

SAVAGE DRAGON



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BY

ERIK LARSEN

CHRIS ELIOPOULOS

letters

NIKOS KOUTSIS

colors

MIKE TORIS

flats

GAVIN HIGGINBOTHAM

editor

JOSH EICHHÖRN

can't stop messin' with the danger zone



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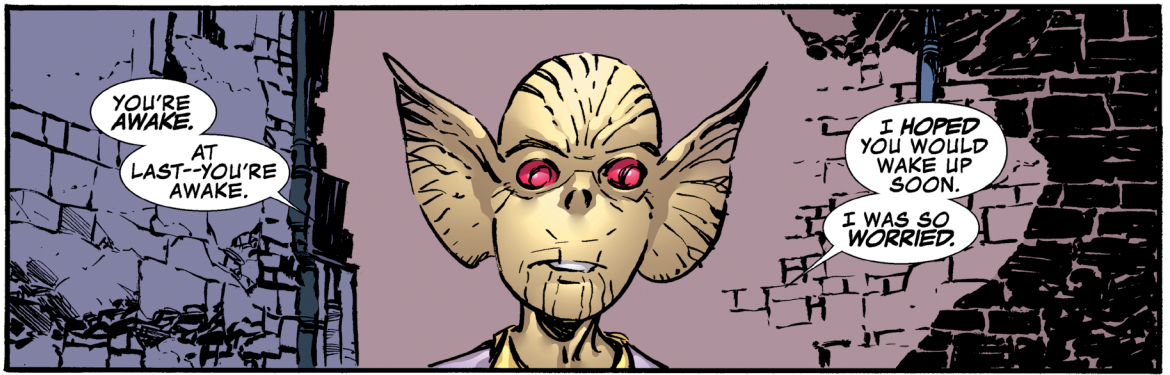
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YOU'RE
AWAKE.

AT
LAST--YOU'RE
AWAKE.

I HOPED
YOU WOULD
WAKE UP
SOON.

I WAS SO
WORRIED.

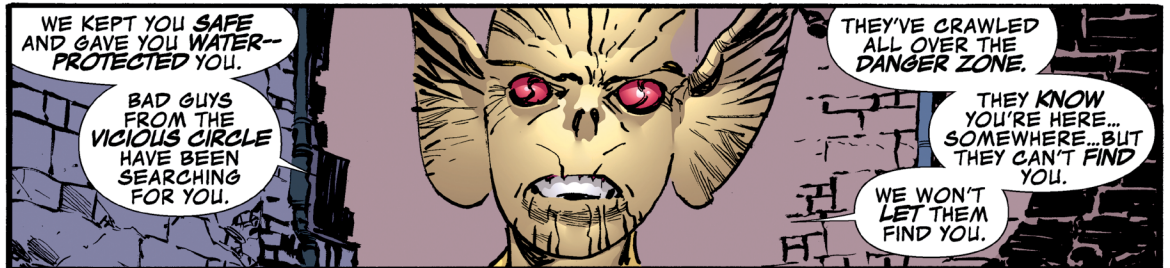


YOU
FELL FROM
THE SKY.

I
SAW YOU
FALL.

YOU WERE
FIGHTING SOME
KIND OF A RED
ROBOT--HE
EXPLODED AND
YOU FELL.

YOU LANDED
HERE IN THE
DANGER ZONE. THE
OTHERS HELPED TAKE
YOU HERE. YOU WERE
BADLY HURT. WE
CARED FOR YOU.



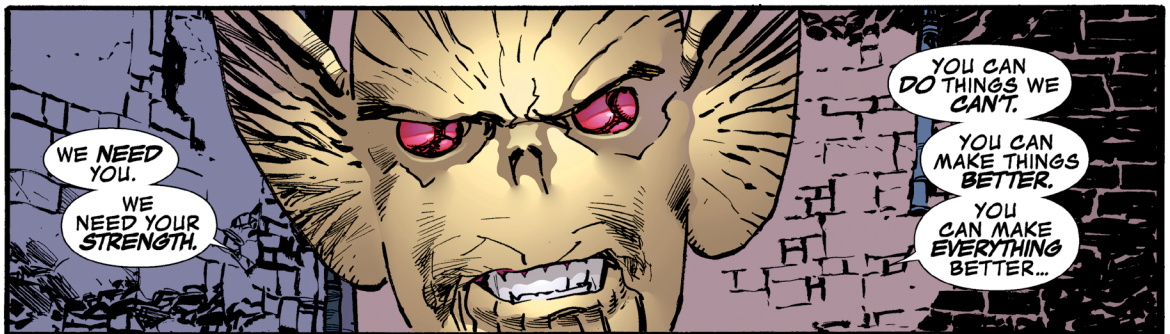
WE KEPT YOU *SAFE*
AND GAVE YOU WATER--
PROTECTED YOU.

BAD GUYS
FROM THE
VICIOUS CIRCLE
HAVE BEEN
SEARCHING
FOR YOU.

THEY'VE CRAWLED
ALL OVER THE
DANGER ZONE.

THEY KNOW
YOU'RE HERE...
SOMEWHERE...BUT
THEY CAN'T FIND
YOU.

WE WON'T
LET THEM
FIND YOU.



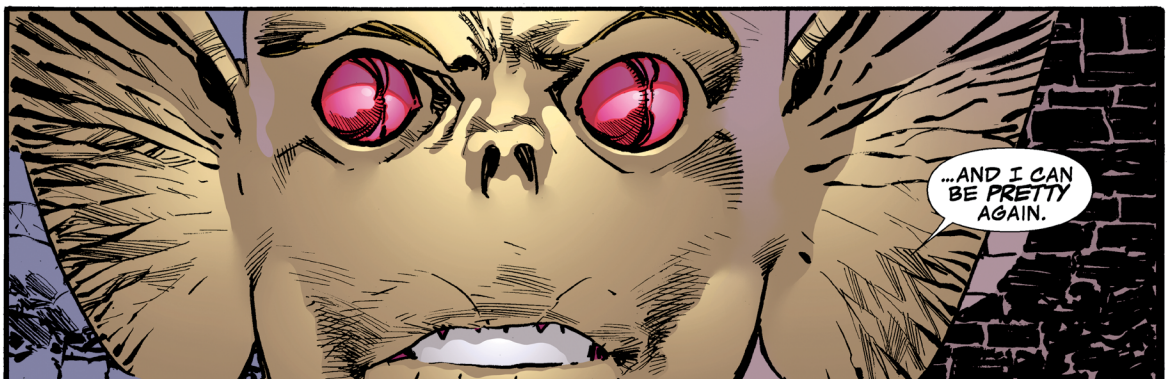
WE NEED
YOU.

WE
NEED YOUR
STRENGTH.

YOU CAN
DO THINGS WE
CAN'T.

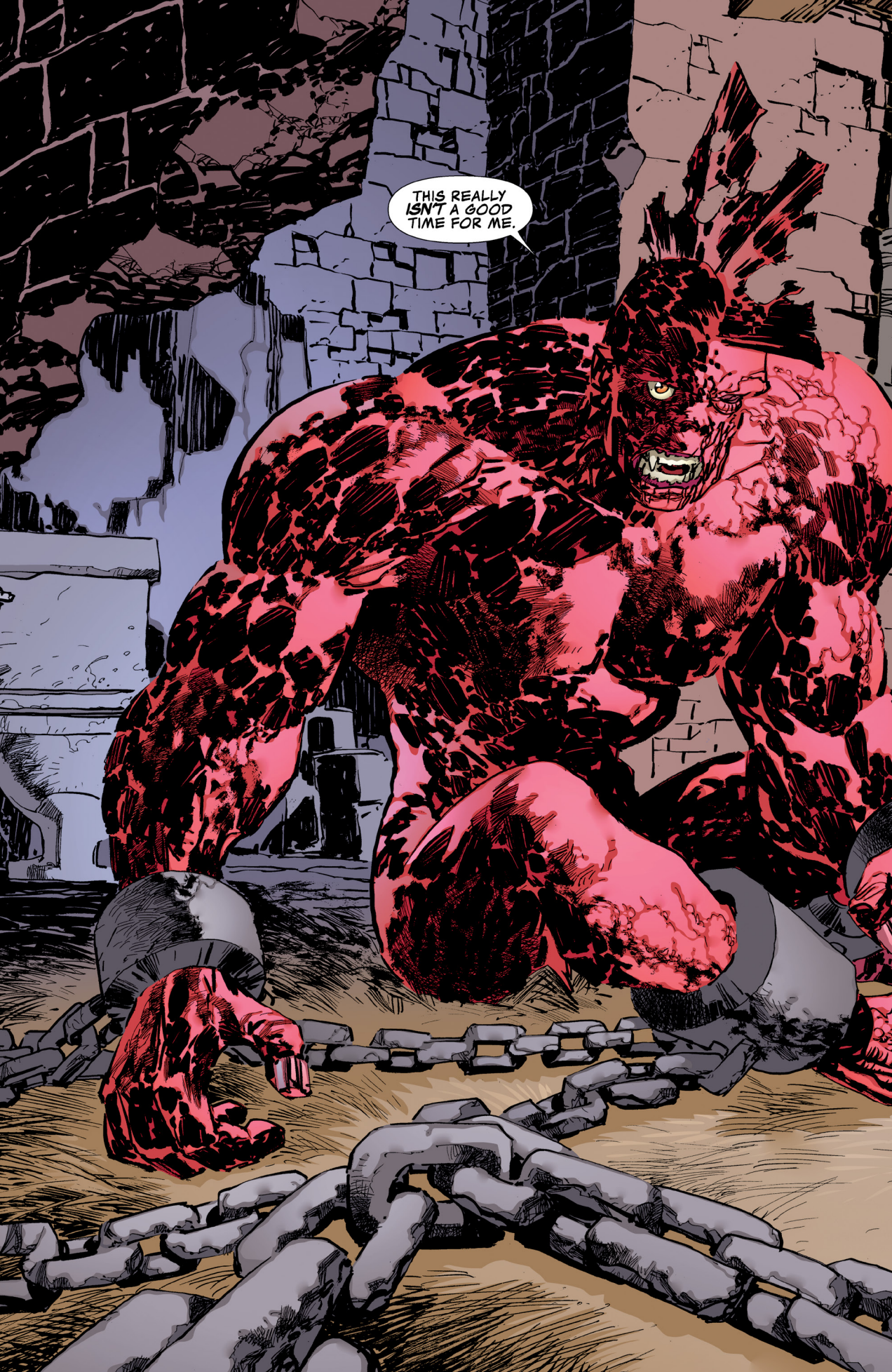
YOU CAN
MAKE THINGS
BETTER.

YOU
CAN MAKE
EVERYTHING
BETTER...



...AND I CAN
BE PRETTY
AGAIN.

THIS REALLY
ISN'T A GOOD
TIME FOR ME.







I'M
NOT SURE
WHAT YOU'RE
EXPECTING
ME TO DO.

BUT I REALLY
SHOULD BE STUDYING
FOR FINALS RIGHT
NOW.

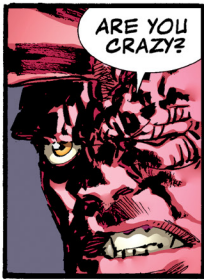
IT'S KIND OF
A BIG DEAL FOR
ME. I'VE BEEN
MISSING A LOT OF
SCHOOL AS
IT IS...

WE
NEED YOUR
HELP.

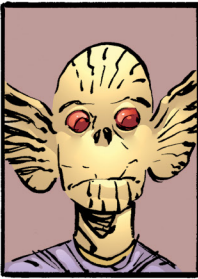
PLEASE
HELP US.

PLEASE.

