TRINITY CITY

ISSUE #1



AN AFRO FUTURIST COMING OF AGE STORY SET IN "NEW NEW ORLEANS" CIRCA 2078

From Left Members of Trinity City: Morgan Prevost, Angélique Roché, Sheriff Susan Hutson, Steve Prince, Blair Aguillard, Keith Singleton, Mathew Schwarzman, hrilina ♥, and Lynn Moore



DEAR, CHANGE MAKERS, POWER HOLDERS, GAME CHANGERS, DESTINY DECIDERS:

What you are about to read is more than just a comic book.

It is a Call to Action, Devised with Young People for Young People.

Trinity City Comics was created with a collective vision of a vibrant Louisiana community that embraces diversity, appreciates cultural richness, and values all living beings. It is a story about three courageous teenagers fighting for justice and survival. A story about bridging divides through our common culture and shared ancestors. ***A story of strength, transformation and the people who can and do change the world everyday.***

Trinity City Comics is a project of Trinity City Arts. We believe art and storytelling empower us to change / remake / take care of our world. ***We believe in artivism – using* art *to be an* activist*, and uplifting the social issues that mean the most to you.*** We created this comic as Artivists to demonstrate exactly what we're talking about. We also organize artivist workshops, host competitions and events, maintain a blog written by and for young people, and we present annual awards to distinguished Artivists in Louisiana.

We hope our comic book motivates you to embrace artivism and inspires you to become an Artivist – to celebrate the parts of your world that you love, and to utilize art to transform the parts that need change. ***Like the teen characters in this comic, you are on a journey, and you can create – and change – your story.***

ENJOY!
TRINITY CITY ARTS

MAIN CHARACTERS


ROWAN CARTER


THE CHIEF


MARCUS SENNETT


BLAKE BORDELON


PAPA AL BORDELON

TRINITY CITY ISSUE #1

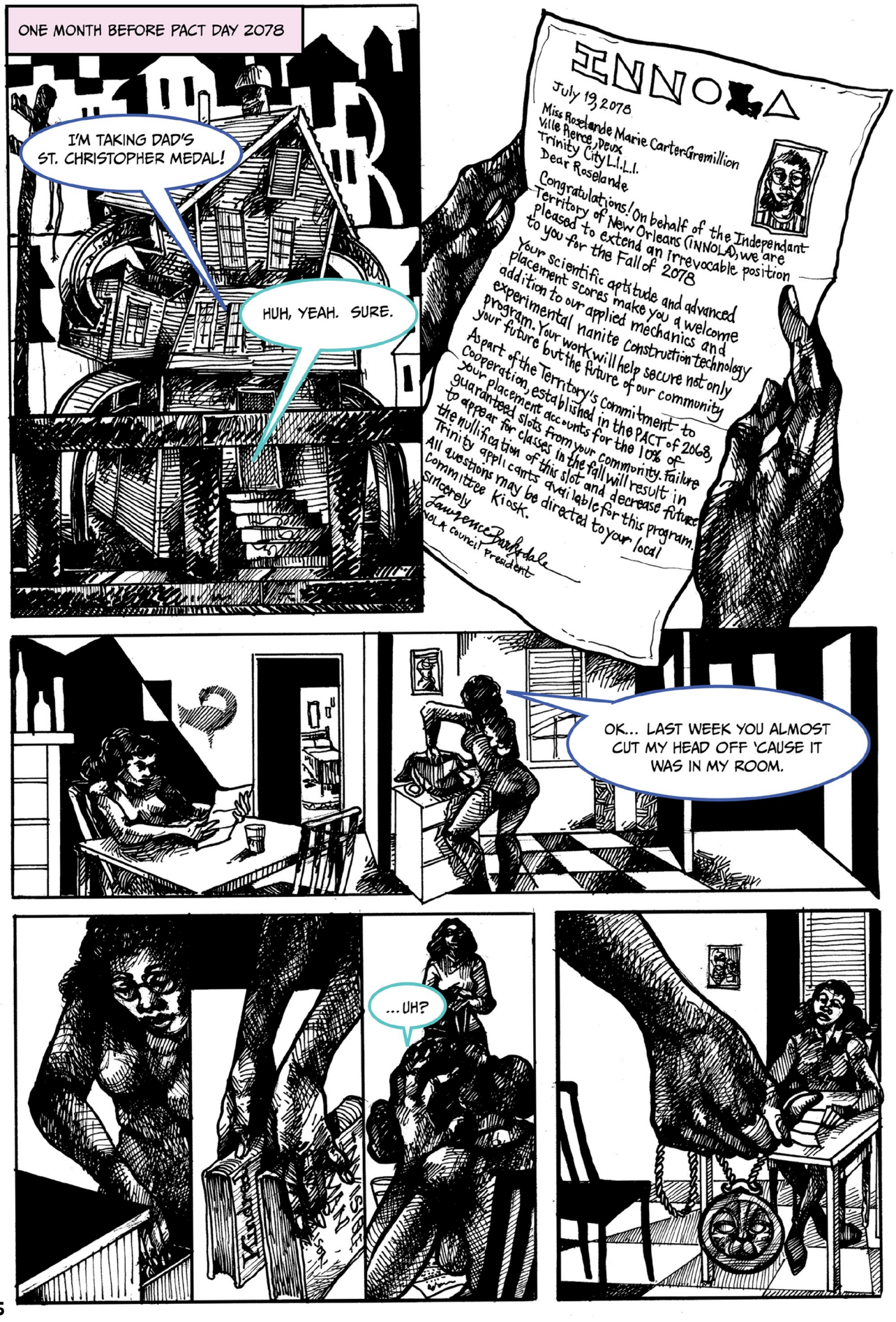


Characters and World Created By:
Blair Augillard, Keith Singleton, Morgan Prevost, Steve Prince, Angélique Roché, Sharika Mahdi
Story and Script Written By: Angélique Roché

Illustrations By: Steve Prince
Graphic Layout and Design: Emma Ledgerwood, Carolina Guadalupe


"THAT'S ME, ROWAN CARTER."
"AND THIS IS AN X78 FIELD DEPUTY SHERIFF UNIT..."
"IT WASN'T ALWAYS THIS WAY..."
LOST
MISSING
X78
2023010


STORM COMING
JOHN 3:16
SILENCE IS VIOLENCE
BLACK LIVES MATTER
"WHILE OTHER NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITIES BUILT UP, WE WERE SIMPLY FIGHTING FOR THE LAND WE BUILT ON. THEN, IT HAPPENED..."
PLEASE HELP U.S.
"...THE SEA WATERS ROSE, PUSHING WHAT WE ONCE KNEW AS LAKE PONTCHARTRAIN BACK INTO THE CITY OF NEW ORLEANS, AND NEW ORLEANS... THE CITY BENEATH THE SEA BECAME A PART OF IT.."
"...BUT THE SOUL OF THIS CITY IS WATERPROOF."
"WE REBUILT OUR CITY"
The Trinity 2068 JOINING DAY/PACT DAY
" THAT WAS UNTIL TRINITY CITY SIGNED THE PACT... AND EVERYTHING CHANGED."


