

LOVE is LOVE

*A comic book
anthology to benefit
the survivors of the
Orlando Pulse shooting*



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THE VISITORS
ARE BACK.
UGLY. LOUD.
FROTHING DOGS.



WELCOME THESE
SURLY GUESTS.



EVEN AS THEY
DRAIN THE LIGHT
FROM SHARP EYES.



WELCOME THEM IN
AND POUR TEA FOR
THE SAVAGES AND LET
THEIR CACOPHONOUS
DEBATE BEGIN.



IT WILL BE
PAINFUL.

IT WILL
TERRIFY.



LET THE
GROTESQUES
ROAR AND
CLAW AT THE
LINENS.



COLD NOW,
BUT NOT EMPTY.

A SINGLE
EMBER WAITS.



DEFY THE COLD
AND THE DARK
AND THE NOISE.



LOVE IS AN
ACT OF PROTEST.
LOVE IS NOT A
SLOGAN. LOVE
IS NOT A
HOLLOW
PROMISE.



LOVE DEFIES.

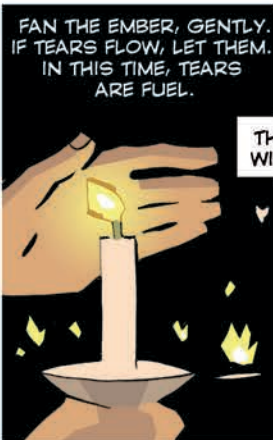
EVEN WHEN BULLETS
DISINTEGRATE LIVES
AND HATE LETS OPEN
THE THROAT OF THE
VERY COUNTRY.



CLIMBING ON WINGS
THAT DO NOT BURN
WHEN THEY TOUCH
THE SUN.



THE DAY IS
NOT MADE OF
DARKNESS.



FAN THE EMBER, GENTLY.
IF TEARS FLOW, LET THEM.
IN THIS TIME, TEARS
ARE FUEL.

THE SPARK
WILL IGNITE.



CHOOSE TO
LIVE IN THE SUN.

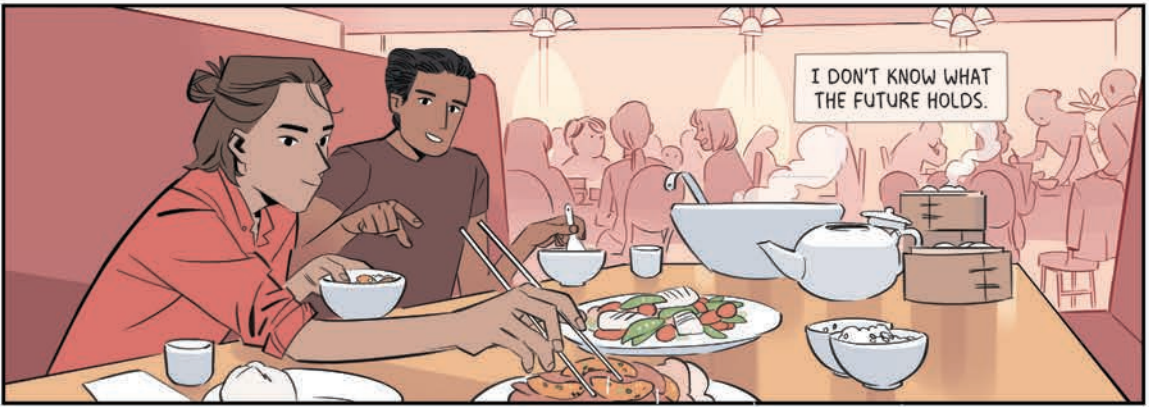


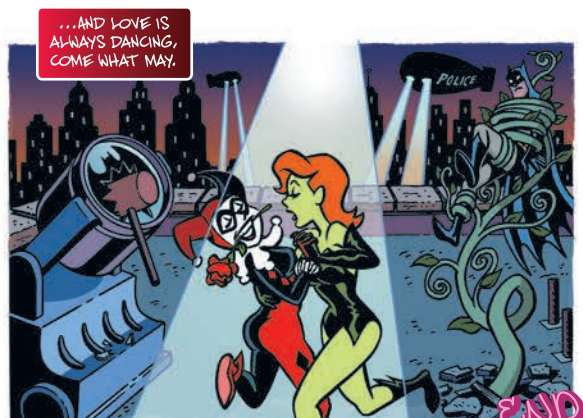
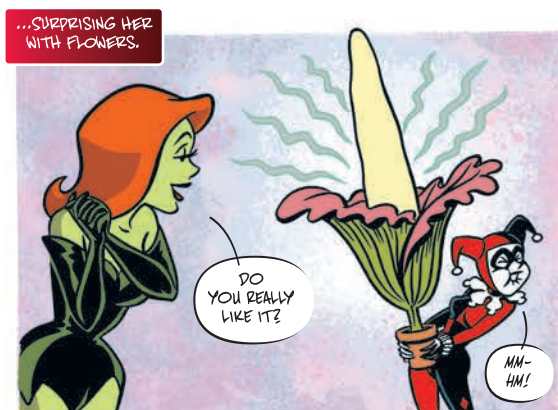
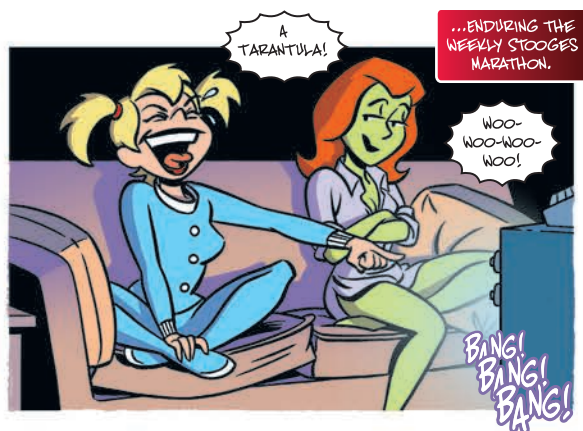
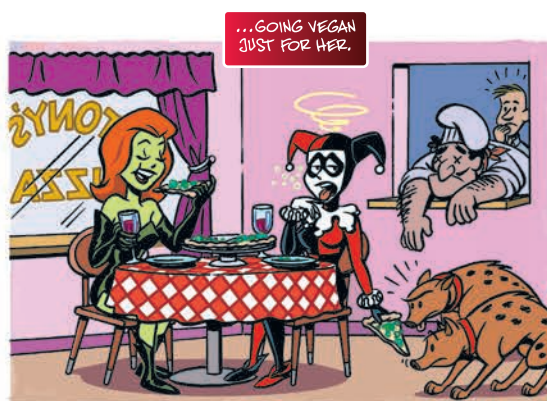
FLY

