

DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT UNLEASHES

# SAVAGE TALES

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DYNAMITE ENTERTAINMENT UNLEASHES

# SAVAGE TALES



## VAMPIRELLA

*"Horrible People Doing Horrible Things to Horrible People"*

Scott Bryan Wilson - *Writer*

Mariano Benitez Chapo - *Artist*

Adrian Woolnough - *Colorist*

Taylor Esposito - *Letterer*



## ALLAN QUATERMAIN

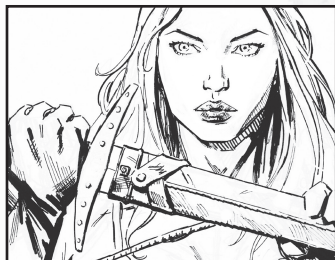
*"Missionaries of Madness"*

David Avallone - *Writer*

Will Rios - *Artist*

Dinei ribero - *Colorist*

Taylor Esposito - *Letterer*



## RED SONJA

*"The Executioner's Sword"*

Scott Bryan Wilson - *Writer*

Al Barrionuevo - *Artist*

Jordi Escuin Llorach - *Colorist*

Taylor Esposito - *Letterer*



## CAPTAIN GULLIVAR JONES

*"His War"*

David Avallone - *Writer*

Hamish Munro-Cook - *Artist*

Dinei Ribero - *Colorist*

Taylor Esposito - *Letterer*

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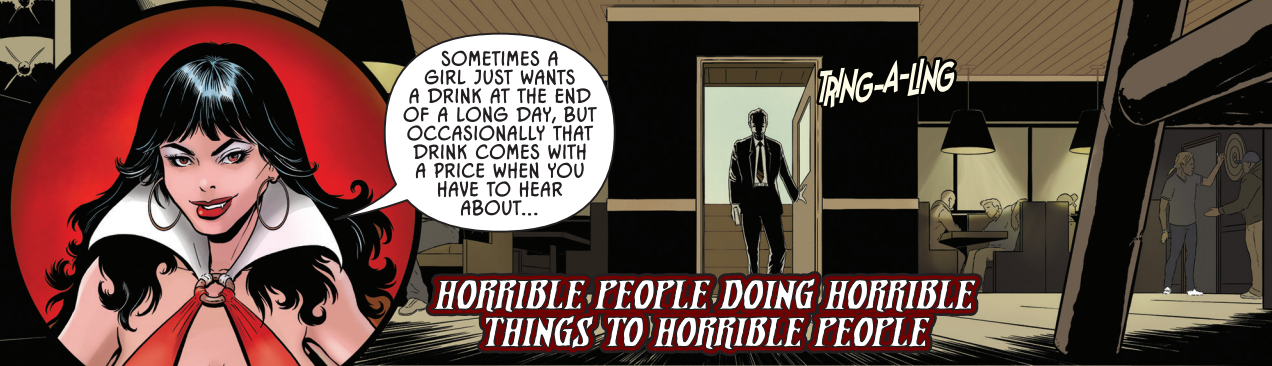
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SOMETIMES A GIRL JUST WANTS A DRINK AT THE END OF A LONG DAY, BUT OCCASIONALLY THAT DRINK COMES WITH A PRICE WHEN YOU HAVE TO HEAR ABOUT...

TING-A-LING

**HORRIBLE PEOPLE DOING HORRIBLE THINGS TO HORRIBLE PEOPLE**

2002

BLANTON'S, NEAT.

COMING RIGHT UP.

THUMP

WOW, FANCY.

HA!

I'M CELEBRATING.

ANY GOOD?

I'D HOPE SO! I WROTE IT.

AH! HENCE THE CELEBRATION.

THANK YOU.

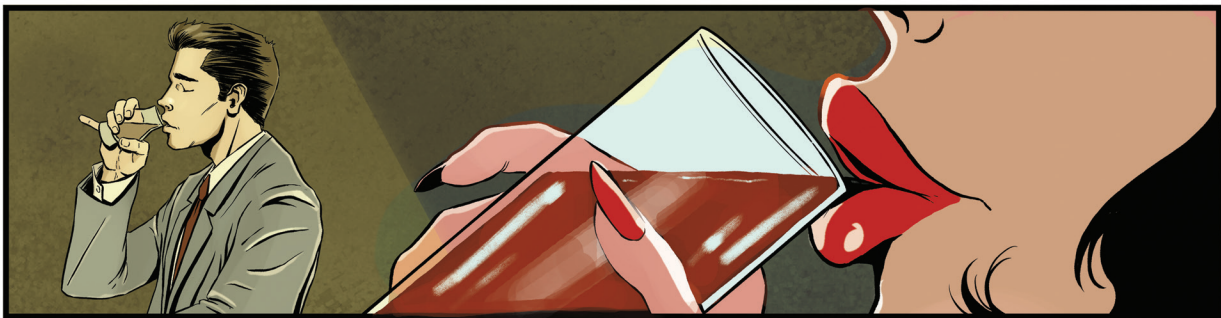
SHEILA'S THE BEST BARTENDER IN THE CITY.

WE'LL SEE.

CHEERS.

CHEERS!





HORRIBLE PEOPLE DOING HORRIBLE THINGS TO HORRIBLE PEOPLE. THAT'S A HECK OF A TITLE.

THANKS! IT ENCAPSULATES THE OVERALL THEME OF MY LIFE'S WORK, I'D SAY.

AND WHAT *IS* YOUR LIFE'S WORK?

TELLING THESE STORIES. LOOKING DEEP INTO THE DARKNESS OF HUMANITY'S ROTTEN, CANCEROUS SOUL.

SO IT'S NONFICTION?

NO, NO, NO.

IT'S FICTION, THROUGH AND THROUGH. BUT EVERYTHING IN IT IS ***BASED*** ON SOMETHING REAL.

OOOH, SOUNDS DIVINE. I PROMISE I'LL BUY A COPY, BUT I'D LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT SOME OF THIS DARKNESS RIGHT NOW.

HA! I DON'T KNOW. IT'S PRETTY ROUGH.

TRY ME.

I COULD TELL YOU STORIES OF SAVAGERY THAT WOULD HAVE YOU SCREAM, MAKE YOU WISH YOU COULD REMOVE YOUR BRAIN FROM YOUR HEAD SO YOU'D NEVER HAVE TO THINK OF THEM.

STORIES THAT WOULD ASSURE YOU WOULD NEVER GET A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP AGAIN.

STORIES SO VILE AND BRUTAL, CONTAINING ACTS OF VIOLENCE THAT ARE SO UNTHINKABLE YOU WOULD BEG ME TO TELL YOU THEY WEREN'T TRUE.

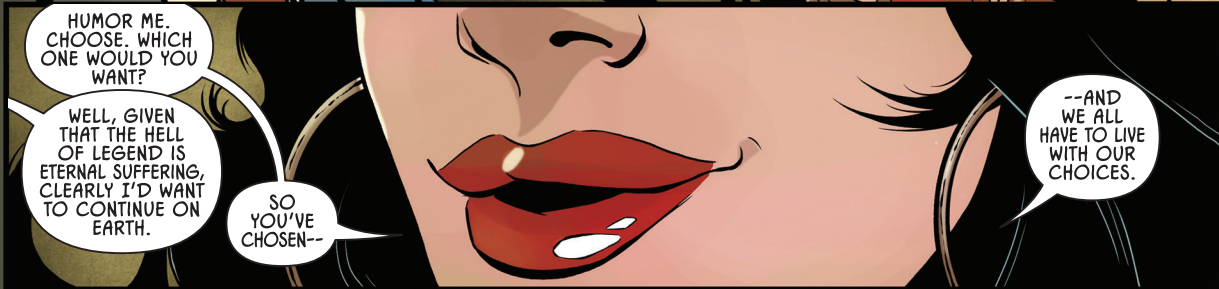
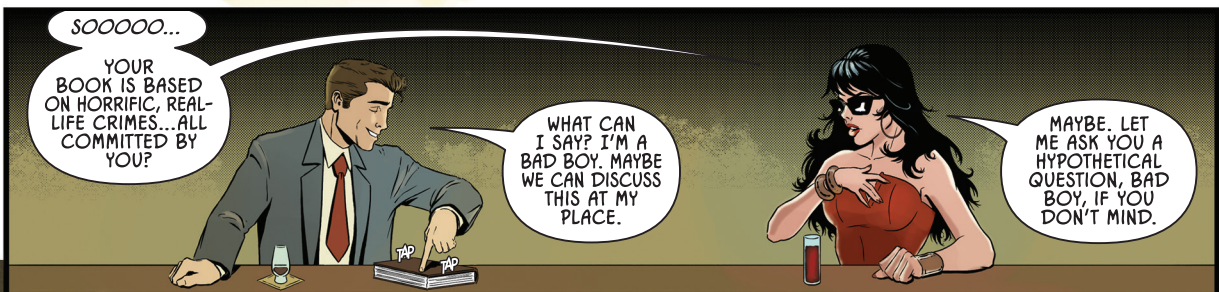
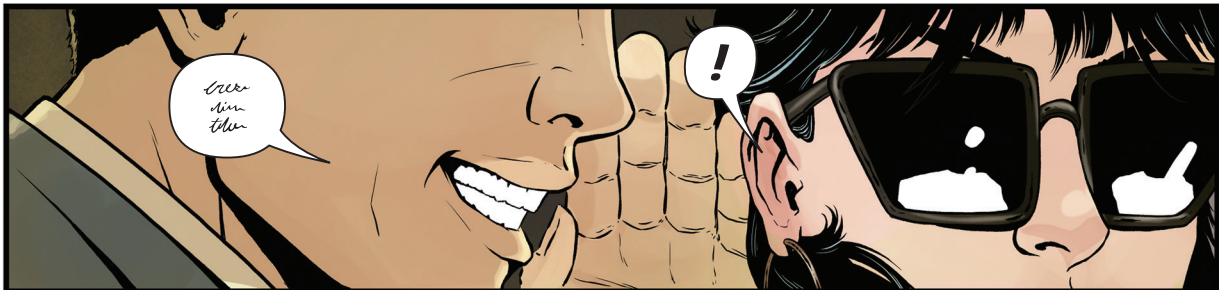
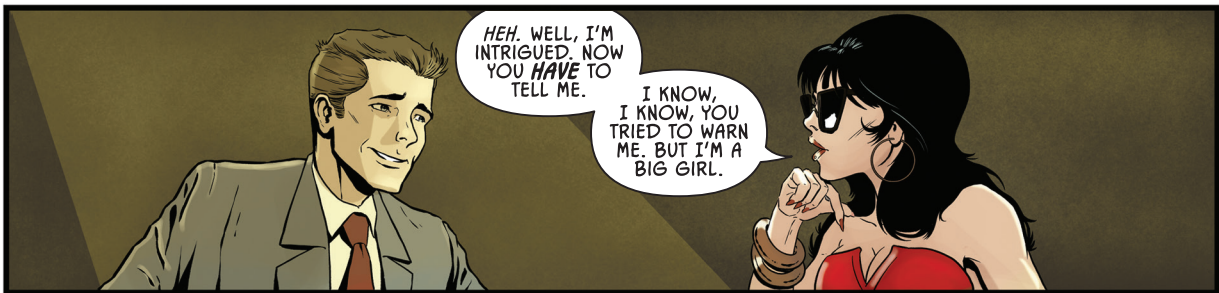
IT'S EASIER TO HANDLE IF YOU THINK IT'S MADE UP. IF YOU CALL IT ***FICTION***.