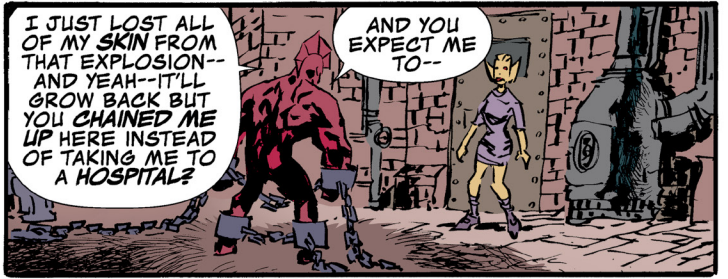
YOU'RE
OUR ONLY
HOPE.



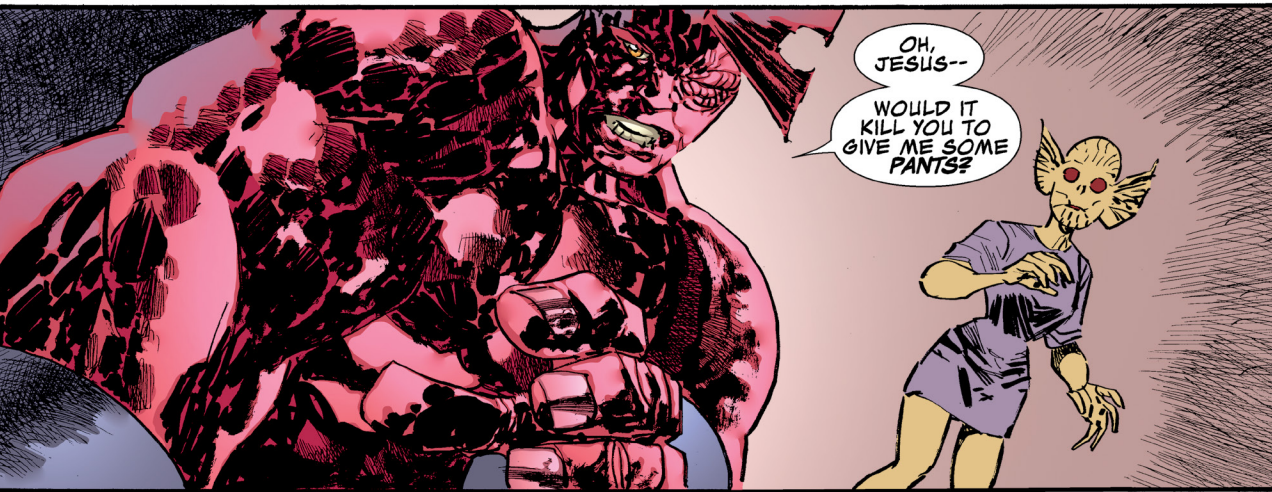
ARE YOU
CRAZY?



I JUST LOST ALL
OF MY SKIN FROM
THAT EXPLOSION--
AND YEAH--IT'LL
GROW BACK BUT
YOU CHAINED ME
UP HERE INSTEAD
OF TAKING ME TO
A HOSPITAL?



AND YOU
EXPECT ME
TO--



OH,
JESUS--

WOULD IT
KILL YOU TO
GIVE ME SOME
PANTS?



GET
ME SOME
GODDAMNED
PANTS.



NOW.



JESUS.
WHAT'S WRONG
WITH THESE
PEOPLE?



YOU
HAVE NO
EXCUSE.

NONE.

RED RAGE
BLEW UP A WEEK
AGO. MALCOLM
DRAGON WAS CAUGHT
IN THAT EXPLOSION,
BUT HIS REMAINS
WERE NEVER
RECOVERED.

YOU HAVE
HAD A WEEK TO
FIND HIM.

A WEEK TO
SCOUR THE DANGER
ZONE--THE DREGS
OF CHICAGO--AND
YOU'VE COME UP
WITH NOTHING.

PATHETIC.



NOBODY'S
TALKING,
DART.



HE'S
VANISHED.



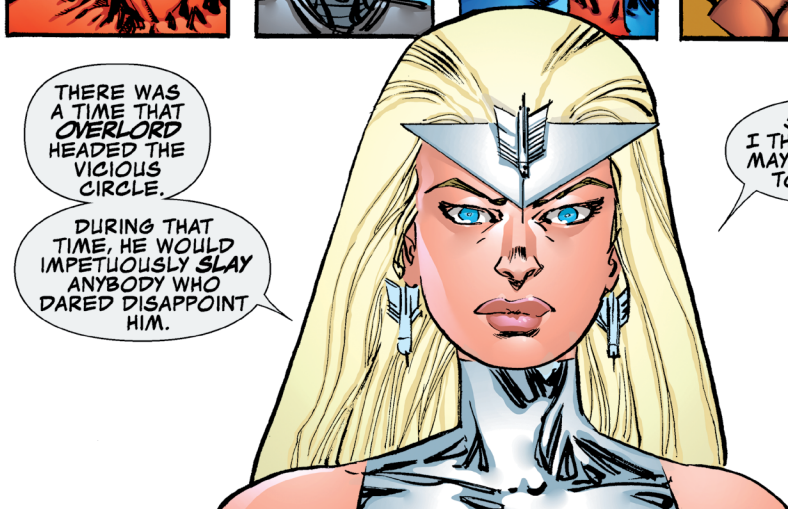
MAYBE HE
JUST BURNED
UP.
IT COULD
HAPPEN.



HE WILL BE
FOUND.



YEAH...



THERE WAS
A TIME THAT
OVERLORD
HEADED THE
VICIOUS
CIRCLE.

DURING THAT
TIME, HE WOULD
IMPETUOUSLY **SLAY**
ANYBODY WHO
DARED DISAPPOINT
HIM.

SOMETIMES
I THINK **OVERLORD**
MAY HAVE BEEN ON
TO SOMETHING.



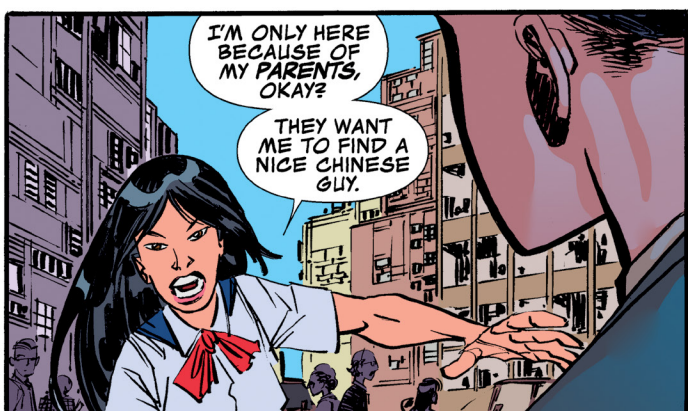
HEY, HEY--
MAXINE--WHERE
ARE YOU
GOING?

WAS IT
SOMETHING
I SAID?

JUST
FORGET IT,
CHARLIE,
OKAY?

FORGET
IT.

IT'S NOT
GOING TO
WORK.



I'M ONLY HERE
BECAUSE OF
MY PARENTS,
OKAY?

THEY WANT
ME TO FIND A
NICE CHINESE
GUY.



I'M
A NICE
GUY!

I'M A NICE
GUY--I'M
CHINESE--I HAVE
A GOOD JOB!
EVERYTHING YOU
COULD WANT. I
DON'T KNOW WHY
YOU'RE BEING
LIKE THIS!



YOU'RE
A NICE
GUY?



THEN DRIVE ME
TO THE DANGER
ZONE IN YOUR
EXPENSIVE CAR
AND HELP ME FIND
MY BOYFRIEND,
NICE GUY.

HOW
ABOUT
IT?



I
THOUGHT
SO.



IT'S
BEEN NICE
KNOWING
YOU.



DO YOU MIND?

NOT AT ALL.

AS LONG AS YOU FLUSH.

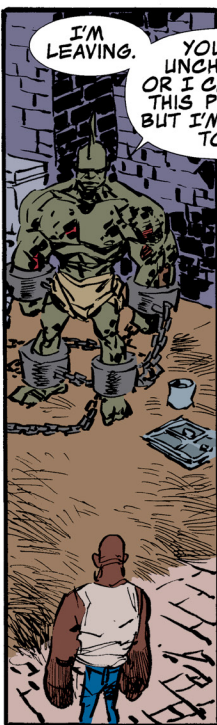
YOU AN' ME GOTTA HAVE WORDS.

I KNOW ZELDA TALKED TO YOU A BIT ABOUT OUR CAUSE, BUT YOU NEED TO KNOW JUST HOW DIRE IT IS.

WE'VE TRIED GOING AFTER THESE BELLCO CHEMICALS GUYS. WE HAVE. BUT WE'VE GOTTEN NOWHERE. WE "DON'T HAVE A CASE", Y'SEE. NO HARD EVIDENCE. PLUS--WE'RE POOR AND THEY'RE RICH--AND THAT SELDOM WORKS OUT SO GOOD.



FLUSHHH



I'M LEAVING.

YOU CAN UNCHAIN ME OR I CAN LEVEL THIS PLACE -- BUT I'M LEAVING TODAY.

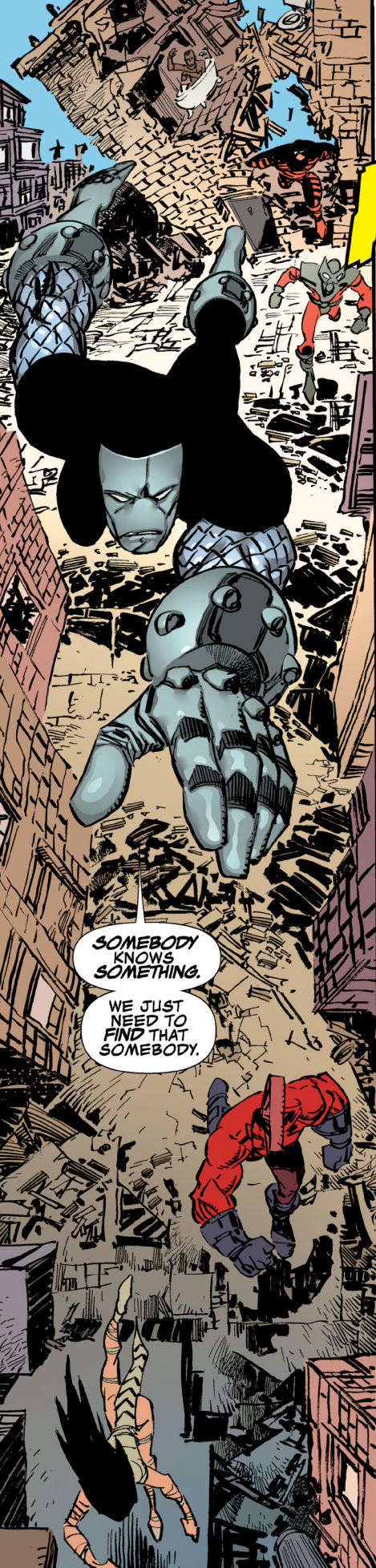


I'M GUESSING ZELDA DIDN'T TELL YOU JUST HOW BELLCO TURNED US ALL INTO MONSTERS.

THEY PUT THEIR INSIDIOUS CHEMICAL...



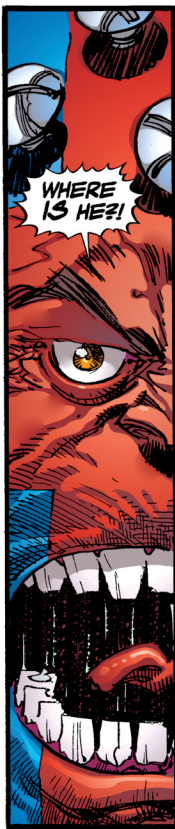
...IN THE WATER.



