

insanity n.

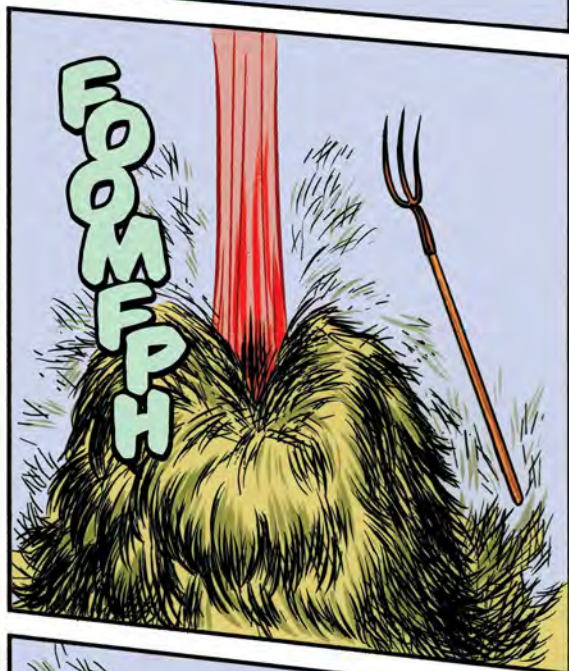
1. Doing the same thing over and over and expecting new results.
2. Leaping through yet another interdimensional portal on the say-so of a stupid teddy bear and expecting to land on something solid.

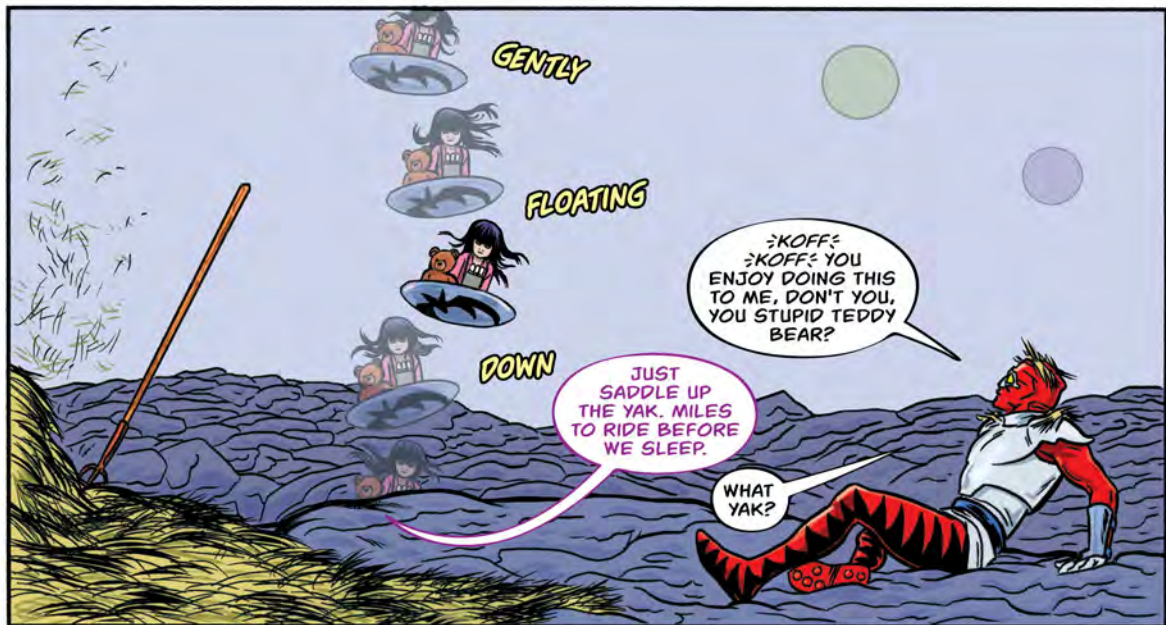
ATLAS BUGGED

DOMINO EFFECT PART 3 OF 6

LEE & MICHAEL / LAURA / NATE PIEKOS
ALLRED & ALLRED / ALLRED / OF BLAMBOT®
STORYTELLERS / COLORIST / LETTERER
COVER BY MICHAEL & LAURA ALLRED

VARIANT COVER BY AARON CONLEY
MOLLY MAHAN ASSOCIATE EDITOR / JAMIE S. RICH EDITOR
DC'S YOUNG ANIMAL CURATED BY GERARD WAY
THE BUG AND FOURTH WORLD CHARACTERS CREATED BY JACK KIRBY





ONE EXCRUCIATINGLY BORING YAK RIDE
ACROSS THE LAVA FLATS LATER...





UNFORTUNATELY, CHAGRA'S BROUGHT ALONG HIS INDESTRUCTIBLE TRAVELING COMPANION. MEET--

--ATLAS THE GREAT.



