



STEVE
ORLANDO

THE

MEGAN
HUANG

SCALE TRADE

1

\$3⁹⁹_{US}





STEVE
ORLANDO

THE

MEGAN
HUANG

SCALE TRADE

1

\$4⁹⁹
US
VARIANT





STEVE ORLANDO

THE

MEGAN HUANG

SCALE TRADER

1

INCENTIVE



TODAY.



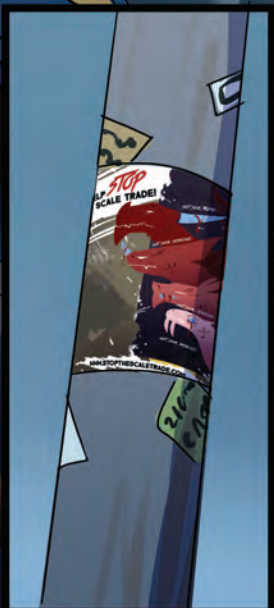
LESSONS
2013


HELP **STOP**
THE SCALE TRADE!

NET YOUR DRAGON
NET YOUR HERBIE
NET YOUR BEAST

WWW.STOPTHESCALETRADE.COM

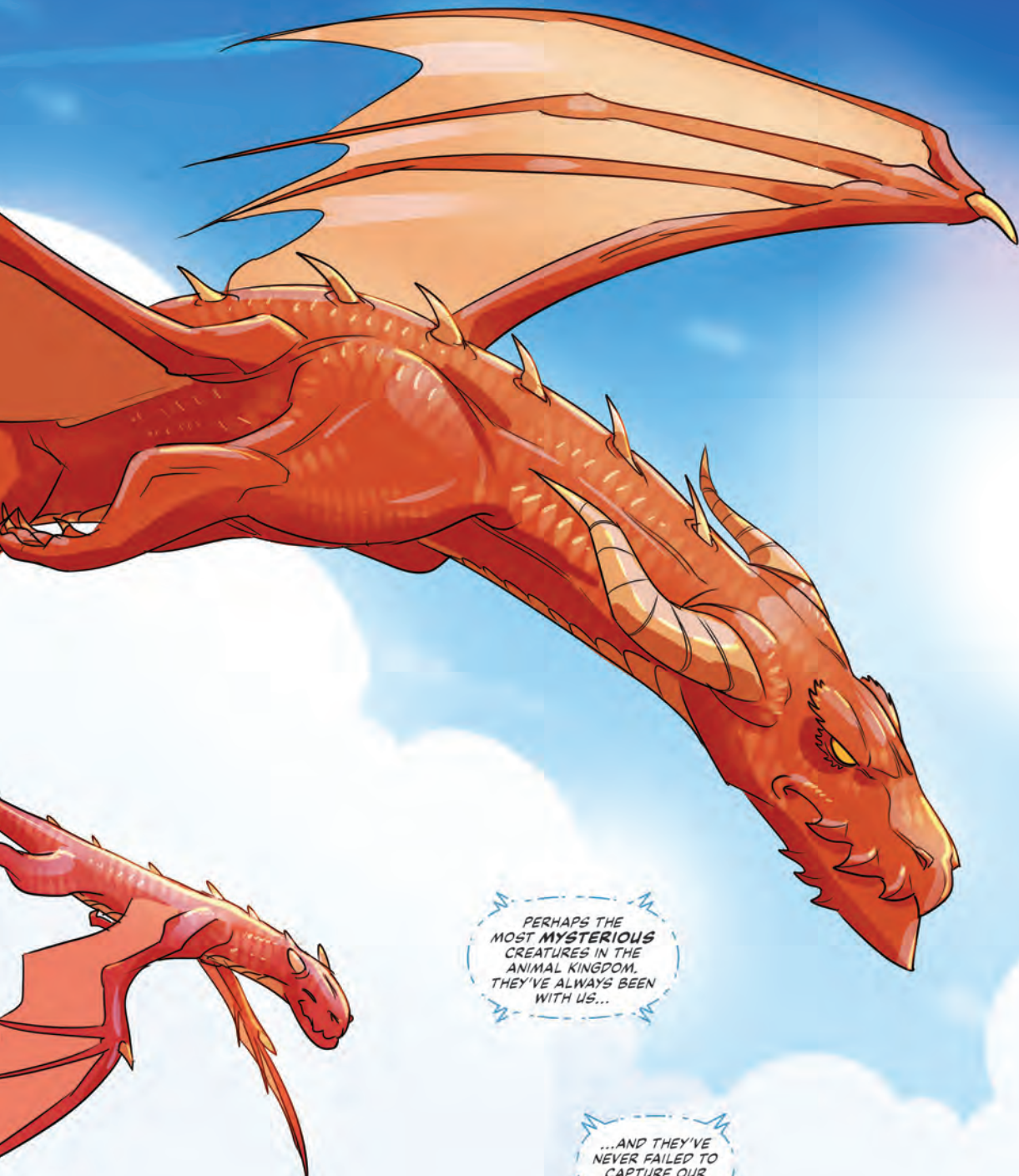
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CARPET





