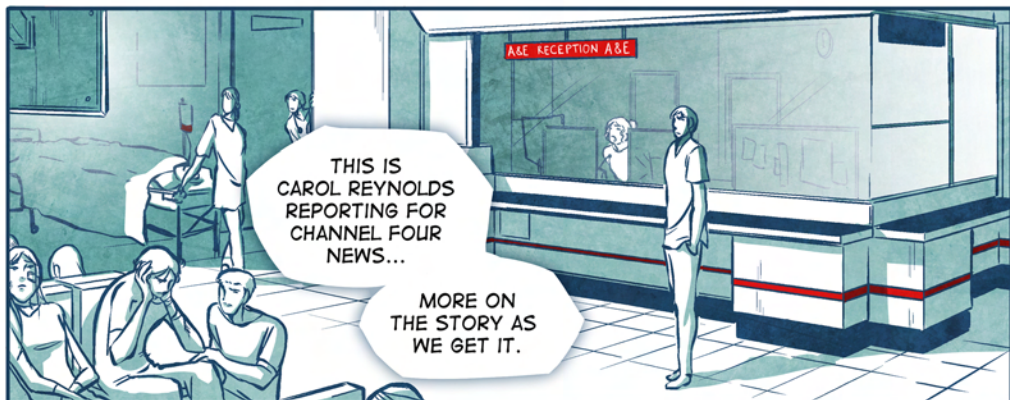


TXA



Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs 3.0 Unported (CC BY-NC-ND 3.0)

Scenario: Dr Ian Roberts
Story & Art: Emma Vieceli
Colour: Paul Duffield





BLOODY HELL. READY FOR A SECOND WAVE?



AS I'LL EVER BE.



I'VE SEEN CARNAGE LIKE THIS BEFORE, BUT IN MUCH SMALLER DOSES. THIS IS INDUSTRIAL.

HELL OF A FIRST WEEK.
YOU'RE DOING GREAT



IN A WAY I WISH THERE WERE MORE PEOPLE COMING OUR WAY.

WHAT WORRIES ME IS HOW MANY OF THE VICTIMS WILL HAVE GONE STRAIGHT TO THE MORGUE.

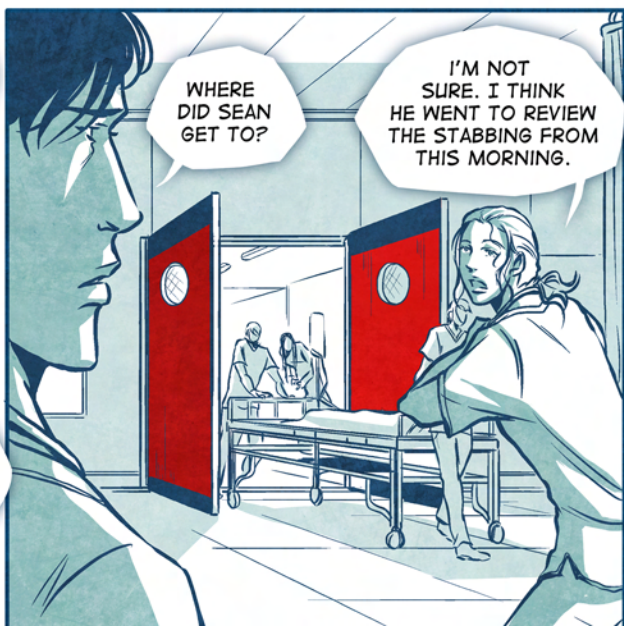


I KNOW. AND THAT SECOND BLAST WILL HAVE SENT THE CASE FATALITY RATE SKY HIGH...



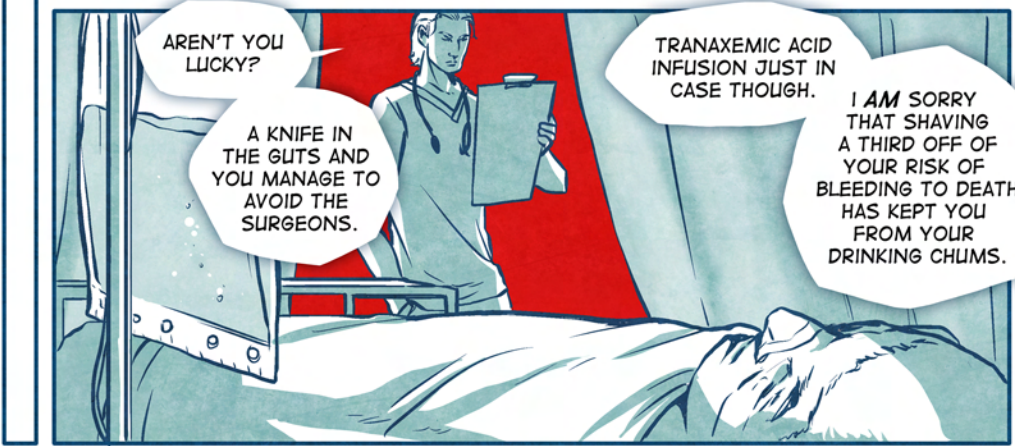
WELL, OUR JOB IS TO SAVE AS MANY OF THOSE WHO MAKE IT THROUGH THESE DOORS AS WE CAN.

