

SPAWN



image

270

DIGITAL
EDITION

T. MCFARLANE

S. KUDRANSKI



SPAWN

TODD McFARLANE & TOM LEVEEN
SCRIPT/PLOT

SZYMON KUDRANSKI
ART

TODD McFARLANE
ADDITIONAL INKS

FCO PLASCENCIA
COLOR

TOM ORZECOWSKI
LETTERING

NIVANH CHANTHARA
COVER

TODD McFARLANE
EDITOR

Publishing Coordinator
SHANNON BAILEY

Art Director
BEN TIMMRECK

Production Artist
JORDAN BUTLER
ANDY ARIAS

Publisher for Image Comics
ERIC STEPHENSON

SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE



PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

Al tries to make amends with Earl and recruit him for his undertakings. Earl, still unsure of who or what Al is, follows him one night while he goes on a mission. Al emerges as Spawn during a fight and is badly hurt by a drug dealer he's pursuing. Earl runs to his rescue, takes him home and patches him up. Al again tries to convince him to join his fight. When Earl returns home, he visits his mother who is very sick and realizes that to save her, he must join Al. After some rest, Al goes to visit Cyan. She tells him to shut the light and close his eyes. When he opens them, the Spawn demon inside of him overtakes them and Cyan and Al are transported away from the hospital.



GONE!



THIS INSTITUTION HAD NEVER LOST A PATIENT BEFORE IN ITS 84-YEAR HISTORY.



WHAT STARTED AS A ROUTINE CHECK OF THEIR PATIENT'S ROOMS, ENDED WITH THE REALIZATION A YOUNG PATIENT HAD DISAPPEARED.



HER NAME IS CYAN FITZGERALD. SHE'S BEEN REHABBING FROM AN ADDICTION PROBLEM AND HAD A VISITOR IN HER ROOM AT THE TIME.



THE VISITOR WAS AL SIMMONS, THOUGH HE WAS USING AN ALIAS, BUT HE WAS MISSING TOO.

HAD SOMETHING HAPPENED TO THEM? OR DID SIMMONS TAKE CYAN ON HIS OWN?



I ALERTED THE ADMINISTRATION. THEY'RE SENDING PEOPLE OVER NOW. WHAT ABOUT MR. FITZGERALD? ANY LUCK YET?

HE ISN'T ANSWERING. AT HOME OR HIS CELL.

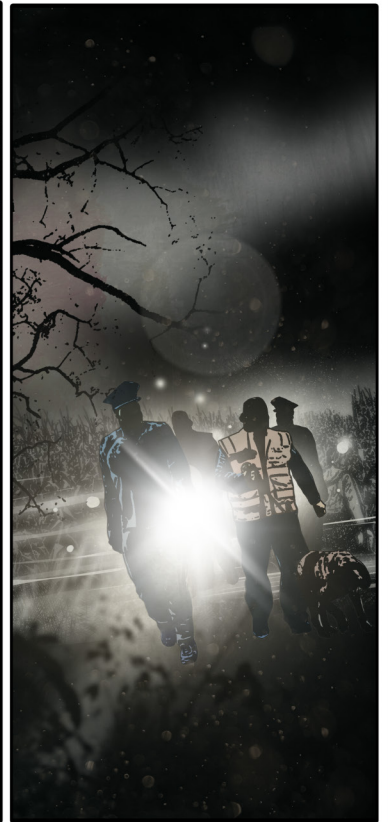
KEEP TRYING. HE NEEDS TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENED TO HIS DAUGHTER.




WE'RE GOING TO NEED TO GET D.N.A. SAMPLES FROM ALL STAFF MEMBERS. PLUS A LIST OF EVERYONE THAT'S EVER VISITED THE FITZGERALD GIRL.



"AND WE'LL NEED ANY INFORMATION YOU HAVE ON THE MAN WITH HER WHEN SHE DISAPPEARED. WHO DO I TALK TO ABOUT LOOKING AT YOUR SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS? THAT'LL GIVE US SOME CLUES..."

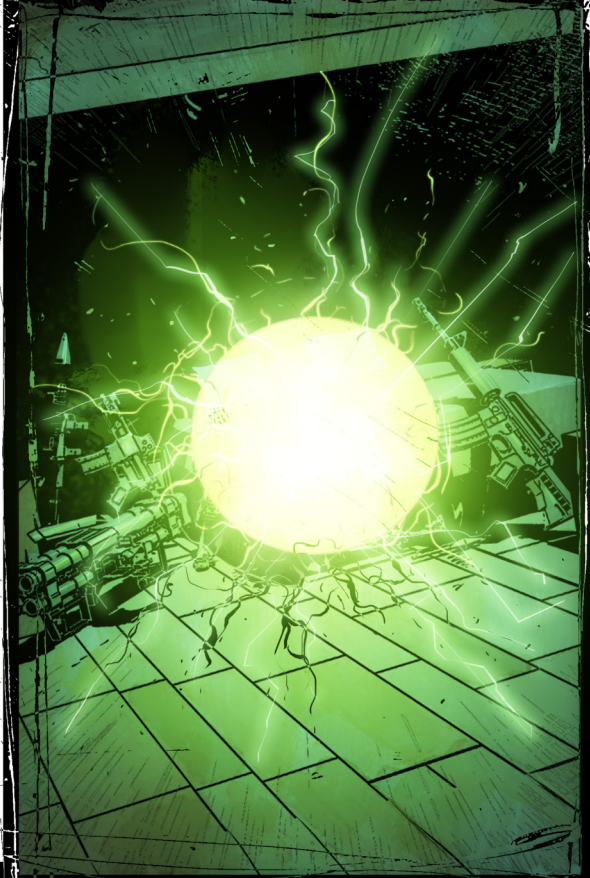




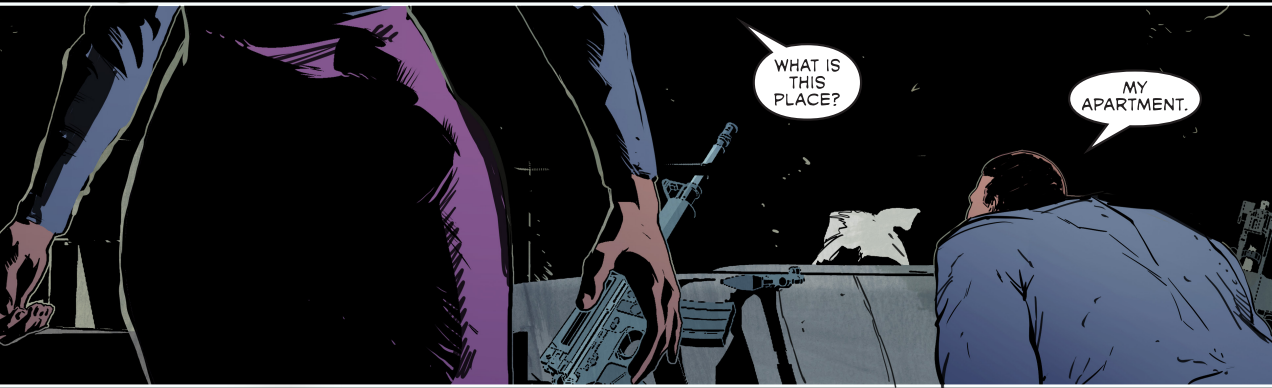
"... BECAUSE PEOPLE
DON'T JUST UP AND
VANISH."

