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VINCE HERNANDEZ • JOEY VAZQUEZ
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Charismagic™

ISSUE 1.A
vol. III

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HARVEMONT

During one fateful performance, Las Vegas magician Hank Medley discovered that everything he thought he knew about magic was dead wrong, as he accidentally caused every person in Vegas to disappear. Soon, he would discover his cat Sparkles could speak, and that he was at the center of a centuries-old war between magic's most powerful forces, as told to them by their new ally, a beautiful Druid named, Sudana. He would also lose his girlfriend, Alle Star, and mentor Hector in the process.

Hank, Sparkles and Sudana eventually encountered the cause of the vanishing--Samsun, a deadly magical being returned from the dark realm known as the Void Realm. Together with the aid of the wizard, Kon, they eventually vanquished Samsun after a deadly battle of wills. However, his arrival was merely subterfuge for the Void's overlord, the evil shaman Serké.

With a portal now open, Serké unleashed the Void's most gruesome creatures into the Earth realm led by Hank's former loved ones, Hector and Alle. During the ensuing war, the shaman managed to pierce Kon's chest and unleash his magic into the world. Meanwhile, Hank, Sparkles and Sudana journeyed to the Golden Realm to flee Serké's forces, and managed to rescue Hector and Alle. Yet the cost was high, as Hank, Sudana and Sparkles' lives remain in upheaval, and the dark forces of magic now roam free in the shadows of society...

Charismagic

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Vol.3 Part 1 of 6



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CHARISMAGIC™ Vol. 3 Issue 1 FEBRUARY 2018. PREVIEW COPY.

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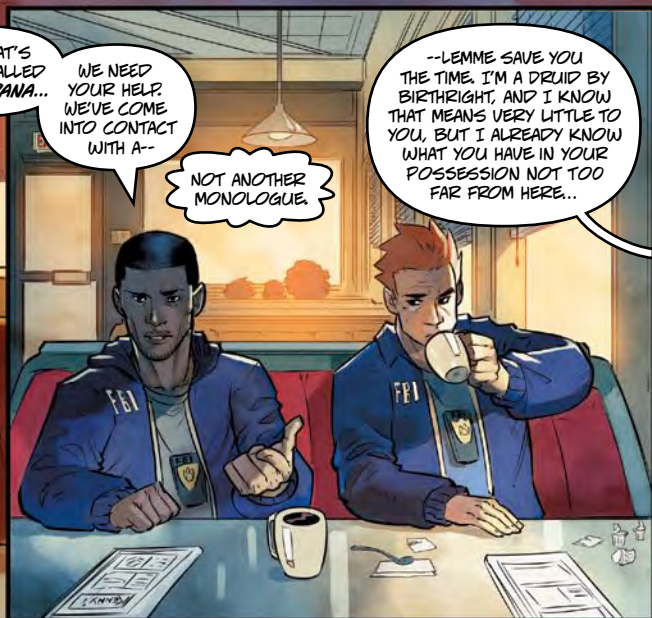
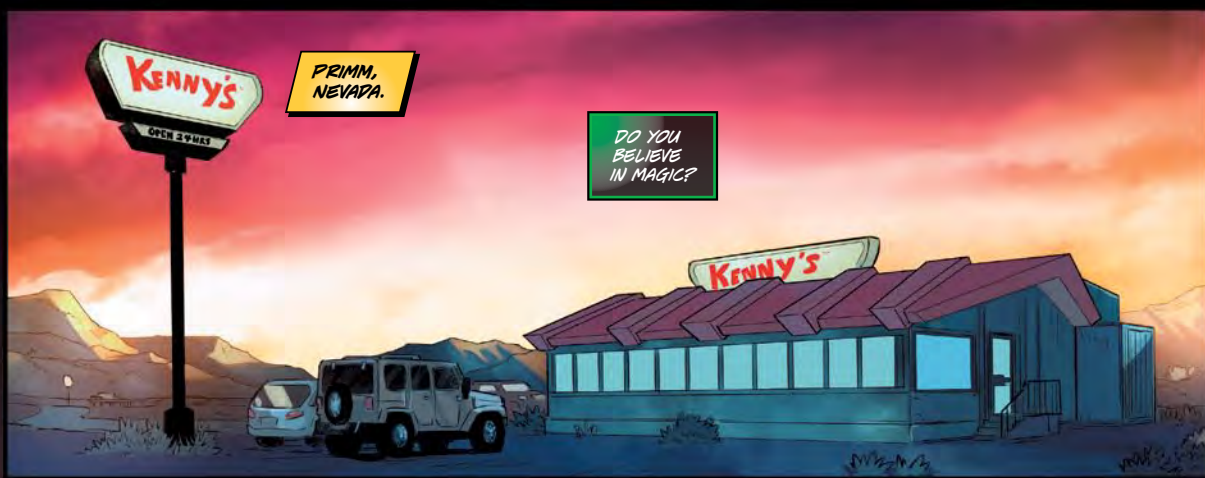
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IS BEYOND
YOUR CONTROL.

