

THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

SCOTT SNYDER RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE

AMERICAN VAMPIRE

VERTIGO

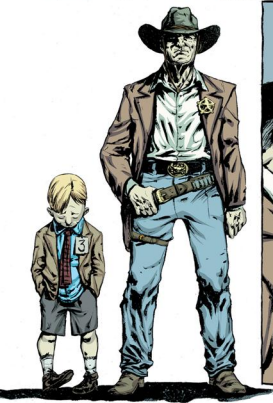
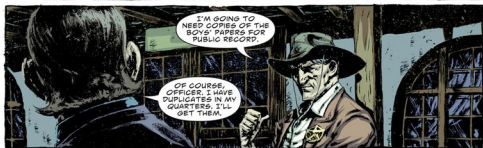
9 Jan '11

suggested for
mature readers
vertigocomics.com

Rafael Albuquerque









HERE YOU GO,
OFFICER. ANYTHING
ELSE I CAN HELP
YOU WITH?



I DIDN'T
THINK SO,
BUT PERHAPS
THERE IS.

SEE, FATHER,
THIS TOWN--IT'S
NOT MUCH NOW, BUT
IT'S GROWING. I'M
GOING TO NEED A
GOOD DEPUTY PRETTY
SOON. WHAT'S YOUR
NAME, SON?

CASHEL,
SIR.

SO
LET ME
ASK YOU,
CASHEL....



YOU LIKE
THIS PLACE? YOU FEEL
LIKE STICKING AROUND
A WHILE?



YES,
SIR!



THEN WHAT
DO YOU SAY?
LET'S GET YOU
DEPUTIZED.



I STILL
CAN'T
BELIEVE
IT.

ALL
THOSE
YEARS... I
NEVER SAW
HIM KILL
ANYONE.



GÆLIG-
PRIME REQUIRES
VERY LITTLE
NOURISHMENT.
IF YOU KEPT ANY
ANIMALS, ANY
LIVESTOCK,
HE COULD'VE
EASILY FED UN-
DETECTED.

YOUR FATHER IS
PART OF AN ANCIENT
SPECIES, CHIEF MCCOGAN.
STRIGUS GÆLIG-PRIME.
WE THOUGHT IT EXTINCT,
ACTUALLY, WIPE OUT BY
COMMON VAMPIRES IN
THE 1700'S.

BUT THE
SUNLIGHT.



CERTAIN OLDER
SPECIES LIKE HIS, THE
SUN CAUSES THEM
PAIN, IT PROHIBITS
THEM FROM CHANGING
FORM, BUT THEIR
SKIN, IT'S TOUGHER
THAN CARPATHIA.

AND IF HE
TOOK ANYTHING,
ANY KIND OF ZING
TINCTURE...



HIS INSULIN
INJECTIONS...

PLENTY OF
VAMPIRES HIDE IN PLAIN
SIGHT, CHIEF MCCOGAN.
ONCE YOU KNOW WHAT
TO LOOK FOR,
THOUGH...

HOW
MANY BRASS,
FELICIA?

THIRTY PLUS.
MAKING A FEW
MORE.

JESUS, I
SEE WHY YOU
GUYS WANTED
TO STOP BACK
AT THE HOTEL.
WHAT IS THAT, A
MINI FOUNDRY
PRESS?

AS A MATTER
OF FACT, YES.
METAL GOES IN,
BULLETS COME
OUT.



THIS IS IT.

YOU'RE CONFIDENT ABOUT THE LOCATION?

YOU SAID HIS "SPECIES" LIKES CAVES. YES, I'M SURE. BUT I WANT A MINUTE ALONE WITH HIM FIRST.



CHIEF MCCOGAN, THE GAELIC-PRIME IS--

HE'S MY FATHER. GIVE ME YOUR GUN.



GUST?



GUST? I KNOW YOU'RE HERE...



MY GOD...

CASHLEY, THIS IS AEPNAT.



SHE WAS MY MATE. WOULD'VE BEEN YOUR STEP-MOTHER, I SUPPOSE, IF THINGS HAD BEEN DIFFERENT.



WE WERE TOGETHER OVER A HUNDRED YEARS, BEFORE THEY CAME FOR US. KILLED OUR CLAN, DROVE US FROM OUR HOMELAND.

