

THE INDIE HYPE MAG

# CATALYST



ISSUE 13 - JAN 2024

LAMBERT  
CURRIE  
GALVEZ

COMICS  
PROSE  
GALLERY  
INTERVIEWS  
TIPS

NOVA BI-MONTHLY!  
VANO KNOWAS NOVA LATE IT'LL BE NOVA!

EXCLUSIVE PREVIEW OF  
**AIR FORCE ONES**  
FROM WINGLESS COMICS!

# CATALYST

CATALYST MAGAZINE BROUGHT TO YOU BY NEXUS STUDIOS, INC.

*Happy New Year!*

***The first issue of 2024 and the first issue to signal a major change! Starting with this very issue, we are going bi-monthly! (The correct definition—every other month.)***

***So look for the next issue of Catalyst in March, and every two months after!***

***In addition to that, the size of each issue may change, as you can tell this is just shy of 50 pages, and still late somehow!***

***My real life woes are not your concern, you just want your dang entertainment, right? Well jump on in, and get an eye full!***

***-Dalibor***

***PS: Next issue will also have the beginning of an EXCLUSIVE comic series from Worthy Chaos Comics, so make sure you come back to check that out.***

COVER ARTIST

Keithan Jones

Image used courtesy of Wingless Comics

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# COMING SOON

*For the skimmer types, I wanted to include a quick overview of all the live or upcoming campaigns from our featured creators and others.*

*Our cover feature AIR FORCE ONES,  
Wingless Comics*

**[[ COMING SOON ]]**



*Redemption #8, Worthy Chaos Comics*

**[[ FINAL DAYS ]]**

*From Freestyle Komiks, HOTSHOT!*

**[[ LAST HOURS ]]**



*TEN #3, Christopher Rhodes*

**[[ FINAL WEEK ]]**



*The Mechanic #1, Joël Séguin*

**[[ LIVE NOW ]]**



*Like Father, Like Daughter: A Superhero  
Drama Origin Story, Lifeline Comics*

**[[ FINAL WEEK ]]**



*Fall of Knight—Violent Beginnings  
Catalyst Comics*

**[[ LIVE NOW ]]**



*Kimi Kosmic, EearthTone Kingdom*

**[[ COMING SOON ]]**





***I came across the work of Wingless Comics a few years ago, and had to jump on the free digital comics to see what was up. But then very quickly I got swept up in the quickly growing library—multiple solo series, an inter-company crossover, and now even a mecha manga! Needless to say I had to get to know the mastermind behind all this. Allow me to present an EXCLUSIVE look at the upcoming series Air Force Ones with some words from its creator, friend of the magazine,***

## **BRIAN J LAMBERT**

***So you put out a couple singles, jumped to a multi-company crossover, and now you're about to launch a manga series with animation potential! I gotta ask when do you sleep?***

The short answer is, I don't. Lmao. Long answer, is I try to take advantage of the times my brain is on fire and I just have an idea that's echoing in my head. Tons of random notes and phrases and pictures in my phone that I keep handy for when inspiration strikes. The added piece that I'm very fortunate to have is support. What Wingless Comics has done in just a few short years has been awesome. But I couldn't do it alone, that's for sure. 10+ comics in just over 3 years as an indie. And that's just what I've personally published of my own work. That's not even the rest of the crew. Yeah, I'm DEFINITELY DUE for a vacation. But 2024 is going to be EVEN BIGGER!



***Is storytelling something that's always been part of your life, or have you grown into it?***



I've always loved storytelling and it's always been an outlet for me. I think it started with cartoons and action figures. I grew up in the generation that got the last hoorah of Saturday Morning cartoons and afterschool specials, so it was ingrained. When I played with my action figures as a kid, they couldn't just fight, I had elaborate reasons why the teenage mutant ninja turtles teamed up with the super friends. It's just always been a crazy, constant thing.

***You've bridged the gap between superhero and fantasy genres with books like Justice, Her, and Nightfall. With Air Force Ones, you're diving into mecha sci-fi. What motivated the jump in genres and where else might you leap in the future?***

I've always loved a good space opera. I grew up a HUGE Robotech fan and (if I'm being honest) that would be my dream Hollywood project. I also loved Transformers growing up and used to dream about being a character next to Optimus Prime

(I'm a Hot Rod guy too, don't judge me) as I flipped through the toy booklet or watched the cartoons. As I've gotten older, I've gotten more into Gundam and a bunch of other mecha anime. It's just awesome, fertile, storytelling ground and that's always been where I want to be. Plus, who doesn't want to imagine themselves piloting a giant robot with a dope hip-hop score blasting in their ears?

***Since we're at the dawn of a new story, this feels like the best time to ask - when you sit down with a new idea, are you dropping plot and script right away, or are you engineering the whole series out first to its finale?***

A little bit of both I think. I usually know where I want the overall story to begin and end. But the journey is how the characters get there, which I let them decide. I have a broad outline but as characters and stories develop, all these new and interesting branches of the story appear. Air Force Ones can to me as I was in that place just between awake and asleep and I'm lucky to have remembered the idea. But once I had it, Nas and Maui and the Commander started writing themselves really.



***With your own books, editing other people's work, and writing for other titles, what would you say have been the most challenging and most rewarding parts of indie creation and publishing?***



Editing is by far the most challenging thing I do. It takes a lot. Admin work comes in at a CLOSE second. But editing consists of finding the flaws in someone else's work. Which is a delicate process. It's also one of the reasons I have editing calls with all my clients so that I take the extra step to explain what I mean and strengthen that writer/editor relationship. Most people don't actually know what editors do. So it takes time to build that trust and guarantee the best story possible.

The most rewarding part of indie comics is bringing someone's characters to life and seeing their reaction when you do. There's nothing like it. Whether that's a pin up, a comic, an action-figure or an animation. When you bring to life something that's been in the back of someone's mind for so long, it's the best feeling you can have in this industry.

***With that said, let's see how you react to this EXCLUSIVE look at***



WINGLESS COMICS PRESENTS

# AIR FORCE ONES

COMING SOON...



**Some promo material above, with three of the cover variants below. Brian's employed a variety of artists with complimentary styles to give us some great looks at the characters in Air Force Ones!**

Variant by Stanley Weaver and Nestor Redulla



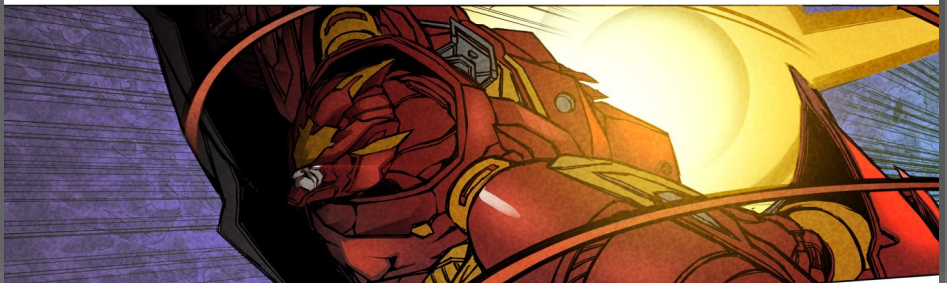
Cover by Eduardo Souza and Nestor Redulla

