

image

303

DIGITAL
EDITION

TODD
MCFARLANE

JASON
SHAWN
ALEXANDER

SPAWN



**HELL
HUNT**
PART 2

SPAWN®

TODD McFARLANE
SCRIPT

JASON SHAWN ALEXANDER
TODD McFARLANE
ART

TODD McFARLANE & JON GOFF
PLOT

TOM ORZECZOWSKI
LETTERING

PETER STEIGERWALD
COLORS

FRANCESCO MATTINA
COVER ARTIST (A)

TODD McFARLANE
COVER ARTIST (B,C)

TODD McFARLANE
CREATIVE DIRECTOR

JON GOFF
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Publishing Coordinator
SHANNON BAILEY

Production Artist
JORDAN BUTLER

Production Assist
ANDY ARIAS

Publisher/
Chief Creative Officer
ERIC STEPHENSON

SPAWN CREATED BY
TODD McFARLANE



PREVIOUSLY IN SPAWN

In Hell Hunt part 1 - Spawn (Al Simmons) carries on his pursuit to eradicate the evil that treats the world as it's playground, simultaneously gaining recognition as a "vigilante" by the press. While in a weakened state he fights to free victims of a demon run human trafficking ring. The demons try to use the lack of Spawn's powers against him while putting up a fight. With only his military training and a healthy expenditure of ammunition at his disposal, Al finds himself short of winning the bloody battle. As he is about to fall victim to his demonic prey, the creature is extinguished in a brutal fashion, by one Jessica Priest. She's looking for answers that only Al can give to her mysterious reception of Hell-spawn powers, and who is the larger than life ultra-demon that seemingly stripped them from her as easily as they were granted.



SPAWN KNOWS WHO PRIEST WAS. HE UNDERSTANDS SHE ONCE ALIGNED HERSELF WITH HIS OWN GOALS AND THAT SHE FOUGHT ON HIS SIDE. THAT WAS YEARS AGO.



SINCE THEN, HE'S SEEN MORE **BETRAYALS** OF FORMER ALLIES THAN HE CAN COUNT. HE'S ALSO SEEN ENEMIES CLOAK THEMSELVES IN THE GUISE OF OTHERS.

SO, HIS FIRST INSTINCTS ARE TO 'ACT FIRST. ASK QUESTIONS LATER.'



OR, TO PUT IT MORE SIMPLY, HE HAS A NEW RULE...



TRUST NO ONE!

CONSIDER EVERYONE A POTENTIAL ENEMY UNTIL PROVEN OTHERWISE.



AND THOUGH HE HAS TO BATTLE TRYING TO USE AS LITTLE OF HIS POWERS AS POSSIBLE, HE'S STILL A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH.



AL, IT'S ME!
JESSICA, GOD
DAMN IT! WHAT'S
WRONG?
WHAT'RE YOU
DOING?

WHY
ARE YOU
HERE?



BECAUSE THEY KILLED HER! SHE'S DEAD!



WHO'S DEAD?

NYX! THEY KILLED NYX!* AND THINGS ARE HAPPENING. THINGS YOU CAN'T CONTROL!



PROVE IT.



LOOK!
SEE WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO ME!



HE LOOSENS HIS CHAINS.



YOUR EYES. HOW'D YOU DO THAT?



I DON'T KNOW!

THAT'S WHAT I'M TRYING TO FIND OUT!

SHE PULLS HER GUN. HE PULLS HIS.

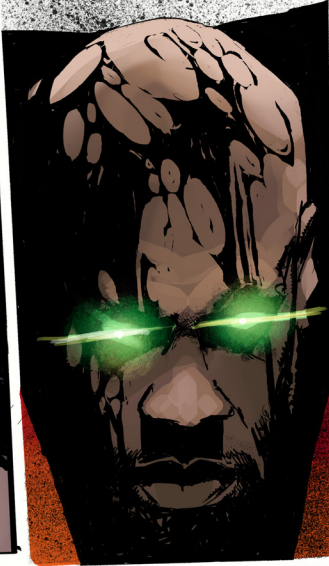
TUNK



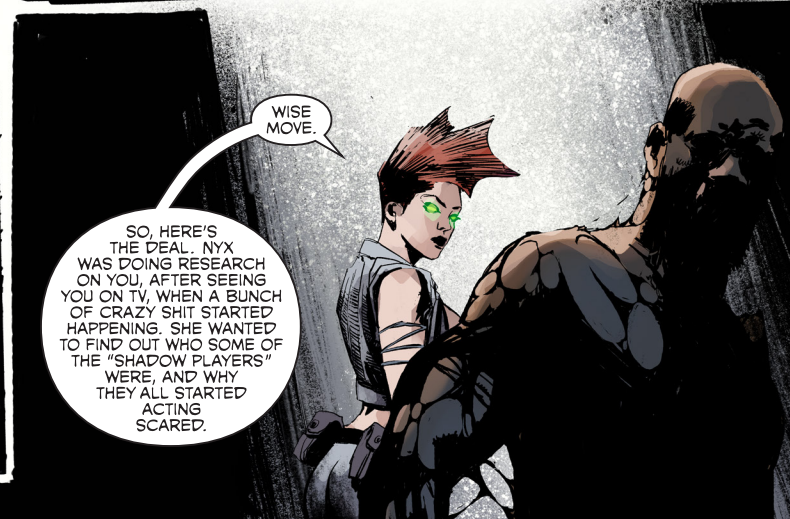
SO, DO YOU WANT TO TALK, OR DO WE KEEP DANCING?



YOUR CHOICE.



SHE'S NOT AFRAID. HE NEEDS TO FIND OUT WHY.



WISE MOVE.

SO, HERE'S THE DEAL. NYX WAS DOING RESEARCH ON YOU, AFTER SEEING YOU ON TV, WHEN A BUNCH OF CRAZY SHIT STARTED HAPPENING. SHE WANTED TO FIND OUT WHO SOME OF THE "SHADOW PLAYERS" WERE, AND WHY THEY ALL STARTED ACTING SCARED.