RUNNKK!

WHERE IS MALCOLM DRAGON?!

EEEEK!



WHERE IS HE?!

SOMEBODY KNOWS SOMETHING.

WE JUST NEED TO FIND THAT SOMEBODY.



YOU WILL HELP US FIND MALCOLM DRAGON--

OR YOU WILL DIE!



OMYGOD! OMYGOD!

WE'VE GOT A RUNNER!



SHHHHHHHHHH.



THIS HAS BEEN A WHOLE LOT OF NOTHING.

WATCH YOUR FEET, ROOKIE. IT'S A LONG WAY DOWN.

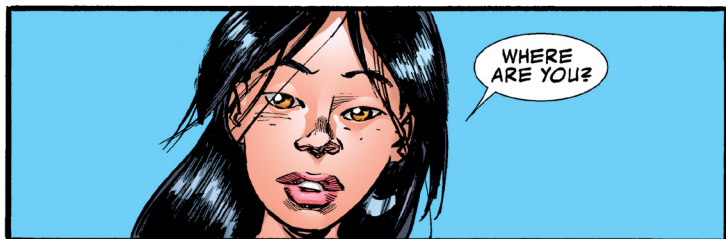
YOU'LL HAVE A LOT EASIER TIME FILLING YOUR OLD MAN'S SHOES IF YOU'RE BREATHING.

YES, SIR. THANK YOU, SIR.



MALCOLM!

HEY, MALCOLM!



WHERE ARE YOU?



MMPH!

DROP THE GIRL!



DROP HER-- NOW!



ARE YOU OKAY, MISS? YOU REALLY SHOULDN'T BE OUT HERE.

I'M OKAY.

I'M OKAY.

I'M JUST TRYING TO FIND MY BOYFRIEND.



I'LL
BREAK OUT
OF HERE!

YOU'LL
SEE!

YEAH,
YEAH.

THOSE
AREN'T
ORDINARY
MANACLES,
KID.

THOSE CHAINS
WERE FORGED
BY THE
DEMONOIDS IN
THE UNDERWORLD.
THEY'RE NOT BREAKING
ANYTIME SOON.

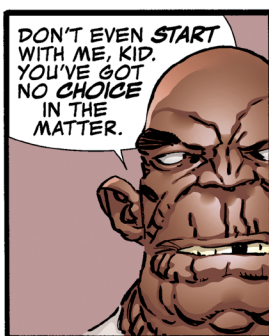
SO, YOU
CAN QUIT YOUR
PULLING AND
STRUGGLING.

YOU'RE GOING
TO **CHANGE**--THAT'S
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN.
YOU'RE GOING TO **CHANGE**,
AND DURING THAT TIME
YOU'LL BE SUSCEPTIBLE
TO OUR
MANIPULATION.

YOU'LL TAKE
DOWN BELLCO, AT
OUR COMMAND, LEVEL THEIR
OFFICES, DESTROY THEIR PLANT--
AND KILL EVERY LAST ONE OF
THEM. IT'LL ALL HAPPEN BEFORE
YOU COME TO YOUR SENSES.



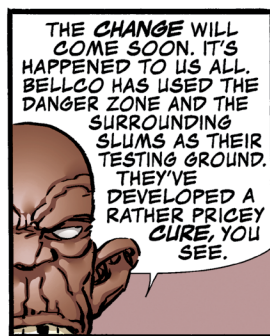
IT'S NOT
GOING TO
HAPPEN!



DON'T EVEN **START**
WITH ME, KID.
YOU'VE GOT
NO **CHOICE**
IN THE
MATTER.



SURE
I DO.



THE **CHANGE** WILL
COME SOON. IT'S
HAPPENED TO US ALL.
BELLCO HAS USED THE
DANGER ZONE AND THE
SURROUNDING
SLUMS AS THEIR
TESTING GROUND.
THEY'VE
DEVELOPED A
RATHER PRICEY
CURE, YOU
SEE.

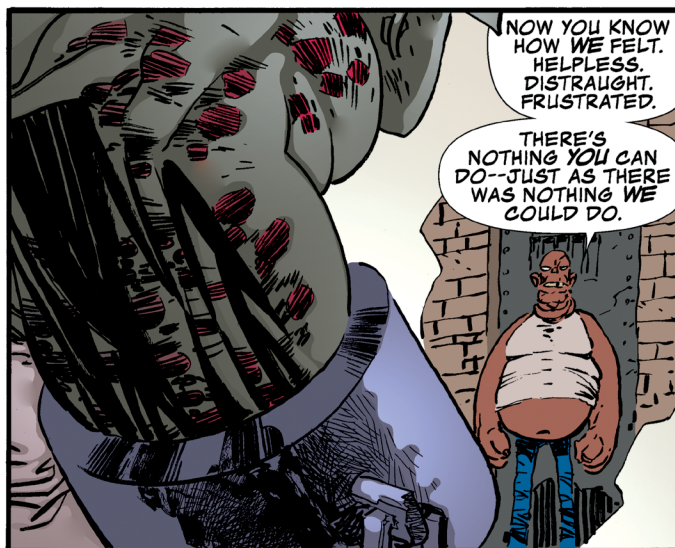


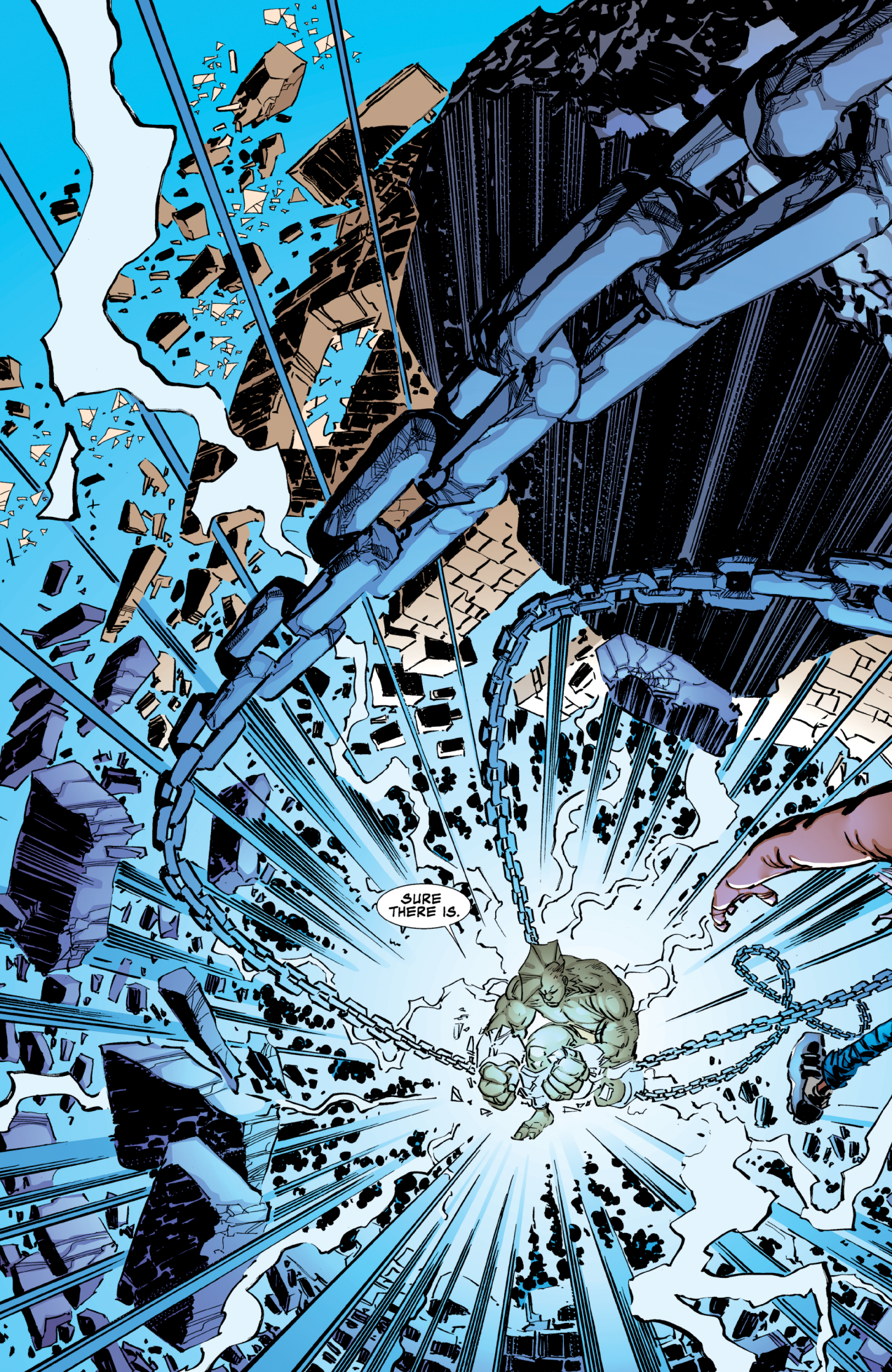
YOU'LL
CHANGE. WE
ALL **CHANGED**.
ALL OF US.

YOU'RE NO
DIFFERENT.

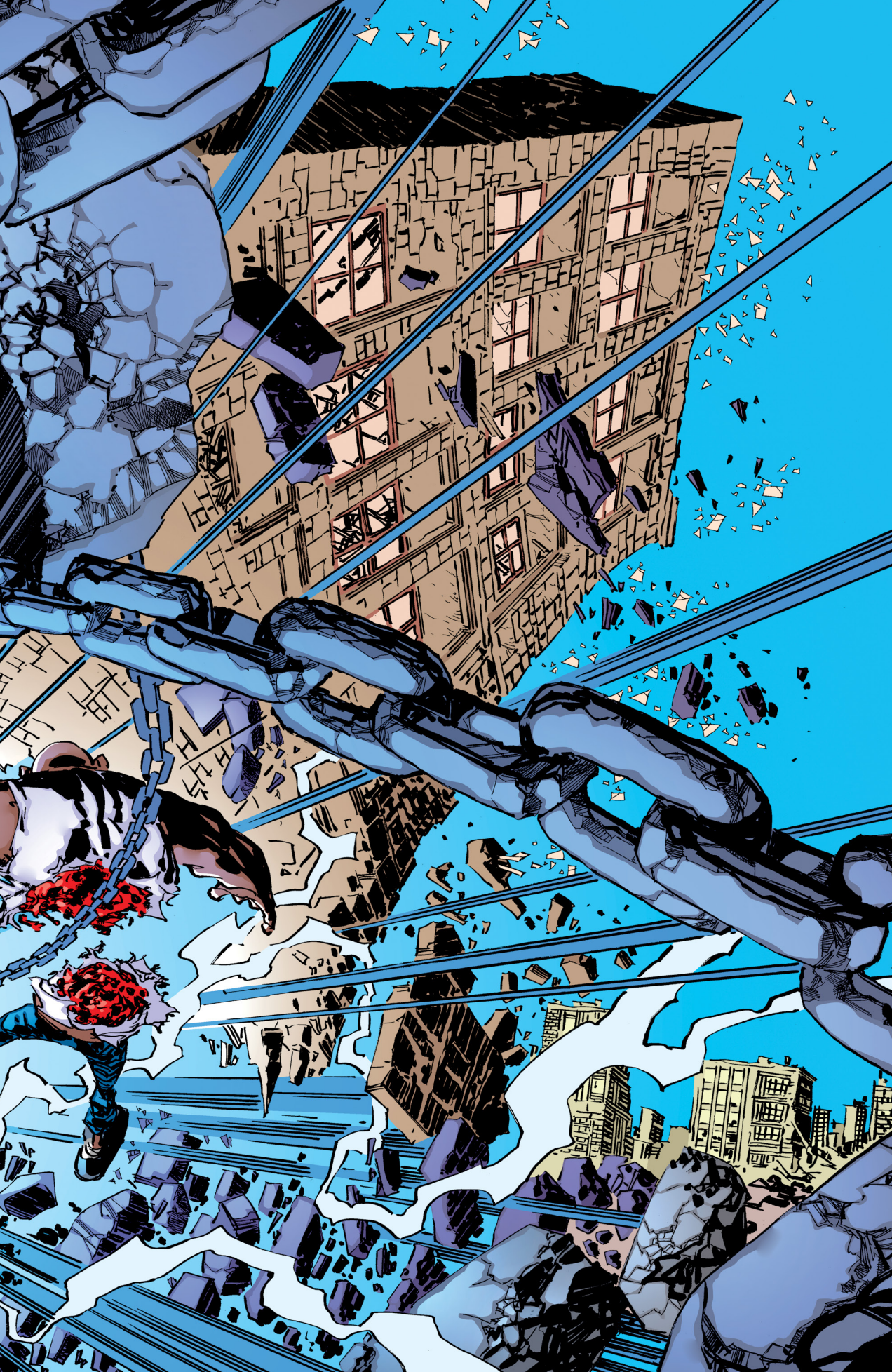


EXCEPT
YOU'LL HAVE THE
POWER TO EXACT
OUR VENGEANCE.