AREA 96.



THIS THING
IS BEYOND OUR
CONTROL. HAVE YOU
READ THE NEWS LATELY?
WE SHOULD HAVE A
TEAM FOR THIS, NOT
JUST THE PAIR OF
US IN A HANGAR.

YEAH,
MAGIC, MIND
CONTROL-- THE
WHOLE NINE.
I SAW THE
HEADLINES.

BUT, IT DOESN'T
MEAN US *MERE HUMANS*
SHOULD STOP EXPLORING.
BESIDES, INITIAL GENETIC
MAKEUP SAMPLING INDICATES
A LIKELIHOOD THAT IT'S
EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL. WE
GOT THIS, PARTNER.



SO "OPTION A"
IS THAT IT'S FROM
OUTER SPACE AND
WILL PROBABLY
INFECT US ALL,
OR PIERCE MY
STOMACH.

OR "OPTION B"
IS THAT I'M *RIGHT* AND
IT'S PROBABLY ONE OF
THOSE MAGIC, HOCUS
FOCUS THINGS THAT WILL
PROBABLY INFECT US
ALL, OR PIERCE MY
STOMACH.

MOMENTS LATER.

POUSS!!

WHEN DID
YOU BECOME
SUCH A SISSY? THIS
IS OUR FIELD,
AFTER ALL.

OH YOU KNOW,
MAGIC, MIND CONTROL--
THE WHOLE NINE, ABOUT
THAT TIME.

YEAH, YEAH.
GOOD POINT.



SO ODDS
ARE THIS
CAN'T BE
ANY WORSE,
RIGHT?



BREER

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LOS ANGELES, CA.

"OH I WOULD DO ANYTHING FOR LOVE, BUT I WON'T DO THAT."

I'M JUST SAYING, IT'S LIKE... "HEY, I SAVED YOUR WORLD EVERYONE-- TWICE. A LITTLE INCOME THROWN MY WAY WOULDN'T HURT."

EVEN JUST A YOFUNDME ACCOUNT FOR US OR SOMETHING? IS THAT TOO MUCH TO ASK?

I KNOW, I KNOW, THAT SOUNDS SELFISH.

BUT, YOU'VE SEEN OUR FINANCES. AND WITH SUPANA ALWAYS ON THE ROAD *ACTUALLY* SAVING THE WORLD, THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET TIGHT AROUND HERE. IT'S GETTING REAL FOR US--

--WE'RE ON OUR OWN, LITTLE LADY.