Variant by Orbelin Jaimes and Nestor Redulla



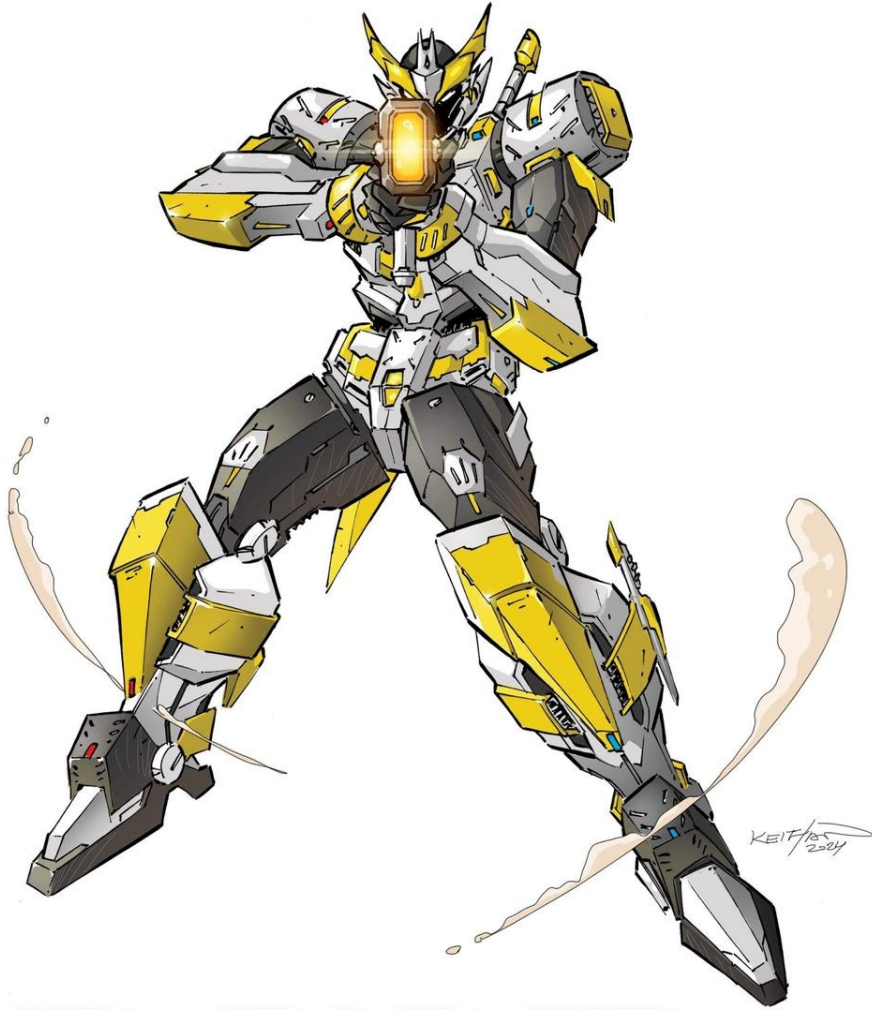
**Now let's look inside this beast. A few sneak peaks at some scenes and pages in various stages of production. Striving to not give away anything, of course.**







WINGLESS COMICS PRESENTS



# AIR FORCE ONES



WINGLESS COMICS AND 9B COLLECTIVE PRESENT NAS SKYE MAUI IN AIR FORCE ONES

ILLUSTRATED BY IQBAL PRASETYONO COLORED BY VICTOR AKINNIYE LETTERED BY RUNEMAKERZ

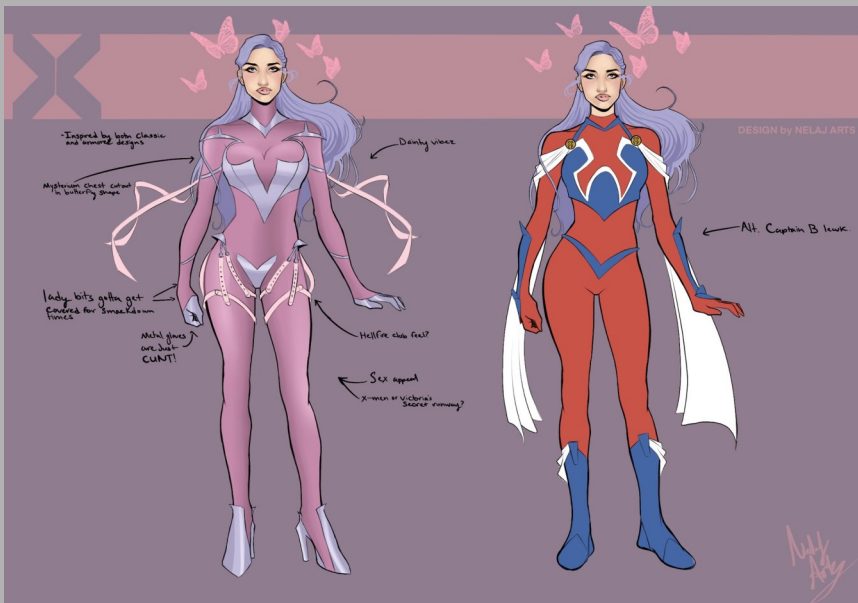
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY BRIAN J. LAMBERT EXECUTIVE PRODUCER PHILLIP BOUTTE JR.

**Normally, I'd give you the full social links, but go to the creator index in the back to get those. After those images, I imagine you're as hyped as I am to get this book, figures (did I mention there's figures? Sneak peek below), and if we're lucky even an anime. Click or tap the link below, go to the campaign and click to [get notified](#) when it launches!**



# GALLERY

***I'm a huge fan of redesigns. I think no matter how strong a design, there's always an opportunity to take another swing at it. That's why I featured last issue's artist, and that's why I'm introducing you to the work of [Nelaj Arts!](#)***



***Whether Marvel or DC, he's taking classic looks and sometimes tweaking just a touch, other times reframing the entire concept.***

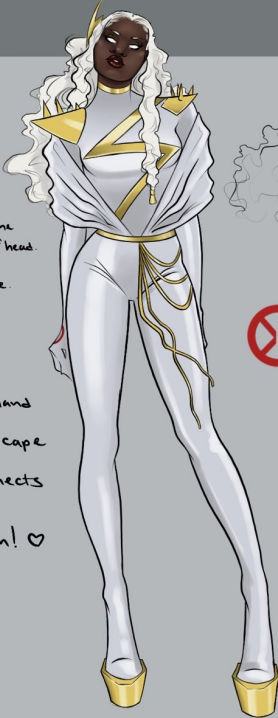
***I mean can we talk about this Raven look? Outstanding! An perfect look at what Raven could be if they stopped making her a teenager every relaunch. But that's not what we're here for.***

***Check out more art!***





- default look is with cape wrapped up in blouse like design.
- Gold spikes from previous Daunterman design.
- hair is pulled back with one loose twist on each side of head.
- kinky/coily hair texture.
- Switch blade in boots.
- Cat eyemakeup
- X symbol on each hand
- blouse unfolds into cape
- lightning bolt connects to belt.
- Always!!! Darkskin! ♥



**STORM**  
DESIGN by NELAJ ARTS



- Inspired by Ariel design
- Design should invoke pear "Lean against the bar and give sex eyes to Rachel or Illiyana in a way only a bisexual woman could!"
- Simple design allows Kate a reset to her history while taking a break from her more busy ninja and pirate designs.