SHE CALLED ME IN A PANIC. SAID SHE'D FOUND SOMETHING AND TO GET THERE FAST. I TRIED BUT COULDN'T REACH HER IN TIME BEFORE THEY GOT TO HER. THEY TORE HER APART!

DON'T JUST STAND THERE! SAY SOMETHING!

SHE GETS NOTHING.



LOOK AT YOU, **YOU'RE PATHETIC!** WHAT IS IT? EVERYONE'S YOUR ENEMY NOW! OR YOU JUST DON'T CARE ANYMORE? WHY WERE THEY AFTER HER? WHY?! WHAT DID YOU DO? THEY NEEDED SOMETHING FROM HER! WHAT WAS IT? HER POWERS? WELL, I'VE GOT THEM NOW BUT I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE. **LOOK!** I TOOK HER PHONE! LOOK AT THIS MAP!



NOT HERE.

WE CAN'T DO THIS HERE.



CALMLY, HE WALKS HER INTO THE SHADOWS.



AT SPAWN'S HIDDEN FACILITY, THE SLIGHTEST NOISE SETS OF FRAYED NERVES.



AL?

BEHIND YOU!



IT'S OKAY, MARC, SHE'S WITH ME.



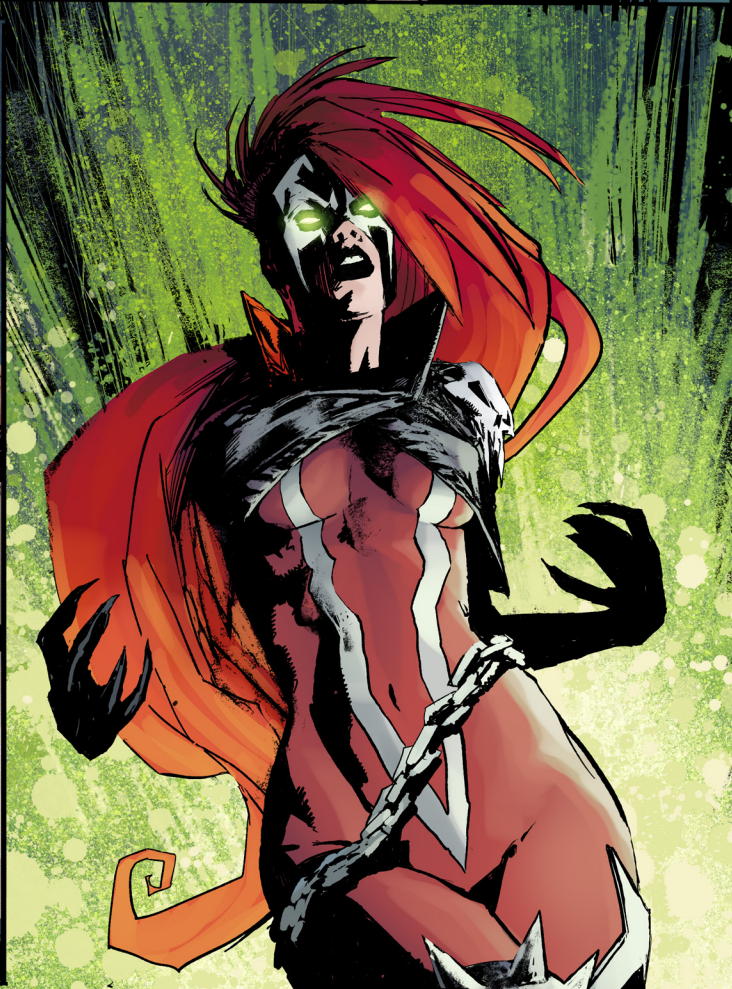
ARE YOU INSANE? YOU SAID YOU'D NEVER DO THIS. YOU'D NEVER BREACH THIS PLACE WITH OTHERS. REMEMBER? YOU SAID IF ONE COULD COME, THEY'D ALL COME AND WE'D NEVER BE SAFE AGAIN.