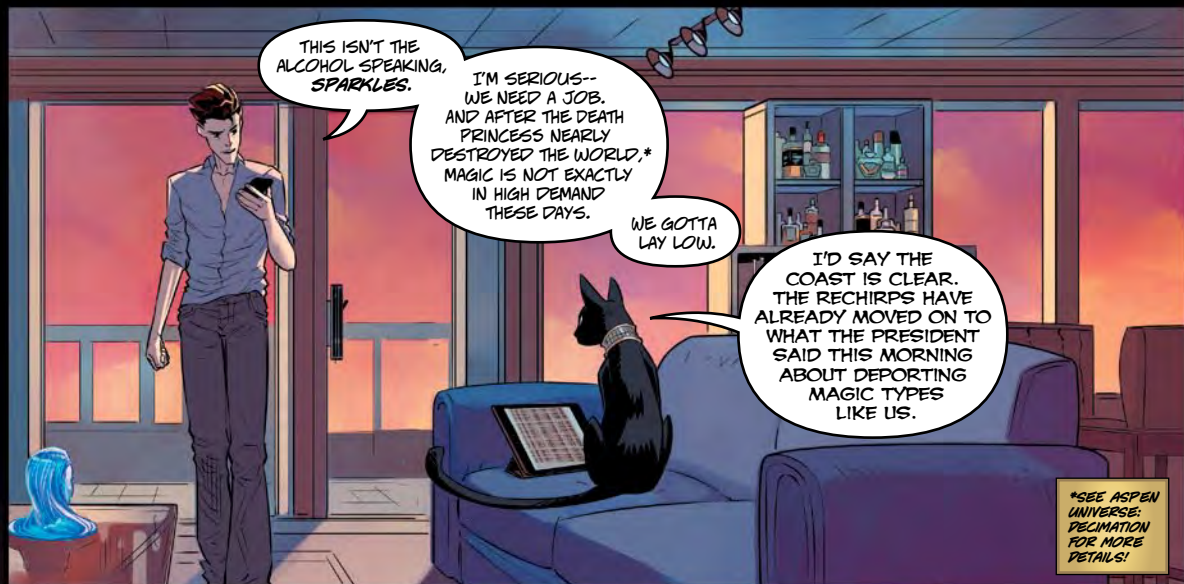
WHAT? I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, THAT I SOUND CRAZY.

I WISH. YOU'RE SO RIGHT, AND WITH THIS EXPENSIVE SUITE-- WE'RE SCREWED.

"NO I WON'T DO THA--"

AND YOU NEED TO COOL IT WITH THE COCKTAILS, HANK.

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THIS ISN'T THE ALCOHOL SPEAKING, SPARKLES.

I'M SERIOUS-- WE NEED A JOB. AND AFTER THE DEATH PRINCESS NEARLY DESTROYED THE WORLD,* MAGIC IS NOT EXACTLY IN HIGH DEMAND THESE DAYS.

WE GOTTA LAY LOW.

I'D SAY THE COAST IS CLEAR. THE RECHIRPS HAVE ALREADY MOVED ON TO WHAT THE PRESIDENT SAID THIS MORNING ABOUT DEPORTING MAGIC TYPES LIKE US.

*SEE ASPEN UNIVERSE: PECUNATION FOR MORE DETAILS!



WELL, THAT'S REASSURING.

THE POINT IS, WE'RE OLD NEWS ALREADY. AND YOU'RE THE MOST POWERFUL MAGICIAN IN THE WORLD, WITH A BRILLIANT TALKING CAT AND SMOKING HOT DRUID GIRLFRIEND. FINDING A JOB SHOULD BE A PIECE OF CAKE.

WAIT... I THINK YOU MIGHT BE ON TO SOMETHING. LET'S FACE IT, WE'RE JUST NOT GOOD OUT OF THE LIMELIGHT, AND PEOPLE LIKE A GOOD SHOW. MAYBE WE NEED--



--HANK, NO.



YOU GOT ANY BETTER IDEAS?

HMMPH. I CAN THINK OF SEVERAL BETTER THAN WHAT YOU'RE THINKING.



WE'LL BE FINE, TRUST ME.

YOU'RE SO RIGHT-- WE'RE SCREWED.

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BRA BRA BRA BRA

I TOLD YOU, IT WAS ONLY A MATTER OF TIME.

IT HASN'T DEMONSTRATED ANY ACTS OF AGGRESSION-- YET-- BUT YOU NEED TO SEE THIS.

THIS IS HOW IT ALWAYS STARTS.

LOOK.

IT'S... BRILLIANT.

THEY'RE ALL SO RANDOM BUT, NOT. IT'S LIKE IT'S TRYING TO COMMUNICATE WITH US.

YOU THINK IT'S A LANGUAGE?

WHAT ELSE COULD IT BE?

WHAT?

BEHIND YOU.

PREVIEW COPY



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WHAT IS IT DOING?!



OKAY, I TAKE BACK WHAT I SAID. YOU WERE RIGHT.

NOT NOW.



