



CREATED AND WRITTEN BY  
**MICHAEL ALAN NELSON**

ILLUSTRATED BY  
**DAN MORA**

COLORS BY  
**GABRIEL CASSATA**

LETTERS BY  
**ED DUKESHIRE**

COVER BY  
**DAN MORA**

DESIGNER  
**SCOTT NEWMAN**

ASSISTANT EDITOR  
**CHRIS ROSA**

EDITOR  
**ERIC HARBURN**

# HEXED™

**BOOM!**  
STUDIOS

WWW.BOOM-STUDIOS.COM

HEXED Ongoing No. 7, February 2015. Published by BOOM! Studios, a division of Boom Entertainment, Inc., 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 450, Los Angeles, CA 90036-5679. Hexed is ™ & © 2015 Michael Alan Nelson and Boom Entertainment, Inc. 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. For information regarding the CPSIA on this printed material, call: (203) 595-3636 and provide reference #RICH - 604098. PRINTED IN USA.



# WORDS UNSPOKEN

"WHEREIN LUCIFER CONTEMPLATES A JOB OFFER AND FINDS BOB COUNTING."



WHAT'S GOING ON, VAL? WHY DID YOU WANT TO MEET HERE?

I HAD AN ERRAND TO RUN AND THOUGHT I WAS BEING FOLLOWED. FIGURED NO ONE WOULD THINK TO LOOK FOR US HERE SINCE THERE'S REALLY NO **HERE** ANYMORE.

RUINS OF THE BRISENDINE ART GALLERY.

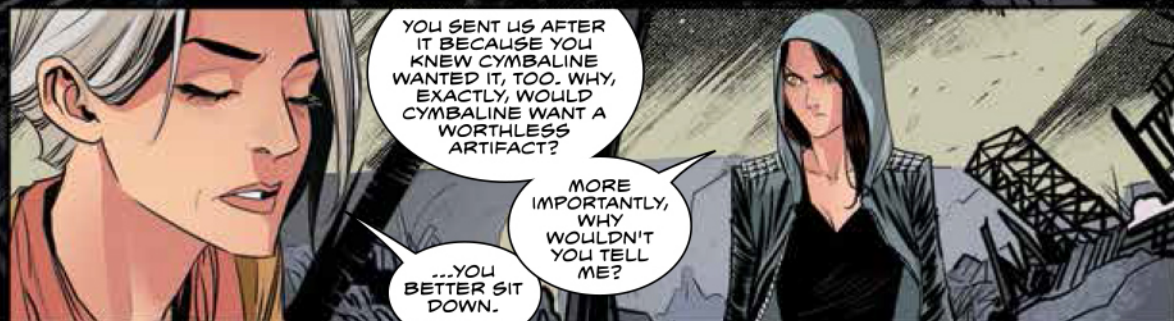


ARE YOU GIRLS ALL RIGHT?

ALL RIGHT? WE WERE NEARLY DECAPITATED BY A BRANDY MELVILLE MODEL RIGHT BEFORE SHE AND HER BOY-TOY WANTED TO PLAY A LITTLE **LIVE-ACTION GTA** ON 91.

AND THAT WAS **BEFORE** WE CRASHED THE **FORO OBSCURA**. ALL TO GET OUR HANDS ON A **SUPPOSEDLY** WORTHLESS TOTEM.

A TOTEM THAT MADAME CYMBALINE NOW HAS, BY THE WAY.



YOU SENT US AFTER IT BECAUSE YOU KNEW CYMBALINE WANTED IT, TOO. WHY, EXACTLY, WOULD CYMBALINE WANT A WORTHLESS ARTIFACT?

MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHY WOULDN'T YOU TELL ME?

...YOU BETTER SIT DOWN.









I DON'T FOLLOW.

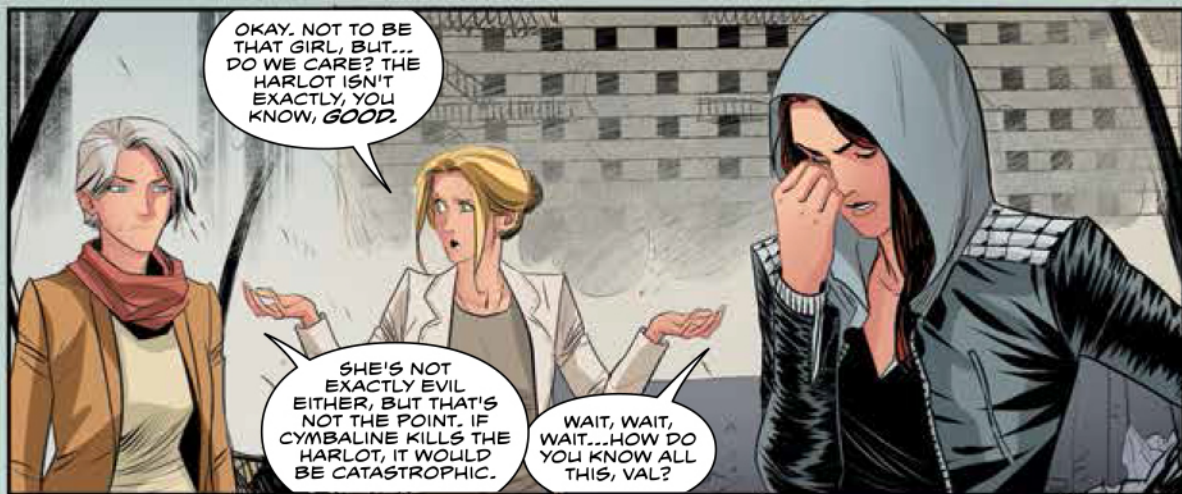
THE HARLOT KNOWS **EVERYTHING**. SHE CAN SEE EVERY POSSIBLE FUTURE LAID OUT BEFORE HER LIKE SOME GRAND TAPESTRY.