OUT THERE THEY MAY BE VICTIMS, BUT IN HERE, THEY'RE PATIENTS.



WHERE DID SEAN GET TO?

I'M NOT SURE. I THINK HE WENT TO REVIEW THE STABBING FROM THIS MORNING.



AREN'T YOU LUCKY?

A KNIFE IN THE GUTS AND YOU MANAGE TO AVOID THE SURGEONS.

TRANEXEMIC ACID INFUSION JUST IN CASE THOUGH.

I AM SORRY THAT SHAVING A THIRD OFF OF YOUR RISK OF BLEEDING TO DEATH HAS KEPT YOU FROM YOUR DRINKING CHUMS.



THE POLICE WILL WANT TO SEE YOU WHEN YOU WAKE UP, PAL.



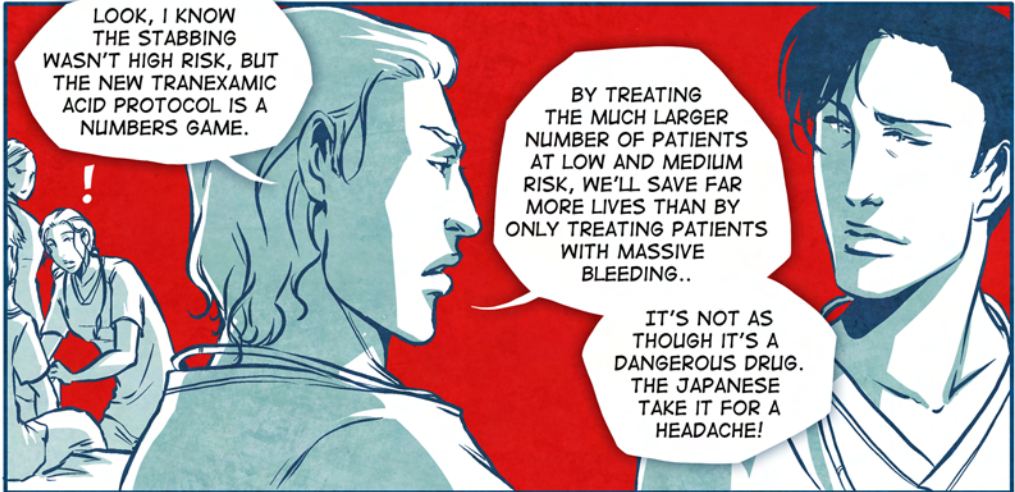
HE'S STABLE. I NEED TO GET BACK TO THE MAJORS NOW.

NIL BY MOUTH UNTIL HIS INFUSION HAS RUN THROUGH, PLEASE.



SEAN. THERE YOU ARE. WE HAD A...

I KNOW.



LOOK, I KNOW THE STABBING WASN'T HIGH RISK, BUT THE NEW TRANEXEMIC ACID PROTOCOL IS A NUMBERS GAME.

BY TREATING THE MUCH LARGER NUMBER OF PATIENTS AT LOW AND MEDIUM RISK, WE'LL SAVE FAR MORE LIVES THAN BY ONLY TREATING PATIENTS WITH MASSIVE BLEEDING..

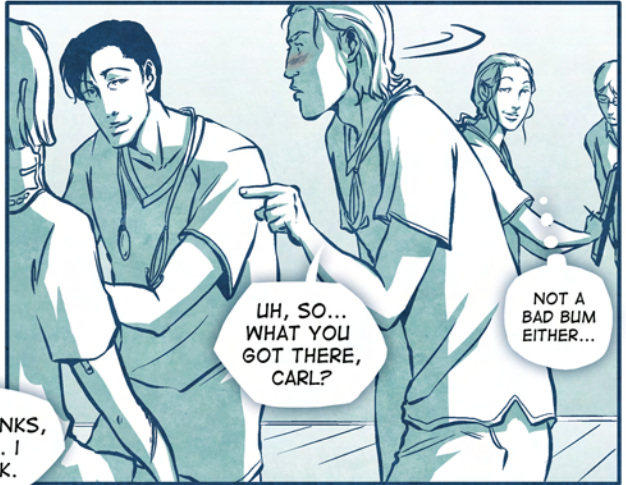
IT'S NOT AS THOUGH IT'S A DANGEROUS DRUG. THE JAPANESE TAKE IT FOR A HEADACHE!

