

VISIONARY CREATORS



THE ODDLY PEDESTRIAN LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER CHAOS

From *New York Times* best-selling writers James Tynion IV and Tate Brombal and the artist Isaac Goodhart comes this LGBTQ+ horror-hero coming-of-age story that's *Invincible* meets *Doom Patrol*.

Volume 1 - 9781506736723 · TP · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now
Volume 2 - 9781506737812 · TP · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now
Volume 3 - 9781506741697 · TP · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now

GRENDL: DEVIL BY THE DEED MASTER'S EDITION

The original tale of the dashing and diabolical Hunter Rose was deceptively brief, considering its cultural impact. Over the years, Wagner has expanded on the story of Hunter Rose, and now he weaves the most dramatic of those elements into a brand-new graphic novel. *Grendel: Devil by the Deed—Master's Edition* is Matt Wagner at the height of his artistic and storytelling prowess, featuring 120 all-new story pages that will dazzle first-time and longtime readers alike.

9781506737256 · HC · \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA · On Sale Now

DRACULA BOOK 1: THE IMPALER

Comic book veterans Matt Wagner and Kelley Jones join forces on this new graphic novel take on the world's most famous vampire! The first of four planned volumes, *The Impaler* explores the legendary count before his debut in the novel—from his first foray into the dark arts to his rise to lord of the undead!

9781506735955 · TP · \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA · On Sale Now

SISTER IMPERATOR

Sister Imperator, the mysterious and powerful figure from official *Ghost* lore, has her origins revealed! Integral to the band's story since its founding, Sister Imperator is a representative of the Clergy, and has been shrouded in secrecy—until now. Discover her clandestine history and the disturbing events that led her to becoming the woman both loved and feared by so many, from her innocent beginnings in small-town New England to the force behind *Ghost*.

9781506743165 · HC · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now

MINOR THREATS

A new original comic series from Patton Oswalt and Jordan Blum—showrunners of *Marvel's M.O.D.O.K.* on Hulu—and superstar artist Scott Hepburn! In the vein of *Sin City*, *Watchmen*, and *The Boys*, this noir-ish superhero caper focuses on a lower-class kind of criminal, similar to the Coen Bros' most pulpy films but set in a high-concept world of heroes and villains.

Volume 1 - 9781506729992 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$26.99 CA · On Sale Now
Volume 2 - 9781506739564 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

FROM THE WORLD OF MINOR THREATS: THE ALTERNATES

Spinning out of the world of the hit *Minor Threats* superhero series comes a new tale of costumed underdogs—featuring a support group for superheroes struggling to reclaim their mediocre lives after tasting their true potential.

9781506739540 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

ARCHIE VS. MINOR THREATS

A comics crossover event between the hit *Minor Threats* series by Patton Oswalt, Jordan Blum, and Scott Hepburn with the perennial favorite *Archie* series. Not a hoax! Not a dream! The fun-loving teens of Riverdale collide with the crooked super-criminals of Twilight City in the most bombastic crossover of the year! It's your favorite high-schoolers forced to fight your favorite costumed villains in a story that will have lasting ramifications on all involved!

9781506751146 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now



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VISIONARY CREATORS

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS

Brian Michael Bendis, the *New York Times* best-selling, Peabody and multiple Eisner Award-winning cocreator of Miles Morales, Naomi, and Jessica Jones, has been one of the biggest names in comics since the late 1990s. Working extensively with Marvel and DC Comics on some of their most legendary series, he has also released some of the most daring, innovative, and award-winning original graphic novels in the history of the medium under his Jinxworld banner.



PEARL

The beginning of a masterful saga involving art, crime, loyalty, and passion. Pearl Tanaka's an outsider among outsiders. A Japanese American with albinism, she was born into a world ruled by the American yakuza. Now she uses her unequalled skills as a tattoo artist to make a living in San Francisco. That all changes the day that she meets Rick Araki . . . and saves his life. Rick is another tattoo artist who's run afoul of a different yakuza clan. By interfering with their hit on him, Pearl risks drawing her patron into a deadly gang war.

Volume 1 - 9781506729329 - TP - \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 2 - 9781506729336 - TP - \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 3 - 9781506729343 - TP - \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA - On Sale Now



JOY OPERATIONS

Fifty-five years from now. Joy is an EN-VOL. A special agent of the Jonando Trust. Trusts are corporate-owned cities that are the centerpiece of modern society. She rights wrongs for the trust. She is excellent. Perfection. Hard on herself. Driven. Almost legendary in some parts. Until one day a voice pops in her head trying to get her to betray everything she has ever believed. This meticulously designed *Akira-meets-Inception* journey shows us a new future like only comics can.

9781506729466 - TP - \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA - On Sale Now



POWERS

In a world where superheroes soar through the sky, follow homicide detectives Christian Walker and Deena Pilgrim as they are on the dirty city streets below. Assigned to the "powers" special cases, they will face the worst their city has to offer.

Volume 1 - 9781506730172 - TP - \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 2 - 9781506730189 - TP - \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 3 - 9781506730196 - TP - \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 4 - 9781506730202 - TP - \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 5 - 9781506730219 - TP - \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 6 - 9781506730226 - TP - \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 7 - 9781506730233 - TP - \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA - On Sale Now



POWERS 25

POWERS is one of the longest-running independent comics in history, and to celebrate the 25th anniversary landmark, the original creators Bendis and Oeming have returned for a brand-new crime-and-capes story like never before.

Volume 1 - 9781506750958 - TP - \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA - On Sale Soon



BRILLIANT

The first creator-owned book by *Ultimate Spider-Man* co-creators Brian Michael Bendis and Mark Bagley, *Brilliant* tells the story of a handful of college-age geniuses who challenge each other to solve the mystery of superpowers. Can the best and brightest change science fiction into science fact? And if so, how will the world at large react? *Brilliant* is a thriller of the highest order.

9781506730110 - TP - \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA - On Sale Now



MURDER INC.

Discover a world in which the families of organized crime never lost their stranglehold on the United States. Today is the day that Valentine Gallo becomes a made man, and it's also the day he learns the secrets behind the organization he has served since he was old enough to walk. But it is mysterious hitwoman Jagger Rose who will forever turn his life upside down. This bold new vision of crime fiction harkens back to Bendis's earliest work in crime comics.

Volume 1 - 9781506730271 - TP - \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA - On Sale Now

Volume 2 - 9781506730288 - TP - \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA - On Sale Now



THE ONES VOLUME 1

Here comes the next, best awesome super team to end all super teams . . . the Ones! Every single person in every mythology that was told they were "the one" are brought together for the first time to defeat . . . the one. The actual one. The real actual one. Think *Good Omens* meets *Ghostbusters* meets *The Adam Project* meets *The Goonies* meets *Everything Everywhere All at Once* meets, um, anything else you've ever liked!

9781506729916 - TP - \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA - On Sale Now



MASTERPIECE

Emma is a brilliant and driven sixteen-year-old. She has paid for school with her next-level inventions and is well-known for her funny and honest webcomics. Then, one day, one of the most famous billionaires on the planet confronts her with the truth about her world. Emma discovers she is the only daughter of two of the greatest, most charismatic master criminals of all time!

9781506730493 - TP - \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA - On Sale Now



TORSO

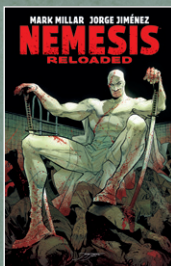
The true story of the hunt for America's first serial killer! Cleveland. 1935. Eliot Ness, fresh from his legendary Chicago triumph over Al Capone, sets his sights on Cleveland. Eliot Ness and his colorful gang of the Unknowns chase a killer through the underbelly of Cleveland for years. As far as the public was concerned he was never captured, but what really happened is even more shocking.

9781506730257 - TP - \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA - On Sale Now



VISIONARY CREATORS

MARK MILLAR



THE MAGIC ORDER

Millarworld and Dark Horse Comics are proud to present the best-selling dark fantasy–thriller graphic novel, *The Magic Order*! We live in a world where we've never seen a monster, and the Magic Order is the reason we sleep safely in our beds. By day, they live among us as our neighbors, friends, and coworkers, but by night they are the sorcerers, magicians, and wizards that protect us from the forces of darkness . . . unless the darkness gets them first. Magic meets the mob in *The Magic Order*, as five families of magicians sworn to protect our world for generations must battle an enemy who's picking them off one by one.

Volume 1 • 9781506745220 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA • On Sale Now
Volume 2 • 9781506745237 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA • On Sale Now
Volume 3 • 9781506745244 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA • On Sale Now

NEMESIS: RELOADED

The world's most evil comic book character is back! Who is Nemesis, and why does this eccentric billionaire who dresses up in a mask and cape want to terrorize people instead of helping them? Isn't that how this is supposed to go? Trigger warning: too violent and just too cool for some! Don't say we didn't warn you. Collecting the entire arc of the series *Nemesis: Reloaded* by superstar creative team Mark Millar and Jorge Jiménez!

9781506744469 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA • On Sale Now

NEMESIS: ROGUES' GALLERY

Immediately following the brutal events of Millar's smash hit *Big Game*, *Nemesis* is all but dead; broken and destroyed. All that remains is the consuming focus, hell-bent on vengeance against every single person who wronged him.

9781506744872 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$26.99 CA • On Sale Now

NEMESIS FOREVER

The third part of Mark Millar's *Nemesis* comics trilogy comes to a close. *Nemesis* got his revenge in *Reloaded*, became the world's richest man in *Rogues' Gallery*, and now he's back to do what he's been planning all along.

9781506750651 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA • On Sale Now

NIGHT CLUB

You're seventeen years old and you've been bitten by a vampire. Do you live in the shadows and drink human blood, or do you use your newfound gifts for the dream costumed-superhero life you've always wanted? You're bulletproof, you can crawl up walls, and you can turn into mist or bats. Why not have a little fun?

Volume 1 • 9781506745206 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA • On Sale Now
Volume 2 • 9781506744889 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA • On Sale Now

VATICAN CITY

Mark Millar and Per Berg's hit new horror comics series where the world has been destroyed by a billion vampires and the last humans alive are holed up in the only place they're safe—behind the walls of Vatican City where no vampire dares to tread!

9781506750712 • TP • \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA • On Sale Now

Millarworld and Dark Horse Comics are proud to present these essential collections of Mark Millar's greatest graphic novels in an oversized hardcover format!

WANTED & BIG GAME LIBRARY EDITION

Action-thriller *Wanted* was the first book from Millarworld and the starting point for an entire universe of comic books and movies. *Big Game* is the sequel, set twenty years after the original and bringing together over twenty franchises for the first time, from *Kick-Ass* and *Hit-Girl* to *The Ambassadors* and *The Magic Order*.

9781506744414 • HC • \$59.99 US | \$78.99 CA • On Sale Now

THE AMBASSADORS LIBRARY EDITION

You've cracked the superhuman mystery and can give superpowers to six different people around the world. Who do you choose? When the superhuman genome is cracked, the billionaire scientist responsible announces she will turn six ordinary people into superheroes. This launches a worldwide competition to determine who will join this team of superhumans.

9781506744391 • HC • \$49.99 US | \$65.99 CA • On Sale Now

THE MAGIC ORDER LIBRARY EDITION VOLUME 1

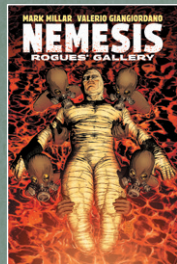
Magic meets the mob in *The Magic Order*, as magicians sworn to protect our world for generations battle an enemy who's picking them off one by one. Collected together for the first time, this beautiful hardcover introduces us to the Magic Order, a group of five families of sorcerers, magicians, and wizards.

9781506744407 • HC • \$59.99 US | \$78.99 CA • On Sale Now

JUPITER'S LEGACY LIBRARY EDITION

Mark Millar and Frank Quitely's comic-book masterpiece, a vast epic covering three generations of superheroes from the early twentieth century to the far future.

Volume 1 • 9781506748863 • HC • \$49.99 US | \$65.99 CA • On Sale Now
Volume 2 • 9781506748870 • HC • \$49.99 US | \$65.99 CA • On Sale Now

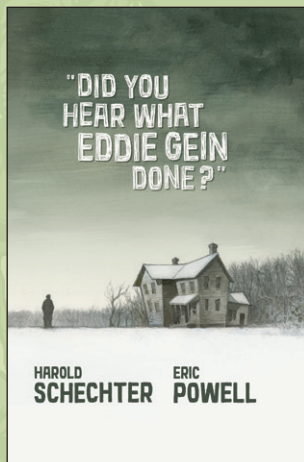


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VISIONARY CREATORS

ERIC POWELL



DID YOU HEAR WHAT EDDIE GEIN DONE?

One of the greats in the field of true-crime literature, Harold Schechter (*Deviant*, *The Serial Killer Files*, *Hell's Princess*), teams with five-time Eisner Award-winning graphic novelist Eric Powell (*The Goon*, *Big Man Plans*, *Hillbilly*) to bring you the tale of one of the most notoriously deranged serial killers in American history, Ed Gein.

Painstakingly researched and illustrated, Schechter and Powell's true-crime graphic novel takes the Gein story out of the realms of exploitation and gives the reader a fact-based dramatization of these tragic, psychotic, and heartbreaking events. Because, in this case, the truth needs no embellishment to be horrifying.

9781949889048 • HC • \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA • On Sale Now

BIG MAN PLANS: EXPANDED EDITION

From Eric Powell and Tim Wiesch comes *Big Man Plans: Expanded Edition*. First published in 2015, this brutal crime drama and intriguing mystery shocked readers with its visceral violence and heart-wrenching tragedy. Big Man is a little person who has been brutalized and abused his entire existence. A person born to be life's punching bag . . . or so it appears. He just might also be one of the deadliest killers ever trained by (REDACTED). He might also be slightly insane. And when someone he loves is wronged, well, even the most marginalized in society can exact revenge if they don't care how they do it. This expanded edition comes with over thirty pages of added story and bonus material content!

9781949889963 • TP • \$17.99 US | \$17.99 CA • On Sale Now

FOUR GATHERED ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Four of the top creators in comics gather to continue the Victorian tradition of ghost stories on Christmas Eve. Four tales of the bizarre and terrifying to keep you company on the cold Yule night. A unique approach to the ghost story format where the creators themselves become part of the story in this deluxe edition hardcover designed by the award-winning Phil Balsman.

9781506740874 • HC • \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA • On Sale Now

DR. WERTHLESS: THE MAN WHO STUDIED MURDER (AND NEARLY KILLED THE COMICS INDUSTRY)

From the creative team behind the award-winning *Did You Hear What Eddie Gein Done?* comes an examination of one of the most polarizing figures in pop culture, Dr. Fredric Wertham. Reviled by comic book fans as a witch-hunting zealot who stirred up a panic among the parents of America for his own self-promoting purposes, he was also a renowned psychiatrist who, among other accomplishments, opened a clinic in Harlem for disadvantaged African-American patients and played an important role in the desegregation of the nation's schools. Believing that murder could be abolished through a proper understanding of the mental and social roots of criminal violence, he took a genuinely humane approach to some of the most notorious homicidal maniacs of his time while simultaneously exploiting their stories for his own commercial ends.

9781506744360 • HC • \$29.99 US | \$39.99 CA • On Sale Now

THE GOON: BUNCH OF OLD CRAP OMNIBUS

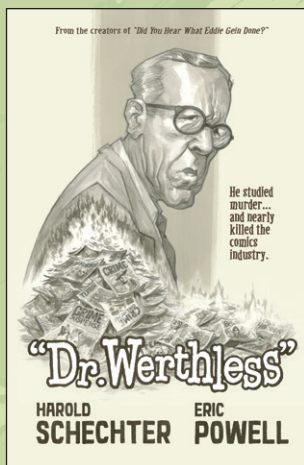
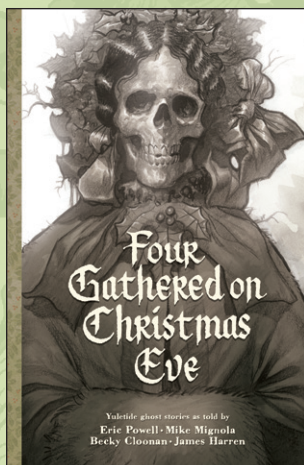
Eric Powell's Eisner Award-winning crime pulp series that combines pulp horror, crime drama, and a twisted sense of humor. Take a spin down Lonely Street in this huge, pulpy collection of mob bosses to undead ghouls—and the man who fights them all.

Volume 1 • 9781506746876 • TP • \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA • On Sale Now
Volume 2 • 9781506755045 • TP • \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA • On Sale Now
Volume 3 • 9781506754185 • TP • \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA • On Sale Now
Volume 6 • 9781506754192 • TP • \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA • On Sale Soon

THE GOON: THEM THAT DON'T STAY DEAD

To mark the 25th anniversary of *The Goon*, Eisner Award-winner Eric Powell returns with an all-new tale! The return to Lonely Street hasn't been easy for the Goon and Franky. And just as they've finally got the various gangs of blood suckers and night stalkers back in line, a new threat appears. Or is it an old one?

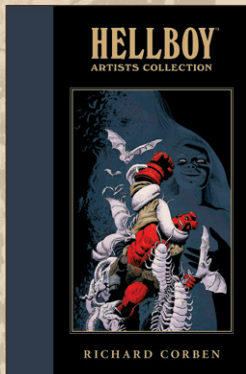
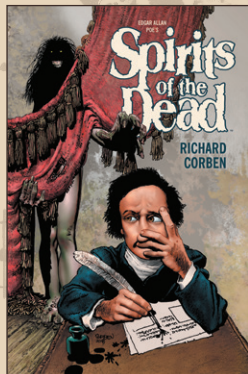
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VISIONARY CREATORS

Richard Corben is known for his legendary fantasy underground masterpieces published by Fantagor Press as well as *Heavy Metal*. His work has been recognized internationally, winning one of the most prestigious recognitions in comics literature, the Grand Prix at Angoulême International Comics Festival. In 2012, Corben was inducted into the Will Eisner Award Hall of Fame.



SPIRITS OF THE DEAD

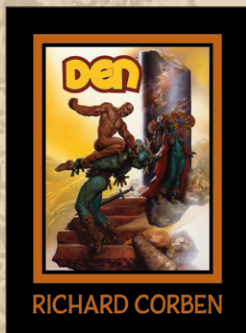
Collection of Richard Corben's Edgar Allan Poe adaptations from various publications—stories include: "Spirits of the Dead," "Alone," "The City in the Sea," "The Sleeper," "The Assigination," "Berenice," "Morella," "Shadow," "The Fall of the House of Usher," "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," "The Masque of the Red Death," "The Conqueror Worm," "The Premature Burial," "The Raven," "The Cask of Amontillado"—and the brand-new story for this second edition: "The Man of the Crowd."

9781506713441 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

HELLBOY ARTISTS COLLECTION: RICHARD CORBEN

Own the complete collection of horror master Richard Corben's *Hellboy* comics in this deluxe edition. Revisit some classic *Hellboy* stories including "The Crooked Man," "Makoma," "House of the Living Dead," and more! Oversize 8 x 12" format includes a cloth spine and foil cover treatment.

9781506741147 · HC · \$49.99 US | \$65.99 CA · On Sale Now



MURKY WORLD

Collects the entire *Murky World* series in print for the first time—first in a series of deluxe graphic novels from renowned creator Richard Corben's library! In *Murky World*, Tugat the warrior wakes from a strange dream only to find himself in a bizarre land populated by hungry deadlings, cruel necromancers, buxom cyclopes, evil cults, and more as he sets off on a dangerous journey with his beloved horse Frix.

