

HACK/SLASH/EVA

MONSTER'S BALL PART FOUR OF FOUR



image

DYNAMITE

HACK/SLASH/EVA™

MONSTER'S BALL

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EVA CO-DEVELOPED BY JAMES KUHORIC



EVA: a time-lost warrior who believes that God wants her to rid our world of the foul things that lurk in the shadows.



CASSIE HACK: a 21st century anti-heroine who has devoted her life to the elimination of "slashers" who kill without mercy or reason.

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From the journals of
Victor Frankenstein:

I can endure this
damnable wait no longer.

My desire to possess the Philosopher's
Stone has cost me valuable. I think
perhaps I shall never know the secrets of
the stone, and I must make peace with that.

My greatest creation lies before me; his
glorious birth requires nothing more than
the blessing of a neglectful creator.

"The stone shall be the heart" - I set that
goal for myself. Though I failed in the pursuit,
I have taken care to ensure that a reversal
of fortune will not catch me unprepared.

There will be a place for all things; for
every action, a well-devised reaction.

In this moment, however,
there is only *life*.

"IT STARTED WITH DEATH. IT ALWAYS STARTS WITH DEATH FOR US. DOESN'T IT?"

"THAT REPORTER IN PHILLY GOT HIS FUCKING BRAINS BLOWN OUT BECAUSE HE TRIED TO HELP US. SOMEONE HAD BEEN DIGGING UP SLASHERS THAT WE KILLED... BUT WHO? AND WHY?"

"WE FOLLOWED THE TRAIL TO NEW YORK UNIVERSITY; THAT'S WHERE WE MET EVA. SHE NEEDED HELP FINDING HER FRIEND, WHO APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED BY THE SAME SON OF A BITCH WHO'D BEEN STEALING THE CORPSES OF OUR ENEMIES."

"NEXT THING YOU KNOW, WE'RE IN SOME SHITHOLE DETROIT SUBURB, FIGHTING WEREWOLVES AND WEIRDOS WITH EVA AND THE LOCAL TRIGGER-HAPPY COWBOY BRIGADE."

"BUT WHAT ABOUT OUR SLASHERS? SERGEANT KRAMER? EMILY CRISTY? LLOYD AND JIMMY? THE WAKING MAN? WE GOT INTO THIS WHOLE SHIT-uation WITH THE INTENTION OF GETTING SOME ANSWERS ON THAT FRONT..."

"...AND SOMEWHERE ALONG THE WAY, WE TOOK OUR EYES OFF THE FUCKING BALL."

DETROIT,
MICHIGAN



WHEN DID THIS STOP BEING OUR STORY, VLAD?

WHY DO YOU CARE?

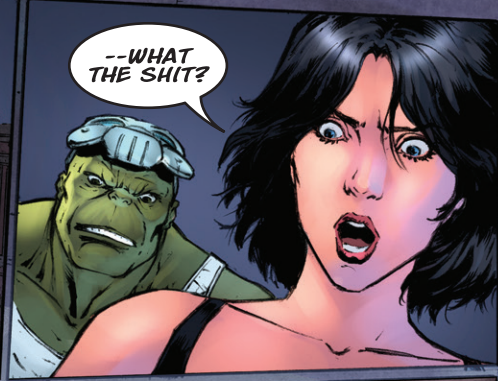
I DON'T KNOW. MAYBE THIS IS BIGGER THAN US. MAYBE FATE HAD OTHER PLANS.

HRRN. FATE HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT, CASSIE.

OKAY, THEN. THAT'S FINE...



...BUT TAKING FATE OUT OF THE EQUATION JUST REINFORCES THE VERY BAD FEELING I HAVE IN MY GUTS. TRUST ME, THE OTHER SHOE'S GONNA DROP--



--WHAT THE SHIT?



HRRN. LOOKS LIKE A WHOLE BUNCH OF SHOES ARE DROPPING.





