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ISSUE 3

DEAD SQUAD



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DEAD SQUAD

Cover: **MATT TIMSON**



PREVIOUSLY



Blake, Hooper, and Shane – highly trained Delta Force Operators – succeeded in their mission to obtain a mysterious serum, but were immediately betrayed and murdered by their own commanding officer, Fisher.

Reanimated by a Beta version of the biologic they initially secured, the “Dead Squad” is taken into custody by Colonel Razinski and tended to by Dr. Diana Nash. Unfortunately, their resurrection carries a ticking clock – just 24 hours before they die again. Meaning: the “Dead Squad” must find Fisher and the final version of the biotics he possesses, or quickly return to the wildly disparate – and in some cases horrifying – “afterlives” each experienced during his initial death.

First stop: operative Natalie Vargas, with whom Blake has an unfortunate history...

MEET THE TEAM



DOUGLAS A. SIROIS - Colors

Douglas is an illustrator, development producer, educator, husband, and father to two boys, with a BFA in Illustration from the Art Institute of Boston, and a Master of Fine Arts degree in Illustration at California State University, Fullerton. He is the co-creator and illustrator of *APOLLO*, and has adapted a graphic novel version of *A CHRISTMAS CAROL*, both from Markosia Entertainment. As an illustrator, Doug has

worked with companies such as Wizards of the Coast, Anomaly Productions, Radical Publishing, IDW, and Markosia Entertainment. He has also illustrated for many facets of the entertainment industry including theatrical poster art of Hollywood legends for MGM, 20th Century Fox, Universal, and other studios. www.dougsirois.com

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LOVE US? HATE US?

Send an email to
fanmail@darbypop.com
to let us know
what you think!

**NATALIE VARGAS –
DIPLOMATIC SECURITY
SPECIAL AGENT, US
STATE DEPT.**



NATALIE,
STOP!



BLAKE,
I SHOULD
BLOW YOUR
DAMN BRAINS
OUT.

I'D
APPRECIATE
IT IF YOU
DIDN'T.



SO THAT'S
VARGAS.

AS
LAID-BACK
AS EVER.

HOW THEY
HANGING,
VARGAS?



WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?!

VARGAS YOU KNOW THESE A-HOLES?

SHUT UP, TANNER. THE GROWNUPS ARE TALKING.

I NEED YOUR HELP, VARGAS. TIME IS A FACTOR.



LAST TIME I SAW YOU, YOU KILLED MY PRINCIPAL AND VANISHED.

HE DID WHAT?

YOU WERE RIGHT ABOUT FISHER.



HE'S OFF THE GRID, AND YOU'RE OUR ONLY CHANCE OF FINDING HIM.

YOU GUYS ARE SO DEAD.

YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO MY FATHER IS!

TANNER, SHUT UP OR I'LL SHOOT YOU MYSELF.



I'M GLAD WE CAN PUT THE PAST BEHIND US.



FOR THE MOMENT.



SO WHEN BLAKE SAID HE "GOT CLOSE" TO VARGAS...

SOMETIMES, SHANE, WHEN TWO ADULTS LOVE EACH OTHER, THEY SHARE A VERY SPECIAL HUG...



I WANT TO APOLOGIZE--

SAVE IT. NEXT, YOU'LL BE TELLING ME YOU MEANT EVERYTHING YOU SAID ABOUT US.

THE BEST LIES ARE MOSTLY TRUE.



WHY SHOULDN'T I JUST SHOOT YOU AND TOSS YOUR BODY IN THE SEA?

BECAUSE YOU'RE BETTER THAN ME. YOU PROTECT PEOPLE, NO MATTER WHO THEY ARE.



I DIDN'T JOIN THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO PROTECT DRUG DEALERS. I WAS SERVING MY COUNTRY. I DID WHAT I WAS TOLD.

I DID THE SAME THING.

I WARNED YOU FISHER WAS OFF THE RESERVATION!



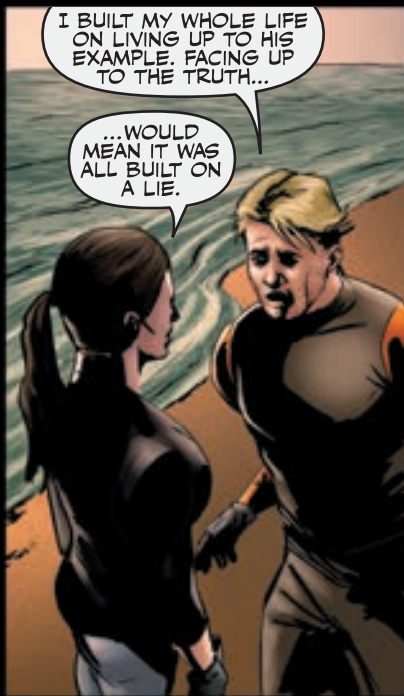
INSTEAD OF HELPING ME BUILD A CASE, YOU TIPPED HIM OFF!

