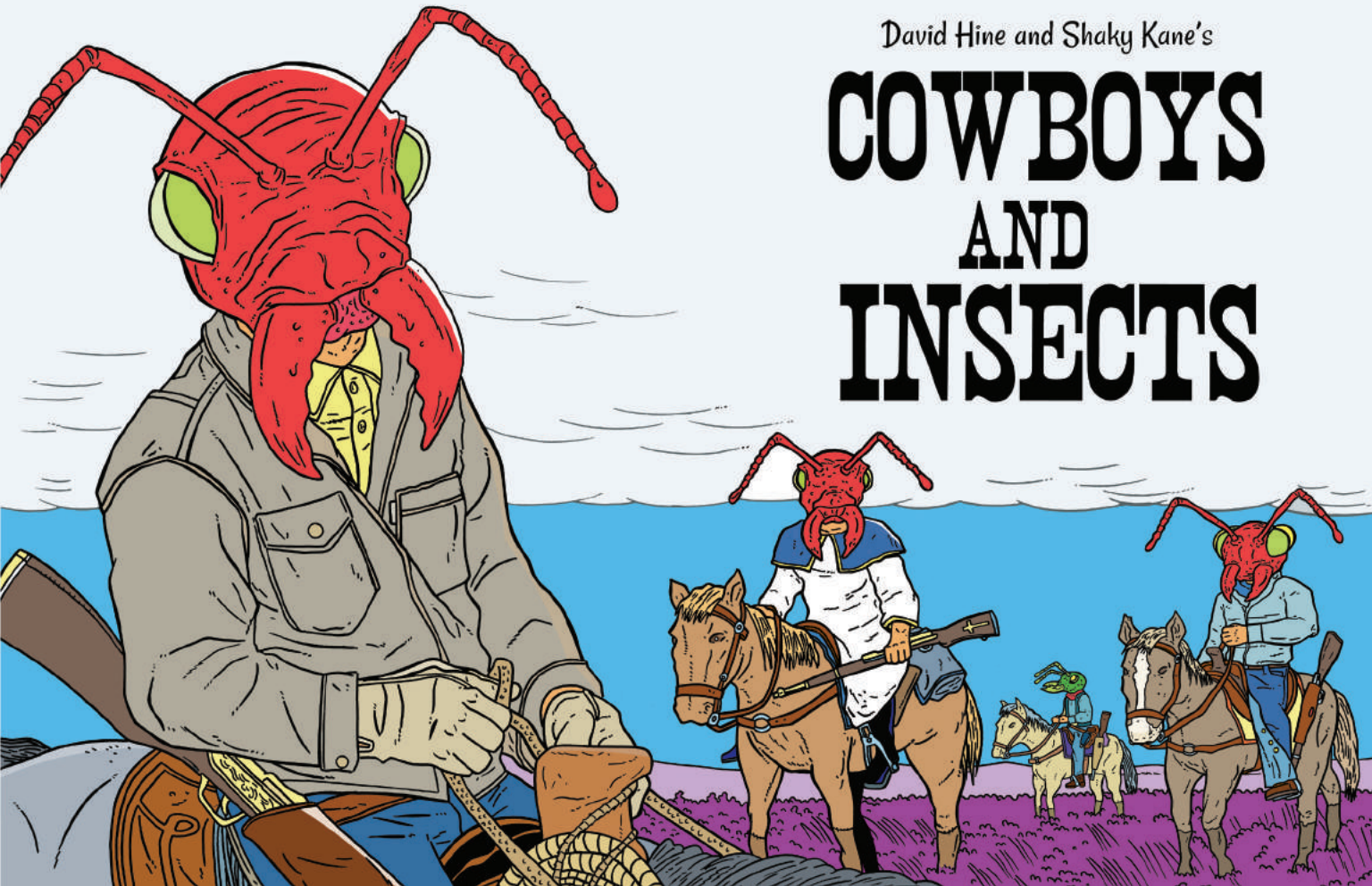
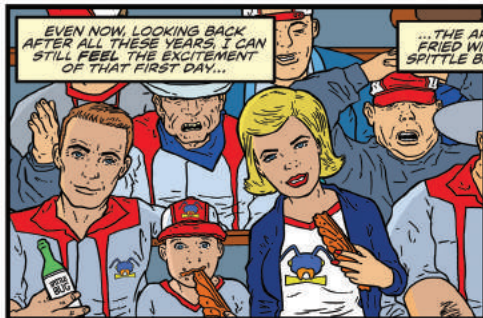