WHEN YOU KNOW IT'S REAL, IT HAUNTS YOU FOREVER.

THAT'S WHEN YOU LEARN THAT FOR MANY PEOPLE--

--HAVING A ***MORAL COMPASS*** IS AN UTTERLY FOREIGN AND INCOMPREHENSIBLE CONCEPT.









HELP!  
PLEASE!

HI.

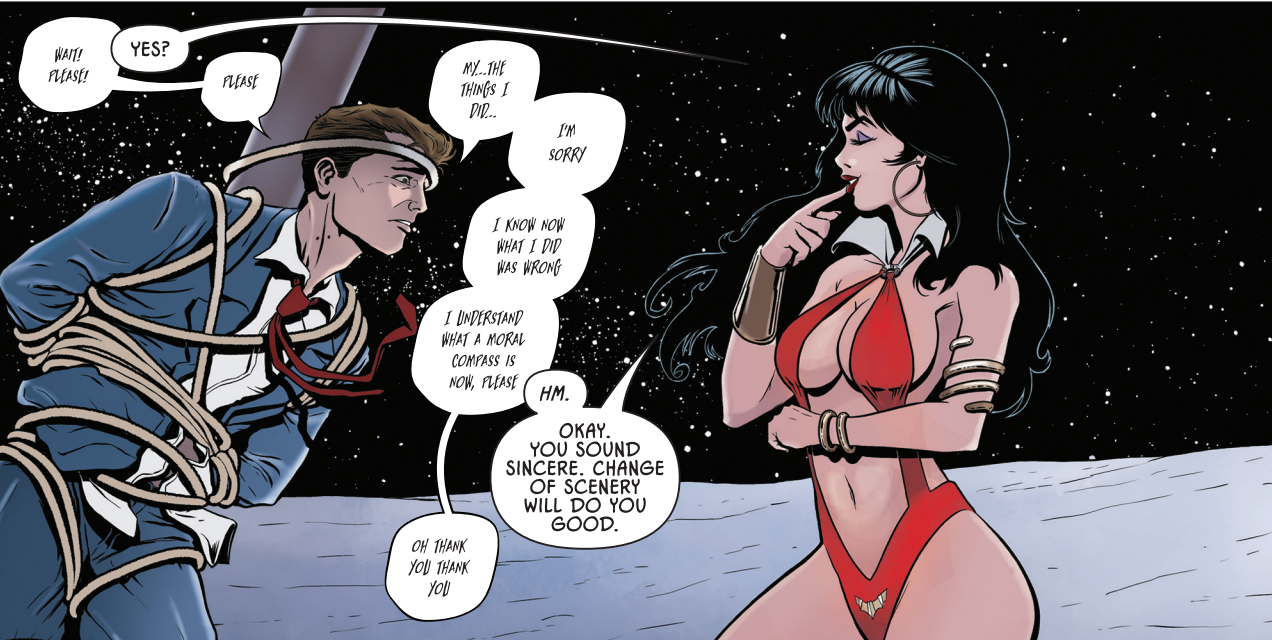
OH GOD  
PLEASE I  
PROMISE

EW. YOUR  
VOICE IS AWFUL.  
FROM ALL THE  
SCREAMING? YOU  
SHOULD HAVE A  
PEPPERMINT OR  
SOMETHING.

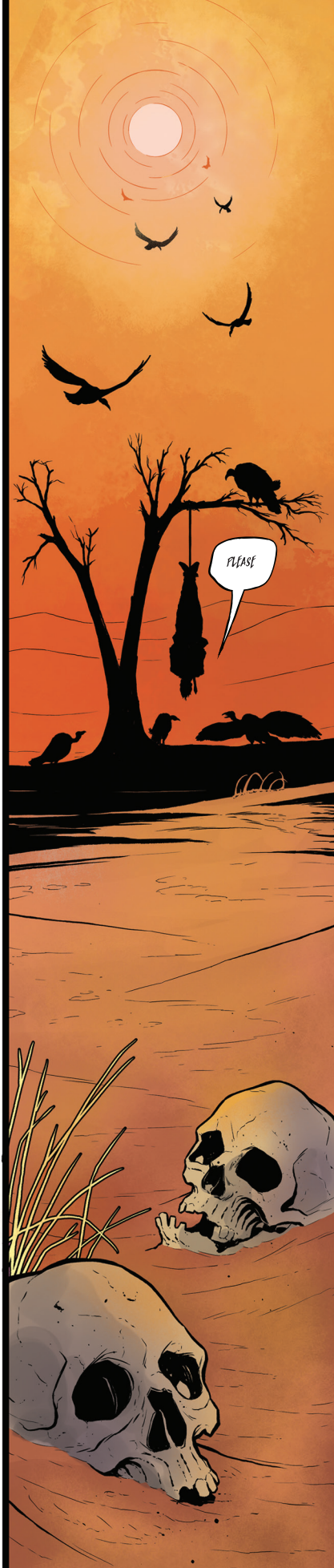
PLEASE

I DIDN'T  
BRING YOU  
ONE. I DON'T  
HAVE ANY  
POCKETS.

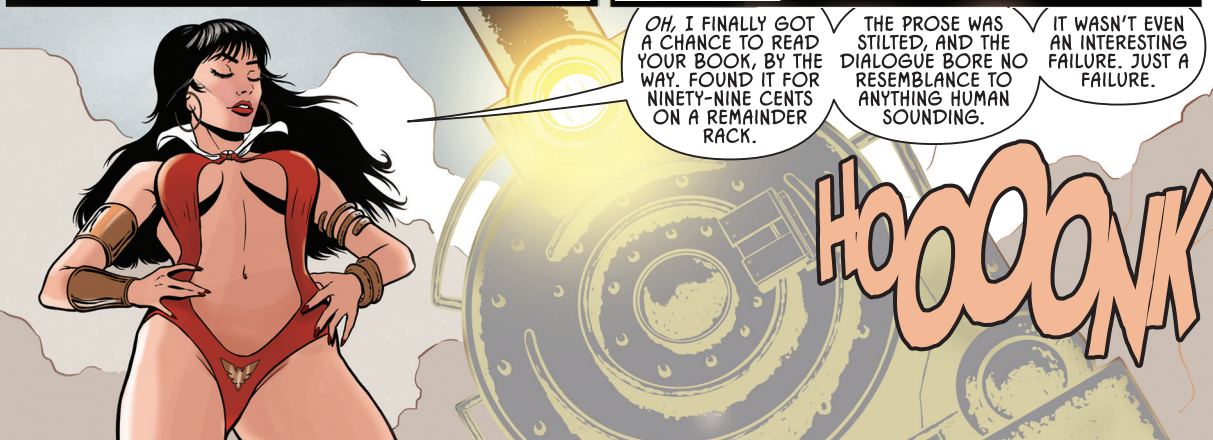
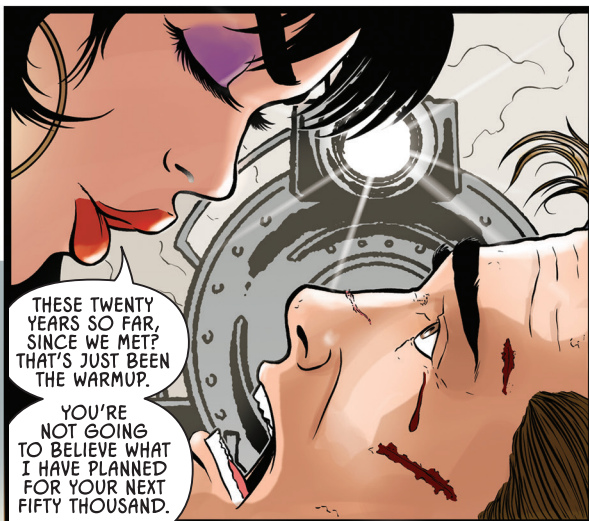
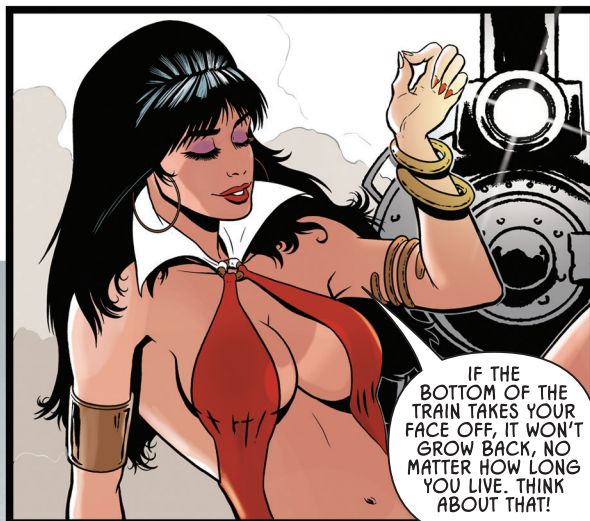




