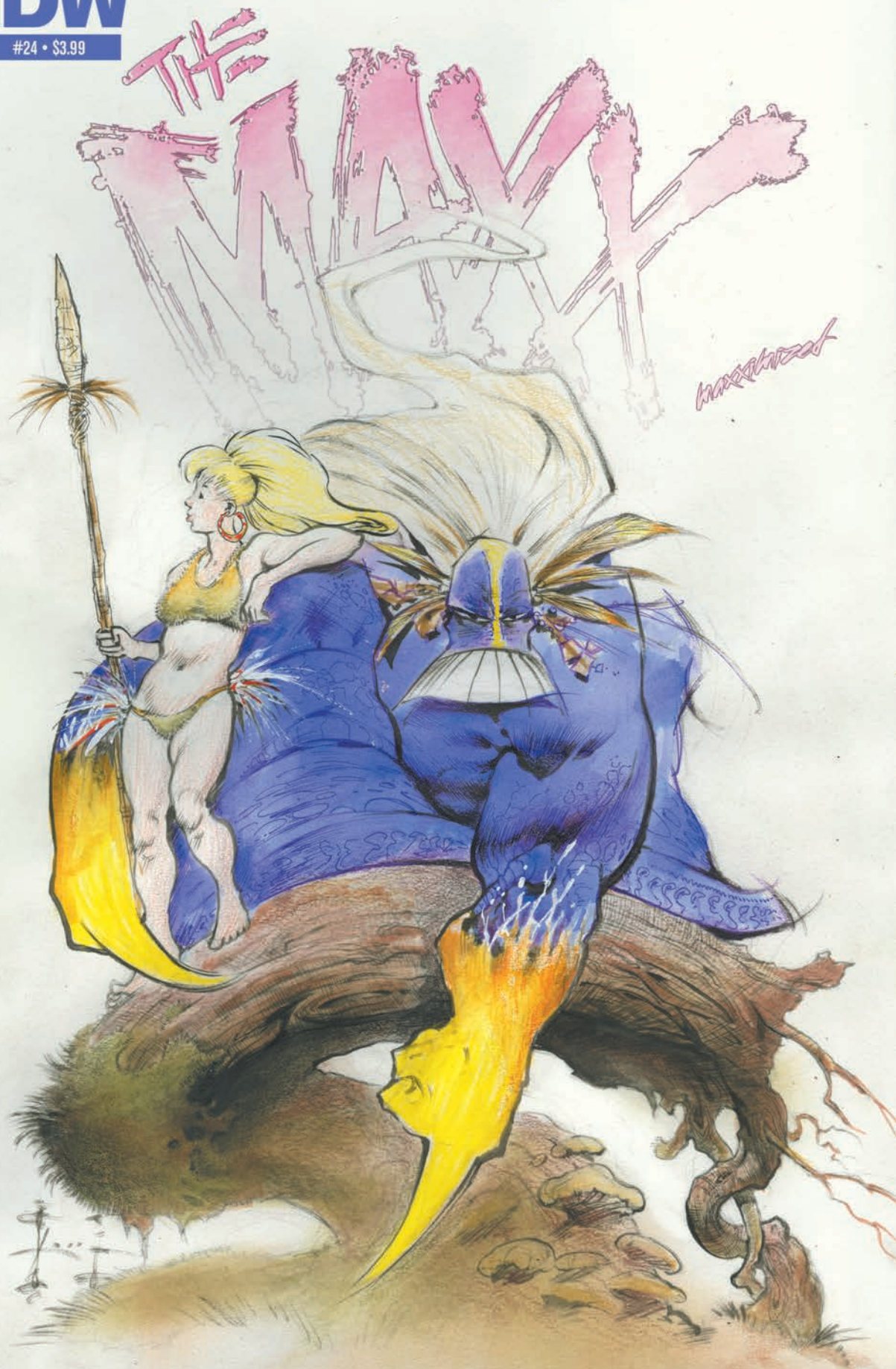


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SAM KIETH • JIM SINCLAIR • RONDA PATTISON



THE MAXX

MAXXIMIZED

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SAM KIETH

FINISHES BY
JIM SINCLAIR

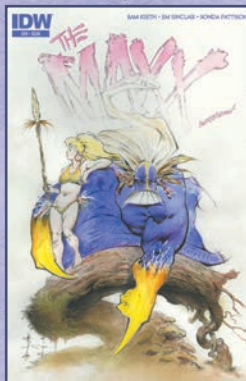
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SHE SAID YOU'D SAY THAT, BUT SHE TOLD ME THAT IF WE WERE EVER SEPARATED...THAT YOU WOULD--

LOOK, KID, I'D LIKE TO HELP YOU FIND YOUR MOM, BUT I'VE RETIRED FROM THE SHELTER AND--

YOU ARTEMIS GONE?