SOMEWHERE.

DARK.

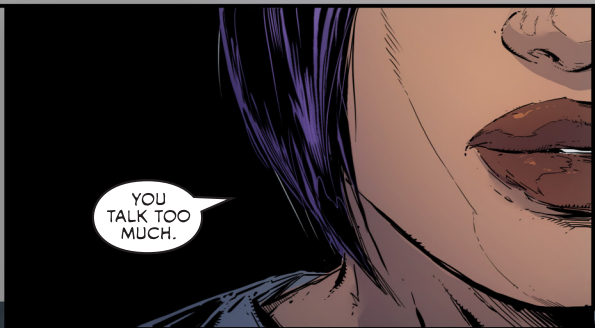


THEY COLLAPSE, PHYSICALLY
SPENT FROM THEIR TRIP
THROUGH 'THE BLACK.'

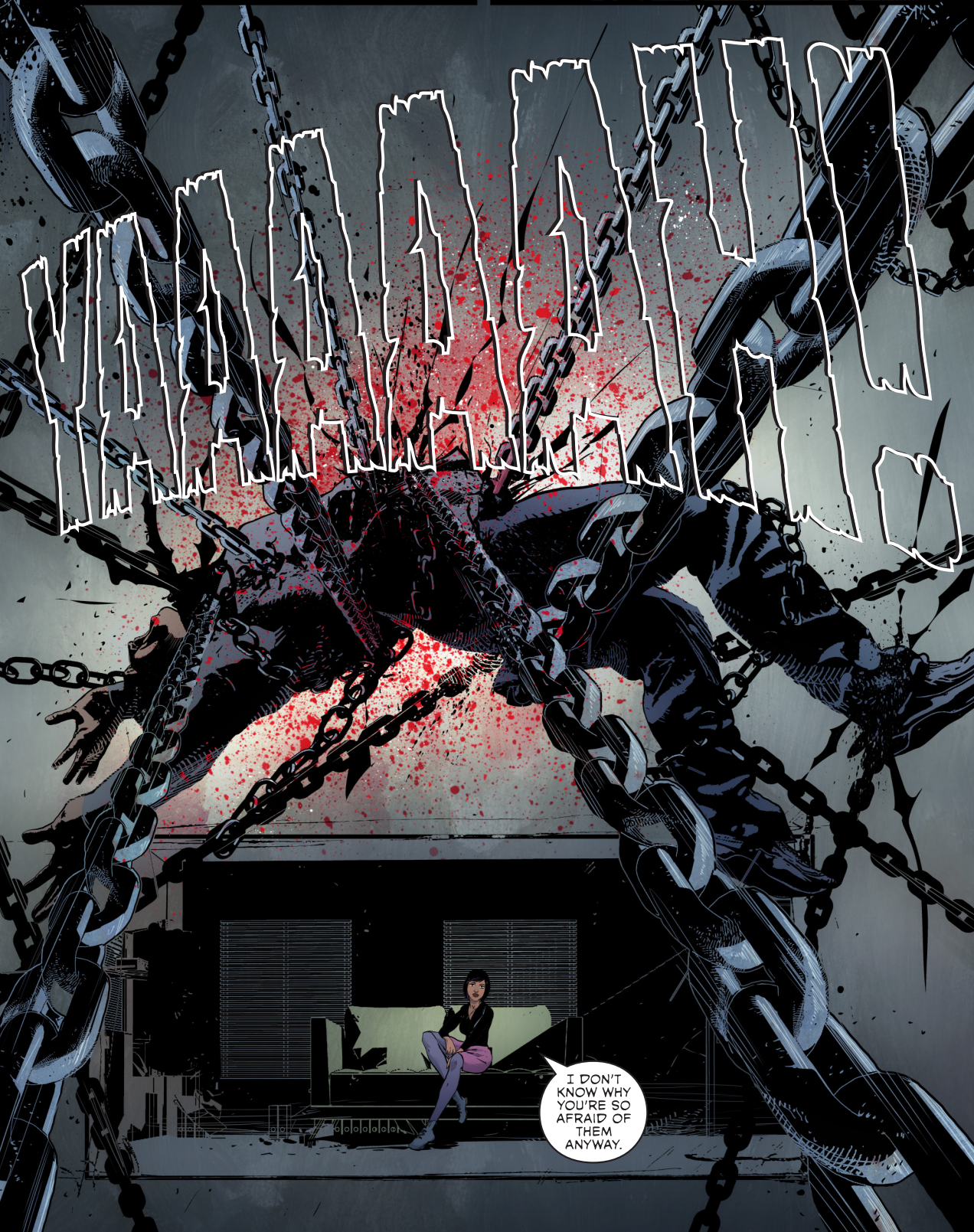




THE PROBLEM WITH THAT--THEY'LL BE LOOKING FOR ME TOO. I DON'T NEED THAT RIGHT NOW. SO, WHATEVER YOU DID... **TAKE US BACK!**



YOU TALK TOO MUCH.

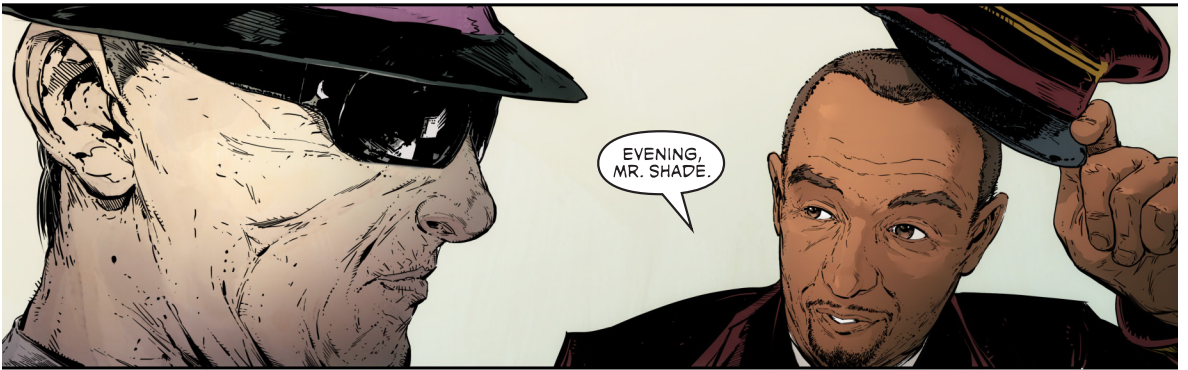



I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU'RE SO AFRAID OF THEM ANYWAY.

AS NEW YORK'S EVENING SKY PAINTS ITSELF ACROSS THE HORIZON, A BUSY WORK DAY IS WINDING DOWN FOR MILLIONS.