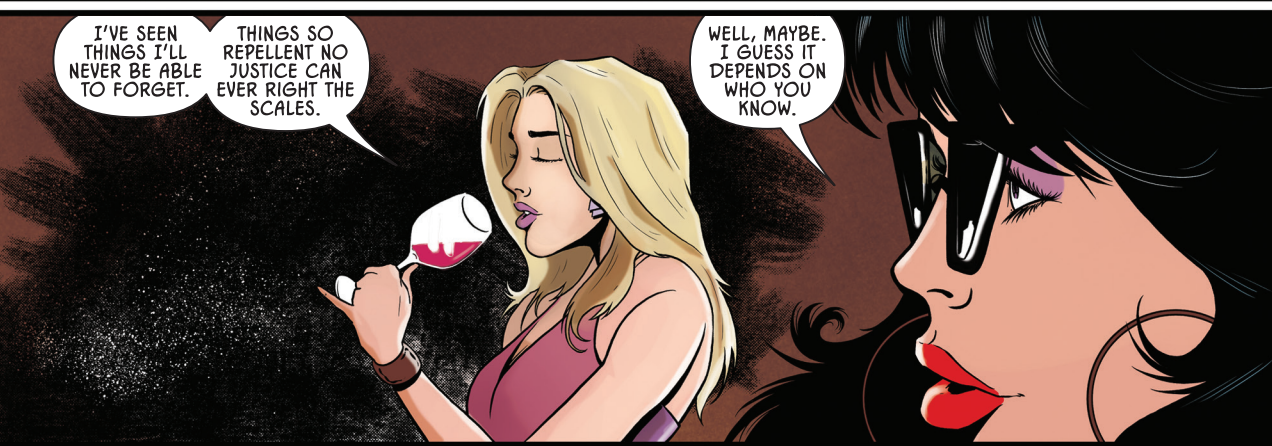
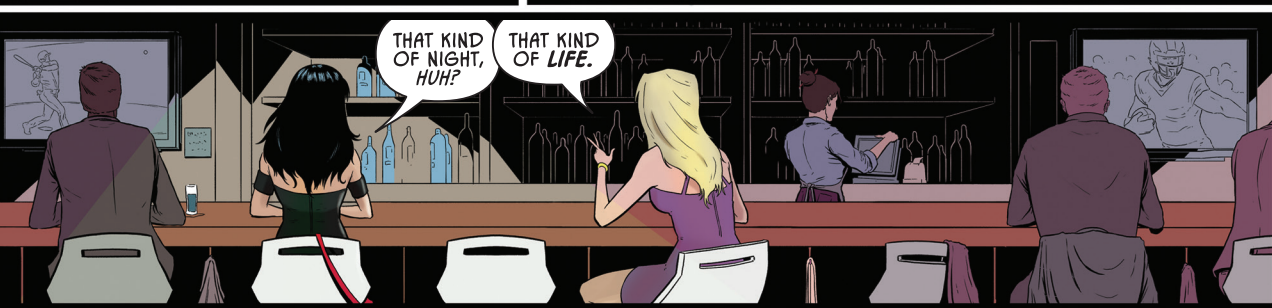














Asked for a tale...a **NEW** one...I recall an incident sometime late in 1883, north of Durban.

I confess events soon after these **ECLIPSED** this odd encounter, despite it's strangeness and mystery, and took up the whole of my **ATTENTIONS** for quite some time beyond.

I pray the reader's forgiveness that I can't supply an exact **DATE**.

As is often the case, I hadn't been in a room with a **CALENDAR** for many **MONTHS**.

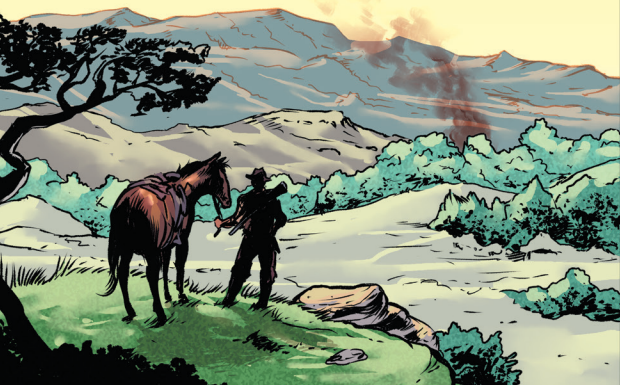
I had for some time been hearing concerning whispers...of a **MALEVOLENT** force unleashed in my **BELOVED COUNTRY**.

As I'm sure you well know, the entire continent has been subject to **MISSIONARIES** of all stripes. My own **FATHER** included, bless him.

**THESE** missionaries were something quite **NEW**, and quite **DANGEROUS**.

It seemed they'd made some **CONVERTS** among the **BOERS** and the **ENGLISH**.

The **ZULU** rejected them **ENTIRELY**.







They did not take  
KINDLY to being  
rejected.

# ALLAN QUATERMAIN AND THE MISSIONARIES OF MADNESS



These MONSTERS in  
the form of men called  
themselves SERVANTS  
OF THE GREAT OLD  
ONES.

It was cold comfort  
to know that even in  
this peaceful village,  
at least one of the  
"SERVANTS" met  
his end.



I have encountered  
many FAITHS in  
my time and travels.

Far too often is  
the CROSS  
accompanied by  
the LASH, the  
SWORD...the  
TORCH.



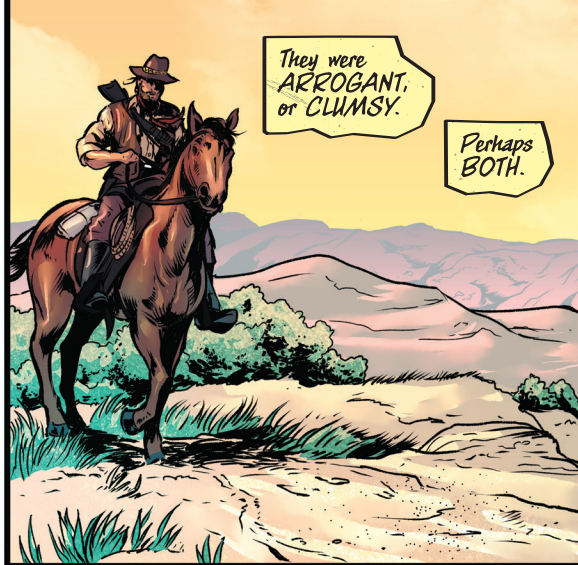
One man, ALONE,  
can't erase the stains  
of HISTORY.



But here...in  
THIS land...

I resolved to stop this new  
CRUSADE before it drew another  
drop of INNOCENT BLOOD.





They were  
**ARROGANT,**  
or **CLUMSY.**

Perhaps  
**BOTH.**



No attempt was made to  
hide their **PASSAGE.**



Perhaps I was  
arrogant and  
clumsy, as well.

I could have roused  
a **TROOP** of solid  
fellows to go with me.



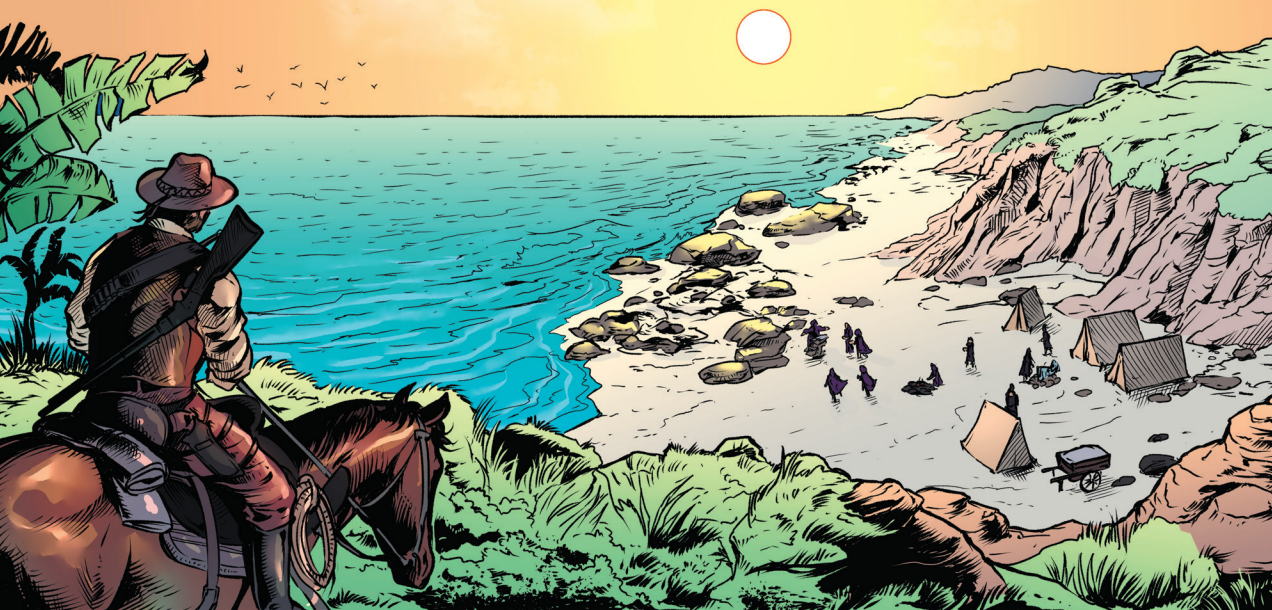
In my **RAGE**,  
the thought did  
not even cross  
my mind.