NOPE, NAME'S PENDER.

YOU USED TO KNOW HER, MY NAME'S MARK. MARK WI--

I KNOW WHO YOU ARE.

I'VE LOST TRACK OF HER, BUT THERE'S A GUY NAMED DAVE...HE MAY'VE KEPT UP WITH HER. LAST I HEARD, HE WORKED DOING MAINTENANCE DOWNTOWN AT THIS ADDRESS.

NOW PLEASE GO! I'VE HAD ENOUGH GHOSTS REAPPEAR LATELY.

NORBERT WENT BACK TO THE DUMP TO BUILD A MASK TO COVER HIS CONSPICUOUSLY LONG FACE. AT LEAST IT GIVES ME TIME TO DIGEST EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED.

THIS IS ALL DAD'S FAULT.

THAT GIRL LOOKS SAD.

SHE NEEDS A BIG HUG.



I BET GETTING ME TO TAKE THIS **STUPID URN** IS JUST YOUR LAME ATTEMPT TO WORM YOUR WAY BACK INTO MY HEART.

EVEN IF YOU **DID** TRY AND HELP RAPE VICTIMS, TOO LITTLE TOO LATE, I SAY.

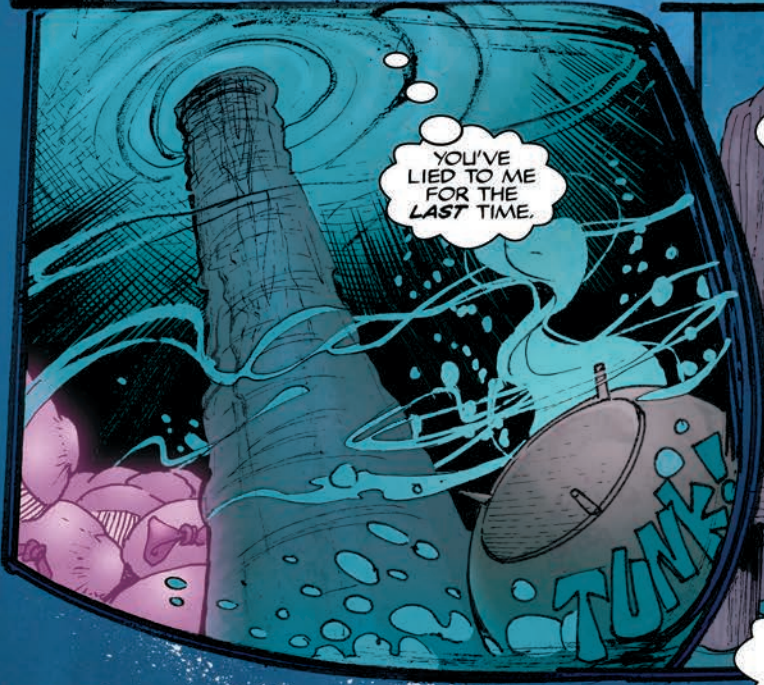
WHERE WERE YOU WHEN IT **COUNTED**... WHEN **MOM** NEEDED YOU, **HUH?** AND WHERE WERE YOU...



...WHEN I WAS **FOUR YEARS OLD?**

EVER SINCE I LET **THIS STUPID THING** INTO MY HOUSE, MY WHOLE **WORLD'S** BEEN COMING APART AT THE SEAMS!

WELL, NO MORE!



YOU'VE LIED TO ME FOR THE **LAST TIME.**



YOU CAN LIE TO ME, **DADDY,** BUT YOU'RE ONLY FOOLING **YOURSELF.**

AND I'LL MAKE YOU ACKNOWLEDGE THAT ALL THAT CRAP YOU PULLED TEN YEARS AGO REALLY **DID** HAPPEN...





...IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO.

