



UFO Co-Op British Invasion Part 2 Whats Best in Acrylics & Multiple Free Comics !

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So you might have noticed there is also an Audio file contained on this 'NEXT' Digital Magazine. Its called "By The Book".

"By The Book" An MP3 Experiance by: Jerome

As you saw "By the Book" is in MP3 format. So all you have to do is double click, it'll open up in your favorite media player.

"By the Book" is an audio recording that can and will cotain many different samplings: from interviews with writers and artist and tutorials to entertainment reviews and educational commentaries.

> This issue of "By the Book" includes: a review of 'School House Rocks' 25th Anniversary DVD; Dynamic Character Development; and the Art Awerness in Education Fund

> So be sure to pay attention for up coming issues of NEXT for the latest episode of "By the Book".

EDITORIAL

It is a new year, which means a time of new beginnings, and with a new year comes the hopes of a fresh start and with that the expected New Year's resolutions. The time of year when everyone asks everyone else what is on their agenda to improve their lives for the better and build a brighter tomorrow for themselves. For Next... our resolution is simple. To continue to bring you education and entertainment, to help you become more creative, to help you learn something new and have fun while doing this. In tandem with continuing our mission of artistic fun and education we are resolute in delivering it to you in a better manner. We are striving to ever improve the Next... both in style and substance. I speak for all of us here working on the Next... in hoping that you enjoy what we have coming this year with not only this issue but also with GIRAF as a whole.

Likewise take time to reflect on the past year, and the year ahead. Remember that each dawn that brings the promise of a new day and always the promise of change for the better. Everyone has space to grow in their lives, to better themselves and their lives and also to improve the lives of their families and greater communities as a whole. I want to thank you all for your continued support and I wish you all luck, peace a prosperity in all its myriad forms.

- Beith Daniell GRAF Network Director of Publications Editor in chief

RPD

Editor

Keith Daniell Assistant Editor Leslie Bullock Next... Staff Jason Bullock, Jerome Montgomerey, Olivia Townshend Marques Huff Cover Art and Interior Art Jason Bullock All interior pictures from film and television and of actors in afoermentioned media are copyright their respective owners

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Next... Issue 15. January 2011

QUOTE OF THE MONTH



- Karlan Ellison

The Awesome List: Awesome Things To Do When It Snows!

If you live here in the south then you will remember the record snowfall we had in January. Here is something to do next time that happens and you can't go anywere.

1. Spend some time with your family. Often times the hustle of life gets our priorities in a mix. When the snow pours and traps us at home, make the most out of the situation by having family bonding time. Pull the old home movies off of the shelf and discuss the stories that are appearing before your eyes. Show your children video footage of when you were their age. This is prime time to have a real bonding experience that can be remembered for ages.

2. Drink delicious hot chocolate by a fireplace. This winter cliché is a cliché for a reason. It's perfect! There is nothing more enjoyable than warming up by the fire and sipping on a delicious hot chocolate. It completely makes winter a peaceful experience. Be sure to have little marshmallows to put into your hot chocolate, it's the extra ingredient that really makes the experience heartwarming. (Fireplace optional)

3. Create some crazy snowmen. One of the running gags in the Calvin & Hobbes comic strip, was that Calvin would create snowmen performing multiple bizarre behaviors. He would create snowmen being hit by cars, being buried alive, eaten by giant snow monsters, etc. Snowmen do not have to just be your standard, smiling, Frosty; they can be anything you want them to. Be creative, and create snowmen that will bring an element of humor to people passing your house.

4. Go sledding or throw a snowball fight. These can result in being extremely fun. Pull your family members together, neighbors, etc. to have an awesome snow experience. This may force you to forge your way to the highest hill in town for a high speed sledding adventure, but I assure you that it will be totally worth it. There's nothing like sledding down a giant hill at full speed. Massive snowball fights are also a very fun experience. You can build forts and barricades to keep you protected from enemy fire. #2 on this list will be a much better experience right after sledding or having a snowball fight.

5. Watch several amazing movies. With snow on the ground, there's nothing better than laying on the couch and watching movies. It's a great way to relax and celebrate the winter season. Family can also be incorporated into this event. Make a family movie night, or have a date night with the one you love.

6. Do something creative. A snowy day can be the perfect muse for your creative energies. Do something creative in the area that you do things best. If you're a painter, begin your masterpiece. If you're a musician, write a brand new song. Everyone I know who slacks off from their areas of creativity always blame their lack of progress on time. A snow day is the perfect time to do it.

So next time it snows don't get mad and grumpy. Layer up and go outside and have fun, or stay inside and bond with family or get creative. Wonderful winter weather is a rarity in parts of the country, make the most of it wher you can.

Least Awesome Thing About Winter: Ice!

If you are a Georgia native like many of us here on the Next... staff then you are no stranger of this wintry nemesis to Georgia. It coats the roads, and the bridges, making driving unsafe and ultra dangerous. Every ice storm means lots of money in damages and injuries.

5 THINGS YOU DON'T WANT TO HEAR WHEN YOU'RE IN TROUBLE:

TOP 10 BY: JEROME MONTGOMERY

5: "Houston we have a problem" Made famous by Apollo 13



4: "Its Not my fight." Riddick



3: "Lets put a smile on that face, HAHAHAHAHA!" The Joker in The Dark Knight



2: "Oooh Boy" Sam Beckett in Quantum Leap



1: "I'm sorry. I am sorry, but..." The Doctor in Dr. Who



5 Things you want to hear when you're in trouble:

5: "I love it when a Plan comes together." John Hannibal The A-Team



4: "Why don't you pick on someone your own size?" Dave Lizewski in Kick Ass



3: "Yippee-ki-yay, motherf**ker." John Mclane in Die Hard



2: "Oooh Boy" Sam Beckett in Quantum Leap



1: "Hello! I'm the Doctor" The Doctor in Dr. Who



ONE WORLD ONE UNIVERSE ONE COMPANY ONE RESOURCE

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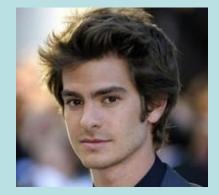
The Hollywood Reporter recently spoke with the actor at the Telluride Film Festival where he made his first statements about becoming Peter Parker. Here's what Andrew Garfield had to say about the process:

"I have been waiting for this phone call for 24 years, for someone to call me up and say, 'Hey, we want you to pretend to be a character that you've always wanted to be all your life, and we're going to do it with cool cameras and cool effects and you're going to feel like you're swinging through New York City. Do you want to do that?'

'Let me just consult with my seven-year old self and see what he thinks...' So my seven-year-old self started screaming in my soul and saying, This is what we've been waiting for. Like every young boy who feels stronger on the inside than they look on the outside, any skinny boy basically who wishes their muscles matched their sense of injustice, God, it's just the stuff that dreams are made of, for sure. It's a true f**king honor to be part of this symbol that I actually think is a very important symbol and it's meant a great deal to me, and it continues to mean something to people. So yeah, I feel like I've been preparing for it for a while. Ever since Halloween when I was four years old and I wore my first Spider-Man costume."

Garfield went onto report that the movie, which will be directed by Marc Webb, is gearing up to shoot in December. The actor added that he wants to perform in a play after his Untitled Spider-Man Reboot experience. Garfield also appears in The Social Network, which arrives in theaters October 1. He Also appeared in Season 3 of Dr. Who, Daleks in Manhattan for BBC.

New Spidey?



Untitled Spider-Man Reboot comes to theaters July 3rd, 2012 and stars Andrew Garfield. The film is directed by Marc Webb. The Social Network comes to theaters October 1st, 2010 and stars Jesse Eisenberg, Rashida Jones, Joseph Mazzello, Justin Timberlake, Brenda Song, Rooney Mara, Max Minghella, Andrew Garfield. The film is di<u>rected by David Fincher.</u>







THE DAWN TREADER

Preview Images From the up and Coming release In December 2010 from Walt Disney Pictures.





Reep - A- Cheep , the Sailor

Welcome One And All Aboard !

HARY POTTER & THE DEATHLY HALLOW'S: Fosterage , Footage, or Foolishness?



TM & © J.K.Rowling

By Jason Bullock

What do you do when the culmination of your entire life is the realization that you are only alive because the ones that try to get close to you all end up dying? Where do you turn when the very world that you have come to depend on for sanity denies you peace because

of who your unassailable enemy is? How long can you hold on to your mind when it comes down to one thing to win your peace back from those who would revel in evil? Its not an easy answer to find is it?

That's exactly what we have seen happen to a cupboard bound wizard named Harry Potter over the last decade as he grew up in the world of Hogwart's School of Witchcraft & Wizardy. We have been privy to the young man's mind and heart created by J.K. Rowling. We know of his overpowering fear of becoming the very thing he has been fighting since entering into Gryffindor House...becoming exactly like "He Who Must Not Be Named". We have seen love blossom from innocence and crush others in its grip when it could not be attained. We have experienced loss of his friends, family, and sanity as Harry has been pitted against the incalculable strength of the DeathEaters.

The world of Harry Potter has become a sensation unlike anything Else in this modern literary world. It set the tone for modern age Fantasy in a more youth oriented and acceptable light from a Parental aspect. We have had the opportunity to see the actors Grow from youth to adult hood themselves in and out of character. But by relying on the films solely for your experience you will miss So much in the foundation of Harry's world. Everyone who has an

interest in exploring the world of Hogwarts need start by reading the first book The Sorcerer's

Stone. Understanding who Harry has been saddled with as a family in the mundane or Muggle world seeks to

GOBLET OF HI

of magic. Education is No different in Harry's World where discipline And order are driven

From chaos of Academia. Harry's valor erupts in his saving His beloved alma mater from the all To evil clutches of Voldemort's maw. Then in the third book Harry's god-Father turns out to be the one man

Harry Potter

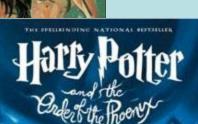
Whom Harry could trust with the loss of his Parents. Voldemort strikes again in the fourth Book as Harry must deal with unwanted Attention, fear, anxiety, and peer rivalry from Other classmates as well as his best friend.

All these threads have begun to form a tapestry of Potter's Life as he must face off against his destiny which only her, his Mentor, and his enemy are desperate to understand. Harry's Friends find themselves pushed and pulled into Harry's limelight Whether they wished it or not.

Throughout the envy, greed, sloth, wrath, and especially pride of Harry's teachers, friends, family, and foes, we are all privy to The growth of this young man's self preservation as all odds are



K. ROWLING



shine on the reason that Harry desperately needs

to exist in such a realm

Gradually stacked against him. The revelations of the six and the

seventh books as to who his enemies truly are as well as to what extent he will extend such trust in others can only be said as the true themes of Harry Potter. You miss so much of the bonding and powerful love that is between his friends, and adoptive family

Harty Potter

in the Weasleys. You have to read the books to gain that insight.

The final book The Deathly Hallows shows the readers to what depth evil will go to ruin good, what steps it will take to seed chaos in order's furrow. This chapter in the life of Harry Potter is dark, bleak, and vengeful. With Snape gone, Dumbledore dead, Hogwart's all but left for abandonment by Harry

And his friends, the readers are shown that even a glimmer of Hope is all that it takes for the few to rise against the blows of the Many. That morality tale is not lost on the readers of Harry Potter. Despite all odds, even injustices leveled against you, as Mr. Weasley said at Harry's trial at the Ministry of magic...

<u>« Truth Will Out. "</u>

With that having been said, lets Take a look at the first installment Of Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows VII, Part 1....





Part 1 begins as Harry, Ron and Hermione set out on their perilous mission to track down and destroy the secret to Voldemort's immortality and destruction—the Horcruxes. On their own, without the guidance of their professors or the protection of Professor Dumbledore, the three friends must now rely on one another more than ever. But there are Dark Forces in their midst that threaten to tear them apart.

Meanwhile, the wizarding world has become a dangerous place for all enemies of the Dark Lord. The long-feared war has begun and Voldemort's Death Eaters seize control of the Ministry of Magic and even



Hogwarts, terrorizing and arresting anyone who might oppose them. But the one prize they still seek is the one most valuable to Voldemort: Harry Potter. Harry's only hope is to find the Horcruxes before Voldemort finds him. But as he searches for clues, he uncovers an old and almost forgotten tale—the legend of the Deathly Hallows. And if the legend turns out to be true,



it could give Voldemort the ultimate power he seeks.

I truly hope that since they have broken this film into two parts to tell this ending tale, that they will do it some final bit of justice that is so lacking in the previous adaptations. Order your own Recordable Audio badge. Record again and again your favorite movie line or music clip. Fun at conventions, parties, and even barmitzfahs!