ONE MONTH BEFORE PACT DAY 2078
I'M TAKING DAD'S ST. CHRISTOPHER MEDAL!
HUH, YEAH. SURE.
INNOLA
July 19, 2078
Miss Roselande Marie Carter-Gremillion
Ville Pierce, Deux
Trinity City L.I.L.L.
Dear Roselande
Congratulations! On behalf of the Independant Territory of New Orleans (INNOLA), we are pleased to extend an irrevocable position to you for the Fall of 2078
Your scientific aptitude and advanced placement scores make you a welcome addition to our applied mechanics and experimental nanite construction technology program. Your work will help secure not only your future but the future of our community
As part of the Territory's commitment to cooperation, established in the PACT of 2068, your placement accounts for the 10% of guaranteed slots from your community. failure to appear for classes in the fall will result in the nullification of this slot and decrease future Trinity applicants available for this program. All questions may be directed to your local Committee Kiosk.
Sincerely
Lawrence Barksdale
INOLA council President
OK... LAST WEEK YOU ALMOST CUT MY HEAD OFF 'CAUSE IT WAS IN MY ROOM.
...UH?


IT'S JUST A COUPLE A WEEKS. WHO TURNS DOWN A UNIVERSITY?
LIKE YOU HAD A CHOICE?
I'LL WRITE EVERY WEEK AND VISIT DURING BREAKS.
I'M NEVER TOO BUSY FOR YOU, ROW.
UGH...YOU'LL BE ALL BUSY WITH UNIVERSITY
NEVER.
NEVER?
"THAT WAS THE LAST TIME I SAW MY SISTER"
INNOKA


ONE WEEK LATER...
SO, YOU GOT NOTHING FROM ROSELANDE?
NO, BUT I'M SURE SHE IS JUST BUSY WITH CLASSES.
TO AT LEAST EMAIL? SHE PROMISED...
TWO WEEKS LATER...
SHERIFF OFFICE
GRAND
COMMUN ASSISTAN CENTER
CARTER
THREE WEEKS LATER...
... I KNOW, BABY, BUT SOMETIMES OUR OBLIGATIONS PULL US AWAY.
EVEN WHEN WE HAVE THE BEST INTENTIONS TO KEEP OUR PROMISES.


WHERE *COUGH* YOU GOIN?
JUST DOWN TO THE CITY CENTER TO TALK TO BLAKE...

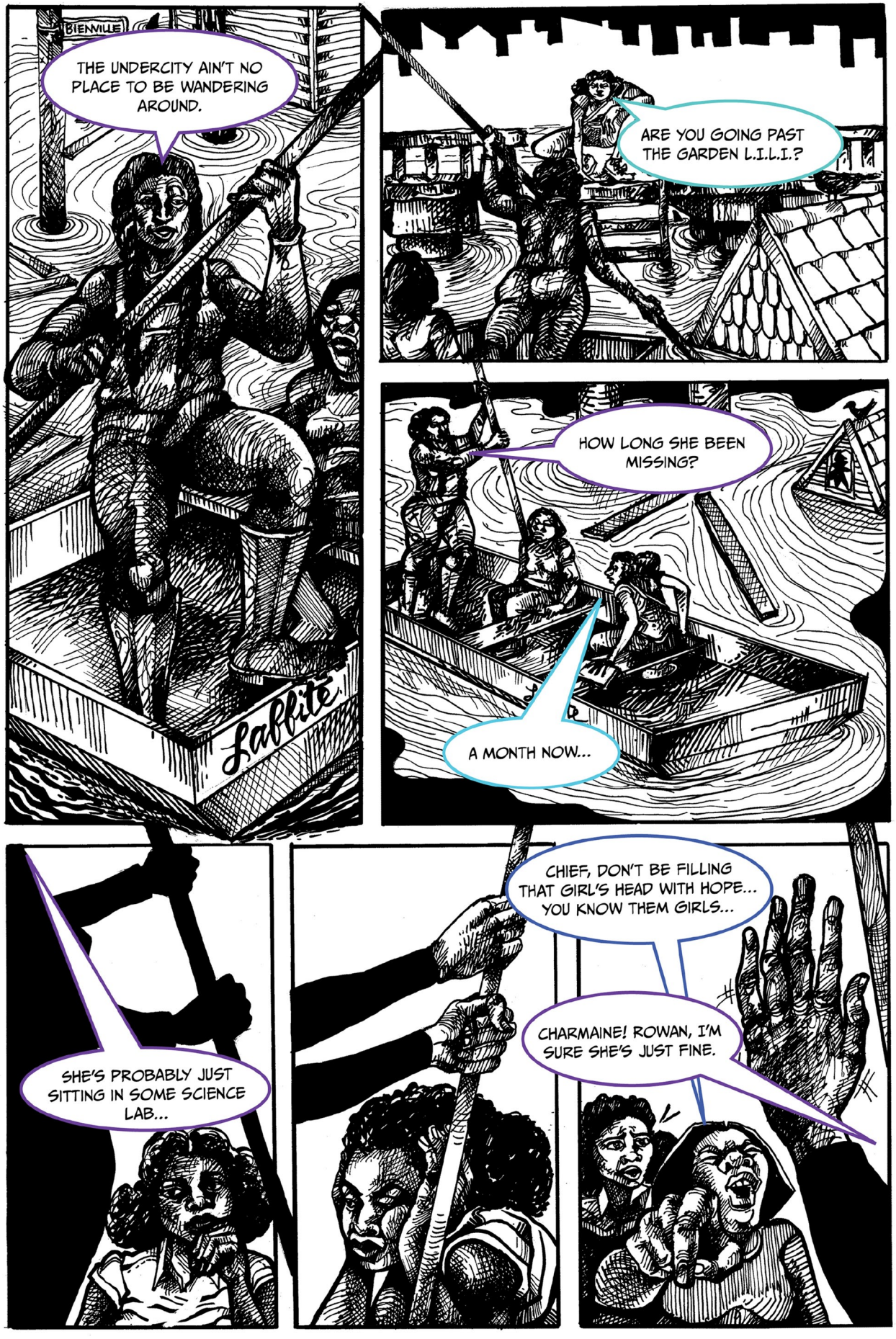

OK NOW, BE CAREFUL AND PICK ME UP SOME *COUGH COUGH* SWAMP MOSS FROM BORDELON'S?


