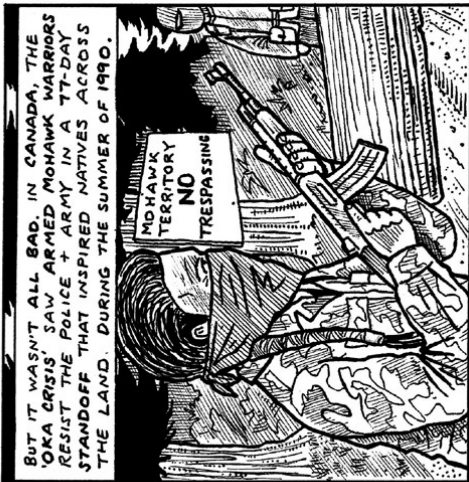
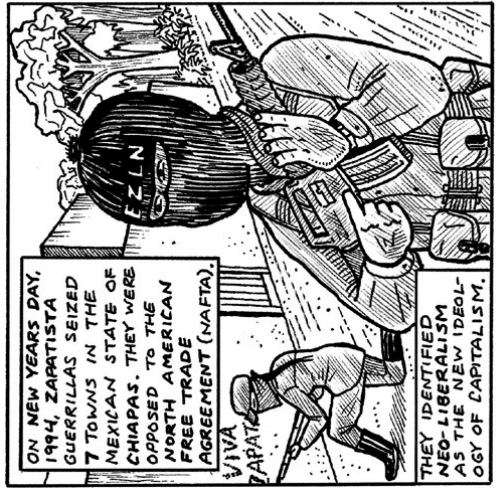
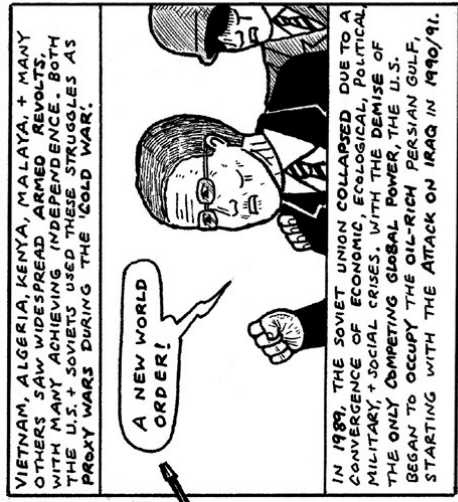
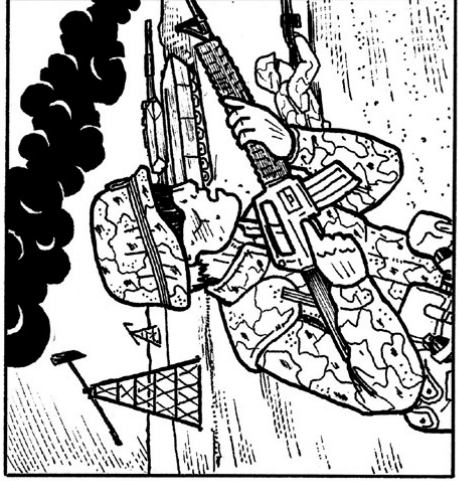
