITORS THAN ANYONE EVER HEARD OF BEFORE.

HOW COULD SHE NOT BE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN THE WORLD?

SHE ALREADY HAS THE REPUTATION--LET'S USE IT!



PROMISE THE MEN HELEN, THE MOST BEAUTIFULL WOMAN IN THE WORLD. PROMISE THEM HER SMILE, THE SCENT OF HER HAIR AND HER BREASTS, MAYBE EVEN A GRATEFUL CARESS --AND THEY'LL TEAR TROY APART STONE-BY-STONE WITH THEIR FINGERNAILS TO REACH HER. HELEN'S WHAT WILL MAKE TROY FALL.



I ADMIT IT, ODYSSEUS. YOU'RE CLEVER. YOU'RE BRILLIANT.

AND IF THAT PLAN DOESN'T WORK, I'M SURE YOU'LL THINK UP ANOTHER THAT'S EVEN BETTER.



OH, IT'LL WORK--EVEN ON THE ONES WHOSE PASSION IS FOR MEN.

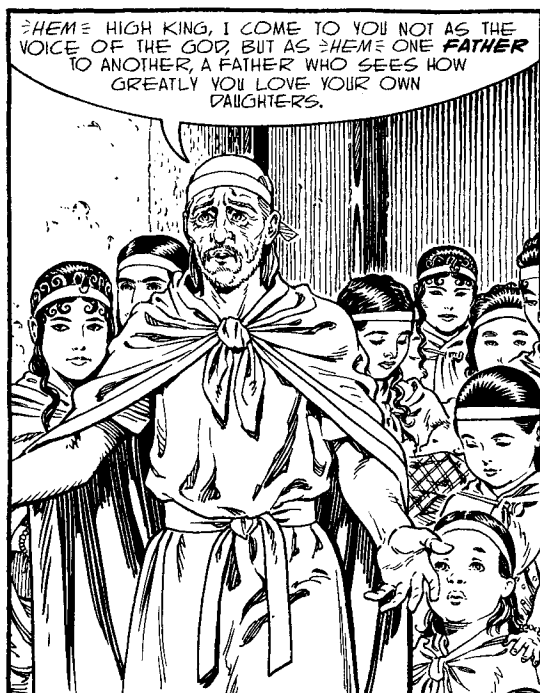
AND I'M LEAVING FOR ITHAKA IN THE MORNING.

HA HA! HOW CAN I LET SUCH A CLEVER MAN GO? BUT I SUPPOSE--

HIGH KING...



KALCHAS? WHAT'S THIS?



THEM HIGH KING, I COME TO YOU NOT AS THE VOICE OF THE GOD, BUT AS THEM ONE FATHER TO ANOTHER, A FATHER WHO SEES HOW GREATLY YOU LOVE YOUR OWN DAUGHTERS.



MY CHILDREN ARE MY MOST PRECIOUS POSSESSIONS. COME HERE, IPHIGENIA, ELEKTRA, CHRYSOTHEMIS...