9781506734743 · HC · \$39.99 US | \$53.99 CA · On Sale Now

DEN

The long-out-of-print masterpiece *Den!* This special edition also features bonus material and art pages restored by long-time Corben collaborator José Villarrubia. Thrust into a bizarre fantasy world called Neverwhere, the muscular adventurer Den goes on an exotic adventure through ancient ruins, meeting an evil queen, her sacrificial doppelganger, bizarre lizard men, giant insects, and more strange and dangerous madness in this legendary saga brimming with horror, magic, and violence. The inspiration for the *Den* segment of the cult classic film, *Heavy Metal*!

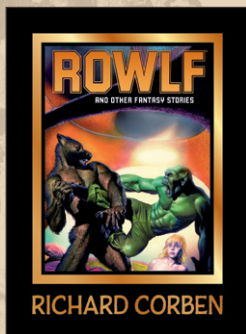
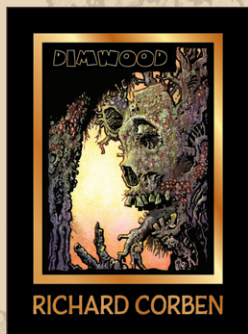
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Volume 2 · 9781506745701 · HC · \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA · On Sale Now

Volume 3 · 9781506736082 · HC · \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA · On Sale Now

Volume 4 · 9781506739922 · HC · \$39.99 US | \$53.99 CA · On Sale Now

Volume 5 · 9781506739939 · HC · \$39.99 US | \$53.99 CA · On Sale Now



DIMWOOD

Dimwood is the next book in a series of deluxe graphic novels from renowned creator Richard Corben's library. This special edition collects the never-before-published graphic novel *Dimwood* and also features bonus material, restorations, and an epilogue from long-time Corben collaborator José Villarrubia, letters by Nate Piekos of Blambot, and an introduction by Joe Lansdale, all presented in a gorgeous hardcover with a dust jacket.

9781506739984 · HC · \$39.99 US | \$53.99 CA · On Sale Now

ROWLF AND OTHER FANTASY STORIES

Richard Corben's long out-of-print fantasy graphic novel masterpiece, inspired by *Beauty and the Beast*, is finally collected as part of the new Richard Corben hardcover library. *Rowlf* is a postmodern take on *Beauty and the Beast* that mixes high fantasy with dystopian science fiction. It is the first masterpiece in Corben's long career. *The Beast of Wolfston* and its sequel *The Spirit of the Beast* are ironic love stories of a werewolf family saga. The book closes with a poignant free adaptation of one of the Japanese legends by Lafcadio Hearn called *The Story of Oteg*. All packaged in a beautiful new printing with meticulously restored artwork and featuring a new introduction by Hayao Miyazaki (*Spirited Away*).

9781506749839 · HC · \$39.99 US | \$53.99 CA · On Sale Now

RAT GOD

Richard Corben's chilling story inspired by the works of H. P. Lovecraft finally collected as part of the new Richard Corben hardcover library. This volume also includes a foreword by Bram Stoker Award-winning author Caitlin R. Kiernan as well as both the original black and white and the color version of the long out-of-print "The Rats in the Walls," a Lovecraft-penned tale adapted by Richard Corben!

9781506740096 · HC · \$39.99 US | \$53.99 CA · On Sale Now

THE LAST VOYAGE OF SINDBAD

A drunken Sindbad runs afoul of an evil Djinn, launching him into an epic adventure where, alongside a mysterious (and sensuous) woman, he battles monsters and the living dead to salvage his immortal soul. It's Sindbad's final and greatest voyage!

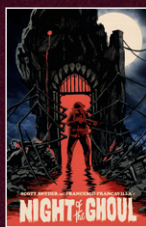
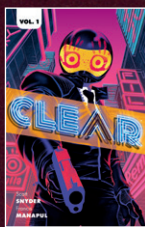
9781506740003 · HC · \$34.99 US | \$45.99 CA · On Sale Now



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VISIONARY CREATORS

SCOTT SNYDER



BARNSTORMERS: A BALLAD OF LOVE AND MURDER

A high-flying, post-WWI-era historical fiction graphic novel that's an intimate portrait of love and war—and a meditation on the dangerous level of trust required in both romance and aviation.

9781506728308 · TP · \$24.99 US | \$33.99 CA · On Sale Now

BY A THREAD

In *By a Thread*, thirteen years ago a deadly and mysterious infection spread across the Earth's terrain, forcing humankind to live in communities precipitously built above the ground. Growing up on Needle Three, Jo barely remembers a time before darkness enveloped the world. When their community comes under attack by the despotic Charon and his forces, Jo and his friends must decide whether or not to venture across the wasteland in search of a safe haven as the world hangs by a thread.

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CLEAR

A dazzling visual thrill ride through a hard-boiled dystopia! In the not-too-distant future, mankind no longer sees the world

as it truly is. The invention of neurological filters has made it so one can view reality however they may choose—Old Hollywood monochrome, zombie apocalypse, anime . . . the possibilities are endless. Neo-shamus Sam Dunes is one of only a handful who choose to live without a filter. When the death of an old flame reveals foul play, Dunes is set on a wild and twisting mystery that will take him from the city's deadly underworld to the even deadlier heights of wealth and power.

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CANARY

In 1884 a mine collapsed into itself. What was the dark substance found 666 feet underground? Blending modern horror, historical fact, and Western lore, Scott Snyder and Dan Panosian have created a uniquely terrifying thriller with *Canary*.

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NIGHT OF THE GHOUL

A dazzling work of horror, intercutting between the present day and the story of a lost film. Horror masters Scott Snyder (*American Vampire*, *Wytches*) and Francesco Francavilla

(*Afterlife with Archie*) collaborate for the first time! This graphic novel is a bold and bloody reimagining of horror monsters that celebrates classic creature features while creating an unsettling and contemporary new kind of horror story.

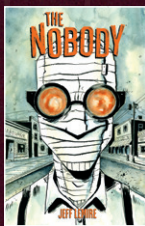
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WE HAVE DEMONS

From comic-book superstars Scott Snyder and Greg Capullo (*Batman*, *Batman: Last Knight on Earth*, *Dark Nights: Metal* and *Death Metal*) comes a new blockbuster series of biblical proportions. Since the very dawn of man, legends have been told of the conflict between angel and demon-kind. Lam Lyle, a woman of science, dismissed these stories as just that—fiction. But when the loss of a loved one leads to the discovery of a hulking, benevolent demon named Gus, Lam realizes that her life is about to take a dire new direction.

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JEFF LEMIRE



10,000 INK STAINS: A MEMOIR

This hardcover memoir collection showcases the work of the legendary Eisner Award-winning comic book creator Jeff Lemire, who has created some of the most iconic stories in modern comics. Featuring his brilliant work from *Sweet Tooth*, *Essex County*, *Black Hammer*, *Descender*, and so much more. Lemire takes the reader book by book, writing essays about the making of each project and showcasing artwork from all of them, sharing some never-before-seen process material on each book and unpublished stories as well.

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BERSERKER UNBOUND

A merciless sword-and-sorcery warrior finds himself blasted through a wormhole to a modern-day metropolis where he must protect those around him from an evil wizard determined to send him to hell. From the Eisner Award-winning team of Jeff Lemire, Mike Deodato Jr., and Frank Martin comes this urban warrior fantasy series!

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MAZEBOOK

An ambitious and haunting graphic novel about family, mourning, and reality. A lonely building inspector still grieving the loss of his puzzle-loving daughter receives a mysterious phone call one night from a girl claiming it's her and that she's trapped in the middle of a labyrinth. Convinced that his child is contacting him from beyond this world, he uses an unfinished maze from one of her journals and a map of the city to trace an intricate path through a different plane of reality on an intense and melancholy adventure to bring his daughter back home.

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THE NOBODY (NEW EDITION)

Experience Jeff Lemire's reimagining of H.G. Wells's *The Invisible Man* in this new edition of his long-out-of-print, fan-favorite graphic novel featuring a brand-new cover.

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SNOW ANGELS

Two of the most acclaimed comics creators of their generation—writer Jeff Lemire and artist Jock—together for

the first time in this epic science-fiction saga set in a brutal world like no other!

Milliken and Mae have never left the Trench—it's all they've ever known. Milli and Mae don't really know how their people came to live here. No one does, not even their wise and gentle father. On Milliken's twelfth birthday, their father takes the two girls on an overnight skate down the trench—a coming-of-age ritual to teach them how to fish the frozen river, how to hunt the wild Trenchdogs that wander its frigid banks, and how to give proper thanks to their frozen gods—the Colden Ones. It's the trip of a lifetime until the girls push beyond the borders of their humble land and awaken the Trench's deadly defender... the Snowman! What follows next is an action-packed story of survival, loss, and redemption.

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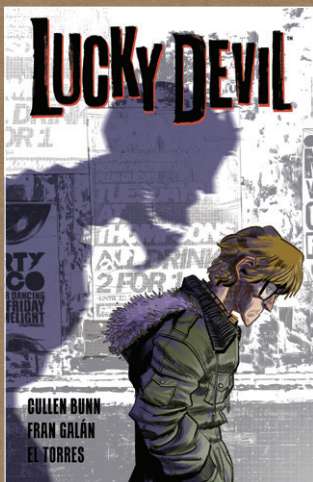
Also available in a deluxe oversized hardcover edition that collects volume 1 and volume 2.
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PARASOMNIA

After his son disappears, a broken-down man braves a nightmarish dreamscape in order to find him—and battle the ruthless cult that seeks to rule the land of dreams as the barrier between realities starts to collapse.

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Volume 2 · 9781506731995 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

LUCKY DEVIL

In this graphic novel a down-on-his-luck schlub is possessed by a malevolent demon. Just when he thinks things can't get worse, the exorcism goes wrong, and he finds that somehow he's retained all of the entity's supernatural gifts. After a path of revenge on all the people who have wronged him, he begins to gather worshippers and form a cult.

But the legions of Hell don't take kindly to this, and they send demonic agents to murder the schlub-turned-god before he gains too much power.

9781506721996 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

THE MIDNITE SHOW

A new supernatural horror series about monsters of the silver screen coming to life and wreaking havoc on a small town. Basil Saxon is a legend among horror fans. Over fifty years ago, he vanished during a freak accident on the set of the film that would have been his masterpiece. The cursed film—*God of Monsters*—was never completed and has never been seen. But when a film festival shows footage from the long-lost movie, classic horror monsters manifest to wreak havoc and terror on the unsuspecting populace.

9781506736860 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now



BEYOND MORTAL

An original graphic novel where the heroes of a new comic book universe will collide with a new pantheon of alien deities from beyond our understanding of reality.

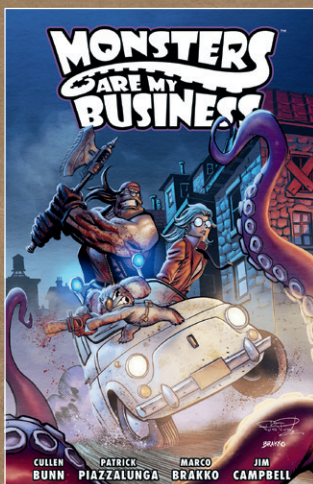
Unknown to the league of heroes who protect the innocent, their world has a cancer growing at its heart. A pantheon of elder gods is starting to awaken. These timeless forces of super-nature once claimed dominion over a primordial Earth ... and they have returned to reclaim what is theirs.

9781506740508 · TP · \$19.99 US | \$25.99 CA · On Sale Now

JUMPSCARE

An action-horror superhero event that ties into the hit *Beyond Mortal* comics series! Horror-fan-turned-vigilante Jumpscare can conjure any gore-soaked weapon from any gore-soaked movie she's watched. Using this power, she's become a force for good in Empire City ... and the world's most popular superhero! Even with all her powers, though, she may not be able to save her estranged sister from the clutches of mobster-turned-monster Grindhouse! Especially with a band of eldritch zealots called the Dismal Concordat standing in her way!

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MONSTERS ARE MY BUSINESS

Meet Tanner "Griz" Grisholm—along with a shrewd necromancer who wants him dead and a chainsaw-wielding koala bear named Cuddles—as he wages a bloody war against nightmares from beyond time and space. It's thankless work, but someone has to do it. And when a group of government contractors go missing in the nightmare landscape of the Flooded Zone, Griz stumbles into a mystery he may not be able to carve his way out of.

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Written by Scott Snyder. Illustrated by Dan Panosian.

Masterpiece

Written by Brian Michael Bendis. Illustrated by Alex Maleev.

Minor Threats Volume 1: A Quick End to a Long Beginning

Written by Patton Oswalt and Jordan Blum. Illustrated by Scott Hepburn.

Dracula Book 1: The Impaler

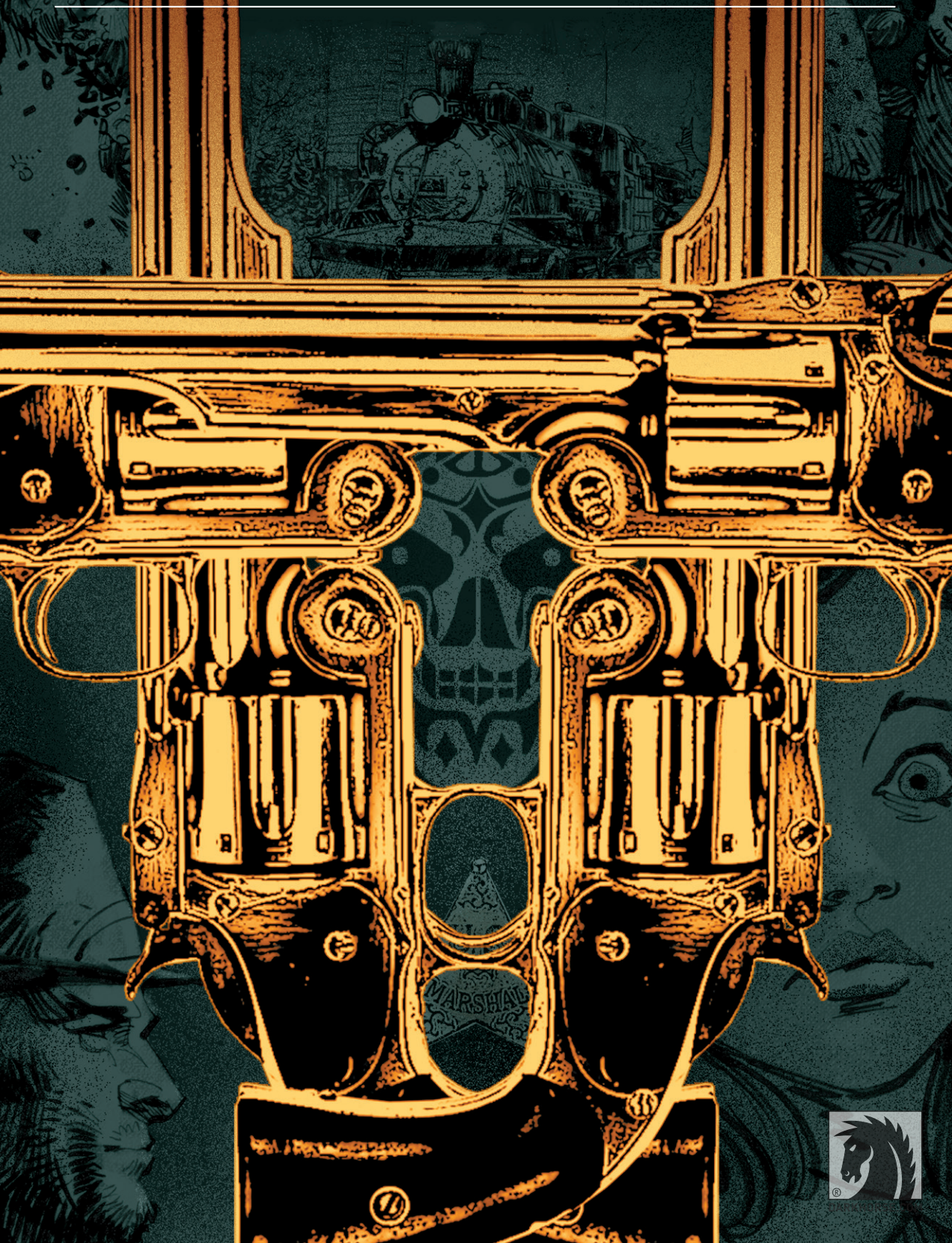
Written by Matt Wagner. Illustrated by Kelley Jones.



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CANARY

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CHAPTER ONE

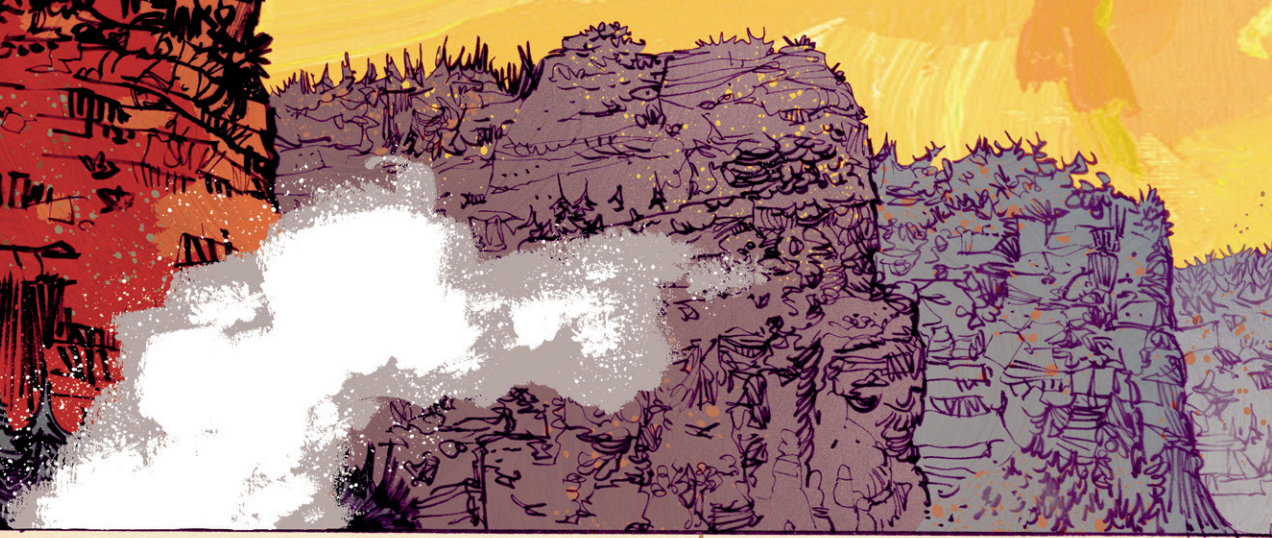




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UTAH TERRITORY 1891







"DAMNEDEST THING. SHE WAS RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF HER PRESENTATION WHEN HE JUST...WALKED UP AND KILLED HER."

"AND HOW DID IT GO?"

"WELL, IT WAS AN ARGUMENT FOR STATEHOOD, WHY WE ALL SHOULD LOBBY TO BE TAKEN INTO THE UNION. IT WAS BEAUTIFUL, REALLY. SHE USED THEM EGGS TO--"

"I WASN'T ASKING ABOUT THE PRESENTATION, SHERIFF. I WAS ASKING ABOUT THE MURDER."

"OF COURSE. SORRY, IT JUST... HAPPENED SO FAST. SHE WAS USING THEM DIFFERENT EGGS THERE TO ARGUE THAT THE FUTURE OF THE TERRITORY IS UP TO US."



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"HOW IT STILL CAN BECOME ANYTHING, GOOD, BAD. THERE'S A QUAIL EGG, A TORTOISE, A RATTLER. ONE IS MISSING, I THINK, IT MIGHT BE A--"

"SHERIFF."