BORDELON'S
IRISH CHANNEL
CALL: 504-283-9605
ROSALAHDE GARCEY
MISSING
INNOZA
CAPACITY 200 75 MIN

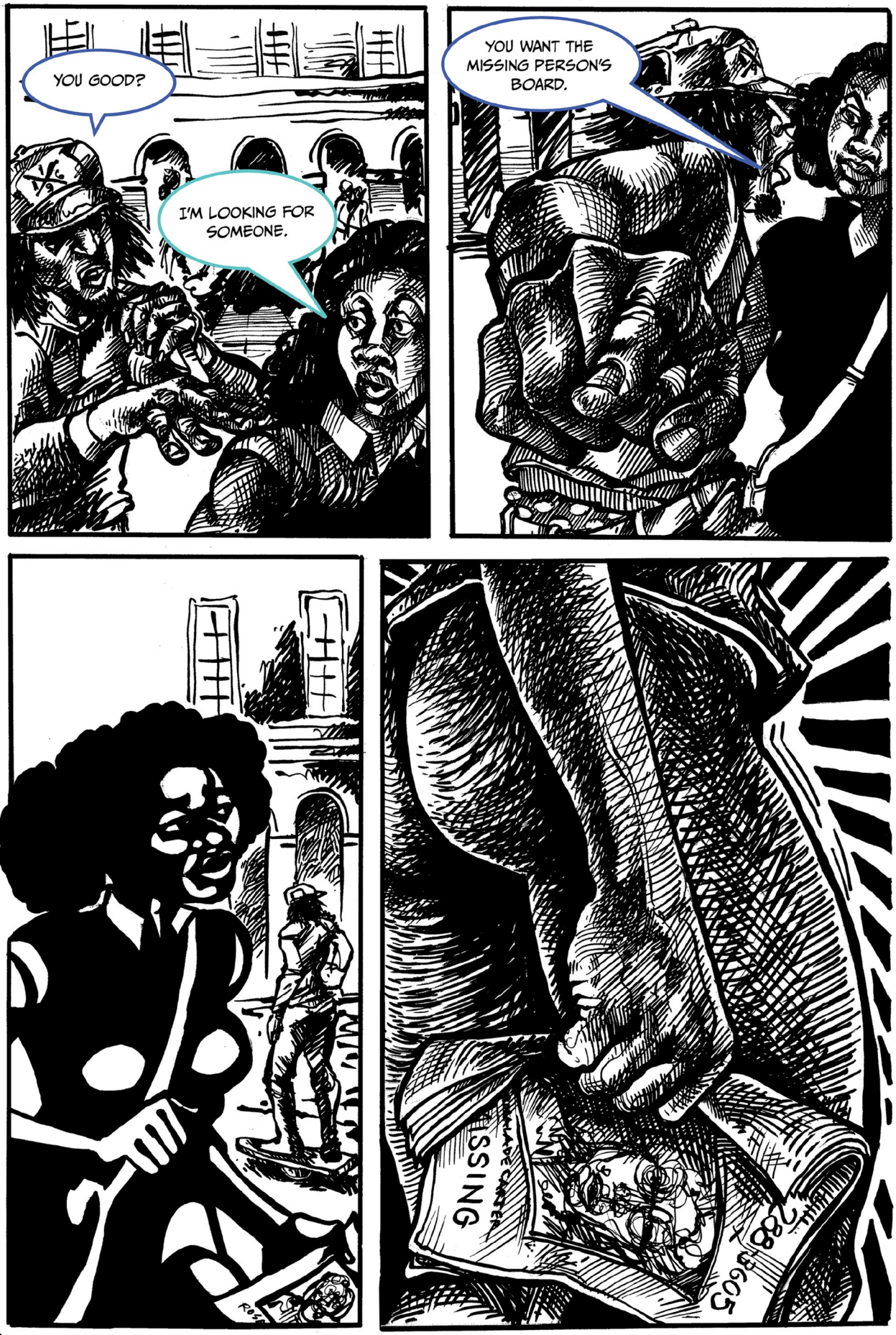

AUTO INSURANCE
PACT
WE TRUST


YOU JOSEPHINE CARTER'S LITTLE GIRL?
YES' M'AM


WHATCHA DOIN' ALL THE WAY DOWN HERE MS. ROWAN?


BIENVILLE
THE UNDERCITY AIN'T NO PLACE TO BE WANDERING AROUND.
Laffite
ARE YOU GOING PAST THE GARDEN L.I.L.I.?
HOW LONG SHE BEEN MISSING?
A MONTH NOW...
SHE'S PROBABLY JUST SITTING IN SOME SCIENCE LAB...
CHIEF, DON'T BE FILLING THAT GIRL'S HEAD WITH HOPE... YOU KNOW THEM GIRLS...
CHARMAINE! ROWAN, I'M SURE SHE'S JUST FINE.


ALRIGHT, ROWAN, UP THOSE STEPS, DOWN THAT WAY, AND MAKE A LEFT. COUPLE OF BLOCKS YOU'LL SEE THE UNIVERSITY.
THANKS, CHIEF.
JUST BE CAREFUL. SOMETIMES THE ANSWERS WE WANT, WE ARE BETTER OFF NOT KNOWING.
ORPHEUM
DAIQUIRIS
Pear COMPUTERS
ST. ORLEANS UNIVERSITY
The World is Yours!


YOU GOOD?
I'M LOOKING FOR SOMEONE.
YOU WANT THE MISSING PERSON'S BOARD.
MISSING
288-3605


CAMPUS BULLETIN BOARD
MISSING
ROSALANDE CARTER
CALL 504.288.3605
GONE
LOST
STAY OUT OF THE WATER
HUMAN RIGHTS.ORG
Alaska FISHING JOBS
CALL NOW 777431
STEP SHOW
TIMEKA
LAST SEEN
WE ♡ YOU HALEY
LINDA BRENT
CALL MISSING
MISSING SHEEP
JOHN 3:16
MISSING MAT
SAM
SALT OF THE EARTH
TOINE
CHESTER
TEXT TAKING HELP
MOVING HELP
MISSING SHARIKA
TEXMARK VESEY
MISSING EMMA
MEG
RUCK
ISA
TILL
GONE
QUEEN
FIND
LOST
STEVE
BLAIR
RAY
ANGELIQUE
RON B.
SASHA
HELP
XU
ROCKS
HARRIET JACOBS
CHARLIE PARKER
PRESIDENT
MORGAN
KEVIN
CHAMP
WILL
SARAH
LEAH
KEITH
HATTIE
LISA
KIM
Beth
ELIJAH
MISSING
MALCOLM
F.DOUGLAS
Trinity
TO BE CONTINUED....