WELL THAT EVIDENCE BASED MEDICINE COURSE CERTAINLY MADE AN IMPRESSION ON YOU.



I HAVE TO ADMIT, I LIKE A MAN WHO CAN THINK THINGS THROUGH.

TH-THANKS, TONI. I THINK.



UH, SO... WHAT YOU GOT THERE, CARL?

NOT A BAD BUM EITHER...



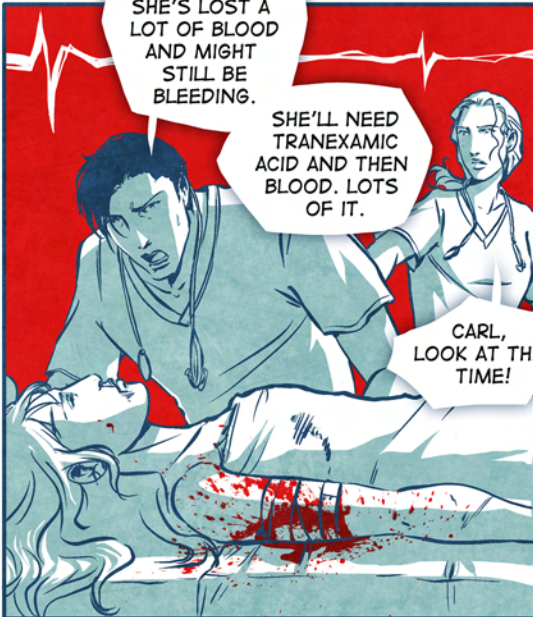
OKAY, PEOPLE. GET BUSY!



WE'LL NEED TO OPERATE. SHE'S LOST A LOT OF BLOOD AND MIGHT STILL BE BLEEDING.

SHE'LL NEED TRANEXAMIC ACID AND THEN BLOOD. LOTS OF IT.

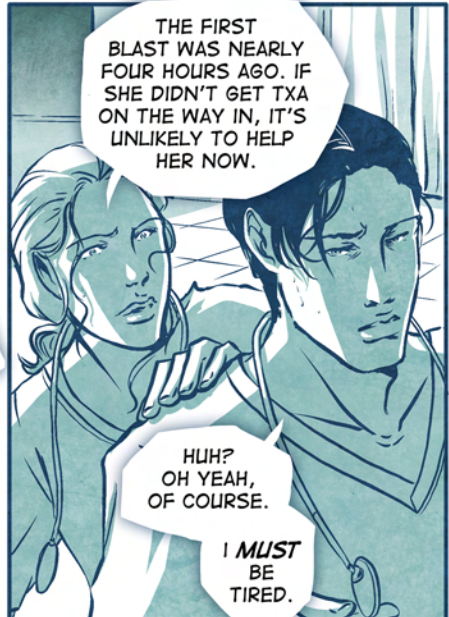
CARL, LOOK AT THE TIME!




THE FIRST BLAST WAS NEARLY FOUR HOURS AGO. IF SHE DIDN'T GET TXA ON THE WAY IN, IT'S UNLIKELY TO HELP HER NOW.

HUH? OH YEAH, OF COURSE.

I **MUST** BE TIRED.






CARL,
YOU'VE BEEN
ON THE SHOP
FLOOR FOR OVER
TWELVE HOURS.



GO GET
A COFFEE
OR SOMETHING.



I...YEAH.
THANKS.



TONI? SECOND
WAVE, SEVENTY
THREE YEAR OLD
MALE PAST HISTORY
OF ISCHAEMIC HEART
DISEASE. CARL
HAS WRITTEN HIM
UP FOR TRANEXAMIC
ACID. DOES THAT
MAKE SENSE
TO YOU?



IT'S FINE.

THE LAST THING
AN ISCHAEMIC
HEART NEEDS IS
THE EXTRA STRESS
OF A
HAEMORRHAGE.

AND, FOR THE
RECORD, IN THE
CRASH-2 TRIAL THERE
WAS A HIGHLY
SIGNIFICANT
REDUCTION
IN THE RISK OF
MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION
WITH TRANEXAMIC
ACID.