"RIGHT, RIGHT. SHE WAS MIDSSENTENCE WHEN THE BOY, HE JUST WALKED UP, PULLED OUT A STRAIGHT RAZOR, AND CUT HER THROAT. HALF THE GODDAMNED TOWN WAS WATCHING."

"AND THE BOY'S NAME?"

"JOHNNY APPLE."

"NO NICKNAMES."

"THAT'S HIS REAL NAME, MARSHAL. IT DON'T MAKE ANY SENSE BECAUSE HE'S A SWEET KID. THE APPLE FAMILY IS ROUGH AND TUMBLE, SURE, THEY'RE OUTLIERS, BUT JOHNNY..."

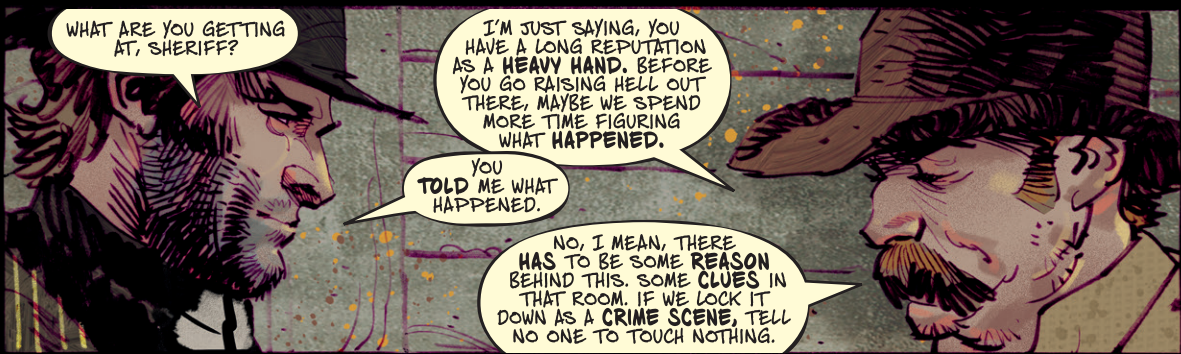
"...HE CAME TO CHURCH ON HIS OWN MOST SUNDAYS. CALLED HIM THE 'GOOD APPLE.' THERE MUST BE--"

"THAT'S ALL I NEED, SHERIFF. WHICH WAY IS THE APPLE PLACE?"

"JUST HOLD ON, WILL YOU? LISTEN, MARSHAL HOLT, WE ALL APPRECIATE YOUR PRESENCE HERE. SHIT, SOME OF THE BOYS EVEN BROUGHT THEIR DIME NOVELS FOR YOU TO SIGN. YOUR SHOOTOUT WITH HYRUM TELL? STILL LEGEND AROUND--"

Marshal Azrael William Holt





WHAT ARE YOU GETTING AT, SHERIFF?

I'M JUST SAYING, YOU HAVE A LONG REPUTATION AS A HEAVY HAND. BEFORE YOU GO RAISING HELL OUT THERE, MAYBE WE SPEND MORE TIME FIGURING WHAT HAPPENED.

YOU TOLD ME WHAT HAPPENED.

NO, I MEAN, THERE HAS TO BE SOME REASON BEHIND THIS. SOME CLUES IN THAT ROOM. IF WE LOCK IT DOWN AS A CRIME SCENE, TELL NO ONE TO TOUCH NOTHING.



NOT EVEN THE EGGS?

RIGHT! NOT EVEN THE--



WHAT THE FUCK ARE YOU DOING?



EATING BREAKFAST.



BUT GO ON.

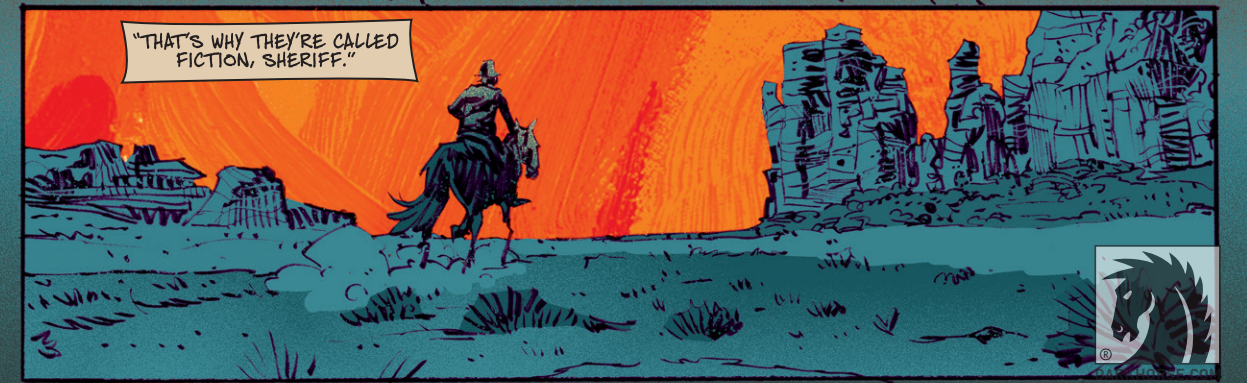
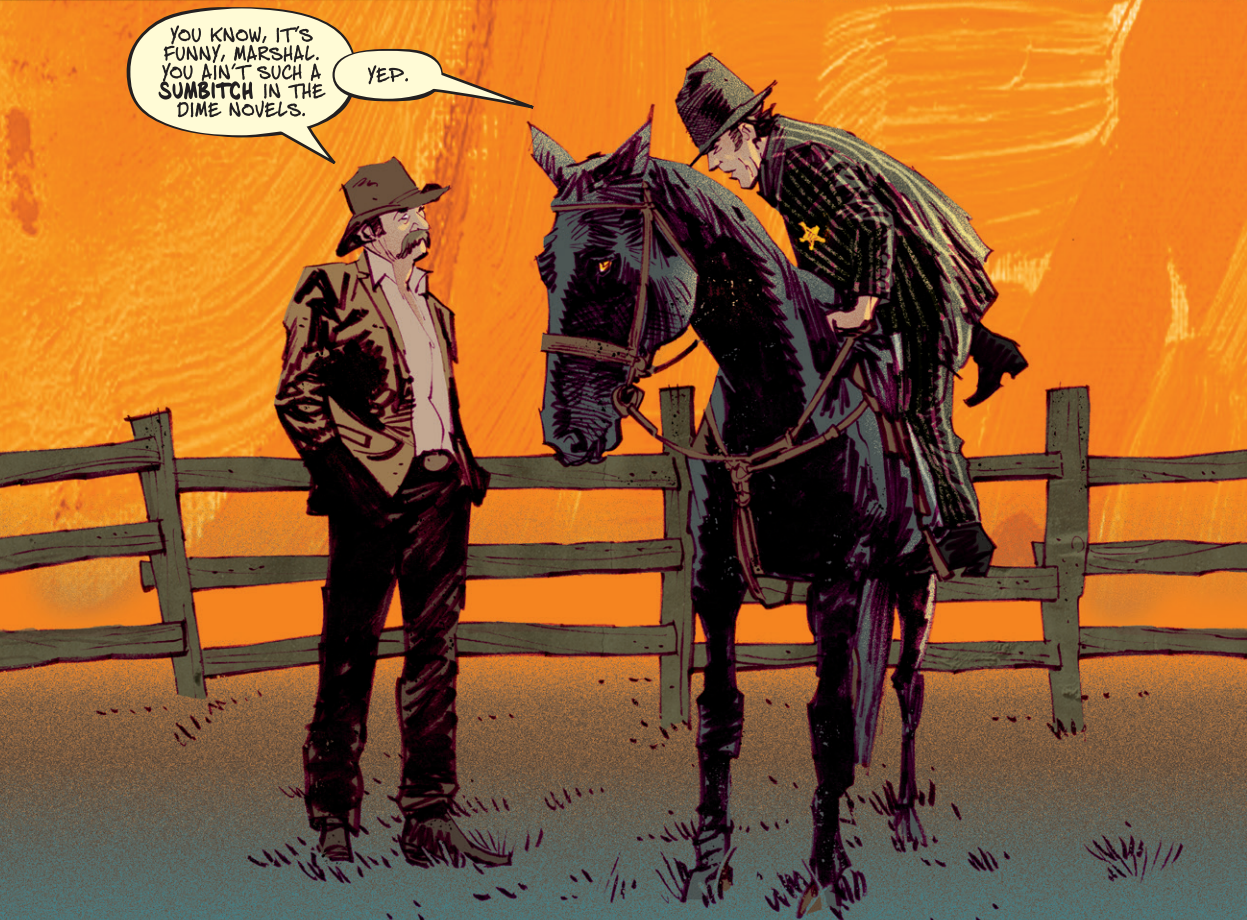


CHRIST. YOU EVEN KNOW WHAT CREATURE THAT WAS?



NOPE.

BUT YOU WERE ABOUT TO TELL ME HOW TO GET TO THE APPLE PLACE.



first form





FAMILY APPLE!
I NEED TO SPEAK
WITH A BOY INSIDE
YOUR HOME, NAME
OF JOHNNY.



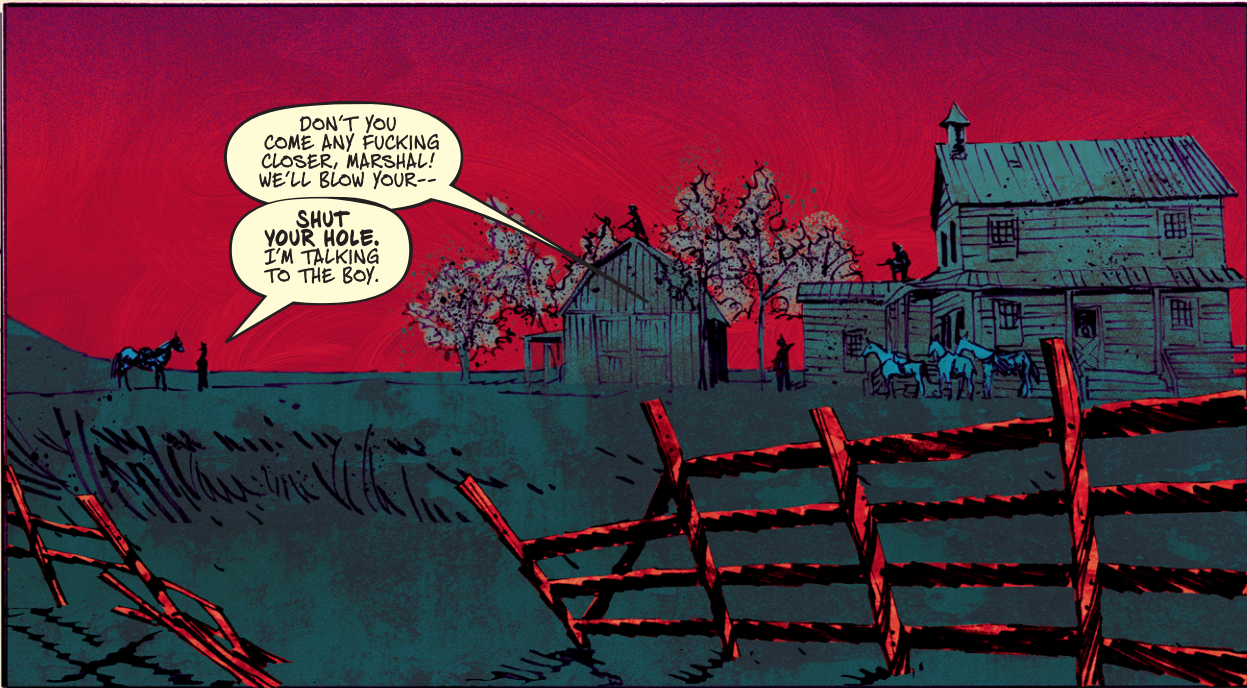
YOU NEED TO
TURN AROUND. THIS IS
FAMILY BUSINESS. WE'LL GET
TO THE BOTTOM OF IT
OURSELVES. WHAT THE BOY
DID DOESN'T MAKE ANY
SENSE. NONE!







SURE
YOU CAN,
SON.



DON'T YOU
COME ANY FUCKING
CLOSER, MARSHAL!
WE'LL BLOW YOUR--

SHUT
YOUR HOLE.
I'M TALKING
TO THE BOY.



HOW ABOUT
WE MAKE A DEAL,
JOHNNY? I'LL SHOW
YOU MY MASK, THEN
YOU AND I HAVE
A LITTLE TALK,
ALL RIGHT? JUST
A TALK.



SURE!



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WOW. IT LOOKS
JUST LIKE IN THE
PICTURES.

THANK YOU, MARSHAL
HOLT. NOW I'D LIKE TO
SHOW YOU SOMETHING,
IN RETURN.

YOU STAY
RIGHT THE FUCK
THERE, JOHNNY.

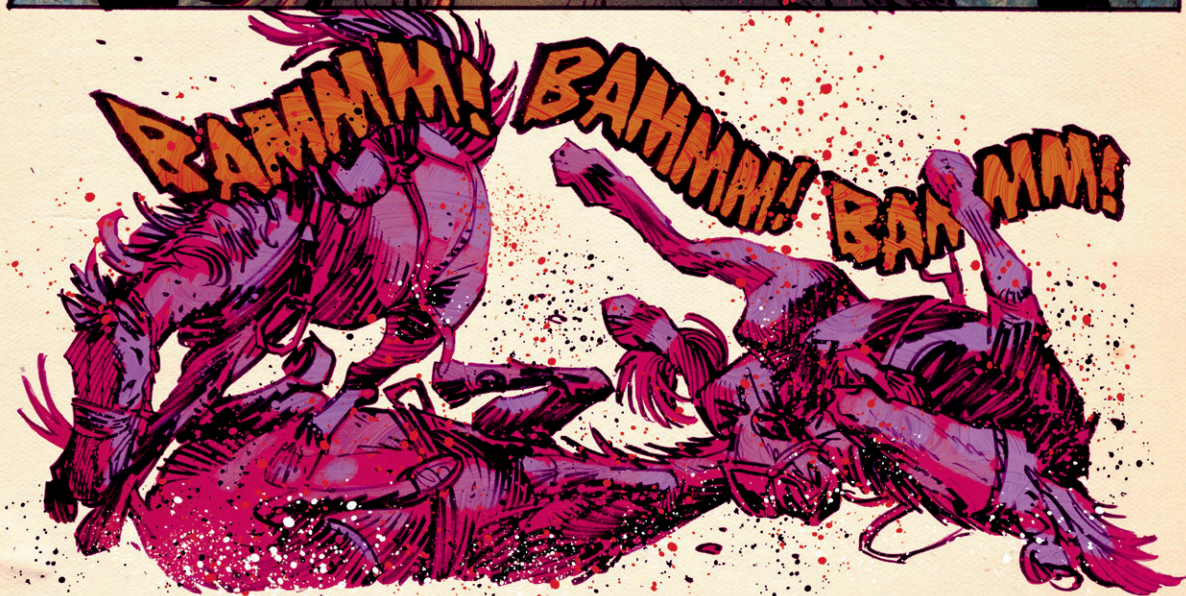
MARSHAL,
I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S
GOING ON IN THIS BOY'S
GODDAMNED HEAD
LATELY, BUT WE'RE
GOING TO FIGURE IT
OUT OURSELVES.
IN CLAN.





FACT IS, WE'RE
TAKING JOHNNY OUT
INTO THE BACKCOUNTRY
WHERE NONE OF US WILL
BE A CONCERN NO MORE,
NOT TERRITORIAL
NOR FEDERAL.

SO WHAT'S GOING
TO HAPPEN NEXT IS,
WE'RE ALL GETTING
ON THEM HORSES
THERE AND--

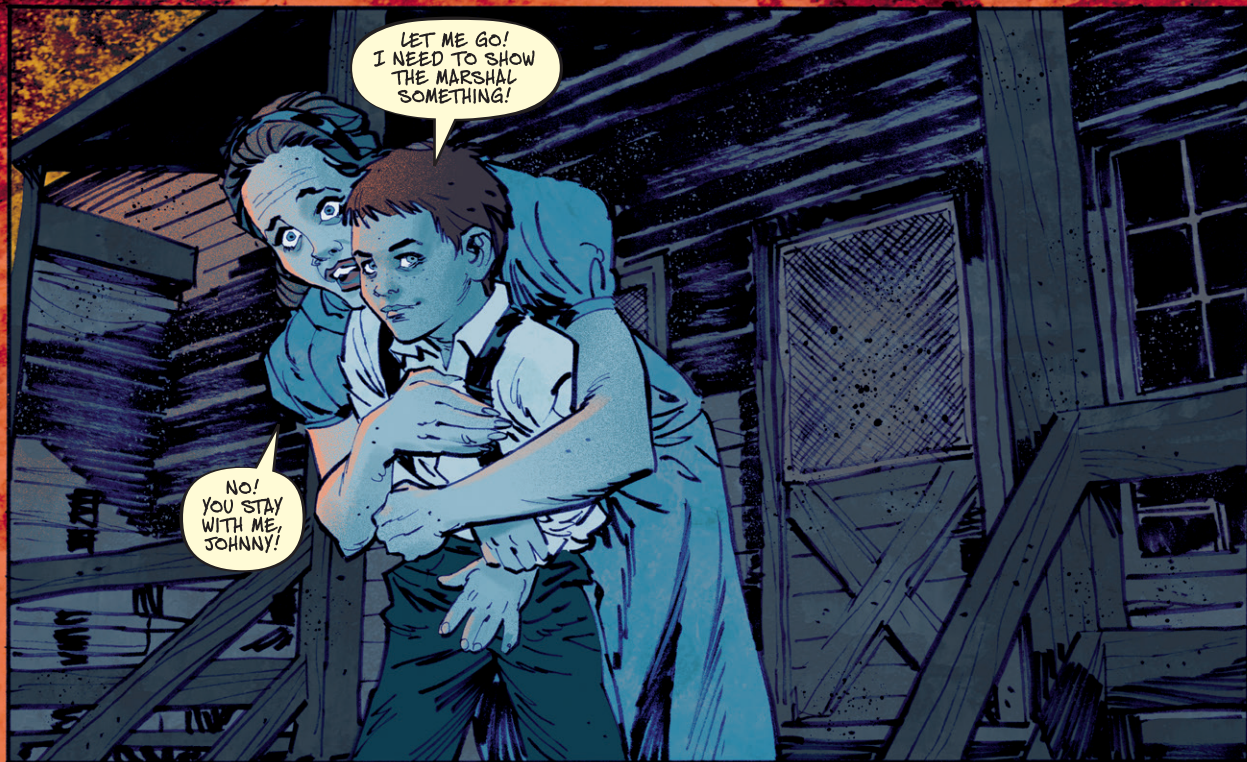


THOSE
HORSES?

