

**RETURN
OF THE
HERO**



**#1
299¢**

JACK HAMMER



**Barrows
Ionic**

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SOUTH BOSTON, MA.
EARLY SUMMER, 4:33AM.

OH MY
GAWD, BOBBY!
I CAN'T BELIEVE
HOW LATE IT
IS. *HIC*

MassMETR

YOU'RE
TELLIN' ME?
I'MA ONE GOTTA
WORK IN THREE
HOURS.

BUT HEY,
IT'S COOL. MY LIL'
BRO ONLY GRADUATES
FROM HIGH SCHOOL
ONCE! GOTTA DRINK
TO THAT!

SO WHAT
IF IT TOOK 'IM
SIX YEARS?
LATE BLOOMER
'S'ALL...

AW, JEE-SUS
COLLEEN!
ALL OVER MY
PANTS...

RETCH

FOR CHRIS'SAKE,
COLLEEN! YOU AIN'T
ABLE TO HOLD YER
LIQUOR DON'T
DRINK SO--

H-HELP...
PLEASE...

HUH?
WHO'S'ERE!?

HOLY
FRIGGIN'
S#!T!

COLLEEN,
CALL 911!

6:15 AM

...S'LIKE I
TOLD YOUR COP
BUDDIES, THAT'S
ALL THERE IS TO IT.
WE DIDN'T SEE
NOTHING.

AN OFFICER
WILL TAKE YOU
HOME NOW.

MM-HMM. WELL,
IF YOU REMEMBER
ANYTHING ELSE,
ANYTHING AT ALL,
BE SURE TO GIVE
ME A CALL.

ALL THE
CRIME IN THIS CITY
AND NOBODY EVER
SEES A DAMNED
THING.

CUZ IT'S
USUALLY SAFER
FOR 'EM THAT
WAY.



MCGRISKIN.

HOW
YA DOIN',
CHARLIE?

JACK HAMMER

POLITICAL SCIENCE, PART ONE: DIRTY DEEDS

DETECTIVE
MARTIN TO YOU,
MCGRISKIN.

AND WHAT
THE HELL ARE
YOU DOING AT
MY CRIME
SCENE?

WHAT I
WAS HIRED
TO DO.

THAT IS
EDDIE NEWMAN,
ISN'T IT?

YOU
WOULDN'T BE
HERE IF YOU DIDN'T
ALREADY KNOW
IT WAS, NOW GET
THE HELL OUTTA
MY FACE.



CAN'T DO THAT, CHARLIE. THE MAN'S EMPLOYERS HIRED ME TO FIND HIM, AND I FIGURE THEY'RE GONNA ASK WHY HE'S TURNED UP DEAD.



MCGRISKIN, FOR ONCE KEEP YOUR SNOOPING TO YOURSELF OR I'LL MAKE YOU WISH YOU HAD!



YEAH? CLASS FOUR SUPERHUMAN ACTIVITIES LICENSE SAYS OTHERWISE.

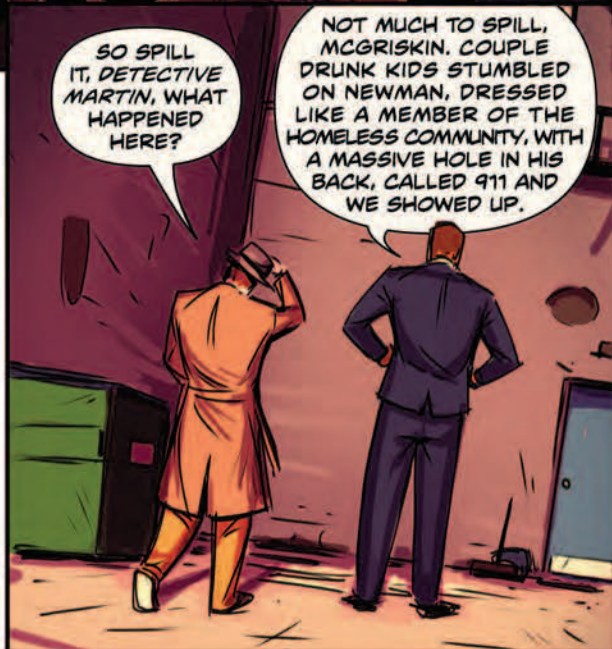
BASICALLY, YOU WANT ME TO GO AWAY, FASTEST THING TO DO IS ANSWER A COUPLE QUESTIONS.



WALK WITH ME, HAMMER.

ONLY IF YOU DON'T CALL ME THAT. JACK HAMMER WAS A LONG TIME AGO.

THEN DON'T CALL ME CHARLIE.