MUTANTUR
DRACONUS, FAMILY
DRACO, ORDER
SQUAMATA, CLASS
REPTILIA.


DRAGONS,
FOLKS.



PERHAPS THE
MOST MYSTERIOUS
CREATURES IN THE
ANIMAL KINGDOM.
THEY'VE ALWAYS BEEN
WITH US...

...AND THEY'VE
NEVER FAILED TO
CAPTURE OUR
IMAGINATION.

AND WHY
NOT?



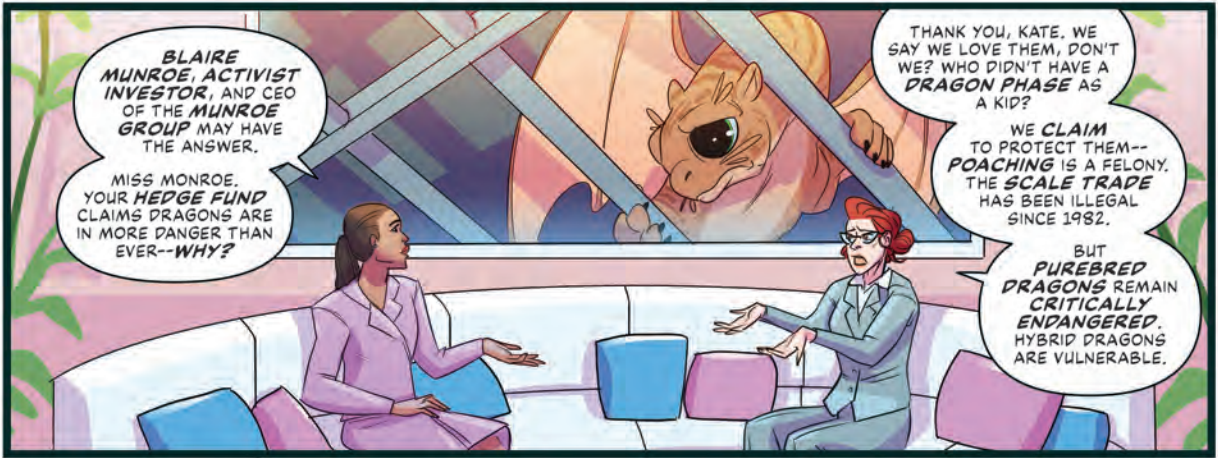
UNIQUE AMONG
ANIMALS, **MUTANTUR
DRACONS** CAN
CROSSBREED
WITH NEARLY ANY
SPECIES.

AND NOT JUST
CROSSBREED--YIELD
FERTILE YOUNG.
AND SO, TODAY, FROM
ONE SPECIES...

...WE'VE
BEEN GIFTED A
**KALEIDOSCOPE OF
HYBRID WONDERS**
TO CAPTIVATE AND
THRILL US.

A REMINDER
THAT EVEN AS WE
BUILD, INNOVATE, AND
EXPLAIN FAR FROM
OUR ANIMAL
ROOTS...