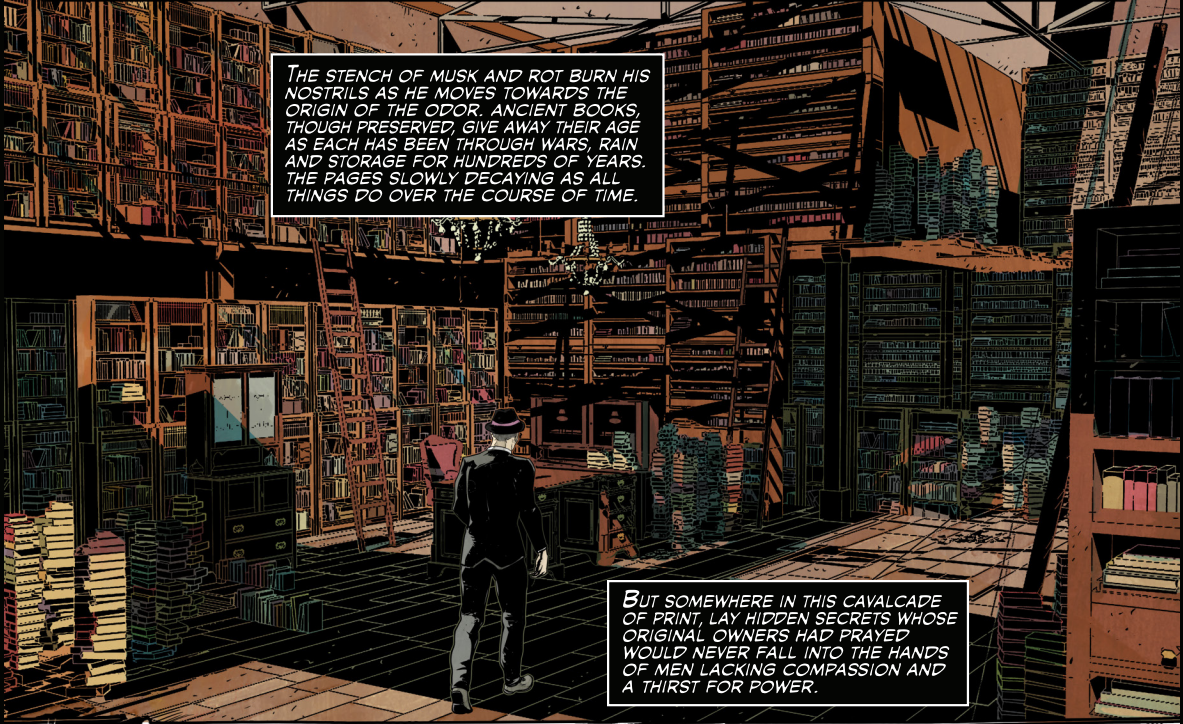


FOR OTHERS, THEIR DAY HAS ONLY BEGUN TO REVEAL ITSELF.






SHADE ENTERS A LAVISH PENTHOUSE STOCKED WITH ALL THE MODERN CONVENIENCES. STAINLESS STEEL, MARBLE AND BRASS TRIMMINGS PRESENT A PICTURE OF NORMALITY, BUT IT'S THE SMELL OF THE AIR THAT BELIES THIS PLACE.



THE STENCH OF MUSK AND ROT BURN HIS NOSTRILS AS HE MOVES TOWARDS THE ORIGIN OF THE ODOR. ANCIENT BOOKS, THOUGH PRESERVED, GIVE AWAY THEIR AGE AS EACH HAS BEEN THROUGH WARS, RAIN AND STORAGE FOR HUNDREDS OF YEARS. THE PAGES SLOWLY DECAYING AS ALL THINGS DO OVER THE COURSE OF TIME.

BUT SOMEWHERE IN THIS CAVALCADE OF PRINT, LAY HIDDEN SECRETS WHOSE ORIGINAL OWNERS HAD PRAYED WOULD NEVER FALL INTO THE HANDS OF MEN LACKING COMPASSION AND A THIRST FOR POWER.

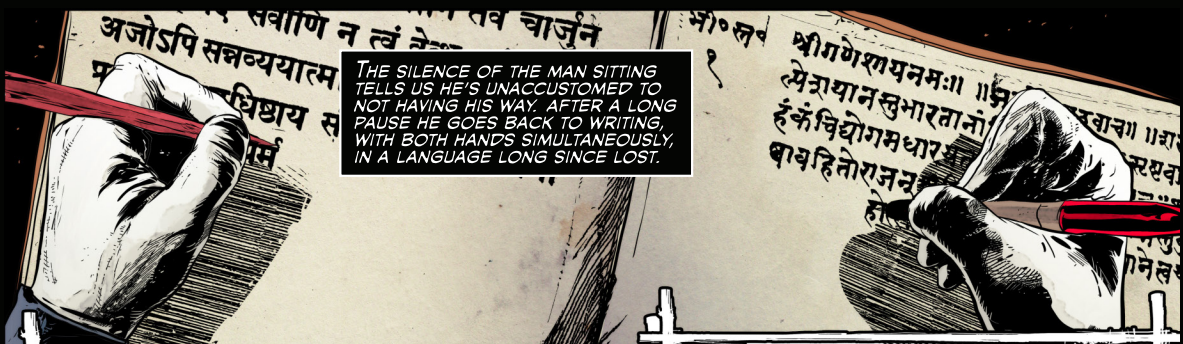


SADLY, THE AUTHORS OF SUCH BOOKS HAD NOT IMAGINED THE SHEER NUMBER OF MEN WHO FIT THAT DESCRIPTION, NOR HOW THEIR NUMBERS HAVE ONLY GROWN.

I ASSUME MR. MAITLIN WAS FLATTERED BY OUR OFFER?

NO. HE REJECTED IT.

THE SILENCE OF THE MAN SITTING TELS US HE'S UNACUSTOMED TO NOT HAVING HIS WAY. AFTER A LONG PAUSE HE GOES BACK TO WRITING, WITH BOTH HANDS SIMULTANEOUSLY, IN A LANGUAGE LONG SINCE LOST.