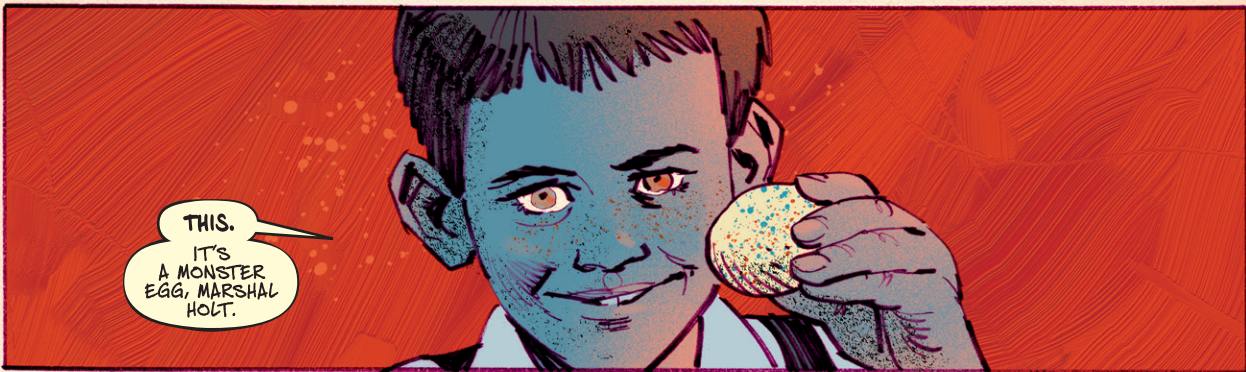
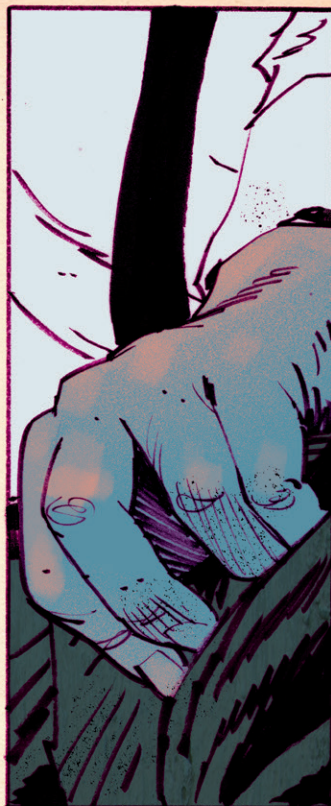


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"MASTERPIECE IS
YOUR 'LET'S FORM
A TEAM AND DO
THIS' FEVER DREAM.
PLEASE DON'T EVER
STOP WRITING
COOL STUFF YOU
LOVE, BENDIS. I'M
A FAN FOR LIFE."
—PATTON OSWALT

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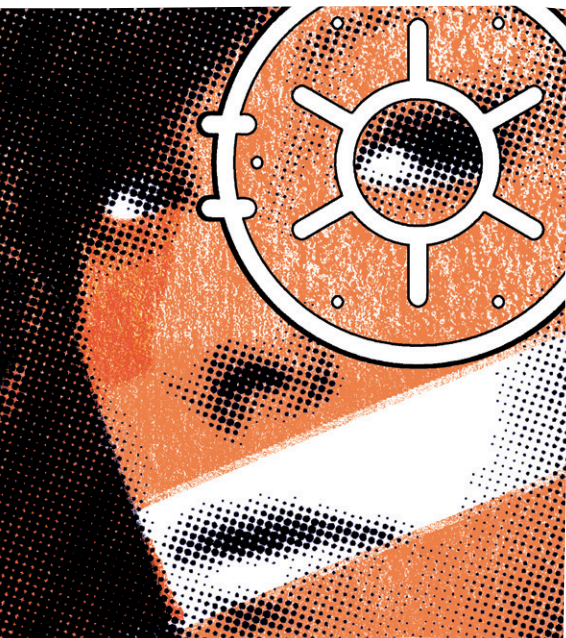
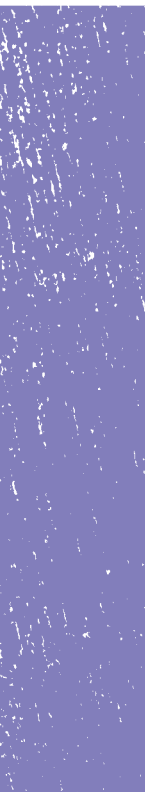


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This volume collects issues #1–#6 of *Masterpiece* as well as all covers and extra content.

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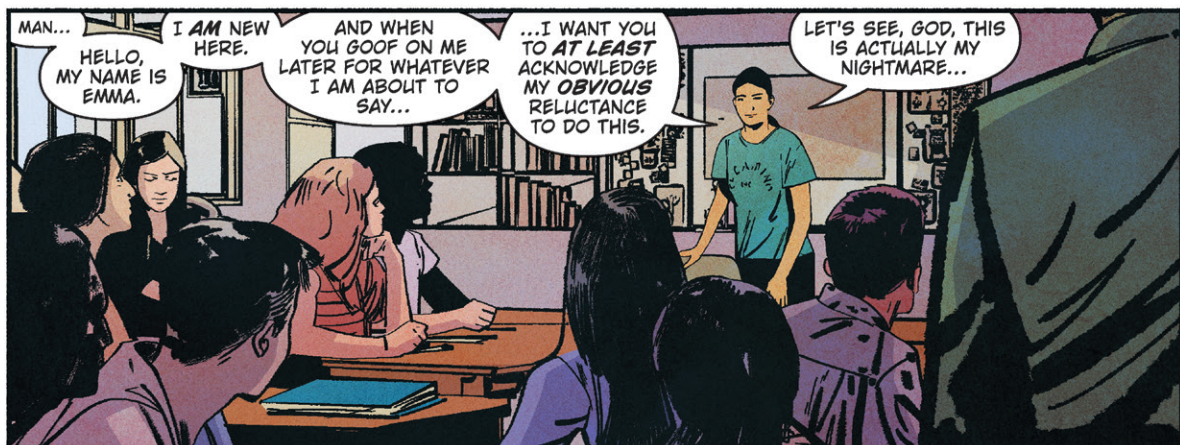
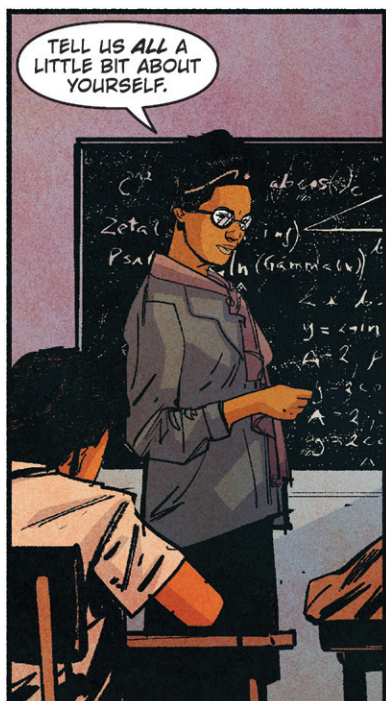
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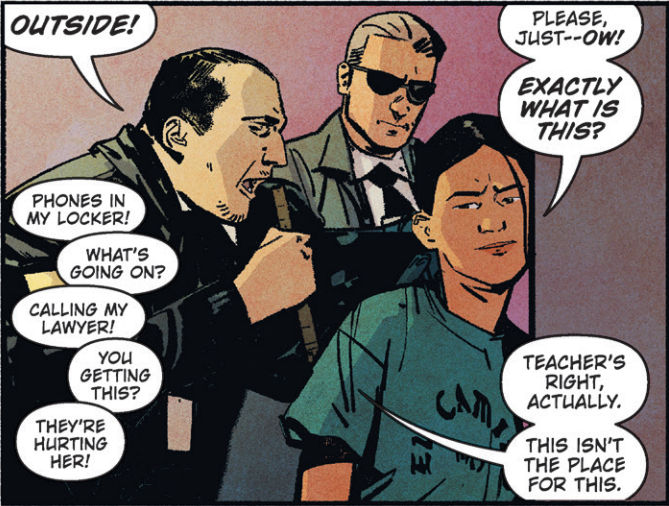
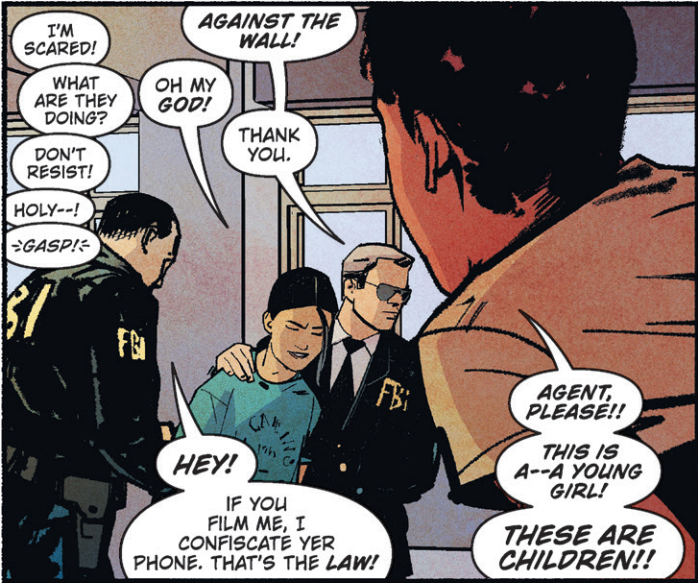
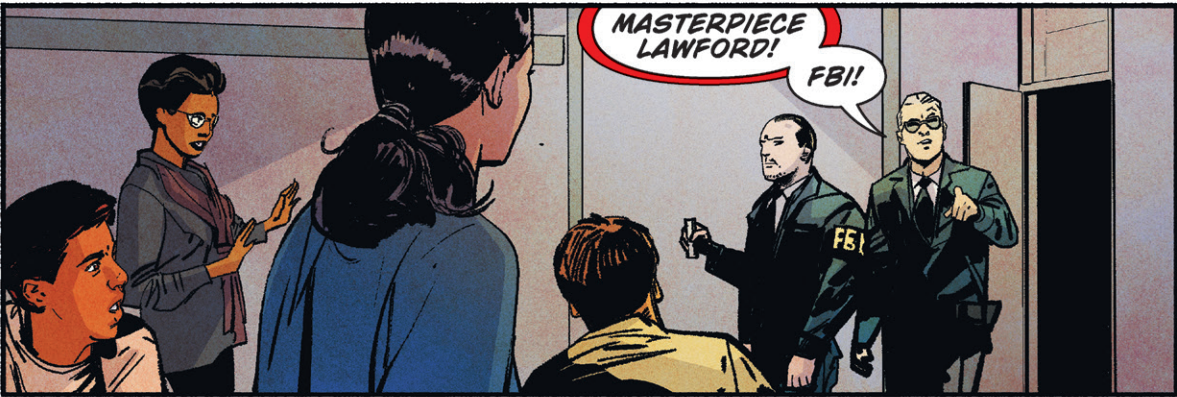


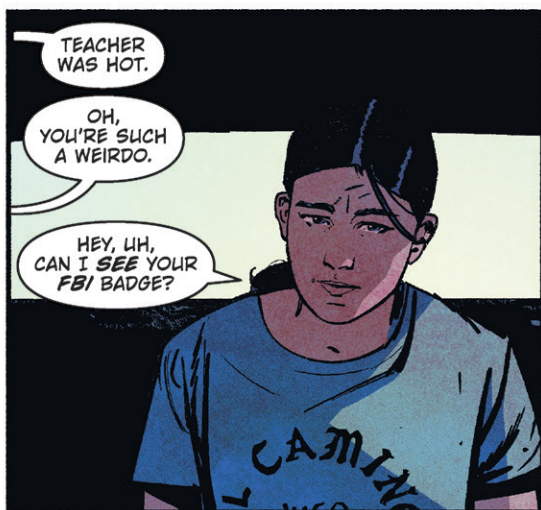
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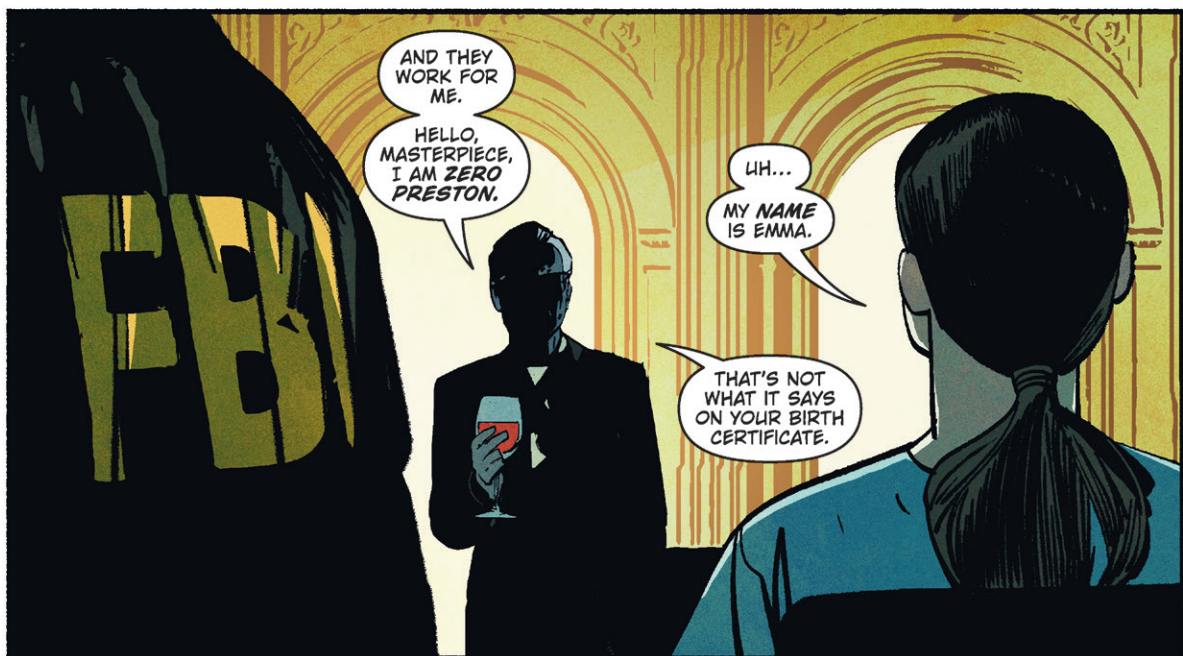


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AND THEY
WORK FOR
ME.
HELLO,
MASTERPIECE,
I AM **ZERO
PRESTON**.

UH...
MY NAME
IS **EMMA**.

THAT'S NOT
WHAT IT SAYS
ON YOUR BIRTH
CERTIFICATE.



WHY DO
YOU LOOK SO
FAMILIAR?

AND
WHY DO YOU
HAVE MY BIRTH
CERTIFICATE?



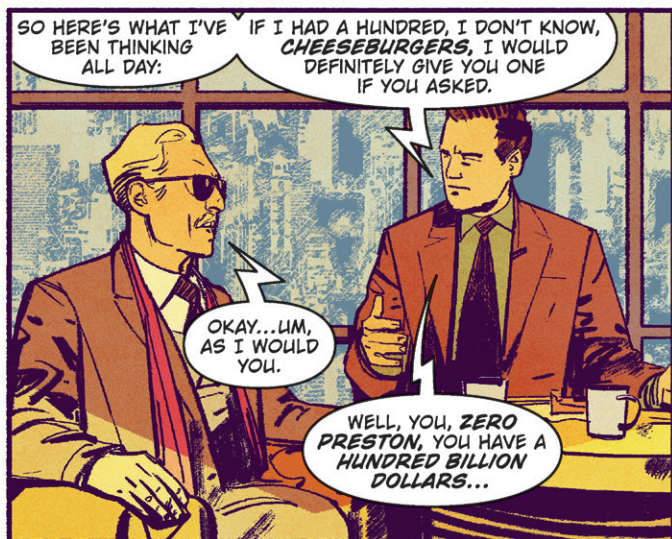
WHY DO YOU
THINK YOU'RE
HERE?



I'VE BEEN
KIDNAPPED FOR THE--

MAN, YOU
REALLY--
OH SHIT!

I--I
KNOW
YOU.



SO HERE'S WHAT I'VE
BEEN THINKING
ALL DAY:

IF I HAD A HUNDRED, I DON'T KNOW,
CHEESEBURGERS, I WOULD
DEFINITELY GIVE YOU ONE
IF YOU ASKED.

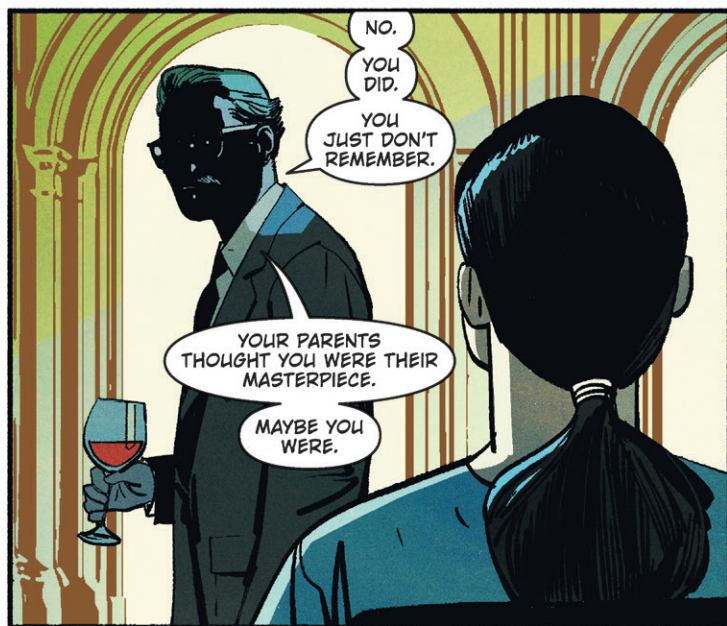
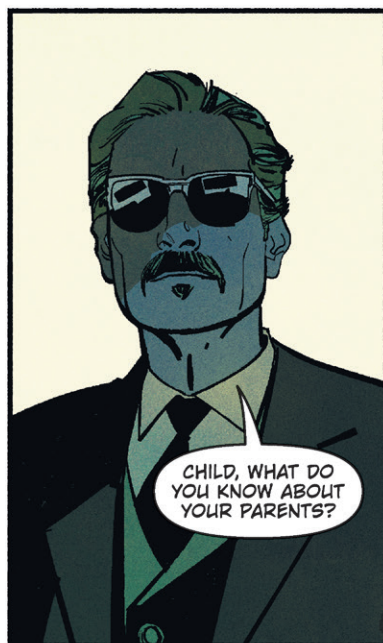
OKAY...UM,
AS I WOULD
YOU.

WELL, YOU, **ZERO
PRESTON**, YOU HAVE A
HUNDRED BILLION
DOLLARS...



SO,
CAN I HAVE
ONE?

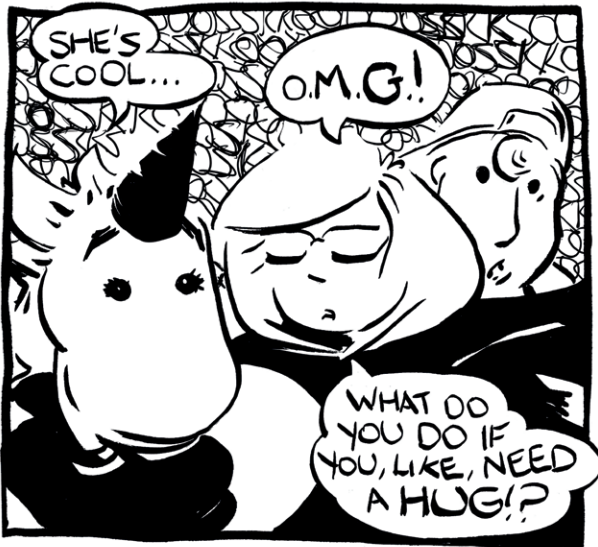






UNFOR ROW

BY EMMA! EPISODE 77





BE GRATEFUL.

YOUR
WEBCOMIC IS
HOW I KNOW YOU
DEFINITELY DON'T
KNOW WHERE YOUR
PARENTS ARE.