...THERE'S STILL
SOME MAGIC LEFT
IN THE NATURAL
WORLD. BUT FOR
HOW LONG?



BLAIRE MUNROE, ACTIVIST INVESTOR, AND CEO OF THE MUNROE GROUP MAY HAVE THE ANSWER.

MISS MONROE. YOUR **HEDGE FUND** CLAIMS DRAGONS ARE IN MORE DANGER THAN EVER--**WHY?**

THANK YOU, KATE. WE SAY WE LOVE THEM, DON'T WE? WHO DIDN'T HAVE A **DRAGON PHASE** AS A KID?

WE CLAIM TO PROTECT THEM-- **POACHING** IS A FELONY. THE **SCALE TRADE** HAS BEEN ILLEGAL SINCE 1982.

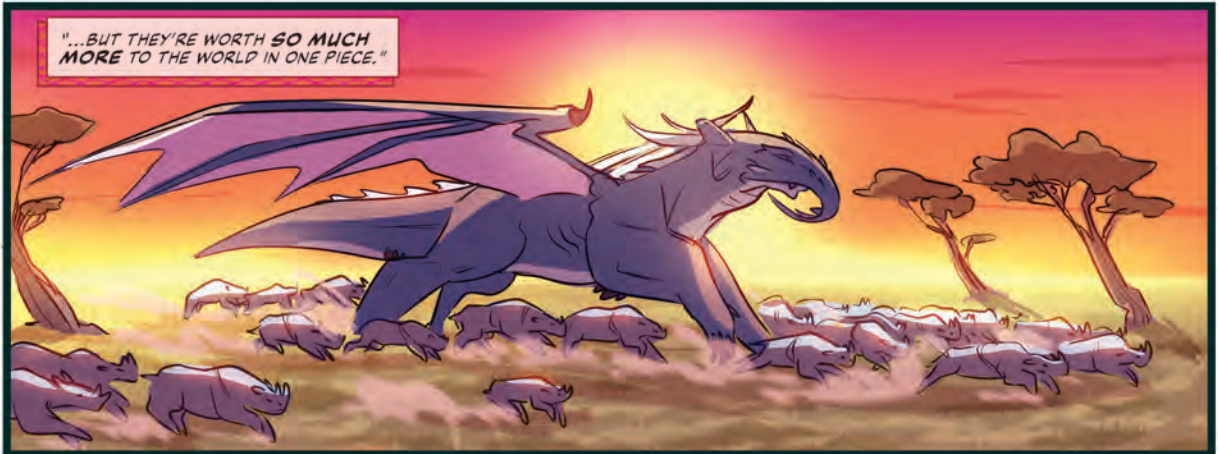
BUT **PUREBRED DRAGONS** REMAIN **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED**. **HYBRID DRAGONS** ARE VULNERABLE.



THAT'S WHY WE SAVED THE **DRAGON CONSERVATION AGENCY** FROM BEING DEFUNDED. THE **BLACK MARKET** LIVES.

DRACONMEAT STILL SELLS HIGH. **DRACOLEATHER** IS STILL A STATUS SYMBOL. **DRACOBONE** REMAINS AN ELITE FOLK **APHRODISIAC**.

EVERY PART OF A DRAGON IS WORTH MONEY TO SOMEONE...



"...BUT THEY'RE WORTH SO MUCH MORE TO THE WORLD IN ONE PIECE."



THE **MUNROE GROUP** BELIEVES IN THE **DCA**. DRAGONS ARE **LIVING HISTORY**. NO--**NATURAL ART**.

THEIR **LINEAGE** IS ONE OF THE MOST COMPLEX GENETIC TAPESTRIES EVER WOVEN.

DCA AGENTS DON'T JUST FIGHT BACK AGAINST THE ILLEGAL

SCALE TRADE

"...THEY PROTECT ONE OF THE LAST GREAT WONDERS OF THE WORLD."

Open 24/7

SOUTHWEST
NEW YORK,
NEW JERSEY.

SMITH DINER

IT'S TRITOS,
RIGHT? THAT
LIKE A GREEK
NAME?

