

Bennett • Cafaro • Prianto & Co. • Peteri



24 \$3.99
AUG US



WITCHBLADE



WITCHBLADE[®]

created by **Marc Silvestri, David Wohl, Brian Haberlin, & Michael Turner**

New York City Police Detective Sara Pezzini's life was forever fractured by her father's murder. Cold, cunning, and hellbent on revenge, Sara stalked a vicious criminal cabal beneath the city, and during a brutal warehouse massacre, Sara bonded with the **Witchblade**, an ancient weapon that transformed her into something wild, magnificent, and beyond her darkest imaginings.

Previously...After meeting the android assassin Aphrodite Nine. Sara woke up the next morning, stirred by memories of the night before, only to discover the dead body of Robert Kramer in her bed and Aphrodite, gone without a trace. Meanwhile...It was discovered that several murders linked to advanced hacked smartlocks from A.S.I. Industries were tied to the case that led Sara's partner, Jake McCarthy, to leave California. Jake is back, and after both Sara and Jake separately infiltrated A.S.I. Industries, they were both attacked by drones and, eventually, by Aphrodite herself, who seemed not to be in control and caught in a logic loop. Sara was brought to her knees and at Aphrodite's mercy. However, a spark of recognition flickered within the "killing machine," breaking Aphrodite's programming and bringing her feelings toward Sara to the surface. There are multiple Aphrodites under the control of the A.S.I. "Chairwoman." A robotic puppet master who has taken matters into her own hands, believing the Witchblade would be better off in the possession of someone else...

"Wait"

Written by **Marguerite Bennett**

Line art by **Giuseppe Cafaro**

Colors by **Arif, Felix Hidayat,**
and **Sakti Yuwono** for **Prianto & Co.**

Letters by **Troy Peteri**

Edits by **Marc Silvestri, Matt Hawkins, and Ryan Cady**

Cover A: **Giuseppe Cafaro and Arif Prianto**

Cover B and Top Cow Store Spot Foil Exclusive: **Leirix**



For Top Cow Productions, Inc.
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Matt Hawkins - President & COO
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DID YOU
THINK YOU
WERE IN
LOVE,
SARA?

A
MACHINE
CANNOT
LOVE--

LEAST
OF ALL
YOU.

A GIRL WITH
GREEN HAIR WALKS
INTO A BAR...

...AND PICKS UP
A BURNED-OUT,
SECRET-KEEPING
LONER WHO CAN'T
BE HONEST WITH
ANYONE IN HER
DAY-TO-DAY LIFE.



THE GIRL IS
A ROBOT.

HER IN-LAWS ARE
A NIGHTMARE.

AND HER MAKER IS
OBSESSED WITH
USING HER AS AN
INTERNATIONAL
ASSASSIN TO KEEP
THE DOOMSDAY
CLOCK IN CHECK.

WHAT'S THE
PUNCHLINE?

ME, I GUESS.



I'M THE MORON
FIGHTING FOR A
KILLER ROBOT--

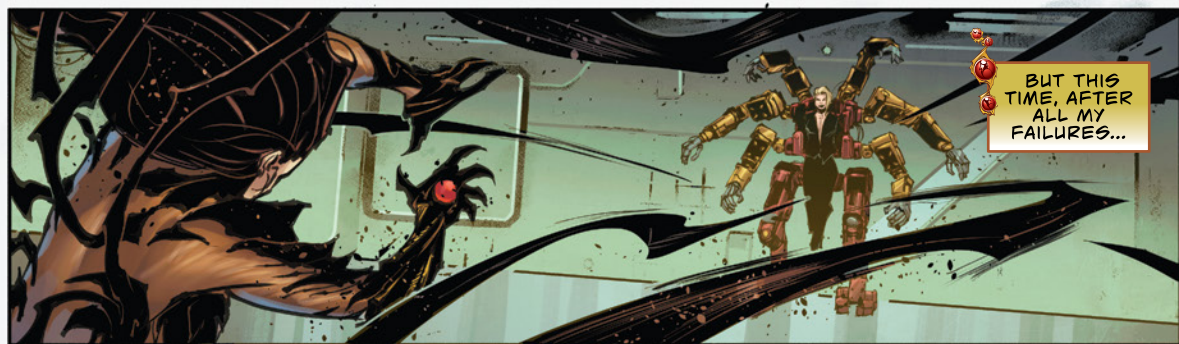
--FIGHTING TO SAVE
HER FROM **THE
CHAIRWOMAN**
WHO WIPES HER
MEMORY AFTER
EVERY MISSION
AND SENDS HER
INTO THE WORLD
TO KILL AGAIN.

THE ROAD TO
HELL IS PAVED
WITH GOOD
INTENTIONS.

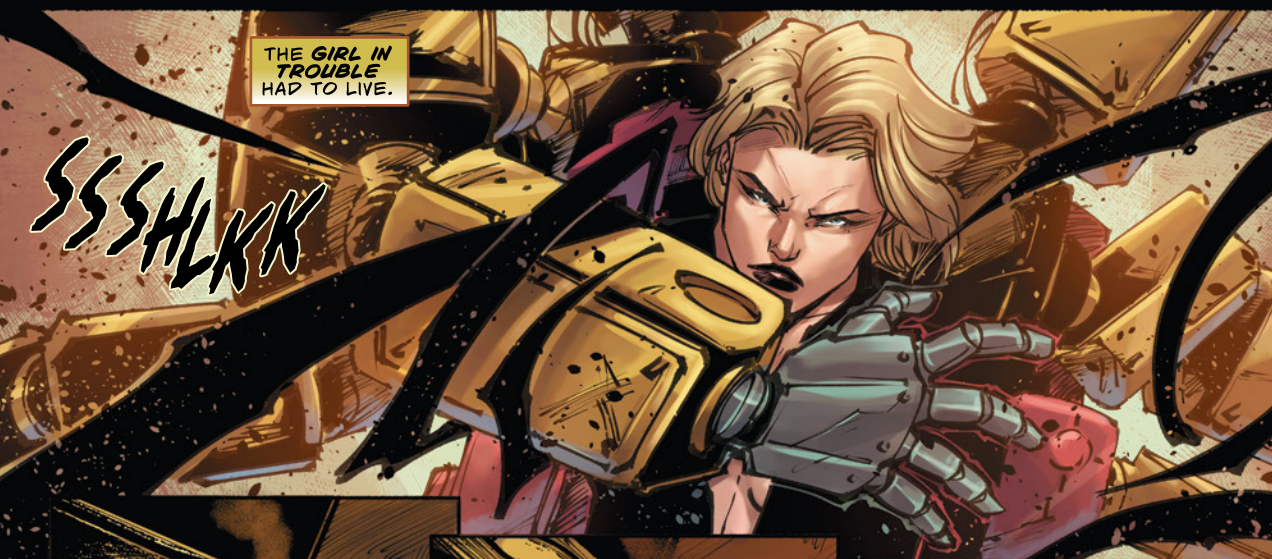
AND I WAS RAISED
TO BELIEVE THAT
THE PERSON WHO
WILL FOLLOW YOU
INTO HELL--

LIKE **JAKE
MCCARTHY**, MY
NEW PARTNER
AT THE NYPD--

--IS THE VERY
PERSON YOU
SHOULDN'T
LEAD THERE.



