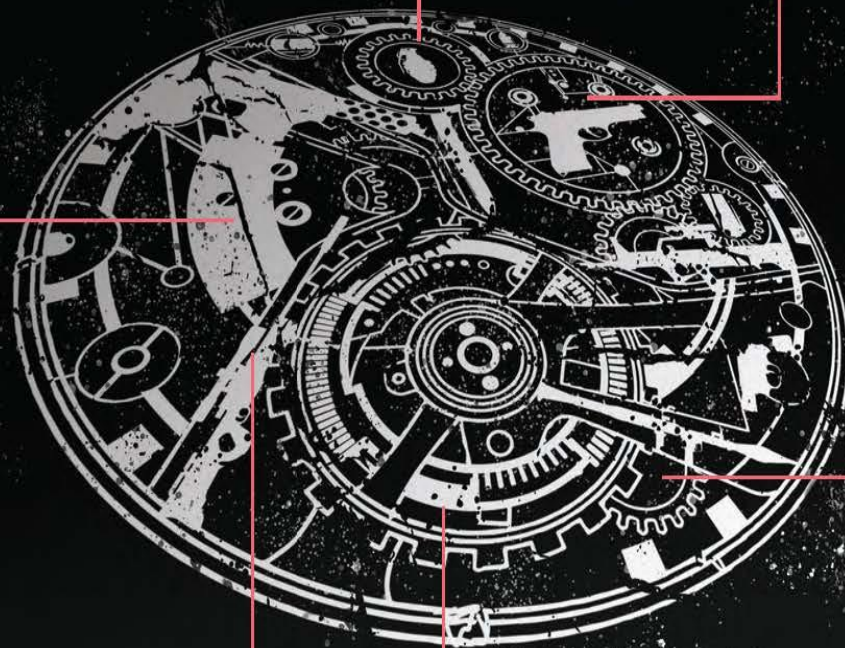


A VICIOUS CIRCLE™

WRITTEN BY
MATTSON TOMLIN

ILLUSTRATED BY
LEE BERMEJO

LETTERED BY
BECCA CAREY



EDITOR
SIERRA HAHN

COVER BY
LEE BERMEJO

DESIGNERS
MICHELLE ANKLEY &
MARIE KRUPINA



A VICIOUS CIRCLE No. 1 (of 3), December 2022.
Published by BOOM! Studios, a division of Boom
Entertainment, Inc., 6920 Melrose Avenue, Los
Angeles, CA 90038. A Vicious Circle is™ & © 2022 Razer
Entertainment & Lee Bermejo. All rights reserved.
BOOM! Studios™ and the BOOM! Studios logo are
trademarks of Boom Entertainment, Inc., registered
in various countries and categories. All characters,
events, and institutions depicted herein are fictional.
Any similarity between any of the names, characters,
persons, events, and/or institutions in this publication
to actual names, characters, and persons, whether
living or dead, events, and/or institutions is unintended
and purely coincidental. BOOM! Studios does not read
or accept unsolicited submissions of ideas, stories, or
artwork. PRINTED IN CANADA.

VARIANT COVERS BY
LEE BERMEJO
ALEX GARNER
JAE LEE
INHYUK LEE
TULA LOTAY



YOU WANNA KNOW THE TRUTH?



I'M FROM THE FUTURE.



MAAAAAAAN, ~~████~~ YOU.

YOU DONT WANNA TELL ME, TELL ME TO STUFF OFF, MIND MY OWN BUSINESS.