DAD'S GREEK.
MOM'S SICILIAN. IS
THIS LIKE, AN INTAKE
INTERVIEW?

SORRY, THE EX-WIFE AND
KID ALWAYS SAID I LIKE TO
PRY. SHE WAS GREEK TOO.
GO FIGURE.

"EX-KID?"

THERE'S NO
INTERVIEW. IF
YOU'RE HERE, YOU'RE
IN. THING IS--I DON'T
KEEP PARTNERS
LONG.

DCA'S TOUGH
WORK. TURNOVER
RATE'S HIGH. WE'RE
PART EPA, PART
FBI--AGENTS BURN
OUT FAST.

WHY? THEY
KNOW WHAT
THEY'RE SIGNING
UP FOR, AGENT
CUTTER. I DO.

NOBODY DOES.
AND HEY, WHEN IT'S JUST
US? IT'S NEIL. AGENT
CUTTER AND AGENT
TRITOS ARE FOR PERPS.

AND I LOSE GUYS
BECAUSE THEY CAN'T
HANDLE THE REALITY.
I READ YOUR FILE,
CARM.

ZOOLOGY.
DRACOBIOLOGY.
QUANTICO RIGHT OUT OF
COLLEGE. YOU GOT THE
BOOKLEARNING.

LEARNING'S
ONE THING. BUT THE
DOING'S HEAVY. TOO
HEAVY. I BEEN ON
PILLS SINCE I WAS
THIRTY.

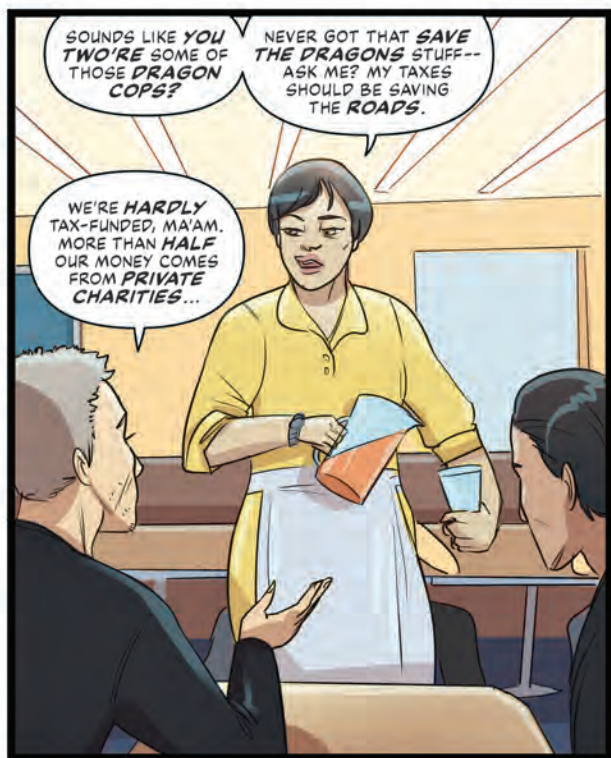
HAVEN'T HAD
AN APPETITE IN
YEARS. EVERY DAY
ON THIS JOB'S A
NIGHTMARE.

THAT'S WHY
PEOPLE QUIT.



I WROTE MY **THESIS** ON THE **SCALE TRADE**, NEIL. MY EYES ARE **WIDE OPEN**.

I'M SORRY YOUR OTHER PARTNERS WERE SO **NAIVE**. BUT I'M NOT, I'M **READY**.



WE'RE **HARDLY** TAX-FUNDED, MA'AM. MORE THAN **HALF** OUR MONEY COMES FROM **PRIVATE CHARITIES**...

SOUNDS LIKE YOU **TWO'RE** SOME OF THOSE **DRAGON COPS**?

NEVER GOT THAT **SAVE THE DRAGONS** STUFF-- ASK ME? MY TAXES SHOULD BE **SAVING THE ROADS**.



...BUT YEAH, WE'RE THE **DRAGON COPS**. I'M **AGENT CUTTER**. THIS IS MY PARTNER, **TRITOS**.

LOOKS **YOUNG**. MUST BE **HARD** WORKING CASES WITHOUT HIS **NIGHT LICENSE**.