BUT THIS
TIME, AFTER
ALL MY
FAILURES...



THE GIRL IN
TROUBLE
HAD TO LIVE.

SSSHLKK

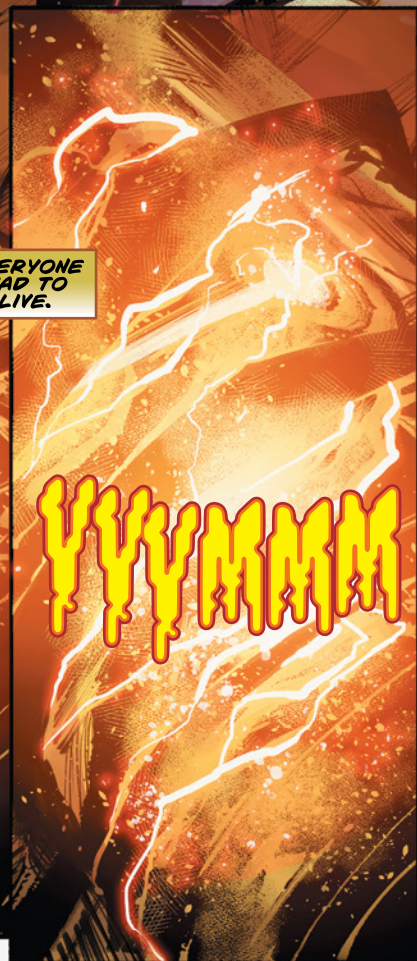


MY ENEMY
HAD TO LIVE.

YUUMMMM



YUUMMMM

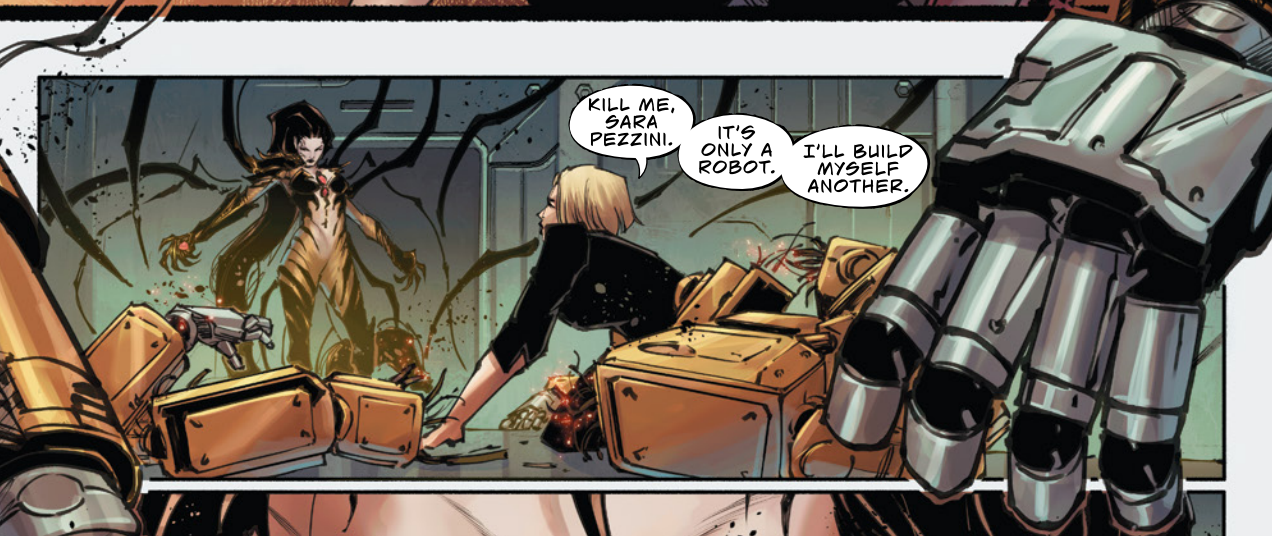


EVERYONE
HAD TO
LIVE.

YUUMMMM



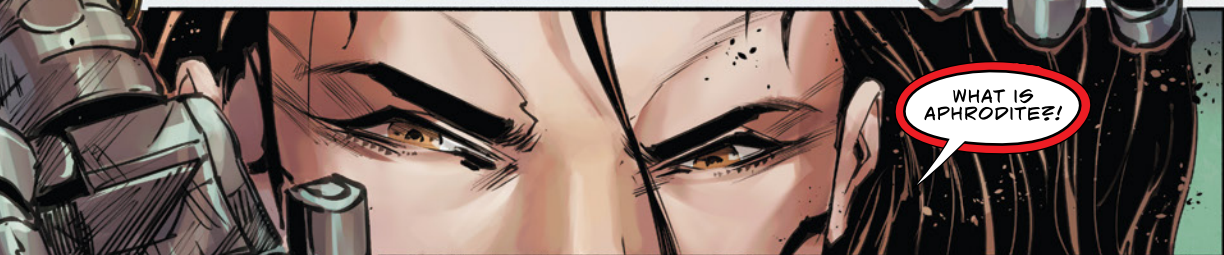
"EVEN YOUR
LOCKS DIDN'T
KEEP YOU SAFE,
MADAM
CHAIRWOMAN."



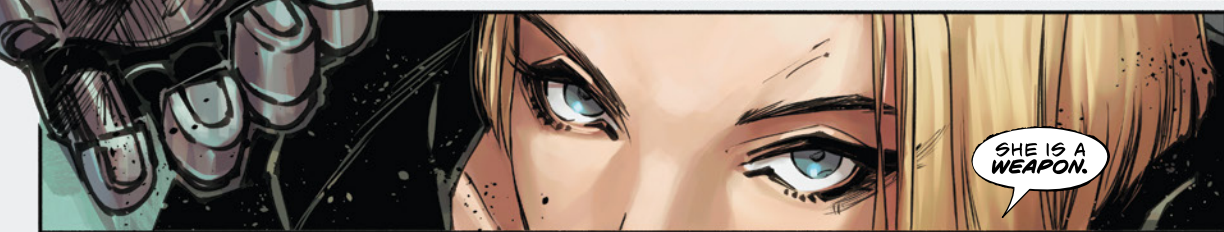
KILL ME,
SARA
PEZZINI.

IT'S
ONLY A
ROBOT.

I'LL BUILD
MYSELF
ANOTHER.



WHAT IS
APHRODITE?!



SHE IS A
WEAPON.



LIKE YOU.

BRING HER BACK.

R-R-Reassemble Aphrodite Nine.

SSQLCH

RUMBL



...SARA?

I'M
SORRY.

