



#1

OF 6
COVER A

The SCOURGE



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#1

OF 6
COVER B

The SCOURGE



THE SCOURGE™

Issue 1 of 6

"CONTACT"

STORY
SCOTT LOBDELL

ILLUSTRATIONS
ERIC BATTLE

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MY NAME IS
JOHN GRIFFIN.

I'VE BEEN AN
OFFICER IN THE NYPD
FOR FIFTEEN YEARS,
SEVEN AS A MEMBER
OF A SWAT TEAM.

GUN FIGHTS.
SNIPER FIRE.

DISARMING SMOKING
CAR BOMBS ON A
CROWDED STREET.

NEGOTIATING WITH
ZEALOTS HOLDING
HOSTAGES.

UP UNTIL A MONTH
AGO I BELIEVED I HAD
SEEN EVERYTHING—
THAT NOTHING COULD
RATTLE ME.

THAT WAS UNTIL
I HAD TO SAY
GOOD-BYE TO
MY SON ON THE
COURTROOM
STEPS.

BEFORE I SAW HIM CRYING
AND WAVING GOOD-BYE FROM
THE REAR WINDOW OF THE
LIMO DRIVING HIM AND HIS
MOM TO A NEW LIFE.

FOR WEEKS I
TRIED TO PRETEND
IT DIDN'T MATTER.

FORTUNATELY FOR ME— MY BEST FRIEND KNEW BETTER.

HE CONVINCED ME I NEEDED TO GET OUT OF NEW YORK CITY FOR A WHILE.

OKAY, I WAS SKEPTICAL.

WHEN YOU SAID WE SHOULD COME TO EUROPE— TO CLEAR MY HEAD— I THOUGHT YOU WERE CRAZY.

I THOUGHT I'D MISS THE PERPS, PERVERTS AND PUNKS ON MY JOB.

BUT THIS WAS A GREAT IDEA, NEWBURGH.

THE ARDECHE REGION OF FRANCE COULDN'T BE FARTHER AWAY FROM THE CHAOS OF MANHATTAN'S CONCRETE CANYONS.

WHICH IS EXACTLY WHY WE'VE BEEN HERE FOR THE PAST WEEK.

WHEN I'M RIGHT, I'M RIGHT, GRIFFIN.

I'M NOT AFRAID TO ADMIT IT.

THE MAN DANGLING FROM THE SIDE OF THE CLIFFS?

HE'S DR. PETER NEWBURGH, A DENTIST...

YOU'RE SURE AS HELL AFRAID OF SOMETHING, THOUGH.

FALLING MAYBE?

...AND THE AFOREMENTIONED BEST FRIEND.

TRADITIONALLY, DENTISTS AREN'T NEARLY AS BRAVE AS COPS.

I'LL BE RIGHT THERE, LT. GRIFFIN, SIR!



PICK IT UP, PETER...

...THESE BREWS AREN'T GOING TO DRINK THEMSELVES!



PANT PANT...



HUNH?



PROBABLY
NOTHING,
BUT...

...IF I CAN
SQUEEZE
THROUGH THIS
CREVICE-- I CAN
CHECK OUT
THAT LIGHT!



BUDDY, YOU'LL NEVER GUESS WHERE I AM RIGHT NOW.

I CAN SEE YOU RIGHT NOW! ON GOOGLE EARTH!



ARE YOU PULLING MY LEG?

NOPE! PLAIN AS DAY, DAD!

THAT IS YOU WITH A BEARD HERDING SHEEP, RIGHT?



HAHA!

LESS COMEDY, MORE STUDY, MISTER.



YOU SAY THAT UNTIL YOU HAVE TO HELP ME CRAM FOR MY SOCIAL STUDIES FINAL.

I'LL SEE YOU TOMORROW, JONATHON. BRING YOUR TEXT BOOKS.



BYE, DAD. I LOVE YOU.

LOVE YOU HARDER, KID. BYE.



WHAT THE HELL?



THIS P-PLACE ALMOST FEELS... ALIVE?

BUT THAT'S CRAZY, ISN'T IT?