ALG Like the phoenix rising from the flames, so too does its voice ... ayain and again ...

Press the two RECORD buttons again and again then the PLAY button when your friends are least expecting it!



Order from GIRAFNetwork.org exclusively! Email for the PayPal link and its only \$10 each! Give them as gifts... collect them...torment enemies! All in good fun!

Coming Soon:

Things to Watch in 2011

January



The Green Hornet 1-14-11



Evangelion 2.0 You Can (Not) Advance 1-21-11





3-18-11



The Mechanic 1-28-11

by: Jerome Montgomery



I am Number Four 2-18-11





Sucker Punch 2-25-11

April



4ruther 4-8-11



4-15-11



Fast Five 4-29-11

May



Thor 5-6-11



Priest 5-13-11



Pirates of the Caribbean On Stranger Tides 5-20-11



Hangover 2 5-26-11



Kung Fu Panda 2 5-27-11





X-Men: First Class 6-3-11

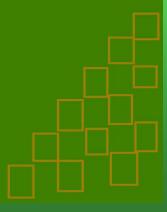












Movie Dates & Posters from www.comingsoon.net, you can checkout synopsis' there too

The Green Hornet

ot Synopsis:

Following the death of his father, Britt Reid inherits to his father's News Paper company "The Daily Sentential" and teams up with his late dad's assistant. He and Kato start, committing crimes to get closer to the bad guys, becoming a masked crime fighting team.

Director: Michel Gondry Writers: Seth Rogen, Evan Goldberg Starring:

Seth Rogen (40 Year Old Virgin & Superbad) Jay Chou (Curse of the Golden Flower) Cameron Diaz (The Mask & The Sweetest Thing) Christoph Waltz (Inglorious Basterds & the upcoming Water for Elephants & The Three Musketeers)

To those that don't know: The Green Hornet was an old radio show (before there was a TV in every home, shows were acted out on the radio), after that the story was made into movie serials (5-10 minute episodes shown before a movie) then had a comic book. Later it had a TV show, starring Bruce Lee. In an interview, Rogen said he "didn't to make this a comedy". He actually enjoyed the old TV show, and old Comics and "wanted to do the story justice". Not saying it doesn't have comedy, because after all he is a comedian.





Fast Five

Brian and Dom teamup again and they've crossed many borders to elude authorities. Now FBI Agent Hobbs is on their tail and he never misses his target. Hobbs is assigned to track down Dom and Brian, and launch an assault to capture them. Backed into a corner in Rio, Brian and Dom assemble their team of top racers. Hobbs learns he can't separate the good guys from the bad.

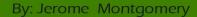
Director: Justin Lin

Writers: Chris Morgan, Gary Scott Thompson Starring: Paul Walker (Varsity Blues & Eight Below) Vin Diesel (xXx & Pitch Black) Jordana Brewster (The Faculty & D.E.B.S) Dwayne Johnson (The Rundown & Get Smart)

The fifth in the lineup of movies packed with pimped out rides, beautiful women and adrenaline pumped hardcore action. Both Paul Walker and Vin Diesel return for this one, this time Dwayne Johnson (who is total win for me) is there too. I'm not the biggest fan of race films, but the "Fast" films seem to have the magic to hook me in. I want to see this movie mostly because it was filmed partly in my home town of Covington, GA. I know because portions of the town were closed down and my brother Keith and I saw Paul Walker at the 'Vortex' in Little Five Points in Atlanta. They're saying this is going to be the last, but that's not the first time I've heard

that before.

COMING SOON: TWO UPCOMING MOVIE SYNOPSIS'





Your Internet Privacy

By: Keith Daniell

Imagine going on to a website where you can type the name of someone you know and find data on that person. Just for kicks you decide to search yourself just to see what pops up on the World Wide Web and what you get back is a wealth of data that is so accurate and invasive that is it creepy at the least but more than likely shocking and frightening. Such a thing happened to William. One evening William came home from work and logged into his Facebook account, scrolled down his wall and saw a status update from a friend saying,

"There's a site called spokeo.com that's a new online USA phone book w/personal information: everything from pics you've posted on FB or web, your approx credit score, home value, income, age, family member's names. Remove yourself by searching your name, find your page, copy the URL then go to the bottom right of the page & click on the Privacy link to remove yourself. Copy & re-post!"

Curious, William went to Spokeo.com and searched himself. What he found on himself didn't bother him so much, it had his approximate age, an incorrect income, no pictures and an incorrect address, a P.O. Box he used to have in another city. What he didn't like was that it listed all the names of his immediate family, first name, middle initial and last name. Wanting to know what was posted about his family William searched his father's name, with whom he shares the same first name. What he found shocked William and made him worry for his family. There, posted on the web for all the world to fee was his father's name, his correct age, his correct phone number, correct address, and a street view picture of his house, the house William had grown up in. William, frightened and furious went about removing his and his family's info from the site as per Spokeo's privacy policy. To be sure he checked back a few days later happy to find data on him and his family missing.

However there is a greater problem to this issue. Spokeo.com is only an aggregator website, meaning it gathers info from the rest of the web and centralizes it in one location; the website touts itself as 'not your grandmother's phonebook'. It is an internet phonebook where you can find data on people that include not only addresses and phone numbers like a traditional telephone directory but pictures, hobbies, relatives, social networking sites and even income. This means that even if you delete your profile on Spokeo your data is still out there. If Spokeo is only an aggregator that gets what you find on their site from third party websites then were do these third party site get your info from? Personal photos and emails are taken from social networking sites like Twitter, MySpace, and Facebook; phone numbers and addresses are taken from the phone book; home ownership and other municipal information is taken from public databases; and information about in-laws may be taken from wedding announcements in the newspaper (some have claimed the site listed the names of their in-laws in their profiles without their permission).

Given the fact that this data is just out there waiting to be found then what does that say about your privacy on the internet and do we now live in glass houses? It certainly seems that in this modern digital age there is no such thing as privacy and we all do indeed live in glass houses. However for a moment consider this, barring social websites the third party sources of the data are entities that have been in existence for decades and the data was accessible to the public even before the internet, it simply required much more work. You would have to thumb through a phone book for phone numbers and addresses, scour newspapers for listings of marriages and deaths, and physically go to local municipal offices for the property data.

With the advent of the internet all of that work as been concentrated into just a few keystrokes and the few moments it takes to do a web search. What used to take hours or sometimes days now takes only seconds, so how can you protect yourself? Unfortunately some data, no matter what you do will be available to any and all with the wherewithal to look for it; such is the cost of simply living in a country and society that has bureaucratic records. The only option would be to go and live in a cave and be completely and utterly self sufficient, cave optional. You can get your number unlisted and unpublished by contacting the phone companies publishing the directories. As for social websites that is up to the individual; all of these websites have various settings to ensure the desired privacy of their users.

Aside from tightening the privacy filters on all social sites you visit you must be aware of one truth. Whatever you put out there on the web is in ink, not in pencil. Meaning that once you press submit on that online form there is no taking it back, there are no do-overs. It is out there, somewhere, forever. Such can even be the case in getting your phone number out of the directory; once the info has been put into a computer and put on the web then it is very likely to be cached somewhere. In the end the protection of your data on the web is ultimately your responsibility, you cannot realistically expect someone else to do it for you.

Aggregation Aggravation

Think Spokeo.com is the only aggregator website out there? Wrong! There are several other websites that also scour the web for your personal information on third party sites to gather and store it for all the world to see:

http://www.pipl.com/

http://www.zoominfo.com/search

http://www.zabasearch.com/

http://radaris.com/

http://www.intelius.com/

The Game like the movie of the same name takes place in the mystical world of Toronto, Canada. Scott Pilgrim is pretty much one of the popular losers who is after this girl named Ramona Flowers but in order to date her has to defeat her evil seven ex's. That's pretty much the premise of the movie/manga/ video game but the video game is an old style old school beat'em up game in the range of Double Dragon, Streets of Rage, River City Ransom and games like that. That's pretty much Scott Pilgrim from a straight forward shot. It's pretty cool.

However, it wasn't long enough to keep my attention. I mean it kept my attention until I beat it but then I didn't want to play it anymore. While playing the game I realized it was a little difficult. It does require you to have co-op party with your friends so they can help you out. With Level one the overall objective is reach the boss at the end of that level. You face a lot of enemies but its not that difficult especially if you are used to beat'em up games then that level isn't hard. Graphically is shaped after an old 16 bit beat'em up game from the Super Nintendo era.



Just like the comic and the movie it pays homage to Nintendo and MTV era. The music is all 8 bit and 16 bit rock tunes which are my favorite. Spoiler Alert! In the game when you fight against evil-ex number three Todd Ingram, one of his super moves is that giant flesh arm from the movie Akira from Tetsuo in the shape of a lot of vegetables! It uses a lot of references from other movies and stuff. I still think its worth buying because there are other modes in the game, some of which you have to get DLC, Downloadable Content, and stuff like that. Its pretty fun if you play with friends. On the downside it doesn't have online Co-Op so you can't play online with your friends. However, if you have a group of four friends to play then I'd say its worth it. My favorite "Ex" was either the Goth Ninja Chick Roxie Pritcher or Gideon Graves, the G-Man! with the digi-katana. Another Major Spoiler, the last one I'll say but when you fight Gideon he has three forms for you to fight. One of them takes a reference from Final Fantasy 7 so that one boss is hard to defeat. Price wise though if you are buying f or Playstation 3 its \$10 for the XBOX360 its 800 or 1200 points, I can't remember exactly which. The DLC's are \$3.00 minimum each. The DLC has different modes in it where you can play like Dodge Ball mode where you can play dodge ball or you can play Knives Chou, the 17 year old who is after Scott Pilgrim the whole time. Overall I give it a double thumbs up!







Check'Em Out!

Repticon Atlanta 01/29 to 01/30 2011 Gwinnet County Fairground - Lawrenceville, GA

Arts Clayton Annual Juried Art Show 02/02 to 02/26 2011 Arts Clayton Gallery - Jonesboro, GA

Southern Women's Show ~ Savannah 02/04 to 02/06 2011 Savannah Int'l Trade & Convention Ctr. - Savannah, GA

Entertainment: 3 stg - I,N,R,L (music: Variety) ??

Kell High School Craft Show 02/05 to 02/05 2011 Kell High School Cafeterai - Marietta, GA

Lawrenceville Rubber Stamp & Paper Arts Festival 02/05 to 02/06 2011 Gwinnett County Fairgrounds - Lawrenceville, GA

Intergalactic Bead and Jewelry Show 02/05 to 02/06 2011 6400 Sugarloaf Pkwy - Duluth, GA

Spring Home and Garden Show 02/11 to 02/13 2011 Perimeter Mall - Atlanta, GA









Fasching-German Mardi Gras 02/12 to 02/12 2011 Festhalle - Helen, GA

Atlanta's Exotic Bird Fair 02/12 to 02/13 2011 North Atlanta Trade Center - Norcross, GA

> Sweetheart Festival 02/12 to 02/13 2011 Highway 515 - Young Harris, GA

Georgia National Rodeo 02/17 to 02/19 2011 Georgia National Fairgrounds - Perry, GA

> Savannah Irish Festival 02/18 to 02/20 2011

Savannah Civic Center - Savannah, GA

Fireside Craft & Art Show

02/19 to 02/20 2011Unicoi State Park and Lodge - Helen, GA

Springtime Made in the South / Savannah 02/25 to 02/27 2011 International Trade and Convention Ctr - Savannah, GA 01/27/11 - 01/30/11 Comic Book Convention in Angouleme Festival international de la bande dessinee d'Angouleme FR

01/29/11 - 01/30/11 Comic Book Convention in New Orleans, LA Wizard World New Orleans Comic Con US Address: New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

- 01/30/11 Comic Book Convention in Yorba Linda, CA California Comic Convention US Address: 4501 Casa Loma Ave.
- 01/30/11 Comic Book Convention in Mount Laurel, NJ Winter Fever Toy Show US Address: The Westin Mount Laurel, 555 Fellowship Road.
- 02/06/11 Comic Book Convention in Atlanta, GA Atlanta Comic Convention US Address: Marriott Hotel – Century Center, 2000 Century Blvd.
- 02/06/11 Comic Book Convention in Laurel, MD Comic Book and Non-Sports Card Show US Address: Holiday Inn, 15101 Swietzer Lane.
- 02/06/11 Comic Book Convention in Redlands, CA Inland Empire Comic Con US Address: Fox Theater.
- 02/13/11 Comic Book Convention in Dunn Loring, VA Capicons Comic Book & Pop Culture Con US Address: Dunn Loring Vol Fire Department Inc.
- 02/13/11 Comic Book Convention in Butler, PA But-Con Comics & Collectibles Show US Address: Clearview Mall.
- 02/13/11 Comic Book Convention in San Antonio, TX JMV Comic Book Show (La Quinta Inn) US Address: La Quinta Inn & Suites San Antonio Airport.

