

COMICS™



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THE REAL

GH**OS**TBUSTERS™

THERE'S ONLY ONE CHANCE, WINSTON...



... OR ELSE WE'RE HISTORY!

LH-OH!



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blockers, outwit plenty of pits, and mash through many a maze.

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THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS

CARNIVAL

STORY BY JAMES VAN HISE
PENCILS BY NEIL GRAHAME
INKED BY JIM BROZMAN
PAINTED BY SUZANNE DECHNIK,
KELLY KINSEY AND H. SANFELIPPO
LETTERS BY JOSEPH ALLEN
MICHELE MACH ART DIRECTOR
KATHERINE LLEWELLYN EDITOR
TONY CAPLITO EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

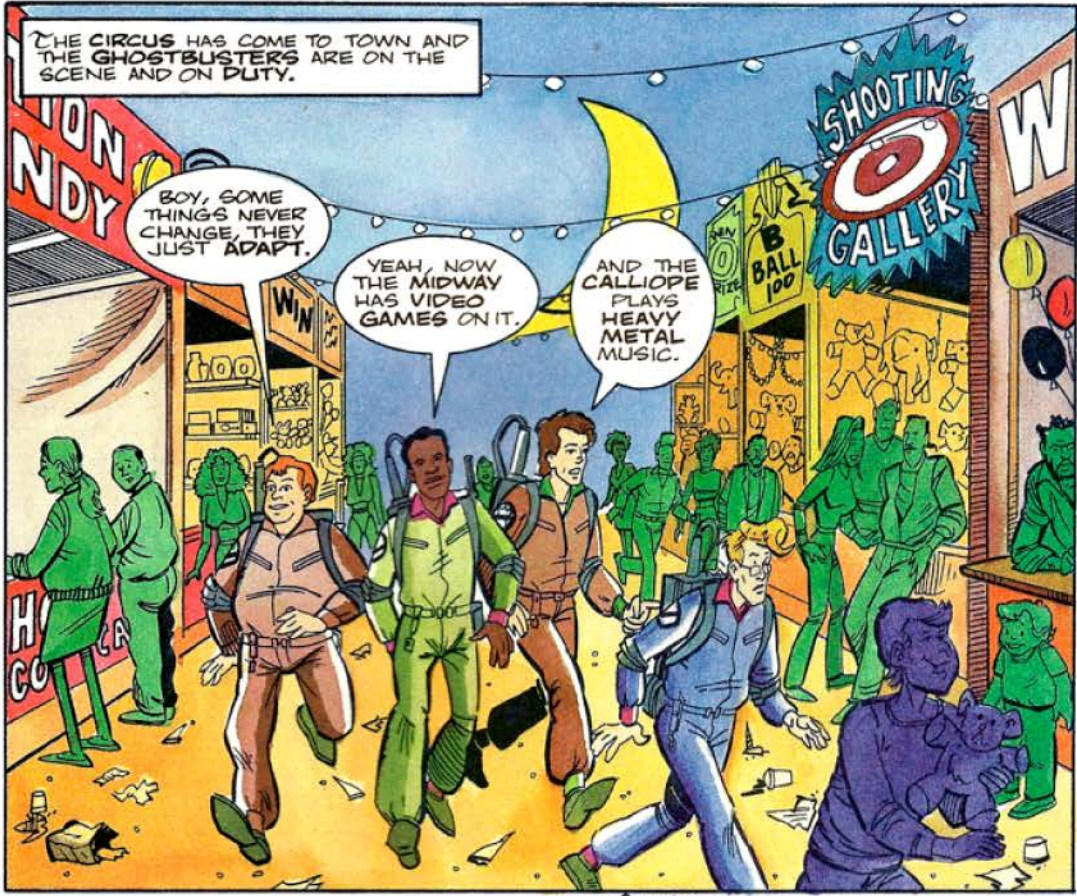


THE CIRCUS HAS COME TO TOWN AND THE GHOSTBUSTERS ARE ON THE SCENE AND ON DUTY.

BOY, SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE, THEY JUST ADAPT.

YEAH, NOW THE MIDWAY HAS VIDEO GAMES ON IT.

AND THE CALLOPE PLAYS HEAVY METAL MUSIC.



BUT MOST CIRCUSES DON'T HAVE A SHAPE-CHANGER HIDING AMONG THE PERFORMERS.

WHEN YOU'RE A GHOST WITH FUZZY PINK HAIR, IT'S HARD TO GET A NINE-TO-FIVE JOB.

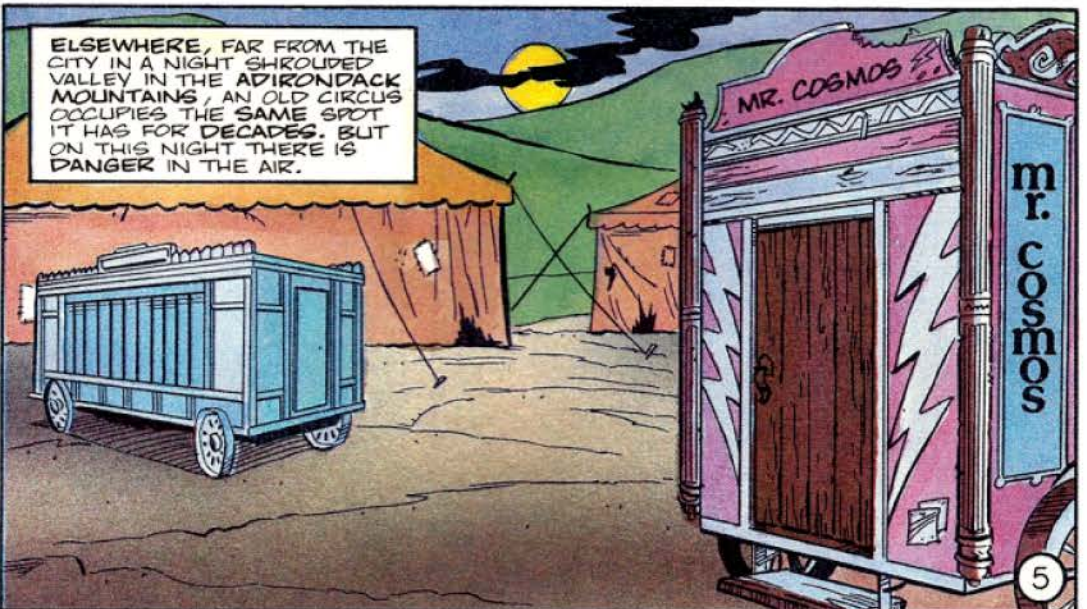
HOLD IT!! I THINK WE'VE FOUND OUR SQUARE PEG!

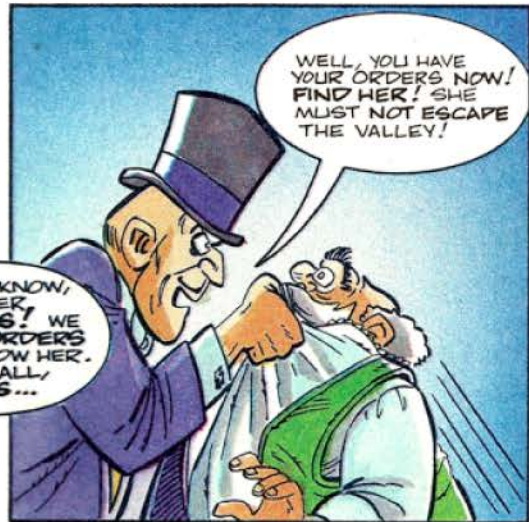
MAYBE IT'S A PUNK ROCK ELEPHANT. YOU KNOW, ADAPTING TO THE TIMES AND ALL THAT??