Jacket has a bit of pirate flare



unzipped bisexual v-neck



hair always big and curly

star of David



Sword sheath built into Jacket

X wraps around suit and body



back out. Kate is GROWN now!

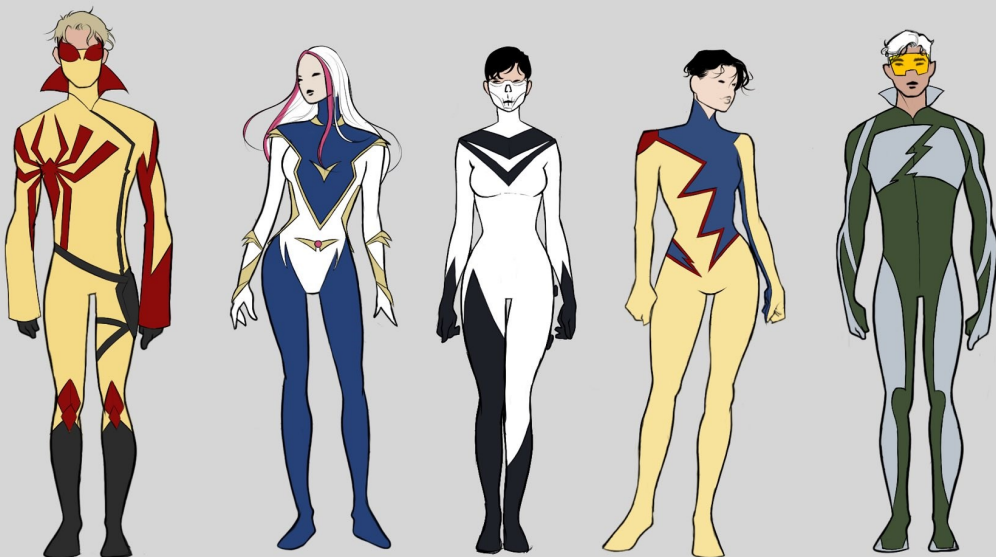
Booty!





***And I gotta leave you with one last one, featuring INCREDIBLE redesigns of two of my favorite characters, Songbird and Jolt!***

***Make sure you follow Nelaj Arts on [Twitter!](#)***



***I spend some time on Twitter and always take note of people promoting indie comics. Of course it was not long until I took note of this man busting his ass to make sure anybody coming across his content knew about the books and creators he was promoting. Let's have a few words***

# JOEY GALVÉZ



***So it looks to me like you saw the term "man of many hats" and said "hold my beer." Whether it's running Geek Collective, hosting podcasts, running social for someone, running PR & Marketing for someone else - you're doing a ton of stuff. How do you find the time for it all?***

Lol, first I want to thank you for taking this time to speak with me. You know I have to give it to my amazing partner, she is the reason I am not only able to do this but the entire reason that I do it at all. She pushed me to step out of my comfort zone and build the vision that I had for Geek Collective, which at the time was a small podcast network. She helped me develop what she calls my "Fee Sheet" ,



a series of prices for small promo services for creators like social posts or pre-order codes reminding fans to add comics to their pull lists and things like that. It got to the point where my day job was getting in the way of the promo work and paying out better too. So we made the scary decision that I would quit my day job and create a business. It's been the best thing to happen to us, I have more time to be with my family, I'm home for my wife if she wants to hit the gym! It's been a bumpy ride but I will do it all over again!

***Let's take it back to the beginning, how did your interest in comics first develop?***

I'm a child of the 90's so I lived through the best times for animated comic adaptations like X-Men, Batman TAS, TMNT, heck remember "FOX KIDS" that was all my Jam too! So naturally I found an interest in comics. The first comic that I remember, I think I bought with my own money (probably from mowing neighborhood lawns) was X-Men Vol 2 #1 you know that sweet Iconic 4 Issue Jim Lee connecting covers, I had CVR C with the Brown & Yellow Wolverine suit with Cyclops & Iceman in the Background, at the time "Wolverine" was my favorite X-Men Character. That cover was so sick! I have no idea what happened to that book, But I have tracked down some mint copies and added them to my collection for the sentimental value It holds to who I am today. They are framed and sit over my home office where it reminds me everyday of how far I have come!



## **What's your favorite project you've helped bring to market and why?**



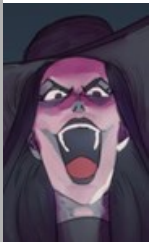
This is a difficult one to answer, right cause my goal is to help readers get books into their hands and onto their shelves so anytime that I am able to contribute to that end goal in any way makes it my favorite thing to do. If i had to think of which project had the biggest impact on me and how I work would probably be anything that I do with "Rabbit In A Hat Studios" the creative minds behind "Pocus Hocus" & "Grandma Chainsaw" along with friends like "Oneshi Press" who all have believed in everything that I've done and continue to help me thrive as a professional creative. When all I had was a vision they took the chance to allow me to learn along with them. I have to thank them for giving me the opportunity to, for lack of better words, use them as my guinea pigs as I developed my strategy.

## **Which project that is coming up is the one that's got you the most excited to read?**

There's a couple of books that a got me like that, I think "Mostly Dead" from Allen Dunford & Kit Wallis & maybe "Stat" from BlaX Trauma Productions it's a new Brian Hawkins new meta slasher, I can't give you anymore information on those cause ya know...it's top secret.



## **Now it's just you, me, and the reader here. Who's your favorite creator to work with?**



Ha, nice try, It's like being a parent you can't have favorites...right? I love working with all creators, even the difficult ones, by that I mean when they challenge me I learn and I get better at what I do. I don't know everything about marketing, right? But I thrive to learn more and more each day, I learn by making mistakes, so maybe I would say my favorite creator is the creator that forces me to push my limits.

**Smooth exit there! Check out Joey across social media, and then flip to the next page to get a peek at the new Geek Collective Independent Geek Culture Magazine [Archetypes!](#)**

<https://geekcollective.net>

[@joeygalvez1984](#) on X (Twitter) everywhere as well

[@\\_geekcollective](#) on X (Twitter)

[www.geekcollective.net/archetypes](http://www.geekcollective.net/archetypes)

**I wasn't blowing smoke earlier, either. Look at the man's many hats!**

Founder & CEO of [The Geek Collective](#). **Founder** and **Host** of [The House Of Indie](#) (On Hiatus). Co-Created [Wednesday Warriors LIVE](#) (On Hiatus). **Sr. Network Development Officer** at [Age Of Radio](#). (**Current**) Social Media Marketing Manager at [Band Of Bards](#), (**Former**) Co-Social Media Marketing Manager at [ScoutComics And Entertainment](#) & [The Comicbook Shopping Experience \( The EXP\)](#)

■ **MOTHER WOLF & CUBS**  
RAFAEL FLORES JR.