SURE
THERE IS.

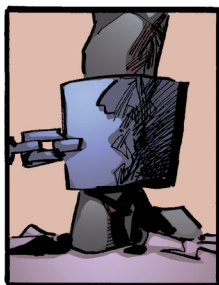




JESUS.

THERE WAS A WHOLE BUILDING UP THERE.
I HOPE NOBODY ELSE WAS HOME.

I SHOULD DIG THROUGH THE RUBBLE AND SEE IF THERE ARE ANY SURVIVORS.

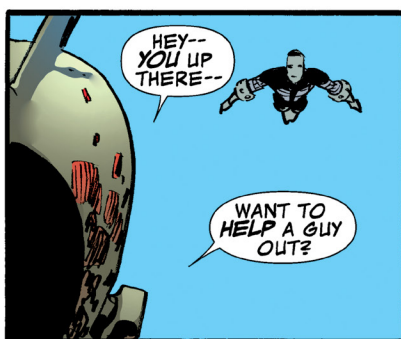
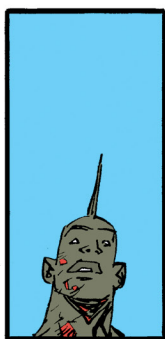


CRAP. I'M STILL CHAINED UP! THIS MANACLE DIDN'T BREAK.

THE CHAIN IS STILL ATTACHED TO... SOMETHING.



GREAT.

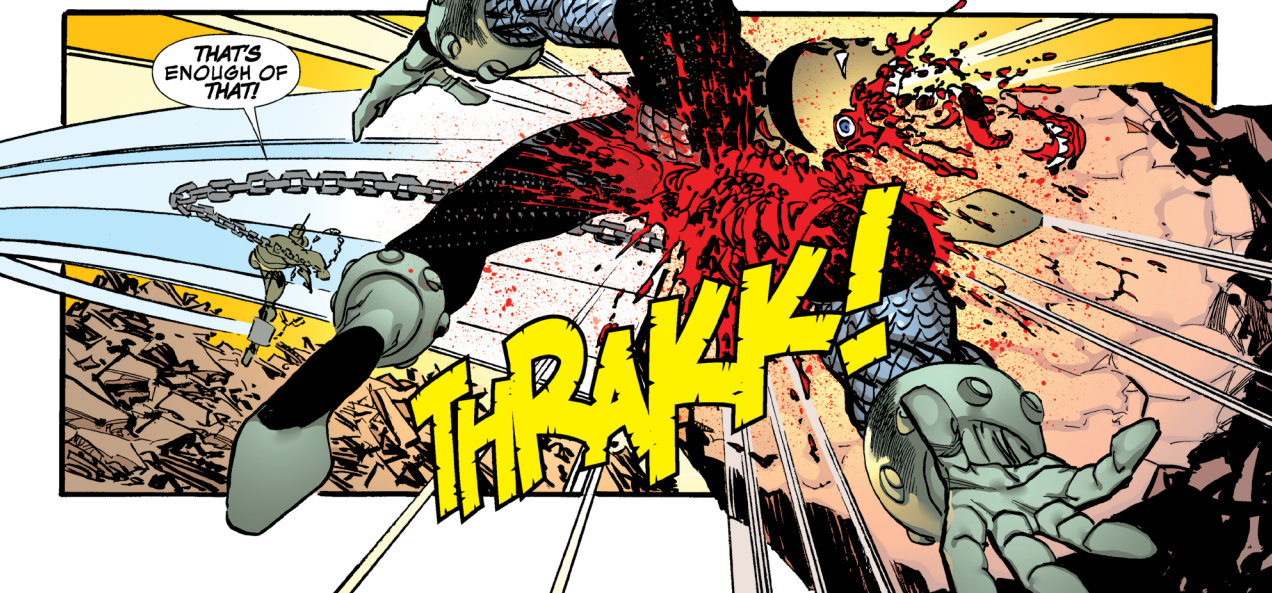
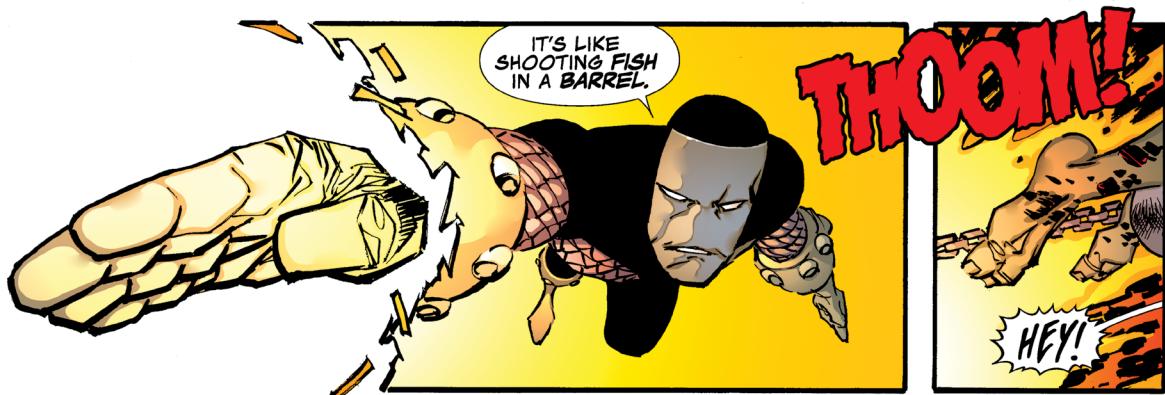


HEY-- YOU UP THERE--

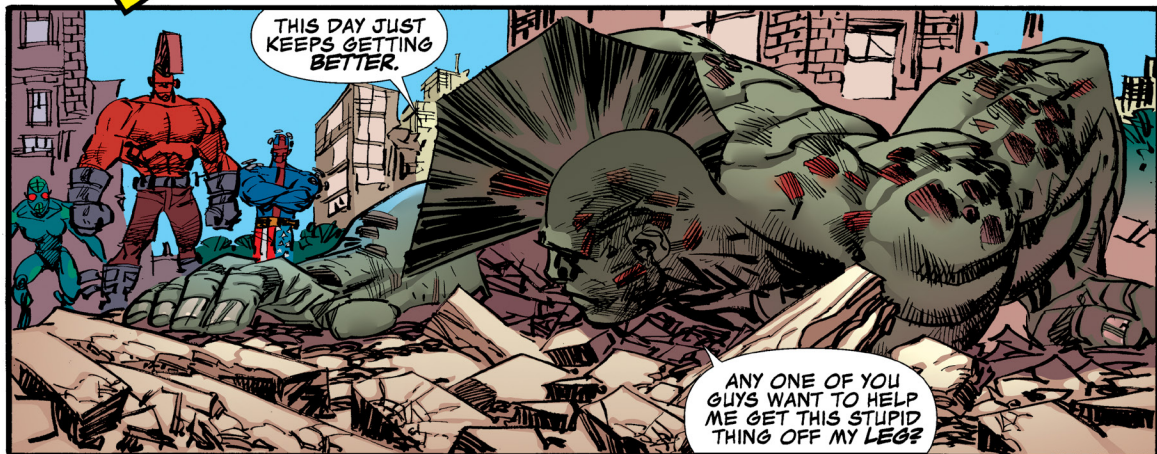
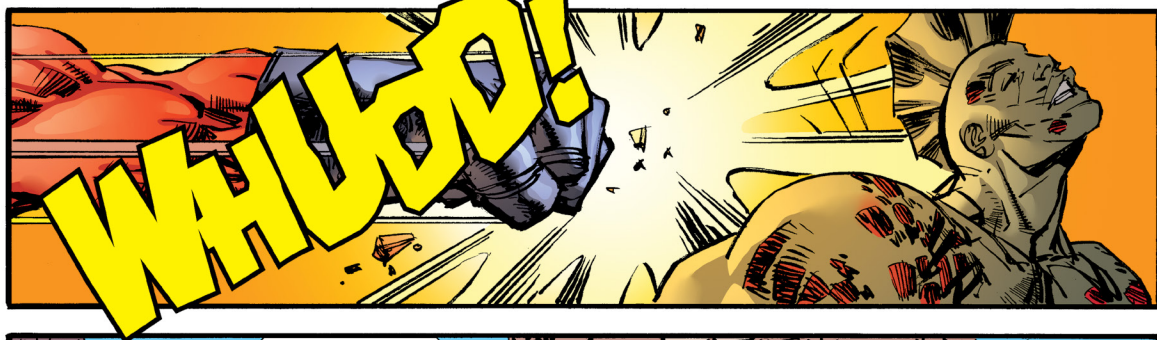
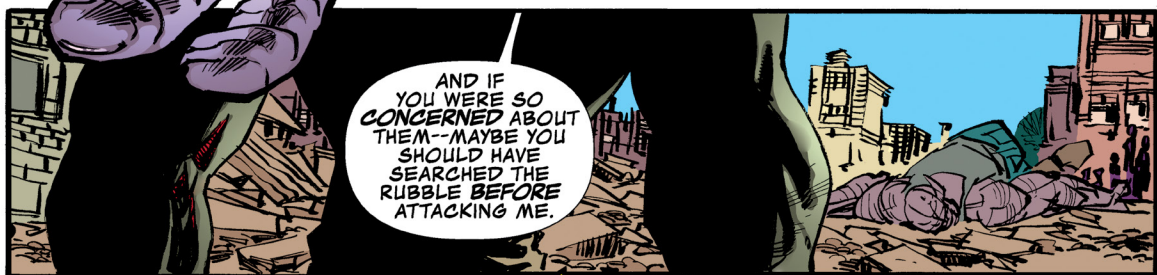
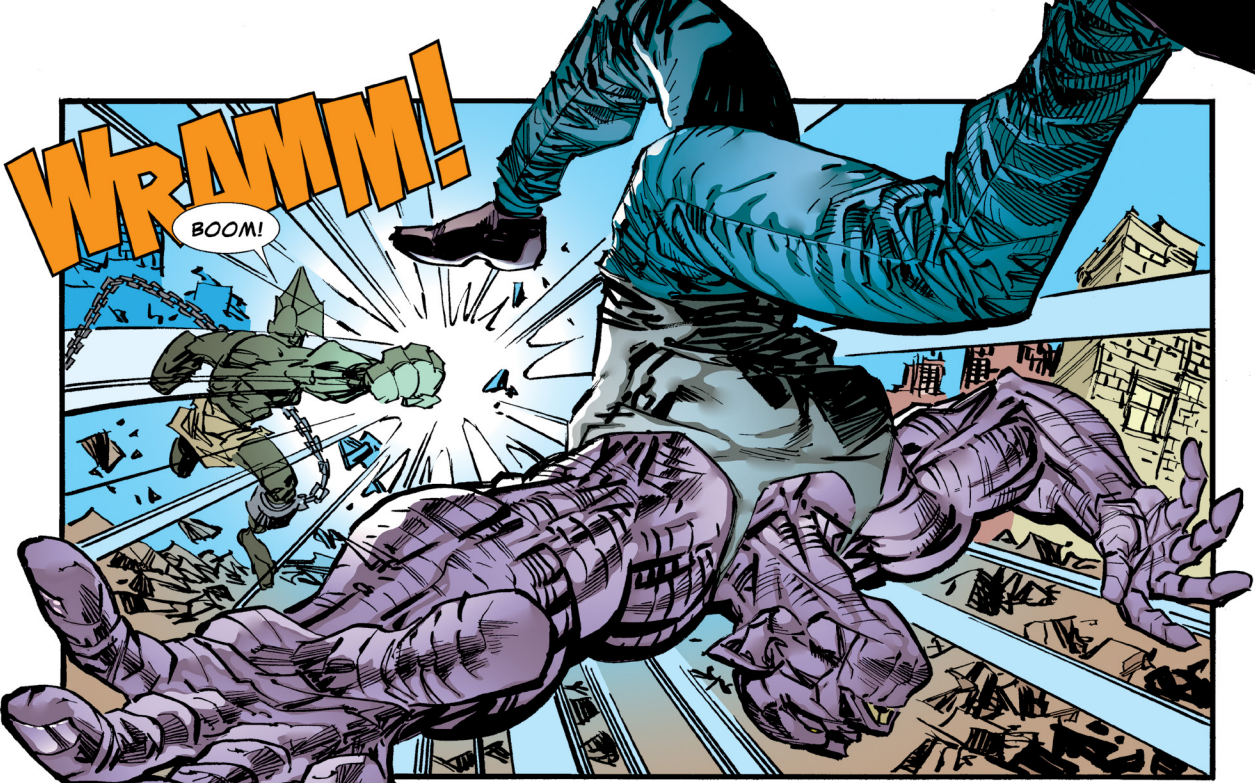
WANT TO HELP A GUY OUT?