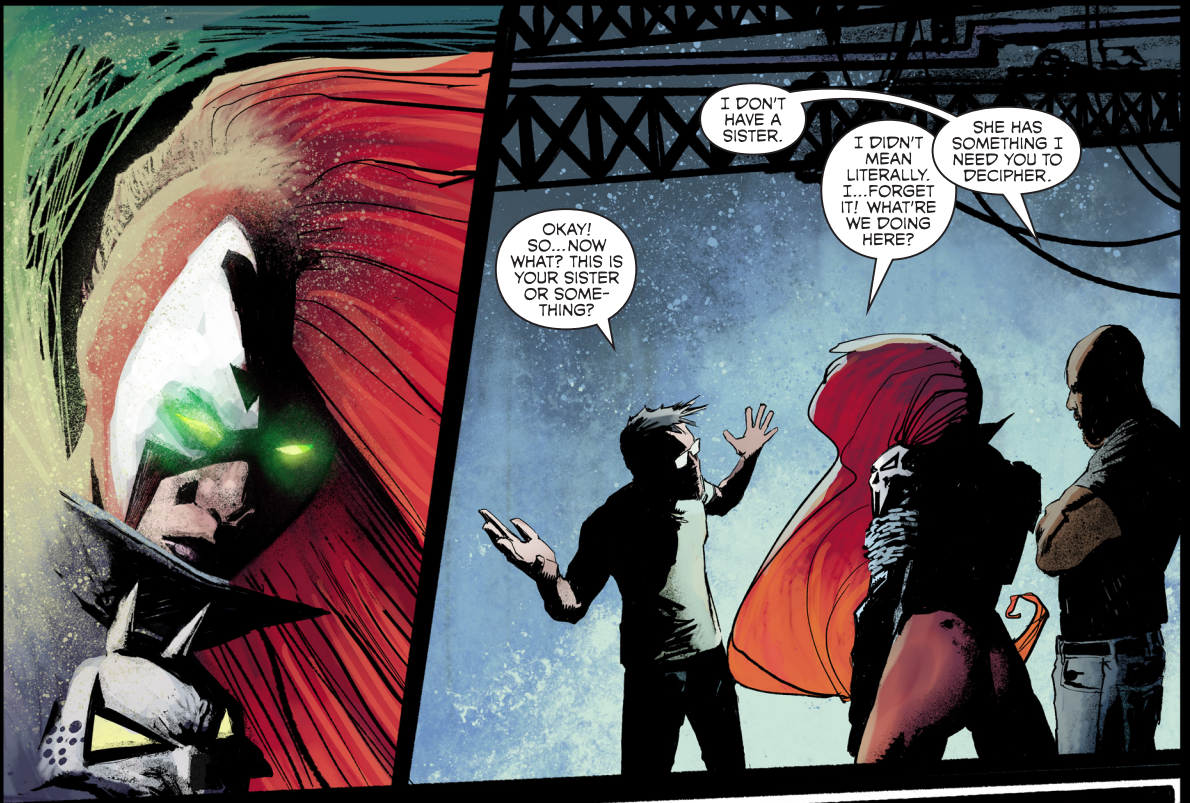


YOU'RE RIGHT, I DID. BUT THIS IS DIFFERENT.

DIFFERENT?! WHAT THE HELL DOES THAT MEAN?

SHOW HIM.





OKAY! SO... NOW WHAT? THIS IS YOUR SISTER OR SOMETHING?

I DON'T HAVE A SISTER.

I DIDN'T MEAN LITERALLY. I... FORGET IT! WHAT'RE WE DOING HERE?

SHE HAS SOMETHING I NEED YOU TO DECIPHER.



IS IT ENCRYPTED?

DON'T KNOW. WE WERE HOPING YOU'D TELL US, BECAUSE THE OWNER DIED OVER WHATEVER MAY BE ON THERE.



IT LOOKS LIKE THE SECURITY FIREWALL HAS BEEN REVERSED CODED SO THAT WHATEVER WAS TRANSFERRED TO THIS, GOT ERASED ON THE ORIGINAL HARD DRIVE IT CAME FROM. SO, IF I'M RIGHT, THEN THIS IS THE ONLY RECORD OF WHATEVER INFORMATION EXISTED.



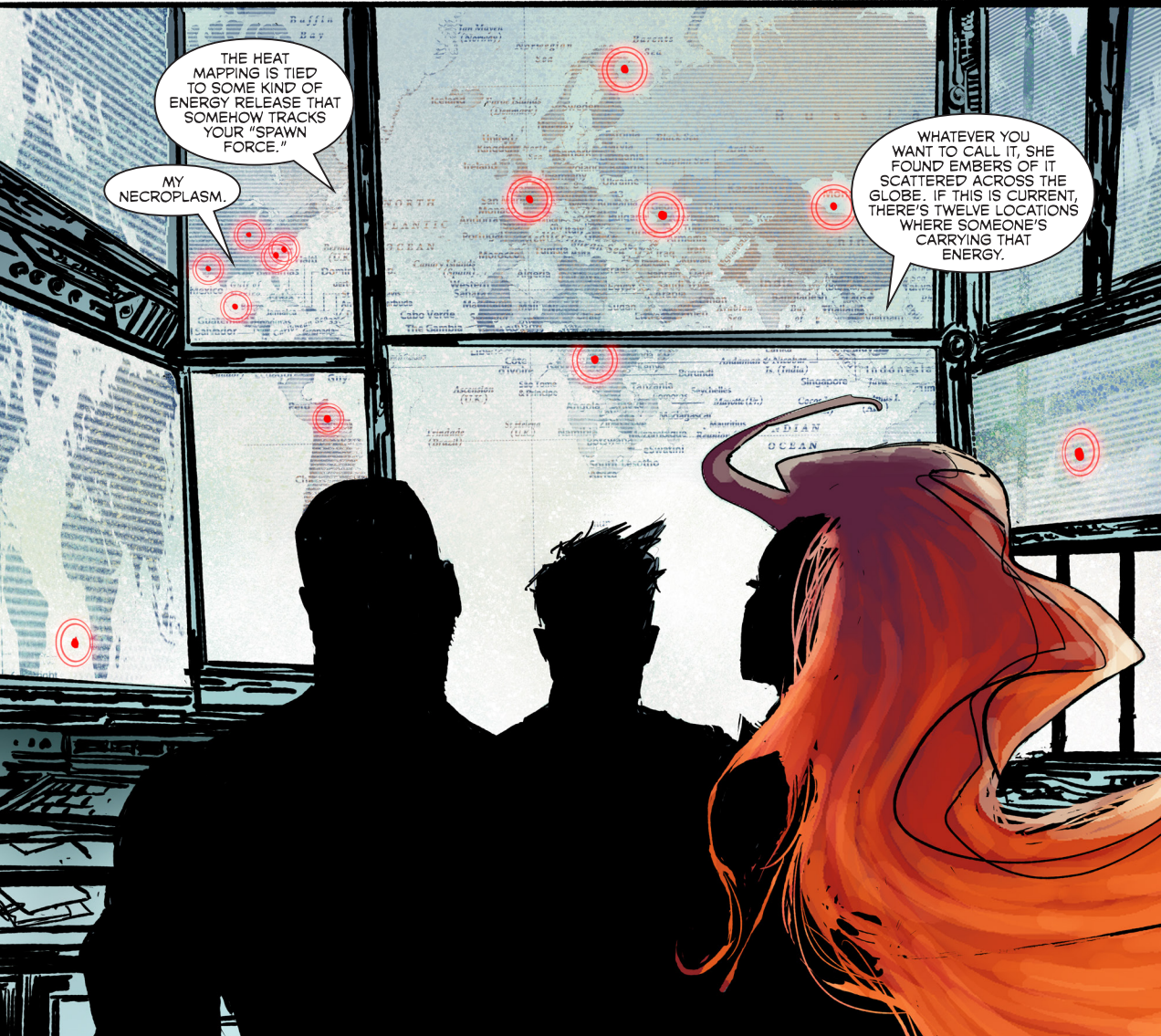
I SHOULD BE ABLE TO RUN A PATCH BETWEEN THIS AND A COUPLE SERVERS TO DE-SCRAMBLE HER CODING.