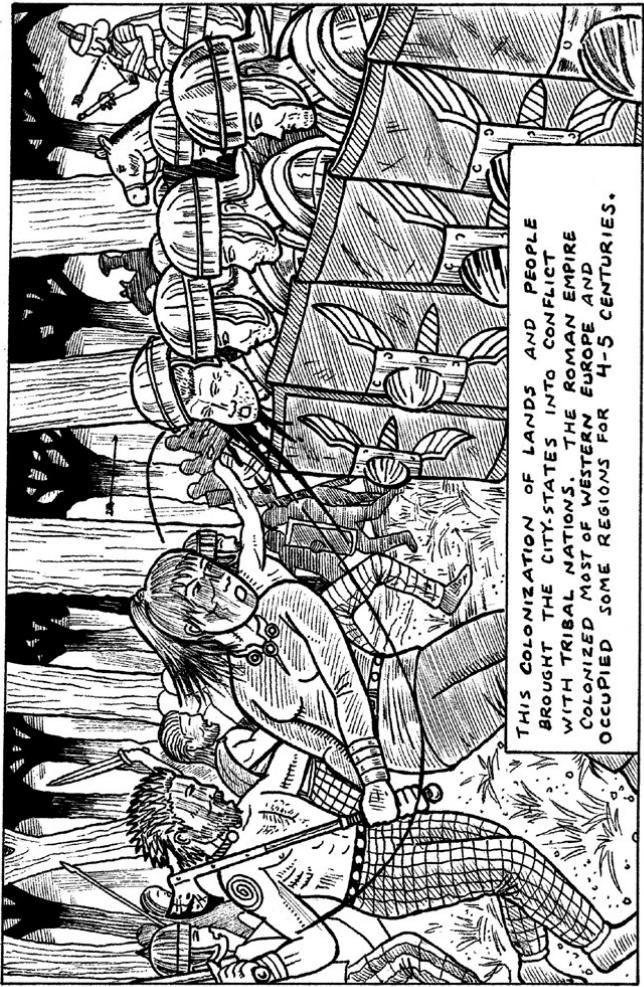
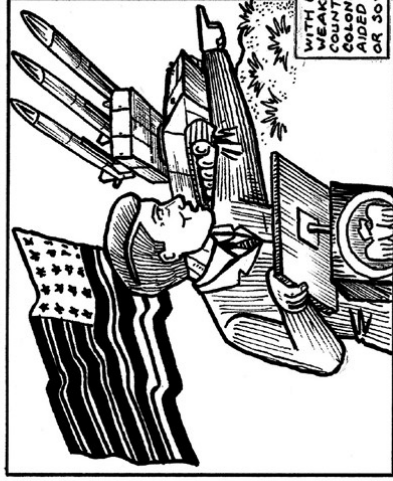
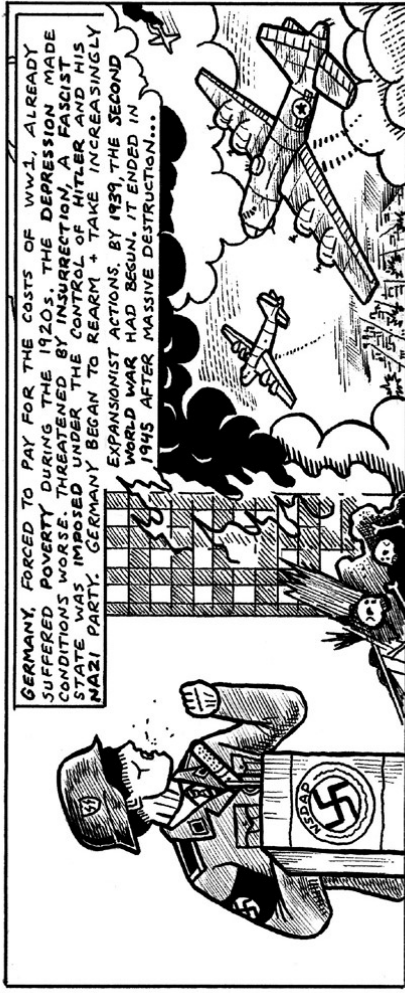
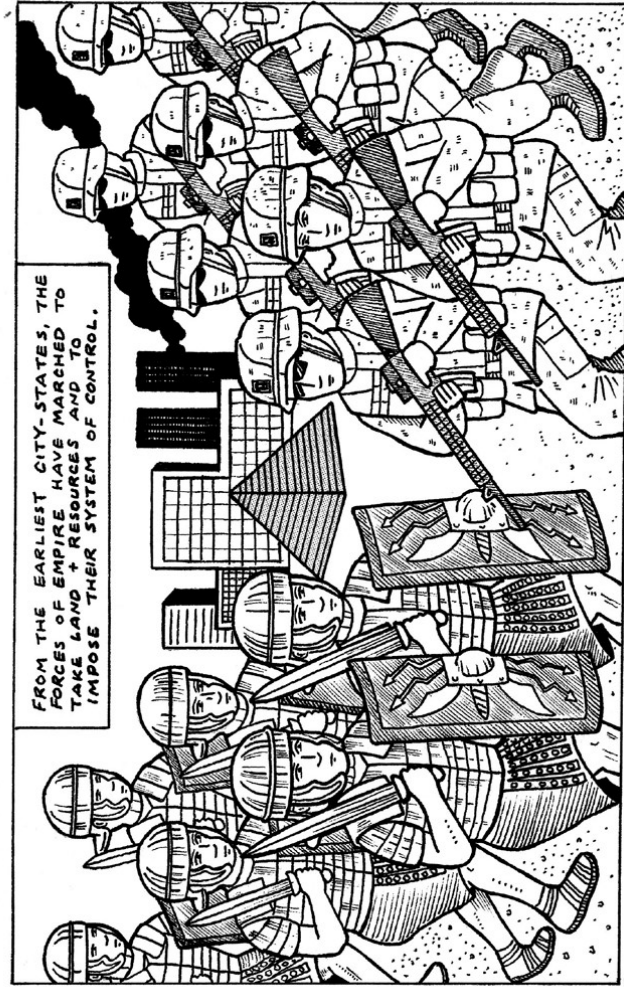