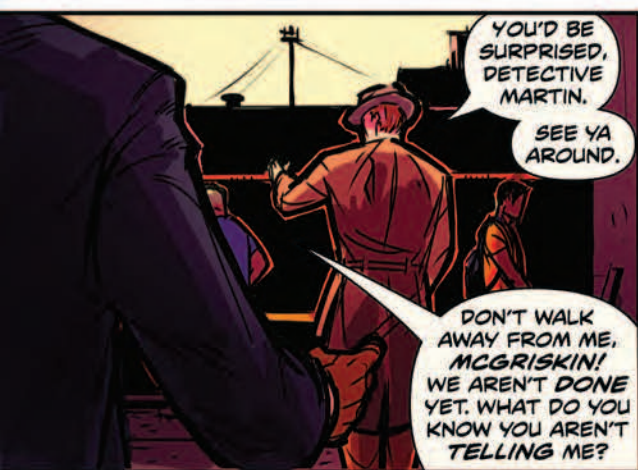
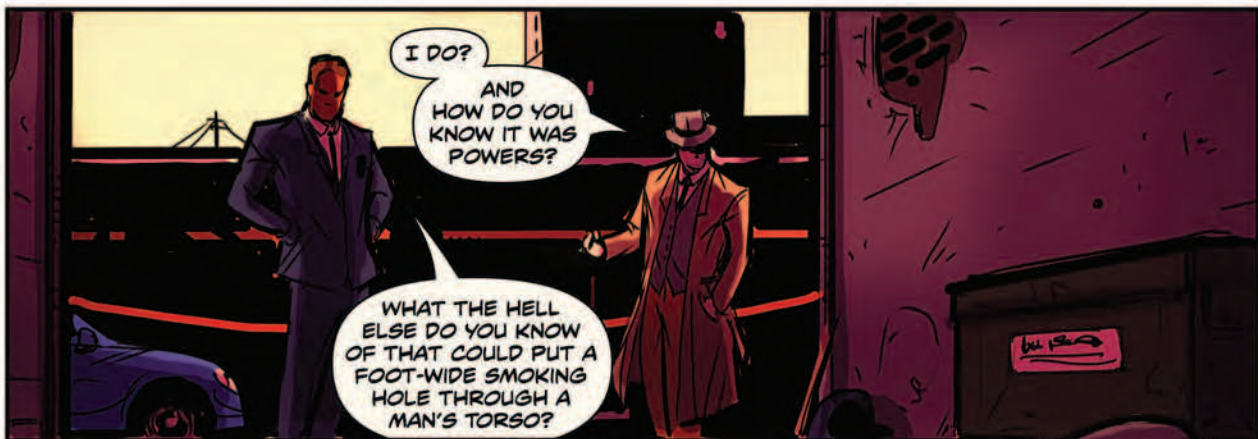
SO SPILL IT, DETECTIVE MARTIN, WHAT HAPPENED HERE?

NOT MUCH TO SPILL, MCGRISKIN. COUPLE DRUNK KIDS STUMBLED ON NEWMAN, DRESSED LIKE A MEMBER OF THE HOMELESS COMMUNITY, WITH A MASSIVE HOLE IN HIS BACK, CALLED 911 AND WE SHOWED UP.



UH HUH. ANY IDEA WHY A MAN WITH A MILLION DOLLAR TOWNHOUSE WAS MADE UP LIKE A DERELICT?

NO.



14TH FLOOR OF THE
TECHNOTRENDS CORP BUILDING,
DOWNTOWN BOSTON.

MS.
GORSCH?

COME IN,
DONNA.

I JUST
GOT A CALL
FROM MARCUS.
HE SAID MCGRISKIN
HAS FOUND EDDIE
NEWMAN, BUT THE
POLICE FOUND
HIM FIRST.

HE'S,
UM... HE'S
DEAD.

OH,
MY...

THANK YOU,
DONNA. YOU MAY
GO BACK TO
WORK. IT LOOKS
LIKE I HAVE SOME
ARRANGEMENTS
TO MAKE.

THE
POLICE...?

MR.
BELTRAM? YES,
I JUST RECEIVED
WORD...

YES...
MM-HMM...
YES, APPARENTLY
NEWMAN'S BEEN
FOUND. DEAD.

DEAD? WHAT
A SHAME. SUCH A...
DANGEROUS CITY
WE LIVE IN.

MAKE THE FUNERAL
ARRANGEMENTS PLEASE,
MS. GORSCH, AND SEND
OUR CONDOLENCES TO
ANY FAMILY MR. NEWMAN
MAY HAVE HAD. YES.
GOODBYE.

HEH.
HEHE...

A NUMBER OF YEARS AGO...

C'MON,
JACK HAMMER,
YOU KNOW WHAT
THEY SAY - THIRD
ROUND'S THE
CHARM.

LET'S
FINISH IT
THIS ROUND,
HUH?

WHATEVER
YOU SAY,
HAMMER.

POW!!

SH!!

CRUNCH!!

WE'RE
DONE.
I'M GOIN'
HOME.