MONSTERS AND UNDEAD SLASHERS INCOMING. THEY'RE MARCHING RIGHT UP TO THE FRONT DOOR.

COEN!
EUGENE! MEET
US IN THE
LOBBY ASAP!



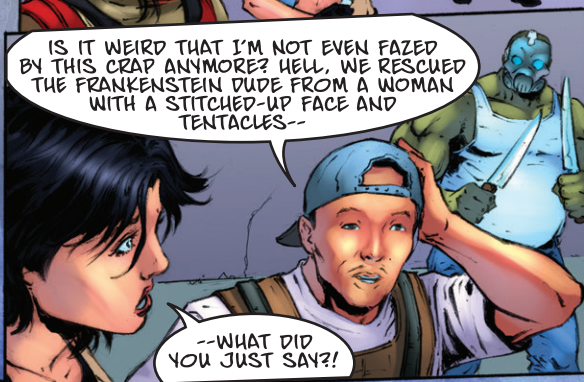
WHAT ABOUT MICHAEL?
HE'S IN SURGERY--

WE'LL ALL
BE IN SURGERY
IF WE LOSE THIS
FIGHT. COME ON.



COEN!
SITREP.

I COUNT
FOUR UNIQUE
FREAKS AND ABOUT
TWO DOZEN OF
THOSE CRAZY-ASS
PLAY-DOH
PEOPLE.



IS IT WEIRD THAT I'M NOT EVEN FAZED
BY THIS CRAP ANYMORE? HELL, WE RESCUED
THE FRANKENSTEIN DUDE FROM A WOMAN
WITH A STITCHED-UP FACE AND
TENTACLES--

--WHAT DID
YOU JUST SAY?!



WHY DIDN'T
YOU TELL US ABOUT
THE WOMAN, YOU DUMB
MOTHERFUCKER?!

I'M SORRY,
OKAY? I THOUGHT WE
TOLD EVERYONE! WHO
IS SHE, ANYWAY?



TELL THEM WHO
I AM, CASSANDRA!
TELL YOUR FRIENDS ALL
ABOUT THE DAY YOU
KILLED MARY SHELLEY
LOVECRAFT!



TOO MANY
REALITIES PASSING
INTO MY VIEW
AT ONCE.

MY CONNECTION
WITH THE GIRL
AND HER LOPING
MANSERVANT HAS
BEEN SEVERED.

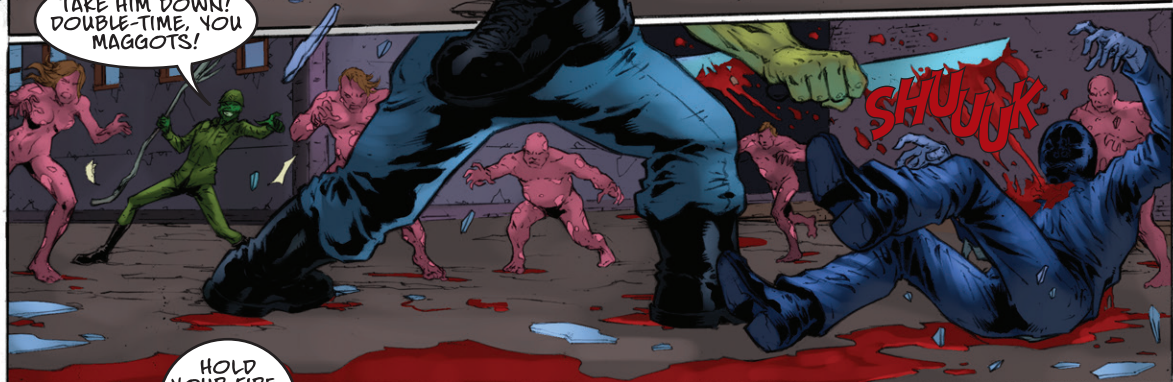
IT'S NO MATTER. WE
HAVE THE PHILOSOPHER'S
STONE, AND THE INCANTATION
THAT UNLOCKS ITS TRUE
POWER. VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN
WAS A FOOL TO THINK THAT
HE COULD HIDE IT
FOREVER.