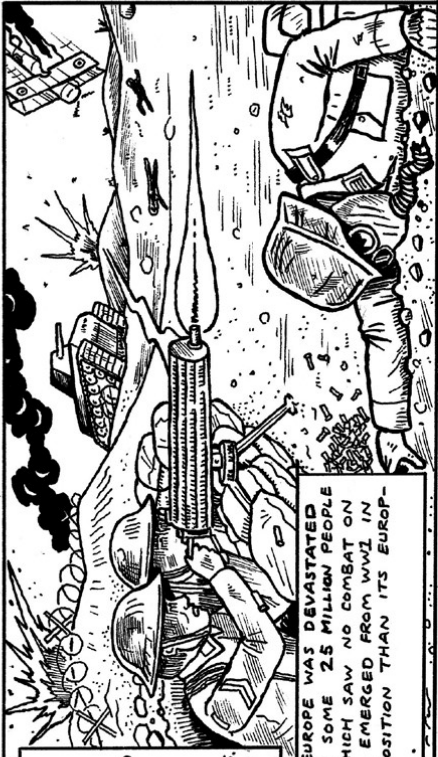
PROLOGUE: A BRIEF HISTORY OF CAPITALISM







ALONG WITH A NEW CAPITALIST CLASS, A NEW CLASS OF INDUSTRIAL WORKERS WAS CREATED. THESE WORKERS ORGANIZED + CHALLENGED THE CAPITALISTS. SOME SOUGHT BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS + POLITICAL POWER (THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATS); SOME SOUGHT WORKER CONTROL OF THE STATE (COMMUNISTS); OTHERS PROMOTED THE DESTRUCTION + OVERTHROW OF BOTH CAPITALISM + THE STATE (THE ANARCHISTS)...

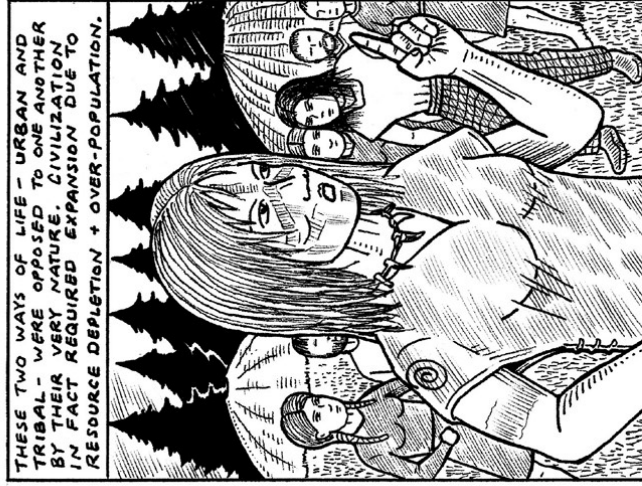
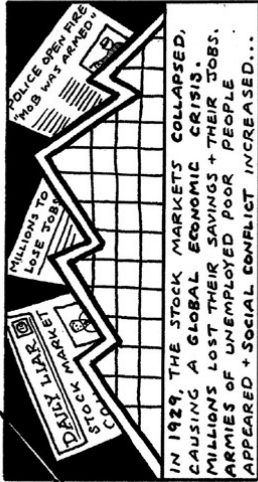


BY THE LATE 1800S MOST OF THE WORLD WAS CONTROLLED BY EITHER EUROPEAN STATES OR THE U.S. THE STRUGGLE FOR GLOBAL POWER REACHED ITS PEAK WITH THE 'OUTBREAK OF WORLD WAR I, THE FIRST MAJOR INDUSTRIAL WAR WITH TANKS, PLANES, MACHINE GUNS, AND TRENCH WARFARE.

