

# SAVAGES RAGED

image  
215



ERIK  
LARSSON

# SAVAGE DRAGON®

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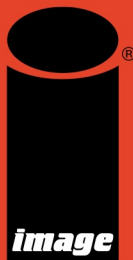
flats

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IS THIS EVEN LEGAL?

YOU'RE THE POLICEMAN.

I KNOW IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

WELL, SHIT.

I'D HATE TO HAVE THE GUY EXPLODE ON US. BUT I DON'T SEE ANY OTHER WAY OF TRACKING DOWN DART.

BARRY KNOWS WHERE SHE'S HIDING OUT, AND DART KIDNAPPED OUR BABIES.

ANYTHING?

WE MAY BE TOO LATE.

HE'S LOST A LOT OF BLOOD.

I'M NOT READY TO THROW IN THE TOWEL. I'VE SEEN TOO MANY MIRACLES TO GIVE UP YET.



THERE'S STILL A HEARTBEAT. IT'S WEAK. IT'S IRREGULAR-- BUT IT'S THERE.



**THE DRAGON TRIPLETS HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED!**

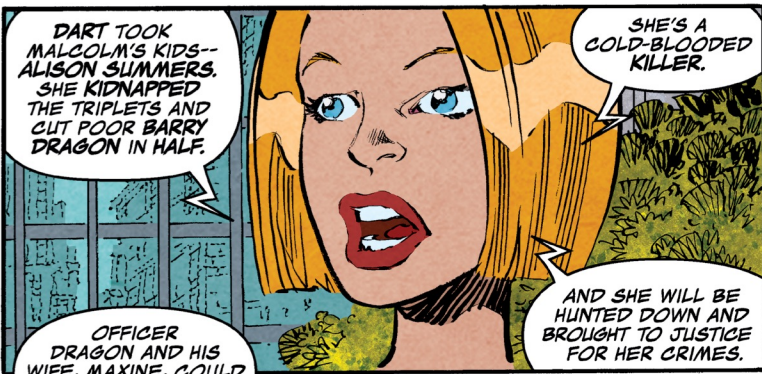
JUST HOURS AFTER HAVING BEEN BORN, OFFICER MALCOLM DRAGON'S THREE CHILDREN, TWO BOYS AND A GIRL, WERE FORCIBLY TAKEN FROM THE RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER.

EYEWITNESSES CLAIM THAT DART, THE ALLEGED HEAD OF CHICAGO'S NOTORIOUS CRIMINAL ORGANIZATION THE VICIOUS CIRCLE, WAS HERSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR THE BRAZEN DAYTIME ABDUCTION.



WE'RE FOLLOWING UP ON LEADS. THIS WAS A VERY BOLD KIDNAPPING. IT TOOK PLACE IN BROAD DAYLIGHT WHERE THE PERPETRATORS COULD BE EASILY SEEN.

OFFICER DRAGON WAS OTHERWISE ENGAGED, BUT ANGEL MURPHY, A FORMER MEMBER OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS STRIKEFORCE CONFRONTED THE KIDNAPPERS.

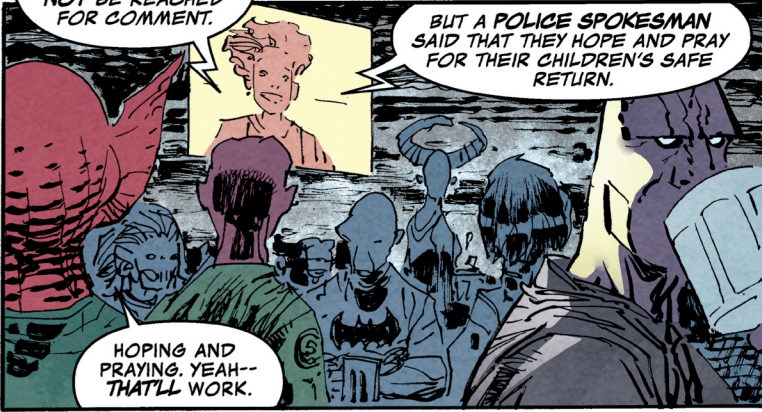


DART TOOK MALCOLM'S KIDS-- ALISON SUMMERS. SHE KIDNAPPED THE TRIPLETS AND CUT POOR BARRY DRAGON IN HALF.

SHE'S A COLD-BLOODED KILLER.

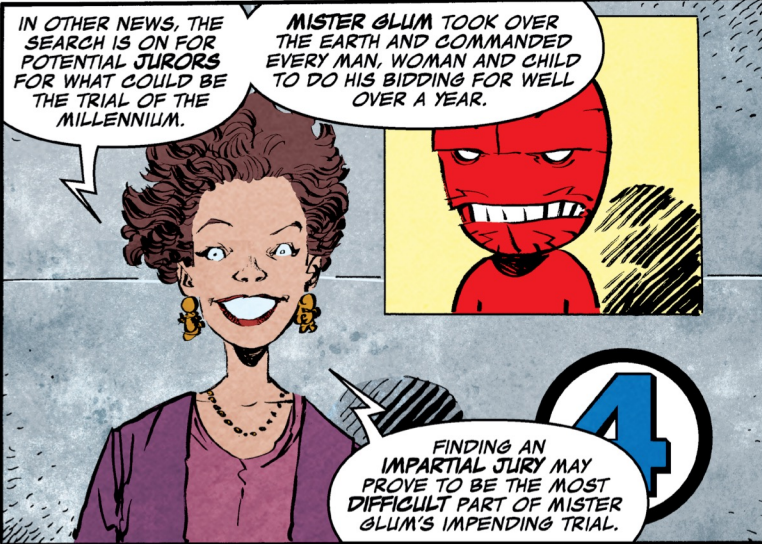
AND SHE WILL BE HUNTED DOWN AND BROUGHT TO JUSTICE FOR HER CRIMES.

OFFICER DRAGON AND HIS WIFE, MAXINE, COULD NOT BE REACHED FOR COMMENT.



BUT A POLICE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT THEY HOPE AND PRAY FOR THEIR CHILDREN'S SAFE RETURN.

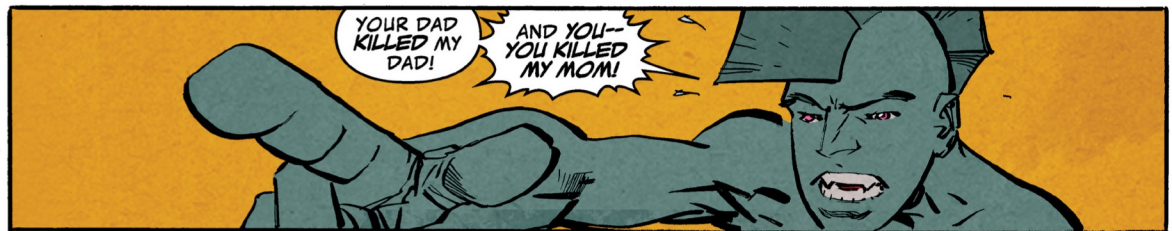
HOPING AND PRAYING. YEAH-- THAT'LL WORK.



IN OTHER NEWS, THE SEARCH IS ON FOR POTENTIAL JURORS FOR WHAT COULD BE THE TRIAL OF THE MILLENNIUM.

MISTER GLUM TOOK OVER THE EARTH AND COMMANDED EVERY MAN, WOMAN AND CHILD TO DO HIS BIDDING FOR WELL OVER A YEAR.

FINDING AN IMPARTIAL JURY MAY PROVE TO BE THE MOST DIFFICULT PART OF MISTER GLUM'S IMPENDING TRIAL.





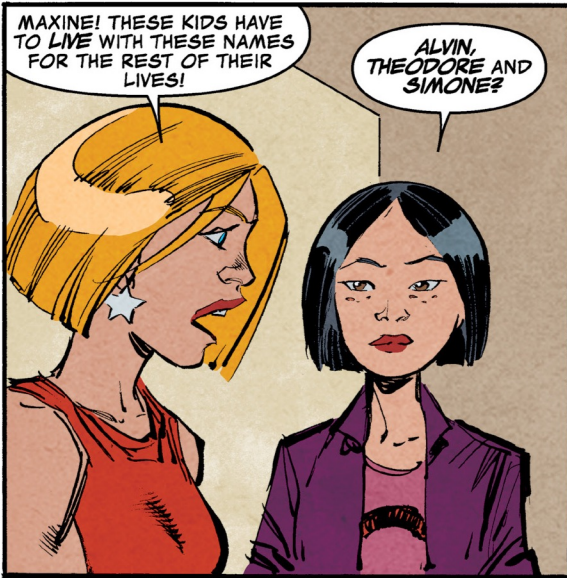
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS IS REALLY HAPPENING!

OH, PLEASE-- LET HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUISE BE OKAY!



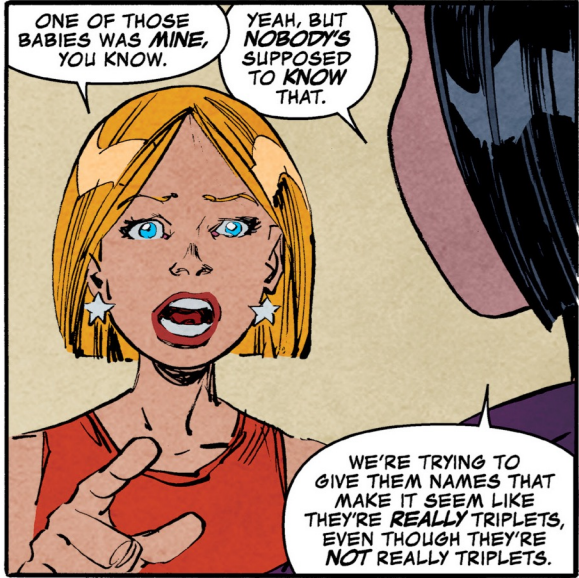
YOU ARE NOT NAMING THOSE THREE KIDS "HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUISE."

HUEY, DEWEY AND LUCY?



MAXINE! THESE KIDS HAVE TO LIVE WITH THESE NAMES FOR THE REST OF THEIR LIVES!