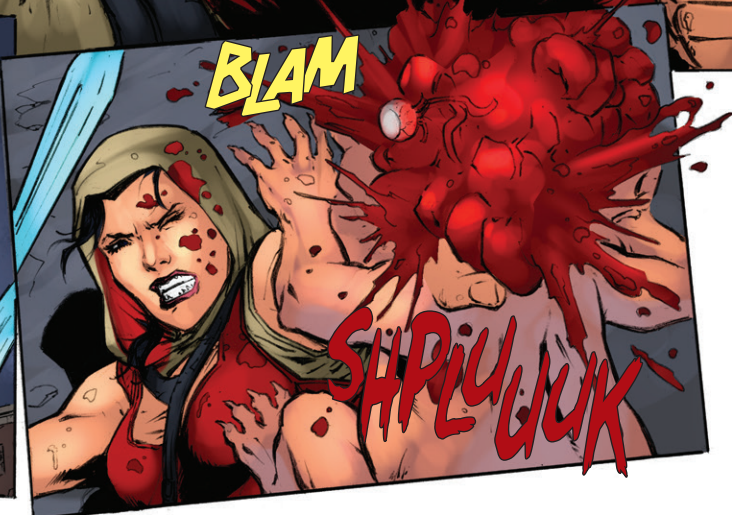
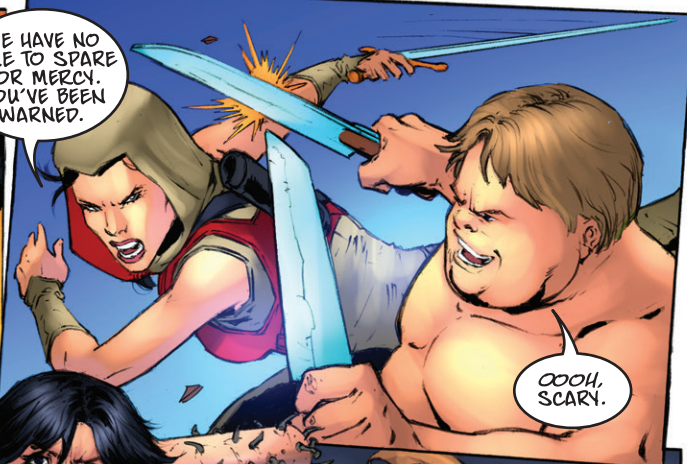
HIS
INTELLECT WAS
NO MATCH FOR
OUR COMBINED
WISDOM, MY
DARLING.

