

DARK HORSE
COMICS

Race of Scorpions™



\$2.50 U.S. \$3.00 Canada

NO. 3 of 4





THREE STORIES

Old manuscripts from the library of Ardoleon, from a world that is gone. Argos reads them to his friends and in the dim light of the long night the shadows get longer and the cold bites. Stories without hope, why are they told? At some moments, hope wanes like a burning candle. But it will be reborn with each man who meets each new dawn.

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Edited by **Barbara Kesel**

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Printed in Canada.



Race of Scorpions™



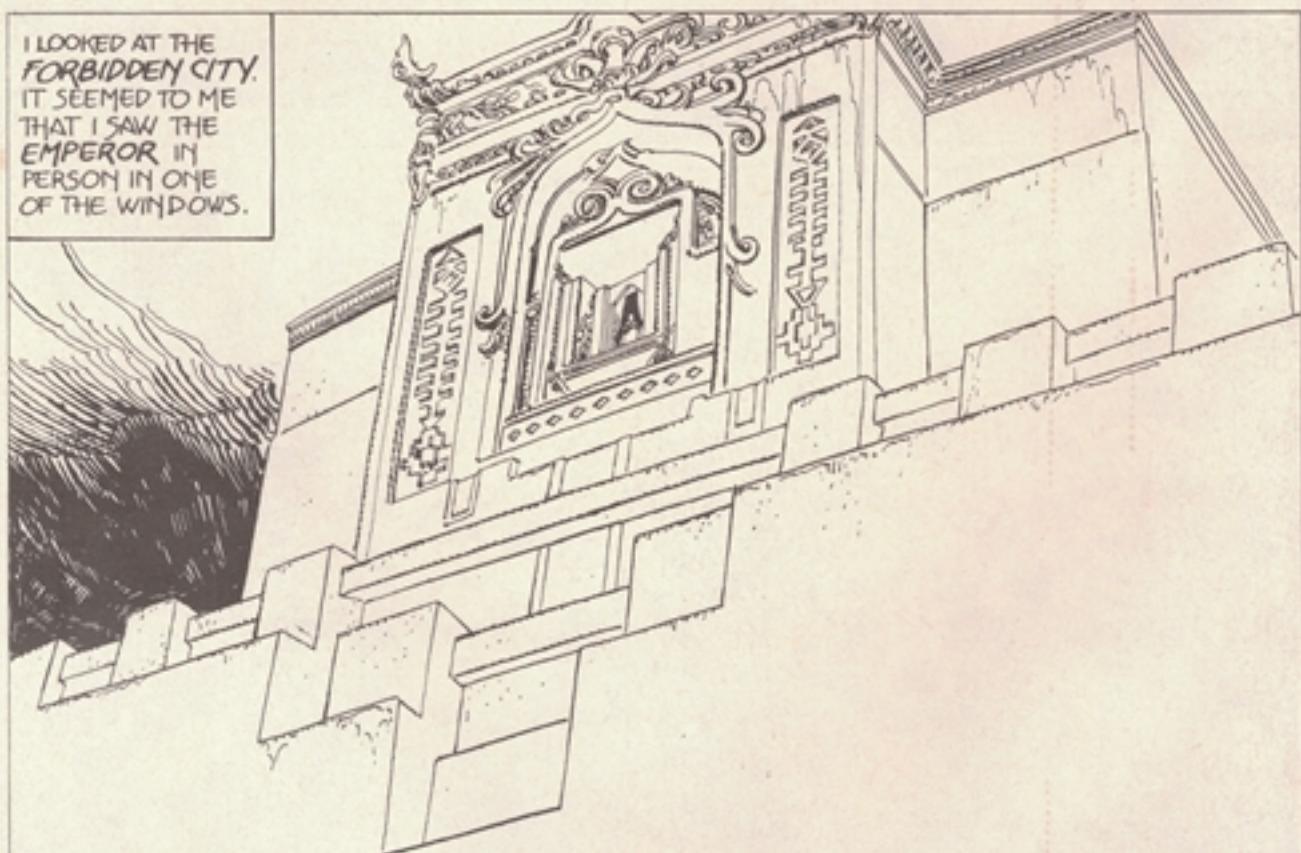
I DID NOT ATTEMPT TO GO OUT UNTIL THE NOISE STOPPED.