JOE
KELLY
LONG
ISLAND

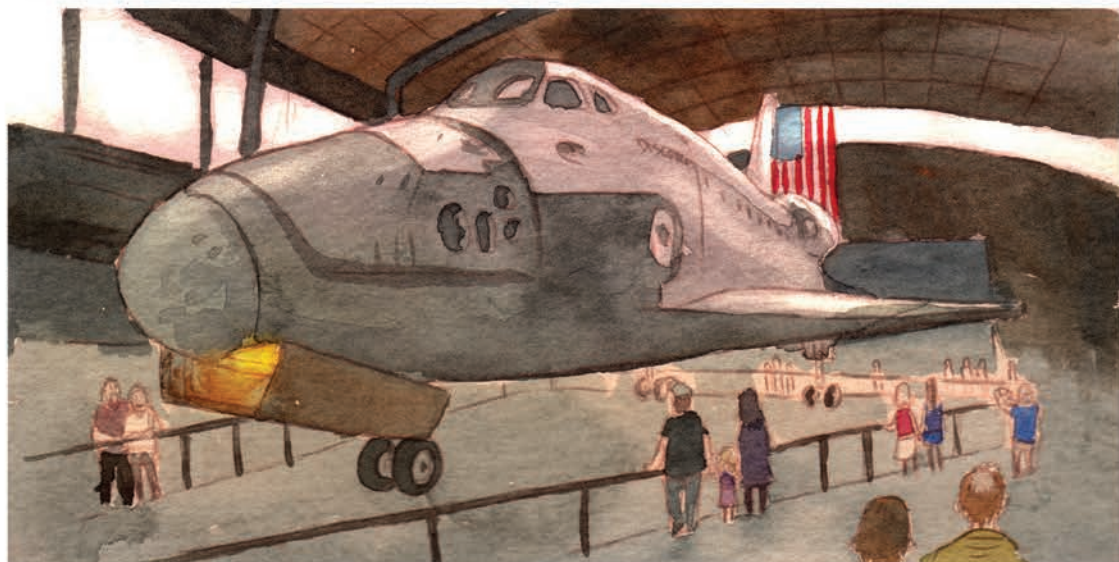
VICTOR
DANTOS
BILBAO







MY DAUGHTER IS OBSESSED WITH SPACE. WELL, TECHNICALLY, SPACE AND POKEMON. BUT, SHE READS BOOKS ABOUT MARS AND JUPITER, ABOUT BLACK HOLES, AND ABOUT THE SCIENCE OF THE STARS. WHEN WE TALK ABOUT IT, WE TALK ABOUT HOW GREAT MANKIND CAN BE. HOW COMPASSION AND TEAMWORK CAN ACHIEVE MORE THAN FEAR AND CLOSED-MINDEDNESS. WE'VE STOOD IN MISSION CONTROL AT THE JET PROPULSION LAB, AND SEEN THE PROFOUNDNESS OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, AND THE VASTNESS OF OUR MYSTERIES. WE TALK ABOUT ALL OF THESE THINGS WITH EASE AND JOY.



THEN THERE WAS THAT MORNING. WE'D GONE TO IOWA FOR MY NIECE'S BAT MITZVAH, AND EARLY IN THE MORNING, MY WIFE AND I WATCHED THE NEWS, TEARS STREAMING DOWN OUR FACES. THE HORROR OF IGNORANCE AND FEAR. AND SHE CAME INTO THE ROOM AND SAW US CRYING AND ASKED WHAT WAS WRONG. WE TRIED, FEEBLY, TO EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED, THAT A MAN TOOK GUNS INTO A NIGHTCLUB AND KILLED PEOPLE. WHY? SHE ASKED. BECAUSE THEY WERE DIFFERENT FROM HIM. SHE FURROWED HER BROW AND STARED AT US, DUMBFOUNDED. BUT, BEING DIFFERENT IS WHAT MAKES US SPECIAL, SHE SAID. AND WE TOLD HER THAT NOT EVERYBODY THOUGHT THAT.



SHE SAT ON THE BED AND WATCHED WITH US FOR A FEW MINUTES AND THEN POINTED OUT THE PEOPLE HELPING. THE PARAMEDICS. THE POLICE. THE FIREMEN. SHE FACED US, THE TEARS IN OUR EYES, AND SHE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE OKAY, BECAUSE THERE'S PROBABLY MORE PEOPLE WHO CARED, THAN PEOPLE WHO HATED. NORMALLY, I'D SAY I WISH SHE WAS RIGHT. BUT, THE LOOK IN HER EYES, THE HOPE IN HER HEART, MAYBE, JUST MAYBE, SHE SIMPLY IS RIGHT.