David Hine and Shaky Kane's

# COWBOYS AND INSECTS



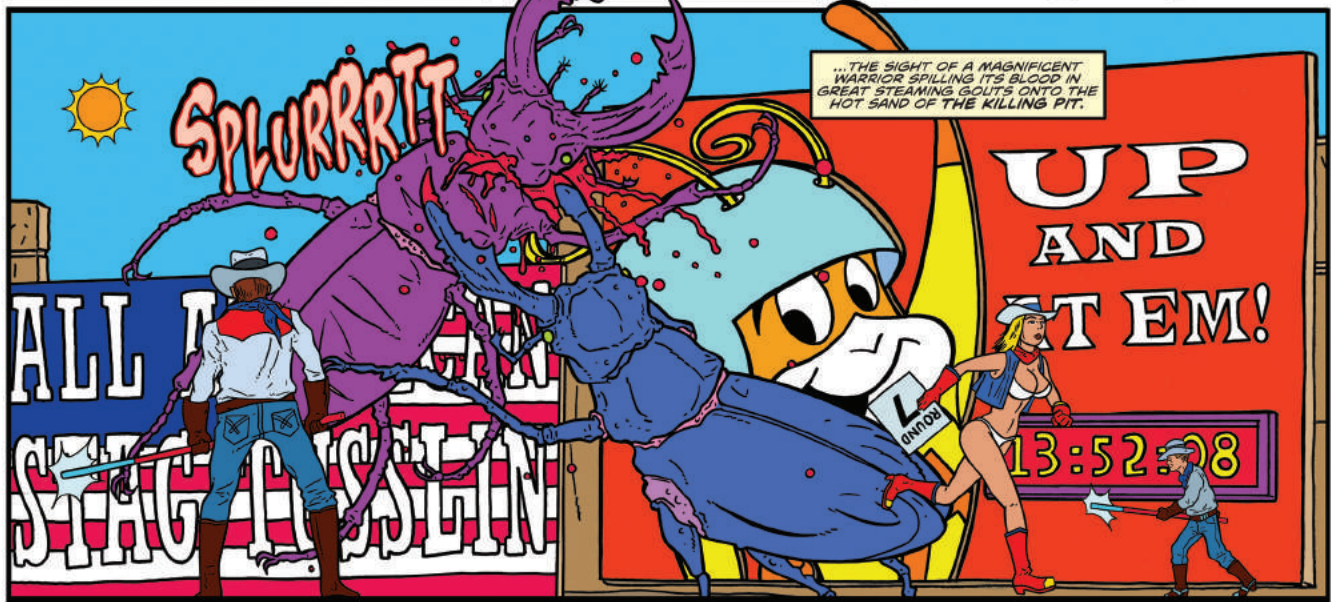


EVEN NOW, LOOKING BACK AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, I CAN STILL FEEL THE EXCITEMENT OF THAT FIRST DAY...

...THE AROMA OF FRIED WINGS AND SPITTLE BUG BEER...