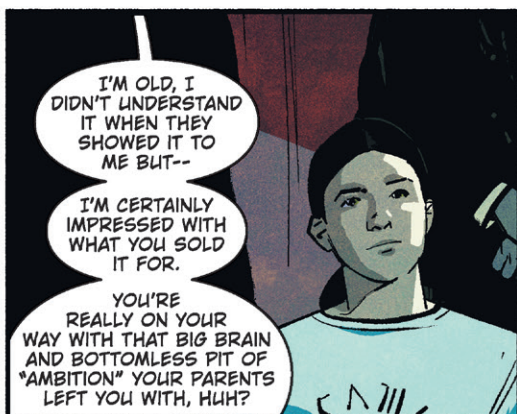
OR WHO THEY
WERE OR WHAT
THEY DID.

I JUST
HEARD THIS
WEBCOMIC ENTERPRISE
GENERATES SOME
DECENT REVENUE.

GOOD
FOR YOU.

NOTHING
COULD IMPRESS
ME MORE.

OH! AND
THAT APP
YOU INVENTED.



I'M OLD, I
DIDN'T UNDERSTAND
IT WHEN THEY
SHOWED IT TO
ME BUT--

I'M CERTAINLY
IMPRESSED WITH
WHAT YOU SOLD
IT FOR.

YOU'RE
REALLY ON YOUR
WAY WITH THAT BIG BRAIN
AND BOTTOMLESS PIT OF
"AMBITION" YOUR PARENTS
LEFT YOU WITH, HUH?



THAT'S
HOW TO DO
IT, KID.

IF I DID IT
ALL OVER AGAIN,
I WOULD DIVE
RIGHT IN.

**JUST LIKE
YOU. GRAB
EVERYTHING.**



I WASTED SO
MUCH TIME AT
YOUR AGE.

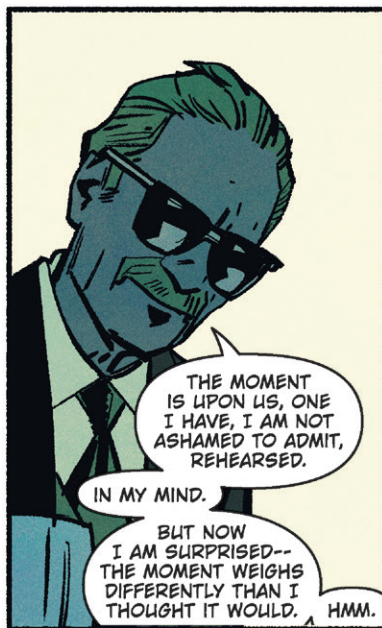
MTV
HAD JUST
STARTED.

BUT
YOU--

YOU!

SO, NOW
IT'S TIME.

I GET TO
REVEAL A
TRUTH TO
YOU.



THE MOMENT
IS UPON US, ONE
I HAVE, I AM NOT
ASHAMED TO ADMIT,
REHEARSED.

IN MY MIND.

BUT NOW
I AM SURPRISED--
THE MOMENT WEIGHS
DIFFERENTLY THAN I
THOUGHT IT WOULD.

HMM.



UH...HOW
ABOUT: SPIT
IT THE FUCK
OUT.



MOXIE.

YOUR PARENTS,
MASTERPIECE...

...IF I'M
BEING FAIR,
WERE THE
GREATEST OF
ALL TIME.

FACTS ARE
FACTS...





"FIVE OF THE GREATEST HEISTS
IN THE HISTORY OF HISTORY
WERE PULLED OFF BY *THEM*.

"AND THEIR FRIENDS.

"ALL OF THEM
'THE CRIMINAL'S
CRIMINALS.'

"RESPECTED WORLDWIDE.

"YOUR FATHER TURNED
CRIMINALITY INTO A GENTLEMAN'S
GAME AND AN ART FORM--

"THE CODE.

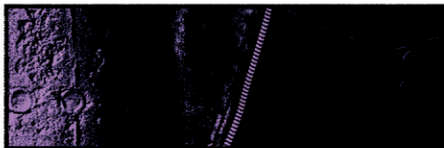
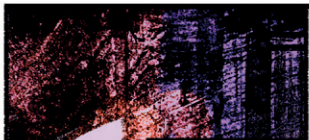
"IF YOU DIDN'T HONOR THE CODE
AMONG THIEVES NO ONE IN THE
WORLD WOULD DEAL WITH YOU.

"HE *DID* THAT.

"AND YOUR MOTHER
WAS JUST ABOUT THE
SMARTEST WOMAN I
EVER MET.

"FUCK! DID SHE CLASS
EVERYTHING UP.





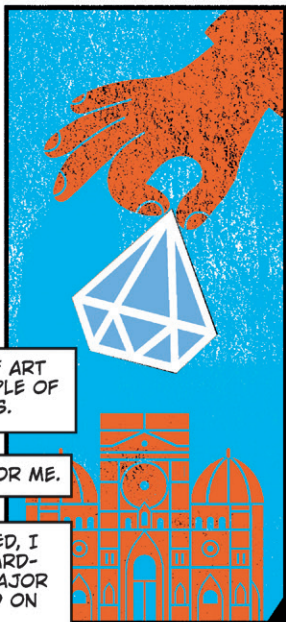
"THEY STOLE ALL THE BEAUTIFUL THINGS THEY COULD FIND.

"THEN, THEY HAD YOU.

"THEN...THEY CAME AFTER ME.

"AND THEN THEY *DISAPPEARED*.

"THEY CAME AFTER ME WITH SUCH A BEAUTIFUL AND ELABORATE PLAN THAT IT ALMOST SEEMED LIKE A GIFT.



"A WORK OF ART FROM A COUPLE OF MASTERS.

"MADE JUST FOR ME.

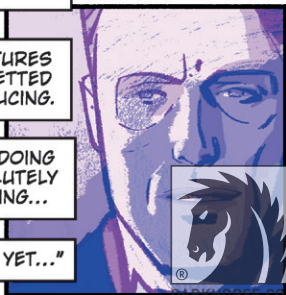
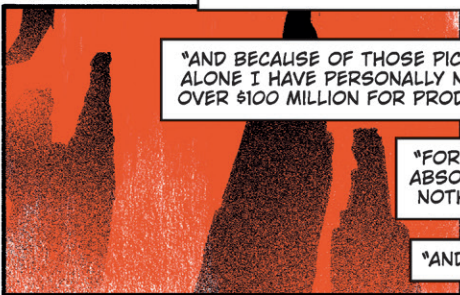
"AFTER THEY DISAPPEARED, I PRODUCED SEVERAL AWARD-WINNING BLOCKBUSTER MAJOR MOTION PICTURES BASED ON THEIR EXPLOITS--

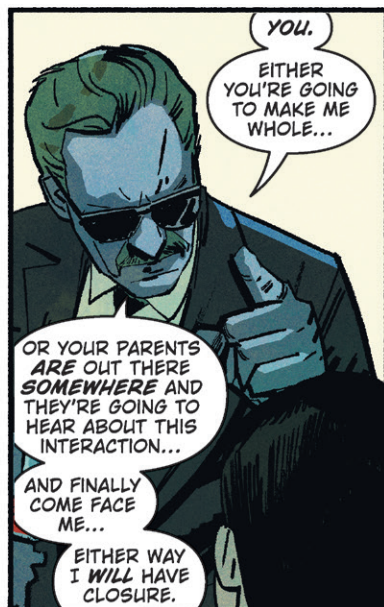


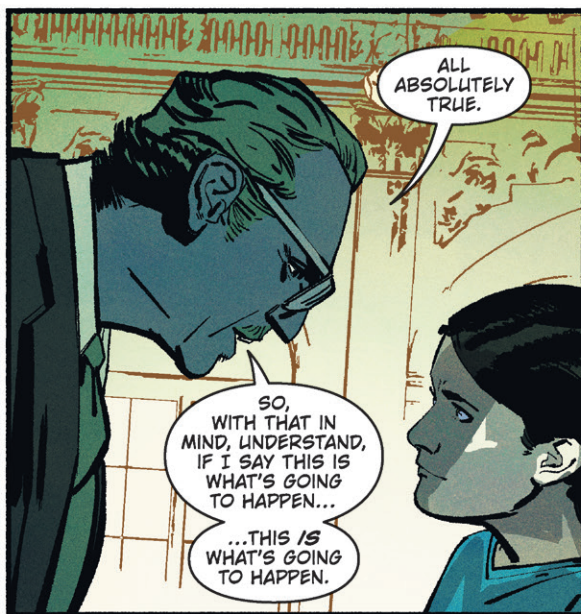
"AND BECAUSE OF THOSE PICTURES ALONE I HAVE PERSONALLY NETTED OVER \$100 MILLION FOR PRODUCING.

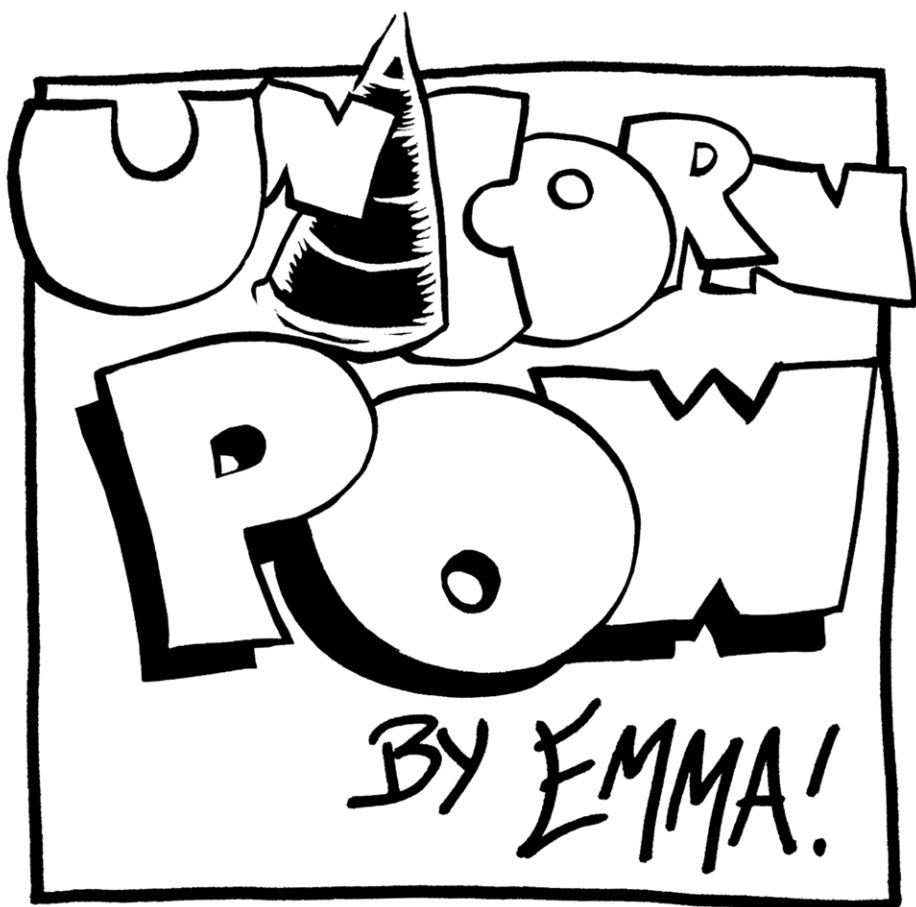
"FOR DOING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING...

"AND YET..."



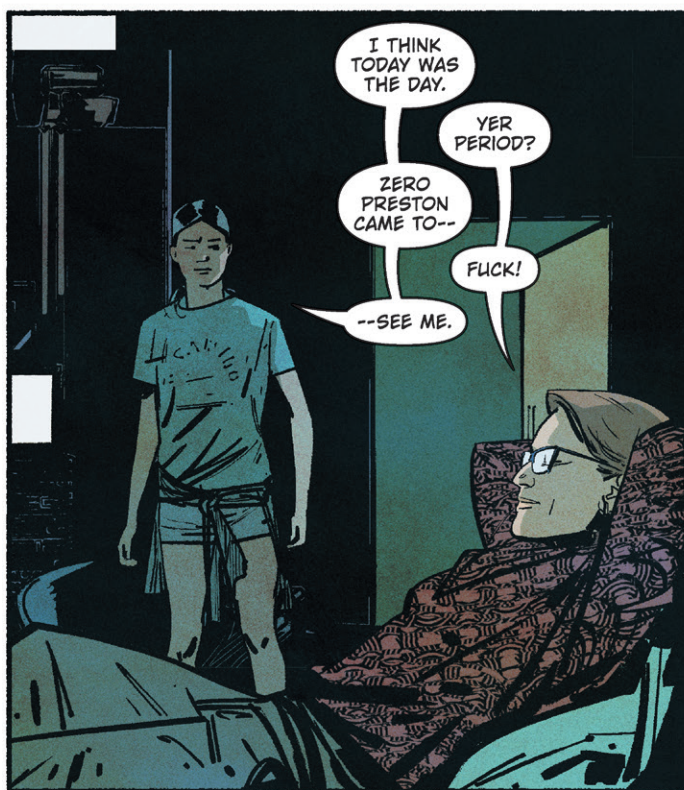


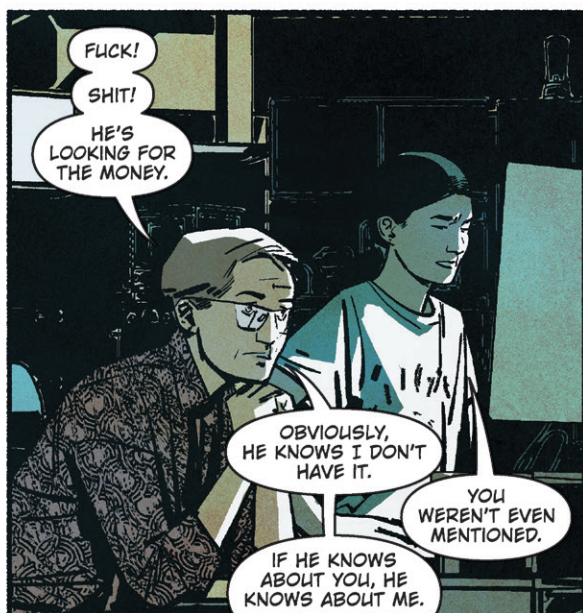
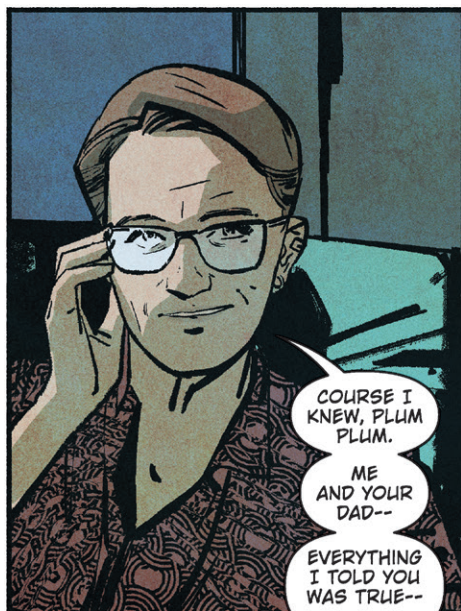




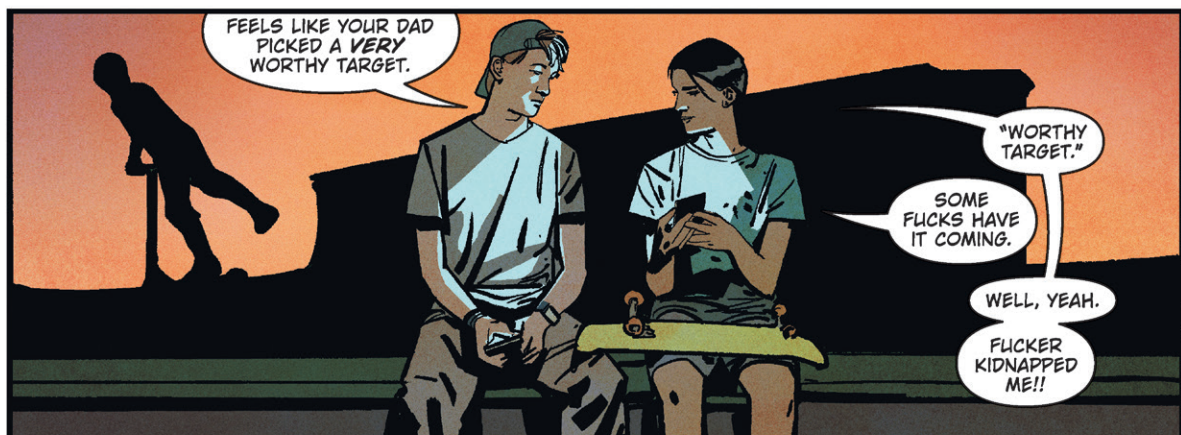
Thank you for four years of an amazing journey
together. That was the last installment of
Unicorn Pow. Thank you for your patronage.
Support these other webcomics.

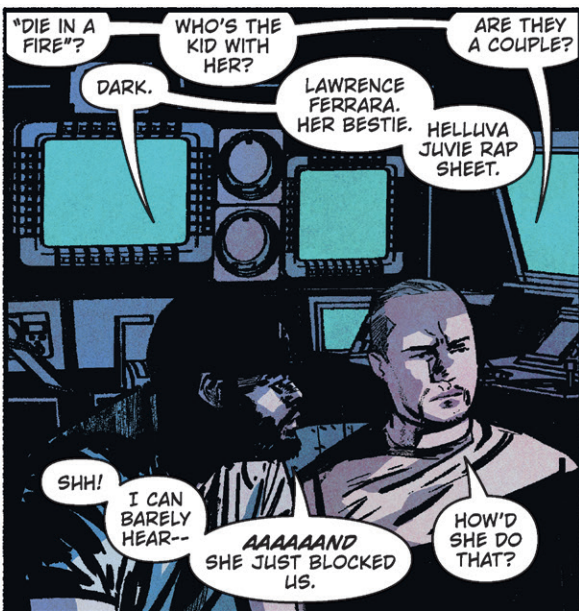
Bye. Pow.



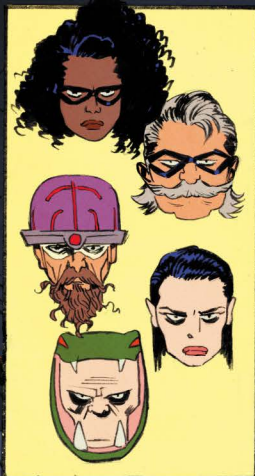












MINOR THREATS

PATTON
OSWALT
JORDAN
BLUM
SCOTT
HEPBURN
IAN
HERRING
NATE
PIEKOS



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MINOR THREATS™

VOLUME 1
A QUICK END TO A LONG BEGINNING

SCRIPT
PATTON OSWALT
JORDAN BLUM

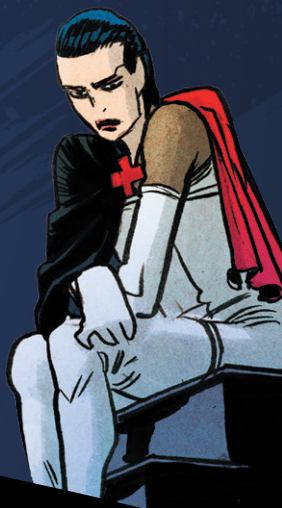
ART
SCOTT HEPBURN

COLOR ART
IAN HERRING

LETTERS
NATE PIEKOS OF BLAMBOT®

COVER BY
SCOTT HEPBURN WITH
IAN HERRING

MINOR THREATS CREATED BY PATTON OSWALT,
JORDAN BLUM, AND SCOTT HEPBURN



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CHAPTER ONE

"A QUICK END TO A
LONG BEGINNING"



HARBURN
32



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EVERY PRISON
SHRINK I EVER
MET ASKED THE
SAME QUESTION...

"WHAT MADE
YOU DO THIS?"