MUCH OF WESTERN EUROPE WAS DEVASTATED BY THE WAR, WITH SOME 25 MILLION PEOPLE DYING. THE U.S., WHICH SAW NO COMBAT ON ITS OWN TERRITORY, EMERGED FROM WWI IN A FAR STRONGER POSITION THAN ITS EUROPEAN COMPETITORS...

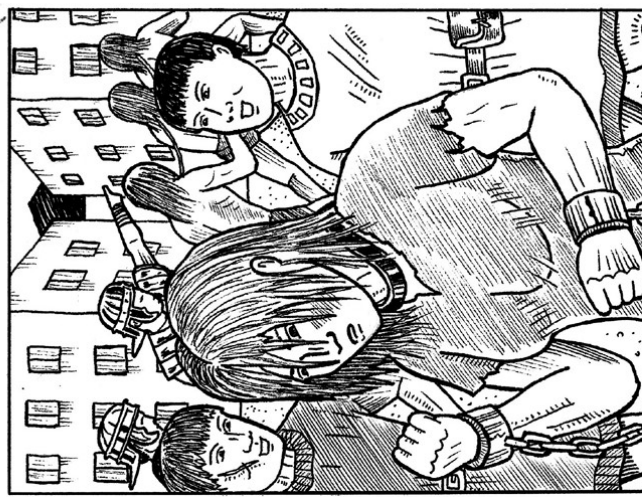


EUROPE, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAW RENEWED SOCIAL CONFLICT, WITH A NEAR-REVOLUTION IN GERMANY, IN RUSSIA, SOLDIERS + SAILORS ORGANIZED SOVIETS (COUNCILS) ALONG WITH WORKERS. THEY SUCCEEDED IN OVERTHROWING THE TSAR + ESTABLISHING STATE-CONTROLLED COMMUNISM. THE 1917 RUSSIAN REVOLUTION TERRIFIED THE CAPITALIST RULING CLASSES.

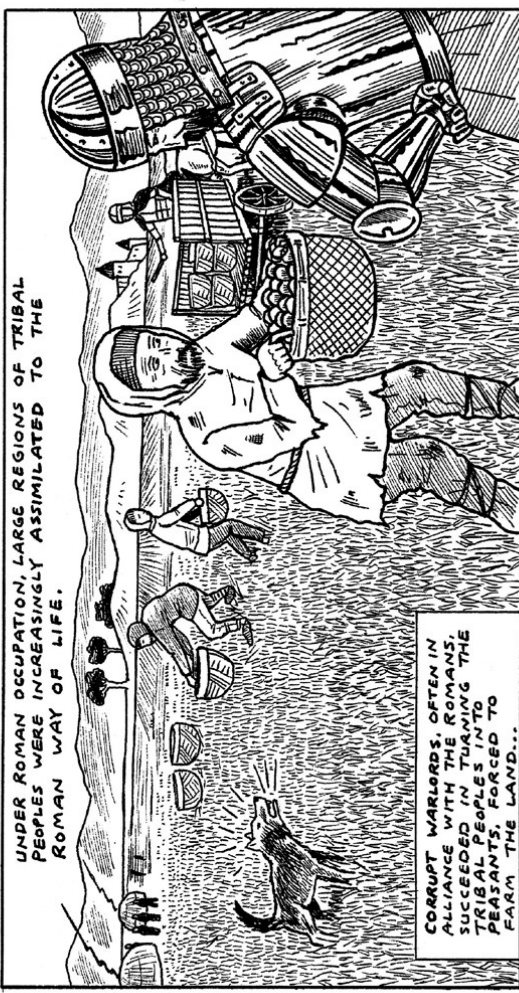


THESE TWO WAYS OF LIFE - URBAN AND TRIBAL - WERE OPPOSED TO ONE ANOTHER BY THEIR VERY NATURE. CIVILIZATION IN FACT REQUIRED EXPANSION DUE TO RESOURCE DEPLETION + OVER-POPULATION.