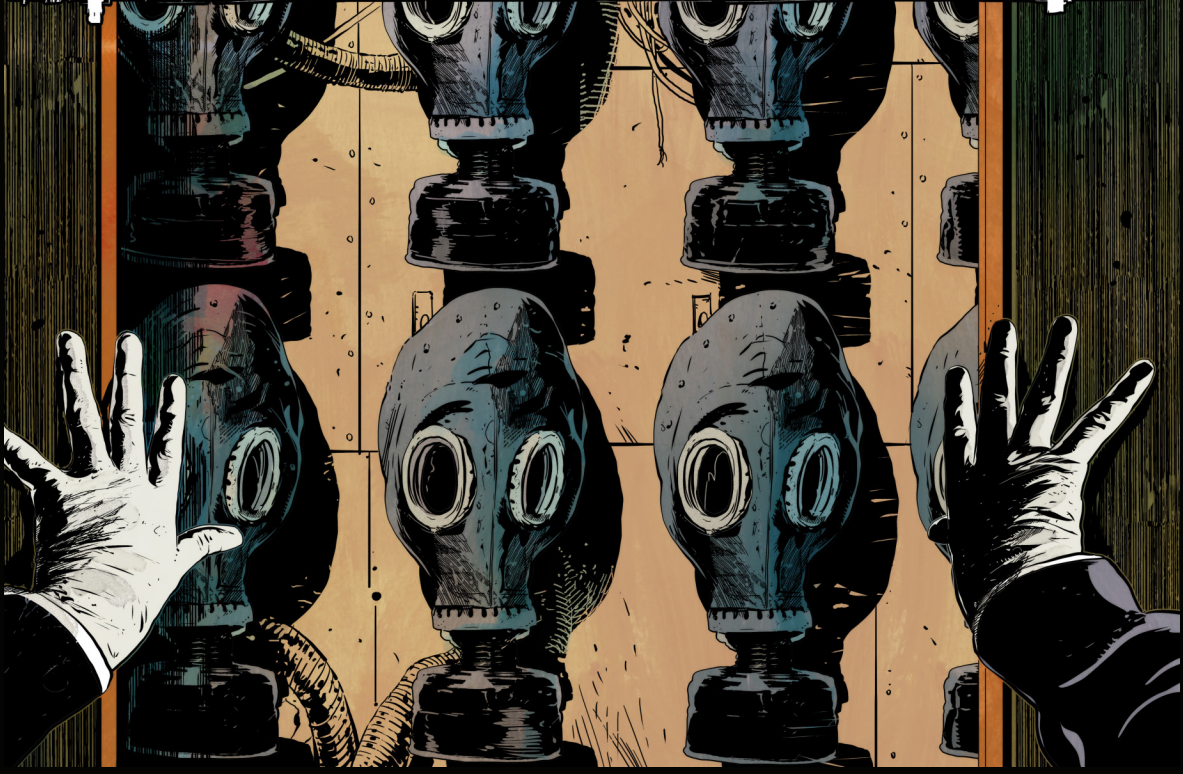


I WAS SO LOOKING FORWARD TO SPENDING TIME WITH MR. MAITLIN AND HIS PARTNERS. HOW UNFORTUNATE WE WEREN'T ABLE TO SEE EYE TO EYE.



I DON'T THINK HE'S GOING TO IGNORE THE PUSH WE GAVE HIM.

STUBBORN, IS HE? PERHAPS IT MAY SERVE OUR NEEDS BETTER IF I PAY HIM... A MORE 'PERSONAL' VISIT.

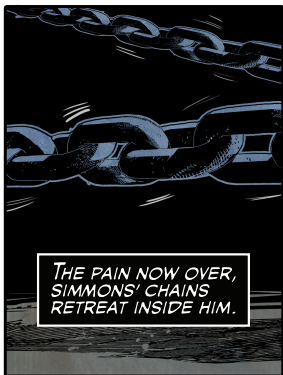




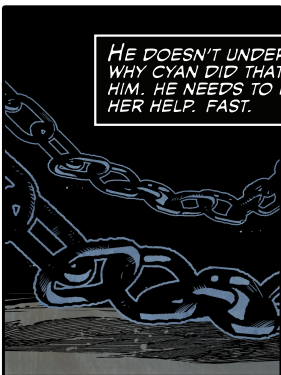
SOME MEN
NEED A LITTLE
GUIDANCE TO
SEE THE
ERROR OF
THEIR WAYS.

BUT FOR
OTHERS...

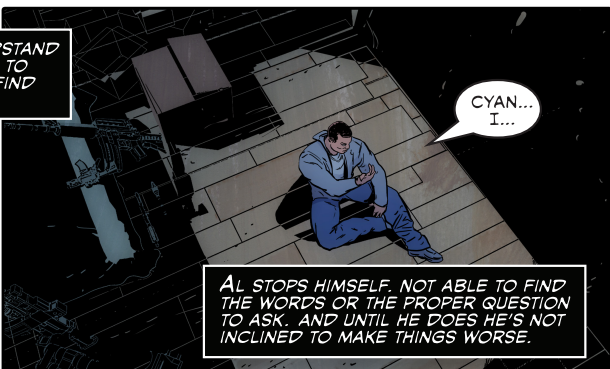
IT TAKES
MUCH
MORE FOR THEM
TO SEE THE
LIGHT.



THE PAIN NOW OVER, SIMMONS' CHAINS RETREAT INSIDE HIM.

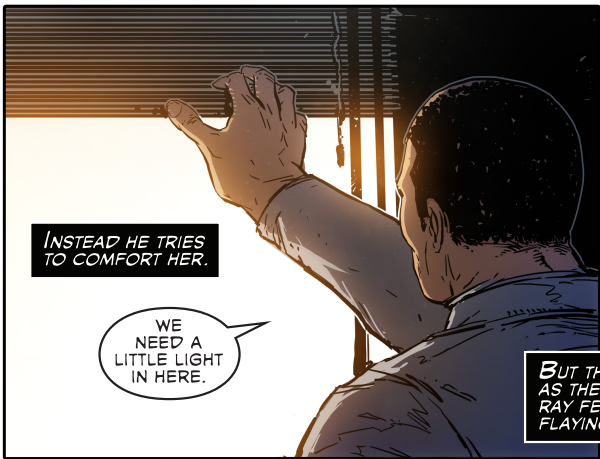


HE DOESN'T UNDERSTAND WHY CYAN DID THAT TO HIM. HE NEEDS TO FIND HER HELP. FAST.



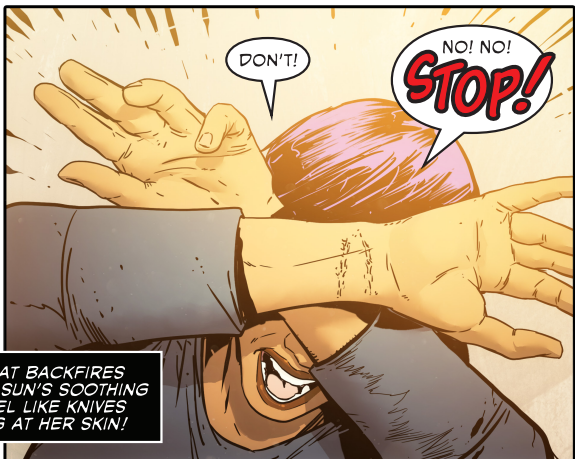
CYAN... I...

AL STOPS HIMSELF. NOT ABLE TO FIND THE WORDS OR THE PROPER QUESTION TO ASK. AND UNTIL HE DOES HE'S NOT INCLINED TO MAKE THINGS WORSE.



INSTEAD HE TRIES TO COMFORT HER.

WE NEED A LITTLE LIGHT IN HERE.



DON'T!

NO! NO! STOP!

BUT THAT BACKFIRES AS THE SUN'S SOOTHING RAY FEEL LIKE KNIVES FLAYING AT HER SKIN!



UNCONTROLLABLY SHE SCREAMS AT THE TOP OF HER LUNGS. AL CAN'T HAVE THAT KIND OF ATTENTION--NOT IN THIS APARTMENT COMPLEX. THERE'S TOO MANY CURIOUS NEIGHBORS IN THE BUILDING.