02/13/11 Comic Book Convention in Chicago, IL

Comic Book and Collectible Show US Address: Portage Theater. 02/19/11 Comic Book Convention in New York, NY Mike Carbo's New York Comic Book Marketplace US Address: 401 7th Avenue.

03/04/11 - 03/06/11 Comic Book Convention in Seattle, WA Emerald City Comicon US

Address: Washington State Convention Center, 800 Convention Place.

03/06/11 Comic Book Convention in Columbus, OH Buckeye Comic Con US Address: Fort Rapids Waterpark Resort & Conference Center, 4560 Hilton Corporate Drive.

03/13/11 Comic Book Convention in Tysons Corner, VA Shoff Promotions Comic Book & Nonsports Card Show US Address: Crowne Plaza Hotel Tysons Corner – Mclean.

03/13/11 Comic Book Convention in Secaucus, NJ Comic Art Con US Address: Meadowlands Crowne Plaza Hotel.

03/18/11 - 03/20/11 Comic Book Convention in Toronto, ON Wizard World Toronto Comic Con US Address: Direct Energy Centre, 100 Princes Boulevard.

03/18/11 - 03/20/11 Comic Book Convention in Chicago, IL C2E2 (Chicago Comic & Entertainment Expo) US Address: McCormick Place Convention Complex.

03/19/11 - 03/20/11 Comic Book Convention in Columbus, OH SPACE (Small Press & Alternative Comics Expo) US Address: Ramada Plaza Hotel And Conference Center, 4900 Sinclair Road.

> 03/20/11 Comic Book Convention in Charlotte, NC Charlotte Comicon US Address: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 201 S. McDowell.

03/25/11 - 03/27/11 Comic Book Convention in Orlando, FL MegaCon US www.megaconvention.com

03/27/11 Comic Book Convention in Cleveland, OH Cleveland Comic, Card and Nostalgia Festival US Address: American Legion Hall, 22001 Brook Park Road.

New Releases.

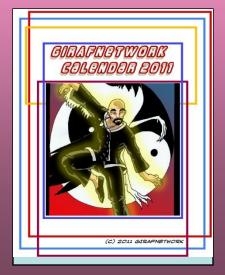


Neo-Kyoto #12 \$3.00 Rated: 13+

Features: Ultra Sentai NanoMan by Jason Bullock and Marques Huff, Kin of Rin Jin by Jason Bullock, and Black Ion by Jaymes Howard. Cover by Jason Bullock and Steven Lisefski. Available: GIRAFNetwork.com, IndyPlanet.com, or e-mail at jasonb@girafnetwork.com

HeroCentralUniverse #2 \$2.00 Rated:13+ Features: The Pantheon members are unable to find the imposing evil and conflict seems to overrun Michael & Flora's lives in this dimension too. Available: GIRAFNetwork.com, IndyPlanet.com, or e-mail at





jasonb@girafnetwork.com

GIRAFNetwork's 2011 Calendar \$2.00 Not Rated 12 month calendar for 2011 Featuring images by Jason Bullock, Germaine Webb, Brian Proctor, Marques Huff, Jaymes Howard, and Darian Matthews. Available: GIRAFNetwork.com



Excerpt from the By the Book Discussion by Jerome Montgomery & Jason Bullock 2011 For the WHOLE discussion check out the SUMMER By The Book MP3 June 2011 !!!!

Jason- We are talking about the British Invasion Part 2. Once again...

Jerome One if by land , two if by sea?

Jason- Not exactly, but just as bad because they are holding me captive. The BBC is holding me captive the modern rush of all these science fiction and really good stories. Yes, you can blame me....all my friends blame me for being an instigator in the world of Dr. Who...

Jerome - Dammit Jason! Damn you for getting me addicted and I can't put it in my vein this time!

Jason - I know, I know... Eccleston will just not fit. *Jerome* - No.

Jason- LLOL.

Jerome- And Martha Jones won't fit in my pants.

Jason- Thanks ;)

Jerome - You're Welcome.



Jason- But really we have seen this influx again of Britain...um I guess we call them Anglophiles instead of Brit-o-philes. Everyone is interested in Britain again, the film, television, music...not so much the music this time but television and film. There is a huge crossover of film stars across the pond. All this is especially due to BBCAmerica! On the cable channels we are able to experience all new material like Dr. Who. Thank you Russell T. Davies!(teeheeteehee) He's a great writer.

Jerome- And the one who got it started again big time.

Jason- He gave it an infusion of confidence and boost of recognition when it ended with that God awful piece of American trash that they made into a Dr. Who movie! Paul McGann was great don't get me wrong. The audio books were great with the 8th incarnation of the Doctor. But it needed a TimeLord to end that crap and come up with something good. He did.

Jerome - I'm sorry...when you have to resort to Eric Roberts as your bad guy. That almost kills you right there. It left things on the deathbed. That's all there was to it.

Well you have got to be asking yourself why are we talking about a British Invasion and why we are calling it Number 2. Well thats because in the late 60's we had a British invasion start with The Beatles came over, then the WHO... *Jason-* ...Manfred Mann..Yes...We had these rock bands really bucking the establishment over stateside and in Europe as well as Asia.

Jerome-Which led to The Sex Pistols, the Clash, all into the 80's. Then you had Dr Who being imported. You still have shows like Are you Being served?

Jason - The British comedies like Good Neighbors, Yes Minister...

Jerome-...Monty Python, Black Adder...

Jason-...Fawlty Towers and from that start into the American culture you see such actors like John Cleese, who can now be seen in James Bond as "Q's" replacement as "R"...

Jerome-...or as the voice of the King in Shrek 3 & 4.

Jason- ...and he is guest appearing in all these American television shows. Another is Eric Idle who was in Baron Munchausen with Robin Williams as one of the servants as well as with John Neville. I mean he was a freakin' Junkiyon in the Transformers cartoon movie in the 80's doing the voice. You see that is just with the older associations. You now have Chris Eccleston playing GIJoe the remake as Destro.. Jerome- ... and in Heroes as ...

Jason- ... as Claude who could turn invisible paired with Eric Roberts of all people!!! But he was an appropriate pain in the butt for that show.

Jerome-Somewhere in the mid-80s to the early 90's, we stopped worrying about the Brits. We kept doing our own thing. We had all the punk and grunge music coming out, but we stopped worrying about the Brits. We still had the replays of the Brit-coms coming out on public television but nothing new was really coming out. Then we imported a couple of new shows like Big Brother and weakest Link and Who wants to be a Millionaire? All these shows were started in Britain but we ended up taking them on. Then in the early 2000's when they tried it again with a comedy called Coupling. NBC tried to adapt the sitcom with an American version of the show. The American versions just don't seem to work. *Jason*-Just to show the dichotomy with new shows coming out, Law & Order: UK,

two thumbs up. It translates perfectly with actress Freema Agyumen, Martha Jones from Dr. Who, but then you have a transition with Top Gear. BBC version excellent! American version sucks! You have that contrast in what the population wants.



Jerome- The reality shows trans-versed well to America, but the sitcoms aren't doing it. Basically what is happening now is like what you said earlier we are channeling BBC. We are the 200 year old baby kicking and screaming for the bottle and their TV shows and that's what they are giving us.

I think a lot of the stuff coming out of Britain is original ideas. Nothing is truly original but you know what I mean. Its good. hopefully it will take root and we'll have this Japanime style upbringing of these folks. You know teenagers today know what anime is and in five years or so we'll have kids quoting again what is in Monty Python from the classics because they are now watching season 10 of Dr. Who.

- Jason I think that says it all. We are on the right track and if more people support it, it will become rooted in the American subculture.
- Jerome- There's nothing wrong with borrowing things from other cultures using them as our own.
- Jason- Gee isn't that how America got started? Borrowed a few things from other countries then here we are...
- Jerome- well that depends on what you ask what we borrowed from them but that is a whole other political rant..
- Jason- They are putting their foot into the states and it seems to be sticking Jerome- I hope that the American TV writers, playwrights, etc take it as a personal offense, a challenge to come up with something better. If you can't get into Dr. Who you must be the ones watching the Real Housewives of Atlanta.. Jason - ROFL.
- Jerome If you can't get into these things you don't like substance.
- Jason- Even the shallow people have stuff available from Britain. They have Britain's Got Talent and Simon Cowell's got Britain's own...where do you thing American Idol came from? America isn't come up with that. Simon Cowell is British people!!! There's something for everybody...well maybe not The Jersey shore...Welsh Shore?
- Jerome- I don't think it works .I don't think that there is a "Snookie" out in Wales.
- Jason- OMG! Could you just imagine the teeth?!? I think that's where we will end it... a Welsh Snookie. LOL!







2011 DR WHO preview and website adventures!









Being Human's roomies.. a vampire, a ghost, and a werewolf!





Fast cars, fast turns, fast wit...Top Gear.

Primeval's return from the Prehistoric. For the Whole Discussion You can check out the By The Book Summer 2001 in June from GIRAFNetwork.org !



LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT A LONG STANDING TRADITION IN INDIE AND SMALL PRESS THAT HAS PARLAYED MANY ARTISTS AND WRITERS THROUGH THE LAST THREE DECADES THE UNITED FANZINE ORGANIZATION. THE SMALL PRESS COOPERATIVE HAS A PROUD TRADITION OF PRINTING REPUTABLE SEQUENTIAL INDIE STORIES AS WELL AS PERIODICALS ABOUT THE INDUSTRY ITSELF. CURRENTLY CHAIRING THE ORGANIZATION IS WRITER AND ARTIST STEVE SHIPLEY. HIS OWN PASSION IN SEQUENTIAL ART HAS HELPED HIS EFFORTS TO INVOLVE OTHER ARTISTS AND WRITERS TO NOT ONLY BECOME PART OF THE UFO TRADITION BY TO SPUR ONWARD THEIR OWN CREATIVE EFFORTS ABROAD. LETS TAKE THAT MOMENT NOW TO WELCOME STEVE SHIPLEY...

THANKS STEVE FOR TAKING A MOMENT TO KEEP US UPDATE ON WHAT THE UFO IS THESE DAYS AS WELL AS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE PART OF THE SMALL PRESS CO-OP.

Q. WHAP CO-OP? A TE YOU WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE PART OF THE UNITED FANZINE ORGANIZATION SMALL PRESS

A.IF YOU LIKE TO PUBLICH YOUR OWN COMICS, THEN THE UFO IS THE PLACE TO BE. YOU BELONG TO A GROUP OF LIKE MINDED INDIVIDUALS AND GET TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER 6 TIMES A YEAR, AND YOU GET TO TRADE COMICS AND ZINES WITH THE OTHER TALENTED MEMBERS. THE CO-OP PROMOTES MEMBERS BOOKS, SO YOU GET MORE READERS AS WELL. AND ALL OF THIS, PLUS ALL THE FUN YOU HAVE, MAKES THE UFO A GREAT GROUP TO BE INVOLVED WITH!

A.WHEN DID THE UFO GET STARTED?



Q. HOW DID YOU GET INVOLVED WITH THE UFO?

HOW DID YOU BECOME THE CURRENT CHAIRMAN OF THE UFO? NOBODY ELSE WANTED THE JOB! ACTUALLY A FEW GUYS WANTED IT, BUT LACKED THE TIME EEDED TO BE A CHAIRMAN, SO I WENT FOR IT. I HAVE BEEN CHARMAN OF TWO OTHER DOPE IN THE PAST, SO THE TASK IS NOT NEW FOR ME. NEEDED CO-OPS IN

Q. WHAT IS THE OVERALL PURPOSE OF THE UFO? A. TO PROMOTE SMALL PRESS PUBLISHERS, AND TO MUTUALLY AID ONE ANOTHER IN THEIR ARTISTIC ENDEAVORS, AND ESPECIALLY TO HAVE FUN!

