



THE ALL-NEW, ALL-AWESOME

INVINCIBLE

image

57

\$2.99

ROBERT KIRKMAN
RYAN OTTLEY
FCO PLASCENCIA

VERSUS
THE ASTOUNDING

WOLF-MAN

PART 1 OF 2

Ryan
fco

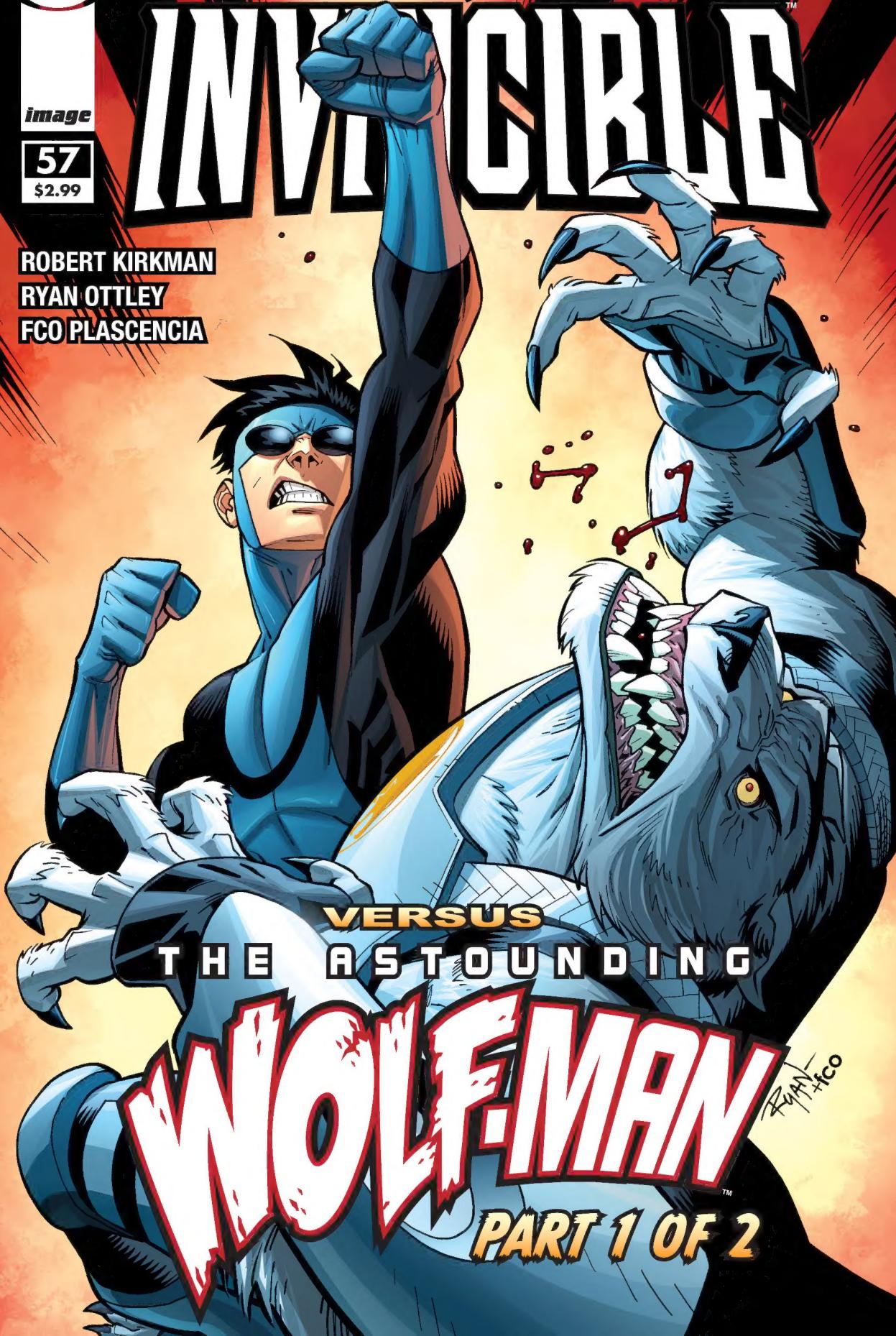


image COMICS PRESENTS

INVINCIBLE

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THE SECRET
BASE OF THE
TEAM FORMERLY
KNOWN AS THE
TEEN TEAM.







DEEP BELOW THE PENTAGON,
THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE
GLOBAL DEFENSE AGENCY,
LED BY CECIL STEDMAN.

UNITED STATES PENTAGON

Parking in Rear



OH--I
MISSED
YOU GUYS,
TOO!