Hit the Dirt.

4
FOUR
PLAYER
GAME



Strap on your helmet for some rough and tumble racing excitement with Ivan "Ironman" Stewart's **SUPER OFF-ROAD.™**

Race up to 4 players at the same time in the game that's just like real dirt racing.

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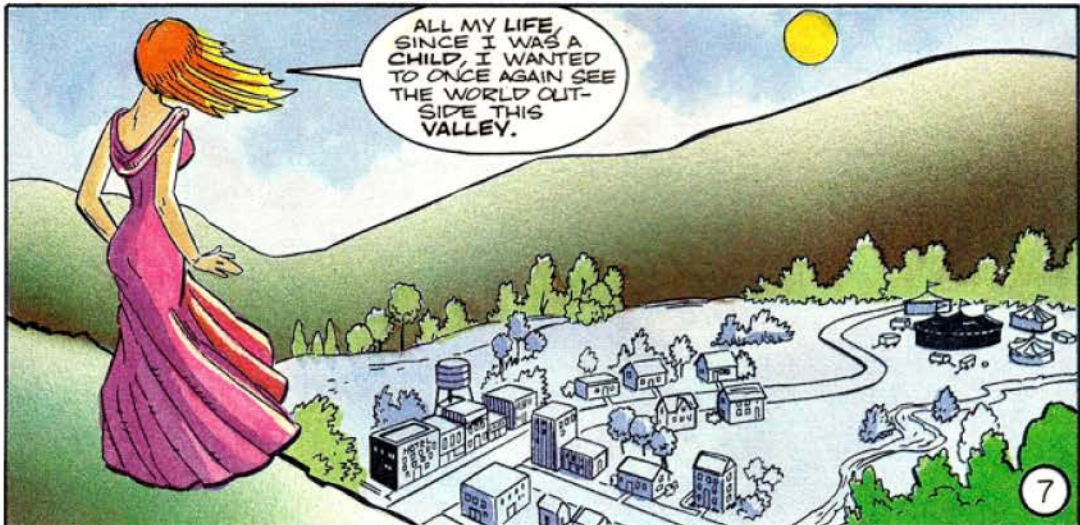


WE PUT YOU IN THE ACTION
TRADEWEST

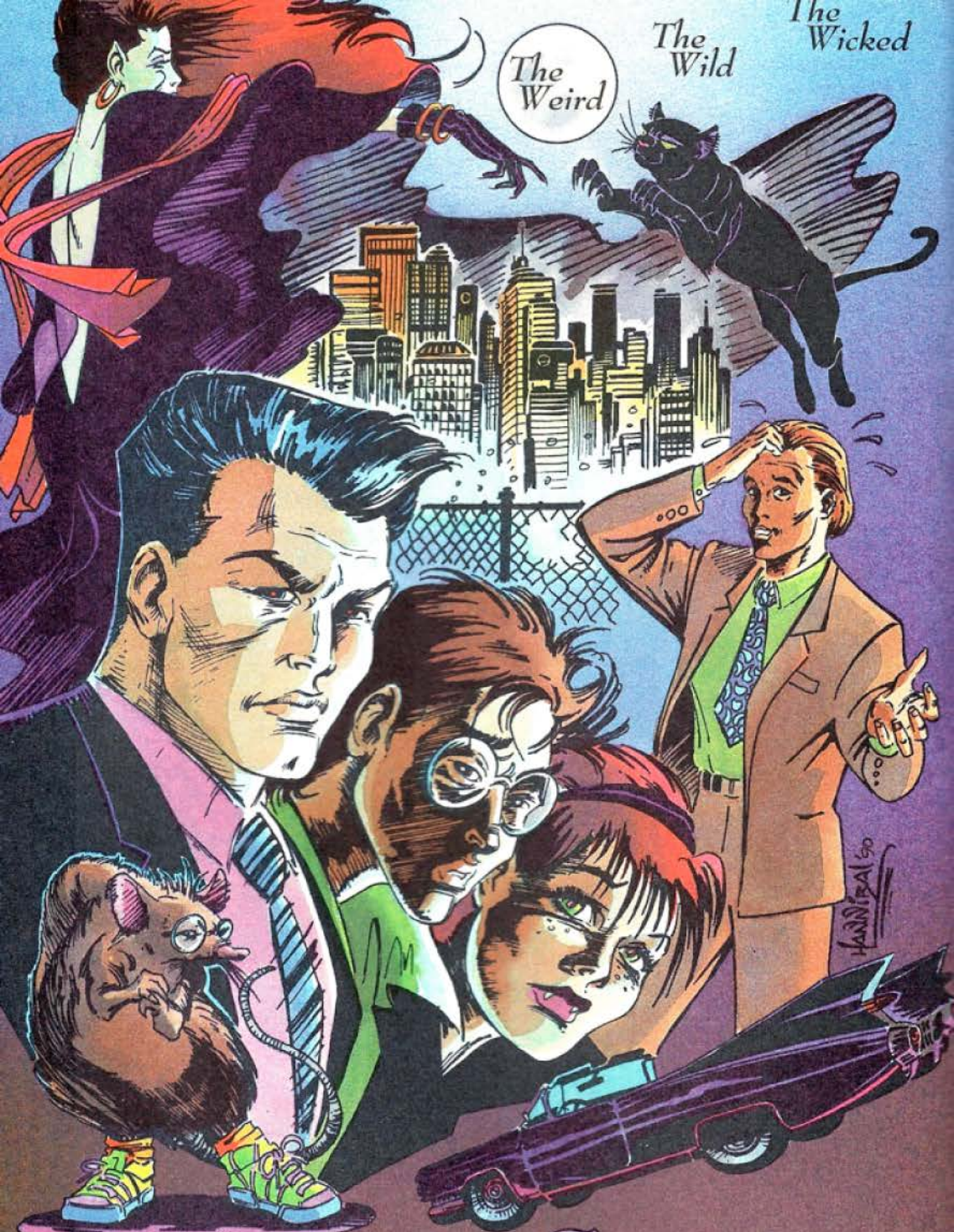
P.O. Box 2097, Corsicana, TX 75151



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NINTENDO AND NINTENDO ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM ARE TRADEMARKS OF NINTENDO OF AMERICA INC.