Q. WHAT ARE THE EXPECTATIONS OF SOMEONE WHEN THEY JOIN THE UFO? A. MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS ARE TO PUBLISH AT LEAST ONE COMIC OR COMIC RELATED ZINE OF AT LEAST 20 PAGES ONCE A YEAR, AND SEND THAT ZINE TO ALL MEMBERS. THEIR BOOK OR BOOKS MUST CARRY THE UFO SYMBOL AND THE CHECKLIST OF ALL CURRENT UFO ZINES. THEN THEY MUST CONTRIBUTE A COLUMN TO AT LEAST EVERY OTHER ISSUE OF THE UFO NEWSLETTER WHICH IS PUBLISHED EVERY OTHER MONTH. IN THEIR COLUMN, THEY ARE EXPECTED TO REVIEW THE UFO BOOKS THAT THEY HAVE GOTTEN FROM OTHER MEMBERS AND PROMOTE THEIR OWN BOOKS AS WELL.

Q. WHAT IS YOUR MEDIUM OF CHOICE? A. I'M A CARTOONIET AND ENJOY DOING SINGLE PANEL GAG CARTOONS ALONG WITH FULL BLOWN COMIC BOOKS. I ESPECIALLY LIKE DOING SCI-FI OR SUPER HEROES. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF THE UPO, YOU WILL GET TWO TO THREE COMICS FROM ME WITHIN A YEAR.

T MORE DIFFICULT AS A WRITER TO BECOME INVOLVED IN THE UFO THAN AN ARTIST? AT ALL! BUT TO BE A MEMBER, YOU MUST BE A PUBLISHER! SO, IF YOU ARE A WRITER OT AN ARTIST, YOU'LL HAVE TO GET SOMEONE TO DRAW FOR YOU. THAT'S ANOTHER THING ABOUT BELONGING TO A CO-OP; THERE IS A POOL OF TALENT FROM WHICH TO MANY MEMBERS END UP WORKING TOGETHER ON COMICS STRIPS AND OTHER NOT NOT COOL DRAW.

Q. CURRENTLY, HOW MANY ACTIVE MEMBERS ARE IN THE UFO? A. AS OF THIS WRITING, 15. THE LIMIT IS 25. IF THE GROUP REACHES 25, THOSE WISHING TO BECOME A MEMBER WILL GO ON A WAITING LIST.

Q. WHY DO IT? WHY CREATE GMALL PREGG GEQUENTIALG WITH LITTLE CHANCE OF RETURN? A. PAGGION AND THE NEED TO CREATE! WHY DOEG A PAINTER PAINT? WHY DOEG MUGICIAN PLAY? THERE IG AN INNER DEGIRE TO CREATE, EVEN IF THERE IG NO AUDIENCE. OH, I LIKE HAVING MY COMICG READ BY OTHERG, BUT I WOULD DRAW THEM EVEN IF NO ONE DID. AND OCCASSIONALY A FEW FROM OUR RANKG MAKE THE BIG TIME. A FORMER UFOER, TROY HICKMAN, WILL DEBUT HIG FIRGT PROFEGGIONAL COMIC THIS MONTH, "THE TWIGHT GUARDIAN", PUBLIGHED BY IMAGE COMICG. I HAVE HAD COUNTLEGG CARTOONG PUBLIGHED IN MAJOR MAGAZINEG AND SUPERMARKET TABLOIDG. BUT MOGT OF UG PUBLIGH FOR FUN!

Q. WHAT ARE YOUR PERSONAL PROJECT CONTRIBUTIONS TO UFO? A. I'VE PUBLISHED TWO ISSUE OF "THE PEACEMAKERS", A SCI-FI COMIC BOOK ABOUT POLICE OFFICERS IN THE FUTURE WHO FIGHT CRIME WITH NON VIOLENT METHODS. RIGHT NOW, I'M WORKING ON A SUPER HERO COMIC ANTHOLOGY IN THE STYLE OF COMICS FROM THE 50'S WHICH I HOPE TO HAVE OUT THIS SPRING.



Q. WHAT CAN WE EXPECT TO SEE OVER THE NEXT YEAR FROM YOU PERSONALLY ON THE SMALL PRESS FRONT? A. BESIDES, THE COMICS I JUST MENTIONED, I WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN MAKING WEBCOMICS. IN MY TENURE AS CHAIRMAN OF THE UFO, I HOPE TO GIVE IT MORE DIGITAL EXPOSURE AND ENCORAGE AND HELP MEMBERS TO PUBLISH MORE COMICS ON THE WEB AS WELL AS PAPER & INK!

Q. WHERE CAN PEOPLE GET INFORMATION ON THE UFO? A.WWW.UNITEDFANZINEORGANIZATION.WEEBLY.COM

Q. WHO ARE GOME OF THE OTHERG INVOLVED WITH UFO CURRENTLY? A. LANCE "DOC" BOUCHER

JAGON BULLOCK

NIC CARCIERI

J. KEVIN CARRIER

SAM GAFFORD

DARRELL GOZA

MARC HAINES

ROB IMES

LARRY JOHNGON

STEVE KEETER

TIM KELLY

JIM KINGMAN

JIM MAIN

BRIEN WAYNE POWELL

GEORGE STASINOS



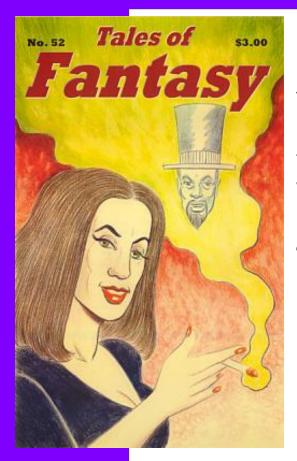


Q. WHAT TITLES ARE AVAILABLE THROUGH UFO? HOW CAN PEOPLE GET THEM? A. BEGIDES MY PEACEMAKERS COMICS, OTHER MEMBERS HAVE GREAT ZINES. THE BEST WAY TO FIND THEM AND ORDER THEM IS TO GO TO THE UFO WEBSITE AND GO TO "MEMBERZINES". DESCRIPTIONS AND ORDERING INFO IS ALL THERE.

Q. WHERE DID THE NAME T-FRAGE COME FROM FOR THE UFO NEWELETTER? A. IT WAS MANY YEARS AGO, SO I'M NOT TOTALLY SURE OF THE NAME TETRAGRAMMATON FRAGMENTS OR IT'S MEANING. I JUST KNOW THAT YOU SHOULDN'T ORDER IT IN A RESTURANT.

Q. ANY WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT FOR FANS OR POTENTIAL MEMBERS READING THIS? A. PUBLISHING A COMIC OR A ZINE IS NOT AS HARD AS YOU WOULD THINK. PRACTICALLY ANYONE CAN DO IT. MUCH LIKE PLAYING BASEBALL IS MUCH MORE FUN THAN WATCHING A GAME, PUBLISHING YOUR OWN COMIC IS A WHOLE LOT MORE ENJOYABLE THAN JUST READING THEM. THEN JOINING A CO-OP LIKE THE UFO INCREASES THE FUN, BECAUSE YOU HAVE OTHERS TO SHARE IN THE FUN!

THANKS SO VERY MUCH STEVE. WE WISH YOU AND YOUR COMPATRIOTS THE BEST IN ALL YOUR CREATIVE ENDEAVORS!



Thanks Larry Johnson for taking a moment to keep us update on what the UFO is these days as well as what it means to be part of the small press co-op. And thank you, Jason, for giving me the opportunity to express my opinions. I must warn you, though, I'm a straightforward type of guy and that means my enthusiasm is genuine and when criticism is warranted I don't hesitate to offer it.

- **Q. What d**oes it mean to be part of the United Fanzine Organization Small Press Co-op?
- A. I like being in the company of other creative types who are producing challenging and innovative work.
- **Q. How did** you get involved with the UFO?
- A. Way back in the early 70s I joined the precursor of the UFO, the BPP (Blue Plaque Publications). I believe Jim Main suggested I join. I'd met Jim when he responded to an ad I placed in the RB-CC (Rocket's Blast Comics Collector) when I was looking for contributors to my fanzine The Comet in 1972. This was back in the ditto reproduction days and I was involved for a few years until I moved to Boston in 1975 to attend art school.

Then in the late 80s, when I started to publish The Comet again I re-joined the UFO for about 5 years. Around 1993 or 1994 I dropped out of the publishing scene for a few years then revived my comic book Tales of Fantasy and continued as an independent publisher for a long tim<mark>e. A few years</mark>

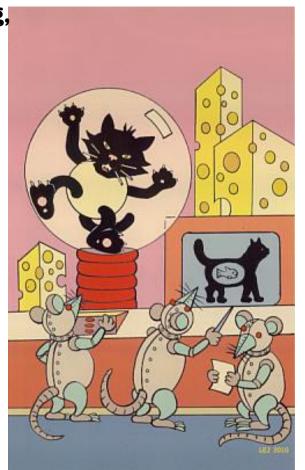


ago when Nic Carcieri revived the UFO he asked me to join and after giving it some thought I did so in early 2010. ...

- **Q. What is the** overall purpose of the UFO?
- A. What comes to mind is "to promote quality in small press publications." New publishers can benefit from the experience, the comments and criticism of "veterans" who've been at it for a while.
- **Q. What are the expectations of someone when they join the UFO?**
- A. I can only speak for myself. When I re-joined last year I was hoping to expand my audience for Tales of Fantasy. There are members whom I trade with and have for a long time Jim Pack, J. Kevin Carrier, and Rob Imes, for example. But there was also a whole new crew I'd yet to get acquainted with as well.

I came in with the expectation that I would be receiving thoughtful criticism on TOF in the bi-monthly newsletter Tetragrammaton Fragments. You see, over the years my book has

garnered a small yet loyal following, and each issue's letters' column contains an average of about half a dozen thoughtful critical responses to the previous issue's offering. I've even done collaborative work with some of TOF's readers like Larry Blake and Mike Tuz. In a sense I'd cobbled together my own little co-op, even running a page of "recommended reading" now and then, my own kind of "checklist."

























My initial exposure to the new UFO was pretty good. My applicant 'zine TOF #49 received some thoughtful comments in the newsletter. But due to unfortunate circumstances Nic Car<mark>cieri had to</mark> drop out as chairman in the middle of the year and the group was at sea for a while. Submissions for an entire issue of TF disappeared, I understand.

As a result member response to my first UFO issue TOF #50 was almost nonexistent, and only about one third of the members contributed a column to TF #213, the issue before Nic dropped out. I must tell you, Jason, I was thinking, "Why bother?" But, believing, in a naive way, that good old fashioned critiques were what mattered I continued to write my column in that fashion, like I did twenty years ago, hoping that others would be motivated and respond in kind.

It seems to me that if the purpose of the UFO is to promote quality publications and encourage each other, then you have to work at that. If I'm having trouble understanding a passage in a comic book story I offer criticism on how to make it clearer, for example. And I guess I have profited from years of the give and take I have had with my readers of Tales of Fantasy. It may also have to do with the fact that I teach "How To Make Comic Books", a course at my local arts center, encouraging young people how to express themselves in the comic book medium.

This all of course harkens back to the good old day<mark>s of the 1970</mark> s when there was a grading system in the UFO and members could face expulsion if they did not meet the standards of good publication.

Now, my feeling is that even if a work is not that **polished –** perhaps the drawing is not the best – there's a sense of wholeness an integrity, a good presentation that comes across. And I want to encourage someone to do his best, no matter his level of ability. That's the best aspect of self-publishing, I believe, a<mark>nd the UFO –</mark> in its glory days – championed that! Q. What is your medium of choice?

A. I guess I could say comics is my first medium of choice. I've been making them since 1962 (when I was 8 years old). But I like writing too, and I do science fiction text stories that appear in TOF. I also do articles on 1960s comics in a series that appears in Larry Blake's Kevin Kool Comics.

In my "other life" I do landscape drawings on-site (colored pencil and oil pastel on cardboard) and paint (oil and acrylic). Lately, I've also been doing collage covers for Tales of Fantasy, using materials like paint, cloth, pipe cleaners, glitter, glass, lichens and bark, clay, you name it! Just experimenting with what my computer's scanner can see! And recently I got a Canon digital camera with macro focus capability, so I'm thinking of doing some miniature 3-D constructions for TOF covers. You gotta keep pushing beyond your boundaries as an artist or you get bored! Don't you agree?

