

CHARLES BUKOWSKI SAID THE PROBLEM WITH THE WORLD IS THAT THE INTELLIGENT PEOPLE ARE FULL OF DOUBTS, WHILE THE STUPID ONES ARE FULL OF CONFIDENCE.

NO MAN BETTER PROVES THAT POINT THAN THE ONE I'M ABOUT TO INTRODUCE YOU TO.

HE'S A RELIC OF A BYGONE ERA, THE LIVING EMBODIMENT OF THE SUFFOCATED SPIRIT OF SEX, DRUGS, AND ROCK AND ROLL.

THAT'S HIM RIGHT OVER THERE, THE ONE AND ONLY--

ERNE RAY CLEMENTINE!

HEYA, JANIE.

ERNE'S A PROFANE, ILLITERATE, DRUG ADDICTED, NE'ER-DO-WELL, WITH A FIFTH-GRADE EDUCATION.

AND THE ONLY THING STANDING BETWEEN US AND TOTAL ARMAGEDDON.

BUT I'M JUMPING AHEAD.

TRY THAT SHIT ON ME, YOU LOSE A HAND.

PRESENTLY, ERNE IS SCANNING THE LOCAL PENIZENS

...ON THE HUNT FOR A SPECIAL FRIEND.

NO, NOT THEM...

NOT TONIGHT ANYWAY...

AND CERTAINLY NOT THEM.

PIECE O' SHIT OWES THE OUTFIT TWENTY LARGE.

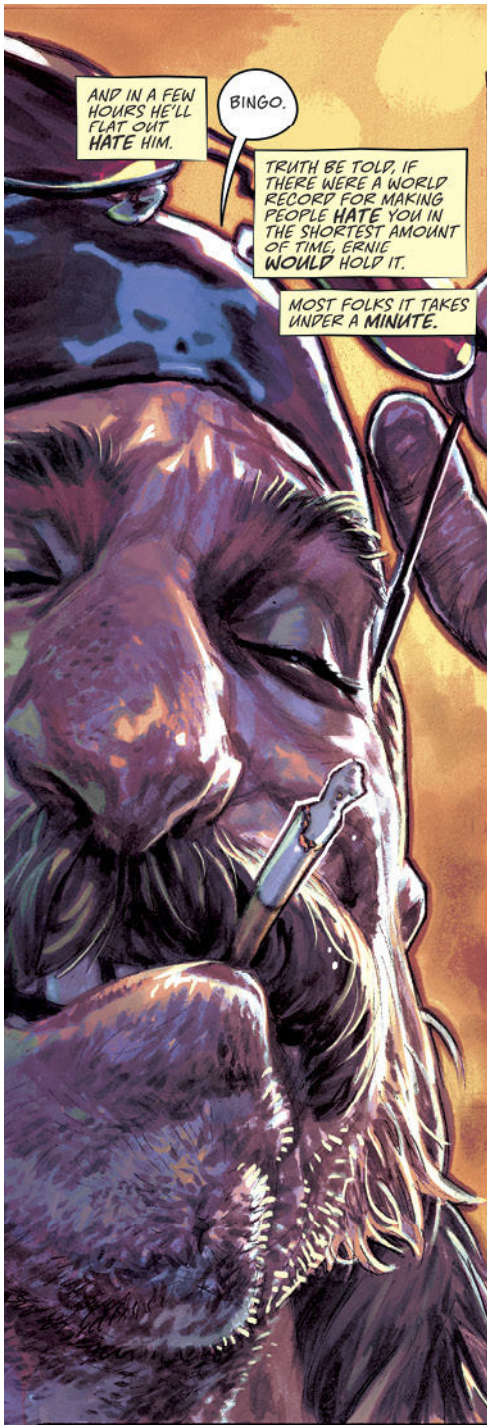
NO, ERNE IS AFTER THE ONE MAN WHO CAN END HIS CURRENT DISTRESS.

HIS BEST FRIEND...

SPANISH LARRY OVER THERE IN THE GREEN SHIRT.

LARRY, HOWEVER, NEVER THOUGHT HIS ROLE AS ERNE'S DRUG DEALER MADE THEM FRIENDS.

FRIENDS? I DON'T EVEN LIKE THE GUY.



AND IN A FEW HOURS HE'LL FLAT OUT HATE HIM.

BINGO.

