

IMAGE COMICS PRESENTS

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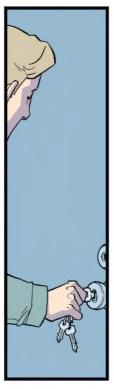






















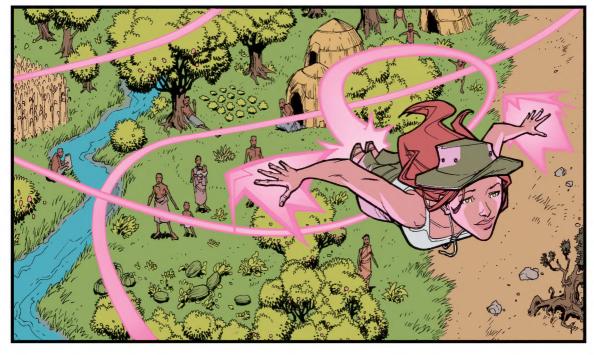
















































































I PON'T CARE WHERE I WORK. I JUST-I PON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO PO. WITH MARK AWAY AT SCHOOL I'VE GOT NOTHING TO PO.

THE HOUSE IS EMPTY. I SWEAR IF I PIPN'T HAVE YOU AND CLAIRE TO TALK TO 1'P GO CRAZY.



















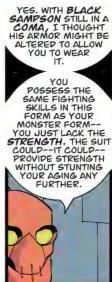














IF THAT IS YOUR WISH. I WOULD BE HAPPY TO.

YOU WOULP
STILL BE ABLE TO
TURN INTO YOUR
MONSTER FORM IF
YOU WERE IN ANY PANGER IN THE SUIT-IF
THINGS GOT BAP-YOU
COULP CHANGE-BUT
THEORETICALLY YOU
WOULP USE YOUR
POWERS MUCH
LESS.

IT'S THE
ONLY SOLUTION
I CAN COME
UP WITH-CONSIDERING
CECIL DENIED
YOU A LEAVE OF
ABSENCE.











SEE, HIS SEMESTER STARTED BEFORE MINE. I VISITED HIM ON CAMPUS ON HIS FIRST DAY. THIS MONSTER ATTACKED



IT WAS TEARING THE PLACE UP, PEOPLE WERE RUNNING AROUND IN EVERY DIRECTION TRYING TO GET AWAY. THEN, I TURN AROUND—AND



THEN--AFTER THE SUPERHERO FLIES OFF WITH THE MONSTER AND EVERYONE IS SAFE... MARK COMES RUNNING UP--TELLING ME HOW WORRIEP HE WAS.





























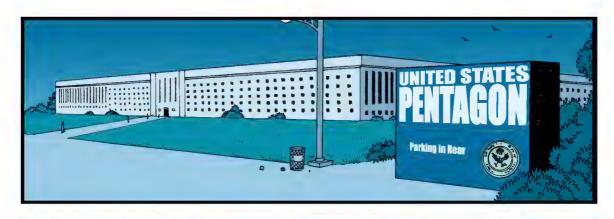
























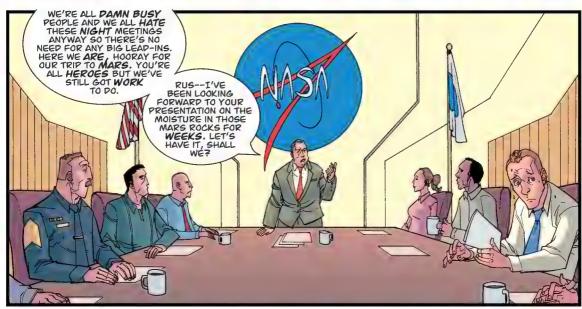








































PON'T BE CUTE. I'M
NOT MEANING, ICAN'T-BE-HURT
"INVINCIBLE." I MEAN
I'M-THE-BLUE-ANDYELLOW-GUY-FROMTV "INVINCIBLE."









