NNNGGHH.



LOOK AT THAT. WE MADE--



THUD

--IT?!

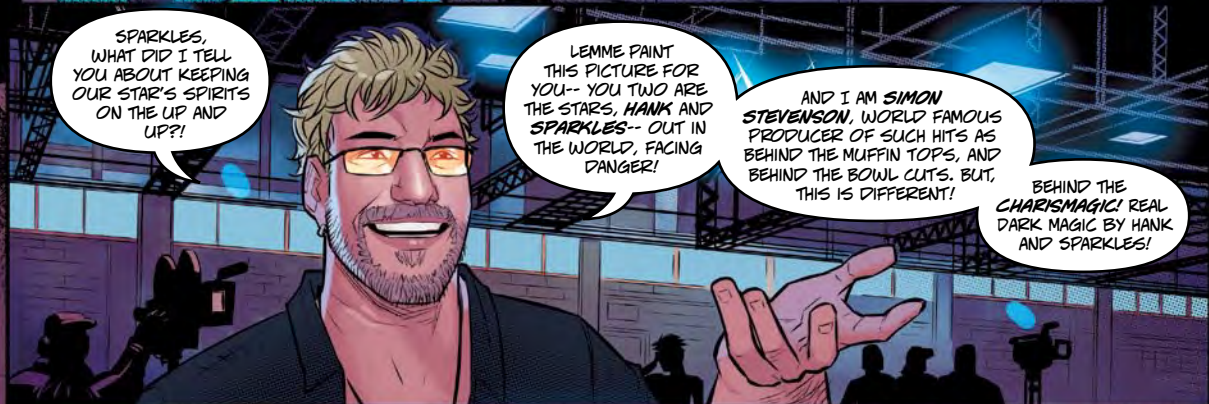


AND
YOU SAID
TO TRUST
YOU.

TOO
MUCH?

JUST A
LITTLE BIT--
YEAH.

FAAAAAALSE!



SPARKLES,
WHAT DID I TELL
YOU ABOUT KEEPING
OUR STAR'S SPIRITS
ON THE UP AND
UP?!

LEMME PAINT
THIS PICTURE FOR
YOU-- YOU TWO ARE
THE STARS, HANK AND
SPARKLES-- OUT IN
THE WORLD, FACING
DANGER!

AND I AM **SIMON
STEVENSON**, WORLD FAMOUS
PRODUCER OF SUCH HITS AS
BEHIND THE MUFFIN TOPS, AND
BEHIND THE BOWL CUTS. BUT,
THIS IS DIFFERENT!

BEHIND THE
CHARISMAGIC! REAL
DARK MAGIC BY HANK
AND SPARKLES!



I CAN SMELL
THE CMZ PRESS
ALREADY.

THAT'S
NOT ALL I'M
SMELLING.



AND WHAT ABOUT YOU,
SPARKLES? WHAT DID I TELL
YOU ABOUT REPORTING TO
COSTUME AND MAKEUP?

I'VE TOLD
YOU BEFORE I'M
CAMERA-READY!

I'LL BE
THE JUDGE
OF THAT!



HSSSSSSSS!

PREVIEW COPY





...AND TRUST ME!



WOW. PARIS I'VE... NEVER BEEN.

ME NEITHER. BUT I GOT US HERE ANYWAY. I FEEL STRONGER THAN I EVER HAVE, AND I'M LEARNING NEW THINGS ABOUT MY POWERS EVERY DAY.



BUT, I CAN'T DO THIS ALONE.

I'VE NEVER BEEN GOOD AT THAT SORT OF THING.

I CAN ALWAYS TAKE US AWAY IN A MOMENT'S NOTICE-- BUT IT'S TIME WE START FITTING IN AGAIN. CAN YOU SUCK IT UP FOR ME?

HUHHH. YOU HAD TO GO THERE RIGHT AWAY.



FIINE. YES, I CAN BE A BIG GIRL.



BUT, WE CAN DO A LITTLE SIGHTSEEING FIRST, RIGHT?

WHY NOT. I AM THE STAR OF THE SHOW. AFTER ALL. EVEN IF MY NAPS CAN'T BREATHE IN THIS LEATHER.

