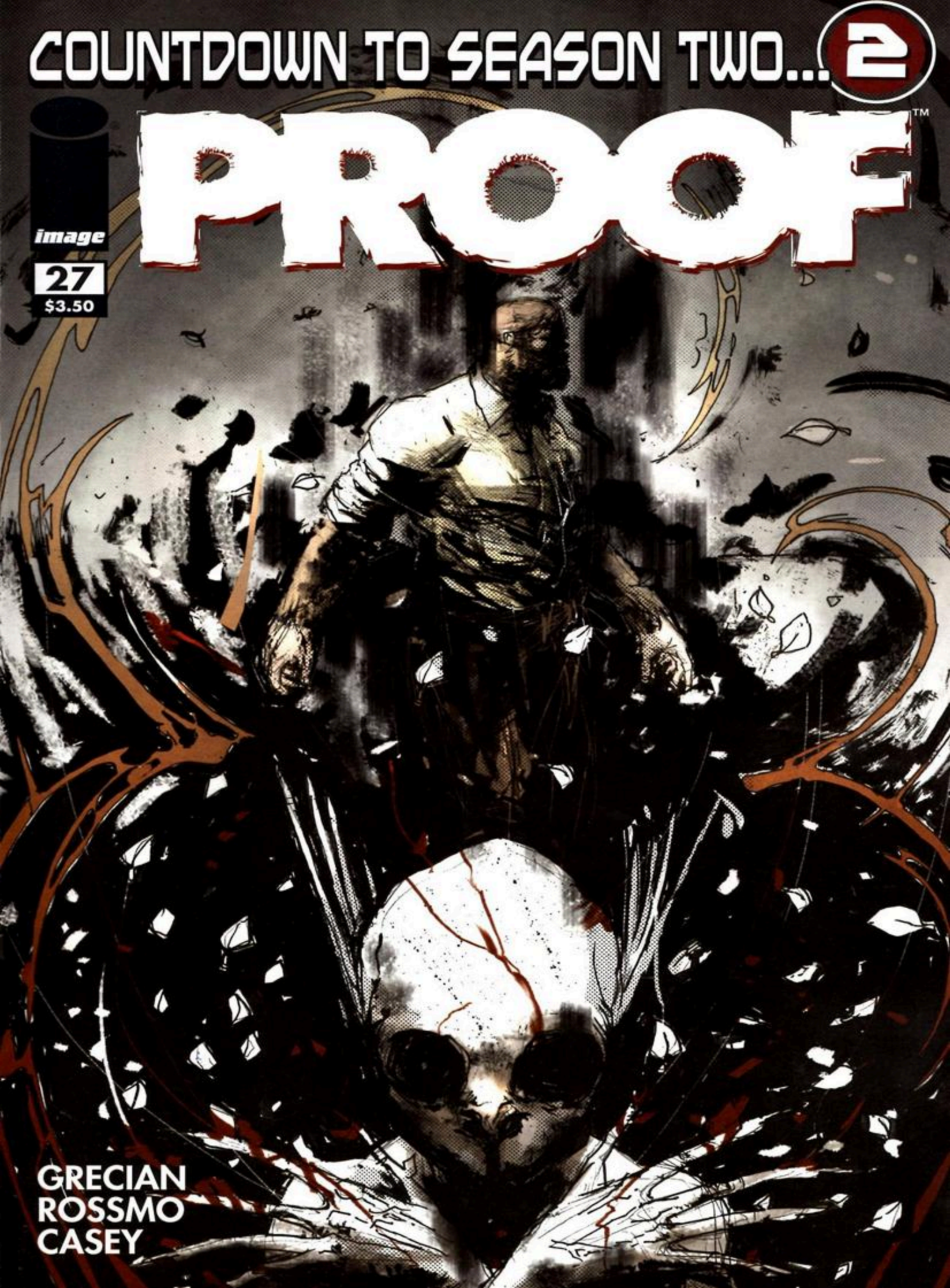
COUNTDOWN TO SEASON TWO... 2

PROOF™

image

27

$3.50



GRECIAN
ROSSMO
CASEY

FAITH IS DEAD.

AHH!