I'VE KEPT HER BONES WITH ME, HIDDEN IN THE BACK OF THIS PLACE FOR THE LAST FIFTY YEARS.



BUT TONIGHT I'VE BROUGHT THEM OUT. BECAUSE I WANT HER TO SEE... SEE WHAT I'M GOING TO DO TO THE ANIMALS WHO KILLED HER.

YOU'RE DONE KILLING, GUS.



GOD, I'VE MISSED YOU, CASHIEL. I'M TRULY SORRY YOU GOT DRAGGED INTO THIS AT ALL. IT'S MY FIGHT. I FOOLED MYSELF INTO THINKING MAYBE YOU AND LILLY WOULD BE GONE BY NOW.

BUT THAT ISN'T YOU, IS IT? THAT'S NOT WHO YOU ARE.



AND THIS IS WHO YOU ARE, GUS? WHO YOU'VE BEEN ALL ALONG? A MONSTER? A GOLD-BLOODED KILLER?

YES, SON. IT IS. BY NATURE I AM A MONSTER. I'VE BEEN ONE FOR NEARLY 700 YEARS, SINCE BEFORE YOU, BEFORE THIS CITY, THIS COUNTRY...

BUT A KILLER...
NO. I WAS NEVER A KILLER.

NOT UNTIL NOW. UNTIL THEY CAME TO OUR TOWN, WITH THEIR MONEY AND THEIR VILENESS.



AND TAKING ME IN. WAS IT JUST PART OF YOUR DISGUISE?

ALL FATHERS HAVE SECRET LIVES OUTSIDE THEIR SONS, CASHIEL... BEFORE SHE DIED, AEDNAT MADE ME PROMISE... PROMISE TO LIVE AS WE HAD BEFORE. TRYING TO BRING GOODNESS INTO THE WORLD, HERE IN A PLACE THEY'D LIKELY NEVER FOLLOW.

SO NO, SON. GUS MCCOGAN WAS NEVER A DISGUISE. HE WAS AS REAL AS YOU ARE. NEVER THINK ANY DIFFERENT. GUS TOOK YOU IN BECAUSE THAT'S WHO HE WAS.

HELL, I KEPT GUS ALIVE MUCH LONGER THAN I SHOULD HAVE, YEARS MORE THAN WAS WISE, JUST TO GET TO WATCH YOU. TO SEE THE MAN YOU'VE BECOME.

HOW TOUCHING...



AND IT'LL BE
EVEN MORE TOUCHING
WHEN WE BURY YOU ALL
TOGETHER, IN THIS TOMB.
YOU, YOUR BITCH,
AND YOUR HUMAN
BASTARD.

YOU'VE
CAUSED YOUR
LITTLE DISRUPTION.
NOW IT'S TIME
TO DIE.



SEE, BUT I THINK
IT'S YOU WHO
IS ABOUT TO
DIE...



...OLD
ENEMY.



WE WIPED OUT YOUR WHOLE PITIFUL BLOOD-
LINE WITH LITTLE TROUBLE. WHAT MAKES YOU
THINK THIS FIGHT WILL GO DIFFERENT?

WE'RE
STRONGER
THAN YOU,
FASTER THAN
YOU. YOU'RE
A RELIC OF
A BYGONE
ERA.

NOW, NOW,
VLAD...





THAT'S
MY LINE.

SKINNER!

HOWDY,
PARTNER.



THE
AMERICAN...

IN THE FLESH, SEE, GUSSE AND ME, WE
HAVE OUR DIFFERENCES, SURE, BUT IN
THE END WE BOTH WANT THE SAME
THING. YOU. IN PAIN.



YOUR HUMAN
PARTNERS WERE THE
BAIT. A LURE TO GET YOU
INTO OUR TRAP. AND
HERE YOU ARE...



YOU'LL
NEVER PREVAIL,
YOU Balbb
Scanfer!



Cuimilt
Cú Ár
Ceith!

WHOOAH
THERE! ENGLISH,
PEOPLE,
ENGLISH...











CASH!

I'M OKAY,
DAD.



WELL, THAT
WAS FUN.

NOW, FOR
GOODBYES...