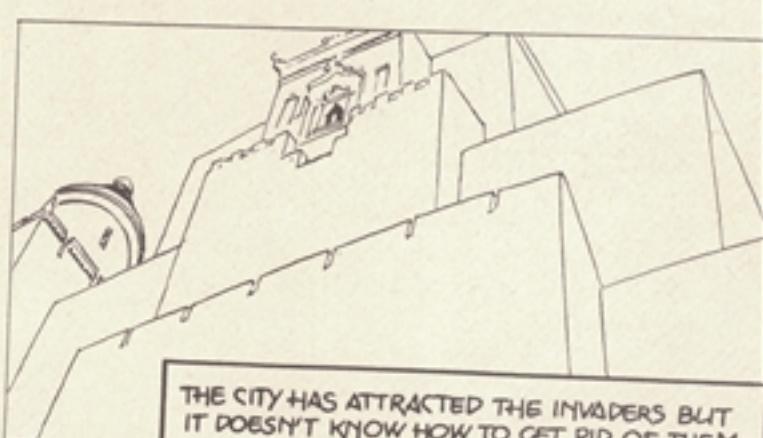


THEY WERE LYING ABOUT LIKE DRUNKARDS AROUND THE REMAINS OF THE ANIMAL.



I LOOKED AT THE FORBIDDEN CITY. IT SEEMED TO ME THAT I SAW THE EMPEROR IN PERSON IN ONE OF THE WINDOWS.





THE CITY HAS ATTRACTED THE INVADERS BUT IT DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO GET RID OF THEM.



THE DOORS OF THE FORBIDDEN CITY REMAIN CLOSED.



WE CAN SEE THE GUARDS BEHIND BARRED WINDOWS.

