



#1
3.99 US

BUCCELLATO · SIMEONE · OTSMANE-ELHAOU

MIDLIFE

(OR HOW TO HERO AT FIFTY!)



1997





BATMAN AND ROBIN. Obviously.

SHAUN, bruh... LISTEN, WE ALL AGREE IT SUCKED, SO MAYBE WE DON'T NEED TO KEEP TALKING ABOUT IT.



HOW CAN WE NOT?! COMIC BOOK MOVIES ARE DONE. NO BATMAN. NO SUPERMAN. AND YOU CAN ~~FORGET~~ FORGET EVER SEEING THE X-MEN, SPIDEY, OR DAREDEVIL! EVER.

THERE'S NO WAY STUDIOS ARE GOING TO TAKE THE GENRE SERIOUSLY AFTER THIS. I GUARANTEE YOU THAT SUPER-HERO MOVIES ARE DONE. FOREVER.



IT'S JUST ONE MOVIE, BRO.

WHY DO YOU ALWAYS TAKE THIS ~~ONE~~ TO HEART?

BECAUSE! A BAT CREDIT CARD! It's a kick in the nuts to Tim Burton and to the greatest superhero that ever was or will be.



WHO NEEDS BATMAN WHEN WE HAVE REAL LIFE HEROES LIKE YOU JOINING THE L.A.P.D.?

Nah, son. COPS AIN'T HEROES. I'M JUST DOING THIS FOR THE BENEFITS.

AND THE GUN.

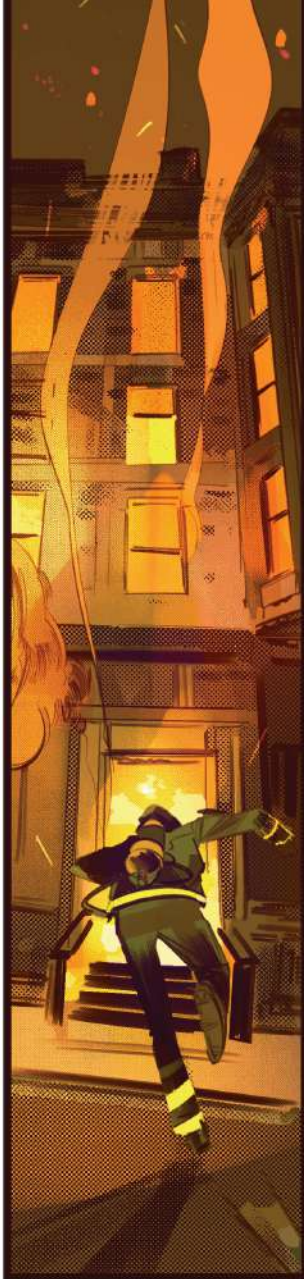
AND THE GUN.



FIREFIIGHTERS ARE THE ONES THAT RUN INTO BURNING BUILDINGS... HE'S THE HERO.



ME? No...



MY DAD WAS THE HERO.



HONESTLY, ON THE DL... I DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO DO IT.

(DOWN LOW.)



Dude. WHY NOT?
MY MOM DOESN'T WANT ME TO.
For obvious reasons.



THAT. IT'S YOUR BIRTHRIGHT. AND THEY GOT DOPE BENEFITS, TOO.

I DUNNO.

YOU'RE TRIPPIN'. WHAT ELSE ARE YOU GONNA DO WITH YOUR LIFE?



2023





...SQUEEZED BETWEEN THE LARGER BABY BOOMER AND MILLENNIAL GENERATIONS, THOSE BORN BETWEEN 1965 AND 1980 ARE OFTEN CONSIDERED THE LOST GENERATION. THE UNSUNG GENERATION...

(AUDIO-BOOK)
...AND ONCE UPON A TIME, THE SLACKER GENERATION.



YOU'RE UP WAY EARLY... EVEN FOR YOU.

Mhm. I THINK OFFICIALLY I'VE REACHED OLD MAN STATUS.

OVER-ACHIEVER.

MAYBE I JUST LOVE MONDAYS.

...BUT GENERATION XERS WERE NO MORE RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT LABEL THAN THEY WERE FOR BEING LATCHKEY KIDS, FOR TRICKLE-DOWN ECONOMICS, OR FOR BLACK MONDAY--



OR YOU WERE AFRAID TO GO BACK TO DREAMING ABOUT BAT-NIPPLES.

OR.

I LOVE THE JOB SO MUCH, THAT I CAN'T WAIT TO GO IN.



OR MAYBE YOU GOT UP SUPER EARLY TO WRITE A TRANSFER REQUEST OUT OF PERSONAL STANDARDS.

If only.



NOW THERE'S A THOUGHT. DO YOU REALLY WANT TO DO YOUR LAST FIVE YEARS IN THAT DEPARTMENT?

IF ONLY.

WHO SAYS I'M DOING FIVE MORE? MAYBE I JUST FILLED OUT MY RETIREMENT PAPERS.



AND I KNOW YOU REALLY WANT TO ACT LIKE IT'S NOT A THING...

...BUT HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MY LOVE.

THANKS. LOVE YOU.



FIFTY'S A BIG ONE.

Love you...