CREAK



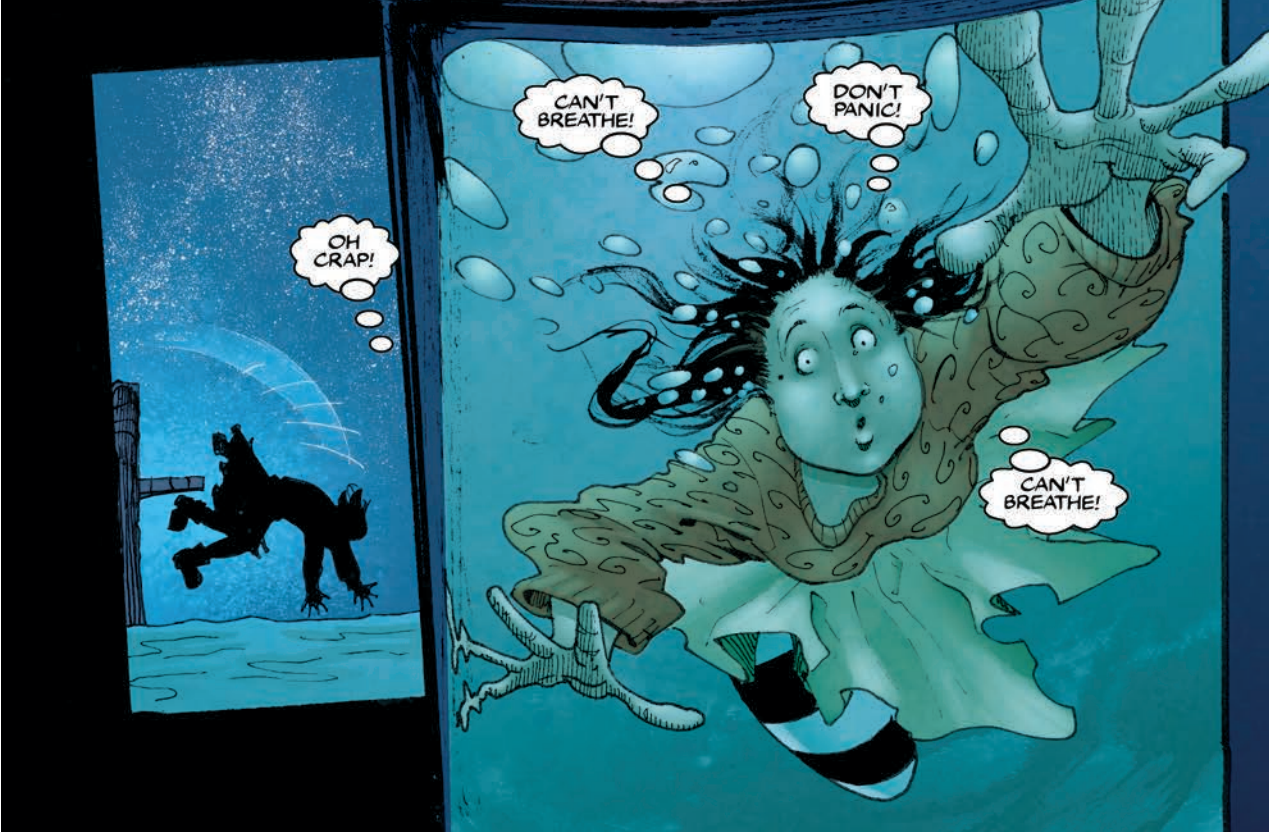
SOMEBODY'S OUT HERE THIS LATE?

OH, GREAT. SOME *CREEP* BLOCKING MY WAY BACK.

HE DOESN'T SEEM TO HAVE SEEN ME...