The
Weird

The
Wild

The
Wicked

HANNIBAL 50

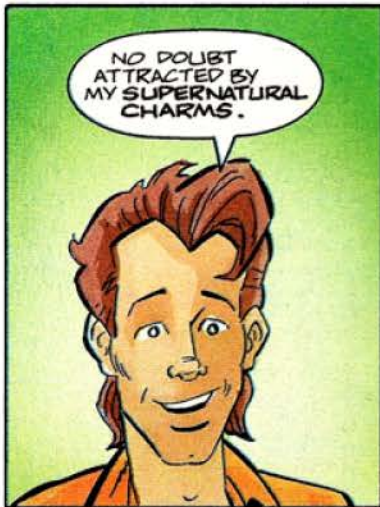
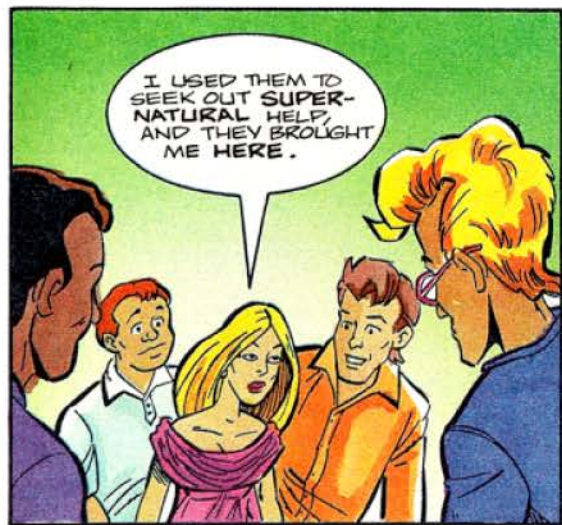
COMING!
THIS SUMMER FROM

NOV
COMICS

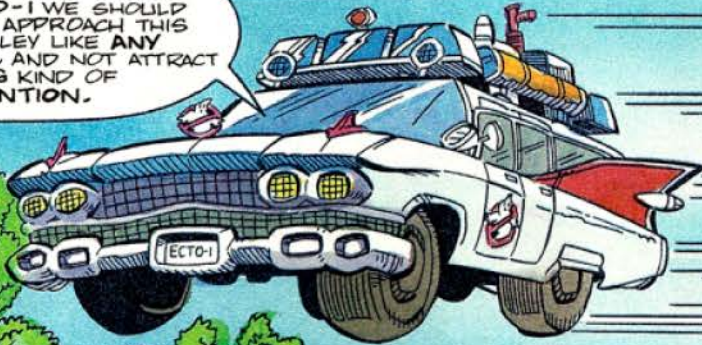
**Bats, Cats
&
CADILLACS**

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Created by Tony Caputo. Co-Created by Diana Piron and Hannibal King.





IN THE ECTO-1 WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO APPROACH THIS HIDDEN VALLEY LIKE ANY OTHER CAR, AND NOT ATTRACT THE WRONG KIND OF ATTENTION.

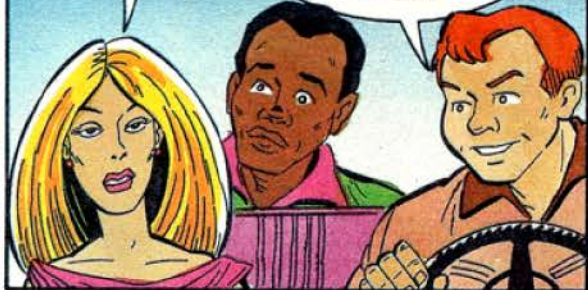


YOU REALIZE, OF COURSE, THAT BUSTING GHOSTS IS A LOT MORE PRICED THESE DAYS THAN IT MAY HAVE BEEN IN 1940.

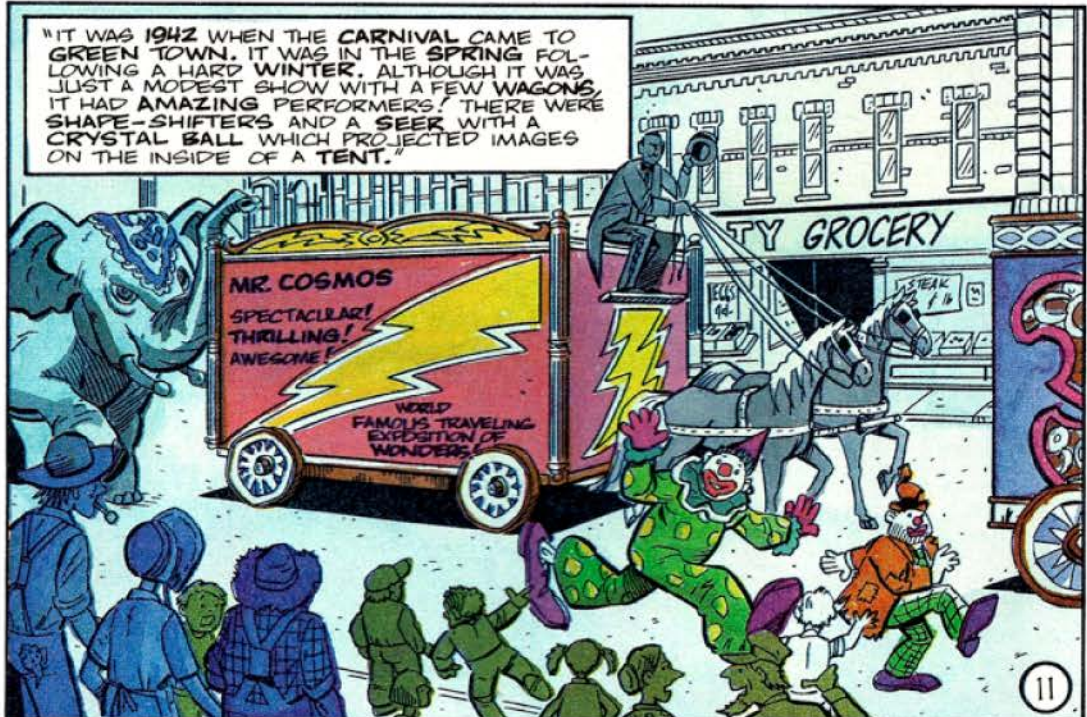



SO MUCH HAS CHANGED OUT HERE.

YOU EXPLAINED ABOUT ESCAPING FROM THE HIDDEN VALLEY AND GREEN TOWN, BUT NOT EXACTLY HOW IT CAME TO BE.



"IT WAS 1942 WHEN THE CARNIVAL CAME TO GREEN TOWN. IT WAS IN THE SPRING FOLLOWING A HARD WINTER. ALTHOUGH IT WAS JUST A MODEST SHOW WITH A FEW WAGONS, IT HAD AMAZING PERFORMERS! THERE WERE SHAPE-SHIFTERS AND A SEEK WITH A CRYSTAL BALL WHICH PROJECTED IMAGES ON THE INSIDE OF A TENT."





"THE CIRCUS BROUGHT JOY AND MADE PEOPLE FORGET THEIR PROBLEMS. BUT IT ALSO BROUGHT PROMISES. THE OWNER AND RINGMASTER IS MR. COSMOS! HE KNEW HOW TO FIND PEOPLE'S SECRET DESIRES AND MAKE THEM COME TRUE."

"HE ALSO PROMISED TO KEEP THE VALLEY SAFE FROM THE WAR WHICH GRIFFED THE WORLD. WHEN THE SEER, FATA MORGANA, SHOWED HOW THE WAR WOULD END..."

"... THEY BEGGED COSMOS TO PROTECT THEM AND HIDE THEIR SECRETS. AND SO ONE NIGHT COSMOS CAST A SPELL WHICH HID GREEN TOWN AND ERASED ALL TRACE OF IT FROM MAPS."

