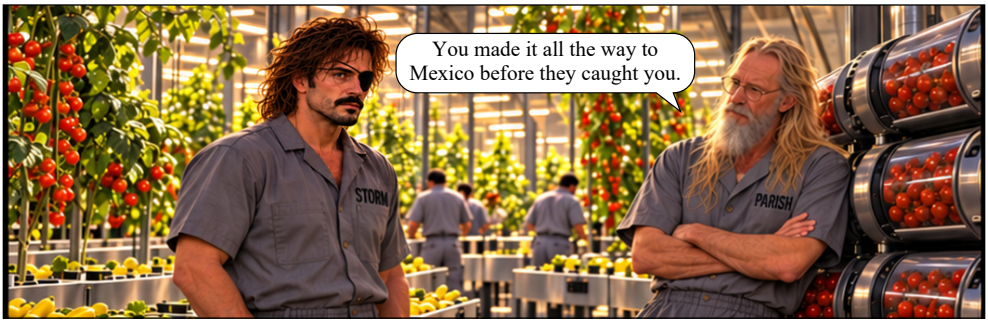

You made it all the way to Mexico before they caught you.
STORM
PARISH


I never thought they could track me to Topolobampo.


Rachel and the kids flew down. I picked them up.


We had a little hacienda overlooking the Gulf of California.

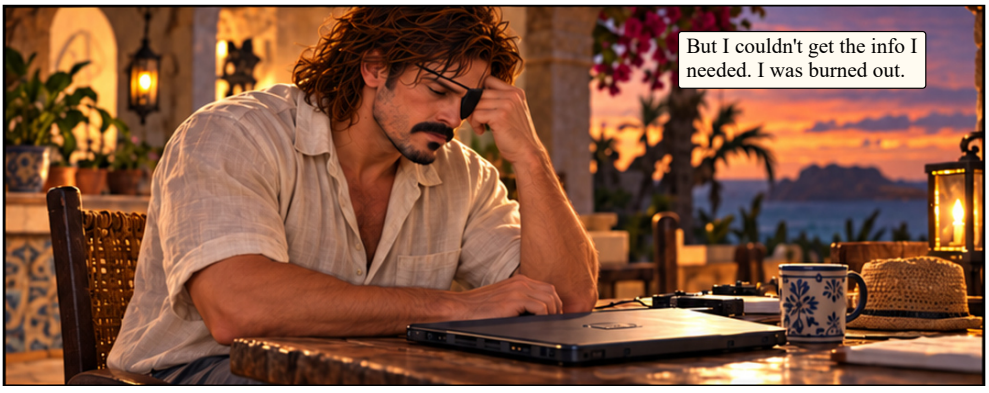



One day the kids swam with dolphins.

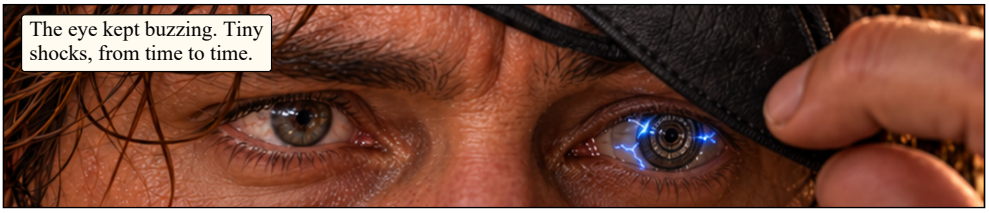

Two guys from the Austin studio set up a jump service.


Topo to Houston to London. Tel Aviv, Madagascar, Australia, Hawaii. Back to Topo.


TOPO
HOUSTON
LONDON
TEL AVIV
MADAGASCAR
AUSTRALIA
HAWAII
TOPO
It worked for a while.


But I couldn't get the info I needed. I was burned out.


I just wanted to relax with Rachel and the girls. I knew it wouldn't last.