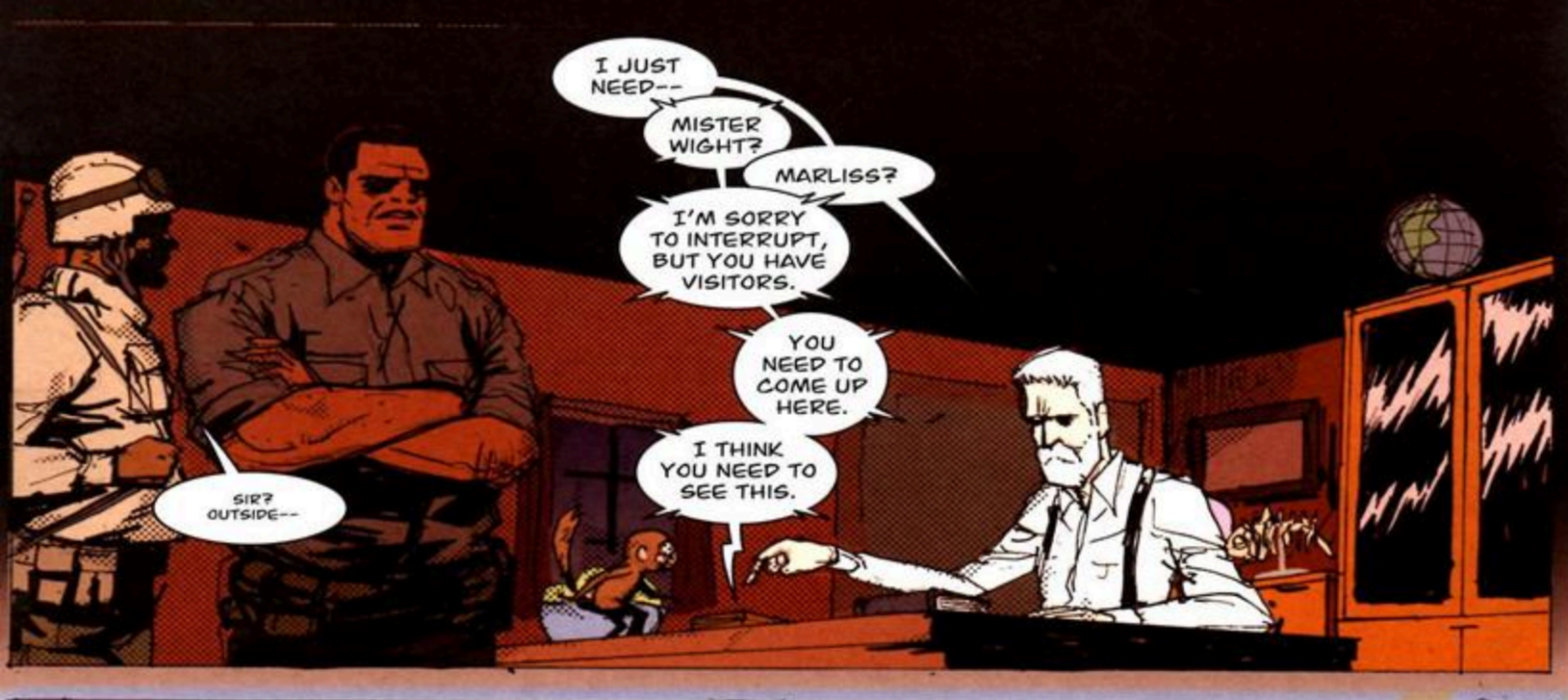
WHAT'S--?
OH, GOD, I THOUGHT I DREAMED IT. YOU CAN'T BE HERE.

WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE? WE CAN'T LEAVE HIM OUT THERE ALONE!
LAY BACK. RELAX. IT'S OKAY. I'LL EXPLAIN EVERYTHING.
NO. NO TIME. FAITH IS DEAD...