HOW LONG?



YOU KNOW I'M A STUD. SHOULD JUST BE A COUPLE MINUTES.

TEK
TEK
TEK
TEK
TEK
TEK



THE HEAT MAPPING IS TIED TO SOME KIND OF ENERGY RELEASE THAT SOMEHOW TRACKS YOUR "SPAWN FORCE."

MY NECROPLASM.

WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT, SHE SCATTERED EMBERS OF IT ACROSS THE GLOBE. IF THIS IS CURRENT, THERE'S TWELVE LOCATIONS WHERE SOMEONE'S CARRYING THAT ENERGY.



TWELVE?
I ONLY HID
IT IN FIVE
OF THEM.

WHAT'RE
YOU
SAYING?

YEARS AGO,
AS A PRECAUTION,
I BURIED A SLIVER OF MY
SYMBIOTE IN FIVE PEOPLE.
IN CASE I EVER DIED
THERE NEEDED TO BE A
BACK-UP PLAN. BUT IT
WAS ONLY FIVE.



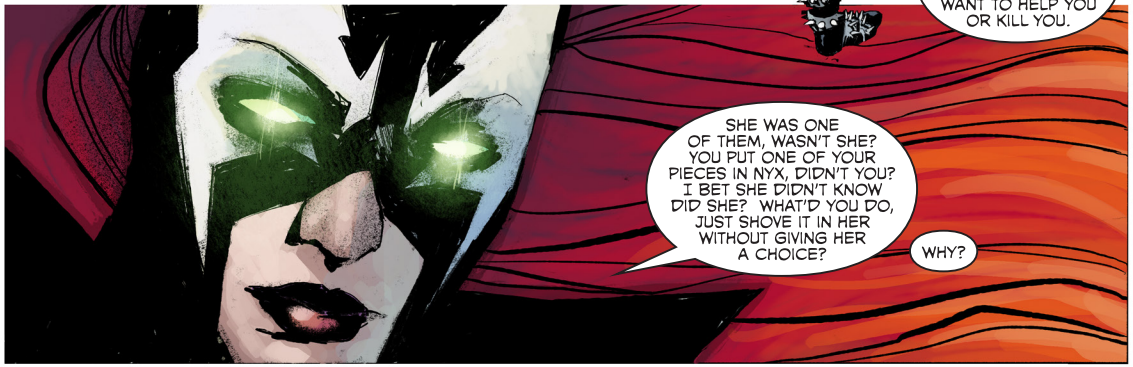
I KEEP
TELLING YOU,
A RIFT WAS
OPENED WHEN
YOU KILLED
CLOWN AND
GODSEND.*

HOW DO
YOU KNOW
WHAT I
DID?

I
DON'T
KNOW, I
JUST
DO.

*Issue 301 - Todd

IT DOESN'T
MATTER, WHAT I
CAN'T DETERMINE IS
WHETHER THOSE
TWELVE CARRIERS
WANT TO HELP YOU
OR KILL YOU.



SHE WAS ONE
OF THEM, WASN'T SHE?
YOU PUT ONE OF YOUR
PIECES IN NYX, DIDN'T YOU?
I BET SHE DIDN'T KNOW
DID SHE? WHAT'D YOU DO,
JUST SHOVE IT IN HER
WITHOUT GIVING HER
A CHOICE?

WHY?

I SAID
WHY?! SO,
YOU COULD
HAVE YOUR
BACK-UP
PLAN?

THAT'S
WHAT THEY WERE
LOOKING FOR, THAT'S
WHY THEY KILLED
HER, ISN'T IT?



VATICAN CITY, THREE MONTHS EARLIER.

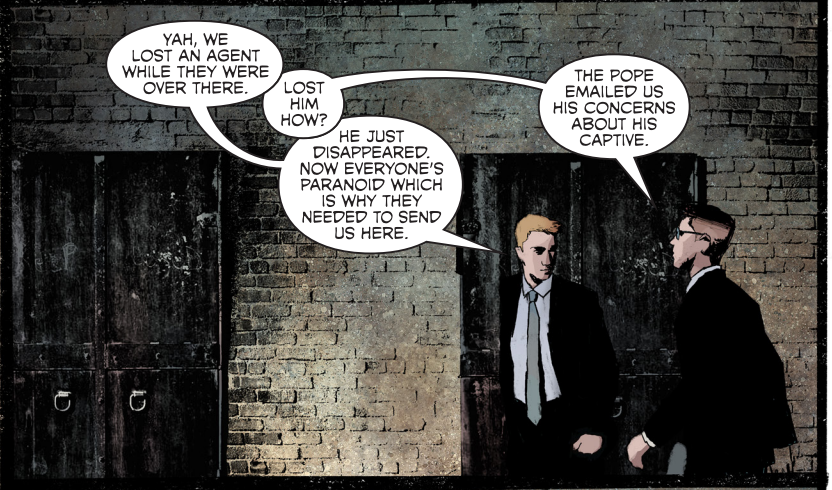
YOU HEAR ABOUT THE ENVOY'S RECENT TRIP TO AMERICA?

DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE BACK.



THEY JUST GOT IN TWENTY MINUTES AGO. THEY WEREN'T ABLE TO CONVERT THEIR TARGET MARC ROSEN. SAID HE APPEARED SUSPICIOUS DURING OUR CONTACT WITH HIM, BUT SURVEILLANCE DIDN'T REPORT ANYTHING OUT OF THE ORDINARY. WE'RE STILL KEEPING TABS ON JIM DOWNING, THOUGH.