KRAKDOOM!!



STOP!!



SOMEWHERE ELSE.

YOU SURVIVED--
GOOD. THAT'S
ANOTHER OF MY
TESTS YOU'VE
SURVIVED.
IMPRESSIVE.

IT WASN'T
EASY... BUT I
MADE IT. WHAT'S
NEXT? I CAN
HARDLY WAIT TO
SEE WHAT YOU
HAVE PLANNED
FOR ME
NOW.



TONIGHT YOUR TEST
WILL NOT COME FROM
ME... THERE ARE
OTHERS WHO CONTROL
YOUR FATE THIS
EVENING.

OTHERS?
WHAT DO YOU
MEAN?

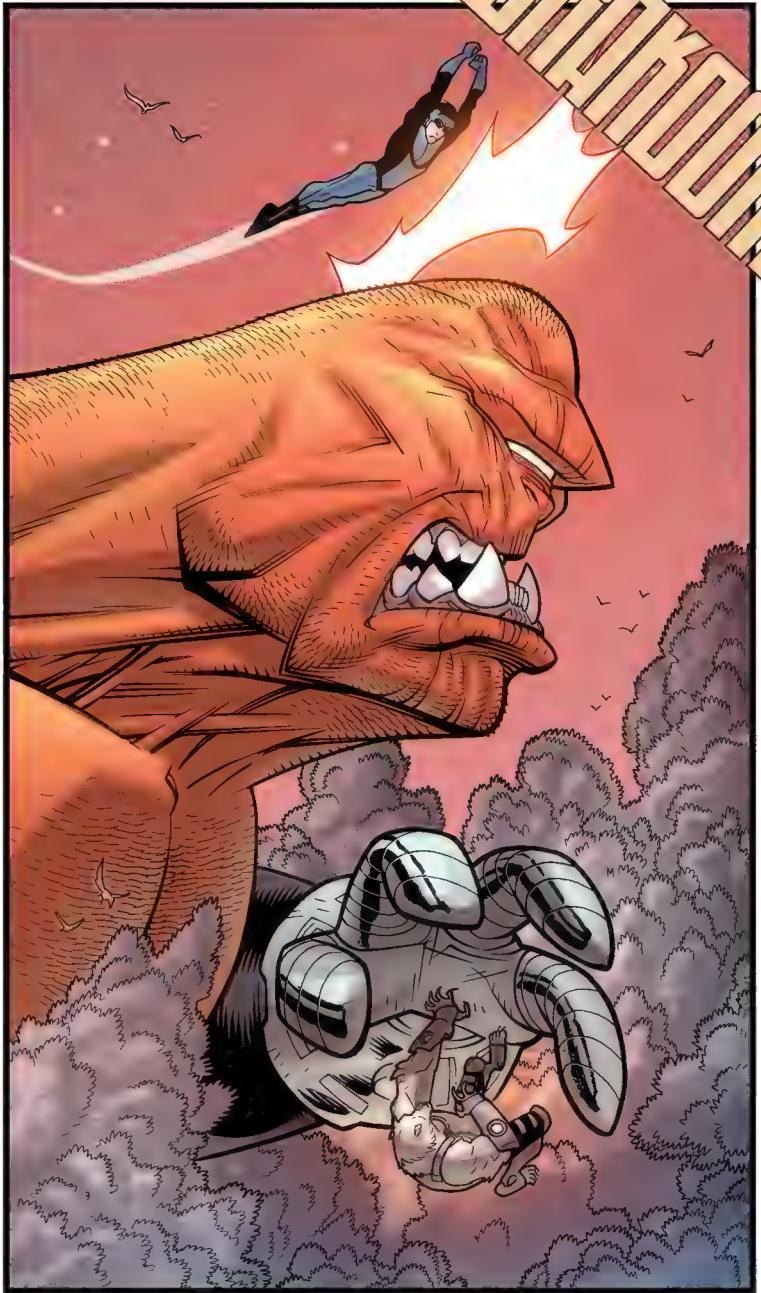
I CAN SENSE IT.
THERE ARE MANY
DANGERS IN
THE FOREST
TONIGHT.











WHO
DARES?!

I WAS
A KING! I
LED A
KINGDOM!

WHO
DARES
STRIKE
ME?!

WHO?!

THAT
WOULD
BE ME.

YOU--
IRK!!