TRIBAL SOCIETY LIVED IN ACCORD WITH THE NATURAL WORLD, ORGANIZED IN AUTONOMOUS + DECENTRALIZED VILLAGES. THE EARTH WAS REGARDED AS A MOTHER, AND WOMEN HAD IMPORTANT SOCIAL ROLES...

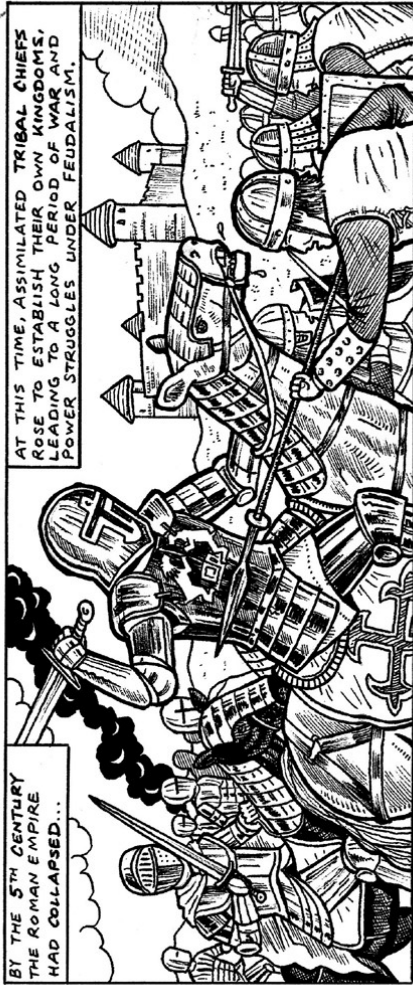


CIVILIZATION SAW THE EARTH AS SOMETHING TO CONQUER + EXPLOIT. IT WAS ORGANIZED IN A PYRAMID OF POWER, WITH THE ELITE AT THE TOP. WOMEN WERE LITTLE MORE THAN SLAVES IN A PATRIARCHAL SOCIETY.



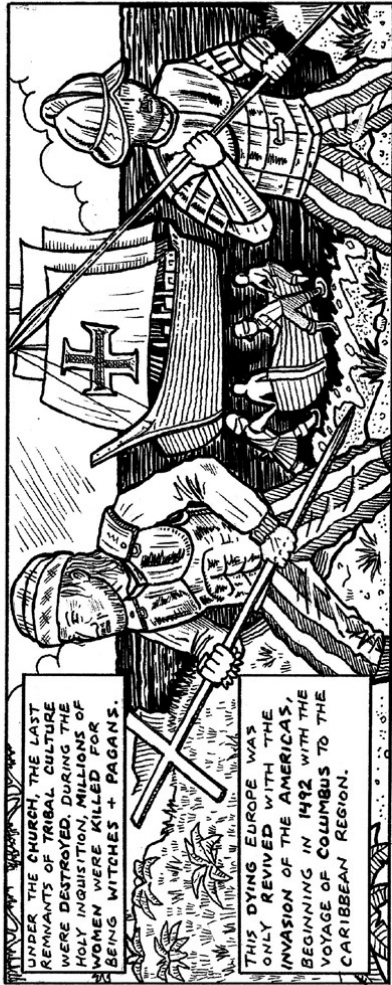
UNDER ROMAN OCCUPATION, LARGE REGIONS OF TRIBAL PEOPLES WERE INCREASINGLY ASSIMILATED TO THE ROMAN WAY OF LIFE.

CORRUPT WARLORDS, OFTEN IN ALLIANCE WITH THE ROMANS, SUCCEEDED IN TURNING THE TRIBAL PEOPLES INTO PRISONS, FORCED TO FARM THE LAND...



