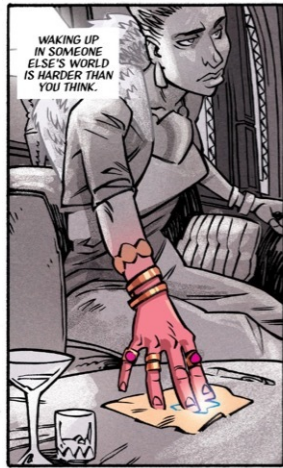


JASON LATOUR IVAN BRANDON GREG HINKLE MATT WILSON
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BLACK CLOUD™























WHERE I'M FROM, IT'S EASY TO LEAVE. BECAUSE NO ONE EVER WANTS TO.

BUT GOING THERE COSTS.



AND GETTING BACK... THE ENTRANCE CHANGES EVERY TIME. IT'S HARD TO FIND.

TAKING TODD TO THAT BAR WAS A BIG STUPID RISK.



BUT I HAD TO MAKE AN IMPRESSION.

I NEED DUMB KIDS WITH POCKETS I CAN EMPTY.

THE ONLY WAY I KNOW HOW TO SURVIVE UP HERE.



UP HERE WE HAVE NO PAST, NO PROSPECTS. NO ONE CARES ABOUT OUR STORIES. NO ONE LISTENS.

THOSE WHO MAKE IT OUT ARE MOSTLY ON THE STREET. BROKEN.



NO ONE WANTS TO TELL THAT STORY.

Image Comics Presents

BLACK CLOUD

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THE FUTURE
WILL ALWAYS
BE DARK.

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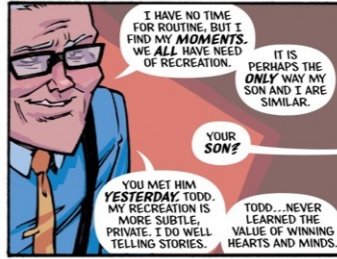
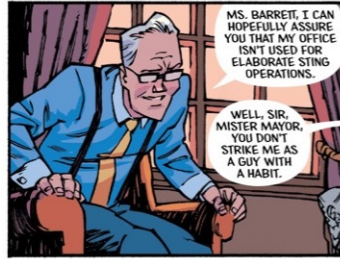
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THE WORLD ABOVE, THIS WORLD IS TERRIFYING. WITHOUT THE STORY, IT'S JUST CHAOS.



LIKE ONE OF THOSE RICKETY RIDES GONE OFF THE RAILS AND AT A CLIFF.

I'M TRYING TO HOLD ON LIKE I HAVE A CHANCE. BUT I'M JUST WAITING ON IT ALL TO GO DARK.



BUT EVEN THROUGH MY GRITTED TEETH, SOMETIMES I HAVE TO LAUGH.



THE MAYOR THINKS HIS KID'S AN [REDACTED] TOO.



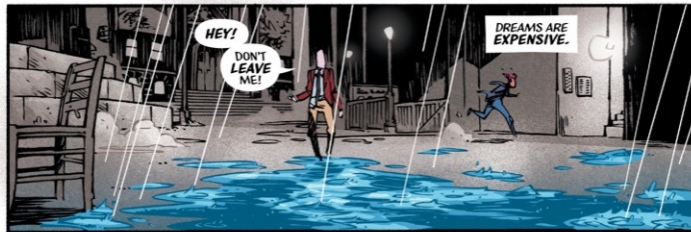
AND HE'S HIRED ME TO MAKE HIM DISAPPEAR.











Rated **M** / Mature



BLACK CLOUD

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FUTURE'S A MAGIC
TRICK. A SLEIGHT
OF HAND.

A STORY.



OUR STORIES SHAPED
OUR WORLD.

AND BURNT IT.



CONJURED OUR
RECKONING.



WE TELL THESE STORIES TO OURSELVES. STILL, TO KEEP ON GOING.

LIKE DAYTIME SOAPS. STARRING THAT BOY WHO JUMPED THE TURNSTILE.

EPIC BATTLES AGAINST CUSTOMER SERVICE.



THEY LIFT US UP OR PIN US DOWN. PUT US ON THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW.

YOU, SIR. I SEE BIG THINGS FOR YOU.



C'MON FOLKS. WHAT'S IT WORTH TO YOU?



OR OFF A LEDGE.

GET A JOB, LADY.



THEY CAN MAKE US BELIEVE IN THE IMPOSSIBLE.

OR JUST TELL US WHAT WE WANT TO HEAR.

ONE DOLLAR. IT'S ONLY ONE! EVERY DAY WITH THIS!



I DON'T ASK FOR ONE HUNDRED. JUST ONE!



YEAH, THE SAME WOMAN. OH, NO, HOLD ON...



STORY'S THE ONLY THING THAT EVER MATTERED.

AND MY STORY?

WHY DO YOU DO THIS, LADY? WHY DO YOU DO THIS EVERY DAY TO ME?



...MY STORY SUCKS.



WHAT IF I TOLD YOU I'M FROM A PLACE THAT SAW THIS ALL COMING?



THIS POINT IN TIME, ALL OF YOUR BRAINS SAUCED UP IN VIRAL CONTENT AND FANTASY SPORTS, BROADCAST REALITY.



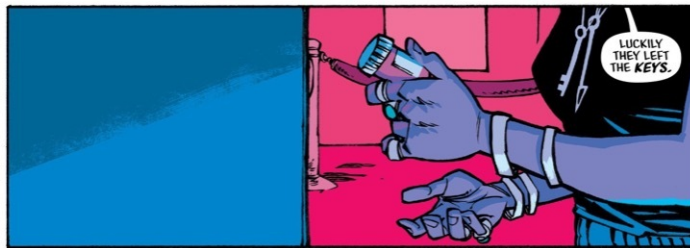
I'M FROM A PLACE OF STORIES, SO BIG THEY DEFINED EVERYTHING.



PEOPLE SO COMMITTED TO THEIR STORIES THEY CHOSE TO LIVE IN THEM.

JUST OPENED A DOOR INTO ANOTHER FUTURE, AWAY FROM HERE.

WALKED THROUGH THAT DOOR AND NEVER BACK.



LUCKILY THEY LEFT THE KEYS.