Character Sheet
Illustrated by:
Morgan Prevost


10 YEARS AGO: 2068
CHIEF, WE'VE HEARD WHAT YOU HAD TO SAY BUT OUR DECISION IS FINAL....
....Y'ALL ARE DAMN FOOLS.
-- OUR PEOPLE NEED THIS THERESA. WE ALL BENEFIT FROM ADVANCED MEDICINE AND ACCESS TO COLLEGE.
IN THE PACT WE TRUST.
AT WHAT COST? SERVITUDE? ... WE HOLD POWER HERE AND Y'ALL ARE JUST GIVING IT AWAY.
PACT
PACT
PACT


EVERY L.I.L.I HAS A WORKERS RECRUITMENT QUOTA. IT'S FOR THE GREATER GOOD.
WHOSE GREATER GOOD?.
DON'T TELL ME WHAT MY FATHER WOULD WANT...
IN THE FACT WE TRUST.
THIS IS FOR OUR PEOPLE. IT'S WHAT BIG CHIEF OLIVIER...
...IT'S CLEAR THE COMMUNITY WE BUILT HERE IS NO LONGER THIS COUNCIL'S PRIORITY.
I'M DONE FIGHTING.
OOF!


CHIEF!
EXIT
OH, CHER, I'M SORRY...
...I WAS JUST ON MY WAY...
TO KEEP EAVESDROPPING ON YOUR FATHER?
I...
IT'S OUR LITTLE SECRET...
YOU'RE A GOOD KID, MARCUS.
TAKE THIS... IT WAS MY FATHER'S BEFORE ME... PERHAPS IT CAN FIND NEW MEANING WITH YOU...
...TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, YEAH?
EXIT
THANK YOU


LET HER GO, TERRANCE. THIS LIL "EXPERIMENT" LASTED AS LONG AS IT COULD.
ARE WE READY TO THROW IT ALL AWAY FOR CANNED GOODS AND MEDICINE?
I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE SURE OF ANYTHING IN MY LIFE.
YOU READY TO GO, MAR?
READY, READY!
HOLD UP...
DAAAD!!
BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY
CAN WE GET SNOWBALLS?
DEAL.

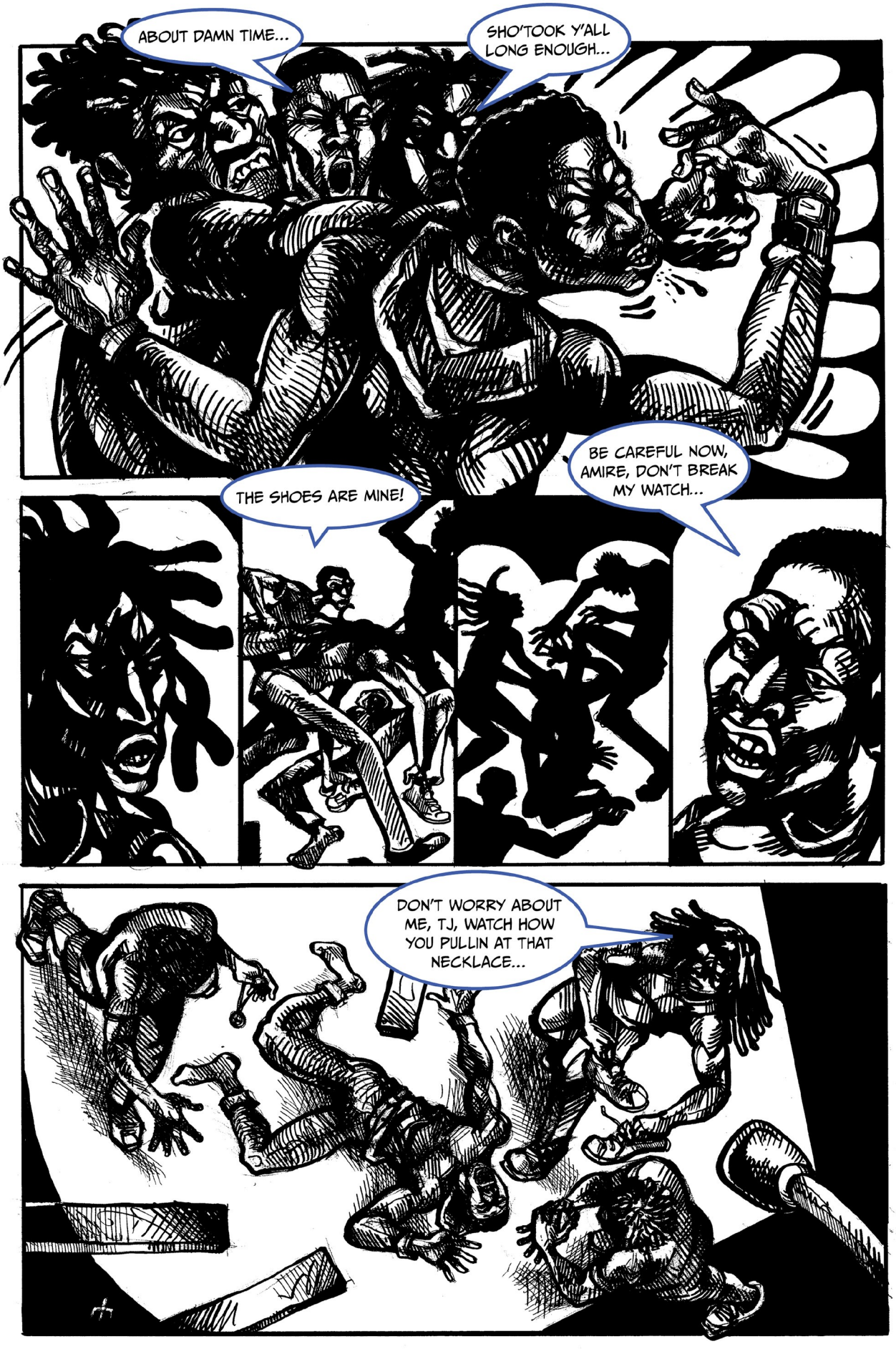

10 YEARS LATER: 2078
POWER
MISSING


HOW DID —
NERVOUS, KID? SURE YOU WANNA DO THIS?
...YOU GOT YOUR MONEY. JUST GET ME THERE.
LOOKOUT!
WHATEVA, MAN... NOT LIKE THEY GONNA ARREST A COUNCILMAN'S SON...
YOU GOT GUTS, KID, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.