ANYTHING ELSE?



YAH, WE LOST AN AGENT WHILE THEY WERE OVER THERE.

LOST HIM HOW?

HE JUST DISAPPEARED. NOW EVERYONE'S PARANOID WHICH IS WHY THEY NEEDED TO SEND US HERE.

THE POPE EMAILED US HIS CONCERNS ABOUT HIS CAPTIVE.



SO, LET'S TAKE US A PEEK.

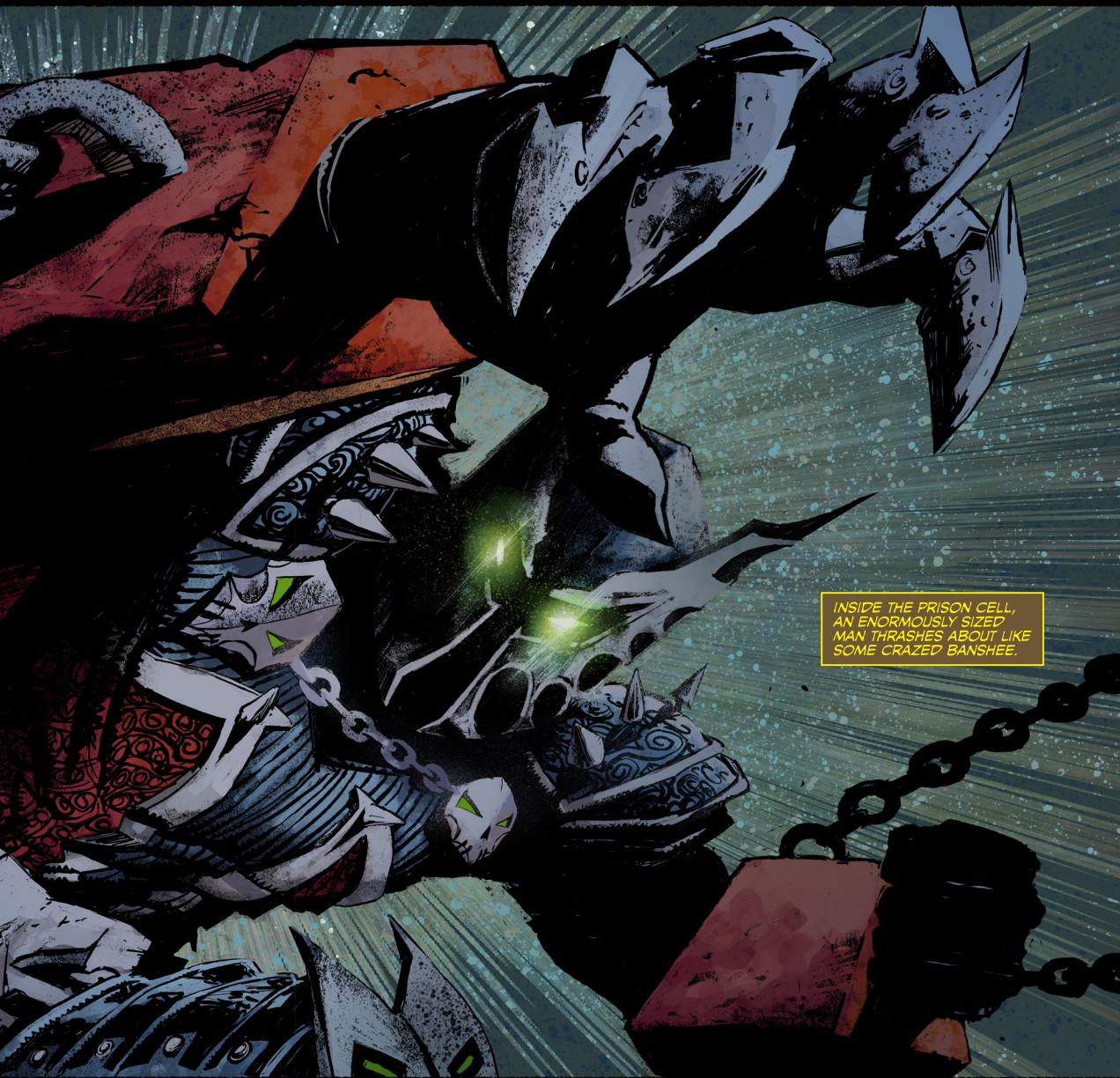


SHUKK



I STILL DON'T KNOW WHY THEY GAVE HIM HIS SUIT OF ARMOR. I THOUGHT THEY WERE CONCERNED IT HAD SOME KIND OF "MYSTIC POWERS."





INSIDE THE PRISON CELL,
AN ENORMOUSLY SIZED
MAN THRASHES ABOUT LIKE
SOME CRAZED BANSHEE.



WE MADE THIS
ARMOR AND IT SEEMED
TO CALM HIM, UNTIL TODAY.
SOMETHING SEEMS TO HAVE
TRIGGERED HIM.



SHOULD WE NOTIFY ANYONE?



NOT YET. HE CAN BANG THAT DOOR 'TIL HE'S BLUE IN THE FACE. IT'LL HOLD.

BESIDES, THEY JUST INSTALLED THE SECONDARY SECURITY EQUIPMENT. LET ME CHECK TO SEE IF IT'S UP AND RUNNING.



THIS IS AGENT WEHLMAN. DOES ANYONE ON YOUR END KNOW IF THE NEW GRID IS WORKING?

It is. The project was completed last week. The Albanian representatives signed off on it.

YOU THINK WE COULD DO A LITTLE REMOTE TEST? USE PASSWORD CODE A6122F9.

Confirming now.



Password accepted.

OPEN THE DOOR NOW.



WHAT?

GO AHEAD, PRY OPEN THE DOOR.