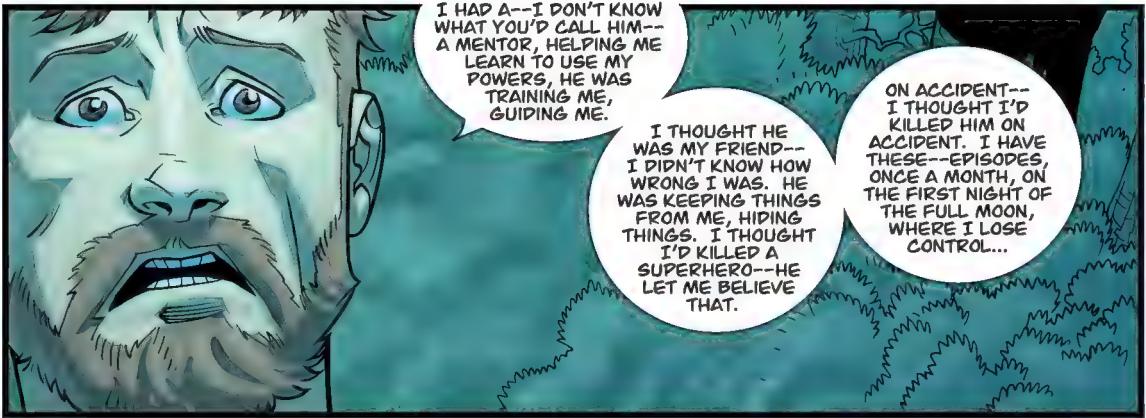
WROKK!



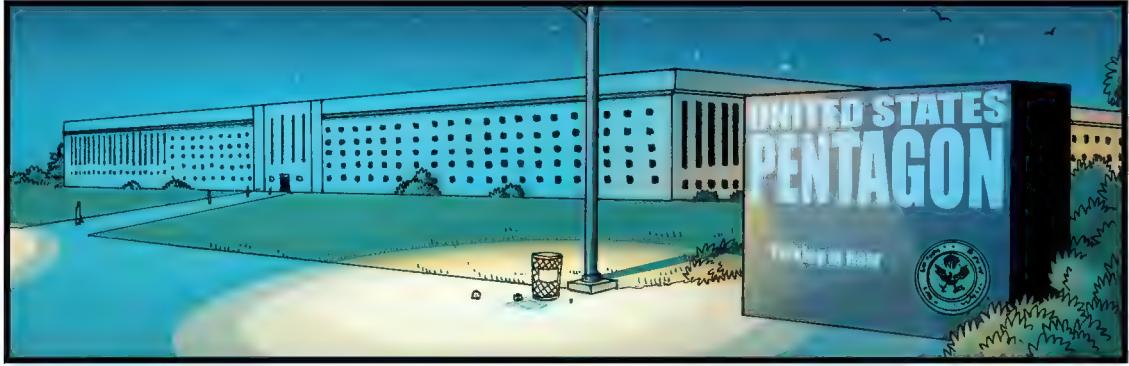














ARE YOU TELLING
ME THAT YOU CAN
PARDON MURDERING
PSYCHOPATHS LIKE
DARKWING--BUT
YOU CAN'T EVEN
HEAR HIS
STORY?

THAT'S
INSANE.

NOTHING I CAN
DO HERE, KID. HIS
STORY'S TOO PUBLIC.
THERE'S NO WAY I
CAN HAVE HIM RUNNING
AROUND IN THE CLEAR.
EVERYONE KNOWS WHO
GARY HAMPTON IS--
THE WEREWOLF
SUPERHERO WIFE-
KILLER.

IT'S NOT
LIKE HE COULD
GO BY ANOTHER
NAME OR ANYTHING
EITHER... THE FUR
TENDS TO GIVE
HIM AWAY.

NO, SADLY--
HE'S USELESS TO
ME. I'VE GOT TO
BE PRACTICAL HERE,
INVINCIBLE. IF HE'S
GOT A STORY TO
TELL--HE CAN
TELL IT TO A
JURY.



OH,
GREAT.

THIS
AGAIN.

TO BE CONTINUED IN
THE ASTOUNDING

WOLF-MAN
#11!

WRITE US @

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INVINCIBLE

Welcome one and all to the first of our two part crossover with THE ASTOUNDING WOLF-MAN! Please make sure to purchase The Astounding Wolf-Man 11 to get the other half of the story. If you just dive on into issue 58 next month—you'll be missing out!

The Astounding Wolf-Man 11, should either be on sale the same DAY as this issue... or the following week, that's still up in the air right now due to the holiday printing schedule. I hope that helps.

That said, you guys are all already buying The Astounding Wolf-Man, right? So you guys already have your copies reserved and waiting on you—good.

