

Sunstone™

Volume 6



Stjepan Sejic

Top Cow Productions, Inc. Presents...



Created by Stjepan Sejic



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Top Cow Productions, Inc. Presents...

SunstoneTM

Mercy

Part One

Stjepan Sejic
Creator, Artist, and Writer

Stjepan Sejic
Cover Art and Logo Design

Phil Smith
Production

Ryan Cady
Original Edition Editor

Tricia Ramos
Original Edition Book Design and Layout



For Top Cow Productions, Inc.
Marc Silvestri - CEO
Matt Hawkins - President & COO
Vincent Valentine - Director of Special Projects
Phil Smith - Edits, Design, and Production

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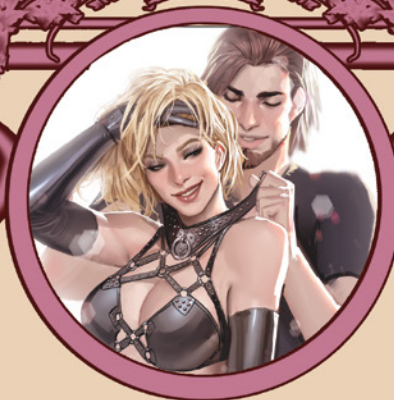
Part One



LEATHER?

INTO
SOME
WEIRD
SHIT?

CALL ALAN
SIM
BENSON!



And so it begins anew.

For a long time I considered what to write here. What do you say to an audience that is already familiar with your work on this subject?

Well, I guess, the first and most important thing would be, forget about *Sunstone*! For a moment at least. Don't spend your time with this book thinking of another. A book is its own kind of a relationship after all, and it's not cool to cheat.

Now, I know it sounds silly for the writer to ever tell this to their audience, but there is value in forgetting, if only for a little while. Forgetting makes you sink into a story without asking the dumbest of questions.

How does Mercy compare to...

I can answer that question before it's even finished.

It doesn't.

It won't compare until the storyline is finished and you can competently see each story for what they are. Instead I ask you to forget, and I hope for you to enjoy. For the book you have in your hands right now is the beginning of a journey, and we have merely exited the front doors. *Sunstone*'s powerful moments and its ultimate impact came from its subsequent issues. Same is with Mercy. It too will make you laugh and it will break your hearts over and over again, if you let it.

Now, the story itself will expand on *Sunstone* and later even continue it as its events span the times before *Sunstone* and end after it. It is a longer story, a *Lord of the Rings* to *Sunstone*'s *Hobbit*. And coincidentally this whole thing ends with a golden ring as well so make of that what you will.

In the end, what else is left to say but:

Welcome to Mercy. A story of two people going on an amazing journey and learning an important lesson.

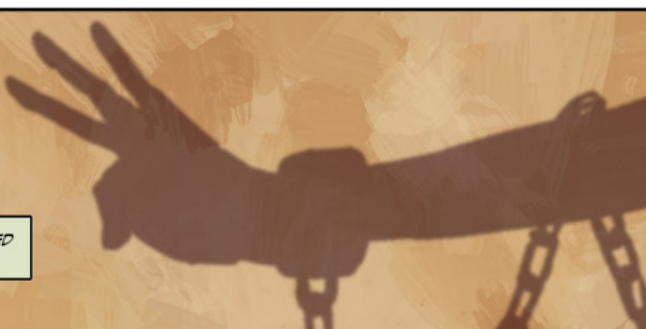
If you want to have a chance of embracing your future, you must learn to let go of the mistakes of your past.



SEE IF THIS
SOUNDS FAMILIAR.

A COMPLICATED
PAST TURNS A
MAN INTO A
BITTER CYNIC.

HE SPENDS
HIS DAYS GRUMPY
AND ALONE...

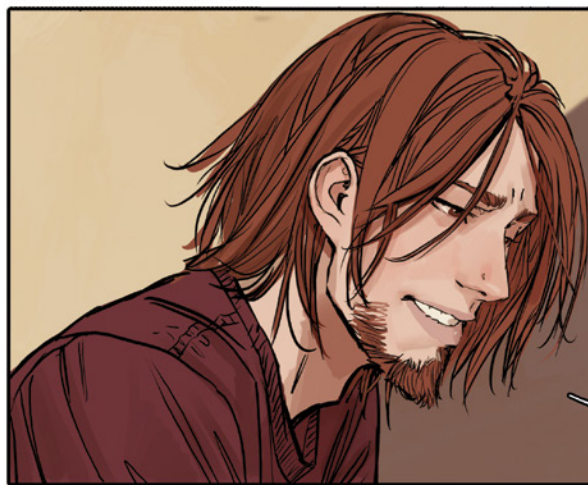


IN COMES THE
GHOST OF HIS OLD
PARTNER WITH A GRIM
WARNING --

"TONIGHT YOU WILL BE VISITED
BY *THREE GHOSTS*."