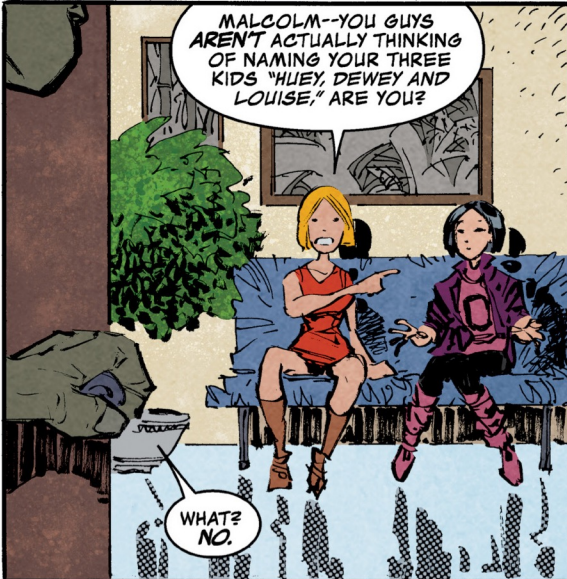
ALVIN, THEODORE AND SIMONE?



ONE OF THOSE BABIES WAS MINE, YOU KNOW.

YEAH, BUT NOBODY'S SUPPOSED TO KNOW THAT.

WE'RE TRYING TO GIVE THEM NAMES THAT MAKE IT SEEM LIKE THEY'RE REALLY TRIPLETS, EVEN THOUGH THEY'RE NOT REALLY TRIPLETS.



MALCOLM--YOU GUYS AREN'T ACTUALLY THINKING OF NAMING YOUR THREE KIDS "HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUISE," ARE YOU?

WHAT? NO.



I THOUGHT WE WERE GOING WITH ADOLF, EBENEZER AND ISIS.

DO YOU TWO EVER GET TIRED OF FUCKING WITH PEOPLE?

NOT SO FAR.



SO--BARRY TALKED.

HE TOLD US WHERE DART MAY HAVE TAKEN THE BABIES.

POLICE ARE ALREADY SURROUNDING THE PLACE.

OKAY, GOOD.

NO SQUISHING KIDNEYS.



DON'T WORRY, MAXINE. WE CAN DO THIS.

I'M NOT TOO WORRIED. I'M A LITTLE WORRIED, BUT I'M NOT TOO WORRIED.



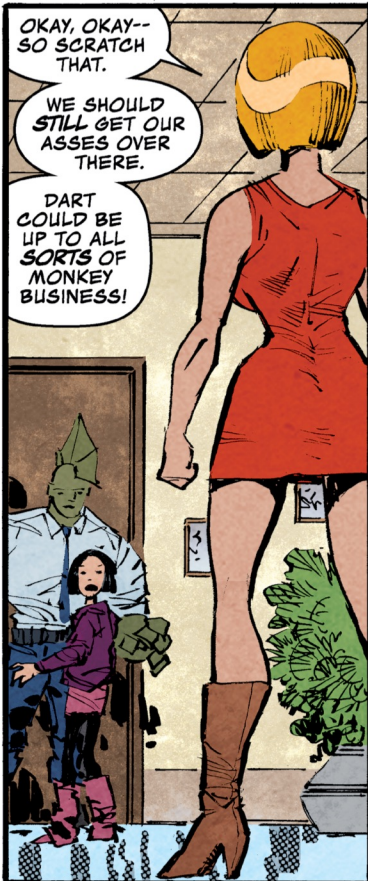
THEN--LET'S GO! USE THAT UNCANNY DRAGON AIM OF YOURS! ARM YOURSELF WITH FREAK OUT, BUST IN THERE AND TURN EVERYBODY YOU SEE BACK INTO A NORMAL HUMAN! I'LL TACKLE ANY ALIENS OR GODS WHO ARE LEFT OVER!



I CAN'T DO THAT.

POLICE POLICY.

THESE GUYS COULD HAVE BEEN DEADLY ILL BEFORE THEY WERE TRANSFORMED. REVERTING THEM COULD KILL THEM OR UNLEASH DEADLY DISEASES. WE'RE SUPPOSED TO USE FREAK OUT ONLY AS A LAST RESORT, LIKE ANY OTHER FIREARM.



OKAY, OKAY--SO SCRATCH THAT.

WE SHOULD STILL GET OUR ASSES OVER THERE.

DART COULD BE UP TO ALL SORTS OF MONKEY BUSINESS!



OKAY, THEN!

NOW YER TALKIN'!

YOU'LL HAVE HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUISE HOME IN TIME FOR DINNER!



ANGEL--I CAN'T ASK YOU TO COME WITH ME--

DART HAS THE GOD SWORD--SHE COULD CUT YOU IN HALF LIKE SHE DID BARRY--ONLY THERE'S NO WAY I CAN BRING YOU BACK TO LIFE.



I'M NOT GOING AFTER DART. I'LL GO AFTER THE OTHERS. YOU CAN DEAL WITH DART.



I DON'T GET WHAT SHE'S THINKING. SHE KNOWS I'LL COME AFTER HER.

OR MAYBE THE MARINES--OR SPECIAL OPERATIONS STRIKEFORCE.



ONE WAY OR ANOTHER--YOU'RE GETTING YOUR KIDS BACK.

UNLESS--SOMETHING ELSE IS GOING ON.

BARRY SAID SHE WANTED TO RAISE THEM AND HAVE HER OWN DRAGON ARMY, BUT MAYBE SHE'S PLANNING ON DRAINING THEIR BLOOD AND USING IT TO AUGMENT HER MINIONS! MAYBE SHE'LL HAVE BELLOO CHEMICALS COME UP WITH SOMETHING TO KEEP THEM FROM EXPLODING.



I DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT.



OR MAYBE SHE JUST WANTS TO DRAW US INTO A TRAP AND GET RID OF US, ONCE AND FOR ALL!

THAT FIEND!



WELL, KIDS-- WE'VE GOT US A PROBLEM.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?

WORD HAS IT THAT DART WANTS YOU--JUST YOU-- TO GO IN THERE OR SHE'LL KILL THE KIDS.



WE DON'T KNOW WHAT SHE'S GOT IN THERE. WE KNOW SHE HAD A FAIRLY LARGE GROUP OF VICIOUS CIRCLE THUGS WITH HER IN THEIR TROPHY ROOM, BUT WE DON'T KNOW MUCH MORE THAN THAT.

WE CAN'T LOB IN TEAR GAS--THEY MIGHT BE PREPARED FOR THAT--AND WE CAN'T RISK HER KILLING THE KIDS. IT'S A TOUCHY SITUATION. AND WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST.



OKAY, THEN.

I GUESS I'M GOING IN.



LET ME CALL MY WIFE, OKAY?

I SHOULD AT LEAST SAY GOODBYE.

NO!

YOU MIGHT WANT TO THINK THIS THROUGH.



THIS IS NOT A GOOD IDEA, CAPTAIN STEWART. I SHOULD GO IN WITH HIM.

SHE MAY DO IT, ANGEL.

THE GIRL'S CRAZY.



THERE HE IS.

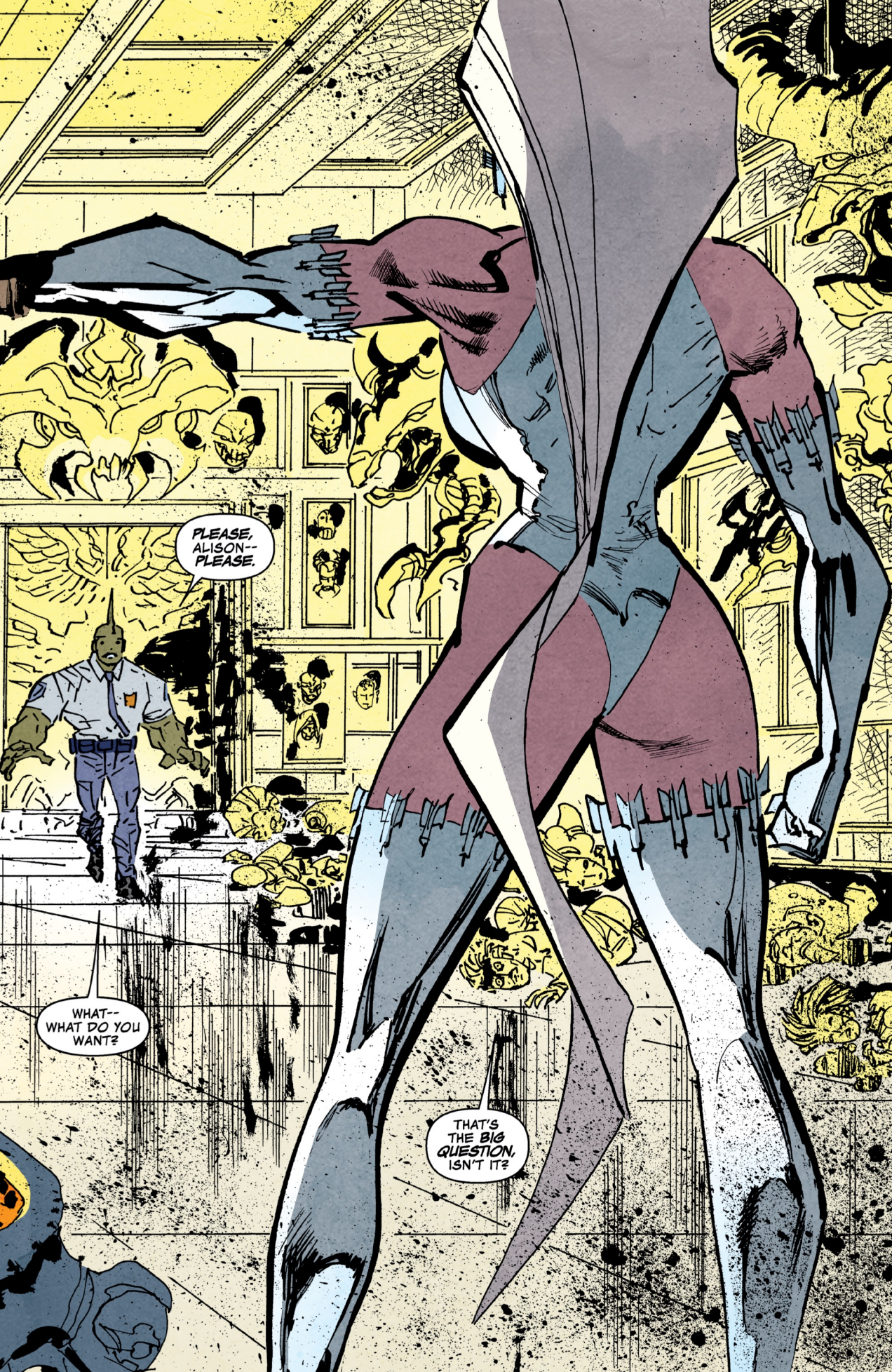
THERE'S MY BIG BOY.