PREVIEW COPY

NEVADA DESERT.



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KNOCK
KNOCK.



KNOCK,
KNOCK! I'M
THERE.

NOT QUITE,
BUT CLOSER
THIS TIME,
MUNCHY.



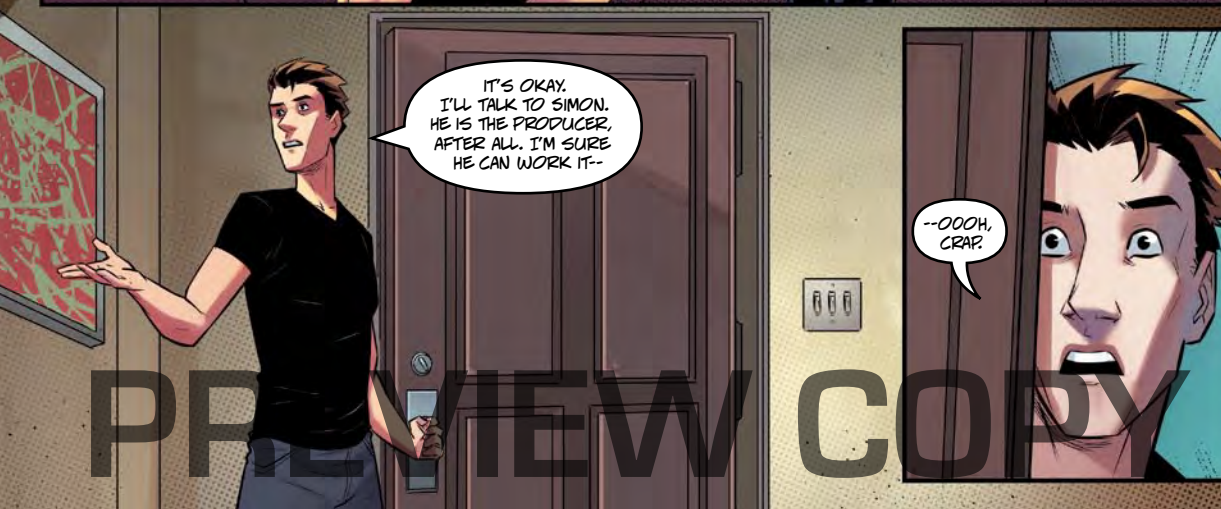
IT'S GOOD
TO SEE YOU,
MY FRIEND.

OH, WHAT IS
THIS NOW?

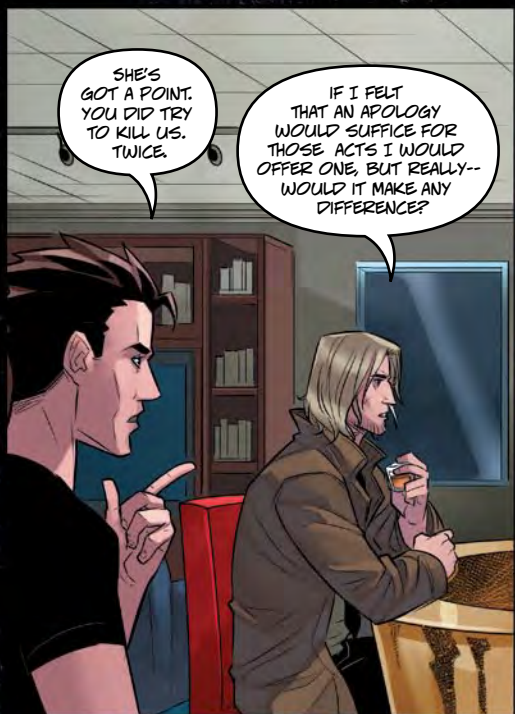
THIS FALL...A
BINGEFUX ORIGINAL
SERIES WILL SHATTER
EVERYTHING YOU
THOUGHT YOU KNEW
ABOUT MAGIC.



A MAN
AND HIS
CAT--









WHAT--?!



THAT THING
JUST CRASHED
THROUGH THE
CEILING?!


IT'S GOTTA
BE SAMSUN'S
DOING!



I DON'T KNOW
ABOUT THAT. IT
LOOKED LIKE IT...
ATTACKED HIM.