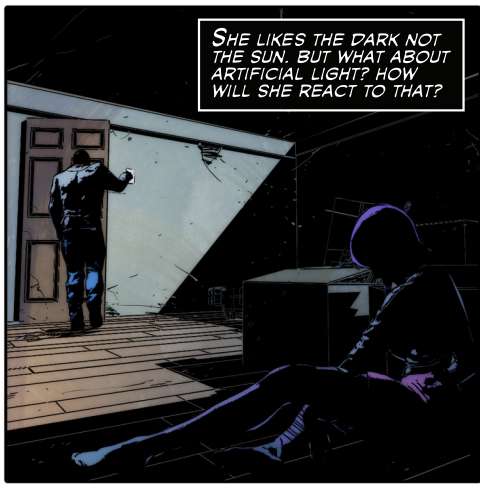
CYAN! YOU CAN'T DO THAT. NOT HERE! CALM DOWN AND RELAX. CAN YOU DO THAT?



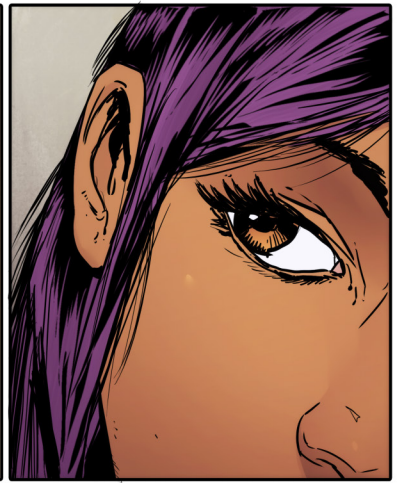
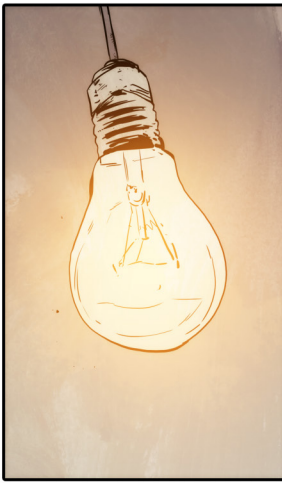
HE STEPS BACK INTO THE SHADOWS...



SHE INSTANTLY GOES LIMP.



SHE LIKES THE DARK NOT THE SUN, BUT WHAT ABOUT ARTIFICIAL LIGHT? HOW WILL SHE REACT TO THAT?



YOU OKAY?
YEAH.
UM...
WHERE ARE WE?
MY APARTMENT.
HOW'D WE GET HERE?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER?



NO, WHY AREN'T WE IN MY ROOM?



WE NEED TO CALL YOUR DAD.

STUNNED, AL REALIZES CYAN CAN'T RECALL THE LAST FEW MINUTES. EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED IN THE DARK AND THE SHADOWS ARE A BLANK TO HER.



DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY?

ABOUT THIS?

ABOUT ANY OF THE FILES YOU'VE READ-- DO THEY CONCERN YOU?


SHOULD THEY?



COME NOW, MR. FITZGERALD, WE AREN'T *REALLY* GOING TO PLAY THIS GAME--ARE WE?

THERE'S ENOUGH EVIDENCE THERE THAT SAYS YOU'VE BEEN BUYING NARCOTICS AND PRESCRIPTION DRUGS FROM A FEW KNOWN TARGETS.

YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG GUY.



SO, YOU WERE NEVER AT ANY OF THESE PLACES. AND THOSE PHOTOS DON'T JOG YOUR MEMORY?

THEY'RE TOO DARK AND BLURRY. CAN'T TELL WHO'S IN THEM. I KNOW YOU THINK ALL US BLACK GUYS LOOK THE SAME, BUT I'VE GOT TO BREAK IT TO YOU... IT'S NOT TRUE.



YOU THINK THIS IS FUNNY? WE ALSO HAVE PHONE RECORDS OF YOU REQUESTING PERSONAL HELP FROM A FELLOW AGENT.

AND THE LIST OF NAMES THAT AGENT GAVE US ARE ALL NOW DEAD. CARE TO EXPLAIN THAT?



OR WOULD YOU LIKE ME TO GO FIRST?

YOU'RE THE ONE THROWING THE PARTY HERE, BUD.

I KNOW YOU GOT THOSE DRUGS FOR YOUR DAUGHTER. BEEN FEEDING THEM TO HER FOR QUITE SOME TIME IF SHE'S IN NEED OF REHABILITATION. IMPRESSIVE FATHERING THERE, I MIGHT ADD. WE ALSO KNOW YOU WERE GIVEN THE NAME OF MIGUEL SABATINI BY AGENT JOHNSON. WHO'S CURRENTLY BEEN TAKEN TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GLOBE.

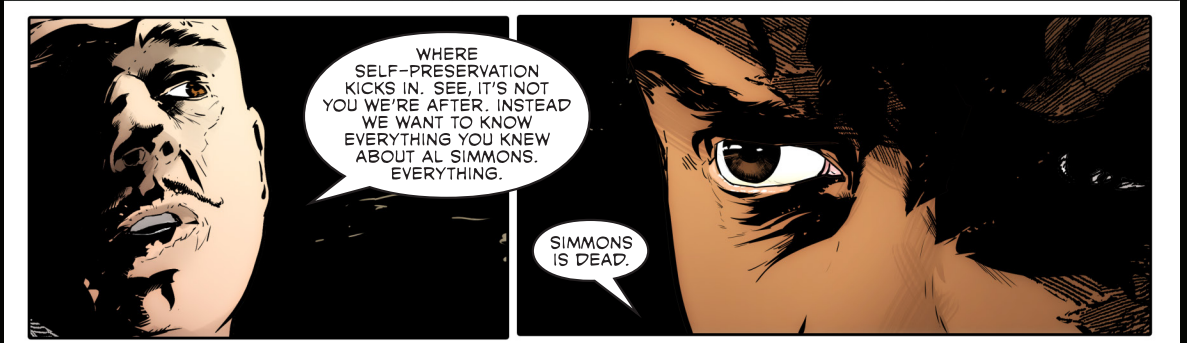


HE'LL NEVER WORK FOR THIS AGENCY AGAIN. AND NEITHER WILL YOU IF WE DON'T GET YOUR COOPERATION.

IS THIS WHERE I'M SUPPOSED TO GET SCARED?