"IF NOBODY'S THERE TO STAND WITH JOY, THE OTHER FAIRIES WILL KILL HIM!"
YOU ARE NOT FAITH. WHO STANDS WITH YOU?
CRYPTOID:
IN MOST CULTURES, CHILDREN ARE PRESENTED BY THEIR ELDERS FOR INITIATION INTO ADULTHOOD THROUGH CEREMONIAL RITES OF PASSAGE. MANY HUMAN TRADITIONS ARE MORE PAINFUL AND HUMILIATING THAN FAIRY RITUALS.
FAITH IS DEAD
ALEX GRECIAN, RILEY ROSSMO AND DAVE CASEY

I'M JOY. FAITH WAS MY FATHER.
I'M HERE TO TAKE HIS PLACE WITH YOU.
WHAT SAY YOU?
WE WILL TAKE HIM TO THE DWELLING PLACE OF THE HUMANS.
LET THE LEANDER-THING EXPLAIN THIS.
I NEED MORE TIME.

IF YOU ARREST ME NOW, IT'S THE SAME AS CLOSING DOWN THE LODGE.
WHO WOULD RUN THIS PLACE? WAYNE? HE'S A GOOD MAN, BUT HE'S GOT NO HEAD FOR BUSINESS.
THAT'S WHY YOU TOOK THE PROMOTION. WHY YOU LEFT.
TO PROTECT THIS PLACE.
YOU'RE SAYING WHAT, EXACTLY?
DON'T PUT IT OFF ON ME, OLD MAN. I'VE DONE MY PART.
YOU THINK I LIKE PUSHING PAPERS TO KEEP THIS PLACE UNDER WRAPS?
YOU KNOW DAMN WELL THEY WOULD'VE SHUT THIS PLACE DOWN A LONG TIME AGO.
YOU KNOW!
I DO IT TO PROTECT THE LODGE.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO MISAPPROPRIATED FUNDS.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY I COULD KEEP THIS GOING. PUT IT ON YOU.
I NEVER STOLE ANYTHING. BUT I WAS ADMITTEDLY INCAUTIOUS. EVENTS HERE HAVE--
I KNOW.
BUT I STILL GOTTA DO THIS.


I JUST NEED--
MISTER WIGHT?
MARLISS?
I'M SORRY TO INTERRUPT, BUT YOU HAVE VISITORS.
YOU NEED TO COME UP HERE.
I THINK YOU NEED TO SEE THIS.
SIR? OUTSIDE--

DING DONG
HANG ON. I'M COMING.

THIS IS NOT A TRUTH, GULLIVER.
WHAT DO WE DO?

WHAT'S--? UM, THIS ISN'T REALLY A GOOD--
WE HAVE A SITUATION HERE.
NADINE KILLED THE DOVER DEMON.
WE DIDN'T KNOW... WE JUST THOUGHT IF WE BROUGHT HER HERE, YOU'D--
WHAT'S HAPPENING? SOMETHING ON THE HABITAT?
UM, DO YOU ALL KNOW--?
I GUESS YOU--
ELVIS, THIS IS BELLA-- THIS IS ISABELLA BAY. SHE'S A, UM... BELLA'S MY FRIEND.
GOOD TO MEET YOU.
HI, ELVIS.
IT'S NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN, GINGER.
WHAT'S--?
ELVIS AND GINGER WERE JUST SAYING THAT--
I'M SORRY, WHAT WERE YOU SAYING ABOUT NADINE?

YEAH? OH, RIGHT. THIS...
WE FOUND THIS IN THE ROAD. HE'S COMPLETELY HOLLOWED OUT.
I HAVE DONE NOTHING BAD FOR MANY TIMES NOW.
YOU SAW HER DO THIS?
NO, BUT IT FITS HER M.O. WE COULDN'T FIND ANY OTHER TRACE OF THE DEMON.
WE PROBABLY SCARED HER OFF BEFORE SHE COULD PUT THE SKIN ON.
OF COURSE YOU DIDN'T.
OKAY, PEOPLE, WE MAY HAVE A LONG NIGHT AHEAD OF US...
GULLIVER, I DID NOT DO THIS THING.
LET ME PUT ON SOME CLOTHES. GINGER, ELVIS, NADINE, WHY DON'T YOU THREE GRAB SOME FLASHLIGHTS...
THEY'RE IN THE KITCHEN CUPBOARD NEXT TO THE FRIDGE.
WE'LL BE RIGHT BACK.

HUH.
SO, UM, ISABELLA?
YOU, UH... YOU KNOW HER?