YOU KNOW,









WRITE US @

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Big round of applause this issue for the one, the only RUS WOOTON!! Ryan and I decided to try something a little different this issue, well, I wanted to try it and he didn't complain. We crammed every page with as many panels and as much dialogue as we thought possible. I wanted to do a really dense issue, a nice "make-your-legs-fall-asleep-on-the-can" issue. Now, aside from it taking ME longer to script, and Ryan longer to draw, and maybe even Bill a LITTLE bit longer to color... I KNOW it took Rus twice as much time to letter. And you know what, it looks GREAT. See, most people don't notice lettering, but I'm a bit of a lettering junkie. I've bought pages of original art just for Chris Eliopoulos lettering. I'm crazy for the stuff. I was REALLY hesitant to bring anyone on when I discovered I just didn't have the time to letter both this and The Walking Dead. I didn't know WHO I could get, as Chris Eliopoulos and John Workman were busy... but then I saw Rus' work on his Marvel books and having known him for some years previous without knowing he lettered, I KNEW he was the guy. And he's done such a fine job since he took over, I had to call him out and say:

GREAT JOB, RUS. That's some mighty pretty lettering.

Also, make sure you pick up the big ZERO issue that'll be on sale next week (I believe). It's an origin tale, but it also fits seamlessly in-between issues 22 and 23, so you'll want to have it, and it's only FIFTY CENTS!

Oh, and in other news I assume most of you have heard about the big Paramount Pictures deal, but just in case--they've optioned the feature film rights to Invincible and hired some jerk named ME to write the screenplay. This doesn't mean the movie is in-production, and really doesn't guarantee that it ever will be, but it's a possibility. I'll keep everyone posted on whether or not things move on from here.

Now, let's answer some mail:

Penvincipals:

First of all, the scene in the dorm room took me back to my own college days in a huge way. Great job on that.

The Reanimen (sweet name, btw) and their creator sharing classes with Invincible. Sounds like too good a plot point for you guys to pass up, and this being Mark's first real chance at a nemesis, I can't wait to see the results.

This book always seems to find that perfect balance point between developing Invincible's adventures and Mark's teenage dramas, a balance all secret identity books should have but none do. What makes you so special, huh? WE DEMAND ANSWERS!!

Sincerely, -- Ryan Walsh

We eat our Wheaties... especially Ryan, that boy puts away enough bowls to supply him with the same amount of daily vitamins and nutrients found in ONE bowl of Total.

Gentlemen,

I must tell you I was fooled at first when I picked up issue 20 of Invincible. Having never read the comic before, I thought this was your average, run of the mill superhero comic (the only reason I bought it was because I liked the artwork on the cover). I was blown out of the water when I actually read the book. It takes humor to a whole new level. Never before have I laughed out loud from reading a comic book. It feels like a mix between Smallville and Seinfeld.

Being a new reader, I have to ask you, Who came up with this idea, and what was their inspiration? Thank you very much, and keep up the good work!

-John

The concept and name came from me, the design came from a young man named Cory Walker who designed most every char-

acter and named Atom Eve and Robot. We were going for a Smallville meet's Seinfeld kind of feel.

Come on Kirkman, Robot Zombies?!? What's next, Running Zombies? What else happened in issue 20? Oh yeah, lots of lovin on the X chromosome world and that Clark Kent moment. That is, if Lois bitch-smacked Clark for runnin like a puss during a crisis. Good move man. Loved "Professor" Varner too. Reminds me of all those wonderful professors that I'm not allowed to call "mister." So here's some handy numbered questions:

- 1. How do scenes like Mark moving into the dorm happen? Do you plan these out for Ottely to draw or is he pullin your butt on this book with those great little moments?
- 2. I'm confused. What went down in GB with the "Chosen One"?
- 3. Who would win in a fight, Ottley or Adlard?
- 4. Exactly what new fabrics did Art come up with?

Alright, I wasn't printed in Issue 20 but I'll live. So what do you think about the Matrix films. I love them, but I'm one of the few. I also love duct tape.

That stuff is just so handy. Till next month.