Q. Is it more difficult as a writer to become involved <mark>in the UFO</mark> than an artist?

A. That's a funny question. It seems to me the basic criteria for joining the UFO is to be a PUBLISHER, no matter what your strength is. And, considering writers, let's think about editors. Jim Main does some writing, but his primary talent is his ability to motivate contributors to come up with material and then to collate those submissions into a cohesive publication, like Ppfszt, or Comic Fan. Then you have Rob Imes, who publishes Ditkomania, the fanzine devoted to the works of Steve Ditko. Rob does some art, but more writing, and works closely with his writer contributors, honing their work (doing the job of an editor) urging them to do their best, knowing they have the capability. And that directly relates to what UFO members can do for each other in their critiques of each other's work. So the answer is no, a writer has as much a chance to be involved in the UFO as an artist

- **Q. Why do it? Why create small press sequentials with little** chance of return?
- A. What a question! I draw and write every day of my life, whether anyone sees it or not. I feel any artist, in any medium has something to say, and in putting that statement into form, you discover more! As for the little chance of return? Well, I'm not in it for the money, that's for sure. Sometimes I recoup my printing costs, but as for "return" as I've mentioned before my responsive readership and collaborative work makes publishing Tales of Fantasy all worthwhile!
- **Q.** What are your personal project contributions to U<mark>FO?</mark>
- A. I'm not too sure of the context of this question. I see the UFO primarily as a good critique group, where we can all learn from each other. If I contribute a decent column for each issue of the bimonthly newsletter I figure I am doing my part.
- Q. How does that work as a writer who is not predom<mark>inantly an</mark> artist? Team dynamic?
- A. You seem to be getting at a kind of writer/artist difference. I see none. You might be thinking of covers for the Tetragrammaton Fragments, or in the old days, the traditional annual of members' publications. But not all of them are primarily comics. Remember, there's fanzine type stuff too. And that diversity plays into the UFO's strength I think. Writers team up with artists? Of course! Q. What can we expect to see over the next year from you personally on the small press front?
- A. I will continue to publish Tales of Fantasy on a quarterly basis. As I write this I am working on #53. The first issue was published in January 1988, by the way. My book features supernatural and science fiction comics starring my main characters Madame Boogala (a magical gypsy lady) and Lew Brown (a reporter who finds himself in fantastic situations). There will be more Bart Rover text stories; he's a futuristic android hunter, and Space Cat, a little wordless cartoon cat feature. In addition I have some

collaborative stories with a writer I've had a long and fruitful relationship with. That's Mike Tuz. We'll be doing a lengthy Jesse Stuart story. He's a space adventure guy and represents my first work in small press in 1972 (I did a series for Jim Main's Ppfszt back then). Mike and I did a Jesse Stuart story in Ppfszt #28, a current UFO publication, by the way.

And also I'm interested in doing something very different. I publish TOF by photocopying the interior pages and printing out color covers from my computer. I'm thinking of doin<mark>g some color</mark> comics with Ka-Blam, colorizing some of my stories. And I've been working on some fairy tale stories I'd like to do in color with this same process. It's affordable and the results look pretty professional too.

- **Q.** Where can people get information on the UFO?
- A. You can contact Steve Shipley, the current chairman or Rob Imes, the emergency chairman.
- Q. Any words of encouragement for fans or potential members reading this?

A. What you want to get out of a group depends a lot on what you put into it. "Ask not ..." There's all this internet chat room back and forth stuff these days, 24/7 communication, but if you want to be in the UFO, I would strongly suggest supporting the bi-monthly publication of the newsletter Tetragrammaton Fragments by writing a thoughtful column of critiques of each other's publications, and not merely writing about your own efforts either. People post all sorts of short messages on Facebook, like what I had for lunch, I'm going to church, I'm taking a walk, etc. If you want to be involved in the UFO be prepared to devote your energy six times a year to contribute to the main organ of this group, the newsletter. Yes, it's a print and paper publication. And there's talk of allowing web comics to serve as member obligations these days, in addition to the old fashioned kinds of books. I'm for exploration in all kinds of media, and I think NEXT magazine is a worthy effort on the forefront of what a younger audience likes these days. The UFO newsletter, in print form, allows you to have everything in one place, a record of give and take among creative types. I remember some great passion (and some great disagreements) in the old days, and right now the group is going through a transition. I think Steve Shipley, a veteran publisher (I think he predates me) will lead the group in a good direction, but he can't do it by himself. These, of course, are just my own ideas and I think I'll be around for a little while, at least. If you want to join the UFO, you're in good company!

Thanks so very much Larry. We wish you and your compatriots the best in all your creative endeavors!

"Never be afraid to give your opinion when its asked for!"-Jason Bullock



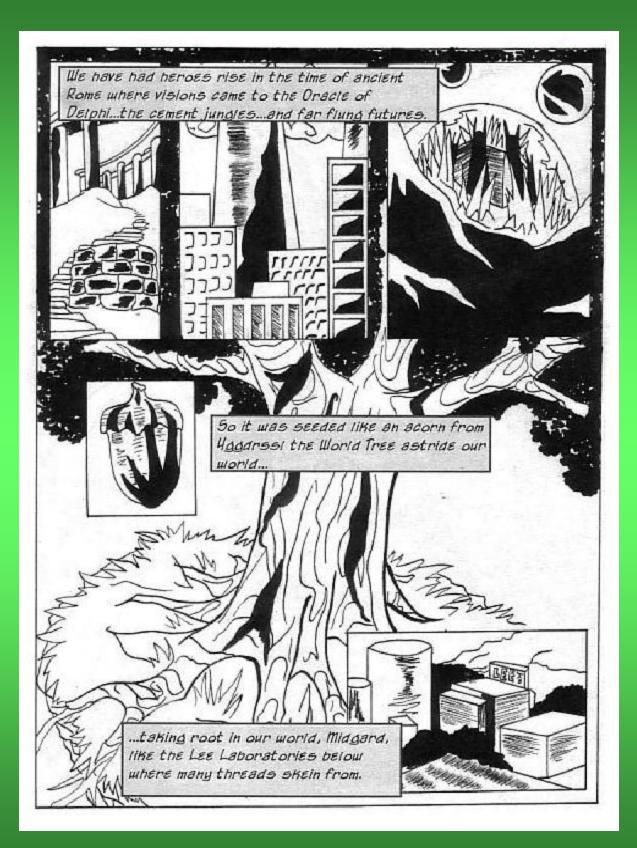


STORY & ART BY JASON BULLOCK INKS BY VERONA OLIVER RUTHERFORD LETTERS BY HEROCENTRAL

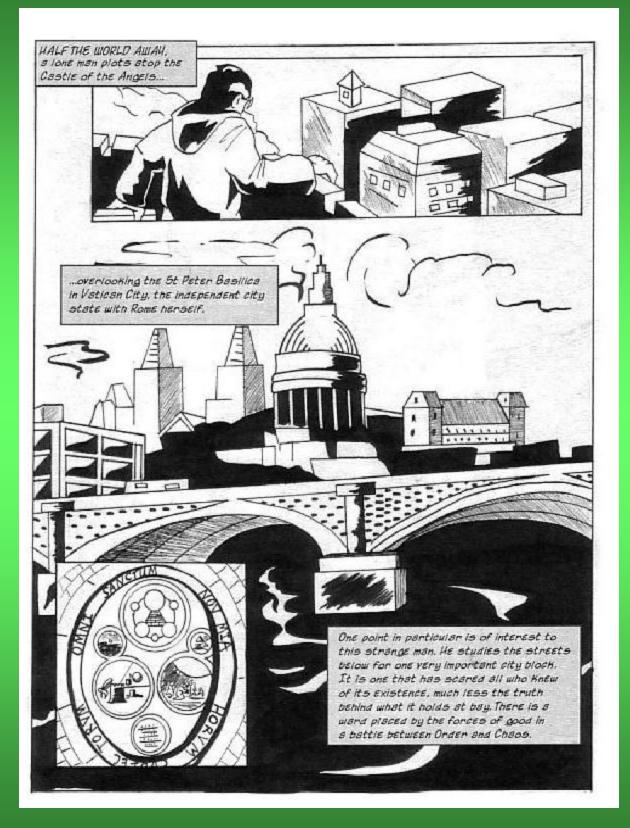
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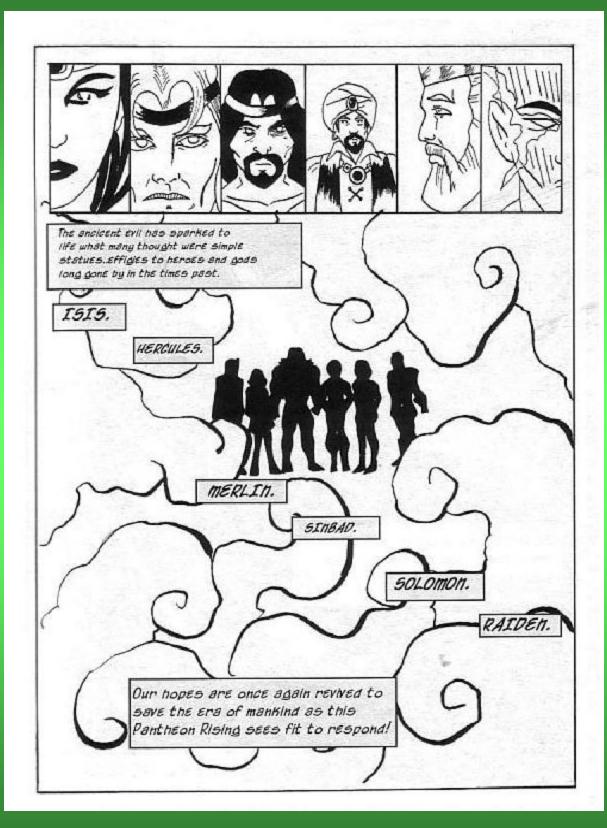


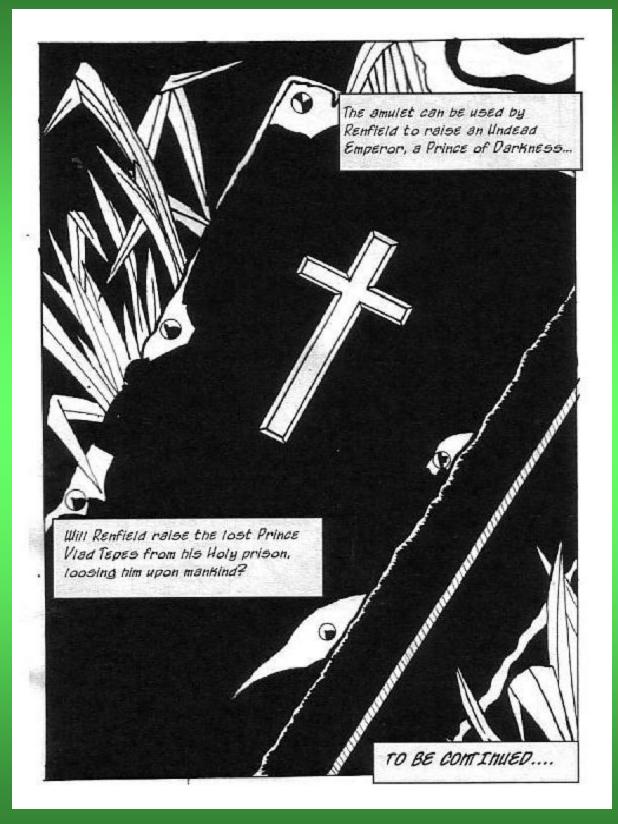


Renfield breeks through the woxen wards with guicksilver flares 35 cthonic energy prupto ! Eril soon will pass back into the world. Renfield finds the tressure of evil that he has sought to release his master... ...the item in guestion? The Amulet of Power! //











The United Fanzine Organization (UFO) is a co-op of small –press publishers who monthly aid each other in the promotion and production of their titles, and the promotion of higher standards of quality in the alternative press. Any small press publisher interested in joining should contact its current chairman Steve Shipley /1825 Eastgate Rd. / Toledo, OH 43614 or email him at steveshipley7@gmail.com. Find Out more about the UFO at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/unitedfanzineorg

Tetragrammaton Fragments! (UFO Newsletter): The central forum for the UFO, with columns and reviews By the members. B&W Digest zine from Steve Shipley/1825 Eastgate Rd./ Toledo, OH 43614/ email: steveshipley7@gmail.com

<u>Comet Tales</u>: Jim Pack has been publishing this sci-fi/adventure anthology series since 1983. to get on the Mailing list to receive the next issues of the comic for free, just send \$1.00 to **Jim Pack/ 787 Bay Harbor /** Maineville, OH 45039

<u>Ditkomania</u> #82: Halloween issue of this fanzine devoted of the comic artist Steve Ditko.. **\$2.50** post paid in The USA from **Rob Imes / 13510 Cambridge #307 / Southgate, MI 48195**. Email: **robimes@yahoo.com** or Visit **http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ditkomania** for more info.