YOU HAVE TO TRUST ME, WAYNE.
YOU HAVE TO RELAX.
I HAD TO GET SOME OF HAVEN'S MEN TO MOVE YOU. WE'LL GET YOU TO A HOSPITAL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT--

I DON'T NEED A HOSPITAL. HAVEN'S WITH YOU, HUH?
YOU HAVE A LOT TO EXPLAIN.

I KNOW I DO.
I'LL TELL YOU EVERY-THING.

START BY TELLING ME WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE.
IT'S THIS BOX. OR WHAT'S IN IT. BUT NOW I'M WONDERING HOW BIG A MISTAKE IT WAS TO BRING IT TO YOU.

I DON'T CARE ABOUT A BOX. YOU KNOW WHAT I'M ASKING HERE...
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
IT'S ME, WAYNE. IT'S REALLY ME... YOUR FRIEND, GLORIA WIGHT.
WE HAD A MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR YOU.
LEANDER SAID--
WHATEVER YOU BURIED, IT WASN'T ME.
YOU'VE BEEN WITH HIM ALL THESE YEARS SINCE THE ACCIDENT. I THOUGHT YOU'D HAVE FIGURED IT OUT BY NOW...
LEANDER WIGHT IS AN IMPOSTER.
WELL, THIS IS A SURPRISE.

HOPE, CHARITY. YOU BOYS LOOK... LARGE.
I HOPE YOU ENJOYED YOUR NAP.

LEANDER-THING, WHO STANDS WITH THIS CHILD?
WHERE'S WAYNE RUSSET? HE'S SPONSORING THE BOY.

I THINK MISTER WAYNE'S DEAD, SIR. HE DIED UNDER THE TREE.

NO!

HOLY HELL!
NO! GET BACK!
WHAT IN THE--?

RAPPARAPPARAPPARAPPA

RATATATATATATATA
THOSE ARE GUN-SHOTS!
THEY'RE AWAKE?

WE MEET AGAIN, SASQUATCH.

WHAT'S HAPPENING? WHO'S SHOOTING?

HUMANS, OF COURSE. WHO ELSE ANSWERS EVERY CHALLENGE WITH BULLETS?
I'LL STOP THEM.

THANK YOU, BUT THEY ARE ONLY BULLETS. DO NOT WORRY. ALL WILL BE WELL.
I'M SORRY... WHO AM I TALKING TO? WHICH ONE ARE YOU?

I AM HOPE. FAITH IS DEAD.
I KNOW. I WAS THERE. HE'S FEEDING THE TREE NOW.
THAT IS ALL HE WOULD WISH.
PLEASE?

DO YOU HAVE MINE SON? DO YOU HAVE MINE JOY?
YOUR--?
I SENT MINE JOY TO YOU.

SNIFF SNIFF
YOU. THE STINK OF YOUR SPECIES. IT IS ALL OVER THE CHILD.
YOU HAVE CARED FOR THE BOY?
YES, I HAVE.
BUT WITHOUT OUR VALUES AND OUR CULTURE.
I HAVE SENT HIM TO YOU NOW.
YOU SHOW RESPECT. PERHAPS THERE IS HOPE FOR YOUR SPECIES.
THE BOY WILL BE SAFE WITH US UNTIL HE IS READY TO WAKE.
GO NOW, SASQUATCH, AND TAKE THESE CREATURES WITH YOU. THEY ARE FRAGILE AND MIGHT BE HARMED.
MY BROTHER WILL DEAL WITH THE HUMANS.

DAYS LIKE THIS, I FEEL MY AGE.
OKAY, FOLKS, WE'VE GOT A LOT OF GROUND TO COVER--
SHOULDN'T WE HELP WITH WHATEVER'S GOING ON WITH THE FAIRIES?
I DON'T SEE HOW WE CAN MIX IN WITHOUT ADDING TO THE CHAOS.
BESIDES, WE'VE GOT A LITTLE BIT OF A DEADLINE HERE.
WAIT... DEADLINE FOR WHAT? WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR OUT HERE?
I MEAN, IF NADINE DIDN'T DO IT, THEN...
WHO KILLED THE DOVER DEMON?
LETTING ME THINK YOU WERE DEAD ALL THIS TIME...
HE SHOULD'VE TOLD ME THE TRUTH.
BUT NOW YOU UNDER-STAND WHY HE COULDN'T.