You guys are great.

Let's answer some mail shall we?

Hello Mr. Kirkman,

Imagine my pleasant surprise at learning that a new issue of Invincible would be out a brief three weeks after the previous issue. I was stoked. I was excited. I had to wait yet another week, because a certain comics shipping company (which shall remain nameless) did not give the proper shipment to my comic book shop.

But then I got it last Wednesday! And it was great! I could go into all of the intricacies and nuances of your work, but that could get boring, so I'll just say what I enjoyed: Mark getting pissed at his mom, Mark getting mad that he got pissed at his mom, Mark getting with Eve, Mark getting into fight with stony faced guy, giant dragon guy breaking other guy out of jail, and little brother acting like angelic tyke when he's really going to make Mark sorry later. You know this can only end in tragedy.

Well, there are a couple other options... we'll see.

And I do have to comment on something. In addition to that Nate in the letter's column, I started picking up Invincible because of your work in Astounding Wolf-Man #1 (Director's Cut). I picked up that issue just because it seemed like such a great concept: werewolves and superheroes. It's a concept that just works, like secret agents stopping terrorists, or librarians fighting space aliens. And I liked the series so much, that I decided to look into whatever else you wrote.

Anyway, thanks for the great series. I look forward to seeing what happens next.

Sincerely,
Chris Maher

Yay—chalk one up for The Astounding Wolf-Man. I hope you're enjoying the crossover so far, Chris.

Dear Kirkman,

I found this issue to be not very well thought-out! In fact the facts of it escape me – a lot like they did Immortal this issue! I didn't like it, but, who cares, right? Next issue: Vitrumites!!! And who were these guys who took 'Vince back to the future anyhow? I didn't catch their names, strangely enough – have they appeared before or something? When? Thanks for printing my letters and looking forward to the Vitrumite saga... but what's this: Final confrontation!?

Sincerely,
Andrew J. Shaw

Well... you got me Andrew. Those two guys from the future are named FIGHTMASTER and DROP KICK and they first appeared in issue 46 (which wasn't THAT long ago—you should remember) but I just skimmed the issue, and as near as I can tell... I didn't mention them by name at all. Groan. Sorry about that.

As you know by now, issue 55 set the ball in motion leading up to the big battle with the vitrumites that this series has been working towards since the beginning! And just wait until you guys see what happens after THAT!

Big stuff ahead, kids.

Dear Mr. Kirkman and Mr. Ottley,

Wow. I have to say that issue #54 of Invincible is probably the best single issue I've read since #23. That's not to say that there haven't been absolutely fantastic issues in between—there have been many – but this one is, in my opinion, cream of the crop.

Just when Andrew was starting to make me feel bad...

It was a great self-contained story for one, and I'm actually not always a big fan of those because I like to see longer developed plots, but it didn't pop-up out of nowhere either. You had introduced the two heroes of the future already, and shown us that Eve was getting discontent with her new relationship with Mark. Then you gave us a fast but entirely entertaining story with the great surprise of a future ruled by the Immortal. Fantastic. I also appreciate that it laid down more plot points to be explored in the future (no pun intended).

And of course, you guys concluded with Ryan's beautiful four-

page montage of Mark and Eve. I especially liked the second two pages showing all the key stages in their relationship since meeting in issue #2. Please don't break them up. They're the new Peter and MJ.

They're more like the new Peter and Gwen... OOP!

The other stuff you guys have been doing with the series since issue #50 (and before that, of course) is great. Although I wouldn't say that issues #52 and #53 were my favorite ever, I feel that we're really building to something big. I'm definitely psyched (and surprised) to see Angstrom Levy back, as well as his possible team-up with Oliver?

And Ryan, your art is fantastic. Please don't ever leave this book. You've made the artistic style entirely your own, and you're an excellent visual storyteller. This book wouldn't be the smash hit that it is without you.

Props also to FCO Plascencia for some great coloring that definitely sets the tone. I also appreciate that Cliff Rathburn stepped in to help you guys catch up to your schedule – great work everybody!

Again, thanks for a terrific story. Please don't stop.

Appreciatively,
Rob Luff

No plans to stop any time soon—that's for sure!

YE GODS!

I liked what you did with #54; a touching little romantic interlude, with some sci-fi action, and on top of all of that, significant further developments of the Invinciverse (albeit in a "possible future" kind of way, I'm sure). All of that, and Mark got to keep his promise to not interrupt the date, courtesy of some clever paradox-surfing which reminded me just a little of Alan Moore's brilliant "Chronocops" story.

Chronocops? I've never heard of that.