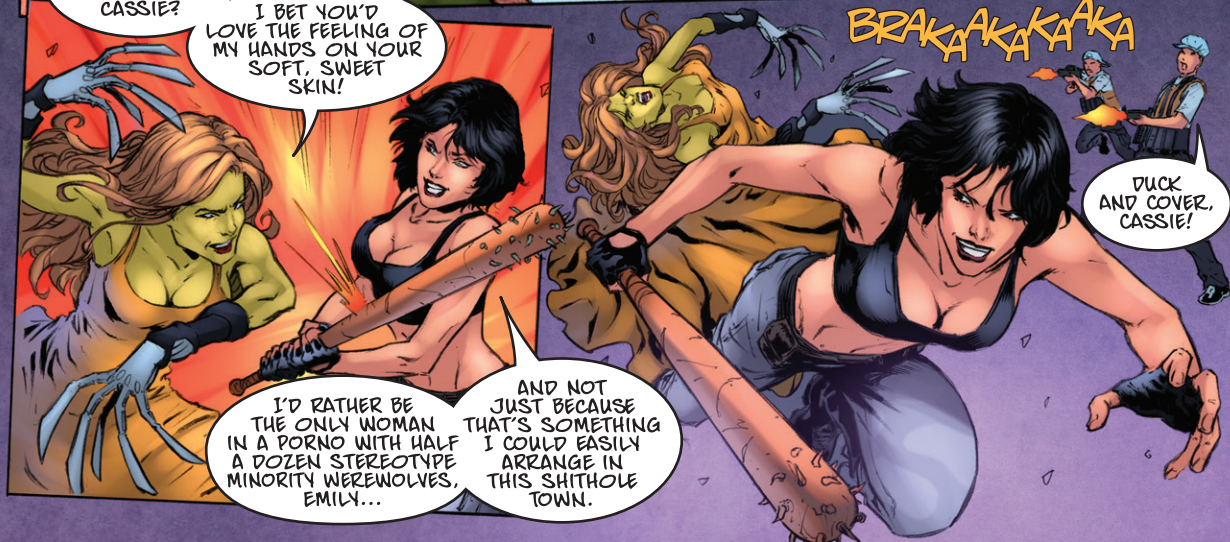
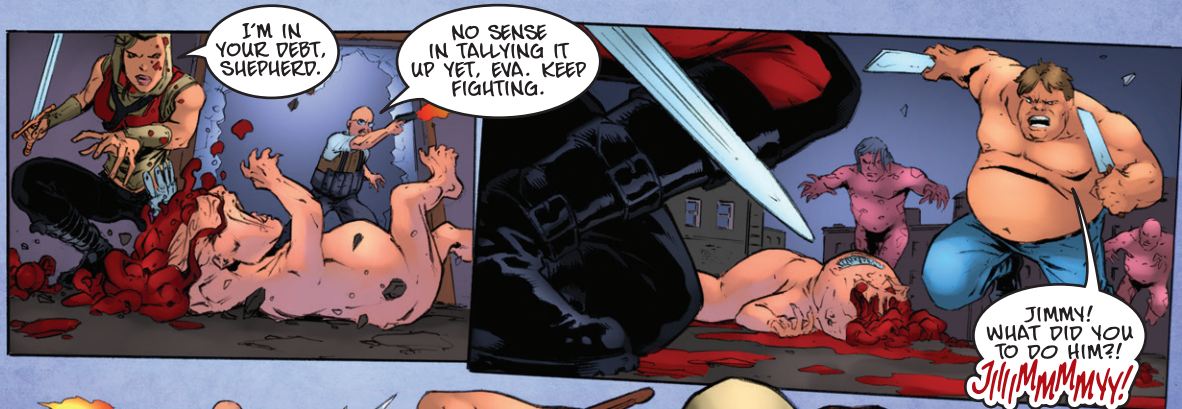
NEITHER SHALL
THE WORLD BE,
PRAETORIOUS.

THAT IS WHY
I REACHED OUT ACROSS
THE VAST CANYONS OF
THOUGHT-REALITY TO JOIN
OUR MINDS AND BODIES
TOGETHER UPON THE
SAME PLANE.

STAND
WITH ME NOW, IN
THE HOUR OF OUR
KINGDOM COME.





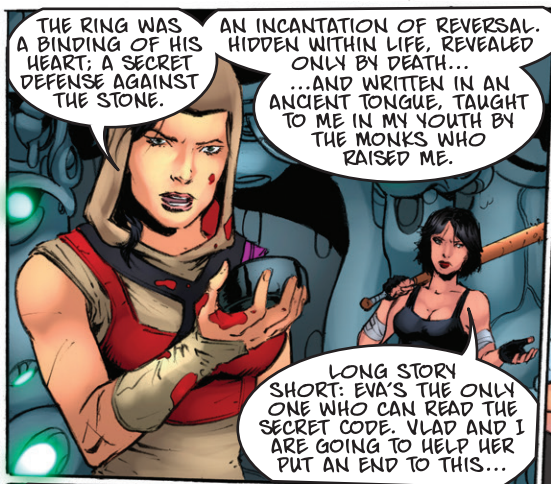




"WHILE WE WERE
SACRIFICING OUR
SANITY TO THE BLOOD
AND HEAT OF WAR..."