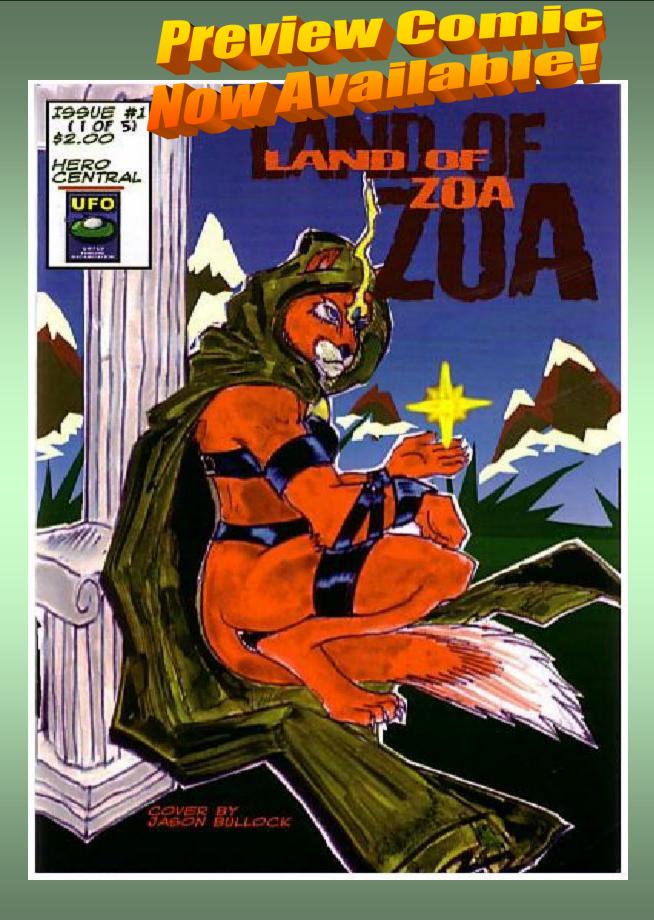
<u>Hero Central Universe</u> #3: A digest sized fantasy comic of heroes and gods fighting an ancient evil for \$3.00 Post paid from Jason Bullock / POBox 2684 /Loganville, GA 30052. Email jasonb@girafnetwork.com and The website: www.herocentral.org for more info and webcomics!

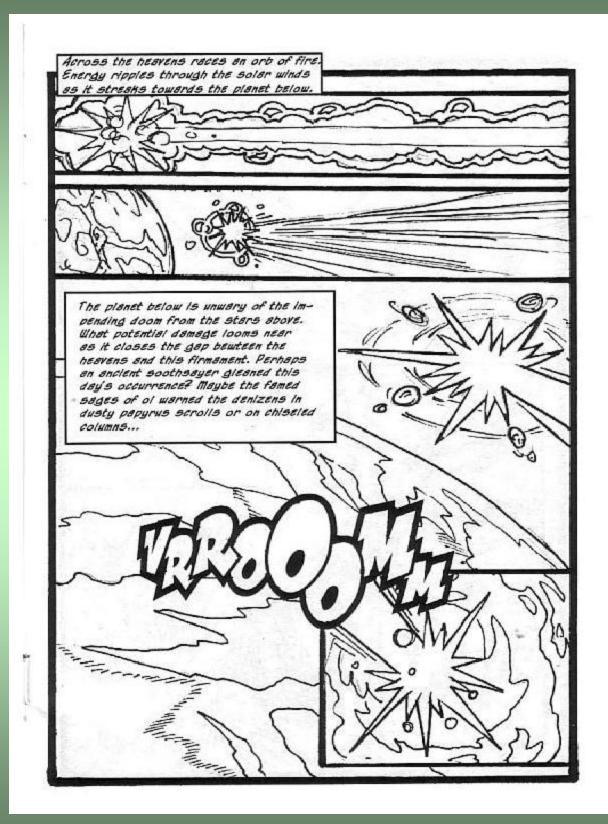
<u>Peacemakers</u> #11: B&W 16 page digest-size comic with color cover continuing the saga of space heroes. Price is \$1.00 postpaid from Steve Shipley / 1825 Eastgate Rd./ Toledo, Ohio 43614. You can visit him Online at http://budgetcomics.blogspot.com.

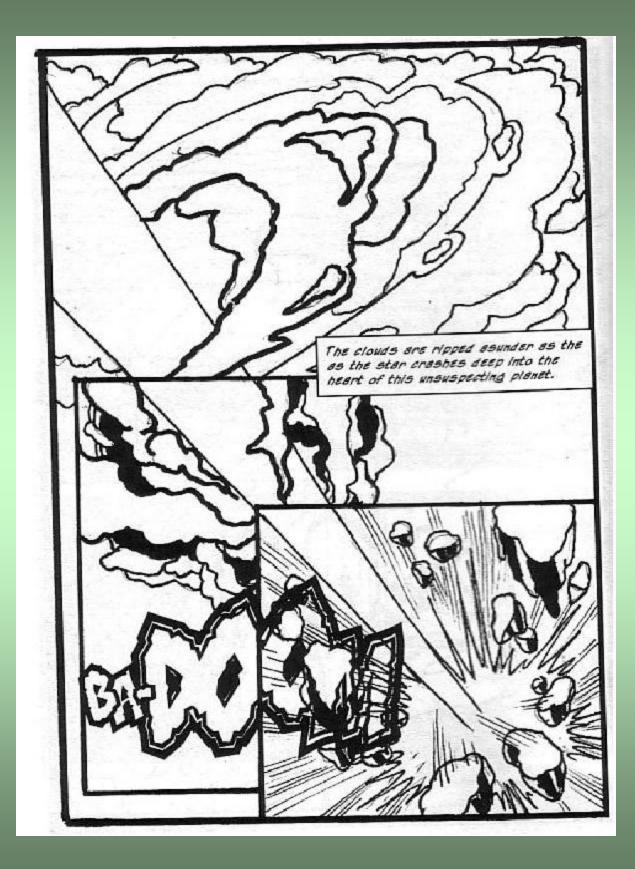
***PPFSZT!** #29: the long running (since 1972!) comics anthology returns with a brand new issue, including a New Gigantic Gia tale by , and by . Available for **\$7.00** postpaid from **Jim Main / 13 Valley View Rd. / Brookfield , CT 06804**. Email Jim at **jmain44@aol.com** or visit **www.mainenterpises.ecrater.com** For more information.

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WHAT IS PODCASTING?

Podcasting (or non-streamed webcast) is a series of digital media files (either audio or video) that are released episodically and often downloaded through web syndication. The word usurped webcast in common vernacular, due to rising popularity of the iPod and the innovation of web feeds.

The mode of delivery differentiates podcasting from other means of accessing media files over the Internet, such as direct download, or streamed webcasting. A list of all the audio or video files currently associated with a given series is maintained centrally on the distributor's server as a web feed, and the listener or viewer employs special client application software known as a podcatcher that can access this web feed, check it for updates, and download any new files in the series. This process can be automated so that new files are downloaded automatically. Files are stored locally on the user's computer or other device ready for offline use, giving simple and convenient access to episodic content.

What are the Uses of Podcasts...

There are many ways to utilize this social outlet as podeasting is no longer viewed with elitism as was the computer literacy age of the **1990**s involving the internet .A primary way to use podeasts can be in the field of education. For example, a podeasts enable students and teachers to share information with anyone anytime. If a student is absent, he or she can download the podeast of the recorded lesson. Teachers may also create podeasts to be used as a preparation tool for students. This would be pedagogically equivalent to having students read a text before a lesson. It can be a tool for teachers or administrators to communicate curriculum, assignments and other information with parents and the community. Teachers can record book talks, vocabulary or foreign language lessons, international pen pal letters (podeast pals!), music performance, interviews, debates. Podeasting can be a publishing tool for student oral presentations. Video podeasts can be used in all these ways as well.



Here are specific ways to use podcasting: Mobile Learning Mobile Knowledge Transfer Journalism Education Academic Journal Digests: **Professional Development** Religion Tutorials Comedy Television commentary Radio series As a platform for fan DVD-style commentary tracks (Audio commentary) Sports Pornography Reintroducing Classical Children's Literature. Fiction. Politics & Promotional Vehicle

WHICH TO BUY?

As a member of the Brain Freeze Report over at HeroCentral.org, We utilize a reliable little set up from Behringer. It's a studio with microphone, 2 channel mixer board, USB interface, and headphones. It makes our Brain Freeze Report Podcast sound very professional. We were able to snag this unit for a little over \$114.00 including Shipping & handling.



(available online as well as at Wal-Mart)



MicroMemo - \$59.95

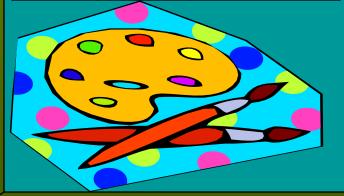
Turn your iPod® nano 2nd generation into a portable, pocket-sized recording studio. No tapes, no batteries, no cables. MicroMemo[™] plugs into your iPod to record interviews, meetings, lectures, or any audio content directly to your iPod nano.Menus and controls display on iPod nano screen ,One-touch recording, Flexible, detachable mic for exact positioning Built-in speaker for instant playback Records 16-bit audio at 44 kHz and 8-bit at 22 kHz .Accepts other microphones with 3.5mm plug No batteries needed iPod-powered.

There are too many podcasts to list here in this tiny little space. So we like to recommend that you head over to RareDrop Radio At www.rearedrop.com as well as BrainFreeze Report over at www.herocentral.org for hours of weekly and monthly fun!!!!!

By Jason Bullock. 2010 This article is designed to give beginning painters a few valuable introductory tips.

Acrylic is a unique medium that is inexpensive and easy to use Water is the only necessity for mixing, applying, and cleaning. It dries quickly, sometimes within minutes, and can be used on a variety of surfaces. With simple techniques, acrylics can mimic other painting mediums like oil and watercolor. It can be thinned to transparency or applied straight from its container. It dries durable, worry-free of cracking or chipping.

The nine basic colors are what we suggest for a basic palette. Other colors may be added, such as black. Make sure that you also get an air tight lidded container to prevent drying of you paints other than when you want them to. You can also get other optional items to round out your materials such as Acrylic Gesso, Gloss medium, liquid mask, matt medium, a non flexible ruler for a straight edge, retarder medium, rubber cement thinner, Rubber Cement Pick Up (eraser), spray bottle, and or tools for scratching and scoring. things like that are helpful.



Basic Supply List – 9 Colors

Alizarin Crimson Burnt Sienna Cadmium Red Light Cadmium Yellow Light Cerulean Blue Raw Sienna Raw Umber Titanium White Ultramarine Blue

Basic Supply List Small Pointed Round Brush 1/8" Round Brush 1/4" Round Brush 3/8" Round Brush 1/2" Flat Brush 1'Z" Flat Brush Brush Holder/Tub for water Palette Knife, Broad Palette Knife, Narrow Plastic Palette Solid Painting Surface

8 Basic Transparent Technique Colors

The following colors are suggested for transparent painting techniques –

Burnt Sienna Cadmium Red Medium Cadmium Yellow Light Mars Black Phthalo Blue Violet Titanium White Yellow Ochre Light

TIPS.

When choosing a surface to mix your paints, always use plexi-glass, plastic or glass palettes. Paper palettes tend to make colors dry faster. Use a pump spray bottle that delivers a fine mist of water to keep paints moist both on the painting and in your palette. Avoid spray bottles that squirt, which may case drips and runs. acrylics should not be used over an oil painted surface but you can under paint acrylic then oil paints. always clean your brushes immediately with clean water or they will be damaged irrevocably!

Glossary.....

Acrylic Gesso – Gesso is used for sealing and protecting fabric and wood. Acrylics can be applied to unprimed canvas but gesso provides a smoothsurface and a consistent degree of absorption.

Gloss Medium – extends the paint and leaves a shiny surface when the colors dry. If used in large volume it will make the colors transparent when dried.

Gel Medium – Makes paints thicker so textured effects can be achieved but also extends the paint as well.

Matte Medium – Extends the paint and reduces glare when colors dry. Using a small amount of the medium makes it easier to move the paint. A large amount makes colors transparent.

Retarding Medium – An additive for acrylic paints to slow down drying time and make blending colors easier.

Surface – Your painting surface. Acrylics can be used on almost anything, including linen cotton canvas, board, paper or acid free matte board.