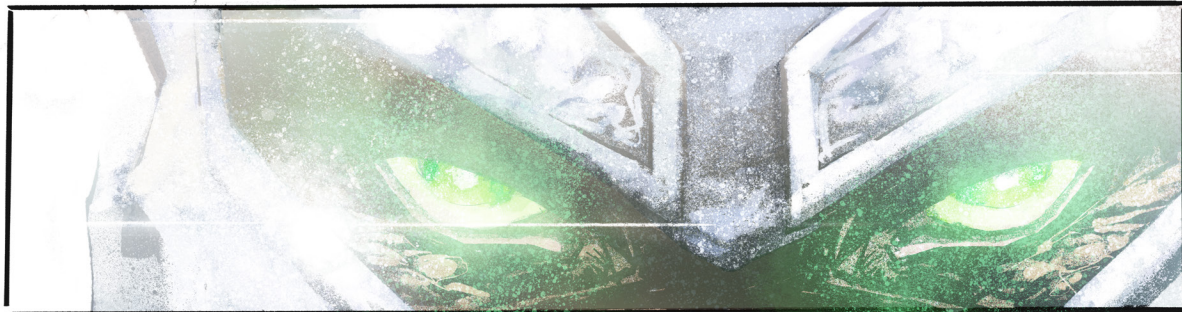
"OUR PRISONER WON'T DO ANYTHING. HE'S NEARLY PARALYZED."



"WE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM ONE OF OUR PARTNERS. HE FOUND THAT WHATEVER THIS KNIGHT-IN-SHINING ARMOR IS MADE OF..."



"...IT HATES LIGHT."



"GUESS THEY DON'T MAKE *DEMON BABIES* LIKE THEY USED TO. SO, TELL THE POPE'S ENTOURAGE THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT DOWN HERE."



**TO BE
CONTINUED**



0:0:0:8

A FEW DAYS EARLIER.*

KNOCK KNOCK

*See issue 299 - Todd



COG, IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU! THANKS FOR COMING.



OF COURSE. YOU SOUNDED... UPSET. ARE YOU OKAY?




NOT REALLY, NO. NOT WITH WHAT I'VE BEEN FINDING OUT. EVERYTHING'S GOTTEN SO CRAZY.

PLEASE-- COME SIT DOWN.



YOU KNOW WHAT I'VE BEEN RESEARCHING, RIGHT? WELL, IT'S WORSE THAN I THOUGHT.




AND MY CONTACTS--
THEY'RE KILLING THEM ONE
BY ONE. I THOUGHT THIS WAS JUST
ABOUT SIMMONS AND HIS RETURN, BUT
IT'S DEEPER THAN THAT. THE PATTERN I
FOUND SPREADS EVERYWHERE. THIS IS
GLOBAL...CORRUPTION AT THE HIGHEST
LEVELS OF GOVERNMENT AND
BUSINESS...AND I'M NOT TALKING
ABOUT THE USUAL STUFF. THIS IS
SOME SYSTEMIC PLAN.

LIKE
SOMEONE'S
SETTING UP POLITICAL
AND ECONOMIC DOMINOS
THAT COULD CAUSE MASS
PANIC, ALLOWING THE
POWER BROKERS SWOOP
IN AND STEAL EVEN
MORE POWER. I CAN'T
EVEN TURN ON THIS
DAMN COMPUTER
ANYMORE.



I'VE PRINTED
SOME OF IT, BUT
MOST IS BACKED
UP IN A HIDDEN
CLOUD.

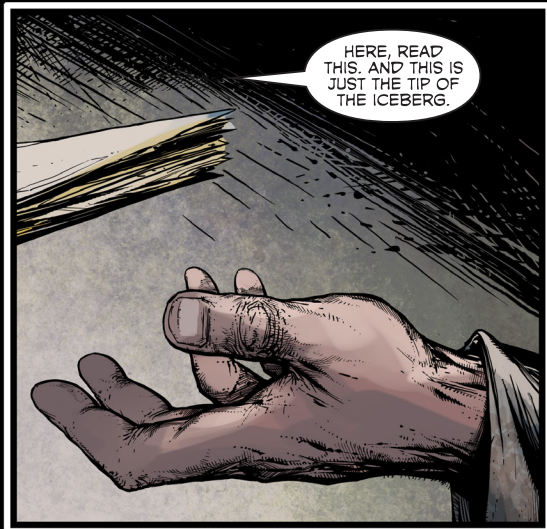


DO YOU
KNOW WHY THIS IS
HAPPENING?

CAN'T FIGURE
THAT OUT. IT'S WHY
I CALLED YOU.

YOUR
CONTACTS,
DO YOU KNOW
WHO KILLED
THEM?


NOT
YET. IT'S
LIKE THEY'RE
LOOKING FOR
SOMETHING,
THOUGH.



HERE, READ
THIS. AND THIS IS
JUST THE TIP OF
THE ICEBERG.



HE SCANS
THE FILES.



WHO ELSE
HAVE YOU TOLD
ABOUT THIS?

NO
ONE.

GOOD.
THAT'S
GOOD.





THAT
MAKES THIS SO
**MUCH
EASIER**
TO DO!

BLAMMM!

TO BE CONTINUED

SPAWNING GR

As part of this issue,

I'm reprinting my five page backstory from Spawn 302. A mistake was made on our part in conjunction with the printer, which made the pages look too dark. Because of that, you are unable to see the COOL detail I put into the art, so I wanted to reprint them here, to show you folks what they were supposed to look like. Also to the right I put part of the a black and white version of a page so you can see all the work and noodling I did, for YOU, the reader.

Secondly, it has to be stated the book you are holding is ANOTHER record-breaking issue. Why is that? Because every issue after Spawn 301 (the original record-breaker), is a new record. So, for the rest of my life, every new issue of Spawn is upping the record by one. If I get a little sassy, maybe I'll even put 'World-Record' on every cover from here on out.

In the next few issues, you'll see two storylines; a main storyline and a backstory. The backstories will be developing more details and give the reader a better understanding of what's been happening behind the scenes of the main story line.