ARE THOSE STONES...

... OR SOME KIND OF... EGG?

I SHOULD GET THE HELL OUT OF HERE, BUT...



...WHAT THE--- ?!



COME ON,
DOC.
NOW YOU'RE
JUST BEING
RUDE.



NEWBURGH?

WHERE ARE
YOU?



PETE?!



NEWBURGH?!





WHEN CLAIRE LEFT...

SCORE!

SHUT-UP, I'M SERIOUS. I KNOW YOU NEVER LIKED HER... BUT I DID ENOUGH TO MARRY HER, ANYWAY.

WHEN SHE LEFT, I THOUGHT MY WHOLE LIFE JUST CAVED IN.



BUT YOU WERE THERE TO PICK ME UP OFF THE FLOOR.

TO REMIND ME I HAD A LIFE BEFORE HER. THAT I HAD TO HOLD IT TOGETHER FOR JONATHON'S SAKE.



YEAH, YEAH-- I EXPECT THE SAME TREATMENT IF MY WIFE EVER LEAVES ME.

YOU KNOW, IF I EVER FIND SOMEONE LONELY ENOUGH TO ACTUALLY MARRY ME.

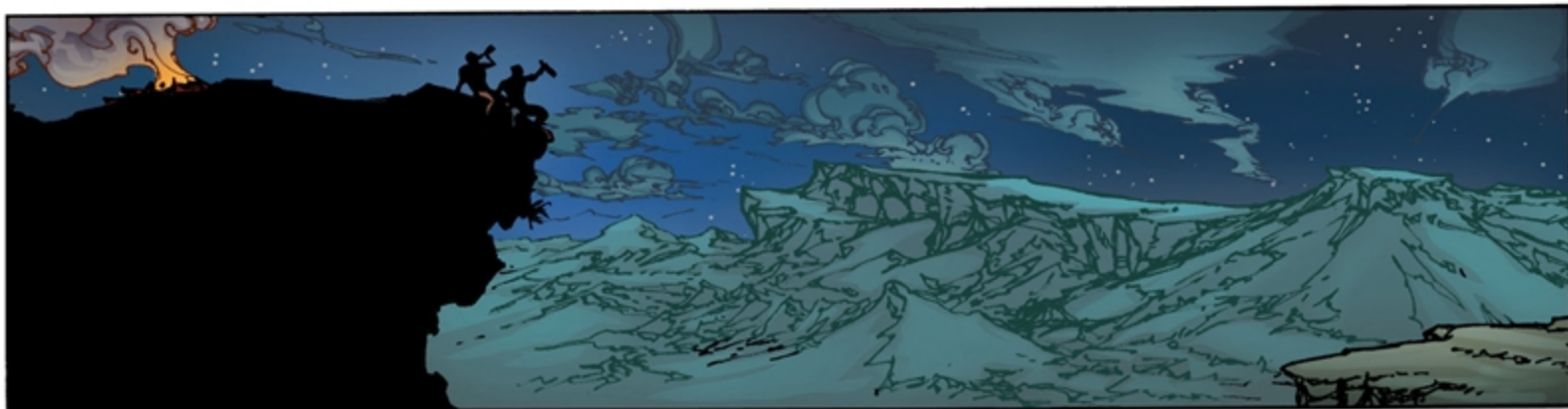
JOKE, IF YOU HAVE TO.

I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW I APPRECIATE IT.



OKAY, WELL-- IF YOU'RE SERIOUS...

...THEN YOU'RE WELCOME.







I WOULD HAVE BEEN JUST AS HAPPY IN COACH.

NO ONE IS REMOTELY HAPPY IN COACH, GRIFFIN.

AFTER YEARS OF STUDY AND MORE IMPACTED WISDOM EXTRACTIONS THAN I CAN COUNT, YOUR BEST BUD HAS MONEY.

ENJOY IT!



CAN I GET YOU ANYTHING ELSE?

I'D LIKE ANOTHER 7 AND 7 AND MY FRIEND HERE WILL HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS.

IF ONLY, I'M AFRAID THAT'S AGAINST--

IGNORE HIM, PLEASE.