"...MICHAEL TURNED THE TIDE
OF BATTLE IN OUR FAVOR, BY
SURRENDERING THE MOST
PRECIOUS GIFT THAT ANY LIVING
CREATURE CAN KNOW. HE HAS
LED US TO GLORY, BUT WE
NEVER SEE US CLAIM IT."



THE RING WAS A BINDING OF HIS HEART; A SECRET DEFENSE AGAINST THE STONE.

AN INCANTATION OF REVERSAL. HIDDEN WITHIN LIFE, REVEALED ONLY BY DEATH...
...AND WRITTEN IN AN ANCIENT TONGUE, TAUGHT TO ME IN MY YOUTH BY THE MONKS WHO RAISED ME.

LONG STORY SHORT: EVA'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN READ THE SECRET CODE. VLAD AND I ARE GOING TO HELP HER PUT AN END TO THIS...



...BUT THE REST OF YOU SHOULD GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE A.S.P.C.A., COMPRENDE?

I THINK I SPEAK FOR EVERYONE WHEN I SAY "FUCK THAT NOISE" COMPRENDE?



YEAH, YOU SPEAK FOR ~~SKOFF~~ EVERYONE.

WE'RE THE GHOSTS OF OLD DETROIT, CASSIE. THAT'S OUR GIG. WE STAY.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING UP AND AROUND, J.R.? YOU NEED TO REST.

ARE YOU MY ~~HNNGH~~ BROTHER, OR MY MOMMY? I'M FINE. ~~SKOFF~~ GUESS I WOULDN'T MIND LEANING INSTEAD OF STANDING, THOUGH...



OKAY, LOOKS LIKE WE'RE ALL IN. I'LL EXPLAIN THE SPECIFICS WHILE WE LOAD UP THE RIGS, BUT THE RING ISN'T THE ONLY SECRET WEAPON WE HAVE.

THIS JAGGED SPIKE ONCE SPILLED THE BLOOD OF MY SAVIOR. WHATEVER YOU CHOOSE TO BELIEVE, HAVE FAITH IN MY ACCOUNT: I HAVE SEEN IT BRING AN END TO BEINGS OF THE PUREST EVIL, AND I KNOW IT WILL AGAIN.



THEY'RE COMING, PRAETORIOUS...

...AND THEY
ARE COMING
WITH THE SOLE
INTENT OF
ENDING US."

PRAETORIOUS!
LOVECRAFT! LET IT BE
KNOWN THAT YOUR LAST
MOMENTS ARE UPON YOU!
IF YOU BELIEVE YOURSELVES
CAPABLE AND WORTHY OF
SALVATION, YOU WOULD
BE WISE TO TAKE A KNEE
AND PRAY NOW!

TIME
IS UP
LOVE

THE
STONE--!

WHAT'S
HAPPENING
TO IT?!

I...I DON'T
KNOW! I'VE
NEVER SEEN IT
GLOW LIKE THAT
BEFORE...

I CAN FEEL THE
ENERGY, DOCTOR. IT'S
RESONATING THROUGH
THE DIMENSIONAL
FABRIC...REVERSING
EVERYTHING WE'VE
DONE..!"



NOT FOR LONG, SWEET MARY.

קצת זמן
לפני 46000
שנה

LOOK AROUND US, YOU OVERBLOWN CHRALATAN! THE CHANGE IS ALREADY HAPPENING, AND SIMPLY REPEATING THE INCANTATION ISN'T GOING TO HAVE ANY EFFECT NOW!

YOUR THINKING IS ONE-DIMENSIONAL. YOU DON'T APPRECIATE THE MULTITUDE OF ASPECTS I CAN DRAW FROM THE NARROW SPACES BETWEEN REALITIES...