LOOK AT YOU--ALL GROWN UP.

WEARING BIG BOY CLOTHES JUST LIKE HIS DADDY.

YOUR MOTHER WOULD HAVE BEEN SO PROUD OF YOU.

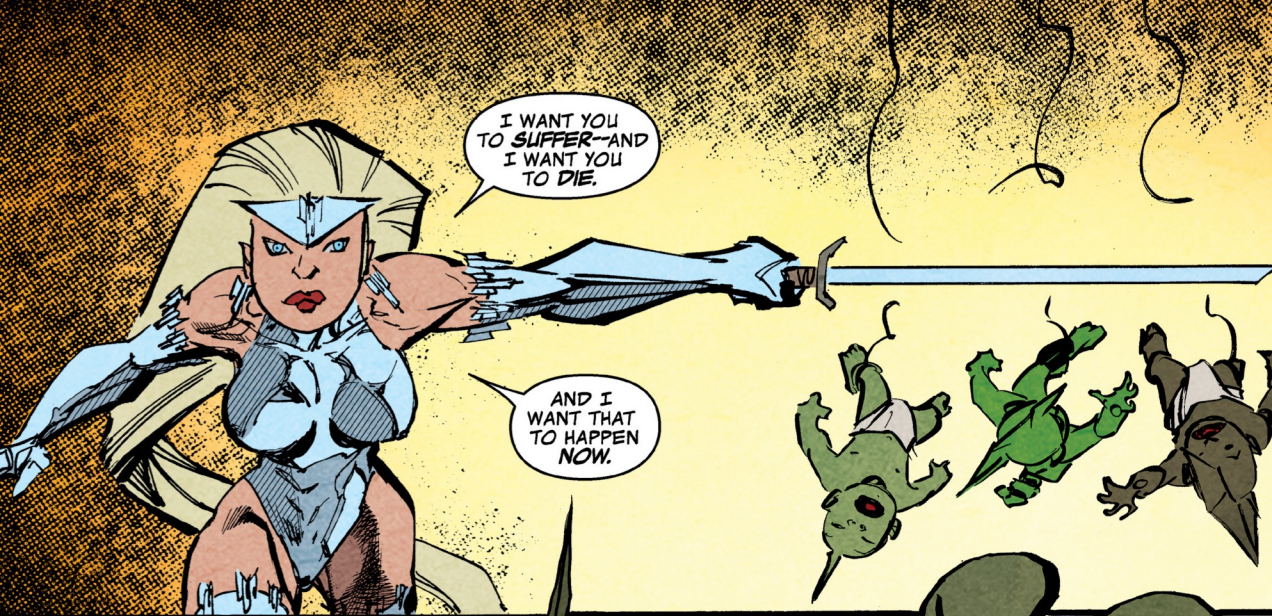




PLEASE,  
ALISON--  
PLEASE

WHAT--  
WHAT DO YOU  
WANT?

THAT'S  
THE BIG  
QUESTION,  
ISN'T IT?



I WANT YOU TO SUFFER--AND I WANT YOU TO DIE.

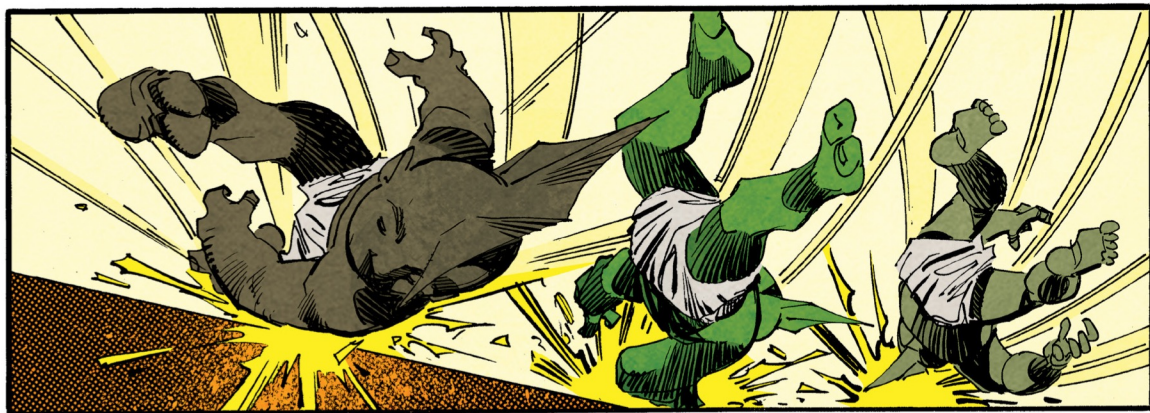
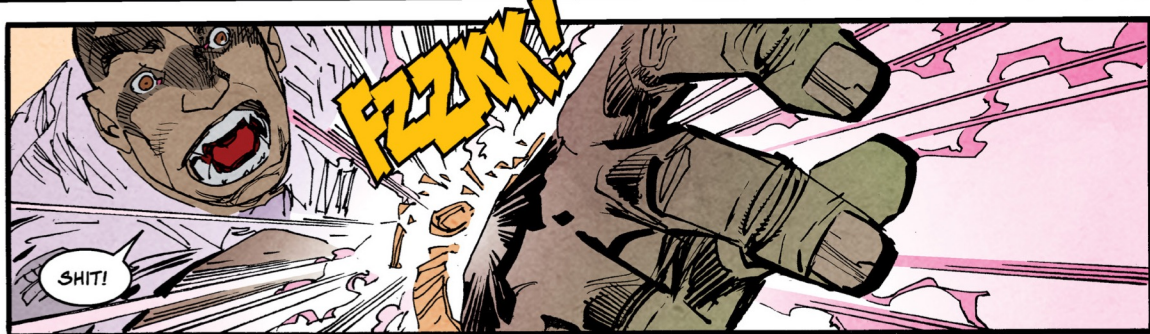
AND I WANT THAT TO HAPPEN NOW.

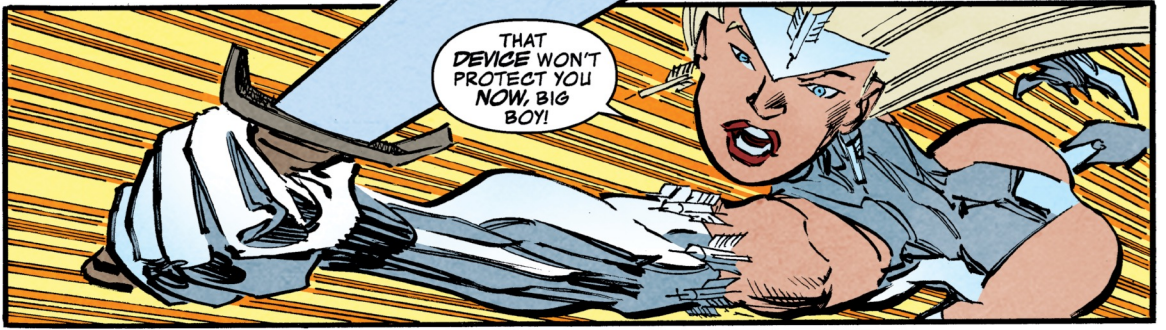


**NO!**









THAT  
DEVICE WON'T  
PROTECT YOU  
NOW, BIG  
BOY!



NO.



BUT I  
DON'T NEED  
IT TO.

**SHATTER!**



YOU  
CAN'T WIN,  
DART.

WITHOUT THAT  
FANCY SWORD  
OF YOURS, YOU'RE  
HOPELESSLY  
OUTGUNNED.

DON'T  
START.