HE'S A **SAPLING**.

BUT SOME DAY, HE'LL BE THE GUY **SAVING YOU** FROM **SELLING DRAGON** IN YOUR **BURGERS**.



SO WHAT? **INTERNET** SAYS **HYBRID MEAT** DON'T SPOIL, AND IT'S ONE LESS **FIREBREATHER** EATING MY **KIDS**.

BIG MONEY MUNROE UP THERE CAN KEEP YOU **SCALECHASERS** ON LIFE SUPPORT IF SHE WANTS...

...BUT IF YOU ASK ME IT'S TIME YOU BOYS GOT A **REAL JOB**.



HOW CAN SHE BELIEVE THAT **FIREBREATHING** STUFF? IT'S BEEN **DEBUNKED** OVER AND OVER.

SMEARING THEM AS **UNIQUELY DEADLY** MAKES IT EASIER FOR THE **PUBLIC** TO NOT CARE.

BUT HEY, NOT EVERYONE BELIEVES THE NEWS. **YOU DIDN'T**.

HOW COULD I?



"I REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME I SAW ONE IN PERSON."

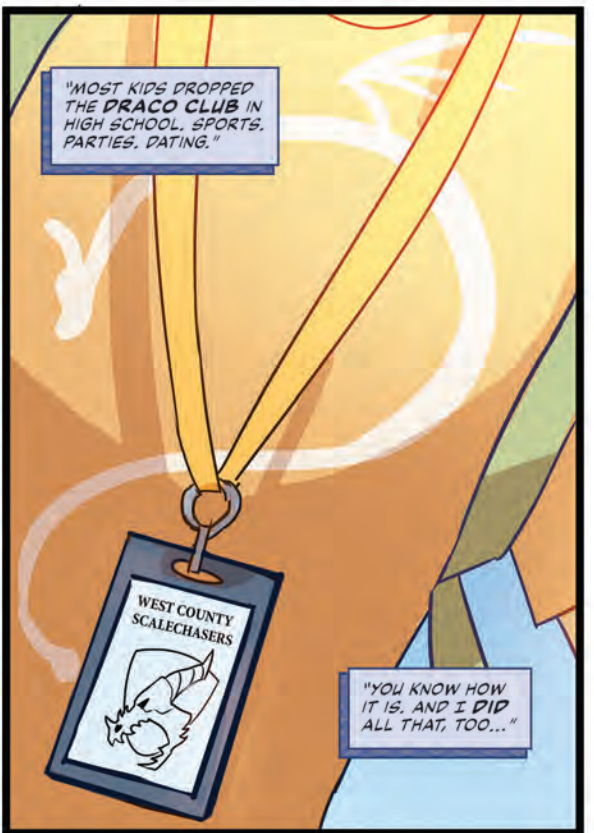
"WE WERE AT YELLOWSTONE, JUST LIKE IN THE DCA COMMERCIALS. A SCHOOL TRIP."

"WE WALKED ALL MORNING, BUT THEN, RIGHT AFTER LUNCH... THERE IT WAS, NEIL."

"A PUREBRED DRAGON WITH THREE PUPS!"