I am a **HUNTER**, and here was a thing that needed  
**KILLING.** The **BLOOD FEVER** was upon me.



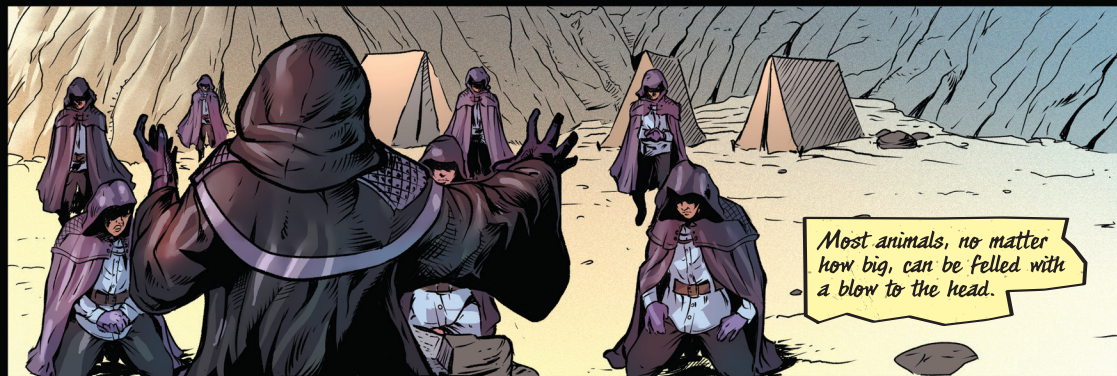
Perhaps it's **BEST** that not one of my  
dear friends or compatriots had to endure  
the...**EXPERIENCE** which followed.





I had no PLAN.  
No particular course  
of action, save  
VENGEANCE.

But even so...I  
judged it best to  
watch, and see what  
unfolded amongst  
the MURDEROUS  
MISSIONARIES.



Most animals, no matter  
how big, can be felled with  
a blow to the head.



And now...I  
believed I had  
identified the  
head.



THE  
MESSENGER!

SERVANTS  
OF THE GREAT  
OLD ONES!  
HEAR ME!

DIE  
BOOD-  
SKAPPER  
PRAAT!





TODAY...WE BROUGHT THE WRATH OF THE GREAT OLD ONES DOWN UPON THE UNBELIEVING HEATHEN!

SUCH IS OUR WAY.



SUCH IS THE WAY OF THE FUTURE! THE WAY OF FREEDOM!

FREEDOM FROM EUROPEAN MASTERS! FREEDOM FROM THE CHURCH OF THE ABSENTEE GOD!

FREEDOM TO RULE AS WE WERE MEANT TO RULE!



OUR GODS ARE NOT MERE MYTHS... UNSEEN FOR MILLENNIA!

THEY ARE HERE! READY TO LEAD YOU, THE FAITHFUL, AS WE SPREAD THE WORD AND PREPARE THE WORLD FOR THEIR RETURN!



NAFL'FHTAGN, THRODOG CTHULHU! YMG' MGAH'N'GHFT L' YMG' GOF'NN! NAFL'FHTAGN!



KRAK





C'U  
AH'W'NAFH  
AHNYTH--

THUCK



NO!

THE  
MESSENGER!

HY WORD  
VERMOOR!

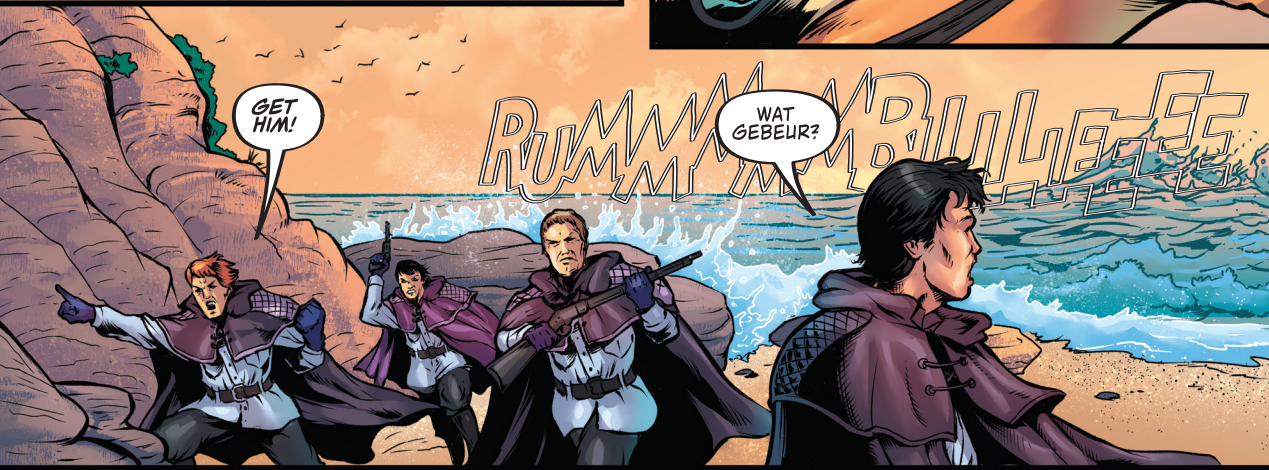
THE SHOT  
CAME FROM  
UP THERE!



A man of greater  
intelligence than I would  
have run for his horse.

I was wondering how many  
I could FELL before they  
climbed my little hill and  
tore me to RIBBONS.

KA-GHAK



GET  
HIM!

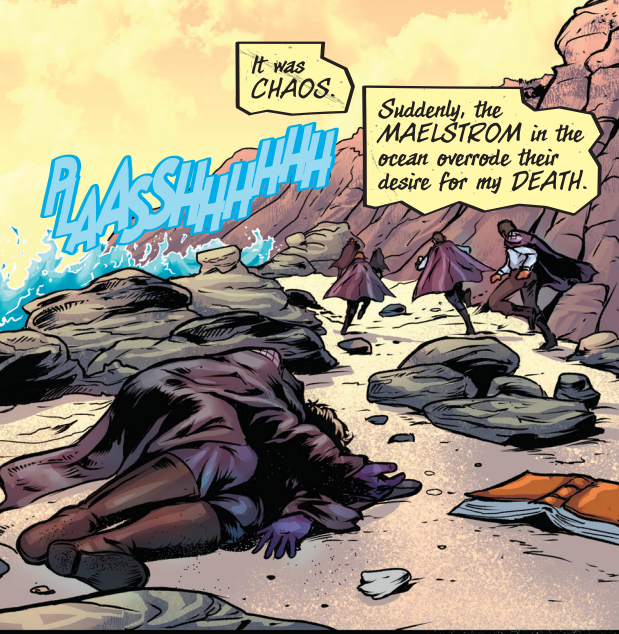
WAT  
GEBEUR?

RUMMMMM BULLLEEE



GUNGGE





It was  
CHAOS.

Suddenly, the  
MAELSTROM in the  
ocean overrode their  
desire for my DEATH.



Again, one **MUST**  
question whether my  
brain functions quite  
as well as that of  
**OTHER** men.


For I stood  
**TRANSFIXED**.  
What on **EARTH**  
could possibly be  
happening?




GOOD.  
LORD.

I didn't bother aiming the  
Winchester, or going for  
my elephant gun.



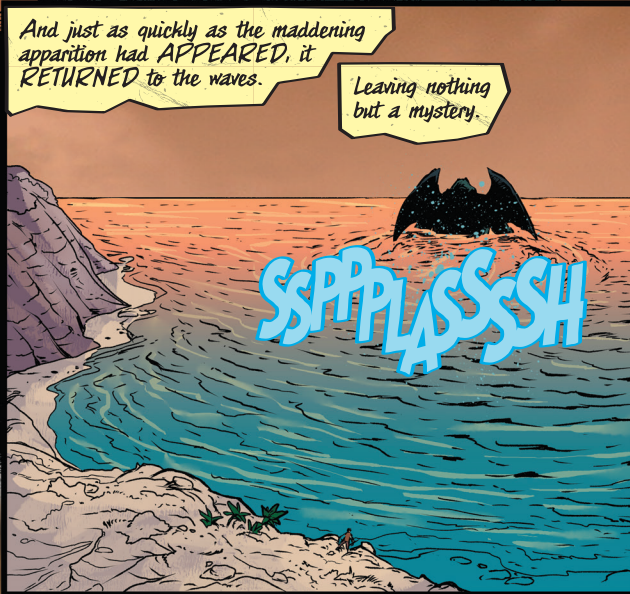


I know a  
GOD when  
I see one.



You can't kill a  
god with a GUN.

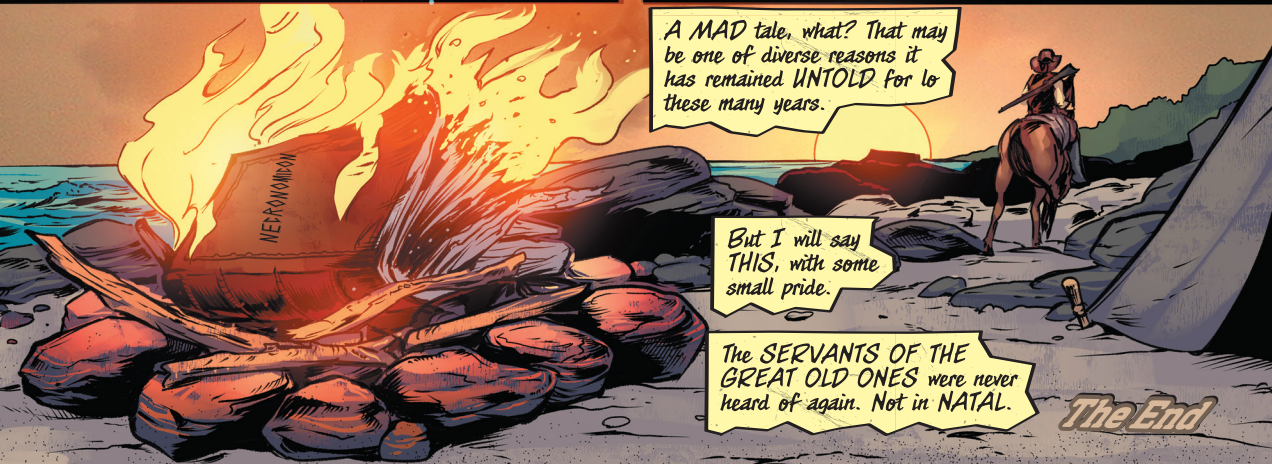
ANY gun.