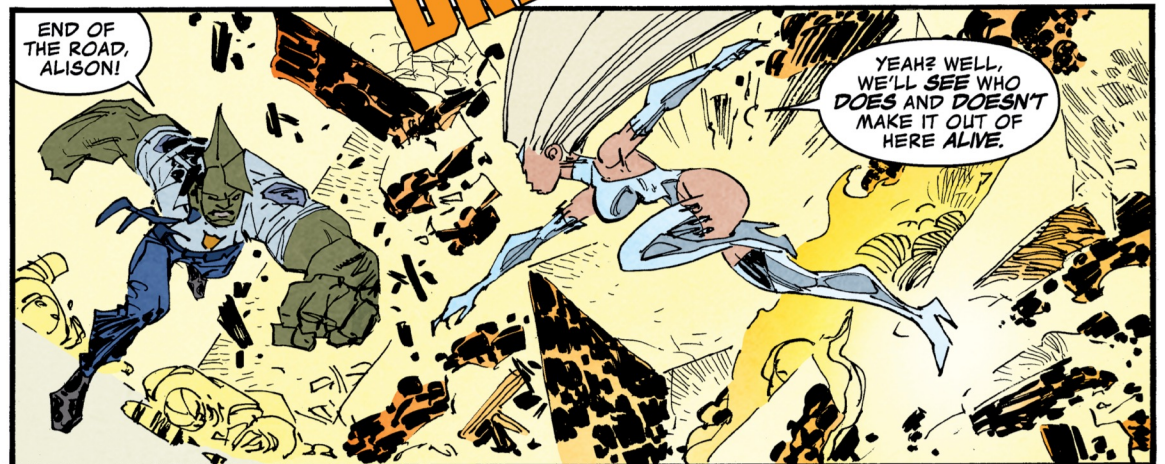
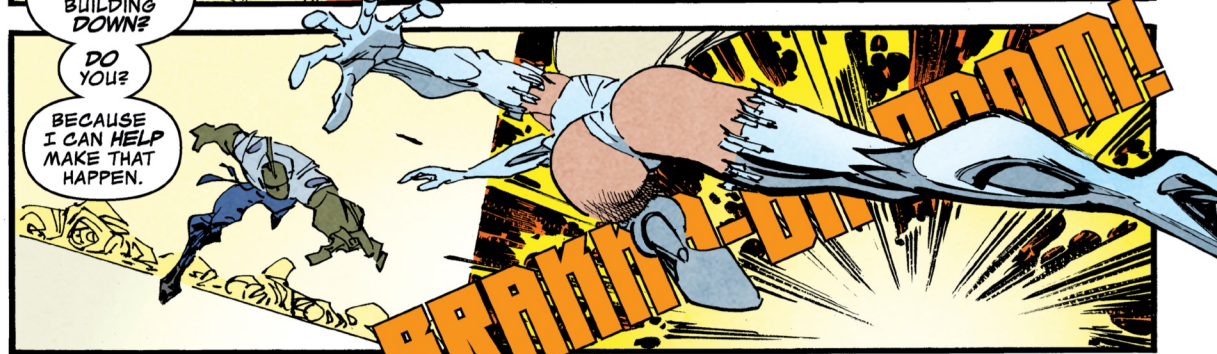
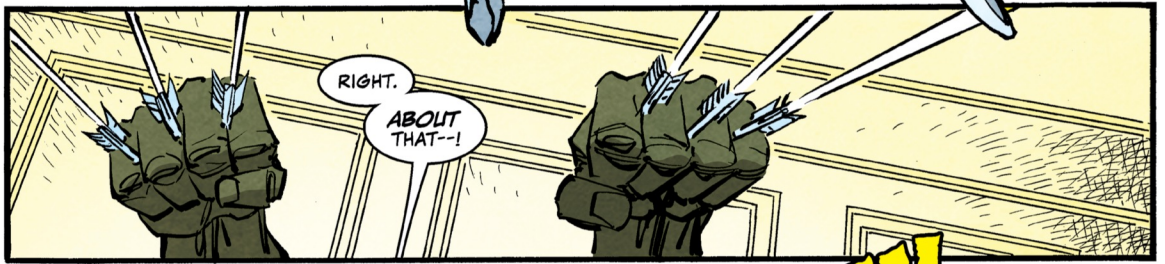
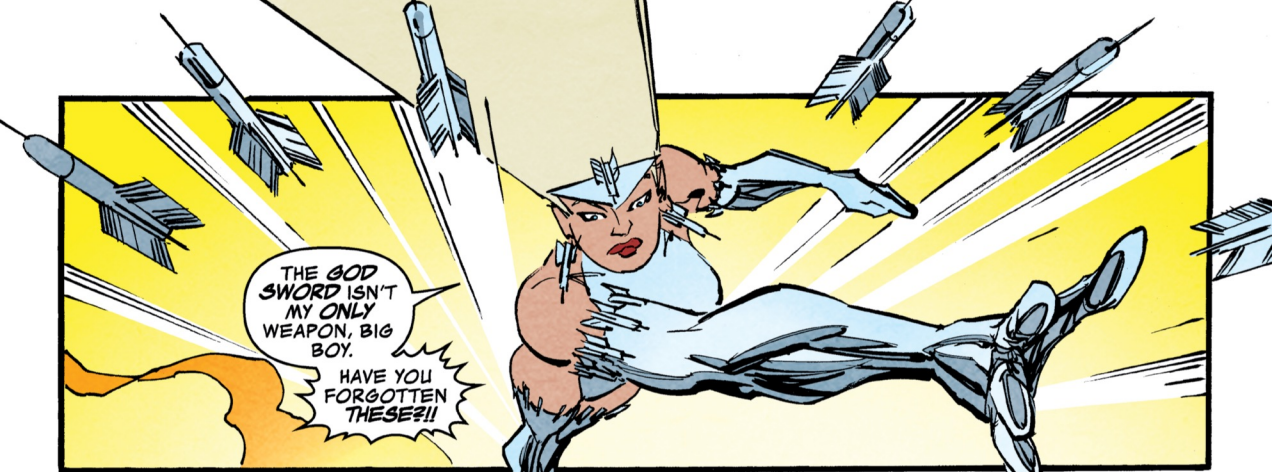
**BROOK!**



HOW ABOUT  
YOU TAKING A  
DIP IN THE TOXIC  
BATHWATER YOU  
HAD PREPARED  
FOR MY KIDS?

DAMN  
YOU!

**BA-BOOM!**





GOODBYE,  
BIG BOY.



OH,  
SHIT! OH,  
SHIT!

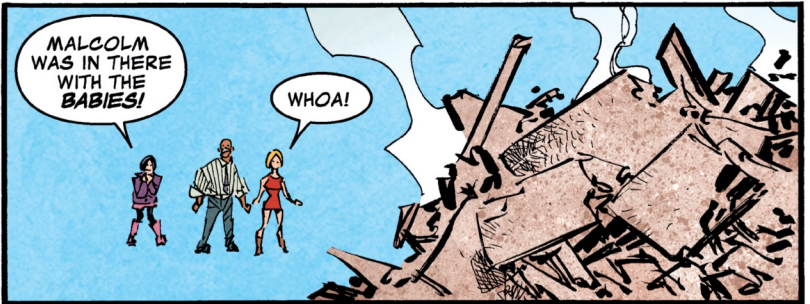


OH.

JESUS!



**BRANKA-DOOM!**



MALCOLM  
WAS IN THERE  
WITH THE  
BABIES!

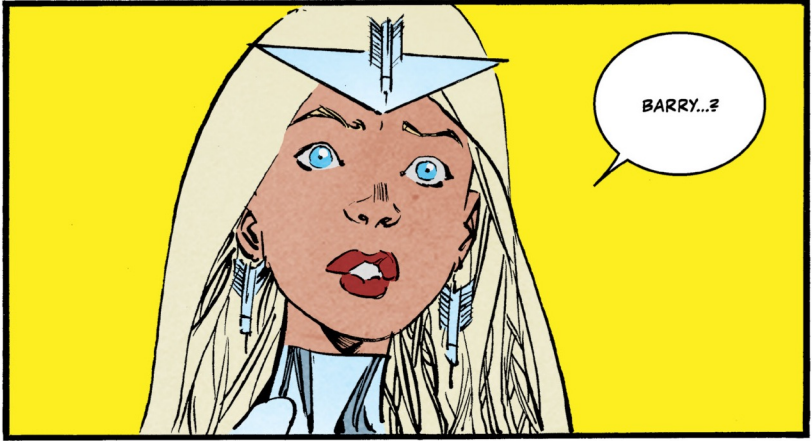
WHOA!





THERE YOU ARE.

OH!

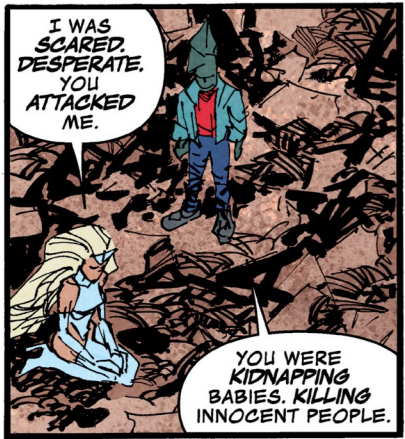


BARRY...?



YEAH.

YOU TRIED TO KILL ME.



I WAS SCARED. DESPERATE. YOU ATTACKED ME.

YOU WERE KIDNAPPING BABIES. KILLING INNOCENT PEOPLE.



I WAS TRYING TO DO WHAT WAS BEST FOR YOU.

GIVE YOU A FAMILY.

THEY'RE NOT MY FAMILY.



I'M SORRY, BARRY. I WAS WRONG.

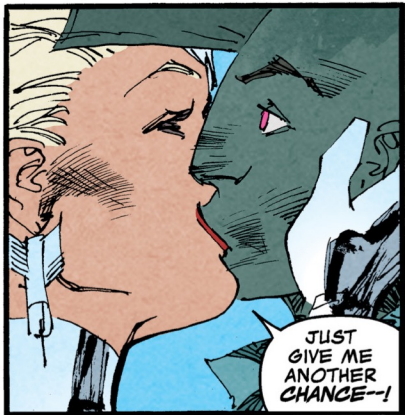
OKAY?

I MADE A MISTAKE. CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME?