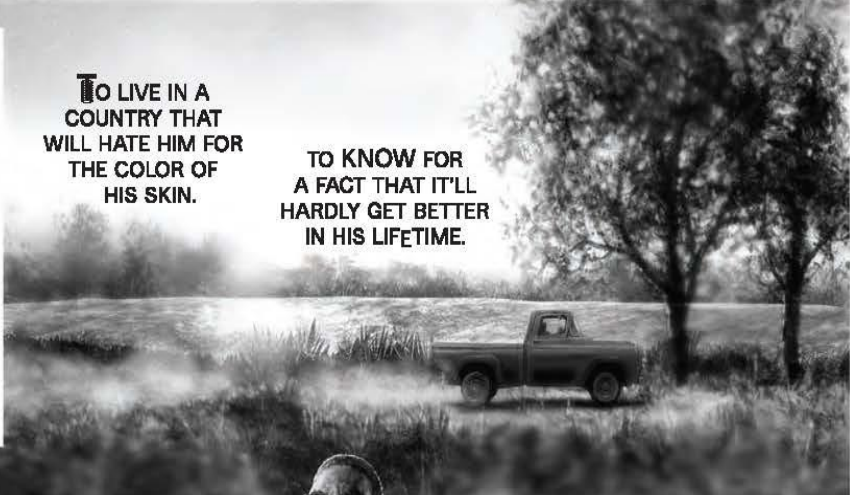
YOU AINT GOTTA BE PATRONIZING!

YOU'RE RIGHT. I APOLOGIZE.





**HOW DO YOU PREPARE
A CHILD FOR THE LIFE
THEY'RE GONNA HAVE?**



**TO LIVE IN A
COUNTRY THAT
WILL HATE HIM FOR
THE COLOR OF
HIS SKIN.**

**TO KNOW FOR
A FACT THAT IT'LL
HARDLY GET BETTER
IN HIS LIFETIME.**



**OR HIS
CHILDREN'S,
FOR THAT
MATTER.**



**HOW DO I PREPARE
HIM FOR WHAT'S
COMING?**



I DON'T KNOW HOW IT HAPPENED. BUT I DON'T NEED TO.



I ALREADY KNOW THE OUTCOME.



THIS WAS ALWAYS GOING TO HAPPEN.

HER PULSE IS STRONG. THANK GOD.



NOT WHAT I...



NO.









TODAY'S ORDER OF OPERATIONS... FIRST, WE'LL--

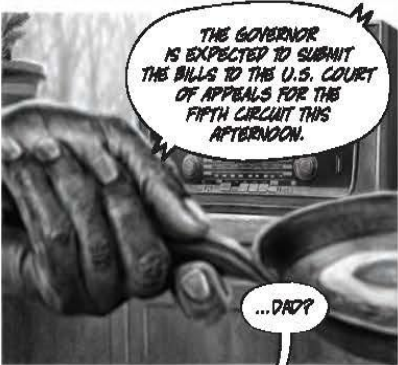
FISH!

--EAT SOME BREAKFAST. THEN...

...FURTHER ESCALATING THE TENSIONS IN THE SCHOOL DESEGREGATION CRISIS...



SUPERINTENDENT REYNOLD JUST ORDERED SCHOOLS SHUT DOWN ONCE AGAIN IN AN ATTEMPT TO GIVE GOVERNOR DAVIS TIME TO PROPOSE A NEW ROUND OF BILLS TO BLOCK INTEGRATION...



THE GOVERNOR IS EXPECTED TO SUBMIT THE BILLS TO THE U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE FIFTH CIRCUIT THIS AFTERNOON.

...DAD?



SORRY, TOMMY. DAD'S GOTTA RUN INTO TOWN FOR WORK. REAL QUICK. WE'LL FISH WHEN I GET BACK.. YOU GET THE POLES SET UP WHILE I'M GONE.

THE POLES ARE IN THE CELLAR. YOU WANT ME TO--

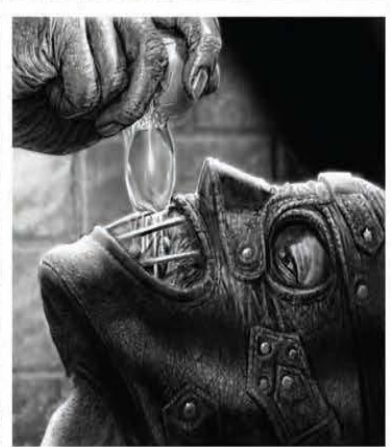


NO.



WHAT'S THE RULE?







...DAD?

TOMMY...

WHAT DID I SAY?



DID YOU GET THE POLES?

YOU CAN'T COME DOWN HERE.



COME ON, KIDDO.