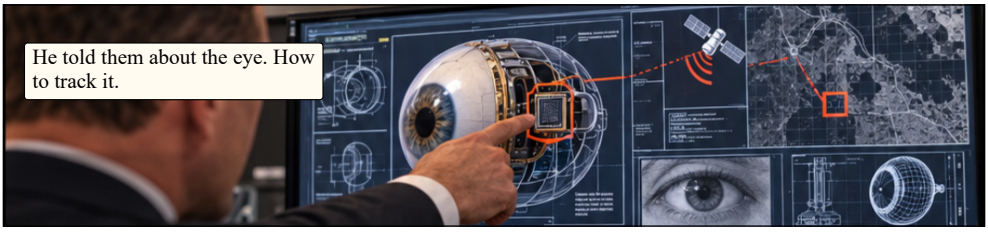

The eye kept buzzing. Tiny shocks, from time to time.


They weren't government guys. They were frauds. Worked for Pinkstone.
PINKSTONE


Quackenbush's competition in the private prison game.


They caught Reynolds, beaten up by the explosion.


They questioned him as they amputated his leg.


He told them about the eye. How to track it.


You should have tossed the eye in the mountains.
STORM
PARISH


I found an eye doc in Durango to take it out.
CLINCA OCULAR DURANGO
E
FP
TOZ
LPED


I was resting up from the trip when they swooped down.


Quackenbush mercenaries. Half a dozen hard guys, out of a black and gold helicopter.
Quackenbush has better AI than Pinkstone and intercepted their grab.


They surrounded the house and called out with megaphones.


I went to the window. Six little red dots danced around my heart.


They took me alive.


They had special plans for me.