TRUTH BE TOLD, IF THERE WERE A WORLD RECORD FOR MAKING PEOPLE HATE YOU IN THE SHORTEST AMOUNT OF TIME, ERNIE WOULD HOLD IT.

MOST FOLKS IT TAKES UNDER A MINUTE.

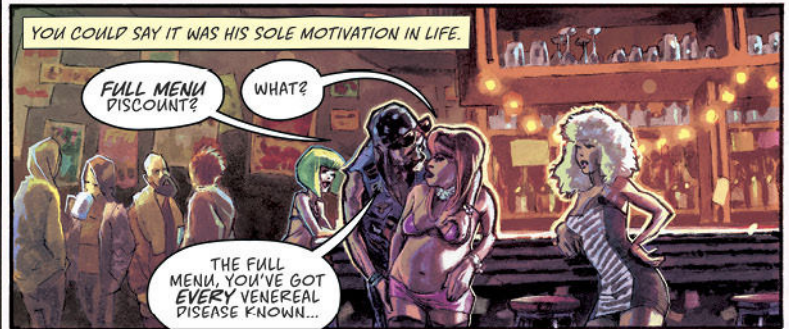


START THE TIMER AND SEE WHERE YOU LAND...

LOOKIN' FOR A PARTY, ERNIE?

HELL, DELORIS, YOU KNOW I GOT ONE RULE: PARTY FOREVER AN'--

NEVER LET THE GOOD TIMES END. WE KNOW.



YOU COULD SAY IT WAS HIS SOLE MOTIVATION IN LIFE.

FULL MENU DISCOUNT?

WHAT?

THE FULL MENU, YOU'VE GOT EVERY VENEREAL DISEASE KNOWN...



YOU'RE A WASTE OF MY TIME!

TIME, YOU WASTE IT TILL IT WASTES YOU.

UNLESS YOU GET SOME PENICILLIN IT WON'T BE TOO LONG...

YOU SMELL LIKE DIARRHEA SOMETHIN' AWFUL, ERNIE.

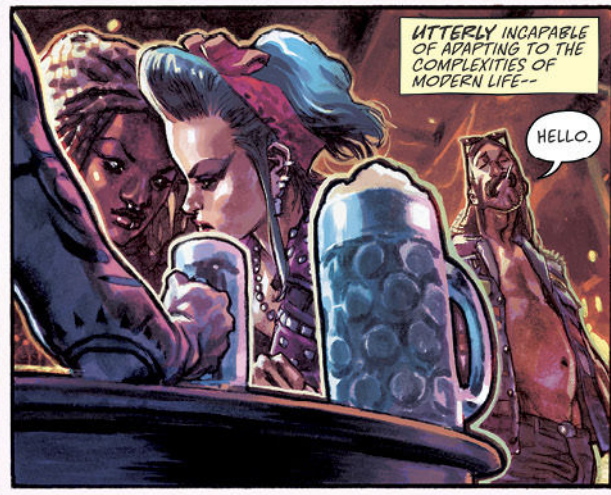


THAT'S YER UPPER LIP, SISTER SANCHEZ.

SEE WHAT I MEAN?

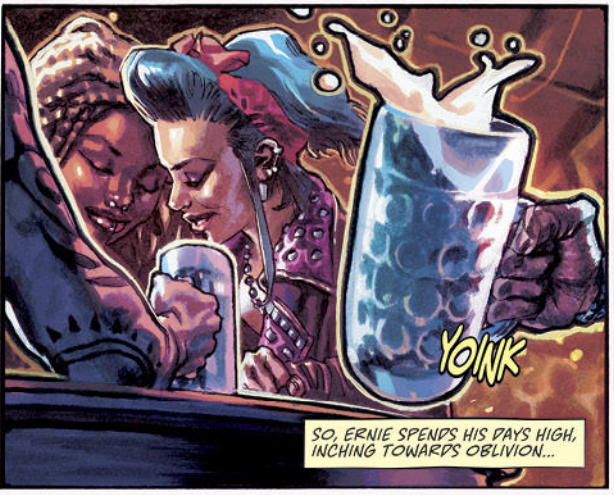
SOMETIMES I THINK IT'S NOT HIS FAULT.

HE REALLY IS A MAN OUT OF TIME.



UTTERLY INCAPABLE OF ADAPTING TO THE COMPLEXITIES OF MODERN LIFE--

HELLO.



YONK

SO, ERNIE SPENDS HIS DAYS HIGH, INCHING TOWARDS OBLIVION...