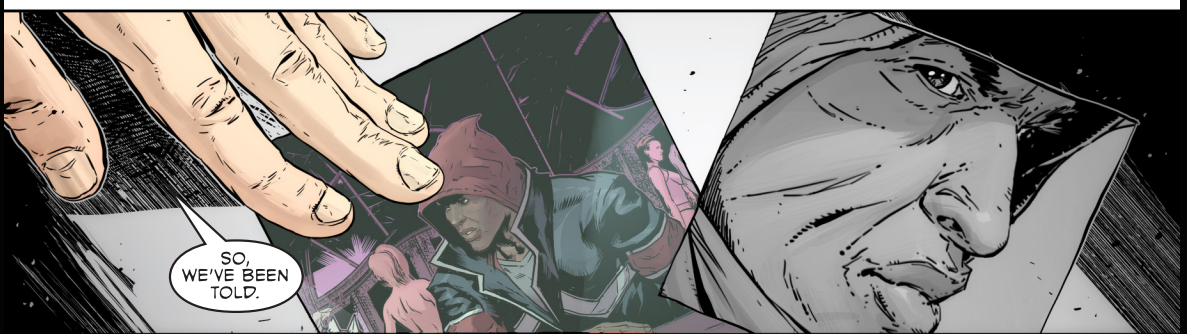


NO, MR. FITZGERALD. THIS IS WHERE YOU BECOME PRACTICAL...



WHERE SELF-PRESERVATION KICKS IN. SEE, IT'S NOT YOU WE'RE AFTER. INSTEAD WE WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING YOU KNEW ABOUT AL SIMMONS. EVERYTHING.

SIMMONS IS DEAD.



SO, WE'VE BEEN TOLD.



BUT, WE'D LIKE TO CONFIRM THAT OURSELVES SINCE HE WAS INVOLVED IN SOME VERY, VERY SENSITIVE MATTERS. BUT I'M SURE YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT SINCE YOU WERE HIS BEST FRIEND. STRANGE THAT YOU MARRIED HIS WIFE AFTER HE DIED.

YOU KNOW SHE'S DEAD TOO.

WE DO.



BUT YOUR DAUGHTER ISN'T. IS SHE?



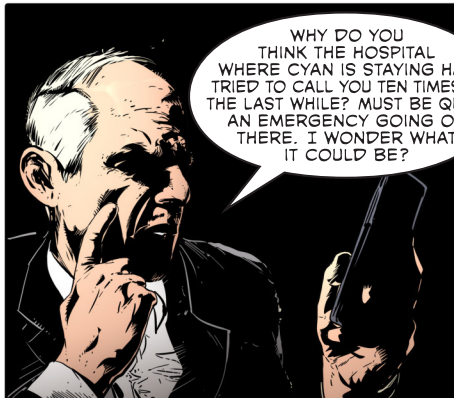
YOU TOUCH HER AND...



"SAVE YOUR THREATS. WE'VE HEARD IT ALL BEFORE. AND YOU'RE NOT IN MUCH OF A POSITION TO THREATEN, ARE YOU."



CURIOUS THOUGH?



WHY DO YOU THINK THE HOSPITAL WHERE CYAN IS STAYING HAS TRIED TO CALL YOU TEN TIMES IN THE LAST WHILE? MUST BE QUITE AN EMERGENCY GOING ON THERE. I WONDER WHAT IT COULD BE?



Enter Passcode

10 MISSED CALLS

WHAT DO YOU WANT.



I TOLD YOU ALREADY, I WANT SIMMONS. AND EVERYTHING YOU CAN POSSIBLY TELL US ABOUT HIM. THEN YOU GET YOUR PHONE BACK.

SCANDINAVIA.



DEEP IN THE COASTAL
CONIFER FORESTS.



AWAY FROM THE
TARNISH OF MANKIND.



FELT YOU
COMING A
LONG WAY
OFF.



YOU'LL NEED TO IMPROVE THAT.



THOUGH I'M CURIOUS-- HOW'D YOU FIND ME?



I DIDN'T. THE COSTUME DID.

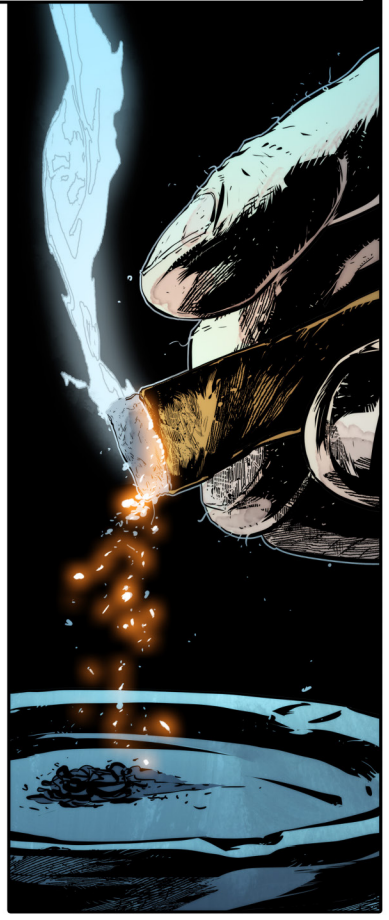
OF COURSE.



WELL... IT BROUGHT YOU HERE FOR SOME REASON, SO, SPEAK UP BOY, WHAT DO YOU NEED?



CYAN. WANDA'S DAUGHTER. SHE TOUCHED ME AND... I THINK SOMETHING'S HAPPENING TO HER.





IT'S BEGUN, THEN.

WHAT'S THAT MEAN?

NOTHING. WHERE IS SHE NOW?



SLEEPING. IN MY APARTMENT.

YOU'VE GOT THE GIRL?



YES.

AND YOU'VE LEFT HER ALONE!?

IT'S ONLY BEEN A COUPLE MINUTES.



YOU FOOL! YOU **GODDAMN FOOL!** IT DOESN'T MATTER! SHE CAN'T BE ALONE. IT'S TOO DANGEROUS!

GET ME TO HER. **NOW!**

SPAWN'S BLOOD RED CAPE SWALLOWS COGLIOSTRO IN ITS MAW THEN DISSOLVES BOTH OF THEM INTO THE NIGHT.





"WE'LL ONLY HAVE ONE CRACK AT THIS IF WE WANT HER TO LIVE. HELL'S RAGE WILL SEND EVERYTHING IT'S GOT."



"IT WON'T HELP IF SHE FEELS SCARED OR THREATENED."

TO BE CONTINUED

SPAWNING GROUND

P.O. Box 12230
Tempe, AZ 85284-0038

twitter.com/Todd_McFarlane
Facebook.com/liketoddmcFarlane

MONTHLY CONTEST

WIN a 10 minute Skype call with Todd McFarlane and some COOL McFarlane toys and comics!

Each month readers will be giving a secret code word available ONLY in Spawning Ground.

Enter that code word HERE:

mcfarlane.com/spawningground
for your chance to win awesome prizes!

Spawn 269 Code Word: **SpawnlovesWanda**

Winners will be notified by email two weeks after the release of the comic.

Good Luck!