I HAVE TO TALK TO HIM.

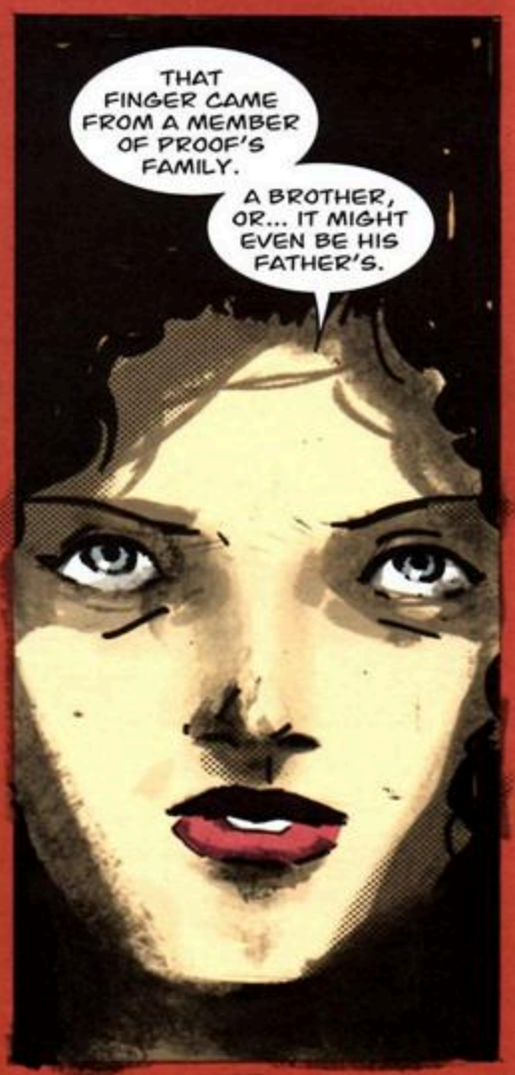
WAYNE, I DIDN'T COME HERE TO EXPOSE "LEANDER." NOT AFTER ALL THIS TIME.
I CAME BECAUSE SOMEONE SENT ME THIS.

SOMEONE KNEW I WAS ALIVE AND KNEW WHERE TO FIND ME. KNEW THAT I'D HAVE TO BRING THIS HERE.

SOMEONE'S TOYING WITH ME... WITH ALL OF US.
A FINGER?

IT'S REAL.
A NOTE CAME WITH IT...

BUT BEFORE I GIVE THIS TO YOU...
I HAD THE FINGER TESTED, WAYNE.
IT BELONGS TO A MALE SASQUATCH. OR IT DID. AND IT'S A PARTIAL MATCH FOR PROOF'S DNA.


THAT FINGER CAME FROM A MEMBER OF PROOF'S FAMILY.
A BROTHER, OR... IT MIGHT EVEN BE HIS FATHER'S.

WHOEVER SENT ME THIS... THEIR INTENTIONS CAN'T BE GOOD, BUT IT MEANS SOMEONE HAS FINALLY FOUND PROOF'S FAMILY.

HOPE CAN BE CRUEL.
YOU ARE FORTUNATE THAT I WAS HERE WITH HIM.

YES, THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE, CHARITY.
GIVE ME THOSE.
I TOLD YOU TO STAND DOWN, DAMNIT. GO WAIT IN THE CAR.
DAMN IT ALL.
KLUNK
CHARITY? CHARITY, I APOLOGIZE. I TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHAT HAPPENED HERE.
THERE WON'T BE ANY MORE SHOOTING. MY MEN WILL BE REPRIMANDED, I PROMISE YOU.
HUMAN PROMISES MEAN NOTHING TO US.
YOU SEE? DO YOU GET IT NOW?
YOU'VE PROVEN MY POINT...
I CAN'T ALLOW YOUR GOVERNMENT TO TAKE OVER THE LODGE.
THESE CREATURES NEED TO BE PROTECTED, NOT GUNNED DOWN.
QUIET.
YOU DO NOT SPEAK FOR US, LEANDER-THING. YOUR KIND AND OURS ARE NOT FRIENDS.