"WHY THE COSTUMES?
THE GIMMICKS?
THE SAME ENDLESS DANCE
OVER AND OVER AGAIN?"



EACH TIME I ANSWERED
DIFFERENTLY. GREED.
THRILLS. POWER.

FAMILY.



EACH TIME I
LIED TO THEM.



MAYBE I WAS
JUST TERRIFIED
OF WHAT THE
TRUE ANSWER
MIGHT BE.

EITHER WAY I
WAS ALWAYS
DAMNED TO
END UP HERE.
NOT BEHIND
BARS...

BEHIND THIS BAR, SERVING
WATERED-DOWN RAIL BOOZE
TO CAREER LOSERS.

LISTENING TO THEM
PINE FOR THE GLORY
DAYS BEFORE THE
WORLD GOT MESSY.



BEFORE THE ALIEN INVASIONS, THE
TIME TRAVELLING DESPOTS, AND
SECRET MULTIVERSAL WARS.

IS THIS
NAILED
ON?!

AW, JESUS,
BRAINFART'S
SWITCHING
THEM AGAIN.

HERE, LOWLIFES CASE THEIR NEXT JOB,
MAKING BIG, MEANINGLESS PLANS FOR
A FUTURE THEY HAVE NO PLACE IN.

DINOSAURS PUNCHING
AT METEORS, UNAWARE
THEY'RE ALREADY ASH.

IT'S
BRAIN
TEASE! THE
INSOMNIAC'S
GREATEST NEMESIS
AND COGNITIVE
COMPETITOR. NOT
THIS SADIST TAKING
UP SEVEN SPOTS
ON THE WALL OF
INFAMY!

BWAHA
HAHAHA
HAA!

KEEP ON
LAUGHING AND
THE ANSWER TO MY
NEXT QUIZZICAL
CONUNDRUM WILL
BE YOUR TEETH
ALL OVER THE
BARROOM
FLOOR!





ENOUGH! I AIN'T
CLEANING UP TEETH. OR
FINGERS. FOR ALL YOU
KNOW THAT PSYCHOPATH
BOOBYTRAPPED
HIS FRAMES.



HERE, TAKE
THIS ONE
DOWN.

YOU CAN
HAVE MY
SPOT.



REALLY...?

HAHA
HAHAHA
HAHA!



YOU GOT
PINCHED...
BY THE
COPS?!

WAS THE
INSOMNIAC
TAKING A
SPA DAY?



...HEH...



HAHA!

QUESTION:
WHO THE HELL
GETS NABBED BY
THE POLICE AND
STILL CALLS
THEMSELVES A
VILLAIN?

ANSWER:
YOU! BWAHA
HAHAHA!

I'D BE MAD IF I WERE
STILL THAT PERSON IN
THE PHOTO, BUT THEY'RE
LAUGHING AT A GHOST.



SHIT.

THE ONLY
CONSTANT
AT THIS
JOB IS
THAT THE
NIGHT CAN
ALWAYS
GET
WORSE



I'LL BE HONEST, THE SERVICE IN HERE LEAVES A LOT TO BE DESIRED.

SCALPEL, DISGRACED SURGEON TURNED UNDERWORLD MOB DOCTOR. THINKS HER SHIT DON'T STINK.

WHAT DO YOU WANT?



JUST LETTING THE CLIENTELE KNOW I'M OPENING MY THIRD CLINIC. I'D ASK HOW YOU'RE DOING, PLAYTIME, BUT THOSE CROW'S FEET SPEAK VOLUMES.

BUT HEY, START SAVING THOSE TIPS AND MAYBE ONE DAY I CAN HELP YOU WITH THAT.

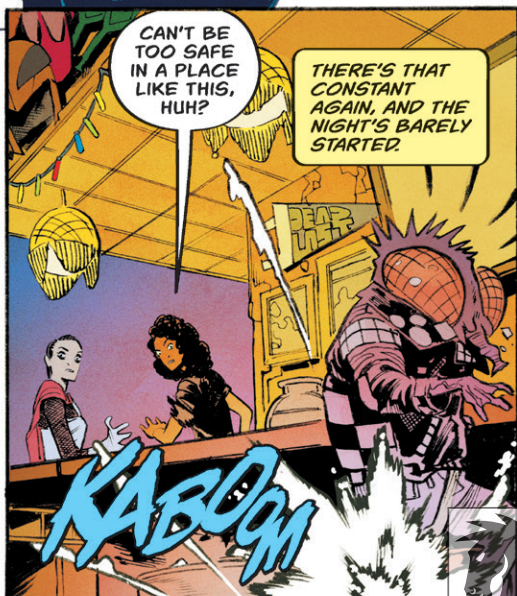


LIKE I SAID, THAT'S NOT ME ANYMORE.

I MEANT TO DRINK, AND IT'S JUST FRANKIE NOW.

THE FACUNDO PARAISO XA RUM.

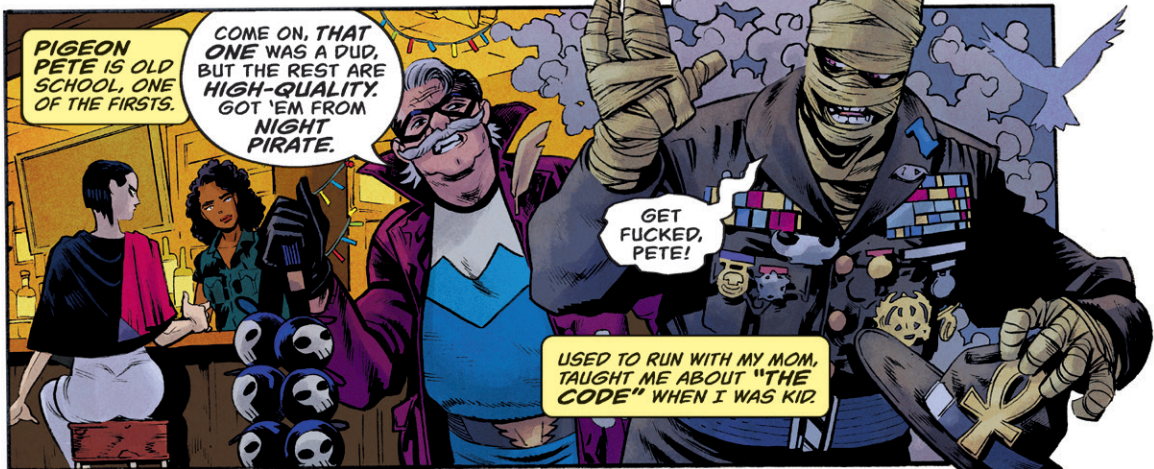
BEHIND THE THREE DOLLAR BOTTLE OF VLADIMIR VODKA.



CAN'T BE TOO SAFE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, HUH?

THERE'S THAT CONSTANT AGAIN, AND THE NIGHT'S BARELY STARTED.

KABOOM

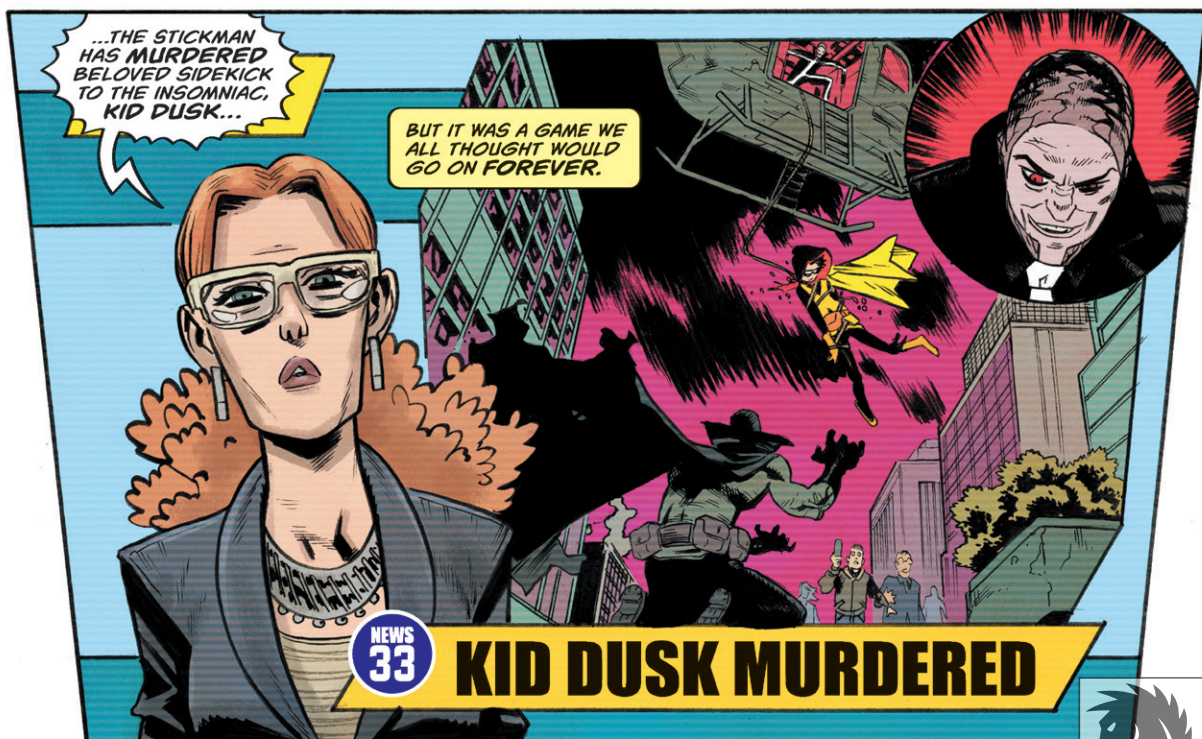
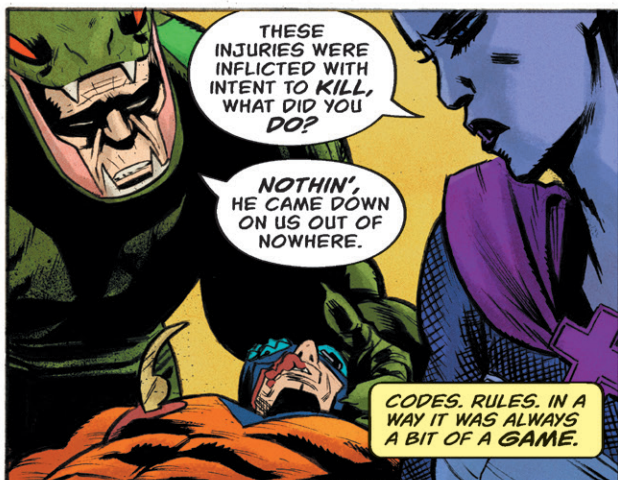






LOOKS LIKE
SOMEONE
DECIDED TO
INFLICT IT
BACK.

THE
INSOMNIAC...
DID THIS?



click

THE
BODY HAS NOT BEEN
RECOVERED NOR HAS
THERE BEEN A STATEMENT
RELEASED BY THE
INS--

**IN AN INSTANT I KNEW
NOTHING WOULD BE
THE SAME. EVERYTHING
WAS BROKEN.**

...CITIZENS
OF TWILIGHT
CITY...

...THIS
IS THE
SEARCHER,
LEADER OF THE
CONTINUUM.

IF
ANYONE HAS
ANY INFORMATION
ABOUT THE CURRENT
WHEREABOUTS OF
THE STICKMAN
WE SUGGEST YOU
SHARE IT **NOW**.

AND LIKE I SAID, THE NIGHT HAD BARELY STARTED...



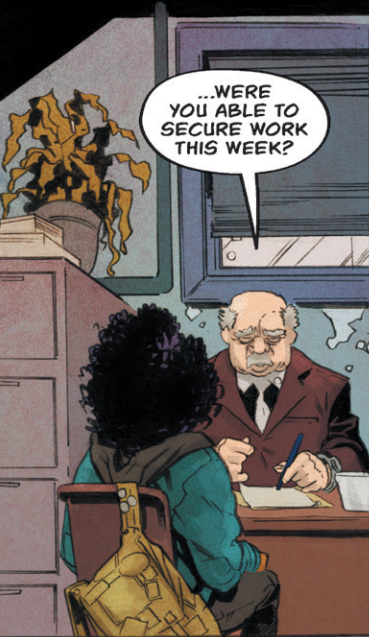
THREE
WEEKS
AGO.

HEY,
FOLLIS...

...THEY'RE
READY FOR
YOU.

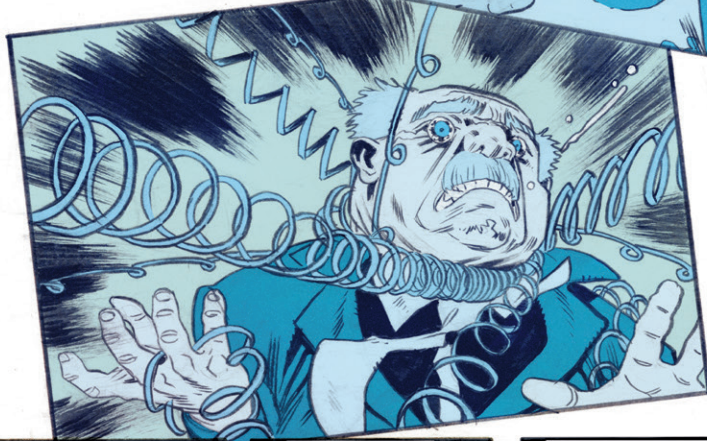
"OKAY, FRANKIE,
PLEASE
ANSWER THE
FOLLOWING
QUESTIONS..."







NO. THAT'S NOT ME ANYMORE.





JACK N' THE BOX GUN

...HE'S GOT IT
STASHED IN THAT
DREAM CAVERN
IN SOME SORT
OF TROPHY
ROOM.

BUT
ONE DAY
I'LL GET IT
BACK...

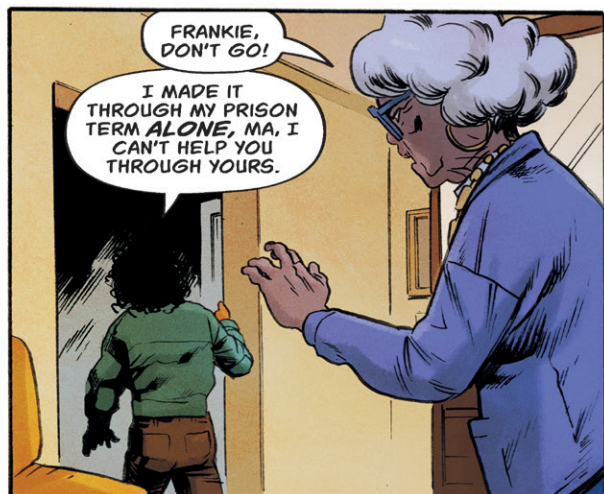
EXPLODING JACKS

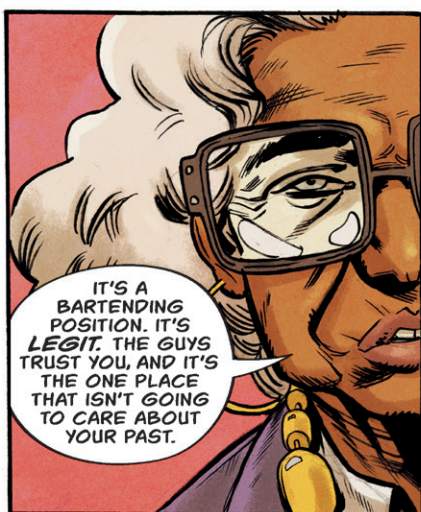
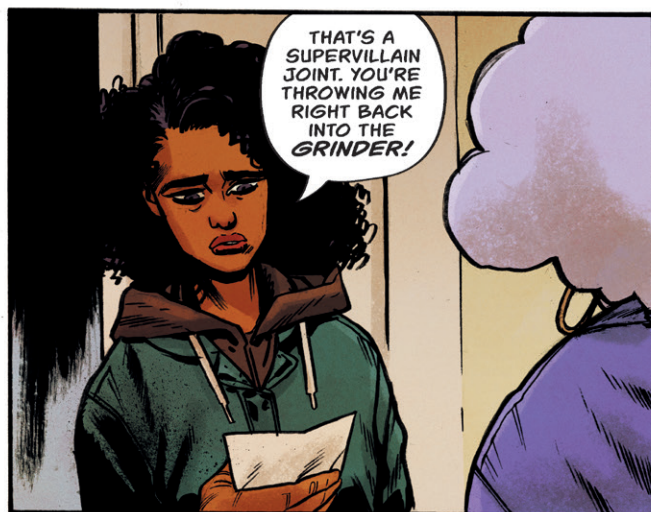
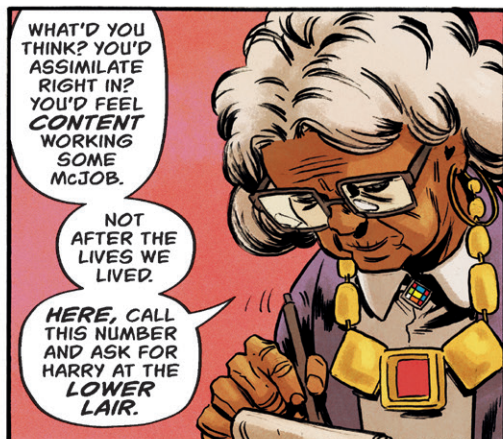
YO-YO GRAPH

...IT'S AN
IMPORTANT
PART OF MY
LEGACY.



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I ONLY SAW THE
STICKMAN ONCE.

HE INVITED
A BUNCH
OF SUPER-
VILLAINS TO
MEET AND
DISCUSS
TEAMING UP--



SOMETHING
ABOUT PULLING
THE CRIME OF
THE CENTURY
AND TAKING ON
THE INSOMNIAC
TOGETHER.



IT DIDN'T
GO WELL.

MY MOTHER
WASN'T AN
EMOTIONAL
PERSON, BUT IN
THAT MOMENT I
SAW SADNESS.
RAGE. DREAD.



SHE DIDN'T GET
OUT OF BED
FOR THE NEXT
TWO WEEKS.
BARELY ATE.
BARELY SPOKE.

ALL SHE
EVER SAID
ABOUT THAT
MEETING
WAS "HE
CROSSED
THE LINE."



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PRESENT.

TWILIGHT CITY

IF DOWNTOWN HAS
ALWAYS BEEN THE BEATING
HEART OF THE CITY...