"ANYONE WHO WANDERED INTO THE VALLEY AND DISCOVERED THE SMALL TOWN WAS FORCED TO REMAIN. BUT COSMOS IS GOOD AT MAKING PEOPLE HAPPY ENOUGH TO TURN THEIR BACKS ON THE OUTSIDE WORLD!"



Erik Groset Wheaton, IL



Justin Lovelace St. Louis, MO Age 3



Paul & Gina DeSantis Tonawanda, NY
Ages 5 & 4

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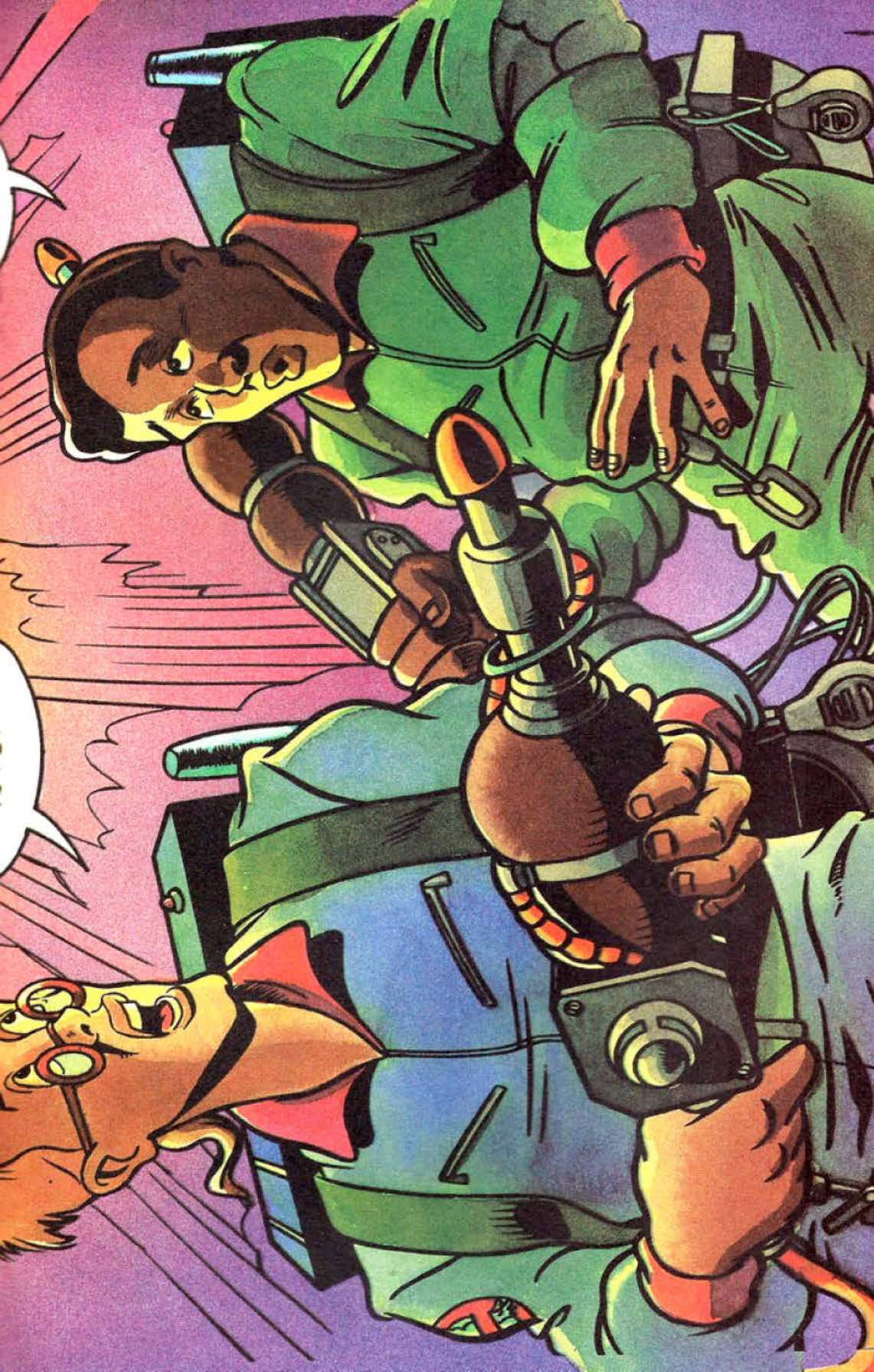
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THERE'S
ONLY ONE CHANCE,
WINSTON...

... OR
ELSE WE'RE
HISTORY!

LH-OH!



Just a Few Fans of THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS!



Jordan Peloquin & Eric Stewart
Chicago, IL Ages 4 & 5



Michael Piran Sharon, MA Age 6



David & John LaForgia Fortworth, TX



Stevie Kerwin
Bedford, MA



Tim Griffen
Seattle, WA
Age 3



Patrick Garlepy
Pittsfield, MA
Age 7



THOSE OF US WHO'VE GROWN UP IN THE VALLEY HAVE BEGUN TO LONG FOR THE WORLD OUTSIDE.

AND HE WON'T LET ANYONE LEAVE?!



HE'S AFRAID THE OUTSIDERS WILL REDISCOVER GREEN TOWN AND HIS SPELL WILL BE SHATTERED.

HOW WERE YOU ABLE TO ESCAPE?



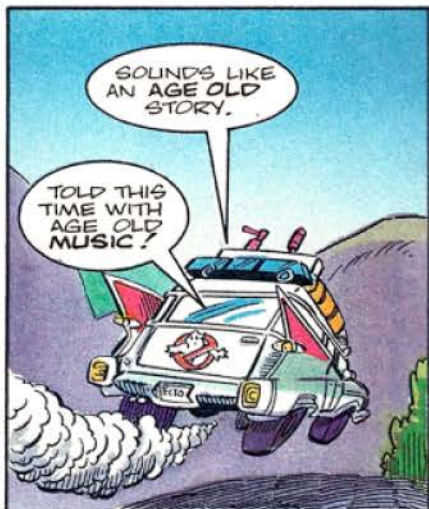
I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO EVER DID, OR EVER COULD. I'M ALMOST HIS MATCH IN POWER. I SHOULD BE. I'M HIS DAUGHTER.

UH, OH. THE FAMILY PLOT THICKENS.



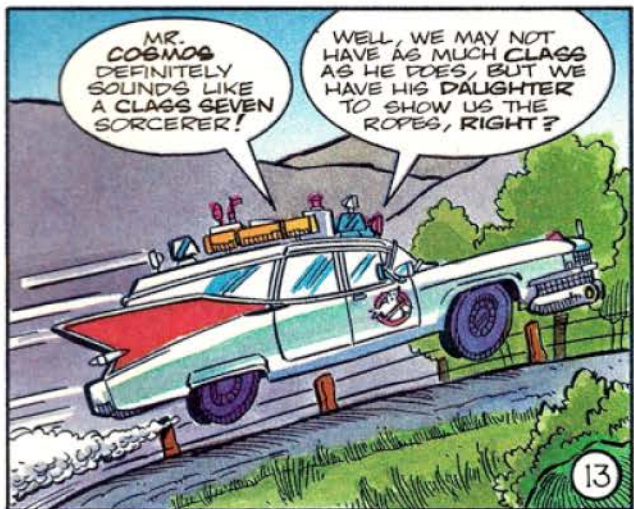
THAT EXPLAINS WHY YOU LOOK 25 BUT STILL DROPPED IN ON THE 1939 NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR.