YOU KNOW THAT I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN YOUR FRIEND, REGARDLESS OF THE HISTORY BETWEEN OUR SPECIES.
AND MUCH HAS CHANGED WHILE YOU SLEPT.
YES. THIS CHILD REEKS OF YOUR SPECIES.
DO YOU STAND WITH HIM, THEN?
YES, I STAND WITH JOY AND I SPEAK FOR HIM.
VERY WELL. HE IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND HE MAY TAKE HIS FATHER'S PLACE AT THE TREE.
WE WILL SEE WHAT COMES OF THIS.
THIS MAY BE AN AUSPICIOUS DAY FOR US ALL.

WELL, I SUPPOSE THAT COULD HAVE GONE WORSE.
YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IF YOU LET YOUR PEOPLE REMOVE ME...
HOW LONG BEFORE THE FAIRIES HAVE BEEN VIVISECTED TO SEE WHAT MAKES THEM TICK?
OR WORSE, WEAPONIZED, SENT TO A WAR ZONE?
WE HAVE A DUTY TO THESE CREATURES, WHETHER THEY LIKE IT OR NOT.
THEY HAVE NO IDEA WHAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY CAPABLE OF.
GIVE ME TIME. LET ME PUT FAILSAFES IN PLACE, TRAIN SOMEONE TO TAKE OVER.
GIVE ME A WEEK.
YOU'VE GOT FORTY-EIGHT HOURS.
THAT'S THE BEST I CAN DO FOR YOU.

IF I WERE YOU, MY FRIEND...
I WOULDN'T STILL BE HERE IN FORTY-EIGHT HOURS.
LEANDER?
WE NEED TO TALK.

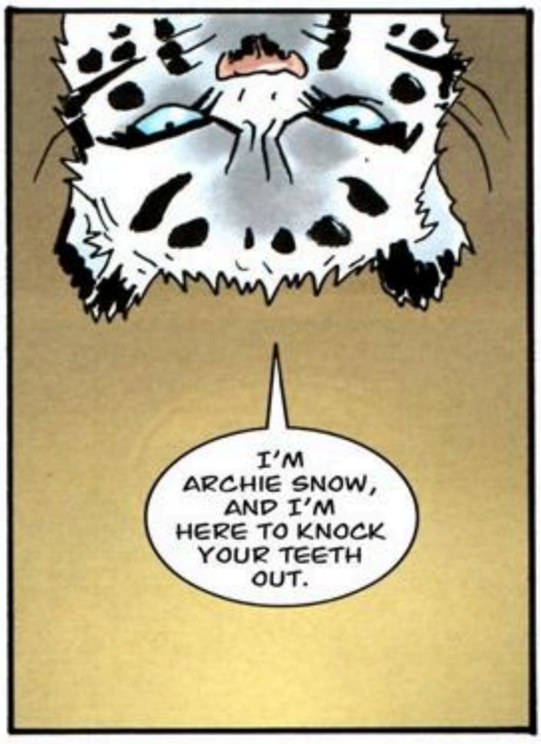
YES, WAYNE.
WE DO INDEED NEED TO TALK. I'D HEARD YOU WERE DEAD.
NOT YET.
PLEASE COME IN.
AND CLOSE THE DOOR BEHIND YOU.
BE VERY CAREFUL NOW...
WE'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING CALLED A MOTHMAN.
AND WE CAN'T LET IT GET OFF THE HABITAT.
NEXT ISSUE:
THE SHOCKING SEASON FINALE THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING!