AND MERGE INTO THIS DIMENSION, CREATING A PATCHWORK PRESENT THAT CAN BE STITCHED TOGETHER AS A MOSAIC OF FINALITY--
NO!

BWOMWOM WOMWOM WOM



THIS CAN'T HAPPEN! IT DOESN'T WORK LIKE THIS!

BWOM

BWOM WOMWOM

IT'S PUNCHING ITS WAY THROUGH A DOZEN DIFFERENT REALITIES AND RETURNING HERE! THE BOUNDARIES ASSUMED BY THE ARCAINE MATH LAWS ARE BEING FORCED INTO OBSOLESCENCE, CAN'T YOU SEE IT?!

I CAN'T... I... JUST DON'T MOVE! I'M COMING!

BWOM

BWOM WOM

BWO OOOOM













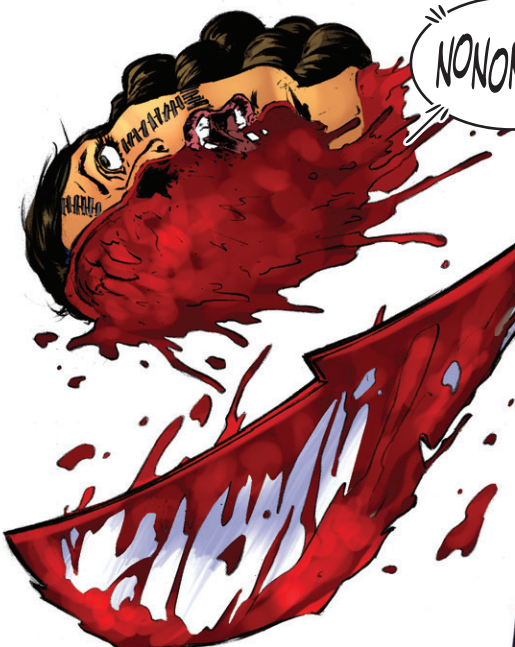
HUH. ONLY A WOMAN STILL TALKS AFTER GETTING HER HEAD CUT OFF. HEH-HEH-HEH.

HOO-BON. MAKE SURE AND PUT THAT ONE IN YOUR COMEDY ROUTINE. SEINFELD. FUCKIN' HILARIOUS.



NONONNNNN--

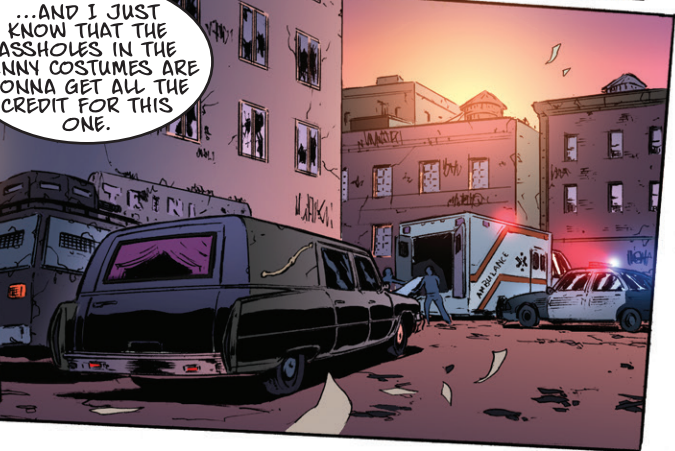
OH, I SEE HOW IT IS. SWEET-MEAT AND I HAVE TO CHUCK ALL THE SHITTY, BLOODY PARTS INTO THE DIMENSIONAL PORTALS WHILE YOU STAND BY WIPING YOUR SPIKE.



YOU THINK THAT'S ROUGH WORK?

I HAD TO REACH ALL THE WAY DOWN TO THE GROUND TO PICK UP THE MAGIC FRISBEE. JESUS, I'M EXHAUSTED...