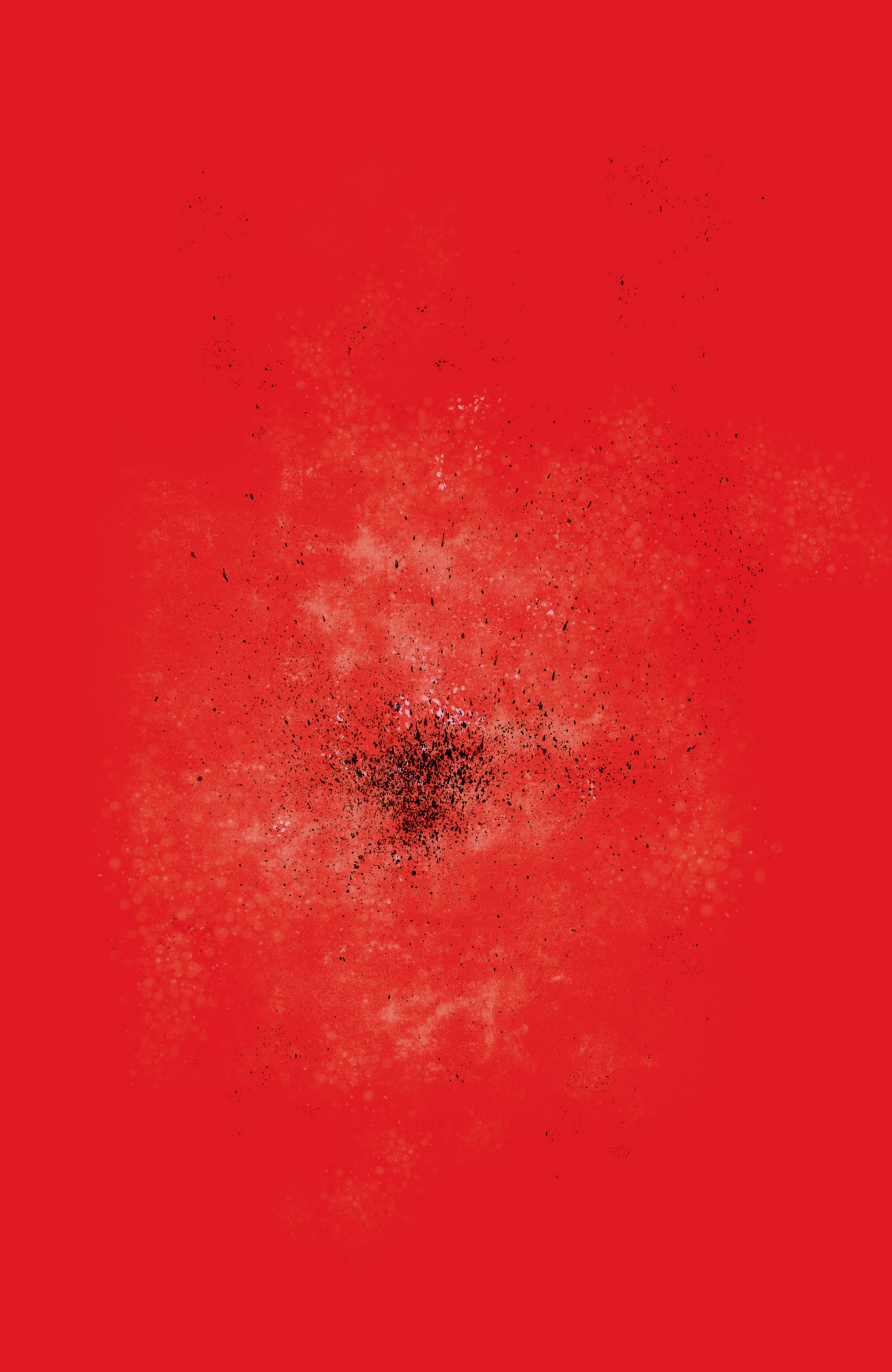


IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK, DART. NOT THIS TIME.

PLEASE, BARRY--



JUST GIVE ME ANOTHER CHANCE--!



e-mail: Erik@savagedragon.com

visit our website at [www.savagedragon.com](http://www.savagedragon.com)

Another issue under my belt. That'll happen.

Did a little experimenting this time out with the art and color. Sometimes a guy just feels like mixing things up a bit, y'know?

Not a lot to report on the comic book front, as you've probably heard by now I'm wrapping up my run on *Spawn* with a crossover that features both *Savage Dragon* (or rather, Malcolm Dragon) and *Ant*. The plan is to launch *Ant* into her own book later this year (and *Ant* will be guest starring in the next couple issues of this book as well). So...you can look forward to that.

Around these parts my oldest son Chris just graduated from college and his younger brother Joe just wrapped up high school. Crazy to think that neither of them existed when this book started.

It's been a frantic blur of activity. We drove across country to take in my son's graduation from Bennington College in Vermont and visited Yellowstone Park and Niagara Falls on either ends of the trip. Needless to say--that didn't help my deadlines any. Nice to be home.

But enough about that--your letters need attending to...!

Erik,

First of all, I'd like to say that panel one of page ten is one of the greatest panels in comic book history. Pure gold.

The whole issue was, really. Honestly, it caught me off guard. Not that the issues leading up to it were lacking, necessarily, but with *Savage Dragon* #213, everything, and everyone, is firing on all cylinders. Even at page one, I was particularly impressed, both with the line work and composition, but the colors also immediately jumped out at me. Nikos and Mike filled this one out beautifully, from the textures in the backgrounds, to the subtle highlights on Barry on the following double splash, and continuing throughout the book. Their color choices, lighting, rendering, every element of their contribution this time out was pitch perfect. Take a bow, guys; you totally matched bossman's A-game.

And WHAT A-game, Erik. Maybe I'm a sadistic bastard, but I think 213 would be a great jumping-on point for new readers. There's so much intriguing stuff going on, both with plot and characterization. You've always been really good at using pregnancies, births and the like to drive plot, but here that propensity soars. I was taken aback at how quickly and vehemently Angel lit into Maxine. I know she has some complex feelings where Malcolm's concerned, so seeing her go all protective big sister on him was interesting. Maxine kept her cool, which made her case, and Malcolm siding with her was a neat reversal of how Dragon handled his misgivings about Rapture way back when Malcolm's paternity was in question. When baby girl's hair fell out and she sprouted her fin, again, another jaw-on-the-floor moment in an issue chock full of 'em.

STOKED to see Barry "Battle" Dragon finally in play. I'm really impressed with how insidious Dart has become; truly a villain's villain. Poor Barry, I actually have a lot of sympathy for the kid, and I kind of hope he can eventually turn himself around and get his life on track. I love the skin tone and the pink eyes, a very striking visual. It even looks like he resembles his mom in facial structure. How aware are you of that when you're inking? I know you work from pretty minimal pencils, but more often than not you nail the parental resemblances, Malcolm/Rapture, Barry/Battle Axe, et al.

The real time setting remains your ace in the hole, and it's an approach that's made for such compelling and extensive storytelling. I'm kind of surprised more creators haven't employed it. I can't think of any, off the top of my head, that have, actually. I guess no one else really has the drive and commitment to pull it off. The best thing about it is now we, the readers, have the pleasure of watching you groom what I assume will be the eventual lead of the book. Just the idea of Dragon triplets running around is enough to whet my appetite for *Savage Dragon*. I can't wait to learn their names and watch them grow, "hear" them utter their first words...play with baby Mighty Man! (I guess Ann's kid's not really a baby at this point, but still...the set-up has tons of potential.) "The Next Generation", indeed!

213 even came with the killer, patented Larsen cliffhanger. I mean, really, I could ramble on endlessly about this issue and its greatness, which makes my only criticisms harder to voice. One of the obstacles I've encountered in recommending SD to new readers has been the unfair assumption that the book is somehow crass or lowbrow. It certainly has its moments, and truth be told, that's part of the fun sometimes. Even though this issue would no doubt confuse a new reader\*, I think it would be a very exciting confusion, the kind that would drive one to a trade paperback, or back issue bins. But getting people past that cover could be tricky. Sure, it's well drawn (love how huge Malcolm's mitt is). Yeah, it's representative of content. Of course it catches the eye. But it also has the unfortunate ability to put people off. Similarly, including Reggie the Veggie in the back matter was a misstep. I'm not politically correct, I have a pretty dark and inappropriate sense of humor, but I don't think the bits are strong or clever

enough to warrant inclusion in an otherwise outstanding installment of *Savage Dragon*. I mean no disrespect. I'm just being honest. Hell, even the printing and paper stock this issue seemed a cut above! It's pretty damned remarkable when the story and art improve the tactile quality of the paper they're printed on! So these crits are fairly inconsequential.

I really, really, REALLY can't wait to see what comes next, sir. In this mad, modern world, it's always a welcome pleasure to read your funnybook...even more so this time out (I've read the damn thing SIX TIMES since bringing it home last night). Thanks for doing what you do! I'll certainly keep coming back for more. Cheers!

-Justin Crouse

\*I know you used to do a small recap on the inside front cover for the benefit of newcomers. The book's continuity IS dense, and daunting for the uninitiated. Given the soap operatic nature of the book, however, would it be too troublesome or intrusive to maybe run some "Previously, in *Savage Dragon*..." reproductions of panels relevant to any given issue? That space isn't particularly well used at this point, and seeing as you've included credits elsewhere in the book previously, it's something to consider. Sounds like a good job for, oh, I dunno...an editor? \*cough\*gavin\*cough\* Just a humble suggestion...carry on...

Yes, a lot of events have occurred over the course of this book's run but I've always felt "less is more" when it comes to catching readers up to speed. I find that a little more information frequently makes things more confusing--not less so. I know that may sound weird or counterintuitive but I'd prefer to give readers just enough to have any individual issue make sense but not enough that they feel like they're missing a huge part of the story.

I liken it to meeting a new person. When you meet somebody new it's a given that you don't know everything about them. They have friends and relatives and relationships you can't possibly be familiar with but as you need to know--you're given that information.

"I hate that guy!"

"Why?"

"He ran over my dog."

"You had a dog?"

"Yeah. Up until I was 14. That jerk backed over it when he came over to pick up my sister. Didn't even say he was sorry."

"Wait. You have a sister?"

And so on. If there's a constant info dump telling us about everything it gets too complicated and overwhelming. But if you get just the pieces you need as they're needed--it's all good. You may not know the whole story--but you'll know enough of it to know what's going on at that moment.

We can debate the particulars of that. But (for example) I thought having Dart say, simply, "Savage Dragon killed your father. Malcolm Dragon killed your mother." to Barry was enough to remind old readers and to inform new readers. Granted, it's not the full story but it's enough to understand characters' motivations.

Now, if I dropped in all kinds of backstory on the inside front cover about Barry, while that might have been more informative--it also would spoil the surprise of him being in the issue and likely cause even more confusion because there's no way to get the full picture in a short summary.

As far as Reggie the Veggie goes--it's a bonus for those who want more. If you don't want to read beyond the letters pages--you don't have to. Alternatively, I could run ads but I don't see why anybody would prefer that.

Erik,

This is my first time writing to a book. I always knew my first letter would go to *Savage Dragon*. It's my favorite comic and has been since I first discovered *Dragon* (thanks to his first appearance in *Spawn*).