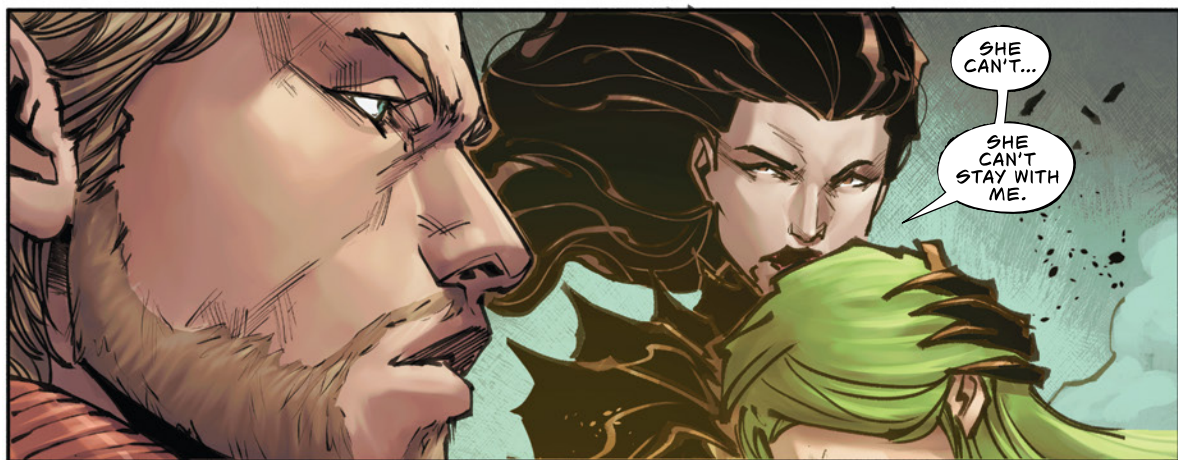
I'M SO
SORRY.

PLEASE
DON'T
THROW ME
AWAY.



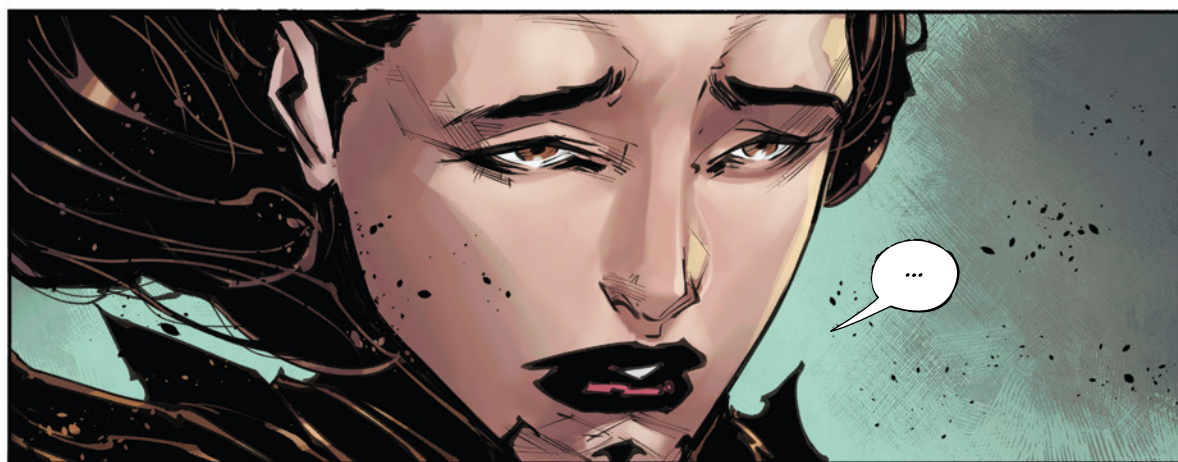
SARA. BE REASONABLE.

WHERE CAN YOU TAKE HER THAT I WILL NOT FIND YOU?

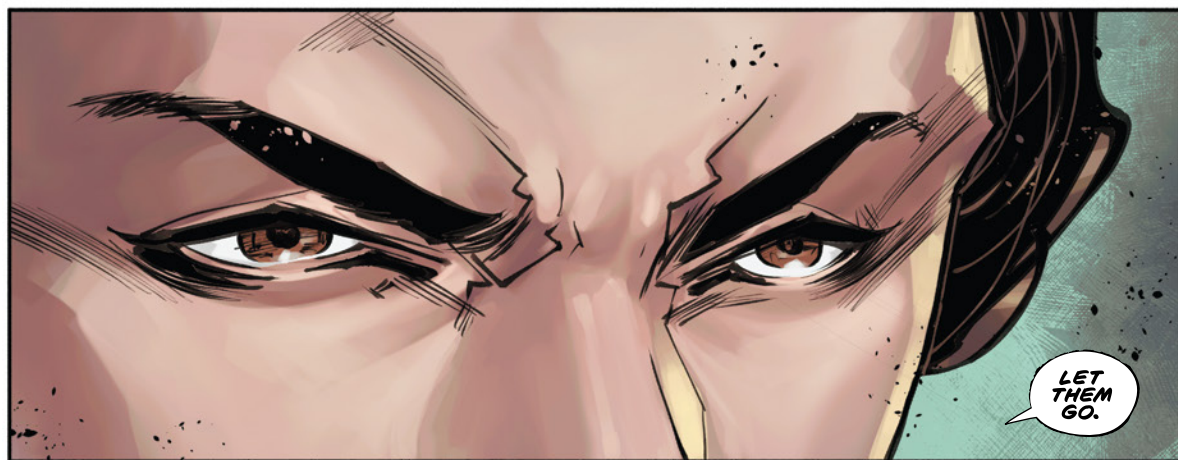


SHE CAN'T...

SHE CAN'T STAY WITH ME.



...



LET THEM GO.



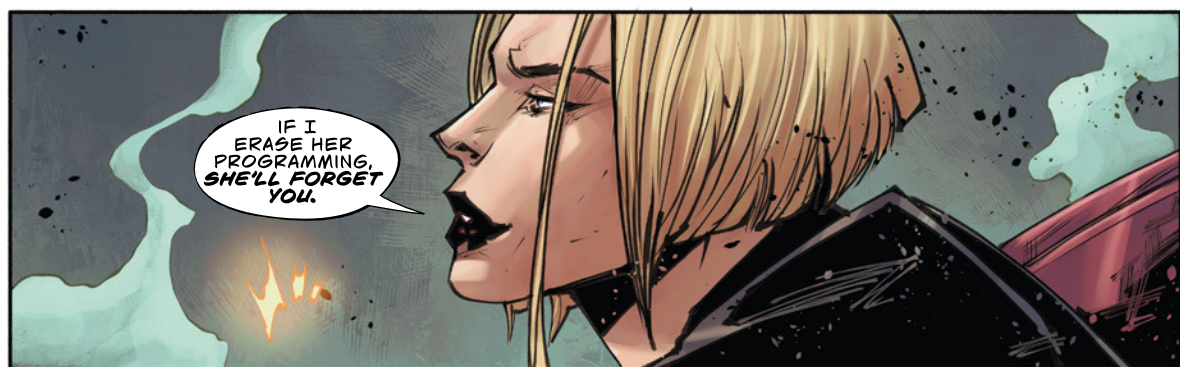
"LET THEM GO"?

SARA, THEY'RE THINGS.