Finally, thanks to everyone for following this journey from issue one to now, issue 303. I've said it and I'll say it again...the best is YET to come!

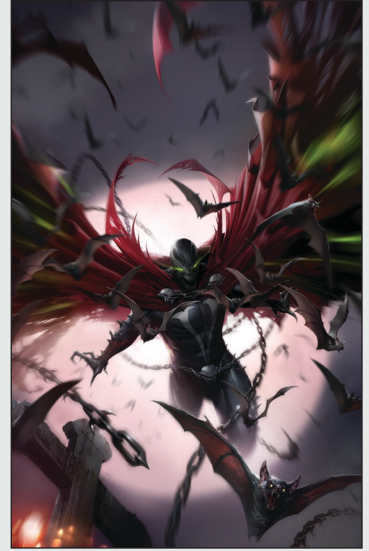
TODD



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

twitter.com/Todd_McFarlane
facebook.com/liketoddmcFarlane
Instagram: @toddmcFarlane

OUND



NEXT ISSUE

Hell Hunt part 3. Spawn continues to assemble his team of hell hunters. Question is, who's more reluctant to work together Spawn, or his growing party of hunters?

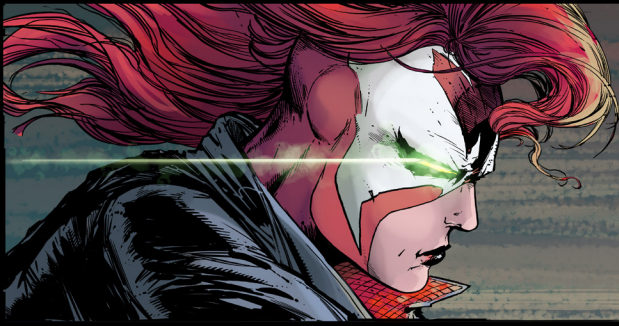
NIGHT TERROR

SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHERE SHE'S GOING OR WHY, BUT SOMETHING IS COMPELLING JESSICA PRIEST TO RIDE. RIDE AS HARD AS SHE CAN. BUT TOWARDS WHAT?

OR MAYBE SHE ISN'T GOING TOWARDS ANYTHING. MAYBE SHE'S FLEEING BECAUSE MINUTES EARLIER SHE FOUND A FRIEND SLAUGHTERED BY AN UNKNOWN ASSAILANT.

SHE ALSO INADVERTENTLY TRIGGERED SOMETHING THAT HAS NOW TAKEN POSSESSION OF HER BODY, TRANSFORMING HER INTO...

SHE-SPAWN



JESSICA IS STILL UNCLEAR HOW ANY OF THIS IS HAPPENING, BUT SHE IS CRYSTAL CLEAR ABOUT TWO THINGS: FIRST, HER FRIEND IS DEAD, AND SHE'S GOING TO FIND HER KILLER. *

... AND SECOND, ALL THIS IS SOMEHOW TIED TO AL SIMMONS.