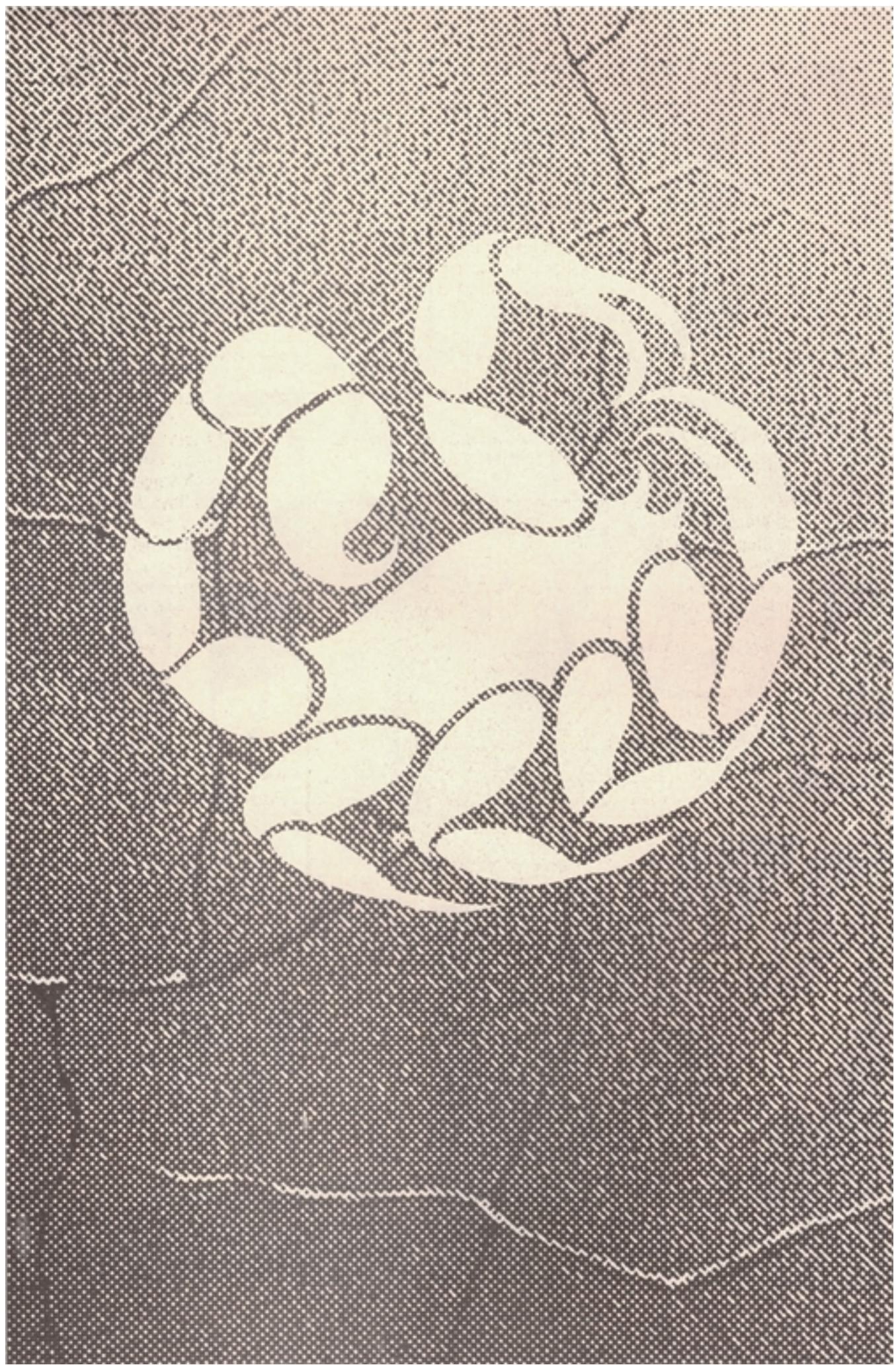


OUR SHOPS ARE EMPTY.
HOW WILL THIS END? HOW LONG CAN WE TAKE IT....?



THE MANUSCRIPT HAS FINISHED?
AND WHAT HAPPENED?

IT'S HARD TO SAY, DITO.
MAYBE TODAY WE LIVE WITH THE INVADERS. MAYBE WE ARE THE DESCENDANTS OF THOSE INVADERS.



Flogging a Dead Horse

Remember when you could look forward to your favorite serialized story in *Dark Horse Presents* being spun-off into its own title? *Concrete*, *Trekker*, *Homicide*, *Race of Scorpions*, and even *Roachmill* made the leap from the pages of *DHP* to their own series or specials. Think those good old days are gone forever? Think again!

This past year we've taken giant steps forward in the range and quality of material featured in *DHP*—stories like Frank Miller's *Sin City*, Matt Wagner's *The Aerialist*, and Stephen Cstoras and Stefano Gaudiano's *Harlequin*, have all struck significant chords with their readers. And while we'll still showcase the occasional licensed feature—like *Aliens* or *Predator*—Dark Horse remains committed to being the number one publisher of creator-owned comics. We're also committed to keeping our readers on their toes. For that reason, you can expect a number of exciting new series to spring from the fertile pages of your favorite anthology over the course of the next year.

Which exciting new series? Well, in no particular order: Eddie Campbell's erudite and inebriated Bacchus has already taken the plunge into his own miniseries, *Deadface: Doing the Islands With Bacchus* (issue #3 of which is on sale this month); writer John Arcudi and artists Tony Atkins and Paul Guinan are teaming for an *Aliens* story that will introduce the upcoming four-issue series *Aliens: Genocide*, by Arcudi and artists Damon Willis and Karl Story; Anina Bennett and Paul Guinan's beautiful, brainy, and dangerous

Heartbreakers (who recently concluded a three-issue run in *DHP*) will be rocketing your way next spring in their own limited series; after the current "Violent Marv" story runs its course, Frank Miller has plans for a number of stand-alone stories set in the corrupt metropolis of *Sin City*; and, finally, a guy by the name of John Byrne is introducing the world to a group of youngsters known as *The Next Men* who'll be starring in their own monthly color series!



Now, with all of these new series spinning out of the pages of *Dark Horse Presents*, you might think there'd be no room left for other features. Well, you might think that, but you'd be wrong. In upcoming issues of *DHP* you'll be getting monthly doses of humor from Rick Geary; new *Homicide* stories by John Arcudi and Gray Morrow—plus *The Creep*, a *Homicide* spin-off from Arcudi and Dale Eaglesham; the star-spanning misadventures of *Earth Boys*, by Cliff Biggers, Brett Brooks, and Dave Johnson (making the universe unsafe for just about everyone!); the continuing sagas of *The Aerialist* by Matt Wagner and *Sin City* by Frank Miller, and even an appearance by our most famous charter member, Paul Chadwick's *Concrete*!