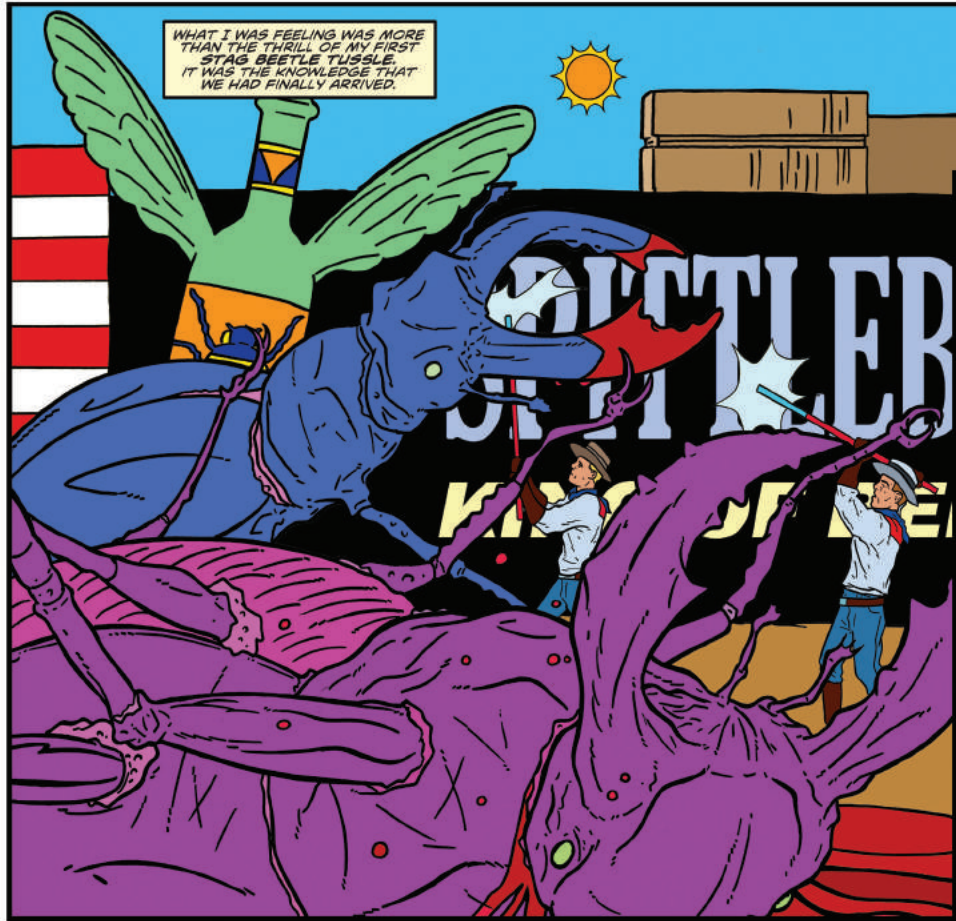
...THE CLASH OF ANTLER AGAINST ANTLER...



...THE SIGHT OF A MAGNIFICENT WARRIOR SPILLING ITS BLOOD IN GREAT STEAMING GOULTS ONTO THE HOT SAND OF THE KILLING PIT.



WHAT I WAS FEELING WAS MORE THAN THE THRILL OF MY FIRST STAG BEETLE TUSSLE. IT WAS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT WE HAD FINALLY ARRIVED.



MY FATHER'S PROMOTION HAD COME THROUGH AND ALONG WITH IT, THE MOVE TO THE GREATEST LITTLE TOWN IN THE USA...



POP WAS ABOUT TO START HIS NEW JOB AS HEAD WRANGLER AT THE DOUBLE-B RANCH.



MOM HAD LANDED A PLUM POST IN QUALITY CONTROL AT THE BIG BUG PRODUCTION PLANT.



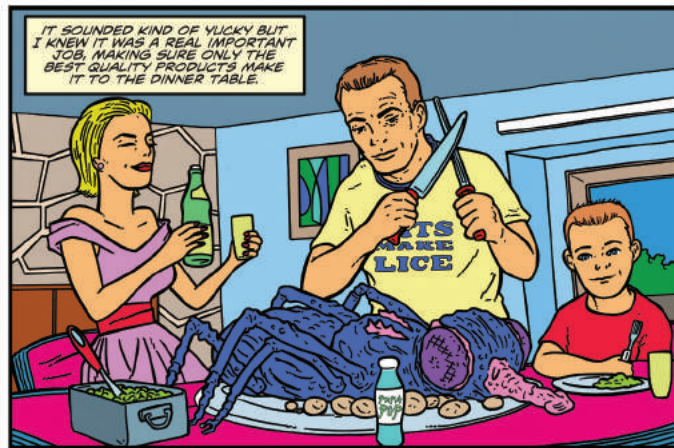
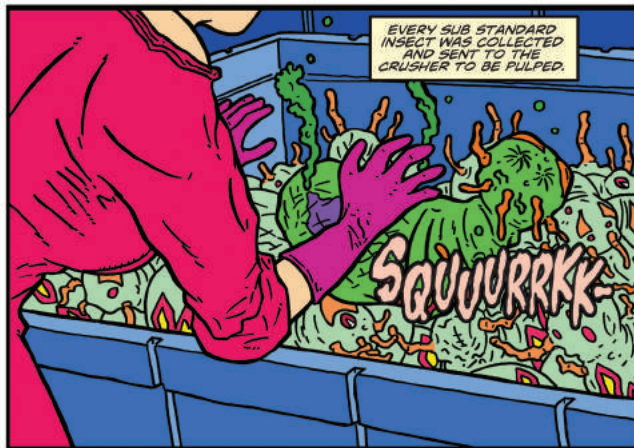
AND ME...?