For a while now I've wanted to ask you about a certain character I keep noticing in the background of every issue. He appears to be around average height, bald on top but hair on the sides of his head, mustached, and wears thick glasses. I first noticed him in the Malcolm/Maxine honeymoon issue, running on the beach. And I thought to myself, "Hey, it's that guy!" Then I thought, "Wait a minute. Who the hell is that guy?" Well it just so happens I've been rereading the series from the beginning and the next issue I picked up, there was that guy! I think he was sweeping up broken glass at a hospital where Dart had thrown Kill-Cat through a window for messing with her boyfriend, Justice. And there he was in the next issue. And the next. I've enjoyed spotting him with each new monthly release as well. If this has been covered in a previous *Fin-Addict* I apologize for wasting your time. But I'm dying to know who he is and whether he has appeared in every issue or just most.

And I can't forget to mention #213, since it's the issue that spurred me

into finally writing you. 5 stars Erik. Man, what an unbelievable issue. Your art continues to improve and considering it was stunning back in '92 that's really saying something. There are times when characters look as though they could leap right off the page. Like the purple super-freak at the end.

The story is insane! Finally confirmation that the two babies Malcolm recovered are his. And Maxine's makes three. You got me with the baby's looks. Thought for sure it would be a Dragon and...waitaminute...I guess it is! Truly awesome. And a girl to boot. Does this mean we have a new She Dragon on the block? Also glad Angel's baby survived the abortion. She doesn't look ready for parenthood (hey, who ever is?), but she seemed devastated by the loss and full of regret.

I admit I didn't warm up to Malcolm's takeover of the title for a while. I really loved (Savage) Dragon and his many misadventures. But you've never failed to deliver a great story and in-depth characters and more than anything, FUN! You've got a fan for life Erik.

Michael C Sweet  
Whitley City, KY

P.S.-Digging your run on Spawn too. Glad you're going on with it past Satan Saga Wars.

P.P.S.-IDK if you still need people to do this but anyway, this letter is OK to print.

**I don't need folks to say letters are okay to print--I assume as much when people send them in. If somebody doesn't want something to see print--they usually let me know in the body of their letter.**

**The balding background guy is an old friend of mine named Jon Day. I used Jon, years ago, as the villain in a story for a small publisher, which has never seen print as far as I know. Ever since that time I've been sticking him in the background of various comic books. He's in most (but not all) issues of *Savage Dragon* and a good number of issues of other books as well.**

Hey Erik,

Another fantastic issue. I'll admit I was with Angel at first and had my doubts about who the father really was. Of course, I also thought Rapture had an affair because of the Peter Klapton video tape...so, fool me twice shame on me. Malcolm believing Maxine was a cool move...having such a strange childhood I'm sure has given him a great perspective on what a "problem" is and how to not sweat the small stuff. Maxine has grown on me, so I'm glad that the kid really is a Dragon.

Poor Angel...how will she live with the kid that survived the abortion she wanted? That's gotta be tough. Three super babies and a fragile human mom...that's not going to end well. I'm not sure if I trust Lorella and hope she doesn't murder Maxine and try to frame the babies so she can take them away.

Dart teaming up with Barry made me nervous but I wasn't expecting things to...move so quickly. And then that last page shocker! Daaaamn!

I've enjoyed Malcolm taking over the book, but lately it feels like things have really been clicking, the twists keep coming, and I can't wait to see how all the events in recent issues play out!

Until next month,  
Jake Ingman  
Ketchikan, AK

**Thankfully, for Angel, the baby has a father who wants to raise the kid. So, while she's upset at the circumstance, and quite torn up about it, she doesn't have to be a part of his life if she chooses not to.**

Dear Erik,

I think it's safe to say you will have at the least longtime readers on the edge of their seat with your story for the coming time. Dart is sick and twisted and not easy to get rid of... Barry... damn that is trouble in the making in a major way. Malcolm is truly a good guy, Maxine. oh man... I'm happy she's a strong-willed character with lots of love in her heart, because she's in for one heck of a ride being a mother to these dragons and a manager to this situation... and what's up with Angel...? At one moment you feel she's sweet and thoughtful and the other moment she's wearing a very nasty schizophrenic face spouting poison left and right... Barry getting laid is definitely not a good long term thing (although he looked much happier there for a while), well for Dart it obviously is... she's better off with a manipulated Dragon-puppet on her side... might come in handy... if only as cannon-fodder (oh damn... she could get pregnant too...!) Malcolm and Maxine wanting to raise the young ones on their own is admirable, but they need all the help they can get... even if it means going with the Krylans into outer space for a while (which is what I think I personally would choose to do). That last page to say the least is horrible... poor hospital guy definitely working on the wrong day and the babies getting snatched... not good... not good at all.

Your art was great as usual and I have to compliment your working crew, they are all doing an excellent job working to bring the story and art come to life. Chris, Nikos, Mike and Gavin, great work all of you... funny books were never not that funny without you guys so thanks to you all for an interesting visual and reading experience every month.

Looking forward to surprising, heartfelt and terrible twists and turns the coming issues (although I wish it wouldn't have to be so hard for the main cast).

Sincere,

Damir

P.s. that one page shot of that pink freak smashing his way through the story is quite abrupt and disturbing (in a reading way), but I understand that you choose it was necessary to visualize for the story of Malcolm being needed elsewhere. It just felt more as an unexpected pin-up to me. But that is the only thing that might be slightly off in issue 213... at least in my experience.

**I frequently cut away from one scene to the next to indicate a passing of time. It's a handy little shortcut so I don't have to have characters say things like, "Well, Malcolm's gone..." when the scene looks essentially the same but one character has departed. That was the idea there. It also set up the threat for the following issue.**

Hey Erik!

Issue 213 had a truly original cover (even going beyond that Miracleman of years back). I hope it encouraged some new readers at the stores.

Wow, Drama in the Delivery Room! I was prepared for anything but a cute, normal baby.

I liked all of small panels, "talking heads," and conversation this issue.

Kudos to Malcolm for standing by his new wife (even against logic). I was surprised by Angel - she was awfully harsh to Maxine. I thought they were friends. Maybe Angel is regretting time lost while Malcolm is building a family. (Maybe she's regretting losing Malcolm specifically?) I'm a little worried about her. She is at serious loose ends.

Charlie Boatner

P.S. Just noticed that the cover has film-noir-style lighting, like in a horror or crime film, with the baby as the light source. Funny!

**I liked it.**

Hey Erik!

Damn, Dart is crazy. I mean it was pretty obvious that she's mental and violent but having sex with a child is pretty wild even by her standards. One can only imagine where this will lead. Will she get pregnant by Barry? I hope not. I've never been the biggest fan of (evil) twins and you've dealt with that in the past so I wouldn't mind if you limited the number of people that look like Dragon - at least the ones with powers.

Angel is starting to be a real bitch. She said the obvious about the baby but she could have just waited a day or two to give Maxine and Dragon some time to discuss this between themselves. Also, calling a woman who just gave birth a slut is pretty classy. Why is she so angry? Is she still having the hots for Malcolm?

So, how do you raise a baby with superpowers? Makes you wonder how the Krylans did it in the past. It probably is a good idea to get some help from Lorella. At least for a while. Unless Dart steals that baby as well and raises them all as her own. Hey, the Covenant of the Sword didn't do such a bad job on Malcolm, maybe it'll all work out okay. Yeah, right...

Can't wait to see how this all plays out. Keep them coming.

Oh, and those Reggie the Veggie strips... any plans to give the guy his own book?

Stefan Kalscheid  
Germany

**Waiting a day or two sounds awesome in hindsight but at that moment Angel's actions seemed a lot more reasonable. From her vantage point it seemed blatantly obvious that she had cheated on Malcolm and she wasn't okay with that. The fact that Malcolm seemed to be in denial about something so clearly the case just made it worse. Had it turned out that Angel was right--would her actions have seemed so out of line?**

**As for how to raise superpowered babies, Krylan males typically raised their own sons and it was in an environment where everything around them was quite often metal. Given their high tech society, it was not a huge problem. Here on earth, that may not be the case.**

**Reggie the Veggie is one of many characters I hope to do more with. Finding the time to do it is always the problem.**

-Erik Larsen

**NEXT: ANTI!**

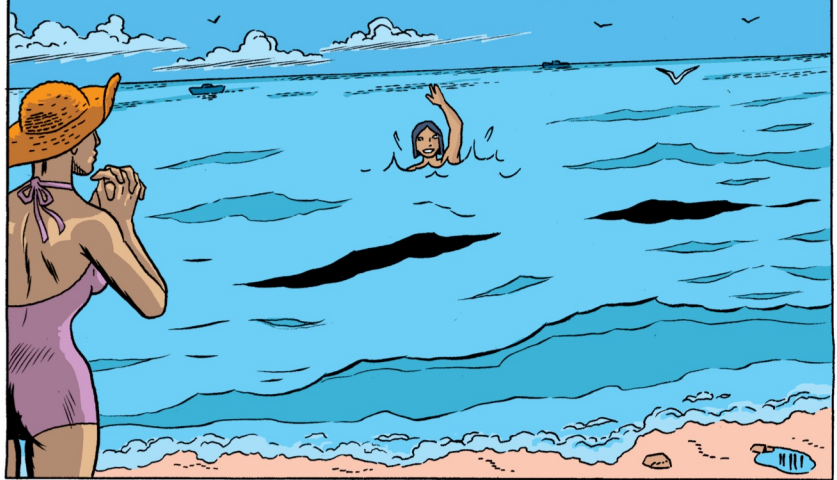
**Hey, don't stop reading now--there's plenty of additional funny-book fun to be had in the pages that follow--!**



THAT'S ME, MIRTA DEL MAR, ASPIRING OCEANOGRAPHER OF AWESOMENESS.