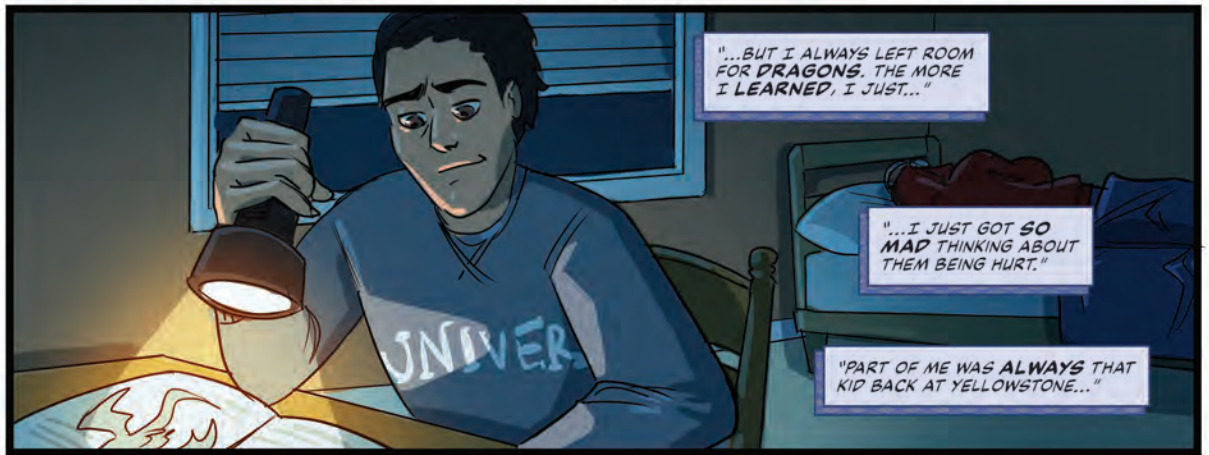


"IT WAS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING I'D EVER SEEN."



"MOST KIDS DROPPED THE DRACO CLUB IN HIGH SCHOOL, SPORTS, PARTIES, DATING."

"YOU KNOW HOW IT IS, AND I DID ALL THAT, TOO..."



"...BUT I ALWAYS LEFT ROOM FOR DRAGONS. THE MORE I LEARNED, I JUST..."

"...I JUST GOT SO MAD THINKING ABOUT THEM BEING HURT."

"PART OF ME WAS ALWAYS THAT KID BACK AT YELLOWSTONE..."



...PROBABLY ALWAYS WILL BE, TOO.

BUT WAIT-- WERE YOU *SERIOUS* ABOUT THIS PLACE? YOU THINK THEY'RE SERVING *DRACOMEAT*?



IT'S NOT *IMPOSSIBLE*. FIREBREATHING'S A HOAX, SURE. BUT *DRACOMEAT* REALLY DOES RESIST SPOILAGE.

BREEDING DRAGON INTO LIVESTOCK GETS YOU A *CHEAP, LASTING PRODUCT*.



THIS PLACE WAS *CLEAN* AT THE LAST INSPECTION... A DECADE AGO. WE CAN'T BE *EVERYWHERE*.

EVEN WITH MUNROE, OUR *FUNDING* DOESN'T GO FAR. SPEAKING OF WHICH--READY TO CLOCK IN?

DAY ONE, CARM, AND IT'S THE *DEEP END*. NEIGHBORS CALLED IT IN. COULD BE *CHOPPERS*.



I DIDN'T GET INTO THIS TO FIGHT THE SYMPTOMS. I WANT THE *DISEASE*. I READ THE BRIEF, NEIL.

HOW MANY *TIMES* DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU I'M *READY*? LET'S *SWIM*.



KNOW WHAT? MAYBE I WAS *WRONG*. MAYBE YOU *ARE* READY.

BUT UNTIL WE FIND OUT, I'LL DO THE *TALKING*...

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Magma is blessed to be partnered with such a variety of talented creators and hard-working retailers and distributors. But we all have at least one thing in common:

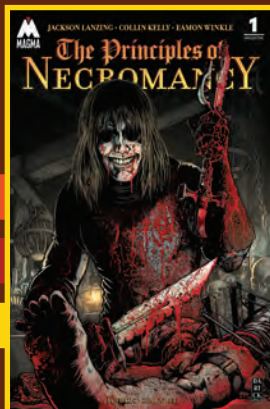
A burning love for comics in our hearts and souls.

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MAGMA LAUNCH TITLES



THE PRINCIPLES OF NECROMANCY

COVER A: EAMON WINKLE

VARIANT: JANA HEIDERSDORF

INCENTIVE: DARICK ROBERTSON



SILICON BANDITS

COVER A: DALIBOR TALAJIĆ

VARIANT: GORAN PARLOV

INCENTIVE: MIKE DEODATO



THE SCALE TRADE

COVER A: MEGAN HUANG

VARIANT: MAX DUNBAR

INCENTIVE: WALTER SIMONSON



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