

FROM THE WORLD OF BLACK HAMMER



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DAVID RUBIN

SHERLOCK FRANKENSTEIN™

AND THE LEGION OF EVIL

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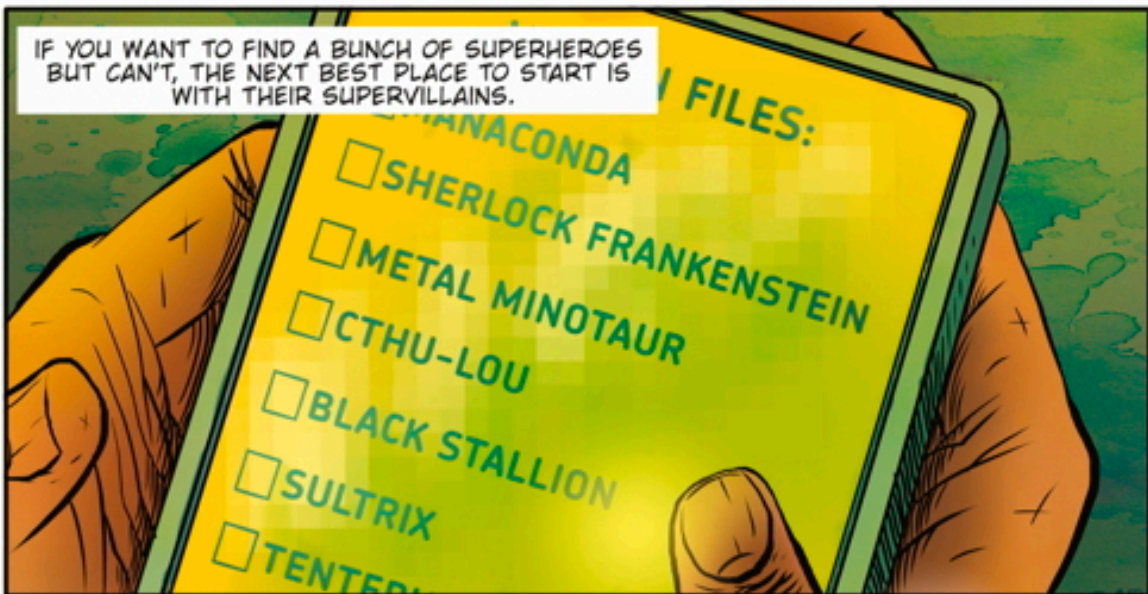




I'LL ADMIT, I WAS ALMOST READY TO GIVE UP A FEW WEEKS AGO.

I'D EXHAUSTED EVERY AVENUE LOOKING FOR ANSWERS.

THEN I FOUND MY DAD'S OLD HIDDEN HEADQUARTERS AND IT HIT ME...



IF YOU WANT TO FIND A BUNCH OF SUPERHEROES BUT CAN'T, THE NEXT BEST PLACE TO START IS WITH THEIR SUPERVILLAINS.

VILLAIN FILES:

- ANACONDA
- SHERLOCK FRANKENSTEIN
- METAL MINOTAUR
- CTHU-LOU
- BLACK STALLION
- SULTRIX
- TENTER



AND IF YOU ARE GOING TO START WITH VILLAINS, THEN WHY NOT START WITH THE BIGGEST, BADDEST VILLAIN OF THEM ALL...

M
SH
MET
THU
ACK
TRIX



...SHERLOCK FRANKENSTEIN...

SCOURGE OF THE SUPERHEROES
FOR AS LONG AS ANYONE
CAN REMEMBER.

VERY LITTLE IS KNOWN
ABOUT HIS ORIGINS,
BUT THERE ARE REPORTS
MATCHING HIS DESCRIPTION
AND NO GOING WAAAAAY
BACK TO THE FIRST HALF
OF THE NINETEENTH
CENTURY IN LONDON.



WHETHER OR NOT THIS IS ACTUALLY
THE SAME MAN MAY SEEM
DOUBTFUL,
BUT THEN AGAIN, HE IS SOME SORT
OF ZOMBIE, OR UNDEAD GHOUL, OR
SOMETHING, SO...

WHAT WE DO KNOW IS
THAT SHERLOCK WAS
ATTACKING SPIRAL CITY
AND ITS HEROES--
ESPECIALLY GOLDEN GAIL
AND THE GOLDEN FAMILY--
AS FAR BACK AS THE
NINETEEN FORTIES.