...AND I JUST KNOW THAT THE ASSHOLES IN THE FUNNY COSTUMES ARE GONNA GET ALL THE CREDIT FOR THIS ONE.





"The stone shall be the heart."

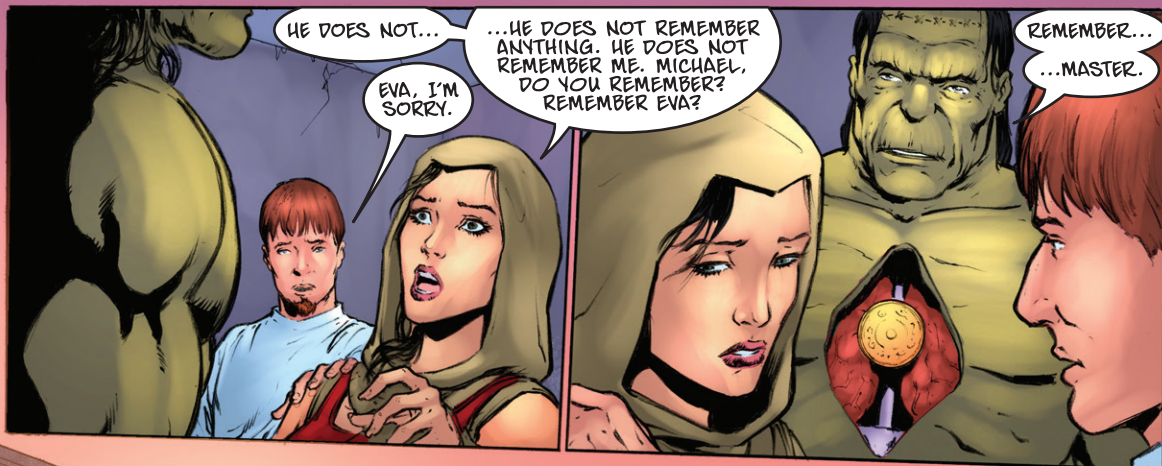


MICHAEL, YOU'RE ALL RIGHT. YOU'RE ALIVE...!

JUST WAIT. LET'S SEE WHAT HAPPENS.



MASTER. WHERE. MASTER?





I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE LIKE YOU. I HOPE WE SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN SOMEDAY.

IF GOD WILLS IT...WELL, IF GOD WILLS IT FOR ME.

I HOPE HE DOES.

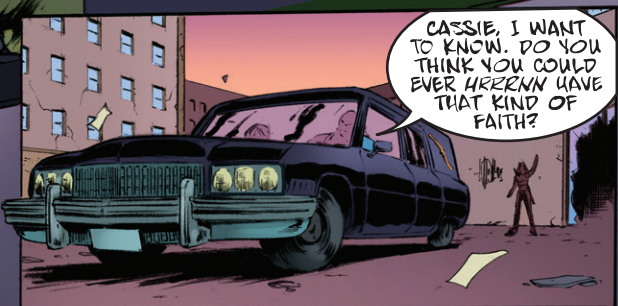
YOU'RE SURE YOU'D RATHER STAY HERE?

FOR NOW.



TO SEE YOU BOTH SMILING AND NOT STABBING...

...IT MAKES ME THINK THAT SOMETHING BETTER IS HAPPENING HERE TODAY.



CASSIE, I WANT TO KNOW. DO YOU THINK YOU COULD EVER HEEERNN HAVE THAT KIND OF FAITH?



HAVING FAITH IS JUST ANOTHER WAY TO SURVIVE. FAITH IS A GUN, OR A KNIFE. TRUE LOVE, OR TRUE HATE. IT'S SOMETHING TO BELIEVE IN.

MY FAITH WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AS HERS, BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN A GODDAMN THING IN THIS WORLD.

I BELIEVE IN SURVIVING. YOU DO WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO, AND YOU KEEP ON LIVING. AMEN.

THE END