WELL FISH WHEN I GET--

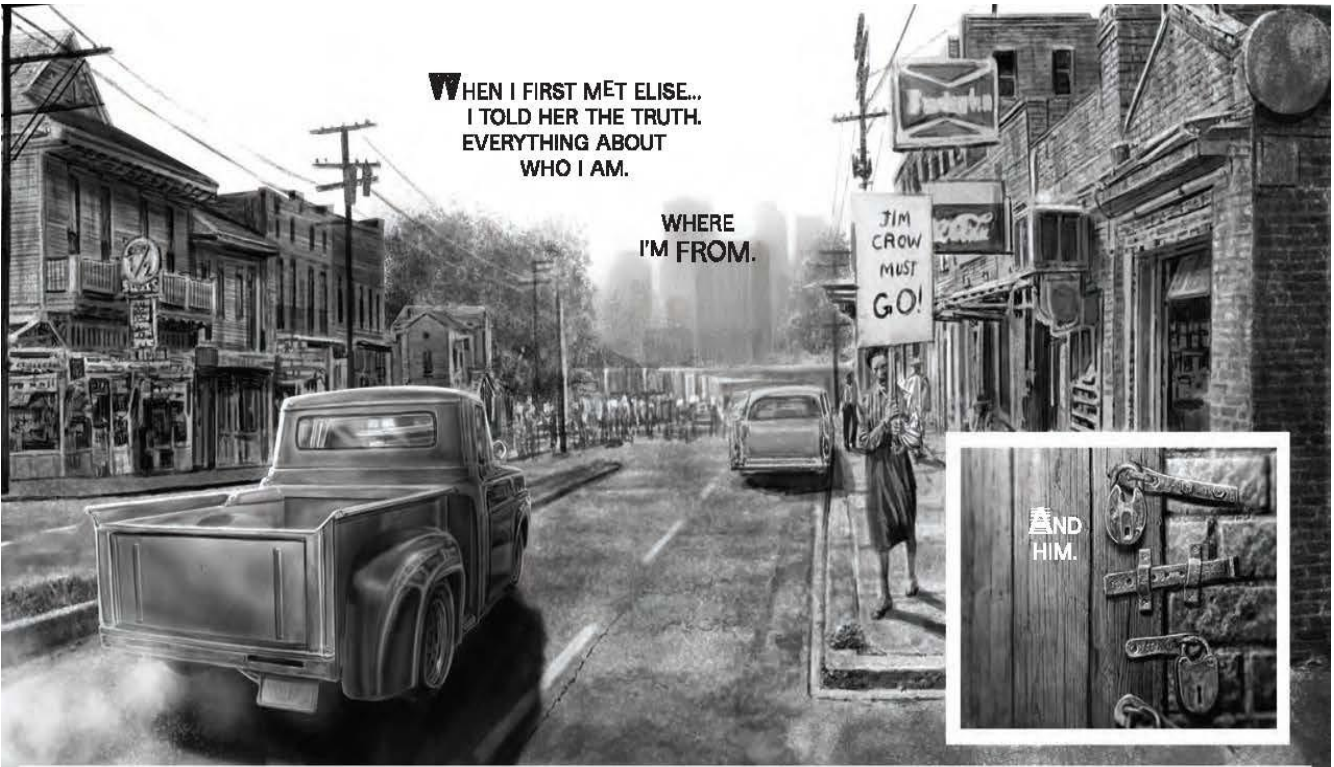
THERE'S NO LINES ON THESE RODS.



I'LL PICK UP SOME LINE WHILE I'M OUT. YOU MIND YOUR MOTHER, OKAY?

YES, SIR.

AYABOX.



WHEN I FIRST MET ELISE...
I TOLD HER THE TRUTH.
EVERYTHING ABOUT
WHO I AM.

WHERE
I'M FROM.



AND
HIM.



TOMMY'S
GETTING
OLDER...

IT'S GETTING
HARDER TO LIE
TO HIM.

IT'S HARD IN
GENERAL.



WISH I COULD
TELL HIM LIFE
WAS GONNA
GET EASIER.



BUT IT'S NOT.