LITTLE DID I KNOW THAT WHILE MY YOUTHFUL DREAM SEEMED TO BE COMING TRUE, THAT SUMMER WOULD END IN TRAGEDY.

THIS WAS TO BE THE YEAR WHEN I LOST MY INNOCENCE, THE YEAR I BECAME, IF NOT A MAN, THEN THE PERSON WHO WOULD BECOME THE MAN.





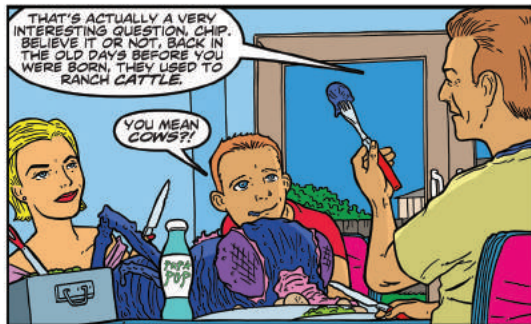


I WAS GLAD I WASN'T A GIRL. I WOULD GET TO DO THE REAL FUN JOBS, LIKE DAD - ROPING, WRANGLING AND ROUNDING UP THE GREAT ANT HERDS ALONG WITH THE OTHER COWBOYS.



POP, HOW COME THEY CALL YOU 'COWBOYS'. WHY NOT 'INSECTBOYS'.

HEH, OR MAYBE 'INSECTMEN'?



THAT'S ACTUALLY A VERY INTERESTING QUESTION, CHIP. BELIEVE IT OR NOT, BACK IN THE OLD DAYS BEFORE YOU WERE BORN, THEY USED TO RANCH CATTLE.

YOU MEAN COWS?!



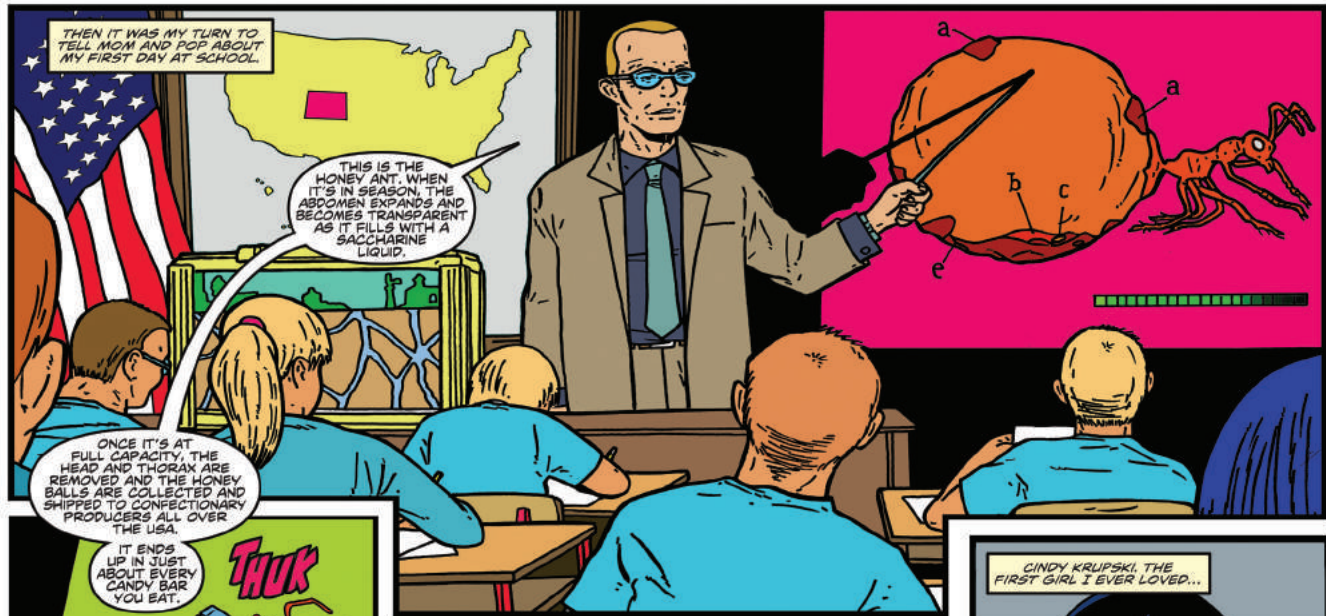
YUP. USED TO RAISE 'EM AND EAT 'EM.