I could go on, but modesty (and lack of space) prevents me. I'll just end things with a word to the wise: miss an issue of *Dark Horse Presents* at your own peril!

-Randy Stradley

CHECKLIST

- SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 3
Dark Horse Presents #54
Venus Wars #6
Terminator Secondary Objective #3
- SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 10
Cheval Noir #22
Deadface #3
Race of Scorpions II #3
Predator Cold War #1
- SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 17
Billi 99 #1
Badlands #3
- SHIPPING SEPTEMBER 24
Almuric #1
Outlanders #33
Deadline #1
Indiana Jones #4
The Mask #2

It's not easy being tough.

Frank Miller's **Sin City**

Premiering in the
Dark Horse Presents
Fifth Anniversary Special
and continuing in the pages of
the regular monthly issues of
Dark Horse Presents.



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JAMES ROBINSON, PAUL GULACY, KARL HESSEL,
DARK HORSE COMICS AND...TERMINATOR, TOO!

TERMINATOR
TERMINATOR

TERMINATOR
TERMINATOR

TERMINATOR
TERMINATOR



A FOUR-ISSUE
FOUR-COLOR
MONTHLY COMIC

What Attitude?

TANK GIRL

A four issue series in black-and-white by Jamie Hewlett and Alan Martin.
Coming this June from:



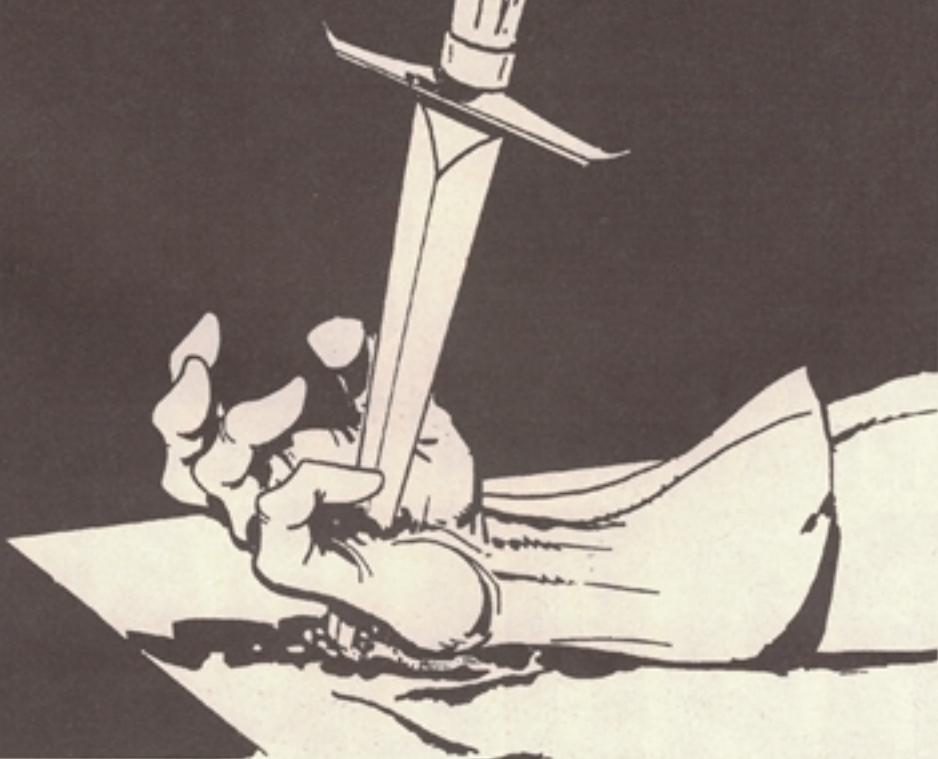
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The Death of

DOC STEARN
MR. MONSTER



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IT'S 1963...



AND AMERICA IS ABOUT TO DIE.

BADLANDSTM

**A SIX-ISSUE BLACK-AND-WHITE SERIES
BY STEVEN GRANT AND VINCE GIARRANO.
FROM DARK HORSE COMICS IN JULY.**

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CELEBRATING FIVE YEARS



OF EXCELLENCE

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