■ **"ACE" FALCON**  
BENJAMIN W. MORSE

■ **BENEATH THE LIGHTHOUSE**  
RABBIT IN A HAT STUDIOS/BAD BUG MEDIA



AN INDEPENDENT GEEK CULTURE MAGAZINE

# ARCHETYPES

**FROM THE WORLD OF  
"SCARLET TWILIGHT"  
COMES**

**"ACE"  
FALCON**  
**SCOURGE OF THE  
VAMPIRE WEST**

**GEEK NETWORK  
SPECIAL FEATURE**

**WRITING TOOLS BY  
ADRIANO ARIGANELLO**

**WHY ARE  
MEDIA KIT'S SO  
IMPORTANT?**

**Q A**



Lynsey G. (she/they)  
Co-founder, Editor in Chief

Jayel Draco (he/they)  
Co-founder, Lead Designer

**EXPLAIN YOURSELF:  
CO-FOUNDERS  
JAYEL & LYNSEY G.  
GIVE US A SNEAK PEAK  
INTO THE WORLD OF  
ONESHI PRESS**

GEEK  
COLLECTIVE

ZINE

01



PREVIEW:

"Ace" Falcon

By Benjamin W. Morse

FROM THE  
WORLD OF



WHEN SCARLET TWILIGHT RULED  
THE EARTH, HUMANITY WAS  
DOMINATED BY THEIR EVIL  
POWER.

BUT SOME BRAVE HEROES STILL  
ROSE UP AND RESISTED THEIR  
VAMPIRE OVERLORDS.



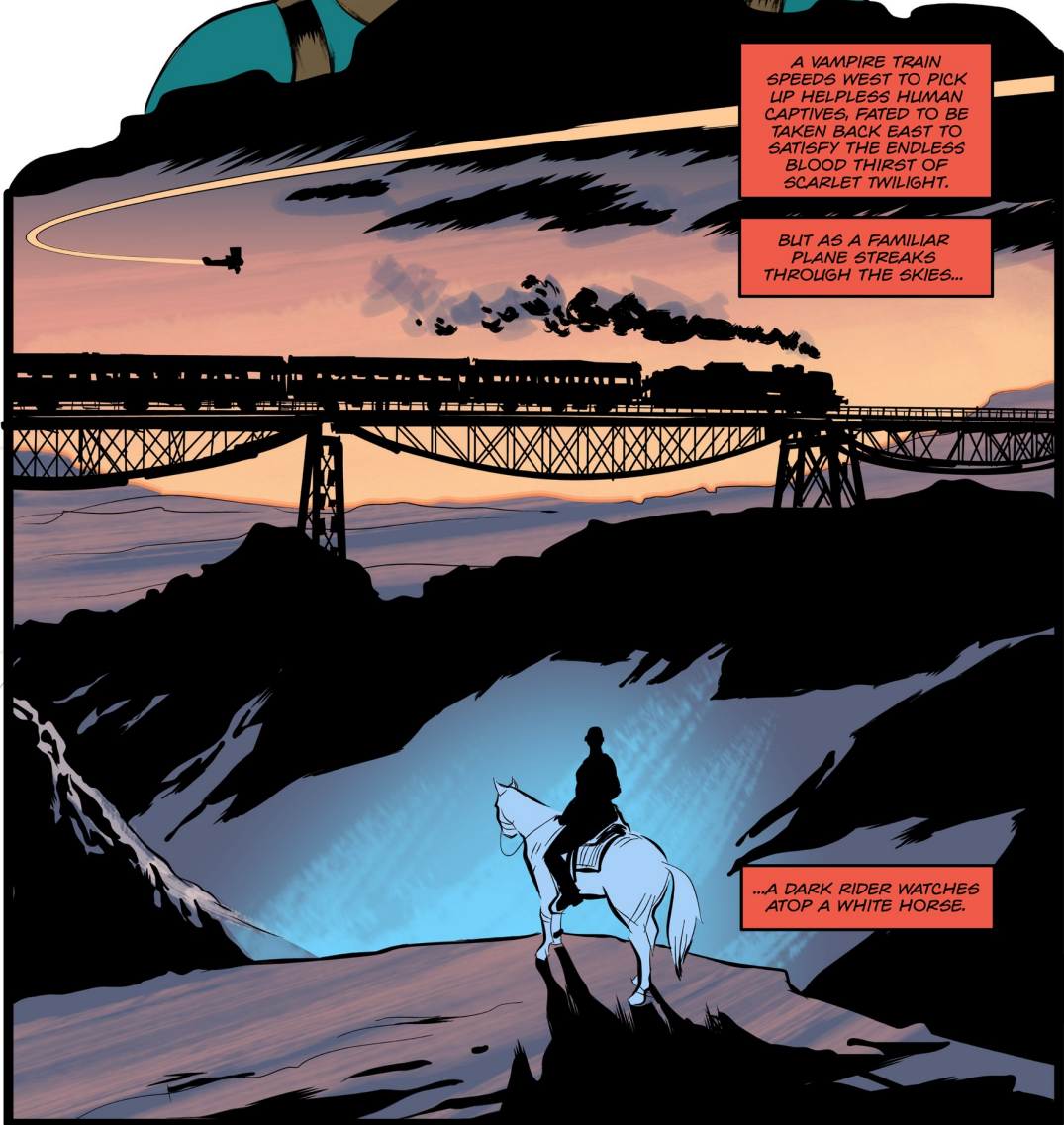
# "ACE" FALCON

## SCOURGE OF THE VAMPIRE WEST

ACE FALCON: SIOUX WARRIOR  
OF THE SKYWAYS, GREATEST  
PILOT OF HIS GENERATION,  
STRIKES FROM THE SHADOWS  
AND FIGHTS TIRELESSLY TO RID  
THE AMERICAN WEST OF THE  
VAMPIRES THAT HOLD HUMANITY  
CAPTIVE.

A VAMPIRE TRAIN  
SPEEDS WEST TO PICK  
UP HELPLESS HUMAN  
CAPTIVES, FATED TO BE  
TAKEN BACK EAST TO  
SATISFY THE ENDLESS  
BLOOD THIRST OF  
SCARLET TWILIGHT.

BUT AS A FAMILIAR  
PLANE STREAKS  
THROUGH THE SKIES...