ELEVATORS OUT...
WAIT, HOW WE GETTING DOWN THERE NOW?
NO RETURN
ONLY ONE WAY DOWN TO THE BOTTOM THIS TIME OF NIGHT. HOPE YOU AIN'T AFRAID OF HEIGHTS...
COLD DRINK
POW!


"THE PACT IS SLAVERY"? BUT AREN'T WE FREE?
I THOUGHT THE PACT GAVE US FREEDOM...
PACT DIE!!
THE PACT is Life is Slavery
YOU'RE CLUELESS, AIN'TCHA?
WHAT IS FREEDOM WITHOUT CHOICE... THE PACT TOOK THAT AWAY FROM ALL OF US... BUT I GUESS YOUR RIGHTEOUS-ASS DADDY WOULDN'T TELL YOU ALL THAT.


YOU NEVER TOLD ME HOW YOU KNEW WHO MY FATHER WAS?
TRINITY = TRAITORS
I MEAN... EXPENSIVE CLOTHES, FRESH HAIRCUT, NICE SHOES, WORKING WATCH, NAIVE CLUELESS LOOK ON YOUR FACE WANDERING AROUND LOOKING FOR A WAY TO THE BOTTOM?
BOLD ENOUGH TO WALK AROUND WITH 'AN EXPENSIVE WATCH AND A POCKET FULL OF CREDITS JUST FOR SOMEONE TO TOUR HIM THROUGH THE SLUMS...HOW COULD ANYONE MAKE A MARK SO EASY, MARCUS...
WHERE ARE WE?
SO YOU SEE, I COULDN'T PASS UP A CHANCE TO SHOW ONE OF TRINITY'S 'GOLDEN SONS' JUST HOW THE REST OF US LIVE...


ABOUT DAMN TIME...
SHO'TOOK Y'ALL LONG ENOUGH...
BE CAREFUL NOW, AMIRE, DON'T BREAK MY WATCH...
THE SHOES ARE MINE!
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, TJ, WATCH HOW YOU PULLIN AT THAT NECKLACE...


ENOUGH!
CHIEF! WE, WERE, UH...
...SHOWING OUR NEW FRIEND AROUND...
HENRI FONTENOT, CHARLIE T'JEAN, AND AMIRE LEWIS GET Y'ALL'S HAND OFF THAT BOY...
YOUNG MAN, ARE YOU OKAY?
MARCUS... KID... ARE YOU OK?
MARCUS...MARCUS SENNETT?
M...M..MY... NNNNASAL SP...SP...RAY..


I DIDN'T SIGN-UP FOR ALL THIS...
CHIEF! WE, WERE, UH...
GOT IT!
DON'T YOU EVEN THINK ABOUT IT ... FIND THAT BOY'S NASAL SPRAY.
CHIEF?
HEY, MAR...
...WHATCHU DOIN DOWN HERE?
I JUST... I JUST WANTED TO SEE WHAT THE REST OF THE WORLD LOOKED LIKE
WELL, NOW YOU'VE SEEN IT, LET'S GET YOU HOME....
TO BE CONTINUED...

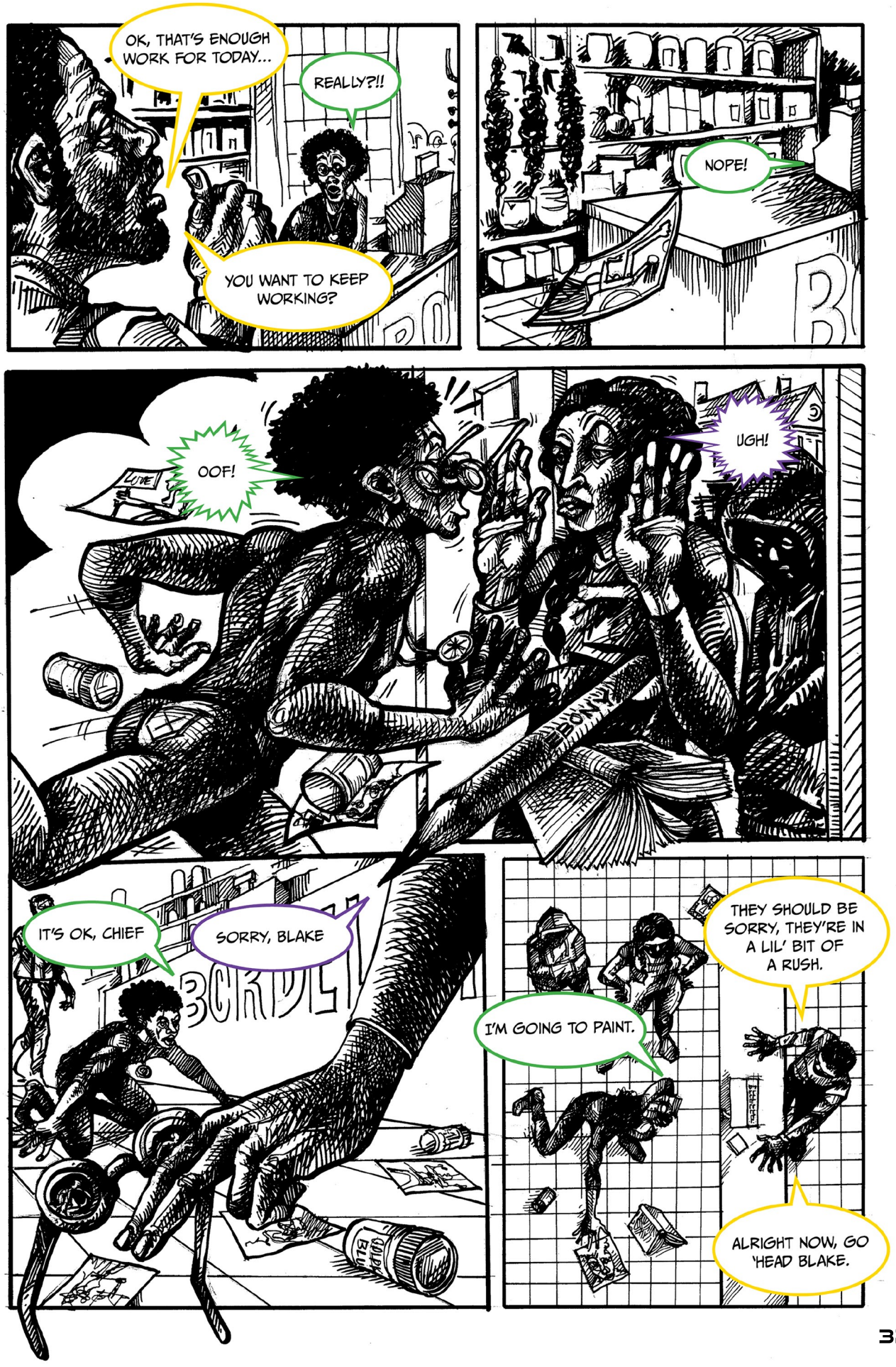


Character Sheet
Illustrated by:
Keith Singleton


BORDELON'S
BORDELON'S
serving people
BLAKE
ARTIST WANTED


AGHHH!
ANOTHER ONE?
I'M FINE, POPS... REALLY...
PEOPLE WHO SCREAM IN THEIR SLEEP AIN'T FINE...
BLAKE, YOU KNOW YOU CAN TELL ME ANYTHING, RIGHT?
THERE'S NOTHING TELL... JUST SPOOKED IS ALL.
POPS, I'M GOING TO TRY AND GET SOME SLEEP...
AIIGHT. YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND ME.
YOU STILL GONNA LET ME PAINT THE STORE TOMORROW?
YOU WORK. YOU GET TO PAINT. THAT'S THE DEAL.
BET. NIGHT, POPS!