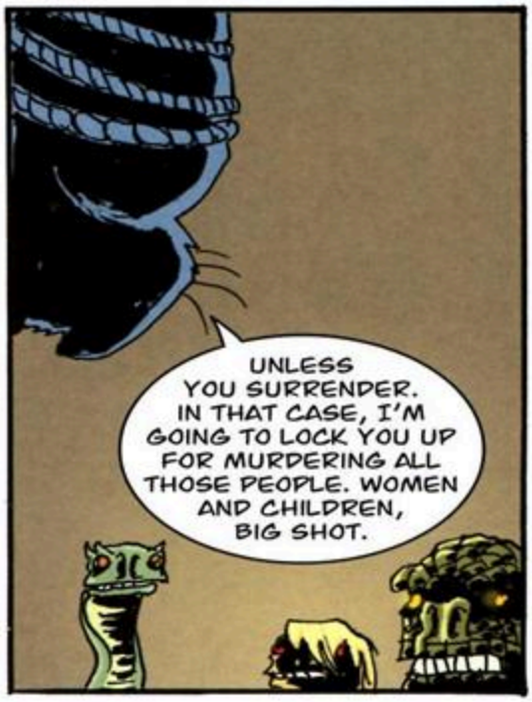
OHHH, MY ACHING SKULL... WAIT, WHAT THE...

OH.

NOBODY MOVE, YOU'RE ALL UNDER ARREST.

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE, COMING INTO OUR HOME?


I'M ARCHIE SNOW, AND I'M HERE TO KNOCK YOUR TEETH OUT.


UNLESS YOU SURRENDER. IN THAT CASE, I'M GOING TO LOCK YOU UP FOR MURDERING ALL THOSE PEOPLE. WOMEN AND CHILDREN, BIG SHOT.

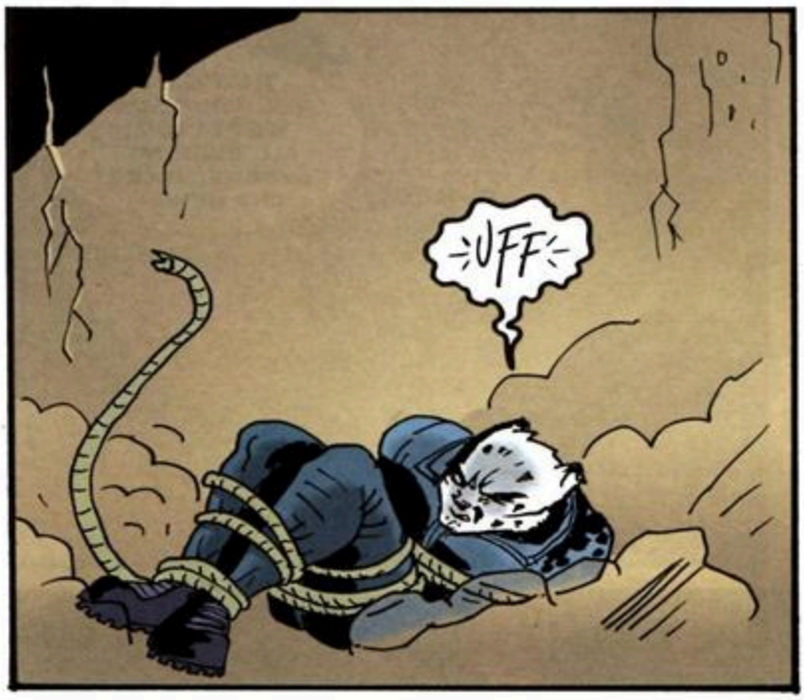
THAT WAY, BIG SHOT, YOU KEEP YOUR TEETH.
HISSS

WE WILL BE KEEPING MORE THAN THAT, WHITE MAN.

EVEN DOWN HERE, WE HEAR STORIES OF ARCHIE SNOW. THE MAN WITH A MONSTER'S FACE.

IT'S ONLY A FACE, ISN'T IT? THE BODY... IS THAT OF A MAN.
HEY!
RIPPP

ARRRGGH!


UFF

YOU HAVE HEARD THE STORY, I THINK, OF HOW OUR FATHER KILLED OUR MOTHER.

REMOVED HER HEAD WITH A KNIFE. THIS ONE, IN FACT.

I JUST HEARD. SUPER UPLIFTING STORY.

SHE WAS SUPPOSED TO RETURN TO US, TO DELIVER US TO OUR RIGHTFUL PLACE IN THE STARS!

WITH THE RIGHT BLOOD, WE WILL MAKE HER RETURN TO US.