SOMEBODY'S BEEN CAMPING IN MY CAMPSITE!

AND THOSE SOMEBODIES ARE STILL HERE!

YEAH? WELL, I'M BETTING CHAGRA HIMSELF ISN'T SO INDESTRUCTIBLE.

PUNY THIEVES! ATLAS FOUND THIS CAMPSITE FIRST!

THERE. CHAGRA PROBLEM SOLVED. CAN I GO HOME NOW?

LITTLE PREMATURE, KID. CHAGRA DOESN'T TURN EVIL UNTIL TOMORROW. RIGHT NOW HE'S JUST A JERK.

POW

MIDNIGHT

IN THE

PHANTOM ZONE

BY JAMES HARVEY

"MIDNIGHT" CREATED BY JAMES HARVEY

...STARRING
Midnight
...THE MAN OF THE HOUR!

A WORLD OF BOUNDLESS TWILIGHT, A STOPPING PLACE BETWEEN BEING AND NOTHINGNESS... A DIMENSION WITHOUT DIMENSIONS... WITHOUT HORIZONS, WITHOUT SENSATIONS, WITHOUT HOPE...

In other words, just another Saturday night for MIDNIGHT!

A BIOGRAPHY OF MIDNIGHT, THE CAPITANO OF CRIMEFIGHTING—

JACK SHERIDEN IS A BIG-TIME RADIO ANNOUNCER...

HE ALSO CALLED IN A POPULAR SERIAL, "THE MAN CALLED MIDNIGHT..."

FICTION BECAME REALITY AS JACK BECAME MIDNIGHT IN REAL LIFE!

HIS SUIT IS EQUIPPED WITH LIGHT-RECEPTIVE VANTABLACK FILAMENTS!

A "VACUUM GUN" - HIS ONLY WEAPON!

HIS 2-WAY RADIO LETS HIM TALK TO HIS BEST PALS, DOC WACKY AND GABBY!

MIDNIGHT LIVES IN A BOX ROOM AND DOESN'T OWN A CAR!

MIDNIGHT IS 35 YEARS OLD!

BIBLE SEZ THAT'S HALF MY LIFE...

DIAMOND JIM! SPEAK TO ME, OLD FELLA! WHO DID THIS TO YOU?

YOU SEE WHERE THEY WENT?

IT'S THOSE DARN GREENFIELD GALS, MIDNIGHT! THEY TOOK MY WALLET AND LEFT ME TO DIE LIKE A DAWG!!

EVERYONE KNOWS THEY'RE WORKIN' FOR MADAM BRAWN! WORD IS SHE RUNS HER CRIME SCHOOL OUT THE BACK OF BASSO LOCO, ONE BLOCK THATAWAY!

...SAY, MIDNIGHT, ANYONE TELL YA YOU SOUND LIKE JACK SHERIDEN, T' RADIO GUY?

NO.

ALRIGHT, ENOUGH!

THOSE GREENFIELD GALS! THREE SISTERS FROM THE WRONG SIDE OF THE TRACKS WITH NO FUTURE, NO HOPE AND NO MANNERS! THEIR MOM DISAPPEARED EARLY, CROCKED ON THE SOUR MASH, AND AFTER TEN YEARS, THEY PUT THEIR DADDY IN A CHICAGO OVERCOAT AND WENT TO LIVE ON THE STREETS!

IT WAS MADAM BRAWN WHO TOOK THEM IN AND SHAPED THEM INTO HARDENED CRIMINALS!

ALEXIS

OPALTINE

PUT YER MASK DOWN, OPAL, YOU'RE GONNA GIVE US AWAY! DADDY ALWAYS SAID WED END UP STUCK IN THE BAG HOUSE!

IF I CATCH YOU WHININ' ONE MORE TIME, YOU'LL SEE DADDY TONIGHT!

GOOD THING THEY DIDN'T FIND THE EMERGENCY TENS I KEEP IN MY SHOE...

TEN WILL DO FINE. HAND IT OVER.

ARE YOU HURTY FOR CASH, MIDNIGHT?

YOU THINK SUPERMAN WORKS FOR FREE, JIM?

THAT'S NOT WHAT HE TOLD ME!

"THE BASSO LOCO CLIENTELE WERE TIGHT AS CLAMS... IF I ASKED THESE HUMMIES WHO SHOT ABRAHAM LINCOLN THEY'D TELL ME TO MIND MY OWN BUSINESS!"

"STILL, MY HYPER-AWARE DETECTIVE SKILLS TOLD ME TOLD ME TO CHECK THE BACK ROOM..."



