

BAD MEDICINE

NUNZIO DEFILIPPIS CHRISTINA WEIR CHRISTOPHER MITTEN BILL CRABTREE

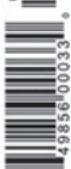
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CHRISTOPHER MITTEN!

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MAUNA KEA, HAWAII

FIVE YEARS AGO...



TELL ME
AGAIN...



...WHY
THIS IS
NECESSARY?



BECAUSE
THE SCIENTIST
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR
LIVES HERE AND HAS
CUT OFF ALL CONTACT
WITH THE WORLD.





"SCIENTIST?"
REALLY? HE'S A
HERMIT ON A
MOUNTAINSIDE.

WHO HASN'T
PUBLISHED A
THING IN TEN
YEARS.



ISOLATING
HIMSELF FROM
SOCIETY HAS
ALLOWED HIM TO
CONTINUE HIS
RESEARCH.



RIGHT.
HIS RESEARCH.
ON MORPHIC
FIELDS, YES?

AN ALREADY
DISCREDITED--

REMEMBER
OUR PURPOSE,
RANDAL.



I JUST
DON'T KNOW HOW
LEARNING ABOUT
MORPHIC FIELDS WILL
HELP UNDO--

IT ISN'T
ABOUT UNDOING
ANYTHING. WHAT
IS PAST IS
PAST.

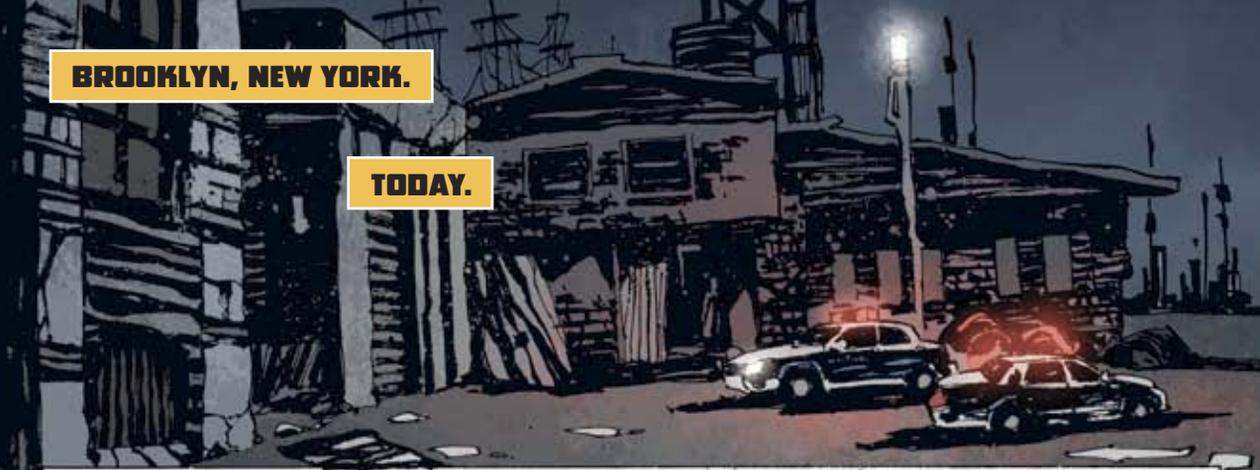
AND IT ISN'T
JUST LEARNING
ABOUT MORPHIC
FIELDS. THIS IS JUST
YOUR FIRST STOP.



YOUR
JOURNEY
HAS JUST
BEGUN.

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

TODAY.



LAB IS OWNED BY ONE DOCTOR CHARLES KEEFER, BUT THE DEAD BODY'S I.D. BELONGED TO ONE MATT DALTON. LAB ASSISTANT.

HIS I.D.?



YEAH, WE CAN'T MATCH THE FACE YET, BECAUSE...

...WELL...



...YOU CAN SEE WHY.



WHY IS THERE ALMOST NO BLOOD?

YOU GOT ME, DETECTIVE.



SEE IF WE CAN FIND THIS DOCTOR KEEFER. I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT THE BODY.

KNOCK YOURSELF OUT.



WHAT THE FUCK?

THUD



THAT CAN'T BE RIGHT.



SON OF A BITCH...



THE HEAD CANNOT BE SEEN, BUT IT SHOWS UP IN MAGNETIC RESONANCE IMAGING AND ULTRASOUND.



BUT WHAT'S THE CAUSE OF DEATH? CLEARLY, *THIS* ISN'T ACTUALLY A WOUND AT ALL.

CAN'T BE SURE. I EXPECT THERE'S SOME SIGN ON THE HEAD ITSELF, SO WHEN WE'VE IMAGED IT AS BEST WE CAN WITH THE TOOLS THAT *DO* WORK, I MAY HAVE ANSWERS.



BUT THERE WAS SOMETHING IN THE *BLOOD*.

A VIRUS, MAYBE A RETROVIRUS.



COULD IT BE A TOXIN? COULD HE HAVE BEEN POISONED?

UNCLEAR. I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT. HELL, IT COULD JUST BE A *DISEASE*.



A *DISEASE* THAT...?

HEY DON'T LOOK AT ME. I JUST *WORK* HERE.



DETECTIVE HUFFMAN!