WHAT DID
YOU BRING
HERE, MA--




DO NOT
SPEAK TO ME
AS THOUGH I
ANSWER TO
YOU.

I AM BEYOND YOUR
COMPREHENSION.



UM... YOU'RE
NOT SAM-SUN,
ARE YOU?



MY HOST
BODY IS MERELY
A VESSEL.

I AM THE
DECIDER OF YOUR
FATE. ALL MAGICAL BEINGS
MUST BOW BEFORE
MY JUDGMENT.



I WOULD
TAKE THAT AS A
NO, SPARKLES.
THAT'S OUR CUE
TO LEAVE.



NO ONE
CAN ESCAPE
MY WILL.

SPARKLES,
COME TO
ME-- NOW!

PREVIEW

GO ON



WHAT ARE YOU--

--NOOOO!



WHAT HAVE YOU...
NNGH... DONE TO ME?



MAGIC IS
A GIFT FROM
OUR ANCESTORS,
AND IT IS MY CHOICE
TO TAKE BACK
WHAT HAS BEEN
MISUSED FOR
CENTURIES...

...FROM
ALL OF
YOU.



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BONUS STORY!
Hey Aspen Fans, the ASPEN MASCOTS
adventure starts here!

Happy 15-Year Anniversary, Aspen fans! As a special treat JUST FOR YOU we're including this Aspen Mascots Volume One story ABSOLUTELY FREE in the back of EVERY Aspen Comics comic book ALL YEAR LONG! You get a brand new story each month in the back of your favorite Aspen title! Now you can follow some of your favorite mascots, creatures and other adorably popular Aspen critters in one MASSIVE all-ages, time spanning, jam-packed, hilariously dangerous new adventure!!

Now—on to Chapter 1!

aspen mascots

"Absolutely NOT an Origin Story"

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writer

Joie Foster
pencil & inks

Justice
colors

Micah Myers
letterer

Gabe Carrasco
editor

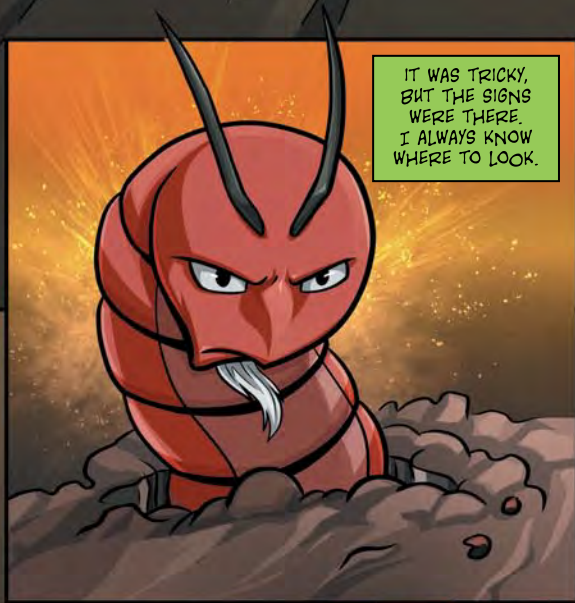
Chapter One

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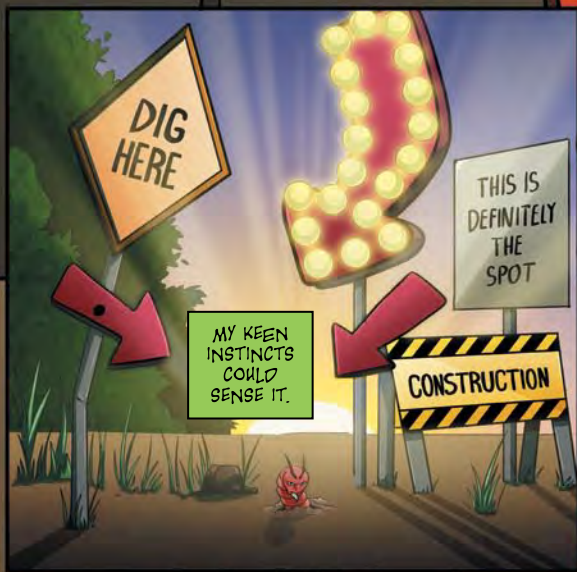
IT WAS
ALL RIGHT
IN FRONT
OF US!