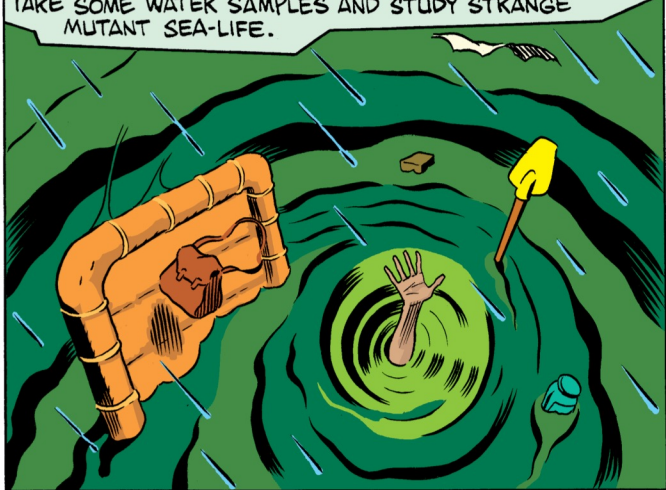
WHEN MORE OF THE SEA INVADIED THE BK, I WAS IN MY ELEMENT-- I'D ALWAYS BEEN DRAWN TO THE SHORE EVEN THOUGH I WAS BORN ON BROWNSTONE STREETS.



I'D EXPLORE IT WHEREVER I COULD FIND IT-- FROM CONEY ISLAND TO THE TOXIC GOWANUS CANAL.



IN THE STORM THAT BROKE US OFF EVEN MORE FROM THE MAINLAND, I FELL IN-- AND BY "FELL IN," I MEAN, GOT SUNKEN AFTER I'D SET A BOAT ILLEGALLY IN THERE TO TAKE SOME WATER SAMPLES AND STUDY STRANGE MUTANT SEA-LIFE.

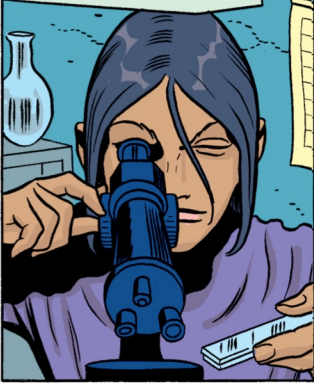


I THOUGHT MAMI WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE TO KILL ME-- BUT THE STRANGE CHEMICALS GAVE US BOTH ANOTHER CHANCE.



KIDS, DO NOT ATTEMPT THIS AT HOME, AND MOTHERS-- DO LET YOUR DAUGHTERS GROW UP TO BE MERMAIDS!

MY SPECIAL PERSPECTIVE HELPS WITH MY WORK-- MORE OF OUR INDUSTRIAL PAST GOT WASHED OVER US AND OUT TO SEA, AND THINGS ARE GETTING EVEN MORE... INDIVIDUAL THAN BROOKLYN WAS FAMOUS FOR.



WHO KNEW THAT WHAT CAME AFTER WAXED MUSTACHES AND UNICYCLES WOULD BE MUTANT SLUDGE WITH A MIND OF ITS OWN?

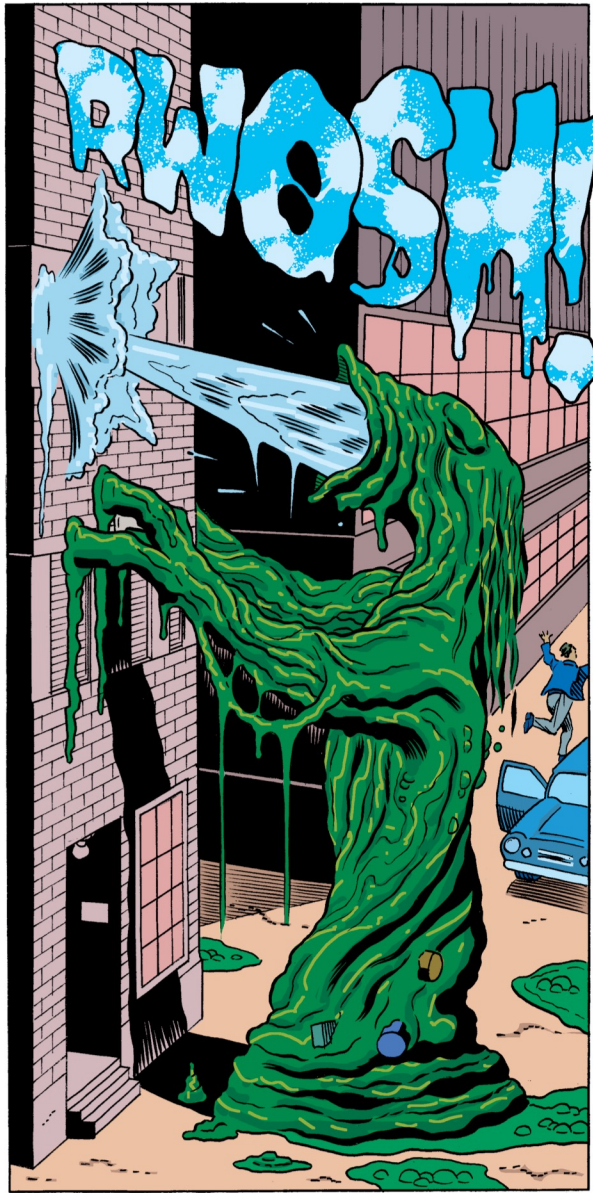
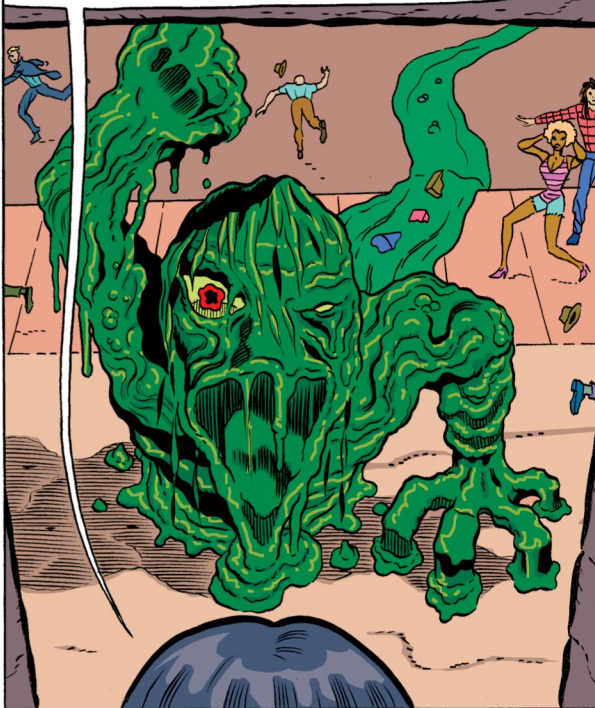


BUT HERE AT C STUFF WE GET GRADED WELL TO SEE THE NEXT BIG THING.



EXCUSE ME A SEC --

I'M RECORDIN' A JOURNAL HERE, COULDJA KNOCK THE BUILDING DOWN AFTER I'VE UPLOADED?



MAYHEM IS IN SESSION, KIDS-- WHAT'VE WE GOT ON THIS GUY?



IT'S THAT MUTANT-SLUDGE-WITH-A-MIND-OF-ITS-OWN WE'VE BEEN TRACKING... LOOKS LIKE IT'S EVOLVED A BODY OF ITS OWN TOO!



...AT LEAST HE APPARENTLY DOESN'T KNOW WHAT A GREAT IDEA SHOOTING WATER AT ME IS ...

WAIT, WHERE ARE YOU JUMPING?



I KEEP FORGETTING WE'RE ASSIGNED TO THINK THINGS THROUGH-- BUT WHAT I SEEM TO BE DOING IS SAILING ON THE MOISTURE IN THE AIR -- I GUESS THERE'S STUFF ABOUT ME NOT JUST GANG GREEN HERE DOESN'T KNOW...



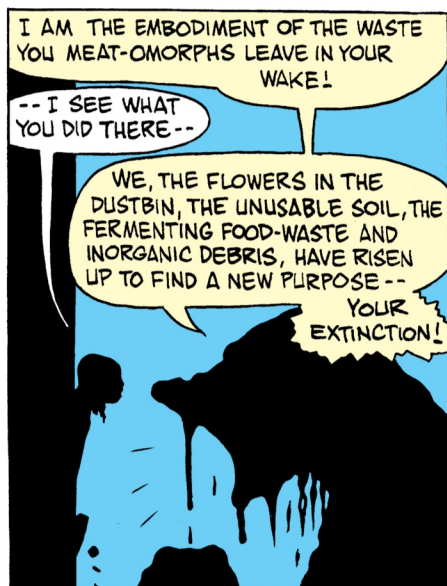
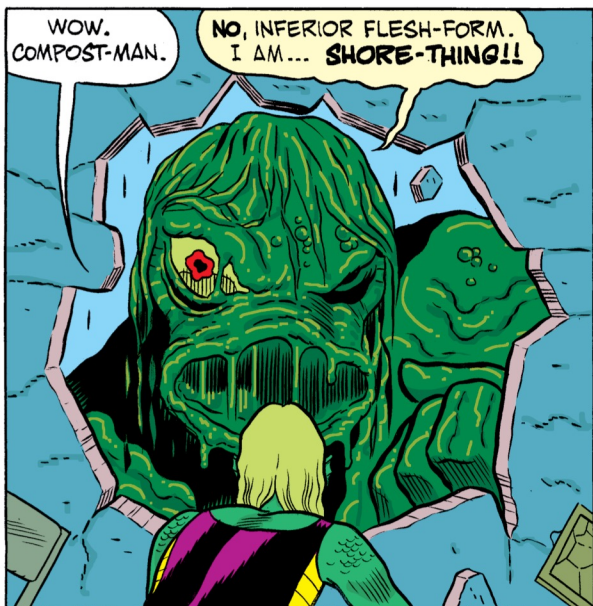
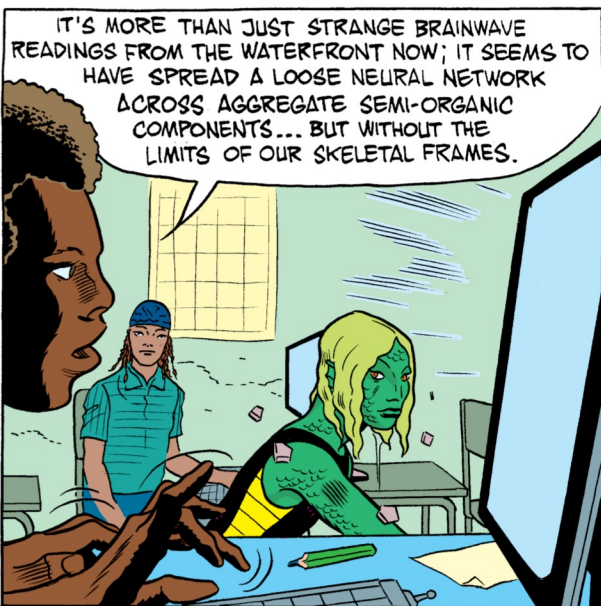
LET'S SEE IF HE STANDS UP TO HIS OWN DEBATE-STYLE ...