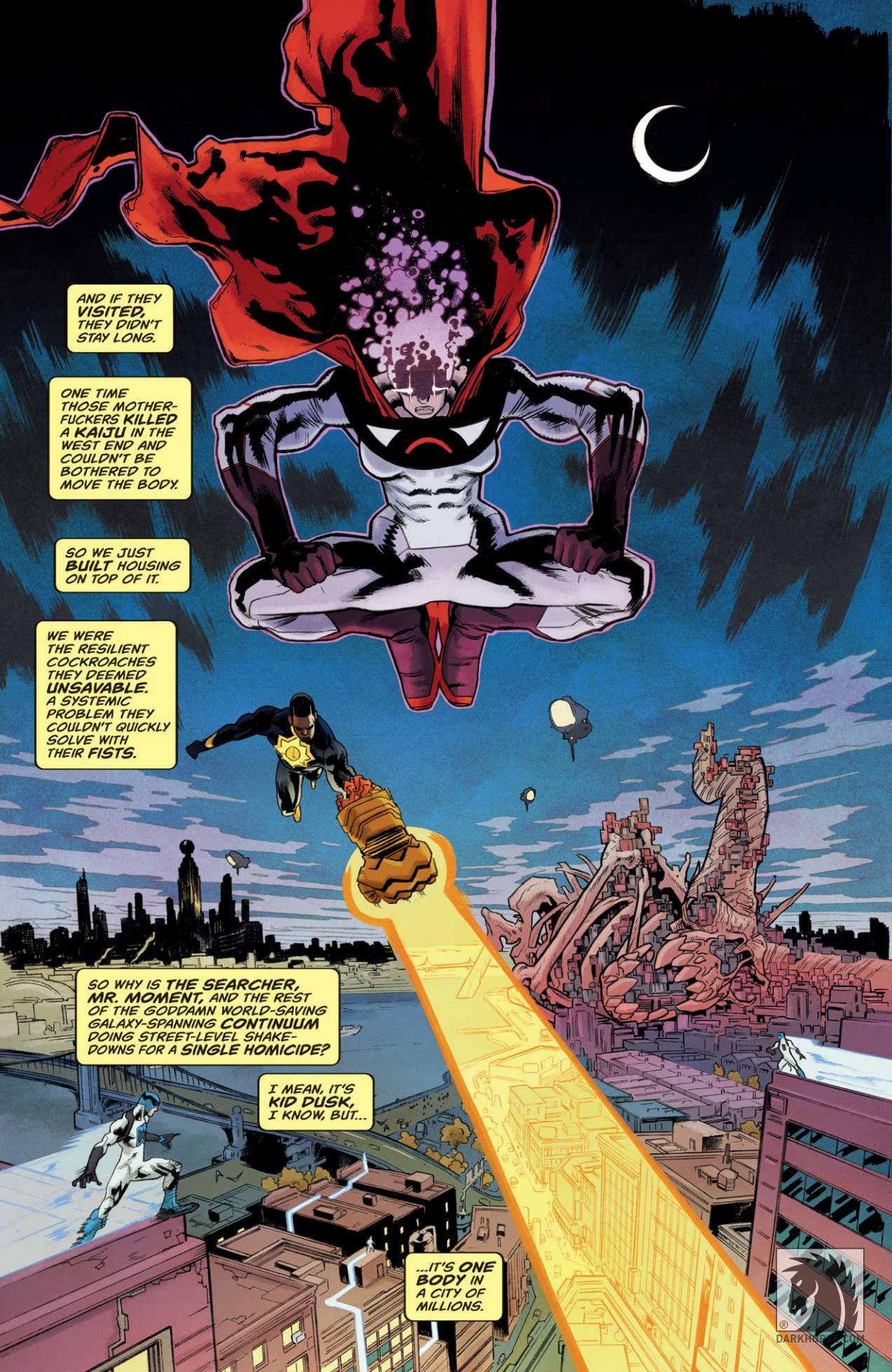
...THEN
REDDPORT
HAS ALWAYS
BEEN THE
MALIGNANT
TUMOR
GROWING
OUT OF ITS
ASSHOLE.



THE ONLY PLUS SIDE WAS
THE CAPES AVOIDED IT.



DAN MORSE



AND IF THEY
VISITED,
THEY DIDN'T
STAY LONG.

ONE TIME
THOSE MOTHER-
FUCKERS KILLED
A KAIJU IN THE
WEST END AND
COULDN'T BE
BOTHERED TO
MOVE THE BODY.

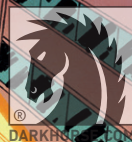
SO WE JUST
BUILT HOUSING
ON TOP OF IT.

WE WERE
THE RESILIENT
COCKROACHES
THEY DEEMED
UNSAVABLE.
A SYSTEMIC
PROBLEM THEY
COULDN'T QUICKLY
SOLVE WITH
THEIR FISTS.

SO WHY IS THE SEARCHER,
MR. MOMENT, AND THE REST
OF THE GODDAMN WORLD-SAVING
GALAXY-SPANNING CONTINUUM
DOING STREET-LEVEL SHAKE-
DOWNS FOR A SINGLE HOMICIDE?

I MEAN, IT'S
KID DUSK,
I KNOW, BUT...

...IT'S ONE
BODY IN
A CITY OF
MILLIONS.



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HELP ME!

I KNOW YOU! YOU'RE ONE OF US!

SHIT'S GONE CRAZY! CAPES CLAMPIN' DOWN ON EVERYONE! THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN, YA GOTTA HELP ME.

I MEAN, THE CODE! YOU GOTTA--



I DON'T...I'M NOT...



YOU'RE PLAAAAAAAAA!



WHERE IS SHE? TELL ME WHERE STICKMAN IS!



MA'AM, THIS MAN MIGHT HAVE INFORMATION REGARDING A DANGEROUS FUGITIVE. I SUGGEST YOU KEEP MOVING.

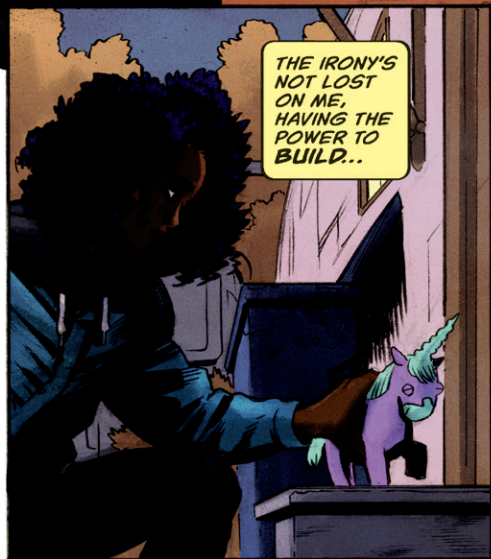
THE CODE... SHE'S GOTTA... SHE'S...



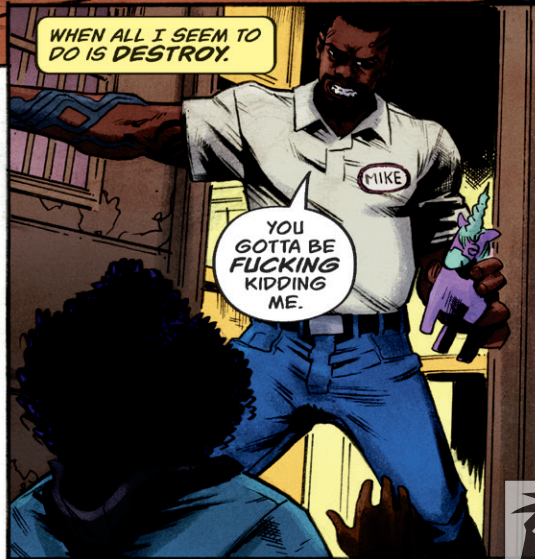
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MY GIFT OR ABILITY IS THAT I CAN TAKE ALMOST ANY RAW MATERIALS AND THEN SOMEHOW MY SUBCONSCIOUS ASSEMBLES THEM INTO COMPLEX MACHINES.

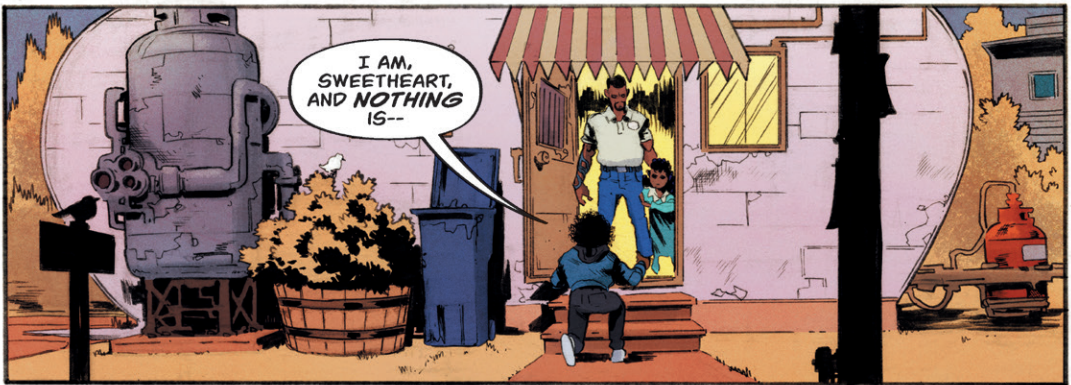
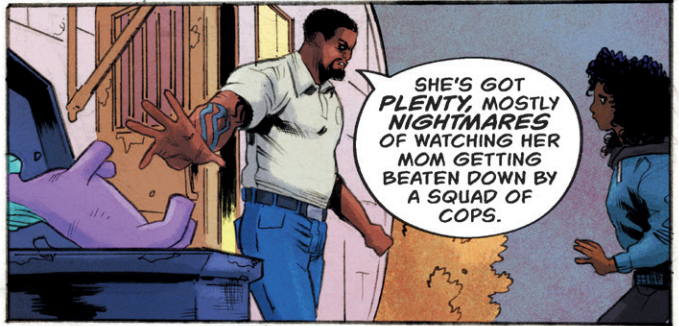


THE IRONY'S NOT LOST ON ME, HAVING THE POWER TO BUILD...



WHEN ALL I SEEM TO DO IS DESTROY.

YOU GOTTA BE FUCKING KIDDING ME.





KELLEY JONES

BOOK ONE: THE IMPALER

DRACULA™

MATT
WAGNER

KELLEY
JONES

WITH
JOSÉ VILLARRUBIA



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BOOK ONE: THE IMPALER

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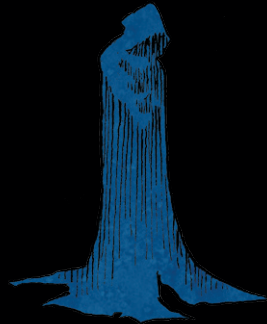
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“WELCOME TO MY HOUSE! ENTER FREELY AND OF YOUR OWN WILL!”

With those immortal words, readers for generations were introduced to arguably one of the most famous literary creations of the ages—the terrifying vampire lord, Count Dracula. For over a century, this urbane monster has represented the ultimate prototype of the supernatural predator in most people’s minds. He has been portrayed in countless films, comics and novels and his iconic name is literally known all over the world.

Standing in the shadows of those myriad depictions and extensions of this legendary creation, one must ponder the question; does the world need *another* incarnation of Dracula?

Kelley Jones is the most acclaimed horror comics artist of our day, an illustrative maestro of all things malevolent and macabre. His richly textured ink lines combined with his atmospheric draughtsmanship have given spine-chilling life to a vibrant litany of nightmarish narratives over the years. He has amassed a loyal readership who love his unique and evocative art in all its forms. He’s also been my dear friend for over thirty years.

Kelley and I first met during various promotional signings when we’d both contributed art for the *Season of Mists* story arc in Neil Gaiman’s blockbuster comics series, *The Sandman*. Kell and I hit it off immediately with our similar senses of humor and a mutual love for all things

dark and monstrous. Ever since those earliest days of our friendship, we’d always intended to work together someday—a collaboration that we both felt certain would result in something unforgettable.



But, as is often the case, our lives and careers took us both in separate directions for many years until, during a recent exchange on social media, Kelley again revived the idea that, “We really do have to work together some day!” The only difference this time around was . . . I had an idea in mind that I thought would suit both of our interests and strengths. Anyone who’s read *Grendel* knows that I’ve long had a fascination with

vampires and entombed somewhere in that obsession was a desire to someday try my hand at a rendition of the granddaddy of all blood-suckers—the most famous vampire of all.

Author Bram Stoker was an Irish former civil servant turned theater manager who eventually also tried his hand at writing melodramatic and somewhat lurid novels to no great success. At some point in the early 1890s he encountered the legends and superstitions of Transylvania, an area that he never visited in person, and began to formulate the basis of a story centered around a character he originally christened “Count Vampyr”. After years of making extensive notes outlining what was to become his most famous



novel, he made the fortuitous decision to change the name of his sinister title character to Dracula.

Opinions vary as to whether Stoker had much knowledge of the real-life Dracula, a fifteenth-century Wallachian warlord (a *voivode*) renowned for his merciless cruelty. Vlad III was the second son and heir of Vlad Dracul, his predecessor on the Wallachian throne and a member of the Order of the Dragon, a chivalric fraternity that also provided his surname—"Dracul" translates to "dragon" in the Romanian language and thus "Dracula" indicates Vlad III as the "son of the dragon". Due to his horrific preferred method for executing political and military prisoners, he also earned the infamous moniker of Vlad Tepes—"The Impaler." Again, whether Stoker fully intended his vampiric villain to be an undead version of this historical despot, the name along with the physical similarities and bloodthirsty legacy all combine to provide a chilling gravity that has only added to the character's nefarious allure.

The novel was first published in 1897 and, much like Stoker's other literary efforts, it garnered only middling sales and mostly tepid reviews. Still, something resonated about this story beyond the public's initial reactions. Much like its title character himself, *Dracula* refused to die as more and more people eventually fell under the novel's hypnotic spell and its popularity continued to grow. In fact, since its initial publication, the novel has never gone out of print. Eventually, a seemingly endless progres-

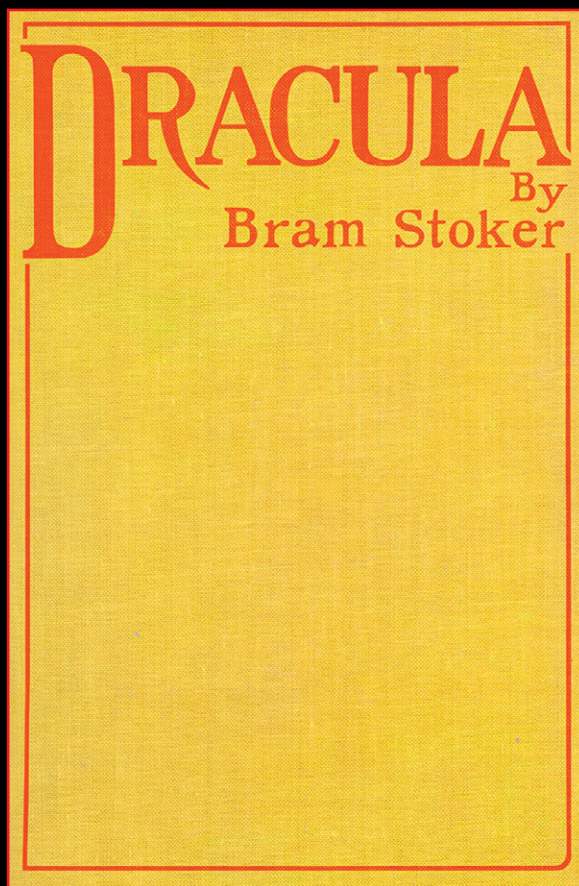
sion of film and stage adaptations all served to ensure the novel's enduring longevity.

So, again . . . what new could our project possibly bring to this well-trodden legacy? One of the most significant features of Bram Stoker's classic novel is the fact that it is *epistolary*—told entirely through the narrative form of letters and journals. And aside from a few indelible person-

al appearances, the novel *Dracula* is portrayed as more of a sinister force whose shadowy presence pervades the story but isn't on stage in person all that often. The many and varied film adaptations also often keep the vampire lord mostly relegated to the shadows, even in those more modern versions where he's portrayed as something of a supernatural heart-throb. The all-important voice and central character missing from these

myriad depictions . . . is Dracula himself.

So, our entire project—a series of four graphic novels of which this is the first volume—will be narrated by the title character . . . and he definitely *won't* be a romantic figure. Our Dracula is a monster—a brilliant, ruthless and power-hungry warlord who tortured and murdered thousands of his adversaries, who sought out supernatural powers under the tutelage of



Satan himself . . . and that's all before he became a vampire! The collective story portrays an antagonist with a ravenous thirst for dominion and blood at all costs—a merciless leader of men who sacrifices everything to gain victory, only to achieve unearthly powers that prove to be as much a prison as they are an asset. Yet time and again, he rises from the ashes of defeat to stalk the earth once again.

Additionally, our version of Dracula will attempt to adhere tightly to the specifics found in the original novel without being yet another adaptation of the novel's central narrative. In addition to the many different film versions of that tale (each claiming to be truer to the source than any of its predecessors), there are also at least a dozen different comic-book varieties as well. Our graphic novels will unveil the tales beneath the surface and around the edges of the original book's storyline, the eerie hinted-at accounts that lie hidden behind the shadows of

its mist-enshrouded settings.

When I first outlined my ideas for this project to Kelley, we both knew this was exactly the col-

laboration we'd been waiting for all these years. It felt like Dracula had been patiently waiting for both of us over the course of our long and accomplished careers . . . and it felt surprisingly strange that neither of us had ever directly addressed the character before. This is a project that feels like it was meant to be and, I can say with no irony, it presents some of Kelley's most personal and impressive work. Hopefully, mine too. We really hope you'll join us for all four volumes as we attempt to, once again, bring Dracula back from the dead.

Welcome to our house. Enter freely and of your own will.

—MATT WAGNER



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THE DRACULAS WERE, SAYS ARMINIUS,
A GREAT AND NOBLE RACE, THOUGH NOW
AND AGAIN WERE SCIONS WHO WERE HELD
BY THEIR COEVALS TO HAVE HAD DEALINGS
WITH THE EVIL ONE. THEY LEARNED HIS
SECRETS IN THE SCHOLOMANCE, AMONGST
THE MOUNTAINS OVER LAKE HERMANSTADT,
WHERE THE DEVIL CLAIMS THE TENTH
SCHOLAR AS HIS DUE.

—BRAM STOKER



IT IS SAID THAT HISTORY
IS MEMORY ENSHRINED.
SOME MIGHT CLAIM...
ENTOMBED.

FOR HISTORY BELONGS
TO THE BOLD...
THE VICTORIOUS.

THOSE WHO ARE RAVENOUS
FOR POWER...NO MATTER
THE COST. A CRAVING
I HAVE MANIFESTED
FOR CENTURIES.

I AM SUCH HUNGER...
INCARNATE!

THIS, THEN, IS THE
HISTORY THAT
I HAVE WON.

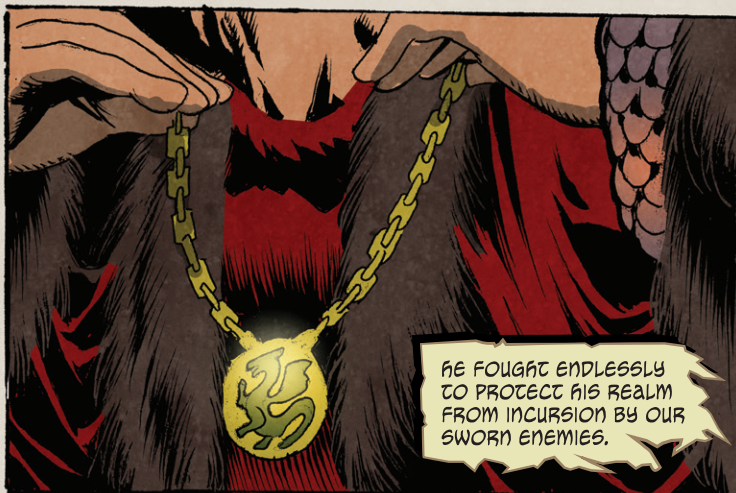
AGAINST COUNTLESS ENEMIES
AND ACROSS A THOUSAND
BLOOD-DRENCHED
BATTLEFIELDS.

FOR I AM THE
SON OF THE DRAGON...

Dracula.



MY FATHER WAS A MEMBER
OF THE SACRED ORDER OF
THE DRAGON.



HE FOUGHT ENDLESSLY
TO PROTECT HIS REALM
FROM INCURSION BY OUR
SWORN ENEMIES.



VOIVODE?

AS HIS HEIR, I CONTINUED THAT BATTLE
WITH A STEELY FEROCITY THAT HAS
SINCE BECOME LEGENDARY.

GOOD MORROW,
NOBLE CONSTANTIN.
HOW FARES
THE DAY?

