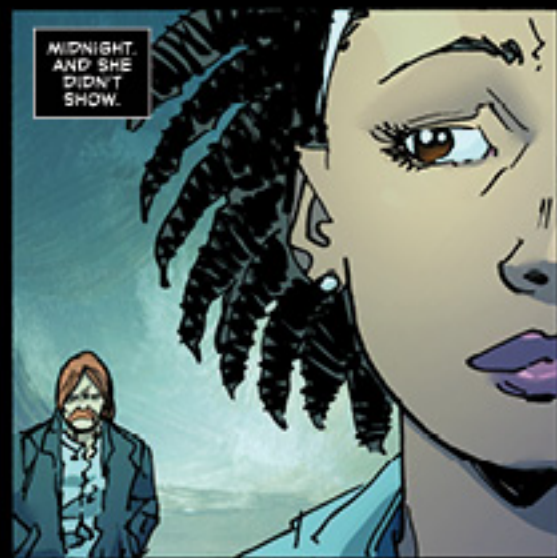




MIDNIGHT  
AND SHE  
DIDN'T  
SHOW.



WORSE, I HAD  
NO WAY OF  
CONTACTING HER.







BUT IT WAS FINE.  
I HAD OTHER THINGS  
TO TAKE CARE OF.





PLEASE...

DON'T  
BE  
AFRAID.

BUT SHE IS, AND FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE WHENEVER SHE HAS TO WALK THE STREETS ALONE, SHE'LL BE LOOKING OVER HER SHOULDER IN FEAR.

EVEN THOUGH NOTHING HAPPENED TO HER TONIGHT, FOR THE REST OF HER DAYS SHE'LL NEVER QUITE KNOW WHICH OF US SCARED HER MORE, THE PIECE OF LAYING AT HER FEET...

OR ME.





WHY'D YOU BRING HER HERE? IT'S NOT SAFE.

I HAD NO CHOICE, MAXINE!

DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE HER TO THE POLICE STATION, WHO KNOWS WHERE THAT WOULD HAVE LED.

I DIDN'T WANT HER GETTING LOCKED UP OR HAVING HER SECRET IDENTITY REVEALED. AND DON'T GIVE ME THAT "BUT YOU'RE A COP" LOOK!



I JUST DON'T WANT YOU GETTING INTO TROUBLE. YOU NEED THIS JOB, MALCOLM. AND YOU NEED TO THINK ABOUT THIS FAMILY.

INSTEAD OF YOUR ADDICTION TO VIDEO GAMES, COMICS AND PORNOGRAPHY.



I CAN'T LET HER FALL INTO THE WRONG HANDS! THERE'S A SUPER-HERO CODE.

SHE'S NOT GOING TO HURT THE KIDS OR ANYTHING!

AND I DIDN'T REALLY HAVE ANYPLACE ELSE TO TAKE HER.