CREAK

CREAK

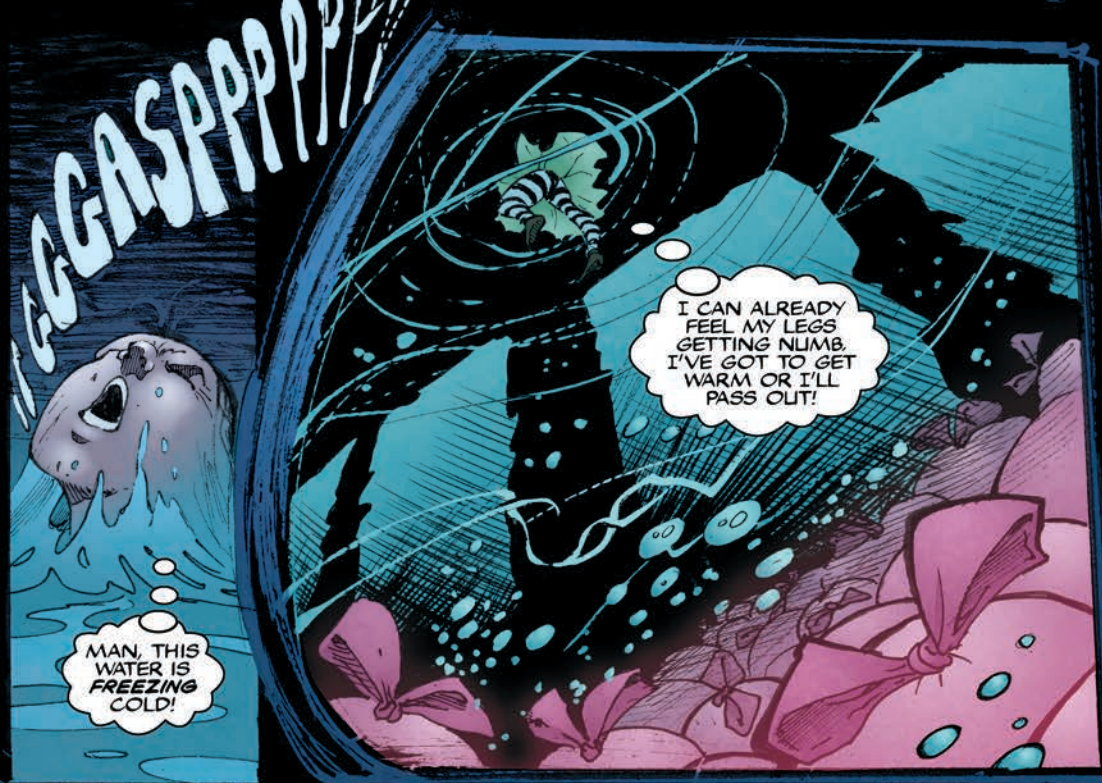


CAN'T BREATHE!

DON'T PANIC!

OH CRAP!

CAN'T BREATHE!



G-GASPPPP

MAN, THIS WATER IS FREEZING COLD!

I CAN ALREADY FEEL MY LEGS GETTING NUMB. I'VE GOT TO GET WARM OR I'LL PASS OUT!



OH [REDACTED] HE'S STILL UP THERE.

GREAK

MAYBE I CAN GET A PEEK...

HEY, MAYBE I OVERREACTED AND HE'S A HARMLESS GUY WHO DOESN'T EVEN KNOW I'M DOWN HERE FREEZING MY ASS OFF.



OH-MY-GOD! IT REALLY IS A BIG YELLOW BANANA SLUG. THAT MUST BE THE ONE THAT NORBERT CALLED 160--

--OH NO, HE SAW ME!



HMM...
SLUDGENY,
HANGING OUT
UNDER THE PIER
DOESN'T LOOK
SO BAD...

THIS CAN'T
BE HAPPENING.
WHY IS THIS
HAPPENING TO
ME?

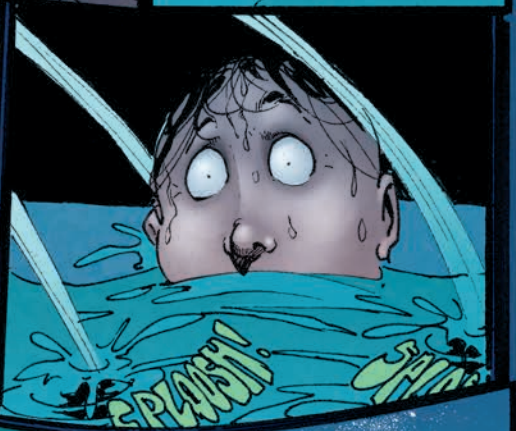


BOY, HE REALLY
WANTS A HANDFUL
OF MY SORRY BUTT,
WELL, REACH ALL
YOU WANT, SLUGGO,
I AIN'T MOVIN'.



WHAT'S HE UP
TO NOW? BOY,
WHATEVER HE'S
TAKING OUTTA
THAT BAG SURE
STINKS. I THINK
I MIGHT PUKE...

IT'S
BODY PARTS!
FINGERS AND
TOES! NOW I
AM GONNA--



CRASH!



OH NO!
WHAT'S THAT?
PIRANHAS?

HE'S TRYING TO
SEND WHATEVER'S
DOWN THERE INTO A
FEEDING FRENZY--

--AND IT'S
WORKING.



I'VE GOT
TO GET TO THAT
BOAT, AND QUICK!
BEFORE I'M EATEN
ALIVE!