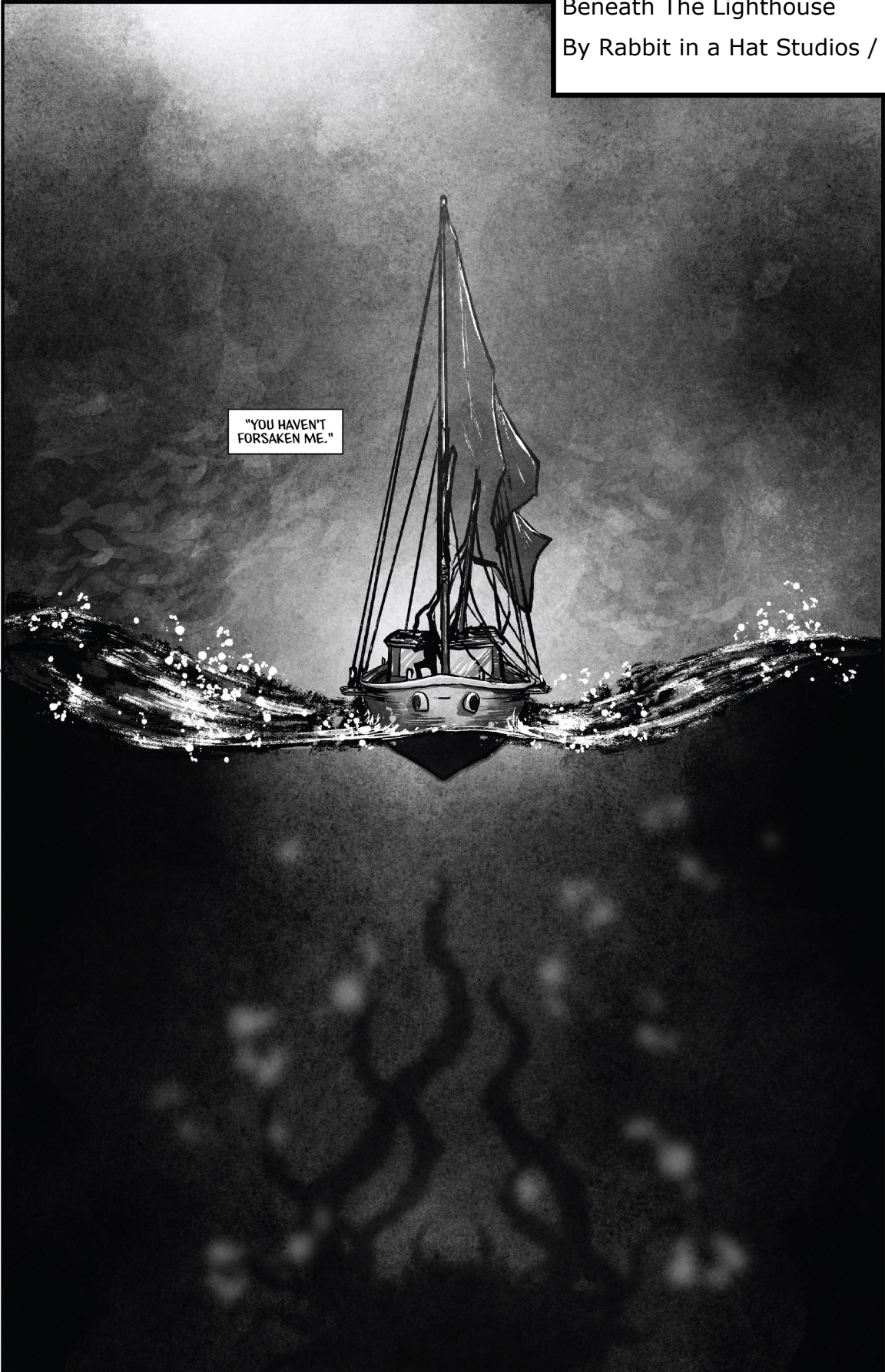


...A DARK RIDER WATCHES  
ATOP A WHITE HORSE.

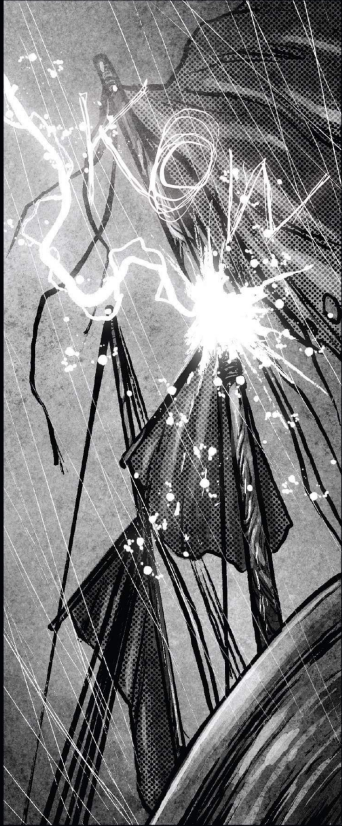
PREVIEW:

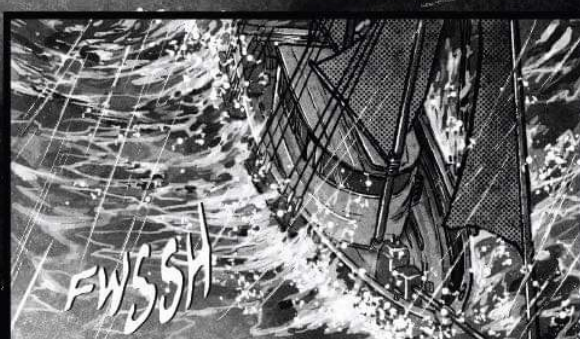
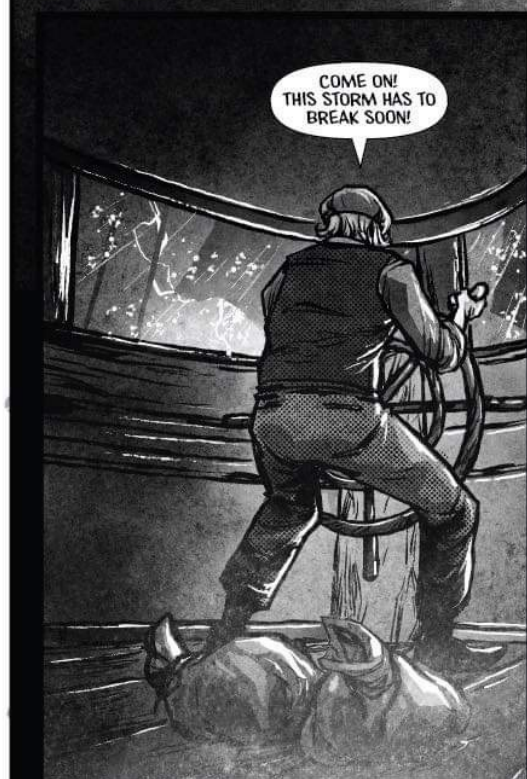
Beneath The Lighthouse

By Rabbit in a Hat Studios /



"YOU HAVEN'T  
FORSAKEN ME."





PREVIEW:  
Mother Wolf & Cubs  
By Rafael Flores, Jr.



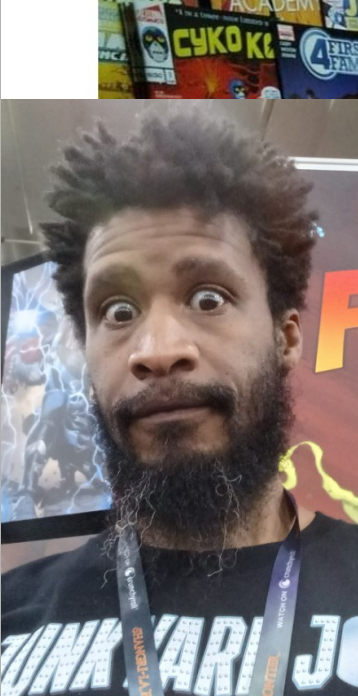


Check out the magazine!

[GeekCollective.net/Archetypes](http://GeekCollective.net/Archetypes)

# SHOP TALK

***I wanted to dedicate some space in this digital magazine to shine a light on some physical spaces where indie comics are featured. I'm going to be doing a full audit of all my local shops to bring you the best of the best, and to that end we of course have to start with Blerds Underground!***



***Allow me to introduce you to the wonderfully energetic Manager of the place,***

## KEVIN MILLER

***To start with, give people an idea of what Blerds Underground is, where it is, and how you came to be involved.***

Just as our slogan indicates, Blerds Underground is the dopest spot in the multiverse for comics and collectibles! We are located in beautiful downtown LaGrange, IL just steps from the LaGrange Metra Station. Mike Davis and Marcel Kirk purchased the shop back in September of 2022. After noticing the change of ownership via social media, I caught their attention with a crafty story post and was their first official hire on October the 1st. We are in year two now and I currently serve as the Store Manager.