BUT THIS SHROUD WOULD CAST A SHADOW OVER CYMBALINE. THE HARLOT WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE HER, OR KNOW WHAT SHE'S DOING, WHAT SHE'S THINKING.



WHY WOULD SHE NEED TO HIDE FROM THE HARLOT?

BECAUSE CYMBALINE PLANS TO KILL HER.



OKAY. NOT TO BE THAT GIRL, BUT... DO WE CARE? THE HARLOT ISN'T EXACTLY, YOU KNOW, *GOOD*.

SHE'S NOT EXACTLY EVIL EITHER, BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT. IF CYMBALINE KILLS THE HARLOT, IT WOULD BE CATASTROPHIC.

WAIT, WAIT, WAIT...HOW DO YOU KNOW ALL THIS, VAL?



... THE HARLOT TOLD ME.



**WHAT?!**



BEFORE YOU GO VOLCANIC, I WAS INVITED. LUCIFER, SHE WOULDN'T HAVE REACHED OUT TO ME IF IT WASN'T IMPORTANT.

IMPORTANT TO *HER*! THE *ONLY* THING THE HARLOT WANTS IS TO MAKE SURE I BECOME THE NEXT KEEPER OF SECRETS. AND NOW SHE'S GOT YOU HELPING HER!

ALL RIGHT, LET'S ALL JUST CALM D--

SHUT UP, INTERN!

I TOLD YOU TO NEVER, EVER SPEAK WITH HER!

I DECIDE WITH WHOM I DO OR DO NOT SPEAK. THAT'S ONE OF THE ADVANTAGES OF BEING AN ADULT.

OH, IT'S ALL PERFECTLY CLEAR NOW.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

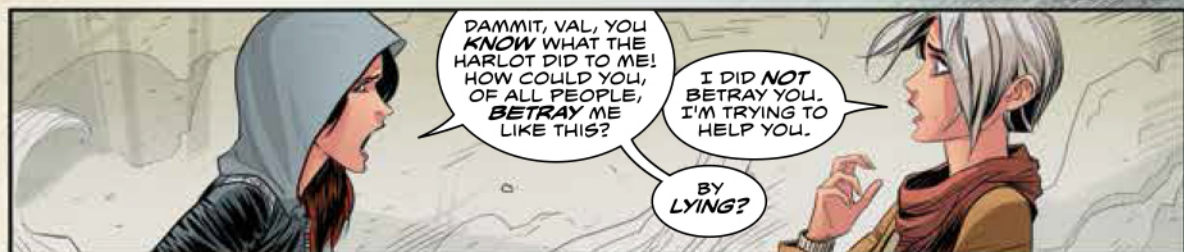
...  
CYMBALINE CAN REMOVE MY HEX.

SHE OFFERED ME A JOB, VAL. IF I ACCEPT, SHE PROMISED TO REMOVE THE MARK AND ITS MAGIC OVER ME. *THAT'S* WHY THE HARLOT WANTS TO STOP HER.

LUCIFER, LISTEN TO ME. IF CYMBALINE DOES THIS, YOU WILL EITHER BE DEAD WITHIN THE YEAR OR BECOME A *MONSTER* AS BAD AS CYMBALINE HERSELF.

I HONESTLY DON'T KNOW WHICH SCENARIO *FRIGHTENS* ME MORE.





DAMMIT, VAL, YOU **KNOW** WHAT THE HARLOT DID TO ME! HOW COULD YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, **BETRAY** ME LIKE THIS?

I DID **NOT** BETRAY YOU. I'M TRYING TO HELP YOU.

BY LYING?



I DIDN'T LIE. I KEPT SECRETS. BUT IF YOU MUST KNOW, I **WOULD** LIE.

I WOULD LIE, I WOULD **CHEAT**, I WOULD STRAIGHT-UP COMMIT **GENOCIDE** IF I KNEW IT WOULD KEEP YOU **SAFE**!



YOU ARE A **DAUGHTER** TO ME. AND I WILL DO **ANYTHING...** **ANYTHING** TO PROTECT YOU.

EVEN LIVE WITH YOU HATING ME.



WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'M TAKING THE CROWN. ARE YOU GOING TO TRY AND STOP ME?



NO, LUCIFER. I **TRUST** YOU TO DO THE RIGHT THING.



...I WISH I COULD SAY THE SAME ABOUT YOU.