"THOSE DAMES WERE TOTIN'
SOME POWERFUL GETAWAY STICKS!
I FOLLOWED THEIR TRAIL ALL THE
WAY UP THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING...
THIS HAD TO BE WHERE MADAM
BRAWN HELD HER CRIME SCHOOL
FOR DELIQUENT @IRLS! SURE
ENOUGH, AS I LEAPT THROUGH
THE WINDOW I THOUGHT
I COULD HEAR THE GIRLS SAYIN'..."

"WHO IS
THE MAN
INCOGNITO?"





ME?
I MADE THE EARTH QUAKE AND CRACKED THE PILLARS OF HEAVEN!

I CROSSED HELL'S LAKE AND BLACKED THE EYE OF THE DEVIL!

I TELL THE SUN WHEN IT'S TIME TO RISE--

I'M MIDNIGHT AND THIS NIGHT MY NAME LIGHTS THE SKIES!

SECONDLY: YEAH, I "SEEN THIS". I'M MIDNIGHT! I'M 20 YEARS DEEP IN THE GAME!

"PRISON DIMENSION" WAS RIGHT. THIS IS A PORTAL TO THE PHANTOM ZONE, A NIGHTMARE WASTELAND TRAPPED BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH! IT'S WHERE SUPERMAN'S GREATEST FOES FROM BACK ON KRYPTON WERE IMPRISONED. YOUR BOSS JUST BOUGHT A TICKET TO AN ETERNITY STUCK WITH THE MOST WRETCHED SOULS IN THE UNIVERSE!

...UNTIL SHE 00T SUCKED INSIDE THAT IS.

SO WE GAVE DIAMOND JIM A COUPLE A GREENBACKS AND HAD HIM TELL YOU SOME BULLDINK STORY ABOUT GETTING ROBBED...

YOU COULD HAVE SPARED THE MASQUERADE! I AM A FRIEND TO ALL THOSE IN PERIL-- EVEN CRIMINALS!

SEEN THIS? MADAM BRAWN STOLE IT FROM SOME CREEP IN A PURPLE BOWLER HAT-- HE WARNED HER IT WAS A PORTAL TO A "PRISON DIMENSION"!

GLAD YOU COULD MAKE IT. WE FIGURED YOU COULD LEND US YOUR EXPERTISE!

SOME RINKY-DINK SCHI HOODOO, WE THOUGHT!

NO, WE WANT YOU TO ENTER THE PHANTOM ZONE AND RESCUE MADAM BRAWN.

CLASP!

WELL NOW-- YOU'RE A MASTER DETECTIVE, RIGHT?

SO YOU NEED ME TO FIND THE MAN WHO SOLD HER THIS PIECE O' CAKE.

THE QUICKEST WAY BACK IN THIS ROOM IS THROUGH THAT PHANTOM DOO-HICKEY AND OUT THE OTHER SIDE!

AND JUST TO MAKE SURE THERE'S NO FUNNY BUSINESS, WE'RE SENDING OUR OWN SALLY-MAE ALONG TO MAKE SURE YOU DONT PULL A FAST ONE, Y'HEAR?

NOW WAIT A MINUTE!

OOPS.

WELL-- ABOUT THAT, YOU MAY WONDER PRECISELY WHAT IT IS WE WANT FROM YOU.

HA HA!
THE THOUGHT CROSSED MY MIND.

YOU'RE A LOUSY RAT, ALEX! WHEN I COME BACK WITH MADAM BRAWN, YOU'LL BE FOR THE HIGH JUMP FER SURE!

...THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY YOU'RE LEAVING THIS ROOM AND IT AINT THROUGH NO EARTHLY METHODS!

NO, NO, NO! I'M A FRAUD! I'M A FRAUD! PLEASE JUST LET ME DIE!!

OH, NO YOU DONT, BUSTER!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT!

LISTEN, JACK SHERIDEN... YOUR MASK AINT DOING YOU NO FAVORS WHEN EVERY MAN JACK IN THIS CITY CAN RECOGNISE YOU WITH THEIR EYES CLOSED! IF YOU DONT COME BACK WITH THE BOSS, WE'LL RUIN EVERYTHING YOU HOLD DEAR! YOUR APARTMENT WILL BE UP IN FLAMES. UXAM WILL BECOME CRIME SCHOOL RADIO!

YOU FOOLS! THERE'S NO WAY BACK THROUGH THE PHANTOM ZONE. IF GENERAL ZOD IS TRAPPED THERE, WHAT CHANCE DO WE HAVE?

"MAYBE YOU DONT CARE NOW," HE SAID, "BUT THE REALITY OF WHAT YOU JUST DID WILL HIT YOU, AND IT'LL HIT YOU HARD. YOU JUST DOOMED YOUR SISTER TO AN ETERNITY IN THE BLACK PIT OF--"

BUT BEFORE HE COULD FINISH, MIDNIGHT CAME TO THE PHANTOM ZONE.

TO BE CONTINUED...