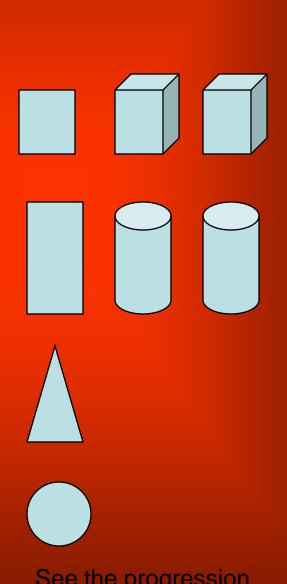




Take a look at how to get the basics started on drawing techniques.

Drawing is the basis for applying the perception of three dimensional reality rendering it onto a two dimensional surface. Its very deceptive when it is achieved. Before you can apply advanced techniques like foreshortening, perspective, and tonal value you have to get a good foundation in the basics.

- 1.Try thick and thin lines with each pencil to learn how each one handles, how dark it is and how it blends or smears.
- 2.Make a drawing of the basic shapes-square, circle, triangle,& rectangle. Then add depth to each shape making it a cube, sphere, cone, and cylinder. Add shading to each of these by first determining the side your light source is coming from, then shading and casting a shadow on the opposite side.
- 3. Try a variety of textures such as smooth, glossy, eggshell, bumpy, rough, etc. Try some textures like crosshatching, tree bark, grass, etc.
- Draw something that is made from each basic shape. i.e. a house from a cube, an ice cream cone from a sphere and cone.
- 5. Try one and two point perspectives.
- 6. Take a piece of white typing paper, wad it up and set it down to observe the light source from the opposite side. Pay attention to the many sides in gray that it creates.



See the progression From the shapes above?

Begin Drawing

- Begin with a still life or landscape. Decide what you will put in your picture- you might sight through a home made viewfinder or hold up both hands at arm's length then form a rectangle with the thumb and fore finger of each hand. Close one eye and look through this rectangle with the other to decide what you will include in your picture.
- 2.Draw a thumbnail sketch in a small rectangle the same shape as your drawing- make a very small, rough sketch showing the position of each object in your picture.
- 3.When you get a thumbnail design that you like, make a simple line drawing to size on your drawing paper. Draw the "Basic Shapes" of each item on your page in the relative size and position of the scene you see through your viewfinder or fingers.
- Look at the relationship of each object to the object nearest it, how tall, wide, light, dark, etc. is it compared to other objects in the scene.
- 5. Slowly begin to add details to turn the basic shapes into the objects in your picture.
- Draw an "x" outside your picture to remind you where the sun or light is coming from, then start adding shading away from the light source.
- 7. Continue to add detail and shading until you are satisfied with your drawing.

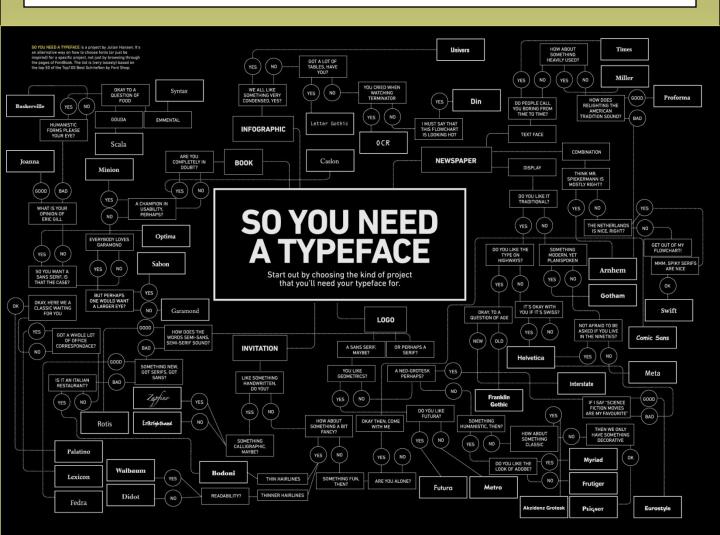
Glossary of Terms

- Paper Stomp for blending- this is used to smear, smooth, and shade areas of your pencil drawing.
 Viewfinder – A small rectangle cut out of a larger piece of card board, the same proportions as your paper or canvas. Tape a string from side to side and top to the bottom across the center and vertical center. Sight through this rectangle held at arm's length with one eye shut to visualize how to place the image on your page.
- 3. Thumbnail A rough sketch in a rectangle the same proportion as your finished art to determine the best placement, view, and composition.

Basic Supplies.....

-Drawing pencils are graded from 6H the hardest to 6B the softest and darkest. The lightest Weight has a hard lead, which Will leave an impression in the Surface of your paper. -Carpenters pencil- these are Wide flat pencils that can be Sharpened to chisel points. -Sandpaper block- for pencil Sharpening to a point. -Erasers- kneaded and white-A Kneaded eraser must be thusly Kneaded to soften and clean it. Then can be shaped to a point Or fit the area you need. -Exacto Knife- for sharpening your pencils. -Paper Stomp- for blending. This is used to smear, smooth, Or shade areas of the drawing. -Drawing paper- well duh!

Franticly searching for the right look, right kern, right loop. Its too much sometimes when tackling that design project. Too many choices these days and now way to see exactly what you are looking for when it comes to choice of Fonts. Well here you go. When in doubt look on the internet for some semblance of a solution. We found the penultimate flowchart to decide if the font you have is the font you wanted to begin with. Check it out and share it around. For a digital copy of this chart check out our website under the H2Club section! www. Heroncentral.org or www.girafnetwork.org



What Inspires Me to Write... Rowan Lake

野獣のBronx Beast of the Bronx

Rowan K. Lake Jr.

To everyone who believes in me: Thank you

Chapter One

The heavenly sound of bells filled the clear sunny air, signaling school's dismissal. Flocks of high schoolers flooded the concrete sidewalks as some piled onto the cheese-colored buses. To a passerby, it was a beautiful spectacle. But to a driver, it was a nightmare. One boy managed to walk away from the site, with his green bookbag weighing him down.

Andrew Roberts stood at average height. With a lean body and round face, Andrew looked like he still went to middle school. His short brown hair had bangs that hung right on top of his green eyes and he wore baggy jeans and a blue t-shirt. His mind seemed to be elsewhere as the sounds of cars and people passing by became fuzzy. Everything to him was boring: boring school, boring family, and boring life. All Andrew ever wanted was a bit of change to make his mundane life more meaningful. Crossing the street was no problem, thanks to the new traffic light set in by the city. As he walked passed a *Fred's Wings* restaurant, he saw two guys dressed in suits beating up a kid in an alley. He watched their fists pound the kid's face like a baker kneading dough. Blood splattered everywhere as the kid's face caved in with each blow. His Chiclets-size teeth popped out like a busted piñata and his nose became flat. In Andrew's heart, he wanted to help him but his mind knew the outcome. Andrew quickly walked off, trying to forget what he saw.

That's how it is in the Bronx nowadays. Life has changed ever since this new drug-lord came into town. They see guys in suits beating up punks and other drug-dealers. Now they're trying to hurt the elderly with their protection program. Back then, the Bronx was peaceful. Even though Andrew was living in Co-op City, the people there were friendly and always looked out for each other. The apartments there were like skyscrapers. He used to envy the people who lived on the top floors since they could see everything the Bronx had to offer. The smell of the bus fumes always followed you no matter where you were and the cries of the pigeons seemed to tell a story of their struggles here. Andrew remembered going up to the rooftop of his apartment building watching the sun hide behind other apartment buildings, as it approached the evening. Back in those days, the Bronx was considered beautiful and safe. Now, Andrew wonders why he lives here. Andrew turned on his street, De Reimer Ave. A gentle breeze blew across the grassy field of his twelve-story brick apartment complex. Suddenly, he saw a familiar face, eating a sandwich. "What's the word for today, Toby?" Andrew asked with a smile. Toby was the neighborhood hobo. He was a wise Asian man in his sixties and stood at five feet. He wore dirty blue jeans and a shabby red polo. His brown shoes seemed to be as

weary as he was.

"Darkness approaches, Andrew," he said staring at the sky. "The world's gonna be in some deep doo-doo if you don't stop it." "C'mon Toby, I can't save the world," Andrew replied chuckling. "I know you like to prophesize to people, but this is way beyond you."

Toby looked at Andrew with serious eyes. "Don't question God's plan. Just be ready for that time of change."

Andrew sighed. "I will, Toby. See ya."

As Andrew walked passed him, he felt a cold chill run down his spine. He began thinking if Toby was right.

Me, save the world? That's impossible. But...what if...

The elevator ride up seemed non-existent as Andrew continued to drown his mind in Toby's words. Like a routine, Andrew walked down the second floor hallway while pulling his keys out of his right front pocket. He reached the green painted door and unlocked it. When he got inside, he sighed and pretended to be cheerful. Andrew and his family were living in a four-bedroom apartment with white walls and ceilings and red carpeting. Andrew walked a couple of steps and turned to the right, staring at the kitchen. The kitchen wasn't big. It looked like a narrow hallway with cupboards on each side, a refrigerator, an oven, and a sink, but it had enough room for two people to cook. "How was school Andrew?" his mom asked while cooking dinner. "It was good, mom. I got an A on my History test."

Lily Roberts was two inches shorter than Andrew. Her blue eyes were filled with warmth and love and her dirty blonde hair draped most of her back. She wore her pink pajama bottoms and the white polo she wore to work earlier.

"Hey Andrew," a voice said as he came out his room. "Sup William," Andrew replied. William Roberts was Andrew's younger brother. He was the same height as Andrew with short flat brown hair and handsome blue

eyes. He wore blue jeans and his favorite Einstein t-shirt.

"Andrew, are you going to the football game tonight?"

"I don't know William. I have homework to do."

"Don't worry, I'll help you."

"At a price, right?" Andrew asked seeing through his little scheme.

"Oh, nothing to big," William answered smiling, "just that you'll let me hang with you and your friends."

"I think I can do it myself," Andrew replied walking to his room. "Andrew?" William whined.

"Under one condition."

"You name it."

"That you don't do your joke routine."

William blushed and then muttered, "My jokes are fine."

"Take it or leave it."

"Alright, fine, I won't make any jokes."

The roar of the crowd filled the clear night air as William and Andrew went to their school's football game. PS 78 was the name of their school, located on Baychester Ave. It was a minority populated high school. There were some whites and other races, but blacks ruled this school. The building itself looked like it was built in the seventies. The outer walls were cracked and some of the windows were broken. The inside was much worse. The hallways were filled with long jagged cracks and some of the lockers were banged up worse than front end collision. Parts of the ceiling had holes in it with roaches randomly crawling in and out and some of the lights kept on flickering, giving the hallway an eerie feel. Even the description of the bathroom would make newcomers hurl. At the football field, William and Andrew sat down near the back, next to William's friends. One of William's friends, Leon, who was sitting next to Andrew, began calculating the trajectory of the last play. Leon was just like William: smart yet so clueless about life and sports. He was an inch shorter than William and Andrew, but a year older than them. He had a chubby body and face, like the Stay Puft Marshmallow Man, and he wore thick soda bottle glasses. Leon's mop-top hair was a black color, had deep dark brown eyes, and his semi-wide nose could suck in air like a vacuum.

"I'm glad our quarterback didn't throw the ball at a 48.5" angle, or we wouldn't have scored."

"Whatever, Leon," William replied. "If Terrel ran four seconds slower, after catching the ball, the other team would've creamed him."

Andrew sighed and then looked at the scoreboard. Their school was up by seven. He let out another sigh. It's not that Andrew didn't like sports: he just felt bored and fed up with life. Even with most of his friends around him, he kept to himself. He stared at the stars for a moment and then smiled. It really was a perfect night for football. Not a single cloud was in the sky and the moon was full and bright. Andrew's thoughts slowly drifted towards Toby's words once more, drowning out the sounds of the game. If this night was going to be a night of change, where was his sign Suddenly, the whistle blew, bringing Andrew back to his senses. He looked at the field and saw that his school had the ball from the kick-off. The quarterback threw the ball with great trajectory. The receiver caught and held the ball tightly, running as fast as he could to the end zone. He dodged left and then right, shaking off the oncoming opposing team. With only five yards remaining, the receiver took it into overdrive. BAM! The receiver felt weightless for a moment. In that moment, all he could see were

the floodlights and the starry sky. Then, a loud thud came as his face met the ground. The whistle blew and the referee called for a time-out.