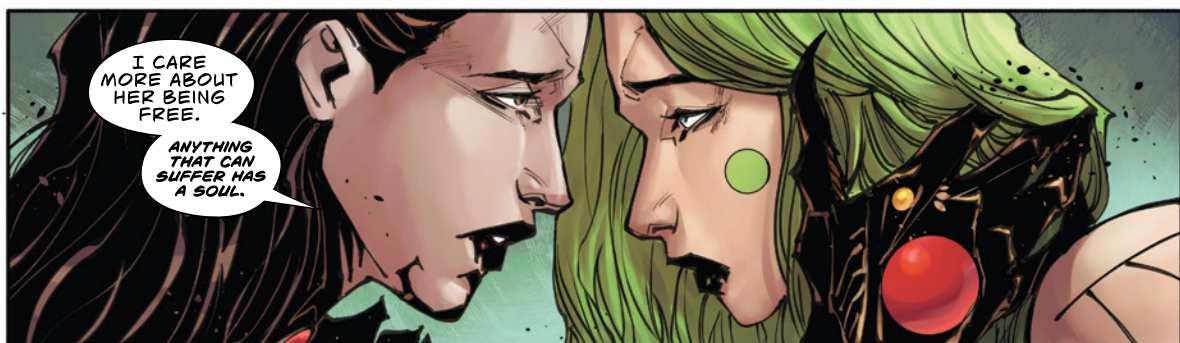
I DON'T KNOW IF THEY'RE REAL OR NOT. BUT IF I CAN'T TELL, THEN I CAN'T TAKE THE CHANCE.

YOU WOULD LET THESE **MAD DOGS** LOOSE ON THE WORLD?!

THEY WERE **MAD** BECAUSE YOU WIPE THEIR MINDS OVER AND OVER, AND NEVER LET THEM KEEP A SINGLE ~~***~~ MEMORY OF THEIR OWN!

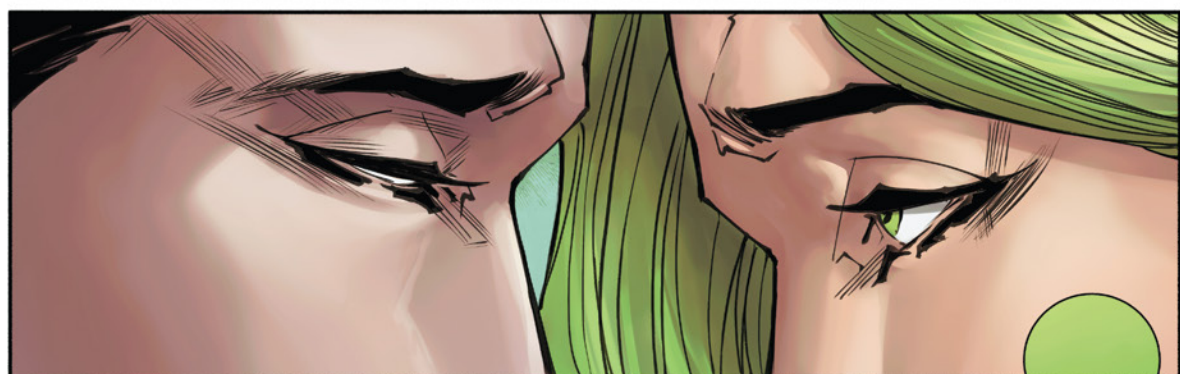


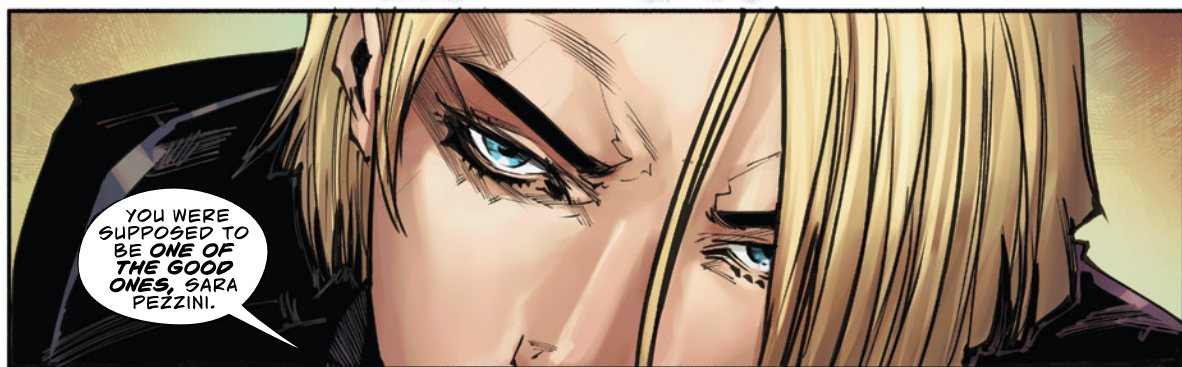
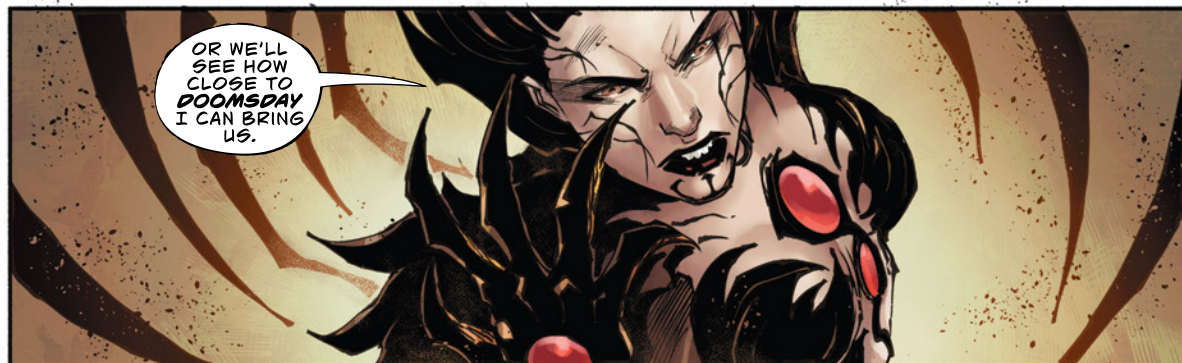
IF I ERASE HER PROGRAMMING, SHE'LL FORGET YOU.



I CARE MORE ABOUT HER BEING FREE.

ANYTHING THAT CAN SUFFER HAS A SOUL.







PEOPLE WANT
CONTROL. THEY
WANT SECURITY.



THE SAFETY OF
THE PEOPLE IS
THE HIGHEST LAW.



AND I'M NO
@*★@
DIFFERENT.



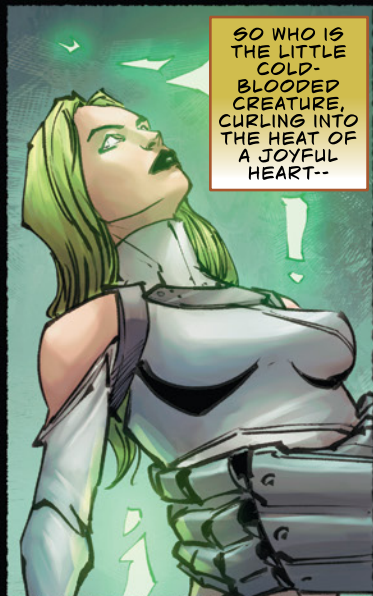
"PART OF
BEING IN LOVE
IS GIVING,
SARA.



"SURRENDERING.



"HOW DO YOU
MAKE *HER* HAPPY?
HOW DO YOU HELP
HER ACHIEVE HER
DREAMS?"



