DEEP DREAM

written by
Václav Urbánek
urbanekwriting@gmail.com



The panel descriptions and the number of panels on each page present a basic structure for the story. If you wish to tweak them a bit, go for it. You are the visual artist, after all. I would, however, like to preserve the flow of the individual pages, the story beats on them, and what happens before and after a page turn.

PAGE 1 - PANELS: 1

PANEL 1

INTERIOR, bedroom, night. The PROTAGONIST is laying in their bed, eyes open. I will refer to the Protagonist of this story as "them" because I thought it would be neat if you'd fill in the gender/ethnicity/age yourself. Same with their bedroom. Go nuts.

PROTAGONIST

I keep having this dream.

PAGE TURN

PAGE 2 - PANELS: 5

PANEL 1

The PROTAGONIST, still laying in (or now sitting on) their bed, looks to a closet standing in the bedroom. Even though it is closed, we can see a strange light, or maybe some misty haze coming from the inside.

PROTAGONIST I wake up in my bed.

I never know that I'm dreaming.

Even though the dream is always the same.

PANEL 2

The PROTAGONIST is getting up from the bed, paying close attention to the closet door.

PROTAGONIST There is something weird with my closet.

Something pulling me towards it.

PANEL 3

The PROTAGONIST opens the closet door, only to find a stone staircase leading down. It is something between a natural cave and a man-made structure. The haze that was coming from the closet is now spiraling down the staircase, daring the Protagonist to follow it.

PROTAGONIST Only when I open it, it's not a closet anymore.

It's a weird stone gateway. Tempting me to explore

it. Whispering in my ear.

PANEL 4

The PROTAGONIST is walking down the spiraled staircase. The strange haze is the only light source there, but it's enough.

PROTAGONIST I'm going down the strange stairs.

It feels like I couldn't be farther from my bedroom,

even though I just left it.

PANEL 5

The stairs end in a small circular shaped cave room. There might be basreliefs and/or small statues of a strange creature (more on that later). In the opposite side of the room there is what seems to be a stone door with a rough symbol of a hand on it. The strange haze circles around the room and then seemingly goes through the stone door.

PROTAGONIST Then I discover **the door**. The door I am supposed to

open.

Though I don't know why.

PAGE 3 - PANELS: 5

PANEL 1

The PROTAGONIST gets closer to the door.

PROTAGONIST Something is calling me.

Asking me to open the door.

PANEL 2

CLOSE-UP on the PROTAGONIST's hand touching the hand symbol on the door.

PROTAGONIST I want to open the door and at the same time feel

that I shouldn't.

Though I don't know why.

PANEL 3

We now see the door opening.

PROTAGONIST I can now feel it so **strongly**.

I feel it drawing me towards itself.

SFX: CRAACK

PANEL 4

The PROTAGONIST is standing in the now open door and looks at whats on the other side. But the only thing we can see is pure black.

PANEL 5

EXTERIOR (sort of?). While until now we were watching the PROTAGONIST from within the stone room, now we are looking at them from the black void to which the Protagonist is entering. The darkness is surrounding everything so much that it looks almost as if the door is just standing in empty black space, but the haze that is coming from the door and is continuing further into the black and off panel gives us at least some light, suggesting that we might be at the bottom of the ocean. Bottom so deep that there is no life or even much of any rock formations or anything like that. It's a depth that a human eye has never seen and can't ever see.

PAGE TURN

PAGE 4 - PANELS: 1

PANEL 1

This is again a SPLASH PAGE. From the top of the page it's just solid black, with the text slowly drawing the readers eyes lower and lower, until we start to recognize a strange shape in the dark depths. A shape of a LARGE CREATURE. The big inspiration for the Creature is Howard Phillips Lovecraft's CTHULHU, so you can draw just him if you want. But you can also draw the Creature in whichever way you'd like.

On the bottom of the page, we barely see the PROTAGONIST. "Barely", mostly because they are so small in the context of the page, the Creature, and the ocean depths. The only light source is again the strange haze, coming like a light string from the open stone door, through the Protagonist and ending seemingly within the Creature itself where it originated.

PROTAGONIST

Only when I see **Him** in his slumber do I realize that I am dreaming.

It is the same every time.

But every time I realize where I am a little bit later than the night before.

One day I won't realize it at all. I will just keep dreaming.

That's what He's waiting for.

Because when I dream in this place...

...that's when He can wake up.

THE END