Yeah, I just compared you to Sir Alan of Moore. Can I have a free t-shirt?

I'd never get around to mailing it to you—I do appreciate the comparison though.

Anyway, despite the graphic beheading, #54 was a sweet change of pace from the recent angst with Oliver. Then I saw the "Next Issue" blurb and it seems that the romantic interlude will turn out to be just the calm before the storm. Brilliant!

Kelvin Green

We do try to keep things lively here at Invincible central.

Dear K-to-the-irkman,

What's going down, my fellow Midwest holmes? I have a question for ya that I've been thinking about since all the way

back in issue #25: Rudy, the Robot-controlling lump of ugly that he was, stole Rex's DNA to make himself a body, that much is obvious. But with him being an absolute genius and all, you think he woulda tried to take Invincible's DNA...I mean a Viltrumite body woulda been so much more useful to Rudy (not to mention cooler); hell, a Rex clone doesn't even have natural superpowers. So, I thought you could just shoot me the 411 on all of that!

Rudy knew that Monster Girl was attracted to Rex... that's why he picked that body. He witnessed her checking Rex out shortly before he stole Rex's DNA. He's already super smart and has a bunch or robot bodies... he doesn't need Mark's body.

Second, I'm totally diggin' the path you've taken the Immortal down in issue #54...I cannot wait to see that story develop in the coming issues...I hope that's something you definitely decide to roll with!

Keep 'em coming,
Brad Ross

I have a lot of big plans for the Immortal—I dig him quite a bit. So by all means—stay tuned!

I'm getting a really bad deja vu feeling that this whole issue is just set up for when Angstrom kills Eve. But then I remembered that this book is better than every other cookie-cutter superhero title out there.

Ulp!

So my thoughts and fears are completely unjustified and Invincible is not going to turn into cliche-city.

Right?

Right?!

Hello?!!

Crickets?!!!!

Kris Ehrig

Gulp!

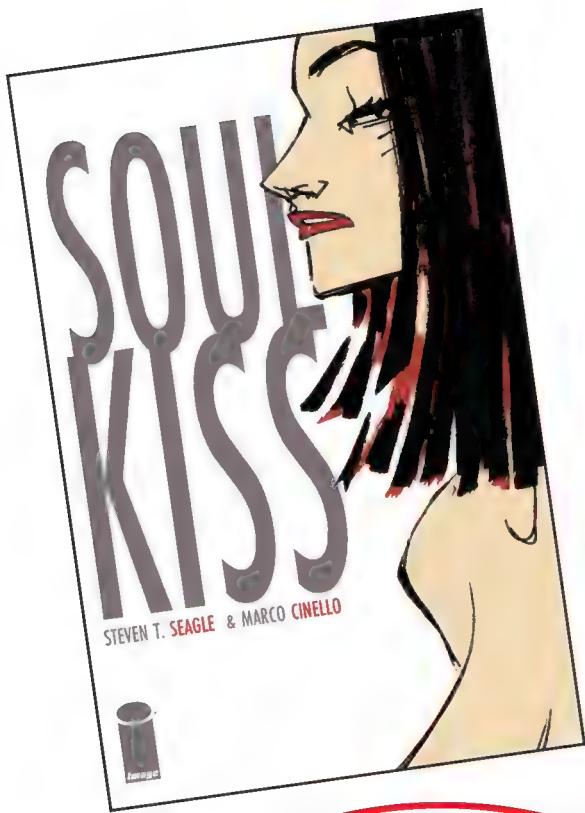
PS: Do something with the website please.

The new and improved www.kirkmania.com has gone live! Created by the big brain behind hiddenrobot.com, Tim Daniel. Please check it out—and sign up for KIRKSPAM!

That's it for this month, kids. I'll see you all back here next month—the start of "ON TIME IN '09!" Wish us luck!!

—Robert Kirkman





JOE KELLY • JOE CASEY • DUNCAN ROULEAU • STEVEN T. SEAGLE



Soul Kiss

A story of love, damnation and lipstick by Steven T. Seagle and Marco Cinello.

The Great Unknown

A mind-robbing whodunit written and drawn by Duncan Rouleau.

Bad Dog

An irredeemably corrupt comic not fit for children (or parents) by Joe Kelly and Diego Greco.

Codeflesh

The bail bondsman of super-villains returns in a re-mastered, deluxe edition color hardcover.

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Image

NEXT ISSUE

YOUNG LOVE...



SPALLO



SAVAGE DRAGON

BACK IN BLUE

FEATURING PRESIDENT-ELECT BARACK OBAMA!

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