***What was the first comic book you read, and what is your current favorite comic book?***

At nine years old, waayyy back in 1992, my first comic book read was Spawn! Even though I lost my entire childhood Image Comics collection in a basement flood, that title and character are still very near and dear. As for my current favorite comic book, I feel like there are 100 different ways for me to answer this, it's hard to pick JUST one, but... Harriet Tubman: Demon Slayer by David Crownson is

one title at the top of my list.

***One of the big things that I took notice of when I visited the first time was that there was a focus on indie comics - something that is not very often seen in comic shops these days. What would you say drives your decision to spotlight books from Indy publishers in the same sort of shelf real estate as Marvel and DC?***

The big two are what they are and I am referring to Marvel and DC there. As previously mentioned, I was a big Spawn fan as a kid and Image was NOT as big as they are today. Present day, you can absolutely argue that it's more of a big three, but in 1992, Image Comics was still an independent publisher.

So I kind of started reading and collecting with the indies, not Marvel or DC. It's just stayed with me, I see so much wonder on the indie scene. The creators seem to have a bit more wiggle room to actually be creative instead of trying to fit into some industry standard box. The common comic reader knows about Marvel and DC, their titles & their creators. The indie scene not so much, those titles and their creators deserve a spotlight.



***Now on top of shelf space the other big thing you've done for indies (and a couple big creators from the mainstream) is you have creators come to the shop to do signings and promote their work. There has been some recent shall we say 'spirited discussion' on the internet about the role of comic shops in the comic industry, and how they can best be served by the publishers. Do you see indie creators and independent comic books as an important cornerstone of the comic book store business going forward?***

Yes, indie creators & independent books are the new life blood of the shop if you



ask me. We need their talent on display as they stand their ground for the one thing that the bigs won't give them, which is control. Control of their art, control of their publishing rights, control of their work. We would like indie creators to bring their fan base to the shop so they can check out all of the awesome stuff that is in store. We want to help drive that buzz because word of mouth is still very much so a thing.

Our shop is small, but it packs a punch. We have an opportunity to give the creator and reader an intimate space to get to know each other. We want to introduce these creators and their work to our local customer base in LaGrange, IL and then some. We have to work together because the only thing that remains constant is change. Time and tech have changed a lot of things for creators and shops alike.

***If a small press indie publisher wants to get their book on your shelf, how would they go about that?***

Shoot us an email at [store@blerdsunderground.com](mailto:store@blerdsunderground.com)!

Stop by the shop Tuesday through Sunday at

[15 1/2 South LaGrange, Rd. LaGrange, IL 60525!](#)

Give us a call at 708-352-1230!

Visit our website at [blerdsunderground.com](http://blerdsunderground.com)!

**What are three complete indie books that everyone should read, and what are three ongoing indies that everyone should be adding to their pull list?**

*Three indie books everyone should read:*

Blacula by Rodney Barnes

Nita Hawes' Nightmare Blog VOL 1 and 2 by Rodney Barnes

Literally anything from Sebastian Jones at Stranger Comics

*Three ongoing indie series:*

Harriet Tubman: Demon Slayer by David Crownson

Akolyte by Derek Allen

Aceblade by Danny J Quick

***Solid recommendations! I second both the Harriet Tubman: Demon Slayer and Aceblade picks, of course! Stranger Comics is up next on my research list, and Kevin talks about Blacula every time I'm in the shop, so he'll eventually wear me down and I'll read it, I'm sure. Make sure you check out [Blerds Underground](#) if you're local or visiting Chicagoland!***

***This is a feature that is heavily overdue. I met this man and much of the Street Team Studios crew years ago, so I'm ashamed that I haven't featured them at all in the magazine until now. Creator and writer of PUNXofRAGE, writer of The Almighty StreetTeam, it's my pleasure to introduce you to***

# JOE CURRIE



***To get things started, give us your origin story. What got you into comics in the first place, and when did you want to know you wanted to make your own comics?***



I'm a GenXer born in 75. I was into cartoons and comics for as long as I can remember. I was collecting Archie Comics and stuff like that very early in life. Later I got into Superhero Comics and I just loved it.

As far as wanting to make comics. I was in Highschool and a buddy of mine had actually published a comic which in like 93 was unheard of. Seeing that made me believe I could do it so I bugged the hell out of him about it. Pretty much soaking up as much knowledge as I could until I was able to publish my own.

***Chicken or the egg time - what came first, PUNXofRAGE or The Almighty StreetTeam?***

PUNXofRAGE was first. Funny thing I started that title with Skottie Young in Like 2000. I had met him on the comic scene in Chicago . One day I'll drop some of the early work in an artbook. The official first book for PUNXofRAGE dropped in 2009 featuring the art of Stanley Weaver and Whitney Barber.

The Almighty StreetTeam dropped not to long after that in 2011.



***When you first came up with Punx of Rage, did you plan out a long series of books, or just start writing the first issue?***

Once I figured out exactly what I was doing and the world developed I was able to think long term as to how I wanted the series to go. So now I have a pretty good idea as to where I want to go.

***When you hit a roadblock in your work, how do you get over it?***

I just take a break from it. Once you start to force it in my opinion, you're not giving your best.



***5. Is there a project that you've never gotten around to, but still want to write?***

Oh there are a few of those.

One in particular I would like to do is a story I worked on in the mid 90's called CryTown. It's a Supernatural tale. One day I hope to get it done in some form.

***A supernatural story would certainly be a departure, but I'll definitely be checking it out when Joe gets around to publishing it!***

***Make sure you check out Joe, PUNXofRAGE, and The Almighty StreetTeam across the internet!***

***Then turn the page to check out PUNXofRAGE #1!***

[www.punxofrage.com](http://www.punxofrage.com)

[PUNXofRAGE Radio](#)

Facebook—[punxofrage99](#)

Instagram—[PUNXofRAGE](#)

Twitter—[ThatStrictlyKid](#)

[www.almightystreetteam.net](http://www.almightystreetteam.net)

Instagram—[almighty.street.team](#)

Facebook—[thealmightystreetteam](#)

# PUNK OF RAGE



  
STRICTLY  
UNDERGROUND  
COMICS  
3.50

**STRICTLY UNDERGROUND**

PUNXOFRAGE.NET  
PUNXOFRAGE@GMAIL.COM  
**PROUDLY PRESENTS**

# **PUNX OF RAGE**

**Issue #1**

**“OFF the PLATFORM”**

**CREATED, WRITTEN & PUBLISHED BY:**

**JOE ROBINSON CURRIE**  
aka  
**“THAT STRICTLY KID”**

**COVER:**

**LINES & COLORS: Stanley Weaver**

**INTERIOR ART**

**Lines By: Glyph Sputnik**  
**Colors By: Corey Greene**  
**Color Flats By: Anthony Eddings & Brian Hamilton**  
**PinUp Art: Glyph Sputnik**

**Lettering By:**  
**BlackOut Texture Shoppe**

ALL CHARACTERS AND CONCEPTS WITHIN THIS BOOK ARE TRADEMARK AND COPYRIGHT  
2011 JOSEPH CLARK ROBINSON CURRIE III



HI MISS WILSON CAN I HAVE A MEDIUM SNOWBALL CHERRY AND LEMON. AND A LARGE BLUE RASPBERRY FOR MY MOM.