YOU WRECKED MY CAREER. NOW, I'M STUCK PROTECTING ENTITLED BRATS LIKE TANNER.



BEFORE HE WAS COLONEL FISHER, I CALLED HIM "UNCLE MIKE." HE WAS THERE FOR ME AFTER MY FATHER DIED.

WHEN I WENT TO PROM, HE LET ME BORROW HIS TRANS-AM. GAVE ME 20 BUCKS FOR FLOWERS.



I BUILT MY WHOLE LIFE ON LIVING UP TO HIS EXAMPLE. FACING UP TO THE TRUTH...

...WOULD MEAN IT WAS ALL BUILT ON A LIE.



I CAN'T CHANGE THE PAST. ALL I CAN DO IS TRY TO GET THINGS RIGHT.


YOU WANT TO GET YOUR OLD LIFE BACK? HELP ME FIND FISHER.



OH, AND WE HAVE...JUST OVER 13 HOURS TO DO IT.

WHY'S THAT?

BECAUSE THEN I'M DEAD.




"WE'LL NEVER FIND FISHER DIRECTLY. HE'S TOO GOOD AT COVERING HIS TRACKS."



DUBLIN, IRELAND
n53° 20.8841', w006° 14.8962'
12 HOURS OF LIFE LEFT



"BUT HIS NEW CREW ISN'T QUITE AS CAREFUL."




HER NAME IS AYALA TAL. EX-MOSSAD. I'VE TRACKED HER THROUGH SEVERAL ASSASSINATIONS CONNECTED TO FISHER.



WHAT'S SHE DOING IN DUBLIN?

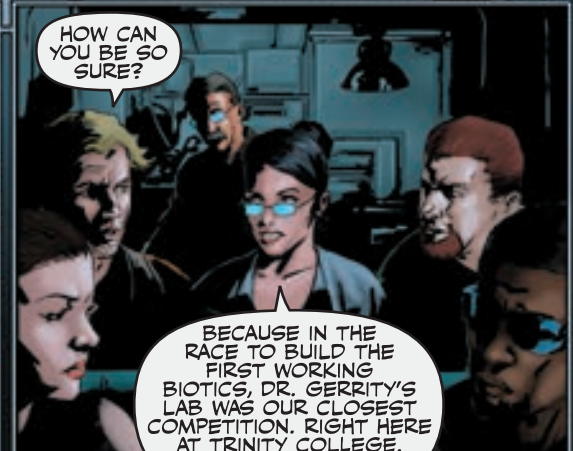
I DON'T KNOW, BUT INTERPOL SAYS SHE CIRCLES BACK HERE EVERY FEW WEEKS.

IF SHE'S FREELANCING, SHE COULD BE WORKING FOR ANYBODY.



THEY'RE TURNING INTO THE COLLEGE.

SHE'S DEFINITELY WORKING WITH FISHER.



HOW CAN YOU BE SO SURE?

BECAUSE IN THE RACE TO BUILD THE FIRST WORKING BIOTICS, DR. GERRITY'S LAB WAS OUR CLOSEST COMPETITION. RIGHT HERE AT TRINITY COLLEGE.



MIC CHECK. TEAM TWO?



TEAM TWO. WE READ YOU.



I SHOULD BE IN THERE.

IF THIS THING GOES SOUTH, I'D RATHER BE LEAVING BEHIND ONLY THREE BODIES, AND NO PAPERWORK.



YOU ARE AWARE THESE COMMS ARE TWO-WAY, RIGHT?

CUT THE CHATTER AND FIND GERRITY.

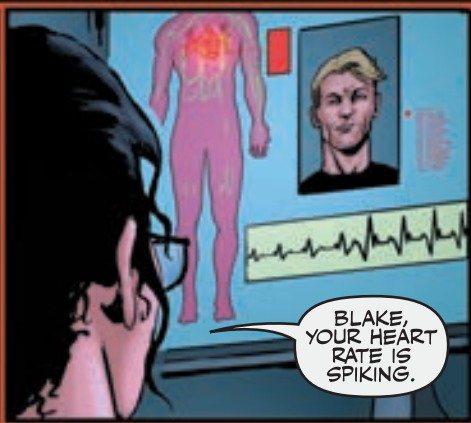
ARRIVING AT THE ELEVATORS, NOW.



HIS LAB'S IN THE SUB-BASEMENT, LEVEL 2.



YOU'LL LIKELY FIND AYALA WITH THE SCIENTISTS. STAY ON YOUR TOES.



BLAKE, YOUR HEART RATE IS SPIKING.