Chris Pitts

- 1. I think it's a little bit of both. It's all listed in the script, but how Ryan pulls it off is entirely up to him.
- 2. Read issue 1, issue 6, and issue 17, then issue 20 again. If you don't get it then, I can't help you.
- 3. I haven't see Adlard in person since 2001--they're both pretty buff--Ryan can totally take Cory--I witnessed that.
- 4. Hell if I know.

You can't be printed EVERY issue, man. I hated the Matrix sequels, but loved the first--and I HATE duct tape.

Penvincipals,

Issue 20 is of course another landmark issue and feather in your caps. It is also a bit ceremonial to me as well. This is the first issue I've picked off of the shelf and had to wait a whole month to read.

You see, I recently bought an issue of previews (which is a bit unheard of for me) where I saw a cool ad for an Image book I must have been overlooking for a while. Luckily I was able to pick up a few TPBs and some individaul issues from my local comic shop, The Bookery Fantasy (what a shameless plug) and was hooked! With some additional help from Khepri's website I was able to pick-up and read issues 1-19 in about two weeks and what a read indeed!

Thanks to everyone involved in the production of this book for putting the fun back in comics. It's been the funnest read since a couple of guys named Claremont and Byrne teamed up to do a book about some guys called the X-Men.

Keep up the good work, guys. Maybe I should check out the Walking Dead.....hmmmm

Kevin Hicks

Welcome aboard Kevin. Glad to have you, matey!

Hi creators,

I happened upon Invincible the week it came out. I was not expecting much honestly. I was pleasantly surprised. I like Invincible. I think it is a very good comic book. I tell people that it is a very good read.

However I do have some questions.

1. Can someone who is Invincible be ticklish?

2.If the graduation hat thing is from the graduation ceromony from way-back-when, then explain the physics that would make it land at aprox. a 30 degree angle in issue #20?

3. The book needs a redheaded girl. Don't take Eve away. You only took her to a third world country to help the downtrodden and less well off so you can put her in a white tanktop and cut off shorts right?

Thanks for a fun read, Malik.

- 1. You don't know the half of it.
- 2. Wind does crazy things to light weight objects, man. What are the odds of that thing landing exactly where Mark's trash bag landed.
- 3. Guilty as charged. Eve will be back.

Hey Robert & crew,

Just finished reading Invincible #20, yet another great issue! Just some little things that I liked: Angstrom Levy giving the guys a break in an all-woman dimension, the return of the Burger Mart bag (focus more on that! I was literally laughing out loud!! People were actually staring at me!! At ME!!!), and some interesting development with Atom Eve.

I would also love to congratulate you on Invincible getting picked up for a film. That is cool beyond words!!! And you're writing the screenplay? I am expecting nothing less than pure gold with this film, so you had better deliver!

Also, the news about the Invincible HC is great news. I LOVE the cover for it. Ryan really outdid himself on that one. It just goes to show you how much stuff happens in those first 13 issues...which brings me to one little nitpick I have that I believe has been mentioned before. You introduce SO many plot threads with every issue that you don't bother picking up again for at least another few issues. I'd like to see some longer arcs dealing with loose subplots to help move the story along. You've definitely given yourself enough to play around with!

One question - why on Earth is issue 12 so hard to find?? It's not at any of the comic stores I've been to, and when I finally ordered it at my LCS, it ended up being \$12. \$12!!! Sorry, man, I love your book, but not enough to pay \$12 for the one issue I'm missing. For that price I might as well just buy the third trade (which I might have to end up doing). Why is that one issue so hard to find?

Anyway, keep up the great work! Rob Frenay

In see what I can do but I'm making no promises in regards to the movie. I'm telling you, all the plot threads will be dealt with, and they'll all have good payoff. A few of them set up some long form stories, y'know... "arcs" so there will be fun to be had by all when I finally get around to tying up all the loose ends. And it's your choice, man. The issue you want for \$12, or the TPB for \$12.95. Sorry the issue is so hard to find, what can I say...it's "THE BIG ONE." I'll see what I can do but I'm making no promises in regards to

Mr. Kirkman, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Ottley,

I have been reading comic books for 13 years now and have never written a note or been a fan boy for any reason (this the first time). After picking up your collected work on Invincible I am truly in awe. In a world that often lacks creativity, humor and originality thank you for crafting an amazing story with rich, developed characters that look amazing. Looking forward to picking up your book next month.