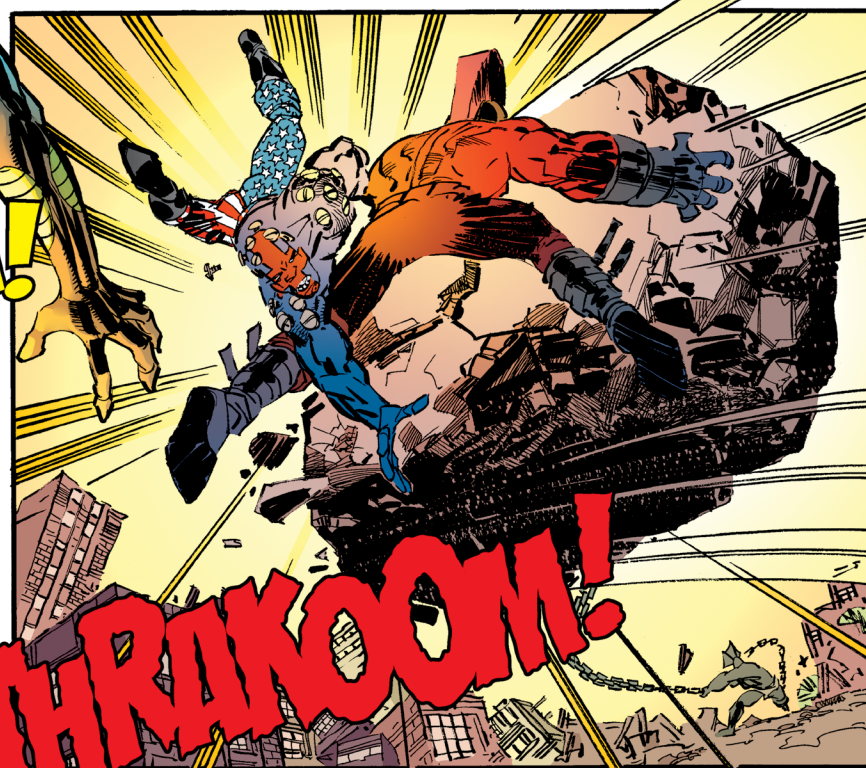
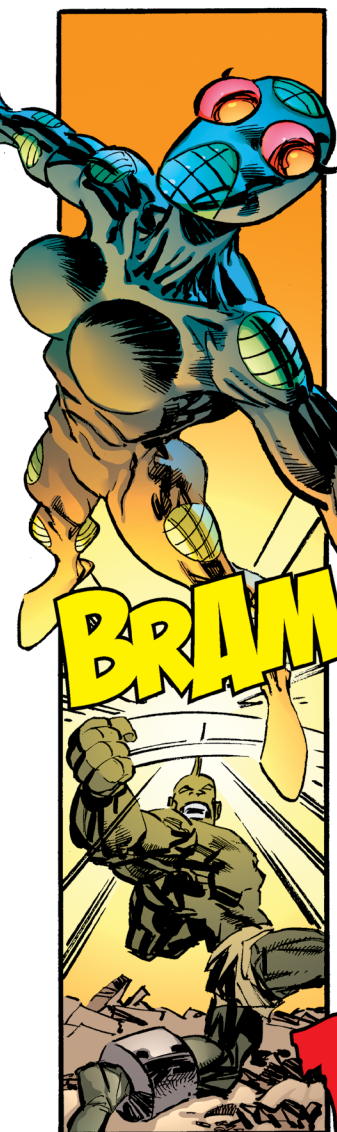
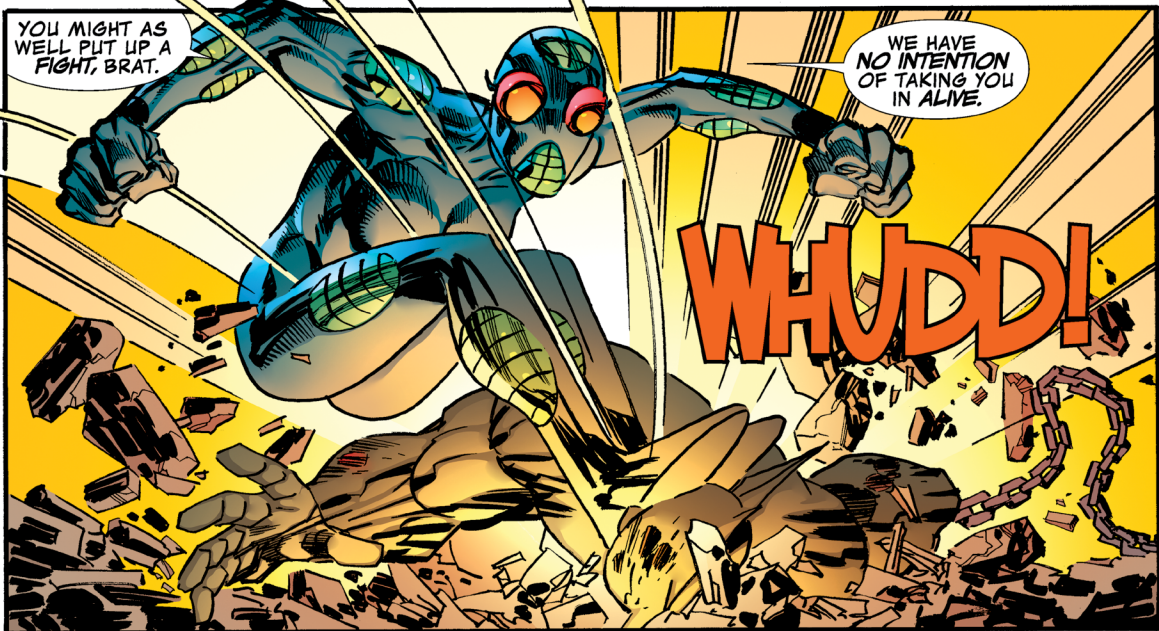


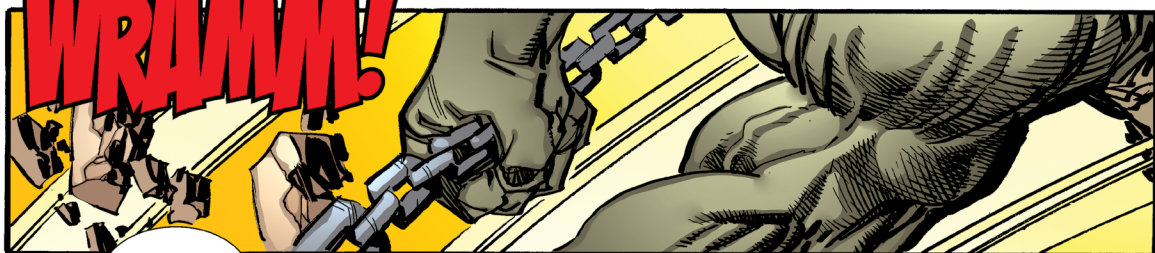
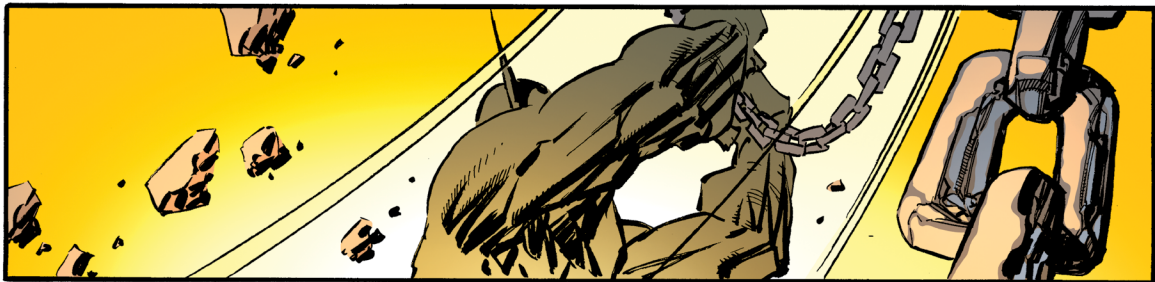
WITH PLEASURE.













MALCOLM.

**HOLD
IT RIGHT
THERE!**

e-mail: Erik@savagedragon.com

visit our website at www.savagedragon.com

Trying to get back on track! It's been a busy year. Just wrapped up my part of a limited edition Treasury Edition called Giant-Size Kung Fu Bible Stories and if you happen to stumble across a copy--snap it up without hesitation! It's the greatest publication in the history of mankind featuring all-new comics and stories by me, Bruce Timm, Adam Warren, Tom Scioli, Ryan Ottley, Andy Kuhn and Arthur Adams in a stunning oversized edition! My contribution is a brand new superhero kind of guy named Jack Champion and it's unlike anything you've ever read before! But enough of my senseless rambling--here's some of your senseless rambling--!

Erik,
After reading issue 193, the first issue of the "Bold New Direction," I found myself a bit disappointed as the issue didn't really feel like that bold of a new direction from what has come before. I thought that it might be because Malcolm has been a co-star of the book for quite some time and his papa has been out of the picture a few issues here and there in the past.