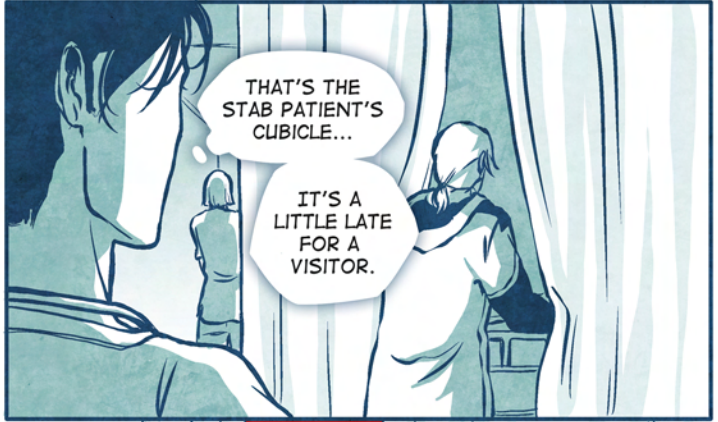


GET BACK
OUT THERE AND
FOCUS, CARL
TANNER.

WAKE UP
BEFORE YOU
MISS
SOMETHING.



GULP



THAT'S THE
STAB PATIENT'S
CUBICLE...

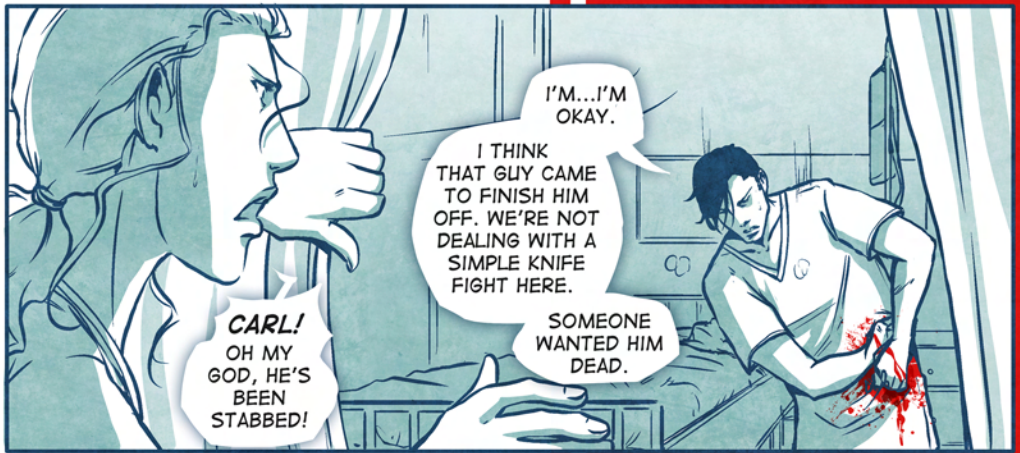
IT'S A
LITTLE LATE
FOR A
VISITOR.



I'M AFRAID
THAT THIS
WARD IS -







I'M...I'M OKAY.

I THINK THAT GUY CAME TO FINISH HIM OFF. WE'RE NOT DEALING WITH A SIMPLE KNIFE FIGHT HERE.

SOMEONE WANTED HIM DEAD.

CARL!
OH MY GOD, HE'S BEEN STABBED!



WELL, YOU STOPPED HIM. THIS CUBICLE IS NOW A CRIME SCENE.

NOTHING ABOUT TODAY IS SIMPLE.

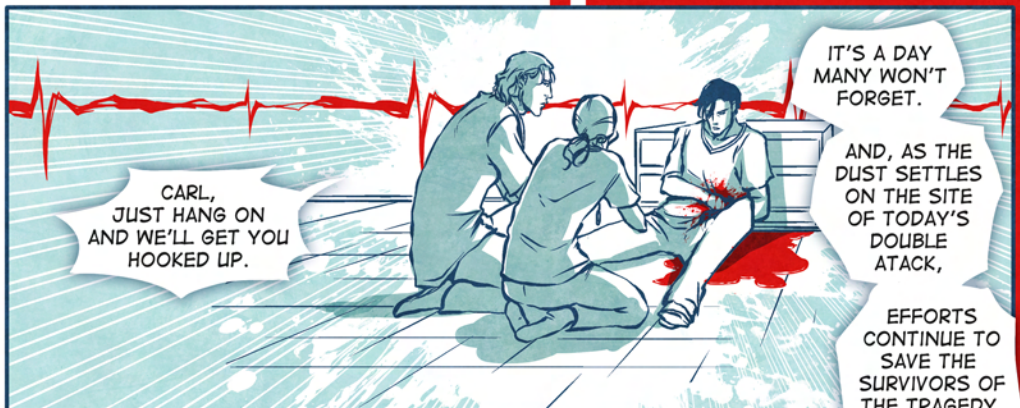


WE HAVE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT BLEEDING.