IF YOU CAN'T BRING YOURSELF TO FLIRT, I'LL HAVE TO DO IT FOR YOU.



ENOUGH DRINKING, TALKING, EVERYTHING...

...WE WERE UP ALL NIGHT COMING DOWN THAT MOUNTAIN...

WAY AHEAD OF YOU, BUDDY.

NAWNIES!











CAN'T YOU DRIVE THIS CRATE ANY FASTER?

THAT DEPENDS-- DO YOU GOT AN EXTRA SIREN UP YOUR BUTT?

OFFICER?



GRIFF... I'M S-SORRY.

DON'T BE STUPID, YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT YOU--



WHY DIDN'T I TELL YOU?!

I SHOULD HAVE TOLD YOU!

TELL ME WHAT? PETE, WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



SO...SO... SORRY.

SO...

SHHHH, JUST REST.

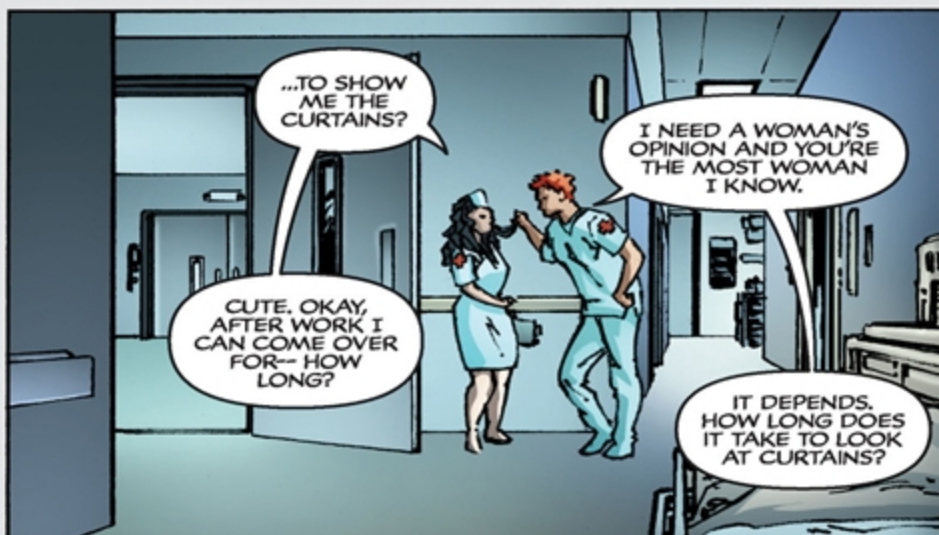
SHHH...



DRIVER, WE NEED TO GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL NOW!

ARRRRRGH!

YA' THINK?!







JUST LIKE THAT, IT SEEMS...

...HIS EVERY HOPE...

...EVERY DREAM...

...EVERY JOKE AND EVERY PRAYER...

...EVERYTHING THAT EVER WAS OR WOULD EVER BE DR. PETER NEWBURGH...

—WAS GONE.

FOREVER?

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—WAS GONE.

FOREVER?





KREESKKK

...YOUR
FRIEND HERE
TOTALLY HAS
HIS FREAK
ON!

TO BE CONTINUED IN...
THE SCOURGE #2

The SCOURGE

#2

THE COMIC BOOK EVENT
FROM THE INNOVATIVE MIND OF

GALE ANNE HURD

ACCLAIMED PRODUCER OF:

ALIENS - THE ABYSS - ARMAGEDDON
THE INCREDIBLE HULK - THE TERMINATOR
THE WALKING DEAD

WRITTEN BY

UNCANNY X-MEN - ALPHA FLIGHT
GENERATION X - FANTASTIC FOUR

LEGENDARY COMIC BOOK AUTHOR

SCOTT LOBDELL

PENCILLED BY

SPIDERMAN - AQUAMAN
GREEN LANTERN - BATMAN

ACCLAIMED ILLUSTRATOR

ERIC BATTLE



GET INFECTED.

ON SALE NOW!



BATTLE