I GUESS THE NAME JUST KIND OF STUCK.



WELL, WHEN I GROW UP, I'M GONNA BE A BUGBOY!





THEN IT WAS MY TURN TO TELL MOM AND POP ABOUT MY FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL.

THIS IS THE HONEY ANT. WHEN IT'S IN SEASON, THE ABDOMEN EXPANDS AND BECOMES TRANSPARENT AS IT FILLS WITH A SACCHARINE LIQUID.

ONCE IT'S AT FULL CAPACITY, THE HEAD AND THORAX ARE REMOVED AND THE HONEY BALLS ARE COLLECTED AND SHIPPED TO CONFECTIONARY PRODUCERS ALL OVER THE USA.

IT ENDS UP IN JUST ABOUT EVERY CANDY BAR YOU EAT.

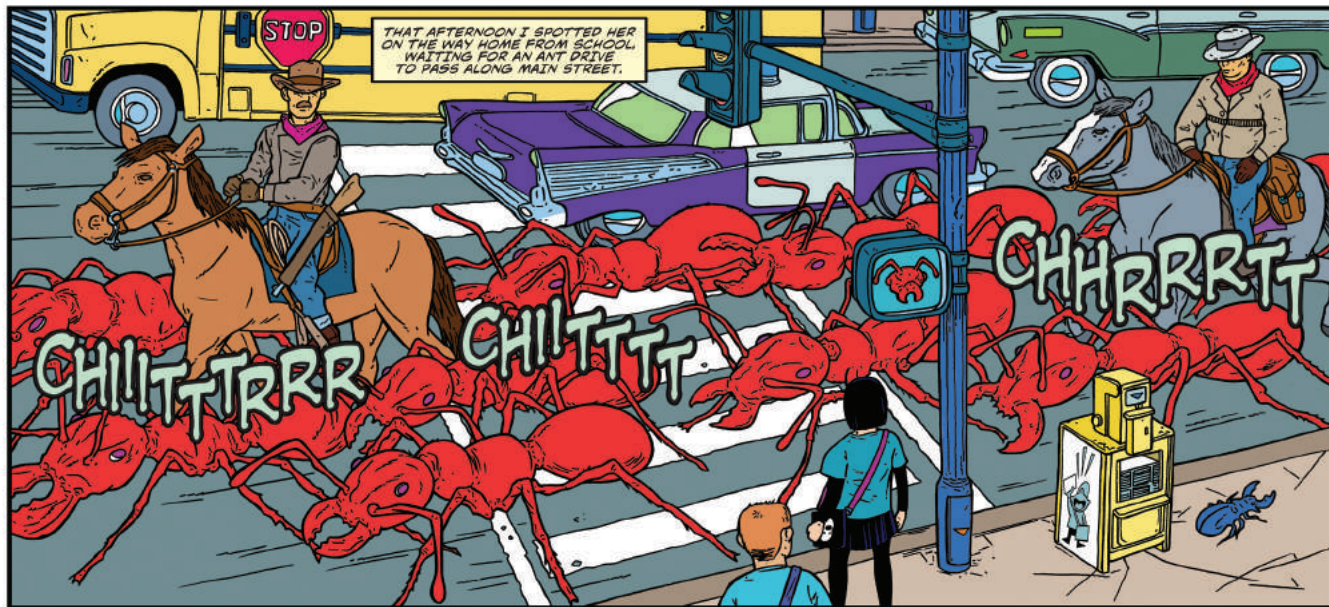
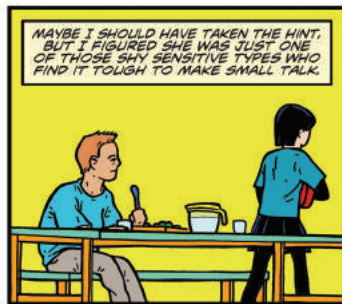
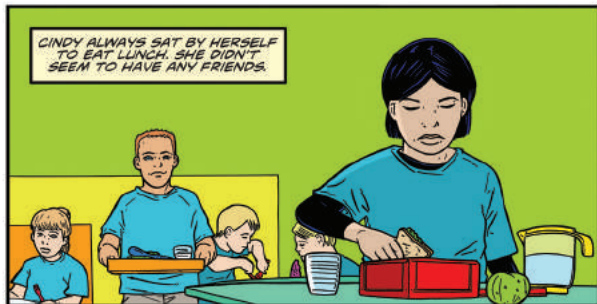
**THUK**