SO THERE'S AN INTERNAL STRUGGLE -- THOSE WHO RESIST CHANGE AND THE YOUNGER GENERATION WHO WANT TO LIVE IN THE REAL WORLD.



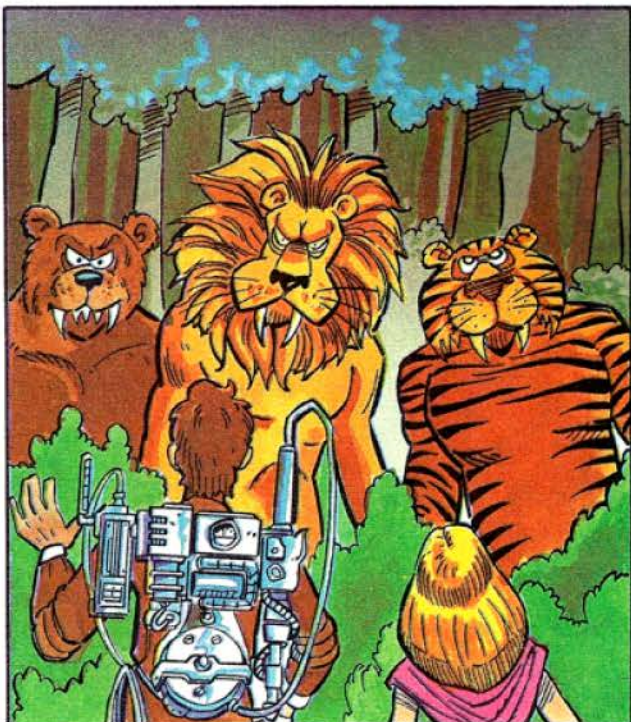
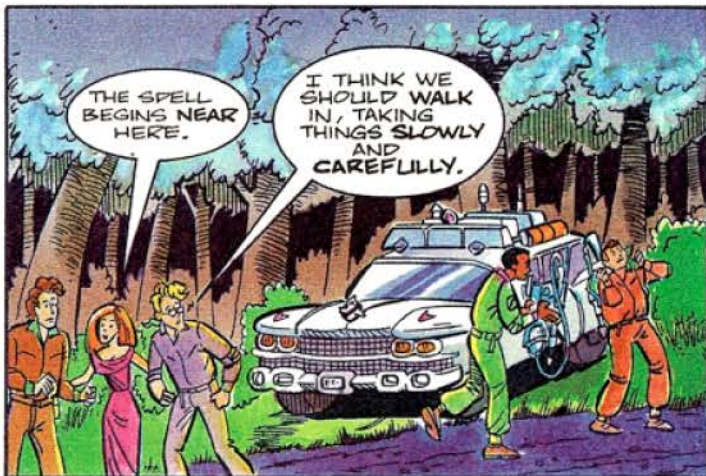
SOUNDS LIKE AN AGE OLD STORY.

TOLD THIS TIME WITH AGE OLD MUSIC?



MR. COSMOS DEFINITELY SOUNDS LIKE A CLASS SEVEN SORCERER!

WELL, WE MAY NOT HAVE AS MUCH CLASS AS HE DOES, BUT WE HAVE HIS DAUGHTER TO SHOW US THE ROPES, RIGHT?





FUNNY, BUT THOSE WERE HIS EXACT INSTRUCTIONS.

ASK ME IF I'M SURPRISED.



HAS IT COME TO THIS? WE WERE CHILDREN TOGETHER!



BUT OUR WORLD IS NOT LIKE THEIRS!

ONLY BECAUSE WE'VE COVERED AND HIDDEN FROM IT!



YOU'VE SEEN THE OUTSIDE?!



AND RETURNED SAFELY. NOW LET US PASS PEACEFULLY.



MAYBE IT'S JUST ME, BUT THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE THE PEACEFUL TYPE!



LET THEM PASS! THIS IS BETWEEN THEM AND MR. COSMOS! IT'S OUT OF OUR HANDS NOW.

ROLAND!



THE MASTER WILL DESTROY YOU FOR THIS!

WILL HE SLAY HIS OWN DAUGHTER AS WELL AS ME??



BUT OTHER CREATURES OF HIS CRAFT HAVE BEEN UNLEASHED IN THE FOREST.



I'D PREFER TO FIGHT THOSE THINGS THAN THE FRIENDS I SEE BEFORE ME.



THE WAY I SEE IT, WE'RE HERE TO FREE PEOPLE FROM THEIR OWN MISGUIDED GOOD INTENTIONS, AND FROM THE GLUY WHO MISGUIDED THEM.

SUPERCOPPS

THE WORLD
WILL NEVER
BE THE
SAME.



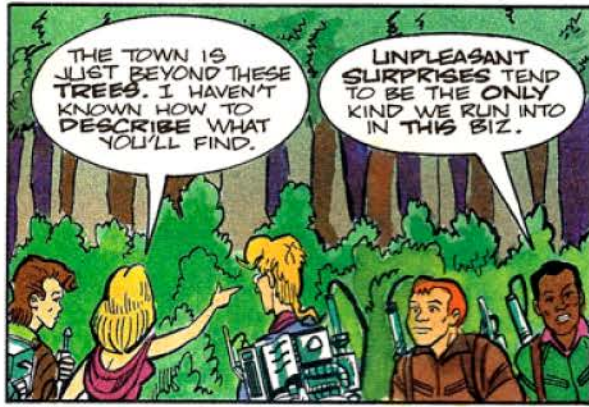
POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS · POLICE



NEW
FROM

W
COMICS





THE TOWN IS JUST BEYOND THESE TREES. I HAVEN'T KNOWN HOW TO DESCRIBE WHAT YOU'LL FIND.

UNPLEASANT SURPRISES TEND TO BE THE ONLY KIND WE RUN INTO IN THIS BIZ.



AFTER WHAT WE'VE ALREADY SEEN, HOW BAD CAN IT BE?!

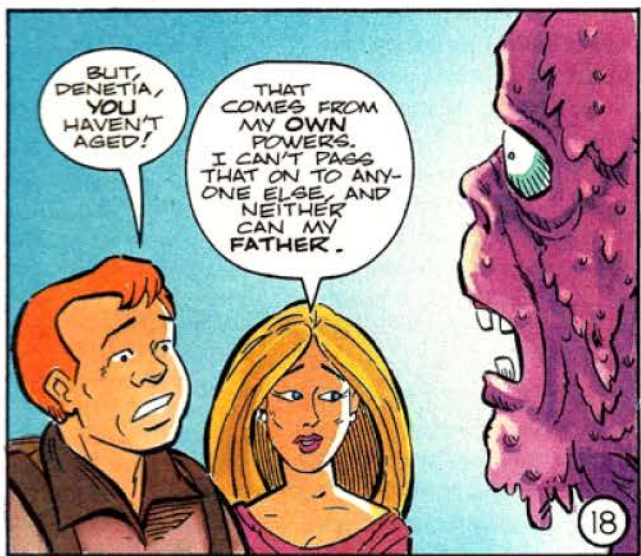


THIS IS... HORRIBLE!