AND SO, A MISERABLE MAN
IS GIVEN A CHANCE TO CHANGE.
TO BECOME A BETTER
PERSON.



EBENEZER SCROOGE --
A CHRISTMAS CAROL BY
CHARLES DICKENS.



ONCE THERE
WAS A TIME
WHEN I STRONGLY
RELATED TO THE
CHARACTER OF OLD
SCROOGE...

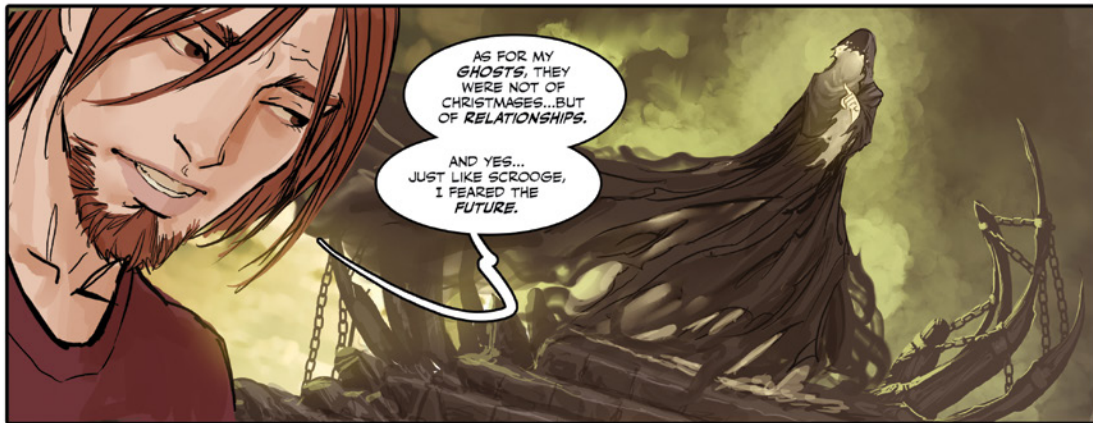
FOR...
MULTIPLE
REASONS.

I MEAN, TO SOME
EXTENT, I GUESS WE ALL
DEAL WITH OUR OWN GHOSTS
OF PAST, PRESENT, AND
THINGS YET TO COME...

DIFFERENT
GHOSTS FOR DIFFERENT
PEOPLE...

AS FOR ME,
I'VE COME TO
PERSONIFY
MINE AS **THREE**
IMPORTANT
WOMEN IN MY
LIFE...

WELL...
FOUR IF WE TAKE
INTO ACCOUNT ALLISON,
MY PERSONAL JACOB
MARLEY. LORD KNOWS SHE
TOO WAS **QUITE PROFICIENT**
AT POINTING OUT MY
FUCKUPS AS WELL AS
RATTLING CHAINS
AND SHACKLES.



AS FOR MY
GHOSTS, THEY
WERE NOT OF
CHRISTMASSES...BUT
OF *RELATIONSHIPS*.

AND YES...
JUST LIKE SCROOGE,
I FEARED THE
FUTURE.



I GUESS THAT'S USUALLY THE
CASE WHEN YOU SPEND YOUR
TIME CLINGING TO THE MISTAKES
OF THE PAST AND YOU SUCK
AT DEALING WITH THE PRESENT.
FUTURE TAKES ON A RATHER
GRIM SHAPE.

YOU
MIGHT
GET HURT
AGAIN.

YOU'LL
MOST LIKELY
DESERVE IT.



AND THAT'S IT, REALLY.
IN A WAY, MINE IS A STORY OF A MAN
WHO LEARNS TO LET GO OF THE PAST,
MAKE PEACE ON A RATHER
GRIM SHAPE.

THAT'S
FINE...



AND FINALLY...

I'LL
TAKE MY
CHANCES.



EMBRACE THE
POSSIBILITIES OF
THE FUTURE...

KHM
PFFT
FUCKING...
REALLY?