ANY PROGRESS ON THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN?



FINGERPRINTS SHOW THE VICTIM WAS IN FACT MATTHEW DALTON, THE LAB ASSISTANT. HE ONCE WORKED IN A FEDERAL RESEARCH FACILITY, SO WE GOT LUCKY HIS PRINTS WERE ON FILE.

NO SIGN OF DOCTOR KEEFER, DALTON'S BOSS.

AND THE M.E. JUST GAVE ME A RUNAROUND ON CAUSE OF DEATH.



YEAH, I SAW HIS PRELIMINARY FINDINGS. I'M CALLING FOR HELP ON THIS ONE.

YOU GOTTA GIVE ME--

MISSING HEADS? VIRUSES IN THE SYSTEM? IF THIS IS A DISEASE, I WANT SOME BACKUP BEFORE IT SPREADS.



IT'S NOT A DISEASE. IF ANYTHING, IT'S AN EXPERIMENT GONE WRONG.

BUT KEEFER'S LAB HAD ZERO NOTES ON WHATEVER HE WAS RESEARCHING. THE ONLY THING WE FOUND WAS THIS ONE GUY'S NAME.



DOCTOR RANDAL HORNE...?

YEAH. LET ME AT LEAST--

NOPE. I'M NOT WAITING. YOU GO AHEAD AND FIND THIS HORNE.

BUT ME...? I'M CALLING FOR SOME BACKUP.

**CENTERS FOR
DISEASE CONTROL**

DRUID HILLS, GEORGIA

AN
INVISIBLE
HEAD? IS THIS
A JOKE?

IT'S NOT
A JOKE. IT'S A
RETROVIRUS.

THE AUTOPSY
SHOWED THAT THE
CORPSE HAD A RETRO-
VIRUS IN HIS BLOOD.
TAKE A LOOK.

REALLY?
HOW DID THEY
EVEN GET ACCESS
TO THE CARPENTER
TRIALS?

HEAD TO
NEW YORK AND
FIND OUT.

I'LL NEED
A FORENSIC
SPECIALIST.

I'M
ASSIGNING
YOU--

AS LONG
AS IT'S
NOT...

INVISIBLE
HEAD?
I'M IN.

...HOGARTH?

I LOVE
YOU TOO,
BUDDY.

SHUT
UP.

NEW YORK PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL.

WEILL CORNELL MEDICAL CENTER.



DOCTOR RANDAL HORNE...?

THIS IS HIS LAST KNOWN PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT.

SORRY. THAT WAS BEFORE MY TIME.



PERHAPS IF YOU TALKED TO HUMAN RESOURCES...

I DID. I TALKED WITH H.R., AND THE ADMINISTRATION. NO ONE GAVE ME ANYTHING. EXCEPT THAT HE USED TO WORK HERE, IN CARDIOLOGY.

WELL, I'M NOT SURE I'M ABLE TO HELP YOU.



DO YOU SEE THIS BADGE? I'M A DETECTIVE. I WORK HOMICIDE.

THAT MEAN'S SOMEONE IS DEAD. AND THIS DOCTOR HORNE MAY BE ABLE TO HELP ME FIND OUT WHY.

SO YOU'D BETTER FIND A WAY TO HELP ME OR I'LL HAUL YOUR--



DETECTIVE! DETECTIVE!

I'M DOCTOR JAMES LUCAS... I KNEW RANDAL HORNE.



BEFORE HE WALKED AWAY FROM MEDICINE FIVE YEARS AGO, RANDAL HORNE WAS THE MOST BRILLIANT DOCTOR I'D EVER MET.

AND HE KNEW IT.



A GENIUS WITH **ZERO** BEDSIDE MANNER.

UNLESS HE WAS DEALING WITH A REP FROM A PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY. FOR THEM, HE COULD TURN ON THE CHARM.



SORRY, THERE'S NO SMOKING IN HERE.

I KNOW. NO SMOKING ANYWHERE IN A HOSPITAL.



THEN WHY...? NEVER MIND.



ANY IDEA WHERE HORNE IS NOW?

NOT A CLUE. HE WENT ON SOME WORLDWIDE JOURNEY, PROBABLY TO AVOID LOSING HIS LICENSE TO PRACTICE.

LOSING HIS LICENSE? BUT YOU SAID HE WAS **BRILLIANT**.



HE WAS.

BUT EVEN SO... HE DID **KILL** A PATIENT.



YOU HAVE GOT TO SEE THIS.

OR NOT SEE IT. IT'S CRAZY-THE HEAD, IT'S IN-FUCKING-VISIBLE.



ARE YOU SURE WE SHOULD BE DOING THIS? I MEAN, I'M NOT SURE I EVEN WANT TO SEE IT. AND WE COULD GET IN TROUBLE. COULDN'T WE?



BERT?



GOTCHA. GOD, KID, YOU'RE EASY TO SCARE.

SO. NOT. FUNNY.



READY?







MERLIN?

SSH.
IT'S OKAY,
BOY.



YOU'VE REACHED
RANDAL HORNE. THE
WORLD IS FULL OF MYSTERIES.
ONE OF THEM WILL BE
SOLVED ONCE YOU LEAVE
A MESSAGE.