MY FATHER PROMISED THEY WOULD NEVER DIE, BUT THE ONLY WAY HE COULD DO THAT WAS BY TRAPPING THEIR SPIRITS IN THEIR AGING BODIES.



PLEASE! YOU'RE FROM THE OUTSIDE! I CAN TELL! GRANT ME RELEASE. THIS ISN'T ETERNAL LIFE, IT'S ETERNAL TORMENT!



BUT, DENETIA, YOU HAVEN'T AGED!

THAT COMES FROM MY OWN POWERS. I CAN'T PASS THAT ON TO ANYONE ELSE, AND NEITHER CAN MY FATHER.

PKE

readings



**THE REAL
GHOSTBUSTERS
C/O NOW COMICS
332 SOUTH
MICHIGAN AVE.
SUITE 1750
CHICAGO, IL 60604**

Dear NOW crew:

I was pleased to see the return of the letter pages in Issue #21. I hope it's back to stay, because I do enjoy the input of other fans. I was rather surprised to see my own letter in NOW WHAT, but I'm glad to know that you continue to listen to your readers (even mega-writers like myself!) I don't mind the occasional appearance of Marvel UK stories in NOW's comic, but I, like David Peattie and most older fans, prefer to see the Real Ghostbusters treated in a more sophisticated manner. Though I don't care to see the Ghostbusters become as grim & gritty as THE TERMINATOR, they do have a depth that few other animated characters have been allowed to achieve, and this deserves further exploration. I do understand NOW's predicament in the debate over the direction the comic book should take. When you attempt a more sophisticated approach to this title, you are invariably met with irate letters such as the one appearing in Issue #21. NOW is caught between the proverbial rock & a hard place, and either way you turn, you're bound to upset somebody. I agree with David Peattie--your SLIMER comic is aimed at the younger market. Take a chance, and allow the Ghostbusters to reach their full potential. By the way, it

seems to me that the "objectionable language" several letters have alluded to boils down to an occasional "hell" or "damn" (and goodness, we know kids never encounter words like that in the real world!) I must admit, I was surprised by Peter's rather interesting play on Hardenmeyer's name on Page 17 of the final installment of GHOSTBUSTERS II, but this was straight out of the movie's original scripting, & I'm sure it went right over the younger audience's heads. My daughter didn't bat an eye. Well, it's time to wind down and blow this pop stand! Thanks for the ear!

Deborah Van Fossen



Dear Deborah:

As you see, we appreciate mega-writers like yourself! Thanks for an intelligent letter. Story direction is pretty much up to James Van Hise, within the limits of a licensed property, but I agree that depth of characterization is a wonderful thing, and Jim's been doing pretty well so far. Not to say that there isn't room for improvement with any of us comic book writers--there always is. The few letters we get

complaining about our "objectionable language" tend to be from hyper-nervous people who would rather we do their parenting for them than make choices for their children themselves. THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS, as is, is hardly the kind of stuff that will warp the malleable minds of America's tender youth, and most people, like yourself, realize this.

Dear Sass Kickers:

What's going on here? ANOTHER new art team in GHOSTBUSTERS #22? The book hasn't had a steady inker yet, and ever since John Tobias left after GHOSTBUSTERS II, you've bounced around from penciller to penciller. Artistic continuity is important, and for about the last year or so, GHOSTBUSTERS has had none. They were all good, but try to find someone to stay with the series for more than four issues! And now, on to completely different things. GHOSTBUSTERS #22 was a satisfying end, both to the story and to Nurtog himself. I personally have no problem with the concept of a semi-regular villain (in fact, I'd welcome it) but to me, Nurtog just didn't fit the bill. GHOSTBUSTERS lacks equivalents of such stock villains as The Joker, Klingons, The Master, and others, villains who get almost as developed as the heroes. Mister Blaque from Issues #9-#11 would be ideal--he could be a threat on his own, or team up with other nasties. The end of GHOSTBUSTERS #22 was good, also. It was thought out, made sense, and in the context of the GHOSTBUSTERS universe, believable. Definitely, I was pleased to see my other favorite character, Janine, play an active part in the story. "Let's kick

the sass out of those lizards!" sums her up beautifully. Ah, well. On to the letters page! THANKYOU THANKYOU THANKYOU THANKYOU THANK YOU!!!

'Nuff said,
Fritz Baugh

Dear Fritz:

I always recognize your letters-the thickest envelopes that cross my desk! Thank God, you stuff them with intelligent insights. (Of course, if you didn't, I wouldn't read them all the way through...) Sorry about the editing job on this missive (say that ten times fast!), but other scribblers need space, too. ANYWAY...we're sticking with Neil Grahame, for the foreseeable future. We think he's terrific; hope you do, too. As for semi-regular villains, that's up to Jim Van Hise, but I think it's an idea he'd go for. The question is who...One of the nice things about Janine's shining moment is that supporting characters like her sometimes get short shrift. People concentrate so much on the main characters, that they forget the rest of the cast. It was great to see a really strong supporting character step off the sidelines for an issue and "come into her own," so to speak. She's too good a character to ONLY serve as a secondary player.

Dear Sirs:

You've done background stories on most of the other Ghostbusters by now. How about doing a story revolving around Janine's background? She's my favorite character in the series.

Best wishes,
John Lockwood

Dear John:

Another Janine fan! That's not a bad idea. I'll pass it on to Jim Van Hise, and see what he does with it. OK?

Dear NOW:

I'm back again, and with more comments. First off, I would like to say, overall, I like the comic! It's a hit! GHOSTBUSTERS will live forever. But personally, I feel that the comic book's sort of been going downhill. The story lines have been a little weak (and dull) lately. You need excitement and danger to liven things up a little! What you need is the Master Villains! Bring back some of the oldies-but-goodies, such as the Sandman or the Bogeyman. I'm dying to see a Bogeyman story. I can see another crazy plan to take over the world by those three ninjas (whoever they were!), and bring back Mr. Blaque! We never did find out what happened to him. Please, try more character development, too! The book needs more of Peter's wisecracks, Egon's incomprehensible statements, Ray's childlike simplicity, and Winston's...well, Winston is just Winston, I guess, and I lose him that way. I do have just a few questions:

1. What's the deal with the purple Slimer in Issue #19 on page 19?
2. How come #20 is "To Be Continued" but it isn't? Was it to be continued sometime in the near future?
- #3. How does Peter telepathically contact Slimer in the ghost trap in Issue #21?

Thanks for starting the comic- despite what this letter may infer, I think you guys are doing a pretty good job!