And just as quickly as the maddening  
apparition had APPEARED, it  
RETURNED to the waves.

Leaving nothing  
but a mystery.

SSPLASSSH



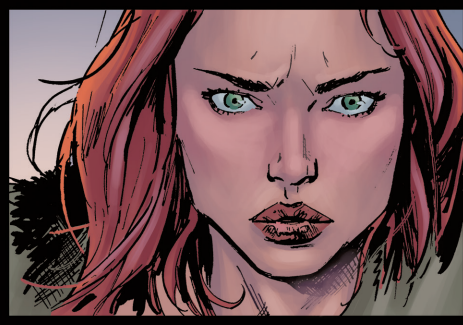
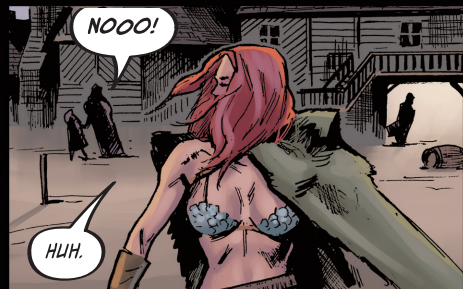
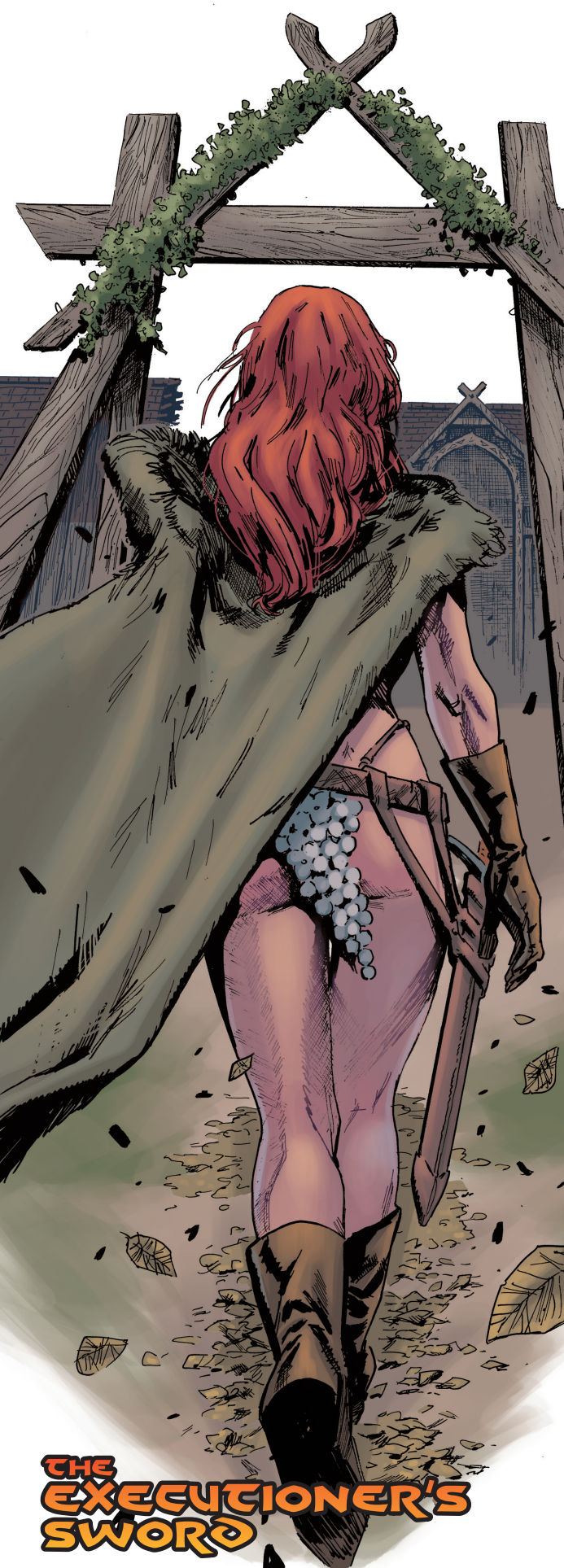
A MAD tale, what? That may  
be one of diverse reasons it  
has remained UNTOLD for lo  
these many years.

But I will say  
THIS, with some  
small pride.

The SERVANTS OF THE  
GREAT OLD ONES were never  
heard of again. Not in NATAL.

*The End*





**THE  
EXECUTIONER'S  
SWORD**



YAAAAHHH!!

WHISH



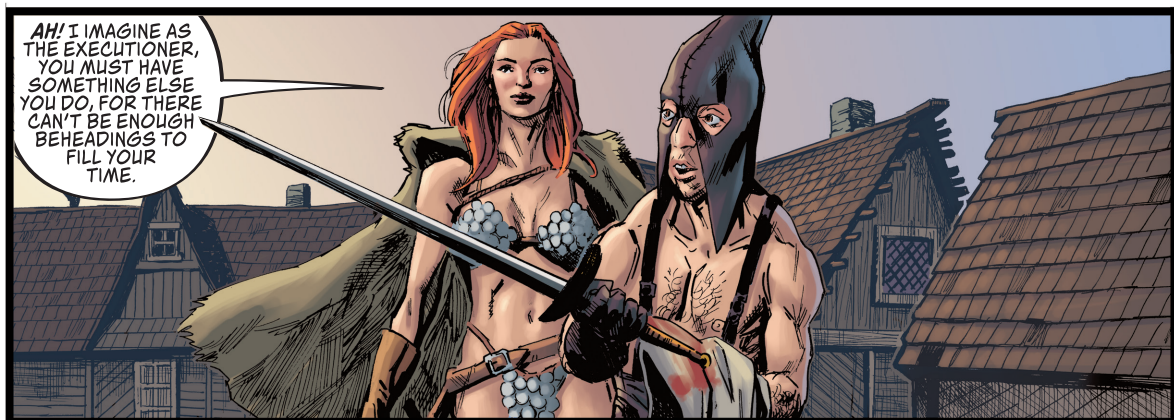




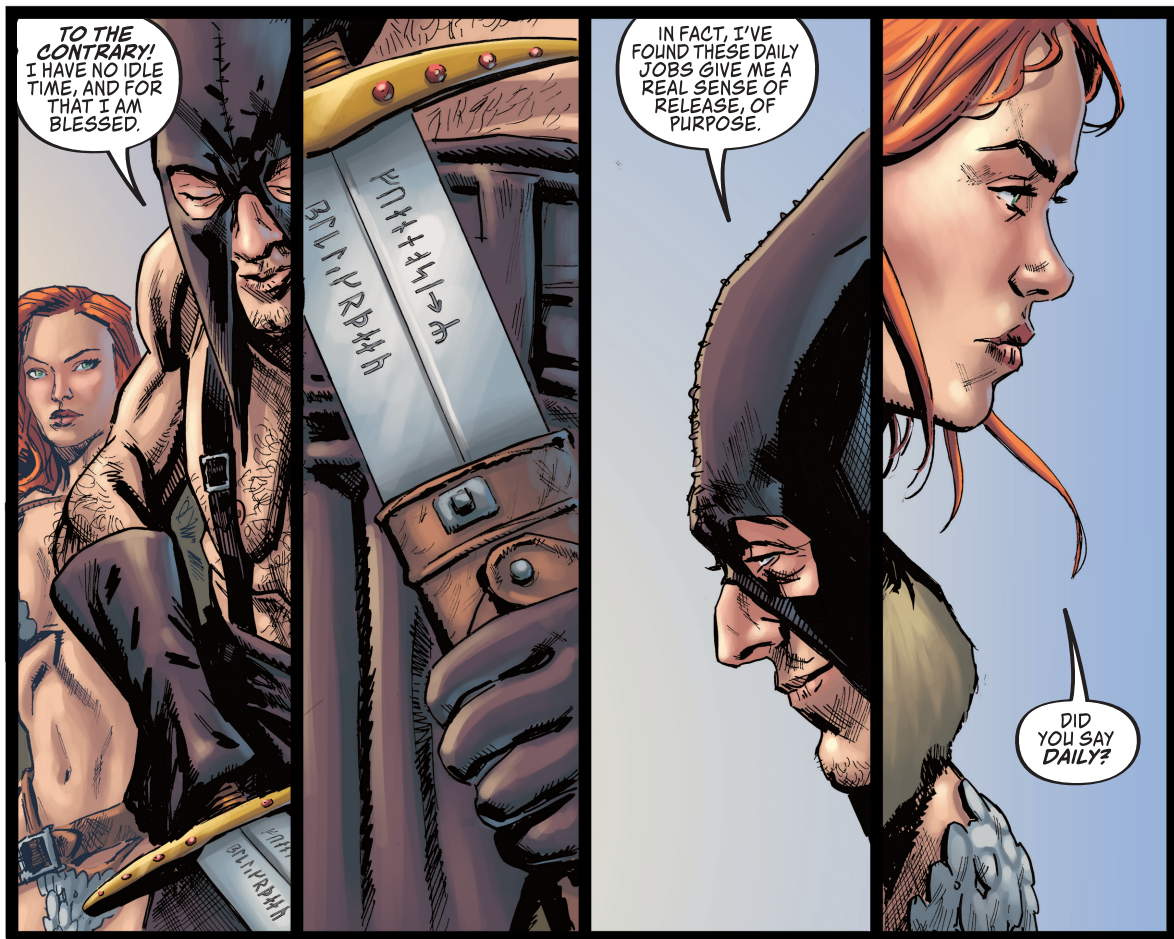
THAT'S ONE WAY TO BEGIN ONE'S DAY.