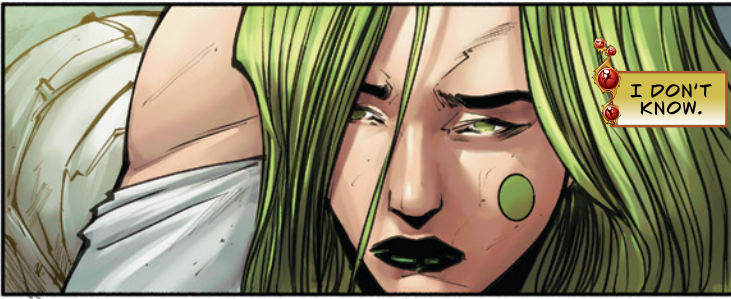
SO WHO IS
THE LITTLE
COLD-
BLOODED
CREATURE,
CURLING INTO
THE HEAT OF
A JOYFUL
HEART--



APHRODITE,
OR ME?



AM I EVEN CAPABLE
OF LOVE AFTER
EVERYTHING I'VE
SEEN AND BEEN
AND DONE?



I DON'T
KNOW.

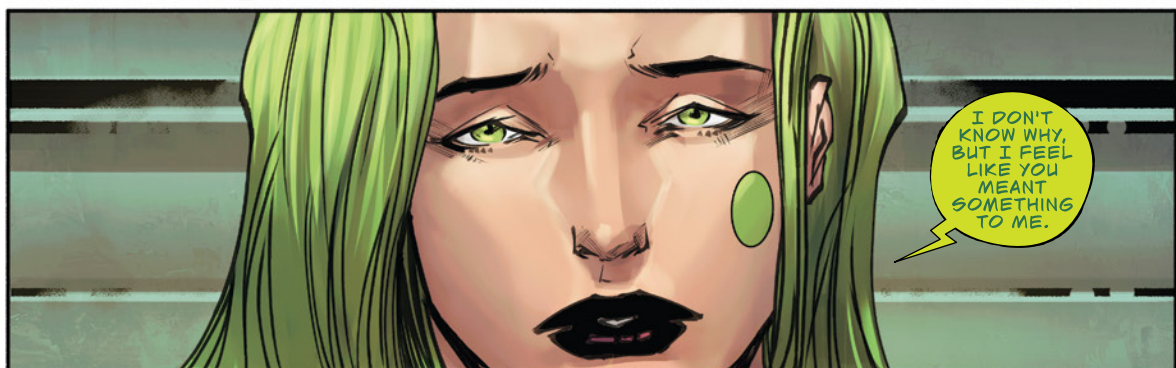
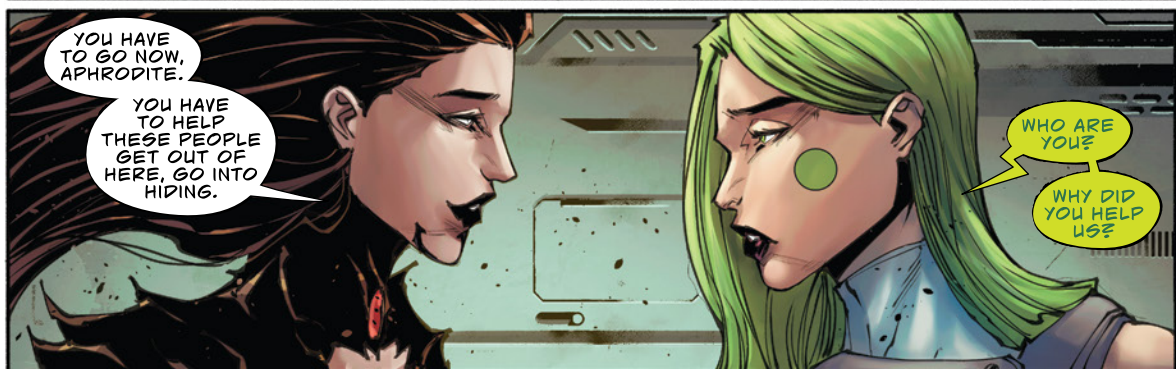


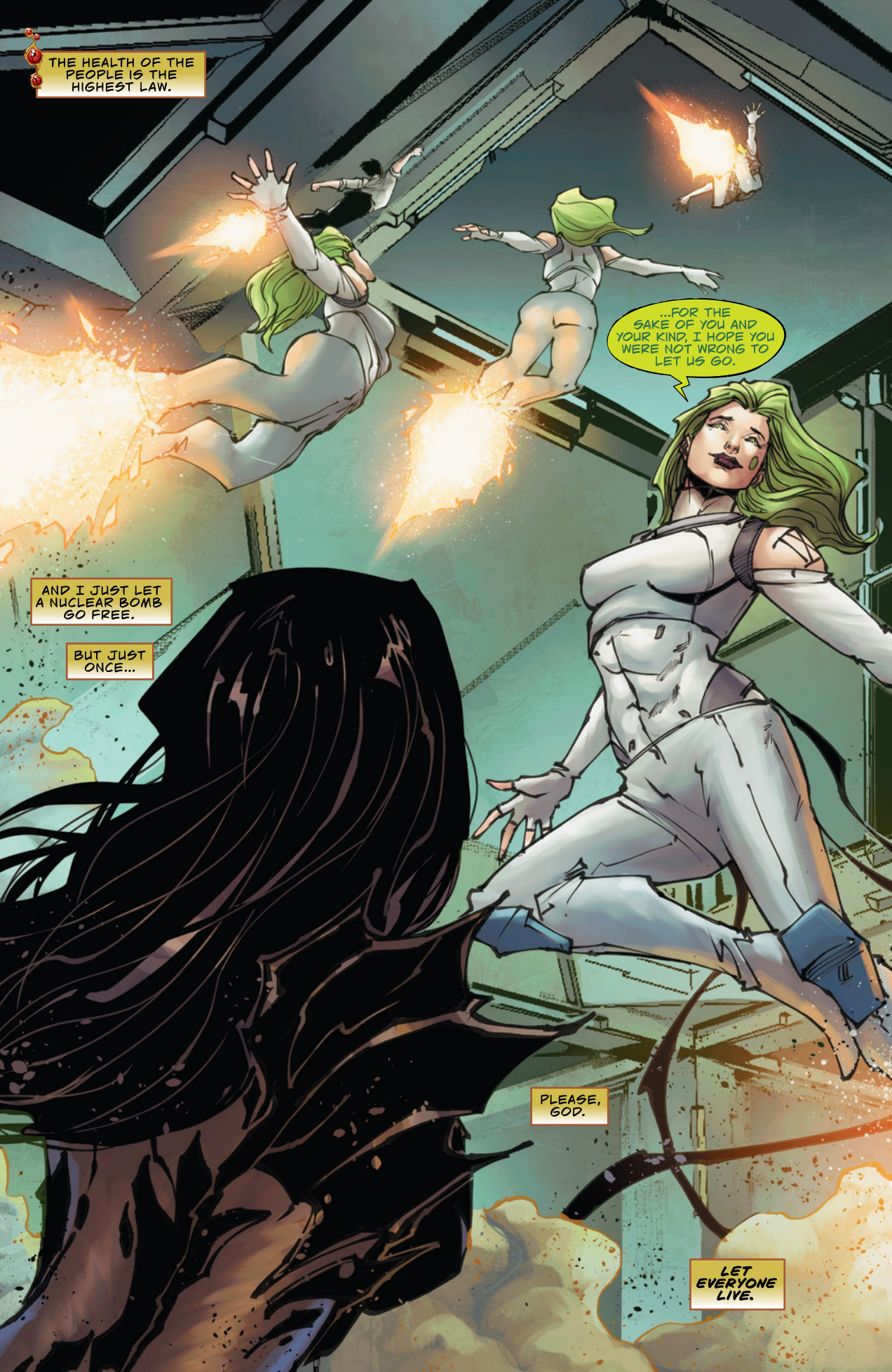
I JUST
DON'T
KNOW.