ONLY ONE PROBLEM.

NO ONE KNOWS WHERE HE IS NOW.

IN THE EARLY SEVENTIES HE WENT LEGIT.

OR AT LEAST ON PAPER HE DID.

HE STARTED *FRANKENLOCK* WORLDWIDE.

AND USED HIS GENIUS TO INVENT AND SUPPLY WEAPONS TO THE U.S. MILITARY-INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX FOR DECADES.



BUT IT WAS ALL A FRONT.

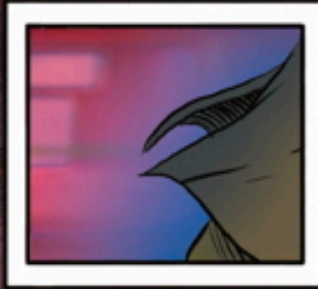


BEHIND THE SCENES HE WAS AS BAD AS EVER AND WENT UP AGAINST MY DAD AND THE OTHER HEROES A NUMBER OF TIMES RIGHT THROUGH THE EIGHTIES.

SAY WHAT YOU WANT ABOUT HIM, HE IS WITHOUT A DOUBT ONE OF THE SMARTEST MEN (IF YOU CAN STILL CALL HIM THAT) IN THE WORLD.



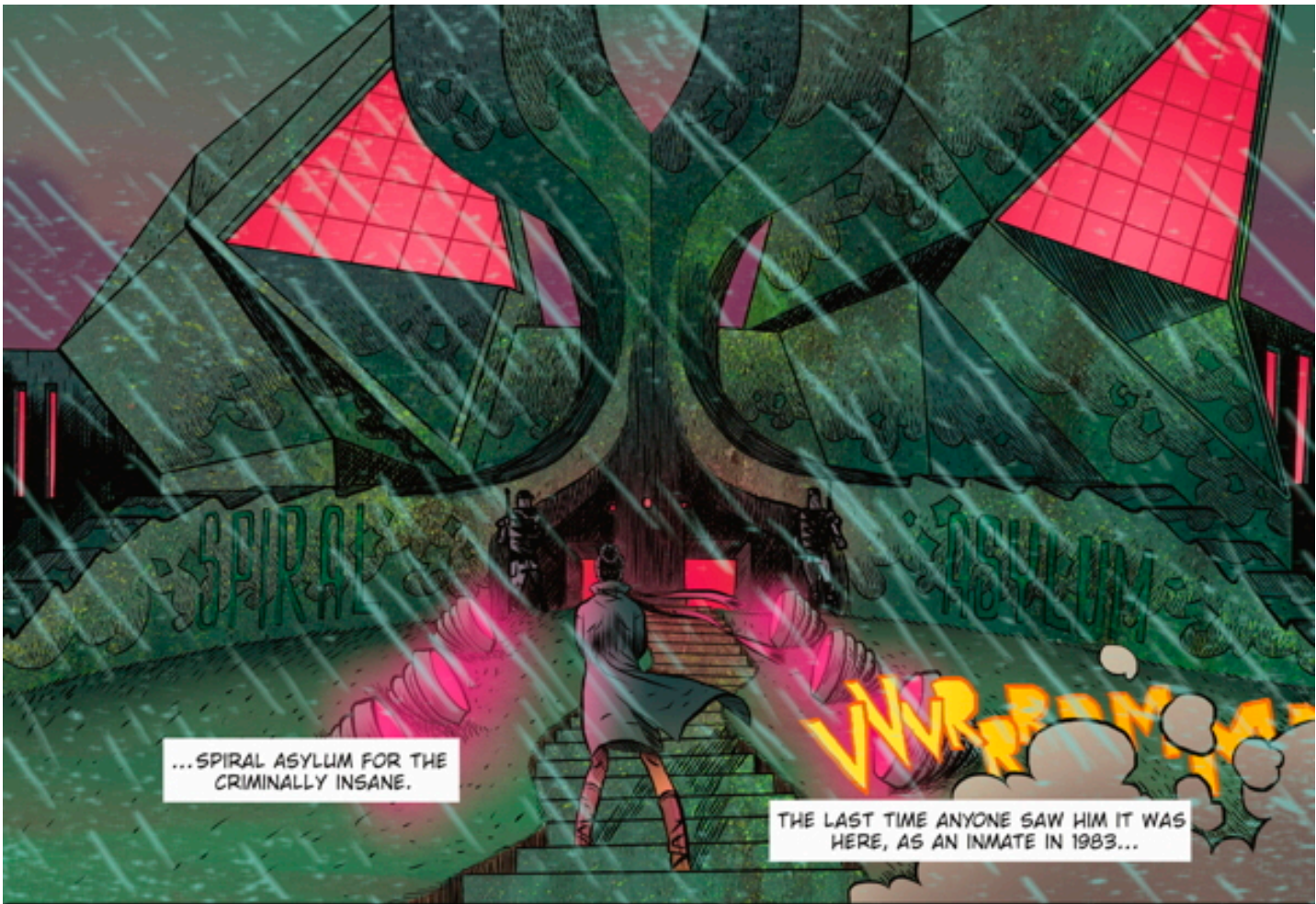
SO THERE'S NO BETTER PLACE TO START LOOKING FOR CLUES ABOUT WHERE MY DAD AND THE OTHER HEROES WENT THAN TO QUESTION SHERLOCK FRANKENSTEIN.