AYE. I'VE MET THE SMITH WHO HATES THE SOUND OF METAL ON METAL, THE BAKER WHO CAN'T STAND THE SMELL OF BREAD, THE SEASICK MARINER.

IT'S A LUCKY THING TO FIND WORK ONE TRULY ENJOYS.



AH! I IMAGINE AS THE EXECUTIONER, YOU MUST HAVE SOMETHING ELSE YOU DO, FOR THERE CAN'T BE ENOUGH BEHEADINGS TO FILL YOUR TIME.



TO THE CONTRARY! I HAVE NO IDLE TIME, AND FOR THAT I AM BLESSED.

IN FACT, I'VE FOUND THESE DAILY JOBS GIVE ME A REAL SENSE OF RELEASE, OF PURPOSE.

DID YOU SAY DAILY?





AYE, CORRECT. AT LEAST ONCE A DAY.

IT ALL DEPENDS ON THE JUDGMENTS THAT MUST BE RENDERED.



"I HAVE SERVED JUSTICE ON EVERY PRISONER IN OUR STOCKADE.



"IT NOW SITS EMPTY AND OUR JAILER IS THE ONE WHO HAS TO FIND WAYS TO FILL THE HOURS IN HIS DAYS!



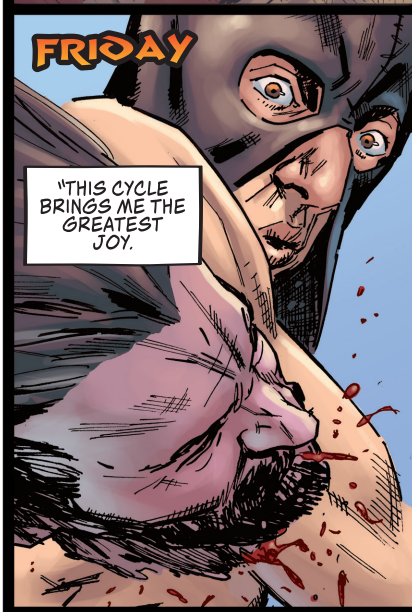
"ALAS, IT'S BECOMING MORE DIFFICULT TO FIND A CRIMINAL EACH DAY.



"FOR MY SWORD IS HUNGRY, AND MUST BE FED.



"SOMETIMES IT MUST BE FED MORE THAN ONCE A DAY.



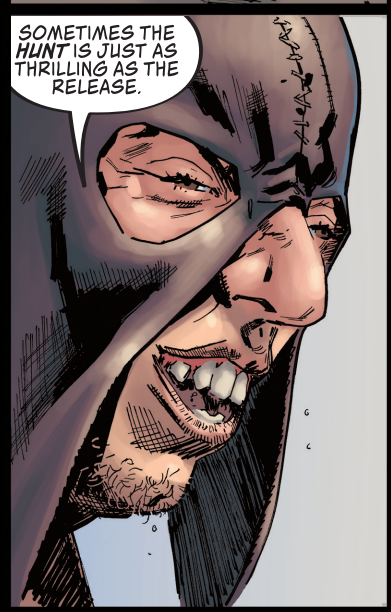
FRIDAY

"THIS CYCLE BRINGS ME THE GREATEST JOY.



SATURDAY

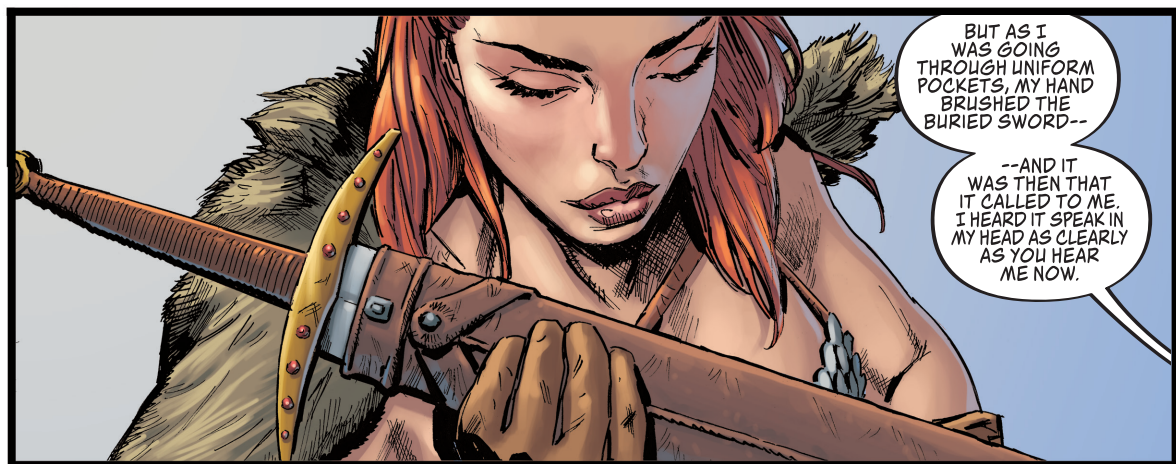
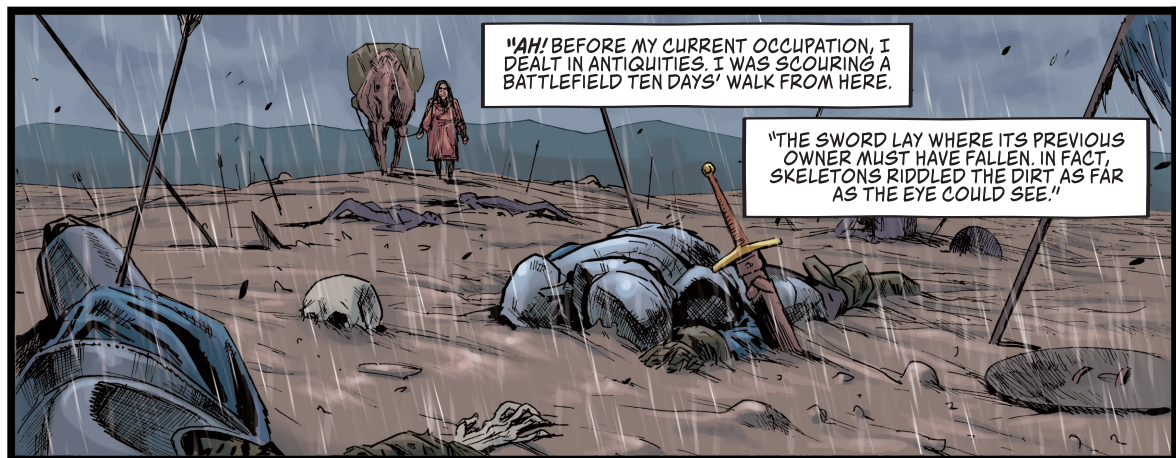
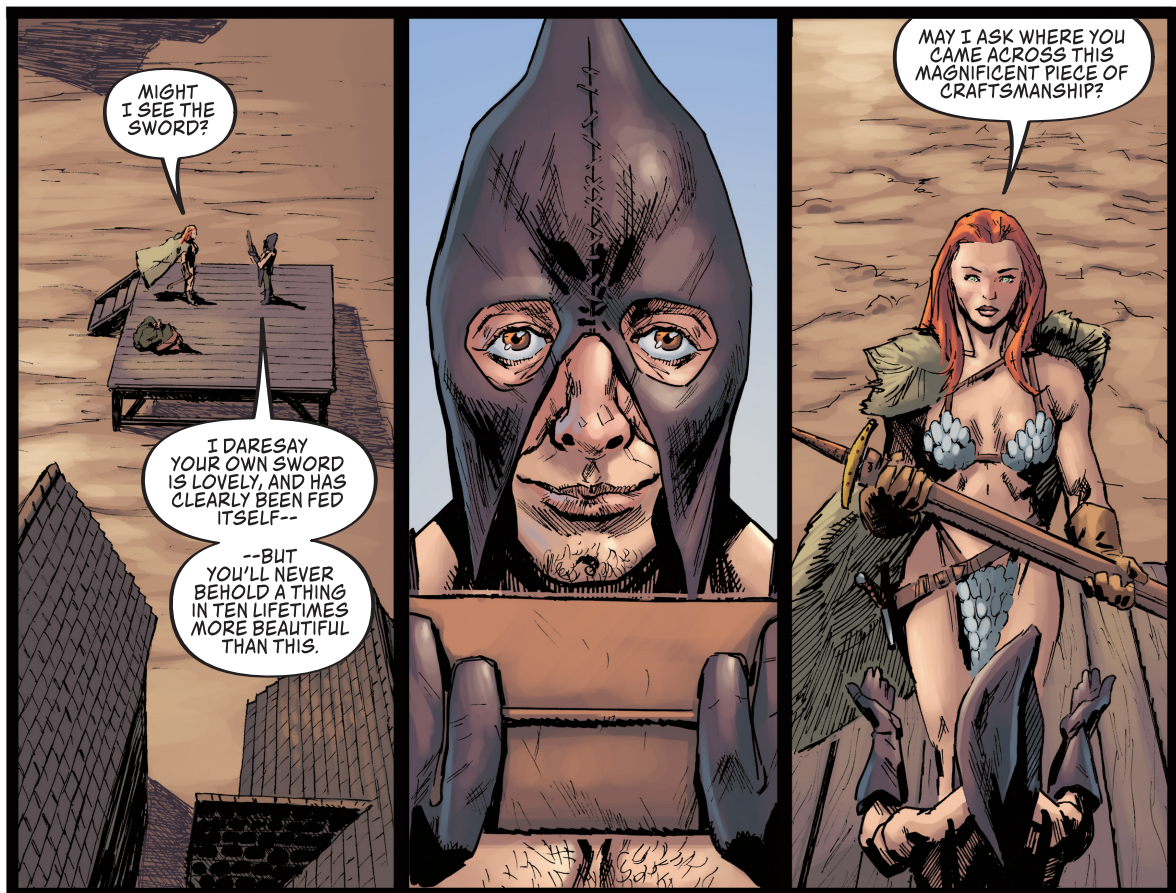
"THE QUIVER OF ANTICIPATION, THE TINGLING RIGHT BEFORE THE FINAL STRIKE.