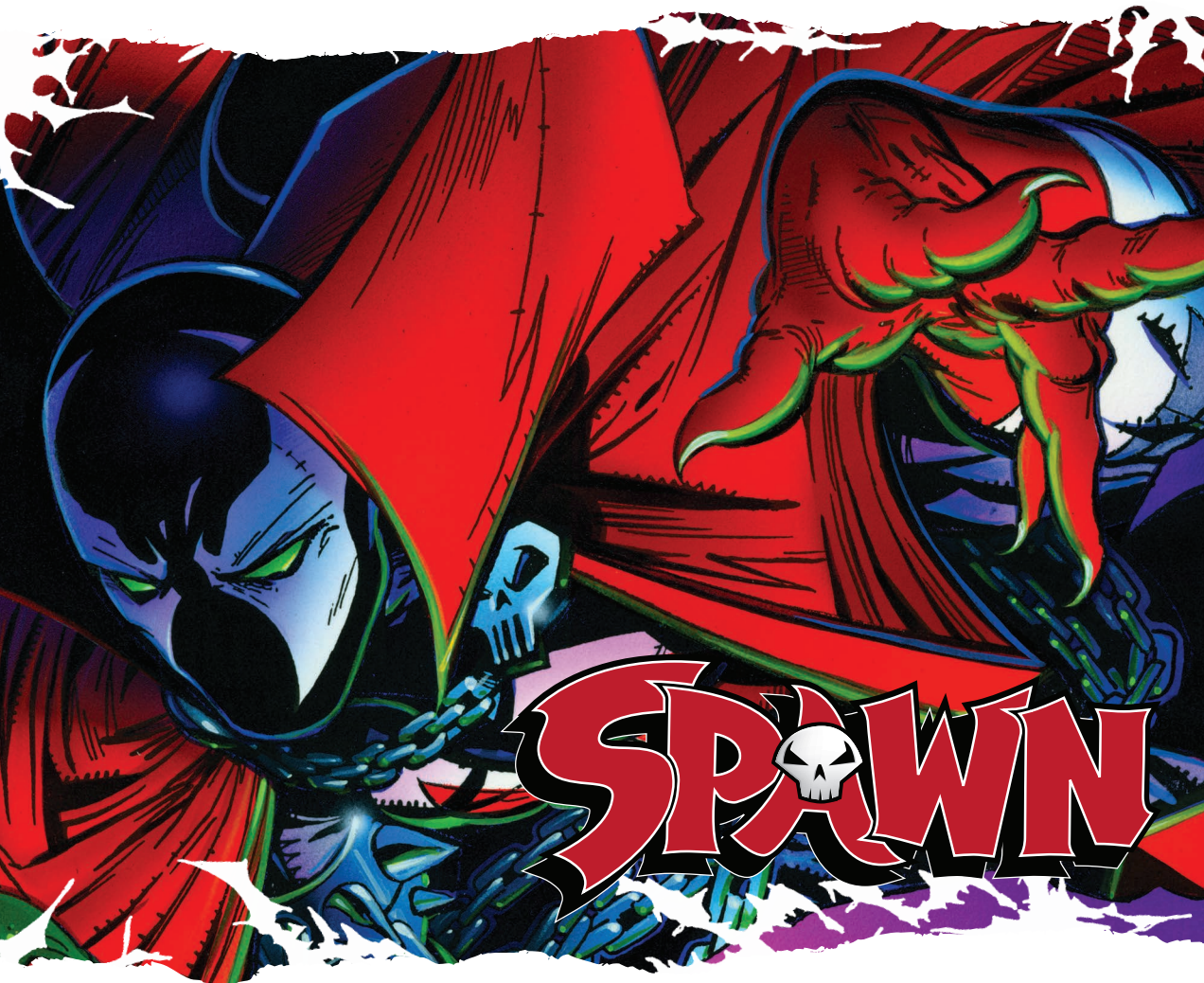
Thank you all for being loyal fans of Spawn!

Shannon Bailey
Publishing Coordinator



NEXT ISSUE

Spawn eats a tasty sandwich the size of Detroit.



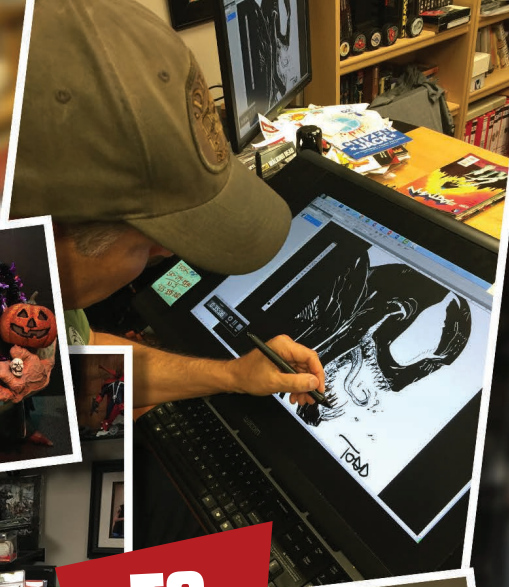
SPAWN WHEREVER YOU ARE.

The ENTIRE *Spawn* comic library and *Spawn Origins Collection* Volumes 1 – 20 is now available in digital format from ComiXology, iBooks, Google Play, and imagecomics.com. Fans can immerse themselves with 23 years and 250+ issues of *Spawn* with the simple swipe of a fingertip. *Spawn* is one of the world's best-selling and longest-running independent monthly comic books, known for its hyper-detailed art from its creator, **Todd McFarlane**. Now you can read the entire series wherever you are.

ALL ISSUES
AVAILABLE NOW DIGITALLY

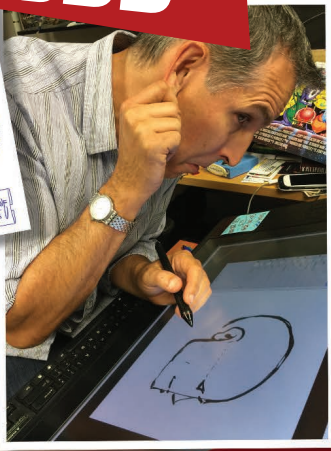


TALK



TO

TODD



KEEP UP WITH EVERYTHING **TODD MCFARLANE** AND **MCFARLANE TOYS**



- TODD'S BLOG
- GIVEAWAYS
- LIVE DRAWINGS
- TODD TIPS
- TOY NEWS

ALL OF THIS AND MORE AT **MCFARLANE.COM**



ECLIPSE™

ZACK KAPLAN

GIOVANNI TIMPANO

"The coloring of the postapocalyptic
landscape is perfect."

WORD OF THE NERD

"Hits with a one-two punch
of sci-fi and horror."

HORROR TALK

"Compelling."

IGN

VOLUME ONE
AVAILABLE NOW



IMAGECOMICS.COM

ECLIPSE is TM & © 2017 Zack Kaplan & Giovanni Timpano. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.



ERIK LARSEN

TODD McFARLANE



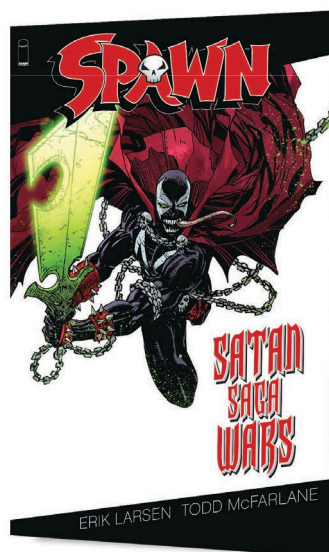
SPAWN

SPAWN: SATAN SAGA WARS

Joining our hero on a quest into the bowels of hell, Spawn must clash with endless hordes of demons in hopes to save the souls of his beloved Wanda, and their unborn child.