Thank You, Than Astin

Thanks, true believer. You keep reading them and we'll keep making them. EXCELSIOR!!

Penvinipals,

I've sent in a few letters, had a couple'a them printed too, but I don't think I've congratulated the art team in any of them (I could check, but... y'know...). Well that changes now!

Invincible #20 had some fantastic art! Ryan Ottley is maybe my fav'rit penciler/inker at the moment, and Bill Crabtree's colours are amazing, he's maybe one of the only colourists i know by name! The page where the Reaniman smashed out of the floor took my breath away! And the guy who's making these Reanimen looked really slimy and greasy, sort of like a young Professor Snape, or something.

Thanks guys, you're really talented individuals, (that means you too Robert!). John Turner

Thanks for the kind words John, for a reply I'm going to have to turn things over to artist, and resident bad ass, Ryan Ottley. Take it way, Ryan.

Dude, learn how to spell. It's hard to take your compliments seriously when I can't tell if you're foreign or if "colours" is just one of your creative "typ'os." Seriously though, thanks for the compliments but leave the typos to Robert, he's putting more than enough for everyone in these letters pages.

Ryan, jeez man... that was a little harsh. And I'm not putting in TOO many typos am I?

Dear PENvinciPALS,

First off, CONGRATULATIONS ON THE INVINCIBLE MOVIE!!

My friend and I are really big fans of Invincible and the whole gang behind it along with, improbable as it may seem, Benito and Nate. So we were relatively devastated to see that their strips won't be appearing in the back. We thought that it might have been a gag strip, so I ask, is it not actually some elaborate hoax where we think they're gone but you're all just pulling our leg? Say it ain't so! But in the end, I guess it's not really such a huge loss, and we will continue to buy the book despite their absence.

Getting back to the movie though, that is some really good news. Even better that you'll being writing it yourself, and the trade-off of the side characters for more Mark/Nolan development seems fair enough. It would be cool if you put Benito and Nate in the movie, maybe at the end of the credits with Deep Fried Monkey! Yeah, that's the ticket.

On to numbered questions!

- 1. What is Mark majoring in at school?
- 2. For that matter, what are his non-superhero career aspirations? 3. Remember when Superman would team up with celebrities like Pat Boone and Don Rickles for no reason? People need to make more of those comics. So when is Invincible going to co-star Simon Pegg, the only celebrity you know?
- 4. I wasn't joking about the Benito and Nate in the movie thing. How about it?

Hmm, well thats it for now. Keep up the good work.

Fans 4 lyfe, A Gentle Handlebar and Neoteric Bone

Is this Nate's mom? Deep Fried Monkey after the credits? THAT'LL be the day!

- General studies... he has no idea what he wants to do.
 He hasn't decided yet. He's been a little busy.

- 3. Dude, I totally know... other... celebrities. I swear. 4. Mrs. Bellegarde, your money is on the dresser. Go home.

And with that slightly inappropriate bit, I bring this letters column to a close.

This month's pin-ups by:

- 1. Andy Smith, featuring his character First Man. Thanks Andy. Andy's got a new book coming out from Image called Armor X. I haven't had a chance to read it just yet but I'm looking forward to it. Give it a look.
- 2. Greg Kirkpatrick with colors by Shawn Crystal. Greg has a back-up story coming up in a future issue of Savage Dragon but you're all already buying Dragon so I shouldn't even NEED to point out something like that.

Also in the back of this issue you'll find the second half of the Free Comic Book Day special. So there, you have it all now and I didn't even force you to buy the volume 4 TPB to get it. Of course, if you still WANT to buy it, we won't object.

Anyway, I'll see you all here next week for issue 0 and then four weeks after that for issue 23 (it's going to be a hoot!).

Until then!

-Robert Kirkman