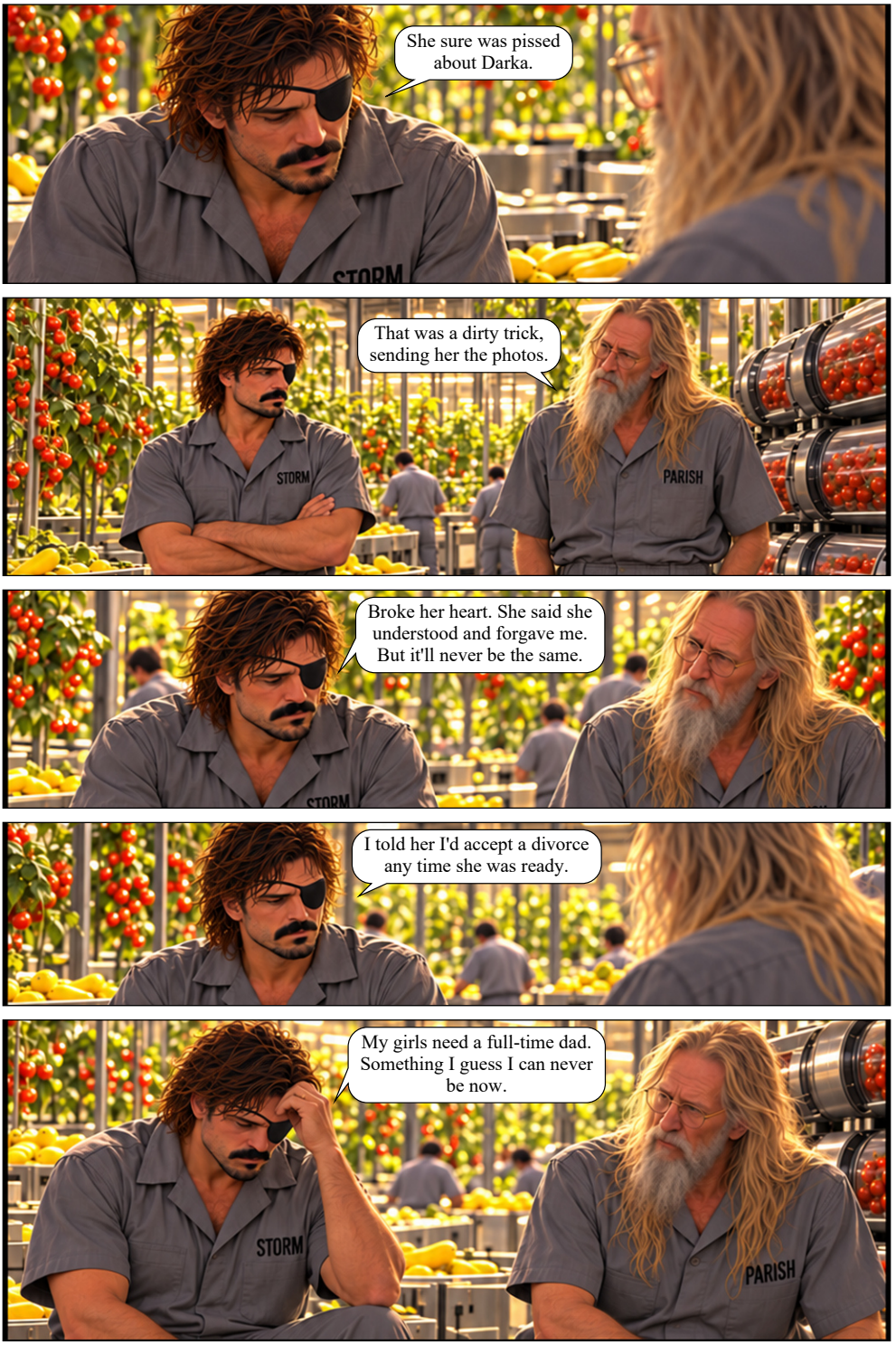

I escaped and was captured alive.