Sincerely,
Carrie O'Brien

Dear Carrie:

Another request for Master Villains! We have a Bogeyman story planned; I think it's Issue #20. So sit tight for the next 3 issues, and you'll get your wish! The purple Slimer was a printing goof-the color plates got switched. (Don't ask me why this turns green to purple, I don't know.) Issue #20 was continued, as you

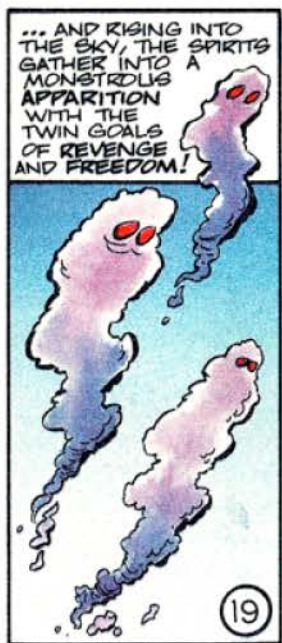
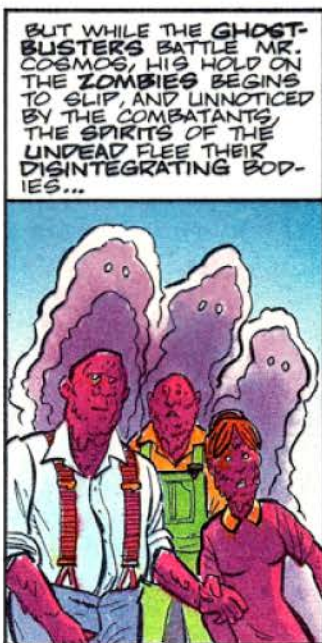
know if you've picked up Issue #22. About Peter's telepathy: anybody could touch Slimer's mind (such as it is) because, being entirely composed of paranormal energy, he is extremely sensitive to manifestations of paranormal abilities. Slimer has a special link with Peter, though, because Slimer loves Peter all to death. Emotional bonds make telepathy stronger. I figure all of our boys are probably a little bit psychic-most people are, and they've spent so much of their time in the presence of the paranormal, it would be surprising if a little didn't rub off.

Dear NOW: Boy! Among other things, I thought I'd never see a letters page in THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS again. But I'm sure glad it's here. I enjoyed #22 of THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS. I thought the guys would never leave the Earth's Core. Glad to know Egon and the others made it out OK. The script by James Van Hise was witty and bright, and the coloring by Suzanne Dechnik was excellent. Good work, everybody, and always remember to look for a yellow rainbow wherever you go.

Ciao,
Steven Aceuedo

Dear Steven:

Did I spell that right? Sorry, if I didn't! Waitasecond...yellow rainbow? If it's yellow, how is it a rainbow? I thought rainbows were a bunch of colors. You're making my head spin...Anyway, thanks for the compliments. We think the world of Ms. Suzanne and her delightful colors-it's nice to know others do, too! All you REAL GHOSTBUSTERS fen, keep scribbling! We've heard you raising Cain for a letters page, and we PROMISE we'll have one-but only if we get lotsa letters!



COMBAT CEASES AT THE SIGHT OF THE MONSTROSITY OVERHEAD...



INGRATES!! I GAVE YOU IMMORTALITY! BUT YOU WERE TOO COWARDLY TO ACCEPT THE CONSEQUENCES!



COSMOS! LET IT GO! RELEASE YOUR FINAL HOLD ON THEM!



NEVER! MY POWERS OVER THIS VALLEY DERIVE FROM THE COMBINED EXISTENCE OF THESE PEOPLE!



THEY HAVE NO EXISTENCE! NO HUMANITY!



YOU ROBBED THEM OF THAT! NOW RETURN IT!

ZZZZ

FATHER, LET THEM GO! THEIR TIME IS LONG GONE. INSTEAD OF MAKING TIME STOP, IT JUST PASSED ON AND LEFT YOU BEHIND.



WEAKENED BY EGON'S STUN BOLT, KNOWING HIS DAUGHTER WILL FIGHT HIM AGAIN, COSMOS ADMITS DEFEAT FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND THE SPIRITS DISPERSE UPWARDS.

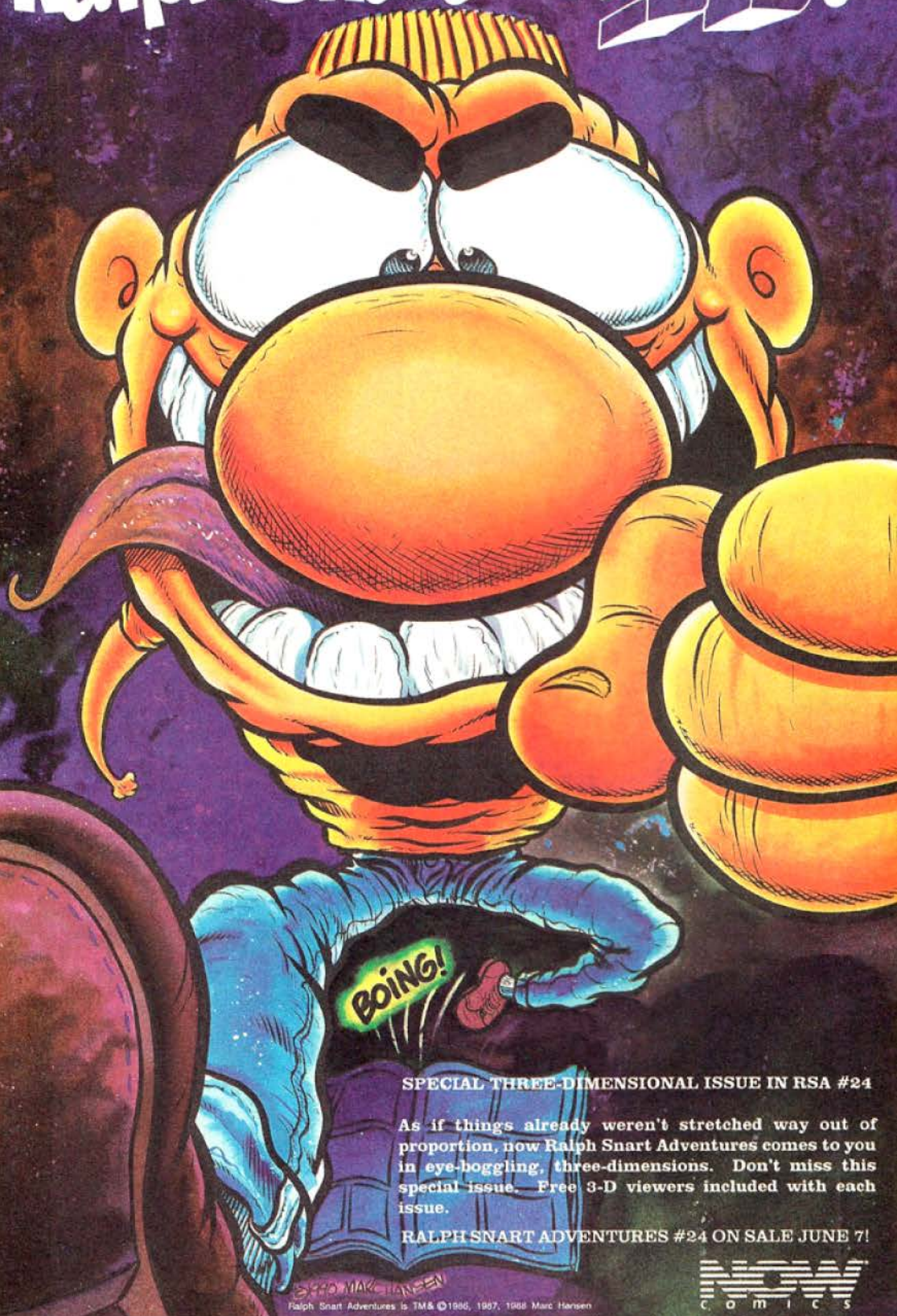


FREE AT LAST! NO MATTER WHERE THEY'RE BOUND NOW, THEY'RE FREE AT LAST, AND GREEN TOWN IS PART OF OUR WORLD AGAIN!