SO LONG,
PARTNER. BRASS
FOR YOU...

NO!



AND FOR
YOU, JUNIOR,
WELL... ANY
OLD THING'LL
DO, WON'T
IT?

YOU
SCUM!
I'LL KILL
YOU...



AW, DON'T BE LIKE THAT.
DEEP DOWN, YOUR DADDY
HAD TO EXPECT THAT WAS
COMING SOON... EVERYONE
WHO MEETS ME KNOWS I
AM JUST PLAIN PITIFUL
AT KEEPING DEALS.

AND I ALWAYS,
ALWAYS GOT TO
BE THE LAST MAN
STANDING.



YOU'RE NOT
A MAN, SWEET.
MY FATHER WAS A
MAN BEFORE YOU
DESTROYED
HIM...



...THIS IS
FOR HIM.

kik



EASY...
EASY.



WHAT DID
YOU HIT HIM
WITH?



GOLD, MY
LOCKET. I ONLY
HAVE ONE MORE
BULLET...

COME
ON, HE'S
FAST--

"--BUT I GOT HIM
GOOD IN THE GUT."

THE
FRONTIER

THAT BULLET
ISN'T COMING OUT
ON ITS OWN. HE'LL NEED
SOMEONE TO TAKE IT
OUT OF HIM IF HE
DOESN'T WANT TO DIE
OF INFECTION...



HEY, JUNIOR.
WELCOME TO THE
POKER TABLE...
CARE TO PLACE
A BET?



W. K. 200





"...SOMETHING'S
WRONG!"

COME ON...
COME ON...

ALL
ABOARD!

LAST CALL FOR
THE TRAIN TO LOS
ANGELES...

WHERE
ARE YOU?

THE
BULLET...

Whoooooo

...DAMN.

WHEN I WAS
A BOY, I'D HAVE
NIGHTMARES ABOUT
MONSTERS HIDING IN
THE SHADOWS OF
MY ROOM...

I USED TO WAKE
UP SCREAMING
AND STILL SEE
THEM EVERYWHERE,
IN EVERY DARK
CORNER.

AND I WOULDN'T GO BACK TO SLEEP UNTIL MY FATHER LIT THE LAMPS AND PROVED THE NOOKS AND CLOSETS WERE ALL CLEAR.



"SEE SON," HE'D SAY, "NEITHER CREEPIES NOR CRAWLIES."

HER STOMACH, OH GOD...

I'M A MAN NOW, THOUGH... I RECENTLY LAID MY FATHER TO REST.



LILLY...

AND I UNDERSTAND THAT HE WAS LYING TO ME BACK THEN.



BECAUSE THERE ARE MONSTERS OUT THERE. SOME HIDE IN THE CORNERS OF YOUR ROOM. OTHERS IN BROAD DAYLIGHT. HE KNEW IT AS WELL AS ANYBODY.

Silverton, Colorado.

AMERICAN VAMPIRE

DEVIL IN THE SAND CONCLUSION

WRITER: SCOTT SNYDER

ARTISTS: RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE,
& MATEUS SANTOLOUCO (PAGES 1-3)

BUT MY FATHER, RIGHT AFTER
HE'D TELL ME THAT LIE ABOUT
MONSTERS, HE ALWAYS SAID
SOMETHING ELSE, TOO.

HE'D BEND DOWN,
AND KISS ME ON THE
FOREHEAD, AND HE'D
SAY, "YOU'RE GOING
TO BE JUST FINE."

AND THAT
PART, SEE...

I KNOW IT BECAUSE I'M
A FATHER MYSELF--YOUR
FATHER--AND I BELIEVE
IT, TOO. I BELIEVE IT
ABOUT YOU, SON.

COLORS: DAVE MCCAIG
LETTERS: STEVE WANDS

THAT PART
I KNOW HE
BELIEVED.

I WILL TRAVEL THIS WHOLE COUNTRY
UNTIL I FIND A WAY TO MAKE IT SO.

COVER: RAFAEL ALBUQUERQUE
EDITOR: MARK DOYLE

AMERICAN VAMPIRE
CREATED BY SCOTT SNYDER

Next:
Booze, Bullets,
& Bloodlines!

SNYDER/ALBUQUERQUE