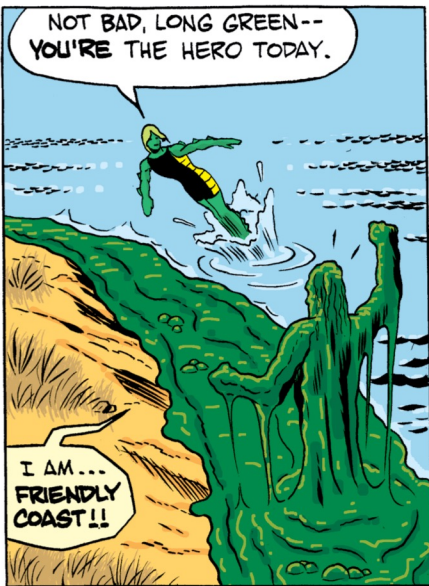
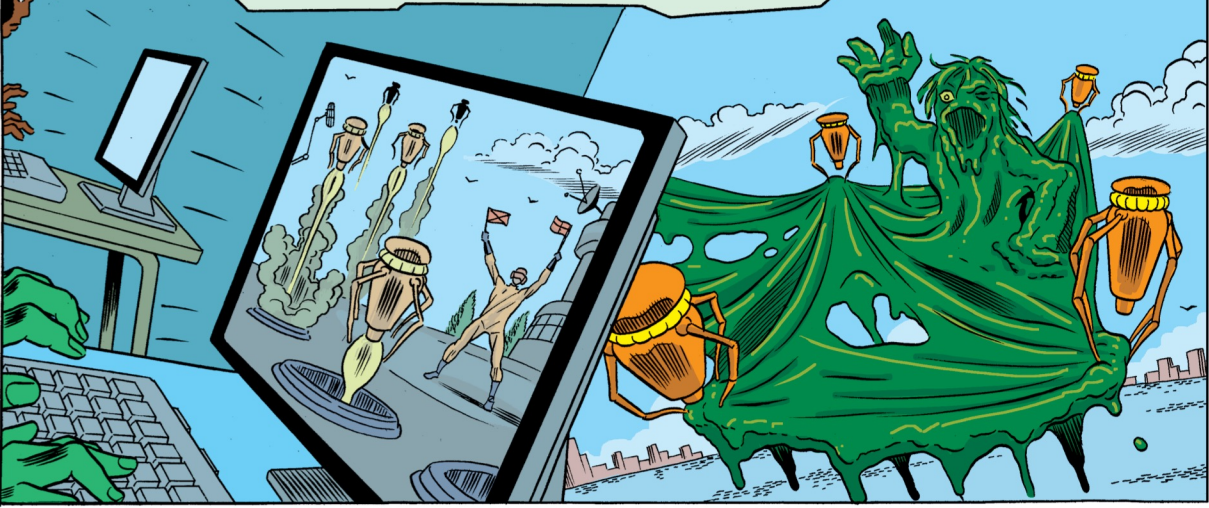
GOOD TALK.

OPTIONS, DWEEB-SQUAD? DON'T LIST "PERISH IN A BUILDING COLLAPSE."





AFTER THAT IT'S A SIMPLE MATTER TO CALL IN THE CREW'S CAMERA-DRONES TO DRAPE MR. THING AROUND THE ISLAND... CREATING THE KIND OF MARSHLAND WE DESPERATELY NEED NOT TO ERODE OR GET FLOODED FURTHER.

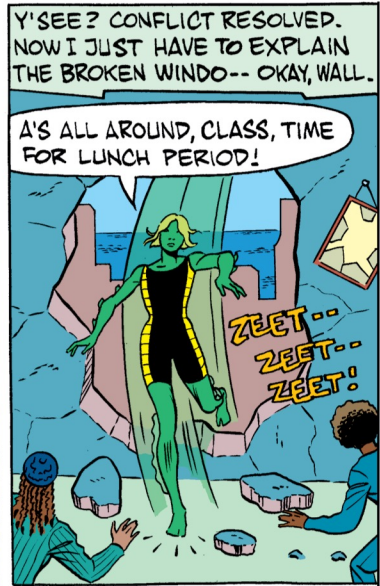


NOT BAD, LONG GREEN-- YOU'RE THE HERO TODAY.

I AM... FRIENDLY COAST!!



WHATEVER WORKS-- SEE YA AROUND THE ISLAND!



Y'SEE? CONFLICT RESOLVED. NOW I JUST HAVE TO EXPLAIN THE BROKEN WINDO-- OKAY, WALL.

A'S ALL AROUND, CLASS, TIME FOR LUNCH PERIOD!



TIME FOR TAKE-OUT, CAPTAIN! DISTURBANCE IN PROSPECT PARK!

ZEET-- ZEET-- ZEET!

YEAH, DON'T CALL ME THAT-- AND TEXT OUR COORDINATES TO THE PIZZA BOY!

ZEET!



STAY IN SCHOOL, KIDS.

WE GOT THIS.

THAT GIRL IN THAT COMIC WAS **AQUARIA**

IN HER FIRST ADVENTURE,

*Smile & Wave!*

LET US KNOW IF YOU'D LIKE TO READ UP ON MORE!

SCRIPT  
ADAM MCGOVERN  
ART  
PAOLO LEANDRI  
COLOR  
DOMINIC REGAN  
DESIGN  
STEVE PRICE

AQUARIA CREATED BY  
MCGOVERN & LEANDRI  
WITH  
DEAN HASPIEL

# F U N N I E S

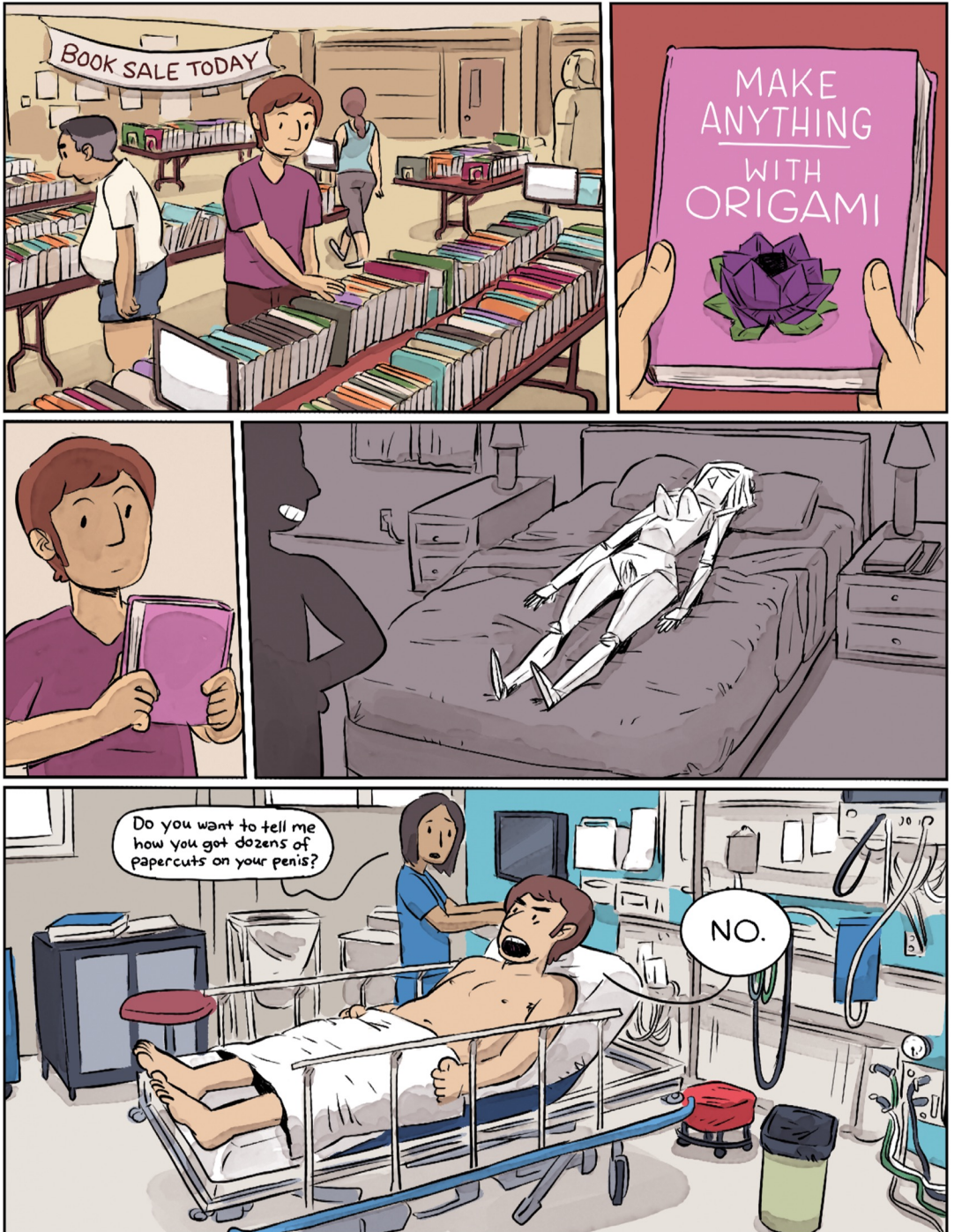
## BRAINPAN & CHEESY

by Gary Fields



## DRAW BRANDON DRAW

by Brandon B.



Brandon B.

# AQUARIA™



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