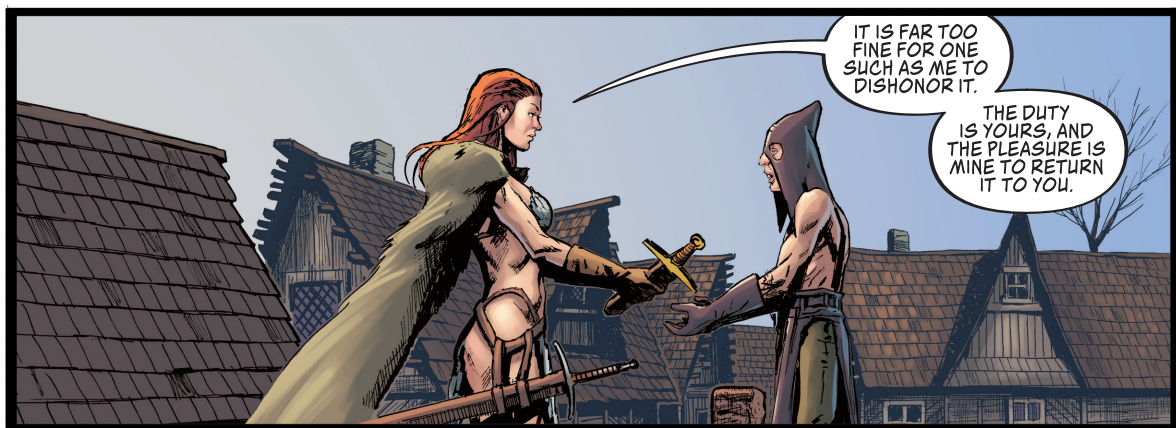
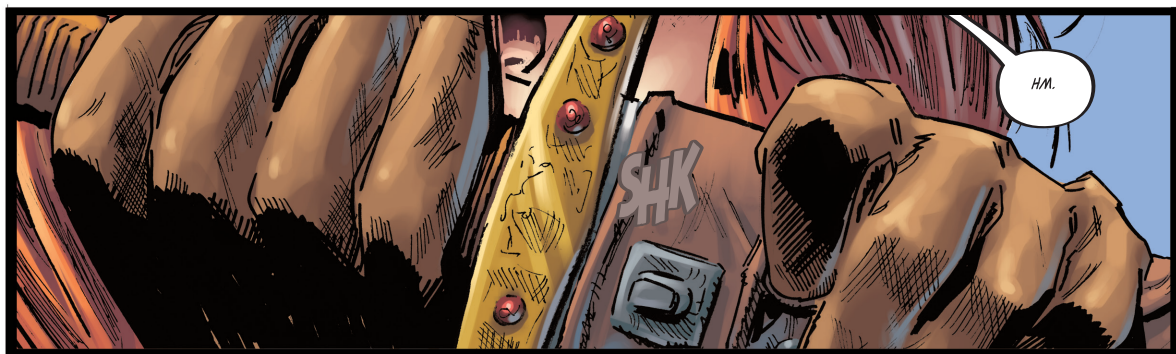
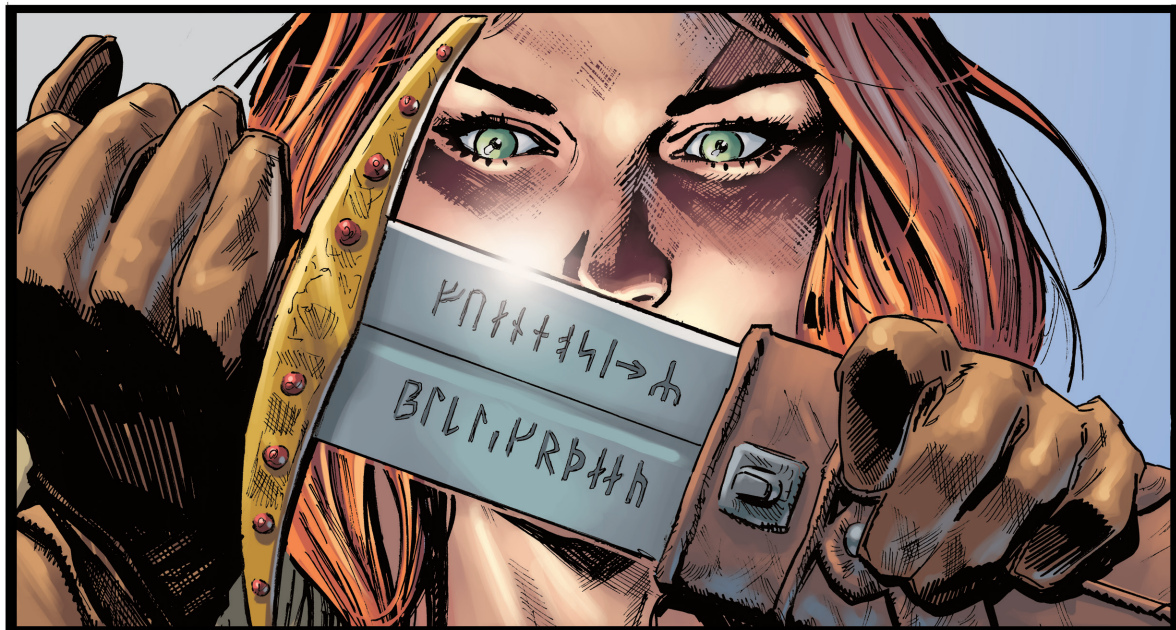
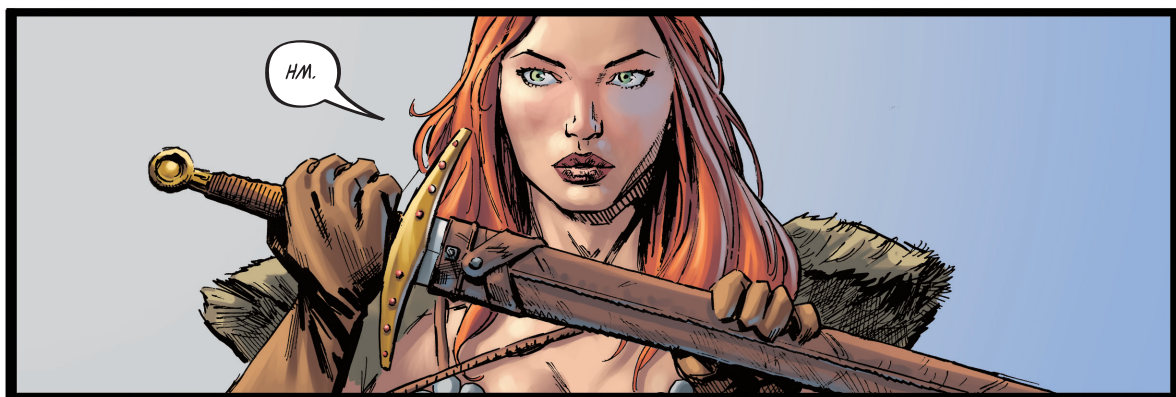
SOMETIMES THE HUNT IS JUST AS THRILLING AS THE RELEASE.

"THEREFORE, I MUST GO OUT MYSELF AND FIND OFFENSES THAT MUST BE PUNISHED."

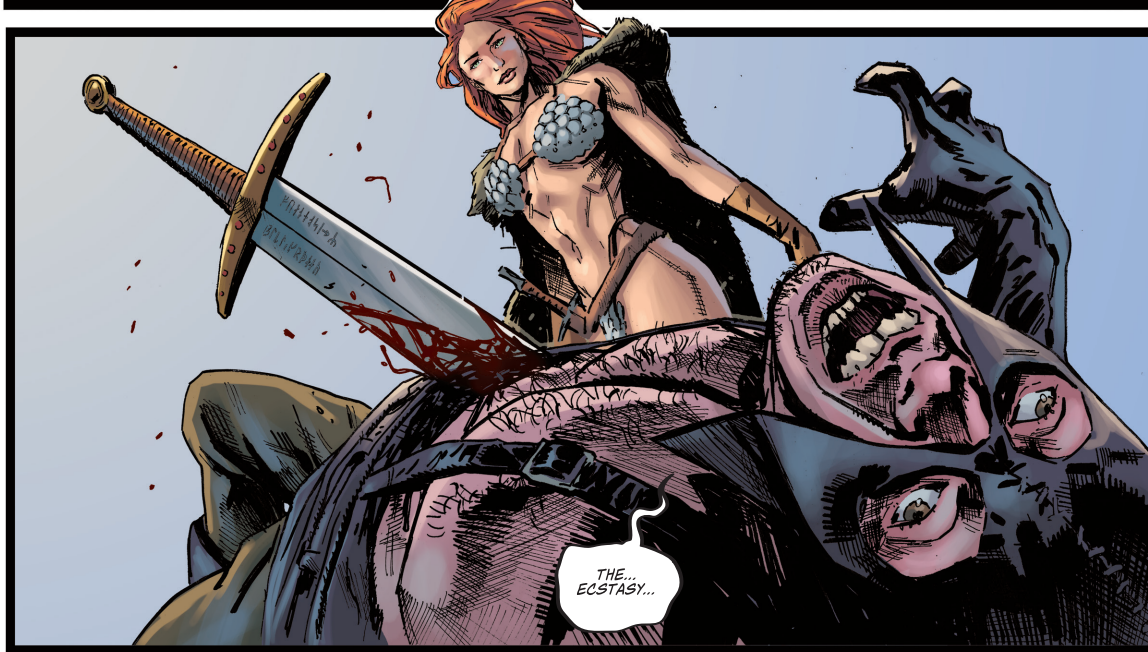














IT'S NOT  
YOUR FAULT,  
NOT REALLY.