But after reading issue 194, I can definitely see the new direction, and it is really sinking in I enjoy the new look of the book, with the high-school colors, alternating between heavy red and purple, and also the format of these two issues so far...with insights into Malcolm's past, his dealings with irritating, yet well-meaning fellow students, and then a big-@\$\$ brawl with a new baddie each time. Torment and the previous issue's villain Tantrum are truly two of your coolest and disturbing villains to have come along in quite some time...I LOVE IT! I also have to give you IMMENSE props for the truly epic and classic two-page spread in this issue of Torment tossing the building at Malcolm. It literally took my breath away. If I were to fork out some cash for an original piece of art, these two pages would be my choice. You are a master of your craft, Erik!

I have a few questions for you, kind sir:

- 1) Will Darklord be appearing again in these pages, possibly in issue 200? I just want to see him utterly destroyed so we know he'll never come back! (I guess I have some issues with Damien? LOL)
- 2) Will the cryptic gentleman from issue 190 be appearing again soon? The guy who gave Brenda her powers? I'd love to see him battle Malcolm. Such an AWESOME design!
- 3) Will the S.O.S. receive a spotlight issue? While I understand your reasoning for having them out of the book, I LOVE so many of those characters and would greatly like to see them again, even for a page here and there.

I realize that my questions are focused on characters from the past. Even though they are all missed and I'd love to see them again, what I ultimately really enjoy about your approach to comic storytelling is that everything is 'real-time.' In reality, people pass and we have to live without them. What is great is that when I need some old character love, I can pull out classic SD issues and get my fix...just like accessing our memories for those we miss.

Keep up the great work, Erik. I'll keep reading!

Regards,

JonesyAZ

Phoenix, AZ

1: He'll be in and out of the book. I can't make any promises though in regard to his demise.

2: He'll be back.

3: They'll be around when necessary and they'll definitely be in #200.

Dear Erik,

Just a quick missive to say, loving "S.O.S.D." (Son of Savage Dragon). From the new logo on the cover inwards, every page is awesome! And your double page spreads blow me away every time. Thanks for a brilliant stepping-on-point and a remarkably action-popping brightly colored, high energy book. Your comic makes me feel excited in anticipation of its Wednesday release - like when I was younger, (few others do these days, honorable mention Walking Dead). Keep up the awesomeness that is Savage Dragon & a possible reappearance of Mr.

Glum would be sweet!

Thanks

Joel N Elias

London UK

Ps. A suggestion for new letters page title: (beware, awful pun alert!) Son Fin to Say [somethin' to say].

Words fail me.

Hi Erik,

Issue #194, the second issue in a brand new direction, and it looks like you honestly meant it with the new direction. The book feels like a different beast at the moment and I think it's safe to say that's a pretty normal occurrence in the world of Savage Dragon. I'm already missing Dragon as the lead, but then again he hasn't been the lead in years.

Dragon has always been your most entertaining character as his dialog is priceless. Malcolm has a long way to go before he'll be able to sub plant Dragon in the entertainment category, but it doesn't mean I don't like you. He's just not as funny as Dragon.

So the two double page spreads in this issue. Holy crap! I think all those Jack Kirby spreads that keep posting up on the Kirby fan page have had an influence on you and let's just say it's a great thing! I personally think the first DPS with the Demonoid army could possibly be your best yet. I had to slap myself about eight times to make sure I wasn't dreaming.

I'm not sure what's going on with Malcolm and his brutality, but I find it interesting to say the least. Malcolm is still young, yet he's had a pretty brutal life thus far. It seems like killing is becoming easier and easier for him. It seemed like he had genuine regret in his heart when he barbecued BattleAxe, but didn't give it much thought when it came to Tantrum and Torment. He's becoming more brutal than Dragon, and I'm really wondering where this going to lead to.

Question time!

1. SD #193, while I think naming the Worm Gang could take about a month, how about a few of the more notable members? There is the built dude that has worm eyes, the purple guy with worm arms, the yellow guy with sharp teeth, and the guy on the bottom left DPS who almost looks like an Egyptian God.

2. SD #194, the giant monster that's with the Demonoids. Will we be seeing more of him? What an awesome creation.

3. Where is EvilEye? He used to be one of your VC staples, but we haven't seen him since #152.

4. Will the murders of Tantrum and Torment have any consequence on Malcolm? I'm sure the public will love him for it, but at the same time, he is killing people.

Overall, #194 is another hit, and we are so close to #200! I honestly can't wait for that one and I hope you have some great surprises in store for us before, and after the big milestone. Keep it up Erik!

Sincerely,

Benny Hasa

San Jose, CA

1: Worm Eyes, Worm Arms, Worm Hole, Worm Ears and the jumping grayish guy is Leaping Larry.

2: I expect so, at some point.

3: I thought he was dead.

4: Wait and see.

Erik,

Well, we're now 2 issues into the "new direction". Thought I'd give you my first impressions. The logo, I like it. Can't say I like it as much as the old one, but it is eye catching and it is different. No problem, I think it will do the job nicely, something new, something new readers can easily spot.

The first 2 stories were pretty much one and done. Very cool looking enemies. I liked both Tantrum and Torment, both were visually striking, some of your best random freaks. In fact, kind of sorry to see you kill them off so quickly. But hey, you've been doing that since day one, it's a little late for me to start complaining about that now! I thought maybe you were just showing us the kind of life Malcolm leads now, incredibly dangerous. But I dunno, I'm starting to think there's some connection between Tantrum and Torment. I'll just have to wait and see...

And I liked how you started each issue off with a flashback (dream?). We get to see what's going on in Malcolm's mind. I don't think those incidents actually happened but I could be wrong. It shows us how he feels about his mother and father, how much he misses them, and how much he doesn't understand about their life. Definitely fertile ground to build on character-wise.

Which brings me to my main concern with this new direction... I've said it before, Dragon is a likable character. He is the everyman with super powers. He was never a paragon of virtue but he was always a good guy trying to do the right thing, the same man in an insane world making the tough decisions. I always thought you put alot of yourself in him. Now, I've been here since the beginning, I've gotten old(er) along with the Savage Dragon, I can empathize with his retirement, it's a great story and I'm very glad we haven't seen the last of him.

The question is, can you put the same excitement and complexity in a character that's only 15 or 16? You're no spring chicken, can you remember all the intense emotional gravity of being that age? Can you make us remember it? Well, I like what I see so far. Malcolm is most definitely NOT Dragon. He's had his own unique upbringing that's shaped him. One thing I've noticed already. Malcolm is quick to kill his enemies, maybe a little too quick. Dragon killed when he had too, but he always seemed to do it as a last resort or by accident in the heat of battle. Malcolm seemed a little to cavalier after killing Tantrum and Torment. I realize he was raised part of his life in a violent, alien dimension, but I think this could become a problem for him. Yep, lots of character potential for this new Dragon, let's see what you can do with it.

Last 2 points...The art never looked better, colors looked great and the action was tremendous! And Malcolm is what, 15, 16...can we assume he hasn't reached his peak power yet?

That's it for now, looking forward to the next issue.

Later,

Don Massi

Mt. Ephraim, NJ

Malcolm is 17 at this point and he's just going to get older. Spider-Man started off in high school, as did Invincible and they both managed to make it through those awkward teenage years in one piece. It also helps that I have a couple teenage boys of my own kicking around here.

Fin Addicts,

At first I don't think I really got #194, but after flicking through it again, there is a lot to like about this issue.

First of all I LOVE the cover. Something about Malcolm in front of the title almost gives it a 3D effect. Plus Torment is a typical Larsen villain - visually very interesting!

The opening splash page, followed by a stunning double-page spread are also very satisfying. I might as well get it out the way and say that I thought this was one of the best looking issues in a while. I believe this is the issue you "doubled up" on, and it definitely showed. The double-pager further into the story was another exciting image. And see the panel where Torment punched Malcolm through the wall on page 8...? You can see every brick and piece of debris! It's like reading a comic book in high definition!

There are two scenes that I hope lead to repercussions. Firstly Darklord's conversation with Rapture about Malcolm's real mother (definitely missed that first read through!). And secondly Malcolm killing Torment, after just last issue killing Tantrum. Seems like our hero isn't too shy about stopping a villain no matter what it takes!

The countdown to #200 continues, and I'm in for the long haul!

John Turner

Liverpool UK

P.S. I'll never get bored of "Lightning punch to the head!"!

Could anybody?

Mr. Larsen,

This is the twice up issue? It's fantastic.

Will issue 200 be like one of the oversized books Marvel and DC put out in the '70s? Then we could really enjoy the details you pack in those panels.

John Gentil

As fun as that might be—I'd imagine some readers and retailers would be less-than thrilled. The downside of format experiments like that is that there are readers who like having all of their comics in nice, neat, uniform piles and a treasury edition-sized mag just doesn't tuck into a short or long box like the rest. Doing some kind of jumbo-sized special is not out of the question but I don't think having a random massive issue of an ongoing series would be such a good idea.

Erik,

Drawing at twice the size, made this issue AWESOME!!! It looked phenomenal! I like how Malcolm is coming into his own. The villain was cool, and very eye-catching. The building falling scene was great. Thank you. It seems like this issue was a lot of work, and well worth it!! Also I like the continuing use of back ups, and really enjoyed the Funnies page. Overall a great package!!! This is how comics should be. Now if only you could print it on the same paper as the Next Issue Projects! Counting down to 200!

Rob Messick

Sewell, NJ

The Next Issue Project paper is colored to look like newsprint—but it isn't. It's regular non-glossy stock and while that might look good in places—it would make the art look a bit less vibrant. I'm not convinced that's the way to go.

Erik,

Start over. I have the very 1st issue of the Savage Dragon in '92. But now getting back into comics 22 years later I see that you have Malcolm Dragon doing what his father did years ago. Why not start the series over with Issue one? I said the same thing to McFarlane with Spawn. If these characters are new people they should start over again.

Christopher Boyd

It's taken me 21 years to get where I am. I'm not going to throw that away for a fleeting bump in sales. Any idiot can do a first issue. Not many get to do an issue 196. High issue numbers are the survivors—those are the ones that made it—the success stories. I consider a high issue number to be a badge of honor.

If you need to keep tricking your readership into thinking you've started over by slapping a #1 on the cover—maybe what you have going isn't so special after all. And who are you fooling, really? As long as you're continuing adventures already begun and featuring characters already introduced—it's not a real fresh start—it's a continuation of a story already in progress. So why lie to your readers and yourself?

Malcolm Dragon was born in Savage Dragon #33. His story is throughout this book—arbitrarily cutting it off would be nonsensical. The preceding 163 issues tell his story—in what possible way does it make sense to say none of that matters and simply start renumbering the book? What is gained? I can tell you what is lost—a sense of history, continuity and a connection to the character's past—and a sense of accomplishment for having reached such a number. Hell, I still regret renumbering the book after its initial 3-issue miniseries 21 years ago. I'm not going to make that mistake twice.

Hey Erik!

Sorry I got the last couple issues late (although they were great!) but I just finished of issue 194 and thought I would drop you a line!

So, first off, I'm loving the new direction. Dragon makes a great

supporting cast member and seeing Malcolm come into his own is great. Even if it does make me feel really old. I think we all thought that Malcolm would take over one day, but what about Angel? I always figured she would get at least part of the spotlight. I hope to see more of her soon. Maybe as part of the big story you no doubt have planned for 200? You...do have a big story planned for 200, right?

I loved the flashbacks. Really shows just how far the kid has come as well as giving us that small peek of what life was like for him after, and the world in general, after Dragon got warped to The Savage World!! (that feels like it should be accompanied by a thunder clap....)