Ten years. Plus my time reset.
STORM

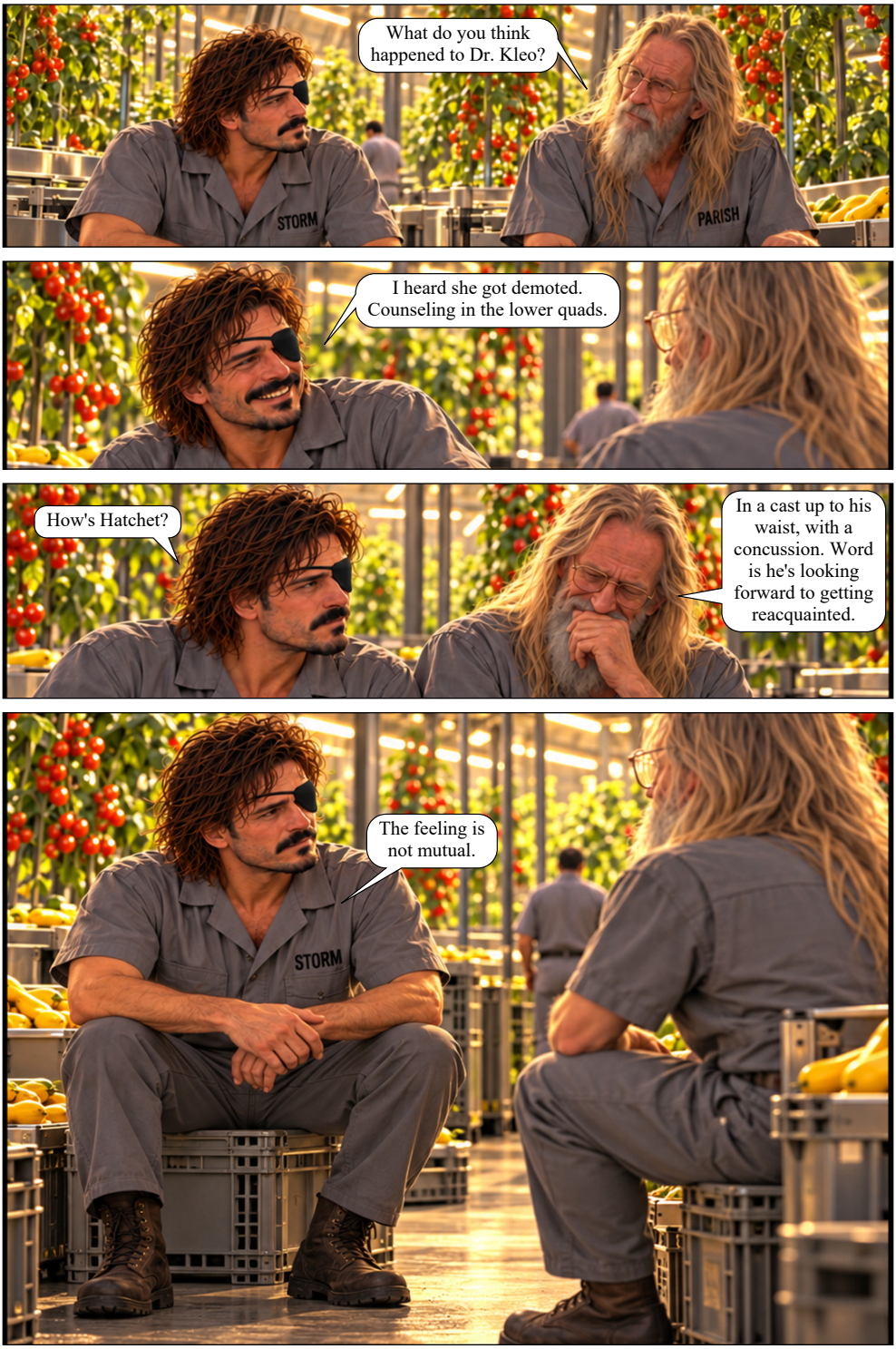

So I've got twenty-five to do.
STORM


I said I wouldn't fight it if they left Rachel and the kids alone—and let her have the money.
STORM


STORM
PARISH


She sure was pissed about Darka.
That was a dirty trick, sending her the photos.
STORM
PARISH
Broke her heart. She said she understood and forgave me. But it'll never be the same.
I told her I'd accept a divorce any time she was ready.
My girls need a full-time dad. Something I guess I can never be now.
STORM
PARISH


I've been through the fucking ringer, man. I'm worn out.
Could be worse.
STORM
PARISH
How so?
I could be stuck with Cesare in Waste Treatment.
PARISH
Speaking of Cesare, did you deposit the five grand?
I did. Had plenty stashed. If I ever came back, Cesare wasn't a guy I wanted to owe.


What do you think happened to Dr. Kleo?
STORM
PARISH
I heard she got demoted. Counseling in the lower quads.
How's Hatchet?
In a cast up to his waist, with a concussion. Word is he's looking forward to getting reacquainted.
The feeling is not mutual.
STORM


I owe a Mexican guy a favor up on Quad 2. Could I get some good weed sent with the squash?
STORM
PARISH
Sure, man. But you'll owe me.
For Machete
You've become one of us.
STORM
PARISH
Nobody beats the Pyramid, brother.
We'll just have to see about that.
THE END

Dax Xenos



Dax Xenos is the pen name of the author who has made a career creating psychological and criminal justice-related educational documentaries seen by millions of people around the world in colleges, universities, institutions and government, including: *American Law: How It Works; Civil Court Process and Procedure; Cognitive Psychology; Criminal Court Process and Procedure; Culture Identity Behavior; Employee Theft; History of American Criminal Justice; History of World Criminal Justice; How to Tell if Someone Is Lying; Identifying the Violet At-Risk Student; Interpreting Nonverbal Communication; Loan Fraud; Money Laundering; Psychology of Criminal Behavior; Psychology, Criminality & Incarceration in America; Psychometrics I: Personality & Forensic Assessment; Psychometrics II: Intelligence & Ability Assessment; Religion Politics and Law; Robbery: The Aftermath; Teen Violence; Terrorism: Weapon of Fear; The Belli Tapes: Winning at Trial; The Extortion Set; The History of Sociology, and many others.*

He holds a PhD in psychology was a licensed general contractor in Florida. He learned about incarceration first-hand in a Texas prison where, as an inmate, he worked in the new construction office before becoming editor of the prison newspaper. His many publications and awards include a PEN fiction award for his short story, “Death of a Duke.”

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