THE END

Ralph Snart in 3-D!



SPECIAL THREE-DIMENSIONAL ISSUE IN RSA #24

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BYO MANKINEN

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NOW
COMICS

NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE
NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE NOW ON
NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE NOW ON SALE

THE TERMINATOR SPECIAL MINI-SERIES

NUMBER ONE OF TWO

BEFORE THE MOVIE! A plane crashes in California. A single, human survivor lives just long enough to pass secret information to two young boys, who have to get to John Connor!! Chuck Dixon and Ricardo Villagran!

THE GREEN HORNET

ISSUE TEN

The Green Hornet and Kato tangle with a gang of highway hijackers! It's Mishi's last case! Ron Fortier, Jeff Butler, Mark Heike, David Mowry, Holly Sanfelippo and Suzanne Dechnik.

SPEED RACER

ISSUE THIRTY-FIVE

Speed's in Paris, for a twisting, tricky race down the streets of the City of Light. But one of his fellow racers is playing fatal tricks on Speed! Diane Piron, Norm Dwyer, and Brian Thomas.

ALIAS

NUMBER TWO: STORMFRONT

Special Agent Neal Mathis puts together his strike team. Their target: the phantom killer, that only Mathis believes is out there! Meanwhile, Alias moves into position to hit his next mark! Chuck Dixon, Todd Fox, and Enrique Villagran.

FRIGHT NIGHT

ISSUE TWENTY-TWO

Jerry Dandrige surfaces in Paris. He's creating a new army of vampires, bite by bite! Diane Piron, John Stangeland and Kevin West.

THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS

ISSUE TWENTY-FOUR

The circus came to Greentown, New York, in 1940--and never left! It's up to the Ghostbusters to free the people of Greentown! James Van Hise, Neil Grahaime, and Jim Brozman.

SLIMER AND THE REAL GHOSTBUSTERS

ISSUE SIXTEEN

An ENORMOUS egg drops out of the sky--right into Slimer's sandbox! Slimer sets off on a quest for the egg's owner! Kate Llewellyn, Diane M. Piron, Gordon Morrison, Jim Brozman.

RALPH SMART

ISSUE TWENTY-THREE

Holly Hornswoggle has beaten off the sewer rats--but they've chewed poor Ralph unconscious! By Marc Hansen.

MARRIED: WITH CHILDREN

ISSUE THREE

A trip to the supermarket turns ugly, when Al mixes it up with a Neanderthal customer named Mad Dog. Mad Dog challenges Al to a He-Man contest! Kate Llewellyn, Mark Braun, David Mowry.

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NOW NEWSFLASH

Take note, folks! NOW COMICS has come out with yet another biggie! On sale this month is an all new Terminator mini-series. It's a hot number one for your collection! And here's the best part; it's fully painted! Written by Chuck Dixon, who brought you Racer-X and is hard at work on ALIAS: and SUPERCOPS, this Terminator metal machine backs up time to the beginning. What happened before that fateful night when Kyle Reese jumped through the time machine and was followed by Mr. Muscle himself? Well, I'm not going to tell you. You'll have to buy it. I can tell you, however, that the events that led up to the film should have been included in the film, but, hey, two hours is not much. In fact, it's not enough! That's where comics come in. Addictive, continuing, and monthly! Get your fix of the Terminator. Get it here. And get it this month. Like the man said, "I'll

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be back!" Again. And Again. And Again.

And next month, of course, is also chock full of goodies! The Burma Horse! An all new Green Hornet two issue mini-series, scripted by Van Williams, written by Robert Ingersoll, and fully painted by Dell Barras, will force its way onto the shelves of comic stores and newstands! This story covers the adventures of the 60's Green Hornet and Kato! And, get this, Kato becomes a kung fu actor!

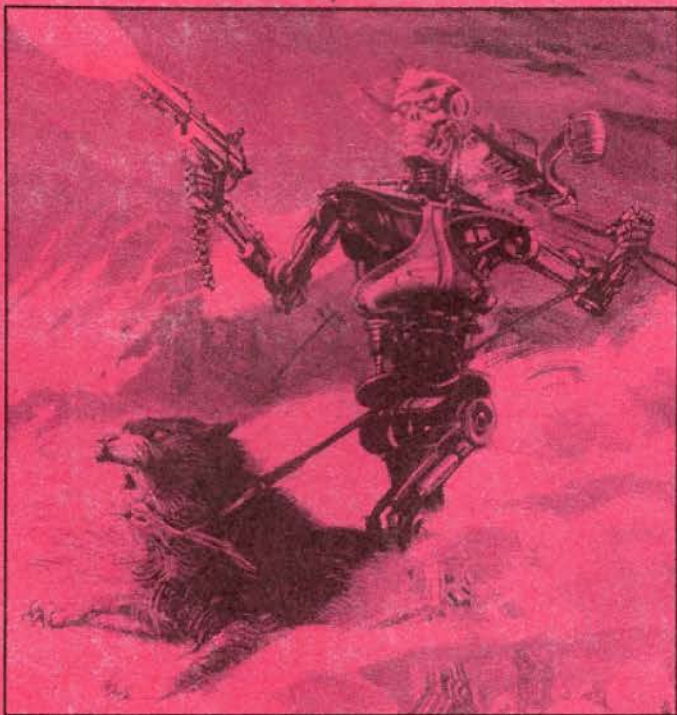
That's just one of next month's little gems! Also premiering is SUPERCOPS! An all new full color monthly comic about a team of genetically enhanced cops, who, even though they are emotionally distraught, kick bad guy butt! This first issue is double sized! That's forty two pages of premiere issue, death, guns, and sci-fi!

But wait! that's not all! Also popping out at you off the stand will be the Ralph Snart Anniversary Issue in 3-D! It's big, it's bad, and it's in your face! Ralph jumps off the page in this special edition featuring a double cover and enclosed

3-D glasses! The collector's dream and Ralph Snart's nightmare!

It's time now to begin our convention updates. Keep in mind that this information is subject to change as we get closer to the conventions. As we go, NOW COMICS will be adding artists, dates, other conventions, and giveaways to the list. Anyway, here we go! The Chicago Comic-Con will be held at the Ramada Inn O'Hare (as it was last year), July 6-8. At this point, on hand will be THE NOW COMICS STAFF, including myself, Katherine Llewellyn, Tony Caputo, Mike Mulvihill...plus the whole gang. Rumor also has it that Barry Petersen, Mark Braun, Marv Wolfman, Todd Fox, and others will be on hand to sign autographs and such. At the San Diego Comic-Con, THAT GOOD OL' NOW COMICS STAFF, and the rumored Van Williams, Dave Schwartz, The Real Ghostbusters, and very possibly, some of the actors that portray the beloved Bundy clan on MARRIED...WITH CHILDREN. Keep tuned to this station for more details.

Katherine Llewellyn



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