Witness the final destiny of Spawn's cherished love unfold, as deals are struck and fates are assigned.

Featuring the kinetic art and imaginative story-telling of Image Comics founders Todd McFarlane (Spawn, Spider-Man, The Incredible Hulk) and Erik Larsen (Savage Dragon, Spider-Man), this is one collection you don't want to miss!



IN STORES NOW

SPAWN
SATAN SAGA
WARS TPB

SPAWN

THE DARK AGES



MEDIEVAL MALEVOLENCE COLLECTED.

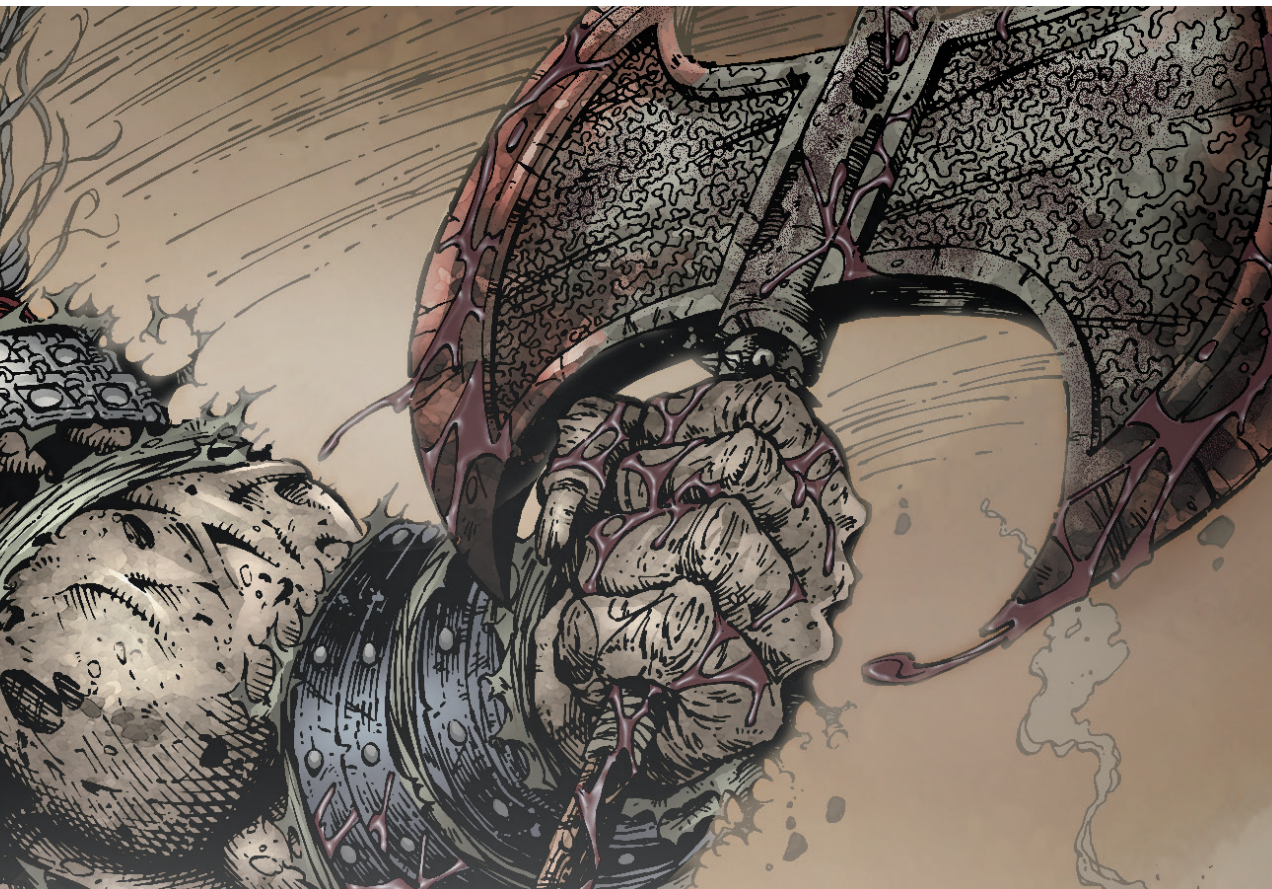
Journey with Lord Covenant, a formidable 12th century knight slain in a holy crusade far from his homeland ... only to unsuspectingly return to Earth as a soldier of the dark worlds – a Hellspawn.

Witness triumph and heartache, brought to you only as seasoned writers Brian Holguin (*Spawn*) and Steve Niles (*30 Days of Night*) can. Artists Liam McCormack-Sharp (*Judge Dredd*, *The Incredible Hulk*) and Nat Jones (*Frank Frazetta's Death Dealer*, '68) provide memorable visual narratives that draw you into a world of knights, witches and maidens.

Spawn: The Dark Ages: The Complete Collection includes the classic series in its entirety in one hardcover, oversized book, complete with a cover gallery and bonus art. This reimagining of Todd McFarlane's *Spawn* mythos will satisfy the deepest cravings of longtime fans of *Spawn* and medieval fantasy alike.

Check your local comic dealer or bookstore or call 1-888-COMIC-BOOK to find the comic book shop nearest you.

Spawn, its logo and its symbol are registered trademarks © 2015 Todd McFarlane Productions, Inc. All other related characters are TM and © 2015 Todd McFarlane Productions, Inc. All rights reserved. McFARLANE.COM



SPAWN: THE DARK AGES COMPLETE COLLECTION
AVAILABLE NOW

ZOMIK BOOK
ANTHOLOGY
MAGAZINE

SUN BAKERY



COREY LEWIS' SOLD-OUT INDIE
HIT RETURNS TO PRINT

AVAILABLE NOW



IMAGECOMICS.COM

SUN BAKERY is TM & © 2017 Corey Lewis. Image Comics® and its logos are registered trademarks of Image Comics, Inc. All rights reserved.

COREY
LEWIS

NEW FROM MCFARLANE TOYS!

Five Nights at Freddy's™

CONSTRUCTION SETS

IN STORES NOW

EXCLUSIVELY AT



THE OFFICE



PIRATE COVE



MCFARLANE.COM

FOR MORE CONSTRUCTION SET INFORMATION, VISIT



Five Nights at Freddy's © 2016 Scott Cawthon. All rights reserved. © 2016 TMP International, Inc. All Rights Reserved. McFarlane Toys and the other marks and logos displayed are trademarks of TMP International, Inc.

ASSASSIN'S CREED

IN THEATRES NOW

AGUILAR'S HIDDEN BLADE

BUTTON ACTIVATED,
BLADE SLIDING
PLAY-ACTION

IN STORES NOW

McFARLANE TOYS
McFARLANE.COM



© 2016 Ubisoft Entertainment. All Rights Reserved. Assassin's Creed, Ubisoft, and the Ubisoft logo are trademarks of Ubisoft Entertainment in the US and/or other countries. © 2016 TMP International, Inc. All Rights Reserved. McFarlane Toys and the other marks and logos displayed are trademarks of TMP International, Inc.