E.R.
YES, M'AM, THE MOLASSES IS DOWN THAT WAY.
TWO LITERS OF MILK, A DOZEN EGGS, AND A POUND OF PERCH. YOU WANT THAT ON YOUR ACCOUNT, MISS AUGUSTUS?
YES, THANK YOU BLAKE. TELL MR. AL THAT I SAID HELLO.
BURDELONS
SALE

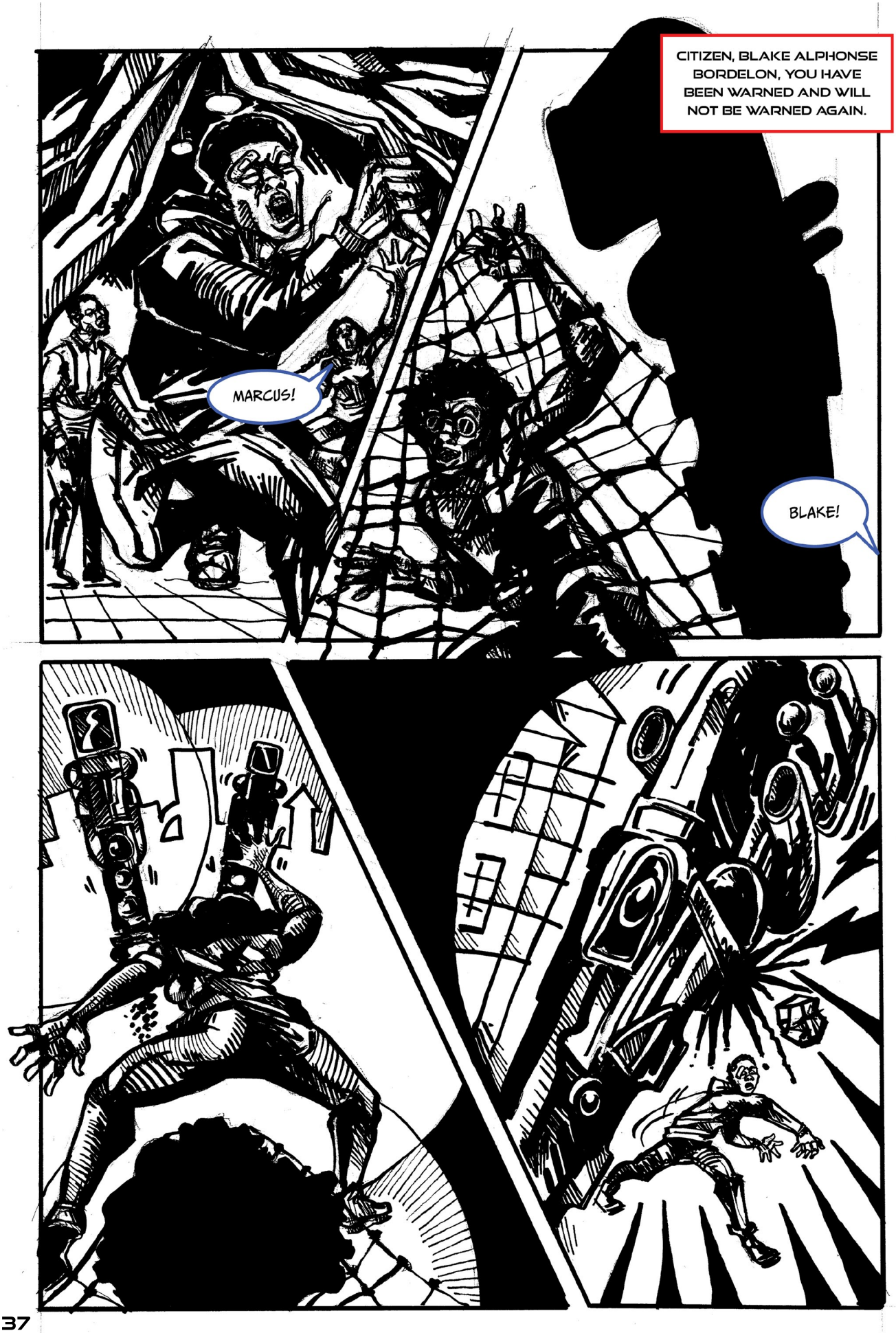

OK, THAT'S ENOUGH WORK FOR TODAY...
REALLY?!!
YOU WANT TO KEEP WORKING?
NOPE!
OOF!
UGH!
IT'S OK, CHIEF
SORRY, BLAKE
THEY SHOULD BE SORRY, THEY'RE IN A LIL' BIT OF A RUSH.
I'M GOING TO PAINT.
ALRIGHT NOW, GO 'HEAD BLAKE.


BYE PAPA, BYE, CHIEF.
AND BLAKE, BE CAREFUL. YOU SEE A DEPUTY, YOU COME RIGHT BACK HERE, YEAH?
THERESA MARIE OLIVIER, WATCHU DONE BROUGHT ON MY DOORSTEP...
AFTERNOON, MR. BORDELON...
THIS IS A MATTER FOR A QUIETER PLACE, WITH LESS EYES AND EARS.
ALRIGHT, FOLKS! WE'RE CLOSING FOR LUNCH. COME BACK IN AN HOUR OR SO. HAPPY TO PROVIDE YOU WITH A DISCOUNT FOR THE INCONVENIENCE!
UNDERSTOOD.
COME ON NOW, FOLLOW ME...