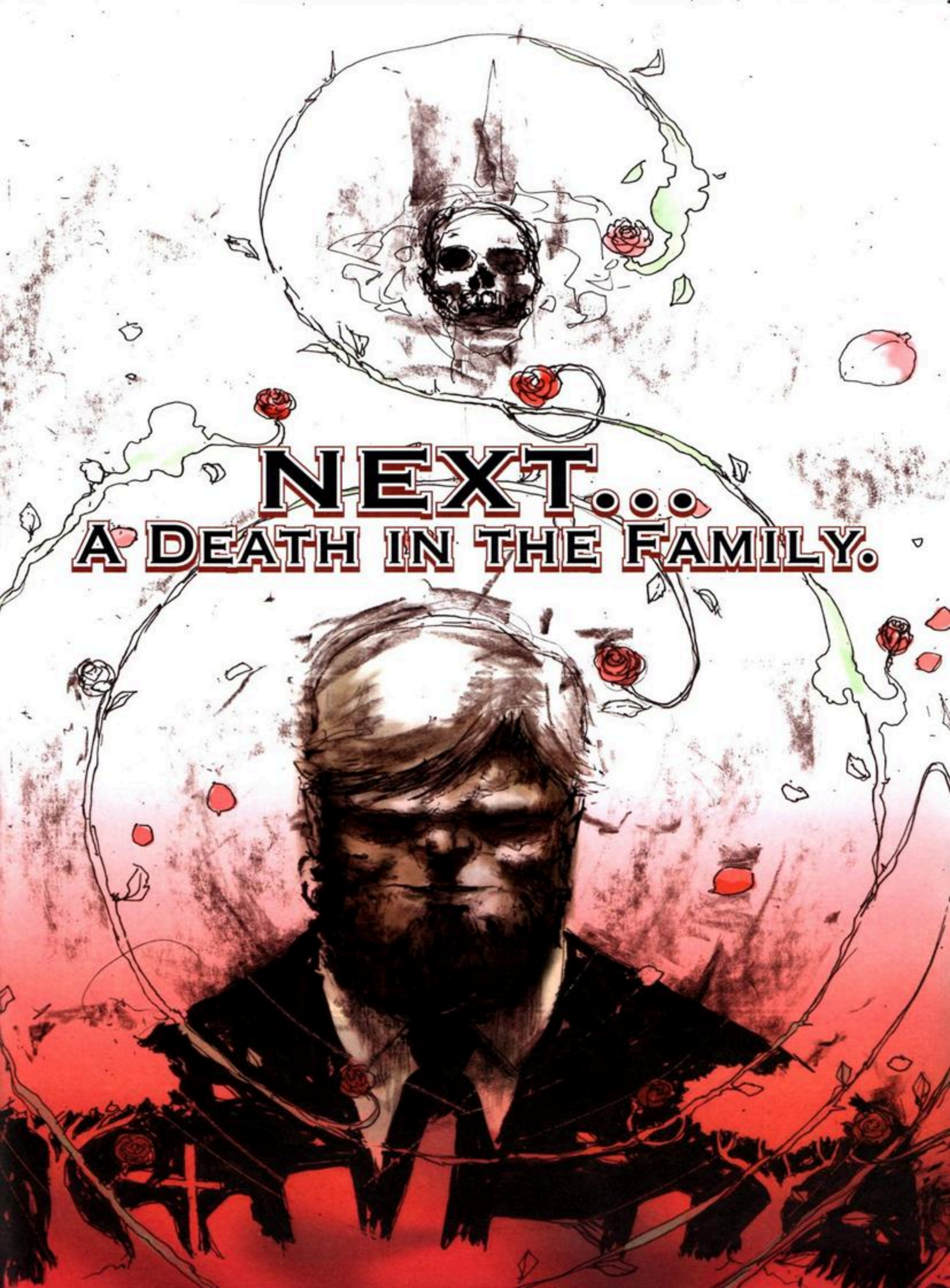
YOUR BLOOD.
SPLOOSH

THAT'S IT! YOU PINHEADS GET BLOOD ALL OVER MY FAVORITE JACKET AND NOW--
RATTLE RATTLE RATTLE

KOOM

UGH. WHEN HAS A BLOOD SACRIFICE EVER ENDED WELL?

ROOARRR
SEE, THIS IS WHY I HATE BEING RIGHT.
TO BE CONCLUDED...


NEXT...
A DEATH IN THE FAMILY.