CINDY KRUPSKI, THE FIRST GIRL I EVER LOVED...

I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT I DIDN'T MENTION THE GIRL I SAT NEXT TO.

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queen  
een







**W**ELCOME TO BUG TOWN, COLORADO, home of Big Bugs and the men who wrangle them. Shaky Kane and David Hine follow up their critically acclaimed collaboration on *The Bulletproof Coffin* and *The Bulletproof Coffin: Disinterred* with a tale of tormented love set in a world where nuclear tests have had a 'colossal' effect on North America's insects.

*The Bulletproof Coffin*

"First comic in forever that says UP YOUR GODAMN GAME!"

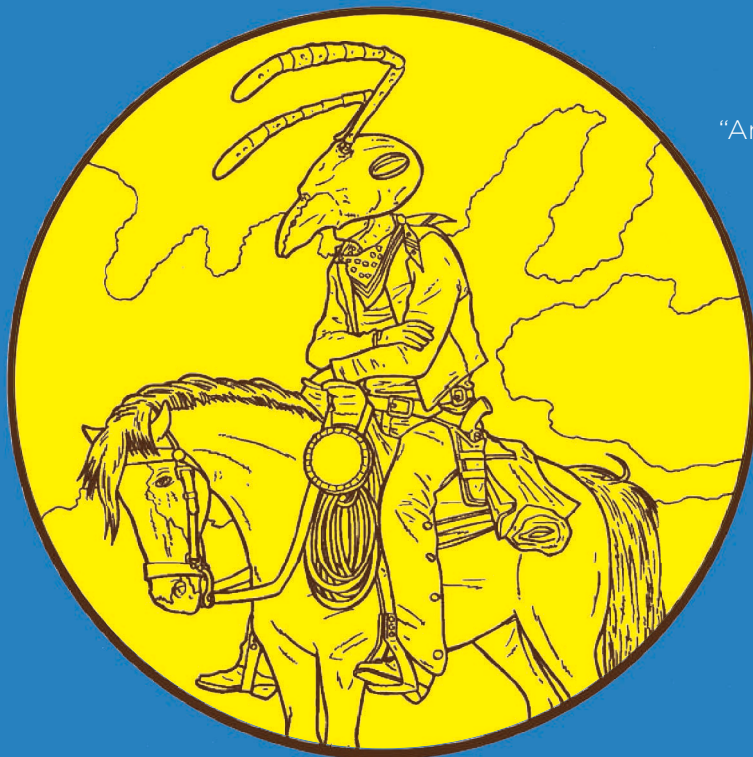
—Matt Fraction

"*The Bulletproof Coffin* has annihilated the competition."

—*Mindless Ones*

"A love letter straight from the heart. A bullet from a f\*\*\*ing gun."

—Frank Santoro



*The Bulletproof Coffin: Disinterred*

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—*Newsarama*

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