CLOSED
YEAH, THAT'S MABLE'S BOY...
I THOUGHT THEY WAS BLIND...
HE MIGHT AS WELL BE... CAUSING THAT KIND OF TROUBLE...
MAMA, WHAT IS HE DOING?
NEVER YOU MIND, CHER, COME'ON HERE.
HUBIG
GOLDEN
WHITE

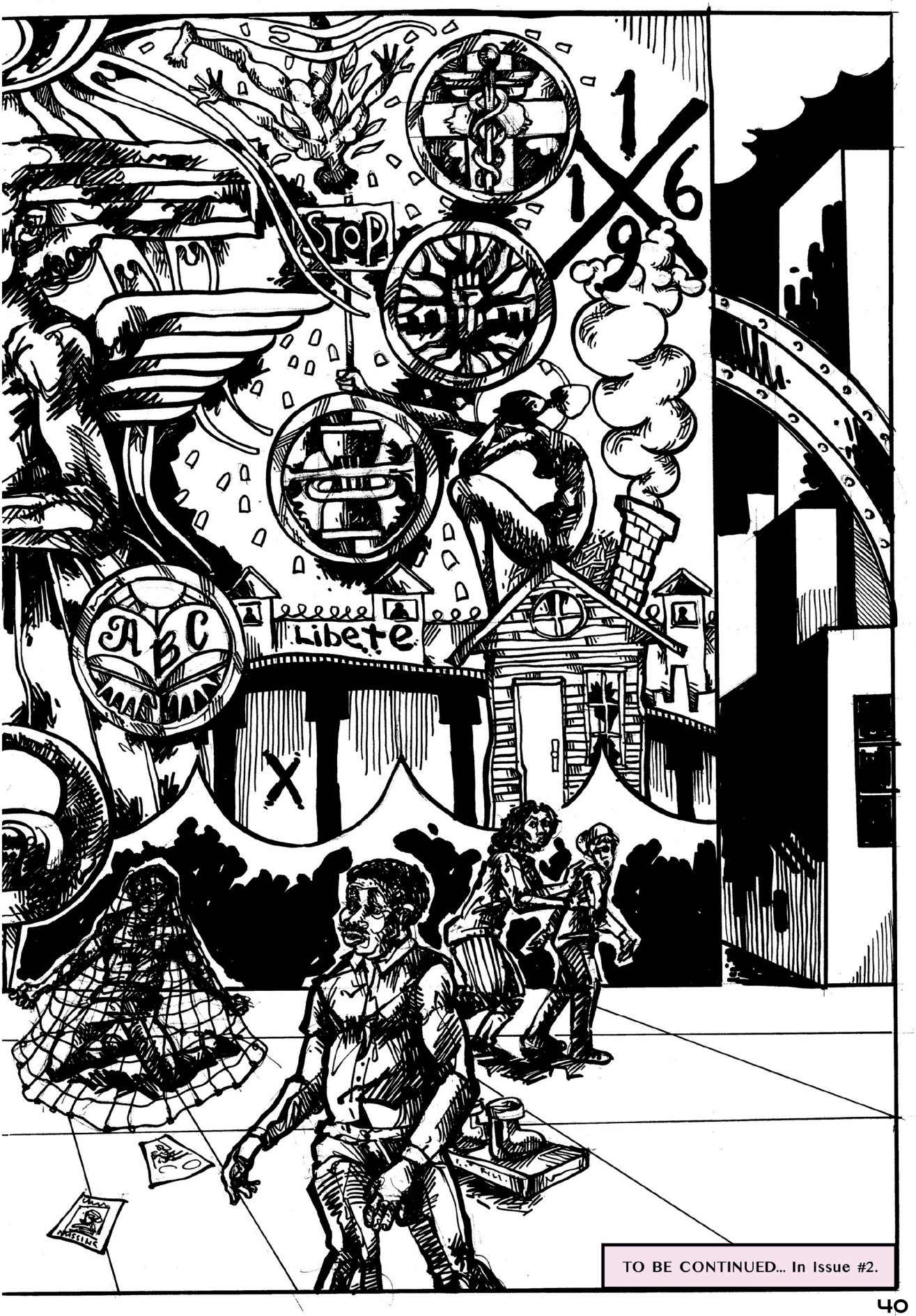

SY-4
PAINT SPRAYER
300
AIR
HOV-R SCAFFOLD


MISSING
Meanwhile, Rowan...
MISSING
I DIDN'T DO NOTHING!
MISSING
AND YOU SAY YOU JUST FOUND HIM LIKE THIS?


MARCUS!
CITIZEN, BLAKE ALPHONSE BORDELON, YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED AND WILL NOT BE WARNED AGAIN.
BLAKE!


WHERE WERE YOU BUCKET OF BOLTS WHEN I NEEDED YOU?
WHERE WERE YOU WHEN MY SISTER NEEDED YOU?
DON'T YOU HAVE REAL CRIMES TO DEAL WITH?


FATOU D.
MISSING


STOP
1
1
9
6
ABC
Libete
X
TO BE CONTINUED... In Issue #2.



Character Sheet Illustrated by: Blair Augillard







BLAKE'S GLASSES

The character of Blake Bordelon wears thick glasses because of severe corneal scarring over their right eye, which makes his eyes extremely sensitive to light, and the glasses help keep things dim. The scar causes Blake to see most things in light or shadow, which has influenced the style of his artwork.





HUNTER'S FIELD

The Chief lives in the Undercity in what remains of a cultural heritage site in today's real-life New Orleans, Hunter's Field. In April 1963, hundreds of local African American residents, led by 400 children, squatted on the site until the city agreed to make it a park for children to play in.





L.I.L.I PADS

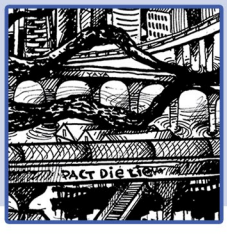
The rich of New New Orleans live on eLevated Isolated Liveable Infrastructures that keep them safe from floods, crime, and disease. These high-tech floating neighborhoods are self-sufficient and can either be anchored to land or set free to follow the ocean currents wherever they may lead.