HELLO.
WHAT'S MY
MISSION?

...WHATEVER
YOU WANT IT
TO BE.





THE HEALTH OF THE
PEOPLE IS THE
HIGHEST LAW.

...FOR THE
SAKE OF YOU AND
YOUR KIND, I HOPE YOU
WERE NOT WRONG TO
LET US GO.

AND I JUST LET
A NUCLEAR BOMB
GO FREE.

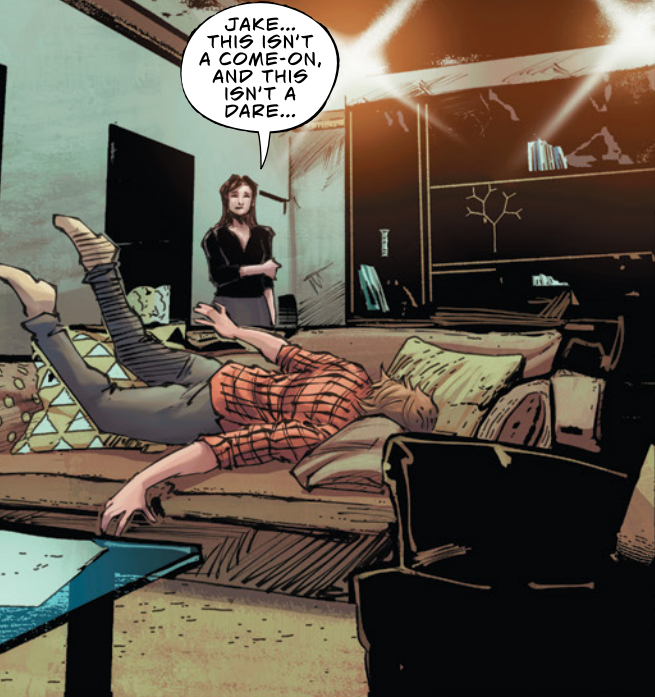
BUT JUST
ONCE...

PLEASE,
GOD.

LET
EVERYONE
LIVE.



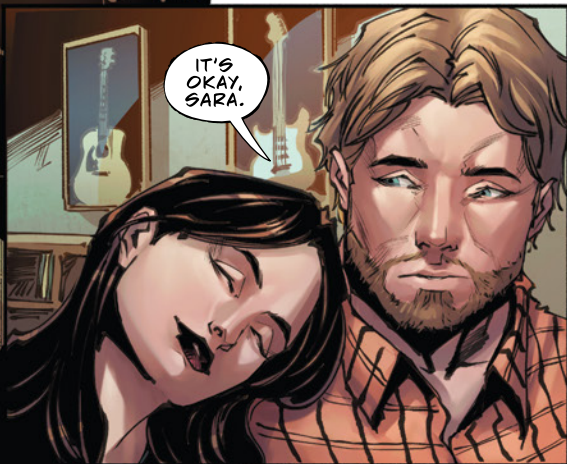
THE APARTMENT OF JAKE MCCARTHY.



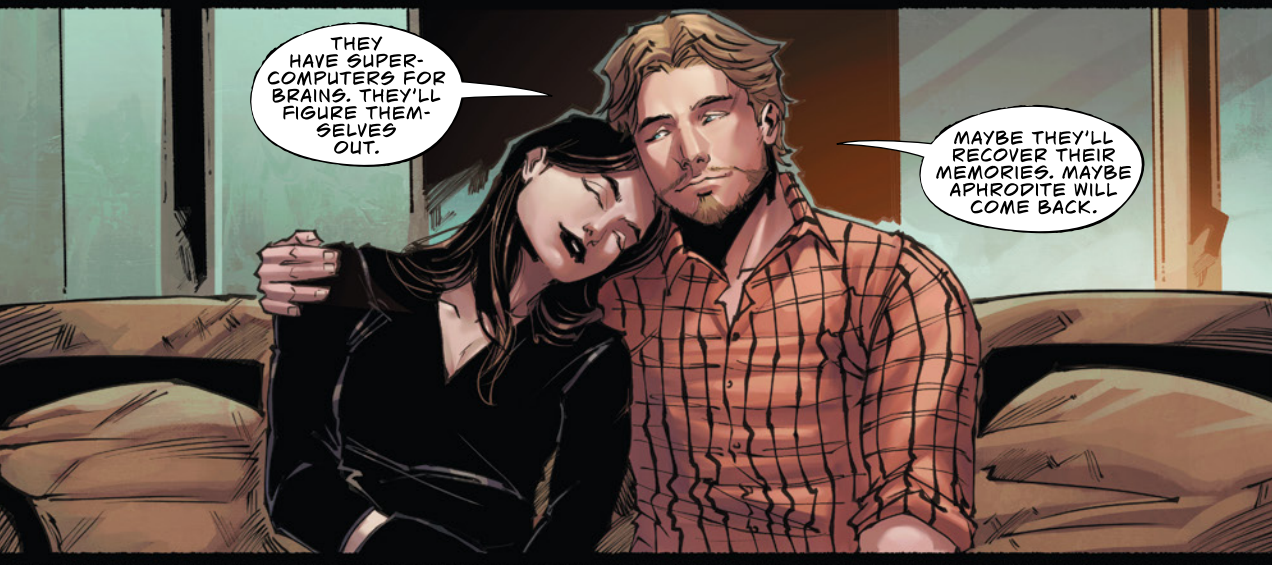
JAKE...
THIS ISN'T
A COME-ON,
AND THIS
ISN'T A DARE...



BUT CAN
YOU...COULD
YOU...
LET ME
PUT MY HEAD
ON YOUR
SHOULDER?
I JUST...



IT'S
OKAY,
SARA.



THEY
HAVE SUPER-
COMPUTERS FOR
BRAINS. THEY'LL
FIGURE THEM-
SELVES
OUT.

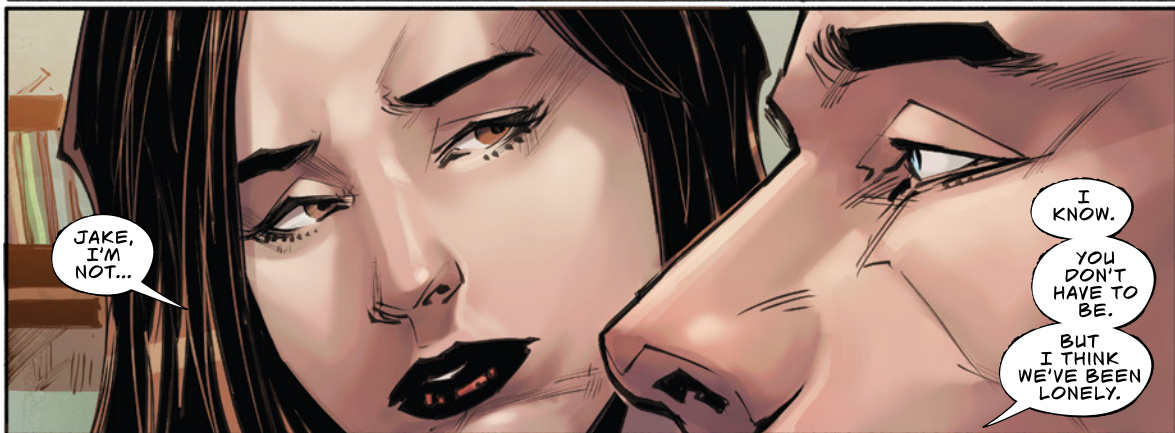
MAYBE THEY'LL
RECOVER THEIR
MEMORIES. MAYBE
APHRODITE WILL
COME BACK.