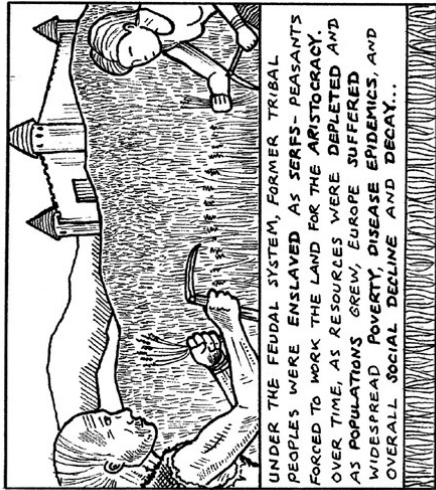
BY THE 5TH CENTURY THE ROMAN EMPIRE HAD COLLAPSED...

AT THIS TIME, ASSIMILATED TRIBAL CHIEFS ROSE TO ESTABLISH THEIR OWN KINGDOMS, LEADING TO A LONG PERIOD OF WAR AND POWER STRUGGLES UNDER FEUDALISM.

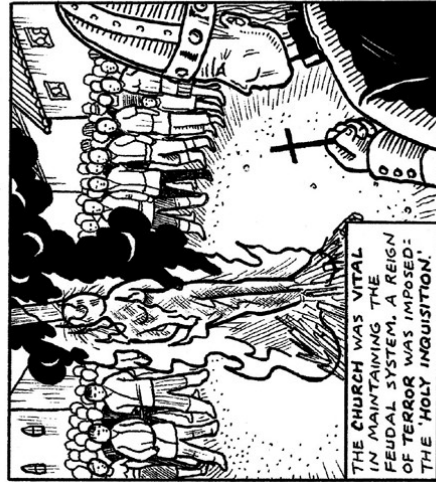


UNDER THE CHURCH, THE LAST REMNANTS OF TRIBAL CULTURE WERE DESTROYED. DURING THE HOLY INQUISITION, MILLIONS OF WOMEN WERE KILLED FOR BEING WITCHES + PAGANS.

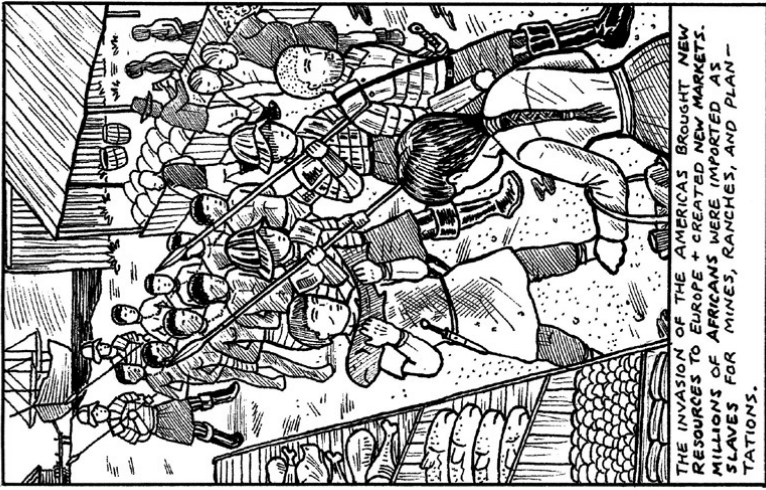
THIS DYING EUROPE WAS ONLY REVIVED WITH THE INVASION OF THE AMERICAS, BEGINNING IN 1492 WITH THE VOYAGE OF COLUMBUS TO THE CARIBBEAN REGION.