Lamarr showing up with the groupies was great, how many young men with a friend like that aren't going to go there. I just really wonder how many women can throw themselves at him until he finally gives in. No doubt he will at the worst possible time. Seems to run in the family. Hopefully she doesn't end up covered in sh**..EYE! Torment was pretty cool, the very obvious tormented monster. Talk about wearing your heart on your chest...er, forehead. I loved how his obvious torment really spoke to the less obvious, but very powerful, torment that Malcolm has going on. He's definitely had a lot dropped on his plate. And judging by that last page...it may be too much for him. I think his reaction was a very realistic one after seeing your friends killed for no reason in front of you. I mean, how many friends can Peter watch get killed before he permanently deals with Norman Osborn? But it's still a choice that I think Malcolm will regret once he actually stops to think rationally. I'm excited to see where you take it and watch Malcolm continue to try to fill his fathers very large shoes! Overall, it's a love-fest! I'm loving everything you're doing right now, sir, so keep it up! Well, everything except for the lack of Deadly Duo!! Hey, Malcolm could use some guidance in becoming a great hero...just something to think about...but keep up the great work! Until next month, I remain,

Don Smith

Thanks!

Erik,

It's been a while since I last wrote. That has more to do with my reading habits than whether I have something to say or not. I always have stuff to say, but I tend to read my favorite comic book series in chunks. Dragon is one of those series. (I just finished an extensive reading of past issues) I would say that every 4-6 issues is average, but I have been known to wait over a year. A year is a little too long for a comic book like this. For a series like the Walking Dead a year may be just fine, but around here time moves too fast. It's the flow of the story I think. In recent years you have really pushed for stand alone issues, and that's great, but one thing has started to stand out to me. You have an awful lot of issues that have almost the same summary. A bad guy we know very little about and care very little about attacks. There is a lot of punching, and lo and behold Malcolm or Dragon or Angel finally knocks them out. At some point a subplot is addressed. The end.

Now that is not to say I'm not enjoying the book. I am enjoying the book a lot. Dragon is still my favorite comic. It's still the comic book I'd find a way to steal even if I had no money to buy it, but I do think you should find a way to shake up the story flow a bit. I'm just saying not everything needs to be resolved in 1 issue, or be part of a storyline that has a designated amount of issues. Sometimes it's nice to not know when the end is coming. It creates a bit more tension.

Now that I have that out of the way, I just want to say I LOVE the new direction. You really hit a home run with this one. 193 and 194 are both full of youthful energy similar to the beginnings of the series back in the '90s. You have done a fantastic job making it clear that Malcolm is the central character of the story. 193 actually felt like issue #1. I was worried about the shift, but now I'm completely comfortable with it and excited to see what's coming.

One last thing ... soooo, Malcolm has decided to just start killing people? I love it. Enough with irrational altruism. Still, you have to wonder where this path will lead Malcolm.

OK, I've said my piece. Time to get caught up on Invincible, and the Walking Dead. (and the Bounce, and Suicide Risk and Next Testament and etc, etc, etc).

I'm still here, giving you my money on a monthly basis, even if you don't hear from me.

Dustin Burdick

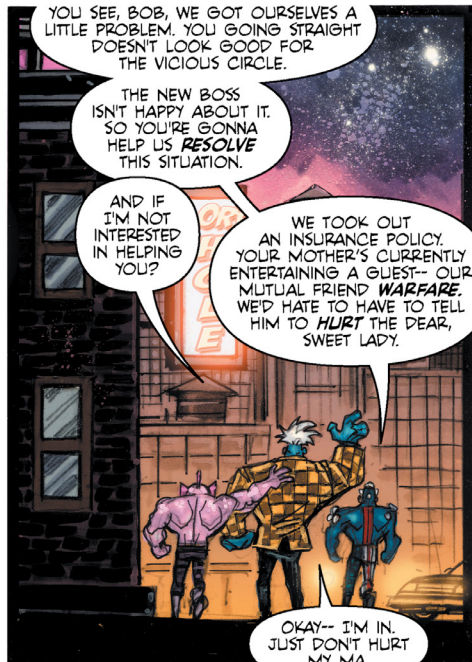
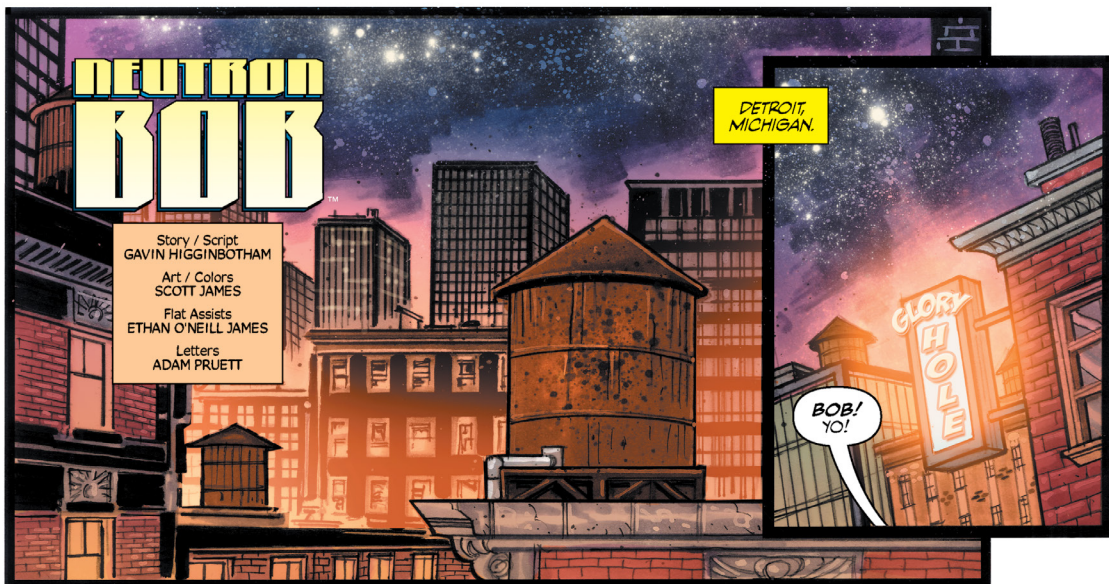
PS. One more thing I forgot to ask. Can Malcolm shoot lightning from his hands like the Emperor in Star Wars?! If not he should definitely be practicing to figure out how! That's what I'd be doing ...

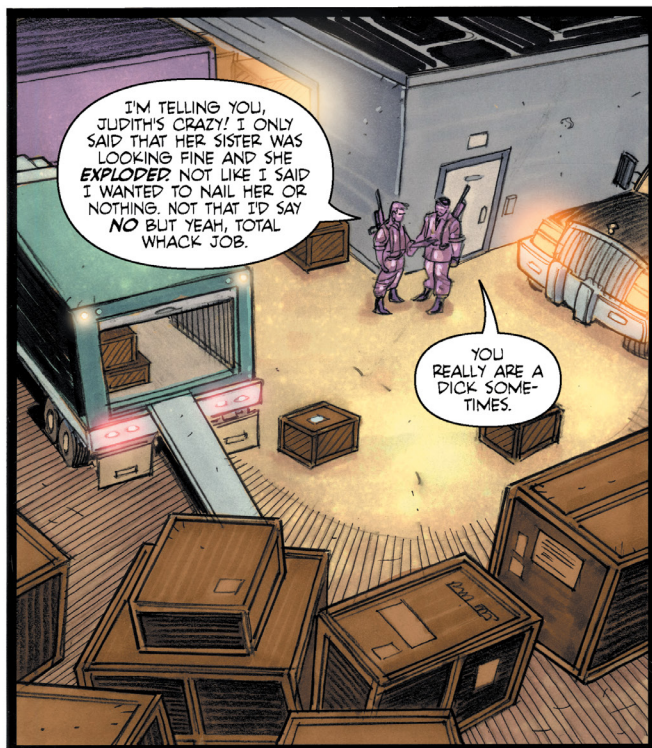
Malcolm has to touch a person in order to zap them—like an electric fence. He can't shoot electricity. He's inherited some of his mother's powers—but not all of it.

-Erik Larsen

NEXT: Monster Madness

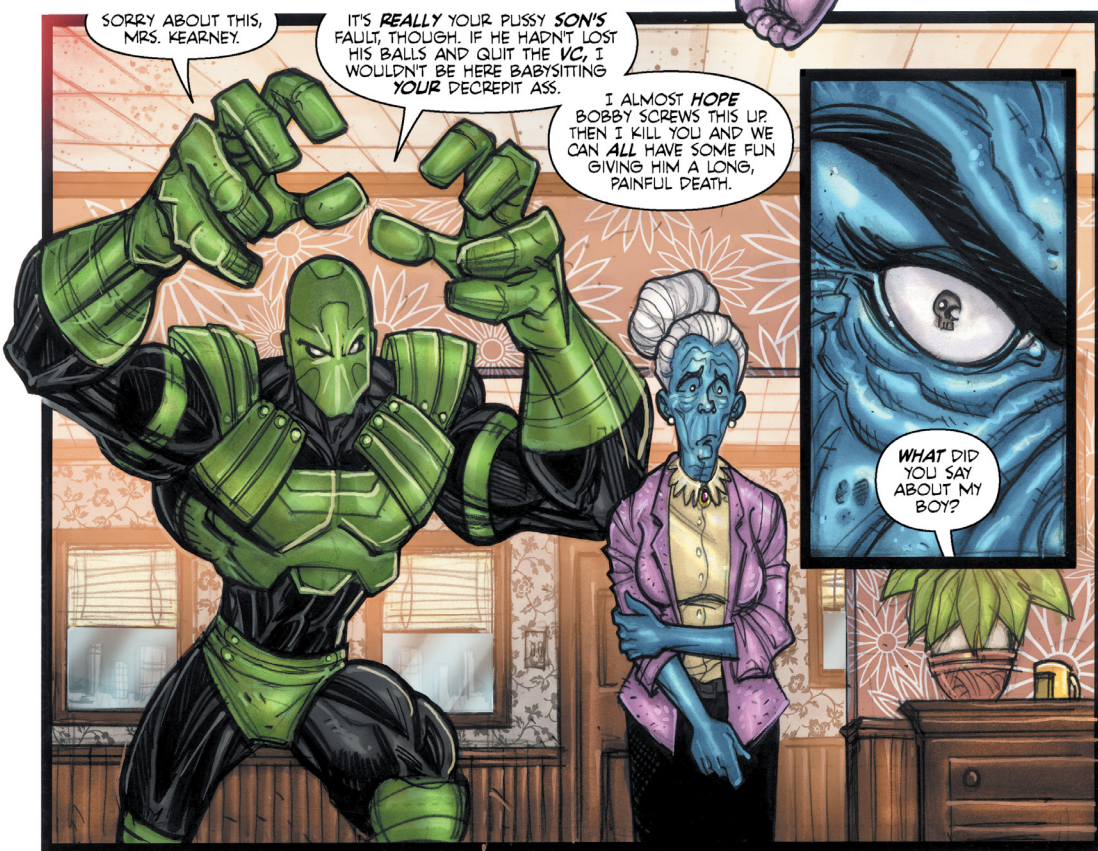
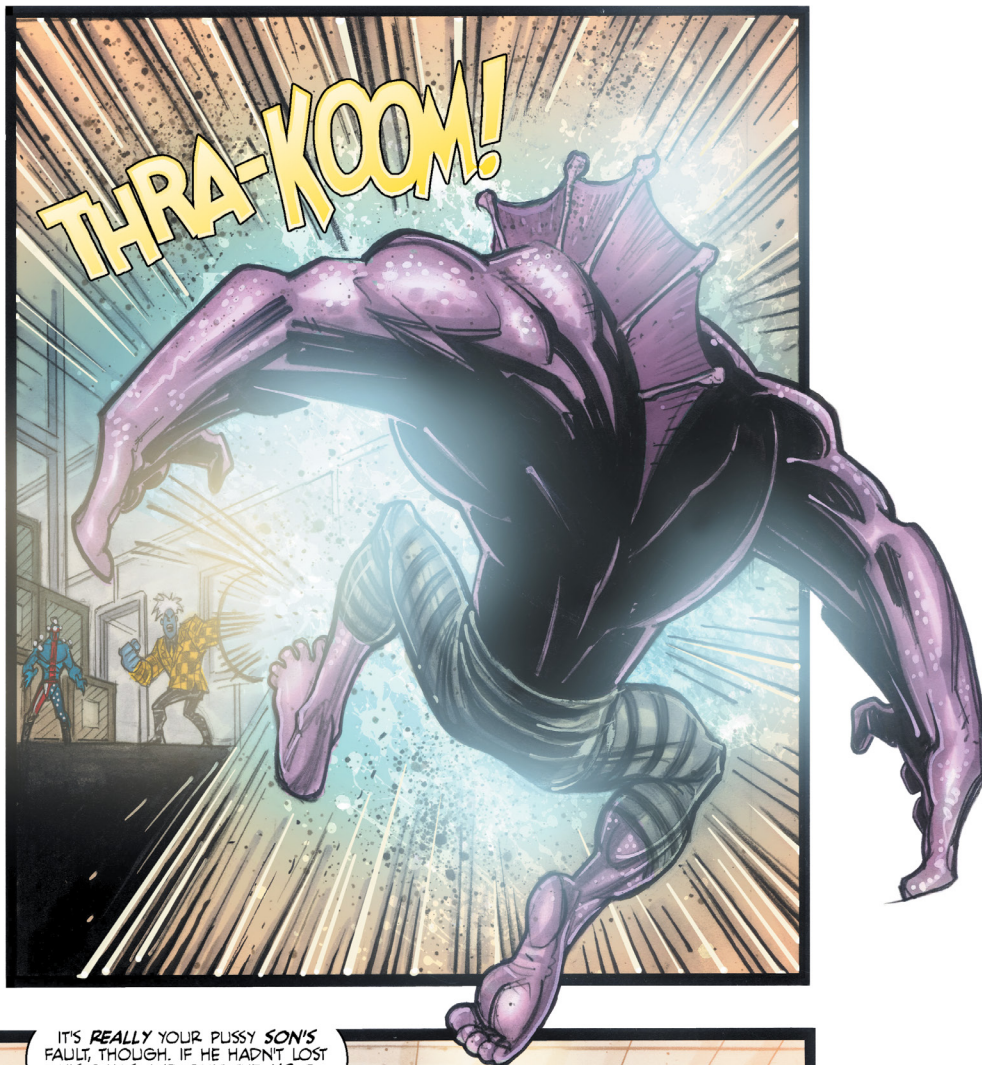
Hey, don't stop reading now--there's plenty of additional funnybook fun to be had in the pages that follow--!