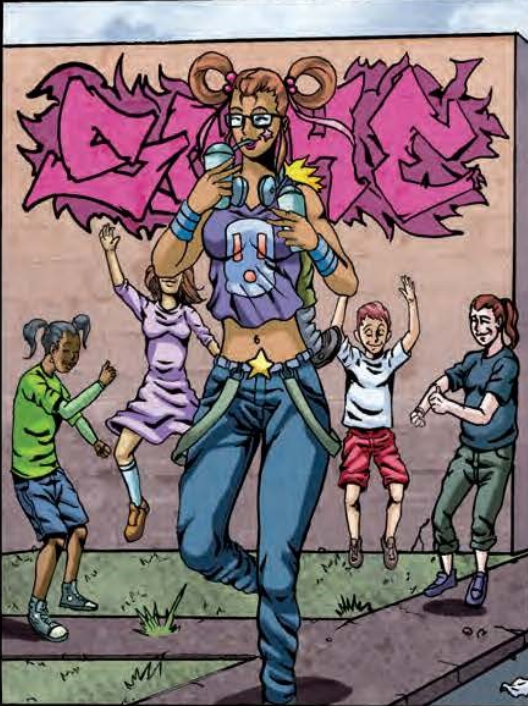


I GOT THAT COMING RIGHT UP LIL LADY.



OK, HERE YA GO BABY, SAY HI TO YOUR MOM FOR ME NOW.

THANK YOU MISS WILSON I WILL.



WHAT'S UP RAUL? WHAT'S UP JESSE?



I'M WATCHIN' Y'ALL DONT SPLASH ME!



C'MON GABBY BABY! YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T GET PAST ME LIKE THAT!

I MEAN WHAT'S THE HURRY SWEETIE?

OR WHAT?

AAAAHHHHH!

LEAVE ME ALONE DRE!





BECAUSE I CAN!!!

WHY DID YOU DO THAT DRE?!?!



HUGUHPPP!!!

THAKKKK!!!

UGH, GOTT DAMMIT WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU FOOLS LAUGHING AT?!? GRAB HER!!!

YEAH LET'S SEE HOW TOUGH YOU ARE NOW!









SERIOUS, YOU GOTTA TELL YO' BOYFRIEND TO CHILL!

DONT EVEN PLAY ME OUT LIKE THAT. YOU KNOW I WOULDNT EVEN LOOK AT A CHUMP LIKE DRE...

LOOK AT M ALL ON THE GROUND HOLDING HIS SH!+. BLEEDIN THAT'S NOT ME.

BOTH OF YOU SHUT UP, LET'S BREAK THEM DOWN AND SEND THEM THE HELL OUTA HERE THEN WE CAN TALK ABOUT HOW MUCH DRE SUCKS!!!

GLUHH, -COUGH KILL THOSE MOTHER F#@KERS, KILL ALL OF M!!!!

TELL ME ABOUT IT!

THESE CHUMPS ARE SOFT!

I KNOW RIGHT, EASY WORK!



THIS AINT OVER! NOT BY A LONGSHOT!



YOU GUYS ARE AWESOME! CAN I BE IN YOUR GROUP?

I DONT KNOW ABOUT THAT, GABBY IT'S DANGEROUS.

BUT YOU DO IT! AND I KNOW I CAN. JUST TEACH ME HOW TO FIGHT!

C'MON GABBY, I'LL WALK YOU HOME.

...LIKE YOU.

...AND YOUR MOTHER WOULD BEAT MY BEHIND, IF SHE FOUND OUT I WAS TAKING YOU AROUND WITH ME DOING THIS STUFF.



THOSE GOTT DAMN BASTARDS!!!

CAP WE HAVETO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THOSE STUPID PUNX.



I DONT REALLY CARE ABOUT YOUR TOOTH DRE...

YOU TOLD ME YOU COULD LOCK DOWN THE BRONZEYILLE NEIGHBORHOOD. YOU GAVE ME YOUR WORD.

THEY KNOCKED MY DAMN TOOTH OUT!!!



I KNOW WHAT I PROMISED GOTT DAMMIT! YOU DONT NEED TO THROW THAT IN MY F\*\*\*IN' FACE!

F@#K YO' TOOTH! LOOK WHAT THEY DID TO MY FACE!!!



GASP!!!



CROWN SAYS HE WANTS THOSE CLOWNS OFF THE STREET. WE HAVE TO GET CONTROL. YOU ARE A VIOLATOR DRE ACT LIKE ONE.



I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TO GO DOWN TO 89TH, IT SHOULD BE ABOUT 200 SOLDIERS IN THAT AREA. GET THEM ALL AND TAKE THEM BACK TO THE GARDENS. SEE WHAT THE NEIGHBORHOOD IS LIKE WHEN WE SHOW THEM THE SHEER NUMBERS.



CAN WE GO STRAPPED?

HELL NO. NONE OF YOU CAN SHOOT ANYWAY. NO YOU'RE GOING TO INTIMIDATE AND SHEER NUMBERS ALONE SHOULD DO IT. THIS IS A MISSION TO DISHEARTEN. LET THE NEIGHBORHOOD KNOW WHO'S RUNNING IT. AND IF SOME WANNA BE HEROS GET IN THE WAY, BREAK 'M!



GOT IT!

UH OKAY.

AND DRE, JUST SO YOU'LL KNOW THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE DONT SCREW THIS UP.



LATER THAT EVENING...

I'M IN CHARGE  
SO NOBODY MAKES  
A MOVE UNTIL I  
SAY SO YOU GOT IT.

GOT IT!



OH S\*\*#!

GOTT DAMN  
LOOK HOW MANY OF  
THEM THERE  
ARE!!!



BOY,  
YOU SILLY.

I THINK  
IT'D BE FRESH, A  
99 TAT ON  
YA CHEEK.

I GOT  
A SERIOUS CASE  
OF THE MUNCHIES.

RICO, CHARLES WE  
GOT A SITUATION  
HEADED YOUR WAY!

WHAT UP D?

F' REAL I DONT  
SEE ANYTHING I-  
WAIT I SEE-M NOW!

I'LL BE THERE IN  
ONE MINUTE, Y'ALL  
HOLD IT DOWN!





SURE, NO PROB...

OH MY GOD!

OUTTA THE WAY OLD MAN!!

DRE, I GUESS ONE ASS WHIPPING IN A DAY IS NOT ENOUGH FOR YOU!

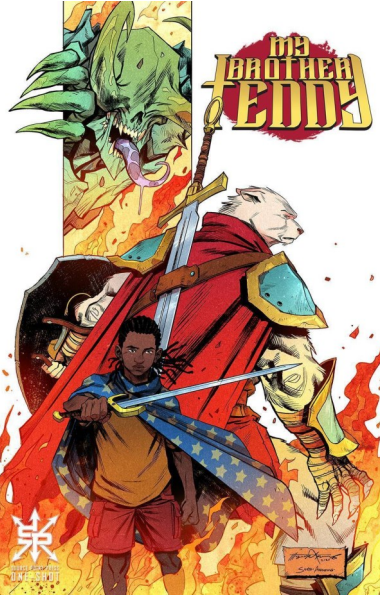
I THINK THINGS ARE GONNA BE A LITTLE DIFFERENT THIS TIME YOU LITTLE PUNK!