HEY.

WANNA
PLAY
A VIDEO
GAME?

I
MAKE A
PRETTY
GOOD
CHILI,
TOO.

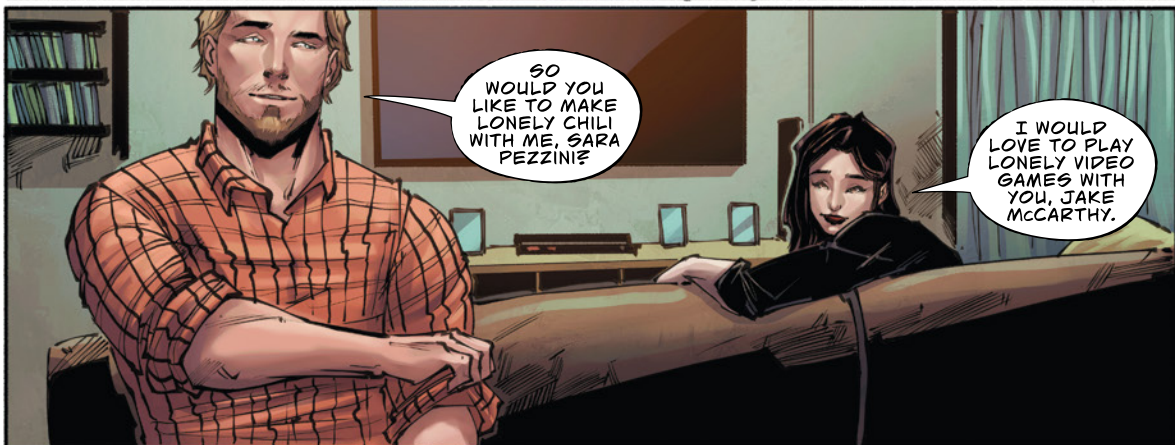


JAKE,
I'M
NOT...

I
KNOW.

YOU
DON'T
HAVE TO
BE.

BUT
I THINK
WE'VE BEEN
LONELY.



SO
WOULD YOU
LIKE TO MAKE
LONELY CHILI
WITH ME, SARA
PEZZINI?

I WOULD
LOVE TO PLAY
LONELY VIDEO
GAMES WITH
YOU, JAKE
MCCARTHY.



THE ARCH-OPS CHAMBER.

THAT WAS QUICK, MADAM CHAIRWOMAN.

DID WE GET THE FULL DOWNLOAD OF THE WITCHBLADE WIELDER'S DATA, SELVER?

OH, WE GOT EVERYTHING-- EXCEPT MY HEAD.

I'LL MISS BEING **STEPHAN STERN.**

SEND APHRODITE'S MISSION DIAGNOSTICS TO THE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT.

THE OTHER "CANDIDATES" WILL BENEFIT FROM A FEW "UPGRADES."

AFTER ALL...

I HAVE SOME NEW IDEAS.

TO BE
CONTINUED...

NEXT ISSUE!



"ALSO SPRACH ZARATHUSTRA"

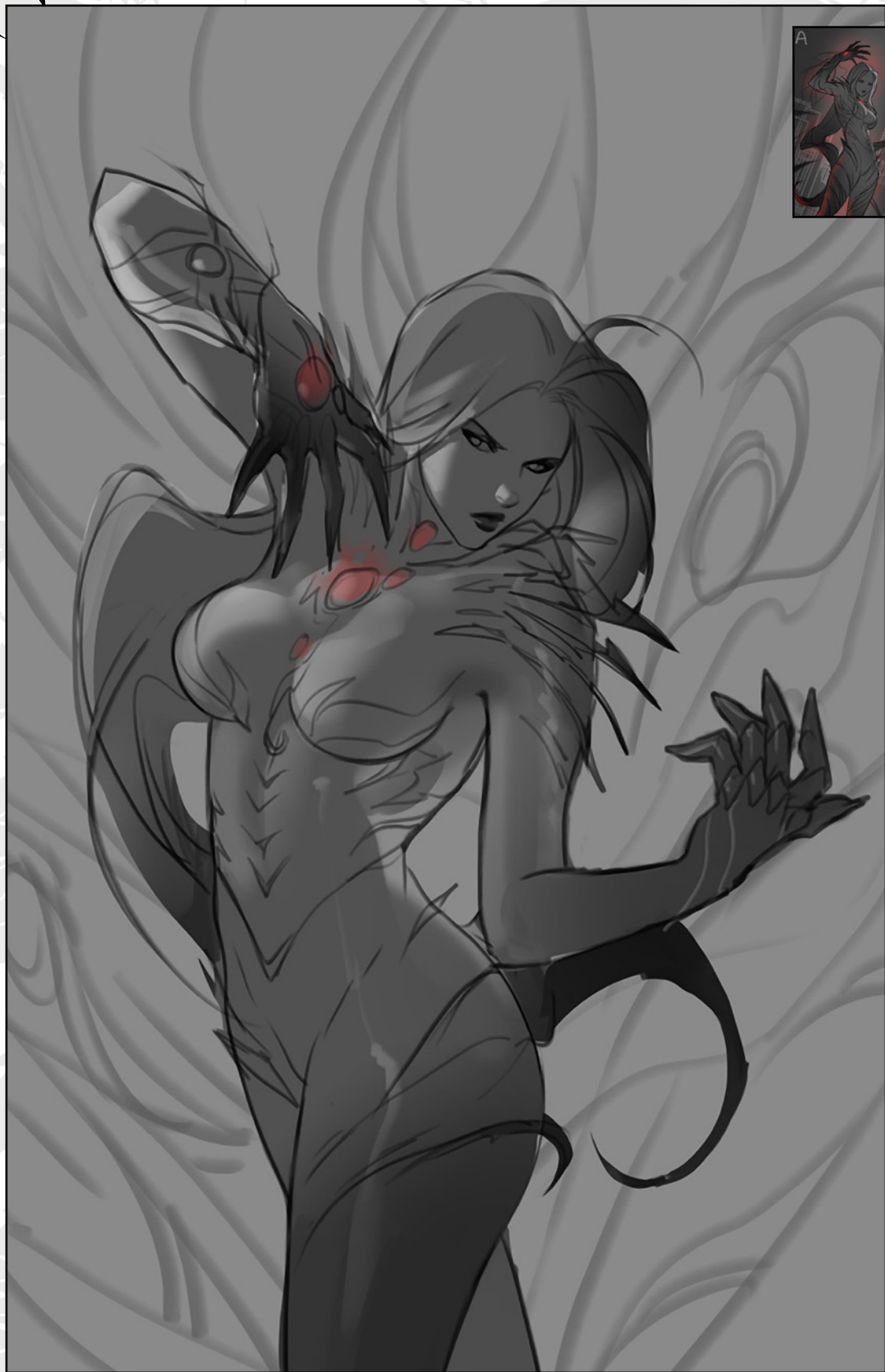
WITCHBLADE #24 Gallery • Cover A Process