"That...had to hurt," William said with his eyes wide open. "I know," replied Andrew. "That's what football is all about: getting hurt just to get a ball onto one side of the field." "Hey, Drew!" someone called out.

Andrew looked down into the stands and saw his best friend, Mark Rivers, waving to him.

Mark was three inches taller and was the same age as Andrew. He had curly black hair in a fade hairstyle and a mocha complexion. His dark brown puppy dog eyes manage to get him the ladies and he had a small wide nose.

"Sup son," said Mark as he slapped fists with Andrew. "Sup kid," replied Andrew.

"Yo, have you seen the chicks down there?" Mark asked pointing to the group of girls sitting near the front row, "The one in red is fine."

Andrew took a good look at her. She seemed to be two inches shorter than Mark and her curvy body was proportionate. She had short black hair, smooth light brown skin, a cute smile, and of course gorgeous emerald green eyes behind her small square glasses. She wore a red spaghetti strap top with skinny leg jeans that advertised her curvy butt.

"Damn, she fine."

"I was thinking of talking at her, but some guy beat me to it," Mark said with a disappointed tone.

"You'll get your chance," Andrew said trying to cheer him up. "Sup Big Will," Mark said slapping fists with William.

"Sup Mark," replied William.

"Yo Drew, I hear there is a new club in town for teens sixteen and over. Wanna check it out?" Emily Lucas, aka Hime, was three inches shorter than Andrew. Her long blonde hair was in a ponytail and her big brown eyes are always cheerful. She wore a pink tank top with a white cardigan over it and boot cut jeans.

"Guess what?" she asked with a huge smile. "I finally got that pink cell phone I always wanted."

She pulled it out of her pink purse and showed it to him. Andrew couldn't believe how small her flip-phone was. It was literally half the size of his hand and had a sleek look to it. And the pink color seemed to shine in the light.

"That's really awesome, Hime," Andrew replied with a smile. "How much did you spend?"

"Less than a hundred dollars," Emily said in a bubbly voice. "It's got texting, a camera, mp3 storage, and Bluetooth capability. And the color is sooo cute!"

Emily jumped up and down with excitement. Although Andrew didn't want to stare, her large chest seemed to bounce along with her. He averted his eyes towards the field and smiled. "I'm glad to see you happy about it, Hime."

"Hey, Drew, what's up with the 'Hime' word?" Mark asked, interrupting.

"To me, Emily is like a princess," Andrew answered. "So, I

decided to call her Hime, which is Japanese for princess. Found it in a Japanese dictionary."

"And only Andrew can call me Hime," Emily added with a stern look. "I'll get really mad if you do, Mark."

"Why?"

"Because, when you say it, you sound like you're making fun of me."

"But..."

Andrew grabbed Mark's shoulder and shook his head. "Let it go, man."

Emily looked at the time on her cell phone. "I better go. My family is probably looking for me. See ya tomorrow in Science class, Andrew. Bye, Mark."

"Later, Hime," Andrew said, waving.

"Bye," Mark replied, also waving.

They both watched Emily run off towards the east parking lot and then headed for Mark's car.

The road to the new club, *Fire & Ice*, located in Manhattan, seemed long and uninteresting. Mark's dark blue car zoomed down the highway, seeing that traffic was clear. Silence filled the air between them as the hip hop beat boomed in the car. All Mark was thinking about was getting some digits. Andrew, on the other hand, felt that Toby's words were about to come true. As they passed the club, they noticed how incredibly long the line was. Getting in would take them hours. Mark parked behind the club, on the corner of East 37th Street. It looked shabby, but it was the only place left for parking and you didn't have to pay. As they got out the car, something caught Andrew's eye. He noticed this abandoned-looking house with the name Madam **Renee's Fortune House** written above the door. Something inside Andrew was telling him to check this place out. Andrew hesitated, staring at the building. The outside was filled with cracks and some of the shutters were off their hinges. Even the steps looked worn and rotten. He clenched his fist tightly, summoning enough courage to move. Slowly, he approached the door.

Locked... he thought, turning the knob.

"Hey man, I don't do looting, a'ight," Mark said sounding concerned.

"I'm not trying to shoplift," Andrew said.

"Enter," a voice called out to them.

"You heard that?" Andrew asked Mark.

Mark nodded. Andrew turned the knob and the door suddenly opened. As Andrew went inside the dark house, Mark slowly followed. It was too dark for them to see what was inside the house, but Andrew knew the room was huge. Their hearts were beating like drums as they cautiously approached the center. Both of them felt like turning back, but their bodies were too stiff to move. Suddenly, blue smoke covered the room. Their eyes widened as they tried to figure out what was going on. Then, a huge spotlight shined in the middle of the room, revealing an old lady sitting on a hovering chair holding some kind of deck of cards. They couldn't see her eyes, since she wore shades and her face was wrinkled. She had gray stringy hair that was in a ponytail, and a small thin nose. She wore a black dress with a purple shawl over it and matching bandana. "Who are you?" Andrew asked.

"The question is: who are you?" the lady asked pointing to Andrew. "Yo grandma, what gives?" Mark asked.

"You must defeat the man you never knew," she said looking at Andrew.

"What the hell are you talking about?" Andrew asked.

"Andrew, you know you're adopted and have been seeking the answers to your questions. Mark, you too have been seeking the answers to your questions. You two have the power to change this city. But to do that, you must seek the power inside both of you."

Suddenly, Toby's words came back to haunt him. This was the sign Andrew needed and now he didn't know what to do or think. Excitement and confusion both occupied his mind.

"How...do you know our names?"

"I know all."

"You ain't God, are you?" asked Mark.

"I'm just a fortune teller with amazing psychic powers," the lady answered calmly. "My name is Madam Renee. You two were brought here to receive a gift."

"What would that be?" Andrew asked.

"The power to meta-morph," she answered looking at her cards. "Only you two can stop this evil man."

"Meta...what?" Andrew asked with a confused look.

"Meta-morph. It is an ability only given to people with a strong DNA. You two have this ability and need to harness its power soon."

"Who is this evil guy?" Mark asked.

"That, I do not know," Madam Renee answered. "I have tried to seek out his face, but there's an evil force blocking me from getting any further."

"Okay, so how do we get this power?" Andrew asked.

"You will receive it soon," Madam Renee answered with a smile. Immediately, she pulled out two cards from her deck and showed them to Andrew and Mark. Mark's card was a picture of a panther while Andrew's was a picture of a wolf. Both of them stared at their cards with unenthusiastic looks. To them, they were really cool drawings on cards. Madam Renee raised both hands and placed the cards on their foreheads. Suddenly, a weird light began to surround them. They freaked out, but soon began clenching themselves tightly. They dropped to their knees as their backs began to burn. Sweat rolled down their cheeks and dripped onto the hardwood floor. They cried in pain as the burning sensation increased. Both of them really thought they were going to die. Soon, the light faded and the cards on their foreheads had disappeared, along with the burning pain. "Mark, you have the spirit of Pansā, the Japanese panther. And you Andrew have the spirit of Ōkami, the Japanese wolf." Mark and Andrew slowly rose from the floor and faced Madam Renee with cold stares.

"So how...do we...use it?" Mark managed to ask.

"You will know soon enough," Madam Renee answered. "This still doesn't make any sense to me," Andrew replied, struggling to stay up. "How do you know that I'm adopted and how is this evil man related to me and this city?"

"That's a good question," answered Madam Renee. "In order to answer that, you must trust me first. I can reveal to you most of your past, but everything else will be revealed to you in due time." Andrew nodded. For once, he wanted to know the truth behind his birth. He and Mark sat down on the floor and listened to Madam Renee.

"This is all I know: Andrew Roberts, you have been alone ever since you were born. Your real parents lived in Japan and abandoned you because they were two irresponsible people who thought they were in love. Once you were born, your dad left and your mother made the ultimate decision: putting you up for adoption. For five years, you have been in St. Mary's orphanage in New York, until the Roberts family took you into the home. Their story was that after having William, their real son, Lily Roberts wasn't able to have any more children. Since then, you have been part of the Roberts family."

Andrew was stunned. His throat became dry and no words could come out. For seventeen years, he felt empty and alone. Even though he was surrounded by love ones, he still felt incomplete. But now, he truly was whole. Tears rolled down his cheeks as he continued to wipe them away. Mark could see how happy Andrew was and patted his back. "Andrew, Mark, now do you trust me?" Madam Renee asked. They both nodded.

"Good. For now, live your lives normally. I will call upon you when the time comes."

Suddenly, the blue cloud of smoke covered them. Mark and Andrew coughed as they tried to see what was in front of them. The smoke cleared. They looked around and quickly realized they were back outside, behind the club. Mark looked at Andrew with a "what the hell just happened" look. Andrew shrugged his shoulders and then looked at the *Fortune House's* door for a moment. Mark knew what Andrew was thinking and then placed his hand on Andrew's shoulder. Mark pointed to the car, signaling that they should go home instead of checking the club.

Andrew got home to find Lily and her husband, Mike, in the living room watching TV. Mike Roberts was four inches taller than Andrew and had a small gut. It's not that Mike was fat: it's in his dad's genes. His short brown hair covered his forehead while his thin mustache barely covered his lips. His face was sort of round and his blue eyes was filled with insight. He wore his blue striped pajama bottoms and a white raggedy t-shirt.

The living room was the largest of all the rooms. On the left side of the living room stood three cabinets filled with glass and china. Down a small narrow hallway, behind the living room, were the bathrooms and bedrooms. They're small rooms, but comfortable. Mike usually would sit on the black leather couch and watch the news on a twenty-four inch TV screen.

"How was the game, Drew?" asked Mike still looking at the TV. "It was great," Andrew answered calmly. "William told us you went to a teen club with Mark," replied Lily with a stern look. "Is this true?"

"Well...yeah..." Andrew answered, averting his eyes elsewhere, "But the line was too long. So, we headed back home." "That's good to hear," replied Lily with a smile. "You're too young to be going to clubs. Even your father and I didn't go to clubs until college."

"I understand, mom," said Andrew. "Night, guys."

They waved as he went straight to his room. Andrew lay on his twin-sized bed, staring at the ceiling. Andrew's room was like any typical teen male: it had pictures of sexy models plastered on the walls, a game console next to his small TV, a large drawer filled with clean clothes and a large closet filled with dirty ones.

That night, Andrew couldn't stop thinking about what Madam Renee said to him about his past and defeating a man he never knew. As Andrew kept on asking himself more questions, his eyelids began to close. Soon, Andrew fell into a deep sleep with the full moon shining down on him.

To Be Continued

Beast of the Bronx was written by Rowan Lake from I-Studios.org .The Novella will coming out this spring For purchase contact him by email: gundamsquad@hotmail.com

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1. Draw the pages to show your range of skill.

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Script...

"The Encounter" by Jason Bullock, 2008

Page 1.

Panel 1. Long establishing shot of young man and woman standing near a tombstone in a run down cemetery. Dressed in black attire, it is obvious that the woman is crying.

Caption-Present Day

Panel 2. Tilting Medium shot as a close up on the tombstone that reads: Billy Hatfield 1852-1921 "He was no McCoy."

Panel 3. Straight in Medium shot of upper torsos of Man and middle age woman crying into her kerchief.

Woman - "It was so sudden. How could he have not told anyone that he was in pain? Sob...Sob..."

Man - " These things happen, mom. He was a proud man. He wouldn't have told you the truth no matter how much pain he was truly in."

Panel 4. Large shot semi-bird's eye view from behind of the two mourners standing over the gravestone. The woman kneeling, placing a bundle of flowers on the capstone.

Woman - " I loved him Billy...I loved him so much."

Man - " I know."

Page 2.

Panel 1. Splash page of Woman and Man in mourning standing over the gravesite, her in tears and clutching a single flower from the bouquet.

Page 3.

Panel 1. Wide shot one third of top half page of a silhouetted man standing under a tree watching the two in the cemetery.

Panel 2. Medium shot, over the shoulder view from behind, focusing on the man under the tree reaching out to the woman in the distance.

Silhoutted Man stutters - "MMMmmmmaaaaaayyyy...."

Panel 3. Close up shot of Woman's face, focusing on lifted eyebrow and eye in abject fear....

Woman - " BIlly? "

Panel 4. Large wide shot of woman in tears looking up at the tree behind them but noone is visible to her.

Man - " Mom...dont do that to yourself. Grandpa's gone. He's not with us anymore."

Woman- "Dont say that! He'll always be with me."

Panel 5. Close up inset panel within panel 4 on bottom right side of page, of the ghostly older man's face from under the tree.

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