GET ME AN IV LINE AND ONE GRAM OF TRANEXAMIC ACID NOW.



I'LL LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE...NOT MANY PATIENTS GET TXA WITHIN FIVE MINUTES...




CARL, JUST HANG ON AND WE'LL GET YOU HOOKED UP.


IT'S A DAY MANY WON'T FORGET.

AND, AS THE DUST SETTLES ON THE SITE OF TODAY'S DOUBLE ATTACK,


EFFORTS CONTINUE TO SAVE THE SURVIVORS OF THE TRAGEDY.



I'M WITH
DOCTORS SEAN
MCFADDEN AND
TONI SHEARING.




YOUR HOSPITAL
HAS TAKEN A
TIDAL WAVE OF
VICTIMS TODAY.
WHAT'S THE
ATMOSPHERE
BEEN LIKE,
OVERALL?



ANY EVENT
OF THIS SCALE IS
UPSETTING. BUT WE
HAVE A GREAT TEAM HERE
AND EVERYONE HAS
GIVEN THEIR
BEST.

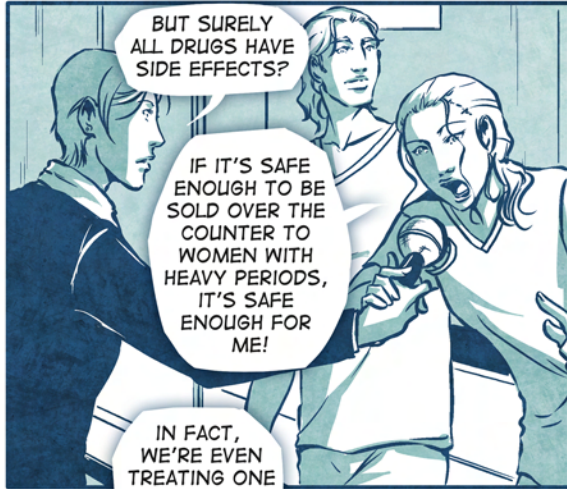
EARLY ADMINISTRATION
OF THE CLOT STABILISER,
TRANEXAMIC ACID, HAS
HELPED. WE DON'T SEE
ANYTHING NEAR AS MUCH
COAGULOPATHY AS WE
WOULD HAVE JUST A
YEAR AGO.



TRANEXAMIC ACID?
A CLOT STABILISER?
A NEW DRUG?

NOT AT ALL.
IT'S AN OLD DRUG
THAT HAS RECENTLY
LEARNED SOME VERY
IMPORTANT NEW
TRICKS.


THE BRITISH ARMY
HAVE BEEN USING IT IN
AFGHANISTAN FOR YEARS.
GLOBALLY IT COULD SAVE
OVER 100,000 LIVES EACH
YEAR IF ONLY EVERYONE
COULD HAVE ACCESS TO
THIS LIFE-SAVING
DRUG.



BUT SURELY
ALL DRUGS HAVE
SIDE EFFECTS?

IF IT'S SAFE
ENOUGH TO BE
SOLD OVER THE
COUNTER TO
WOMEN WITH
HEAVY PERIODS,
IT'S SAFE
ENOUGH FOR
ME!

IN FACT,
WE'RE EVEN
TREATING ONE
OF OUR OWN
DOCTORS
RIGHT NOW



A DOCTOR
CAUGHT IN THE
SECOND BLAST?

NO, THIS IS JUST THE ROUTINE VIOLENCE THAT EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT STAFF HAVE TO PUT UP WITH.

DOCTOR TANNER WAS STABBED BY A THUG WHILST TRYING TO SAVE A PATIENT'S LIFE.

BEFORE YOU GO - HOW MANY VICTIMS ARE IN CRITICAL CONDITION TONIGHT?

I'M AFRAID WE HAVE NO FIGURES TO SHARE JUST YET.

HEY, HOW ARE YOU HOLDING UP? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU MIGHT NEED A DRINK WHEN THIS IS DONE.

I MIGHT JUST WANT ONE AT THAT.

SLAP

SO I'D SAY THE NUMBERS THERE ARE LOOKING GOOD.



I HEARD WHAT YOU DID FOR ME...

THANK YOU.