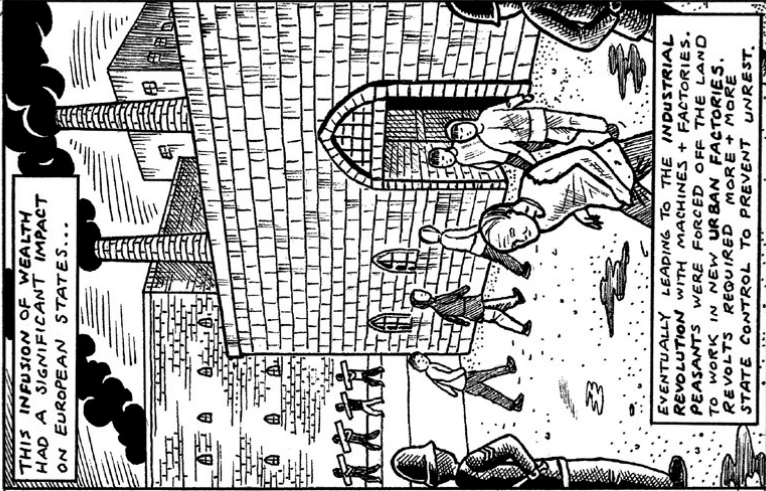
UNDER THE FEUDAL SYSTEM, FORMER TRIBAL PEOPLES WERE ENSLAVED AS SERFS - PEASANTS FORCED TO WORK THE LAND FOR THE ARISTOCRACY. AS POPULATIONS GREW, EUROPE SUFFERED WIDESPREAD POVERTY, DISEASE EPIDEMICS, AND OVERALL SOCIAL DECLINE AND DECAY...



THE CHURCH WAS VITAL IN MAINTAINING THE FEUDAL SYSTEM. A REIGN OF TERROR WAS IMPOSED: THE 'HOLY INQUISITION.'

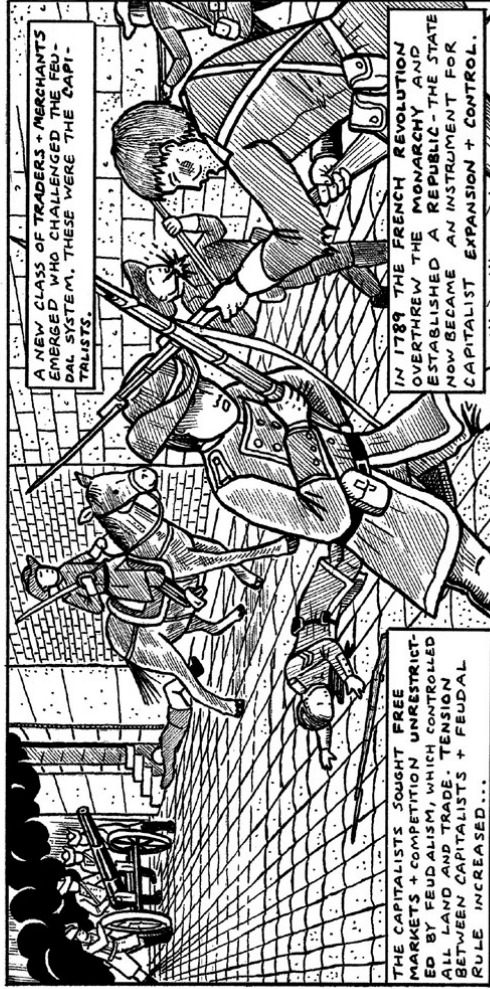


THE INVASION OF THE AMERICAS BROUGHT NEW RESOURCES TO EUROPE + CREATED NEW MARKETS. MILLIONS OF AFRICANS WERE IMPORTED AS SLAVES FOR MINES, RANCHES, AND PLANTATIONS.



THIS INFUSION OF WEALTHY HAD A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON EUROPEAN STATES...

EVENTUALLY LEADING TO THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION WITH MINES + FACTORIES. PEASANTS WERE FORCED OFF THE LAND TO WORK IN THE URBAN FACTORIES. REVOLTS REQUIRED MORE + MORE STATE CONTROL TO PREVENT UNREST.



A NEW CLASS OF TRADERS + MERCHANTS EMERGED WHO CHALLENGED THE FEUDAL SYSTEM. THESE WERE THE CAPITALISTS.

THE CAPITALISTS SOUGHT FREE MARKETS + COMPETITION UNRESTRICTED BY FEUDALISM, WHICH CONTROLLED ALL LAND AND TRADE. TENSION BETWEEN CAPITALISTS + FEUDAL RULE INCREASED...

IN 1789 THE FRENCH REVOLUTION OVERTHREW THE MONARCHY AND ESTABLISHED A REPUBLIC - THE STATE NOW BECAME AN INSTRUMENT FOR CAPITALIST EXPANSION + CONTROL.