MARCUS' NASAL SPRAY

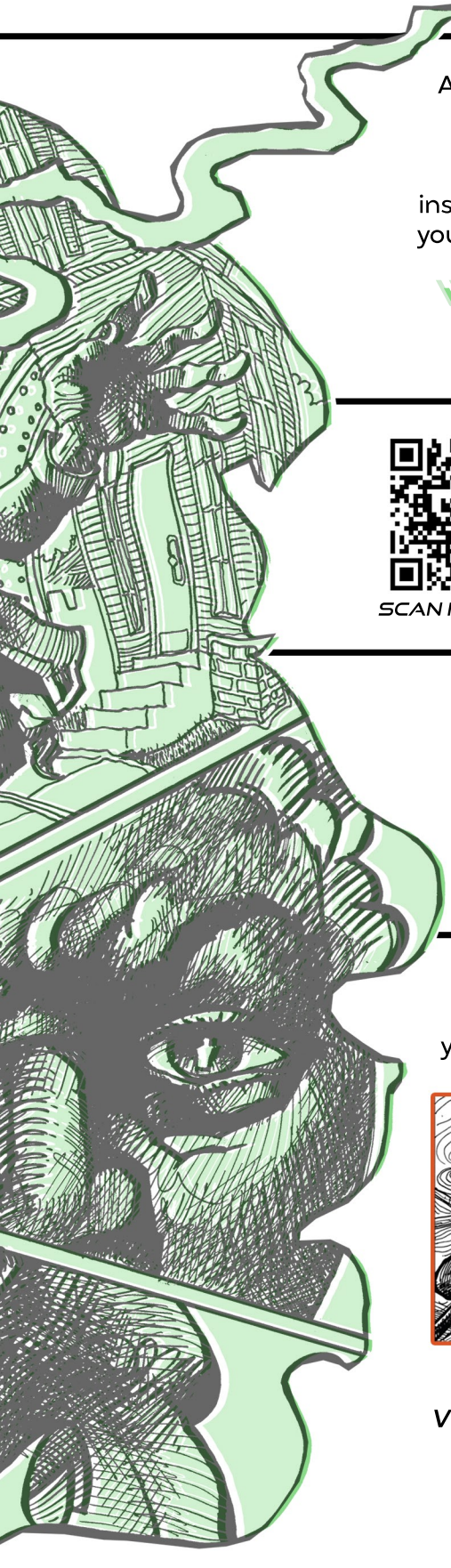
Marcus Sennet has sudden epileptic seizures that leave him unable to speak, move or think clearly. Thanks to his dad, a doctor, Marcus has a prescription for Diazepam nasal spray, a fast-acting medicine that can make the difference between life and death.





THE PACT

Signed in 2068, this law requires people in Trinity City and others who live outside one of the three L.I.L.I Pads to work in exchange for basic resources such as food, transportation, healthcare, education, and public safety. The work is often backbreaking and dangerous or enticing, like a university program.



WHAT IS ARTIVISM?

ARTIVISM is the super heroic practice of using art to fight for social change, often by highlighting underrepresented narratives, challenging harmful norms, and expressing resistance to oppression or hate. Let TRINITY CITY Comics inspire you to ***kickstart your own artivist projects***. To aid you in your journey, we have curated these resources on our website:

WWW.TRINITYCITYCOMICS.ORG

GET CREATIVE!

SCAN FOR INFO!

Learn how to enter the next Trinity City ***LOUISIANA TEEN ARTIVIST CONTEST***! Winners stand a chance to receive cash prizes, professional mentoring, promotion of your art, and other exciting rewards!

GO DEEPER

SCAN ME ALSO!

Dive into the social justice themes explored in our story, and discover how ***young changemakers are already taking action***. Perfect for young artivists seeking inspiration and educators crafting engaging lessons!

TRY ARTIVISM!

I***gnite your inner ARTIVISM*** with Trinity City Comics! Create art that reflects your beliefs and values while celebrating your passions and aspirations for change in your community. ***Try this to get started:***



1) Pick your ***favorite character*** in Trinity City Comics. List 3 qualities about them ***that inspire you***.

← EXAMPLE: THE CHIEF IS BRAVE, LOYAL AND WISE!

2) ***Reflect*** on your list of 3 qualities and select one quality you want to enhance in yourself. ***Visualize yourself*** embodying that quality. ***What do you see?***

3) ***Create artwork*** to represent that quality in YOU. It can be a picture, a collage, a poem, a song, a dance. ***Whatever resonates with you!***

BONUS: Share your art with 3 friends or post it on social media, tagging us: ***@TrinityCityArts***. If you email your artwork to [***TrinityCityComics@gmail.com***], we'll feature it on our blog with your permission!

WHO WE ARE

Trinity City Arts is made up of Louisianans of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities engaging in social change through listening to and telling stories about the past, present, and future of our communities. ***Headquartered in New Orleans***, we commission artists in all media to create works that stimulate and support our objectives.

TRINITY CITY ARTS

2023 ARTIVIST AWARD HONOREES



From Left Denise Frazier, Antoine Prince, Jr. and Ayo Scott.

On Thursday, November 2, 2023, Trinity City Arts awarded our first-ever ***TRINITY CITY ARTIVIST AWARDS*** and recognized three artist-activists whose brave work in the arts promotes justice and well being in our beloved home, New Orleans. In our first year, we honored muralist and cultural organizer ***Ayo Scott***, arts educator/painter ***Antoine Prince, Jr.***, and musician/scholar/organizer ***Denise Frazier***. Chosen for their profound impact upon our community, our project, and us as individuals we honor these local heroes and engage them in the effort to develop the ***next generation of culture-bearers***.

TRINITY CITY ISSUE #1 CREDITS
ARTISTS, AUTHORS AND CONTRIBUTORS

The Co-Creators

Characters & Universe: ***Blair Augillard, Keith Singleton, Morgan Prevost, Steve Prince, Angélique Roché, Sharika Mahdi***

Story & Script: ***Angélique Roché***

Illustrations: ***Steve Prince***

Graphic Design: ***Emma Ledgerwood and Carolina Guadalupe***

The Organizers

Project Co-Leaders: ***Lisa D'Amour and Mathew Schwarzman***

Project Administrator: ***Carolina Guadalupe***

Community Ambassador: ***Michele Brierre***

Youth Organizer: ***hrilina***♥

For YOU...

“All that You Touch You Change.
All that You Change Changes You.
The Only Lasting Truth is Change.”

- Octavia E. Butler -

TO BE CONTINUED...

DEDICATION





Yvonne Theresa Olivier Bechet was born African American in 1934 into a segregated New Orleans. She worked throughout her life to help create an empowered and vibrant New Orleans that celebrated culture, understood differences and valued every individual. And she was a cop. She was also the primary inspiration for the character of The Chief.

In 1961, while raising four children, Yvonne began her trailblazing career with a job at NASA where she was one of the first women to install advanced electronics on Apollo rockets. She would later graduate from the New Orleans Police Department as one of the first seven women to enter the Police Academy in 1968. For the next 22 years, Yvonne would make her voice known as she sought equality for African American youth, women, police officers and the Black community as a whole.



POWERED BY:

YAYA
Young Aspirations | Young Artists

PLATFORMS

SOUTH ARTS

FORD FOUNDATION

SUSAN HUTSON
SHERIFF
ORLEANS PARISH

NEW ORLEANS JAZZ & HERITAGE FOUNDATION, INC.

CITY COUNCIL
NEW ORLEANS

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS
arts.gov

FERTEL FOUNDATION

AlternateROOTS

KREWE of REDBEANS