IT WAS TRICKY,
BUT THE SIGNS
WERE THERE.
I ALWAYS KNOW
WHERE TO LOOK.



MY KEEN
INSTINCTS
COULD
SENSE IT.



BUT NO ONE EVER
LISTENED TO ME!





BUT, THAT'S FINE BY ME, I SAY. ALL GOOD HEROES ARE MISUNDERSTOOD--SOME ARE EVEN CONSIDERED **VILLAINS** IN THEIR TIME.

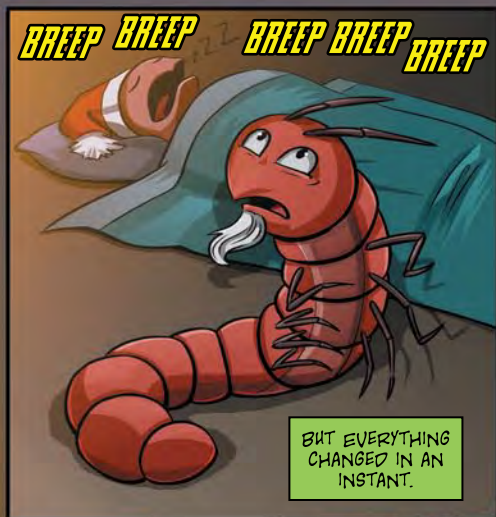
TAKE MY HERO, **RAINIER**, FOR EXAMPLE. NO ONE COULD SEE THE GOOD IN HIS PLANS TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD FOR THE BETTER!

I WAS NO DIFFERENT.

I SOUGHT TO MAKE OUR TUNNELS THE GREATEST VILLAGE IN ALL OF THE WORLD--WAS THAT SO BAD?!



THOSE THANKLESS FOOLS. IF ONLY THEY KNEW HOW IT KEPT ME UP AT NIGHT, STRIVING TO **CREATE** FOR ALL OF US!



BREEP BREEP BREEP BREEP BREEP

BUT EVERYTHING CHANGED IN AN INSTANT.



WAH!

RRRUMBBLE

OF COURSE, I WAS RIGHT ALL ALONG--

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CRRASSH!

AND WE WERE ALL
DOOMED!

THERE WAS
NOTHING THAT
COULD BE DONE...

...OR WAS
THERE?!

WHAT WOULD
RAINIER DO?!

PREVIEW COPY



THAT DAY...
EVERYTHING CHANGED!!!

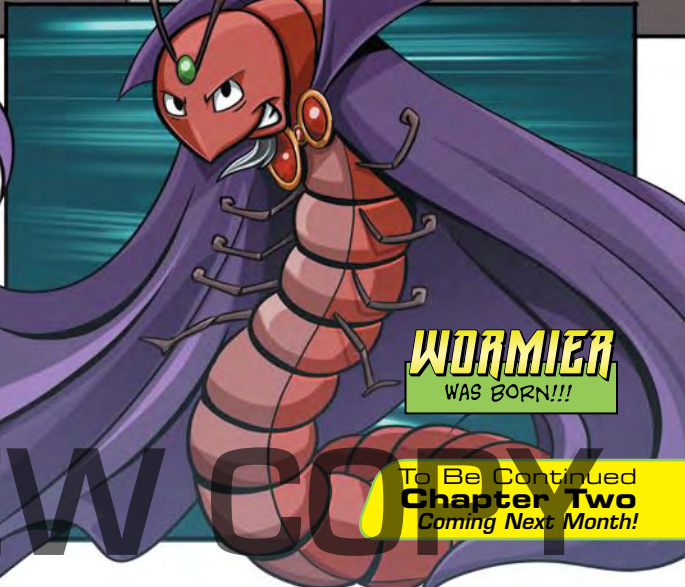


AND A NEW METHOD
OF UNDOING WHAT
CAME BEFORE--OF
ALTERING TIME ITSELF!

МУАААААААААА!



THAT DAY...



WORMIER
WAS BORN!!!

To Be Continued
Chapter Two
Coming Next Month!

VIEW COPY