SOME MIGHT CLAIM...
INFAMOUS.



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GRIM, MILORD.
THE TURKS' ARMY
APPROACHES...AND
THEY ARE AT LEAST
FIVE TIMES OUR
NUMBER.

THEY SEEK
TO RECLAIM THIS
TERRITORY AND
THEY WILL STRIKE
WITHIN THE
HOUR.



FEH--
ONE OF OUR WARRIORS
IS WORTH TEN TIMES
EACH OF THOSE
HEATHEN SCUM!

YES, MILORD...
YET I STILL
WORRY FOR THE
OUTCOME.



BESIDES...WE HAVE
ERECTED A FITTING
TRIBUTE TO THEIR
ARRIVAL.

YAAWH!
IT'S MUCH TOO
EARLY TO BE
AWAKE!

MILORD...
YOU PROMISED
US BREAKFAST.
MEAT AND
PORRIDGE!



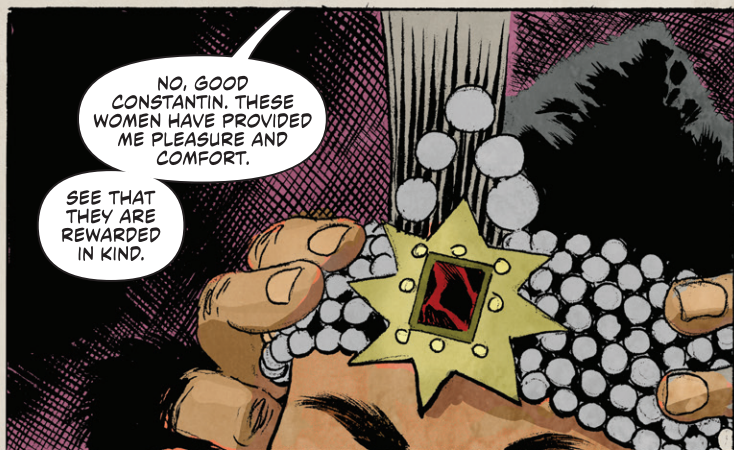
SILENCE,
SLATTERN! SPARE
HIS LORDSHIP YOUR
PETTY WHINING!

HE IS
THE VOIVODE...
WARLORD OF ALL
WALLACHIA!

WHY
DON'T YOU WARM
HIS BED THEN,
LIEUTENANT?

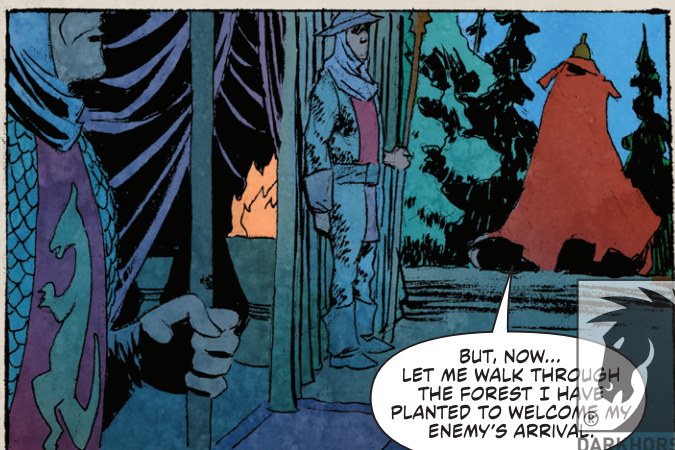


ASSHOLE!



NO, GOOD
CONSTANTIN. THESE
WOMEN HAVE PROVIDED
ME PLEASURE AND
COMFORT.

SEE THAT
THEY ARE
REWARDED
IN KIND.



BUT, NOW...
LET ME WALK THROUGH
THE FOREST I HAVE
PLANTED TO WELCOME MY
ENEMY'S ARRIVAL.

BATTLE OF TÂRGOVIȘTE. 1462.

AHHH...
THERE IS NOTHING
QUITE SO INTOXICATING
AS THE SULTRY DEATH
MOANS OF THE
DEFEATED.

WHAT
SWEET MUSIC
THEY MAKE!



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VOIVODE...
YOU MUST HASTEN TO THE
ARMORER'S AND BE FITTED
FOR BATTLE. OUR ENEMY
DRAWS DANGEROUSLY
NEAR.

A BLOODY DAY
DAWNS...WITH SCANT
HOPE FOR TOMORROW.
HAS THE *CONTINGENCY*
PLAN BEEN PUT
IN PLACE?

YES, MILORD.
THE LIKENESS IS
STRIKING. PRAY THAT
WE HAVE NO NEED OF
SUCH DESPERATE
MEASURES.

INDEED.

IN NOMINE
PATRIS ET FILII
ET SPIRITUS
SANCTI.





IT HAD BEEN NINE YEARS SINCE THE FALL OF **CONSTANTINOPLE** BENEATH THE MERCILESS ONSLAUGHT OF THE **TURKISH OTTOMAN EMPIRE**.

THE HEATHEN MOHAMMEDANS THEN SOUGHT TO EXTEND THEIR CONQUESTS NORTHWARD...INTO THE HEART OF OUR ANCESTRAL LANDS.

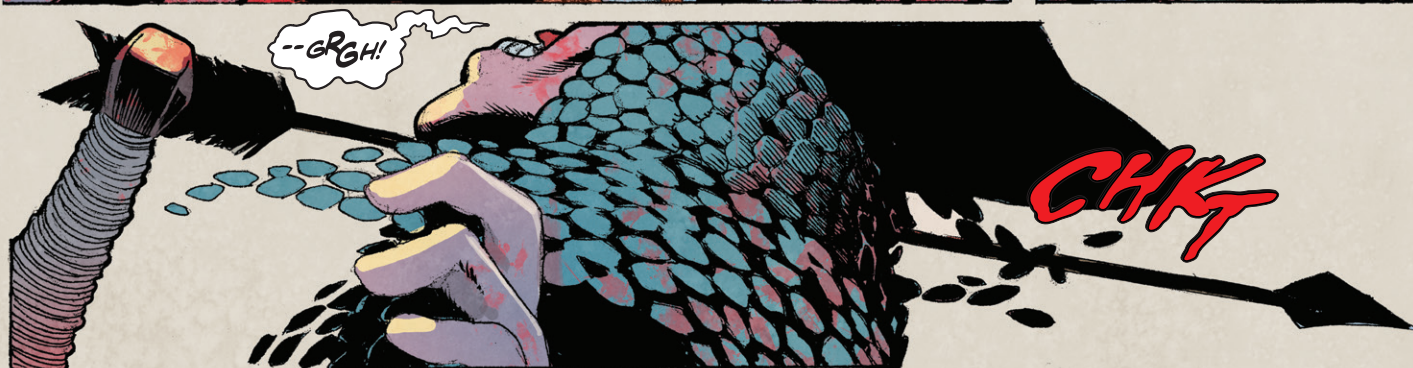
BULGARIA, HUNGARY, AND MOLDAVIA ALL FELL TO THE FORCES OF THEIR SULTAN... **MUHAMMAD II**.

A FATE I HAD SWORN TO PREVENT FOR MY SACRED AND BELOVED HOMELAND--**WALLACHIA**.



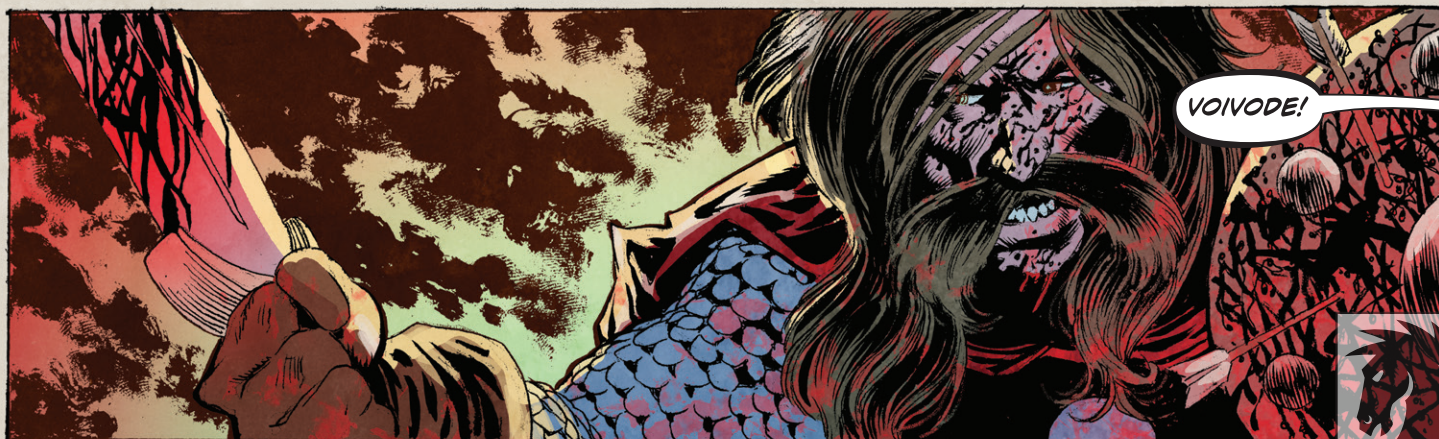
CAPTAIN! HOW FARE OUR WESTERN FLANKS?!

OVERRUN, MILORD! THE TURKISH FORCES ARE TOO--



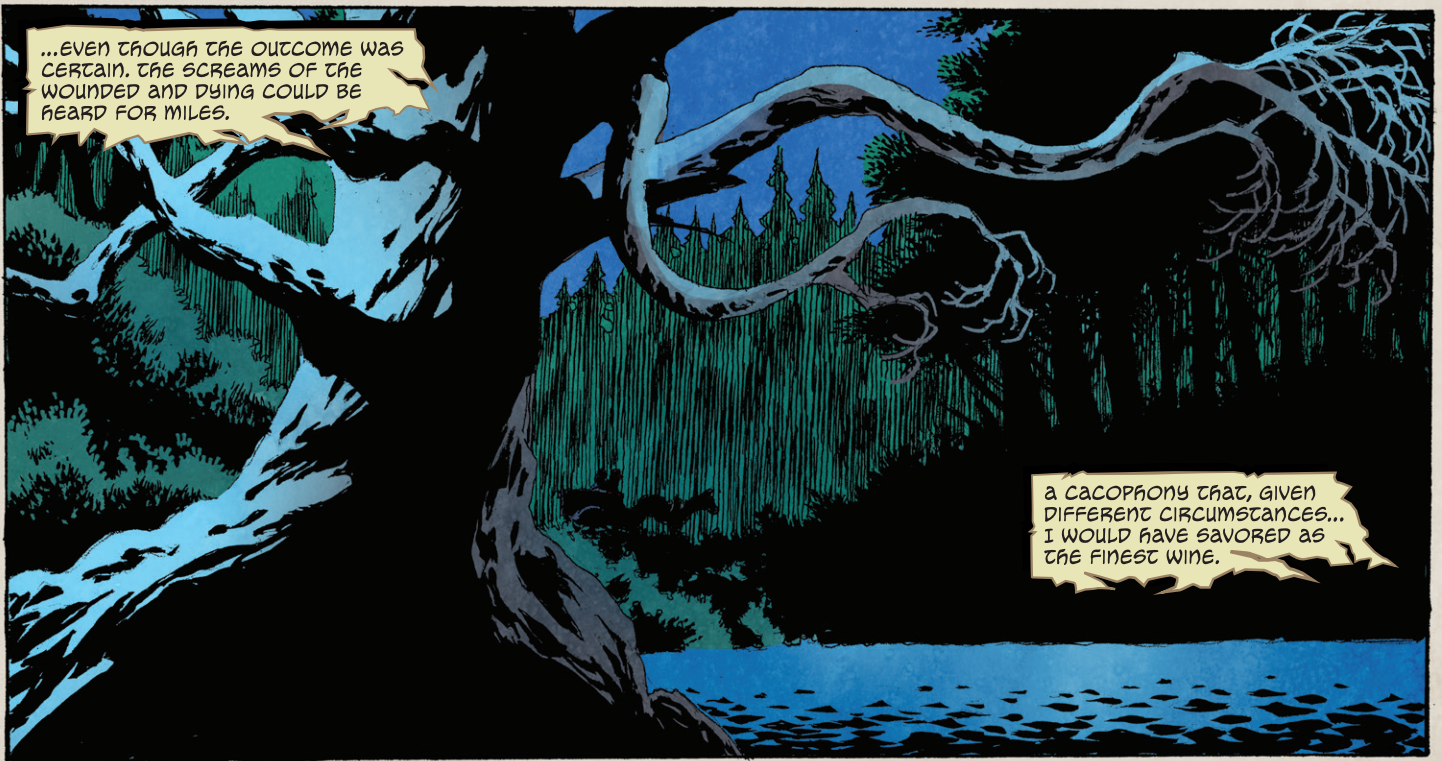
--GRGH!

CHK



VOIVODE!





...EVEN THOUGH THE OUTCOME WAS CERTAIN, THE SCREAMS OF THE WOUNDED AND DYING COULD BE HEARD FOR MILES.

a cacophony that, given different circumstances... I WOULD HAVE SAVORED AS THE FINEST WINE.



I THINK WE ESCAPED UNNOTICED, AND NO ONE WILL RECOGNIZE US CLAD IN SUCH PEASANT GARB.

INDEED... YOUR SAFEGUARDS ARE ADMIRABLE, MY FRIEND.



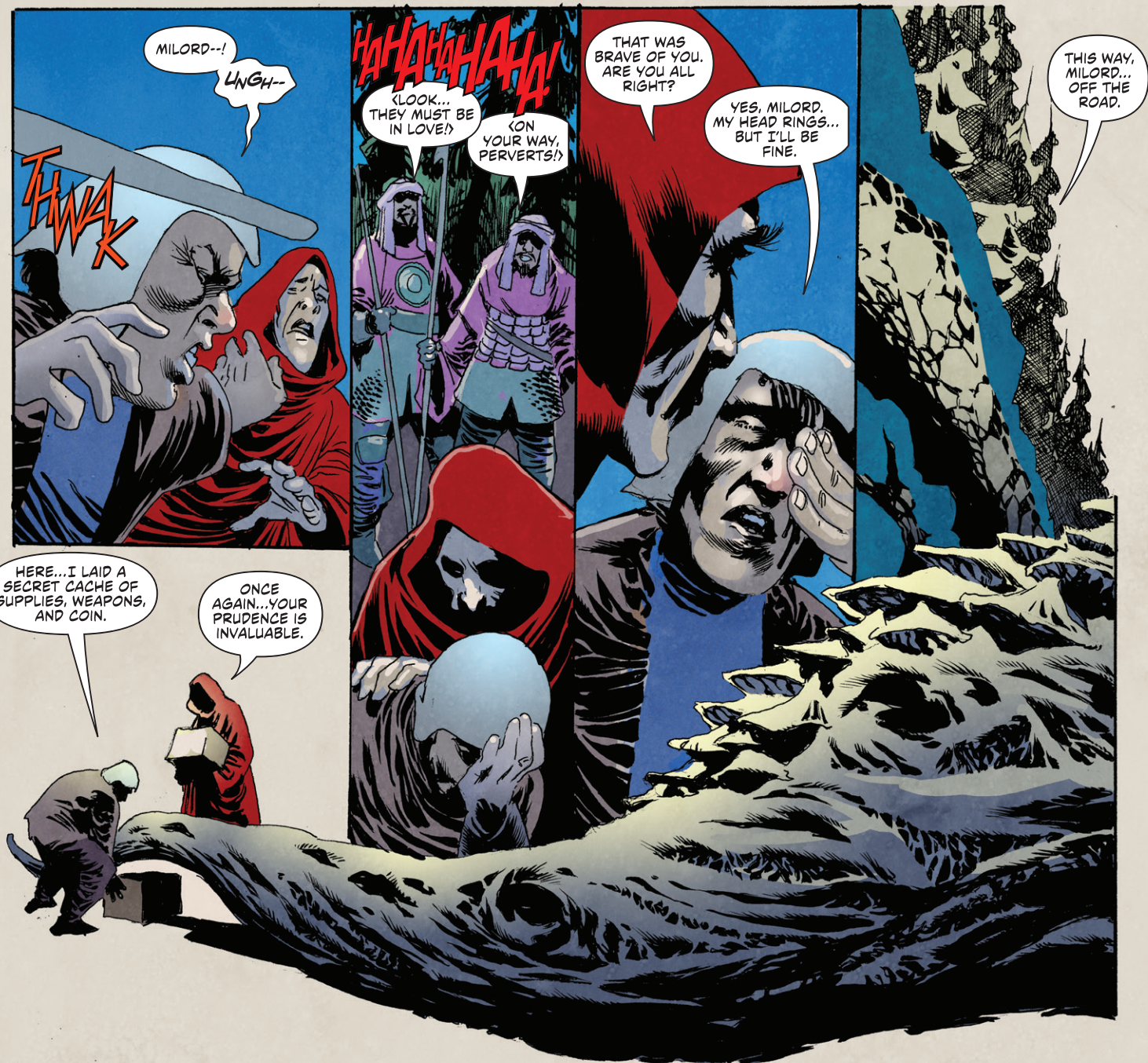
BUT WE'RE NOT IN THE CLEAR JUST YET...



TURKISH SOLDIERS!

ALREADY... MEHMET'S VILE REACH IS EXTENSIVE.







MILORD...
FAR BE IT FROM
ME TO QUESTION YOUR
JUDGMENT. BUT...ARE
YOU *SURE* THIS PLAN OF
ACTION IS OUR ONLY
RECOURSE?

THE OTTOMAN FORCES
ARE INSURMOUNTABLE BY ANY OF
OUR NATIVE RESOURCES. TO SEE
MEHMET DEFEATED, I MUST LAY
CLAIM TO POWERS *BEYOND*
THE NATURAL WORLD.

TO ACHIEVE
THAT GOAL, I AM
PREPARED TO
SACRIFICE
ANYTHING.

MY FIRST BRIDE...
WAS A TENDER AND FRAGILE
SOUL. SO BEAUTIFUL...
YET UNSUITED FOR THE ROLE
OF A WARLORD'S WIFE.

WHEN MY BROTHER
RADU LED A REVOLT TO
UNSEAT MY RIGHTFUL CLAIM
TO THE THRONE, SHE TOOK
HER OWN LIFE AFTER SHE
HEARD RUMOR THAT I'D
BEEN KILLED IN BATTLE.

SHE DIDN'T
UNDERSTAND THE
RIGORS ONE MUST
ENDURE TO CLAIM
VICTORY OVER ANY
ADVERSITY.

TO DEFEAT
THE GODLESS...
ONE MUST EVEN
BECOME
GODLESS.

AAAAOOOOOO

WOLVES!

YES...
ALL
AROUND
US.





WE'RE
SURROUNDED!

YET ANOTHER
BATTLEFIELD...



GRRRRR



GREETINGS, MY FEROCIOUS ONE!
I ADMIRE YOUR AGGRESSION...
BUT YOU FACE NO DOCILE
PREY TONIGHT.

HAVE A
CARE, MILORD!
THEY ARE BRAVER
IN NUMBER...



SNIFF
WHINE



WHAT
HAPPENED?

WHAT
COULD'VE
CAUSED THEM
TO RUN AWAY
LIKE THAT?



WAIT, I HEAR
SOMETHING...
OUT THERE IN
THE DARK.

AND,
MOTHER OF GOD...
THAT RANCID
SMELL!



GHARGH

JUDAS BE
DAMNED!



MILORD,
GET BACK! IT IS
A WURDULAC--
ONE OF THE
WALKING DEAD!

I WILL
GUARD YOU
AGAINST THIS
GHOUL FROM
BEYOND THE
GRAVE!