# NEW HOTNESS

*This is a list of indie books I read since the last issue and have loved.*



This book is a must-read.

Without question.

Not a single line of dialogue, and it brought me to tears.

Go and buy it now on [GlobalComix](https://www.globalcomix.com).

Going from one book with no dialogue to another where the main character says nothing!

I gotta say I jumped on this because the concept seemed interesting, but I blazed through the Apex Genesis arc in no time! Multiple issues are already out, and more to come, this is a fun ride!

I can't seem to find an online store, but the next campaign is coming up for another title from the same creator, and I'd wager you can get APEX as an add-on!

Sign up to get notified for [Blue Heart Emoji!](#)



I gotta say this one's been overdue. I'm a superhero fan and that should have pushed me to read this much sooner.

I read the first 3 issues, and overall it's a good story. I'll say that the letterer definitely went a bit overboard in some emphasis visuals, but other than that the art was solid! I'm a fan of learning with the characters, so the fact that there was not an expo dump about the Orisha was appreciated.

Definitely go check it out and buy it over on the [Wise Acre Store!](#)



Alright I did it. I backed one of the “sexy” books but honestly only because the premise sounded ridiculous.

A bimbo ghost? How does that even work?

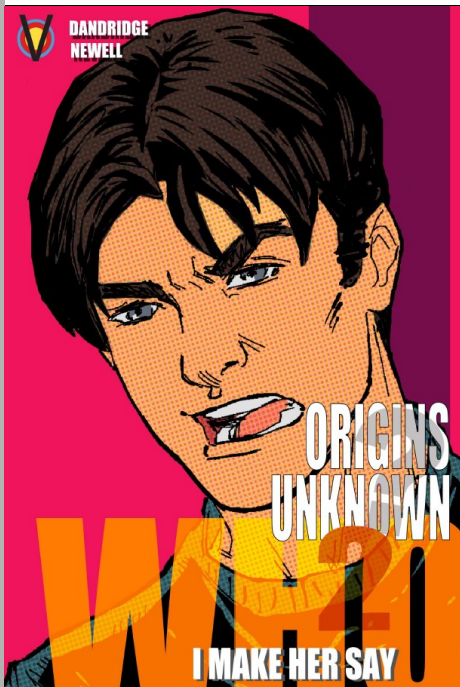
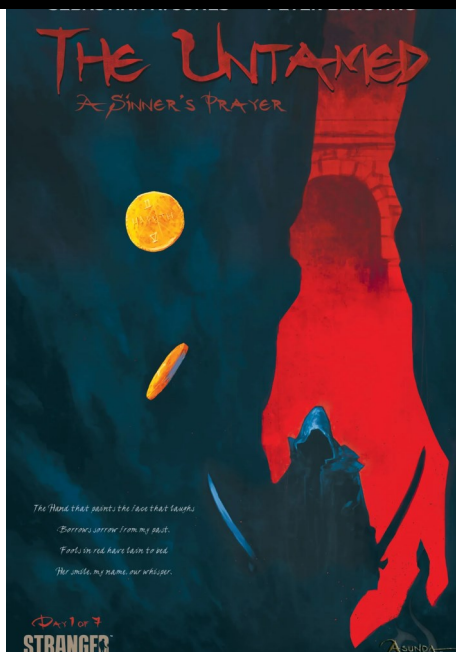
And I gotta tell ya, it doesn’t. It’s a funny and raunchy ride (in more ways than one) and a final punchline that hits real hard.

I’m honestly excited for issue 2 to drop digitally on their store.

Get yours physically or digitally today on the [Obscura Comics store!](#)

This story is captivating. There’s clearly a lot going on, and it sucked me in. I’ve been backing Stranger Comics for a while, but this was my first actual reading and it got me to pull the trigger on the first volume, and read it as it comes. This will be the first book that gets read before it hits the shelf.

Check out the entire universe of Asunda on the [Stranger Comics store!](#)



Bro WHAT?

I got this picked by the CLZ app shuffle and I don’t even know if I can recommend you read this because it just leaves so much open! Where does this continue? WHAT HAPPENED? I’m digging into the back issues to figure out where this story continues, and will report back in future issues.

Anyway, Victor is a fantastic writer and storyteller. Check out the [Vantage:Inhouse](#) library of comics!

# TIPS 'N' TRICKS

*As we do in every issue, let's get a few tips and tricks of the independent creator industry from the people out here doing it!*

## **From Brian Lambert:**



Learn the cost of making a comic. Both time and money.

Just because you CAN write, doesn't mean you SHOULD. It's a craft just like illustration and should be treated with the same dedication.

Don't get into comics to become the next Hollywood sensation. Comics are rarely if ever the gateway to movies that you think they are.

## **From Joey Galv ez:**

Crowdfunding consumers want something that they know will be around for a while, so I would say make sure you can sustain long form periodical releases.



One of the biggest challenges I found when marketing a creator who has little to no audience is getting people to take a chance on them, so build your audience around yourself, do something that fits who you are. go live drawing art or interviewing fellow artists & writers, engage through social media, be a positive part of the community and contribute to others creativity in any way you can. A link share goes a long way!

I think the third would be to take care of your mental health. I suffer from Anxiety & Depression along with ADHD, I have good days and I have bad days, but If i am not attune with myself, I'm all over the place. I have to be my best self so that my best work shines through. I take a mental health tally for myself each day and if I don't hit those marks then I reset and try again, or I take a day to breathe. I have to think differently and constantly tell myself that anything that needs my attention will be ok if I take time for a mental break. Trust me those who count on you will understand and will push for you to attune with yourself.

## **From Joe Currie:**



1. If you are starting, try to do a short piece first once you've completed it. It gives you the confidence to go forward and produce more.
2. Practice, Practice, Practice
3. Study some of the Pros in the game. You can gain a lot of insight that way.
4. Be Kind.

# CREATOR INDEX

The whole point here is to get you the reader to interact with, consume, and ideally spend money with the creators I've spotlighted in this magazine. Below you will find a list of everybody's websites and social media tags. Go buy something you bums!

BRIAN J LAMBERT / WINGLESS ENT

[www.winglessent.com](http://www.winglessent.com)

Twitter—[WinglessEnt](#)

Instagram—[wingless\\_comics](#)

Facebook—[winglesscomics](#)

TikTok—[winglesscomics](#)

JOEY GALVÉZ

[www.geekcollective.net](http://www.geekcollective.net)

Twitter—[JoeyGalvez1984](#)

Twitter—[\\_geekcollective](#)

TikTok—[GeekCollective](#)

JOE CURRIE

[www.punxofrage.com](http://www.punxofrage.com)

[PUNXofRAGE Radio](#)

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Twitter—[ThatStrictlyKid](#)

[www.almightystreetteam.net](http://www.almightystreetteam.net)

NELAJ ARTS

Twitter - [jalen\\_hadnot](#)

BLERDS UNDERGROUND

[www.blerdsunderground.com](http://www.blerdsunderground.com)

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