WHICH IS WHAT BRINGS ME HERE...

NO ONE HAS SEEN OR HEARD FROM SHERLOCK IN YEARS.



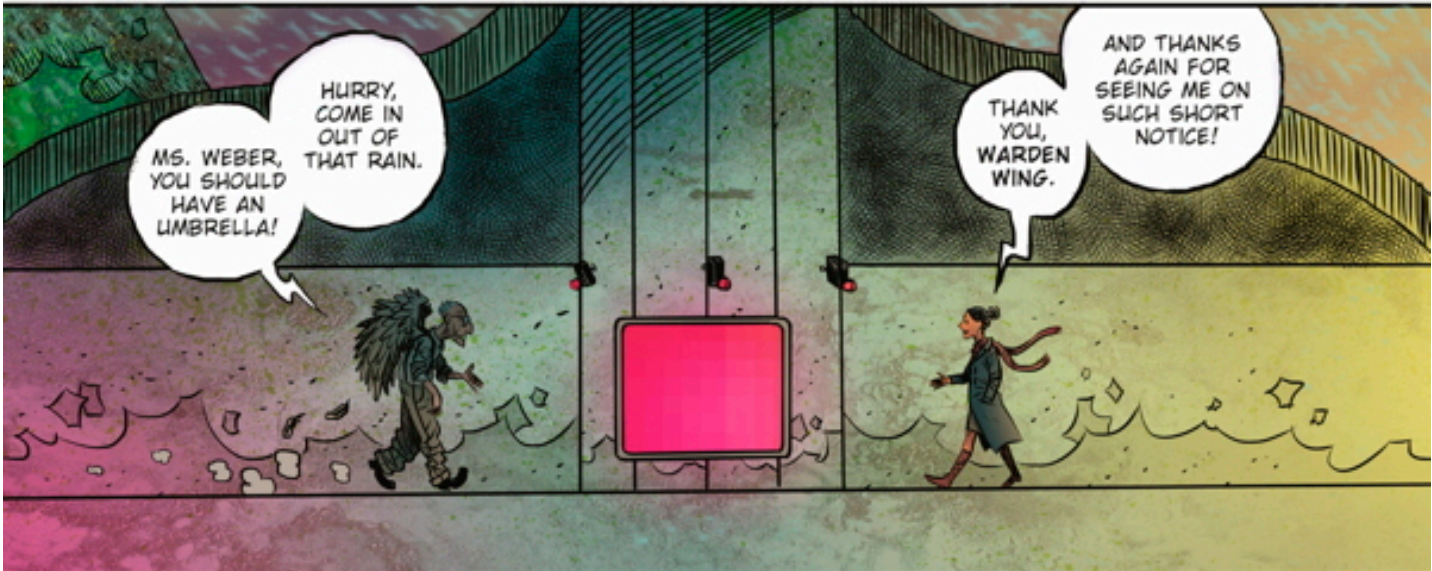


... SPIRAL ASYLUM FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE.

THE LAST TIME ANYONE SAW HIM IT WAS HERE, AS AN INMATE IN 1983...



SO THIS IS WHERE THE HUNT FOR SHERLOCK FRANKENSTEIN BEGINS.



HURRY, COME IN OUT OF THAT RAIN.
MS. WEBER, YOU SHOULD HAVE AN UMBRELLA!

THANK YOU, WARDEN WING.
AND THANKS AGAIN FOR SEEING ME ON SUCH SHORT NOTICE!