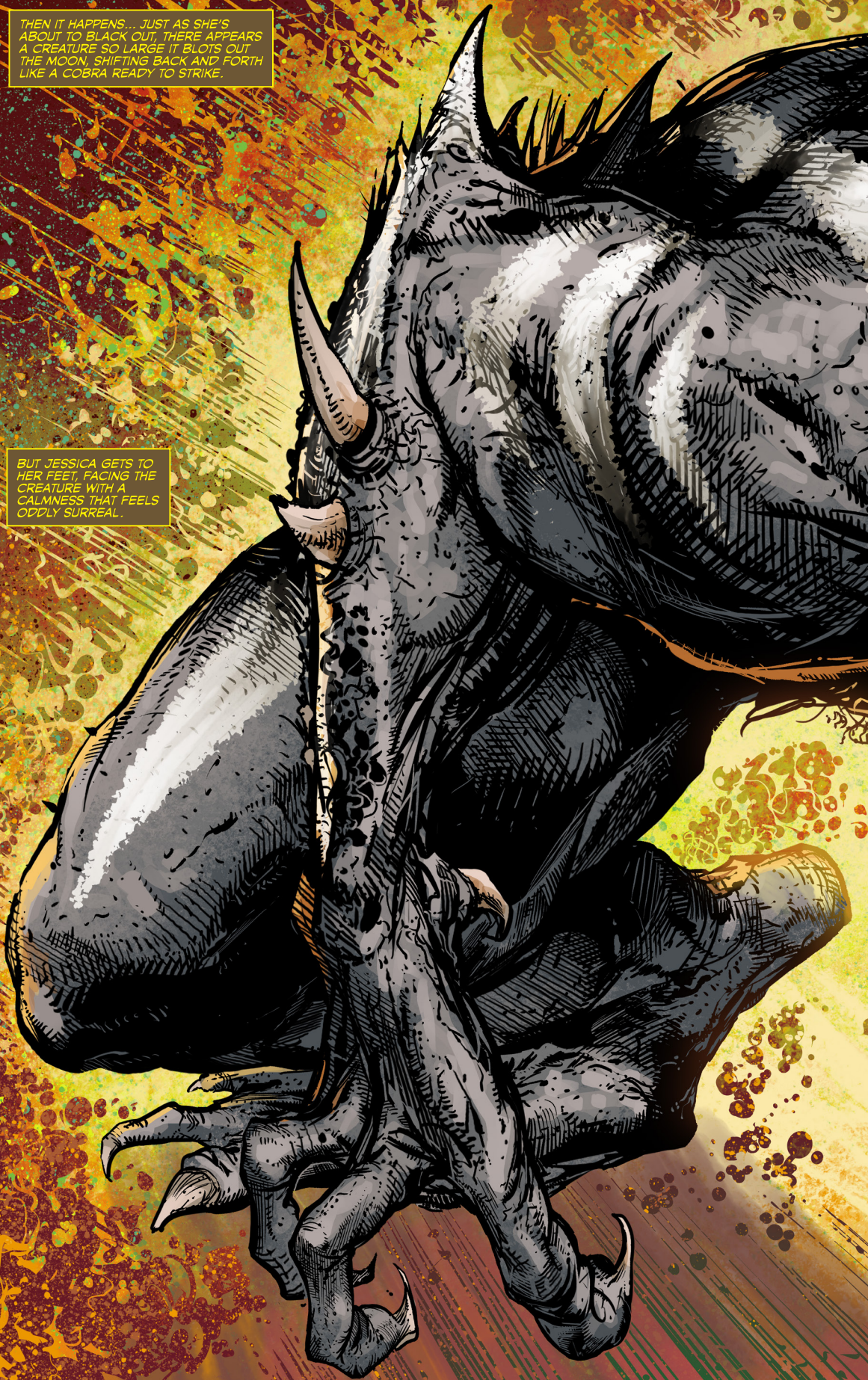
* Issue 300 - Todd


CONFUSED BY EVERYTHING ELSE, SHE BECOMES LOST IN THOUGHT AS HER SPEED CLIMBS HIGHER AND HIGHER, WHICH ISN'T SO WISE, GIVEN SHE'S RIDING A MYSTICAL BIKE SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE YET.



THEN IT HAPPENS... JUST AS SHE'S ABOUT TO BLACK OUT, THERE APPEARS A CREATURE SO LARGE IT BLOTS OUT THE MOON, SHIFTING BACK AND FORTH LIKE A COBRA READY TO STRIKE.

BUT JESSICA GETS TO HER FEET, FACING THE CREATURE WITH A CALMNESS THAT FEELS ODDLY SURREAL.





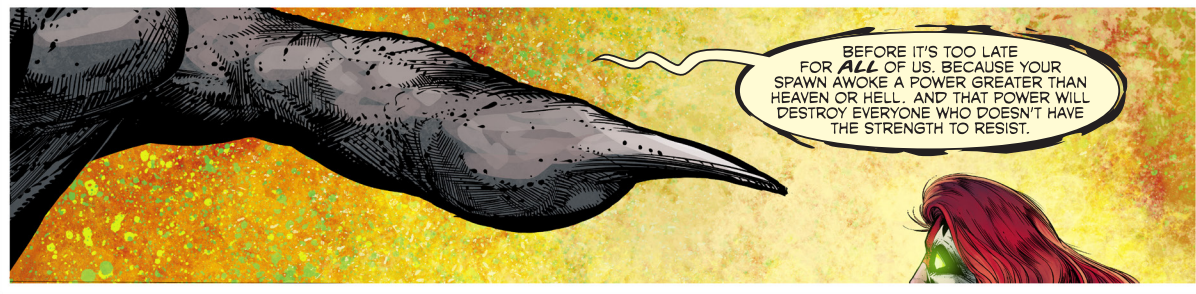
YOUR
POWERS--
THE ONES YOU STOLE--
THEY AREN'T YOURS.
THEY BELONG TO **HELL!**
THEY'RE

OURS!


THEY'RE
NOT MEANT FOR
YOUR KIND!



RENOUNCE THEM!



BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE FOR **ALL** OF US, BECAUSE YOUR SPAWN AWOKE A POWER GREATER THAN HEAVEN OR HELL. AND THAT POWER WILL DESTROY EVERYONE WHO DOESN'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO RESIST.



SUDDENLY, SHE'S PARALYZED, AS THE ABOMINATION CLOSES IN.

SHE SHUTS HER EYES, WHEN THE DEMON TOUCHES HER, SHE FEELS HER SOUL BLINK.



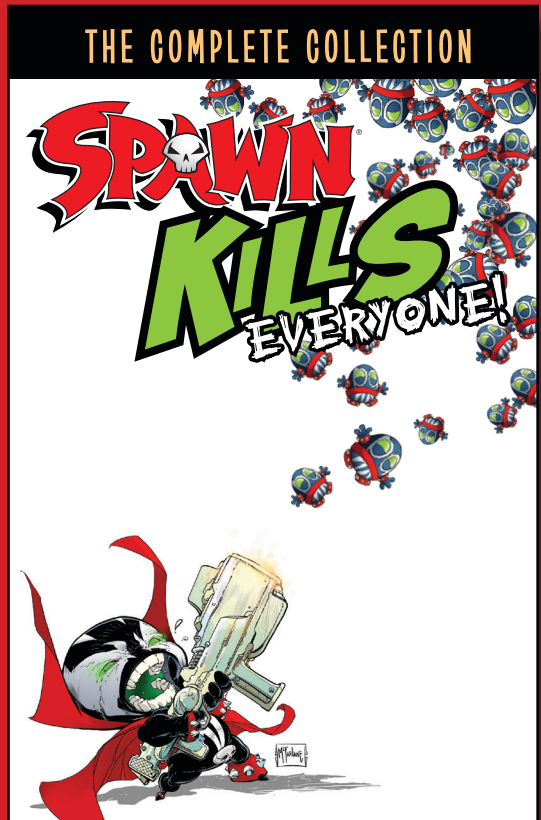
WHEN HER EYES OPEN, SHE FINDS HERSELF BLEEDING. BACK TO BEING JESSICA PRIEST AGAIN.



WAS IT A DREAM? AN HALLUCINATION? WHATEVER IT WAS, SHE KNOWS WHAT SHE NEEDS TO DO NEXT... SHE NEEDS TO FIND AL SIMMONS. NOW.



COLLECTED EDITIONS



IN STORES NOW!



ONLY FROM
IMAGECOMICS.COM

Image Comics © and its logos are registered trademarks of Image comics, Inc. All rights reserved

SPAWN 304

ALL NEW INTERIOR ART BY:

TODD
McFARLANE
&
JASON SHAWN
ALEXANDER



**HELL
HUNT**
PART 3

STILL ONLY
\$2.99

JANUARY 2020



ONLY FROM
IMAGECOMICS.COM

Image Comics © and its logos are registered trademarks of Image comics, Inc. All rights reserved