Witchblade #24, Cover A, process from thumbnail, line art to colors
Art by **Giuseppe Cafaro** and **Arif Prianto**



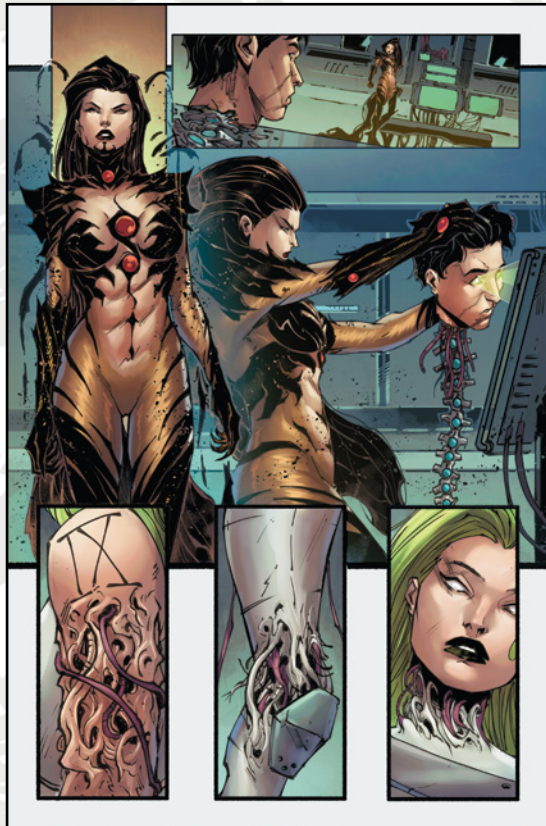
WITCHBLADE #24 Gallery • Cover B Process



Witchblade #24, Cover B and Top Cow Store Spot Foil Exclusive, process from thumbnail, line art sketch, to colors
Art by **Leirix**



WITCHBLADE #24 Gallery • Page Process



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FROM TOP COW IN AUGUST!



Death Vigil [2026] #1

WRITER/ARTIST:
Stjepan Sejic

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Witchblade #24

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ARTIST: Giuseppe Cafaro
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri

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WRITER/ARTIST:
Stjepan Sejic

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WRITER: Marguerite Bennett
ARTIST: Giuseppe Cafaro
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri

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The Thing on the Doorstep TP

WRITER: Simon Birks
ARTIST: Willi Roberts
LETTERER: Rob Jones

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The Darkness #7

WRITER: Marc Silvestri
ARTIST: Raymond Gay, Agustin Padilla
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri

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WITCHBLADE/VAMPIRELLA (ONE-SHOT)

WRITER: Marguerite Bennett
ARTIST: Laura Braga
COLORIST: Gibran Ferdian
LETTERER: Troy Peteri

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The Darkness #8

WRITER: Marc Silvestri
ARTIST: Raymond Gay, Agustin Padilla
COLORIST: Arif Prianto
LETTERER: Troy Peteri

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WITCHBLADE TP VOL. 4

WRITER: Marguerite Bennett
ARTIST: Giuseppe Cafaro
COLORIST: Arif Prianto

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The Complete Witchblade

VOLUME FOUR



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THE DARKNESS

VOLUME ONE

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10/10 - Nerd Initiative

"Kinetic creative execution rewards series fans with escalating thrills. Verdict: Pull if you crave supernatural crime gore."

- **Comical Opinions**

"The writing on this continues to be absolutely superb, with Jackie being given so many layers to his character. His demons inside of him literally targeting him and communicating with him was a lot of fun."

- **Comic Book Clique**



In a world consumed by shadows...one man becomes The Darkness. Jackie Estacado is back! Thrust into a supernatural war between the dark and the light in a no-holds-barred adventure where the edge of our reality grinds against supernatural forces grappling for control over each other and the waking world.

Mafia Hitman Jackie Estacado was both blessed and cursed on his 21st birthday when he became the bearer of The Darkness, an elemental force that allows those who wield it access to an otherworldly dimension and control over the demons who dwell there. Forces in the world rise up to face Jackie and the evil his gift represents. There is one small problem in this story...evil is good.

From co-creator **Marc Silvestri** (*The Darkness*, *Cyber Force*, *Batman and the Joker: The Deadly Duo*) with the universe-shattering first issue art by **Ed Benes** (*Birds of Prey*, *Superman*, *Justice League of America*), with artists **Raymond Gay**, **Agustin Padilla**, **Pat Boutin**, and **Giuseppe Cafaro** comes an explosive new era of *The Darkness*!

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Marc Silvestri and **Arif Prianto**
Lunar Order code: 0526IM0475
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Cover B Direct Market Exclusive:
art by **Ed Benes** and **Arif Prianto**
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Collects *The Darkness* [2025] #1-6, *The Darkness* #1/2 from 2001, plus *The Darkness vs. Angelus* #1
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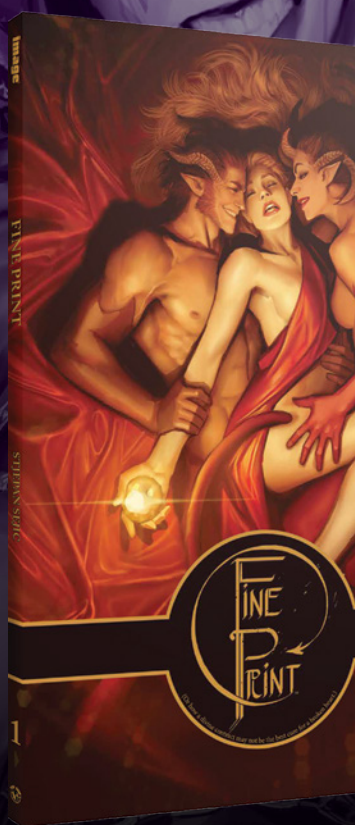


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How do you deal with a broken heart? Junk food? Excessive drinking? Dubious contracts with ancient gods? For Laure Thomas, the queen of bad decisions, the answer is always the worst possible choice. So when she finds herself with the rare opportunity to have her broken heart patched by the highest-rated god of desire, what could possibly go wrong?

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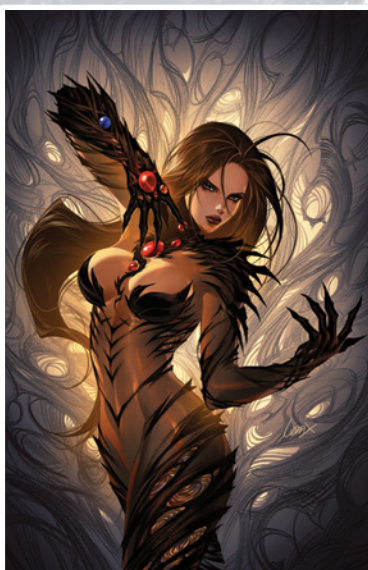


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