YOU HAD  
THE DREADFUL  
LUCK TO FIND AN  
ANCIENT SWORD  
WITH AN ANCIENT  
CURSE ON IT.

METHINKS  
THE SWORD  
WAS CURSED AS  
IT WAS FORGED--IT  
WAS CRAFTED TO KILL  
SOMEONE SPECIFIC,  
BUT HAD TO KEEP  
KILLING UNTIL IT  
GOT REVENGE.

BUT WHOEVER IT  
WAS CREATED TO KILL  
NEVER CROSSED ITS  
BLOODY PATH.

THAT SWORD  
WILL KEEP KILLING  
UNTIL THE END OF  
TIME.

WHICH IS WHY IT HAS TO  
REMAIN INSIDE OF YOU,  
BURIED DEEP BELOW  
THE EARTH, WHERE NO  
ONE WILL HAPPEN  
UPON IT.

PROVIDENTIAL  
FOR ME I DIDN'T  
UNSHEATH IT.

THE  
KILLINGS  
CAN STOP NOW,  
AND YOU CAN  
FINALLY BE AT  
REST, TOO.

FOR THE  
CURSE UPON  
THE SWORD  
WAS A CURSE  
UPON YOU, AS  
WELL.

YOU KILLED  
ALMOST AN  
ENTIRE VILLAGE.  
YOU CAN REST  
NOW...

...AND I  
WILL GO IN  
PEACE.

END





















CAPTAIN JONES?



MEN ARE ALL SET, SIR.

BUT I'D SURE BE OBLIGED IF YOU'D JOIN US BACK IN THE TRENCH, CAP'N.

OF COURSE, SERGEANT.



BEGGIN' THE CAPTAIN'S *PARDON*, SIR...WHAT WERE YOU LOOKING FOR OUT THERE?



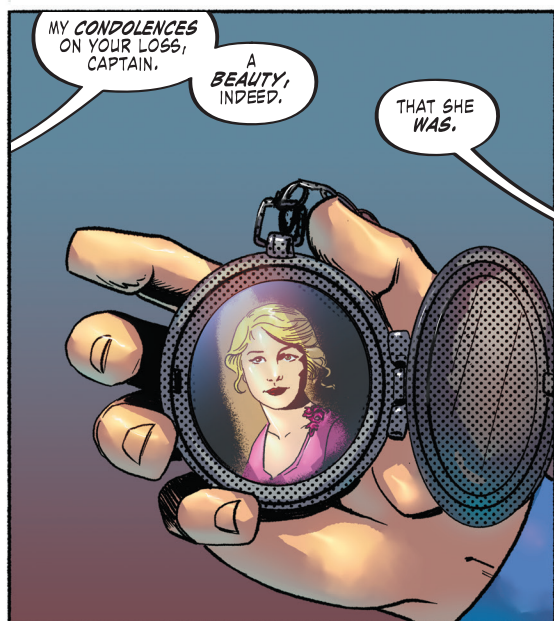
JUST LOOKING UP AT THE STARS.

LOOKING FOR *MARS*, ACTUALLY.













HELLO, OLD  
FRIEND.

LONG  
TIME, NO  
*SEE...*

THE BEGINNING?





## DON'T MISS

Following the explosive conclusion to Vampirella/Dracula: Unholy comes the next chapter in Christopher Priest's Vampirella saga! Wanted for murder, and with every demon, shaman, vampire, whack-job zealot, reporter, and law enforcement officer on Earth hunting for her, Vampirella has taken refuge in an undisclosed location where she questions why she came to our world in the first place.

## WRITER JOHNSON, PHILLIP KENNEDY JOHNSON, TEASES THE NEW JAMES BOND SERIES!

**What do you think makes James Bond such a timeless character and so compelling to tackle as a writer?**

*Bond is one of the most iconic "power fantasy" characters in fiction: the unflappable, unkillable special agent who's equal parts relentlessness and vanity, the agent who draws every eye in the room, the eyes of his allies and enemies alike. I've written my share of heroes, tough guys, hardened soldiers, etc., but I've never written anyone like Bond, whose inherent coolness and sense of style are even more integral to his character than his skills and physicality. I think that contrast is what makes him so distinctive as a character, and what makes him the icon he is.*

**This new series features a handful of new characters in the orbit of Bond, including the mysterious Gwendolyn Gann. Can you describe for readers the relationships these characters have with 007 and what has their paths crossing again?**

*so distinctive as a character, and what makes him the icon he is. This new series features a handful of new characters in the orbit of Bond, including the mysterious Gwendolyn Gann. Can you describe for readers the relationships these characters have with 007 and what has their paths crossing again? Gwen Gann represents a new kind of "Bond Girl" for the franchise: formerly a double-0, an agent as cool and bad-ass as Bond himself, with a history at MI6 and to whom Bond owes a great deal. A lot of her relationship with Bond will be shown in flashback, and through their relationship we'll see Bond's origins at MI6, some of the reasons he is the way he is, and how Gwen Gann's influence made him better at his job than he might have been. I'm really excited for readers to meet her.*

**Can readers expect to see any other classic characters or hallmarks of the series like the cars and gadgets? How about any new ingredients being added?**

*It's not a Bond story without cars and tech. I've had to educate myself about a lot of that to prepare to tell this story, the tech side in particular. There's some pretty astonishing military tech being explored and used in the real world these days, and anyone who writes a modern Bond story has to be aware of those things so the stories are always just a half-step ahead.*

**You have a military background. Are those experiences and insights informing some of your take on James Bond, despite the differing specialties and distance across oceans?**

*Bond did have a military background before his time at MI6, and I'll try to make that feel legit in the story. But without revealing any spoilers, I can say that my military experience has had a bigger impact on the story's villains than on Bond himself. We're trying to tell a story that matters, and I want to see how a character like James Bond operates in the world we currently find ourselves in.*

*One piece of the Bond character that is sometimes missing is the spycraft element. He's always the "special agent," but more often than not, everyone knows his real name and he makes the most noise possible as he accomplishes the mission. I thought it would be fun to see Bond flex his spy muscles a bit in this one, and that's what readers will get to see.*

**How excited are you to see your scripts brought to life by artist Marco Finnegan, and how is it working with the rest of the creative team?**

*I'm super excited to tell this story with Marco! The first thing I noticed about his work was how versatile he is, how different his style became for every chapter... some of the pages looked like they'd been drawn by completely different artists, but they always fit the mood of the story perfectly. That sensitivity to the story is something any collaborator loves to see. I think Marco's going to do big things, and I'm excited that we get to be a part of that with James Bond —007.*



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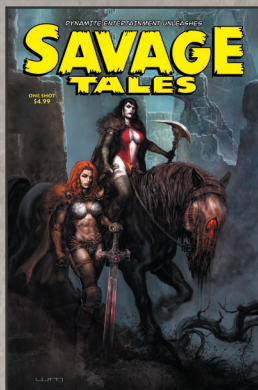




# COVER GALLERY



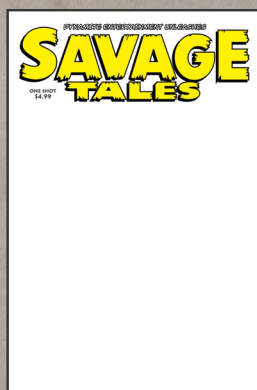
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ART BY  
**ARTHUR SUYDAM**



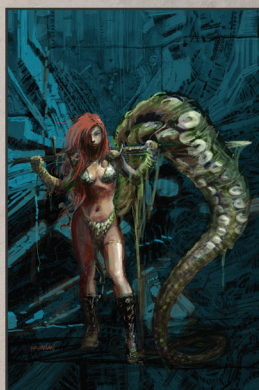
**COVER B**  
ART BY  
**LIAM SHARP**



**COVER C**  
ART BY  
**RAFAEL KAYANAN**



**COVER D**  
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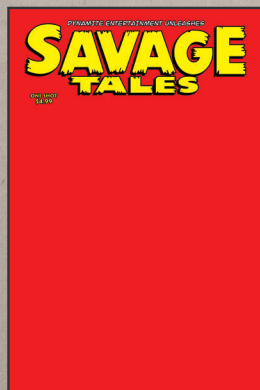
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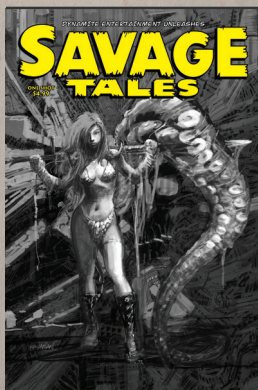
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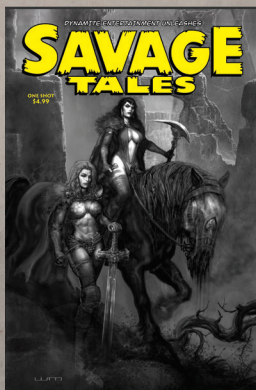
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**COVER H**  
**FOC BONUS**  
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**COVER J**  
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