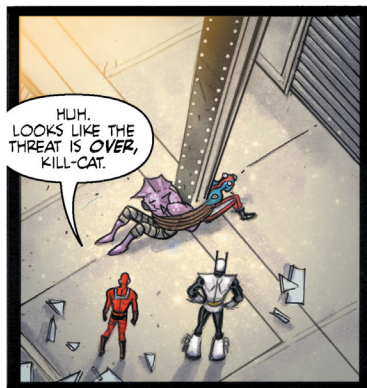
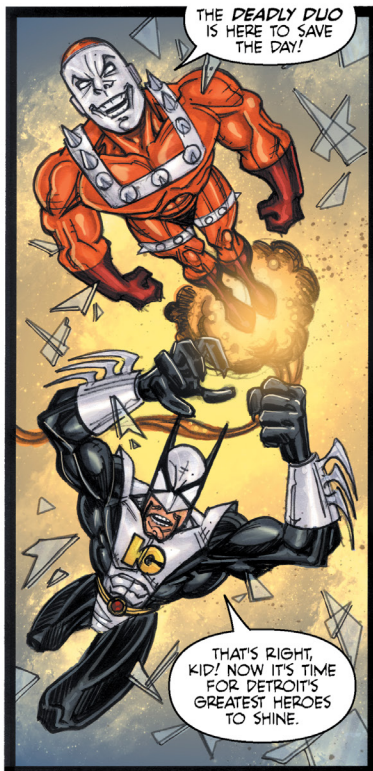
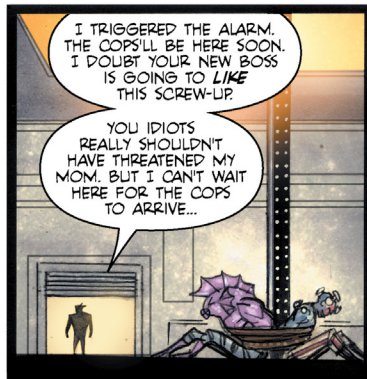


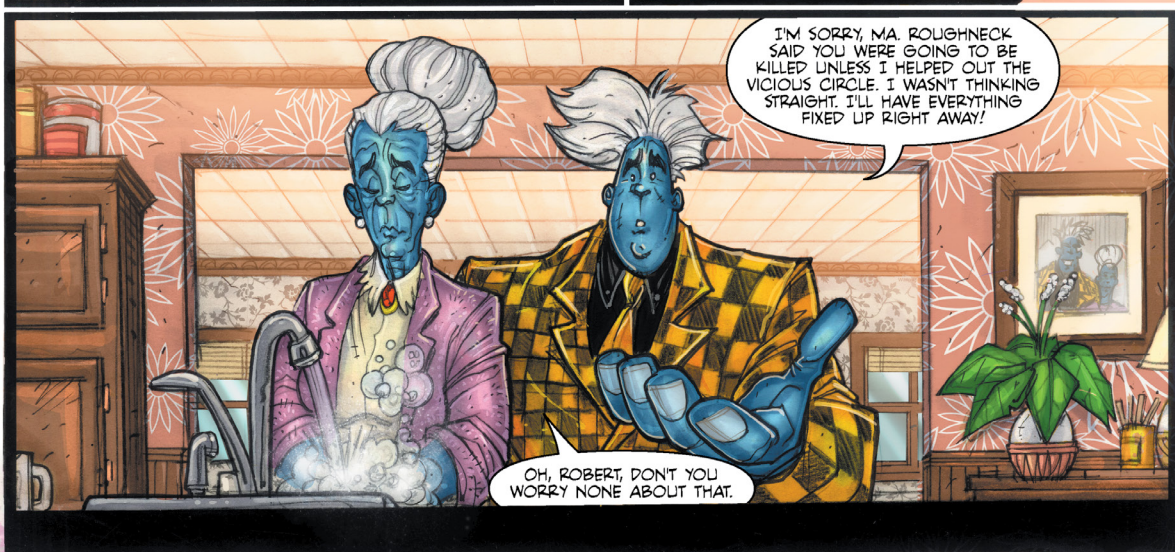
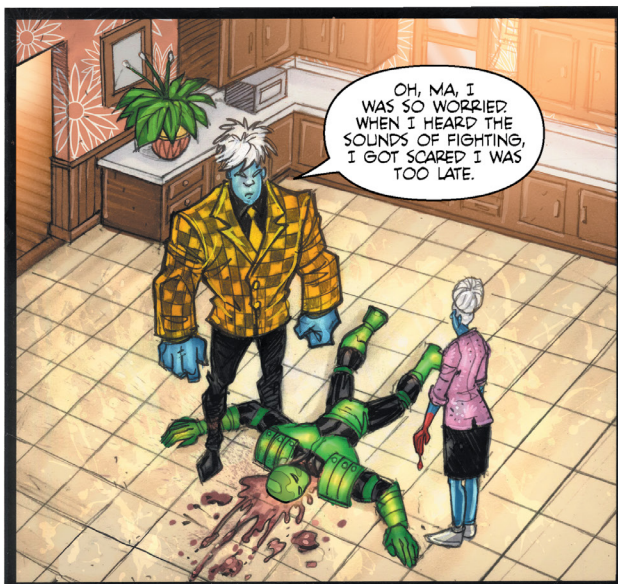
WHAM!









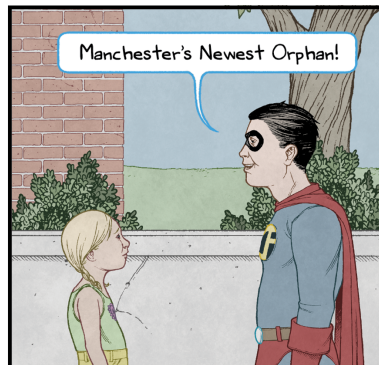
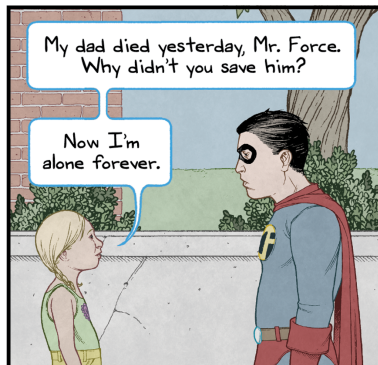


THE END

F U N N I E S

TRUTH SERUM

by Jon Adams



MISERY LOVES SHERMAN

by Chris Eliopoulos

YAY!

YAY!

YAY!

AW.

AW.

AW.

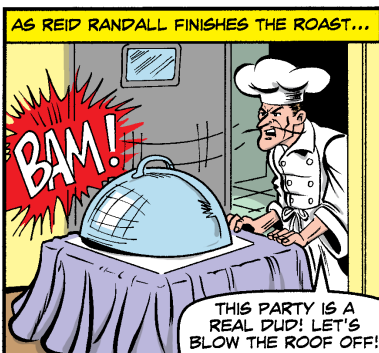
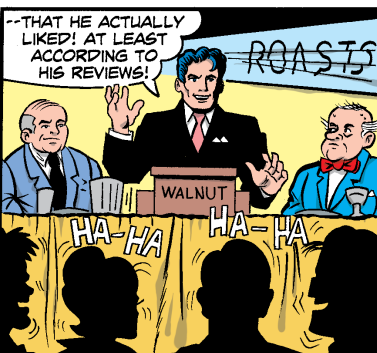
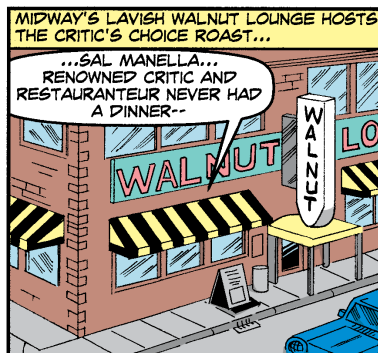
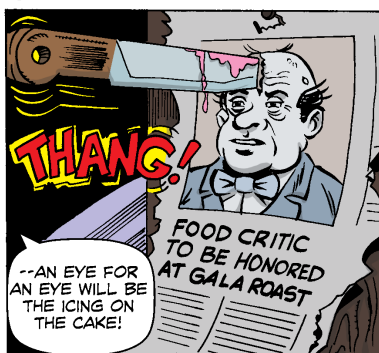
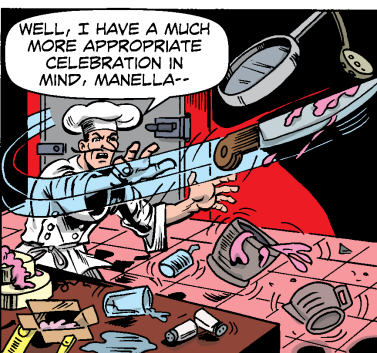


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